Subject: Re: ION data reuse

Posted by Ken Mankoff on Fri, 04 Jan 2002 19:00:34 GMT

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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 guite 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 recieving 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 doesnt work as expected...

I wont try implementing this anytime soon, but its 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"

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