
Subject: Re: Why can't IDL do simple things...?
Posted by [grunes](#) on Thu, 25 Aug 1994 13:33:23 GMT
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In article <1994Aug24.143231.8722@fys.ruu.nl> hartman@fys.ruu.nl (Jan Willem Hartman) writes:

> ..or rather, probably, why can't I make IDL do simple things..
>
> This is what I want: I have this bunch of data: x,y,z. So I want IDL
> to plot just these points (eventually the points may be connected, but
> let's not get too difficult) in 3D. So just like SURFACE, but with no
> surface. Any idea??? Thanks in advance...
> JanWillem Hartman.
>

plot,[x,y,z]

If you really mean (x1,y1), (x2,y2), (x3,y3) I think you want something like

plot,[x1,x2,x3],[y1,y2,y3]
Mitchell R Grunes (grunes@imsy1.nrl.navy.mil)
Allied-Signal Technical Services
c/o Code 7230 Naval Research Lab

Subject: Re: Why can't IDL do simple things...?
Posted by [thompson](#) on Thu, 25 Aug 1994 13:55:53 GMT
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grunes@imsy1.nrl.navy.mil (Mitchell R Grunes) writes:

> In article <1994Aug24.143231.8722@fys.ruu.nl> hartman@fys.ruu.nl (Jan Willem Hartman) writes:
>> ..or rather, probably, why can't I make IDL do simple things..
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> plot,[x1,x2,x3],[y1,y2,y3]
```

No, what I think he really wants to be able to do is to say

```
plot, X, Y, Z
```

where (X(i), Y(i), Z(i)) represents a point in 3D space. (One would have to define a viewing angle, of course.) Sounds like a reasonable idea to me. Unfortunately, I don't think IDL can do this at the moment, at least not so straightforwardly.

Bill Thompson

Subject: Re: Why can't IDL do simple things...?

Posted by [ryba](#) on Thu, 25 Aug 1994 20:44:18 GMT

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In article <33i7t9\$snk@paperboy.gsfc.nasa.gov>, thompson@orpheus.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson) writes:

|> grunes@imsy1.nrl.navy.mil (Mitchell R Grunes) writes:

|>

|> >In article <1994Aug24.143231.8722@fys.ruu.nl> hartman@fys.ruu.nl (Jan Willem Hartman) writes:

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|> >>

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|>

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|> Unfortunately, I don't think IDL can do this at the moment, at least not so

|> straightforwardly.

Isn't it just:

surface,x,y,z,/nodata,/save ; Generate 3-d coordinates

plots,x,y,z,/t3d,psym=xxx ; Plot the points

--

Dr. Marty Ryba | Generation X:
MIT Lincoln Laboratory | Too young to be cynical,
ryba@ll.mit.edu | too old to be optimistic.
Of course nothing I say here is official policy, and Laboratory affiliation is
for identification purposes only, blah, blah, blah....

Subject: Re: Why can't IDL do simple things...?
Posted by [ryba](#) on Thu, 25 Aug 1994 20:50:15 GMT
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In article <1994Aug25.204418.13013@ll.mit.edu>, ryba@ll.mit.edu (Marty Ryba) writes:

|> Isn't it just:
|> surface,x,y,z,/nodata,/save ; Generate 3-d coordinates
|> plots,x,y,z,/t3d,psym=xxx ; Plot the points

Oops! It's

surface,z,x,y,/nodata,/save ; Z goes first for surface
plots,x,y,z,/t3d,psym=3

--

Dr. Marty Ryba | Generation X:
MIT Lincoln Laboratory | Too young to be cynical,
ryba@ll.mit.edu | too old to be optimistic.
Of course nothing I say here is official policy, and Laboratory affiliation is
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Subject: Re: Why can't IDL do simple things...?
Posted by [hartman](#) on Fri, 26 Aug 1994 07:23:31 GMT
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In <1994Aug25.205015.13891@ll.mit.edu> ryba@ll.mit.edu (Marty Ryba) writes:

> In article <1994Aug25.204418.13013@ll.mit.edu>, ryba@ll.mit.edu (Marty Ryba) writes:
> |> Isn't it just:
> |> surface,x,y,z,/nodata,/save ; Generate 3-d coordinates
> |> plots,x,y,z,/t3d,psym=xxx ; Plot the points

> Oops! It's

> surface,z,x,y,/nodata,/save ; Z goes first for surface
> plots,x,y,z,/t3d,psym=3

thanks to all who responded. It is simple to do this, but not
straightforward. For those who also want to know:

```
gridd = fltarr(10,10)      ; make a dummy array  
surface,gridd,/nodata,/save ; and fill the 3D-transformation variable.
```

```
plots,x,y,z,psym=3,/t3d    ; et voila !
```

JanWillem.
