#### Why cluster components?



 ICA transforms the data from a channel basis (activity recorded at each channel)

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- to a component basis (activity computed at each independent spatially-filtered cortical or non-cortical component process).
- Normally, EEG researchers assume that electrode, say F7 == F7 == F7 ... in each subject
  – and then 'cluster' their data by channel ...
- But this is only *roughly* correct!















Largest 30 independent components (single subject)

## So how to cluster components?





The same problems hold for clustering independent components

Across Ss, components don't even have "the same" scalp maps!

- $\rightarrow$  Are "the same" components found across subjects?
- What should define "the same" (i.e., "component equivalence")?
  - Similar scalp maps?
  - Similar cortical or 3-D equivalent dipole locations?
  - Similar activity power spectra?
  - Similar ERPs?
  - Similar ERSPs?
  - Similar ITCs?
  - OR ..., Similar *combinations* of the above? ...

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Does the spatial distribution of independent components depend on the task the subject performs?

#### i.e.

### Do "the same" components (and clusters) appear for every task?







>> dipoledensity()

Onton et al., 2005 EEGLAB Workshop V, December, 2007, Santiago, Chile: Scott Makeig – Component Clustering Onton et al., '05

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Letter twoback with feedback

>> dipoledensity()







Auditory oddball plus novel sounds

>> dipoledensity()









Emotion imagery task

>> dipoledensity()

## Equivalent dipole density Exp I









>> dipoledensity()

Onton et al., 2005 EEGLAB Workshop V, December, 2007, Santiago, Chile: Scott Makeig – Component Clustering Onton et al., '05

### Equivalent dipole density Exp II









Visually cued button press task

>> dipoledensity()

Onton et al., 2005 EEGLAB Workshop V, December, 2007, Santiago, Chile: Scott Makeig – Component Clustering Onton et al., '05

#### ... Some caveats





In this preliminary study ...

- The electrode locations were not individualized.
- MR images were not available  $\rightarrow$  co-registration crude.
- Single versus dual-dipole model selection was subjective.
- Different electrode montages  $\rightarrow$  possible location effects









# 

#### **15 subjects**





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#### **Clustering ICA components by eye**

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**Right mu** 



Left mu



EEG<u>t</u>∉(

Makeig et al., submitted

#### **Semi-automated clustering**





• Clustered components from 15 Ss using a 'component distance metric' incorporating differences between their (weighted) scalp maps, dipole locations, spectra, ERP, ERSP, and ITC patterns.

Hand-adjusted clusters to remove outliers.

• Determined time/frequency regions of significant ERSP and ITC for each component using permutation-based statistics.

• Used binomial statistics to highlight time/frequency regions significantly active within clusters.









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#### A FMO cluster during working memory

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EEGLAB Workshop V, December, 2007, Santiago, Chile: Sc

Onton et al., NeuroImage 2005

#### Are obtained component clusters "real"?



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- Naïve realism (a.k.a. "expertise")
  - "Yes! ... because I know one when I see one!"
    - "If it appears where Mu components appear,

and acts like Mu components act,

then it IS a Mu component!"

- **Convergent evidence** (a.k.a., "doublechecking")
  - Two possible approaches:
    - Cluster on PLACE → Check ACTIVITY consistency (re task)
    - Cluster on ACTIVITY → Check PLACE consistency
- Absolute truth:
  - More ideal forward and inverse models
  - Invasive multiscale recordings + modeling

# Should all subjects be included in each cluster?



#### Why not?

- Different numbers of artifact components (~INR)
- Subject differences!?
- Is my subject group a Gaussian cloud??

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→ subject space



# **EEGLAB clustering procedure**



- I. Identify a set of datasets as an EEGLAB study or 'studyset'.
- 2. Specify the subject **group**, **subject** code, **condition** and **session** of each dataset in the study.
- 3. Identify **components to cluster** in each study dataset.

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- 4. Decide on **component measures** to use in clustering the study and/or to evaluate the obtained component clusters.
- 5. Compute the component measures for each study dataset.
- 6. Cluster the components on these component measures.
- 7. Review the obtained **clusters** (e.g., their scalp maps, dipoles, and activity measures).
- 8. Edit the clusters (manually remove/shift components, make subclusters, merge clusters, re-cluster).
- 9. Perform **signal processing** within or between selected clusters.

## **EEGLAB Clustering strategy**





- 1. Cluster on **multiple measures** (dipole locations, scalp maps, spectra, ERPs, ITCs, ERSPs) in **one or more conditions**.
- 2. Reduce the dimension of each measure to a principal component subspace.
- 3. Compose a PCA-reduced **position vector** for each component.
- 4. Cluster the composed component vectors using k-means or other.
- Use the computed component measures (not PCA-reduced) to visualize the activities and spatial properties of the clustered components.
- 6. Compute and visualize the **cluster-mean measures**.
- 7. Use the **clustered study set data** as input into **std\_** functions.

#### **Beyond Clustering**





# **Component clustering research issues**

Swanz Center for Computational Neuroscience

#### **Issues:**

- Alternative clustering methods (new method soon)
- Clustering goodness-of-fit
- Cluster plotting details
- Add new pre-clustering measures
- Study subject differences!?

#### Plan:

- New EEGLAB 'STUDY.DESIGN' definition:
  - Vector of conditions → uncoupled experimental STUDY.DESIGN structures
  - More flexible and complete STUDY.DESIGN statistics