
Subject: Land Mask data set available? (in lat and lon)
Posted by [Robert Stockwell](#) on Thu, 07 Feb 2002 21:38:14 GMT
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Greetings All,
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.

Thus I want to have something like
landmask = int(nx,ny)
lon = float(nx,ny)
lat = float(nx,ny)

that I can crunch into an array for my lat, lon sampling and then directly compare my data with the landmask value. (a simple water = 0, land = 1 mask is fine for me)

I am interested in the southern hemisphere (frinstance 40S to 80 south), and 1/2 degree by 1/2 degree or better.

Does someone have that in IDL?
(or rather, a data format that can be easily digested into IDL)

Cheers,
bob stockwell

PS

I am about to use the land=sea mask data from:
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).

Or perhaps I can use the map commands i IDL and create an image, grab the image, convert from pixels to lat and lon.

I am hoping there is an easier way, or at least a "already done" way
