
Subject: Re: Any interest in an IDL to Python interface?

Posted by [rkombiyil](#) on Sat, 01 Mar 2008 02:49:02 GMT

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On Feb 29, 9:42 am, Jason Ferrara <jason.ferr...@jacquette.com> wrote:

> On Feb 28, 12:13 pm, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Hi

>

>> it could be nice if something like that is added for all supported OS

>> versions not only for windows.

>

> Its our plan to support Windows, Linux, and Mac.

>

>

>

>> python has lots of interesting libraries and is used as scripting

>> language in many programs (OpenOffice.org, Blender, Maya, PyMOL, Gimp, etc.)

>

>> The problem will be the price or do you have considered to share it free

>> of charge?

>

> It would be a commercial product. The pricing hasn't been determined
> yet.

>

>

>

>> And another question has to be discussed too. What of idl will be left

>> over if such a powerful programming language will be added to idl.

>> For example this will give us the possibility to use QT4 for widgets. Or

>> we never again do get "the sky is falling down miracle" because of the

>> decimal data type. Or we can use pythons standalone webserver or lots of

>> math libraries free of charge.

>

>> One has to ask himself if an idl program is mostly based on python

>> modules why he has to use idl and does not do the whole job in python

>> then? There are not much differences between both languages.

>

>> How would the development of idl been continued if we as user could

>> always use other libs?

>

> I don't see this as being an issue.

>

> Each language has its own strengths and weaknesses. Its not a one

> size

> fits all thing. Interoperability between languages means you can mix

- > and
- > match as best solves your problem, rather than having to pick one and
- > then struggle with it for the things its not good with.
- >
- > And more libraries accessible from IDL makes IDL more useful, not
- > less.

First of all this is an excellent idea.. But just curious.. what is the memory overhead in computationally intensive apps? Any benchmarks? I personally am a big python advocate and learning more everyday! Thanks for any additional info that you can provide.

Best wishes,
/rk
