

Martin Lindquist

Department of Biostatistics  
Johns Hopkins  
Bloomberg School of Public Health

Tor Wager

Department of Psychology and  
Neuroscience and the  
Institute for Cognitive Science  
University of Colorado, Boulder

# GLM Model Building 1: Multiple conditions and contrasts



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# REVIEW: KEY CONCEPTS

# The structural model for the GLM

Simple or multiple regression, t-tests, ANOVA, ANCOVA

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & X_{11} & \cdots & X_{1p} \\ 1 & X_{21} & \cdots & X_{2p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & X_{np} & \cdots & X_{np} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Observed Data

Design matrix

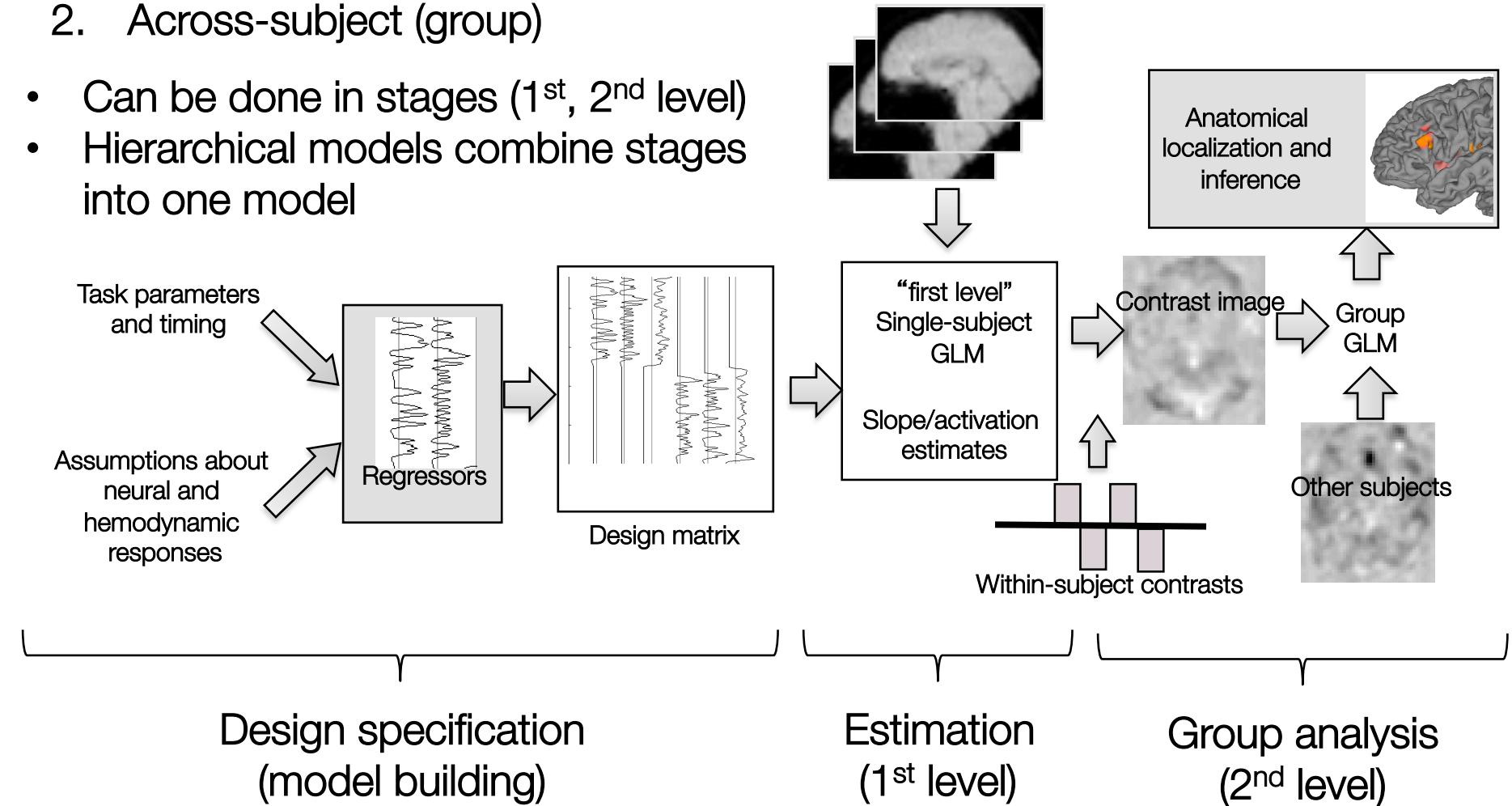
Model parameters

Residuals

# Overview of the GLM analysis process

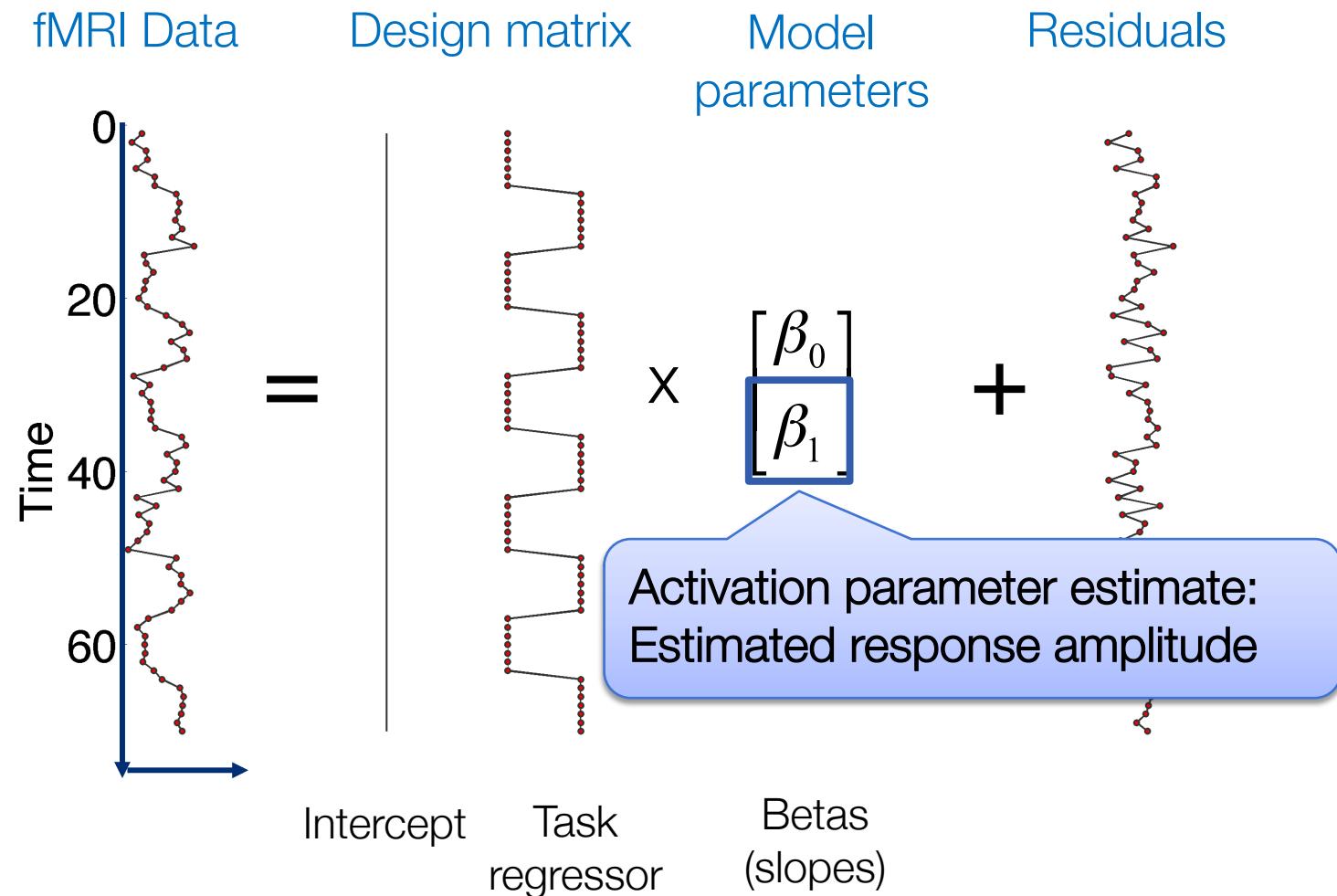
Typically a two-level hierarchical analysis

1. Within-subject (individual)
  2. Across-subject (group)
- Can be done in stages (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> level)
  - Hierarchical models combine stages into one model



# First-level GLM: Single-voxel, single-subject

- A basic design matrix:

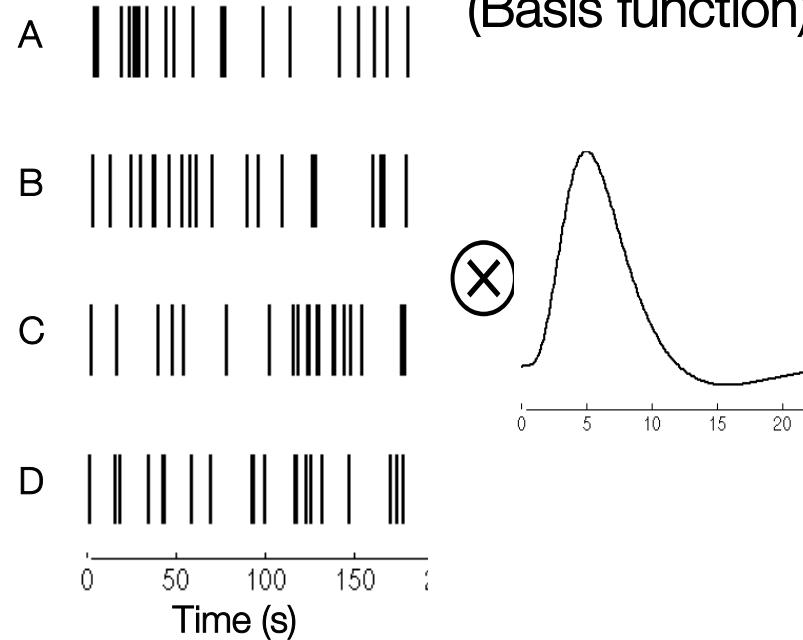


# Model building for multiple predictors: Single-subject, single voxel

## Indicator functions

(onsets)

