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Subject: Re: filled contour plot within a polygon  
Posted by [yunfzhang](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2016 10:26:39 GMT  
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Thank you for the reply.

i tried using contour() which automatically grids the data and map, mapcontinents, but contour() will plot all the rectangular area, not just a polygon area i'm interested in. outside the polygon area is the sea, where surface temperature data loses its meaning.

> On Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 5:18:42 PM UTC+8, yunf...@hotmail.com wrote:  
>> <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/narr/images/narr.plot2.png>  
>> that's exactly what i want,a filled contour plot with clear boundary lines, EXCEPT for the example is plotted using standard products but i've only tens of irregular-gridded data points in a state. Any guy tried this before? i think it's a huge task.  
>  
> I'm afraid IDL has supported all the functions you may need to make it done.  
> First, using GRIDDATA() to interpolate irregular gridded data to a regular grid. Then using CONTOUR() to draw a filled contour plot. At last, Using MAP() and MAPCONTINENTS() to load the boundary lines. Most of the functions are available above IDL8.0.  
> I hope these may be helpful to you.

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