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Subject: polar contour plots

Posted by [ahw199](#) on Fri, 03 Aug 2001 14:58:07 GMT

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I am a relatively new user of IDL and I am trying to make a polar plot. I have written a programme which does exactly that but does not give me the expected pattern. I only have data for every 10 degrees around the circle, could this be my problem? i.e. do I need data for every degree around the plot for the contours to be accurate?

thanks

Ann Webber

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Subject: Re: polar contour plot

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Dec 2009 14:12:26 GMT

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Hassan writes:

> I have 3 arrays, a zenith angle array, a azimuth angle array and DN  
> values. each DN is related to specific zenith and azimuth. I need to  
> draw a contour of DNs on polar plot which is a circle as the distance  
> from the center of the circle is zenith and distance from North is  
> azimuth . I assume there should be a .pro file or sth that does this  
> work. I used polar\_contour but I think I need to add other commands to  
> get the desired results.  
> any help would be appreciated.

Your assumption that there should be a procedure for this is a good one, even if it turns out to be entirely wrong. I think this is one of those should-be-easy-turns-out-to-be-hard situations in IDL. (Normally, things are the other way around, thank goodness.)

I would approach this problem by setting up a Lambert Equal-Area map projection and drawing my contour plot on that, after scaling my data to the appropriate lat/lon values. This will mean you will have to do your own plot annotation (with PLOTS and XYOUTS, typically), but I don't think this will be particularly difficult.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

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Subject: Re: polar contour plot

Posted by [Hassan](#) on Mon, 04 Jan 2010 17:49:07 GMT

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On Dec 30 2009, 2:12 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Hassan writes:

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>

> David

>

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

thanks David for the help. i think i need to work out how i can scale  
the zenith and azimuth angles based on lat/long.

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