

CineSat Map Projections

Overview

CineSat provides you with the 63 most frequently used map projections. This ensures that you can read in image data from virtually any standard map format and provide to your clients nicely tailored views of your weather products.

CineSat Projection Capabilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palette of 63 map projections 	◆ 10 azimuthal projections
	◆ 42 cylindrical projections
	◆ 10 conical projections
	◆ 1 miscellaneous projection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User-configurable Map Parameters 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spherical and Ellipsoidal Earth Models 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resampling: Nearest Neighbor, Bi-linear, and Bi-cubic Splines 	

CineSat supports projections onto planes, cylinders, and cones. For each projection surface you may choose among three basic projection properties:

- equi-distant
- equal-area (equivalent) and
- conformal (equal-angles, shape preserving)

Azimuthal projections

Azimuthal projections map the Earth onto either a tangent plane or an intersecting plane (NPOL and SPOL).

The projection planes are in special pose for the NPOL, SPOL, and GEOSAT projections. For all other azimuthal maps you can select the projection plane by specifying the tangent point's longitude and latitude.

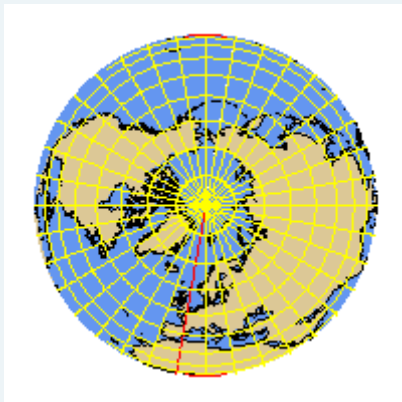
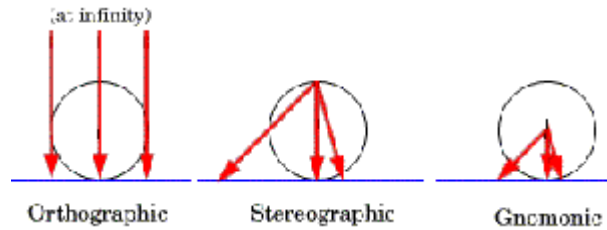
CineSat provides you with the following azimuthal map projections:

Classic perspective azimuthal projections		E/S*
ORTHO	orthographic projection	S
STEREO	stereographic projection (conformal)	S
GNOMONIC	central (gnomonic) projection	S
NPOL	polar-stereographic projection North (conformal)	E
SPOL	polar-stereographic projection South (conformal)	E

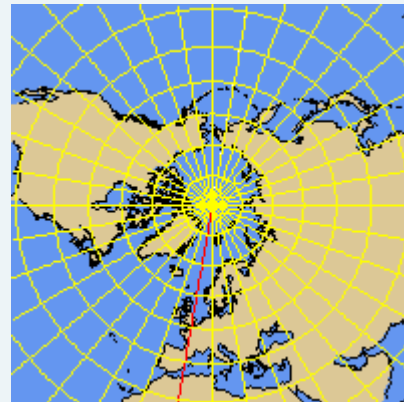
* The last column indicates the applied earth model: S = Sphere, E = Ellipsoid

Classic perspective projections

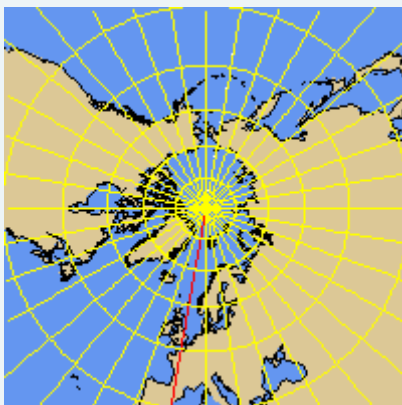
CineSat's ORTHO, STEREO, and GNOMONIC projections are simple perspective projections onto a tangent plane. These projections use a sphere model of the earth. Stereographic projections are conformal.



ORTHO projection onto a North pole tangent plane



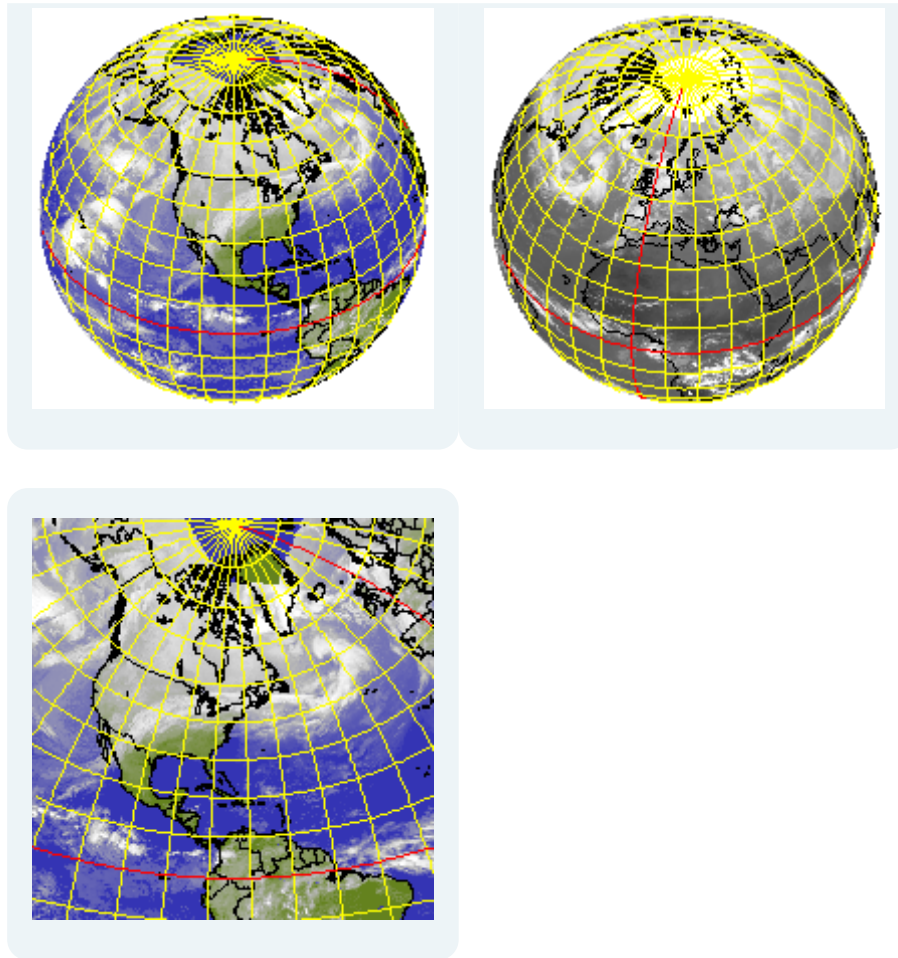
STEREO projection onto a North pole tangent plane



GNOMONIC projection onto a North pole tangent plane

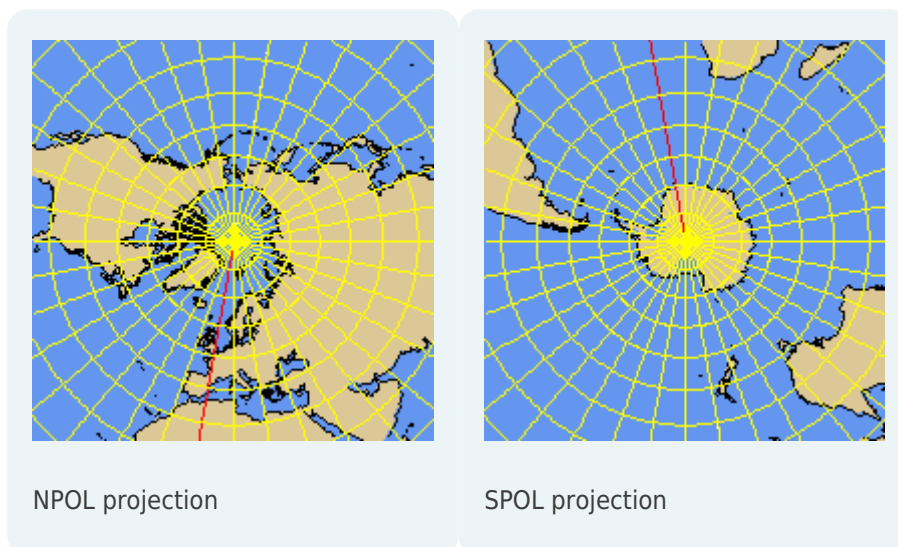
New York and Vienna centered orthographic projections, and a stereographic view of New York (rightmost) - all built from an infra-red composite of 5 satellites:





Polar-stereographic projections

The NPOL and SPOL projections are a special case of a stereographic map. The projection plane intersects the earth at a given standard parallel (including the special case of a tangent plane in the North or South pole). The projections are conformal and preserve true scale along the standard parallel. NPOL and SPOL use an ellipsoidal model of the earth.



NPOL projection

SPOL projection

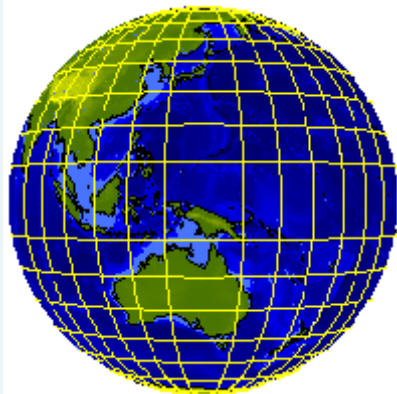
Polar-stereographic projection of the European region;
IR cloud image together with a land/sea background, geographical net and the major European cities drawn as overlay:



Satellite perspective projections

CineSat provides you with two satellite perspective projections - VPERSPECT and GEOSAT.

The GEOSAT projection is the standard map used for earth disk images from geostationary meteorological satellites. GEOSAT uses an ellipsoidal model of the earth. The projection plane has its tangent point in the sub-satellite point on the equator. The satellite is the projection center.



