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Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Wed, 08 May 2013 22:19:43 GMT

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Hi David,

below is the result from my IDL 8.0.1, 32 bit, WinXP. No error.

```
IDL> fn='F:\scans\Yms0001raw.tif'
IDL> b=read_tiff(fn)
% Loaded DLM: TIFF.
IDL> help,b
B      UINT    = Array[4, 4704, 6992]
IDL> b=fix(b)
IDL> b=reform(b[1,*,*])
IDL> help,b
B      INT     = Array[4704, 6992]
IDL> write_tiff,'test4.tif',b,/short,/signed
IDL> c=read_tiff('test4.tif')
IDL> help,c
C      INT     = Array[4704, 6992]
IDL> print,array_equal(b,c)
1
IDL> print,!version
{ x86 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 8.0.1 Oct  5 2010    32
64}
```

Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Thu, 09 May 2013 14:37:15 GMT

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I'll add the writing an integer array to a tiff and then reading it back gives the expected integer array result on IDL 8.2.2, OSX 10.8.3, as well.

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Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 10 May 2013 20:48:03 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

```
> Is there a problem writing signed integer arrays to TIFF files?
>
> Here is my code:
```

```

>
> outFilename = Filepath('forest.tif')
> ageImage = Fix(ageImage)
> Help, ageImage
>   AGEIMAGE      INT      = Array[8600, 8407]
> ageImage[missingIndices]=-999
> Write_Tiff, outFilename, Reverse(ageImage,2), /SHORT, /SIGNED
> testImage = Read_Tiff(outfilename)
> testimage = Reverse(testimage,2)
> Help, testImage
>   TESTIMAGE     BYTE     = Array[8600, 8407]
>
> This is IDL 8.2.2, 64-bit, on Windows 7. '

```

Whoa! I left this out of my example the other day because it seemed (at the time) completely irrelevant.

Here is test code that works perfectly:

```

.*****
,
outFilename = 'forest.tif'
ageimage = read_tiff(file_which('boulder.tif'))
ageImage = Fix(ageimage)
Help, ageImage
dims = SIZE(ageimage, /DIMENSIONS)
missingIndices = long(randomu(seed, 1000) * product(dims))
ageImage[missingIndices]=-999
Write_Tiff, outFilename, Reverse(ageImage,2), GEOTIFF=geo, $
    /SHORT, /SIGNED
testImage = Read_Tiff(outfilename)
testimage = Reverse(testimage,2)
Help, testImage
END
.*****
,

```

Running it gives me:

```

AGEIMAGE      INT      = Array[1071, 1390]
TESTIMAGE     INT      = Array[1071, 1390]

```

BUT!!!

If I add color vectors to the file, watch this:

```

.*****
,
outFilename = 'forest.tif'
ageimage = read_tiff(file_which('boulder.tif'))
ageImage = Fix(ageimage)
Help, ageImage

```

```

dims = SIZE(ageimage, /DIMENSIONS)
missingIndices = long(randomu(seed, 1000) * product(dims))
ageImage[missingIndices]=-999
TVLCT, r, g, b, /GET
Write_Tiff, outFilename, Reverse(ageImage,2), GEOTIFF=geo, $
    /SHORT, /SIGNED, RED=r, GREEN=g, BLUE=b
testImage = Read_Tiff(outfilename)
testimage = Reverse(testimage,2)
Help, testImage
END
.*****
,

```

```

AGEIMAGE    INT    = Array[1071, 1390]
TESTIMAGE   BYTE   = Array[1071, 1390]

```

Is that weird, or what!?

Can anyone reproduce this on their machines?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 10 May 2013 21:08:55 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

```

> If I add color vectors to the file, watch this:
>
> .*****
> ,
> outFilename = 'forest.tif'
> ageimage = read_tiff(file_which('boulder.tif'))
> ageImage = Fix(ageImage)
> Help, ageImage
> dims = SIZE(ageimage, /DIMENSIONS)
> missingIndices = long(randomu(seed, 1000) * product(dims))
> ageImage[missingIndices]=-999
> TVLCT, r, g, b, /GET

```

```

> Write_Tiff, outFilename, Reverse(ageImage,2), GEOTIFF=geo, $
> /SHORT, /SIGNED, RED=r, GREEN=g, BLUE=b
> testImage = Read_Tiff(outfilename)
> testimage = Reverse(testimage,2)
> Help, testImage
> END
> ,*****
>
>
> AGEIMAGE      INT      = Array[1071, 1390]
> TESTIMAGE     BYTE     = Array[1071, 1390]
>
> Is that weird, or what!?

