
Subject: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [sterner](#) on Thu, 11 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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JHU/APL/S1R IDL anonymous ftp site update notice
The latest update was made on 1995 May 11.
The last update was made on 1995 Jan 20.

fermi.jhuapl.edu IDL library ftp site description

Purpose of this ftp site

This ftp site contains several JHU/APL/S1R IDL libraries.

The library routines fall into the following broad categories:
Text Files, Text strings, Date & time routines, Information,
Plotting/Graphics, Imaging, Array processing, Math, Programming,
Widget tools, Library maintenance and documentation, and Miscellaneous.
One demonstration library is currently included for the eqv routine.

Accessing the ftp site (Make sure you use ftp, not telnet)

ftp fermi.jhuapl.edu (128.244.147.18)
For Name type: anonymous
For Password enter: your email address (ex: sterner@tesla.jhuapl.edu).
Change directory by entering: cd pub/idl
Set the correct transfer type: ascii (for README, cat.one, doc_guide.txt)
or binary (for the *.Z files).
To get a file enter: get filename
When finished enter: bye.

Get the ascii file README (~7.2k byte) for a guide to this ftp site.
You may also want to get the one line description file cat.one (~32kb).

What's New in the May 1995 JHU/APL/S1R IDL library update

Besides the usual minor upgrades and small bug fixes are the following.

The document IDLDOC/idl_psprinters.doc has some notes on the
changes to psinit to support color PostScript.
PRWINDOW is a new routine to do a screen dump from current IDL window to
color PS printer (by default). Used by the XVIEW color print button.
XVIEW has a new button: Color Print which sends the image in the current
graphics window to a color PostScript printer. Several one-time
conditions must be met: first you must have a color PS printer,
you must have the new routine PRWINDOW (in the same library), and
you must have correctly added the color printer to the IDL_PSPRINTERS
file (see IDLDOC/idl_psprinters.doc for more details).

PSINIT has been upgraded for color PostScript support. Three new keywords were added for this support:

/COLOR means do color PostScript (def is B&W).

/AUTOCOLOR means automatically set color mode for a color PS printer. Must have the word color in the printer description line.

CFLAG=flag Returned color flag: 0=B&W, 1=Color mode.

The IDL_PSPRINTERS file must be correctly updated for this to work.

PSINIT also has a new method of selecting which printer to use.

The previous printer number still works.

See IDLDOC/idl_psprinters.doc for a few more details.

MOVLABELS is a new routine intended to interactively help find positions for labels of points. See the release notes (IDLUSR/release_notes.txt) for a description of this routine. This was made when I was afraid I wouldn't be able to get my automatic label placement to work. I did get it to work so this routine was not extensively exercised. The label autoplacement algorithm is quite application specific, I haven't been able to generalize it into a useful standalone routine.

TICKLEN is a new routine that solves the problem of different tick lengths on the X and Y axes. Desired tick lengths are specified in pixels. Make sure you use the keywords POSITION and DEVICE if needed, otherwise strange results will occur.

GETSTR is a new routine to pick off strings delimited by ' or ". The other kind of quote may be embedded in the string. Works with text strings or string arrays. Useful for handling lists of date/time strings.

For example:

'28 Jun 1994 20:00', '29 Jun 1994 4:00'

might be a start and stop time (comma and whitespace between strings is optional), and it is convenient to keep such pairs together.

JSLOT had a bug fixed with /OVER that prevented correct operation in some cases.

XCURVE has had added rubber-banding so you can see just where the next line segment of the curve will occur before adding it. XOR plot mode is used which doesn't always show up as well as one might like. A few artifacts still seem to show up in some cases, not sure just why, but it's still pretty useful.

XMERGE is a new routine to merge multiple color images into one.

Each component image may have its own color table. The resulting image will show all the images with a new color table. Images may be interactively added, moved, or dropped. Supported image formats are GIF, TIFF, and JPEG. Transparent backgrounds may optionally be defined for each image (for any of the above formats).

