
Subject: Problem closing contours with CONTOUR,/CLOSED
Posted by [David Williams](#) on Mon, 21 Jan 2002 19:48:50 GMT
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Once again I pay a visit to this temple of knowledge, and ask the inhabitants for help with what is probably a very simple matter. I hope....

In my group, we've set up a function that:

- a) contours an image (not hard) at a single level
- b) takes the co-ordinates that define each contour, and keeps this information in a structure (see below)
- c) checks the pixels inside each contour in turn to find a particular pixel value.
- d) finally, overplots the contours much thicker, so you can see where they are.

Now, this works grand (sorry for the Irish-ism), and the function works on a cube of images, each image in turn, until it finds a contour which runs to the image boundary.

That's when the function sometimes runs into trouble.

The crux of the issue is that

```
CONTOUR,image,levels=thresh,path_xy=xy,path_info=info,$  
  /path_data_coords,/over,/closed
```

doesn't necessarily always close the contour, and we need it to close them completely.

Is there a known bug (or 'feature') with CONTOUR that causes it to not close contours properly at the edges of a 2-D array? And is there a work-around? (The code is part of the built-in routines, so I guess I can't exactly hack around with it.)

Or am I doing something wrong that's earth-shatteringly obvious...?

As ever, I'd really appreciate whatever help you can offer (I'm using IDL 5.4 on a RedHat 7.1 Linux PC system). MANY thanks in advance.

(Replies are welcome either to this newsgroup or by e-mail to d.williams@qub.ac.uk. Whichever you prefer. Cheers.)

Dave.

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