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Subject: TRIANGULATE says "Points are co-linear, no solution"  
Posted by [Jonathan Joseph](#) on Thu, 11 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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TRIANGULATE says "Points are co-linear, no solution"

This really bugs me, because it's just not true.  
Well, it may be true for a subset of the points I'm  
trying to triangulate, but certainly not all.

Is the IDL triangulate code just really weak?  
I wish I had an example of this with a small  
number of points.

I thought I should be able to get a triangulation with  
just about any set of points, except for one in which  
all of the points lie along the same line. This is  
certainly not true for my dataset - in fact, I think  
it looks darned reasonable, and I want to  
resample onto a regular grid dammit!

Anyway, if anyone wants to take a look, Please!

The data set is a file called test.dat (saved on hp-ux  
using writeu. I hope there are no byte swapping problems  
for other platforms)

`ftp://scorpio.tn.cornell.edu/jj/idl/`

```
IDL> x=fltarr(9853)
IDL> y=fltarr(9853)
IDL> openr,unit,'test.dat',/get_lun
IDL> readu,unit,x,
IDL> triangulate,x,y,tr,b
```

% TRIANGULATE: Points are co-linear, no solution.

```
;; see the data (doesn't look bad to me)
IDL> plot,xx,yy,/device,psym=3
```

HELP!!

Thanks.

BTW, this was originally a double array - that didn't work either.

-Jonathan

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Subject: Re: TRIANGULATE says "Points are co-linear, no solution"

Posted by [cjengo](#) on Fri, 12 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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I get the same error running IDL 5.2.1 on Solaris...

In article <382C2028.7AD6@scorpio.tn.cornell.edu>,  
Jonathan Joseph <jj@scorpio.tn.cornell.edu> wrote:

> Sorry about the IDL code mixup, some cut/paste  
> problems - and the fact that I changed variable names from  
> from xx and yy to x and y (after pasting) but forgot to change  
> them all. In other words, I noticed that in the code I supplied  
> that the readu command was missing the "y" at the end of it, and  
> the plot command was plotting xx and yy instead of x and y  
> (and probably shouldn't have had the /device on it). And  
> I left off the "close, unit" command to  
> clean up the open file unit - though that shouldn't  
> have mattered. Sorry, I was in a rush and can only  
> plead incompetency.  
>  
> Anyway, I \*AM\* running idl 5.2 (well, 5,2,1), so presumably,  
> I should not have this problem. I have created an IDL save file  
> now at the same place ftp://scorpio.tn.cornell.edu/jj/idl/  
> The file is called test.sav  
>  
> The following code should work:  
> And by that, I mean (not work).  
> At least, it causes the error listed below on my  
> system (IDL 5.2.1 running on HP-UX 10.20)  
>  
> ;; restore the data  
> IDL> restore,'test.sav'  
> ;; create a window  
> IDL> window  
> ;; plot the data to see that it looks reasonable  
> IDL> plot,x,y,psym=3  
> ;; try to triangulate the points  
> IDL> triangulate,x,y,tr,b  
> % TRIANGULATE: Points are co-linear, no solution.  
>  
> I have tried the jitter business before to good effect.  
> I guess I'll go that route for now, I just didn't want to  
> accidentally jitter it too much and get "negative triangles"  
> when I applied the triangulation to the real positions.  
>  
> As for what the data is... Well, it has something to do  
> with stereo offsets between images. The interesting coastline  
> effect is due to certain (dark) areas of the images are  
> not being processed - and there is also a polygonal clipping region

> applied. The actual images are of asteroid 253 Mathilde.  
>  
> And I apologize for the ranting - I was a bit over the  
> edge yesterday afternoon.  
>  
> -Jonathan  
>

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Chris Jengo - Senior Imaging Scientist  
Earth Satellite Corp. - Rockville, MD  
cjengo@earthsat.com

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