SimpleITK Tutorial

Image processing for mere mortals

Insight Software Consortium

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What this Tutorial is about

Provide working knowledge of the SimpleITK platform

Program

- Virtual Machines Preparation (10min)
- Introduction (15min)
- Basic Tutorials I (45min)
- Short Break (10min)
- Basic Tutorials II (45min)
- Coffee Break (30min)
- Intermediate Tutorials (45min)
- Short Break (10min)
- Advanced Topics (40min)
- Wrap-up (10min)

Preparation

Virtual Machine

Virtual Machines Preparation

- Get DVD / USB Memory Stick
- Install VirtualBox from it
- Import the VirtualMachine file
- Boot the Virtual Machine
- Log in
- Get familiar with directories

Media Content

Directories and Files

- VirtualBoxInstallers
 - VirtualBox-4.0.8-71778-OSX.dmg (Mac)
 - VirtualBox-4.0.8-71778-Win.exe (Windows)
 - (Ubuntu Linux)
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu lucid_amd64.deb
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu lucid_i386.deb
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu maverick_amd64.deb
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu maverick_i386.deb
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu natty_amd64.deb
 - virtualbox-4.0_4.0.8-71778 Ubuntu natty_i386.deb
 - ...
- VirtualMachine
 - SimpleITK-disk1.vmdk
 - SimpleITK.ovf

Install VirtualBox

- Select the installer for your platform
- Run it

Alternative Linux Installation

- You can also install VirtualBox by doing:
- sudo apt-get install virtualbox-ose-qt

Importing the Virtual Machine

- Run VirtualBox
- In File Menu select Import Appliance
- Provide the filename in the DVD / USB stick
 VirtualMachine/SimpleITK.ovf
- A progress bar will appear, and when it finishes you should see:

Now, on to the tutorial...

Introductions

- Daniel Blezek, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic
- Luis Ibáñez, Ph.D., Kitware
- Hans Johnson, Ph.D., University of Iowa
- Bradley Lowekamp, Lockheed Martin (National Library of Medicine)

Tutorial Goals

- Gentle introduction to ITK
- Introduce SimpleITK
- Provide hands-on experience
- Problem solving, not direction following
- ...but please follow directions!

ITK Overview

How many are familiar with ITK?

Ever seen code like this?

```
// Setup image types.
    typedef float InputPixelType;
               float OutputPixelType;
    typedef
    typedef itk::Image<InputPixelType, 2> InputImageType;
    typedef itk::Image<OutputPixelType,2> OutputImageType;
6
    // Filter type
    typedef itk::DiscreteGaussianImageFilter<
8
                   InputImageType , OutputImageType >
9
            FilterTvpe:
    // Create a filter
    FilterType::Pointer filter = FilterType::New();
    // Create the pipeline
    filter->SetInput( reader->GetOutput() );
   filter->SetVariance( 1.0 );
14
15
   filter->SetMaximumKernelWidth(5);
16
   filter->Update():
    OutputImageType::Pointer blurred = filter->GetOutput();
```

What if you could write this?

```
import SimpleITK
input = SimpleITK.ReadImage ( filename )
output = SimpleITK.DiscreteGaussianFilter( input, 1.0, 5 )
```

What if you could write this?

```
import SimpleITK
input = SimpleITK.ReadImage ( filename )
output = SimpleITK.DiscreteGaussianFilter( input, 1.0, 5 )
```

We are here to tell you that you can...

Goals of SimpleITK

- Be an "on-ramp" for ITK
- Simplify the use of ITK by
 - ullet Providing a templateless, typeless layer for ITK in C++
 - Providing wrappings in scripting languages
 - Providing access to most ITK algorithms

SimpleITK Architectural Overview

- Conceptually, SimpleITK is an application library built on ITK
- All functionality provided by ITK
- Components:
 - Template expansion system
 - C++ library
 - Small SWIG definition (more details later)
 - "Glue" code for several scripting languages
 - Some language utilities
- Open Source, Apache licensed project (http://www.opensource.org/licenses/apache2.0.php)
- Hosted by GitHub (https://github.com/SimpleITK/SimpleITK)