GMS GEOSAT projection



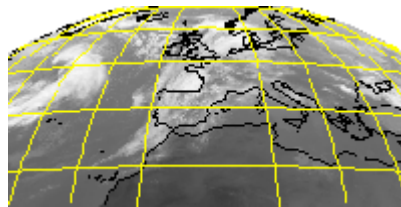
Meteosat GEOSAT projection





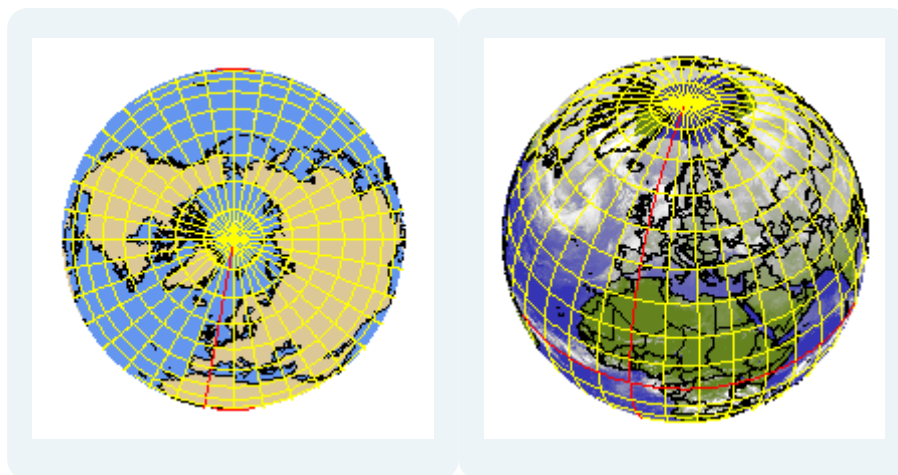
GOES-E GEOSAT projection

The next image shows a Meteosat-7 B-format image (European region) in native GEOSAT projection:



With VPERSPECT, the projection center can be in any point above the earth surface (not only above the equator). The Vertical Near-Sided Perspective projection (VPERSPECT) uses a spherical earth model.

The following images show a perspective view of the North pole and of Vienna from a distance of 36.000 km:

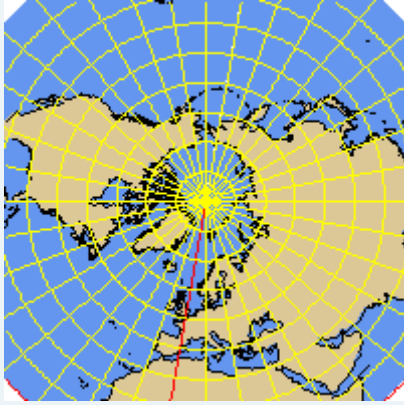


Equi-distant and equal area projections

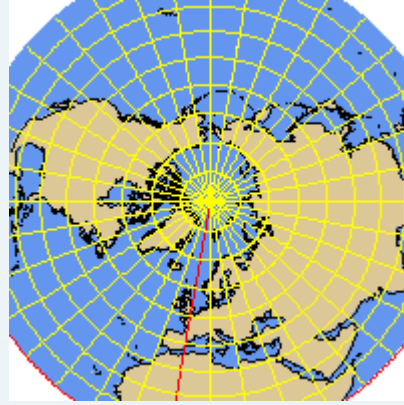
EDAP (equi-distant azimuthal projection) and LAZIMUTH (Lambert's azimuthal equal area projection) are no simple perspective projections, but have been mathematically constructed to provide equi-distant and equal area maps, respectively. They use a spherical model of the

earth.

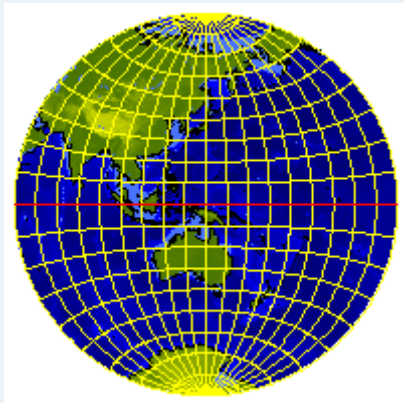
The LAZIMUTH projection is a generalization of the ETAP (equivalent transverse azimuthal) projection of previous releases.



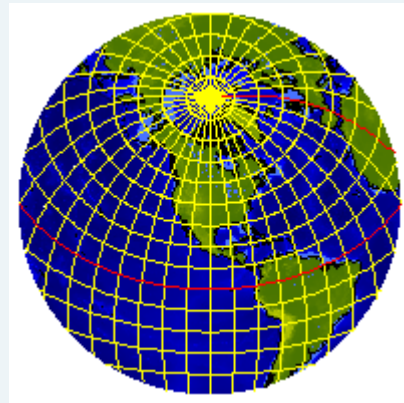
EDAP - equi-distant azimuthal projection



LAZIMUTH - Lambert's azimuthal equal area projection



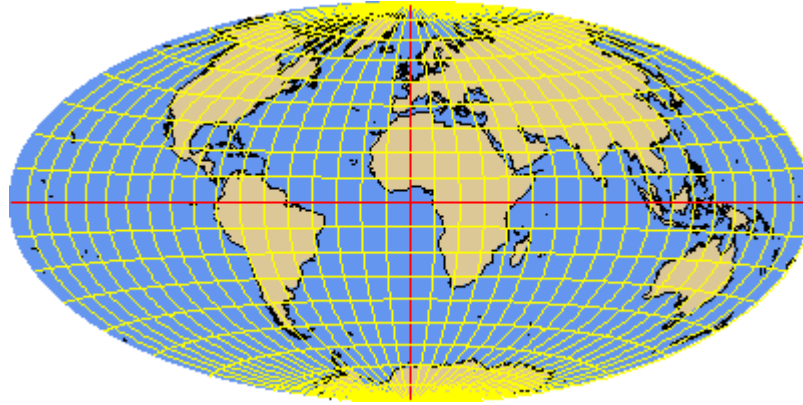
Transverse EDAP projection



Oblique EDAP projection

Hammer - a pseudo-azimuthal projection of the world

HAMMER is a modified azimuthal equal-area projection that shows a map of the full earth. You can of course choose any center meridian for this projection.



Cylindrical projections

Cylindrical projections map the earth onto a cylinder which either touches the globe along the equator or intersects it at a given standard parallel. The MERCATOR and MILLER projections use an ellipsoidal earth model, all other cylindrical projections take the sphere model.

CineSat provides you with the following 42 cylindrical projections:

Equi-distant cylindrical projections		E/S*
EQUIRECT	equi-distant rectangular projection	S
PCARREE	plate carrée (equi-distant square projection , Plattkarte); fixed standard parallel at 0°	S
GALLISO	Gall's isographic projection, std parallels at +/-45°	S

Equal-area cylindrical projections		E/S*
ISOCYL	isocylindrical projection	S
LAMBCYL	Lambert's cylindrical projection, std parallel at 0°	S
BEHRMANN	Behrmann projection, std parallels at +/-30°	S
TRYSTAN	Trystan projection, std parallels at +/-37.383°	S
PETERS	Peters projection, std parallels at +/-44.138°	S
GALLORTHO	Gall's orthographic projection, std parallels at +/-45°	S
BALTHASART	Balthasart projection, std parallels at +/-50°	S

Conformal & related cylindrical projections		E/S*
MERCATOR	Mercator's conformal cylindrical projection	E
MILLER	Miller's projection	E

Perspective cylindrical projections		E/S*
GNOMOCYL	gnomonic (central) cylindrical perspective	S
GALLSTEREO	Gall's stereographic cylindrical projection	S

Transverse cylindrical projections		E/S*
CASSINI	transverse plate carrée (equi-distant)	S
TISOCYL	transverse iso-cylindrical (equal area)	S
TMERCATOR	transverse mercator (conformal)	S

Pseudo-cylindrical projections	E/S*
ECKERT3, ECKERT4, ECKERT5, GOODE, IGOODE, KAVRAISKY7, MERCAN, MOLLWEIDE, PUTNINS1, PUTNINS2, PUTNINS3, PUTNINS3P, PUTNINS4P, PUTNINS5, PUTNINS5P, PUTNINS6, PUTNINS6P, ROBINSON, WAGNER2, WAGNER3, WAGNER4, WAGNER6, WAGNER7, WERENSKIOLD1, WINKEL1	S

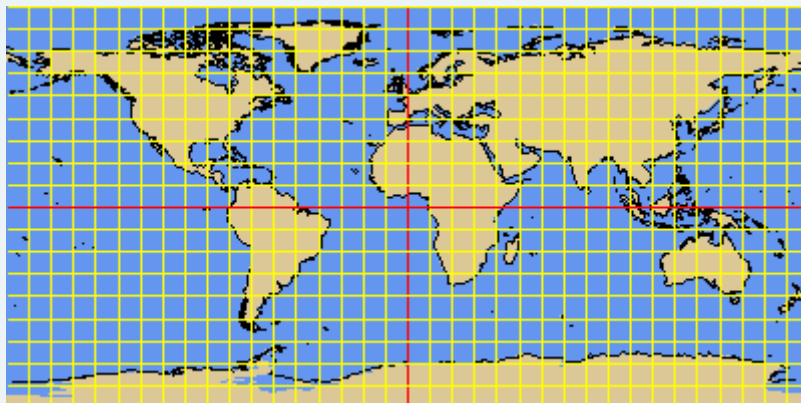
* The last column indicates the applied earth model: S = Sphere, E = Ellipsoid

Equi-distant cylindrical projections

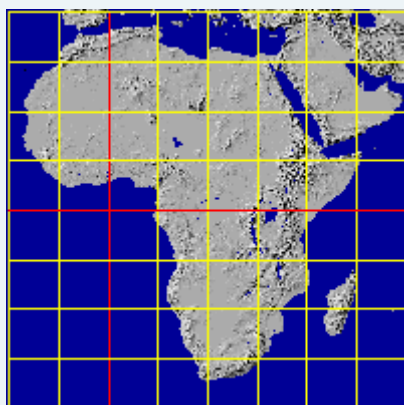
EQUIRECT is the simplest projection type. It maps the longitude and latitude to a rectangular coordinate system. This projection is frequently used for thematic maps and digital elevation models, since it is very easy to geo-reference.

