

# Package ‘RNiftyReg’

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**Title** Image Registration Using the NiftyReg Library

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**Imports** ore, Rcpp, splines, stats, utils

**Suggests** jpeg, png, mmand, testthat (>= 0.11.0)

**Enhances** oro.nifti

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppEigen

**Description** Provides an R interface to the NiftyReg image registration tools <<http://sourceforge.net/projects/niftyreg/>>. Linear and nonlinear registration are supported, in two and three dimensions.

**License** GPL-2

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applyTransform	<i>Apply a precomputed transformation</i>
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### Description

This function allows a precomputed transformation to be applied to a new image or set of points.

### Usage

```
applyTransform(transform, x, interpolation = 3L, nearest = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

transform	A transform, possibly obtained from <a href="#">forward</a> or <a href="#">reverse</a> .
x	A numeric vector, representing a pixel/voxel location in source space, or a matrix with rows representing such points, or an image with the same dimensions as the original source image.
interpolation	A single integer specifying the type of interpolation to be applied to the final resampled image. May be 0 (nearest neighbour), 1 (trilinear) or 3 (cubic spline). No other values are valid.
nearest	Logical value: if TRUE and x contains points, the nearest voxel centre location in target space will be returned. Otherwise a more precise subvoxel location will be given.

## Details

Points may be transformed from source to target space exactly under an affine transformation, but nonlinear transformation is inexact. Its accuracy will depend to some extent on the density of the control point grid and the geometry of the deformation in the vicinity of the points of interest. Nevertheless, it should be quite sufficient for most purposes.

The method is to first convert the control points to a deformation field (cf. [deformationField](#)), which encodes the location of each target space voxel in the source space. The target voxel closest to the requested location is found by searching through this deformation field, and returned if nearest is TRUE or it coincides exactly with the requested location. Otherwise, a block of four voxels in each dimension around the point of interest is extracted from the deformation field, and the final location is estimated by local cubic spline regression.

## Value

A resampled image or matrix of transformed points.

## Author(s)

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

## See Also

[niftyreg.linear](#), [niftyreg.nonlinear](#)

---

buildAffine

*Build an affine matrix up from its constituent transformations*

---

## Description

This function does the opposite to [decomposeAffine](#), building up an affine matrix from its components. It can be useful for testing, or for rescaling images.

## Usage

```
buildAffine(translation = c(0, 0, 0), scales = c(1, 1, 1), skews = c(0, 0, 0),
  angles = c(0, 0, 0), source = NULL, target = NULL,
  anchor = c("none", "origin", "centre", "center"))
```

## Arguments

translation	Translations along each axis, in <a href="#">pixunits</a> units. May also be a list, such as that produced by <a href="#">decomposeAffine</a> , with elements for translation, scales, skews and angles.
scales	Scale factors along each axis.
skews	Skews in the XY, XZ and YZ planes.
angles	Roll, pitch and yaw rotation angles, in radians.

source	The source image for the transformation (required).
target	The target image for the transformation. If NULL (the default), it will be equal to source, or a rescaled version of it if any of the scales are not 1. In the latter case the scales will be reset back to 1 to produce the right effect.
anchor	The fixed point for the transformation. Setting this parameter to a value other than "none" will override the translation parameter, with the final translation set to ensure that the requested point remains in the same place after transformation.

**Value**

A 4x4 affine matrix representing the composite transformation. Note that NiftyReg affines logically transform backwards, from target to source space, so the matrix may be the inverse of what is expected.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[decomposeAffine](#), [isAffine](#)

---

composeTransforms      *Compose two transformations*

---

**Description**

Compute the composition of two transforms, the single transform that combines their effects in order.

**Usage**

