

**JavaSeis**  
**SegyZip**  
**JPEG-like Seismic Data Compression**  
**For SEG-Y files**

Dave Diller, Weinman GeoScience

SegyZip is a utility program that compresses SEG-Y files using the JavaSeis SeisPEG 2D compression algorithm. The SeisPEG compression algorithm is a lossy technique, similar to the widely know JPEG standard, but with adaptations for seismic data. For access to the SeisPEG code and documentation, see:

<https://javaseis.svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/javaseis/javaseis/trunk/src/org/javaseis/seiszip/>

which includes an overview of SeisPEG and the underlying lapped orthogonal transform in the files SeisPEG\_Overview.pdf and LOT\_ZouAndPearlman.pdf, respectively. The reader is encouraged to refer to those documents because a discussion of SeisPEG and data compression is not included here.

SegyZip is invoked from the command line, as follows:

```
> java org.javaseis.seiszip.SegyZip segyInputFile zippedOutputFile distortion  
ftGainExponent verticalBlockSize horizontalBlockSize frameKeyOffset frameKeyLength
```

Note that the order of the arguments is significant, and all arguments must be specified. The meaning of the arguments is as follows:

**segInputFile** is the input SEG-Y file, which is assumed to contain one or more frames. *Only IEEE format traces are supported.*

**zippedOutputFile** is the compressed output file. By convention the names of SeisZip output files end in .syz, so that for an input file named SomeData.sgy the output file would be SomeData.sgy.syz.

**distortion** is the allowed distortion. The value 0.01 is a good default.

**ftGainExponent** is a function-of-time gain exponent. This parameter is useful for gaining raw un-gained shot records before compression so that the low amplitudes in the deep data are well preserved. The gain is removed after de-compression. A value of 1.5-2.0 is a good default for un-gained data. Use 0.0 for no gain.

**verticalBlockSize** the vertical block size. Normally this is the number of samples per trace, *increased to the next multiple of 16.*

**horizontalBlockSize** the horizontal block size. Normally this is the maximum number of traces per frame, *increased to the next multiple of 16*.

**frameKeyOffset** is the byte offset in the SEG Y header of a header entry that is the same for each frame and different between frames, which is used to recognize the boundary between frames. *Note that this is the offset (which starts at 0), not the byte number (which starts at 1)*. For example this value would be 16 for source and 20 for CDP.

**frameKeyLength** the length (in bytes) in the SEG Y header of a header entry that is the same for each frame and different between frames. This value is 2 for a short and 4 for an int. Floating point values are not supported.

The property **org.javaseis.seiszip.nthreads** can be used to set the number of threads that SeisPEG uses during compression. On the command line an example of the syntax is:

```
java -Dorg.javaseis.seiszip.nthreads=8 org.javaseis.seiszip.SegyZip ...
```

## Further Improvements

The current implementation of SegyZip would benefit from support of trace formats other than IEEE.

## Known Problems

See [SeisPEG\\_Overview.pdf](#).