

# Group Analysis

J. Daunizeau

*Institute of Empirical Research in Economics, Zurich, Switzerland  
Brain and Spine Institute, Paris, France*

SPM Course  
Edinburgh, April 2011

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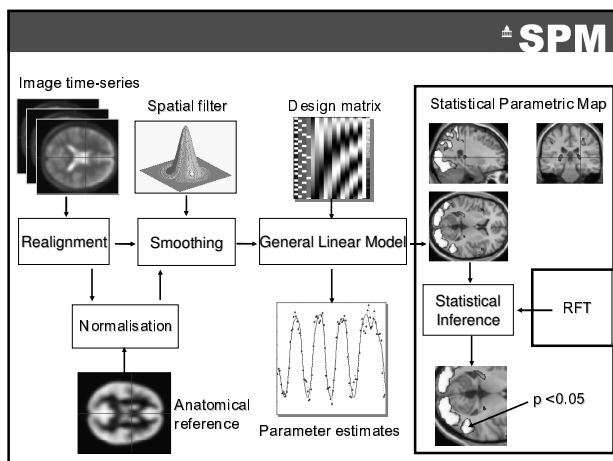
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## Lexicon

- ☐ Hierarchical models
- ☐ Mixed effect models
- ☐ Random effect (RFX) models
- ☐ Components of variance

... all the same

... all alluding to multiple sources of variation  
(in contrast to fixed effects)

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## Hierarchical models: definition

SPM

Hierarchical model

$$\begin{aligned} y &= X^{(1)}\theta^{(1)} + \varepsilon^{(1)} \\ \theta^{(1)} &= X^{(2)}\theta^{(2)} + \varepsilon^{(2)} \\ &\vdots \\ \theta^{(n-1)} &= X^{(n)}\theta^{(n)} + \varepsilon^{(n)} \end{aligned}$$

Multiple variance components at each level

$$C_{\varepsilon}^{(i)} = \sum_k \lambda_k^{(i)} Q_k^{(i)}$$

At each level, changes in any parameter is driven by changes at the level above.

What we don't know: GLM parameters (theta) and variance hyperparameters (lambda).

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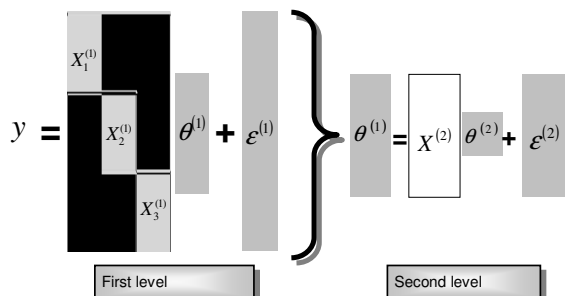
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## Hierarchical models: fMRI group analysis

SPM

$$\begin{aligned} y &= X^{(1)}\theta^{(1)} + \varepsilon^{(1)} \\ \theta^{(1)} &= X^{(2)}\theta^{(2)} + \varepsilon^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$




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## Overview

SPM

- ☐ Group analysis: fixed versus random effects
- ☐ Two RFX methods:
  - *Holmes & Friston (HF) approach*
  - *non-sphericity modelling*
- ☐ Examples
- ☐ Power and efficiency: summary

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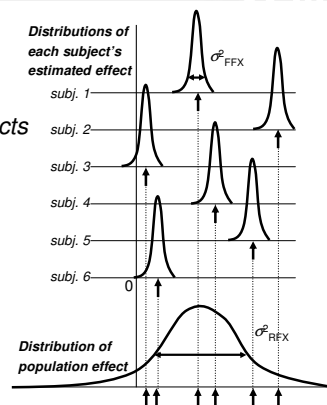
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## FFX versus RFX



- ❑ Fixed effects:  
Intra-subjects variation  
suggests *all these subjects*  
*different from zero*
- ❑ Random effects:  
Inter-subjects variation  
suggests *population*  
*not different from zero*



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## Fixed effect



$$y = X^{(1)}\theta^{(1)} + \epsilon^{(1)}$$



- ❑ Only source of variation (over sessions)  
is measurement error
- ❑ True response magnitude is *fixed*

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## Random effects

SPM

$$y = X^{(1)}\theta^{(1)} + \varepsilon^{(1)}$$

$$\theta^{(1)} = X^{(2)}\theta^{(2)} + \varepsilon^{(2)}$$



- ❑ Two sources of variation
  - measurement errors
  - response magnitude (over subjects)
- ❑ Response magnitude is *random*
  - each subject/session has random magnitude
  - but note, population mean magnitude is *fixed*

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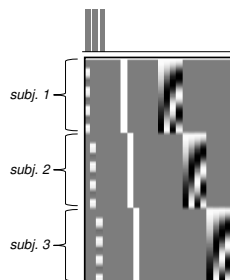
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## FFX modelling in SPM: basics

SPM

- ❑ Grand GLM approach  
(model all subjects at once)
- ❑ Good:
  - *max dof*
  - *simple model*
- ❑ Bad:
  - *assumes common variance over subjects at each voxel*




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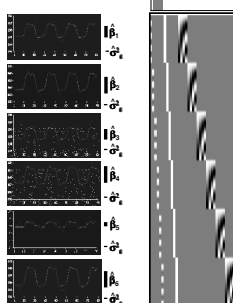
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## FFX modelling in SPM: summary

SPM

Fixed effects...



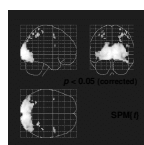
estimated mean activation image...



...to be compared with residuals variance:

$$\sigma^2_e / nw$$

$n$  – subjects  
 $w$  – error dof




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## FFX versus RFX



- ☐ FFX isn't "wrong", just usually isn't of interest
- ☐ Summary:
  - **FFX inference:**  
*"I can see this effect in this cohort"*
  - **RFX inference:**  
*"If I were to sample a new cohort from the same population I would get the same result"*

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## HF approach: basics



- ☐ "Summary statistics" approach
- ☐ 1- or 2- sample  $t$  test on contrast image
  - intra-subject variance not used
- ☐ Procedure:
  - Fit GLM for each subject  $i$   
and compute contrast estimate  $c\hat{\beta}_i$  (first level)
  - Analyze  $\{c\hat{\beta}_i\}_{i=1,\dots,n}$  (second level)

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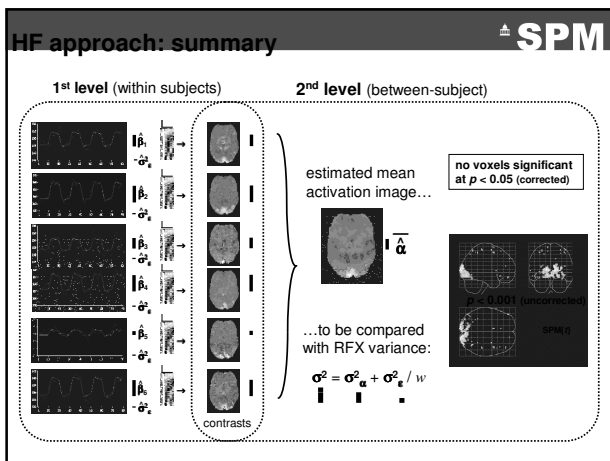
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- ### HF approach: assumptions SPM
- ☐ Distribution
    - Normality
    - Independent subjects
  - ☐ Homogeneous variance:
    - Residual error the same for all subjects
    - Balanced designs

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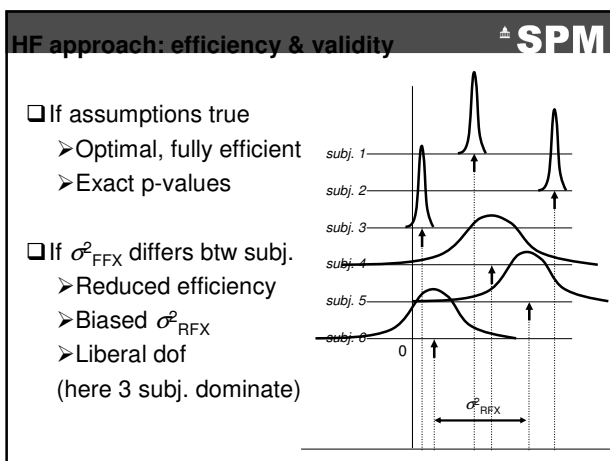
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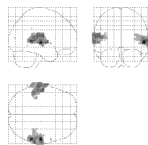
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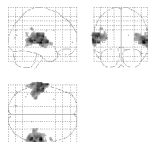
## HF approach: robustness (I)



Summary statistics



Full Bayesian Hierarchical Modelling

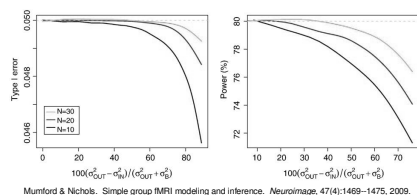


Friston et al. (2004)  
Mixed effects and fMRI studies,  
*Neuroimage*

## HF approach: robustness (II)



- ❑ In practice, validity and efficiency are excellent
  - For 1-sample case, HF impossible to break



Mumford & Nichols. Simple group fMRI modeling and inference. *Neuroimage*, 47(4):1469–1475, 2009.

- ❑ 2-sample and correlation might give trouble
  - Dramatic imbalance and/or heteroscedasticity

## Overview



- ❑ Group analysis: fixed versus random effects
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  - non-sphericity modelling
- ❑ Examples
- ❑ Power and efficiency: summary

## Non sphericity modelling: basics

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- ❑ 1 effect per subject
  - Use Holmes & Friston approach
- ❑ >1 effects per subject
  - Can't use HF, must use non sphericity modelling
  - Covariance components and ReML (c.f. "Bayesian inference" talk)

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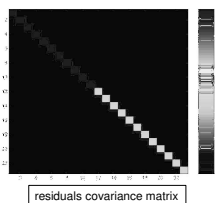
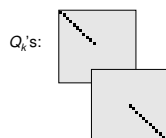
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## Multiple covariance components (I)

SPM

- ❑ E.g., 2-sample t-test
  - Errors are independent but not identical.
  - 2 covariance components



residuals covariance matrix

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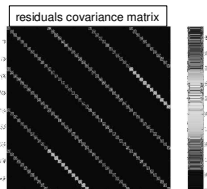
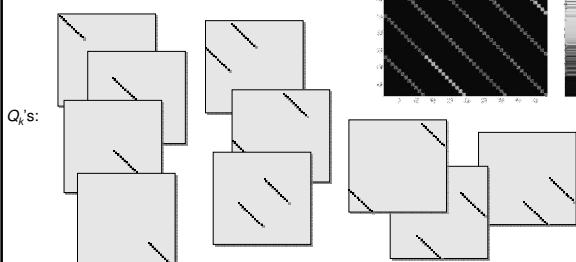
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## Multiple covariance components (II)

SPM

- ❑ Errors are not independent and not identical



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## Example 1: data



- ❑ Stimuli:
  - Auditory presentation (SOA = 4 sec)
  - 250 scans per subject, block design
  - Words, e.g. “book”
  - Words spoken backwards, e.g. “koob”
- ❑ Subjects:
  - 12 controls
  - 11 blind people

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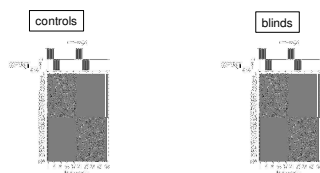
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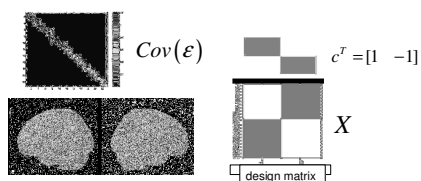
## Example 1: population differences



❑ 1<sup>st</sup> level



❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> level



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## Example 2: data

SPM

### □ Stimuli:

- Auditory presentation (SOA = 4 sec)
- 250 scans per subject, block design
- Words:

Motion	Sound	Visual	Action
"jump"	"click"	"pink"	"turn"

### □ Subjects:

- 12 controls

### □ Question:

- What regions are affected by the semantic content of the words?

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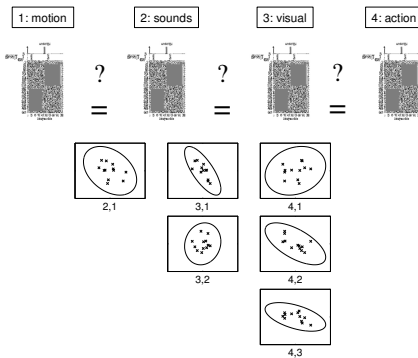
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## Example 2: repeated measures ANOVA

SPM

### □ 1st level



### □ 2nd level

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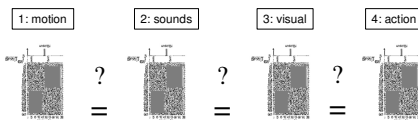
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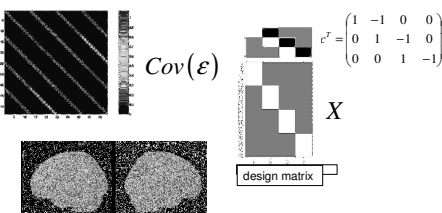
## Example 2: repeated measures ANOVA

SPM

### □ 1st level



### □ 2nd level




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## Power & efficiency: summary (II)



- ❑ Efficiency =  $1 / [\text{estimator variance}]$ 
  - goes up with  $n$  (number of subjects)
  - c.f. "experimental design" talk
- ❑ Power = chance of detecting an effect
  - goes up with degrees of freedom ( $dof = n-p$ ).
  - I reject the null when  $P < 0.05$ . Is my risk of false positive rate (FPR) controlled at 5%?  
Well, not exactly, but valid control:  $FPR \leq \alpha$ .  
This is potentially conservative.

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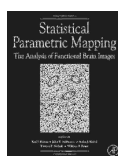
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## Bibliography:



- ❑ *Statistical Parametric Mapping: The Analysis of Functional Brain Images*. Elsevier, 2007.
- ❑ *Generalisability, Random Effects & Population Inference*. Holmes & Friston, NeuroImage, 1999.
- ❑ *Classical and Bayesian inference in neuroimaging: theory*. Friston et al., NeuroImage, 2002.
- ❑ *Classical and Bayesian inference in neuroimaging: variance component estimation in fMRI*. Friston et al., NeuroImage, 2002.
- ❑ Simple group fMRI modeling and inference. Mumford & Nichols, Neuroimage, 2009.

With many thanks to G. Flandin, J.-B. Poline and Tom Nichols for slides.



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