



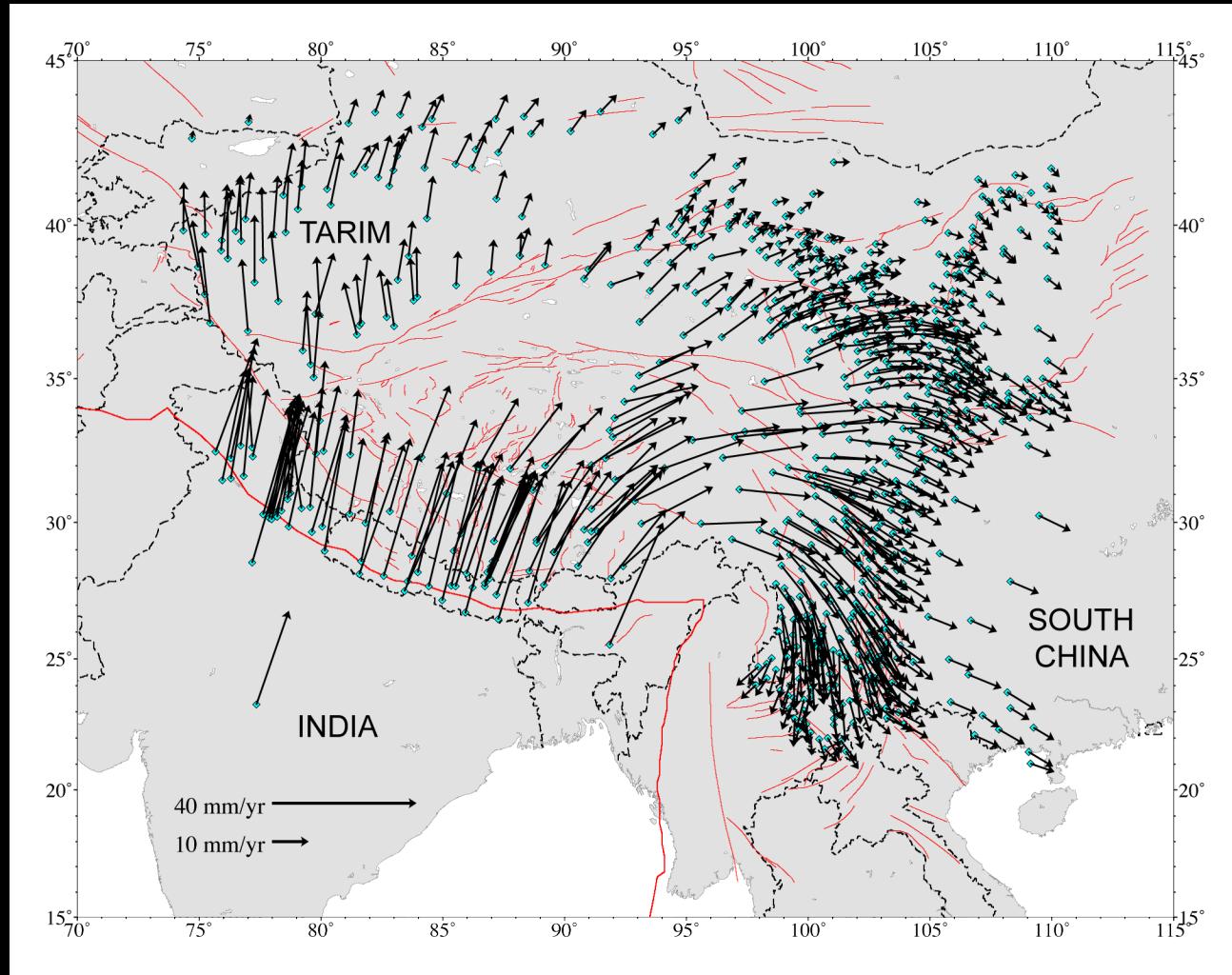
# GMT

Generic Mapping Tools or  
Gravity, Magnetics and Topography

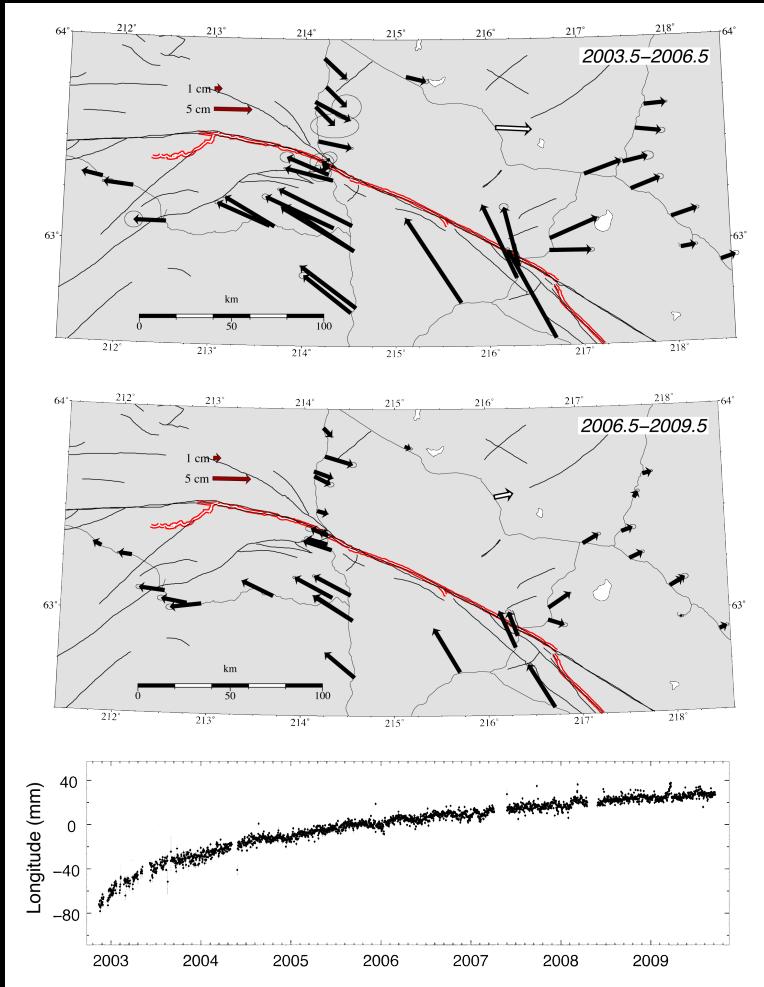
Lecture #1  
Mapping and Plotting with GMT



# I added the text labels by hand

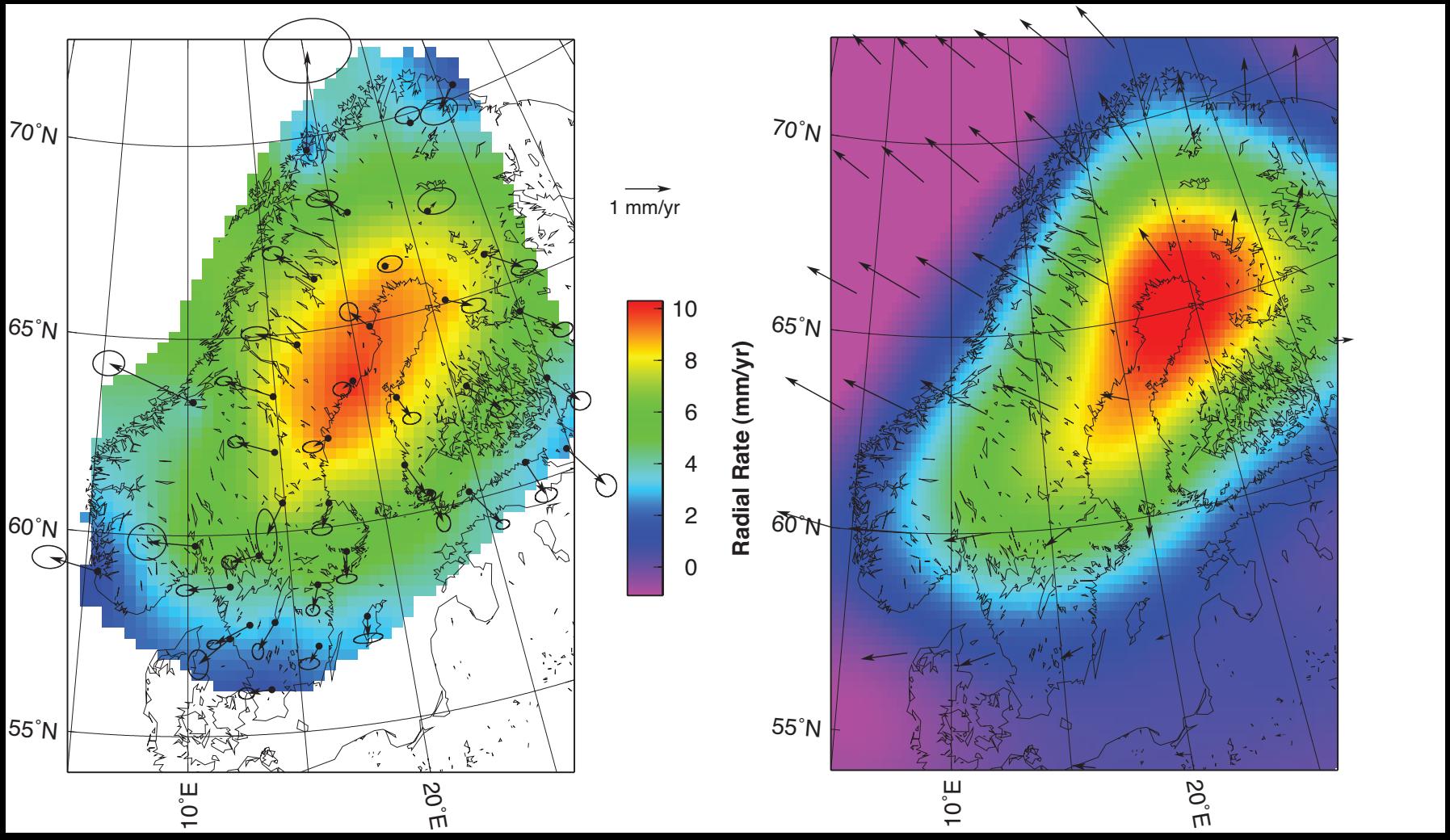


# Maps and Time Series



- Plotting data vectors with faults
- Plotting time series as an x-y plot

# Fancy colorized maps



# GMT 4.5.1

- Began as a set of subroutines to write Postscript commands
- Grew with Paul's and Walter's Ph.D.Theses
- Encompassed map projections (30!)
- Data Analysis
- Cross-Over Errors



