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Subject: Book Review: Object-Oriented Programming with IDL

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Mon, 17 Jan 2011 00:38:04 GMT

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Some readers of this newsgroup might be interested in the recent (July 10) book by Ronn Kling "Object-Oriented Programming with IDL". This book is written for "an average IDL programmer who knows the basics of procedures and functions and who is familiar with structures", but who may not be completely comfortable with object-oriented programming. I found it refreshing to read a book about objects focussed on scientists (and even astronomers!) with examples in IDL. The table of contents is available at

<http://www.kilvarock.com/ooptableofcomments.htm>

The book is recent enough to include a chapter on the IDL 8.0 enhancements including garbage collection, operator overloading, and the new object syntax.

The book shouldn't be thought of as a reference, but more of an extended essay on when and how to use objects in IDL. But the most important advice I can give to those considering buying this book is to *\*not\** buy it from Amazon, but to look at <http://www.kilvarock.com/books-on-idl.htm> . (Hint: there is a substantial price difference.)

--Wayne

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