Neuroconductor: An R Platform for Medical Imaging Analysis



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What is Neuroconductor?

Neuroconductor (https://neuroconductor.org/) is a a centralized repository of R software dedicated to medical image analysis.

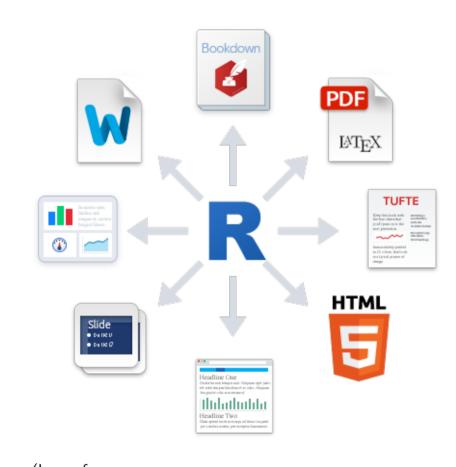
Goals of Neuroconductor

- Disseminate quickly software updates
- Educate a large, diverse community of scientists using detailed tutorials and short courses
- Ensure quality via automatic and manual quality controls
- Promote the reproducibility of image data analysis

Benefits of Imaging in R

Allow medical imaging to use all R has to offer:

- Statistics and Machine Learning
- Package versioning, testing, and distribution
- Reproducibile reports and analyses (knitr and rmarkdown)
- Shiny applications for the



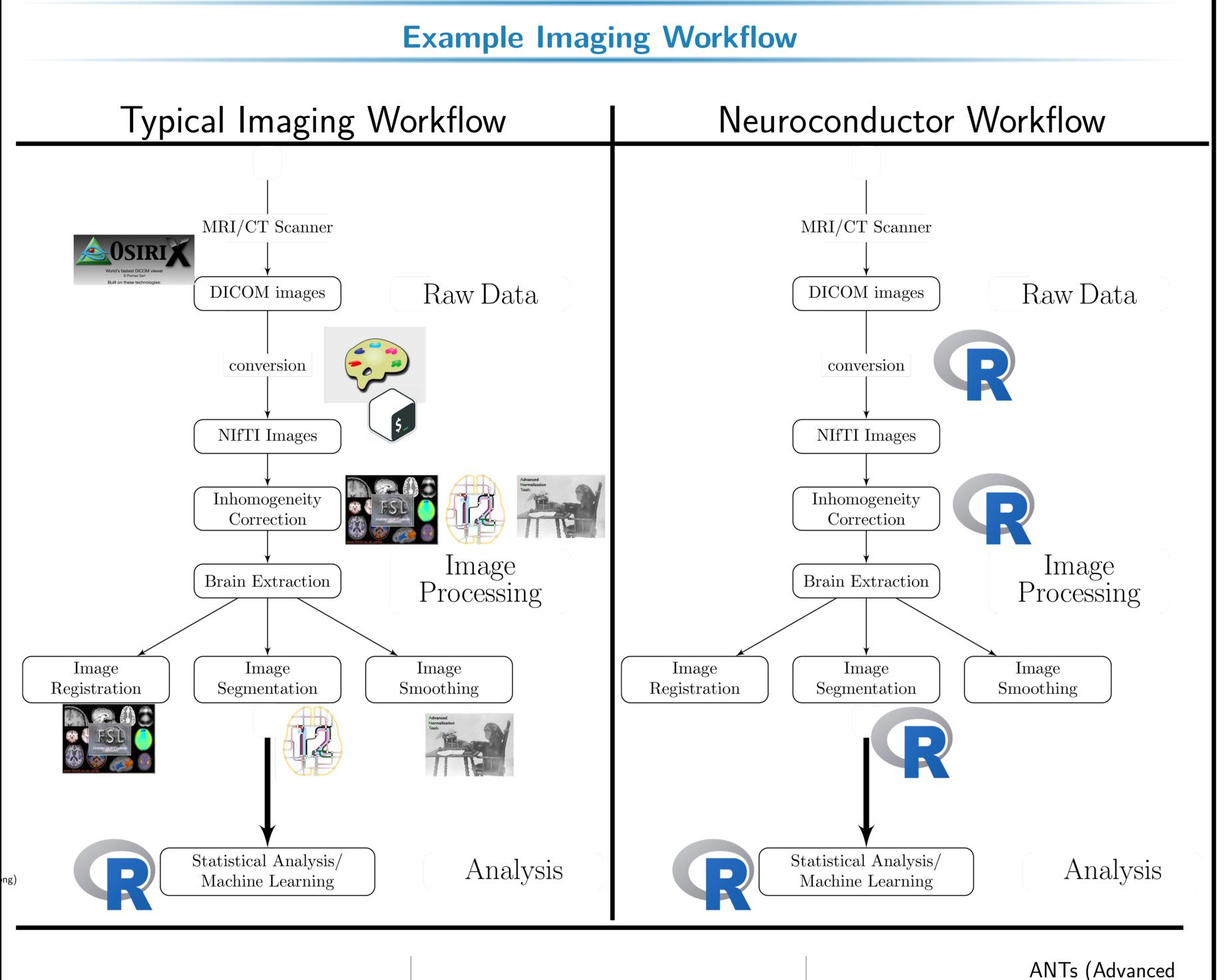
(Image from http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com/images/RMarkdownOutputFormats.on

