Introduction
The “Neuroimaging Informatics Tools and Resources Clearinghouse” (NITRC) is a new, valuable neuroimaging informatics knowledge environment for resources related to structural and functional neuroimaging. Initiated in October 2006 through the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research\textsuperscript{1,2}, NITRC’s mission is to create a user-friendly knowledge environment for the structural and functional neuroimaging community. Through the 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. Located on the Web at www.nitrc.org, this site promotes tools and resources, vocabularies, and databases, thereby extending the impact of previously funded, neuroimaging informatics contributions to a broad community.

Approach
To meet the disparate needs of resource developers and users alike, NITRC requires functionality like that found in platforms such as Source Forge, Bugzilla, CVS, and Wiki, etc. To unify such functionality, we have designed the knowledge environment using the open-source GForge project. Within the NITRC environment a ‘project’ is created for each tool or resource that is to be represented. Each project has independent descriptive content (as projects do currently at IATR\textsuperscript{3}), as well as Wiki, CVS, bug tracking, news forums, and discussion lists associated with it. Descriptions can be housed on the NITRC servers themselves, or passed through to an external, preexisting site for content management.

The site was formally launched to the public on Oct. 1, 2007. There are currently 141 hosted projects, and 667 registered users, and these numbers are increasing daily. NITRC encourages feedback through surveys of its users to make the site as accessible as possible.

Conclusion
NITRC, a new neuroimaging knowledge environment, is now online. We encourage the community to try it out and provide feedback on its design, tools, resources, and content. NITRC is a knowledge environment for the neuroimaging community where tools and
resources are presented in a coherent and synergistic environment for the advancement of MRI-based neuroscience research.

References