

3dDeconvolve

Advanced Regression Features
Et cetera

**Just in case you weren't
confused enough already**

Other Features - 2

<http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/pub/dist/doc/misc/Decon/DeconSummer2004.html>

<http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/pub/dist/doc/misc/Decon/DeconSpring2007.html>

- Equation solver: Program computes **condition number** for **X** matrix (measures of how sensitive regression results are to changes in **X**)
 - If the condition number is “bad” (too big), then the program will not actually proceed to compute the results
 - You can use the **-GOFORIT** option on the command line to force the program to run despite **X** matrix warnings
 - But you should strive to understand why you are getting these warnings!!
 - Other matrix checks:
 - Duplicate stimulus filenames, duplicate regression matrix columns, all zero matrix columns
- ★ Check the screen output for **WARNINGS** and **ERRORS** ★
- Such messages also saved into file **3dDeconvolve.err**

Other Features - 3

★ All-zero regressors *are* allowed (via `-allzero_OK` or `-GOFORIT`)

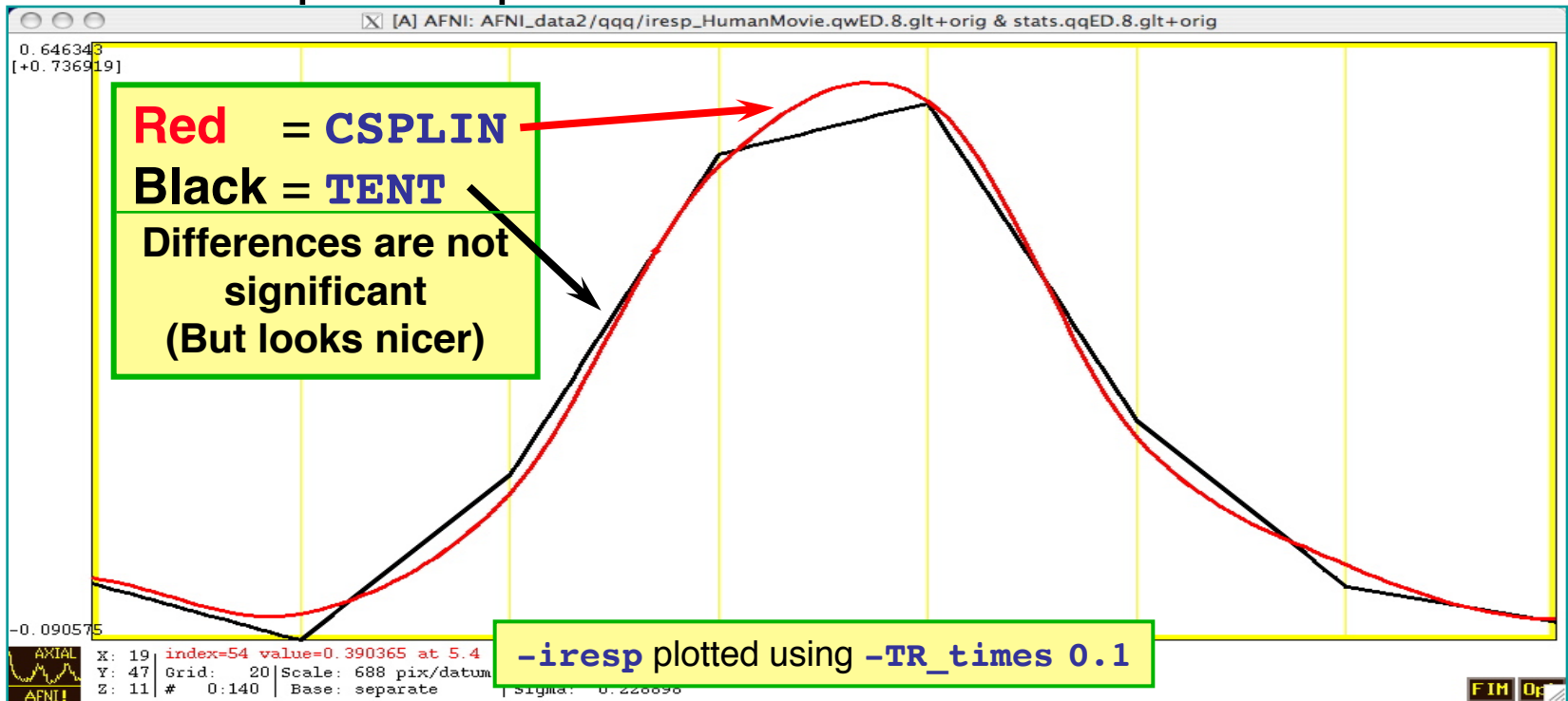
- Will get zero weight in the solution
- Example: task where subject makes a choice for each stimulus (e.g., male or female face?)
 - You want to analyze correct and incorrect trials as separate cases
 - What if some subject makes no mistakes? Hmm...
 - Can keep the all-zero regressor (e.g., all `-stim_times = *`)
 - Input files and output datasets for error-making and perfect-performing subjects will be organized the same way

-
- ~~3dDeconvolve_f~~ program can be used to compute linear regression results in single precision (7 decimal places) rather than double precision (16 places)
 - For better speed, but with lower numerical accuracy
 - Best to do at least one run **both** ways to check if results differ significantly (Equation solver *should* be safe, but ...)

Other Features - 5

★ **-stim_times** has other basis function options for HRF model besides **BLOCK** and **TENT**

- **CSPLIN** = cubic spline, instead of **TENT** = linear spline
 - Same parameters: (**start, stop, number of regressors**)
 - A “drop in” replacement for **TENT**



- **TENTzero** & **CSPLINzero** = force start & end of HRF = 0
- **MION** = model from Leite et al. (*NeuroImage* 2002)

