

PDF Days Europe 2022 | Berlin

# How to make your PDF/A conversion easier

PDF/A-2 and PDF/A-4 over PDF/A-1



# We are here (for you)!





# Siblings: PDF/A-1 and PDF/A-2



- No external content
- Fonts must be embedded
- No JavaScript
- No encryption
- No actions (movies etc)

 Common goal of self containment and long-term preservation

# What came when?



Version	Year	Official designation	Based on
PDF/A-1	2005	ISO 19005-1:2005	PDF version 1.4
PDF/A-2	2011	ISO 19005-2:2011	PDF version 1.7 (ISO 32000-1)
PDF/A-3	2012	ISO 19005-3:2012	PDF version 1.7 (ISO 32000-1)
PDF/A-4	2020	ISO 19005-4:2020	PDF version 2.0 (ISO 32000-2)

# What came when?



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PDF/A-3	2012	ISO 19005-3:2012	PDF version 1.7 (ISO 32000-1)
PDF/A-4	2020	ISO 19005-4:2020	PDF version 2.0 (ISO 32000-2)

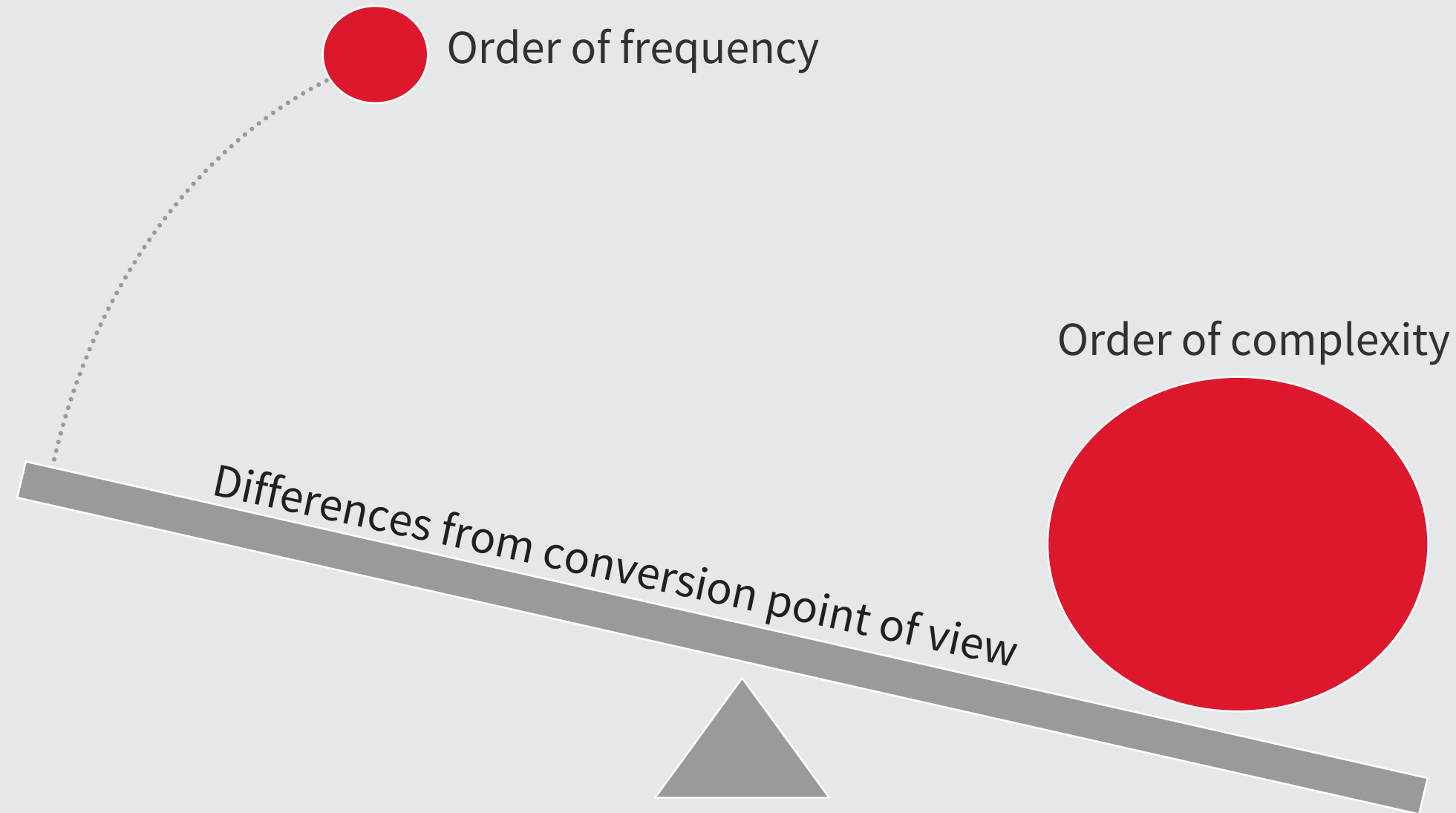


# What this is not...



- In-depth training session on PDF or PDF/A...
  - Conformance level talk...
  - Which PDF/A sub-standard is 'better'???
- 
- Instead...

# PDF/A-1 vs PDF/A-2




# Limits




- Acceptable real values:
  - As specified in the PDF Specification and made mandatory by PDF/A

TABLE C.1 Architectural limits

QUANTITY	LIMIT	DESCRIPTION
integer	2,147,483,647	Largest integer value; equal to $2^{31} - 1$ .
	-2,147,483,648	Smallest integer value; equal to $-2^{31}$ .
real	 $\pm 32,767$	Largest and smallest real values (approximate).
	$\pm 1/65,536$	Nonzero real values closest to 0 (approximate); equal to $\pm 10^{-38}$ . Values closer than these are automatically converted to 0.
