
Subject: Re: IDL 6.0

Posted by [MC](#) on Sat, 29 Mar 2003 00:38:41 GMT

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I am with you fellows.

Direct Graphics and non-object programming was what attracted me to IDL. Quick and easy data visualization. I do what I needed for my use. Not to have fancy interfaces for others most of the time.

Hope future releases will continue to improve our needs so that IDL will not become just 'another addition' to a whole lot of programming softwares (many of which are much more powerful than IDL) already available to professional programmers.

MC

"Randall Skelton" <rskelto@atm.ox.ac.uk> wrote in message
news:Pine.LNX.4.33.0303280853520.2390-100000@moriarty.atm.ox.ac.uk...

>

> On Fri, 28 Mar 2003, Michael W Asten wrote:

>

>> This viewpoint shows an interesting divergence between different classes
of

>> users. I am of the troglodyte school who do not use objects (do I hear
a Coyote

>> howling from the next hill?). But I do use guis to drive my programs,
and I dont

>> like programming guis - I prefer to use ready-made items; I use IDL to
get quick

>> results from my data, not to generate fancy code.

>

> I may have hastily overstated my request... I too make guis so I can
> quickly load and visualize data and I agree that more ready-made items
> will probably make this easier. Provided, of course, that I can afford
> the next suite of IDL programming books that describe how to actually
> use these new features ;)

>

> I suppose my concern is that IDL stops being an 'Interactive Data
> Language' and instead becomes a glorified visual-basic competitor. The
> thought of double-clicking on each IDL object to get an 'objectsheets'
> where I enter formulas such as '=A1+\$B\$2+(SUM(D12:14))^2' is horrifying.

>

> For the record, many people in my department don't use guis, objects,
> functions or even procedures. Yes, many of the people I work with write
> 'routines' that are strung together using .run commands. With the
> aforementioned suite of code they '.r read_modelout.pro' or '.r
> modelradforce.pro' and, after answering a seemingly endless stream of

> console queries, they return to the IDL prompt to '.r diagnose.pro',
> 'print, res1, xh, bb, yobs', and '.r normplot1.pro' to produce
> direct-graphics windows and postscript plots of the atmosphere. You are
> certainly correct that such discussions do highlight the various classes
> of users.
>
> Cheers,
> Randall
>
> NB: from <<http://www.winternet.com/~mikelr/flame39.html>> one learns:
>
> Troglodyte -- an aggressive Philistine who categorically disdains all
> new-age enthusiasms and politics, and has a particular animus against
> "homos", "tree huggers", and artsy types. His/her loud brandishings of
> "common sense" and "reason" are nothing more than conceits to justify
> his/her close mindedness. Troglodyte's fierce, but predictable attacks
> are easily parried by more nimble Warriors. Sometimes, just for fun,
> Weenie or Issues will taunt him/her into a towering rage.
>
