
Subject: 3-d visualization (itools while in a program)
Posted by [Turamarth](#) on Wed, 12 Jan 2005 18:26:44 GMT
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I am trying to use idl to do visualization on a very large amount of 3-D data. I need to do various analysis to the data, then when I am finished, to create surface (and other) plots of the data. In the past I have been using xsurface (with /block), since it gives some interactive control of the view. This is not a great solution though, since I need to be able to easily put it into a presentation or file. With the upgrade to IDL 6 I had thought I would be able to use isurface. The problem is that itools does not seem to be able to load correctly when I am at a break point in a program. I must compile out of my program to see anything in itools. Well, this kills all of my 3-d data. I guess I could save it all and then read it all from the command line, but that would be far too much work!

It seems there might be a simple command to get out of my program without losing my data? Or maybe a way to use itools while at a break in a program? Or maybe there is some alternate solution I am not considering?

Subject: Re: 3-d visualization (itools while in a program)
Posted by [Chris\[2\]](#) on Thu, 13 Jan 2005 21:08:56 GMT
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Hi again. I think I misunderstood the problem. You want to stop a program in the middle, use an iTool to visualize the data, and maybe keep going after that.

If you have a program:

```
pro test
  data = randomu(s,100)
  stop
end
```

If you run this, and then type "iplot, data", it will bring up the iPlot but won't process any events. This is because you are stopped within a procedure, not at the \$MAIN level.

One solution is to just use a tight widget loop to keep the events going. This would look like:

```
IDL> test
Stop encountered: TEST 4 C:\test.pro
IDL> iPlot, data
```

```
IDL> while widget_info(/active) do void=widget_event()
```

This will block the command line until the widget is destroyed.

Another solution is to **not** use a subroutine. If you put all your code into a file called "test.pro", with an "end" at the end, but no procedure, then you can do ".run test". Now, when it stops, you will be at \$MAIN, and everything will work fine.

-Chris

"Turamarth" <mknewey@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:1105554404.681688.27900@z14g2000cwz.googlegroups.com...
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Subject: Re: 3-d visualization (itools while in a program)
Posted by [Turamarth](#) on Thu, 13 Jan 2005 22:37:03 GMT
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Thanks, I think that covers it. Wow, I had no idea you could write a file with an end and no procedure and run it like that.
