Registration of CT data

AIMS

CT data should be warped to Allen Space and the inversion (Atlas to native space) should be possible.

PROBLEMS

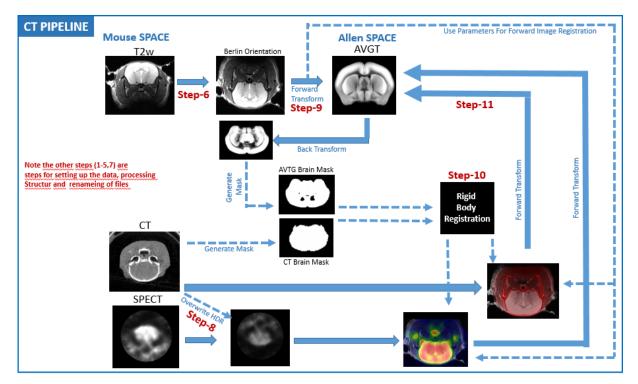
[1] CT does not have enough image contrast for brain registration/segmentation.

SOLUTION: using t2w-image of the same animal & skull extraction from CT + creating inner mask of the skull with refers to the 'brain' volume. This volume is registered to the Allen-brain mask. The Allen-brain mask is created after registering the t2w-image to the Allen brain template and after back warping the Allen-brain mask. Thus, registration parameters from t2w registration can be applied to the CT image or other images.

- [2] Mouse was differently positioned compared to berlin (t2w image is differently oriented) -> header of the t2w image has to be changed
- [3] t2w image is different regarding the position/origin of the CT image
- [4] CT image is different regarding the position/origin of the t2w image
- [5] SPECT image is different regarding the position/origin of the CT image

PIPELINE

The figure below depicts the steps to transform the present CT/SPECT data to Allen Mouse Space



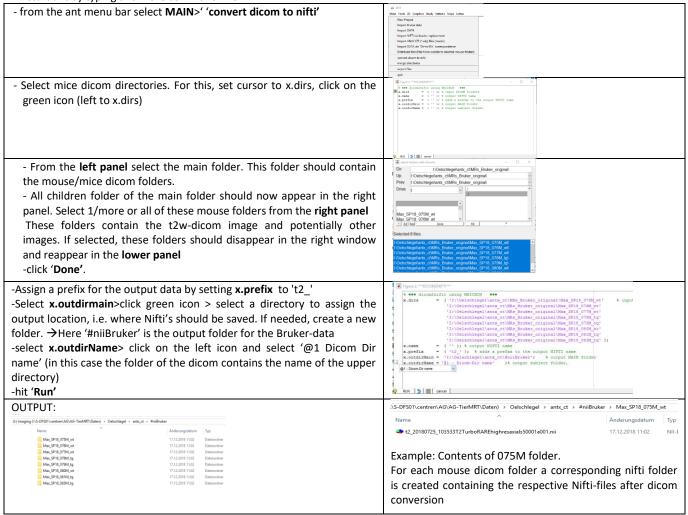
STEPS

- 1. Dicom to NIfti Conversion Bruker data
- 2. Dicom to NIfti Conversion CT data
- 3. Merge CT and t2w files/folders
- 4. Setup data pipeline
- 5. Rename files
- 6. Reorient t2w images to match with Berlin's mouse orientation
- 7. Rename 'ht20.nii to 't2.nii'
- 8. Reorient 'SPECT.nii' to match 'CT.nii'
- 9. Warp 't2.nii' to Allen Space
- 10. Registration of 'CT.nii' to 't2.nii'
- 11. Warp CT and SPECT image to Allen Atlas space

Add 10b: Manual POST-Registration of the CT-images (source) to 't2.nii' (target)

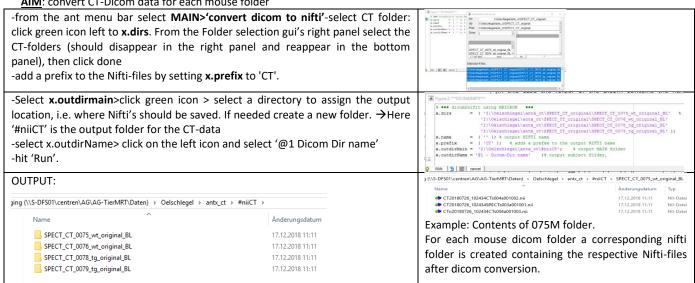
1. Dicom to NIfti Conversion – Bruker data

