```
In [1]:
         import numpy as np
         import pandas as pd
         import matplotlib
         import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
         from matplotlib import cm
         import os.path
         try:
             import pyradi.ryplot as ryplot
             pyradiryplotImported = True
         except ImportError:
             pyradiryplotImported = False
         # get rbf from here:
           https://github.com/treverhines/RBF.git
         # https://github.com/NelisW/RBF (forked from above)
         # rbf has a poly.c file that must be compiled to a poly.pyx file.
         # it seem that different versions of Python require recompile of the file.
         # to do this cd to the folder that contains setup.py (RBF/) and then
         # python setup.py install
         # this will install rbf in the Lib/sitepackages folder, ready for work.
         from rbf.interpolate import RBFInterpolant
```

Using radial basis functions for smoothing/interpolation on a sphere

This work was made possible by Trever Hines, the man behind

https://github.com/treverhines/RBF.git. Trever Hines kindly reworked and updated his RBF module to perform interpolation on a sphere. The data is converted from azimuth and polar/elevation angles to (x,y,z), which are then interpolated over in the Cartesian domain. His approach obtain the symmetry around the sphere and does not require any special spherical kernels. Trever's example script is shown below.

See here for a general introduction on interpolation by radial basis functions: https://github.com/NelisW/PythonNotesToSelf/blob/master/RBF-Interpolation.ipynb

Scipy has some RBF interpolation functionality but not quite what we need here: http://scipy-cookbook.readthedocs.io/items/RadialBasisFunctions.html

There is a more powerful radial base function package available here:

https://github.com/treverhines/RBF

https://rbf.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

which provides additional capabilities not available in the scipy package.

Note It appears that Hines follow the Scipy convention for \epsilon = \sigma\ in a Gauss function.

Radial basis functions can be used for smoothing/interpolating scattered/unstructured data in n-dimensions, but should be used with caution for extrapolation outside of the observed data range.

```
In [2]: # seed for random number generator
    rseed = 1
    # number of observation points
    nobs = 100
    # show input data markers in interpolated contour graphs
    showMarkers = True
```

General support functions

```
In [3]:
         def spherical to cartesian(azim,elev):
             """Convert azimuth/elevation angles to (x,y,z) on a sphere, Numpy version.
             Azimuth in the domain $[0..2\pi]$
             Elevation in the domain $[-\pi/2..\pi/2]$
             Returns [x,y,z] values on a sphere
             x = np.sin(elev+np.pi/2)*np.cos(azim)
             y = np.sin(elev+np.pi/2)*np.sin(azim)
             z = np.cos(elev+np.pi/2)
             return np.array([x,y,z]).T
In [4]:
         def spherical_to_cartesianDf(row):
             """Convert azimuth/elevation angles to (x,y,z) on a sphere, Pandas version.
             Azimuth in the domain $[0..2\pi]$
             Elevation in the domain $[-\pi/2..\pi/2]$
             Returns new columns for [x,y,z] values on a sphere
             x = np.sin(row['Elev']+np.pi/2) * np.cos(row['Azim'])
             y = np.sin(row['Elev']+np.pi/2) * np.sin(row['Azim'])
             z = np.cos(row['Elev'])
             return pd.Series({'x':x, 'y':y, 'z':z})
In [5]:
         def makeRegGrid(gint azim, gint elev):
             """Make a regular grid of points in mesh form, given azimuth and elevation coord
             Azimuth in the domain $[0..2\pi]$
             Elevation in the domain $[-\pi/2..\pi/2]$
             Inputs:
                 gint azim azimuth grid interval in degrees
                 gint_elev elevation grid interval in degrees
             Returns
                 msh azim 2D mesh grid varying along azimuth
                 msh_elev 2D mesh grid varying along elevation
             ....
             num_azim = int(360 / gint_azim + 1)
             num_elev = int(180 / gint_elev + 1)
             grd azimV = np.linspace(0.0,2*np.pi,num azim)
             grd_elevV = np.linspace(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2,num_elev)
             msh_azim,msh_elev = np.meshgrid(grd_azimV,grd_elevV)
             return msh_azim,msh_elev,grd_azimV,grd_elevV
```

```
In [6]:
         def true_function(msh_azim,msh_elev,ftype='original'):
             """Create different test targets
             if 'asym-cardoid' in ftype:
                 razim = 1 + np.sin(msh azim)
                 relev = np.cos(msh_elev) * np.abs(np.tan(1.3* np.pi/2+0.2*msh_elev))
                 out = 0.1 + razim * relev
             elif 'basic' in ftype:
                 out = np.cos(msh_azim) * np.cos(msh_elev)
             else:
                 # create some arbitary function that we want to recontruct with interpolation
                 cart = spherical_to_cartesian(msh_azim,msh_elev)
                 out = (np.cos(cart[:,2] - 1.0) *
                      np.cos(cart[:,0] - 1.0) *
                      np.cos(cart[:,1] - 1.0))
             return out
```

