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Subject: Making a square plot

Posted by [Carsten Dominik](#) on Mon, 23 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Why do simple things turn out difficult in IDL, sometimes?

I am trying to make a plot with a square plot window. It has to be square since it is a map and the map data is a square matrix.

Here is what I did.

```
!p.charsize = 2
!p.charthick = 3
!p.thick= 3
!x.thick = 3
!y.thick = 3
```

[...]

```
set_plot,'ps'
device,xsize=10,ysize=10
  contour,a,levels=x,/follow,min_value=-19,c_charsize=1.5,c_ch arthick=3
device,/close
set_plot,'x'
end
```

If I am not mistaken, it should give me a 10cm by 10cm plot. However, I get 9.5x10.8 or something along those lines. Sure I can fiddle with xsize and ysize until it fits, but there should be a better way. Which? What am I doing wrong?

Thanks in advance.

- Carsten

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