On Mar 26, 7:02 pm, adamamil...@gmail.com wrote:
> I'm trying to add new columns to a binary table inside a fits file.
> Right
> now the only way I can see to do this is to rewrite the entire fits
> file.
>

I don't know of an existing way to do this.   But I also don't think
that writing a new FITS extension would be much slower than updating
one with a new column.
Adding a new column requires shifting around the bytes in an
extension, and it may be just as quick to start fresh.

If your problem is that you have many extensions and you only want to
update one of them, then I might use COPY_LUN to quickly transfer
bytes from the old FITS file to the new one, for the extensions prior
to, and after the one you are modifying.   --Wayne