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Raster Processing with GDAL

Python and (geospatial) image data



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#### Content



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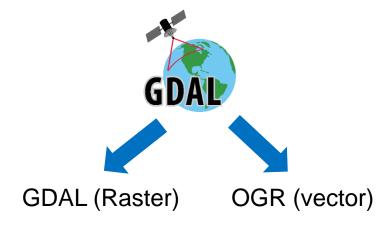
## Introduction to GDAL



#### What is gdal?

The Geospatial Data Abstraction Library

Library for raster and vector geospatial data formats, licensed by the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGEO)



from osgeo import gdal



Not only for Python: versions also exist for C, C++, Java and other PLs.



#### Contents of the gdal package

After installation of *gdal*, we should have the following Python modules:

gdal: classes for reading/modifying/saving raster data

ogr: classes for reading/modifying/saving vector data

osr: classes to work with spatial references and coordinate transformations

gdalconst: constants to use as arguments of methods

gdal\_array: functions for

importing raster into numpy arrays and

exporting numpy arrays to rasters

from osgeo import gdal, ogr, osr, gdalconst, gdal\_array





#### Why gdal raster?

Allows to compute geospatially with image data It is open source

If you have thousands of files that you need to:

- Reproject
- Subset
- Transform
- Convert to other formats
- or otherwise work with

It has a large community

And is used by most GIS software packages





#### What is gdal?

Gdal is used by many GIS software packages ...













... and many more!





#### Why gdal raster?

Provides data hand-over and compatibility between different Python packages

- Raster data: *numpy* + *gdal* + *matplotlib*
- Vector data: numpy + ogr/gdal

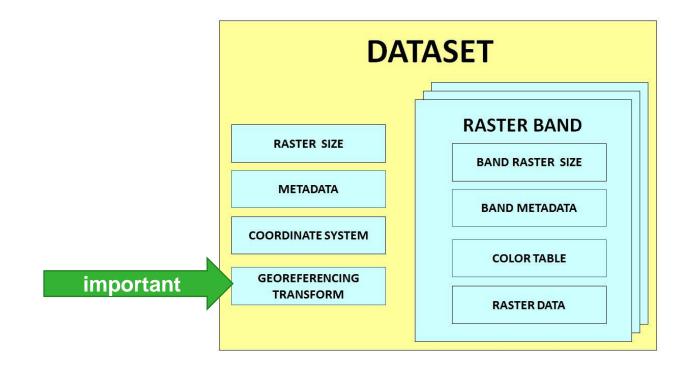
If you need Python and have raster data, you probably need gdal





#### The *gdal* data model

More info at <a href="http://www.gdal.org/gdal\_datamodel.html">http://www.gdal.org/gdal\_datamodel.html</a>





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#### Using gdal: a classical raster workflow

- Open a raster dataset
- Access dataset properties:
  - Dataset type or driver's name
  - Metadata
  - Size
  - Projection and geotransform coefficients
- Access one or more bands:
  - Statistics
  - Extract pixel values
  - Extract a subset
  - Convert into a *numpy* array
  - Convert from *numpy* to *gdal*
- Save a gdal dataset into disk













# Working with a raster dataset



#### How to open a *gdal* raster dataset

```
from osgeo import gdal
import os
dataDirectory=r'C:\gdal\data\tmax'
# initialize dataset variable
raster = None
# change to the data directory
os.chdir(dataDirectory)
# open dataset
raster = gdal.Open("2014.tif")
print("file opened.")
if raster is not None:
  raster = None
  print("file closed.")
file opened.
file closed.
```





#### Access to dataset size and projection

Determining the raster's size in two dimensions

x = raster.RasterXSize
y = raster.RasterYSize
print("x size: ", x, " y size: ", y)
print()
x size: 300 y size: 350

#### Getting information about the spatial projection

```
p = raster.GetProjection()
print("projection:", p)
print()
projection: PROJCS["Amersfoort / RDNew",GEOGCS["Amersfoort",DATUM["Amersfoort",
SPHEROID["Bessel 841",6377397.155,299.1528128,AUTHORITY["EPSG","7004"]], ...
,AXIS["X",EAST],AXIS["Y",NORTH],AUTHORITY["EPSG","28992"]]'}
```



In the end, we obtain the EPSG code.



### gdal affine geotransform

gdal datasets have two ways of describing the relationship between raster positions (in pixel rows/columns coordinates) and georeferenced coordinates.

The first, and most used is the affine transform (the other is GCPs).

The affine transform consists of six coefficients:

$$Xgeo = GT(0) + col*GT(1) + row*GT(2)$$

$$Ygeo = GT(3) + col^*GT(4) + row^*GT(5)$$

(GT(0), GT(3)): top-left corner of the image

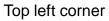
GT(1): pixel width

GT(5): pixel height

Image is north up: GT(2) = GT(4) = 0

Not north up: GT(2) and GT(4) the rotation of x and y axis

Method *GetGeoTransform()* returns this six coefficients.