Current Neuroconductor Capabilities

Capabilities Packages DICOM Images oro.dicom, dcm2niir, divest, ANTsR oro.nifti, RNifti, ANTsR NIfTI Images Image Registration spm12r, fslr, ANTsR, freesurfer spm12r, fslr, ANTsR Inhomogeneity Correction Brain Extraction spm12r, fslr, ANTsR, extrantsr spm12r, fslr, ANTsR, extrantsr, freesurfer Structure Segmentation WhiteStripe, neurobase, ANTsR Intensity Normalization ANTsR, spm12r, fslr 3D Smoothing spm12r, fslr, ANTsR Temporal Filtering spm12r, fslr Slice-timing correction DTI models rcamino, oro.dti, fslr

References

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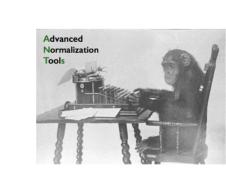
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bash - shell scripting is usually required for command-line tools or pipelining

NIfTI software



FSL (FMRIB Software Library) suite of neuroimaging analysis tools

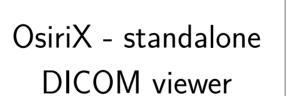


- state-of-the-art tools for neuroimaging analysis SPM 12 - statistical parametric mapping, requires MATLAB (Mathworks, Natick, Massachusetts, USA analysis tools for PET/SPECT/fMRI

Normalization Tools)

MRIcroGL - imaging analysis suite, with dcm2nii - DICOM to







Data Packages

Package Description kirby21 Scan-rescan data for 42 subjects with structural and functional MRI and diffusion data [1] EveTemplate, MNITemplate Templates for population-level analyses [2, 3, 4] Templates [5] for Multi-Atlas Label Fusion (MALF) and Skull Stripping malf.templates Download data from the Human Connectome Project [6] hcp

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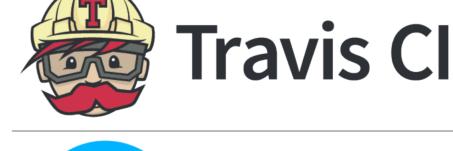
Neuroconductor Developer Workflow GitHub Submit **Package Perform** Initial Checks NEUROCONDUCTOR Clone to neuroconductor repo GitHub R CMD Linux / OSX Windows check Travis CI



GitHub - a online hosting service of git repositories. All Neuroconductor packages are hosted on GitHub.



Before uploading to GitHub, checks are performed, a confirmatory email is sent (reduce spam), and Travis/Appveyor configuration files are added



Travis CI (continuous integration) - an online service of Linux/Mac OSX virtual machines that build and check pack-



AppVeyor - a similar CI service that builds and checks packages on Windows

Potential Downsides to Neuroconductor

- More control over the workflow = more work (e.g. for statisticians)
- Users need external software (versions/installation)
- No control over external software
- if maintainer changes something, not much recourse
- Need the content (buy-in from the imaging/R/statistical communities)