



Forward and Inverse Problem of EEG

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Cortical surface

Generators of EEG





Baillet et al, 2001

Forward and inverse problem



= 1000s of FP solution

Source localization is ill-posed

X = LS + n

X: scalp recorded potentials

- S: current density vector
- L: transfer matrix 'the head volume conductor model'

The inverse problem refers to finding S given known X.

$$O(S) = \min ||X - LS||^2$$
 Infinite solutions!

Apply electrophysiological neuroanatomical constraints

- 1. The electrical head model used,
- 2. The inverse solution itself

Head volume conductor model

Simple Head Models

- Single layer sphere, spheroid
- ✤ 3-4 layer sphere

ANALYTICAL SOLVER Simple, fast, but not accurate



Realistic Head Models

- Boundary Element (BEM)
- Finite Element (FEM)
- Finite Difference (FDM)

NUMERICAL SOLVER Represents head shape better, but computationally complex





Numerical Head Models

BEM





NFT BEM mesh



Generated using Tetgen from NFT BEM mesh

Formulation of the FP



Reference: Gulrajani, R., Bioelectricity and biomagnetism

BEM Formulation

Integral equation for Potential Field:



BEM Formulation

Integrating the previous integral equation over all elements a set of equations are obtained.

In matrix notation for the potential field we obtain

$$\Phi_{M\times 1} = C_{M\times M} \Phi + g_{M\times 1} \qquad \Phi = [I - C]^{-1} g \qquad \Phi = \mathbf{A}^{-1} g$$

M: number of nodes

The expression for the magnetic field:

 $B_{n\times 1} = B_0 + \mathbf{H}_{n\times M} \Phi$

n: number of magnetic sensors

Transfer matrix

Electrode potentials

 $\Phi_e = D\mathbf{A}^{-1}g$

 Φ_e mx1 vector of electrode potentials

D is an mxM sparse matrix to select m rows of \mathbf{A}^{-1}

Let the transfer matrix E be defined as:

 $E = D\mathbf{A}^{-1}$

Taking the transpose of both sides, and multiplying by \mathbf{A}^{T}

 $A^T e_i = d_i$

FEM transfer matrix

- FEM computes volume potentials
 - Solving the matrix for every source is slow
 - We only need potentials at electrode locations
- Use the reciprocal formulation:
 - Inject current at electrodes, solve volume
 potentials





Inverse Problem

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.



Equivalent current dipole (ECD)

$$O(S) = \min \left\| X - LS \right\|^2$$





Linear distributed methods

X = LS

L is the lead field matrix: Potential vectors of all possible solutions

Anatomical constraint:

Sources are on the cortex perpendicular to the cortex

Multi-scale patch-basis source localization with Sparse Bayesian Learning

$$\begin{split} D_{ij} &= \text{geodesic_distance}(i,j) \\ D_{ij} &= Inf \quad \text{if } D_{ij} > scale \\ W_{ij}^{(k)} &= gauss(D_{ij},\sigma_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_k^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{D_{ij}^2}{2\sigma_k^2}\right) \\ \sigma_k &= scale/3 \end{split}$$

Three truncated Gaussian patches of different scales (radii)



Akalin Acar, et al (2008a,2009) IEEE EMBC Ramirez, et al, HBM, 2007 X = LS $L := [m \times v]$ Lead field matrix $\tilde{L} = [LW^{(1)} \cdots LW^{(3)}]_{m \times 3v}$ ICA Mdel $X = A\hat{S}$ $\hat{S}_a := \begin{bmatrix} 1 \times T \end{bmatrix}$ qth IC activation $A_{q} = \tilde{L}\tilde{M}_{q} + \dot{U}_{q}$ $\tilde{L}^{-1} = \text{SBL}(A_{q},\tilde{L})$ $\tilde{M}_{q} = \left[\tilde{L}^{-1}A_{q}\right]_{3\nu\times 1}$ $M_{q} = \text{reshape}(\tilde{M}_{q},\tilde{M}_{q})$ $M_{q} = \sum_{i=1}^{3}\tilde{M}_{q}(:,i)$ $P_{q} = M_{q}\hat{S}_{q}$ [V) $A_q = \tilde{L}\tilde{M}_q + \dot{U}_q$ $M_q = \operatorname{reshape}(\tilde{M}_q, v \times 3)$ $P_a = M_a \hat{S}_a$ [v x T] cortical surface potentials for qth IC

SBL Simulation Study with MNI model (SNR=50)

