ImagesToLARModel, a tool for creation of three-dimensional models from a stack of images

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Abstract

Here we will present a software for creating a three-dimensional model from a stack of images. This can be useful because of the simplicity of these type of representations. In particular a scope of use can be offered by medicine, where there is an enormous number of images but with very complex two-dimensional representations.

This work will use the LAR representation ([CL13]) with the Julia language, because of its simplicity, showing how it can be used for quickly process image data.

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1 Introduction

This work has the aim to transform a two-dimensional representation of a model (based on a stack of images) into a three-dimensional representation based on the LAR schema. In particular, it will produce a single obj model which can be viewed with standard graphics softwares.

In the past were developed other softwares using same principles (see [PDFJ15]). However, they were optimized for speed and cannot be able to accept huge amounts of data. With the rise of the big data era, we now have more and more data available for research purposes, so softwares must be able to deal with them. A typical hardware environment is based on a cluster of computers where computation can be distributed among a lot of different processes. However, as stated by Amdahl's law, the speedup of a program using multiple processors is limited by the time needed for the sequential fraction of the program. So use of parallel techniques for dealing with big data is not important for time performance gain but for memory space gain. In fact, our biggest problem is lack of memory, due to model sizes. As a consequence, every parts of this software is written with the clear objective of minimizing memory usage at the cost of losing something in terms of time performance. So, for example, images will be converted in blocks determined by a grid size (see section 5) among different processes and different machines of the cluster



Figure 1: Amdahl's law

1.1 Why Julia

Ricordare che precedenti versioni erano in python Semplicita Efficienza Capacita di realizzare programmi paralleli con poco sforzo

2 Software structure

2.1 Julia packages

This software will be distributed as a Julia Package. For the actual release (Julia 0.4) a package is a simple git project with the structure showed in figure 2



Figure 2: Julia module structure

Source code must be in folder src, while in test folder there are module tests with a runtests.jl for executing them and with a REQUIRE file for specifying tests dependencies. For listing dependencies for the entire project, there is another REQUIRE file in main folder. As an example in figure 3 there is the REQUIRE file for ImagesToLARModel.jl.

After creating this structure for a project it can be pushed on a git repository and installed on Julia systems. The usual installation procedure use this syntax:

Pkg.add("Package-name")

This will check for that package in METADATA.jl repository on github where there are all official Julia package. However it is also possible to install an unofficial package (on a public git repository) using this sintax:

julia 0.3 JSON Logging PyCall Images Colors

Figure 3: REQUIRE contents for ImagesToLARModel.jl

Pkg.clone("git://repository-address.git")

This will install the package on your system with all the dependencies listed in RE-QUIRE file.

2.2 Architecture of ImagesToLARModel

In previous section we have seen how to create a Julia package for distribute our application. Now we focus on the structure of our application. In src folder we can find the following modules:

ImagesToLARModel.jl: main module for the software, it takes input parameters and start images conversion

ImagesConversion.jl: it is called by ImagesToLARModel.jl module and controls the entire conversion process calling all other modules

GenerateBorderMatrix.jl: it generates the boundary operator for grid specified in input, saving it in a JSON file

PngStack2Array3dJulia.jl: it is responsible of images loading and conversion into computable data

Lar2Julia.jl: it contains a small subset of LAR functions written in Julia language

LARUtils.jl: it contains utility functions for manipulation of LAR models

Model2Obj.jl: it contains function that manipulates obj files

larcc.py: python larcc module for boundary computation. In next releases of the software it will be rewritten in Julia language

In figure 4 there is a simple schema of dependencies between modules.

Next sections of this document will explain in details all these modules showing also the code involved in conversion

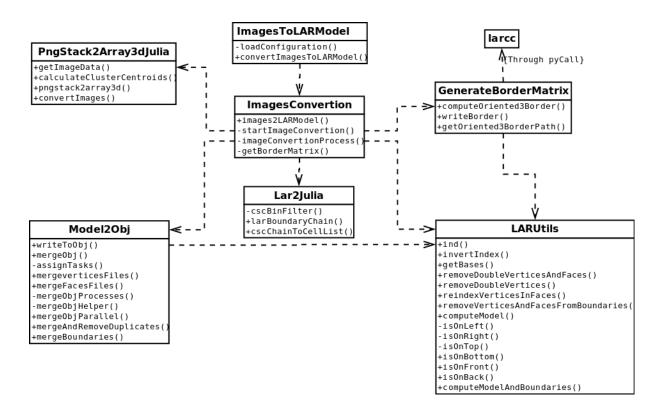


Figure 4: Schema of module dependencies of ImagesToLARModel

3 ImagesToLARModel

This is the main module for the application; it takes the input data and start conversion calling ImagesConversion.jl.

3.1 Calling modules

As we have already said, this first module has the responsibility of starting the conversion calling all other modules in the package. In Julia calling modules requires that they are in a path specified by LOAD_PATH array. So at the beginning of this module we need to add this line:

```
\langle \ update \ load \ path \ 6 \ \rangle \equiv \\ \text{push!} \ (\texttt{LOAD\_PATH, Pkg.dir("ImagesToLARModel/src")}) \\ \diamond
```

Fragment referenced in 36a.

Pkg.dir() function gives us the path of the Julia installation, so Pkg.dir("ImagesToLARModel/src") returns " $\langle Julia-path \rangle/ImagesToLARModel/src$ "

After this line we can now import all modules defined here and export public functions:

```
⟨ modules import ImagesToLARModel 7a⟩ ≡
  import JSON
  import ImagesConversion
  using Logging
  export convertImagesToLARModel
```

Fragment referenced in 36a.

3.2 Input loading

Images conversion takes several parameters:

- inputDirectory: The path of the directory containing the stack of images
- outputDirectory: The path of the directory containing the output
- bestImage: Image chosen for centroid computation (see section 4)
- nx, ny, nz: Sizes of the grid chosen for image segmentation (see section 4)
- DEBUG_LEVEL: Debug level for Julia logger
- parallelMerge (experimental): Choose between sequential or parallel merge of files (see section 9)

Because of their number it has been realized a function for simply loading them from a JSON configuration file; this is the code:

```
⟨load JSON configuration 7b⟩ ≡
   function loadConfiguration(configurationFile)
    """
   load parameters from JSON file
   configurationFile: Path of the configuration file
"""
```

```
configuration = JSON.parse(configurationFile)
       DEBUG_LEVELS = [DEBUG, INFO, WARNING, ERROR, CRITICAL]
       parallelMerge = false
       try
         if configuration["parallelMerge"] == "true"
           parallelMerge = true
         else
           parallelMerge = false
         end
       catch
       end
       return configuration["inputDirectory"], configuration["outputDirectory"],
             configuration["bestImage"],
             configuration["nx"], configuration["ny"], configuration["nz"],
             DEBUG_LEVELS[configuration["DEBUG_LEVEL"]],
             parallelMerge
     end
Fragment referenced in 36a.
A valid JSON file has the following structure:
  "inputDirectory": "Path of the input directory",
 "outputDirectory": "Path of the output directory",
  "bestImage": "Name of the best image (with extension)",
 "nx": x grid size,
 "ny": y grid size,
  "nz": border z,
 "DEBUG_LEVEL": julia Logging level (can be a number from 1 to 5)
  "parallelMerge": "true" or "false"
}
   For example, we can write:
  "inputDirectory": "/home/juser/IMAGES/"
```

```
"outputDirectory": "/home/juser/OUTPUT/",
"bestImage": "0009.tiff",
"nx": 2,
"ny": 2,
"nz": 2,
"DEBUG_LEVEL": 2
}
```

As we can see, in a valid JSON configuration file DEBUG_LEVEL can be a number from 1 to 5. Instead, when we explicitly define parameters, DEBUG_LEVEL can only be one of the following Julia constants:

- DEBUG
- INFO
- WARNING
- ERROR
- CRITICAL

3.3 Starting conversion

As we have already said, this module has the only responsibility to collect data input and starts other modules. These are the functions that start the process and the only exposed to the application users:

Fragment referenced in 36a.

```
\langle Start \ manual \ conversion \ 10 \rangle \equiv
     function convertImagesToLARModel(inputDirectory, outputDirectory, bestImage,
                                        nx, ny, nz, DEBUG_LEVEL = INFO, parallelMerge = false)
       Start conversion of a stack of images into a 3D model
       inputDirectory: Directory containing the stack of images
       outputDirectory: Directory containing the output
       bestImage: Image chosen for centroids computation
       nx, ny, nz: Border dimensions (Possibly the biggest power of two of images dimensions)
       DEBUG_LEVEL: Debug level for Julia logger. It can be one of the following:
         - DEBUG
         - INFO
         - WARNING
         - ERROR
         - CRITICAL
       # Create output directory
         mkpath(outputDirectory)
       catch
       end
       Logging.configure(level=DEBUG_LEVEL)
       ImagesConversion.images2LARModel(nx, ny, nz, bestImage,
                inputDirectory, outputDirectory, parallelMerge)
     end
```

Fragment referenced in 36a.

