



CCN Center for  
Cognitive  
Neuroscience  
*at Dartmouth*



CON  
Center for Open Neuroscience

## Resources for practicing PR4NI pragmatic cursory overview

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Geneva, Switzerland 2016



<http://www.pymvpa.org>



<http://NeuroDebian.net>



<http://datalad.org>



<http://duecredit.org>

Visit our DataLad/NeuroDebian exhibit table and posters #1855, #1870

# Acknowledgements

## Centroids

Yaroslav O. Halchenko  
James V. Haxby  
Matteo Visconti di Oleggio  
Castello  
Samuel Nastase

## Collaborators

Michael Hanke  
Nikolaas N. Oosterhof  
Matthew Brett  
Joey Hess  
Benjamin Poldrack



## Collaborating projects



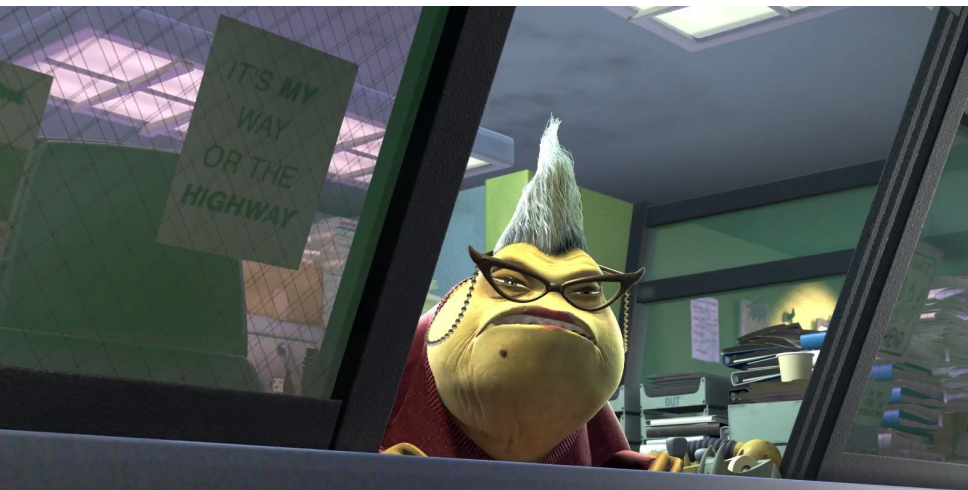
## Partners



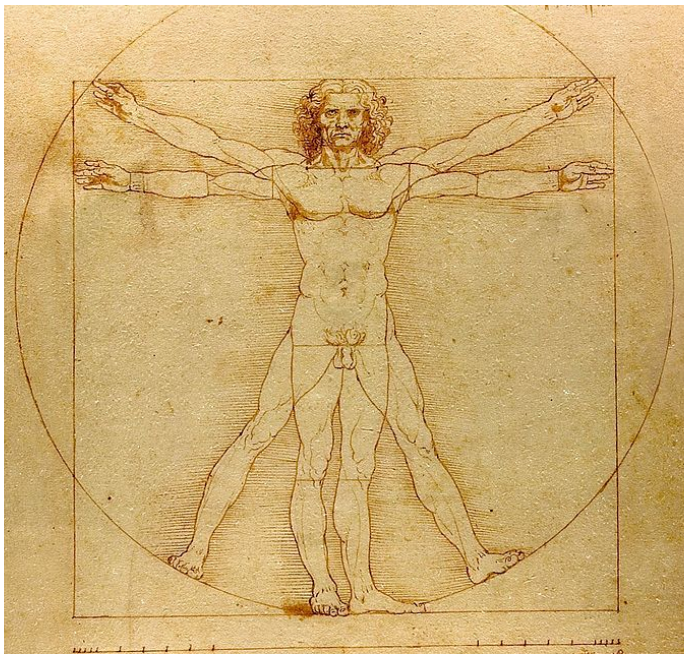
What is the most valuable “Resource”?

Hint:

Every institution has a department to manage these



What is the most valuable “Resource”? Humans



# Humans virtue #1

- no “collective mind” (yet, read Nexus trilogy?)
- condensed presentation of articles is rarely sufficient and not reproducible as such

# Humans virtue #1

- no “collective mind” (yet, read Nexus trilogy?)
- condensed presentation of articles is rarely sufficient and not reproducible as such
- we need to work together
- share and contribute back

## Humans virtue #2

- no time warping machine (yet)
- hard to stretch time: 24x7 is kinda fixed



## Humans virtue #2

- no time warping machine (yet)
- hard to stretch time: 24x7 is kinda fixed
- we need to avoid repeating ourselves or others twice
- automate and stay efficient

## Humans virtue #3

- impossible to clone “your own Vapnik” (yet or ever)
- condensed presentation of articles is rarely sufficient and not reproducible as such
- we think we (or students) can do the same thing

---

Halchenko, Y. O. (2015). Overview of statistical evaluation techniques adopted by publicly available MVPA toolboxes. Organization of Human Brain Mapping Annual Meeting, Honolulu HI, USA. Talk

[http://www.pymvpa.org/files/OHBM2015\\_Halchenko.pdf](http://www.pymvpa.org/files/OHBM2015_Halchenko.pdf)

# Humans virtue #3

- impossible to clone “your own Vapnik” (yet or ever)
- condensed presentation of articles is rarely sufficient and not reproducible as such
- we think we (or students) can do the same thing
- we need to do our best to do “correct science”
- test and validate, be skeptical

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Halchenko, Y. O. (2015). Overview of statistical evaluation techniques adopted by publicly available MVPA toolboxes. Organization of Human Brain Mapping Annual Meeting, Honolulu HI, USA. Talk

[http://www.pymvpa.org/files/OHBM2015\\_Halchenko.pdf](http://www.pymvpa.org/files/OHBM2015_Halchenko.pdf)

## Human resources $\Rightarrow$ Collective mind

- automate and stay efficient
- test and validate
- share and contribute back (*i.e.*, collaborate)

# Research parasite



# Become a **Symbiotic** Research parasite



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symbiosis>

... In 1877 Albert Bernhard Frank used the word symbiosis (which previously had been used to depict people living together in community) ...

## Resources for a “Collective PR4NI mind”

- Knowledge and thought transfer
  - Social media
  - Publications
- Reusable artifacts
  - Software
  - Data

# Knowledge transfer: Social media





# Social media: News and discussions

CONTRIBUTE

Rapid, often unverified, but interactive communication channels

Twitter/G+/Facebook/... :

- follow your favorite researchers and projects
- no specific recommendations, but I am [yarikoptic@Twitter](#)
- I have heard that Nikolaus Kriegeskorte is active on Facebook (please choose media which is open)

Mailing lists/Forums :

- Project mailing lists
- [NeuroStars.org](#)
  - Q&A site for neuro-scientists
  - main forum for some projects (nipy)
  - over 500 registered users
  - easy to follow/subscribe to specific tags and/or posts
- [neuroimaging@python.org](#) mailing list

# Social media: Blogs

Semi-regular informal presentations and explorations of curious minds.

**Jo Etzel** [mvpa.blogspot.com](http://mvpa.blogspot.com) :

Posts on various aspects of PR4NI/MVPA in neuroimaging (R, Python)

**Andrew Jahn** [andysbrainblog.blogspot.com](http://andysbrainblog.blogspot.com) :

Introductions (blog + YouTube videos) to software tools in neuroimaging – installation and basic use

**Jeanette Mumford** [mumfordbrainstats.tumblr.com](http://mumfordbrainstats.tumblr.com) :

Extensive collection (blog + YouTube videos) on various aspects of neuroimaging from univariate to MVPA

**Russel Poldrack, Tal Yarkoni, ...**

# Workshops, tutorials, summer schools, ...

You can *attend* advanced workshops (even post-fact)

Prior OHBMs :

[www.pathlms.com/ohbm/courses](http://www.pathlms.com/ohbm/courses)

Videos or slides for prior OHBM tutorials (including PR4NI) and the main conference

CCN@Dartmouth Summer Workshops :

[www.dartmouth.edu/%7Eccn/workshops/index.html](http://www.dartmouth.edu/%7Eccn/workshops/index.html)

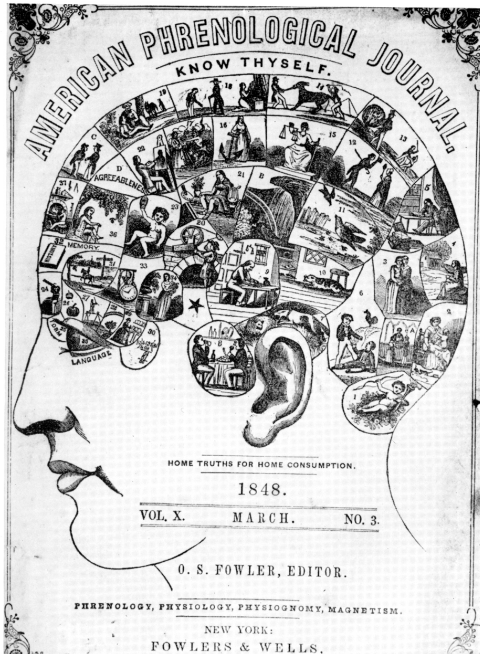
Videos from yearly workshops on “Brain Decoding” topics.  
This year (coming in August) – “Predictive Decoding”

NeuroImaging Training Program @UCLA :

[www.brainmapping.org/NITP/NITPSummerProgram.php](http://www.brainmapping.org/NITP/NITPSummerProgram.php)

Video/slides archives on various aspects of neuroimaging, including pattern recognition

# Knowledge transfer: Publications



Free books on Machine Learning :

[github.com/datalad/mlbooks](https://github.com/datalad/mlbooks) (git-annex repository)

inspired by 12 Best Free Ebooks for Machine Learning

([devzum.com/2015/05/best-free-machine-learning-ebooks](http://devzum.com/2015/05/best-free-machine-learning-ebooks))

# Knowledge transfer: Pre-print servers

CONTRIBUTE

Whenever possible, please share your works for early feedback.  
Provide feedback in return on freshly “published” pre-prints

- [arxiv.org](https://arxiv.org) - the Pioneer of all pre-print servers.  
Originally Physics only, now also carries “Machine Learning” and “Neurons and Cognition”
- [biorxiv.org](https://biorxiv.org) - pre-print server for Biological sciences provided by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Has “Neuroscience” section

Recent example [arxiv.org/abs/1606.02840](https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.02840)

Grootswagers, T., Wardle, S. G., and Carlson, T. A. (2016). Decoding dynamic brain patterns from evoked responses: A tutorial on multivariate pattern analysis applied to time-series neuroimaging data.  
*ArXiv e-prints*

# Reusable artifacts



# Reusable artifacts: Selected toolkits

CONTRIBUTE

Selection criteria: toolkit must ...

- be an active Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) project
- be geared directly toward PR4NI:
  - I/O for common formats
  - bi-directional masking, basic pre-processing
  - basic parallelism
- have extended publicly available QA (unit-/regression/etc tests)
- have user-oriented documentation (tutorials, examples, etc.)
- streamlined ways for **you** to contribute back (e.g., public VCS)

Google spreadsheet with some others, and additional information:

<https://goo.gl/qxX3Y2>





## CoSMoMVPA

A multi-modal, multi-variate pattern analysis (MVPA) toolbox in Matlab / GNU Octave for cognitive neuroscientists.

### CoSMoMVPA

- State-of-the art, yet simple to use MVPA implementations.
- Runs on the Matlab and GNU Octave platform.
- Handles fMRI volumetric, fMRI surface-based, and MEEG data through a uniform data structure.
- Support for a wide range of data formats.
- Searchlights in the volume, on the surface, over sensors, time bins, and frequency bands.
- Multiple-comparison correction using Threshold-Free Cluster Enhancement Monte Carlo simulations.
- Extensive documentation, including a variety of runnable scripts and implementation exercises (with solutions).
- Is Free/Open Source Software (MIT License).

#### Table Of Contents

##### CoSMoMVPA

##### News

- Analysis gallery
- Changes since last month
  - Summary
  - Acknowledgements
  - Major changes
  - Changes that break existing functionality
    - Bug fixes
    - All changes
- Indices and tables

#### Next topic

[CoSMoMVPA philosophy](#)

#### This Page

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#### Quick search



## CoSMoMVPA

### Vital signs

Language/Interface : Matlab/Octave

Neuroimaging modalities : \*MRI, M/EEG

Public VCS : [github.com/CoSMoMVPA/CoSMoMVPA](https://github.com/CoSMoMVPA/CoSMoMVPA)

Authors (90%) + Contributors : 1+6

Life span, version : Sometime in 2013/June 2016, 20160620

Tests coverage : 90%

Documentation : [cosmomvpa.org/documentation.html](http://cosmomvpa.org/documentation.html)

Workshops/Tutorials : [cosmomvpa.org/prni2016.html](http://cosmomvpa.org/prni2016.html)

Canonical DOI : [10.1101/047118](https://doi.org/10.1101/047118)

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Quick search





## COSMOMVPA

A multi-modal, multi-variate pattern analysis (MVPA) toolbox in Matlab / GNU Octave for cognitive neuroscientists.

CONTRIBUTE

### 5 “killer features”

- flexible searchlights (any combination of M/EEG time and frequency, volume, surface, channel and source space)
- bootstrapped cluster level + TFCE thresholding methods
- surface based analyses
- good i/o support (NIFTI, GIFTI, AFNI, SPM, BrainVoyager, EEGLAB, FieldTrip, PyMVPA)
- cross-time generalization (e.g., M/EEG trials)

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Quick search





## Nilearn:

### Machine learning for Neuro-Imaging in Python

SVM    Ward clustering  
Searchlight    ICA  
Nifti IO    Datasets

Google™ Custom Search

Search

x

[Nilearn Home](#) | [User Guide](#) | [Examples](#) | [Reference](#) |

[Nipy ecosystem](#)

Nilearn is a Python module for **fast and easy statistical learning on NeuroImaging** data.

It leverages the [scikit-learn](#) Python toolbox for multivariate statistics with applications such as predictive modelling, classification, decoding, or connectivity analysis.

## First Steps

Get started with nilearn

## Examples

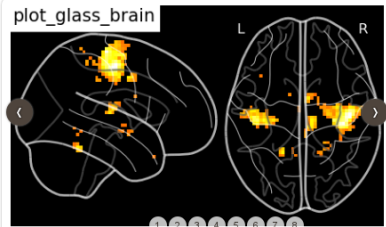
Visit our example gallery

## User Guide

Browse the full documentation

Nilearn is part of the [NIPY](#) ecosystem.

plot\_glass\_brain



## News

**June 13th 2016:** Nilearn 0.2.5 released

**Apr 7th 2016:** Nilearn 0.2.4 released

**Feb 19th 2016:** Nilearn 0.2.3 released

**March 2014:** Paper describing the concepts at the root of nilearn published in *Frontiers in Neuroinformatics*.

**Ongoing development:** What's new.

## Software

Installation

## Development

Nilearn on GitHub



**Nilearn:**

Machine learning for Neuro-Imaging in

SVM    Ward clustering  
Searchlight    ICA  
Nifti IO    Datasets

## Vital signs

Language/Interface : Python

Neuroimaging modalities : \*MRI

Public VCS : [github.com/nilearn/nilearn](https://github.com/nilearn/nilearn)

Authors (90%) + Contributors : 12+37

Life span, version : February 2015/June 2016, 0.2.5

Tests coverage : 93%

Documentation : [nilearn.github.io](http://nilearn.github.io)

Workshops/Tutorials : [prni2016.wix.com/prni2016#!blank-6/x350s](http://prni2016.wix.com/prni2016#!blank-6/x350s)

Canonical DOI : [10.3389/fninf.2014.00014](https://doi.org/10.3389/fninf.2014.00014)



**Nilearn:**

Machine learning for Neuro-Imaging in  
Python

SVM    Ward clustering  
Searchlight    ICA  
Nifti IO    Datasets

Google Custom Search

Search

x

## 5 “killer features”

- scikit-learn API (yeah, fit-transform!)
- automatic fetching of open datasets
- functional connectivity: inverse-covariance estimation, tangent space embedding
- searchlights, SpaceNet
- nice plotting for stat maps, masks, connectomes, connectivity matrices

User Guide

Browse the full documentation



Nilearn is part of the NiPy ecosystem.

Installation

Development

Nilearn on GitHub



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## Multivariate Pattern Analysis in Python

[PyMVPA Home](#) | [Sitemap](#) »

[next](#) | [modules](#) | [index](#)

PyMVPA is a [Python](#) package intended to ease statistical learning analyses of large datasets. It offers an extensible framework with a high-level interface to a broad range of algorithms for classification, regression, feature selection, data import and export. It is designed to integrate well with related software packages, such as [scikit-learn](#), [shogun](#), [MDP](#), etc. While it is not limited to the neuroimaging domain, it is eminently suited for such datasets. PyMVPA is free software and requires nothing but free-software to run.

PyMVPA stands for **M**ulti**V**ariate **P**attern **A**nalyses (**MVPA**) in **P**ython.



[Installation](#)



[Tutorial](#)



[Documentation](#)



[Support](#)

## News

**PyMVPA Team** @pymvpa

Fresh release (2.5.0) of [#PyMVPA](#) with [SearchlightHyperalignment](#) ([dx.doi.org/10.1093/cercor...](https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor...)) is out! ([#NeuroDebian](#) got it!)



13 May

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- [How to cite PyMVPA](#)
  - Peer-reviewed publications
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  - Grant support
- [Similar or Related Projects](#)

## Next topic

[PyMVPA User Manual](#)

## Quick links

- [Source download](#)
- [Code repository](#)
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- [Mailing list archive](#)
- [Who is using PyMVPA?](#)
- [Dataset Archive](#)
- [PyMVPA@MLOSS.org](#)
- [PyMVPA@INCF](#)

[Search mailing list](#)



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OTTO VON GUERICKE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
MAGDEBURG

## Vital signs

**Language/Interface** : Python, Command line

**Neuroimaging modalities** : \*MRI, E/MEG (some)

**Public VCS** : [github.com/PyMVPA/PyMVPA](https://github.com/PyMVPA/PyMVPA)

**Authors (90%) + Contributors** : 3+36

**Life span, version** : February 2008/May 2016, 2.5.0

**Tests coverage** : 80%

**Documentation** : [www.pymvpa.org](http://www.pymvpa.org)

**Workshops/Tutorials** : <http://www.pymvpa.org/courses.html>

**Canonical DOI** : [10.1007/s12021-008-9041-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12021-008-9041-y)

it!)



13 May

PyMVPA@MLOSS.org  
PyMVPA@INCF

Search mailing list

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DUPLICATE





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## Multivariate Pattern Analysis in Python

[PyMVPA Home](#) | [Sitemap](#) »

[next](#) | [modules](#) | [index](#)

### 5 “killer features”

- adapters to R libs (e.g. glmnet), MDP, sklearn, MDP, ..., CoSMoMVPA, AFNI
- dataset construct to bind data and attributes together
- flexible Searchlighting (volume, surface, space/time)
- cluster level thresholding for searchlights
- functional alignment: Hyperalignment

PyMVPA team @pymvpa

Fresh release (2.5.0) of **#PyMVPA** with  
SearchlightHyperalignment  
([dx.doi.org/10.1093/cercor...](https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor...)) is out! (**#NeuroDebian** got  
it!)



13 May

Bug tracker

Mailing list archive

Who is using PyMVPA?

Dataset Archive

PyMVPA@MLOSS.org

PyMVPA@INCF

Search mailing list

# Reusable artifacts: other software

CONTRIBUTE

See also

[mloss.org](http://mloss.org) :

The catalog of Open Source Machine Learning toolboxes and platforms

[nitrc.org](http://nitrc.org) :

The catalog (and often primary hosting) of Neuroimaging resources

[thunder-project.org](http://thunder-project.org) :

Modular Apache Spark-based platform for the analysis of image and time series data in Python.

doi: [10.3389/fnins.2016.00248](https://doi.org/10.3389/fnins.2016.00248) :

Mahmud, M. and Vassanelli, S. (2016). Processing and analysis of multichannel extracellular neuronal signals: State-of-the-art and challenges. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 10(248)



## The Ultimate Neuroscience Software Platform

NeuroDebian provides a large collection of popular neuroscience research software for the [Debian](#) operating system as well as [Ubuntu](#) and other derivatives. Popular packages include [AFNI](#), [FSL](#), [PyMVPA](#) and [many others](#). While we do strive to maintain a high level of quality, we make no guarantee that a given package works as expected, so use them at your own risk. If you do encounter problems or you just like to say thanks, simply [send us an email](#).

Learn more about NeuroDebian, the goals of this project, and help us [spread the word about NeuroDebian](#)!

Halchenko, Y. O. & Hanke, M. (2012). [Open is not enough. Let's take the next step: An integrated, community-driven computing platform for neuroscience](#). *Frontiers in Neuroinformatics*, 6:22.

[\[more publications\]](#)

[...] *The only way to conduct reliable and reproducible science is to use open source software [...]. NeuroDebian is by far the most advanced undertaking for such a scientific approach in the neuroscience community.*

— **Valentin Haenel** [2010-09-17]

Psignift and pyoptical developer, Modellierung Kognitiver Prozesse, Technische Universität, Berlin, Germany

[\[more testimonials\]](#)

## Get NeuroDebian

First select what kind of operating system you are using, and then choose a download server close to you:

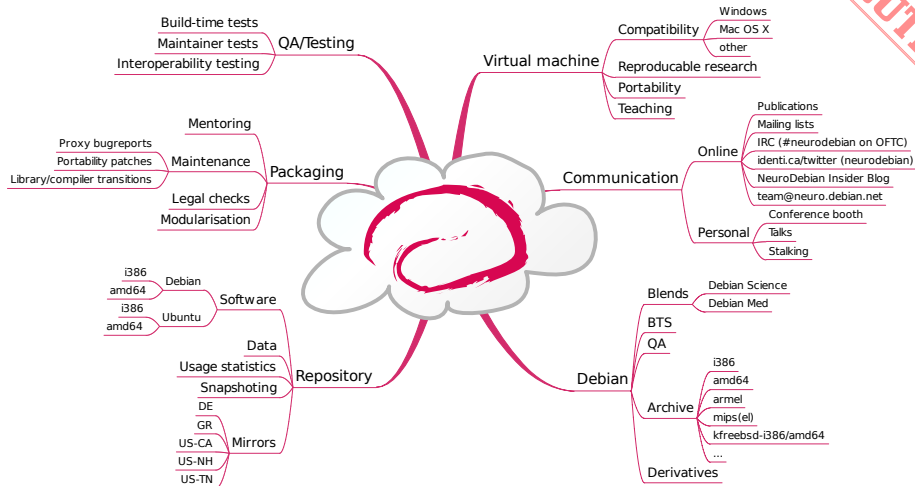
## News

Tweets by [@NeuroDebian](#)



