
Subject: Re: scientific data compression
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 00:11:44 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> I am trying to find out if there is a scientific data format which
> supports data compression and can be handled by IDL. We use netCDF so
> far, but that doesn't support compression yet. HDF seems to support
> compression as of version 4.2, but IDL supports only 4.1, is that
> correct? Any alternatives?
>
> Thanks,
> Benjamin

Some data could be quite good packed (not compressed) by using the
scale_factor and add_offset attribute. This data could then be saved as
integer or byte. This will save a lot of space.

We are using netCDF too. If we don't have much _FillValues or missing_values
then the filesize would not get much smaller if we try this with bzip2 or
gzip for our files. Did you have tried such a compression method before ?

HDF SD and netCDF will be in Version 4 of netCDF the same.

Reimar

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