	5	Number of significant decimal digits of precision in fractional part (approximate).

PDF 1.4 (basis for PDF/A-1)

Table C.1 – Architectural limits

Quantity	Limit	Description
integer	2,147,483,647	Largest integer value; equal to $2^{31} - 1$ .
	-2,147,483,648	Smallest integer value; equal to $-2^{31}$ .
real	 $\pm 3.403 \times 10^{38}$	Largest and smallest real values (approximate).
	$\pm 1.175 \times 10^{-38}$	Nonzero real values closest to 0 (approximate). Values closer than these are automatically converted to 0.

PDF 1.7 (basis for PDF/A-2)



# Limits: Acceptable real values



ACSPL+ Programmer's Guide  
11. Application Examples

$$R_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ 0 & \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix} R_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & 0 & \sin(\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin(\theta) & 0 & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} R_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\psi) & -\sin(\psi) & 0 \\ \sin(\psi) & \cos(\psi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The illustration below shows the rotation of the plane from the original (x, y, z) plane to a rotated (x''', y''', z''') plane.

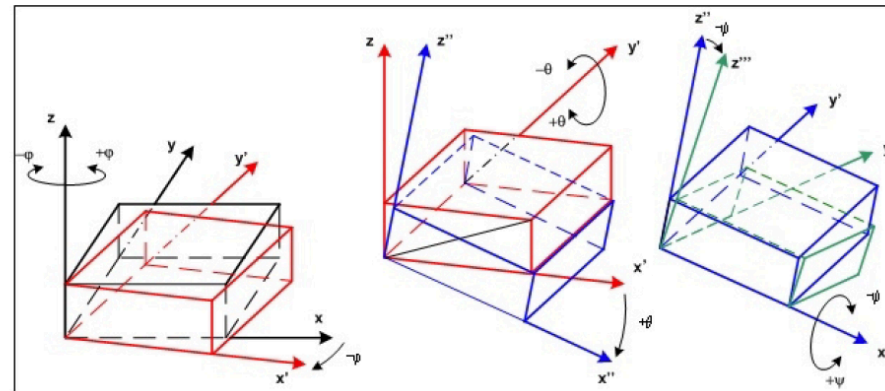


Figure 11-1. XYZ Rotation

Rotation of the plane can be expressed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_F \\ Y_F \\ Z_F \end{bmatrix} = R \times \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**DEMO**

