
Subject: Re: Converting an ENVI image into a file that can be read by IDL
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 26 Jan 2007 22:30:48 GMT

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Yes, the .dat file is just a binary data file and the .hdr file is an ASCII file that will tell you all the stuff you need to know: byte order, dimensions of image, number of bands, interleaving plus plenty of other stuff. It's very straightforward in IDL to read the binary file once you know this information. ENVI has routines that automatically read this header file and use it to read the binary file (or part of the binary file).

-Mike

On Jan 26, 3:04 pm, "hradilv" <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

>> From what I understand the .dat file is just a raster file and the .hdrfile is an ASCII file describing the .dat file.

>

> cf.[http://www.cstars.ucdavis.edu/classes/mexusenvi/tut1.htm# ENVI%20File%...](http://www.cstars.ucdavis.edu/classes/mexusenvi/tut1.htm#ENVI%20File%20Format)

>

> On Jan 26, 3:58 pm, "procomp9" <proco...@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

>> Hi group,

>

>> Has anyone ever heard of conerting an ENVI image file into a file that

>> can be read by IDL? The file extention that I have is *.dat and

>> *.dat.hdr. Can ENVI do this? If not, is there a third-party program

>> that will do this? If none of these options are available, I will

>> write a program that parses the *.dat and *.dat.hdr contents and

>> returns a file that can be read by IDL. To the experts of ENVI and IDL

>> out there: Do you think parsing the data will be possible? What

>> problems can you foresee? I am aware that the semantics of ENVI and IDL

>> are slightly different but the fact that ENVI uses the IDL platform

>> leads me to believe that this can be done. Thanks in advance...

>

>> Erik