The requirement near-equal or uniform spacing on the sphere means limits the construction to a geodesic structure with limited choice of the number of points. The grids were originally created as triangulated icosahedra in Meshmixer, but can also be created in Blender as the vertices of an icosphere. Export the object to the wavefront obj format and extract the vertices.

```
In [7]:
         def makeTestSet(nobs,ftype,rseed=1,doRandom=True):
             if doRandom:
                 np.random.seed(rseed)
                 # make the observation points in spherical coordinates
                 obs_azim = np.random.uniform(0.0,2*np.pi,nobs)
                 obs_elev = np.random.uniform(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2,nobs)
                 # get the catesian coordinates for the observation points
                 obs_cart = spherical_to_cartesian(obs_azim,obs_elev)
             else:
                 # this file is a regular equally-spaced geodesic
                   obs_cart = np.loadtxt('data/vertexsphere_2_162.txt')
         #
                 \# this file has the same as above but extra vertices around planes and x axi
                 obs_cart = np.loadtxt('data/compositesphere.txt')
                 # avoid divide by zero
                 obs cart += np.finfo(float).eps
                 obs azim = np.arctan2(obs cart[:,1],0.001+obs cart[:,0])
                 obs_elev = np.arctan2( obs_cart[:,2], np.sqrt(obs_cart[:,1]**2 + obs_cart[:,
                   obs_elev = np.arctan2(obs_cart[:,1]/np.sin(obs_azim),0.001+obs_cart[:,2])
                 obs_azim += np.pi
             # get the latent function at the observation points
             obs_vals = true_function(obs_azim,obs_elev,ftype=ftype)
             return obs cart, obs vals, obs azim, obs elev
              x = np.sin(elev+np.pi/2)*np.cos(azim)
         #
              y = np.sin(elev+np.pi/2)*np.sin(azim)
               z = np.cos(elev+np.pi/2)
```

```
nobs: number of data samples in the file, randomly created
              azim in [0..2\pi], elel in [\pi/20..\pi/2]
        ftype: data function type, one of 'asym-cardoid', 'basic' or
        rseed: seed to be used in random number generator
        rscale: set of scale values to be applied in subsequent columnns. The
                resulting data vector will be multiplied by this scale factor
    Returns
        Nothing.
    obs_cart, obs_vals, obs_azim, obs_elev = makeTestSet(nobs,ftype,rseed,doRandom=F
    out = true_function(obs_azim,obs_elev,ftype=ftype)
    df = pd.DataFrame({'Alti':np.ones(obs_azim.shape),
                       'Azim':obs azim*180/np.pi,
                       'Elev':obs elev*180/np.pi,
                       1:out})
    # build the dummy data frame by just scaling out
    for item in rscale[1:]:
        df[item] = df[1] * item
    df.to_csv(ftype+filename, index=False,header=False,sep=' ')
    print(f'Data written to {ftype+filename}')
    print(df.head())
writeFunction('testdata.env',nobs=nobs,ftype='asym-cardoid')
writeFunction('testdata.env',nobs=nobs,ftype='basic')
writeFunction('testdata.env',nobs=nobs,ftype='original')
Data written to asym-cardoidtestdata.env
  Alti
              Azim
                            Elev
