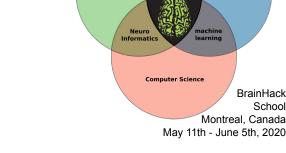


Instructor: Peer Herholz ( ) @peerherholz) TA: Sebastian Urchs, Elizabeth DuPre



BrainHack School

Neuroscience







Your role

Schedule

Logistics

Good to know



#### Gain skills

- Learn about open and reproducible methods and how to apply them using conda and Docker (Singularity)
- Know the differences between virtualization techniques
- Empower you with tools and technologies to do reproducible, scalable and efficient research

#### Get involved

 Familiarize you with the docker ecosystem for scientific work

#### Share

Bring everything you've learning to your home institution and/or lab



## Your role



- ask questions
- think quick and towards reproducibility
- further familiarize yourself with the shell and non-GUI applications
- start thinking about how you could apply/integrate the techniques introduced here into your own research workflow
- have a great time
- give us feedback and help improve the materials





#### Your role

#### Schedule

#### Our *optimistic* schedule:

- 1 1:15 PM ~ Introduction and problem statement
- 1:15 2 PM ~ Virtualization using venv & conda
- 2 2:10 PM ~ Short break/discussion
- 2:10 3 PM ~ Docker 101 A new hope
- 3 3:10 PM ~ Short break/discussion
- 3:10 4 PM ~ Docker 101 The build strikes back
- 4 4:10 PM ~ Short break/discussion
- 4:10 4:30 PM ~ Docker 101 The return of advanced concepts



#### Your role

#### Schedule

## Logistics

#### Your machine:

- able to get Docker up and running, pull Docker images
- venv & conda
- You: shell
- This session may take up 10-15 GB of space
  - can be deleted at end of lecture
  - talk to us if you don't have that much space or think you will run out of it
- Use the communication channels



Your role

• get the materials via:

Schedule

cd /path/to/wherever/materials/should/be/stored

git clone <a href="https://github.com/neurodatascience/course-materials-2020">https://github.com/neurodatascience/course-materials-2020</a>

Logistics



Your role

Schedule

Logistics

Good to know

- please netflix, instagram, twitch and what not kids do these days during the breaks only
- That being said, if you want to tweet about what's happening (keeping folks who are not attending the course posted, you know: being open ...) please use #brainhackschool

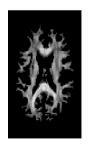
# VIRTUALIZATION WARS

The problem statement

A colleague wrote a super fancy DTI analysis. Your PI is super happy and wants the whole lab and research galaxy to use it. Your colleague thus openly shares the script and everyone can use it ....



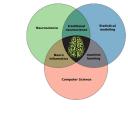
- within the NeuroDataScience repository you downloaded, you'll find
  a script called "fancy\_DTI\_analyzes.py" (it's a modified version of great
  tutorial from the <u>DIPY docs</u>)
- using the shell, navigate to the respective folder and run the script via: "python fancy\_DTI\_analyzes.py"
- within the directory you should get several outputs (three .png & one .trk)







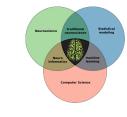


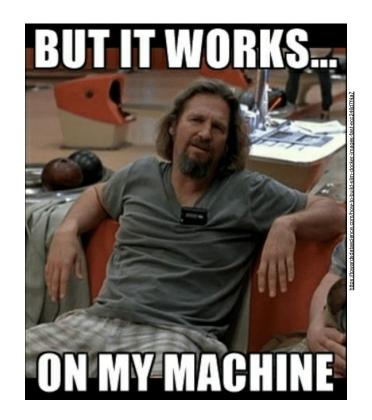


Waaaaaiiiit a hot Montreal minute!

You don't? What went wrong?

Let's gather some errors here ...









#### New Study Calls the Reliability of Brain Scan Research Into Ouestion

Three million analyses point to a problem with fMRI brain activity studies https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/newstudy-calls-reliability-brain-scan-research-question-180959715/

#### Much of what we know about the brain may be wrong: The problem with fMRI

Aug 30, 2016 / David Biello

brain-may-be-wrong-the-problem-with-fmri/

#### Cluster failure: Why fMRI inferences for spatial extent have inflated false-positive rates http://www.pnas.org/content/113/28/7900

Anders Eklund, Thomas E. Nichols and Hans Knutsson

PNAS 2016 July, 113 (28) 7900-7905. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1602413113

# 1-value

The fish that launched a thousand 'skeptics' http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/neuroskeptic/2014/04/11/neur oimaging-dont-throw-baby-salmon/#.WqAMFhclGRs

#### A Bug in FMRI Software Could Invalidate 15 Years of **Brain Research**

This is huge.

https://www.sciencealert.com/a-bug-in-fmri software-could-invalidate-decades-of-brain-

BEC CREW 6 JUL 2016

research-scientists-discover

Senzeni Mpofu

Mind-Reader

http://www.yalescientific.org/2014/04/debunking-science-fmri-a-not-so-reliable-mind-reader/

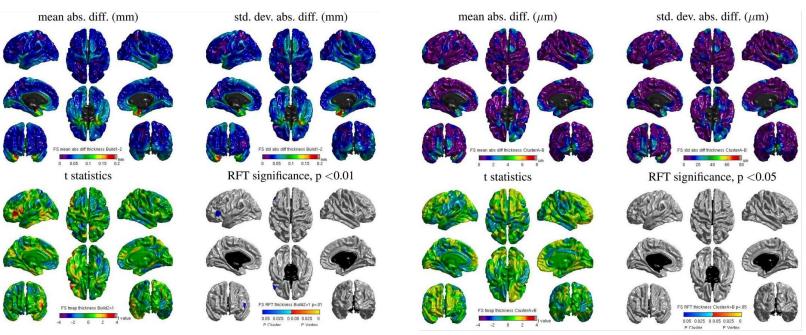
Debunking Science: fMRI: A Not So Reliable

#### What Can fMRI Tell Us About Mental Illness?

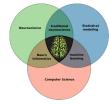
By Neuroskeptic | January 14, 2017 10:53 am

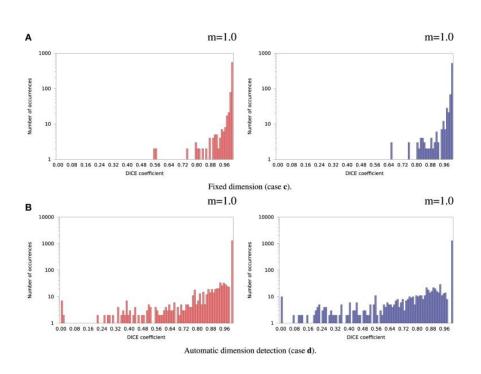
http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/neuroskeptic/2017/01/14/fmri-mental-illness/#.WqAOVhclGRt

