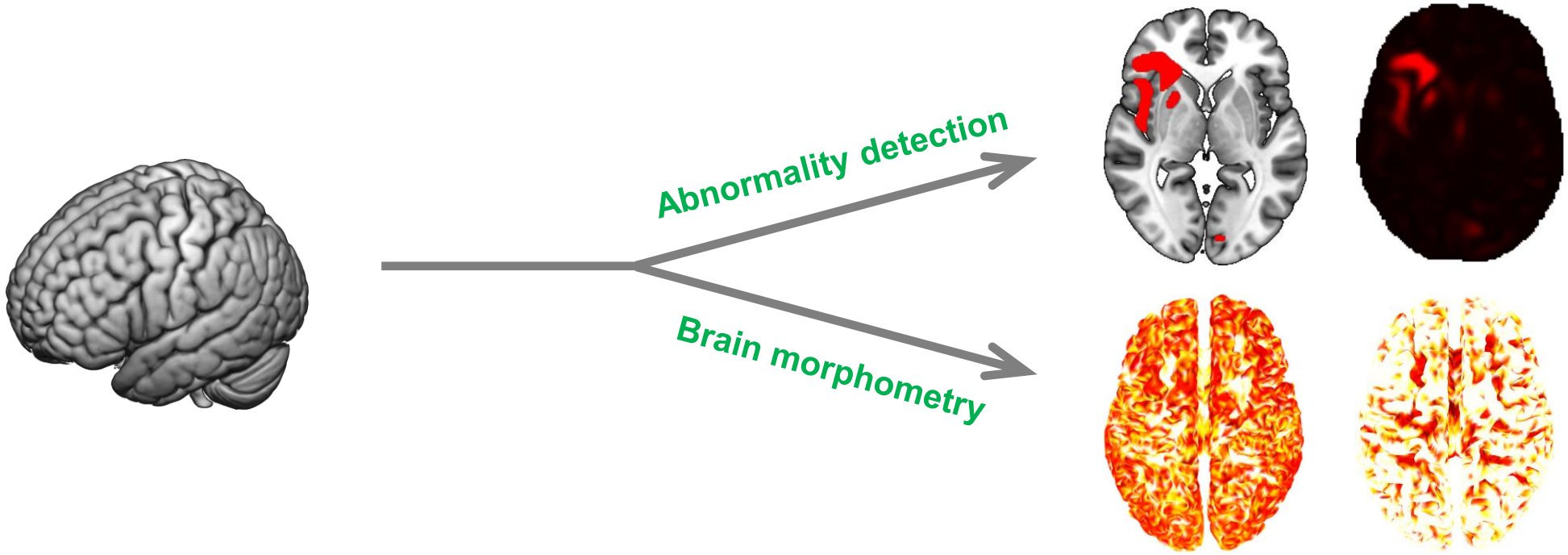
Medical/Bio Research Topics Ⅱ: Week 03 (21.09.2023)

Structural MRI: data processing
(구조 자기공명영상: 데이터 처리 방법)

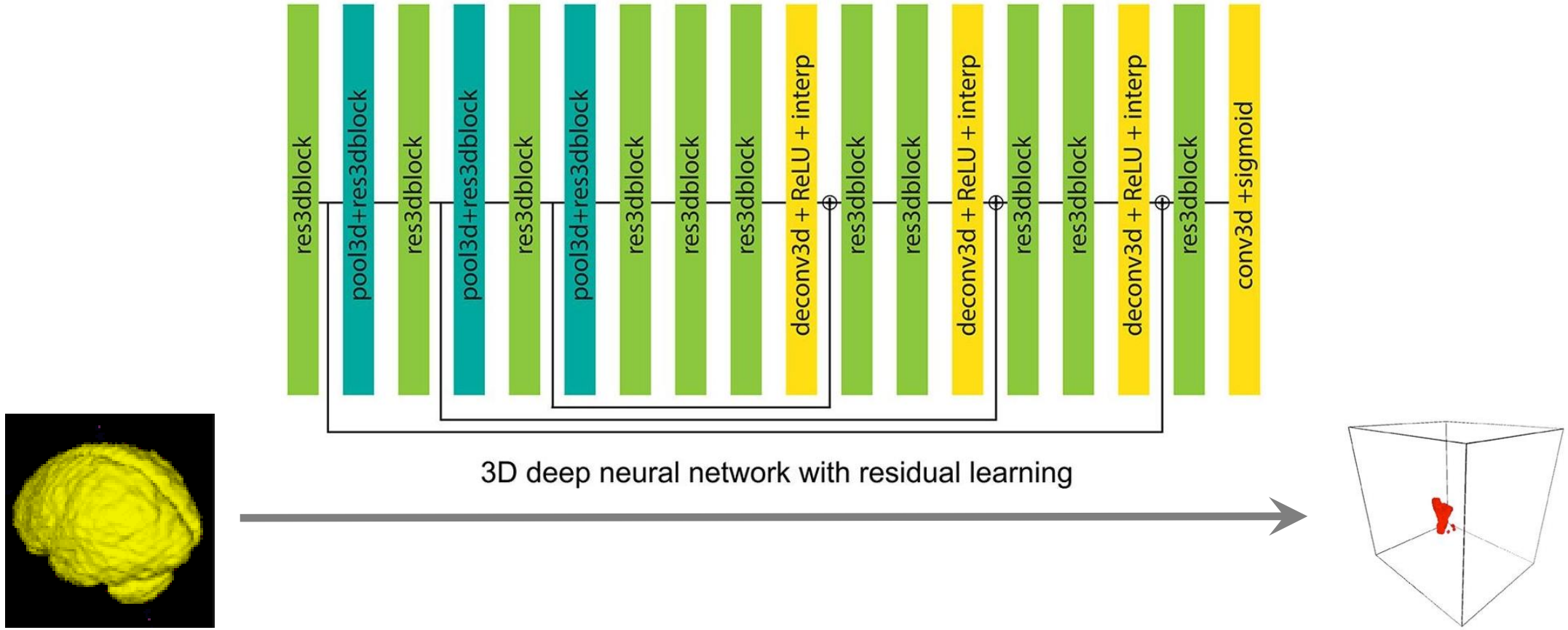
Brain Mapping with Structural MRI (sMRI)

- T1/T2-weighted sMRI



Automatic Abnormality Detection

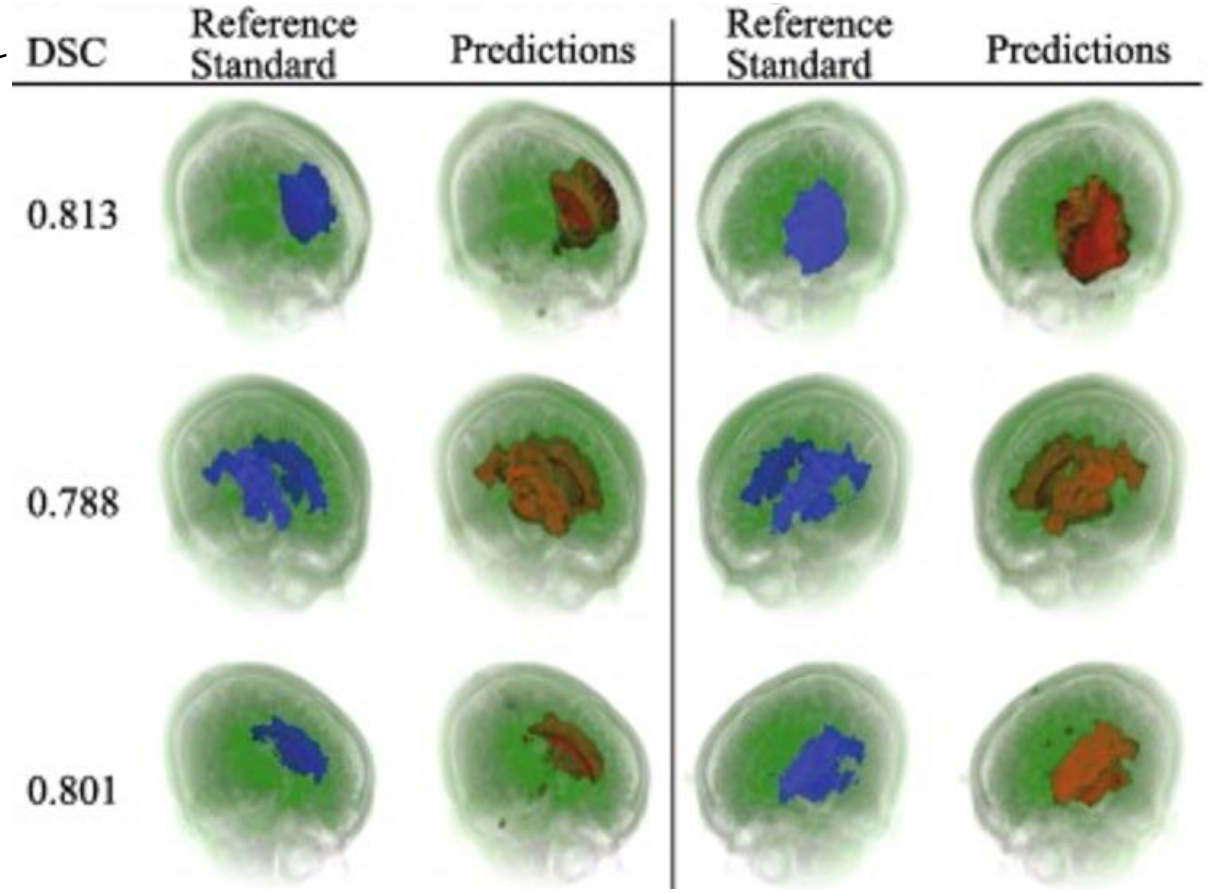
- Segmentation
  - Deep learning for volumetric segmentation of stroke lesions on a T1-weighted image [Tomita et al., 2020]
- Grading
  - Deep learning for predicting the severity of enlarged perivascular spaces on a T2-weighted image [Williamson et al., 2022]



[Tomita et al., 2020]

Automatic segmentation of a stroke lesion

$$DSC = \frac{2|X \cap Y|}{|X| + |Y|}$$



[Tomita et al., 2020]