Templates in ITK

```
typedef unsigned char PixelType;
2 enum {ImageDimension = 2};
3 typedef itk::Image
// ImageDimension> ImageType;
4 typedef itk::Vector<float, ImageDimension> VectorType;
5 typedef itk::Image
// ImageDimension> FieldType;
6 typedef itk::Image
// typedef itk::Image
// typedef itk::Image
// typedef imageType::IndexType IndexType;
// typedef ImageType::SizeType SizeType;
// typedef ImageType::RegionType RegionType;
// typedef ImageType::RegionType RegionType;
// typedef itk::MultiResolutionPDEDeformableRegistration
// CImageType, ImageType, FieldType> RegistrationType;
// ImageType, ImageType, FieldType> RegistrationType;
// ImageType
```

Template Freedom

```
1 using itk::simple;
2 // Read the image file
3 ImageFileReader reader;
4 reader.SetFileName ( "/my/fancy/file.nrrd" );
5 Image image = reader.Execute();
6
7 // This filters perform a gaussian bluring with sigma in
8 // physical space. The output image will be of real type.
9 SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian;
10 gaussian.SetSigma ( 2.0 );
11 Image blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );
```

Programming Models

- Object oriented
- Function oriented

More about this later

Wrapping

Transformed by SWIG

- Parses header and "interface" files
- Automatically creates scripting "glue"
- Wrappings available for:
 - Python
 - Java
 - C#
 - Tcl, Lua, Ruby
 - Others as requested...

Basic Tutorial

Virtual Machine Check

How are we doing with the Virtual Box images?

Ubuntu Introduction

- User experience oriented version of Linux
- Familiar desktop paradigm
- TODO: finish after image is ready

Ubuntu - Hands On

• TODO: what do we need to talk about here?

- Start a terminal
- Run iPython



```
File Edit View Search Torminal Help
Python 2.7.1 (27):168432, Apr 11 2011, 18:05:24)
Type "capyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

Python 0.11 - An embanced interview Python,
Aquickeré > Increduction and overview of Python's features.
Aquickeré > Python's own help system.
Object? -> Details about 'object', use 'object?' for extra details.

In [1]:
```

Import the SimpleITK package

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Python 2.7.1: (r271:66832, Apr 11 2011, 18:05:24)
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

Python 9.1: An enhanced Interactive Python,

Introduction and overview of Python's features.
Aquickerf - Souther ference.
help -> Python's own help system.
object? - Details about 'object', use 'object?' for extra details.

In [1]: import SimpleTTK

Import SimpleTTK

Import SimpleTTK

Import SimpleTTK

Import SimpleTTK

Import SimpleTTK

In [2]:
```

What just happened?

Need to tell iPython where to find SimpleITK See /home/tutorial/.ipython/ipython.py

Image Class

- Creation
- Number of dimensions, size, origin, spacing
- Pixel access

Back to iPython

What just happened?

```
# Create an image
image = SimpleITK.Image ( 256, 256, 256,
SimpleITK.sitkInt16 );
# How about 2d?
twoD = SimpleITK.Image ( 64, 64,
SimpleITK.sitkFloat32 )
```

- SimpleITK is the module
- Image is the constructor for the Image class
- Height, width, depth (omit depth for 2D images)
- Datatype (more on this later)

Back to iPython

What just happened?

```
# Addressing pixels
image.GetPixel ( 0, 0, 0 )
image.SetPixel ( 0, 0, 0, 1 )
image.GetPixel ( 0, 0, 0 )
```

- Get the voxel value at [0,0,0]?
- Hmm, I don't like it, so set to 1
- What is the value at [0,0,0] now?

Back to iPython

What just happened?

```
# Addressing pixels
image[0,0,0]
image[0,0,0] = 10
image[0,0,0]
```

Without warning, we sprinkled syntatic sugar on you!

- image[0,0,0] is shorthand for Image.GetPixel(0,0,0)
- image[0,0,0] = 10 is shorthand for Image.SetPixel(0,0,0,1)

Summary

- Images are created using SimpleITK.Image (w, h, d, Type)
- Images can be 2- or 3-dimensional
- Images can describe themselves
- Images have simple pixel accessors

Questions before we move on?

Memory Management

Images

Images...

- usually allocated on the stack
- are copy-on-write
- use internal smart-pointers

Image Memory Management

