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Subject: Re: Which is better WAVE or IDL?  
Posted by [mahan](#) on Tue, 24 Jan 1995 00:55:56 GMT  
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Iarla Kilbane-Dawe (iarla@atm.ch.cam.ac.uk) wrote:  
: I'm curious to know what anyone who may have used both systems  
: might have to say about comparing the two. We use PV-WAVE  
: but I've been told that IDL is

They have the same origin, but from my experience w/ running a couple of pieces of computationally intensive code- RSI's IDL is about a factor of 2 faster than PV-Wave on a SUN MP690-52 running Solaris 2.3. This measure was done in the Summer of 1994. One of the tests that I ran was a modified version of RSI's time\_test code. The modification was necessary for compatibility w/ VNI's pv-wave.

Regarding RSI's IDL and some benchmarks of IDL versions of Fortran 77 code and their Fortran 77 counterparts on several platforms, I'll recommend the July/August 1994 issue of Computers in Physics, pg 439. In this review article there are several platforms w/ corresponding timings.

-Steve

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