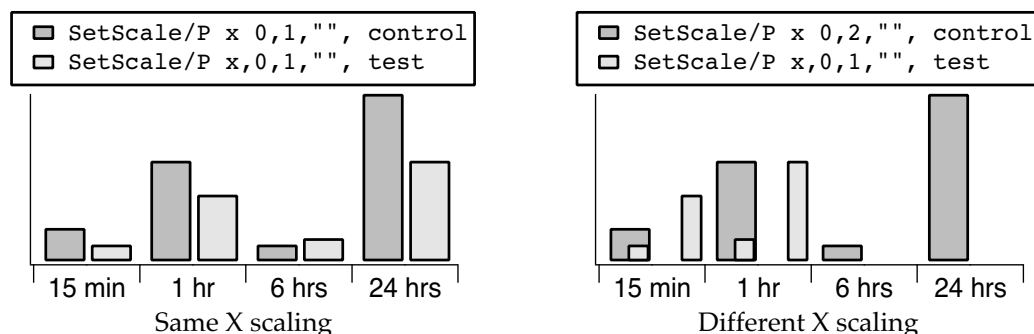


waves at the default “point scaling.” In any event, the X scaling of the value (numeric) waves should be identical. Differing X scaling causes the bars to become separated in category plots containing multiple bars per category. In the graph on the right the numeric waves have different X scaling



Changing the Drawing Order Breaks Stacked Bars

Stacked bar charts are heavily dependent on the concept of the “current bar” and the “next bar”. The modes describe how the current bar is connected to the next bar, such as “Stack on next”.

If you change the drawing order of the traces, using the Reorder Traces dialog or the Trace pop-up menu, one or more bars will have a new “next bar” (a different trace than before). Usually this means that a bar will be stacking on a different bar. This is usually a problem only when the stacking modes of the traces differ, or when smaller bars become hidden by larger bars.

After you change the drawing order, you may have to change the stacking modes. Bars hidden by larger bars may have to be moved forward in the drawing order with the Reorder Traces dialog or the Trace pop-up menu.

Bars Disappear with “Draw to next” Mode

In “Draw to next” mode, if the next bar is taller than the current bar then the current bar will not be visible because it will be hidden by the next bar.

You can change the drawing order with the Reorder Traces dialog or the Trace pop-up menu to move the shorter bars forward in the drawing order, so they will be drawn in front of the larger bars.

Category Plot Preferences

You can change the default appearance of category plots by capturing preferences from a prototype graph containing category plots. Create a graph containing a category plot (or plots) having the settings you use most often. Then choose Graph→Capture Graph Prefs. Select the Category Plots categories, and click Capture Prefs.

Preferences are normally in effect only for *manual* operations, not for automatic operations from Igor procedures. This is discussed in more detail in Chapter III-18, **Preferences**.

Category Plot Axes and Axis Labels

When creating category plots with preferences turned on, Igor uses the Category Plot axis settings for the text wave axis and XY plot axis settings for the numeric wave axis.

Only axes used by category plot *text waves* have their settings captured. Axes used solely for an XY plot, image plot, or contour plot are ignored. Usually this means that only the bottom axis settings are captured.

The category plot axis preferences are applied only when axes having the same name as the captured axis are created by a Display or AppendToGraph operation when creating a category plot. If the axes existed before the operation is executed, they are not affected by the category plot axis preferences.