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Subject: Re: OPLOTT in multiple plots  
Posted by [russell](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 1994 18:11:08 GMT  
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I think someone just responded to this question. Here's the answer that I saved:

Article: 3334 of comp.lang.idl-pvwave  
Newsgroups: comp.lang.idl-pvwave  
Path: senator-bedfellow.mit.edu!bloom-beacon.mit.edu!spool.mu.edu!  
uwm.edu!caen!saimiri.primite.wi  
sc.edu!aplcnmp!strdev.jhuapl.edu!sterner  
From: sterner@strdev.jhuapl.edu (Ray Sterner)  
Subject: Re: Overplotting on several graphs  
Message-ID: <sterner.785164815@strdev.jhuapl.edu>  
Sender: usenet@aplcnmp.apl.jhu.edu  
Nntp-Posting-Host: strdev.jhuapl.edu  
Organization: Johns Hopkins Continuing Professional Programs  
References: <1994Nov17.123111.3468@lugb.latrobe.edu.au>  
Date: Fri, 18 Nov 1994 13:20:15 GMT  
Lines: 34

ECSPRS@LURE.LATROBE.EDU.AU (Paul Smith) writes:

> I would like to plot data on say 5 graphs as I read it from a file with  
> overplotting. ie. the first five sets of data are plotted on separate graphs  
> (in the one window) and the next five sets of data are plotted on top of the  
> first five plots. The problem with oplot is that it only works with the last  
> plot command, so is there any way to go from graph 5 back up to graph 1 and do  
> an overplot? I'm anticipating reading a lot of data so I don't really want to  
> read the entire file and then plot at the end. Also five passes through the  
> file seems a rather inefficient way to go.  
> Thanks,  
> Paul

To overplot an a plot done before the last one you need to restore  
several system variables to the state they had just after that plot.  
The system variables are !x, !y, and !p. Save them after a plot,  
do your other plots, then restore them to do an overplot.  
Here is a simple example:

```
!p.multi=[0,2,2]  
plot,[0,10],titl='A' & xa=!x & ya=!y & pa=!p  
plot,[0,10],titl='B' & xb=!x & yb=!y & pb=!p  
plot,[0,10],titl='C' & xc=!x & yc=!y & pc=!p  
plot,[0,10],titl='D' & xd=!x & yd=!y & pd=!p  
!x=xa & !y=ya & !p=pa & oplot,[10,5]  
!x=xc & !y=yc & !p=pc & oplot,[5,0]
```

You may want to make a procedure to save and restore the plot state by some index number.

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