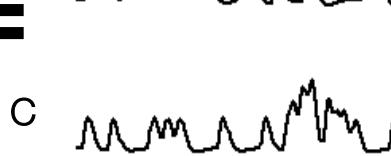
## Assumed HRF (Basis function)



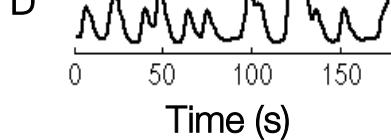
## Design Matrix ( $X^T$ )



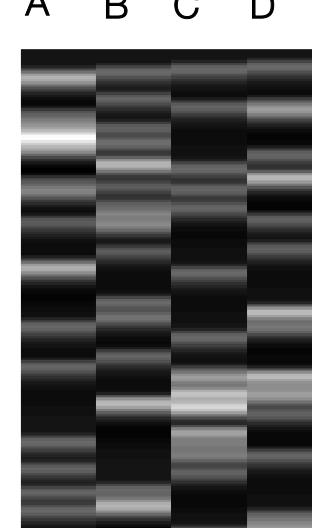
B



D A A A A



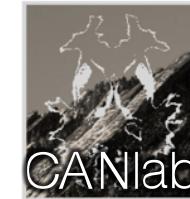
## Design Matrix ( $X$ )



Time



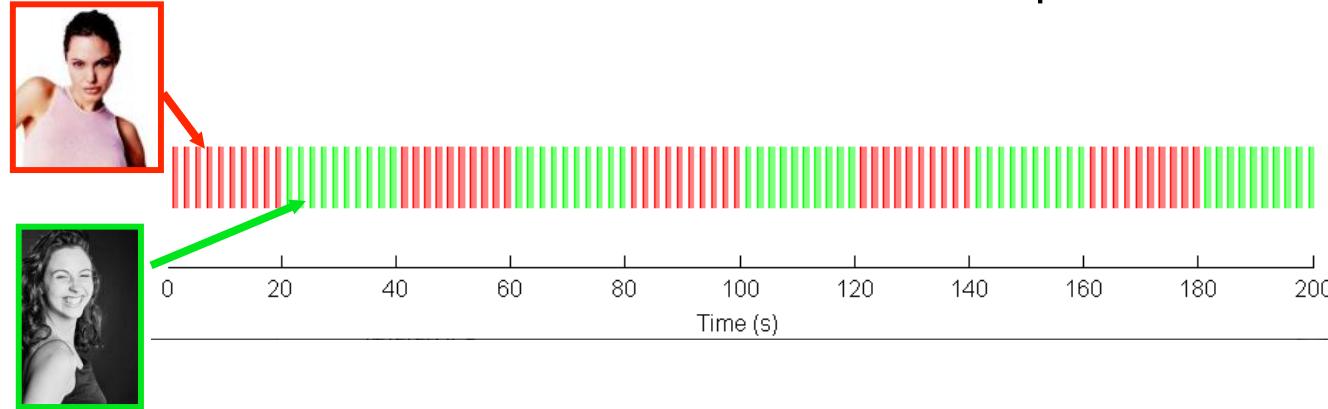
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# MODEL BUILDING: PREDICTORS AND CONTRASTS

# Multiple-predictor designs and contrasts

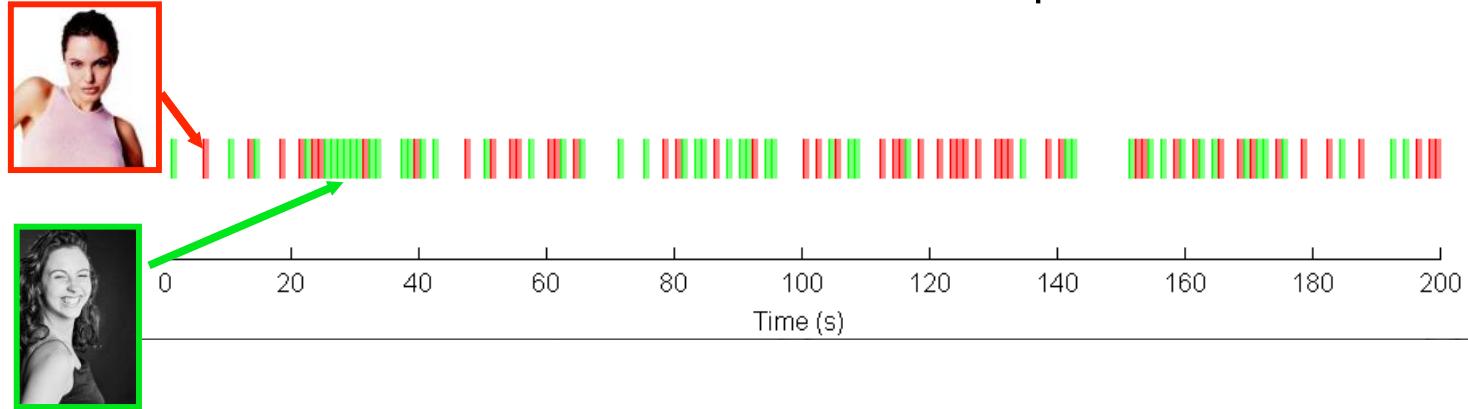
- Famous vs. non-famous face example:



- You care about the difference between famous and non-famous faces. This is a **contrast** across two conditions.
- With block design, one can use a single regressor that captures the difference

# Multiple-predictor designs and contrasts

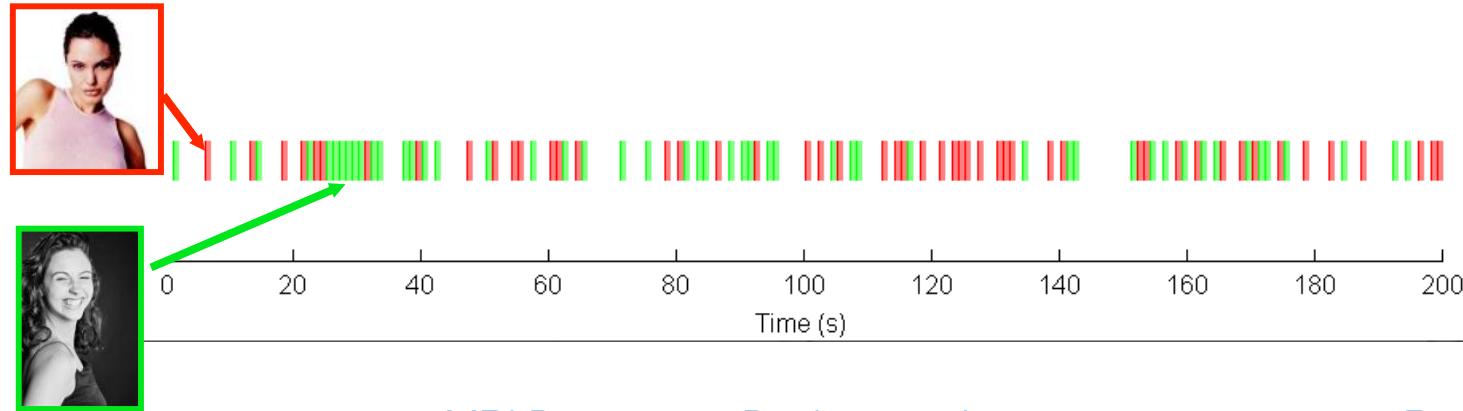
- Famous vs. non-famous face example:



- With event-related designs, model each event type separately

# Multiple-predictor designs and contrasts

- With event-related designs, model each event type separately



- You can now assess the *difference*, each one *separately*, or their *average*
- These functions are specified by different linear *contrasts*

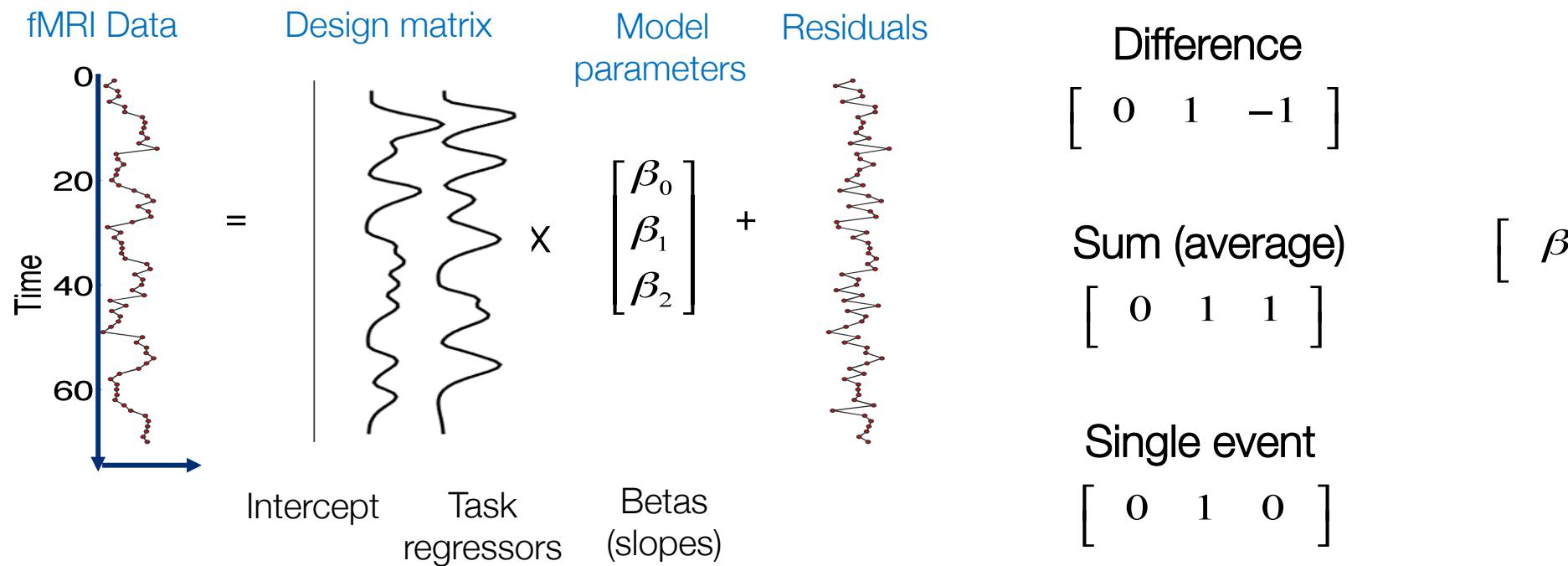
fMRI Data      Design matrix      Model parameters      Residuals  

