Brain and Cognitive Engineering: New Challenges in Multidisciplinary Research



Department of Brain and Cognitive Engineering, Korea University

Seong-Whan Lee

April 27, 2012

History of Department of BCE

•	Dec. 2008	Final approved for World Class University (WCU) project
•	Jan. 2009	Three foreign scholars joined (H. Bülthoff, A. Jain, S. Jackson)
•	Apr. 2009	Approved to launch WCU Dept. of BCE
•	May 2009	Accepted new students for Fall semester, 2009
•	Aug. 2009	Two foreign scholars joined (C. Koch, S. Edelman)
•	Sep. 2009	Three new faculty members joined (SH. Kim, SP. Kim, JH. Lee)
•	Sep. 2009	Begin WCU Dept. of BCE program at KU graduate school
•	Sep. 2009	Researches and lectures by foreign scholars in 1st year of WCU program
•	Dec. 2009	Accepted new students for Spring semester, 2010
•	Mar. 2010	Two new faculty members joined (JH. Kwag, C. Wallraven)
•	Jun. 2010	Accepted new students for Fall semester, 2010
•	Sep. 2010	Researches and lectures by foreign scholars in 2nd year of WCU program
•	Dec. 2010	Accepted new students for Spring semester, 2011
•	Mar. 2011	Two new faculty members joined (JS. Park, JH. Han)
٠	Sep. 2011	Researches and lectures by foreign scholars in 3rd year of WCU program
٠	Sep. 2011	Two new foreign scholars joined (A. Yuille, D. Kersten)
٠	Dec. 2011	Accepted new students for Fall semester, 2011
•	Mar. 2012	One new foreign scholar joined (KR. Müller)
•	Mar. 2012	Two new faculty members joined (DJ. Kim, BK. Min)

Dept. of Brain and Cognitive Engineering

- Established: September 1, 2009
 - Supported by World Class University (WCU) Project funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Korea
- Major fields of study

Integrated Master	Cognitive Brain Science	
and Ph.D. /	Brain-Computer Interface	
Ph.D.	Brain Imaging Engineering	

- Faculties
 - 18 faculty members

(cross-disciplinary: Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Cognitive Science, Neuroscience, Biology)



Vision



International Scholars

Heinrich H. Bülthoff







Anil K. Jain University Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University Biometrics, Pattern Recognition and Image Processing



Daniel Kersten Professor, University of Minnesota Visual Perception, Biology



Alan L. Yuille Professor, UCLA Neural Modeling, Mathematical Models of Cognition, Computational Vision



Klaus-Robert Müller

Professor, Berlin Institute of Technology Brain-Computer Interface, Machine Learning, Neuroscience







Other Faculty Members



Hae-Chang Rim Natural Language Processing, Information Search, Artificial Intelligence



Chang-Hun Kim Virtual Reality, **Computer Graphics**



Seong-Whan Lee Pattern Recognition, Brain-Computer Interface

Ji-Chae Jeong

fNIRS, fOCT.





Sang-Hee Kim Functional Neurochemical Imaging,

Mechanism of Cognition and Emotional Disturbance



Sung-Phil Kim Brain-Computer Interface, Statistical Learning

Jong-Hwan Lee Brain Signal Processing, Real-Time fMRI, Machine Learning





Jee-Hyun Kwaq Neural Computation



Cognitive Systems





Dong-Joo Kim Mathematical Brain Modeling,



Functional Cerebral Monitoring



Multi-Disciplinary Research



What is Brain and Cognitive Engineering?

To understand the structure and key principles of high-order information processing by which brain works and to implement these in artificial systems that interact intelligently with the real world



Research Objectives



Research Contents





Expected Outcomes

Research Facilities (1/2)



 MAGNETOM Trio A Tim System 3 Tesla (Siemens, Ltd.)





SynAmps II 32 Channels (NeuroScan, Inc.)
 g.USBamp 16 Channels (g.Tec, Inc.)

Research Facilities (2/2)







(3dMD, Inc.)

Magstim Rapid² (Transcranial Magnetic Stimulator) (The Magstim Co., Ltd.)





Fastrak 3D Tracker (Pohemus, Inc.)

HAPTIC Omega 3 (Force Dimension, Inc.)



nVisor MX120 (HMD) (NVIS, Inc.)

