AN EM ALGORITHM FOR JOINT SOURCE SEPARATION AND DIARISATION OF MULTICHANNEL CONVOLUTIVE SPEECH MIXTURES

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ABSTRACT

We present a probabilistic model for joint source separation and diarisation of multichannel convolutive speech mixtures. We build upon the framework of local Gaussian model (LGM) with non-negative matrix factorization (NMF). The diarisation is introduced as a temporal labeling of each source in the mix as active or inactive at the short-term frame level. We devise an EM algorithm in which the source separation process is aided by the diarisation state, since the latter indicates the sources actually present in the mixture. The diarisation state is tracked with a Hidden Markov Model (HMM) with emission probabilities calculated from the estimated source signals. The proposed EM has separation performance comparable with a state-of-the-art LGM NMF method, while outperforming a state-of-the-art speaker diarisation pipeline.

Index Terms— Audio source separation, speaker diarisation, local Gaussian model.

1. INTRODUCTION

Multichannel audio source separation (MASS) aims at recovering unobserved source signals from observed mixtures [1]. MASS is mainly concerned with mixtures of speech, music, and ambient noise. Speaker diarisation is the segmentation and labelling of an audio signal emitted during multi-party conversations [2, 3]. In short, speaker diarisation is answering to the question "who is talking, and when?" while MASS tries to recover the emitted signals. Both processes are crucial front-ends for higher-level processes such as speech recognition, human-computer or human-robot interaction.

There has been extensive research addressing independently either MASS [4, 5, 6, 7], or speaker diarisation [2, 3] tasks. Currently, most of MASS methods implicitly assume all sources as continuously emitting. Besides, state-of-the-art methods on diarisation, e.g. [8] consists of a pipeline that starts by extracting features from the audio mixture, e.g. Mel frequency cepstral coefficients, and proceeds with speech/non-speech segmentation of the audio stream, and clustering of the speech segments into associated speakers.

Obviously, the two tasks are highly inter-related. Indeed, knowing the separated sources of an audio mixture helps assessing when each source is active/inactive. On the other hand, knowing the diarisation of the sources within the mixture determines how many sources need to be separated and when. Therefore, a joint formulation of MASS and diarisation can be beneficial for both problems. Except for a series of Higuchi et. al. [9, 10, 11], a framework addressing jointly the two problems seems overlooked in the literature; in [9, 10] the active/inactive state of a source is independently modeled with a factorial HMM in a MASS framework. This independent modeling of the activity of a source with respect to the activity of the other sources may be unrealistic for multiparty conversations. In [10] the source activity detection is combined with a direction-of-arrival-dependent HMM for the propagation model. A variational expectation maximization (EM) is presented that infers the sources, their activity and the model parameters, although under the assumption of a single active source per time-frequency bin.

In this paper we propose a probabilistic model for simultaneous diarisation and separation for multichannel audio mixtures that enjoys the following merits: We consider all possible combinations of simultaneous active sources and process them jointly, as the overall state of diarisation. An EM algorithm is designed for model parameter estimation. We compare the performance of the proposed EM with [5] in terms of separation, and with [8] in terms of diarisation.

The proposed model is presented in Section 2. The EM algorithm that estimates the parameters and that infers the source signals and the diarisation is presented in Section 3. Experimental evaluation reported in Section 4 shows competitive performance on both source separation and diarisation.

2. MODELS

2.1. Audio Mixtures with Diarisation

As in many source separation methods, the observed signal is modeled as a multichannel time-invariant convolutive noisy mixture of the source signals. We work with the short time Fourier transform (STFT) representation of the input audio, where $\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} = [x_{1,f\ell} \ldots x_{I,f\ell}]^\top \in \mathbb{C}^I$ is the I-channel vector of Fourier coefficients at frequency bin $f \in [1, F]$ and time