XTXTIN has had optional buttons added for common selections. Specify these selections using the MENU keyword to give a string or string array.

Also may give position of these buttons, above or below text entry field. This should save user typing.

ELLFIT is a new routine to fit an ellipse to a 2-d probability distribution.

GENELLIPSE is a new routine to display the results of the fitted ellipse

found by ellfit.

DT_TM_MAK has had i\$ format code added at the suggestion of Michael J. Carter.

MAKES is a new routine to generate a string array of integers. The values do not have leading or trailing spaces and are useful for creating arrays of file names with embedded numbers. Some examples:

'F'+makes(18,0,2)+'.tif' gives F0.tif, F2.tif, ..., F18.tif

'F'+makes(18,0,-2)+'.tif' gives F18.tif, F16.tif, ..., F0.tif.

PUT_SCALE is a new routine to embed scaling in current image. This is useful for XY or Contour plots. It places the screen and data windows into the first 90 pixels of the bottom image line. This routine is simply called after making a plot and before saving it. The inverse routine, SET_SCALE, can read this info and restore the original scaling. This is very useful since previously saved images may be later loaded and measured with XCURSOR, CROSSI, VERI, or HORI. XVIEW has been modified to call SET_SCALE after loading an image. If the scaling info is not available no new scaling is set. This technique will not work with lossy image formats such as JPEG.

SET_SCALE is a new routine to restore the original scaling of the currently displayed image. This is possible if the scaling info has been embedded in the image using PUT_SCALE before saving it.

XLIN is a new routine for an interactive line on image display.

It works in any of the 3 coordinate systems: device, normal, data.

It allows one line point to be specified when calling and optionally returns the other point. The points are connected using XOR.

XCYPH is a new routine to interactively determine a period length to use in making a cycle/phase image of periodic data. Does the same processing as cyph, but using interactive widgets.

Ray Sterner sterner@tesla.jhuapl.edu
The Johns Hopkins University North latitude 39.16 degrees.
Applied Physics Laboratory West longitude 76.90 degrees.
Laurel, MD 20723-6099
WWW Home page: <ftp://fermi.jhuapl.edu/www/s1r/people/res/res.html>

Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [davidf](#) on Sun, 18 Feb 2001 03:21:36 GMT
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Ray Sterner SRO (sterner@tesla.jhuapl.edu) writes:

- > Accessing the ftp site
- > -----
- > By a web browser: <ftp://fermi.jhuapl.edu/pub/idl/>

Well, perhaps with your web browser, but decidedly not from mine. (Windows, of course, and the latest.) Does anyone know why this might be the case? It

didn't use to be this way, but has been for the past 6 months or so.

I have no trouble getting into this site using an FTP program.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
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Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Sun, 18 Feb 2001 14:45:22 GMT
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In article <MPG.14f8edabd868ace8989d59@news.frii.com>, David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Ray Sterner SRO (sterner@tesla.jhuapl.edu) writes:

>

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> an FTP program.

I have had trouble getting into some sites (like NCAR) with my browser, while ftp works. I'm convinced it is because of the firewall at their end. Maybe Ray put you on the persona non grata list at APL! You could try a traceroute and see how far your packets are getting.

Ken

Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [davidf](#) on Sun, 18 Feb 2001 14:54:48 GMT
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Kenneth P. Bowman (kbowman@null.net) writes:

> Maybe Ray put you on the persona non grata list at APL!

I'm certain now that this is what happened. My constant rantings to people in my IDL classes about how terrific the programs are at this site have probably caused a huge increase in traffic there. They are probably trying to find a way to manage the deluge. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [hahn](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2001 10:59:22 GMT
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davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

> Ray Sterner SRO (sterner@tesla.jhuapl.edu) writes:

>

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> Well, perhaps with your web browser, but decidedly
> not from mine. (Windows, of course, and the latest.)
> Does anyone know why this might be the case?