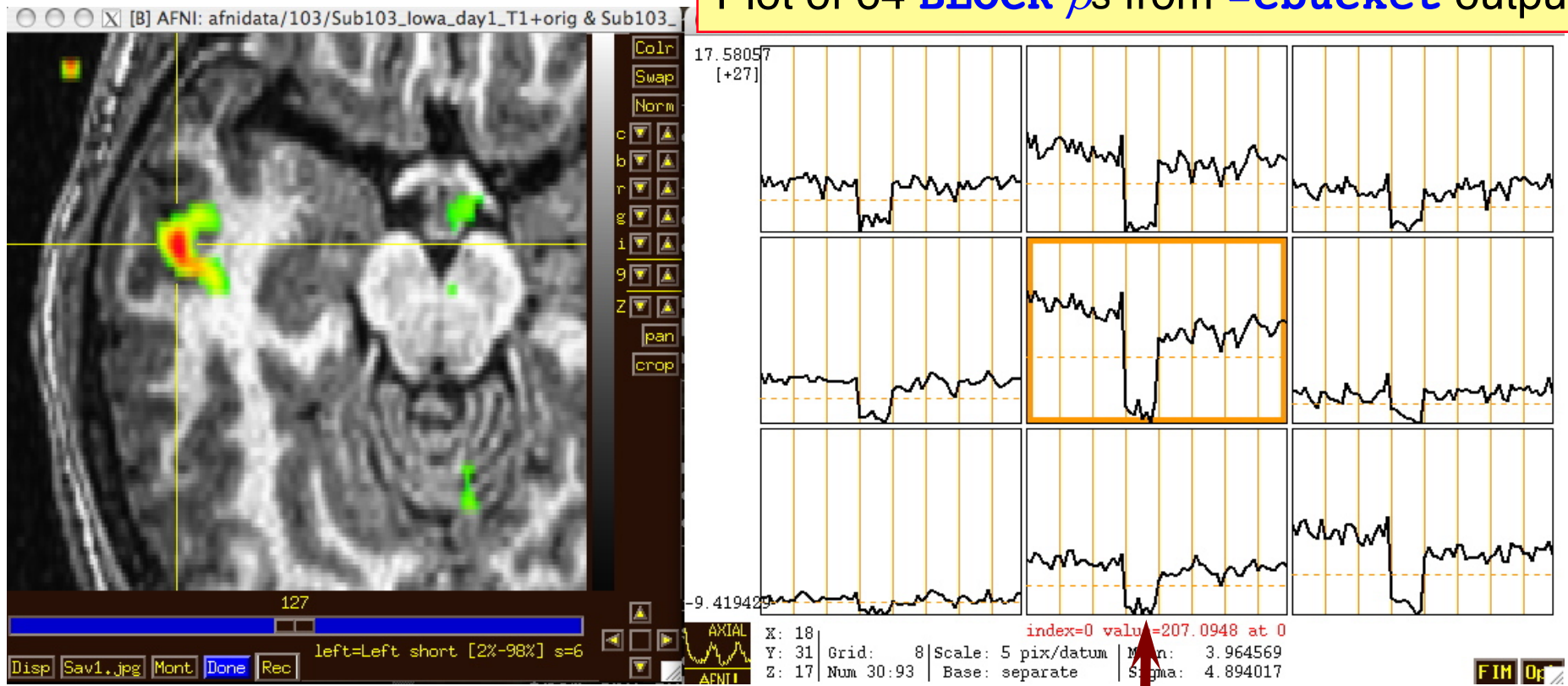
IM Regression - 1

- **IM** = Individual **M**odulation
 - Compute *separate* amplitude of response for each stimulus
 - Instead of computing average amplitude of responses to multiple stimuli in the same class
 - Response amplitudes (β_s) for each individual block/event will be highly noisy
 - Can't use individual activation map for much
 - Must pool the computed β_s in some further statistical analysis (*t*-test via **3dttest**? inter-voxel correlations in the β_s ? Correlate β_s with something else?)
 - Usage: **-stim_times_IM k tname model**
 - Like **-stim_times**, but creates a separate regression matrix column for each time given

IM Regression - 2

- First application of IM was checking some data we received from another institution
- Experiment: 64 blocks of sensorimotor task (8 runs each with 8 blocks)

Plot of 64 **BLOCK** β s from **-cbucket** output



N.B.: sign reversal in run #4 = stimulus timing error!

AM Regression - 1

- **AM** = **A**mplitude **M**odulated (or **M**odulation)
 - Have some extra data measured about each response to a stimulus, and *maybe* the BOLD response amplitude is modulated by this
 - Reaction time; Galvanic skin response; Pain level perception; Emotional valence (happy or sad or angry face?)
- Want to see if some brain activations vary proportionally to this **ABI** (**A**uxiliary **B**ehaviorial **I**nformation)

- Discrete levels (2 or maybe 3) of ABI:
 - Separate the stimuli into sub-classes that are determined by the ABI (“on” and “off”, maybe?)
 - Use a GLT to test if there is a difference between the fMRI responses in the sub-classes

```
3dDeconvolve ... \
  -stim_times 1 regressor_on.1D 'BLOCK(2,1)' -stim_label 1 'On' \
  -stim_times 2 regressor_off.1D 'BLOCK(2,1)' -stim_label 2 'Off' \
  -gltsym 'SYM: +On | +Off' -glt_label 1 'On+Off' \
  -gltsym 'SYM: +On -Off' -glt_label 2 'On-Off' ...
```

- “**On+Off**” tests for any activation in *either* the “on” or “off” conditions
- “**On-Off**” tests for differences in activation *between* “on” and “off” conditions
- Can use **3dcalc** to threshold on *both* statistics at once to find a **conjunction**

AM Regression - 2

- Continuous (or several finely graded) ABI levels
 - Want to find active voxels whose activation level also depends on ABI
 - **3dDeconvolve** is a *linear* program, so must make the assumption that the change in fMRI signal as ABI changes is *linearly proportional* to the changes in the ABI values
- Need to make 2 separate regressors
 - One to find the mean fMRI response (the usual `-stim_times` analysis)
 - One to find the variations in the fMRI response as the ABI data varies
- The second regressor is $r_{AM2}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^K h(t - \tau_k) \cdot (a_k - \bar{a})$
 - Where a_k = value of k^{th} ABI value, and \bar{a} is the average ABI value
 - N.B.: If UNIX environment variable **AFNI_3Deconvolve_rawAM2** is set to **YES**, then mean of the a_k is not removed – for advanced users
- Response (β) for first regressor is standard activation map
- Statistics and β for second regressor make activation map of places whose BOLD response changes with changes in ABI
 - Using 2 regressors allows separation of voxels that are active but are *not* detectably modulated by the ABI from voxels that *are* ABI-sensitive

AM Regression - 3

- New feature of **3dDeconvolve**: `-stim_times_AM2`
- Use is very similar to standard `-stim_times`
 - `-stim_times_AM2 1 times_ABI.1D 'BLOCK(2,1)'`
 - The `times_ABI.1D` file has time entries that are “married” to ABI values:

10*5	23*4	27*2	39*5
17*2	32*5		
*			
16*2	24*3	37*5	41*4
 - Such files can be created from 2 standard ASCII .1D files using the new **1dMarry** program
 - The `-divorce` option can be used to split them up
- **3dDeconvolve** automatically creates the two regressors (unmodulated and amplitude modulated)
 - Use `-fout` option to get statistics for activation of pair of regressors (i.e., testing null hypothesis that *both* β weights are zero: that there is no ABI-independent *or* ABI-proportional signal change)
 - Use `-tout` option to test each β weight separately
 - Can **1dplot** X matrix columns to see each regressor

AM Regression - 4

- The **AM** feature is new-ish, and so needs more practical user experiences before it can be considered “standard practice”
 - In particular: don’t know how much data or how many events are needed to get good ABI-dependent statistics
- If you want, **-stim_times_AM1** is also available
 - It only builds the regressor proportional to ABI data directly, with no mean removed:

$$r_{AM1}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^K h(t - \tau_k) \cdot a_k$$
 - Can’t imagine what value this option has, but you never know ... (if you can think of a good use, let me know) ... We have one now [dmBLOCK]
- Future directions:
 - Allow more than one amplitude to be married to each stimulus time (insert obligatory polygamy/polyandry joke here) – **this is done now**
 - How many ABI types at once is too many? I don’t know.
 - How to deal with unknown nonlinearities in the BOLD response to ABI values? I don’t know. (Regress each event separately, then compute MI?)
 - Deconvolution with amplitude modulation? Requires more thought.

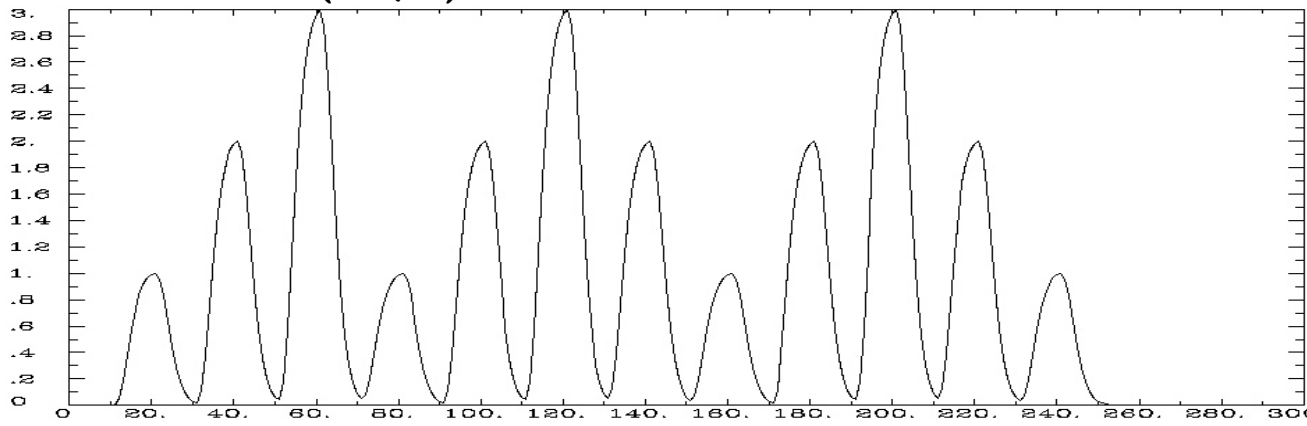
AM Regression - 5

Timing: **AM.1D = 10*1 30*2 50*3 70*1 90*2 110*3 130*2 150*1 170*2 190*3 210*2 230*1**

- `3dDeconvolve -nodata 300 1.0 -num_stimts 1 \`
`-stim_times_AM1 1 AM.1D 'BLOCK(10,1)' -x1D AM1.x1D`

