
Subject: Re: Missing fill colours in contour plot

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2013 14:47:01 GMT

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On Wednesday, January 16, 2013 2:34:52 PM UTC, David Fanning wrote:

> ljs15@fsmail.net writes:

>

>

>

>> Right, I've just done some more checking, and when I specify the colour values to range from 0-255 it works, but when I set them to range from 0-250 it doesn't. The two plots are shown at <http://www.physics.open.ac.uk/~lsteele/contour2>.

>

>>

>

>> In the two plots shown, the left is done using $\text{ccol} = \text{floor}(\text{findgen}(\text{ncont}) / (\text{ncont} - 1) * 255)$ and the right is done using $\text{ccol} = \text{floor}(\text{findgen}(\text{ncont}) / (\text{ncont} - 1) * 250)$, with $\text{ncont} = 30$. So, the only change is going from 255 to 250, with the contours being correct at 255.

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>> Does anyone know why this would be causing a problem?

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> I think you have a fairly odd way of selecting colors and contours,

>

> which is causing a mismatch between the contours, the data, and the

>

> colors. What happens if you set the contours and colors up this way:

>

>

>

> minv = Floor(min(array))

>

> maxv = Ceil(max(array))

>

> ncont = 30

>

> clevels = Findgen(ncont) * ((maxv - minv) / ncont) + minv

>

> LoadCT, 25, NCOLORS=ncont, BOTTOM=1

>

> ccol= Bindgen(ncont)+1B

>

>

>

> Cheers,

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>
>
> David
>
> --
>
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi David.

The reason for specifying the contours is that the data range from positive to negative values, and I'm using a blue-white-red colour scale to plot (+ve is red, -ve is blue).

In order to make sure white represents 0, I need to set the contour levels to span the maximum range. So if the data had minv = -20 and maxv = +50, I want the contours to range from -50 to +50.

There may be a better way of doing it than what I'm doing though!
