

# Multimodal analysis and inverse problems for brain imaging

Benjamin SULIS

LMR UMR CNRS 9008 - Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne

Marion DARBAS

LAGA CNRS UMR 7539 - Université Sorbonne Paris Nord

Stephanie LOHRENGEL

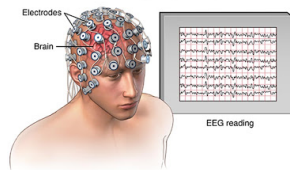
LMR CNRS UMR 9008 - Université de Reims Champagne Ardenne



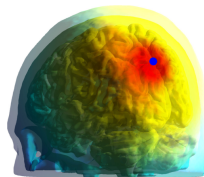
Laboratoire  
de Mathématiques  
de Reims

14 June 2023

## Electroencephalography



## Diffuse optical tomography

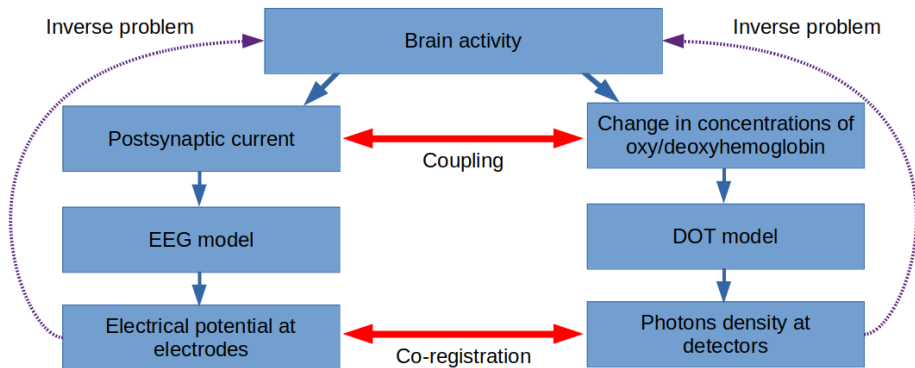


## Neurovascular coupling

- 1 Modelisation and forward problems
  - Neurovascular coupling
  - Computation of EEG measurements
  - Generation of DOT data

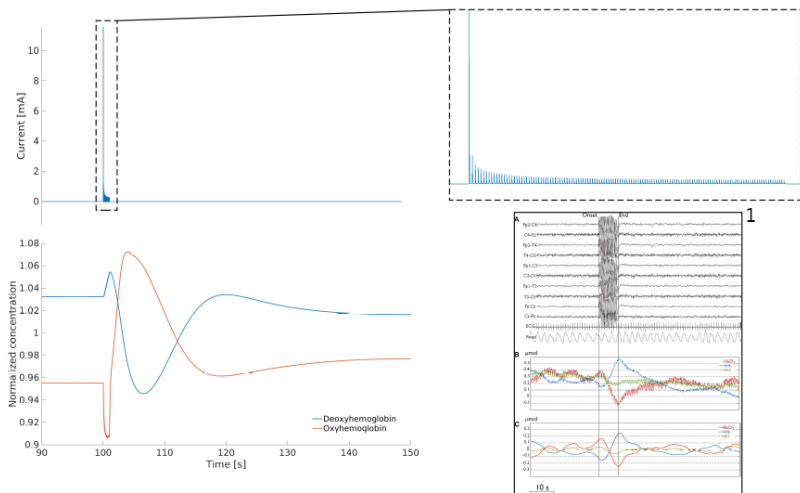
- 2 Inverse problems
  - EEG source localization
  - DOT parameters identification
  - Numerical coupling

# Neurovascular coupling



- Generation of coupled measurements
- Resolution of associated inverse problems

# Coupled measurements



- EEG depends on current

- DOT depends on concentrations

1. Roche-Labarbe, NIRS-measured oxy- and deoxyhemoglobin changes associated with EEG, 2008

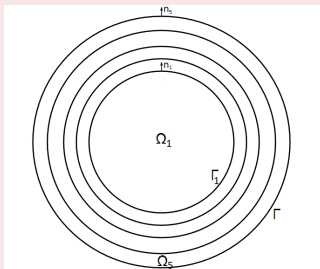
# Stationary problem

## Common forward problem

The electric potential  $u$  is solution of

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u) = F & \text{in } \Omega \\ \sigma \partial_n u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

with  $\sigma$  the electrical conductivity of the head tissues.



