
Subject: Re: Any cross-platform IDL alternatives?

Posted by [pit](#) on Sat, 13 Oct 2001 15:37:00 GMT

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Martin Otte <mjotte@bellsouth.net> writes:

- > <http://plasma-gate.weizmann.ac.il/Grace/>
- > From what I read on the web, Grace is probably the most 'mature'
- > analysis and plotting package available for free for Unix

Maybe mature (based on xmgr), but by far not what a typical IDL user expects:

Grace is a WYSIWYG 2D plotting tool...

- > <http://ana.lmsal.com/>
- > ANA is a free, extensive, interactive data and image processing
- > software package and language. In the past, I have compiled it under
- > LINUX, and the language and commands that it uses are similar to (but
- > not as good as) IDL. The web page doesn't seem to be working as of this
- > evening, and I don't think that I have a copy of the source code saved.
- > If only a few former IDL users had some time to 'hack' at this, it
- > could probably develop into a viable clone/alternative to IDL.

Yes, it is (was?) a thing very comparable to IDL. I found it a bit confusing in syntax, as it was very similar to IDL - but still different. As far as I know, the last developer (L.Strouss) left science, I don't know what is happening with ANA now. At least the Source is around, so it could easily be pushed as 'the' alternative.

On a graduate school, one of the lecturers was using Yorick (<ftp://ftp-icf.llnl.gov/pub/Yorick/doc/index.html>). It is named a package for linear algebra, but also has general numeric and display routines. It also is an interpreted language like IDL

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