
Subject: when will RSI come out with a scaledDown version of IDL?

Posted by [jyli](#) on Sat, 22 Nov 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi all,

I just took David Fanning's advanced IDL training course (I gave it 6 stars on a 5-star scale) and bought a copy of "Advanced IDL Programming" manual from RSI. I began to understand widget programming, object graphics. Now I am all fired up to do some serious IDL programming.

But there is this, again, an age old problem !

One of the selling points of widget programs is 'easy-to-use'. Presumably it is not just for the geeks, but for masses. Frankly, a full-blown IDL software is not cheap and most people just cannot afford it. Then what is the use of writing nice widget programs?

Why can't RSI come up with a scaled-down version of IDL? I was thinking maybe the developers who have the full-blown version IDL can save and distribute IDL programs in a special format. For those who own a scaled-down version of IDL can run the program and produce useful outputs, but will not be able to do any development work. It shouldn't be that difficult for the smart folks at RSI.

Why not let more people tap into the power of IDL, and RSI can make serious money at the same time?

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Beauty of style, harmony, grace and good rhythm depend on simplicity.
