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Brain

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Connectivity measures across Nultiple modalities in Parkinson



Outline

- Motivation
 - Parkinson's disease (PD)
 - Problems with standard fMRI analyses in PD
- Brain Imaging techniques
 - 3D Moment Invariant descriptors of activation
 - fMRI
 - PET
 - Replicator Dynamics
 - PCfdr method for Bayesian Network learning
 - Robust, group LASSO for fMRI connectivity
- Electrophysiology techniques
 - EEG source connectivity
- Multivariate $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Multivariate comparisons
 - Multiblock PLS & EEG-EMG coupling
 - ICA-PLS methods

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What is Parkinson's Disease?



- Tremor
- Stiffness
- Slow movement
- Balance problems

Adapted From: Principles and Practice of Movement Disorders, 5th Ed. Jankovic et al.

Prominent loss of dopaminergic cells in the Substantia Nigra





PD Subject

Clinical symptoms don't become evident until a majority of dopaminergic cells are lost!!

What causes Parkinson's? → Environmental factors

- California –1983
- Attempted to create MPPP, a drug similar to heroin
- In fact created MPTP, a potent neurotoxin which results in something similar to Parkinson's when injected intravenously

Is anything associated with **NOT** developing Parkinson's Disease?



What causes Parkinson's?

 Probably some complex interaction between genetic susceptibility genes and environmental factors that we don't yet fully understand

Early Sign: Loss of Sense of Smell (anosmia)





Early Sign: Depression and Anxiety



Early Sign: Sleep Disturbances



Early Sign: Sleep Disturbances REM Sleep Behaviour Disorder -- RBD



Early Sign: Masked Facies



http://www.vigconic.com/vineuro/eng/user.php http://quizlet.com/10504538/examination-of-the-neck-head-flash-cards/

Early Sign: Small Handwriting (micrographia)



http://wpgchap.blogspot.sg

Early Sign: Stiffness / Neck Pain



http://www.buzzle.com/articles/frozen-shoulder-treatment.html

Early Sign: constipation

- Risk of Parkinson's disease increased if < 1 bowel movement / day at middle age
- Lewy bodies are seen not just in the brain, but in the nervous system of gut
- Surprising relationship between genetic risks for Parkinson's disease and Crohn's disease



Early Sign: Tremor at rest



Parkinson's tremor



http://www.lloydtan-trust.com





Techniques to probe brain function



Techniques to probe brain function



Parkinson's Disease: Clinical Effects of L-dopa treatment can be dramatic



Surprisingly subtle changes in activation due to L-dopa !



• Areas that show decreased activation in Parkinson's.







• Areas that show *increased* activation in Parkinson's.

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Why are traditional fMRI analyses so insensitive to medication effects in Parkinson's ?

- Task activation manifests itself differently than changes in BOLD amplitude at discrete loci
- Increased inter-subject variability
- Increased movement artifact

Most motion correction algorithms INTRODUCE variability in the data



Why we don't routinely register brains for our studies ...

Midbrain of 5 control subjects

Standard Affine



Measurement of Residual Anatomical Variability after Registration

- Dice Similarity Coefficient (DSC)
 - DSC=1 Exact alignment
 - DSC=0 No overlap





c/o Prof. Faisal Beg, SFU

Why we don't routinely register brains for our studies ...

Midbrain of 5 control subjects

Standard Affine

Multi-structure LDDMM



Susceptibility Weighted Imaging (SWI): Correlation with Parkinson's Disease Severity



Determine measures in native (unwarped)space



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Spatial effects of L-dopa medication on fMRI activation maps



Examining the shape ("3D texture") of fMRI activation

For a 3D distribution, in our case a fMRI t-statistics within a specific ROI, the moments of order n=p+q+r are given by:

$$\mu_{pqr} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^p y^q z^r \rho(x, y, z) dx dy dz$$

where (x, y, z) are the spatial coordinates of each voxel and f(x, y, z) is the value of voxel with coordinates (x, y, z) within the ROI.

