Subject: Converting days since 0-01-01 to Julian/Gregorian days - how can IDL recognise 0 AD?

Posted by Jasdeep Anand on Tue, 07 Oct 2014 13:21:44 GMT

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I have data which has been given timestamps with the units: "days since 0-01-01 00:00", which I'm assuming means since January 1st, 0 AD. I'd like to convert this into a format I can actually use, preferably Julian days so IDL can recognise the date format when plotting.

From what I understand I can't use any of the default IDL programs for this task (JULDAY, GREG2JUL, etc) because of the fact that the year 0 AD doesn't exist (IDL's calendar instead goes straight from -1 to 1 to conserve leap years).

What should I do? I'm unsure of the timestamps used to calculate the data (all I have is the year and month) and I'll be comparing this with data from a separate dataset which does not have this problem. I don't think I can use -1 or 1 in this case as the year because the final Julian day will be wrong. Has anyone encountered this problem at all?

Thanks,

J. Anand