
Subject: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Cibi Raj](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2016 17:39:57 GMT

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Hi,

I am using a procedure called lbw_plot3d.pro which would plot a 3 dimensional particle data structure from Wind Space craft.

There are some numbers inside the plot which are all printed in black. But i am asked by my professor to use plot.pro to fix that along with the dimension of the output.

But I dont know how to make the plot.pro to plot what already lbw_plot3d.pro has plotted. Anyone has any idea how to do these ?!

Bit confused please help.

Also when I used find -iname "plot.pro" to see where exactly that procedure is there, I could not find it. what could be the reason ?

THank you.

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 15 Nov 2016 19:39:36 GMT

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On Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 12:39:59 PM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

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>

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> Bit confused please help.

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> Also when I used find -iname "plot.pro" to see where exactly that procedure is there, I could not find it. what could be the reason ?

The IDL Function Graphics plot.pro is an IDL library function. It will be located wherever IDL was installed. If you are using Linux or Unix, you can use your IDL_PATH or EXELIS_DIR environmental variable.

As for your real question, you probably cannot do as asked. You can't use Function graphics plot.pro to "fix" an existing plot. In principle you can overlay *more* graphics or labels on an existing plot, but that's not what you asked about. You may have to find where lbw_plot3d.pro is stored and see how it work. This is not a public IDL routine, so it's unlikely you will be able to get a lot of help about it.

CM

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Cibi Raj](#) on Thu, 17 Nov 2016 16:50:53 GMT

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On Tuesday, 15 November 2016 20:39:37 UTC+1, Craig Markwardt wrote:

> On Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 12:39:59 PM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

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>

> CM

Thank you so much for the reply.

But why could not I manually see through the search engine whether plot.pro is there or not ? I did it and could not find plot.pro anywhere in the search results.

Exactly, yes I later understood that I need to overlay few graphics which would allow me to change the colour of the font on the plot. If I use !P.COLOR = 250, it changes the font inside the plot AND the title colour and the table border and labels in the table.

1. So I need a solution to bring the appropriate key word to into my routine so that it would display only the font inside the plot to be in white, which is not offered by the keywords in lbw_plot3d.pro
2. I also need to change the size of the plot so that the right most end falls within the white space of a ps file. I am trying with !P.POSITION but I am not achieving what I want. It will be highly helpful if anyone could know how to fix it :)

Thank you.

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 18 Nov 2016 15:33:03 GMT

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On Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 11:50:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

> But why could not I manually see through the search engine whether plot.pro is there or not ? I did it and could not find plot.pro anywhere in the search results.

It depends where you searched. Did you search the IDL install location?

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Cibi Raj](#) on Tue, 22 Nov 2016 14:43:53 GMT

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On Friday, 18 November 2016 16:33:06 UTC+1, Craig Markwardt wrote:

> On Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 11:50:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

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> It depends where you searched. Did you search the IDL install location?

I performed a general search, but now I got a different way to solve the problem.

I have another question. Is it normally okay in scientific publications to edit the scales and title etc using an image editor ? or its seen as cheating ?

But i am not altering any values or messing up anything with the plot, I just need to have the labels of my scale in black colour and the text inside the plot to be in white colour. I used

!P:COLOR = [255] which made all the texts to be in white and thus making the title and the scale label also to be in white. So I made another plot with the font in black and just took out the title and scale label and put it over in the other plot which contains white text.

Please let me know it is seen as cheating ? Thank you.

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2016 16:47:04 GMT

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On Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at 9:43:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

> On Friday, 18 November 2016 16:33:06 UTC+1, Craig Markwardt wrote:

>> On Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 11:50:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

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> I have another question. Is it normally okay in scientific publications to edit the scales and title etc using an image editor ? or its seen as cheating ?

Adding annotations to a plot is usually considered good form. Nobody reading the paper is going to care if the original that came out of some software package didn't have the right color font. That being said, you have to be careful to accurately represent what you are claiming in the paper.

CM

Subject: Re: how to make plot.pro to club with my existing routine ?

Posted by [dcleuclidwl](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2016 17:38:35 GMT

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On Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 11:47:09 AM UTC-5, Craig Markwardt wrote:

> On Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at 9:43:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

>> On Friday, 18 November 2016 16:33:06 UTC+1, Craig Markwardt wrote:

>>> On Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 11:50:55 AM UTC-5, Cibi Raj wrote:

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>

> CM

I am sufficiently old that when I was starting out in research, computer generated plots were considered too ugly to put directly in a journal. We would give our ugly plot to an artist who would hand draw all the labels.

--Wayne
