
Subject: Skymap and Array Problems

Posted by [wissels](#) on Tue, 08 Jul 2003 19:43:49 GMT

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Hello,

I'm an undergraduate and admittedly inexperienced in the ways of IDL (more akin to C++ and Java). I've been working on the following problem for a while and could use any help you can offer.

At any rate, I must use IDL to plot a contour skymap of some data in a particular region first in celestial coordinates and then in galactic coordinates. I've used a procedure from the astro libraries on the web to convert from ra and dec to galactic latitude and longitude.

Frustrated with MAP_SET and contour plots, I turned to object-oriented graphics. Basically, I used three arrays: one for the data, one for the x-coordinates and one for the y-coordinates. This was all fine and good, until I converted to galactic coordinates, because in the conversion, the lat is dependent on the long and vice versa. While I originally began with a 110x110 set of coordinates independent of one another, I am left with an set of 12100 points (x and y) corresponding to each data point.

Furthermore, the galactic coordinates do not come out in sequential order, so I need to sort them (along with their referenced data points). This poses another problem, because the three arrays are separate from each other, galx, galy, and gal_arr and I don't know how to combine them so that I could read

galx galy gal_arr.

In case you can't tell from my jumbled question(s?), I need some help. Any would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks!

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