
Subject: Re: Unhappy plotter

Posted by [Cliff](#) on Wed, 19 Apr 2006 21:42:04 GMT

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Sorry about the initial rant that started this mini-debate, I'm usually quite positive about things (honestly). I suppose the main problem that frustrates me is not having the time (like David and his Catalyst library) to invest in learning the iTools system.

I am sad, David, to hear that you are losing faith in IDL. I was fortunate to attend one of your courses in the UK and besides the Coyote Tales was most struck with your enthusiasm. I suppose the crux of the issue is that we're all in some way trying to earn a living and time is also money.

I hope that whatever you decide to do that you have all the success and one day come up with the killer app that can allow you the luxury to do the things you want to do just for fun.

All the best

Cliff

Michael Galloy wrote:

> Cliff wrote:

>> In the beginning I used add ons to Fortran to visualise my data, so
>> when I came across PV-WAVE it was like a miracle appearing on my
>> desktop. Then came IDL, widgets, pointers etc etc. I was a happy
>> plotter. I started to write applications and soon found direct graphics
>> a little clunky. Then came objects - much more like it and I was a
>> anticipative plotter. Then came object graphics, oops, it was like the
>> wind was knocked from my sails. Why oh why are they so complicated?
>> Then I found MATLAB, this is how graphics should work. Make a plot and
>> you have a functional oo plotting system - like LIVE_PLOT on acid. I
>> jumped with joy in anticipation when I heard of the arrival of iTools.
>> Ooops, why oh why oh why? Complicated, indecipherable and unusable
>> unless of course one has a spare month or two for the learning curve
>> (my boss would not be happy). Suppose I'll have to carry on using DGs
>> for my applications. Am I just dim? It's not like I'm an IDL novice.
>> Does anyone else feel this way? oh and why can't object methods be used
>> as widget events. Moan over ...

>

> I appreciate the sentiment about the iTools, though I'm being slowly
> converted. Even extending the iTools, which I thought was very painful
> in IDL 6.0, doesn't seem so bad now in IDL 6.2. (Is this proof you can
> get used to anything?)

>

> It's annoying that XMANAGER can't call an object method as an event

> handler, but it's certainly easy to get around. What bothers you about it?
>
> -Mike
> michaelgalloy.com