Paul Wessel, our hero

# GMT resources

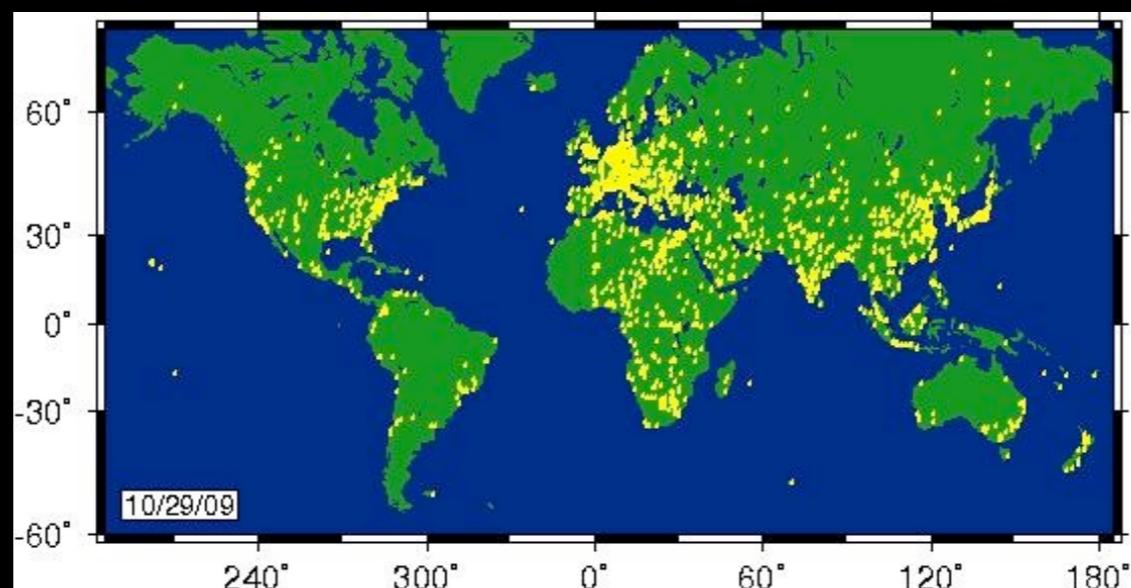
- Web site - [gmt.soest.hawaii.edu](http://gmt.soest.hawaii.edu)
- User Group
- Open source project
- Windows, OS X, Unix and OS/2
- Extensive documentation (html and pdf)
- Examples and “cookbook”
- Ancillary data sets included (eg. coastlines)

# Postscript

- Vector graphic language
- Rasterizes for output to various devices
- Scale set by dots-per-inch (dpi)
- Typically 300-1200

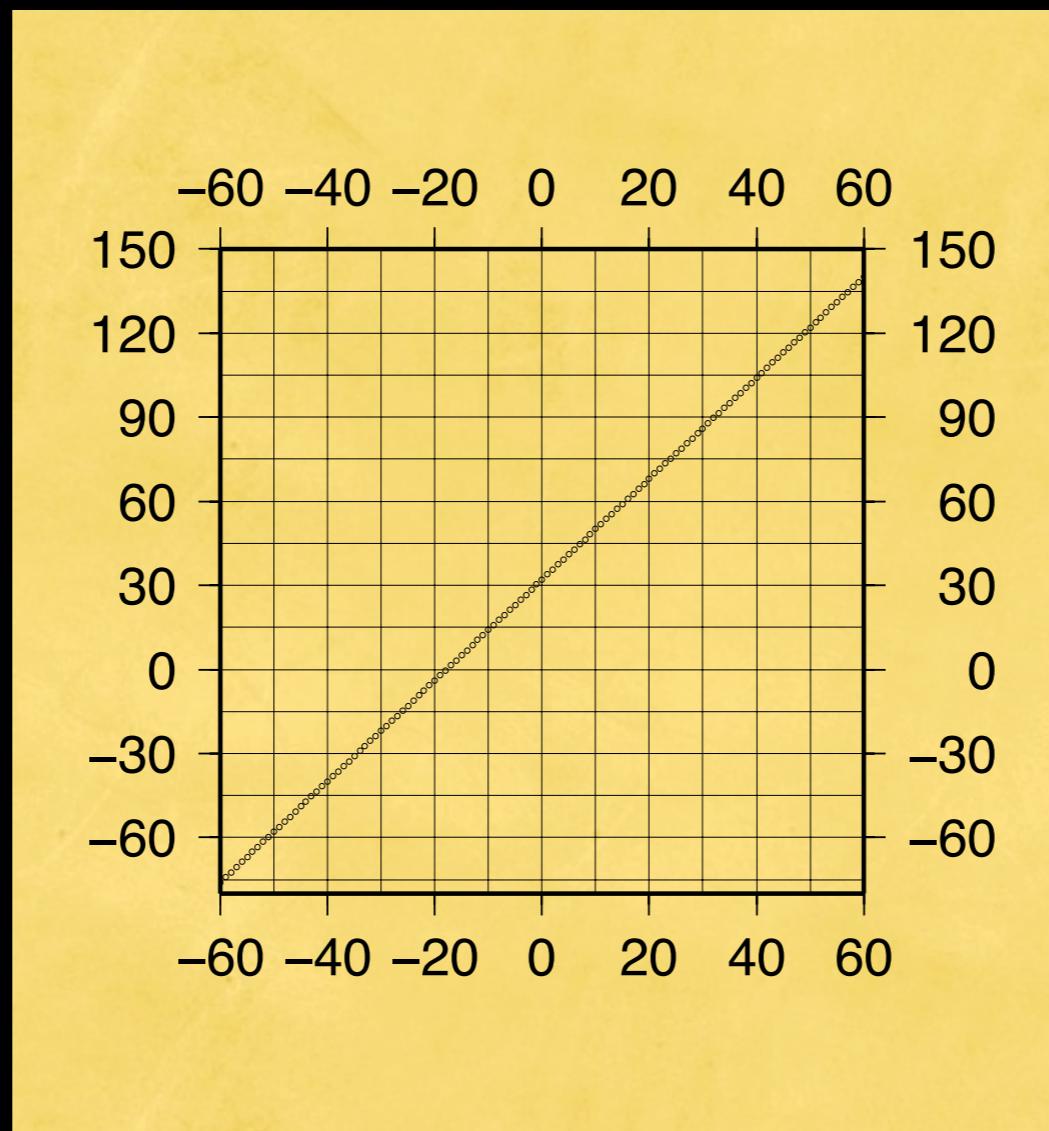
# How does GMT work?

- Scripted language for vector graphics
- Facilitates automated plotting
- Relates graphic space to the data space
- Sequential commands create a plot or map



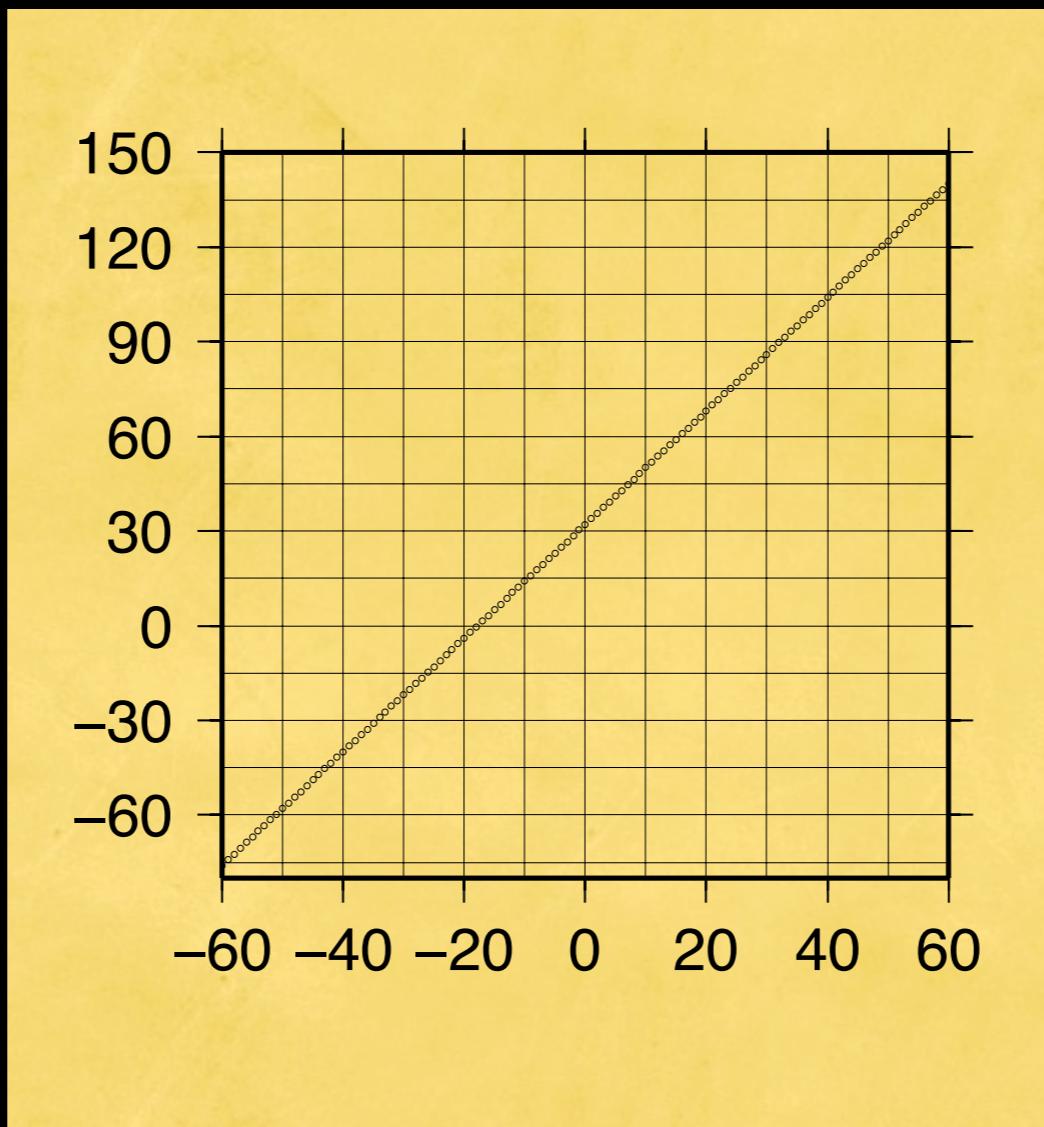
# Create a simple plot.

```
pwd |  
awk '{for (i = -60; i < 61; ++i) {printf "%d %.2f\n", i, 32+9/5*i}}' |  
psxy -R-60/60/-80/150 -JX6.0 -Sc0.05 -Ba20g10/a30g15 > test.ps
```



