ConnTool

Connectivity Toolbox How-To (a sketch)

This is a tool that allows for seed-based connectivity analysis. The tool is inherently batch capable.

Things you will need for using:

- spm8Batch preprocessed data
- regions-of-interest (either coordinates or images)
- •moderate comfort with editing matlab .m files

Connectivity Toolbox How-To (a sketch)

This tool was developed by Robert Welsh with support from NIH R01NS052514 and released through UM-Psych Methods Core.

To utilize you will need to copy the template code to your working experimental directory and modify to your specific experimental conditions. This template is:

..../MethodsCore/ConnTool/ConnTool_mc_batch_template.m

The following pages will outline the changes you need to implement.

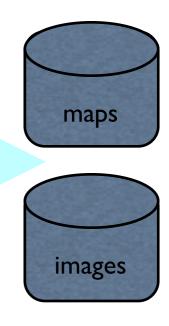
Subject data

Configuration

Output

ConnTool_mc_batch_template

```
%%% GENERAL OPTIONS
%%% These options are shared among many of our scripts
%%% The folder that contains your subject folders
%%% Path where your images are located
%%% Variables you can use in your template are:
     Exp = path to your experiment directory
iSubject = index for subject
      Subject = name of subject from <u>SubjDir</u> (using iSubject as index of row)
     iRun = index of run (listed in Column 3 of SubjDir)
Run = name of run from RunDir (using iRun as index of row)
* = wildcard (can only be placed in final part of template)
%%% ImageTemplate = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/func/run 0[iRun]/'
ImageTemplate = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/connect/func/[Run]/';
\ A list of run folders where the script can find functional images
= {
'run_01';
};
RunDir = {
%%% The format is 'subjectfolder', subject number in masterfile, [runs to include]
*******************
  '111129eb',1,[1];
};
```



With the script you specify input data, and control parameters for how the analysis will proceed, which in turn will produce output matrices or images.

Expected Directory Structure for Connectivity Toolbox

ConnTool

Subjects/ [subject-id]/ connect/ func/ coReg/ vbm8/ CSF_ero*.nii WM_ero*.nii run_01/ w3mm*a8*.nii s5mm*a8*.nii mcflirt_*a8*.dat

Output

[OutputName]_parameters.mat

[OutputName]_corr.mat

[OutputName]_corr.mat

[OutputName]_parameters.mat

[OutputName]_parameters.mat

parameters

[OutputName]_rmap_xxxx.nii

[OutputName]_zmap_xxxx.nii

[OutputName]_ pmap_xxxx.nii

'images'

Details on things to change in the script to execute a connectivity analysis

ı

```
%%% GENERAL OPTIONS
%%% These options are shared among many of our scripts
%%% The folder that contains your Subjects folders
Exp = '/Volumes/ALS/ALS2008/';
    Path where your images are located
%%% Variables you can use in your template are:
응응응
         Exp = path to your experiment directory
         iSubject = index for subject
응응응
         Subject = name of subject from SubjDir (using iSubject as index of row)
         iRun = index of run (listed in Column 3 of SubjDir)
응응응
         Run = name of run from RunDir (using iRun as index of row)
          * = wildcard (can only be placed in final part of template)
%%% Examples:
%%% ImageTemplate = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/func/run 0[iRun]/';
%%% ImageTemplate = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/TASK/func/[Run]/'
ImageTemplate = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/connect/func/[Run]/';
%%% A list of run folders where the script can find functional images
RunDir = {
    'run 01';
   };
%%% The list of subjects to process
%%% The format is 'subjectfolder',[runs to include]
SubjDir = {
    '111129eb',[1];
   '111109ma',[1];
   };
```

Specify the top-level directory of your experiment.

Generic path to your timeseries data.

List of runs for processing.

List of subjects and run numbers to use for each subject.

```
%%% The TR your data was collected at
TR = 2;
%%% The file to extract the CSF and WM confounds from
%%% It usually the run file that is in MNI space but prior
%%% to smoothing. The idea is that you don't want gray
%%% smoothed into the CSF or WM regions.
%%% This can be the same file as the 'connectFile', but not ideal.
confoundFile = 'w3mm vbm8 ra8 run';
%%% The file to run the connectivity on
응응응
%%% This will be the smoothed and warped to MNI file.
connectFile = 's5mm w3mm vbm8 ra8 run';
%%% Image Type should be either 'nii' or 'img'
%%% Where possible please use "nii" files types. Eventually img/hdr
%%% will be depricated.
imagetype = 'nii';
%%% Number of Functional scans per run
%%% (if you have more than 1 run, there should be more than 1 value here)
%%% If you have subjects with varying number of time points you can pick
%%% the smallest, that will edit them down so they all have the
%%% same effective statistical power.
NumScan = [240];
```

Sample period of your timeseries data.