$$\text{fMRI Data} = \begin{matrix} \text{Intercept} \\ \text{Task regressors} \end{matrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix} + \text{Residuals}$$

Time (s)      Intercept      Task regressors      Model parameters      Residuals  
 0       $\beta_0$   
 20       $\beta_1$   
 40       $\beta_2$   
 60

# Contrasts: A flexible and powerful tool

- Contrast: A linear combination of GLM parameters
  - T-contrast: Single, planned contrast  $\rightarrow$  t-test
  - Specified by a vector of weights ( $c$ ), so that  $c^T \hat{\beta}$  = a scalar value
  - Signed: Can have negative or positive values

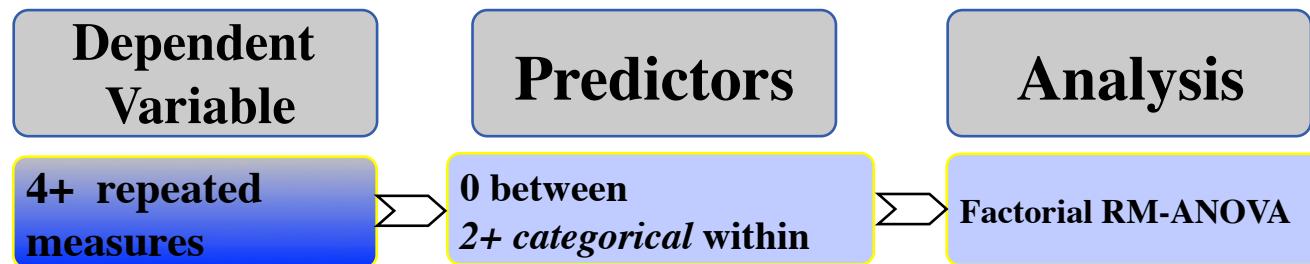


# Model building and contrasts: multiple predictors

Factor 2		
Factor 1	A	B
C	D	

Example: Memory experiment  
 Four word types, grouped into two factors:

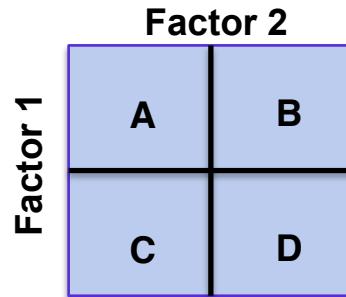
Factor 1: Visual vs. Auditory presentation (2 levels)  
 Factor 2: High vs. low imageability (2 levels)



“Factorial repeated-measures ANOVA design”  
 Very typical in fMRI experiments



# Model building and contrasts: multiple predictors

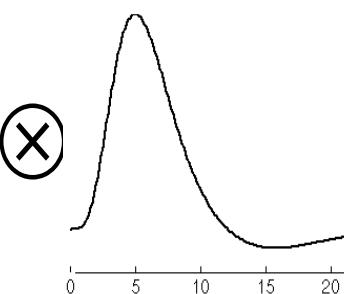


Example: Memory experiment  
Four word types, grouped into two factors:  
Factor 1: Visual vs. Auditory presentation (2 levels)  
Factor 2: High vs. low imageability (2 levels)

## Indicator functions (onsets)

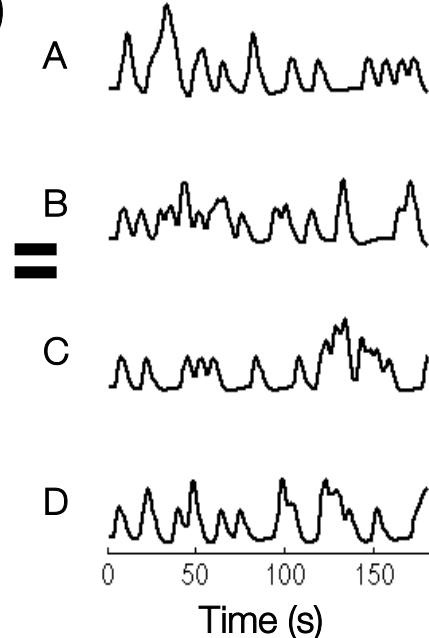


## Assumed HRF (Basis function)

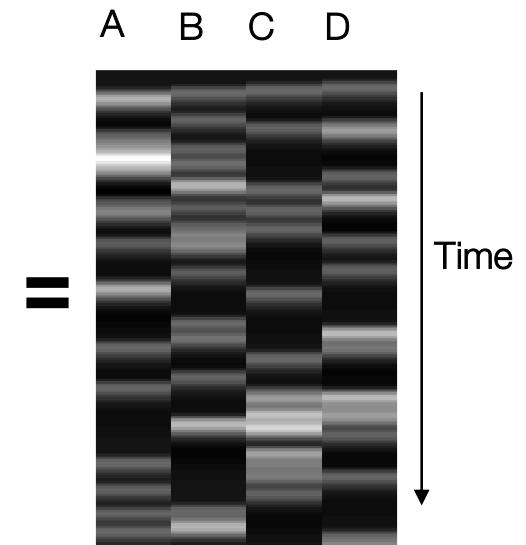


:

