
Subject: PLOT,/ISOTROPIC bug..
Posted by [steinhh](#) on Thu, 17 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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In astronomy, we often have a weird outlook on the sky, that results in using weird coordinate systems - sky positions are usually measured as positive in the directions East and North. Now, if this stuff was on the surface of the Earth, it would mean "more East equals more to the right", but when you turn around and look at the sky, it becomes "more East equals more to the left", so we have a "positive X" pointing left....

Ok, I can live with that (guess I'll have to :-), I just use an inverted X RANGE when plotting. However, the recently added (and very useful!) ISOTROPIC keyword in PLOT doesn't cope too well - try:

```
IDL> plot,[0,1],[0,1],xrange=[1,-1],yrange=[-1,1],/isotropic
```

Whee! Where did my plot go :-)

So, RSI, remember that *isotropy* means "all coordinates are equal", but do remember that "some coordinates are more equal than others" :-)

I don't blame RSI for making this mistake, but I hope they fix it pretty soon.

Regards,

Stein Vidar
