Subject: Re: Contouring data over maps
Posted by rmlongfield on Wed, 05 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <35C7589E.C37A0F1C@rex.cs.tulane.edu>,
 hasenbuh@rex.cs.tulane.edu wrote:
>   Hmmm. Not good news.
>
>   The reason my boss wants me to make the
>   contouring respect the land/sea boundries is because
>   he has a very small sample size over a large area
>   that is relatively near to the coast. From that data
>   we are trying to build a picture of the water
>   structure over the total area. If the extrapolation
>   algorithms are using the space that the land is
>   occupying, then the picture comes out wrong.

Hi Jason,
 I'm no expert in IDI mapping, but from my understanding of
your problem, you are getting a contour of, i.e., water depth, that is
crossing a land area, where water depth is meaningless. You need to
somehow get the "water depth" contour to go around the land, without
actually having data at other points along the coastline.
Maybe you can give the land values some very large default water depth which
would force IDL to draw a contour around it. This might make it look nice but
isn't exactly 'right' either.

I just scanned a textbook which contains some sea information in the form of
contours. It looks like the contours were just chopped at the land boundary.
It doesn't look very nice, actually, but at least it isn't 'wrong'.

Sparse data is always difficult, good luck.

 Rose