## Dipolar current source

$$F = \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{q}_m \cdot \nabla \delta_{S_m}$$

where  $\mathbf{q}_m \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the moment and  $S_m \in \Omega_2$  the position of the source of neuronal activity constrained to grey matter.

# Subtraction approach

## Decomposition of the potential

The subtraction approach consists in decomposing the potential into a potential  $\tilde{u}$  which contains the singularity and a regular lifting  $w$  :

$$u = \tilde{u} + w.$$

## Singular potential

The singular potential is solution of a Poisson equation and is given by

$$\tilde{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2^{d-1}\pi\sigma_2} \mathbf{q} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{x} - S}{|\mathbf{x} - S|^d}, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{S\}.$$

## Regular part

The regular part is obtained by solving the variational problem

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \nabla w \cdot \nabla v dx = \int_{\Omega} (\sigma_2 - \sigma) \nabla \tilde{u} \cdot \nabla v dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} \sigma_2 \partial_n \tilde{u} v ds.$$

# Time-dependent EEG model

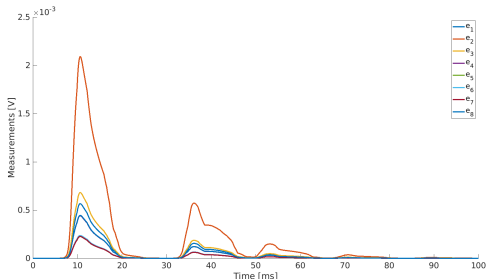
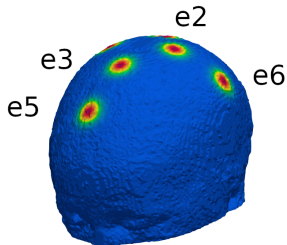
## Elliptic equation

By means of a dimensional analysis and classical arguments we have

$$\nabla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u) = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}^p = \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{q}_m(t) \cdot \nabla \delta_{S_m(t)} \quad \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega$$

## Modelisation of moments

$\mathbf{q}_m$  is generated by a system of ODEs (e.g. Hodgkin-Huxley).





# DOT forward problem

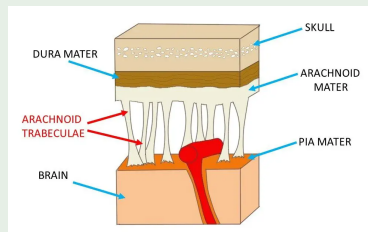
## Forward problem

The photons density  $\phi$  is solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla \phi) + \left( \mu_a + \frac{i\omega}{c} \right) \phi = q & \text{in } \Omega \\ \phi + 2\chi\kappa\partial_n\phi = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

## Parameters

- $\mu_a$  [1/mm] absorption
- $\mu'_s$  [1/mm] reduced scattering
- $\kappa = \frac{1}{3(\mu_a + \mu'_s)}$  [mm] diffusion
- $\chi$  internal reflexion
- $\omega$  source frequency



- $\mu^{AT+CSF} = \delta\mu^{AT} + (1 - \delta)\mu^{CSF}$

# Time-dependent forward solution

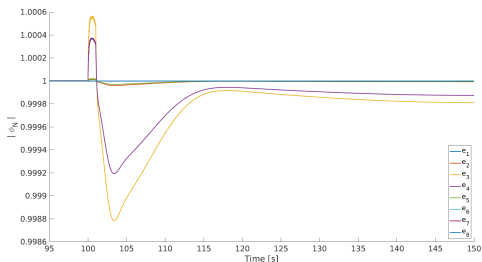
## Time-dependend DOT forward problem

The photons density  $\phi$  is solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\kappa(t, \mathbf{x}) \nabla \phi(t, \mathbf{x})) + \left( \mu_a(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{i\omega}{c} \right) \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = q & \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega \\ \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) + 2\chi\kappa(t, \mathbf{x})\partial_n\phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = 0 & \text{on } (0, T) \times \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

## Parameters generation

$\mu_a$  and  $\kappa$  come from a system of ODEs.



