
Subject: Re: POLYFILL erases my tick values - solution?
Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Fri, 22 Sep 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Andrew <noymer@my-deja.com> wrote in message
news:8qgda2\$ml8\$1@nnrp1.deja.com...

> I am using POLYFILL to shade various regions of an X-Y plot different
> shades of grey. I use PLOT (with /nodata) to draw the axes, then I
> use PLOTS to draw a bunch of lines, etc. (In this case, I'm making a
> simple diagram, not really plotting data, but the question is pretty
> general.)
>
> I'm making PostScript output so I am limited to solid colors
> as opposed to patterns (is there a good reason for that???), but
> so far that's not my real problem.
>
> The problem is that POLYFILL seems to obliterate everything in
> its path, including axis tick values. For the lines I draw, there is
> an easy solution: I just shade first, then draw. But I am working with
> \DATA coordinates, so I'm quite sure (???) I have to PLOT before I can
> POLYFILL, hence the problem that the tick values are over-shaded.
>
> Even the RSI "Using IDL" manual, 1998 paper version, p. 190,
> shows a (very ugly!) example of shading that erases tick values.
>
> The best solution I have found is to use the AXIS procedure
> after POLYFILL, to re-draw the axis.
>
> IS THIS THE BEST SOLUTION?

Here's another solution:

```
;- Make sure decomposed color is off, and load grayscale  
device, decomposed=0  
loadct, 0
```

```
;- Set plot position (normal coordinates)  
p = [0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.9]
```

```
;- Fill plot window  
polyfill, [p[0], p[2], p[2], p[0], p[0]], [p[1], p[1], p[3], p[3], p[1]], $  
/normal, color=(0.5 * !d.table_size)
```

```
;- Create plot  
plot, indgen(10), /noerase, position=p
```

Cheers,
Liam.

