Posted by Markus Schmassmann on Tue, 06 Sep 2016 11:48:04 GMT

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On 09/05/2016 05:11 AM, andrewcool777@gmail.com wrote:
> The PNG image format is a wonderous 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...
Hi Andrew

Having experienced tediously slow read in of FITS-files/headers and
having spent some time optimizing these read-in routines i wonder,
whether you could increase your PNG read-in routine speed by up to 2
order of magnitudes by providing the structure templates for the
metadata instead of using many create_struct() calls on runtime. But
obviously i can't tell without seeing the code.

Markus