

# Laminar EEG-fMRI pipeline

## DOCUMENTATION

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last updated on July 2, 2018

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# 1 About this Document

This documentation accompanies the scripts that I wrote for my MSc thesis on feature specific neuronal oscillations on a cortical laminar level under the supervision of:

- Mathilde Bonnefond
- Rene Scheeringa

Hence all the functionality is tied to our specific experiment. However, most steps still can serve as a template for laminar EEG-fMRI analyses in general.

Our experiment consisted of 3 major parts: retinotopic field mapping for visual ROI definition, odd ball task employing gabor patches (main task) and additional support scans as there are: T1 anatomical and functional scans with inversed flip angle. During the main task EEG was recorded in a 3 s gap between blocks of 4 *TR* (4 functional volumes). This led to a signal drop off over each of the four fMRI volumes, that was absent during retinotopy scans. We exploited the fact that the difference between the 4th and 1st volume of such a block yields a T1-like contrast, to optimise co-registration performance.

To enable myself to write all the scripts I got help from various people, so further thanks goes to:

- Jose Marques
- Koen Haak
- Matthias Ekman
- Simon Homölle
- Tim van Mourik
- TG guys at the DCCN

The goal was to create a set of scripts such that it would be highly standardized and with as little human interaction as possible. This way it is guaranteed, that once the analysis and respective parameters are set up, the scripts will run similar for all subjects. However it also means that changing single scripts within this "ecosystem" should be done very carefully to not interfere with relative paths and file I/O all functions rely on.

# 2 Before starting

Most of the functionality is optimized for the IT infrastructure provided by the Donders Center for Cognitive Neuroimaging. Since some parts of the analysis require very high amounts of memory, those parts are absolutely infeasible to compute on a local desktop or laptop machine. Given the infrastructure of the DCCN, all scripts were optimized to a reasonable amount for a reduction in computation time but still keeping high spatial

accuracy. Hence parts might need to be adjusted to either a different cluster computing system or scaled down massively.

All scripts as we used them can be found at <https://github.com/TommyClausner/laminarfMRI> or by cloning the GitHub repository via the command line:

```
# download scripts  
git clone https://github.com/TommyClausner/laminarfMRI
```

## Pre- requisites

The present pipeline makes use of many modern state of the art analysis toolboxes for Shell and or MATLAB scripting:

- analysePRF (<http://kendrickkay.net/analyzePRF/>)
- FieldTrip (<https://github.com/fieldtrip/fieldtrip>)
- FreeSurfer (<https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/>)
- FSL (<https://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/fslwiki>)
- knkutils (<https://github.com/kendrickkay/knkutils/>)
- MATLAB R2015a or later (<https://nl.mathworks.com/products/matlab.html>)
- MRIcron (<https://www.nitrc.org/projects/mricron>)
- Open fMRI Analysis (<https://github.com/TimVanMourik/OpenFmriAnalysis>)
- Pipeline (<https://github.com/Washington-University/Pipeline>)
- SPM (<http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/>)
- tc\_functions ([https://github.com/TommyClausner/tc\\_functions](https://github.com/TommyClausner/tc_functions))
- VistaSoft (<https://github.com/vistalab/vistasoft>)
- Workbench (<https://github.com/Washington-University/Workbench>)

Use e.g. MRIcron's dicom2nii to convert raw MRI data to NIfTI files.

Call the function `getToolboxes.sh` to download (most of) the software automatically into a folder called `toolboxes/` located in the folder from where the function was called (see `getToolboxes.sh` and Figure 1)

```
# download toolboxes  
sh getToolboxes.sh
```

## Folder structure

The general folder structure is set up by a call to setupfolders.sh (see also Figure 1). Raw data should be placed in the corresponding subfolder:

- Functional data must be located in rawData/niftis/**functionals**/
- Anatomical data must be located in rawData/niftis/**t1**/
- Inverted functional data must be located in rawData/niftis/**inverted**/
- Proton density data must be located in rawData/niftis/**pd**/
- Inverted proton density data must be located in rawData/niftis/**pдинverted**/
- EEG data must be located in rawData/**eegfiles**/
- Eye tracking data must be located in rawData/**eyetrackerfiles**/
- EEG sensor position related files must be in rawData/**electrodes**/
- electromagnetic digitizer data must be in rawData/electrodes/**polhemus**/
- photogrammetry data must be in rawData/electrodes/**photogrammetry**/ (note also the respective sub-structure, set up by **setupfolders.sh (Q)**)

## How things work

### Bash scripts

Parts of the analysis run in Bash scripts. Those should be called from their root directory using:

```
# run scripts
sh scriptname.sh
```

Each step within the analysis has a different subfolder containing the respective results of this step. Leading numbers indicate in which logical order the corresponding shell scripts should be executed. Note that all files created by each respective step are stored in the corresponding folder. However files that need to be preset (e.g. config files) must be located in A\_helperfiles.

### MATLAB wrapper

Note, that most EEG related scripts rely on MATLAB and FieldTrip. Those scripts can be run stand-alone inside MATLAB or using the bash-script wrapper that has the exact same name only with the file extension **.sh** instead of **.m**. Furthermore some MATLAB scripts require significant computation time, for which reason they are set up to be run as parts of a whole. In this case the words *split* is added to the file name. Those scripts call the corresponding shell scripts that call the MATLAB scripts in turn, in a organized

manner to be run on the cluster.

When using such a MATLAB wrapper some MATLAB language specific details and variables are added to the base-file (`targetScript.m`). In every case the respective absolute folder path is provided. The shell script creates a temporary file and run it. It will be constructed by adding variables to an empty file and afterwards adding the actual base-file like so:

```
# guts of MATLAB wrapper
DIR="$( cd "$( dirname "${BASH_SOURCE[0]}" )" && pwd )"
cd $DIR
nameadd=$(date +"%m%d%Y%H%M%S")
echo "mainpath=" "'$DIR';">$DIR/tmp_$nameadd.m
cat $DIR/targetScript.m>>$DIR/tmp_$nameadd.m
echo 'matlab2017b -nosplash -r "run('"'$DIR/
tmp_$nameadd.m'"');"' | qsub -q $jobtype -l
walltime=$walltime,mem=$memory
```

### a note on EEG

Files processing EEG data will have the prefix `do_EEG` and have a in itself closed workflow. This is mostly due to the fact, that scripts merely run in MATLAB at some point. To keep the data somewhat structured, a new datafile is created after each major processing step, adding a new prefix to the file name. E.g. after the time-frequency analysis `TF` will be added to the current file name making `my_data.mat` becoming `TF_my_data.mat`

Within each function it can be defined, which is the prefix of the data to load and which is the prefix that will be added after results were computed. The default will be stated in the respective detailed explaination in Section 4. However, after running `do_EEGfreqChanSelect.m` all in that file defined prefixes that are found in the EEG folder will be deleted, keeping only essential files like headmodel, sourcemodel, sensors and the results file.

## Helper files

There are several helper files that are needed in order to perform the analysis:

### `acquisition_parameters.txt`

indicating the respective acquisition parameters per volume needed in order to perform the distortion correction. One line indicates the respective parameter setting for the respective volume (1st line corresponds to 1st volume, etc.)

e.g.:

```
0 1 0 0.042
0 -1 0 0.042
```

The first 3 columns indicate the respective phase coding direction the last column some weird value, that is only important if it changes. Otherwise it's fine to use any value as long as it is the same.

### **b02b0.cnf**

Settings for distortion correction.

Needed in order to set the parameters for the distortion correction (example provided by FSL). For more information see <https://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/fslwiki/topup/TopupUsersGuide/>.

### **params.mat**

Parameters used for retinotopy scans as obtained from VistaDisp. For more information see <https://web.stanford.edu/group/vista/cgi-bin/wiki/index.php/Stimulus>.

### **images.mat**

Stimuli used for retinotopy scans. Stimuli file must be such that each frame is represented as a binary image. The matrix must be of shape  $Y \times X \times T$  where  $X$  and  $Y$  are the image dimensions in pixel and  $T$  is the respective number of frames.

### **qsub**

Scripts that are flagged with the (Q) can be submitted as a qsub job.

When running the computation on the cluster use the wrapper function `runonqsub.sh` like so

```
# run scripts on cluster using wrapper function
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb targetScript.sh
```

Note that some scripts send a MATLAB script to the qsub cluster. Thus they cannot be run using `runonqsub.sh`, but instead create their own job. However those scripts can also run stand-alone within a interactive MATLAB session.

Table 1 gives an overview about requirements on memory and computation time can be expected:

script	memory required	time required
combine_split_PRF_results.sh	64GB	$\approx 10\text{min}$
do_analyzePRF.sh	6GB	$\approx 7\text{h}$
do_applysimpledistcorr.sh (Q)	32GB	$\approx 30\text{min}$
do_coregistration.sh	16GB	$\approx 30\text{min}$
do_correctavgdiff.sh (Q)	4GB	$\approx 3\text{sec}$
do_distcorr.sh (Q)	32GB	$\approx 15\text{min}$
do_EEGbeamformer.sh	60GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_EEGfreqChanSelect.sh	256GB	$\approx 30\text{min}$
do_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.sh	60GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_EEGprepareFS.sh	8GB	$\approx XXX\text{min}$
do_EEGprepareHeadmodel.sh	32GB	$\approx XXX\text{min}$
do_EEGprepareSourcemodel.sh	32GB	$\approx XXX\text{min}$
do_EEGpreprocessing.sh	16GB	$\approx 30\text{min}$
do_EEGsplitBeamformer.sh	480GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_EEGsplitFreqOnVirtChan.sh	960GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_EEGsplitVirtualChannel.sh	240GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_EEGtimelock.sh	16GB	$\approx 5\text{min}$
do_EEGvirtualChannel.sh	30GB	$\approx 5\text{h}$
do_fsrecon.sh (Q)	16GB	$\approx 6\text{h}$
do_getLayers.sh	16GB	$\approx 20\text{min}$
do_getLayerWeights.sh	16GB	$\approx 5\text{min}$
do_makemasksandlabels.sh (Q)	16GB	$\approx 1\text{min}$
do_preparecoregistration.sh (Q)	16GB	$\approx 4.5\text{h}$
do_preparefunctionals.sh (Q)	32GB	$\approx 10\text{min}$
do_realignment.sh (Q)	32GB	$\approx 30\text{min}$
do_split_analyzePRF.sh	480GB	$\approx 7\text{h}$
do_tseriesinterpolation.sh	64GB	$\approx 20\text{min}$
GUI2ROIs.sh	8GB	user dependent
labels2masks.sh (Q)	8GB	$\approx 10\text{s}$
makeOverlays.sh (Q)	16GB	$\approx 5\text{min}$
make_PRF_overlays.sh	16GB	$\approx 10\text{min}$

Table 1: Approximated time and memory requirements for the respective script to run. Note that everything that is more than 4GB should be run on the cluster. Use runonqsub.sh or the respective MATLAB wrapper for that purpose.