File name of your time-series data PRIOR to smoothing.

File name of your time-series data AFTER to smoothing.

Type of image file.

How many time-points to use for each run.

```
%%% CONNECTIVITY OPTIONS
%%% These options are only used for Connectivity
%%% Mode to run som batch mc central in
           'test'
                        = test script but do not save parameters or run any
                          SOM code
응응응
           'parameters' = run script and save parameters for each subject
                          but do not run any SOM code
응응응
           'som'
                        = run SOM code on previously saved parameters
           'full'
                        = generate parameters and immediately run SOM code
응응응
응응응
           NOTE: If you choose mode 'som' then most variables except
응응응
           SubjDir and OutputTemplate/OutputName will be ignored as they
           will be loaded from the already existing parameter file for each
응응응
응응응
           subject.
Mode = 'full';
     Pointers to for anatomic images.
응응응
        AnatomyMaskPath --- this should point to the VBM8 processed data
응응응
응응응
        GreyFile --- name of a grey matter image from VBM8 -- Just leave
응응응
                     blank, in general don't use this option.
응응응
응응응
        WhiteFile --- name of the WM image produced by VBM8
응응응
        CSFFile --- name of the CSV image produced by VBM8
AnatomyMaskPath = '[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/connect/func/coRegRARUN/VBM8/';
GreyFile = [];
WhiteFile = 'WM ero*.nii';
CSFFile = 'CSF ero*.nii';
%%% Where to output the data
OutputTemplate = '[Exp]/FirstLevel/[Subject]/[OutputName]/';
OutputName
                = 'ConnToolTest';
```

Mode to run in, if you're unsure just specify 'full';

Information on where to find the output of the vbm8HiRes command.

Path for output directory and name of output file.

```
%%% Path and name of explicit mask to use at subject level.
%%% Leaving this blank ('') will use a subject-specific mask
%%% NOTE: Subject-specific masks are NOT recommended at all.
BrainMaskTemplate = ...
    '[mcRoot]/ConnTool/Templates/symmetric 3mm EPI MASK NOEYES.nii';
%%% Path Template for realignment parameters file
RealignmentParametersTemplate = ...
    [[Exp]/Subjects/[Subject]/connect/func/[Run]/mcflirt*a8*.dat';
%%% Path Template for file containing timepoints to censor from the data
%%% This file should either be a simple text file containing a column of
%%% 1s and 0s, or a saved MATLAB .mat file with a cv variable containing a
%%% column of 1s and 0s
%%% Robert DOES NOT RECOMMEND CENSORING YOUR DATA AFTER FFT. YOU SHOULD
           CLEAN YOUR DATA PRIOR TO USING WITH THIS TOOLBOX.
응응응
        This ConnTool Toolbox users an FFT filter with a little
응응응
        but of smoothing. If you want to censor you take the risk of
        created artifactual correlations across the whole brain
응응응
응응응
        See the following three papers:
응응응
응응응
        Power JD, Barnes KA, Snyder AZ, Schlaggar BL, Petersen SE.
        Spurious but Systematic Correlations in Functional Connectivity
응응응
응응응
        MRI Networks Arise From Subject Motion. NeuroImage 2012;59:2142â€"2154.
응응응
%%% Carp J. Optimizing the Order of Operations for Movement Scrubbing:
응응응
        Comment on Power Et Al. NeuroImage 2012:1â€"3.
응응응
        Power JD, Barnes KA, Snyder AZ, Schlaggar BL, Petersen SE.
응응응
        Steps Toward Optimizing Motion Artifact Removal in Functional
        Connectivity MRI; a Reply to Carp. NeuroImage 2012:1â€"3.
CensorTemplate = [];
```

Masking image to spatially constrain the correlations. Make sure it matches the size of your images.

