
Subject: Re: Question: Graphing Radar?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2003 23:41:56 GMT

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Karl Schulze (kschulze@ariel.tamu.edu) writes:

- > I am wondering if IDL allows one to plot radar data. Basically, it is just
- > a simple polar type of graph...HOWEVER...each point to be graphed needs to
- > have a width of one degree. In other words, the size of the point expands
- > radially outwards with a width of one degree.
- >
- > Is there a way to do this on IDL?

Yes, you can plot radar data in IDL. Unfortunately, it is not as straightforward as RADAR_PLOT. :-)

My experience is with NEXRAD radar, but typically you have to convert the polar radar data into rectangular coordinates with CONVERT_COORD, and then do some re-gridding to get things right (I used TRIANGULATE and TRIGRID). Finally, I remember having to fool around for quite a long time to get the rotations exactly right so that north was north on a map. The NEXRAD folks are not real big on documentation. :-)

Here is an example of the NEXRAD radar data plotted on a map:

ftp://ftp.dfanning.com/pub/dfanning/outgoing/misc/nexrad_radar.jpg

Cheers,

David

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