## Subject: Orientation of Contour Labels Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 27 Feb 2014 22:27:05 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Folks,

I just discovered that the keyword C\_Use\_Contour\_Orientation=1 will make the contour labels readable on the contour function command. Well, when I say "readable" I mean in areas of the plot where they are not all jumbled together. I seem to recall some way to "thin" these jumbled contour labels. Does anyone recall something like that?

Humm. Just found C\_Label\_Interval. I think this is what I remember. You can play with this value. But in steep areas of the contour (see the Basic Contour Plot we have been trying to get right all day), they still stack up on themselves no matter what value you use.

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: Orientation of Contour Labels
Posted by <a href="mailto:chris\_torrence@NOSPAM">chris\_torrence@NOSPAM</a> on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 03:18:46 GMT
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On Thursday, February 27, 2014 3:27:05 PM UTC-7, David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,

> I just discovered that the keyword C\_Use\_Contour\_Orientation=1 will make

> the contour labels readable on the contour function command. Well, when

> I say "readable" I mean in areas of the plot where they are not all

> jumbled together. I seem to recall some way to "thin" these jumbled

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  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.")
You could also use the LABEL_THRESHOLD property that was added to IDLgrContour in IDL
8.3. For some reason we didn't expose it on the Contour function...
IDL > c = contour(/test)
IDL> c.setproperty, label_threshold=0.5,/undoc
-Chris
```

Subject: Re: Orientation of Contour Labels
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 14:23:23 GMT
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Chris Torrence writes:

> You could also use the LABEL\_THRESHOLD property that was added to IDLgrContour in IDL

8.3. For some reason we didn't expose it on the Contour function...IDL> c = contour(/test)IDL> c.setproperty, label\_threshold=0.5,/undoc

Thanks, Chris. I'm curious, though. Why is the default behavior of the Contour command to display contour labels upside down? It's a curious choice. I honestly can't think how this default feature might be to some advantage. Maybe if you are a spy and have to read documents upside down.

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: Orientation of Contour Labels
Posted by <a href="mailto:chris\_torrence@NOSPAM">chris\_torrence@NOSPAM</a> on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 18:21:35 GMT
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On Friday, February 28, 2014 7:23:23 AM UTC-7, David Fanning wrote: >

- > Thanks, Chris. I'm curious, though. Why is the default behavior of the
- > Contour command to display contour labels upside down? It's a curious
- > choice. I honestly can't think how this default feature might be to some
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- > down.

> >

>

>

>

>

> 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.")

I don't think they are intentionally upside down, are they? Don't the labels just "blindly" follow the contour lines, so that "half" of them appear upside down?

Maybe just change your perspective. :-)

-Chris

Subject: Re: Orientation of Contour Labels Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 18:35:22 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Chris Torrence writes:

> I don't think they are intentionally upside down, are they? Don't the labels just "blindly" follow the contour lines, so that "half" of them appear upside down?

> Maybe just change your perspective. :-)

It's just like PostScript landscape output. Just rotate the damn sheet of paper if you think it's upside down! :-)

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.")