

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

HST.583 Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging: Data Acquisition and Analysis  
Fall 2008

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.

Statistical Signal Processing of fMRI  
Douglas N. Greve

-----  
Experiment with 3 identical stimulus presentations (Nrep=3).  
Stimulus schedule - far enough apart for no overlap (FIER)  
Results in 3 identical HRFs.  
Noise added.  
Sampled at TR.  
Ntp = number of time points/TRs over experiment.  
This is the "Observable" (y).  
From this we want to compute the hemodynamic response amplitude  
and quantify the uncertainty.

-----  
Non-Matrix Formulation:  
Construct Post-stimulus delay (PSD) Window (aka Peristimulus)  
One bin for each TR in the window  
Number of bins = Window/TR (Nbeta)  
Each bin corresponds to 3 measurements  
For each bin compute: selective sum, count/Nrep, average  
Plot the averages (betahat, betas, parameter estimates)

-----  
Compute signal estimate (yhat) (resynth)  
Compute residual  $r = y - \hat{y}$   
SumSquareError = SSE =  $\sum(r^2)$   
DOF = Ntp - Nbeta  
Residual variance = rvar = SSE/DOF = MeanSquareError (MSE)  
Residual stddev =  $\sqrt{\text{rvar}}$  = RootMeanSquareError (RMSE)  
LMSE = LeastMeanSquareError Estimator  
StandardVariance = rvar/Nrep  
StandardError =  $\sqrt{\text{rvar}/\text{Nrep}}$  =  $\sqrt{\text{StandardVariance}}$   
t = Average/StandardError  
Adequate analysis, but not very flexible (eg, how to add more  
conditions, overlay, nuisance variables, etc, ?).

-----  
Matrix Formulation:  $y = X \cdot \beta$   
y = observable (Ntp-by-1)  
X = design matrix (Ntp-by-Nbeta)  
 $\beta$  = true parameters/weights (cf betahat vs  $\beta$ ) (Nbeta-by-1)  
row = time point  
First col of X = 1 where stim are presented, 0 else  
Second col = First shifted down one row.  
Third col = ...  
One col for each delay = Nbeta  
cols = post stimulus delay  
col vector = regressor  
Set of linear equations: Ntp knowns, Nbeta unknowns  
Must have: Ntp > Nbeta (overdetermined)  
Solve = Fit = Estimate:  $\hat{\beta} = \text{inv}(X'X) \cdot X'y$  (cf betahat vs  $\beta$ )  
 $\hat{\beta}$  = regression coefficient, parameter estimate, average  
Pseudoinverse:  $\text{inv}(X'X) \cdot X' = X^+$  (for non-square matrices)  
Selective Sum =  $X'y$   
Count =  $X'X$  (strictly only true for FIER)

$1/\text{Count} = \text{inv}(X'X)$   
 Average =  $\text{betahat} = \text{SelectiveSum}/\text{Count} =$   
 $(1/\text{Count}) * \text{SelectiveSum} = \text{inv}(X'X) * (X'y)$   
 Signal estimate:  $\text{yhat} = X * \text{betahat}$   
 Residual:  $r = y - \text{yhat} = (I - X * \text{inv}(X'X) * X') * y = R * y$   
 R = residual forming matrix. Sym:  $R=R'$ . Idempotent:  $R * R = R$ .  
 DOF =  $\#\text{cols}X - \#\text{rows}X = N_{\text{tp}} - N_{\text{beta}} = \text{trace}(R)$   
 $\text{SSE} = r'r$ ;  
 Residual Var =  $\text{rvar} = \text{SSE}/\text{DOF}$   
 StandardVar =  $\text{BetaVar} = \text{rvar} * \text{inv}(X'X)$   
 LMSE  
 Stimulus schedule embedded in X.

-----  
 Example:  $TR = 2$ ,  $N_{\text{tp}} = 10$ ,  $\text{PSDWin} = 6\text{sec}$ ,  $N_{\text{rep}} = 2$  (2s, 12s)  
 How big are y, X, and beta?  
 What's the DOF?  
 How many equations?  
 How many unknowns?

