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Subject: Acknowledging IDL help/code from this group in academic publications

Posted by [Robin Wilson](#) on Tue, 18 Jan 2011 16:30:40 GMT

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Hi all,

Firstly, I want to say thank you to the members of this group for the help they have given me with IDL over the last few years. I'd just like to check what the procedure is for acknowledging this help (particularly if the help comes in the form of code samples, or even fully written routines) in academic publications.

I obviously don't want to 'rip anyone off' or be accused of stealing work from other people, so what do people suggest for attribution? Should I add something to the acknowledgments in the paper saying thanks to the members of the IDL newsgroup for their help, or does there need to be something more than this?

Obviously when I have used code provided from IDL routine libraries on the internet I have kept the code headers complete, so it is obvious who the original author was. However, if people just read my paper they won't be aware that these people contributed code. Is this a problem?

I'm hoping for a little bit of a discussion on this, so that I (and others who use advice and code from these groups) can do the right thing.

Cheers,

Robin

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