

Transparent Quantitative Musculoskeletal Imaging

Serena Bonaretti

<https://sbonaretti.github.io/>



Outline and Disclosures

1. Why transparent research?
 2. How to conduct transparent research?
 3. Example of transparent QMSKI: pyKNEEr
- I will show *some* of the tools for transparent research, chosen among the most commonly used
 - I do not have conflicts of interest

What are openness and reproducibility?

- **Open science** refers to the free availability of data, software, and methods developed by researchers with the aim to share knowledge and tools to professionals and citizens ([Woelfle 2011](#))
- **Reproducibility** is the ability of researchers to duplicate the results of a previous study using the same data, software, and methods used by the original authors ([Bollen 2015](#))
 - **Replicability** is the recreation of same results using new data but the same experimental design ([Gorgolewski](#))

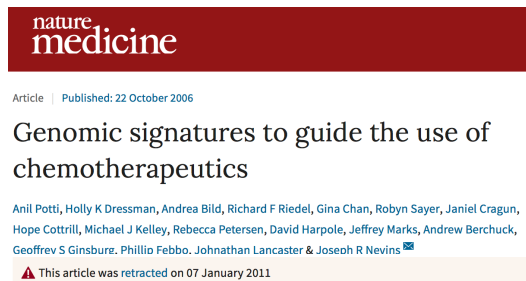
Note: In some fields the two definitions are inverted

Replication crisis

- Discovery of personalized cancer treatment at Duke University



([Potti 2006](#))



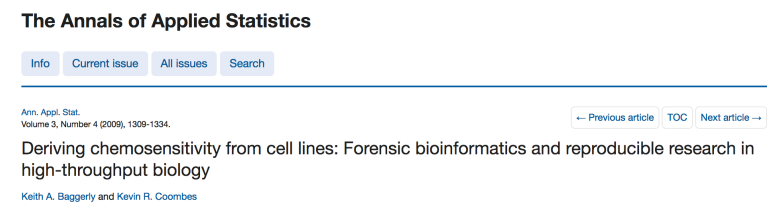
([Potti 2006](#))



([Bonnefoi 2007](#))



([Hsu 2007](#))



([Baggerly 2009](#))

V. Stodden¹: "None of that was picked up in peer-review. Nobody looks under the covers that deeply in peer-review. They were able to read the paper. This kind of thing is in the code and in the data itself"

¹<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dF1-nkqwmjl> from min 13:30, and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eV9dcAGaVU8>

Computational replicability crisis

To encourage repeatable research, fund repeatability engineering and reward commitments to sharing research artifacts.

BY CHRISTIAN COLLBERG AND TODD A. PROEBSTING

Repeatability in Computer Systems Research

- 508 papers from 8 conferences and 5 journals with a practical orientation
- Team of undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdocs
- They could replicate algorithms of 226 papers (44%)

[\(Collberg 2015a\)](#) [\(Collberg 2015b\)](#)

Why is it so difficult to replicate studies?

- Papers must be concise ([Vandewalle 2012](#))
 - Limited amount of words, figures, and tables
 - Authors have to select methods and parameters to present
- Data and software are in the supplementary material
 - Not in the paper body ([Vandewalle 2012](#))
- Until a few years ago there were no permanent, large, and free repositories for data and software with DOI
 - Personal repositories often get deleted ([Gil 2016](#))
- “Publish or perish” might favor quantity over quality and scientific bias (results have to be good) ([Fanelli 2010](#))



Current vs. transparent way of publishing

- Currently
 - Publications are the tip of the iceberg
 - “It’s impossible to verify most of the results that computational scientists present at conferences and in papers” [Donoho 2009](#)
- A transparency solution
 - “An author attaches to every figure caption a pushbutton or a name tag usable to recalculate the figure from all its data, parameters, and programs. This provides **a concrete definition of reproducibility in computationally oriented research**” [Claerbout 1992](#)



What are the benefits of transparent research?

- Openness and reproducibility are essential to researchers to:
 - Assess the value of scientific claims ([Sandve 2013](#))
 - Compare new methods to existing ones ([Freire 2018](#))
 - Build on the work of other scientists with confidence and efficiency, i.e. without "reinventing the wheel" ([Rule 2018](#))
 - Collaborate to improve and expand robust scientific workflows to accelerate scientific discoveries ([Donoho 2009](#), [Munafò 2017](#))



What are the benefits of transparent research?

- Increased citation rate

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online



Sharing Detailed Research Data Is Associated with Increased Citation Rate

Heather A. Piwowar*, Roger S. Day, Douglas B. Fridsma

Department of Biomedical Informatics, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States of America

Background. Sharing research data provides benefit to the general scientific community, but the benefit is less obvious for the investigator who makes his or her data available. **Principal Findings.** We examined the citation history of 85 cancer microarray clinical trial publications with respect to the availability of their data. The 48% of trials with publicly available microarray data received 85% of the aggregate citations. **Publicly available data was significantly ($p=0.006$) associated with a 69% increase in citations, independently of journal impact factor, date of publication, and author country of origin** using linear regression. **Significance.** This correlation between publicly available data and increased literature impact may further motivate investigators to share their detailed research data.

([Piwowar 2007](#))

REPRODUCIBLE RESEARCH FOR SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING

PATRICK VANDEWALLE

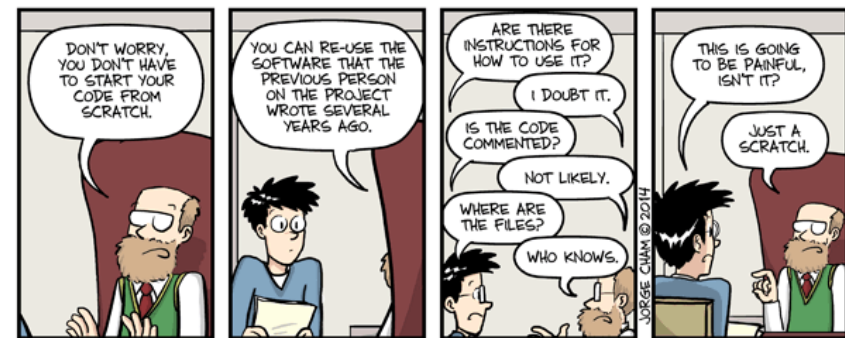
Code Sharing Is Associated with Research Impact in Image Processing

In computational sciences such as image processing, publishing usually isn't enough to allow other researchers to verify results. Often, supplementary materials such as source code and measurement data are required. Yet most researchers choose not to make their code available because of the extra time required to prepare it. Are such efforts actually worthwhile, though?

"The median number of citations [...] increases with a factor of 3 when code is available online"

([Vandewalle 2012](#))

- Personal and group self-discipline ([Donoho 2009](#))
- Reproducibility helps defeat self-deception ([Nuzzo 2015](#))



Funding agencies support transparent research

- Europe: [EOSC](#), [Horizon 2020](#), [OpenAire](#)
- US: [NIH](#), [Gates Foundation](#), [Chan-Zuckerberg Initiative](#)
- Canada: [Open data](#)
- Australia, New Zealand, Asia, ...

How can we conduct transparent research?

- Historically, research data, tools, and processes were rarely openly available because of limited storage and computational power ([Munafa 2017](#))
- Nowadays there are several tools to conduct transparent research
 - Open access data
 - Reproducible workflows
 - Interactive publications



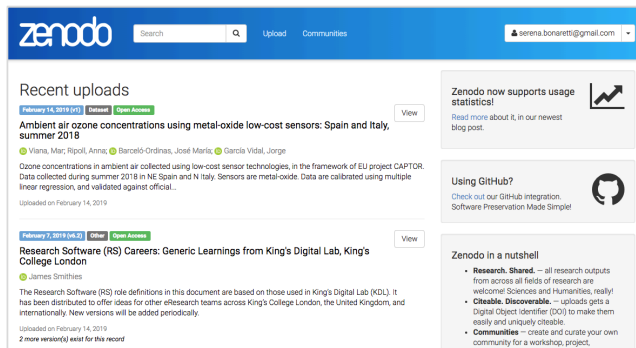
A few questions about our research practice

- How many of us have uploaded data and/or code to a public repository?
- How many of us use Jupyter notebook or R markdown for reproducible workflows?
- How many of us have written an interactive publication?

