
Subject: Re: Image scrolling, displaying axes from outside the visible window
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 31 Jul 2002 13:53:26 GMT
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Lord Fahrur (fahrur@hotmail.com) writes:

> I am currently trying to implement some "artificial" scrolling solution
> in an image window enclosed by 4 axes and wondered why I could
> perfectly display an image (which is than the window) with its x and y
> coordinates having negative values (and thus having its origin outside
> the window) so that it shows only partially, whereas axes can only be
> displayed within the window frame invariably even if one tries to plot
> with a position vector containing negative values.

What!? I don't think so. But I have a very poor
idea of what you are trying to do from your
description. Can you give an example?

> Does that mean I would have to manually check whether they should be
> visible or not and use truncated axes whose range would correspond to
> the visible part of the image ? (what a pain)

You must have something else going wrong that you are
attributing to this problem. I just can't imagine
you can't do what you want to do.

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Image scrolling, displaying axes from outside the visible window
Posted by [fahrur](#) on Thu, 01 Aug 2002 08:10:48 GMT
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>> with a position vector containing negative values.

>
> What!? I don't think so. But I have a very poor
> idea of what you are trying to do from your
> description. Can you give an example?

Okay, sorry for my poor phrasing.

Simply put: I would like to display a coordinate system with its origin outside the visible window when using negative values in the position vector.

For example:

```
IDL> window, /free  
IDL> x=findgen(200)*0.1  
IDL> plot, x, cos(x), /device, position=[-90,-90,200,200]
```

When I type this I would like the lower and left axes not to be displayed in the window and the tickmarks to be accordingly shifted for the other 2 axes. However it seems that no matter what negative value I type in, the axes still appear at the bottom and to the left of the window.

Thanks for your help.

FM

Subject: Re: Image scrolling, displaying axes from outside the visible window
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 01 Aug 2002 14:03:59 GMT
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Lord Fahrur (Fahrur@hotmail.com) writes:

> Okay, sorry for my poor phrasing.
> Simply put: I would like to display a coordinate system with its
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> displayed in the window and the tickmarks to be accordingly shifted
> for the other 2 axes. However it seems that no matter what negative
> value I type in, the axes still appear at the bottom and to the left
> of the window.

Oh, right. Yes, I thought we were dealing with scrolling windows.

Yes. In direct graphics IDL is "protecting" you by making sure that the POSITION keyword draws something in the graphics window. If you want to do something really dumb (like drawing something outside the graphics window) you have to use object graphics, which is more powerful than direct graphics. :-)

I've modified my XPLOT program to allow you to position the plot in the window with the POSITION keyword:

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/xplot.pro>

The POSITION keyword uses "normalized" coordinates, which assumes that the visible portion of the plot window goes from 0 to 1 in both X and Y directions. For example, for a normal plot:

```
IDL> XPlot, Findgen(100), Position=[0.15, 0.15, 0.9, 0.85]
```

For a plot with the Y axis origin out of the window:

```
IDL> XPlot, Findgen(100), Position=[0.15, -0.2, 0.9, 0.85]
```

Cheers,

David

P.S. Tell me again why something like this is useful?

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: Image scrolling, displaying axes from outside the visible window

Posted by [Don J Lindler](#) on Thu, 01 Aug 2002 15:01:27 GMT

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"Lord Fahrutz" <Fahrutz@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:5f84b161.0208010010.3c7d359e@posting.google.com...

```
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```

```

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> displayed in the window and the tickmarks to be accordingly shifted
> for the other 2 axes. However it seems that no matter what negative
> value I type in, the axes still appear at the bottom and to the left
> of the window.
>
> Thanks for your help.
>
> FM

```

You might consider using a pixmap which contains a larger area than your display window. Plot your data into the pixmap and then copy the portion you want into the display window. To scroll, just copy another area without replotting the data.

```

IDL> x = findgen(200)*0.1
IDL> window, 20, xsize=1000, ysize=1000, /pixmap
IDL> plot, x, cos(x), position=[100,100,600,600], /device
IDL> window, 21, xsize=600, ysize=500
IDL> device, copy=[200,200,600,500,0,0,20]

```

Good Luck,
Don

Subject: Re: Image scrolling, displaying axes from outside the visible window
 Posted by [fahruz](#) on Fri, 02 Aug 2002 12:54:44 GMT
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```

>>> IDL> window, /free

```

```
>> IDL> x=findgen(200)*0.1
>> IDL> plot, x, cos(x), /device, position=[-90,-90,200,200]
>>
>> When I type this I would like the lower and left axes not to be
>> displayed in the window and the tickmarks to be accordingly shifted
>> for the other 2 axes. However it seems that no matter what negative
>> value I type in, the axes still appear at the bottom and to the left
>> of the window.
>
> Oh, right. Yes, I thought we were dealing with scrolling windows.
```

That's what I'm attempting in the end but I agree I shouldn't have mentioned it at this stage so as to not get you confused.

```
> Yes. In direct graphics IDL is "protecting" you by making sure
> that the POSITION keyword draws something in the graphics window.
> If you want to do something really dumb (like drawing something
> outside the graphics window) you have to use object
> graphics, which is more powerful than direct graphics. :-)
```

Call dumb what you can't admit you can't do (or can but in a very convoluted way), I've heard of such bad loser marketing policies. :)) Seriously, I would've appreciated a tad more flexibility and choose myself whether I want that "protection" or not.

```
> I've modified my XPLOT program to allow you to position the plot
> in the window with the POSITION keyword:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/xplot.pro
>
> The POSITION keyword uses "normalized" coordinates, which assumes
> that the visible portion of the plot window goes from 0 to 1 in
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>
> For a plot with the Y axis origin out of the window:
>
> IDL> XPlot, Findgen(100), Position=[0.15, -0.2, 0.9, 0.85]
```

Ok, I tried it and -surprise- it works. But I can hardly integrate it in my code. I'd rather opt for that nifty solution suggested by Don (thanks Don !!) with pixmaps.

```
> P.S. Tell me again why something like this is useful?
```

Any kind of application which needs to display specific areas of a plot.

Anyway, thanks for your prompt answers and valuable help!

FM
