
Subject: Re: Another IDL twist

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Fri, 17 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Ben Tupper wrote:

> I don't know why, but I do know it drove me bananas. I wrote the
> following as a wrapper for most of the READ_* procedures. It is in the
> form of a FUNCTION rather than PROCEDURE. I've only tried it on TIFF,
> JPEG and GIF so far. If you try and have suggestions, please send them
> along.

I'm guessing that most people who read TIFF, JPEG, and GIF images from disk actually want to *display* the images in IDL. Hence, I wrote a procedure which makes it rather easy.

SHOWIMAGE displays images in GIF, BMP, PICT, TIFF, or JPEG format (the format is detected automatically), e.g.

```
IDL> file = filepath('rose.jpg', subdir='examples/data')  
IDL> showimage, file
```

Check it out at:

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/imagetools.html>

Note that IDL 5.2 is required, to allow automatic detection of image format (i.e. the query_gif, query_bmp etc. functions in IDL 5.2 are used).

Cheers,
Liam.

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