
Subject: Re: Good-bye Contour Command
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Fri, 12 Nov 2010 19:54:11 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Nov 12, 10:17 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,
>
> I have nothing against the new graphics (other than
> I think they are too complex to program and they make
> my computer pay even less attention to me than the
> faithful companion here at my feet, causing me to
> retreat back to IDL 7 if I want to get on with it), but
> I find I STILL rely on simple, fast traditional
> graphics commands, like CONTOUR, to get my work done.
>
> You may be like me. And, if so, you know how bad the
> Contour command sucks. Only works in indexed color
> mode, NLevels gives God only knows how many levels,
> holes in your plots if you try to draw the contour
> in PostScript, the list goes on and on.
>
> What if you had a traditional contouring program that
> actually worked? Would you use it?
>
> Well, now you do. I got fed up fooling around with
> contour plots earlier this week and just wrote the
> darn thing. A contour plot command for the rest of
> us, that works the way we do. On every machine and in
> every version of IDL. Hurray!
>
> The new FSC_Contour program is meant to do for the
> Contour command what TVImage and ImDisp and all the
> rest of the TV alternatives did for the TV command.
> That is, make it completely obsolete.
>
> You can read about it and see screen shots of some
> of the things it can do here:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/graphics_tips/fsc_contour.pro
>
> 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.")

Nice... I particularly like the ease of overplotting contours on images! (oh, and on a related note, thanks again for the /SAVE keyword to the new TVIMAGE, which means I can finally replace the much less-robust tvim in most of my code).

I find it somewhat counter-intuitive that in order to skip all contour labels, I need to set SkipLabels=0, though.

-Jeremy.
