HOW TO RUN THE ASTRA PLOT TOOLS ON MAC OS X 10.8

Since Apple does not include X11 into Mac OS X anymore, it has to be installed manually in order to use the plot tools.

X11 for Mac OS X is now called "XQuartz" and can be found here:

http://xquartz.macosforge.org

Once installed, a terminal window can be opened within XQuartz (Command+N).

Here two so called environment variables have to be set first. Open or create a bash configuration file by typing:

nano ~/.bashrc

Then enter the following lines:

export PGPLOT_DIR=\$PATH TO PGPLOT FILES\$ export PGPLOT_FONT=\$PATH TO PGPLOT FILES\$/grfont.dat

Replace \$PATH TO PGPLOT FILES\$ with the folder you chose to put the two files found in 'pgplot.zip'. For example: /Users/frank/pgplot

You might have to re-open XQuartz for these settings to take effect.

Now the tools can be used from within the XQuartz terminal.

(Note that you might have to make the tools executable first by typing 'chmod 775 \$TOOLNAME\$', where \$TOOLNAME\$ has to be replaced by 'lineplot' for example.)