
Subject: Re: Overlaying continent outlines over cgimage?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 05 Mar 2013 00:05:25 GMT

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Lisa08 writes:

> I am pretty new to mapping in IDL and have not been able to plot
continent outlines (or a transparent image of the continents) over an
image of data. It always gets overwritten. I have a mask of cloud data
of size:

>
> cloud_mask=Byte[3000,1800]
>
> where the values of the variable are 0 and 1 (0=no cloud , 1=cloud was detected).

>
>
> I want to plot this mask of data and then overlay continent outlines over it. So far, what I have
tried to plot the variable is:

>
> cgimage, cloud_mask ;which plots the image of data
>

> Then, I thought I could use something like this to plot continents over it:

> cgMap_Set, /Mercator
> cgMap_Continents, /Coasts, Color='white'
>

> However, since the cgimage command has an overplot keyword I tried to do it backwards (plot
the continents first and then overlay the cloud_mask data over it) but it always gets overwritten.

>
> Is this possible or is there something better than cgimage to try to do what I want? Any
suggestions on how I can try to do this?

>
> Any help would be greatly appreciated!

I would try something like this:

```
pos = [0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.9]
cgMap_Set, /Mercator, Position=pos
cgImage, data, Position=pos
cgMap_Continents, /Coasts, Color='white'
```

I'd be careful with the Mercator projection, though. It's strange, and
often wrong:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/map_tips/badmercator.html

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

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