- `1dplot AM1.x1D'[2]'`

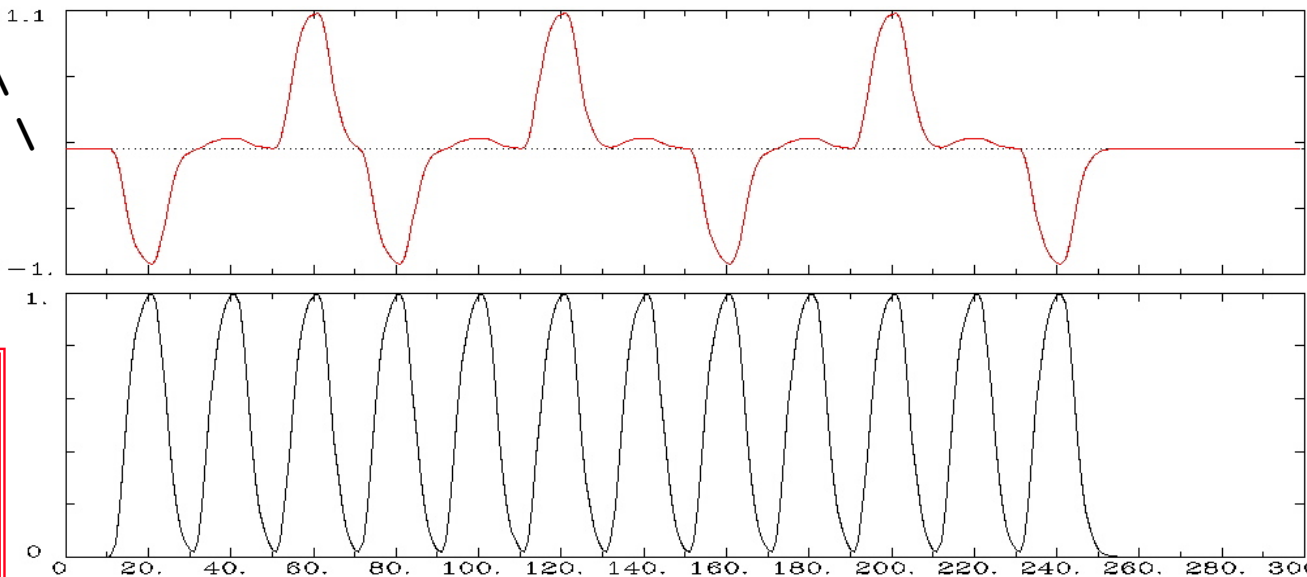
AM1 model of signal
(modulation = ABI)



- `3dDeconvolve -nodata 300 1.0 \`
`-num_stimts 1 \`
`-stim_times_AM2 1 \`
`AM.1D 'BLOCK(10,1)' \`
`-x1D AM2.x1D`

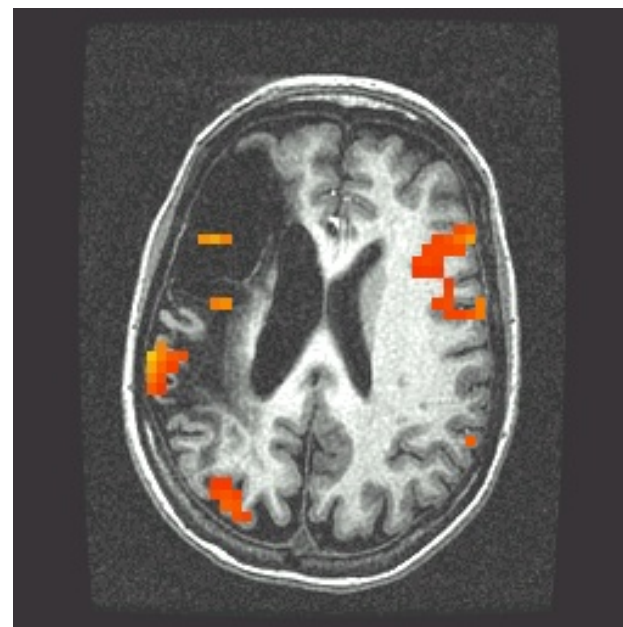
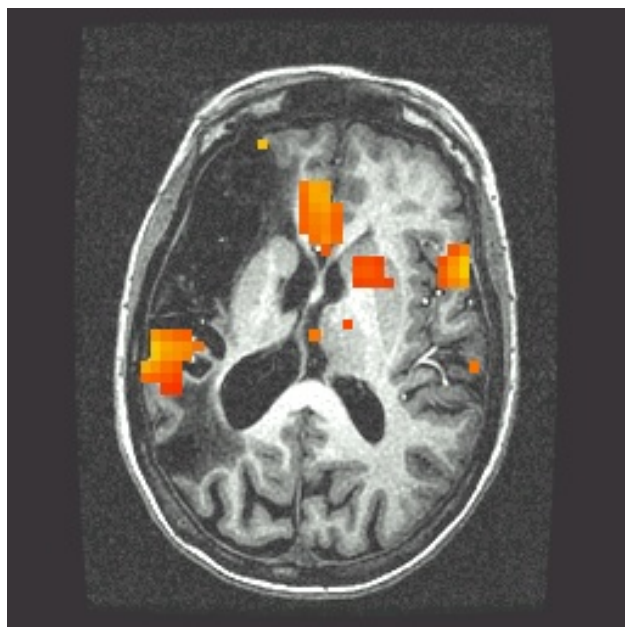
- `1dplot -sepscl \`
`AM2.x1D'[2,3]'`

AM2 model of signal:
is 2D sub-space
spanned by these 2
time series



AM Regression - 6

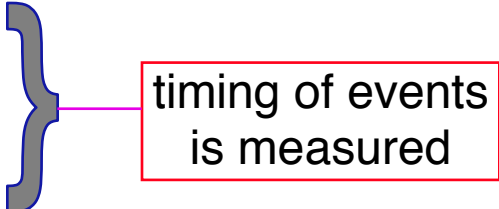
- First actual user: Whitney Postman (formerly NIDCD; PI=AI Braun)
- Picture naming task in aphasic stroke patient
- ABI data = number of alternative names for each image (e.g., “balcony” & “porch” & “veranda”, vs. “strawberry”), from 1 to 18
 - 8 imaging runs, 144 stimulus events
- 2 slices showing activation map for BOLD responses proportional to ABI (β_{AM2})
 - What does this mean? Don't ask me!



AM Regression - 7

- Alternative: use **IM** to get individual β s for each block/event and then do external regression statistics on those values
- Could do nonlinear fitting (to these β s) via **3dNLFim**, or inter-class contrasts via **3dttest**, **3dLME**, **3dANOVA**, or intra-class correlations via **3dICC**, etc.
- What is better: **AM** or **IM**+*something more* ?
 - We don't know – experience with these options is limited thus far – you can always try both!
 - If **AM** doesn't fit your models/ideas, then **IM**+ is clearly the way to go
 - Probably need to consult with AFNI group (SSCC) to get some hints/advice

More Complicated Experiment

- Solving a visually presented puzzle:
 - a) subject sees puzzle
 - b) subject cogitates a while
 - c) subject responds with solution

timing of events is measured
- The problem is that we expect some voxels to be significant in phase (b) as well as phases (a) and/or (c)
- Variable length of phase (b) means that shape for its response varies between trials
 - Which is contrary to the whole idea of averaging trials together to get decent statistics (which is basically what linear regression for the β weights does, in an elaborate sort of way)
- Could assume response **amplitude** in phase (b) is constant across trials, and response **duration** varies directly with time between phases (a) and (c)
 - Need three HRFs
 - Can't generate (b) HRF in **3dDeconvolve**

