



AHELP for CIAO 3.4

# symbol

Context: [chips](#)

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## Synopsis

Specifies the appearance of symbols in a curve.

## Syntax

```
chips> [D #] [C #] SYMBOL <color>
chips> [D #] [C #] SYMBOL <symbolstyle>
chips> [D #] [C #] SYMBOL [SIZE] <size_value>
```

## Description

```
Argument: C #
Description: curve number designation
Options: integer numbers
Default: current curve
```

See the C command for more information about this argument.

```
Argument: <color>
Description: axes color
Options: BLACK, BLUE, CYAN, DEFAULT, GREEN, MAGENTA, RED, WHITE,
        YELLOW
Default: DEFAULT (appears in ChIPS window as white; prints as black)
```

```
Argument: D #
Description: drawing area number designation
Options: integer numbers
Default: current drawing area
```

See the D command for more information about this argument.

```
Argument: <size_value>
Description: symbol size; affects all subsequent symbol styles.
        Has no effect when the current symbol style is POINT.
Options: real numbers
Default: 3.0
```

```
Argument: <symbolstyle>
Description: style for symbols
Options: BLOCK, CIRCLE, CROSS, DIAMOND, SOLIDDIAMOND, DOWNTRI,
        SOLIDDOWNTRI, UPTRI, SOLIDUPTRI, SQUARE, POINT, BIGPOINT,
        NONE
Default: CROSS
```

Note the the "POINT" symbol is not scalable (it is always tiny). As an alternative, the "BIGPOINT" shape can

be set to any size.

CIAO allows some plot attributes to be changed using the ChIPS state object and resource file. See "ahelp chips" for further details.

## Example 1

```
chips> CURVE data/exampleA.dat
chips> CURVE data/exampleB.dat
chips> C 1 SYMBOL UPTRI
chips> C 2 SYMBOL DIAMOND
```

First, two curves are plotted into a single drawing area. Curve 1 is changed to UPTRI and curve 2 is changed to DIAMOND.

## Example 2

```
chips> C 1 SYMBOL CYAN
chips> C 2 SYMBOL RED
```

Curves 1 and 2 are changed to be cyan and red, respectively.

## Example 3

```
chips> C 1,2 SYMBOL SIZE 2.0
```

The symbol size for both curves is increased to 2.0.

## Example 4

```
chips> CLEAR
chips> CURVE data/exampleA.dat
chips> SYMBOL DIAMOND
chips> SYMBOL DOWNTRI
chips> SYMBOL SIZE 2.0
chips> SYMBOL DIAMOND
```

The first two SYMBOL commands illustrate the DIAMOND and DOWNTRI symbols at their default size of 3.0. The SYMBOL SIZE 2.0 command then changes the size of the current DOWNTRI symbols. The final SYMBOL DIAMOND command shows that changing the new style retains the last SYMBOL SIZE instruction.

## Bugs

See the [bugs page for ChIPS](#) on the CIAO website for an up-to-date listing of known bugs.

## See Also

*chips*

[axes](#), [drawarea](#), [errs](#), [font](#), [grids](#), [label](#), [levels](#), [limits](#), [line](#), [linear](#), [location](#), [log](#), [relativesize](#), [split](#), [ticks](#), [tickvals](#), [title](#), [xlabel](#), [ylabel](#), [zlabel](#)

## Ahelp: symbol – CIAO 3.4

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URL:  
<http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/symbol.html>  
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