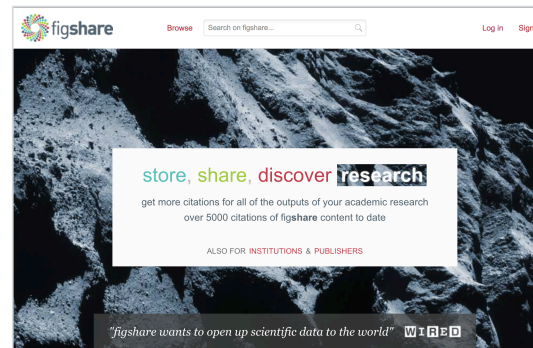
Transparent research:
Open-access data,
reproducible workflows,
and interactive publications

Data repositories

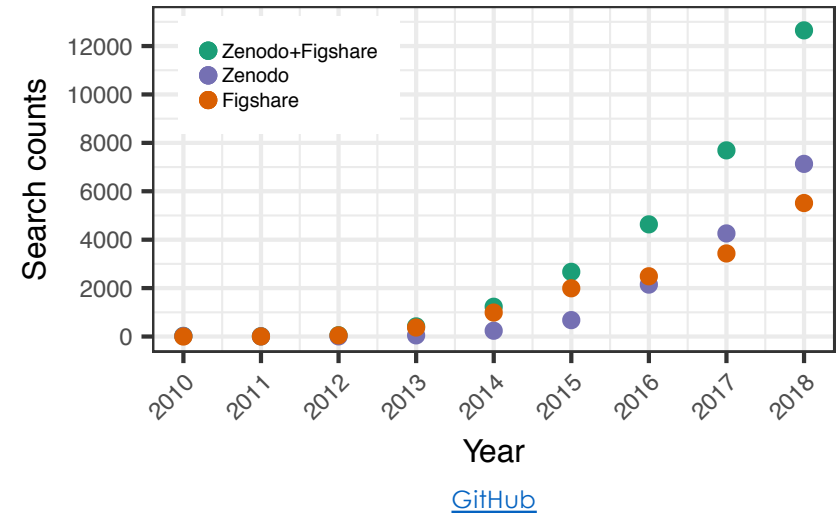
- Data repositories provide a DOI
 - Data and software are persistent and citable



<https://zenodo.org/>

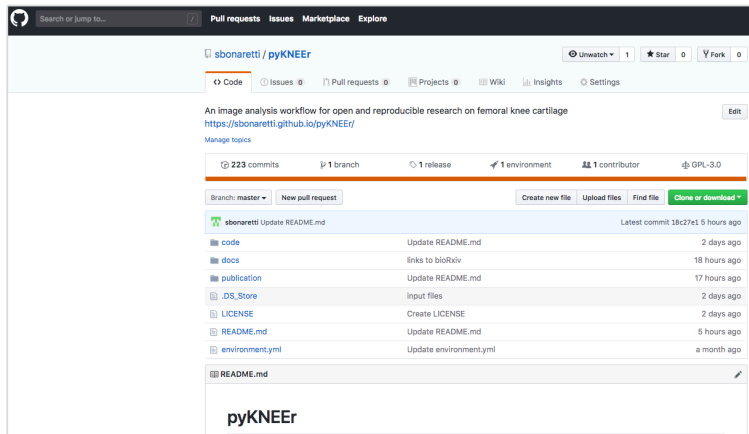


<https://figshare.com/>

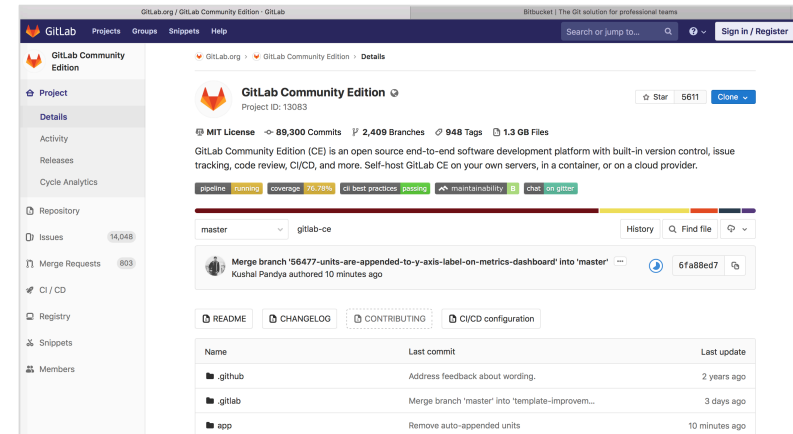


[GitHub](https://github.com/)

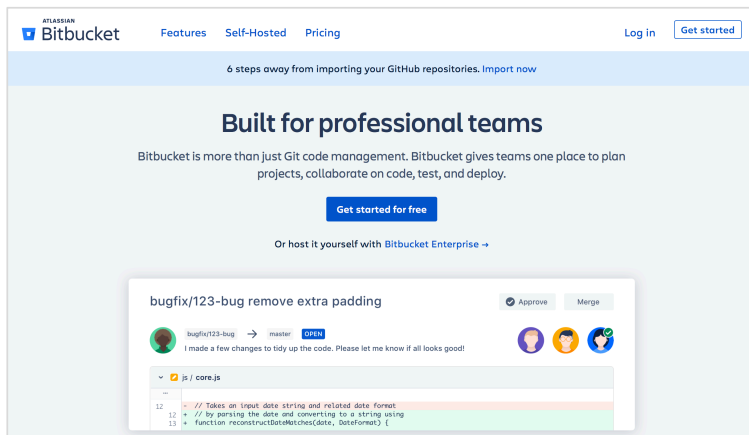
Software repositories



<https://github.com/>



<https://about.gitlab.com>



<https://bitbucket.org>

- Version control for reproducibility

Metadata and documentation

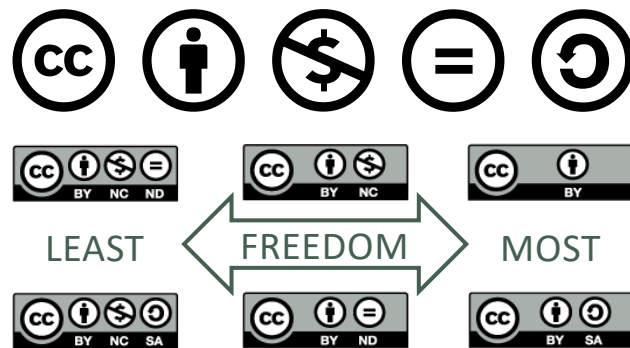
- Characteristics of raw and derived data
- Code documentation
- Formats
 - Fields in repositories (e.g. Zenodo)
 - Text files
 - README.md in GitHub
 - Website
 - ...

License

- Online material is automatically protected by copyright → Add a license

DATA AND PUBLICATIONS

<https://creativecommons.org/choose>



CODE

<https://choosealicense.com/licenses/>

	GNU AGPLv3	GNU GPLv3	GNU LGPLv3	Mozilla Public 2.0	Apache License 2.0	MIT License	The Unlicense
Commercial use	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Distribution	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Modification	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Patent use	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Private use	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Disclose source	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
License and copyright notice	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Network use is distribution	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Same license	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
State changes	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Liability	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Warranty	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Trademark use	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Transparent research:
Open-access data,
reproducible workflows,
and interactive publications

How do we create reproducible workflows?

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online



Editorial

Ten Simple Rules for Reproducible Computational Research

Geir Kjetil Sandve^{1,2*}, Anton Nekrutenko³, James Taylor⁴, Eivind Hovig^{1,5,6}

1 Department of Informatics, University of Oslo, Blindern, Oslo, Norway, **2** Centre for Cancer Biomedicine, University of Oslo, Blindern, Oslo, Norway, **3** Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and The Huck Institutes for the Life Sciences, Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, United States of America, **4** Department of Biology and Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America, **5** Department of Tumor Biology, Institute for Cancer Research, The Norwegian Radium Hospital, Oslo University Hospital, Montebello, Oslo, Norway, **6** Institute for Medical Informatics, The Norwegian Radium Hospital, Oslo University Hospital, Montebello, Oslo, Norway

[\(Sandve 2013\)](#)



EDITORIAL

Ten Simple Rules for Taking Advantage of Git and GitHub

Yasset Perez-Riverol^{1*}, Laurent Gatto², Rui Wang¹, Timo Sachsenberg³, Julian Uszkoreit⁴, Felipe da Veiga Leprevost⁵, Christian Fufezan⁶, Tobias Ternent¹, Stephen J. Eglén⁷, Daniel S. Katz⁸, Tom J. Pollard⁹, Alexander Kononov¹⁰, Robert M. Flight¹¹, Kai Blin¹², Juan Antonio Vizcaino^{1*}

1 European Molecular Biology Laboratory, European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge, United Kingdom, **2** Computational Proteomics Unit, Cambridge Systems Biology Centre, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, **3** Applied Bioinformatics and Department of Computer Science, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany, **4** Medizinisches Proteom-Center, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Bochum, Germany, **5** Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States of America, **6** Institute of Plant Biology and Biotechnology, University of Münster, Münster, Germany, **7** Centre for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, **8** National Center for Supercomputing Applications and Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, United States of America, **9** MIT Laboratory for Computational Physiology, Institute for Medical Engineering and Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America, **10** Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Computational Algebra, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, United Kingdom, **11** Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Markey Cancer Center, Resource Center for Stable Isotope-Resolved Metabolomics, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, United States of America, **12** The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Biosustainability, Technical University of Denmark, Hørsholm, Denmark

