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Subject: Re: Rant about axis range defaults using overplot in object graphics

Posted by [laura.hike](#) on Wed, 12 Aug 2015 19:16:34 GMT

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On Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 4:22:22 PM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:

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>
> One tweak to alx's code is to simply set the x/yrange after the first plot. Once you set the range
it should keep it constant. For example:
>
> IDL> p = plot([0,1])
> IDL> p.xrange = p.xrange
> IDL> p.yrange = p.yrange
> IDL> p1 = plot([0,2],/overplot)
```

Hmmm, that does work. Why? Shouldn't the behavior of the overplot option be the same no matter what value you set the axis ranges to?

Also, I see that you are able to plot a single point. I have never been able to do this (I always got an error message indicating that an array was required), but using your command, I can. I normally plot pairs of arrays, e.g., `p = plot(x,y)`, but if I set x and y to individual values, I can't use this syntax. Is there an explanation for this beyond "That's the way it works"?

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