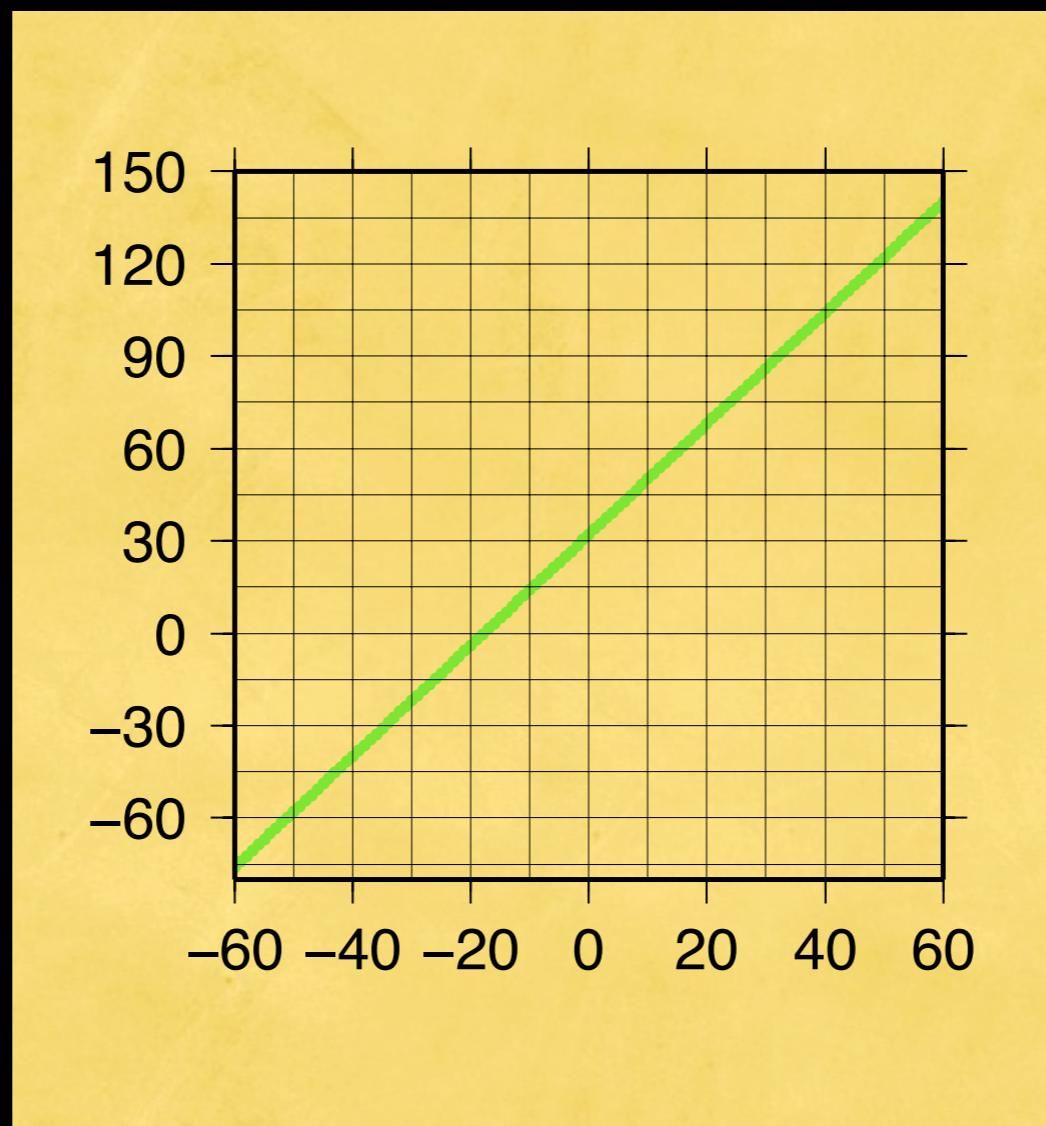
# Change it

Change -Ba20g10/a30g15 to -Ba20g10/a30g15WeSn



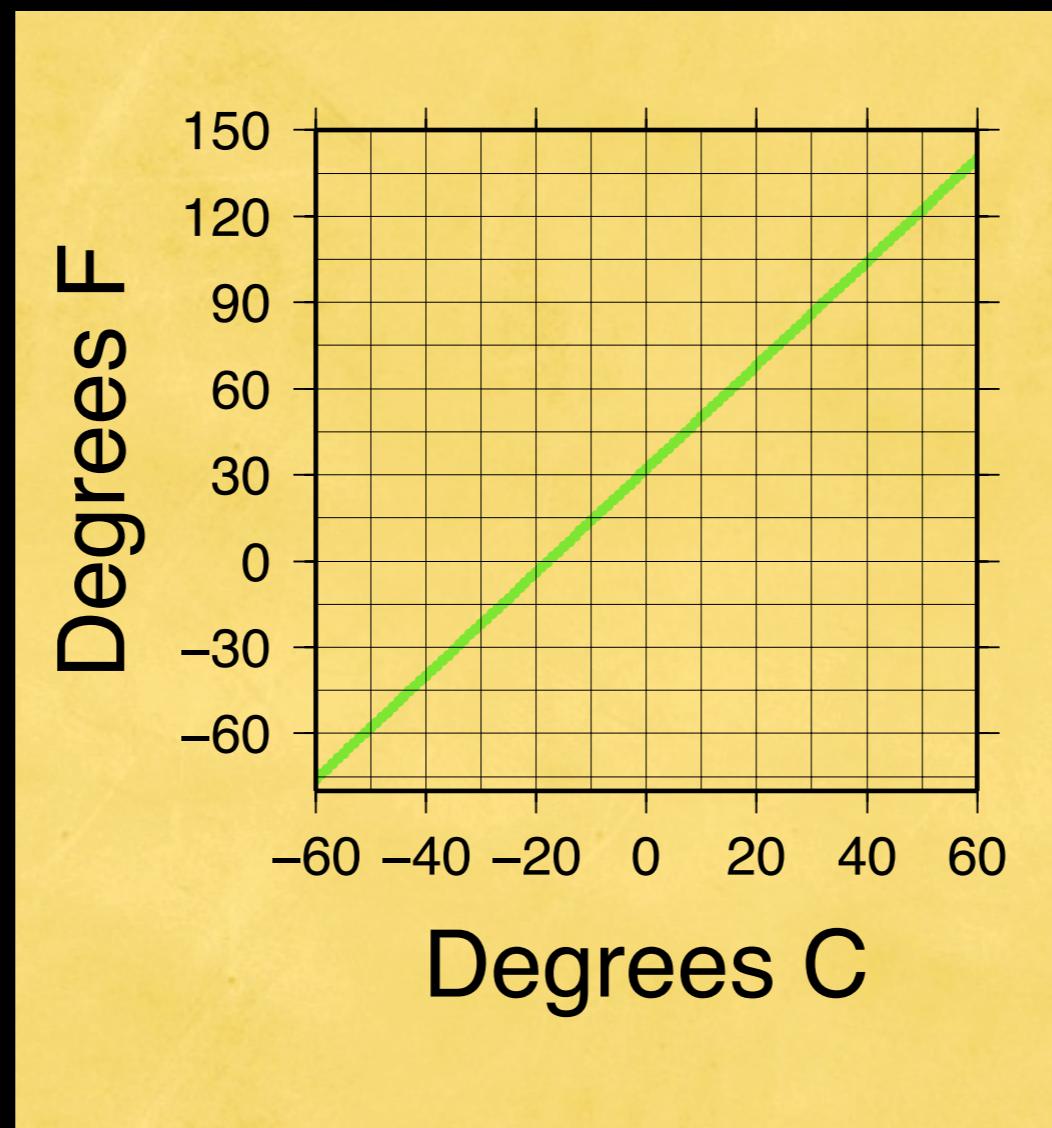
# Again

Change -Sc0.10 to -Sc0.10 -G125/230/50



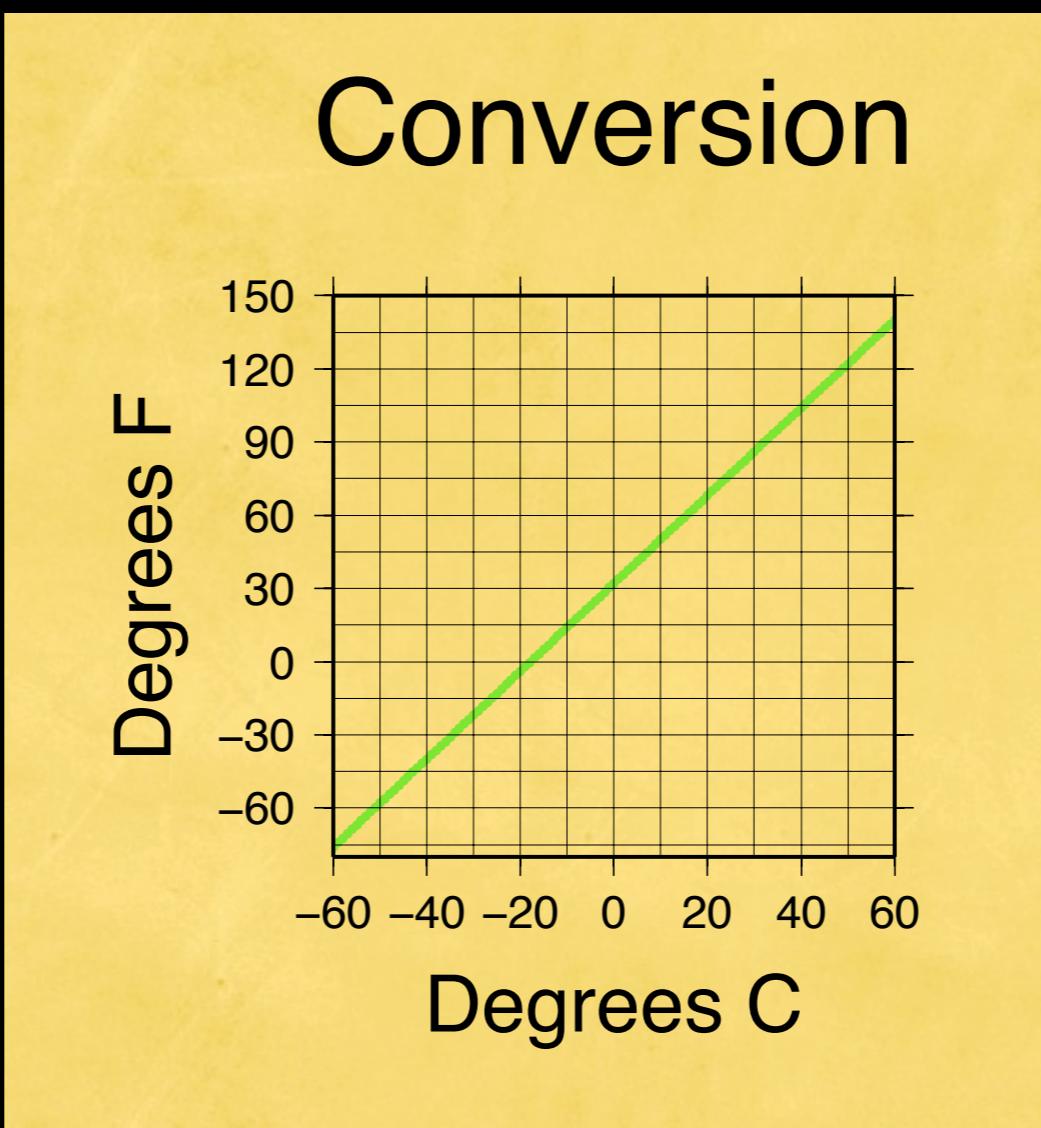
# Again

Change -Ba20g10/a30g15WeSn to -Ba20g10:"Degrees C":/a30g15:"Degrees F":WeSn



# Again

Change -Ba20g10:"Degrees C":/a30g15:"Degrees F":WeSn to  
-Ba20g10:"Degrees C":/a30g15:"Degrees F":Conversion:WeSn

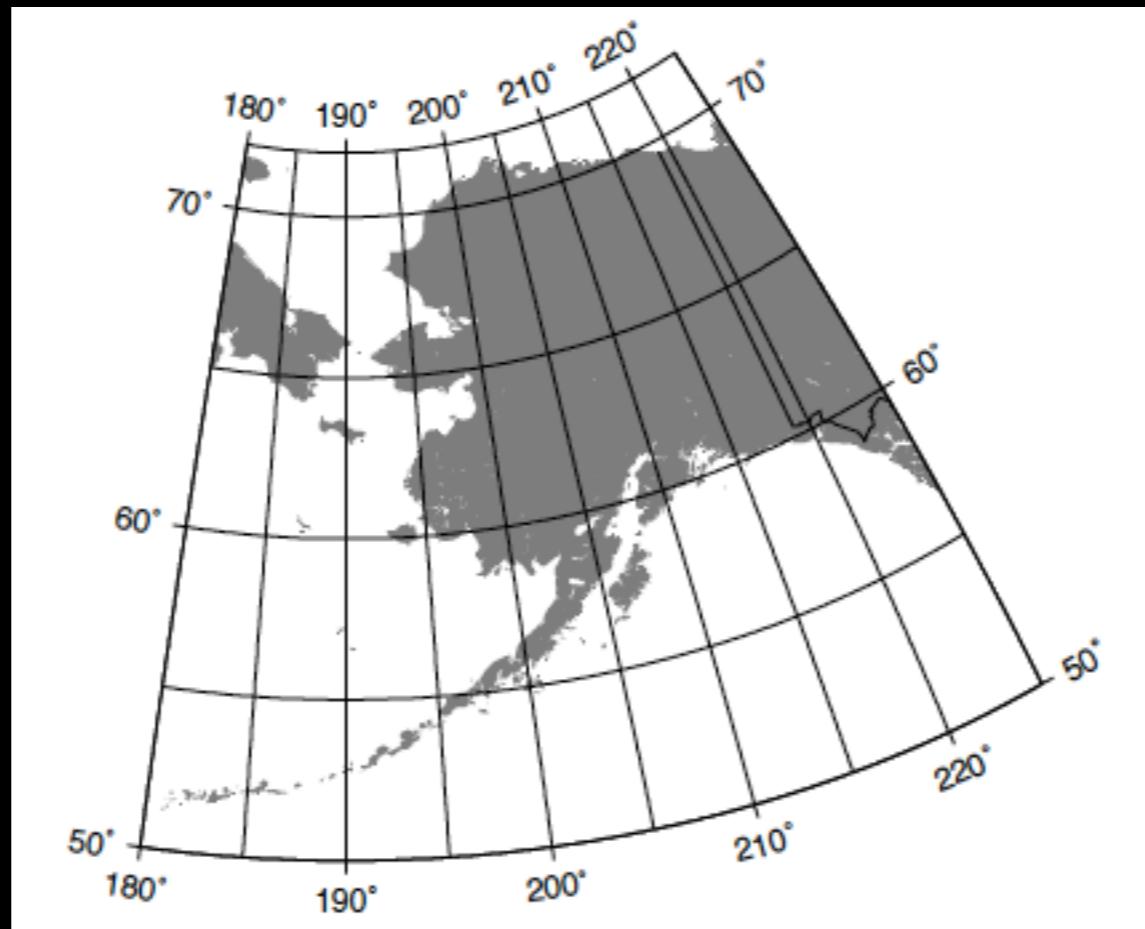


# Graphic Programs

- **grdcontour** Contouring of 2-D gridded data
- **grdimage** Produce images from 2-D gridded data
- **grdvector** Plot vector fields from 2-D gridded data
- **grdview** 3-D perspective imaging of 2-D gridded data
- **psbasemap** Create a basemap frame
- **psclip** Use polygon files as clipping paths
- **pscoast** Plot coastlines, filled continents, rivers, and political borders
- **pscontour** Direct contouring or imaging of xyz-data by triangulation
- **pshistogram** Plot a histogram
- **psimage** Plot Sun rasterfiles on a map
- **pslegend** Plot legend on a map
- **psmask** Create overlay to mask specified regions of a map
- **psrose** Plot sector or rose diagrams
- **psscale** Plot grayscale or colorscale
- **pstext** Plot textstrings
- **pswiggle** Draw anomalies along track
- **psxy** Plot symbols, polygons, and lines in 2-D
- **psxyz** Plot symbols, polygons, and lines in 3-D

# Create a simple map

```
pscoast -Jc190/68/0.50 -R180/225/50/72 -Di -NI -G125 -Bg5a10 > Alaska.ps
```



