3-D Image navigation in Erdas Imagine's Virtual GIS Viewer

1. Open Erdas Imagine's Virtual GIS Viewer by selecting the VirtualGIS Icon [VirtualGIS] in the Erdas menu bar. Then choose the *VirtualGIS Viewer…* button to open the viewer. The opened viewer window is similar to the normal viewer windows except that data may be viewed three-dimensionally.
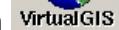
2. To load data into the viewer, click the *Open Elevation Model or Overlays* button in the top left corner. Use the *Add Layer* Dialog to locate and load a Digital Elevation Model (DEM) to the viewer and click *OK*. Use the same process to overlay any raster or vector data to the DEM.
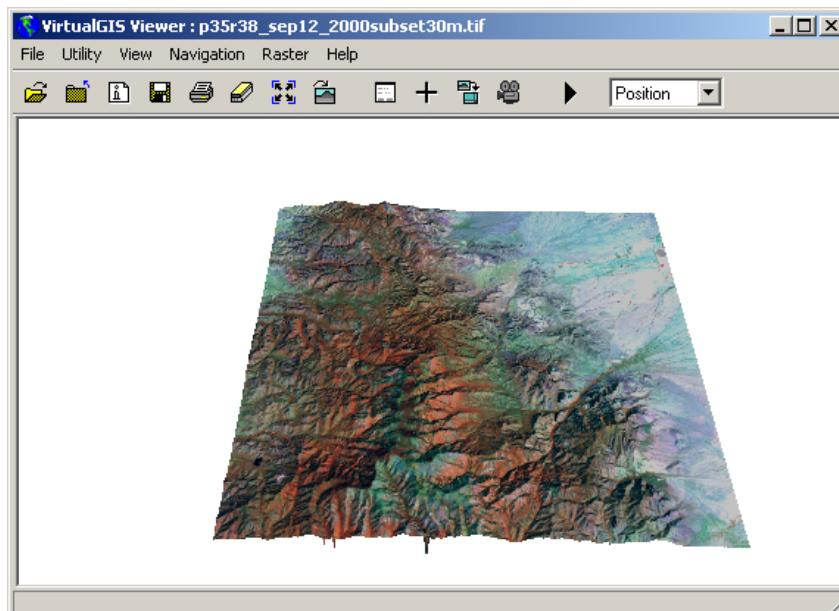
3. To make adjustments to the scene, open the *Scene Properties* Dialog in the *View* drop-down menu. Increase the *Exaggeration* value to create the illusion of more rugged terrain. The tabs along the top may be accessed to adjust background and other scene details. You may also want to increase the DEM and Image *Level of Detail* by using the *Level of Detail* dialog found in the *View* drop-down menu. For larger images this may slow down navigation significantly.
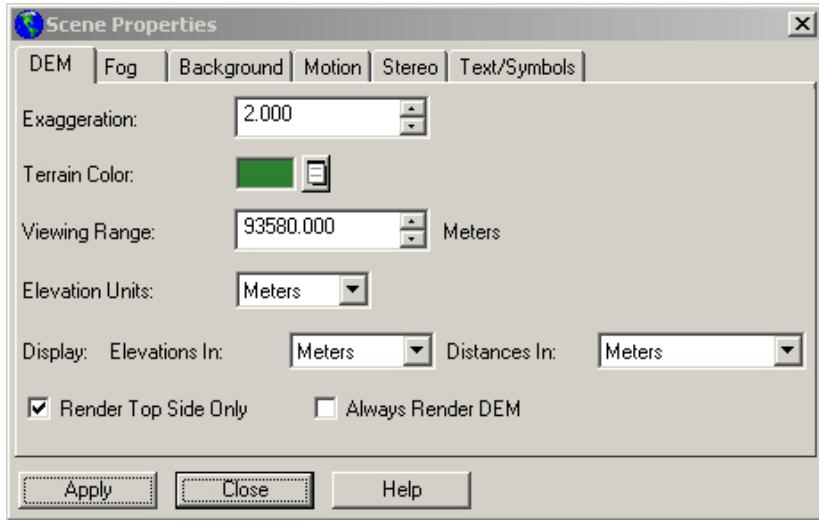
4. There are many options that can be used to navigate the 3-D model. The simplest way to start is double-clicking the image to zoom to that area. Holding the left mouse button allows you to pan from side to side and up and down. Use the *Fit Scene to Window* [icon] button to return to the original view.

5. For more precise navigation, use the *Position Editor* dialog, found in the *Navigation* drop-down menu. Here you can adjust the viewing location, viewing elevation, field of vision, pitch, azimuth and roll. You can also adjust the values with the interaction profile on the right. Check Auto Apply to make the changes immediately seen in the viewer.