### Pixel values



#### Access to band information

Determining band number 1 information and statistics:

```
band = raster.GetRasterBand(1)
min = band.GetMinimum()
max = band.GetMaximum()
print("min value:", min, "max value", max)
stats = band.GetStatistics(False, True)
# parameter 1: If TRUE statistics may be computed based on overviews.
# parameter 2: If FALSE statistics will only be returned without rescanning
                the image
print("min = \%.2f max = \%.2f mean = \%.2f std = \%.2f" \%
    (stats[0], stats[1], stats[2], stats[3]))
print("no data value:", band.GetNoDataValue())
print("number of overviews:", band.GetOverviewCount())
min value: 7.7285013198853 max value 10.496282577515
min = 7.73 \text{ max} = 10.50 \text{ mean} = 9.19 \text{ std} = 0.61
no data value: -9999.0
number of overviews: 0
```



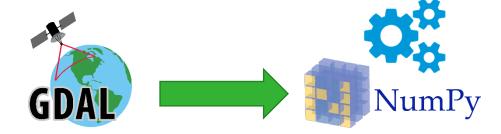


#### **Convert from gdal to numpy**

A *gdal* object can be converted into a *numpy* array. This allows to process the raster with *numpy*. In the end, we can convert back the *numpy* object to *gdal*.

**BandReadAsArray()** method converts a *gdal* band (**one band**) into a *numpy* array.

**DatasetReadAsArray()** method converts a *gdal* dataset (**all bands**) into a *numpy* array.







#### Extraction of an individual pixel

We need to import both gdal\_array and gdal

```
from osgeo import gdal
from osgeo import gdal_array as gdarr
band = raster.GetRasterBand(1)
# use 0;0 for the topleft pixel; -1; -1 for the bottomright
xoff = 100
yoff = 150
# use a window size of 1 pixel, this extracts one single pixel
win xsize = 1
win ysize = 1
px = gdarr.BandReadAsArray(band, xoff, yoff, win_xsize, win_ysize)
print(type(px))
print('shape', px.shape)
print('pixelvalue', px[0,0]) # Now it's a numpy array. Order is y, x or Rows, Columns
<class 'numpy.ndarray'>
shape (1, 1)
Pixel value 8.99115
file closed!
```



#### Plot an image subset with matplotlib

100

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# use 0;0 for the topleft pixel; columns-1; rows-1 for the bottomright
xoff = 0
yoff = 0
win_xsize = 273
win_ysize = 101
px = gdarr.BandReadAsArray(band, xoff, yoff, win_xsize, win_ysize)
                             # replace nodata value by None
px[px == -9999] = None
                              # or just use band.GetNoDataValue()
plt.imshow(px)
plt.show()
                        25
                        50
                        75
```

50

100

150

200

250



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8.8

8.6

8.4

8.2

8.0

- 7.8



#### Extract entire dataset (all bands) as a three-dim array

