
Subject: Re: how to composite a mapcoord object using geographic coordinate(no projection)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 24 Feb 2014 13:58:36 GMT

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Yngvar Larsen writes:

> I just sent you an email with a download link for one of the SRTM tiles.

Yes, so this file doesn't pretend to have map projection information in it. Here is the GeoTiff structure from the file:

IDL> help, geo

** Structure <7b9e5160>, 2 tags, length=72, data length=72, refs=1:

 MODELPIXELSCALETAG

 DOUBLE Array[3]

 MODELTIEPOINTTAG

 DOUBLE Array[6, 1]

I just think it is unreasonable to expect general purpose GeoTiff readers to handle files like this. Obviously, you can fill your reader code with multiple exceptions, etc. But, when you get a file like this, the file itself doesn't tell you what you need to know to work with the data properly.

I'm not saying it is *hard* to use these files. It is easy enough. I'm just saying, you need information from outside the file, or in Jie Zhou's case, you need to parse internal information in a non-standard way, in order to make sense of the data. If I worked with these files for a living, I'd take 15 minutes and write myself a reader.

Cheers,

David

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

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