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Subject: Re: JPEG2000 and GEOTIFF query

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Jul 2008 13:25:44 GMT

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Gaurav writes:

> I am working with large volume of geo-referenced data and would like  
> to save the images that I have in JPEG2000 format. I have seen that  
> one can preserve the geographic information when one uses proprietary  
> softwares like ENVI, even in jp2 format. They even have a name: GeoJp2  
> for it. My question is, can we create JPEG2000 images using IDL so  
> that they preserve the geographic information? It is easily done in  
> the case of TIFF images using the GEOTIFF tag. Is there something of  
> the sort available for JPEG2000?

In the case of georeferenced JPEG images, ENVI simply writes  
a separate TIFF World File containing the map information in ASCII  
format. These files are simple to write and you can do it yourself:

[http://www.omg.unb.ca/~jonnyb/processing/geotiff\\_tifw\\_format.html](http://www.omg.unb.ca/~jonnyb/processing/geotiff_tifw_format.html)

They give these files a .jgw extension, so that if you open a JPEG  
file, and have a file of the same name with this extension in the  
same directory, it just opens and reads the map data from this file.

> And talking of TIFF, I would like to bring it to the notice of the  
> powers-that-be at IDL that it would be very useful if they could  
> modify the use of GEOTIFF keyword. Right now, if you obtain a sub-  
> rectangle of a large TIFF image, the structure returned by GEOTIFF is  
> exactly the same as it would be for the whole image. Would it not be  
> much more convenient if, in the case of subset images, the GEOTIFF  
> structure contains the geographic information about that small section  
> of the image, viz, the new easting, northing values etc. Right now I  
> have to do it on my own and I usually get confused offsetting the  
> values for the sub-rectangle.

It would probably be more convenient, but normally this is where  
well-written algorithms play a role. ;-)

And, anyway, the GEOTIFF information is associated with the entire  
image, and the entire image is still present in the file when you  
read a sub-set, so... It seems reasonable to me that it would be up  
to the programmer to figure out what is going on. Given that you have  
all the information you need in the GeoTiff structure and in the info  
structure returned by the Query\_TIFF function, it would be a lazy  
programmer, indeed, who couldn't figure out how to assign a lat/lon  
to a sub-set pixel. But maybe that's just me being cranky this  
morning. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: JPEG2000 and GEOTIFF query  
Posted by [Gaurav](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 10:06:22 GMT  
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Thanks indeed for your pointers. As always, they have been quite helpful. Even though my question was specifically for georeferenced JPEG2000 images, the information in the webpage whose link was provided by you, coupled with the information given here:

<http://students.ee.sun.ac.za/~riaanvdd/jpeg2000.htm>

makes quite a bit of sense. It says:

"The GeoJP2™ format is essentially a degenerate GeoTIFF file (with no image data) embedded in a UUID box in the JPEG2000 file to provide coordinate system information and a mapping between pixel coordinates and georeferenced coordinates."

So, I tried playing around with UUID boxes in JPEG2000, but could not have much success- primarily due to lack of examples. Could anyone please point me to a good example where a georeferenced JPEG2000 has been created-or maybe some substantial chunk of data has been stored in UUID boxes.

And, of course, you are right that I have no right to be called a programmer if I am not capable of doing such a simple task as computing offsets-and you can say that even on your 'non-cranky' mornings. But all I wanted to say was that when using the subrectangle keyword returns a smaller portion of the image, the corresponding GEOTIFF structure should also return information corresponding to that subset of image. I was just seeking to find if anyone else feels the same way. It is fine with me if it is fine with the majority. But in my "Perfect World", GEOTIFF would work in the way I described earlier. ;)

Regards

