

# lmeEEG

Mass linear mixed-effects modeling of EEG data  
with crossed random effects

[github.com/antovis86/lmeEEG](https://github.com/antovis86/lmeEEG) & [osf.io/kw87a/](https://osf.io/kw87a/)

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**[osf.io/z4fbr/](https://osf.io/z4fbr/)**

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**Department of General Psychology**

**University of Padova**

# OUTLINE

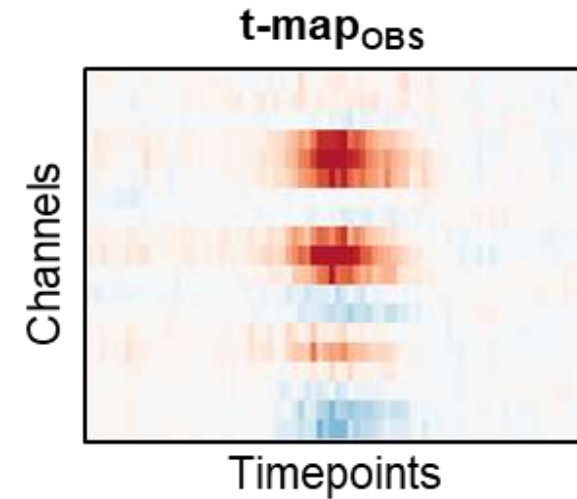
- **Why** ImeEEG?
- ImeEEG in **3 steps**
- Validation
- When **not** ImeEEG

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- **Why ImeEEG?**
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# WHY $\text{ImeEEG}$ ?

- **Mass univariate EEG analysis**
  - Analysis at each electrode and timepoint (and frequency bin)
  - OLS
  - Correction for multiple comparisons (**TFCE and permutations**)






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NeuroImage  
Volume 67, 15 February 2013, Pages 111-118

Advanced EEG analysis using threshold-free cluster-enhancement and non-parametric statistics

Armand Mensen  , Ramin Khatami

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroimage.2012.10.027>

> Comput Intell Neurosci. 2011;2011:821408.  
doi:10.1155/2011/821408. (publ. 2011 Feb 21)

LIMO EEG: a toolbox for hierarchical Linear Modeling of Electroencephalographic data

Cyril R Pernet<sup>1</sup>, Nicolas Chauveau, Carl Gaspar, Guillaume A Rousselet

Peer Review  
View PDF  
Webinar

BRAIN, COGNITION AND MENTAL HEALTH

Unfold: an integrated toolbox for overlap correction, non-linear modeling, and regression-based EEG analysis

Benedikt V. Ehinger<sup>1,2</sup>, Olaf Dierker<sup>1,2</sup>

Jaromil Frossard

EEG Data Analysis with the Permuco Package

Psychophysiology. Author manuscript, available in PMC 2014 Jun 17. Published in final edited form as: Psychophysiology. 2011 Dec; 48(12): 1711-1725. Published online 2011 Sep 6. doi: 10.1111/j.1469-8986.2011.01273.x

PMCID: PMC4060794 | NIHMSID: NIHMS449395 | PMID: 21895683

Mass univariate analysis of event-related brain potentials/fields I: A critical tutorial review

David M. Groppe, Thomas P. Urbach, and Marja Kutas

NeuroImage  
Volume 92, 15 May 2014, Pages 381-397

Permutation inference for the general linear model

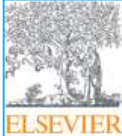
Anderson M. Winkler<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Gerard B. Ridgway<sup>d</sup>, Matthew A. Webster<sup>a</sup>, Stephen M. Smith<sup>a</sup>, Thomas E. Nichols<sup>a\*\*</sup>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroimage.2014.01.060>

<https://benediktehinger.de/blog/science/threshold-free-cluster-enhancement-explained/>

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- **Crossed random effects**





Journal of Memory and Language  
Volume 59, Issue 4, November 2008, Pages 390-412


