



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

PDS 4 Data Architecture Part II (2)

PDS 4 Data Architecture Team

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Data Structure Approach

- **Four Extremes**
 1. Only use externally defined structures.
 2. Develop a syntax to define data structure.
 3. Clean-up and prune PDS3.
 4. Start fresh.

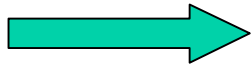


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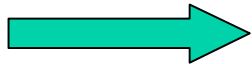


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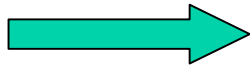


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Realistically we'll use a combination of 3 & 4 as our basis with some of 1 & 2.



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A Straw Man

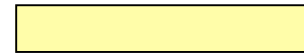
- **What would this look like?**
 - We'll look at a straw man of one possibility.



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Design New Structures - A 'Minimalist Approach':

- Four simple “**Base Structures**”
- PDS supported “**Abstract Classes**”
- PDS supported “**User Classes**”
- PDS Designed Utilities.

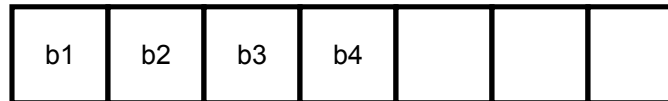




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Data – A Simple Example

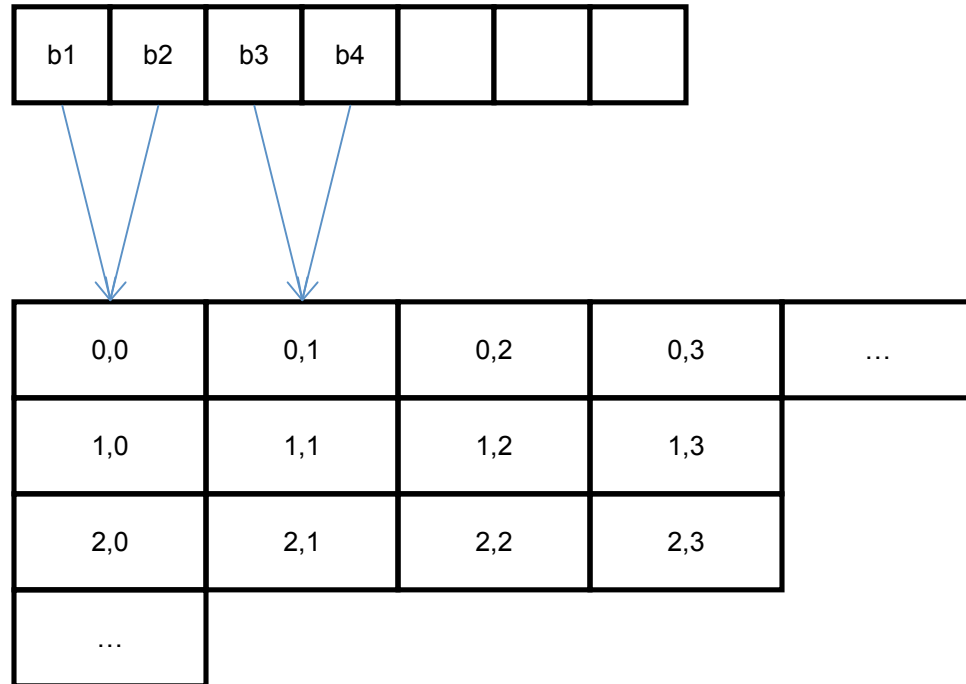
- In the disk file, the data exists as a simple sequence of bytes.
- The lowest-level PDS utilities read the sequence of bytes into one of the basic storage structures.





