

Minutes from MEG lunch at the HBM meeting June 21, 2009

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Minutes by Ole Jensen

1. Mailing list

Results of survey

- i. list members found a mailing list in general important.
- ii. ~50 found the Yahoo setup somewhat clunky (ease of use rates 3.5 on 5 point scale; 1:easy, 5:difficult)

In general the audience found a mailing helpful. The current problem is too few members and very little discussion.

Action points:

- Do membership drives
- Increase communication on list – be active
- Discuss with Jim McKay alternatives to Yahoo in connection with web-based forum (see below).

2. Web-based forum for communication

There was strong support for a web-based forum. Ideas for content:

- Listings for meetings/workshops/courses
- Job listings
- Listing all manufactures
- MEG publications
- Analysis packages
- Teaching material
- Data-sets to be used for testing inverse models (i.e. in the context of competitions).
- Interoperable software repository
- Guidelines for reporting results
- Linking to the NEMO portal
(<http://jas.nic.uoregon.edu/portal/web/guest/home>)

Most of these subjects should be covered by links to actual host sites.

Proposals for implementations:

- WIKI
- NITRC (www.nitrc.org)

Actions: We will investigate implementations and hosting.

3. Exchange of teaching materials

The web-based forum could serve this purpose. When running, efforts will be made to collect materials. Lecture slides (incl. voice/video) and focused papers would be essential

4. Mobile courses

Concept: local sites will arrange (hands-on) MEG courses and arrange logistics for own and outside participants. Suitable teachers and material will be identified in order to help organizers to plan. This will be communicated in the web-based forum. Course fees can be charged to cover costs.

5. Symposia/courses

- Courses/satellites on MEG analysis could be arranged at the HBM, FENS and Biomag meetings.
- Attempts should be made to arrange symposia at international meetings (HBM, CNS, ...). The subject of these symposia should be cognitive neuroscience topics in which MEG is a suitable tool (e.g. 'dynamic connectivity').

6. Improving research: towards standardized approaches.

The aim would be to provide guidelines on which technical details should be included in MEG papers and how results are appropriately reported. Such standardization should not be at the cost individualized approaches.

7. Misc

Several participants expressed the need for stronger articulating the advantages of MEG. This is important when raising funds for new systems and profiling MEG in the rest of the research community. Listing key publications on the web-based forum would be part of this; however, we will consider how else to approach the issue.