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Subject: Re: hor2eq mystery - disagreeing output from same input?

Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Wed, 17 Jun 2009 14:10:31 GMT

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Hi,

just a though...

what do you get if you declare a0 and d0 as double before calling hor2eq? ... in the first case, you are using a float, while in the second one, you are using a double (a and d)

Jean

MichaelIT wrote:

> I have run into a problem using the hor2eq. It output different  
> results when using single values from an array as input (correct  
> output) compared to using the same array as a whole (wrong output).  
> The example below shows what I mean:

```
>
> alt = [0, 5, 10, 15]
> az = Replicate(295, 4)
> a = DblArr(4)
> d = DblArr(4)
>
> lat = 52.5
> lon = 10.0
>
> jd = 2454999.38928241d
>
> Print, alt, az
>
> For i = 0, N_Elements(alt) - 1 Do Begin
>   hor2eq, alt[i], az[i], jd, a0, d0, LAT= lat, LON=lon
>   a[i] = a0
>   d[i] = d0
> EndFor
> Print, a, d
>
> hor2eq, alt, az, jd, a, d, LAT= lat, LON=lon
> Print, a, d
> end
>
> OutPut:
>
>      124.64645      127.89450      131.10259      134.47664
>      14.470190      18.890924      22.987733      26.978259
>
```

> 124.64645 128.02987 131.24057 134.61690  
> 14.470190 18.858534 22.953070 26.941322  
>  
> Clearly, the ra and dec values are \*not\* the same, except for the  
> first value. The loop result is listed first and is correct. The other  
> is not.  
>  
> The same applies to using eq2hor.  
>  
> FYI: And I have just downloaded the current versions of both programs.  
>  
> How can this be? Anybody run into this problem before? Am I doing  
> something wrong?  
>  
> Michael

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Subject: Re: hor2eq mystery - disagreeing output from same input?  
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Wed, 17 Jun 2009 15:17:46 GMT  
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On Jun 17, 9:45 am, MichaelT <michael.theus...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> I have run into a problem using the hor2eq. It output different  
> results when using single values from an array as input (correct  
> output) compared to using the same array as a whole (wrong output).

First, for non-astronomers, hor2eq.pro is a program in the IDL astronomy library (<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov>). The vectorization was done incorrectly (not by me), or at least it didn't anticipate all usages. It assumed that the Julian date would be supplied as a vector with a separate date for each position. (So it would loop over the number of Julian dates.) But you are giving a scalar Julian date with vector positions, so all positions except the first are not being precessed. I have now updated hor2eq.pro to recognize your case (<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/astro/hor2eq.pro> )

--Wayne

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Subject: Re: hor2eq mystery - disagreeing output from same input?  
Posted by [MichaelT](#) on Wed, 17 Jun 2009 19:15:57 GMT  
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Thanks for the very quick fix, Wayne! I just downloaded and tested it with the expected result.

> It assumed that the Julian date would be  
> supplied as a vector with a separate date for each position. (So it  
> would loop over the number of Julian dates.) But you are giving a  
> scalar Julian date with vector positions, so all positions except the  
> first are not being precessed. I have now updated hor2eq.pro to  
> recognize your case (<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/astro/hor2eq.pro>)

OK, I indeed overlooked to provide the julian date as a vector as well.

I had already noticed that the alt/az grid that I had generated was somehow shifted with respect of the single values that I found were correct. So the missing precession nicely explains this observation.

Thanks again!

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