
Subject: esri shape file

Posted by [HILBERMAN](#) on Tue, 17 Jul 2001 21:14:24 GMT

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Hello,

I need some help figuring out how to manipulate shape files. Is there a "straightforward" way to graphically display a polygon coverage? Furthermore, how can I query a polygon coverage based on its different levels (attributes?)?

Thanks!
Rachael

Subject: Re: ESRI shape file

Posted by [mankoff](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2010 14:16:49 GMT

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On Aug 27, 6:03 am, Dave Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Folks
> I have some (lon, lat, Z) data (data with coordinates) and I want to
> save this data in .shp (ESRI shape file) file (in GIS it is so easy).
> Does anyone have any idea?
> Cheers,
> Dave
> P.S. I wish David was here because he has lots of experience in shape
> files data:-)

Not sure what OS you are using, but on *nix the tools gpsbabel and ogr2ogr (via GDAL) can do this conversion for you.

-k.

Subject: Re: ESRI shape file

Posted by [Maxwell Peck](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2010 22:22:15 GMT

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On Aug 27, 11:03 pm, Dave Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Folks
> I have some (lon, lat, Z) data (data with coordinates) and I want to
> save this data in .shp (ESRI shape file) file (in GIS it is so easy).
> Does anyone have any idea?
> Cheers,
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> P.S. I wish David was here because he has lots of experience in shape

> files data:-(

If you must use IDL there is an IDLffShape object. Search for this in the help theres a link with examples for reading and writing there. the tools in GDAL are definitely easier though if its just a straight out conversion.

Max

Subject: Re: ESRI shape file
Posted by [Klemen](#) on Sat, 28 Aug 2010 11:31:17 GMT
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There is an example of creating a point shape file in Help as Max said (see below). Creating a polygon is slightly more difficult; if you need such an example let me know.
Cheers, Klemen

PRO ex_shapefile_newfile

```
;Create the new shapefile and define the entity type to Point
mynewshape=OBJ_NEW('IDLffShape', FILEPATH('cities.shp', $
  SUBDIR=['examples', 'data']), /UPDATE, ENTITY_TYPE=1)
```

```
;Set the attribute definitions for the new Shapefile
mynewshape->AddAttribute, 'CITY_NAME', 7, 25, $
  PRECISION=0
mynewshape->AddAttribute, 'STAT_NAME', 7, 25, $
  PRECISION=0
```

```
;Create structure for new entity
entNew = {IDL_SHAPE_ENTITY}
```

```
; Define the values for the new entity
entNew.SHAPE_TYPE = 1
entNew.BOUNDS[0] = -104.87270
entNew.BOUNDS[1] = 39.768040
entNew.BOUNDS[2] = 0.00000000
entNew.BOUNDS[3] = 0.00000000
entNew.BOUNDS[4] = -104.87270
entNew.BOUNDS[5] = 39.768040
entNew.BOUNDS[6] = 0.00000000
entNew.BOUNDS[7] = 0.00000000
entNew.N_VERTICES = 1 ; take out of example, need as workaround
```

```
;Create structure for new attributes
```

```
attrNew = mynewshape ->GetAttributes(/ATTRIBUTE_STRUCTURE)
```

```
;Define the values for the new attributes
```

```
attrNew.ATTRIBUTE_0 = 'Denver'
```

```
attrNew.ATTRIBUTE_1 = 'Colorado'
```

```
;Add the new entity to new shapefile
```

```
mynewshape -> PutEntity, entNew
```

```
;Note that because this is a new shapefile, the index of
```

```
;the new entity is zero.
```

```
entity_index=0
```

```
;Add the Colorado attributes to new shapefile.
```

```
mynewshape -> SetAttributes, entity_index, attrNew
```

```
;Close the shapefile
```

```
OBJ_DESTROY, mynewshape
```

```
END
```

Subject: Re: ESRI shape file

Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Mon, 30 Aug 2010 10:05:48 GMT

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On Aug 28, 4:31 am, Klemen <klemen.zak...@gmail.com> wrote:

> There is an example of creating a point shape file in Help as Max said

> (see below). Creating a polygon is slightly more difficult; if you need

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> entity_index=0
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> mynewshape -> SetAttributes, entity_index, attrNew
>
> ;Close the shapefile
> OBJ_DESTROY, mynewshape
>
> END

```

thanks. it works perfect.

Cheers,

Dave

@ Dear Klemen. Thanks I jut want to create a point point shape file.

Subject: Re: ESRI shape file

Posted by [ca11h](#) on Sun, 29 Jun 2014 21:43:25 GMT

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Hi Klemen! I know this post is years old but I'm a student helping one of the researchers out at my school as he's hired me to do some IDL work...and well I've landed here searching for help.

If you get this I'd appreciate that polygon shapefile example you mentioned. I have a binary mask with many polygons and I need to turn it into a shapefile, and there's absolutely no resources

helping me out online, save for possibly this post. If you could post that example or give me any advice at all I'd really appreciate it!

On Saturday, August 28, 2010 7:31:17 AM UTC-4, Klemen wrote:

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