



Institute of
language, communication
and the brain

Summer school

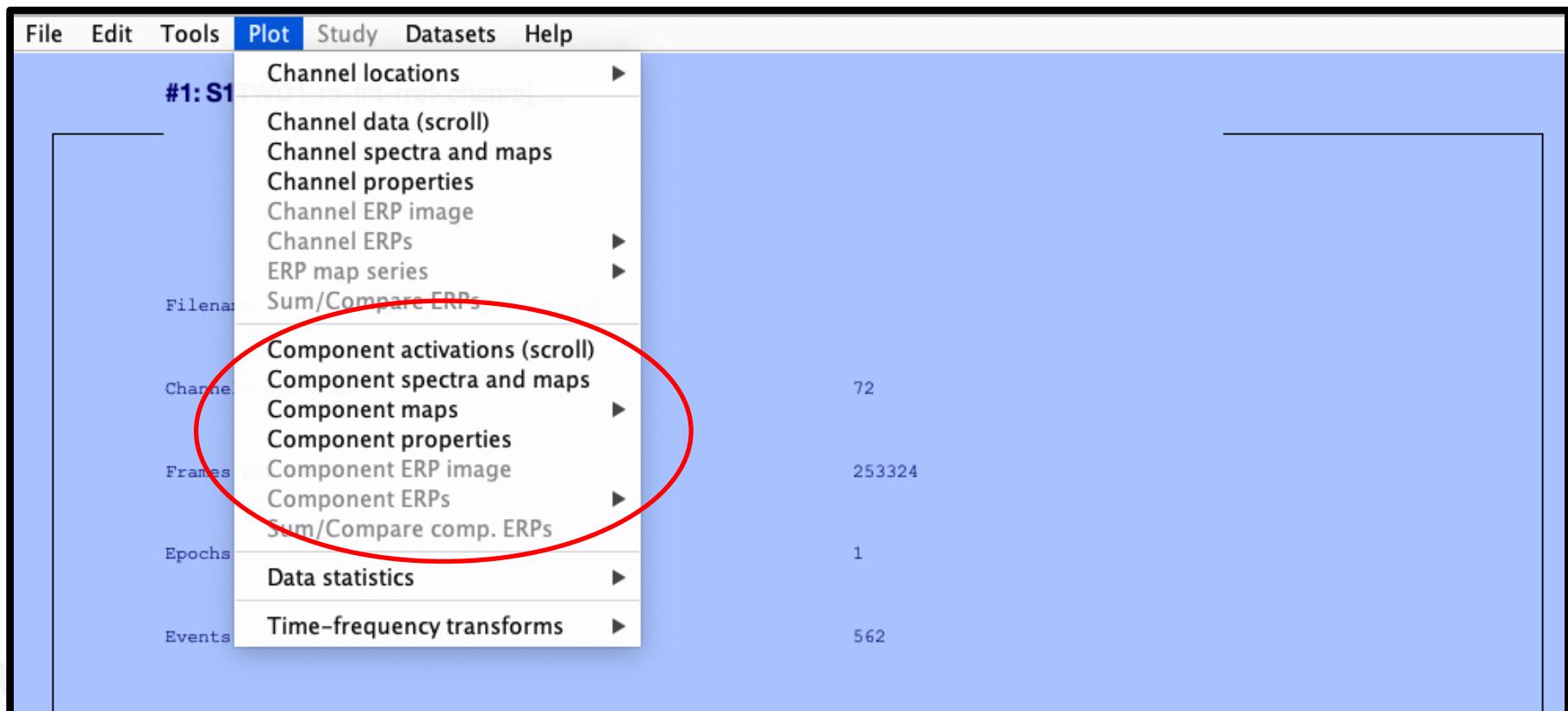
INDEPENDENT COMPONENTS ANALYSIS

An Introduction to the Theory and Use in EEG Pre-
processing and Analysis

ILCB SUMMER SCHOOL , SEPTEMBER 2-6,
2019



INDEPENDENT COMPONENTS ANALYSIS



Used a tool for decomposing EEG signals into activity patterns that are presumed to correspond to activity in single active cortical areas and sources of non-cortical artifacts.

INDEPENDENT COMPONENTS ANALYSIS

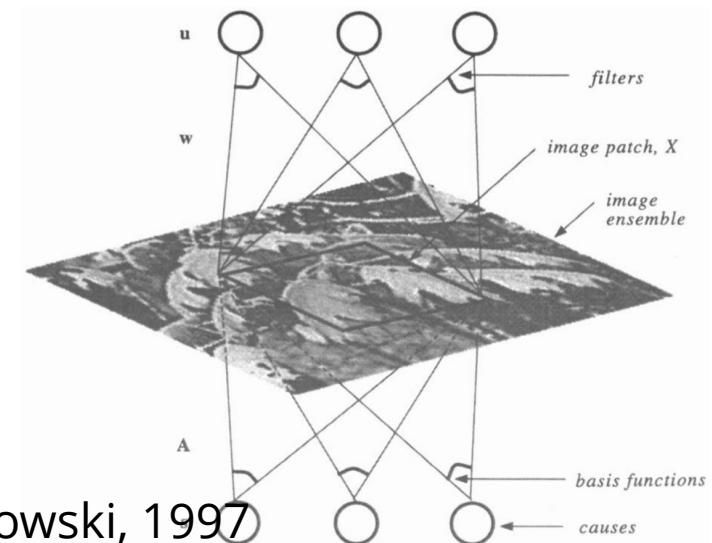
A specific method for performing Blind Source Separation (BSS).

A data-driven method for decomposing a set of **observations** into a set of **statistically independent** components.

Independent Component Analysis (ICA) **demixes mutually independent sources** embedded in multivariate signals.

Used in biomedical signal processing, image and video analysis...

Bell & Sejnowski, 1997



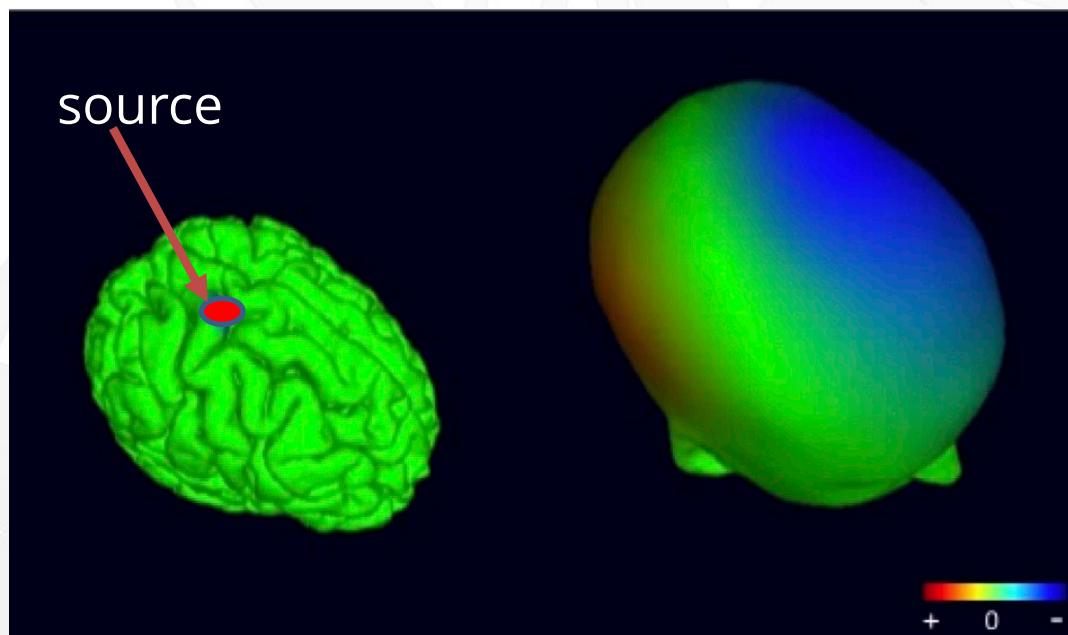
ICA IN EEG ANALYSIS – MOTIVATION



In EEG, what factor/s underlie how the source signals are mixed to form the mixture signals?

Neural activity is conducted to the scalp and sensors by **volume conduction**.

The activity at each sensor is a weighted sum of activity from different sources as well as sources of non-brain artifacts.



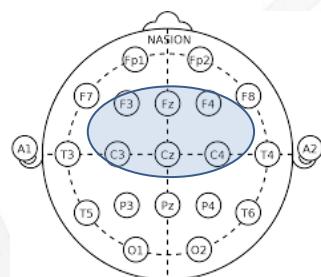
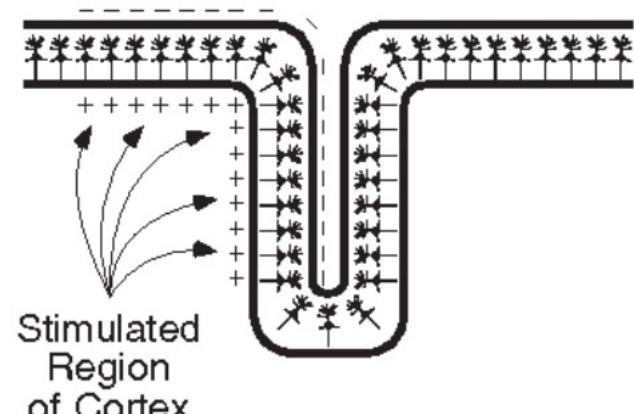
Akalin, Acar et al,
2011

ICA IN EEG ANALYSIS - MOTIVATION

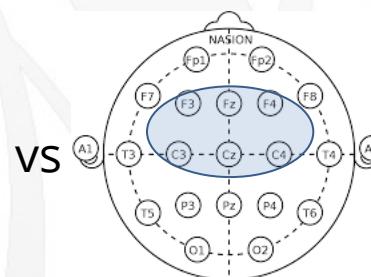
Differences in cortical folding patterns between individuals can produce different net source orientations...



Inter-individual differences in how the activity is projected to the sensors at the scalp level

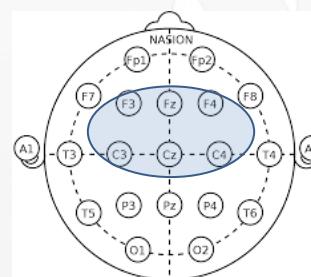


subject1



subject2

...



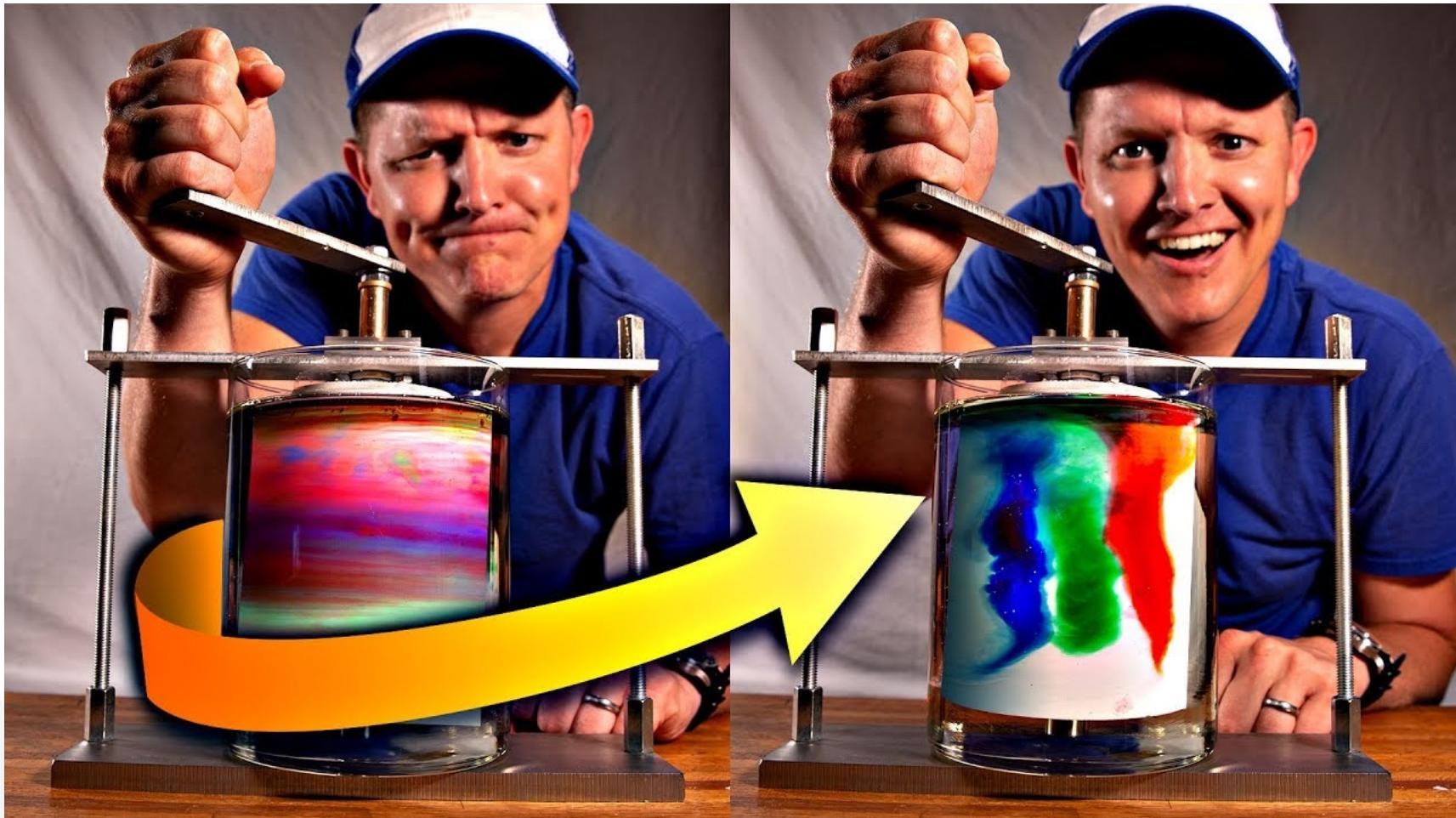
subject
N

Accurate???

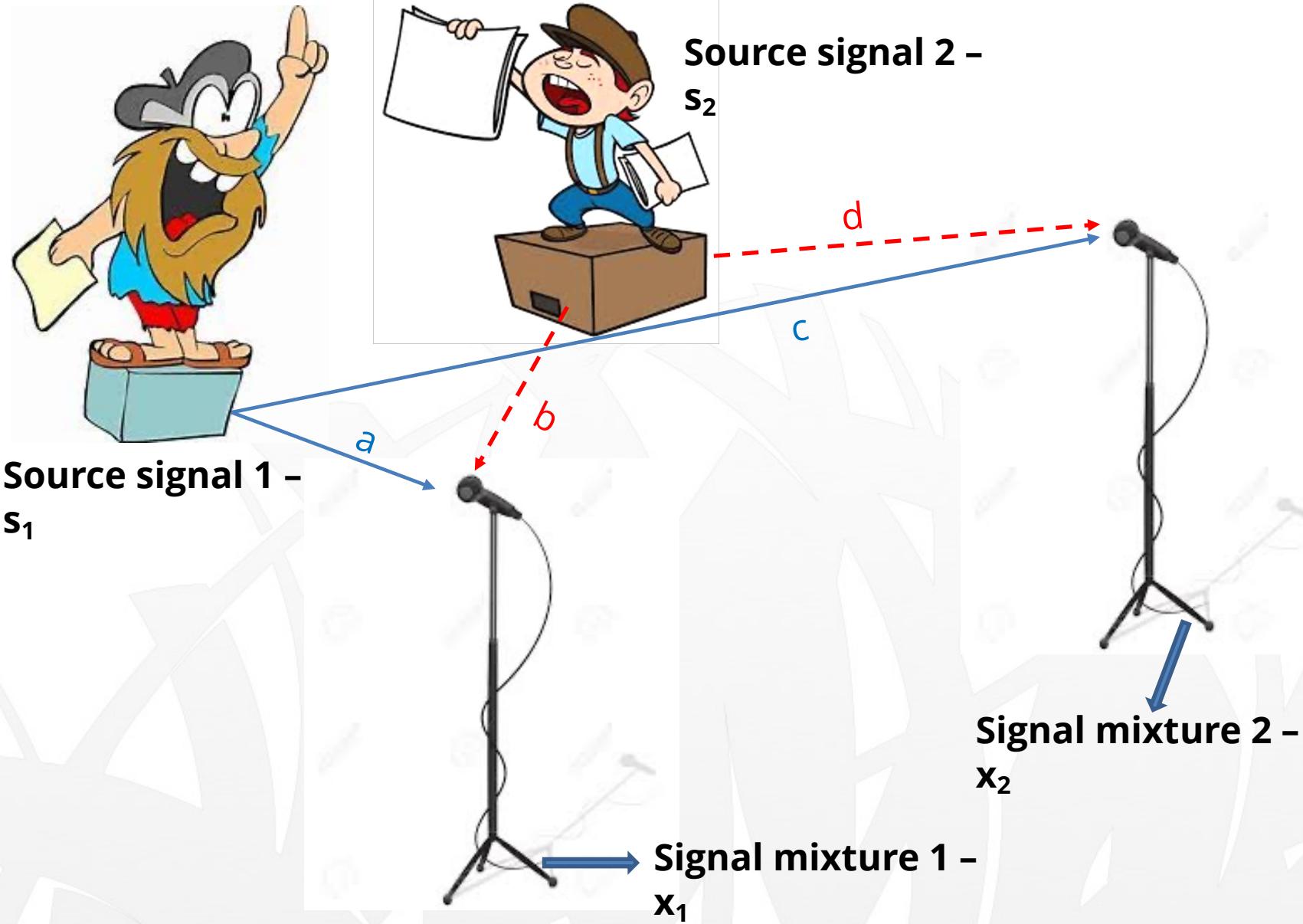
MIXING



UNMIXING



THE COCKTAIL PARTY PROBLEM



THE COCKTAIL PARTY PROBLEM

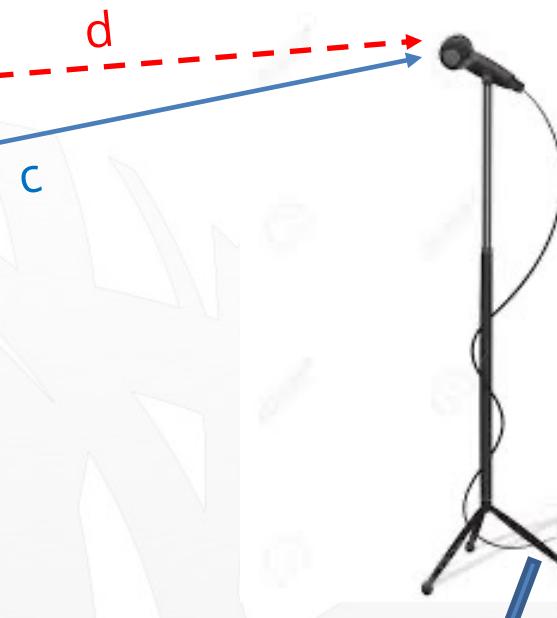


Source signal 1 -
 s_1

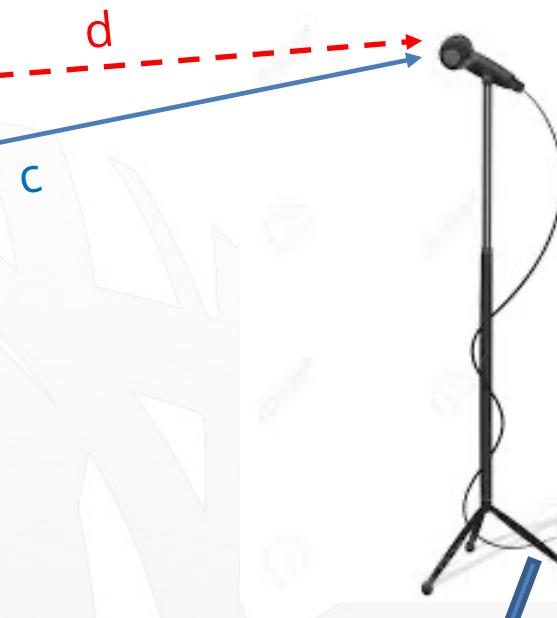
$$x_1 = a s_1 + b s_2$$
$$x_2 = c s_1 + d s_2$$



