

---

Subject: IDL versus PVWAVE

Posted by [dwwebb1](#) on Fri, 08 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I have been writing IDL code for about 2 years now. There was some concern at work that others in the company are using PVWAVE and that maybe PVWAVE has advantages over IDL or is more used.

After trying to find info on the internet about PVWAVE, I have found that while searching for PVWAVE, I get mostly IDL matches. I plan to investigate further by speaking with someone I know who uses PVWAVE. But I would have to say that it certainly doesn't seem to be as popular or used as IDL.

Any comments?

---

---

Subject: Re: IDL versus PVWAVE

Posted by [Martha Kusterer](#) on Wed, 13 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi,

I used PVWAVE for about 2 years to do an interactive graphics display for a processing system for displaying sonar data and 3 years ago I switched over to IDL when I moved departments at work. My information about PVWAVE is old but I liked programming with the widgets in IDL much better. They were less controllable at a low level in IDL then in PVWAVE but were much easier to learn and use and the documentation was much better. It seemed at the time that PVWAVE expected you to master the X windows books and just didn't cover very much in their documentation on the widgets at the time.

I found the rest of the code to be very similar.

I hope that this helps!

DWWEBB1 wrote:

> I have been writing IDL code for about 2 years now. There was some concern at  
> work that others in the company are using PVWAVE and that maybe PVWAVE has  
> advantages over IDL or is more used.  
>  
> After trying to find info on the internet about PVWAVE, I have found that while  
> searching for PVWAVE, I get mostly IDL matches. I plan to investigate further  
> by speaking with someone I know who uses PVWAVE. But I would have to say that  
> it certainly doesn't seem to be as popular or used as IDL.  
>  
> Any comments?

--

~~~~~  
Martha Bolz Kusterer 4-178 (410) 792-6000 ext. 7276 or  
Space Department (301) 953-6000 ext. 7276 (office)  
Applied Physics Laboratory (301) 953-1093 (FAX)  
Johns Hopkins Road martha\_kusterer@jhuapl.edu (Internet)  
Laurel, MD 20723-6099

---

---

Subject: Re: idl versus pvwave  
Posted by [luthi](#) on Tue, 06 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Interesting question I asked myself several times. From the discussion on this list (and personal experience) it seems that PV-Wave development essentially ceased, considering several bugs in the plotting routines that persist for 3 major versions. (You guessed it, I currently use PV-Wave). On the other hand IDL seems to develop new functionality (object oriented..) which would be quite interesting to use.

So my question goes in the same direction: is there a reason to use PV-Wave instead of IDL besides the very comfortable way to use powerful mathematical codes (namely the GT-Grid and IMSL numerical libraries)?

Hope someone who knows both systems can answer this... ;-)

Cheers

Martin

--

=====  
Martin Luethi Tel. +41 1 632 40 92  
Glaciology Section Fax. +41 1 632 11 92  
VAW ETH Zuerich  
CH-8092 Zuerich mail [luthi@vaw.baum.ethz.ch](mailto:luthi@vaw.baum.ethz.ch)  
Switzerland  
=====

---