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Subject: Re: Amazingly accurate UTM <-> Lat/Lon transformations

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 17 Sep 2013 18:16:08 GMT

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Tom Grydeland writes:

- > Also anyone who uses UTM with IDL, especially if they abuse the UTM
- > projection well outside its intended area (instead of switching to a
- > projection more suited for large regions) should have a look at the
- > Wikipedia article on UTM and its references, and try implementing these
- > formulas.

Maybe it's just me, but it seems a little weird to me to claim that if you use the software in a way that it is clearly not intended to be used, you get bad results. Isn't this making a claim for clairvoyance on the part of the developers?

I agree that IDL's map projection software is probably overdue for an update. But, I'm not convinced this is any kind of a deal breaker.

Cheers,

David

P.S. For what it's worth, I, too, was confused by the initial reference and had to spend 15 minutes or so figuring it out. That's about 14.5 minutes more than most readers of the newsgroup would have, I imagine.

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

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

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