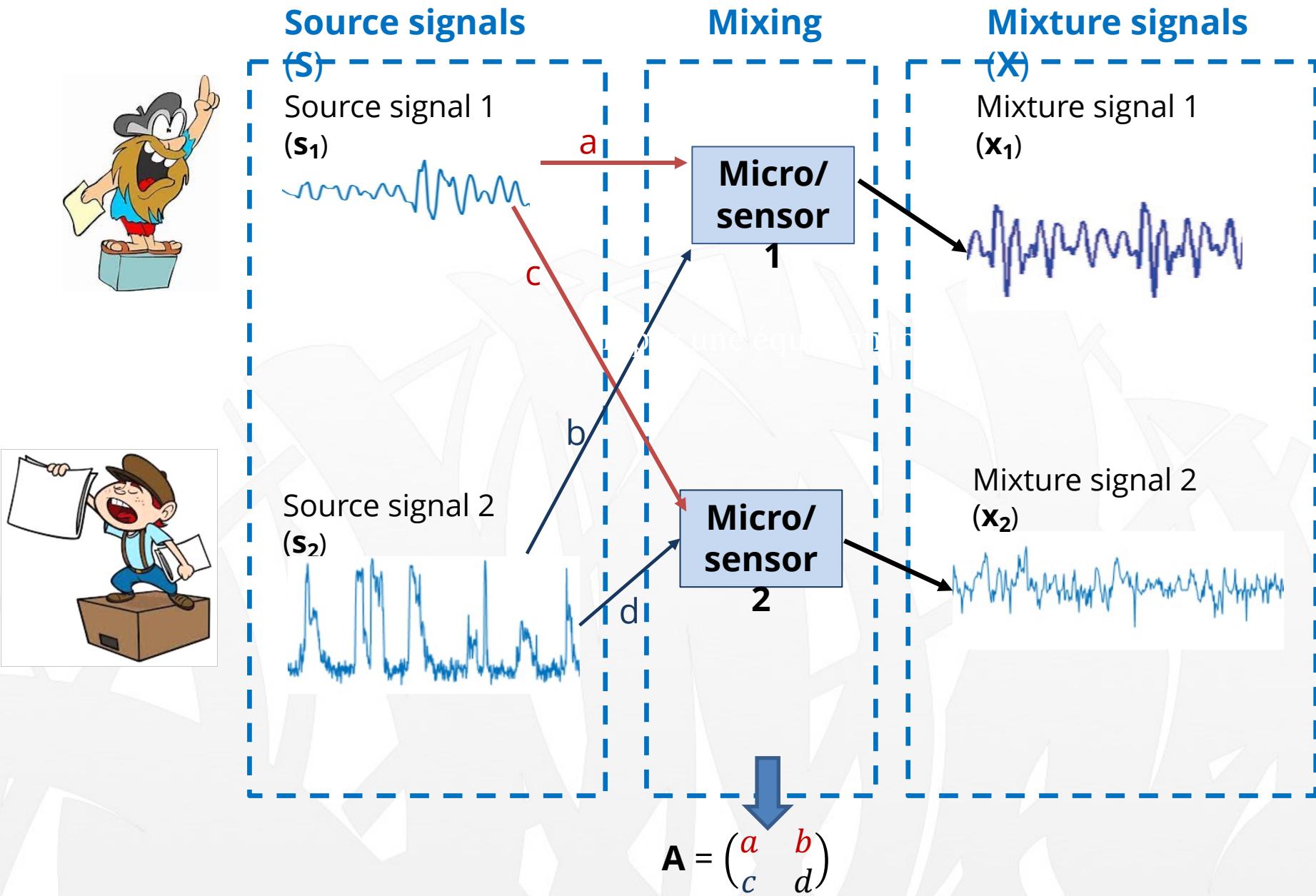
Signal mixture 1 -
 x_1



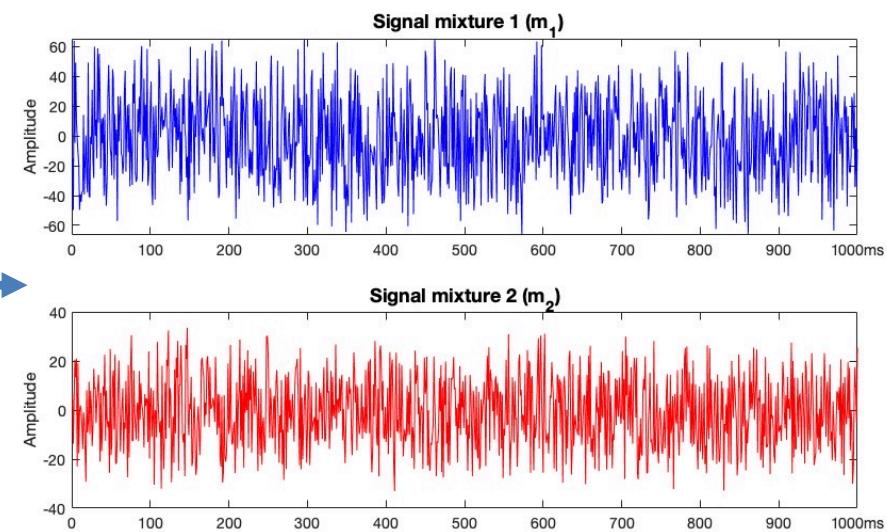
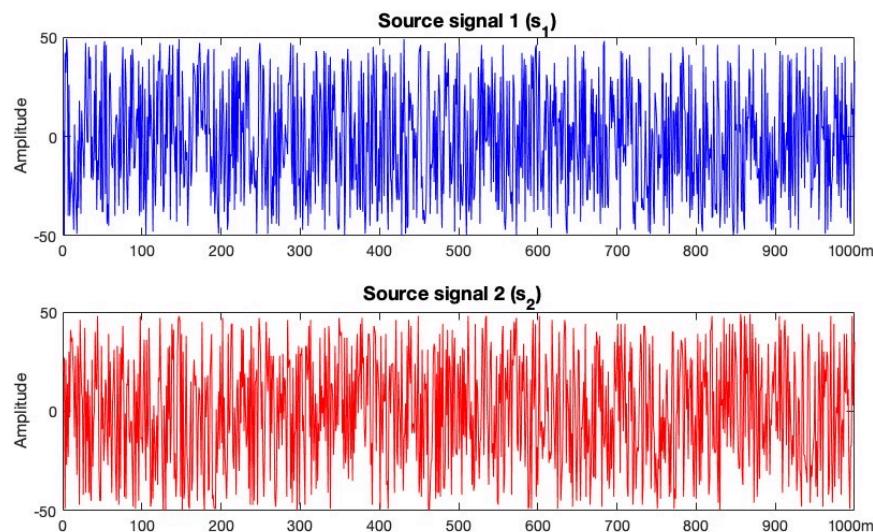
Signal mixture 2 -
 x_2



MIXING SIGNALS



MIXING SIGNALS

$$\mathbf{S} = (s_1, s_2)^T = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s_1^1, s_1^2, \dots & s_1^N \\ s_2^1, s_2^2, \dots & s_2^N \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} as_1 + bs_2 \\ cs_1 + ds_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{AS}$$

...where $a = 1.54$, $b = 2.84$, $c = 1.42$ and $d = 0.3$ are the mixing coefficients

The mixing coefficients transform, linearly, source signals (space \mathbf{S}) to mixed signals (space \mathbf{X}).

$$\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{X} : \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{AS}$$

...where $A \in R^{p \times M}$ is the mixing coefficients matrix.



MIXING SIGNALS



What can we say about the cocktail party problem?

The problem involves separating a set of **source** signals from a set of mixture **signals**.

To extract the source signals we can only use what we know or assume about :

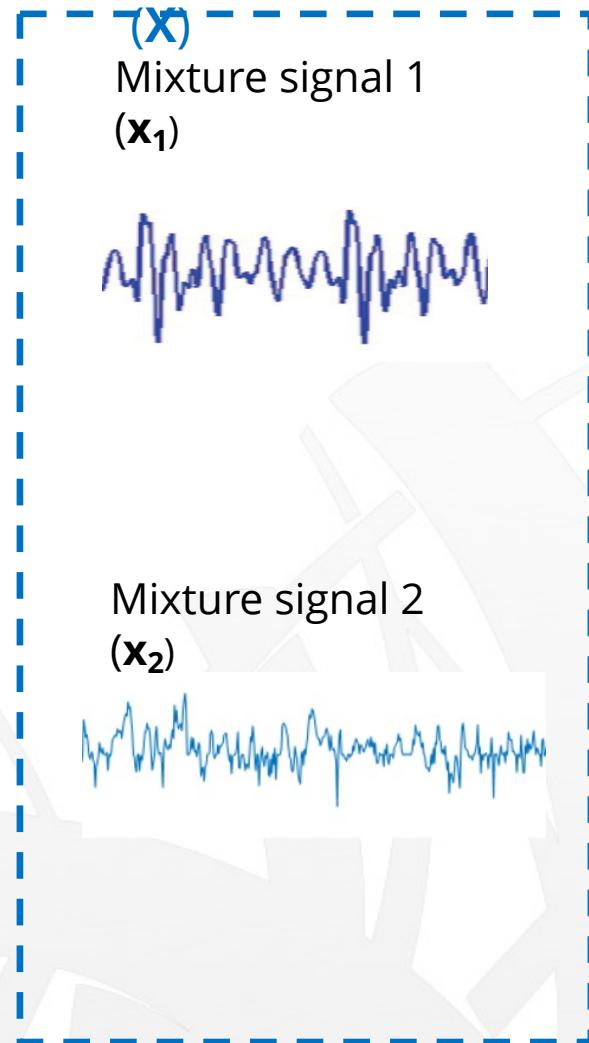
- The mixture signals
- The source signals.

We cannot directly observe the source signals → latent variables.

The mixing signals → observed data

UNMIXING

Mixture signals

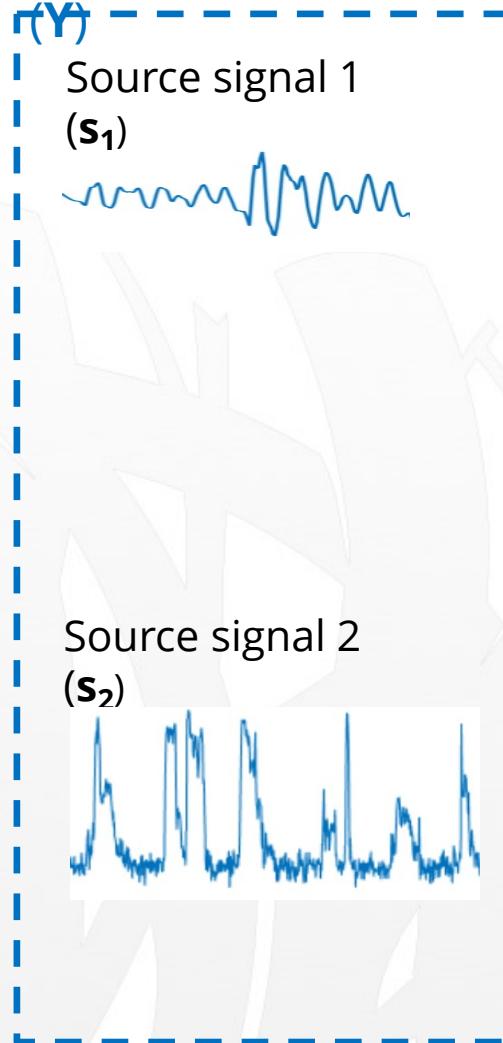


Unmixing

BSS
(ICA)

$$\mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix}$$

Extracted signals



UNMIXING



Mixing signals

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^1, \mathbf{x}_1^2, \dots & \mathbf{x}_1^N \\ \mathbf{x}_2^1, \mathbf{x}_2^2, \dots & \mathbf{x}_2^N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s}_1^1, \mathbf{s}_1^2, \dots & \mathbf{s}_1^N \\ \mathbf{s}_2^1, \mathbf{s}_2^2, \dots & \mathbf{s}_2^N \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2)^T (\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{X} \quad \quad \quad = \quad \mathbf{AS}$$

Unmixing

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s}_1^1, \mathbf{s}_1^2, \dots & \mathbf{s}_1^N \\ \mathbf{s}_2^1, \mathbf{s}_2^2, \dots & \mathbf{s}_2^N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^1, \mathbf{x}_1^2, \dots & \mathbf{x}_1^N \\ \mathbf{x}_2^1, \mathbf{x}_2^2, \dots & \mathbf{x}_2^N \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2)^T (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{WX} \approx \mathbf{S}$$

$\mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix}$ is unmixing matrix

Note: Unmixing reverses mixing \Rightarrow .

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$$

But I don't know \mathbf{A} !!



C'EST
VRAIMENT
TROP
INJUSTE !



AIMS OF THIS SESSION



AIMS:

- Understand the assumptions that one makes when carrying out Independent Components Analysis.
- To promote judicious use of ICA.

OBJECTIVES:

- To introduce the basics of the ICA approach.
- To distinguish ICA from other related methods.
- To introduce the various measures that ICA uses to extract the independent components.
- To consider the use of ICA for EEG preprocessing and analysis.

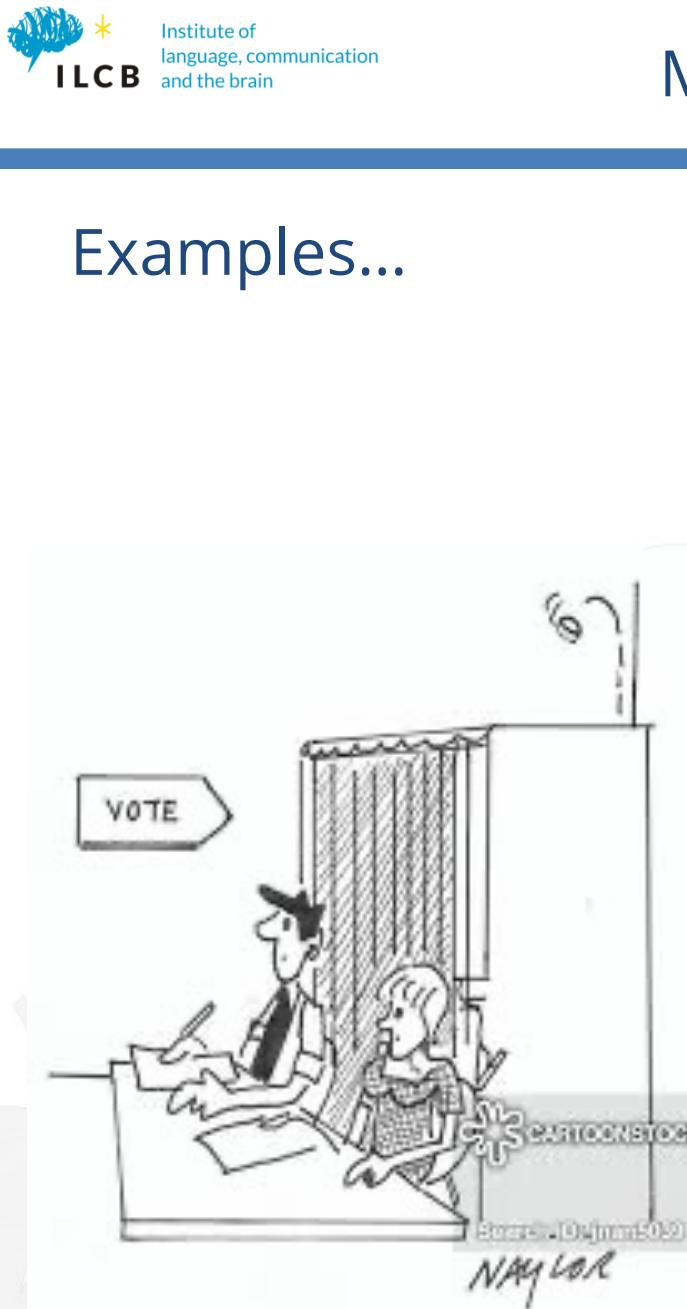
INDEPENDENT COMPONENT ANALYSIS: ASSUMPTIONS 1



Can be used to separate a set of signal mixtures into a set of source signals called **independent components**.

It assumes that the source signals extracted are **statistically independent**.

It assumes that the observed data is a **linear** mixture of the underlying sources.



MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE



Examples...





MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE: Discrete events



Probability of getting heads 4 times in a row ...