# The 17 standardized **GMT** command line switches

- B** Defines tickmarks, annotations, and labels for basemaps and axes
- H** Specifies that input/output tables have header record(s)
- J** Selects a map projection or coordinate transformation
- K** Allows more plot code to be appended to this plot later
- O** Allows this plot code to be appended to an existing plot
- P** Selects Portrait plot orientation [Default is landscape]
- R** Defines the extent of the map/plot region
- U** Plots a time-stamp, by default in the lower left corner of page
- V** Selects verbose operation; reporting on progress
- X** Sets the x-coordinate for the plot origin on the page
- Y** Sets the y-coordinate for the plot origin on the page
- b** Selects binary input and/or output
- c** Specifies the number of plot copies
- f** Specifies the data format on a per column basis
- g** Identify data gaps based on supplied criteria
- m** Specifies data in multiple segment format
- :** Assumes input geographic data are (*lat,lon*) and not (*lon,lat*)

# Command line on 1st plot

```
pscoast -Jc190/68/0.50 -R180/225/50/72 -Di -NI -G125 -Bg5a10 > test.ps
```

-Jc specifies the Cassini projection, centered at 190 longitude, 68 latitude and scale at 0.50 inches per map unit

-R defines the map area in WESN form

-Di says to use the intermediate resolution coastline

-NI says to plot international boundaries

-G says to fill the continents with a medium gray

-Bg5a10 says to put a grid on the map at every 5 map units and annotate it every 10 map units

