
Subject: LINESTYLE with CONTOUR

Posted by [Greg Fall](#) on Thu, 30 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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A c_linestyle of 1 which I need for my contours to cooperate with continental boundaries draws pieces of some contours as solid (instead of the intended dotted) lines. Anybody have a solution?

The IDL Ref. Guide acknowledges that the LINESTYLE keyword in CONTOUR doesn't work very well, saying

"The cell drawing contouring algorithm draws all the contours in each cell, rather than following contours. Since an entire contour is not drawn as a single operation, the appearance of the more complicated linestyles will suffer. Use of the contour following method (selected with the FOLLOW keyword) will give better looking results in such cases."

However, under the discussion of FOLLOW they say it is not necessary any more, and FOLLOW does no good at all. My call to CONTOUR looks like this:

```
CONTOUR,DATA,XB,YB,POS=POS,/DEV,$
  /NOER,XST=STY,YST=STY,C_COL=COL,C_THI=C_THI,C_CHARSIZ=C_CHAR,$
  LEV=LEV,/FOLLOW,C_LI=C_LI,MAX=maxzz,C_LAB=C_LAB,$
  SUBTITLE=SUBT,TICKLEN=TICL,CHARS=CHS,XMI=XMI,YMI=YMI,$
  XTICKS=XTI,YTICKS=YTI,XTICKN=XTN,YTICKN=YTN,XTICKV=XTV,$
  YTICKV=YTV, FONT=FONT, TITLE=TITLE,XTITLE=XTITLE,$
  YTITLE=YTITLE,XRA=XX,YRA=YY
```

Thanks.

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