
Subject: I for Interactive Programming? (was: widget_control and group_leader)

Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Wed, 03 Jan 2001 11:13:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Richard G. French wrote:

> ... I used to approach IDL as though
> the I in Interactive meant 'interactive programming' - I'd start
> a journal file, fiddle with the observations and analysis and display,
> edit the journal file, and call it a program. I still take this approach
> for rush projects, but taking the few minutes to annotate the code
> and reorganize it so that it can be used again is now a high priority
> for me.
> Although I have written some widget programs over the years,
> I still find myself quite often using IDL in this seat-of-the-pants
> mode when I start a new project. I'd be curious to know how many
> other readers of this news group use IDL primarily in this way.
> Dick French

Hi Dick,

Count me in, I do this all the time. Usually forgetting to start a journal in time and thus cutting and pasting from the log window. I find that it often leads to faster and more 'creative' data analysis, although it is sometimes hard to really take those minutes at the end of the day for reorganizing and annotating the code.

Jaco

Jaco van Gorkom gorkom@rijnh.nl
FOM-Instituut voor Plasmafysica Rijnhuizen
