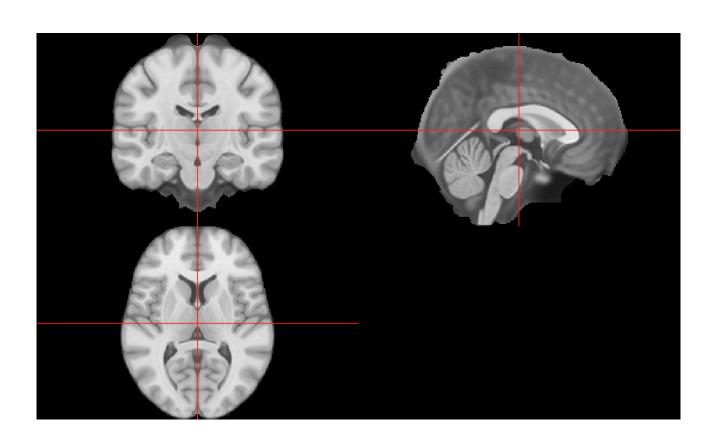
Papayar: An interactive neuroimage plotter with R

John Muschelli, @StrictlyStat Johns Hopkins University

presentation: http://johnmuschelli.com/JSM_2016

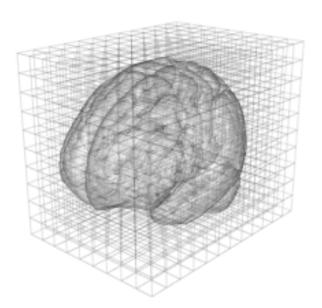
code: http://github.com/muschellij2/JSM_2016

Problem: Explore 3D images of brain (MRI)

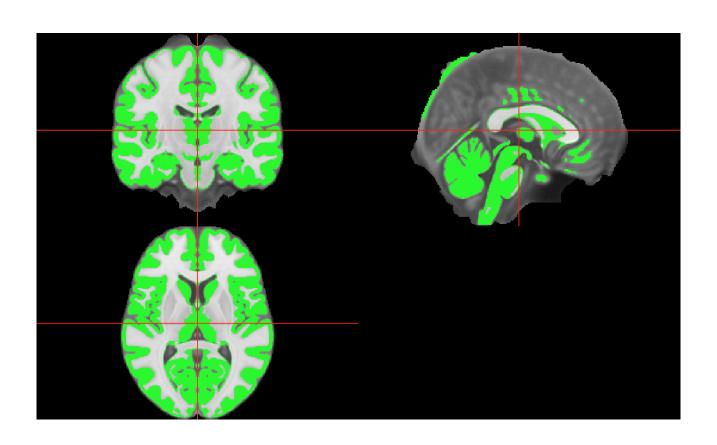


How big is a brain image?

- · Images come from NIfTI files
 - comprised of 3D pixels called voxels
- Image dimensions are: $197 \times 233 \times 189$ (> 8 million voxels)



Explore results: e.g. gray matter classification



Let's make it interactive!

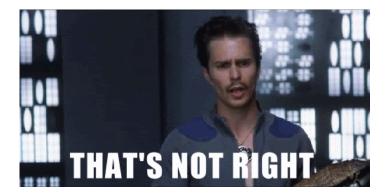
· Are static graphics (e.g. PDFs) good enough?



image from http://cheezburger.com

Let's make it interactive!

- · Are static graphics (e.g. PDFs/GIFs) good enough?
- · What step in the analysis does it come in? For me:
 - exploratory looking at results of image processing
 - Asking: "Is this step working?"



http://www.natashaboyd.com/uploads/1/5/5/3/15536518/5572229_orig.gif

Let's make it interactive!

- Are static graphics (e.g. PDFs/GIFs) good enough?
- · What step in the analysis does it come in? For me:
 - confirmatory check model predictions
 - "That looks like gray matter to me"



http://media.tumblr.com/tumblr_InlszpEQo21qd8tfx.gif

But other (standalone) programs can do this!

