
Subject: save contour to eps in 8.2.3

Posted by [yunfeizhang5](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 12:58:07 GMT

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Dear everyone:

i manage to create a filled(use fill NOT cell_fill keyword) contour plot using contour and colorbar function in 8.2.3, and then save it to an eps file, now there is a question: it takes a long time saving to the eps file, and when i open the eps file, only find the contour is gridded, just as contour my data using keyword cell_fill instead of keyword fill. it's weird because what i do is the opposite. i'm sure this didn't happen in idl 7.1. does anyone suffer from this or is there any solution to this issue? any words are appreciated.

codes are as follows

```
n=200L
seed=0.0
x=indgen(n) & y=indgen(n)
z=randomu(seed,n,n)

nlevels=11L
levels=indgen(nlevels)*0.1
ct=contour(z,x,y,/fill,rgb_table=33,rgb_indices=bytsc1(indgen(nlevels-1)))
```

Subject: Re: save contour to eps in 8.2.3

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 13:05:52 GMT

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yunfeizhang5@gmail.com writes:

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I'd bet some money the problem is with your PostScript viewer, not with the PostScript file. :-)

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: save contour to eps in 8.2.3

Posted by [yunfeizhang5](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 13:41:34 GMT

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> yunfeizhang5@gmail.com writes:

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> David

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> David Fanning, Ph.D.

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> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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could it be?? i'm not sure

but firstly it takes a long time saving to file, and the eps file is extremely big, about 13MB for 40,000 floating-point numbers. all these have nothing to do with my ps viewer.

secondly i rechecked the contour function in help documentation just a few minutes ago, found in idl 8.2.3 there is NO keyword cell_fill any more. hmmm

Subject: Re: save contour to eps in 8.2.3
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 13:56:34 GMT
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Yunf Zhang writes:

> could it be?? i'm not sure

Well, I'm pretty sure. :-)

> but firstly it takes a long time saving to file, and the eps file is
> extremely big, about 13MB for 40,000 floating-point numbers. all these
> have nothing to do with my ps viewer.

Yes, PostScript has to fill all those teeny, tiny polygons, and the data you create makes a hell of a lot of them! It is going to take some time to write all that nonsense to a PostScript file. :-)

> secondly i rechecked the contour function in help documentation just a few minutes ago, found in idl 8.2.3 there is NO keyword cell_fill any more. hmmm

Perhaps you are remembering the contour **procedure**, rather than the contour **function**. Two different programs, for two different graphics systems.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: save contour to eps in 8.2.3
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 14:02:21 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> Perhaps you are remembering the contour **procedure**, rather than the
> contour **function**. Two different programs, for two different graphics

> systems.

Here is an article, by the way, that compares filled contour plots using the various graphics systems:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/cg_tips/compcont.php

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: save contour to eps in 8.2.3

Posted by [yunfeizhang5](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2014 14:35:16 GMT

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many thanks David

there's no problem in display of the contour, both for direct graphic and function graphic.

as for file saving of the contour, using direct graphic, nothing weird happens; using function graphic, the eps file looks like one using keyword `cell_fill`, which does not exist in contour function. it's disappointing to me.

tested using your code

https://www.idlcoyote.com/gallery/filled_contour_plot_fg.pro

tested my code in a friend's pc, idl 8.1

both are just the same

> David Fanning writes:

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