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**Hele Shaw Model Instructions**

**Introduction**

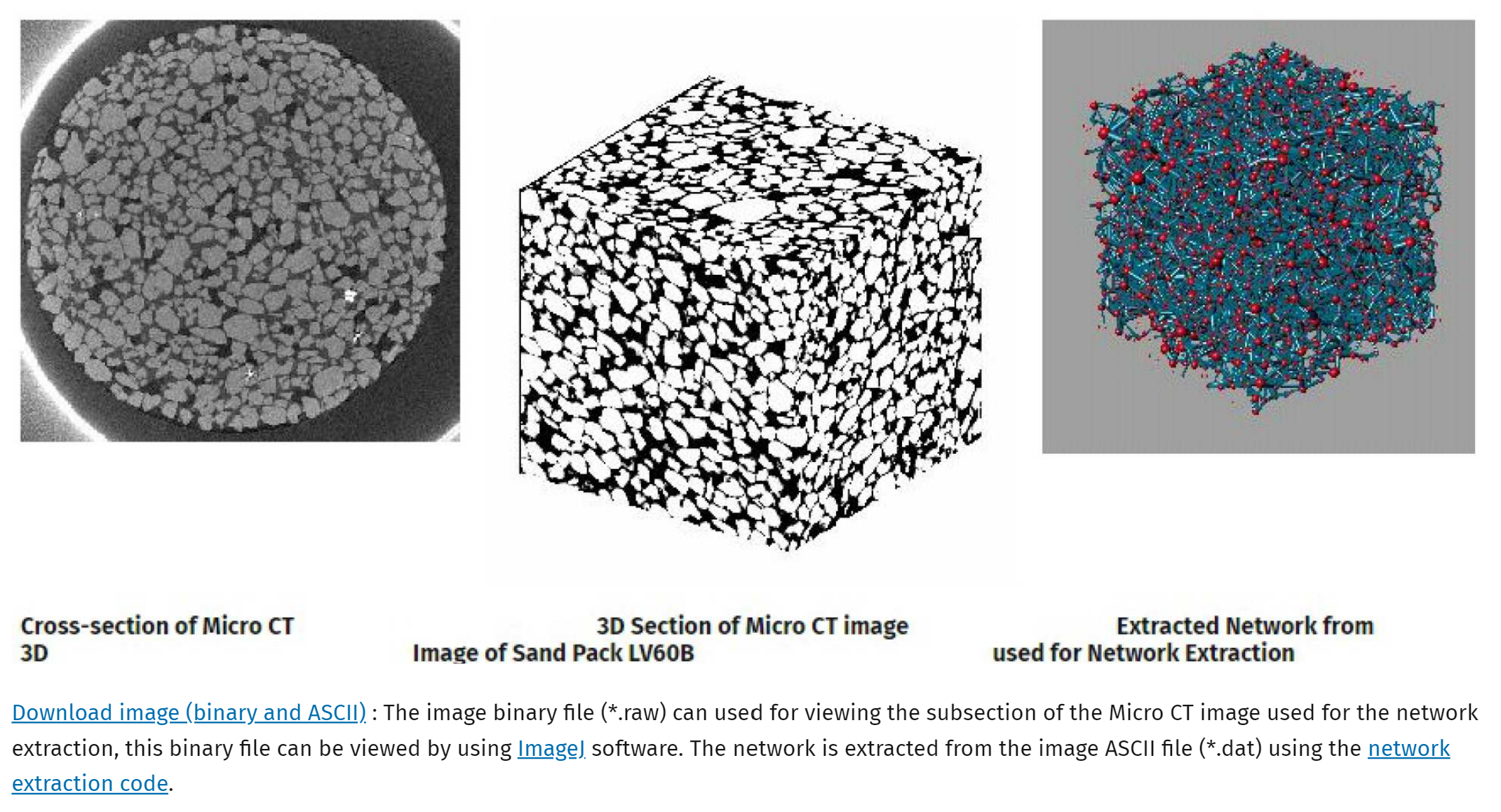
This step-by-step guide shows how to create a 3D model of a Hele-Shaw porous media cell that allows two-dimensional fluid flow. The source images are from Imperial London College. Python will be used to extract the network from these images and Fusion 360 will convert the network to a printable 3D model.

**Materials**

* Windows PowerShell
* Python 3
* Inkscape
* Autodesk Fusion 360

**I. Retrieve Python Codes and MicroCT image**

1. Create a new folder which will now be referred to as the WorkFolder. Take note of the folder’s exact location. For this guide, the location is *C:\Users\user \Desktop\WorkFolder*
2. Go to <https://github.com/Azshian/Hele-Shaw-Model> and download these files to the WorkFolder.
   1. HeleCode.py
   2. ImageProcess.py
   3. HeleApparatus.stl (not uploaded yet)
3. Go to <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/earth-science/research/research-groups/perm/research/pore-scale-modelling/micro-ct-images-and-networks/>
4. View the different image scans by clicking on the network name. This guide will select **Sand Pack (LV60B)**.
5. Click [**Download image (binary and ASCII)**](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/pls/portallive/docs/1/46729696.ZIP)which will give a compressed zip file.
6. Extract the zip file and move the .dat file into the WorkFolder. The .raw file is unused.



