## Subject: Re: Coyote's Guide to IDL Progamming Update Posted by davidf on Tue, 22 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I appreciate Kevin Ivory's (Kevin.Ivory@linmpi.mpg.de) kind comments about my web page, and I always look forward to his suggestions. He writes:

- > I know you are already expecting my usual "drop the FOR loops" comment
- > to your pages. Here is a small one for
- http://www.dfanning.com/tips/sort\_columns.html
- > You write:
- > FOR j=0,2 DO data[j, \*] = data[j, sortIndex]
- > The same is easier without the FOR loop:
- > data = data[\*, sortIndex]

I thought I was in real trouble when about 10 seconds after I posted the update article yesterday I got an e-mail from Eddie Haskell pointing out how one of my 25 line programs could have been written in a single line!

My persistent use of FOR loops stems mainly from two sources: (1) I am often writing these programs to explain a concept and the code is clearer (I think) using a FOR loop, and (2) I am not clever enough to think of these wonderfully concise non-loop constructs on my own. :-)

In any case, I appreciate the suggestions. To my credit I can usually figure out how and why these suggestions work after only an hour or so of complete befuddlement. (Although I am still working on the "baroque" piece of code Eddie posted the other day.)

- > Thanks for the wonderful summary of tips. With all those objects tips,
- > I figure I should soon be able to figure out what an object is. ;-)
- > (Or perhaps I'll just to wait for your next book.)

Uh, I wouldn't be waiting for the book. Today starts the first day of an absolutely brutal teaching schedule. You may not hear a word from me until some time next year. :-(

nay not near a word norm me dritti some tin
Cheers,
David
David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting

E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

Phone: 970-221-0438, Toll-Free Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155 Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Subject: Re: Coyote's Guide to IDL Progamming Update Posted by Kevin Ivory on Tue, 22 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

## David Fanning wrote:

> I've been feeling awfully guilty lately about my web page,

expectances are getting high? When I look at your web pages, I get the feeling of reading one of the best maintained FAQs ever. Why don't you simply call it so?

I know you are already expecting my usual "drop the FOR loops" comment to your pages. Here is a small one for http://www.dfanning.com/tips/sort\_columns.html
You write:
FOR j=0,2 DO data[j, \*] = data[j, sortIndex]

The same is easier without the FOR loop: data = data[\*, sortIndex]

Thanks for the wonderful summary of tips. With all those objects tips, I figure I should soon be able to figure out what an object is.;-) (Or perhaps I'll just to wait for your next book.)

Best regards,

Kevin

--

Kevin Ivory Tel: +49 5556 979 434

Max-Planck-Institut fuer Aeronomie Fax: +49 5556 979 240 Max-Planck-Str. 2 mailto:Kevin.lvory@linmpi.mpg.de

D-37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, GERMANY http://www.gwdg.de/~kivory2/