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Subject: Re: Sacrilegious but genuine question  
Posted by [Mark Fardal](#) on Wed, 09 Jan 2002 21:45:42 GMT  
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Andy Loughe <loughe@fsl.noaa.gov> writes:

> Mark Fardal wrote:

>> Just don't try doing it by yourself. ...

>

> Mmmm... maybe you should ask someone who has done it!

>

> <http://nickbower.com/computer/pydl>

Pydl does NOT give you "the functionality of IDL". It implements a few commonly used IDL commands in Python. Probably 90% of all IDL commands are missing, and those that are there are not necessarily implemented completely. If you want to calculate and plot a few things with a free package, without learning an entirely new syntax, Pydl could be useful. If you want something as powerful as IDL, there is a lot of work yet to be done.

Mark

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