LOCI, Fiji & ImageJ2

Philosophy of optical research

- In vivo developmental biology
- Capture everything possible about a sample
- Multiple dimensions
 - Emission spectra
 - Lifetime
 - Cell polarization
- Greater resolution and range
 - Adaptive optics (peer deeper into the soup)
 - Longer time series

Philosophy of software development

- Interoperability
 - Leverage existing tools
 - "Glue code"
 - Implement missing features
- Open source (federally funded—ethical obligation)
- Of benefit to LOCI's research
- Of benefit to the broader scientific community

Computational tools

Acquisition software

- WiscScan
- Micro-Manager

Visualization & analysis

- ImageJ, Fiji
- VisBio
- Slim Plotter, TRI2
- FARSIGHT, ITK
- CellProfiler
- Data management
 - Open Microscopy Environment

A major goal of ImageJ2 is to integrate these tools into a common framework

LOCI's vision of scientific workflow

- Acquire data however you like (e.g., µManager)
 - If possible, record data in a standard format (OME-TIFF)
 - If not, convert from proprietary format (Bio-Formats)
- Store and organize data centrally (OMERO server)
- Analyze data through various client & desktop software
 - Smart clients can access data from the server (Fiji via plugins, OMERO.webclient, OMERO.insight)
 - Other software can work with data on disk (Fiji, etc.)
- **Record changes** back in the database, with versioning
- Share data over the Internet with colleagues
 - Both informally and as part of publication

What is Fiji?

- An easy way to develop novel algorithms
 - Plugins, macros or scripts
- A distribution platform for those algorithms
- A suite of tools to facilitate these goals
 - Script Editor (currently supports 7 languages)
 - Tutorial Maker
 - Fiji Updater
 - Access latest updates easily
 - Submit code directly to Fiji repository

Fiji vs. ImageJ

• Fiji is a *distribution* of ImageJ bundled with useful scientific image processing routines

	ImageJ	Fiji
Size	~3-5 MB	~45 MB
Focus	Various image processing	Segmentation & registration
License	Public domain	GPL (various plugin licenses)
Tools	Minimal	Rich

- Fiji is the GNU/Linux distribution to ImageJ's Linux kernel
- "Fiji Is Just ImageJ—batteries included"
- "Some assembly required"

Origins of Fiji

Albert Cardona ("Father" of Fiji)



- Institute of Neuroinformatics, Uni/ETH Zurich
- Albert is a biologist who wrote TrakEM2
- Began as a way to easily distribute TrakEM2

Johannes Schindelin ("Mother" of Fiji)

- Max Planck Institute, Cell Biology Division (MPI-CBG) in Dresden
- Johannes is the one who did the hard work
- Maintains the repository, build system, etc.

Pavel Tomancak



- Principal Investigator at MPI-CBG
- Working to secure additional funding for Fiji





Other hackathon participants

Stephan Saalfeld & Stephan Preibisch



- PhD students at MPI-CBG
- Created excellent imglib library
- Saalfeld developed much of TrakEM2's registration code
- Preibisch developed Fiji's 2D & 3D Stitcher plugins

Mark Longair



- Just finished his PhD in neurobiology
- Studies drosophila, specifically neuropils
- Developed Fiji's Simple Neurite Tracer plugin
- Moving from U. Edinburgh to Albert's group in Zurich







Other hackathon participants

Bene Schmid

- Developed Fiji's 3D Viewer (uses Java3D)
- Erwin Frise
 - Developed level sets plugin for image segmentation
- Larry Lindsey



- U. Austin
- Charged with maintaining a package called "Reconstruct"
- Saw TrakEM2/Fiji could already do most of the same things
- Spent his time learning about imglib





Other hackathon participants

Verena Kaynig



- Computer scientist interested in machine learning
- Wrote a "trainable segmentation" plugin

Ignacio Arganda

- Developed Fiji's bUnwarpJ plugin for image registration
- Improved Verena's Trainable Segmentation plugin after she left

Rubén Muñoz

- EMBL programmer working with Olympus ScanR systems
- Discussed Bio-Formats and OME
- Developed his own database with web interface
- Uses OME-TIFF





Other Fiji developers

- Jean-Yves Tinevez
 - Institut Pasteur
- Gabriel Landini
 - Prof. Of Analytical Pathology
 - School of Dentistry, U. Birmingham, England
- Us!
- Probably others I'm forgetting

What I worked on

- Learned Fiji development workflow
- Algorithm launcher for imglib
 - Execute any imglib OutputAlgorithm in Fiji
- Autogenerated an ImageJ delegation layer
 - Attempt failed; now using a simpler approach
- Fiji/ITK integration
 - Proof of concept; call ITK image filters from Fiji
- Some work on Bio-Formats

Same dependency injection pains as us





Macros Shortcuts Utilities New Compile and Run Install PlugIn 3D Viewer Analyze Examples	/second Cell_Colony.jpg
3D Viewer Analyze	32-bit; 647K
Feature Extraction	
ITK Gradient Magnitud	de Recursive Gaussian
Image5D LOCI Landmarks Process Registration Scripting Segmentation Skeleton Stacks Stitching Tracking Tracking Transform Volume Viewer	Is.createImage(rescaledImage):



Reminder: Vision of Fiji

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- Core image processing library for Fiji
- Major goals:
 - Improve the technical design
 - Integration and interoperability
 - Grow the ImageJ community

- Improve the technical design
 - A solid base on which to build scientific tools
 - Flexible enough to interface with a variety of existing software
 - Able to represent scientific image data in a variety of contexts (e.g., N-dimensional)
 - Buzzwords like "modular" and "extensible"

- Integration and interoperability
 - Adapt Slim Plotter & VisBio features into ImageJ2
 - Glue code between ImageJ2 and CellProfiler
 - Glue code between ImageJ2, ITK and FARSIGHT

- Grow the ImageJ community
 - Backwards compatible with existing plugins as much as possible (at least initially)
 - The more users of ImageJ, the easier it will be to share analysis routines and results
 - Fiji certainly shares this goal

Vision: Fiji vs. ImageJ2

ImageJ2	Fiji
Software development infrastructure	Image processing algorithm development and deployment
General image processing	Scientific image processing, particularly life sciences (microscopy, neuroscience, but also computer vision)
Boring baseline stuff	Fun domain-specific applications

Where ImageJ2 ends and Fiji begins is fluid

• We may develop analysis routines useful to LOCI that end up in Fiji rather than ImageJ2

Components of ImageJ2

- Major components of ImageJ2
 1)Data model imglib library
 2)Display Java AWT, JAI, Swing
 3)Input/output Bio-Formats architecture
 4)Regions of interest (ROIs) Java AWT, JHotDraw
 5)Scripting & plugins Java 6 Scripting Framework
- All of these areas have significant limitations and will benefit from enhancements and refactoring

Components of ImageJ2

To start, each of us focus on one?
1)Data model – Aivar?
2)Display – Rick?
3)Input/output – Barry?
4)Regions of interest (ROIs) – Brian?
5)Scripting & plugins – Grant?

An old MIDIAS diagram, just for fun...:-)

