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Subject: Re: Co-Linear Contour Points

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 17 Sep 2003 13:54:17 GMT

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Nate Doyle writes:

> I'm trying to plot a contour and am getting an error that tells me my  
> points are co-linear. I'm not exactly sure what's going on so I  
> figured I'd appeal to you people.

I see you are not being flooded with answers. :-)

That's probably because the universe of "what's going on"  
for this particular question is quite a bit larger than  
it is for most typical answers in this newsgroup.

Basically, your data is co-linear, but you already  
knew that. :-)

The question is: why? And that is hard to answer.  
Maybe your data really is in a straight line. Have  
you looked at it in some other way? Maybe you have  
two points that are identical. Have you checked for  
that?

The CONTOUR command requires gridded data. Your  
data is being gridded by TRIANGULATE and TRIGRID.  
Sometimes this kind of error message is created  
when the /SPHERICAL keyword is used on TRIGRID.  
(I don't know why.) I wonder if this keyword gets  
set when you are overplotting on a map projection.  
(I don't know how to test this.)

In any case, I would try gridding the data myself.  
First with the TRIANGULATE/TRIGRID method, and then,  
if necessary, with GRIDDATA.

Another way to (sometimes) shake this problem loose  
is to add a tiny bit of random location data to your  
coordinates.

I don't know if one or any of these suggestions  
might help. But maybe you will get a couple of ideas.

Cheers,

David

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