
Subject: Re: Any cross-platform IDL alternatives?

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2001 05:06:21 GMT

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From: "Charles Allen" <charles@aspen.sweetshade.local>

>> * For 3D plotting there is an impressive package called VTK. It looks nice.

>> (So far this is a plus.) However I think it's intended more for gaming & CAD

>> than for scientific graphics. One thing it lacks in comparison with IDL
>

> VTK was developed by folks at GE concerned with, among other things,
> 3-D medical data sets. Get ahold of the book.

Well, I would do so if I intended to make heavy use of VTK, but so far I have only made a quick assessment (over a few days) of VTK as an alternative to IDL's object graphics and my conclusion was that it looks good but it seems to lack the concept of data coordinates, which I use a great deal for geophysical applications in IDL. If you wish to offer a different opinion I'd love to hear it.

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