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Subject: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Mon, 25 Aug 2014 19:13:01 GMT  
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Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.

I have tried many different approaches (i.e., old IDL procedures, new IDL graphics functions, CG) with varying, but insufficient results.

Thanks,  
Steve

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Mon, 25 Aug 2014 23:15:37 GMT  
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On Monday, August 25, 2014 1:13:01 PM UTC-6, Steve Super wrote:

> Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.

>

>

>

> I have tried many different approaches (i.e., old IDL procedures, new IDL graphics functions, CG) with varying, but insufficient results.

>

>

>

> Thanks,

>

> Steve

I think it depends upon what you are trying to achieve. You could take the quick approach, and use IDL function graphics and see if that is what you want:

Assuming that your image coordinates are in "degrees" (since you said unprojected):

```
m = MAP( "Mollweide", LIMIT=[latmin, lonmin, latmax, lonmax] )
im = IMAGE(mydata, IMAGE_LOCATION=[lon0, lat0], $
  IMAGE_DIMENSIONS=[widthLon, heightLat], $
  GRID_UNITS="degrees", /OVERPLOT)
c = MAPCONTINENTS( )
m.Save, "map.pdf"
```

You will need to fill in appropriate values for latmin, etc.

Hope this helps.  
-Chris  
ExelisVIS

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Chris Anderson](#) on Wed, 27 Aug 2014 01:14:27 GMT  
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On Monday, August 25, 2014 12:13:01 PM UTC-7, Steve Super wrote:  
> Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.  
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>  
> I have tried many different approaches (i.e., old IDL procedures, new IDL graphics functions, CG) with varying, but insufficient results.  
>  
>  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Steve

What are the lat/lon arrays you have? Are they the extent of the image? Or are they the location for each element in your un-projected image array?

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Wed, 27 Aug 2014 13:27:00 GMT  
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I'll add some more questions:

Are the lat/lons equally spaced? Of the different approaches, what did you like? What was insufficient?

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2014 21:08:25 GMT  
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On Monday, August 25, 2014 3:13:01 PM UTC-4, Steve Super wrote:  
> Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.

>  
> I have tried many different approaches (i.e., old IDL procedures, new IDL graphics functions, CG) with varying, but insufficient results.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Steve

Sorry I missed all these replies, I put this problem aside for while and forgot to check back.

To answer some of the questions:

-Yes the coordinates are in degrees and are not evenly spaced (non-gridded data).  
-The lat/lon arrays have the same dimensions as the image data.

The data I am working with is NPP VIIRS M-band data, which I am attempting to use to create a true-color image. My desired outcome is to have a warped image that retains the original dimensions of the data. I want to then focus on a subset of the image and highlight pixels of interest, as well as plot the path of CALIPSO overpass, which is based on lat/lon as well.

So far the closest I have come to what I believe is a good result was done using the 'map\_set' and 'map\_patch' procedures. However, in this case boundaries and coastlines do not quite match up, and there is no way to specify that the image dimensions remain the same as the input array.

Thanks for the comments and help.  
-Steve

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2014 21:45:12 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Steve Super writes:

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>  
> Thanks for the comments and help.

I've had reasonably good luck using cgWarpToMap using data like this. It uses either GridData or Interpolation (much faster!) to grid the data, depending upon the input data.

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/idldoc/cg/cgwarptomap.html>  
[http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\\_tips/usegriddata.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/code_tips/usegriddata.html)  
[http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\\_tips/griddata.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/code_tips/griddata.html)

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: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 14:07:02 GMT  
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On Wednesday, October 29, 2014 5:45:19 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> Steve Super writes:  
>  
>> Sorry I missed all these replies, I put this problem aside for while and forgot to check back.  
>>  
>> To answer some of the questions:  
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>>  
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> [http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\\_tips/griddata.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/code_tips/griddata.html)  
>  
> 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.")

David,

Thanks for the reply. I have attempted to use cgWarptoMap previously, but while the dimensions are the same as the original image, for some reason the result is a zeroed array.