Yes we can!
dmBLOCK model

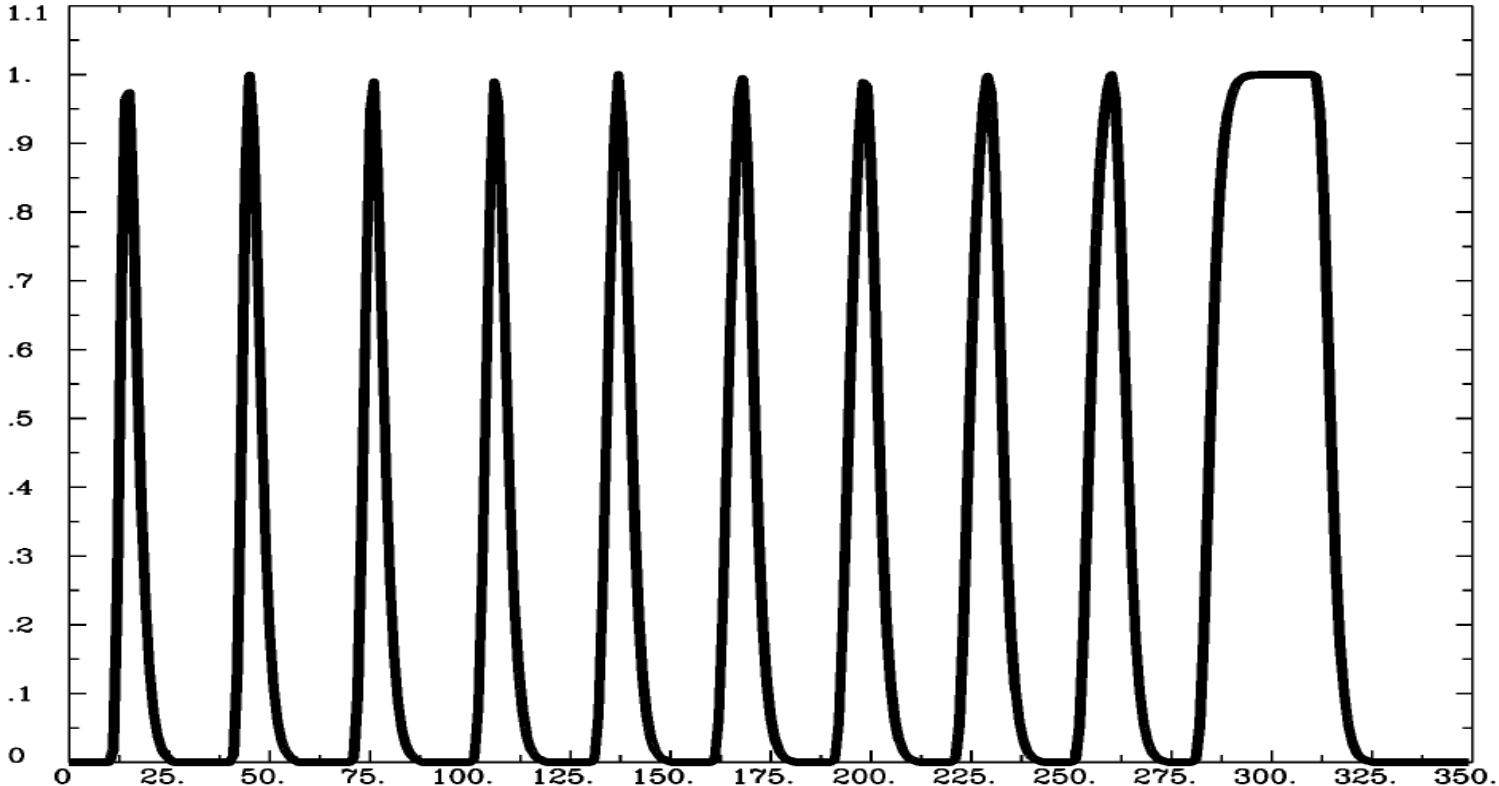
Duration Modulation (dm)

- When different stimuli in the same class have different (and known) durations
- Controlled by specifying the 'dmBLOCK' response model
- Usually used with '-stim_times_AM1' to indicate that an extra parameter is *married* to each stimulus time
 - Here, parameter is the duration, not amplitude modulation
- You can also use '-stim_times_AM2', by adding the extra amplitude modulation parameter(s)
 - The duration parameter for 'dmBLOCK' is always the *last* parameter in a *marriage*
- For those unfortunates using data that is supplied with FSL-style 3-column stimulus files: "time duration amplitude"
 - You can use '-stim_times_FSL' to process these, without having to convert them to the AFNI format described herein
 - Which is like using '-stim_times_AM1'

```
• 3dDeconvolve -nodata 350 1 -polort -1 \  
  -num_stimts 1 \  
  -stim_times_AM1 1 q.1D 'dmBLOCK(1)' \  
  -x1D stdout: | ldplot -stdin -thick -thick
```

• File **q.1D** contains 1 line:

10:1 40:2 70:3 100:4 130:5 160:6 190:7 220:8 250:9 280:30



Noise Issues

- “Noise” in FMRI is caused by several factors, not completely characterized
 - MR thermal noise (well understood, unremovable)
 - Cardiac and respiratory cycles (partly understood)
 - In principle, could measure these sources of noise separately and then try to regress them out
 - RETROICOR program
 - Scanner fluctuations (e.g., thermal drift of hardware, timing errors)
 - Small subject head movements (10-100 μm)
 - Very low frequency fluctuations (periods longer than 100 s)
- Data analysis should try to remove what can be removed and should allow for the statistical effects of what can't be removed
 - “Serial correlation” in the noise time series affects the t - and F -statistics calculated by **3dDeconvolve**
 - **Next slides:** AFNI program for dealing with this issue

Allowing for Serial Correlation

- t - and F -statistics denominators: estimates of noise variance
 - White noise estimate of variance:

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{N - m} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} [\text{data}_i - \text{fit}_i]^2$$
 - N = number of time points
 - m = number of fit parameters
 - $N - m$ = degrees of freedom = how many equal-variance independent random values are left after time series is fit with m regressors
- **Problem:** if noise values at successive time points are correlated, this estimate of variance is biased to be too small, since there aren't really $N - m$ independent random values left
 - Denominator too small implies t - and F -statistics are too large!
 - And number of degrees of freedom is also too large.
 - So significance (p -value) of activations in individuals is overstated.
- **Solution #1:** estimate correlation structure of noise and then adjust statistics (downwards) appropriately
- **Solution #2:** estimate correlation structure of noise *and* also estimate β fit parameters using more efficient “generalized least squares”, using this correlation, all at once (REML method)

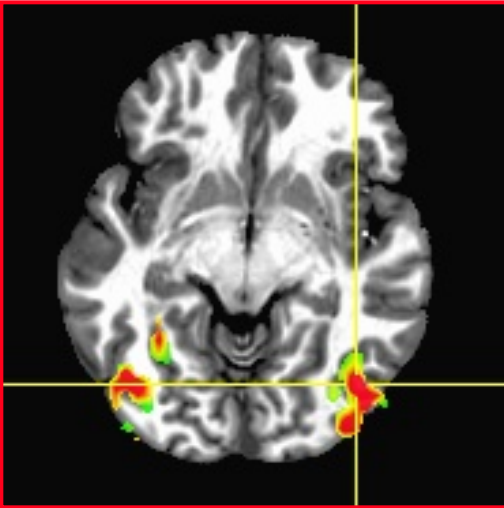
AFNI Program: 3dREMLfit

- Implements Solution #2
 - REML is a method for simultaneously estimating variance + correlation parameters **and** estimating regression fit parameters (β s)
 - Correlation structure of noise is ARMA(1,1)
 - 2 parameters **a** (AR) and **b** (MA) in each voxel
 - **a** describes how fast the noise de-correlates over time
 - **b** describes the short-range correlation in time (1 lag)
 - Unlike SPM and FSL, *each voxel* gets a separate estimate of its own correlation parameters
- Inputs to 3dREMLfit
 - run 3dDeconvolve first to setup .xmat.1D matrix file and GLTs (don't have to let 3dDeconvolve finish analysis: **-x1D_stop**)
 - 3dDeconvolve also outputs a command line to run 3dREMLfit
 - then, input matrix file and 3D+time dataset to 3dREMLfit
- Output datasets are similar to those in 3dDeconvolve

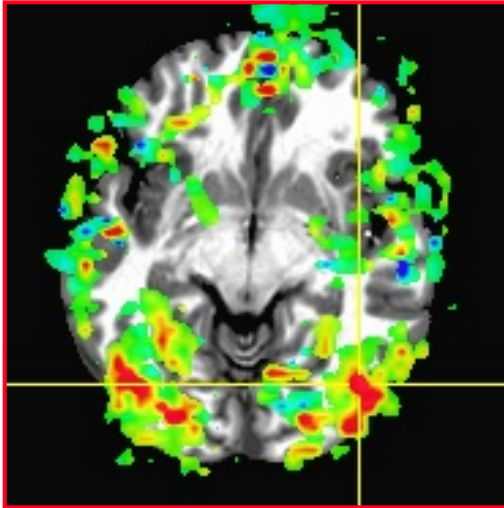
Sample Outputs

- Compare with [AFNI_data3/afni/rall_regress](#) results
- `3dREMLfit -matrix rall_xmat.x1D -input rall_vr+orig -fout -tout \`
`-Rvar rall_varR -Rbuck rall_funcR -Rfitts rall_fittsR \`
`-Obuck rall_funcO -Ofitts rall_fittsO`

