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Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 17 Feb 2005 00:13:09 GMT

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Paul Van Delst writes:

- > Maybe it's because writing code/getting results is *\*too\** easy nowadays? (Thanks, IDL.
- > Sheesh. :o) And maybe the ease of writing code that produces copious amounts of data
- > contributes to the generation of errors too subtle to stand out?

You may be on to something here. I usually start a class by asking what people want to learn to do, and why they've chosen IDL to do it. Inevitably, they want to do the most god-awful complicated things. I always start to sweat because I know how (some of the time) to do about half of it.

Then we get started, and three hours later when I find myself saying, "No, *\*DEVICE\** decomposed. D-E-V-I-C-E. You are typing DEVIOUS," that I realize I'll be fine, that we aren't going very far that day or any other. It's only later that night, after the third or forth margarita that I get very, very depressed.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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