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Subject: Re: displaying an image in simple geographic coordinates

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 24 May 2007 20:52:44 GMT

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Matt writes:

> does anyone know how i can display an image in simple geographic  
> coordinates using IDL? all documentation that i have read deals with  
> reprojection images to various projections or reprojecting a window to  
> a given image's projection. geographic coordinates is never listed as  
> an option in any of these functions. maybe it's because i'm dealing  
> with cartesian coordinates not a projected space per se? but my data  
> is in lat/lon wgs84 and i need to plot point data that is in decimal  
> degrees (wgs84) as well. any suggestions?

Here is an article that describes one way to do this:

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

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: displaying an image in simple geographic coordinates

Posted by [Matt\[1\]](#) on Thu, 24 May 2007 22:28:53 GMT

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On May 24, 4:52 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

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

Thanks for the response. I checked out your link and it's very useful. It still leaves me with one question: it seems like you need to set up or initialize a projection before using map commands. what if your data is in geographic coordinates, which are not listed as a supported map structure? i suspect that there is something quite simple that i'm missing here. any thoughts?

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Subject: Re: displaying an image in simple geographic coordinates  
Posted by [Peter Albert](#) on Fri, 25 May 2007 06:48:11 GMT  
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I think you are mixing two things: the way in which your data is defined (i.e. geographic coordinates, WGS84) and the way it is displayed (i.e. projection). Nothing prevents you from displaying your data in any projection you like. I guess, what you actually have in mind is equirectangular, or plate carrée projection. This is actually the default projection, so if you call map\_set or the other projection routines without any projection-related keyword, you should get what you expect.

However, for your actual task of overplotting point data, you are not restricted to this projection. With

plots, lonValues, latValues, pysm = 4, /data

after the projection, you should get the point data displayed correctly regardless of the projection.

Regards,

Peter

On 25 Mai, 00:28, Matt <mmsmith1...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> On May 24, 4:52 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:  
>

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