- 1 Modelisation and forward problems
  - Neurovascular coupling
  - Computation of EEG measurements
  - Generation of DOT data

- 2 Inverse problems
  - EEG source localization
  - DOT parameters identification
  - Numerical coupling

## Theorem

( $H_1$ )  $\mathbf{q}_m \in L^2(0, T)^d$  and  $S_m \in C^0([0, T])^d$ ,  $\forall m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ .

( $H_2$ ) At time  $t$ , the points  $(S_m(t))_m$  are mutually distinct

( $H_3$ ) All sources are located in the same convex subdomain  $\Omega_{p_0}$

Then, the locations and the moments are uniquely determined from a single measurement  $g =: u|_{(0, T), \partial\Omega}$ .

# Lead field matrix

- Consider a source space  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_R\} \subset \Omega$
- $u_m^{(i)}$  is the solution of the problem with the source term

$$F_m^{(i)} = \mathbf{e}^{(i)} \cdot \nabla \delta(\cdot - \mathcal{S}_m)$$

- $(\mathbf{p}_\ell)_{\ell=1, \dots, L}$  are the measurement positions
- $u_m(\mathbf{p}_\ell) = (u_m^{(1)}(\mathbf{p}_\ell), u_m^{(2)}(\mathbf{p}_\ell))$  and  $\mathbf{q}_m = (\mathbf{q}_m^{(1)}, \mathbf{q}_m^{(2)})$

## Distributed source model

The measurements  $\mathbf{u}_{EEG}$  of  $u$  at points  $(\mathbf{p}_\ell)$  are then given by

$$\mathbf{u}_{EEG} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(\mathbf{p}_1) & u_2(\mathbf{p}_1) & \cdots & u_R(\mathbf{p}_1) \\ u_1(\mathbf{p}_2) & u_2(\mathbf{p}_2) & \cdots & u_R(\mathbf{p}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_1(\mathbf{p}_L) & u_2(\mathbf{p}_L) & \cdots & u_R(\mathbf{p}_L) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{q}_1 \\ \mathbf{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{q}_R \end{pmatrix} := \mathbb{L}\mathbf{q}$$

## Lead field basis<sup>2</sup>

Let  $w_h$  be the nodal vector solution of the discrete problem

$$\mathbb{K}w_h = \mathbf{F},$$

with  $\mathbf{F}$  depending on of the singular potential  $\tilde{u}$ . We can obtain the measurements by means of a restriction matrix  $\mathbb{R} \in \mathcal{M}_{L,R}$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_{EEG} = \mathbb{R}w_h = \mathbb{R}\mathbb{K}^{-1}\mathbf{F}.$$

To compute  $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{R}\mathbb{K}^{-1}$  advantageously, notice that

$$\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{R}\mathbb{K}^{-1} \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{B}^t = \mathbb{K}^{-t}\mathbb{R}^t \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{K}^t\mathbb{B}^t = \mathbb{R}^t \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{K}\mathbb{B}^t = \mathbb{R}^t$$

We can now apply the subtraction approach

$$\mathbf{u}_{EEG} = \mathbb{R}(\tilde{u}_h + w_h) = \mathbb{B}(\mathbb{K}\tilde{u}_h + \mathbb{K}w_h) = \mathbb{B}(\mathbb{K}\tilde{u}_h + \mathbf{F})$$

Finally we can define  $\mathbb{L}$  such as

$$\mathbb{L} = \mathbb{B}(\mathbb{K} + \tilde{\mathbb{K}})\mathbb{A}$$

where  $\tilde{\mathbb{K}}$  is such that  $\mathbf{F} = \tilde{\mathbb{K}}\tilde{u}_h$  and  $\mathbb{A}$  satisfies  $\tilde{u}_h = \mathbb{A}\mathbf{q}$ .

