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Subject: Any cross-platform IDL alternatives?

Posted by [Eric Williams](#) on Wed, 10 Oct 2001 20:19:49 GMT

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Since RSI/Kodak is killing IDL for the Mac (and others) I am wondering if anyone has suggestions for trying out some other cross-platform software. I am not really worried too much about Windows but the Mac/\*nix world is where I work. We use IDL mostly for processing astronomical data and writing procedures to play with the data visually. So a tool with a simple language and good graphing capabilities is what we really need.

BTW, if anyone from RSI cares, I only have two Mac licenses but I have brought 31 Solaris licenses to my campus since coming here, with plenty more potential on the horizon. Once I have an alternative tool I will be recommending against purchasing anymore licenses and dropping maintenance. Too bad because I have been a huge evangelist for IDL over the years. I have turned more than 50 students and scientists onto IDL in the last few years which has resulted in most likely hundreds of licenses if not many more as they have moved onto other sites. That will all stop now and I will try to do the opposite, and probably save some money too.

Bye bye IDL, it WAS great...

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