
Subject: Re: plot, lons, lats overlayed on a map
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Mon, 25 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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T Bowers wrote:

> How do I create a plot that overlays a map correctly?

The strategy outline in your email will give misleading results even if you line up the map and plot edges. The orthographic projection does not give a uniform x/y grid (which you get from PLOT). Thus you need to create the map projection first, and then plot your points on the map projection. For example (assuming you have IDL 5.1 or 5.2):

```
map_set, 35, 125, /ortho, xmargin=[5,5], ymargin=[5,5], scale=10e6
map_grid, /box
map_continents, /hires
oplot, lons, lats, psym=6
```

You can modify the SCALE keyword to MAP_SET to zoom in or out. It's much more convenient than using the awkward LIMIT keyword. And the BOX keyword to MAP_GRID creates lat/lon labels along the map edges.

Cheers,
Liam.

Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
1225 W. Dayton St., Madison WI 53706, USA
Phone (608) 265-5358, Fax (608) 262-5974
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>