4 PngStack2Array3dJulia

This module has the responsibility of convert a png image into an array of values that will be passed to other modules

4.1 Module imports

These are modules needed for this part of the package and the public functions exported

```
⟨ modules import PngStack2Array3dJulia 11a⟩ ≡
    using Images # For loading png images
    using Colors # For grayscale images
    using PyCall # For including python clustering
    using Logging
    @pyimport scipy.ndimage as ndimage
    @pyimport scipy.cluster.vq as cluster

NOISE_SHAPE_DETECT=10

export calculateClusterCentroids, pngstack2array3d, getImageData, convertImages
    ⋄
```

Fragment referenced in 59.

We need Images and Colors packages for manipulating png images and PyCall for using Python functions for clustering and filtering images. As a consequence, we need a python environment with scipy to be able to run the package

4.2 Convert input to png

First thing to do in our program is getting our input folder and convert the stack of images into png format. This process lets us to avoid managing an enormous variety of formats during computation, simplifying code used for transformation.

Conversion needs the following parameters:

- inputPath: path of the folder containing the original images
- outputPath: path where we will save png images
- bestImage: name of the image chosen for centroids computing (see section 4.4)

After conversion *outputPath* will contain our png images and the function will return the new name chosen for the best image.

Now we can examine single parts of conversion process. First of all we need to specify a new name for images, keeping the right order between them; so we need to define a prefix based on number of images:

```
\langle Define \ string \ prefix \ 11b \rangle \equiv
```

```
imageFiles = readdir(inputPath)
numberOfImages = length(imageFiles)
outputPrefix = ""
for i in 1: length(string(numberOfImages)) - 1
  outputPrefix = string(outputPrefix,"0")
end
```

Fragment referenced in 14.

Next we need to open the single image doing the following operations:

- 1. Open images using Images library (which relies on ImageMagick) and save them in greyscale png format
- 2. if one or both dimensions of the image are odd we need to remove one row (or column) of pixels to make it even. This will be more clear when we will introduce the grid for parallel computation (see section 5)

```
⟨ Greyscale conversion 12a⟩ ≡
    rgb_img = convert(Image{ColorTypes.RGB}, img)
    gray_img = convert(Image{ColorTypes.Gray}, rgb_img) ◊
Fragment referenced in 14.
```

As we can see, we first need to convert image to RGB and then reconverting to greyscale. Without the RGB conversion these rows will return a stackoverflow error due to the presence of alpha channel

```
else
       yrange = 1: dim[2]
     img = subim(gray_img, xrange, yrange) 
Fragment referenced in 14.
Next we just have to search for the best image and add one image if they are odd (for same
reasons we need even image dimensions)
\langle Search for best image 13a \rangle \equiv
     # Searching the best image
     if(imageFile == bestImage)
       newBestImage = string(outputPrefix[length(string(imageNumber)):end],
                                    imageNumber,".png")
     end
     imageNumber += 1 ◊
Fragment referenced in 14.
\langle Add \ one \ image \ 13b \rangle \equiv
     # Adding another image if they are odd
     if(numberOfImages % 2 != 0)
       debug("Odd images, adding one")
       imageWidth, imageHeight = getImageData(string(outputPath, "/", newBestImage))
       if(imageWidth % 2 != 0)
          imageWidth -= 1
       end
       if(imageHeight % 2 != 0)
          imageHeight -= 1
       end
       imArray = zeros(Uint8, imageWidth, imageHeight)
```

outputPrefix[length(string(imageNumber)):end], imageNumber,".png")

img = grayim(imArray)

end \diamond

imwrite(img, outputFilename)

outputFilename = string(outputPath, "/",

Fragment referenced in 59.

```
Finally this is the code for the entire function:
\langle Convert \ to \ png \ 14 \rangle \equiv
     function convertImages(inputPath, outputPath, bestImage)
       Get all images contained in inputPath directory
       saving them in outputPath directory in png format.
       If images have one of two odd dimensions, they will be resized
       and if folder contains an odd number of images another one will be
       added
       inputPath: Directory containing input images
       outputPath: Temporary directory containing png images
       bestImage: Image chosen for centroids computation
       Returns the new name for the best image
       ⟨ Define string prefix 11b⟩
       newBestImage = ""
       imageNumber = 0
       for imageFile in imageFiles
          img = imread(string(inputPath, imageFile))
          ⟨ Greyscale conversion 12a⟩
          ⟨ Image resizing 12b⟩
         outputFilename = string(outputPath, outputPrefix[length(string(imageNumber)):end],
                                      imageNumber,".png")
         imwrite(img, outputFilename)
          ⟨ Search for best image 13a ⟩
       end
       \langle Add \ one \ image \ 13b \rangle
       return newBestImage
     end
```

4.3 Getting data from a png

Now we need to load information data from png images. In particular we are interested in getting width and height of an image. As stated in [W3C] document, a standard PNG file contains a *signature* followed by a sequence of *chunks* (each one with a specific type).

The signature always contain the following values:

```
137 80 78 71 13 10 26 10
```

This signature indicates that the remainder of the datastream contains a single PNG image, consisting of a series of chunks beginning with an IHDR chunk and ending with an IEND chunk. Every chunk is preceded by four bytes indicating its length.

As we are interested in width and height we need to parse the IHDR chunk. It is the first chunk in PNG datastream and its type field contains the decimal values:

```
73 72 68 82
```

The header also contains:

Width	4 bytes
Height	4 bytes
Bit depth	1 bytes
Color type	1 byte
Compression method	1 byte
Filter method	1 byte
Interlace method	1 byte

So for reading width and height we need first 24 bytes; the first eight contain the signature, then we have four bytes for length, four bytes for the type field and eight bytes for information we are interested in. This is the code:

```
⟨ Get image data 15⟩ ≡
function getImageData(imageFile)
    """

Get width and height from a png image
    """

input = open(imageFile, "r")
    data = readbytes(input, 24)

if (convert(Array{Int},data[1:8]) != reshape([137 80 78 71 13 10 26 10],8))
    error("This is not a valid png image")
end
```

```
w = data[17:20]
h = data[21:24]

width = reinterpret(Int32, reverse(w))[1]
height = reinterpret(Int32, reverse(h))[1]

close(input)

return width, height
end
```

Fragment referenced in 59.

4.4 Centroids computation

As we have seen above, this package uses greyscale images for conversion into three-dimensional models and for next steps we need binary images so we can distinguish between the background and the model we want to represent. We can use clustering techniques for obtaining this result. First step is centroids calculation from a chosen image (this choice must be made from the user, because we cannot knowing in advance what is the best image for finding clusters). Moreover we compute these centroids only for an image and then reuse them when we want to cluster all other images, saving processing time. Actually we need only two centroids, because next steps should only recognize between background and foreground pixels. This is the code used for centroid computation:

```
⟨ Centroid computation 16⟩ ≡

function calculateClusterCentroids(path, image, numberOfClusters = 2)

"""

Loads an image and calculate cluster centroids for segmentation

path: Path of the image folder
   image: name of the image
   numberOfClusters: number of desidered clusters

"""

imageFilename = string(path, image)

img = imread(imageFilename) # Open png image with Julia Package

imArray = raw(img)

imageWidth = size(imArray)[1]
```

```
imageHeight = size(imArray)[2]

# Getting pixel values and saving them with another shape
image3d = Array(Array{Uint8,2}, 0)

# Inserting page on another list and reshaping
push!(image3d, imArray)
pixel = reshape(image3d[1], (imageWidth * imageHeight), 1)

centroids,_ = cluster.kmeans(pixel, numberOfClusters)

return centroids
end
```

Fragment referenced in 59.

4.5 Transform pixels to three-dimensional array

Now we can study the most important part of this module, where images are converted into data usable by other modules for the creation of the three-dimensional model. The basic concept consists in transforming every single pixel in an integer value representing color, and then clustering them all using centroids computed earlier. So, we can obtain a matrix containing only two values (the two centroids) representing background and foreground of the image.

Now we will follow the code. This function uses four parameters

• path: Path of the images directory

• minSlice: First image to read

• maxSlice: Last image to read

• centroids: Array containing centroids for clustering

For every image we want to transform in the interval [minSlice, maxSlice) we have to read it from disk and save pixel informations into a multidimensional Array:

```
\langle Read\ raw\ data\ 17 \rangle \equiv img = imread(imageFilename) # Open png image with Julia Package imArray = raw(img) # Putting pixel values into RAW 3d array \diamond Fragment referenced in 20.
```

The Images.jl raw function, get all pixel values saving them in an Array. In Figure 7 we can see how the array will be like for a sample greyscale image.

