
Subject: Re: IDL plot axes - how to show "range missing" squiggle?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 13 Jun 2007 14:32:39 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

mark.t.douglas@gmail.com writes:

> Is it possible in IDL to decorate an axis with a squiggle to show that
> there is an ignored data range? Something like
>
> |--N---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
> 0 10 11 12 13 14
>
> I am 100% positive I saw an IDL-produced graphic with such a squiggle
> in it somewhere, but I can't for the life of me remember where. I
> don't know what the technical term for the squiggle is, so googling
> hasn't helped...

It is certainly possible, but you will have to be
pretty intimate with PLOT keywords. :-)

In particular, you will have to know [XY]STYLE (in
several incarnations, for producing exact axis scaling
and for turning the drawing of some axes off as you
draw others), NOERASE, NODATA, and POSITION to name
just four or five that come immediately to mind.

Then, to draw the squiggle, you will have to use PLOTS.

I've done it, although I no longer have an example of it.
It might take 30 minutes of effort to get it all worked out.
And usually these things are one-offs, so that makes the work
less than satisfying. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL plot axes - how to show "range missing" squiggle?

Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Wed, 13 Jun 2007 15:00:24 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

mark.t.douglas@gmail.com wrote:

```
> Hello,  
>  
> Is it possible in IDL to decorate an axis with a squiggle to show that  
> there is an ignored data range? Something like  
>  
> |--N---|-----|-----|-----|  
> 0      10    11    12    13    14  
>  
> I am 100% positive I saw an IDL-produced graphic with such a squiggle  
> in it somewhere, but I can't for the life of me remember where. I  
> don't know what the technical term for the squiggle is, so googling  
> hasn't helped...  
>  
> Thanks!  
>
```

Just that you see what kind of results you can expect...
check out the vertical axes of figure 2 in:

<http://www.astro.phys.ethz.ch/papers/pgrigis/1367.pdf>

It's probably not too bad, but don't expect such a plot
to win any prize at the next graphic arts contest... it's
IDL direct graphics after all (nowadays I would put
truetype fonts instead of Hersheys).

Ciao,
Paolo
