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Subject: Plotting lookback time (in Gyrs) and redshift on two x axis in IDL

Posted by [johndraper1993](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2014 11:47:17 GMT

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Hey, I recently came across this forum which discusses the difficulties in plotting two different x axis on the same plot.

[https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/\\_ooU4X875i0](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/_ooU4X875i0)

One contributor wrote

```
"IDL> plot,indgen(10),YRANGE=[1,12],YTITLE='first linear
axis',YSTYLE=9,POSITION=[.1,.1,.9,.9],CHARSIZE=2
IDL>
axis,YSTYLE=1,YAXIS=1,YTICKFORMAT='conv_axis',CHARSIZE=2,YTITLE='second
non-linear axis'
```

where 'conv\_axis' is the name of the function which does the conversion (e.g.):

```
function conv_axis,axis,index,value
return,string(FORMAT='(F0.1)',value^1.5*exp(-value^2/100))
end"
```

I tried to use what this user wrote in my code:

```
window,0
plot,res,rho*5000,/Ylog,XTITLE='Time (Gyr)',YTITLE='Log(dp/dt) (Solar Mass Mpc^-3 yr^-1)',
XRange=[12,0] ;plot z against phi
axis, XAXIS=1,XTICKFORMAT=z,XTITLE='redshift'
```

Note: res is the time in gigayears given here:

```
res=9.777505969(2./3/h/sqrt(1.omega_m))*asin(sqrt((1.omega_m)/omega_m)/(1.+z)^(3./2))
;turns z into Giga years
```

I was unsure what function to set equal to XTICKFORMAT, do i need to create a function to convert Gigayears into redshift?

Please say if you would like to see any more of the code, as it is quite long i left most of it out.

Thanks in advance, John

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Subject: Re: Plotting lookback time (in Gyrs) and redshift on two x axis in IDL

Posted by [rryan%stsci.edu](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2014 20:12:53 GMT

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I don't know... But I found it to be a lot more obvious what's going on if you just do what Fanning

teaches us:

[http://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/another\\_yaxis.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/another_yaxis.html)  
[http://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/irregular\\_tick\\_spacing.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/irregular_tick_spacing.html)

note, for the second one, you can use the `xtickv` keyword and just set it equal to whatever array you want.

Russell

On Wednesday, December 3, 2014 6:47:19 AM UTC-5, johndra...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hey, I recently came across this forum which discusses the difficulties in plotting two different x axis on the same plot.

>  
> [https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/\\_ooU4X875i0](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/_ooU4X875i0)  
>  
> One contributor wrote  
>  
> "IDL> plot,indgen(10),YRANGE=[1,12],YTITLE='first linear  
> axis',YSTYLE=9,POSITION=[.1,.1,.9,.9],CHARSIZE=2  
> IDL>  
> axis,YSTYLE=1,YAXIS=1,YTICKFORMAT='conv\_axis',CHARSIZE=2,YTITLE='second  
> non-linear axis'

>  
> where 'conv\_axis' is the name of the function which does the  
> conversion (e.g.):

>  
> function conv\_axis,axis,index,value  
> return,string(FORMAT='(F0.1)',value^1.5\*exp(-value^2/100))  
> end"

>  
> I tried to use what this user wrote in my code:

>  
> window,0  
> plot,res,rho\*5000,/Ylog,XTITLE='Time (Gyr)',YTITLE='Log(dp/dt) (Solar Mass Mpc<sup>-3</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>)',  
XRange=[12,0] ;plot z against phi  
> axis, XAXIS=1,XTICKFORMAT=z,XTITLE='redshift'

>  
> Note: res is the time in gigayears given here:

> res=9.777505969(2./3/h/sqrt(1.omega\_m))\*asin(sqrt((1.omega\_m)/omega\_m)/(1.+z)^(3./2))  
;turns z into Giga years

>  
> I was unsure what function to set equal to XTICKFORMAT, do i need to create a function to  
convert Gigayears into redshift?

>  
> Please say if you would like to see any more of the code, as it is quite long i left most of it out.

>  
> Thanks in advance, John

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Subject: Re: Plotting lookback time (in Gyrs) and redshift on two x axis in IDL  
Posted by [johndraper1993](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2014 21:56:51 GMT  
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I understand that i can make one axis logarithmic in scale but i don't think this helps me as redshift isn't logarithmic with respect to lookback time (res).

I have worked out what redshift is with respect to lookback time in Gyrs:

$$z=(\text{sqrt}((1.-\text{omega\_m})/\text{omega\_m})/\text{sin}(\text{res}^3*\text{h}*\text{sqrt}((1.-\text{omega\_m})/(2*9.777505969))))$$

Do you know if there is there anyway i can set the top axis to have this scaling within some set of values?

please say if i haven't made it clear

Thanks, John

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Subject: Re: Plotting lookback time (in Gyrs) and redshift on two x axis in IDL  
Posted by [rryan%stsci.edu](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 2014 20:40:09 GMT  
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On Wednesday, December 3, 2014 4:56:59 PM UTC-5, johndra...@gmail.com wrote> I understand that i can make one axis logarithmic in scale but i don't think this helps me as redshift isn't logarithmic with respect to lookback time (res).

>  
> I have worked out what redshift is with respect to lookback time in Gyrs:  
>  
>  $z=(\text{sqrt}((1.-\text{omega\_m})/\text{omega\_m})/\text{sin}(\text{res}^3*\text{h}*\text{sqrt}((1.-\text{omega\_m})/(2*9.777505969))))$   
>  
> Do you know if there is there anyway i can set the top axis to have this scaling within some set of values?  
>  
> please say if i haven't made it clear  
>  
> Thanks, John

The functional form you choose is irrelevant.

(1) Pick some redshifts for which you want the lookback time.  
(2) compute the lookback time. You keep giving that equation, and I think that's wrong. Where is  $\Omega_{\Lambda}$ ? where is time? Look at `galage()` in the `astrolib`. that is what you want.

(3) now use the z values posited above with xtickv, xtickname, and axis to put the plot where you want.

```
xr=[0,10]  
yr=[0,1]
```

```
z=[1,2,3,4] ;redshifts to compute LB time for...
```

```
;Univ age at some redshift:
```

```
t=galage(z,1000.,h0=69.6,omega=0.286,lambda=0.714,/sil)/1.0e 9
```

```
;Univ age at today
```

```
t0=galage(0.,1000.,h0=69.6,omega=0.286,lambda=0.714,/sil)/1. 0e9
```

```
;LB time is difference...
```

```
lb=t0-t
```

```
;draw the plot
```

```
plot,[0],[0],xr=xr,xst=9,yr=yr,yst=1 ;set xst=9 to leave the top axis empty
```

```
;more plotting here
```

```
;draw the top axis
```

```
axis,xaxis=1,xr=xr,xst=1,xtickv=z,xtickname=string(lb,f='(F4 .1)'),$  
xticks=n_elements(z)-1
```

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