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Subject: contouring data over a map

Posted by [twh18](#) on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 21:14:58 GMT

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Hello,

I am trying to contour a data set in the form of [lat lon value] onto a map. I have no problems plotting individual data locations, or contouring the data set without the map. I have tried to contour the data set on the map first using the overplot keyword with contour, then using sph\_scatt. Both methods fail, saying only "TRIANGULATE: spherical triangulation failed".

I can successfully contour a set of 999 randomly generated points onto my map. When I increase to 1000 random points, it says "TRI-GRID: points are co-linear, no solution". Increasing to 75000 points (the size of my data set) returns "TRIANGULATE: spherical triangulation failed" again.

There are several posts that hint at similar issues from around ten years ago, but I haven't found anything that talks about my problem specifically. Is there a (very small) upper limit on the number of points triangulate can handle? I'm an IDL newby and I would appreciate any advice very much.

Thanks,  
Tim

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