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Subject: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [maki](#) on Sun, 05 Mar 1995 11:16:03 GMT  
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I am very interested in obtaining information on the price and the restrictions on student versions of either IDL or PVWAVE for use on an IBM PC under DOS or WINDOWS. I would also be interested in the e-mail addresses of the suppliers.

Many thanks  
Maki Nakayama  
Dept of Applied Mathematics  
University of Witwatersrand  
PO Wits 2050  
South Africa

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Subject: Re: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [bowman](#) on Sat, 01 Apr 1995 08:00:00 GMT  
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In article <maki.23.00085E81@gauss.cam.wits.ac.za>,  
maki@gauss.cam.wits.ac.za wrote:

> I am very interested in obtaining information on the price and the  
> restrictions on student versions of either IDL or PVWAVE for use on an IBM  
> PC under DOS or WINDOWS. I would also be interested in the e-mail  
addresses of  
> the suppliers.

The list price is \$1,500 here in the U.S. (last time I checked). Academic discount depends on quantity. Single copy discount is 25% (once again, this is from memory).

I was in the campus bookstore recently and saw the student version of MATLAB for about \$100. The FULL version of MATLAB for the Mac was only \$495.

I'm an IDL user, but would really love to see a cheaper Mac version, even if it had no support.

Regards, Ken Bowman

--

Dr. Kenneth P. Bowman  
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Department of Meteorology  
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Subject: Re: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [bowman](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <3lpadi\$cb1@lace.Colorado.EDU>, afl@cdc.noaa.gov (Andy Loughe) wrote:

> You have been around this newsgroup long enough to realize that  
> your REAL support is right here, and so is mine.

To be fair, RSI has helped me out several times. They have also failed to respond at all to an e-mail query at least once, and I think I have reported bugs (\*with\* good test cases) about as many times as I have gotten help.

If the economics of the situation make it impossible to provide support to every college student who buys a copy for \$200, I still think they could make money selling IDL with no support. (I'm in favor of that, though my previous note may have implied the opposite.) They can do a profit/loss calculation better than I can, however.

I know that I have at least one student who would be willing to buy IDL for his PC if he could afford it. I would like to have a copy on my PowerMac at home, but can't justify it at the price.

By way of comparison, I got Mathematica for \$100 (full product), which is a product of similar complexity, etc. (University site license).

Regards, Ken Bowman

--

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Subject: Re: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [afl](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <bowman-0104952139460001@csrp12.tamu.edu>, [bowman@csrp.tamu.edu](mailto:bowman@csrp.tamu.edu) (Kenneth P. Bowman) writes:

|> In article <maki.23.00085E81@gauss.cam.wits.ac.za>,

|> maki@gauss.cam.wits.ac.za wrote:  
|>  
|> > I am very interested in obtaining information on the price and the  
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|> \$495.  
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|> I'm an IDL user, but would really love to see a cheaper Mac version, even  
|> if it had no support.  
|>  
|> Regards, Ken Bowman  
|>

Ken,

You have been around this newsgroup long enough to realize that your REAL support is right here, and so is mine. Whenever we have an IDL problem it's like "Gee whiz, that's a tough one", or "Sorry, we no longer have SOLARIS loaded on any of our machines", when we contact RSI, but REAL solutions have come through for us from users like yourself. We solved all of our call\_external and map\_set problems right here on this newsgroup. The one time RSI came through for us is when David Stern added the /cell\_fill option to contour, that cleared up a lot of headaches with contour shading, but even after working with the support people on the "true" map projection problem, it took a user in England to tell us about the undocumented isotropic keyword in map\_set!

I think the "NO SUPPORT" option is a pretty good idea!

Andy

--

Andrew F. Loughe                      email: afl@cdc.noaa.gov  
University of Colorado, CIRES        voice: (303) 492-0707  
Campus Box 449                        fax: (303) 497-7013  
Boulder, CO 80309-0449 USA

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Subject: Re: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [afl](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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Ken,

Sorry if I dragged you into my semi-annual "grumble posting".  
Now that I've moved from D.C. to Boulder I should be more careful!

I should be more fair, as you noted, but it irked me  
a bit to read about how great the support is in the recent  
blurb on IDL 4.0 that was posted to this newsgroup.  
The blurb makes life seem so rosey, but life isn't very rosey  
and I spend a great deal of my time trying to get IDL to behave.  
I think RSI is still a very necessary option for help, I mean what  
happens when you have a problem with a new routine? There is  
probably no one out there to assist except the authors themselves!

The help David Stern offered us with contour filling was outstanding,  
but it is easy for me to remember the bad experiences over the  
good (i.e., it took MANY hours of personal struggle, as well as  
struggle with the support staff to finally get to the point where  
David brought forth the solution).

The bottom line is that I would prefer no other  
analysis package/graphics tool to IDL.  
It saved me from NCAR Graphics! (Uh-oh, here I go again).  
I just don't like the misleading message that comes  
with the IDL 4.0 advertisement. We fell for that message  
in the past... but maybe this is something they are working on,  
and the future will be on the pinkish side of rosey.

P.S. I like some of the things I see in the IDL 4.0 beta.  
The hypertext help is fantastic! The links are wonderful.  
Is there a FORWARD button in the newest beta version?

Map\_continents seems to be greatly enhanced, but the  
functionality may have changed a bit (uh-oh!).

<End Semi-annual "Grumble Posting">

Andy

--

Andrew F. Loughe                      email: [afl@cdc.noaa.gov](mailto:afl@cdc.noaa.gov)  
University of Colorado, CIRES        voice: (303) 492-0707

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Subject: Re: Student versions of IDL and PVWAVE  
Posted by [chris](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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Kenneth P. Bowman (bowman@csrp.tamu.edu) wrote:  
: In article <3lpadi\$cb1@lace.Colorado.EDU>, afl@cdc.noaa.gov (Andy Loughe) wrote:

: I know that I have at least one student who would be willing to buy IDL  
: for his PC if he could afford it. I would like to have a copy on my  
: PowerMac at home, but can't justify it at the price.

: By way of comparison, I got Mathematica for \$100 (full product), which is  
: a product of similar complexity, etc. (University site license).

Just in case RSI is listening, we have 3 students here who would love  
to buy a student edition, and who have already loaded and run the  
'Demo' version on their home computers.

-chris

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Subject: how does it evaluate:  $y * w \# A$  where:  
Posted by [iqbal\\_hassan](#) on Mon, 08 Sep 2003 14:01:13 GMT  
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Hi,  
Please help me to understand as to how it is being evaluated and what  
do I get from this entire operation:

$x = y * w \# A$

where:

y= an array of 'n' elements  
w= an array of 'n' elements  
A= a matrix of 'n' columns and 'm' rows

which operation is performed first:  $y*w$  or  $w \# A$

Thanks a lot,

Hassan

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