

# Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics

Using big data, artificial intelligence and brain modelling to

fundamentally change our understanding of mental illness.



## **SUMMER SCHOOL 2021**

Day 5

Whole-Brain Modelling and Neuroimaging Connectomics

Morning: Introduction to neuroimaging connectomics

## **CAMH Land Acknowledgement**

CAMH is situated on lands that have been occupied by First Nations for millennia; lands rich in civilizations with knowledge of medicine, architecture, technology, and extensive trade routes throughout the Americas. In 1860, the site of CAMH appeared in the Colonial Records Office of British Crown as the council grounds of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, as they were known at the time.

Today, Toronto is covered by the Toronto Purchase, treaty No. 13 of 1805 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Toronto is now home to a vast diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis who enrich this city.

CAMH is committed to reconciliation. We will honour the land through programs and places that reflect and respect its heritage. We will embrace the healing traditions of the Ancestors, and weave them into our caring practices. We will create new relationships and partnerships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis and share the land and protect it for future generations.





## Code of Conduct



The KCNI Summer School is dedicated to providing a harassment-free learning experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age or religion. We do not tolerate harassment of event participants in any form

#### Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal comments that reinforce social structures of domination related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age or religion.
- Sexual images in public spaces
- Deliberate intimidation, stalking, or following
- Harassing photography or recording
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome sexual attention
- Advocating for, or encouraging, any of the above behaviour

## Remember - many ways to engage



?



(during sessions)
Use the chat or
the ask question!



You can always return to the session and re-watch the vidos after the session ends



come chat with us in KCNI Summer School Slack:)



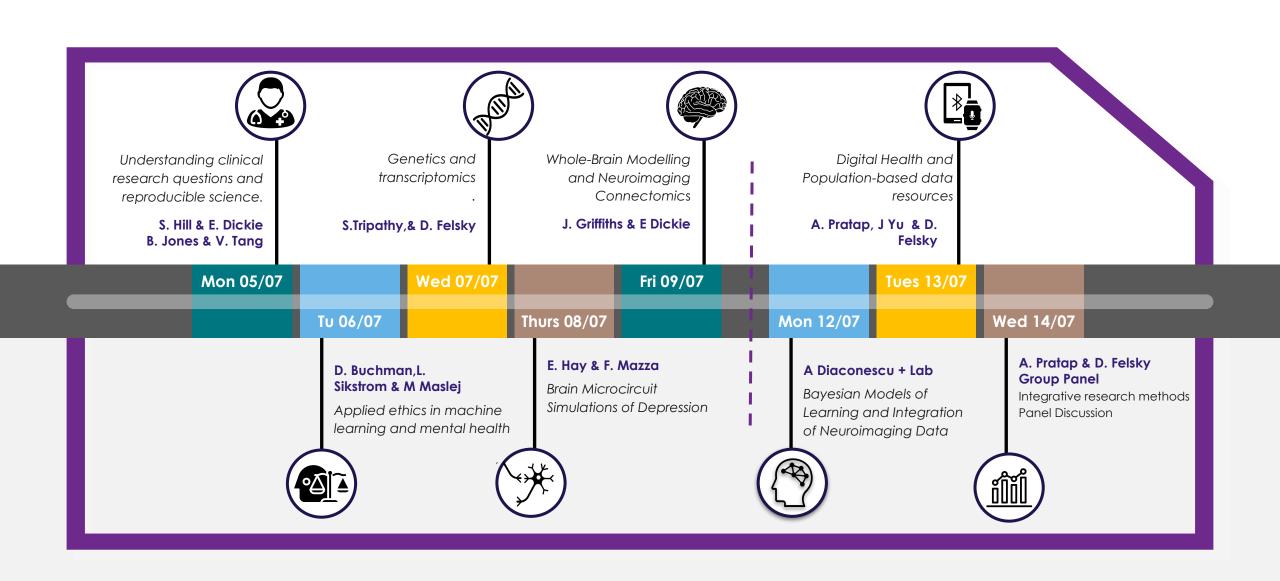
% Gather

Tell us how the session went (post session survey): https://forms.gle/ji18qLMZEZ9L16Ln6



## Summer School Schedule





## Today's Agenda





Day 5: Whole-Brain Modelling and Neuroimaging Connectomics 9:00 am -10:30 am Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Structure (sMRI and DMRI)

Erin Dickie & John Griffiths

10:45 am - 12:15 pm Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Function (fMRI and EEG)
John Griffiths & Erin Dickie

1:00 pm -2:30 pm Lecture: Intro to whole-brain modelling John Griffiths

2:45 pm -4:15 pm Workshop: simulating whole-brain activity, EEG, evoked responses, brain stimulation John Griffiths

## Instructors for this session





John Griffiths Ph.D.

Lead - Whole Brain Modeling Group, Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics - CAMH Assistant Professor, University of Toronto Depts. Psychiatry & Medical Sciences

Twitter: @neurodidact

Github: @JohnGriffiths, @GriffithsLab

Website: grifflab.com



Erin Dickie Ph.D

Education and Knowledge Lead - KCNI Scientist - Kimel Family Translational Imaging-Genetics Lab

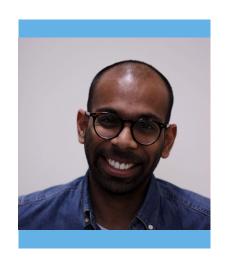
Twitter: @ErinWDickie

Github: @edickie

# Teaching Assistants for this section



Kevin Kadak MSc Student Whole Brain Modelling Group - KCNI



Jerrold Jeyachandra
Research Methods
Specialist
Kimel Family
Translational
Imaging-Genetics Lab

