Machine-Learning Methods for Decoding Intentional Brain States

Jeremy Hill



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BCI as a Potential Assistive Technology

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

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- Disconnection of motor pathways (e.g. subcortical stroke, amputation)

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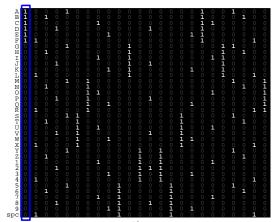
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• Other...

• Attention (overt and/or covert) to one of a number of stimuli

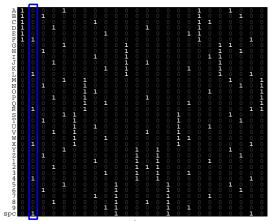
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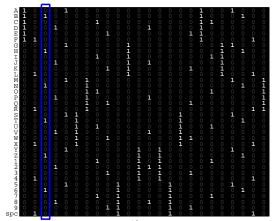
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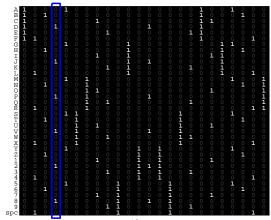
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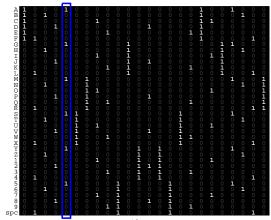
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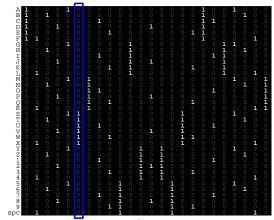
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- "Mental tasks"

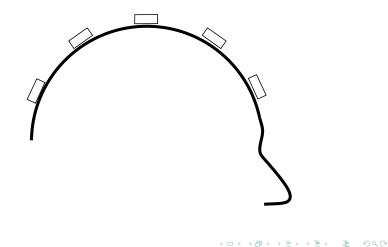
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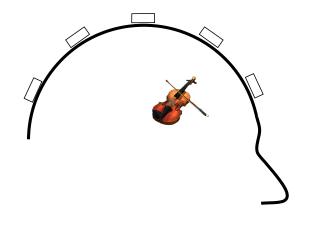
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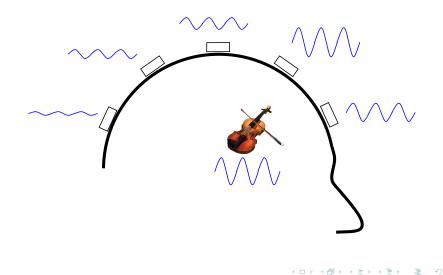
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 - BUT: for users with motor-neuron disease, will the motor system continue functioning well enough long-term?
 → incentive to explore non-motor mental tasks (e.g. covert visual attention without a specific target).

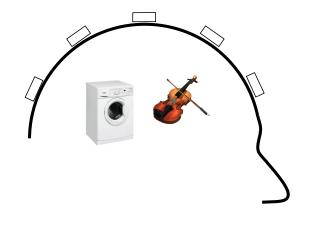




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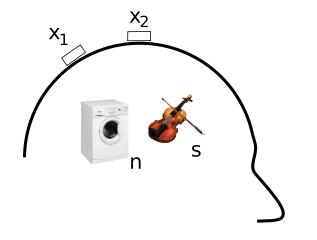
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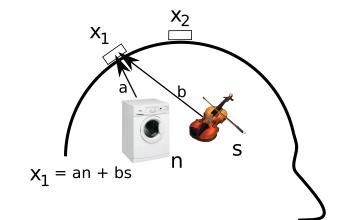




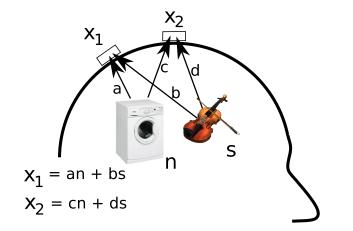
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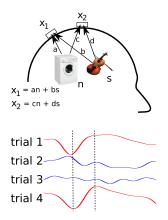




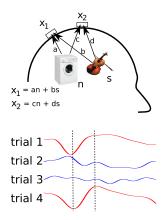
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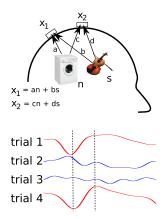
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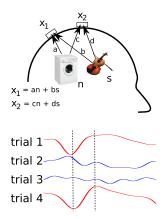
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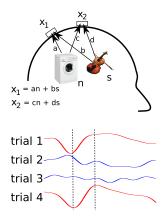
$$f(X) = w_1(an+bs) + w_2(cn+ds)$$



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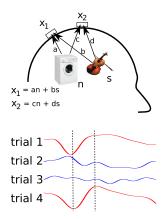
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$$f(X) = (w_1a + w_2c)n + (w_1b + w_2d)s$$

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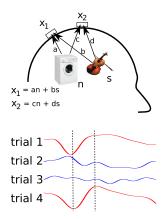


