

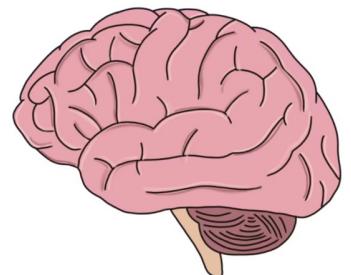
Matrix Factorization Approaches for Demixing fMRI Data

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UC San Diego

Department of Cognitive Science

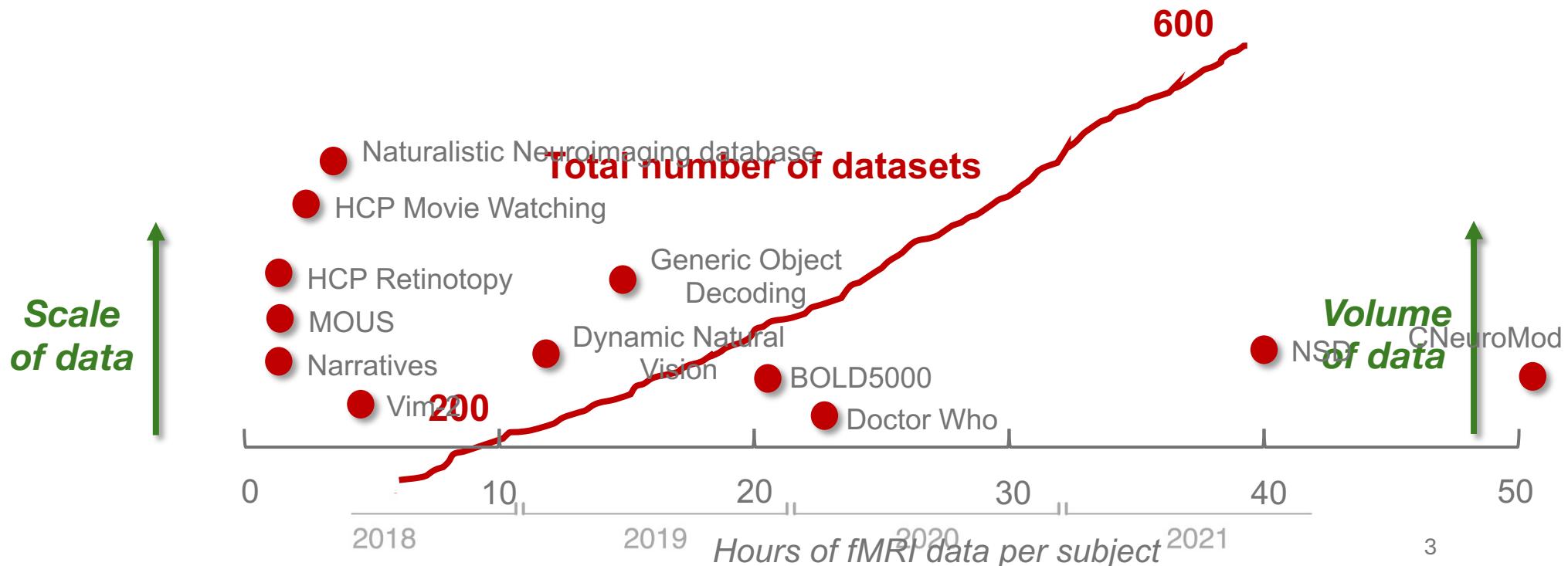
mkhosla@ucsd.edu



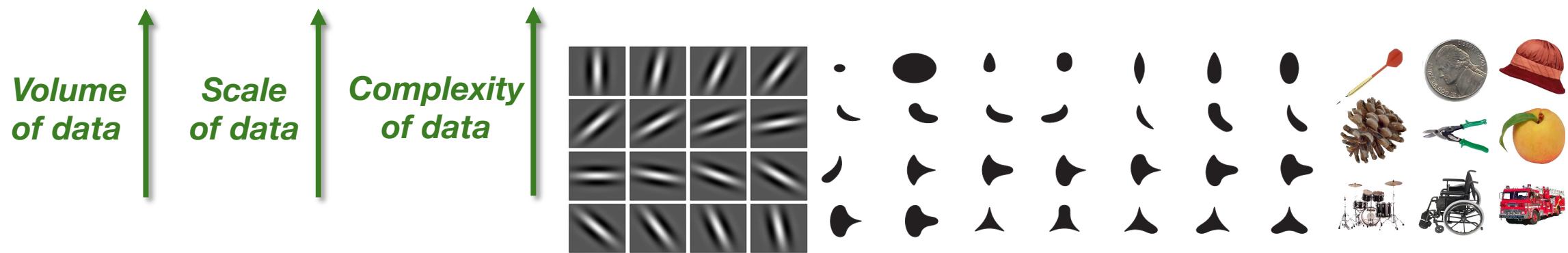
Lecture Overview

- Example from research: how does our brain represent our visual world?
- High-level introduction to Matrix Factorization Methods
- Another research example: how does our brain represent sounds?
- Diverse applications of matrix factorization in neuroscience
- Practical Demonstration: Demixing fMRI data using matrix factorization

Towards data-driven modeling in **large-scale** **naturalistic neuroscience**



Towards data-driven modeling in large-scale **naturalistic** neuroscience



Towards data-driven modeling in large-scale **naturalistic** neuroscience

*Volume
of data* ↑ *Scale
of data* ↑ *Complexity
of data* ↑



*Complex
images*

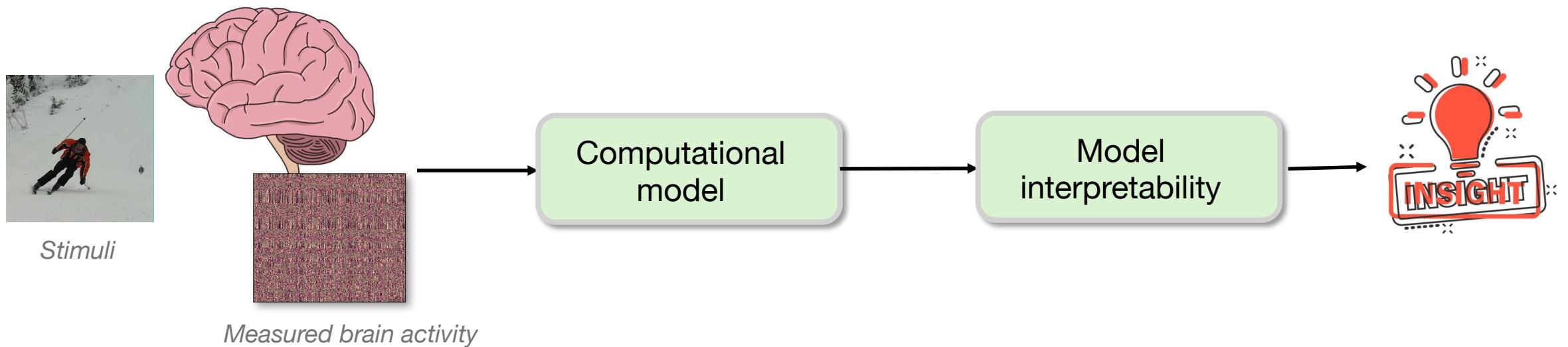


Video clips



Movies

Towards **data-driven modeling** in large-scale naturalistic neuroscience



Models bridge large-scale experiments with scientific insights

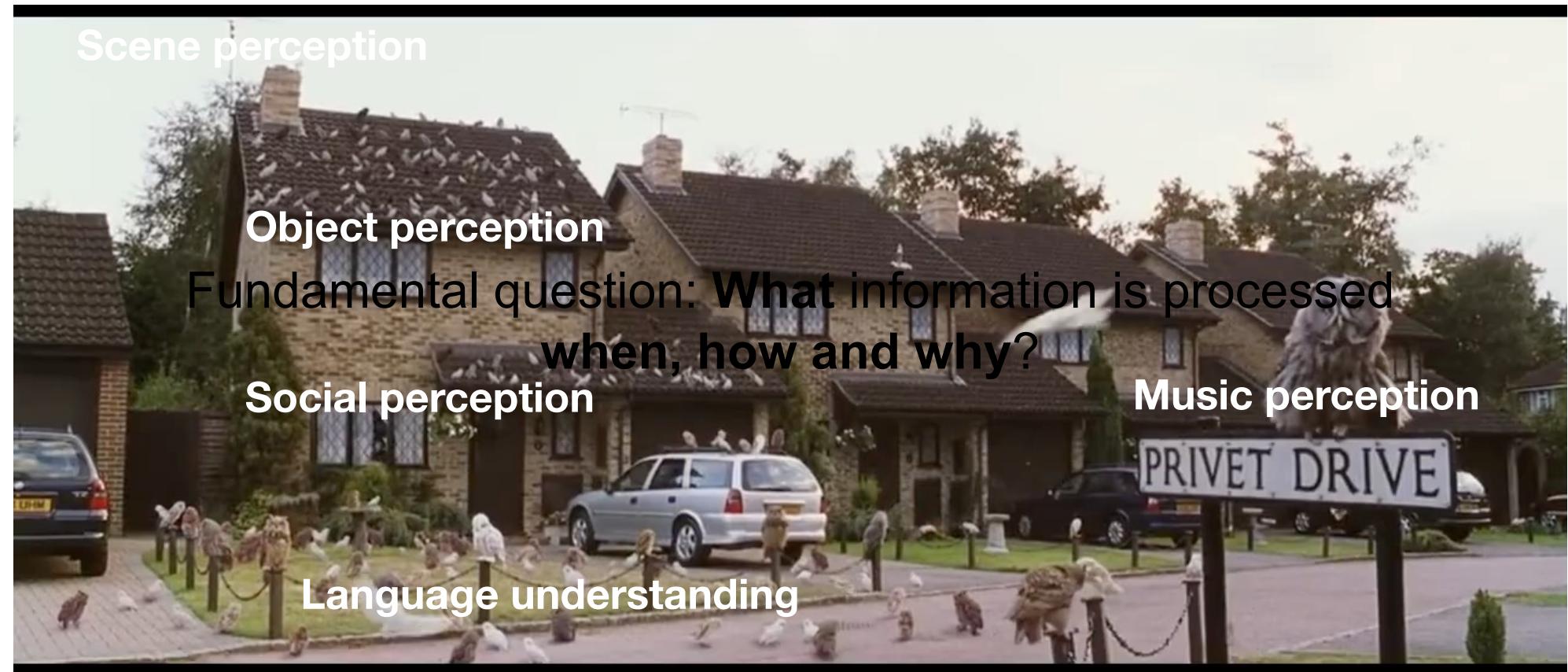
Towards **data-driven modeling** in large-scale naturalistic neuroscience

“
When any field amasses enough quantitative data, it turns to mathematical modeling to make sense of it. Models find structure in large piles of numbers; they can stitch together disparate findings and show how they arise from a unified process.
”

Large-scale
data analysis

Neuroscience

How do we process the external world?



Large-scale
data analysis

Neuroscience

*How is the brain **representing**? world?*

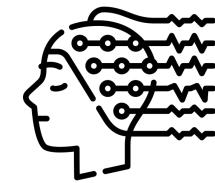
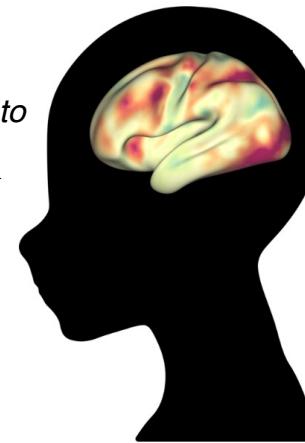
Stimuli

The girl went outside to get a coffee but the café was closed

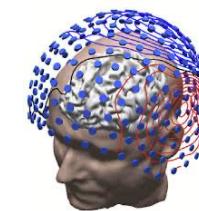


presented to
subjects

Measured brain responses



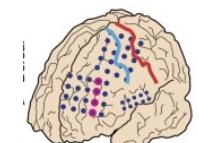
EEG



MEG



fMRI



ECoG

How were these regions discovered? a teeming atlas of

Generate hypothesis



e.g. are there neurons selectively responsive to faces?

Motion

Reaching

1959-

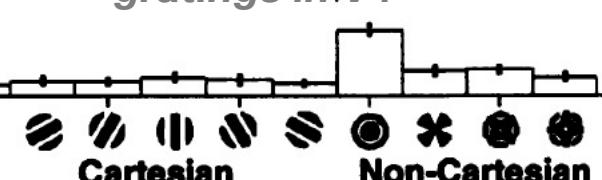
Orientation selectivity
in V1



[Hubel & Wiesel (1962)]



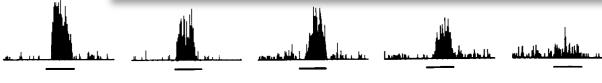
Orientation selectivity in V1
[Kanwisher et al., 1997]



Language

[Gallant et al. (1993)]

Hand



[Desimone et al. (1984)]

Li to

Measure brain response
and compare activity



1995-

Places

Faces

Objects

Bodies



Kanwisher et al., 1997

All of the major neuroscientific discoveries were enabled by the above hypothesis-driven process

What are the limitations of this approach?



Limited by human intuitions

- Limited generalization
- Lack ethological validity

Low spatial resolution of fMRI

What have we missed? Are there other important dimensions?

What are the ***fundamental dimensions*** along which the cortex is organized?

A new approach:

Large-scale datasets + Data-driven modeling



Naturalistic images

shown to subjects

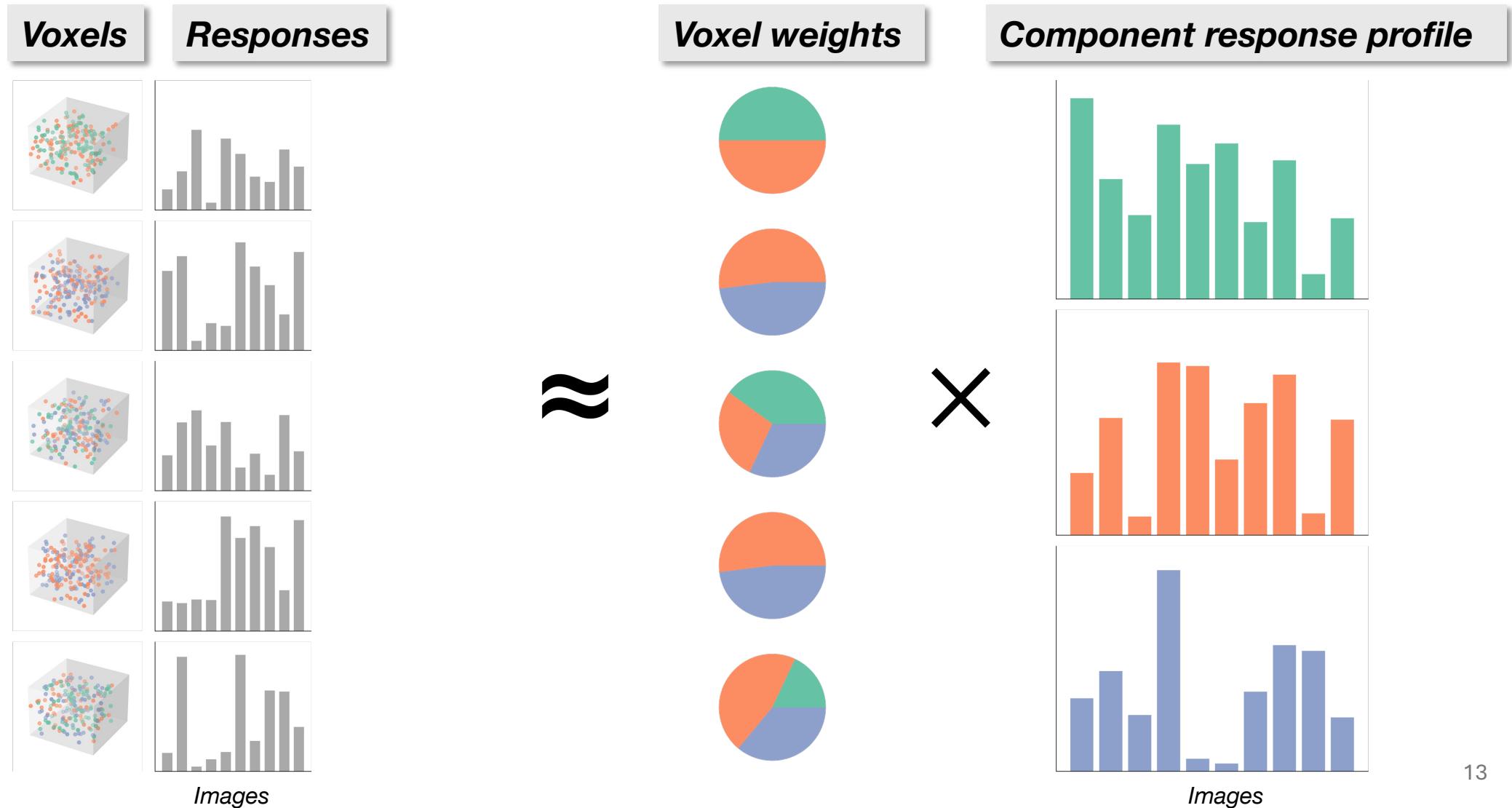


What have we missed? Are there other important dimensions?