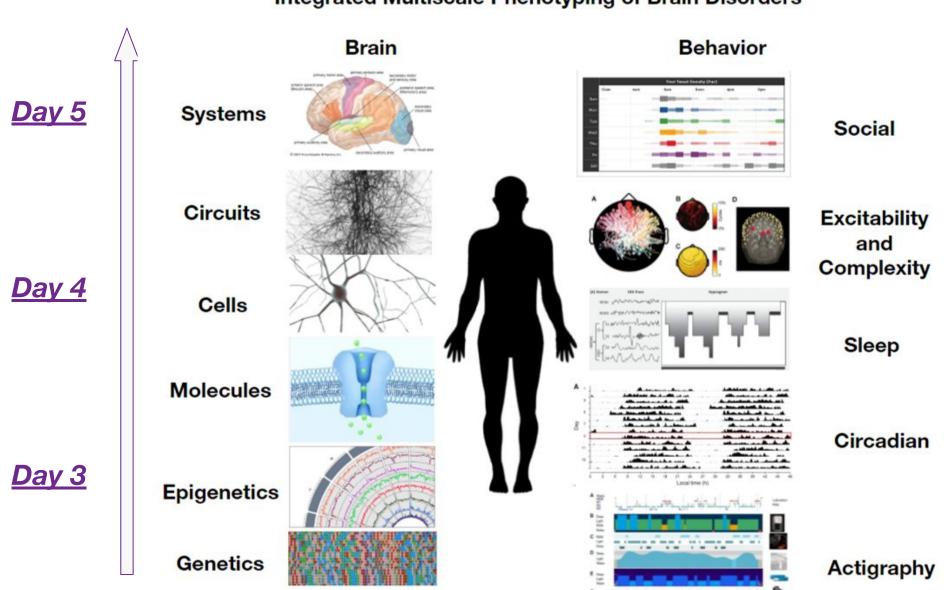


Shreyas Harita
PhD Student
Whole Brain Modelling
Group - KCNI

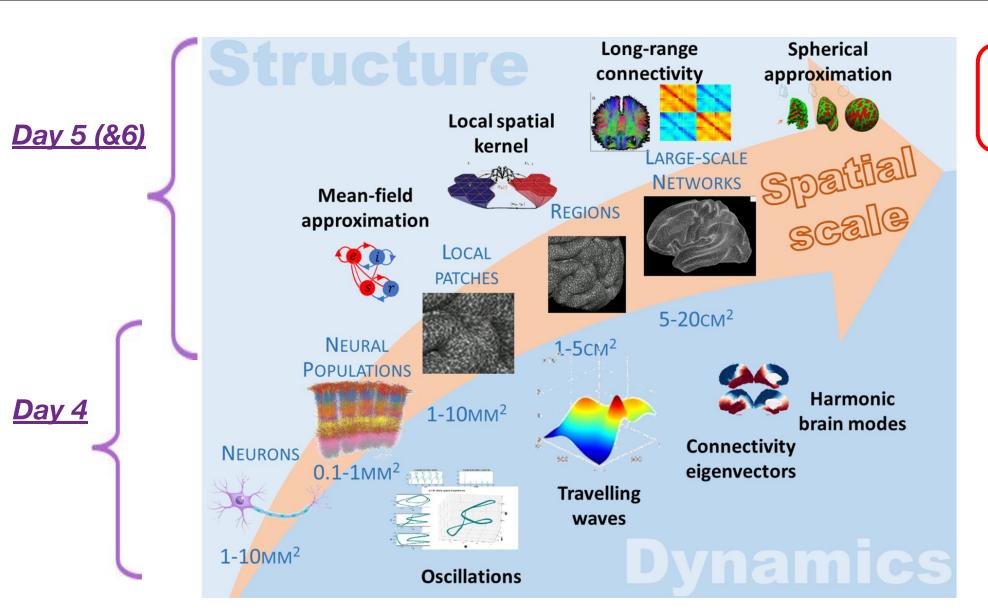
# Recapping...



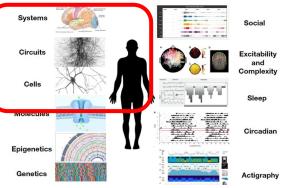
### Integrated Multiscale Phenotyping of Brain Disorders



## Recapping...

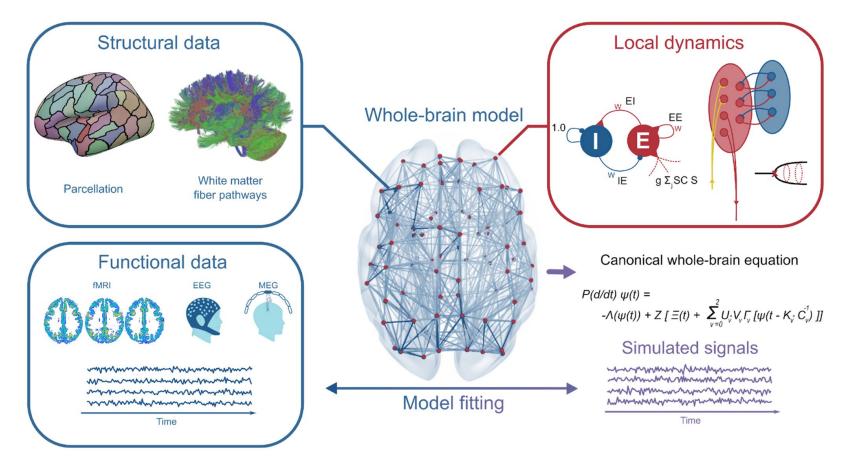


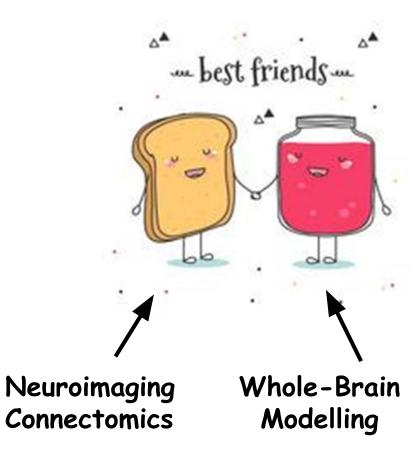
Integrated Multiscale Phenotyping of Brain Disorders



