



Change Plot Attributes

INTRODUCTION

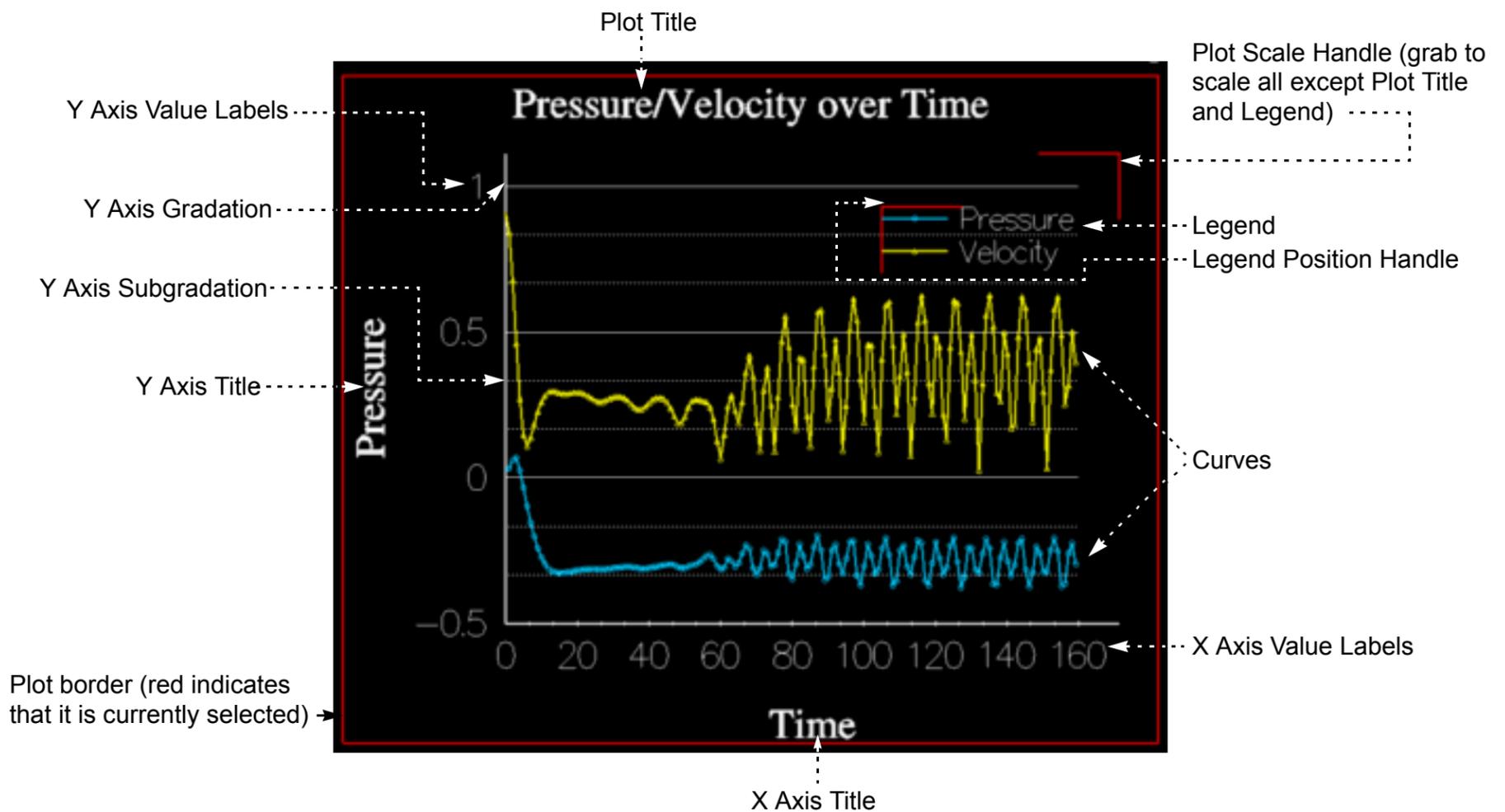
EnSight provides a full-featured X-Y plotting system fully integrated with the query and transient data handling capabilities. Query entities (such as those created with a [query over distance](#) or a [query over time](#)) are assigned to *plotters*. Plotters display one or more curves where each curve is based on the data from a single query entity. If the query entity is changed, the corresponding curve will automatically update. Plotter attributes (controlling aspects of appearance such as color of curves and titles, axis labeling, gradation and tick marks, and border/background color) can be edited in Plot Mode.