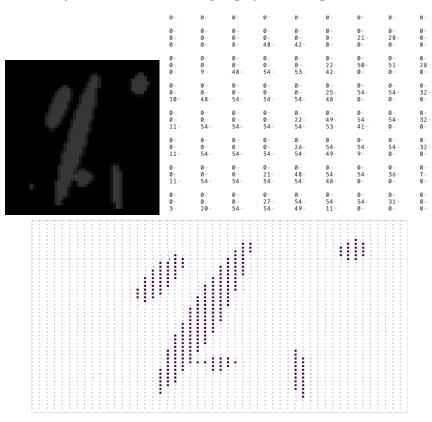


Figure 5: Reading raw data from image. (a) Original greyscale image (b) A view of raw data array (c) The entire raw data array with main color highlighted

Next we have to reduce noise on the image. The better choice is using a *median filter* from package scipy.ndimage because it preserves better the edges of the image:

Where image3d is an array containing all raw data from images

Finally we have to compute clusters (using scipy) obtaining images with only two values:

```
\langle Clustering \ images \ 19 \rangle \equiv
     # Image Quantization
     debug("page = ", page)
     debug("image3d[page] dimensions: ", size(image3d[page])[1], "\t", size(image3d[page])[2])
     pixel = reshape(image3d[page], size(image3d[page])[1] * size(image3d[page])[2] , 1)
     qnt,_ = cluster.vq(pixel,centroids)
     # Reshaping quantization result
     centers_idx = reshape(qnt, size(image3d[page],1), size(image3d[page],2))
     #centers_idx = reshape(qnt, size(image3d[page]))
     # Inserting quantized values into 3d image array
     tmp = Array(Uint8, size(image3d[page],1), size(image3d[page],2))
     for j in 1:size(image3d[1],2)
       for i in 1:size(image3d[1],1)
         tmp[i,j] = centroids[centers_idx[i,j] + 1]
       end
     end
     image3d[page] = tmp 
Fragment referenced in 20.
```



Figure 6: Image transformation. (a) Original greyscale image (b) Denoised image (c) Two-colors image

This is the complete code:

```
\langle Pixel\ transformation\ 20 \rangle \equiv
     function pngstack2array3d(path, minSlice, maxSlice, centroids)
       Import a stack of PNG images into a 3d array
       path: path of images directory
       minSlice and maxSlice: number of first and last slice
       centroids: centroids for image segmentation
       # image3d contains all images values
       image3d = Array(Array{Uint8,2}, 0)
       debug("maxSlice = ", maxSlice, " minSlice = ", minSlice)
       files = readdir(path)
       for slice in minSlice : (maxSlice - 1)
         debug("slice = ", slice)
         imageFilename = string(path, files[slice + 1])
         debug("image name: ", imageFilename)
          ⟨ Read raw data 17 ⟩
         debug("imArray size: ", size(imArray))
         # Inserting page on another list and reshaping
         push!(image3d, imArray)
       end
       # Removing noise using a median filter and quantization
       for page in 1:length(image3d)
          ⟨ Reduce noise 18 ⟩
         \langle Clustering \ images \ 19 \rangle
       end
       return image3d
     end
     \rightarrow
```

Fragment referenced in 59.

5 ImagesConversion

Now we will study the most important module for this package: ImagesConversion. It has the responsibility of doing the entire conversion process delegating tasks to the other modules.

5.1 General algorithm

Now we will examine, in a general way, the algorithm used for conversion from a twodimensional to a three-dimensional representation of our biomedical models.

We have already seen in section 4 how to get information from a png image, obtaining arrays with only two values; one for the **background** color and one for **foreground** color. This is only the first step of the complete conversion process.

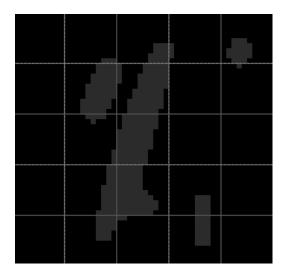
Now we focus only on a single image of the stack. Our two-dimensional representation, consists of pixels of two different colors (where only the one associated with foreground is significant); so we can obtain a three-dimensional representation simply replacing every foreground pixel with a small cube. Focusing on the entire stack of images, the full three-dimensional representation can be obtained simply overlapping all the image representations

This algorithm is very simple, however we does not considered problems concerning lack of memory. In fact, we could have images so big that we cannot build these models entirely in memory; moreover they would require a lot of CPU time for computation. A good solution to these problems consists in taking our representation based on images and divide according to a **grid**.

So, instead of converting the entire model with a unique process, we can subdivide the input among a lot of processes, where every process will execute the conversion process on a small number of **blocks** according to the grid subdivision.

Summing up we can define the following terms, which will be used in next parts of this documentation:

- **Grid:** It is the subdivision of the entire stack of images, with sizes defined by the user. They should be powers of two (for increasing performance during border matrix computation which we will see in section 6)
- Block: It is a single cell of the grid
- **xBlock:** It is the x-coordinate of a block
- yBlock: It is the y-coordinate of a block



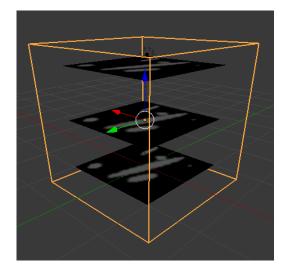


Figure 7: The grid used for parallel computation (a) 2D grid on a single image (b) 3D grid for the stack of images

• **zBlock:** It is the z-coordinate of a block

xBlock and yBlock are defined on a single image, while zBlock is defined on different images; in the code it will often be replaced by terms **StartImage** and **EndImage**, which indicate the first image and the last image of that block respectively.

In next subsections we will examine the conversion algorithm in detail, showing what happens for every block of the grid.

5.2 Module imports

These are modules needed for this part of the package and the public functions exported.

```
⟨ modules import ImagesConversion 22 ⟩ ≡
   import GenerateBorderMatrix
   import PngStack2Array3dJulia
   import Lar2Julia
   import Model2Obj
   import LARUtils
   using Logging
   export images2LARModel
   ◊
```

5.3 Data preparation

As a first thing, we will see how to prepare our data for conversion process. Firstly we need to convert input images to greyscale png; so we need to create a temporary directory for saving them.

Later, we need to compute the LAR boundary operator for finding boundaries of our cells (for the generation see section 6) getting width and height from our images.

Finally we can start conversion with all these parameters calling startImageConversion function, which will be explained in next subsection.

```
\langle main function for ImagesConversion 23 \rangle \equiv
     function images2LARModel(nx, ny, nz, bestImage,
                              inputDirectory, outputDirectory, parallelMerge)
       Convert a stack of images into a 3d model
       info("Starting model creation")
       numberOfClusters = 2 # Number of clusters for
                             # images segmentation
       info("Moving images into temp directory")
       try
         mkdir(string(outputDirectory, "TEMP"))
       catch
       end
       tempDirectory = string(outputDirectory, "TEMP/")
       newBestImage = PngStack2Array3dJulia.convertImages(inputDirectory, tempDirectory,
                                                                bestImage)
       imageWidth, imageHeight = PngStack2Array3dJulia.getImageData(
                                             string(tempDirectory,newBestImage))
       imageDepth = length(readdir(tempDirectory))
       # Computing border matrix
       info("Computing border matrix")
       try
```

Fragment referenced in 36b.

5.4 Images conversion

Now we can see how conversion of images works. First of all we compute the centroids from the best image using module PngStack2Array3dJulia and then get the previously computed border matrix in csc sparse array format

Fragment referenced in 26.

Now we can start the conversion process.

First of all we need to iterate on the grid finding the zBlock coordinate; we saw earlier that the imageDz parameter must be a divisor of the image depth, so we will have exactly imageDepth/imageDz blocks on the z coordinate. Moreovew, at every zBlock correspond a startImage and an endImage where endImage - startImage = imageDz.

Now we can simply parallelize the conversion process spawning a new process for every zBlock, so we open at most imageDz images for process.

This is the code for the first part of conversion.

```
\langle conversion \ parallelization \ 25a \rangle \equiv
     beginImageStack = 0
     endImage = beginImageStack
     info("Converting images into a 3d model")
     tasks = Array(RemoteRef, 0)
     for zBlock in 0:(imageDepth / imageDz - 1)
       startImage = endImage
       endImage = startImage + imageDz
       info("StartImage = ", startImage)
       info("endImage = ", endImage)
       task = @spawn imageConversionProcess(sliceDirectory, outputDirectory,
                                 beginImageStack, startImage, endImage,
                                 imageDx, imageDy, imageDz,
                                 imageHeight, imageWidth,
                                 centroidsCalc, boundaryMat)
       push!(tasks, task)
     end
```

Fragment referenced in 26.

All processes produce a lot of files containing three-dimensional models of a block, so after their termination, we should merge the boundaries between blocks (see later for a better explanation) and merge all model files as we can see in this piece of code:

```
info("Merging obj models")
     if parallelMerge
       Model2Obj.mergeObjParallel(string(outputDirectory, "MODELS"))
       Model20bj.mergeObj(string(outputDirectory, "MODELS"))
     end
Fragment referenced in 26.
This is the final code for this function:
\langle start \ conversion \ of \ images \ 26 \rangle \equiv
     function startImageConversion(sliceDirectory, bestImage, outputDirectory, borderFilename,
                                       imageHeight, imageWidth, imageDepth,
                                       imageDx, imageDy, imageDz,
                                       numberOfClusters, parallelMerge)
       Support function for converting a stack of images into a model
       sliceDirectory: directory containing the image stack
        imageForCentroids: image chosen for centroid computation
        ⟨ compute centroids and get border matrix 24⟩
        ⟨ conversion parallelization 25a⟩
       # Waiting for tasks completion
       for task in tasks
          wait(task)
        end
        \langle final file merge 25b \rangle
       end
```

Fragment referenced in 36b.

