

#### **RODENT FUNCTIONAL MRI**

Valerio Zerbi

EPFL and CIBM

CIBM translational MR neuroimaging & spectroscopy, 05.05.2023











# OVERVIEW OF THE MORNING

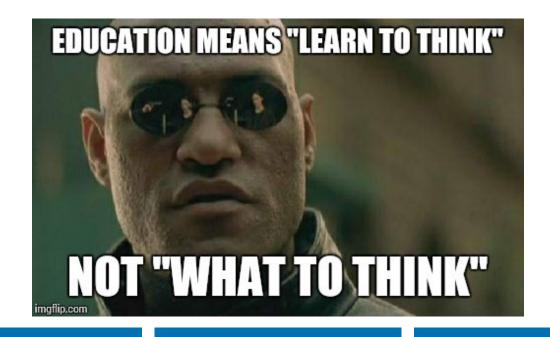
- Preface: what are the limits of (human) fMRI?
- Part 1. fMRI in rodents. what do you need and what should you expect
- Part 2. The functional Connectome in rodents
- Part 3. fMRI in Transgenic rodent models for human disorders
- Part 4. Manipulating cell activity to observe network reaction
- Part 5. Translating fMRI results from rodent to humans

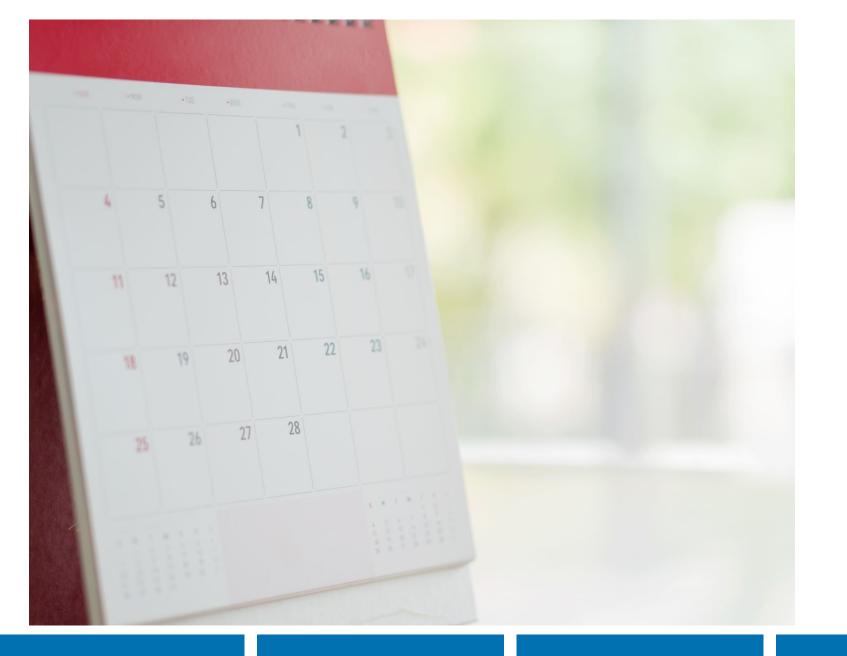


# BY THE END OF TODAY ...



✓ YOU HAVE DEVELOPED A **CRITICAL MINDSET** THAT CONSIDERS THE REASONS AND PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING AN ANIMAL EXPERIMENT THAT INCORPORATES FUNCTIONAL MRI







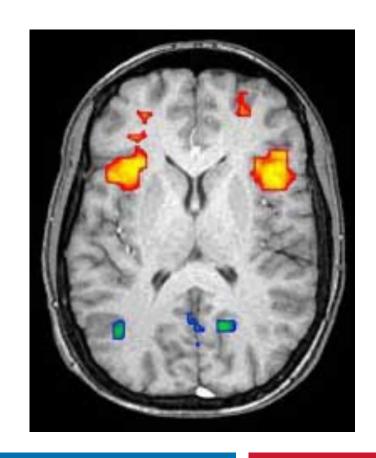
# FIRST, A RECAP FROM LAST WEEK ..

# SUMMARY: WHAT IS FMRI



# fMRI is a a technique for measuring metabolic correlates of neuronal activity

Uses a standard MRI scanner and fast imaging sequences (EPI)
Acquires a series of images over time
Measures changes in blood oxygenation
Use non invasive, non ionizing radiation
Can be applied during a task or resting-state
Can be used for a wide range of applications



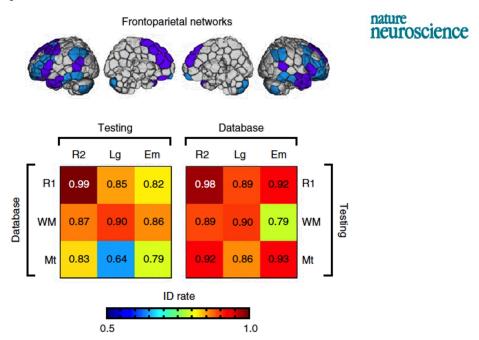
# RECAP: NEUROSCIENCE APPLICATIONS OF FMRI



