
Subject: Re: Contour data with two different lon/lat grids onto the same map projection

Posted by [tessp](#) on Thu, 03 Jun 2010 22:51:09 GMT

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On Jun 3, 9:46 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> pp writes:

>> You need to say more about what you are doing and why it does not
>> work. It is (nearly) irrelevant that the two variables are in
>> different grids. You can just overplot them.

>

> Yes, I agree. The OVERPLOT keyword is basically
> all that is needed here, which is why I was confused
> about what kind of "ideas" you wanted.

>

> You set your map data space, then simply overplot your
> two contours onto it. What grid they are on is irrelevant.

>

> More details as to the problems you have, please. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

This is indeed what I do: as extract from script shows -

```
; First use cdf2idl process to read in precip, then pv files.  
; Rainfall has total per day, pv has four timesteps per day.
```

```
;
```

```
; Get the netCDF data into IDL arrays
```

```
; Precip:
```

```
lon_g=fltarr(360)+lon
```

```
lat_g=fltarr(180)+lat
```

```
date_g=fltarr(22)+date
```

```
pcp=fltarr(360,180,22)+pcp
```

```
lonndx_g=long(size(lon, /n_elements))
```

```
latndx_g=long(size(lat, /n_elements))
```

```
datendx_g=long(size(date, /n_elements))
```

```
; PV:
```

```
lat=G0_LAT_2
```

```
lon=G0_LON_3
```

```
time=INITIAL_TIME0_ENCODED
```

```
pv=PV_GDS0_THEL*10^6.      ; pv now in PVU of 10^-6 K m^2 kg^-1  
s^-1
```

```
lvl=LV_THEL1
```

```
lonndx=long(size(lon, /n_elements))
latndx=long(size(lat, /n_elements))
timendx=long(size(time, /n_elements))
```

```
k=6      ; 350K level only
date1=string(time[k])
date=string(date1,0,8)
utc=string(date1,7,2)
subb=string(date)+' '+string(utc)
counter=0L
daycounter=-0.25
```

```
For l=24,timendx-13 Do Begin      ; to match rainfall data days
available in gpcp dataset
    daycounter=daycounter+0.25    ; 4 PV to each rainfall day
    map_set,-25,130,0,LIMIT=[-5,100,-45,160], /isotropic, /mercator,
position=[0.1,0.1,0.8,0.8]
    contour,pcp[*,*,
(long(daycounter))],lon_g,lat_g,levels=[((findgen(21)+1)*5.),200], $
    c_colors=(indgen(21)+1)+4,/isotropic, /cell_fill, $
    c_charsize=0.2, /overplot, /noerase
    contour, pv[*,*,k,l],lon,lat, levels=((findgen(25)*0.5)), $ ;
positive PV
    c_colors=0,/isotropic, /follow,
c_labels=[Replicate(1,25)], $
    c_charsize=0.5, /overplot, /noerase, color=0
    contour, pv[*,*,k,l],lon,lat, levels=((findgen(25)-25)*0.5)), $ ;
negative PV
    c_colors=0,/isotropic, /follow,
c_labels=[Replicate(1,25)], $
    c_charsize=0.5, /overplot, /noerase, color=0
```

```
map_continents, color=0, /hires
```

```
*****
```

However, if I load the variables from netcdf to idl variables, then run this script; it plots fine. If I immediately rerun the same script in the same idl session, I get the error:

"CONTOUR: X,Y, or Z array dimensions are incompatible."

The first couple of times I ran this script I was adding to it in stages, and running it to see what the results were; the error was a bit misleading in that way, as I thought it was the result of adding the pv grids to the rainfall grids I already had working on the plot. Hence my appeal to David and others for "ideas"! If I exit the IDL session and reload the variables in a new session to rerun the script, it plots fine first time. But only once per session!

Not sure why this happens, but unless it's immediately obvious to anyone it's probably not worth pursuing...

Cheers,
Tess
