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How to Clear a Chart or Graph Programmatically in LabVIEW

Updated Apr 8, 2019

Reported In 

Software

- LabVIEW

Issue Details

- I have a chart and a graph on my front panel in LabVIEW, but the only way I can find to clear it is to right-click the chart or graph and choose **Data Operations»Clear Chart** or **Data Operations»Clear Graph** from the shortcut menu. Is there a way to clear the chart or graph programmatically?
- How can I clear my graph programmatically each time after it runs?

Solution

The method used to clear a chart or graph changes depending on the exact front panel object used. Below covers the options for clearing these objects.

Waveform Chart:

1. Right-click the chart and select **Create»Property Node»History Data**.
2. Right-click **History Data** and select **Change to Write**.
3. Right-click the **History Data Terminal** and select **Create Constant**.

This writes an empty array of data to the chart, which will clear the history when this code is executed.



Waveform Graph:

To clear a graph programmatically, a Property Node or Invoke Node can be used.

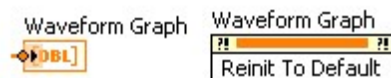
Property Node:

1. Make sure the graph is clear by right-clicking the graph and choosing **Data Operations»Clear Graph**.
2. Right-click the graph and select **Create»Property Node»Value**.
3. Right-click **Value** and select **Change to Write**.
4. Right-click the **Value Terminal** and select **Create Constant**. This writes empty data to the graph which will clear the graph when this code is executed.



Invoke Node:

1. Make sure the graph is clear by right-clicking the graph and selecting **Data Operations»Clear Graph**.
2. Right-click the graph and select **Create»Invoke Node»Reinitialize to Default**.



Additional Information

In LabVIEW releases prior to 8.0, you cannot create a constant if waveform data is being written to the chart. Instead, use one of the methods described below.

Waveform Chart and Graph (Property Node):

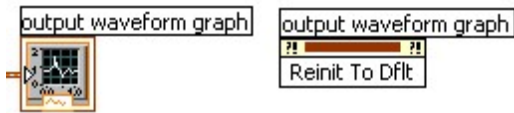
1. Right-click the property and select **Create»Control**.
2. Go to the Front Panel and right-click the newly created control. Select **Advanced»Hide Control**.



Waveform Graph (Invoke Node):

1. Make sure the graph is clear by right-clicking and select **Data Operations»Clear Graph**.
2. Right-click the graph and select **Create»Invoke Node»Reinitialize to Default**.

Note: If a graph is utilizing clusters you will need to use Create>>Invoke Node>>History



Related Links

- Reinitializing to Default Value Does Not Clear Waveform Charts
- Clearing the Data on Graphs and Charts

Other Support Options

Ask the NI Community

Collaborate with other users in our discussion forums

- Search the NI Community for a solution

Request Support from an Engineer

A valid service agreement may be required, and support options vary by country.

- Open a service request
- Purchase or renew support services