
Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by peter.albert@gmx.de on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 10:54:49 GMT

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Hi Shaldon,

shhhh, calm down, everything will be o.k. some day ... :-) Remember when you were a kid, strolling around with your scooter? Everything went fine, going from A to B was just what you wanted to do, and the scooter did exactly what you wanted him to do? And then your mean uncle gave you that bicycle. Horror! Going from A to B was now so much more difficult than it was before. It needed training, training and more training. And your knees hurt.

Well, in the end, you still use the bike and probably gave up the scooter.

O.k. just kidding. This is a bad analogy for MATLAB / IDL, especially as I don't know MATLAB. Please, no flamewar on this issue, now.

But as for the /NODATA, this is good if you, for example, want coloured plots but black on white axes. Then with the PLOT command and /NODATA you can establish the environment, i.e. the axes, and then, subsequently, you can add the coloured lines using OPLOT.

Cheers,

Peter

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [Liberum](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 11:37:38 GMT

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Hi Peter,

That was a funny one :), though it is more like asking me to put the bike together first before I can ride it.

I thought the /NODATA functioned something like that. Thanks for confirming it.

Cheers,
Sheldon

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 13:59:01 GMT

Sheldon writes:

- > That was a funny one :), though it is more like asking me to put the
- > bike together first before I can ride it.
- > I thought the /NODATA functioned something like that. Thanks for
- > confirming it.

I think the real problem is that IDL is nearly 28 years old. Probably older than you! AND it is backwards compatible. There aren't too many of us who wouldn't have made better choices 28 years ago if we knew then what we know now. :-(

Sure it's convoluted to do things that ought to be easy. But, as I seem to keep telling my youngest, choices you make today will effect what it is possible to do in the future. Some of us are not as farsighted as others, unfortunately.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [Liberum](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 14:40:20 GMT

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Can't say that I agree with you 100% David. It would take some time to expand further so I won't do that here. I will simply count my blessings and move on.

Cheers,
Sheldon

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 14:45:44 GMT

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Sheldon writes:

> Can't say that I agree with you 100% David. It would take some time to
> expand further so I won't do that here. I will simply count my
> blessings and move on.

Well, the other part of it is that RSI couldn't care less
about direct graphics these days, but that's a story I don't
want to get into either. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say they must travel in different circles
than I do.

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 14:51:54 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> Well, the other part of it is that RSI couldn't care less
> about direct graphics these days, but that's a story I don't
> want to get into either. :-)

Whoops! I meant to write "SEEMINGLY" couldn't care less".
Just my opinion. I'm probably wrong. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [Liberum](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 15:08:19 GMT

That's it David, I think that they really don't want to improve IDL to the point where it could be today. My first encounter with this was with a routine called LEGEND. I couldn't believe that it was so hard to put a legend on a plot. I called RSI and someone called James (nice guy) sent me an unofficial routine called LEGEND. It works but it is not a part of the IDL routines.

Let's just say that my expectations for IDL, not being opensource, was different.

Now I am grappling with getting my hardcopies to look like the ones on the screen.

I don't like to quote our esteemed governor of CA, but it works so well here:

I'll be back!!

Cheers,
Sheldon

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 15:16:42 GMT

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Sheldon writes:

> Now I am grappling with getting my hardcopies to look like the ones on
> the screen.

Well, then, you might be interested in a new tutorial
I put up last night: How to get device-independent
graphics output.

http://www.dfanning.com/graphics_tips/toms_tutorial.html

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 16:03:05 GMT

David Fanning wrote:

> Sheldon writes:

>

>

>> Now I am grappling with getting my hardcopies to look like the ones on
>> the screen.

>

>

> Well, then, you might be interested in a new tutorial

> I put up last night: How to get device-independent

> graphics output.

>

> http://www.dfanning.com/graphics_tips/toms_tutorial.html

Excellent information and easy reading.

I had composed a diatribe about OG after reading your comments re: RSI's seeming lack of commitment to DG, but didn't post it because it was just bad karma. I replied to this one to ask about the status of your Catalyst library (online docs/user guide, cost, etc).

paulv

--

Paul van Delst

CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 16:48:00 GMT

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Paul Van Delst writes:

> I had composed a diatribe about OG after reading your comments re: RSI's seeming lack of
> commitment to DG, but didn't post it because it was just bad karma.

Tell me about it. I have to go up to Boulder later this afternoon to pick up a friend. I'm already working on my disguise. I need to learn to put a cork in it.

It's done. Object graphics has won. iTools will take over the world. I need to get over it. :-(

> I replied to this one

> to ask about the status of your Catalyst library (online docs/user guide, cost, etc).

Well, uh, about the same as it was last month. I've been

working on my magnimus opus this month. But, real soon now, I'm sure. As soon as I get some decent fonts in direct graphics I'll be REAL motivated. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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