On Monday, September 21, 2015 at 7:35:38 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> P.S. Let's just say Coyote was right handed and he allowed you to
> specify the left-hand corner, or any other damn location you wanted
> (nine choices!), in cgLegend. :-)

And often one does not want to specify or know the numerical location of the legend, but rather one just wants to place the legend snug in a corner of the plot .   Here's how to do this with the direct graphics procedure AL_LEGEND

IDL> cgplot,indgen(10)
IDL> al_legend,['This is a very long title'],lines=0,/right   ;Place legend snug in upper right

IDL> al_legend,['short'],lines=1,/bottom,/right   ;Place legend snug in lower right