
Subject: Re: Is it possible to do overplot in xplot?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 12:56:09 GMT

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mystea writes:

- > I found David's xplot procedure very helpful, because one can easily
- > produce a postscript without typing bunches of commands for setting
- > devices!
- >
- > However, I don't know how to do overplot or xyouts with it, nor can I
- > create new plot without destroying the old object. (like what we used
- > to do in direct graphics)
- >
- > Is this the limitation of object graphics? Or there is some way to
- > add these features into the existing code?

First of all, I don't know about iPlot. I've never used it. It is not so much a limitation of object graphics, as one of its strengths. You can do **everything** in object graphics, if you are willing to spend months figuring out how to do it.

I'd give MPI_PLOT a go. It is easy to overplot with that, and you get most of the supposed "advantages" of iPlot, without the god awful complexity.

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/mpi_plot.zip

Cheers,

David

P.S. I'll be talking about how to build this **exact** application (in about 20 minutes!) at the IDL Users Group meeting on Thursday. This will correspond, roughly, with the release of my Catalyst Library as an Open Source software project. I'm thinking this might well result in iTool-like programs that even somebody like me can program. :-)

--

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: Is it possible to do overplot in xplot?

Posted by [mystea](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 05:26:31 GMT

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Hi David,

The MPI_plot procedure is indeed very helpful. However, does it support things like xyouts?

For me, the most desirable feature for plotting is the ability to print the plot on a direct graphics window directly to ps/eps/printer. Retyping all the previous commands into ps/printer is truly tiresome, the worst part is when one makes a tiny mistake, everything must be redone from the start!

While I noticed there are procedures like TVRead, the quality of output is not as good as I would like it to be.

I wish I will learn enough IDL to participate in the open source project one day...

Gene

Gene

On Oct 14, 5:56 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

```
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