ELSEVIER


## Mixed-effects modeling with crossed random effects for subjects and items

R.H. Baayen<sup>a</sup>  , D.J. Davidson<sup>b</sup> , D.M. Bates<sup>c</sup> 

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jml.2007.12.005> 

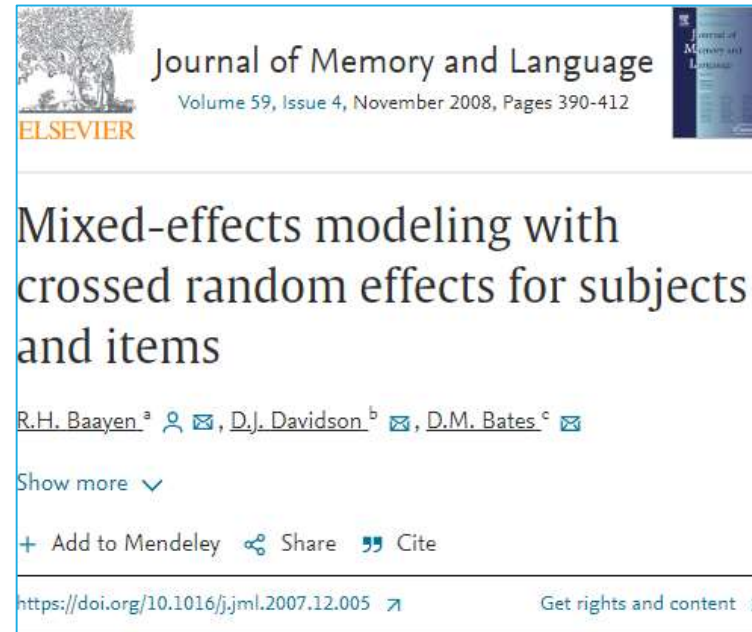
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$32 \text{ channels} \times 250 \text{ timepoints} \times 2000 \text{ permutations} \times 250 \text{ ms} = 46 \text{ days}$

$64 \text{ channels} \times 500 \text{ timepoints} \times 2000 \text{ permutations} \times 250 \text{ ms} = 185 \text{ days}$



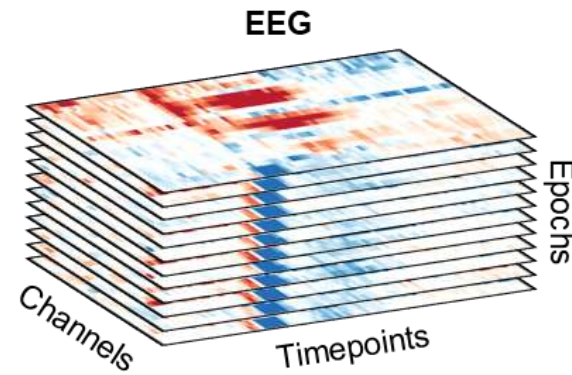
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# STEP 1

Conduct mixed models on each channel/timepoint combination.

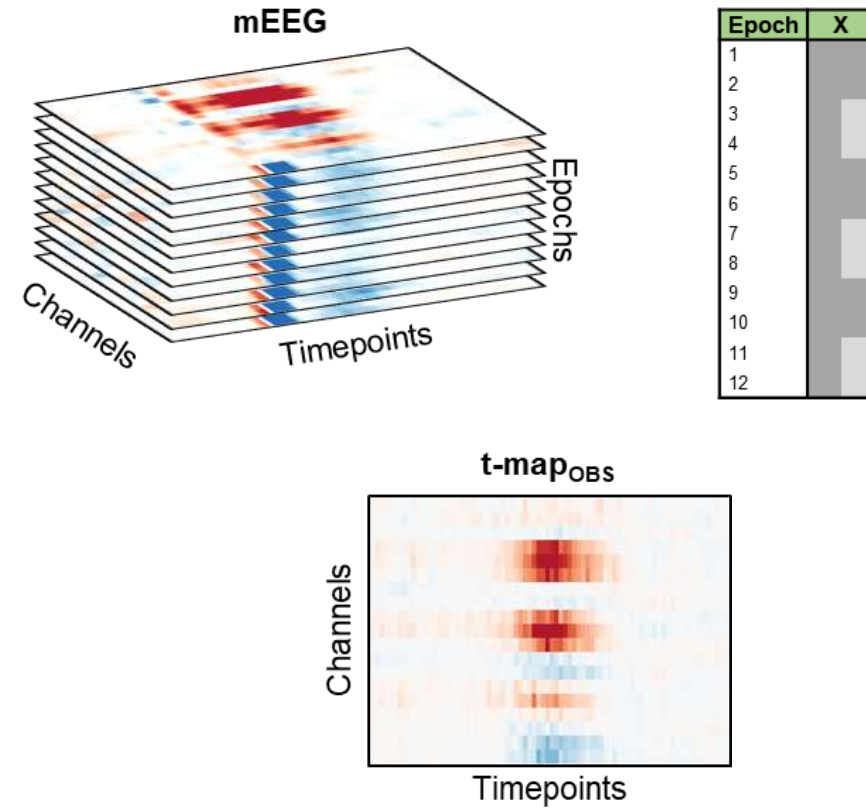


Epoch	X	Z
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		

$$\mathbf{EEG}_{ch,t} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{u} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

## STEP 2

Extract “marginal” EEG data and perform mass univariate linear regressions.

