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Subject: Re: polar contour plot

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Dec 2009 14:12:26 GMT

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Hassan writes:

> I have 3 arrays, a zenith angle array, a azimuth angle array and DN  
> values. each DN is related to specific zenith and azimuth. I need to  
> draw a contour of DNs on polar plot which is a circle as the distance  
> from the center of the circle is zenith and distance from North is  
> azimuth . I assume there should be a .pro file or sth that does this  
> work. I used polar\_contour but I think I need to add other commands to  
> get the desired results.  
> any help would be appreciated.

Your assumption that there should be a procedure for this  
is a good one, even if it turns out to be entirely wrong.  
I think thing this is one of those should-be-easy-turns-  
out-to-be-hard situations in IDL. (Normally, things are  
the other way around, thank goodness.)

I would approach this problem by setting up a Lambert  
Equal-Area map projection and drawing my contour plot  
on that, after scaling my data to the appropriate  
lat/lon values. This will mean you will have to do  
your own plot annotation (with PLOTS and XYOUTS,  
typically), but I don't think this will be particularly  
difficult.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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

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