Subject: Re: reading images stored compressed in FITS files binary extensions Posted by wlandsman on Thu, 08 Apr 2010 19:44:06 GMT

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On Apr 8, 2:33 pm, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > Does anyone know what routine in the astronomy user's library (or any
- > other routine) can read in an image that's stored compressed in the
- > binary extension of a FITS file?

This looks like a "pixel list" (PLIO) compressed file, which can be uncompressed with FPACK software (http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/fitsio/fpack/).

Once you have FPACK installed, you can read the file directly with readfits.pro http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/fits/readfits.pro ) or mrdfits.pro. These procedures use a SPAWN with a bidirectional pipe to FPACK to stream the images into IDL variables.

Cheers, --Wayne