
Subject: Re: ION data reuse

Posted by [Ken Mankoff](#) on Fri, 04 Jan 2002 19:00:34 GMT

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

On Mon, 10 Dec 2001, Rick Towler wrote:

> Although I am not 100% sure, what little I do understand about ION Script
> leads me to believe that it isn't possible to share data between two
> separate calls to <ION_IMAGE>. I can think of two ways to get around this
> limitation and I would guess that you already have thought of them.
>
> You could render both images in the same image, placing a band of color
> between them that matches your page background giving the illusion of two
> images. Another option would be to write the 2 images to a temp directory,
> send a delete command to "at" (spawn, 'echo "rm -f /tmp/'+filename+'"' | at
> now + 5 minutes') and use the <ION_DATA_OUT> tag to create your HTML page
> and link to your newly created images. I take the latter approach with VRML
> models and it works quite well.

Hi Rick, ng

Thanks for the suggestion. That is working for me now, but it was difficult to get it working. The ION/webserver process needs to have the ability to write to disc *and* spawn processes *and* the location that the IDL process writes needs to be accessible by the web server for the regular tags... But it does work (thanks to my sysadmin).

I *think* there is a third way to get shared data. Currently, the HTML page that is on the receiving end of the SUBMIT button has the following:
<VARIABLE_DECL NAME="var" VALUE="\$Form.var" TYPE="INT" PERSIST="TRUE />
And I can use \$var in multiple <ION_IMAGE> tags.

The third method would involve using an intermediate page with a <META REFRESH=0 ...> tag, and a hidden form var. This page would fill the form var based upon the original pages form submission values, and then a second later refresh to the final destination page. The final destination page has a persistent variable (filled by the intermediate page) that is usable across multiple <ION_IMAGE> tags.

The problem with this is that i *hate* websites that use REFRESH=0, because then my back button doesn't work as expected...

I won't try implementing this anytime soon, but it's food for thought...

-k.

p.s. If you want to see the site, you can get to it here:
<http://lasp.colorado.edu/marsrobot/>
click on "VirtualMars"

--

Ken Mankoff

LASP://303.492.3264

<http://lasp.colorado.edu/~mankoff/>
