
Subject: Re: !p.symsize

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 20:09:31 GMT

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Mark Fardal (fardal@weka.astro.umass.edu) writes:

>
> I thought I would be smart and set the symbol size once instead of typing
> it every time. and I thought I knew just how to do it. then I found:
>
> SYMSIZE exists as a field in the !P system variable
> it has no effect on the symbol size in the plot
> it is not in the documentation of !P.
>
> This is in IDL 5.2.1L on Unix. Do you guys have the same behavior
> with your swanky new versions? Did !p.symsize ever exist as a
> standard feature? Or have my attempts to access it just called it
> into (ineffective) existence on my machine, like an ineptly made golem?

Yikes! No it doesn't work here in IDL 5.4 Windows either.

Oddly, SYMSIZE is not listed as a field of !P in
the IDL 5.4 on-line help, although it is clearly
there in the structure and it gets set properly:

```
IDL> !P.Symsize=4  
IDL> Help, !P, /Structure
```

This looks to me like one of those "Oh, I'll fix
that in a minute" errors that sometimes escape
completion. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. I assume you will be filing a bug report with
the folks at RSI. :-)

--

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Subject: Re: !p.symsize

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 20:16:31 GMT

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I'd assume the lurkers have already taken care of it as we write this :-)

Pavel

David Fanning wrote:

>

> P.S. I assume you will be filing a bug report with

> the folks at RSI. :-)>

Subject: Re: !p.symsize

Posted by [Mark Fardal](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 23:17:58 GMT

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> David Fanning wrote:

>>

>> P.S. I assume you will be filing a bug report with

>> the folks at RSI. :-)>

> I'd assume the lurkers have already taken care of it as we write this :-)

>

> Pavel

>

these lurkers are often mentioned. do we have empirical evidence that they exist? or is a widespread irrational belief in their existence and efficacy perhaps responsible for the unfortunate persistence of IDL bugs?

lurkers, feel free to de-lurk here. It would be as exciting as God deciding to present unambiguous proof of her existence. (well, not quite.)

Mark

Subject: Re: !p.symsize

Posted by [dirk](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 23:29:37 GMT

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In article <7v8znzxluh.fsf@weka.phast.umass.edu>,
Mark Fardal <fardal@weka.astro.umass.edu> wrote:

>> David Fanning wrote:

>>>

>>> P.S. I assume you will be filing a bug report with

>>> the folks at RSI. :-)>

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>> I'd assume the lurkers have already taken care of it as we write this :-)
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>
> these lurkers are often mentioned. do we have empirical evidence that
> they exist? or is a widespread irrational belief in their existence
> and efficacy perhaps responsible for the unfortunate persistence of IDL bugs?
>
> lurkers, feel free to de-lurk here. It would be as exciting as God
> deciding to present unambiguous proof of her existence. (well, not quite.)

We exist. However, I doubt that we frequently submit bug reports to RSI.

- Dirk

ps. Hi JD!

Subject: Re: !p.symsize
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 23:36:08 GMT
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Mark Fardal (fardal@weka.astro.umass.edu) writes:

> these lurkers are often mentioned. do we have empirical evidence that
> they exist?

I think they are a myth. The only time I ever feel their presence is in that sort of hair-on-the-back-of-your-neck way that you sometimes feel when you imagine your stern old grandmother is there looking over your shoulder. But that's only when I say something unflattering about IDL on the newsgroup, which is almost never. :-)

> Or is a widespread irrational belief in their existence
> and efficacy perhaps responsible for the unfortunate persistence of IDL bugs?

I'm afraid this may be the case. It's not really their responsibility to fix bugs until you report them. I feel the same way about the IDL programs I make available on my web page. To think otherwise is to doom yourself to a life of grind and drudgery.

> Lurkers, feel free to de-lurk here. It would be as exciting as God
> deciding to present unambiguous proof of her existence. (well, not quite.)

Indeed. But recent conversations with a few of them

convinces me its not going to happen. To bad, in my view, because we could all use their insights.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: lp.symsize
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Fri, 26 Jan 2001 01:22:11 GMT
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"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.14da66563fd1b5f5989d35@news.frii.com...

[Re RSI lurkers]

> I'm afraid this may be the case. It's not
> really their responsibility to fix bugs until
> you report them.

And even then...

There's a bug in the netCDF library's treatment of the STRIDE keyword that was reported and logged over a year ago and still hasn't been fixed.

There that should flush one or two of them out.

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