
Subject: Increasing the whitespace between plot axes and the label?

Posted by [Matt Francis](#) on Sun, 28 Jul 2013 23:32:29 GMT

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I'm using the CGS to make some map images for display on a website. I've circulated the current results to some colleagues and have been given some feedback that more whitespace between the axes and the axes labels (the lat/lon grid line labels) would be good. Now that it has been pointed out to me, I agree that they look a little be cramped in.

If I increase the font size of the labels, the whitespace does increase a little bit but that's not what I want; I'd like to keep the font the same but just move the labels out a little.

My best guess is that this would be doable in some complicated way, such as making multiple overlying plots, with one having all the data and the other just the annotations with a slightly larger !P.position, but that seems like a cumbersome solution. Does anyone know if there is a simpler way using the CGS as it stands? I do realise this is a somewhat pedantic request...

Subject: Re: Increasing the whitespace between plot axes and the label?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 28 Jul 2013 23:52:10 GMT

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Bogdanovist writes:

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I can't really say without seeing an example of what you are talking about, but I would say, in general, the direct graphics system (i.e., the old graphics system) in IDL doesn't give you much control over this kind of thing.

You have a bit more control in the object graphics system. But with that system you often have the problem of dealing with upside down labels. I guess you really have to choose your poison. :-)

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.")

Subject: Re: Increasing the whitespace between plot axes and the label?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 28 Jul 2013 23:53:43 GMT

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Bogdanovist writes:

> If I increase the font size of the lables, the whitespace does increase a little bit but that's not what I want; I'd like to keep the font the same but just move the labels out a little.

I guess I don't understand how increasing the font size could increase white space. It seems to me you would need to decrease the font size to see an increase in white space.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Increasing the whitespace between plot axes and the label?

Posted by [Matt Francis](#) on Mon, 29 Jul 2013 00:01:08 GMT

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> see an increase in white space.

It looks like there is some kind of scaling going on, as if say IDL leaves a gap between the axis

and the label of 10% of the character size. As the character size increases, so does the gap. Something like that seems to be happening, but I have to make the character size ridiculous to get the kind of whitespace desired.

It seems there is no simple solution, which is as I suspected. That's fine, thanks for your help.

Subject: Re: Increasing the whitespace between plot axes and the label?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 29 Jul 2013 00:29:38 GMT

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Bogdanovist writes:

> It looks like there is some kind of scaling going on, as if say IDL leaves a gap between the axis and the label of 10% of the character size. As the character size increases, so does the gap. Something like that seems to be happening, but I have to make the character size ridiculous to get the kind of whitespace desired.

>

> It seems there is no simple solution, which is as I suspected. That's fine, thanks for your help.

You can always put labels on yourself, with XYOutS or cgText. I do this if I have to label a top axis, because the Axis command really doesn't have any sense of space. It is often not terribly hard to do this.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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