[\(Perez-Riverol 2016\)](#)



PERSPECTIVE

Good enough practices in scientific computing

Greg Wilson^{1*†}, Jennifer Bryan^{2‡}, Karen Cranston^{3‡}, Justin Kitzes^{4‡}, Lex Nederbragt^{5‡}, Tracy K. Teal^{6‡}

1 Software Carpentry Foundation, Austin, Texas, United States of America, **2** RStudio and Department of Statistics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, **3** Department of Biology, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, United States of America, **4** Energy and Resources Group, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California, United States of America, **5** Centre for Ecological and Evolutionary Synthesis, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, **6** Data Carpentry, Davis, California, United States of America

[\(Wilson 2016\)](#)

arXiv.org > cs > arXiv:1810.08055

Computer Science > Other Computer Science

Ten Simple Rules for Reproducible Research in Jupyter Notebooks

Adam Rule, Amanda Birmingham, Cristal Zuniga, Ilkay Altintas, Shih-Cheng Huang, Rob Knight, Niema Moshiri, Mai H. Nguyen, Sara Brin Rosenthal, Fernando Pérez, Peter W. Rose

(Submitted on 13 Oct 2018)

Reproducibility of computational studies is a hallmark of scientific methodology. It enables researchers to build with confidence on the methods and findings of others, reuse and extend computational pipelines, and thereby drive scientific progress. Since many experimental studies rely on computational analyses, biologists need guidance on how to set up and document reproducible data analyses or simulations.

In this paper, we address several questions about reproducibility. For example, what are the technical and non-technical barriers to reproducible computational studies? What opportunities and challenges do computational notebooks offer to overcome some of these barriers? What tools are available and how can they be used effectively?

We have developed a set of rules to serve as a guide to scientists with a specific focus on computational notebook systems, such as Jupyter Notebooks, which have become a tool of choice for many applications. Notebooks combine detailed workflows with narrative text and visualization of results. Combined with software repositories and open source licensing, notebooks are powerful tools for transparent, collaborative, reproducible, and reusable data analyses.

[\(Rule 2018\)](#)

Summary of rules

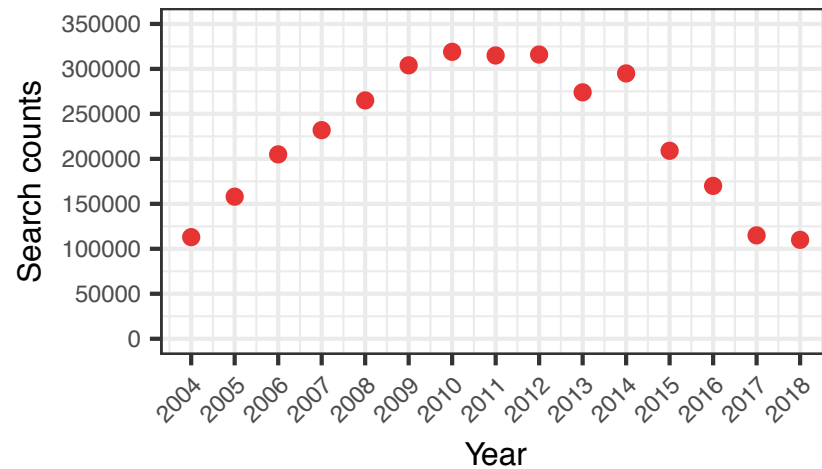
- Use open source programming language and file formats
 - e.g. python, R, .txt, .csv, ...
- Keep track of how you create results
 - Document computational provenance of derived data
 - Store raw data, including data behind plots
 - Use computational notebooks
 - Avoid manual data manipulation
 - Tidy data tables with scripts
 - Record dependencies
- Be your own user
 - Code well, be transparent, be simple



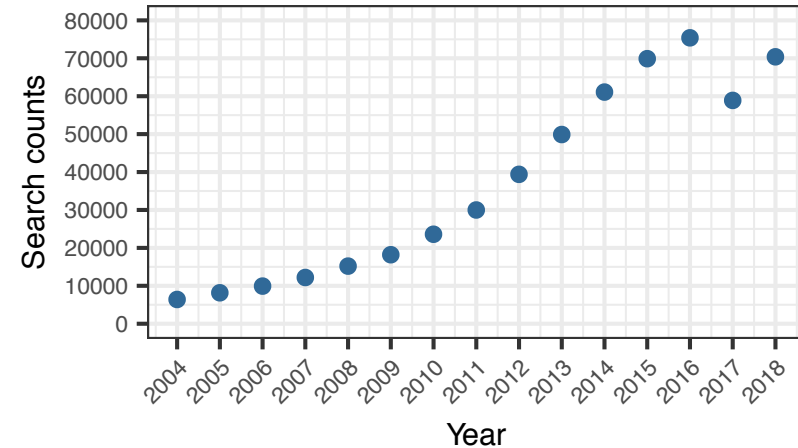
Open access programming language

- Plenty of libraries, examples, and Q&A (somebody already had your issue!)
- No purchase needed

MATLAB



python



[GitHub](#) - Modified from [Donoho 2015](#)

Jupyter notebooks

pykneer.example_2.ipynb X

Relaxometry - Extended Phase Graph (EPG) modeling

Image information

Inputs:

- input_file_name contains the list of the images used to calculate T_2 using EPG modeling
- output_file_name contains average and standard deviation of the T_2 maps

```
input_file_name = "/image_list_relaxometry_EPG.txt"
output_file_name = "EPG_emo.csv"
```

Read image data

- image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored

```
image_data = io.load_image_data_EPG(input_file_name)
```

01_DESS_01_orig
→ Information loaded for 1 subjects

Calculate T_2 maps

```
ret.calculate_t2_maps(image_data, n_of_cores)
```

01_DESS_01_orig
→ T_2 maps calculated
→ The total time was 2.54 seconds (about 0 min)

Visualize T_2 maps

2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
The flattened map is an average of neighboring voxels projected on the bone surface side of the femoral cartilage

```
ret.show_t2_maps(image_data)
```

3D MAP: Interactive rendering of T_2 maps

```
# ID of the map to visualize (The ID is the one in the 2D visualization above)
image_ID = 1 - 1 # -1 because counting starts from 0

# read image
file_name = image_data[image_ID]["relaxometryFolder"] + image_data[image_ID]["t2mapTaskFiletName"]
image = itk.imread(file_name)

# view
viewer = view(image, gradient_opacity=0.0, ui_collapsed=False, shadow=False)
viewer
```

- Open-source web application integrating
 - Live code
 - Narrative text with equations
 - Visualizations
- Easy to use and share among researchers

- Examples in medical imaging

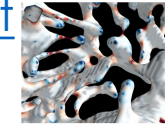
- [Bone microCT](#)
- [SimpleITK notebooks](#)
- [SPIE 2019 workshop](#)
- [Deep Learning Toolkit](#)
- [VTK](#)
- [pyKNEEr](#)

Processing X-ray tomography images with Python

X-ray tomography is an imaging technique that produces 3-D images of a scanned object. For most applications of tomography such as medical imaging or materials science, one often wishes to extract and label objects of interest from the 3-D tomography image.

This tutorial is an example of segmentation of 3-D tomography images, using the `scikit-image` Python package. Most image processing functions of `scikit-image` are compatible with 2-D as well as 3-D images, which makes it a tool of choice for processing tomography images.