What are the ***fundamental dimensions*** along which the cortex is organized?

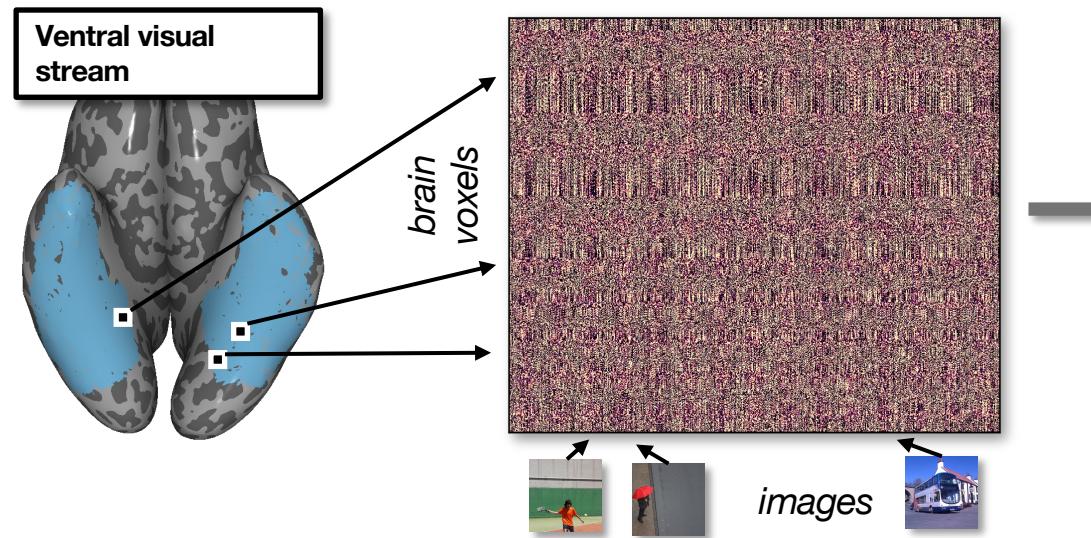


Large-scale datasets + Data-driven modeling



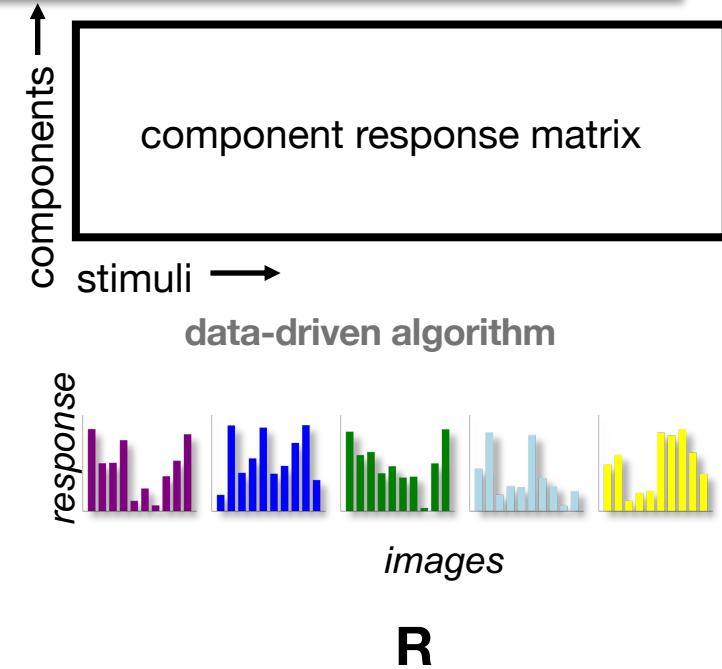
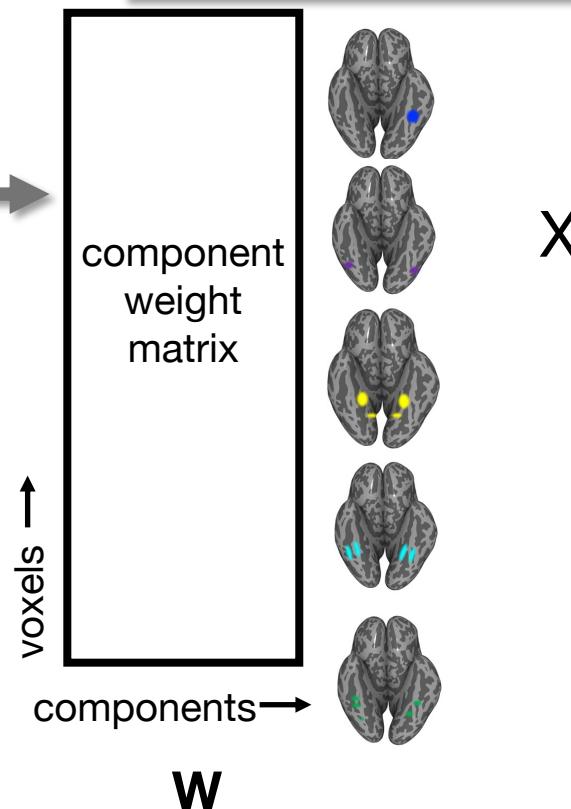
Large-scale datasets + Data-driven modeling

Goal: Discover the components ('neural populations') that produce the data



Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

$$\mathbf{D} \approx \mathbf{W}\mathbf{R}$$



Interlude: Demixing in neuroscience

- Many brain signals reflect linear mixtures of multiple sources
 - EEG, fMRI, calcium imaging
- Often want to recover underlying sources from the mixed signals
 - Matrix Factorization Methods like Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) or Independent Component Analysis (ICA) provide general-purpose statistical machinery

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

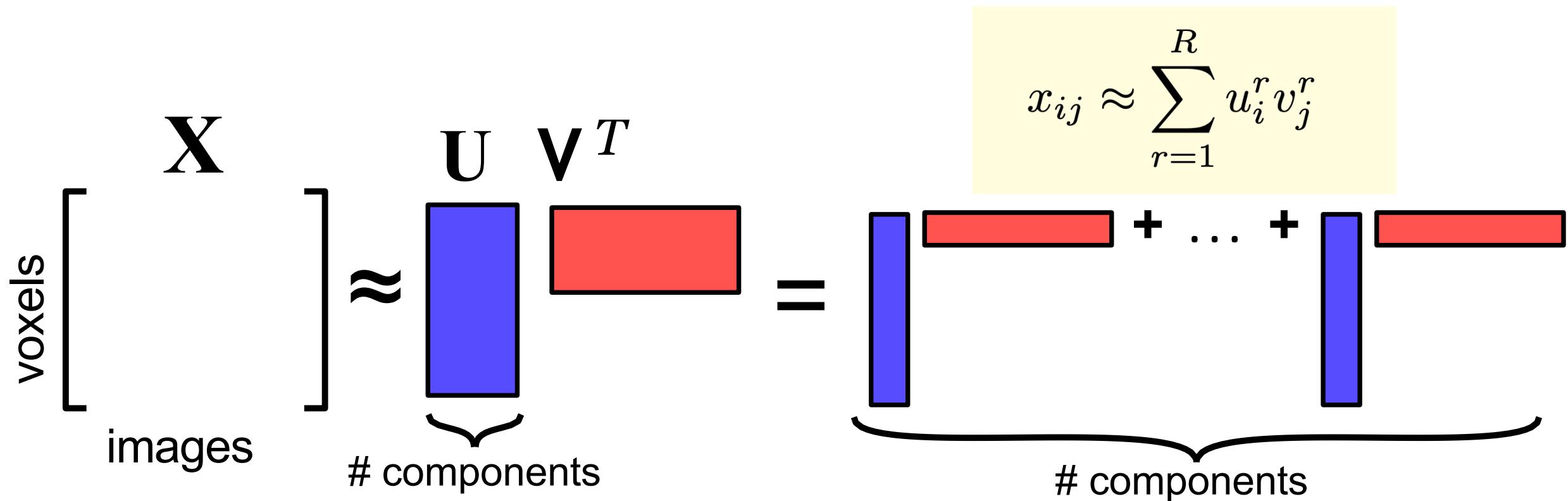
- A simple and general framework for extracting correlations and low-dimensional structure from matrix-coded datasets

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{voxels} \\ \vdots \\ \text{images} \end{array} \right] \end{matrix} \approx \mathbf{U} \mathbf{V}^T$$

The diagram illustrates the matrix factorization process. On the left, a tall, narrow matrix \mathbf{X} is shown with its vertical dimension labeled "voxels" and its horizontal dimension labeled "images". An approximation symbol (\approx) is placed between \mathbf{X} and the product of matrices \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{V}^T . To the right of the product, a bracket underlines the matrices \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{V}^T , with the label "# components" positioned below it. The matrix \mathbf{U} is colored blue, and the matrix \mathbf{V}^T is colored red.

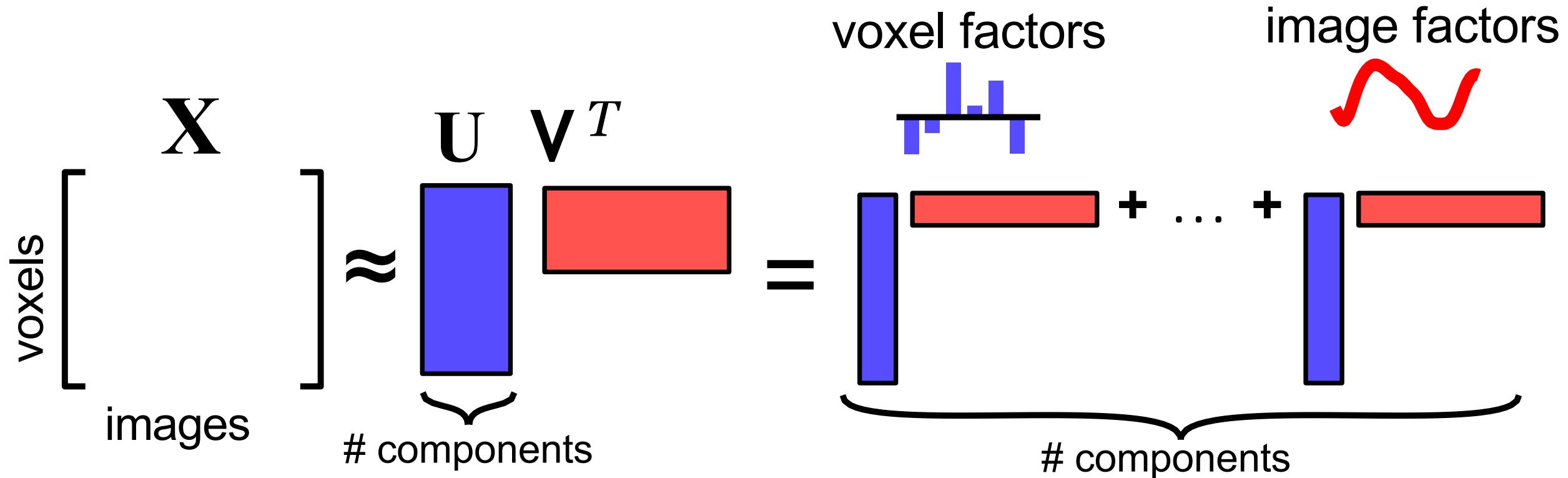
Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- A simple and general framework for extracting correlations and low-dimensional structure from matrix-coded datasets

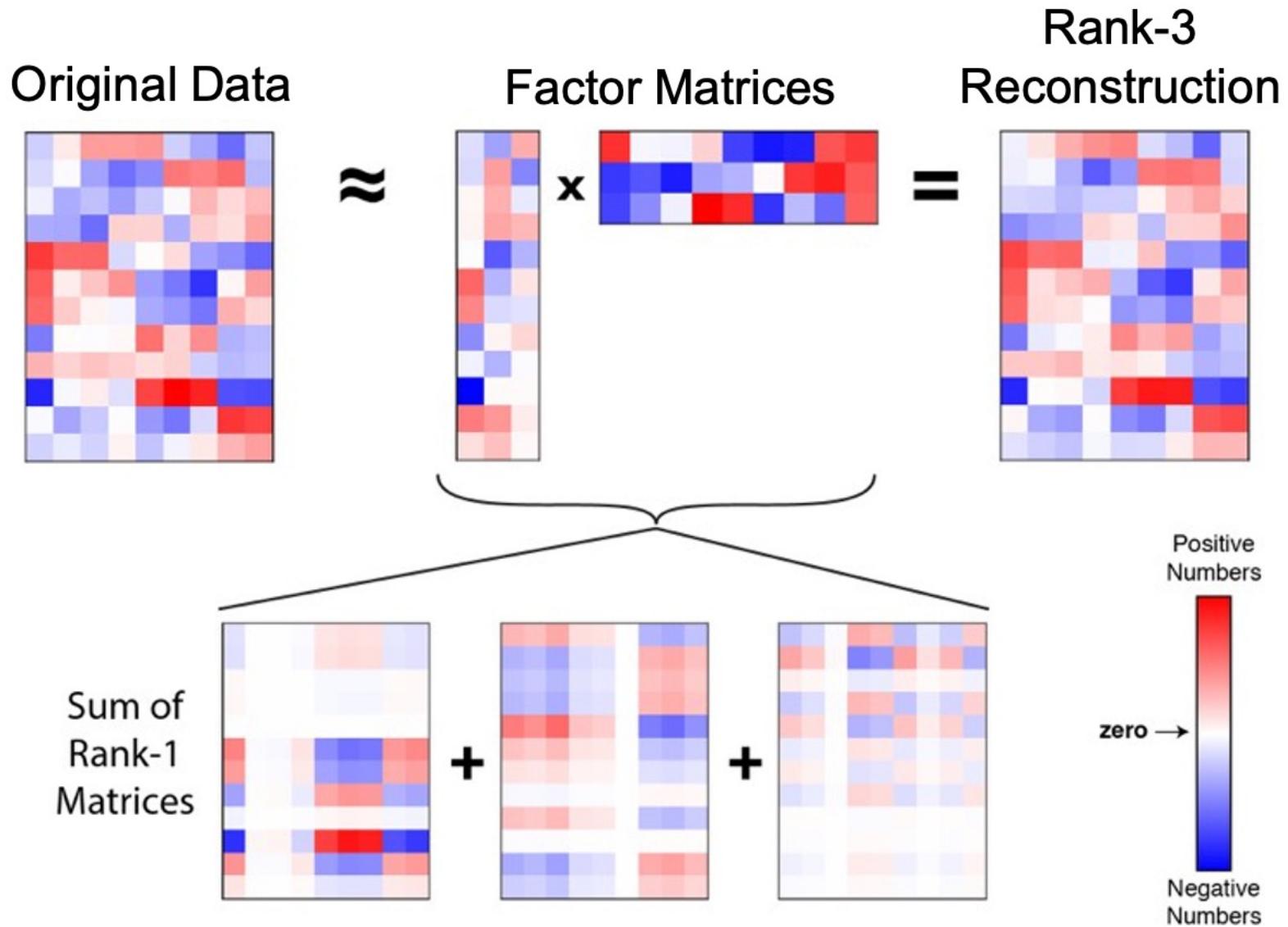


Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- A simple and general framework for extracting correlations and low-dimensional structure from matrix-coded datasets



Interlude: Visualization of Matrix Factorization



Adapted from Alex Williams

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- List of some matrix decomposition models

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- Matrix decomposition model, stated formally

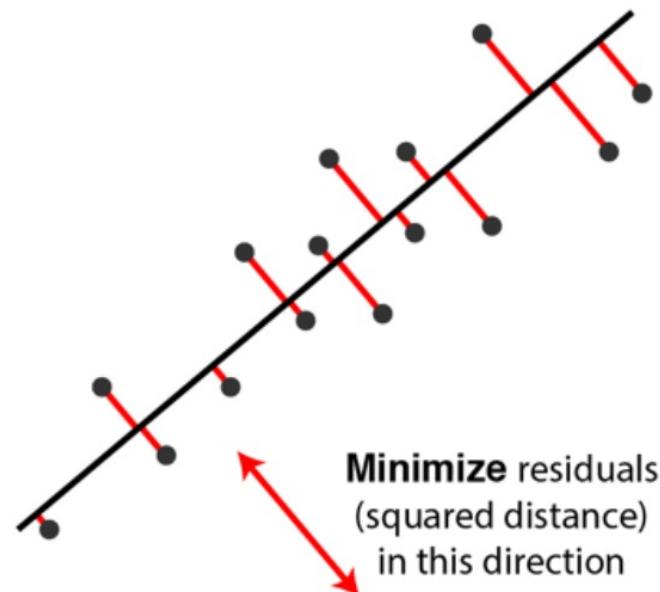
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize}_{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}} & \textcolor{red}{loss} \quad \textcolor{brown}{regularization} \\ & \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{UV}^T\|_F^2 + \lambda_u f_u(\mathbf{U}) + \lambda_v f_v(\mathbf{V}) \\ \text{subject to} & \mathbf{U} \in \Omega_u, \mathbf{V} \in \Omega_v \\ & \textcolor{blue}{constraints} \end{array}$$

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- Principal Components Analysis

$$\underset{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{UV}^T\|_F^2$$

(subject to $\mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}_k$)



Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

$$\underset{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{UV}^T\|_F^2$$

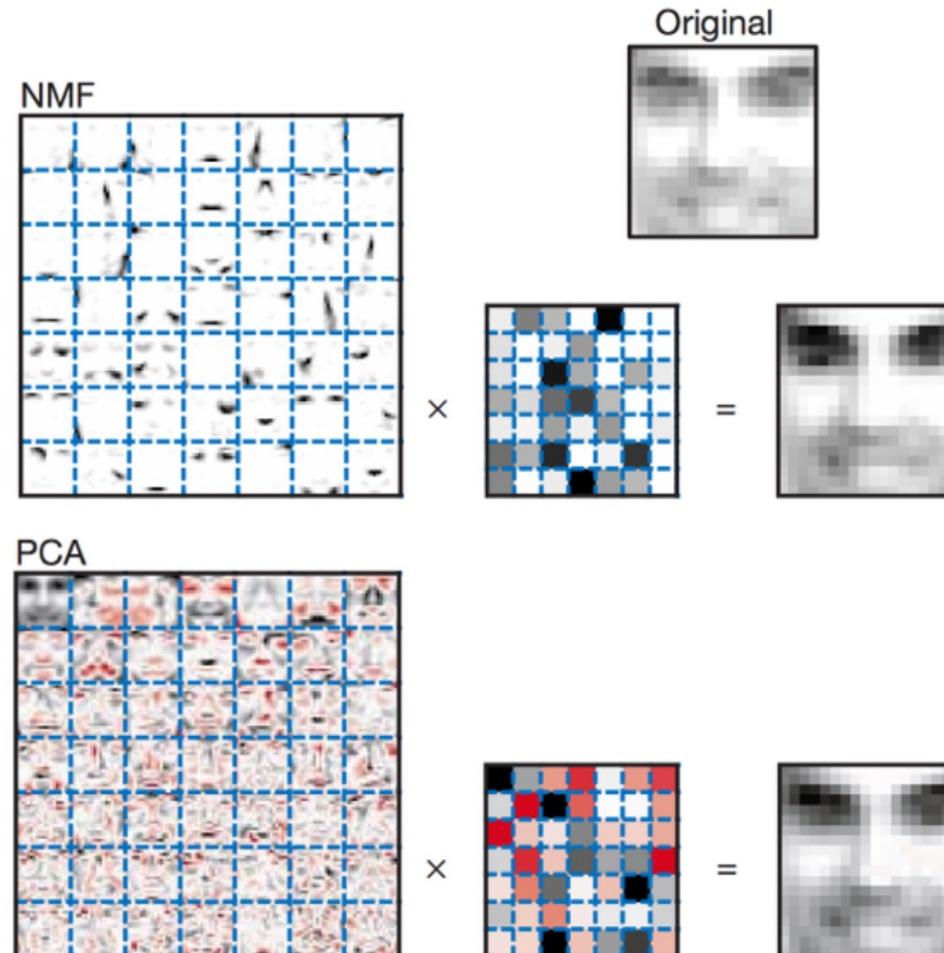
subject to $\mathbf{U} \geq 0, \mathbf{V} \geq 0$

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

- Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

$$\underset{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{UV}^T\|_F^2$$

subject to $\mathbf{U} \geq 0, \mathbf{V} \geq 0$



(Lee & Seung, 1999)

Interlude: Matrix Factorization

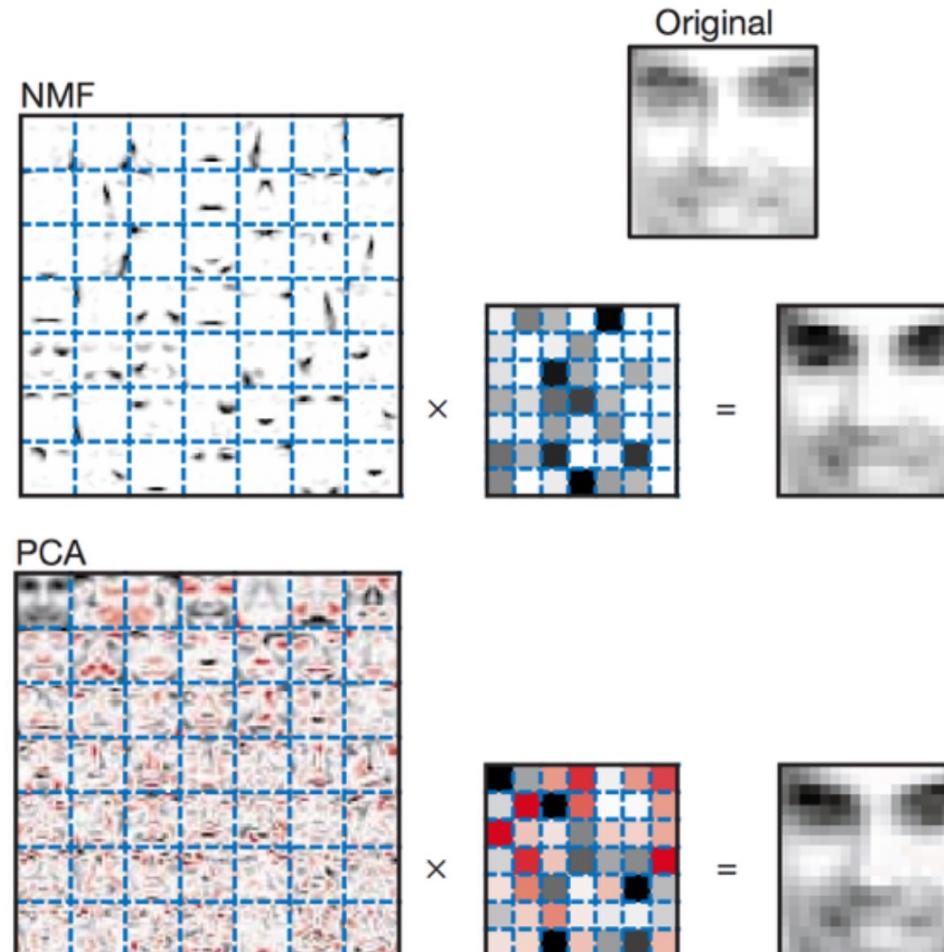
- Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

$$\underset{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{UV}^T\|_F^2$$

subject to $\mathbf{U} \geq 0, \mathbf{V} \geq 0$

NMF advantages:

- sparse factors
- additively combined
- can be “parts-based”
- can be unique



(Lee & Seung, 1999)

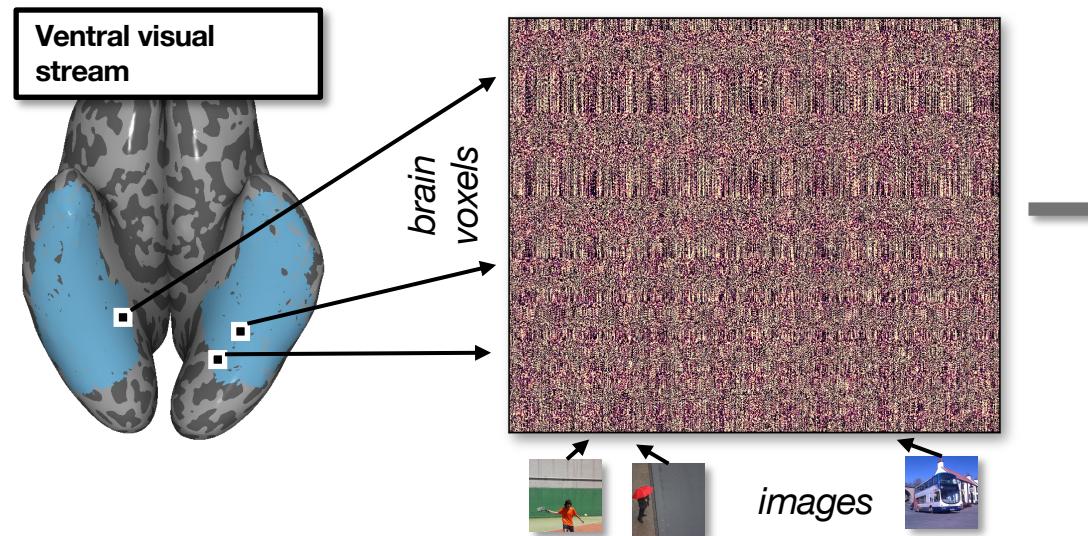
Interlude: Matrix Factorization

List of some other matrix decomposition models

- Sparse Principal Components Analysis:
sparsity penalties on U and V
- Independent Components Analysis:
statistical independence of columns of V
- Sparse NMF
sparsity penalties on U and/or V
- Semi-NMF
Only U or V constrained to have non-negative entries

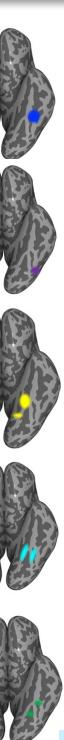
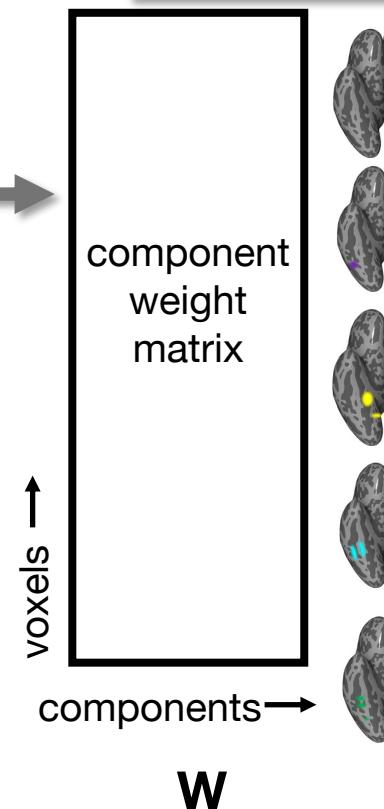
Large-scale datasets + Data-driven modeling

Goal: Discover the components ('neural populations') that produce the data

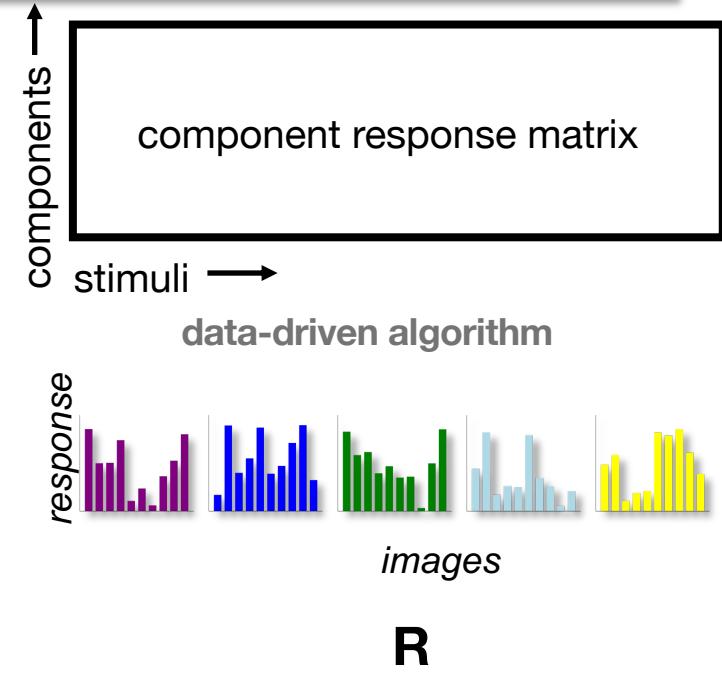


Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

$$\mathbf{D} \approx \mathbf{W}\mathbf{R}$$



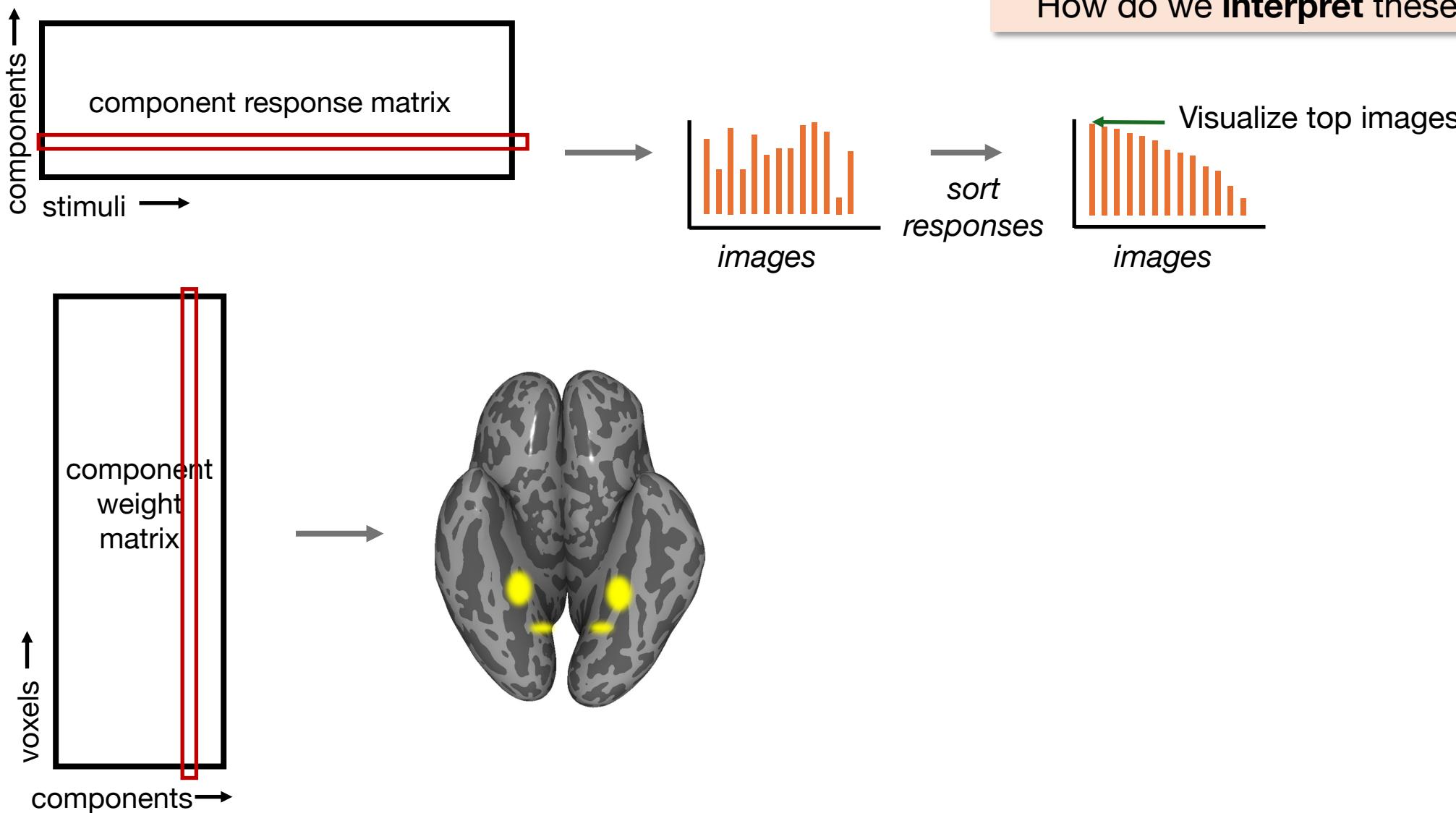
X



R

5 components present in every subject

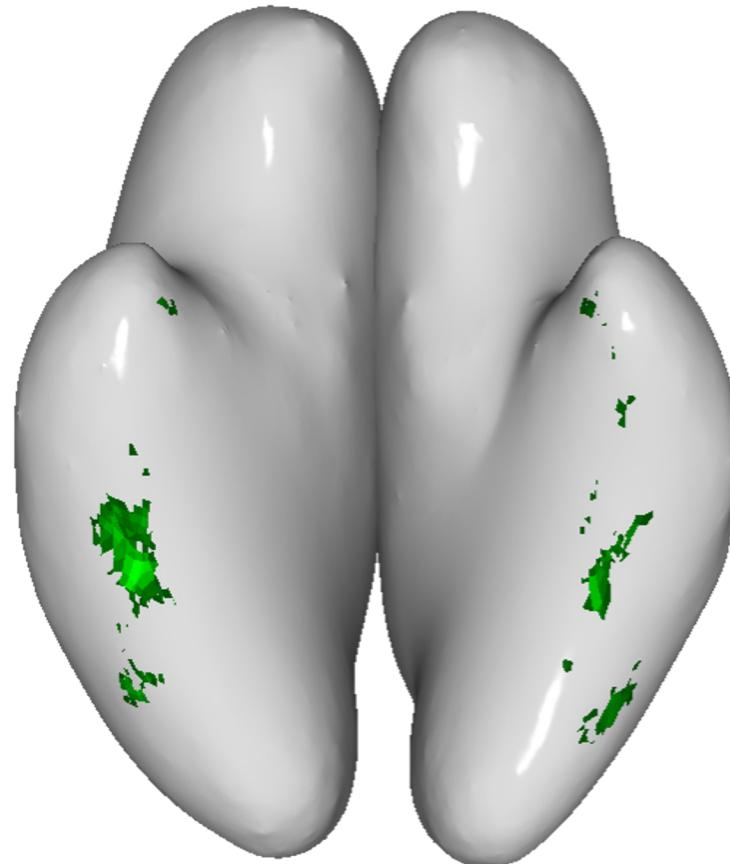
Large-scale datasets + Data-driven modeling



