
Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Aug 2006 13:47:10 GMT
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Haje Korth writes:

> I too got the feeling that we get to fork out if we want to use this
> analyst product. Regarding the ITTVIS/VNI relationship, I have been
> wondering about this too. No clue what's going on...

An article in my mailbox yesterday confirms that if I "act now" I can get the new IDL Analyst product for \$995. I had a look through the list of mathematical routines. I noticed enough overlap between the math routines already in IDL and the new routines to make me VERY glad I'm not an IDL salesperson.

"So, are these math routines better than the old ones?"

"Uh, no. Well, maybe, in some cases."

"Do you mean that the old ones aren't accurate."

"No, no. I don't mean that. I just mean that, you know, maybe you would like to use a different algorithm."

"Don't they give the same answers?"

"Well, usually."

etc.

To come up with \$995 the new routines have to either be better (whatever this means) or there has to be something there that you don't have now and really, really need.

If they are better, then why aren't they included in IDL!? Surely IDL can't be sold in the "ballpark" version and the "accurate" version. (Can you imagine the footnotes in the academic literature?)

If there is something new, \$995 may or may not be a fair price for it. Guess it depends on how badly it's needed.

I'm just saying, I'm sure as hell glad I'm not the one selling it!

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. (Opata Indian saying, meaning "Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
