

TUTORIAL 1:

BRAIN IMAGING DATA STRUCTURE

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? Overview

Tutorial outline

- What is BIDS?
- How a BIDS dataset can be made?
- How a BIDS dataset can be query?

Objectives

- Introduction to BIDS and its ecosystem of tools.

30 minutes

⚙ Prerequisites

For the best learning experience, it is important to have a basic understanding of the following topics:

- Unix operating system, command line, and shell.
- Python.

If not, we recommend that you follow Software Carpentry's lessons on [the Unix shell](#) and [Python programming](#). Although not essential it is also helpful to have an understanding of:

- How brain imaging data are exported from scanners.

Getting familiar with BIDS

The dataset that will be used in this tutorial is a fake one (empty files). It is a multimodal neuroimaging dataset that first needs to be downloaded from [here](#) and unzipped in your working directory. The *tutorials-main/BIDS* folder contains the **ds001** project. It follows the BIDS standard and provides raw structural MRI and functional data recorded for 16 participants.

You can find below an overview of a BIDS-compliant dataset content along with a short description of each file.

```

/
├── dataset_description.json ..... Describes briefly the dataset in JSON format
├── participants.tsv ..... Table file that stores demographical information of the participants
├── participants.json ..... Describes the columns of the participants.tsv table file
├── CHANGES ..... Describes changes between dataset versions
├── README ..... Describes the dataset in more details in Markdown format
├── sub-01
│   ├── anat
│   │   ├── sub-01_T1w.nii.gz ..... Raw T1w MRI stored in Nifti format
│   │   └── sub-01_T1w.json ..... Describes T1w MRI acquisition parameters
│   └── func
│       ├── sub-01_task-rest_bold.nii.gz ..... Raw bold MRI stored in Nifti format
│       ├── sub-01_task-rest_bold.json ..... Describes bold MRI acquisition parameters
│       ├── sub-01_task-faces_bold.nii.gz ..... Raw bold MRI stored in Nifti format
│       ├── sub-01_task-faces_bold.json ..... Describes bold MRI acquisition parameters
│       └── sub-01_taskfaces_events.tsv ..... Table file that describes each event
├── sub-02
├── ...
└── derivatives ..... Stores all the data generated using softwares

```

You can always check the [BIDS Specification](#) for a complete description of the standard.

Exercise 1: create a BIDS-compliant dataset

In this exercise, you will work through creating a BIDS dataset from a non-BIDS compliant dataset.

- 1 Go to the directory **ds001-corrupted** that stores a modified version of the **ds001** dataset created for the purpose of this exercise.
- 2 Using the BIDS material provided above, rework the dataset to conform the BIDS standard (hints: use the `ls` and `tree` commands).
- 3 As you work through this exercise, you can use the [BIDS validator](#) to check your progress (must use Google Chrome or Firefox).

Exercise 2: interact with BIDS dataset in Python

In this exercise, you will learn how to interact with a BIDS-compliant dataset in Python using the *pybids* library.

- 1 Open a terminal.
- 2 Install *pybids*: `python -m pip install pybids`.
- 3 Launch *ipython*.
- 4 Import the *BIDSLayout* class from the *pybids* library (hint: check the [pybids tutorial](#)).
- 5 Initialize a *BIDSLayout* object with the path of BIDS-compliant dataset.
- 6 Use the `get()` method on the created object to get the path of the T1w image of *sub-01*.
- 7 Similarly, use the `get()` method on the created object to get the path of the functional MRI images of *sub-01*. Optionally, provide the argument in a Python dictionary (hint: use the `**` operator to pass a number of arguments in the form of a key/value dictionary to a function).
- 8 List the available functional MRI tasks (hint: use `get_tasks()`).
- 9 List the events files associated to the functional images retrieved in 7.