Subject: Re: Migrate away from idl?
Posted by Nikola on Thu, 19 Nov 2009 15:43:26 GMT

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> The best you can say about IDL these days is that it isn't bad.
> I can see why that's not generating a fanatical following.
>

I'd say it's a bit more than that. Of course new things will come from time to
time but the ultimate value of IDL is the IDL community and amount of work that
has been made to built numerous useful libraries available today. In my field -
solar physics - there is a suite of routines called solarsoft that integrates
hundreds of necessary functions for a range of solar instruments and telescopes.
I wouldn't ever trade that for nicer fonts, interactive plots or any similar
cosmetics. :)

Actually, beside IDL I use only two more things in my work - Fortran/C for
numerics and TecPlot/ParaView for 3D visualization (though there is also IDL
based Vapor for that).

Cheers,

Nikola