The standard parallel defines the intersecting cylinder. The following subtypes of the EQUIRECT projection have a fixed standard parallel:

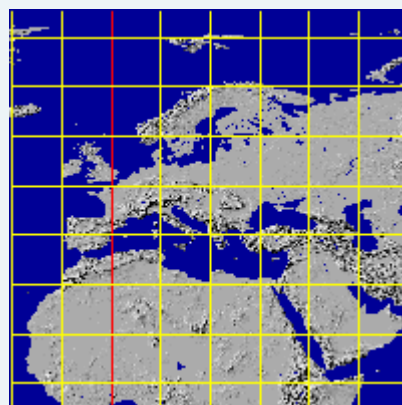
- PCARREE - plate carrée, standard parallel at 0°
- GALLISO - Gall's isographic projection., std. parallels at +/-45°



EQUIRECT projection with standard parallel at 0 degree



PCARREE projection of Africa

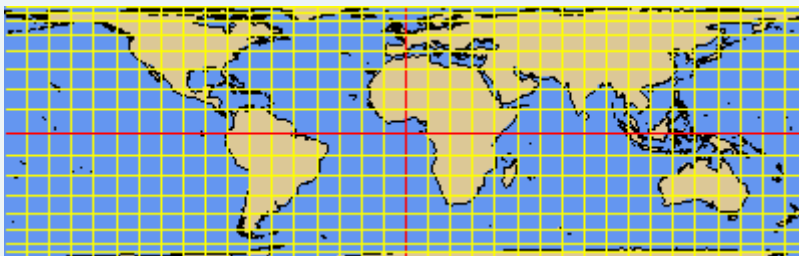


GALLISO projection of Europe

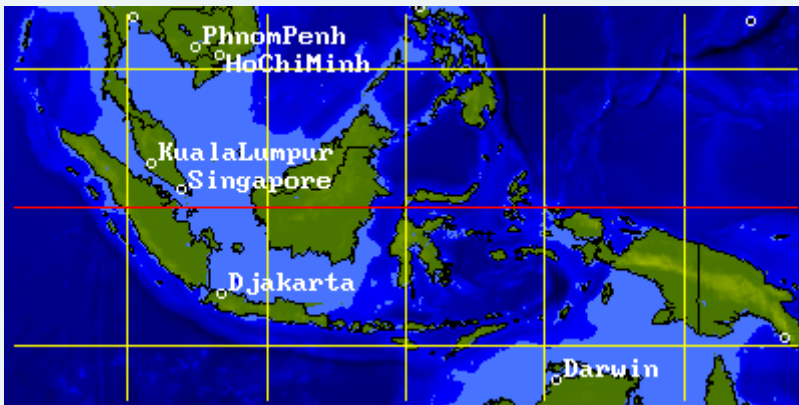
Equal-area cylindrical projections

ISOCYL is an equal area cylindrical projection with several subtypes. The standard parallel defines the intersecting cylinder. Whereas the standard parallel of the intersecting cylinder can be specified with the ISOCYL projection, the following subtypes have a fixed standard parallel:

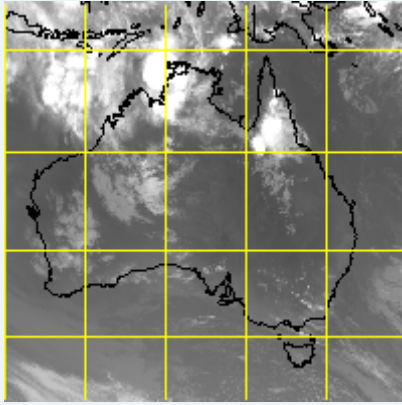
- LAMBCYL - Lambert's cylindrical projection, std parallel at 0°
- BEHRMANN - standard parallels at $\pm 30^\circ$
- TRYSTAN - standard parallels at $\pm 37.383^\circ$
- PETERS - standard parallels at $\pm 44.138^\circ$
- GALLORTHO - Gall's orthographic projection, std. par. at $\pm 45^\circ$
- BALTHASART - standard parallels at $\pm 50^\circ$



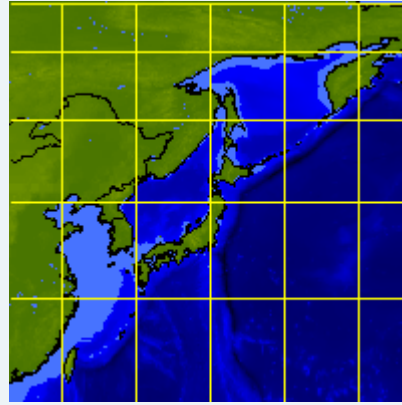
ISOCYL projection with standard parallel at 0°



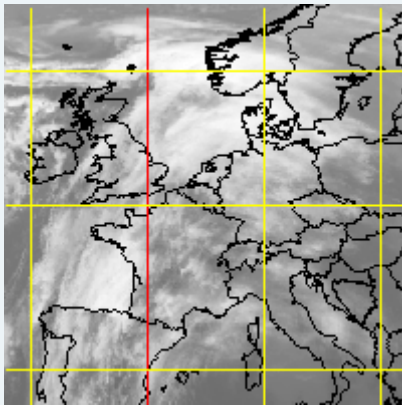
LAMBCYL projection of Indonesia



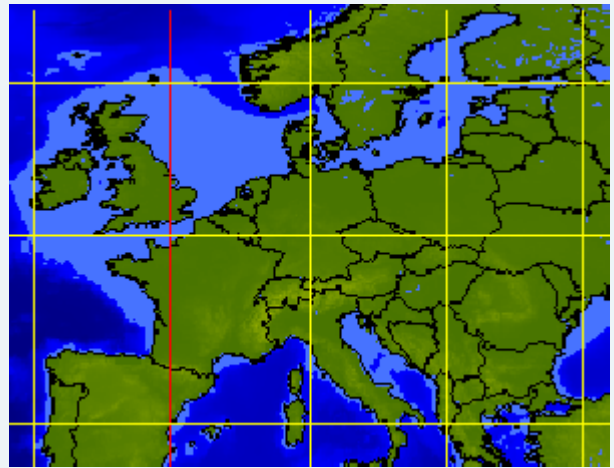
BEHRMANN projection of Australia



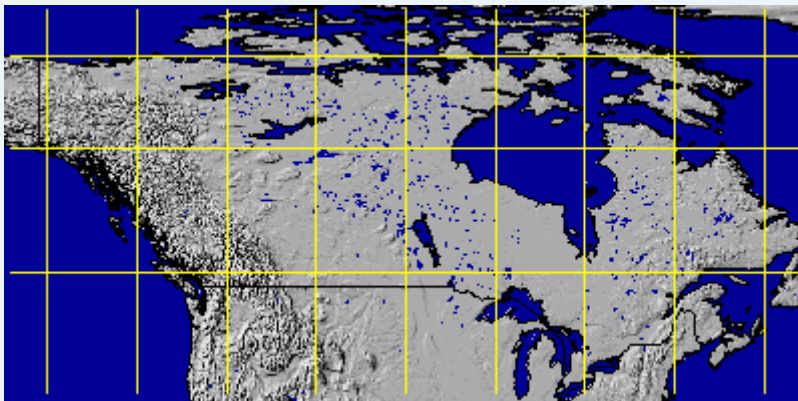
TRYSTAN projection of Japan



GALLORTHO projection of Europe



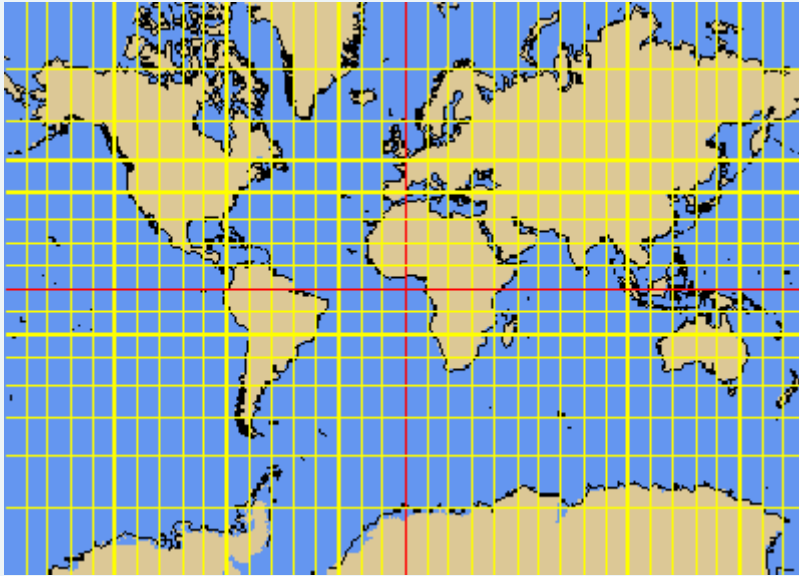
PETERS projection of Europe



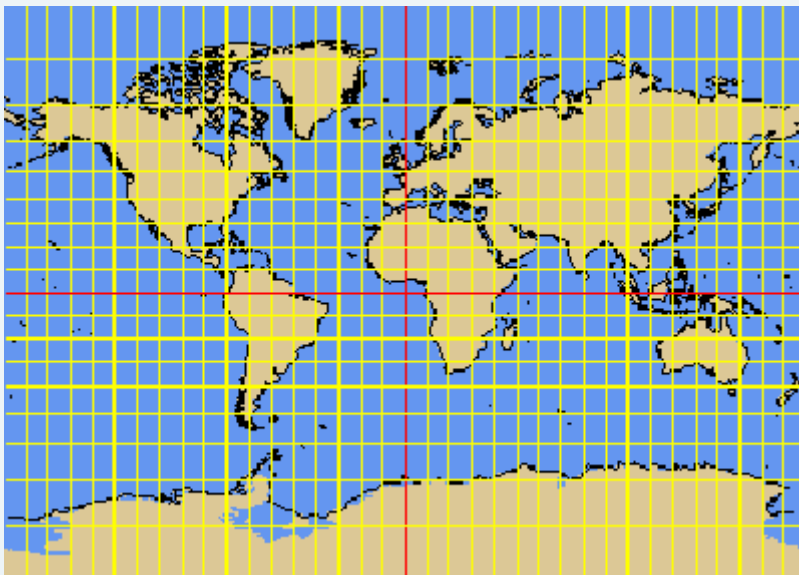
BALTHASART projection of Canada

Mercator and Miller projections

Mercator's conformal cylindrical projection and the Miller projection are both very popular for world maps. The MILLER projection has been derived from MERCATOR to reduce the exaggeration of polar areas (see example maps below). Both projection types support an ellipsoidal earth model.



