# Some graphics packages that might be used for Argo Data

| Commercial | Free | Free |
|---|---|---|
| Matlab | Scilab | Octave (?) |
| http://www.mathworks.com/ | www.scilab.org | www.gnu.org/ software/octave/ |
| Free Netcdf toolbox for all platforms. Needs mexcdf.. Some useful web pages: sourceforge.net/projects/mexcdf mexcdf.sourceforge.net/index.html www.unidata.ucar.edu/ … software/netcdf/docs/netcdf-install/ | • Very similar to matlab. • Can load (simple) binary data files from matlab. • Can convert (simple) matlab programs. • Netcdf toolbox available for linux (I did not try how well it works). | I have no information about this software. |
| | | |
| Splus | R | |
| http://www.insightful.com/ products/splus/default.asp | http://www.r-project.org/ | |
| I have no information about the Netcdf abilities. | Almost the same as Splus (mostly differences in some function names & parameters -> different 'dialect') I have no information about the Netcdf abilities. | |

Obviously this list is far from complete.

Often it may be faster to use fortran or c for data manipulation and then use the graphics packages for the last steps & displaying of results.

Splus and R have some advantages for statistics (more powerful in grouping of data for example).

Software for compressing and uncompressing files:
• Winzip (or so, not sure about the name of the program?)
• UltimateZip (only free for personal use, www.ultimatezip.com)
• I'm sure there are many others …