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Subject: Re: Reading excel file in IDL and plotting data on a continent.

Posted by [Russell\[1\]](#) on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 15:07:31 GMT

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First thing --- someone has written an excel reader for IDL. I've never used it, but you can download it from ITT's code bank. Go to <http://www.exelisvis.com/UserCommunity/CodeLibrary.aspx> and put into the name of the file in the search box. It's called: IDL64\_Read\_Excel11.zip.

Second thing --- I'm not sure about isurface (I rarely use anything with an i prefix), but I do know that contour expects you to give it a two dimensional image, not two one-dimensional vectors. So what to do next depends on what data you're reading in from excel (not that place you read it from makes any difference whatsoever). If you're reading something like lat and lon, then there must be some other quantity that is the 'Z-dimension', such as elevation or average temperature. Or if it's a series of counts, then you might consider making it a two-dimensional histogram (see hist\_2d.pro).

Russell

On Jan 24, 5:01 am, shambhu <[shambhu.mc...@gmail.com](mailto:shambhu.mc...@gmail.com)> wrote:

- > I read data, by converting excel file to CSV, using READ\_ASCII macros.
  - > But when i used isurface or contour to plot on a earth's surface,
  - > showing error " Must be of two dimensions ". Is there any other way to
  - > plot and read the excel files directly...?
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