Figure 1: Initial folder structure as required for the analysis

```

Analysis folder
    └── toolboxes/
        └── see Section 2
    └── S#/ (set up by setupfolders.sh or when created using makenewsubject.sh)
        ├── 0_freesurfer/
        ├── 1_realignment/
        ├── 2_coregistration/
        ├── 3_distcorrection/
        ├── 4_retinotopy/
        ├── 5_laminar/
        ├── 6_EEG/
        └── A_helperfiles/
            ├── acquisition_parameters.txt
            ├── b02b0.cnf
            ├── params.mat
            └── images.mat
        └── B_scripts/
            ├── *.m
            ├── *.pipe
            └── *.sh
        └── C_miscResults/
        └── rawData/
            ├── niftis/
            │   ├── functionals/
            │   ├── inverted/
            │   ├── pd/
            │   ├── pdinverted/
            │   └── t1/
            ├── eegfiles/
            ├── electrodes/
            │   ├── photogrammetry/
            │   │   ├── 3Dobject/
            │   │   ├── photographs/
            │   │   └── masks/
            │   └── photoscanfiles/
            └── polhemus/
            └── eyetrackerfiles/
        └── template_session/
            ├── template_helperfiles/
            │   ├── acquisition_parameters.txt
            │   ├── b02b0.cnf
            │   ├── b02b0_example.fsl.cnf
            │   ├── params.mat
            │   └── images.mat
            └── template_scripts/
                ├── *.m
                ├── *.pipe
                └── *.sh
        └── makenewsubject.sh
        └── getToolboxes.sh

```

## 3 Quick Start

This document builds upon the analysis rational used during our own analyses. It is build upon the technically facilities of the DCCN (Radboud University Nijmegen, 2018). Hence a copy-paste workflow will only work on a very similar infrastructure.

### first steps

maximum memory required	approx time required
32GB	$\approx 10min + user$

Since you are reading this document, it is unlikely that you haven't done already, but the first step would be to download the required scripts by cloning or downloading the GitHub repository:

```
# download scripts and toolboxes
cd myPath
git clone https://github.com/TommyClausner/laminarfMRI
cd laminarfMRI/quickStart
sh getToolboxes.sh
```

Figure 1 depicts an overview of how the analysis folder should look like. Individual subject folders are created and have the correct sub-structure by calling:

```
# create new subject folder
sh makenewsubject.sh
```

This functions searches for folders starting with **S** (for subject) within it's root directory and will create a new subject *S0* if none was found and otherwise increment the respective maximum value by 1. Hence if 21 subjects are already present, a call to *makenewsubject.sh* will create subject *S22*.

Once this is done the folder structure should already be in place and the recorded data can be placed in the subject's rawData folder.

From this point on it's best to navigate to the *B\_scripts* folder of the subject and run all scripts from there. The first to run would be

```
# prepare fMRI raw data
cd S<number>/B_scripts
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb do_preparefunctionals.sh
```

This functions cuts off the first 4 volumes of the recorded data if it has 4 volumes more than expected. If further volumes were recorded (more than pre-defined) they will also be cut at the end.

## fMRI pre-processing

Data will be corrected for motion and field distortion. Motion and distortion correction will be done using the average task block volumes (ignoring retinotopy volumes) as reference. Field distortion will be estimated compared to the inverse volumes that were collected. Both, inverse volumes and as many "normal" volumes will be averaged. See Figure 2 bottom for a graphical depiction.

maximum memory required	approx time required
64GB	$\approx 6h$

Motion correction (realignment) will be performed using FSL's `mcflirt` function (<https://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/fslwiki/MCFLIRT>). Before the data will be split into two parts: *retino* and *sparse*, based on their raw basename string. As a reference volume the average of all *sparse* volumes is used. Furthermore the inverted scans will be corrected using the same volume as well.

Results can be found in `1_realignment/`

```
# realign fMRI raw data
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb do_realignment.sh
```

Field distortion is estimated based on the average inverse volume and an average volume over the same number of volumes from the not inverted data. This average is constructed by taking the mean over every 4th volume of as many blocks of 4, counting backwards from the number of main task volumes.

$$b0 = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{N_{inv}-1} V_{(N-4i)}}{N_{inv}} \quad (1)$$

, where  $V$  is the set of all volumes within the last task block,  $N_{inv}$  is the number of volumes recorded with reversed phase-encoding blips and  $N$  is the number of volumes in  $V$ .  $b0_{inv}$  is the respective time series average of all  $N_{inv}$  inverted volumes. A graphical depiction can be found in Figure 2 bottom. Once those two averages are created, the actual field distortion estimation is performed using FSL's `topup` (<https://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/fslwiki/topup>) and applies it to the motion corrected data.

Results can be found in `3_distcorrection/`

```
# distortion correction for fMRI raw data
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb do_distcorr.sh
sh runonqsub.sh 64gb do_applysimpledistcorr.sh
```

After corrections for motion and field distortion, functional space was registered to anatomical space. In this case the signal drop off can be exploited to provide a T1-like contrast. To achieve this, the set of task volumes across all blocks is split into chunks of four volume. Within each of those chunks, the first volume is substracted from the fourth. The respective difference volumes are then averaged and provide a single partial volume  $V_{ref}$  exposing a T1-like contrast.

$$V_{ref} = 4 \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{\frac{N}{4}} (V_{4m} - V_{4m-3})}{N} \quad (2)$$

, where  $V$  is the set of all task volumes across all four blocks and  $N$  is the size of  $V$ . Figure 2 top illustrates the procedures of volume selection and averaging.

Results can be found in 2\_coregistration/

```
# prepare co-registration for functional and anatomical
MRI raw data
sh runonqsub.sh 16gb do_preparecoregistration.sh
sh do_correctavgdiff.sh
```

## fMRI anatomical co-registration and masks

fMRI data will be co-registered to the anatomical T1 scan based on the gray and white matter boundaries obtained from FreeSurfer. Furthermore partial and full brain masks will be created, including gray and white matter and brain. Co-registration exploits the fact, that due regular interruptions of the sequence in order to obtain a clean EEG signal, the amplitude drops off. In fact every 4 volumes the scanner stoped in our experiment and EEG data was collected. For the field to reach a steady state, the signal will always drop off similarly.

Computing the difference between every 4th and 1st volume and averaging, leads to a T1-like contrast, that was used to otimize functional to anatomical registration. A graphical depiction can be found in Figure 2 top.

Results can be found in 2\_coregistration/

maximum memory required	approx time required
16GB	$\approx 6.5h$

The anatomical T1 weighted image will be transformed into various representations (volumetric, surfaces, etc) and partly segmented (gray / white matter, CSF, etc) using FreeSurfer (<https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/>)

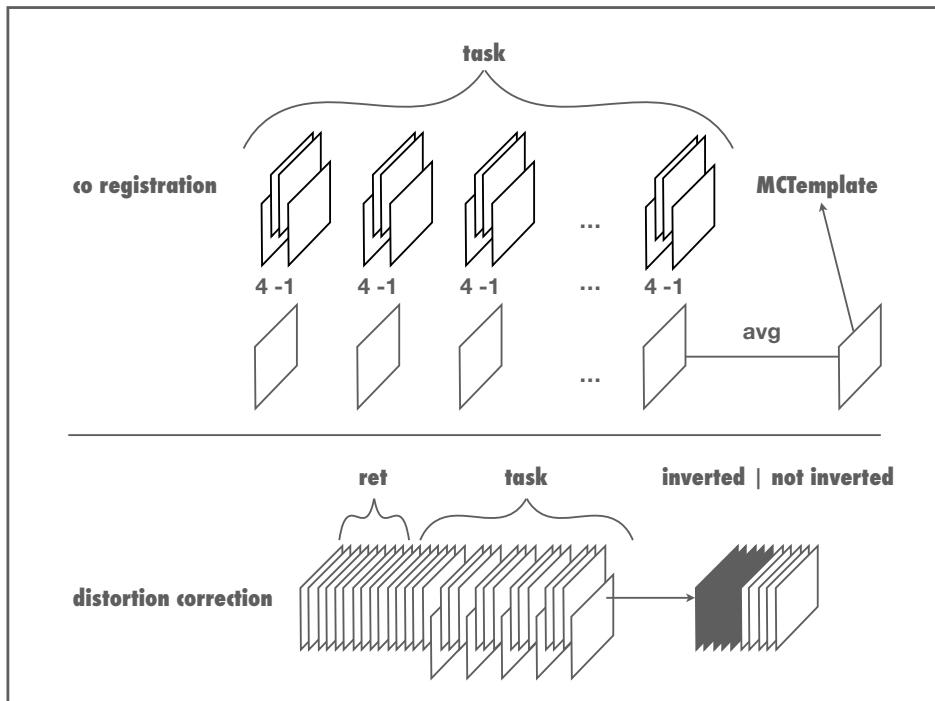


Figure 2: Coregistration and distortion correction visual depiction

Results can be found in 0\_freesurfer/

```
# do anatomical segmentation and volume reconstruction
sh runonqsub.sh 16gb do_fsrecon.sh
```

Gray matter boundaries from the FreeSurfer segmentation will be used to register the partial fMRI volumes to the anatomical space. This is done using FreeSurfer's `bbregister` function. The toolbox OpenFmriAnalysis (<https://github.com/TimVanMourik/OpenFmriAnalysis>) is used to perform this step and output a registration movie to `C_misResults`. Furthermore gray and white matter masks are transformed into the functional space.

Results can be found in 2\_coregistration/

```
# coregistration and mask creation
sh do_coregistration.sh
sh runonqsub.sh 16gb do_makemasksandlabels.sh
```

## fMRI pRF mapping

Population receptive field mapping. Estimates retinotopic mapping from screen to cortical locations. This is to be done in order to obtain boundaries for visual areas such as V1, V2 and V3. First the fMRI time series will be interpolated (cubic) to match the number of frames presented during the stimulation. Afterwards pRF mapping will be analyzed and parameters will be written to volume files (NIfTI) and surface files for use with FreeSurfer.

maximum memory required	approx time required
64GB (480GB)	$\approx 8h$

Interpolate time series of volumes to match the number of presented frames during stimulation, by resampling the TR to match the "stimulation-frame-rate". The function below calls submits the corresponding MATLAB script as a qsub job.

The data will furthermore be transformed into percent change relative to the mean.

Results can be found in 4\_retinotopy/

```
# interpolate volume time series
sh do_tseriesinterpolation.sh
```

Once the data is in the right space to estimate voxel activity, based on active screen pixels, population receptive field mapping can be performed. Since using high resolution fMRI leads inevitably to "big data" the analysis has to be split up into multiple parts. In the present case an assumed computation time of  $\approx 8h$  is reached by splitting up the analysis into 80 parts. Hence there is a linear relationship between processing time and parts the data can be split up to. In the present case all together 480 GB of memory are used to perform the analysis in parallel on 80 different cluster nodes with only 6 GB each. Afterwards results are combined into a single results file and temporary results are deleted.

Results can be found in 4\_retinotopy/

```
# perform pRF mapping by splitting up the search space
# of voxels and combining the results.
sh do_split_analyzePRF.sh
sh combine_split_PRF_results.sh
```

After for each voxel certain parameters like circular coordinates mapping to screen locations, those have to be transformed into volumes, that can be overlayed with anatomical data in order to define masks for regions of interest based on the pRF mapping.

