
Subject: Re: LZW in IDL

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Wed, 09 Jun 2004 23:52:29 GMT

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Jonathan Joseph wrote:

>
> Regardless of whether I get our licensing working correctly, I would
> like to be able to write the code so that it uses LZW if available and
> either no compression or packbits otherwise. Is there any way to query
> whether the write_tiff command with compress=1 will work before calling
> it? Currently, if LZW licensing is not available, the program will halt
> at the write_tiff call (despite something I read on an RSI web page
> which claimed that it would default to packbits).

When I first read this thread, I thought "Why not just use Zip compression?" It's as effective, compression-wise, as LZW, and widely supported. But not supported by IDL apparently, at least not according to the documentation. This is a shame. Time for a feature request?

You can always post-process the images with ImageMagick, which does support Zip compression.

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