                                                1.1
                                                         1.2
                                                                   1.3
                                        1
   1.0 269.932645 3.171746e+01 0.100001 0.110001 0.120001 0.130001
0
1
   1.0 269.932645 -3.171746e+01 0.100002 0.110002 0.120002 0.130002
2
        90.067355 3.171746e+01 2.685704 2.954275 3.222845 3.491415
3
        90.067355 -3.171746e+01 4.612720 5.073992 5.535264 5.996536
   1.0 211.687367 1.272222e-14 1.031683 1.134851 1.238019 1.341187
                                              1.8
       1.4
                 1.5
                          1.6
                                    1.7
                                                        1.9
0 0.140001 0.150001 0.160001 0.170002 0.180002 0.190002 0.200002
1 0.140002 0.150002 0.160002 0.170003 0.180003 0.190003 0.200003
 3.759986 4.028556 4.297127 4.565697 4.834267 5.102838 5.371408
  6.457808 6.919080 7.380352 7.841624 8.302896 8.764168 9.225440
4 1.444356 1.547524 1.650692 1.753860 1.857029 1.960197 2.063365
Data written to basictestdata.env
  Alti
              Azim
                            Elev
                                        1
                                               1.1
                                                        1.2
                                                                  1.3 \
   1.0 269.932645 3.171746e+01 -0.001000 -0.00110 -0.001200 -0.001300
1
   1.0 269.932645 -3.171746e+01 -0.001000 -0.00110 -0.001200 -0.001300
2
        90.067355 3.171746e+01 -0.001000 -0.00110 -0.001200 -0.001300
3
   1.0
         90.067355 -3.171746e+01 -0.001000 -0.00110 -0.001200 -0.001300
       1.0
       1.4
                1.5
                          1.6
                                   1.7
                                             1.8
                                                      1.9
0 -0.001400 -0.00150 -0.001600 -0.001700 -0.001800 -0.001900 -0.002000
1 -0.001400 -0.00150 -0.001600 -0.001700 -0.001800 -0.001900 -0.002000
2 -0.001400 -0.00150 -0.001600 -0.001700 -0.001800 -0.001900 -0.002000
3 -0.001400 -0.00150 -0.001600 -0.001700 -0.001800 -0.001900 -0.002000
4 -1.191298 -1.27639 -1.361483 -1.446576 -1.531669 -1.616761 -1.701854
Data written to originaltestdata.env
   Alti
              Azim
                            Elev
                                                1.1
                                                         1.2
0
   1.0 269.932645 3.171746e+01 -0.006713 -0.007384 -0.008055 -0.008727
   1.0 269.932645 -3.171746e+01 -0.132561 -0.145817 -0.159073 -0.172329
1
2
   1.0
         90.067355 3.171746e+01 0.024032 0.026435 0.028839 0.031242
   1.0
         90.067355 -3.171746e+01 0.474576 0.522034 0.569491 0.616949
```

```
4 1.0 211.687367 1.272222e-14 -0.006796 -0.007476 -0.008156 -0.008835

1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0
0 -0.009398 -0.010069 -0.010740 -0.011412 -0.012083 -0.012754 -0.013426
1 -0.185585 -0.198841 -0.212097 -0.225353 -0.238610 -0.251866 -0.265122
2 0.033645 0.036048 0.038452 0.040855 0.043258 0.045661 0.048064
3 0.664407 0.711864 0.759322 0.806779 0.854237 0.901695 0.949152
4 -0.009515 -0.010195 -0.010874 -0.011554 -0.012234 -0.012913 -0.013593
```

