
Subject: Plotting a 3D Array In IDL

Posted by [K. Banerjee](#) on Tue, 17 Jul 2001 23:56:21 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Say I have a 3D array whose elements are only 1 or 0. I'd like to plot this array, say a white dot for the 1's and a red dot for the 0's. Is there a way I can do this in IDL?

(I'm fairly new to IDL and there's probably a straight forward way to do this!)

Thanks.

K. Banerjee

Subject: Re: Plotting a 3D Array In IDL

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Wed, 18 Jul 2001 16:07:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Could you give an idea what kind of a plot you want to make?

Do you mean 3D to be Array[10,10,10] or is it an XYZ-type data set - Array[10,10]?

Cheers,
Pavel

"K. Banerjee" wrote:

>

> Say I have a 3D array whose elements are only 1 or 0. I'd like to plot
> this array, say a white dot for the 1's and a red dot for the 0's. Is there
> a way I can do this in IDL?

>

> (I'm fairly new to IDL and there's probably a straight forward
> way to do this!)

>

> Thanks.

>

> K. Banerjee

Subject: Re: Plotting a 3D Array In IDL

Posted by [eddie haskell](#) on Wed, 18 Jul 2001 16:20:12 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

> Say I have a 3D array whose elements are only 1 or 0. I'd like to plot
> this array, say a white dot for the 1's and a red dot for the 0's. Is there
> a way I can do this in IDL?

Below is a program fragment that does what I think you want done. There might be a slick one line way of doing it or maybe something visually stunning using object graphics but nothing currently leaps to mind.

Cheers,
eddie

```
;-----  
n = 4  
a = randomu(seed,n,n,n) gt 0.5  
surface, dist(n), /nodata, zr=[0,n-1], /save  
tv!ct,[0,255],[255,0],[0,0],1  
  
for j = 0,1 do begin  
  wh = where(a eq j)  
  x = wh mod n  
  y = wh / n mod n  
  z = wh / n^2  
  for i = 0, n_elements(wh)-1 do $  
    plots,x[i],y[i],z[i],/t3d,psym=2,color=j+1  
endfor  
;-----
```

```
-----  
A G Edward Haskell  
Center for Coastal Physical Oceanography  
Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA 23529  
e-mail hassell*ccpo.odu.edu  
-----
```

Subject: Re: Plotting a 3D Array In IDL
Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Thu, 19 Jul 2001 03:05:21 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

K. Banerjee writes:

> Between 3,000 and 4,000.

Yeah, bad news. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting

Subject: Re: Plotting a 3D Array In IDL
Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 19 Jul 2001 14:16:54 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

eddie haskell wrote:

```
>
>> Say I have a 3D array whose elements are only 1 or 0. I'd like to plot
>> this array, say a white dot for the 1's and a red dot for the 0's. Is there
>> a way I can do this in IDL?
>
> Below is a program fragment that does what I think you want done. There might
> be a slick one line way of doing it or maybe something visually stunning using
> object graphics but nothing currently leaps to mind.
>
> Cheers,
> eddie
>
> ;-----
> n = 4
> a = randomu(seed,n,n,n) gt 0.5
> surface, dist(n), /nodata, zr=[0,n-1], /save
> tvlct,[0,255],[255,0],[0,0],1
>
> for j = 0,1 do begin
>   wh = where(a eq j)
>   x = wh mod n
>   y = wh / n mod n
>   z = wh / n^2
>   for i = 0, n_elements(wh)-1 do $
>     plots,x[i],y[i],z[i],/t3d,psym=2,color=j+1
>   endfor
> ;-----
```

Cool - I couldn't figure out how to do it. I modified the above a little to use plot3d

```
n = 4
a = randomu(seed,n,n,n) gt 0.5
tvlct,[0,255],[255,0],[0,0],1
```

```
for j = 0,1 do begin
  wh = where(a eq j)
  x = wh mod n
  y = wh / n mod n
```

```
z = wh / n^2
plot3d, x,y,z,psym=2,color=j+1,oplot=j
endfor
```

but I find the resultant plot hard to interpret. I think this is a case where object graphics is required to give some depth to the plot by varying the size of the plotting symbols with perceived depth... or something like that.

paulv

--

Paul van Delst A little learning is a dangerous thing;
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
Fax:(301)763-8545 And drinking largely sobers us again.
 Alexander Pope.
