
Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [btt](#) on Fri, 18 Feb 2005 16:01:52 GMT

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Paul Van Delst wrote:

> David wrote:

>

>> Jonathan Greenberg writes:

>>

>>

>>> David: you are the expert on IDL, one thing I haven't figured out is

>>> what

>>> does IDL have that Matlab/Octave doesn't? As a remote sensor, I use IDL

>>> because of this interface with ENVI. However, why do non-envi users

>>> use IDL

>>> (except for sheer inertia of not wanting to learn a new program)?

>>

>>

>>

>> In a word, objects. :-)

>

>

>

> As to the OP question of "why do non-envi users use IDL" ? Well, in my

> case, it's because the matlab licensing procedure appears (horror of

> horrors) to be even more labyrinthine than that for IDL (how can that

> be!?!). Oh, and:

> - I have a crapload of IDL code

> - Everything in matlab seems to be a string, 4-byte integer, or 8-byte

> real. What's

> the go with that?

Well, I dunno. Your info might be a bit dated. The link below points to the *very nice* online MatLab help system - in particular look at the 'Data Types' link on the page. This shows that MatLab seems to have comparable data types (except complex, I think) and that there exists such a thing as 'User Class'. I couldn't begin to tell you if they are comparable to IDL objects.

<http://tinyurl.com/3gpdo>

Tears,
Ben