Furthermore, `scikit-image` is part of a larger ecosystem of Scientific Python packages, so that it is possible to use other packages, such as Mayavi for 3-D visualization.



```
matplotlib inline
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from time import time
```

```
# Visualize the "dict_batch_feat" using matplotlib.
input_tensor_shape = dict_batch_feat.shape
center_slices = [x/2 for x in input_tensor_shape]

# Visualize the "gml_batch_feat" using matplotlib.
f, axsarr = plt.subplots(1, input_tensor_shape[1], figsize=(15,5))
f.suptitle("Visualization of the 'dict_batch_feat' input tensor with shape{}".format(input_tensor_shape))

for batch_id in range(input_tensor_shape[0]):
    # Extract a center slice image
    img_slice = np.squeeze(dict_batch_feat[batch_id, center_slices[1], :, :])
    img_slice = np.flip(img_slice, axis=0)

    # Plot
    axsarr[batch_id].imshow(img_slice, cmap="grey")
    axsarr[batch_id].axis('off')
    axsarr[batch_id].set_title('batch_id={}'.format(batch_id))

f.subplots_adjust(wspace=0.05, hspace=0, top=0.8)
plt.show()
```

Visualization of the 'dict_batch_feat' input tensor with shape=(5, 128, 224, 224, 1)



Dependencies

- Reproducibility of computational *environment*
 - Future versions might be incompatible

Dependencies

```
%reload_ext watermark
%watermark -v -m -p pandas,numpy,itk

CPython 3.7.3
IPython 7.4.0

pandas 0.24.2
numpy 1.16.2
itk unknown

compiler : Clang 4.0.1 (tags/RELEASE_401/final)
system   : Darwin
release  : 17.7.0
machine  : x86_64
processor: i386
CPU cores: 4
interpreter: 64bit

%%R
sessionInfo()

R version 3.3.3 (2017-03-06)
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin13.4.0 (64-bit)
Running under: macOS 10.13.6

locale:
 [1] en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/C/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8

attached base packages:
 [1] tools stats graphics grDevices utils datasets methods
 [8] base

other attached packages:
 [1] ggplot2_3.1.0

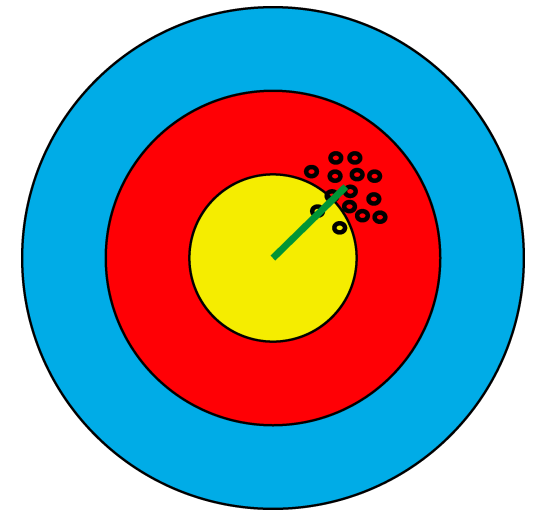
loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
 [1] Rcpp_1.0.1 digest_0.6.18 withr_2.1.2 crayon_1.3.4
 [5] dplyr_0.8.1 assertthat_0.2.1 grid_3.3.3 plyr_1.8.4
 [9] R6_2.4.0 gtable_0.2.0 magrittr_1.5 scales_1.0.0
[13] pillar_1.4.0 rlang_0.3.4 lazyeval_0.2.1 labeling_0.3
[17] glue_1.3.1 purrr_0.3.2 munsell_0.5.0 pkgconfig_2.0.2
[21] colorspace_1.3-2 tidyselect_0.2.5 tibble_2.1.1

import datetime
now = datetime.datetime.now()
print ("Date: " + str(now.day) + " " + str(now.month) + " " + str(now.year))

Date: 17 6 2019
```

Last note on reproducibility

- Reproducibility does not imply correctness
- Lack of reproducibility does not imply incorrectness
- Incorrectness can be found with reproducibility



[Holmes 2018](#)

Transparent research:
Open-access data,
reproducible workflows,
and interactive publications

How do we make interactive publications?

AGU PUBLICATIONS



Earth and Space Science

REVIEW

10.1002/2015EA000136

Special Section:

Geoscience Papers of the Future

Key Points:

- Describes best practices for documenting research to support open science
- Publishing computational provenance with software and data improves science transparency
- Promotes approaches to achieve equitable credit for all digital research products

Correspondence to:
Y. Gil,
gil@isi.edu

Toward the Geoscience Paper of the Future: Best practices for documenting and sharing research from data to software to provenance

Yolanda Gil¹, Cédric H. David², Ibrahim Demir³, Bakinam T. Essawy⁴, Robinson W. Fulweiler⁵, Jonathan L. Goodall⁶, Leif Karlstrom⁶, Huikyo Lee², Heath J. Mills⁷, Ji-Hyun Oh^{2,8}, Suzanne A. Pierce⁹, Allen Pope^{10,11}, Mimi W. Tzeng¹², Sandra R. Villamizar¹³, and Xuan Yu¹⁴

¹Information Sciences Institute and Department of Computer Science, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA, ²Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA, ³IHR Hydrosience and Engineering Institute, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA, ⁴Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA, ⁵Department of Earth and Environment, Department of Biology, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, ⁶Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, USA, ⁷Division of Natural Sciences, University of Houston—Clear Lake, Houston, Texas, USA, ⁸Computer Science Department, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA, ⁹Texas Advanced Computing Center and Jackson School of Geosciences, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA, ¹⁰National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado, USA, ¹¹Polar Science Center, Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA, ¹²Data Management Center, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin Island, Alabama, USA, ¹³Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Colombia, ¹⁴Department of Geological Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA

([Gil 2016](#))

On Reproducible AI

Towards reproducible research, open science, and digital scholarship in AI publications

Odd Erik Gundersen, Yolanda Gil and David W. Aha

Abstract

Background: Artificial intelligence, like any science, must rely on reproducible experiments to validate results. **Objective:** To give practical and pragmatic recommendations for how to document AI research so that results are reproducible. **Method:** Our analysis of the literature shows that AI publications currently fall short of providing enough documentation to facilitate reproducibility. Our suggested best practices are based on a framework for reproducibility and recommendations for best practices given by scientific organizations, scholars, and publishers. **Results:** We have made a reproducibility checklist based on our investigation and described how every item in the checklist can be documented by authors and examined by reviewers. **Conclusion:** We encourage authors and reviewers to use the suggested best practices and author checklist when considering submissions for AAAI publications and conferences.

([Gundersen 2018](#))

- Buttons and links to data and code

Examples of interactive papers

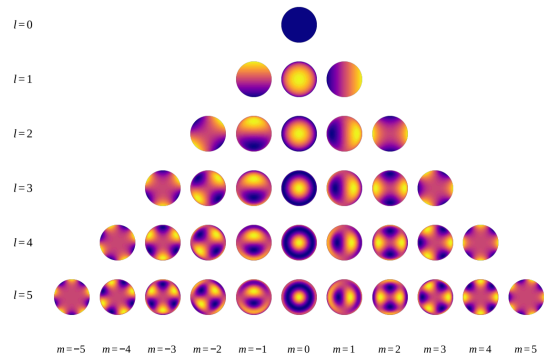


Figure 1. The real spherical harmonics up to degree $l = 5$ computed from Equation (1). In these plots, the x -axis points to the right, the y -axis points up, and the z -axis points out of the page. [Luger 2018]

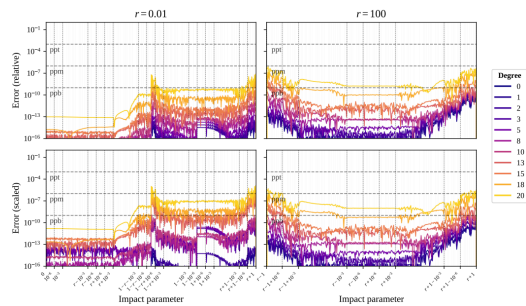


Figure 12. Similar to Figure 11, but showing instead the error on the derivative of the flux with respect to the impact parameter computed analytically with autodifferentiation. The error is computed relative to a numerical derivative computed at 128 bit precision. [Luger 2018]

[Luger 2018]

Literature map of femoral knee cartilage segmentation

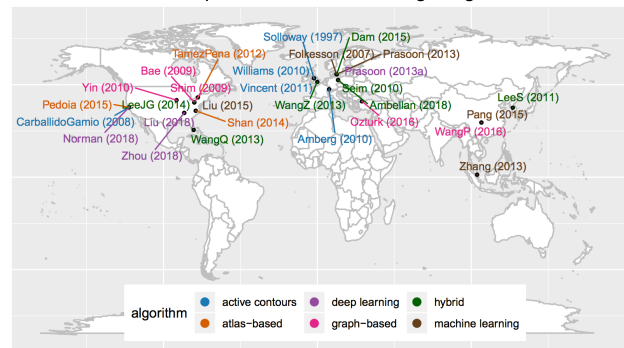


Figure 1: The visualization shows name of first author, year of publication, affiliation of last author, and segmentation method for 29 relevant publications on femoral knee cartilage segmentation from 1997 to 2018. Publications by segmentation method and in alphabetical order are: Active contours: Amberg(2010)[7], Solloway(1997)[62], Vincent(2011)[67], Williams(2010)[74]; Atlas-based: Padoia(2015)[47], Shan(2014)[59], Tamez-Pena(2012)[44]; Deep-learning: Liu(2018)[33], Norman(2018)[43], Prason(2013a)[52], Zhou(2018)[81]; Graph-based: Bae(2009)[4], Ozturk(2016)[4], Shim(2009)[60], WangP(2016)[68], Yin(2010)[78]; Hybrid: Ambellan(2018)[1], Dam(2015)[11], LeeG(2014)[30], Lees(2011)[31], Seim(2010)[57], WangQ(2013)[69], WangZ(2013)[70]; Machine learning: Folkesson(2007)[18], Liu(2015)[34], Pang(2015)[46], Prason(2013)[51], Zhang(2013)[90]. This graph and graphs in Fig. 4 and Fig. 5 were made in Jupyter notebook using ggplot2 [71], an R package based on the grammar of graphics [72]. [Bonaretti 2019]

