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Subject: Re: Has anyone worked with ARF files and brought them into IDL successfully?

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 09 Feb 2009 16:09:04 GMT

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On Feb 7, 2:14 pm, Duppy <richsuza...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Feb 5, 2:24 pm, "ben.bighair" <ben.bigh...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

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>

>> On Feb 5, 12:59 pm, Vince Hradil <vincehra...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>>> On Feb 5, 11:58 am, Vince Hradil <vincehra...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>>>> On Feb 5, 11:48 am, Vince Hradil <vincehra...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>>> > On Feb 5, 10:36 am, Duppy <richsuza...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>>> > > I'm looking to write a program in IDL to parse a header so I can read

>>>> > > an ARF file into IDL. I'd also like to create an ENVI header

>>>> > > somehow. I was told I could use the Data Viewer in ENVI to see the

>>>> > > code, but I did it....wasn't sure exactly what I was supposed to look

>>>> > > for.

>

>>>> > > I'm very new at this and need a layman's perspective. I'm sort of

>>>> > > being thrown into programming at my job and I'm not a programmer at

>>>> > > all. Whatever help anyone could give would be greatly appreciated.

>

>>>> > > Thanks,

>

>>>> > > D.

>

>>>> > Can you describe a little bit about what an ARF file is? Is it an

>>>> > image format? What type of program writes the ARF file? I've written

>>>> > several custom routines for reading all kinds of raw data formats -

>>>> > first you have to know exactly how the data are "packed".

>

>>>> > Thanks,

>>>> > Vince

>

>>>> I found this:<http://tinyurl.com/ad6kel>

>>>> and also found out that xnview can read ARF files - maybe you can

>>>> convert them?

>

>>> I guess that xnview ARF might be something else...

>

>> I think that Duppy might provide a little more detail, but since this

>> is likely to be imagery (given the ENVI reference) then these two

>> links might help. Or at least they can reduce the universe of  
>> possibilities by determining if ARF is related to FITS...  
>  
>> <http://www.file-extensions.org/arf-file-extension-flexible-image-transformation>  
>  
>> and you can verify that a file is FITS using...  
>  
>> [http://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/fits\\_verify.html](http://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/fits_verify.html)  
>  
>> Cheers,  
>> Ben  
>  
> Sorry. Yesterday was a very busy day at work. I have never worked  
> with .arf files before. I ordered some panchromatic imagery from a  
> company called Sensiac. The data was all sent in movie files in  
> this .arf file format using a program called ImageJ made from NIH---  
> it's a free viewer comparable to IDL and ENVI apparently. Anyway, I'm  
> used to not having problems bringing in files into ENVI. Now I have to  
> do it via IDL and I'm not sure how to do it. Funny how you'd think  
> attending the IDL courses I'd know how to bring in a simple file into  
> ENVI after converting it in IDL, but they never taught that crap. I  
> guess they figure teaching things like addition and subtraction of  
> variables like 2+2 is more valuable than bringing in data.

Here's what you can try:

- 1- download and install xnview and see if it will read the .arf files. Then convert them to something that can be read into IDL, e.g. TIFF, JPG, PNG, etc.
  - 2- download and install ImageJ and read the files back in, then save as something IDL can read.
  - 3- figure out the file format of the .arf files (perhaps by contacting Sensiac?) and write your own parser.
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