
Subject: Re: IDL and PV-WAVE?

Posted by [pjclinch](#) on Mon, 15 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Over here, at least educationally, the two cost the same (or at least *did*, when we bought Wave). If one was more than the other, I'd buy the cheaper one. During evaluation we were impressed with both products and support and backup for both as well. In the end we plumped for the (then) new PV-Wave Advantage version, as the extra maths and stats clout from that looked attractive (we've put it to good use too).

Wave 6.0 (waiting for our upgrade in the post) has a rather better front end for beginners or the "if it isn't a GUI I can't use it" brigade. Not sure how IDL's doing in that respect at present.

Peter Sharer (sharer@argus.arc.nasa.gov) wrote:

: You might also investigate Visualization Data Explorer from IBM. It is a
: very different tool from either Wave or IDL. We are now evaluating it.

I think that's more along the lines of AVS, which you may wish to look at. Same goes for SGI's Iris Explorer, which I think is multi-platform now.

We now have AVS, which is better for some things (like building GUI applications for specific jobs), and worse for others (reading in a stack of data you don't know much about and tinkering with it). *Different*, rather than better, and complementary rather than a replacement.

Pete.

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