
Subject: Re: Singing New Tune

Posted by [mankoff](#) on Sat, 09 Feb 2008 03:23:12 GMT

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On Feb 8, 3:18 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,

>

> I used to think of the people who ran IDL cron jobs, or
> who used Ghostview to visualize all their graphics output,
> as Luddites, or worse. But I am singing a new tune these
> days as I try to work remotely from a Windows machine
> to a UNIX machine, and I have the need to process massive
> amounts of data.

>

> To this end, a couple of my most heavily used programs
> (by me, anyway) have been updated with new CRONJOB keywords
> to keep them alive if you want to do some plotting, but don't
> have a graphics connection. These are FSC_COLOR and COLORBAR.

>

> Just set the keyword in the call, and neither will load the
> so-called "system colors". These are colors associated with
> your window system and are useful for making your IDL applications
> look like something Bill Gates created. (Using heavily embedded
> FOR loops helps, too.) No one but me has ever used them, I guess,
> so it's no big loss. Getting them requires a window
> connection. So not getting them allows these programs to run
> as cron jobs. (Hence, the name of the keyword.)

>

> Also, I think the NCDF_BROWSER is nearing completion. At least
> I haven't heard of anyone with bugs in the last 24-hours. So,
> you might also get the latest version of that if you are interested.

>

> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro
> <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/colorbar.pro>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ncdf_data__define.pro

>

> I'm out of here for a few weeks. I'm putting Chris (Spon) in charge
> until I get back. ;-)

>

> 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.")

Very nice and useful, but I have a feature request: Don't make it cron-specific. Some of use "at" or even run manually and interactively but without X. So a /NOX or /NO_X11 keyword or /NO_DISPLAY would be more generic.

Subject: Re: Singing New Tune
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 09 Feb 2008 03:39:31 GMT
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Ken Mankoff writes:

> Very nice and useful, but I have a feature request: Don't make it cron-
> specific. Some of use "at" or even run manually and interactively but
> without X. So a /NOX or /NO_X11 keyword or /NO_DISPLAY would be more
> generic.

I agree, /NODISPLAY would be better. But sometimes when you are writing programs the muse deserts you. :-(

I think it may be too late to make the change. Hopefully, the handful of people who need the functionality will read the documentation. (I'm joking!)

I don't know. It's such a good idea, maybe I'll make the change.

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.")

Subject: Re: Singing New Tune
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 09 Feb 2008 03:59:16 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> I don't know. It's such a good idea, maybe I'll make the

> change.

Alright, CRONJOB replaced by NODISPLAY. Get the latest!

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/colorbar.pro>

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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