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# itkImageFunctionImageFilter: A New Filter To Apply An itkImageFunction To Every Pixel In An itkImage

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## Abstract

This document presents a new class to apply an `itkImageFunction` to every pixel in an `itkImage`. This functionality is almost identical to `itkUnaryFunctorImageFilter`, but it uses an `itkImageFunction` rather than an `itk::Functor`. As some functionalities in ITK seem to have been implemented as image functors (`itk::Functor::AND`, `itk::Functor::Atan`, etc.) while other seems to have been implemented as `itkImageFunction`'s (`itk::BinaryThresholdImageFunction`, `itk::CentralDifferenceImageFunction`, etc.), it seems reasonable to be able to apply any of these operations to an entire image.

The code is available here: <http://review.source.kitware.com/#change,2008>

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## 1 Introduction

This document presents a new class which applies an `itkImageFunction` to every pixel in an `itkImage`. This functionality is almost identical to `itkUnaryFunctorImageFilter`, but it uses an `itkImageFunction` rather than an `itk::Functor`. As some functionalities in ITK seem to have been implemented as image functors (`itk::Functor::AND`, `itk::Functor::Atan`, etc.) while other seems to have been implemented as `itkImageFunction`'s (`itk::BinaryThresholdImageFunction`, `itk::CentralDifferenceImageFunction`, etc.), it seems reasonable to be able to apply any of these operations to an entire image.

## 2 Template Parameters

The `itkImageFunctionImageFilter` is templated over the input image type, the output image type, and the type of the `ImageFunction`. It is necessary to template this filter over the `ImageFunction` type because it is impossible to create a pointer to the superclass `itkImageFunction`. This is because at compile time, the 3rd required template parameter of `itkImageFunction`, the `TCoordRep`, is not known:

```
typedef typename itk::ImageFunction< TInputImage,
                                     TOutputImage, [?]>::Pointer ImageFunctionPointer;
```

The correct type would be `TImageFunction::CoordRepType`, which cannot be known at compile time unless you specify the `ImageFunction` type as a template parameter.

## 3 Code Snippet

The interface to the filter is very simple. The user must simply setup an `itkImageFunction` and pass it to the `itkImageFunctionImageFilter` using the `SetFilter` function. The image on which to operate is passed as usual via the `SetInput` function.

```
typedef itk::GaussianBlurImageFunction< UnsignedCharImageType >
    GaussianBlurImageFunctionType;
GaussianBlurImageFunctionType::Pointer gaussianFunction =
    GaussianBlurImageFunctionType::New();
GaussianBlurImageFunctionType::ErrorArrayType setError;
setError.Fill( 0.01 );
gaussianFunction->SetMaximumError( setError );
gaussianFunction->SetSigma( 1.0 );
gaussianFunction->SetMaximumKernelWidth( 3 );

typedef itk::ImageFunctionImageFilter<UnsignedCharImageType,
    FloatImageType, GaussianBlurImageFunctionType>
    ImageFunctionImageFilterType;
ImageFunctionImageFilterType::Pointer imageFunctionImageFilter =
    ImageFunctionImageFilterType::New();
imageFunctionImageFilter->SetInput( image );
imageFunctionImageFilter->SetFunction( gaussianFunction );
```

```
imageFunctionImageFilter->Update();
```