frame $\ell \in [1, L]$. Relying on the narrow-band assumption, i.e. the channel impulse response is shorter than the STFT analysis window, $\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}$ writes [12]: $\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} = \mathbf{A}_f \mathbf{s}_{f\ell} + \mathbf{b}_{f\ell}$, where $\mathbf{s}_{f\ell} = [s_{1,f\ell} \ldots s_{J,f\ell}]^\top \in \mathbb{C}^J$ is the latent vector of source coefficients, $\mathbf{A}_f \in \mathbb{C}^{I \times J}$ is the mixing matrix, and $\mathbf{b}_{f\ell} \in \mathbb{C}^I$ is residual noise. In the present study we want to express $\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}$ with a formulation that explicitly encodes the activity of the sources, in a binary manner; we have $N = 2^J$ possible combinations, or "states", for source activity. Let us represent a state $n \in [1, N]$ with a $[J \times J]$ diagonal matrix $\mathbf{D}_n$ with j^{th} entry $D_{jj,n}$ set to:

$$D_{jj,n} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ source is active at state } n \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

For example, with $J = 2$, the $N = 4$ possible matrices are:

$$\mathbf{D}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \\ & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{D}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{D}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{D}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Incorporating $\mathbf{D}_n$ we rewrite $\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}$ as:

$$\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} = \sum_{j=1}^J D_{jj,n} \mathbf{a}_{j,f} s_{j,f\ell} + \mathbf{b}_{f\ell} = \mathbf{A}_f \mathbf{D}_n \mathbf{s}_{f\ell} + \mathbf{b}_{f\ell}, \quad (3)$$

with $\mathbf{a}_{j,f} \in \mathbb{C}^I$ the jth column of $\mathbf{A}_f$. By choosing the matrix $\mathbf{D}_n$ for a frame ℓ, we select which of the J sources compose the mixture at that frame, as $\mathbf{D}_n$ zeroes out inactive sources.

2.2. Selecting the Diarisation

The activity of each sound source varies over time, hence the state is to be estimated for each frame ℓ. For this we define a latent categorical variable $Z_\ell = n, n \in [1, N]$ indicating the state at ℓ-th frame. The Z_ℓ follows a first-order HMM with:

$$p(Z_1 = n) = \lambda_n, \quad p(Z_\ell = n | Z_{\ell-1} = r) = T_{nr}, \quad (4)$$

with $\lambda_n, T_{nr} \in \mathbb{R}_+, n, r \in [1, N]$ being the prior and transition parameters to be estimated. Let us assume that $\mathbf{b}_{f\ell}$ follows a zero-mean proper complex-Gaussian distribution[1]. We can now express the mixture of (3) probabilistically:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} | \mathbf{s}_{f\ell}, Z_\ell = n) = \mathcal{N}_c (\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}; \mathbf{A}_f \mathbf{D}_n \mathbf{s}_{f\ell}, \mathbf{v}_f \mathbf{I}_I), \quad (5)$$

with $\mathbf{A}_f$ and $\mathbf{v}_f \in \mathbb{R}_+$ parameters to be estimated and $\mathbf{I}_I$ is the identity matrix of dimension I.

2.3. The Source Model

Let $\{\mathcal{K}_j\}_{j=1}^J$ denote a non-trivial partition of $\{1 \ldots K\}$, with $K \geq J$ the number of *latent components* that is known in

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[1]The proper complex Gaussian distribution is defined as $\mathcal{N}_c(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = |\pi\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{-1} \exp(-[\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}]^{\text{H}} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} [\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}])$, with $\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{C}^I$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{C}^{I \times I}$ being the argument, mean vector, and covariance matrix respectively [13].