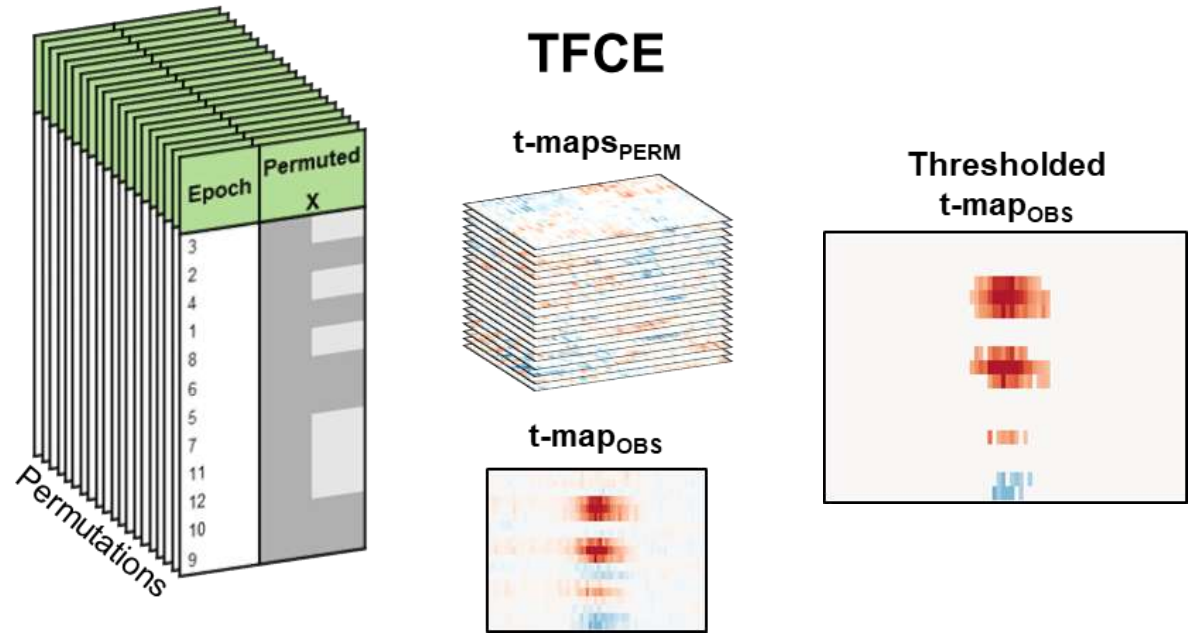


$$\text{EEG}_{ch,t} = X\beta + Zu + \varepsilon$$

$$\text{mEEG}_{ch,t} = \text{EEG} - Zu = X\beta + \varepsilon$$

# STEP 3

Perform permutation testing and apply threshold-free cluster enhancement (TFCE).



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# VALIDATION 1 (*univariate case*)

- 2000 datasets simulated according to the following model:  $y \sim 1 + A \times B + (1 | \text{Subject}) + (1 | \text{Item})$ 
  - A : two-level factor (effects coding). Main effect Cohen's  $d = 0$
  - B : two-level factor (effects coding). Main effect Cohen's  $d = 0.07$
  - A:B interaction Cohen's  $d = 0.054$
  - Random intercepts for Subjects ( $N = 50$ ) and for Items ( $N = 50$ ): SD of 0.2
  - Residual errors: SD of 0.2

Effect	Westfall's power	LMM power	lmeEEG power
A	.05	.045	.045
B	.95	~1.00	~1.00
AB interaction	.80	.828	.829

# VALIDATION 1 *(univariate case)*

SD of residual errors	Effect	LMM PR	lmeEEG PR
0.6	A	.053	.053
	B	1	1
	AB	.678	.679
1.2	A	.053	.053
	B	.989	.989
	AB	.371	.371
2.4	A	.057	.057
	B	.665	.666
	AB	.161	.161