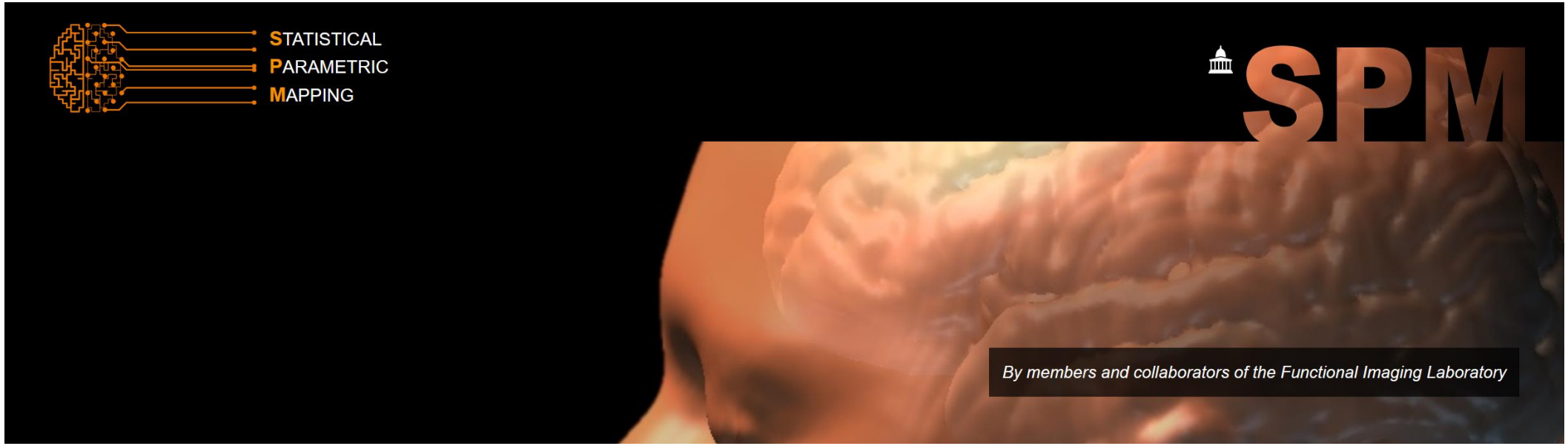
Evaluation of the performance of stroke lesion segmentation

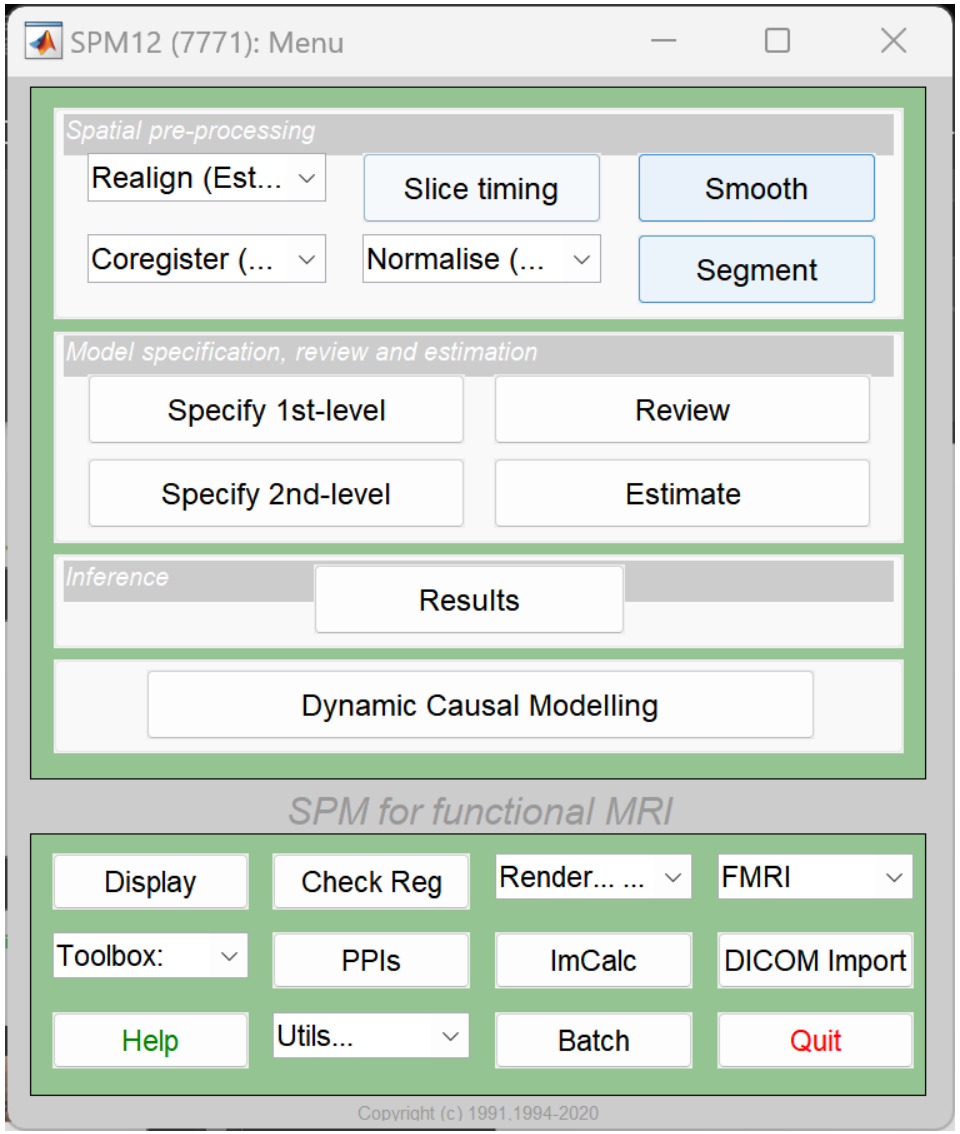
sMRI Data Processing

- Numerous steps to clean and standardise sMRI data before brain morphometry
  - Correction for unwanted variation
    - Intensity non-uniformity
  - Segmentation
    - Classifies an image into the non-brain and brain and, furthermore, the brain into different tissues usually including grey matter, white matter, and cerebrospinal fluid
  - Normalisation
    - Transforms an image from a native space to the standard space

[Hands-on Processing of sMRI]

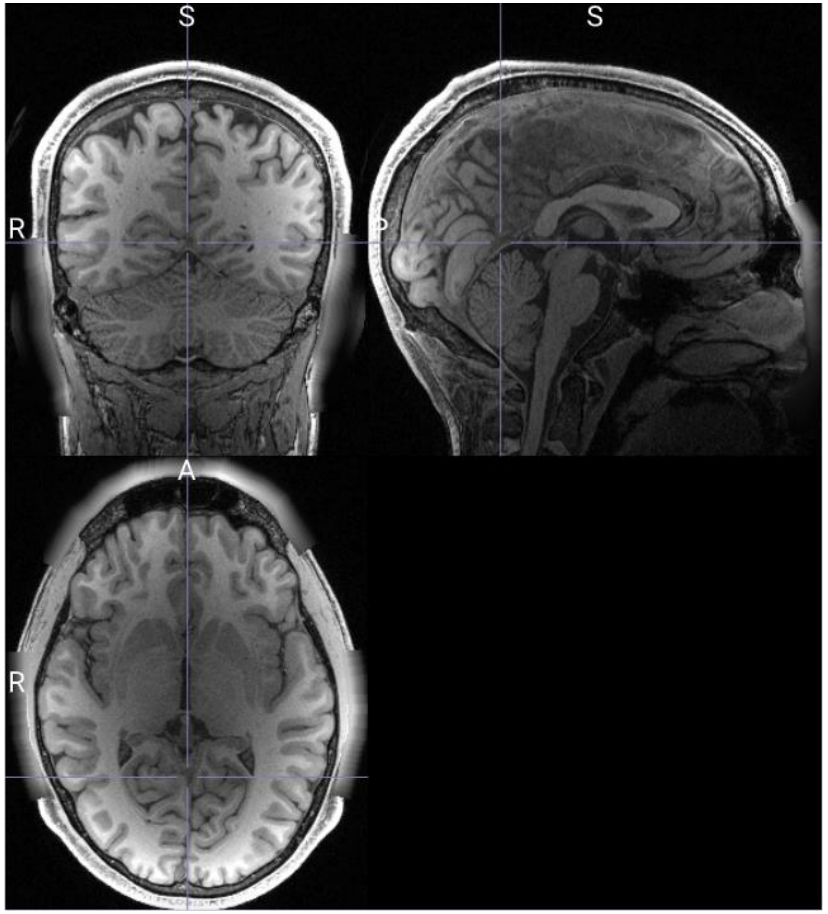
- Process sMRI data and check the output from each step
- **[Approach 1]** SPM toolbox (https://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/) in MATLAB