Brain Decoding

To interpret or understand behavioral response/stimulus/ psychological state by decoding the patterns of brain activities

Exogenous or endogenous stimuli are encoded and decoded in the brain



If we can decode the brain responses/activities, then we can read the mental states





Applications of Brain Decoding

- Brain-Computer Interface (BCI)
 - Translation of human intentions into a technical control signal without using activity of muscles or peripheral nerves
- Brain disease prediction and diagnosis
 - Extracting patterns of mental diseases
 - Alzheimer, schizophrenia, depression, etc.
- Predicting mental states
 - e.g.) Looking at a face or a building? Listening to Chinese or Korean sentences?
- Lie detection
 - Looking right into the brain to track a lie



Functional MRI (fMRI) (1)

MRI: single volumetric dataset to study brain structure



High resolution: 1mm³ voxels (one image) fMRI: volumetric time-series, e.g. acquire one volume every 2 sec for 5 min, to study brain function over time



Low resolution: ~3mm³ voxels (many images)





fMRI Experimental Setup



Electrical Signal Recording

Neurons

Individual nerve cells are connected to one another by dendrites and axons

Its activity is carried out by small electric signals that travels from neuron to neuron as fast as 250 mph Brain signals

Partially Invasive

ElectroCorticoGraphy (ECoG)

Placed directly on the exposed surface

Generated by differences in electric potential carried by ions on the membrane of each neuron

Invasive

Implanted directly into the brain



Used to treat acquired blindness · A single-array containing 68 electrodes · Implanted onto visual cortex · Succeeded in producing phosphenes the sensation of seeing light

Much

of the brain to record electrical activity from the cerebral cortex



ElectroEncephaloGraphy (EEG) From electrodes placed on the scalp



Little

Alexandrahous

time

NAMAAAA ms

Detailed information on the activity of single neurons

ElectroEncephaloGraphy (EEG) (1)



A=Ear lobe, C=central, T=temporal, P=parietal, F=frontal, Fp=frontal polar, O=occipital. (C) Location and nomenclature of the intermediate 10% electrodes, as standardized by the American Electroencephalographic Society. (Source: http://www.bem.fi/book/13/13.htm#03)

Ensures standardized reproducibility so that a subjects studies could be compared over time and subjects could be compared to each other

ElectroEncephaloGraphy (EEG) (2)

EEG is a multi-dimensional signal from multiple channels (high temporal resolution)



How to Decode Human Brain

Brain Decoding Approaches (1)

Machine learning techniques are now changing the way neuroimaging data are analyzed

- Address the problem of classifying the cognitive state of a subject based on the brain signal such as fMRI and EEG data
- Based on a training set, identify a distributed pattern of activation that discriminates two or more cognitive states and uses this pattern to make prediction for new data
- Mapping: brain signal \rightarrow cognitive state

Brain Decoding Approaches (2)



Source: J. Mourao-Miranda, IEEE-WBD, 2010

Why Machine Learning?

- Explore the multivariate nature of neuroimaging data
 - fMRI, EEG data are multivariate by nature
 - fMRI: each scan contains information about brain activity at thousands of measured locations (voxels)
 - EEG: each signal contains multiple electrodes (channels)
 - Most of the brain functions are distributed processes
 - involving a network of brain regions it seems advantageous to use the spatially distributed information contained in the data to give a better understanding of brain functions
- Can be used to make predictions for new examples
 - Enable clinical applications
 - Previously acquired data can be used to make a diagnosis or a prognosis for new subjects

Data Representations

- Feature selection
 - High-dimensional time series data
 - fMRI: 15,000-20,000 voxels per image

fMRI volume



- Find a mathematical criteria to separate the data into <u>meaningful</u> components
 - Sparse coding representations or dimensionality reduction
 - Noise reduction, visualization, interpretability (component analysis), etc
 - Principal component analysis (PCA), Independent component analysis (ICA), Locally Linear Embedding (LLE), clustering algorithms (e.g., K-means, spectral clustering, etc.)

Classifiers for Brain Decoding

- Regularization schemes
 - Typically small number of examples (trials) compared with features (voxels): highly possible to be overfitted
- Functional/Effective connectivity among brain areas
 - Functional: <u>statistical dependencies</u> between regional time series
 - Effective: <u>causal (directed) influences</u> between neurons or neuronal populations



Robot Arm Control with fMRI Analysis (1)



Robot Arm Control with fMRI Analysis (2)



Visual Image Reconstruction from Human Brain Activity (1)



Illustration of visual image reconstruction from human brain activity

Visual Image Reconstruction from Human Brain Activity (2)



Visual Image Reconstruction from Human Brain Activity (3)

Visual image reconstruction from a single-volume fMRI
 In this result, the hemodynamic response delay is not compensated



Time [2 s / image]

Movie Fiction: The Matrix

In the futuristic vision of the Wachowski brothers' movie trilogy "The Matrix," humans dive into a virtual world by connecting their brains directly to a computer...