- -AIM: convert Bruker Dicom data for each mouse folder
- set matlab working dir to the upper main folder that contains the BrukerDicom data
- start ant by typing ant in the command line



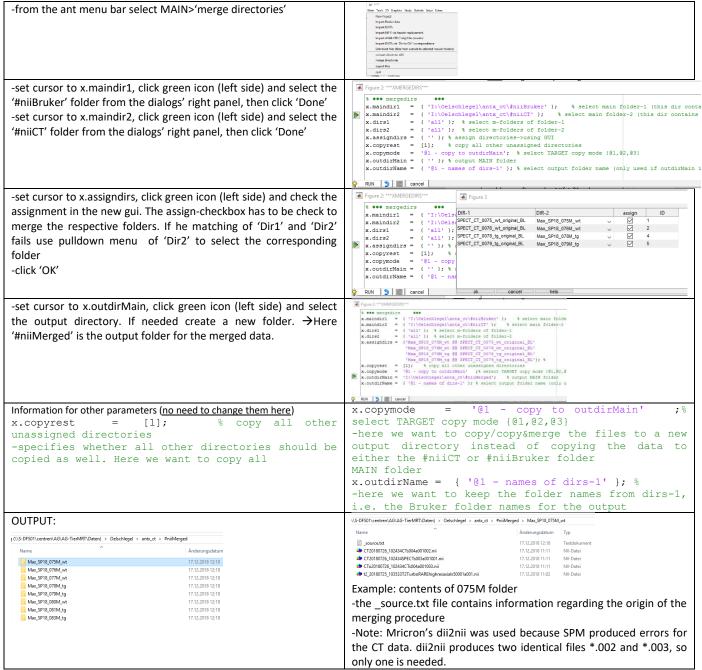
2. Dicom to NIfti Conversion – CT data

AIM: convert CT-Dicom data for each mouse folder



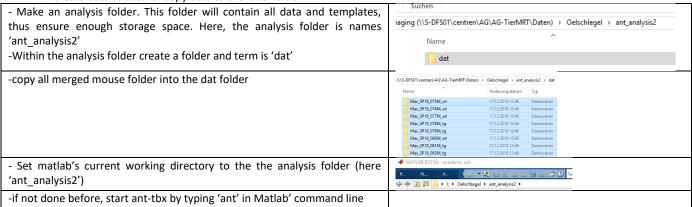
3. Merge CT and t2w files/folders

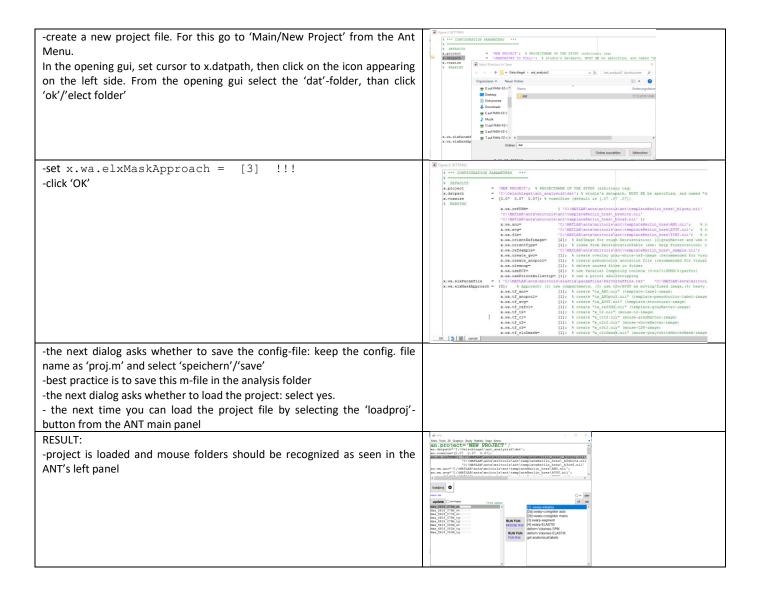
AIM: merge corresponding CT data and Bruker data for each mouse