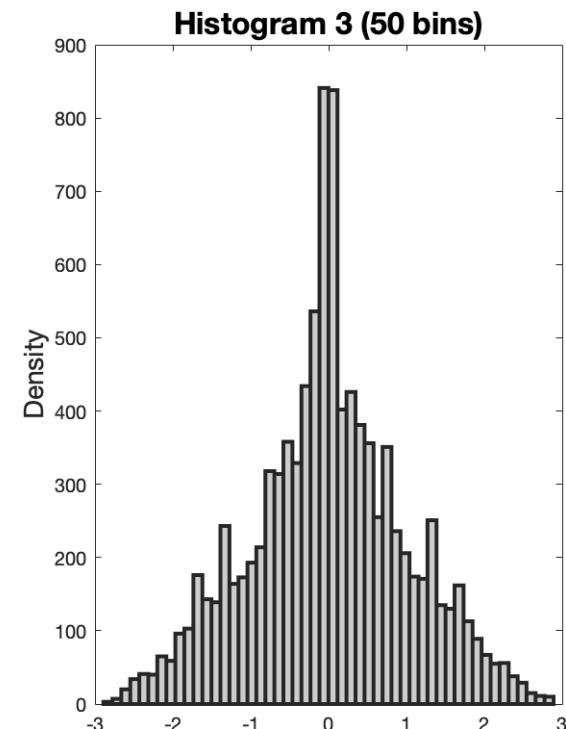
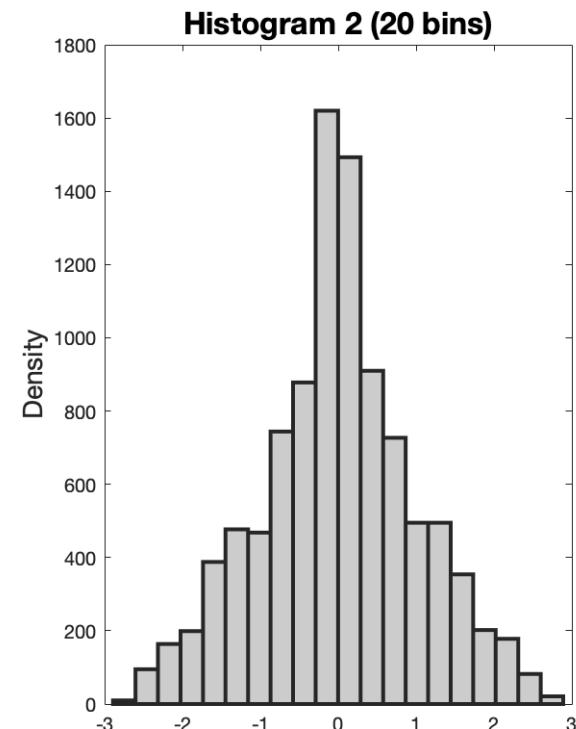
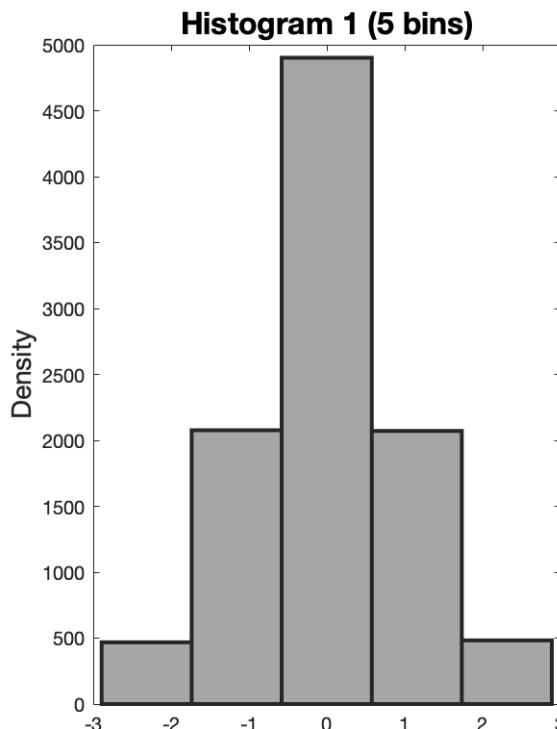
As every coin toss has an outcome that is independent of all other coin tosses...

$$P(p_h \times p_h) = \prod_{i=1}^N p_h = p_h^N = P(\text{heads})^4 = .5^4 = .0625$$



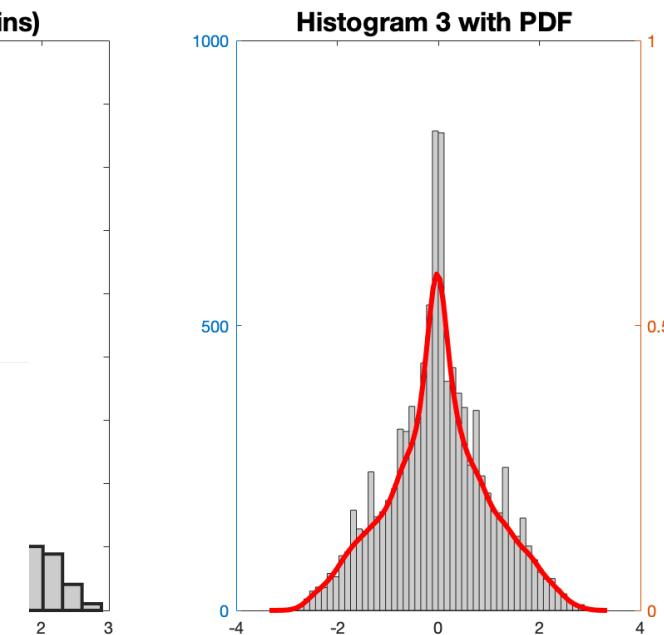
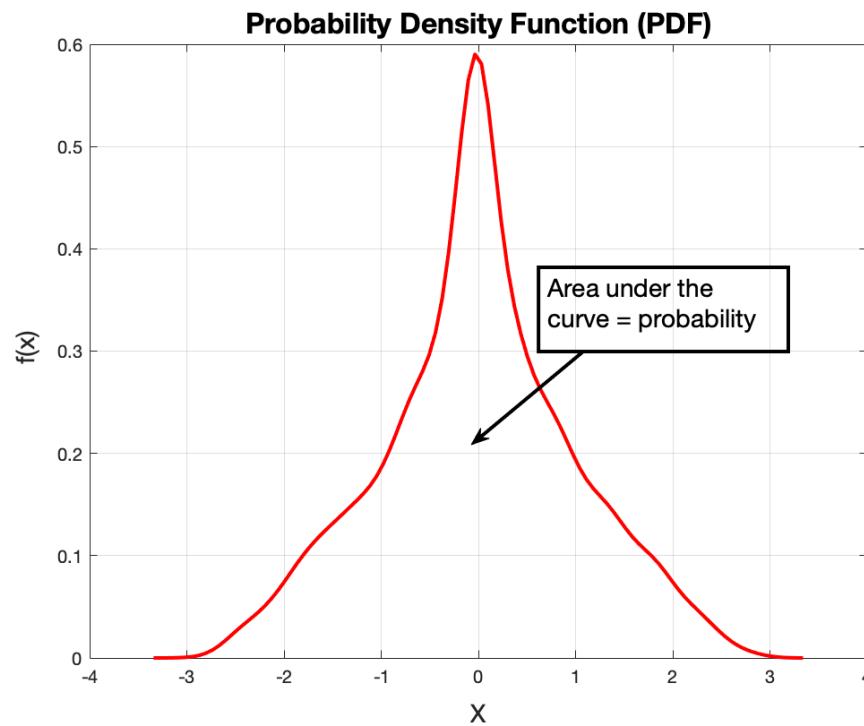
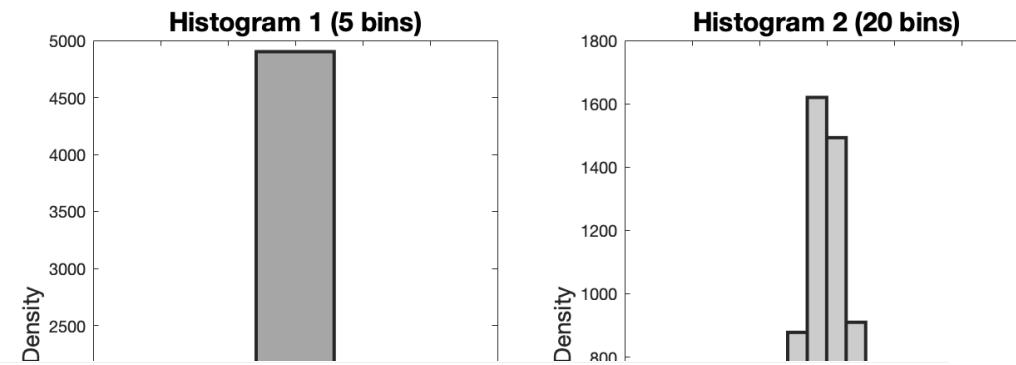


MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE: Continuous variables



MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE:

Continuous variables

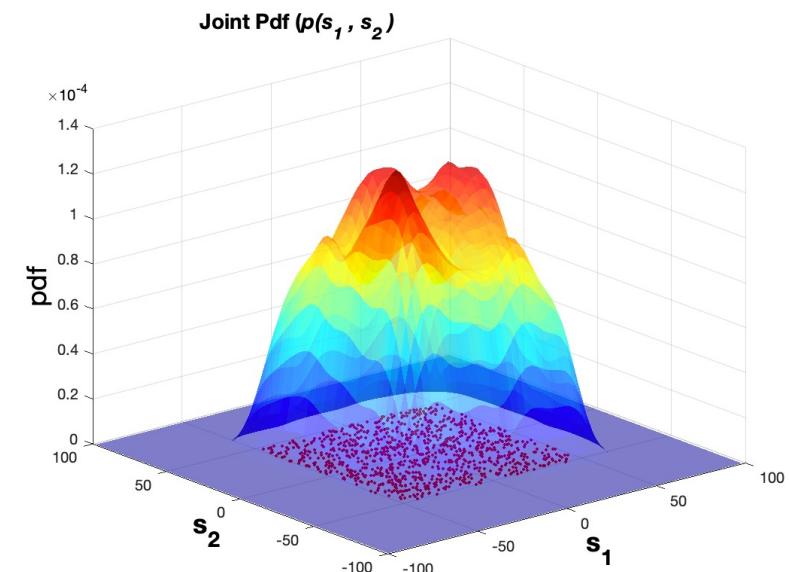
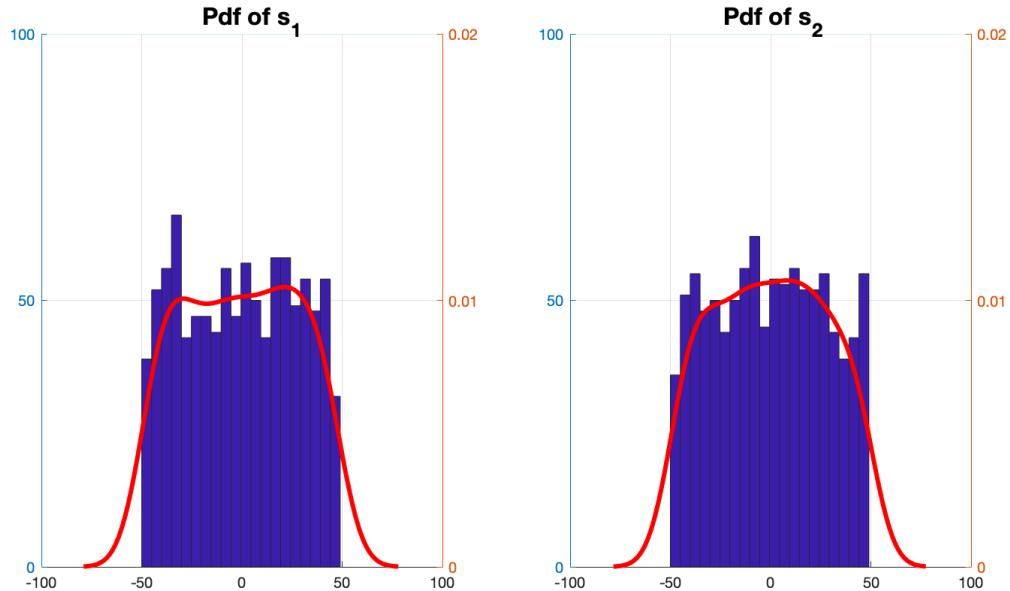




MUTUAL INDEPENDENCE



For Continuous Variables:



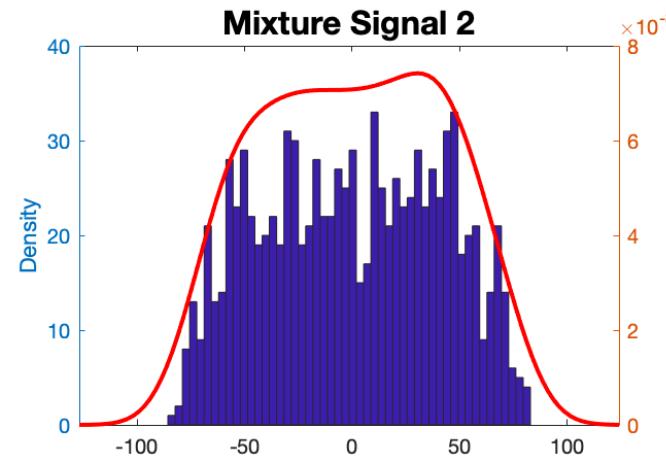
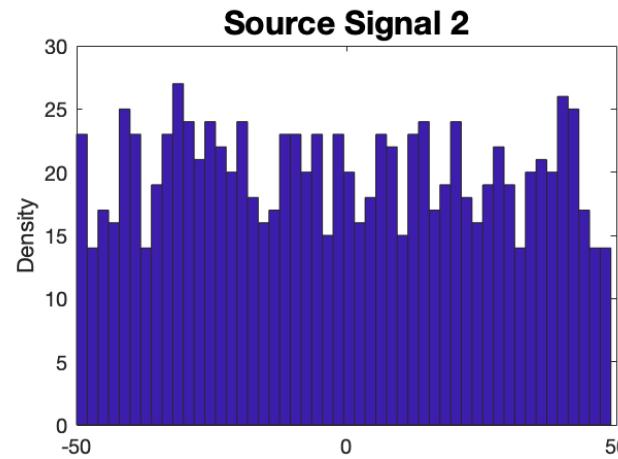
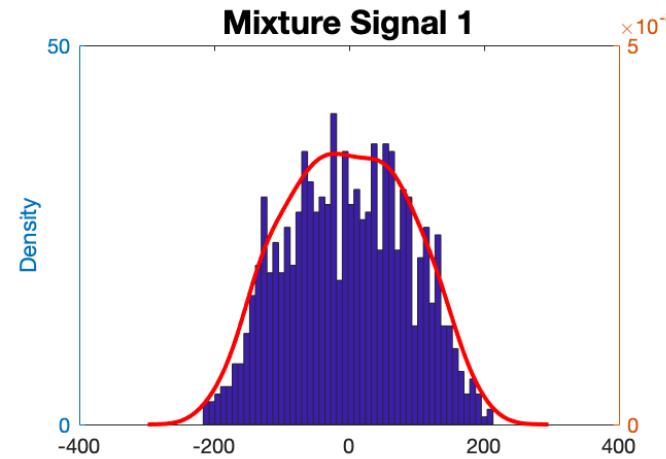
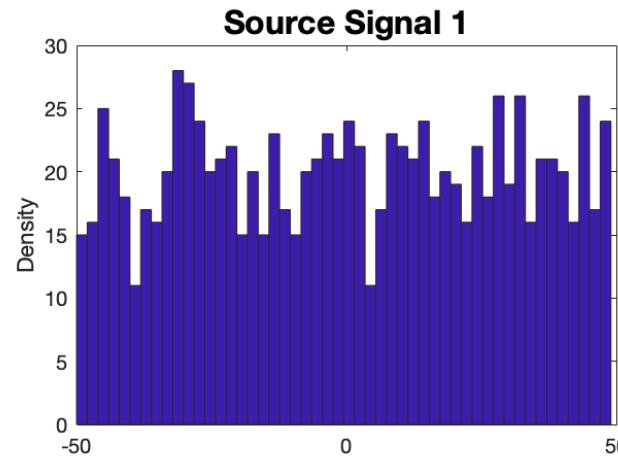
Statistically independent if:

$$P_{s_1, s_2}(s_1, s_2) = p_{s_1}(s_1) \times p_{s_2}(s_2)$$

Joint
pdf

marginal
pdfs

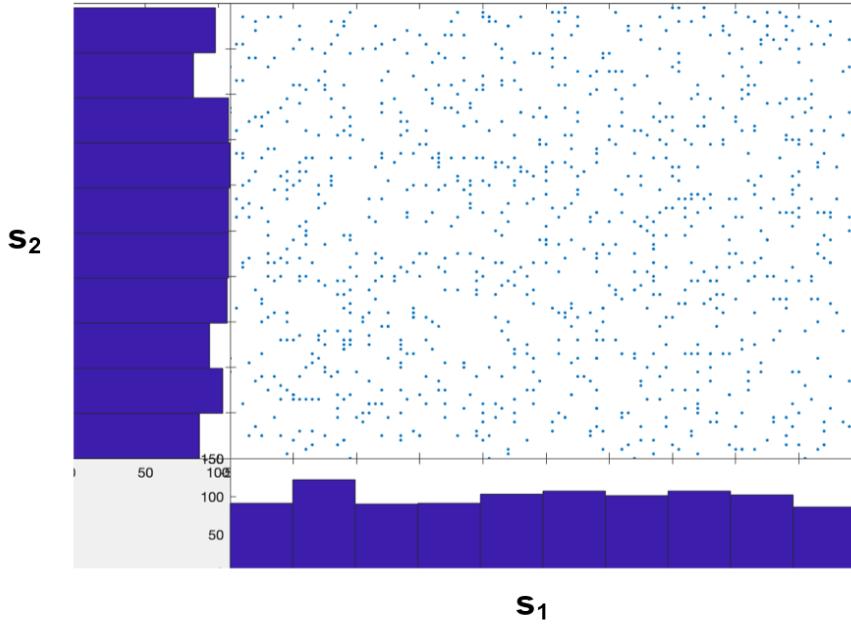
INDEPENDENT COMPONENT ANALYSIS: ASSUMPTIONS 2



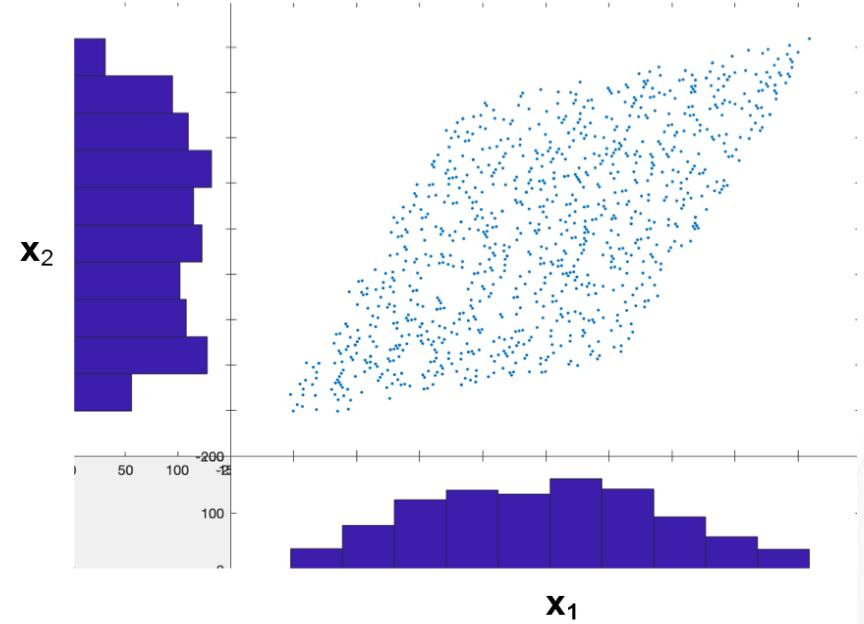
INDEPENDENT COMPONENT ANALYSIS: ASSUMPTIONS 2



Source Signals



Mixture Signals



The pdf (probability density function) of signal mixture is **MORE GAUSSIAN** than that of the source signals.