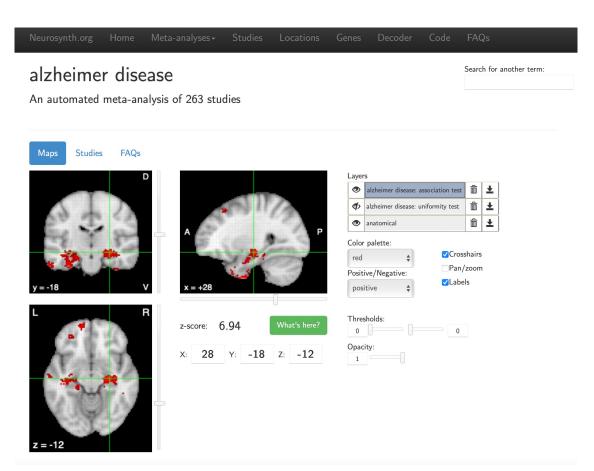
# **Resting-state fMRI**

# Functional connectome fingerprinting: identifying individuals using patterns of brain connectivity

Emily S Finn<sup>1,7</sup>, Xilin Shen<sup>2,7</sup>, Dustin Scheinost<sup>2</sup>, Monica D Rosenberg<sup>3</sup>, Jessica Huang<sup>2</sup>, Marvin M Chun<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Xenophon Papademetris<sup>2,5</sup> & R Todd Constable<sup>1,2,6</sup>



# Task-fMRI



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# RECAP: NEUROSCIENCE APPLICATIONS OF FMRI



#### **ALWAYS A HOT TOPIC!!**

#### nature

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nature > articles > article

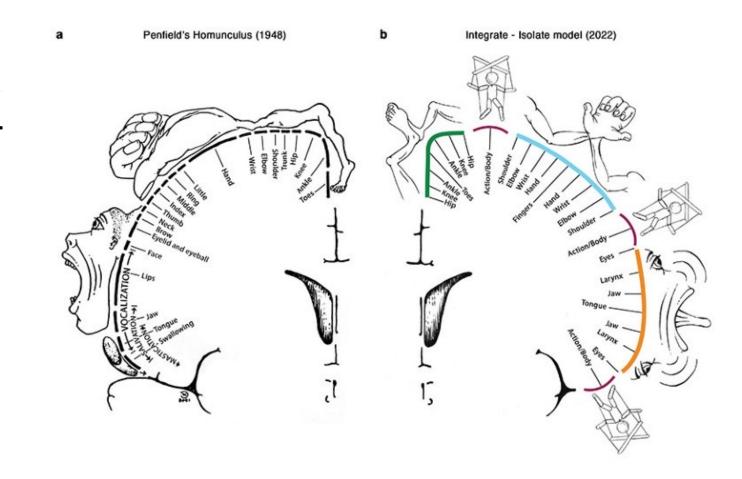
Article | Open Access | Published: 19 April 2023

# A somato-cognitive action network alternates with effector regions in motor cortex

Evan M. Gordon ☑, Roselyne J. Chauvin, Andrew N. Van, Aishwarya Rajesh, Ashley Nielsen, Dillan J. Newbold, Charles J. Lynch, Nicole A. Seider, Samuel R. Krimmel, Kristen M. Scheidter, Julia Monk, Ryland L. Miller, Athanasia Metoki, David F. Montez, Annie Zheng, Immanuel Elbau, Thomas Madison, Tomoyuki Nishino, Michael J. Myers, Sydney Kaplan, Carolina Badke D'Andrea, Damion V. Demeter, Matthew Feigelis, Julian S. B. Ramirez, ... Nico U. F. Dosenbach ☑ + Show authors

Nature (2023) | Cite this article

87k Accesses | 1 Citations | 1598 Altmetric | Metrics



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## RECAP: NEUROSCIENCE APPLICATIONS OF FMRI



#### **ALWAYS A HOT TOPIC!!**

#### nature neuroscience

Article

ttps://doi.org/10.1038/s41593-023-01304-9

# Semantic reconstruction of continuous language from non-invasive brain recordings

Received: 1 April 2022

Jerry Tang<sup>1</sup>, Amanda LeBel © <sup>2</sup>, Shailee Jain © <sup>1</sup> & Alexander G. Huth © <sup>1,2</sup>

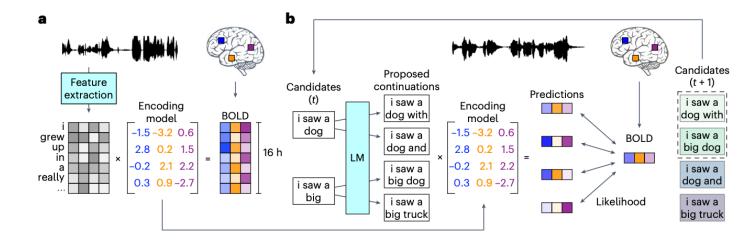
BIOTECHNOLOGY

# Brain scans can translate a person's thoughts into words

A new system was able to capture exact words and phrases from the brain activity of someone listening to podcasts.

