
Subject: Re: X/Y convert to lat/lon

Posted by [Fabzou](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 2011 07:33:01 GMT

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On 03/15/2011 05:53 AM, teddyallen wrote:

- > longitude = findgen(144)*2.5 ;creates a 144 element array with values
- > evenly spaced between 0 -> 357.5
- > latitude = ((findgen(73)*2.5)-90.)*(-1.) ;creates a 73 element array
- > with values evenly spaced between -90 -> +90
- > xlon = 342 ;this is the longitude value I would like to subset the
- > array with
- > xlat = 35; this is the latitude value I would like to subset the array
- > with
- > lon1= where(longitude eq xlon) ; provides the longitude index
- > dimension for array
- > lat1=where(latitude eq xlat)
- > test = array[lon1,lat1] ; results in the subset of the array given
- > xlon and xlat
- >
- > The xlon value should be associated with the nearest 2.5 multiple,
- > which in this case would be xlon=342.5.....obviously not -1.
- > Any suggestions?
- > Thank you

Well, where() is really not supposed to do so. It looks for exact matches... where(longitude eq 342.5) MAY work, but only if the sky is not falling (http://www.idlcoyote.com/math_tips/sky_is_falling.html).

One method would be:

```
IDL> longitude = findgen(144)*2.5
IDL> m = min(abs(longitude - 342), p)
IDL> print, longitude[p]
      342.500
```

But this is not always exact and there are plenty of better methods, especially when you are located on the "sphere"

Subject: Re: X/Y convert to lat/lon

Posted by [teddyallen](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 2011 09:36:48 GMT

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On Mar 15, 3:33 am, Fabzou <fabien.mauss...@tu-berlin.de> wrote:

- > On 03/15/2011 05:53 AM, teddyallen wrote:
- >
- >
- >
- >

```

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>      342.500
>
> But this is not always exact and there are plenty of better methods,
> especially when you are located on the "sphere"- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

```

Dear Fabzou,
 THANK YOU so much! I knew the resolution would rest in a few short lines. I can now add these lines to my growing tank of IDL knowledge. Let me know if you are ever in Miami and lunch is on me!
 cheers,
 teddy

Subject: Re: X/Y convert to lat/lon
 Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 2011 15:38:02 GMT
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In article

<887457ef-3c22-404a-a958-176714fa2053@s18g2000vbe.googlegroups.com>, teddyallen <teddyallen@yahoo.com> wrote:

> I am reluctant to post this since it seems like a very easy task, but
> unfortunately, I cannot manage to figure it out on my own nor with any
> online search help. (I am away from home and my trusty IDL books are
> not on pdf....bummer!)

I use this function frequently,

Ken Bowman

FUNCTION INDEX_OF_NEAREST, x, x0

```
;+
;NAME:
;  INDEX_OF_NEAREST
;PURPOSE:
;  This function finds the index of the element of x whose value is
;  nearest to x0. This is primarily useful for finding the index of
;  a point in an ordered 1-dimensional array. For example, if x is
;  an array of latitudes, this function will return the index of the
;  element of the array that is closest to the latitude x0.
;  If there are multiple elements in x that are the same distance from
;  x0, this function returns the first one.
;CATEGORY:
;  Array utility.
;CALLING SEQUENCE:
;  i = INDEX_OF_NEAREST(x, x0)
;INPUT:
;  x  : array of values to search.
;  x0 : value to search for.
;KEYWORDS:
;  None.
;OUTPUT:
;  Index of element nearest to x0.
;MODIFICATION HISTORY:
;  KPB, 1999-04.
;-
```

COMPILE_OPT IDL2

i = (WHERE(ABS(x - x0) EQ MIN(ABS(x - x0)), count))[0]

RETURN, i

END

Subject: Re: X/Y convert to lat/lon

Posted by [Robert Moss, PhD](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 2011 16:53:49 GMT

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You might want to check out VALUE_LOCATE
