

---

Subject: More Function Graphics Plot Weirdness  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 21 Oct 2011 05:36:03 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Folks,

Ok, who is up for more function graphics plot weirdness?

I hope it is not too late to submit a test question  
for this year's IEPA banquet.

What property of an IDL function graphics plot will  
cause a plot with six overlaid data sets to plot a  
random assortment of the data sets in random locations?

I don't think you will guess, so let me give you  
the answer.

If all but one of the six overlaid data sets uses a  
double precision form of the Julian time and one of  
the data sets uses the long integer form of the Julian  
time, then all hell breaks loose and the plot appears  
to be absolutely insane!

I told you you couldn't guess the answer! :-)

It's too late to give you an example of this, and  
I'm going hiking tomorrow, so maybe I'll write this  
up later.

I will say this about function graphics, though.  
I haven't had this much fun solving problems since  
I decided to study physics after being an English  
and Theater major for years and years. ;-)

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: More Function Graphics Plot Weirdness  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 22 Oct 2011 16:57:39 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Oct 21, 1:36 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,  
>  
> Ok, who is up for more function graphics plot weirdness?  
>  
> I hope it is not too late to submit a test question  
> for this year's IEPA banquet.  
>  
> What property of an IDL function graphics plot will  
> cause a plot with six overlaid data sets to plot a  
> random assortment of the data sets in random locations?  
>  
> I don't think you will guess, so let me give you  
> the answer.  
>  
> If all but one of the six overlaid data sets uses a  
> double precision form of the Julian time and one of  
> the data sets uses the long integer form of the Julian  
> time, then all hell breaks loose and the plot appears  
> to be absolutely insane!  
>  
> I told you you couldn't guess the answer! :-)

Wrong, I totally guessed that one. :-)

Craig

---

---

Subject: Re: More Function Graphics Plot Weirdness  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 22 Oct 2011 17:03:10 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Craig Markwardt writes:

> Wrong, I totally guessed that one. :-)

Yes, but you are already in the IEPA veterans  
division (for people who qualified with IDL 4.0  
or lower), so it doesn't count. ;-)

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.")

---