Where to find the realignment files (output from realignfMRI)

Prior to using censor please make sure to read and fully understand the literature.
Also see the document:

Spike-Filtering-Interaction.pdf in the Documentation folder.

Censor vector for removing time-points from data.

```
%%% Constrain results to only regions in GreyMatterTemplate (1=yes, 0=no)
MaskGrey = 0;
GreyThreshold = [];
WhiteThreshold = [];
CSFThreshold = [];
EPIThreshold = [];
%%% the order to perform the regressions etc
            D = detrend
응응응
            G = global
            W = white matter
           C = csf
응응응
응응응
           M = motion
            B = bandpass
            Suggested order is "DM[G]CWB"
RegressOrder = 'DMCWB';
%%% The code users COMPCOR.
%%% Use this many principle components for regression
%%% for the CSF and WM
%%% Behzadi Y, Restom K, Liau J, Liu TT.
%%% A Component Based Noise Correction Method (CompCor) for BOLD and
%%% Perfusion Based fMRI. NeuroImage 2007;37:90â€"101.
PrincipalComponents = 5;
```

Whether or not to mask the data for grey only. Best to leave "0"

You can safely leave these alone.

The order of doing the preprocessing

How many components to use from the PCA

rcwelsh@med.umich.edu

```
%%% Bandpass Filter Settings
           LowFrequency - low frequency cutoff
응응응
           HighFrequency - high frequency cutoff
응응응
           Gentle -0 = \text{no rolling}, 1 = \text{rolling}, 2 = \text{extra rolling}
응응응
           Padding - number of timepoints to pad on beginning/end
           BandpassFilter - 0 = Matlab filter, 1 = SOM Filter FFT
           Fraction - fraction of variance for principle components
LowFrequency
               = 0.01;
HighFrequency = 0.1;
Gentle
               = 1;
Padding
               = 10;
BandpassFilter = 1;
Fraction
%%% Type of input
            coordinates - provide the center of each seed and a radius
응응응
            coordload - load corridnate from the specified file
            files
                        - provide a list of ROI files
응응응
            directory - provide a directory containing ROI files and the
응응응
                           script will load all images in that directory to
응응응
                           use as ROIs
응응응
            grid
                        - make a grid based on provided spacing and masked
                           by provided mask
응응응
            gridplus
응응응
                        - make a grid based on provided spacing and masked
                           by provided mask, as above. Additionally, add
응응응
응응응
                           the extra ROI points specified in ROIGridCenters
ROIInput = 'coordload';
```

Band-pass filtering information and "Fraction" is for the PCA analysis. In general you can use these defaults.

What method to specify coordinates for seeds.

```
%%% 'coordinates' method
%%% If specifying ROI coordinates you need to provide a list of centers in
%%% MNI coordinates (mm) and a radius in voxels.
%%% NOTE: ROISize will be used as the radius of a sphere at each point. If
%%% you'd prefer to use the predefined 1,7,19, or 27 voxel sizes you will
%%% need to specify the size as a cell (i.e. {19})
응응응
%%% See the MethodsCore/ConnTool/Documentation for more help on ROI size.
ROICenters = [0 -5 10];
ROISize
           = \{19\};
%%% 'coordload' method
%%% You can load a file into the array ROICenters.
%%% If a ".csv" file you would do:
응응응
응응응
       ROICenters = load('myROIs.csv');
%%% If a '.mat" file you need to load the file and the assign the variable.
ROIFile = '[mcRoot]/ConnTool/Templates/V_MNI_12mmgrid.mat
ROISize = \{19\};
```

Explicitly list your ROIs in the array, one per row. And specify how many voxels in each ROI. See the ROI information at the end of this document.

The code can read in a CSV files of coordinates (one row per x-y-z, or it can read a matfile and assuming a single array will use that array to assign the ROIs.

```
%%% 'files' and 'directory' methods
%%% If specifying ROI images you need to provide an ROI folder as well as a
%%% cell array list of ROI images. If specifying an ROI directory, you only
%%% need to specify an ROITemplate. The script will then load all images
%%% in that directory to use as the ROIImages cell array.
ROITemplate = '[Exp]/ROIS';
ROIImages = {
    'imagel.nii';
    'image2.nii';
    };
%%% 'grid' and 'gridplus' methods
%%% If specifying ROI grid you need to provide a spacing and ROI size as
%%% well as an optional mask for grid point inclusion (a mask is strongly
%%% encouraged as not using one will return coordinates from across the entire
%%% bounding box).
%%% NOTE: ROIGridSize will be used as the radius of a sphere at each grid
%%% point. If you'd prefer to use the predefined 1,7,19, or 27 voxel sizes
%%% you will need to specify the size as a cell (i.e. {19})
ROIGridSpacing
                    = 12:
ROIGridSize
                    = \{19\};
ROIGridMaskTemplate = ...
    '[mcRoot]/ConnTool/Templates/symmetric 3mm EPI MASK NOEYES.nii';
```

