

Image flipping

Submission deadline:	2019-03-24 23:59:59
Late submission with malus:	2019-06-30 23:59:59 (Late submission malus: 100.0000 %)
Evaluation:	5.5000
Max. assessment:	5.0000 (Without bonus points)
Submissions:	10 / 20 Free retries + 20 Penalized retries (-2 % penalty each retry)
Advices:	2 / 2 Advices for free + 2 Advices with a penalty (-10 % penalty each advice)

The task is to develop a function to handle an image file -- the function shall be able to read the image, flip it, and save the modified image.

We assume a simple uncompressed image files in this assignment. An image can be seen as a 2D array of pixels, the size of the image corresponds to the width and height of the array. The easiest way to save a 2D array into a file is to traverse the array in a row-major order, i.e., save the first row, then second row, ..., until the entire array is serialized into the target file. Pixels in the image do not need to be integers, instead, each pixel of the image may be formed from tuples (channels), e.g. 3 channels (RGB components), 4 channels (RGB and opacity component), or simple 1 channel (shades of gray). Next, each channel value is represented with some precision, the precision is given by the number of bits per channel value. We assume precision 1 bit, 8 bits, or 16 bits per channel, and we assume 1, 3, or 4 channels per pixel.

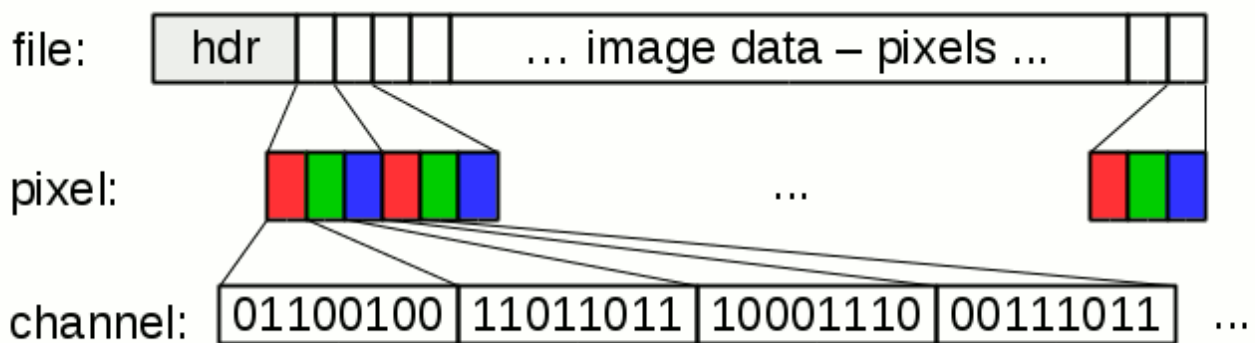


Image structure example – 8 bits / channel, 3 channels / pixel

Image flipping is very simple image processing operation. The required function will be able to perform the flipping, based on the parameters. The flipping may be horizontal (by vertical axis), vertical (by horizontal axis), both vertical and horizontal, and none (i.e., plain copy). The required function interface is:

```
bool flipImage ( const char * srcFileName,
                 const char * dstFileName,
                 bool        flipHorizontal,
                 bool        flipVertical );
```

srcFileName

is an ASCII string denoting the name of the source image file. The function is supposed to read the source image, however, it cannot modify it.

dstFileName

is an ASCII string denoting the name of the resulting image file. The function creates/overwrites the resulting file and stores the updated image into the file.

flipHorizontal

true if the function shall do the horizontal flip (by vertical axis),

flipVertical

true if the function shall do the vertical flip (by horizontal axis),

return value

true to indicate success, false to report a failure. The following shall be considered a failure:

- file or I/O related problems (cannot read/write, file does not exist, ...),
- invalid input file format (invalid header, invalid pixel format, not enough image data, too many bytes in the file, ...).

The function creates the resulting file based on the source image and parameters:

- resulting image size is determined by the source image size,
- resulting image pixel format and endianness is identical to the source image pixel format and endianness,
- image data in the image file are modified based on the flipHorizontal/flipVertical parameters.

The image file format is very simple. The file starts with a fixed size header that is followed by the image data. The header has the following structure:

offset	size	description
+0	2B	endianness (0x4949 little endian, 0x4d4d big endian)
+2	2B	image width
+4	2B	image height
+6	2B	pixel format
+8	??	image data (pixels)

- Little/big endian identifier is the first field in the header. The field describes the byte order of two byte values stored in the file. The actual values (0x4949 and 0x4d4d) are symmetric, thus the field can be correctly read by any platform. This field will be set to little endian in the mandatory tests (little endian is the platform your program runs on). However, the value may be either little endian or big endian in the optional tests. (Actually, there are few invalid inputs in the mandatory tests where the endianness is set to a random value. Obviously, such inputs must be rejected).
- Width and height fields denote the dimensions of the image. The values must be non-zero.
- Pixel format describes the coding of individual pixels. The value is composed from individual bits:

```

bit 15      5 4 3 2 1 0
    0 0      ... 0 B B B C C

```

Each pixel may consist of several channels. Bits 1 and 0 denote the number of channels per pixel:

```

00 - 1 channel: black/white, or shades of gray
01 - invalid combination
10 - 3 channels = RGB
11 - 4 channels = RGBA

```

Each channel value is coded in the given number of bits:

```

000 - 1 bit per channel
001 - invalid combination
010 - invalid combination
011 - 8 bits per channel
100 - 16 bits per channel
101 \
110 | invalid combination
111 /

```

Bits 5-15 are not used, they must be set to zero. A few examples:

```

0x000c = 0b00001100 - 1 channel per pixel, 8 bits per channel
0x000e = 0b00001110 - 3 channels per pixel, 8 bits per channel
0x0013 = 0b00010011 - 4 channels per pixel, 16 bits per channel

```

Notes:

- Pay special attention to the file I/O. The testing environment tests your implementation, it tries nonexistent files, unreadable files, files with invalid contents, ...
- Do not assume anything about file names. There are no explicit restrictions on file names. The important thing is: can the file be opened/read/written.
- You may use either C or C++ file interface, the choice is free.
- There is a set of input and corresponding result images in the attached archive. Further, there is a source file with a sample test main that calls your implementation to convert the sample input files and compares the results with the reference. You may use the example source file as a basis of your implementation. There are parts of shared code, the code is placed in conditional compile blocks. If these conditional compile blocks are preserved, the source can be submitted to Progtest.
- Use bit operation (&) and bit shifts (<< and >>) to handle pixel format field in the header.
- Little/big endian applies to the fields in the header, moreover, it applies to the 16 bit values in the image data (if the actual pixel format is 16 bits per channel).
- Do not develop one huge function. Instead, divide the problem into subproblems, use functions/classes to implement the subproblems. A reasonable solution reads the source into memory, decodes the pixels, modifies the pixels, and writes the contents back into the destination file. There is enough memory to load the entire image.
- There are fixed width fields in the header (e.g. 2 byte integers). Do not use int type to handle these values, the width of int data type is not guaranteed. Instead, use fixed width data types declared in cstdint header, such as int16_t and uint16_t.
- Mandatory tests use 8 bits / channel format, moreover, only little endian is used (i.e. it matches the processor architecture).