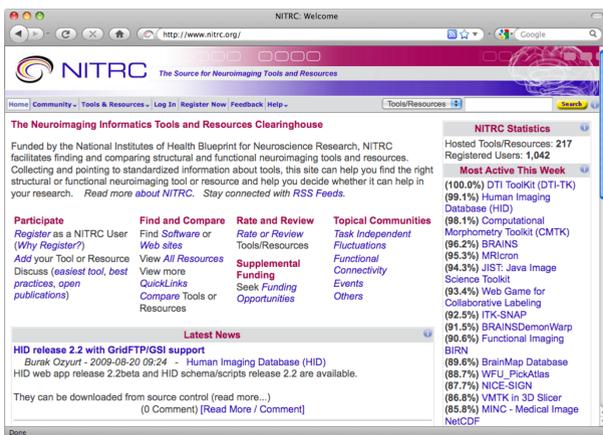# Data Sharing Between NITRC and the INCF Software Center

Christian Haselgrove[1*], Anders Larsson[2], Jan G Bjaalie[3], Janis Breeze[2], Robert Buccigrossi[4], David Kennedy[5], Nina Preuss[4], Raphael Ritz[2]

1 Neuromorphometrics, Inc, Somerville, USA; 2 INCF, Stockholm, Sweden; 3 University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway; 4 TCG, Inc., Washington, USA; 5 David N. Kennedy Consulting, Belmont, USA
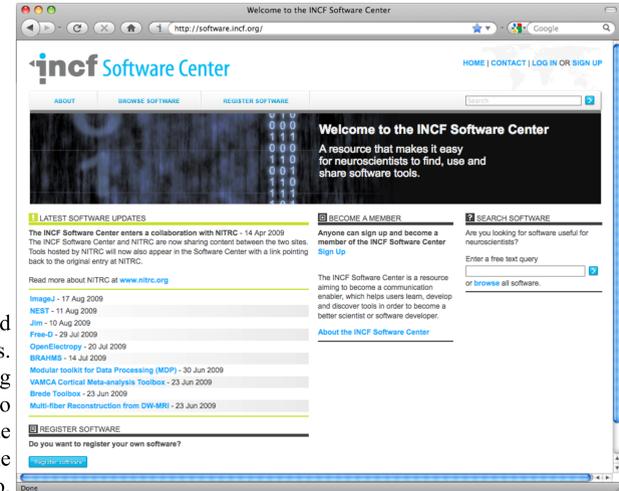* Please address correspondence to ch@neuromorphometrics.com

While NITRC and the Software Center are complementary, NITRC existing as a community around a wide range of neuroimaging resources and the Software Center focusing on software for the wider neuroscience community, there is significant overlap in the information provided on each. For a large set of core software packages, each site provides general information, documentation, downloads, and opportunity for user feedback. Rather than having two sites cover this common ground, we are sharing this information, allowing developers to provide information to a single source and allowing users to know that the information they find on either site will be consistent and authoritative.
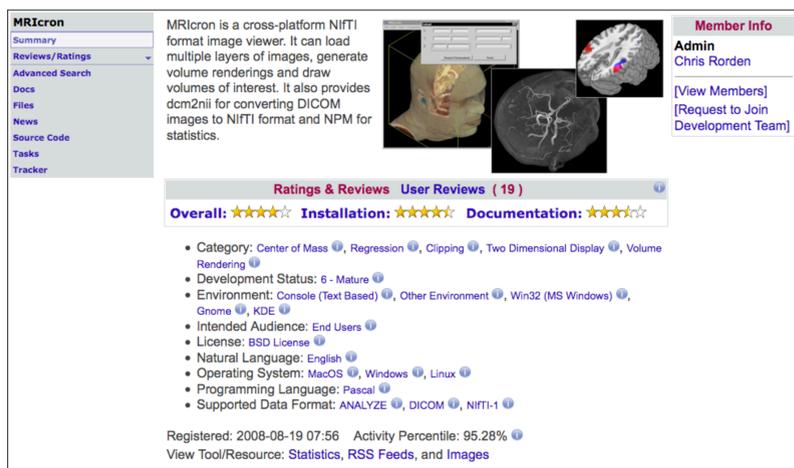

