
Subject: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [Kim](#) on Tue, 17 May 2011 20:25:09 GMT

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Hello,

I have just started using the new graphics routines in IDL 8.0/8.1 and am trying to incorporate them into an extensive set of customized plotting and image type routines. I am able to use the IMAGE function to display some log-normally distributed data, however I am unable to create a colorbar that reflects the log-transformed data.

Here is a simplified example:

```
; Read the data array
; Convert the scaled float array (using ALOG10) to a byte array
im = IMAGE(bytedata)
cb =
  COLORBAR(target=im,tickvalues=[0.01,0.03,0.1,0.3,1.0,3.0,10. 0,30.0],tickname=['.
01','.03','.1','.3','1','3','10','30'], title='Log Data')
```

Some specific questions:

- 1) How do you scale the color bar so that it reflects the scaled data?
- 2) If tickvalues are supplied, can you also input ticknames? In the above example, the supplied ticknames are not used and instead the ticknames are derived from the tickvalues. The only way I have been able to use the ticknames is to remove the tickvalues keyword.
- 3) Is it possible to set minimum and maximum color or value ranges? For example, in one of my commonly used rgb_tables, the 0 value is black and above 250 are various shades of gray. How do I set it so that mincolor=1 and maxcolor=250?
- 4) Is it possible to create a colorbar that is independent of some specified data? It would be very useful to be able to create a colorbar just using a user supplied data range instead of being directly linked to a specific data field. There are times when I need to create stand alone colorbars and I can't figure out how to do this with the COLORBAR function.

Thank you for your assistance,
Kim

Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 15:53:04 GMT

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On May 19, 11:42 am, David Fanning <n...@idlcoyote.com> wrote:

> Paolo writes:

>> Ah, very cool! The power of the coyote graphics is strong with you! :)

>> By the way do feel free to use my code for any purpose whatsoever -
>> it's
>> in the public domain.
>
> I have thought about creating a "public" Coyote Graphics
> space, where people can submit programs that make use of
> the CGS system. I don't personally want to maintain these
> programs (I have my hands full most days maintaining my own!),
> but I would like to make them available to the CGS community.
>
> Perhaps I could put this one in there as the inaugural
> contribution. :-)
>
>
>
>> The problem I personally have with cg (and this is entirely the fault
>> of the way IDL manages namespace) is that it can't be run within
>> solarsoft,
>> since solarsoft did seem fit to steal some coyote routines (without
>> renaming
>> them) so now I have several mutually incompatible version of some
>> coyote
>> routines...
>
> Well, I have tried very hard to fix this problem, even
> talking to some of the Solar Soft people several weeks
> ago. I thought I had made all the Coyote Library routines
> compatible with the Solar Soft routines. (Have you downloaded
> a recent Coyote Library?)

Well by putting the coyote library at the beginning
of my path I can run the cg software :) It's just
that I am not sure whether that will or will not
cause some solarsoft routines to crash... but let
me try to run a few weeks with that setup and see
how it works out.

Ciao,
Paolo

>
> If you are having problems with a specific routine,
> I'd be happy to try to fix it. Part of the name change
> business (FSC_Plot -> cgPlot) was to fix this very
> problem!
>
> Cheers,

>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 16:02:43 GMT
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Paolo writes:

> By the way, the cg version doesn't seem to be properly
> honoring the axis ranges. For instance, a y range of
> [-100,100] should show an image only in the upper half
> of the axis, as the image y-range is only [0,127]...
>
> (well one could wonder why would you plot that way...
> but the idea behind pg_plotimage was to plot an image the
> same way you would use "plot"...)

Ah, OK, I misunderstood the notion of "position".
I'll see if I can fix this.

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 16:42:16 GMT
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Paolo writes:

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> honoring the axis ranges. For instance, a y range of
> [-100,100] should show an image only in the upper half
> of the axis, as the image y-range is only [0,127]...
>
> (well one could wonder why would you plot that way...
> but the idea behind pg_plotimage was to plot an image the
> same way you would use "plot"...)

Hi Paolo,

I have no trouble fixing this for the display, but
I can't make it write a proper PostScript file. I've
gone back to the original code, and I can't make that
program write a proper PostScript file with this command
either! Have you ever tried to write a PostScript file
with the commands above in your original program? :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 16:53:41 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

>
> Paolo writes:
>
>> By the way, the cg version doesn't seem to be properly
>> honoring the axis ranges. For instance, a y range of
>> [-100,100] should show an image only in the upper half
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>>
>> (well one could wonder why would you plot that way...
>> but the idea behind pg_plotimage was to plot an image the
>> same way you would use "plot"...)

