
Subject: Re: trouble with map projections

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2013 21:20:27 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

chris.orphanides@noaa.gov writes:

> David, thank you for your quick response. I didn't think that I could do a Cylindrical map projection with a WGS 84 Ellipsoid because in the map_proj_init() help page it lists Sphere as the only available ellipsoid when using IDL's own map projections. In the GCTP map projections it says that Equirectangular only takes a sphere as well and doesn't say you can specify the semimajor or semiminor axes. What am I missing here? Does the below work even though it doesn't seem like it should?

>

> g1_prj = MAP_PROJ_INIT('Equirectangular', ELLIPSOID='WGS 84', /GCTP, LIMIT=[-80, -180, 80, 180])

>

> It runs successfully, and when peeking at the result some of it looks right, but I am hesitant.

Ah, yes, I guess I was thinking of a Cylindrical Equal Area projection, which was introduced in IDL 8.0.

Yeah, you're probably screwed. :-)

You probably have to use ENVI to get your map projections right. I have NO idea my MAP_PROJ_INIT allows that ellipsoid, although in the back on my mind I seem to remember a change that allowed any ellipsoid with map projections. But, I can't find any mention of it anywhere. Sorry!

I guess your only solace is that on a map with those limits, the difference between a sphere and a WGS84 ellipsoid are going to be very small. I've seen a hell of a lot worse in scientific papers. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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