Results can be found in 4\_retinotopy/

```

# transform pRF mapping results into NIfTI volume
overlays
sh make_PRF_overlays.sh
sh runonqsub.sh 16gb makeOverlays.sh

```

## fMRI layer segmentation

Gray matter boundaries will be used to compute cortical layer separation. First tksurfer is used to "draw" occipital ROIs based on the retinotopic mapping. Those regions will be transformed into gray matter masks such that an individual masks for V1, V2, V3 for each hemisphere exists. Cortical layer separation yields a probability map for each voxel to lay within a specifically spaced area between gray matter boundaries. Thus a layer specific ROI specific map is created for each ROI by multiplying the ROI map with each of the layer probability maps. The results are 4D mask volumes separating the layer probabilities in the 4th dimension.

maximum memory required	approx time required
16GB	$\approx 0.5h + user$

FreeSurfer's tksurfer (<https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/fswiki/TkSurfer>) is used to obtain visual ROIs from retinotopic mapping. When running GUI2ROIs.sh, an instance of tksurfer is spawned with the correct overlay already set up. In some cases the required 0\_freesurfer/mri/orig.mgz is not present, but instead it's called orig\_nu.mgz. In that case please make sure that 0\_freesurfer/mri/orig.mgz exists by copy-pasting orig\_nu.mgz to orig.mgz. This can also be achieved by calling:

```

# cd to /B_scripts folder
cp ..../0_freesurfer/mri/orig_nu.mgz ..../0_freesurfer/mri/
orig.mgz

```

Afterwards run the commands below again. Once the overlay is displayed correctly, proceed as described in Section 5. Afterwards labels are transformed into masks. Since the selection was done on a surface, the corresponding mask volume is only one voxel thick. Hence voxels have to be expanded to fill the gray matter area.

Results can be found in 5\_laminar/

```

# making masks for V1,2,3 based on retinotopy
sh GUI2ROIs.sh
sh labels2masks.sh
sh expandROIs.sh

```

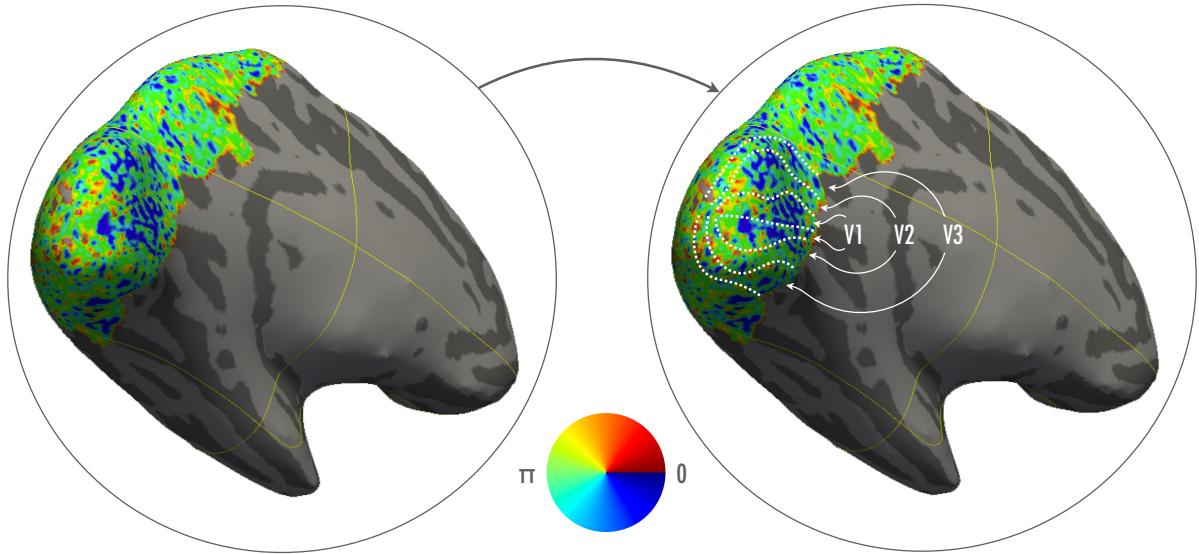


Figure 3: Definition of visual ROIs. Note that along the borders of visual areas a significant shift in color occurs.

Note that using FreeSurfer’s freeview yields better plotting functionality, however `tksurfer` provides an easier way to select vertices.

Once this is done gray matter volumes are split into cortical layers. This is implemented in OpenFmriAnalysis (<https://github.com/TimVanMourik/OpenFmriAnalysis>). Based on gray and white matter boundaries and the respective curvature, gray matter is segmented into 3 layers. The result is a probability map for each voxel to belong to a certain layer.

Results can be found in `5_laminar/`

```
# performing laminar separation
sh do_getLayers.sh
sh do_getLayerWeights.sh
```

After the data was computed it is optional to call `sh makeLayerMovie.sh` to create a movie file in `C_miscResults` slicing through the volume overlayed with the layer boundaries.

## EEG pre-processing

The raw EEG signal will be transformed into virtual channel data by applying a LCMV beamformer. Frequencies of interest ( $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ) are defined such that  $8 \text{ Hz} \leq \alpha \leq 12 \text{ Hz}$ ;  $18 \text{ Hz} \leq \beta \leq 28 \text{ Hz}$ ;  $60 \text{ Hz} \leq \gamma \leq 80 \text{ Hz}$ . Since the covariance matrices of the noise will differ significantly for lower and higher frequencies, the data will be band pass filtered for low and high frequencies separately. This will be achieved by using pass bands

of  $2 - 32\text{ Hz}$  and  $30 - 100\text{ Hz}$  respectively.

A FEM forward model will be used as well as a anatomical constraint source model (see Figure 4 for a graphical depiction).

First data is loaded and segmented into trials. Note that the default trial selection

maximum memory required	approx time required
$16\text{ GB}$	$\approx 2h$

string might vary from experiment to experiment. Target trigger values can be set in `do_EEGpreprocessing.sh`

Additionally the data will be band pass filtered at  $2 - 32\text{ Hz}$  for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  bands and at  $30 - 100\text{ Hz}$  for  $\gamma$ . Respective changes in the filterband can be made in `do_EEGpreprocessing.sh`

If desired, trials should be excluded at this stage as well. To achieve this either use FieldTrip's built in functionality (`do_EEGpreprocessing.sh bottom`) or provide a logical array of whether to include a trial to `ft_redefinetrial(cfg, data)`. See [http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_redefinetrial](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_redefinetrial) for more information.

Results can be found in `6_EEG/`

```
# EEG preprocessing: trial selection, BP filter, (trial
selection)
sh do_EEGpreprocessing.sh
```

Once the general preprocessing is done, the function `ft_timelockanalysis` ([http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_timelockanalysis](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_timelockanalysis)) is used to estimate the noise covariance matrix based on baseline data for high and low frequencies separately. This is necessary since the noise structure for those different bands varies significantly. The default noise estimation window is  $-0.5$  to  $-0.1\text{ s}$  relative to stimulus onset.

Results can be found in `6_EEG/`

```
# EEG preprocessing: noise estimation
sh do_EEGtimelock.sh
```

As last step the result from `fsrecon` (`do_fsrecon.sh (Q)`) must be prepared to be used as source model. For this purpose Workbench (<https://github.com/Washington-University/workbench>) is used, wrapped into `do_EEGprepareFS.sh`

Results can be found in `6_EEG/`

```
# EEG preprocessing: source model preparation
sh do_EEGprepareFS.sh
```

## EEG prepare head and source models

Head and Sourcemodel are prepared using FieldTrip. Per default the pipeline is set up to use finite element models (FEM), but can be changed to boundary element model (BEM) as well. As source model, the result from Workbench is used.

---

maximum memory required	approx time required
32 GB	$\approx 6h + user$

---

and segmenting anatomical MRI data is done using `ft_volumesegment` ([http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_volumesegment](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_volumesegment)) and `ft_prepare_mesh` ([http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_prepare\\_mesh](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_prepare_mesh)). For more details about the settings of this function see Section 4.

Results can be found in 6\_EEG/

```
# prepare head model
sh do_EEGprepareHeadmodel.sh
```

Once the headmodel is prepared, sensor locations need to be coregistered. This is achieved by starting an interactive MATLAB session and opening the script `do_EEGelectrodeRegistration.m`. The FieldTrip function `ft_electroderealign` is used to interactively coregister sensor locations to anatomical MR data. See [http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_electroderealign](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_electroderealign) for more information.

```
# coregister electrode locations to anatomical MR using
# MATLAB
matlab
```

The previously computed data is now prepared to be finally used and the Workbench sourcemodel is loaded.

Results can be found in 6\_EEG/

```
# prepare data and load source model
sh do_EEGprepareSourcemodel.sh
```

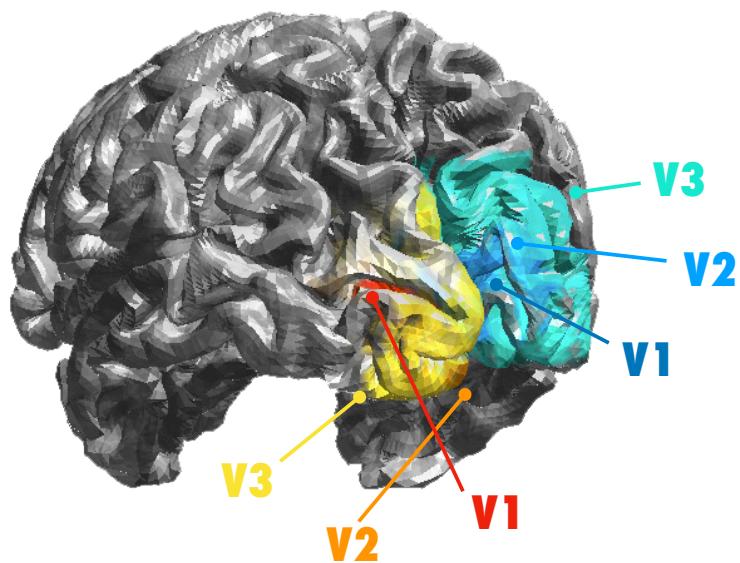


Figure 4: Example source model including visual ROIs. Note that for demonstrative purposes all possible ROIs are show, however per default only V1 for both hemispheres will be used. This plot was created using `EEGvisualizeVirtualChannel.m`

## EEG compute virtual channels

maximum memory required	approx time required
960 GB	$\approx 12h$

The first step is to estimate time courses for dipoles at each voxel location. To achieve this LCMV beamformer weights are computed separately for high and low frequencies. To reduce search space and hence computation time, previously computed ROI maps are used. By default left and right V1 are used as two separate ROIs. Volumetric ROIs are translated into cartesian coordinates. Beamformer weights are computed using  $\lambda = 10\%$  for noise regularization employing `ft_sourceanalysis` ([http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_sourceanalysis](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_sourceanalysis)). Trial segmented data is then multiplied with beamformer weights, in order to obtain individual time series for all dipole locations.

Note that 480 GB of memory are required to estimate the beamformer weights in a parallelized fashion as below.

Results can be found in 6\_EEG/

```
# prepare data and load source model
sh do_EEGsplitBeamformer.sh
sh do_EEGsplitVirtualChannel.sh
```

Afterwards a time frequency analysis ([http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_freqanalysis](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_freqanalysis)) is run for all virtual channels. Since this operation is performed on a single trial basis for different filter bands and left and right hemisphere separately, 960 GB of memory are required to compute this step as implemented.