Strange problem. I tried NetScape Communicator 4.72
with both Win 98 and Linux: No problem.
The same with Internet Expolrer 5.5 with Win 98.

Can you access some other ftp-site with your web
browser?

Norbert

Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2001 14:42:28 GMT
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Norbert Hahn (hahn@hrz.tu-darmstadt.de) writes:

- > Strange problem. I tried NetScape Communicator 4.72
- > with both Win 98 and Linux: No problem.
- > The same with Internet Expolrer 5.5 with Win 98.

It is a strange problem. More investigating yesterday revealed that in fact I do successfully log into the site, but that the folders just do not appear in my browser window. (I see an all-white blank window.)

This was revealed to me when I decided to "back up" a directory and I saw the expected files there. Then, clicking on the original directory got me to the files.

I'm thinking now this may be related to another problem I have never been able to resolve: namely, that opening PDF files in my browser always seems to "work", but also only results in white pages. I've re-installed both IE 5.5 and Acrobat Reader 4.0 numerous times, in various orders, but have never managed to get this working either.

I love computers. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [Ray Sterner](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2001 16:01:27 GMT

Ray Sterner SRO wrote:

- >
- > It's been a little while since my last update, but it's now ready.
- >
- > JHU/APL/S1R IDL anonymous ftp site update notice
- > The last update was made on 2001 Feb 16.
- > The previous update was made on 1998 Apr 24.

It's there now (<ftp://fermi.jhuapl.edu/pub/idl/>)

I was rushing to do the update on Friday and ended up putting it in an old ftp directory. I thought it was the right one, it had all the old files there.

I should have checked. First I knew of the problem was when Reimar Bauer emailed that it wasn't there. I had to track down the new ftp directory this morning, hopefully it's accessable now without a problem. This shouldn't even be in an ftp site, should be pure http, maybe I'll move it sometime.

I meant to update this library some time ago, but when I'd get a bit of time I always thought of something else fun to write in IDL so had trouble getting to the library update. I've also been busy on the NEAR project, it was very hectic just before and during the landing. I was notified they wanted to put the descent images on the web page as they came in. So I wrote an IDL routine to check for a new image and put some slightly processed copies on the web as Image of the Minute. They actually came in a couple times a minute. A simple spinoff from that IDI routine was used to load the images to live NASA TV. That routine was tested the day of the landing. It worked pretty much, but would blow up sometimes. I figured it was seeing a new image but had trouble reading it when it wasn't all there yet. But I remembered something from a David Fanning class I took a long time ago, error handling using catch. Using IDL's builtin help I was able to make that take care of the problem and both IDL routines worked perfectly during the descent. By the way,

the raw images

were processed using IDL before I got them. So IDL had a big part in making NASA

look good last monday.

Ray Sterner

ray.sterner@jhuapl.edu

The Johns Hopkins University North latitude 39.16 degrees.

Applied Physics Laboratory West longitude 76.90 degrees.

Laurel, MD 20723-6099

Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.

Posted by [Kelly Dean](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2001 16:34:11 GMT

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The "all white windwos" is a Netscape problem. It even happens with our ftp server - ftp.cira.colostate.edu.

What I normally do when I get the all-white window, I STOP, then RELOAD. This causes the ftp contents to appear.

I tried JHU ftp site with Netscape 4.72 and Windows 2000 and the contents appeared without any problems.

Kelly

David Fanning wrote:

> Norbert Hahn (hahn@hrz.tu-darmstadt.de) writes:
>
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> David
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Subject: Re: JHU/APL/S1R IDL Library update.
Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 19 Feb 2001 16:41:35 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Kelly Dean (krdean@lamar.colostate.edu) writes:

> I tried JHU ftp site with Netscape 4.72 and Windows 2000 and the
> contents appeared without any problems.

Yes. I just tried the new FTP address Ray posted. And
everything works perfectly. Sigh... :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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