

# ANTs brain morphology

Nick (UVa) and Brian (Penn)

- 1 But, wait, there's more!
- 2 But the best part is ...
- 3 Longitudinal processing (current work)

## Cortical thickness studies

Column1	Column2
Tetris-playing ability	chronic pancreatitis
Huntington's disease	obsessive-compulsive disorder
schizophrenia	ADHD
bipolar disorder	obesity
Alzheimer's disease	heritable depression
frontotemporal dementia	elderly depression
Parkinson's disease	age
Williams syndrome	gender
multiple sclerosis	handedness
autism	intelligence

# ANTs-related background

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- KellyKapowski.cxx and antsCorticalThickness.sh
- *“Let’s evaluate on open data.”*
- and, eventually, *“Let’s compare with FreeSurfer.”*

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- 2** brain extraction

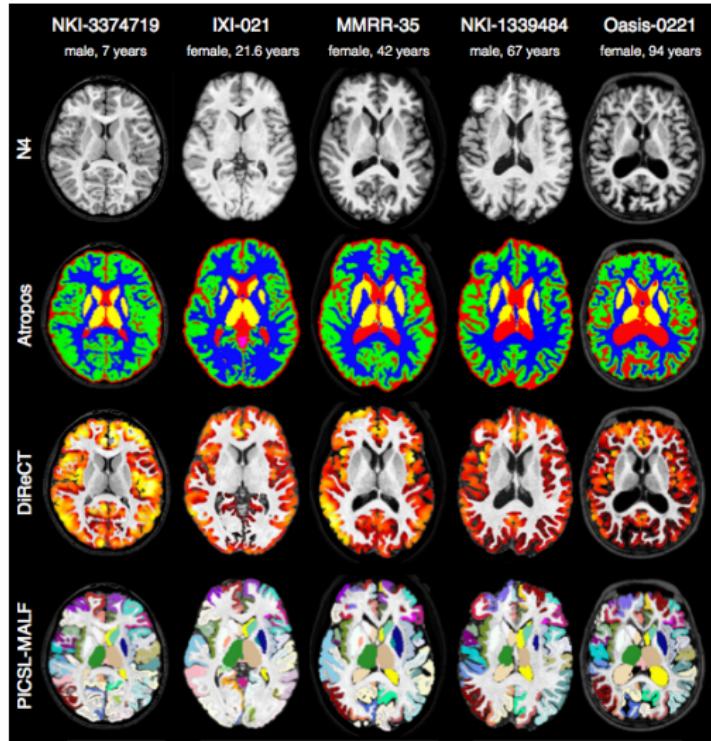
# Basic components of the pipeline

- 1** template building (offline)
- 2** brain extraction
- 3** cortical thickness estimation

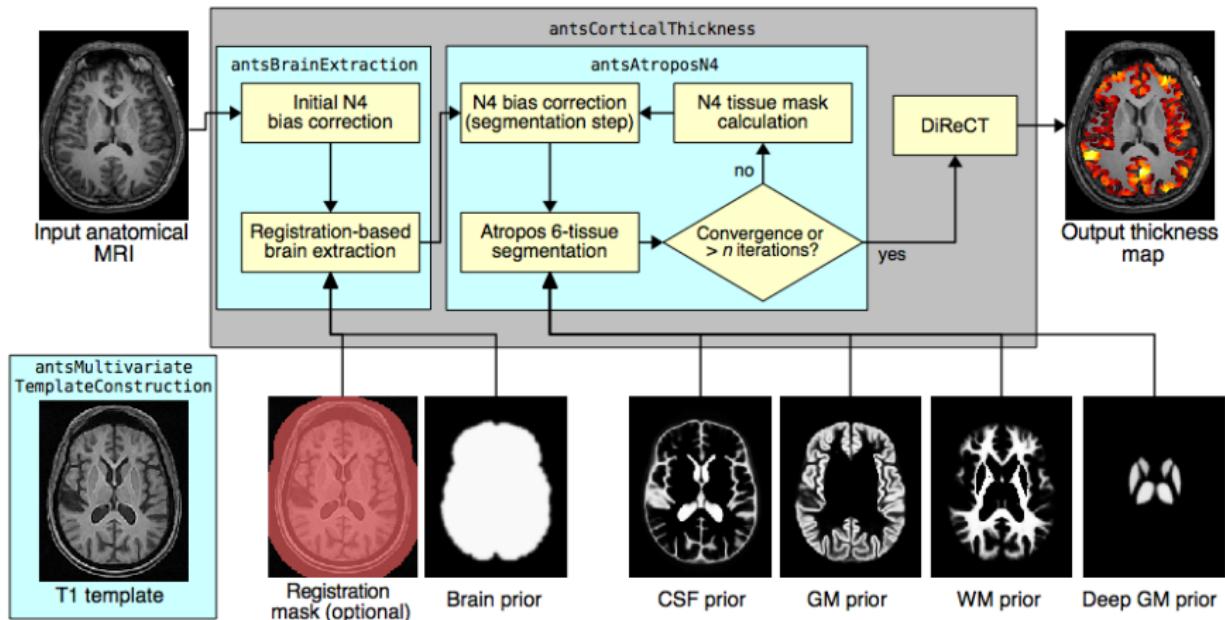
# Basic components of the pipeline

- 1** template building (offline)
- 2** brain extraction
- 3** cortical thickness estimation
- 4** cortical parcellation