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS



The Central Limit Theorem:

- The distribution of the sum of independent random variables tends toward a Gaussian distribution.
- The sum of two independent random variables usually has a distribution that is closer to gaussian than any of the two original random variables.

We can rotate each row vector in \mathbf{W} until we find a weight vector will extract a source signal that is as **non-Gaussian** as possible.

In ICA maximising non-Gaussianity → maximizing...a measure of non-Gaussianity

Can be used to separate a set of signal mixtures into a set of source signals called **independent components**.

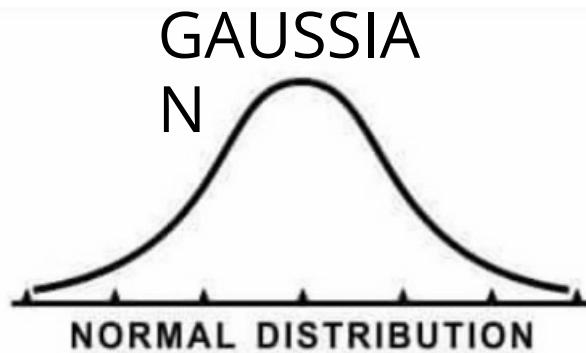
It assumes that the source signals extracted are **statistically independent**.

It assumes that the observed data is a **linear** mixture of the underlying sources.

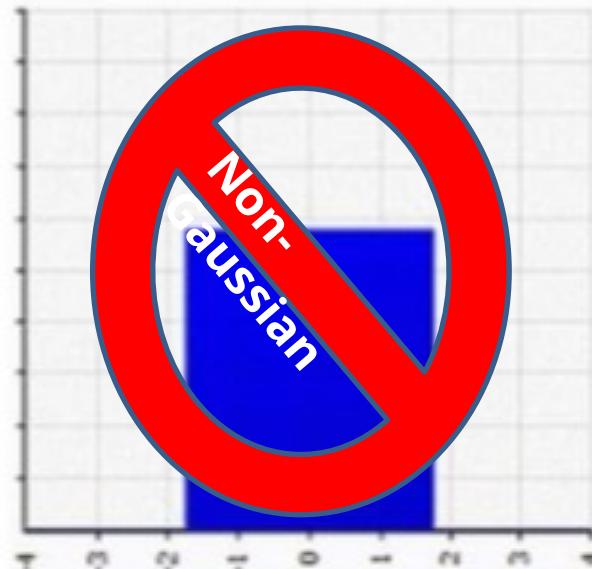
It assumes that the source signals have a **non-normal** or **non-Gaussian distribution**.



DISTRIBUTIONS



SUB-GAUSSIAN



SUPER-GAUSSIAN

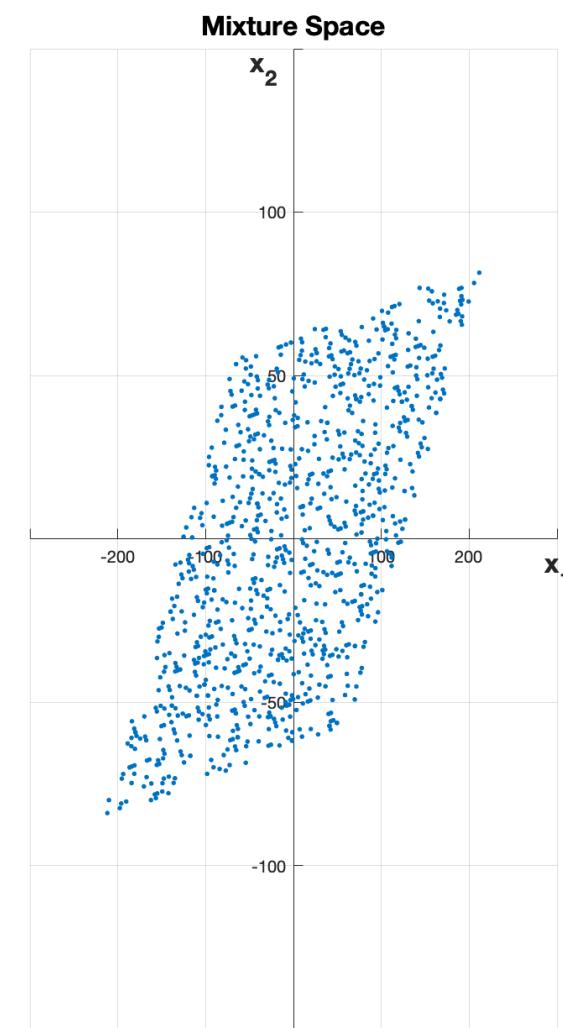
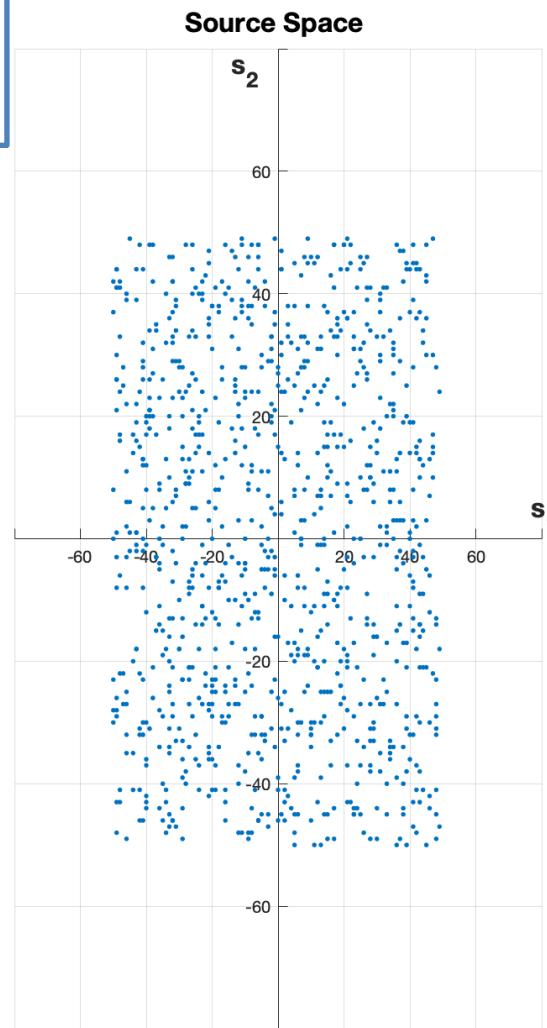


ICA: Simple Illustration

Joint
Distribution

S

Uniform
density



The two source signals, s_1 (x-axis) and s_2 (y-axis) form space S

The two mixture signals, x_1 (x-axis) and x_2 (y-axis) form space X



ICA: Simple Illustration

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$$

Mixing
coefficients
of s_1

Mixing
coefficients
of s_2

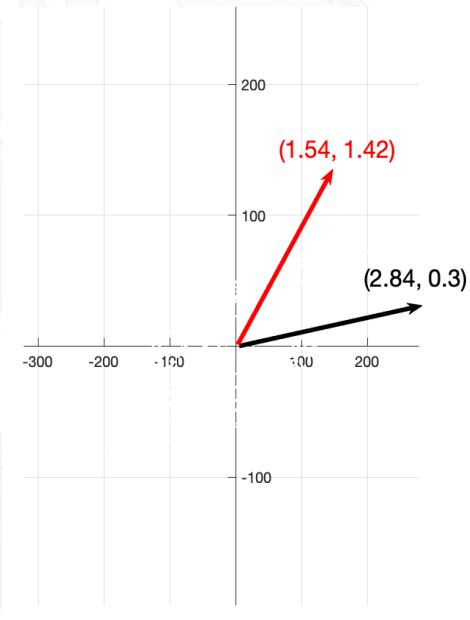
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$$

2 source
signals

A is square.

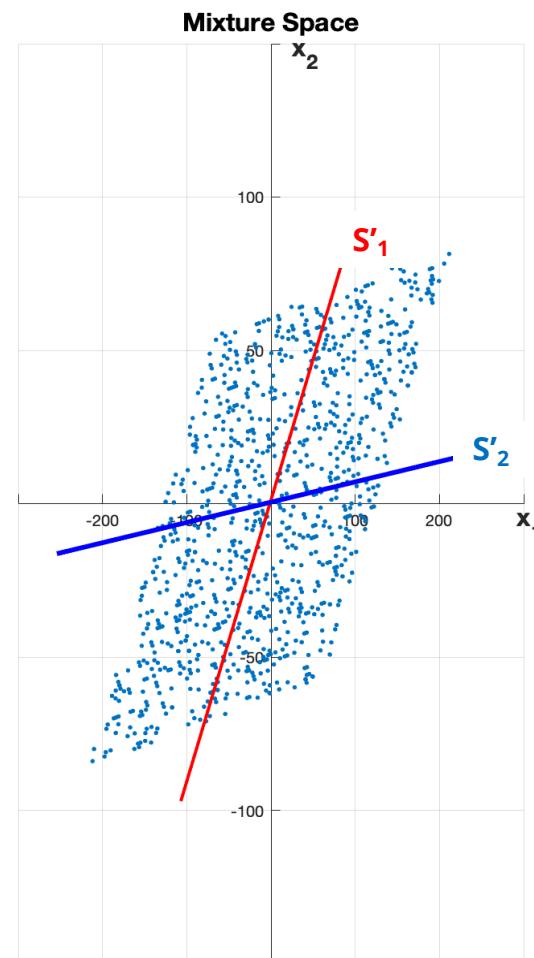
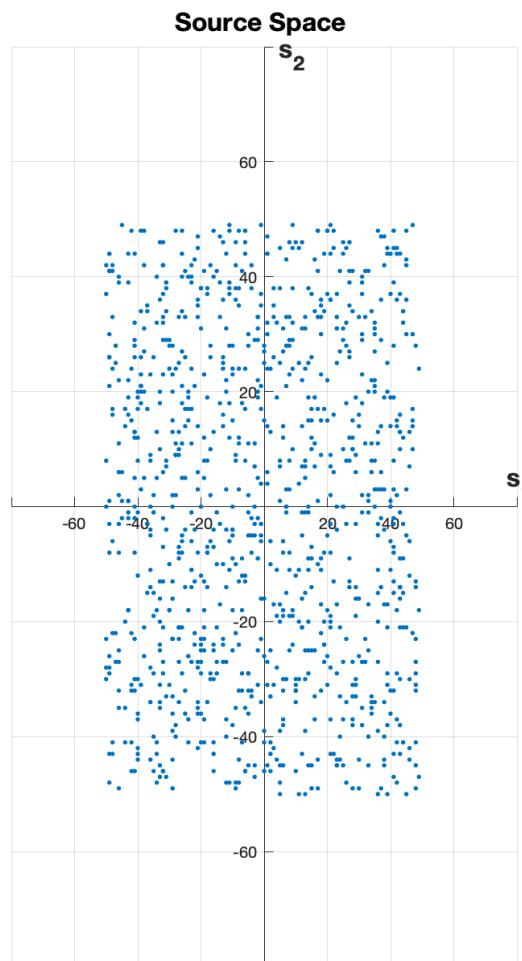
But A also should be **full rank...**

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1.54 & 2.84 \\ 1.42 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$$





ICA: Simple Illustration

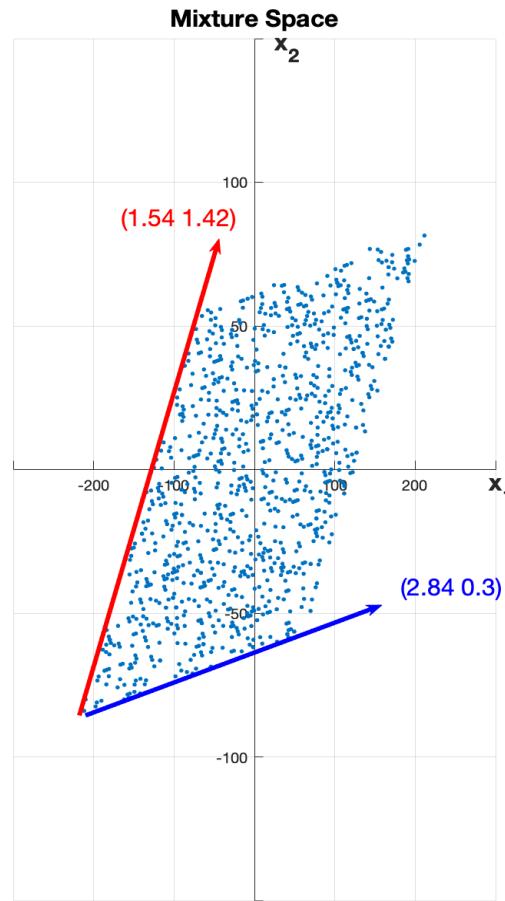
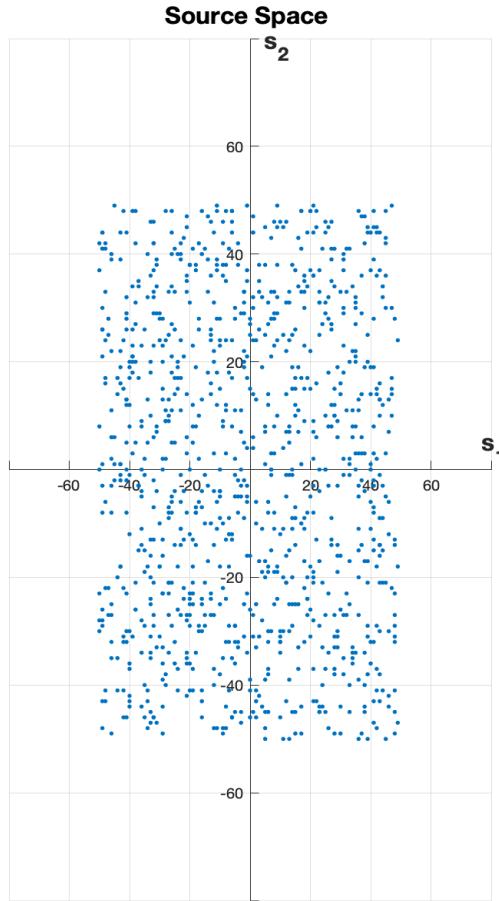


Mixing Matrix: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1.54 & 2.84 \\ 1.42 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$

$$s'_1 = As_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.54 \\ 1.42 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$s'_2 = As_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2.84 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$$

ICA: Simple Illustration



The edges of the parallelogram have an orientation that is in the same direction as the columns of the mixing matrix, A .

Does this mean that we could, in principle, estimate the ICA model by estimating the joint density of the mixtures and locating the edges of the parallelogram?

ICA: Simple Illustration



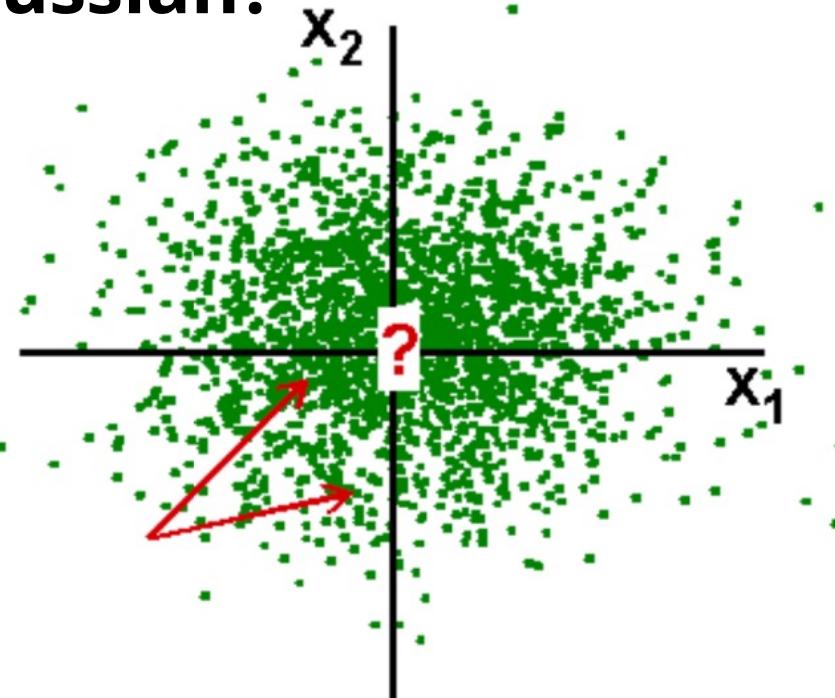
Unfortunately no. This only works for sources with uniform density.

We need a method that will work for sources with different densities...

But, it does demonstrate that each latent variable has its own orientation...

DISTRIBUTIONS

Why won't ICA work if our source signals are gaussian?



The density of the mixture is completely symmetric...

No information on the possible orientations of the columns of the mixing matrix, A .

THE UNMIXING PROBLEM



The goal of ICA is to find an unmixing matrix, W, that is a linear mapping between source signals, S, and our mixture signals, X:

$$\begin{aligned}y_i &= Wx_i = WAS_i \\y_i &\approx s_i\end{aligned}$$

Where y_i are maximally **statistically independent** and **non-Gaussian**.

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS:

Measuring non-Gaussianity

Kurtosis:

$$kurt(y) = E(y^4) - 3(E(y^2))^2$$

where y has zero mean and is normalised

A measure of the amount of probability in the tails of a probability density function.