```
image = SimpleITK.Image ( 32, 32, 32, SimpleITK.sitkInt16 )
print image
...
Image (0x94f2d98)
   Reference Count: 1
...
# Clone image
b = SimpleITK.Image ( image )
print image
...
Image (0x94f2d98)
Reference Count: 2
...
print b
...
Image (0x94f2d98)
Image (0x94f2d98)
```

Image Memory Management

Filters

Filters...

- usually allocated on the stack
- tend to clean up after themselves
- do not hold on to images

...more on this later...

Memory Management Strategies

C++...

- No need for explicit management
- Let images clean up after themselves
- Let filters clean up after themselves

Wrapped...

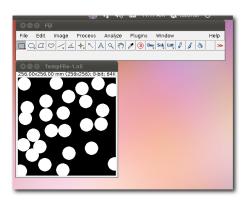
- Utilize language-specific memory management
- Automatic in Python, Java, Ruby, C#, Lua
- More manual in Tcl

Input/Output

Read/Write/Display Images

Back to iPython

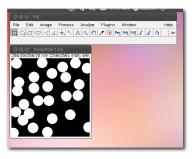
Display

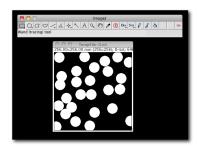


What just happened?

```
# What's the image look like?
2 SimpleITK.Show ( image )
```

Display





Ubuntu

Mac

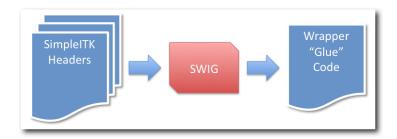
- ImageJ/Fiji used for display
- SimpleITK looks in most likely location for ImageJ
- Image written in Nifti format
- Need to install Nifti plugin for ImageJ
- http://rsbweb.nih.gov/ij/plugins/nifti.html

Break

Basic Tutorial 2

Wrapped Languages

Wrapping Process



- SimpleITK headers are constructed for wrapping
- SWIG is an open source package
 - Parses C/C++ code, produces "glue" code
 - Well supported, covers 10+ languages
- Main languages: Python, Java, C#
- Also supported: Tcl, Lua, R

Object Paradigm (Python)

The paradigms translate to the wrapped languages (C++ \rightarrow Python)

```
#include <Simple|TK.h>
2 using itk::simple;
3 ...
4 // Create a smoothing filter
5 SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian;
6 // Set a parameter
7 gaussian. SetSigma ( 2.0 );
8 // "Execute" the Filter
9 Image blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );

from SimpleITK import *
2 # Create a smoothing filter
5 SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian
4 # Set a parameter
5 gaussian.SetSigma ( 2.0 );
6 # "Execute" the Filter
7 blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );
```

Object Paradigm (Java)

```
import SimpleITK.*;
2 ...
3
4 // Create a smoothing filter
SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian =
6     new SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter();
7
8 // Set a parameter
9 gaussian.SetSigma ( 2.0 );
10
11 // "Execute" the Filter
12 Image blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );
```

Object Paradigm (C#)

```
using System;
using itk.simple;
...

// Create a smoothing filter
SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian =
new SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter();

// Set a parameter
gaussian.SetSigma ( 2.0 );
// "Execute" the Filter
Iz Image blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );
```

Note on the Tutorial

- Most examples will be Python
- Obvious translation to other languages
- C++ usage (generally) obvious

Hands On

What just happened?

```
# Simple smoothing
smooth = SimpleITK.SmoothingRecursiveGaussian ( image, 2.0 )
SimpleITK.Show ( SimpleITK.Subtract ( image, smooth ) )
...
RuntimeError: Exception thrown in SimpleITK Subtract: ...
sitk::ERROR: Both images for SubtractImageFilter don't match type or dimension!
...
```

- The output of SmoothingRecursiveGaussian is of type float
- The input image is signed short
- Most SimpleITK filters with 2 inputs require the same type
- Let's fix the problem

Introducing Cast

```
# Much better

smooth = SimpleITK.Cast ( smooth, image.GetPixelIDValue() )

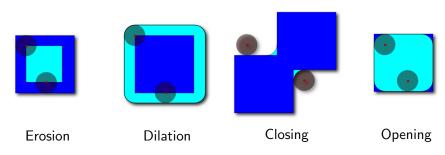
print image.GetPixelIDTypeAsString()

print smooth.GetPixelIDTypeAsString()