# It looks easy, but...

-B Sets map boundary annotation and tickmark intervals. The format of *tickinfo* is [pls]xinfo[/yinfo[/zinfo]][:"Title":][W|w][E|e][S|s][N|n][Z|z[+]]. The leading p [Default] or s selects the primary or secondary annotation information. Each of the ?info segments are textstrings of the form *info*[:Axis label":][:=prefix":][,:unit label":]. The *info* string is made up of one or more concatenated substrings of the form [which]stride[+-phase][u]. The optional which can be either a for annotation tick spacing [Default], f for frame tick spacing, and g for gridline spacing. If frame interval is not set, it is assumed to be the same as annotation interval. *stride* is the desired stride interval. The optional *phase* shifts the annotation interval by that amount. The optional *u* indicates the unit of the *stride* and can be any of Y (year, plot with 4 digits), y (year, plot with 2 digits), O (month, plot using PLOT\_DATE\_FORMAT), o (month, plot with 2 digits), U (ISO week, plot using PLOT\_DATE\_FORMAT), u (ISO week, plot using 2 digits), r (Gregorian week, 7-day stride from start of week TIME\_WEEK\_START), K (ISO weekday, plot name of day), D (date, plot using PLOT\_DATE\_FORMAT), d (day, plot day of month 0-31 or year 1-366, via PLOT\_DATE\_FORMAT), R (day, same as d, aligned with TIME\_WEEK\_START), H (hour, plot using PLOT\_CLOCK\_FORMAT), h (hour, plot with 2 digits), M (minute, plot using PLOT\_CLOCK\_FORMAT), m (minute, plot with 2 digits), C (second, plot using PLOT\_CLOCK\_FORMAT), c (second, plot with 2 digits). Note for geographic axes m and c instead mean arc minutes and arc seconds. All entities that are language-specific are under control by TIME\_LANGUAGE. To specify separate x and y ticks, separate the substrings that apply to the x and y axes with a slash [/] (If a 3-D basemap is selected with -E and -Jz, a third substring pertaining to the vertical axis may be appended.) For linear/log/power projections (-Jx|X): Labels for each axis can be added by surrounding them with colons (:). If the first character in the label is a period, then the label is used as plot title; if it is a comma (,) then the label is appended to each annotation; if it is an equal sign (=) the the prefix is prepended to each annotation (start label/prefix with - to avoid space between annotation and item); else it is the axis label. If the label consists of more than one word, enclose the entire label in double quotes (e.g., :"my label":). If you need to use a colon (:) as part of your label you must specify it using its octal code (\072).By default, all 4 boundaries are plotted (referred to as W, E, S, N). To change the default, append the code for only those axes you want (e.g., WS for standard lower-left x- and y-axis system). Upper case (e.g., W) means draw axis/tickmarks AND annotate it, whereas lower case (e.g., w) will only draw axis/tickmarks. (If a 3-D basemap is selected with -E and -Jz, append Z or z to control the appearance of the vertical axis. Append + to draw the outline of the cube defined by -R. Note that for 3-D views the title, if given, will be suppressed.) For non-geographical projections: Give negative scale (in -Jx) or axis length (in -JX) to change the direction of increasing coordinates (i.e., to make the y-axis positive down). For log10 axes: Annotations can be specified in one of three ways: (1) *stride* can be 1, 2, 3, or -*n*. Annotations will then occur at 1, 1-2-5, or 1-2-3-4-...-9, respectively; for -*n* we annotate every *n*'t magnitude. This option can also be used for the frame and grid intervals. (2) An l is appended to the *tickinfo* string. Then, log10 of the tick value is plotted at every integer log10 value. (3) A p is appended to the *tickinfo* string. Then, annotations appear as 10 raised to log10 of the tick value. For power axes: Annotations can be specified in one of two ways: (1) *stride* sets the regular annotation interval. (2) A p is appended to the *tickinfo* string. Then, the annotation interval is expected to be in transformed units, but the annotation value will be plotted as untransformed units. E.g., if *stride* = 1 and *power* = 0.5 (i.e., sqrt), then equidistant annotations labeled 1-4-9... will appear. These GMT parameters can affect the appearance of the map boundary: ANNOT\_MIN\_ANGLE, ANNOT\_MIN\_SPACING, ANNOT\_FONT\_PRIMARY, ANNOT\_FONT\_SECONDARY, ANNOT\_FONT\_SIZE\_PRIMARY, ANNOT\_FONT\_SIZE\_SECONDARY, ANNOT\_OFFSET\_PRIMARY, ANNOT\_OFFSET\_SECONDARY, BASEMAP\_AXES, BASEMAP\_FRAME\_RGB, BASEMAP\_TYPE, DEGREE\_FORMAT, FRAME\_PEN, FRAME\_WIDTH, GRID\_CROSS\_SIZE\_PRIMARY, GRID\_PEN\_PRIMARY, GRID\_CROSS\_SIZE\_SECONDARY, GRID\_PEN\_SECONDARY, HEADER\_FONT, HEADER\_FONT\_SIZE, LABEL\_FONT, LABEL\_FONT\_SIZE, LINE\_STEP, OBLIQUE\_ANNOTATION, PLOT\_CLOCK\_FORMAT, PLOT\_DATE\_FORMAT, TIME\_FORMAT\_PRIMARY, TIME\_FORMAT\_SECONDARY, TIME\_LANGUAGE, TIME\_WEEK\_START, TICK\_LENGTH, TICK\_PEN, and Y\_AXIS\_TYPE; see the gmtdefaults man page for details.

# gmtdefaults

```
gmtset `cat $workingdir/gmt.plot.parameters` D_FORMAT %.0f MEASURE_UNIT inch
```

```
gmtset D_FORMAT %.6f
```

USE gmtdefaults -D to see default settings

USE gmtdefaults -L to see your current settings

# Try it again with a script

create with text editor  
“chmod +x” to make it executable

```
#!/bin/csh
# plot a Cassini projected map of Alaska with a user-defined scale

set workingdir = `pwd`
gmtset `cat $workingdir/gmt.plot.parameters`

set scale = $1

set w_lon = 180
set e_lon = 225
set s_lat = 50
set n_lat = 72

set map_box = -R$w_lon/$e_lon/$s_lat/$n_lat
set filename = alaska.ps

set pro_lon = `echo $w_lon $e_lon | awk '{printf "%.2f",($1+$2)/2.0}'`
set pro_lat = `echo $n_lat $s_lat | awk '{printf "%.2f",($1+$2)/2.0}'`

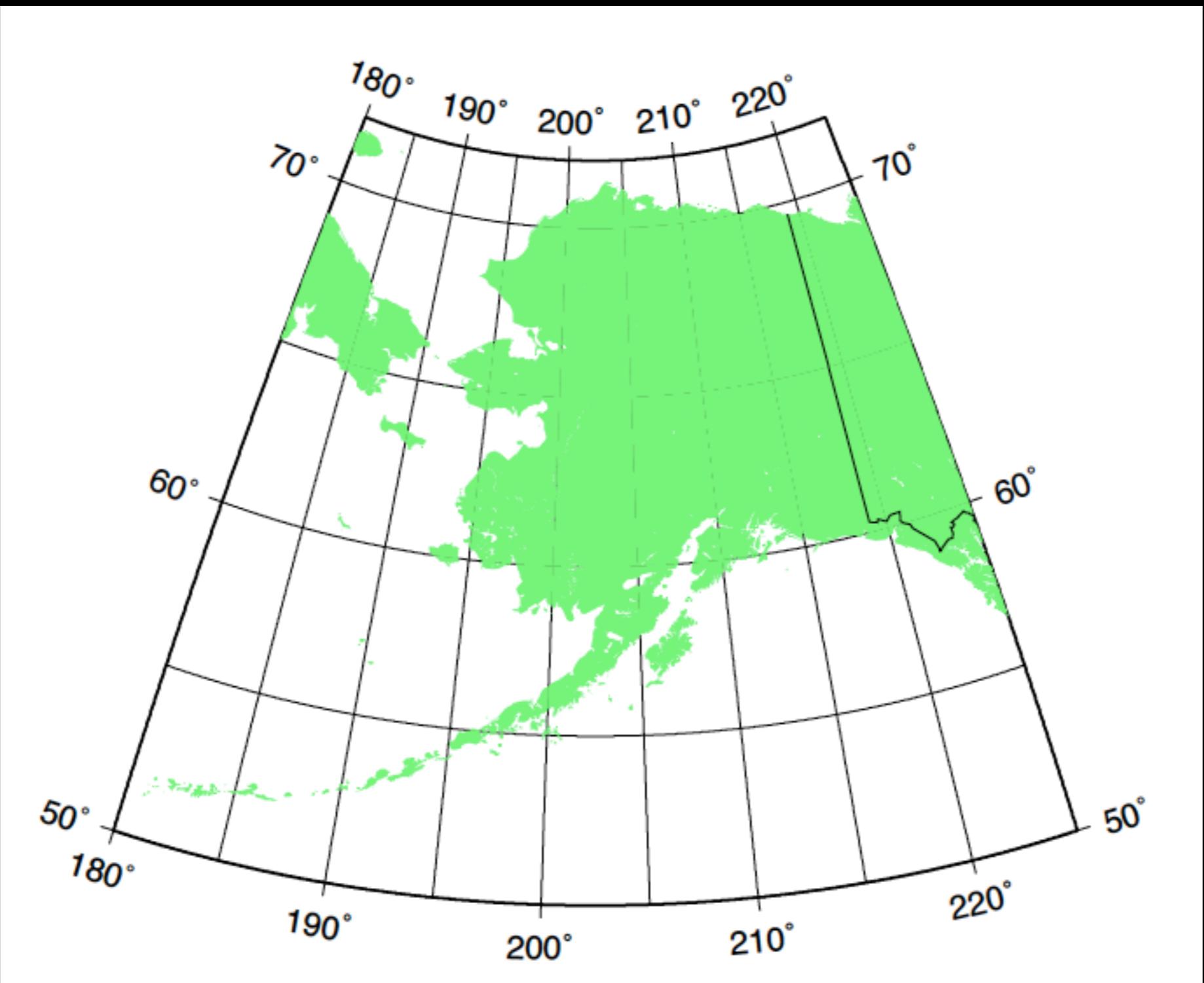
set map_pro = -Jc$pro_lon/$pro_lat/$scale
```

# the commands

```
psbasemap $map_pro $map_box -Bg5a10 -K -P > $filename
```

```
pscoast $map_pro $map_box -Di -NI -GI25/255/I25 -O >>  
$filename
```