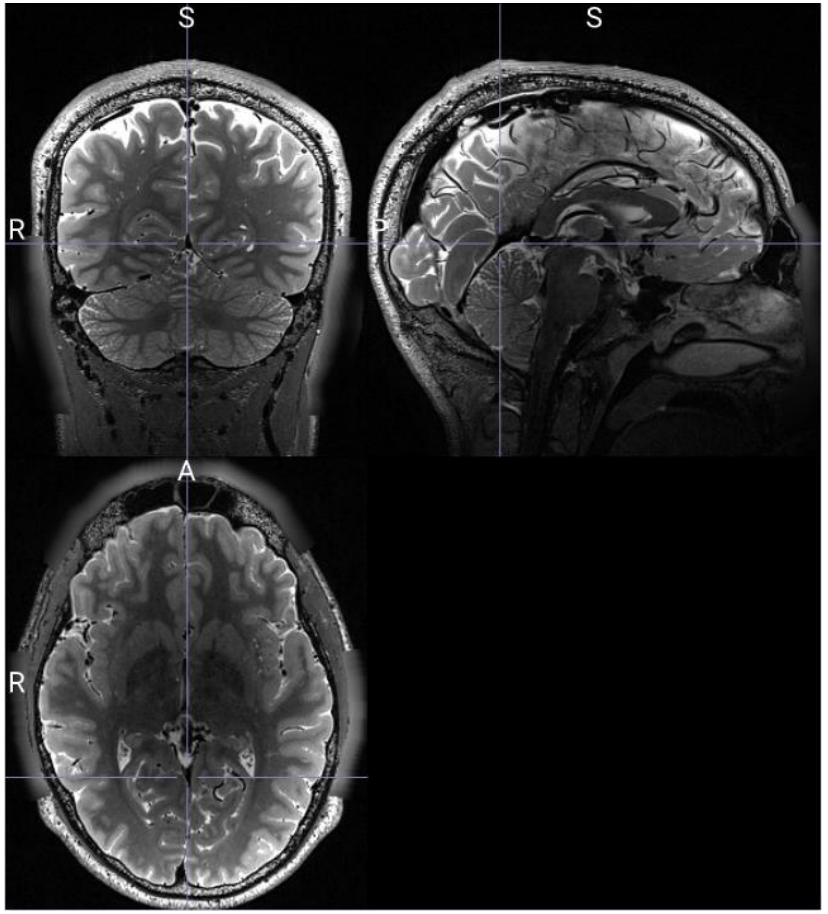




GUI of the SPM toolbox

Input

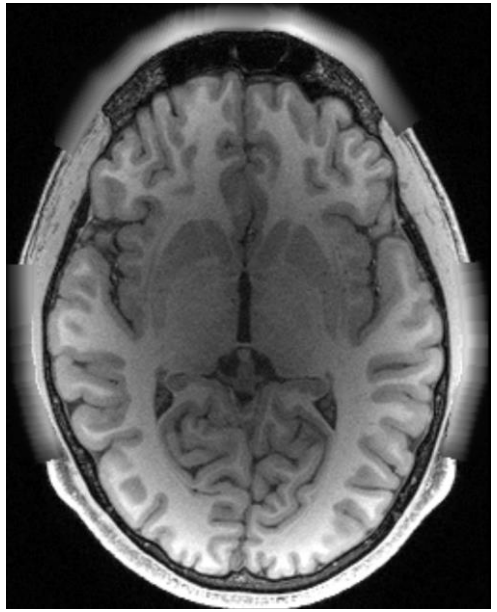


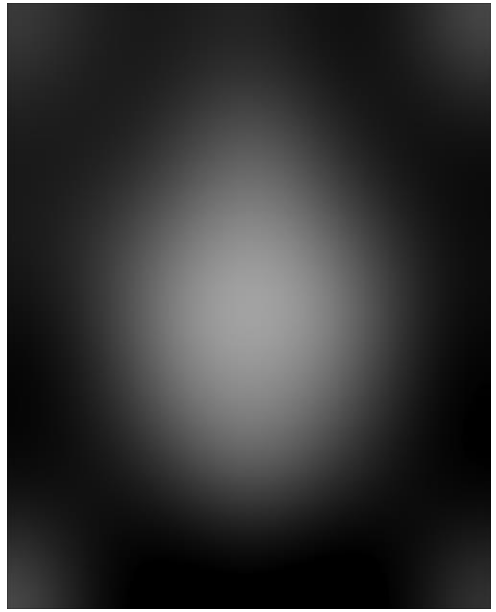


T1-weighted and T2-weighted sMRI

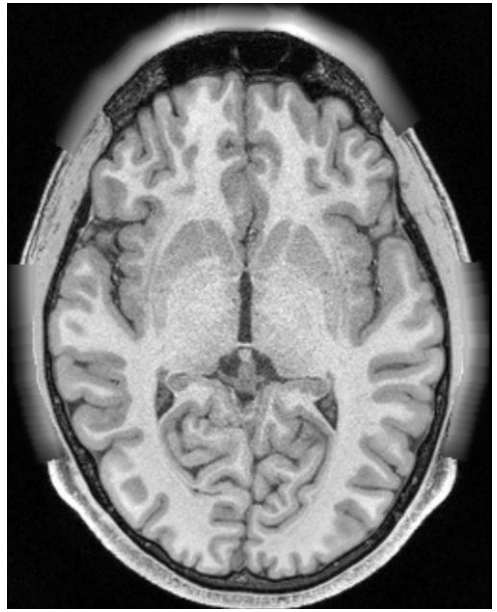
Output

Correction for intensity non-uniformity

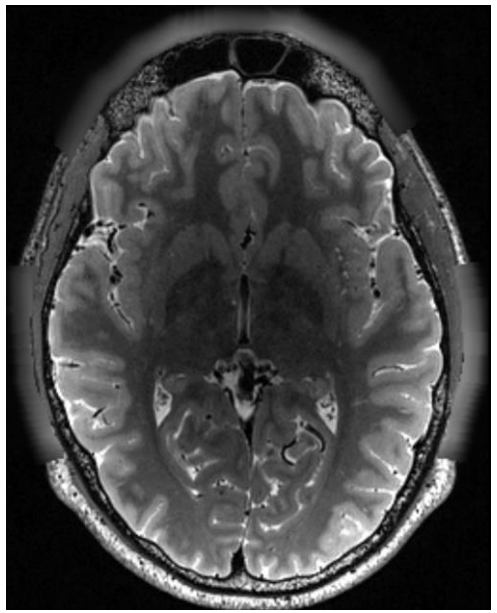


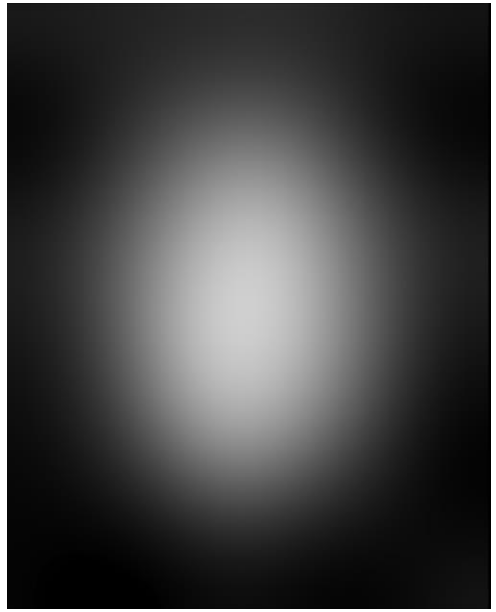


Intensity non-uniformity

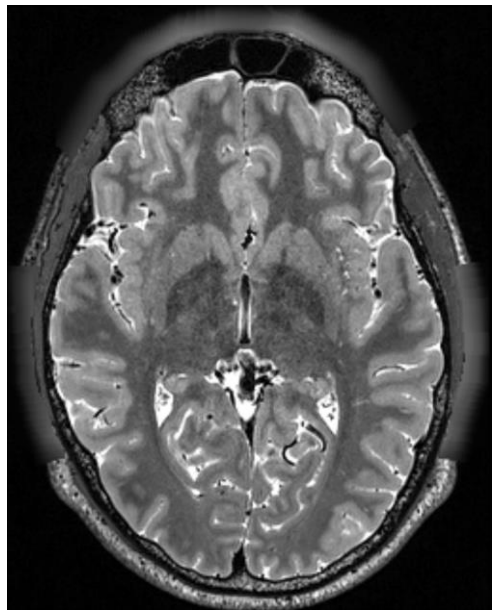


Correction of the T1-weighted image for intensity non-uniformity





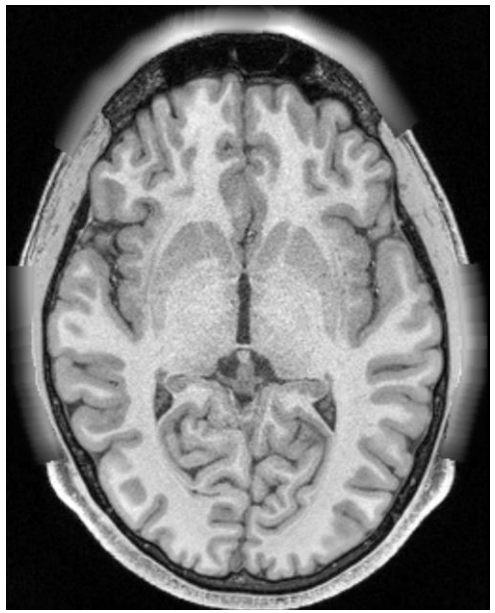
Intensity non-uniformity



Correction of the T2-weighted image for intensity non-uniformity

Output

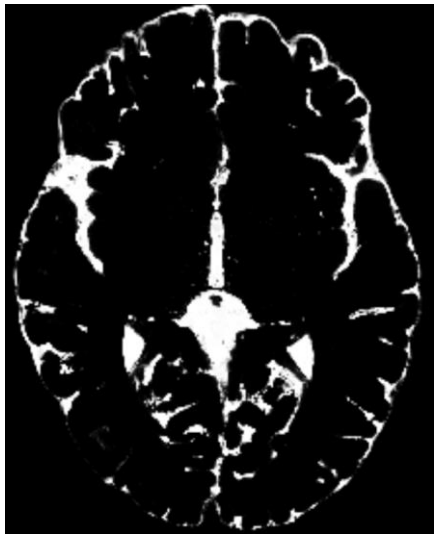
Segmentation



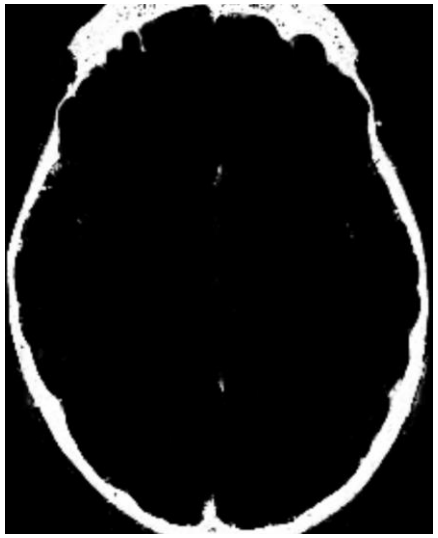
Segmentation

Grey matter

White matter

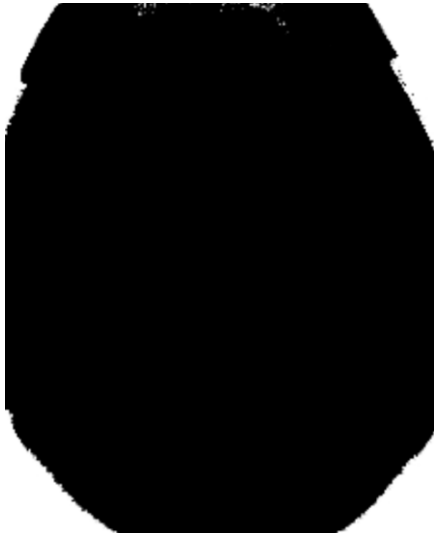


Cerebrospinal fluid

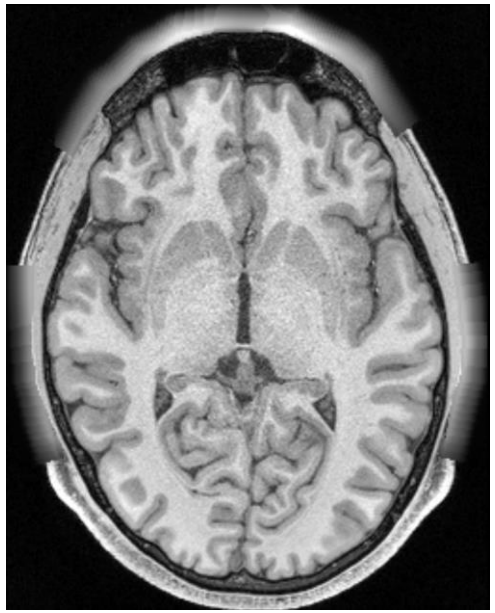


Bone

Soft tissue



Air/background



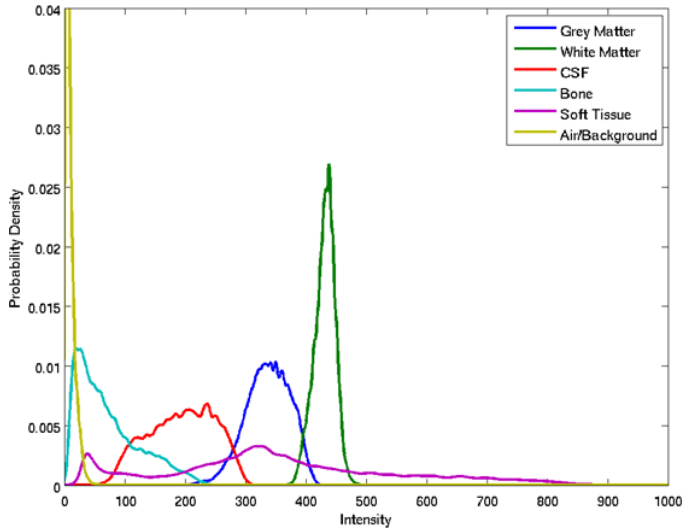
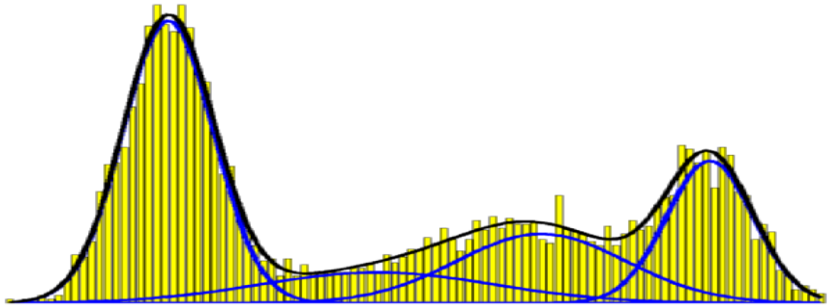
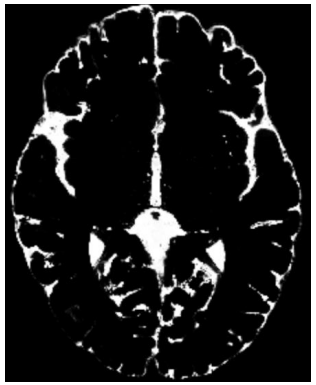


