## Machine-Learning Methods for Decoding Intentional Brain States

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BIOLOGISCHE KYBERNETIK

## BCI as a Potential Assistive Technology

- Complete paralysis (e.g. late-stage Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis)


## BCl as a Potential Assistive Technology

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- Other...


## Induction

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$$
\begin{array}{cccccc}
\mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} & \mathbf{E} & \mathbf{F} \\
\mathrm{G} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~J} & \mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{~L} \\
\mathrm{M} & \mathrm{~N} & 0 & \mathrm{P} & \mathrm{Q} & \mathrm{R} \\
\mathrm{~S} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{U} & \mathrm{~V} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{X} \\
\mathrm{Y} & \mathrm{Z} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & \mathrm{SpC}
\end{array}
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| A | B | C | D | E | $\mathbf{F}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| M | N | $\bigcirc$ | P | Q | $\mathbf{R}$ |
| S | I | U | V | K | $\mathbf{X}$ |
| Y | Z | 1 | 2 | 3 | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | $\mathbf{s p c}$ |



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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
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| M | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\bigcirc$ | P | Q | R |
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- Most common example: imagined movement of hands or feet.
- BUT: for users with motor-neuron disease, will the motor system continue functioning well enough long-term? $\rightsquigarrow$ incentive to explore non-motor mental tasks (e.g. covert visual attention without a specific target).

Why (and when) volume conduction matters


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Some solutions (e.g. $w_{1}=c^{2}, \quad w_{2}=-a^{2}$ ) might cancel out the $n^{2}$ term; others (e.g. $\left.w_{1}=c d, \quad w_{2}=-a b\right)$ might cancel out the ns term, but we cannot remove both terms with any single solution.

## Why (and when) volume conduction matters

When the features for classification consist of raw signal samples, or a linear transformation (detrending, bandpassing, ... ), a linear classifier might be able to do your spatial filtering/source estimation for you.

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- All-in-one classifier approaches...


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(3) solve the inverse problem if you still want to (to sanity-check/learn more about the result).

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For linear classification of sources' bandpower, spatial filters can also be found automatically by a classifier:

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Similar formulations for other non-linear features??

## Slightly deeper learning?

From Collobert \& Weston's NIPS 2009 tutorial:
Engineering: complex features, simple algorithm.
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## VS

Machine-Learning: simple input, implicitly learn the features.
Idea: instead of performing CSP's least-square criterion to estimate discriminative sources

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then classifying the resulting bandpower features diag ( $\mathrm{SS}^{\top}$ ) according to some other loss function, let's treat W as the hyperparameters of (e.g.) a Gaussian Process classifier and optimize them according to the marginal-likelihood...

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Note:

- large individual variation
- particular benefits for smaller, noisier datasets.


## Deeper learning $\rightsquigarrow$ more "hands-free" operation



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Automatic combination of/selection between first- and second-order features

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- extensible to arbitrary number of dimensions (time, frequency, cross-subject, cross-condition, ...)


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Automatic combination of/selection between first- and second-order features

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Pre-processing the data can be seen as equivalent to changing the regularization environment. What is the "ideal" regularization strategy?

## "Which classifier you use doesn't matter"



Felix Biessmann's visual speller data ( 10 subjects $\times 6$ stimulus conditions), offline analysis

## "Which classifier you use doesn't matter"




preprocessing ( $\mathrm{w}=$ whiten, $\mathrm{s}=$ center \& standardize each trial-by-channel)
auditory ERP data, offline analysis

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- This is a bad thing-can lead to trying to optimize very "stiff" systems.


## Low-rank Classification

In linear ERP classification: classifier finds weights $M$ for classifying space- $\times$-time "image" segments:


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- Tomioka \& Aihara (2007) ICML 2007.
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## Example Sparsification Results

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- The better your classification method, the less you may need to worry about "preprocessing".
- Useful signals tend to live in low-dimensional subspaces, and optimizing directly for these can give an advantage in performance and in interpretability.


## Source Separation



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## Cheap supervised rotation with CSP



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## CSP: outlier- (artifact-) sensitivity



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