By Rhiannon Williams

May 1, 2023



Actual stimulus

Decoded stimulus

i got up from the air mattress and pressed my face against the glass of the bedroom window expecting to see eyes staring back at me but instead finding only darkness

i didn't know whether to scream cry or run away instead said leave me alone i don't need your help adam disappeared and i cleaned up alone crying

that night i went upstairs to what had been our bedroom and not knowing what else to do i turned out the lights and lay down on the floor

i don't have my driver's license yet and i just jumped out right when i needed to and she says well why don't you come back to my house and i'll give you a ride i say ok i just continued to walk up to the window and open the glass i stood on my toes and peered out i didn't see anything and looked up again i saw nothing

started to scream and cry and then she just said i told you to leave me alone you can't hurt me anymore i'm sorry and then he stormed off i thought he had left i started to cry

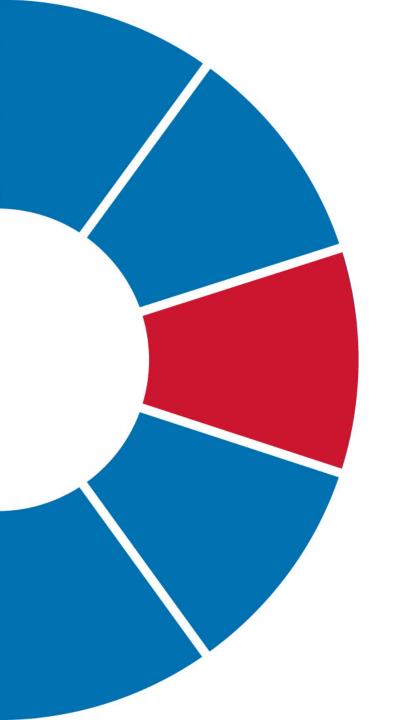
we got back to my dorm room i had no idea where my bed was i just assumed i would sleep on it but instead i lay down on the floor

she is not ready she has not even started to learn to drive yet i had to push her out of the car i said we will take her home now and she agreed Exact

Gist

Error

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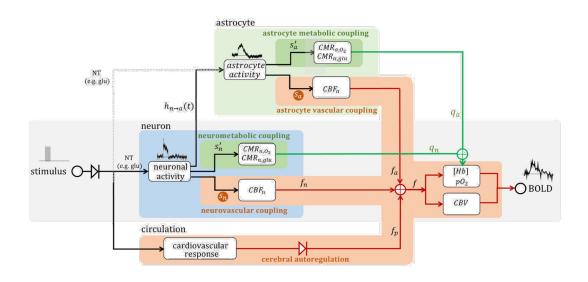


# PREFACE: WHAT ARE THE LIMITS OF HUMAN FMRI?

"Keep your friends close but your enemies closer" Sun Tzu

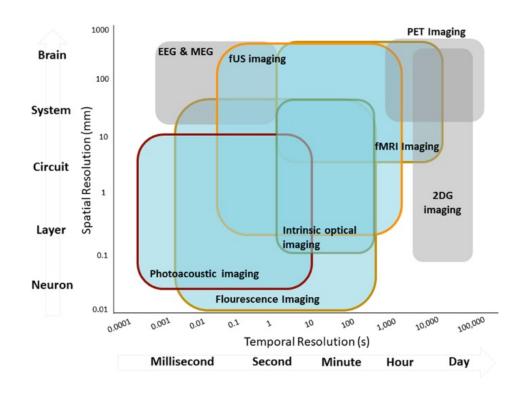


 INDIRECT MEASURE OF BRAIN ACTIVITY





- INDIRECT MEASURE OF BRAIN ACTIVITY
- LOW SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL RESOLUTION





- INDIRECT MEASURE OF BRAIN ACTIVITY
- LOW SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL RESOLUTION
- INTRINSIC HETEROGENEITY OF fMRI RESPONSES AND FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIVITY

#### nature

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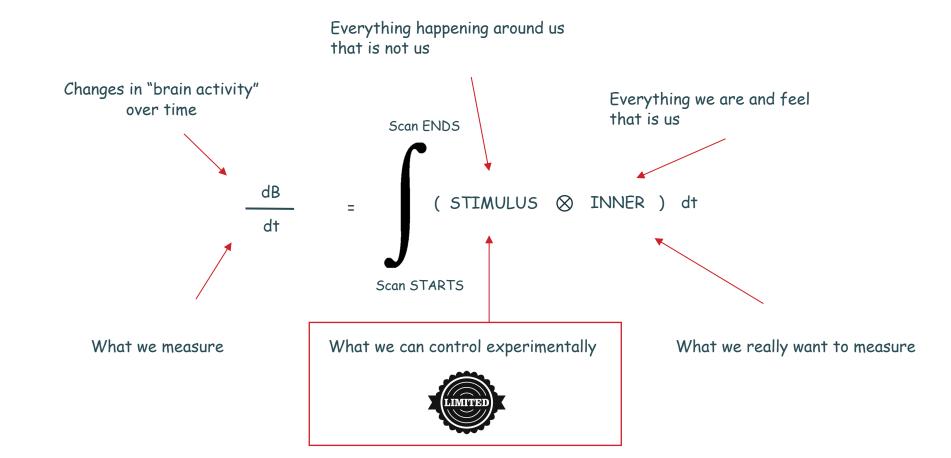
nature > articles > article

Article Open Access Published: 16 March 2022

# Reproducible brain-wide association studies require thousands of individuals





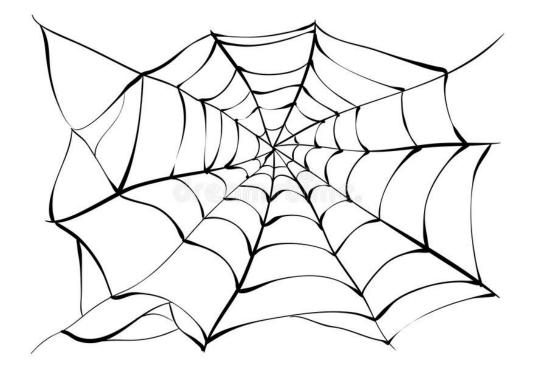


# PROPRIETIES OF THE FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIVITY

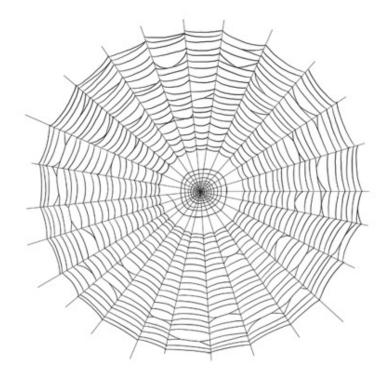


## ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

STUDY GROUP

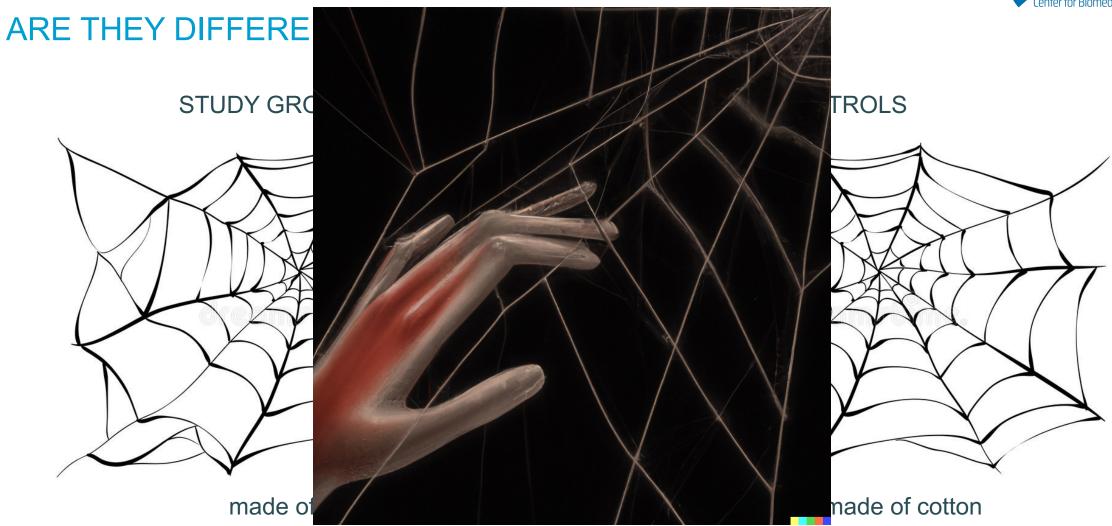


#### **CONTROLS**



# PROPRIETIES OF THE FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIVITY





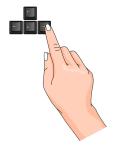
# **BIGGEST ADVANTAGE: MULTI-MODAL FMRI**











