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Subject: Anyone doing color-filled contours in IDL?  
Posted by [paul](#) on Fri, 10 Sep 1993 19:30:02 GMT  
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I am having trouble with

```
z=fltarr(3,3)
z(1,1)=-50.
```

```
tv!ct , r,g,b,/get
r(10)=255
g(10)=0
b(10)=0
r(11)=0
g(11)=0
b(11)=255
tv!ct,r,g,b
```

```
contour, z, lev=[-60,-30] , c_col=[ 10,11],/fill
```

```
z(1,2) = -50
contour, z, lev=[-60,-30] , c_col=[ 10,11],/fill
```

In the first case I get a red diamond in the middle of the plot,  
but no blue

In the second case I get a blue 'U'-shaped form with no red.

As I understand it, I should get a red diamond inside a blue  
background in the first plot and red filling the inside of the blue  
'U' in the second plot.

In the first case, I guess that there is a problem when the first  
contour in PATH\_FILENAME has CONTOUR\_HEADER.HIGH = 0, and it just  
simply decides to fill it with the color appropriate for the  
values just below the contour level. It never bothers to fill the  
rest of the region.

In the second case, the /CLOSE keyword probably closes the contour and  
sets the value of CONTOUR\_HEADER.HIGH to 1 , and so does a polyfill  
on this, never bothering to check to see what to use fo fill the  
rest of the plot.

support@rsinc.com has confirmed that there is a bug in CONTOUR when /CLOSE and PATH\_FILENAME are used because the value of CONTOUR\_HEADER.HIGH is sometimes wrong. This means that the incomplete contours around the edge of the plot sometimes get the wrong color.

Does anyone have a working procedure to do color-filled contours?

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