4. Setup data pipeline

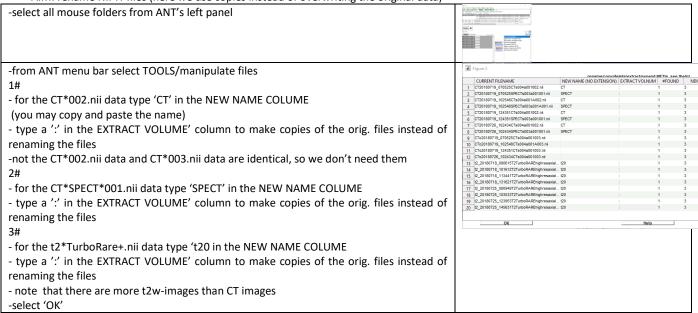
Aim: Create data structure. Copy data to the 'dat'-folder

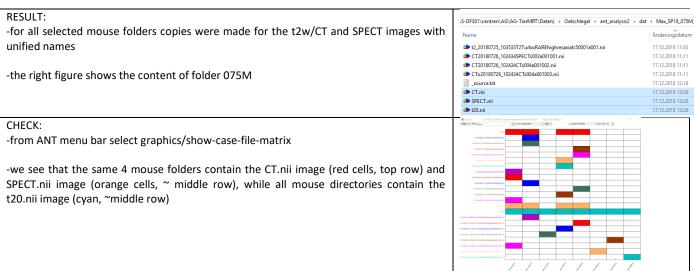


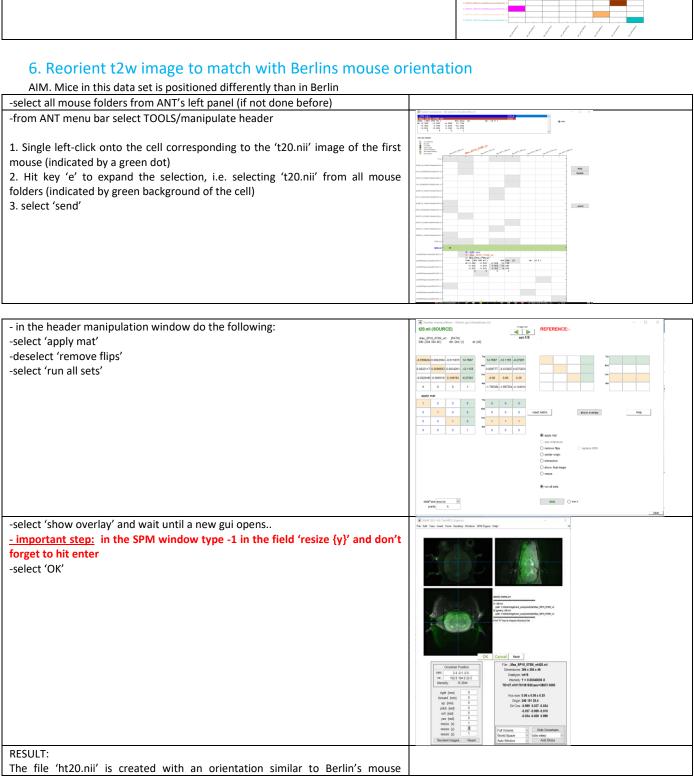


5. Rename files

-AIM: rename NIFTI-files (here we use copies instead of overwriting the original data)







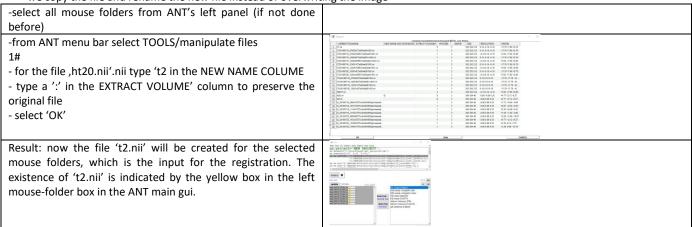
orientation

NOTE: SPECT.nii and CT.nii are differently oriented compared to the t20.nii. Thus the have to be treated differently. In fact, after reorientation of the t20.nii to Berlin's orientation the CT.nii image matches the new t20.nii. However, the origin is sill different.

