

EMA Research Manual

Christianm DiCanio¹ and Miao Zhang²

^{1,2}Department of Linguistics, University at Buffalo

Last updated in August 2022

Contents

1	Experiment procedure	1
1.1	Sensor calibration	1
1.2	Sensor gluing	2
1.2.1	Pre-check	2
1.2.2	Roles	3
1.2.3	Attaching sensors	3
1.2.4	Head correction	4
1.3	Recording	5
1.3.1	Preliminaries for running a subject	5
1.3.2	Check list	5
1.3.3	Prior to recording	5
1.3.4	Head correction and running sweeps	6
1.4	Evaluate your data	6
2	Post-processing	7
2.1	Step 1.	7
2.2	Step II.	8

1 Experiment procedure

1.1 Sensor calibration

Use `cs5diag` and `cs5cal` on the EMA laptop.

1. To insert circer, align notches on top, screw in from the bottom. Make sure it is not too tight.

2. Make sure sensors are clean of latex. Place them in the grey trays aligned so that the lower margin of the sensor (the flat part) is against the slot. Tighten the screw to maintain them in place - not too tight again.
3. Affix sensors 1-4 and 5-8 in the trays and place them into the circer. Just push the trays downward to fix them in.
4. To start calibration, first run `cs5diag` (diagnostic program). In the diagnostic program, select Run, then look at real-time values. From here, green indicates that the sensor is working. Red indicates that it is not.
5. If you look at long-term values, you get the observed deviations for the sensors over time. A value from -4 to +4 is fine. If you get deviations over 20 or 30, you have a problem with the sensor (it would show up as red).
6. Now that you know all sensors are working, you can calibrate. Open Sensor calibration, `cs5cal`. Give a name to the calibration session, select the trays in the circer, and then click okay. Calibration will start.
7. DON'T DISTURB THE COMPUTER DURING CALIBRATION.
8. Have two sets of sensors calibrated! It would help if you had this for the bite plane and the palatal trace sensor.

1.2 Sensor gluing

1.2.1 Pre-check

1. Tape.
2. Cotton.
3. Tongue depressors (2-3).
4. Water with straw.
5. Tweezers.
6. Hair dryer.
7. Disinfected sensors covered with latex.

1.2.2 Roles

At least two people are needed to do the sensor gluing.

1. Gluer(s):

- Use the tongue depressor to attach sensors to the subject.
- Use pipettes to more glues to sensors not staying.
- Use a hair dryer to help dry the glue.

2. Assistant(s):

- Give sensors.
- Give hair dryer.
- Help hold the sensor when the gluer is gluing.
- Give pipettes.
- Tape the sensor coil to the subject's left shoulder.

1.2.3 Attaching sensors

1. Have a list with each sensor channel and the intended articulator you will attach it to.
2. Make the order in which you will attach each articulator explicit (I use alphabetic order to avoid getting confused with the channel numbers)
3. Dry the articulator surfaces before starting gluing. You can ask the subject to do some of this themselves.
 - For the lips and upper/lower incisor, you must do the drying. Ask the subject to gently hold their lips away from their teeth using barbering paper.
 - For the tongue, you can ask the subject to hold their tongue tip with barbering paper with one hand while simultaneously drying their tongue (with their mouths open) with the other hand. You can do some more drying with dental cotton if needed.
4. The dental glue dries out quickly, so you should only put a small amount on the tray before gluing. Have your assistant put more in when needed. Use the pipettes if you need to place a small amount of glue on the articulator.
5. Each sensor is dipped in dental glue just before gluing it. Carefully touch the sensor to the dried surface of the articulator. Use wooden tongue depressors to hold down the sensor lightly. Don't press too hard (let the glue do the work).

6. For the sensors attached above the upper, and below the lower incisors, you may have to use the hair dryer. You will have to use it for the tongue sensors. DO NOT PUT IT ON HIGH OR HOT! Point it toward the articulator, but not from too close. The subject should continue to hold their articulator while using the hair dryer.
7. Use your hand to cover the hair dryer a little bit to prevent the wind from going into the subject's nose. It's very uncomfortable.
8. After all sensors are glued, facial and oral sensor wires should be taped (with a bit of slack) to the subject's cheek, all on the left side.
9. This allows for some give with jaw opening.
 - If a wire gets pulled, it pulls the tape on the face, not the sensor, out of the mouth!
 - Organizes the wires.

Once the sensors are attached, give the subject a drink of water with a straw. They will want this.

1.2.4 Head correction

`cs5normpos` generates a reference object from a set of samples of a sweep file containing the static configuration that serves as a target during the head correction.

Head correction

- determines a set of rotation and translation parameters per data frame. This is organized as a 4x4 matrix of homogeneous coordinates.
- this matrix is applied to all sensors of a given data set, resulting in head-corrected data.

Steps:

1. Choose a session folder. This is just the session directory, not the *amps* or *rawpos* subdirectories, e.g. click "`current`."
2. Reference object file. Unclick the default (if you wish). Select the sweep file, which will reflect the reference file. Make sure this exists in the *rawpos* folder.
3. You can select which samples are used from these sweeps to generate the reference object file.
4. Under "Head correction sensors", select just those sensors which are at stable positions on the head, e.g., upper incisors, nasion, behind left and right ears.
5. Click "Use 4x4 pretransformation matrix" and click "Create" (if you do not already have one for this session/speaker). This will open the program `cs5rotate`.

- The reference object file should already be loaded and all active channels imported. Otherwise, click “Data selection (pos-file)” to specify the reference object.
- Select channels that you need for rotation. This should be all sensors that you are using. (So, unlike the head correction, it’s not just a few channels.)
- Select bite plane preset sensors under “Rotation presets.”
- Save the pre-transformation matrix.
- Close the **cs5rotate**.