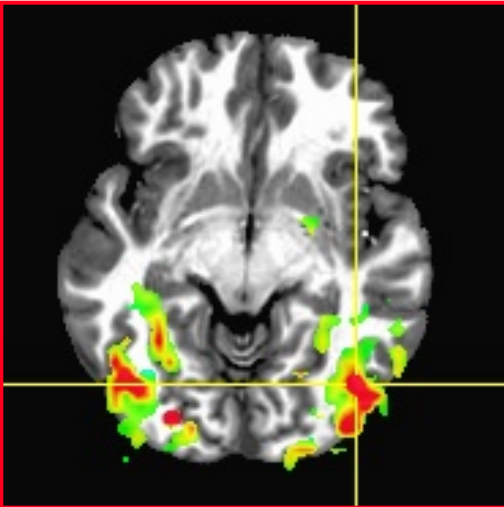
REML
 $F=3.15$
 $p=0.001$



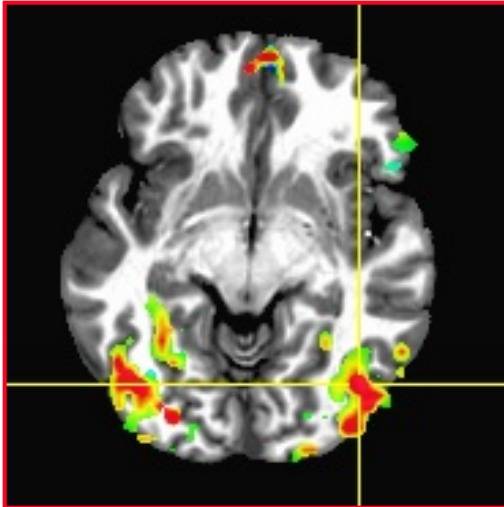
OLSQ
 $F=3.15$
 $p=0.001$



REML
 $F=1.825$
 $p=0.061$
 ■ F = No activity outside brain!



OLSQ
 $F=5.358$
 $p=5e-7$
 ■ F = No activity outside brain!



**O
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!?!**

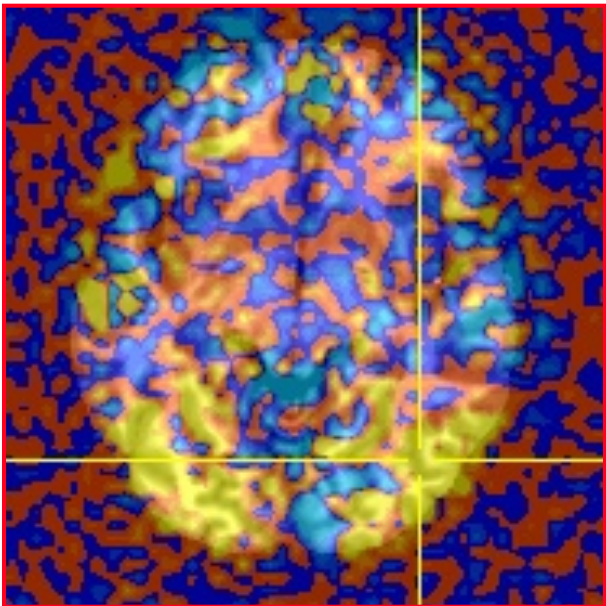
It's Not So Bad: β !

- For individual activation maps, **3dREMLfit**-ized t - and F -statistics are significantly different, and more accurate
- But ... There are at present very few applications for such individual FMRI activation maps
 - pre-surgical planning; some longitudinal study?
- For standard group analysis, inputs are only β fit parameters
 - Which don't change so much between REML and OLSQ

Color Overlay = β weight from analysis on previous slide, no threshold

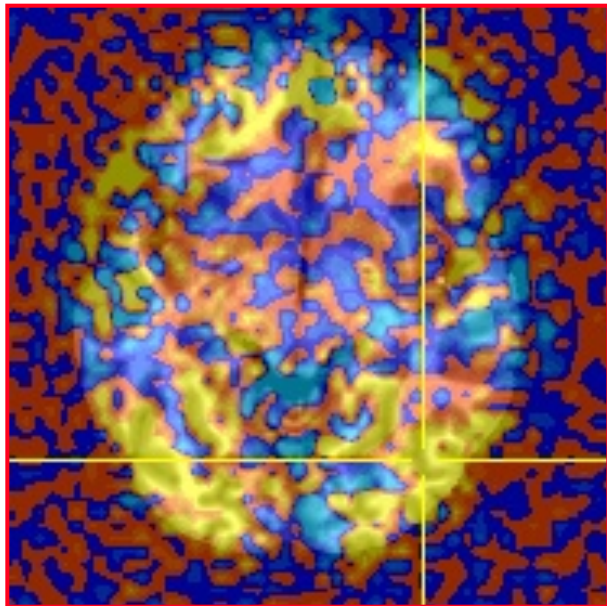
REML

**CPU
500 s**



OLSQ

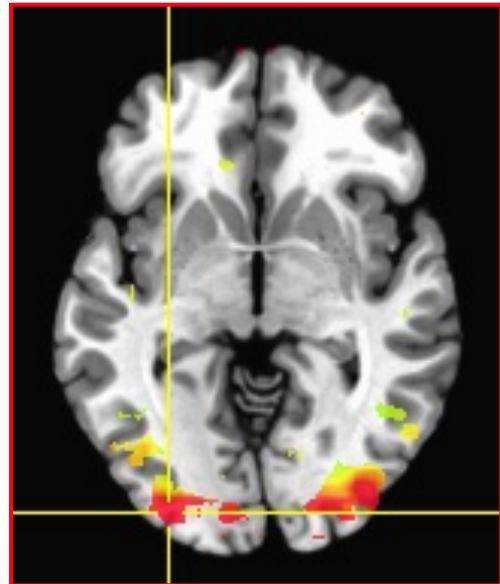
**CPU
156 s**



It's Not So Bad At All: Group Analysis!

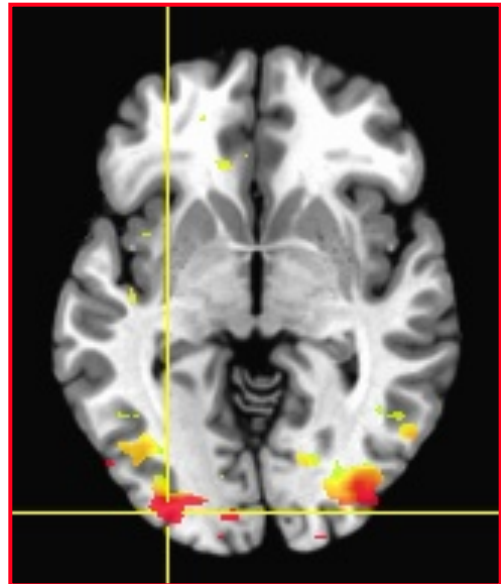
- Group analysis activation maps (**3dANOVA3**) from 16 subjects