To obtain invariance to position:

$$\mu_{pqr} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \overline{x})^p (y - \overline{y})^q (z - \overline{z})^r \rho(x, y, z) dx dy dz$$

For invariance to size, we normalize as: $\eta_{pqr} = \frac{\mu_{pqr}}{\frac{p+q+r}{3}+1}$

For invariance to rotation, central moments can be combined in specific ways, for example :

$$\begin{split} J_{1} &= \eta_{200} + \eta_{020} + \eta_{002} \\ J_{2} &= \eta_{200} \eta_{020} + \eta_{200} \eta_{002} + \eta_{020} \eta_{002} - \eta_{101}^{2} - \eta_{110}^{2} - \eta_{011}^{2} \\ J_{3} &= \eta_{200} \eta_{020} \eta_{002} - \eta_{002} \eta_{110}^{2} + 2\eta_{110} \eta_{101} \eta_{011} - \eta_{020} \eta_{101}^{2} - \eta_{200} \eta_{011}^{2} \end{split} \qquad \text{Ng et al. IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging, 2009.} \end{split}$$

Focusing Effect of L-dopa assessed by spatial variance

PD subjects increase their area of activation compared to normal controls. This increased area normalizes after L-dopa





Ng, Palmer, Abugharbieh & McKeown. Focusing Effects of L-dopa in Parkinsons Disease. **Human Brain Mapping** (2009).

PET imaging of the dopamine system





A J Stoessl, W R W Martin, M J McKeown, V Sossi (2011) Advances in Imaging In Parkinson's Disease Lancet Neurology 10: 11. 987-1001
3D Moment Invariants – application to PET imaging in Parkinson's disease





Gonzalez et al. Neuroimage. 2013 Mar;68:11-21.

Areas of activation vs connectivity

- Late 19th Century two opposing view of normal brain function:
- 1. Each cortical area was associated with a particular function (Gall)



2. Normal function required the collaboration between different brain areas (Wernicke) "Any psychic process ... could not be localized, but tested on the mutual interactions of these fundamental psychic elements mediated by means of the ... association fibres"







L-dopa normalizes impaired connectivity

Differences in connectivity patterns (based on an MAR model) between PD and normal controls during performance of bimanual movements



PD Off-med: grey lines (decreased cf controls) mostly decoupling from rest between homologous regions, black lines (increased cf controls) show **increased cerebellar connectivity**.

S J Palmer, L Eigenraam, T Hoque, R G McCaig, A Troiano, M J McKeown (2009) *Levodopa-sensitive, dynamic changes in effective connectivity during simultaneous movements in Parkinson's disease*. Neuroscience 158: 2. 693-704 Jan

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Replicator Dynamics – one way to assess co-varying regions forming networks

Based on theoretical biology

- Have a number of species, w
- Define a static 'fitness' matrix,
 C, which represents interaction between species
- How does the population evolve over generations?

Replicator Dynamics – one way to assess co-varying regions forming networks

Let w(k) be a vector with the jth element being the probability that allele *j* remains in the gene pool during the kth generation and *C* be a 'fitness' matrix with each element reflecting the fitness of a genotype (a pairwise combination of alleles), w(k) can be estimated as follows :

$$w(k+1) = \frac{w(k) \cdot Cw(k)}{w(k)^T Cw(k)}$$

where .* represents element-wise multiplication.

The above equation is a local maximizer of the following optimization problem: $\underset{w}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} w^{T} Cw, \quad subject \ to \left\|w\right\|_{1} = 1, \ w \ge 0$

This provides an elegant solution to the challenging problem of non-negative, sparse PCA.

Group Replicator Dynamics

- Let W(k) be a $N_r \times N_s$ matrix with $w^i(k)$ of each subject along the columns,
 - $W_c(k)$ be the same as W(k) but with the subject mean removed from each row.

To encourage networks comprising the same ROIs, the weight vector of each subject i, $w^i(k)$, is adjusted so that the group entropy is minimized:

$$W(k) = W(k) - \lambda \left((W_{c}(k)W_{c}(k)^{T})^{-1}W_{c}(k) \right)$$

where λ governs the degree of group support.

- This results in highly coherent networks that comprise the same ROIs across subjects but with subject-specific ROI weightings.
- If we consider ROIs as nodes of a graph and elements of C_i as edge weights, we can remove only those edges present in the dominant network, which enables the same ROI to be in multiple networks.

Group Replicator Dynamics in Parkinson's Disease





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Problems with Inferring Connectivity



Issues Related to Bayesian Network Learning

- Accuracy. Error rate control : FDR
 - How many connections are actually true?
 - How many true connections can be detected?
- Efficiency. _____ Group Level PCfdr algorithm
 - Exploratory studies must search through a huge number of possible models to find one or a few that are best supported by data.
- Generality (deal with the inter-subject variability issue).
 - Biomedical research usually involves a group of subjects.





The PCfdr algorithm for Bayesian Network (BN) Learning

PC algorithm is a fast BN learning method.



Estimate the *p*-value between a and b given vertex set C , $P_{a\perp b|C}$ based on partial correlation coefficients.