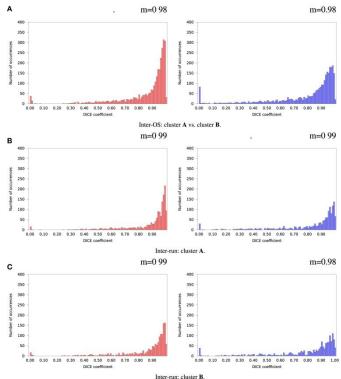




Glatard et al. (2015): Reproducibility of neuroimaging analyses across operating systems







Glatard et al. (2015): Reproducibility of neuroimaging analyses across operating systems



#### Science reproducibility

- each and every single project in a lab depends on complex software environments:
  - operating system
  - Drivers
  - Software dependencies: Python, R, MATLAB + libraries
- we try to avoid:
  - the computer I used was shut down a year ago, I can't rerun the analyzes from my publication... (looking at everyone)
  - the analyzes were run by my student, I have no idea where and how...
     (looking at the PIs)



#### Collaboration with your colleagues and everyone else

- sharing your code or using a repository might not be enough (spoiler it won't be enough) due to the aforementioned reasons
- we try to avoid:
  - Well, I forgot to mention that you have to use Clang and gcc never worked for me ...
  - I don't see any reason why it shouldn't work on Windows ... (I actually have no idea about Windows, but won't say it ... (I'm honest here: I have no idea about Windows))
  - etc.



#### Freedom to experiment

universal install script from xkcd: The failures usually don't hurt anything ... And usually all your old programs work ...

#!/bin/bash

pip install "\$1" & easy\_install "\$1" & brew install "\$1" & npm install "\$1" & occern "\$1" & docker run "\$1" & docker run "\$1" & occern "\$1" \ "\$1" & occern \ "\$1" \ "\$1" \ occern \ occern \ "\$1" \ occern \ "\$1" \ occern \ occer

- we try to avoid:
  - I just want to undo the last five hours of my (lab/work) life (virtualization won't solve comparable problems in other life situations)



Are we all doomed to live in an unreproducible world, forced to painfully adapt and check every script we find?

Well... maybe, but you could also learn to utilize virtualization techniques...

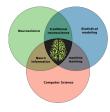


## The problem statement - virtualization as solution?

#### Virtualization technologies aim to

isolate the computing environment

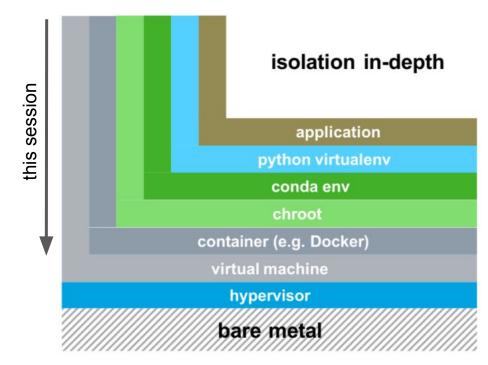
- provide a mechanism to encapsulate environments in a self-contained unit that can run anywhere
  - reconstructing computing environments
  - sharing computing environments



#### The problem statement - virtualization as solution?

#### Virtualization technologies have 3 main types:

- pure python virtualization
  - venv
  - conda
- containers
  - Docker
  - Singularity
- virtual machines
  - Virtualbox
  - VMware



#### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.ig

Every script/function and thus results dependent on complex computing environment are.

Isolating, reproducing and sharing of these environments the goal of virtualization is.

Multiple levels of virtualization exist: pure python, containers, virtual machines.





#### The problem statement - virtualization as solution?

Going back to our fancy DTI analyzes: can we use these virtualization techniques to make it happen, that is running and producing the expected outputs?

Let's find out and may the virtualization force be with us...

## VIRTUALIZATION WARS

Virtualization using venv & conda

The research galaxy went on a dark path of non-existent-reproducibility. A small alliance of brave python based resources aim to bring back balance and ask you to join their movement ....



#### Virtual environments in python

- keep the dependencies required by different projects in separate places
- allows you to work with specific version of libraries or Python itself without affecting other Python projects

#### venv

- an environment manager for Python 3.4 and up, usually preinstalled
- within a terminal type "python -m venv"

#### conda

- an environment manager and package manager
- within a terminal type "which conda" and if it's not installed do so now



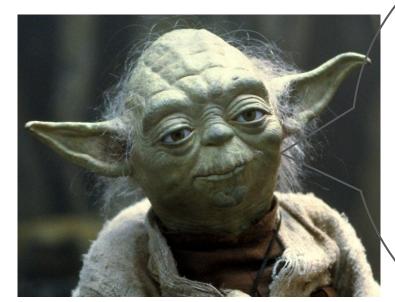
- before we start our fascinating adventure, we're going to create a directory within which we'll store the to be generated resources and materials
- Somewhere, beyond your machine ... create a directory called "galaxy"

```
mkdir /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy
```

• within this new directory create a folder called "tatooine"

mkdir /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/tatooine





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Copy paste if you must, but adapting the path and username to your machine necessary is.

Copy paste without thinking leads to the dark side.

Practice using the shell important is to become a master.





- the mysterious venv might hold the key to enable our fancy DTI analyzes
- we'll put this old tale to the test, working within a dedicated directory called "moisture farm"

```
mkdir /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/tatooine/moisture_farm
cd /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/tatooine/moisture farm
```

- within this directory we're going to create a new python environment using venv functionality
- venv is a command line program without a GUI and needs to be called within your shell



- The respective syntax is "python -m venv \*name\* "where name is the name of your new python environment
- you can use almost every character and name, but providing a meaningful name is never a bad idea, that being said, we'll call our environment "c3po":

```
python -m venv c3po
```

by default no output will be given, so how can we check we happened? Just use
 1s to find out:

```
ls c3po
```



• we have three directories: bin, include and lib, here's what they entail:

bin: files that interact with the virtual environment

include : C headers that compile the Python packages

o lib: a copy of the Python version along with a site-packages folder

where each dependency is installed

• but how can we work with this newly created python environment? At first, we have to activate it, by utilizing the activate.sh script in bin:

```
source c3po/bin/activate
```

- we're now in our newly created python environment and can use its resources
- the change of environment is indicated through the display of its name left to the command prompt (only visible in the shell)



• using deactivate we (you guessed right) deactivate or "leave" our environment again

deactivate

 now that we have that, let's try to run our fancy DTI analyzes again, after activating our environment (let's move the function to our directory first for ease of use)

```
mv path/to/fancy_DTI_analyzes.py /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy
source c3po/bin/activate
python ../../fancy_DTI_analyzes.py
```



- most likely, you'll receive the error message "ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'dipy'"
- But why is that? The reason is fairly simple ...