>
> Hi Paolo,
>
> I have no trouble fixing this for the display, but
> I can't make it write a proper PostScript file. I've
> gone back to the original code, and I can't make that
> program write a proper PostScript file with this command
> either! Have you ever tried to write a PostScript file
> with the commands above in your original program? :-)

Here is the code I am using with your original program.

```
loadct,5
im=dist(128,128)
x=findgen(128)
y=findgen(128)
ps_start, filename='test_1.ps'
pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],$
  yrange=[5,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog
ps_end
ps_start, filename='test_2.ps'
pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],$
  yrange=[-100,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog
ps_end
END
```

test_1.ps seems to be fine. But test_2.ps is
buggered. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 17:52:10 GMT

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On May 19, 12:53 pm, David Fanning <n...@idlcoyote.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>

```

>> Paolo writes:
>
>>> By the way, the cg version doesn't seem to be properly
>>> honoring the axis ranges. For instance, a y range of
>>> [-100,100] should show an image only in the upper half
>>> of the axis, as the image y-range is only [0,127]...
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>>> (well one could wonder why would you plot that way...
>>> but the idea behind pg_plotimage was to plot an image the
>>> same way you would use "plot"...)
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>
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>> I can't make it write a proper PostScript file. I've
>> gone back to the original code, and I can't make that
>> program write a proper PostScript file with this command
>> either! Have you ever tried to write a PostScript file
>> with the commands above in your original program? :-)
>
> Here is the code I am using with your original program.
>
> loadct,5
> im=dist(128,128)
> x=findgen(128)
> y=findgen(128)
> ps_start, filename='test_1.ps'
> pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],$
>   yrange=[5,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog
> ps_end
> ps_start, filename='test_2.ps'
> pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],$
>   yrange=[-100,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog
> ps_end
> END
>
> test_1.ps seems to be fine. But test_2.ps is
> bugged. :-)

```

Yes that's a bug for sure.

Considering the program was written with the idea to figure out the luminosity of each pixel on the screen by interpolating the values of the images to a pixel grid, I guess it's not entirely surprising that it doesn't work very well with the PS device, which in fact does not even have the concept of a pixel...

Let me think if I can figure out a solution.

Ciao,
Paolo

>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 18:00:23 GMT
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Paolo writes:

> Yes that's a bug for sure.
>
> Considering the program was written with the idea to
> figure out the luminosity of each pixel on the screen
> by interpolating the values of the images to a pixel
> grid, I guess it's not entirely surprising that it
> doesn't work very well with the PS device, which in
> fact does not even have the concept of a pixel...
>
> Let me think if I can figure out a solution.

The key will be determining a POSITION where
you want the image to appear. Once we know that,
our problem is solved. :-)

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.

Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 19:36:09 GMT

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

On May 19, 12:53 pm, David Fanning <n...@idlcoyote.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>

>> Paolo writes:

>

>>> By the way, the cg version doesn't seem to be properly

>>> honoring the axis ranges. For instance, a y range of

>>> [-100,100] should show an image only in the upper half

>>> of the axis, as the image y-range is only [0,127]...

>

>>> (well one could wonder why would you plot that way...

>>> but the idea behind pg_plotimage was to plot an image the

>>> same way you would use "plot"...)

>

>> Hi Paolo,

>

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>> I can't make it write a proper PostScript file. I've

>> gone back to the original code, and I can't make that

>> program write a proper PostScript file with this command

>> either! Have you ever tried to write a PostScript file

>> with the commands above in your original program? :-)

>

> Here is the code I am using with your original program.

>

> loadct,5

> im=dist(128,128)

> x=findgen(128)

> y=findgen(128)

> ps_start, filename='test_1.ps'

> pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],\$

> yrange=[5,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog

> ps_end

> ps_start, filename='test_2.ps'

> pg_plotimage,im,x,y,xrange=[5,100],\$

> yrange=[-100,100],/xstyle,/ystyle,/xlog

> ps_end

> END

>

> test_1.ps seems to be fine. But test_2.ps is
> bugged. :-)

It turns out it was a simple (i.e. stupid) bug
with two indices that were 0 and should have
been 1.

Since it turns out I let my password expire I can't
update the version on the CfA webpage right now,
but you can find the fixed version on:

http://www.grigis.ch/pg_plotimage.pro

Or manually fix the indices from 0 to 1 at the end of lines
249 and 252.

Ciao,
Paolo

>
> Cheers,
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> David
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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 May 2011 20:26:55 GMT
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> with two indices that were 0 and should have
> been 1.
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> update the version on the CfA webpage right now,
> but you can find the fixed version on:
>
> http://www.grigis.ch/pg_plotimage.pro
>
> Or manually fix the indices from 0 to 1 at the end of lines

> 249 and 252.

OK, then you can find a working version in the usual spot. I'll add it to the "public" folder in the Coyote Library.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: log scale colorbar in IDL 8.0

Posted by [davide.fedele](#) on Thu, 12 Mar 2015 13:36:06 GMT

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Hi,

did anyone found a solution to the original question?

Thanks,

Davide

On Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 10:25:09 PM UTC+2, KH wrote:

> Hello,

>

> I have just started using the new graphics routines in IDL 8.0/8.1 and
> am trying to incorporate them into an extensive set of customized
> plotting and image type routines. I am able to use the IMAGE function
> to display some log-normally distributed data, however I am unable to
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>

> Here is a simplified example:

> ; Read the data array

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>
> Thank you for your assistance,
> Kim
