Subject: Re: PV~Wave vs IDL
Posted by thomsen on Wed, 10 Jul 1991 00:55:33 GMT

David M. Legler writes
  I assume the heritage of these packages goes back to a common ancestor
  somewhere. What was it and how long ago did it exist ?

I was told by a guy on the NCAR Graphics team that IDL, NCAR Graphics,
and PV Wave share the same original architect/author. He said the name
but I forgot it. When I was getting an excellent demonstration of IDL
I mentioned this and the demo driver said he knows the originator and
the story is true.

Who is this masked man? I think IDL was the name of the original package.

Mark R. Thomsen

Subject: Re: PV~Wave vs IDL
Posted by bovet on Wed, 10 Jul 1991 20:23:02 GMT

In article <287A5B06.504A@deneva.sdd.trw.com> thomsen@spf.trw.com (Mark R. Thomsen)
writes:
>
> I was told by a guy on the NCAR Graphics team that IDL, NCAR Graphics,
> and PV Wave share the same original architect/author. He said the name
> but I forgot it. When I was getting an excellent demonstration of IDL
> I mentioned this and the demo driver said he knows the originator and
> the story is true.
>
 Maybe I can shed some light on this. The NCAR Graphics project
began quite a while back. I would say that the principal person involved
in that effort was Tom Wright. David Stearn created IDL. Its main
connection with NCAR Graphics has been the ability to invoke NCAR Graphics
from within IDL. David's company, Research Systems Inc., licensed IDL
to Precision Visuals Inc. with a provision that PVI could buy their own
copy of the source code at which time they would no longer get updates from
Research Systems but would be free to make their own changes to it. It is
my understanding that PVI has now exercised this option. As a result future
enhancements made to IDL by RSI will not be reflected in PVWave and, as
before, enhancements made by PVI to PVWave will not be reflected in IDL.

    Ray