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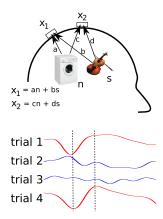
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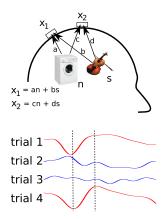
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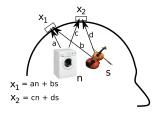
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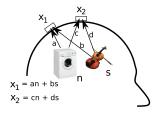
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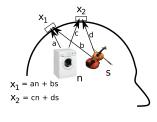
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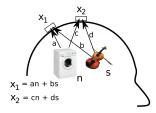
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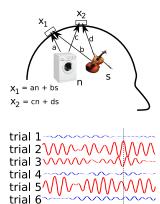
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$$f(X) = w_1 a^2 n^2 + w_1 b^2 s^2 + 2w_1 abns + w_2 c^2 n^2 + w_2 d^2 s^2 + 2w_2 cdns$$

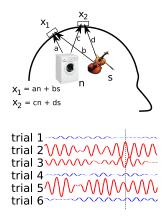
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Some solutions (e.g. $w_1 = c^2$, $w_2 = -a^2$) might cancel out the n^2 term; others (e.g. $w_1 = cd$, $w_2 = -ab$) might cancel out the *ns* term, but we cannot remove both terms with any single solution.

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

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...and gain 5–15 percentage-points in binary classification performance.

• Static surface-Laplacian

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- All-in-one classifier approaches. . .

-Vladimir Vapnik

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Should we...



measure the data;

-Vladimir Vapnik

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-Vladimir Vapnik

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- measure the data;
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- measure the data;
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-Vladimir Vapnik

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

$$S = WX$$

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

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$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}$$

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Use a good classifier to find M, then W has been found implicitly and can be recovered with an eigenvalue decomposition.

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Engineering: complex features, simple algorithm.

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Machine-Learning: simple input, implicitly learn the features.

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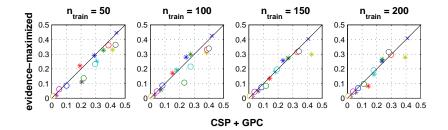
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Machine-Learning: simple input, implicitly learn the features. Idea: instead of performing CSP's least-square criterion to estimate discriminative sources

$$S = WX$$

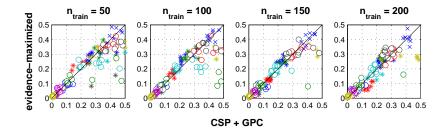
then classifying the resulting bandpower features diag (SS^{\top}) according to some *other* loss function, let's treat W as the hyperparameters of (e.g.) a Gaussian Process classifier and optimize them according to the marginal-likelihood...

Slightly deeper learning?

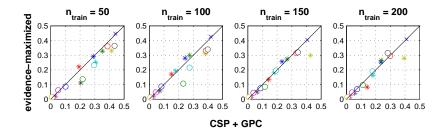


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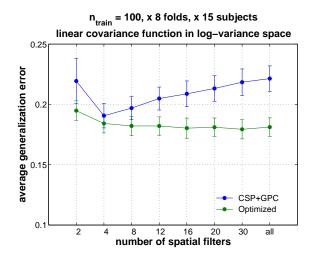


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Note:

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

Deeper learning ~> more "hands-free" operation



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

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Pre-processing can still make a difference to performance (e.g. equalizing variance across frequency bands to compensate for 1/f; spatial pre-whitening in both first- and second-order cases).

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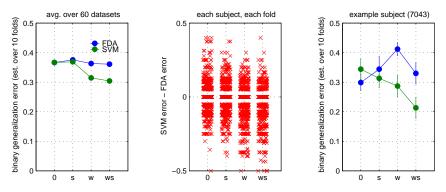
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Pre-processing can still make a difference to performance (e.g. equalizing variance across frequency bands to compensate for 1/f; spatial pre-whitening in both first- and second-order cases).

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

"Which classifier you use doesn't matter"



preprocessing (w = whiten, s = center & standardize each trial-by-channel)

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

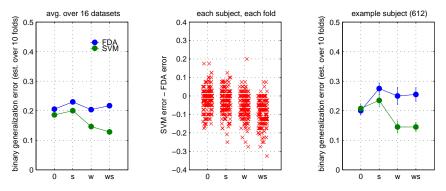
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- High noise
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- Very large number of features. Well actually, the features are usually *highly* correlated.
 - This is a good thing—we only need to worry about a low-dimensional *subspace*.
 - This is a bad thing—can lead to trying to optimize very "stiff" systems.

