
Subject: Re: Writing out TIFF files
Posted by [kak](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Sangeet Singh <singh@thor.xraylith.wisc.edu> writes:

> I would like to write out some image arrays in IDL as .tif files. So
> far I have been able to do this *only* by doing a TVSCL of the image
> followed by a TVRD into a BYTARR which is written using TIFF_WRITE.

[stuff deleted...]

```
> tvscl,img2,ex,why,ORDER=1  
> tifimg=tvrd(ex,why,col,row)  
> TIFF_WRITE,filename5,tifimg,1
```

Perhaps you did not realize that there is a function BYTSCL, which should do what you want: it scales an array to the range of byte values, so that you can store them as 8bit TIFF file. I guess it's also used internally by tvscl. Therefore:

```
tifimg=bytscl(img2)  
tiff_write,'filename',tifimg
```

```
> ; The following results in a tiff file containing only random noise, not  
> ; the real image.  
> ;tifimg=img2  
> ;OR  
> ;tifimg=BYTE(img2)
```

The attempt with `tifimg=byte(img2)` must fail because you only see the lowest bitplane of your image which usually contains the camera noise (byte takes the rightmost 8 bits of your integer numbers). If you apply the bitshift operation on your dataset, you can easily travel through the bitplanes of your image: `tifimg=byte(ishft(img2,-n))` gives you the n'th bitplane of your image.

Karl