	Repository	Metadata / Documentation	Software / Language	License	DOI	Citation
Software Used						
Preprocessing	Bitbucket	Wiki	C++, ITK	Apache	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.media.2014.05.008	[59]*
elaatix 4.8	GitHub	GitHub Wiki	C++, ITK	Apache	https://doi.org/10.1109/7MI.2009.2038616	[28]*
Developed py3MEER	GitHub	Website	python, Jupyter notebook	GNU GPLv3	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2574172	Bonaretti S, et al. pyKNEER (v0.0.1). Zenodo. 2019. 10.5281/zenodo.2574172
Data						
Original	OAI	Website	-	Data user agreement	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joca.2008.06.016	[49]*
Derived (results)	Zenodo	Jupyter notebook	-	CC-BY-NC-SA	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2630609	Bonaretti S, et al. Dataset used in (Bonaretti et al. 2019). Zenodo. 2019. 10.5281/zenodo.2530609

Dataset	OAI1-DESS	OAI1-T2	OAI2-BL	OAI2-FU	inHouse-DESS	inHouse-CQ
Number of subjects	19	19	88	88	4	4
I. Acquisition parameters						
Acquisition protocol	DESS	T2-w	DESS	DESS	DESS	CubeQuant
Acquisition plane	sagittal	sagittal	sagittal	sagittal	sagittal	sagittal
Number of images in series	2 (1 available)*	7	2 (1 available)*	2	2	4
In-plane spacing [mm]	0.3646 x 0.3646 (0.4270 x 0.4270)*	0.3125 x 0.3125	0.3646 x 0.3646	0.3125 x 0.3125	0.3125 x 0.3125	0.3125 x 0.3125
Slice thickness [mm]	0.7 (0.75)*	3 (3.5)*	0.7	1.5	3	-
Echo time (TE) [ms]	4.7	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70	4.7	42.52	-	-
Spin-lock time (TSL) [ms]	-	-	-	-	1, 10, 30, 60	-
Repetition time (TR) [ms]	16.32	2700 (2900)*	16.32	25	1302	-
Flip angle [°]	25	180	25	30	90	-
II. Ground truth segmentation						
Method	atlas-based		active models	-	-	-
Anatomy	femur, femoral cartilage		femoral cartilage	-	-	-
Type	mask		contour	-	-	-
III. Experimental results						
Image number in series	1	1	2-7	1	1	1
Preprocessing						
Spatial standardization	•	•	•	•	•	•
Intensity standardization	•	•	•	•	•	•
Segmentation						
Find reference	4, 8, 10, 13, 16	-	-	-	-	-
Inter-subject	•	•	•	•	•	•
Longitudinal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multimodal	-	•	-	-	-	•
Segmentation quality						
Dice coefficient	•	•	-	•	-	-
Analysis	•	•	•	•	•	•
Morphology	-	•	-	-	•	•
Relaxation	-	•	-	-	•	•

[Bonaretti 2019]

Initiative at a community level

- [QMSKI 2019](#)
 - Wiki with How To: <https://github.com/QMSKI/TransparentQMSKI/wiki>



QMSKI 2021
in
Netherlands / Belgium

pyKNEEr: An image analysis workflow for open and reproducible research on femoral knee cartilage

Serena Bonaretti^{1,2}, Garry E. Gold¹, Gary S. Beaupre^{2,3}

¹Department of Radiology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

²Musculoskeletal Research Laboratory, VA Palo Alto Health Care System, CA, USA

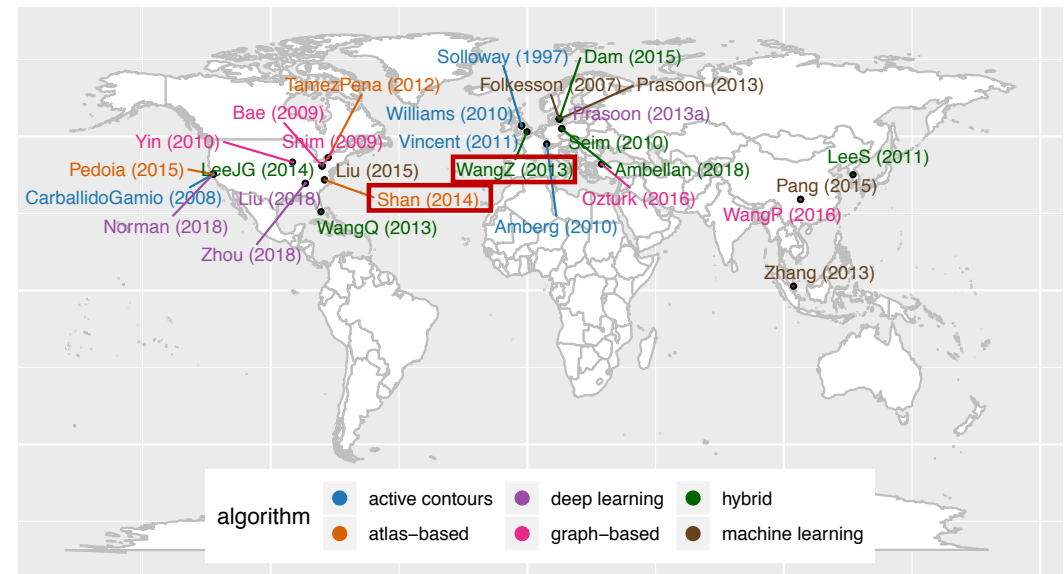
³Department of Bioengineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

<https://sbonaretti.github.io/>

Image-based analysis of femoral knee cartilage

- In knee OA, analysis of femoral cartilage from MR images has assumed an important role ([Hafezi-Nejad 2018](#))
- Analysis workflows include:
 - Preprocessing
 - Segmentation
 - Morphology and Relaxometry
- Segmentation is a major challenge
 - Of 29 segmentation algorithms, only 2 have open source code ([Wang 2013](#), [Shan 2014](#))

Literature map of femoral knee cartilage segmentation

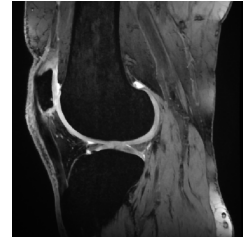


pyKNEEr: An image analysis workflow for open and reproducible research on femoral knee cartilage

Openness of *pyKNEEr*

- Code written in *python*
- Use of open file formats
 - *.mha*, *.txt*, *.csv*
- Modular structure to favor code expansion
- Reuse of developed code
 - Intensity preprocessing from [Shan et al.](#)
 - Atlas-based segmentation using [*elastix*](#)
- Available on [GitHub](#)
 - [GNU GPLv3 license](#) and [DOI](#)

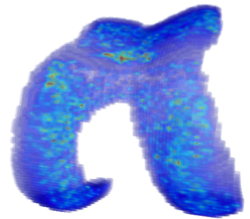
I. Preprocessing



II. Segmentation



III. Analysis



Reproducibility of *pyKNEEr*: Jupyter notebook

1. Link to GitHub repository

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pyKNEEr
Relaxometry of Femoral Knee Cartilage
Exponential and linear fitting
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• directly on the acquired images or after rigid registration of the following echo to the first echo
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image information
Inputs:
• input_file_name contains the list of the images used to calculate the relaxation maps
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• registration_flag is 0 for no registration, 1 for rigid registration
• output_file_name contains average and standard deviation of the fitting maps
In [ ]:
input_file_name = "image_list_relaxometry_fitting_0M1_T2.txt"
method_flag = 1 # 0 = linear, 1 = exponential
registration_flag = 1 # 0 = no rigid registration, 1 = execute rigid registration
n_of_cores = 4
output_file_name = "rel_fit_aligned_0M1_T2.csv"
Read image data
• image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored
In [ ]:
image_data = io.load_image_data_fitting(input_file_name, method_flag, registration_flag)
Calculate fitting maps
Align acquisitions
Images are aligned rigidly to remove occasional subject motion among acquisitions
Note: This step is optional and can be skipped, given that:
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Visualize fitting maps
2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
The flattened map is an average of neighboring voxels projected on the bone surface side of the femoral cartilage
In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_maps(image_data)
3D MAP: Interactive rendering of fitting maps
(The error message "Error creating widget: could not find model" can appear when the notebook is moved to a different folder)
In [ ]:
# ID of the map to visualize (The ID is the one in the 2D visualization above)
image_ID = 1 - 1 # -1 because counting starts from 0
# Read image
file_name = image_data[image_ID]["relaxometryFolder"] + image_data[image_ID]["mapFilename"]
image = itk.imread(file_name)
# View
viewer = View(image, gradient_opacity=0.0, ui_collapsed=False, shadow=False)
viewer
GRAPH: Dots represent the average value of fitting maps per image; bars represents the standard deviation
In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_graph(image_data)
TABLE: Average and standard deviation of fitting maps per image
The table is saved as a csv file for subsequent analysis
In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_table(image_data, output_file_name)
References
[1] Bartha A., Wharton A.J., Ouguztas A.J., Avelis G.V., Heggie R.R., Chandrulis S.R., Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T1rho dispersion in the human brain at 7.0 Tesla J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
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Dependencies
In [ ]:
!conda env update --name pykneer --file environment.yml
!pip install SimpleITK,matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy,itkwidgets,multiprocessing
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<https://github.com/sbonaretti/pyKNEEr>

sbonaretti / pyKNEEr

<> Code Issues 0 Pull requests 0 Projects 0 Wiki Insights

An image analysis workflow for open and reproducible research on femoral knee cartilage

