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Subject: Alternatives to IDL?

Posted by [mal3p](#) on Thu, 08 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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I have been using IDL for about a year now, and like recent posters, it has become my main language for scientific computation, despite its quirks. However, I may soon be leaving academe and am looking for a low cost alternative that satisfies the following conditions:

- 1) Must have data structures
- 2) Must have support for unformatted I/O (ie binary files)
- 3) Should have fortran like procedural language
- 4) Preferably interactive.

I have seen a lot of comparisons to other languages in the recent discussion of the merits of IDL. I know Fortran, C++ and Pascal, but am unfamiliar with APL and some of the other more exotic languages. Can someone with knowledge of these suggest an alternative to returning to <sniff> fortran90?

Michael

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