
Label overlay

Gaëtan Lehmann

April 27, 2006

Unité de Biologie du Développement et de la Reproduction, Institut National de la Recherche
Agronomique, 78350 Jouy-en-Josas, France

Abstract

LabelOverlayImageFilter colorize a label image and put it on top of the input image.

1 Introduction

ITK have a class to colorize a label image, `itk::ScalarToRGBPixelFunctor`, but this class doesn't allow to visualize the result on top of the input image. `LabelOverlayImageFilter` colorize a label image and put it on top of the input image. The user can choose the opacity of the colored label image with the method `SetOpacity()`. Another class, `LabelToRGBImageFilter`, is available to colorize the label only. Those two classes are particularly useful with all algorithms which produce a labeled image¹.

2 Implementation

`LabelOverlayImageFilter` is a subclass of `BinaryFunctorImageFilter`. The functor have a predefined list of distinct colors. The following expression is applied for all pixels:

$$\text{output} = (\text{opacity} * (\text{colorList}[\text{label} \% \text{size}])) + ((1 - \text{opacity}) * \text{input})$$

The Opacity parameter must be between 0 and 1 and defaults to 0.5.

3 Examples

The examples shown here are the result of a segmentation by watershed with markers.

4 Sample code

```
#include "itkImageFileReader.h"
```

¹Those classes have been developed to be used with the morphological watershed filter (article still in preparation).

