
Subject: new changes to contour under IDL Version 3.1.1 (sunos sparc)

Posted by [sylvain](#) on Thu, 16 Sep 1993 00:15:47 GMT

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Despite IDL's newsletter bragging about saving someone marriage by changing the CONTOUR routine (sic, see IDL's newsletter "spring 1993"), I get very frustrated by the new version.

1) the userlib function MIN_CURVE_SURF is NOT equivalent to the keyword /spline: indeed, MIN_CURVE_SURF() takes forever to process any medium size array (ie a 40x20), while /splines will work fine, and. Adding a new userlib function is improvement, but dropping a usefull keyword definitively isn't.

2) the /fill option is broken when trying to fill only 1 level, why so?:

```
IDL> lvls=[.05,.1,.2,.5,.7,9]
IDL> contour, zz, levels =lvls, xx, yy, /xsty, /ysty
IDL> contour, zz, levels =[0.5], xx, yy, /xsty, /ysty, /fill, /overplot
% Program caused arithmetic error: Integer divide by 0
% Detected at $MAIN$ (CONTOUR).
```

This sound to me like a bug (not a feature:).

3) why add the /dowhill keyword and not fix the contour labeling as to be oriented in such a way as to indicates the downhill direction?

BTW, the hints in notes/sun_motif.doc to get rid of the "harmless, but anoying" warning about osf keysyms when using the Sun-Motif 3.1.1 executable are not working. I'm running MIT's X11r4, twm, and have OPENWINHOME defined. Note that OPENWINHOME is NOT /usr/openwin on our machines!

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