```
composeTransforms(transform1, transform2)
```

**Arguments**

transform1, transform2  
Affine or nonlinear transforms, possibly obtained from [forward](#) or [reverse](#).

**Value**

The composed transform. If both transform1 and transform2 are affines then the result will also be an affine; otherwise it will be a deformation field.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[niftyreg.linear](#), [niftyreg.nonlinear](#), [deformationField](#)

---

decomposeAffine	<i>Decompose an affine matrix into its constituent transformations</i>
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---

**Description**

An affine matrix is composed of translation, scale, skew and rotation transformations. This function extracts these components.

**Usage**

```
decomposeAffine(affine)
```

**Arguments**

`affine`            A 4x4 matrix representing an affine transformation matrix.

**Value**

A list with components:

<code>scaleMatrix</code>	A 3x3 matrix representing only the scale operation embodied in the full affine transformation.
<code>skewMatrix</code>	A 3x3 matrix representing only the skew operation embodied in the full affine transformation.
<code>rotationMatrix</code>	A 3x3 matrix representing only the rotation operation embodied in the full affine transformation.
<code>translation</code>	A length-3 named numeric vector representing the translations (in <a href="#">pixunits</a> units) in each of the X, Y and Z directions.
<code>scales</code>	A length-3 named numeric vector representing the scale factors in each of the X, Y and Z directions. Scale factors of 1 represent no effect.
<code>skews</code>	A length-3 named numeric vector representing the skews in each of the XY, XZ and YZ planes.
<code>angles</code>	A length-3 named numeric vector representing the rotation angles (in radians) about each of the X, Y and Z directions, i.e., roll, pitch and yaw.

**Note**

The decomposition is not perfect, and there is one particular degenerate case when the pitch angle is very close to  $\pi/2$  radians, known as “Gimbal lock”. In this case the yaw angle is arbitrarily set to zero.

Affine matrices embodying rigid-body transformations include only 6 degrees of freedom, rather than the full 12, so skews will always be zero and scales will always be unity (to within rounding error). Likewise, affine matrices derived from 2D registration will not include components relating to the Z direction.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[buildAffine](#), [isAffine](#)

---

deformationField      *Calculate the deformation field for a transformation*

---

**Description**

This function is used to calculate the deformation field corresponding to a specified linear or nonlinear transformation. The deformation field gives the location in source image space corresponding to the centre of each voxel in target space. It is used as a common form for linear and nonlinear transformations, and allows them to be visualised.

**Usage**

```
deformationField(transform, jacobian = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

transform	A transform, possibly obtained from <a href="#">forward</a> or <a href="#">reverse</a> .
jacobian	A logical value: if TRUE, a Jacobian determinant map is also calculated and returned in an attribute.

**Value**

An "internalImage" representing the deformation field. If requested, the Jacobian map is stored in an attribute, which can be extracted using the [jacobian](#) accessor function.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[niftyreg.linear](#), [niftyreg.nonlinear](#)

---

dim.internalImage      *Internal images*

---

### Description

An internal image is a simple R object with a few attributes including a pointer to an internal C structure, which contains the full image data. They are used in the package for efficiency, but can be converted to a normal R array using the `as.array` method. Attributes of these objects should not be changed.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'internalImage'  
dim(x)  
  
## S3 replacement method for class 'internalImage'  
dim(x) <- value  
  
## S3 method for class 'internalImage'  
as.array(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	An "internalImage" object.
value	Not used. Changing the dimensions of an internal image is invalid, and will produce an error.
...	Additional parameters to methods. Currently unused.

### Author(s)

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

---

dumpNifti      *Dump the contents of an internal NIFTI-1 object*

---

### Description

This function extracts the contents of an internal NIFTI-1 object into an R list. No processing is done to the elements.

### Usage

```
dumpNifti(image)
```

**Arguments**

image            An image, in any acceptable form (see [isImage](#)).

**Value**

A list with named components corresponding to the elements in a raw NIfTI-1 file.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**References**

The NIfTI-1 standard (<http://nifti.nimh.nih.gov/nifti-1>).

---

forward	<i>Extract forward and reverse transformations</i>
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**Description**

These functions extract forward and reverse transformations in a form compatible with [applyTransform](#) and other functions. They are (S3) generic, but only methods for "niftyreg" objects currently exist.

