A Contemporary View of Image Formats for Libraries and Archives

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Topics

- The Formats
- Compression
- Quality and Cost
- Future Directions

OAIS Model

Where Formats Occur



Consumer

Image Formats

- TIFF
- JP2 (JPEG 2000)
- JPEG
- PNG
- PDF

FADGI Comparison of File Formats August 2014 • All have viable sustainability

Cost is a differentiator

- Low storage costs for compressed formats
- Low implementation costs for TIFF, JPEG, PNG
- System implementation issues for JPEG 2000

About image compression

Reduced storage costs, but what about...

- Different than scanned original
- Increased vulnerability to errors
- Diminished quality

Digitization vs. Compression



Digitization vs. Compression



Scan 2 with CR 8:1

Fundamentals of Electronic Imaging Systems

W.F. Schreiber

There is nothing sacred about a particular digitization of an image, and therefore there is no guarantee that a change in a digital representation must necessarily degrade an image. In many cases, changes can improve the quality. CIE TC8-09: Archival Color Imaging – Test Materials





Print A



Print C

Print B







CIE TC8-09: Archival Color Imaging – Test Partners

- Art Institute of Chicago
- Beinecke Library, Yale University
- Bobst Library, New York University
- George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film
- Harvard Library
- Library of Congress
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Metropolitan Museum of Art

- Museum of Modern Art
- National Archives & Records Admin.
- · National Gallery of Art
- National Library of the Netherlands
- Rijksmuseum
- Royal Library of Denmark
- Stanford University Libraries
- · Studio Buitenhoff
- Van Gogh Museum

CIE TC8-09: Archival Color Imaging – Test Results

Capture Error X-Rite DCSG



Error Vulnerability



Error Correction

Error-correcting technology is ubiquitous in modern storage systems so that the corruption of compressed image files is not a significant issue or risk in digital preservation.

Quality and User Experience

The totality of features and characteristics of a product or service that bears its ability to satisfy stated or implied needs (ISO 8402-1986)





Task: Face Recognition



Analysis 1: Compression of Full Image (Detail)

Task: Image Comparison



Task: Image Comparison



"Butterworth" Curve



Compression and the Cost of Quality



Formats and Compression

- Compression reduces storage costs, does not put your image data at any significant risk and need not interfere with the performance of image-based applications (functionally lossless)
- JPEG 2000 is the choice for image compression
 - Privileged for access with resolution and quality progressive modes
 - Shared by AV picture essence

Future Directions

- Adopting image compression is the result of a cost-benefit analysis based on a particular institution's mix of skills, budget, requirements, use cases and schedule
- Explore incentives for the community and industry partners to work together to create strategies, business models and tools for digital preservation workflows...with JPEG 2000