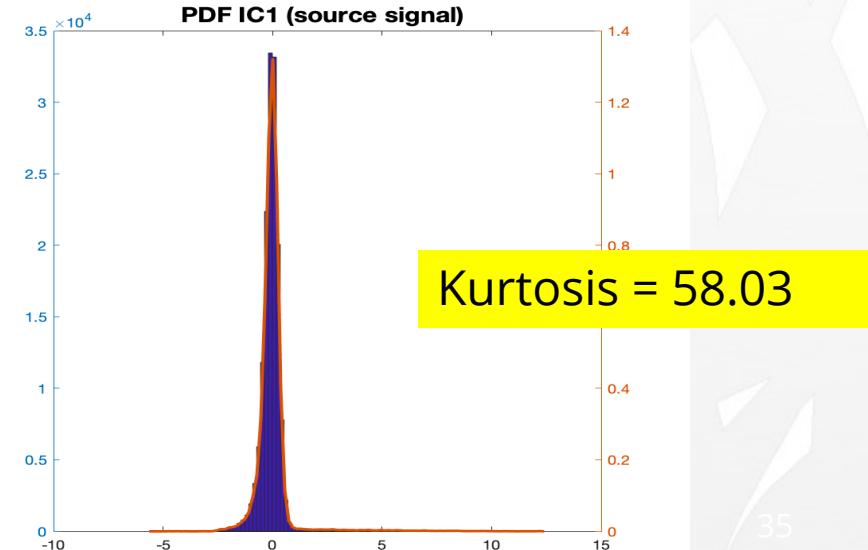
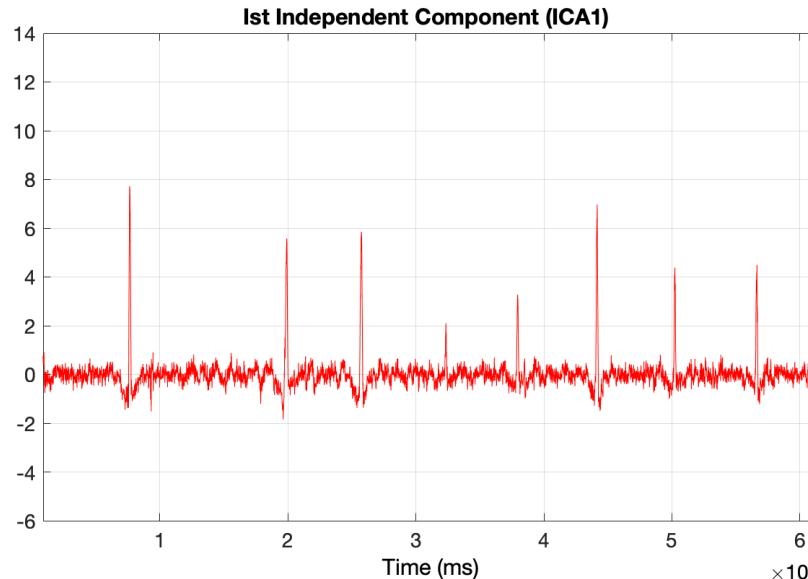
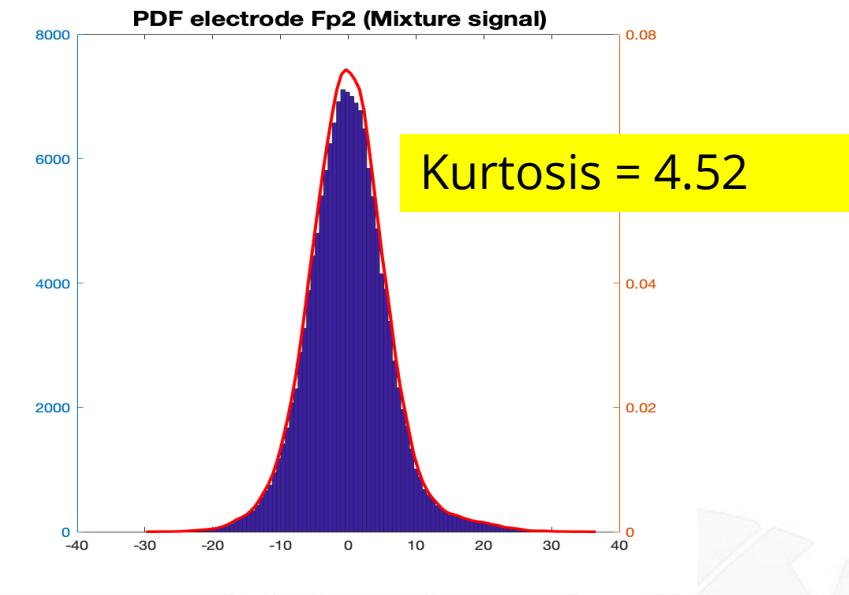
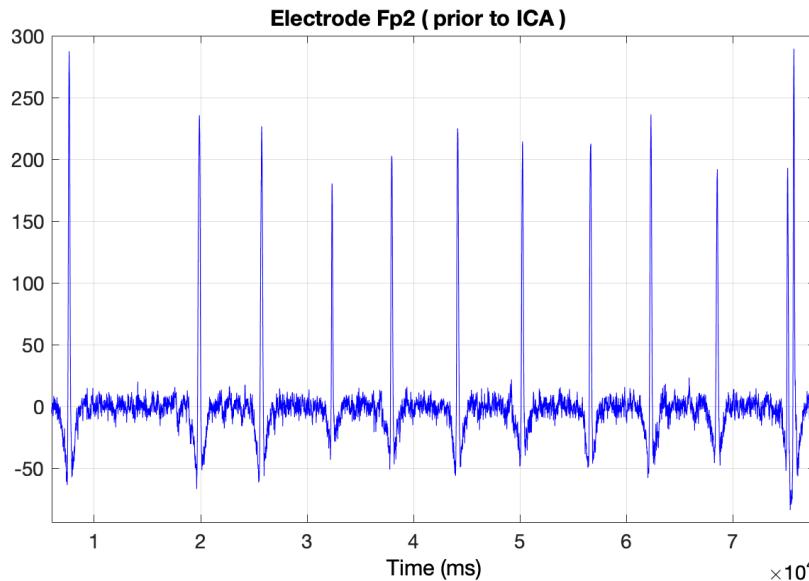
Kurtosis of a Gaussian distribution = 3

Note: Excess kurtosis of a Gaussian distribution = 0 (kurtosis -3)

If kurtosis < 3 (or negative) → lighter tails in PDF.

If kurtosis > 3 (or positive) → heavier tails in the PDF.

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS: Measuring non-Gaussianity



PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS: Measuring non-Gaussianity with Entropy



Entropy is a measure of **uncertainty**.

The **entropy** of a random variable can be interpreted as the surprisal or the degree of information that the observation of the variable gives. The more unpredictable (random) the variable is, the larger the entropy value.

The entropy of variable is the log of the number, m, of equally probable outcome values:

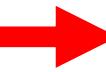
$$H(X) = \log_2 m \text{ (bits)}$$

For a probability density, $p(x)$, the average surprise or entropy, H, is:

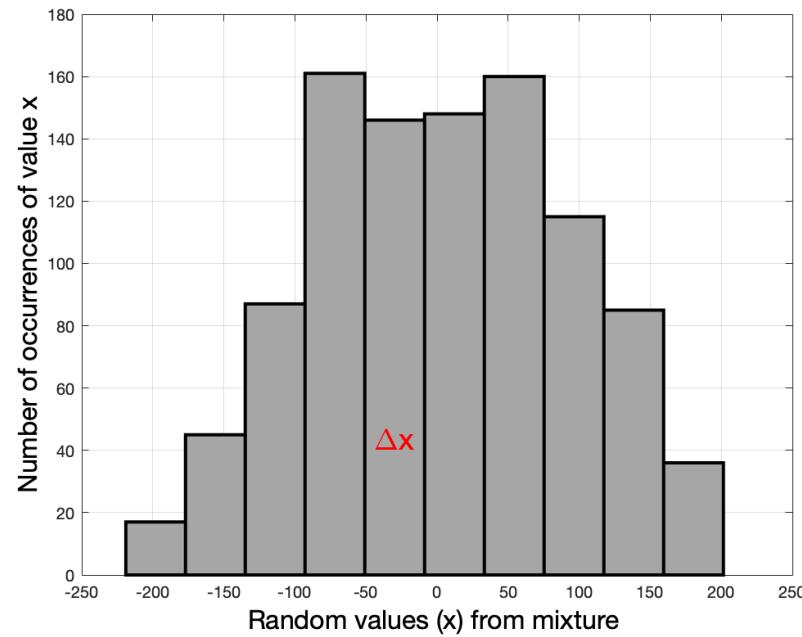
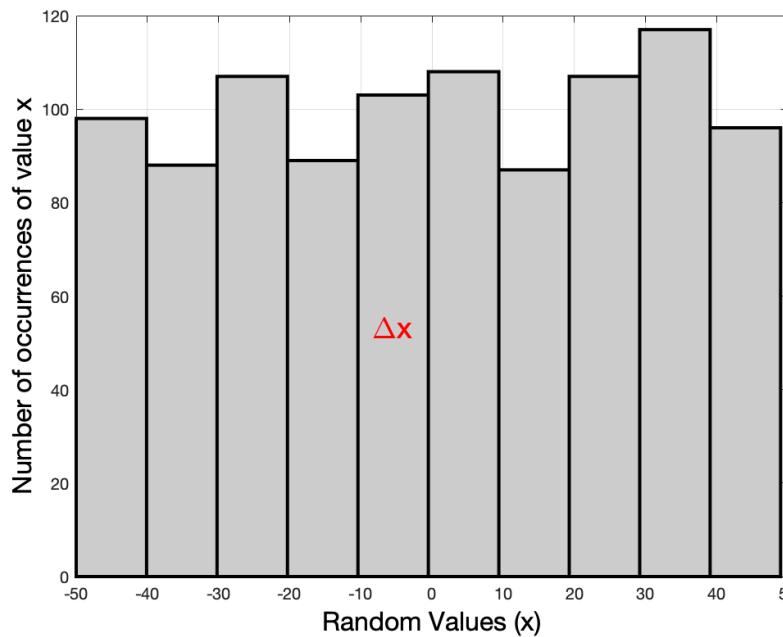
$$H(X) = \sum_{i=1}^m p(x_i) \log \frac{1}{p(x_i)}$$

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS:

Measuring non-Gaussianity with Entropy



What type of distribution would give greater average entropy?



But this is for discrete random variables (coin tosses)...



For continuous variables – Gaussian distribution yields maximum entropy...

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS: **Negative Entropy**



Negative Entropy or Negentropy

For continuous random variables...

A measure of entropy relative to the entropy of a Gaussian.

$$J(y) = H(y_G) - H(y)$$

Where $H(y_G)$ is the entropy of a gaussian and y_G and y have the same variance.

$J(y) = 0$ for Gaussian distribution

An approximation of negentropy used in the FastICA algorithm
(Hyvärinen, A. 1995a).

PROPERTIES OF SOURCE SIGNALS: Mutual Information



The mutual information, I , between two variables X and Y ($I(X, Y)$)...

The average reduction in uncertainty about the value of X provided by the value of Y, visa versa.

$$I(X, Y) = \underbrace{H(X) + H(Y)}_{\text{entropy}} - \underbrace{H(X, Y)}_{\text{joint entropy}}$$

Note: If X and Y are independent: $H(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y)$

→ Minimize $I(X, Y)$ to increase independence...

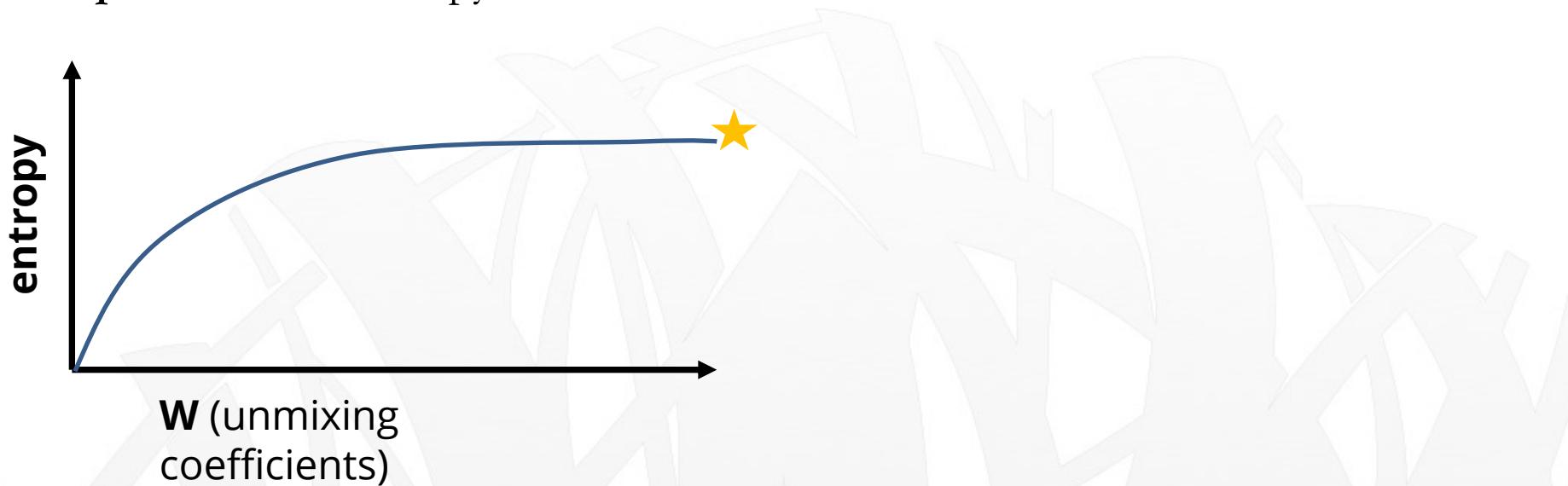
Minimization of mutual information used in algorithm (Bell & Sejnowski, 1995a, 1995b).

The Search for the Unmixing Matrix: Gradient Ascent



So...how do we find the optimal W that will maximise our measure of independence?

Example: maximise entropy ...

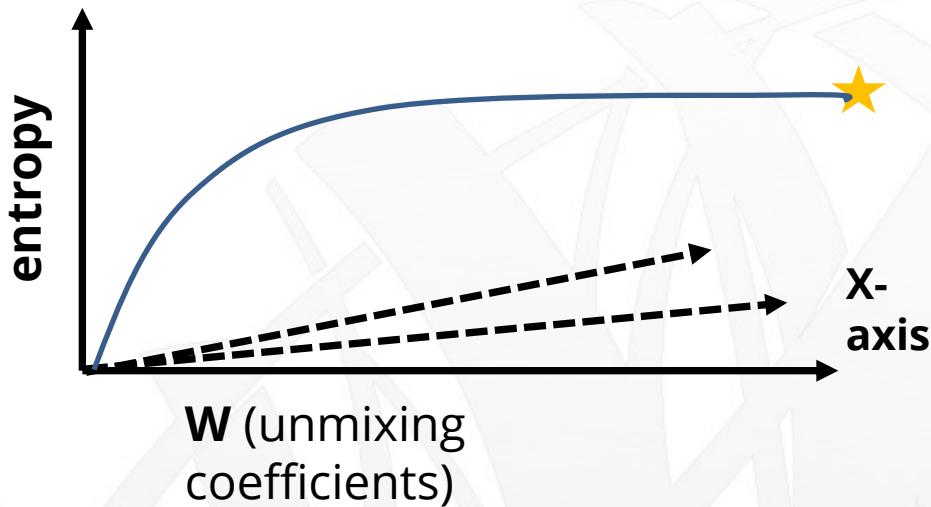


The Search for the Unmixing Matrix: Gradient Ascent



So...how do we find the optimal W that will maximise our measure of independence?

Example: maximise entropy ...



Change W in which direction to increase entropy???

Choose a direction with steepest slope

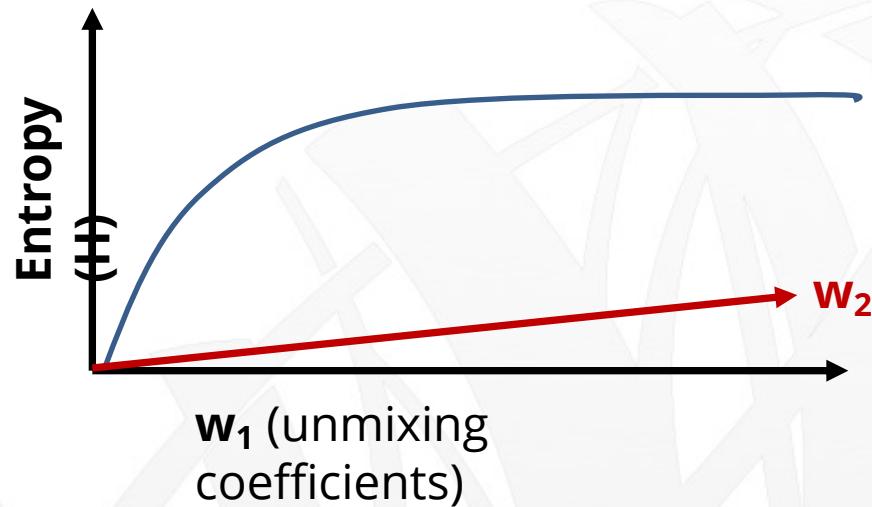
But, we need to find a way of estimating the direction with the steepest ascent...

The Search for the Unmixing Matrix: Gradient Ascent



So...how do we find the optimal W that will maximise our measure of independence?

Example: maximise entropy ...



Looking for the direction that will give the greatest increase in entropy...

$$\frac{dH}{dw_i} = p(y_i) \ln \frac{1}{p(y_i)}$$

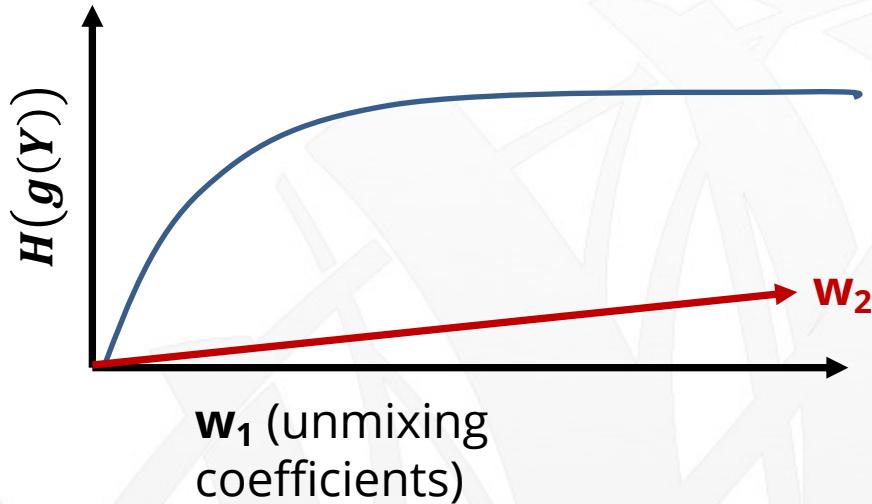
Where $y_i = w_i x_i$.

The Search for the Unmixing Matrix: Gradient Ascent



So...how do we find the optimal W that will maximise our measure of independence?

Example: maximise entropy ...