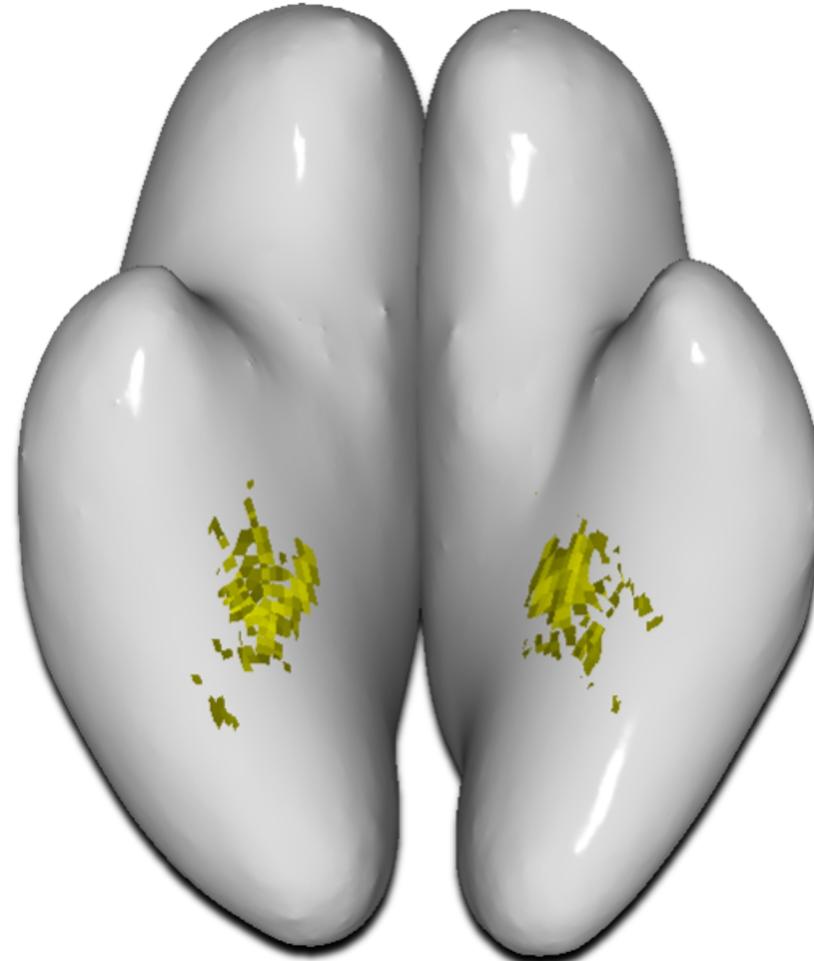
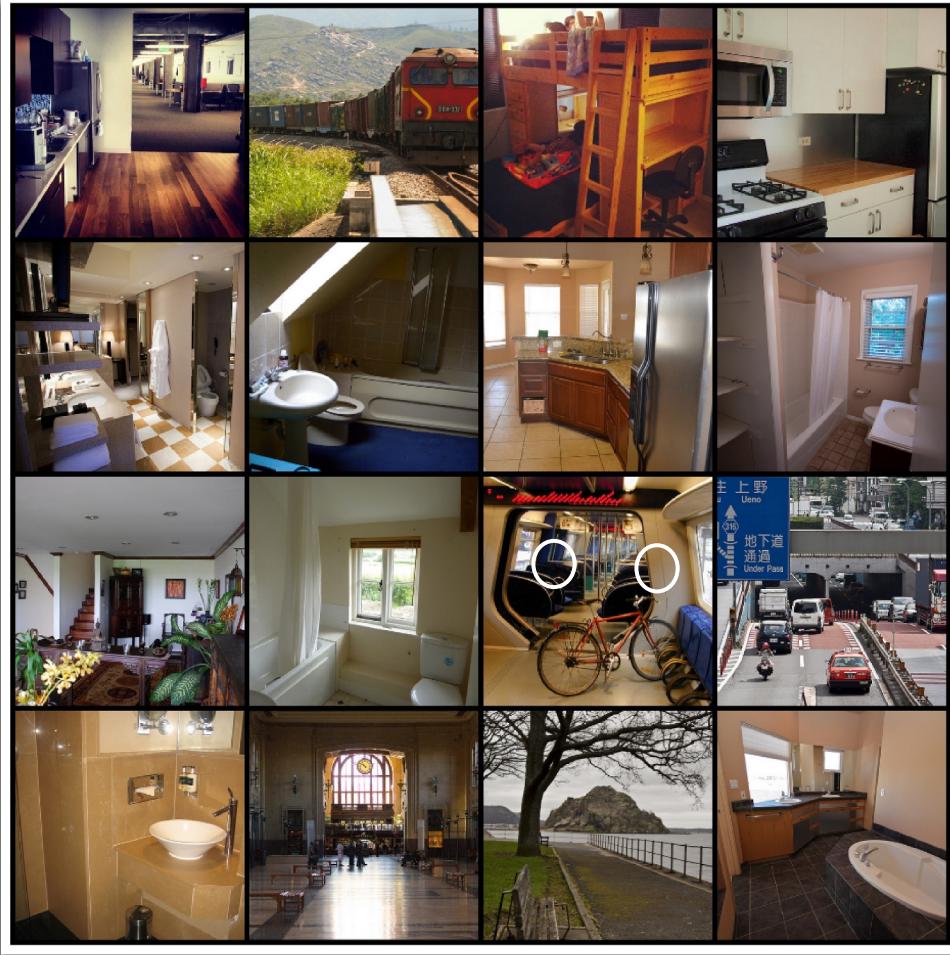
Component 1



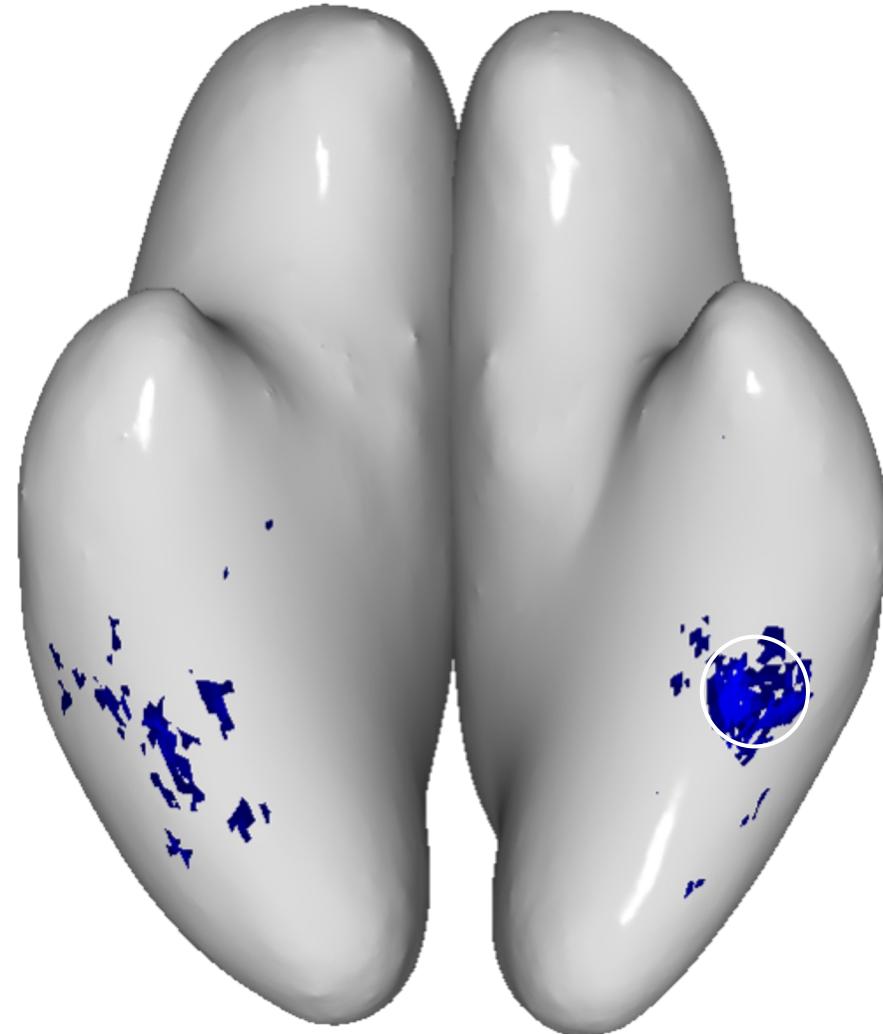
faces



Component 2



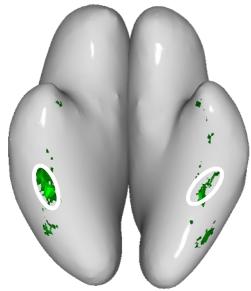
Component 3



Component 4

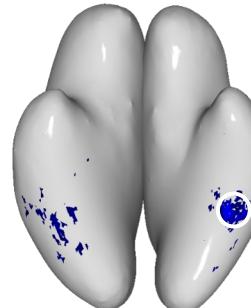


Component 1



faces

Component 3



words

Behavioral image salience rating
Low High

Component 1 (faces)
 $R = 0.84$

Component 2 (places)
 $R = 0.75$

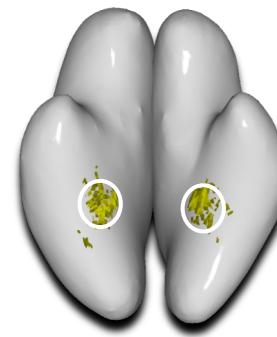
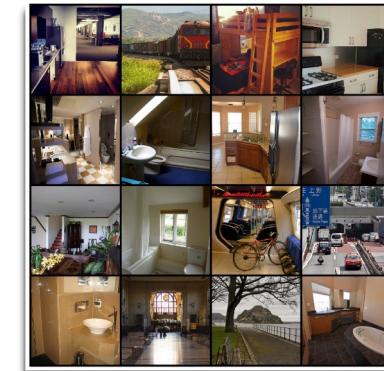
Component 3 (words)
 $R = 0.67$

Component 4 (bodies)
 $R = 0.75$

Component response, a.u.

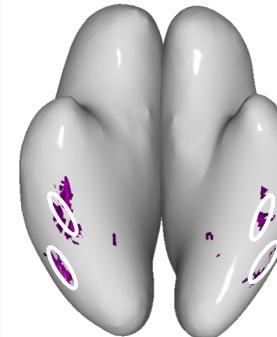
Stimulus ID for images shared across subjects
Images sorted by response magnitude per component

Component 2



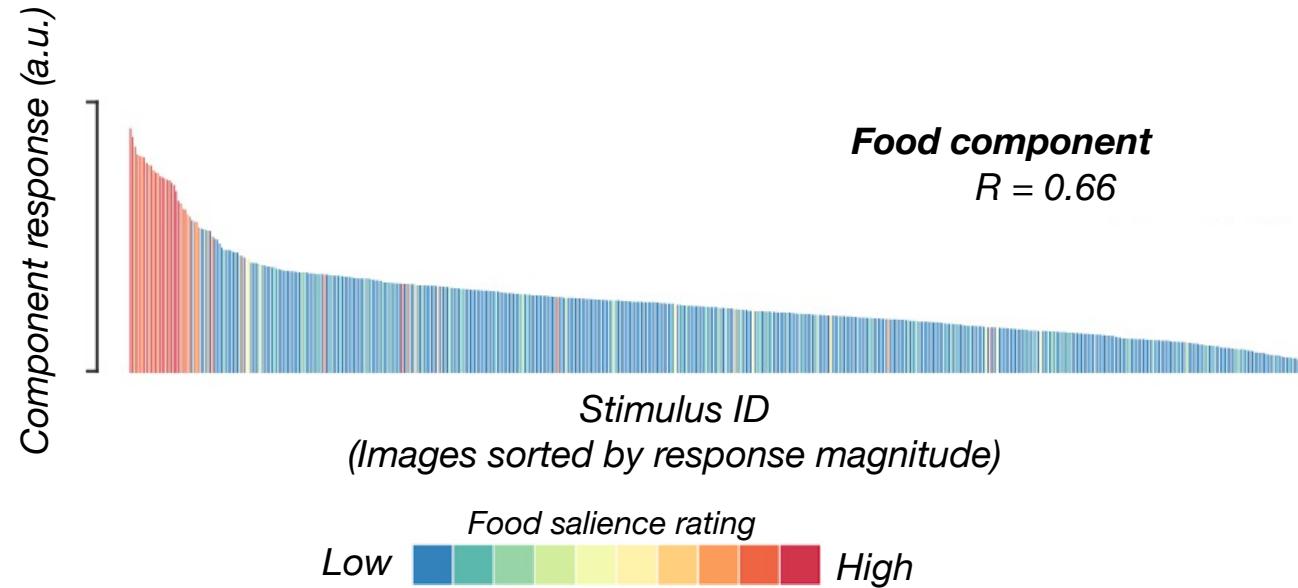
places

Component 4



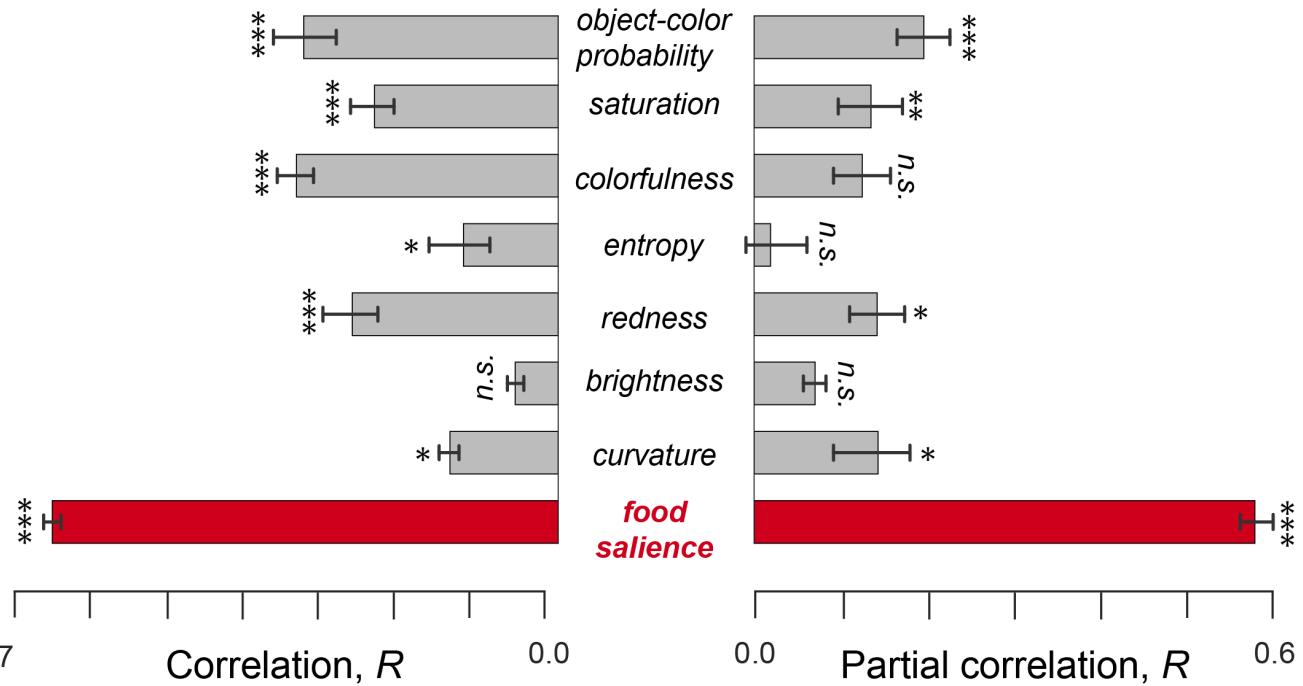
bodies

A novel fifth component



...is it really food?

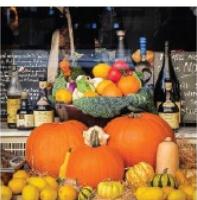
Low-level image properties and component response?