Specify a directory to read all images from ('directory') or to read the list of files ('files') from.

The code can place a grid of ROIs on the brain. You specify the spacing in mm and how big to make each ROI. You also need to specify a brain mask.

rcwelsh@med.umich.edu

```
%%% 'gridplus' extra
응응응
%%% ROIGridCenters is used in 'gridplus' mode to specify additional ROIs
%%% that you would like to include in addition to the regular grid. They
   will be added to the end of the list of ROIs and will use ROIGridSize
%% for sizing.
ROIGridCenters = [
    10 10 10;
    -10 10 10;
    -22 0 -22;
    22 0 -22;
    1;
%%% Type of output
            images - output R and Z images of correlation with each seed
            maps - output R and P matrix of correlations between seeds
응응응
OutputType
               = 'maps';
%%% Options for 'maps'
응응응
응응응
            correlation type can be 'full' or 'partial'
            You can also save the power spectrum of the ROIS when running
용용용
            in 'maps' mode. This will only save the power spectrum of
응응응
응응응
            single run.
응응응
               1 - save power spectrum
               0 - do not save power spectrum
응응응
            save ROI time courses
               1 - save ROI time courses to same location as R and P matrices
응응응
               0 - do not save ROI time courses
OutputCorrType = 'full';
OutputPower
               = 0;
saveroiTC
               = 0;
```

Extra ROIS to add to the list if you wish.

Do you want correlation matrices or images.

If running "maps" and your number of ROIS<<timePoints then you can run 'partial' correlation instead of 'full' You can also save the powerspectrum of ROIs and the time-courses as well.

Connectivity Toolbox How-To (a sketch)

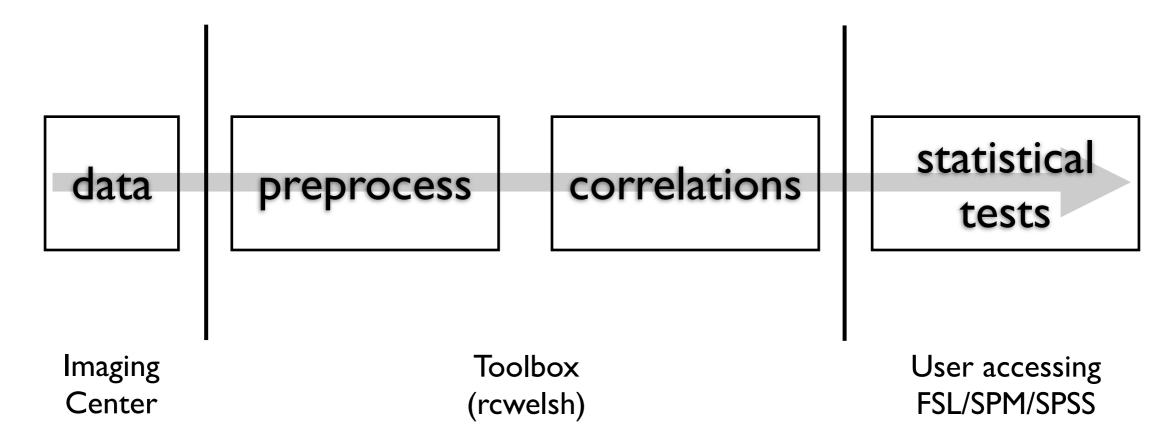
Once you have the code edited appropriately you can execute from the matlab command line. I suggest that one you run the command to then archive as a record for later use.