SimpleITK.Show ( SimpleITK.Subtract ( image, smooth ) )
```

Morphology

Operators



Images from

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical_morphology

Morphology in Action

Back to iPython

Label Maps

Let's take a break

True utility of SimpleITK

Interacting with data

Image Statistics

Label Statistics

Pixel-wise Operators

Table: SimpleITK Pixel-wise Operators

Operator	Description	Usage [†]
+	Addition	A+B, $s+A$, $s+B$
_	Subtraction	A-B, $s-A$, $s-B$
*	Multiplication	A * B, $s * A$, $s * B$
/	Division	A/B, s/A , B/s
&	Logical "and"	A&B
	Logical "or"	A B
	Logical "not"	Ä

 $^{^{\}dagger}$ A and B are images (2D or 3D), s is a scalar

Masking

Edge Detection

Threshold-based Segmentation

Building SimpleITK in 5 Easy Commands

```
git clone --recursive https://github.com/SimpleITK/SimpleITK ( cd SimpleITK && git checkout va01 )
mkdir SimpleITK-build && cd SimpleITK-build
cmake ../SimpleITK/SuperBuild
make -j 5
```

More complete version

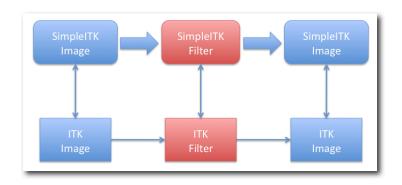
- Check out the code from GitHub (https://github.com/SimpleITK/SimpleITK)
- Run CMake (http://www.cmake.org/) using SimplelTK/SuperBuild as the source directory
- Build using your favorite compiler

Supported Platforms

- Windows: Visual Studio 10
- Windows: Visual Studio 9 (Requires TR1 service pack)
- Mac OSX: gcc 4.x
- Linux: gcc 4.x

SimpleITK Architecture

Filter Anatomy



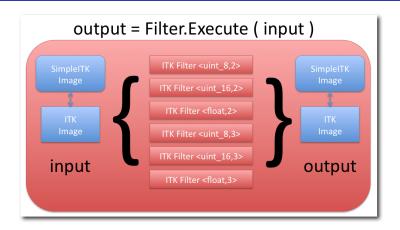
- SimpleITK filters create ITK filters
- Templated based on input type
- Output type is usually the same as input type
- Instantiated for many possible image types

Image and Filter Types

- Dimensions
 - 2 dimensional
 - 3 dimensional
- Scalar types
 - int8_t
 - uint8_t
 - int16_t
 - uint16_t
 - int32_t
 - uint32_t
 - float
 - double
 - std :: complex < float >
 - std :: complex < double >

- Vector Types
 - int8_t
 - uint8_t
 - int16_t
 - uint16_t
 - float
 - double
- Label Types
 - uint8_t
 - uint16_t
 - uint32_t

Filter Anatomy



- Filter interrogates input
- Instantiates proper ITK filter
- Executes ITK filter
- Constructs output from ITK image

Using Filters

Object Paradigm (C++)

```
#include <SimpleITK.h>
2 namespace sitk = itk::simple;
3 ...
4 // Create a smoothing filter
5 sitk::SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter gaussian;
6
7 // Set a parameter
8 gaussian.SetSigma ( 2.0 );
9
10 // "Execute" the Filter
11 sitk::Image blurredImage = gaussian.Execute ( image );
```

Object Paradigm (C++)

Flexibility

Object Paradigm (C++)

One line: create anonymous filter, set parameters, and execute

"Function" Paradigm (C++)

```
1 #include <SimpleITK.h>
 2 namespace sitk = itk::simple;
4 // Call the function version
 5 // NB: Drop the "ImageFilter"!
6 // Signature:
7 /*
8
      sitk::Image SmoothingRecursiveGaussian (
9
               const Image8,
               double inSigma = 1.0,
               bool inNormalizeAcrossScale = false );
12 */
13 sitk:: Image blurredImage = sitk:: SmoothingRecursiveGaussian (
                                 image,
                                  2.0.
                                 false );
```

Mix & Match (C++)

Code Philosophy

Filter Class Overview (C++)