Manage topics

132 commits 1 branch 0 releases

Branch: master New pull request Create new fork

sbonaretti Update README.md

- code
- docs
- publication
- .DS_Store
- README.md
- environment.yml

Reproducibility of *pyKNEEr*: Jupyter notebook

- 1. Link to GitHub repository
- 2. Link to documentation

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pyKNEEr
Relaxometry of Femoral Knee Cartilage

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image information
Inputs:
• input_file_name contains the list of the images used to calculate the relaxation maps
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if registration_flag == 1:
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Compute the fitting
In [ ]:
rel.calculate_fitting_maps(image_data, n_of_cores)

Visualize fitting maps
2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
The flattened map is an average of neighboring voxels projected on the bone surface side of the femoral cartilage

In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_maps(image_data)

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# View
viewer = view(image, gradient_opacity=0.0, ui_collapsed=False, shadow=False)
viewer

GRAPH: Dots represent the average value of fitting maps per image; bars represents the standard deviation

In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_graph(image_data)



TABLE: Average and standard deviation of fitting maps per image
The table is saved as a csv file for subsequent analysis

In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_table(image_data, output_file_name)

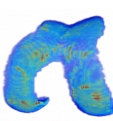
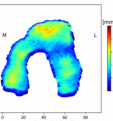

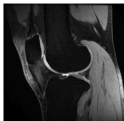
References
[1] Barthes A., Whetton A.J., Ouguztas A.J., Anella G.V., Hegarty R.R., Chandrasedu S.R., Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T1rho dispersion in the human brain at 7.0 Tesla J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
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Dependencies
In [ ]:
!load_ext watermark
!watermark -v -m -p SimpleITK,matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy,itkwidgets,multiprocessing
```

<https://sbonaretti.github.io/pyKNEEr/>






Introduction
Installation
Preprocessing
Segmentation
Morphology
Relaxometry
FAQ



MR acquisition Segmentation Cartilage thickness T₂ map

pyKNEEr is an image analysis workflow for open and reproducible research on femoral knee cartilage
It is implemented in *python* with *Jupyter notebooks*

Try *pyKNEEr* on Binder:
Example 1: [launch binder](#)
Example 2: [launch binder](#)

Code:  Preprint:  Developer: [Serena Bonaretti](#) License: 

Reproducibility of *pyKNEEr*: Jupyter notebook

```
pyKNEEr
Relaxometry of Femoral Knee Cartilage

Exponential and linear fitting
• Exponential fitting is computationally expensive but more accurate
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The fitting is computed:
• directly on the acquired images or after rigid registration of the following echo to the first echo
• voxel-wise, i.e. for each voxel the Echo Times (dicom tag: (0018,0011)) are the x-variable and the voxel intensities in each acquisition are the y-variable
• only in the mask volume to have short computation time

Image information
Inputs:
• input_file_name contains the list of the images used to calculate the relaxation maps
• method is 0 if fitting is linear, 1 if fitting is exponential
• registration_flag is 0 for no registration, 1 for rigid registration
• output_file_name contains average and standard deviation of the fitting maps

In [ ]:
input_file_name = "image_list_relaxometry_fitting_0M1_T2_t4T"
method_flag = 1 # 0 = linear, 1 = exponential
registration_flag = 1 # 0 = no rigid registration, 1 = execute rigid registration
n_of_cores = 4
output_file_name = "rel_fit_aligned_0M1_T2.csv"

Read image data
• image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored

In [ ]:
image_data = io.load_image_data_fitting(input_file_name, method_flag, registration_flag)

Calculate fitting maps
Align acquisitions
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In [ ]:
if registration_flag == 1:
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Compute the fitting
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rel.calculate_fitting_maps(image_data, n_of_cores)

Visualize fitting maps
2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
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In [ ]:
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GRAPH: Dots represent the average value of fitting maps per image; bars represents the standard deviation

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- 1. Link to GitHub repository
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- 3. Introduction

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```

- 1. Link to GitHub repository
- 2. Link to documentation
- 3. Introduction
- 4. User inputs

```
input_file_name
./original/
001/BL
left
002/BL
left
003/BL
right
004/BL
left
005/BL
right
006/BL
left
007/BL
left
008/BL
left
009/BL
right
010/BL
left
011/BL
left
012/BL
right

n_of_cores

output_file_name

...
```

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References
[1] Barthes A., Wharton A.J., Ougoukas A.J., Anella G.V., Heggie R.R., Chandgurdia S.R., Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T1rho dispersion in the human knee at 1.5 Tesla J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
[2] Li X., Benjamin Ma C., Link TM, Castillo D.D., Blumenkrantz G., Lozano J., Carballido-Gamio J., Rees M., Majumdar S. In vivo T2 and T2* mapping of articular cartilage in osteoarthritis of the knee using a 3 T MRI. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. Jul;15(7):789-97, 2007.

Dependencies

In [ ]:
!conda env update --name pykneer --file environment.yml
!pip install SimpleITK,matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy,tkwidgets,multiprocessing
```

- 1. Link to GitHub repository
- 2. Link to documentation
- 3. Introduction
- 4. User inputs
- 5. Commands with narrative

Cartilage Thickness

Separating subcondral surface and articular surface of cartilage

To calculate cartilage thickness, first the cartilage surface is extracted from the binary mask. Then subcondral surface and articular surface are divided in two separate point clouds

```
morph.separate_cartilage_surfaces(image_data, n_of_cores)
```

Visual check

Subcondral bone surface (yellow) and articular surface (blue) are visualized as flattened point clouds. The flattening is with respect to a cylinder interpolated into the cartilage surface [2]

```
morph.show_cartilage_surfaces(image_data)
```

Calculating cartilage thickness

Assign the chosen algorithm

```
morph.algorithm(image_data, thickness_algo)
```

Calculate thickness

```
morph.calculate_thickness(image_data, n_of_cores)
```


Reproducibility of *pyKNEEr*: Jupyter notebook

```

pyKNEEr
Relaxometry of Femoral Knee Cartilage

Exponential and linear fitting
• Exponential fitting is computationally expensive but more accurate
• Linear fitting is faster as data are transformed to their log and then linearly interpolated. However, linear fitting is less accurate because the nonlinear logarithmic transform provides larger weight to outliers

The fitting is computed:
• directly on the acquired images or after rigid registration of the following echo to the first echo
• voxel-wise, i.e. for each voxel the Echo Times (dicom tag: (0018,0081)) are the x-variable and the voxel intensities in each acquisition are the y-variable
• only in the mask volume to have short computation time

Image information
Inputs:
• input_file_name contains the list of the images used to calculate the relaxation maps
• method is 0 if fitting is linear, 1 if fitting is exponential
• registration_flag is 0 for no registration, 1 for rigid registration
• output_file_name contains average and standard deviation of the fitting maps

10 | In [ ]: input_file_name = "image_list_relaxometry_fitting_0M1_T2_t4T"
        method_flag = 1 # 0 = linear, 1 = exponential
        registration_flag = 1 # 0 = no rigid registration, 1 = execute rigid registration
        n_of_cores = 4
        output_file_name = "rel_fit_aligned_0M1_T2.csv"

Read image data
• image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored

10 | In [ ]: image_data = io.load_image_data_fitting(input_file_name, method_flag, registration_flag)

Calculate fitting maps
Align acquisitions
Images are aligned rigidly to remove occasional subject motion among acquisitions
Note: This step is optional and can be skipped, given that:
• When images are aligned, the fitting is calculated on interpolated values obtained with rigid registration
• When images are not aligned, the fitting is calculated on original intensities, but images might not be aligned

