
Subject: Crowd support wanted for adding metadata to READ_PNG and WRITE_PNG

Posted by [andrewcool777](#) on Mon, 05 Sep 2016 03:11:11 GMT

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Hi All,

The PNG image format is a wonderful thing. Lossless, but with user selectable variable compression, 8 or 16bit image data, and most importantly, the ability to have user-defined metadata!

Yet for some reason, in their infinite wisdom, RSI never provided the functionality to read or write the metadata when they wrote the routines! :-(

I run a number of airglow cameras, provided by the great guys at Keo Scientific, and the images are saved as PNG files, with a basic set of metadata. Now I've been able to write IDL code to extract that metadata, and write PNG files with (extended, modified) metadata, as reported previously, but it's quite (read _very_) slow, and would definitely be better off done within the IDL Read_PNG and Write_PNG routines!

However, as I'm the only IDL user on the planet to request this feature, I'm told by Harris Support that it won't happen unless more users put their hands up and say "Me too, please!"

So here's my plea to you. If you think it might be a Good Thing to have IDL's own PNG routines handle the reading and writing of user supplied metadata, please submit a Feature Request to support@harris.com to this effect.

Many Hosannas will be said in your name for doing so...

Regards,

Andrew Cool

www.skippysky.com.au (for all your astronomy weather forecast needs...)