If $P_{a\perp b|C}$ is larger than the threshold, then remove the edge between **a** and **b**.

 False Discovery Rate (FDR) control procedure.

Given *p-values* of multiplehypothesis testing, it adaptively sets a threshold to control the FDR under user-specified level **q**.



Electrical and Computer Engineering

Li, J and Wang, ZJ. (2009). Controlling the false discovery rate of the association/causality structure learned with the PC algorithm. *The Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 10, 475-514.



Extending the PCfdr algorithm to the group level by embedding the mixed effect model



Estimate the *p-value* between a and b given vertex set C at the group level

 $z_i = z_g + e_i + \mathcal{E}_i$ oject group

subject group level level $e_i \propto N(0, \sigma_a^2)$



Unbalanced case: Restricted Maximum Likelihood (ReML) approach

Balanced case: t-test

 $\varepsilon_i \propto N(0, \sigma_i^2)$

Within-subject variance



A Liu, J Li, Z J Wang, M J McKeown (2012) A Computationally-Efficient, Exploratory Approach to Brain Connectivity Incorporating False Discovery Rate Control, A Priori Knowledge and Group Inference **Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine** (in press)



Altered connectivity in PD subtypes may represent a type of compensation



S J Palmer, J Li, Z J Wang, M J McKeown (2010) Joint amplitude and connectivity compensatory mechanisms in Parkinson's disease. Neuroscience 166: 4. 1110-1118 Apr

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Robust LASSO

- We propose the convex combined loss of l₁ and l₂ norms.
- Special cases:
 - $\delta = 1 \implies$ ordinary LASSO
 - $\delta = 0 \implies$ Regularized Least Absolute Deviation (RLAD).
- More flexibility: the convex combined weight can be tuned to achieve the minimal asymptotic variance.
- Adaptive robust LASSO: allowing unequal penalty weights for different coefficients.



$$L(\mathbf{u}; \mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{x}_i) = \delta \left(\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{u}^* \mathbf{x}_i \right)^2 + (1 - \delta) \left| \mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{u}^* \mathbf{x}_i \right|.$$

Xiaohui Chen, Z Jane Wang, Martin J McKeown (2010) Asymptotic Analysis of Robust LASSOs in the Presence of Noise with Large Variance IEEE Transactions on Information Theory 56: 10. 5131 - 5149 Oct



Group robust LASSO for connectivity utilizing an SEM & AR(1) model



Try to predict a given ROI's time course under the assumptions of:

- Each subject within a given group has the same connectivity (but connection strengths can vary).
- 2) Use current timepoint from all other ROIs and previous timepoint from all ROIs in model

Xiaohui Chen, Z Jane Wang, Martin J McKeown (2010) fMRI Group Studies of Brain Connectivity via A Group Robust LASSO International Conference on Image Processing, September 26-29, Hong Kong. Robust LASSOs

Group Robust Lasso for fMRI Group Analysis



- Reciprocal connections
- Left → right shift
 - Normal: R_SMA R_THA
 - PD: L_SMA L_THA
- Missing connections in PD: R_PFC R_CAU

Incorporating genetic/clinical information into network computations



Liu et al, in preparation

Results



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Techniques to probe brain function



Treatment of Parkinson's Disease: SURGERY



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAfcXakF56Q

Existing EEG Connectivity Measures

Linear	Bivariate	Directional
Nonlinear	Multivariate	Non-directional

Coherence	Linear	Bivariate	Non-directional
Mutual Information	Nonlinear	Bivariate	Non-directional
Granger Causality	Linear	Bivariate	Directional
Multivariate AR- based Measures	Linear	Multivariate	Directional

more robust to noise and computationally efficient

> Electrical and Computer Engineering

more accurate as it accounts for all the covariance structure information from the full data set (Humans poor pattern recognizers in high dimensional states)

 \mathbf{J}

more biologically meaningful as it models causal relationships

Common Challenges in EEG Connectivity Analysis (1)

1) Poor "signal-to-noise" ratio

- Only a small fraction of signal content is task-related
- Noise include measurement noise, eye and movement and non-taskrelated background brain activities
 - → EEG pre-processing or correlate EEG with the task

2) Poor spatial resolution

- Exacerbated by volume conduction.
- Electrical activity of a current source is propagated radially to the scalp and picked up by multiple sensors.
- Leads to spurious correlations between sensor recordings.

