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Subject: Re: More Map Projection Madness

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 16:35:36 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> So, bottom line. Don't use the UTM projection with  
> the WGS84 datum, don't use map projection names at  
> all, and get VERY familiar with proj4 so you can  
> check to see if anything at all that comes out of  
> an IDL map projection is accurate. :-(

OK, the situation is more complicated than this.

Apparently, I chose a perverse example. Although,  
I have to admit, over the past couple of months  
I have the distinct feeling that examples are  
choosing me, rather than visa versa. :-(

It seems the name "Albers Equal Area" is ambiguous.  
In fact, it seems to choose the old MAP\_SET routine  
"Albers Equal Area Conic" as the map projection.  
To make it choose the same projection as projection  
103, I have to set the CGTP keyword.

```
alberMap = MAP_PROJ_INIT('albers equal area', /GCTP, $  
    DATUM='WGS 84', $  
    CENTER_LATITUDE=geotag.PROJNATORIGINLATGEOKEY, $  
    CENTER_LONGITUDE=geotag.PROJNATORIGINLONGGEOKEY, $  
    STANDARD_PAR1=geotag.PROJSTDPARALLEL1GEOKEY, $  
    STANDARD_PAR2=geotag.PROJSTDPARALLEL2GEOKEY)
```

Then, this behaves identically to the the projection when  
I use the projection index 103.

But, this contradicts what I learned this morning  
about the WGS84 datum, because here is behaves  
perfectly.

I appreciate Chris's attempt to shed light on this subject.  
It is greatly appreciated. But, I am still very confused.  
I understand this may not be completely ITTVIS's fault. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

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

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