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Subject: Re: Book Tour Report  
Posted by [Mort Canty](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2011 12:24:01 GMT  
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Am 29.04.2011 00:40, schrieb David Fanning:

> Paolo writes:  
>  
>> Python Programming Techniques  
>>  
>> (this is actually a serious suggestion... but I am not sure  
>> how much competition there is in that field for books...)  
>  
> To tell you the truth, this thought has crossed my mind,  
> too. In fact, if I would have had any money to bet on  
> what my epiphany would have been on my big hike, I would  
> have been heavily on "python" rather than "idl." But,  
> the Universe has its own reasons, I guess.  
>  
> Anyway, Greg Wilson has a wonderful on-line Python  
> programming course called Software Carpentry:  
>  
> <http://software-carpentry.org/>  
>  
> I've learned a lot of things there. Greg recently ran  
> out of money for his web page, and did the math to see  
> whether he could "afford" to write a Python programming  
> book from the material he already had (quite a lot!).  
> His answer was no, he couldn't afford to do it.  
>  
> <http://software-carpentry.org/2011/04/by-the-numbers/>  
>  
> I thought his words per day figure was way too high,  
> and his total days were off by a factor of at least  
> two, so it probably would have cost him twice as much  
> as he was estimating, so... Bottom line, it's hard to  
> write a book. And even harder to write one when you don't  
> really know the subject inside and out.  
>  
> Python Programming Techniques is probably not going  
> to make my short list, anyway. :-)  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
>

Right, David. Don't let them tempt you. I've got Langtangen's "Python Scripting for Computational Science, 3rd Ed." on my bookshelf, and I

sure as heck wouldn't like to have to compete with it.

Mort.

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