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#### ▶ To cite this version:

Maureen Clerc, Juliette Leblond, Jean-Paul Marmorat, Théo Papadopoulo. Inverse source estimation problem in EEG. BaCI 2017 - Basic and Clinical Multimodal Imaging, Aug 2017, Bern, Switzerland. hal-03472757v2

#### HAL Id: hal-03472757 https://hal.science/hal-03472757v2

Submitted on 10 Dec 2021

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# Inverse source estimation problem in EEG Maureen Clerc<sup>1</sup>, Juliette Leblond<sup>1</sup>, Jean-Paul Marmorat<sup>2</sup>, Theo Papadopoulo<sup>1</sup>

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#### Abstract



Being given pointwise measurements of the electric potential taken by electrodes on part of the scalp, the EEG (electroencephalography) inverse problem consists in estimating current sources within the brain that account for this activity. A model for the behaviour of the potential rests on Maxwell equations in the quasi-static case, under the form of a Poisson-Laplace partial differential equation (PDE). We solve the inverse problem (IP) in spherical geometry, for piecewise constant electric conductivity values, and pointwise dipolar source terms.



The algorithm relies on consecutive steps and is encoded in the software FindSources3D:

- (i) Singular value decomposition (SVD), in order to separate the time independant activities. (ii) Data transmission from scalp to cortex.
- (iii) Best quadratic rational approximation on families of 2D slices, compute singularities in circular sections.
- (iv) Clustering of these singularities in order to localize the sources.





[CLMP] Clerc, Leblond, Marmorat, Papadopoulo. Source localization in EEG using rational approximation on plane sections, Inverse Problems 28, 2012.

#### 1. Model, assumptions, IP

• Potentials *u*, subject to pointwise dipolar *J* supported within the brain

div ( $\sigma$  grad u) = div  $J = \sum_{k \in I} p_k \cdot \text{grad } \delta_{C_k}$ 

• Spherical head geometry, 3 homogeneous isotropic layers  $\Omega_2, \Omega_1, \Omega_0$ (scalp, skull, brain) constant conductivity values  $\sigma_2 = \sigma_0 > \sigma_1 > 0$  &  $\partial_n u = 0$  on  $S_2$ 

• EEG data set: u depends on time t through  $|p_k(t)|$ pointwise values of potential  $u = u(t_i, e_j)$  at electrodes locations  $e_j$  on  $S_2$ • IP: estimate quantity K and locations  $C_k$  in  $\Omega_0$  of sources & moments  $p_k$ 

#### 2. Step (i) **SVD** $\rightarrow$ static ativities

Singular value decomposition of EEG matrix time window,  $EEG = U \Sigma V$ , rk R • main asynchronous activities columns  $u_r$  of  $U, r = 1, \ldots, R$ 

• best linear combination, in view of source estimation

change basis in span

BEM, BEP

# 3. step (iii)

## 2d slices of $S_0 \rightarrow$ poles $\simeq$ singularities

### Best quadratic rational approximation on circles

•  $\sigma_0 \Delta u = \text{div } J$ , convolution by fundamental solution  $\rightsquigarrow u = u_s + \text{harmonic}, u_s(X) \simeq \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\langle p_k, X - C_k \rangle}{|X - C_k|^3}$ 

• from u,  $\partial_n u$  on planar sections of  $S_0$ 



 $\min_{\pi,q} \left\| f - \frac{\pi}{q} \right\|_{L^2(\Gamma_p)}$ iterate on degree  $q \nearrow K$  $\rightsquigarrow$  roots of q in  $D_p$  = poles





• lines of singularities maximum modulus in  $D_p$ containing sources

#### **3.** step (iv)

#### 2d singularities $\rightarrow$ 3d sources

Clustering 2d singularities for suitable directions

k = 1, 2

 $\rightarrow$  source locations  $C_k$ 



# $\rightarrow$ up to K = 3 or 4 pointwise sources

+ moments recovery (linear system)



#### • actual data

FindSources3D



## cortical mapping $S_2 \rightsquigarrow S_0$

Compute harmonic extension of the data on  $S_2$  in  $\Omega_2$ , then in  $\Omega_1$  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $\Omega_1 \& \Omega_2 + \text{transmission conditions on } S_i: u, \sigma \partial_n u$  continuous

integral representation, single & double layer potentials Best constrained quadratic approximation on spheres  $S_i$ i = 1, 2by harmonic functions in  $\Omega_i$ , with norm constraint on  $S_{i-1}$ • expansions on spherical harmonics data at electrodes  $e_i$ • transmission  $S_2 \rightarrow S_1$  then  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$ 

Boundary Element Methods, Bounded Extremal Problems

$$\min_{u_{ap}} \left( \left\| u - u_{ap} \right\|_{L^2(S_i)} + \lambda \left\| \text{grad } u_{ap} \right\|_{L^2(S_{i-1})} \right)$$

 $u_{ap}$  on spherical harmonic basis  $r' Y_{I}^{m}(\theta, \varphi)$ , Lagrange parameter  $\lambda > 0$ 

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