**Usage**

```
forward(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'niftyreg'
forward(object, i = 1, ...)

reverse(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'niftyreg'
reverse(object, i = 1, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object            An R object.

...                Additional arguments. Not currently used.

i                  The transformation number to extract. There will only be more than one in the case of multiple registration.

**Value**

A transformation object, an image or affine matrix, with suitable attributes giving pointers to source and target images. If there is no transformation information in the object then NULL is returned.



**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[niftyreg](#), [applyTransform](#)

---

halfTransform	<i>Calculate a half transformation</i>
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---

**Description**

This function calculates the half-way transformation corresponding to its argument. Applying this transformation results in points or images in a space halfway between the original source and target images, which can be a useful common space in some applications.

**Usage**

```
halfTransform(transform)
```

**Arguments**

transform      A transform, possibly obtained from [forward](#) or [reverse](#).

**Value**

The half-way transform, in a similar format to transform.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[niftyreg.linear](#), [niftyreg.nonlinear](#)

---

invertAffine	<i>Invert an affine matrix</i>
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**Description**

This function is used to invert an affine matrix. It is a wrapper around [solve](#), which additionally sets appropriate attributes.

**Usage**

```
invertAffine(affine)
```

**Arguments**

affine            An existing 4x4 affine matrix.

**Value**

The inverted affine matrix.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[solve](#)

**Examples**

```
affine <- readAffine(system.file("extdata","affine.txt",package="RNiftyReg"))
print(affine)
print(invertAffine(affine))
```

---

isAffine	<i>Check whether an object is an affine matrix</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

This function returns a logical value indicating whether its argument is, or resembles a 4x4 affine matrix. Affine transformations are a class of linear transformations which preserve points, straight lines and planes, and may consist of a combination of rotation, translation, scale and skew operations.

**Usage**

```
isAffine(object, strict = FALSE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'affine'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	Any R object.
strict	If TRUE, this function just tests whether the object is of class "affine". Otherwise it also tests for an affine-like 4x4 matrix.
x	An "affine" object.
...	Additional parameters to methods. Currently unused.

**Value**

A logical value, which is TRUE if object appears to be an affine matrix.

**Note**

2D affines are a subset of 3D affines, and are stored in a 4x4 matrix for internal consistency, even though a 3x3 matrix would suffice.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

---

isImage	<i>Test whether an object represents an image</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

This function tried to determine whether an object is an image that the package knows how to handle. If its class is "nifti", "niftiImage" or "internalImage", then the result is always TRUE. Likewise if it has an internal image pointer (although in that case it should also be of class "niftiImage"). If it has no dim attribute, or looks like an affine matrix, then the result is FALSE. Otherwise the value of the unsure argument is returned.

**Usage**

```
isImage(object, unsure = NA)
```

**Arguments**

object	An R object.
unsure	The value to return if the function can't tell whether or not the object is an image.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

---

jacobian

*Extract a Jacobian determinant map*

---

**Description**

This function extracts the Jacobian determinant map associated with a deformation field.

**Usage**

```
jacobian(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` An R object, probably a deformation field.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[deformationField](#)

---

ndim

*Number of dimensions*

---

**Description**

This function is shorthand for `length(dim(object))`.

**Usage**

```
ndim(object)
```

**Arguments**

`object` An R object.

**Value**

The dimensionality of the object. Objects without a `dim` attribute will produce zero.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

niftyreg

*Two and three dimensional image registration***Description**

The `niftyreg` function performs linear or nonlinear registration for two and three dimensional images. 4D images may also be registered volumewise to a 3D image, or 3D images slicewise to a 2D image. This function is a common wrapper for `niftyreg.linear` and `niftyreg.nonlinear`.

**Usage**

