
Subject: Frame Tools source available

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Wed, 09 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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The source code for my IDL Frame Tools is now available at

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/frame.html>

These IDL tools (FSET, AF, BF, LF, SF, FSAVE, FRESTORE) provide a handy replacement for the WINDOW command. The FSET command creates a graphics window (with or without scrollbars) which "contains" a user-specified number of frames. Any kind of graphic may be displayed in each frame, and you can

- Advance one frame (AF command),
- Backup one frame (BF command),
- Loop over frames (LF command),
- Show a particular frame (SF command),
- New: Save all frames to a portable XDR file (FSAVE command),
- New: Restore all frames from a portable XDR file (FRESTORE command).

Each frame retains all the characteristics of an individual graphics window (e.g. all plotting and mapping system variables, and color tables). I've found it to be very useful for applications such as comparing two plots or images of slightly different datasets, animating sequences of images, or temporarily storing different graphics windows. The FSAVE and FRESTORE commands also enable you to create slide-shows that can be saved in a platform independent XDR file, and then reloaded and played back in IDL (as long as the same version of IDL is used).

These tools are known to work in IDL 4.0 through IDL 5.1, and support 8 or 24 bit graphics on Unix, PC, and Mac displays.

Cheers,
Liam.
