Subject: Re: On the differences between idl and pvwave
Posted by thompson on Tue, 24 Sep 1991 20:23:49 GMT
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In article <1991Sep20.031251.29717@uokmax.ecn.uoknor.edu>,
keller@nsslsun.nssl.uoknor.edu (Dave Keller) writes...

> Graphics commands especially go by the 'keyword' concept in PVWAVE, while
> IDL goes (VAX version) by 'parameters':
>   IDL> CONTOUR,agrid,[1,2,5,10,20,50,100]
>   WAVE>CONTOUR,agrid,labels=[1,2,5,10,20,50,100]
> The latter is too much typing for an INTERACTIVE programming language IMO.
> I also believe that the former is better for 'sophisticated' programming
> where you might build commands then execute them (if you are so inclined).

You're using an *OLD* version of IDL. This is comparing apples and oranges.
Keywords originated in IDL (version 2) before IDL and PVWAVE split apart.

Keywords are an immensely useful concept. The sophistication of my IDL
software has increased exponentially since keywords were introduced. It is a
hell of a lot easier for *OPTIONAL* information to propagate through a chain of
subroutines if the keyword concept is used.

Bill Thompson