# Sample results

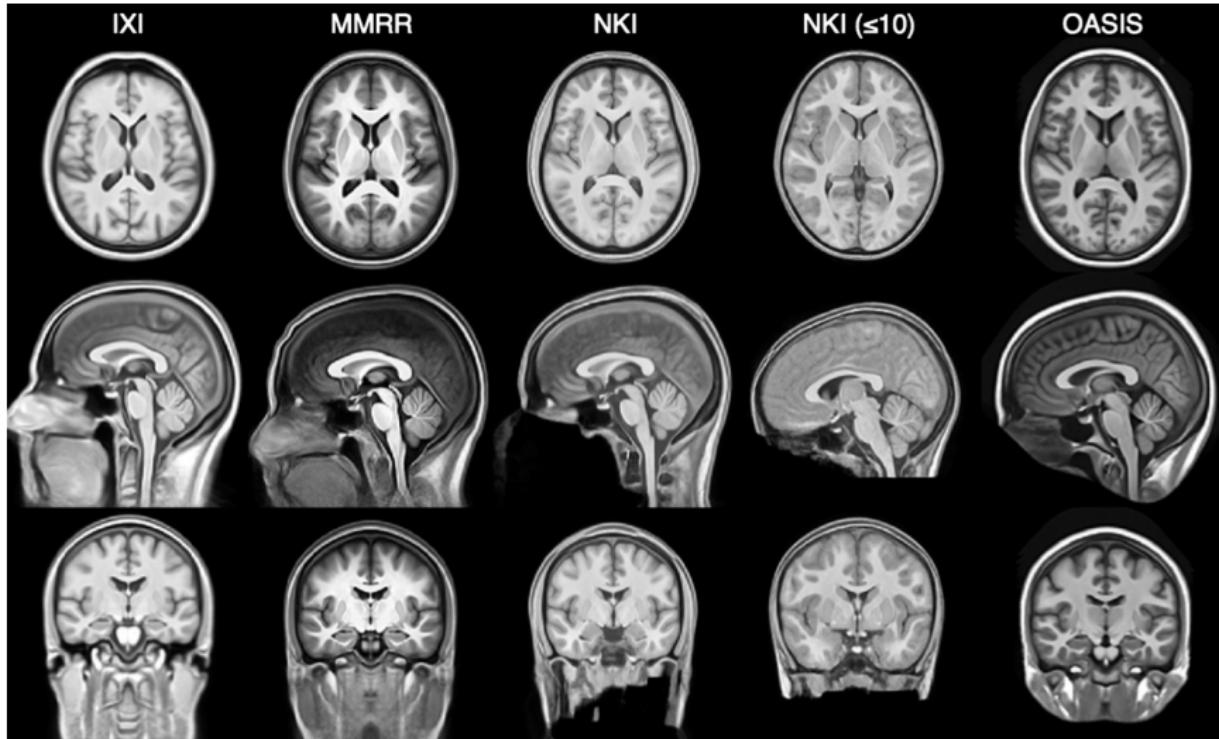


# The ANTs structural brain mapping workflow

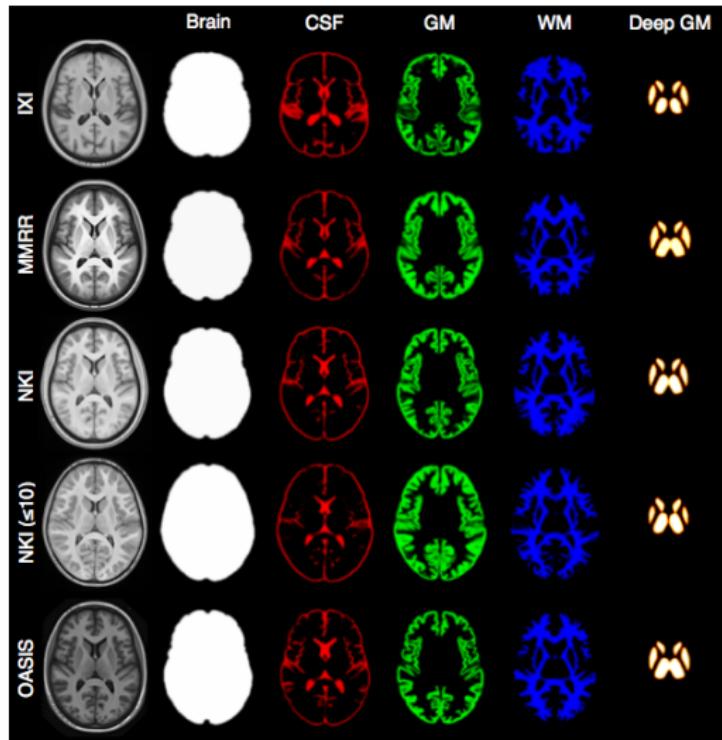


# Template building

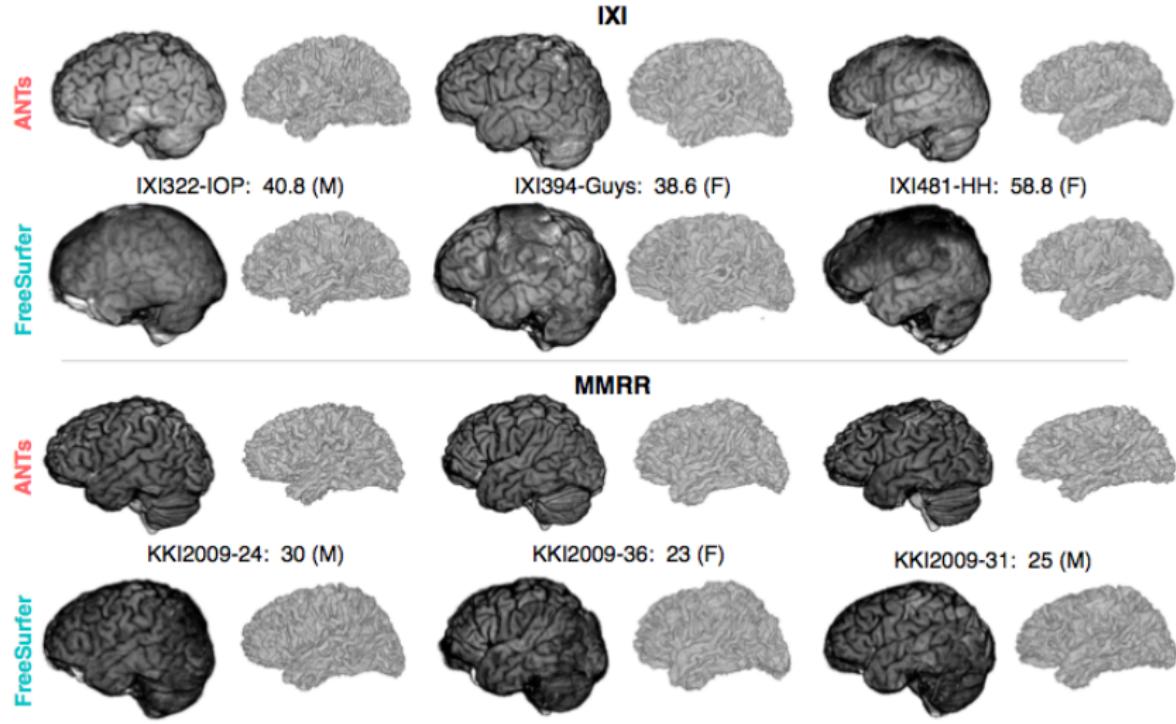
*Tailor data to your specific cohort*



# Template priors



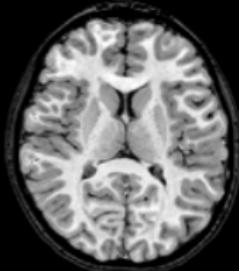
# Brain extraction comparison



# Brain segmentation

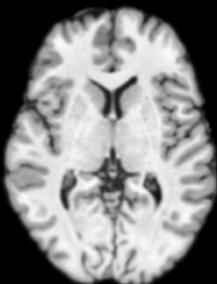
NKI-3374719