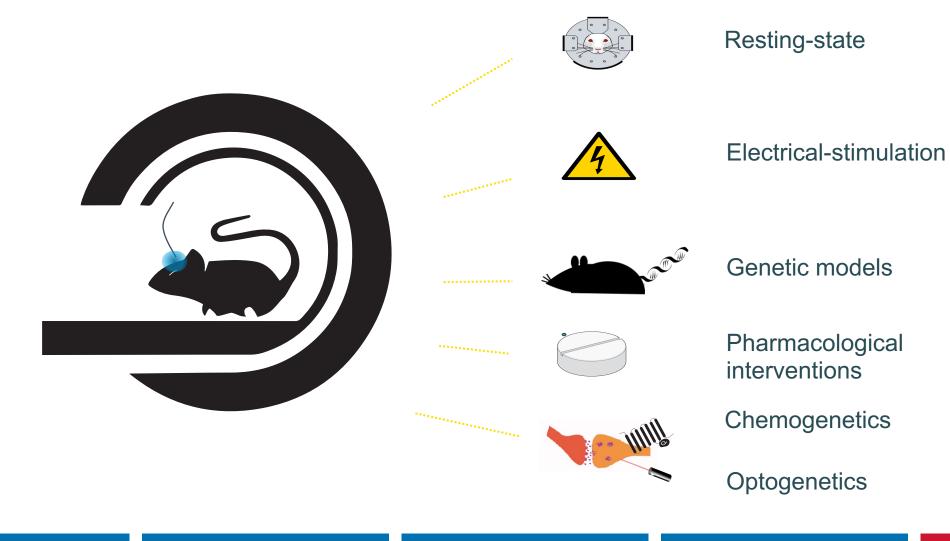
Task-based fMRI



Pharmacological interventions (rare & expensive)

# **BIGGEST ADVANTAGE: MULTI-MODAL FMRI**

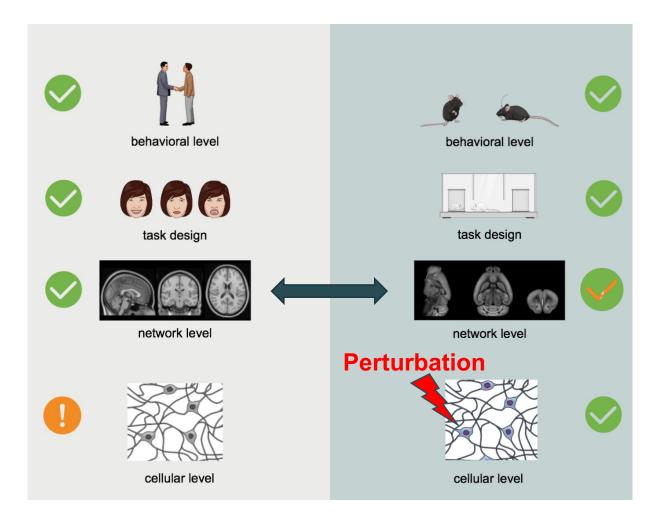




# **BIGGEST ADVANTAGE: MULTI-MODAL FMRI**



# CORRELATION

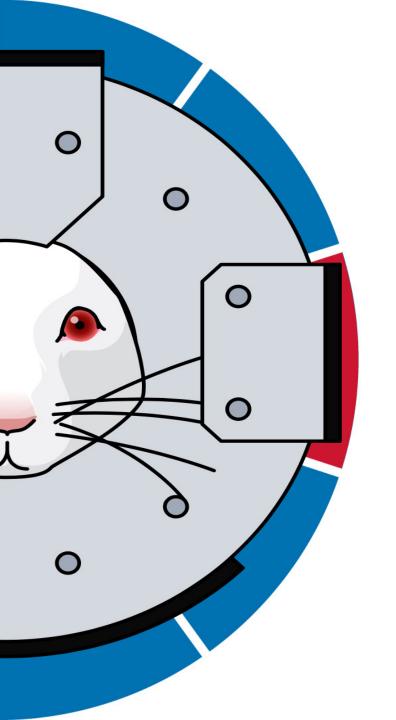


SAUSATION

Grimm et al., The Neuroscientist, 2020

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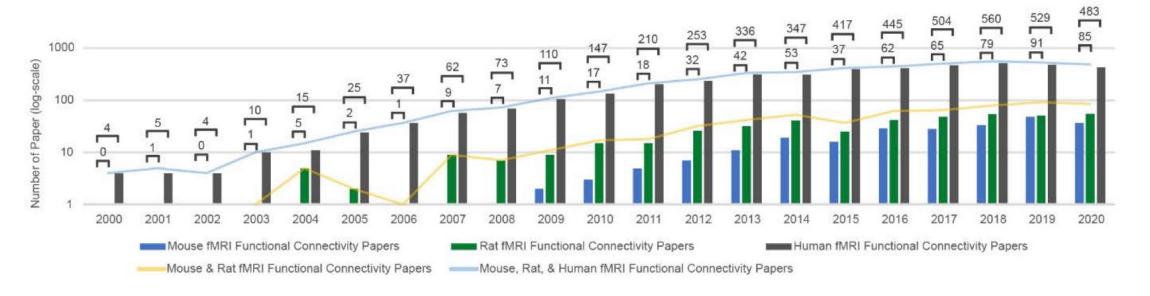
18