This article is divided into the following sections:

- [Anatomy of a Plotter](#)
- [Create Plotters](#)
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- [Move and Resize Plotters](#)
- [Set Plotter Visibility](#)
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Anatomy of a Plotter

Plotters are composed of the following fundamental components:





Create Plotters

Plotters are automatically created when you assign a query entity to a new plotter (see [How To Plot Query Results](#) for details).

Select Plotters and Curves

When you create a new plotter, it automatically becomes the *currently selected plotter* (as shown by the border drawn in the default highlight color). Any action to change plotter attributes always operates on the currently selected plotter(s) (or the plotter defaults if none are selected). To select plotters:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot mode**.
2. Move the mouse pointer into the **Graphics Window** and click the left mouse button anywhere within the desired plotter. You can add to an existing selection by holding down the **Control** key as you click in additional plotters.

Since plotters may contain multiple curves, it is necessary to select individual curves within a plotter for subsequent action. If no curves are selected, changes to curve attributes reset the defaults for subsequently created curves. To select curves within a plotter:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot mode**.
2. Move the mouse pointer into the **graphics window** and click the left mouse button on the desired curve. You can add to an existing selection by holding down the **Control** key as you click on additional curves.

Move and Resize Plotters

Plotters can be easily moved and resized. You can either reposition a plotter with the mouse in the **Graphics Window**, or precisely by entering exact values. To move or resize a plotter interactively:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot mode**.
2. Select the desired plotter (as described above).
3. To move a plotter, move the mouse pointer into the **Graphics Window** and into the selected plotter. Click and hold the left mouse button and drag the plotter to the desired location.
4. To resize a plotter, move the mouse pointer into the **Graphics Window** and place it over one corner or side of the selected plotter. Click and hold the left mouse button and drag the corner or side to the desired location.

A plotter can also be positioned precisely. See [below](#) for details.

Set Plotter Visibility

Selected plotters can be made invisible:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot mode**.
2. Select the desired plotter(s).
3. Click the **Plotter Visibility Toggle** to toggle display of the selected plotters on or off (when not in **Plot Mode**).



Plotters that are currently invisible are displayed dimmed while in **Plot mode**.



Set Title, Background, Legend, Border, Position Attributes

Overall attributes of plotters are controlled through the Plotter Specific Attributes dialog:

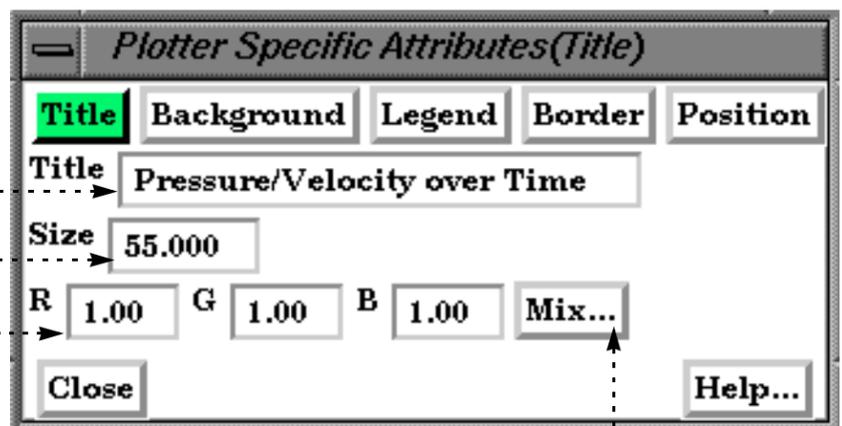
1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot** mode.
2. Select the desired **plotter(s)**.
3. Click the **Graph Attributes** icon.



The Plotter Specific Attributes dialog contains five sections: Title, Background, Legend, Border, and Position. Click the button at the top to display the corresponding section.