```
niftyreg(source, target, scope = c("affine", "rigid", "nonlinear"),
  init = NULL, sourceMask = NULL, targetMask = NULL, symmetric = TRUE,
  estimateOnly = FALSE, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'niftyreg'
as.array(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>source</code>	The source image, an object of class <code>"nifti"</code> or <code>"internalImage"</code> , or a plain array, or a NIfTI-1 filename. Must have 2, 3 or 4 dimensions.
<code>target</code>	The target image, an object of class <code>"nifti"</code> or <code>"internalImage"</code> , or a plain array, or a NIfTI-1 filename. Must have 2 or 3 dimensions.
<code>scope</code>	A string describing the scope, or number of degrees of freedom (DOF), of the registration. The currently supported values are <code>"affine"</code> (12 DOF), <code>"rigid"</code> (6 DOF) or <code>"nonlinear"</code> (high DOF, with the exact number depending on the image sizes).
<code>init</code>	Transformation(s) to be used for initialisation, which may be <code>NULL</code> , for no initialisation, or an affine matrix or control point image (nonlinear only). For multiple registration, where the source image has one more dimension than the target, this may also be a list whose components are likewise <code>NULL</code> or a suitable initial transform.
<code>sourceMask</code>	An optional mask image in source space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration. Ignored when <code>symmetric</code> is <code>FALSE</code> .
<code>targetMask</code>	An optional mask image in target space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration.
<code>symmetric</code>	Logical value. Should forward and reverse transformations be estimated simultaneously?
<code>estimateOnly</code>	Logical value: if <code>TRUE</code> , transformations will be estimated, but images will not be resampled.
<code>...</code>	Further arguments to <code>niftyreg.linear</code> or <code>niftyreg.nonlinear</code> .
<code>x</code>	A <code>"niftyreg"</code> object.

**Value**

A list of class "niftyreg" with components:

image	An array representing the registered and resampled source image in the space of the target image. This element is NULL if the estimateOnly parameter is TRUE.
forwardTransforms	A list of (linear or nonlinear) transformations from source to target space.
reverseTransforms	A list of (linear or nonlinear) transformations from target to source space.
iterations	A list of integer vectors, giving the number of iterations completed at each "level" of the algorithm. Note that for the first level of the linear algorithm specifically, twice the specified number of iterations is allowed.
source	An internal representation of the source image for each registration.
target	An internal representation of the target image.

The `as.array` method for this class returns the image element.

**Note**

If substantial parts of the target image are zero-valued, for example because the target image has been brain-extracted, it can be useful to pass it as a target mask as well as the target image, viz. `niftyreg(source, target, targetMask=target)`.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

**References**

Please see [niftyreg.linear](#) or [niftyreg.nonlinear](#) for references relating to each type of registration.

**See Also**

[niftyreg.linear](#) and [niftyreg.nonlinear](#), which do most of the work. Also, [forward](#) and [reverse](#) to extract transformations, and [applyTransform](#) to apply them to new images or points.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
source <- readNifti(system.file("extdata", "epi_t2.nii.gz",
  package="RNiftyReg"))
target <- readNifti(system.file("extdata", "flash_t1.nii.gz",
  package="RNiftyReg"))

result <- niftyreg(source, target, scope="affine")

## End(Not run)
```

---

niftyreg.linear      *Two and three dimensional linear image registration*

---

### Description

The `niftyreg.linear` function performs linear registration for two and three dimensional images. 4D images may also be registered volumewise to a 3D image, or 3D images slicewise to a 2D image. Rigid-body (6 degrees of freedom) and affine (12 degrees of freedom) registration can currently be performed.

### Usage

