

Class 05: Tools for Scripting the Gimp

Held: Tuesday, 29 January 2008

Summary: We explore techniques for programming with the basic GIMP tools.

Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Lab: GIMP Tools.
- Reading: GIMP Tools.

Notes:

- Are there final questions on Assignment 2?
- Reading for Wednesday: Turtle Graphics.
- No office hours this morning. Sorry.

Overview:

- A model of images, extended.
- Coding algorithms for drawing.
- Other useful techniques.

Models of Images

- As we've seen in our early discussions, there are many ways to think about an image.
- In our first explorations with the GIMP, we looked at an *imperative, tool-based* model of drawing.
 - The model is imperative in that it consists of a sequence of commands (do this, then this, then this).
 - The model is tool-based in that almost all operations involve selecting a tool and then applying that tool.
- Over the next few weeks, we'll see a variety of other models.

Encoding Drawing Commands

- Because there are only a limited number of basic actions one can perform in GIMP, it is possible to represent each of these actions as a procedure.
- These procedures are *parameterized* in that you can modify how they work by providing different input values.
- Many of these procedures change the state of the system. When procedures change things (as opposed to computing new values), we tend to suffix their name with an exclamation point.
- For clarity, we tend to prefix the name of a procedure with the kind of value it works on. For

example,

- procedures that modify and create images begin with `image-`,
- procedures that modify the global context begin with `context-`,
- procedures that modify and create colors begin with `color-`.
- The primary model we use is to repeatedly select and then stroke or fill regions.

Lab

- Work on the lab.
 - Be prepared to reflect on some of the questions contained therein.
-

Copyright © 2007-8 Janet Davis, Matthew Kluber, and Samuel A. Rebelsky. (Selected materials copyright by John David Stone and Henry Walker and used by permission.) This material is based upon work partially supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. CCLI-0633090. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 2.5 License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.5/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 543 Howard Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.