
Subject: Date labeling in PLOT IDL8
Posted by [corinnefrey](#) on Fri, 13 May 2011 07:41:12 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hello

I would like to annotate my x-axis with Monthes only. At the moment it looks like this (just example data):

```
monthly_plot = PLOT(TIMEGEN(12, START=
JULDAY(1,1,2003,0,0,0),UNITS="Month"), FINDGEN(12),$
SYMBOL = 2, XTITLE = 'Month', XTICKUNITS=['Months'], XTICKLEN=1,
XMINOR= 0, CHARSIZE=1, X RANGE = xrange, YRANGE = [-10,15], XSTYLE = 1)
```

The beginning of each month label is now at the beginning of each "tickmark-box". However, I would like to have it in the middle of each two tickmarks. How can i do that?

Kind regards,
Corinne

Subject: Re: Date labeling in PLOT IDL8
Posted by [Klemen](#) on Mon, 23 May 2011 08:31:01 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi, I had similar problems - I could not put the label in the middle of the interval. I decided in the end to use LABEL_DATE function, where I put some spaces in front of code for the month (%M). The problem is, that IDL ignores all empty spaces if there is no other charcter in front of it. So I made a compromise and put a point in the beginning. If you look your graph long enough you will of course see these points, but others will probably not notice it. :)

Cheers, Klemen

```
dat_form = LABEL_DATE(DATE_FORMAT='          %M %D') ;note
the point and spaces in front of %M
```

```
ka = PLOT([0], X RANGE = [xmin,xmax], YRANGE = [ymin,ymax], $
YTITLE='$\it$RP $\rm$[MW]', $ XTITLE='Date', $
SYM_SIZE = 0., FONT_SIZE= 8, FONT_NAME ='Arial', $
XTICKINTERVAL=1, XMINOR=3, XTICKLEN=0.03, YTICKLEN=0.03, $
XTICKUNITS='Day', XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', XTICKLAYOUT=0)
```

Subject: Re: Date labeling in PLOT IDL8

Posted by [corinnefrey](#) on Thu, 26 May 2011 10:28:13 GMT

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

Hi Klemen,

Ok, not a bad idea, thanks. For publication however this will not be acceptable... I guess, I stay with the old plot procedure for this kind of plots...

Cheers,

On May 23, 10:31 am, Klemen <klemen.zak...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> Hi, I had similar problems - I could not put the label in the middle
> of the interval. I decided in the end to use LABEL_DATE function,
> where I put some spaces in front of code for the month (%M). The
> problem is, that IDL ignores all empty spaces if there is no other
> character in front of it. So I made a compromise and put a point in the
> beginning. If you look your graph long enough you will of course see
> these points, but others will probably not notice it. :)
>
> Cheers, Klemen
>
> dat_form = LABEL_DATE(DATE_FORMAT='          %M %D') ;note
> the point and spaces in front of %M
>
> ka = PLOT([0], X RANGE = [xmin,xmax], Y RANGE = [ymin,ymax], $
>   YTITLE='$\it$RP $\rm$[MW]', $ XTITLE='Date', $
>   SYM_SIZE = 0., FONT_SIZE= 8, FONT_NAME ='Arial', $
>   XTICKINTERVAL=1, XMINOR=3, XTICKLEN=0.03, YTICKLEN=0.03, $
>   XTICKUNITS='Day', XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', XTICKLAYOUT=0)
```