```
niftyreg.linear(source, target, scope = c("affine", "rigid"), init = NULL,
  sourceMask = NULL, targetMask = NULL, symmetric = TRUE, nLevels = 3L,
  maxIterations = 5L, useBlockPercentage = 50L, interpolation = 3L,
  verbose = FALSE, estimateOnly = FALSE, sequentialInit = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

source	The source image, an object of class "nifti" or "internalImage", or a plain array, or a NIFTI-1 filename. Must have 2, 3 or 4 dimensions.
target	The target image, an object of class "nifti" or "internalImage", or a plain array, or a NIFTI-1 filename. Must have 2 or 3 dimensions.
scope	A string describing the scope, or number of degrees of freedom (DOF), of the registration. The currently supported values are "affine" (12 DOF), "rigid" (6 DOF) or "nonlinear" (high DOF, with the exact number depending on the image sizes).
init	Transformation(s) to be used for initialisation, which may be NULL, for no initialisation, or an affine matrix or control point image (nonlinear only). For multiple registration, where the source image has one more dimension than the target, this may also be a list whose components are likewise NULL or a suitable initial transform.
sourceMask	An optional mask image in source space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration. Ignored when symmetric is FALSE.
targetMask	An optional mask image in target space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration.
symmetric	Logical value. Should forward and reverse transformations be estimated simultaneously?
nLevels	A single integer specifying the number of levels of the algorithm that should be applied. If zero, no optimisation will be performed, and the final affine matrix will be the same as its initialisation value.
maxIterations	A single integer specifying the maximum number of iterations to be used within each level. Fewer iterations may be used if a convergence test deems the process to have completed.

useBlockPercentage	A single integer giving the percentage of blocks to use for calculating correspondence at each step of the algorithm. The blocks with the highest intensity variance will be chosen.
interpolation	A single integer specifying the type of interpolation to be applied to the final resampled image. May be 0 (nearest neighbour), 1 (trilinear) or 3 (cubic spline). No other values are valid.
verbose	A single logical value: if TRUE, the code will give some feedback on its progress; otherwise, nothing will be output while the algorithm runs. Run time can be seconds or more, depending on the size and dimensionality of the images.
estimateOnly	Logical value: if TRUE, transformations will be estimated, but images will not be resampled.
sequentialInit	If TRUE and source has higher dimensionality than target, transformations which are not explicitly initialised will begin from the result of the previous registration.

## Details

This function performs the dual operations of finding a transformation to optimise image alignment, and resampling the source image into the space of the target image.

The algorithm is based on a block-matching approach and Least Trimmed Squares (LTS) fitting. Firstly, the block matching provides a set of corresponding points between a target and a source image. Secondly, using this set of corresponding points, the best rigid or affine transformation is evaluated. This two-step loop is repeated until convergence to the best transformation is achieved.

In the NiftyReg implementation, normalised cross-correlation between the target and source blocks is used to evaluate correspondence. The block width is constant and has been set to 4 voxels. A coarse-to-fine approach is used, where the registration is first performed on down-sampled images (using a Gaussian filter to resample images), and finally performed on full resolution images.

The source image may have 2, 3 or 4 dimensions, and the target 2 or 3. The dimensionality of the target image determines whether 2D or 3D registration is applied, and source images with one more dimension than the target (i.e. 4D to 3D, or 3D to 2D) will be registered volumewise or slicewise, as appropriate. In the latter case the last dimension of the resulting image is taken from the source image, while all other dimensions come from the target. One affine matrix is returned for each registration performed.

## Value

See [niftyreg](#).

## Author(s)

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

## References

The algorithm used by this function is described in the following publication.

M. Modat, D.M. Cash, P. Daga, G.P. Winston, J.S. Duncan & S. Ourselin (2014). Global image registration using a symmetric block-matching approach. *Journal of Medical Imaging* 1(2):024003.



**See Also**

[niftyreg](#), which can be used as an interface to this function, and [niftyreg.nonlinear](#) for non-linear registration. Also, [forward](#) and [reverse](#) to extract transformations, and [applyTransform](#) to apply them to new images or points.

---

niftyreg.nonlinear      *Two and three dimensional nonlinear image registration*

---

**Description**

The `niftyreg.nonlinear` function performs nonlinear registration for two and three dimensional images. 4D images may also be registered volumewise to a 3D image, or 3D images slicewise to a 2D image. The warping is based on free-form deformations, parameterised using an image of control points.

