



# Zarr

Zarr is a container for dense ND-dimensional array data, motivated by the need for a simple, transparent, open, and community-driven format that supports high-throughput distributed I/O on different storage systems.

Zarr data can be stored in any storage system that can be represented as a key-value store, including most commonly POSIX file systems and cloud object storage but also zip files as well as relational and document databases.

Zarr is a Sponsored Project of NumFOCUS, a US 501(c)(3) public charity.

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For more information on Zarr, including our governance structure and project roadmap, please visit:

<https://zarr.dev>

## APPLICATIONS

Simple and fast serialization of NumPy-like arrays, accessible from languages including Python, C, C++, Rust, Javascript and Java

Multi-scale n-dimensional image storage, e.g. in light and electron microscopy

Geospatial rasters, e.g. following the NetCDF / CF metadata conventions

## CURRENT FEATURES

- + Chunk multi-dimensional arrays along any dimension.
- + Store arrays in memory, on disk, inside a Zip file, on S3, etc.
- + Read and write arrays concurrently from multiple threads or processes.
- + Organize arrays into hierarchies via annotatable groups.

## PLANNED FEATURES

- + Enable the collection of many small chunk files into superchunks, or “shard” files
- + Improve interoperability with Python data libraries like NumPy, Dask, and Xarray
- + Support new languages like R & MATLAB by wrapping a native Zarr library
- + Simplify the development of extensions by third party developers

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