
Subject: Re: PLOT3D format input

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 18 Mar 2015 19:38:51 GMT

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Hello,

On 03/17/15 22:49, Matthew Argall wrote:

```
>> t=FINDGEN(5,200)
>> x = t(1, *)
>> y = t(2, *)
>> z = t(3, *)
>>
>> p = PLOT3D(x, y, z,'o')
>
>
> I have found that function graphics are particularly picky about
> whether you pass them a column vector or row vector. Problems arise when
> you pass data in as a row vector (a 1xN array, as you are doing above).
> The solution is to reform your data into a column vector (Nx1 array),
> like so
>
> x = reform(t[1,*])
> y = reform(t[2,*])
> z = reform(t[3,*])
>
> p = plot3d(x, y, z, 'o')
```

Matthew's suggestion is a good one, but being the memory-layout-worrier that I am (preferring $t[*,0]$ over $t[0,*]$), I would simply transpose the "t" array directly after reading it in from wherever it was created,

The original data...

```
IDL> t = findgen(5,200)
IDL> help, t
T          FLOAT    = Array[5, 200]
IDL> print, t[0,*]
0.00000
5.00000
10.0000
15.0000
20.0000
25.0000
30.0000
35.0000
40.0000
45.0000
....
```

Transpose it for all subsequent use:

```
IDL> t = transpose(t)
IDL> help, t
T      FLOAT  = Array[200, 5]
IDL> print, t[*,0]
 0.00000  5.00000  10.0000  15.0000  20.0000
 25.0000  30.0000  35.0000  40.0000  45.0000
...
....
```

When the trailing dimension is the degenerate one, IDL happily ignores it....

```
IDL> x = COS(t) * (1 + t / 10)
IDL> help, x
X      FLOAT  = Array[200, 5]
IDL> p = PLOT3D(x[*,0], x[*,1], x[*,2],'o')
```

cheers,

paulv