**Usage**

```
niftyreg.nonlinear(source, target, init = NULL, sourceMask = NULL,
  targetMask = NULL, symmetric = TRUE, nLevels = 3L,
  maxIterations = 150L, nBins = 64L, bendingEnergyWeight = 0.001,
  linearEnergyWeight = 0.01, jacobianWeight = 0, finalSpacing = c(5, 5,
  5), spacingUnit = c("voxel", "world"), interpolation = 3L,
  verbose = FALSE, estimateOnly = FALSE, sequentialInit = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

source	The source image, an object of class "nifti" or "internalImage", or a plain array, or a NIFTI-1 filename. Must have 2, 3 or 4 dimensions.
target	The target image, an object of class "nifti" or "internalImage", or a plain array, or a NIFTI-1 filename. Must have 2 or 3 dimensions.
init	Transformation(s) to be used for initialisation, which may be NULL, for no initialisation, or an affine matrix or control point image (nonlinear only). For multiple registration, where the source image has one more dimension than the target, this may also be a list whose components are likewise NULL or a suitable initial transform.
sourceMask	An optional mask image in source space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration. Ignored when <code>symmetric</code> is FALSE.
targetMask	An optional mask image in target space, whose nonzero region will be taken as the region of interest for the registration.
symmetric	Logical value. Should forward and reverse transformations be estimated simultaneously?
nLevels	A single integer specifying the number of levels of the algorithm that should be applied. If zero, no optimisation will be performed, and the final control-point image will be the same as its initialisation value.

maxIterations	A single integer specifying the maximum number of iterations to be used within each level. Fewer iterations may be used if a convergence test deems the process to have completed.
nBins	A single integer giving the number of bins to use for the joint histogram created by the algorithm.
bendingEnergyWeight	A numeric value giving the weight of the bending energy term in the cost function.
linearEnergyWeight	A numeric value giving the weight of the linear energy term in the cost function.
jacobianWeight	A numeric value giving the weight of the Jacobian determinant term in the cost function.
finalSpacing	A numeric vector giving the spacing of control points in the final grid, along the X, Y and Z directions respectively. This is set from the initial control point image, if one is supplied.
spacingUnit	A character string giving the units in which the finalSpacing is specified: either "voxel" for pixels/voxels, or "world" for real-world units (see <a href="#">pixunits</a> ).
interpolation	A single integer specifying the type of interpolation to be applied to the final resampled image. May be 0 (nearest neighbour), 1 (trilinear) or 3 (cubic spline). No other values are valid.
verbose	A single logical value: if TRUE, the code will give some feedback on its progress; otherwise, nothing will be output while the algorithm runs. Run time can be seconds or more, depending on the size and dimensionality of the images.
estimateOnly	Logical value: if TRUE, transformations will be estimated, but images will not be resampled.
sequentialInit	If TRUE and source has higher dimensionality than target, transformations which are not explicitly initialised will begin from the result of the previous registration.

## Details

This function performs the dual operations of finding a transformation to optimise image alignment, and resampling the source image into the space of the target image (and vice-versa, if `symmetric` is TRUE). Unlike `niftyreg.linear`, this transformation is nonlinear, and the degree of deformation may vary across the image.

The nonlinear warping is based on free-form deformations. A lattice of equally-spaced control points is defined over the target image, each of which can be moved to locally modify the mapping to the source image. In order to assess the quality of the warping between the two images, an objective function based on the normalised mutual information is used, with penalty terms based on the bending energy or the squared log of the Jacobian determinant. The objective function value is optimised using a conjugate gradient scheme.

The source image may have 2, 3 or 4 dimensions, and the target 2 or 3. The dimensionality of the target image determines whether 2D or 3D registration is applied, and source images with one more dimension than the target (i.e. 4D to 3D, or 3D to 2D) will be registered volumewise or slicewise, as appropriate. In the latter case the last dimension of the resulting image is taken from the source image, while all other dimensions come from the target. One image of control points is returned for each registration performed.

**Value**

See [niftyreg](#).

**Note**

Performing a linear registration first, and then initialising the nonlinear transformation with the result (via the `init` parameter), is highly recommended in most circumstances.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**References**

The algorithm used by this function is described in the following publication.

M. Modat, G.R. Ridgway, Z.A. Taylor, M. Lehmann, J. Barnes, D.J. Hawkes, N.C. Fox & S. Ourselin (2010). Fast free-form deformation using graphics processing units. *Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine* 98(3):278-284.

**See Also**

[niftyreg](#), which can be used as an interface to this function, and [niftyreg.linear](#) for linear registration. Also, [forward](#) and [reverse](#) to extract transformations, and [applyTransform](#) to apply them to new images or points.

---

pixdim	<i>Pixel dimensions and units</i>
--------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

These functions return the "pixdim" and "pixunits" attributes of their arguments. These represent the physical step size between pixel or voxel centre points, and the spatial and temporal units that they are given in. The former defaults to 1 in each dimension, if there is no attribute.

**Usage**

