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Subject: Re: drawing a shaded sphere

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 06 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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John Boccio (boccio@swarthmore.edu) writes:

> The IDL code at the end of this message when saved as a file cosmic.pro  
> will plot the trajectory of a cosmic ray in the earth's magnetic field in  
> 3 dimensions. It plots the trajectory as it is happening(not at the end),  
> which is the way one should do during a simulation.  
>  
> I would like to draw a shaded sphere (even better a sphere with earth map  
> on its surface) of radius rearth so that the subsequent cosmic ray trajectory  
> in the earth's magnetic field appears properly in relation to that sphere.

I couldn't get John's code to run (missing some functions),  
but here is an example with simulated data and XInterAnimate  
that I coded up in about 5 minutes. Loading the animation  
pixmap takes awhile, but the animation is very fast. You  
can, of course, load the pixmaps out of sight if you like.

Cheers,

David  
-----

PRO Particle\_Track

; Fake latitude and longitude data of simulated particle.

```
x = Findgen(100)* 2 - 100
y = Findgen(100) * (50/99.)
TVLCT, 255, 255, 0, 1
```

; Run the animation in XInterAnimate

```
XInterAnimate, Set=[300,300, 50], /Showload
```

```
xx = [x[0]]
yy = [y[0]]
count = 0
FOR j=1, 99, 2 DO BEGIN
```

; Draw map projection with particle track overlayed.

```
Map_Set, /Orthographic, /Continents, /Grid, y[j], x[j]
xx = [xx, x[j]]
yy = [yy, y[j]]
```

```
PlotS, xx, yy, Color=1  
PlotS, xx[count+1], yy[count+1], PSym=4, Color=1
```

; Copy it into XInterAnimate pixmaps.

```
XInterAnimate, Frame=count, Window=!D.Window  
count = count + 1  
ENDFOR
```

; Run the animation.

```
XInterAnimate, 20  
END
```

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

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Subject: Re: drawing a shaded sphere  
Posted by [dlhopols](#) on Tue, 07 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <MPG.f92a4527ce8dc2b989776@news.frii.com>,  
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

```
>  
> John Boccio (boccio@swarthmore.edu) writes:  
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>  
> Cheers,
```

>  
> David  
> -----  
>

I tried both codes, John Boccio's works on my machine (SGI).  
(Don't forget the function definitions at the beginning).  
I just had trouble getting it to stop.  
David's is pretty interesting, except watching the loading is a bit  
hard on the eyes. It might be useful for a satellite orbit simulation.

Good Luck, John.

Rose

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