
Subject: Re: convert to pixel to RA and DEC in degrees?
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 14:12:40 GMT
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adisn123@yahoo.com writes:

- > Forgot one more thing.
- >
- > When applying "xyad" procedure to convert pixel coordinates to RA and
- > DEC,
- > the North direction of RA and DEC coords should align with the North
- > direction of pixel coords?

It doesn't have to be aligned. It depends on how the telescope or camera was pointed.

- > If it is, then the image should be rotated in such a way that its North
- > in RA and DEC should
- > match with the North of pixel coords. I took a look at the image's
- > header to look for how many degrees I should rotate such that they
- > align perfectly each other, but I can't find anything relevant to the
- > rotation degrees.

Some FITS images have a CROTAn keyword. Others have a rotation matrix, which is stored in CDn_n, I believe. More info can be found here,

http://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/fits_wcs.html

Craig

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