**Post Project Data Storage**

It is worthwhile to think about how you can best store data efficiently always, but especially when you have finished a project or processing pipeline and need to ready your data for long term storage.

There are three main pillars of effective data storage:

1. **Plan for the future**.
   1. Think about when and how you may need to access for your files in the future.
   2. For example: if you will need to access your processed scalar maps regularly, it may be a good idea to zip the actual .nii files as opposed to compressing and entire folder that would require a long unzipping process to access.
2. **Remove extraneous files**.
   1. If you have duplicate files in your project folder or if you have files in your project folder that are stored elsewhere, consider deleting these files from your project folder before archiving/storing it.
3. **Compress as much as possible**.
   1. Once you have gotten rid of files that you do not need, it is vital to compress the files you will need to store.
   2. In order to do this efficiently and effectively, consider point #1.