## Why does WBM go well together with NC?







Griffiths et al. (2021)

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# Intro to Neuroimaging Connectomics camb

10:45 am

- 12:15 pm



## Plan for the morning session:

#### 1. Brain structure

- Images
- Surfaces
- Atlases and Parcellations
- DWI tractography
- DWI connectomes

## 2. Brain activity

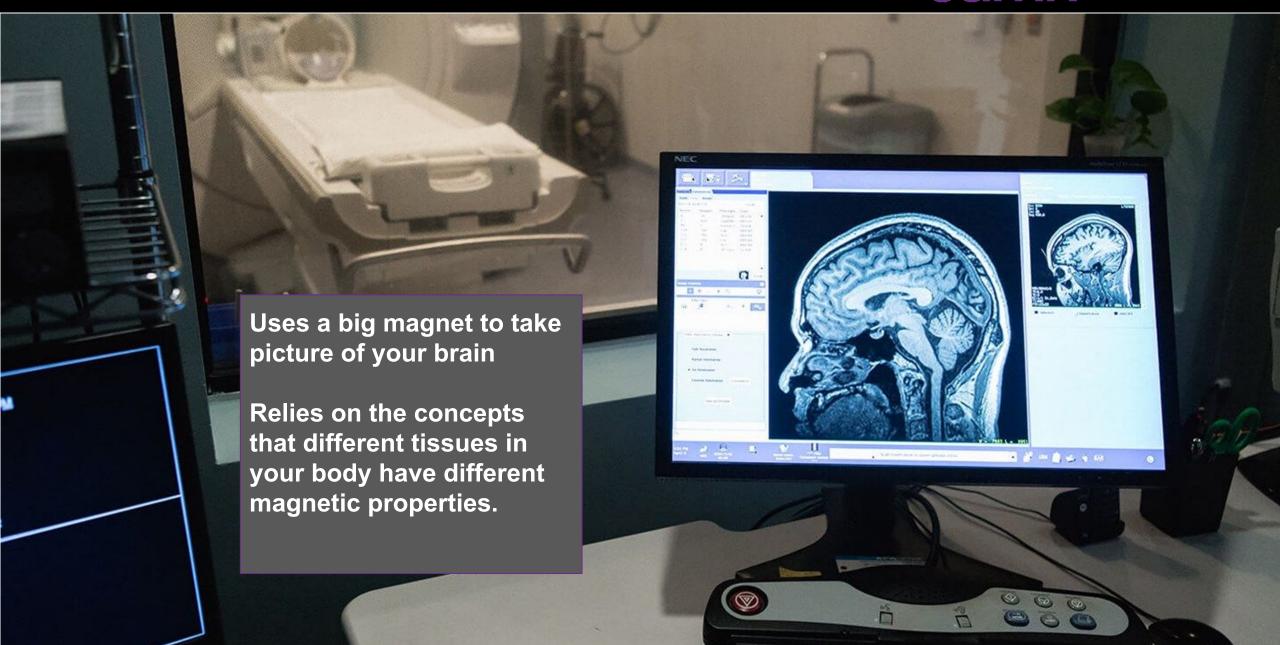
- fMRI timeseries -> connectomes
- EEG timeseries -> connectomes

9:00 am 10:30 am

Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Structure (sMRI and DMRI)
Erin Dickie & John Griffiths

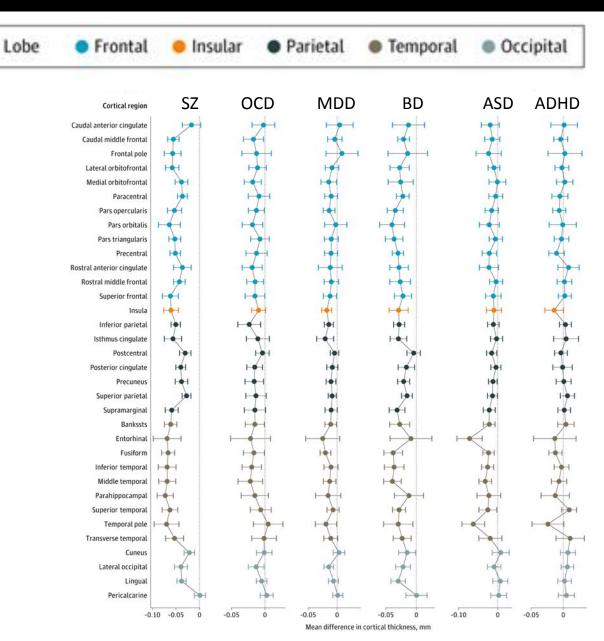
John Griffiths & Erin Dickie

Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Function (fMRI and EEG)



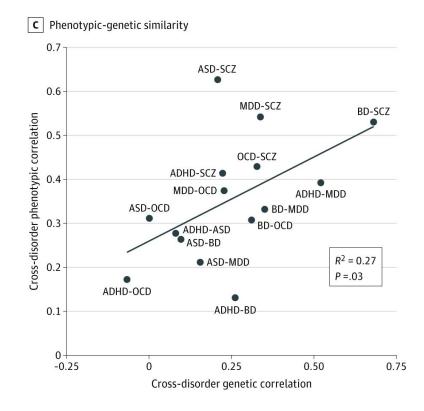
# What has MRI told psychiatry?



