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Subject: Re: An IDL hero moves on. Best wishes, Chris!  
Posted by [astroboy.20000](#) on Mon, 30 Oct 2017 17:57:10 GMT  
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On Monday, October 30, 2017 at 1:55:48 PM UTC-4, Ann Nonymous wrote:  
> On Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 7:49:09 AM UTC-4, Nikola Vitas wrote:  
>> Should we draw any conclusions about the future of IDL? Even in solar physics, that was traditionally IDL-oriented, there is an increasing trend of moving to python. I guess that in the near future some institutes, especially the smaller ones, may give up on paying the IDL licenses.  
>>  
>> All the best to Chris!  
>  
> I think Harris is completely clueless about IDL. For IDL to survive I think it will have to be spun off as its own company. I think Harris sees that the big money is to be made is with envi (although i think it's a iffy to even claim it knows what ENVI is) and probably no one in management even knows that there's language called IDL that scientists use.  
>  
> At my university students could get IDL for \$100, a student version that worked OK for simple stuff was free. No more. I work at harris. My computer has matlab installed on it.

In fact, to get IDL installed I had to make a 'special request' to IT because IDL was 'non-standard' software. What a hoot.

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