
Subject: Re: Map_Image and interpolation
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 08 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Ben Tupper (Ben_member@newsguy.com) writes:

> Uhoh. You have said the very same thing to me before. Generally, as you have
> learned recently, I often don't know my point either.

Oh, good, then we can have another one of those moot discussions. :-)

> I can indeed plot the ship locations on the warped grid correctly. No problem
> with MAP_SET, MAP_IMAGE, PLOTS, etc. What I want to do is make a profile plot
> of depth between consecutive ship locations. In order to do so, I MUST do
> interpolation between two locations on the warped grid.

Now here is where I fail to follow your argument. Because my first reaction is this: why in the WORLD would you want to do the interpolation between two locations on the warped grid!? That would be the **last** place I think I would want to do an interpolation. For one thing, the warped grid is not really the data. It's a representation of the data, in the same way that a TVed image is a representation of the image and not the image itself. A profile of scaled image data, for example, would be essentially meaningless; you want a profile of the **real** image data.

I would do an interpolation along the line (or arc, probably) of the bathymetric grid, and then project that line (or arc, which would turn into a line in the projection) onto the map projection.

How do you know which pixels to light up? The ones Map_Set **tells** you to light up.

> Now a certain person
> with an excellent IDL Tips Web site (think Canis latrans) has a page that
> suggest something like the following for interpolating values off an image
> (grid, ...)between points (x1,y1) and (x2,y2)
>
>
> nPoints = Round(ABS(x2-x1+1) > ABS(y2-y1+1.))
> xloc = X1 + (X2-X1) * Findgen(nPoints) / (nPoints - 1)
> yloc = Y1 + (Y2-Y1) * Findgen(nPoints) / (nPoints - 1)
> Z = Interpolate(WarpedGrid, xloc, yloc)
>
> (or maybe I could do Z = WarpedGrid[xloc,yloc])

>
> So, the question is... if I have a coordinate like (-68.503, 44.056), how do I
> convert that into the appropriate subscript locations on the warped grid?

The simple answer is: by running it through the map projection.
You may not readily know a specific XY location, but you can
certainly light it up.

> You might be wondering why the points must be interpolated from the warped image
> and not the original...

Indeed, I'm wondering ...

> Well, the warped image has been flattened onto a 2d
> surface while the original is for a sphere (its grid spacing is 0.0416667 arc
> seconds.)

Well, I'm ready to concede the simple algorithm you
found on my web page may not be what you want for an arc,
but I think you might find an equivalent arc-interpolation
scheme on Ray Sterner's web page. (That's where I found
this algorithm.) Or, it would be easy enough, I think,
to come up with one of your own. (Let's let the lurkers
come up with something. :-)

The point is, the curved line in real space will turn into
a straight line on the map projection in just the same way
that the curved image turned into a flat image.

I always enjoy these conversations, Ben. I don't always
understand them. But I do enjoy them. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: Map_Image and interpolation
Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Wed, 08 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.12b84831bc0510cf9899b9@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com
>
> P.S. I have a sneaking suspicion I have completely
> missed the point here. If so, I apologize profusely. :-)
>

Uhoh. You have said the very same thing to me before. Generally, as you have learned recently, I often don't know my point either. I have to get out of this pattern where the two of us have absolutely no idea what I'm talking about. I remind myself of Admiral Stockwell (R.Perot's running mate) who started his first debate against Al Gore and Dan Quayle with "Who am I? And why am I here?" Admiral Stockwell is a very fine person... he didn't articulate well. So here's another stab at my challenge.

I can indeed plot the ship locations on the warped grid correctly. No problem with MAP_SET, MAP_IMAGE, PLOTS, etc. What I want to do is make a profile plot of depth between consecutive ship locations. In order to do so, I MUST do interpolation between two locations on the warped grid. Now a certain person with an excellent IDL Tips Web site (think Canis latrans) has a page that suggest something like the following for interpolating values off an image (grid, ...)between points (x1,y1) and (x2,y2)

```
nPoints = Round(ABS(x2-x1+1) > ABS(y2-y1+1.))  
xloc = X1 + (X2-X1) * Findgen(nPoints) / (nPoints - 1)  
yloc = Y1 + (Y2-Y1) * Findgen(nPoints) / (nPoints - 1)  
Z = Interpolate(WarpedGrid, xloc, yloc)
```

(or maybe I could do $Z = \text{WarpedGrid}[xloc, yloc]$)

So, the question is... if I have a coordinate like (-68.503, 44.056), how do I convert that into the appropriate subscript locations on the warped grid?

You might be wondering why the points must be interpolated from the warped image and not the original... Well, the warped image has been flattened onto a 2d surface while the original is for a sphere(its grid spacing is 0.0416667 arc seconds.)

Thanks!