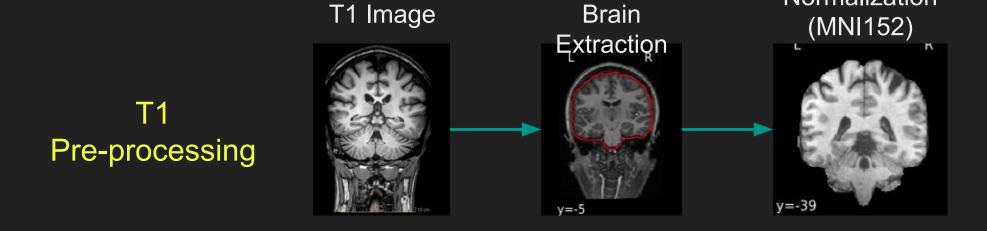


## Profiles of Group Differences in Cortical Thickness (Left Hemisphere Only) Between Cases and Controls

Writing Committee for the Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, and Schizophrenia ENIGMA Working Groups, Yash Patel, et al. 2021. "Virtual Histology of Cortical Thickness and Shared Neurobiology in 6 Psychiatric Disorders." *JAMA Psychiatry* 78 (1): 47–63.

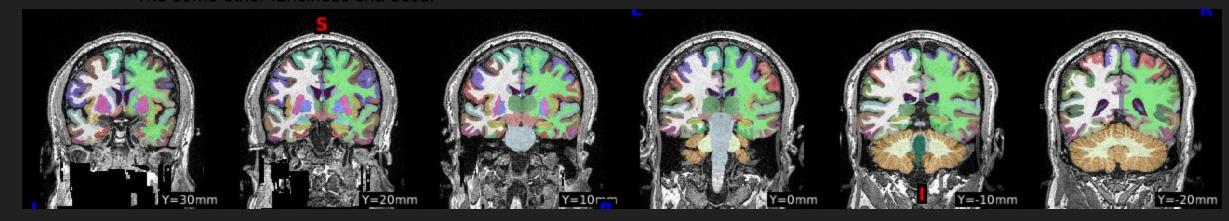


## Visual Guide to Pre-processing (T1/fMRI)



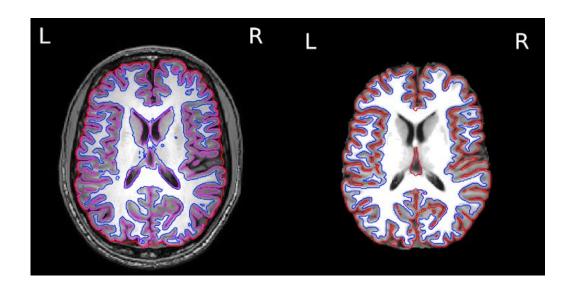
Normalization

The some other fanciness cha occur

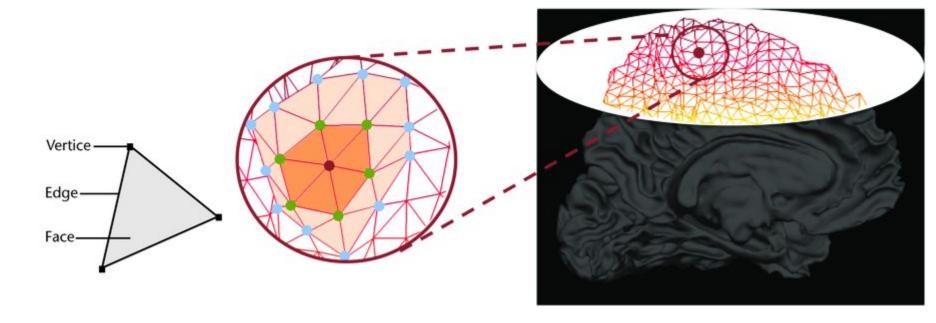


## Finding the cortical surface





Anatomical pipelines (i.e. freesurfer) will segment images into gray, matter, white, matter and cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) than use that information to fit a tetrahedral mesh to individual participant surfaces



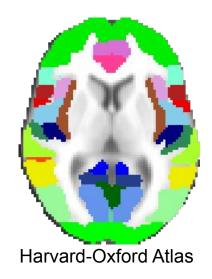
## Atlases and Parcellations

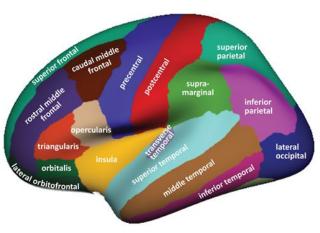


When we do "connectomics" we tend to talk about how one brain regions communicates with another brain region.

**Atlases** or **parcellations** are ways of breaking up brain images into different bits.

What is a brain region? - There are a lot of different answers...