PART 1. FMRI IN RODENTS. WHAT DO YOU NEED AND WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT



#### Number of Papers of fMRI Functional Connectivity Published





#### Hardware & Software

- High-field MRI
- Tech for high SNR (e.g. cryogenic coil technology)
- Optimized light-anesthesia protocols
  - o or protocols for accustom animals to head-fixation
- Dedicated (pre)processing pipeline









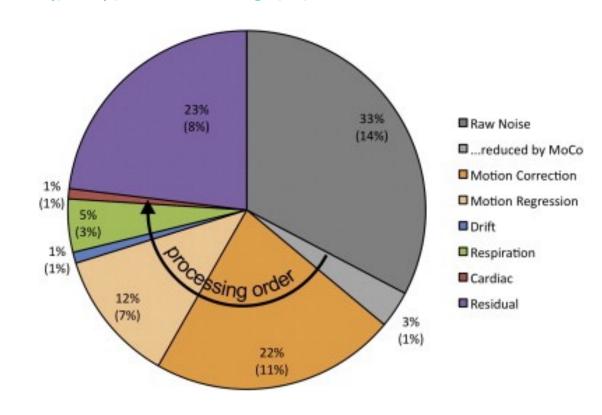


# Why we need high-field scanners?

		Mouse	Rat	Human
Anatomy	Brain Volume	415 mm3 (Kovacěvic et al., 2005)	1765 mm3 (Welniak- Kaminska et al., 2019)	1200 cm3 (Yu et al., 2013)
	Gyrification	Flat (Ventura- Antunes et al., 2013)	Flat (Ventura- Antunes et al., 2013)	Folded (Ventura-Antunes et al., 2013)
	Cortical Thickness	<1 mm (Lerch et al., 2008)	1 - 2 mm (Vetreno et al., 2017)	1 - 4.5 mm (Fischl & Dale, 2000)
MRI Parameters	Resolution	20 - 50 µm (Turnbull & Mori, 2007)	90 - 150 μm (Barrière et al., 2019)	0.1 - 3 mm (Edlow et al., 2019; Fischl & Dale, 2000)
	TR (seconds)	0.15-3 (Gilbert et al., 2019; Turnbull & Mori, 2007)	0.15-3 (Gilbert et al., 2019)	<0.25 – 5 (K. H. Chuang & Chen, 2001; Sahib et al., 2018; Van Dijk et al., 2010)
	Resting-State Scan Time (minutes)	~10-20 (Bauer et al. 2017; Belloy et al. 2018)	~10 (Christiaen et al., 2019)	~5-15 (Elliott et al., 2019)

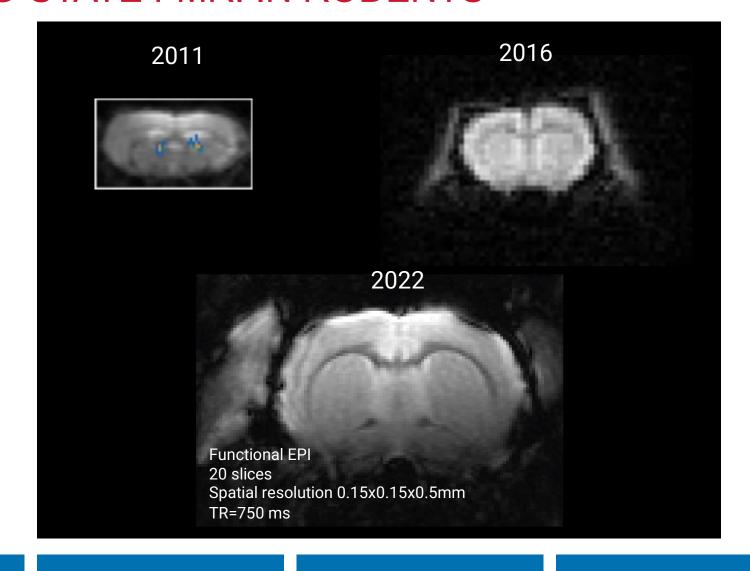


# Why we need dedicated (pre)processing pipeline?



Functional connectivity in the rat at 11.7 T: Impact of physiological noise in resting state fMRI. NeuroImage 2010



