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Subject: Map projections

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Mon, 12 Nov 2001 15:55:26 GMT

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Is there any way to get at the coordinate conversion function for the currently active map projection? I'm talking about a function that takes a physical position in latitude and longitude coordinates, and converts it into an image position using either data, device, or normal coordinates. It doesn't matter which; once the position is in any one of those forms, I can get the others by using CONVERT\_COORD. Such functions have to exist in order for IDL to perform mapping, but they don't seem to be publically exposed. I'd also like to have access to the inverse function, to get a lat/lon corresponding to an image position.

--

James Kuyper  
MODIS Level 1 Lead  
Science Data Support Team  
(301) 352-2150

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Subject: Re: map projections

Posted by [jeffnetles4870](#) on Wed, 13 Feb 2008 22:04:33 GMT

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On Feb 13, 3:53 pm, kishore1...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> Now, I am learning IDL programming.  
> I have a model minimum temperature fraction values with longitude  
> latitudinally, I am planning to plot on globe map with longitude and  
> latitudinally.  
> The data sets are like this  
> longitude=float(65)  
> latitude=float(32)  
> temp\_fra=float(65,32)  
> These temp\_frac values are in between 0.01 to 0.9.  
> How to plot these values global map.it might be same as image on  
> global map.  
>  
> If anybody knows how to plot longitude/latitude values on global map  
> and try to suggest me.  
>  
> I am awaiting for your reply,  
>  
> Kishore

This might get you started...

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Subject: Re: Map Projections

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 15 Jan 2010 20:52:58 GMT

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Bennett writes:

- > I currently have data with an associated latitude and longitude
- > frame. I've seen David Fanning's "Navigating GOES Images" example but
- > the process does not seem to work for my data.
- > When I say it does not work the resulting projection results in
- > showing much less of the data than it should based on the lat/lon
- > limits.

How are you choosing the "limits"? These are not necessarily the corners of your image.

- > Does the data inherently have to be North up and east/west going right/
- > left? My data is presented in an orientation where North is at an
- > angle as are the other directions where the bottom of the image is not
- > lowest latitude etc... Is there a special way to handle the
- > projection for these types of datasets?

No, pick the upper-left corner of the rectangular image as your starting point, and you should be good to go. What kind of map projection is this, what is the lat/lon in the upper left corner, what size is your image in pixels, and what is the resolution of a pixel in meters? (You *can* determine the later number from the lat/lon corners of your image.)

- > The end result I'm looking for is a GeoTiff. I would think that with
- > all this information at my fingertips IDL would make this easy but
- > alas it is not.

You have been reading WAY too many marketing materials. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: Map Projections  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 15 Jan 2010 21:12:39 GMT  
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Bennett writes:

> I currently have data with an associated latitude and longitude  
> frame. I've seen David Fanning's "Navigating GOES Images" example but  
> the process does not seem to work for my data.

Humm. I just re-read that article. That's the way I would  
have done it two years ago when I knew next to nothing  
about map projections. :-)

If you want to tell me where I can find the image you  
are working with, I'll see if I can write a better  
article, knowing what I know today. I \*think\* I am off  
on Monday, but I better check the calendar! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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: Map Projections  
Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Mon, 18 Jan 2010 13:16:16 GMT  
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On Jan 15, 4:12 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bennett writes:  
>> I currently have data with an associated latitude and longitude  
>> frame. I've seen David Fanning's "Navigating GOES Images" example but  
>> the process does not seem to work for my data.  
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> Humm. I just re-read that article. That's the way I would

> have done it two years ago when I knew next to nothing  
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> Cheers,  
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> David  
>  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
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> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>  
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Sadly I don't have the ability to get the data to the group here. I would essentially be equivalent to taking the GOES data and rotating it by some 30-60 degrees cropping out the garbage areas and then attempting to get the same answer...which I haven't done yet but will try if I get a chance. Here's what would be a nice sequence and what I would like to get to.

```
success = createGeoTiff(data, lats, lons, /MERCATOR)
```

One day...with IDL (or PythonXY) I will achieve this and the world will be an easier place to project one's data. It's the kind of world I'd like to live in.

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Subject: Re: Map Projections

Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Mon, 18 Jan 2010 17:28:11 GMT

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On Jan 15, 3:52 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bennett writes:  
>> I currently have data with an associated latitude and longitude  
>> frame. I've seen David Fanning's "Navigating GOES Images" example but  
>> the process does not seem to work for my data.  
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>> Does the data inherently have to be North up and east/west going right/  
 >> left? My data is presented in an orientation where North is at an  
 >> angle as are the other directions where the bottom of the image is not  
 >> lowest latitude etc... Is there a special way to handle the  
 >> projection for these types of datasets?

>

> No, pick the upper-left corner of the rectangular image as your  
 > starting point, and you should be good to go. What kind of map  
 > projection is this, what is the lat/lon in the upper left corner,  
 > what size is your image in pixels, and what is the resolution of  
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 > the lat/lon corners of your image.)

>

>> The end result I'm looking for is a GeoTiff. I would think that with  
 >> all this information at my fingertips IDL would make this easy but  
 >> alas it is not.

>

> You have been reading WAY too many marketing materials. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> --

> 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.")

I am currently simply following your example and selecting the middle  
 left, top, right and bottom as my limits. I should probably be doing  
 a different calculation to retrieve these points since I don't have  
 the nicely oriented data. Poor map projection knowledge = rough road.

---

Subject: Re: Map Projections  
 Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 18 Jan 2010 17:41:34 GMT  
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Bennett writes:

> I am currently simply following your example and selecting the middle  
 > left, top, right and bottom as my limits. I should probably be doing  
 > a different calculation to retrieve these points since I don't have  
 > the nicely oriented data. Poor map projection knowledge = rough road.

It has been a rough road for me, too. About two years  
 of it. And every time I am \*sure\* I know what I am doing,

it is proven otherwise. My map projection articles reflect this start and stop progress. (The only way I know to make certain progress is to write an article about what I \*think\* I know!) But, you might want to read this article:

[http://www.dfanning.com/map\\_tips/iceshelf.html](http://www.dfanning.com/map_tips/iceshelf.html)

That will probably get you closer to where you want to go than the article you are reading now.

Of course, eventually I am going to put all this together into a book that will secure my financial future. But in the meantime, you will have to piece it together. If you look at it in a certain way, it's actually fun. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

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: Map Projections

Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Mon, 18 Jan 2010 19:00:47 GMT

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On Jan 18, 12:41 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bennett writes:

>> I am currently simply following your example and selecting the middle  
>> left, top, right and bottom as my limits. I should probably be doing  
>> a different calculation to retrieve these points since I don't have  
>> the nicely oriented data. Poor map projection knowledge = rough road.

>

> It has been a rough road for me, too. About two years  
> of it. And every time I am \*sure\* I know what I am doing,  
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> reflect this start and stop progress. (The only way  
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> Cheers,  
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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.")

I appreciate the link and the freeness of it. In my experience,  
documented = fun and undocument = unfun. Thank you for piecing  
together a few nuggets for us so that we have some useful  
documentation.

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