Ben

Ben Tupper
Pemaquid River Company

Subject: Re: Map_Image and interpolation

Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 08 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Ben Tupper (tupper@seadas.bigelow.org) writes:

> I have a set of ship positions (Lon/Lat in WGS 84 map datum). I also
> have a bathymetric grid which I have warped into a tranverse mercator
> projection (Datum = WGS 84). The ship locations plot correctly on the
> warped image. Now I would like to interpolate values off of the warped
> image between consecutive ship locations.

Uh, why?! Surely the ships (and the bathymetric grid) are in "real" space (as opposed to, say, "map" space) and the interpolation should be done there. Once you have the interpolated data, you just put it on the map coordinate system using PLOTS, or whatever you do. This is the beauty of the Map_Set command: it sets up the mapping between your real coordinate system and the map coordinate system.

> So how do I go from Ship Lon/Lat to WarpedGrid[X,Y]?

Make your calculations in Lon/Lat space and then just *place* them on the Map, using the !Map system variable to handle any transformations for you.

Cheers,

David

P.S. I have a sneaking suspicion I have completely missed the point here. If so, I apologize profusely. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Map_Image and interpolation

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Thu, 09 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Remind me again what we are trying to do here. I thought
> we were trying to find the depth profile of the ocean

- > between two known ship locations. If you want to know
- > the distance between those two ships, I can provide you
- > will a great circle algorithm given to me by David Stern
- > himself, as a peace offering after a particularly
- > spirited exchange of ideas on something or other I
- > said about map projections in this newsgroup. :-)

Or check out great_circle.pro and compass.pro at
<ftp://origin.ssec.wisc.edu/pub/gumley/IDL/>

Cheers,

Liam.

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: Map_Image and interpolation
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 09 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Ben Tupper (Ben_member@newsguy.com) writes:

- > Actually, I think Ray's algorithm should work fine... if I can get a handle on
- > how the warped image is georeferenced.

You don't know my teenage son, do you? Something about
the head-knocking tone of this conversation reminds me
of him. :-)

- > When I interpolate off the unwarped image I don't get the right answer because I
- > am assuming that the unwarped image pixel locations are all the same physical
- > size everywhere.

What do you mean by you "don't get the right
answer". Why do you think the answer isn't right?
Any chance we could see a code fragment?

- > But of course, they are not... because the east-west length of
- > an arc second decreases as you move poleward (lines of longitude converge.) So
- > if I try to calculate the distance between two points assuming a regular grid
- > cell size, then I get the wrong distance (and if I interpolate or sample the
- > grid at arbitrary locations between two points... I'll sample the wrong pixels.)

Why are we calculating the distance now? I thought we were
trying to create a depth profile. Sigh...

Remind me again what we are trying to do here. I thought
we were trying to find the depth profile of the ocean
between two known ship locations. If you want to know

the distance between those two ships, I can provide you will a great circle algorithm given to me by David Stern himself, as a peace offering after a particularly spirited exchange of ideas on something or other I said about map projections in this newsgroup. :-)

- > Here's a thought; suppose I wanted to make the mapped image program interactive.
- > I want to post the lon/lat value of the cursor into two FSC_INPUTFIELD widgets.
- > How do I convert the cursor position into lon/lat using direct graphics?

Assuming you have this is a draw widget and you have kept the !Map, !X, !Y, and !P system variables around when you created the map projection, then you simply convert the XY device locations to data coordinates! This is *exactly* my point. Map_Set should be doing *all* of the work for you.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Oh, where's my wife!? She can explain this better than I can. :-)

--

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In article <MPG.12b8d3f3d1de4d19899bb@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com says...

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- > this algorithm.) Or, it would be easy enough, I think,
- > to come up with one of your own. (Let's let the lurkers
- > come up with something. :-)
- >

Actually, I think Ray's algorithm should work fine... if I can get a handle on how the warped image is georeferenced.

When I interpolate off the unwarped image I don't get the right answer because I am assuming that the unwarped image pixel locations are all the same physical size everywhere. But of course, they are not... because the east-west length of an arc second decreases as you move poleward (lines of longitude converge.) So if I try to calculate the distance between two points assuming a regular grid cell size, then I get the wrong distance (and if I interpolate or sample the grid at arbitrary locations between two points... I'll sample the wrong pixels.) But you have suggested something nifty in the arc-interpolation idea. Hey, I've got this computer and this software... maybe I could calculate distance in along the surface of a sphere between two points. Ooo! Ooo! I like it!

Here's a thought; suppose I wanted to make the mapped image program interactive. I want to post the lon/lat value of the cursor into two FSC_INPUTFIELD widgets. How do I convert the cursor position into lon/lat using direct graphics?

>
> I always enjoy these conversations, Ben. I don't always
> understand them. But I do enjoy them. :-)
>
That's good... everybody needs a straight-man like me!

Thanks again,

Ben

Ben Tupper
PemaquidRiver@tidewater.net
