Subject: Re: IDL and PV-Wave comparison
Posted by grunes on Tue, 31 Aug 1993 19:08:49 GMT

In article <1993Aug31.064123.696@ml.csiro.au> morgan@ml.csiro.au (Phil Morgan) writes:
> I am interested in purchasing IDL but recently became
> aware of PV-Wave. PV-WAVE is more expensive (about 2x) and I was
> just wondering
> 1. Is PV-WAVE a superset of IDL?
> 2. What are the differences, if any?
>
> FYI. Our site is all unix (mainly Suns) and we run f77,c and MATLAB.
>   We require good data visualisation software and can't afford AVS
>   which is about 5x the cost of IDL (per user).

1. No--it is a superset of old version of IDL.
2. For the most part they are the same. IDL has more functions to read
    and write images, and it has a map generator. I try to use that which
    is common to both, since I use each on different machines.

Also--you can update IDL for free. And you can get a trial copy of IDL
(which only runs for 7 minutes at a time and can't output any files
except postscript) by anonymous FTP of pub/idl/README from 128.138.240.1.

On the other hand PW Wave runs a little faster (I think) and it may have
fixed a some bugs.

Mitchell R Grunes (grunes@imsy1.nrl.navy.mil)
Allied-Signal Technical Services
c/o Code 7230 Naval Research Lab