

Departmental Seminar

Abstracting Mental Representations: Theoretical Background and Applications of Representational Similarity Analysis (RSA)

4:30p.m. – 5:30p.m. | February 22, 2018 (Thursday)

Rm 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower | Centennial Campus | The University of Hong Kong



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Abstract

Over the past ten years multivoxel pattern analysis (MVPA) has became an essential tool in the neuroimaging community, helping researchers to reveal the informational content (aka mental representations) in the human brain. Among many different MVPA methods Representational Similarity Analysis (RSA) stands out to be a simple, elegant, easy to understand method that can be applied in a wide range of experimental paradigms to map out the response tuning function of a certain brain region. In this talk I'm going to present the theoretical basis of RSA, together with case demonstrations on how RSA can be flexibly applied to a range of studies with different designs and research questions. The pros and cons, as well as limitations of RSA will also be discussed.