# the map.....

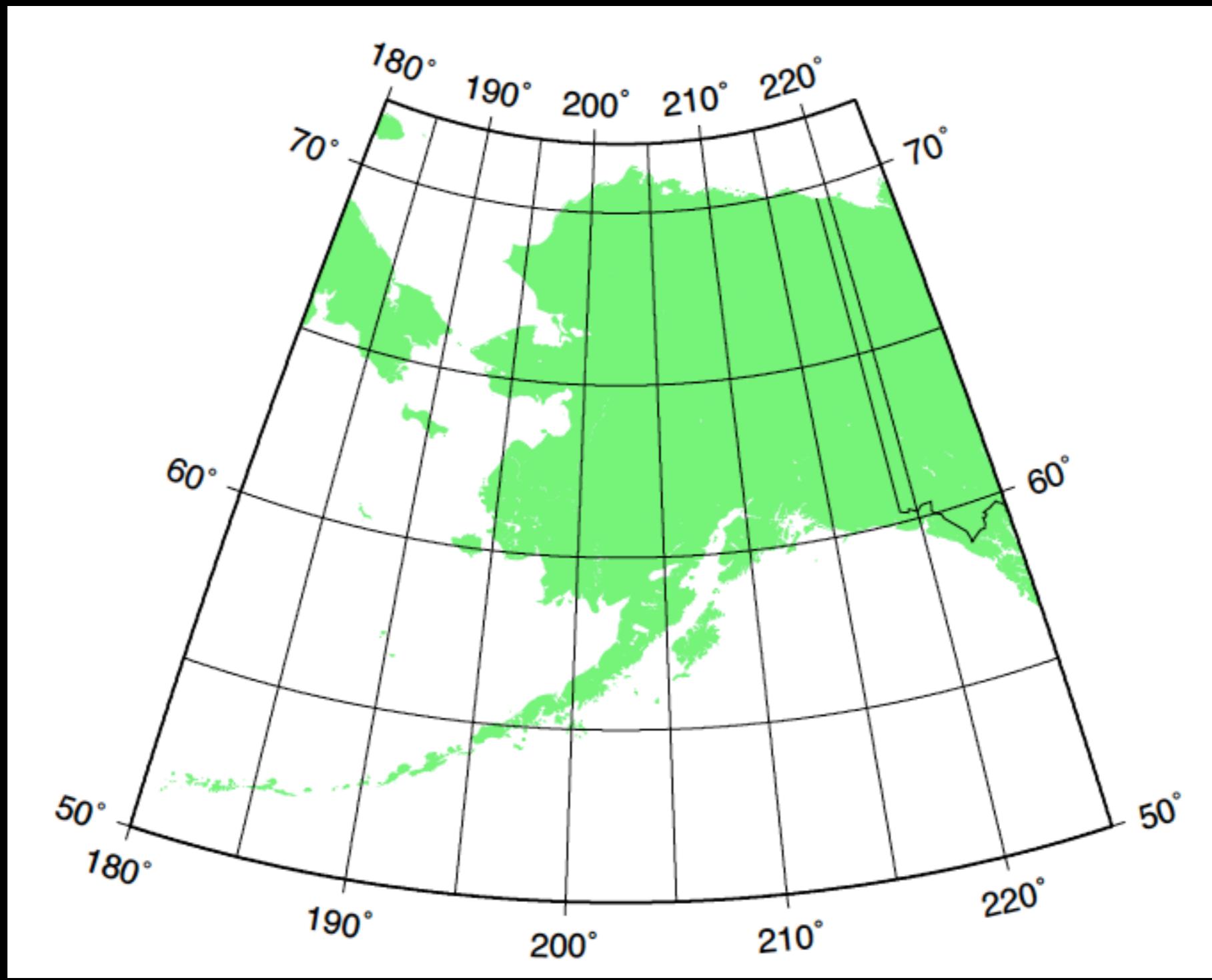


# sequence is important

```
pscoast $map_pro $map_box -Di -N1 -G125/255/125 -K -P > $filename
```

```
psbasemap $map_pro $map_box -Bg5a10 -O >> $filename
```

# a somewhat different map



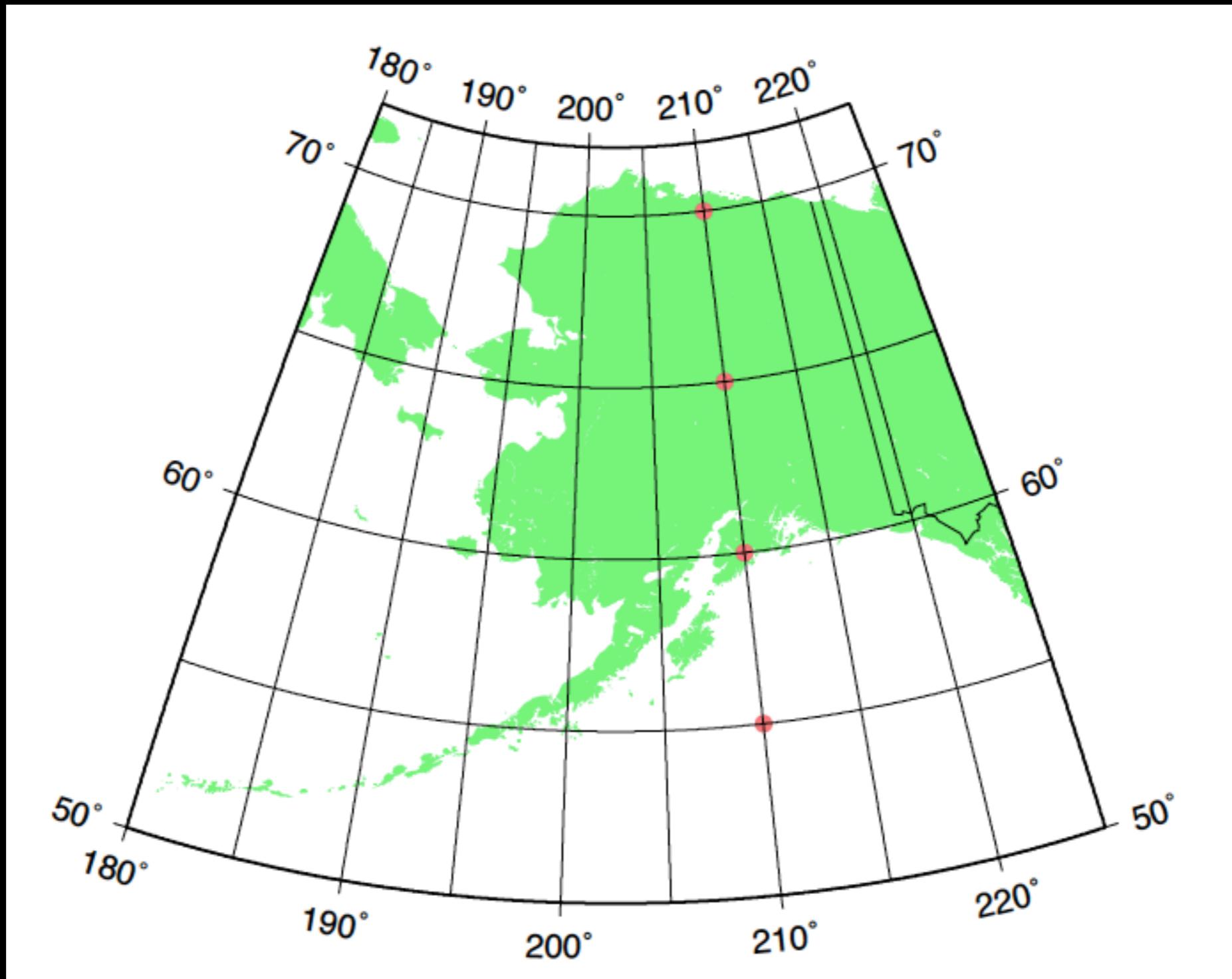
# add some data points?

```
pscoast $map_pro $map_box -Di -NI -G125/255/125 -K -P > $filename
```

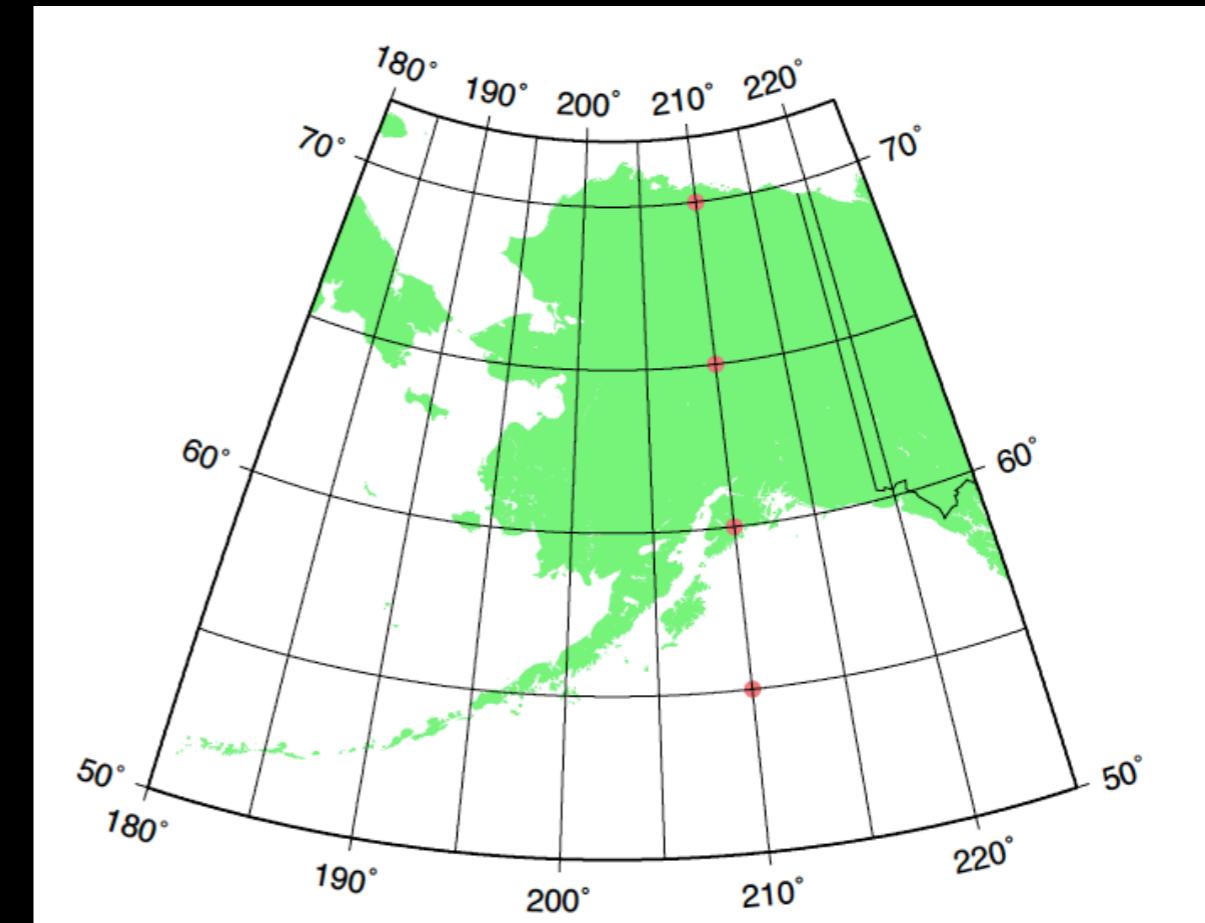
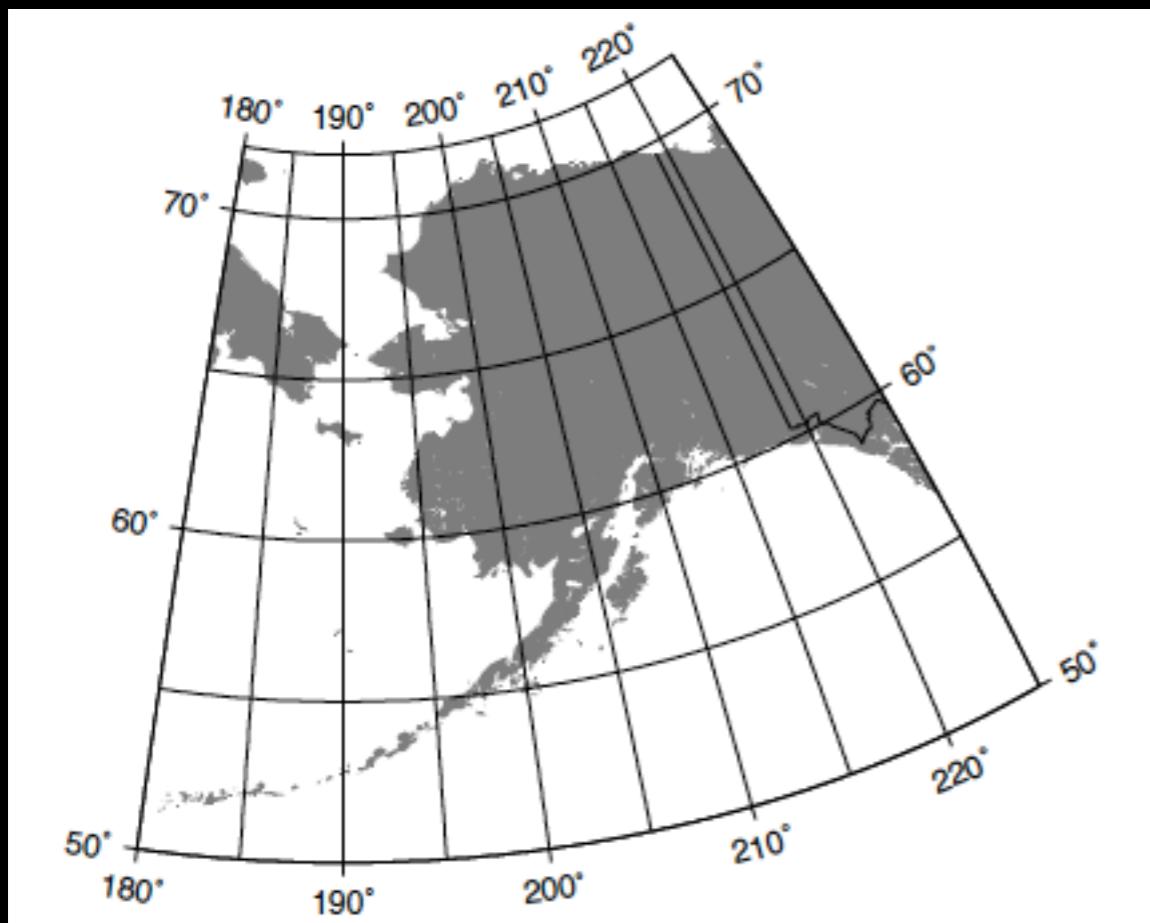
```
psxy $map_pro $map_box -Sc0.25 -G255/125/125 -K -O >> $filename << END
210 70
210 65
210 60
210 55
END
```

```
psbasemap $map_pro $map_box -Bg5a10 -O >> $filename
```