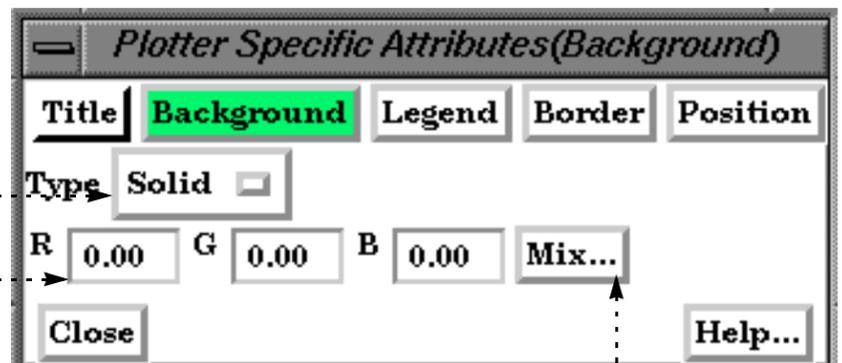
The Title section controls the main title at the top of the plotter (remember to press return after changing a text field):

- Set title text
- Set the size of the title text
- Set the text color (either enter new values in the RGB fields or click the Mix... button to open the [Color Selector](#) dialog)



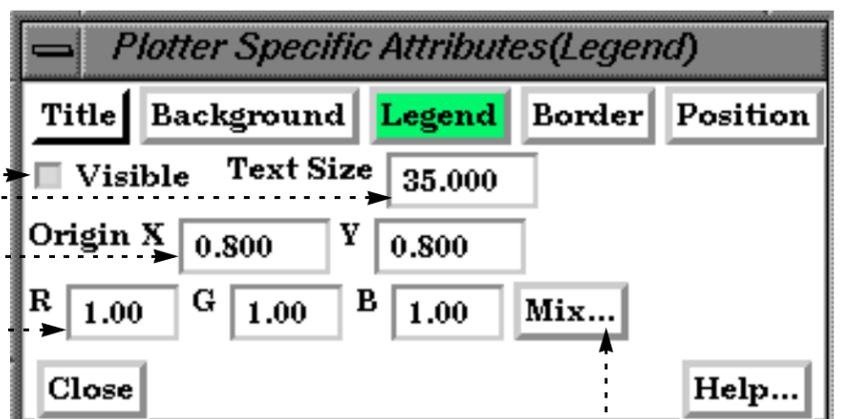
The Background section controls the type and color of the plotter background:

- Set background type to either None or Solid. A solid background is opaque.
- If the background type is Solid, set the color (either enter new values in the RGB fields or click the Mix... button to open the [Color Selector](#) dialog).



The Legend section controls the plotter legend text. The actual text in the legend is specific to the individual curves displayed in the plotter. See [Set Curve Attributes](#) below.

- Toggle legend visibility
- Set text size
- Set origin (with respect to lower left corner of plotter)
- Set text color (either enter new values in the RGB fields or click the Mix... button to open the [Color Selector](#) dialog)

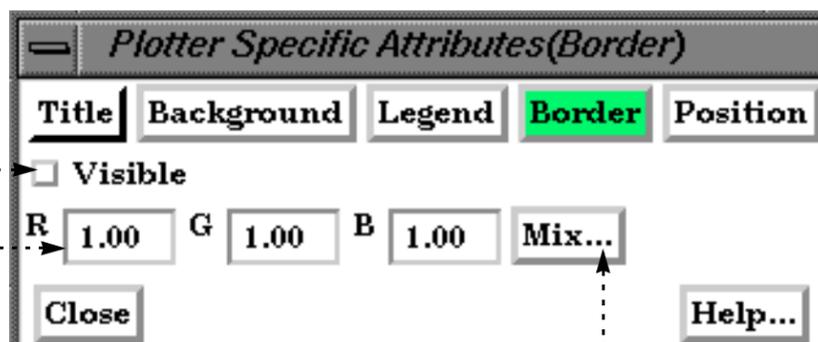




The Border section controls the visibility and color of the plotter border:

Toggle border visibility

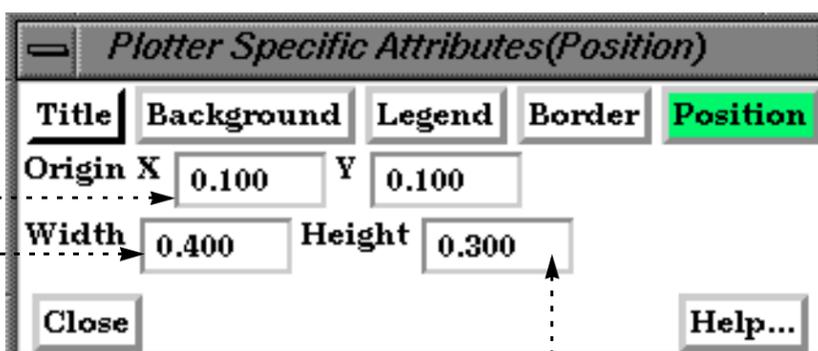
Set border color (either enter new values in the RGB fields or click the Mix... button to open the [Color Selector](#) dialog)



The Position section controls the size and position of the plotter:

Set the origin of the plotter (with respect to the lower left corner of the Graphics Window).

Set the plotter width/height (0-1 normalized to the width and height of the Graphics Window)

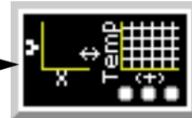




Set Axis Attributes

Axis attributes of plotters are controlled through the Axis Specific Attributes dialog:

1. Click Plot in the Mode Selection area to enter Plot mode.
2. Select the desired plotter(s).
3. Click the Axis Attributes icon.



The Axis Specific Attributes dialog contains three sections: General, X-Axis, and Y-Axis. Click the button at the top to display the corresponding section.

The General section controls axis width, color, and scaling as well as Gradation and Subgradation marks.

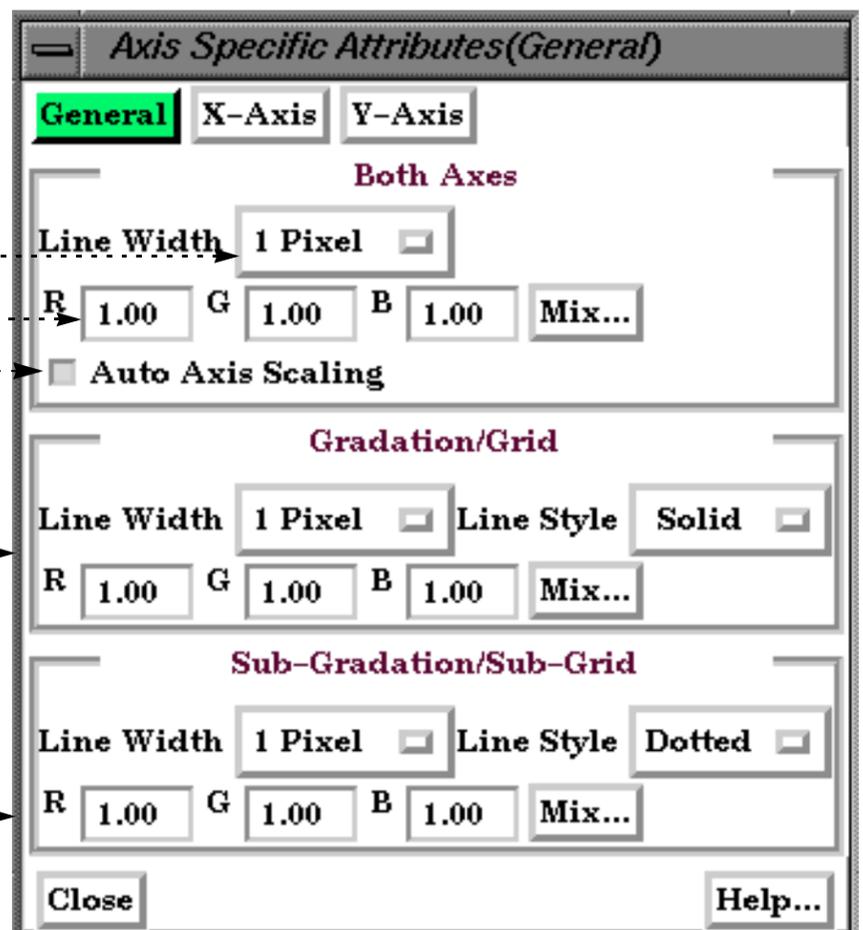
Set line width of axes

Set color of axes

Set auto scaling - when on, the Min/Max values and the number of gradations (attributes for the X-Axis and Y-Axis) will be used as suggested values to arrive at pleasing numbers for the axis labels.

