



International Multiproxy Paleo-fire Database (IMPD) Charcoal Sediment File Names and Formats

File Naming Convention

File names consist of 8 characters describing the location, followed by a 3-character extension.

The first 2 characters of the file name represent the two letter International Organization for Standardization (ISO) country code (<https://www.iso.org/iso-3166-country-codes.html>). The next three characters represent the site code, which is typically the first three letters of the site name. The last three characters are a sequential numeric index used to uniquely identify files for sites with replicate samples or chronologies, or those with duplicate country and site codes.

The charcoal sediment data files all have the extension "txt", while accompanying magnetic susceptibility and loss on ignition files have the extensions "mag" and "loi", respectively.

Data File Format

All data files are ASCII text files, and each data file contains 2 sections: a Comments section, and a Data section. The Comments section includes site information, radiocarbon dates, publications, etc., and all Comment lines begin with a pound sign (#). The Data section begins with a listing of the variables. Each variable is listed with a sequential integer, which corresponds to the position of the data value for that variable in the data section, as well as a description of the measurement (e.g., unit, and count or concentration). The data then follow in tabular format. Accompanying magnetic susceptibility and loss on ignition files are available when provided by the investigator.

