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Subject: Re: Annotating a 3-d Image Array?  
Posted by [rivers](#) on Mon, 24 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <3ngj12\$3ra@news.mtu.edu>, "Andrew A. Pilant" <anpilant@mtu.edu> writes:  
> Hello-

>  
> This is probably ultraultra easy, but I am stuck.  
>  
> Scenario:  
> I have a time series of SSM/I images in a single array, e.g.,  
> ssmi=intarr(100,100,20) (20 days of 100x100 images).  
>  
> I would like to write the date (e.g., "Sep 21") on each image so that  
> when I animate them (via movie or xinteranimate) I know the date  
> of the image. I'll concatenate a 20x100 box at the bottom to hold the  
> text, so the whole array would be 120x100x20. Ultimately, I'll export  
> the annotated images/array in some form amenable to mpeg play or  
> similar generic animation software.  
>  
> In reality, there are hundreds of images, so doing the following in  
> command line mode won't be feasible:  
> tv,image  
> xyouts,x,y,'sep 12',/device  
> new\_i=tvrd()

The method you reject as unfeasible might work fine if you:

- Use the Z buffer device. TVRD() is much faster than with X
- Set the Z device size to be 20x100, so you only use it to buffer the box used for the string.
- Use IDL's normal array operators to put the new box at the bottom of your images.

Remember to set the Z device to not do Z buffering (DEVICE, /NOZ) which also speeds it up.

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