male, 7 years



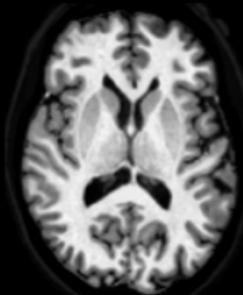
IXI-021

female, 21.6 years



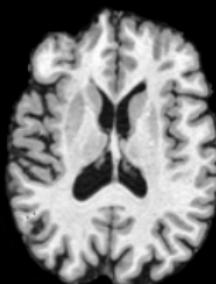
MMRR-35

female, 42 years



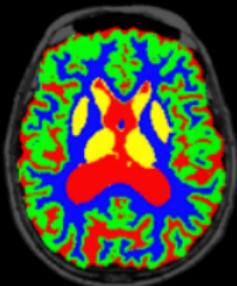
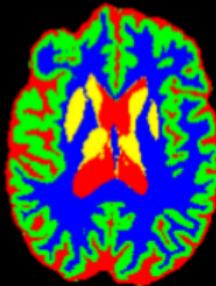
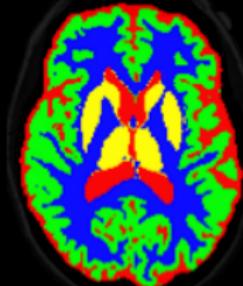
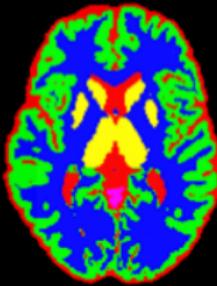
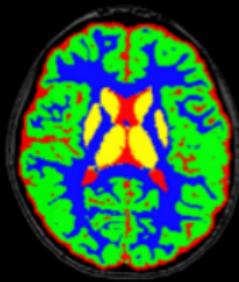
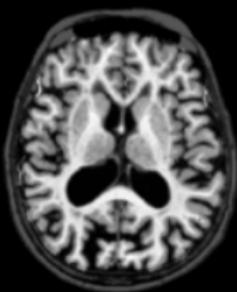
NKI-1339484

