Subject: Re: Announcing GDL 0.7, now with PLOT command
Posted by hcp on Fri, 05 Mar 2004 09:16:46 GMT
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In article <Hu2FzA.DKC@sysadm.physics.uiowa.edu>, Karthik <karthik@none> writes:
|> I have some difficulty in installing GDL.

|> g++ -DHAVE_CONFIG_H -I. -I. -I.. -O2 -fno-check-new -c gsl_fun.cpp
|> gsl_fun.cpp:25:25: gsl/gsl_sys.h: No such file or directory
|> gsl_fun.cpp:26:28: gsl/gsl_linalg.h: No such file or directory

This is because you do not have gsl (the GNU scientific library) installed.
At the moment, GDL's configure script checks for gsl, but it doesn't
exit with a fail when it doesn't find it. Doubtless this will be fixed
at some point. For now, you have to note what the above compile error
is about, install gsl and try again.

You will also need plplot installed. If you are running Debian testing or
unstable, you can just apt-get install it, but make sure you have
plplot9-driver-xwin and libplplot-dev installed as well as libplplot.
GDL's configure script makes some sort of check for plplot but it is
insufficient, given the way Debian has split plplot up.

Remember, GDL is still pretty incomplete. Don't expect your IDL code to run
unaltered yet. Based on the fortunes of R (which is now the most widely used
S implementation) and of ANA, octave, yorick, Rlab, Tela (all stagnating or
abandoned) I believe that two things are needed for GDL to succeed.

[1] It needs to be as compatible with IDL as possible. That is Marc's
intention. R succeeded because lots of extant S-Plus code works in R with
little or no change. "Vaguely similar" (as ANA is to IDL and
octave to Matlab) isn't enough.

[2] It needs people like you and I to keep trying it out and reporting
what is missing or broken (and fixing it, if we have the time and skills.)
R has a core committee of developers and lots of contributers. ANA, octave,
yorick, Rlab, Tela are all one-man projects to a greater or lesser extent.

HTH!

Hugh

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