MERCATOR projection

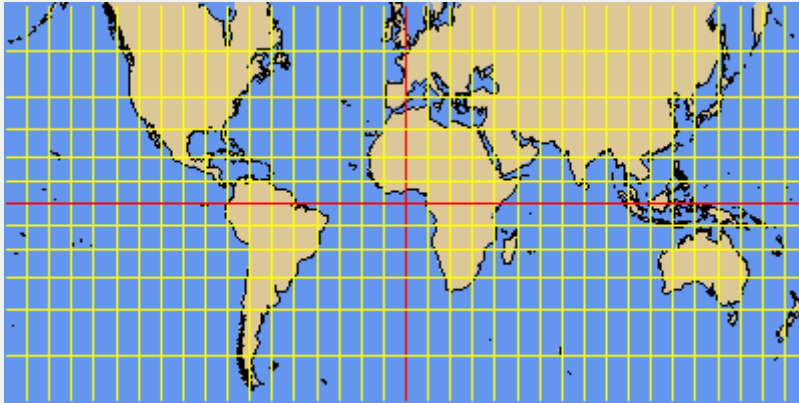


MILLER projection

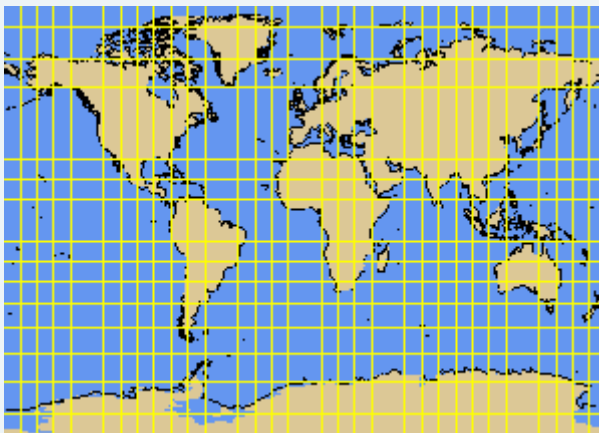
Perspective cylindrical projections

CineSat completes its range of true cylindrical projections by the following two perspective projections:

- GNOMOCYL - gnomonic (central) cylindrical perspective
- GALLSTEREO - Gall's stereographic cylindrical projection



Gnomonic cylindrical projection

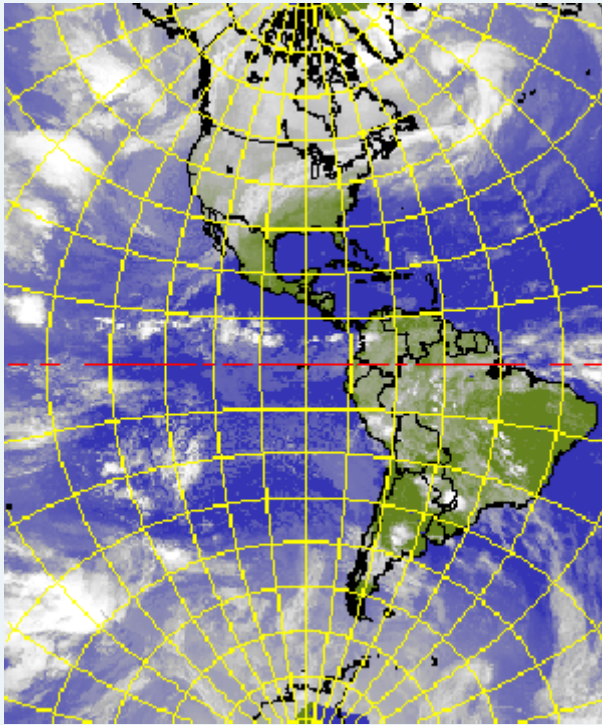


Stereographic cylindrical projection

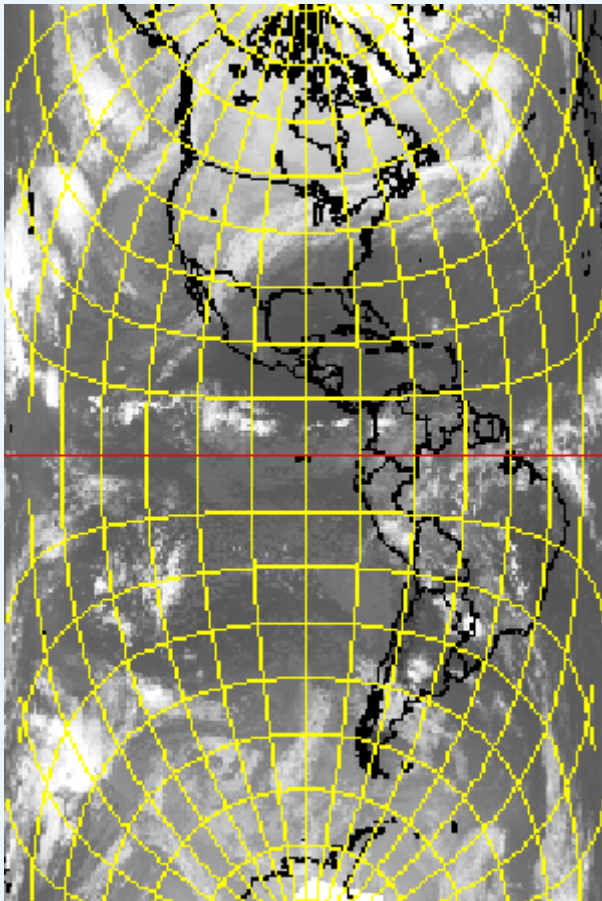
Transverse cylindrical projections

This projection type maps the sphere onto a cylinder that touches the Earth along a given meridian. Transverse cylindrical projections are often used for areas with a large North-South extent. CineSat supports three transverse cylindrical projections:

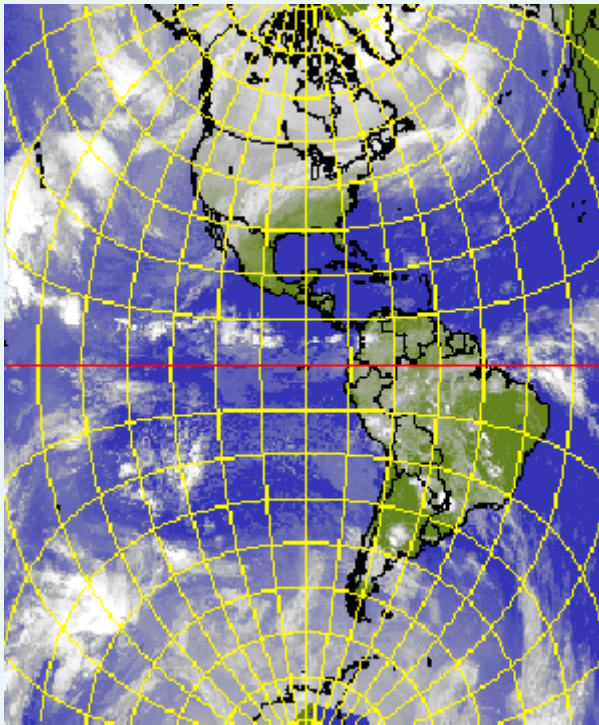
- TMERCATOR - transverse mercator (conformal)
- TISOCYL - transverse iso-cylindrical (equal area)
- CASSINI - transverse plate carrée (equi-distant)



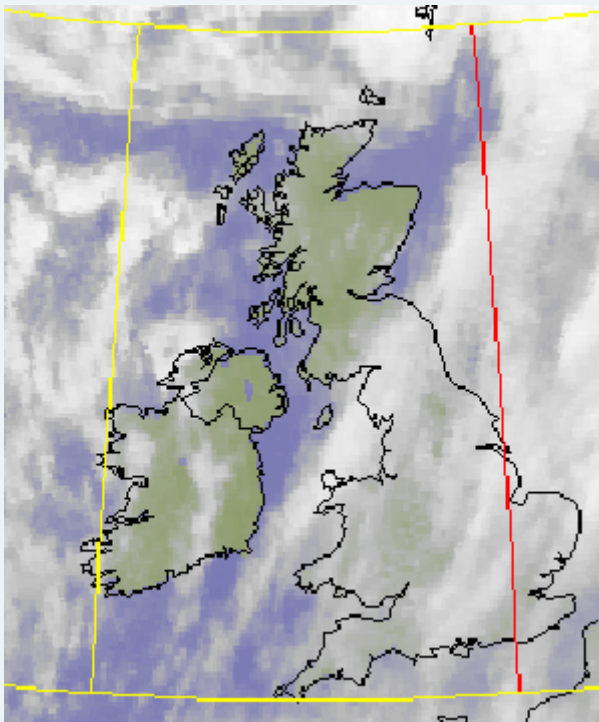
TMERCATOR - transverse mercator



TISOCYL - transverse iso-cylindrical



CASSINI - transverse plate carrée

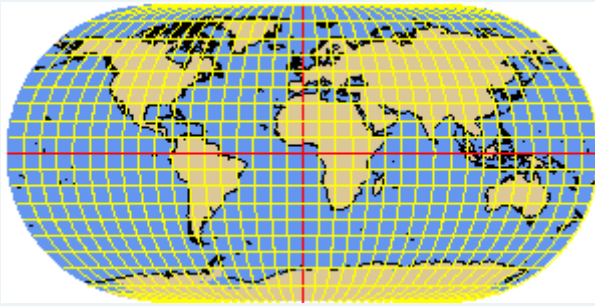


CASSINI projection of Great Britain

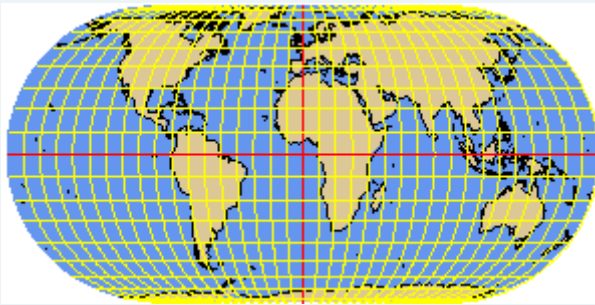
Pseudo-cylindrical projections

Pseudo-cylindrical projections are typically used for continental and world maps. They use a spherical earth model.

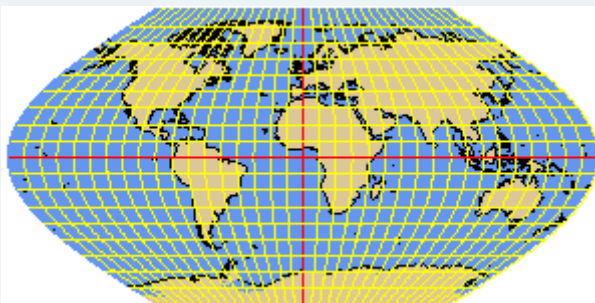
The following drawings show the 25 pseudo-cylindrical projections provided by CineSat. To make them comparable, all projections have the Greenwich center meridian and show the full globe, but CineSat let's you specify any central meridian and of course any map region and scale.



