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Subject: Re: Trouble with IDL 5.0.2 (sunos sparc) map\_set and contour  
Posted by [Andy Loughe](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> One might argue (as I am sure RSI would) that it actually  
> worked \*incorrectly\* before and it works correctly now.  
> But, no, I can't tell you what is going on. It would  
> be helpful if RSI could provide a bit more explanation about  
> these kinds of changes.  
>  
> I do notice that most of the people who are experiencing  
> map problems now are using (or moving from) IDL 4. Is there  
> a general feeling among the people who use map projections  
> that they are better in IDL 5?  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

I am sticking with IDL 4 because I don't have the time or interest to figure out again (I've been doing this since version 2.?) what home-grown routines must be re-written to handle RSI's incompatible backwards-compatibility! I laugh every time they come out with a new version of the software and promise 100% backwards compatibility. We aren't idiots... or are we?!

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"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use."  
-Galileo

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Subject: Re: Trouble with IDL 5.0.2 (sunos sparc) map\_set and contour  
Posted by [Jean Newman](#) on Fri, 23 Jan 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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On Thu, 22 Jan 1998, David Fanning wrote:

> Jean Newman (jcn@u.washington.edu) writes:

>

>> I have some IDL routines which under IDL 4\* would plot a map and then

>> place filled contours of bathymetry on the map. Under IDL 5.0.2 it shifts

>> all the fill colors up 1, the color is on the up side rather than on the

>> downside of the contour line. The weird part is if I comment out the

>> map\_set command and use plot instead, with everything else the same, then

>> it works just as it did before/correctly. Could anyone tell me what's

>> going on?

>

> One might argue (as I am sure RSI would) that it actually

> worked \*incorrectly\* before and it works correctly now.

> But, no, I can't tell you what is going on. It would

> be helpful if RSI could provide a bit more explanation about

> these kinds of changes.

>

Ok, so CONTOUR works a little different now. I set up a simple array and using PLOT & CONTOUR I figured out what I needed to do to get my filled contours to look the same, which involved adding an extra contour level equal to my bottom value. But when I made the changes to my mapping routine it still shifted the colors up 1, the color for -500 was used for -250 etc. So I changed the MAP\_SET to PLOT just to see if it made a difference and it did, the contouring did just what I expected with no color shifting. Then I went back to my simple set and changed PLOT to MAP\_SET and nothing changed, no color shifting. So why, with a more complicated data set, does it work differently depending on which command, MAP\_SET or PLOT, is used with CONTOUR?

> I do notice that most of the people who are experiencing

> map problems now are using (or moving from) IDL 4. Is there

> a general feeling among the people who use map projections

> that they are better in IDL 5?

>

The one map thing that I found works in 5 that didn't work correctly in 4 is map\_continents,/fill. Jean

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> -----

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Subject: Re: Trouble with IDL 5.0.2 (sunos sparc) map\_set and contour

Posted by [Jean Newman](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Just to let you know, we got IDL 5.0.3 and /cell\_follow works and my problems went away. Jean

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