

CALL

PURPOSE

Executes the specified DATAPLOT macro (= subroutine) stored on a mass storage file.

DESCRIPTION

DATAPLOT macros are files containing DATAPLOT commands. These files are ASCII text files that can be created and edited with any standard text editor available on your local system. The CREATE command can be a convenient way to generate a macro file (it simply echoes commands entered interactively to a file).

Macros have several uses.

1. The same set of commands can be used with different data sets. Common analyses can be stored for repeated use.
2. An analysis can be archived for later reference.
3. A complicated analysis can be broken down into smaller, more manageable steps.
4. Analysis techniques not supported directly by DATAPLOT can be coded in a macro that can be made available to other users.

SYNTAX

CALL <file name>

where <file name> is the name of a file containing DATAPLOT commands.

If the file name does not contain a period, place a period (no spaces) at the end of the file name.

EXAMPLES

```
CALL PLOTALIB.
```

```
CALL PROG.PLOTLAB
```

NOTE 1

DATAPLOT has no restrictions on the file name other than it be a valid file name on the local operating system, that it contains no more than 80 characters, and that it contain a period "." in the file name itself or as a trailing character. DATAPLOT strips off trailing periods on those systems where it is appropriate to do so. On systems where a trailing period can be a valid file name (e.g., Unix), DATAPLOT tries to open the file with the trailing period first. If this fails, it then tries to open the file with the period stripped off.

Some users prefer to give all macro files a ".DP" or ".dp" file extension. Although this is a useful method for keeping track of macro files, it is strictly a user convention and is not enforced in any way by DATAPLOT.

NOTE 2

File names are case sensitive on Unix systems. For Unix, DATAPLOT attempts to open the file as given. If this fails, it attempts to open the file as all upper case characters. If this fails, it attempts to open the file as all lower case. All other supported systems are not case sensitive regarding file names.

As a further caution for Unix hosts, certain expansion characters (specifically ~ to refer to your home directory) are interpreted by the shell and are not recognized by the Fortran compiler. These expansion characters are interpreted as literal characters and do not yield the intended file name.

NOTE 3

A large number of sample macro files are provided with the DATAPLOT installation. See the DATAPLOT Reference Files chapter for a list.

If DATAPLOT cannot open a macro file as entered, it looks for it in the directory where the DATAPLOT reference files are stored. This means that the sample macros can be run by simply entering the file name given in this manual (i.e., you do not need to specify the full directory name). However, be aware that the file extensions can vary on some operating systems.

NOTE 4

All variables are global in DATAPLOT. That means that the macro file can use any parameters or variables defined in the calling program. There is no mechanism for passing arguments to the macro. However, the use of the NAME command or the substitute character with strings can be used to mimic this capability. For example, in the calling program you can do something like LET STRING VAR1 = PRESSURE while in the macro you do something like PLOT ^VAR1.

DEFAULT

None

SYNONYMS

ADD

RELATED COMMANDS

CREATE	=	Starts echoing entered commands to a macro file.
END OF CREATE	=	Stops echoing entered commands to a macro file.
LIST	=	Lists the contents of a file (including macro and data files).

APPLICATIONS

Subprograms

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

Pre-1987

PROGRAM

```
LIST PROGRAMS
LIST PLOT25.DP FOR I = 1 1 30
CALL PLOT25.DP
```