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Subject: Re: Cartesian IDLgrSurface of [theta,phi] data to a sphere??

Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Fri, 10 Aug 2001 15:24:22 GMT

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Todd Bowers writes:

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> I have a 10x24 2D array of 'intensities' where the cols and rows are
> values at each theta (0 to 90, every 10 degrees, includes a polar
> 'cap') and phi (0 to 360, every 15 degrees) 'look' angle over the
> hemisphere. I can easily plot this as a shaded surface via DFanning's
> xsurface program. Problem is, it's difficult to see the directional
> relationship of the data projected on this 2D surface. So, after much
> twiddling, I tried replacing the IDLgrSurface object with an
> IDLgrPolygon. E.g., replace this line in david's code
>
> thisSurface = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrSurface', data, x, y, $
>   Color=[255,255,0], _Extra=extra)
>
> with this below to see the data shaded by value (easier to see how
> data maps to sphere in a minute)
>
> thisPalette=Obj_New('IDLgrPalette')
> thisPalette->LoadCT, 13 ;data colored blue - red
> s = Size(data, /Dimensions)
> dataColoringByValue = Reform(BytScl(data, /NaN), s[0]*s[1])
> thisSurface = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrSurface', data, x, y,
>   Vert_Colors=dataColoringByValue, $
>   Color=[255,255,0], Palette=thisPalette, _Extra=extra)
>
> Compile and run this. Now, think of the x axis running from the
> equator to the pole, and the y data as starting from prime meridian
> and going 360 degrees. Then, without closing this window so you can
> compare, comment out just the last line above and paste in these 2
> lines of code right after:
>
> MESH_OBJ, 4, Vertex_List, Polygon_List,Replicate(1, s[0], s[1])
> thisSurface = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolygon', Vertex_List,
>   polygons=Polygon_List, $
>   Vert_Colors=dataColoringByValue, Palette=thisPalette, style=2,
>   shading=1)
>
> Move the 2 graphics windows side by side and you can see how it
> transfers to the sphere. I've tried transposing and rot'ing the heck
> outta it, as well as just trying to get it to only the hemisphere with
> NaN data to get it to plot correctly, but to no avail. 1 problem I see
> is that my (real) data is computed with a polar cap so the
> 'longitudnal' lines don't converge to a point, but the mesh_obj'd
> sphere does. Even so, my major problem is that the mapping to the
```

> sphere just isn't panning out. Could I please ask for  
> hints/tips/suggestions???

I'm not sure I totally understand this problem, but  
wouldn't it be easier (and help with the mapping)  
if you put the data on the sphere as a texture map?  
That way you could use the Texture\_Coord keyword to  
position the data anywhere you like.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting  
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Cartesian IDLgrSurface of [theta,phi] data to a sphere??

Posted by [tbowers0](#) on Fri, 10 Aug 2001 21:33:52 GMT

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david@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote in message  
news:<MPG.15ddaa84739ac966989e61@news.frii.com>...

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> position the data anywhere you like.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

Thanks David. I've never done this and did think about it, but I was  
hoping to be able to retain the 'awareness' of my data so that i could  
possibly add code that would allow me to say, mouse over a grid point  
and the value would popup. I can get teh data \*on\* the spherical grid  
ok (see eg code from last post), I'm just not getting the idea of how  
to get it to orient correctly. I've spent literally hours rotating and  
transforming, but no go. I'm missing something and thought maybe  
someone had some advice on it. My next option is to texture map which  
is new to me so probably another can o' worms to get it mapped  
correctly. Many, many thanks for your advice and time.

todd

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Subject: Re: Cartesian IDLgrSurface of [theta,phi] data to a sphere??

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 23 Aug 2001 20:23:09 GMT

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I picked up on this one a little late but this may be of some help.

I think David's idea will be the easiest way to go. I have played around wrapping an earth image texture onto an orb and using my camera object to rotate the orb. The advantage of using my camera object over IDL's trackball is that you can get the pitch, yaw and roll of the camera which you can convert into spherical coords. The trick is to get the image mapped correctly. Since it is a pain to map an image on the orb I let the orb generate my texcoords and just edit my image so it maps onto the orb correctly. This is sort of bass ackwards but it was easier than calculating the texcoords myself.

I actually started this as a demo for my camera object but I haven't finished it. The program linked below maps a texture onto an orb, then allows you to rotate the orb and returns Lat and Lon, sort of.... I never finished the conversion from IDL's angular measures to Lat/Lon (yes, it is a simple affair but I write these programs in my spare time and we know how that goes).

First pick up the example program and texture:

[http://www.acoustics.washington.edu/rht/programs/camdemo\\_exa mine.zip](http://www.acoustics.washington.edu/rht/programs/camdemo_exa mine.zip)

You will also need my camera and quaternion objects:

[http://www.acoustics.washington.edu/rht/3d\\_animation.html](http://www.acoustics.washington.edu/rht/3d_animation.html)

Hope this helps.

-Rick Towler

<tbowers0@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
news:fd12a3f3.0108101333.39acd297@posting.google.com...  
> david@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote in message  
news:<MPG.15ddaa84739ac966989e61@news.frii.com>...

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>  
> todd

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