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Subject: Re: Land Mask data set available? (in lat and lon)  
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 07 Feb 2002 22:47:04 GMT  
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"Robert Stockwell" <stockwell@co-ra.com> wrote in message  
news:3C62F3C6.3090502@co-ra.com...

> ...  
> I was just about to assimilate the land mask info  
> into IDL, but for my purposes I need the land mask  
> as a function of lat and lon (so as to branch my  
> algorithm on whether or not a data point falls on land),  
> rather than merely an image.  
> ...  
> I am about to use the land=sea mask data from:  
> [http://edcdaac.usgs.gov/1KM/land\\_sea\\_mask.html](http://edcdaac.usgs.gov/1KM/land_sea_mask.html)  
> that i found snooping through google. It looks like  
> I'll have to grab their image which appears to be in  
> a km by km sampling, and calculate the inverse transform  
> from their map projection into lat and lon (ugh).  
> ...  
> Does someone have that in IDL?  
> (or rather, a data format that can be easily digested  
> into IDL)

Thanks for the link to the land-sea mask data. I wasn't aware of that one. I agree that it might be awkward inverting their map projection. There's been some discussion on the group in the past about accessing IDL's built-in projections. A Google search might turn up something useful.

I don't have a land-mask data set, but I do have a routine that calculates a land mask (in fact a land fraction) for a specified grid using vector shoreline data from the GSHHS data set:

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/gshhs.html>

Getting this working on your system would be non-trivial, but if you want to try I'll be glad to help.

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