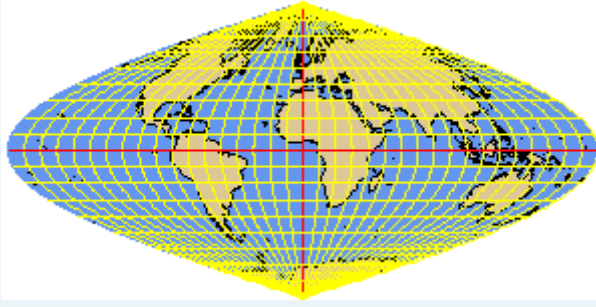
ECKERT3 elliptical



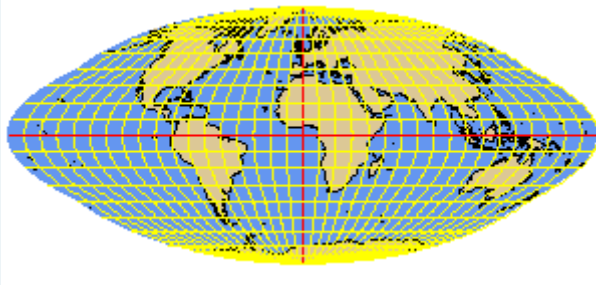
ECKERT4 elliptical equal-area



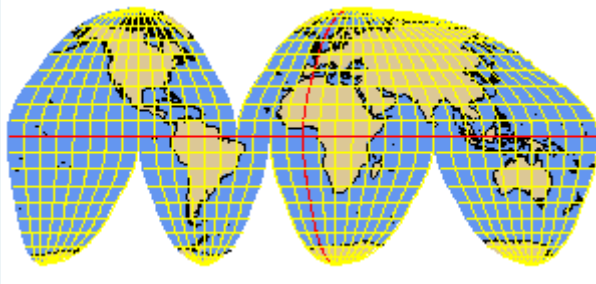
ECKERT5 sinusoidal



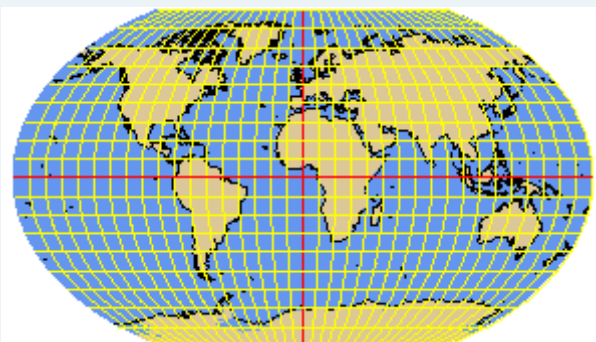
MERCOSAN sinusoidal (equal-area) projection or Mercator-Sanson-Flamsteed