REML



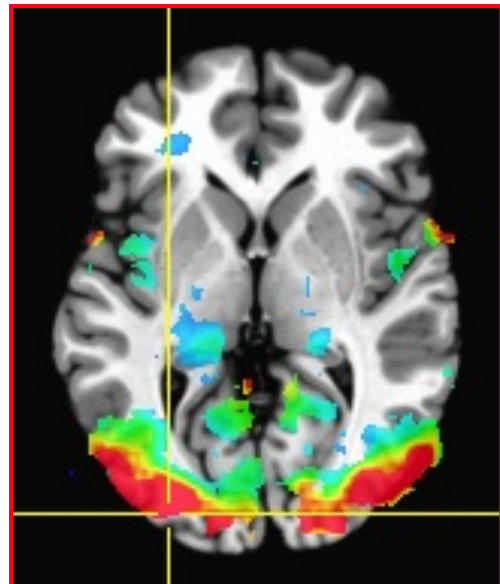
F-test for **Affect** condition

OLSQ

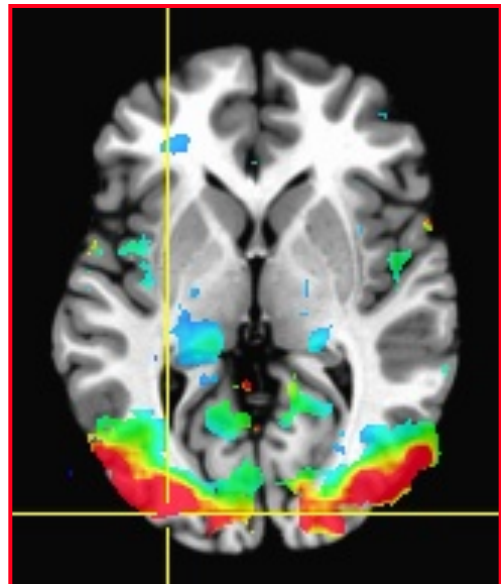


F-test for **Affect** condition

F-test for **Category** condition



F-test for **Category** condition



Nonlinear Regression

- Linear models aren't the only possibility
 - e.g., could try to fit HRF of the form $h(t) = a \cdot t^b \cdot e^{-t/c}$
 - Unknowns b and c appear nonlinearly in this formula
- Program **3dNLFit** can do nonlinear regression (including nonlinear deconvolution)
 - User must provide a C function that computes the model time series, given a set of parameters (e.g., a , b , c)
 - We could help you develop this C model function
 - Several sample model functions in the AFNI source code distribution
 - Program then drives this C function repeatedly, searching for the set of parameters that best fit each voxel
 - Has been used to fit pharmacological wash-in/wash-out models (difference of two exponentials) to fMRI data acquired during pharmacological challenges
 - e.g., injection of nicotine, cocaine, ethanol, etc.
 - these are difficult experiments to do **and** to analyze

Spatial Models of Activation

- Smooth data in space before analysis

- Average data across anatomically-selected regions of interest ROI (before or after analysis)
 - Labor intensive (*i.e.*, hire more students)
 - Or could use ROIs from atlases, or from FreeSurfer per-subject parcellation

- Reject isolated small clusters of above-threshold voxels after analysis

Spatial Smoothing of Data

- Reduces number of comparisons


- Reduces noise (by averaging)

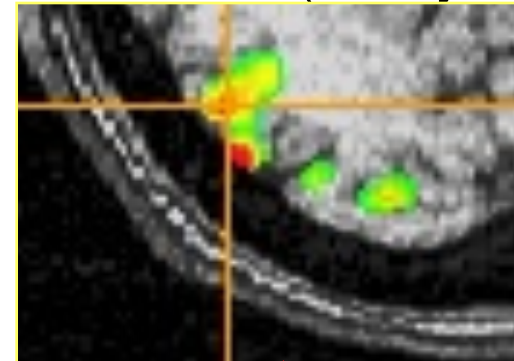
- Reduces spatial resolution
 - Blur it enough: Can make fMRI results look like low resolution (1990s) PET data

- Smart smoothing: average **only** over nearby brain or gray matter voxels
 - Uses resolution of fMRI cleverly
 - **3dBlurToFWHM** and **3dBlurInMask**
 - Or, average over selected ROIs
 - Or, cortical surface based smoothing

- Estimate smoothness with **3dFWHMx**

3dBlurToFWHM & 3dBlurInMask

- Program to smooth FMRI time series datasets to a specified smoothness (as estimated by FWHM of noise spatial correlation function)
 - Don't just add smoothness (à la **3dmerge**) but control it (locally and globally)
 - Goal: use datasets from diverse scanners
- Why blur FMRI time series?
 - Averaging neighbors will reduce noise
 - Activations are (usually) blob-ish (several voxels across) 
 - Diminishes the multiple comparisons problem
- **3dBlurToFWHM** and **3dBlurInMask** blur only inside a mask region
 - To avoid mixing air (noise-only) and brain voxels
 - Partial Differential Equation (PDE) based blurring method
 - 2D (intra-slice) or 3D blurring



Multi-Voxel Statistics

**Spatial Clustering
&**

False Discovery Rate:

“Correcting” the Significance

Basic Problem

- Usually have 50-200K FMRI voxels in the brain
- Have to make at least one decision about each one:
 - Is it “active”?
 - That is, does its time series match the temporal pattern of activity we expect?
 - Is it differentially active?
 - That is, is the BOLD signal change in task #1 different from task #2?
- Statistical analysis is designed to control the error rate of these decisions
 - Making *lots* of decisions: hard to get perfection in statistical testing

● Family-Wise Error (FWE)

- Multiple testing problem: voxel-wise statistical analysis
 - With N voxels, what is the chance to make a false positive error (Type I) in one or more voxels?

Family-Wise Error: $\alpha_{FW} = 1 - (1 - p)^N \rightarrow 1$ as N increases

- For Np small (compared to 1), $\alpha_{FW} \approx Np$
- $N \approx 50,000+$ voxels in the brain
- To keep probability of even one false positive $\alpha_{FW} < 0.05$ (the “corrected” p -value), need to have $p < 0.05 / 5 \times 10^4 = 10^{-6}$
- This constraint on the per-voxel (“uncorrected”) p -value is so stringent that we would end up rejecting a lot of true positives (Type II errors) also, just to control the overall Type I error rate

● Multiple testing problem in FMRI

- 3 occurrences of multiple tests: Individual, Group, and Conjunction
- Group analysis is the most severe situation (have the least data, considered as number of independent samples = subjects)

- **Two Approaches to the “Curse of Multiple Comparisons”**
 - Control **FWE** to keep expected total number of false positives below 1
 - Overall significance: $\alpha_{FW} = \text{Prob}(\geq \text{one false positive voxel in the whole brain})$
 - **Bonferroni correction**: $\alpha_{FW} = 1 - (1-p)^N \approx Np$, if $p \ll N^{-1}$
 - Use $p = \alpha/N$ as individual voxel significance level to achieve $\alpha_{FW} = \alpha$
 - Too stringent and overly conservative: $p = 10^{-8} \dots 10^{-6}$
 - What can rescue us from this hell of statistical super-conservatism?
 - Correlation: Voxels in the brain are not independent
 - Especially after we smooth them together!
 - Means that Bonferroni correction is *way way* too stringent
 - Contiguity: Structures in the brain activation map
 - We are looking for activated “blobs”: the chance that pure noise (H_0) will give a set of seemingly-activated voxels next to each other is lower than getting false positives that are scattered around far apart
 - Control FWE based on spatial correlation (smoothness of image noise) **and** minimum cluster size we are willing to accept

- Control false discovery rate (**FDR**) — Much more on this a little later!
 - FDR = expected proportion of false positive voxels among all **detected** voxels
 - Give up on the idea of having (almost) no false positives at all

