

medGIFT – Using the GNU Image Finding Tool for medical image retrieval

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Henning Müller Service of medical informatics University hospitals of Geneva Geneva, Switzerland





- Medical image retrieval
- Content-based data access
 - Possible use in medicine
- GIFT
- medGIFT
- Benefits and problems of open source
- Oshca

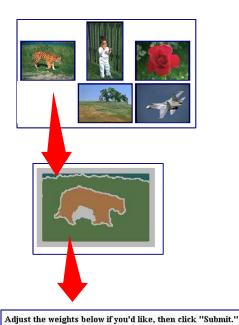


- Access to the data generally by patient ID
 - PACS systems
- Teaching databases allow search for structured data and free text
- Natural language processing to analyze radiology reports and electronic patient record
- Much knowledge is stored implicitly in the images (and the connected text)
 - Case-based reasoning
 - Evidence-based medicine



- Developed due to the exploding creation of multimedia data and the availability of it often on the web, but also within companies (CNN)
- Annotation is expensive, thus only possible in commercially interesting domains
 - Subjectivity, spelling errors, ...
- Goal is to have a data access based on automatically extracted visual features
 - Query by example "Show me images like this one"
 - Problem to have a starting point for a query
 - Advantages and problems need to be understood for proper use





Blobworld, Berkeley

Not Somewhat Very

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	Not S	Somewhat	t Very	
How important is the selected region?	С	С	©	How important is the background (everythin outside the region)?
How investant are the features of	f this regior	1?		
Color	\mathbf{c}	0	©	
Texture	0	©	C	
Location	©	0	C	
	c	C	C	



Benefits from medical image retrieval

Teaching

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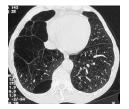
- Students
- Lecturers
- Research
 - Retrieval of good cases
 - Include image features into studies
- Diagnostic aid





Emphysema





Emphysema



Micro nodules



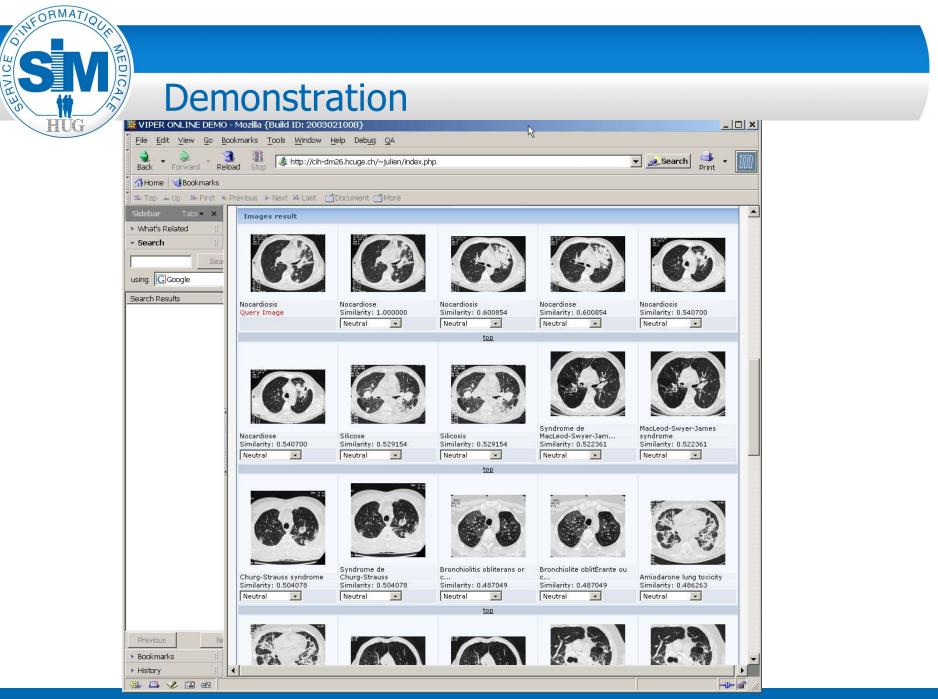
- GNU Image Finding Tool
 - http://www.gnu.org/software/gift
- Outcome of the Viper project of the University of Geneva (Visual Information Processing for Enhanced Retrieval)
 - http://viper.unige.ch/



- Framework of components for image retrieval
 - Feature extraction, data access, interface, query engine, MRML (http://www.mrml.net/)
- Research project!
- Based on Linux, perl, php, ...
- Plugin for GIMP, Konqueror, kmrml, ...



- Adaptation of GIFT for the retrieval of medical images
 - More importance on gray scales, textures
 - Interface that shows more information than just the images
 - Link to the casimage teaching file system (http://www.casimage.com/) CASIM@GE
- Research project!
 - Work in progress





- Allows to create a community of users
 - For us: continuation of the project after the developers left
 - Dynamic in the community can help everyone
- Very effective communication structure
- Feedback from others and bug fixes
 - Gratification of the software being used
- Better code and documentation quality
 - Use of sourceforge for student projects
- Research might be different than application integration

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- Development often depends on one main developer who is pushing hard
- Big projects can big attention, smaller ones not necessarily
- Even when it is being used not everything is coming back to the community
- We still depend on vendors to make the software being used
 - Liability, maintenance, service, ...
- Not free! Integration needs to be planned

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- Create a repository (portal) of available projects, tools and publications
 - Link the information and make it available in an easier way (yes, all the info is out there)
 - >70 projects in radiology on sourceforge alone
- Community of communities
 - Interconnection of the various projects
- Create contacts/information for vendors as well



- Presentation of one open source research project in the medical domain
 - medGIFT
- Advantages and problems with open source based on the experience in the project
- Importance of oshca to promote open source software in the medical domain