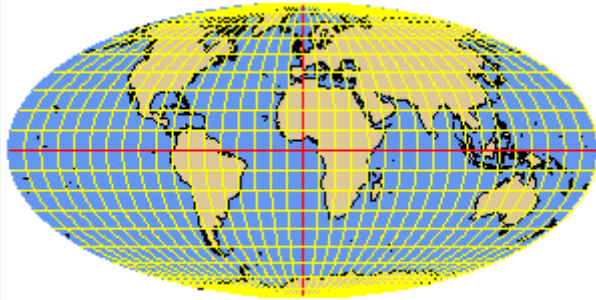
GOODE homolosine equal-area



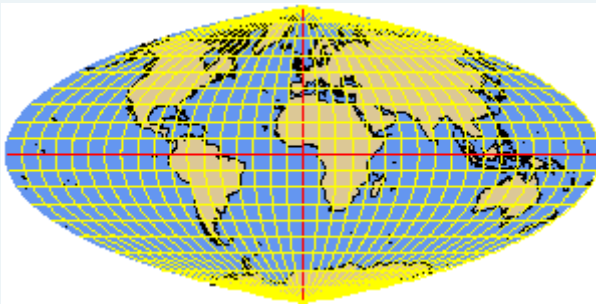
IGOODE interrupted Goode homolosine



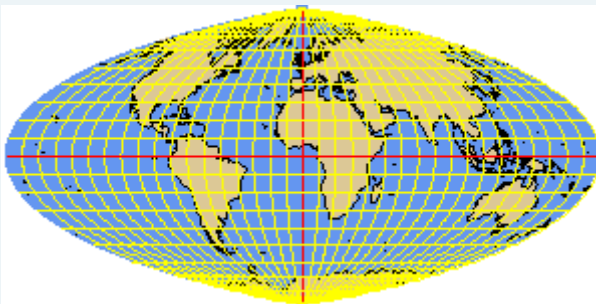
KAVRAISKY7 elliptical



MOLLWEIDE elliptical equal-area

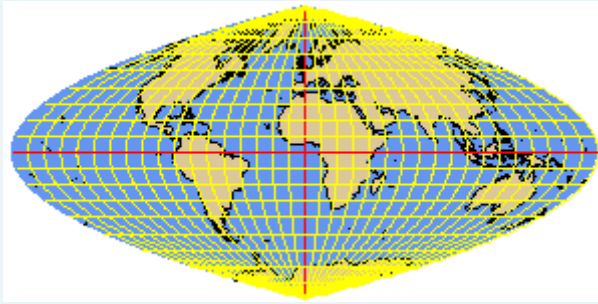


PUTNINS1 elliptical

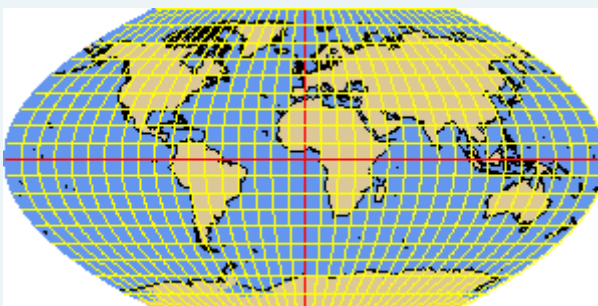


PUTNINS2 elliptical

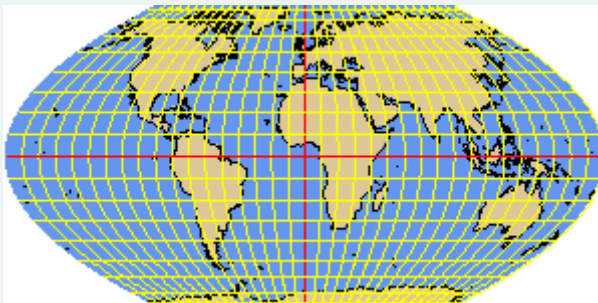




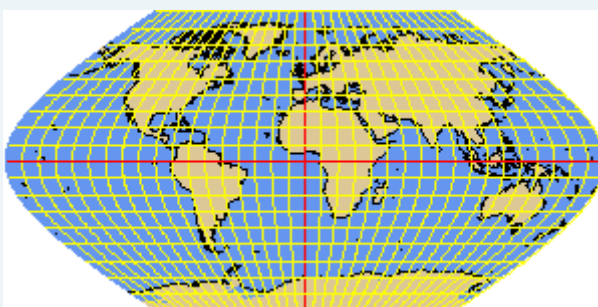
PUTNINS3 parabolic



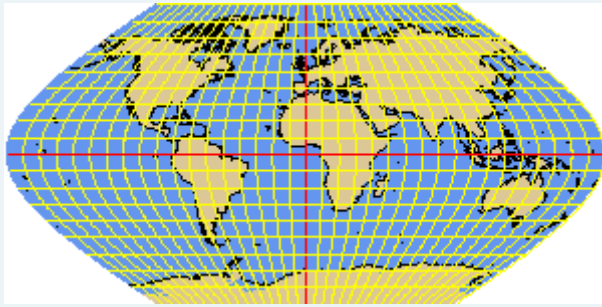
PUTNINS3P parabolic



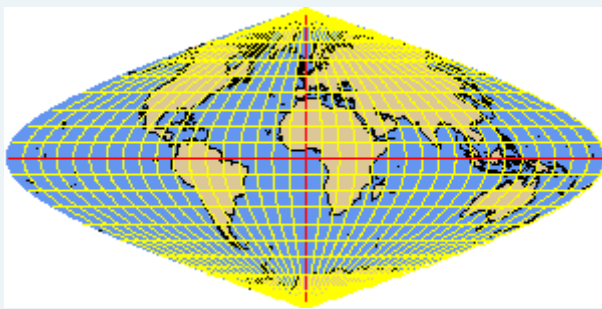
PUTNINS4P parabolic



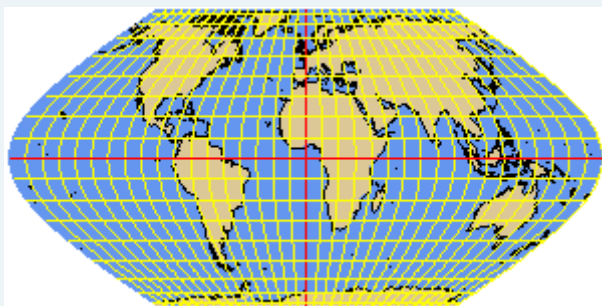
PUTNINS5 hyperbolic



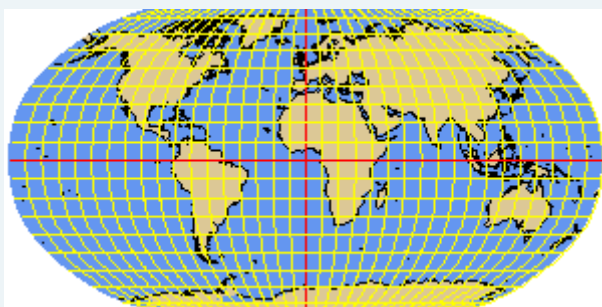
PUTNINS5P hyperbolic



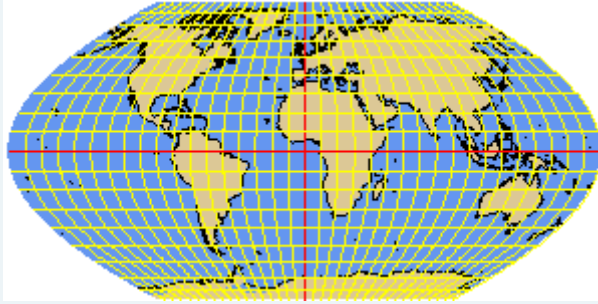
PUTNINS6 hyperbolic



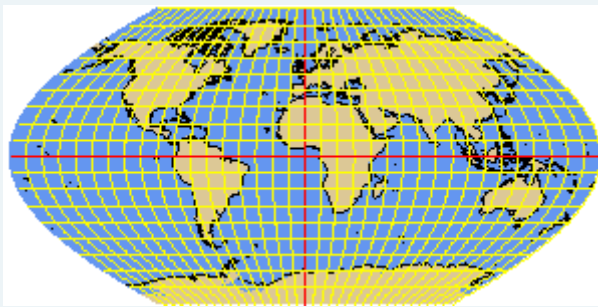
PUTNINS6P hyperbolic



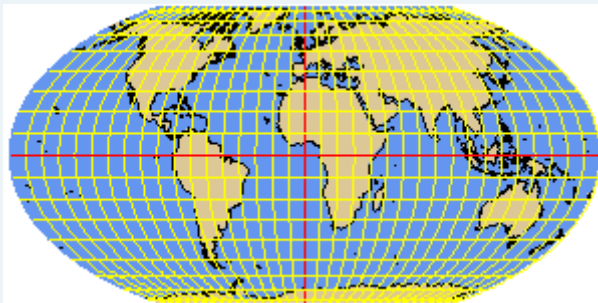
ROBINSON interpolated



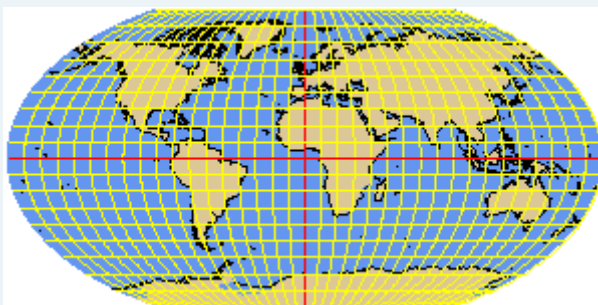
WAGNER2 sinusoidal



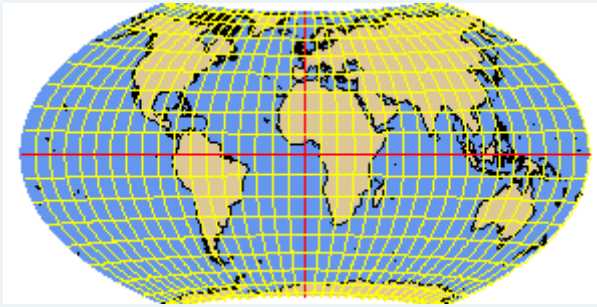
WAGNER3 sinusoidal



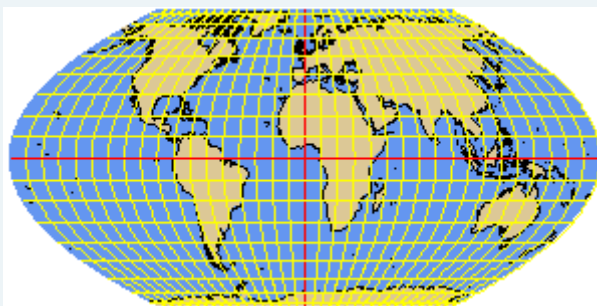
WAGNER4 elliptical equal-area



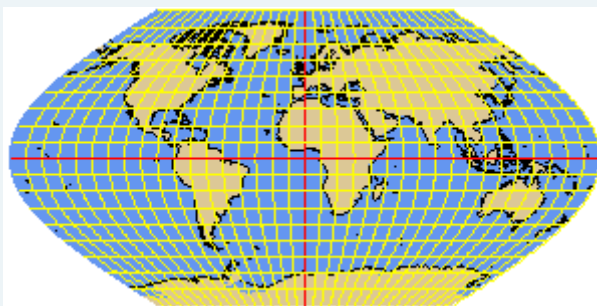
WAGNER6 elliptical



WAGNER7 equal-area

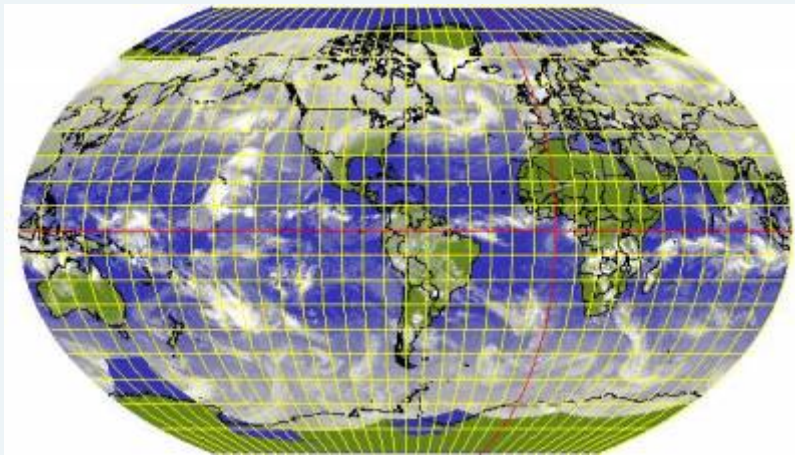


WERENSKIOLD1 parabolic



WINKEL1 sinusoidal





America centered Kavraisky VII projection of the world

Conical projections

Conical projections map the earth either onto a tangent cone or an intersecting cone. The cone's top is located over the North or the South pole. The projection cones can therefore be defined by 1 or 2 intersecting (standard) parallels. Conical projections are typically used for areas with a large East-West extent.

CineSat provides the following conical projections:

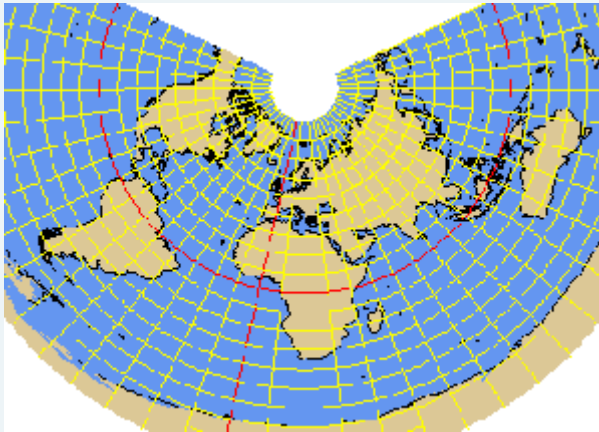
The 'Great Three' conical projections		E/S*
ISLE	equi-distant conical projection by J.N. de l'Isle	E
ALBERS	equal area conical projection by H.C. Albers	E
LAMBERT	conformal conical projection by J.H.Lambert	E

Other conical projections		E/S*
EULER	Euler projection	S
MURDOCH1	Murdoch's equi-distant conical projection	S
MURDOCH2	Murdoch II projection	S
MURDOCH3	Murdoch's equi-distant, minimum error projection	S
PCONIC	Perspective conic projection	S
TISSOT	Tissot projection	S
VITKOVSKY1	Vitkovsky projection	S

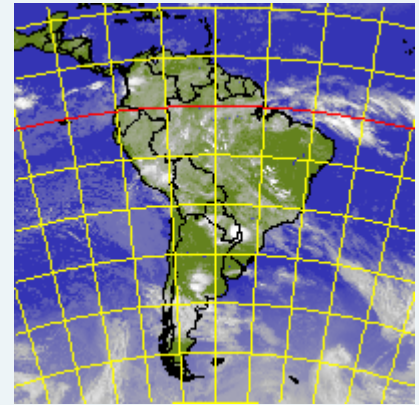
* The last column indicates the applied earth model: S = Sphere, E = Ellipsoid

The 'Great Three' conical projections

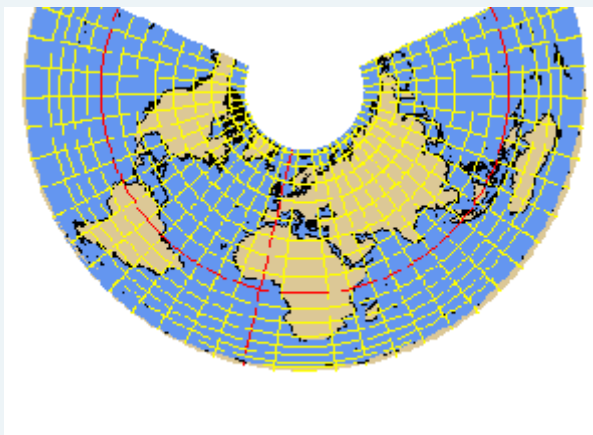
The most important conical maps used in meteorology are the ISLE (equi-distant), ALBERS (equal area), and LAMBERT (conformal) projections. All three projections use an ellipsoidal earth model.



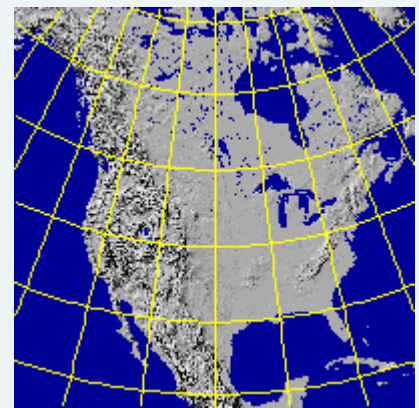
The ISLE projection is an equi-distant conical projection developed by J.N. De l'Isle



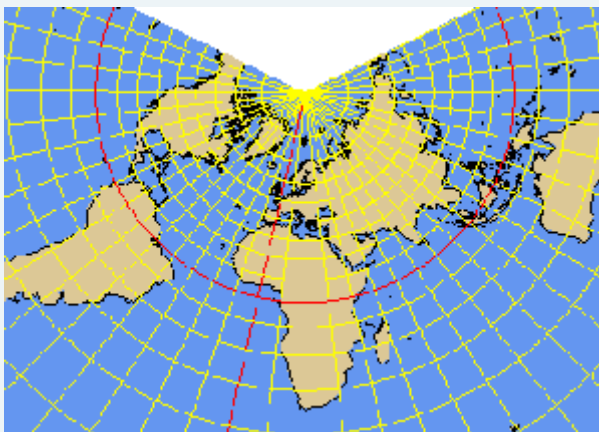
ISLE projection of South America



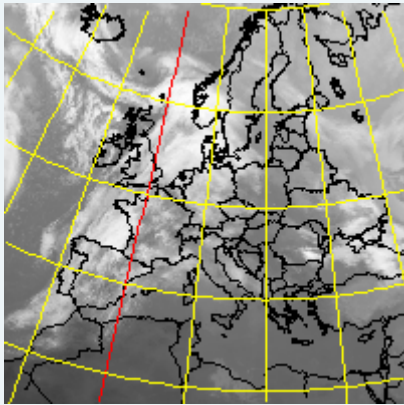
The ALBERS projection is an equal area conical projection developed by H.C. Albers



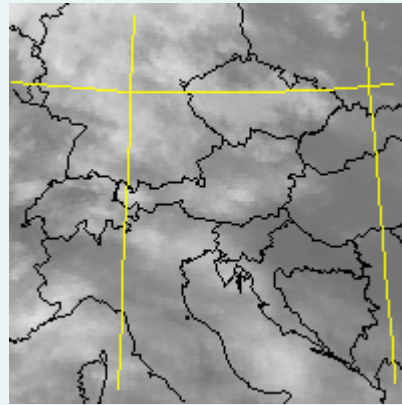
Shaded relief image of North America in ALBERS projection