```
class SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter :
    public ImageFilter {
    typedef SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter Self;

/** Default Constructor that takes no arguments
    and initializes default parameters */
    SmoothingRecursiveGaussianImageFilter();
```

- In line 1, we declare a subclass of ImageFilter
- Line 3 creates a special typedef for use later
- The default constructor is line 7 (never any parameters)

```
/** Define the pixels types supported by this filter */
typedef BasicPixelIDTypeList PixelIDTypeList;
```

- Notice PixelIDTypeList in line 2
- Used to instantiate ITK filters
- Determines valid input image types
- BasicPixeIIDTypeList expands to:
 - int8_t, uint8_t
 - int16_t, uint16_t
 - int32_t, uint32_t
 - float, double

```
Self& SetSigma ( double t ) { ... return *this; }

double GetSigma() { return this->m_Sigma; }

Self& SetNormalizeAcrossScale ( bool t ) { ... }

Self& NormalizeAcrossScaleOn() { ... }

Self& NormalizeAcrossScaleOff() { ... }

bool GetNormalizeAcrossScale() { ... }
```

- Get/Set parameters
- Set methods always return Self & (more later)
- Generally, a direct mapping to ITK
- Boolean parameters generate On and Off methods

```
/** Name of this class */
std::string GetName() const { ... }

/** Print ourselves out */
std::string ToString() const;
```

• Return the name and description of the filter

- Run the filter on an image and return the result
- Notice extra function (line 10), adds flexibility
- Drop ImageFilter from class name to get function name

Questions?

Using ITK with SimpleITK

Problem: Use ITK from SimpleITK (or vice versa) ./ToITK input.nii output.nii Steps:

- Load image using SimpleITK
- Filter using ITK
- Save using OpenCV

To ITK

Starting code: ToITK/ToITK.cxx

Directory:

SimpleITK-MICCAI-2011-Tutorial/Examples/AdvancedTutorial

```
namespace sitk = itk::simple;
...

// Load the image via SimpleITK
sitk::Image sitkImage = sitk::ReadImage ( inputFilename );

// Construct the ITK Pipeline
// Link pipeline to SimpleITK
// Update pipeline
// Create output SimpleITK image
// Save image via SimpleITK
sitk::WriteImage ( sOutput, outputFilename );
return EXIT_SUCCESS;
```

ToITK - Step 1: Construct the ITK Pipeline

```
// Construct the ITK Pipeline
typedef itk::Image<float,3> ImageType;
typedef itk::MirrorPadImageFilter<ImageType,ImageType> PadFilterType;
PadFilterType::SizeType upperBound, lowerBound;

PadFilterType::Pointer pad = PadFilterType::New();
for ( unsigned int i = 0; i < 3; i++)
{
    upperBound[i] = sitkImage.GetSize()[i];
    lowerBound[i] = sitkImage.GetSize()[i];
}
pad->SetPadUpperBound ( upperBound );
pad->SetPadLowerBound ( lowerBound );
```

1

4

10

11 12

13

TolTK - Step 2: Link pipeline to SimpleITK

```
// Link pipeline to SimpleITK
ImageType::Pointer inputImage = (ImageType*) sitkImage.GetImageBase();
pad—>SetInput ( inputImage );
```

TolTK – Step 3: Update ITK Pipeline

```
// Update pipeline
pad->Update();
```

ToITK – Step 4: Create the SimpleITK output image

```
// Create output SimpleITK image
sitk::Image sOutput ( pad->GetOutput() );
```

ToITK - (Optional) Step 5: Show

```
// (Optional) Show the results sitk::Show ( sOutput );
```

To ITK Solution

~/Source/AdvancedTutorial-build/ToITK/ToITKSolution \
~/Source/SimpleITK/Testing/Data/Input/RA-Float.nrrd \
/tmp/foo.nii



To OpenCV

Problem: Use SimpleITK from another image processing library (OpenCV) ./ToOpenCV input.png output.png
Steps:

- Load image using SimpleITK
- Convert to OpenCV
- Filter using OpenCV
- Save using OpenCV

ToOpenCV

Starting code: ToOpenCV/ToOpenCV.cxx Directory:

SimpleITK-MICCAI-2011-Tutorial/Examples/AdvancedTutorial

