
Subject: Re: Interpolation from a regular to an irregular grid?

Posted by [btt](#) on Wed, 07 May 2003 14:05:35 GMT

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Evan Mason wrote:

- > Hi, I am kind of new to IDL, and have just started a new job in
- > physical oceanography in Portugal. At present I am familiarising
- > myself with IDL, which I will be using extensively.
- >
- > One of my first tasks is to find a way to input satellite collected
- > wind data into an ocean model that is being run here. The wind data
- > are regularly spaced, whereas the model requires the data in a series
- > of irregularly spaced intervals.
- >
- > Looking through the messages on this group I see many questions and
- > answers about working from irregular to regular grids using
- > Triangulate and Trigrd, but I wonder if anyone knows how to do the
- > reverse?
- >

Hello,

The XOUT and YOUT keywords to TRIGRID and GRIDDATA (IDL version 5.5 and higher) gives you control of irregular gridding.

This is from the online help for IDL 5.6

XOUT

Set this keyword to a vector specifying the output grid X values. If this keyword is supplied, the GS and Limits arguments are ignored. Use this keyword to specify irregularly spaced rectangular output grids. If XOUT is specified, YOUT must also be specified. If keyword NX is also supplied then only the first NX points of XOUT will be used.

Ben

Subject: Re: Interpolation from a regular to an irregular grid?

Posted by [mvukovic](#) on Wed, 07 May 2003 15:51:52 GMT

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emason@ipimar.pt (Evan Mason) wrote in message

news:<121509ef.0305070158.78fa0d8a@posting.google.com>...

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- > physical oceanography in Portugal. At present I am familiarising
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> answers about working from irregular to regular grids using
> Triangulate and Trigrig, but I wonder if anyone knows how to do the
> reverse?
>
> Thanks
>
> Evan Mason

Nothing specific comes to mind. But did you consider various
interpolation routines available in IDL?

Mirko

Subject: Re: Interpolation from a regular to an irregular grid?

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 07 May 2003 16:13:21 GMT

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On Wed, 07 May 2003 02:58:12 -0700, Evan Mason wrote:

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> oceanography in Portugal. At present I am familiarising myself with
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> answers about working from irregular to regular grids using Triangulate
> and Trigrig, but I wonder if anyone knows how to do the reverse?
>

The reverse is the easy case -- just interpolate:

```
wind=exp(dist(10)/sqrt(10))
```

```
ocean_x=randomu(sd,30)*10
```

```
ocean_y=randomu(sd,30)*10
```

```
ocean_wind=interpolate(wind,ocean_x,ocean_y,CUBIC=-0.5)
```

This skips an important step you'll have to perform: converting your two coordinate systems to match each other. Note that INTERPOLATE treats pixels as integer-centered, e.g. the lower-left pixel is centered at [0.0,0.0]. I've always found this sort of grid rather unphysical, preferring instead to range from 0->n on the (left,bottom) to (top,right) edge of the grid, i.e. lower-left pixel centered at [0.5,0.5]. You'll need to keep this in mind when you convert your ocean grid coordinates into the logical coordinate system of the wind data array.

For very large grids, you might care about the finite curvature of the earth, in which case you'll want to interpolate on a sphere -- see the beautifully-named SPH_SCAT routine in that case.

Good luck,

JD