advance. Following [5, 14, 15], $s_{j,f\ell}$ is modeled as the sum of the latent components $c_{k,f\ell}, k \in \mathcal{K}_j$:

$$s_{j,f\ell} = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_j} c_{k,f\ell} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{s}_{f\ell} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}, \quad (6)$$

where $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{N}^{J \times K}$ is a matrix with entries $G_{jk} = 1$ if $k \in \mathcal{K}_j$ and $G_{jk} = 0$ otherwise, and $\mathbf{c}_{f\ell} = [c_{1,f\ell}, \ldots, c_{K,f\ell}]^\top \in \mathbb{C}^K$ is the vector of component coefficients. Each component $c_{k,f\ell}$ follows a zero-mean proper complex Gaussian distribution with variance $w_{fk}h_{k\ell}$, and $w_{fk}, h_{k\ell} \in \mathbb{R}_+$ parameters to be estimated. The components are assumed to be mutually independent and individually independent across frequencies and over time; the probability density function (pdf) of the component vector therefore is:

$$p(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}) = \mathcal{N}_c\Big(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}; \mathbf{0}_K, \text{diag}_K(w_{fk}h_{k\ell})\Big), \quad (7)$$

with $\mathbf{0}_K$ the zero-vector of dimension K and $\text{diag}_K(d_k)$ the $K \times K$ diagonal matrix with respective entries $\{d_k\}_{k=1}^K$. Eq. (7) corresponds to a non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) model placed on the $F \times L$ matrix of variances of the source coefficients; a now common practice in audio signal processing, e.g. [16, 17, 18].

3. EM FOR SEPARATION AND DIARISATION

We derived an EM algorithm to infer the hidden variables $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}, \mathbf{s}_{f\ell}, Z_\ell\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L}$ and estimate the parameters $\theta = \{\mathbf{A}_f, \mathbf{v}_f, T_{nr}, \lambda_n, w_{fk}, h_{k\ell}\}_{f,\ell,k,n,r=1}^{F,L,K,N,N}$. The E-step and M-step are given below. The complete EM is given in Algorithm1. The iteration index is omitted for clarity.

3.1. E-step

The E-step consists of computing the joint posterior probability: $p(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}, Z_\ell = n | \{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L})$. This is done by first computing the posterior over the component coefficients: $p(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell} | Z_\ell = n, \{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L})$ and then computing the posterior over the states: $\eta_{\ell n} = p(Z_\ell = n | \{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L})$. After a few manipulations, it turns out that for every state $n \in [1, N]$ we obtain a different complex Gaussian pdf for the components:

$$p\left(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell} | Z_\ell = n, \{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L}\right) \propto p(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}) p(\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} | \mathbf{c}_{f\ell}, Z_\ell = n)$$
$$= \mathcal{N}_c\left(\mathbf{c}_{f\ell}; \hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{f\ell n}^c\right), \quad (8)$$

with $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n} \in \mathbb{C}^K$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{f\ell n}^c \in \mathbb{C}^{K \times K}$ given by:

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{f\ell n}^c = \left[\text{diag}_K\left(\frac{1}{w_{fk}h_{k\ell}}\right) + \mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{D}_n \frac{\mathbf{A}_f^{\text{H}} \mathbf{A}_f}{\mathbf{v}_f} \mathbf{D}_n \mathbf{G}\right]^{-1},$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{f\ell n}^c \mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{D}_n \mathbf{A}_f^{\text{H}} \frac{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}}{\mathbf{v}_f}. \quad (9)$$

From (6), we easily deduce that the source posterior distribution is a complex Gaussian with mean vector $\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n} \in \mathbb{C}^J$, and covariance matrix $\mathbf{\Sigma}^s_{f\ell n} \in \mathbb{C}^{J \times J}$ calculated with:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n} = \mathbf{G}\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n}, \quad \mathbf{\Sigma}^s_{f\ell n} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{\Sigma}^c_{f\ell n}\mathbf{G}^\top. \tag{10}$$

From (4), the posterior probability $\eta_{\ell n}$ of the nth state is calculated by decoding a first-order HMM (using the forward-backward algorithm [19]), with emission probabilities $\iota_{\ell n} = p(\{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}^{F,L}_{f,\ell=1}|Z_\ell = n)$ given by:

$$\iota_{\ell n} \propto \exp\left(\sum_{f=1}^{F}\left[\log\left|\mathbf{\Sigma}^s_{f\ell n}\right| + \frac{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}^{\text{H}}}{\mathbf{v}_f}\mathbf{A}_f\mathbf{D}_n\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n}\right]\right), \tag{11}$$

with $|.|$ the matrix determinant. Then we run the forward and backward recursions to compute the probabilities $\phi_{\ell n}, \beta_{\ell n}$:

$$\phi_{\ell n} \propto \iota_{\ell n}\sum_{r=1}^{N}T_{nr}\phi_{(\ell-1)r}, \tag{12}$$

$$\beta_{\ell n} \propto \sum_{r=1}^{N}T_{rn}\iota_{(\ell+1)r}\beta_{(\ell+1)r}. \tag{13}$$