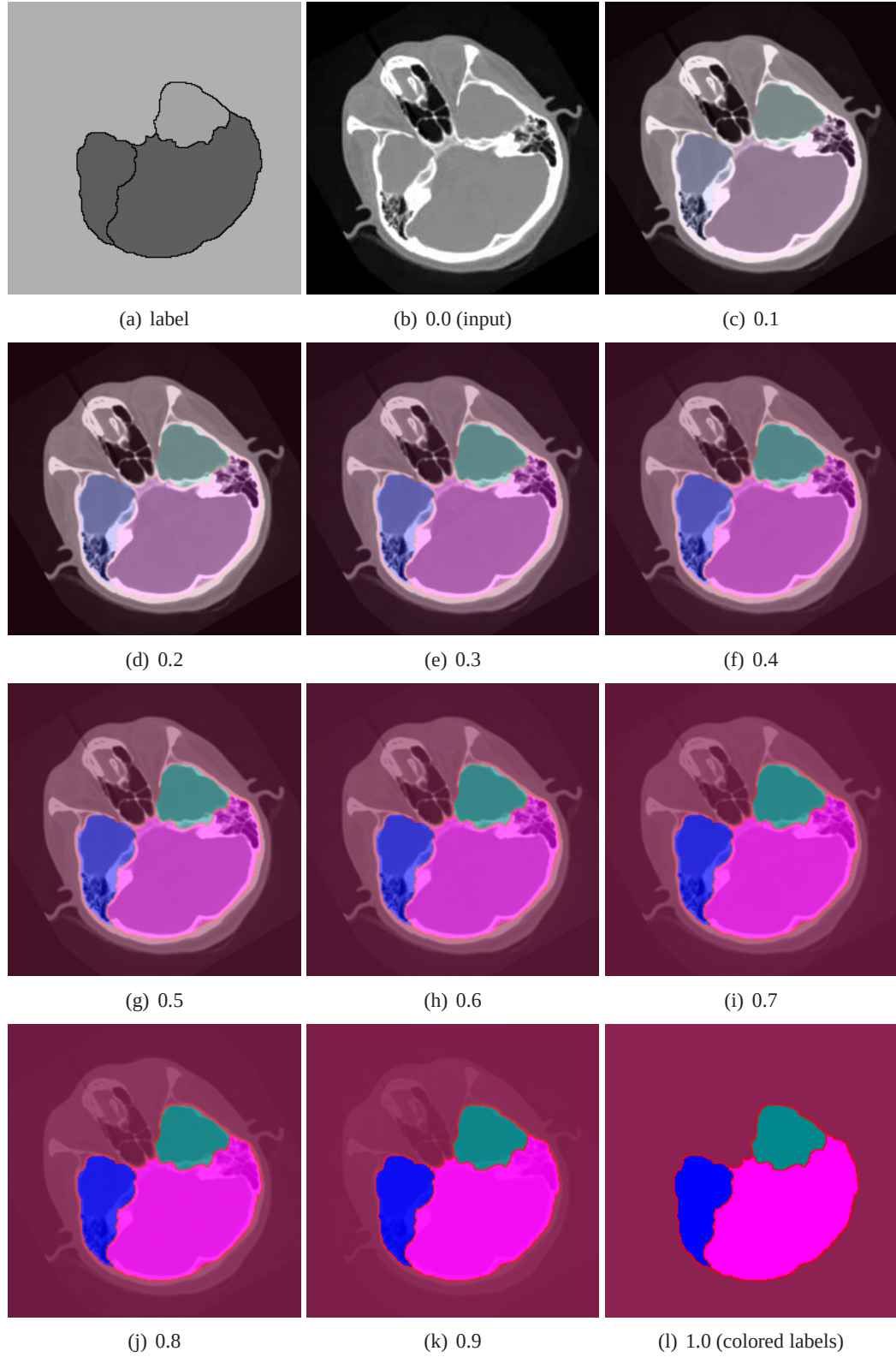


Figure 1: Label image and results of LabelOverlayImageFilter for different opacity values

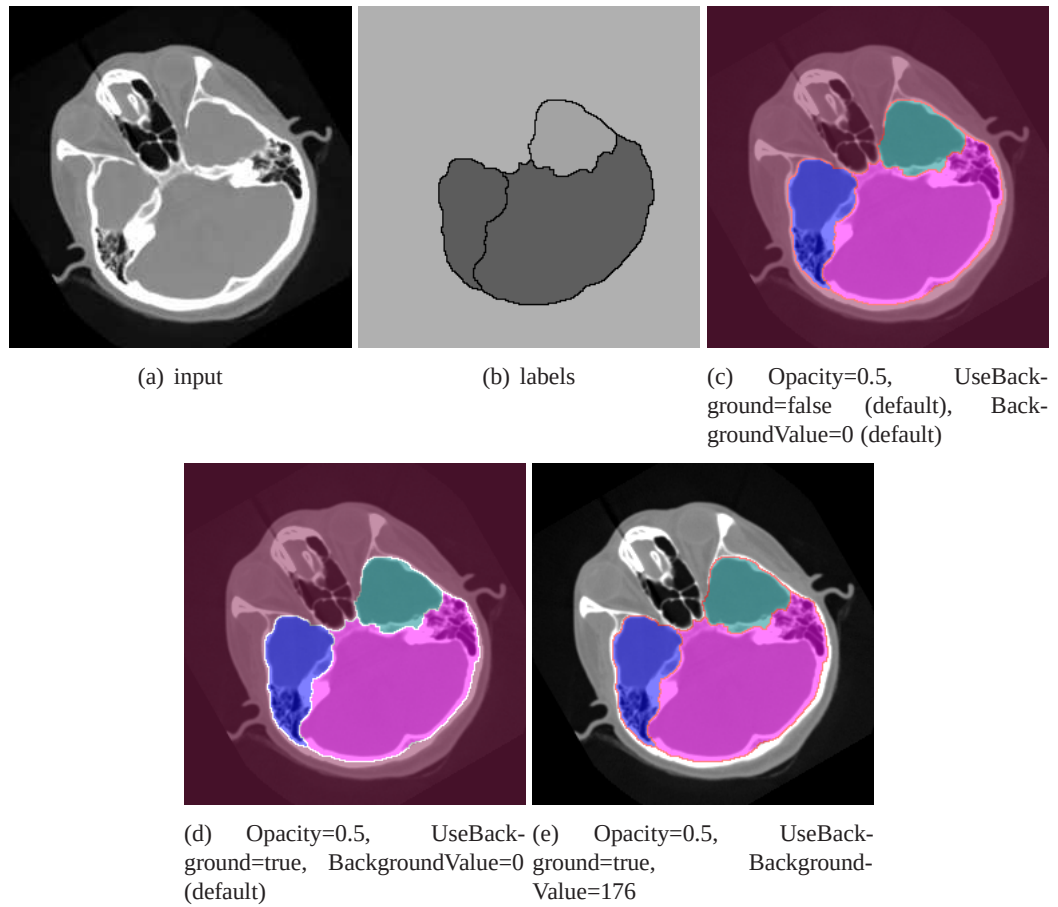


Figure 2: Result of LabelOverlayImageFilter with different parameters.

