
Subject: 3D Scatterplots

Posted by [Paul Sorenson](#) on Mon, 09 Dec 2002 23:22:10 GMT

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> "Thomas Wright" <twright@usgs.gov> wrote in message
> news:aee1db91.0207110002.b4d9e7a@posting.google.com...

>> My question: has anyone developed an idl routine that has full
>> capacity to deal with 3-d point data? If not, would any idl developer
>> be willing to modify one of the above routines to satisfy this need?

> XPLOT3D might work. It is rotateable like surf_track.

> IDL> xplot3d, x, y, z, symbol=oSymbol, linestyle=6

I wrote an example for Thomas that I thought I might post here as well. It shows how you can use a variety of 3D shapes for scatterplot symbols. Color and size of symbols is varied too. Craig Markwardt might also enjoy this example for it's bovine-ness :-) (Craig works on a project named C.O.W., I think.)

-Paul Sorenson

```
pro cowplot
;
;Purpose: provide an example showing how to use xplot3d
;for scatter plots. This program shows that a variety of
;symbols can be used, with symbols varying in shape,
;color and size. In this example, color is a function of
;x, shape is a function of y, and size is a function of z.
;
;Paul Sorenson, Dec. 2002
;
;Create a master bovine polygon.
;
restore, filepath('cow10.sav', subdir=['examples','data'])
oMasterCow = obj_new('IDLgrPolygon', $
    x, $
    y, $
    z, $
    polygon=polylist $
)
;
;Create a master cone polygon.
;
mesh_obj, 6, vertex_list, polygon_list, $
[[0.25, 0.0, -0.25], [0.0, 0.0, 0.25]], $
p1=16
```

```

oMasterCone = obj_new('IDLgrPolygon', $
    vertex_list, $
    polygon=polygon_list, $
    color=[255,0,0] $
)
;
;Generate scatter data, and plot it.
;
n = 100 ; Number of symbols.

ramp = findgen(n) / (n-1)
x = sin(ramp * 20)
y = cos(ramp * 20)
z = ramp

oPolygons = objarr(n)
oSymbols = objarr(n)
oModels = objarr(n)

oPalette = obj_new('IDLgrPalette')
oPalette->LoadCT, 1
oPalette->GetProperty, $
    red_values=red_values, $
    green_values=green_values, $
    blue_values=blue_values

for i=0,n-1 do begin
    color_index = $ ; a function of x.
    (bytsc1([min(x), x[i], max(x)], top=127))[1] + 128b

    oPolygons[i] = obj_new('IDLgrPolygon', $
        share_data= $ ; a function of y.
        y[i] gt mean(y) ? oMasterCone : oMasterCow, $
        polygon= $ ; a function of y.
        y[i] gt mean(y) ? polygon_list : polylist, $
        color=[ $
            red_values[color_index], $
            green_values[color_index], $
            blue_values[color_index] $
        ], $
        shading=1 $
    )

    scale = .75 * z[i]^2 + .1 ; a function of z.

    oModels[i] = obj_new('IDLgrModel')
    oModels[i]->Add, oPolygons[i]

```

```

oModels[i]->Rotate, [1, 0, 0], 90 ; Stands cow upright.
oModels[i]->Scale, scale, scale, scale*.5

oSymbols[i] = obj_new('IDLgrSymbol', oModels[i])
end

xplot3d, x, y, z, $
  symbol=oSymbols, $
  linestyle=6, $
  /block

obj_destroy, oSymbols
obj_destroy, oModels
obj_destroy, oMasterCow
obj_destroy, oMasterCone
obj_destroy, oPalette

end

```

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