-----  
 Statistical Model Summary:  
 $y = X * \text{beta} + n$  (Forward Model)  
 beta = true beta (unknown)  
 n = noise, unknown,  $\sim N(0, \text{nvar} * \text{Sn})$ ,  
 nvar = true variance (unknown)  
 Sn = true temporal covariance matrix (unknown) (=I for white noise)  
 HDR Model (FIR):  
 = 0 if  $\text{PSD} < 0$  or  $\text{PSD} > \text{PSDMax}$   
 anything sampled at TR within the window  
 Parameters: beta, nvar, Sn, PSDMax  
 Properties:  
 $\text{betahat} = \text{inv}(X'X) * X'y$   
 $E(\text{betahat}) = \text{beta}$  (unbiased)  
 $E(\text{rvar}) = \text{nvar}$  (unbiased)  
 $\text{Cov}(\text{betahat}) = \text{rvar} * \text{inv}(X'X)$  (error bars)  
 Generally true regardless of X, y, beta, etc.

-----  
 Overlap in the responses and blocked design.

-----  
 Assuming a shape to the HDR:  
 Gamma function:  $h(\text{psd}) = \text{beta} * ((\text{psd}-D)/\text{tau})^2 * \exp((\text{psd}-D)/\text{tau})$   
 Sampled within the window (zero outside and less than D)  
 Three parameters:  
 beta = amplitude (linear, unknown)  
 D = delay (nonlinear, assumed, eg 2.25 sec)  
 tau = dispersion (nonlinear, assumed, eg, 1.25 sec)  
 Draw plots showing different taus and betas  
 Assume values for nonlinear parameters, but estimate/fit linear parameters  
 Draw observable  
 Draw signal estimate for different betas  
 Draw residual for different betas (SSE)  
 Draw SSE as a function of beta  
  
 New model:  $y = X_{\text{fir}} * A * \text{beta}$

A = assumed shape with beta=1 as a col vector  
 Xfir = FIR matrix from before  
 beta = true amplitude, (Nbeta=1 only one value!)  
 Can combine  $X = X_{fir} * A$   
 $y = X * beta$   
 y = observable (Ntp-by-1)  
 X = design matrix (Ntp-by-1)  
 beta = (1-by-1)  
 Ntp equations, 1 unknown  
 DOF = Ntp - 1 (more than with FIR)  
 $betahat = inv(X' * X) * X' * y = beta$  at minimum of SSE curve above

Add derivative.

-----  
 Multiple Conditions:

$y = X_1 * beta_1 + X_2 * beta_2$   
 $= [X_1 \ X_2] * [beta_1; beta_2]$   
 $= X * beta$

Same number of time points, twice as many unknowns.

$betahat = inv(X' * X) * X' * y;$

Have to know how design matrix was constructed to interpret betas!

-----  
 Nuisance Regressors:

$y = X_t * beta_t + X_n * beta_n$

$X_t$  = Task design matrix

$X_n$  = Nuisance regressors

eg,  $X_n$  = column of ones for a baseline offset

$y = [X \ X_n] * [beta; beta_n] = X * beta$

$betahat = inv(X' * X) * X' * y;$

Have to know how design matrix was constructed to interpret betas!

-----  
 Contrasts

Embodiment of hypothesis (null hypothesis).

Eg, Happy vs Sad faces = HappyHRFamp - SadHRFamp

Weighted sum of betas, weights are  $C = [+1 \ -1]$

$gamma = C * beta$

Need to know the meaning of each regressor in order to assign weight

Eg, Happy vs Baseline:  $C = [1 \ 0]$

Eg, Sad vs Baseline:  $C = [0 \ 1]$

Eg, Happy+Sad vs Baseline:  $C = [.5 \ .5]$

Does not have to be 0 or +/-1 (overall scale may not be important)

Eg, Aud, Vis, Aud+Vis  $C = [.5 \ .5 \ -1]$

ANOVA 2x2: HappyMale, HappyFemale, SadMale, SadFemale

Interaction between Emotion and Gender:

$(HM-SM) - (HF-SF) = HM - HF - SM + SF : C = [+1 \ -1 \ -1 \ +1]$

Multi-variate contrasts (more than one row, OR)

Happy OR Sad vs Baseline:  $C = [1 \ 0; 0 \ 1]$  (multivariate)

ANOVA 2x2, Simple Main Effect of Emotion:

$(HM-SM)$  OR  $(HF-SF) : C_a = [+1 \ 0 \ -1 \ 0], C_b = [0 \ +1 \ 0 \ -1]$

$C = [+1 \ 0 \ -1 \ 0]$

$[0 \ +1 \ 0 \ -1]$

ANOVA 2x3: HappyMale, HappyFemale, NeutralMale,

SadMale, SadFemale, NeutralFemale

Interaction bet Emotion and Gender:  
 $(HM-SM) - (HF-SF) = HM - HF - SM +SF : Ca = [+1 -1 0 -1 +1 0]$   
 $(HM-NM) - (HF-NF) = HM - HF - NM +NF : Cb = [+1 0 -1 -1 0 +1]$   
 $C = [+1 -1 0 -1 +1 0]$   
 $[+1 0 -1 -1 0 +1]$   
 Nuisance - set weights to 0.