	Three examples:		Source	e (x 15)	Max. dis. (mm)	Energy dif.	DF (%)
	original	reconstructed	Туре	Scale (mm)			
			Gyral	10	0	1.5	103.8
ral	65033	COCS)	Sulcul	10	1.01	29.8	101.4
G			Sulcul	5	2.12	4.1	37.6
			Dual	10	11.6	29.3	89.2
cal			Gyral	5	1.01	4.7	41.3
Sul	a sta		Sulcul	12	1.8	10.6	125.5
			Te	erm		Definition	
ulcal			max displacement		geodesic distance between original and reconstructed patch centers		
S	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C		energy	difference	original energ	y - reconstruct	ed energy
Ak	alin Acar et al (2009)	IEEE EMRC	degree of fo	ocalization (DF)	reconstructed	d energy / origi	nal energy



NFT - Segmentation



NFT – Mesh generation



NFT – source space generation



Generates a simple source space: Regular Grid inside the brain With a given spacing and distance to the mesh

NFT – electrode co-registration



NFT – Template warping



NFT – Forward problem solver

- MATLAB interface to numerical solvers
- Boundary Element Method or Finite Element Method
 - EEG Only (for now)
 - Interfaces to the Matrix generator executable written in C++
- Other computation done in MATLAB
- Generated matrices are stored on disk for future use.

NFT - Forward Problem Solver (BEM)

	NFT: Forward problem solution	_ ×
File		3
BEM Mesh Info	BEM Model	Session
SubjectA Mesh Name Show Mesh A 4 Number of Layers 13724 Number of Nodes 27476 Number of Elements 3 Number of Nodes/Element	SubjectA Model Name Enter conductivity values: 0.33 Scalp 0.0042 Skull 0.33 Brain 1.79 CSF Modified (Isolated Problem Approach) Create Model Generating matrices	s1 Session Name Load Sensors Mesh Coordinates Mesh Node List Generate transfer matrix Value Changed!
	Forward Problem Solution	
Load Source Space	Compute Lead Field Matrix	Plot Potential Distribution For Dipole

NFT – Forward Problem Solver (FEM)

NFT: Forward pro	blem solution				
FEM Mesh Info	FEM Session				
SubjectA.1.msh Mesh Name	s1 Session Name				
	Enter conductivity values:				
Show Mesh	0.33 Scalp 0.0132 Skull				
4 Number of Layers	0.33 Brain 1.79 CSF				
185656 Number of Nodes	Load sensors 243 Sensors Loaded				
4 Number of Nodes/Element	Create Session				
	No Session				
Forward Prok	olem Solution				
Load Source Space	Compute Lead Field Matrix				
6447 Dipoles Loaded					

NFT – Dipole fitting

- Requires EEGLAB integration to access Component indices.
- Uses FieldTrip in EEGLAB for dipole fitting.



http://www.sccn.ucsd.edu/nft



Effects of Forward Model Errors on EEG Source Localization

MODELING ERRORS

Head Model Generation

- Reference Head Model
 - From whole head T1 weighted MR of subject
 - 4-layer realistic BEM model
- MNI Head model
 - From the MNI head
 - 3-layer and 4-layer template BEM model
- Warped MNI Head Model
 - Warp MNI template to EEG sensors
- Spherical Head model
 - 3-layer concentric spheres
 - Fitted to EEG sensor locations



The Reference Head Model

- 18541 nodes
- 37090 elements
 - 6928 Scalp
 - 6914 Skull
 - 11764 CSF
 - 11484 Brain





The MNI Head Model



- ♦ 4-layer
 - 16856 nodes
 - 33696 elements
- ♦ 3-layer
 - 12730 nodes
 - 25448 elements





The Warped MNI Head Model



Registered MNI template



Warped MNI mesh

The Spherical Head Model



3-Layer model Outer layer is fitted to electrode positions

Head Modeling Errors

- Solve FP with reference model
 - 3D grid inside the brain.
 - 3 Orthogonal dipoles at each point
 - ~7000 dipoles total
 - 4 subjects
- Localize using other head models
 Single dipole search.
- Plot location and orientation errors

Spherical Model Location Errors

↑ RLS-4 ↓ SPH



Localization errors may go up to 4 cm when spherical head models are used for source localization. The errors are largest in the inferior regions where the spherical models diverged most from the 4-layer realistic model.

3-Layer MNI Location Errors

3-Layer MNI



3-Layer Warped MNI

4-Layer MNI Location Errors

4-Layer MNI



4-Layer Warped MNI

Observations

- Spherical Model
 - Location errors up to 3.5 cm. Cortical areas up to 1.5 cm.
- ♦ 3-Layer MNI
 - Large errors where models do not agree.
 - Higher around chin and the neck regions.
- ♦ 4-Layer MNI
 - Similar to 3-Layer MNI.
 - Smaller in magnitude.

Electrode co-registration errors

- Solve FP with reference model
- Shift all electrodes and re-register
 - 5° backwards
 - 5° left
- Localize using shifted electrodes
- Plot location and orientation errors

Location Errors with 5° electrode shift



Observations

- Errors increase close to the surface near electrode locations.
- Changing or incorrectly registering electrodes may cause 5-10 mm localization error.