2. Wolters, Efficient Computation of lead field bases and influence matrix for the FEM-based EEG and MEG inverse problem, 2004

## Minimization problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } \mathbf{q}_m \in \mathbb{R}^{(dR)} \text{ such that} \\ \mathbf{q}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^{(dR)}} \|\mathbb{L}\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{u}_{EEG}\|^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{q}\|^2. \end{array} \right.$$

## sLORETA approach

- Minimum norm estimates

$$\mathbf{q}^* = \mathbb{L}^t (\mathbb{L}\mathbb{L}^t + \alpha \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{u}_{EEG}$$

- sLORETA

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i^* = (\mathbf{q}_i^*)^t ([\mathbf{S}^*]_{ii})^{-1} \mathbf{q}_i^*$$

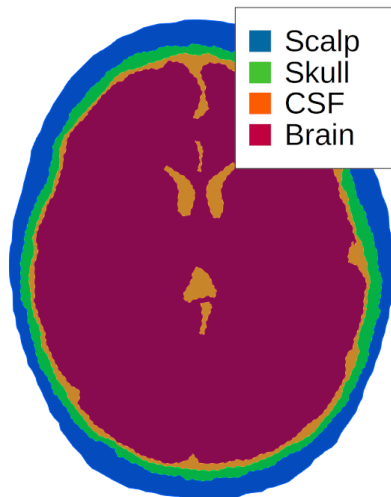
with  $\mathbf{S}^*$  defined by

$$\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbb{L}^t (\mathbb{L}\mathbb{L}^t + \alpha \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbb{L}$$

## Characteristics of the problem

- Mesh comes from a MRI image
- 64 electrodes
- 11643 sources
- Lead field matrix shape  

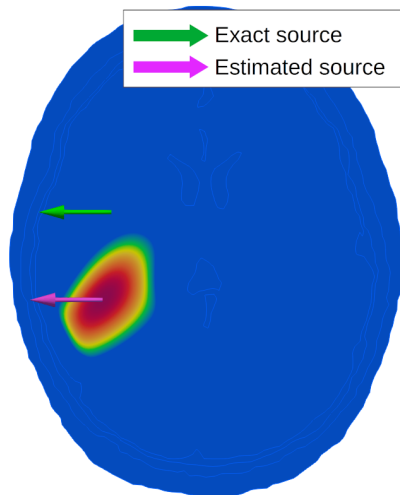
- Computation LFM  $\sim 5h$
- Resolution  $\sim 4.2s$
- 2% noise on measurements



Layers of the mesh



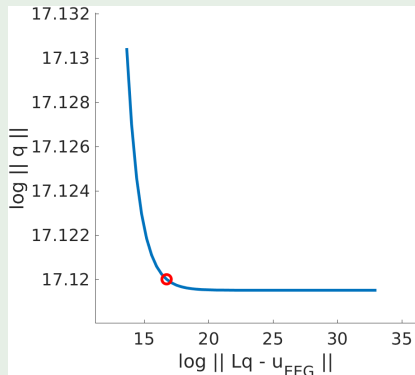
# Source localization



Exact and estimated source

## Results

- Computation of L-curve



- 2.5 cm error on location
- Wrong amplitude

# DOT inverse problem

## Cost function

The inverse problem consists in minimizing the cost function

$$J(\mu_a, \kappa) = \left\| \frac{\phi[\mu_a, \kappa] - \Phi}{\Phi} \right\|_{\partial\Omega}^2 + \frac{\alpha_\mu}{2} \left\| \frac{\mu_a - \mu_{a,0}}{\mu_{a,0}} \right\|_{\Omega}^2 + \frac{\alpha_\kappa}{2} \left\| \frac{\kappa - \kappa_0}{\kappa_0} \right\|_{\Omega}^2$$