Image intensity distribution



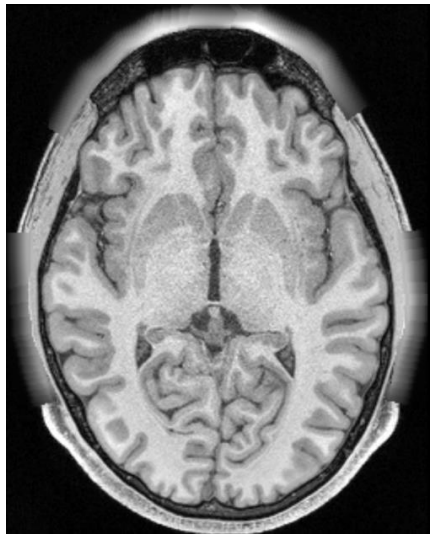
Mixture of Gaussians model

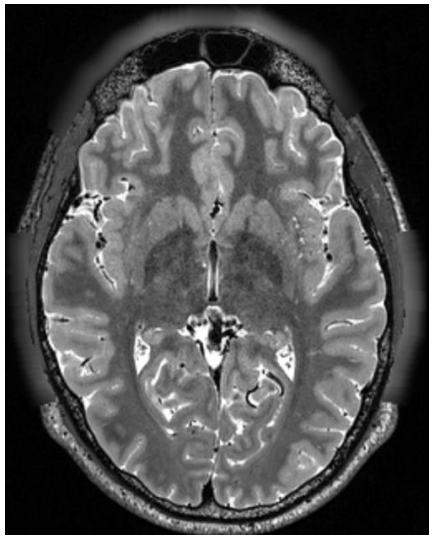


Tissue classification based on a mixture of Gaussians

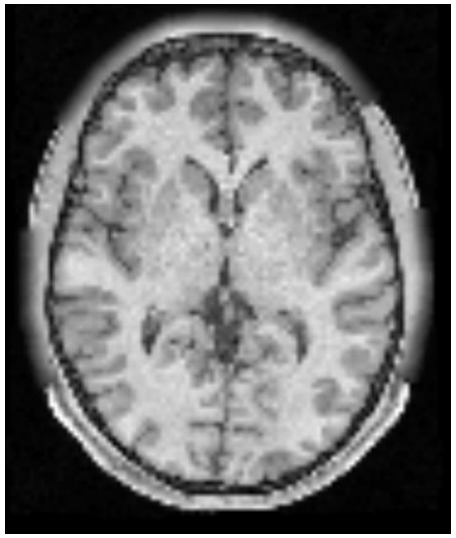
Output

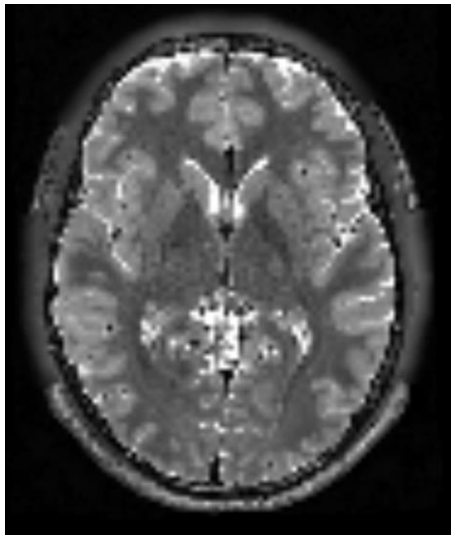
Normalisation





Normalisation

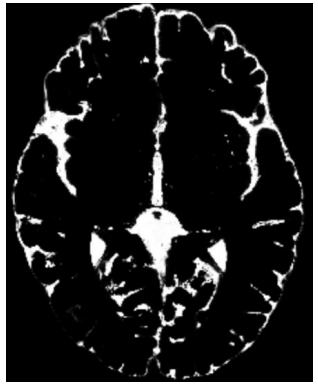




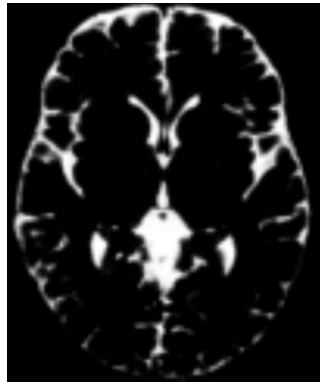
Grey matter

White matter

Cerebrospinal fluid



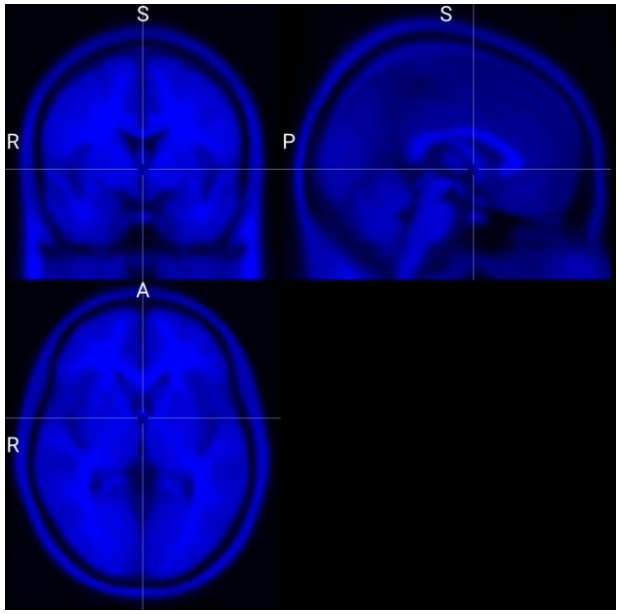
Template tissue probability maps

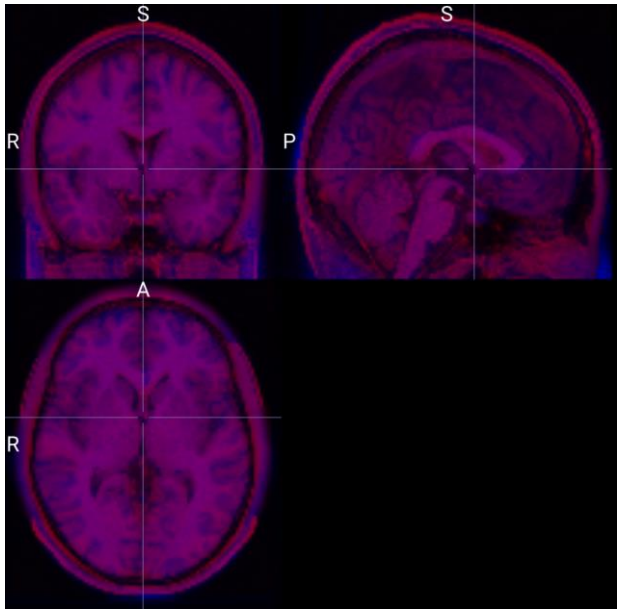


Unified segmentation and normalisation

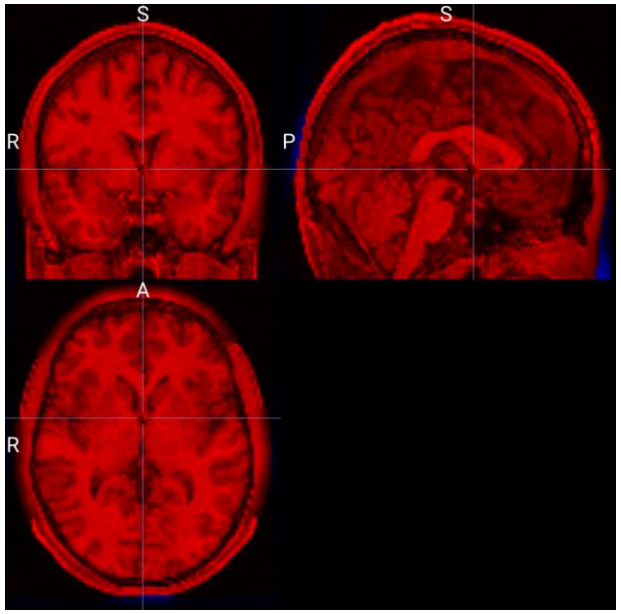
Confirmation

MNI152 template brain





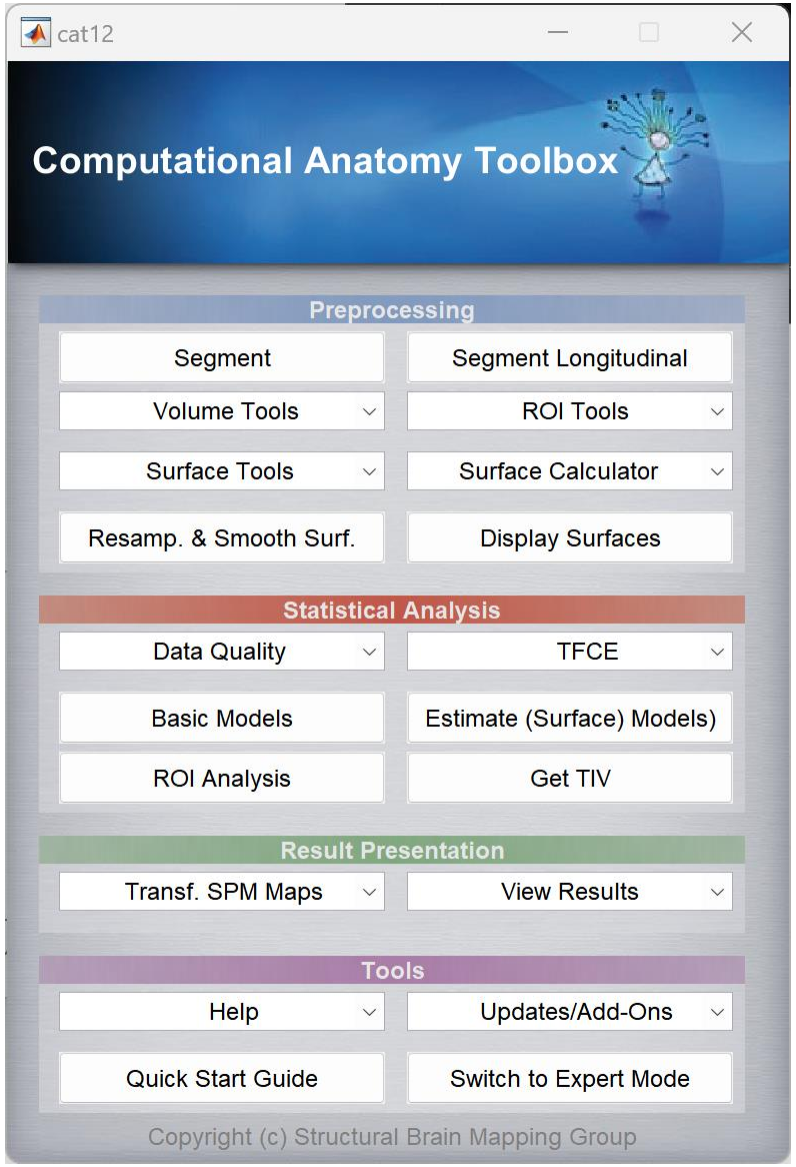
Individual's normalized brain



- **[Approach 2]** BrainPrep (https://github.com/quqixun/BrainPrep)