Demo example from Hines' code

RBF Interpolation on a unit sphere. This is done by converting theta (azimuthal angle) and phi (polar/elevation angle) into cartesian coordinates and then interpolating over R^3.

Credit: script by Trever Hines (treverhines@gmail.com), using his RBF module.

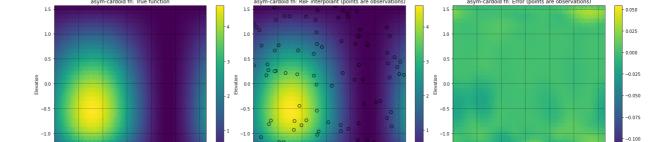
https://github.com/treverhines/RBF https://rbf.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

The code shown here was converted from Trever's original for polar angle \$[0..\pi]\$ to elevation angle \$[-\pi/2..\pi/2]\$.

```
In [9]:
         def plotResultDemo(msh_azim,msh_elev,val_true,val_itp,obs_azim,obs_elev,obs_vals,ier
             ## PLOTTING
             plt.figure(figsize=(20,6))
             # plot in regular grid
             plt.subplot(1, 3, 1)
             plt.title(f'{ftype} fn: True function')
             p = plt.tripcolor(msh_azim,msh_elev,val_true,cmap='viridis')
             plt.colorbar(p)
             plt.xlabel('Azimuth')
             plt.ylabel('Elevation')
             plt.xlim(0,2*np.pi)
             plt.ylim(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2)
             plt.grid(ls=':',color='k')
             plt.tight_layout()
             # plot the interpolant in spherical coordinates
             plt.subplot(1, 3, 2)
             plt.title(f'{ftype} fn: RBF interpolant (points are observations)')
             # plot the interpolated function
             p = plt.tripcolor(msh azim,msh elev,val itp,cmap='viridis')
             # plot the observations
             plt.scatter(obs azim,obs elev,c=obs vals,
                         s=50,edgecolor='k',cmap='viridis',
                         vmin=p.get clim()[0],vmax=p.get clim()[1])
             plt.colorbar(p)
             plt.xlabel('Azimuth')
             plt.ylabel('Elevation')
             plt.xlim(0,2*np.pi)
             plt.ylim(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2)
             plt.grid()
             plt.grid(ls=':',color='k')
             plt.tight layout()
             if ierror is not None:
                 # plot the interpolant in spherical coordinates
                 plt.subplot(1, 3, 3)
                 plt.title(f'{ftype} fn: Error (points are observations)')
                 # plot the interpolated function
```

```
p = plt.tripcolor(msh_azim,msh_elev,ierror,cmap='viridis')
plt.colorbar(p)
plt.xlabel('Azimuth')
plt.ylabel('Elevation')
plt.xlim(0,2*np.pi)
plt.ylim(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2)
plt.grid()
plt.grid(ls=':',color='k')
plt.tight_layout()
```

```
In [10]:
          doExample = True
          if doExample:
              np.random.seed(rseed)
              # test function name
              ftype = 'asym-cardoid'
                ftype = 'original'
              # create the test input set
              obs cart, obs vals, obs azim, obs elev = makeTestSet(nobs,ftype)
              #create the interpolation set
              msh_azim,msh_elev,_,_ = makeRegGrid(gint_azim=5, gint_elev=5)
              msh_azim = msh_azim.flatten()
              msh_elev = msh_elev.flatten()
              #the true function in spherical coordinates
              val_true = true_function(msh_azim,msh_elev,ftype=ftype)
              # get the Cartesian coordinates for the interpolation points
              cart itp = spherical to cartesian(msh azim,msh elev)
              # eps value
              epsvalue = 1
              # basis function is the default phi = phs3, replace if necessary
              # create an RBF interpolant from the cartesian observation points.
              # use the default `RBFInterpolant` parameters here, nothing special.
              I = RBFInterpolant(obs_cart,obs_vals,phi='phs3',eps=epsvalue)
              # evaluate the interpolant on the interpolation points
              val itp = I(cart itp)
              # compute and print the mean L2 error
              ierror = val_true - val_itp
              mean_error = np.mean(np.abs(ierror))
              print('mean interpolation error: %s' % mean error)
              plotResultDemo(msh_azim,msh_elev,val_true,val_itp,obs_azim,obs_elev,obs_vals,ier
```



mean interpolation error: 0.009871289490748685

Read data from file

This example uses similar code from the above example, but reads the data from a file.

The file contains different sample points, each on a new line. Each line has the following columns:

```
'Alti', 'Azim',
'Elev','R100','R90','R80','R70','R60','R50','R40','R30','R20','R10','R00'
where
```

- 1. Alti is the altitude for the data point. The data may contain different spherical sub-datasets, but all such points must be on one altitude.
- 2. Azim is the azimuth angle for the data point \$[0..2\pi]\$ in degrees, or alternatively only in a hemisphere \$[0..\pi]\$ in degrees
- 3. Elev is the elevation angle for the data point \$[-\pi/2..\pi/2]\$ in degrees.
- 4. Then follows eleven columns of values to be interpolated.

The output of the interpolation function below is a separate CSV file for each altitude and lookup column on a regular grid that can be interpolated with most available 2-D interpolation software.

For the purpose of testing one of three files are created by the above function writeFunction(filename,nobs,ftype,rseed,rscale), but in the eventual application the files will be created by some other means.

The data file can contain data for only a hemisphere, in which case the full hemisphere is completed by mirroring.

The different RBF functions available are shown in Trever's docs at https://rbf.readthedocs.io/en/latest/basis.html.