Multiplying $\phi_{\ell n}$ with $\beta_{\ell n}$ and normalizing, we obtain:

$$\eta_{\ell n} \propto \phi_{\ell n}\beta_{\ell n}. \tag{14}$$

The recursions require initialization of ϕ_{1n} and β_{Ln}. We observed faster convergence by, at each EM iteration, setting $\phi_{1n} = \iota_{1n}\lambda_n$, running the forward recursion, and then setting $\beta_{Ln} = \phi_{Ln}$ to initialize the backward recursion.

3.2. M-step

In the M step, the parameters maximizing the expected complete-data log-likelihood are computed.

M-$w_{fk}, h_{k\ell}$ step: The parameters w_{fk} and $h_{k\ell}$ are coupled in the objective function and an alternation strategy is required, i.e. fixing one parameter to estimate the other. Similar to [5, 14] the updates for w_{fk} and $h_{k\ell}$ are:

$$w_{fk} = \frac{1}{L}\sum_{\ell=1}^{L}\frac{u_{k,f\ell}}{h_{k\ell}}, \quad h_{k\ell} = \frac{1}{F}\sum_{f=1}^{F}\frac{u_{k,f\ell}}{w_{fk}}, \tag{15}$$

with $u_{k,f\ell} \in \mathbb{R}_+$ being here the posterior PSD of $c_{k,f\ell}$ averaged with the posterior probability of the states:

$$u_{k,f\ell} = \sum_{n=1}^{N}\eta_{\ell n}\left(\Sigma^c_{kk,f\ell n} + |\hat{c}_{k,f\ell n}|^2\right), \tag{16}$$

with $\Sigma^c_{kk,f\ell n} \in \mathbb{R}_+$ being the kth diagonal entry of $\mathbf{\Sigma}^c_{f\ell n}$ and $\hat{c}_{k,f\ell n} \in \mathbb{C}$ being the kth entry of $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n}$.

Algorithm 1 Separation & diarisation of J sound sources

input $\{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}^{F,L}_{f,\ell=1}$, binary matrix $\mathbf{G}$, initial parameters θ.
construct: The 2^J matrices $\mathbf{D}_n, n \in [1, 2^J]$ with (2).
repeat
    E step C: Compute $\mathbf{\Sigma}^c_{f\ell n}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{f\ell n}$ with (9).
    E step S: Compute $\mathbf{\Sigma}^s_{f\ell n}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n}$ with (10).
    E step Z: Compute $\iota_{\ell n}$ with (11), set $\phi_{1n} = \lambda_n\iota_{1n}$,
        for $\ell : 2$ to L. Compute $\phi_{\ell n}$ with (12). **end**.
        Set $\beta_{Ln} = \phi_{Ln}$.
        for $\ell : L - 1$ to 1. Compute $\beta_{\ell n}$ with (13). **end**.
        Compute $\eta_{\ell n}$ with (14).
    M-$w_{fk}, h_{k\ell}$ step: Update w_{fk}, and then $h_{k\ell}$, with (15).
    M-T_{nr}, λ_n step: Update $\xi_{\ell,nr}$, then T_{nr}, λ_n, with (17).
    M-$\mathbf{A}_f$ step: Compute $\mathbf{o}_{f\ell}, \mathbf{R}_{f\ell}$ with (18), $\mathbf{A}_f$ with (19).
    M-$\mathbf{v}_f$ step: Update $\mathbf{v}_f$ with (20).
until convergence
return The source images, the diarisation $\mathbf{D}_{\hat{n}_\ell} \forall \ell$.