False Discovery Rate in



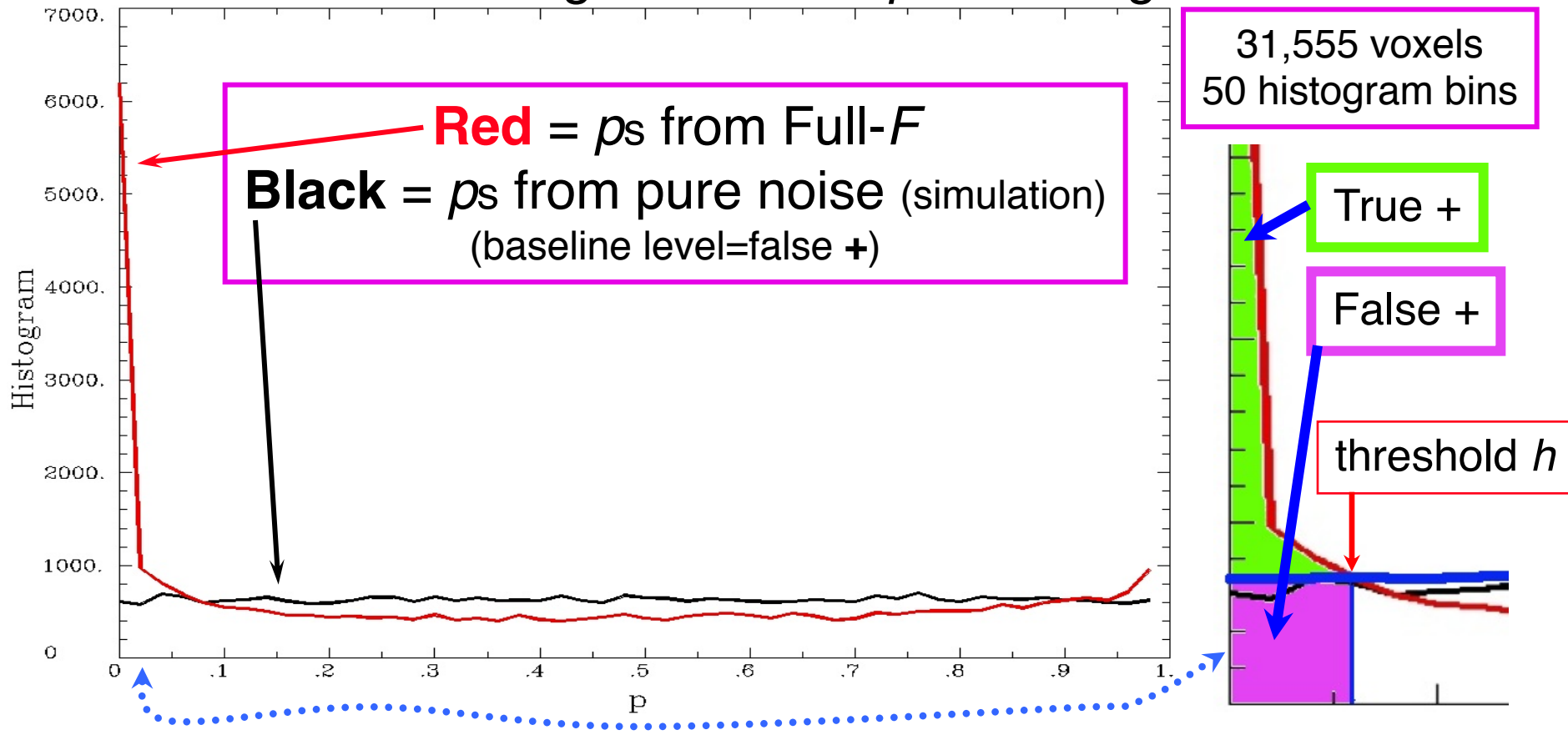
- Situation: making *many* statistical tests at once
 - e.g., Image voxels in fMRI; associating genes with disease
- Want to set threshold on statistic (e.g., *F*- or *t*-value) to control **false positive** error rate
- Traditionally: set threshold to control probability of making a **single** false positive detection
 - But if we are doing 1000s (or more) of tests at once, we have to be very stringent to keep this probability low
- **FDR**: accept the fact that there will be multiple erroneous detections when making lots of decisions
 - Control the **fraction** of positive detections that are wrong
 - Of course, no way to tell which individual detections are right!
 - Or at least: control the *expected value* of this fraction

FDR: q [and $z(q)$]

- Given some collection of statistics (say, F -values from **3dDeconvolve**), set a threshold h
- The **uncorrected p -value** of h is the probability that $F > h$ when the null hypothesis is true (no activation)
 - “Uncorrected” means “per-voxel”
 - The “corrected” p -value is the probability that *any* voxel is above threshold in the case that they are all *unactivated*
 - If have N voxels to test, $p_{\text{corrected}} = 1 - (1 - p)^N \approx Np$ (for small p)
 - Bonferroni: to keep $p_{\text{corrected}} < 0.05$, need $p < 0.05 / N$, which is very tiny
- The FDR **q -value** of h is the fraction of false positives expected when we set the threshold to h
 - Smaller q is “better” (more stringent = fewer false detections)
 - $z(q)$ = conversion of q to Gaussian z : e.g, $z(0.05) \approx 1.95996$
 - So that larger is “better” (in the same sense) e.g, $z(0.01) \approx 2.57583$

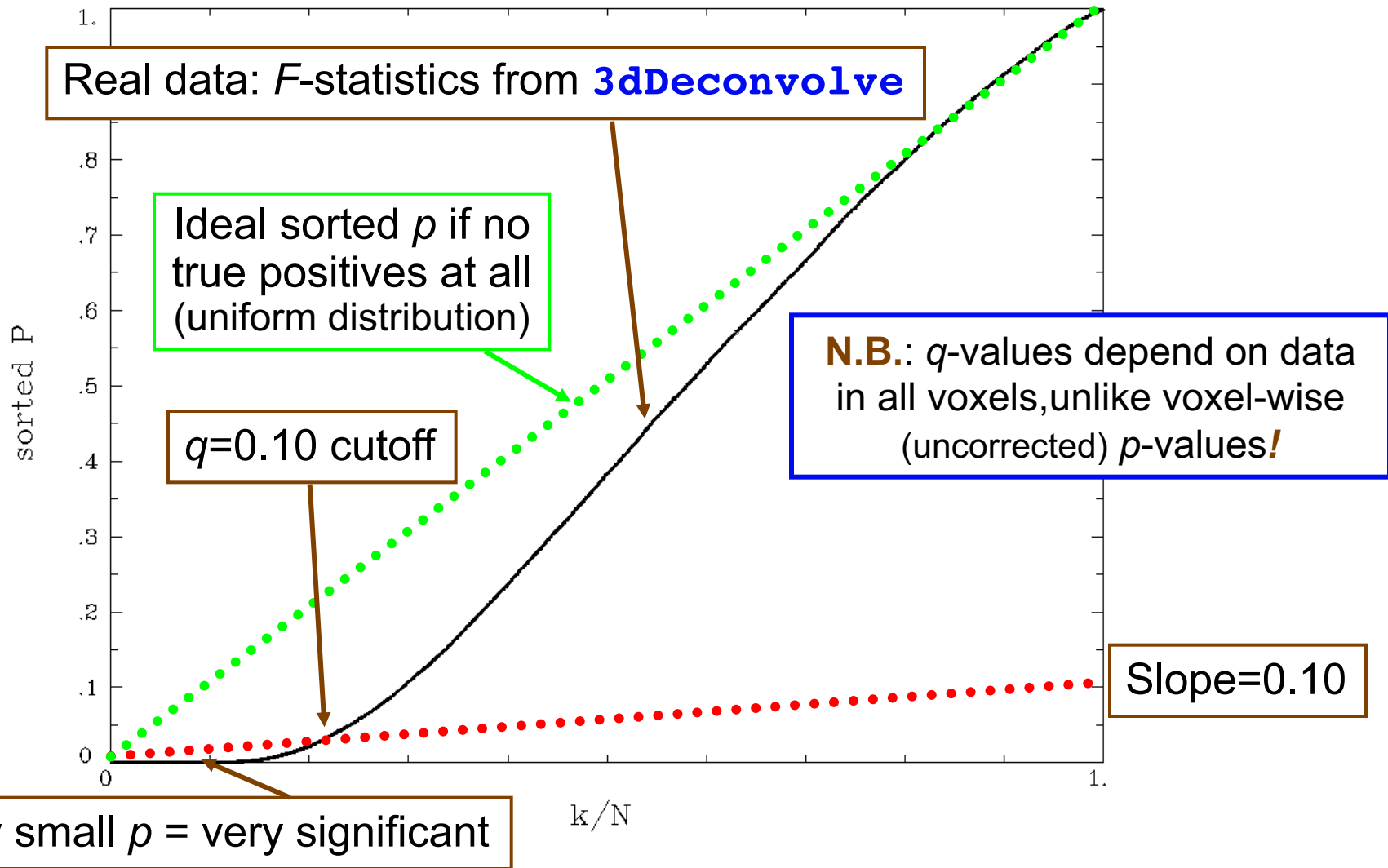
Basic Ideas Behind FDR q

- ***If*** all the null hypotheses are true, ***then*** the statistical distribution of the p -values will be uniform
 - Deviations from uniformity at low p -values → true positives
 - Baseline of uniformity indicates how many true negatives are hidden amongst in the low p -value region