#### Remember you must:



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When creating virtual environments, already installed packages not automatically included they are. Installing them again in the new environment you must.

Every python environment you have on your machine its own entity is in the sense that between environments the binaries, libraries, etc. are not shared

Which python environment is used to execute a certain functionality set by the \$PATH variable in your shell profile is or manually by you, activating it.



• you can check which python environment is currently set by running "which python "within your shell:

which python

• you should see that the environment that is currently running is the one we just created. Now let's deactivate it and try again:

deactivate

which python

• you should now see the environment that is running as default on your system. Let's investigate \$PATH to further grasp what's going on.

echo \$PATH



and now from within our new environment:

```
source c3po/bin/activate
echo $PATH
```

- the first instance of \$PATH is our newly created python environment, thus for everything that will be run from the command line the first path within which the search of an executable will take place is that environment and not your default one, meaning that everything will be executed through/within that environment based on its resources
- while this is at the core of virtualization it also requires you to pay close attention to what and how you're executing functions, scripts, etc.



let's populate our so far rather empty environment with, foremost, DIPY:

```
pip install dipy
```

- this not only downloaded and installed DIPY, but also all its dependencies, which
  is based on most python libraries containing a requirements.txt where
  necessary dependencies are listed (the DIPY one looks like this)
- this handy functionality is possible through pip being a package manager, which also allows the easy investigation of our environment, for example which packages are installed:

```
pip freeze
```



 we can also save the output of pip freeze to create our own requirements.txt which you then can share with whoever is interested in running your scripts and analyses using the same python libraries with the identical version:

```
pip freeze > requirements.txt
cat requirements.txt
```

- this is one form of virtualization of python environments
- before we share our environment, we should ensure that everything is working as expected:

```
python ../../fancy_DTI_analyzes.py
```





BrainHack school MTL - week 1: NeuroDataScience Bootcamp ~ Virtualization - May 12th 2020



- now we can work on resolving this error and thus create an environment that is rather specifically than sharing our own most likely large default python environment with lots of libraries that are not necessary
- most python packages have very useful error message like the one we're receiving, paying a bit more attention, we see that something is missing and after a short DuckDuckGo (or any other search engine) session, we know that the fury package is missing, which is an easy fix:

```
pip install fury
```

 as you can see, vtk was installed as a dependency of fury. So far so good, let's try the example again:

```
python ../../fancy DTI analyzes.py
```



• the fun continues (remember this feeling of being stressed and annoyed, it'll be important later on) ... we need to install matplotlib:

```
pip install matplotlib
```

• at this point "it works for me" (you remembered that one, didn't you?) as I get the expected outputs which can be checked via ls:

```
python ../../fancy_DTI_analyzes.py
ls
```

- I can even run it in interactive mode by changing the interactive variable within the function to True
- thus I can update my requirements.txt and share it

```
pip freeze > requirements.txt
cat requirements.txt
```



- however, we most likely have multiple problems and limitations:
  - o for some of you, it still won't work
  - o either at all or in interactive mode
  - o **sharing my** requirements.txt, **won't share my entire** python environment, **especially not** python **itself**
- while everything so far was a good start, it usually won't be enough even though you already did more than the majority of scientists wrt reproducibility and sharing
- let's go one step further with conda



as before, let's create a directory for our journey, this time it's called "mos\_eisley":

```
mkdir /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/tatooine/mos_eisley
cd /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/tatooine/mos_eisley
```

- while we used venv to create our virtual environment and pip as a package manager before, we can use conda for both as it combines the respective functionalities
- recreating our virtual environment from before is made very easy and straightforward through conda, with the general syntax being:
   conda create -n \*name\* \*python\_version\* \*libraries\*, where
   \*name\* is the name of your virtual environment, \*python\_version\* the
   python version you want to use and \*libraries\* the libraries you want to
   install



• adapted to our mission, this looks as follows (naming our environment "r2d2", installing python 3.7 and the packages dipy, fury and matplotlib:

```
conda create -y -n r2d2 python=3.7 dipy matplotlib
```

- conda, by default, already installs a fair amount of libraries as compared to venv
- when trying to check our environment as we did before using Is, we see ... nothing:

ls

 the last two points mark important differences between venv and conda which we will check further



• let's activate our newly created conda environment, the steps and syntax are very similar to what we've done before, yet slightly different due to conda:

conda activate r2d2

- instead of using "source" and pointing the wanted "activate.sh" script, we use conda specific commands as conda is it's own program, with its environments not being created at a specified directory as through venv, but within the conda installation at hand
- we can check this via "which python"
- or even better using a conda command that additionally lists all available conda environments:

conda info --envs



• we can also check all the installed packages, along with important information such as the specific version, build and channel:

conda list

• as within venv, we can export this environment and share it, the syntax however is somewhat different:

conda env export > r2d2.yml

- we tell conda that we want to do something with the currently activate environment, that is exporting it, saving the required information to a yaml file called r2d2.yml
- besides all packages and their specific version, this file further contains the required conda channels, python version and prefix used at machine 0



• while this amazing and brings us further to goal with lightspeed, we actually didn't test if our fancy analyses works:

python ../../fancy\_DTI\_analyzes.py



I find your lack of controlling and evaluating installation processes disturbing.

Even though specified, fury was not installed and it never will be using conda as it's only available through pip.



 the dark side appears to be strong wrt unreproducible practices ... luckily, we are already padawans and can tackle this without problems:

```
pip install fury
```

and we try it again:

```
python ../../fancy_DTI_analyzes.py
```

- hate to tell you once more: *it works for me*, but most likely not for everyone...
- the force of pure python virtualization is quite often not enough, as certain libraries and binaries, thus dependencies on the operating system level, are needed, our endeavour requires more ...

#### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.ii

Sharing of specific python libraries and their version possible through venv and pip is.

To also share the specific python version, builds and channels conda you need to use.

Conda is strong as environment (comparable to venv) and package (comparable to pip) manager it combines.

Pure python virtualization not for often required libraries and binaries on other levels does account.