# map with data points



# so where did we go?



# what are -K and -O?

-O suppresses the header, which defines a number of aliases to make a more compact file

```
%!PS-Adobe-3.0
%%BoundingBox: 0 0 595 842
%%Title: GMT v4.2.0 Document from pscoast
%%Creator: GMT
%%For: bernardcoakley
%%DocumentNeededResources: font Helvetica
%%CreationDate: Thu Oct 29 06:47:11 2009
%%LanguageLevel: 1
%%DocumentData: Clean7Bit
%%Orientation: Portrait
%%Pages: 1
%%EndComments

%%BeginProlog
250 dict begin
/A /setgray load def
/B /setdash load def
/C /setrgbcolor load def
/D /rlineto load def
/E {dup stringwidth pop} bind def
/F /fill load def
```

**-K suppresses the trailer**

**a lot of text Postscript precedes these last few lines;**

```
I 0 D  
S  
%%PageTrailer  
S -0 -0 T 4.16667 4.16667 scale 0 A  
showpage  
  
%%Trailer  
  
end  
%%EOF
```

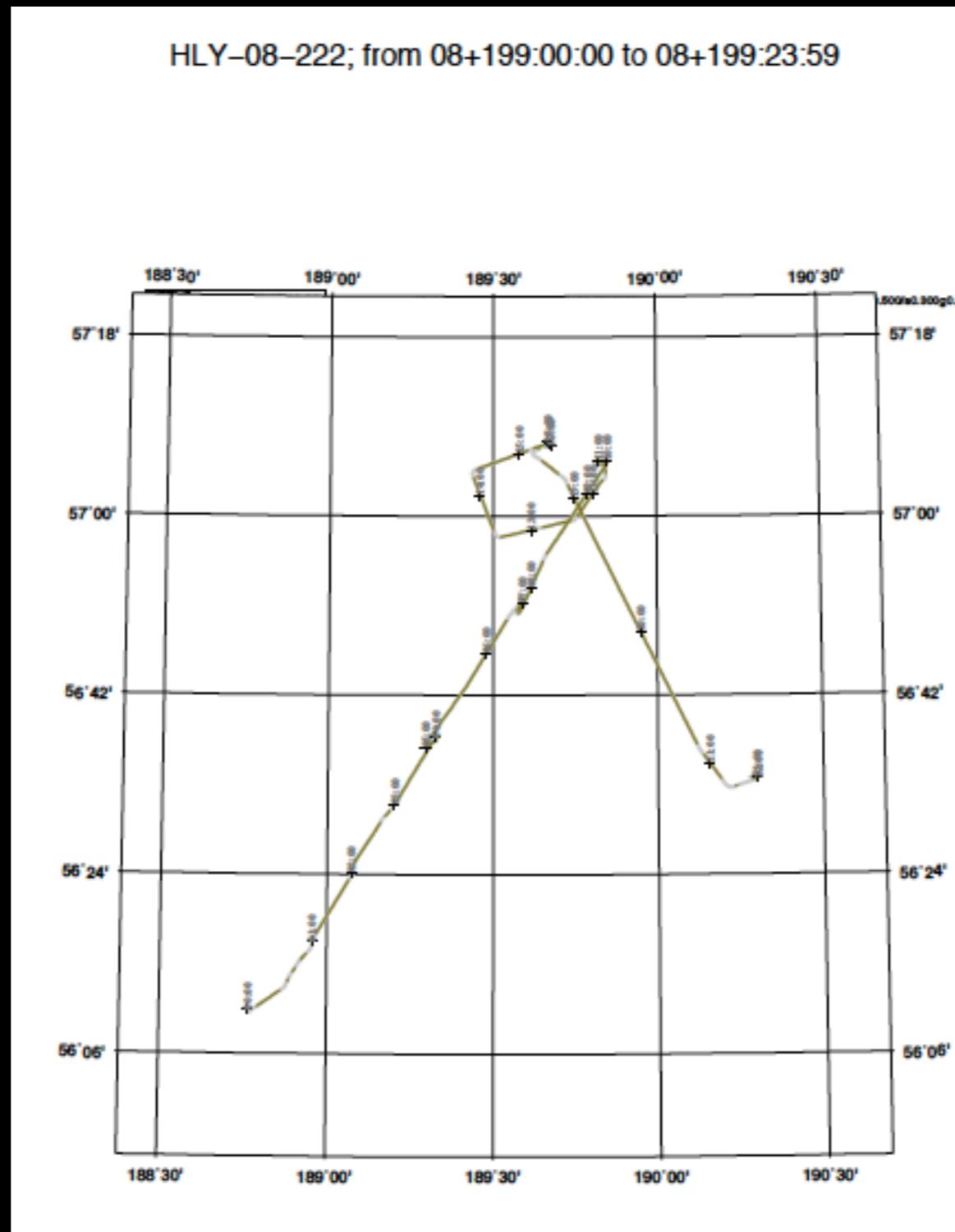
**The simplest state uses neither -K or -O and results in a complete plot with both header and trailer.**