6. Click “Calculate Positions” in `cs5normpos`.

1.3 Recording

1.3.1 Preliminaries for running a subject

1. They’re aware of the procedure.
2. They’re aware of their rights.
3. They can brush their teeth if they wish.
4. They have washed their hands.
5. They are comfortably seated.
6. They aren’t sitting too far away from EMA (you have to move them).

1.3.2 Check list

1. What calibration set are you using?
2. What sensors are you using?
3. System should be on for 10-15 minutes before beginning. But if you have to reset, you don’t have to wait for it to warm up.

1.3.3 Prior to recording

1. Have two sets of sensors calibrated so that if one breaks, you can replace it and change the calibration for that sensor.
2. The reference sensors have to stay put, so the bite-plane has to contain different sensors, e.g., if you use sensors 1-2 for reference, then the bite-plane with a second set of sensors has to be three of sensors #3-8, e.g., #6-8. Save #5 for the palatal trace sensor.
3. If the reference sensors break, you must start the experiment.

1.3.4 Head correction and running sweeps

Use **cs5recorder**.

1. Is everything on? AG501? Mic? Bluetooth Speaker? Bluetooth keyboard? Laptop battery?
2. A speaker gives you better quality and bigger volume of your stimuli than the internal speaker on your laptop.
3. If you have a Bluetooth keyboard, you can present the stimuli on your laptop and simultaneously record the sweeps on the EMA laptop. But you can also ask one of your assistants to help you do the stimuli presentation.
4. Start recorder, select reference sensors with calibration set and bite-plane with (different) calibration set. Run sweep, 3-4 seconds. Stop sweep.
 - Be sure that your orientation here is from the speaker's perspective, e.g., left of the speaker, right of the speaker. Don't get your channels confused.
 - You have to run everything in one fell swoop - different sensors for bite plane from reference sensors.
5. Initial head-correction, use the default, then click "Create."
 - You want a 4x4 matrix for rotation and shifting. Create matrix. So, the center bite-plane sensor should be at 2 cm in front of the 0 point.
6. Click save.
7. Select reference sensors and then click "Calculate Position."
8. To do palatal trace, select sensor and reference sensors, and then run a sweep. Process sweep. Be sure to check the calibration set here.
9. Are you ready to record? Select all the sensors.
10. Start & stop sweeps - all are saved. The only reason to use "Process Sweep" in a recording session is to examine some results.
11. Recommendation: open a separate viewer window to look at the results (you can load the real-time data in a separate window and record sweeps in this window).

1.4 Evaluate your data

1. In `cs5view`, load *pos* data, then select *rawpos* for that calibration sweep. This will show you the calibration output and see if certain sensors are off.

2. Within `cs5view`, you can look at the output of the data. Select *pos* data here, as it includes the head correction.
3. The "Overlays" option also visualizes in the real-time data; you can see if certain sensors are outside the measurement area here.
4. To include the palatal trace reference, load *pos* data for the reference sweep and then click on the bar at the top of the menu with the left mouse button. This will keep the trace on the viewer while you look at other sweep data.

2 Post-processing

2.1 Step 1.

(Steps: **.amp* -> **.rawpos* -> **.pos*)

Use `calcpus` & `cs5normpos` to process the data before further analysis in MATLAB.

1. In `calcpus`, find folder of your experiment session. Find the folder *amps*, open it.
2. Calculate the files. This will give you the *rawpos* data.
3. Then go to `cs5normpos`, select current folder.
4. Calculate rotation and shifting. Save, do head-correction. Save.
5. Now, go and convert output binary *pos* data to *ascii*.
6. If the sensors went outside the recording area, then the default is for `calcpus` to use the noise in the signal to calculate its position. This will take a long time, and you don't want that. So, make sure you check for three things:
 - Sensors that you are not using should be deselected during recording sweeps. This sets their amplitudes to 0 and is not processed when determining raw positions.
 - If you are recording a subject and they move their articulators outside of the recording area, mark it in a notebook. You can delete the *amp* file for that sweep, and the recorder "should" pick up with the next number (but don't do this during the session).
 - If you didn't realize that the speaker went outside the recording area and you find that `calcpus` is taking a while to process a sweep, then cancel the process, remove the file from the current directory and start it over.

2.2 Step II.

Step: **.pos* -> **.mat*

Before processing in MATLAB, take out all breaks and filler trials. You should have a log file output from your stimuli presenting software that tells you which ones are fillers. You need to mark the fillers before recording the sweeps). Then you can use **sensors.m** to process the data.

Before running **sensors.m** to post-process,

1. create a separate **sensors.txt** file to specify the sensor numbers. Put **sensors.txt** in the same directory as **sensors.m**.
2. Change the index of UI (upper-incisor) to what was used in your experiment.

sandbox directory must be included in the MATLAB path. DO NOT modify the original files here, but make copies as needed.

The data directory must be included in the path of MATLAB. The data directory should contain:

1. A folder named "BP" containing the .pos file for the bite-plane.
2. A folder named "EMA" which in turn contains:
 - A folder named "rawpos" with all the **.pos* data.
 - A folder named "wave" with all the **.wav* files.
3. A folder named "procs" that has **Adjust.m**.
4. A copy of **sensors.m** specifies the directory of your current data.

What does **sensors.m** do?

1. Identify the sensors.
2. Process sensors and bite-plane.
3. Orientation and subtraction of origin (centers the data)
4. Test against a trial (any trial).
5. Process trials (converting **.pos* files into **.mat* files)