Subject: Re: Already written function to find if a point is within a rectangle?
Posted by Greg Hennessy on Thu, 23 Feb 2012 18:05:44 GMT

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>> I'm thinking of making polygons with a large number of edges, instead
>> of rectangles, with every data point at the edge of a FITS file as a
>> vertex. That would minimize the projection error, right?
>
> That helps. Special care is probably need around the poles though.

It often helps to convert from ra/dec to unit vectors
([cos(ra)*cos(dec),sin(ra)*cos(dec),sin(dec)]) for both
the star position and the edges of the polygon.