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Subject: plotting vertical lines

Posted by [Leah Huk](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2013 20:04:30 GMT

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Hello! I'm having a weird issue with the colors and thicknesses of vertical lines plotted using the very simple routine VLINE, written by John Johnson and found here:  
<http://astro.berkeley.edu/~johnjohn/idlprocs/vline.pro>.

I'm trying to use this routine to easily overplot markers for wavelengths of certain spectral lines over a spectra and into a .ps output file. It works, however, some of the lines appear grey and of greater thickness, with the exception of the bluest (left most) line. That one looks correct, thinner and black, despite it NOT being plotted first.

First, I tried using TVLCT (following your article on "Understanding IDL colors") to specify the RGB values for black and using the THICK keyword to specify thickness. This did not work. The left most line is still black and correct thickness, the others are greyish and thicker. Second thing I tried was to amend the VLINE routine to call cgOPlot instead of regular OPlot, and then called the colors in using the string name. Still doesn't work.

I am stumped. Anyone have any inkling as to why only one of my vertical lines will plot with the correct color/thickness while all the others will not?

```
ps_open,'filename'  
cgDisplay,3000,900,/free  
cgplot,x,y,title='title',xtitle='xname',ytitle='yname',color='red',thick=3  
vline,6563,color='black',linestyle=0,thick=0.75  
vline,4861,color='black',linestyle=0,thick=0.75 (this one looks correct)  
vline,5876,color='black',linestyle=1,thick=0.75  
vline,5017,color='black',linestyle=1,thick=0.75  
ps_close
```

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Subject: Re: plotting vertical lines

Posted by [Leah Huk](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2013 22:53:25 GMT

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David,

I am using GSview 5.0 to view my .ps. files.

A little while ago I was fiddling with the lines for my vertical line markers, copy-pasting those lines over, deleting the old ones, doing a retall, then saving, recompiling, and re-running. Somehow, some of the lines would magically become the right thickness. Then I'd try implementing the same change process for all 4 of them, and all of a sudden some would revert back to being grey or the wrong thickness again. I just tried setting the thickness to an integer value of 1, and now I have three lines of what appears to be correct thickness and color, yet one of them is still grey and too thick.

Gremlins, I tell you....gremlins.

On Thursday, April 11, 2013 2:04:30 PM UTC-6, Leah Huk wrote:

> Hello! I'm having a weird issue with the colors and thicknesses of vertical lines plotted using the very simple routine VLINE, written by John Johnson and found here:  
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>

> ps\_close

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Subject: Re: plotting vertical lines

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2013 23:13:32 GMT

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Leah Huk writes:

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> Gremlins, I tell you....gremlins.

I don't think so. This is a display problem, not a PostScript problem.

I'd make sure your units are points in GSView, and I'd turn anti-aliasing off (the usual culprit in things like this). Or, you could just print the darn thing and see that it prints fine. Or, you could make a PDF or PNG file out of it and see that it works fine. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: plotting vertical lines

Posted by [Leah Huk](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2013 23:39:34 GMT

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Success. Changing anti-aliasing setting in GSview (Text Alpha and Graphics Alpha eq 1) completely fixed the issue. Also, converting to .pdf displayed it properly. Thank you!! I learn something new every time I visit and post on this google group! :)

Leah H.

On Thursday, April 11, 2013 2:04:30 PM UTC-6, Leah Huk wrote:

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