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Subject: Re: IDL 8, log plots and titles

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 26 Oct 2010 20:16:07 GMT

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b\_gom wrote:

> Am I missing something, or is IDL 8 fumbling logarithmic y axes and  
> plot titles when using the new plot function?  
>  
> When plotting log plots, the plot title seems to vanish, and also IDL  
> does not seem to be able to calculate the y range properly. In the  
> sample code below, compare the direct graphics output (which handles  
> the range and title correctly automatically) to the new plot function  
> output which doesn't seem to be able to figure out what I want:

[test code elided]

My only comment: crikey!

I just ran the same plots as those of the OP but using OG (iplot) rather than NG and I get the same behaviour. Anyone out there with a v7 install that can run the code using iplot? E.g.

```
x=findgen(100)/100*3*!pi
y=sin(x)
iplot,x,y,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Linear Y Axis Works',window_title='Linear Y Axis Works'
iplot,x,y,/ylog,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'
iplot,x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,yrange=[1,100],title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'
iplot,x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'
```

Does one see the same behaviour with v7 OG? Because, if they do that would mean OG has been buggy for a while. On the plus side, if v7 OG \*does not\* exhibit the same behaviour, it should be easy for ITTVIS to fix this in v8 since it's a recent introduction. (Right? :o)

To be fair to the ITTVIS folks, it's got to be difficult to test graphics systems. I mean, how do you test (unit or regression) the sort of problems the OP is encountering?

But, still.....

cheers,

paulv

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Subject: Re: IDL 8, log plots and titles

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 26 Oct 2010 20:33:32 GMT

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On Oct 26, 3:03 pm, b\_gom <b\_...@hotmail.com> wrote:

```
> Am I missing something, or is IDL 8 fumbling logarithmic y axes and
> plot titles when using the new plot function?
>
> When plotting log plots, the plot title seems to vanish, and also IDL
> does not seem to be able to calculate the y range properly. In the
> sample code below, compare the direct graphics output (which handles
> the range and title correctly automatically) to the new plot function
> output which doesn't seem to be able to figure out what I want:
>
> -----
> x=findgen(100)/100*3!*pi
> y=sin(x)
>
> ;This is what I expect; yaxis handles infinite log range and title
> appears correctly
> plot,x,y,/ylog,title='Direct Graphics Yrange and Title'
```

"correctly"? I think the automatic choice of yrange for a logarithmic plot is a matter of personal preference - but certainly for any serious

work you want to set the yrange explicitly yourself. But even when I am too lazy to do so, I would prefer this behavior as default:

```
title='pretty plot'
```

```
;pardon the kilometric one-liner
;wrapped to survive google groups posting
plot,x,y,/ylog, $
yrange=total(y GT 0) GT 0 ? $
[ min(y[where(y GT 0)]), max(y) ] : $
[ (machar()).xmin, (machar()).xmax ], $
title=total(y LT 0) GT 0 ? $
'NEGATIVE VALUES NOT PLOTTED '+$
title:title
```

Ciao,  
Paolo

```
>
> ;Now for the plot function output:
```

```
> ;title works for linear y axes
> p1=plot(x,y,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Linear Y Axis
> Works',window_title='Linear Y Axis Works')
> ;title gone for log plots
> p2=plot(x,y,/ylog,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Title Error Log Y
> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
> ;if you set the yrange, the title appears, but in the wrong place
> p3=plot(x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,yrange=[1,100],title='Title Error Log Y
> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
> ;if you don't set the yrange, the title is gone
> p4=plot(x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,title='Title Error Log Y
> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
> -----
>
> Any ideas?
```

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Subject: Re: IDL 8, log plots and titles

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 26 Oct 2010 20:39:02 GMT

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b\_gom writes:

```
> Am I missing something, or is IDL 8 fumbling logarithmic y axes and
> plot titles when using the new plot function?
```

I'm sure the title is around there somewhere. Have you scrolled around in the plot a bit? That's why the plot scrolling is turned on by default. So you can find things when they go missing.

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.")

