
Subject: Re: WRITE_TIFF

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 29 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Joseph B. Gurman (gurman@gsfc.nasa.gov) writes about his problems getting the ORDER keyword to work with TIFF files:

Dick and I have pretty much given up on the ORDER keyword with TIFF files. As far as we can tell, it's mostly ignored by almost all software that we routinely use. We have had to resort to reversing the image order physically, so that the image appears correct in the software in which we want to display it.

Cheers,

David

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

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Subject: Re: WRITE_TIFF

Posted by [David Foster](#) on Mon, 29 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Joseph B. Gurman wrote:

>

> IDL> write_tiff, file + strmid(strtrim(10000 + i, 2), 1, 4), b0, 0, red =

> r, green = g, blue = b

>

> (that is, I explicitly tell write_tiff to assume the order is "0").

>

> Then, on the same system, I try:

>

> IDL> c = read_tiff('file.0957', r, g, b, order = order) & print, order

>

> The result I get is "4," not "0."

>

> If I were only using IDL, I would not be concerned, but when I try

> reading the same file on a Mac using Adobe Photoshop 5.0.2, I get an

> inverted (top to bottom) image.

>

> To confuse myself yet further, I decided to try to write the same
> image with an order parameter of "1." Once again, the order was read
> correctly with READ_TIFF, but once again, the image on the Mac was
> inverted.

From the OnLine help:

READ_TIFF:

ORDER

Set this keyword to a named variable that will contain the order value from the TIFF file. This value is returned as 0 for images written

bottom to top, and 1 for images written top to bottom. If an order value does not appear in the TIFF file, an order of 1 is returned.

The ORDER keyword can return any of the following additional values (depending on the source of the TIFF file):

- 1 top to bottom, left to right
- 2 top to bottom, right to left
- 3 bottom to top, right to left
- 4 bottom to top, left to right
- 5 top to bottom, left to right
- 6 top to bottom, right to left
- 7 bottom to top, right to left
- 8 bottom to top, left to right

WRITE_TIFF:

Order

This argument should be 0 if the image is stored from bottom to top (the default). For images stored from top to bottom, this argument should be 1.

Caution Not all TIFF readers honor the value of the Order argument. IDL writes the value into the file, but many known readers ignore this value. In such cases, we recommend that you convert the image to top to bottom order with the REVERSE function and then set Order to 1.

Dave

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