
Subject: Re: read_tif problem

Posted by [Christian Soeller](#) on Thu, 05 Sep 1996 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Dr.Dipl.-Ing. Xiaoming XU" <xu@iic.wifi.at> writes:

>
> IDL can not read tiff files, even the files can be read by other
> commercial programs, like Photoshop, xv etc. We know that there
> are enough different tiff formats, so it is necessary to update
> TIFF_READ or TIFF_DUMP subroutines.

The reference manual clearly states that those routines only support a subset of the valid tiff formats (especially the image data has to be uncompressed). It is not simple to make those subroutines support the full variety of valid tiff formats and compressions. I suggest you get a copy of the library libtiff and the tools that come with it at <ftp://ftp.sgi.com/graphics/tiff/tiff-v3.4-tar.gz>. The tools allow for full diagnosis of any tiff file (tiffinfo and tiffdump) and also allow you to change the tiff encoding of a tiff file (tiffcp) to a format that can be understood by IDL (for example change the compression to none, etc).

The only straightforward way to make IDL support the full variety of tiff formats directly is to write an interface to the libtiff functions like people did for the cdf format. This however is quite a bit of C code that would have to be written and as far as I know nobody has yet done it.

Hope this helps,

Christian

Christian Soeller mailto: csoelle@sghms.ac.uk
St. Georges Hospital Medical School Dept. of Pharmacology
Cranmer Terrace London SW17 0RE
