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Subject: Re: Isurface, inverting the axis without changing default lighting direction  
Posted by [cameron bowles](#) on Wed, 05 May 2010 07:27:30 GMT

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On May 5, 10:49 am, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On May 4, 10:06 pm, cameron bowles <cameronbowle...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Thankyou so much for your tips Ken, they really helped. In the end I

>> got it to look kind of OK with this code;

>

>> void = ITGETCURRENT(TOOL=itool\_obj)

>> lights\_id = itool\_obj -> FindIdentifiers('\*LIGHTS', /

>> VISUALIZATIONS) ;Get lights ID

>> lights\_obj = itool\_obj ->

>> GetByIdentifier(lights\_id) ;Get lights object

>> reference

>> lights\_obj -> SetProperty, INTENSITY = 0.7, DISTANCE =

>> -20 ;Set intensity and distance (z axis)

>> itool\_obj -> RefreshCurrentWindow

>

>> However I would really like to be able to set the location and

>> direction of the directional light, this should be possible with;

>

>> lights\_obj -> SetProperty, DIRECTION = [x,y,z], DISTANCE = [x,y,z]

>

>> But I found that no matter what setting I had for x/y/z it wouldnt

>> affect the lighting. Has anyone done this manually? I roughly want to

>> have the light coming with a vector of [1,1,-1] from a position

>> direction of [-1,-1,1]. If anyone knows the tricks to get that working

>> I would appreciate it.

>

> I think your problem is the object you are picking to edit. By

> default, isurface makes two lights, one ambient (isotropic, I guess),

> and one directional. For instance,

>

> IDL> ids=itool\_obj->findidentifiers('\*LIGHT\*',/visualization)

> IDL> for i=0,n\_elements(ids)-1 do print,ids[i]

> /TOOLS/SURFACE TOOL/WINDOW/VIEW\_1/VISUALIZATION LAYER/LIGHTS

> /TOOLS/SURFACE TOOL/WINDOW/VIEW\_1/VISUALIZATION LAYER/LIGHTS/LIGHT

> /TOOLS/SURFACE TOOL/WINDOW/VIEW\_1/VISUALIZATION LAYER/LIGHTS/LIGHT\_1

>

> You are selecting the lights object, but the properties you want to

> edit are for the directional object, which in this case is LIGHT\_1:

>

> IDL> light=itool\_obj->getbyidentifier('/TOOLS/SURFACE TOOL/WINDOW/

> VIEW\_1/VISUALIZATION LAYER/LIGHTS/LIGHT')

```
> IDL> light->getproperty,name=name & print,name
> Ambient Light
> IDL> light=itool_obj->getbyidentifier('/TOOLS/SURFACE TOOL/WINDOW/
> VIEW_1/VISUALIZATION LAYER/LIGHTS/LIGHT_1')
> IDL> light->getproperty,name=name & print,name
> Directional Light
>
> With the object for the directional light, I can move and point it
> around with
>
> light->setproperty,location=[1,1,-1],direction=[-1,-1,1]
>
> Note that it may take a
>
> itool_obj->commitactions
>
> for the image to be updated after you change the objects.
```

Thanks pp!

for pointing out my error, as always it is teh simple error that stumps me.

For anyone reading this, I ended up just defininn my "lights\_id" idebntifier to be that of Light\_1 using this line of code in place of the code in my second post;

```
lights_id = itool_obj -> FindIdentifiers('*LIGHT_1', /VISUALIZATIONS)
```

it now works a treat and looks good to boot.

Thanks again Ken and PP.

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