
Subject: Re: oplot in normal coordinates?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 13 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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Martin LUETHI (luthi@aura.ethz.ch) writes:

> Thank you for your answers! It is just confusing that the manual lists the
> /normal keyword for oplot, if it won't make any effect.

Oh, well. Keep in mind we are talking about computer software documentation here. If there is one thing I've learned over the years, it is that **anything** is likely to happen when you start fooling around with software. You're lucky if it even resembles the documentation. :-)

> How would you guess from this that this feature is not implemented?

I can't even guess how my programs **work** three weeks after I write them!

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: oplot in normal coordinates?
Posted by [luthi](#) on Tue, 13 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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Thank you for your answers! It is just confusing that the manual lists the /normal keyword for oplot, if it won't make any effect.

For illustration an excerpt from the online reference:

Normal Keyword

Indicates that the coordinates are in the normalized coordinate system and range from 0.0 to 1.0.

When used with AXIS, CONTOUR, OPLOT, PLOT, SHADE_SURF, and SURFACE, indicates

that the Clip and/or Position coordinates are in the normalized coordinate system and range from 0.0 to 1.0.

How would you guess from this that this feature is not implemented? By the way: at least in PV-Wave the PLOT command understands the /normal keyword in conjunction with the position keyword, which is the only way to make good multiple plots (!p.multi is not flexible enough), especially a small plot (an overview map) inside of a larger (data) plot.

Cheers

Martin

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Subject: Re: oplot in normal coordinates?

Posted by [Harald Frey](#) on Tue, 13 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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"Martin LUETHI GL A8.1 2-4092" wrote:

> Hello
>
> Just another problem with plotting: is it possible to oplot in normal
> coordinates?
>
> plot, [0],[0],xrange=[-1,1],yrange=[-1,1]
> oplot,[0.5],[0.5],psym=2,/normal
>
> plots the symbol at (0.5,0.5) in data coordinates instead of somewhere around
> (0,0), which would be the appropriate place in normal coordinates. Am I
> overlooking something?
>
> (btw.: PV-Wave 6.1, Solaris 2.6)
>

try this

plots,[0.5],[0.5],psym=2,/normal

Harald
hfrey@ssl.berkeley.edu

Subject: Re: oplot in normal coordinates?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 13 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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Martin LUETHI GL A8.1 2-4092 (luthi@aura.ethz.ch) writes:

> Just another problem with plotting: is it possible to oplot in normal
> coordinates?

No.

> plot, [0],[0],xrange=[-1,1],yrange=[-1,1]
> oplot,[0.5],[0.5],psym=2,/normal
>
> plots the symbol at (0.5,0.5) in data coordinates instead of somewhere around
> (0,0), which would be the appropriate place in normal coordinates. Am I
> overlooking something?

In IDL, at least, the OPLOT command doesn't allow the use of the NORMAL keyword. But even if it did, it would probably just ignore it in exactly the same way the PLOT command ignores it. In other words, these three commands produce identical results.

```
PLOT, Findgen(11), /Data  
PLOT, Findgen(11), /Normal  
PLOT, Findgen(11), /Device
```

But what else would you expect? A plot is a plot. It sets up scaling factors that tell you how to display something in the display window. It is these scaling factors (e.g., !X.S) that OPLOT pays attention to.

If you really want to put a plot symbol in the middle of the display, I would use the PLOTS command:

```
PlotS, 0.5, 0.5, PSym=2, /Normal
```

PLOTS ignores PLOT system variables and does exactly what you tell it to, in whatever coordinate system you choose to use.

Cheers,

David

--

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