

Multi-modal integration of MEG, EEG & fMRI

Jason Taylor & Rik Henson

MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (MRC-CBU)

Cambridge Centre for Ageing and Neuroscience (CamCAN)

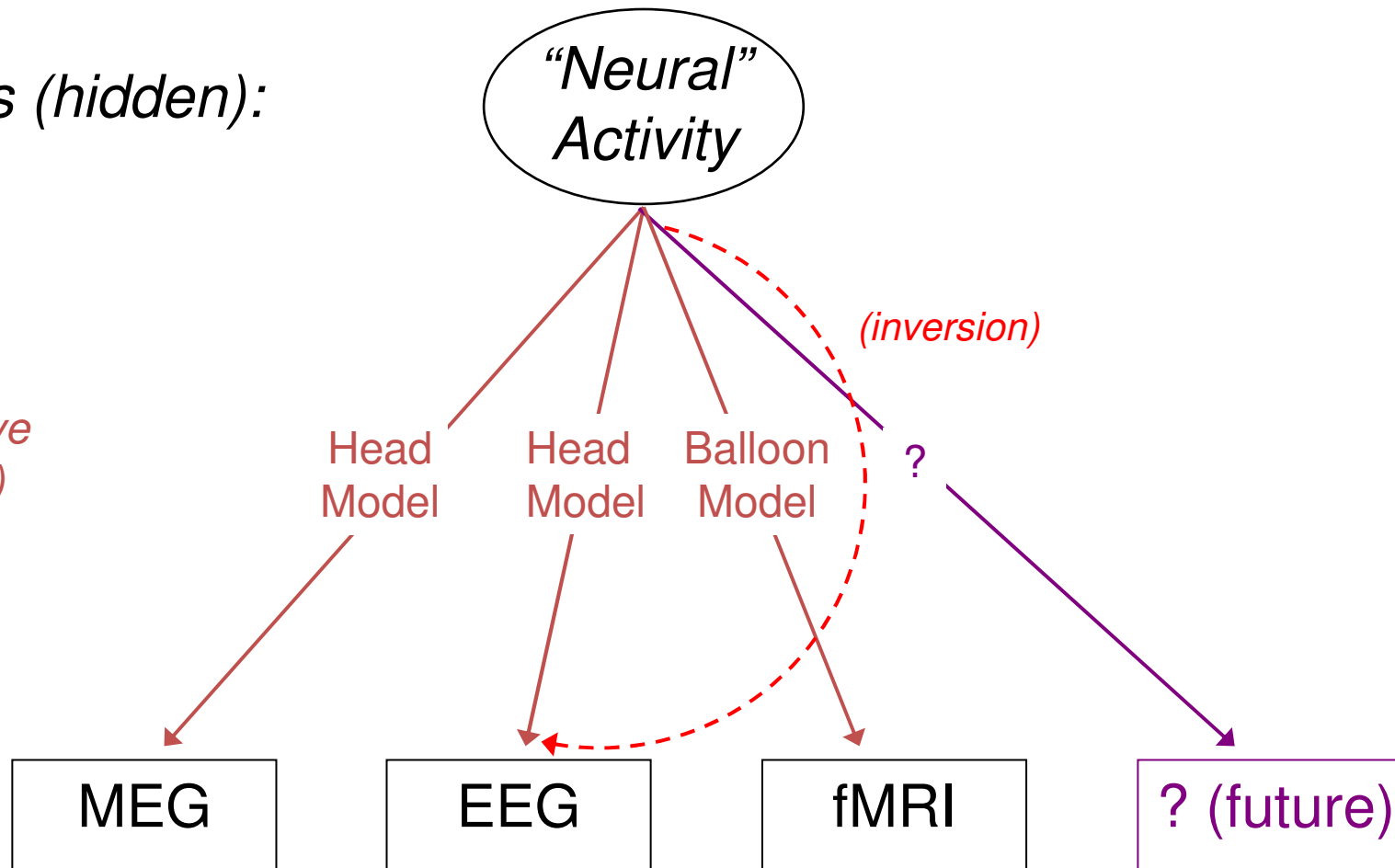
Cambridge, UK

Multi-modal Integration

Causes (hidden):

*Generative
(Forward)
Models:*

Data:



Multi-modal Integration

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit

Causes (hidden):

*“Neural”
Activity*

*Symmetric
Integration
(Fusion)*

*Generative
(Forward)
Models:*

Head
Model

Head
Model

Balloon
Model

?

Data:

MEG

EEG

fMRI

? (future)

*Asymmetric
Integration*

Talk Overview

1. MEG + EEG symmetric integration (fusion)
2. M/EEG + fMRI asymmetric integration

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG

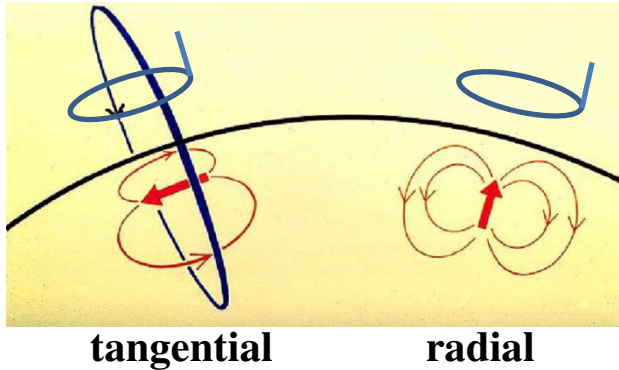
Background



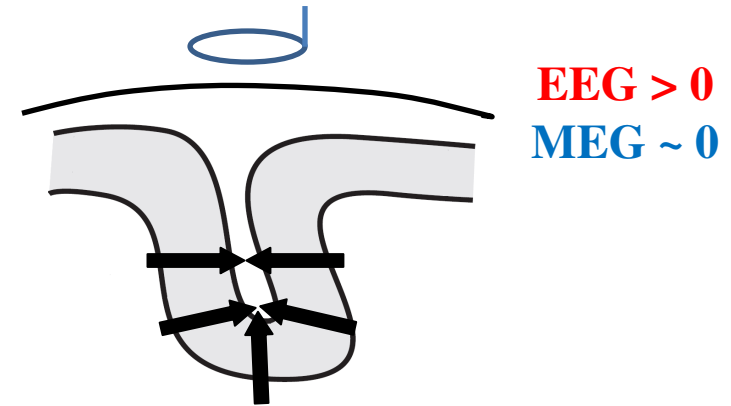
- MEG generally has superior spatial resolution vs. EEG (less blurred by skull/scalp)
- MEG cannot detect radial component of current sources; EEG can!

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Background

Dipolar Sources

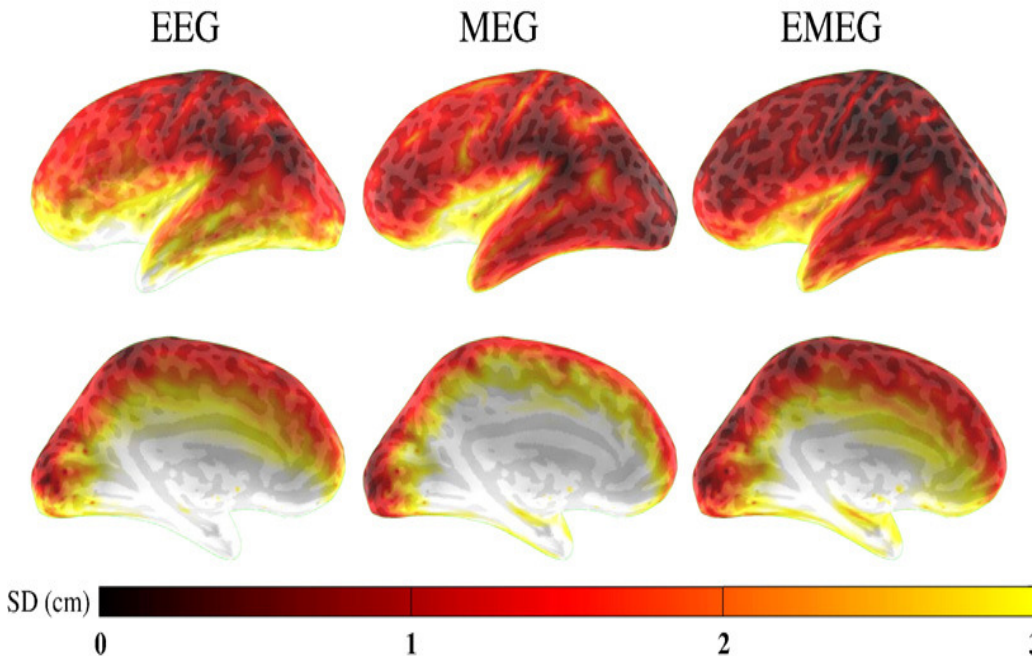


Extended Sources

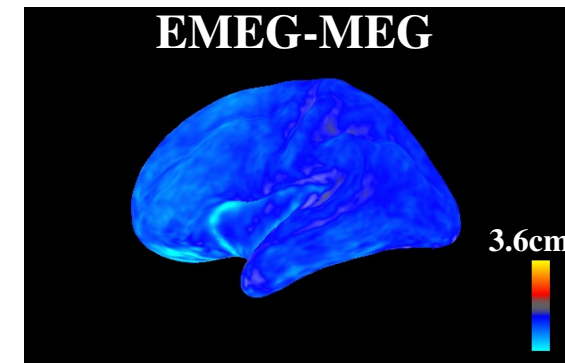


Ahlfors et al., HBM 2010

Spatial Extent



Molins et al., Neuroimage 2008



Stenroos & Hauk, in prep

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG

Background

- MEG generally has superior spatial resolution vs. EEG (less blurred by skull/scalp)
- MEG cannot detect radial component of current sources; EEG can!
- And few practical problems acquiring concurrent EEG (apart from extra time attaching electrodes)
- ...but EEG data is more sensitive to head geometry and conductivity (potentially biasing any joint-localisation)...
- ...and has different noise characteristics...

MEG Linear Forward Model

Given n sensors and p sources fixed in location and orientation (e.g, on a cortical mesh), then linear Forward Model (for single timepoint):

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{11} & L_{12} & \cdots & L_{1p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ L_{n1} & \cdots & \cdots & L_{np} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_p \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_n \end{bmatrix}$$

d = Data
 s = Sources
 L = Leadfields
 e = Error (noise)

n sensors
 $p \gg n$ sources
 n sensors \times p sources
 n sensors...