The Spect.nii, however, is also oriented differently

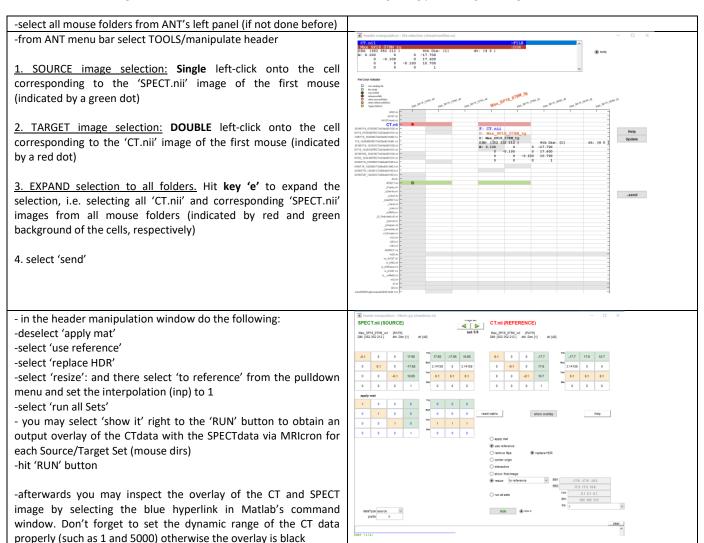
7. RENAMING ht20.nii to 't2.nii'

AIM. 't2.nii' is the standard input for image registration thus we rename the file ,ht20.nii' to 't2.nii'. For documentation purpose we copy the file and rename the new file instead of overwriting the image



8. REORIENT SPECT.nii to match CT.nii

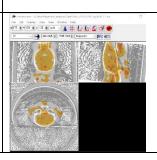
AIM. SPECT.nii image must be reoriented+resliced to match the CT.nii regarding positioning and origin



RESULT:

A new Image 'hSPECT.nii' is created that matches with the 'CT.nii' regarding orientation and origin.

-as an example, the right figure shows the overlay of the 'CT.nii' an 'hSPECT.nii' for mouse 079M.



9. Warping t2.nii to Allen Space

AIM. 't2.nii' is registered and warped to the Allen template. The transformation parameters for Native-to-Allen Space and its inverse is calculated.

-select all mouse folders from ANT's left panel (if not done before)

- * The left panel in the right image indicates that mouse 075M has been already skull stripped, roughly oriented, segmented and warped to Allen space as indicated by the colored boxes right to the mouse name (I had to run this mouse in a previous testing step .. but data will be overwritten now)
- -select the steps [1],[2a],[2b],[3] and [4] from the right box of the ANT main gui.
- -If Matlabs parallel-TBX is installed select the upper 'RUN FUN' button otherwise use the bottom 'RUN FUN' button to start the image registration
- * For each mouse (and this registration approach, i.e. 3) this will take ~30min

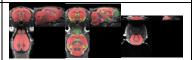
RESULT:

After processing the transformation parameters for registration of Images in native mouse space to Allen space and vice versa can be used to transform other images:

The right fogire depict the overlay of the t2w image ('x_t2.nii') with the Allen template (AVGT.nii, red color, left), the pseudoAtlas (ANOpcol.nii, middle), both in Allenspace and the t2w image (t2.nii) and the backtransformed AllenTemplate (ix_AVGT.nii, red color, right panel)

-also check registration using contextmenu from the left mouse folder box (e.g. cgeck coreg panel elastix)







10. Registration of 'CT.nii' to 't2.nii'

AIM. Register CT.nii to t2.nii and apply registration to 'hSPECT.nii'

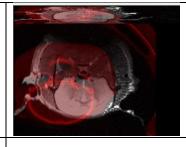
PROBLEM:

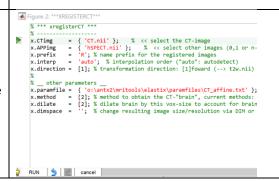
- -STATUS: orientation of <u>CT.nii</u> and <u>t2.nii</u> is fine after using performing step-6 (using [-1] for the 'resize {y}' parameter)
- BUT: the two images are not co-located (see right figure)
- \rightarrow New PROBLEM: <u>CT.nii</u> has no contrast regarding brain tissue compartments/structures \rightarrow SOLUTION: create a brain mask from the CT's skull-signal and register that with the back transformed Allen template brain mask (<u>ix AVGT.nii</u> \rightarrow mouse brain mask). Then apply this rigid transformation to <u>CT.nii</u> and '<u>hSPECT.nii'</u>, such that both images are co-located with '<u>t2.nii'</u>
- -select all mouse folders from ANT's left panel (if not done before)
- -from ANT menu bar select TOOLS/registerCTimage

Use left icons in the new gui to:

- select x.CTimg: here 'CT.nii'
- -select x.APPimg: here 'hSPECT.nii'
- -the transformation is calculated using 'CT.nii' and applied to 'hSPECT.nii'
- for affine transformation click icon of x.paramfile and select the respective parameterfile ("CT_affine.txt")
- set x.method to 2
- -set x.dilate to 2

