
Subject: cell_fill for Contour (IDL 5)
Posted by [hcp](#) on Thu, 14 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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I just came back from my vacation to find that our system manager has just upgraded IDL from version 4 to version 5.0. I find that everything works O.K. so far except that the /cell_fill keyword to the contour routine has disappeared from the documentation and, although it does not cause an error, it merely does the same thing as the /fill keyword. This means that open contours are not filled correctly; a great problem on map projections.

This may seem a small gripe, but I have written quite a lot of code which relies on the /cell_fill keyword to produce filled contour plots on map projections. It was slower than /fill but very reliable. Is /cell_fill going to come back in future upgrades, I ask myself. The only information I can find in the documentation is as follows:

<quote>

Contours that are not closed can not be filled because their interior and exterior are undefined. Contours created from data sets with missing data may not be closed; many map projections can also produce contours that are not closed. Filled contours should not be used in these cases.

</quote>

This is a bit annoying when the previous version had a perfectly good keyword to do exactly what this version tells you that you shouldn't do.

Has anyone else run into this, and what did they do about it? I'm sorry if this has been hashed over in great detail last week while I have been asleep in a deckchair.

Hugh

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OBDisclaimer: The views expressed herein are mine, not those of UofE.
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Subject: Re: cell_fill for Contour (IDL 5)
Posted by [Simon Moore](#) on Fri, 15 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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H C Pumphrey <hcp@newsread.ed.ac.uk> wrote in article
<5sva92\$hob@scotsman.ed.ac.uk>...

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> our system manager has just upgraded IDL from version 4 to version 5.0. I
> find that everything works O.K. so far except that the /cell_fill keyword
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> /fill keyword. This means that open contours are not filled correctly; a
> great problem on map projections.

[snip]

RSI have just released an update to IDL 5 - version 5.0.2. To quote from
their web page:

"The CELL_FILL keyword has been returned to the CONTOUR procedure.
An explanation of CELL_FILL is included in the online version of the
CONTOUR documentation.
A problem with the FILL keyword to CONTOUR has also been corrected."

Check out <http://www.rsinc.com/tipoweb/main.html> for more details.

I presume it is now shipping...

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Simon Moore Electric Propulsion, DERA, United Kingdom

Opinions are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer
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