  - Pipeline to process brain MRI images by using FMRIB Software Library (FSL) and Advanced Normalization Tools (ANTs)
    1. Install FSL and ANTs
    2. Install python packages
       - tqdm
       - numpy
       - scipy
       - nipype
       - nibabel
       - matplotlib
       - sciKit-fuzzy (optional)
       - scikit-learn (optional)

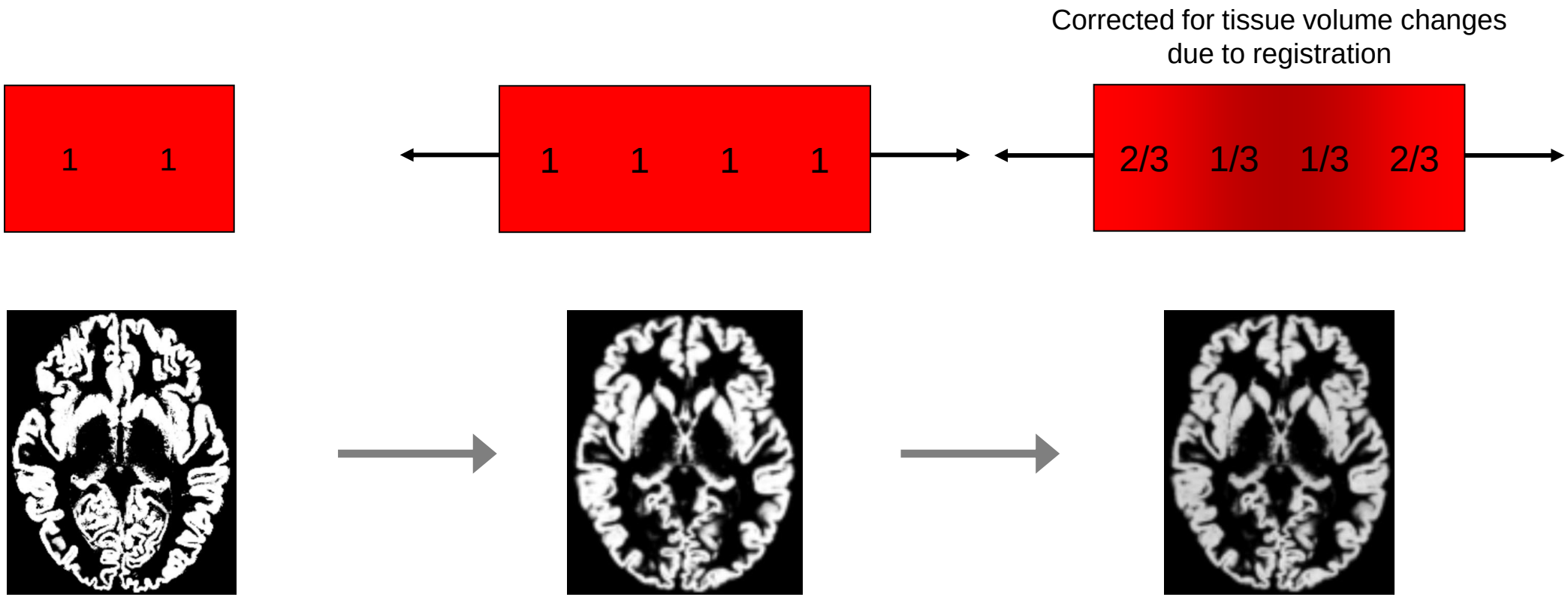
Voxel-based Morphometry

- Without defining boundaries and modelling cortical surfaces
- CAT12 toolbox (https://neuro-jena.github.io/cat/)
  - Extension to SPM12

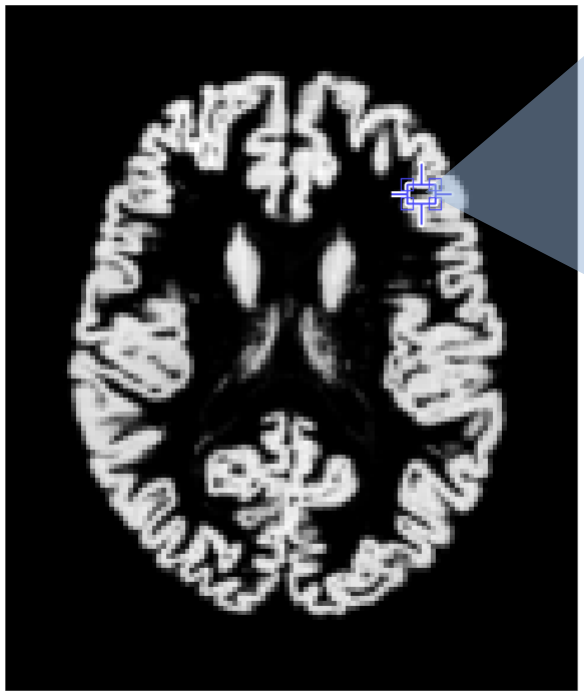


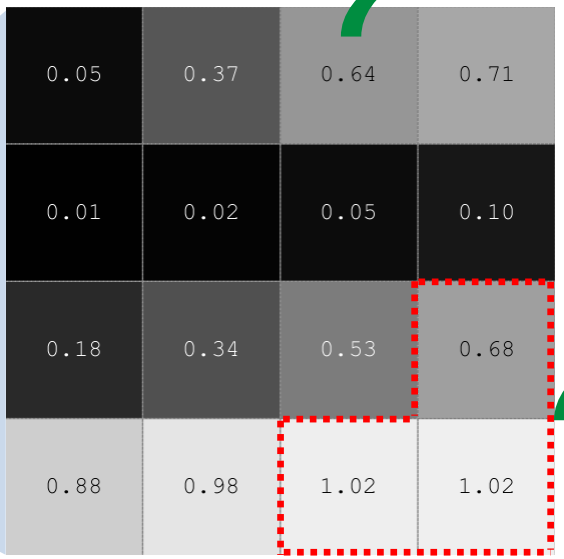
GUI of the CAT12 toolbox

- Grey matter volume
  - Computed by multiplying voxel-wise grey matter probability by voxel volume
  - For a grey matter probability map in the native space or its modulated one in the standard space