5.4.1 Images conversion (for single process)

After we have sketchily studied images conversion, now we will see in details what happens for every process. First thing to do is read an image calling the PngStack2Array3dJulia,

after that is necessary to sort the centroid array for choosing correct background and foreground pixels.

Fragment referenced in 30.

Now we can start iterating on other blocks of the grid getting the corresponding slice of the image:

Fragment referenced in 30.

Here xStart and yStart are the absolute coordinates of the model and are calculated from the block coordinates. At the end of this process, we have an array called **image** with size (imageDz, imageDx, imageDy).

Now we can get the value of the single pixel into this array and, if it represents a foreground point, put it into an array called chain3D. This structure contains indexes of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0^0 & 0^2 \\ 0^1 & 0^3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 46^4 & 0^6 \\ 46^5 & 46^7 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow 0^0 \quad 0^1 \quad 0^2 \quad 0^3 \quad 46^4 \quad 46^5 \quad 0^6 \quad 46^7$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0^0 & 0^2 \\ 0^1 & 0^3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0^4 & 46^6 \\ 46^5 & 46^7 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow 0^0 \quad 0^1 \quad 0^2 \quad 0^3 \quad 0^4 \quad 46^5 \quad 46^6 \quad 46^7$$

Figure 8: Transformation of a matrix resulting from a 2x2x2 grid into a linearized array (with cells indexes) (a) First example (b) Second example

the linearized array created from the matrix. In Figure 8 there is a sample conversion from the matrix to the array

As we can see from that figure, from a 2x2x2 grid we can obtain eight values for the single block (or **cell**), where the indexes for the foreground pixels represent indexes of non-empty cells in a 2x2x2 cuboidal geometry

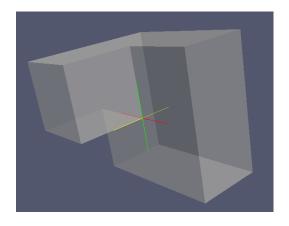
This is the code for getting foreground pixels:

```
⟨ get foreground pixels 28⟩ ≡
   nz, nx, ny = size(image)
   chains3D = Array(Uint8, 0)
   zStart = startImage - beginImageStack
   for y in 0:(nx - 1)
      for x in 0:(ny - 1)
      for z in 0:(nz - 1)
       if(image[z + 1, x + 1, y + 1] == foreground)
           push!(chains3D, y + ny * (x + nx * z))
      end
   end
   end
end
```

Fragment referenced in 30.

Now we have full cells for the geometry, we can convert it into a full *LAR model*. In particular, we are interested in cell boundaries for every block (as we want to obtain only the boundaries for the final model) so we can call function larBoundaryChain from Lar2Julia module (which will be explained in section 7). In Figure 9 there are some examples of models extracted from a single 2x2x2 block.

After model computation, next step is getting vertices and faces from model cells writing results to file. However, as we have already said, we are only interested in boundaries of the final model while now we have only boundaries of a single block. Consequently, we have to separate boundaries from the inner faces of the block on different files (boundaries



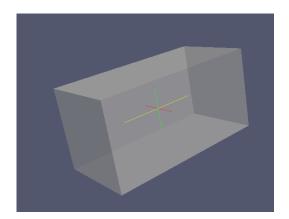


Figure 9: Sample models of 2x2x2 blocks

separation will be explained in section 8). As we can see later, we will merge boundaries together deleting common faces on both block borders, obtaining a model without internal faces. These are pieces of code for getting the inner block model and the boundaries and for file writing:

```
\langle get inner model and boundaries 29a \rangle \equiv
```

```
V, FV = models[1][1] # inside model
V_left, FV_left = models[2][1]
V_right, FV_right = models[3][1] # right boundary
V_top, FV_top = models[4][1] # top boundary
V_bottom, FV_bottom = models[5][1] # bottom boundary
V_front, FV_front = models[6][1] # front boundary
V_back, FV_back = models[7][1] # back boundary
```

Fragment referenced in 30.

```
left_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/left_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model2Obj.writeToObj(V_left, FV_left, left_outputFilename)
     right_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/right_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model2Obj.writeToObj(V_right, FV_right, right_outputFilename)
     top_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/top_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model20bj.writeToObj(V_top, FV_top, top_outputFilename)
     bottom_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/bottom_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model20bj.writeToObj(V_bottom, FV_bottom, bottom_outputFilename)
     front_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/front_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model2Obj.writeToObj(V_front, FV_front, front_outputFilename)
     back_outputFilename = string(outputDirectory, "MODELS/back_output_", xBlock,
                                      "-", yBlock, "_", startImage, "_", endImage)
     Model20bj.writeToObj(V_back, FV_back, back_outputFilename)
Fragment referenced in 30.
\langle image\ conversion\ process\ 30 \rangle \equiv
     function imageConversionProcess(sliceDirectory, outputDirectory,
                                      beginImageStack, startImage, endImage,
                                      imageDx, imageDy, imageDz,
                                      imageHeight, imageWidth,
                                      centroids, boundaryMat)
       Support function for converting a stack of image on a single
       independent process
       ⟨ image read and centroids sort 27a⟩
       for xBlock in 0:(imageHeight / imageDx - 1)
         for yBlock in 0:(imageWidth / imageDy - 1)
```

```
yStart = xBlock * imageDx
      xStart = yBlock * imageDy
      #xEnd = xStart + imageDx
      #yEnd = yStart + imageDy
      xEnd = xStart + imageDy
      yEnd = yStart + imageDx
      debug("********")
      debug(string("xStart = ", xStart, " xEnd = ", xEnd))
      debug(string("yStart = ", yStart, " yEnd = ", yEnd))
      debug("theImage dimensions: ", size(theImage)[1], " ",
                       size(theImage[1])[1], " ", size(theImage[1])[2])
      ⟨ get image slice 27b ⟩
      ⟨ get foreground pixels 28 ⟩
      if(length(chains3D) != 0)
        # Computing boundary chain
        debug("chains3d = ", chains3D)
        debug("Computing boundary chain")
        objectBoundaryChain = Lar2Julia.larBoundaryChain(boundaryMat, chains3D)
        debug("Converting models into obj")
        try
          mkdir(string(outputDirectory, "MODELS"))
        catch
        end
        ⟨ get inner model and boundaries 29a ⟩
        ⟨ write block models to file 29b⟩
      else
        debug("Model is empty")
      end
    end
 end
end <
```

Fragment referenced in 36b.

6 GenerateBorderMatrix

This module has the reponsibility of generating the border matrix operator for models boundary computation.

6.1 Module imports

Fragment referenced in 37a.

These are modules needed for this part of the package and the public functions exported

```
⟨ modules import GenerateBorderMatrix 32a⟩ ≡
   import LARUtils
   using PyCall

import JSON

export computeOriented3Border, writeBorder, getOriented3BorderPath

@pyimport sys
   # Search for python modules in package folder
   unshift!(PyVector(pyimport("sys")["path"]), Pkg.dir("ImagesToLARModel/src"))
   @pyimport larcc # Importing larcc from local folder
   @pyimport scipy.sparse as Pysparse ◊
```

We can notice some lines for importing larce python library, which will be used in subsection 6.5

6.2 Get border matrix from file

As we have already seen in previous sections, we need to compute boundaries for every block of the model grid. This can be done using the topological boundary operator from LAR package. However, the resulting matrix depends only on grid sizes; so it could be reused for other models. Consequently first time we need a border operator we compute it and then save it on disk for next conversions. This function does that work searching for a file containing the border and, if it does not exist, calculate and save it:

```
⟨ get Border matrix 32b ⟩ ≡
function getOriented3BorderPath(borderPath, nx, ny, nz)
    """

Try reading 3-border matrix from file. If it fails matrix
    is computed and saved on disk in JSON format

borderPath: path of border directory
    nx, ny, nz: image dimensions
    """

filename = string(borderPath, "/border_", nx, "-", ny, "-", nz, ".json")
```

```
if !isfile(filename)
   border = computeOriented3Border(nx, ny, nz)
   writeBorder(border, filename)
end
  return filename
end
```

Fragment referenced in 37a.

6.3 Write border matrix on file

We have already seen that for performance reasons border operator matrix is saved on file; here we will see code used for this scope. Firstly, we have defined a function writeBorder, which takes as parameters a PyObject containing a matrix (computed in subsection 6.4) and the outuput file path.

```
\langle write Border matrix 33 \rangle \equiv
     function writeBorder(boundaryMatrix, outputFile)
       Write 3-border matrix on json file
       boundaryMatrix: matrix to write on file
       outputFile: path of the outputFile
       11 11 11
       rowcount = boundaryMatrix[:shape][1]
       colcount = boundaryMatrix[:shape][2]
       row = boundaryMatrix[:indptr]
       col = boundaryMatrix[:indices]
       data = boundaryMatrix[:data]
       # Writing informations on file
       outfile = open(outputFile, "w")
       matrixObj = MatrixObject(rowcount, colcount, row, col, data)
       JSON.print(outfile, matrixObj)
       close(outfile)
     end <
```

Fragment referenced in 37a.