```
#include <SimpleITK.h>
    #include <opency2/opency.hpp>
    namespace sitk = itk::simple;
      sitk::Image sitkImage = sitk::ReadImage ( inputFilename );
      // Convert SimpleITK to OpenCV image
      cv:: Mat ocvImage;
10
      // Filter and write using OpenCV
11
      cv::Mat output;
12
      cv::medianBlur ( ocvImage, output, 5 );
13
14
      cv::imwrite ( outputFilename, output );
15
```

ToOpenCV - Step 1

Convert the SimpleITK image to a float

ToOpenCV - Step 2

Get SimpleITK pixel data

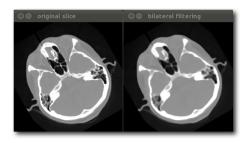
ToOpenCV – Step 3 (Optional)

Display the before and after

```
1 // NB: the imshow function requires 8-bit data, so convert
2 cv::Mat temp;
3 covImage.convertTo ( temp, CV_8U );
4 cv::imshow ( "original slice", temp );
5 output.convertTo ( temp, CV_8U );
6 cv::imshow ( "bilateral filtering", temp );
7
8 std::cout << "Press any key to continue" << std::endl;
9 cv::waitKey();</pre>
```

To OpenCV Solution

~/Source/AdvancedTutorial-build/ToOpenCV/ToOpenCV \
~/Source/SimpleITK/Testing/Data/Input/cthead1.png \
/tmp/head.png



To OpenCV and Back

Problem: Use OpenCV to process a SimpleITK volume slice-by-slice ./ToOpenCVAndBack input.nii output.nii Steps:

- Load image using SimpleITK
- Extract slice
- Convert to OpenCV
- Filter using OpenCV
- Past slice back to SimpleITK
- Save result

To OpenCV and Back

Starting code: ToOpenCVAndBack/ToOpenCVAndBack.cxx Directory:

SimpleITK-MICCAI-2011-Tutorial/Examples/AdvancedTutorial

To OpenCV and Back - Step 1: Extract a slice

```
// Extract a slice
std::vector<unsigned int> size = sitkImage.GetSize();
size[2] = 1;
std::vector<int> index ( 3, 0 );
index[2] = s;
std::cout << "Extracting: " << s << std::endl;
sitk::Image slice = sitk::RegionOfInterest ( sitkImage, size, index );

if ( slice.GetPixelIDValue() != sitk::sitkFloat32 )
{
    slice = sitk::Cast ( slice, sitk::sitkFloat32 );
}</pre>
```

To OpenCV and Back - Step 2: Convert to OpenCV

To OpenCV and Back - Step 3: Filter using OpenCV

```
// Filter using OpenCV cv::Mat output; cv::Sobel ( ocvImage, output, -1, 1, 1 );
```

To OpenCV and Back - Step 4: Back to SimpleITK

```
// Convert back to SimpleITK
sitk::ImportImageFilter importer;
importer. SetSize ( size );
importer. SetSpacing ( sitkImage. GetSpacing() );
importer. SetOrigin ( sitkImage. GetOrigin() );
importer. SetBufferAsFloat ( output.ptr<float >() );
sitk::Image toSimpleITKImage = importer. Execute();
```

To OpenCV and Back - Step 5: Paste back into SimpleITK volume

To OpenCV and Back – (Optional) Step 6: Show

```
1 // (Optional) Show the results
2 sitk::Show ( sOutput );
```

To OpenCV and Back Solution

```
~/Source/AdvancedTutorial-build/\
ToOpenCVAndBack/ToOpenCVAndBack \
~/Source/SimpleITK/Testing/Data/Input/RA-Float.nrrd \
/tmp/foo.nii
```



Wrap-up

- Gentle introduction to ITK
- Introduce SimpleITK
- Provide hands-on experience
- Problem solving, not direction following

Where to go next

Some resources for using and extending SimpleITK

- Documentation http://erie.nlm.nih.gov/~blowek1/SimpleITK/pages.html
- Onventions
 http://erie.nlm.nih.gov/~blowek1/SimpleITK/Conventions.html
- Contributions http://erie.nlm.nih.gov/~blowek1/SimpleITK/Developer.html

SimpleITK Tutorial

Image processing for mere mortals

Insight Software Consortium

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