# Limits: Acceptable real values



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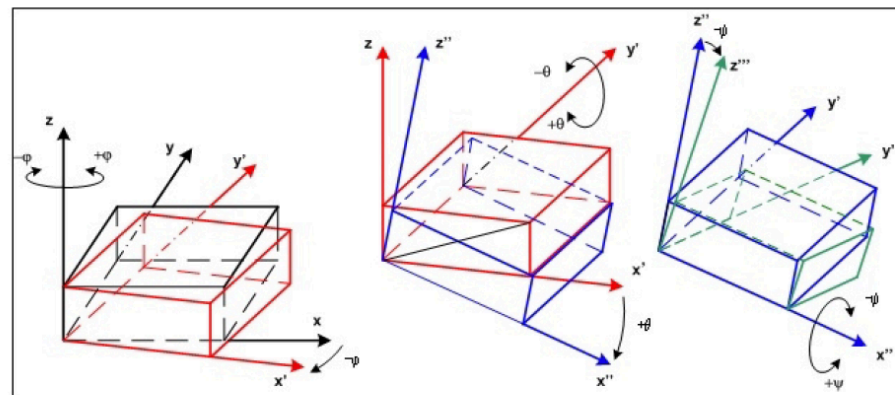


Figure 11-1. XYZ Rotation

Rotation of the plane can be expressed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_F \\ Y_F \\ Z_F \end{bmatrix} = R \times \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## 1. Report with errors

- ✗ PDF document is not compliant with PDF/A-1b (2005)
- ✗ Syntax problem: Real value out of range (too high)
- ✗ Syntax problem: Real value out of range (too low)

## 2. Convert to image

$$R_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ 0 & \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

The illustration below shows the (x''', y''', z''') plane.

## 3. OR

# SOLUTION: Convert to PDF/A-2



ACSPL+ Programmer's Guide  
11. Application Examples

$$R_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ 0 & \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix} R_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & 0 & \sin(\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin(\theta) & 0 & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} R_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\psi) & -\sin(\psi) & 0 \\ \sin(\psi) & \cos(\psi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The illustration below shows the rotation of the plane from the original (x, y, z) plane to a rotated (x'', y'', z'') plane.

Figure 11-1. XYZ Rotation

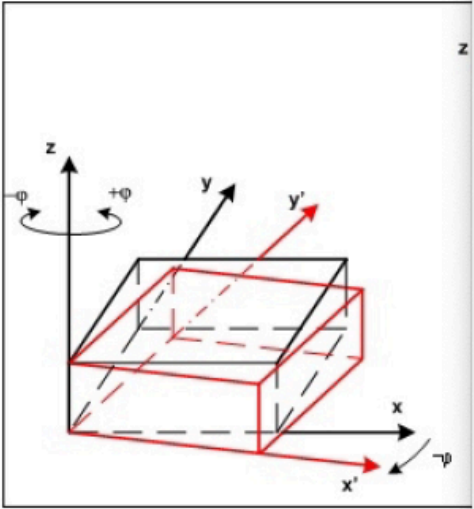
Rotation of the plane can be expressed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_F \\ Y_F \\ Z_F \end{bmatrix} = R \times \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ Y_1 \\ Z_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Converted to PDF/A

$$R_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ 0 & \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix} R_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & 0 & \sin(\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin(\theta) & 0 & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} R_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\psi) & -\sin(\psi) & 0 \\ \sin(\psi) & \cos(\psi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The illustration below shows the rotation of (x'', y'', z'') plane.



PDF Standards ▾

Profiles Results Standards Options ▾

✓ Preflight profile "Convert to PDF/A-2b (without fallback conversion)" did not find any errors or warnings:

Page 1 from "Programmers Guide pg342\_a2b.pdf"

Convert to PDF/A-2b (without fallback conversion)

- Convert to PDF/A-2b (2 objects)
- Remove, apply or adjust object compression (1 object)
- Compress all uncompressed objects using lossless ZIP compression (1 object)
- Recompress LZW as ZIP (1 object)
- Repair invalid bookmark hierarchies (1 object)

✓ No problems found

- Overview
- Preflight information

Broader range



# More limits



	PDF 1.4 (PDF/A-1)	PDF 1.7 (PDF/A-2)
DeviceN components	8	32
String	65,535	No restriction

# And some more limits



	PDF 1.4 (PDF/A-1)	PDF 1.7 (PDF/A-2)
File size	10 GB	10 GB+ (cross reference stream)
Page size/User units	5.08mx5.08m	381kmx381km
Magnification factor	8%-3200%	8%-6400%