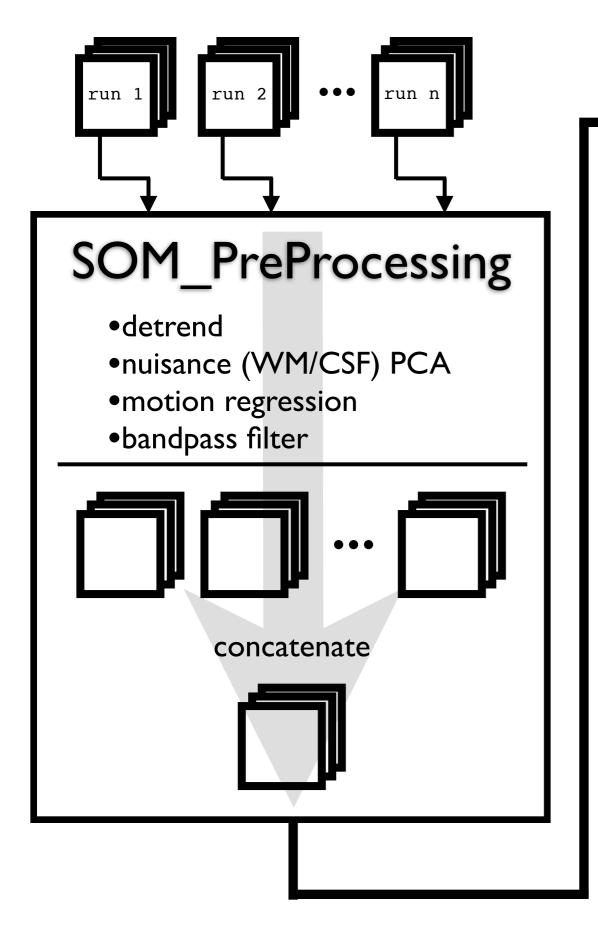
For each subject a log file, a parameters file, and the results file are created. These will be in the FirstLevel directory tree you specified. If your option was for image output you can treat those as "contrast" images and enter them into a second-level analysis. You should take the **zmap** images.

