
Subject: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Mon, 26 Aug 2013 17:36:06 GMT

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Hi all,

Suppose I have set up a part of a window to draw a map, and used xmargin and ymargin to specify the margins around this map. For example:

```
map_set,0,0,xmargin=[2,2],ymargin=[2,2]
```

Suppose I then want to draw an image (with cgimage) inside this map. Is there a way to pass the xmargin/ymargin information so the image is drawn inside the map region rather than the whole plot window? I don't see those as keywords to cgimage. If not, is there some way I can pull out the plot position which arose from my map_set call and pass this to cgimage? I can't necessarily assume that !p.multi=0, so I don't think the cgimage position keyword would help me here?

(I am switching over a lot of old code written for IDL 5/6 to use newer features and the Coyote library... so am now becoming familiar with some 'under the hood' stuff which I had not looked at in detail before. I'm now using IDL 7.1.1 and 8.2.2.)

I would not be averse to recoding to use something like the Coyote Graphics position keyword in my map_set call, but as far as I know that can't be done with map_set (and I don't want to pass the position keyword to map_set because often !p.multi will not be 0).

The longer story for what I am trying to do is that I have written code to map regularly or irregularly lat-lon gridded data from e.g. satellites. This basically makes use of polyfill to draw each point. If the grid is not regular, my code allows for a proper expression of the ground pixel size. But if the grid is regular (e.g. level 3 data), I figure I should be able to map it as an image, which could be a lot faster than using polyfill.

Thanks,

Andy

Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Mon, 26 Aug 2013 18:20:33 GMT

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I guess this question could be posed more generally as: how can I identify what parts of an image window lie within the portion available for drawing the map after a call to map_set, and how can I pass this to other routines such as cgimage?

Andy

On Monday, August 26, 2013 1:36:06 PM UTC-4, AMS wrote:

> Hi all,

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> Thanks,
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> Andy

Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 01:11:26 GMT

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AMS writes:

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> map_set,0,0,xmargin=[2,2],ymargin=[2,2]

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Coyote Graphics routines do not use margins. Margins are based on the strangest unit ever: character size. It is impossible to explain how margins work, and even more impossible to get anything to line up with them. All Coyote Graphics routines are positioned with the POSITION keyword.

> (I am switching over a lot of old code written for IDL 5/6 to use newer features and the Coyote library... so am now becoming familiar with some 'under the hood' stuff which I had not looked at in detail before. I'm now using IDL 7.1.1 and 8.2.2.)

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The cgMap_Set program is an exception to the rule. I don't use cgMap_Set much, and it is simply a wrapper for Map_Set. I do almost all my map projection work with the Map_Proj_*** routines, which are old, but still mostly professional. The cgMap object is a wrapper to the Map_Proj_Init command and *does* allow you to position a map projection in a graphics window. You can use the same position for the cgImage command. Usually, it is done the other way around, and we create a map projection for a map projected image. That is done something like this:

```
map = cgMap('Mercator', ...)
pos = [0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.9]
cgImage, myImage, Position=pos, OPosition=opos, /Keep_Aspect
map -> SetProperty, Position=opos
map -> Draw
cgMap_Continents, Map=map
```

I wouldn't use !P.Multi to position maps, probably. I think I would use

cgLayout to calculate the map positions. cgLayout is much more flexible than !P.Multi, although it does the same job of laying out multiple plots in a gridded display.

> The longer story for what I am trying to do is that I have written code to map regularly or irregularly lat-lon gridded data from e.g. satellites. This basically makes use of polyfill to draw each point. If the grid is not regular, my code allows for a proper expression of the ground pixel size. But if the grid is regular (e.g. level 3 data), I figure I should be able to map it as an image, which could be a lot faster than using polyfill.

Yes, I am very close to having a new cgWarpToMap program that will do this kind of thing very simply and quickly. Maybe I'll have time to finish it this week.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 01:12:36 GMT

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AMS writes:

> I guess this question could be posed more generally as: how can I identify what parts of an image window lie within the portion available for drawing the map after a call to map_set, and how can I pass this to other routines such as cgimage?

I would get the position from the !X.Window and !Y.Window system variables.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 12:45:39 GMT

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Thanks for the tips, David. I'd looked at !p.position to try to find the position after my map_set call but that was set to zero, looking at !x.window/!y.window had not crossed my mind! I agree that margin is a slightly odd unit to use but it seems to be what we have in standard IDL (if you want something which you can define coordinates with respect to the fraction of the plotting device assigned assuming even divisions from !p.multi).

I found that just using the tv command got the position right without requiring any explicit positioning information, although I kind of want to swap out tv for cgimage eventually. So my first working attempt basically consists of map_set, followed by map_image and then tv. I did notice a few differences between the image and the polyfill for one projection (satellite) so need to dig into that a bit more today. I've read discussion here and on your webpage about why this (i.e. map_set, map_image) is Not A Great Way To Approach Maps but guess the lessons have not sunk in yet. ;) Perhaps I will write a 'third generation' of my mapping codes when it does...

Andy

On Monday, August 26, 2013 9:12:36 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> AMS writes:

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>> I guess this question could be posed more generally as: how can I identify what parts of an image window lie within the portion available for drawing the map after a call to map_set, and how can I pass this to other routines such as cgimage?

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> variables.

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> Cheers,

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> David

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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 12:58:21 GMT

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AMS writes:

> I found that just using the tv command got the position right without requiring any explicit positioning information, although I kind of want to swap out tv for cgimage eventually

I would definitely put this in the class of "minor miracle"! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 13:21:38 GMT

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Yes, it came as a pleasant surprise. :)

On Tuesday, August 27, 2013 8:58:21 AM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> AMS writes:

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>> I found that just using the tv command got the position right without requiring any explicit
positioning information, although I kind of want to swap out tv for cgimage eventually
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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 13:46:49 GMT

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Spoke too soon: it works for X-window output, but not for ps output. Digging some more...

On Tuesday, August 27, 2013 9:21:38 AM UTC-4, AMS wrote:

> Yes, it came as a pleasant surprise. :)

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> On Tuesday, August 27, 2013 8:58:21 AM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

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>> David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 14:18:08 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

AMS writes:

> Spoke too soon: it works for X-window output, but not for ps output. Digging some more...

Dig no further: cgImage.

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage
Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 14:30:15 GMT
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That's what I have switched to for postscript output (and using the /overplot keyword to locate my image), although I am finding that my borders are one grid cell out from where they should be (relative to e.g. coastal outlines), so I am digging into map_image to see where I have gone wrong...

On Tuesday, August 27, 2013 10:18:08 AM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> AMS writes:

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> Dig no further: cglImage.

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Subject: Re: x/y margin from map_set to plot position and cgimage

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Aug 2013 14:34:16 GMT

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AMS writes:

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my image), although I am finding that my borders are one grid cell out from where they should be (relative to e.g. coastal outlines), so I am digging into map_image to see where I have gone wrong...

I did notice this morning that you can use the POSITION keyword with cgMap_Set. Setting the same position for your map and your image should align things perfectly.

```
cgMap_Set, Position=pos, ...  
cgImage, Position=pos, ...  
cgMap_Continents, ...
```

Works on the graphics display and in PostScript identically. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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