We can see that, in final JSON file, we write an object called MatrixObject which has the following definition:

```
⟨ Matrix object for JSON file 34a ⟩ ≡
    type MatrixObject
    ROWCOUNT
    COLCOUNT
    ROW
    COL
    DATA
    end ◊
```

Fragment referenced in 37a.

6.4 Compute border matrix

Here we can see code used for computation of the border operator. As we can see, we call the python larcc module, from the LAR module, which returns a PyObject containing a sparse csr matrix. In next versions this function will be probably changed and the code for boundary computation will be moved in LAR2Julia module (also transforming all csr matrix in csc matrix) avoiding python calls.

```
⟨ compute border matrix 34b⟩ ≡

# Compute the 3-border operator
function computeOriented3Border(nx, ny, nz)

"""

Compute the 3-border matrix using a modified
version of larcc
"""

V, bases = LARUtils.getBases(nx, ny, nz)
boundaryMat = larcc.signedCellularBoundary(V, bases)
return boundaryMat

end ◊
```

Fragment referenced in 37a.

6.5 Transform border matrix

Fragment referenced in 37a.

We have seen that matrix stored in JSON file was in csr matrix as it was returned from larcc module of LAR library. However, Julia has only sparse matrices in csc format, so we need a function for loading the contents of JSON file converting the output for next uses with Julia libraries. When porting of larcc in Julia will be complete, we can safely remove this function

```
\langle transform\ border\ matrix\ in\ csc\ format\ 35 \rangle \equiv
     function getBorderMatrix(borderFilename)
       11 11 11
       TO REMOVE WHEN PORTING OF LARCC IN JULIA IS COMPLETED
       Get the border matrix from json file and convert it in
       CSC format
       11 11 11
       # Loading borderMatrix from json file
       borderData = JSON.parsefile(borderFilename)
       row = Array(Int64, length(borderData["ROW"]))
       col = Array(Int64, length(borderData["COL"]))
       data = Array(Int64, length(borderData["DATA"]))
       for i in 1: length(borderData["ROW"])
         row[i] = borderData["ROW"][i]
       end
       for i in 1: length(borderData["COL"])
         col[i] = borderData["COL"][i]
       end
       for i in 1: length(borderData["DATA"])
         data[i] = borderData["DATA"][i]
       end
       # Converting csr matrix to csc
       csrBorderMatrix = Pysparse.csr_matrix((data,col,row), shape=(borderData["ROWCOUNT"],borderDa
       denseMatrix = pycall(csrBorderMatrix["toarray"],PyAny)
       cscBoundaryMat = sparse(denseMatrix)
       return cscBoundaryMat
     end \diamond
```

- 7 Lar2Julia
- 8 LARUtils
- 9 Model2Obj

10 Exporting the library

${\bf Images To LAR Model}$

```
"src/ImagesToLARModel.jl" 36a≡
module ImagesToLARModel

⟨update load path 6⟩

⟨modules import ImagesToLARModel 7a⟩
⟨load JSON configuration 7b⟩
⟨Start conversion from JSON file 9⟩
⟨Start manual conversion 10⟩
end
```

ImagesConversion

```
"src/ImagesConversion.jl" 36b≡
module ImagesConversion

⟨ modules import ImagesConversion 22⟩

⟨ main function for ImagesConversion 23⟩

⟨ start conversion of images 26⟩

⟨ image conversion process 30⟩
end

⋄
```

GenerateBorderMatrix

```
"src/GenerateBorderMatrix.jl" 37a≡
module GenerateBorderMatrix

⟨Matrix object for JSON file 34a⟩

⟨modules import GenerateBorderMatrix 32a⟩

⟨compute border matrix 34b⟩

⟨write Border matrix 33⟩

⟨get Border matrix 32b⟩

⟨transform border matrix in csc format 35⟩
end

⋄
```

Lar2Julia

```
"src/Lar2Julia.jl" 37b\( \ext{module Lar2Julia}\)

export larBoundaryChain, cscChainToCellList

import JSON

using Logging

function larBoundaryChain(cscBoundaryMat, brcCellList)
    """

    Compute boundary chains
    """

# Computing boundary chains
    n = size(cscBoundaryMat)[1]
    m = size(cscBoundaryMat)[2]

debug("Boundary matrix size: ", n, "\t", m)

data = ones(Int64, length(brcCellList))
```

```
i = Array(Int64, length(brcCellList))
 for k in 1:length(brcCellList)
   i[k] = brcCellList[k] + 1
 end
 j = ones(Int64, length(brcCellList))
 debug("cscChain rows length: ", length(i))
 debug("cscChain columns length: ", length(j))
 debug("cscChain data length: ", length(brcCellList))
 debug("rows ", i)
 debug("columns ", j)
 debug("data ", data)
 cscChain = sparse(i, j, data, m, 1)
 cscmat = cscBoundaryMat * cscChain
 out = cscBinFilter(cscmat)
 return out
end
function cscBinFilter(CSCm)
 k = 1
 data = nonzeros(CSCm)
 sgArray = copysign(1, data)
 while k <= nnz(CSCm)</pre>
   if data[k] % 2 == 1 || data[k] % 2 == -1
      data[k] = 1 * sgArray[k]
   else
      data[k] = 0
   end
   k += 1
 end
 return CSCm
end
function cscChainToCellList(CSCm)
 Get a csc containing a chain and returns
 the cell list of the "+1" oriented faces
 data = nonzeros(CSCm)
 # Now I need to remove zero element (problem with Julia nonzeros)
 nonzeroData = Array(Int64, 0)
```

```
for n in data
   if n != 0
      push!(nonzeroData, n)
   end
end

cellList = Array(Int64,0)
for (k, theRow) in enumerate(findn(CSCm)[1])
   if nonzeroData[k] == 1
      push!(cellList, theRow)
   end
end
return cellList
end
end
```