Results can be found in 6\_EEG/

```
# prepare data and load source model
sh do_EEGsplitFreqOnVirtChan.sh
```

To relate the data to layer specific fMRI results, a channel selection has to take place, that is optimized for frequency ROIs ( $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ ). For each of the 3 bands all virtual channels will be searched and the best 100 are selected. Those are defined to have the lowest ( $\alpha, \beta$ ) or highest ( $\gamma$ ) relative power compared to the baseline period ( $-0.3$  to  $-0.2$  s relative to stimulus onset).

Frequency ROIs are defined as:

Furthermore, the function produces figures saved in C\_miscResults similar to what is shown in Figure 5.

$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$
8 – 12 Hz	22 – 28 Hz	50 – 70 Hz

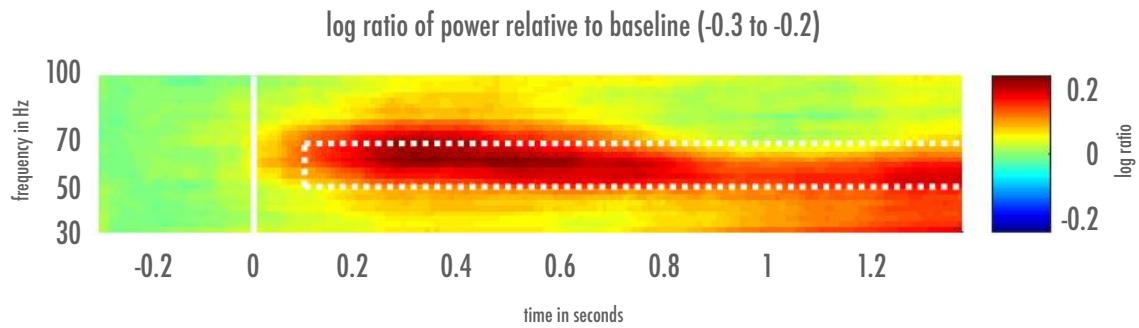


Figure 5: Example for  $\gamma$  response in virtual channel

Results can be found in 6\_EEG/

```
# prepare data and load source model
sh do_EEGfreqChanSelect.sh
```

## 4 Scripts explained (support for runonqsub.sh: Q)

### **cleanscriptsfolder.sh**

Since qsub puts a output + error log into /B\_ scripts **cleanscriptsfolder.sh** can be used to move all qsub outputs to /B\_scripts/qsuboutput

### **combine\_split\_PRF\_results.m**

Combines split results from **do\_split\_analyzePRF.sh** (Section 4) into a single MATLAB file. Note that given the respective numerical naming of all parts (x\_of\_X) parts will be concatenated along values of x. After this operation split parts will be deleted.

## **combine\_split\_PRF\_results.sh**

Wrapper function for running `combine_split_PRF_results.m` via qsub. Combines split results from `do_split_analyzePRF.sh` (see Section 4). Note that the exact amount of parts that the data was split into must be defined here (default: 80).

## **do\_analyzePRF.m**

Computes pRF mapping implemeting "analyzePRF" from the analyzePRF toolbox. It can be decided whether to average across blocks or if the estimates shall be done for each block separately and averaging the results. Note, that running the analysis on separate blocks slows down computation time, but to my experience yields slightly better results.

Under the hood:

- estimates pRFs
- computes pRF mapping for part x of X by splitting the list of indices and selecting the corresponding set
- set avgdata=1 to average data before the analysis (otherwise it will be averaged afterwards)
- result: structure containing pRF parameters of part x of X

## **do\_analyzePRF.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_analyzePRF.m` via qsub. Spawns a qsub job using 6GB of memory (default) and runs a specific part of a set of parts. The first input argument is the part that is to be computed and the second input argument is the sum of all parts.

```
# example split search space into 5 parts and run the
# first
sh do_analyzePRF.sh 1 5

# example not splitting up search space
sh do_analyzePRF.sh 1 1
```

## **do\_applysimpledistcorr.sh (Q)**

Applies distortion correction to all functional data.

Under the hood:

- distortion correction is applied to the full set of functionals using the OUTPUT of topup (`topup [...] --out=OUTPUT`) as well as `acquisition_parameters.txt` (Using `--method=jac`)
- all results are stored in `/3_distcorrection`
- all results have the prefix "corrected\_"

## **do\_coregistration.m**

The script doing the actual co-registration. Uses wrapper functions from OpenFmriAnalysis to evoke FreeSurfers `bbregister` and computes a recursive boundary based registration.

The results are several files storing the boundaries as a point cloud, and the respective transformation in different formats.

Under the hood:

- calls `bbregister`
- results are stored in `/2_coregistration`
- yields `boundaries.mat`, `matrix.mat`, `bbregister.dat`, `transmat.txt`, `transmatinv.txt`

## **do\_coregistration.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_coregistration.m`, that in turn will be using FreeSurfer (`bbregister`) and OpenFmriAnalysis to perform a linear and non-linear boundary registration. Movie files of the respective co-registration are stored in `/C_miscResults`.

## **do\_correctavgdiff.sh (Q)**

Due to the subtraction of the 1st from the 4th volume the area outside the brain has the highest value. In order to correct this the lowest value will be shifted to zero the a certain part of the higher values are cut (e.g. 0.975).

The result should be checked using  
`fsleyes ./2_coregistration/Inplane/MCTemplateThr*.nii.gz` to ensure that the area outside the brain is nulled. Note that it can happen that some areas within the brain are nulled as well. If they are not too wide spread they do not affect later co-registration.

## **do\_distcorr.sh (Q)**

Uses the average volume of the inverted set of images in /niftis/inverted as reference for *inverted*

Uses as many volumes  $n$  as there were in /niftis/inverted. Respective volumes are selected starting from the last going in  $4 \times n$  steps backward. Hence the resulting average of this set was computed over the 4th volume of each of  $n$  last sets in the normal images. Simplified (all 1 are selected):

for n=5

0,0,0,0,...,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1

Both (normalavg and invertedavg) will be used to estimate the distortion correction.

Under the hood:

- reference volumes (normal + inverted) are selected in order to do the field distortion estimate (selection: see above).
- selected reference volumes are merged into a single file (/3\_distcorrection/all\_b0.nii.gz)
- topup is called using the merged (normal + inverted) .nii and performs field mapping according to the specifications in /A\_helperfiles/b02b0.cnf using the acquisition parameters specified in acquisition\_parameters.txt
- all results are stored in /3\_distcorrection

## **do\_EEGbeamformer.m**

```
Selprefix = 'TL';
Addprefix='Beamf_centV1_';
```

Performing LCMV beamforming on the data. Since the grid size will be scaled to match the functional (high-res) data, scanning the full space would require too much computation time. Hence a ROI mask is used, that is in the present case the white matter voxels in V1, as obtained from retinotopy scans. Noise regularization was set to  $\lambda = 10\%$

## **do\_EEGbeamformer.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGbeamformer.m` via qsub.

## **do\_EEGelectrodeRegistration.m**

This function cannot be run using Qsub or a headless MATLAB instance, since it requires user interaction via a graphical user interface. The script will load the respective data, save and exit (after the user is done). Since this script is just a wrapper function for `ft_electroderealign` I will refer to the corresponding FieldTrip documentation: [http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_electroderealign](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_electroderealign)

## **do\_EEGfreqChanSelect.m**

```
Selprefix='TF';
% Addprefix=''; does not exist
```

Selects virtual channels of interest. Since utilizing high resolution functional data is leading inevitably to an explosion in file size, only important data will remain after calling this function.

First of all it is specified which are the frequency bands of interest in order to make a choice for a respective channel to maximize or minimize within the defined range. Default settings are:

```
ROIalpha = [8 ,12]; % Hz
ROIBeta = [22.5 ,27.5]; % Hz
ROIgamma = [50 ,70]; % Hz

timeWinMax = [0.1 1.39]; % in seconds
```

`timeWinMax` thereby is the time of interest for which to optimize channel selection. Shortly speaking an area within the time frequency matrix that is enclosed by `ROI<freq>` and `timeWinMax` will be averaged. The 100 maximum (for  $\gamma$ ) and minimum (for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ) channels will be selected. It is important to note, that the data will be log transformed and expressed as relative change to `BLwin` which is the respective time window of reference relative to stimulus onset.

## **do\_EEGfreqChanSelect.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGfreqChanSelect.m` via qsub.

## **do\_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.m**

```
Selprefix='VirtCh';
Addprefix='TF_';
```

Computes time-frequency analysis for virtual channel data using `ft_freqanalysis`. For more information see [http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_freqanalysis](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_freqanalysis).

Per default the frequency of interes (FOI) is set to band pass filter width. The resolution is defined by  $\frac{1}{\text{slidW}}$  where slidW is the respective size of the sliding window used. Default values are 0.4 for high and 0.8 for low filter bands.

All default settings:

```

cfg.output      = 'pow'; % power of frequency spectrum
cfg.channel    = 'all';
cfg.method     = 'mtmconvol'; % multi-taper-method convolution
cfg.taper      = 'dpss'; % discrete prolate spheroidal
                       sequences
cfg.foi        = foi; % frequencies of interest
cfg.pad        = 3.2; % padding at beginning and end of trial
cfg.tapsmofrq  = 10; % frequency smoothing
cfg.t_ftimwin  = ones(length(cfg.foi),1).*slidW(counter); %
                  slidW
cfg.toi         = -1:0.01:2; % time window of interest
cfg.keeptrials = 'yes';

```

## **do\_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.m` via qsub.

## **do\_EEGprepareFS.sh**

This script was provided by Simon Homölle (DCCN, 2018). Uses Workbench (<https://github.com/Washington-University/workbench>) to prepare FreeSurfer results for use with the EEG pipeline.

## **do\_EEGprepareHeadmodel.m**

Creates volume conduction model either as finite-element model (FEM) or boundary element model (BEM). Per default all scripts are set up to use a FEM model. The respective MRI file to use will be `0_freesurfer/mri/orig_nu.mgz`. If desired the variable `convertCoordSys` can be set to `convertCoordSys = 1;` to convert the coordinate system to ctf (otherwise will be ras).

Model specific parameters are:

```

case 'FEM'
% segmentation parameters
cfg.output    = { 'gray', 'white', 'csf', 'skull', 'scalp' };
cfg.scalpsmooth = 10;

% mesh parameters

```

```

cfg.method = 'hexahedral';
cfg.shift = 0.3; % <0.5, is needed so elements are still
                  convex

% headmodel parameters
cfg.method = 'simbio';
cfg.conductivity = [0.33 0.14 1.79 0.01 0.43];

case 'BEM'
    % segmentation parameters
    cfg.output = {'brain', 'skull', 'scalp'};
    cfg.scalpsmooth = 10;

    % mesh parameters
    cfg.tissue = {'brain', 'skull', 'scalp'};
    cfg.method = 'projectmesh';
    cfg.numvertices = [1000 2000 3000];

    % headmodel parameters
    cfg.method = 'openmeeg';
    cfg.conductivity = [0.33 0.01 0.43];

```

Underlying FieldTrip functions are:

- `ft_volumesegment` (segments anatomical data into distinct structures (e.g. skull))
- `ft_prepare_mesh` (sets up 3D mesh for head model preparation)
- `ft_prepare_headmodel` (creates the conductivity model)

## **do\_EEGprepareHeadmodel.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGprepareHeadmodel.m` via `qsub`. Changing the variable `Model` will cause the function to produce a different forward model. Possible options are `Model=FEM` and `Model=BEM`.