➔ Source extraction

Engineering

Spatial overlap





Common Challenges in EEG Connectivity Analysis (2)

- 3) Numerical instability in mAR estimation
 - high EEG dimension + high mAR model order
 - e.g. consider a 10th-order mAR model with 20 channels
 - \rightarrow ~4000 parameters to be estimated
 - → unstable when # samples << # parameters
 - Enforce sparsity
- 4) Inter-subject variability in group pattern inference



Individual-structure Approach



Addressing Problems in the EEG:



Apply to normal and PD subjects to assess effects of disease and medication on motor-related brain connectivity

Partial Directed Coherence

Partial directed coherence (PDC) provides a frequency measure of directional, direct connectivity between multichannel signals based on an multivariate AR (mAR) model.



- PDC values range between 0 (no influence) and 1 (high influence).
- Represent the relative strength of influence of signal *j* on signal *i*, discounting the effects of all other signals

Electrical and Computer Engineering



Sparsity in Connectivity

$$x(t) = \sum_{p=1}^{P} A_p x(t-p) + e(t)$$

- Sparsity on subject-level structure using LASSO
 - penalizes L1 norm of β
 - · favours a solution where most coefficients are zero
- 2. Sparsity on group-level structure using Group LASSO
 - gLASSO divides β into sub-vectors, one for each connection (element i, j at lag p) containing all subjects, and penalizes the sum of their L2 norms

mAR coefficients

ß

e

 $X_{n \times p}$

=

• each sub-vector is either all zero or all nonzero (but can have different values)



Sparsity in Connectivity - Simulations

Simulated a 18-channel, 2^{nd} order mAR model (648 coefficients) with 11 non-zero coefficients. Data length = 2000.



- Regular mAR: The estimated PDC noticeably deviates from the true PDC. The deviation increases as the model order increases.
- Sparse mAR: Regardless the choice of model order, the estimated PDC are very close to true PDC at all frequencies. → address the issue of order selection

Sparsity in Connectivity – Real Data



Predict PD Severity using PDC



Predict PD Severity using Univariate Spectral Power



G Tropini, J Chiang, Z J Wang, E Ty, MJ. McKeown (2011) Altered Directional Connectivity in Parkinson's Disease During Performance of a Visually Guided Task . *Neuroimage* 56: 4. 2144-2156

Source-level Connectivity in the EEG

- Volume conduction causes spurious correlations between sensors
 → analyze EEG connectivity in "source" domain.
- An ill-conditioned inverse problem \rightarrow has no unique solution.
- Dipole Modeling:

•

• Cons: computationally complex and sensitive to: assumed number of active dipoles, head model used, etc.



→ observed signals are linear mixtures of mutually independent sources Cons: brain sources are temporally cross-correlated which contradicts with the independence assumption of ICA

Propose a state-space mAR framework to allow joint modeling of volume conduction and causal relationships between sources

G. Gómez-Herrero, M. Atienza, K. Egiazarian, and J. Cantero, "Measuring directional coupling between EEG sources," Neuroimage, vol. 43, no. 3, pp. 497–508, 2008.



GmAR Source Separation Framework

M-dimensional EEG data vector Electrode level: x(t) = Cs(t)Source level: $s(t) = \sum_{p=1}^{P} A_p s(t-p) + v(t)$ M-dimensional brain sources mAR coefficient matrix, which captures the causal relation-

ships between brain sources

Electrical and

Computer Engineering Mixing matrix modeling the effects of volume conduction. Columns of *C* represents the projection from sources to scalp electrodes.

Residual process whose elements are assumed to be mutually independent and follows a generalized Gaussian distribution.



Generalized Gaussian p(x | R, w)

 \rightarrow Use a maximum likelihood method to estimate C, s(t) and A_p given x(t)



GmAR Source Separation – Group Analysis

How to combine the extracted sources across subjects? >> Clustering







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GmAR-SS Application Parkinson's EEG



Chiang, Z J Wang, M J McKeown (2011) A Generalized Multivariate Autoregressive (GmAR)-Based Approach for EEG Source Connectivity Analysis *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing* 60: 453-465.
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How do we get people with Parkinson's to exercise ?



Courtesy of Dr. Bin Hu, University of Calgary

Encouraging the "right type" of exercise



Mall walking



EEG-EMG coherence



Note:

- 1) Typically only compare 1 EEG channel and 1 sEMG channel at once
- 2) Must average over long duration of contraction to get significant coherence

Cortico-muscular Interactivity



Identify source components from scalp (EEG signals) that are maximally correlated to muscle activity (EMG signals)







Cortico-muscular Interactivity

- Traditional approaches to studying motor control:
 - Look at rectified EMG signals
 - Identify active brain regions via EEG/MEG/LFP during sustained muscle contraction.
- Corticomuscular (EEG/EMG) coupling is typically analyzed using coherence technique.
- Issues with coherence technique:
 - Only a small fraction of the EEG signal content is related to motor control → low coherence value.
 - Coherence replies on pairwise comparisons. However, the mapping between the brain and musculature is many-to-many, as opposed to one-to-one.
- ➔ We propose the Partial Least Square (PLS) method which aims at finding components in two datasets that are maximally covarying.







