
Subject: Making IDL Code Available

Posted by [Richard G. French](#) on Wed, 02 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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I would like to cast a vote in favor of David Fanning's proposal to set up a shareware library. MATLAB has a set of 'toolboxes' that one can buy which do certain tasks well, and I would be happy to pay for a similar set of very well written and well documented procedures that do specific tasks. I think this satisfies a very different set of needs than this newsgroup, which is primarily "How do I get around this particular quirk of IDL?" rather than "How can I get a good general-purpose interactive plotting program?" Another big advantage of having these routines would be that they would serve as templates for ones own projects. I've certainly found that it is easier to write a widget program from David's examples than from the IDL manuals.

Dick French, Astronomy Dept. Wellesley College

Subject: Re: Making IDL Code Available

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 03 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Gwyn Fireman (fireman@aerialist.gsfc.nasa.gov) writes:

>> My idea is to offer IDL save files on the shareware site,
>> and send you the IDL code when you register the product
>> and pay your shareware fee. (I'm thinking of fees in the
>> neighborhood of \$20-\$100, depending upon the program.)
>
> I have a practical problem -
>
> Those of us on government contracts sometimes have a hard time getting
> checks cut for shareware, though it is a easier when there is a
> corporation set up.

Geez, half my book income comes from government contracts.
I spend half my day certifying that the damn thing is
Y2K compliant. But if it really is a problem I could set
up some kind of in-kind payment. Perhaps a testimonial
on the newsgroup. ;-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. I was really hoping you would use those government
credit cards. :-)

>
> Sounds like a good idea to me.
> Rose Dlhooooopo
>
sounds fair,

mirko

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