

---

Subject: Re: Mac OSX

Posted by [Wayne Landsman](#) on Wed, 10 Oct 2001 06:18:01 GMT

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

---

Glenn Schneider wrote:

>  
> Having just returned from the ADASS XI conference,  
> where I gave a talk extolling the merits of IDL and  
> IDL+Noesys for astronomical data analysis, I was  
> both shocked and saddened to learn of RSI's apparent decision  
> to drop support for both under MacOS.

And last Friday, I submitted a proposal to NASA to try to get some funding for the IDL Astronomy Library, with one of the main arguments being that IDL was the leading professional-level astronomy data analysis software for the Macintosh.

In my own case, I had not yet installed IDL on my home Mac, but was expecting to do so with OSX, because (as others have mentioned) I expected OSX with its underlying Unix core to allow me to perform heavy-duty data analysis. So unlike the case with VMS, where it was probably safe to predict declining sales of IDL licenses, the introduction of OSX IDL was almost certainly going to spur the purchase of Macintosh IDL licenses. This leads the optimist in me to think that maybe Kodak/RSI will realize their mistake, and give OSX IDL a chance for at least a couple of years to see how much sales growth results.

Wayne Landsman

landsman@mpb.gsfc.nasa.gov

---