male, 67 years

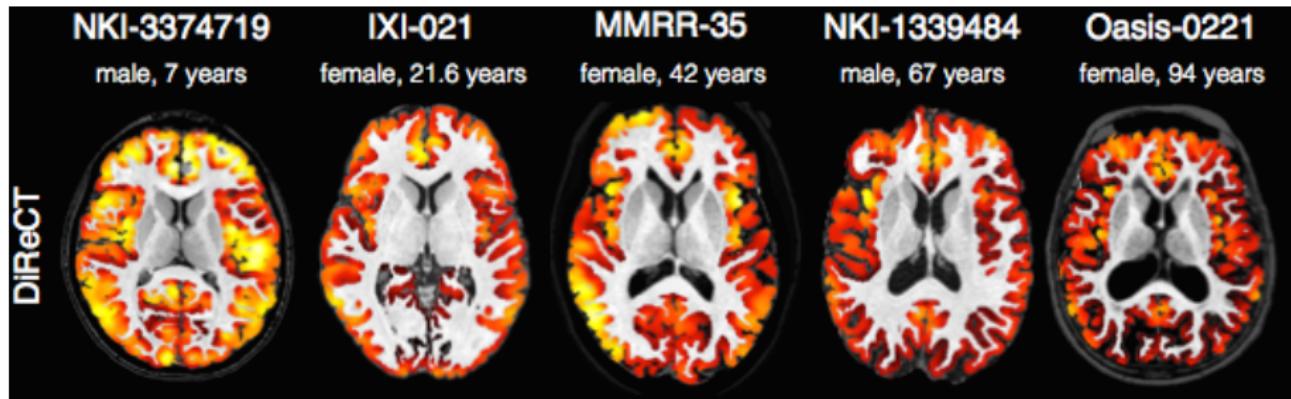


Oasis-0221

female, 94 years



# Cortical thickness estimation

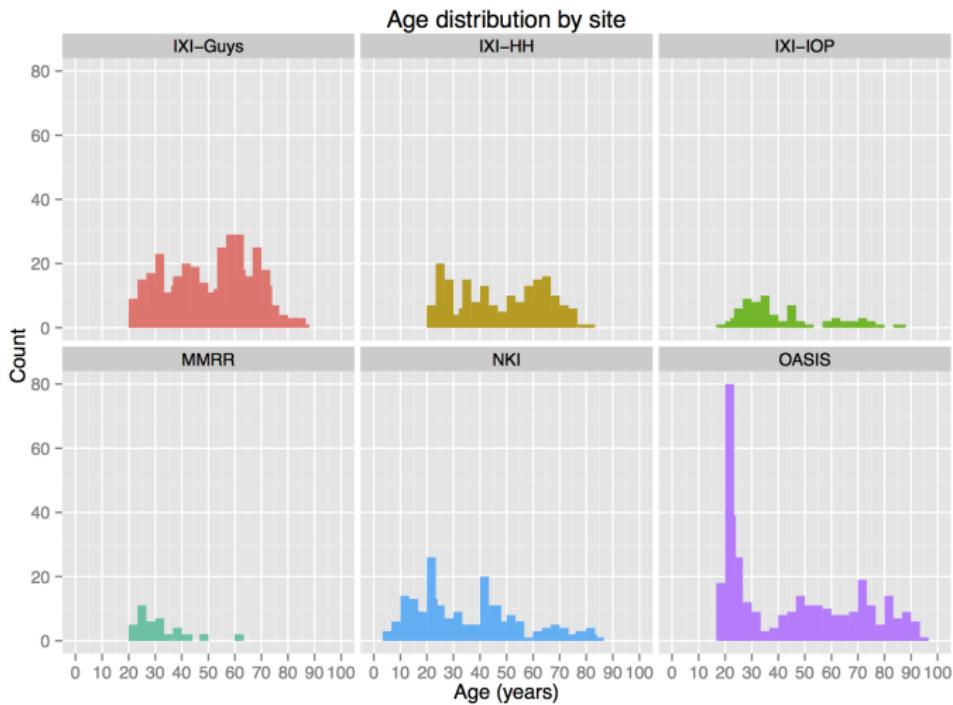


*But without ground truth, how does one evaluate the pipeline?*

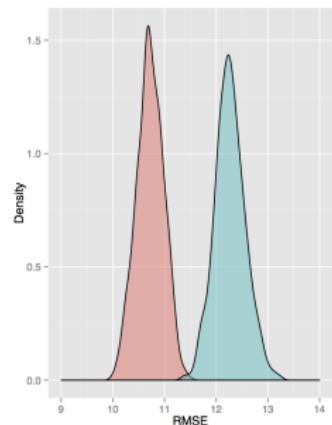
# Predict age and gender

$$AGE \sim VOLUME + GENDER + \sum_{i=1}^{62} T(DKT_i)$$

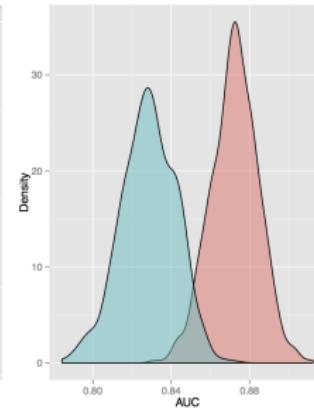
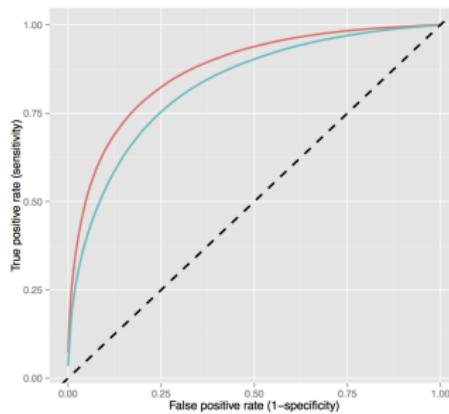
# Open science prinicples



# Prediction from cortical thickness data



Age