Most movie viewers may consider direct interfaces with the nervous system as much of a fantasy as the movie's gravity-defying special effects. However, this very idea is very real.

Brain-Computer Interface with Machine Learning

The Matrix (1999)



Total Recall (1990)



Avatar (2010)



Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) (1)



Brown University, Nature, 2006

Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) (2)

Monkeys control a robot arm with thoughts A human controls a robot with thoughts

✓ By analyzing the monkey's brain signals ✓ To pluck and eat a marshmallow



University of Pittsburgh, Nature, 2008

- ✓ By analyzing the human's brain signals ✓ To move the red/green block to other place



University of Washington, 2006

Why BCI?

- Moving closer to making some science fiction into reality
 - The power of modern computers grows alongside our understanding of the human brain
- Manipulating computers or machinery with nothing more than a thought
 - For severely disabled people: The most important technological breakthrough



What is BCI?

Translation of human intentions into a technical control signal without using activity of muscles or peripheral nerves

Overview of an EEG-based BCI System



Signal Characteristic

Non-invasive EEG-based BCIs can be classified as "evoked" or "spontaneous"

Evoked BCI

- Also called Event-Related Potential
- Reflects the immediate automatic responses of the brain to some external stimuli
- Easy to pick up
- Only applicable to a limited range of tasks

Spontaneous BCI

- Based on the analysis of EEG phenomena associated with various aspects of brain function related mental tasks carried out by the subject at his/her own will
- Intentional mental activity

Event-Related Potentials (ERP)

- Event-Related Potential
 - Electrocortical potentials that can be measured in the EEG before, during, or after a sensory, motor, or psychological event
 - A fixed time delay to the external stimuli
 - Their amplitude is usually much smaller than the ongoing spontaneous EEG activity
 - Because ERPs are more localized in the corresponding cortical areas
 - Averaged ERP
 - Used for the detection of ERPs
 - Composed of a series of large, biphasic waves, lasting a total of five hundred to thousand milliseconds
- P300
- SSVEP (Steady-State Visually Evoked Potential)



Time(ms)



e.g.) P300 Speller

Source: Wolpaw, et al., 2002

100

- 6-by-6 matrix containing characters and symbols
- Flashing each row and column for 100 ms in random order
- Instructing participants to focus to only one of the 36 cell
- In one sequence of 12 flashed, the target will flash only twice
 A rare event compared to the 10 flashes



Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne(EPFL), Switzerland

SSVEP

Steady-State Visually Evoked Potential(SSVEP)

natural responses to visual stimulation at specific frequencies When the retina is excited by a visual stimulus ranging from 3.5 Hz to 75 Hz, the brain generates electrical activity at the same (or multiples of) frequency of the visual stimulus

• Each square in the upper panel flashes

· By spectral analysis of the EEG the regarded

square can be detected from the predefined-

at an individual frequency.

length windows.

EEG Controlled Game

Brain Puzzle Bobble

by Tsinghua BCI Group

嘲风 Triumph S08S05E

Tsinghua university BCI Group, 2008

Spontaneous BCI

- Spontaneous BCI
 - Based on the analysis of *EEG phenomena* associated with various aspects of *brain function related to mental tasks* carried out by the subject at his/her own will
- Two kinds of spontaneous or endogenous brain signals
 - SCP (Slow Cortical Potentials) temporal domain
 - Rhythmic activity frequency domain
 - μ (8~12Hz) and β (13~28Hz) rhythms
 - ERD (Event-Related Desynchronization)
 - ERS (Event-Related Synchronization)

P300

Rhythmic Activity (Motor Imagery)



Local variations of EEG rhythms, $\mu(8\sim12Hz)$ and $\beta(13\sim28Hz)$, in the frequency domain

The mental typewriter Hex-o-spell

Two-step procedure for letter selection

Right-hand movement - turning the arrow in clockwise
Right-foot movement - extending the arrow

Speed • Between 2.3 and 5 chars/min for one subject • Between 4.6 and 8.3 chars/min for the other subject



Source: K.-R. Muller and B. Blankertz, 2006

Introduction to Ongoing Researches in CVPR Lab.

