
Subject: Re: GEOMAGNETIC to GEOGRAPHIC coordinate conversion

Posted by [zawodny](#) on Wed, 13 Jul 1994 14:25:50 GMT

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In article <CsuDEA.xt@ngdc.noaa.gov> greg@farpoint.ngdc.noaa.gov (Greg Ushomirskiy) writes:

> Has anyone written an IDL routine to convert from geomagnetic latitude/longitude

> to geographic lat/lon?

>

Well here is what I use.

```
;+
; NAME: MAGLAT
;
; PURPOSE: Convert geographic latitude and longitude to magnetic
; latitude and longitude.
;
; CATEGORY: Coordinate transformation
;
; CALLING SEQUENCE:
; mlat = MAGLAT(lat,lon,mlon)
; INPUTS:
; Lat A scalar or vector of geographic latitudes
; Lon A scalar or vector of geographic longitudes
;
; OUTPUTS:
; Mlat Primary result, a scalar/vector of magnetic latitudes
; Mlon Optional result, a scalar/vector of magnetic longitudes
;
; COMMON BLOCKS: None
;
; SIDE EFFECTS: None
;
; RESTRICTIONS: Latitude should be -90 <= lat <= 90.
;
; PROCEDURE:
; STRAIGHTFORWARD (seems to be the default value of this field).
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
; Version 1.1, Jan 1993 by J.M.Zawodny NASA LaRC
; zawodny@arbd0.larc.nasa.gov
;-
function MAGLAT,glat,glon,mlon

; Convert to radians
a117 = 11.7!/radeg
alat = glat!/radeg
alon = (glon-291.)!/radeg
```

```
; Calculate the latitude
slat = sin(alat)*cos(a117) + cos(alat)*sin(a117)*cos(alon)
mlat = asin(slat)

; If user wants geomagnetic longitude as well
if(n_params(0) eq 3) then begin
  ylon = cos(alat)*sin(alon)
  xlon = sin(alat)*sin(a117) - cos(alat)*cos(alon)*cos(a117)
  mlon = atan(ylon,xlon)*!radeg
endif

; Return the geomagnetic latitude (in degrees)
return,mlat*!radeg
end
```

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