
Subject: Q:Comparison IDL-PVWAVE

Posted by [Dr. Peter Wein](#) on Wed, 07 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Our development group is looking for a high level image processing development tool. We found two products, IDL and PVWAVE, which looked for us very similar. We know that they come from same origin. But what we would like to know is, if there is really any significant difference in both products in performance, features, GUI, etc. Maybe they have their strength in different areas?

For us it would be very interesting to get information about the difference of both tools. Maybe there exists test reports which compare them. Also pointers to sources would be appreciated.

You can also send us directly a email:

peter.wein.pw@germany.agfa.com

Thanks a lot

Peter Wein

Subject: Re: Q:Comparison IDL-PVWAVE

Posted by [davidf](#) on Sat, 10 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Dr. Peter Wein (wein@pcls01.fot.agfa.de) writes:

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PV-WAVE doesn't have anything like objects, which are the most powerful programming tool introduced in IDL since widgets were introduced. I, frankly, don't know how I ever wrote a program without them. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Q:Comparison IDL-PVWAVE
Posted by [art.croucher](#) on Mon, 12 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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If the time your organization spends code and debugging costs you any money at all, IDL provides tools to assist with the development and debugging process. PV-Wave provides no tools and apparently thinks that Notepad and the PRINT command is all the development support anybody should ever need. As a result, our manpower costs are higher than they could be if we were using IDL. If we were currently doing a lot of development, I'd beg RSI to take us back.

(Truth is we use MATLAB for most of our current work, because MATLAB is the most commonly used language in our field.)

Art Croucher
The Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab

David Fanning wrote:

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Subject: Re: Q:Comparison IDL-PVWAVE
Posted by [lrnittler](#) on Fri, 07 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.11791a8932c4e085989754@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

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Sorry to only notice this discussion a month after the fact. Actually, PV-WAVE indeed has "[something] like objects," in particular version 6.0 (circa 1996) introduced what VNI calls "VDA tools" and "graels" (graphical elements) which seem similar to the object graphics in IDL 5.2. To be fair, I haven't used the objects in either language, so I don't know how well they compare. I do know that WAVE has had them at least as long as IDL, though. As for the comparison, I have used PV-WAVE for years and only very recently started using IDL as well. Widget programming in IDL is much easier than in PV-WAVE (in WAVE you need a separate callback procedure for each widget), but I suspect you have more flexibility with widgets in WAVE. Overall, I have found features in both languages I wish were present in the other. Finally, WAVE does come with a debugger (wavedbg), at least on Unix.

Cheers,
Larry

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