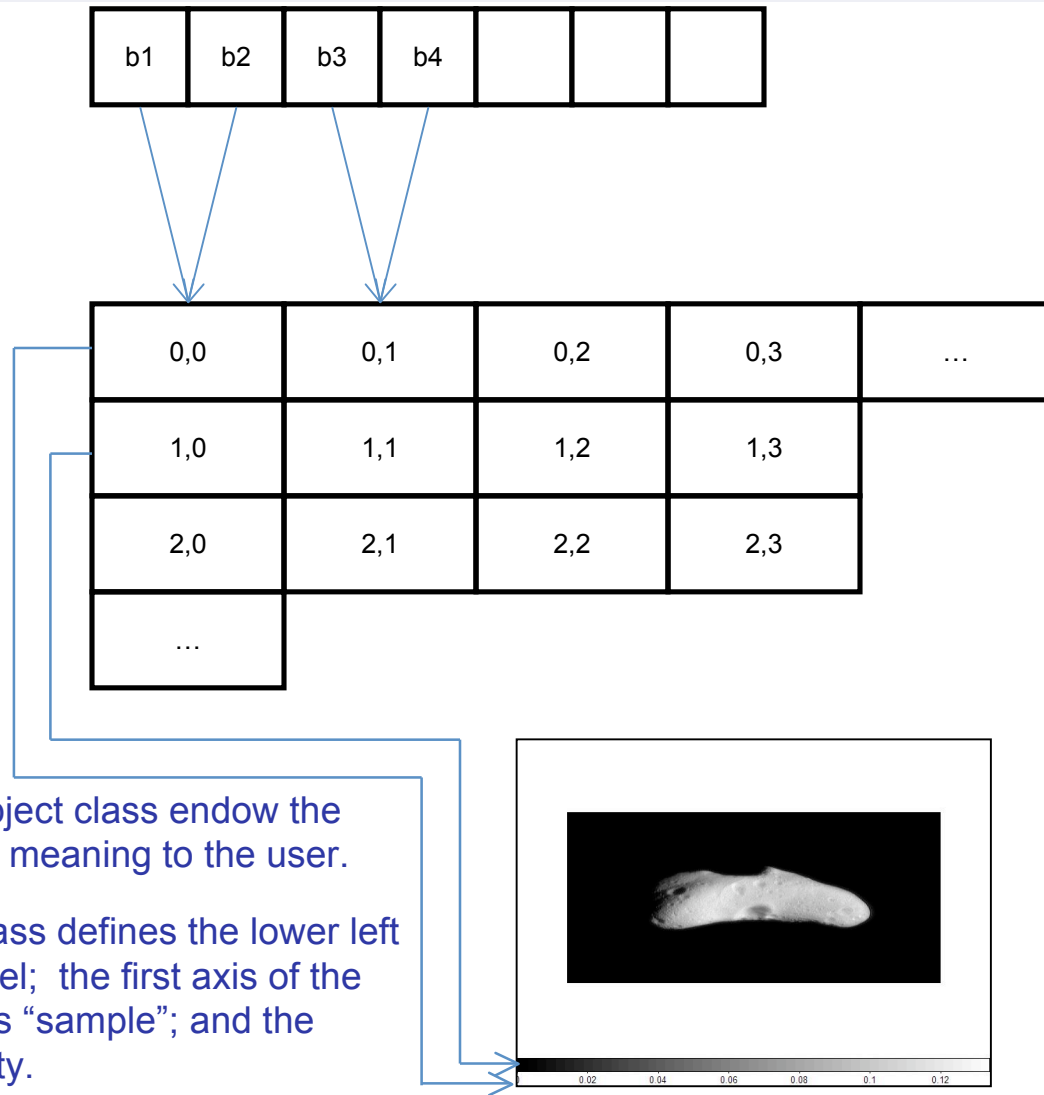
Data – A Simple Example

- In the process of reading the file, the sequential bytes are interpreted into a storage structure in memory.
- In this case our memory storage structure is a 2-dimensional array of 2-byte integers, stored in row-major order.
- This structure and its attributes are defined as the basic n-dimensional homogeneous array (with an element type of MSB-I2).