Gender

# Age prediction per site

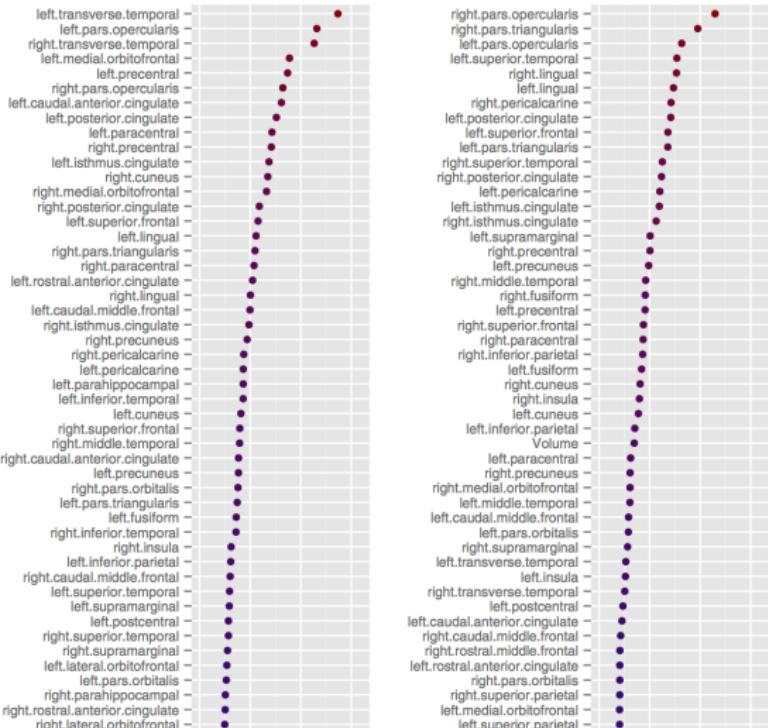
**Table 3**

Mean RMSE for age prediction in years.

	Linear model	Random forest
ANTs (combined)	10.7	10.2
FreeSurfer (combined)	12.3	11.9
ANTs (IXI)	9.3	8.6
FreeSurfer (IXI)	12.3	11.7
ANTs (NKI)	NA <sup>a</sup>	10.9
FreeSurfer (NKI)	NA <sup>a</sup>	13.3
ANTs (OASIS)	15.0	12.4
FreeSurfer (OASIS)	15.0	11.4

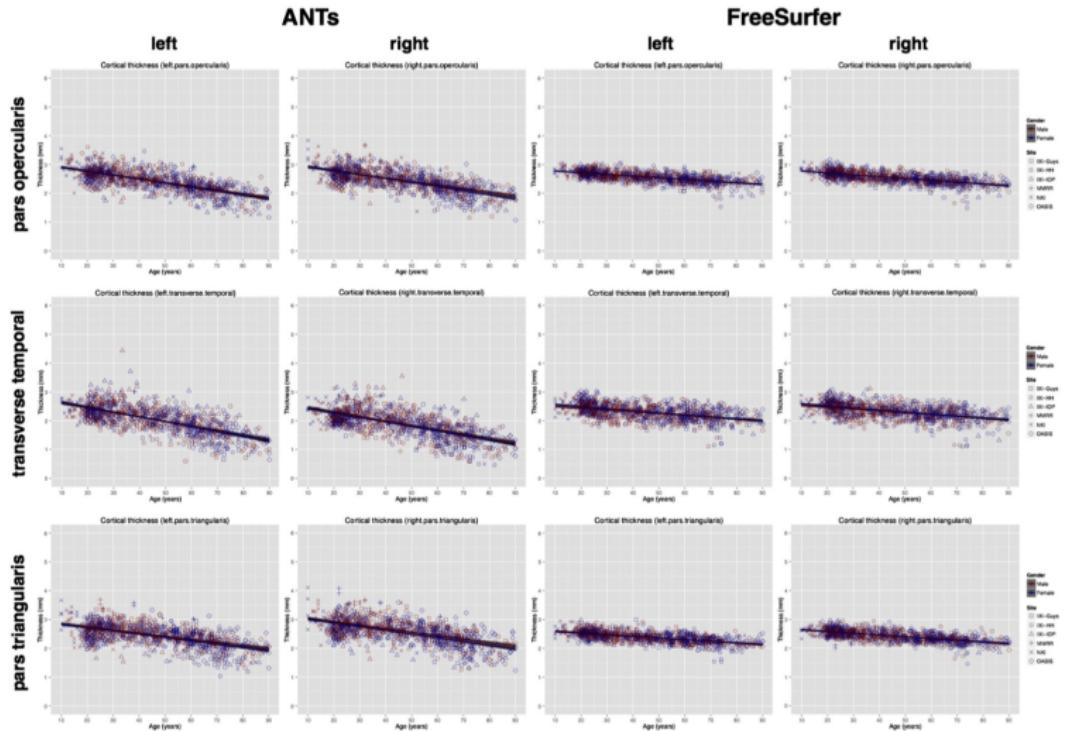
<sup>a</sup> Fitting error.