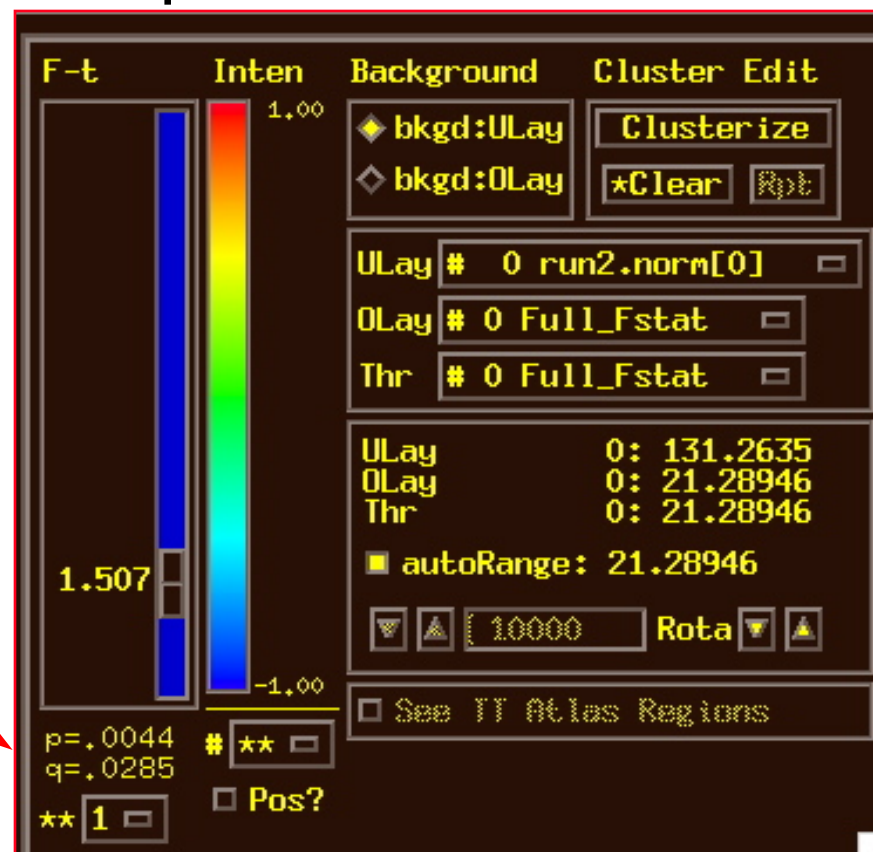
Graphical Calculation of q

- Graph sorted p -values of voxel # k vs. $\zeta=k/N$ (the cumulative histogram of p , flipped sideways) and draw some lines from origin



FDR curves: h vs. $z(q)$

- **3dDeconvolve**, **3dANOVAX**, **3dttest**, and **3dNLfim** now compute FDR curves for all statistical sub-bricks and store them in output header
- **3drefit -addFDR** does same for other datasets
 - **3drefit -unFDR** can be used to delete such info
- **AFNI** now shows p - and q -values below the threshold slider bar
 - Interpolates FDR curve from header (threshold $\rightarrow z \rightarrow q$)
 - Can be used to adjust threshold by “eyeball”



$q = \text{N/A}$ means it's not available

MDF hint = “missed detection fraction”

FDR Statistical Issues

- FDR is conservative (q -values are too large) when voxels are positively correlated (e.g., from spatially smoothing)
 - Correcting for this is not so easy, since q depends on data (including true positives), so a simulation like **3dClustSim** is hard to conceptualize
 - At present, FDR in AFNI is an alternative way of controlling false positives, vs. **3dClustSim** (clustering)
- Accuracy of FDR calculation depends on p -values being uniformly distributed under the null hypothesis
 - Statistic-to- p conversion should be accurate, which means that null F -distribution (say) should be correctly estimated
 - Serial correlation in FMRI time series means that **3dDeconvolve** denominator DOF is too large
 - → p -values will be too small, so q -values will be too small
 - **3dREMLfit** rides to the rescue!

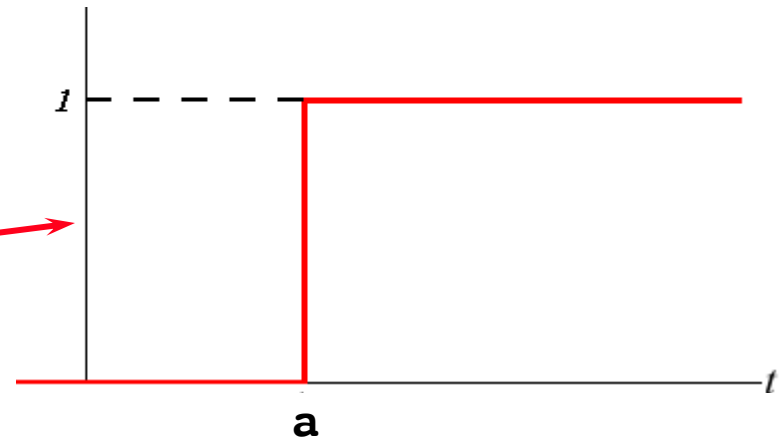
FWE or FDR?

- These 2 methods control Type I error in different senses
 - FWE: $\alpha_{FW} = \text{Prob} (\geq \text{one false positive voxel/cluster in the whole brain})$
 - Frequentist's perspective: Probability among **many** hypothetical activation maps gathered under identical conditions
 - Advantage: can directly incorporate smoothness into estimate of α_{FW}
 - FDR = expected fraction of false positive voxels among all detected voxels
 - Focus: controlling false positives among detected voxels in **one** activation map, as given by the experiment at hand
 - Advantage: not afraid of making a few Type I errors in a large field of true positives
 - Concrete example
 - Individual voxel $p = 0.001$ for a brain of 50,000 EPI voxels
 - Uncorrected $\rightarrow \approx 50$ false positive voxels in the brain
 - FWE: corrected $p = 0.05 \rightarrow \approx 5\%$ of the time would expect one or more purely false positive clusters in the entire volume of interest
 - FDR: $q = 0.05 \rightarrow \approx 5\%$ of voxels among those **positively** labeled ones are false positive
- What if your favorite blob (activation area) fails to survive correction?
 - Tricks (don't tell anyone we told you about these)
 - One-sided t -test? NN=3 clustering?
 - ROI-based statistics – e.g., grey matter mask, or whatever regions you focus on
 - Analysis on surface; or, Use better group analysis tool (3dLME, 3dMEMA, etc.)

Conjunction Analysis

• Conjunction

- Dictionary: “a compound proposition that is true if and only if all of its component propositions are true”
- FMRI: areas that are active under 2 or more conditions (**AND** logic)
 - e.g, in a visual language task and in an auditory language task
- In FMRI papers: Is also be used to mean analysis to find areas that are exclusively activated in one task but not another (**XOR** logic) or areas that are active in either task (non-exclusive **OR** logic) – technically *disjunctions*
- If have n different tasks, have 2^n possible combinations of activation overlaps in each voxel (ranging from nothing there to complete overlap)
- Tool: **3dcalc** applied to statistical maps
 - Heaviside **step function** defines a *On/Off* logic
 - $\text{step}(t-a) = 0$ if $t < a$
 - $\phantom{\text{step}(t-a)} = 1$ if $t > a$
 - Can be used to apply more than one threshold at a time



- Example of forming all possible “conjunctions”

- 3 contrasts/tasks A, B, and C, each with a t -stat from **3dDeconvolve**
- Assign each a number, based on binary positional notation:

- A: $001_2 = 2^0 = \mathbf{1}$; B: $010_2 = 2^1 = \mathbf{2}$; C: $100_2 = 2^2 = \mathbf{4}$

- Create a mask using 3 sub-bricks of t (e.g., threshold = 4.2)

```
3dcalc -a ContrA+tlrc -b ContrB+tlrc -c ContrC+tlrc \  
-expr '1*step(a-4.2)+2*step(b-4.2)+4*step(c-4.2)' \  
-prefix ConjAna
```

- Interpret output, which has 8 possible ($=2^3$) scenarios:

$000_2 = \mathbf{0}$: none are active at this voxel

$001_2 = \mathbf{1}$: A is active, but no others

$010_2 = \mathbf{2}$: B, but no others

$011_2 = \mathbf{3}$: A and B, but not C

$100_2 = \mathbf{4}$: C but no others

$101_2 = \mathbf{5}$: A and C, but not B

$110_2 = \mathbf{6}$: B and C, but not A

$111_2 = \mathbf{7}$: A, B, and C are all active at this voxel



Can display each combination with a different color and so make pretty pictures that *might even mean something!*

- **Multiple testing correction issue**

- How to calculate the p -value for the conjunction map?
- No problem, *if* each entity was corrected (e.g., cluster-size thresholded at $t=4.2$) before conjunction analysis, via **3dClustSim**
- But that may be too stringent (conservative) and over-corrected
- With 2 or 3 entities, analytical calculation of conjunction p_{conj} is possible
 - Each individual test can have different uncorrected (per-voxel) p
 - Double or triple integral of tails of non-spherical (correlated) Gaussian distributions — not available in simple analytical formulae
- With more than 3 entities, may have to resort to simulations
 - Monte Carlo simulations? (AKA: Buy a fast computer)
 - Will Gang Chen write such a program? Only time will tell!