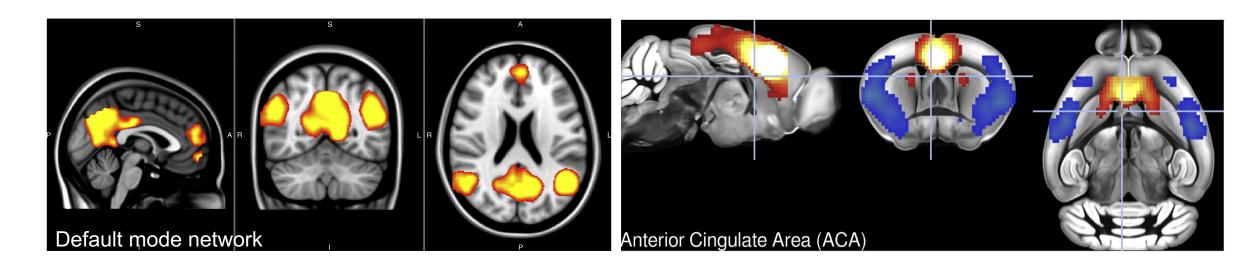


 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 



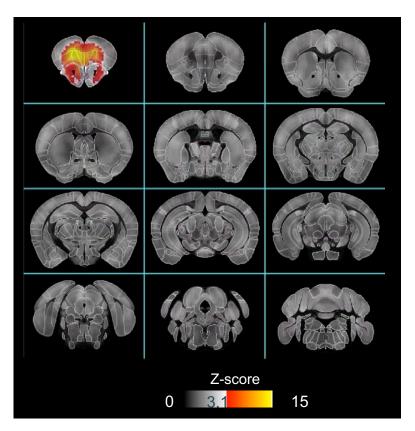
#### A matter of trust

 Functional MRI data are relatively easy to acquire, but their quality is extremely difficult to judge with simple visual inspections

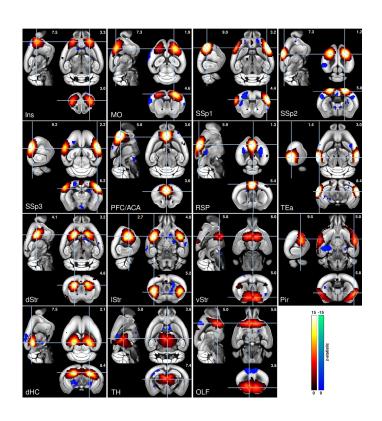




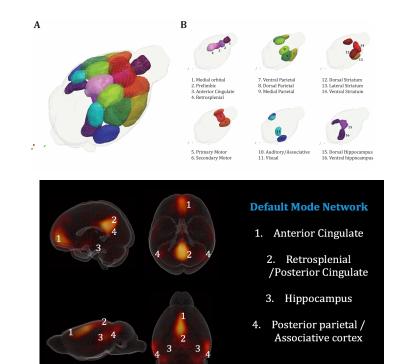
#### **Mouse Brain Networks**



Zerbi et al., Neurolmage, 2015



Grandjean et al., Neurolmage, 2020



Zerbi et al., Cerebral Cortex, 2018

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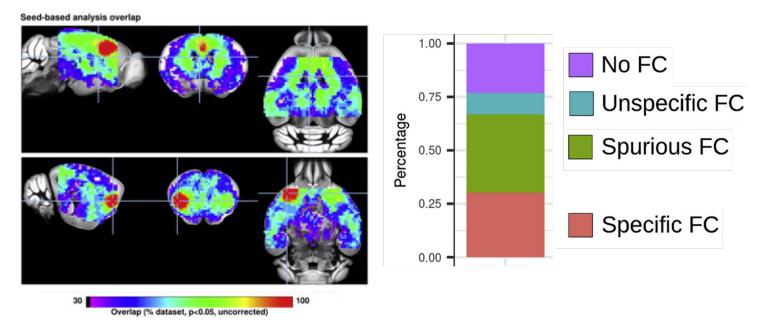


 Only 25% of datasets collected from 17 groups worldwide showed specific spatial patterns of functional connectivity

Multicenter Study > Neuroimage. 2020 Jan 15;205:116278. doi: 10.1016/j.neuroimage.2019.116278. Epub 2019 Oct 12.

