Subject: And again more about Plot!
Posted by Liberum on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 10:06:48 GMT

Hi everyone,

I have been reading some previous articles about plotting using colors,
color tables and so forth and it is frustrating to say the least. I
only wanted to use IDL to do some scientific work but it seems that I
am more and more being sucked into IDL programming. To do things that
are simple, in MATLAB for example, requires a minor course and a panel
of experts in IDL. And so I come to plotting. I have seen many examples
where the plot script starts out like this:
PLOT, x, /NODATA

and then other parameters are plotted using OPLOT. I know what /NODATA
does but why is it done this way? Is it to avoid making long PLOT
statements? It seems, on the surface, unnecessary.

Cheers,
Sheldon

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 17:16:14 GMT

David Fanning wrote:
> 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. :-(

Well, I think you're probably right about OG. But not about iTools. I mean, compare your
xPlot with iPlot:
- xPlot is easy to use.
- iPlot is non-intuitive and ridiculously complicated.
To be somewhat fair, xPlot doesn't do everythinbg that iPlot can ... but so what? 99% of
the time all I need is the functionality of xPlot.

I have no beef with OG per se, what I do have a beef with is not providing useful tools that use OG. iTools (in my opinion and in my usage, not that of NOAA/UW/anyone else) will never replace DG simplicity. I think it's ridiculous to expect non-programmers to spend the same amount of time figuring out how to plot data as it is for them to move/shuffle/reformat the data itself. In my case with DG the "data reformat"/display ratio is probably about 90/10. With OG it's about 10/90 and with iTools it's about 50/50 (where, in the latter case a lot of the denominator is just waiting for the darn GUI to display the data).

so much for avoiding the bad karma... :o(

>
>> 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. :-)

Fair 'nuff. What I was hoping for was that your current object graphics codes (things like xplot, xsurface etc, or their Catalyst derived equivalents) would be included in it.

cheers,

paulv

--
Paul van Delst
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!
Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 17:27:04 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Paul Van Delst writes:

> Fair 'nuff. What I was hoping for was that your current object graphics codes (things like
> xplot, xsurface etc, or their Catalyst derived equivalents) would be included in it.

I plan to do this as part of my magnimus opus work. It's
on the schedule :-)

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 news.qwest.net on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 15:51:41 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1e397092ba647538989b1c@news.frii.com...
...
> It's done. Object graphics has won.
> iTools will take over the world.

Not if "La Resistance" has anything to say about it.

(shhhh, we cannot talk of this here...)

-anonymous

Subject: Re: And again more about Plot!
Posted by William Daffer on Fri, 20 Jan 2006 19:53:55 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

"R.G. Stockwell" <no@email.please> writes:

> "David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
> news:MPG.1e397092ba647538989b1c@news.frii.com...
> ...
>> It's done. Object graphics has won.
>> iTools will take over the world.
>
> Not if "La Resistance" has anything to say about it.
>
>
> (shhhh, we cannot talk of this here...)

<channel Cloris Leachman in _History of the World, Part I>

 And now, to end this meeting on a high note!

 eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee

</channel>

whd
--
FLESH, n. The Second Person of the secular Trinity.
 -- Ambrose Bierce: _The Devil's Dictionary_