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Subject: Re: Q: contour levels from IDL

Posted by [Mirko Vukovic](#) on Thu, 23 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.1342b0d5f404e4f9989aa4@news.frii.com>,

davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

> H C Pumphrey (hcp@newsread.ed.ac.uk) writes:

>

>> It's the price you pay for getting to pick the range `_and_` having nice round

>> numbers for the contour values.

>

> And I thought I was pretty anal when it comes to how

> things look. But I have to admit I have more trouble

> with "NLEVELS=whatever" than I do with numbers that end in

> a 1. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> P.S. And really, "NLEVELS=whatever" worked for me for a lot

> of years. It was only when I was trying to fill the contours

> with specific colors that I noticed the whole top part of

> my color table was missing. :-)

>

> --

There seem to be two purposes of contours. One is to get the user a feel for for the shape of the surface, and the other is to obtain rather precise info on the coordinates of a specific surface height.

In that light, `nlevels` serves the first purpose and `levels` serves the second. Fourtuitously each keyword is suitable for one purpose only and not the other.

Does this make sense? My serotonin levels are kind of low this morning.

BTW, thanks a bunch for the submitted code snippets.

Mirko

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