## **do\_EEGprepareSourcemodel.m**

Sets up `sourcemodel` (dipole model) for source analysis using the result of `do_EEGprepareFS.sh`. It utilizes FieldTrip's `ft_prepare_vol_sens` to ensure that headmodel and sensors are set up correctly and prepares the source model by reading the Workbench result as a headshape (`ft_read_headshape`).

## **do\_EEGprepareSourcemodel.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGprepareSourcemodel.m` via qsub. Changing the variable `Model` will cause the function to use a different forward model. Possible options are `Model=FEM` and `Model=BEM` (must be in accordance with `do_EEGprepareHeadmodel.sh`).

## **do\_EEGpreprocessing.m**

```
% for trial and channel selection
% Selprefix = ''; does not exist
Addprefix = 'TCsel_';

% band pass filtering
Selprefix = 'TCsel';
Addprefix=[ 'BP' num2str(filterPassBand(1)) '_' num2str(
filterPassBand(2)) '_']; % result is e.g. BP2_32-
```

Does a basic preprocessing to the data. First trigger values will be extracted and trials are defined according to the specifications in the script. Further only EEG channels are selected. The Data is downsampled to 1024 Hz. This in-between step is stored. Afterwards the data is further split into different sets of band pass filtered data. Note, that the noise structure will be different for high and low frequencies and thus this step is highly recommendable. Per default two band pass filters are chosen (2 – 32 Hz and 30 – 100 Hz). The baseline period will be from –0.5 s until –0.1 s relative to the stimulus onset. For the high frequency case a dft filter to filter line noise is applied. Using the default version of this function will store the computed data using the respective filter settings as a prefix. However if desired trials can / should be excluded in this step as well.

Under the hood (uses the following fieldtrip functions):

- `ft_definetrail` (sets up trial definition according to predefined trigger values in the data)
- `ft_preprocessing` (selects EEG channel)
- `ft_redefinetrail` (defines channel and creates trials)
- `ft_resampleddata` (downsampling)
- `ft_preprocessing` (frequency filters)
- `(ft_rejectvisual())` (trial rejection)

## **do\_EEGpreprocessing.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGpreprocessing.m` via qsub.

## **do\_EEGsplitBeamformer.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGbeamformer.sh` in multiple instances. The function calls a predefined number of instances of `do_EEGbeamformer.sh` to run on the cluster, submitted using `qsub`. Per default 8 jobs requesting 62 GB of memory each, will be spawned. This procedure speeds up the processing significantly and would be otherwise impractical.

## **do\_EEGsplitFreqOnVirtChan.sh**

Wrapper function to call `do_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.sh`. The function calls a predefined number of instances of `do_EEGfreqOnVirtChan.sh` to run on the cluster, submitted using `qsub`. Per default 16 jobs requesting 60 GB of memory each, will be spawned. This procedure speeds up the processing significantly and would be otherwise impractical.

## **do\_EEGsplitVirtualChannel.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGvirtualChannel.sh` in multiple instances. The function calls a predefined number of instances of `do_EEGvirtualChannel.sh` to run on the cluster, submitted using `qsub`. Per default 8 jobs requesting 30 GB of memory each, will be spawned. This procedure speeds up the processing significantly and would be otherwise impractical.

## **do\_EEGtimelock.m**

```
sel_ = { 'BP30_100' , 'BP2_32' }; % used in a for loop  
Selprefix = sel_{n}; % inside for loop  
Addprefix = 'TL_';
```

Average (re-) referencing, timelock analysis and noise covariance estimation for the data. Estimates noise between  $-0.5\text{ s}$  until  $-0.1\text{ s}$  relative to the stimulus onset. Basically a wrapper function to call `ft_timelockanalysis` using `cfg.keeptrials = 'yes'`. See [http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft\\_timelockanalysis](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/reference/ft_timelockanalysis) for more information.

Subsequent processing steps include average referencing and noise covariance estimation based on the variable `noiseEstWin=[-0.5 -0.1];`

## **do\_EEGtimelock.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGtimelock.m` via `qsub`.

## **do\_EEGvirtualChannel.m**

```
Selprefix='Beamf_centV1';
Addprefix='VirtCh_';
```

Computes virtual channel time series, by multiplying the data with the previously computed spatial filters.

Under the hood:

```
virtual_channels = mean(dataSrc.avg.mom{nonEmptyFilterInd},2) '*  
currentFilter*squeeze(data.trial{trial}(:, :, :));
```

The data is multiplied with the respective filter, taking the average dipole moment into account.

## **do\_EEGvirtualChannel.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_EEGvirtualChannel.m` via qsub.

## **do\_fsrecon.sh (Q)**

Performs segmentation using Freesurfer.

If running on OSX the script assumes:

```
# FreeSurfer Home Mac  
FREESURFER_HOME=/Applications/freesurfer
```

If running on linux the script assumes:

```
# FreeSurfer Home Linux  
FREESURFER_HOME=/opt/freesurfer/version
```

The target image that is used for the segmentation must be located in `/niftis/t1`

Under the hood:

```
recon-all -i rawData/niftis/t1/* -subjID 0_freesurfer -  
all OutputVolume.nii.gz
```

, all results are stored in `/0_freesurfer`

## **do\_getLayers.m**

Utilizes the toolbox OpenFmriAnalysis (<https://github.com/TimVanMourik/OpenFmriAnalysis>) to segment `numLayers` anatomical layers between the gray and white matter boundaries

of the volume `regvol`.

Under the hood:

```
% boundaries used for co-registration
cfg.i_Boundaries = '2_coregistration/boundaries.mat';

% gray and white matter files obtained from FreeSurfer
cfg.o_ObjWhite = '5_laminar/?h.white.reg.obj';
cfg.o_ObjPial = '5_laminar/?h.pial.reg.obj';

% volume to use for segmentation
cfg.i_ReferenceVolume = ['2_coregistration/' regvol '.nii'];

% Output volumes for gray and white matter
cfg.o_SdfWhite = '5_laminar/?h.white.sdf.nii';
cfg.o_SdfPial = '5_laminar/?h.pial.sdf.nii';
cfg.o_White = '5_laminar/brain.white.sdf.nii';
cfg.o_Pial = '5_laminar/brain.pial.sdf.nii';

% output gradient and curvature
cfg.o_Gradient = '5_laminar/brain.gradient.nii';
cfg.o_Curvature = '5_laminar/brain.curvature.nii';

% define layer space (4 boundaries for 3 Layers)
cfg.i_Levels = linspace(0,1,numberOfLayers+1);

% output for layer data
cfg.o_LaplacePotential = '5_laminar/LaplacePotential.nii';
cfg.o_LevelSet = '5_laminar/brain.levels.nii';
cfg.o_Layering = '5_laminar/brain.layers.nii';
```

## do\_getLayers.sh

Wrapper function for running ?? via qsub. Using the variable `registerTo` the volume to perform the layer segmentation on is defined and by setting `Nlayers`, the number of layers in which to split the data.

## do\_getLayerWeights.m

Combines masks obtained from retinotopy with layer masks obtained from laminar segmentation. The respective expanded volumes of the pRF mapping are multiplied with the layer mask and yield a layer specific ROI selection masks. As a result a NIfTI file is created having the same shape, space and orientation as the functional data. Thereby

the 4th dimension of the volume represents the respective number of layers.

## **do\_getLayerWeights.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_getLayerWeights.m` via qsub.

## **do\_makemasksandlabels.sh (Q)**

Uses FreeSurfer reconstruction to create masks for CSF, gray matter and white matter and creates labeled volume for use within retinotopy containing left / right + gray / white matter. All masks will be created as full-brain and partial-brain masks.

If the orientation needs to be changed, parse the respective FreeSurfer compatible orientation parameter ([https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/pub/docs/html/mri\\_convert.help.xml.html](https://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu/pub/docs/html/mri_convert.help.xml.html))

Under the hood:

```
sh do_movesinglevolume.sh InputVolume.nii.gz transmat.  
txt OutputVolume.nii.gz
```

- results are stored in /2\_coregistration
- coregistered functional masks have the prefix "fct" and the suffix "coreg"

## **do\_movesinglevolume.sh**

Simple wrapper function to apply a transformation from one volumetric space to another, given a transformation matrix using FSL's `flirt` (<https://fsl.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl/fslwiki/FLIRT>).

Under the hood:

```
flirt -applyxfm -in $1 -ref $1 -init $2 -out $3
```

- \$1: volume to move
- \$2: transformation matrix in form of a .txt file containing a  $4 \times 4$  transformation matrix
- \$3: volume to write

## **do\_preparecoreregistration.sh (Q)**

Computes a reference volume (MCTemplate) used as the basis to co-register with the anatomical image. This image is computed by splitting the entire set of task volumes into chunks of 4. In each chunk the 1st volume is subtracted from the 4th. This procedure yields a pseude-T1 contrast. All chunk differences are then averaged to form "MCTemplate".

## **do\_preparefunctionals.sh (Q)**

Prepares functional data, i.e. removes the first 4 and the last x volumes of every set of functionals, where x is the number of volumes acquired after the stimulation ended. If files were modified (i.e. if volumes were deleted), the original file will remain in /niftis/-functionals/old

## **do\_realignment.sh (Q)**

Merges and motion corrects all files in /niftis/functionals using the average volume of all task volumes.

numberofvolumes.txt is written to /A\_helperfiles giving information about which sets had how many volumes. The first column is coresponds to dim4 from **fslinfo**

Under the hood:

- **fslmerge** is called to create a combined .nii for all files in niftis/functionals/\*sparse\*
  - files are merged allong the 4th dimension
- a .txt file is created saving which files were merged and how many volumes were in there
- **mcflirt** is used on the combined data doing the motion correction based on the average volume across all task blocks
- all results are stored in /1\_realignment
- results have the extension ".mcf"

## **do\_split\_analyzePRF.sh**

Wrapper function for running **do\_analyzePRF.sh** in musliple instances. The function calls a predefined number of instances of **do\_analyzePRF.sh** to run on the cluster, submitted using qsub. Per default 80 jobs requesting 6 GB of memory each (see Section 4), will be spawned. This procedure speeds up the population receptive field estimation

significantly and would be otherwise impractical on high resolution functional data.

## **do\_tseriesinterpolation.m**

Interpolates time series for retinotopy scans to match the number of frames during the stimulation (cubic interpolation). The new TR will be  $TR_{new} = \frac{TR_{old}N_{volumes}}{N_{imageframes}}$ . The function implements "tseriesinterp" from the analyzePRF toolbox. The data will be normalized to percent signal change.

Furthermore all images will be downsampled to the predefined size (e.g. 100px)

Under the hood:

- interpolates time series of functional data to match the numer of frames during the stimulation
- results: tIntData.mat (interpolated time series)
- results: mask.mat (volume mask)
- results: voxelindices.mat (indices of mask voxels, ratio between  $N_{imageframes}$  and  $N_{volumes}$ , mask threshold)
- results: downsampled images

## **do\_tseriesinterpolation.sh**

Wrapper function for running `do_tseriesinterpolation.m` via qsub. Variables used by `do_tseriesinterpolation.m` can be defined in the header section of the script.

