GIMP

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An Introduction to GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP),
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The Problem

- **Digital images from many sources: scanners, cameras, various on-line sources (web, email, etc.)**

- **Images come in many different formats (JPG, GIF,PNG,TIF, BMP, etc.) and with many different attributes (resolution, size, color density, compression)**

- **Many occasions where useful to change the format or other attributes to suit a specific use – image editing and/or conversion**

The Tools

- **Minimal editing tools used to be supplied with scanner or camera, now frequently absent or just a trial version of non-free software.**

- **Photoshop**
  - **very capable, so much the standard that "to photoshop" is a synonym for "doctoring" a photo**
  - **expensive – hard to justify if rarely needed and many features unused**

- **GIMP – open-source – supports many file formats, fairly decent documentation**
  - **Supports simple and more complex editing**
  - **Completely free**
  - **Actively being enhanced by many volunteers (GIMP 1.0 in 1998, now at 2.8.22, 2.9.8 in devel)**

Where to Get GIMP

- **Google GIMP https://www.gimp.org/**

- **Downloads – should be able to detect your system type – Windows/Linux/OS X**

  - **Linux-based systems may already have appropriate GIMP version in standard code repository.**

Simple GIMP Tasks

- **Loading an image**

- **Saving an image in same or different format**

- **Resizing an image or changing resolution**

- **Selecting parts of an image**

- **Adjusting brightness, color balance**

Simple GIMP Tasks (cont.)

- **Creating image from page of a PDF document**

- **Creating new images from pieces of other images – cropping, merging (simple when alignment not critical)**

- **Adding text to an image**

More complex tasks

- **Creating & working with masks**
- **Working with multiple layers**
- **Using complex filters & tools**
- **Manual editing with drawing tools**
- **Will probably require reading the documentation and considerable experimentation to become proficient**

Installing GIMP

- **Google GIMP – will find http://gimp.org and GIMP download page**
or

- **Linux distributions like Fedora Linux may contain one or more packages for GIMP in their standard repositories that can be installed (gimp, gimp-data-extras, gimp-help, gimp-libs, and others)**

- **Additional scripts available: arrow.scm**

GIMP Download Page

Current Stable Version

The current stable release of GIMP is **2.8.22** (2017-05-11).

Pssst... want to check out the GIMP 2.9.8 development release?
Get it on our development downloads page.

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