Equivalent matrix format:

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}$$

Assume sensor noise is zero-mean Gaussian with error covariance $\mathbf{C}^{(e)}$:

$$\mathbf{e} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(e)})$$

Assume sources similarly Gaussian with source covariance $\mathbf{C}^{(s)}$:

$$\mathbf{s} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(s)})$$

MEG Linear Forward Model

Assumptions to Solve

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}$$

$\mathbf{e} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(e)})$
 $\mathbf{s} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(s)})$

d = Data
 s = Sources
 L = Leadfields
 e = Error (noise)

n sensors
 $p \gg n$ sources
 n sensors $\times p$ sources
 n sensors...

General solution is:

Hauk (2004), Neuroimage

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{C}^{(s)} \mathbf{L}^T (\mathbf{L} \mathbf{C}^{(s)} \mathbf{L}^T + \lambda \mathbf{C}^{(e)})^{-1} \mathbf{d}$$

λ = Regularisation (hyperparameter)

But how calculate $\mathbf{C}^{(e)}$ and $\mathbf{C}^{(s)}$?

MEG Linear Forward Model

Assumptions to Solve

One approach is to model sources and noise by variance components:

$$\mathbf{C} = \sum_i \lambda_i \mathbf{Q}_i$$

\mathbf{C} = Sensor/Source covariance

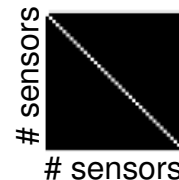
\mathbf{Q} = Covariance components

λ = Hyper-parameters

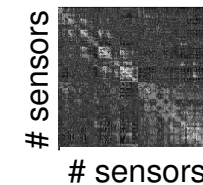
Friston et al (2008) Neuroimage

1. Sensor components, $\mathbf{Q}_i^{(e)}$ (error):

“IID” (white noise):

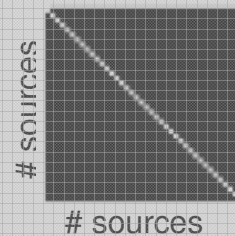


Empty-room:

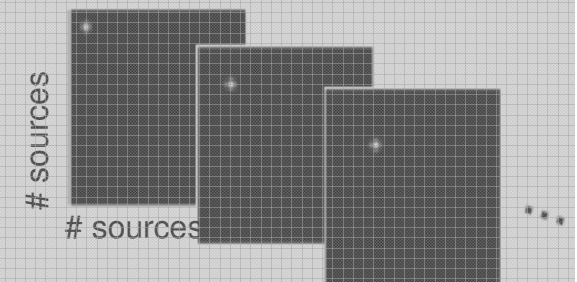


2. Source components, $\mathbf{Q}_i^{(s)}$ (priors/regularisation):

“IID” (min norm):



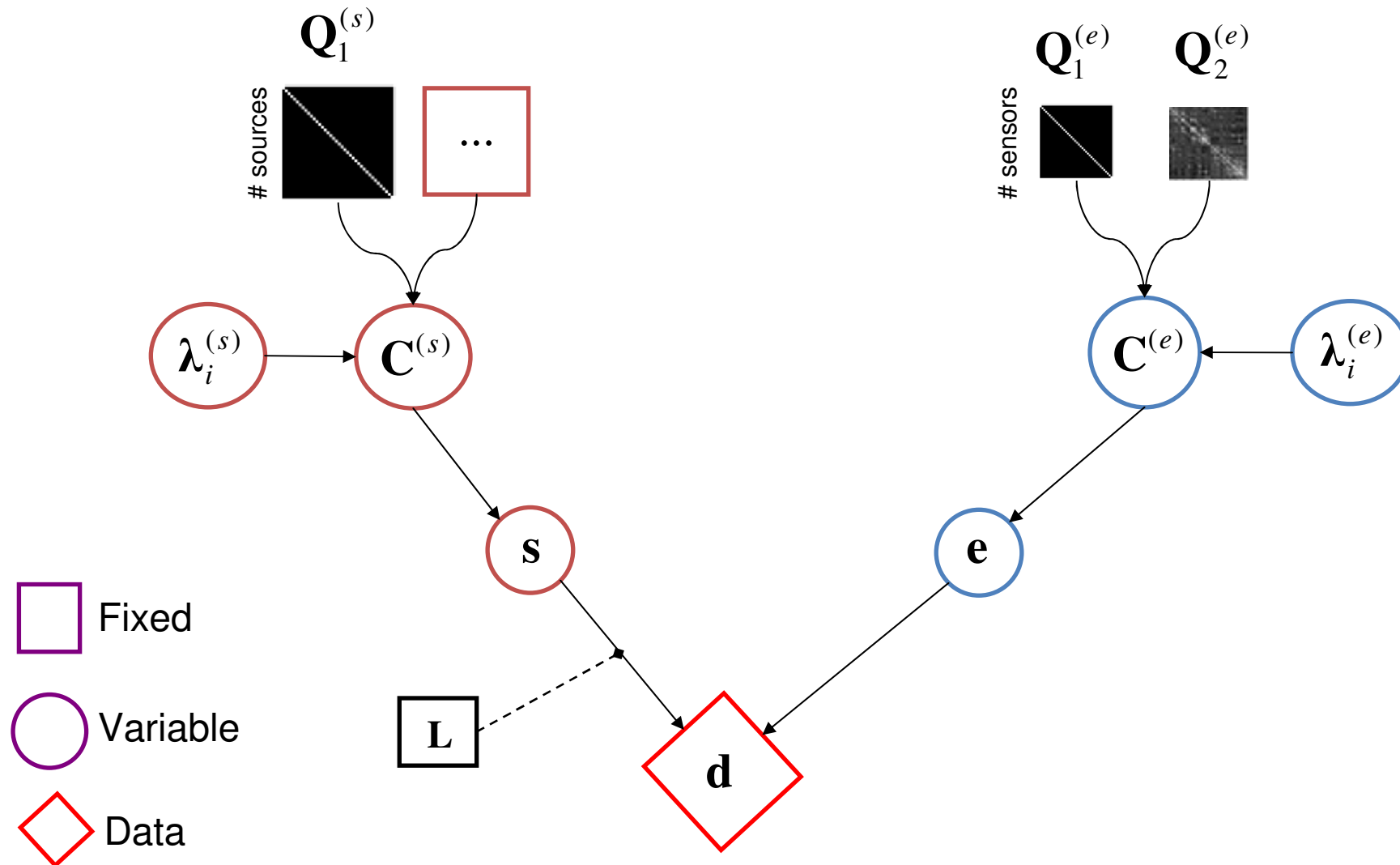
Multiple Sparse Priors (MSP):



MEG Generative Model

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Generative Model

For fusing MEG and EEG, we can simply concatenate the MEG+EEG data:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_{(MEG)} \\ \mathbf{d}_{(EEG)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{(MEG)} \\ \mathbf{L}_{(EEG)} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{s} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_{(MEG)} \\ \mathbf{e}_{(EEG)} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{e} &\sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(e)}) \\ \mathbf{s} &\sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(s)}) \end{aligned}$$

Note same sources, eg, for Minimum (L2) Norm solution:

$$\mathbf{C}^{(s)} = \mathbf{I} \quad \hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{L}^T (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T + \hat{\mathbf{C}}^{(e)})^{-1} \mathbf{d}$$

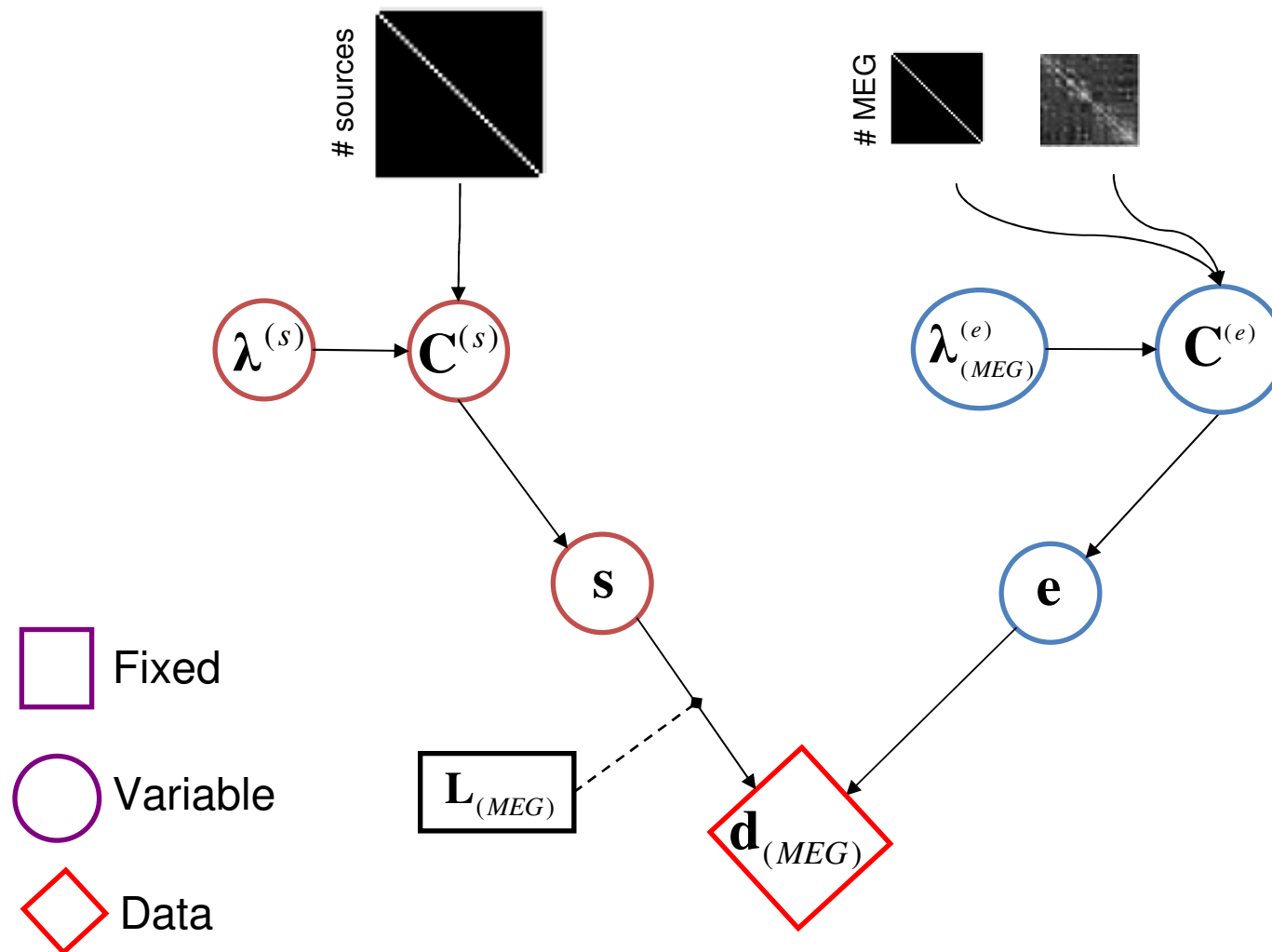
Noise expressed by MEG and EEG terms (e.g, white noise):

$$\hat{\mathbf{C}}^{(e)} = \lambda_1^{(e)} \mathbf{Q}_{(MEG)}^{(e)} + \lambda_2^{(e)} \mathbf{Q}_{(EEG)}^{(e)} \quad \mathbf{Q}_{(MEG)}^{(e)} = \begin{matrix} \text{\# sensors} \\ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \text{\# sensors} \end{array} \end{matrix} \quad \mathbf{Q}_{(EEG)}^{(e)} = \begin{matrix} \text{\# sensors} \\ \begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ \text{\# sensors} \end{array} \end{matrix}$$

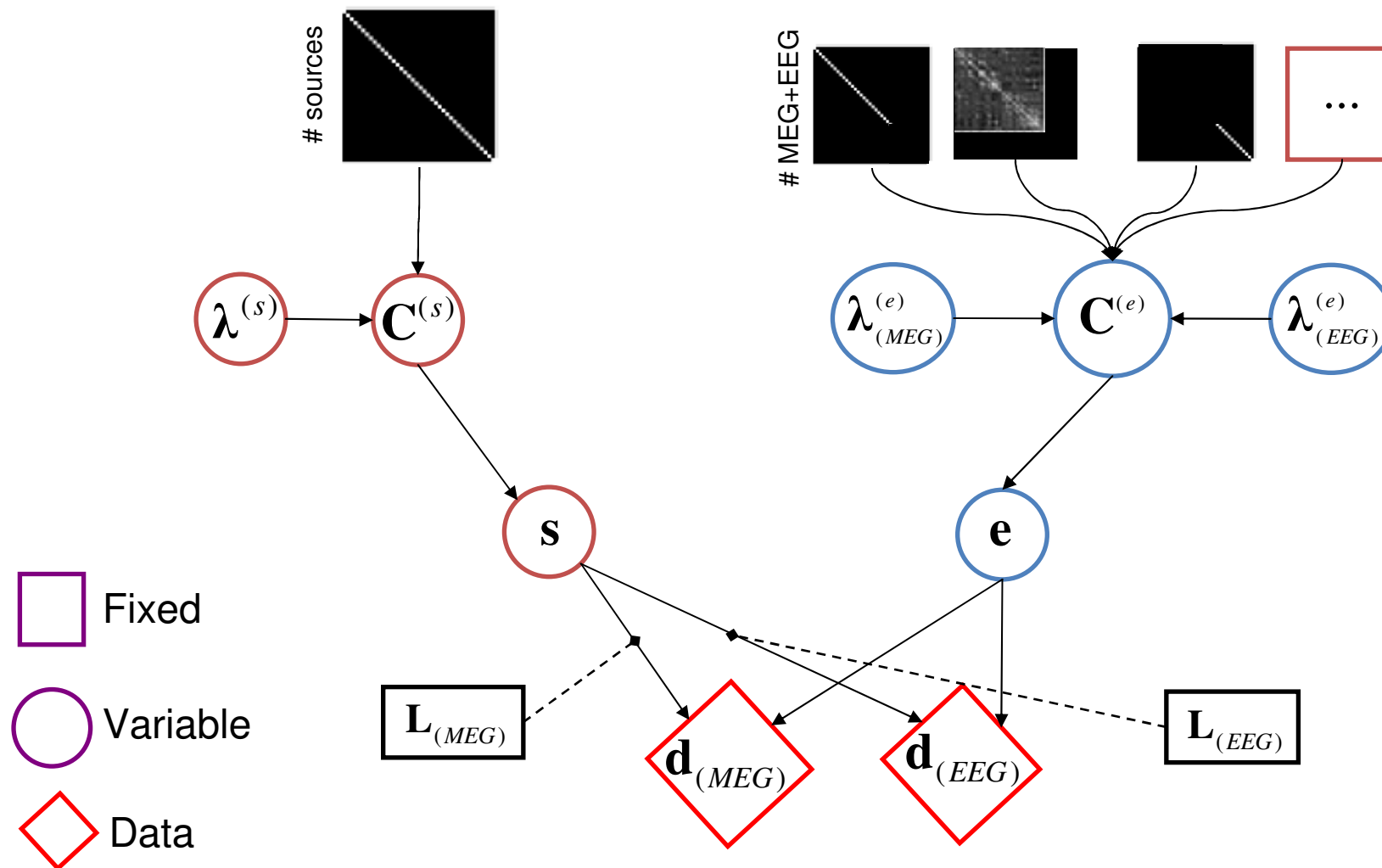
The separate hyperparameters allow for different noise levels (SNR)

The multiple hyperparameters are estimated by maximising **model evidence**
(using a variational Bayesian approach, eg EM algorithm)

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Generative Model



Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Generative Model



One final problem...

- Though this allows for different additive noise levels in MEG and EEG...
- ...we are assuming mapping from common electrical sources to sensor values (in terms of Tesla and Volts) is known precisely...
- ...whereas in reality, this depends on several unknowns (e.g, precise conductivity of skull/scalp)
- One solution is to scale data/leadfields to have same variance:

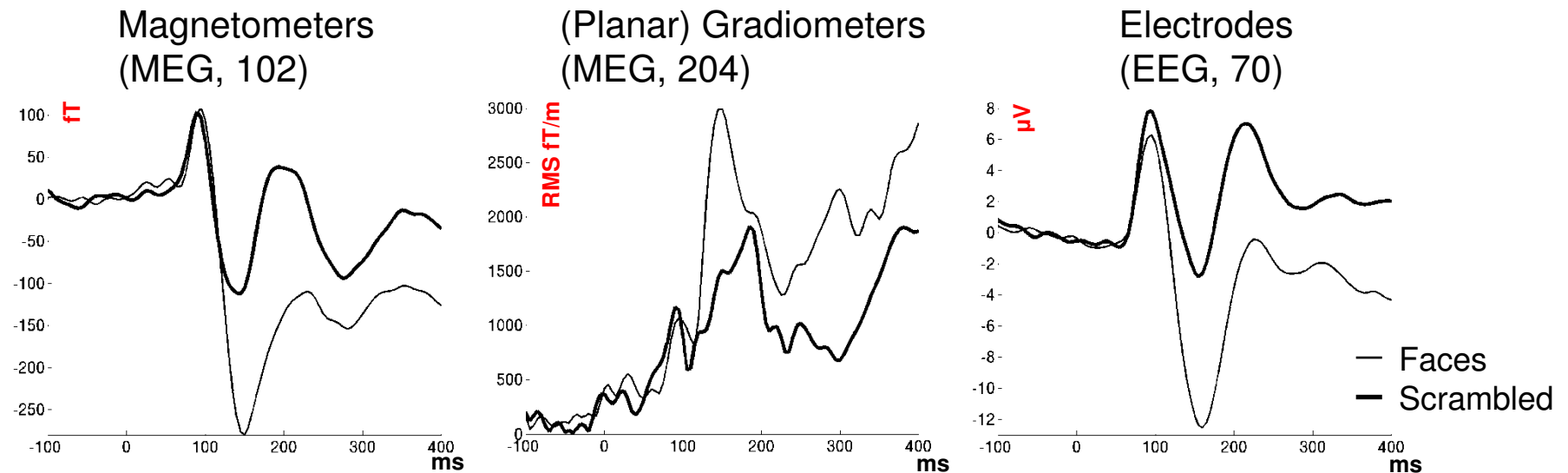
$$\tilde{Y}_i = \frac{Y_i}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n_i} \text{tr}(Y_i Y_i^T)}}$$

$$\tilde{L}_i = \frac{L_i}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n_i} \text{tr}(L_i L_i^T)}}$$

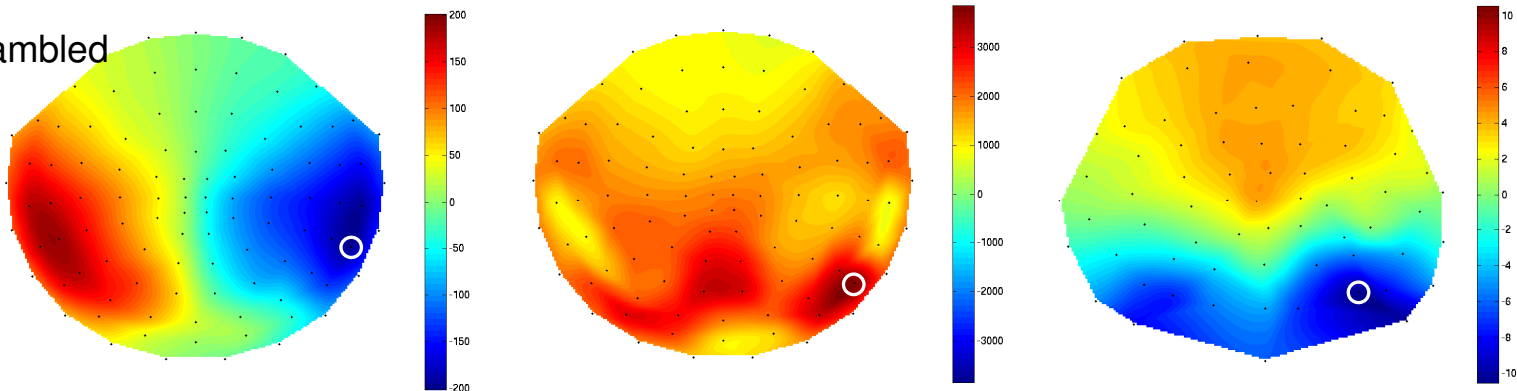
i = *ith* modality, ie MEG or EEG
 n_i = Number of sensors for modality i

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Example

ERs from 12 subjects for 3 simultaneously-acquired Neuromag sensor-types:

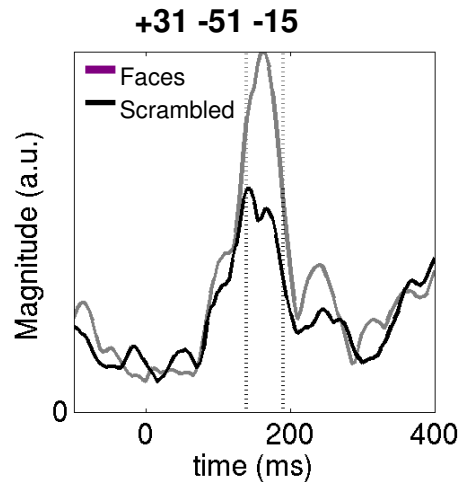
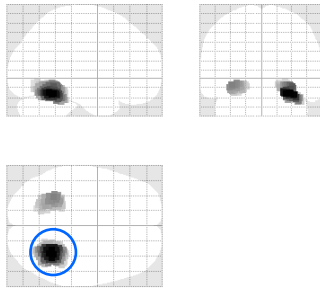


Faces - Scrambled
150-190ms

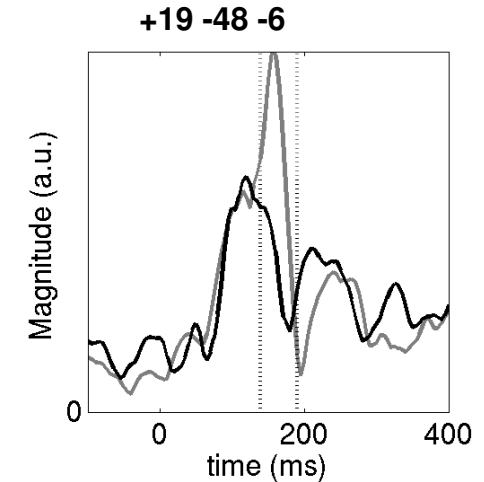
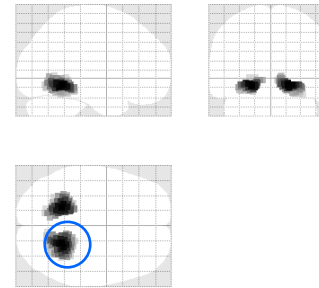


Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG

MEG mags

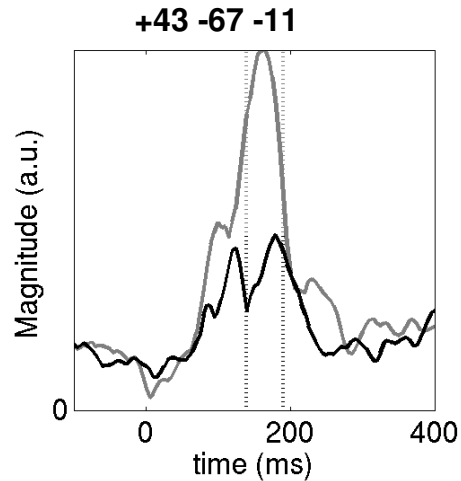
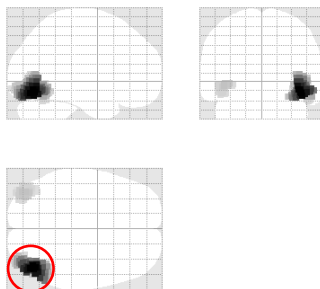


MEG grads

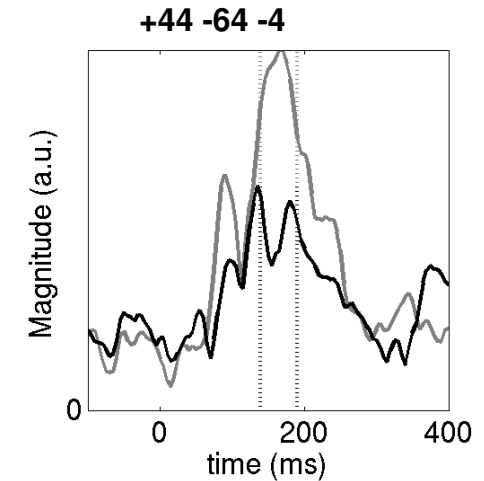
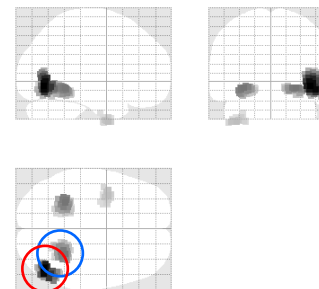


Faces – Scrambled, 150-190ms

EEG



FUSED



IID noise for each modality; common **MSP** for sources

Henson et al (2009) Neuroimage

Other Approaches to M/EEG fusion

- Estimate noise covariance from pre-stimulus baseline (**b**):

$$\mathbf{C}^{(e)} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{cov}(\mathbf{b}_{(MEG)}) & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{cov}(\mathbf{b}_{(EEG)}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Molins et al (2008), Neuroimage

(which can also be used to pre-whiten data and leadfields, scaling to noise units)...

...but downside is that **baseline contains source activity**, so not estimate of true sensor noise

- Maximise mutual information between MEG and EEG

Baillet et al (1999), IEEE

- Re-parameterise leadfields in terms of radial/tangential components

Huang et al (2007), Neuroimage

Talk Overview



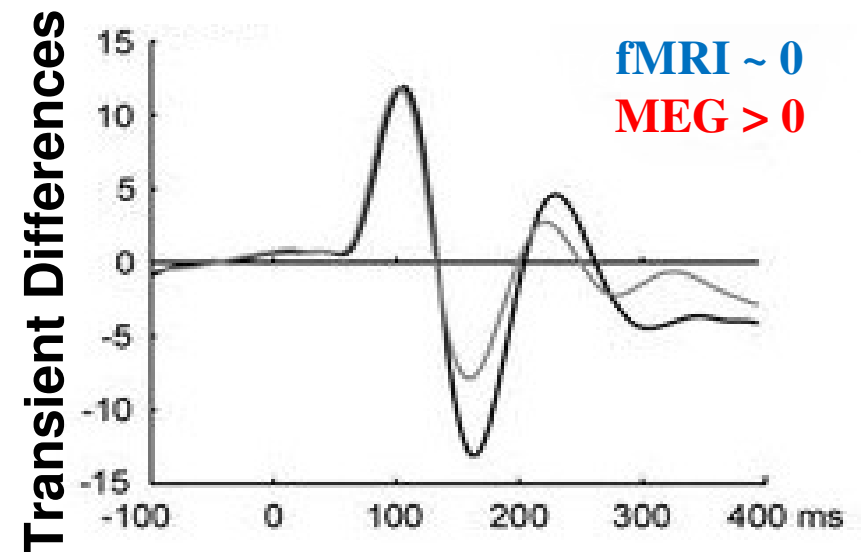
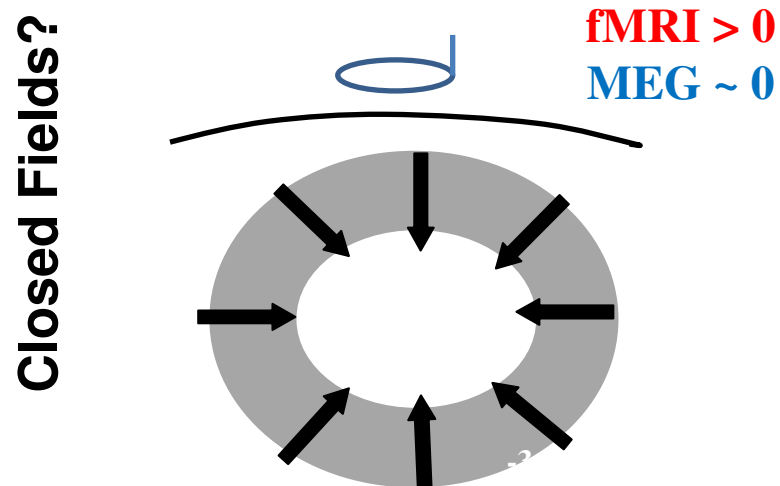
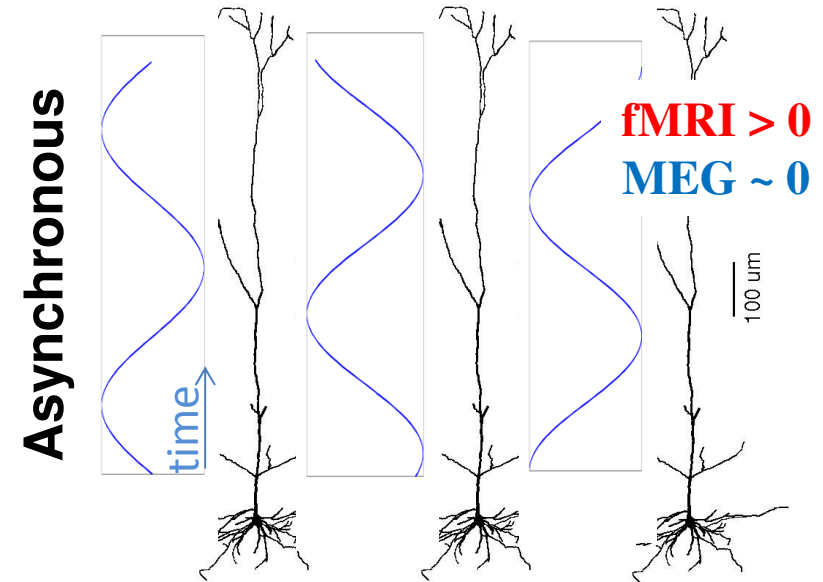
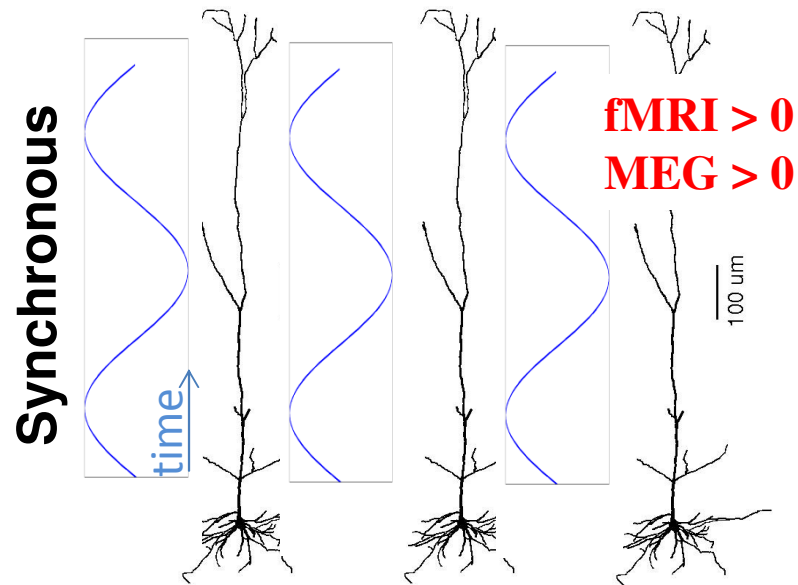
1. MEG + EEG symmetric integration (fusion)
2. M/EEG + fMRI asymmetric integration

Asymmetric Integration of MEG+fMRI Background



- fMRI has superior spatial resolution (~mm) vs. M/EEG, but inferior temporal resolution (integrating over seconds)
- fMRI and M/EEG measure similar, but not identical, neural activity
- Eg, some source configurations give detectable fMRI signal, but no detectable M/EEG signal...
- ...and vice versa

Asymmetric Integration of MEG+fMRI Background



Asymmetric Integration of MEG+fMRI Background



- fMRI has superior spatial resolution (~mm) vs. M/EEG, but inferior temporal resolution (integrating over seconds)
- fMRI and M/EEG measure similar, but not identical, neural activity
- Eg, some source configurations give detectable fMRI signal, but no detectable M/EEG signal...
- ...and vice versa
- Use fMRI as a **soft**, rather than **hard**, constraint on localisation of sources of M/EEG data...

Asymmetric Integration of MEG+fMRI

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit

Specifying (co)variance components (priors/regularisation):

$$\mathbf{C} = \sum_i \lambda_i \mathbf{Q}_i$$

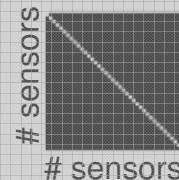
\mathbf{C} = Sensor/Source covariance

\mathbf{Q} = Covariance components

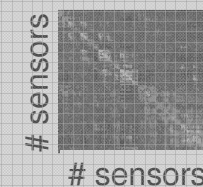
λ = Hyper-parameters

1. Sensor components, $\mathbf{Q}_i^{(e)}$ (error):

“IID” (white noise):

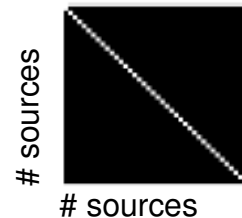


Empty-room:

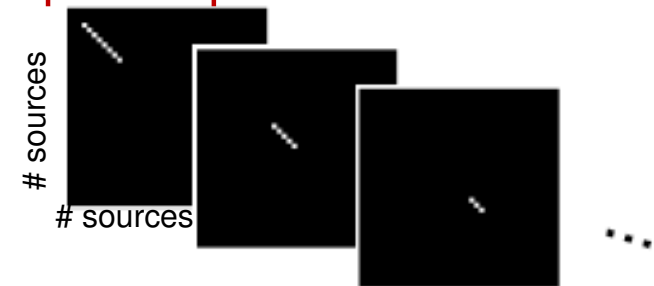


2. Each suprathreshold fMRI cluster becomes a separate prior $\mathbf{Q}_i^{(s)}$

“IID” (min norm):



fMRI Priors:



Asymmetric Integration of MEG+fMRI

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit

General solution again:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{C}^{(s)} \mathbf{L}^T (\mathbf{L} \mathbf{C}^{(s)} \mathbf{L}^T + \lambda \mathbf{C}^{(e)})^{-1} \mathbf{d}$$
$$\mathbf{e} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(e)})$$
$$\mathbf{s} \sim N(0, \mathbf{C}^{(s)})$$

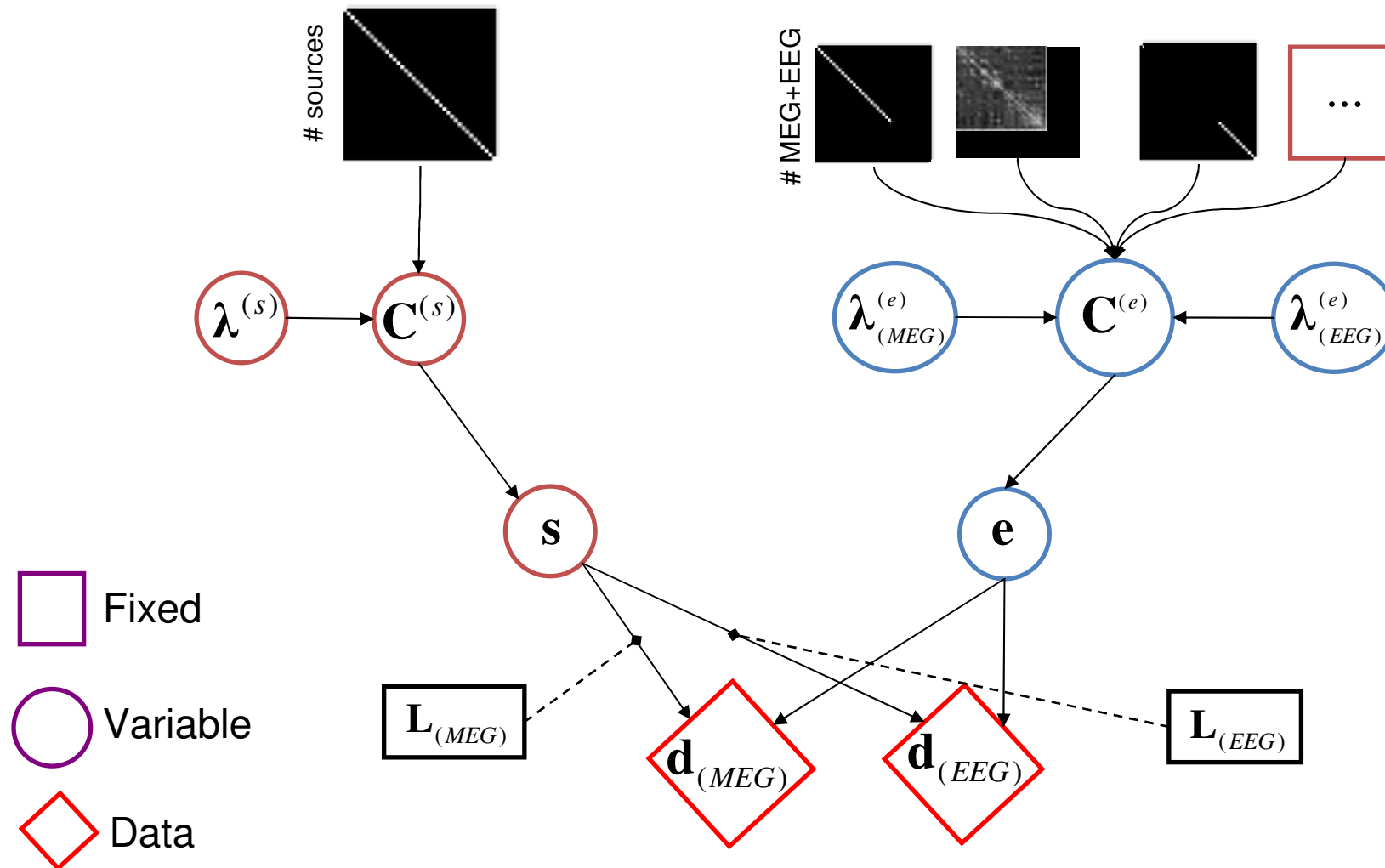
Now source covariance expressed as number of fMRI clusters:

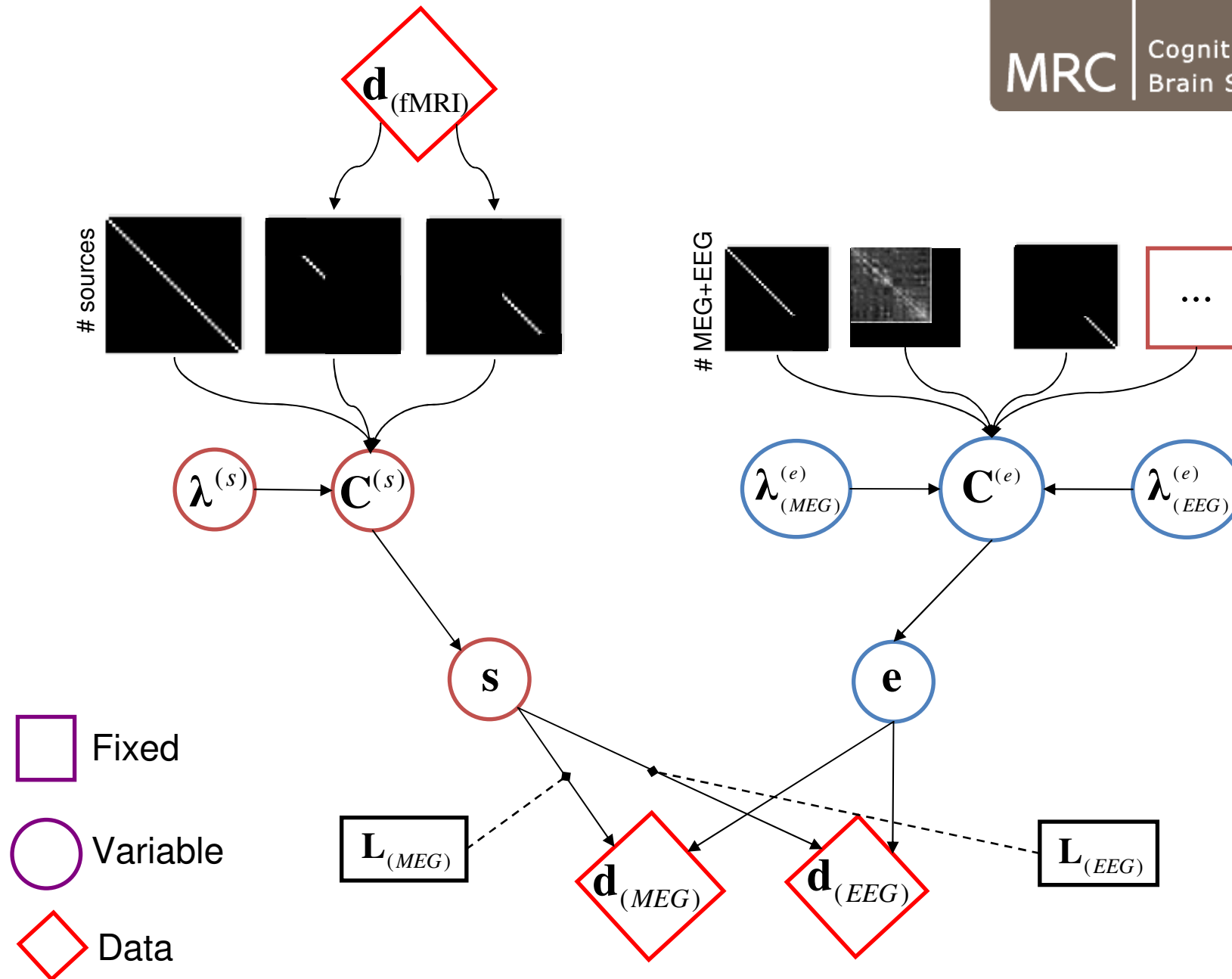
$$\mathbf{C}^{(s)} = \lambda_1^{(s)} \mathbf{Q}_{(fMRI1)}^{(s)} + \lambda_2^{(s)} \mathbf{Q}_{(fMRI2)}^{(s)} + \dots$$

When $\mathbf{Q}_i^{(s)}$ does not help maximise model evidence, $\lambda_i^{(s)} \rightarrow 0$,
i.e, constraints ignored...

...catering for situations where fMRI signal does not reflect same activity as in M/EEG signal (e.g, occurring later than time-window than M/EEG data)

Symmetric Integration of MEG+EEG Generative Model

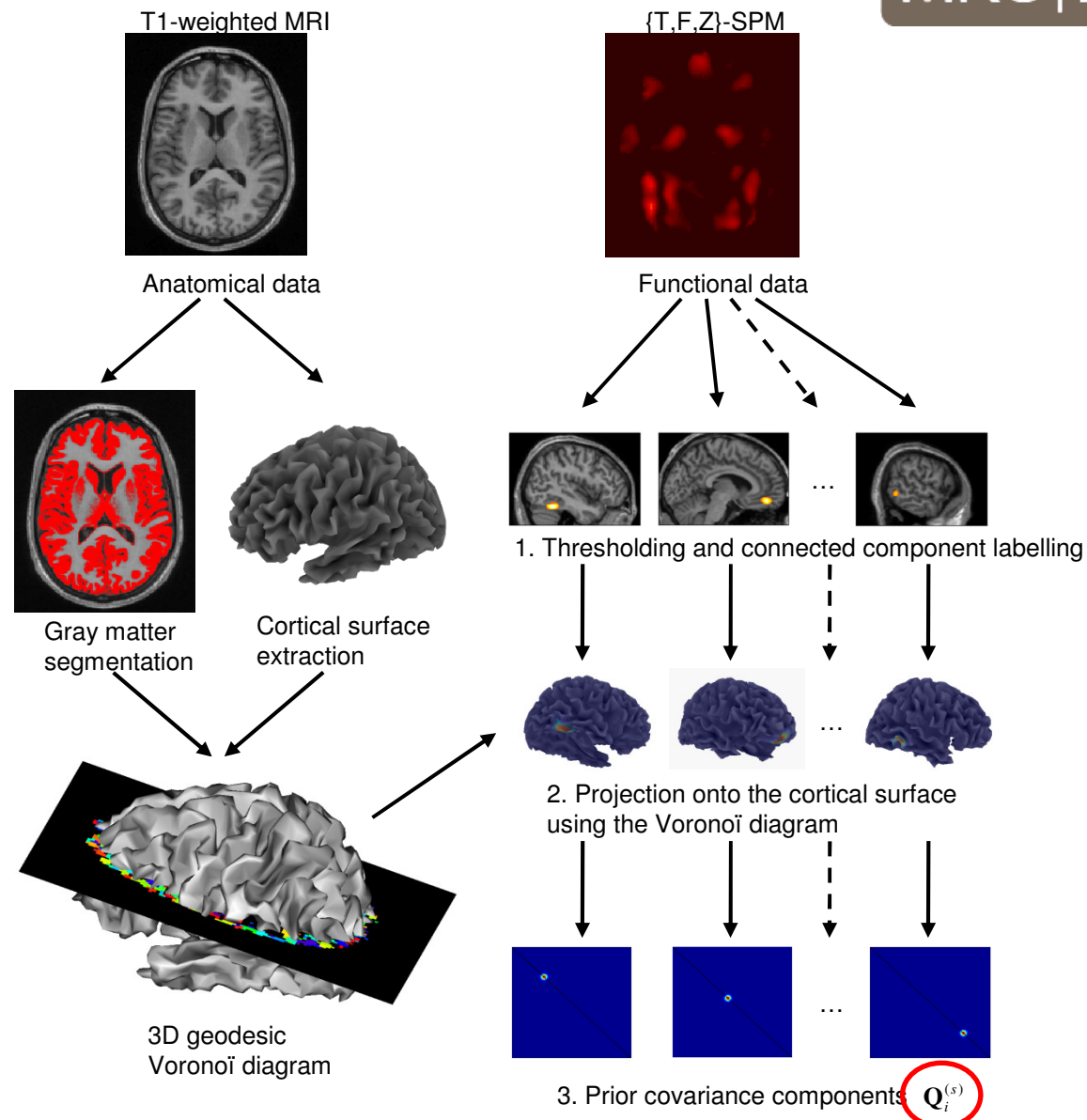




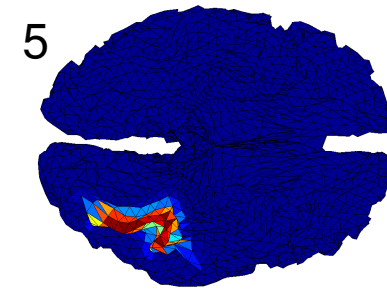
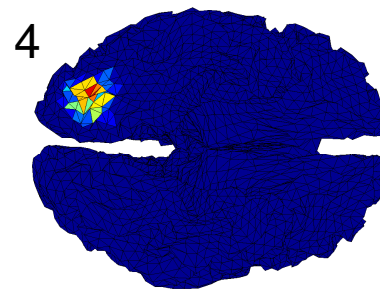
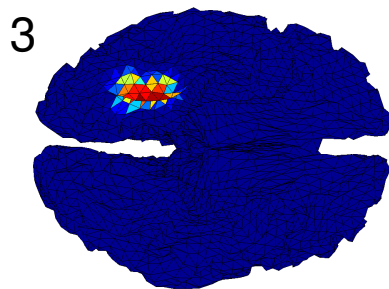
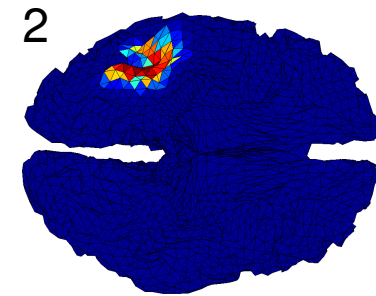
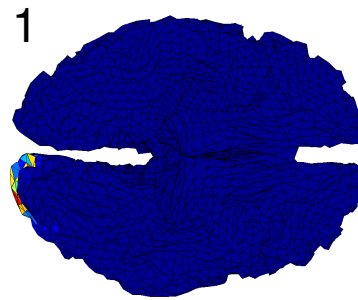
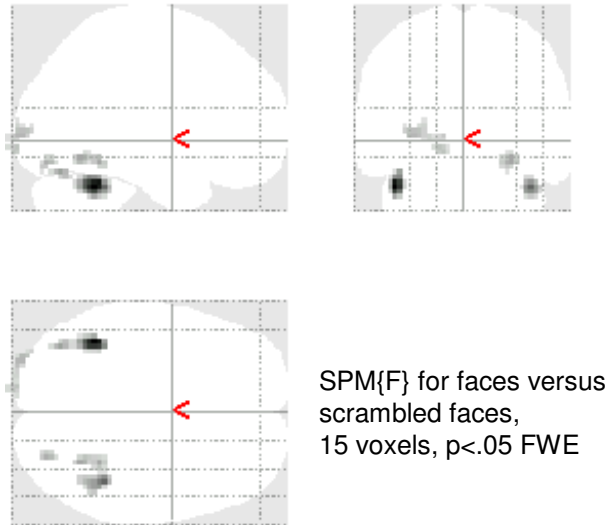
Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

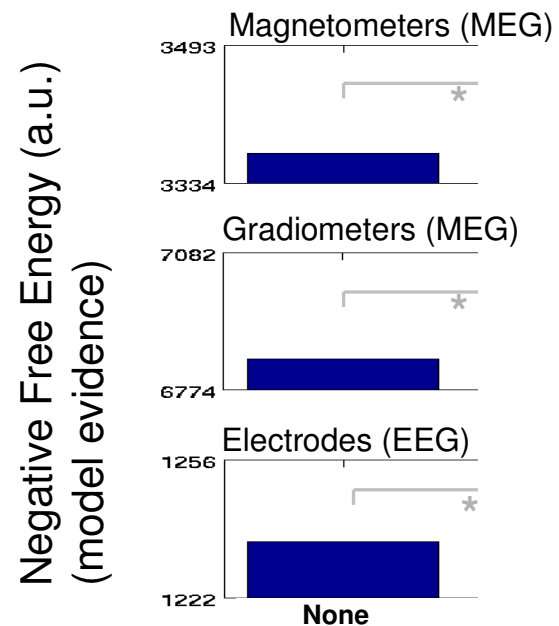


5 clusters from SPM of fMRI data from separate group of (18) subjects in MNI space

Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

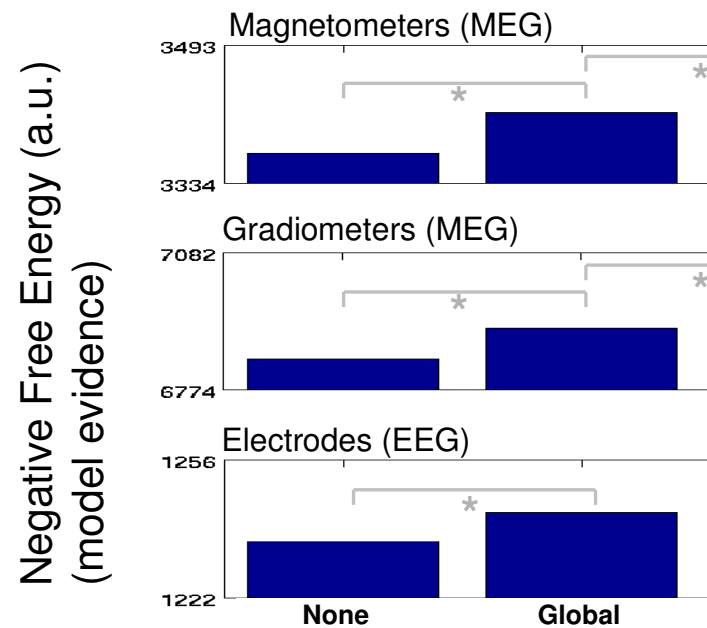
Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

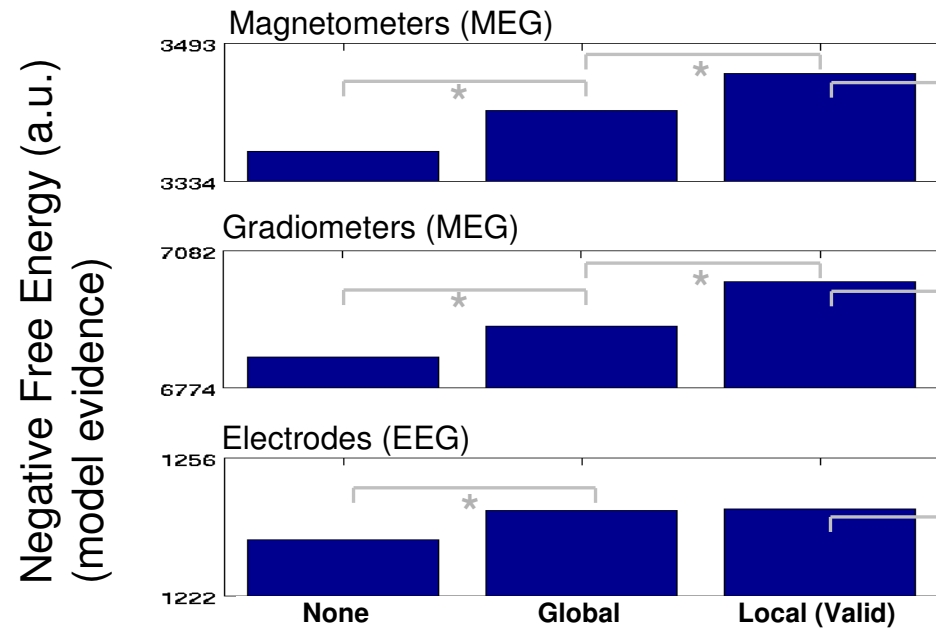
Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

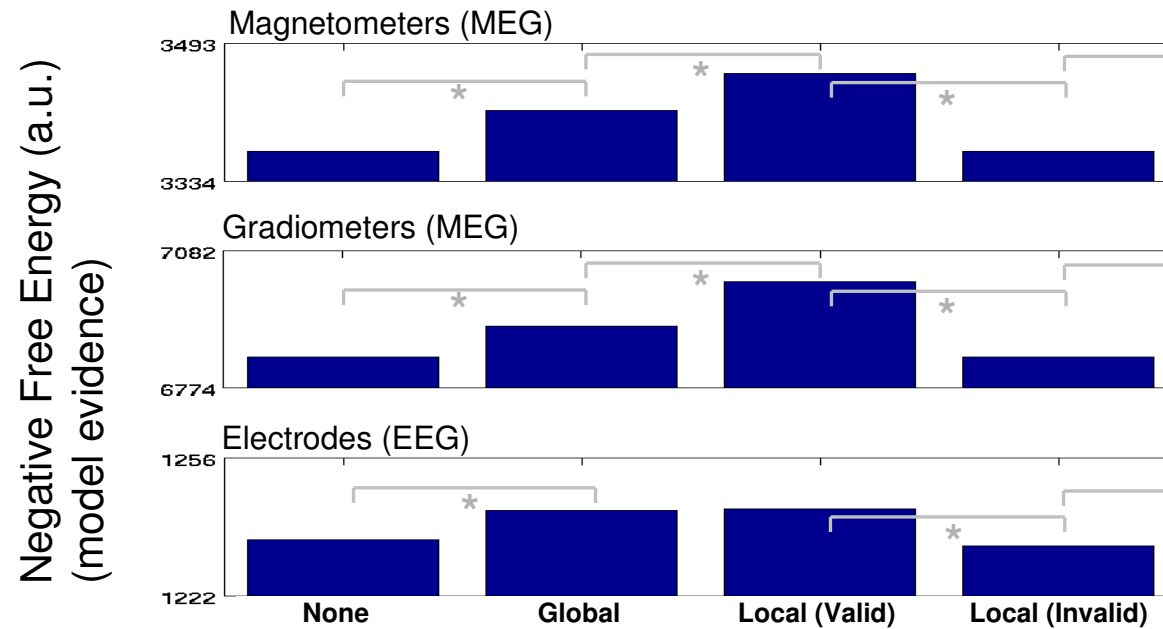
Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

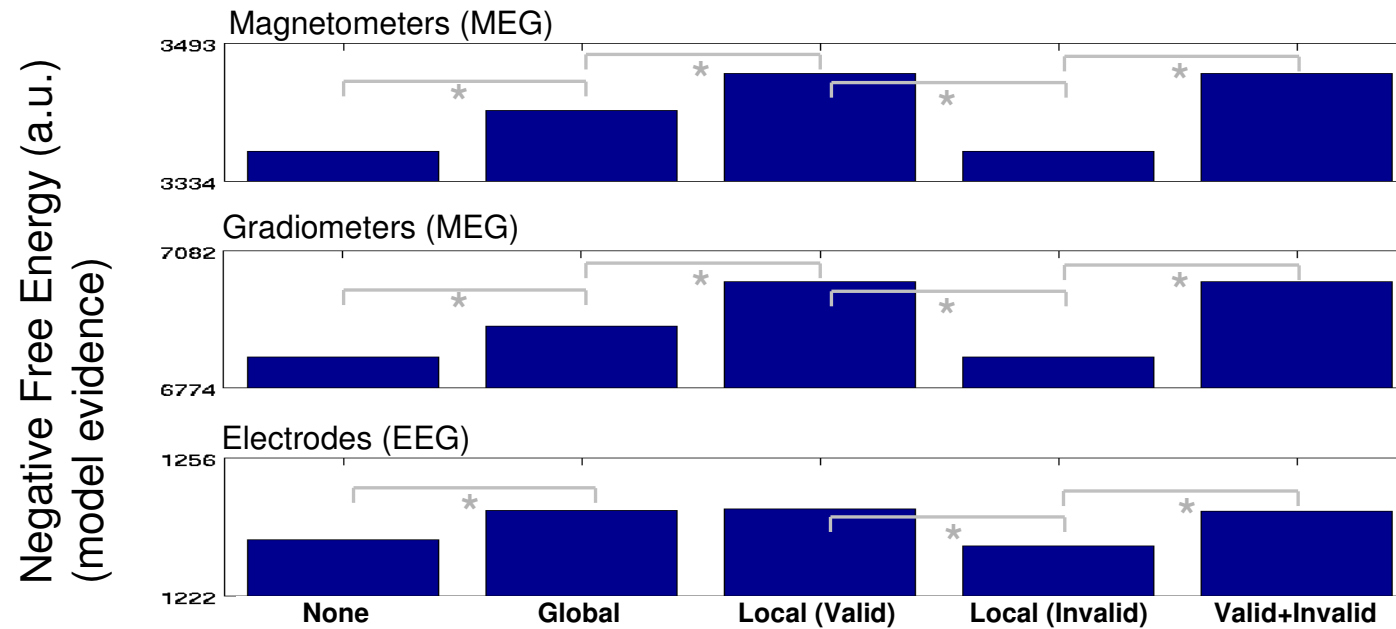
Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

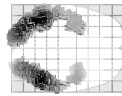
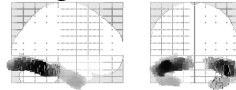
Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit



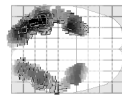
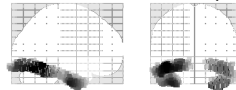
Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

IID sources and IID noise (L2 MNM)

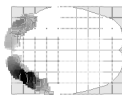
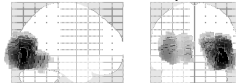
Magnetometers (MEG)



Gradiometers (MEG)



Electrodes (EEG)



None

Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

MRC

Cognition and
Brain Sciences Unit

IID sources and IID noise (L2 MNM)

Magnetometers (MEG)



Gradiometers (MEG)



Electrodes (EEG)