Under the hood:

- submits a MATLAB job using qsub calling `do_tseriesinterpolation.m` using the below settings
- default number of blocks: 3
- default TR: 2.7s
- default Mask Threshold: 0.01
- default rescaled stimulus size: 100px

## **EEGvisualizeVirtualChannel.m**

A helper script to visualize ROI selection on the source model. Must be used from within an interactive MATLAB session.

## **expandROIs.m**

Thresholds a given volume utilizing the predefined mask threshold (`maskthreshold`). Afterwards a cubic box around each voxel will be created, that goes  $N$  voxels in each of the 6 directions. Hence a volume containing only a single ROI of size  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  will be expanded to  $9 \times 9 \times 9$ , if the given expansion factor `ExpansionFactor = 4`. The actual voxel expansion algorithm was implemented in `tc_expandVoxelSelection.m` provided by the `tc_functions` script collection ([https://github.com/TommyClausner/tc\\_functions](https://github.com/TommyClausner/tc_functions)).

## **expandROIs.sh**

Wrapper function for running `expandROIs.m` via qsub. In order to perform the correct voxel expansion, the expansion factor (`ExpandBy`) and mask threshold (`mskThr`) can be specified. Those settings will be forwarded to `expandROIs.m`.

## **getToolboxes.sh**

Downloads all necessary toolboxes into a folder called `toolboxes/` or displays a URL where the user has to download the software manually (see Section 2). That is FSL and SPM have to be downloaded manually due to required user registration. Place them in the same directory as the other toolboxes or install as required.

## **GUI2ROIs.sh**

This script spawns an instance for `tksurfer` (FreeSurfer)

## **labels2masks.sh (Q)**

Converts surface labels defined for ?h, V1,2,3 into a volume. For this purpose FreeSurfer's `mri_label2vol` will be called using the following configuration:

- `-label /0_freesurfer/label/?h.V?.ret.label` (the label to be converted)
- `-temp /2_coregistration/refVol` (shape template volume)
- `-reg /2_coregistration/bbregister.dat` (co-registration file)
- `-o /4_retinotopy/?hV?maks.nii.gz` (output volume's file name)

To indicate which hemisphere or visual ROI, the questionmarks must be replaced with the respective information (lh, rh; V1, V2, V3).

The full command looks internally like this:

```
mri_label2vol --label $DIR/0_freesurfer/label/lh.V1 ret.  
label --temp $DIR/2_coregistration/$refVol --reg $DIR  
/2_coregistration/bbregister.dat --o $DIR/4  
_retinotopy/lhV1mask.nii.gz
```

, where DIR is the subject's absolute path.

## **liveupdateqsub.sh**

Submits a qstat -u user request every second.

```
# example  
sh liveupdateqsub.sh tomcla  
exit command by hitting ctrl+c
```

## **makeLayerMovie.m**

Utilizes the OpenFmriAnalysis toolbox (<https://github.com/TimVanMourik/OpenFmriAnalysis>) to create a movie file from the results of the laminar segmentation. The movie file will be written to C\_miscResults/Layers.avi

## **makeLayerMovie.sh**

Wrapper function for running `makeLayerMovie.m` via qsub.

## **makeneWsubject.sh**

executable script (double click to execute)

Creates a new subject (S#) folder structure in order to get all folder dependencies right. It automatically detects folders called "S<number>" and creates a new folder incrementing <number> by one.

## **makeOverlays.sh (Q)**

Makes FreeSurfer compatible overlays from NIfTI files. Calls FreeSurfer's `mri_volsurf` in order to transform a volumetric .nii file into a surface file. This will be done for both hemispheres separately. Parameters transformed to surface files are: ang, ecc, xpos, ypos, r2

Under the hood:

```
mri_vol2surf --src $DIR/4_retinotopy/ang_map.nii --
srcreg $DIR/2_coregistration/bbregister.dat --hemi ?h
--surf pial --out $DIR/4_retinotopy/?h.ang.mgh --
out_type paint
```

- `--src`: NIfTI to be transformed
- `--srcreg`: result from `bbregister` of `do_coregistration.sh` (default: `bbregister.dat`)
- `--hemi`: respective hemisphere (`lh` for left hemisphere or `rh` for right hemisphere)
- `--surf`: surface used as reference (obtained from FreeSurfer in `../0_freesurfer/surf/`)
- `--out`: output file name
- `--out_type`: influences how the file is outputted (see `mri_vol2surf --help` for more information)

## **make\_PRF\_overlays.m**

Takes result of pRF mapping and creates .nii files for separate parameters (ang, ecc, expt, r2, rfsiz, xpos, ypos). The data will be saved in `../4_retinotopy` as parameter-Name\_map.nii

Under the hood:

- angle ( $\theta$ ) will be devided by 180 and multiplied by  $\pi$
- eccentricity ( $r$ ) will be devided by the image size (in px) and multiplied by the original value range ( $^{\circ}$  visual angle; default: 7). Only ecc values that have a positive  $R^2$  and are smaller than the defined field of view, will be written to file. All other values will be set to *NaN*
- X position (xpos)  $\cos(\theta) \cdot r$
- Y position (ypos)  $\sin(\theta) \cdot r$

## **make\_PRF\_overlays.sh**

Wrapper function running `make_PRF_overlays.m` via qsub.

## **runonqsub.sh**

Initiates a qsub session and sends it to the cluster. This is necessary, since scripts running on the cluster are copied to a different directory, but within scripts all directories are relative. `runonqsub.sh` must hence be run in a "normal" session not using a non-interactive `qsub`, giving the respective script that was intended to run as an argument. `runonqsub` will then set everything up correctly. Further you have to specify the amount of memory needed.

```
# example
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb myscript.sh
```

Additional arguments can be passed after the script.

```
# example with argument
sh runonqsub.sh 32gb myscript.sh myargument
```

Under the hood:

```
qsub -l walltime=24:00:00,mem=$1 -F "$DIR ${@:3}" $DIR
/$2
```

- `$DIR` is the current absolute path to B\_scripts
- `$1` is the amount of memory used (e.g. `32gb`)
- `$2` is the respective script to run (e.g. `myscript.sh`)
- `#{@:3}` is all following arguments that are parsed to the script (e.g. `myargument`)
- every time `runonqsub.sh` is called the absolute path is forwarded to the script (`-F $DIR`) in order to keep the relative dependencies clear

## **setupfolders.sh (Q)**

Sets up the necessary folder structure for the analysis (within a subject folder). This function is automatically called when using `makenewsubject.sh`

## **waitForJobs.sh**

Checks all currently running jobs (`qstat -u user`) and waits until the last script up until this point has finished.

## **5 How to: Selecting visual areas based on pRF mapping**

## **6 How to: EEG electrodes from photogrammetry**

### **Agisoft PhotoScan**

Agisoft PhotoScan is commercial 3D reconstruction software that uses photogrammetry to obtain 3D information from 2-dimensional images. It can be purchased from <http://www.agisoft.com/> and is available for 'Microsoft Windows', 'Apple OSX', and 'Linux'. To my very best knowledge there is no other photogrammetry-based 3D reconstruction software that works on the same level of performance in terms of accuracy, time consumption and practical demands. It exploits image features based on SURF algorithms to enable Structure-from-Motion (SfM) 3D reconstruction. Due to the commercial distribution the exact algorithms remain unknown. Nevertheless PhotoScan is able to perform an extraction of depth information without any need for prior camera calibration. However prior calibration can enhance the final reconstruction performance in critical cases (e.g. if the image quality is low or too few images were captured). For this purpose it ships with a tool called 'Lens'. Lens can be used to obtain camera calibration parameters, based on a defined set of images priorly captured. It therefore displays a checkerboard, of what a few photos are taken used to estimate focal length distortion, radial distortion, tangential distortion and other calibration parameters. Those can be imported into PhotoScan before the actual alignment takes place. Detailed information about 'Lens' can be found in the Agisoft Lens users manual accessible via <http://downloads.agisoft.ru/lens/doc/en/lens.pdf>. Since PhotoScan uses almost all resources dedicated by the operating system, it is highly recommendable to restrict those. This avoids system crashes that might occur when doing parallel tasks, while PhotoScan is processing. Per default preferences are set to use the highest available amount of resources. To my experience allowing to use only 60-80% of all available CPU cores and, if possible, letting one GPU un-dedicated to PhotoScan works as a balanced trade-off. An example of settings that turned out to work as described, can be found in figure 6. Note that processing time and resource management might vary across operating system and hardware specifications.

Agisoft PhotoScan is able to detect image features, without prior camera calibration or object definition. However it is recommendable to provide a calibration file if available. The calibration can be done via [Tools] → [Camera Calibration...] If Desired performance of the later reconstruction can be enhanced by using image masks, This increases the likelihood of a successful model reconstruction, but also affects the time consumption, by reducing the feature space. Image masks can be created inside PhotoScan employing framing tools, known from various image-processing applications. As there are a rectangular selection, 'intelligent scissors' (mostly a form of free selection), 'intelligent paint' (also known as 'lasso' selection) and the 'magic wand' (also known as 'magic pen'). In fact these build-in mask creation tools work less efficient than those known from other applications. When using a "green screen", it is recommendable to create the masks outside the program and import them later. Binary masks were coupled

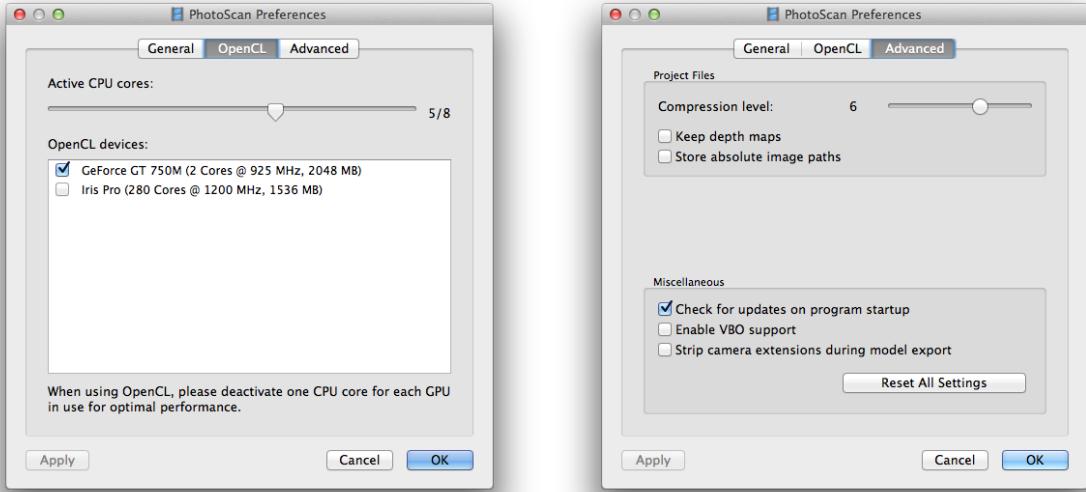


Figure 6: PhotoScan example preference settings

after the original images are imported into PhotoScan.

## Import Photos

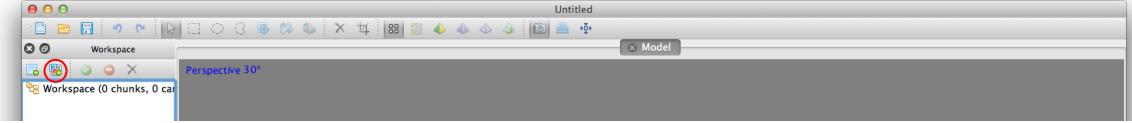


Figure 7: PhotoScan import images

0.5cm0.5cm The red circle indicates the respective import button.

