Modelling temporal structure (in noise and signal)

Mark Woolrich, Christian Beckmann*, Salima Makni & Steve Smith FMRIB, Oxford *Imperial/FMRIB

- temporal noise: modelling temporal autocorrelation
- temporal signal: FLOBS HRF optimal basis functions
- temporal signal: HRF deconvolution
- spatiotemporally structured signal / noise: ICA
- "functional grand-plan": integrating ICA+GLM

Non-independent/Autocorrelation/ Coloured FMRI noise



Even after high-pass filtering, FMRI noise has extra power at low frequencies (positive autocorrelation or temporal smoothness)

Uncorrected, this causes:

- biased stats (increased false positives)
- decreased sensitivity



- FILM is used to fit the GLM voxel-wise in FEAT
- Deals with the autocorrelation *locally* and uses prewhitening

FILM estimates autocorrelation by looking at the residuals of the GLM fit:

$$Y = X\beta + \epsilon$$

residuals = $Y - X\hat{\beta}$



Power vs. freq in the residuals

I) Fit the GLM and estimate the autocorrelation on the residuals





Power vs. freq in the residuals

I) Fit the GLM and estimate the autocorrelation on the residuals

2) Spatially and spectrally smooth the data







frequency





Dealing with Variations in Haemodynamics

- The haemodynamic responses vary between subjects and areas of the brain
- How do we allow haemodynamics to be flexible but remain plausible?
 Samples of the HRF



Reminder: the haemodynamic response function (HRF) describes the BOLD response to a short burst of neural activity



Temporal Derivatives

- A very simple approach to providing HRF variability is to include (alongside each EV) the EV temporal derivative
- Including the temporal derivative of an EV allows for a small shift in time of that EV
- This is based upon a first order Taylor series expansion





Using Parameterised HRFs

• We need to allow flexibility in the shape of the fitted HRF

Parameterise HRF shape and fit shape parameters to the data



Needs nonlinear fitting - HARD



Using Basis Sets

• We need to allow flexibility in the shape of the fitted HRF

Parameterise HRF shape and fit shape parameters to the data



Needs nonlinear fitting - HARD

We can use **linear basis sets** to span the space of expected HRF shapes



Linear fitting (use GLM) - EASY



How do HRF Basis Sets Work?

Different linear combinations of the basis functions can be used to create different HRF shapes





How do HRF Basis Sets Work?

Different linear combinations of the basis functions can be used to create different HRF shapes





FMRIB's Linear Optimal Basis Set (FLOBS)

Using FLOBS we can:

- Specify a priori expectations of parameterised HRF shapes
- Generate an appropriate basis set







(I) Take samples of the HRF





(2) Perform SVD

(3) Select the top eigenvectors as the optimal basis set







(2) Perform SVD

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(2) Perform SVD

(3) Select the top eigenvectors as the optimal basis set





The resulting basis set can then be used in FEAT

Bayesian Inference



Bayesian Inference



Infer using MCMC

Woolrich et al., TMI, 2004



Temporal deconvolution of FMRI timecourses

- Inputs are raw paradigm (stimulation and "modulation") timecourses
- Model based on Bilinear Dynamical Systems (Penny 2005), where modulatory input changes neural response to stimulation
- What's new:
 - estimate HRF from data
 - full Bayesian inference on model, using VB

Makni, NeuroImage 2008





$$s_n = (a + \boldsymbol{b}^T \boldsymbol{u}_n) s_{n-1} + \boldsymbol{d}^T \boldsymbol{v}_n + w_n,$$

$$\boldsymbol{x}_n = [s_n, s_{n-1}, \dots, s_{n-L+1}]^T,$$

$$y_n = \boldsymbol{h}^T \boldsymbol{x}_n + \boldsymbol{e}_n.$$

(1) Initialisation: choose s^0 and Θ^0 .

