
Subject: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [fgg](#) on Mon, 14 Feb 2011 19:24:49 GMT
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Hi,

I was wondering if I could use letters or numbers as the plotting symbol (instead of SYM_INDEX = 1-8) that marks points in IPLOT? I guess the answer has to do with SYM_OBJECT, but it's not clear to me how to use it.

Thanks,
fgg

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 18:31:29 GMT
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?XYOUTS

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 19:10:52 GMT
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On Feb 14, 5:24 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> I was wondering if I could use letters or numbers as the plotting
> symbol (instead of SYM_INDEX = 1-8) that marks points in IPLOT? I
> guess the answer has to do with SYM_OBJECT, but it's not clear to me
> how to use it.

```
mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5,  
color=[255,0,0],font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))  
iplot,sin(dindgen(50)*!dpi/49d0),sym_object=mysymbol
```

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 19:22:31 GMT
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On Feb 15, 11:10 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Feb 14, 5:24 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
> iplot,sin(dindgen(50)*!dpi/49d0),sym_object=mysymbol

Thanks, Paulo.

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 19:57:52 GMT
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On Feb 15, 11:10 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Feb 14, 5:24 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> I was wondering if I could use letters or numbers as the plotting
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>> guess the answer has to do with SYM_OBJECT, but it's not clear to me
>> how to use it.
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,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
> iplot,sin(dindgen(50)*!dpi/49d0),sym_object=mysymbol

Paulo, I'm getting the following error when I try to create
'mysymbol':

```
IDL>  
mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]  
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
```

```
mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]  
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))  
      ^
```

% Syntax error.

Do you know why?

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 20:12:20 GMT
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On Feb 15, 11:57 am, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Feb 15, 11:10 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> On Feb 14, 5:24 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>> I was wondering if I could use letters or numbers as the plotting
>>> symbol (instead of SYM_INDEX = 1-8) that marks points in IPLOT? I
>>> guess the answer has to do with SYM_OBJECT, but it's not clear to me

```

>>> how to use it.
>
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,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
>> iplot,sin(dindgen(50)*!dpi/49d0),sym_object=mysymbol
>
> Paulo, I'm getting the following error when I try to create
> 'mysymbol':
>
> IDL>
> mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
>
> mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
>
> % Syntax error.
>
> Do you know why?

```

This seems to work:

```

mysymbol=obj_new('idlgrtext','A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alig nment=0.5,color=[255,0,0],
font=obj_new('idlgrfont','courier',size=1000))

```

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
 Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 20:23:38 GMT
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fgg wrote:

```

> On Feb 15, 11:10 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> On Feb 14, 5:24 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>>
>>> I was wondering if I could use letters or numbers as the plotting
>>> symbol (instead of SYM_INDEX = 1-8) that marks points in IPLOT? I
>>> guess the answer has to do with SYM_OBJECT, but it's not clear to me
>>> how to use it.
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,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))
>> iplot,sin(dindgen(50)*!dpi/49d0),sym_object=mysymbol
>
> Paulo, I'm getting the following error when I try to create
> 'mysymbol':
>
> IDL>
> mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))

```

```
>  
> mysymbol=idlgrtext('A',alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5, color=[255,0,0]  
,font=idlgrfont('courier',size=1000))  
> ^  
> % Syntax error.  
>  
> Do you know why?
```

You have IDL v7.x ?

In IDL v8, the capability to use the object name as the constructor function was introduced. So along with the usual

```
x = obj_new('myobject')
```

you can also do

```
x = myobject()
```

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT

Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 20:28:36 GMT

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```
> You have IDL v7.x ?  
>  
> In IDL v8, the capability to use the object name as the constructor function was introduced. So  
along with the usual  
>  
> x = obj_new('myobject')  
>  
> you can also do  
>  
> x = myobject()
```

7.1.1. Thanks for clarifying, Paul.

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT

Posted by [fgg](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 20:43:32 GMT

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One last question and I promise I'm done with this topic! :)

I actually have a vector of strings, say:

```
mysymbol=obj_new('idlgrtext',
```

```
['A','B','C',...],alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5,color  
=[255,0,0],  
font=obj_new('idlgrfont','courier',size=1000))
```

and I'd like to plot the 1st string as the symbol for the 1st point,
the 2nd string as the symbol for the 2nd point, and so on...

Do I have to create a loop for that? Or there is a simpler way?

If I do:

```
plot, x, y, sym_object=mysymbol, /scatter
```

with x and y having the same size as the vector of strings in
mysymbol, IDL plots all strings, superimposed, for every (x,y) pair.

Subject: Re: Using non-default symbols in IPLOT
Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 21:18:01 GMT
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On Feb 15, 6:43 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> I actually have a vector of strings, say:  
>  
> mysymbol=obj_new('idlgrtext',  
> ['A','B','C',...],alignment=0.5,vertical_alignment=0.5,color  
> =[255,0,0],  
> font=obj_new('idlgrfont','courier',size=1000))  
>  
> and I'd like to plot the 1st string as the symbol for the 1st point,  
> the 2nd string as the symbol for the 2nd point, and so on...  
>  
> Do I have to create a loop for that? Or there is a simpler way?
```

If there is, I would like to know it.