Head tissue conductivities

Scalp : 0.33 S/m

Skull: 0.0032 S/m (0.08-0.0073 S/m)



CSF: 1.79 S/m Brain: 0.33 S/m

Skull conductivity measurement

In vitro

Measurement of skull conductivity

In vivo



Hoekama et al, 2003

MREIT Magnetic stimulation Current injection



He et al, 2005

Skull conductivity

Brain to	skull ratio	
Rush and Driscoll	1968	80
Cohen and Cuffin	1983	80
Oostendorp et al	2000	15
Lai et al	2005	25

Measurement	Age	σ (mS/m)	ratio
Agar-agar phantom	-	43.6	7.5
Patient 1	11	80.1	4
Patient 2	25	71.2	4.6
Patient 3	36	53.7	6.2
Patient 4	46	34.4	9.7
Patient 5	50	32.0	10.3kama
Post mortem skull	68	21.4	15.7

Effect of Skull Conductivity

- Solve FP with reference model
 - Brain-to-Skull ratio: 25
- Generate test models
 - Same geometry
 - Brain-to-Skull ratio: 80 and 15
- Localize using test model
- Plot location and orientation errors

Skull conductivity mis-estimation



Effect of white matter

White matter conductivity: 0.14 S/m





White matter surface obtained using Freesurfer

Simplified WM BEM model

Effect of white matter



Number of electrodes and coverage



Location errors



Summary

- If we have MRI of the subject:
 - Subject specific head model
 - Distributed source localization
- If we don't have MRIs
 - Warped 4-layer MNI model
 - Dipole source localization
- Skull conductivity estimation is as important as the head model used.
- WM modeling does not have much effect on source localization.

CASE STUDY

Epilepsy Head Modeling





Epilepsy

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Scale

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Electrocorticography



ECoG recording



Macro and micro Electrodes (Mayo Clinic)



ECoG grid and strips



Depth electrodes

iEEG data



Project Summary



Forward modeling



Z. Akalin Acar - Head Modeling and Cortical Source Localization in Epilepsy

Analyzing Epilepsy Recordings

resected regions



- Pre-Surgical Evaluation
- Rest Data
- 78 ECoG (subdural EEG) electrodes
- 29 scalp electrodes
- Surgical Outcome: Positive (seizure free)

16 min of data, 2 seizures

• Provided by Dr. Greg Worrell, Mayo Clinic



ICA decomposition

resected regions





Extended Infomax ICA Decomposition 16 seizure components (ICs) selected

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Independent Components



Potentials on scalp Potentials on plastic sheet

On the brain surface

IC 2





Source Localization Results

Dipole source localization



IC 1

IC 2

Radial source



Tangential source

Distributed source localization - SBL



Gyral source



Sulcal source

Cortical activity of seizure components



Activations of 13 seizure components

Cortical activity of Seizure components $Movie(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{13} S_i \times Act_i(t)$

Thank you...

Swartz Center for Computational Neuroscience



Algebraic formulation of the FP

Scalp potentials for N electrodes and p dipoles:

$$V(r) = \sum_{i}^{p} g(r, r_{dip}, d_{i}) = \sum_{i}^{p} g(r, r_{dip}, e_{d_{i}}) d_{i}$$

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} V(r_{1}) \\ \vdots \\ V(r_{N}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g(r_{1}, r_{dip}, e_{d_{1}}) & \cdots & g(r_{1}, r_{dip}, e_{dp}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ g(r_{N}, r_{dip}, e_{d_{1}}) & \cdots & g(r_{N}, r_{dip}, e_{dp}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d_{1} \\ \vdots \\ d_{p} \end{bmatrix} = G(\{r_{j}, r_{dip_{i}}, e_{d_{i}}\}) \begin{bmatrix} d_{1} \\ \vdots \\ d_{p} \end{bmatrix}$$

For N electrodes and p dipoles and T discrete time samples:

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} V(r_1,1) & \cdots & V(r_1,T) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ V(r_N,1) & \cdots & V(r_N,T) \end{bmatrix} = G(\{r_j,r_{dip_i},e_{d_i}\}) \begin{bmatrix} d_{1,1} & \cdots & d_{1,T} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ d_{p,1} & \cdots & d_{p,T} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$V = GD + n$$

To Solve the Forward Problem

- Head Model
 - Conductivity values
 - Geometry
- Source distribution
 - Magnitude
 - Location
 - Direction
- Field Locations
- Solver



Anisotropy

- Directional conductivity for skull and WM.
- WM anisotropy can be obtained from diffusion tensor imaging (DTI).
- WM

anisotropy ratio = 9:1

Skull
 ratio = 10:1



Anisotropy



Return currents for a left thalamic source on a coronal cut Wolters et al, 2006

Inflated cortex

Potential fields on the scalp



Inflated cortex

left

Potential fields on the scalp

Shallow radial source



right

front top view of head front