

---

Subject: Labeling logarithmic axes

Posted by [laura.hike](#) on Fri, 19 Feb 2016 01:16:05 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi,

I can't find anything recent about this problem, so....

I am making a line plot and would like to use a logarithmic y-axis. So far so good. I use

```
pavgsw = plot(merraaswhr,merrap,color='red',thick=2,name='MERRA2',yrange =  
[1000,100],ylog=1)
```

I get a nice plot with a log axis BUT only the 1000 and 100 tick marks are labeled. I would like to label 500 and 200 as well. Doug Fanning has a nice discussion of this at [http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics\\_tips/minorlog.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/minorlog.html), however, the information seems to be outdated (or at least the keywords aren't recognized under the new graphics system). I tried a variety of options based on his method, like defining

```
axislabels = ['1000', "", "", "", '500', "", "", '200', '100']
```

then adding

```
pavgsw.ytickname = axislabels with or without pavgsw.ymajor = 9
```

(or doing the same with key words in the original plot statement).

The problem is that as soon as I add the ytickname option, the tick marks go back to linear spacing. Does anyone know how to fix this? I should point out that the plotted lines are not affected by the changes to the axis, only the axis markings are.

Thanks much,

Laura H.

---

---

Subject: Re: Labeling logarithmic axes

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Sat, 27 Feb 2016 19:50:50 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:16:10 PM UTC-6, Laura H. wrote:

> The problem is that as soon as I add the ytickname option, the tick marks go back to linear spacing. Does anyone know how to fix this? I should point out that the plotted lines are not affected by the changes to the axis, only the axis markings are.

>

> Thanks much,

>

> Laura H.

Hi Laura-

You're going to want to suppress the minor ticks for this:

```
p=plot(/test, /ylog, yrange=[1000, 100])
ticks = [1000, 500, 200, 100]
p.ytickvalues = ticks
p.yminor=0
```

For kicks and giggles:  
ticks2 = REVERSE((FINDGEN(10)+1)\*100)  
p.ytickvalues = ticks2

---

---

Subject: Re: Labeling logarithmic axes  
Posted by [laura.hike](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2016 20:18:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks!

On Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 2:50:53 PM UTC-5, Phillip Bitzer wrote:

> On Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:16:10 PM UTC-6, Laura H. wrote:

>> The problem is that as soon as I add the ytickname option, the tick marks go back to linear spacing. Does anyone know how to fix this? I should point out that the plotted lines are not affected by the changes to the axis, only the axis markings are.

>>

>> Thanks much,

>>

>> Laura H.

>

> Hi Laura-

>

> You're going to want to suppress the minor ticks for this:

>

> p=plot(/test, /ylog, yrange=[1000, 100])

> ticks = [1000, 500, 200, 100]

> p.ytickvalues = ticks

> p.yminor=0

>

> For kicks and giggles:

> ticks2 = REVERSE((FINDGEN(10)+1)\*100)

> p.ytickvalues = ticks2

---

---

Subject: Re: Labeling logarithmic axes

Phil,

I still can't get this to work. When I add your commands after making the plot, it reverses the orientation of the y-axis (i.e., was 1000 to 100, reverses to 100 to 1000). If I force the orientation with a new yrange command, it flips, but the locations of the tick marks are incorrect: 100 is closer to 200 than 900 is to 1000. I don't understand this.

Laura

On Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 2:50:53 PM UTC-5, Phillip Bitzer wrote:

> On Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:16:10 PM UTC-6, Laura H. wrote:

>> The problem is that as soon as I add the ytickname option, the tick marks go back to linear spacing. Does anyone know how to fix this? I should point out that the plotted lines are not affected by the changes to the axis, only the axis markings are.

>>

>> Thanks much,

>>

>> Laura H.

>

> Hi Laura-

>

> You're going to want to suppress the minor ticks for this:

>

> p=plot(/test, /ylog, yrange=[1000, 100])

> ticks = [1000, 500, 200, 100]

> p.ytickvalues = ticks

> p.yminor=0

>

> For kicks and giggles:

> ticks2 = REVERSE((FINDGEN(10)+1)\*100)

> p.ytickvalues = ticks2