Imagination of Body-Part Movement

Idle rhythms with no activity of physical or imagined limbs movement
 Large population of neurons in cortex are ring in rhythmical synchrony

- Event-Related (De)Synchronization (ERD/ERS)
 - Attenuation of the idle rhythms in μ (8-13Hz) and β (14-30Hz)
 - Enhancement of the rhythmic activity (viewed as rebound of ERD)
 - Predominantly contralateral to the moved limb



Modulation of sensorimotor rhythms in motion imagery [Blankertz et al., 2008]

1. Brain-Computer Interfaces

Background

- Spectral filtering
 - Advisable to reduce the frequency content of the EEG signal to some frequency band of interest
 - ERD/ERS-complex can be found predominantly in the μ and β-band
 - However, highly variable across subjects and across even trials for the same subject





EEG features in different frequency bands: (left) 5-30Hz, (right) 10-14Hz

- Spatial filtering
 - To find the signal that originates at a specific scalp location
 - Every EEG electrode measures a superposition of signals derived from various sources in the brain
 - To take a linear combination of signals recorded over EEG channels and extract only the component that we are interested in

Prevalent Steps in Motor Imagery Classification

Spectral filtering: $\mathbf{Z} = h \otimes \mathbf{X}$	(X: single trial EEGs, h: spectral filter)
Spatial filtering: $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{Z}$	(W: spatial filter)
Feature extraction: $\mathbf{F} = \log(\operatorname{var}(\mathbf{Y}))$	(F : feature vector)

- No general method that analytically finds the optimal frequency band
 - Either selected manually based on a visual inspection or unspecifically set to a broadband
- Spatial filter learning (Common Spatial Pattern: CSP [RMGP00]) on bandpass-filtered signals
 - Dependent on the operational frequency band

Learn spatio-spectral filters simultaneously in a unified framework

Bayesian Spatio-Spectral Filter Optimization

- Represent a frequency band as a random vector B
 - Statistical viewpoint: optimizing the spatio-spectral filter as probability density estimation function (pdf) and exploitation
- Estimate the unknown posterior $pdf p(\mathbf{B}|\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{\Omega})$
 - Indicates the relative probability of the single trial EEGs X being correctly classified into Ω by B-bandpass filtering along with the ensuing computational processes
 - No functional assumption about the density
- Learn the spatial filter **W** in each of the estimated optimal frequency band individually

Proposed Bayesian Framework

Discriminative feature extraction by means of the spatio-spectral filters optimization in a probabilistic Bayesian framework



A schematic diagram of the proposed method for class-discriminative feature extraction by means of spatio-spectral filter optimization in a probabilistic Bayesian framework

Experimental Results

- Publicly available datasets
 - Technische Universität Berlin Dataset
 - BCI Competition III Dataset-IVa, BCI Competition IV Dataset-IIa
- Competing state-of-the-art methods in the literature
 - CSP (Common Spatial Pattern) [RMGP00]
 - CSSP (Common Spatio-Spectral Pattern) [LBCM05]
 - FBCSP (Filter Bank CSP) [ACZG08]
 - OSSFN (Optimal Spatio-Spectral Filter Network) [ZCA+11]



Topography maps of the learned spatial filter for Technische Universität Berlin Dataset The proposed method has found spatial filters consistent with the neurophysiological knowledge The proposed method is statistically significant (>95.5% confidence level) compared to the state-of-the-art methods in the literature

2. Neuro-Driving

Emergency Situations in Driving



Unexpected pedestrian appearance



Statistics on the Traffic Accidents Caused by Human Factors

(단위:건,명,%)

~ 권	발생건수 사망자수		부상자				
인적요인		구성비		구성비	치사율		구성비
계	236,417	100.0	10,729	100.0	45	241,691	100.0
전방주시태만	160,784	68.0	8,011	74.7	5.0	162,800	67.4
환경요인에의한발견지연 ¹⁾	1,798	0.8	162	1.5	9.0	1,796	0.7
심리적요인에의한판단잘못 ²⁾	6,823	2.9	202	1.9	3.0	7,218	3.0
고의적운전행태 ³⁾	243	0.1	5	0.0	2,1	283	0.1
차량조작잘못	2,267	1.0	87	0.8	3.8	2,799	1.2
심신건강상태불량 ⁴⁾	7,985	3.4	581	5.4	73	9,175	3.8
기타,불명	56,517	23.9	1,681	15.7	3.0	57,620	23.8