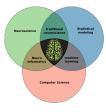




#### With a New Hope on the horizon, let's relax for 10 min



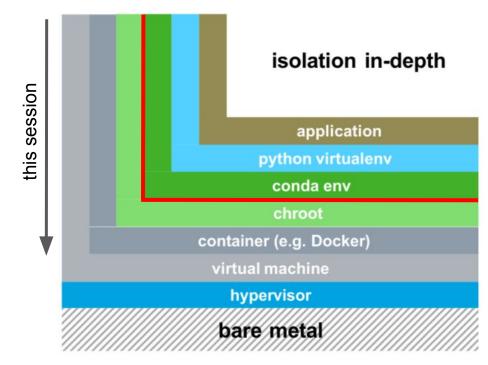
https://i.pinimg.com/600x315/e5/74/6a/e5746a117cbc6c0886090ac21536a7ab.ipc



#### The problem statement - virtualization as solution?

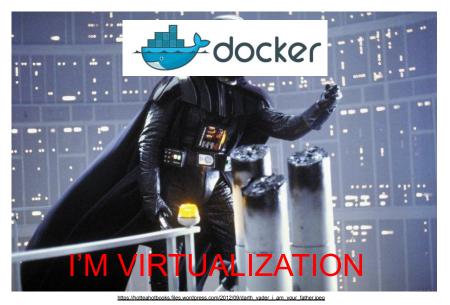
#### Virtualization technologies have 3 main types:

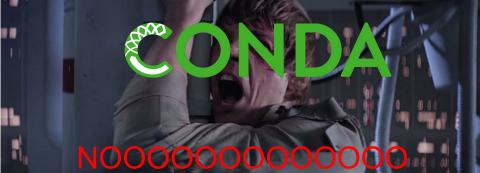
- pure python virtualization
  - venv
  - conda
- containers
  - Docker
  - Singularity
- virtual machines
  - Virtualbox
  - VMware











https://miro.medium.com/max/1400/1\*A-ID0FHKmChS2vGelhUs2q.png

# VIRTUALIZATION WARS

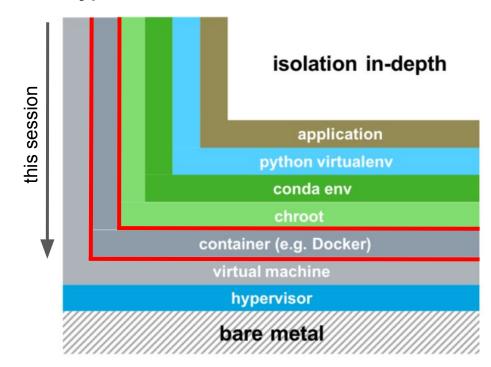
Docker 101 - A new hope

After a long time of training, you became a virtualization padawan which enables you the use a stronger virtualization force than pure python virtualization. A new, much needed, hope on the horizon ....



#### **Virtualization technologies have 3 main types:**

- pure python virtualization
  - venv
  - o conda
- containers
  - Docker
  - Singularity
- virtual machines
  - Virtualbox
  - VMware

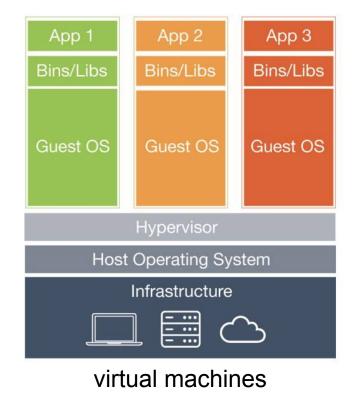




As we already saw in the Old Republic of venv and conda: the force of pure python virtualization is not enough. We need more force (virtually and literally) and thus need to explore new frontiers like containers.

However, before we can utilize this tremendous force, we need to learn about it. Let me welcome you in the Docker academy of the Container order...





App 1
Bins/Libs
Bins/Libs
Bins/Libs
Bins/Libs

Docker Engine

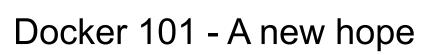
Operating System

Infrastructure

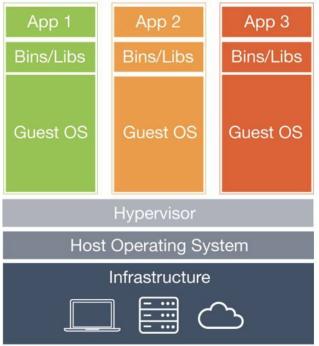
Containers

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**VS** 

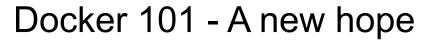






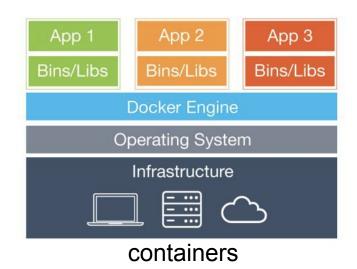
virtual machines

- emulate whole computer system (software+hardware)
- run on top of a physical machine using a hypervisor
- hypervisor shares and manages hardware of the host and executes the guest operating system
- guest machines are completely isolated and have dedicated resources





- share the host system's kernel with other containers
- each container gets its own isolated user space
- only bins and libs are created from scratch
- containers are very
   lightweight and fast to start up

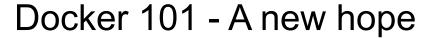




 a container is a closed environment and will use the exact same software versions, drivers etc. independent from the system it runs on



- leading software container platform
- an open-source project
- it runs on Linux, Mac OS X and Windows





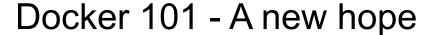


VS



- docker can escalate privileges, so you can be effectively treated as a root on the host system
- this is usually not supported by administrators from HPC centers

- a container solution created for scientific and application driven workloads
- supports existing and traditional HPC resources
- a user inside a Singularity container is the same user as outside the container
- can run existing Docker containers











More on this within Felix' amazing lecture on Wednesday.

https://i.redd.it/si1z0556y3m11.png







https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.ii

Shared the host's kernel between containers is.

Containers way more lightweight and faster than virtual machines are.

Singularity the way to the HPC side of the container force is.



#### Where's Docker?

- docker is command line based, thus does not have a GUI
- on unix based OS (e.g., Ubuntu, Mac OSX) open a terminal and type docker
- on windows open docker toolbox, engine or WSL (depending on your specific OS) and type docker
- what you see is the so called docker man page providing helpful information on how to use docker



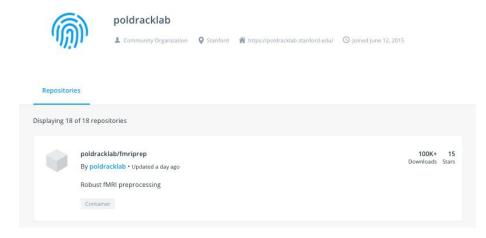
- as you saw, there's a lot one can do with Docker
- before we go into the depths of the Docker galaxy, let's make sure it works:

docker run hello-world

- What is happening? The above command ...
  - tells docker to run or execute the container hello-world
  - o if the wanted container is not already on your machine, docker automatically searches for and downloads it
  - o docker run then runs or executes the given container doing whatever the container is supposed to do