'Desikan-Killiany' cortical atlas (aparc)



Schaefer 2018 (local-global functional brain parcellations (400 parcel)

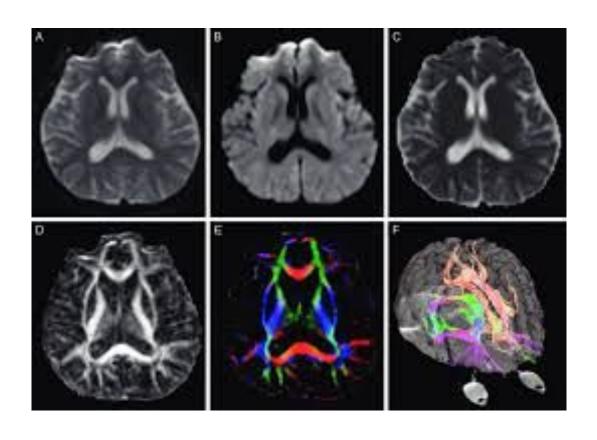
## Time for some code



https://github.com/krembilneuroinformatics/kcni-school-lessons/tree/master/day5

## What is diffusion?



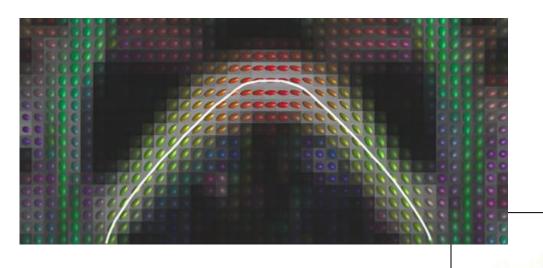


## DWI = Diffusion <u>Weighted</u> Imaging

- Measures diffusion of water in order to model tissue microstructure
- 4-dimensional image
- X,Y,Z + direction of diffusion
- Strength and direction of diffusion *gradient*

## What is diffusion?



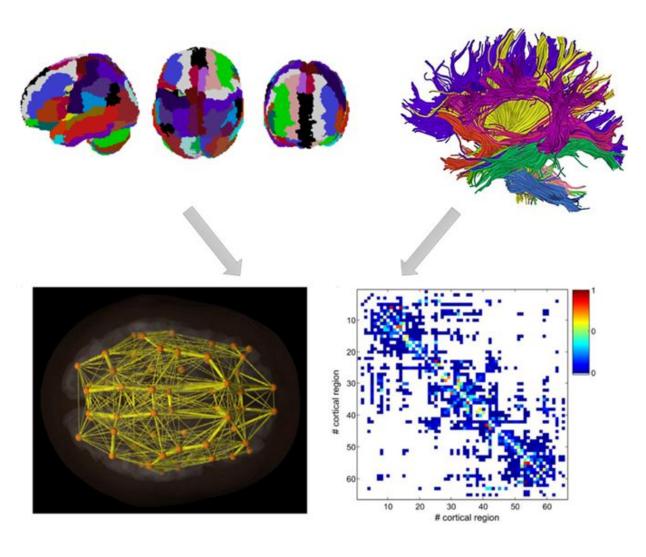


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# What is diffusion?





Tractography + Parcellation ->
Anatomical Connectivity matrix

## DWI tutorial section



# Time for a Break!



# Intro to Neuroimaging Connectomics



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9:00 am -10:30 am

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Erin Dickie & John Griffiths

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## 2. Brain activity

- fMRI timeseries -> connectomes
- EEG timeseries -> connectomes

## What is fMRI?



## functional MRI ("func" data in BIDS)

- Track the Blood Oxygen Level Dependant (BOLD) signal
- It's 4-dimensional
  - X,Y,Z + time!
- Sometimes we ask people to do something and look at how the blood oxygen level changed
  - they usually need an \_event.tsv file
- but sometime people just lay there
  - "it's task-rest" or resting-state

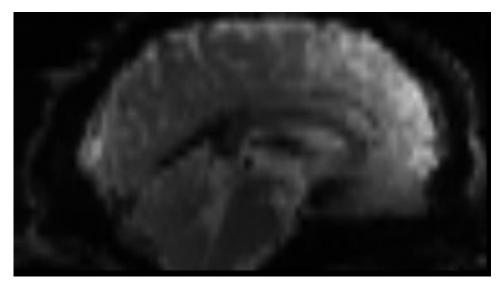
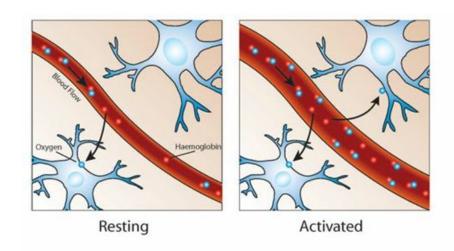
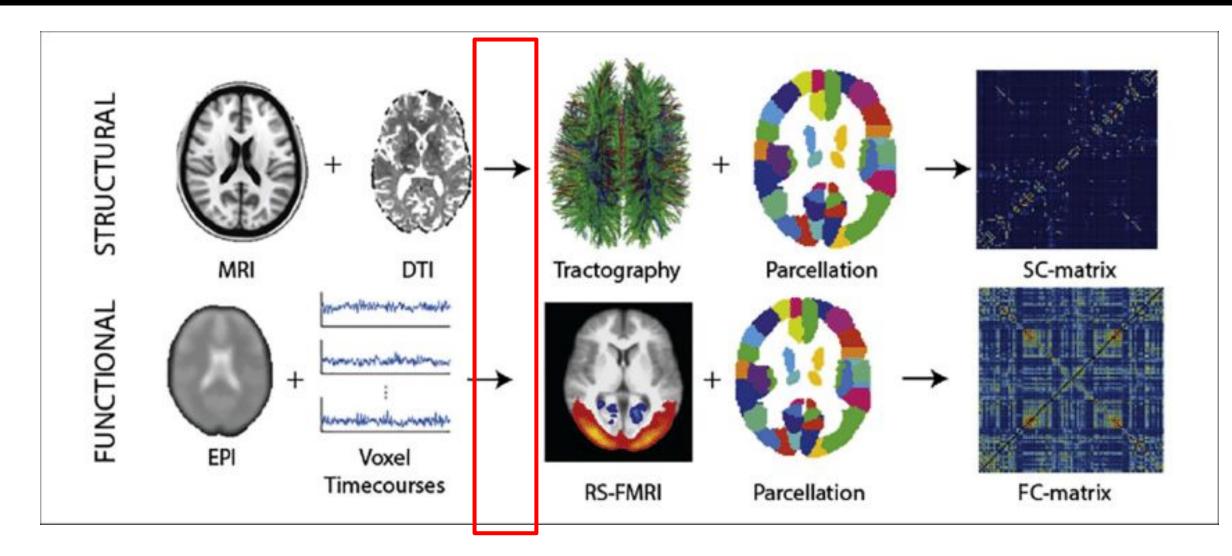


Image from : <a href="https://www.win.ox.ac.uk//fmrib-about/what-is-fmri">https://www.win.ox.ac.uk//fmrib-about/what-is-fmri</a>



# How do we get a connectome from fMRI? camh





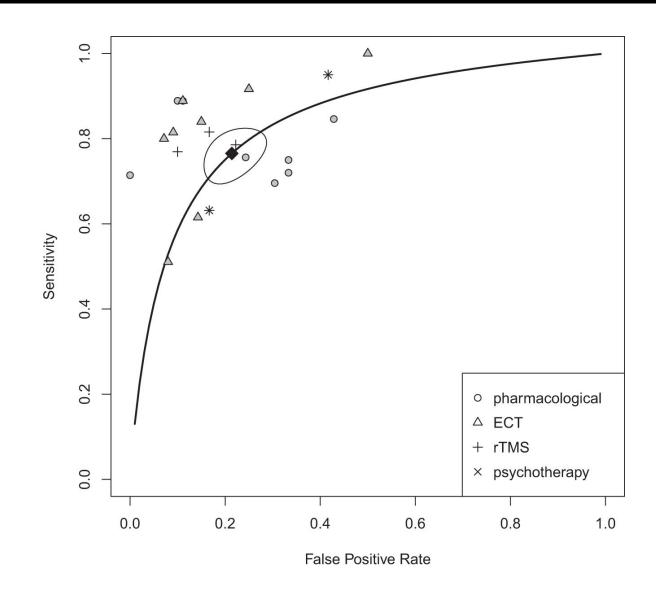
Many hours of preprocessing (hopefully using a BIDS app container)

## Can fMRI be used to predict treatment response? camb Krembil Centre for

Maybe? - meta analysis of MDD treatment response with MR modalities

https://www.nature.com/articles/s/41398-021-01286-x

note: sample sizes for these individual studies ranges n=16-124 and most use Leave-one-out cross-validation



## What has fMRI told us about MDD?



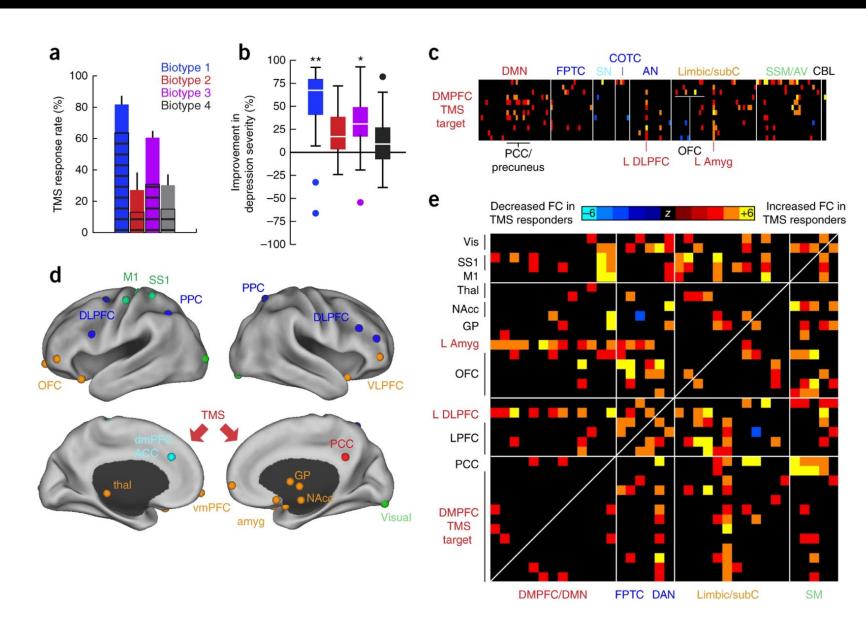
Drysdale, et al. 2017.

"Resting-State
Connectivity Biomarkers
Define
Neurophysiological
Subtypes of Depression."
Nature Medicine 23 (1):
28–38.

BUT - Dinga, R. et al. Evaluating the evidence for biotypes of depression: methodological replication and extension of Drysdale et al. Neuroimage Clin. 2019, 101796 (2017).