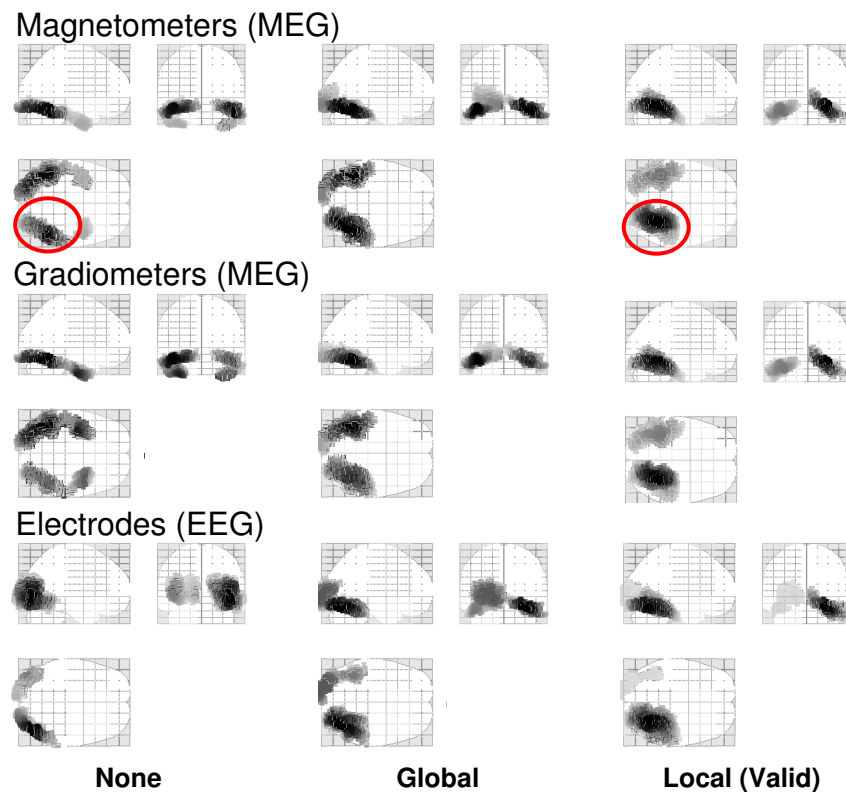


None

Global

Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

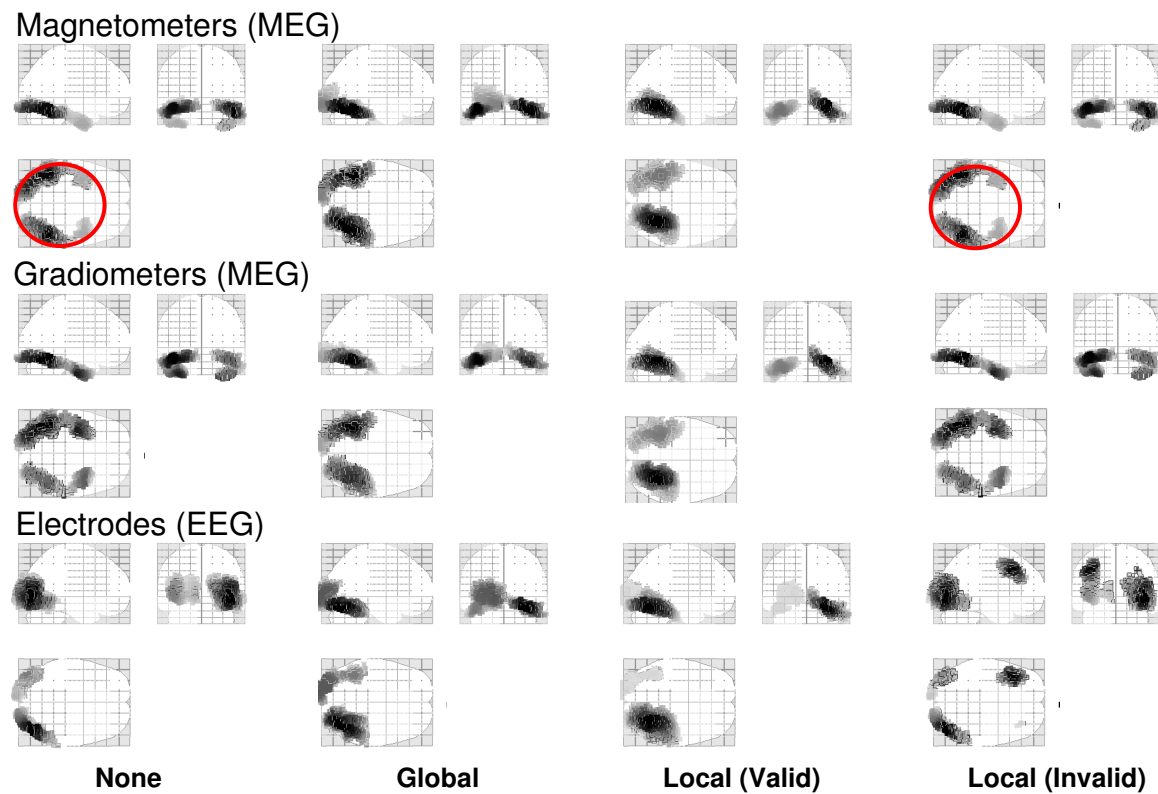
IID sources and IID noise (L2 MNM)



fMRI priors counteract superficial bias of Min Norm

Asymmetric Integration of M/EEG+fMRI

IID sources and IID noise (L2 MNM)



Invalid priors generally discounted (at least for MEG)

- Adding a single, global fMRI prior increases model evidence
- Adding **multiple** valid priors increases model evidence further
- Adding invalid priors does not necessarily increase model evidence, particularly in conjunction with valid priors
Helpful if some fMRI regions produce no MEG/EEG signal
(or arise from neural activity at different times)
- Can counteract superficial bias of, e.g, minimum-norm
- Makes some allowance for different sensitivities of fMRI and M/EEG to certain types of neural activity

Other Approaches to fMRI/MEG/EEG

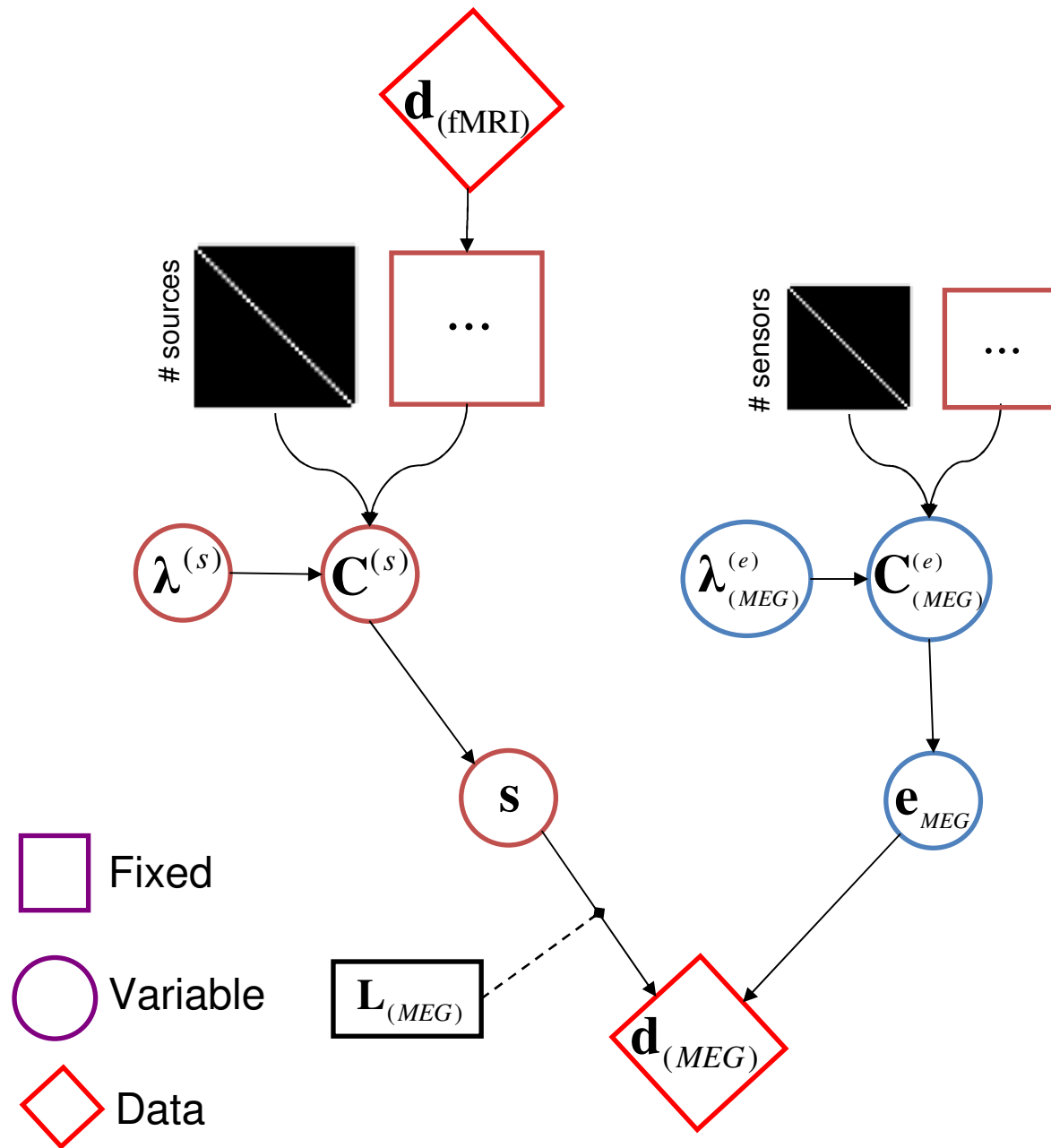
Symmetric Integration (fusion) of fMRI and M/EEG

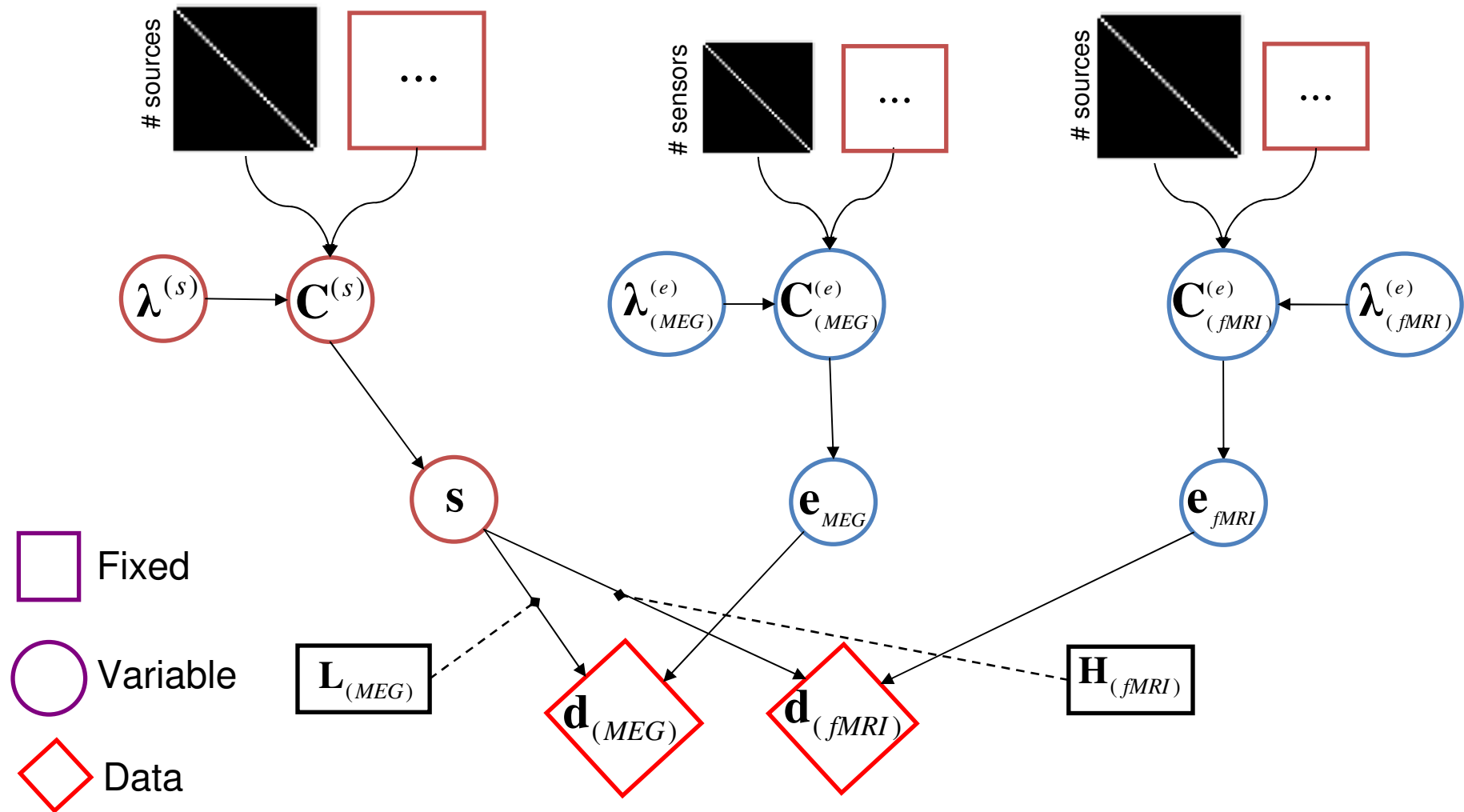
- e.g based on ROIs:

Ou et al (2010), Neuroimage

- e.g, full biophysical model

Sotero & Trujillo-Barreto (2008), Neuroimage





The End