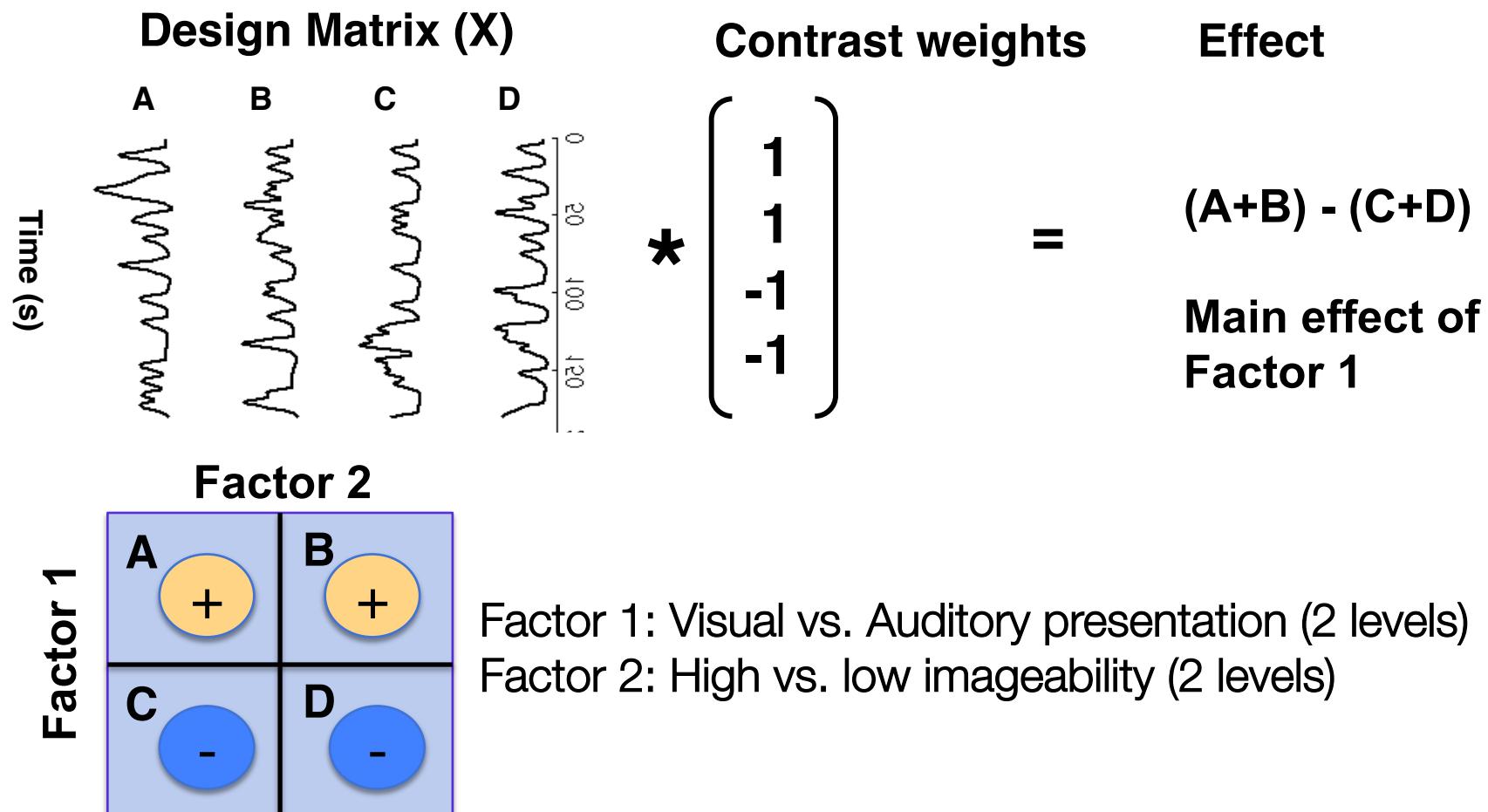
## Design Matrix ( $X^T$ )