```
pixdim(object)
```

```
pixdim(object) <- value
```

```
pixunits(object)
```

**Arguments**

`object` An R object, generally an image.

`value` Numeric vector of pixel dimensions along each axis. A scalar value will be recycled if necessary.

**Value**

`pixdim` returns a numeric vector of pixel dimensions. `pixunits` returns a character vector of length up to two, giving the spatial and temporal unit names.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

---

`readAffine`                      *Read an affine matrix from a file*

---

**Description**

This function is used to read a 4x4 numeric matrix representing an affine transformation from a file. It is a wrapper around `read.table` which additionally ensures that required attributes are set. The type of the matrix must be specified, as there are differing conventions across software packages.

**Usage**

```
readAffine(fileName, source = NULL, target = NULL, type = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>fileName</code>	A string giving the file name to read the affine matrix from.
<code>source</code>	The source image for the transformation. If <code>NULL</code> , the file will be searched for a comment specifying the path to a NIFTI file.
<code>target</code>	The target image for the transformation. If <code>NULL</code> , the file will be searched for a comment specifying the path to a NIFTI file.
<code>type</code>	The type of the affine matrix, which describes what convention it is stored with. Currently valid values are "niftyreg" and "fsl" (for FSL FLIRT). If <code>NULL</code> , the function will look in the file for a comment specifying the type.

**Value**

An matrix with class "affine", converted to the NiftyReg convention and with source and target attributes set appropriately.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

**See Also**

[read.table](#), [writeAffine](#)

**Examples**

```
print(readAffine(system.file("extdata", "affine.txt", package="RNiftyReg")))
```

---

readNifti	<i>Read a NIFTI-1 format file</i>
-----------	-----------------------------------

---

### Description

This function reads one or more NIFTI-1 files into R, using the standard NIFTI-1 C library.

### Usage

```
readNifti(file, source = NULL, target = NULL, internal = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

file	A character vector of file names.
source, target	If the specified file contains a transformation, these parameters can be used to specify the associated source and target images, which are stored in attributes of the same name. Only used if file is of unit length.
internal	Logical value. If FALSE (the default), an array of class "niftiImage", containing the image pixel or voxel values, will be returned. If TRUE, the return value will be an object of class "internalImage", which contains only minimal meta-data about the image. Either way, the return value has an attribute which points to a C data structure containing the full image.

### Value

An array or internal image, with class "niftiImage", and possibly also "internalImage".

### Author(s)

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

### References

The NIFTI-1 standard (<http://nifti.nimh.nih.gov/nifti-1>).

### See Also

[writeNifti](#)

---

updateNifti	<i>Update an internal NIFTI-1 object using a template</i>
-------------	---

---

### Description

This function adds or updates the internal NIFTI-1 object for an array, using metadata from the template. The dimensions and, if available, pixel dimensions, from the image will replace those from the template.

### Usage

