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

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 07 Oct 2014 17:29:58 GMT

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On 10/7/14, 7:21 AM, Jasdeep Anand wrote:

> 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
>

This is what CF conventions say about "year 0":

<http://cfconventions.org/Data/cf-conventions/cf-conventions-1.7/build/ch07s04.html>

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

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