```

For me, at least, it doesn't matter what kind of data I put into the TIFF file (I've tried SHORT, LONG, FLOAT, and DOUBLE), if I add color vectors, then I can ONLY get BYTE data back from the file.

Again, Windows 64-bit and IDL 8.2.2.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 10 May 2013 21:29:16 GMT

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I similar behavior David. Integer array in, integer array out .. unless the color vectors are included. Then it's byte out.

IDL> help, !version

\*\* Structure !VERSION, 8 tags, length=104, data length=100:

```

ARCH      STRING  'x86_64'
OS        STRING  'darwin'
OS_FAMILY  STRING  'unix'
OS_NAME    STRING  'Mac OS X'
RELEASE    STRING  '8.2.2'
BUILD_DATE  STRING  'Jan 23 2013'
MEMORY_BITS INT     64
FILE_OFFSET_BITS
            INT     64

```

Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Fri, 10 May 2013 23:04:38 GMT

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On Fri, 10 May 2013 14:29:16 -0700 (PDT), Phillip Bitzer wrote:

> I similar behavior David. Integer array in, integer array out .. unless the color vectors are included. Then it's byte out.

>

Same here. !version={ x86 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 8.0.1 Oct 5  
2010 32 64}.

However, I wonder if it makes any sense to write integer arrays in TIFF files with color palettes. I don't know the TIFF standard. But the IDL manual for the Red, Green and Blue keywords says: "If you are writing a Palette color image, set these keywords equal to the color table vectors, scaled from 0 to 255."

My understanding is, that a TIFF file written by

Write\_Tiff, outFilename, Reverse(ageImage,2), GEOTIFF=geo, \$

/SHORT, /SIGNED, RED=r, GREEN=g, BLUE=b

has to be read by

testImage = Read\_Tiff(outfilename,r,g,b)

And the pixel color values can be calculated by

red=r[testImage]

green=g[testImage]

blue=b[testImage]

r, g and b have 256 elements maximum. So it does not make any sense for testImage to be integer instead of byte.

Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [tom.grydeland](#) on Sun, 12 May 2013 11:03:51 GMT

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On Saturday, May 11, 2013 1:04:38 AM UTC+2, Heinz Stege wrote:

> I don't know the TIFF standard.

The TIFF standard is here:

<http://partners.adobe.com/public/developer/en/tiff/TIFF6.pdf>

The description of palette images is in section 5. For palette images, the number of bits per sample can be 4 or 8, corresponding to 16 or 256 colors (the color values are short integers,

however, giving 65536 levels for each of red, blue and green at each index). For more colors than that, you must go to one of the RGB full color modes.

> [...] So it does not make any sense  
> for testImage to be integer instead of byte.

Exactly.

> Cheers, Heinz

--T

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Subject: Re: TIFF Read/Write Bug?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 12 May 2013 14:08:43 GMT

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Tom Grydeland writes:

> The description of palette images is in section 5. For palette images, the number of bits per sample can be 4 or 8, corresponding to 16 or 256 colors (the color values are short integers, however, giving 65536 levels for each of red, blue and green at each index). For more colors than that, you must go to one of the RGB full color modes.

Yes, I think my mistake was treating TIFF images as if they were netCDF or HDF files. I had classified data in the byte range, but I wanted to store "missing" data with the value -999, which was why I was using an integer array. At the same time, I didn't want to lose the color vectors that "explained" the data.

Of course, when you store "color" images in TIFF files, it is difficult, if not impossible, to retrieve the science information. What I should have used, of course, is a netCDF file where I can store the palette information separately from the data itself. Unfortunately, netCDF files are just much more difficult for my client to handle as she likes.

There are ways to work around the "problem", but some documentation that the problem exists, in a location where I was likely to read it, would have helped. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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