

Best Practice for getting SDO Browse Data.

SDO provides near-real-time (NRT) images that are updated every 15 minutes. They are designed for Space Weather operators and citizen scientists. You can view the SDO website or download them for use elsewhere. The best way to regularly download our latest NRT images is a script using either a wget or curl. If your needs have been developed it can be invoked automatically as a cron job.

The best method to download our NRT images is to use the wget utility.

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Best practice would be to retrieve a new images once every fifteen minutes.

Example crontab:

```
*/15 * * * * bash /path/to/script > /path/to/output 2>&1 &
```

Downloading latest NRT images

Our latest images are located in the /assets/inmg/latest directory and have a common naming convention as see below. There are four resolutions available:

URL: [https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/assets/img/latest/latest_\[resolution\]_\[wavelength\].jpg](https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/assets/img/latest/latest_[resolution]_[wavelength].jpg)

Resolutions: [4096, 2048, 1024, 512]

Wavelengths: [0094, 0193, 0171, 0304, 0211, 0131, 0335, 1600, 1700, hmib, hmii, hmibc, hmiic, hmiif, hmid]

Example bash code — *using wget*:

```
#!/bin/bash
# COMMANDLINE ARGUMENTS
DOWNLOAD_PATH=$1

# SDO WEBSITE URL
LATEST_URL=https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/assets/img/latest

# DOWNLOAD PATH
LOCALDIR=$DOWNLOAD_PATH

CHANNELS=( 0094 0131 0171 0193 0211 0304 0335 1600 1700 HMIB HMII HMIID HMIBC HMIIF HMIIC )
RESOLUTIONS=( 4096 2048 1024 512 )

for CHANNEL in ${CHANNELS[@]}
do
    for RESOLUTION in ${RESOLUTIONS[@]}
    do
        FILENAME="latest_"$RESOLUTION_"$CHANNEL".jpg"
        URL=$LATEST_URL/$FILENAME

        #wget command
        wget -N -nd --no-check-certificate $URL --directory-prefix=$LOCALDIR
    done
done
```

Getting images from the browse directories

The browse directories are the drilldown directories delineated by date. These images also have a common naming convention consisting of date/time stamp and wavelength.

Example directory drilldown

Index of /assets/img/browse/2021/05/10

Name	Last modified	Size
Parent Directory		-
20210510_000000_1024_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-11 01:49	374K
20210510_000000_1024_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-11 01:54	461K
20210510_000000_1024_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-11 02:00	237K
20210510_000000_1024_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-11 02:05	308K
20210510_000000_2048_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-11 01:49	1.5M
20210510_000000_2048_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-11 01:54	1.9M
20210510_000000_2048_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-11 02:00	1.0M
20210510_000000_2048_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-11 02:05	1.3M
20210510_000000_256_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-11 01:49	21K
20210510_000000_256_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-11 01:54	25K
20210510_000000_256_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-11 02:00	14K
20210510_000000_256_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-11 02:05	15K
20210510_000000_3072_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-09 20:30	3.5M
20210510_000000_3072_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-09 20:30	4.3M
20210510_000000_3072_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-09 20:30	2.1M
20210510_000000_3072_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-09 20:30	2.7M
20210510_000000_4096_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-11 01:49	6.6M
20210510_000000_4096_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-11 01:54	8.5M
20210510_000000_4096_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-11 02:00	3.6M
20210510_000000_4096_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-11 02:05	4.8M
20210510_000000_512_HMIB.jpg	2021-05-11 01:49	90K
20210510_000000_512_HMIBC.jpg	2021-05-11 01:54	108K
20210510_000000_512_HMIIC.jpg	2021-05-11 02:00	53K
20210510_000000_512_HMIIF.jpg	2021-05-11 02:05	64K

Below is an example script on how to download browse images from a date range.

```
#!/bin/bash
# COMMANDLINE ARGUMENTS
STARTDATE=$1
ENDDATE=$2
CHANNEL=$3
RESOLUTION=$4
DOWNLOAD_PATH=$5

# SDO WEBSITE URL
SDOURL=https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov
BROWSEDIR=$SDOURL"/assets/img/browse"

# DOWNLOAD PATH
LOCALDIR=$DOWNLOAD_PATH

# UNIX TIMESTAMPS
STARTSECONDS=$(date -j -u -f "%Y-%m-%d" "${STARTDATE}" +%s)
ENDSECONDS=$(date -j -u -f "%Y-%m-%d" "${ENDDATE}" +%s)

echo -e "\n\n"
echo "Download Images to local directory"
echo "START DATE: "${STARTDATE}
echo "END DATE: "${ENDDATE}
```

```
echo "CHANNEL: "$CHANNEL
echo "RESOLUTION: "$RESOLUTION
echo "DOWNLOAD PATH: "$LOCALDIR
echo -e "\n"

val=0
for (( i=$STARTSECONDS; i<=$ENDSECONDS; i+=86400 ))
do
    NEXTDATEPATH=$(date -j -u -f %s "${i}" +%Y/%m/%d)
    NEXTDATESTRING=$(date -j -u -f %s "${i}" +%Y%m%d)
    URL=${BROWSEDIR}/${NEXTDATEPATH}
    ACCEPT=${NEXTDATESTRING}_*_${RESOLUTION}_${CHANNEL}.jpg
    printf "Downloading Images from: %s\r" "$URL"
    wget -q -nd --no-check-certificate --level=1 --recursive -e robots=off --no-parent -R "index.html*" -A $ACCEPT $URL -
done

echo -e "\n"Script complete: $(date)
```

Downloads

» [Download scripts](#)
