Subject: contour...pathfile problem in WAVE
Posted by Fred Wolf on Fri, 01 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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hi,

I have a problem with the contour routine in pv-wave.
I would like to directly access the contour-paths that
the contour program calculates.

E.G. The comand

contour,x,levels=[0],PATH_FILENAME="cont", /FOLLOW

is suposed to write the 0-contours of x in the file
"cont". Any indiviudal contour-data-set starts with
a header of the structure

h = {CONTOUR_HEADER, TYPE : 0B, HIGH : 0B, LEVEL : 0, $
NUM : 0L, VALUE : 0.0}

followed by NUM floating coordinate pairs.

When I try to read the file cont, I get junk.
The main problem is that h.num appears to contain a
fantasie number instead of the number of contour points.
A minor problem is that any closed contour-path begins
with the coordinates (0,0).
The following sequence of comands ilustrates the problem:

```
x = shift(dist(20),10,10)^2-16
contour,x,levels=[0],PATH_FILENAME="cont", /FOLLOW, /noerase
h = {CONTOUR_HEADER, TYPE : 0B, HIGH : 0B, LEVEL : 0, $
NUM : 0L, VALUE : 0.0}

y = fltarr(2,34)
openr,1,"cont"
readu,1,h
readu,1,y
close,1
print,h

plot,y(0,*),y(1,*)
```

print,h gives "{ 1 0 0141733920768 0.00000}"
while the contour-path however actualy contains only 34 but not
141733920768 entries.

Is this a bug? Does anybody know how to reveal the true number of contour-path entries?

Thanks a lot in advance
Fred

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