

Matlab/Octave API for SOFA

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**This document contains preliminary remarks on the
API_MO version 1.0.**

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1. STARTING THE API

`SOFastart` compiles the conventions (stored in directory conventions as CSV files) to Matlab files and starts the API.

More information in `readme.txt` or `help SOFastart`.

2. DEMONSTRATIONS

In the directory “demos”, some demonstrations of the functionality of the API are provided. This is the first place to get familiar with the structure of the API.

Note that for the demonstration of conversion functions, you will most probably need to download some non-SOFA HRTF files first. See `readme.txt` files in the HRTF directories of the corresponding non-SOFA format.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE SOFA OBJECT

All the SOFA information is stored in the a variable which we call SOFA object here. Such an object is, for example, returned by the function `SOFALoad`. In that object:

- “GLOBAL_” are all global attributes. Use prefix `GLOBAL_` to add your global attributes.
- Variables are stored with their names as they are.
- An attribute `Y` of a variable `X` is stored as `X_Y`.
- “Data.” is a separate structure containing the SOFA data.
- “PRIVATE” is a structure with private data for application use. Here you can store your private variables which belong to the SOFA object. Private variables won't be saved when saving the object as a SOFA file.
- “API” contains internal variables of the API. Do not modify them, use `SOFUpdateDimensions()` to update them according to your data. These variables are useful for handling the SOFA data:
 - `API.N`, `API.M`, etc (all SOFA dimensions): store the size of a dimension
 - `API.Dimensions`: dimensions of SOFA variables
- Use `SOFAddVariable()` to add a new variable.

4. FURTHER RESOURCES

Further resources can be found:

- `API_MO/readme.txt` provides a short description of the API.
- `API_MO/history.txt` provides the history of the development and release notes.
- `doc/specs` provides specifications of the currently supported SOFA.
- `HRTFs/SOFA` stores SOFA files. Per default, it mirrors <http://sofacoustics.org/data>.
- `HRTFs/SOFA/sofa_api_mo_test`: here, the automatically created SOFA files will be saved for testing purposes.
- `HRTFs/other directories`: directories containing HRTF files stored in other formats than SOFA.
- <http://sofaconventions.org> provides the most recent information on SOFA.