
Subject: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Wed, 23 Aug 2006 16:38:39 GMT

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Hi,

Does anyone have the scoop on the newest comment on the ITTVIS web site about IMSL coming to IDL? Entire library or selected functions? Which OS? What's the Interface (call external, DLM, etc.)? Free for IDL customers under maintenance or another \$1000 add-on? Anything else you can think of?

Cheers,
Haje

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 14:27:07 GMT

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Ben Panter wrote:

> Out of interest, when is IDL 7.0 due, and is there any gossip around
> about what might be included?
>

http://www.itvis.com/idl/platform_future.asp says *6.4* is due mid 2007. Rather than telling what will be included, it says what will be removed, namely support for the more exotic Unixes.

Cheers,
Benjamin

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 14:40:52 GMT

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I doubt that IMSL will be included for free in the next IDL version. In defense of ITTVIS, the excessive licensing cost is not just their fault. Having bought IMSL previously bundled with a Fortran compiler, my guess is that they fork out half of the license price to VNI. Left is \$500 for ITTVIS for a 560kB DLM (plus IDL wrappers). Hey, that's less than \$1 per kilobyte of code. :-)

Anyway, I am testing the IMSL lib and my first impression is that I like what I see. The question is in the end whether I can justify the spending.

Ben Panter wrote:

> Haje Korth wrote:

>> I love that dialog, don't tell me that was a real conversations you had

>> with ITTVIS. BTW: It not "for \$995", it's "for as little as \$995". That

>> was the moment I spit my coffee all over my screen.

>

> I'm glad I wasn't the only one. I hadn't spotted David's post when I

> read the add-ons for the Premier edition, but I was imagining having a

> remarkably similar conversation...

>

> Out of interest, when is IDL 7.0 due, and is there any gossip around

> about what might be included?

>

> Ben

>

> --

> Ben Panter, Garching, Germany.

> Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>

> or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [saveio](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 15:44:36 GMT

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"Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhupl.edu> writes:

> Anyway, I am testing the IMSL lib and my first impression is that I

> like what I see. The question is in the end whether I can justify the

> spending.

Can you explain how you like what you see? What's different? What are the

real improvements? The more I look at it, the less interesting it seems. Of

course, when I've had to do any hard core statistical stuff, I've gone to R

(<http://www.r-project.org/index.html>) It's free, very well supported, and

runs most platforms.

So Haje, seriously let me know what's new, better, and how.

Matt

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [news.qwest.net](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 16:02:41 GMT
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"Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhuapl.edu> wrote in message
news:1157035252.621374.268510@i3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...
> I doubt that IMSL will be included for free in the next IDL version. In
> defense of ITTVIS, the excessive licensing cost is not just their
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> \$500 for ITTVIS for a 560kB DLM (plus IDL wrappers). Hey, that's less
> than \$1 per kilobyte of code. :-)
>
> Anyway, I am testing the IMSL lib and my first impression is that I
> like what I see. The question is in the end whether I can justify the
> spending.

I am wondering if this is a "one time purchase" where I can
buy IMSL and use it forever, or if they will try to bone me
up the @** with a yearly maintenance bleeding (for useless
cosmetic upgrades)

-bob

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 16:07:42 GMT
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R.G. Stockwell writes:

> I am wondering if this is a "one time purchase" where I can
> buy IMSL and use it forever, or if they will try to bone me
> up the @** with a yearly maintenance bleeding (for useless
> cosmetic upgrades)

You guys are barking up the wrong tree. ITTVIS salespeople
are manning the phone banks now, just waiting for your
call. Their answers are going to be a LOT more interesting
than anything you will find here. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui.
(Opata Indian saying, meaning "Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 16:22:19 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

> Ben Panter wrote:
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>> about what might be included?
>>
>
> http://www.itvis.com/idl/platform_future.asp sais *6.4* is due mid
> 2007. Rather than telling what will be included, it sais what will be
> removed, namely support for the more exotic Unixes.

Thanks Ben. My IDL lifetime is short enough that I only started with 5.1, so I didn't know what to expect for the future. Just have to wait and see I guess!