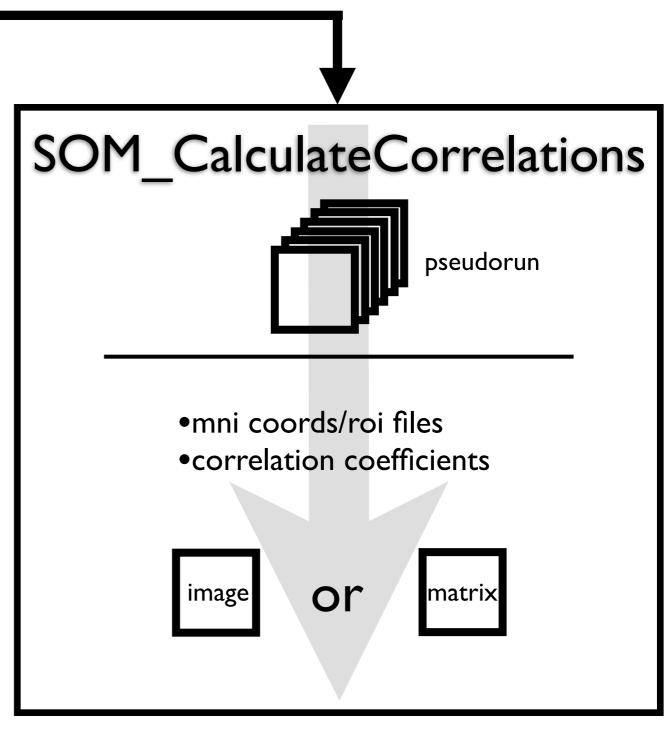
Supplementary Information

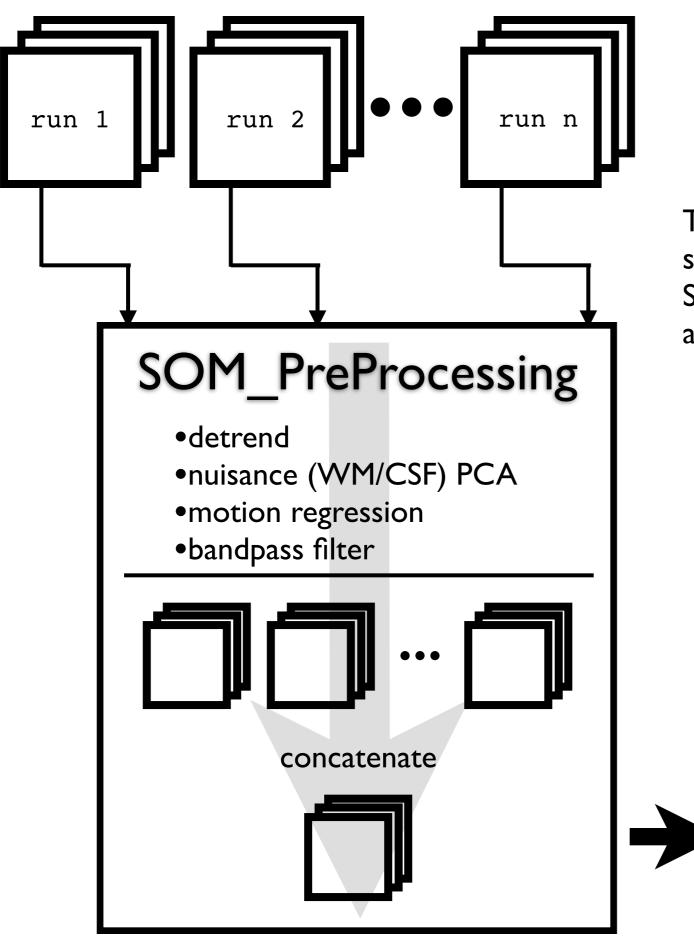
Connectivity Toolbox How-To (a sketch)

Domain Responsibility

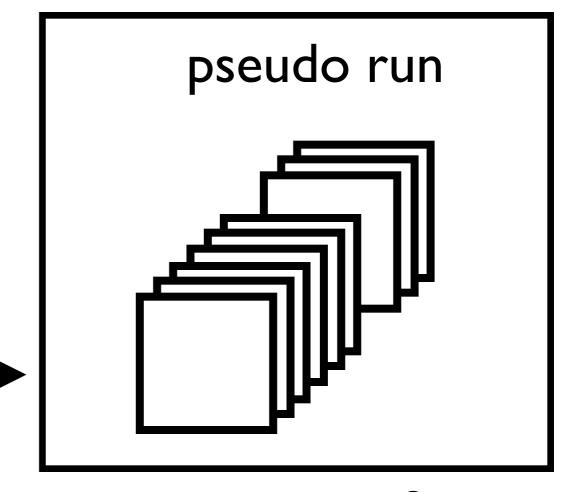








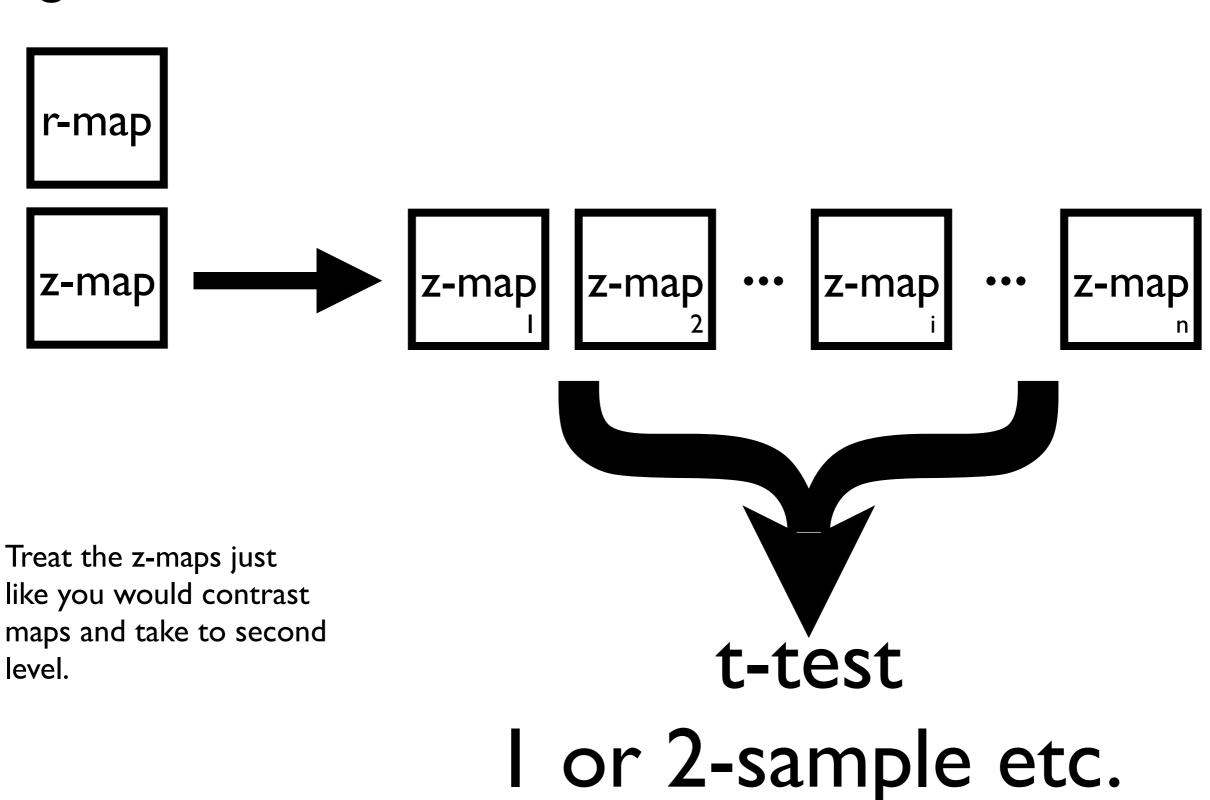
To create pseudo run, specify multiple runs to SOM_PreProcess and it will return a single array with all data.