# Regional importance comparison



ANTs (left) vs. FreeSurfer (right)

# Regional measurements



# But, wait, there's more!

## Data availability

- “Hey, can I have the FreeSurfer measurements for the entorhinal cortex?” Sure, why not?

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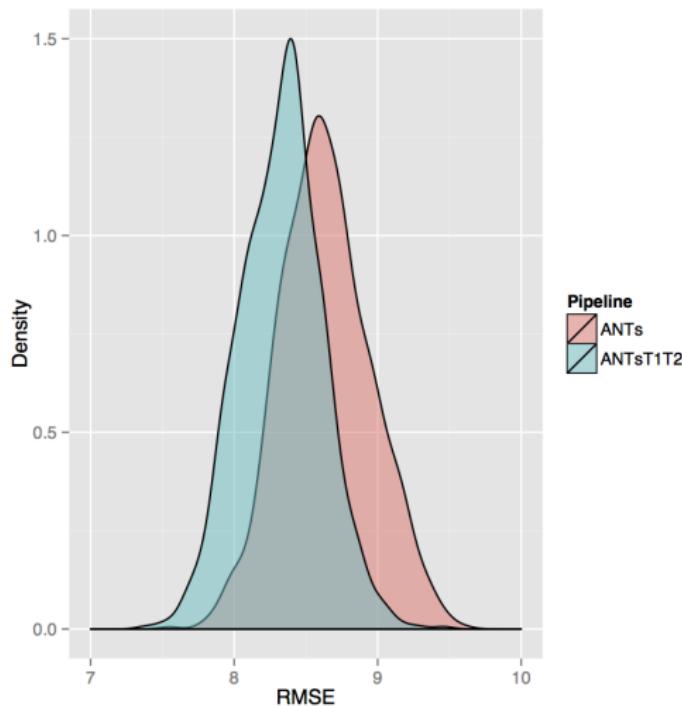
- “Hey, can I have the FreeSurfer measurements for the entorhinal cortex?” Sure, why not?
- “I was wondering if you would make available the CT in each ROI for each subject. . .” Sure, why not? Would you also like the surface areas and volumes?

## Data availability

- “*Hey, can I have the FreeSurfer measurements for the entorhinal cortex?*” Sure, why not?
- “*I was wondering if you would make available the CT in each ROI for each subject. . .*” Sure, why not? Would you also like the surface areas and volumes?
- “*Can I have one or more of the templates that you used for your study?*” Would you like the priors as well?

# What about using both the T1 & T2?

# ANTs tools are multivariate

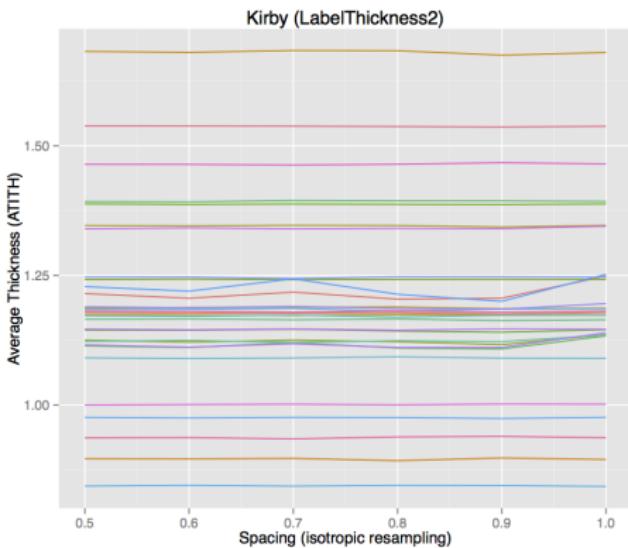
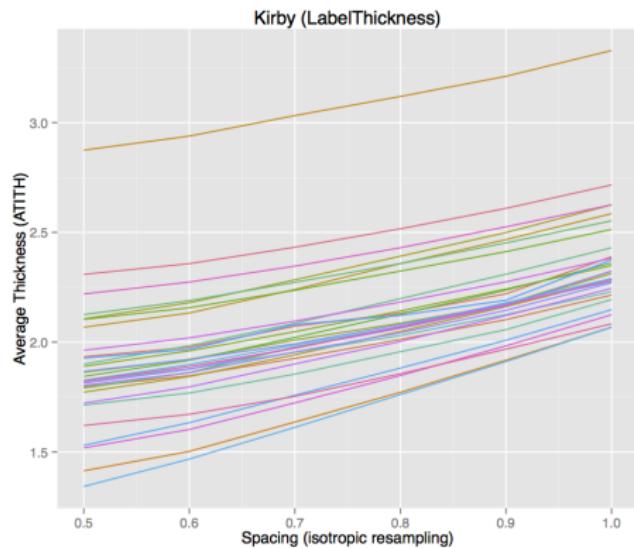