# What are the *inside outs* of NeuroDebian?

CONTRIBUTE



Aforementioned software  
is nearly useless  
without data

# Reusable artifacts: Data providers #1

Human Connectome Project [db.humanconnectome.org](https://db.humanconnectome.org) :

Multi-institution effort collecting a rich curated MRI, fMRI, DTI, MEG data (current release - 900 subjects, pre-processed data available) (planned for DataLad [#579](#))

## Reusable artifacts: Data providers #2

CONTRIBUTE

**OpenfMRI** [openfmri.org](https://openfmri.org) :

a wide (49 datasets ATM) collection of (primarily fMRI/MRI) datasets (not pre-processed) across different tasks with a unified file system hierarchy (available through DataLad)

**Study Forrest** [studyforrest.org](https://studyforrest.org) :

multifaceted MRI, fMRI (including 7T), DTI, EEG data with stimuli annotations while subjects experienced rich natural stimulation (Forrest Gump movie) (available through DataLad)

**Academic Torrents** [academictorrents.com](https://academictorrents.com) :

a growing collection of datasets (including MRI) distributed as Torrents (planned for DataLad #30)

**NITRC Image Repository** [www.nitrc.org/ir](http://www.nitrc.org/ir) :

hosts 14 data projects (including 1000 FCP)

**INDI** [fcon\\_1000.projects.nitrc.org](https://fcon_1000.projects.nitrc.org) :

The International Neuroimaging Datasharing Initiative (INDI) collecting and curating submissions for a wide variety of datasets (planned for DataLad #580)

# Reusable artifacts: Data access/(re-)sharing

CONTRIBUTE

**nilearn** [datasets](#) :

Unified API for downloading some popular atlases and datasets (e.g. Haxby 2001)

**Nidata** [nidata.github.io](#) :

Python module with unified access to a good range of popular datasets (from OpenfMRI, HCP, etc)

**DataLad** [datalad.org](#) :

uses your favorite git (+[git-annex](#)) to

- provide unified access to various data sources
- automate scraping of such datasets from the web resources
- publish your new or derived data (again, under git control)

Discover more about DataLad at our DataLad/NeuroDebian exhibit table, poster 1855 (June 28: 12:45 PM-02:45 PM), talk (11:08 AM, Room K, Level 2)

**Git-RDM** [github.com/ctjacobs/git-rdm](#) :

a git “plugin” to publish data to Zenodo or Figshare





# Let's become a “collective PR4NI mind”

- resources (humans, software, data) for PR4NI are vast
- the field evolves with tremendous pace and classical models (dead tree papers, “research non-parasites”, etc.) are inefficient and do not scale
- do not just (ab)use resources – become a (part of the) resource!
- when or where possible – (re)use and/or enhance existing resources instead of investing into a “new” duplicate
- automate and stay efficient
- test and validate
- share and contribute back (*i.e.*, collaborate)

**Brain Download:**



**iz compltes.**

Thank you!

# References

- Grootswagers, T., Wardle, S. G., and Carlson, T. A. (2016). Decoding dynamic brain patterns from evoked responses: A tutorial on multivariate pattern analysis applied to time-series neuroimaging data. *ArXiv e-prints*.
- Halchenko, Y. O. (2015). Overview of statistical evaluation techniques adopted by publicly available MVPA toolboxes. Organization of Human Brain Mapping Annual Meeting, Honolulu HI, USA. Talk.
- Mahmud, M. and Vassanelli, S. (2016). Processing and analysis of multichannel extracellular neuronal signals: State-of-the-art and challenges. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 10(248).

# Who is NeuroDebian for?

CONTRIBUTE

You want to . . .

- use a **rock-solid** operating system
- have **readily usable and the latest** software at your fingertips
- **try something new**, without investing much time
- offer **students** a fully functional “take-away” research environment
- **efficiently collaborate** with other researchers
- **waste less time** maintaining computers
- have **your own software** easily available for others to use
- **develop software** without worrying about dependencies