Subject: CONTOUR problem
Posted by Reginald Tang on Tue, 01 Oct 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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Hello,

I would appreciate helpful suggestions to a problem i've been having with plotting contour lines in IDL.

I am plotting over a stereographic projection of the Northern hemisphere centered on the North Pole and I am getting a weird "jump" of all levels of the contour lines towards the pole around latitude -10 degrees. My plot looks a bit like a pie-chart with a 10-degree slice taken out of it. Otherwise, the plot is perfectly acceptable (as compared with output using DISPLAA). I use the following statement:

```
 CONTOUR, H, LON, LAT
```

where H is height data to be contoured and is a 36x16 array and LON is a 36-vector containing the longitude lines going from 0 to 180 and -170 to -10. LAT is a 16-vector going from 90 (North pole) to 0 (Equator).

There are only 455 data points to be plotted, and their positions are concentric and regularly spaced wrt longitude and latitude. however, data from latitude 90 to 66 are spaced 20 degrees apart in longitude, as opposed to 10 at lower latitudes than 66.

I've tried giving H, LON and LAT as three arrays of the same dimensions to CONTOUR (an alternative suggested in the Reference) but this inexplicably gave me a chaotic mess. A colleague and I have checked and double-checked the contents of the parameters to make sure they are OK.

Any help, hints or clarifying questions will be appreciated. I hope it's not a bug in IDL but just something i overlooked!

Reg

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