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Subject: Re: plot z vector on x-y plot  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 13:52:23 GMT  
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justinclouds writes:

> I would like to plot z (a vector) as a color scale along an x-y plot (latitude vector and longitude vector). Anybody have any ideas on how to do this in IDL?

I'm not clear exactly what you have in mind here. Is it something like this:

[http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics\\_tips/coloredline.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/coloredline.html)

Cheers,

David

--

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

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Subject: Re: plot z vector on x-y plot  
Posted by [justinclouds](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 18:10:44 GMT  
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It is hard to explain. Something like this would be a good example  
<http://fuelberg.met.fsu.edu/research/arctas/traj/traj.html> (the top figure showing a flight track in lat/lon with a property plotted along the track ... in this case pressure is plotted)

I am checking a few things in iplot but so far no success.

Thanks!  
Duncan

On Thursday, December 13, 2012 6:52:23 AM UTC-7, David Fanning wrote:

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Subject: Re: plot z vector on x-y plot  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 18:15:33 GMT  
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justinclouds writes:

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Which usually makes it hard to program, too. :-)

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iPlot!? Well, good luck with that. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: plot z vector on x-y plot

Posted by [justinclouds](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 20:04:20 GMT

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Works very nicely. THANKS!

Duncan

On Friday, December 14, 2012 11:15:33 AM UTC-7, David Fanning wrote:

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Subject: Re: plot z vector on x-y plot  
Posted by [markjamie](#) on Tue, 18 Dec 2012 23:05:25 GMT  
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You could also do this with function graphics by plotting with symbols and using the `vert_colors` keyword to provide your `z` vector.

Off the top of my head...

```
P=plot(x, y, symbol='o', vert_colors=z, rgb_table=39)
```

Syntax may be slightly wrong as I'm quoting from memory but should hopefully give the right idea.

This obviously only comes out as a line if you have a lot of data points.

Mark

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