## VALIDATION 2 (*Simulated EEG*)

- 30 Subject and 10 items and 2 experimental conditions (50 epochs)
- Simulated 19 channels  $\times$  110 timepoints EEG data
  - 18 noise components: 2  $\mu$ V brown noise + 2  $\mu$ V white noise
  - One P3a: 10  $\mu$ V (SD = 0.2) + 0.2  $\mu$ V for Condition B:
    - $P3 \sim 1 + \text{Condition} + (1 | \text{Subject}) + (1 | \text{Item})$

## VALIDATION 2 (*Simulated EEG*)

Comparison between LMM and lmeEEG (500 permutations):

- Identical  $\beta$  coefficients: no differences in Type S Type M errors
- Standard Errors correlated to  $\sim 1$
- Same dichotomous decisions: No difference in Type 1 and Type 2 errors
- lmeEEG **300 times faster!!!**

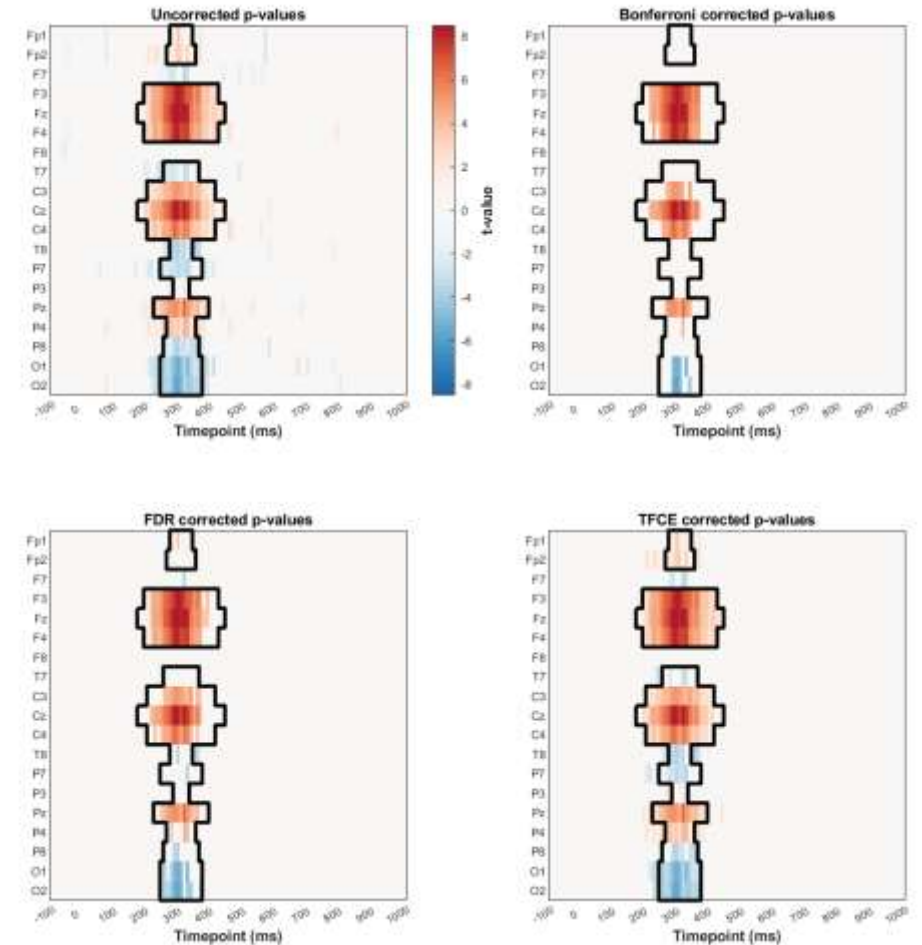


# VALIDATION 2 *(Simulated EEG)*

Corrections	Power [TP/(TP+FN)]	Precision [TP/(TP+FP)]	FPR [FP/(FP+TN)]	MCC*
Uncorrected	.8755	.7352	.0441	.7722
Bonferroni	.3670	1	0	.5827
FDR	.4864	.9843	.0011	.6671
TFCE	.8483	.8583	.0196	.8328
lmeEEG TFCE	.8483	.8583	.0196	.8328

