

Thanks to everybody who attended the DFWG meeting for your very active participation. I thought I would get these action items out as soon as possible--the synopsis of the meeting will follow in a few weeks after I get the transcripts.

Action Items for NIFTI1

NIFTI1 Document (J. Ashburner, R. Cox, S. Smith, S. Strother, J. Woodward) Steve Smith will send notes to Bob Cox regarding fields and uses proposed for those fields, in the context of ANALYZE. The group will then write a document to specify and define how to implement this format. Ideally, the document (or subsequent drafts) might serve as a tutorial to the field, so things should be spelled out at levels and extents appropriate for such a use. The document should include details of major ANALYZE header variations in FSL, SPM and AFNI as listed during meeting--we should ask for the same information from Brain Voyager. Drafts to be posted on DFWG web site and e-mailed to committee members requesting comments.
Target date: May 6

NIFTI1 Document Cover Letter #1 (Steve Strother, et al.) Cover letter to ANALYZE contacts is drafted and comments from DFWG solicited and incorporated.
Target Date: May 7

NIFTI1 Document Cover Letter #2 (Steve Strother, et al.) If no insurmountable obstacles are voiced by ANALYZE contacts, a cover letter to fMRI research community is drafted and comments from DFWG solicited and incorporated.
Target Date: June 1

Circulate NIFTI1 Document to fMRI Community (M. Huerta, et al.) Names and email addresses will be gathered from DFWG and others to assure wide coverage of fMRI research community, and emails will be sent. Comments will be solicited from community.
Target Date: June 1

Organization for Human Brain Mapping Meeting (DFWG) DFWG will try to get together at this meeting and Steve Strother will see whether there are any opportunities to discuss DFWG at the meeting.
Target Dates: June 18 - 22

NIFTI1 into SPM, AFNI, and FSL (J. Ashburner, R. Cox, and S. Smith, respectively) Code will be written to accommodate NIFTI1 into these packages.
Target Date: August 1

Next DFWG Meeting (DFWG) Next two day meeting -- will consider inviting an HDF5 expert as a guest speaker.
Target Dates: Late August.

Action Items for Complex Format

Complex Format Document (C. Holmes, D. Rex, and J. Woodward) Document to describe reasons that a complex format is needed by fMRI research community (e.g., to store collections of information with complex relationships with each other, augment internal consistency, capacity for low-level metadata, etc.), and give specific examples of these. Document should describe desired features, fields, and characteristics of a complex format in the context of ongoing efforts in MINC and HDF5. Also to be considered and described are aspects that would be insurmountable obstacles (showstoppers) to the use of future versions of MINC or HDF5 as the DFWG complex format.
Target Date: July 1

Explore HDF5 Capabilities (K. Fissell, C. Holmes, and D. Rex) A statement assessing whether HDF5 seems appropriate and well suited for complex format.
Target Date: July 1

HDF5 Interoperability with Matlab (J. Ashburner) This will be examined and findings will be shared with DFWG.
Target Date: July 1

Action Items for MetaData Format

fMRIDC Paper (J. Woodward)

J. Woodward will send fMRIDC paper on fMRI ontology to M. Huerta as soon as a submitted version is available for confidential circulation among committee members.

Target Date: As soon as appropriate

Metadata Development Document (J. Lancaster, J. Woodward, S. Smith) A document will be drafted to describe pros and cons of adopting fMRIDC ontology as standard for development of translators to major analysis packages.

Target Date: August 1