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Subject: Re: Interesting article in Nature  
Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Thu, 31 Jan 2013 09:38:19 GMT  
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Hi Paulo,

Thanks for the link

By the way, in papers it is almost never mentioned in the acknowledgements or so with which tool the graphics have been made. Is IDL (i.e. exelis) for example officially requiring it's users to mention IDL in their manuscripts?

Fab

On 01/31/2013 12:24 AM, Paulo Penteado wrote:

>  
> It is not everyday that choosing IDL over other languages gets  
> discussed in Nature:  
>  
> "The algorithms to be incorporated were varied, and included codes for  
> estimating snow coverage, grain size and absorption of solar radiation  
> by dust and black carbon. They had been written in IDL, a specialized  
> programming language used by many researchers. Geographers, remote  
> sensing experts and software programmers contributed.  
> Most computer scientists would assume that such a system would take  
> years, not weeks, to develop. The algorithms would presumably have to  
> be rewritten in a standard language such as C++, Java or Python, or  
> one that could run on a fast computer system or infrastructure, such  
> as Google's MapReduce model.  
> But, in my experience, there is no need to rewrite scientific  
> algorithms for bigdata systems. Rewriting only increases the barriers  
> to communication between scientists and computer engineers. Rewriting  
> can also introduce costly errors."  
>  
> From  
>  
> <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/493473a>  
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