## Cost function gradient

The cost function gradient is given by

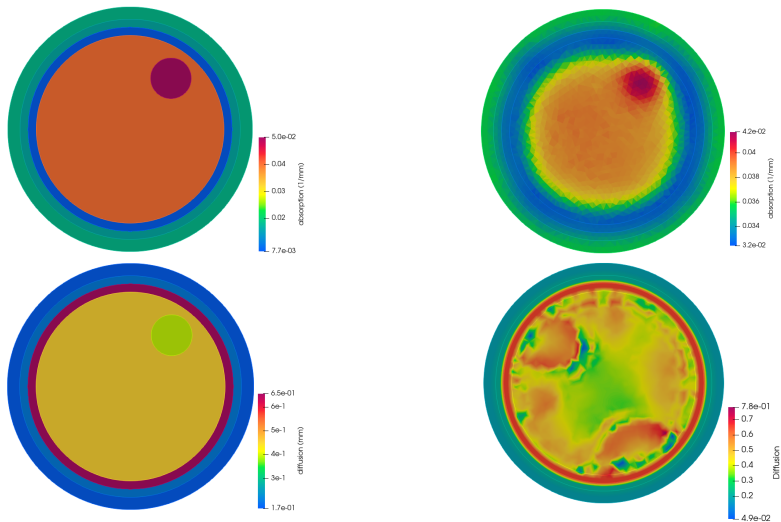
$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \nu}(\nu) = \Re \left\langle \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu}(\nu), \frac{\phi(\nu) - \Phi}{|\Phi|^2} \right\rangle_{\partial\Omega}$$

## Adjoint method

To reduce the computation of the gradient, we solve the adjoint problem

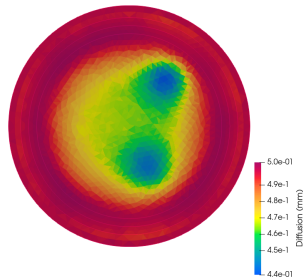
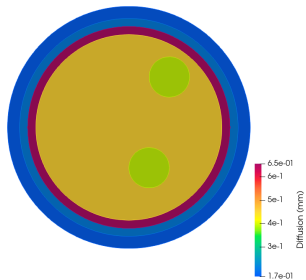
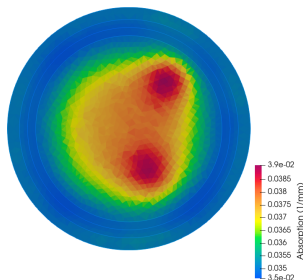
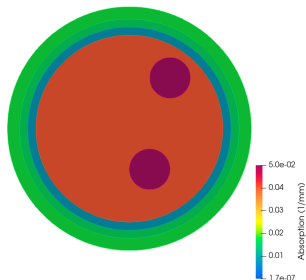
$$\int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla v \cdot \nabla \bar{p} dx + \int_{\Omega} \left( \mu_a + \frac{i\omega}{c} \right) v \bar{p} dx + \frac{1}{2\chi} \int_{\partial\Omega} v \bar{p} ds = -\Re \left\langle v, \frac{\phi - \Phi}{\Phi} \right\rangle_{\partial\Omega}$$

# Difficulties to find regularization parameters



Identification of absorption and diffusion coefficients

# Parameter identification



Identification of absorption and diffusion coefficients

# Coupling EEG to DOT

## Informations given by EEG

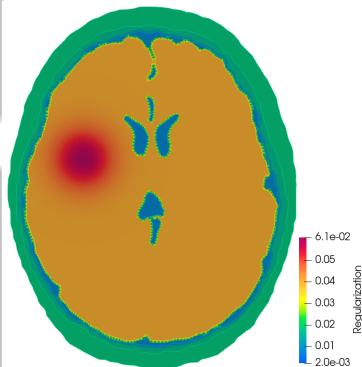
- Estimated position  $\tilde{\mathbf{S}}_m$
- Estimated moment  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_m$

## In regularization term

We can use these informations to constrain the reconstruction around an estimated function

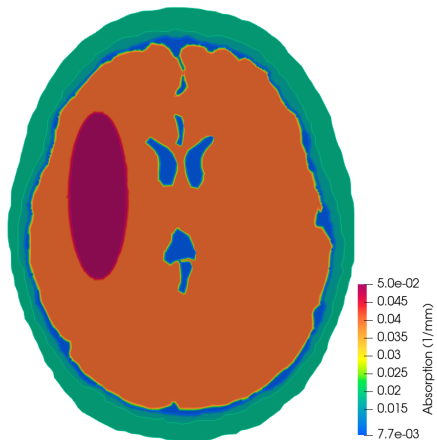
$$J(\mu_a) = \frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{\phi - \Phi}{\Phi} \right\|^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \left\| \frac{\mu_a - \tilde{\mu}_{a,0}}{\tilde{\mu}_{a,0}} \right\|^2$$

with  $\tilde{\mu}_{a,0} = \mu_{a,0} + A \exp\left(-\frac{1}{B} \|\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_m\|^2\right)$

