Subject: Re: Reading from process pipes in IDL?
Posted by George N. White III on Thu, 21 Sep 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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On Thu, 21 Sep 2000, Benno Puetz wrote:

> I have been trying to read image data from compressed (*.gz) files.
>
> While this is possible with
>
> SPAWN, "gunzip "+file+".gz"
>
> OPENR, l, file, /GETLUN
>
> READU, ...
>
> FREE_LUN, l
>
> I would prefer a way similar to PERL's
>
> open(FILE, "gzip -cd $file |");
>
> ...
>
> since it would not have to decompress/compress to disk.
>
> Is this at all possible with IDL?
>
> --
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If your system (OS/2, unix, ??) supports named pipes, you can use them for this sort of problem, although I have never tried them with IDL. Use "mknod pipename p" to create a named pipe, then start a background process to stuff data into the pipe, (e.g., "gzcat file.gz > pipename & "). In your program, "pipename" is read as if it was an ordinary file, except that you can't do things like Fortran backspace or rewind, or memory mapped I/O.

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