Looking for the direction that will give the greatest increase in entropy...

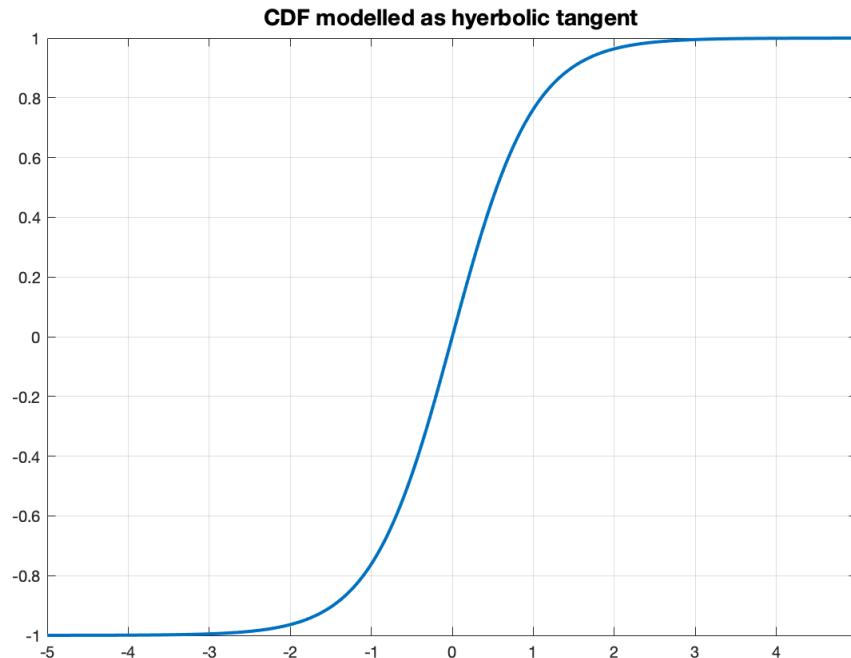
$$\frac{dH}{dw_i} = p(y_i) \ln \frac{1}{p(y_i)}$$

Where $y_i = w_i x_i$.

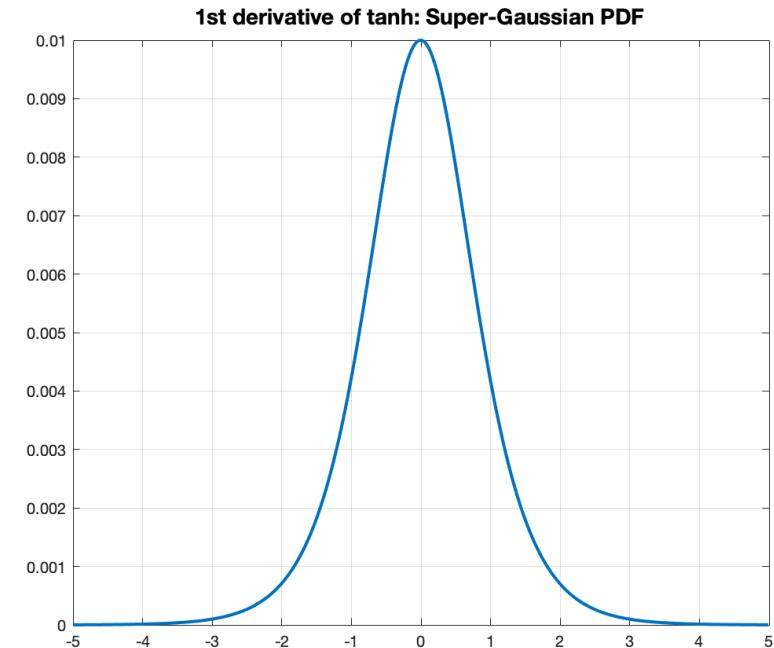
We can rename the y-axis: entropy as a function of the PDF of y_i or $H(p(Y))$

But, generally the **cumulative density function** (CDF) is used: CDF of y_i or $g(Y)$

The Search for the Unmixing Matrix



CDF used a model for super-Gaussian signals. (Infomax)



Corresponding model PDF with super-Gaussian distribution.

Assumption: An extracted signal, y_i , has maximum entropy if its cdf matches g .



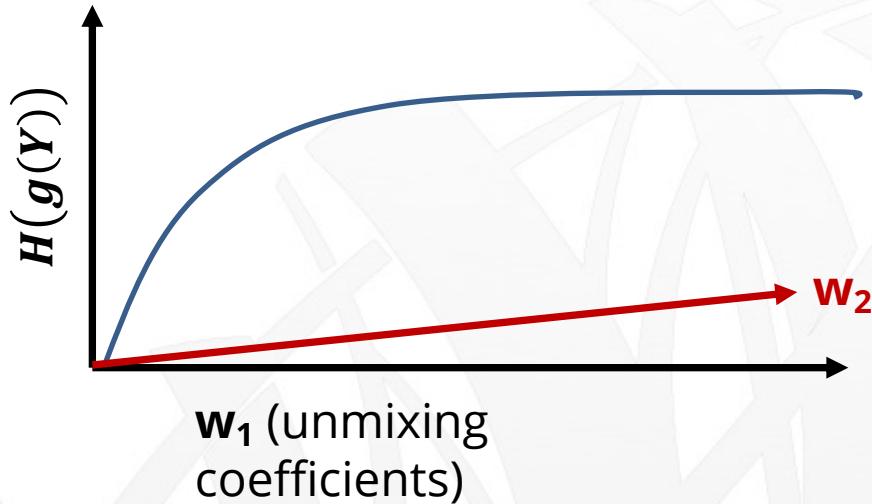
→ ICA as a method for extracting signals whose distributions match a specific PDF

The Search for the Unmixing Matrix: Gradient Ascent



So...how do we find the optimal W that will maximise our measure of independence?

Example: maximise entropy ...



Looking for the direction that will give the greatest increase in entropy...

$$\frac{dH(g(y_i))}{dw_i} = p(y_i) \ln \frac{1}{p(y_i)}$$

Where $y_i = w_i x_i$.

Update w_i in proportion to the gradient, $\frac{dH(g(y_i))}{dw_i}$.

→ Increment constant, η , needs to small (i.e. $1/1000$)

TO RECAP...

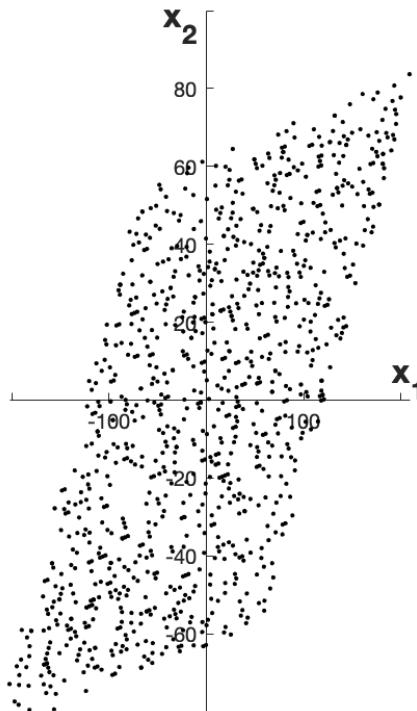


- The problem becomes one of searching for an unmixing matrix, \mathbf{W} , that optimizes a measure of independence:
 - **Kurtosis**
 - Maximization of entropy or **negentropy**
 - Minimisation of **mutual independence**.
- The measures are based on our assumption about the sources and their probability densities:
 - Independent
 - Non-Gaussian
- Different ICA algorithms use different approaches to this optimization:
 - Gradient ascent...

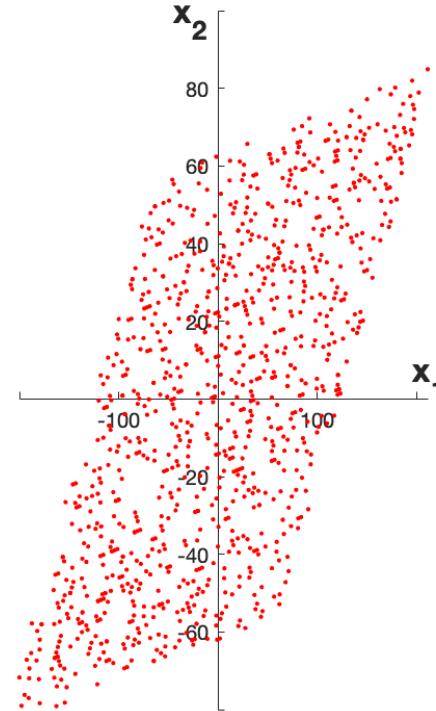
ICA : MAIN STEPS

PRE-PROCESSING STEP

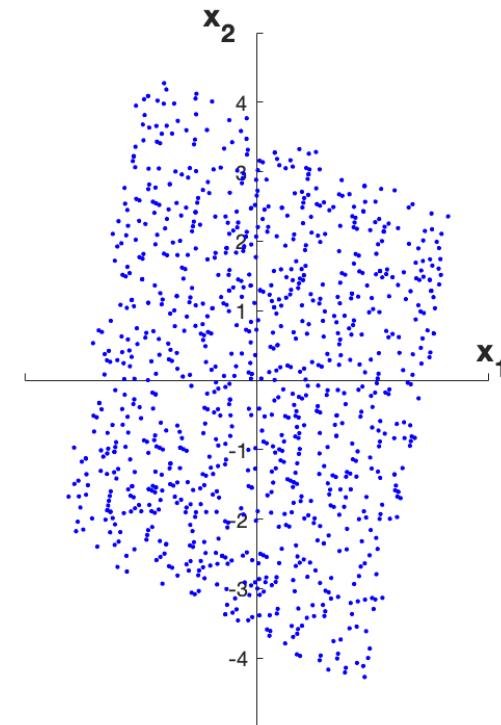
Mixture Signals



Step 1: Centering Data



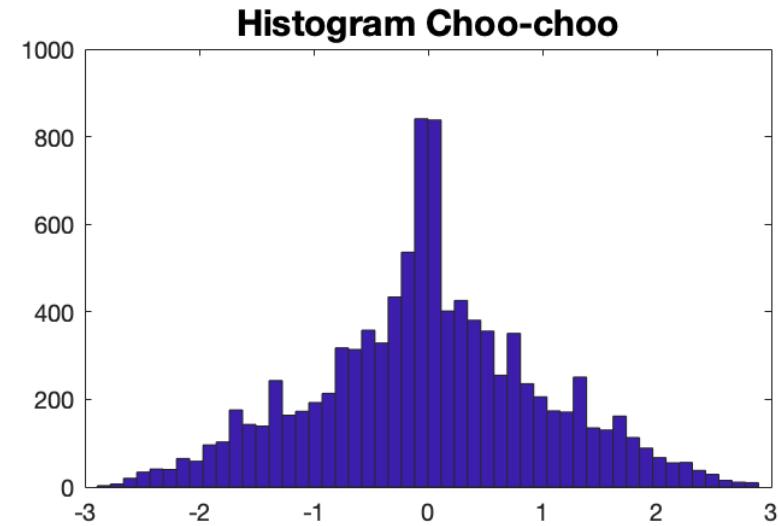
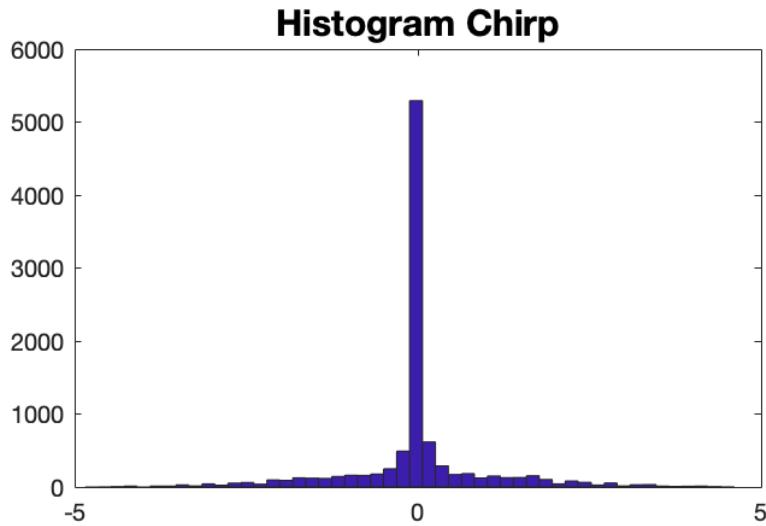
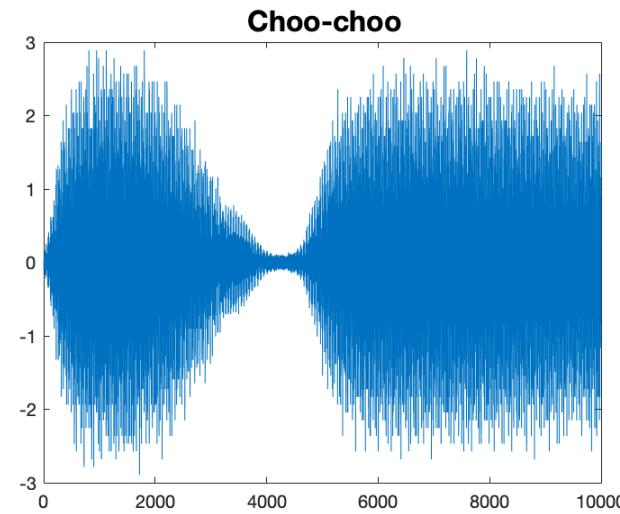
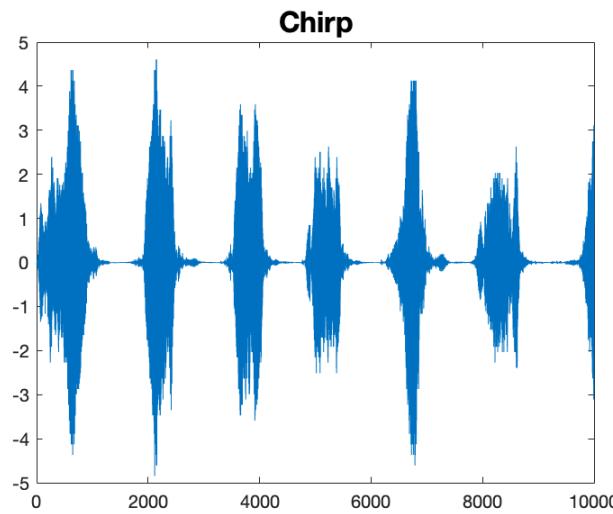
Step 2: Whiten Data



Subtract the mean

Decorrelate the signals
and scale to unit variance

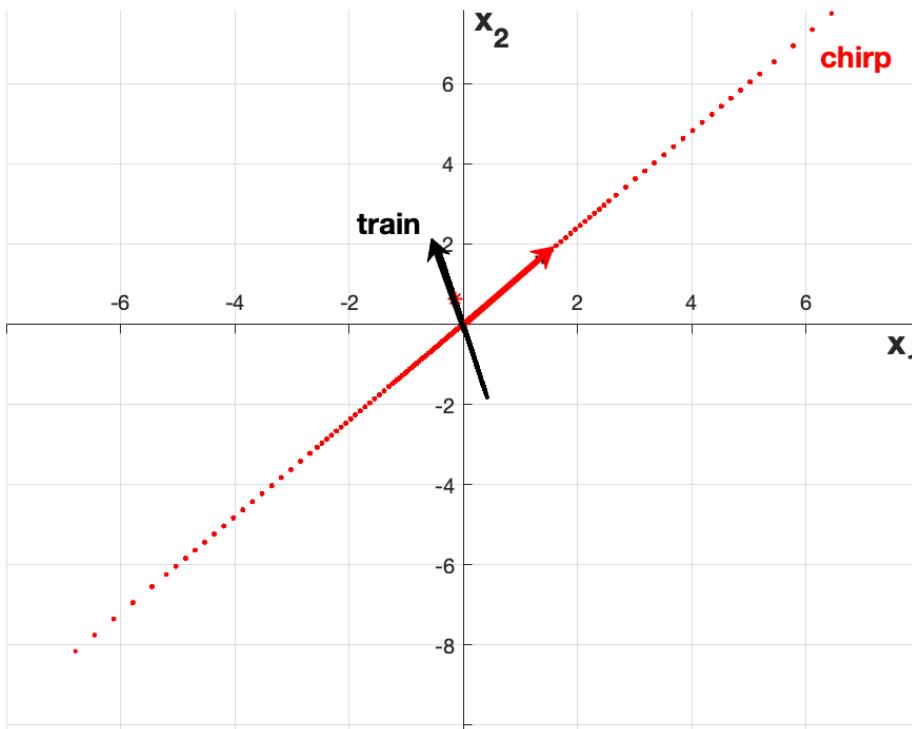
ICA EXAMPLE



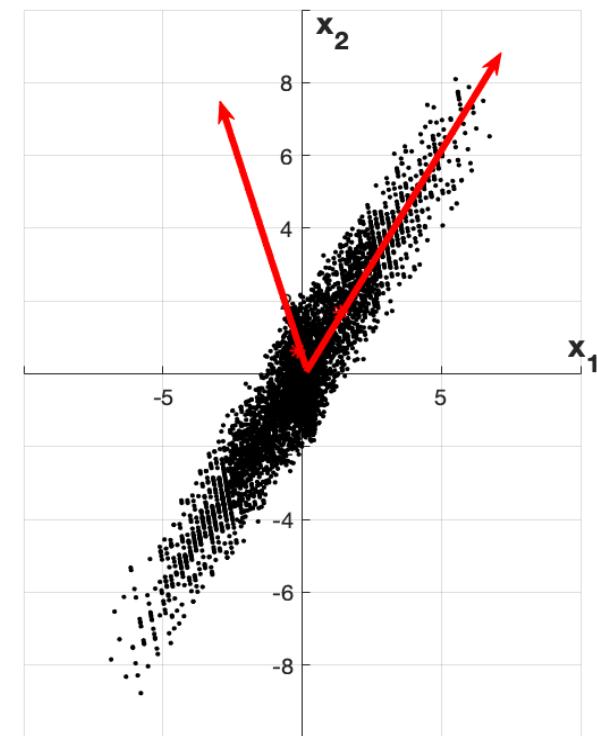
ICA EXAMPLE



$$S \rightarrow X: X = AS$$



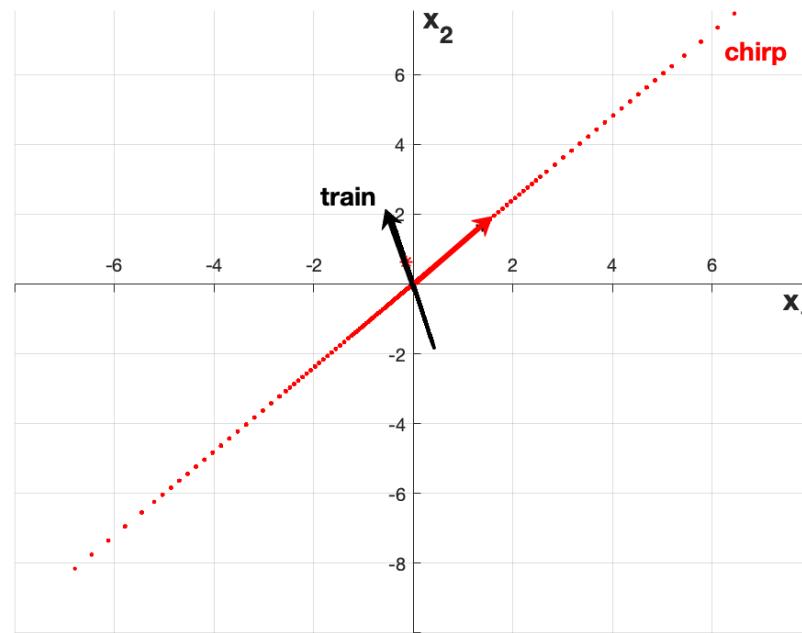
Mixture 1 + Mixture 2



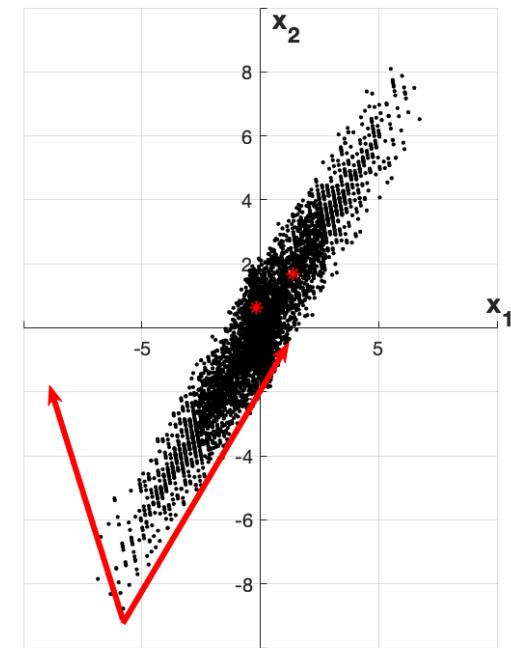


ICA EXAMPLE

$$S \rightarrow X: X = AS$$



Mixture 1 + Mixture 2



Mixture 1
(x_1)

