Subject: Re: Insight...
Posted by Pavel A. Romashkin on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 19:24:47 GMT
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Guillaume Dargaud wrote:
>
> We have IDL on our SGI system, and a user asked me for Insight which he said
> is normally part of IDL.

This user will regret he asked for it, once you have it.
I am not sure Insight is even part of IDL package anymore.

Cheers,
Pavel

Subject: Re: Insight...
Posted by Mark Hadfield on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 20:52:41 GMT
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From: "Pavel A. Romashkin" <pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov>
> Guillaume Dargaud wrote:
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said
>> is normally part of IDL.
>
> This user will regret he asked for it, once you have it.
> I am not sure Insight is even part of IDL package anymore.

It was withdrawn from version 5.4 as part of the LZW compression panic.
Quoting this verion's "What's New":

" IDL Insight ï¿½ The Insight application has been removed from IDL. Insight
uses LZW compression for saving compressed project files and therefore can
no longer be included with IDL."

Amongst all the complaints about the loss of GIF (at the same time & for the
same reason) I don't recall a single complaint about Insight. This probably
tells you something!

IIRC, Insight was based on the LIVE_PLOT etc family of visualisation tools,
which are still there. I even use them very occasionally.

Mark Hadfield
m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

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Subject: Re: Insight...
Posted by Jaco van Gorkom on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 21:06:42 GMT

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"Pavel A. Romashkin" wrote:
> Guillaume Dargaud wrote:
>>
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> This user will regret he asked for it, once you have it.
> I am not sure Insight is even part of IDL package anymore.

I think it was dropped in 5.4, on the pretext that it used lzw (GIF-like)
compression for its saved projects or whatever they were called. I don't think
Insight ever matured to something truly useful. The LIVE_PLOT tools are still
around, though, and seem to be at least somewhat useful. With some improvements,
they could be *very* useful, I guess. (Just imagine: you don't like the position
of the axis, you want it on top. Instead of figuring out the bitwise settings of
the xstyle keyword, you just drag and drop...)

  Jaco

Subject: GIF/TIFF-LZW in 5.5 (sorta) (was: Insight...)
Posted by Dick Jackson on Fri, 12 Oct 2001 04:51:30 GMT

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"Mark Hadfield" <m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz> wrote in message
news:004a01c15296$aa433db0$d938a8c0@Hadfield...
> From: "Pavel A. Romashkin" <pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov>
>> Guillaume Dargaud wrote:
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>>> We have IDL on our SGI system, and a user asked me for Insight [...]
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> Quoting this verion's "What's New":
>

> uses LZW compression for saving compressed project files and therefore can
> no longer be included with IDL."

Ah, but now in IDL 5.5 What's New:
http://www.rsinc.com/idl/whatsnew.cfm

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IDL 5.5 GIF/TIFF LZW Policy

RSI is pleased to announce the availability of GIF/TIFF LZW support in IDL
5.5. In order to enable this support, IDL users must sign and fax a copy of
the "Proof of Unisys Licensing" release form to RSI. This form states that
the IDL user has a license from Unisys Corporation for use of their patented
technology.

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... and from http://www.rsinc.com/idl/UnisysLicense.pdf ...

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feature

WARNING!
Use of IDL software for providing GIF/TIFF LZW capability for any purpose is
not authorized unless user first enters into a license agreement with Unisys
under U.S. Patent No. 4,558,302 and foreign counterparts.

For information concerning licensing, please contact:
Unisys Corporation

Township Line and Union Meeting Roads
P.O. Box 500
Blue Bell, PA 19424
Email contact: LZW_info@Unisys.com

[...]

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More info on LZW license from Unisys is at:
http://www.unisys.com/unisys/lzw/

Seems like a lot of hoops, has anyone actually written to Unisys for such a
license? Do they charge for it?

Cheers,
--
-Dick

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