
Subject: Re: contour and points

Posted by [Wout De Nolf](#) on Tue, 28 Jun 2011 11:13:18 GMT

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

On Tue, 28 Jun 2011 03:10:55 -0700 (PDT), Gray

<graylikethecolor@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi all,

>

> What's the easiest/best way to determine which of a set of points is

> inside a contour (created with cgcontour)? Thanks!

>

> --Gray

Maybe I'm missing something, but what do you mean by "inside a contour"?

You can check whether the point's elevation is greater than the contour level or less than the contour level. What's inside or outside depends on your definition but I suppose "inside" = "greater than" for topographic data.

Subject: Re: contour and points

Posted by [Andy Heaps](#) on Wed, 29 Jun 2011 11:43:39 GMT

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

Hi Gray,

as Wox says you need to check what the value is at that point. If you don't have a value for the point in question i.e. it isn't one of the grid points you used for cgcontour then you'll have to do some interpolation to find the value at that point.

A user of mine came to me with a similar problem: how do I find whether a point is inside a country outline? Her example was Norway. I suggested that she plots the points by number and sees which points are within the outline of Norway. As she was just using one set of points and one country this is easier to do by eye. If you have multiple countries and/or grid points to check this method is too laborious. For the generalised case I'd open a Z buffer image plot, plot and fill the country and then check whether your point was the filled colour or background colour.

Cheers
Andy

On 28/06/11 11:10, Gray wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> What's the easiest/best way to determine which of a set of points is
> inside a contour (created with cgcontour)? Thanks!
>
> --Gray

Subject: Re: contour and points

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 29 Jun 2011 16:36:09 GMT

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

On 6/29/11 5:43 AM, Andy Heaps wrote:

> A user of mine came to me with a similar problem: how do I find whether
> a point is inside a country outline? Her example was Norway. I suggested
> that she plots the points by number and sees which points are within the
> outline of Norway. As she was just using one set of points and one
> country this is easier to do by eye. If you have multiple countries
> and/or grid points to check this method is too laborious. For the
> generalised case I'd open a Z buffer image plot, plot and fill the
> country and then check whether your point was the filled colour or
> background colour.

A general way of determining if a point is inside a closed path is to
use IDLanROI::containsPoints:

```
[501]> path_x = [0, 1, 1, 0, 0]
[502]> path_y = [0, 0, 1, 1, 0]
[503]> roi = obj_new('IDLanROI', path_x, path_y)
[504]> print, roi->containsPoints([0.5, 1.5, 1.0], [0.5, 0.5, 0.5])
      1      0      2
```

The result means: 0 = outside, 1 = inside, 2 = on edge.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

www.michaelgalloy.com

Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>

Research Mathematician

Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: contour and points

Posted by [TonyL](#) on Fri, 01 Jul 2011 01:11:29 GMT

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

On Jun 28, 9:13 pm, Wox <s...@nomail.com> wrote:

> On Tue, 28 Jun 2011 03:10:55 -0700 (PDT), Gray

>

> <grayliketheco...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> Hi all,

>

>> What's the easiest/best way to determine which of a set of points is

>> inside a contour (created with cgcontour)? Thanks!

>

>> --Gray

>

> Maybe I'm missing something, but what do you mean by "inside a
> contour"?

>

> You can check whether the point's elevation is greater than the

> contour level or less than the contour level. What's inside or outside

> depends on your definition but I suppose "inside" = "greater than" for

> topographic data.

Try this function inside.pro

```
; docformat = 'rst'
```

```
;+
```

```
; Determines if a point is inside a polygon.
```

```
;
```

```
; :Returns:
```

```
;   1 if the point is inside the polygon, 0 if outside the polygon
```

```
;
```

```
; :Params:
```

```
;   x : in, required, type=float
```

```
;     x coordinate of the point
```

```
;   y : in, required, type=float
```

```
;     y coordinate of the point
```

```
;   px : in, required, type=fltarr(n)
```

```
;     x coordinates of the polygon
```

```
;   py : in, required, type=fltarr(n)
```

```
;     y coordinates of the polygon
```

```
;-
```

```
FUNCTION Inside, x, y, px, py
```

```
; x - The x coordinate of the point.
```

```
; y - The y coordinate of the point.
```

```

; px - The x coordinates of the polygon.
; py - The y coordinates of the polygon.
;
; The return value of the function is 1 if the point is inside the
; polygon and 0 if it is outside the polygon.

    sx = Size(px)
    sy = Size(py)
    IF (sx[0] EQ 1) THEN NX=sx[1] ELSE RETURN, -1 ; Error if px not
a vector
    IF (sy[0] EQ 1) THEN NY=sy[1] ELSE RETURN, -1 ; Error if py not
a vector
    IF (NX EQ NY) THEN N = NX ELSE RETURN, -1 ; Incompatible
dimensions

    tmp_px = [px, px[0]] ; Close Polygon
in x
    tmp_py = [py, py[0]] ; Close Polygon
in y

    i = indgen(N) ; Counter
(0:NX-1)
    ip = indgen(N)+1 ; Counter (1:nx)

    X1 = tmp_px(i) - x
    Y1 = tmp_py(i) - y
    X2 = tmp_px(ip) - x
    Y2 = tmp_py(ip) - y

    dp = X1*X2 + Y1*Y2 ; Dot-product
    cp = X1*Y2 - Y1*X2 ; Cross-product
    theta = Atan(cp,dp)

    IF (Abs(Total(theta)) GT !PI) THEN RETURN, 1 ELSE RETURN, 0
END

```