Importing pictures can be done by clicking the colored button that was indicated by a red circle in figure 7. After importing all images, the EXIF metadata will be read and used for image alignment if no prior camera calibration took place. If binary masks are used to define regions of interest, they can be imported via [Tools] → [Import] → [Import Masks...]. Choosing 'From File' will cause an open-dialog to show up in which the folder will be selected where the masks are stored. They will be read according to the name specification prescribed in the editing box. Exemplified the import mask procedure is depicted in figure 8, showing all relevant settings. It is possible to check whether the respective masks were imported correctly, by double clicking one of the thumbnail images located in the lower section of the PhotoScan window, which will display the image with its respective mask overlay.

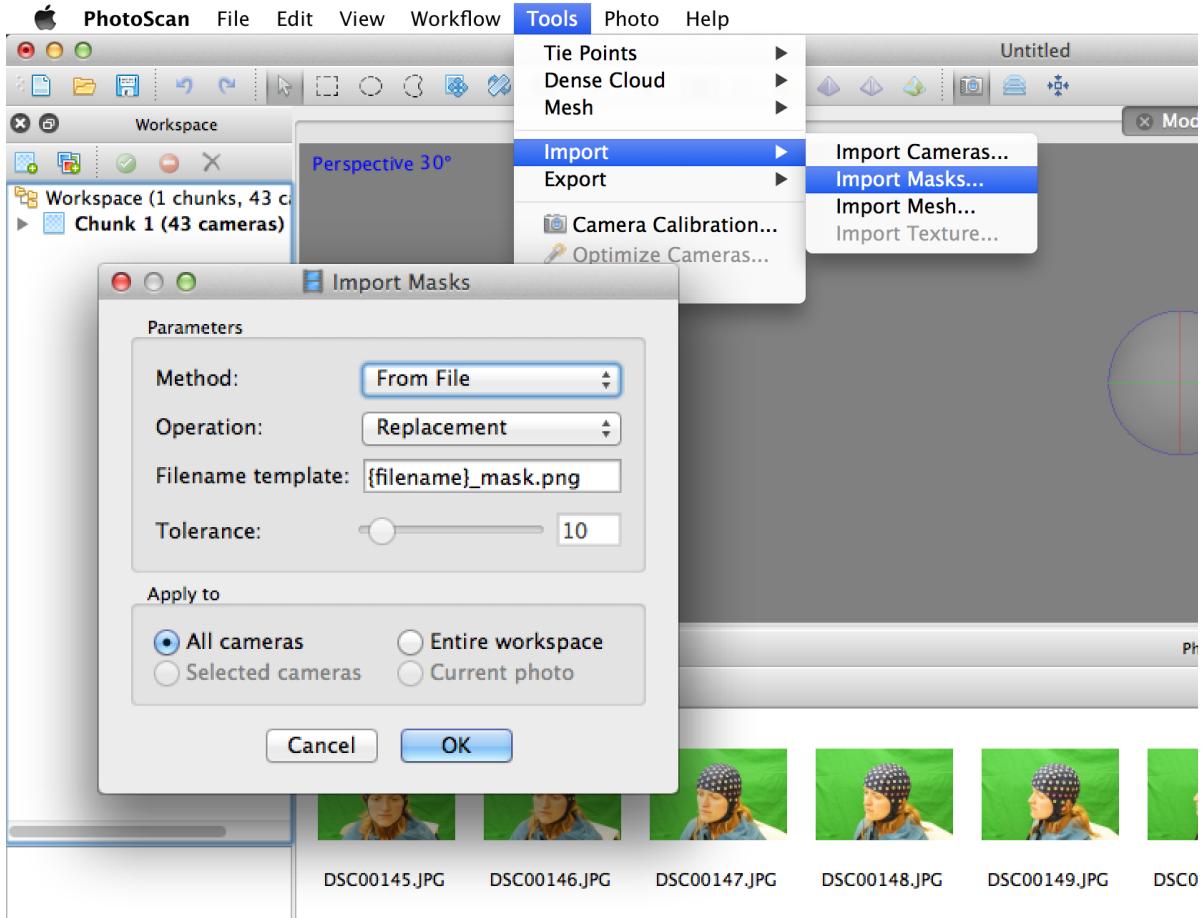


Figure 8: PhotoScan import masks

## Align Photos

Followed by this procedure, the actual reconstruction can take place. The first step will be to estimate the camera positions based on inherent image features. This can be executed, by selecting [Workflow] → [align Photos...]. A small setup menu will appear. Actually it remains widely unclear what the exact changes the parameters cause to the processing pipeline, but based on my experience I will give some advices in the following. PhotoScan compares salient image features and tests whether this features match features on another image. If enough features were detected, the camera positions can be estimated. Hence the accuracy value presumably influences the feature detection on the 2D images. An increased accuracy will result in more points that are detected as features yielding a better reconstruction performance. At the same time the processing time and the amount of points that are detected as matching increase, regardless of whether they are. Those false positive points can be limited by selecting a generic 'Pair pre-selection', which reduces the amount of points, based on a certainty measure. At the same time this reduces the processing time tremendously, for what reason I would recommend this option to be set as default. However in some cases (e.g. if image quality

is low or too few images were captured), this setting interferes with proper matching point detection and therefore should be disable, in case the first reconstruction attempt failed. Within the 'Advanced' section limitations for the number of points that are going to be detected can be set. Setting those values to 0 will set the limit to infinite. The 'constrain features by mask' option will be available only if masks were imported priorly and does exactly what it is supposed to. Figure 9, shows the 'align Photos' step including exemplified settings, depicting also a possible result, that will be called matching point cloud (MPC) from now on. The next step will be the creation of the dense point cloud (DPC). This step is optional, since the 3D mesh could also be reconstructed employing the MPC, but is crucial for getting high-resolution models.

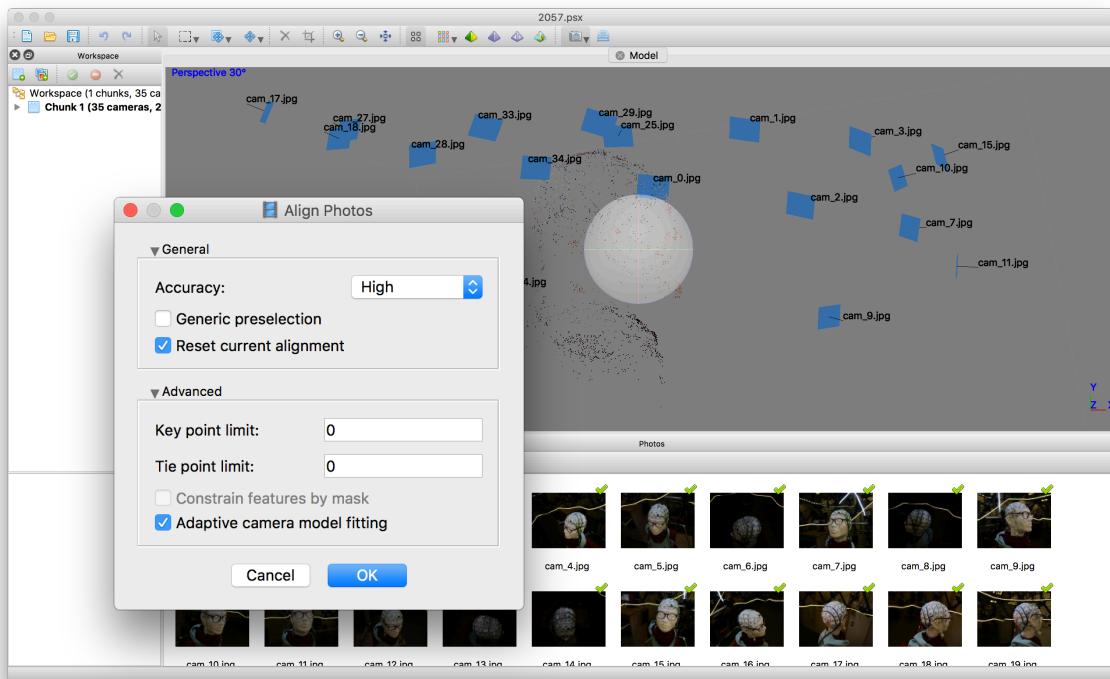


Figure 9: PhotoScan align photos

## Build Dense Cloud

PhotoScan uses the basic information of the estimated camera positions, as well as the detected matching points, to reconstruct the depth for image points that lie 'between' the detected features. The final density of the DPC reconstruction depends on the actual resolution of the camera sensor and cannot be compensated by the number of images

used. Figure 10 depicts this step including the recommended options. The 'quality' setting affects the density of the final DPC. Setting this to 'High' yields a high-resolution DPC, but keeps the actual processing time relatively short. When this point was set to 'Ultra High' the processing time might increase to several hours, depending on the MPC density, image count and resolution. Within the section 'Advanced' the 'Depth filtering' option can be set. This parameter is used to decide, whether a point is considered as inlier or outlier regarding a reasonable point cloud construction, which therefore affects the smoothness of the DPC. 'Aggressive' depth filtering is recommended, because it keeps the number of irregular mesh extensions on a minimum level.

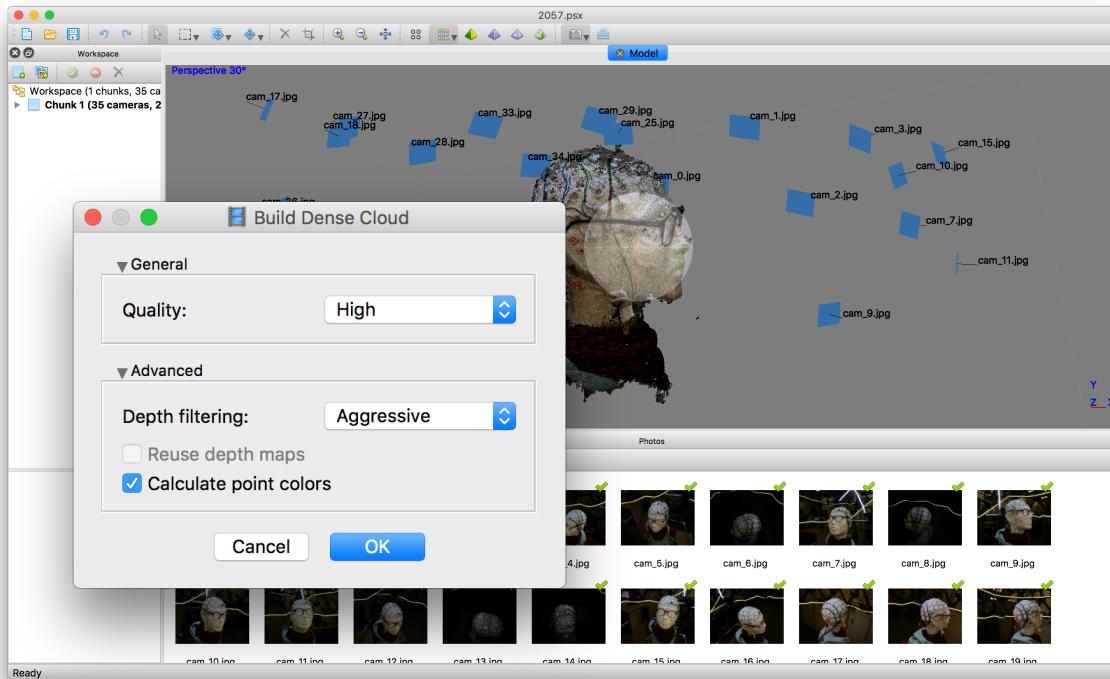


Figure 10: PhotoScan build dense cloud

## Build Mesh

As mentioned before, the 3D mesh reconstruction can be based on the MPC or the DPC. Mesh reconstruction in that sense means, that a prior defined point cloud is used as the basis for creating a polygonal triangulated structure. Each face then has a set of 3 corresponding vertex points. Creating the 3D mesh, as shown in figure 11, is done by selecting [Workflow] → [Build Mesh...]. For high-resolution models the source data

should be set to 'Dense cloud'. When reconstructing 3D meshes of objects that are not 'relief-like' but instead form a closed 3-dimensional structure (e.g. a human head), the 'Surface type' has to be set to 'Arbitrary'. Because complex meshes like human heads are likely to show lightly uncovered parts on the surface, the vertex point interpolation should be set to 'Enable'. If the final mesh is used as a 'waterproof' model (e.g. for 3D printing), then it is advisable to set this option to 'Extrapolate', which causes the algorithm to close not only small parts, but instead forcing it to close each part of the mesh. After this step a 3D model out of 2D images was created. Nevertheless it is