LARUtils

```
"src/LARUtils.jl" 39=
    module LARUtils

using Logging

export ind, invertIndex, getBases, removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces, computeModel, computeModelAnd

function ind(x, y, z, nx, ny)
    """

    Transform coordinates into linearized matrix indexes
    """
    return x + (nx + 1) * (y + (ny + 1) * (z))
    end

function invertIndex(nx,ny,nz)
    """
    Invert indexes
    """
    nx, ny, nz = nx + 1, ny + 1, nz + 1
    function invertIndexO(offset)
        a0, b0 = trunc(offset / nx), offset % nx
        a1, b1 = trunc(a0 / ny), a0 % ny
        a2, b2 = trunc(a1 / nz), a1 % nz
```

```
return b0, b1, b2
 end
 return invertIndex0
end
function getBases(nx, ny, nz)
 Compute all LAR relations
 function the3Dcell(coords)
    x,y,z = coords
    return [ind(x,y,z,nx,ny),ind(x+1,y,z,nx,ny),ind(x,y+1,z,nx,ny),ind(x,y,z+1,nx,ny),ind(x+1,y,z,nx,ny)]
            ind(x+1,y,z+1,nx,ny), ind(x,y+1,z+1,nx,ny), ind(x+1,y+1,z+1,nx,ny)]
 end
 # Calculating vertex coordinates (nx * ny * nz)
 V = Array{Int64}[]
 for z in 0:nz
    for y in 0:ny
     for x in 0:nx
        push!(V,[x,y,z])
      end
    end
 end
 # Building CV relationship
 CV = Array{Int64}[]
 for z in 0:nz-1
    for y in 0:ny-1
     for x in 0:nx-1
        push!(CV,the3Dcell([x,y,z]))
      end
    end
 end
 # Building FV relationship
 FV = Array{Int64}[]
 v2coords = invertIndex(nx,ny,nz)
 for h in 0:(length(V)-1)
    x,y,z = v2coords(h)
    if (x < nx) && (y < ny)
     push!(FV, [h,ind(x+1,y,z,nx,ny),ind(x,y+1,z,nx,ny),ind(x+1,y+1,z,nx,ny)])
```

```
end
    if (x < nx) && (z < nz)
     push!(FV, [h,ind(x+1,y,z,nx,ny),ind(x,y,z+1,nx,ny),ind(x+1,y,z+1,nx,ny)])
    end
    if (y < ny) && (z < nz)
     push!(FV,[h,ind(x,y+1,z,nx,ny),ind(x,y,z+1,nx,ny),ind(x,y+1,z+1,nx,ny)])
    end
 end
 # Building VV relationship
 VV = map((x) \rightarrow [x], 0:length(V)-1)
 # Building EV relationship
 EV = Array{Int64}[]
 for h in 0:length(V)-1
   x,y,z = v2coords(h)
    if (x < nx)
     push! (EV, [h,ind(x+1,y,z,nx,ny)])
    end
    if (y < ny)
     push!(EV, [h,ind(x,y+1,z,nx,ny)])
    if (z < nz)
     push! (EV, [h,ind(x,y,z+1,nx,ny)])
    end
 end
 # return all basis
 return V, (VV, EV, FV, CV)
end
function lessThanVertices(v1, v2)
 Utility function for comparing vertices coordinates
 if v1[1] == v2[1]
    if v1[2] == v2[2]
     return v1[3] < v2[3]
    end
    return v1[2] < v2[2]
 return v1[1] < v2[1]
```

```
end
```

```
function removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V, FV, facesOffset)
 Removes double vertices and faces from a LAR model
 V: Array containing all vertices
 FV: Array containing all faces
 facesOffset: offset for faces indices
 newV, indices = removeDoubleVertices(V)
 reindexedFaces = reindexVerticesInFaces(FV, indices, facesOffset)
 newFV = unique(FV)
 return newV, newFV
end
function removeDoubleVertices(V)
 Remove double vertices from a LAR model
 V: Array containing all vertices of the model
 # Sort the vertices list and returns the ordered indices
 orderedIndices = sortperm(V, lt = lessThanVertices, alg=MergeSort)
 orderedVerticesAndIndices = collect(zip(sort(V, lt = lessThanVertices),
                                          orderedIndices))
 newVertices = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 indices = zeros(Int, length(V))
 prevv = Nothing
 i = 1
 for (v, ind) in orderedVerticesAndIndices
   if v == prevv
     indices[ind] = i - 1
     push!(newVertices, v)
     indices[ind] = i
     i += 1
     prevv = v
   end
 end
 return newVertices, indices
```

```
end
```

```
function reindexVerticesInFaces(FV, indices, offset)
 Reindex vertices indices in faces array
 FV: Faces array of the LAR model
 indices: new Indices for faces
 offset: offset for faces indices
 for f in FV
   for i in 1: length(f)
      f[i] = indices[f[i] - offset] + offset
   end
 end
 return FV
end
function removeVerticesAndFacesFromBoundaries(V, FV)
 Remove vertices and faces duplicates on
 boundaries models
 V,FV: lar model of two merged boundaries
 newV, indices = removeDoubleVertices(V)
 uniqueIndices = unique(indices)
 # Removing double faces on both boundaries
 FV_reindexed = reindexVerticesInFaces(FV, indices, 0)
 FV_unique = unique(FV_reindexed)
 FV_cleaned = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 for f in FV_unique
   if(count((x) \rightarrow x == f, FV\_reindexed) == 1)
     push!(FV_cleaned, f)
   end
 end
 # Creating an array of faces with explicit vertices
 FV_vertices = Array(Array{Array{Int}}, 0)
 for i in 1 : length(FV_cleaned)
   push!(FV_vertices, Array(Array{Int}, 0))
```

```
for vtx in FV_cleaned[i]
     push!(FV_vertices[i], newV[vtx])
   end
  end
 V_final = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 FV_final = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 # Saving only used vertices
 for face in FV_vertices
   for vtx in face
     push!(V_final, vtx)
   end
  end
 V_final = unique(V_final)
 # Renumbering FV
 for face in FV_vertices
   tmp = Array(Int, 0)
   for vtx in face
     ind = findfirst(V_final, vtx)
     push!(tmp, ind)
   end
   push!(FV_final, tmp)
 end
 return V_final, FV_final
end
function computeModel(imageDx, imageDy, imageDz,
                      xStart, yStart, zStart,
                      facesOffset, objectBoundaryChain)
  .....
 Takes the boundary chain of a part of the entire model
 and returns a LAR model
 imageDx, imageDy, imageDz: Boundary dimensions
 xStart, yStart, zStart: Offset of this part of the model
 facesOffset: Offset for the faces
 objectBoundaryChain: Sparse csc matrix containing the cells
 V, bases = getBases(imageDx, imageDy, imageDz)
 FV = bases[3]
```

```
V_model = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 FV_model = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
 vertex_count = 1
 #b2cells = Lar2Julia.cscChainToCellList(objectBoundaryChain)
 # Get all cells (independently from orientation)
 b2cells = findn(objectBoundaryChain)[1]
 debug("b2cells = ", b2cells)
 for f in b2cells
   old_vertex_count = vertex_count
   for vtx in FV[f]
     push!(V_model, [convert(Int, V[vtx + 1][1] + xStart),
                    convert(Int, V[vtx + 1][2] + yStart),
                    convert(Int, V[vtx + 1][3] + zStart)])
     vertex_count += 1
   end
   push!(FV_model, [old_vertex_count + facesOffset, old_vertex_count + 1 + facesOffset, old_v
   push!(FV_model, [old_vertex_count + facesOffset, old_vertex_count + 3 + facesOffset, old_v
  end
 # Removing double vertices
 return removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_model, FV_model, facesOffset)
end
function isOnLeft(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
 Check if face is on left boundary
 for(vtx in face)
   if(V[vtx + 1][2] != 0)
     return false
   end
 end
 return true
end
function isOnRight(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
 Check if face is on right boundary
```

```
11 11 11
  for(vtx in face)
    if(V[vtx + 1][2] != ny)
      return false
    end
  end
  return true
end
function isOnTop(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
  Check if face is on top boundary
  for(vtx in face)
    if(V[vtx + 1][3] != nz)
      return false
    end
  end
  return true
end
function isOnBottom(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
  Check if face is on bottom boundary
  11 11 11
  for(vtx in face)
    if(V[vtx + 1][3] != 0)
      return false
    end
  end
  return true
end
function isOnFront(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
  Check if face is on front boundary
  for(vtx in face)
    if(V[vtx + 1][1] != nx)
      return false
    end
```

```
end
 return true
function isOnBack(face, V, nx, ny, nz)
 Check if face is on back boundary
 for(vtx in face)
   if(V[vtx + 1][1] != 0)
     return false
   end
 end
 return true
end
function computeModelAndBoundaries(imageDx, imageDy, imageDz,
                      xStart, yStart, zStart,
                      objectBoundaryChain)
  11 11 11
 Takes the boundary chain of a part of the entire model
 and returns a LAR model splitting the boundaries
 imageDx, imageDy, imageDz: Boundary dimensions
 xStart, yStart, zStart: Offset of this part of the model
 objectBoundaryChain: Sparse csc matrix containing the cells
 function addFaceToModel(V_base, FV_base, V, FV, face, vertex_count)
   Insert a face into a LAR model
   V_base, FV_base: LAR model of the base
   V, FV: LAR model
   face: Face that will be added to the model
   vertex_count: Indices for faces vertices
   new_vertex_count = vertex_count
   for vtx in FV_base[face]
     push!(V, [convert(Int, V_base[vtx + 1][1] + xStart),
                      convert(Int, V_base[vtx + 1][2] + yStart),
                      convert(Int, V_base[vtx + 1][3] + zStart)])
     new_vertex_count += 1
   push!(FV, [vertex_count, vertex_count + 1, vertex_count + 3])
```

```
push!(FV, [vertex_count, vertex_count + 3, vertex_count + 2])
  return new_vertex_count
end
V, bases = getBases(imageDx, imageDy, imageDz)
FV = bases[3]
V_model = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
FV_model = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
V_left = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_left = Array(Array{Int},0)
V_right = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_right = Array(Array{Int},0)
V_top = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_top = Array(Array{Int},0)
V_bottom = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_bottom = Array(Array{Int},0)
V_front = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_front = Array(Array{Int},0)
V_back = Array(Array{Int},0)
FV_back = Array(Array{Int},0)
vertex_count_model = 1
vertex_count_left = 1
vertex_count_right = 1
vertex_count_top = 1
vertex_count_bottom = 1
vertex_count_front = 1
vertex_count_back = 1
#b2cells = Lar2Julia.cscChainToCellList(objectBoundaryChain)
# Get all cells (independently from orientation)
b2cells = findn(objectBoundaryChain)[1]
debug("b2cells = ", b2cells)
for f in b2cells
  old_vertex_count_model = vertex_count_model
  old_vertex_count_left = vertex_count_left
```

```
old_vertex_count_right = vertex_count_right
   old_vertex_count_top = vertex_count_top
   old_vertex_count_bottom = vertex_count_bottom
   old_vertex_count_front = vertex_count_front
   old_vertex_count_back = vertex_count_back
   # Choosing the right model for vertex
   if(isOnLeft(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
      vertex_count_left = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_left, FV_left, f, old_vertex_count_left)
   elseif(isOnRight(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
      vertex_count_right = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_right, FV_right, f, old_vertex_count_right)
    elseif(isOnTop(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
      vertex_count_top = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_top, FV_top, f, old_vertex_count_top)
   elseif(isOnBottom(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
      vertex_count_bottom = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_bottom, FV_bottom, f, old_vertex_count_bot
   elseif(isOnFront(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
      vertex_count_front = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_front, FV_front, f, old_vertex_count_front)
   elseif(isOnBack(FV[f], V, imageDx, imageDy, imageDz))
     vertex_count_back = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_back, FV_back, f, old_vertex_count_back)
     vertex_count_model = addFaceToModel(V, FV, V_model, FV_model, f, old_vertex_count_model)
   end
  end
 # Removing double vertices
 return [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_model, FV_model, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_left, FV_left, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_right, FV_right, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_top, FV_top, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_bottom, FV_bottom, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_front, FV_front, 0)],
  [removeDoubleVerticesAndFaces(V_back, FV_back, 0)]
end
end
```

