
Subject: Re: anything new?

Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2012 10:49:55 GMT

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On 07/15/2012 05:15 PM, Jeremy Bailin wrote:

> Hey everyone... disappeared for the past ~6 months (got completely
> swamped with personal and work things)... coming up for air now and
> wondering if anything's happened in the IDL world lately?
>
> -Jeremy.

Well, Coyote retired... Luckily enough for a large part of the "IDL world", he didn't completely disappeared though.

Subject: Re: anything new?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2012 13:44:56 GMT

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On 07/16/12 06:49, Fab wrote:

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> Well, Coyote retired... Luckily enough for a large part of the "IDL world", he didn't completely disappeared though.

Yes, but I think your statement could be shortened to just:

Well, Coyote "retired".

:oD

Subject: Re: anything new?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2012 14:17:03 GMT

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Paul van Delst writes:

> Well, Coyote "retired".

Maybe "finally got a life" is a better description. :-)

I've spent the past two weekends cutting fallen trees off the trails in one of my favorite wilderness areas near here (170 trees cut on 12 miles of trail in the past 10 days!). We still have many miles of trail we haven't been on yet, so "logger" is on my resume now. I'm getting pretty good with an axe and a two-man saw.

I've also taken a job with Michael Lefsky in the Center for Ecological Applications of Lidar (CEAL) at Colorado State University. We are working on algorithm development and visualization tools for the ICESAT-2 mission, scheduled to fly in 2016. At the moment, we are working with MABEL data, which is the airborne simulator data for a new photon-counting Lidar instrument to be flown on the mission.

Although our plans are to eventually write visualization tools in Python, it is sometimes too easy to avail ourselves of the many advantages IDL offers for fast development. When we need a data browser, we need a data browser. Sometimes we don't have the leisure to spend two months learning how to do this in another language. (And I'm pretty sure what I wanted to do with panning and zooming, at the speed I wanted to do it, is not yet available in Python, anyway.)

Michael Lefsky is a long-time IDL user and is committed to making the tools we build available to the wider IDL community, so my name might pop-up on IDL software from time to time. And, of course, this means I am committed to maintaining the Coyote Library for a long time into the foreseeable future, since all the tools we are building currently are built on top of this fast and flexible library of routines. The cgGoogleMapWidget object-widget I introduced last week is an example of this kind of shared development effort. As is the MabelBrower itself, which can be found here:

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/mabelidl/>

So, I'll still be around for awhile longer, although leaving all the heavy lifting to the younger members of the newsgroup, who will find that researching and answering questions on the newsgroup is the fastest method available for becoming an IDL expert. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: anything new?

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Tue, 17 Jul 2012 20:01:39 GMT

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On 7/16/12 11:47 AM, David Fanning wrote:

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> Cheers,
>
> David
>
>

Well, I'm glad to hear you're doing fun stuff... sorry to hear that you
won't be around so much!

-Jeremy.