Also known as "I can do that in X already"



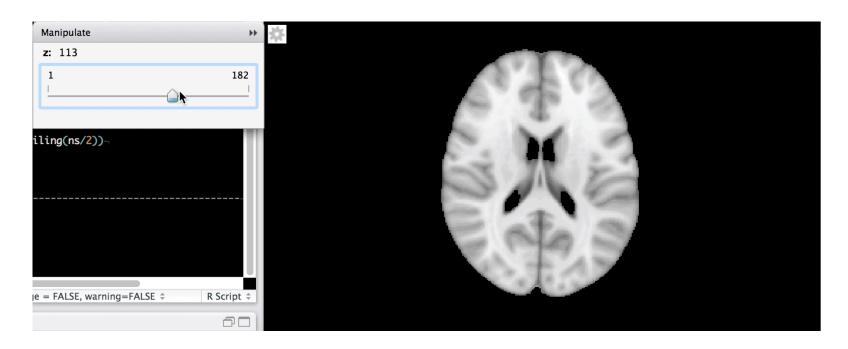
Some (of my) principles of interactivity

- 1. Should be scriptable to get the interactive **graphic**
 - still hard to script/reproduce the interaction
- 2. Within the analysis workflow
 - Others are just standalone viewers
 - Relies on fewer systems/dependencies
- 3. Easy to navigate for the user



First attempt: Use manipulate package

The manipulate package (Allaire 2014) from RStudio can add interactivity:



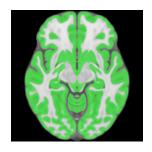
First attempt: Use manipulate package

The manipulate package (Allaire 2014) from RStudio can add interactivity, BUT:

- Images rendering was slow
 - due to the R plotting and viewer interaction
- Only works with Studio
- Can't embed output in a document

Second attempt: set of PDFs or GIFs!

The animation package (Xie 2013, Xie et al. (2015)) can make GIFs:



Pros:

- Plotting with standard functions
 - Can be **embedded** into an html easily

Cons:

- Not really "interactive"
 - less choice on user's end
 - no other views

Papaya JavaScript library

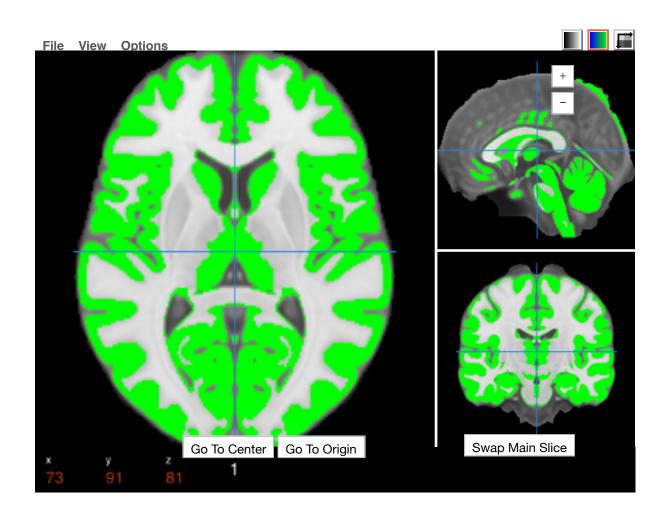
https://github.com/rii-mango/Papaya

"A pure JavaScript medical research image viewer."

From makers of Mango (UT Health Science)

papayar R package, port of Papaya

library(papayar); papaya(image)



Is it an htmlwidget!?

NO

Is it an htmlwidget!?

Not yet.

Lessons learned

- Borrow (heavily) other people's stuff
- htmlwidgets framework is great
 - some JS libraries have odd rules
- Porting to R can help the community
 - need some non-R knowledge, usually JavaScript
 - not always so straightforward
 - Functionality at the whim of the JS maintainer

Bibliography

Allaire, JJ. 2014. *Manipulate: Interactive Plots for RStudio*. https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=manipulate.

Xie, Yihui. 2013. "animation: An R Package for Creating Animations and Demonstrating Statistical Methods." *Journal of Statistical Software* 53 (1): 1–27. http://www.jstatsoft.org/v53/i01/.

Xie, Yihui, Christian Mueller, Lijia Yu, and Weicheng Zhu. 2015. *Animation: A Gallery of Animations in Statistics and Utilities to Create Animations*. http://yihui.name/animation.