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Subject: Re: New Widgets Needed

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 2008 14:54:04 GMT

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Do they provide a converter - I guess no, and I guess we pay them for silently killing all the procedural programming stuff also soon.

Our linux idl user group has no use for all that object orientated stuff they have developed in the last years. We dislike the interactive tools they want us to use. iplot, findgen(10) takes minutes :(

We do use widgets on linux and of course there are other languages on linux which do provide a better gui interface (now) but we have decided 15years ago to use idl and paid a lot of money for maintenance. We love batch processing so we need only a few widgets, but it looks to me that they focus currently to much on interactive users.

It has taken several years of requests to get them to add a new netCDF library into the current version. I do believe there are also several others outdated.

And if I look on the eclipse environment they have implemented in comparison to the PyDev environment I get a lot of wishes they should continue to add/fix instead of replacing an other feature. (Which then probably does not work as expected)

They don't use package managers for installation of their software on linux. Why - isn't that not a task they can outsource to one of their students? Why is it so difficult to create a deb or rpm package? Why can't they provide a rpm/deb patch of their software? And why isn't the vm not provided for installation from a non-oss server similiar to adobe? I dream since long that it get's added to a knoppix live CD.

Reimar

David Fanning schrieb:

- > Folks,
- >
- > At the last IDL User's Group meeting the folks at ITTVIS
- > mentioned that they had plans for updating (and ultimately
- > moving away from) widgets. I mostly scoffed at the idea,
- > but I see now that one gets a distorted perspective from

> spending too many hours on a Windows machine, where  
> widgets perform spectacularly.  
>  
> Now, of course, I realize that pretty much everything  
> \*looks\* ugly on a LINUX machine, but widgets over there  
> really are ugly, for all kinds of reasons. In trying to  
> get this Catalyst Library ready for a formal release, and  
> in trying to get one of my applications ready for VM  
> distribution, I've just run into a world of problems.  
>  
> It occurred to me this morning, as I was muttering and  
> swearing at widgets again, that this is one future  
> direction of IDL that I could really get behind. I've  
> felt for a long time now that my maintenance dollars  
> have been wasted, but if the folks at ITTVIS could  
> come up with a set of graphical user interface thingies  
> that looked great and worked the same across all platforms,  
> I think all could be forgiven. :-)  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
>  
> P.S. Let's just say the most grievous thing so far is  
> behavior that works one way in IDL and a completely  
> different way on the VM. Grrrrr... I'm keeping notes.

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