Data – A Simple Example

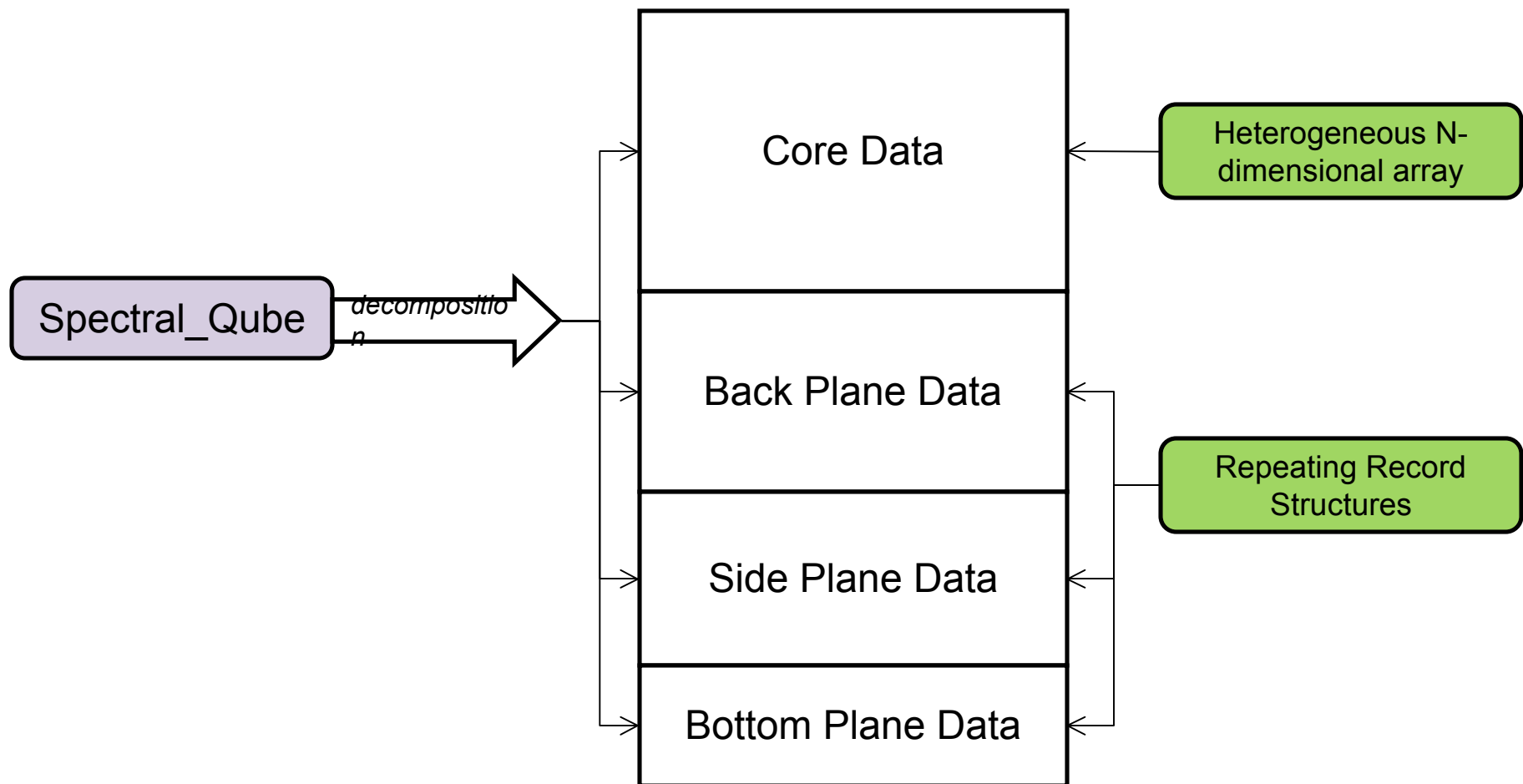


- The attributes and methods of the object class endow the storage structure and its values with meaning to the user.
- In this case, the 2-D Image object class defines the lower left corner as the location of the (0,0) pixel; the first axis of the structure as “line”; the second axis as “sample”; and the element value as a greyscale intensity.