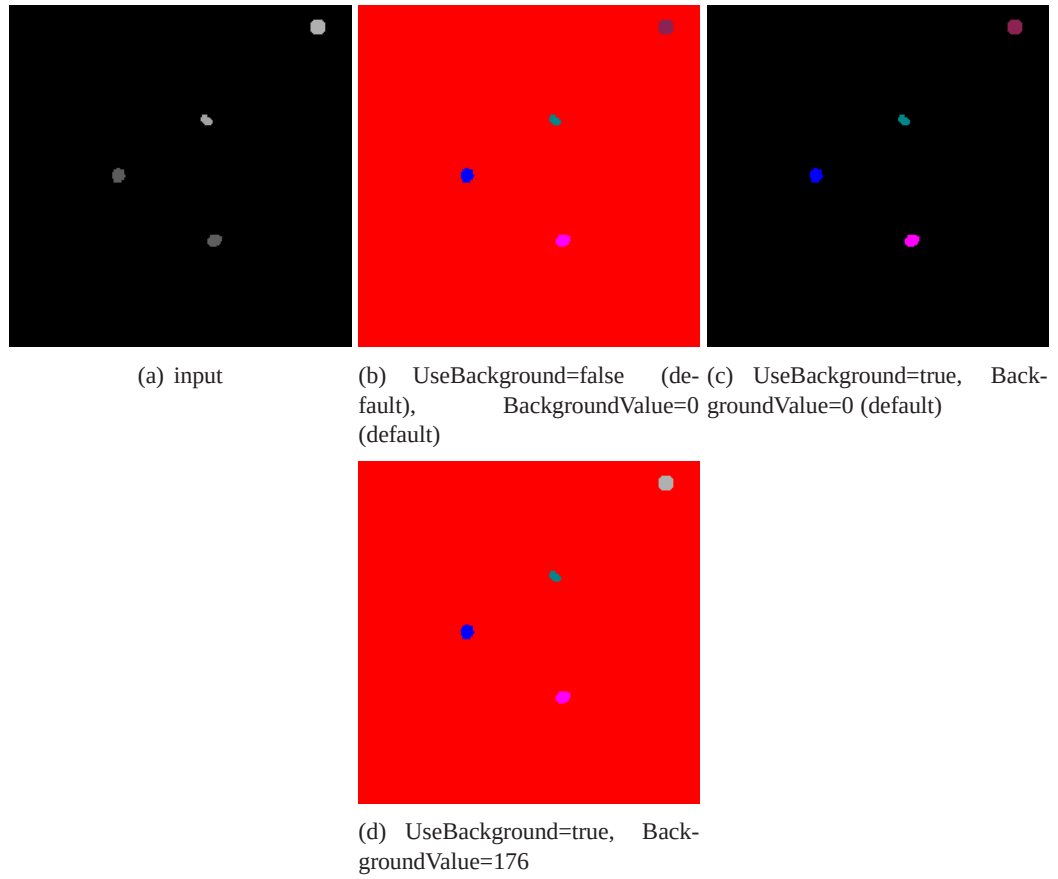


Figure 3: Label image and results of `LabelToRGBImageFilter` with different parameters.

```
#include "itkImageFileWriter.h"
#include "itkCommand.h"
#include "itkSimpleFilterWatcher.h"

#include "itkLabelOverlayImageFilter.h"

int main(int argn, char * argv[])
{
    if( argn == 1 )
    {
        std::cerr << "Usage: check2 input label output [opacity [useBg [bg]]]" << std::endl;
        return 1;
    }

    const int dim = 2;

    typedef unsigned char PType;
    typedef itk::Image< PType, dim > IType;

    typedef itk::RGBPixel<unsigned char> CType;
    typedef itk::Image< CType, dim > CType;

    typedef itk::ImageFileReader< IType > ReaderType;
    ReaderType::Pointer reader = ReaderType::New();
    reader->SetFileName( argv[1] );
    ReaderType::Pointer reader2 = ReaderType::New();
    reader2->SetFileName( argv[2] );

    typedef itk::LabelOverlayImageFilter< IType, IType, CType> FilterType;
    FilterType::Pointer filter = FilterType::New();
    filter->SetInput( reader->GetOutput() );
    filter->SetLabelImage( reader2->GetOutput() );
    if( argn >= 5 )
    {
        filter->SetOpacity( atof(argv[4]) ); }
    if( argn >= 6 )
    {
        filter->SetUseBackground( atoi(argv[5]) ); }
    if( argn >= 7 )
    {
        filter->SetBackgroundValue( atoi(argv[6]) ); }

    itk::SimpleFilterWatcher watcher(filter, "filter");

    typedef itk::ImageFileWriter< CType > WriterType;
    WriterType::Pointer writer = WriterType::New();
    writer->SetInput( filter->GetOutput() );
    writer->SetFileName( argv[3] );
    writer->Update();

    return 0;
}
```

5 Acknowledgments

I thank Richard Beare for the good set of colors.

References

- [1] L. Ibanez and W. Schroeder. *The ITK Software Guide*. Kitware, Inc. ISBN 1-930934-10-6, <http://www.itk.org/ItkSoftwareGuide.pdf>, 2003.