
Subject: Re: Display of topo map in MAP routines.
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Sep 2009 19:22:53 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Paul van Delst writes:

> Can someone outline (real quick) the steps needed to display a topo map in the background
> of a map projection? Other point data will be overplotted over this background.

Do you really mean "topo map"? If you do, I'm not sure there *is* a quick way to do this. Maybe if you could get ahold of a digital topo map in GeoTIFF format you might be OK. But even the smallest topo map is going to be HUGE and difficult to work with. I have a topo map of Canyonlands National Park in front of me on the wall. It's about 3 by 4 feet. I hate to think what size it would be in digital format. :-)

> Does a DEM file come with IDL, or do I need to visit the USGS?

IDL does not come with a DEM file. Is this what you mean by a "topo map"?

Maybe you could clarify what you are trying to do, including some explanation of the tools you plan to use. I have a feeling you are asking about building a 18,000 sq ft dream home, but have the plans for a dog house in front of you. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