Decomposing Interleaved Structures

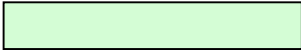
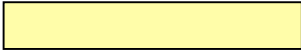

Disk File





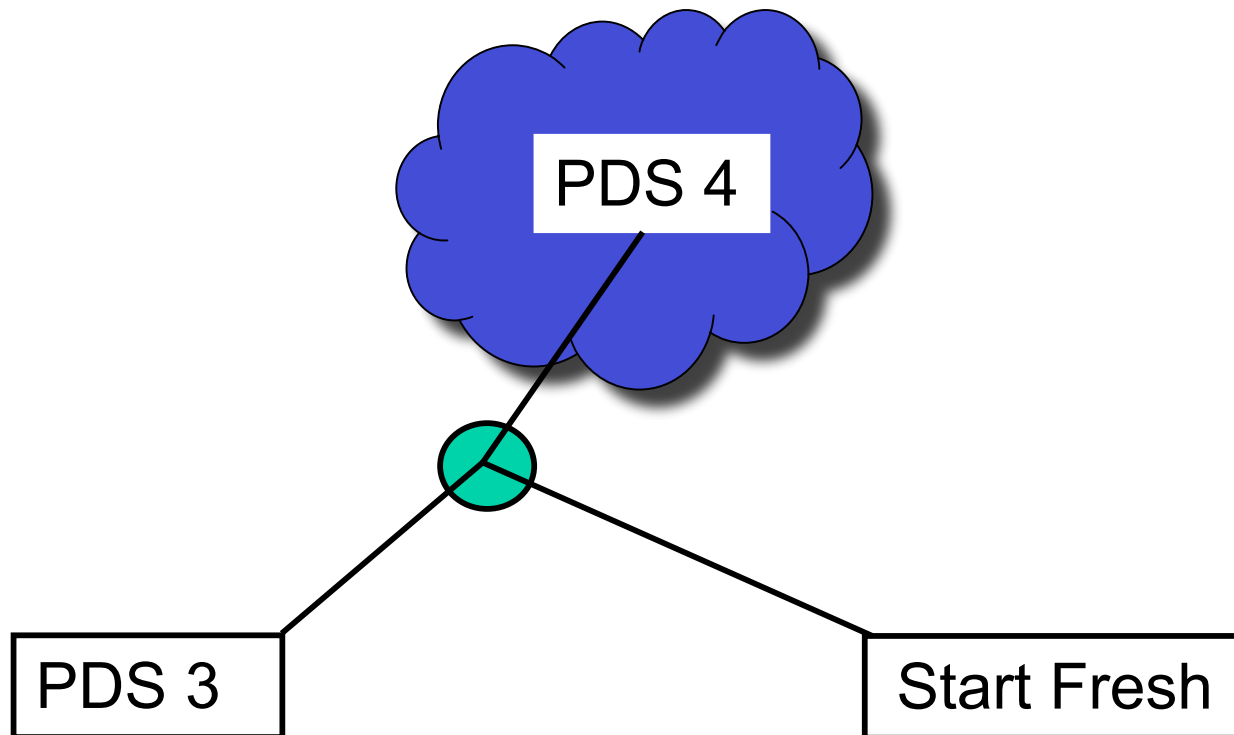
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Design New Structures - A 'Minimalist Approach':

- Four simple “**Base Structures**” 
 - Designed independent of interpretation.
- PDS supported “**Abstract Classes**” 
 - Anything beyond being able to read the bytes from the file and storing in the computer.
- PDS supported “**User Classes**” 
 - What users use.
 - Scientist perspective – (false color image)
- PDS Designed Utilities.
 - Conversions involve byte ordering, not alteration of the actual data.
 - Convert between Base Structures and Abstract Interpretations.
 - Convert to PDS supported set of User Interpretations.



Boldly Going Somewhere



- First we need answers and priorities for the big questions
- Need complete assessment of costs & benefits for a couple of options (How far left or right does the green circle shift?)