Model2Obj

```
"src/Model20bj.jl" 49≡
module Model20bj
import LARUtils
```

```
using Logging
export writeToObj, mergeObj, mergeObjParallel
function writeToObj(V, FV, outputFilename)
 Take a LAR model and write it on obj file
 V: array containing vertices coordinates
 FV: array containing faces
 outputFilename: prefix for the output files
 if (length(V) != 0)
   outputVtx = string(outputFilename, "_vtx.stl")
   outputFaces = string(outputFilename, "_faces.stl")
   fileVertex = open(outputVtx, "w")
   fileFaces = open(outputFaces, "w")
   for v in V
     write(fileVertex, "v ")
     write(fileVertex, string(v[1], " "))
     write(fileVertex, string(v[2], " "))
     write(fileVertex, string(v[3], "\n"))
   end
   for f in FV
     write(fileFaces, "f ")
     write(fileFaces, string(f[1], " "))
     write(fileFaces, string(f[2], " "))
     write(fileFaces, string(f[3], "\n"))
   end
   close(fileVertex)
   close(fileFaces)
 end
end
function mergeObj(modelDirectory)
 Merge stl files in a single obj file
```

```
modelDirectory: directory containing models
files = readdir(modelDirectory)
vertices_files = files[find(s -> contains(s,string("_vtx.stl")), files)]
faces_files = files[find(s -> contains(s,string("_faces.stl")), files)]
obj_file = open(string(modelDirectory,"/","model.obj"),"w") # Output file
vertices_counts = Array(Int64, length(vertices_files))
number_of_vertices = 0
for i in 1:length(vertices_files)
  vtx_file = vertices_files[i]
  f = open(string(modelDirectory, "/", vtx_file))
  # Writing vertices on the obj file
  for ln in eachline(f)
   write(obj_file, ln)
   number_of_vertices += 1
  # Saving number of vertices
  vertices_counts[i] = number_of_vertices
  close(f)
end
for i in 1 : length(faces_files)
  faces_file = faces_files[i]
  f = open(string(modelDirectory, "/", faces_file))
  for ln in eachline(f)
    splitted = split(ln)
   write(obj_file, "f ")
    if i > 1
      write(obj_file, string(parse(splitted[2]) + vertices_counts[i - 1], " "))
      write(obj_file, string(parse(splitted[3]) + vertices_counts[i - 1], " "))
      write(obj_file, string(parse(splitted[4]) + vertices_counts[i - 1]))
    else
      write(obj_file, string(splitted[2], " "))
      write(obj_file, string(splitted[3], " "))
      write(obj_file, splitted[4])
    end
    write(obj_file, "\n")
  end
  close(f)
end
close(obj_file)
```

```
# Removing all tmp files
 for vtx_file in vertices_files
   rm(string(modelDirectory, "/", vtx_file))
  end
 for fcs_file in faces_files
   rm(string(modelDirectory, "/", fcs_file))
 end
end
function assignTasks(startInd, endInd, taskArray)
 This function choose the first files to merge
 creating a tree where number of processes is maximized
 startInd: starting index for array subdivision
 endInd: end index for array subdivision
 taskArray: array containing indices of files to merge for first
 if (endInd - startInd == 2)
   push!(taskArray, startInd)
 elseif (endInd - startInd < 2)</pre>
   if (endInd % 4 != 0 && startInd != endInd)
      # Stop recursion on this branch
     push!(taskArray, startInd)
   # Stop recursion doing nothing
   assignTasks(startInd, startInd + trunc((endInd - startInd) / 2), taskArray)
   assignTasks(startInd + trunc((endInd - startInd) / 2) + 1, endInd, taskArray)
 end
end
function mergeVerticesFiles(file1, file2, startOffset)
 Support function for merging two vertices files.
 Returns the number of vertices of the merged file
 file1: path of the first file
 file2: path of the second file
 startOffset: starting face offset for second file
 f1 = open(file1, "a")
```

```
f2 = open(file2)
 debug("Merging ", file2)
 number_of_vertices = startOffset
 for ln in eachline(f2)
   write(f1, ln)
   number_of_vertices += 1
 end
 close(f2)
 close(f1)
 return number_of_vertices
end
function mergeFacesFiles(file1, file2, facesOffset)
 Support function for merging two faces files
 file1: path of the first file
 file2: path of the second file
 facesOffset: offset for faces
 f1 = open(file1, "a")
 f2 = open(file2)
 for ln in eachline(f2)
   splitted = split(ln)
   write(f1, "f ")
   write(f1, string(parse(splitted[2]) + facesOffset, " "))
   write(f1, string(parse(splitted[3]) + facesOffset, " "))
   write(f1, string(parse(splitted[4]) + facesOffset, "\n"))
 end
 close(f2)
 close(f1)
end
function mergeObjProcesses(fileArray, facesOffset = Nothing)
 Merge files on a single process
 fileArray: Array containing files that will be merged
 facesOffset (optional): if merging faces files, this array contains
   offsets for every file
```

```
11 11 11
```

```
if(contains(fileArray[1], string("_vtx.stl")))
   # Merging vertices files
   offsets = Array(Int, 0)
   push!(offsets, countlines(fileArray[1]))
   vertices_count = mergeVerticesFiles(fileArray[1], fileArray[2], countlines(fileArray[1]))
   rm(fileArray[2]) # Removing merged file
   push!(offsets, vertices_count)
   for i in 3: length(fileArray)
     vertices_count = mergeVerticesFiles(fileArray[1], fileArray[i], vertices_count)
     rm(fileArray[i]) # Removing merged file
     push!(offsets, vertices_count)
    end
   return offsets
  else
   # Merging faces files
   mergeFacesFiles(fileArray[1], fileArray[2], facesOffset[1])
   rm(fileArray[2]) # Removing merged file
   for i in 3 : length(fileArray)
     mergeFacesFiles(fileArray[1], fileArray[i], facesOffset[i - 1])
     rm(fileArray[i]) # Removing merged file
   end
 end
end
function mergeObjHelper(vertices_files, faces_files)
 Support function for mergeObj. It takes vertices and faces files
 and execute a single merging step
 vertices_files: Array containing vertices files
 faces_files: Array containing faces files
 numberOfImages = length(vertices_files)
 taskArray = Array(Int, 0)
  assignTasks(1, numberOfImages, taskArray)
 # Now taskArray contains first files to merge
 numberOfVertices = Array(Int, 0)
 tasks = Array(RemoteRef, 0)
 for i in 1 : length(taskArray) - 1
   task = @spawn mergeObjProcesses(vertices_files[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i + 1] - 1)])
   push! (tasks, task)
   #append!(numberOfVertices, mergeObjProcesses(vertices_files[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i +
  end
```

```
# Merging last vertices files
 task = @spawn mergeObjProcesses(vertices_files[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : end])
 push!(tasks, task)
 #append!(numberOfVertices, mergeObjProcesses(vertices_files[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : e.
 for task in tasks
   append!(numberOfVertices, fetch(task))
  end
 debug("NumberOfVertices = ", numberOfVertices)
 # Merging faces files
 tasks = Array(RemoteRef, 0)
  for i in 1 : length(taskArray) - 1
   task = @spawn mergeObjProcesses(faces_files[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i + 1] - 1)],
                                    numberOfVertices[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i + 1] - 1)])
   push!(tasks, task)
   #mergeObjProcesses(faces_files[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i + 1] - 1)],
                       numberOfVertices[taskArray[i] : (taskArray[i + 1] - 1)])
  end
 #Merging last faces files
 task = @spawn mergeObjProcesses(faces_files[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : end],
                                  numberOfVertices[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : end])
 push!(tasks, task)
  #mergeObjProcesses(faces_files[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : end],
                       numberOfVertices[taskArray[length(taskArray)] : end])
 for task in tasks
   wait(task)
  end
end
function mergeObjParallel(modelDirectory)
 Merge stl files in a single obj file using a parallel
 approach. Files will be recursively merged two by two
 generating a tree where number of processes for every
 step is maximized
  Actually use of this function is discouraged. In fact
```

```
speedup is influenced by disk speed. It could work on
 particular systems with parallel accesses on disks
 modelDirectory: directory containing models
  11 11 11
 files = readdir(modelDirectory)
 # Appending directory path to every file
 files = map((s) -> string(modelDirectory, "/", s), files)
 # While we have more than one vtx file and one faces file
 while(length(files) != 2)
   vertices_files = files[find(s -> contains(s,string("_vtx.stl")), files)]
   faces_files = files[find(s -> contains(s,string("_faces.stl")), files)]
   # Merging files
   mergeObjHelper(vertices_files, faces_files)
   files = readdir(modelDirectory)
   files = map((s) -> string(modelDirectory, "/", s), files)
  end
 mergeVerticesFiles(files[2], files[1], 0)
 mv(files[2], string(modelDirectory, "/model.obj"))
 rm(files[1])
end
function mergeAndRemoveDuplicates(firstPath, secondPath)
 Merge two boundary files removing common faces between
 them
 firstPath, secondPath: Prefix of paths to merge
 firstPathV = string(firstPath, "_vtx.stl")
 firstPathFV = string(firstPath, "_faces.stl")
 secondPathV = string(secondPath, "_vtx.stl")
 secondPathFV = string(secondPath, "_faces.stl")
 if(isfile(firstPathV) && isfile(secondPathV))
   V = Array(Array(Int), 0)
```

```
FV = Array(Array{Int}, 0)
offset = 0
# First of all open files and retrieve LAR models
f1_V = open(firstPathV)
f1_FV = open(firstPathFV)
for ln in eachline(f1_V)
 splitted = split(ln)
 push!(V, [parse(splitted[2]), parse(splitted[3]), parse(splitted[4])])
 offset += 1
end
for ln in eachline(f1_FV)
  splitted = split(ln)
 push!(FV, [parse(splitted[2]), parse(splitted[3]), parse(splitted[4])])
end
close(f1_V)
close(f1_FV)
f2_V = open(secondPathV)
f2_FV = open(secondPathFV)
for ln in eachline(f2_V)
 splitted = split(ln)
 push!(V, [parse(splitted[2]), parse(splitted[3]), parse(splitted[4])])
end
for ln in eachline(f2_FV)
 splitted = split(ln)
 push!(FV, [parse(splitted[2]) + offset, parse(splitted[3]) + offset, parse(splitted[4])
end
close(f2_V)
close(f2_FV)
V_final, FV_final = LARUtils.removeVerticesAndFacesFromBoundaries(V, FV)
# Writing model to file
rm(firstPathV)
rm(firstPathFV)
rm(secondPathV)
rm(secondPathFV)
```

```
writeToObj(V_final, FV_final, firstPath)
 end
end
function mergeBoundariesProcess(modelDirectory, startImage, endImage,
                                imageDx, imageDy,
                                imageWidth, imageHeight)
 Helper function for mergeBoundaries.
 It is executed on different processes
 modelDirectory: Directory containing model files
 startImage: Block start image
  endImage: Block end image
  imageDx, imageDy: x and y sizes of the grid
  imageWidth, imageHeight: Width and Height of the image
 for xBlock in 0:(imageHeight / imageDx - 1)
   for yBlock in 0:(imageWidth / imageDy - 1)
     # Merging right Boundary
     firstPath = string(modelDirectory, "/right_output_", xBlock, "-", yBlock, "_", startImag
     secondPath = string(modelDirectory, "/left_output_", xBlock, "-", yBlock + 1, "_", start
     mergeAndRemoveDuplicates(firstPath, secondPath)
     # Merging top boundary
     firstPath = string(modelDirectory, "/top_output_", xBlock, "-", yBlock, "_", startImage,
     secondPath = string(modelDirectory, "/bottom_output_", xBlock, "-", yBlock, "_", endImag
     mergeAndRemoveDuplicates(firstPath, secondPath)
     # Merging front boundary
     firstPath = string(modelDirectory, "/front_output_", xBlock, "-", yBlock, "_", startImag
     secondPath = string(modelDirectory, "/back_output_", xBlock + 1, "-", yBlock, "_", start
     mergeAndRemoveDuplicates(firstPath, secondPath)
   end
 end
end
function mergeBoundaries(modelDirectory,
                         imageHeight, imageWidth, imageDepth,
                         imageDx, imageDy, imageDz)
 Merge boundaries files. For every cell of size
  (imageDx, imageDy, imageDz) in the model grid,
  it merges right faces with next left faces, top faces
```

