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Subject: Re: coordinates on land

Posted by [wmc](#) on Wed, 15 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Mark Hadfield <m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz> wrote:

> Klaus Scipal <kscipal@ipf.tuwien.ac.at> wrote in message

> news:82p4ia\$bf\$1@news.tuwien.ac.at...

>> I am looking for an IDL procedure that tells me if a point (given in

>> longitude and latitude) is situated on land or on water.

>> for example the point 10°N and 20°E is situated on land (in Africa) the

>> point 10°N 40°W is situated on water (the Atlantic)

If you just want something that works rather than elegance, just use the standard IDL map routines to draw the globe, and ask it to fill in the continents. Read the pixel value of your lat lon coords, and you know if its filled or not, hence land or sea. You can do this in a pixmap to avoid distrubing the screen.

-W.

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