Subject: Re: ESRI Shapefiles

Posted by liamgumley on Thu, 06 Jul 2006 16:21:06 GMT

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David.

The following demo program may be helpful:

ftp://ftp.ssec.wisc.edu/pub/incoming/shapefile_plot.pro

Here's how it can be used to plot a continent outline shapefile from the IDL distribution:

file = filepath(subdirectory=['resource', 'maps', 'shape'], 'continents.shp')
map_set, 43.0, -89.0, scale=50e6, /lambert, /grid
shapefile_plot, file

Cheers, Liam. Practical IDL Programming http://www.gumley.com/

David Bowman wrote:

> Dear all,

>

- > I have an ESRI shapefile containing the surface trace of an active
- > fault. I need to extract the lat/lon from this file for use in IDL.
- > Sounds easy, right? Not so much... (at least for me)

>

- > I know IDL includes a whole suite of programs that supposedly read and
- > manipulate GIS files, but I've found the documentation to be shockingly
- > confusing, even by RSI's standards.

- > Can anybody point me to a simple explanation/procedure/resource? Small
- > words would be appreciated.

>

- > In my career there have been two enormous time-sinks that I've managed
- > to avoid: ARC/Info and object-oriented programming. My greatest fear
- > is that I've finally come across a need for both of them. I would be
- > eternally grateful for any help avoiding that horrible fate.

>

- > Cheers!
- > David Bowman