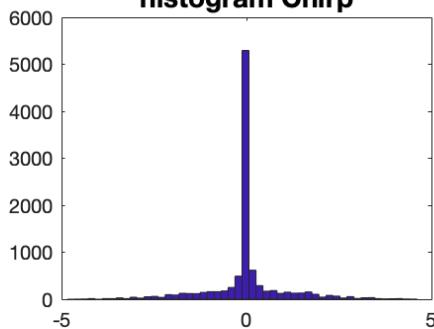
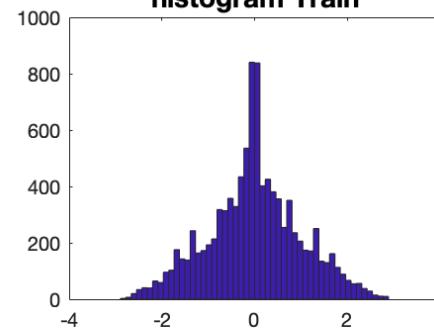
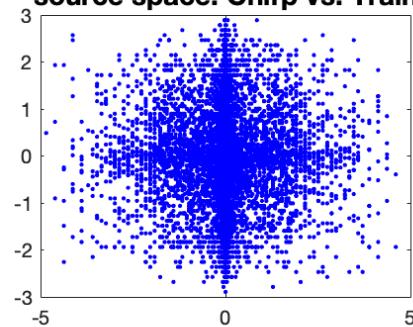
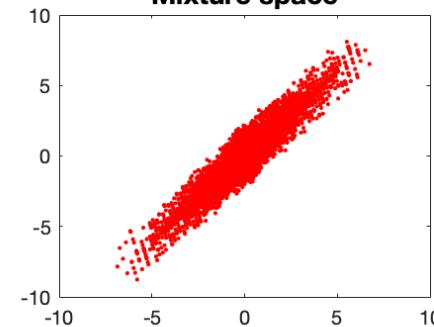
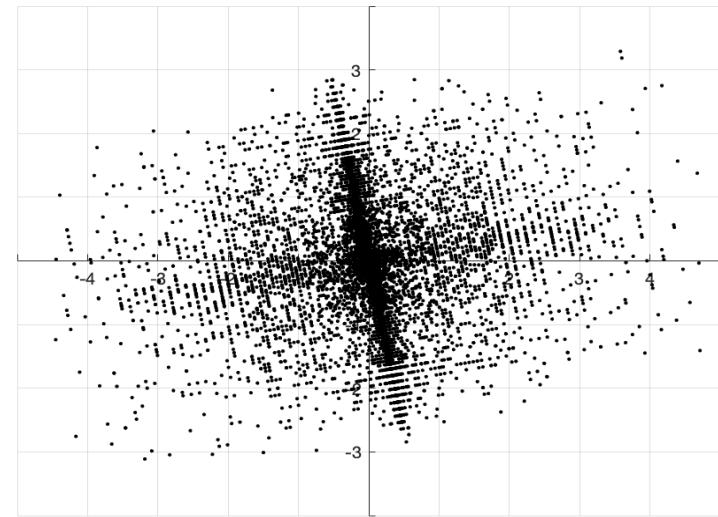
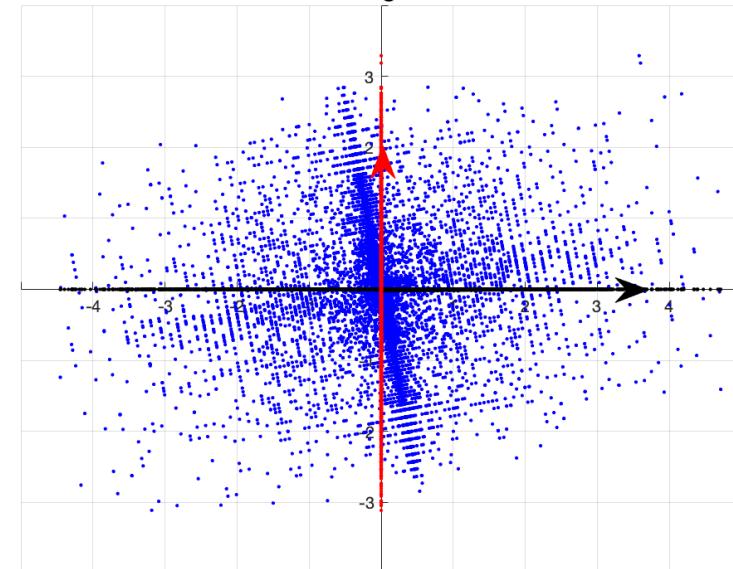


Mixture 2
(x_2)

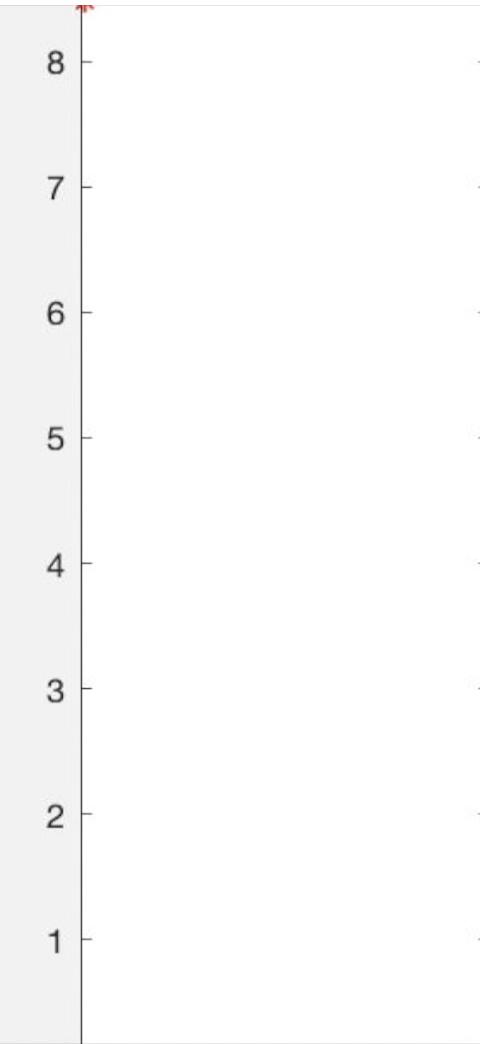
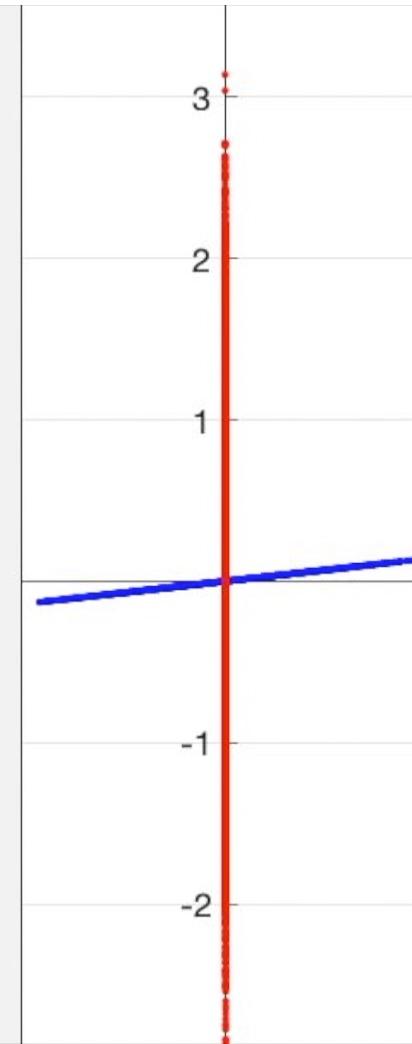
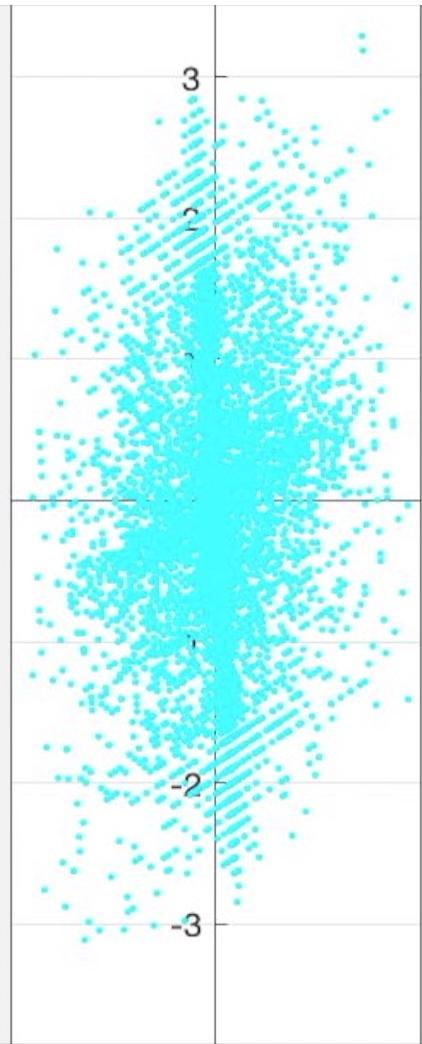
ICA: QUICK SUMMARY OF STEPS

- Subtract off the mean of the mixture data in each dimension.
- Whiten the data by calculating the eigenvectors of the covariance of the data .
- Identify final rotation matrix that optimizes statistical independence .

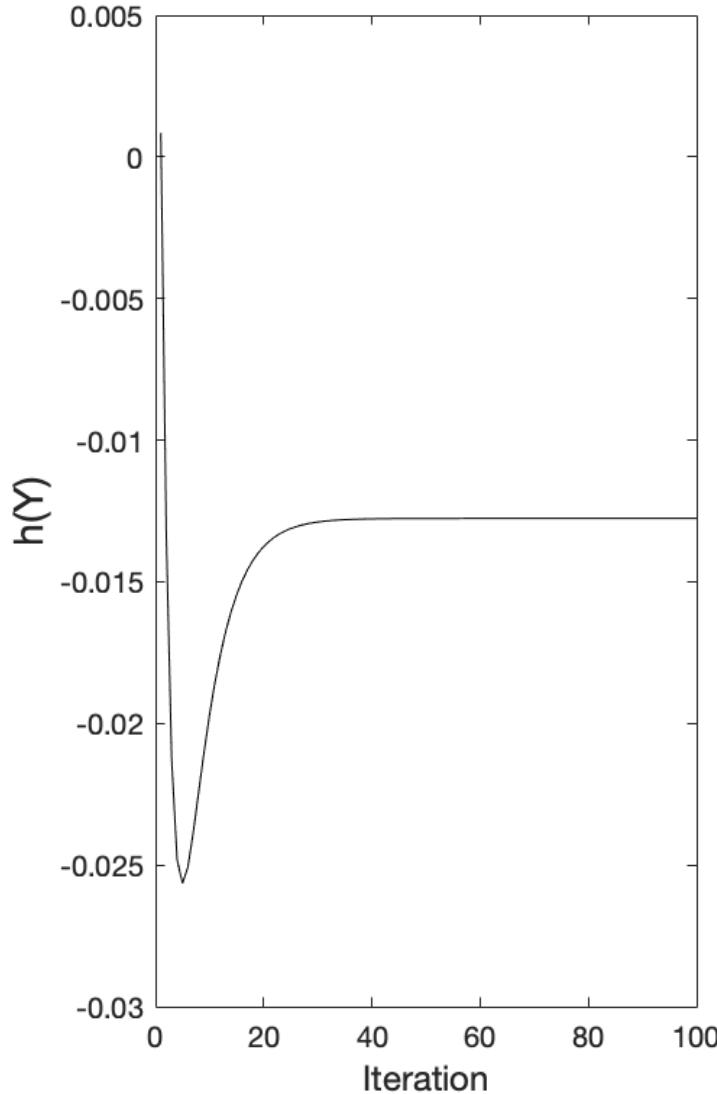
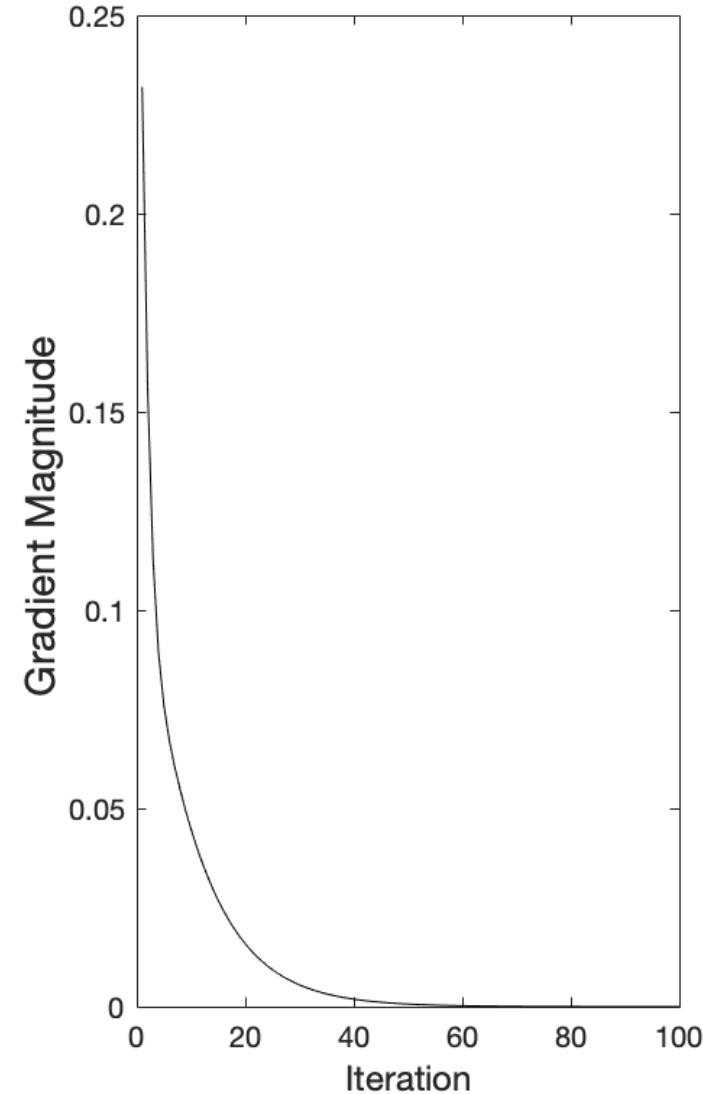
ICA : MAIN STEPS

**histogram Chirp****histogram Train****source space: Chirp vs. Train****Mixture space****Whitened Mixture Matrix****Initial Weight Matrix**

ICA : MAIN STEPS



ICA : MAIN STEPS

**Function values - Entropy****Magnitude of entropy gradient**

chirp



train

ICA: SOME AMBIGUITIES



- ICA extracts source signals but not in any specific order
- ICA extracts a scaled version of the source signals.
- The sign of the independence components is not important.

PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS ANALYSIS (PCA)



Another method for carrying out BSS.

It assumes that the observed data is a **linear** mixture of the underlying sources.

Can be used to separate a set of signal mixtures into a set of **uncorrelated** signals called principal components (PC).

The signals that it extracts have a **Gaussian or normal** distribution.

It extracts signals that are **orthogonal**.

The extracted signals are ordered as a function of their variances. The 1st PC has maximum variance.

PCA vs. ICA



Independence vs. Uncorrelated

Random variables X and Y are **uncorrelated** if: $\text{corr}(X, Y) = 0$

$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{cov}[X, Y]}{\sigma^X \sigma^Y}$, where $\text{cov}[X, Y]$ is covariance of X and Y, σ^X and σ^Y are standard deviation of X and Y, respectively.

Uncorrelated \Rightarrow covariance = 0

If X and Y are linearly independent \Rightarrow X and Y are uncorrelated.

But if X and Y are uncorrelated $\not\Rightarrow$ X and Y are independent ...

TO RECAP...



What assumptions does ICA make about the source signals?

Can PCA extract source signals ?

What information can the mixture signals give us about the mixing process?

