

---

Subject: Re: Longstanding Map Overlay Problem Solved!  
Posted by [Wasit.Weather](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 02:37:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mar 14, 4:00 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,  
>  
> For well over a year I have been pondering a map overlay problem.  
> The problem appears when trying to overlay continental outlines  
> on a GeoTIFF image. If you use the UV\_BOX that is returned  
> in the map projection structure from MAP\_PROJ\_INIT to set up  
> a data coordinate space, then the outlines are just ever so  
> slightly wrong. However, if you use the UV\_BOX that is  
> returned from MAP\_PROJ\_IMAGE, even if you don't warp the  
> image, the results are absolutely correct. The problem  
> (and solution) is described here.  
>  
> [http://www.dfanning.com/map\\_tips/tiffoverlay.html](http://www.dfanning.com/map_tips/tiffoverlay.html)  
>  
> With a great deal of help from Matt Savoie, I have now  
> identified the reason these two UV\_BOXES are slightly  
> different. The answer comes down to a limitation in  
> MAP\_PROJ\_INIT.  
>  
> Specifically, the limitation is that the LIMIT keyword  
> to MAP\_PROJ\_INIT can only accept a four-element vector  
> that describes two opposite corner points on the image.  
> The assumption is that the other two opposite corner  
> points can also be determined by this method. Unfortunately,  
> that is not a valid assumption for images that are in  
> some type of map projection already.  
>  
> Rather, we need to use an 8-element LIMIT vector to  
> describe the location of a projected image in lat/lon  
> space. Something of this sort is available for MAP\_SET,  
> although you must specify the left, top, right, and  
> bottom of the image, rather than its corners. But  
> if you try to use an 8-element LIMIT vector with  
> MAP\_PROJ\_INIT, it will accept it without argument, it  
> will just \*completely\* ignore its values.  
>  
> Fortunately, MAP\_PROJ\_IMAGE \*does\* calculate the 8-element  
> limit correctly, and so does return the correct UV\_BOX  
> to set up the data coordinate space. But, as Matt discovered,  
> it is also possible to set the data coordinate space directly  
> from values calculated from geotiff information in the file.  
>  
> So, now we have two solutions, and it is only the most

> commonly used method that is wrong. :-)  
>  
> Anyway, I can't tell you how happy I am to know the reason  
> for this longstanding discrepancy and I look forward to  
> submitting a feature request to ITTVIS to get this cleared up.  
>  
> 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.")

Hi David,  
Thanks! this is very useful. I tried exactly your code. But I ended in  
compiling error

```
TVLCT, FSC_Color('ivory', /Triple), 0
      ^
```

Syntax error.

At: F:\IDLPractice\data\MapOverlay\tiffoverlay.pro, Line 74  
1 Compilation error(s) in module TIFFOVERLAY.

Why? and can you also provide the countinent border data?

Thanks!

---

Subject: Re: Longstanding Map Overlay Problem Solved!  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 02:42:13 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Bulrush writes:

> Thanks! this is very useful. I tried exactly your code. But I ended in  
> compiling error  
>  
> TVLCT, FSC\_Color('ivory', /Triple), 0  
> ^  
> Syntax error.  
> At: F:\IDLPractice\data\MapOverlay\tiffoverlay.pro, Line 74  
> 1 Compilation error(s) in module TIFFOVERLAY.  
>  
> Why?

I'm guessing you don't have Coyote Library programs

on your IDL path. FSC\_COLOR is a coyote library program:

<http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs/html>

> and can you also provide the countinent border data?

I don't know what you are asking for here. Can you be a little more specific.

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.")

---

---

Subject: Re: Longstanding Map Overlay Problem Solved!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 02:46:06 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

David Fanning writes:

> <http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs/html>

Should be:

<http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs.html>

Of course.

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.")

---

---

Subject: Re: Longstanding Map Overlay Problem Solved!

Posted by [Wasit.Weather](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 04:03:58 GMT

---

On Mar 15, 9:46 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:  
>> <http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs/html>  
>  
> Should be:  
>  
> <http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs.html>  
>  
> Of course.  
>  
> 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.")

Hi,  
I just downloaded this tiffoverlay.pro and the tiff image. put them in  
the same folder and got the compiling error.  
I am wondering if there is another filr like border.shp something ot  
be overlayed over the TIFF  
If yes, where is it then?  
Appreciate your help

---

Subject: Re: Longstanding Map Overlay Problem Solved!  
Posted by [Wasit.Weather](#) on Sun, 16 Mar 2008 05:09:17 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mar 15, 9:46 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:  
>> <http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs/html>  
>  
> Should be:  
>  
> <http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs.html>  
>  
> Of course.  
>  
> 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.")

Hi David,

I downloaded all of the example codes into IDL lib folder. however, the program can not be compiled and stating following error.

TVLCT, FSC\_Color('ivory', /Triple), 0

Syntax error.

At: F:\IDLPractice\data\MapOverlay\tiffoverlay.pro, Line 74

1 Compilation error(s) in module TIFFOVERLAY.

Thanks!

---