- Docker hub a special place in the galaxy
  - in most cases docker images are stored at a certain place in the galaxy from which they also downloaded in lightspeed (depending on your network)
  - this mysterious place is called docker hub and contains an amazing and huge online repository where folks can upload and store as many docker images as they want for free, the only requirement: a docker id

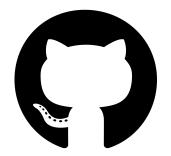




- Docker hub a special place in the galaxy
  - once build and tagged, docker images can be pushed to docker hub via command line:

docker push death-star

 or automatically build from a GitHub repository after pushing commits to a respective repo









- now let's further explore docker commands within a typical workflow
- at first, we want to download a certain docker container to work with, for the sake of simplicity and time we're going to use the classic ubuntu container
- instead of automatically downloading the container via docker run, we use the respective docker command "docker pull \*image\_name\*", hence:

docker pull ubuntu

• as you can see, we downloaded all layers that are needed to build the classic ubuntu docker container, with the message "Status: Downloaded newer image for ubuntu:latest" showing you that everything worked



we can check existing Docker images using:

docker images

- this provides us with the repository, tag, image id, build and size of all docker images available on our machine
- super important: by default, docker pull always searches and downloads the image that is tagged with latest, hence if you want to have a certain version (e.g., an older release or developer) it is necessary to indicate the respective tag:

docker pull ubuntu:version

#### Remember you must:





https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhy6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.j

No GUI Docker has.

On Docker Hub Docker images hosted are.

Docker pull by default always for tag latest searches, to specific tags and thus versions necessary is.

Docker images composed of layers are, between images they shared.

Entire OS Docker images contain.



• now we want to work with our newly downloaded docker image, so we decide to run or execute it via:

docker run ubuntu

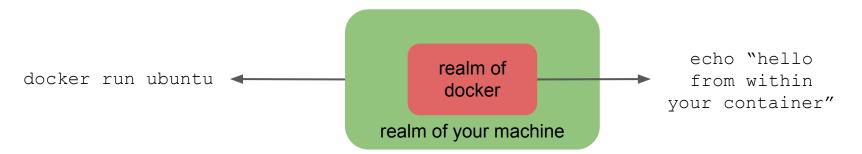
- docker used run, nothing happened (Pokémon pun): all the fuzz for that?
- each docker image is build for a specific reason and purpose, hence what happens
  when you run a given docker container depends (more or less) exclusively on its setup
  and definition
- the docker image we're currently using has no defined mission, that is functionality that automatically starts when running
- it is therefore super important to consult the readme or docs of a given docker image before using it



- automated functionality poses as one major approach to use docker images (e.g. within pipelines and workflows), but more in that later
- it's also possible to define tasks during inition:

docker run ubuntu echo "hello from within your container"

 you might not be aware of it, but this message doesn't come from your machine, but another realm within your machine, the docker realm ...





- however, if the force allows, one can also enter this realm, utilizing a given docker container within a interactive fashion
- which can be achieved through by including the -it flag within the docker run command:

```
docker run -it ubuntu
```

• now inside the ubuntu docker container (realm), we can utilize the functionality from the present ubuntu OS, yes you're basically using a entirely different and new machine, just check the output of ls:

ls

we can leave this realm by typing exit



- depending on a given image's architecture and definition, it should remove itself from running instances when exiting, however to be sure it's worth to ensure that and check running instances when you notice e.g. a drop in performance
- this can easily be done via:

docker ps

• the docker force is powerful enough to even allow time travel by append -a:

docker ps -a



• in order to ensure that a given docker container is removed from running instances after exiting, the --rm flag can be included in the docker run command:

docker run -it --rm ubuntu





- now let's go back to our main goal: making the fancy DTI analysis run everywhere in a reproducible manner
- we descend into the docker force realm and create a new mission base (fine, you can also refer to it as project folder...) named "defeat\_unreproducibility\_empire"

```
docker run -it --rm ubuntu
mkdir defeat unreproducibility empire
```

- let's imagine 6 years and \$76.5 million later, we did it, it runs within our container
- having achieved galactic reproducibility peace, we exit the realm and 16 years as well as a sell to Disney later, we decide to return ...

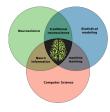




our project folder and everything in it disappeared from the docker realm ...



- when working within a docker container, creating, modifying and deleting files, changes are neither permanent nor saved, as this is against the encapsulation and reproducibility idea
- furthermore, we cannot interact with data stored on our host machine (realm) or somewhere outside the docker container (realm)
- in order to address both problems, we need to create a force bridge between realms or in other words: mount paths between host machine (realm) and the docker container (realm)
- mounting describes a mapping from paths *outside* the docker container to paths *inside* the docker container



- it is achieved through the -v flag within the docker run command and utilized as follows: -v path/outside/container:/path/inside/container
- for example, let's create a directory called "hoth" within our "galaxy "folder and make it available inside the docker container as "rebel base":

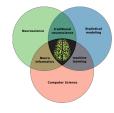
• if we now create a new file within the directory "rebel\_base", it magically appears on our host machine within the "hoth "directory through the force bridge (path mount):

```
touch /rebel base/death star plans.png
```



 you can also restrict the rights of mounted paths to e.g. read only in case any modification should be prevented (for example within automated functionality or if the empire wants to destroy your plan)):

most of the time, it's a good idea to indicate absolute paths on the host system.



- in our example the directory /rebel\_base didn't exist before mounting it, hence
  it was automatically created, however this is also depends on the docker image
  and it's setup/definition at hand as e.g. within automated functionality a certain
  directory can be expected
- this can also lead to errors if e.g. an existing directory is overwritten through a
  directory specified during the mount, e.g. if a directory named /rebel\_base
  would have already existed within our example, our specified mount would
  have automatically overwritten it, without telling us (the Docker force is mighty,
  but also mysterious)
- as usual: check the readme and/or docs of a given docker image



- you can mount as many directories and files as you want, indicating each with a ¬∨ flag
- for example you could map an input and an output directory wrt your mission (let's say preprocessing/analyzing data):

again, check the readme and/or docs of the docker container at hand if some paths and/or files
 are expected and if the paths are generated automatically

### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.j



Usually Docker images specific purposes have, automated functionality and interactive usage examples for this are.

Running instances need to be checked and images never can be changed.

The Docker realm and your host machine realm two seperate places in the universe are. Connected through a mount they must be if you need to provide a flow of data. pull by default always for tag latest searches, to specific tags and thus versions necessary is.