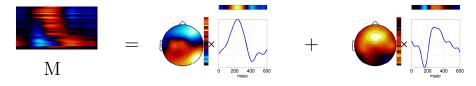
In linear ERP classification: classifier finds weights ${\rm M}$ for classifying space- $\times\text{-time}$ "image" segments:

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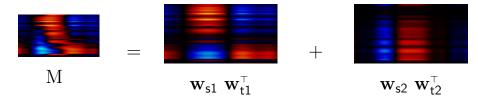
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 L_Σ regularization: regularize by putting an L-1 penalty on the singular values of $\mathrm{M}.$

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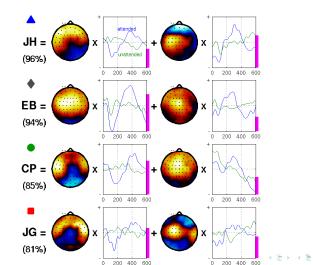
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- Tomioka & Aihara (2007) ICML 2007.
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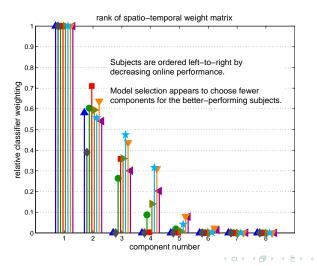
Example Sparsification Results

A BCI based on auditory stimuli (Hill et al., NIPS 2004 & BBCI Workshop 2009):



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- In BCI, machine-learning methods allow us to optimize performance directly, avoiding the necessity to solve the inverse problem.
- Volume conduction must still be respected, especially when we use bandpower or other non-linear features.

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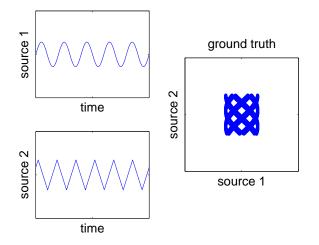
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- Careful choice of classification methods can make a difference.
- The better your classification method, the less you may need to worry about "preprocessing".
- Useful signals tend to live in low-dimensional subspaces, and optimizing directly for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

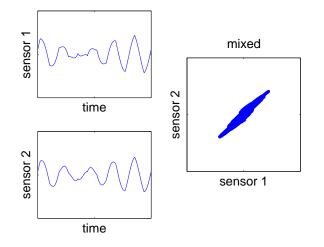
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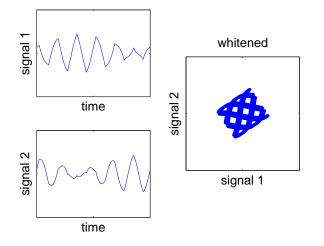
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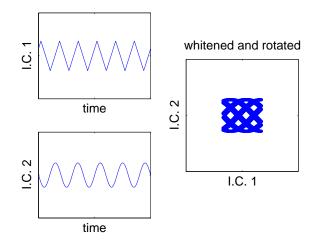
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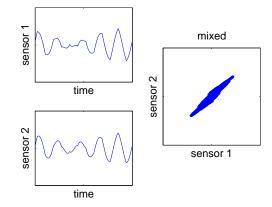


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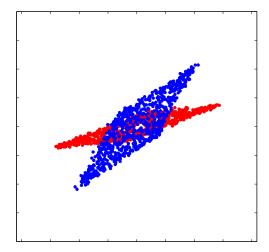
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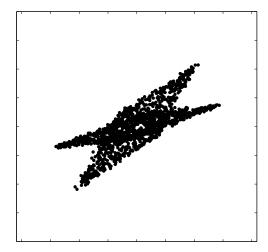
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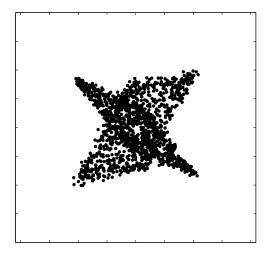
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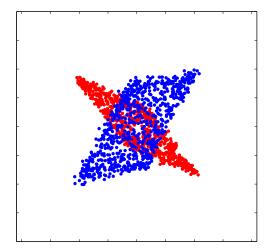


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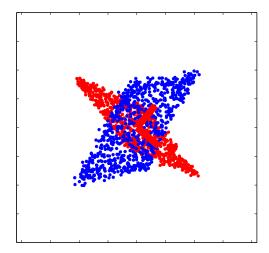


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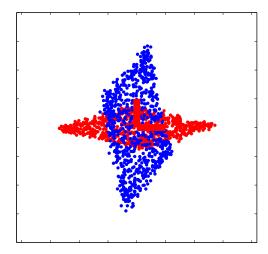
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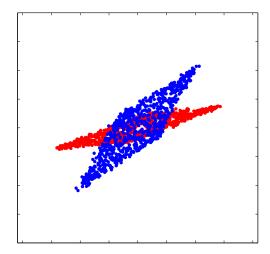
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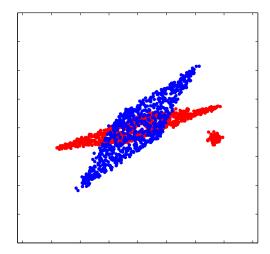
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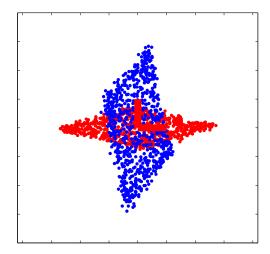
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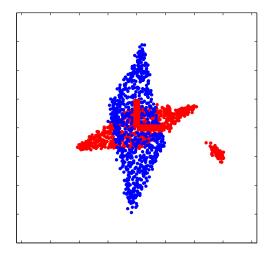
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