May 12, 2013 ConnTool

Now what?

Image based

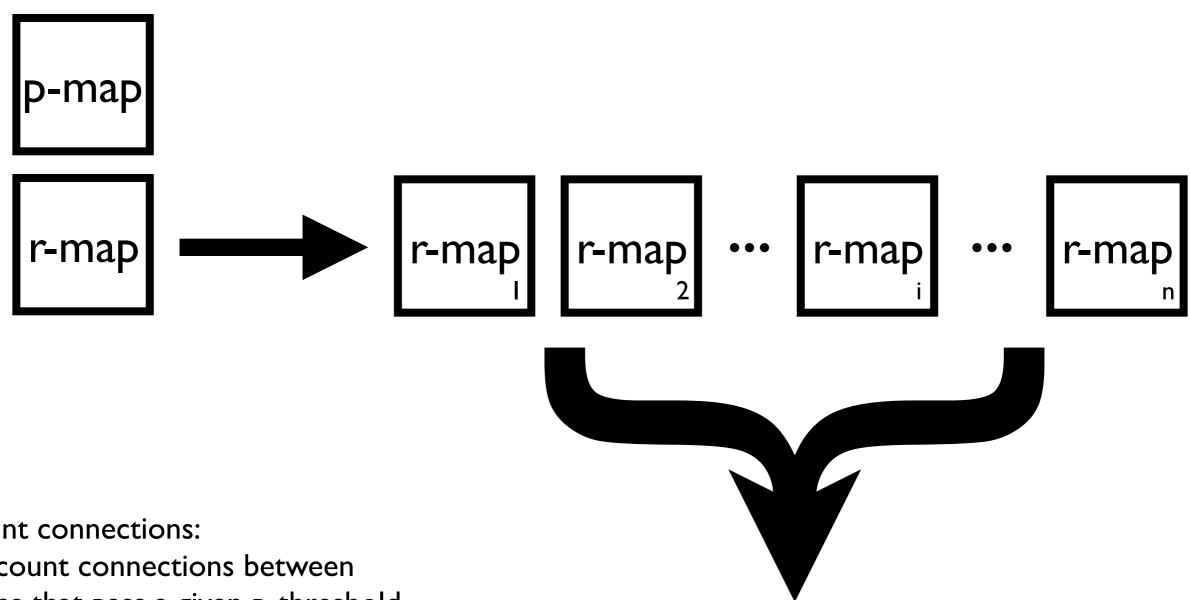


May 12, 2013

ConnTool

mat based

Now what?



Count connections:

e.g. count connections between nodes that pass a given p-threshold. this can be done on the single subject level etc.

perform whatever statistic fit your fancy. do on r-maps or on p-maps.

Extra information on ROIs

Defining ROIs

You can use the built-in ROI standard objects, or you can specify you own. Recognized sizes are 1, 7, 19, 27.