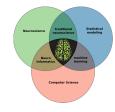


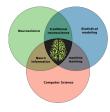


https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.ii

#### Time to test your Docker force it is:

- the neurodebian docker image in its nd-non-free version you must pull
- mount the dagobah directory on your machine to /x-wing within the docker container
- create a .txt file called
   new formation plans.txt within
   the /x-wing directory





let's try if our fancy DTI analyzes works by making it available within the Docker realm:

• python is not even installed... feeling the frustration? Good. Remember it, but don't let it corrupt you (the dark side, etc.). Great things and new frontiers are waiting for us...



# The problem statement

After spending quite some time as virtualization padawans, the reproducibility council entrusts us with more challenging missions.

We need to expand our Docker force, as we need to provide custom Docker images. We need to learn how to build Docker images ...



#### With something dark on the horizon, let's relax for 10 min



https://i.pinimg.com/600x315/e5/74/6a/e5746a117cbc6c0886090ac21536a7ab.ip

# VIRTUALIZATION WARS

Docker 101 - The build strikes back

The dark side is strong. You need to become a master of virtualization to tackle the empire of non-existent-reproducibility that agonizes the galaxy ....



 so far, we (hopefully) learned at the Docker academy how docker works, how images can be downloaded, used and managed

- but how are docker images actually created for specific projects, pipelines, etc.a?
- how can different programs be installed?
- how are locally created docker images shared?



- when it comes to creating docker images, two essential parts are relevant:
- a **Dockerfile**
- the docker build command



- at the beginning there was a Dockerfile...
- a **Dockerfile** is a text file that contains a mixture of docker build and bash commands

 being the focus of our new mission, let's create one in our hoth directory

cd /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/hoth
touch Dockerfile

next, we're opening it within VS Code for an initial inspection



- it is .... empty ... however, through the old tales of building docker images, we learn that we need to populate it, beginning with the base
- this corresponds to the underlying OS we want (or need to use)
- given that we already worked on it, we are going to use ubuntu:

FROM ubuntu

• next, we specify that the installation of packages, programs, etc. is done non-interactively, i.e. we're not asked to approve each piece of software:

ARG DEBIAN\_FRONTEND="noninteractive"



additionally, we set the encoding and startup.sh of our OS:

```
ENV LANG="en_US.UTF-8" \
LC_ALL="en_US.UTF-8" \
ND_ENTRYPOINT="/docker/startup.sh"
```

- with that we already have enough information to build our first docker container
- in order to do so, we need to utilize the docker build command as follows "docker build -t \*image\_name\* \*Dockerfile\* ", where \*image\_name\* provides a name for our to be build image via the -t flag and \*Dockerfile\* is the path to wherever our Dockerfile can be found in the galaxy:

```
docker build -t millennium_falcon .
```



• through the force, everything went super fast and with the message "Successfully tagged millennium\_falcon:latest "your first own docker image was build, which you can check via:

docker images

• why is the force so powerful here? Remember your training you must ...







https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.j

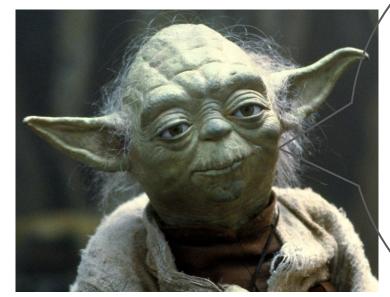
Never be changed can a given image. To be build new ones in case functionality is missing or needs to be adapt thus is necessary.

Indicating the base command From ubuntu this is, as starting from this image we do to create a new one.

To share layers between images possible is and image already existed and nothing added was. The build process therefore very fast was.







https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.ii

Images composed of different layers are.

The build process this revealing to you is.

The population of a Dockerfile comparable principles follows, adding components and functionalities through layers.



- as the force within our image is rather limited at this time, let's install some other useful packages and programs
- in most "linux OS" this is done through "apt-get" and we go with some essentials:



- from this point onwards, Dockerfiles, thus the creation of docker containers are almost identical to setting up any other linux OS, e.g. using apt-get or setting environment variables
- let's rebuild our Docker image again:

```
docker build -t millennium_falcon .
docker images
```

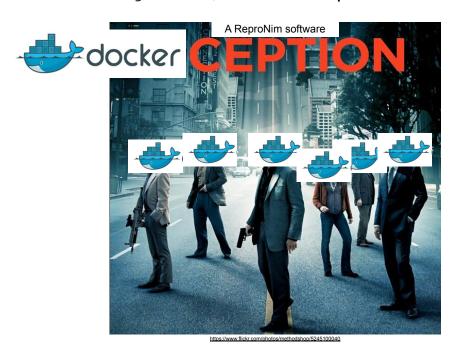
 the layer principle comes to our aid again, as we don't need to pull layers we already have, but only those we need to build the new image



- while this already seems like an overkill and very complex, we just created a very basic image
- the fitting compilation of an entire Dockerfile for a complex script, pipeline, analysis, appears very convoluted and prone to errors, as well as takes a lot of time and searching the galaxy (especially in the beginning)
- through the force, we can see into the future and the prophecy was right: the Dockerfile we need to enable our fancy DTI analyzes is indeed tremendously complicated ...
- you might wonder: Isn't there a more sufficient, faster and easier way of using the Docker force?



• well, say no more and meet <u>Neurodocker</u>, a docker image that targets the creation of docker images. Yes, it's Dockerception!





- let's check how we can recreate our Dockerfile using Neurodocker
- at first we need to get the Neurodocker image:

```
docker pull kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3
```

• after checking the readme and docs, we know that we need to run Neurodocker, providing the necessary input arguments beginning with stating that we want to create a Docker image and that we want to use ubuntu as the base:



 next, we indicate that we want to use apt as a package manager, furthermore specifying the packages to install:

• if we now run this command, you can see, the output is the content of our Dockerfile



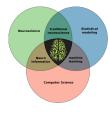
 as the latter is not automatically created, we need to pass the output of Neurodocker to the Dockerfile using >:

```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
    generate docker --base=ubuntu \
    --pkg-manager=apt --install apt-utils bzip2 \
    ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip \
    > Dockerfile
```

 that's all we need to recreate our image from before, except saving the stress and work of writing manually



- the force is indeed strong on Neurodocker and makes our reproducibility life super easy
- we know that we need to include a python distribution to run our fancy DTI analysis, preferably to one we used in our conda virtualization endeavor
- once more we remember our training and summon that we need to include at least python 3.7, dipy and fury
- creating a respective conda environment within our image using
   Neurodocker is as easy as space chess



all we need to do is adding that we want to use miniconda to install a conda environment
 with a specific python version and packages:

```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate docker --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt --install apt-utils bzip2 \
           ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip \
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
           pip install="fury" create env="r2d2" activate=true \
            > Dockerfile
```



