Subject: Re: AND statements Posted by Craig Markwardt on Wed, 10 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

rmlongfield@my-dejanews.com writes:

> >

- > Hi Jon, Please don't feel bad if you don't think people are using
- > your programs. I've been hanging around this newsgroup for almost a year now
- > and I've collected guite a lot of programs and web pages. Some I use, some
- > not. I do use pointers frequently and even worse, pointers to pointers. When
- > I've got a problem, I first search the Deja-News archives for this group for
- > a solution. I may not use your program now but I did have a look at it and I
- > know where it is for when and if I need it in the future.

- > I do appreciate the sharing of tricks and ideas about how to
- > handle certain problems.
- > Rose

Here is what I have seen from my personal experience, based on my IDL web page:

Number of IDL page hits per month - about 450 Number of program downloads per month - about 250 Number of feedback messages per month - about 1

So, to Phil: there may be a lot of people using your program but you won't necessarily know about it. Feedback ratios seem to be less than 1%. Consider that: (a) only a fraction of people will download your code; (b) a fraction of them will try to use it; (c) a fraction of them will use it successfully; and (d) a fraction of them will then be motivated to respond to the author.

Advertisement is also key. I see a noticeable increase in hits when I mention my web page here on the newsgroup, based on informal polling.

To users of contributed software: feedback is always welcome! Whether it's a bug report, a feature request, or a "thank you", I am sure that the David's, Liam's, Phil's appreciate the interaction and knowing that they don't live in a vacuum.

## Craig

P.S. My IDL web page is http://astrog.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html

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