\*Matthews correlation coefficient:

$$MCC = \frac{TP \times TN - FP \times FN}{\sqrt{(TP+FP)(TP+FN)(TN+FP)(TN+FN)}}$$



# REAL EEG DATA

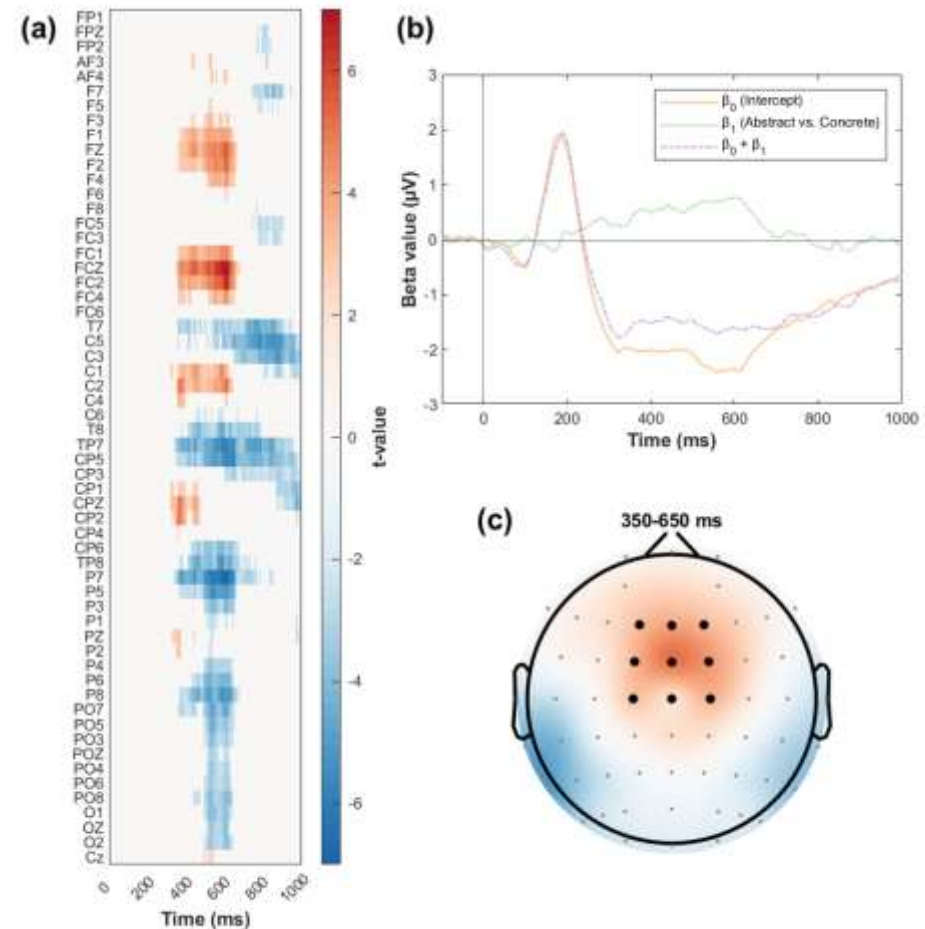
Psycholinguistic experiment

Semantic decision task

Participants = 58

Words = 176

Montefinese et al. (2024) "How Continuous Concreteness Shapes Brain Processing and Concept Representation Across Diverse Tasks: Insights from an ERP Study". doi:10.22541/au.171249584.45053538/v1



# FURTHER APPLICATIONS

Time-frequency data

Source-reconstructed ERP

MEG data

Pupillometry and eye movement data.

It can also account for designs with “nested” random effects, such as in **multi-site** neuroimaging studies.

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# When **NOT** lmeEEG

Don't use it when you don't have crossed or nested random-effects designs:

- Hard to assess and manage convergence and singularity issues with massive testing
- No available methods to validate lmeEEG with random **SLOPES**

#FUEL4PSICOSTAT

# CONCLUSIONS

- lmeEEG is a valid method to use LMM with EEG mass univariate analyses.
- lmeEEG showed excellent performance properties in terms of power and false positive rate
- lmeEEG overcomes the computational costs of standard available approaches (our method was indeed more than 300 times faster than LMM).
- lmeEEG codes and a tutorial are available at [github.com/antovis86/lmeEEG](https://github.com/antovis86/lmeEEG)

# THANK YOU

Progetto “Giovani Ricercatori”

GR-2019-12371166