(2) Iteration k:

- * Update q(a) using C.2, a is the intrinsic connection coefficient
- * Update q(b) using C.3, b is the modulatory coefficient
- * Update q(d) using C.4, d is the driving coefficient
- * Update q(h) using C.5, h is the HRF
- * Update q(s) using C.6, s is the neuronal response
- * Update $q(s_1)$ using C.7, s_1 is the neuronal response at t = 1
- * Update $q(\phi_w^{-1})$ using C.8, ϕ_w^{-1} is the inverse state noise precision
- * Update $q(\phi_e^{-1})$ using C.9, ϕ_e^{-1} is the inverse space noise precision
- * Compute F^k using D.1.
- (3) Stop when $F^{k} F^{k-1}$ < tolerance value



- To do the Bayes, either:
- MCMC (computer takes ages)
- Variational Bayes (maths takes ages)

0

0

0

0

0

5

5

0

50

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Model-free Functional Data Analysis

MELODIC

Multivariate Exploratory Linear Optimised Decomposition into Independent Components

- decomposes data into a set of statistically independent spatial component maps and associated time courses
- can perform multi-subject/ multi-session analysis
- fully automated (incl. estimation of the number of components)
- inference on IC maps using alternative hypothesis testing



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EDA techniques for FMRI

- are mostly multivariate
- often provide a multivariate linear decomposition:



Data is represented as a 2D matrix and decomposed into factor matrices (or modes)



Model Order Selection

 can estimate the model order from the

> Eigenspectrum of the data covariance matrix (corrected using Wishart random matrix theory)

 approximate the Bayesian evidence for the model order for a probabilistic PCA model (PPCA)







Probabilistic ICA

GLM analysis

standard ICA (unconstrained)













Probabilistic ICA

GLM analysis



probabilistic ICA







Probabilistic ICA

GLM analysis



- designed to address the 'overfitting problem':
 - tries to avoid generation of 'spurious' results
 - high spatial sensitivity and specificity

probabilistic ICA







Applications

EDA techniques can be useful to

- investigate the BOLD response
- estimate artefacts in the data
- find areas of 'activation' which respond in a nonstandard way
- analyse data for which no model of the BOLD response is available



Investigate BOLD response





standard hrf model





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slice drop-outs

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gradient instability







EPI ghost





high-frequency noise







head motion







field inhomogeneity







eye-related artefacts







eye-related artefacts







eye-related artefacts





Structured Noise and the GLM



- 'structured noise' appears:
 - in the GLM residuals and inflate variance estimates (more false negatives)
 - in the parameter estimates (more false positives and/or false negatives)
- In either case lead to suboptimal estimates and wrong inference!



Structured noise and GLM Z-stats bias

- Correlations of the noise time courses with 'typical' FMRI regressors can cause a shift in the histogram of the Z-statistics
- Thresholded maps will have wrong false-positive rate





Denoising FMRI

 Example: left vs right hand finger tapping

Johansen-Berg et al.

PNAS 2002





Denoising FMRI

 Example: left vs right hand finger tapping







after denoising



Denoising FMRI

before denoising

• Example: left vs right hand finger tapping



LEFT - RIGHT contrast





after denoising



Apparent variability



McGonigle et al.: 33 Sessions under motor paradigm



'de-noising' data by regressing out noise: reduced 'apparent' session variability



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PICA on resting data

- perform ICA on null data and compare spatial maps between subjects/ scans
- ICA maps depict spatially localised and temporally coherent signal changes







Example: ICA maps -I subject at 3 different sessions



Spatial characteristics



Medial visual cortex

Lateral Visual Cortex



Auditory system

Sensori-motor system



Spatial characteristics



Visuospatial system

Executive control



Visual Stream



Vormalised Response

Temporal deconvolution of ICA timecourses

- 'What are the "task-related" components?
- Use explicit time series model on the ICgenerated temporal modes (using BDS)





Example: BDS/ICA integration





GLM





GLM



- + clear conclusions on a particular question
- results depend on the model



PICA





PICA



- + data driven and multivariate approach
- no knowledge about the fMRI paradigm is used
- can be hard to interpret activation results



GLM + ICA





GLM + ICA



- Stimulus model-based hypothesis testing
- Adaptive model-free artefact modelling
 - e.g. stimulus correlated motion, physiological noise, networks of spontaneous neuronal activity



Modelled ICs



Example "model free" IC