Set line width, style, and color for major gradations (gradations are enabled on a per-axis basis in the X-Axis and Y-Axis sections)

Set line width, style, and color for subgradations (subgradations are enabled on a per-axis basis in the X-Axis and Y-Axis sections)





The X-Axis section controls the title, value labels, and gradation marks for the X axis. (The Y-Axis section is similar and is not presented here).

Toggle visibility of the X axis line

Set the X origin location of the plot (with respect to the left edge of the plotter)

Set the width of the plot (with respect to the width of the plotter)

Set the title of the X axis

Set the size of the title of the X axis

Set the color of the title of the X axis

Set the type of axis label: None (show no value labels), All (show value labels at each gradation), or Beg/End (show only the first and last value labels)

Set the size of the X axis value labels

Set the scale to linear or logarithmic(log10)

Set the min/max range of the variable displayed on the X axis (Note: will be used as exact values only if the Auto Axis Scaling toggle under the General Section is off.)

Set the display format of the value labels (or click Format... to select common formats from a list)

Set the color of the X axis value labels

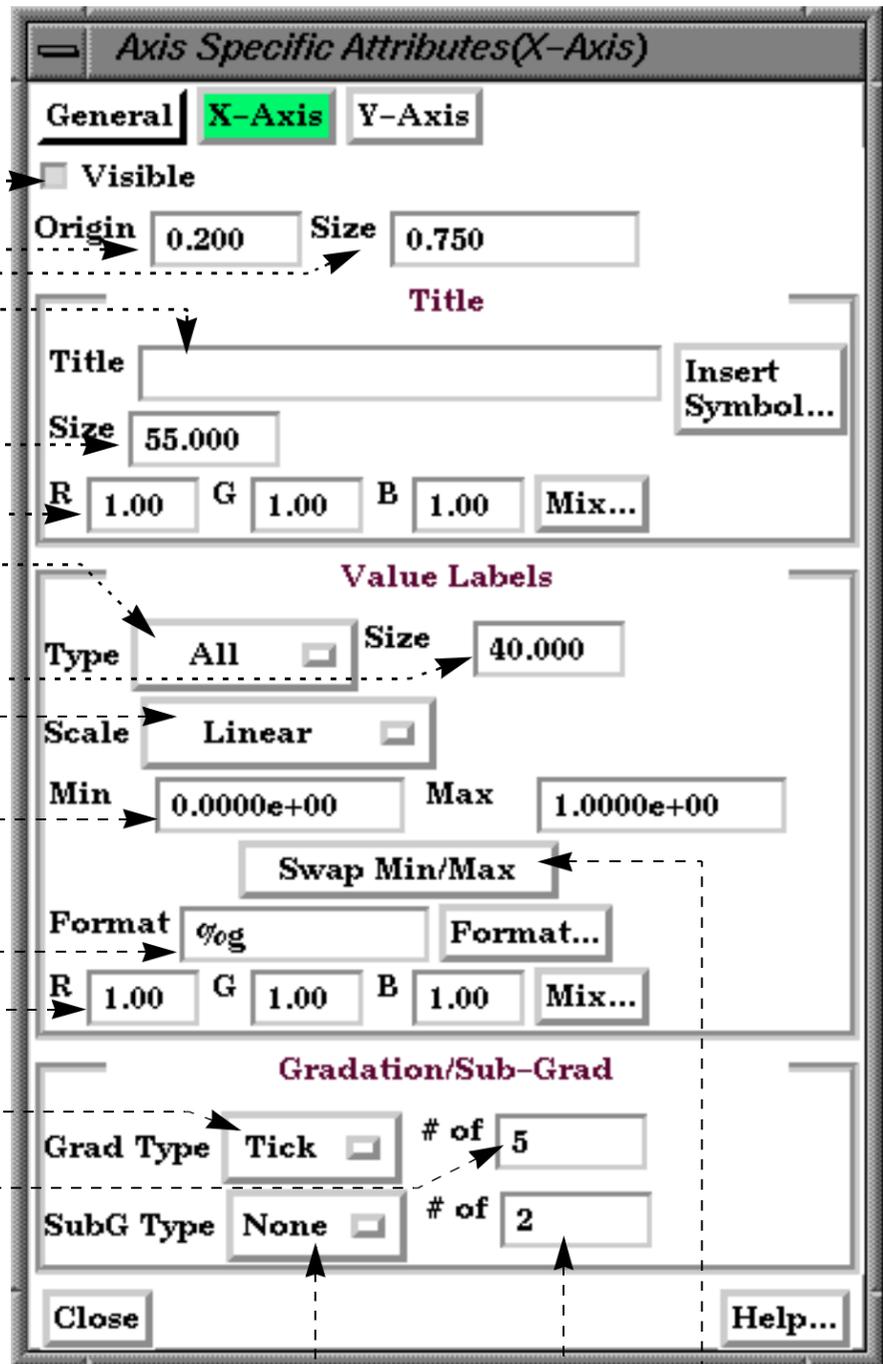
Set the type of gradation: None (no gradation marker), Grid (a vertical line), or Tick (a mark on the axis at the value label positions)

