
Subject: Re: What does an optimal scientific programming language/environment need?

Posted by [Duane Bozarth](#) on Mon, 22 Sep 2003 15:07:42 GMT

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phil chastney wrote:

>
> "grunes" <grunes@yahoo.com> wrote in message
> news:2c0d6c85.0309191029.3efe3a99@posting.google.com...
>>
>> 5. 100% upwards compatibility with earlier versions of the same
>> language/environment, and between platforms.
>
> I don't see this as either necessary or desirable -- Fortran has survived so
> well precisely because of its ability to move the language definition sideways,
> without being shackled to earlier imperfections

Well, since F77 there is little that has actually been removed and a major consideration (as is evidenced in conversions in c.l.f) is maintaining compatability w/existing code. In practice, virtually nothing is ever removed from a commercial compiler although most have switches to allow specific standard level violations to be flagged...
