
Subject: Re: Iso-contours at maximum/minimum levels

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 30 Jan 2009 15:36:31 GMT

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Hi,

two points:

i) the 12 dots is perfectly fine. It is z that is svcrewed ;-)

I think that if you take a proper example,
you'll see a proper result.

```
a=dist(512,512)
a[300:400,300:400]=0
contour,a
contour,a,levels=0.001
```

ii) David is right, but I still think there's an
easy way to show the shape of the minimal surface:

```
ind=where(a EQ min(a))
b=a*0
b[ind]=1
contour,b,levels=0.5
```

or somehting like that

Ciao,
Paolo

David Fanning wrote:

> Jeremy Bailin writes:

>

>> Paolo's suggestion makes perfect sense... but then I tried it and I'm

>> befuddled. The minimum contour consists of just a few dots!

>

> Exactly, because of round-off errors, etc., there is nothing

> there, really, to "contour". I think the person who asked

> the question wants an imprint of the minimum value of the

> surface (within some epsilon, obviously). And I continue

> to insist this is **not** the same as a "contour".

>

>> There's something funny about how it's drawing the contour that gets

>> very confused by the abrupt change right at the minimum.

>

> I don't think it is confused. I think it is doing exactly

> what the programmer designed it to do. I think it is our

> thinking about the problem that is confused. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
