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Subject: Re: using irregularly spaced coordinates with ray-casting in iVolume  
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 11 Mar 2009 15:13:51 GMT  
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On Mar 10, 9:59 pm, "Kenneth P. Bowman" <k-bow...@null.edu> wrote:  
> In article  
> <876f0fb1-0416-4f50-9377-c36f914f4...@a5g2000pre.googlegroups.com >,  
>  
>  
>  
> "brian.nieber...@gmail.com" <brian.nieber...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>> Hello everyone.  
>  
>> I've seen a few similar posts to this one, but there doesn't seem to  
>> be a good (easy) answer that I can understand. :)  
>  
>> How does one use irregularly spaced (xyz) coordinates with the  
>> IDLgrVolume ray-casting volume renderer?  
>> I haven't used any of IDL's 3D features before and so I'm kind of  
>> lost. Normally, using the "contour" command I would type something  
>> like:  
>  
>> contour,3Ddata\_slice,dim\_x,dim\_y  
>  
>> where dim\_x and dim\_y are my irregularly spaced coordinates.  
>  
>> If it helps, my data isn't completely irregular, that is to say there  
>> is an equation that dictates the spacing between adjacent coordinate  
>> points (involves a step function half-way through the data though).  
>  
>> I realize the algorithm for accomplishing this with ray-casting is not  
>> trivial, but if anyone renders hydrodynamical simulations, using  
>> adaptive mesh refinement, they must also need this feature.  
>  
>> It seems this is related to why the "logarithmic axis" option in axis  
>> properties is greyed out?  
>  
>> Thank you,  
>> - Brian Niebergal  
>> PhD Student  
>> University of Calgary  
>> [www.capca.ucalgary.ca/~bniebergal/](http://www.capca.ucalgary.ca/~bniebergal/)  
>  
> I am pretty sure that the volume renderer requires regular grids.  
>  
> My suggestion is to create a regular grid from your irregular data  
> by interpolation.  
>

> Ken Bowman

How many levels of refinement do you have? If it's not too many, you could re-grid everything down to the finest grid level to get a regularly-spaced grid, like Ken suggests. Of course, probably the reason you're using AMR is because doing the entire volume at the highest resolution is impossible. ;-) So that may not work so well.

-Jeremy.

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