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Subject: Re: Contour plots on maps

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 15 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Simon de Vet ([simon@mathstat.dal.ca](mailto:simon@mathstat.dal.ca)) writes:

> I have been trying to plot some contour maps onto different map  
> projections, and for the most part, it is working. I have been having  
> some troubles, however...  
>  
> Sometimes, contours try to connect across the map, cutting diagonally  
> across other lines, instead of terminating at the edges. These lines are  
> not at the borders of the data, merely at the borders of the current  
> projection.  
>  
> I have also had troubles with filled contours on map projections  
> (Mercator, in my case). While filled plots look nice with no map  
> projection used, with Mercator they are overwritten with white blocks at  
> times, leaving only a few spots of colour. The help says that using map  
> projections can cause filled contour troubles... Are there any  
> workarounds?

There are several articles that you will really want to read on my web page, but I would start with this one, because you definitely have "holes" in your contour plots:

[http://www.dfanning.com/tips/contour\\_hole.html](http://www.dfanning.com/tips/contour_hole.html)

The other problems can probably be solved by always specifying the center of the map projection with Map\_Set. Here is another article that deals with an image instead of a contour plot on a map projection, but the idea is the same:

[http://www.dfanning.com/tips/map\\_image.html](http://www.dfanning.com/tips/map_image.html)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Welcome to the club. You should be receiving your Welcome Packet in the mail real soon now. :-)

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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