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Subject: Re: Request for comparisons of IDL and Matlab  
Posted by [Harvey Rarback](#) on Tue, 22 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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Last week I wrote in message <6tptdg\$N5I\$1@nntp.Stanford.EDU>...

> I have just started working at a laboratory with some expertise in Matlab and  
> none in IDL or PV-WAVE. I have been an IDL user for a decade and am  
> trying to decide whether I should make the effort to get the scientists and  
> programmers to think about using IDL. I would especially appreciate any  
> input from people who have used the latest versions of both programming  
> environments.

>

> Some of the features we will need:

>

- > - ability to run on OpenVMS Alpha, Windows NT, possibly Unix
- > - easy to develop GUIs
- > - a robust set of mathematical and image processing tools
- > - good performance

I got two responses from people who had used both environments and were clear that, although both languages could do what we need, Matlab was easier to use and had more tools and better support.

Do any users of IDL feel otherwise?

--Harvey

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Harvey Rarback                      phone:    (650)926-3963  
Stanford Linear Accelerator Ctr   fax:       (650)926-4100  
PO Box 4349, M/S 69                home phone: (650)560-9111  
Stanford, CA 94309-0210  
[rarback@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu](mailto:rarback@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu)

"We need more good people. We have enough smart people."  
Dr. Laura Schlessinger