Subject: Re: BINARY FILES
Posted by mole6e23 on Fri, 13 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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> At last count (at least on my newsreader) we have two replies (Todd
> Clements' second post doesn't count :o) and five.... well I don't know
> what to call them. That a SNR of 0.4. Oof.

Hmm...not sure if this message will increase that or decrease that. ;>

> I have used both Todd Clements' suggestion, then graduated to Liam's
> tools. I now work (almost) exclusively in netCDF so I avoid:

Of course, I didn't know that Liam's tools existed, so I reinvented the wheel and made my own tools. Then, Of course^2, the advantage to reinventing the wheel is that you can use the correct material and number of spokes you want for the wheel instead of what someone else wants. The routines I've written for our lab are one-liners that do 99% of everything we need. We don't care much about portability, or generalized reading and writing. We write out our own data and read in our own data. For everything else, we use the command line. ;>

And the other advantage (I admit to not being familiar with CDF, so I can't say whether this is supported) is that by writing my own routines, I can take advantage of the file compression capabilities recently built into IDL. Most of the data we write consists of x,y data or x,y and 2-d image data. The 2-d image data files get rather large even in binary, but they are highly compressible, so we save 80% of our disk space, which is nice.

But then again, I'm the type that even sometimes when the wheel exists, I invent it all over again because I want to know to make my own wheel. (Not to mention I like to ride on one wheel - it's a fun activity - but perhaps there is a connection here...)

Todd