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Subject: Re: vector layer comparison in IDL  
Posted by [yp](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 11:00:19 GMT  
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Mark Hadfield wrote:

> yp wrote:

>> Well, here I have two sets exported coordinated (X=lon, Y=Lat) of  
the

>> same area at two different times. The task is to see the spatial

>> difference between the two layers (In this example I dont have any

>> closed polygon, but that should be kept in mind for future)

>

> Well, they do look very similar, but not identical...

>

> Have you given any thought to what the term "spatial difference"  
could

> or should mean? What are you trying to achieve with your comparison?

> Once you work that out, there's no doubt you can use IDL to calculate  
it

> for you. Are you interested, perhaps, in the maximum distance between

> the two "coastlines"?

>

> --

> Mark Hadfield            "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoea tatou"

> m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz

> National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

Thanks Mark,

You guessed it right. I got to calculate the absolute error (distance)  
assuming that one is \*true\* and the other is \*estimated\* from other  
sources.