

Preferred File Formats

The choice of file format is of essential importance in order to ensure that the research data will remain usable in the future. Research data in preferred formats offer the best guarantees for long-term sustainability and accessibility. RODBUK therefore strongly encourages the use of standard, exchangeable or open file formats.

Preferred file formats (<i>not exhaustive</i>)	
Text-based	Plain text (.txt) XML (.xml) HTML (.html) PDF/A (.pdf) JavaScript Object Notation (.json) Protein Data Bank (.pdb) XYZ (.xyz) <i>(all formats should be encoded in UTF-8)</i>
Spreadsheets	Comma-separated values file (.csv) OpenDocument Spreadsheet (.ods)
Image files	JPEG Image Encoding family (.jpeg, .jpg) TIFF (.tiff, .tif) Portable Network Graphics (.png) Scalable Vectors Graphics (.svg)
Geospatial	Geography Markup Language (.gml) Keyhole Markup Language (.kml) ESRI Shapefile (.shp, .shx, .dbf) Geo-referenced TIFF (.tif, .tiff, .gtiff)
Numerical	NetCDF (.nc) HDF5 (.hdf5) CSV (.csv) JSON (.json)
Video	Material Exchange Format (.mxf)
Audio	Material Exchange Format (.mxf) FLAC (.flac)
Databases	CSV (.csv)
Archives	ZIP (.zip) 7zip (.7z)