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Subject: Announcing GDL 0.9rc4  
Posted by [m\\_schellens](#) on Thu, 04 Feb 2010 12:31:49 GMT  
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GDL - GNU Data Language, an IDL 6.0 (and later) compatible incremental compiler

Due to the valuable feedback and patches from many contributors and the hard work of the developers (special thanks to Sylwester Arabas and Alain Coulais), this release became a new milestone for the project.

New highlights in 0.9rc4:

- thread pool support using OpenMP (requires g++ >= 4.2)
- new library routines, including: CPU, CROSSP, GET\_SCREEN\_SIZE, IMSL\_BINOMIALCOEF, IMSL\_CONSTANT, IMSL\_ZEROPOLY, QUERY\_\*, WSHOW, WTN (wavelet transform), ...
- enhanced HDF5 (15 new routines) and netCDF support
- support for GRIB 1/2 file format (read-only, using ECMWF GRIB\_API)
- several new command-line options, support for specifying batch files at command-line
- several bug-fixes in library routines and the compiler/interpreter
- new plotting functionalities (contouring on maps, color postscript output)
- enhanced detection of libraries in the configure script
- enhanced "make install" and "make check" rules
- compatibility fixes for various GCC versions and UNIX flavors

Get GDL from:  
<https://sourceforge.net/projects/gnudatalanguage>

Features (for those who never heard of GDL before):

**\*FULL\*** syntax compatibility with IDL 6.0 and later

**\*ALL\*** IDL language elements are supported, including:

- objects, pointers, structs and arrays,
- system, common block and assoc variables,
- all operators and datatypes,
- `_EXTRA`, `_STRICT_EXTRA` and `_REF_EXTRA` keywords...

Runs on many flavors of UNIX like operating systems (Linux, OS X,

BSD,  
OpenSolaris, ...) and on windows using Cygwin or coLinux.

The file input output system is fully implemented  
(Exception: For formatted I/O the C() sub-codes are not supported yet).

netCDF files are fully supported.  
HDF and HDF5 files are widely supported.

Overall more than 330 library routines are implemented.  
For a sorted list enter HELP,/LIB at the command prompt and look for library routines written in GDL in the src/pro subdirectory.  
A (currently not 100% up to date) list of subroutines available in GDL can be found here:  
[http://aramis.obspm.fr/~coulais/IDL\\_et\\_GDL/Matrice\\_IDLvsGDL\\_intrinsic.html](http://aramis.obspm.fr/~coulais/IDL_et_GDL/Matrice_IDLvsGDL_intrinsic.html)

SAVE and RESTORE are supported through Craig Markwardt's CMSVLIB library.

Graphical output is partially implemented for X windows, z-buffer and postscript output.  
The PLOT, OPLOT, PLOTS, XYOUTS, SURFACE, CONTOUR and TV commands (along with WINDOW, WDELETE, SET\_PLOT, WSET, TVLCT, LOADCT) are working  
(important keywords, some !P system variable tags and multi-plots are supported.)

GDL has an interface to python (python routines can be called from GDL).  
GDL can be build as a python module (GDL subroutines can be called from python).

No GUI support (widgets) is implemented so far (but under development).

GDL is free software licensed under the GPL.

Check it out!  
Marc

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