
Subject: Re: Singing New Tune

Posted by [mankoff](#) on Sat, 09 Feb 2008 03:23:12 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Feb 8, 3:18 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,
>
> I used to think of the people who ran IDL cron jobs, or
> who used Ghostview to visualize all their graphics output,
> as Luddites, or worse. But I am singing a new tune these
> days as I try to work remotely from a Windows machine
> to a UNIX machine, and I have the need to process massive
> amounts of data.
>
> To this end, a couple of my most heavily used programs
> (by me, anyway) have been updated with new CRONJOB keywords
> to keep them alive if you want to do some plotting, but don't
> have a graphics connection. These are FSC_COLOR and COLORBAR.
>
> Just set the keyword in the call, and neither will load the
> so-called "system colors". These are colors associated with
> your window system and are useful for making your IDL applications
> look like something Bill Gates created. (Using heavily embedded
> FOR loops helps, too.) No one but me has ever used them, I guess,
> so it's no big loss. Getting them requires a window
> connection. So not getting them allows these programs to run
> as cron jobs. (Hence, the name of the keyword.)
>
> Also, I think the NCDF_BROWSER is nearing completion. At least
> I haven't heard of anyone with bugs in the last 24-hours. So,
> you might also get the latest version of that if you are interested.
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro
> <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/colorbar.pro>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ncdf_data__define.pro
>
> I'm out of here for a few weeks. I'm putting Chris (Spon) in charge
> until I get back. ;-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Very nice and useful, but I have a feature request: Don't make it cron-specific. Some of use "at" or even run manually and interactively but without X. So a /NOX or /NO_X11 keyword or /NO_DISPLAY would be more generic.
