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Subject: New book: "Practical IDL Programming"

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 21 Jun 2001 03:58:02 GMT

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Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that my book "Practical IDL Programming" will be published by Morgan Kaufmann on July 6, 2001. Here are the details:

Practical IDL Programming: Creating Effective Data Analysis and  
Visualization Applications  
by Liam E. Gumley

Foreword by David Stern  
Founder and Chief Technologist, Research Systems Inc.

508 pages, Paperback  
ISBN 1-55860-700-5  
Morgan Kaufmann Publishers

For more information about the book, including an extended table of contents; links to my favorite IDL resources on the Web; a list of other recommended books; and a growing collection of IDL software, visit the accompanying web site:

<http://www.gumley.com/>

My philosophy in writing the book was to start with the fundamentals of procedural programming in IDL (syntax, program construction, I/O, direct graphics), followed by application of the fundamentals to real world problems (plotting, imaging, creating graphical output, graphical user interfaces). At every stage in the book, I have augmented the text with figures, command-line examples, non-trivial sample programs, and tables that list the most useful information about a particular topic (e.g., commonly used keywords). I have also highlighted 'Notes' that deserve extra consideration, and 'Tips' that are only discovered after many years of IDL programming.

The book has been in development for almost three years and has benefited greatly from external reviews by experts in the field. The reviewers and the editorial staff of the High Performance Computing division at Morgan Kaufmann Publishers have made the book a much stronger and better organized reference on IDL. I am confident that programmers at all levels will find the book informative and useful. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the book.

Regards,  
Liam E. Gumley.

