

---

Subject: Re: map\_proj\_\* help

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 15 Jun 2009 21:46:31 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

David Fanning writes:

- > OK, I've written this up for general consumption.
- > As always (probably the main reason I write these
- > articles) I learned even more about the problem as
- > I wrote it down. Anyway, the article shows you how to
- > navigate both the GeoTiff and the PNG version of this
- > image. They have to be done in slightly different ways
- > due to unspoken "conventions".
- >
- > You can find the article here:
- >
- > [http://www.dfanning.com/map\\_tips/iceshelf.html](http://www.dfanning.com/map_tips/iceshelf.html)

Just to wrap this whole sorted tale up, I have asked the good folks at NSIDC to please add the latitude which is down from the map origin to the information provided on their map image page. Without this piece of information, it would be nearly impossible to navigate the image successfully.

And I wanted to point out that IDL itself is a bit confusing in this regard, in that the CENTER\_LATITUDE keyword, which normally identifies the latitude of the map origin (at least it does in every map projection I have ever worked with) does no such thing with polar stereographic map projections. Instead, this keyword identifies the true-scale latitude or standard latitude (the terms are often used interchangeably). I've added a bit more detail on this state of affairs in this article:

[http://www.dfanning.com/map\\_tips/polarstereo.html](http://www.dfanning.com/map_tips/polarstereo.html)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming ([www.dfanning.com](http://www.dfanning.com))

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---