

Pixi and Napari-Easy-Augment-Batch

an agile approach for reproducible and repeatable deep learning

A fast-moving toolkit for reproducible and repeatable deep learning

Repeatable vs Reproducible software

1. Repeatable - Same software same data same results
2. Reproducible level 1 - different software, same data same conclusions
3. Reproducible level 2 - different software, different data, same conclusions

Pixi and Napari for repeatable and reproducible deep learning

- Pixi helps us get the same versions of dependencies all the time!
- Napari helps us run deep learning frameworks and test if they are reproducible between each other

Goals

1. Show how to use Pixi to start a Napari plugin with different deep learning frameworks.
2. Use Napari Layers to compare results from the different frameworks. Are they reproducible?

Disclaimer

- I am not an expert in Pixi
- Pixi has power-law productivity
- Early knowledge yields large productivity benefit

Disclaimer

- Under Construction



The Project: napari-easy-augment-batch-dl

- A plugin for **napari** to augment data and apply deep learning segmentation
- Wraps multiple deep learning frameworks including **Cellpose** and **MicroSAM**
- **Combine multiple deep-learning toolkits in the same workflow**
- Advanced options are **very configurable** for special cases
- Designed for rapid experimentation:
 - Add new augmentations quickly
 - Test less commonly used options

Agile by Design

- We make changes **very fast**
- Small user base = **less risk of breaking** existing workflows
- Contrast:
 - **Cellpose GUI & QuPath** → large user bases (thousands), stable APIs
 - Move slower, break less
- napari-easy-augment-batch-dl → perfect for trying **special options fast**

Why Agile Matters Here

- ✓ Quick iterations on new augmentation ideas
- ✓ Feedback loops directly with early users
- ✓ Can integrate new segmentation toolkits or new versions of existing toolkits ASAR
(As soon as Released)
- ✓ Can respond to specific research needs without delay

Big Tools vs. Niche Tools

Cellpose GUI / QuPath:

- Work great ~80% of the time
- Large communities, stability first

napari-easy-augment-batch-dl:

- Niche, but powerful for the last 20%
- When you need an obtuse setting or option it can be ready in hours.
- Experimental features can be 'released' immediately

Pixi as the Perfect Partner

- Pixi sets up consistent environments quickly
 - fine grained control over exact version of dependency toolkits
- You can even pin to a **specific commit** of napari-easy-augment-batch-dl
- Ideal for agile workflows:
 - Test a commit
 - Roll back

Example Workflow

1. Navigate to folder with 'pixi.toml'
2. Navigate to preconfigured pixi project
3. `pixi run startup`

Preconfigured Pixi projects

1. Napari-easy-augment-batch + Stardist
2. Napari-easy-augment-batch + Cellpose/Microsam

When to Choose napari-easy-augment-batch-dl

- ✓ Need special augmentation options
- ✓ Willing to try cutting-edge features
- ✓ Don't mind quick changes and updates
- ✓ Already using **Cellpose** or **MicroSAM** and want to push them further

Questions?

💬 Let's talk about Pixi, agile workflows, and how to get the most from **napari-easy-augment-batch-dl!**