```
updateNifti(image, template = NULL)
```

### Arguments

image	A numeric array.
template	An image, in any acceptable form (see <a href="#">isImage</a> ). The default of NULL will have no effect.

### Value

A copy of the original image, with its internal image attribute set or updated appropriately.

### Author(s)

Jon Clayden <code@clayden.org>

---

voxelToWorld	<i>Transform points between voxel and “world” coordinates</i>
--------------	---

---

### Description

These functions are used to transform points from dimensionless pixel or voxel coordinates to “real-world” coordinates, typically in millimetres, and back. Actual pixel units can be obtained using the [pixunits](#) function.

### Usage

```
voxelToWorld(points, image, simple = FALSE, ...)
```

```
worldToVoxel(points, image, simple = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

points	A vector giving the coordinates of a point, or a matrix with one point per row.
image	The image in whose space the points are given.
simple	A logical value: if TRUE then the transformation is performed simply by rescaling the points according to the voxel dimensions recorded in the image. Otherwise the full xform matrix is used.
...	Additional arguments to <a href="#">xform</a> .

**Value**

A vector or matrix of transformed points.

**Note**

Voxel coordinates are assumed by these functions to use R's indexing convention, beginning from 1.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

**See Also**

[xform](#), [pixdim](#), [pixunits](#)

---

writeAffine

*Write an affine matrix to a file*

---

**Description**

This function is used to write a 4x4 numeric matrix representing an affine transformation to a file. A comment is also written which specifies the matrix as using the NiftyReg convention, for the benefit of [readAffine](#).

**Usage**

```
writeAffine(affine, fileName)
```

**Arguments**

affine	A 4x4 affine matrix.
fileName	A string giving the file name to write the matrix to.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

**See Also**

[write.table](#), [readAffine](#)

---

writeNifti

*Write a NIfTI-1 format file*

---

**Description**

This function writes an image to NIfTI-1 format, using the standard NIfTI-1 C library.

**Usage**

```
writeNifti(image, file, template = NULL, datatype = "auto")
```

**Arguments**

image	An image, in any acceptable form (see <a href="#">isImage</a> ).
file	A character string containing a file name.
template	An optional template object to derive NIfTI-1 properties from. Passed to <a href="#">updateNifti</a> if image is an array.
datatype	The NIfTI datatype to use when writing the data out. The default, "auto" uses the R type or, for internal images, the original datatype. Other possibilities are "float", "int16", etc., which may be preferred to reduce file size. However, no checks are done to ensure that the coercion maintains precision.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

**References**

The NIfTI-1 standard (<http://nifti.nimh.nih.gov/nifti-1>).

**See Also**

[readNifti](#), [updateNifti](#)



---

`xform`*Obtain or replace the “xform” transforms for an image*

---

**Description**

These functions convert the “qform” or “sform” information in a NIfTI header to or from a corresponding affine matrix. These two “xform” mechanisms are defined by the NIfTI standard, and may both be in use in a particular image header.

**Usage**

```
xform(image, useQuaternionFirst = TRUE)
```

```
qform(x) <- value
```

```
sform(x) <- value
```

**Arguments**

`image, x` An image, in any acceptable form (see [isImage](#)).

`useQuaternionFirst`

A single logical value. If TRUE, the “qform” matrix will be used first, if it is defined; otherwise the “sform” matrix will take priority.

`value` A new 4x4 qform or sform matrix. If the matrix has a “code” attribute, the appropriate qform or sform code is also set.

**Value**

A affine matrix corresponding to the “qform” or “sform” information in the image header. This is a plain matrix, which does not have the “affine” class or source and target attributes.

**Note**

The qform and sform replacement functions are for advanced users only. Modifying the transforms without knowing what you’re doing is usually unwise, as you can make the image object inconsistent.

**Author(s)**

Jon Clayden <[code@clayden.org](mailto:code@clayden.org)>

**References**

The NIfTI-1 standard (<http://nifti.nimh.nih.gov/nifti-1>) is the definitive reference on “xform” conventions.

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