[Source: Tranic Accident Analysis Systems (TAAS), 2011]

Driver's psychological abnormal condition (drowsiness, overwork, etc.) and freezing behavior is classified as main factors to traffic accidents

Freezing behavior: a phenomenon of not making any reaction to a sudden stimulus (or activation of a dangerous situation) because of the confusedness or fearfulness

Brain Signal Analysis based Response vs. Behavioral Response



Based on the neurophysiological study, the physiological response-based braking is faster than the normal behavior response-based one (3.66m in 100km/h)

Research Outline



Automatic emergency situation perception based on brain activity analysis

Research Contents

Development of a smart driving assistant technique that can perceive driver's intention and detect an emergency situation based on spontaneous and evoked brain signals, respectively

> Emergency situation perception with brain signal analysis

- Construction of Spontaneous/evoked brain signal database with 30 subjects
- Human intention recognition rate for the vehicle driving control : more than 90%
- Accident avoid rate based on emergency situation recognition: more than 90%

Spontaneous/evoked brain signals

· Control commands: turn-left, turn-right, stop, start

- Control commands, unment, unment, unment, sub, sait
 Emergency, situations: unexpected obstacle/pedestrian appearance, sudden braking of leading vehicle
 Intention recognition rate (%) = 100×(# of correctly recognized intentions/btal # of intentions)
 Accident avoidance rate (%) = 100×(# of correctly detected emergency situations/stotal # of emergence situations)

Testbed construction of driving environment with Unity 3D

- Construction of a brain signals database and of a testbed with Unity 3D Experimental paradigm design for
- spontaneous/evoked brain signal detectio



- detection during driving Development of a spectrum-based brain signal analysis algorithm with for perceiving abnormal states
- Physical/psychological correlation analysis based on a temporal-spatial spectral feature man





Development of a probabilistic

framework for spontaneous/evoked

brain signals analysis

Development of a hierarchical

Bavesian network reflecting the

Driving Simulation Environment with Unity 3D



An Example of the Neuro-Driving Prototype



3. EEG-based Person Authentication

fMRI Study on Visual Self-Representation

Self-face can be a representative stimulus for visual self-representation

• Right inferior frontal, precentral, supramarginal, and bilateral ventral occipito-temporal cortices are highly responsive to self-face images





Right inferior frontal gyrus

Self-specific activation as identified by self-friend [Sugiura et al., 2008] (S: him/herself, F: friend, C: (Control) unfamiliar, f: face, n: name)

It supports that blood-oxygen-level dependence (BOLD) responses are possible evidence of face-specific visual self representation

EEG Study on Visual Self-Representation





Event-related potentials for self, friend and stranger faces for the 3 fronto-central channels [Keyes et al., 2010]

EEG-based Person Authentication (1/2)

- A novel stimulus representation paradigm for EEG-based person authentication using self- and non-self-face images as stimuli
 - A clear evidence of generating a unique subject-specific brain-wave pattern from studies in psychology and neurophysiology [Uddin et al., 2005, Keyes et al., 2010]
 - Robust paradigm in terms of the universality, distinctiveness, permanence, collectability and uniqueness

image

 It is believed that the brain signal evoked by the face-specific self representation is greatly qualified as a biometric





screen

Random face

image



screen

image



Stimulus presentation

EEG-based Person Authentication (2/2)



Experimental Results

Experimental Results

- Self-collected dataset
 - 9 healthy subjects (27.3±1.9 years, males, right-handed)
 - 3dMD face system for face images acquisition
 - Neuroscan SynAmps2, BCI2000 for EEG recording (sampling rate: 250Hz)
 - 2 sessions conducted on different days (2 runs/session, 50 trials/run)



Performance of the proposed method

	Accuracy (%)	FAR (%)	FRR (%)
Subject 1	84.5	18.1	13.1
Subject 2	94.9	4.7	5.6
Subject 3	93.7	7.7	5.0
Subject 4	86.6	10.2	16.6
Subject 5	80.6	19.9	19.1
Subject 6	95.3	4.7	4.7
Mean	89.3	10.9	10.7

FAR: False Acceptance Rate FRR: False Rejection Rate

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