Ben

--

Ben Panter, Garching, Germany.
Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>
or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 16:59:05 GMT
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Matt,
well, I'd like to have a bunch of those functions ready to use in IDL, although I admit I would probably only use a fraction of them. I am not saying that there are not other solutions (thanks for you link btw). However, integrating these libraries into IDL via DLM is a lot work and the time i would need creating my own IMSL DLM for 180 functions would cost way more than \$1000. If you have ever done DLM programming you know what I am talking about.

Haje

savoie@nsidc.org wrote:

> "Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhupl.edu> writes:

>

>> Anyway, I am testing the IMSL lib and my first impression is that I
>> like what I see. The question is in the end whether I can justify the
>> spending.

>

> Can you explain how you like what you see? What's different? What are
> the

> real improvements? The more I look at it, the less interesting it
> seems. Of

> course, when I've had to do any hard core statistical stuff, I've gone
> to R

> (<http://www.r-project.org/index.html>) It's free, very well supported,
> and

> runs most platforms.

>

> So Haje, seriously let me know what's new, better, and how.

>

> Matt

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 17:01:47 GMT

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Good question but not for me. I don't work for them.

R.G. Stockwell wrote:

> "Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhupl.edu> wrote in message

> news:1157035252.621374.268510@i3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...

>> I doubt that IMSL will be included for free in the next IDL version. In

>> defense of ITTVIS, the excessive licensing cost is not just their

>> fault. Having bought IMSL previously bundled with a Fortran compiler, my

>> guess is that they fork out half of the license price to VNI. Left is

>> \$500 for ITTVIS for a 560kB DLM (plus IDL wrappers). Hey, that's less

>> than \$1 per kilobyte of code. :-)

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>

> I am wondering if this is a "one time purchase" where I can

> buy IMSL and use it forever, or if they will try to bone me

> up the @** with a yearly maintenance bleeding (for useless

> cosmetic upgrades)
>
> -bob

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 17:05:17 GMT
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Agreed, but what's wrong about stirring the rumour mill? :-) Oh, did you make your phone yet?

David Fanning wrote:

> R.G. Stockwell writes:
>
>> I am wondering if this is a "one time purchase" where I can
>> buy IMSL and use it forever, or if they will try to bone me
>> up the @** with a yearly maintenance bleeding (for useless
>> cosmetic upgrades)
>
> You guys are barking up the wrong tree. ITTVIS salespeople
> are manning the phone banks now, just waiting for your
> call. Their answers are going to be a LOT more interesting
> then anything you will find here. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui.
> (Opata Indian saying, meaning "Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 31 Aug 2006 17:07:20 GMT
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Haje Korth writes:

> Good question but not for me. I don't work for them.

And I'm pretty sure they aren't all that keen about
having someone who spills his coffee over the price
reviewing the darn things anyway. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui.

(Opata Indian saying, meaning "Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IMSL coming to IDL

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Mon, 18 Sep 2006 17:26:29 GMT

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David,

I did some testing with a 2 week demo key and I repeat that did like
what I saw. The problem I have with IMSL that it is kind of like music:
you want it for your ipod you buy it on itunes, you want it on the zune
you pay for it again at microsoft, then you decide you want the CD for
your shelf and you have to pay again, and so on. I already paid
multiple hundred bucks once for IMSL with my Lahey FORTRAN compiler and
I cannot justify to pay for it again. I can implement single functions
via DLMS. However, doing the whole library this way would not be cost
efficient. So really, the blame is on VNI here.

Haje

David Fanning wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>

>> To come up with \$995 the new routines have to either be
>> better (whatever this means) or there has to be something
>> there that you don't have now and really, really need.

>

> Just in case anyone was made uneasy about my fictitious
> conversation with an IDL salesperson concerning the
> IMSL addition, here are the facts as I now understand them.

>

> IMSL adds approximately 75 new mathematical routines to
> the language, and of those that overlap with existing IDL
> math routines, many have additional parameters and keywords
> that allow you fine-tune your mathematical analysis in way

> that is not currently possible.
>
> As I said before, the IMSL addition may well be worth the
> money. As with any new piece of software, you have to weigh
> your needs with how much time and energy (and money) it takes
> you to do without it.
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