-hit 'RUN'

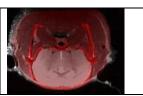




RESULT:

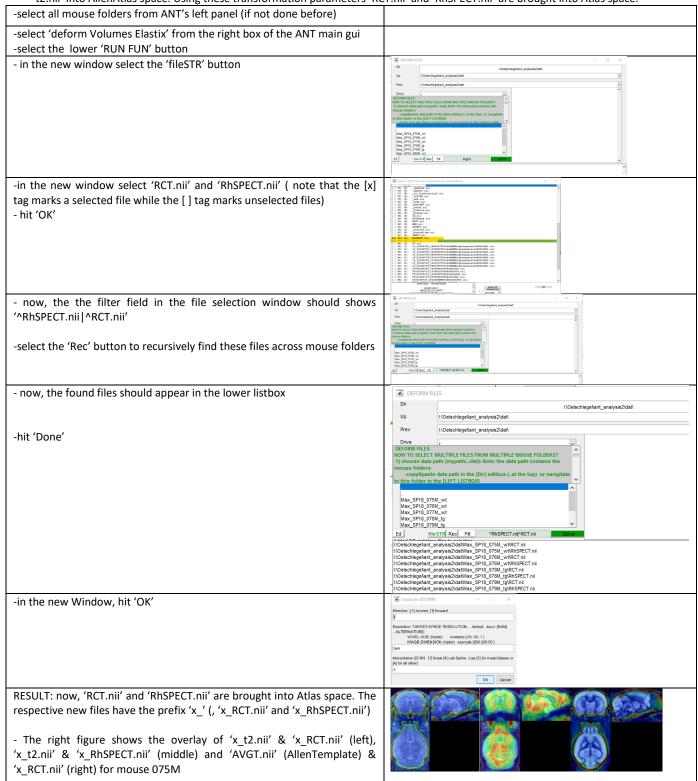
New files will be created 'RCT.nii' and 'RhSPECT.nii', both aligned with 't2.nii'

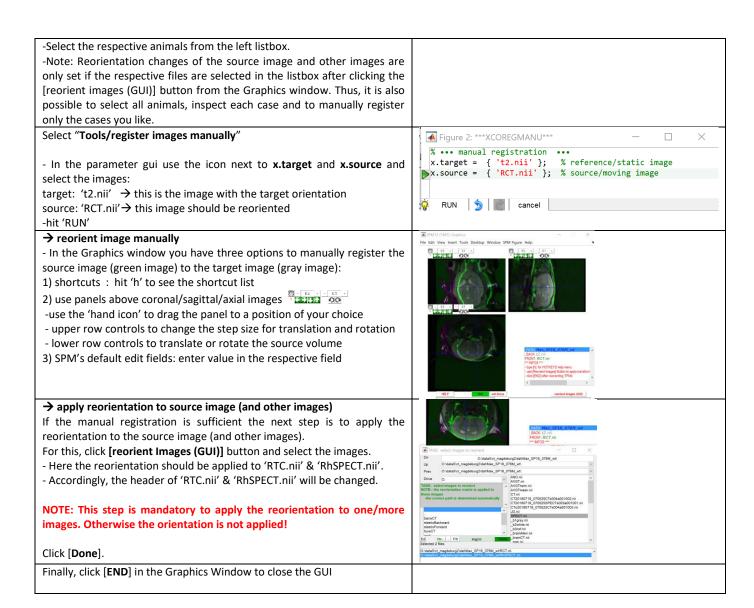
-example: mouse 075M overlay of 't2.nii' and 'RCT.nii'



11. Warp CT and SPECT image to Allen Atlas space

AIM. The 't2.nii' image was used to estimate the linear and nonlinear registration parameters to transform images aligned with 't2.nii' into AllenAtlas space. Using these transformation parameters 'RCT.nii' and 'RhSPECT.nii' are brought into Atlas space.