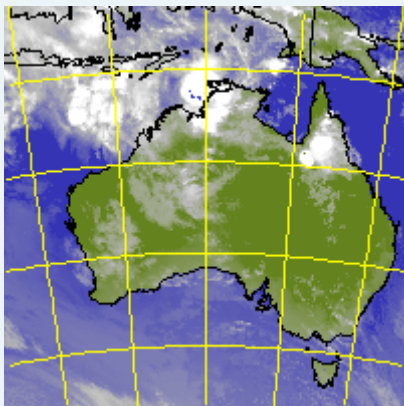
J.H. LAMBERT has developed a widely used, conformal conical projection



LAMBERT map of Europe



LAMBERT map of Central Europe

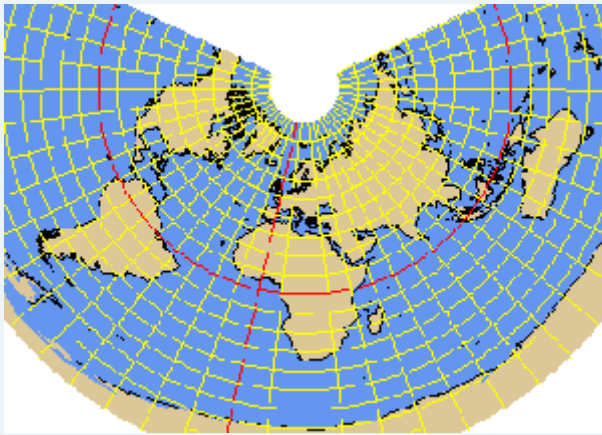


LAMBERT map of Australia

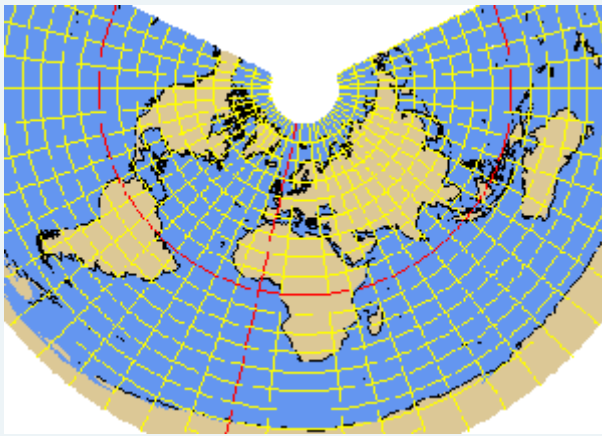
Other conical projections

In addition to the above described 'Great Three', CineSat provides the following 7 conical projections which use a spherical earth model:

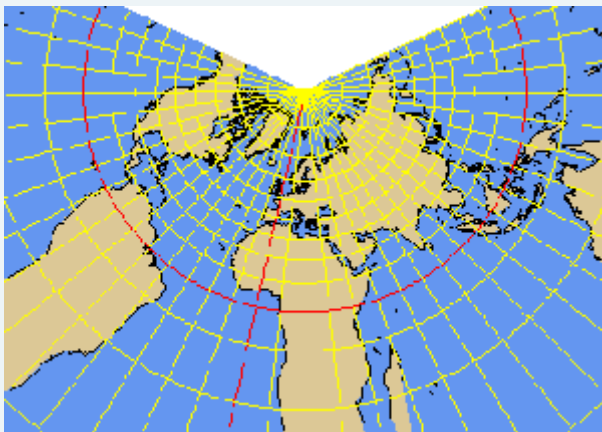
- EULER
- MURDOCH1 (equi-distant)
- MURDOCH2
- MURDOCH3 (equi-distant with minimum error)
- PCONIC (perspective conic)
- TISSOT
- VITKOVSKY1



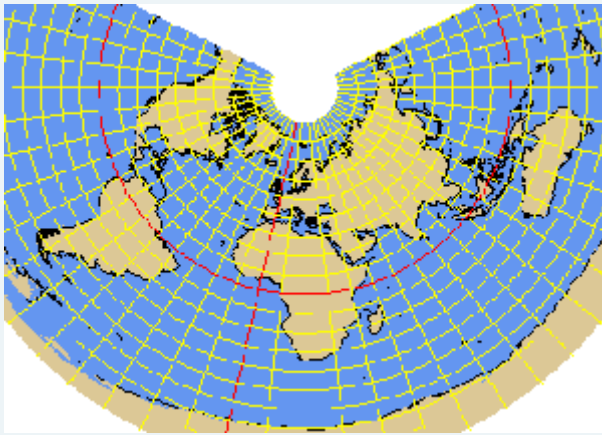
EULER projection



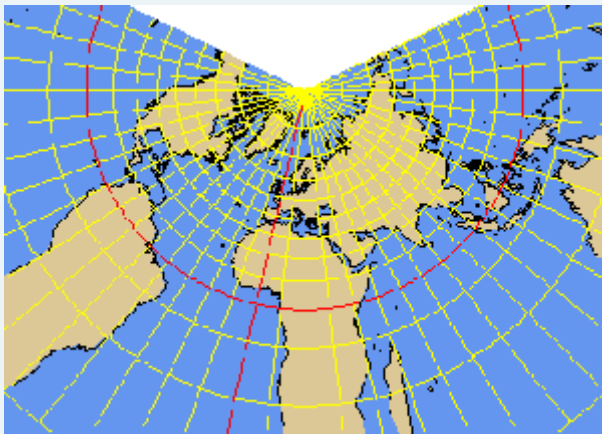
MURDOCH1 projection



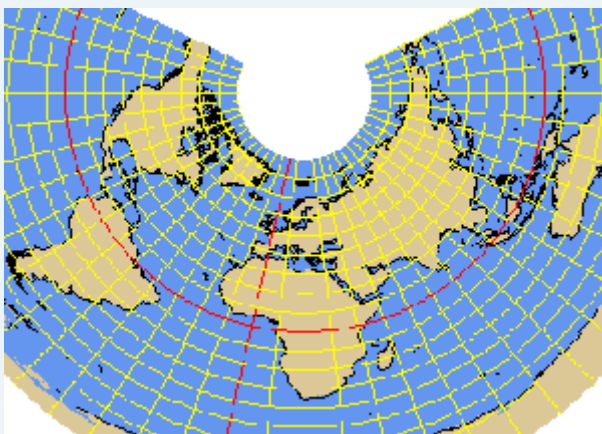
MURDOCH2 projection



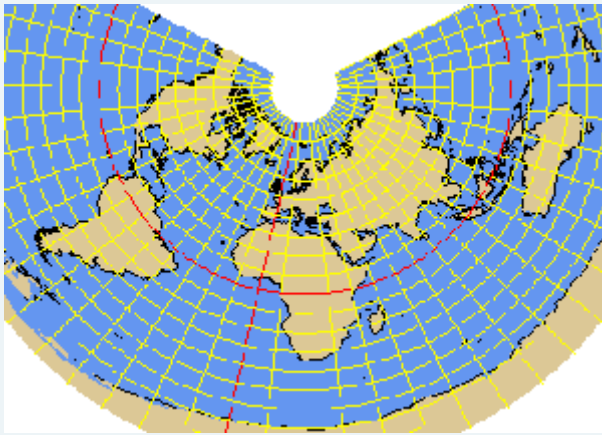
MURDOCH3 projection



PCONIC perspective conic projection



TISSOT projection

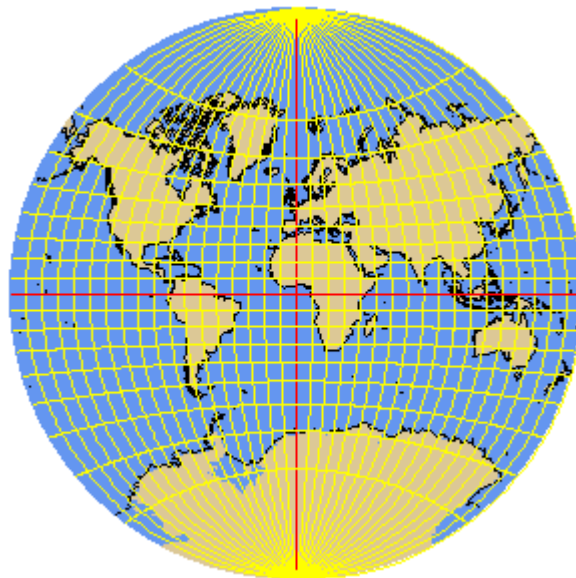


VITKOVSKY1 projection

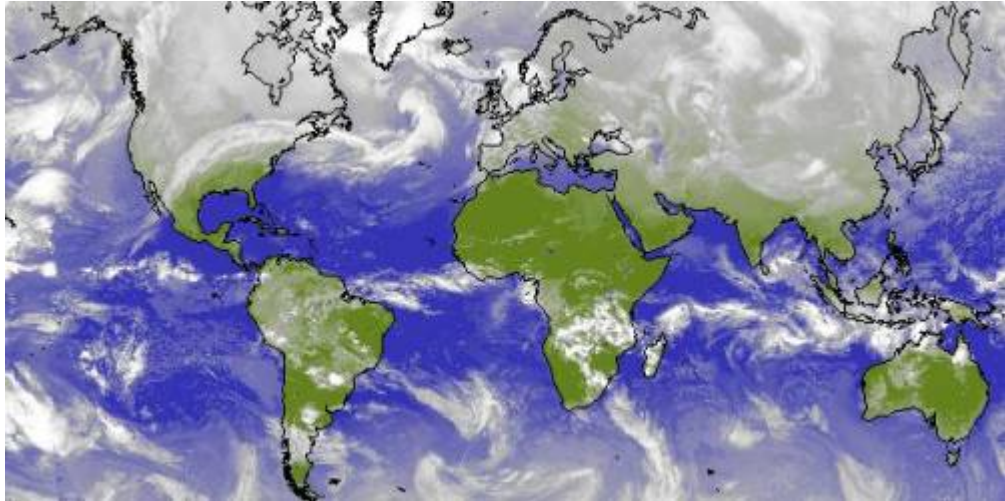
Miscellaneous projections

Van Der Grinten

CineSat also supports a special projection developed by Van der Grinten (VANDGRINTEN) which maps the full globe into a circle. Some cartographic literature classifies this projection as polyconic.