**Figure 1. Screenshot from website from ICT**

**II. Select slice from Pore Network**

1. Open Windows PowerShell and change the directory to the WorkFolder by typing:

*cd “C:\Users\user\Desktop\WorkFolder”*

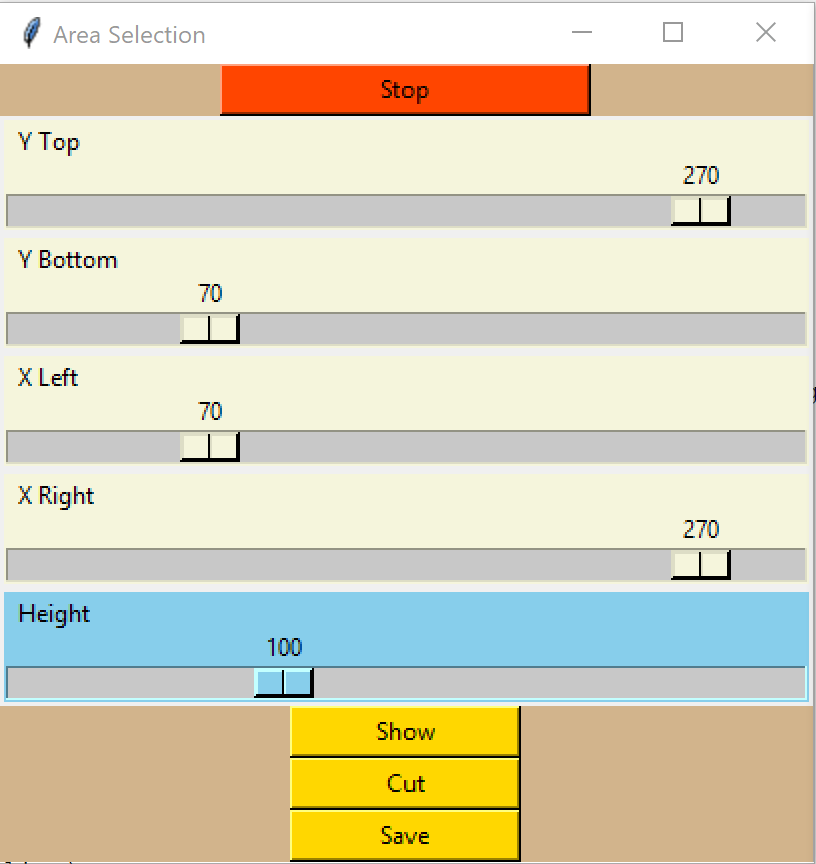
\*use exact directory for this step\*

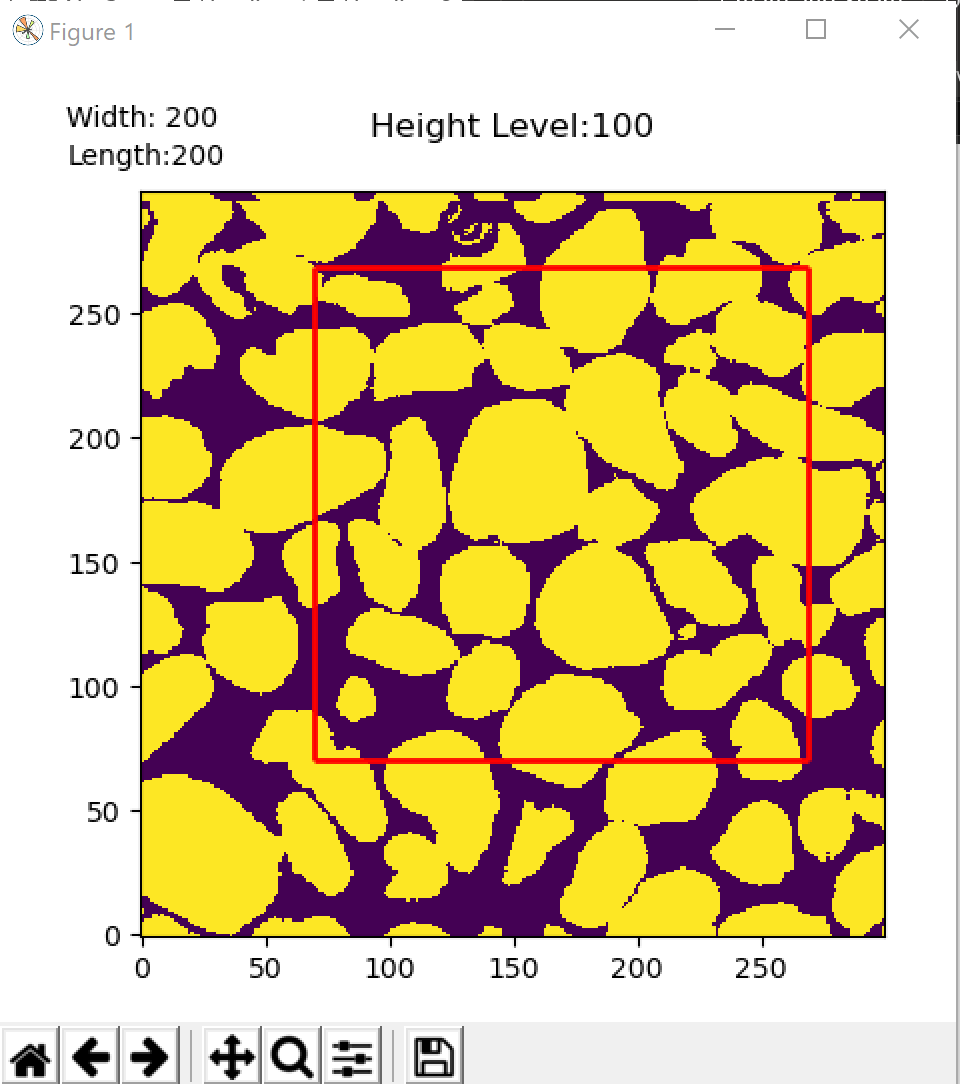
1. Load the Python code and the image file by typing:

*python HeleCode.py LV60\_02.dat*

\*if different network was used, use that name instead\*

1. The **Area Selection** GUI will appear, with four sliders and four buttons. Click **Show** to open the image.
   1. The pore network is shown with the filled spaces as yellow and the void spaces as purple.
   2. The red border surrounding the network indicates the area selection.
2. Select the desired network
   1. Use the GUI slider **Y Top, Y Bottom, X Left,** and **X Right** to change the area selection.
   2. Use the **Height** slider to select the height level of the network.
   3. When values are changed, press the **Show** button to update the image
3. Press the **Cut** button to view the selected area.
   1. If more changes are desired, simply press the **Show** button again to view the full network with the red borders.
4. Once the desired area is found, press **Cut**, then press **Save.** The pore network will automatically be saved as a .png file in the WorkFolder.





**Figure 2. Slider GUI (left) controlling the Network Image (right)**

**III. Convert PNG to SVG**

1. Open Inkscape. Drag .png file into workspace. Pop-up menu will appear.
   1. Embed. From File. None.
2. Select on the image. Then, on the ribbon, under **Path**, select **Trace Bitmap**. Press OK and close the window.