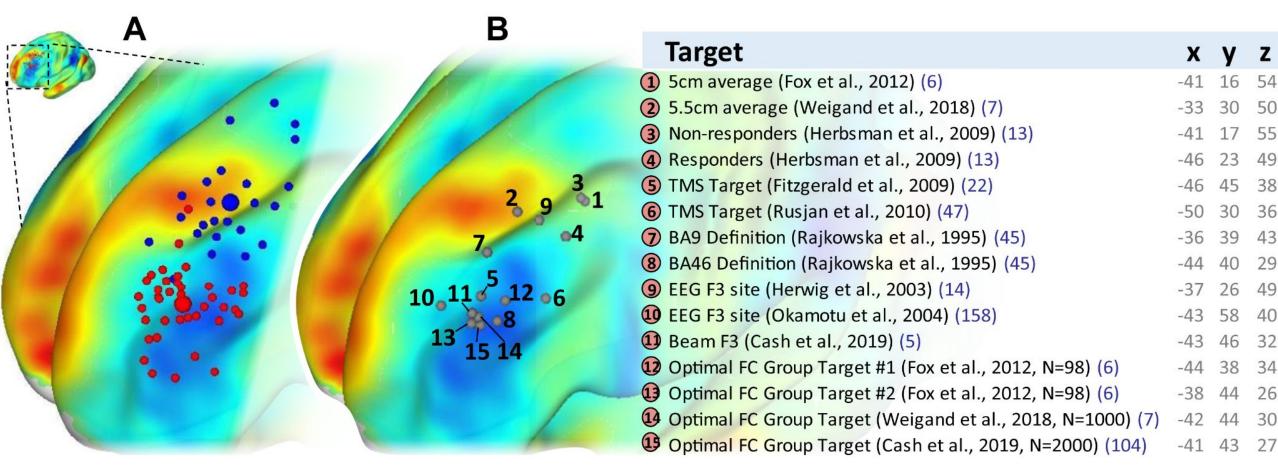
#### Then:

Sun,, et al. 2020. "Preliminary Prediction of Individual Response to Electroconvulsive Therapy Using Whole-Brain Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Data." NeuroImage. Clinical 26: 102080.



# Using fMRI in stimulation targeting



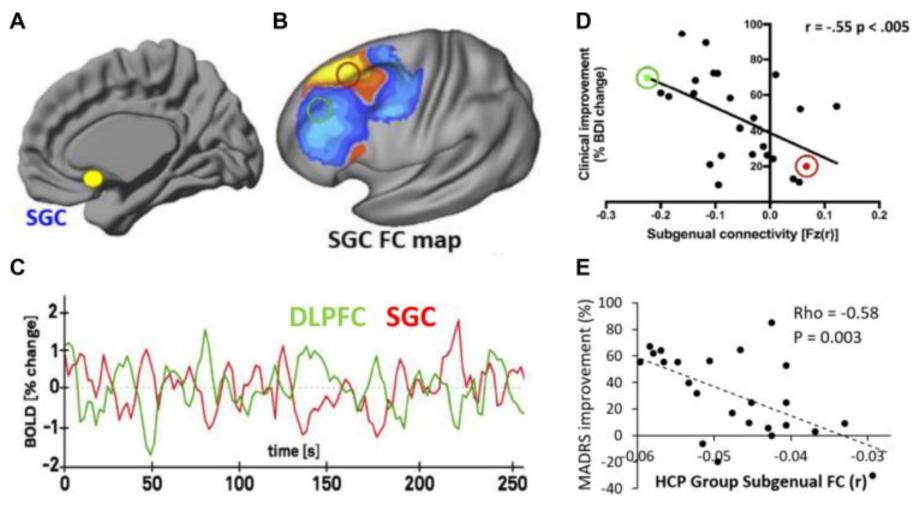


Heterogeneity in transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) sites for depression.

From: Cash, Robin F. H., Anne Weigand, Andrew Zalesky, Shan H. Siddiqi, Jonathan Downar, Paul B. Fitzgerald, and Michael D. Fox. 2020. "Using Brain Imaging to Improve Spatial Targeting of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Depression." *Biological Psychiatry*, June. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopsych.2020.05.033.

# rTMS target in depression

Figure 3.
Antidepressant
response to
repetitive
transcranial
magnetic stimulation
is associated with
functional
connectivity (FC)
between the
stimulation site and
the subgenual
cingulate cortex
(SGC)



