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Subject: Why are transforms 4 x 4?

Posted by [profxtjb](#) on Mon, 15 Dec 2003 01:10:26 GMT

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My geometry knowledge is limited, so I am unsure why IDL uses 4 x 4 transform matrices to rotate, translate and otherwise mess with three-dimensional vectors. Can someone please render an explanation? There must be a reason. Is it just that they like to be able to handle four-vectors and the ever-popular Lorentz xfm? :)

-Thomas

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