# **Processing Induced Correlation** in FMRI Data

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# Outline

- 1. Introduction to FMRI
- **2. Temporal Processing Correlation**
- **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**
- 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation
- 5. Spatio-Temporal Processing Correlation
- 6. Discussion





## **1. Introduction to FMRI**

In fMRI, a subject is placed in the MRI machine and slice-wise volume images of their brain are measured.





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#### voxel volume-element

#### Volume Image



## **1. Introduction to FMRI**

We observe volume images over time, t=1, ..., n.



Let's focus on a single slice over time. Slice 5.









t=n





## **1. Introduction to FMRI**

Subjects are generally performing a designed cognitive task through the *n* time points.







#### voxel volume-element



## **2. Temporal Processing Correlation**

Time series processing is a weighting of the original voxel measurements to produce a new time series.





### 1/4 1/2 1/4



## **2. Temporal Processing Correlation**

Imagine a voxel time series of measurements  $v_t$ , t=1,...n=512 iid N(50,16).



Statistical properties exactly as designed. Initially no temporal correlation.

#### **D.B.** Rowe



#### Sample Autocorrelation Function



## 2. Temporal Processing Correlation

Imagine a voxel time series of measurements  $v_t$ ,  $t=1,\ldots n=512$  iid N(50,16). If we smooth the time series with a 3 point kernel 1/4 1/2 1/4, then ...



Same mean, reduced variance, but induced temporal correlation! Need to account for or remove induced correlation!

#### **D.B.** Rowe



#### Sample Autocorrelation Function

## 2. Temporal Processing Correlation

In statistics, we know that if a vector v has a mean  $\delta$ , and covariance  $\Gamma$ ,

then y = Ov has a mean  $\mu = O\delta$ , and a covariance  $\Sigma = O\Gamma O^T$ .

Then  $\Sigma$  can converted into a correlation matrix  $R = D^{-1/2} \Sigma D^{-1/2}$ , where  $D^{-1/2} = 1/\sqrt{diag(\Sigma)}$ .

Assume voxel measurements are temporally independent,  $\Gamma = I$ .

We can calculate the effects of temporal processing.







## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

Image processing induces a local spatial correlation between voxels.



covariance  $\Sigma = O \Gamma O^T$ .

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## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

Image processing is a weighting of the original voxel measurements to produce a new series of images.







0	1/8	0
1/8	1/2	1/8
0	1/8	0



#### original



## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

Implications: Induced correlations.





0



+1

## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

Image processing induces a local spatial correlation between voxels.  $\Sigma = O \Gamma O^T$ 





original

correlation matrix

Initially no correlation between a voxel and it's neighbors.

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## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

Image processing induces a local spatial correlation between voxels.  $\Sigma = O \Gamma O^T$ 



smoothed



We can see the induced correlation between a voxel and it's neighbors.

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0	1/8	0
1/8	1/2	1/8
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## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

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## **3. Spatial Processing Correlation**

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smoothed

We can see the induced correlation between a voxel and it's neighbors.

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### 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation

 $S(k_x,k_y)$ 



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#### $T_2^*$ weighted images

 $n_x = n_y = 96$  $\Delta x = \Delta y = 2.5 \text{ mm}$ FOV=240 mm



## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation



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### $n_x = n_v = 8$ $\Delta x = \Delta y = 30 \text{ mm}$ FOV=240 mm





#### **Rowe DB**

Rowe 2009; Nencka, Hahn, Rowe, 2009; Karaman, Nencka, Bruce, Rowe, 2014.







### **Rowe DB**

Rowe 2009; Nencka, Hahn, Rowe, 2009; Karaman, Nencka, Bruce, Rowe, 2014.





## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation

Select reconstruction and processing matrices, O.



**Rowe DB** 

Rowe: Handbook of Neuroimaging Data Analysis, 2016.



#### Z, Zero Fill Interpolation A, Apodization $\Omega$ , IFT Reconstruction S, Smoothing



## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation



#### **Rowe DB**

Rowe, Handbook of Neuroimaging Data Analysis, 2016.



#### Z, Zero Fill Interpolation A, Apodization $\Omega$ , IFT Reconstruction S, Smoothing

 $\mu = O\delta$ 



## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation

### Implications: Induced correlations.



**Rowe DB** 

Rowe, Handbook of Neuroimaging Data Analysis, 2016.



Z, Zero Fill Interpolation A, Apodization  $\Omega$ , IFT Reconstruction S, Smoothing

 $E(s) = \delta$  $cov(s) = \Gamma$ y=Os $\mu = O\delta$  $\Sigma = O\Gamma O^{T}$  $R = D^{-1/2} \Sigma D^{-1/2}$ 



## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation

SENSE reconstruction induced long range correlations.







#### +1

## 4. Reconstruction & Spatial Processing Correlation

GRAPPA reconstruction induced long range correlations.









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## **5. Spatio-Temporal Processing Correlation**

Image & time series processing weights of the original voxel measurements to produce a new series of images. Spatial and temporal correlation induced.



#### Rowe 2009; Nencka, Hahn, Rowe, 2009; Karaman, Nencka, Bruce, Rowe, 2014.





### 6. Discussion

Time Series Processing Induces Temporal Correlation

Image Processing Induces Spatial Correlation

SENSE & GRAPPA reconstructions induce long range correlations.

Image & Time Series Processing Induces Spatio-Temporal Correlation

We need to obtain rawest data and minimize processing.

We need to find ways to include effects of processing in our analysis.







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# Thank You

# **Questions?**

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