
Subject: Re: Cost of student version of IDL
Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Thu, 31 May 2012 07:24:47 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wednesday, May 30, 2012 1:45:47 PM UTC-7, teddy...@gmail.com wrote:

> I am a student and this is exactly the reason why I am considering moving to Python. Too expensive over time considering the alternatives.

>

>

> On Tuesday, May 8, 2012 11:21:36 AM UTC-4, Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

>> I am going back into the classroom next fall to teach IDL to undergraduates

>> after spending the last few years as department head. The course alternates

>> between IDL and Matlab, and we have talked about adding a Python version section.

>>

>> I am working on ways to get students to spend more time outside of class reading

>> my book and working IDL examples in order to create more time in class to work

>> with students individually.

>>

>> To accomplish this, students need to have a copy of IDL on their personal

>> computers. I looked at the Exelis website yesterday and found that the student

>> edition of IDL is \$89 (\$149 with the IMSL library). That didn't seem too bad

>> until I realized that that price is for a 1-year license! So a sophomore taking

>> my course would need to pay at least \$270 to keep a working IDL license until

>> graduation. Knowing students as I do, most will simply let their licenses

>> lapse.

>>

>> For reference, my IDL textbook is \$42 on Amazon. When my text was first

>> released (2006), a non-expiring student IDL license was \$49.

>>

>> We make IDL available in our labs, but the inconvenience of coming to the campus

>> guarantees that students will only use IDL when they *have* to.

>>

>> For comparison, I see that Mathworks charges \$99 for a student Matlab license

>> with no time limit. They require proof of enrollment to move the license to a

>> new machine after 4 years, and they charge for upgrades.

>>

>> In the current environment (with free alternatives like Python), does the IDL

>> student pricing make sense to anyone?

>>

>> Has anyone worked out better ways to get students access to IDL?

>>

>> Ken Bowman

Yahhh. but student version is not valid for Europe!!! means i have to pay over 1200 euro=> 1500\$!!! for that!!