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Subject: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses

Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Thu, 03 Jul 2014 12:11:44 GMT

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Folks,

do FONT\_COLOR and SYM\_COLOR accept arrays as input?

And, regardless to the answer, can someone explain this to me:

```
; This creates the correct filled points but the text colors are erratic
```

```
p1 = plot(INDGEN(10))
```

```
p1t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', '$  
'RED', 'ORANGE'], FONT_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
```

```
p1s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',  
/SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
```

```
; This is just chaos
```

```
cols = ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE']
```

```
p2 = plot(INDGEN(10))
```

```
p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols, FONT_COLOR=cols)
```

```
p2s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',  
/SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=cols)
```

Thanks for shedding light on this for me!

Fabien

```
IDL> print, !VERSION
```

```
{ x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013    64    64}
```

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Subject: Re: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Thu, 03 Jul 2014 16:40:17 GMT

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On Thursday, July 3, 2014 2:11:44 PM UTC+2, Fabien wrote:

> Folks,

>

>

>

> do FONT\_COLOR and SYM\_COLOR accept arrays as input?

>

>

```
>
> And, regardless to the answer, can someone explain this to me:
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>
>
>
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> p1t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', $
>
> 'RED', 'ORANGE'], FONT_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
>
> p1s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
>
> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
>
>
>
> ; This is just chaos
>
> cols = ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE']
>
> p2 = plot(INDGEN(10))
>
> p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols, FONT_COLOR=cols)
>
> p2s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
>
> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=cols)
>
>
>
>
> Thanks for shedding light on this for me!
>
>
>
>
> Fabien
>
>
>
>
```

```
>
> IDL> print, !VERSION
>
> { x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013    64    64}
```

The trick (and the inconsistency) is that multiple positions create multiple TEXT objects and only one single SYMBOL object.

The correct way seems to be (note the 'foreach' line):

```
cols = ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE']
p2 = plot(INDGEN(10))
p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols)
foreach t,p2t,i do t.FONT_COLOR=cols[i]
p2s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle', SYM_COLOR=cols,
SYM_FILLED=1)
```

You get the same inconsistency if you jointly use LABEL\_STRING and LABEL\_COLOR keywords in SYMBOL (in order to avoid the TEXT calling).

alx.

---

Subject: Re: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses  
Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Thu, 03 Jul 2014 20:53:41 GMT  
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---

Hi Alx,

Thanks for your answer.

It is still really not ok that an IDL built-in routine messes around with your variables:

```
IDL> print, cols
BLUE PURPLE RED ORANGE
IDL> p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols,$
FONT_COLOR=cols)
IDL> print, cols
 0 0 0
 0 0 0
 0 0 0
 0 0 0
```

Cheers,

Fabien

On 03.07.2014 14:11, Fabien wrote:

```
> Folks,
>
> do FONT_COLOR and SYM_COLOR accept arrays as input?
>
> And, regardless to the answer, can someone explain this to me:
>
>
> ; This creates the correct filled points but the text colors are erratic
> p1 = plot(INDGEN(10))
> p1t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', $
> 'RED', 'ORANGE'], FONT_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
> p1s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
>
> ; This is just chaos
> cols = ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE']
> p2 = plot(INDGEN(10))
> p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols, FONT_COLOR=cols)
> p2s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=cols)
>
>
> Thanks for shedding light on this for me!
>
>
> Fabien
>
>
> IDL> print, !VERSION
> { x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013    64    64}
```

---

Subject: Re: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Thu, 03 Jul 2014 22:01:07 GMT

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Le jeudi 3 juillet 2014 22:53:41 UTC+2, Fabien a écrit :

```
> Hi Alx,
>
>
>
> Thanks for your answer.
>
>
>
> It is still really not ok that an IDL built-in routine messes around
>
```

```
> with your variables:
>
>
>
> IDL> print, cols
>
> BLUE PURPLE RED ORANGE
>
> IDL> p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols,$
>
> FONT_COLOR=cols)
>
> IDL> print, cols
>
> 0 0 0
>
> 0 0 0
>
> 0 0 0
>
> 0 0 0
>
>
>
> Cheers,
>
>
>
> Fabien
>
>
>
> On 03.07.2014 14:11, Fabien wrote:
>
>> Folks,
>
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>
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>
>>
>
>>
>
```

```

>> ; This creates the correct filled points but the text colors are erratic
>
>> p1 = plot(INDGEN(10))
>
>> p1t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], ['BLUE', 'PURPLE', $
>
>> 'RED', 'ORANGE'], FONT_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
>
>> p1s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
>
>> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=['BLUE', 'PURPLE', 'RED', 'ORANGE'])
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>> p2 = plot(INDGEN(10))
>
>> p2t = text([0.3,0.3,0.3, 0.3],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], cols, FONT_COLOR=cols)
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>> p2s = symbol([0.27,0.27,0.27, 0.27],[0.8,0.77,0.72,0.69], 'circle',
>
>> /SYM_FILLED, SYM_COLOR=cols)
>
>>
>
>> Thanks for shedding light on this for me!
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> Fabien
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> IDL> print, !VERSION
>
>> { x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013    64    64}

```

I agree. In spite of the fact that the documentation does not say that you can specify a multiple color, this looks like a (dangerous) bug.



Hi Chris,

that's great, thanks!

The documentation for both `SYM_COLOR` and `FONT_COLOR` states:  
"Set this property to a string or RGB vector that specifies the text color. The default value is "black"."

So is it OK or not to give an array as input? Is the "inconsistency" between `text()` and `symbol()` going to remain as it is now?

Thanks a lot!

Fabien

---

Subject: Re: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses  
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2014 09:07:10 GMT  
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On Friday, July 4, 2014 10:16:05 AM UTC+2, Fabien wrote:

> Hi Chris,

>

>

>

> that's great, thanks!

>

>

>

> The documentation for both `SYM_COLOR` and `FONT_COLOR` states:

>

> "Set this property to a string or RGB vector that specifies the text

>

> color. The default value is "black".

>

>

>

> So is it OK or not to give an array as input? Is the "inconsistency"

>

> between `text()` and `symbol()` going to remain as it is now?

>

>

>

> Thanks a lot!

>

>

>

> Fabien

"Set this property to a string or RGB vector that specifies the text color" seems to me be meaning that you \*cannot\* give an array as input.  
alx.

---

---

Subject: Re: Two NewGraphics weirdnesses  
Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Sat, 05 Jul 2014 10:23:38 GMT  
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Hi Alx,

On 04.07.2014 11:07, alx wrote:  
> seems to me be meaning that you\*cannot\* give an array as input.

Agreed. But since it works well for symbols it is tempting to use this "bug" in your code, while it might not work forever if they decide to throw an error in 8.4 when you try to pass a 4-element array as argument.

Anyway, it's not that important. Thanks Alx and Chris for your help!

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