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 14:16:29 GMT  
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---

Steve Super writes:

> Thanks for the reply. I have attempted to use cgWarptoMap previously, but while the dimensions are the same as the original image, for some reason the result is a zeroed array.

Ah, well, you must be doing something wrong. ;-)

Any missing data in those arrays?

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: Best routines for mapping satellite images

Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 14:45:07 GMT

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On Thursday, October 30, 2014 10:16:36 AM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> Steve Super writes:

>  
>> Thanks for the reply. I have attempted to use cgWarpToMap previously, but while the dimensions are the same as the original image, for some reason the result is a zeroed array.

>  
> Ah, well, you must be doing something wrong. ;-)

>  
> Any missing data in those arrays?

>  
> 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.")

There is missing data in the data arrays which I initially set to 'NAN', however I replaced those values (set to 0) before attempting to warp the image which gives the same result. The lat/lon arrays have no missing values.

---

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 16:20:41 GMT

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On Wednesday, October 29, 2014 4:08:27 PM UTC-5, Steve Super wrote:

> On Monday, August 25, 2014 3:13:01 PM UTC-4, Steve Super wrote:

>> Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.

>>  
>> I have tried many different approaches (i.e., old IDL procedures, new IDL graphics functions, CG) with varying, but insufficient results.

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>> Thanks,  
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>  
> Thanks for the comments and help.  
> -Steve

Steve,

The POLAR2GRID package will ingest VIIRS M-band SDR HDF5 files (image and geolocation) and create high quality true color images in GeoTIFF format. Several different map projections are available, including Google Earth. Once you have the imagery in GeoTIFF format, it should be straightforward to load and georeference the image in IDL. POLAR2GRID provides similar features for MODIS Level 1B HDF4 files.

POLAR2GRID is freely available here:

[http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/cspp/npp\\_polar2grid\\_v1.2.shtml](http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/cspp/npp_polar2grid_v1.2.shtml)

You will need a 64-bit Linux system to run the software.

Cheers,  
Liam.  
Practical IDL Programming  
<http://www.gumley.com/>

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 17:52:27 GMT  
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Steve Super writes:

> There is missing data in the data arrays which I initially set to 'NAN', however I replaced those values (set to 0) before attempting to warp the image which gives the same result. The lat/lon arrays have no missing values.

Well, happy to have a look if you send me your data.

Dave  
--

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

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Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 18:40:24 GMT  
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On Thursday, October 30, 2014 12:20:44 PM UTC-4, liam....@ssec.wisc.edu wrote:  
> On Wednesday, October 29, 2014 4:08:27 PM UTC-5, Steve Super wrote:  
>> On Monday, August 25, 2014 3:13:01 PM UTC-4, Steve Super wrote:  
>>> Does anyone have any suggestions for which routines are best for projecting satellite images? I have an un-projected image array, along with associated lat/lon arrays that I would like to map and then add some other layers/annotations.  
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>>> Thanks,  
>>> Steve  
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>> Sorry I missed all these replies, I put this problem aside for while and forgot to check back.  
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>> To answer some of the questions:  
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>> -Yes the coordinates are in degrees and are not evenly spaced (non-gridded data).  
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>  
> You will need a 64-bit Linux system to run the software.  
>  
> Cheers,  
> Liam.  
> Practical IDL Programming  
> <http://www.gumley.com/>

