
Subject: Re: Choose a image file format ?
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Tue, 15 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Daniel SAGE wrote:

- > Hello,
- > I would like to choose an unique image file format for our group of
- > research, like HDF, Analyze, Dicom, ...
- > My specifications are the following :
- > 1. Store image and volume of differents types (byte, long, float ...)
- > 2. Be recognized and used in the biomedical domain
- > 3. Command to read/write in IDL, or simple program to read/write in
- > IDL that we can develop
- > 4. Compatible with commercial softwares like Photoshop, ...
- > Is anyone has an know-how or experience with a specific file format,
- > it will be great to help me in my choice ?

It seems to me that Photoshop compatibility could conflict with your desire to store different data types (byte, long, float). According to the Photoshop 5.0 info at <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/photoshop/prodinfo.html>,

"File-format and Cross-platform Compatability

Support for Web publishing file formats, including GIF89a, PNG, Progressive JPEG, and Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF)
Support for graphics file formats, including Encapsulated PostScript (EPS, including Adobe Illustrator), Kodak(R) Photo CD(TM), TIFF, JPEG, Scitex(R) CT, DCS, PCX, BMP, PIXAR, PixelPaint(TM), MacPaint(R), Raw, Targa (TGA), CompuServe(R) GIF, and Amiga IFF/LBM"

I don't know if any of these formats support multiple data types.

If you're looking for a file format that is platform independent, supports different data types, and is IDL compatible, then I'd choose netCDF (<http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/packages/netcdf/index.html>)

Cheers,
Liam.

Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison

1225 W. Dayton St., Madison WI 53706, USA
Phone (608) 265-5358, Fax (608) 262-5974
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>