M-T_{nr}, λ_n step: Classically, for the HMM parameters, we calculate $\xi_{\ell,nr} = p(Z_\ell = n, Z_{\ell-1} = r|\{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\}^{F,L}_{f,\ell=1})$ and then update T_{nr} and λ_n with:

$$\xi_{\ell,nr} \propto \beta_{(\ell+1)n}\iota_{(\ell+1)n}T_{nr}\phi_{\ell r},$$
$$T_{nr} \propto \sum_{\ell=1}^{L-1}\xi_{\ell,nr}, \quad \lambda_n = \eta_{1n}. \tag{17}$$

M-$\mathbf{A}_f$ step: As the mixing matrix is common for all diarisation states, we need to first define the "final" source estimate $\mathbf{o}_{f\ell} \in \mathbb{C}^J$, i.e. average source estimate over the states, and the corresponding second-order statistic $\mathbf{R}_{f\ell} \in \mathbb{C}^{J \times J}$:

$$\mathbf{o}_{f\ell} = \sum_{n=1}^{N}\eta_{\ell n}\mathbf{D}_n\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n},$$
$$\mathbf{R}_{f\ell} = \sum_{n=1}^{N}\eta_{\ell n}\mathbf{D}_n\left(\mathbf{\Sigma}^s_{f\ell n} + \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n}\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{f\ell n}^{\text{H}}\right)\mathbf{D}_n. \tag{18}$$

Then the optimal value for $\mathbf{A}_f$ is:

$$\mathbf{A}_f = \left(\sum_{\ell=1}^{L}\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}\mathbf{o}_{f\ell}^{\text{H}}\right)\left(\sum_{\ell=1}^{L}\mathbf{R}_{f\ell}\right)^{-1}, \tag{19}$$

which is a standard form of least square estimator [5].

M-$\mathbf{v}_f$ step: The optimal noise variance is:

$$\mathbf{v}_f = \frac{1}{LI}\sum_{\ell=1}^{L}\left(\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}^{\text{H}}\mathbf{x}_{f\ell} - 2\mathfrak{Re}\left\{\mathbf{x}_{f\ell}^{\text{H}}\mathbf{A}_f\mathbf{o}_{f\ell}\right\} + \right.$$
$$\left. \text{tr}\left\{\mathbf{A}_f\mathbf{R}_{f\ell}\mathbf{A}_f^{\text{H}}\right\}\right). \tag{20}$$

where tr$\{.\}$ denotes the trace and $\mathfrak{Re}\{.\}$ denotes the real part.

3.3. Estimation of Separated Sources and Diarisation

The separation performance is assessed with the time domain source *images*, i.e. the multichannel source signals at all microphones [6, 20], estimated by applying the inverse STFT with overlap-add on $\{o_{j,f\ell}\mathbf{a}_{j,f}\}_{f,\ell=1}^{F,L}$. The diarisation output $\hat{n}_\ell$ is given at each frame by selecting the higher value of $\eta_{\ell n}$, $n \in [1, N]$. Then from $\mathbf{D}_{\hat{n}_\ell}$ we have the active sources at ℓ^{th} frame. Frames where $\eta_{\ell 1}$ is dominant are non-speech frames.

4. EVALUATION

To assess the performance of the proposed method, we simulated the challenging task of separating and diarizing $J = 3$ sources from a convolutive stereo mixture ($I = 2$). Each source signal was a 27s speech signal made by concatenating utterances chosen from the TIMIT database [21] (one different speaker for each source). As mixing filters, we used binaural room impulse responses from [22] having $RT_{60} \approx 0.68s$. We generated two types of mixtures: *Mix-DC* where all sources are emitting continuously. *Mix-8* where each source has balanced portions of speech and silence so that all $N = 8$ states appear.