3. A copy of the image will be produced in a vector format. The smooth vector image is generated right on top of the original pixel image. Drag the vector image out of the way to view the original image and delete the latter.
4. Go to **File** and select **Save as** to save the file as an SVG

**IV. Create Hele-Shaw Cell This might be ridiculously complicated. Do the best you can**

1. Open Fusion 360
2. At the top right corner of the ribbon, click on your account name, and click **Preferences**
   1. Under Design, ensure that Snap and 3D are activated.
   2. Click Apply and OK.
3. On the ribbon, go to **Insert** and select **Insert SVG**. Import the svg file.
   1. Press OK.
4. Use the view cube on the upper right corner to rotate camera around the model. On the bottom, there is a small ribbon with pan and zoom features.
5. View the bottom of the image sketch labeled “Sketch 1”
6. Create a new sketch which is labeled “Sketch 2” and make a square exactly on top of the perimeter Sketch 1.
   1. The cursor should snap to the corner points of Sketch 1.
   2. Click **Create Sketch**.
7. Extrude the square an arbitrary amount of 1 mm. This will act as the base of the Hele-Shaw cell.

**Figure 3. Model with the Square Base below the Image Sketch**

1. The pore network’s void spaces will now be cut into the base.
2. Select Sketch 1
3. Left click on all areas that need to be cut into the base.
4. Scale the model to make dimensions this:
5. Base needs to be 2 mm tall. The Pore network needs to be 1 mm tall. The final model size is 100 mm x 100 mm x 3 mm.
6. Save workspace and save stl file.

**Figure 4. Completed Hele-Shaw Cell**

**V. Attach Hele-Shaw Cell to Hele-Shaw Apparatus**

Model

**VI. 3D Print Hele-Shaw Apparatus**

Print

**VII. 3D Print Video Apparatus (Optional)**

Download STL files.

3D Print

**VIII. Build Apparatus**