## Design Matrix ( $X$ )

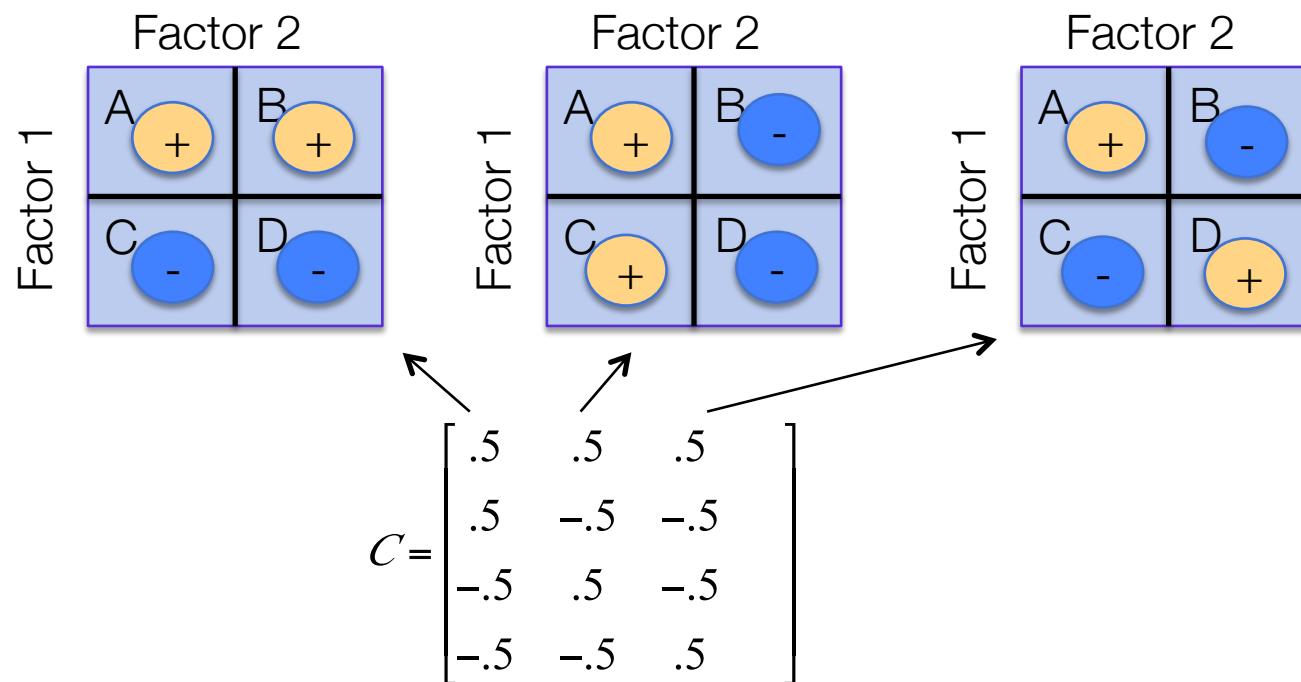


# Contrasts for ANOVA design: Planned comparisons to identify effects of interest



# Rules for T-contrasts

- C can be a matrix
  - Columns are applied independently and do not affect one another, so each is a separate test



$\hat{c}^\top \beta$  has three columns, corresponding to main effects and interaction: standard ANOVA contrasts

# Rules for T-contrasts

Testing of custom hypotheses

- Not limited to ANOVA contrasts
- Can specify planned tests that make sense based on your hypotheses:

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \beta \text{ is 'simple effect', difference } [A - B]$$

High – low imageability effect for visual items only

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \hat{\beta} \text{ is effect magnitude estimate for } 2*A - B - C$$



# Rules for T-contrasts

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- Scaling of weights affects magnitude, but not inference (t-values, p-values).
  - [1 -1] and [.5 -.5] give same statistical result.

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \hat{\beta} \text{ is effect magnitude estimate for } 2^*A - B - C$$

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \hat{\beta} \text{ is effect magnitude estimate for } A - \text{mean}(B, C)$$

*Statistically identical to above.*

**Tip:** Contrast weights must be the same for all participants.

- Beware if you have missing sessions or runs!



# Rules for T-contrasts

- Expected value of  $c^T \beta$  under the null hypothesis should be 0
  - $H_0$  (null):  $c^T \beta = 0$ . Alternative  $H_a$ :  $c^T \beta \neq 0$ , permits t-test
- If you are testing a difference between conditions, contrast weights should sum to zero
- Consider a contrast C across 4 conditions:

**Valid:** Expected value is zero with no true difference in  $\beta$

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \hat{\beta} \text{ is effect magnitude estimate for } 2^*A - B$$

**Invalid:** Expected value is not zero

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad c^T \hat{\beta} \text{ is effect magnitude estimate for } 2^*A - B - C$$



# Rules for T-contrasts

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- One case in which weights do not need to sum to zero:  
Testing the average of one or more conditions against the implicit baseline

$$H_0: \beta_A = 0$$

- Under null hypothesis of no activation in A,  $E(\beta_A) = 0$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

C' b is beta for A only  
i.e., whether response to A > 0

$$H_0: (\beta_A + \beta_B) / 2 = 0$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

C' b is sum (or average) beta for A and B



# Summary

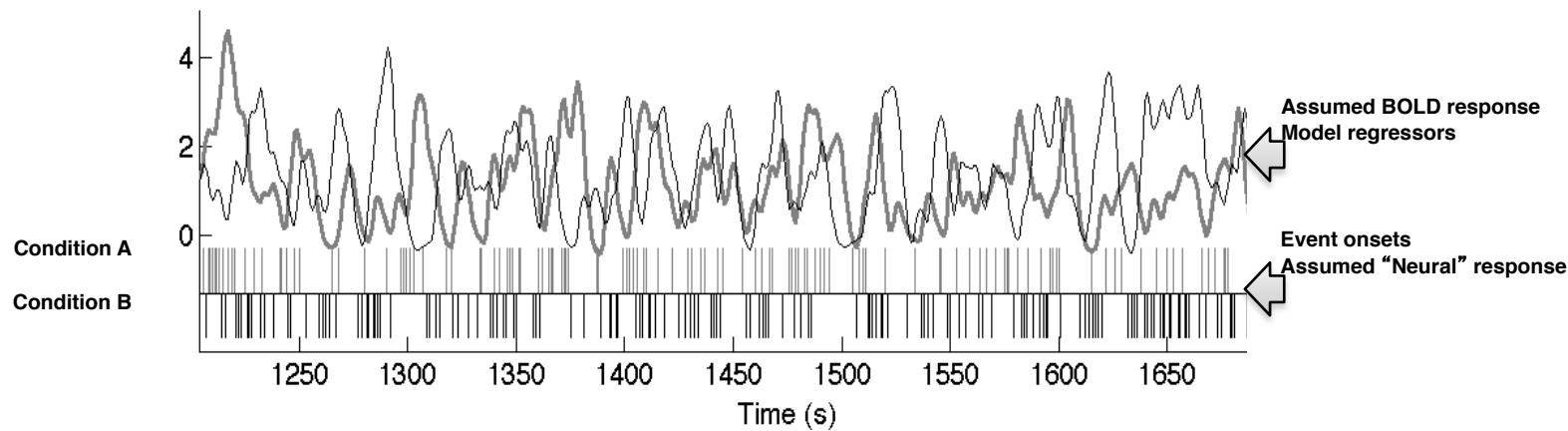
- Specifying contrasts for hypotheses of interest
  - Simple differences and averages
  - ANOVA contrasts
  - Custom hypotheses
  
- Rules for contrasts
  - Scaling
  - Expected value must be zero under null



# End of Module



@fMRIstats



# Rules for T-contrasts

- I have 4 conditions, but am interested in testing specific differences among them
- Define a matrix C whose columns define linear combinations of 4 predictors

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $C' X$  is  $\text{mean}(A, B) - \text{mean}(C, D)$   
 e.g., a main effect across 4 conditions

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $C' X$  is  $[A - B]$   
 e.g., a simple difference between two conditions

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .5 & .5 \\ .5 & -.5 & -.5 \\ -.5 & .5 & -.5 \\ -.5 & -.5 & .5 \end{bmatrix}$$

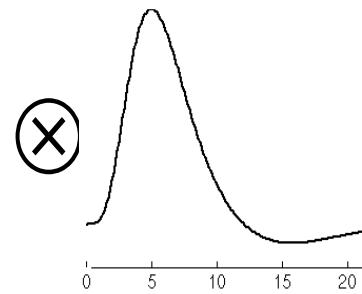
Then  $C' X$  has three columns, corresponding to main effects and interactions

# Model building for multiple predictors

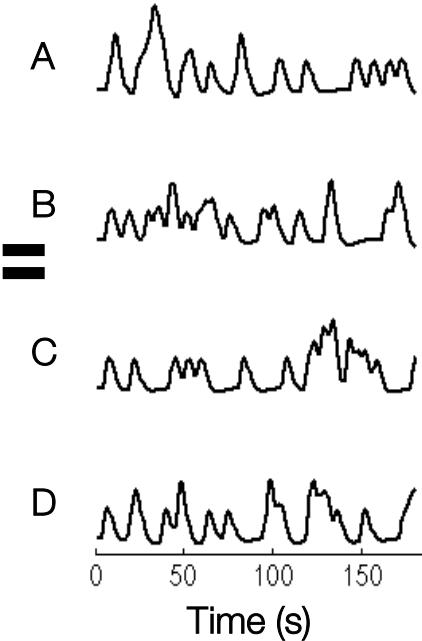
## Indicator functions (onsets)



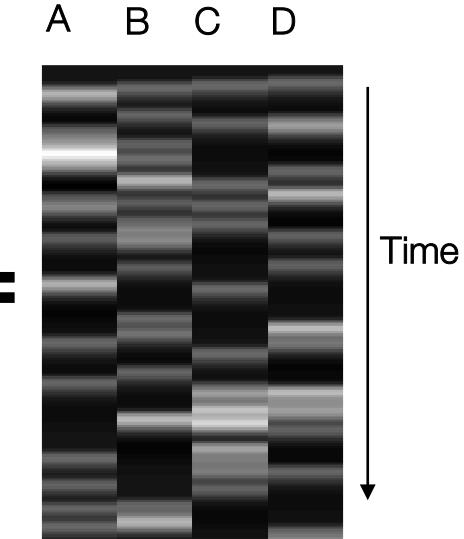
Assumed HRF  
(Basis function)



Design Matrix ( $X^T$ )



Design Matrix ( $X$ )



## Assumptions!

Assume neural activity function is correct

Assume HRF is correct

Assume LTI system

We will look at how to relax these later