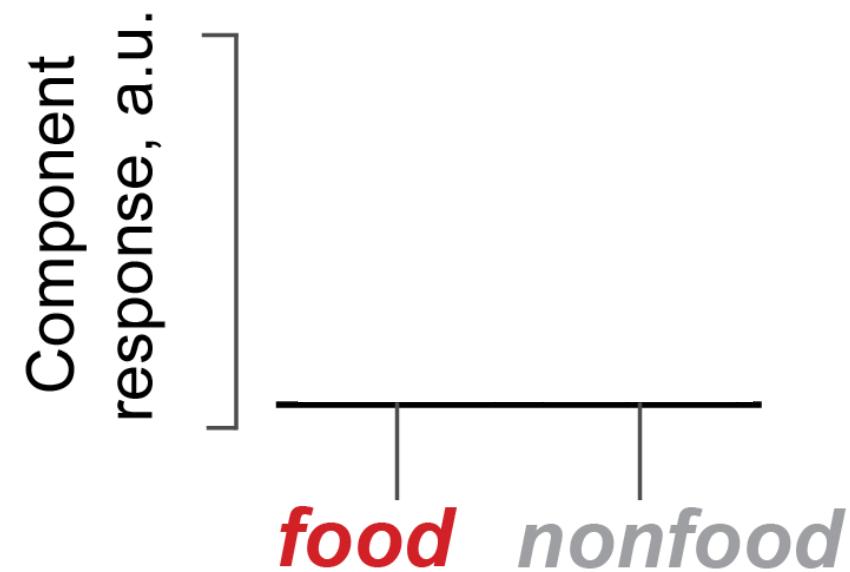
...is it really food?

food

Computational
matching algorithm

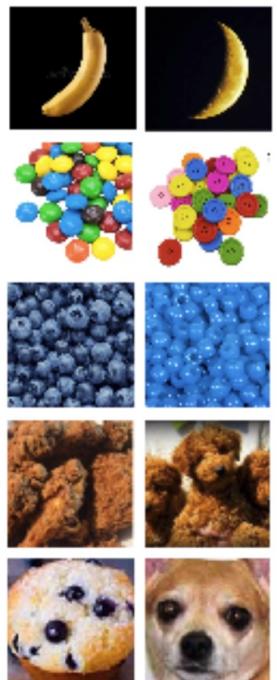


Big data approaches allow for
hypothesis-driven control analyses



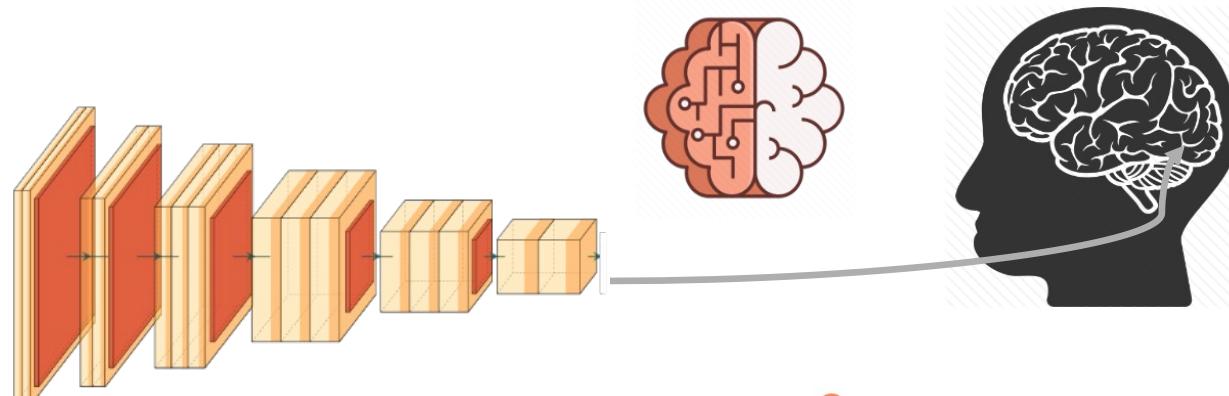
...is it really food?

Simulate the component

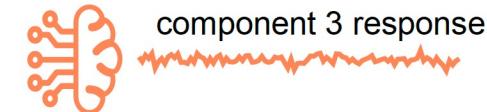


Model predictions

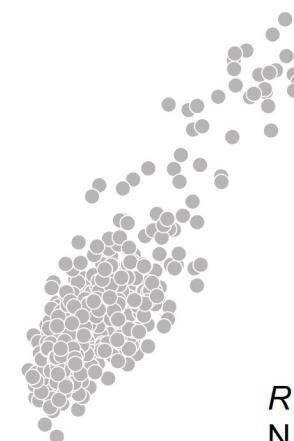
*Food selectivity persists even for
strongly matched controls!*



Predicted
model



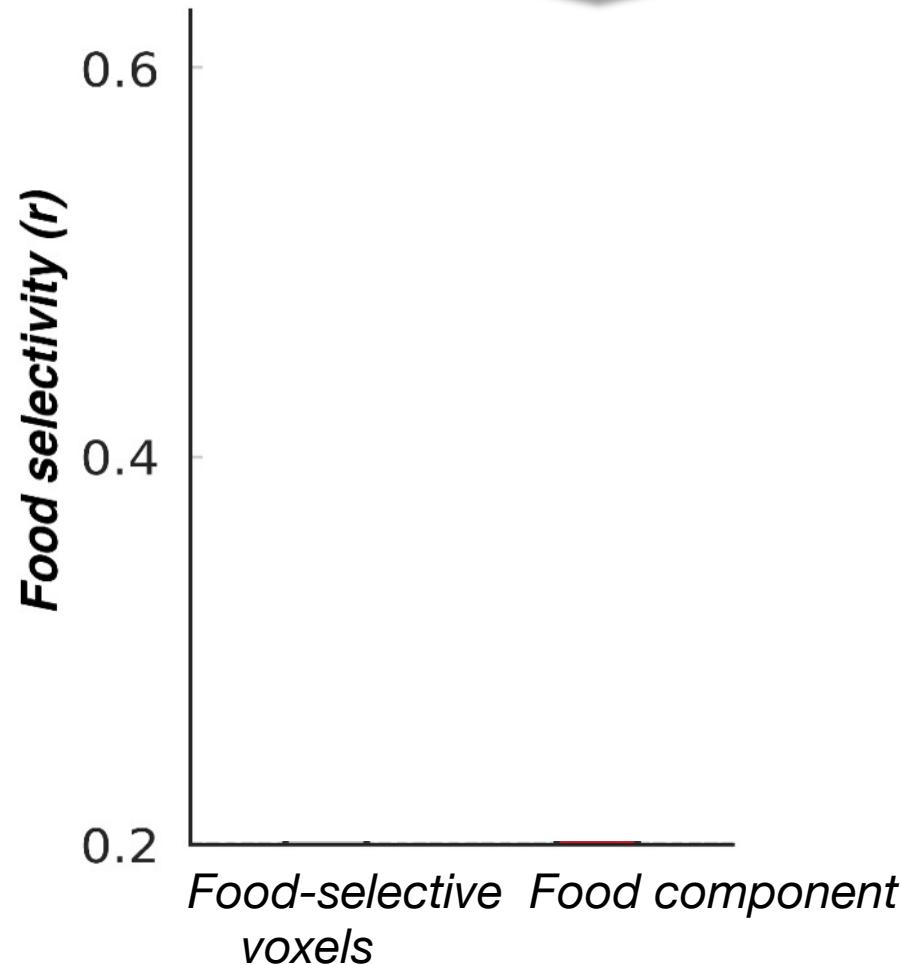
Big mode
observed response



$R = 0.83^{****}$
 $N = 515$ images

v for
yses

food nonfood



Component has higher selectivity than raw voxels

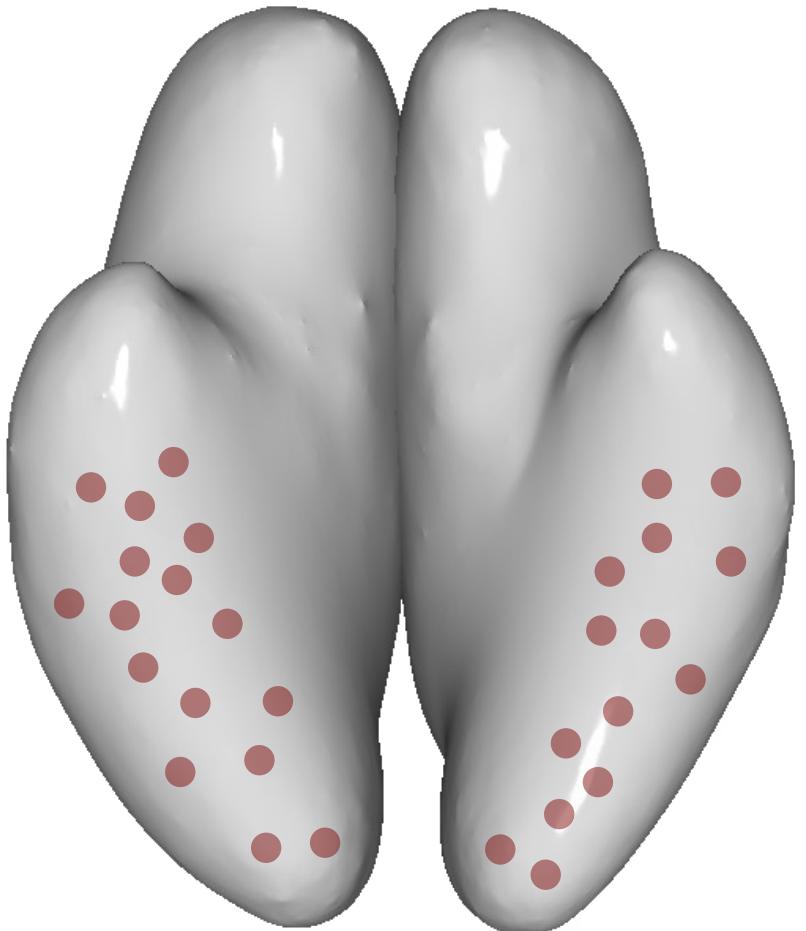
Why was this food component not discovered before?

De-mixing is important!

New methodological advances are crucial

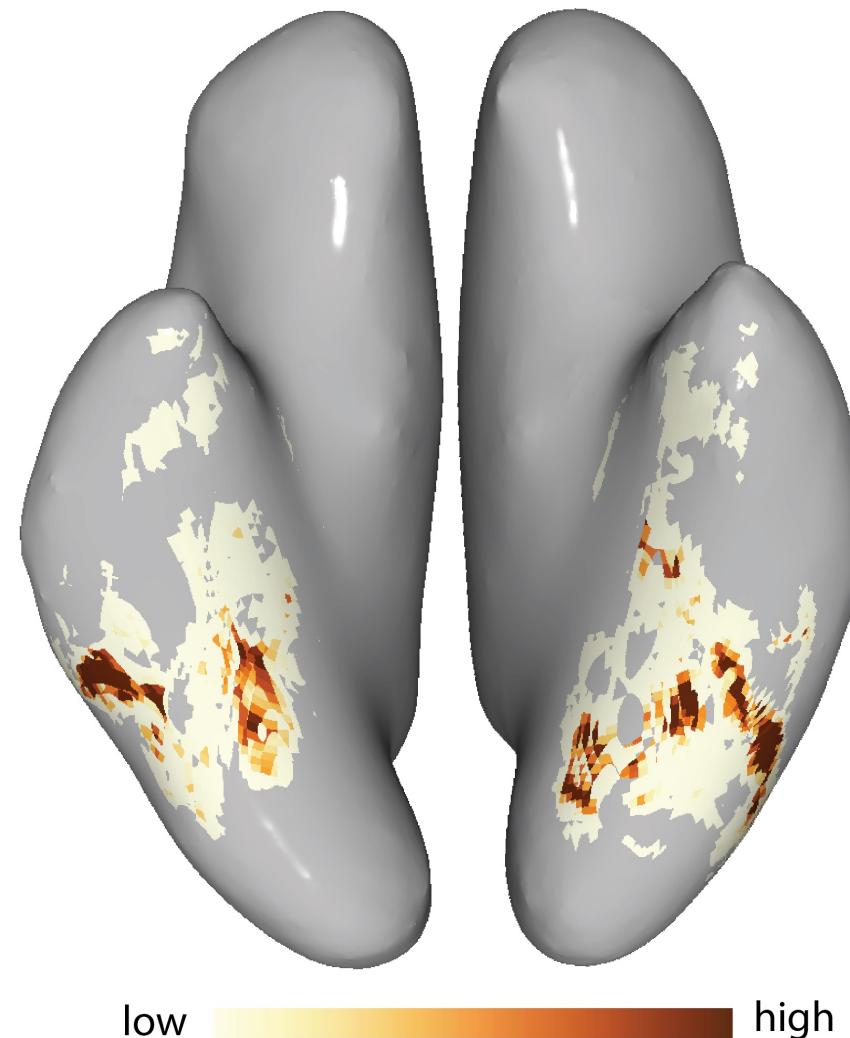
Where does it live in the brain?

Two possibilities



Where does it live in the brain?

Food component voxel weights



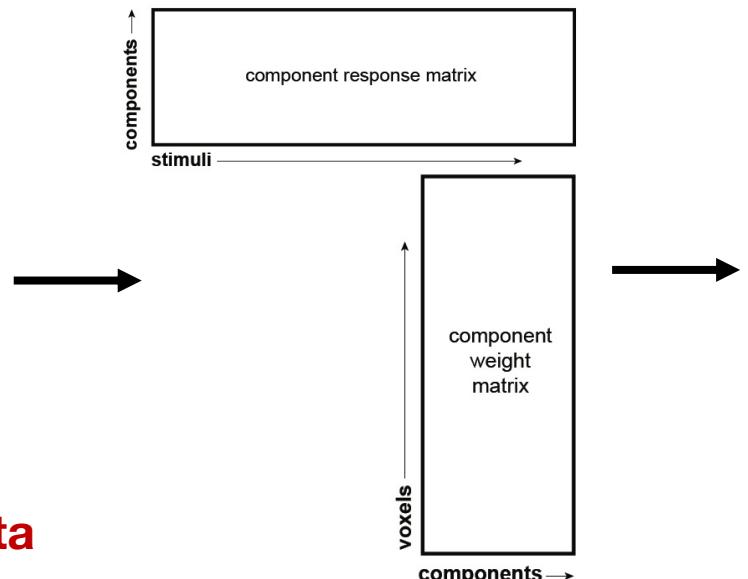
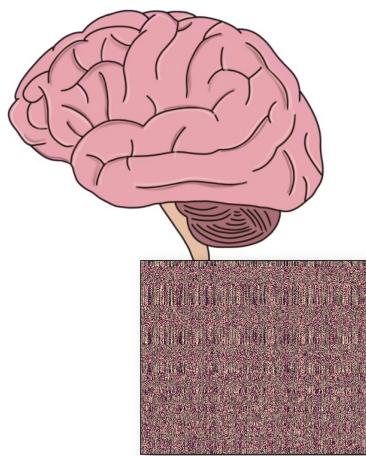
What are the ***fundamental dimensions*** along which the cortex is

These methods could be powerful in other domains, including **social perception and language understanding**

What have we missed?

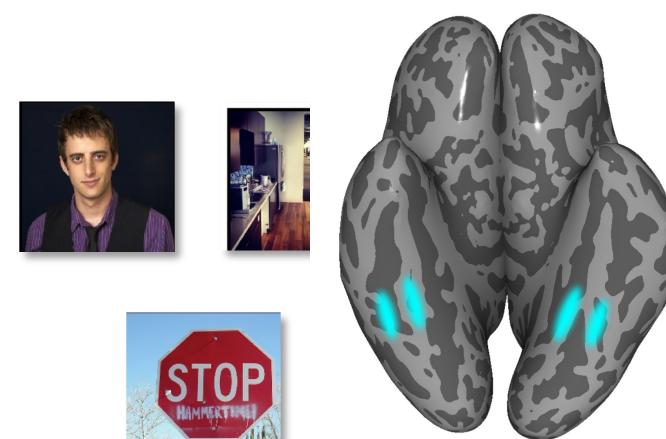
➤ Rediscovered neural selectivities for **faces, places, bodies and words**, suggesting these are **fundamental organizational dimensions**.

➤ Discovered a **novel selectivity for food** in the ventral visual cortex.



Brain activity data

**Consensus Bayesian
Non-Negative Matrix Factorization**

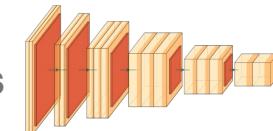


**Component visualization
(Generate hypothesis)**

Hypothesis-driven control analysis

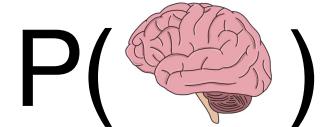


Model-driven control analysis



Test hypothesis

*How is the brain **representing**?*



Matrix Factorization

High-level visual cortex is richly populated with areas selective for meaningful categories such as faces, bodies, words, scenes and food

Khosla, Murty and Kanwisher. 2022. Current Biology

Lecture Overview

- Example from research: how does our brain represent our visual world?
- High-level introduction to Matrix Factorization Methods
- **Another research example: how does our brain represent sounds?**
- Diverse applications of matrix factorization in neuroscience
- Practical Demonstration: Demixing fMRI data using matrix factorization

Case Study II: How does the brain represent sounds?