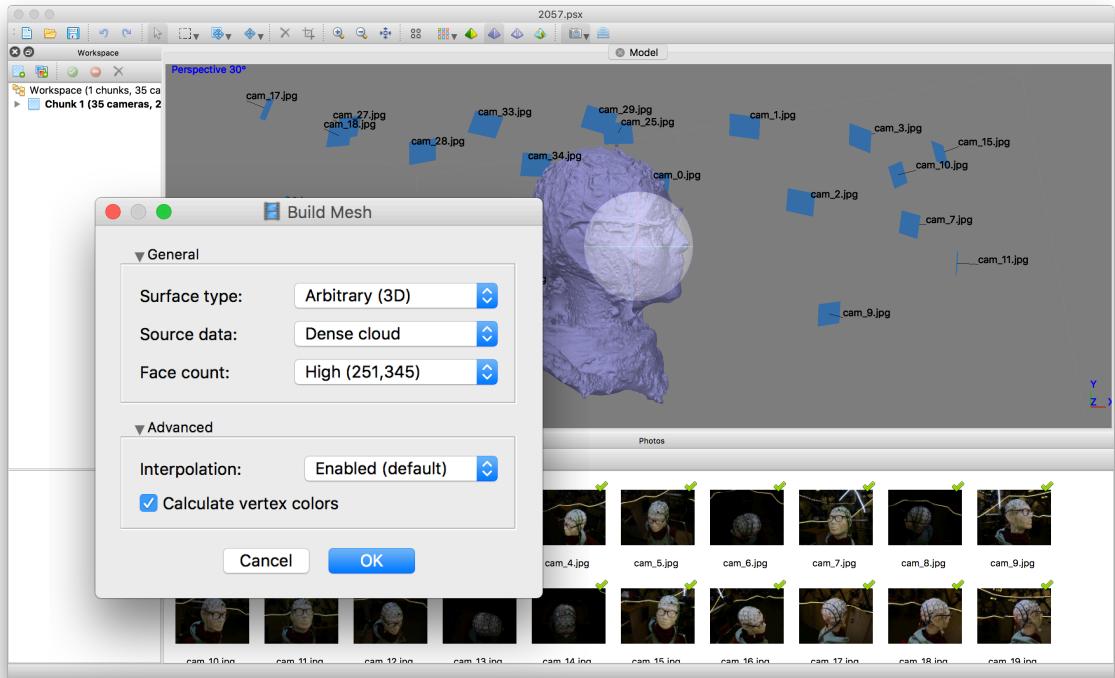


Figure 11: PhotoScan build mesh

un-textured so far.

## Build Texture

Creating the associated texture file can be done by selecting [Workflow] → [Build Texture...]. Possible settings are shown in figure 12. Depending on the performance of the actual reconstruction those parameters have different influences on the final model. Setting the 'Blending mode' to 'Mosaic' requires all cameras positions to be obtained properly, because it linearly projects color information onto the meshes surface. If one

or more camera positions are obtained wrong either smeared or displaced texture parts that overlap the 'true' one can be observed. In that case it is recommendable to set the blending to 'Average', which causes PhotoScan to add the texture by averaging color information of the related camera positions instead of summing them up. Per default the texture file will be split into 25 parts, which, depending on the 3D software used for later processing, can be problematic. For example janus3D can only read one single texture file associated to the model. So when using the textured model as input file for janus3D the texture count should be set to 1.

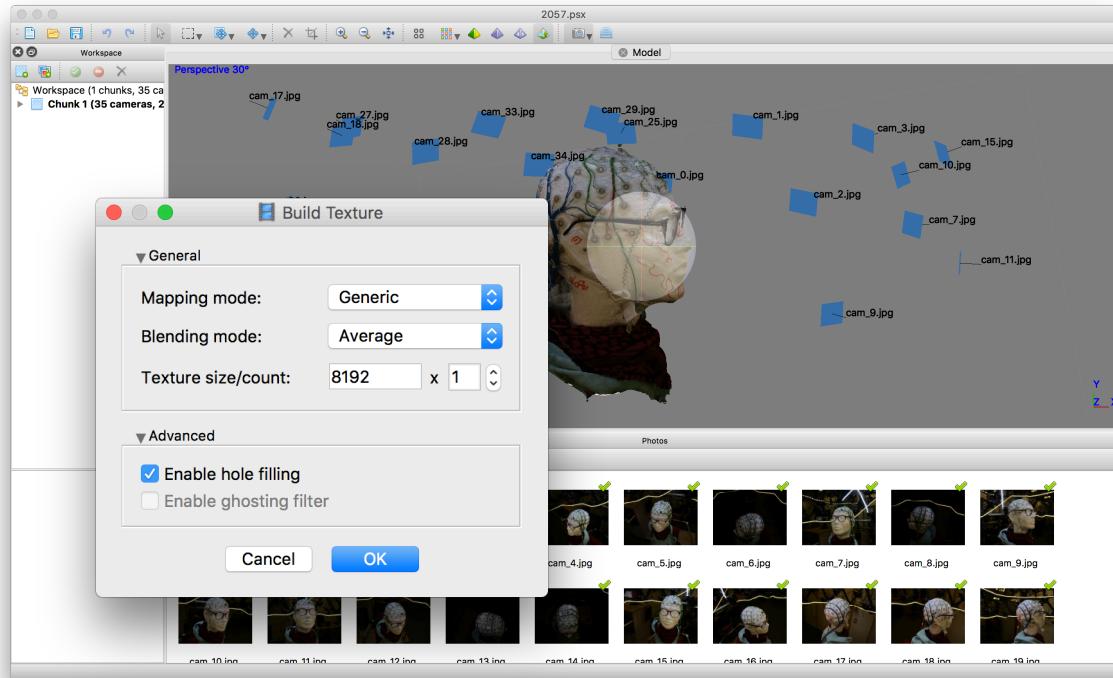


Figure 12: PhotoScan build texture

## Export Model

After inspecting the textured model, mesh extensions and parts that will not be used for later processing should be removed. Various selection tools PhotoScan provides can do this. For the purpose of removing mesh extensions the 'free-form selection' yields proper results. The final model can be exported by choosing [File] → [Export Model...] as shown in figure 13. Depending on the desired file format export options can vary. Because janus3D can only import objects stored in \*.obj (Wavefront OBJ) file format,

this was chosen to exemplify this step. It is important to note that for compatibility issues due to the specific requirements of janus3D, only the texture formats \*.jpg should be chosen. Furthermore janus3D was not designed to read vertex normals, for what reason this option has to remain unchecked.

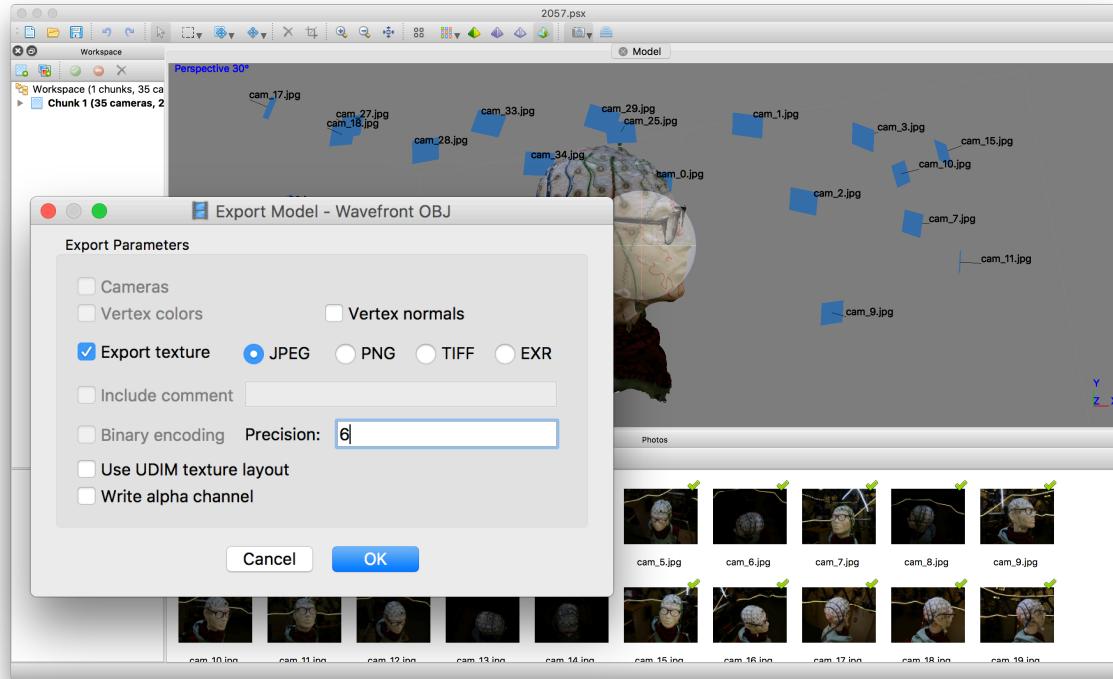


Figure 13: PhotoScan export model

## janus3D

janus3D is a MATLAB toolbox for co-registration and electrode detection and labeling for 3D models obtained from subjects wearing an EEG cap. The software registers the 3D model and a projection of the anatomical MRI, finds electrodes based on the texture or manually, and labels electrodes based on a template or manually.

The toolbox can be downloaded via:

[https://github.com/janus3D/janus3D\\_toolbox](https://github.com/janus3D/janus3D_toolbox) or using the command:

```
git clone https://github.com/janus3D/janus3D_toolbox
```

Afterwards add the toolbox to the MATLAB search path. One major issue is that the software runs in MatLabR2015a only.

Please find the respective information within the janus3D documentation ([https://github.com/janus3D/janus3D\\_toolbox/blob/master/janus3D\\_users\\_manual.pdf](https://github.com/janus3D/janus3D_toolbox/blob/master/janus3D_users_manual.pdf))