
Subject: Need Help Rendering Picture of Earth with Satellites
Posted by [Richard D. Hunt](#) on Thu, 18 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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I am working on a problem of displaying the earth in 3-D and having satellites orbit it. Has anybody out there seen or done anything like this in IDL?

Rich

--

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Subject: Re: Need Help Rendering Picture of Earth with Satellites
Posted by [Gordon Jolly](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Richard

Try using the shareware xearth program to create a (land/sea) view of the earth from any desired location in space (complete with correct solar illumination and a few random stars). This can produce a gif of a specified size which you can then read into idl and use a a backdrop for animation or static images. I started to do something like this a couple of months ago but 5 minutes here and 10 minutes there a week isn't the best way to go about software development.

Good luck and let me see the results if you succeed.

Gordon

p.s. I can't remember where the archive site for xearth is but I am sure it's not too difficult to search for. Once you have it it can easily be spawned from idl to create whatever view and illumination you require.

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