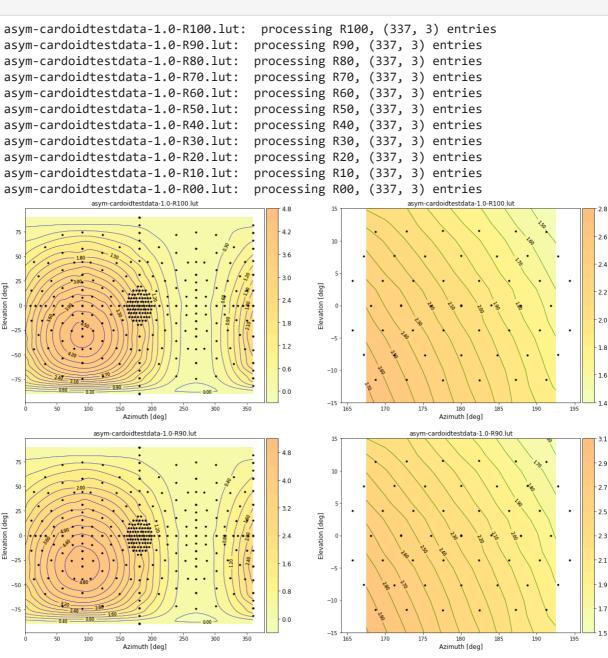
Play around with the epsvalue for the RBF, values around unity should work fine.

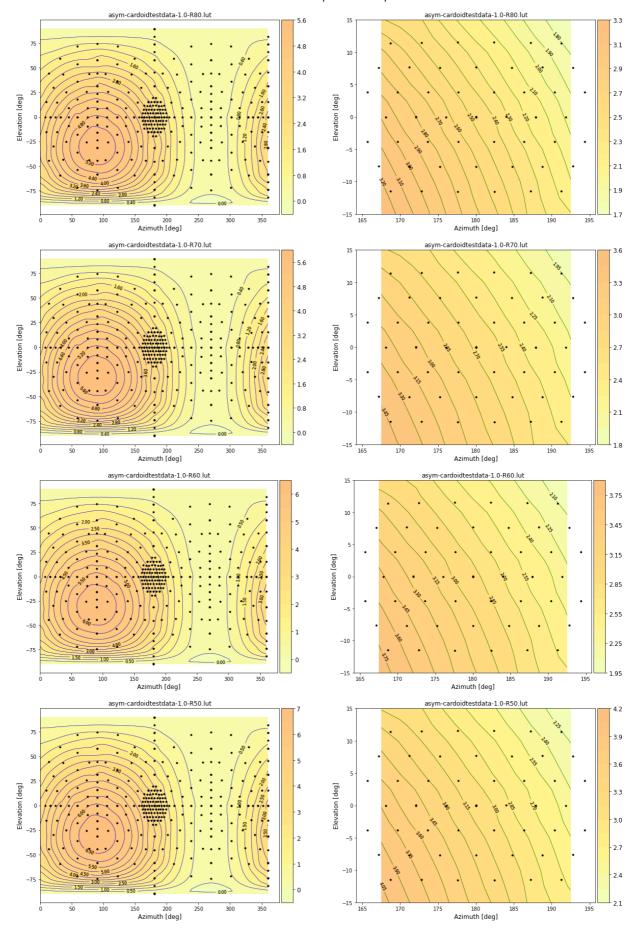
```
In [11]:
          def plotResults2(obs_azim,obs_elev,obs_vals,msh_azim,msh_elev,val_itp):
                  plt.figure(figsize=(25,10))
                  # plot the input in spherical coordinates
                  plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
                  plt.title('Input values')
                  # plot the input data
                  p = plt.tripcolor(obs_azim,obs_elev,obs_vals,cmap='viridis')
                  # plot the observations
                  plt.scatter(obs_azim,obs_elev,c=obs_vals,
                               s=50,edgecolor='k',cmap='viridis',
                               vmin=p.get_clim()[0],vmax=p.get_clim()[1])
                  plt.colorbar(p)
                  plt.xlabel('Azimuth')
                  plt.ylabel('Elevation')
                  plt.xlim(0,2*np.pi)
                  plt.ylim(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2)
                  plt.grid()
                  plt.grid(ls=':',color='k')
                  plt.tight_layout()
```

