



### High-Resolution Forward Head Modeling and Source Localization Zeynep AKALIN ACAR Swartz Center for Computational Neuroscience EEGLAB workshop, 2021





## Inverse Problem Approaches



### **Equivalent dipole Methods**

- Overdetermined
- Searches for parameters of a number of dipoles
- Nonlinear optimization techniques
- May converge to local minima
- Non-linear least squares, beamforming, MUSIC, simulated annealing, genetic algorithms, etc.

### **Linear distributed Methods**

- Underdetermined
- Searches for activation in given locations.
- Linear optimization techniques
- Needs additional constraints
- Bayesian methods, MNE, LORETA, LAURA, etc.

### Localization of cortical patch sources



- Source space: patches tangent to the cortex.
- 80,000 dipole elements using tessellated FreeSurfer gray matter surface.
- For each dipole element: three gaussian-tapered cortical patches of sizes with geodesic radii of 10 mm, 6 mm, and 3 mm.

### **Comparison of methods**



### Inverse Problem with SCS

- Sparse Compact Smooth (Cao et al. 2012)
  - Generates spatially sparse and maximally compact source distributions.
  - Neurophysiologically plausible for near-dipolar ICs
- Masking-off low-magnitude voxels reduces the goodness of fit significantly
  - Residual Variance (RV) where RV=0 is perfect fit.
  - Due to default "identity" noise model.

### **Estimating Noise Characteristics of ICs**

- Spatial noise covariance matrix can be computed from EEG channel recordings.
- However, we run SCS on IC scalp maps.
  - How can we model noise for individual IC maps?
  - Need more data to generate variability statistics.
- We use RELICA (bootstrap-ICA)
  - 50 bootstrap decompositions of same data
  - Cluster similar IC maps to compute channel statistics.

### **Estimating Noise Characteristics of ICs**

IC 7

- Brain ICs obtained from multimodal AMICA
- RELICA performed on data
  - 50 bootstraps -> 6200 ICs



### **Estimating Noise Characteristics of ICs**



Selected RELICA ICs similar to IC7



Scalp map of IC7



Variance of the selected RELICA ICs Akalin Acar, Makeig, 2020, BIBE

### Source localization flowchart









#### ICA effective source distributions localized by SCALE



Participant P6: STRUM videogame playing task



### Skull conductivity estimation

- We propose a skull conductivity estimation method using independent EEG brain sources.
- Patch-based source localization measures:
  - Source compactness
  - Source projection goodness of fit





 Linearize the forward problem around a conductivity distribution.

# Linearization of the potentials around a conductivity distribution

If we perturb the conductivity values by  $\Delta\sigma$ 

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + \Delta \sigma \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Phi = \Phi_0 + \Delta \Phi$$

For a discretization with N nodes and M elements:

$$A(\sigma)\Phi = b$$

- $\Phi$ : Nx1 vector of unknown node potentials
- $\sigma$ : Mx1 vector of layer conductivities
- A: sparse, symmetric NxN matrix containing geometry and conductivity information
- b: Nx1 primary current density

# Linearization of the potentials around a conductivity distribution

Changes in the potentials at the electrode locations:

$$\Delta \Phi_{s} = -DA(\sigma_{0})^{-1} \frac{\delta A(\sigma)}{\delta \sigma} \bigg|_{(\sigma = \sigma_{0})} \Phi_{0} \Delta \sigma$$
$$\Delta \Phi_{s} = S_{\Phi} \Delta \sigma$$

S: mxM sensitivity matrix

Gencer and Acar, 2004

### Iterative procedure

- 1. Generate a head model NFT
- 2. Calculate the forward model using initial conductivity distribution **NFT**
- 3. Estimate source distribution (for P number of near-dipolar ICA sources) **NIST**
- 4. Calculate the sensitivity matrix.
- 5. Estimate the change in the conductivity values
- 6. Update the conductivity, repeat 2, 3, 4, and 5.

### **Conductivity estimation**

Estimate the conductivity change by minimizing the topological difference between EEG and calculated potential:

$$\Delta \hat{\sigma}_i = \min_{\Delta \sigma} RDM(\Phi_{EEG}, \Phi_i)$$

Since: 
$$\Phi_i = S_i \Delta \sigma_i + \Phi_{i-1}$$

$$\Delta \hat{\sigma}_i = \min_{\Delta \sigma} RDM(\Phi_{EEG}, S_i \Delta \sigma_i + \Phi_i)$$

### Simulation study

20 cortical Gaussian patch sources used in the simulations.



10 mm radius, 3.33 mm std., 128 electrode locations

Simulated EEG: BSCR=25 SCALE initialized at BSCR=80.

### Simulation results



## Real EEG study



Head modeling: NFT is used to generate 4-layer FEM head models. Freesurfer is used to generate cortical source spaces. Subjects: 2 male subjects, ages: 20, 23

MRI data: GE 3T whole head MRI with 1 mm<sup>3</sup> resolution.

EEG data: 128 scalp EEG, (256-Hz sampling rate) collected using a Biosemi Active Two system during an arrow flanker task.

### Independent Components



### Source Compactness

- Generate 9 electrical forward models with BSCR=5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80
- Estimate source distributions for the 13 ICs for each subject.
- Compute compactness.



Maximum compactness occurred at BCSR = 30 for S1 and BSCR = 60 for S2.

### SCALE BSCR convergence







#### 13 component activity on the subject's cortical surface





## NFT code

### https://github.com/sccn/NFT

Demo folders: NFTplugin\_demo\_dipole NFTplugin\_demo\_cortical

https://rdlshare.ucsd.edu/message/U7F0uMivgbGZJur64TXDac

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