
Subject: Re: Using IDL with Java

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 16:13:27 GMT

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James Adams (jadams@ucar.edu) writes:

> I want to create an application which will call IDL visualization
> routines from an Java servlet. Basically I just want to be able to use
> a Java API to call IDL visualization programs which can produce jpg's of
>
> my data. From what I've seen so far this might be possible using
> ION-Java but it's not clear from the documentation I've seen. Can
> anybody
> comment or provide further details ?

If you just want pictures (sounds like you do), then ION is just the thing. If you want interactivity in any sort of meaningful way (e.g., you want something to rotate or change as you move a slider, etc.), forget it. All ION can do is send you pictures. It is not capable of sending geometry of objects, etc.

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Using IDL with Java

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 16:32:38 GMT

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"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1624e715bd7ab7829896e8@news.frii.com...

> James Adams (jadams@ucar.edu) writes:

>

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You can send VRML models created in IDL too (at least with ION script).
This certainly has limitations but it is more than just "pictures". The
only trick then is to find a VRML client that displays the files correctly.
:({

-Rick

Subject: Re: Using IDL with Java
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 16:45:01 GMT
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Rick Towler (rtowler@u.washington.edu) writes:

> You can send VRML models created in IDL too (at least with ION script).
> This certainly has limitations but it is more than just "pictures". The
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> :({

Yes, as I recall, we spent the better part of a day
downloading what were "suppose" to be VRML clients.
In the end, we concluded that VRML is a standard whose
time has passed. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
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Subject: Re: Using IDL with Java
Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 16:50:34 GMT
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Rick Towler wrote:

>
> The
> only trick then is to find a VRML client that displays the files correctly.

Things like this seem to defeat the purpose of putting IDL application's output on the Web. If I need to download 10 Mb of software to use a web site, I am not using that site. I know its funny, but I still use a modem to access the net from home. I will sign up for DSL (Dedicated Satellite Link) once I get that check form David :-)

For this same reason, I think it is not a good practice to start up your front web page with a Java applet that takes half an hour to load over a 28k modem, just to display a rolling banner with your company's logo on it.

Pavel

Subject: Re: Using IDL with Java
Posted by [James Adams](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 22:06:06 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> James Adams (jadams@ucar.edu) writes:
>
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> ION can do is send you pictures. It is not
> capable of sending geometry of objects, etc.
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Thanks David. Yes pictures are exactly what I want. I work with somebody who knows IDL and who can make me some IDL programs. I want to be able to pass this IDL code to a Java class which can execute the IDL and return a JPG (or a reference to where a JPG is located on the file system).

If there are any example codes out there which I might be able to look at in order to get an idea as to how this is done then please point the way. I have tried to look at what RSI offers as example ION-Java code but it appears that the link is dead (<http://ion.researchsystems.com/IONJava/>)

Thanks again for your help...

-James
