
Subject: accessing Siemens magnetom MR images
Posted by [Jonas](#) on Tue, 19 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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I could spend some time doing this myself, but there have to be lots of codes doing this already.

I want to read image files originating from our two Simens MR scanners (Magnetom Vision/Expert) into IDL. I only need the image information, the other information (TE, TR, flip, Patient info...) is just a bonus.

Any info/help/code is welcome

/Jonas, the IDL newbie

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
> pford@bcm.tmc.edu
>

~~~~~  
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~~~~~

Subject: Re: accessing Siemens magnetom MR images
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 28 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Jonas (jonas_2@hotmail.com) writes:

> however, is there really a read_dicom-procedure in IDL? the help file didn't
> tell me about it...

Floating Points Systems in the UK has developed a DICOM 3
reader. You can learn more at this URL:

<http://www.floating.co.uk/idl/dicom.html>

Cheers,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: accessing Siemens magnetom MR images

Posted by [Jonas](#) on Thu, 28 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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thanx!

however, is there really a read_dicom-procedure in IDL? the help file didn't tell me about it...

I got some more help from Lars in denmark (thanx Lars, hope you don't mind me forwarding this):

> The first 6144 bytes in the image file is header information. If you
> know the image dimensions and type, you can use the following simple
> procedure:

```
>  
> pro read_file, filename, xres, yres, ima  
>   openr,fileid, filename, /get_lun  
>   header=bytarr(6144)  
>   readu, fileid, header  
>   ima=fltarr(xres,yres) ;change type when appropriate  
>   readu, fileid, ima  
> end
```

```
>  
> This is, of couse, not very general and all "bonus" information is  
> lost. Please forward any better answer to me.
```

```
>  
> Cheers, Lars
```

Jonas
