In a previous article, thompson@stars.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson, code 682.1, x2040) says:

> In article <1993Jan19.175815.8722@iscnvx.lmsc.lockheed.com>, kevin@dipl.rdd.lmsc.lockheed.com writes...
>> alan@elroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Alan S. Mazer) writes:
>>
>>> Can someone tell me how these packages might compare in an image analysis
>>> environment?  What I really need is a nice front end that can do plots and
>>> simple image manipulation and interface easily with a lot of custom C code.
>>
>> I don't know about IDL or Khoros, but:
>>
>> PV Wave is primarily a graphics package that has math functions
>> on the side.
>
> IDL and PV Wave are very similar products having a common ancestor (an older
> version of IDL).  The above description could apply equally well to IDL.
>
Personally, I think IDL presents an excellent mix of math capabilities and
graphics.  Easy to produce numbers, easy to plot them.
Programs written in IDL can be 30-60 times slower than equivalent programs
written in FORTRAN, but if one uses extensive array manipulation facilities
execution improves tremendously (factors of 10).


> I don't know about PV-Wave, but IDL's C interface is *very* easy to use, IMHO.
> I think that this feature is one of those that is *not* identical between the
> two packages, but can't be positive.
>
I second that

> Bill Thompson
>
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