Normalisation and modulation





Voxel

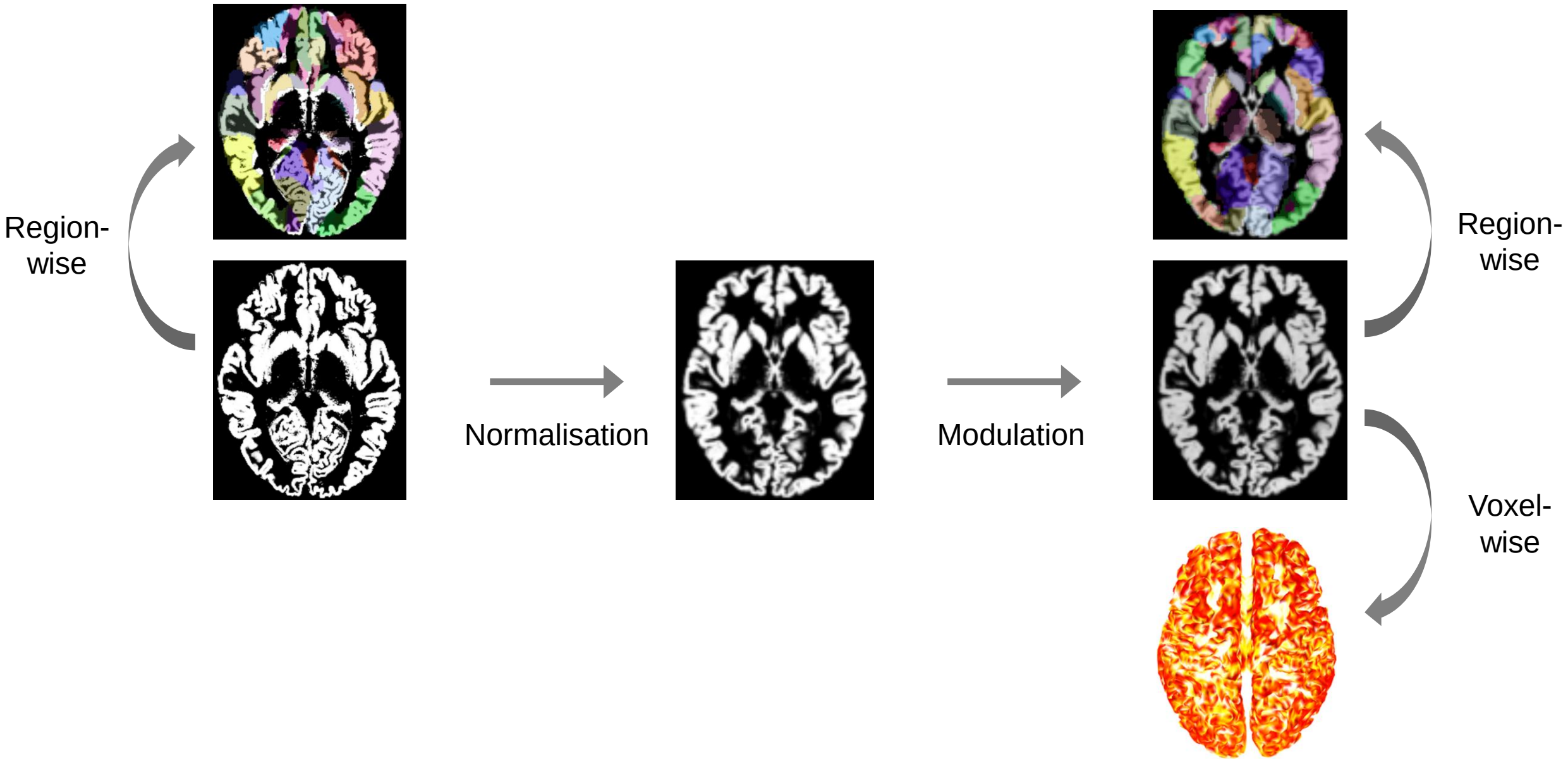
Grey matter volume = 0.64 × 3.375 mm^3
= 2.16 mm^3

Region

Grey matter volume = 9.18 mm^3

Voxel size: 1.5 mm × 1.5 mm × 1.5 mm
Voxel volume: 3.375 mm^3

Computation of grey matter volume for a voxel or a region



Mapping of grey matter volume

- Input to machine learning models
  - Table of voxel-wise or region-wise grey matter volume values

Features →

Samples ↓

	Voxel or region 1 grey matter volume	Voxel or region 2 grey matter volume	Voxel or region 3 grey matter volume	…
Subject 1	-	-	-	-
Subject 2	-	-	-	-
Subject 3	-	-	-	-
⋮	-	-	-	-

  - Grey matter volume map

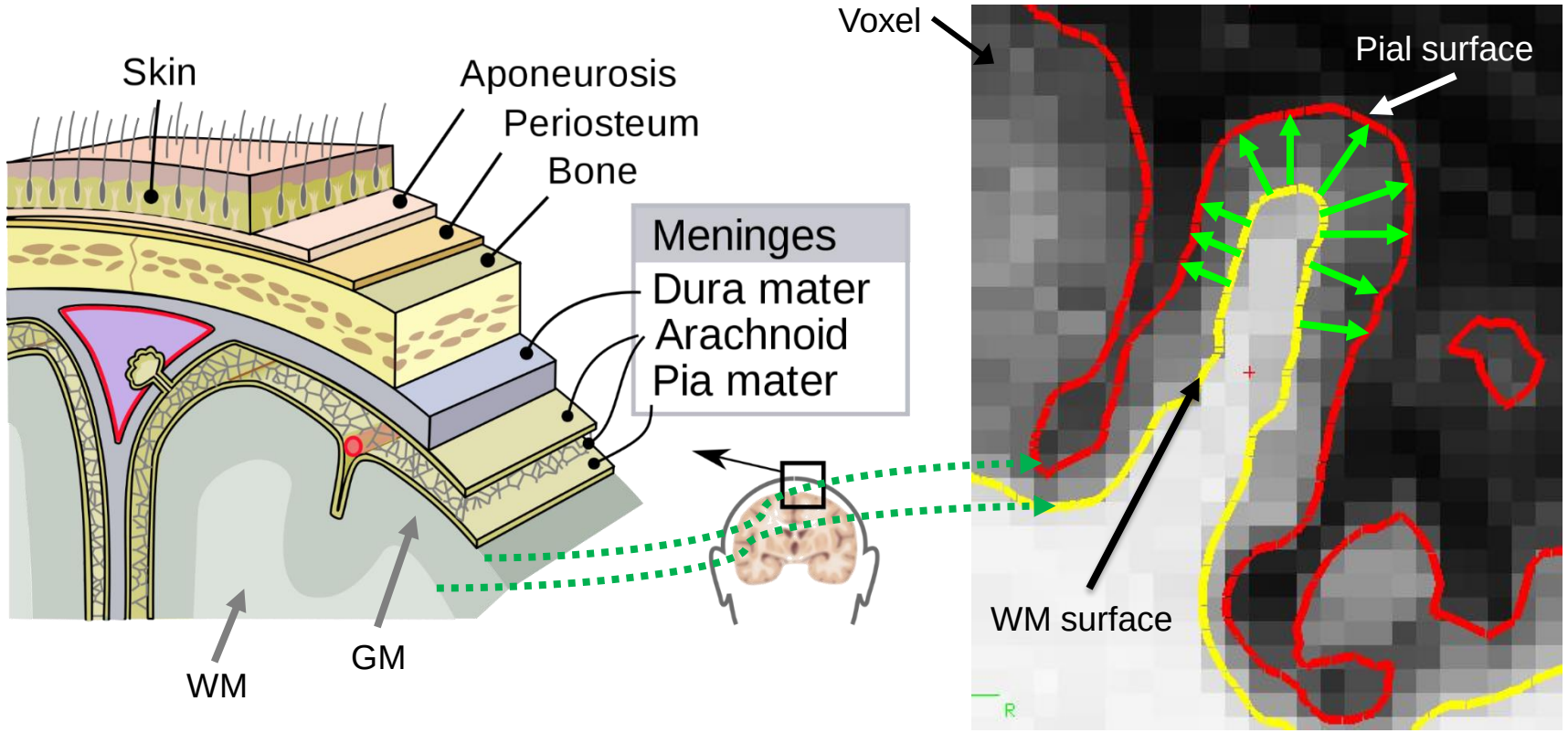
Surface-based Morphometry

- Independent of registration and modulation
- Not applicable to subcortical regions
- FreeSurfer (https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/)
  - sMRI analysis software of choice for the Human Connectome Project

- Surface reconstruction
  - White matter surface: inner cortical boundary between the grey matter and white matter
  - Pial surface: outer cortical boundary between the grey matter and pia mater