An example VANDGRINTEN world cloud map could look like the image below. You can of course choose any center meridian for this projection:



User-configurable Map Parameters

Every projection has a rich set of parameters that can easily be configured to adapt to your image data. A full projection definition consists of

- projection type (e.g. NPOL, MERCATOR, ...)
- standard parallel(s)
- center longitude
- satellite height (for perspective satellite views)
- earth radius or spheroid axes
- map area (size and position in the projection plane)
- map scale (pixel resolution)

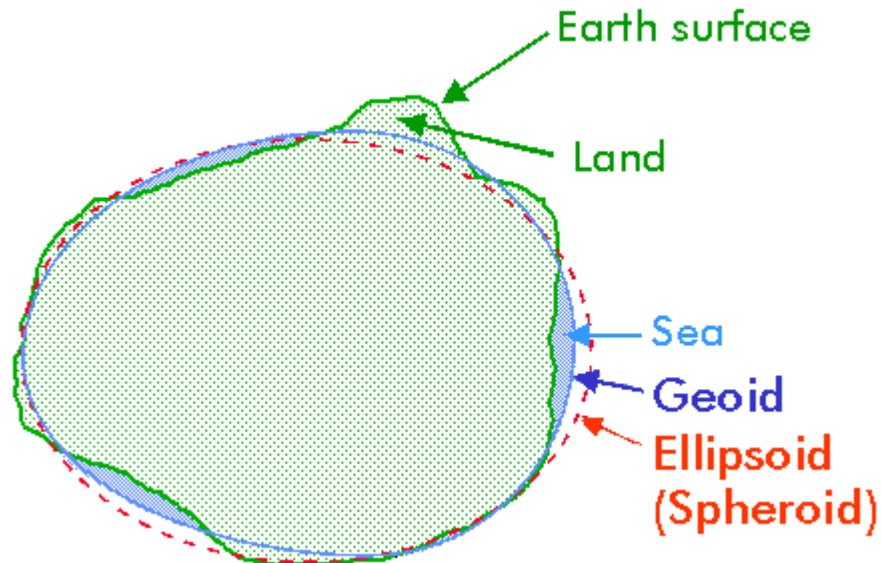
The projection cylinders and cones will be cut at center longitude + 180° and unfolded into a plane. For the azimuthal projections, you can rotate the projection plane by defining the vertical meridian. For all projections, you can set zoom (resolution) and pan parameters to get your desired region of interest.

All map parameters are stored in projection files with user-defined names. You can then use a projection file name with the PROJECT command to project your images or to generate a map.

Although there are a lot of map configuration options, the usage of these parameters is fairly simple. CineSat comes with a number of pre-defined projections to choose from and start with. Modification of these pre-defined projections is an easy way to develop your own weather views.

Spherical and Ellipsoidal Earth Models

Before mapping Earth coordinates to a projection surface, the irregular 3-dimensional shape of the Earth - the Geoid - is being approximated by the mathematically more handsome spheroid - i.e. either a sphere or an ellipsoid.



The selection of the best approximating spheroid depends on the mapped region and the required level of cartographic accuracy. CineSat comes with a configuration file that defines the 50 most important standard cartographic spheroids by their names and axes. It also includes the HRIT ellipsoid which had been defined by the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites in the HRIT file format specifications. Of course, you can use your own sphere or ellipse axes with every CineSat projection.

The ellipsoidal shape of the earth is used by the most important azimuthal, cylindrical, and conical projections. All other projections use the sphere model with a user-defined or a default earth radius.

Standard spheroids significantly increase the interoperability of CineSat with GIS systems and other data sources. They also increase the accuracy of all geographic computations derived from image positions, like point distances and motion vector speeds.

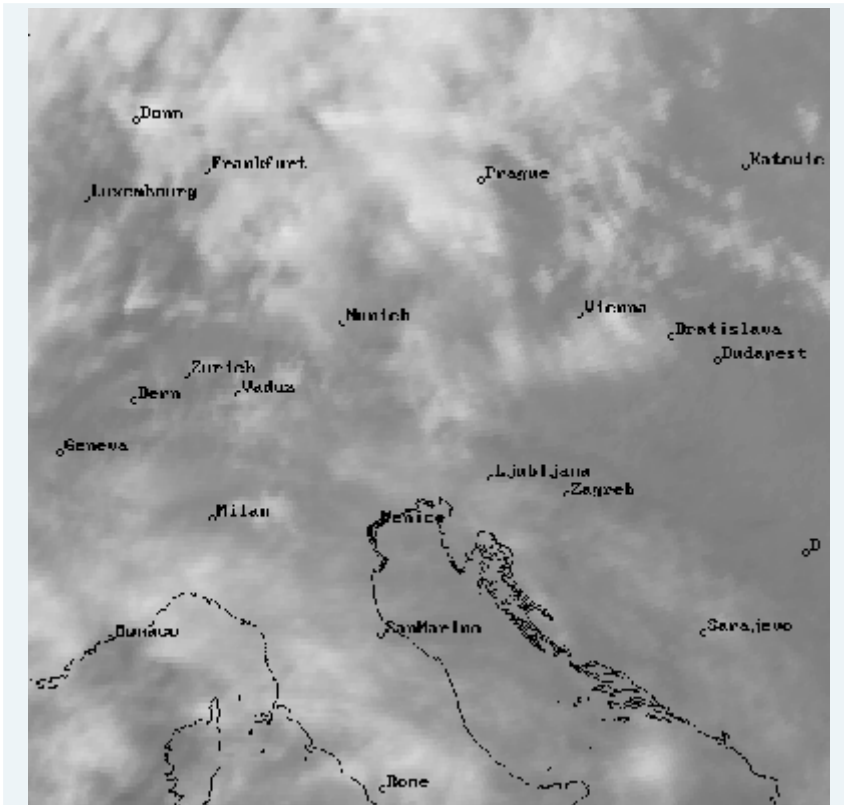
Resampling: Nearest Neighbor, Bi-linear, and Bi-cubic Splines

For every image projection, you can either apply the commonly used nearest neighbor and bi-linear interpolation methods, or a meteorologically tailored bi-cubic spline resampling.

The bi-linear interpolation method is a common resampling technique that is faster than bi-cubic splines but slightly blurs image details. Bi-cubic spline results are sharper and will be your first choice for typical meteorological imaging applications.

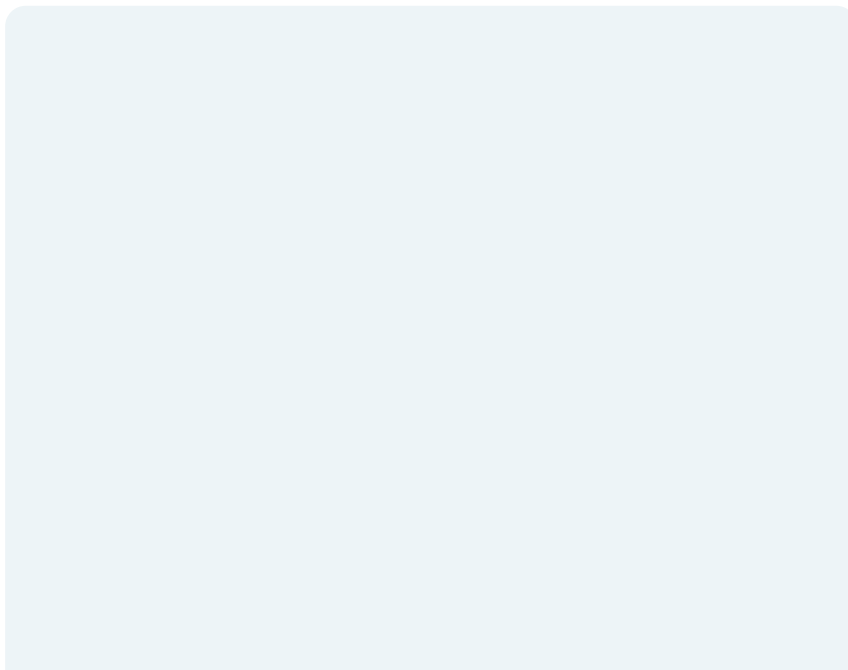
The nearest neighbor method will not change pixel values and is recommended for artificial image content, like land masks or cloud images with burnt-in overlays. The method is fast, but has a negative impact on small cloud image structures. The example image below shows the typical nearest neighbor steps in the shape of small cloud cells and cloud borders.

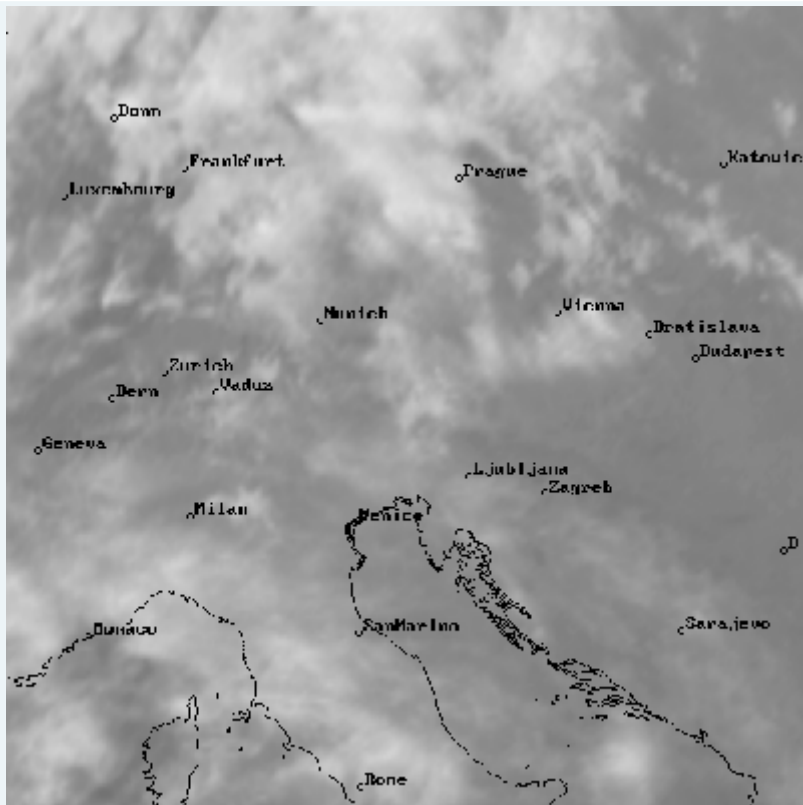




Nearest Neighbor resampling: digital steps distort cloud borders and structure

On the other hand, the bi-cubic spline method provided by CineSat is very well suited for producing nice-to-view cloud displays, and for pre-processing images that are intended to be fed to automatic image analysis programs. Small scale cloud structures are being preserved also in projected images and will lead to far better results for all subsequent image texture and object analysis.





Bi-cubic spline resampling: small cloud structures are preserved

CineSat's bi-cubic spline resampling algorithm has been especially developed to accurately rectify and project Meteosat images. The method had been validated and operationally used by the European Space Operations Centre.