Subject: Re: Top 10 IDL Requests

Posted by Martin Schultz on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:
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> >

- > One of the people I ran into at the picnic was the
- > new VP of Software Engineering. After we were introduced
- > and it was pointed out that I was, uh, the person who
- > wrote "that book about IDL" the VP gave me his e-mail
- > and phone extension and encouraged me to submit my
- > top 10 IDL requests to him personally.

>

> Wow! You don't get an opportunity like this every day. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

Try to keep it short for there are sooo many wishes (BTW: what does this tell us?)

- (1) multithreading
- (2) complement keyword to where
- (3) end of array syntax (I can't see why A should not be feasible)
- (4) working contour routine and map projections (simple example:

IDL> map_set,limit=[-60,-180,60,360]

IDL>

map_continents

should give America twice, I think ...

(4a) ... and more sophisticated map labels, e.g. 60 (degreesymbol) N instead of

just 60 as an option.

- (5) improved color handling for TV and TVRD
- (6) adapt a colorbar and a legend procedure (e.g. from the ESRG library). This is

something basic enough that it should be maintained by RSI - even though everyone

will be free to use something different

- (7) an "IN" operator, e.g. selected = where(species in ['Ozone', 'NOx', 'CO'])
- (8) higher level graphic objects, e.g. extending your XPLOT, **and** a contour object

and map support! The high level plot object should allow things like:

XPlot = obj_new('Xplot',x=x,y=sin(x)) ; generate and show

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object
   XPlot->Add,x=x2,y=cos(x2)
                                 ; add another data set
   XPlot->SetProperty,curve=2,psym=8,line=2; modify properties of
second curve
  etc.
Since I start dreaming again, I better stop here.
Cheers (from wonderful but cloudy Germnay),
Martin
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