Experimental Setup



Squeezing task: The subject was instructed to follow the target bar (yellow) as close as possible. The force exerted by the subject was shown by green bar.





Multiblock PLS for EEG-EMG Fusion (2)



- To address this, we introduce the idea of multiblock PLS (mbPLS) which is a two-level, multiple-block extension of the regular PLS.
 - groups data of each subject into individual "subject blocks"
 - aggregates subject-level decompositions to form "super blocks" at the second layer
 - extracts group-level components which exhibit high covariance between predictor block (EEG) and response block (EMG).

allows for some individual variations across subjects, but also, at a second level, allows group inferences to be made.







(e.g., EEG spectrogram or time-varying PDC)







Multi-subject EEG and EMG Coupling

EEG PDC as predictor and **EMG** amplitude as response



exact frequency of maximal EEG-EMG coupling vary across subjects

→ combining coherence results across subject may be difficult

 mbPLS model provides a systematic method to infer common patterns across subjects → allows robust group inference in the face of inter-subject variability

J Chiang, Z J Wang, M J McKeown (2012) A multiblock PLS model of cortico-cortical and corticomuscular interactions in Parkinson's disease *Neuroimage* 63: 3. 1498-509

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A Joint PLS-ICA framework

- PLS provides components that maximally co-vary between predictor (x) and response (y) that are uncorrelated
- ICA provides components in EEG and EMG that may have no relation to one another.
- Propose: joint PLS-ICA framework

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{w_1}, \boldsymbol{w_2}} \alpha \left[\mathbf{E}((\boldsymbol{w_1}^T \boldsymbol{x})(\boldsymbol{w_2}^T \boldsymbol{y})) \right]^2 + \beta \left[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{w_1}^T \boldsymbol{x})) - \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{u_1})) \right]^2 + \theta \left[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{w_2}^T \boldsymbol{y})) - \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{u_2})) \right]^2 \text{s.t.} \quad \boldsymbol{w_i}^T \boldsymbol{w_i} = 1, \quad i = 1, 2. \qquad \propto +\beta + \theta = 1$$

Where G(.) is a non-linear function (e.g. log cosh (.))





Combining EEG and Behavioural Data



c/o Dr. Howard Poizner, UCSD



1. aperture	2. aperture velocity	3. Eye-Thumb X Dis.
4. Eye-Thumb Y Dis.	5. Eye-Index X Dis.	6. Eye-Index Y
7. hand position (X)	8. hand position (Y)	9. hand position (Z)
10.hand sagittal velocity	11.hand tangential velocity	12.hand acceleration
13.hand jerk	14. Thumb tangential velocity	15.Index tangential velocity

Combining EEG and Behavioural Data

EEG features: short-window band-limited pair-wise coherences Assume: time courses constant across subjects for a given task



Combining EEG and Behavioural Data



Summary

- 3D Moment Invariant descriptors of activation
- Replicator Dynamics for network assessment
- PCfdr method for Bayesian Network learning
- Robust, group LASSO for fMRI connectivity
- EEG source connectivity
- Multiblock PLS
- ICA-PLS method

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Questions????







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3-way analysis

The proposed tridirectional method is actually a two-step modeling strategy:

(1)Tri-LV Extraction: One super latent variable (supLV) t_g is designed to relate the subLVs. The optimization problem is formulated as below

$$\begin{aligned} \max & ((t_{g}{}^{T}X_{1}w_{1})^{2} + (t_{g}{}^{T}X_{2}w_{2})^{2} + (t_{g}{}^{T}X_{3}w_{3})^{2}) \\ \text{s.t.} & t_{g}{}^{T}t_{g} = 1, \quad w_{i}{}^{T}w_{i} = 1, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, 3. \end{aligned}$$

The solution can be derived by the method of Lagrange multipliers as below

$$\begin{split} (X_1 X_1^T + X_2 X_2^T + X_3 X_3^T) t_g &= \lambda_g t_g, \\ t_i &= X_i w_i = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\lambda_i}} X_i X_i^T t_g, \end{split}$$



