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Subject: Re: shapefile problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 28 Jan 2010 20:35:14 GMT

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Bruce Bowler writes:

> I'll start by saying that this is my first foray into shapefiles and I'm  
> probably doing something stooopid.  
>  
> I'm using Dr. Coyote's excellent software to draw shapes on a map  
> thusly...  
>  
>  
> map\_set,/noborder  
> map\_continents,/coast  
> provFile="c:\my\_idl\longhurst\Longhurst\_world\_v2\_2009"  
> drawStates,provFile,statenames='FKLD',attribute\_name='PROVCO DE',/fill  
>  
> And it does a excellent job of drawing the Falkland/Malvinas province on  
> the map. In fact it does a very good job of drawing all of the provinces  
> on the map, with the exception of 1, BPLR, which is filling everything  
> \*except\* the BPLR province (BPLR == Bi-polar???). I suspect that it's a  
> problem with the province vertices.  
>  
> If you go here, [http://www.vliz.be/vmdcdata/vlimar/vlimar.php?](http://www.vliz.be/vmdcdata/vlimar/vlimar.php?p=details&id=21450)  
> [p=details&id=21450](http://www.vliz.be/vmdcdata/vlimar/vlimar.php?p=details&id=21450), and scroll the map, it appears that this province is  
> unbounded on the northern edge.  
>  
> Is there an "easy" fix to drawStates that would solve the problem, or  
> Is there an "easy" fix to the province definition, or  
> Is the solution to go back to the folks who distribute the shapefile and  
> have them "close the polygon"

I don't know for sure, and I have no time to follow up this week, but I think this could happen if the vertices were specified in the "opposite" order. In other words, clockwise instead of counter-clockwise. (Or, is the opposite of this?) In any case, you might check the order of the vertices compared to one of the other provinces that works correctly.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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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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