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Subject: Re: IDL 8, log plots and titles

Posted by [b\\_gom](#) on Tue, 26 Oct 2010 21:21:42 GMT

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Well, maybe 'correctly' was the wrong choice of words. I meant that

the direct graphics routines almost always do something reasonable if you don't set any keywords. They don't refuse to plot logarithmic data or hide titles, for example. I won't be carrying around  
"yrange=total(y GT 0) GT 0 ? > [min(y[where(y GT 0)]),max(y)] :  
[(machar()).xmin,(machar()).xmax]" in my head each time I want to do a quick log plot..

I've been encouraging colleagues to start using IDL 8 because of the great new graphics functions, and almost immediately I get questions about plot behaviour that I can't explain.

A related question- I assume it isn't possible to produce multiple plots with the new graphics functions without manually defining the layout. i.e., there is no equivalent of setting !p.multi. Is this true?

Thanks

On Oct 26, 2:33 pm, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> "correctly"? I think the automatic choice of yrange for a logarithmic
> plot is a matter of personal preference - but certainly for any
> serious
> work you want to set the yrange explicitly yourself. But even when I
> am
> too lazy to do so, I would prefer this behavior as default:
>
> title='pretty plot'
>
> ;pardon the kilometeric one-liner
> ;wrapped to survive google groups posting
> plot,x,y,/ylog, $
> yrange=total(y GT 0) GT 0 ? $
> [min(y[where(y GT 0)]),max(y)] : $
> [(machar()).xmin,(machar()).xmax],$
> title=total(y LT 0) GT 0 ? $
> 'NEGATIVE VALUES NOT PLOTTED '+$
> title:title
>
> Ciao,
> Paolo
>
>
>
>
>> ;Now for the plot function output:
```

```

>> ;title works for linear y axes
>> p1=plot(x,y,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Linear Y Axis
>> Works',window_title='Linear Y Axis Works')
>> ;title gone for log plots
>> p2=plot(x,y,/ylog,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Title Error Log Y
>> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
>> ;if you set the yrange, the title appears, but in the wrong place
>> p3=plot(x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,yrange=[1,100],title='Title Error Log Y
>> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
>> ;if you don't set the yrange, the title is gone
>> p4=plot(x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,title='Title Error Log Y
>> Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis')
>> -----
>
>> Any ideas?- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

```

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Subject: Re: IDL 8, log plots and titles  
 Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 27 Oct 2010 03:30:12 GMT  
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On Oct 26, 4:16 pm, Paul van Delst <paul.vande...@noaa.gov> wrote:

```

> b_gom wrote:
>> Am I missing something, or is IDL 8 fumbling logarithmic y axes and
>> plot titles when using the new plot function?
>
>> When plotting log plots, the plot title seems to vanish, and also IDL
>> does not seem to be able to calculate the y range properly. In the
>> sample code below, compare the direct graphics output (which handles
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>> output which doesn't seem to be able to figure out what I want:
>
> [test code elided]
>
> My only comment: crikey!
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> I just ran the same plots as those of the OP but using OG (iplot) rather than NG and I get the
> same behaviour. Anyone
> out there with a v7 install that can run the code using iplot? E.g.
>
> x=findgen(100)/100*3!*pi
> y=sin(x)
> iplot,x,y,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Linear Y Axis Works',window_title='Linear Y Axis Works'
> iplot,x,y,/ylog,yrange=[0.1,1],title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'

```

> `iplot,x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,yrange=[1,100],title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'`  
> `iplot,x,(y+2)*10,/ylog,title='Title Error Log Y Axis',window_title='Title Error Log Y Axis'`  
>  
> Does one see the same behaviour with v7 OG? Because, if they do that would mean OG has been buggy for a while. On the  
> plus side, if v7 OG \*does not\* exhibit the same behaviour, it should be easy for ITTVIS to fix this in v8 since it's a  
> recent introduction. (Right? :o)  
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> To be fair to the ITTVIS folks, it's got to be difficult to test graphics systems. I mean, how do you test (unit or  
> regression) the sort of problems the OP is encountering?  
>  
> But, still.....  
>  
> cheers,  
>  
> paulv

I don't see a title on any of those.

```
IDL> print, !version
{ x86_64 darwin unix Mac OS X 7.0.4 Sep  3 2008    64    64}
```

-Jeremy.

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