
Subject: Re: Spherical Contour Plotting

Posted by [k-bowman](#) on Wed, 09 Jan 2002 21:26:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <3C3C6E5D.E082A351@students.wisc.edu>, Adam Bayliss
<rabayliss@students.wisc.edu> wrote:

> Hi,
> I'd like take a 2d array (containing a surface component of a vector)
> and make a contour plot on a sphere. So basically I'd like to take the
> results of the "contour" procedure, and project this graph onto a
> sphere. Any ideas would be appreciated.

If the finished "thing" (I avoid the word object) is to be 2-D, try the
SATELLITE projection in MAP_SET.

If you want a 3-D "thing", you could do a CYLINDRICAL EQUIDISTANT plot
with MAP_SET. CONTOUR will return the coordinates of the isopleths
(PATH_INFO, PATH_XY). Then transform the longitude-latitude coordinates
into 3-D space and use direct or object graphics to display the resulting
lines.

Ken

Subject: Re: Spherical Contour Plotting

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 09 Jan 2002 21:48:32 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Kenneth Bowman (k-bowman@null.com) writes:

> If the finished "thing" (I avoid the word object) is to be 2-D, try the
> SATELLITE projection in MAP_SET.
>
> If you want a 3-D "thing", you could do a CYLINDRICAL EQUIDISTANT plot
> with MAP_SET. CONTOUR will return the coordinates of the isopleths
> (PATH_INFO, PATH_XY). Then transform the longitude-latitude coordinates
> into 3-D space and use direct or object graphics to display the resulting
> lines.

Somehow I knew the answer to this was going to be easy. :^)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Subject: Re: Spherical Contour Plotting
Posted by [k-bowman](#) on Thu, 10 Jan 2002 16:59:52 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <MPG.16a6689c231416089897c5@news.frii.com>, david@dfanning.com wrote:

> Kenneth Bowman (k-bowman@null.com) writes:
>
>> If the finished "thing" (I avoid the word object) is to be 2-D, try the
>> SATELLITE projection in MAP_SET.
>>
>> If you want a 3-D "thing", you could do a CYLINDRICAL EQUIDISTANT plot
>> with MAP_SET. CONTOUR will return the coordinates of the isopleths
>> (PATH_INFO, PATH_XY). Then transform the longitude-latitude coordinates
>> into 3-D space and use direct or object graphics to display the resulting
>> lines.
>
> Somehow I knew the answer to this was going to be easy. :^)

Oh, its not nearly as hard as object graphics. Here is a direct graphics example.

Note that the work of extracting the contour lines and converting to Cartesian coordinates is only a few lines of IDL code.

I leave it to you object wizards to turn the 3-D lines into objects and stick a sphere object inside. ;-)

Ken

```
PRO SPHERICAL_PLOT
```

```
COMPILE_OPT IDL2
```

```
cr = "
```

```
nx =
```

```
65
```

```
;Grid resolution in longitude
```

```
ny =
```

```
33
```

```
;Grid resolution in latitude
```

```

x =
(360.0/(nx-1))*FINDGEN(nx)
;Longitude grid
y = -90 +
(180.0/(ny-1))*FINDGEN(ny)
;Latitude grid
xx = x          # REPLICATE(1.0,
ny)              ;2-D longitude grid
yy = REPLICATE(1.0, nx) #
y                ;2-D latitude grid
z = SIN(!DTOR*xx) *
COS(!DTOR*yy)    ;Test function to
contour

;Standard contour plot on satellite map projection
MAP_SET, /SATELLITE, /CONT, /ISOTROPIC
CONTOUR, z, x, y, LEVELS = -0.95 + 0.1*FINDGEN(20),
/OVERPLOT          ;Contour z
PRINT, 'Enter <cr> to continue.'
READ, cr

;Get contour info
CONTOUR, z, x, y, PATH_INFO = path_info, PATH_XY = path_xy,
$                ;Contour z, save contour info
  /PATH_DATA_COORDS, CLOSED = 0, LEVELS = -0.95 + 0.1*FINDGEN(20)

;2-D plot using contour info
PLOT, [0, 0], [1, 1], /NODATA, $
  XTITLE = 'Longitude', $
  XSTYLE = 1, $
  X RANGE = [0.0, 360.0], $
  XTICKS = 4, $
  YTITLE = 'Latitude', $
  YSTYLE = 1, $
  Y RANGE = [-90., 90.0], $
  YTICKS = 6

FOR k = 0, N_ELEMENTS(path_info)-1 DO BEGIN
  i0 =
path_info[k].offset
;First element of the k'th contour
  i1 = i0 + path_info[k].n -
1                ;Last element of the k'th
contour
; PRINT, k, path_info[k].type, i0, i1
  xc =
REFORM(path_xy[0,i0:i1])
;Extract x-coords of k'th contour

```

```

yc =
REFORM(path_xy[1,i0:i1])
;Extract y-coords of k'th contour
IF (path_info[k].type EQ 1) THEN
BEGIN                                ;Close contours, if needed
  xc = [xc, path_xy[0,i0]]
  yc = [yc, path_xy[1,i0]]
ENDIF

PLOTS, xc,
yc                                ;Plot
contours
ENDFOR
PRINT, 'Enter <cr> to continue.'
READ, cr

```

```

;3-D plot using contour info
PLOT_3DBOX, [0,0], [0,0], [0,0], /NODATA, $
  XTITLE = 'X', $
  XSTYLE = 1, $
  X RANGE = [-1.0, 1.0], $
  XTICKS = 4, $
  YTITLE = 'Y', $
  YSTYLE = 1, $
  Y RANGE = [-1., 1.0], $
  YTICKS = 4, $
  ZTITLE = 'Z', $
  ZSTYLE = 1, $
  Z RANGE = [-1.0, 1.0], $
  ZTICKS = 4

```

```

r = 0.9
FOR k = 0, N_ELEMENTS(path_info)-1 DO BEGIN
  i0 =
path_info[k].offset
;First element of the k'th contour
  i1 = i0 + path_info[k].n -
1                                ;Last element of the k'th
contour
; PRINT, k, path_info[k].type, i0, i1
  xc =
REFORM(path_xy[0,i0:i1])
;Extract x-coords of k'th contour
  yc =
REFORM(path_xy[1,i0:i1])
;Extract y-coords of k'th contour
  IF (path_info[k].type EQ 1) THEN

```

```
BEGIN                                ;Close contours, if needed
    xc = [xc, path_xy[0,i0]]
    yc = [yc, path_xy[1,i0]]
ENDIF

    x3 = r * COS(!DTOR*yc) *
COS(!DTOR*xc)                        ;Convert to Cartesian
coordinates
    y3 = r * COS(!DTOR*yc) * SIN(!DTOR*xc)
    z3 = r * SIN(!DTOR*yc)
    PLOTS, x3, y3, z3, /T3D
ENDFOR

END
```