Four conditions: C1 C2 C3 C4. Estimate each one separately and test  
 $(C1+C2) - (C3+C4)$  vs combining C1/C2 and C3/C4 into two regressors (A  
 and B) and testing A-B.

-----  
 Hypothesis testing and the quantification of uncertainty and risk

Null hypothesis (H0): nothing is happening

The H0 can be

1. True (there is truly NOTHING happening)
2. False (there is truly SOMETHING happening)

We can make the following decisions base on our analysis:

1. Reject H0 (postive) (there's not nothing happening)
2. Fail to Reject (negative) (not necessarily accepting H0)

This leads to four possible results (2x2):

	H0True	H0False
Reject	FP	TP
Fail	TN	FN

Two types of errors:

Type I: False Positive (FP) (alpha, FPR, selectivity; TPR=1-FPR)

Type II: False Negative (FN) (beta, FNR, sensitivity; TNR=1-FNR)

Power analysis/ROC is (1-beta) vs alpha = TPR vs FPR

Rate = frequency that we would make a certain decision if we did the  
 same experiment over and over again without changes to the signal,  
 design, or noise ("frequentists").

Hard to quantity FNR - need actual TPR.

Can quantify FPR (assuming the model is correct).

Protect yourself against false positives by choosing a threshold

-----  
 Parametric Statistics and the Linear Model

$\gamma = C\beta$

$\hat{\gamma} = C\hat{\beta}$

Under H0:  $\beta = 0, y = X\beta + n = n$ , so

$\hat{\beta} = \text{inv}(X'X)X'n$

$\hat{\gamma} = C\hat{\beta} = C\text{inv}(X'X)X'n$

Could determine distribution emperically from rest scans

$E(\hat{\gamma}) = \gamma$

$\text{cov}(\hat{\gamma}) = \text{rvar} * C\text{inv}(X'X)C'$  (StandardVar/Err)

$\hat{\gamma} \sim N(\gamma, \text{cov}(\hat{\gamma}))$

$t = \hat{\gamma} / \sqrt{\text{cov}(\hat{\gamma})}$

$F = \hat{\gamma}'\text{inv}(\text{cov})\hat{\gamma} / J, J = \text{rows in } C$

$= (C\beta)' * \text{inv}(\text{rvar} * C\text{inv}(X'X)C') * (C\beta) / J$

-----

Noise modeling:

Noise Sources:

1. Thermal (white) = 50% in CtxGM, 90+% in WM. (3T, unsmoothed)
2. Physio (correlated)
  - Motion - partial voluming, spin history
  - Respiration
  - Heart beat
  - "Resting State Networks"
3. Scanner-related (white)

When  $S_n \neq I$

Autocorrelation - can predict noise at one tp given previous better than chance (not necessarily deterministic).

Tend to be low freq: respiration, heart beat (aliasing), motion, other physio.

Why should you care:

1. Invalidates  $t$  and  $F$  (tends to make too liberal)
2. Less efficient than white.

Autocorrelation plot of residual

Time invariant - model as an ACF, generate  $S_n$  from ACF

Estimate of ACF from residuals (biased)

$W = \text{inv}(\text{chol}(S_n))$

New model (generalized least squares):  $W*y = W*X*\beta$

"Fully efficient"

Without pre-whitening:  $\text{cov}(\hat{\gamma}) = C*\text{inv}(X'*X)*X'*S_n*X*\text{inv}(X'*X)*C'$

With pre-whitening:  $\text{cov}(\hat{\gamma}) = C*\text{inv}(X2'*X2)*C'$

-----  
Other topics:

Parametric time-varying or weighted (eg, reaction time)

Efficiency and Optimal design

Deconvolution, overlap, simultaneous equations.

-----  
In the equation  $y = X*\beta$ , identify  $y$ ,  $X$ , and  $\beta$ .

What is the difference between  $\beta$  and  $\hat{\beta}$ ?