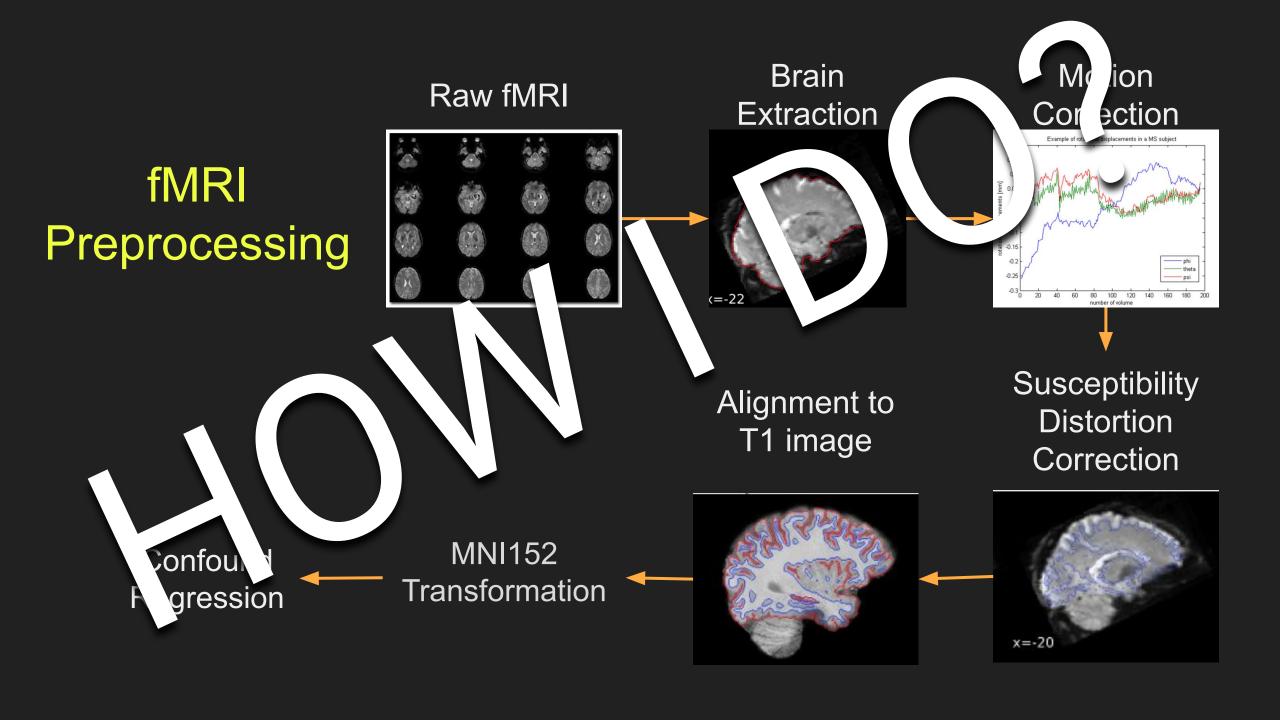
From: Cash, Robin F. H., Anne Weigand, Andrew Zalesky, Shan H. Siddiqi, Jonathan Downar, Paul B. Fitzgerald, and Michael D. Fox. 2020. "Using Brain Imaging to Improve Spatial Targeting of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Depression." *Biological Psychiatry*, June. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopsych.2020.05.033.

## One more step: Pre-processing

Data needs to be harmonized before analysis

Issues we need to account for:

- 1. We have whole head images, we just want the brain
- 2. fMRI image and T1 image are not aligned
- 3. fMRI is distorted due to changing magnetic field in some areas of brain
- 4. Participants move in scanners, fMRI image isn't aligned to itself
- 5. **Movement actually influences the fMRI signal**, we want "brain signals" not motion signals!
- All subject images aren't aligned to each-other, need to warp images to a template (we need some sort of normalization)



# FM

If you



T1-weighted

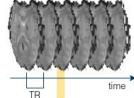
One or more (e.g. in longitudinal studies) T1w images





**BOLD** run

One run of one task (or resting-state) time-series of blood-oxygen level (BOLD) measurements





#### **Fuse & Conform**

All T1w images are aligned and averaged to form a 3D reference image NIfTI headers are checked for validity



#### **INU Correction**

The T1w reference is run through the N4 algorithm to correct for intensity nonuniformity (INU)



#### Skull-stripping

Atlas-based brain extraction is performed on the reference T1w image



preprocessing

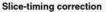
#### Generate reference & brain mask

Time-points showing non-steady state artifacts (excess of T1 contrast) are aligned and averaged to generate a reference image in native space



#### Estimation of head-motion

Parameters representing bulk head motion (due to involuntary drift, swallowing, etc.) of each timepoint with respect to the reference are estimated



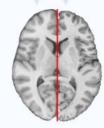
(Optional) When the acquisition time of 2D axial slices of a given timepoint is available, temporal dynamics are estimated and all slices resampled to the mid-timepoint of that TR



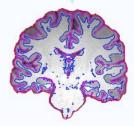


#### Brain atlas

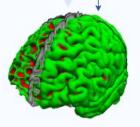
Default: MNI152 nonlinear asymmetric v2009c



Spatial normalization Non-linear, spatial alignment to the brain atlas



Brain tissue segmentation The brain-extracted image is classified into CSF, GM and WM

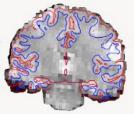


Surface reconstruction Surfaces of the cortical sheet are reconstructed from the anatomical information (T1w

reference, T2w)

#### Alignment to T1w reference

Registers activity in BOLD voxels to anatomical location



#### Susceptibility distortion estimation

(Optional) Find a deformation field that compensates for the distortion, when adequate acquisitions are present



#### Sample on surface

Sample the BOLD signal on the surfaces reconstructed from the anatomical data



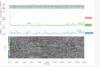
#### Sample in template

Resample the BOLD signal in atlas-space, concatenating all pertinent transformations



"One-shot" resampling of the BOLD signal in its original grid, applying corrections





Calculate and store nuisance regressors such as noise components, motion parameters, global signals, etc.



# The data in the tutorial today





Midnight Scan Club

@club scan Follows you

▶ N = 10

▶ Data collection costs = \$12,000

▶ MSC team articles = 16; citations = 1,969

Neuron: 5

PNAS: 3

NIMG: 3

Cerebral Cortex: 2

Lancet Neurology

Cell Reports

**BioRxiv** 

▶ OpenNeuro: 16/526 by #downloads



## https://openneuro.org/









## Tutorial NB 3: fMRI Activity + Connectivity



# Intro to Neuroimaging Connectomics camh

9:00 am -

10:30 am



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Lecture/Workshop: Ne

Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Structure (sMRI and DMRI) Erin Dickie & John Griffiths

Lecture/Workshop: Neuroimaging connectomics - Brain Function (fMRI and EEG)
John Griffiths & Erin Dickie

## 2. Brain *activity*

- fMRI timeseries -> connectomes
- EEG timeseries -> connectomes

# Tutorial NB 4: M/EEG Activity + Connectivity camh | Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics



## That's a wrap!



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