

The Discovery-1 Software STK and TIFF File Formats

Abstract

The Discovery-1 software uses the TIFF format as its basic image storage type. The software conforms to the TIFF 6.0 standard, extended by approved tags used for information specific to Universal Imaging Corporation's applications. For multi-plane Stack file images, the Discovery-1 software defines a new, proprietary image format called the STK format. The STK format is a modified TIFF 6.0 file that is designed to hold multiple planes and the header data for these planes.

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Discovery-1 software
version 6.1

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Instructions

TIFF 6.0 Standard

The TIFF 6.0 Standard is maintained by Adobe Corporation. A link to a PDF file containing the TIFF 6.0 standard can be found here: <http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/pdfs/tn/TIFF6.pdf>

We also recommend the book "Encyclopedia of Graphics File Formats, 2nd Edition" from [O'Reilly and Associates](#). A thorough understanding of the TIFF 6.0 format is required before pursuing the Discovery-1 software-specific extensions to this format.

Discovery-1 Software's TIFF and STK Format

The following Microsoft Word 2000 document describes the extensions used by the Discovery-1 software for saving both TIFF and STK files: <http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/STK.doc>

Sample Data

If you are writing your own code to read Discovery-1 software STK or TIFF files, the following may be of some use. We have put together several sample images with known parameters, so that you can verify your file reading code. The following file:

<http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/readme.doc>

describes the sample files. Here are links to the sample files:

<http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/10xcalib.stk>

<http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/bigstk.zip>

<http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/calstk.zip>

<http://www.universal-imaging.com/ftp/support/stack/smstk.zip>

Support

At the present time, Universal Imaging cannot devote any resources to assisting you in understanding, or writing your own code for reading or writing, Discovery-1 STK or TIFF files. The documentation and samples herein are to be considered "as is."

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