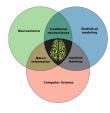
- with that force we have efficiently combined the two virtualization approaches within which we were trained, python environments and containers
- let's rebuild our *Docker image*:

```
docker build -t millennium_falcon .
```

and try our fancy DTI analysis again:

```
docker run -it --rm \
    -v /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/:/rebel_base:ro\
    millennium_falcon
```

python /rebel\_base/fancy\_DTI\_analyzes.py



• a bit of searching around the galaxy, we find out that we to include <code>libgl1-mesa-glx & libsm6</code>:

```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate docker --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt --install apt-utils bzip2 \
           ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip libgl1-mesa-glx \
           libsm6 \
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
           pip install="fury" create env="r2d2" activate=true \
            > Dockerfile
```

BrainHack school MTL - week 1: NeuroDataScience Bootcamp ~ Virtualization - May 12th 2020



and here we go again, first the build, then testing the fancy DTI analysis:



a mysterious legendary error message appears:

```
ERROR: In
/work/standalone-x64-build/VTK-source/Rendering/OpenGL2/vtkXOpenGLRe
nderWindow.cxx, line 273
vtkXOpenGLRenderWindow (0x559825b22a80): bad X server connection.
DISPLAY=Aborted
```

• the problem is: containers, by default, have no window, no screen to access and thus generate and save graphics, corresponding code either throws an error or leads to graphics that are lost in the digital nimbus

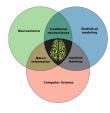


- after another quick search session, we find a potential solution: the xvfb-wrapper which should help you with problems related to the VTK and mayavi empire
- we need to include a virtual display setup within our fancy DTI analysis:

```
from xvfbwrapper import Xvfb

vdisplay = Xvfb(width=1920, height=1080)

vdisplay.start()
```



• and include xvfb as well as xvfbwrapper in our Neurodocker command and thus build:

```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate docker --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt --install apt-utils bzip2 \
           ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip libgl1-mesa-glx \
           libsm6 xvfb\
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
           pip install="fury xvfbwrapper" create env="r2d2" activate=true \
            > Dockerfile
```

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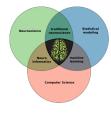
the same procedure as every error ....



waaaaaaiiiiiit ... no errors? Let's check if the output is there:

ls

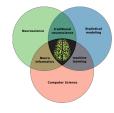
- fellow virtualization academy folks, we did it. We successfully encapsulated an entire OS with software dependencies required to run our fancy DTI analysis no matter where, producing the exact same results!
- the only thing left to do before you can emerge from the ranks of padawan to become a
  master of virtualization is to share the fully functional docker image



- while we could use the docker save and load commands to share our image locally via e.g. USB, we are going to use this thing called the internet to share it on docker hub
- to do so, we need essentially two lines of code, one to tag our image and one to actually push it:

```
docker tag *image_name/id* *docker_id*/*image_name*:*tag*
where image_name/id is either the name or the id of the image you want to tag,
docker_id your docker id, image_name the name you want to provide for the image
and tag the respective tag
```

don't have a docker id? Head over to <a href="https://hub.docker.com">hub.docker.com</a> to create one



docker id all set? Great! Let's use the force:

docker tag millennium\_falcon peerherholz/millennium\_falcon:kessel-run

• after verifying that the image is and named/tag as intended:

docker images

we can finally push it out into the galaxy:

docker push peerherholz/millennium\_falcon:kessel-run

and then we wait ...



 looks good, but we sense something dark is going on, hidden in the shadows ...

docker images -a

- previous instances of the *images* are untagged and are not overwritten
- note: updating existing docker image does not overwrite or delete its previous instances, hence make sure to delete those as soon as you ensured the new image is working as intended to prevent unnecessary storage usage
- our docker image increased its size by an order of magnitude
- note: always keep track of the packages, programs, etc. you install and keep track of tremendously large software in order to keep your docker image as small as possible

### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.jp

docker build and push everything you need is.

Dockerfiles very quickly very complex can get.

Combining python and container virtualization you can and should.

Tools like Neurodocker helpful for this purpose are.

By default, no window/screen available is within a container.



### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.j



rules as linux based OS installation follows.

A learning process with a steep curve the build of Docker images is, but helping you and others tremendously, saving countless hours of installation and reproducibility related problems it will.

If possible, your image with the whole galaxy on docker hub should be shared.

Naming and tagging your image necessary is.



## Some important points

- these things take time, especially in the beginning
- no one expects you to create virtual environments or build containers all day after this 3 h
   lecture
- the examples within this lecture were picked to showcase different important aspects of virtualization
- building the right and fitting environment is most likely going to be a trial and error process,
   with some things going to be comparable (thus copy-past-able) while others will require more
   work and searching the internet
- just start using virtualization for different aspects of your scientific workflow and get to know the benefits along the way



## The problem statement

We're virtualization masters now, but this isn't the end. A seat on the virtualization council awaits after proofing we're also capable of advanced container concepts.



https://starwars.fandom.com/wiki/Jedi Council?file=Councilrots.ip



#### With something bright on the horizon, let's relax for 10 min



https://i.pinimg.com/600x315/e5/74/6a/e5746a117cbc6c0886090ac21536a7ab.ip

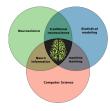
# **VIRTUALIZATION WARS**

Docker 101 - The return of advanced concepts

Based on your accomplishments and bravery a virtualization council seat awaits. However, you must face one final challenge to defeat the non-existent-reproducibility empire for good



- to secure our seats on the virtualization council, we need to learn two advanced concepts within the utilization of containers:
- automated builds through GitHub
- automated functionality of containers



 as mentioned before, we can combine the forces of version control and virtualization via integration GitHub and docker hub to enable automated builds



- the respective process is highly customizable and of course completely free
- all you need: a docker id and a GitHub account
- as usual, the setup is super easy and straightforward, as we just need to create a new *GitHub* repository in which we store our *Dockerfile*:
  - please create a new Github repository called endor
  - upload your Dockerfile to this repository

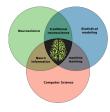


## Docker 101 - The return of advanced functionality

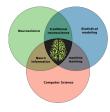
- now, on docker hub, go to your just uploaded docker image and within that,
   click on builds
- next, click on Configure automated builds
- we're now asked to indicate the source repository on GitHub and indicate some build rules, including automated tests, branch to build from, tag that should be applied, etc.
- after clicking on save and build, our docker image is build automatically from our corresponding GitHub repository
- depending on the size of your docker image and the current traffic on docker hub, it might take a while



- that's it, that's all we need
- the cool thing is, that every push or commit to this GitHub repository triggers a new build, hence your docker image remains nicely up to date
- you'll get email notifications wrt the currently running processes, also letting you know that the automated build finished

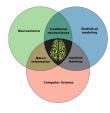


- so far, we (hopefully) got to know how docker works, how images can be pulled, run, build and pushed
- however, we're missing one super cool part: the automatization of functionality
- docker images can be setup and configured to do a certain task upon starting / running
- these automatized commands can nearly be everything you want, from simple to incredibly complex tasks
- for us, this could be automatically running a certain script/function using python upon starting the container

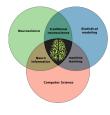


- so how can we achieve that using our docker image?
- one way would be to include the functionality we want in the docker run command:

- while this is indeed starting python, we're opening a python terminal and also have no easy access to our fancy DTI analysis
- also it's not really the automated functionality we want ...



