
Subject: Re: VTK + IDL

Posted by [chun.42](#) on Wed, 25 Aug 2004 15:33:21 GMT

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Michael Wallace <mwallace.no.spam@no.spam.swri.edu.invalid> wrote in message news:<10io1j5s450cf21@corp.supernews.com>...

> It sounds from your description that you should just be able to use IDL
> and not have to worry about OpenGL at all. When I said "IDL doesn't
> have all of the graphics constructs" what I meant to say was doesn't
> allow you direct access into the OpenGL API.

Thanks Mike for your reply. I am using IDL and I know that IDL DOES have some graphics functionalities for medical image data sets. I just borrowed from your comment to explain why I need IDL and OpenGL API. If I misused it, sorry for that.

> However, IDL does have a
> lot of graphics for analysis work. I don't know what VTK is, but
> medical images were one of the main things that IDL was developed for.
> If all you're doing is graphics display of medical data sets, IDL should
> more than cover you.

VTK is the Visualization Tool Kit from [Http://www.kitware.com](http://www.kitware.com)
Maybe I am a beginner for IDL's object graphics. I tried the following code but the image is not good enough for my application.

```
file = Filepath('head.dat',Subdirectory=['examples',$
'data'])
volumeData = READ_BINARY(file, DATA_DIMS = [80, 100, 57])
oVol = Obj_new('IDLgrVolume',volumeData,/Zbuff,Hints=2,/No_copy,/Zero_opacity_skip)
-- normalization --
oModel = Obj_new('IDLgrModel')
oView = obj_new('IDLgrView', viewplane_rect=[-1.,-1.,2.5,2.5], $
color=[128,128,128],ZClip=[2.0,-2.0], Eye=60.0,Projection=2 )

oModel ->Add, oVol;
oView -> Add, oModel;
oDrawWin -> Draw,oView;
```

So, I come up with the idea calling VTK from IDL. What do I need to do more to display the image better? If you know who is using IDL's object a lot, please let me know. Thanks.

HC

>
> Hee Chun wrote:
>> Hello,

>> I learned from the previous post(from Mike) that:
>> 'OpenGL doesn't have the scientific analysis capabilities of IDL and
>> IDL
>> doesn't have the graphics constructs of OpenGL'.
>> But I need both analysis capabilities and graphics display for the
>> medical image data sets.
>> Is there any way to interface between VTK and IDL using DLM? If there
>> is, Is it very hard to implement it? What kinds of problems do I need
>> to consider? Where is the good starting point at least to open the 3d
>> object rendered by VTK on the draw window of IDL?
>>
>> Any tips/suggestions/advice will be greatly appreciated.
>>
>> Thanks.
>>
>> HC
