
Subject: Re: cgmap_gshhs.pro minarea issue
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 22 Nov 2013 17:37:53 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

```
>
> Takis.Velissariou@deep-c.org writes:
>
>> also
>> polygonArea = header.area * 0.1 * 10^magnitude
>> should change to:
>> polygonArea = header.area * 0.1 (for version lt 9)
>> and
>> polygonArea = header.area * 10^(-magnitude) (for version gt 9)
>
> I still don't know what to make of this. The documentation is screwy.
>
> At one place in the header file you find this:
>
> "area magnitude scale p (as in 10^p) = flag >> 26.
> We divide area by 10^p."
>
> Then, in the next couple of lines, you find this *twice*:
>
> "Area of polygon in km^2 * 10^p for this resolution file"
>
> We need to know the area of known polygons to be able to tell.
```

OK, I agree with you about dividing by the magnitude, too. :-)

I have an example using the Australian polygon, and I get the correct area for the land mass only by dividing: `header.area / 10^magnitude`.

I'm currently having trouble with v. 2.1 of the GSHHS data. Clearly the header is different from the one for v 2.0 and 2.2, but I can't figure out what it is. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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

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