

Maintaining A User Community For The Montage Image Mosaic Toolkit.

G. B. Berriman
(NASA Exoplanet Science Institute,
California Institute of Technology)



The Montage Image Mosaic Toolkit

- ANSI-C Toolkit for creating and managing image mosaics in FITS format.
- Portable and scalable – runs on all Unix platforms.
- Code available through clickwrap license at Caltech.
- **License does not allow users redistribute and modify code.**

<http://montage.ipac.caltech.edu>



Maintenance Model

- *Designed* for sustainability, extensibility, re-use and portability from the outset.
 - Modular design.
 - Automated regression test bed.
 - Avoided “flavor of the month” new technologies.
- Time donated by Architect and Project Manager.
- Respond to needs of extant projects:
 - Support creation of multi-wavelength movies of the sky to support LSST E/PO work.
 - Deploy interactive visualization modules.
 - Support new image projections.

Licensing Limitations

- Requests to bundle code in Red Hat enterprise distribution were declined.
- Users have not been able to contribute upgrades:
 - Request to contribute code to support HEALPix was declined.
 - Request to contribute Python versions of some modules declined.
 - But Python wrappers developed by Tom Robitaille..

More Information

**Adoption of Software By A User
Community**
The Montage Image Mosaic Engine Example

G. Bruce Berriman

NASA Infrared Processing and Analysis Center, Caltech
<http://astrocompute.wordpress.com>

**Maintainable Software Practices in e-Science,
e-Science 2012, Chicago**



JPL



**Presentation at the 1st
Workshop on Maintainable
Software Practices in e-Science,
Chicago, 9 October 2012. Co-
located with e-Science 2012.**

<http://www.slideshare.net/SoftwarePractice/software-practice12-berriman>

**Blog post on Astronomy
Computing Today:**

<http://wp.me/pU7SH-w5>