Thanks Liam, I downloaded the software and gave it a shot. I was able to create reprojected images without any trouble, however when I tried to use the crefl2gtiff script for creating a True Color GeoTIFF file I received the following errors:

```
"Cannot read fill value of SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M5".
SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M5": 3200x768  scale factor: 2.44174e-05  offset: 0
Cannot find SDS Reflectance_Mod_M7 in file NPP_VMAE_L1.hdf.
band 2
Cannot read fill value of SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M3".
SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M3": 3200x768  scale factor: 2.44174e-05  offset: 0
band 3
Cannot read fill value of SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M4".
SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M4": 3200x768  scale factor: 2.44174e-05  offset: 0
Cannot find SDS Reflectance_Mod_M8 in file NPP_VMAE_L1.hdf.
Cannot find SDS Reflectance_Mod_M10 in file NPP_VMAE_L1.hdf.
Cannot find SDS Reflectance_Mod_M11 in file NPP_VMAE_L1.hdf.
band 16
Cannot read fill value of SDS "SolZenAng_Mod".
SDS "SolZenAng_Mod": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
band 17
Cannot read fill value of SDS "SenZenAng_Mod".
SDS "SenZenAng_Mod": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
band 18
Cannot read fill value of SDS "SolAziAng_Mod".
SDS "SolAziAng_Mod": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
band 19
Cannot read fill value of SDS "SenAziAng_Mod".
SDS "SenAziAng_Mod": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
band 20
Cannot read fill value of SDS "Longitude".
SDS "Longitude": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
band 21
Cannot read fill value of SDS "Latitude".
SDS "Latitude": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
Creating SDS CorrRefl_01: 3200x768
```

```
(lines_1km x samples_1km)
Creating SDS CorrRefl_02: 0x0
Cannot create SDS CorrRefl_02
Error running VIIRS M-band corrected reflectance on input file NPP_VMAE_L1.hdf
OOPS: Could not create CREFL output for file
/data/home001/stephens/polar2grid/data//SVM05_npp_d20130915_ t2038180_e
2039422_b09768_c20130916030531344011_noaa_ops.h5
FAILURE"
```

I did this by calling the script with the -d flag along with path to the directory containing the 3 matching SVM(band3-5) files and GMTCO geolocation file. Is there something else I'm missing here?

---

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [Steve Super](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 19:48:57 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Thursday, October 30, 2014 1:52:34 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> Steve Super writes:

>

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> Well, happy to have a look if you send me your data.

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

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

Sure Dave, what is the best way to get the data to you?

---

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2014 19:53:29 GMT  
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---

Steve Super writes:

> Sure Dave, what is the best way to get the data to you?

Google Drive, Dropbox, FTP site, or e-mail, if its not too big. :-)

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: Best routines for mapping satellite images

Posted by [devin.april.white](#) on Fri, 31 Oct 2014 13:10:20 GMT

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

You could also try the VIIRS Conversion Toolkit: <https://github.com/dawwhite/VCTK>

---

Subject: Re: Best routines for mapping satellite images

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Fri, 31 Oct 2014 13:48:04 GMT

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

On Thursday, October 30, 2014 1:40:26 PM UTC-5, Steve Super wrote:

> On Thursday, October 30, 2014 12:20:44 PM UTC-4, liam....@ssec.wisc.edu wrote:

>> On Wednesday, October 29, 2014 4:08:27 PM UTC-5, Steve Super wrote:

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>>> -Steve
>>
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>> POLAR2GRID is freely available here:
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>> You will need a 64-bit Linux system to run the software.
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>> Cheers,
>> Liam.
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>
> Thanks Liam, I downloaded the software and gave it a shot. I was able to create reprojected
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> band 2
> Cannot read fill value of SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M3".
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> band 3
> Cannot read fill value of SDS "Reflectance_Mod_M4".
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> band 16
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> band 17

```

```
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> band 18
> Cannot read fill value of SDS "SolAziAng_Mod".
> SDS "SolAziAng_Mod": 3200x768  scale factor: 1  offset: 0
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> band 20
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/data/home001/stephens/polar2grid/data//SVM05_npp_d20130915_ t2038180_e
2039422_b09768_c20130916030531344011_noaa_ops.h5
> FAILURE"
>
>
> I did this by calling the script with the -d flag along with path to the directory containing the 3
matching SVM(band3-5) files and GMTCO geolocation file. Is there something else I'm missing
here?
```

Steve, email me and I'll put you in touch with the developer.

[liam.gumley@ssec.wisc.edu](mailto:liam.gumley@ssec.wisc.edu)

---