10 | In [ ]: if registration_flag == 1:
        rel.align_acquisitions(image_data, n_of_cores)

Compute the fitting
10 | In [ ]: rel.calculate_fitting_maps(image_data, n_of_cores)

Visualize fitting maps
2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
The flattened map is an average of neighboring voxels projected on the bone surface side of the femoral cartilage

10 | In [ ]: rel.show_fitting_maps(image_data)

3D MAP: Interactive rendering of fitting maps
(The error message "Error creating widget: could not find model" can appear when the notebook is moved to a different folder)

10 | In [ ]: # ID of the map to visualize (The ID is the one in the 2D visualization above)
        image_ID = 1 # -1 because counting starts from 0

        # Read image
        file_name = image_data[image_ID]["relaxometryFolder"] + image_data[image_ID]["mapFileName"]
        image = itk.imread(file_name)

        # View
        viewer = view(image, gradient_opacity=0.0, ui_collapsed=False, shadow=False)
        viewer

GRAPH: Dots represent the average value of fitting maps per image; bars represents the standard deviation

10 | In [ ]: rel.show_fitting_graph(image_data)

TABLE: Average and standard deviation of fitting maps per image
The table is saved as a csv file for subsequent analysis

10 | In [ ]: rel.show_fitting_table(image_data, output_file_name)

References
[1] Borthakur A, Whetstone AJ, Ouygoubes AJ, Anella CV, Hegarty RR, Chandrathas SA, Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T2rho dispersion in the human brain at 7.0 Tesla. J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
[2] Li X, Benjamin Ma C, Link TM, Castillo D.D., Blumenkrantz G, Lozano J, Carballido-Gamio J, Ries M, Majumdar S. In vivo T2 and T2* mapping of articular cartilage in osteoarthritis of the knee using a 3 T MRI. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. Jul;15(7):789-97, 2007.

Dependencies
10 | In [ ]: !load_ext watermark
        watermark -v -m -p SimpleITK,matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy,tkwidgets,multiprocessing
    
```

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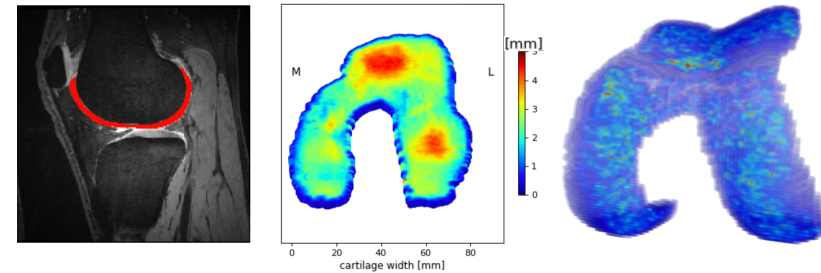
3. Introduction

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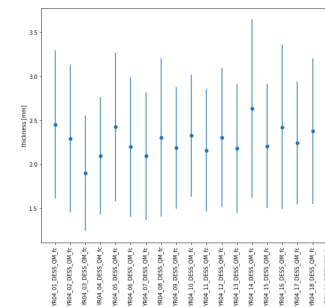
5. Commands with narrative

6. Visualization of outputs

Qualitative visualizations



Quantitative visualizations



Subjects	averageThickness	std.dev
1 YR04_01_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.45	0.84
2 YR04_02_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.29	0.84
3 YR04_03_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	1.90	0.65
4 YR04_04_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.09	0.67
5 YR04_05_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.42	0.84
6 YR04_06_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.20	0.79
7 YR04_07_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.09	0.72
8 YR04_08_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.30	0.90
9 YR04_09_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.19	0.69
10 YR04_10_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.32	0.70
11 YR04_11_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.16	0.69
12 YR04_12_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.30	0.79
13 YR04_13_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.18	0.73
14 YR04_14_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.63	1.02
15 YR04_15_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.21	0.71
16 YR04_16_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.42	0.93
17 YR04_17_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.24	0.70
18 YR04_18_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	2.38	0.82
19 YR04_19_DESS_QM_f.c.thickness.1	1.87	0.64

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• voxel-wise, i.e. for each voxel the Echo Times (dicom tag: (0010,0011)) are the x-variable and the voxel intensities in each acquisition are the y-variable
• only in the mask volume to have short computation time

Image information
Inputs:
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registration_flag = 1 # 0 = no rigid registration, 1 = execute rigid registration
n_of_cores = 4
output_file_name = "rel_fit_aligned_0M1_T2.csv"

Read image data
• image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored

In [ ]:
image_data = io.load_image_data_fitting(input_file_name, method_flag, registration_flag)

Calculate fitting maps
Align acquisitions
Images are aligned rigidly to remove occasional subject motion among acquisitions
Note: This step is optional and can be skipped, given that:
• When images are aligned, the fitting is calculated on interpolated values obtained with rigid registration
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In [ ]:
if registration_flag == 1:
    rel.align_acquisitions(image_data, n_of_cores)

Compute the fitting
In [ ]:
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Visualize fitting maps
2D MAP: For each image, fitting maps at medial and lateral compartments and flattened map
The flattened map is an average of neighboring voxels projected on the bone surface side of the femoral cartilage

In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_maps(image_data)

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In [ ]:
# ID of the map to visualize (The ID is the one in the 2D visualization above)
image_ID = 1 - 1 # -1 because counting starts from 0

# Read image
file_name = image_data[image_ID]["relaxometryFolder"] + image_data[image_ID]["mapFileName"]
image = itk.imread(file_name)

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viewer = view(image, gradient_opacity=0.0, ui_collapsed=False, shadow=False)
viewer

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In [ ]:
rel.show_fitting_graph(image_data)

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References
[1] Barthua A., Wheaton A.J., Ouguztepe A.J., Anella C.V., Hegarty R.R., Chandradas S.R., Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T2rho dispersion in the human brain at 7.0 Tesla J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
[2] Li X., Benjamin Ma C., Link TM, Castillo D.D., Blumenkrantz G., Lozano J., Carballido-Gamio J., Rees M., Majumdar S. In vivo T2rho and T2 mapping of articular cartilage in osteoarthritis of the knee using a 3 Tesla. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. Jul;15(7):789-97, 2007.

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• method is 0 if fitting is linear, 1 if fitting is exponential
• registration_flag is 0 for no registration, 1 for rigid registration
• output_file_name contains average and standard deviation of the fitting maps

In [ ]:
input_file_name = "image_list_relaxometry_fitting_0411_T2.txt"
method_flag = 1 # 0 = linear, 1 = exponential
registration_flag = 1 # 0 = no rigid registration, 1 = execute rigid registration
n_of_cores = 4
output_file_name = "rel_fit_aligned_0411_T2.csv"

Read image data
• image_data is a dictionary (or struct), where each cell corresponds to an image. For each image, information such as paths and file names are stored

In [ ]:
image_data = io.load_image_data_fitting(input_file_name, method_flag, registration_flag)

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Note: This step is optional and can be skipped, given that:
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viewer

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[1] Barthes A., Wheaton A.J., Ouguztas A.J., Avelis G.V., Heggie R.R., Chandgurdia S.R., Reddy R. In vivo measurement of T2rho relaxation in the human brain at 7.0 Tesla J Magn Reson Imaging. Apr;18(4):403-9, 2004.
[2] Li X., Benjamin Ma C., Link T.M., Castillo D.D., Blumenkrantz G., Lozano J., Carballido-Gamio J., Rees M., Majumdar S. In vivo T2rho and T2 mapping of articular cartilage in osteoarthritis of the knee using a 3 Tesla MRI. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. Jul;15(7):789-97, 2007.

Dependencies
In [ ]:
!load_ext watermark
!watermark -v -m -p matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy,tkwidgets,multiprocessing
```

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8. Dependencies

Dependencies

```
%load_ext watermark
%watermark -v -m -p matplotlib,numpy,pandas,scipy
```

CPython 3.7.1
IPython 7.2.0

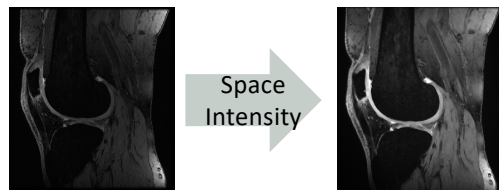
matplotlib 2.2.3
numpy 1.16.1
pandas 0.24.1
scipy 1.2.1

compiler : Clang 4.0.1 (tags/RELEASE_401/final)
system : Darwin
release : 17.7.0
machine : x86_64
processor : i386
CPU cores : 4
interpreter: 64bit

