Subject: Re: idl2matlab translate-o-matic Posted by davidf on Tue, 22 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

David McClain (dmcclain@azstarnet.com) writes:

- > Perhaps "better than MatLab", but hardly what "professional programmers"
- > want.

Well, I admit I didn't conduct a scientific study, but I was thinking about what my friends and I like. We're pretty professional, at least most of the time. Say before the beer arrives. :-)

- > What can you say of a language that is purely array oriented, but
- > cannot comprehend the existence of an empty array?

I don't know. I don't know what an empty array is either. Perhaps that's why I like IDL.

- > What of a language that
- > can itself reclaim memory from unused arrays, but forces the user to reclaim
- > "pointers" and "objects"? Etc., etc., ...

I'm sorry, but I think this *completely* misses the point. Cleaning up variables is one thing, but checking for *every* pointer reference at the end of every program module that exits would bring just about any program--never mind IDL--to a complete stand-still. It shouldn't be done. I applaud the folks at RSI for dismissing the idea out of hand.

Cheers.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155