Ian Sprod wrote:

> I need to access some data in a GRIB format file.
> I got "wgrib" from a NOAA website so I can inventory my data file
> and cut chunks out OK.
> Now I need to use IDL and make some pretty pictures.
> My plan is to :
> a. use wgrib to figure out what I need from the GRIB file
> b. use wgrib to write out what I need as a binary file
> c. slurp the binary file into IDL and plot it

This sounds like a good plan.

> My question is:
> Is there an easier way to get GRIB data into IDL directly? (ie,
> avoiding the intermediate binary file)

Well if by 'directly' you mean IDL code to read GRIB files, then I don't
believe it exists. Why would you want it anyway? wgrib is a very well
designed utility, and you could always call it via a SPAWN command from
within an IDL program.

Cheers,
Liam.
BTW wgrib is available from http://wesley.wwb.noaa.gov