BATCHES

```
% % #g FUNCTION:
                 [xdicom2nifti.m]
% % #b info :
               #wg function to convert dicoms to nifti
z=[]:
z.dirs
       = { 'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 075M wt'
                                                                       % % input DICOM folders
       'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 076M wt'
       'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 077M wt'
       'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 078M tg'
       'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 079M tg'
       'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\MRs_Bruker_original\Max_SP18_080M_wt'
       'O:\data5\ct magdeburg2\raw\MRs Bruker original\Max SP18 081M tg'
       'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\MRs_Bruker_original\Max_SP18_083M_tg' };
       = { '' };
                                          % % output NIFTI name
z.name
z.prefix = { 't2_' };
                                           % % adds a prefxx to the output NIFTI name
z.outdirMain = 'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\\#bruker';
                                                           % % output MAIN folder
z.outdirName = '@1 - Dicom-Dir name';
                                                     % % output subject folder,
xdicom2nifti(1,z);
% % #g FUNCTION:
                  [xdicom2nifti.m]
% % #b info :
               #wg function to convert dicoms to nifti
z=[];
```

```
z.dirs
                                                                                        % % input DICOM folders
        'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\SPECT_CT_original\SPECT_CT_0076_wt_original_BL'
        'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\SPECT_CT_original\SPECT_CT_0078_tg_original_BL'
        'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\SPECT_CT_original\SPECT_CT_0079_tg_original_BL' };
         = { '' };
                                                     % % output NIFTI name
z.name
z.prefix = { 'CT' };
                                                     % % adds a prefxx to the output NIFTI name
z.outdirMain = 'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\#CT';
                                                                       % % output MAIN folder
z.outdirName = '@1 - Dicom-Dir name';
                                                                 % % output subject folder,
xdicom2nifti(1,z);
% % #g FUNCTION:
                    [xmergedirs.m]
% % #b info :
                  function to merge the contents of pairwise assigned directories
z.maindir1 = { 'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\#bruker' };
                                                            % % select main folder-1 (this dir contains other dirs)
z.maindir2 = { 'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\#CT' };
                                                          % % select main folder-2 (this dir contains other dirs)
z.dirs1
        = { 'all' };
                                        % % select m-folders of folder-1
z.dirs2
        = { 'all' };
                                        % % select m-folders of folder-2
z.assigndirs = { 'Max_SP18_075M_wt @@ SPECT_CT_0075_wt_original_BL'
                                                                      % % assign directories->using GUI
        'Max_SP18_076M_wt @@ SPECT_CT_0076_wt_original_BL'
        'Max SP18 078M tg@@ SPECT CT 0078 tg original BL'
        'Max_SP18_079M_tg @@ SPECT_CT_0079_tg_original_BL' };
z.copyrest = [1];
                                          % % copy all other unassigned directories
z.copymode = '@1 - copy to outdirMain';
                                                     % % select TARGET copy mode {@1,@2,@3}
z.outdirMain = 'O:\data5\ct_magdeburg2\raw\#merged';
                                                             % % output MAIN folder
z.outdirName = { '@1 - names of dirs-1' };
                                                    % % select output folder name (only used if outdirMain is defined),
xmergedirs(1,z);
            [xrename.m]
% descr: #bc [xrename] RENAME/DELETE/EXTRACT/EXPAND/COPY file(s) from selected ant-mousefolders
                                                      ı:۱
z.files={ 'CT20180719 070525CTs004a001002.nii'
                                             'CT'
                                                      ı<sub>:'</sub>
     'CT20180719 070525SPECTs003a001001.nii'
                                             'SPECT'
                                                      ı.:۱
                                              'CT'
     'CT20180719_102546CTs004a001A002.nii'
                                                      'SPECT' ':'
     'CT20180719_102546SPECTs003a001A001.nii'
                                                      י:'
     'CT20180719 124351CTs004a001002.nii'
                                              'CT'
                                                      1:1
     'CT20180719_124351SPECTs003a001001.nii'
                                             'SPECT'
                                                      ١.١
     'CT20180726 102434CTs004a001002.nii'
                                              'CT'
     't2 20180718 090615T2TurboRAREhighresaxials30001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
                                                                       ı:۱
     't2 20180718 101612T2TurboRAREhighresaxials40001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
     't2 20180718 113441T2TurboRAREhighresaxials90001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
     't2_20180718_131621T2TurboRAREhighresaxials40001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
     't2_20180725_080949T2TurboRAREhighresaxials30001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
     't2 20180725 103533T2TurboRAREhighresaxials50001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
     't2 20180725 123953T2TurboRAREhighresaxials30001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
                                                                       ':'};
     't2_20180725_145631T2TurboRAREhighresaxials30001a001.nii'
                                                               't20'
xrename(1,z.files(:,1),z.files(:,2),z.files(:,3) );
```