Distinct Cortical Pathways for Music and Speech Revealed by Hypothesis-Free Voxel Decomposition

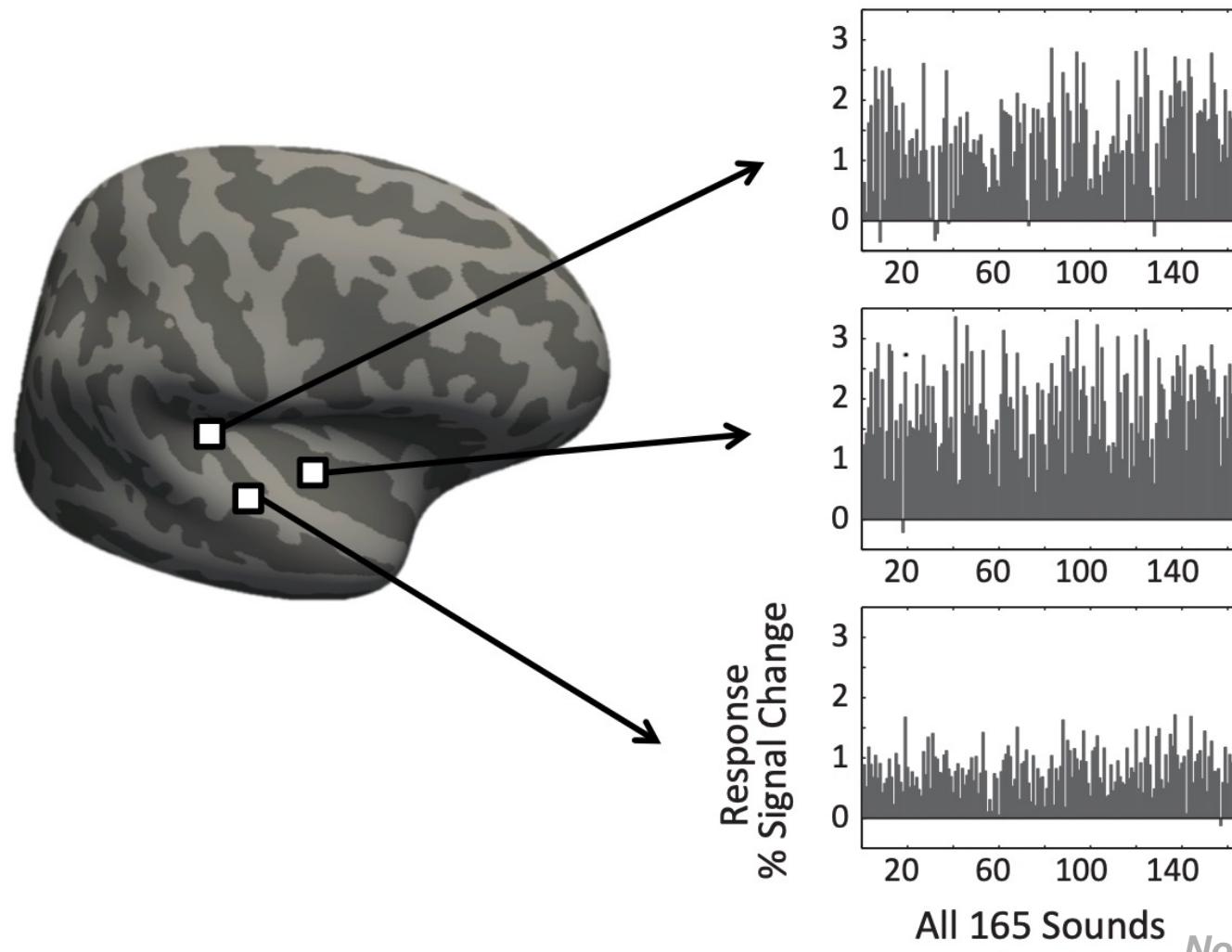
Sam Norman-Haignere¹   , Nancy G. Kanwisher^{1 2 3}, Josh H. McDermott^{1 3}

Measured fMRI responses to 165 natural sounds:

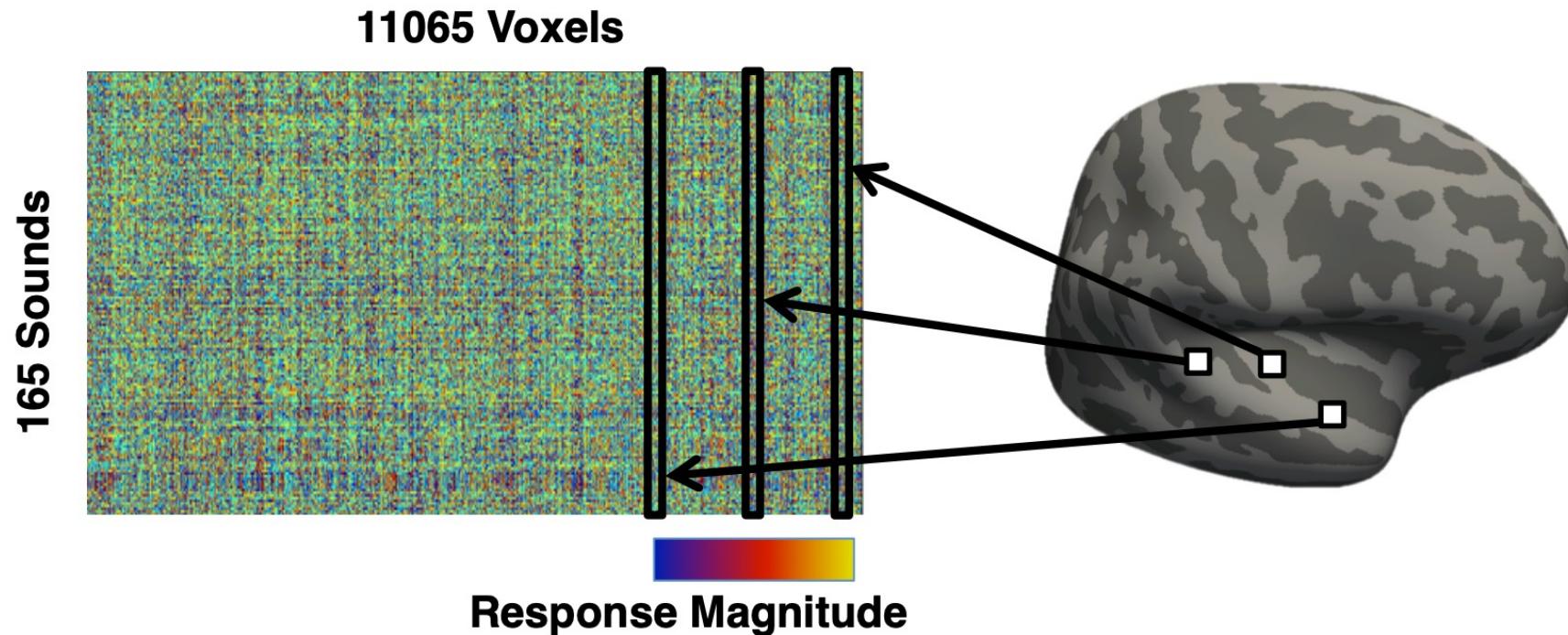
- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Man speaking | 15. Ringtone | 29. Car horn |
| 2. Flushing toilet | 16. Microwave | 30. Writing |
| 3. Pouring liquid | 17. Dog barking | 31. Computer startup sound |
| 4. Tooth-brushing | 18. Walking (hard surface) | 32. Background speech |
| 5. Woman speaking | 19. Road traffic | 33. Songbird |
| 6. Car accelerating | 20. Zipper | 34. Pouring water |
| 7. Biting and chewing | 21. Cellphone vibrating | 35. Pop song |
| 8. Laughing | 22. Water dripping | 36. Water boiling |
| 9. Typing | 23. Scratching | 37. Guitar |
| 10. Car engine starting | 24. Car windows | 38. Coughing |
| 11. Running water | 25. Telephone ringing | 39. Crumpling paper |
| 12. Breathing | 26. Chopping food | 40. Siren |
| 13. Keys jangling | 27. Telephone dialing | ... |
| 14. Dishes clanking | 28. Girl speaking | |



- Measured fMRI responses to 165 natural sounds:
- For each voxel, measure average response to each sound

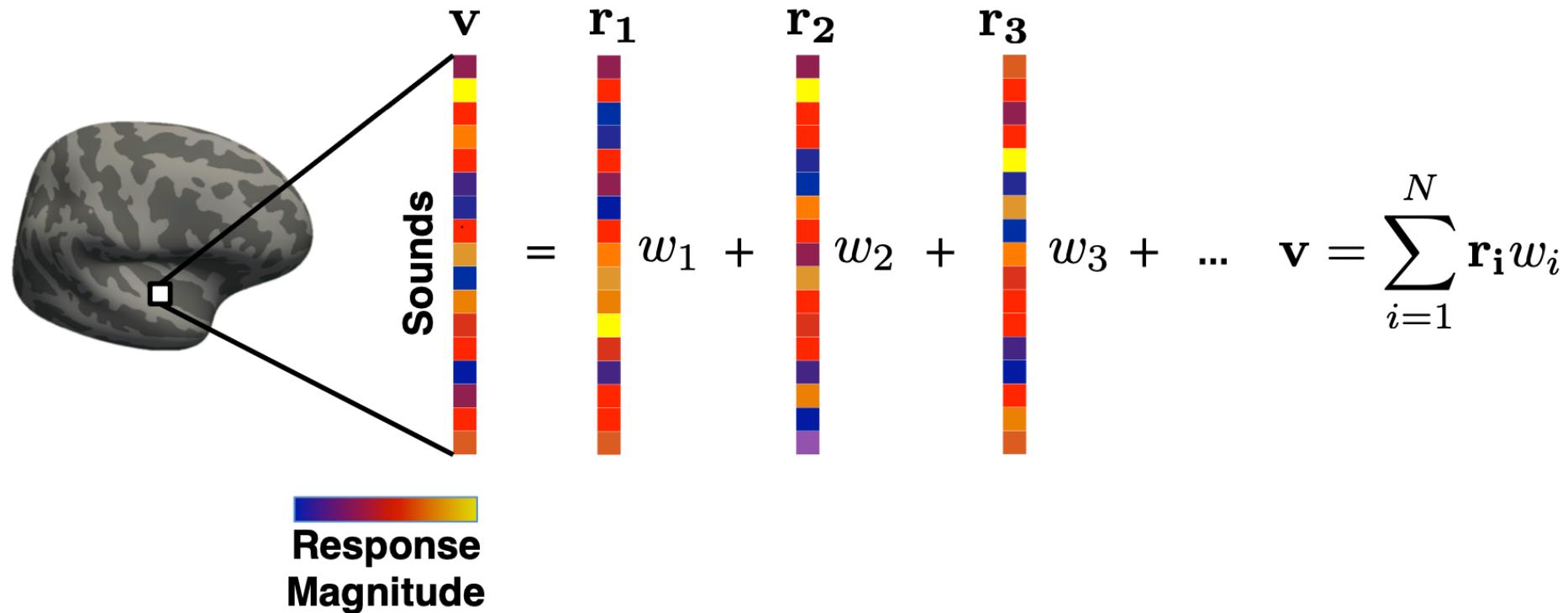


- Measured fMRI responses to 165 natural sounds:
- For each voxel, measure average response to each sound
- Compile all voxel responses into a matrix



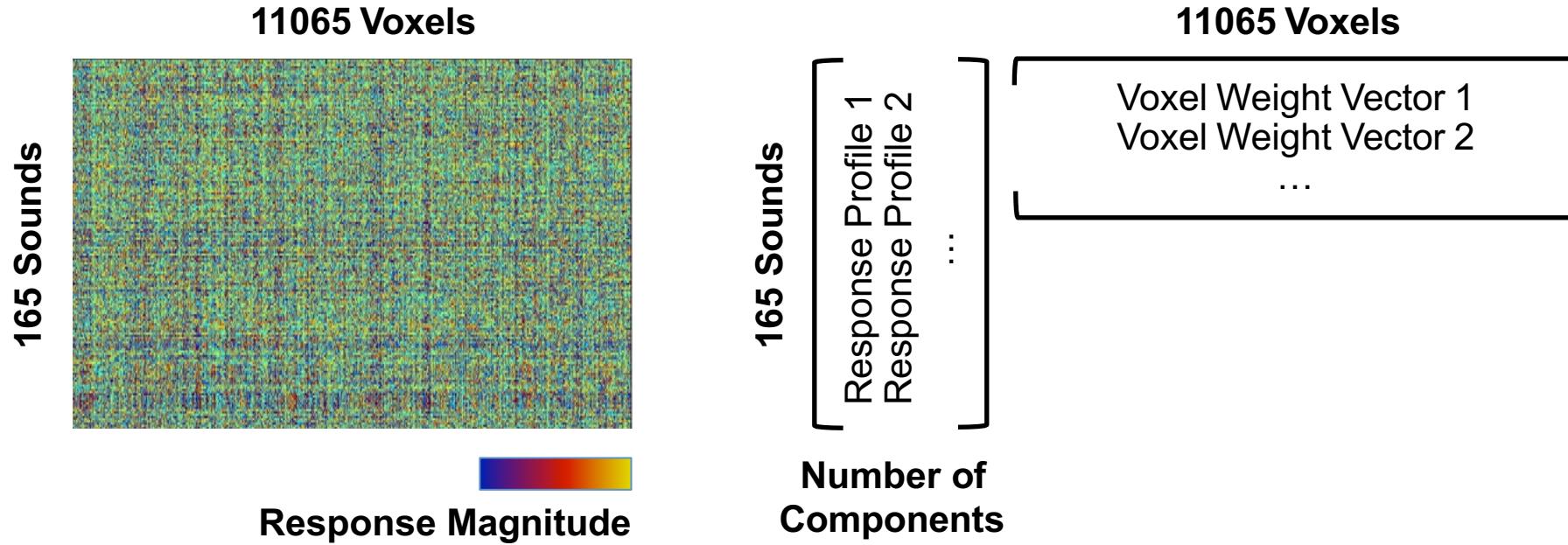
Hypothesis: Perhaps a small number of neural populations – each with a canonical response to the sound set – explain the response of thousands of voxels?

Linear Model of Voxel Responses



Voxel responses modeled as weighted sum of response profiles

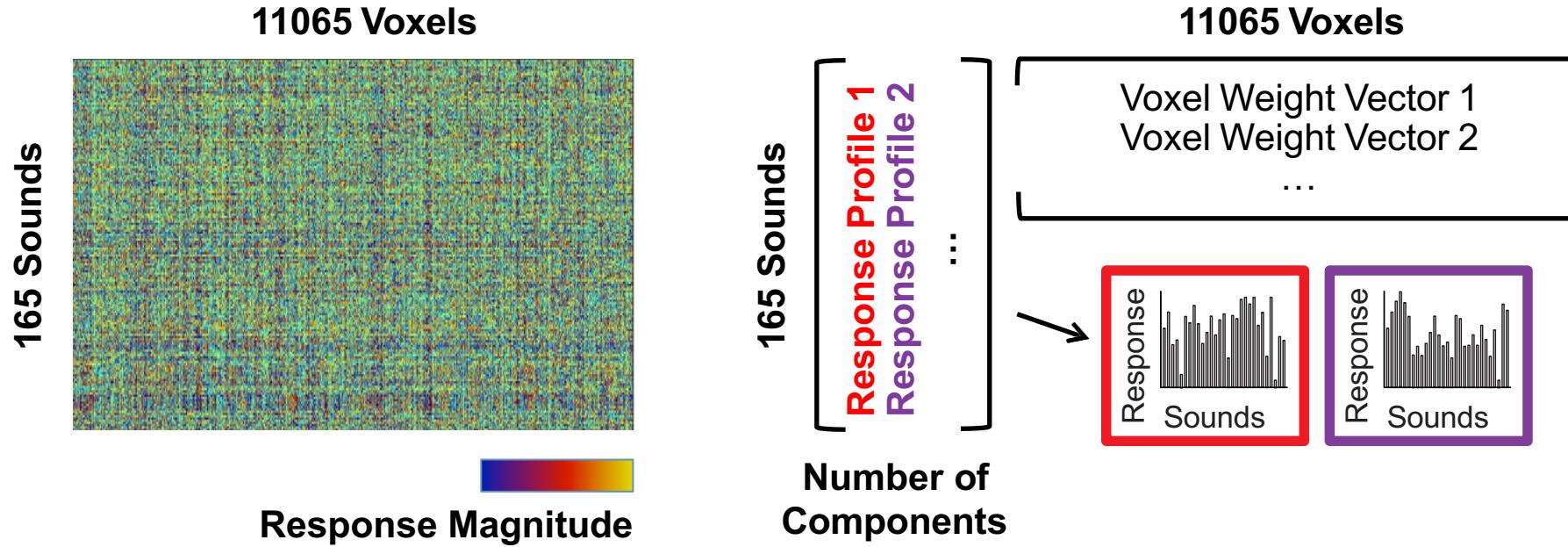
Matrix Factorization



Factor response matrix into set of components, each with:

1. Response profile to all 165 sounds
2. Voxel weights specifying contribution of each component to each voxel

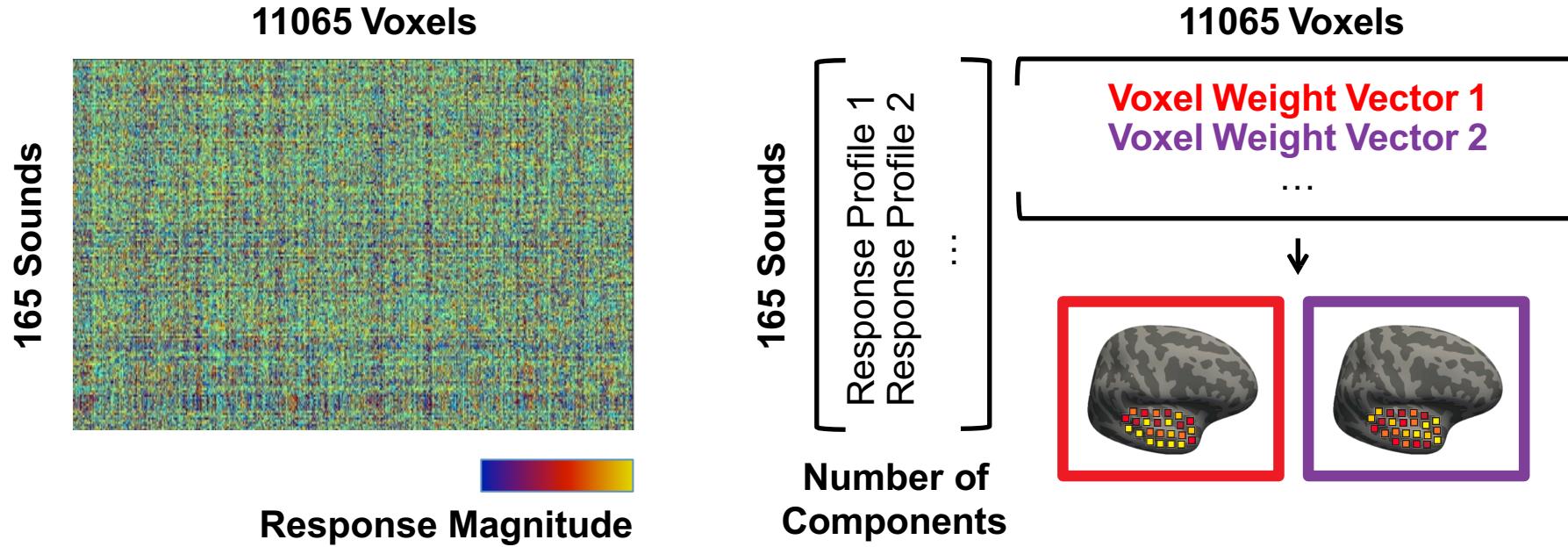
Matrix Factorization



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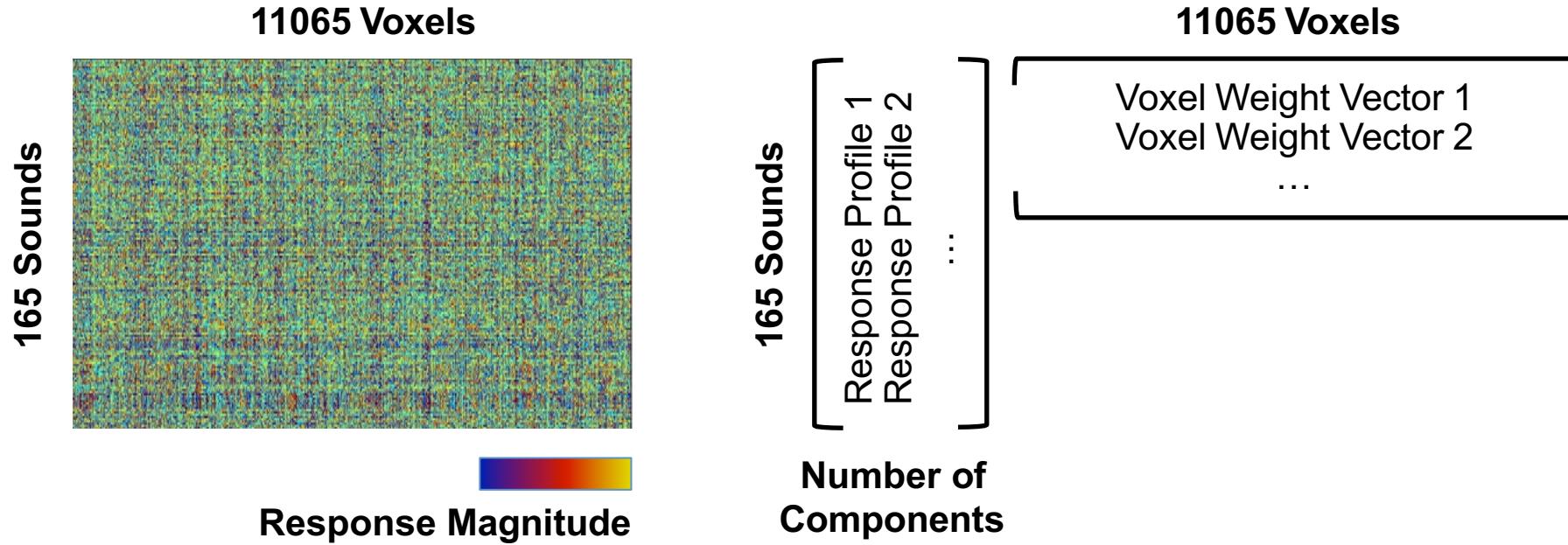
Matrix Factorization



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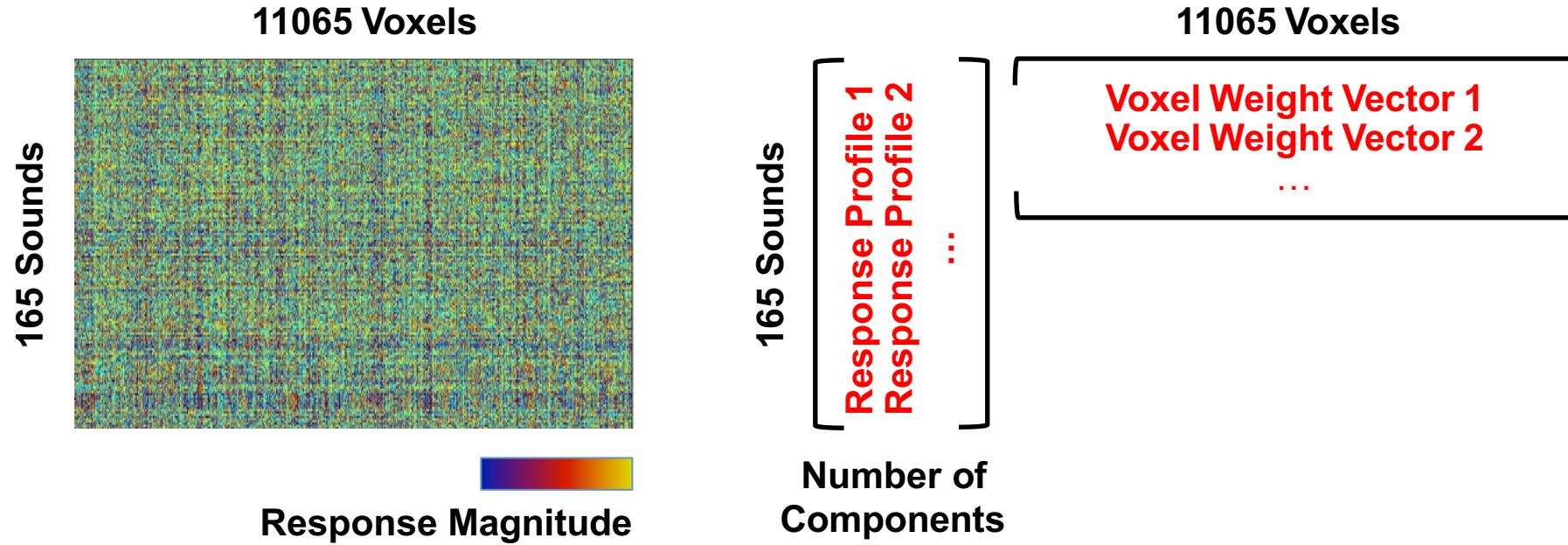
Matrix Factorization



Matrix approximation ill-posed (many equally good solutions)

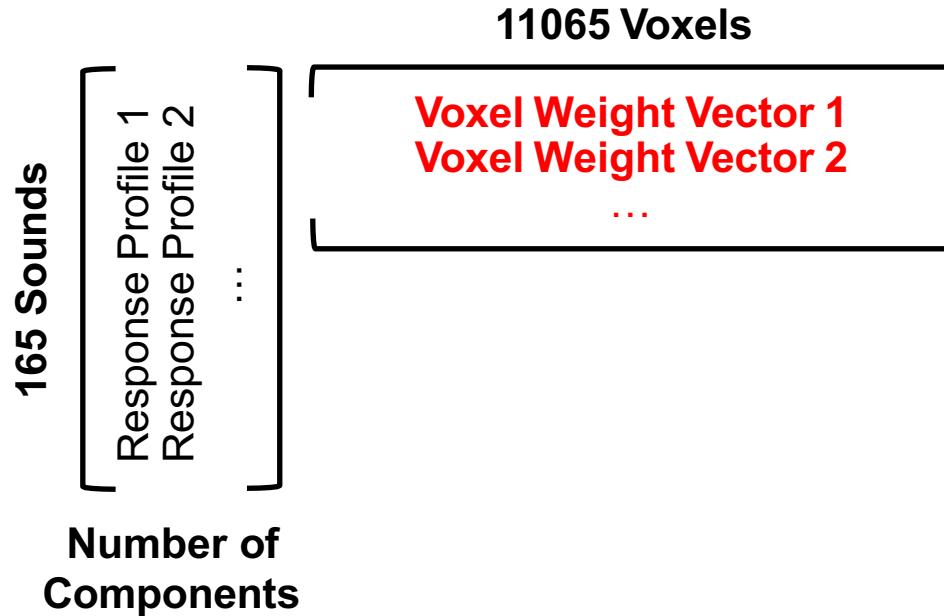
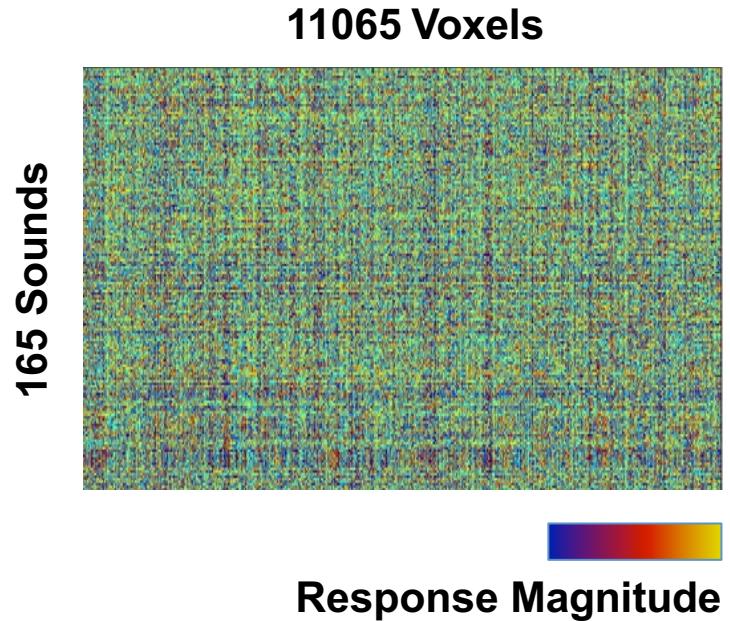
- Must be constrained with additional assumptions
- Different techniques make different assumptions

Principal Components Analysis (PCA)



For PCA to infer underlying components, they must have uncorrelated response profiles and voxel weights

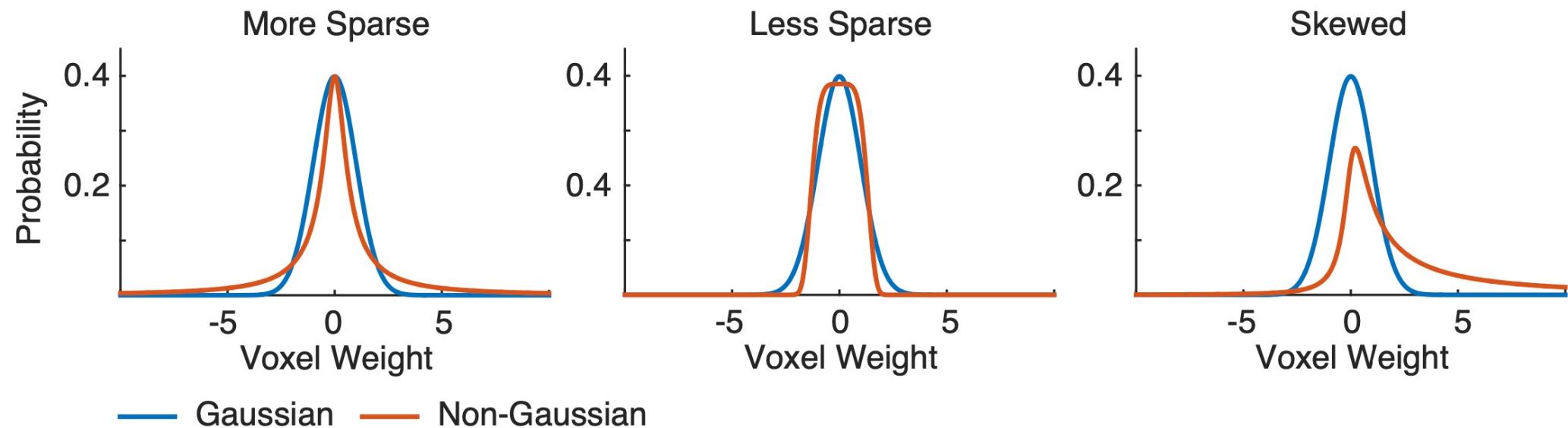
Independent Components Analysis (ICA)



For ICA to infer underlying components, they must have non-gaussian statistically independent voxel weights

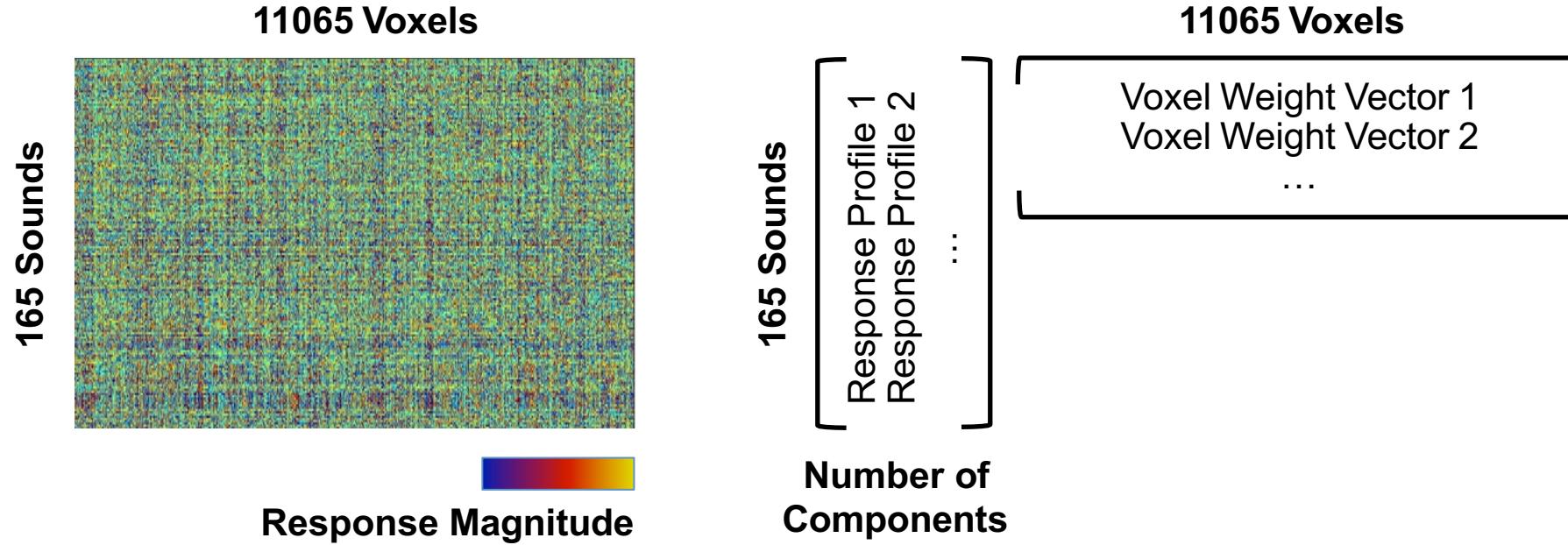
Independent Components Analysis (ICA): an aside on non-gaussianity

Many ways for a distribution to be non-Gaussian:



For ICA to infer underlying components, they must have non-gaussian statistically independent voxel weights

Matrix Factorization



Applied Independent Components Analysis to the data matrix

- finding U and V such that $X \approx UV^T$, with the constraint that the components (columns of V) are statistically independent