Independent Components Analysis in EEG Processing and Analysis

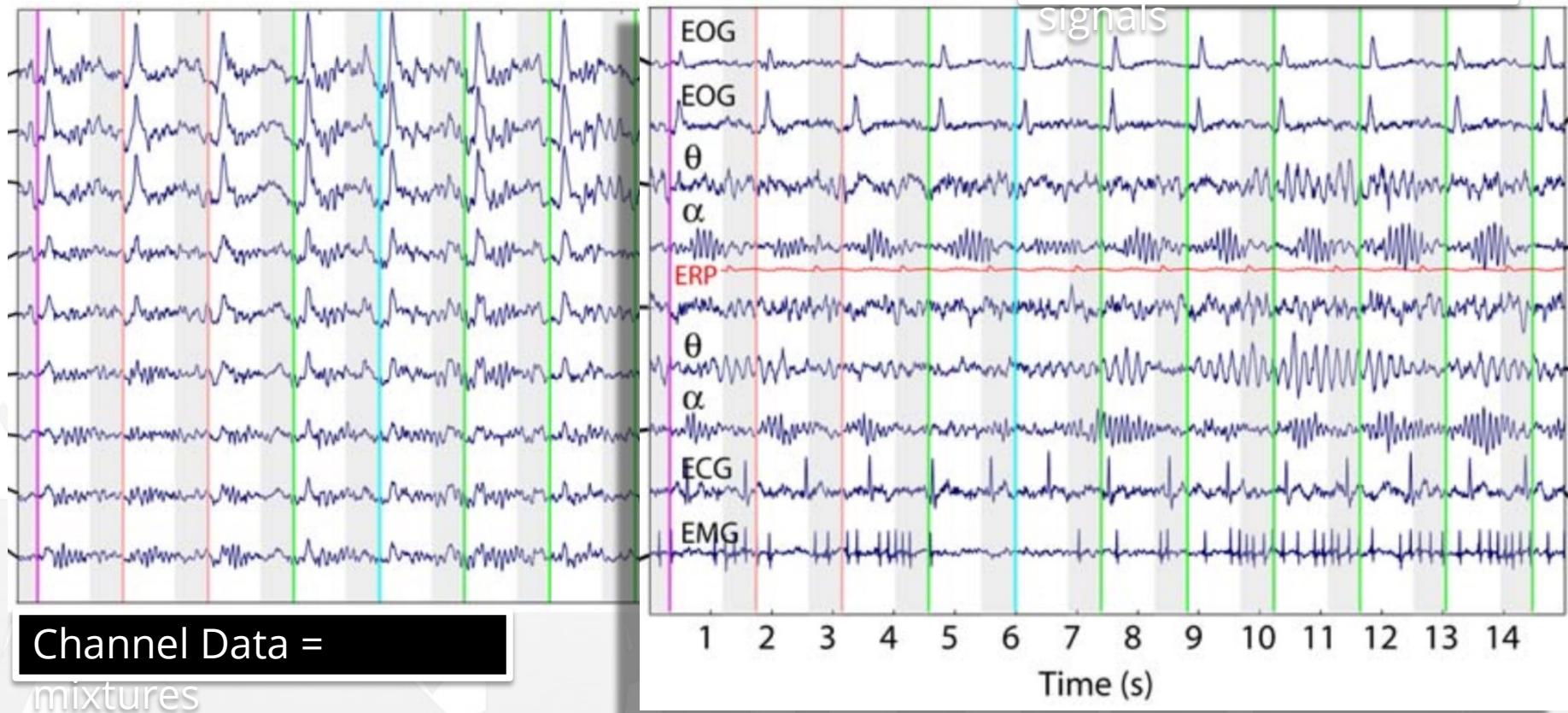
A thick, solid black arrow points horizontally from left to right across the center of the slide, positioned below the main title.

ICA in EEG Processing and Analysis

In EEG, what are our mixture signals?

In EEG, what are our source signals?

Sources: brain signals,
non-brain artifact



ICA in EEG Processing and Analysis

What assumptions does ICA make about the signals recorded at the scalp level?

That the signals are the linear mixtures of cortical and non-cortical artifact signals.

What assumptions does ICA make about the volume conduction?

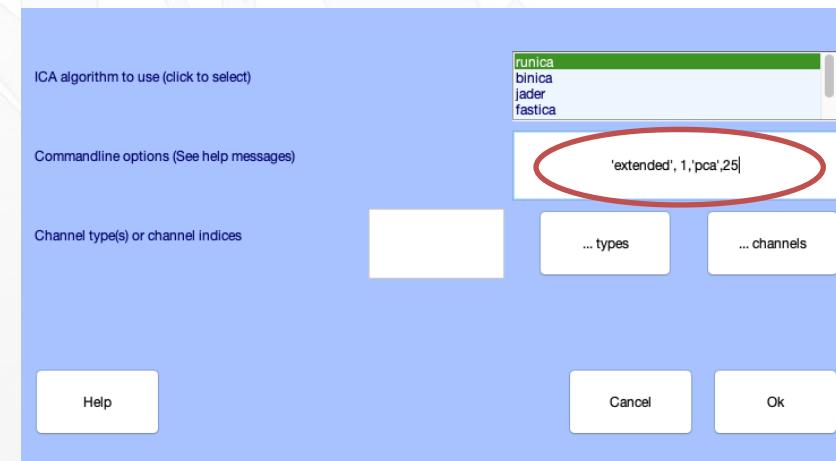
That the volume conduction is **instantaneous** and **linear**.

That the cortical and non-cortical EEG sources are **temporally distinct** and **temporally independent**.

Physiologically plausible?

ICA in EEGLAB: runica()

- Applies the infomax ICA (Bell & Sejnowski, 1995).
- The *runica()* function alone extracts super-Gaussian signals (signals with transient structure such as eye-blinks, cardiac...).
- Option of « extended » ICA to extract **sub-Gaussian** signals (continuous signals such as line noise, alpha...)
- Possibility to define the number of Independent components « *ncomps* » in code but not advisable – use « PCA » instead.

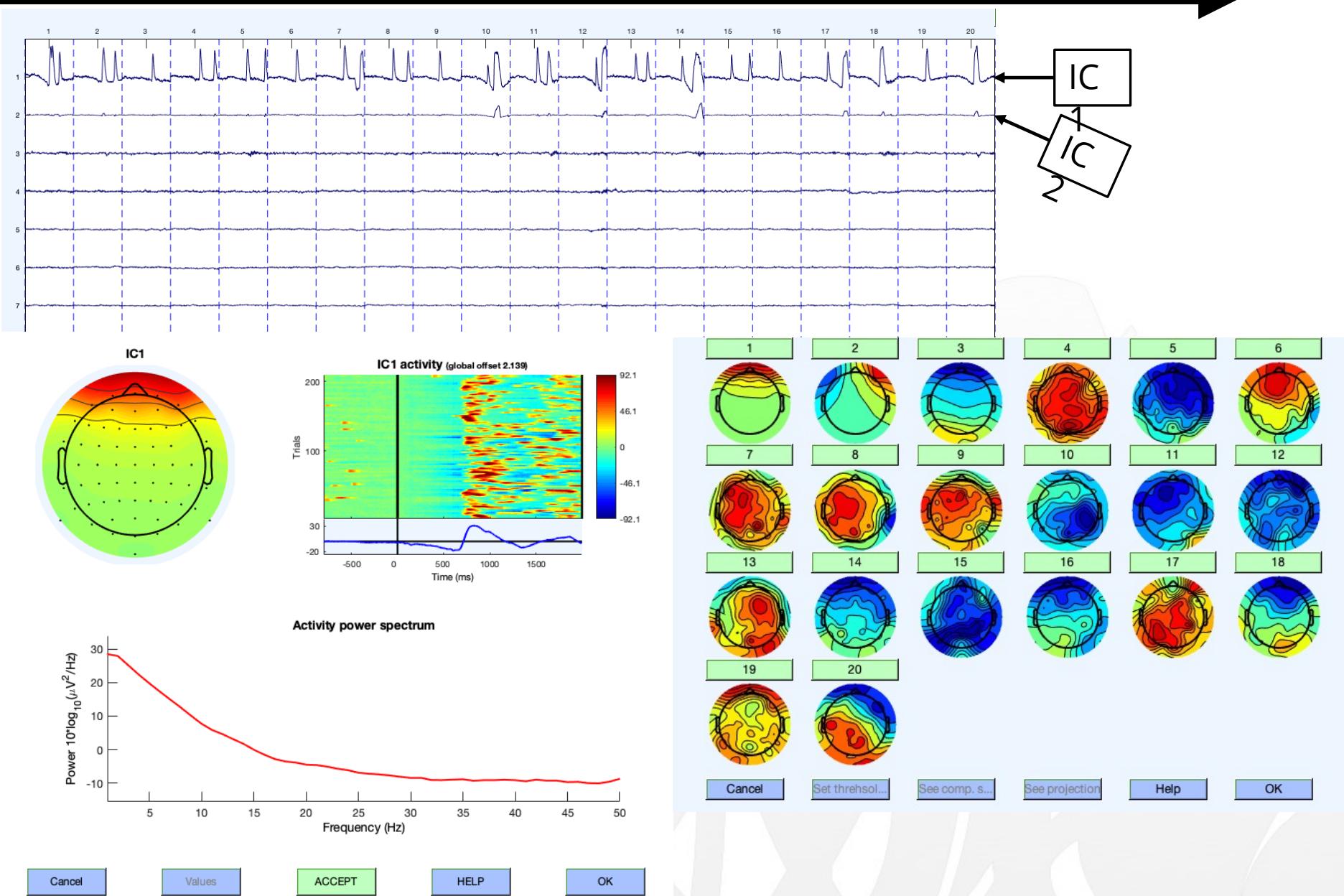


By default, *randomseed generator* is reset each time the function is run → results will vary at each execution.

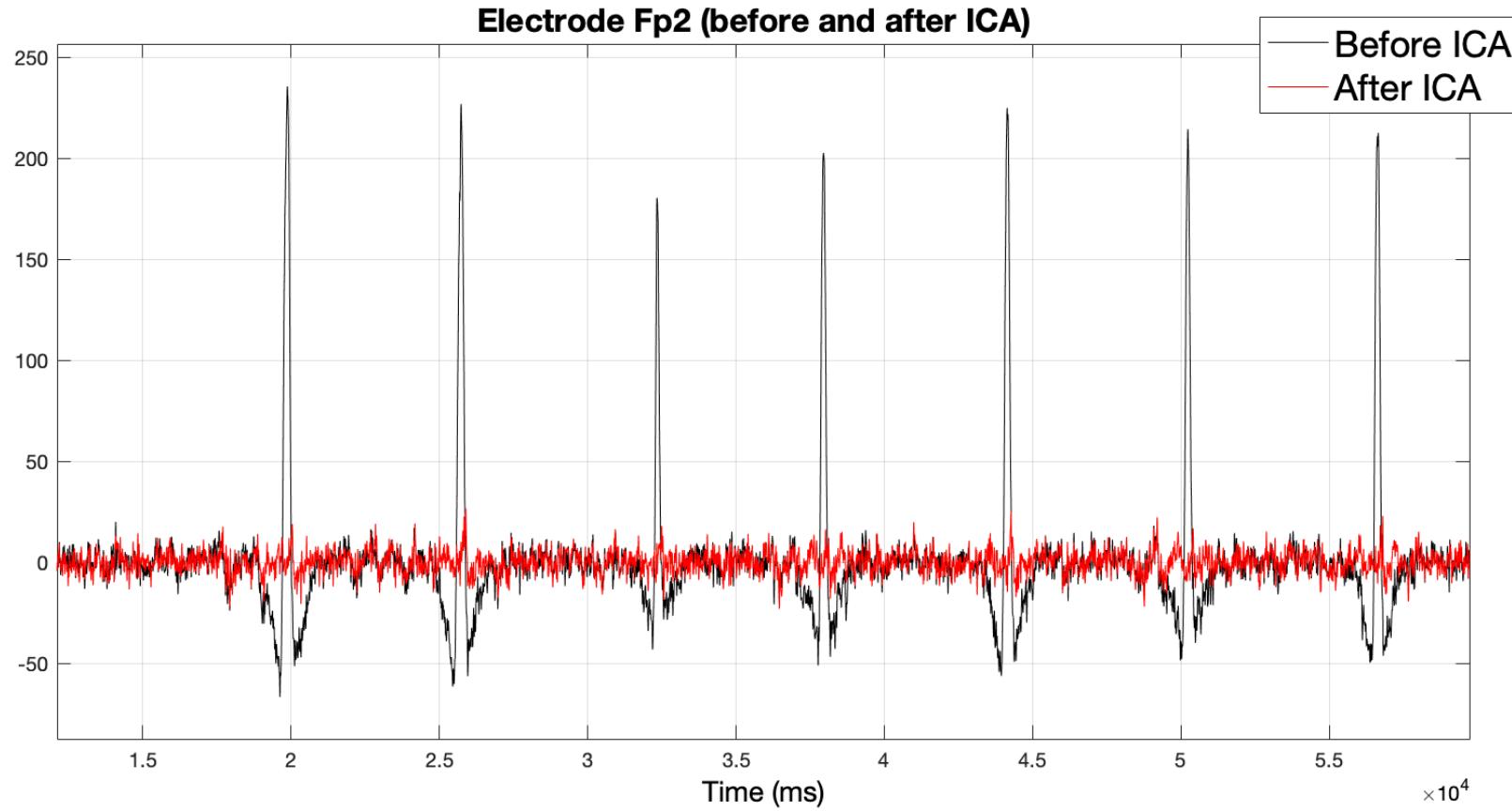
Possibility to change this using
`rand('seed',value)`

```
832 - if reset_randomseed
833 - rand('state',sum(100*clock)); % set the random number generator state to
834 - end % a position dependent on the system clock
```

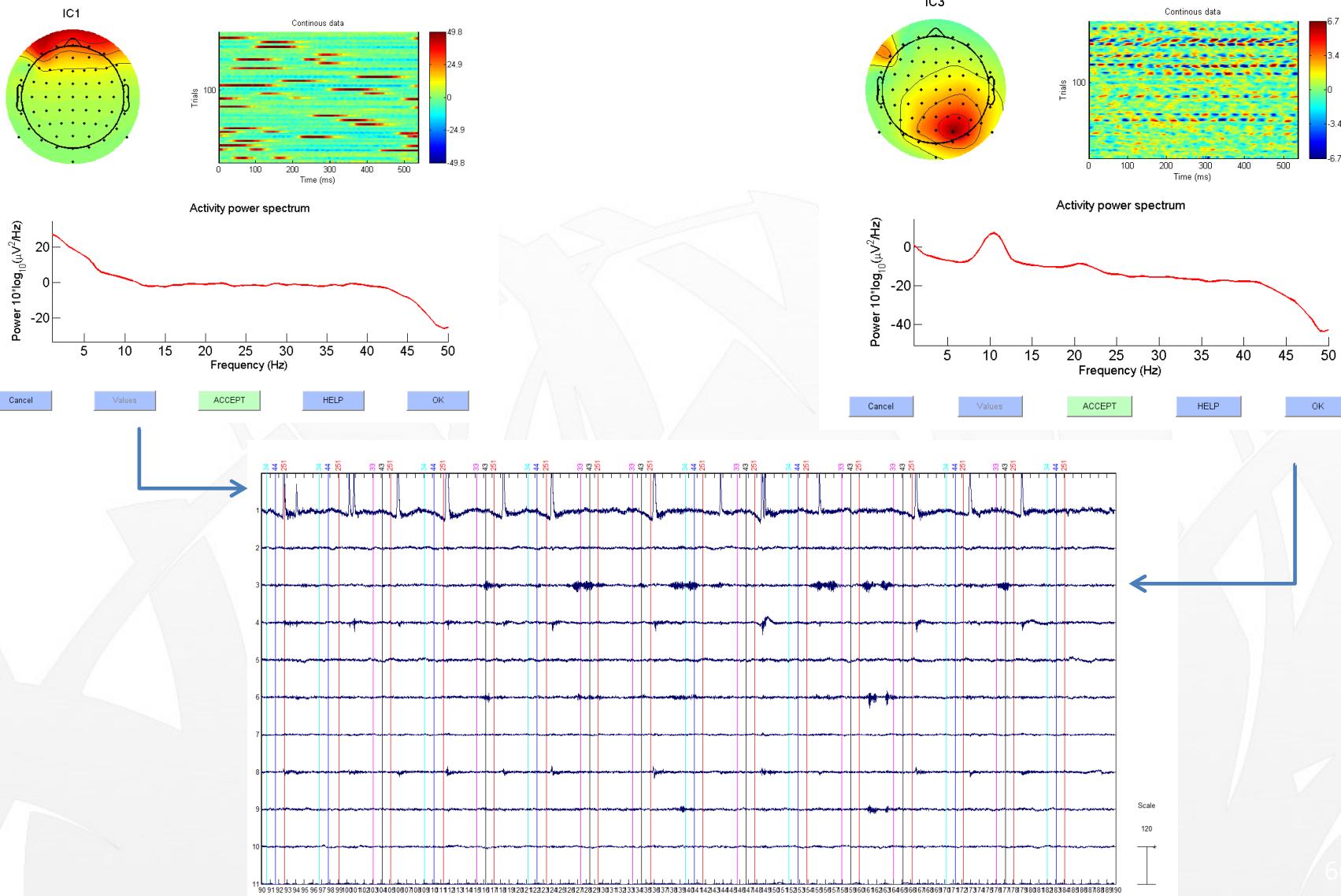
ICA in EEGLAB: So does it work??



ICA in EEGLAB: So does it work??



ICA in EEGLAB: So does it work??



ICA in EEGLAB: Conditions



- Sufficient data...
- Do not perform on channels
 - that have been interpolated
 - corresponding to the reference channel
- ~~No bridges formed between electrodes during EEG acquisition.~~



Reduces the **Rank** of the **data**

If in doubt... verify the rank using: `rank(EEG.data(channels,:))`

If carrying out on epoched data, data should be baseline normalised...

Is ICA the only way...



For the EEG and MEG other possible approaches:

Spatial Filtering methods such as

- **Signal Space Projection (SSP)**
- Signal Space Separation (SSS)
- Temporal Signal Space Separation (tSSS)

Signal Space Projection (SSP) also decomposes the signals into components.

But components do not need to statistically independent.



A black and white cartoon illustration of a group of people running in a race. In the foreground, a man with a determined expression wears a grey t-shirt with the number 532. Behind him, another runner wears a shirt with the number 875. To the right, a runner wears a shirt with the number 405. A small dog is running alongside them. In the background, a large banner hangs between two poles, reading "FINISH FUN RUN". A speech bubble on the right side contains the text "Thank you for your attention!".

FINISH
FUN RUN

Thank you for
your
attention!

Can be used to separate a set of signal mixtures into a set of source signals called **independent components**.

It assumes that the source signals extracted are **statistically independent**.

It assumes that the observed data is a **linear** mixture of the underlying sources.

It assumes that the source signals have a **non-normal** or **non-Gaussian distribution**.

The unmixing matrix must be square and **full rank**...