

---

Subject: gridding XYZ to surface: how to blank no data?  
Posted by [paulartcoelho](#) on Sat, 15 Feb 2014 15:05:17 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

hello there,

i've been using the excellent post by David at [https://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/grid\\_surface.html](https://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/grid_surface.html) to show a bunch of XYZ data as contour plots.

there is a detail i didn't manage to solve though. there are combinations of XY in the original table where there are no data (at all, i don't mean  $Z=0$ ), which is at the end plotted in the contour as if  $Z=0$  (understandably).

but i would like to show these regions in the contour plot as non-existent, to differentiate from "true  $Z=0$ " regions.

in other words, in my final contour plot, i'd like to show true  $Z=0$  values as a certain color, the minimum of the color table i adopt, but non-existent XY values as blank white.

any advice?

many thanks,  
Paula

---

---

Subject: Re: gridding XYZ to surface: how to blank no data?  
Posted by [paulartcoelho](#) on Sat, 15 Feb 2014 15:09:26 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

ah! i've found a similar thing at this post  
<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/Dn6f1D8rD3g>  
sorry for posting before googling, i will try it out.  
p.

---

---

Subject: Re: gridding XYZ to surface: how to blank no data?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 15 Feb 2014 15:52:48 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Paula writes:

> i've been using the excellent post by David at [https://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/grid\\_surface.html](https://www.idlcoyote.com/tips/grid_surface.html) to show a bunch of XYZ data as contour plots.

>

> there is a detail i didn't manage to solve though. there are combinations of XY in the original table where there are no data (at all, i don't mean  $Z=0$ ), which is at the end plotted in the contour as if  $Z=0$  (understandably).

>  
> but i would like to show these regions in the contour plot as non-existent, to differentiate from  
"true Z=0" regions.  
>  
> in other words, in my final contour plot, i'd like to show true Z=0 values as a certain color, the  
minimum of the color table i adopt, but non-existent XY values as blank white.  
>  
> any advice?

This really shouldn't take any effort at all. Set the missing data  
points to !Values.F\_NaN. (Make sure your array is floating type before  
you do this.) Use the CELL\_FILL keyword on your contour command NOT the  
FILL keyword. The rest should happen automatically:

```
data = cgDemoData(2)
cgLoadCT, 33
cgDisplay, WID=0
cgContour, data, /FILL, /OUTLINE

missing = RandomU(-3L, 10) * 41 * 41L
data[missing] = !Values.F_NaN
cgDisplay, WID=1
cgContour, data, /CELL_FILL, /OUTLINE
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---

Subject: Re: gridding XYZ to surface: how to blank no data?  
Posted by [paulartcoelho](#) on Wed, 19 Feb 2014 02:52:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

right!  
adding MISSING = !Values.F\_NaN to TRIGRID and changing FILL by CELL\_FILL in cgContour  
did the trick.  
many thx.

---