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Subject: Re: accessing Siemens magnetom MR images  
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Wed, 27 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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Jonas -

If you would like a routine to do what Patrick Ford suggests below,  
get READ\_IMG.PRO from:

`ftp://bial8.ucsd.edu/ : pub/software/idl/share/idl_share.tar.gz`

There is also a READ\_IMG.DOC that explains how to use it.

Basically, you can read any square 8-bit or 16-bit image with  
dimensions 64, 128, 256 or 512; any existing header will be returned  
as argument. This routine assumes that the image is larger than the  
header!

You can also get SHOW\_IMG.PRO/.DOC to allow you to view a series  
of these images easily and in a variety of useful formats.  
There is a README file that lists other routines; if you're working  
with MR images then you will probably find a number of them useful.

Dave

Patrick V. Ford wrote:

```
>
> (A case of where the visually impaired is leading the blind.)
>
> A quick and dirty method is to create two arrays, one for the header and
> the other for the image(s). This assumes that the common format is to have
> a header block followed by the image data. Image sets may have multiple
> sub headers.
>
> header = bytarr(size_of_header)
> images = intarr(X,Y,Z); assuming a 3-D array of 2 byte pixels.
>
> open the file. ( I would have to look this up, but I could e-mail an
> example. )
> read the header and do nothing with it
> read the image.
>
> display the image.
> tvscl, image(*,*,0)
> etc.
> You may have to swap the byte order.
>
> To calculate the header size look at the number of bytes in the file and
```

> subtract the image size in bytes.  
>  
> Or if it is in DICOM format, I think there is a read\_DICOM in IDL.  
>  
> Patrick Ford, MD  
> Baylor College of Medicine  
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>

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