# Arno-thick-in-the-head (ATITH)

*What if we made a crude estimate of the cortical thickness?*

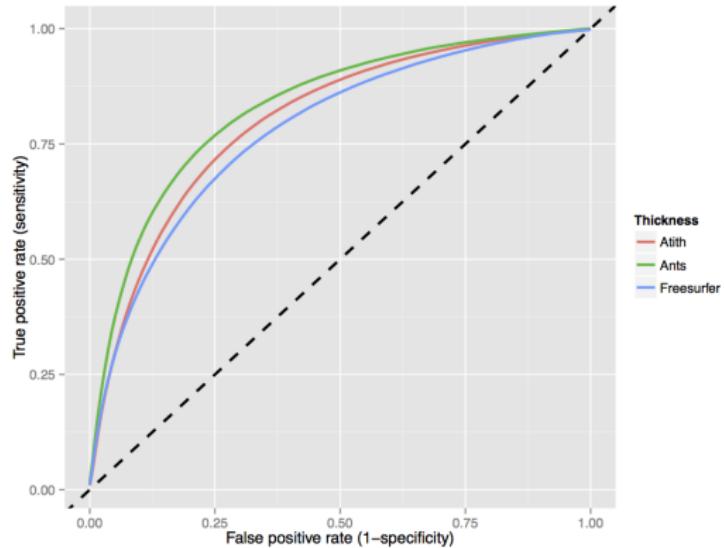
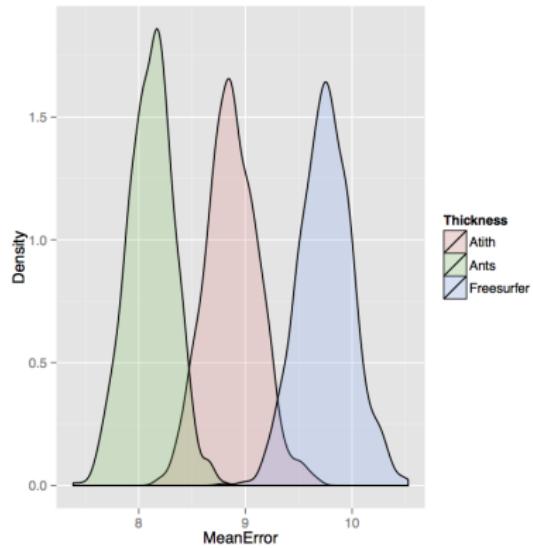
$$\text{thickness}_{ROI} = \frac{\text{volume}_{ROI}}{\text{area}_{ROI}}$$

**Make sure you estimate the surface area correctly!**



# So how does ATITH compare with ANTs, FS?

# Prediction from cortical thickness data



# Brain constellation maps

## Brain Constellation Map of Thickness Residuals



# And currently brewing on the UVa cluster...

*Does denoising help?*

# Contribution from Jose

- `itkAdaptiveNonLocalMeansDenoisingImageFilter.h`

```
$ DenoiseImage
```

## COMMAND:

`DenoiseImage`

Denoise an image using a spatially adaptive filter  
Manjon, P. Coupe, Luis Marti-Bonmati, D. L. Collins,  
Non-Local Means Denoising of MR Images With Spatial  
`Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging`, 31:192-203,

## OPTIONS:

`-d, --image-dimensionality 2/3/4`

This option forces the image to be treated as a specific dimension.  
If this option is not specified, the program tries to infer the dimension.

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- `itkAdaptiveNonLocalMeansDenoisingImageFilter.hxx`

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**But the best part is ...**

# it is absolutely free!

```
`${ANTSPATH}/antsCorticalThickness.sh \
-a IXI/T1/IXI002-Guys-0828-T1.nii.gz \
-e IXI/template/T_template0.nii.gz \
-m IXI/template/T_template0ProbabilityMask.nii.gz \
-f IXI/template/T_template0ExtractionMask.nii.gz \
-p IXI/template/Priors/priors%d.nii.gz \
-o IXI/ANTsResults/IXI002-Guys-0828-
```

(as in speech, not beer)

# We'll discuss more this afternoon

<https://github.com/ntustison/antsCorticalThicknessExample>

# Longitudinal processing (current work)

# Previous ANTs work

Bias in estimation of hippocampal atrophy using deformation-based morphometry arises from asymmetric global normalization: An illustration in ADNI 3 T MRI data