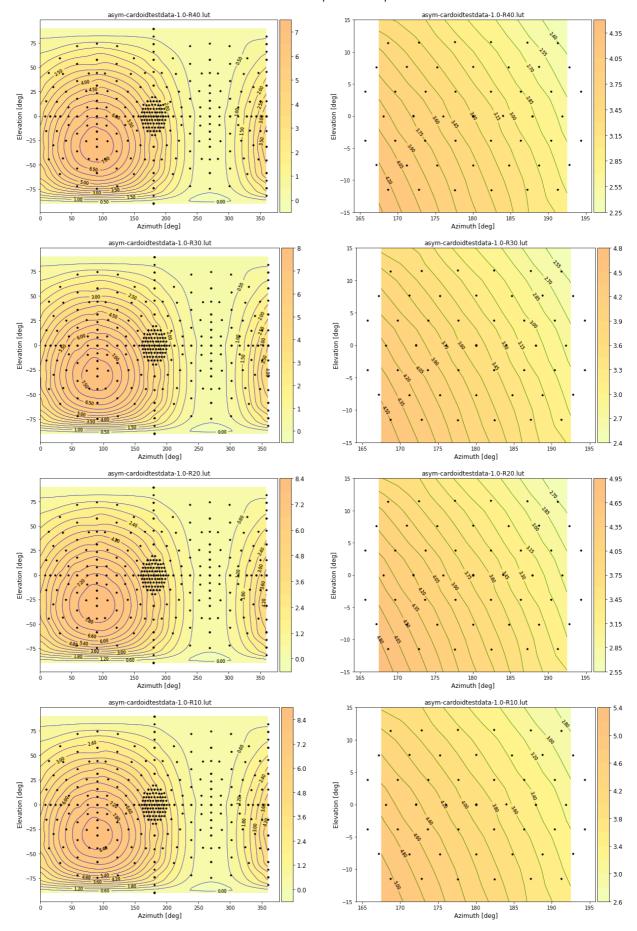
```
# plot the interpolant in spherical coordinates
plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
plt.title('RBF interpolant (points are observations)')
# plot the interpolated function
p = plt.tripcolor(msh azim,msh elev,val itp,cmap='viridis')
# plot the observations
plt.scatter(obs_azim,obs_elev,c=obs_vals,
            s=50,edgecolor='k',cmap='viridis',
            vmin=p.get_clim()[0],vmax=p.get_clim()[1])
plt.colorbar(p)
plt.xlabel('Azimuth')
plt.ylabel('Elevation')
plt.xlim(0,2*np.pi)
plt.ylim(-np.pi/2,np.pi/2)
plt.grid()
plt.grid(ls=':',color='k')
plt.tight_layout()
```

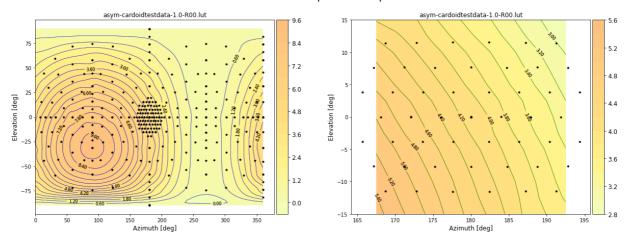
```
In [12]:
          # select one of these data files
          filename = 'originaltestdata.env'
          filename = 'basictestdata.env'
          filename = 'asym-cardoidtestdata.env'
          #intervals in the output grid in degrees
          gint_azim=2.5
          gint_elev=2.5
          epsvalue = 1
          doPlot = False # graphs are written to disk, anyway
          randomiseregulargrid = True
          usespherical_to_cartesian = True
          zoomAzDeg = 15
          zoomElDeg = 15
          rcolumns = [ 'R100', 'R90', 'R80', 'R70', 'R60', 'R50', 'R40', 'R30', 'R20', 'R10', 'R00']
          columns = ['Alti', 'Azim', 'Elev',] + rcolumns
          df = pd.read_csv(filename, names=columns, sep=' ')
          # only half hemisphere, fill in the rest
          if df[df['Azim']>180].shape[0] == 0:
              dfm = df.copy()
              #remove the two end azim columns, assuming that they already exist
              dfm = dfm[dfm.Azim != 0.]
              dfm = dfm[dfm.Azim != 180.]
              # only positive azim angles
              dfm['Azim'] = 360. - dfm['Azim']
              df = df.append(dfm)
              del dfm
          if randomiseregulargrid:
              # add random to azim/elev to break regular structure, to avoid singular matrix e
              randerror = 0.01
              np.random.seed(rseed)
              df['Azim'] += np.random.uniform(-randerror,randerror,df['Azim'].shape[0])
              df['Elev'] += np.random.uniform(-randerror,randerror,df['Elev'].shape[0])
          # get unique values
          altiUnique = df['Alti'].unique()
          azimUnique = df['Azim'].unique()
          elevUnique = df['Elev'].unique()
          #create the output interpolation support set
          msh_azim,msh_elev,grd_azimV,grd_elevV = makeRegGrid(gint_azim=gint_azim, gint_elev=g
```

```
# print(msh_azim.shape)
msh_azim = msh_azim.flatten()
msh elev = msh elev.flatten()
# get the Cartesian coordinates for the interpolation points
cart itp = spherical to cartesian(msh azim,msh elev)
# do for altitudes one at a time
icnt = 0
filenames = []
for alti in altiUnique:
    # and Rx one at a time
     for rcol in [rcolumns[0]]:
    for rcol in rcolumns:
        icnt += 1
        # extract only the columns needed
        dfs = df[df['Alti']==alti][['Azim', 'Elev',rcol]]
       obs azim = dfs['Azim'].values * np.pi / 180
        obs_elev = dfs['Elev'].values * np.pi / 180
       obs_vals = dfs[rcol].values
        fbasename = ''.join(os.path.basename(filename).split('.')[:-1])
        ofilename = f'{fbasename}-{alti}-{rcol}.lut'
        print(f'{ofilename}: processing {rcol}, {dfs.shape} entries')
       filenames.append(ofilename)
        if usespherical_to_cartesian:
            # use data in raw format to calc cartesian values
            obs_cart = spherical_to_cartesian(obs_azim,obs_elev)
        else:
            # use data in df format to calc cartesian values, synced with value
            # this was used experimentally at some point
            dfs[['x', 'y', 'z']] = df.apply(spherical_to_cartesianDf,axis=1)
            obs_cart = dfs[['x', 'y', 'z']].values
       # create an RBF interpolant from the cartesian observation points, default p
        I = RBFInterpolant(obs_cart,obs_vals,phi='phs3',eps=epsvalue)
        # evaluate the interpolant on the interpolation points
       val_itp = I(cart_itp)
        if doPlot and not pyradiryplotImported and icnt == 1:
            plotResults2(obs_azim,obs_elev,obs_vals,msh_azim,msh_elev,val_itp)
        vals = val_itp.reshape(grd_elevV.shape[0],grd_azimV.shape[0])
        np.savetxt(ofilename, vals, delimiter=' ')
        if pyradiryplotImported:
            p = ryplot.Plotter(icnt,1,2,figsize=(20,7),doWarning=False)
            # full set
            p.meshContour(1,grd_azimV*180/np.pi,grd_elevV*180/np.pi,vals,15,
                          ofilename, 'Azimuth [deg]', 'Elevation [deg]',
                          meshCmap=cm.Wistia, cbarshow=True,
                          contLabel=True,contFmt='%.2f')
            if showMarkers:
                markers = ryplot.Markers(markerfacecolor='r', marker='*')
                for az, el in zip(obs azim,obs elev):
                    markers.add(az*180/np.pi,el*180/np.pi,markerfacecolor='k', marke
                markers.plot(p.getSubPlot(1))
            # zoomed in subset select by angle around Az=pi, El=0
            selectAz = np.all([ np.abs(grd_azimV-np.pi) <= zoomAzDeg*np.pi/180], axi</pre>
            selectEl = np.all([ np.abs(grd_elevV) <= zoomElDeg*np.pi/180], axis=0)</pre>
            sAz = grd_azimV[selectAz]
            sEl = grd elevV[selectEl]
            smsh_azim,smsh_elev = np.meshgrid(selectAz,selectEl)
```









Python and module versions, and dates

```
In [13]:
# to get software versions
# https://github.com/rasbt/watermark
# https://github.com/rasbt/watermark/blob/master/docs/watermark.ipynb
# you only need to do this once
# pip install watermark
# conda install -c conda-forge watermark

%load_ext watermark
%watermark -v -m -p numpy,scipy,rbf,matplotlib -g
```

Python implementation: CPython Python version : 3.8.3 IPython version : 7.26.0

numpy : 1.18.5 scipy : 1.7.1

rbf : 2019.1.27+208.gb1ca1fa

matplotlib: 3.4.3

Compiler : MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD64)

OS : Windows Release : 10 Machine : AMD64

Processor : Intel64 Family 6 Model 165 Stepping 2, GenuineIntel

CPU cores : 16 Architecture: 64bit

Git hash: fd48ef33030e2832c6811f9c8db998efc502e050

```
In [ ]:
```