
Subject: Procedure FILLCONTOUR

Posted by [scott](#) on Wed, 19 Jan 1994 18:51:06 GMT

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Has anybody gotten good results using FILLCONTOUR or CONTOUR, /FILL in IDL?

I have serious problems with these procedures, after trying "every trick in the book" (Users Guide and Reference Guide).

I am trying to make maps of the world with color-filled contours of data overlayed on them. There are missing values that need to be masked out. Sounds simple enough, eh?

The problem is that both routines leave large areas of "background" color unfilled wherever contours are "open" to the edge of the plot. This occurs even when /CLOSE is specified as a keyword. These areas have many different ranges of values, but are all colored as if they have the same value (very misleading to readers).

Also, the handling of missing values by "MAX_VALUE" appears not to work properly, and the contours are _very_ rough (as in not smoothed), consisting of just a handful of line segments rather than hundreds as I expected. MIN_CURVE_SURF no longer works to fix this.

Any ideas?

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A. Scott Denning (303)491-8346
<scott@abyss.atmos.colostate.edu>
Dept. of Atmospheric Science
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523