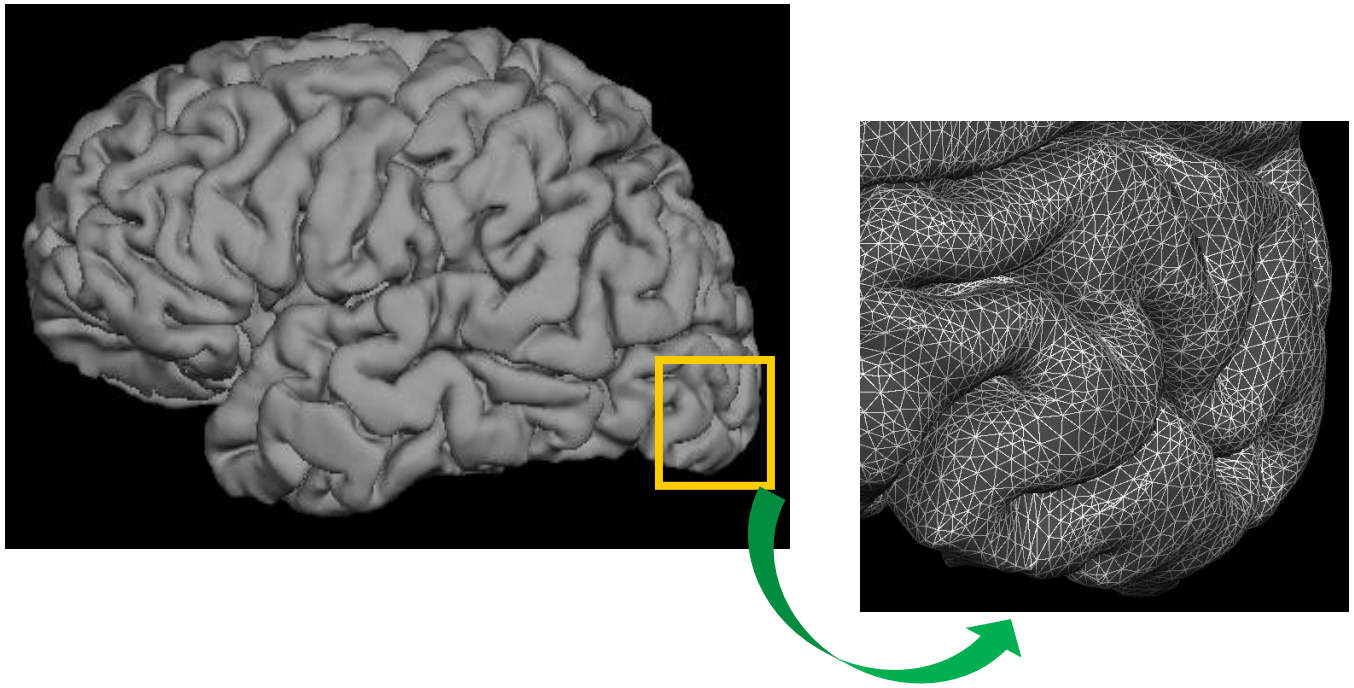
White matter surface

Pial surface



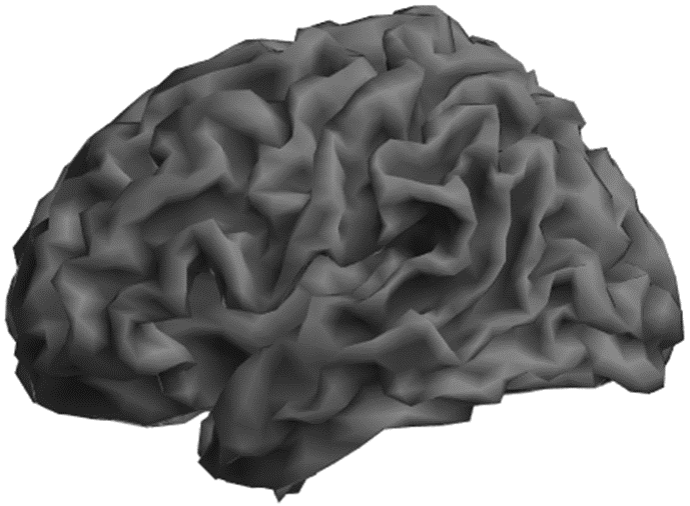
[https://www.physio-pedia.com/Meninges]

Cortical surfaces beneath cranial meninges

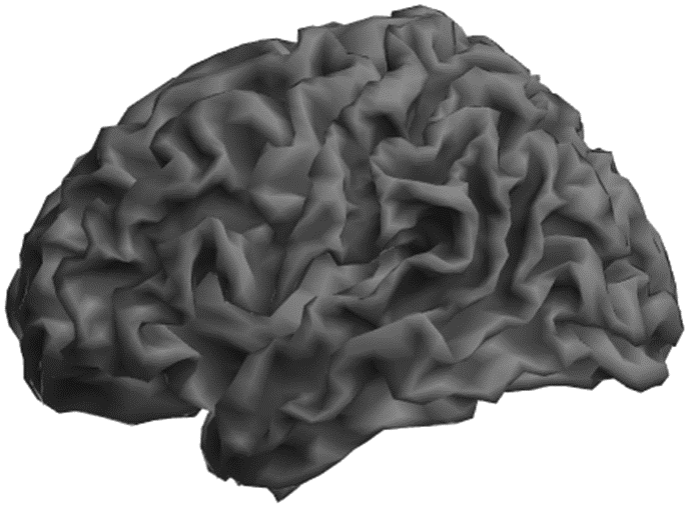


[https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/]

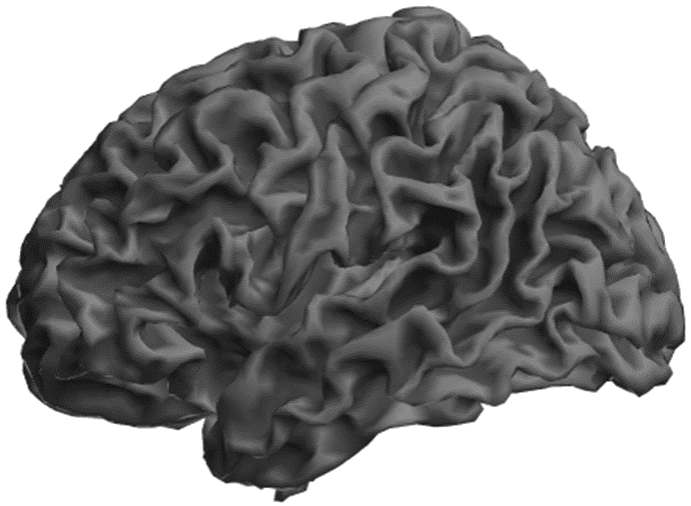
Surface representation of the cerebral cortex



5124 vertices



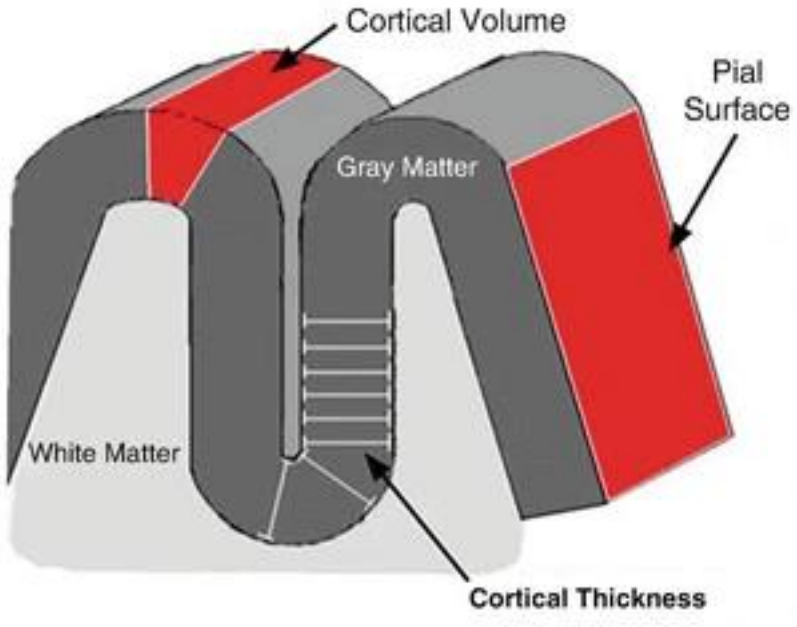
8196 vertices

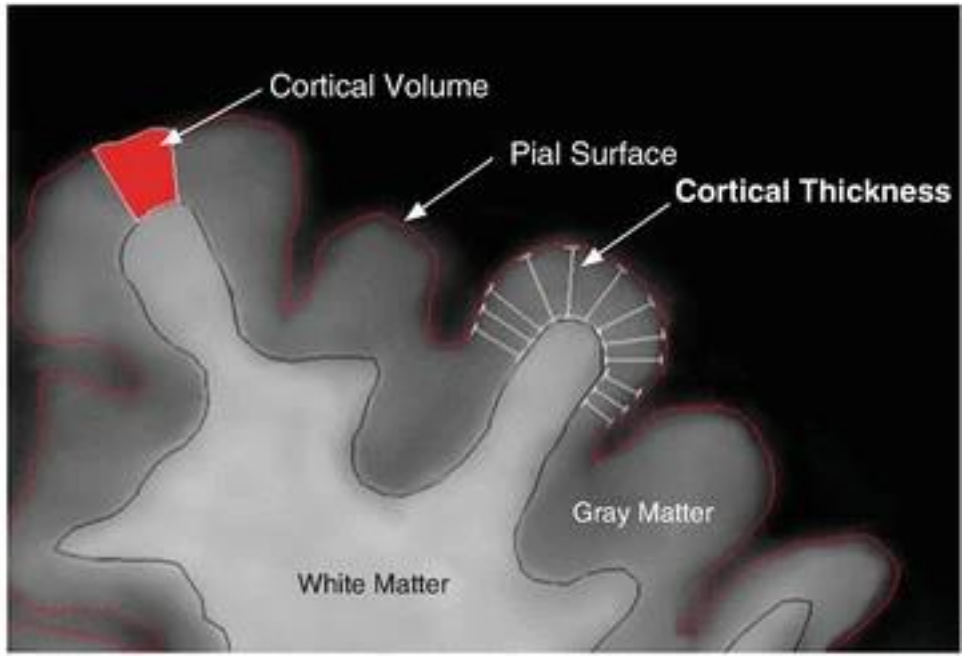


20484 vertices

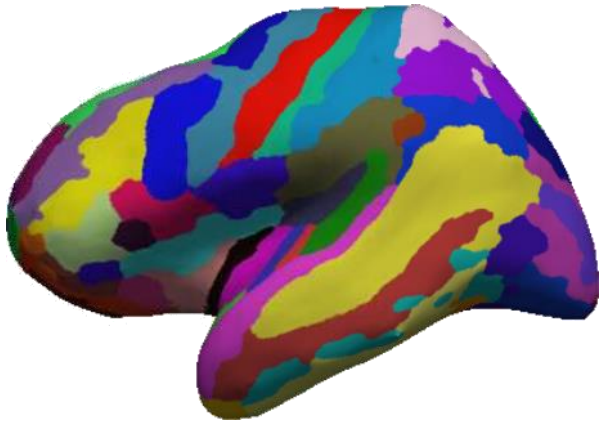
Surface representation with different numbers of vertices

