

# MELD Protocol 5 - Post-processing Pipeline

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## Abstract

*The MELD Project is an international collaboration aiming to create open-access, robust and generalisable tools for FCD detection. To this end, we will train a neural network classifier on MRI features from FCD patients from multiple centres worldwide.*

**Protocol 5 provides instructions for post-processing FreeSurfer reconstructions to create final feature matrices.**

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## Guidelines

**If you have any questions or run into problems, please feel free to contact the MELD project: (meld.study@gmail.com)**

## Before start

These steps require FreeSurfer and Python

### FreeSurfer

Instructions for installing FreeSurfer are included in MELD Protocol 2

**NB: FreeSurfer and its utilities need to be in your path or this script will not run properly. You can type `tkviewer` on the command line to make sure it is available.**

Before you want to work with FreeSurfer, you must make sure three things have happened:

1. The variable `FREESURFER_HOME` is set (so your computer knows where FreeSurfer is installed):

```
setenv FREESURFER_HOME <freesurfer_installation_directory>/freesurfer
```

2. The FreeSurfer set up script must be sourced (so FreeSurfer knows the location of everything it needs):

```
source $FREESURFER_HOME/SetUpFreeSurfer.csh
```

3. FreeSurfer has been pointed to a directory of subjects to work on:

```
setenv SUBJECTS_DIR <path>/meld/output
```

## Protocol

### Set up FreeSurfer environment

#### Step 1.

**FreeSurfer and its utilities need to be in your path or this script will not run properly. You can type `tksurfer` on the command line to make sure it is available.**

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1. The variable `FREESURFER_HOME` is set (so your computer knows where FreeSurfer is installed):

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source $FREESURFER_HOME/SetUpFreeSurfer.csh
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3. FreeSurfer has been pointed to a directory of subjects to work on:

```
setenv SUBJECTS_DIR <path>/meld/output
```

## Installing anaconda and environment

### Step 2.

<https://conda.io/docs/user-guide/install/macos.html>

To install anaconda for a mac:

1) download the 'anaconda python 2.7' version installer from here:

<https://www.anaconda.com/download/> (make sure it's the mac version being downloaded)

2) Double click the .pkg file to install

3) follow the prompts on the installer screen.

To install anaconda on a linux:

1) Download the 'anaconda python 2.7' version installer from here:

<https://www.anaconda.com/download/> (make sure it's the linux version being downloaded)

2) In your terminal window, run:

```
bash Anaconda-latest-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

3) follow the prompts on the installer screen

To create the anaconda environment, with all of the necessary python packages,

run the following:

```
cd <path>/meld/scripts
```

```
conda env create -f meld_env.yaml
```

Finally add the scripts directory to your PYTHONPATH by running the following

```
open /.bashrc
```

This will open your bash profile

add the following line

```
export PYTHONPATH='${PYTHONPATH}:<path>/meld/scripts
```

Remember to replace <path> with the correct path according to your file system.

## ■ ANNOTATIONS

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No longer need to do this step as it is in Protocol 4

### Running the pipeline

#### Step 3.

All the necessary scripts are called by a single master script “meld\_pipeline.sh”.

To run:

```
cd <path>/meld/scripts  
source activate meld_env  
bash meld_pipeline.sh <INSERT_SUBJECTS_DIRECTORY> <SITE_CODE>
```

At GOSH this would be:

```
bash meld_pipeline.sh <path>/meld/ H1
```

This should run the script through all patients and controls, creating a large feature matrix in the MELD subjects directory called: SUBJECTS\_DIR/MELD\_SITE\_CODE\_featurematrix.txt

e.g. MELD\_H1\_featurematrix.txt

Once started, it should take some time to run through all of your subjects.

Send anonymised data to Sophie Adler

#### Step 4.

Send the anonymised data: MELD\_site\_code\_participants.csv and MELD\_site\_code\_featurematrix.txt to Sophie Adler at UCL

Go to

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/isd/services/comms-collaborate/dropbox>

Click



Send anonymised data to Sophie Adler

#### Step 5.

Enter the following details:

##### From:

Enter your Name, Organization and Email address

##### To:

**Name:** Sophie Adler

**Email address:** [sophie.adler.13@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.adler.13@ucl.ac.uk)

Send anonymised data to Sophie Adler

#### Step 6.

##### Upload the following files:

MELD\_site\_code\_featurematrix.txt

MELD\_site\_code\_participants.xls

Please note – due to the file sizes, it may take a while to upload!

Sophie Adler will confirm receipt of any files.

## **REMINDER: ONLY SEND ANONYMISED DATA OVER UCL DROPBOX**

### ■ **ANNOTATIONS**

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Also upload:

outliers.log

List\_subjects.txt

## **Warnings**

PLEASE DO NOT SHARE ANY IDENTIFIABLE DATA

Data sharing only occurs at the level of anonymised demographics information and anonymised data matrices. These are in a template space that cannot be traced back to an individual.