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Subject: Re: plotting vectors in 3D

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Mon, 06 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>  
> M Carmen Gonzalez (mcgonzal@uv.es) writes:  
>  
>> am new in IDL programming and I'm still a bit lost, so may be some of you  
>> can help me...  
>>  
>> I am trying to plot the measured wind speed (2 components) by a balloon in  
>> vertical ascension. At each point of the trajectory i want to plot a vector  
>> indicating the wind direction at that point.  
>>  
>> Does someone know how could I do it?

>  
> Oh, oh. I think there are probably a number of us  
> would know \*how\* to do this. The problem comes about  
> in trying to convey that information to a novice  
> IDL programmer in 10,000 words or less. :-)  
>

Oh, come on, David, Halloween is over and you don't have to scare people any longer ;-). As far as I can see, you can already get a decent visualization of that data with a 2-D plot - either longitude vs. latitude, neglecting the altitude, or e.g. altitude vs. time neglecting lon and lat (or conveying this information in the form of an additional x axis). Then, the problem is really as simple as using the arrow procedure and figuring out how to position and scale the arrows correctly.

Cheers,  
Martin

PS: But if you really want to have everything in 3D and illuminated from within, it might be easier to fly this balloon again, attach some nice colored stripes to it and take pictures ;-)

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