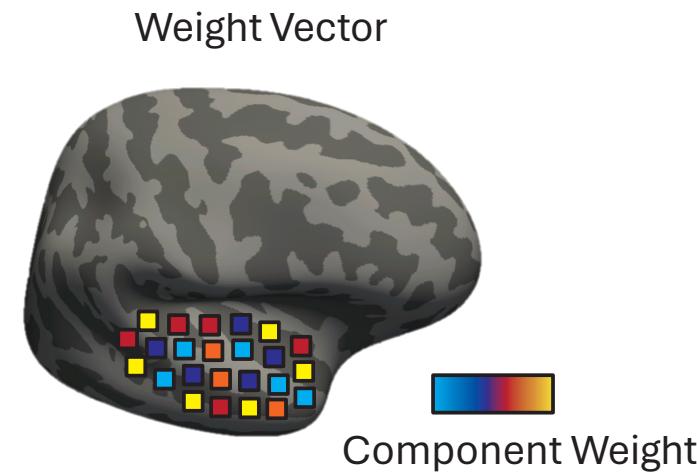
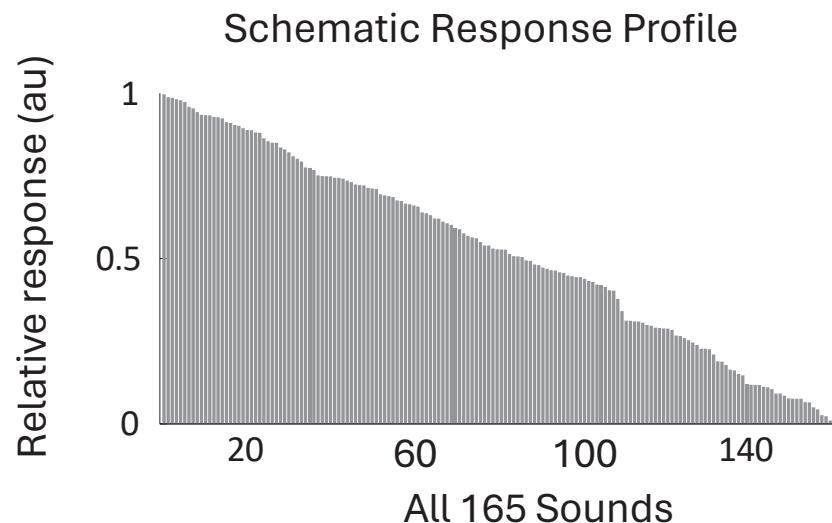
Found 6 components that could approximate the original data matrix reasonably well

Probing the Inferred Components

Have 6 dimensions, each with:

1. A response profile (165-dimensional vector)
2. A weight vector, specifying its contribution to each voxel

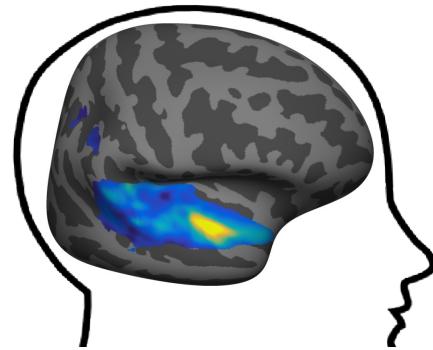
Both response profile and anatomy unconstrained



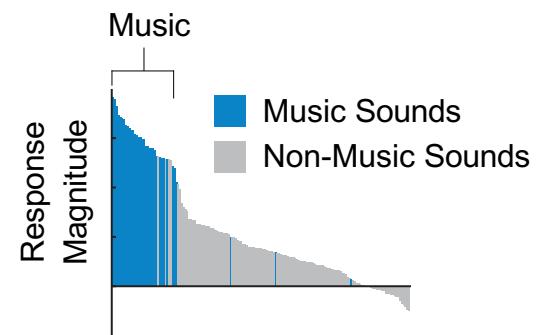
All 6 inferred components have interpretable properties
⇒ 2 components highly selective for speech and music, respectively

Music-Selective Neural Population

Location in the Brain

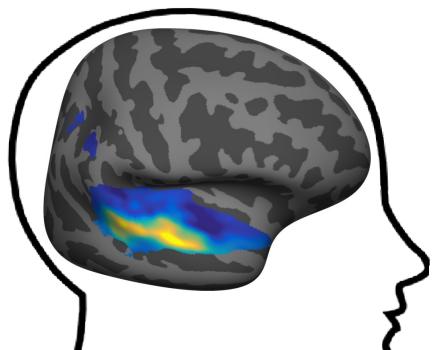


Response to Sounds

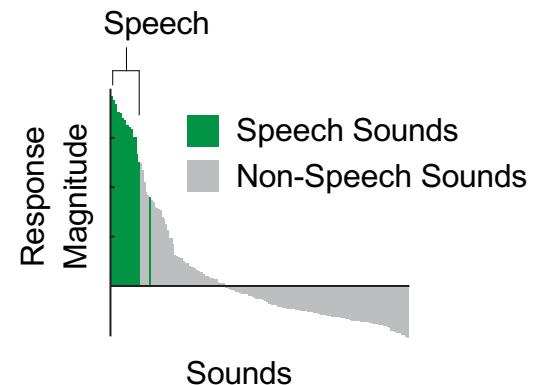


Speech-Selective Neural Population

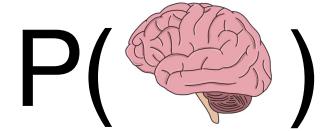
Location in the Brain



Response to Sounds



*How is the brain **representing**?*



Matrix Factorization

Auditory cortex is richly populated with areas selective for speech and music

Kanwisher et al., 2014
(NEUROSCIENCE, 2014, 31(1), 1-10)

Norman-Haignere, Kanwisher and McDermott, Neuron

Lecture Overview

- Example from research: how does our brain represent our visual world?
- High-level introduction to Matrix Factorization Methods
- Another research example: how does our brain represent sounds?
- **Diverse applications of matrix factorization in neuroscience**
- Practical Demonstration: Demixing fMRI data using matrix factorization

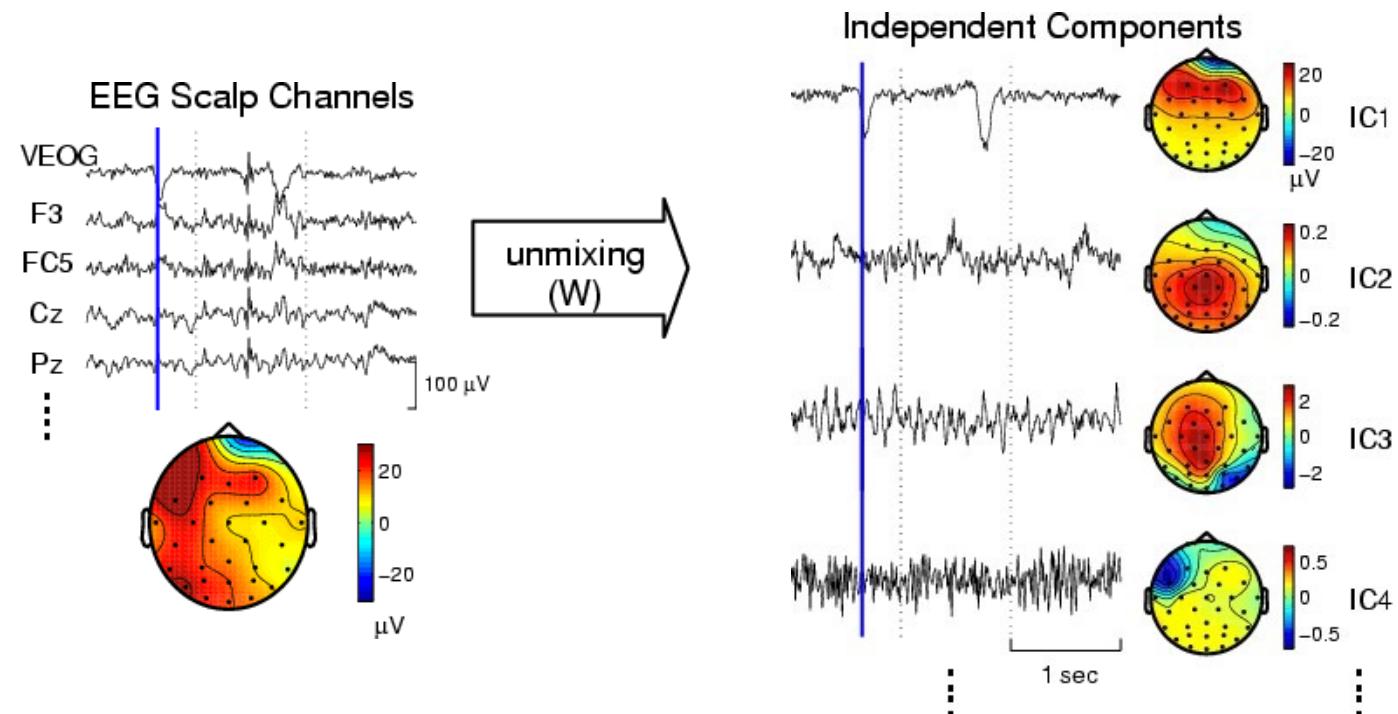
Matrix factorization applied to fMRI data

- **Demixing mixed signals:** fMRI ‘voxels’ contain hundreds of thousands of neurons; plausibly contain neural populations with distinct selectivity
 - Matrix factorization helps unmix responses from different neural populations
- **Dimensionality Reduction:** fMRI data is high-dimensional;
 - Matrix factorization can identify the most informative patterns of activity across voxels
- **Noise Reduction:** fMRI/MEG contain noise from various sources (e.g. motion artifacts).
 - Matrix factorization helps separate the signal of interest from noise components

Matrix factorization applied to EEG

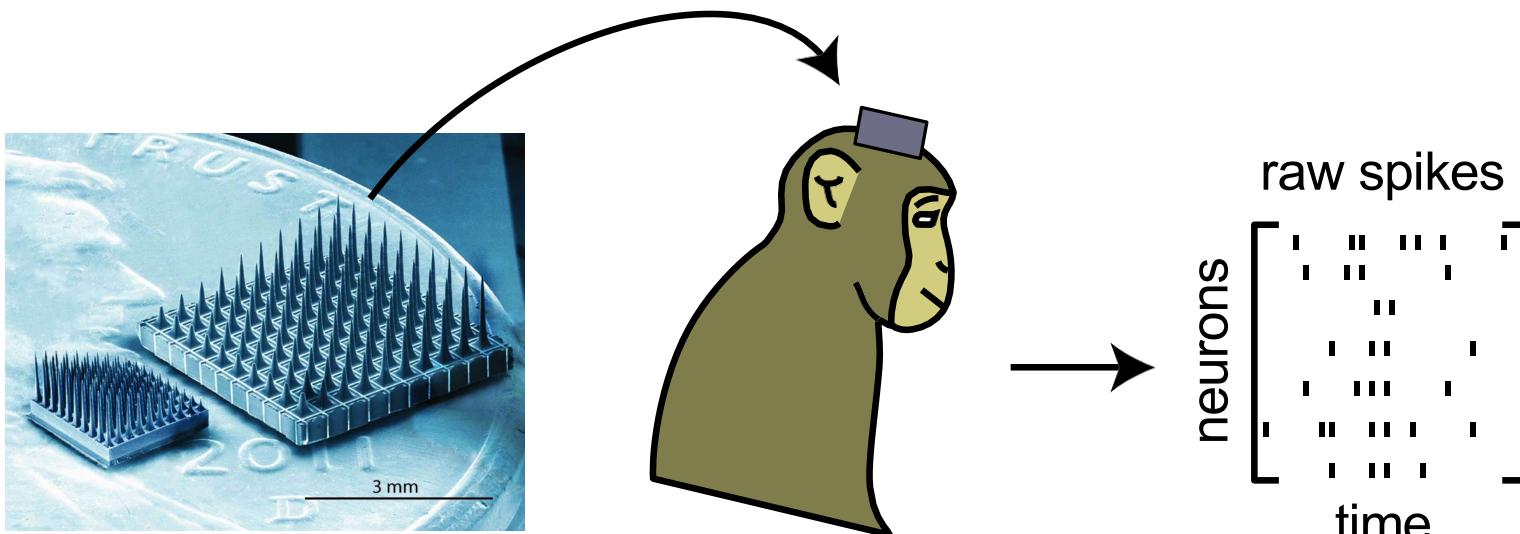
Frequently used to denoise EEG timecourses

- ⇒ Artifacts (e.g. eye blinks) mostly independent of neural activity and have non-Gaussian amplitude distribution
- ⇒ EEG channels modeled as linear mixture of artifacts and neural activity



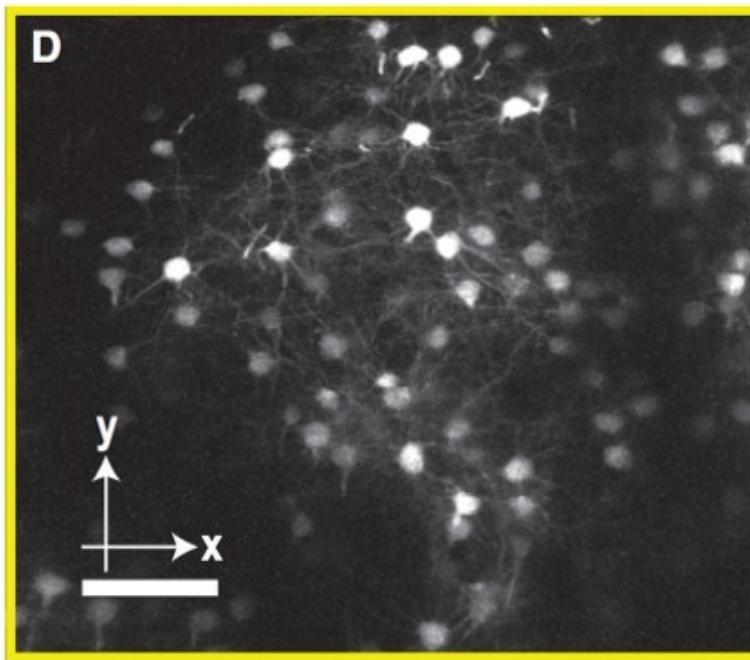
Other types of matrix data in neuroscience

Spiking Activity



Other types of matrix data in neuroscience

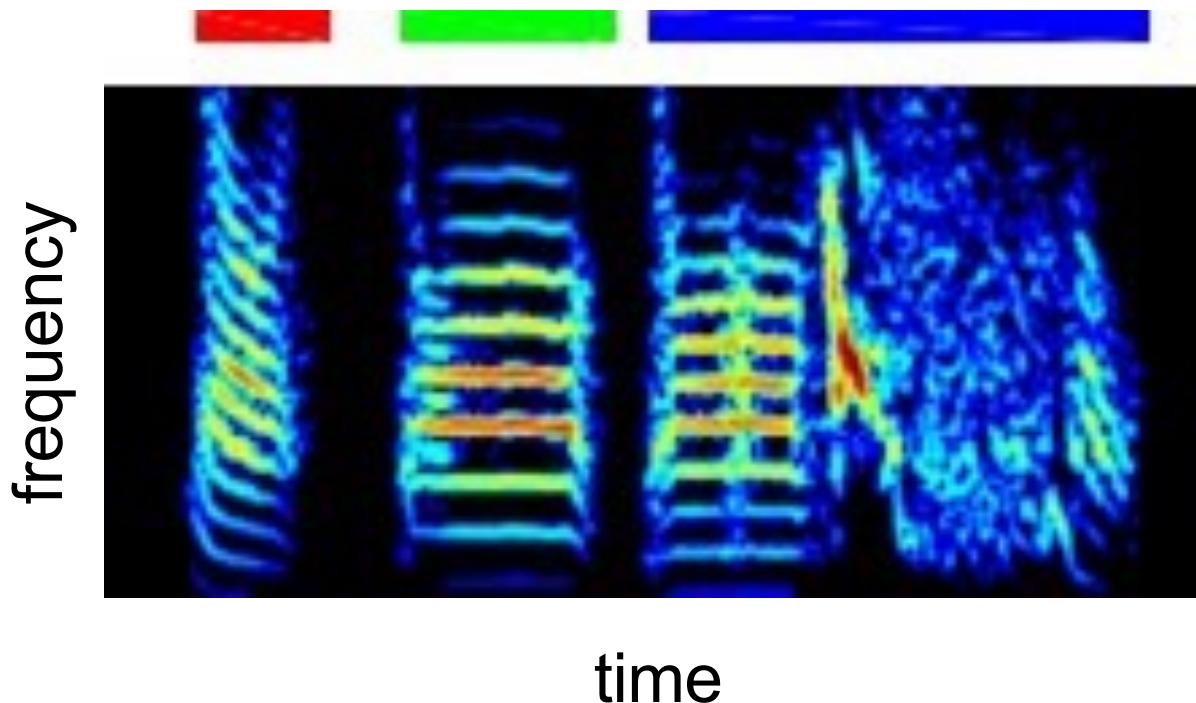
Fluorescence Images



Cortical neurons expressing YFP
(Kim & Zhang et al., 2016)

Other types of matrix data in neuroscience

Spectrograms



Zebra Finch courtship song
(Provided by Emily Mackevicius)

Adapted from Alex Williams

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- Diverse applications of matrix factorization in neuroscience
- **Practical Demonstration: Demixing fMRI data using matrix factorization**

Lecture Recap

- Example from research: how does our brain represent our visual world?
- High-level introduction to Matrix Factorization Methods
- Another research example: how does our brain represent sounds?
- Diverse applications of matrix factorization in neuroscience
- Practical Demonstration: Demixing fMRI data using matrix factorization