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Subject: Re: a little bit faster...

Posted by [Inigo Garcia](#) on Mon, 14 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Liam Gumley wrote:

>  
> Sometimes we need to plot spectra which contain millions of points. It  
> appears to be faster to use PLOTS (rather than PLOT).  
>  
> Try the following:  
>  
> n = 1000000L  
> x = lindgen(n)  
> y = sin(2.0\*!pi\*findgen(n)/(n-1))  
> t0 = systime(1.0) & plot,x,y & print,systime(1.0)-t0  
> t0 = systime(1.0) & plot,x,y,/nodata & plots,x,y & print,systime(1.0)-t0  
>  
> On my SGI Power Indigo running IDL 5.0, it takes 21.43 sec for the first  
> plot, and 12.46 sec for the second plot. I observe similar speedups on  
> Linux (IDL 5.0) and Windows NT 3.51 (IDL 4.0.1).  
>  
> Cheers,  
> Liam.

Hi ! I really liked your tip, and I have added some speed to it:

I get in a UltraSparc with Solaris:

```
IDL> n = 1000000L
IDL> x = lindgen(n)
IDL> y = sin(2.0*!pi*findgen(n)/(n-1))
IDL> t0 = systime(1.0) & plot,x,y & print,systime(1.0)-t0
      9.2730690
IDL> t0 = systime(1.0) & plot,x,y,/nodata & plots,x,y &
print,systime(1.0)-t0
      7.3343741
IDL> t0 = systime(1.0) & plot,[min(x),max(x)],[min(y),max(y)],/nodata &
plots,x,y & print,systime(1.0)-t0
      6.3368920
```

Cheers,  
I~nigo.

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