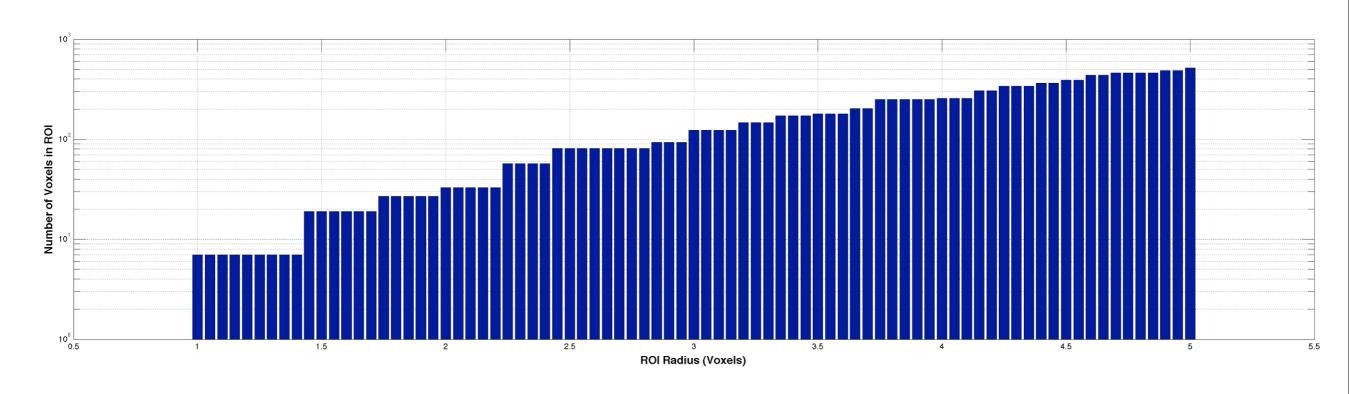
```
parameters.mni.
  coodinates
                     = [x_0 y_0 z_0;
                        x_1 y_1 z_1;
                        X_n \ y_n \ Z_n];
   size
                     = #;
                 Or
                    = [-1 \ 0 \ -1];
   size.XROI
                    = [ 0 0 0 j;
        .YROI
                     = [0 0 0];
        .ZROI
```

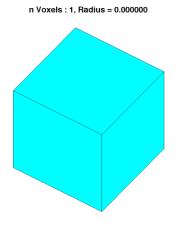
So specify you own use:

Or, have the code build the arrays

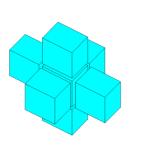
```
XYZ = SOM_MakeSphereROI(radius);
parameters.rois.mni.size.XROI=XYZ(1,:);
parameters.rois.mni.size.YROI=XYZ(2,:);
parameters.rois.mni.size.ZROI=XYZ(3,:);
```

Obviously, some range of radii will give same ROI definition.

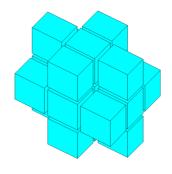




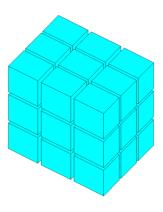




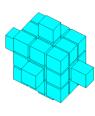
n Voxels : 19, Radius = 1.450000



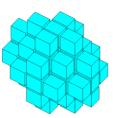
n Voxels : 27, Radius = 1.750000



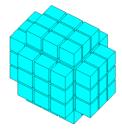
n Voxels : 33, Radius = 2.000000



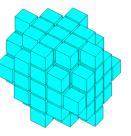
n Voxels : 57, Radius = 2.250000



n Voxels : 81, Radius = 2.450000



n Voxels : 93, Radius = 2.850000



n Voxels : 123, Radius = 3.000000 n Voxels : 147, Radius = 3.200000 n Voxels : 171, Radius = 3.350000 n Voxels : 179, Radius = 3.500000 n Voxels : 203, Radius = 3.650000 n Voxels : 251, Radius = 3.750000 n Voxels : 257, Radius = 4.000000 n Voxels : 305, Radius = 4.150000 n Voxels : 341, Radius = 4.250000 n Voxels : 365, Radius = 4.400000 n Voxels : 389, Radius = 4.500000 n Voxels : 437, Radius = 4.600000 n Voxels : 461, Radius = 4.700000 n Voxels : 515, Radius = 5.000000 n Voxels : 485, Radius = 4.900000

Enjoy!