# Still on iMac from 2005?





# Allowed vs. Not Allowed



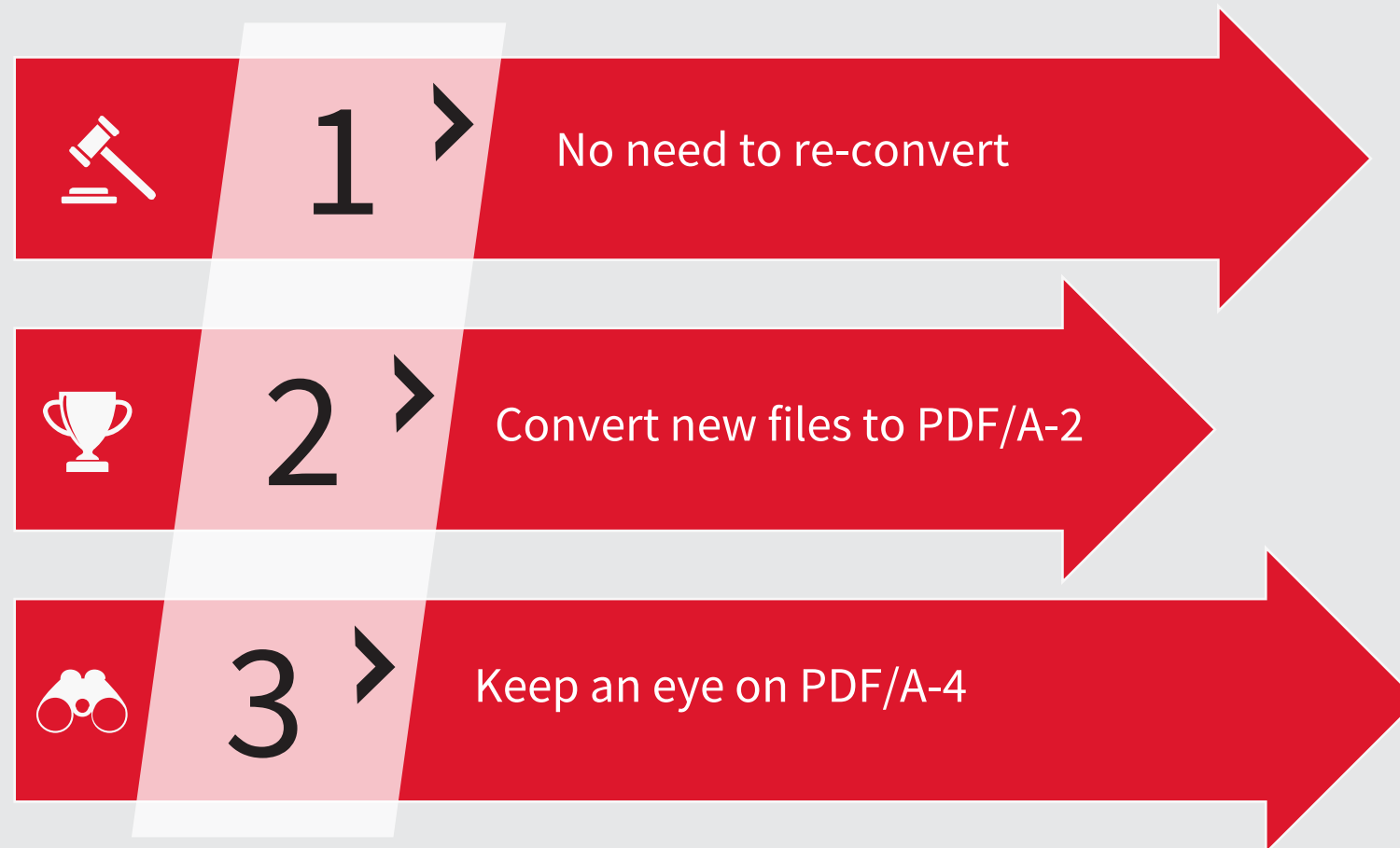
FEATURES	PDF/A-1	PDF/A-2
Transparency	Not allowed	Allowed
Compression like JPEG2000	Not allowed	Allowed
PDF Layers	Not allowed	Allowed
Embedded files	Not allowed	Only PDF/A files can be embedded within a PDF/A-2

# What about my PDF/A-1 files?



- PDF/A-1-compliant documents are still valid and reliable archive files
- PDF/A-2 does not invalidate PDF/A-1

# What about my PDF/A-1 files?





# Keep original format when archiving?





# Keep original format when archiving?



- Email to PDF -> Use case to keep original file format
- A PDF/A-3 document allows you to embed any file format desired – not just PDF/A documents.
- Recommended to have a policy in place to control what type of embedded files are permitted in order to minimize the preservation risks.

# Thank you!



- Questions?
- Comments?