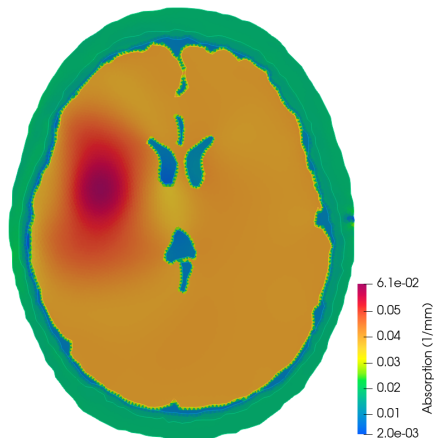


Regularization term

# Absorption coefficient reconstruction



Absorption coefficient



Absorption coefficient  
reconstruction

## Informations given by DOT

- Perturbation location
- Value in the perturbation

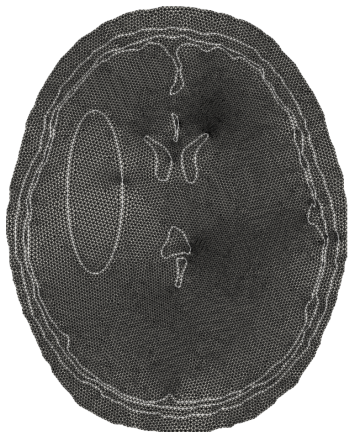
## Source space reduction

We can use the location to include it in the mesh and reduce the source space :

- Thresholding the solution
- Mesh the thresholding
- Use the new mesh for EEG problem

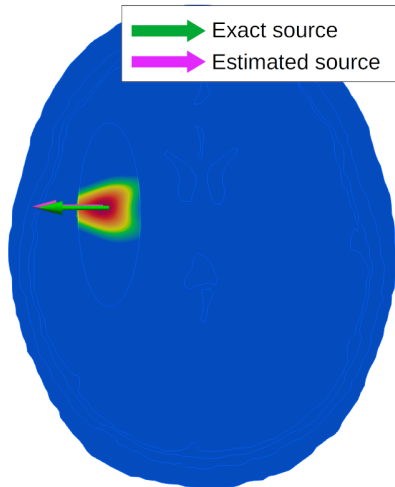
Source space before reduction : 11600

Source space after reduction : 750



Include the perturbation  
in the mesh

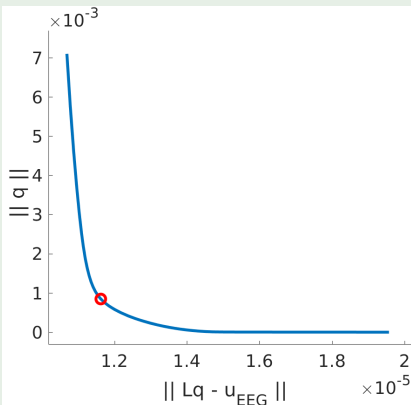
# Source space reduction



Exact and estimated source

## Results

- Computation of I-curve



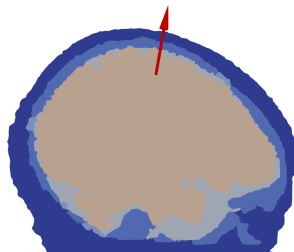
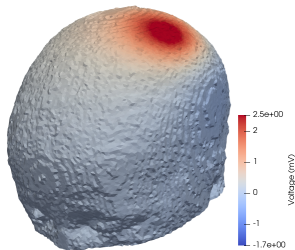
- 0.5 mm error on location
- Wrong amplitude



# Conclusion and perspectives

## Conclusion

- Time-depending models
- Coupled measurements
- Numerical inverse problem coupling



## Perspectives

- 3D inverse problems
- Method to find a DOT regularization parameter
- Time depend resolution of (coupled) inverse problems<sup>3</sup>

3. Gramfort, Time-Frequency Mixed-Norm Estimates : Sparse M/EEG imaging with non-stationary source activations, 2013