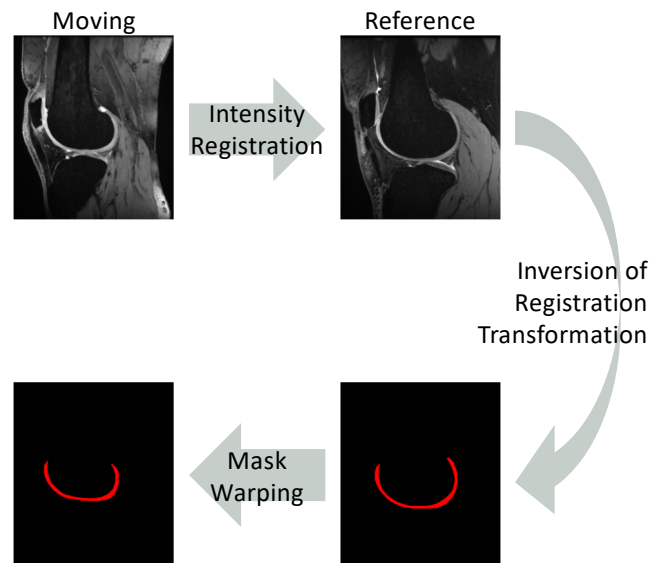
→ Reproducibility of computational environment

Algorithms in *pyKNEEr*

I. Preprocessing



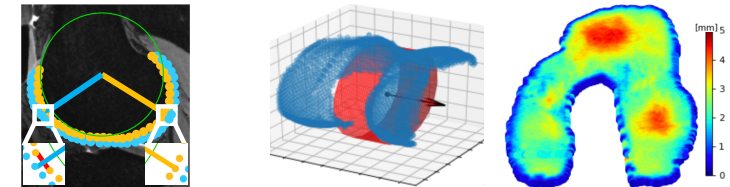
II. Segmentation



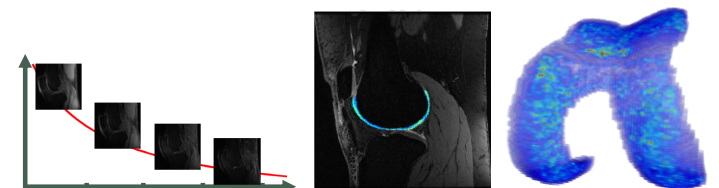
Atlas-based using *elastix*

III. Analysis

Morphology



Relaxometry

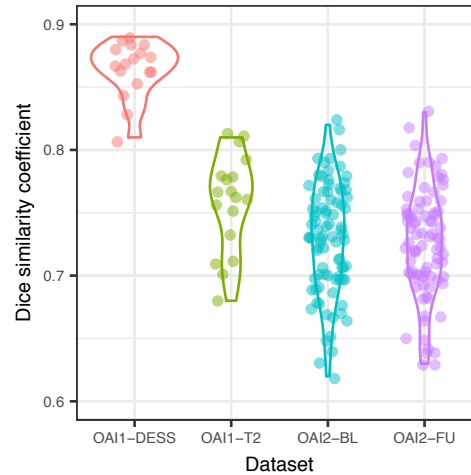


Validation experiments

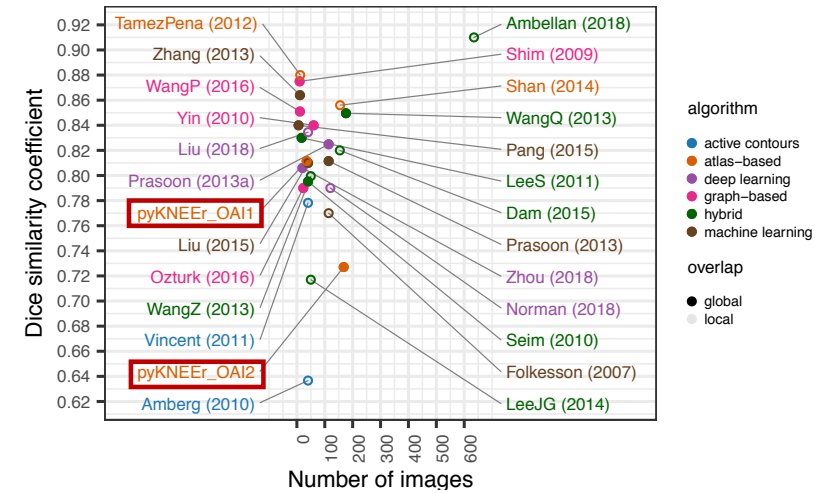
- OAI1: 19 subjects
 - OAI1-DESS
 - OAI1-T2
 - G. Truth: atlas-based
([TamezPena 2012](#))
- OAI2: 88 subjects
 - OAI2-DESS BL
 - OAI2-DESS FU
 - G. Truth: AAM
([Vincent 2011](#))

Data on [Zenodo](#)
 Code on [GitHub](#)
 Analysis on [binder](#)
 Paper on [bioRxiv](#)

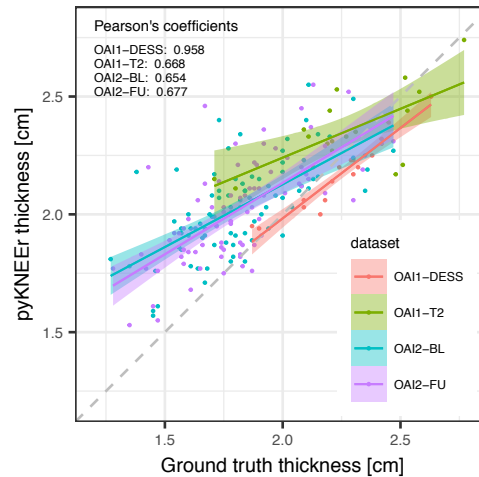
Distribution of DSC



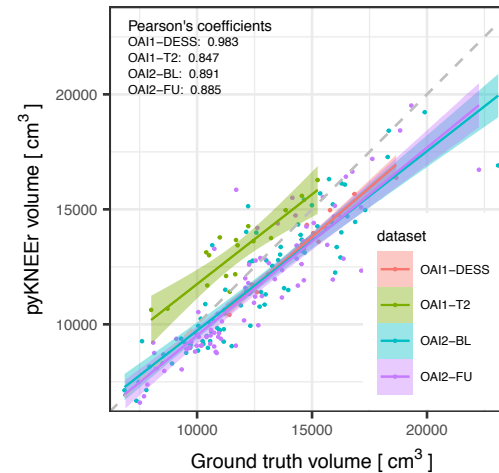
DSC – Comparison to literature



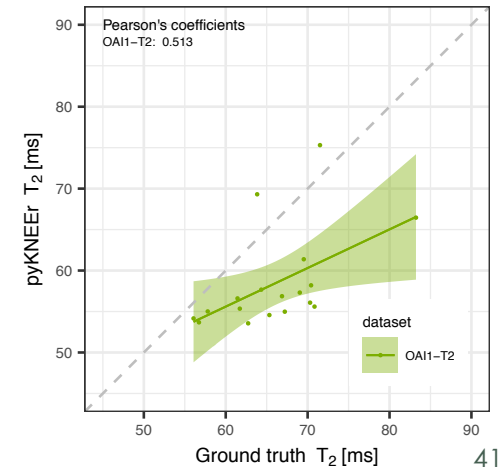
Thickness correlation



Volume correlation



T2 correlation



Discussion

- *pyKNEEr* can facilitate transparent research
 - Open source and reproducible
 - Notebooks can be shared and linked to publications
- Do you want to use *pyKNEEr*?
 - Go to terminal and type: `pip install pyKNEEr`
 - Download Jupyter notebooks from [GitHub](#)
 - Follow the instruction on the [documentation](#) (demo)
- Do you want to contribute to *pyKNEEr*?
 - Go to [GitHub](#) and clone the repository
 - Implement your contribution
 - Segmentation: machine and deep learning, hybrid, ...
 - Thickness algorithms: surface normal vectors, potential field lines, ...
 - Other knee tissues: tibial cartilage, patellar cartilage, menisci, ...
 - Send a pull request and your code will be merged to the main project

pyKNEEr

Introduction
Installation
Preprocessing
Segmentation
Morphology
Relaxometry
FAQ

MR acquisition Segmentation Cartilage thickness T₂ map

pyKNEEr is an image analysis workflow for open and reproducible research on femoral knee cartilage
It is implemented in python with Jupyter notebooks

Try pyKNEEr on Binder:
Example 1: [launch binder](#)
Example 2: [launch binder](#)

Code: [GitHub](#) Preprint: [Preprint](#) Developer: Serena Bonaretti License: [CC BY-NC-SA](#)

<https://sbonaretti.github.io/pyKNEEr/>

Transparent Quantitative Musculoskeletal Imaging

Serena Bonaretti

<https://sbonaretti.github.io/>