MASS performance is assessed with the signal-to-distortion (SDR), signal-to-interference (SIR), and signal-to-artefact (SAR) measures (in dB) [23]. Diarisation is assessed with accuracy (Acc) defined as the percentage of frames for which a source was correctly identified (as either active if actually active, or inactive if actually inactive). As baseline, we used [5] for source separation and [8] for speaker diarisation. Both baselines were provided with the correct number of sources. Because [8] is designed for non-overlapping audio streams, we considered each of the 2^J source combinations as a virtual speaker, and we translated the result of the clustering over virtual speakers into clustering of individual sources (we tested all possible associations and reported the one giving the highest accuracy). Afterwards, we use a median filter on the estimated label of each source to remove spikes.

The initialization of the parameters is crucial for EM. We initialized the parameters $w_{fk}, h_{k\ell}$ of both the proposed EM and [5], by applying the KL-NMF algorithm [17] on corrupted versions of the true source spectra, using $|\mathcal{K}_j| = 20$ components per source. The other parameters were randomly initialized. For the STFT analysis we used a sine analysis window with 512 taps and 50% frame overlap, leading to $L = 1697$ frames.

In Table 1 we report detailed MASS and diarisation scores. Each value is an average measure over 10 mixture realizations with different speakers. Fig. 1 illustrates one diarisation result for *Mix-8*. In terms of MASS, we see that the proposed method performs equally well with [5] on both *Mix-8* and *Mix-DC*. E.g. on *Mix-8* the avg. SDR of the proposed method is 0.2dB higher (8.3dB versus 8.1dB). This is encouraging, considering that the proposed method has
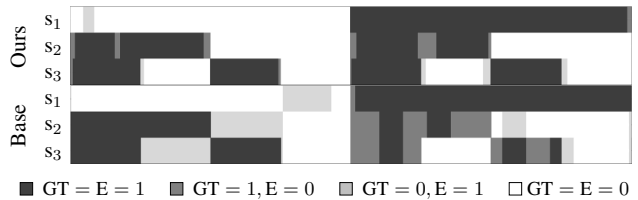
Fig. 1. Timing diagram of per source estimated diarisation for *Mix-8* when using the proposed method (top) and the baseline (bottom). The graphic is color-coded as a function of the ground-truth (GT) and the estimate (E) per each segment.

Table 1. Average source separation & diarisation scores.

			Mix-8				Mix-DC		
		SDR	SIR	SAR	Acc.(%)	SDR	SIR	SAR	Acc.(%)
Ours	s_1	7.7	11.6	12.1	93.5	7.8	12.4	12.2	99.5
	s_2	7.9	14.9	16.6	94.3	7.3	14.0	15.1	93.2
	s_3	9.2	13.4	14.1	87.5	8.9	13.3	14.0	99.3
	avg.	8.3	13.3	14.3	91.7	8.0	13.3	13.7	97.3
Base	s_1	7.6	12.6	12.4	89.0	7.7	12.6	12.7	87.8
	s_2	7.6	13.5	15.9	68.4	7.3	13.1	16.0	82.2
	s_3	9.0	13.1	14.8	67.4	8.8	13.0	14.8	61.8
	avg.	8.1	13.1	14.4	74.9	7.9	12.9	14.5	77.3

estimate the additional parameters needed for diarisation. In terms of diarisation, the proposed method higher accuracy than [8] on *Mix-8* (91.7% versus 74.9%) and on *Mix-DC* (97.3% versus 77.3%). This justifies the joint modeling of the source activity detection and the source signal recovery. Qualitatively, we see from Fig. 1 that the activity pattern is tracked with only a few misdetections.

5. CONCLUSIONS

We introduced an LGM based probabilistic framework for joint MASS and diarisation of the audio sources in a multichannel mix. Experiments on underdetermined speech mixtures showed competitive performance of the proposed method compared to the state-of-the-art, in particular in diarisation. Future research will investigate the ability of the proposed model to automatically determine the number of sources J (via $\mathbf{D}_{\hat{n}_\ell}$). We will benchmark the performance of alternative source models, e.g. [24], when bundled with a diarisation scheme. We will explore realistic initialization schemes, so to create a fully blind joint MASS and diarisation method. We espy also the simultaneous use of source localization cues to improve separation and diarisation.

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