**By using -K and -O we can use GMT commands in series to create a single plot.**

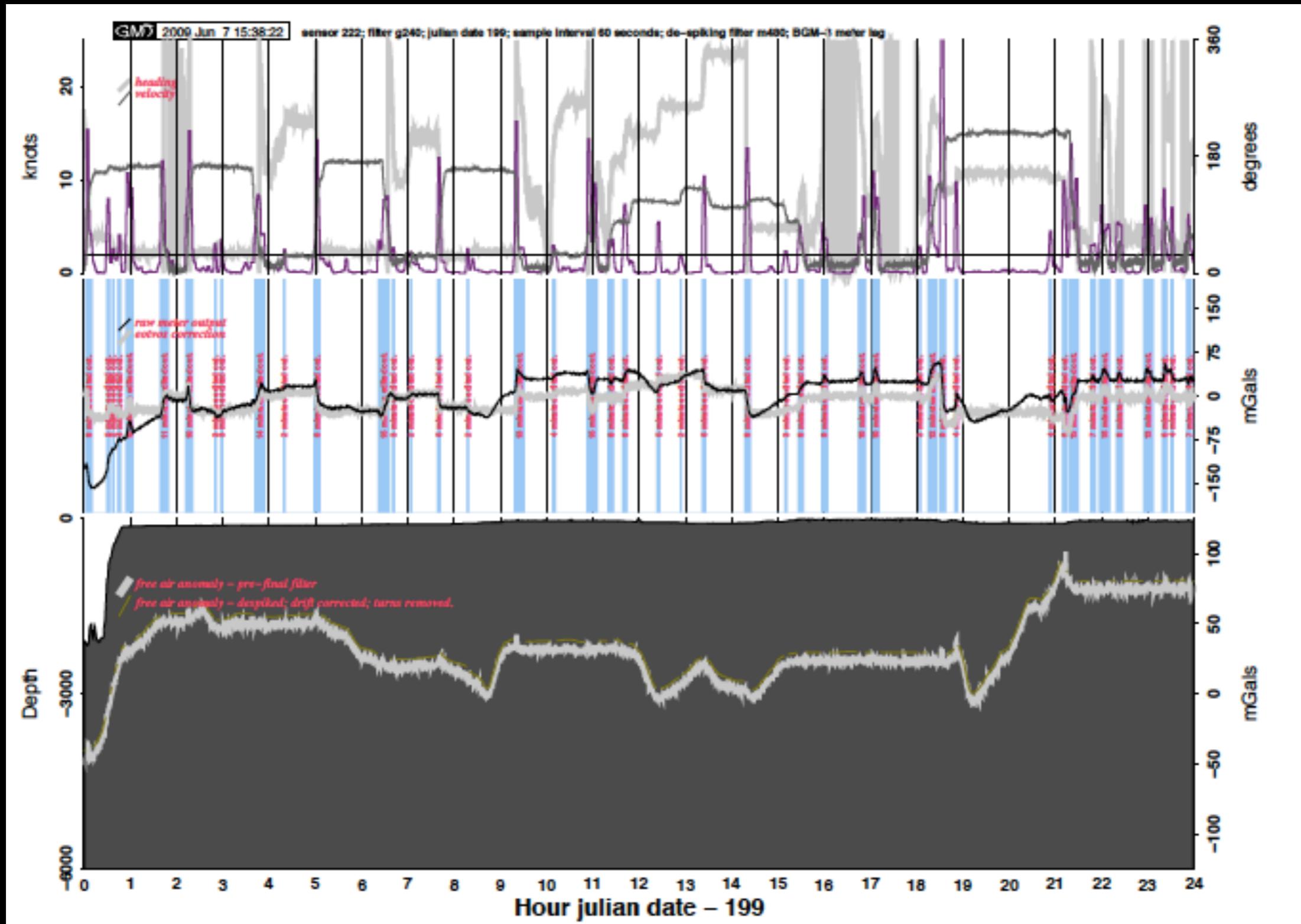
# most common errors in GMT scripts

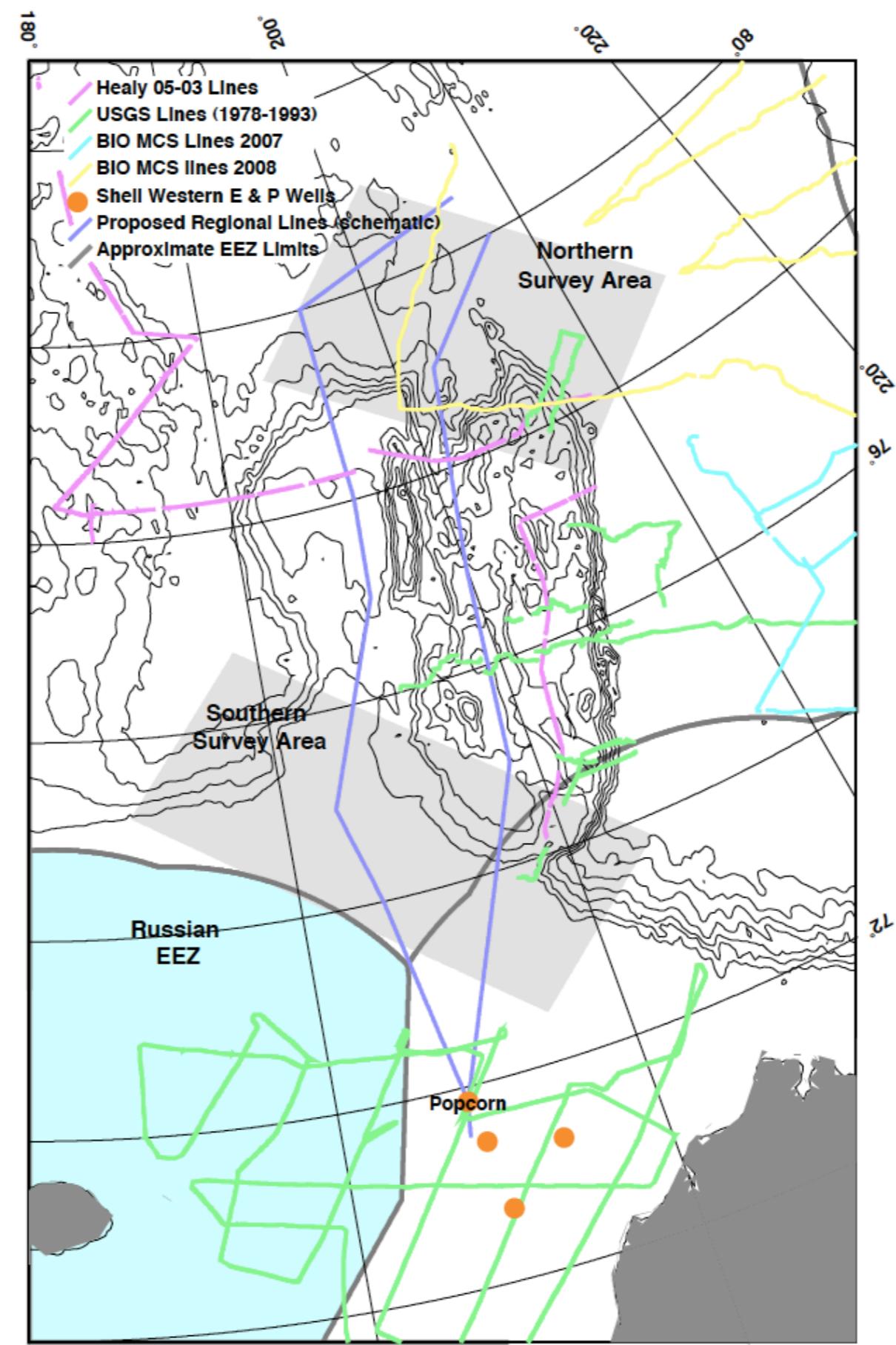
- misuse of -K and -O options
- using “>” instead of “>>” as a redirect
- not specifying -R or -J correctly
- incorrect sequencing of commands
- trying to plot incorrectly scaled data
- trying to write the whole script at once

# USCGC Ship track

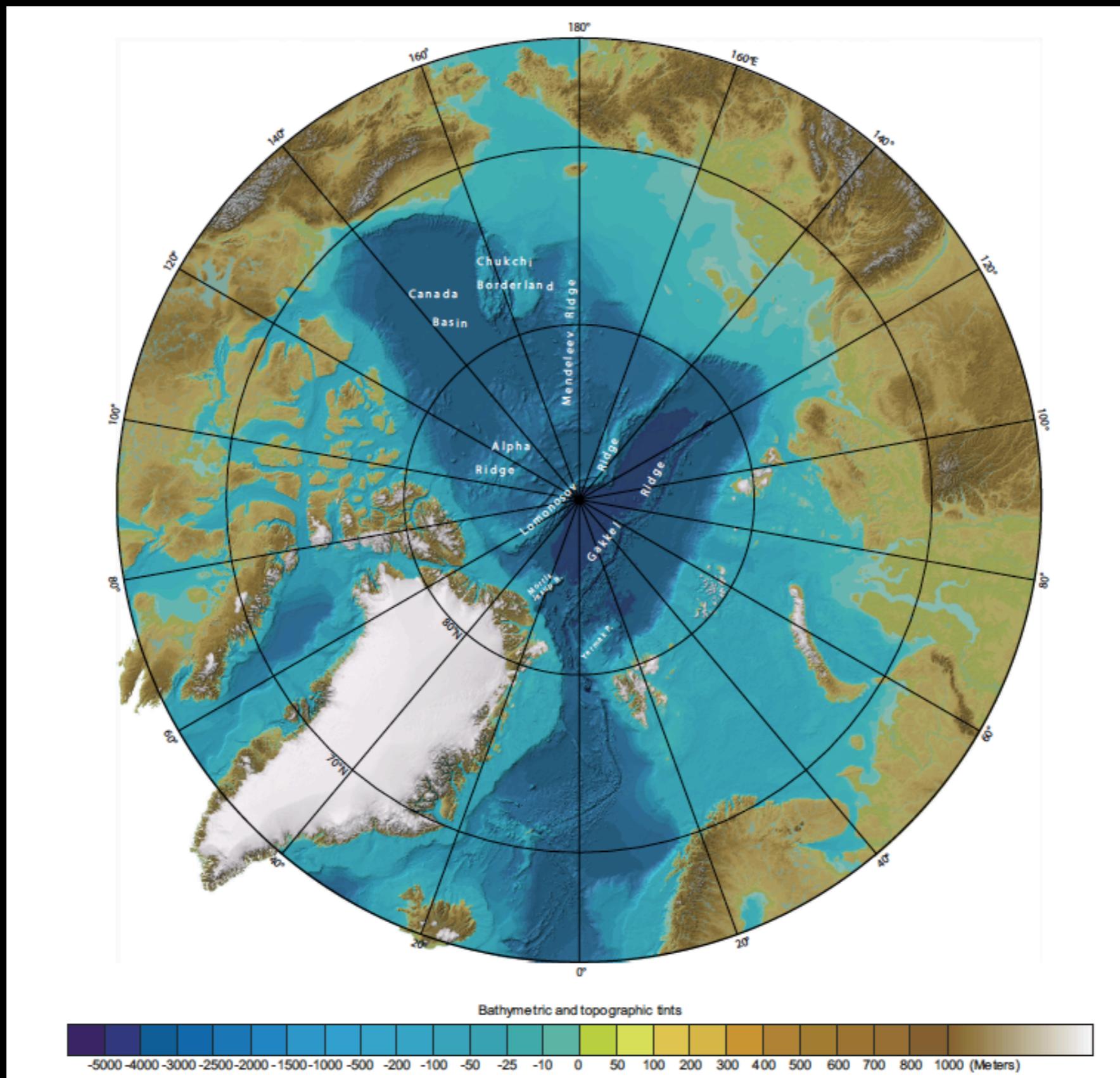


# Gravity data from USCGC Healy





# some people are really good at this...



## Assignment -

Write a script to plot some data on a map.

Write a 2nd script to do an x, y plot of the same data.

suggestion - use awk to scale or select column data for your plots

Next time, data analysis  
and gridding, a lot of gridding with GMT