- we can instead directly configure our docker image to run python as a default any time it's started
- to do so, we need to change the build of our docker image, adding python to the entrypoint
- this is done through Neurodocker's --add-to-entrypoint argument:
  - --add-to-entrypoint "python"



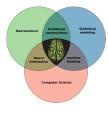
```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate docker \
           --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt \
           --install apt-utils bzip2 \
             ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip \
             libgl1-mesa-glx libsm6 xvfb \
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
             pip install="fury xvfbwrapper" create env="r2d2" \
             activate=true \
           --add-to-entrypoint "python" \
           > Dockerfile
```

rebuild and run the container again

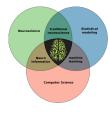


 after rebuilding and running the container again, we automatically start in a python shell

- everything we have to do now, is adding that a certain script should be run
- here, we can utilize the force bridge, aka mapping, again, as we can set a
  definite file name inside our docker image and map whatever script we want
  to run to that
- again: remember your training!



```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate docker \
           --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt \
           --install apt-utils bzip2 \
             ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip \
             libgl1-mesa-glx libsm6 xvfb \
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
             pip install="fury xvfbwrapper" create env="r2d2" \
             activate=true \
           --add-to-entrypoint "python /rebel base/ewoks attack.py" \
           > Dockerfile
```



- let's rebuild the image
- we now have to provide the script where and how our docker image and its automated functionality expects it, that is /rebel\_base/ewoks\_attack.py

```
docker run -it --rm \
-v /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/fancy_DTI_analysis.py: \
   /rebel_base/ewoks_attack.py:ro\
   millennium_falcon
```

 we can see, that our fancy DTI analysis was mapped through the force bridge and automatically run

### Remember you must:



https://fthmb.tgn.com/5Jgt2NdU5fitcwhv6FwNg26vVRg=/1500x1167/filters:fill%28auto.1%29/voda-56a8f97a3df78cf772a263b4.j

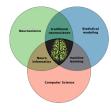


rules as linux based OS installation follows.

A learning process with a steep curve the build of Docker images is, but helping you and others tremendously, saving countless hours of installation and reproducibility related problems it will.

If possible, your image with the whole galaxy on docker hub should be shared.

Naming and tagging your image necessary is.



 we've come a long way over the last couple of hours, from younglings over padawans to masters and now ... we are part of the virtualization council

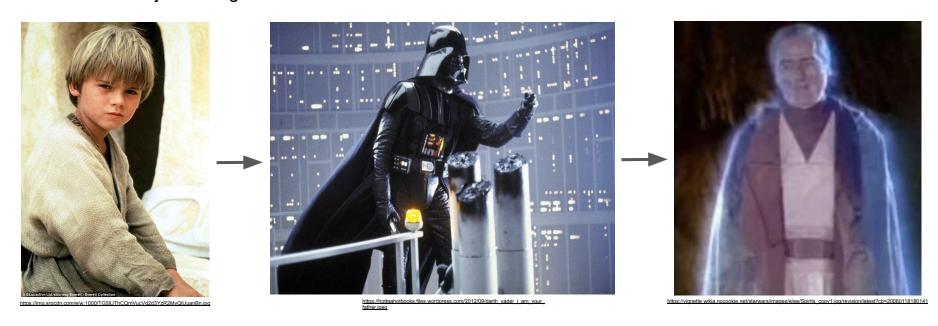


https://starwars.fandom.com/wiki/Jedi Council?file=Councilrots.jpg



## Where to go from here?

 no matter if you went on a selfish dark path of basically non-existent reproducibility and want to join the light side

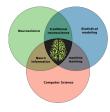




## Where to go from here?

• or if you were always on the light side of the force using it for the greater good







- Singularity works comparably to Docker, except for the aforementioned points
- Singularity images are stored on <u>singularity hub</u> and can be pulled using: singularity pull shub://
- Singularity images can also be pulled directly from docker hub (use with caution): singularity pull docker://



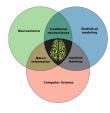


- builds are working similar as well:
- build from a singularity file (called recipe):

```
singularity build *image_name*.img Singularity
```

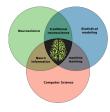
• again, docker support is no biggie:

```
singularity build *image name*.img docker://
```



Neurodocker once more has us covered:

```
docker run kaczmarj/neurodocker:0.4.3 \
           generate singularity \
           --base=ubuntu \
           --pkg-manager=apt \
           --install apt-utils bzip2 \
             ca-certificates curl git locales nano unzip \
             libgl1-mesa-glx libsm6 xvfb \
           --miniconda conda install="python=3.7 dipy" \
             pip install="fury xvfbwrapper" create env="r2d2" \
             activate=true \
           --add-to-entrypoint "python /rebel base/ewoks attack.py" \
           > Dockerfile
```





- same same, but different: the syntax
- assuming we built a Singularity version of our Docker image, this is how we would run it:

```
singularity run \
    -B /Users/peerherholz/Desktop/galaxy/fancy_DTI_analysis.py: \
    /rebel_base/ewoks_attack.py:ro\
    millennium_falcon.simg
```



### Where to go from here?

- we hope that this lecture/session provided you with the necessary details and information that will enable you to utilize virtualization sufficiently and efficiently within your research workflow
- virtualization is great for:
  - share code/scripts/functions/pipelines with colleagues and everyone else without dependency issues,
  - automize large parts of processing
  - rerunning analyses with identical or changed parameters
- virtualization is important for:
  - reproducibility of results
  - evaluation of soft-/hardware parameters



### Where to go from here?

- further reading:
  - this course' **Zotero group**
  - A beginner friendly intro to VMs and Docker
  - Intro to Docker from Neurohackweek
  - Understanding Images
  - Singularity examples
  - one day docker workshop





http://o.aolcdn.com/hss/storage/midas/c3fbbc0f098c3beb77509d60f084b8c2/203119611/HAN\_FINAL\_ILoveYou.gif