
Subject: Re: LINUX version of IDL
Posted by [ps](#) on Thu, 06 Oct 1994 11:38:24 GMT
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Mark Elliott (mark@ginger.biophys.upenn.edu) wrote:

: I'm interseted in persuading RSI to support IDL under LINUX. LINUX
: is the free, GNU-like version of UNIX for use on Intel-486 based
: machines (i.e. DOS machines). Our experience with LINUX has been
: terrific. It is a complete implemtation of BSD-Unix which turns a \$2000
: PC into a Unix workstation as powerful and functional as any \$10,000+
: workstation (SUN,SGI,IBM,...) The only thing lacking for us is a binary
: of IDL which will run under LINUX.

Yes!

Since starting to work with Linux, that was something I had in my mind.
Meanwhile Linux is definitely stable enough, and other companies are
starting to port their software (e.g. Maple V). Maybe that will persuade
RSI to do the port?

I only see one major Problem: IDL's pricings are quite high, and a lot of
the Linux users prefer cheap or free software. (Maple has a special-priced
offer for a limited time. Would be a good idea for IDL, too). On the other
hand, a lot of intitutes are starting to switch to Pentium-based Linux
workstations, so I would assume a big upcoming market from that side.

And, at last, I would be willing to buy an Linux-IDL, as I do nearly
everything with it here at work.

Peter

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