Functional contrast and processing strategies at high field and high resolution



Renzo (Laurentius) Huber

FMRI facility (FMRIF) at the NIMH/NINDS of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Background Material

Relevant review article:



Hand-on layerification, https://youtu.be/tSA77mFTwcg?si=cQ_PqFXFu-VBINxX







Layers provide directionality information

higher hierarchy

lower hierarchy



Hierarchical connectivity in the canonical microcircuit:

Felleman and Van Essen 1991

<u>Functional contrast</u> and processing strategies at high field and high resolution



Renzo (Laurentius) Huber

FMRI facility (FMRIF) at the NIMH/NINDS of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Neurovascular coupling: fMRI is an indirect measure of neural activity



www.neurobureau.org Art competition 2018, fMRI and the BOLD Signal, Jim Stanis, USC, licensed with Creative Commons

Quantifiability of GE-BOLD

BOLD contrast origin is not straight-forward:



Quantifiability of GE-BOLD

BOLD contrast origin is not straight-forward:



Specificity of GE-BOLD



[Huber et al., NeuroImage, 2015]

[Lu et al., MRM, 2003]

Popular alternative contrast



CBV contrast in <u>Va</u>scular <u>Space</u> <u>O</u>ccupancy (VASO)

VASO is based on blood nulling in an inversion-recovery sequence



[Lu et al., MRM, 2003: Jin and Kim 2008]

CBV contrast in <u>Va</u>scular <u>Space</u> <u>O</u>ccupancy (VASO)



VASO is a negative contrast



[Lu et al., MRM, 2003: Jin and Kim 2008]

Popular alternative contrast





ASL (arterial spin labeling) for CBF measurements (FAIR)





functional CBF with ASL





60 40 20 20 CSF GΜ WM

resolution: 0.8 mm Data from Dimo Ivanov, MBIC, Maastricht

[Huber, Uludağ, Möller, NeuroImage, 2018]

0.9mm iso, FAIR PASL, 7T



adapted from [Kashyap, PLOS One, 2021]

Popular alternative contrast



Calibrated BOLD: estimation of CMRO₂

$$\frac{\Delta BOLD}{BOLD} = M \left[1 - \left(\frac{CMR_{O_2}}{CMR_{O_2}} \right)^{\beta} \left(\frac{CBV_v}{CBV_v|_{rest}} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_v - \beta}{\alpha_t}} \right]_{(Hoge, 1999), (Davis, 1998)}$$
hypercapnia
$$Vessel \\ dilation \\ Cosumption$$

$$Vessel \\ dilation \\ Gilbration \\ Gi$$

Calibrated BOLD: estimation of CMRO₂

 $\frac{\Delta BOLD}{BOLD} = M \left[1 - \left(\frac{CMR_{O_2}}{CMR_{O_2}|_{rest}} \right)^{\beta} \left(\frac{CBV_{\nu}}{CBV_{\nu}|_{rest}} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_{\nu} - \beta}{\alpha_t}} \right]$



Sequence parameters: FOV:4.8x4.8 cm² Resol [mm³]: **0.75x0.75**x1.5 TR/TI1TI2= 3/0.95/2.45 s **TE = 18** ms 7T





























Summary:

- Non-BOLD layer-fMRI is noisier (reducing unwanted signal)
- Non-BOLD layer-fMRI is more specific
- Non-BOLD layer-fMRI is more quantitative

What about spin echo?



GE-BOLD vs. other sequences



Have some class and spend the money on long enough scan sessions to use VASO.

Other contrasts



Allen Song et al. functional diffusion



[Truong and Song 2009]

[Toi et al. 2022]

SG Kim et al.: functional $T_{1\rho}$ captures CSF volume change TSL = 0 TSL = 200 ms





[Jin and Kim 2010]



Functional contrast and **processing strategies** at high field and high resolution



Renzo (Laurentius) Huber

FMRI facility (FMRIF) at the NIMH/NINDS of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)



LayNi: a software suite for layer-fMRI

https://github.com/layerfMIRI/LAYNII



Faruk Gulban

Huber R. Poser BA ,Bandettini PA, Arora K, Wagstyl K, Cho S, Goense J, Nothnagel N, Morgan AT, Van Den Hurk J, Reynold RC, Glen, DR, Goebel RW, Gulban, Omer Faruk, LAYNII: A software suite for layer-fMRI. Neuroimage. 2021.

Small FOV complicates surface-based layerification



Small FOV complicates surface-based layerification



beer-wine dilemma



Small FOV complicates surface-based layerification



beer-wine dilemma





Small FOV complicates surface-based layerification

beer-wine dilemma

Non-BOLD contrasts









Small FOV complicates surface-based layerification



Non-BOLD contrasts



Artifacts, and noise



Layerification with the LayNii program LN2_LAYERS



Ding et al. (2016), T2*-weighted, small section of V1.

See also: Waehnert et al. 2014 Kemper et al., 2018 Wagstyl et al., 2020 Bazin et al., 2014 Huntenburg et al., 2018 Laminar Python 2017 Van Mourik et al., 2019 Wagstyl et al. (2020),



Column generation



De-veining (a.k.a. model based GE-BOLD vein-effect mitigation)



Layer-specific smoothing



See also Blazejewska et al., 2019

layer-fMRI (post) processing



Adapted from Arnsten et al., 2012 Wang et al., 2004; Opris et al., 2011; Markowitz et al., 2015; Bastos et al., 2018

Most common layer-fMRI: locating activity changes by subtracting task conditions



Emily Finn [2019]



Adapted from Arnsten et al., 2012 Wang et al., 2004; Opris et al., 2011; Markowitz et al., 2015; Bastos et al., 2018

Most common layer-fMRI: locating activity changes by subtracting task conditions

Task: manipulation vs. maintenance response vs. letter sorting

[D'Esposito et al., 1999]









Resting-state connectivity

VASO deep V5 pial

pial

V5





V5-V1 feedback originated in deeper layers of V5 and terminates in upper layers of V1



LGN ROI



2.3 z-score 6

MT+ (containing V5) is selected based on a functional localizer: motion vs static





Seed-based connectivity in V1 across layers

V5/MT+ seed

thalamus seed

VASO

VASO

connectivity [z-score]

LGN seed

V5/MT+ seed

3

2

Free movie watching

Human connectome data:

93 non-sibling HCP participants at 1.6 mm, TR = 1s whole brain 15 min movie consisting of 5 short clips with rest ICA-fixed, 7T





Participants are clustered in three groups (based on similarity in task positive network).

Layer-fMRI data:

6 participants at 2mm and 0.8mm (VASO) TR = 2.5 s, 7T 5 times same movie HCP signal traces are taken as regressor VASO vessel correction