Paul A. Yushkevich <sup>a,\*</sup>, Brian B. Avants <sup>a</sup>, Sandhitsu R. Das <sup>a</sup>, John Pluta <sup>b</sup>, Murat Altinay <sup>a</sup>, Caryne Craige <sup>a</sup> and the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative <sup>1</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Penn Image Computing and Science Laboratory (PICSL), Department of Radiology, University of Pennsylvania, 3600 Market St., Ste 370, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

<sup>b</sup> Center for Functional Neuroimaging, Department of Neurology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA

## Methodological considerations in longitudinal morphometry of traumatic brain injury

**Junghoon Kim <sup>1\*</sup>, Brian Avants <sup>2</sup>, John Whyte <sup>1</sup> and James C. Gee <sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute, Elkins Park, PA, USA

<sup>2</sup> Department of Radiology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA

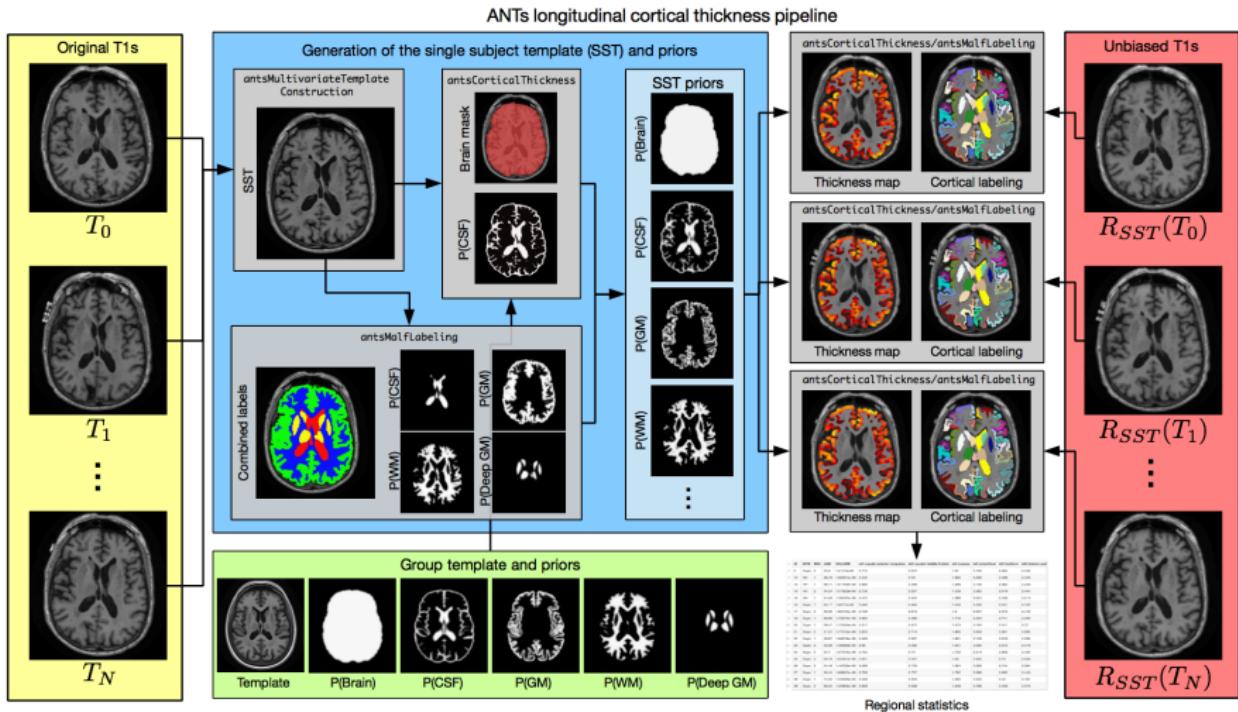
## Sparse Unbiased Analysis of Anatomical Variance in Longitudinal Imaging

**Brian Avants, Philip A. Cook, Corey McMillan, Murray Grossman, Nicholas J. Tustison, Yuanjie Zheng, and James C. Gee**

Depts. of Radiology and Neurology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6389

Brian Avants: avants@grasp.cis.upenn.edu

# ANTs longitudinal pipeline



## antsLongitudinalCorticalThickness.sh

```
$ antsLongitudinalCorticalThickness.sh -h 1
```

`antsLongitudinalCorticalThickness.sh` performs a longitudinal analysis. The steps are performed:

1. Create a single-subject template (SST) `from` all the data
2. Create priors for the SST
  - a. Run the SST through the individual cortical thickness maps
  - b. The brain extraction SST prior is created by smoothing the `mask` created during 2a.
  - c. If labeled atlases are not provided, we smooth the posterior probability maps of the SST segmentation priors, otherwise we use `antsMorphologicalPriorFromLabeledAtlases` to create the SST segmentation priors (<https://github.com/ntustison/antsCookTemplate>)
3. Using the SST + priors, we run each subject through the analysis pipeline.

Usage: