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Subject: Re: contour with logarithmic axis  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 08 Jun 2001 15:29:03 GMT  
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Hilmar GUDMUNDSSON GL D21 2-4093 ([hilmar@vaw.baug.ethz.ch](mailto:hilmar@vaw.baug.ethz.ch)) writes:

```
> I'm having problems with contour using a logarithmic x axis. When
> I contour the data using
>
>     CONTOUR, matrix, x,y, xrange = [xmin, xmax], yrange = [ymin,
> ymax], $
>     xtitle = x_t, ytitle = y_t, max_value = 1000., level = levels,
> xtype=1
>
> the contour lines only appear on a part of the plot. Depending on the
> exact values of xmin and xmax, the fraction of the plotting area that is
> contoured changes in an erratic fashion. I can use alog10(matrix) and
> alog10(x), which produces a plot which is OK but I would rather like to
> stick to having the x axis logarithmic if possible.
>
> Has someone else run into this problem? Any solutions?
```

You are running into IDL's very persistent aesthetic sensibilities about what constitutes "nice-looking" axes. You have to hit it upside of the head. Try setting the XSTYLE and YSTYLE keywords to 1. :-)

Cheers,

David

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