

Contouring III

Parts I and II of this series introduced the idea of contouring of data. This page continues the mission by indicating what the contours of a map should tell us, and it uses the same map area to provide closure on Parts I and II. If Parts I to III have been positive, Part IV instead goes on to look at three common problems in contouring.

To review,

A contour line should serve two functions:

- 1) It should represent the best estimate of where field values equal the value of the contour.**
- 2) It should divide data *greater* than the contour's value from data *less* than the contour's value. It thereby predicts where unknown/unsampled/unmeasured values should be values between the values of the contours.**