- Cortical thickness
  - Distance between the inner (white matter surface) and outer (pial surface) cortical boundaries





[Gale and Huff, 2017]



Inflated

Region-wise

Vertex-wise

Information of cortical thickness

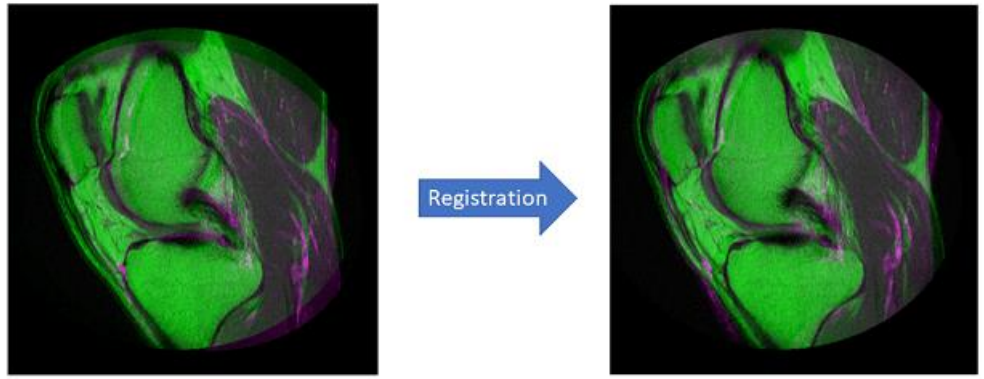
sMRI as an Individual's Spatial Reference

- Anatomical localization of other modalities of MRI
  - Within-subject between-modality registration

Rigid registration
(global shift and rotation)

Within-subject within-modality

Affine registration
(global shift, rotation, scale, and shear)



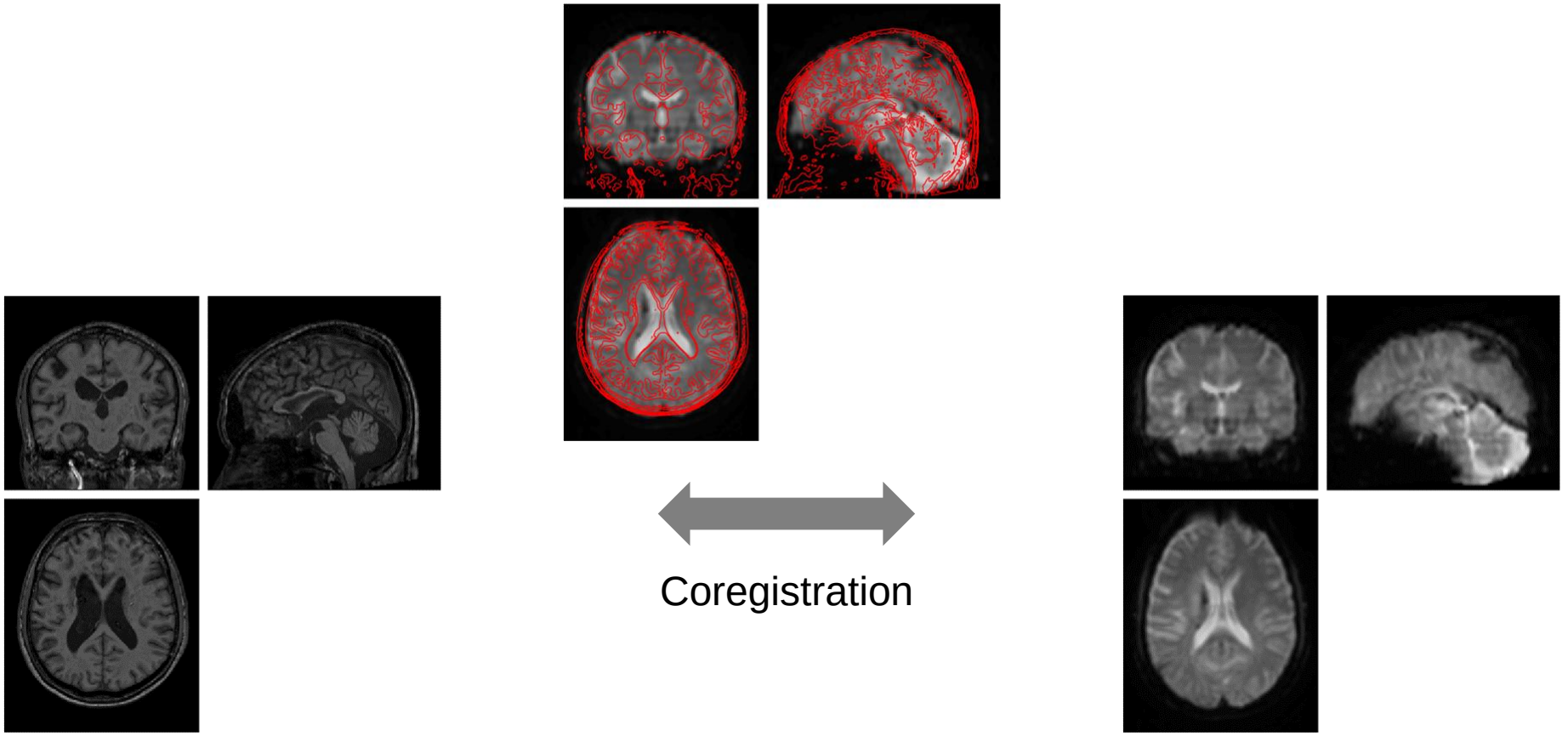
Within-subject between-modality

Deformable registration
(local transformations)

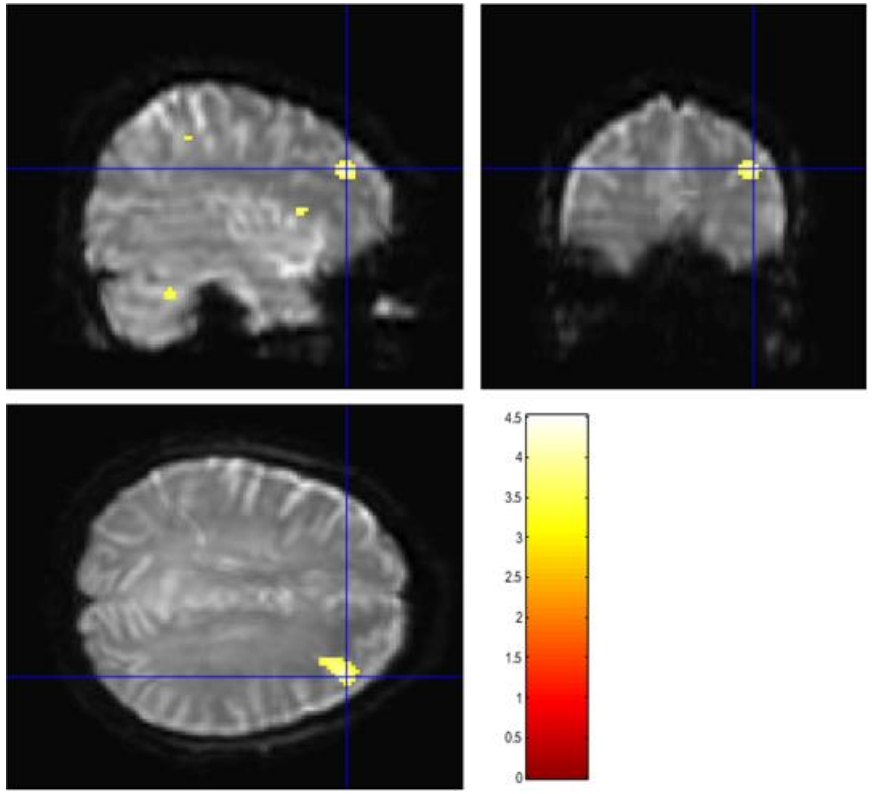
Between-subject

[https://kr.mathworks.com/help/medical-imaging/ug/medical-image-registration.html]

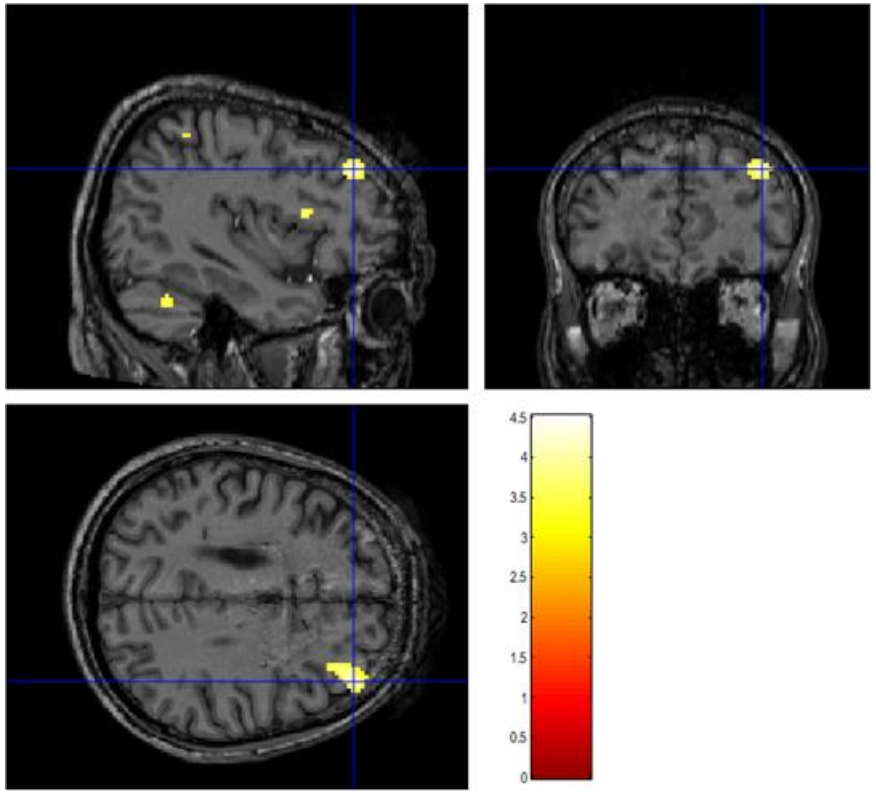
Image registration



Coregistration between sMRI and functional MRI



Brain activity on a functional image



Brain activity on a structural image

Anatomical localization of brain activity