with the next cell bottom faces, and front faces

```
with the next cell back faces
 modelDirectory: directory containing models
 imageHeight, imageWidth, imageDepth: images sizes
 imageDx, imageDy, imageDz: sizes of cells grid
 beginImageStack = 0
 endImage = beginImageStack
 tasks = Array(RemoteRef, 0)
 for zBlock in 0:(imageDepth / imageDz - 1)
   startImage = endImage
   endImage = startImage + imageDz
   task = @spawn mergeBoundariesProcess(modelDirectory, startImage, endImage,
                           imageDx, imageDy,
                           imageWidth, imageHeight)
   push!(tasks, task)
 end
 # Waiting for tasks
 for task in tasks
   wait(task)
 end
end
end
```

PngStack2Array3dJulia

```
"src/PngStack2Array3dJulia.jl" 59≡
module PngStack2Array3dJulia

⟨modules import PngStack2Array3dJulia 11a⟩
⟨Convert to png 14⟩
⟨Get image data 15⟩
⟨Centroid computation 16⟩
⟨Pixel transformation 20⟩
end

⋄
```

10.1 Installing the library

11 Conclusions

11.1 Results

11.2 Further improvements

References

- [CL13] CVD-Lab, *Linear Algebraic Representation*, Tech. Report 13-00, Roma Tre University, October 2013.
- [PDFJ15] Alberto Paoluzzi, Antonio DiCarlo, Francesco Furiani, and Miroslav Jirik, CAD models from medical images using LAR, Computer-Aided Design and Applications 13 (2015), To appear.
- [W3C] W3C, Portable Network Graphics (PNG) Specification (Second Edition), Tech. report.

A Utility functions

B Tests

Generation of the border matrix

```
"test/generateBorderMatrix.jl" 60\(\infty\)
    push!(LOAD_PATH, "../../")
    import GenerateBorderMatrix
    import JSON
    using Base.Test

function testComputeOriented3Border()
    """
    Test function for computeOriented3Border
    """
    boundaryMatrix = GenerateBorderMatrix.computeOriented3Border(2,2,2)

    rowcount = boundaryMatrix[:shape][1]
    @test rowcount == 36
    colcount = boundaryMatrix[:shape][2]
    @test colcount == 8
    row = boundaryMatrix[:indptr]
    @test row == [0,1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9,11,12,13,15,17,18,19,20,22,23,24,26,27,29,30,32,34,35,37,39,col = boundaryMatrix[:indices]
```

```
data = boundaryMatrix[:data]
 end
function testWriteBorder()
 Test for writeBorder
 boundaryMatrix = GenerateBorderMatrix.computeOriented3Border(2,2,2)
 filename = "borderFile"
 GenerateBorderMatrix.writeBorder(boundaryMatrix, filename)
 @test isfile(filename)
 # Loading borderMatrix from json file
 borderData = JSON.parsefile(filename)
 row = Array(Int64, length(borderData["ROW"]))
 col = Array(Int64, length(borderData["COL"]))
 data = Array(Int64, length(borderData["DATA"]))
 @test borderData["ROW"] == [0,1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9,11,12,13,15,17,18,19,20,22,23,24,26,27,29,30,3
 @test borderData["COL"] == [0,0,0,1,1,0,1,1,2,0,2,2,3,1,3,2,3,3,2,3,0,4,4,4,1,5,5,4,5,5,2,6,9
 rm(filename)
end
function executeAllTests()
 @time testComputeOriented3Border()
 @time testWriteBorder()
 println("Tests completed.")
end
executeAllTests()
```

Conversion of a png stack to a 3D array

```
"test/pngStack2Array3dJulia.jl" 61=
```

```
push!(LOAD_PATH, "../../")
import PngStack2Array3dJulia
using Base.Test
function testGetImageData()
 Test function for getImageData
 width, height = PngStack2Array3dJulia.getImageData("images/0.png")
 @test width == 50
 @test height == 50
end
function testCalculateClusterCentroids()
 Test function for calculateClusterCentroids
 path = "images/"
 image = 0
 centroids = PngStack2Array3dJulia.calculateClusterCentroids(path, image, 2)
 expected = [0, 253]
 centroids = vec(reshape(centroids, 1, 2))
 @test sort(centroids) == expected
end
function testPngstack2array3d()
 Test function for pngstack2array3d
 path = "images/"
 minSlice = 0
 maxSlice = 4
 centroids = PngStack2Array3dJulia.calculateClusterCentroids(path, 0, 2)
 image3d = PngStack2Array3dJulia.pngstack2array3d(path, minSlice, maxSlice, centroids)
 @test size(image3d)[1] == 5
 @test size(image3d[1])[1] == 50
 @test size(image3d[1])[2] == 200
```

end

```
function executeAllTests()
  @time testCalculateClusterCentroids()
  @time testPngstack2array3d()
  @time testGetImageData()
  println("Tests completed.")
end
executeAllTests()
```

Test for LAR utilities

```
"test/LARUtils.jl" 63 \equiv
     push!(LOAD_PATH, "../../")
     import LARUtils
     using Base.Test
     function testInd()
       Test function for ind
       nx = 2
       ny = 2
       Otest LARUtils.ind(0, 0, 0, nx, ny) == 0
       @test LARUtils.ind(1, 1, 1, nx, ny) == 13
       Otest LARUtils.ind(2, 5, 4, nx, ny) == 53
       @test LARUtils.ind(1, 1, 1, nx, ny) == 13
       Otest LARUtils.ind(2, 7, 1, nx, ny) == 32
       Otest LARUtils.ind(1, 0, 3, nx, ny) == 28
     end
     function executeAllTests()
       @time testInd()
       println("Tests completed.")
     end
     executeAllTests()
```