Set the approximate number of gradations (also depends on the min/max range)

Set the type of subgradation: None (no subgradation marker), Grid (a vertical line), or Tick (marks on the axis between the value label positions)

Set the number of subgradations between each value label

By swapping the min and max can swap the positive direction.



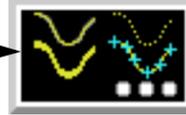


Set Curve Attributes

Curve attributes are controlled through the Curve Specific Attributes dialog:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot** mode.
2. Select the desired curves(s) by clicking on them in the **Graphics Window** (control-click to select multiple curves).

If no curves are selected, any changes are applied to the curve defaults which will effect any curves created in the future.



3. Click the **Curve Attributes** icon.

Set the description text for the curve (this will appear as the legend)

Set the line width

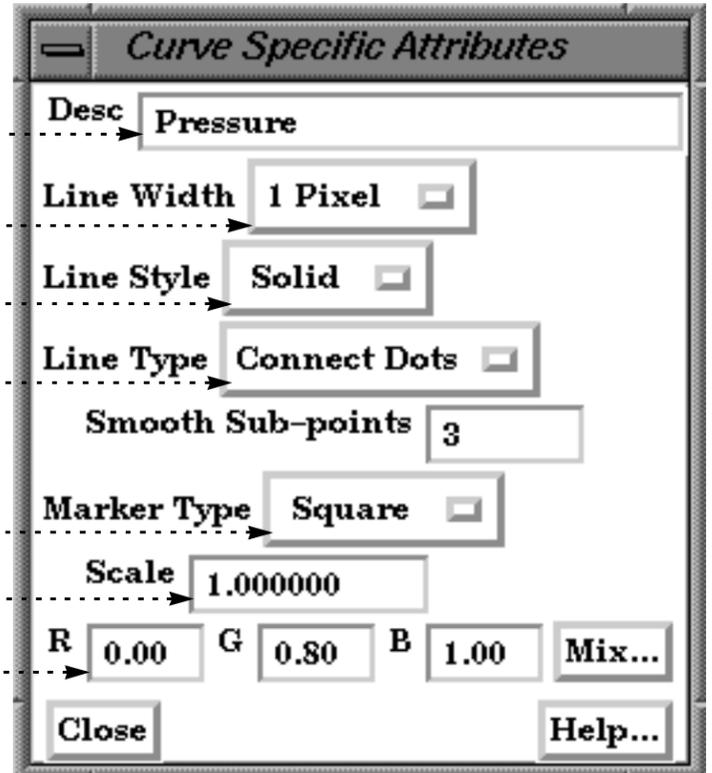
Set the line style

Set the line type: None (only curve markers are drawn), Connect Dots (data points are connected by straight lines), Smooth (a piecewise spline is fit to the data points using the number of points specified in the Smooth Sub-points field)

Set the marker type

Set the size of the markers

Set the color of the curve



Delete Plotters

Existing plotters can be deleted:

1. Click **Plot** in the **Mode Selection** area to enter **Plot** mode.
2. Select the desired plotter(s).
3. Click the **Delete** icon.



Note that deleting a plotter has no effect on any query entities that were attached to the plotter.

SEE ALSO

[How To Plot Query Results](#), [How To Query over Distance](#), [How To Query over Time](#)

User Manual: [Plot Mode](#)