
Subject: Re: Finding coordinates on the circumference of a circle

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Tue, 19 Jul 2005 22:21:26 GMT

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guillaume.drolet.1@ulaval.ca wrote:

> Thanks a lot for helping me with this.

>

> This last suggestion with MAP_PROJ is great, although I don't quite
> understand everything. For example, do you specify the radius in meters
> because the Azimuthal Equidistant projection is in meters?

The default SPHERE_RADIUS is the true radius of the Earth in meters.
Therefore, radial distances in the Azimuthal Equidistant projection
will also be in meters. This depends upon knowing precisely how the map
projection works.

If you're not sure about the scale being used in a given projection,
select two points where you know:

- a) what the true distance between those points is and
- b) that the projection you're using preserves that distance.

Pass those points to MAP_PROJ_FORWARD, and from the results you can
calculate the scale factor being used, rather than guessing what it is.
