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Subject: Re: IDL use to analyse MRI data  
Posted by [Nikki Bloms](#) on Thu, 22 Jun 2006 15:19:27 GMT  
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StevenM wrote:

> I am looking to trouble you for a little help. I am a novice and want  
> to use IDL to analyse MRI data from a Bruker scanner. Can anyone point  
> me in the direction of online literature that will help me to get  
> started.  
>  
> thanks  
>  
> Steven

Steven,

Analyzing MRI data was my first major project with IDL also, beginning with no programming knowledge. I'm still a beginner, but I think I may help point you in the same direction I went through a short year or so ago.

I would especially look at documentation relating to DICOM files - in the Using IDL pdf, as well as the Image Processing in IDL pdf. The online help is also a great tool, as long as you know what to look for. (i.e., the IDLffDICOM object, READ\_DICOM, QUERY\_DICOM, etc.) David Fanning's site also helped with a few basic common confusions.

If you get stuck, let me know and I'll try to help you along, too. As of this point, I mostly create a program until it does what I need it to, no matter how efficient it is (I know, not a good policy to follow - but it works).

Others on this newsgroup might offer more professional advice, though.

Good Luck,  
Nikki

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Subject: Re: IDL use to analyse MRI data  
Posted by [Robbie](#) on Fri, 23 Jun 2006 03:43:03 GMT  
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Hello,

If you can't afford the DICOM network services module from ITT, then you can always use DCMTK ([www.dcmthk.org](http://www.dcmthk.org)) executables. I've also have an alternative implementation of IDLffDICOM which lets you access uncompressed DICOM files using the ASSOC function

(<http://www.barnett.id.au/idl/>).

I would think that Oliver Thilmanns library (<http://www.jubileum.lu.se/mrphysics/software/lib/index.htm>) might be useful. You could also use iTools if you are sure that you only want to design a few custom data filters.

In Nuclear Medicine, we often process scans using a druid (more commonly known as a wizard). I have an implementation of this using a workflow engine written entirely in IDL. It comes with common UI controls such as rigid registration, curve fitting, ROIs, zoom, pan and contrast. I probably won't release code until it's fairly stable, but I am still keen share code with any potential collaborators in the meantime. However, I don't know if it would be any use for MRI processing.

Robbie

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Subject: Re: IDL use to analyse MRI data  
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Sat, 24 Jun 2006 08:15:40 GMT  
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StevenM wrote:

> I am looking to trouble you for a little help. I am a novice and want  
> to use IDL to analyse MRI data from a Bruker scanner. Can anyone point  
> me in the direction of online literature that will help me to get  
> started.  
>  
> thanks  
>  
> Steven

Steven,

If you want a SOTS IDL MRI package (Scientific off-the-shelf...), then Google on Terry Oakes and his SPAMALISE package, which will read in just about every MRI format under the sun, and it does a lot of processing for you. Best of all, Terry will give you the source code if you ask... ;-)

Andrew

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