The Neuroimaging Informatics Tools and Resources Clearinghouse (NITRC, www.nitrc.org), initiated October 2006 through the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research, is a user friendly, web based knowledge environment for the functional and structural neuroimaging community. Through identification of existing tools and resources valuable to this community, NITRC's goal is to develop a knowledge environment to enhance, adopt, distribute, and contribute to the evolution of neuroimaging tools and resources.
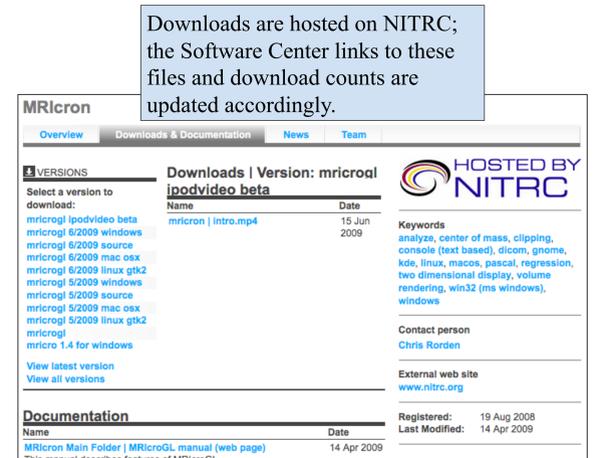
The INCF Software Center (software.incf.org) was founded as a resource for neuroscience software users and developers. As a web site offering developers tools for distributing software and tracking issues and offering users a way to search for tools appropriate to their needs and provide feedback on the software, the Software Center serves the needs of both groups while connecting the two.

In this example, basic information about a software package listed on NITRC is shared with the INCF Software Center.
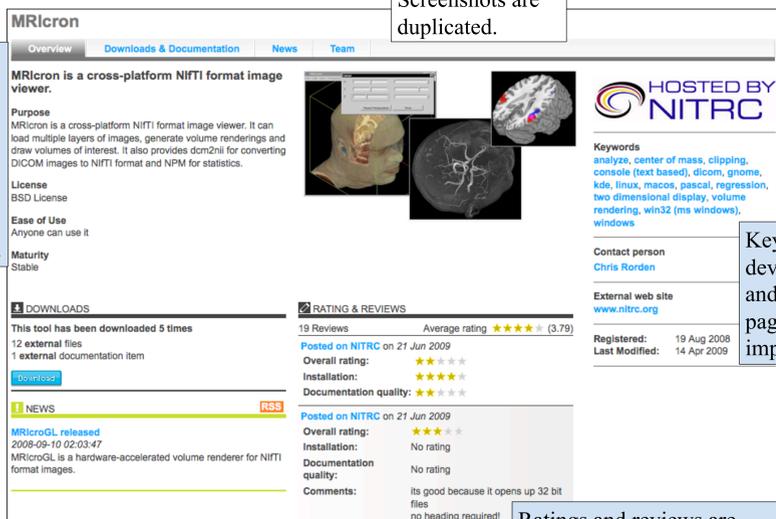

Downloads and documentation

News

Basic information

Downloads are hosted on NITRC; the Software Center links to these files and download counts are updated accordingly.

Documents are similar. In this case, a document lives on a third web site. NITRC sends the user directly to this site, and INCF accordingly does the same.
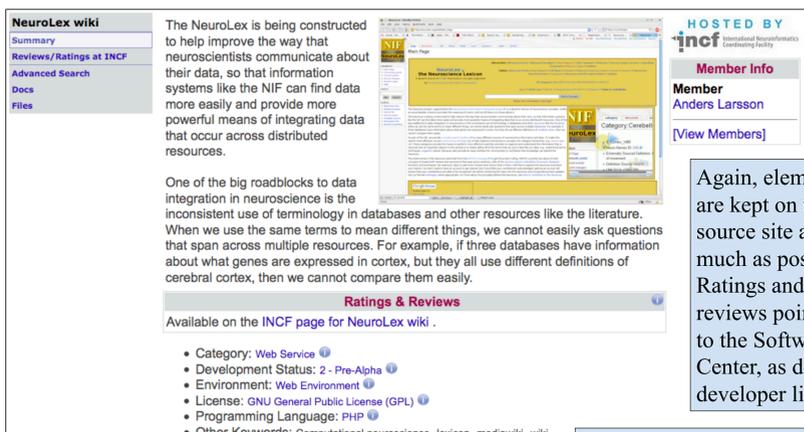
Screenshots are duplicated.

Basic information such as the package name, description, license, and maturity are copied directly.

Keywords, developers, and home pages are imported.

Ratings and reviews are displayed, but submissions are directed to NITRC to ensure a single source for this information.

News items are presented on the Software Center site, but link to the source on NITRC.

Similarly, Software Center native projects are imported to NITRC.

Again, elements are kept on the source site as much as possible. Ratings and reviews point back to the Software Center, as do developer links.

Where possible, the Software Center's unconstrained keywords are mapped to NITRC's controlled vocabulary.