If you're turning data into PJ, or if you're communicating with other single-cam users, some of my batch scripts might be interesting.  They can be found at <http://davesamuels.com/cams>:

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| CheckBinFileSize.bat | Iterates through the three main directories on the current drive and reports on any FF\*.bin files that aren't exactly 1,228,820 bytes in size:   - ConfirmedFiles   - ArchivedFiles   - CapturedFiles  Errors in file size can occur if the FTP\_Capture.exe program is interrupted, freezes, the EasyCAP fails or locks up, the computer reboots, etc.  This produces a **CheckBinFileSize.cleanup.bat** script, which contains commands to move any errant files to an immediate subdirectory of its source called "<path>**\bad**". |
| Fix.FTPdetectinfo.count.bat | Reports on the number of FF\*.bin files listed in the FTPdetectinfo.txt file.  It does not actually *fix* anything. The original intention was to have it patch the Meteor Count value at the top of the file, but I ran into locked file situations that made it less practical.  I should probably rename this to Get.FTPdetectinfo.count.bat.  It can take an couple of command line arguments:  Usage: Fix.FTPdetectinfo.count.bat [/v] [path] [/?]  Where:                  /v                            If specified, it will list all the .bin files instead of just the count.                  /path                     You can specify a path for it to work in. The default is that                                    scans the FTPdetectinfo.txt file in the current directory. |
| MeteorCount.Presubmission.bat  MeteorCount.Submission.bat  MeteorCount.Submitted.bat | These three scripts can be used to report on the meteor counts and comments from different areas.  **Presubmission** works from the .\ConfirmedFiles directory.  **Submission** works from the .\SubmissionFiles\<date>\EmailFiles directory.  **Submitted** works from the .\Submitted\<date>\EmailFiles directory. |
| ListDrives.bat | Uses WMIC to get drive information.  This is useful reporting on free disk space to be sure you can manage the disk space and keep the capture drive free enough for the next night's processing.  Usage: listdrives.bat [/remote machinename] [/verbose]  /Verbose produces drive sizes and free size with commas.  See: wmic logicaldisk get deviceid, caption, description, volumename, filesystem, size, freespace, drivetype |
| Submission.bat | Usage:  submission [dirname]  Processes the files from the 4 main directories, Cal, ArchivedFiles, CapturedFiles, and ConfirmedFiles and *moves* them into a SubmissionFiles directory tree structure.  The idea was to make it easier to organize these large collections of files into manageable units.  Under the SubmissionFiles directory, each batch is collected into a dirname that matches the date/time directory names.  Under SubmissionFiles\<dirname> is a copy of the files that pertain to the processing on that date, including the Cal file and the FF\*.bin file that was actually used during calibration.  The resulting tree structure is as follows, for example, supposed the date/time 20110928 for camera number 213:  **SubmissionFiles**  **2011\_09\_28\_02\_30\_15**  **ArchivedFiles**  **2011\_09\_28\_02\_30\_15**                          FF213\_2011\_09\_28\_\*.bin                          CameraTimeOffsets.txt                          FTPdetectinfo.txt                          LASTSETTINGS.txt                          ReprocessParameters.txt  **Cal**                     CAL213\_20110928\_030006\_741.txt                     CameraSites-213.txt                     CameraSites.txt  **CapturedFiles**                     2011\_09\_28\_02\_30\_01                        FF213\_2011\_09\_28\_\*.bin  **ConfirmedFiles**                     FTPdetectinfo.txt                     FF213\_2011\_09\_28\_\*.bin  **EmailFiles**                     CameraSites.txt                     CameraTimeOffsets.txt                     comments.txt                     FTPdetectinfo\_confirmed-213-84.txt                     FTPdetectinfo\_confirmed.txt                     FTPdetectinfo\_scanned-213-566.txt                     FTPdetectinfo\_scanned.txt                     LASTSETTINGS.txt                     ReprocessParameters.txt                     submit.txt  **Cal-213**                        CAL213\_20110928\_030006\_741.txt                        CameraSites-213.txt                        FF213\_20110928\_030002\_454\_0044288.bin |
| Submit.Email.bat | Similar in function to Submission.bat, however, it *copies* files from the SubmissionFiles directory to the Submitted directory.  The directory tree structure under the Submitted directory is the same as the SubmissionFiles directory structure, except that it doesn't contain the FF\*.bin files from the ArchivedFiles, CapturedFiles, and ConfirmedFiles directories.  The product of this script is a directory that you can right-click and then select "Add to <date/time>.zip".  This zip file is sufficient for Peter is sufficient to email to SETI for coincidence processing.  Note: The FTPdetectinfo\_confirmed-213-84.txt file above has the header stripped so that it can be more easily be concatenated by SETI for coincidence processing. |
| Taskscheduler\_cams\_ftp\_capture\_C.xml | Xml to import into your Windows Task Scheduler to launch FTP\_Capture.bat with the correct parameters. |
| FTP\_Capture.bat | Called from the task scheduler or run directly.  It does some checking and then launches FTP\_Capture.exe. |
| ValidateCal.bat | Reports on bad cal files based on file size. It also reports the RA/DEC, ALT/AZ, StarCount, etc. I think people will find it useful. I use it to get the values to input into FTP\_MeteorCal. This is a very useful tool. Sample output: |
| c:\cams\Cal\CAL213\_20111104\_043105\_437.txt, RA=36.484 [02.4323] DEC=31.207 ALT=50.852 AZ=85.249 Mean O-C = 0.985 +- 0.446 arcmin [Cal stars=97] c:\cams\Cal\CAL213\_20111105\_030012\_425.txt, RA=00.9806 DEC=31.196 ALT=50.830 AZ=85.253 Mean O-C = 0.941 +- 0.329 arcmin [Cal stars=114] | |
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When I get time, I will complete the work on the dynamic launch scripts.  The idea is to not have to fill up your hard drive and archive with any more files than is necessary.  By launching the capture and ending it at according to the dusk/dawn calculations for your area, you can minimize the capture time to only that timeframe where meteors could be seen.  Also, you wont have to fuss with the start/stop time of the system throughout the year due to the changes in sunset/sunrise times.  Essentially, it works like this:

* Once it is available, you will download from http://davesauels.com/cams:
  + twilight.xls
  + sunsettable.txt
  + LaunchCapture.bat
* Enter your local Lat/Long, Timezone, etc in to the spreadsheet.  It will produce the information necessary for the sunsettable.txt file.
* Copy sunset table columns into the sunsettable.txt file (Copy from C13 to G385 and paste that text into the sunsettable.txt below the header)
* Configure your LaunchCapture task scheduler script (or download it from davesamuels.com/cams) once I complete that.  Essentially, it launches at the same time each day, say, 4pm.  The sunsettable is configured with a delay before launching ftp\_capture.exe.
* After the delay, the capture will launch and run until dawn (for the duration specified in the sunsettable.txt file).  I have configured the spreadsheet to generate the "Duration" to accommodate 9 degrees off the horizon, as opposed to 6 or 12 degrees.  But those variables are user-adjustable in the XLS spreadsheet.

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