```
# use 0;0 for the topleft pixel;
xoff = 0
yoff = 0
# window size in pixels
win xsize = 273
win_ysize = 101
px = gdarr.DatasetReadAsArray(raster, xoff, yoff, win_xsize, win_ysize)
print(type(px))
print('shape', px.shape)
print('topleft', px[0,0,0])
# Now it's a numpy array. Order is - Day, y, x or Depth, Rows, Columns
print('bottomright', px[0,-1,-1])
# Now it's a numpy array. order is - Day, y, x or Depth, Rows, Columns
<class 'numpy.ndarray'>
shape (365, 101, 273)
topleft -9999.0
bottomright 8.87105
```



## Save a raster image



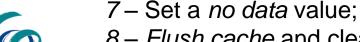
#### How to save a gdal raster image.

Example converting from *numpy* to *gdal*.



- 1 Create a *gdal driver* with the preferred raster format (*tif; img; csv; arcinfo etc*). This is needed to save the raster into a specific format.
- 2 Create a new raster;
- 3 Assign a projection to the new raster;
- 4 Assign a geotransform to the new raster;
- 5 Create one (or more) empty band/s;
- 6 Write the *numpy* array to one or more bands;

band. WriteArray() method writes one two-dim numpy array into one band.



8 – Flush cache and clean the band variable to save data to disk.

#### How to save a *gdal* raster image.

Example converting from *numpy* to *gdal*.

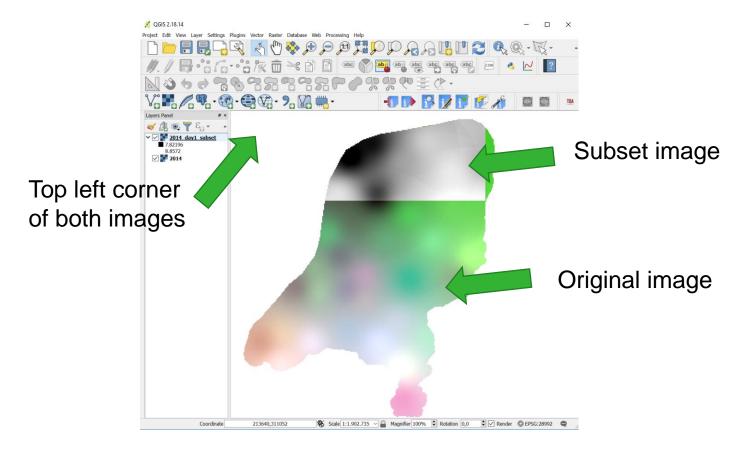
```
band = raster.GetRasterBand(1)
xoff = 0
yoff = 0
win xsize = 200
win vsize = 200
arr = gdarr.BandReadAsArray(band, xoff, yoff, win_xsize, win_ysize)
driver=raster.GetDriver()
                                        # Use the same format as the original image
# or
driver = gdal.GetDriverByName('GTiff') # we can choose a different format e.g. XYZ
newRaster = driver.Create('2014_day1_subset.tif',arr.shape[1],arr.shape[0], 1,
gdal.GDT_Float32)
prj = raster.GetProjection()
                                        # define new raster dataset proj. & geotransform
newRaster.SetProjection(prj)
newRaster.SetGeoTransform(raster.GetGeoTransform())
                                        # We can use the same GT because TL is same
newBand = newRaster.GetRasterBand(1) # get band 1 so we can fill it with data
newBand. WriteArray(arr)
                                        # write the array to the band
newBand.SetNoDataValue(-9999)
                                       # set a pixel nodata value
newBand.FlushCache()
                                        # flush the cache and clean memory
newBand = None
print("Finished!")
```





#### Opening the raster images in a GIS software

In this case, the *top left coordinate* is the same in the two images: the given *2014.tif* image and the subset image from the previous code.



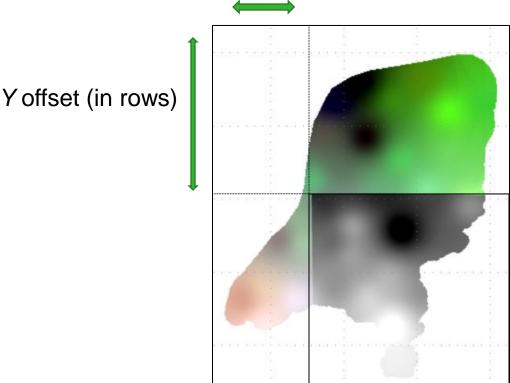




#### **Pixel offset**

When we create a new raster with a different top left corner, we need to calculate new top left world coordinates for the new geotransform based on the pixel offset.

X offset (in columns)





# Other important gdal methods



#### Other important gdal methods

Recent *gdal* versions have some methods that are wrap-up calls to *gdal* executables. The most important and powerful ones are:

gdal. **Translate** (destName, srcDataset, arguments)

Converts raster datasets between all kinds of different raster formats.

www.gdal.org/gdal\_translate.html

gdal. Warp (destNameOrDestDS, srcDSOrSrcDSTab, arguments)

Is a powerful raster mosaicing, reprojection and warping utility.

https://www.gdal.org/gdalwarp.html



The outputs of these methods are written on disk and returned by the method. Unless you use **format="Mem"** in this case the results are not written on disk, only returned by the method.



to convert raster data between different formats, potentially performing some operations like

- Subsettings,
- resampling, and
- rescaling pixels in the process.

```
# open dataset
raster = gdal.Open("2014.tif")
newDataset=gdal.Translate("newRaster.tif",raster,format="GTiff",srcWin=[0,0,273,101])
#To confirm let us show the raster image
newBand=newDataset.GetRasterBand(1)
px=gdarr.BandReadAsArray(newBand, 0, 0, newDataset.RasterXSize, newDataset.RasterYSize)
px[px == -9999] = None
plt.imshow(px)
plt.show()
print("Finished.")
```





#### gdal.Warp() reprojecting

an image mosaicing, reprojection and warping function

```
# open dataset
raster = gdal.Open("2014.tif")
newDataset=gdal.Warp(",raster,format="Mem", dstSRS='EPSG:4326')
#To confirm let us show the raster image
newBand=newDataset.GetRasterBand(1)
px=gdarr.BandReadAsArray(newBand, 0, 0, newDataset.RasterXSize, newDataset.RasterYSize)
px[px == -9999] = None
plt.imshow(px)
plt.show()
print("Finished.")
```

In this example we used **format="Mem"** therefore the result is not written on disk, only returned by the method.





# Thanks for your attention