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Subject: Horizontal dotted lines using PLOTS

Posted by [Oliver Smith](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Okay maybe I'm being too much of a perfectionist but this is really annoying.

I use dotted lines to box an area of interest, line width is two pixels. A solid white line is first plotted then a dotted black line plotted on top of the first. A vertical line drawn this way looks great, but a horizontal line is not so good; the dots that make up the black line are not square, but 'L' shaped.

for 0 = white pixel

for # = black pixel

Vertical line:

```
00
00
##
##
00
00
00
00
00
##
##
00
00
```

Horizontal line:

```
000#00000#00
00##0000##00
```

Demonstrable by:

IDL Version 5.3.1 (Win32 x86). (c) 2000, Research Systems, Inc.

```
IDL> plot, findgen(100)
```

```
IDL> plots, [20,20], [10,80], linestyle = 0, color = 255, thick = 2, /data
```

```
IDL> plots, [20,20], [10,80], linestyle = 1, color = 0, thick = 2, /data
```

```
IDL> plots, [20,80], [10,10], linestyle = 0, color = 255, thick = 2, /data
```

```
IDL> plots, [20,80], [10,10], linestyle = 1, color = 0, thick = 2, /data
```

The horizontal line ends up looking very poorly defined if it is drawn on

top of a relatively light coloured background.

So can anyone reproduce this, and can anyone come up with a work-around without changing the thickness of the lines?

Thanks,

Oliver Smith

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