# Common functional networks in the mouse brain revealed by multi-centre resting-state fMRI analysis

Joanes Grandjean <sup>1</sup>, Carola Canella <sup>2</sup>, Cynthia Anckaerts <sup>3</sup>, Gülebru Ayrancı <sup>4</sup>, Salma Bougacha <sup>5</sup>, Thomas Bienert <sup>6</sup>, David Buehlmann <sup>7</sup>, Ludovico Coletta <sup>2</sup>, Daniel Gallino <sup>4</sup>, Natalia Gass <sup>8</sup>, Clément M Garin <sup>5</sup>, Nachiket Abhay Nadkarni <sup>5</sup>, Neele S Hübner <sup>6</sup>, Meltem Karatas <sup>9</sup>, Yuji Komaki <sup>10</sup>, Silke Kreitz <sup>11</sup>, Francesca Mandino <sup>12</sup>, Anna E Mechling <sup>6</sup>, Chika Sato <sup>13</sup>, Katja Sauer <sup>11</sup>, Disha Shah <sup>14</sup>, Sandra Strobelt <sup>11</sup>, Norio Takata <sup>15</sup>, Isabel Wank <sup>11</sup>, Tong Wu <sup>16</sup>, Noriaki Yahata <sup>13</sup>, Ling Yun Yeow <sup>17</sup>, Yohan Yee <sup>18</sup>, Ichio Aoki <sup>13</sup>, M Mallar Chakravarty <sup>19</sup>, Wei-Tang Chang <sup>17</sup>, Marc Dhenain <sup>5</sup>, Dominik von Elverfeldt <sup>6</sup>, Laura-Adela Harsan <sup>20</sup>, Andreas Hess <sup>11</sup>, Tianzi Jiang <sup>21</sup>, Georgios A Keliris <sup>3</sup>, Jason P Lerch <sup>22</sup>, Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg <sup>23</sup>, Hideyuki Okano <sup>24</sup>, Markus Rudin <sup>25</sup>, Alexander Sartorius <sup>8</sup>, Annemie Van der Linden <sup>3</sup>, Marleen Verhoye <sup>3</sup>, Wolfgang Weber-Fahr <sup>8</sup>, Nicole Wenderoth <sup>26</sup>, Valerio Zerbi <sup>26</sup>, Alessandro Gozzi <sup>27</sup>



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#### Are rats-fMRI scans better?

#### nature neuroscience

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nature > nature neuroscience > resources > article

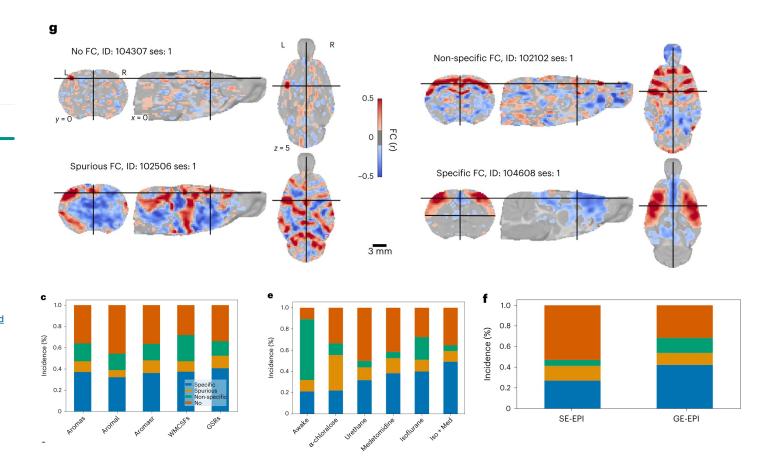
Resource | Published: 27 March 2023

# A consensus protocol for functional connectivity analysis in the rat brain

Joanes Grandjean ☑, Gabriel Desrosiers-Gregoire, Cynthia Anckaerts, Diego Angeles-Valdez, Fadi
Ayad, David A. Barrière, Ines Blockx, Aleksandra Bortel, Margaret Broadwater, Beatriz M. Cardoso,
Marina Célestine, Jorge E. Chavez-Negrete, Sangcheon Choi, Emma Christiaen, Perrin Clavijo, Luis
Colon-Perez, Samuel Cramer, Tolomeo Daniele, Elaine Dempsey, Yujian Diao, Arno Doelemeyer, David
Dopfel, Lenka Dvořáková, Claudia Falfán-Melgoza, ... Andreas Hess + Show authors

Nature Neuroscience 26, 673–681 (2023) | Cite this article

4218 Accesses | 1 Citations | 80 Altmetric | Metrics



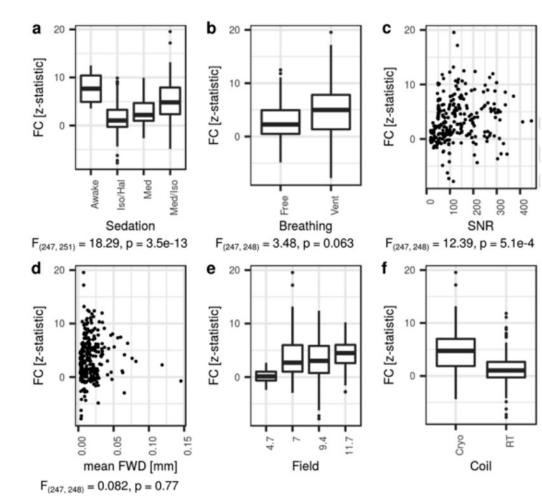
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# HOW TO GET REPRODUCIBLE FMRI DATA?



#### Some rules of thumb

- Med/Iso anaesthesia protocols performs better
- Ventilation and head-motion: not too important
- Strive for High SNR
- High field (>7T)
- GE-EPI > SE-EPI
- Awake: higher FC but likely not specific





"It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it.

If you think about that, you'll do

THINGS DIFFERENTLY."

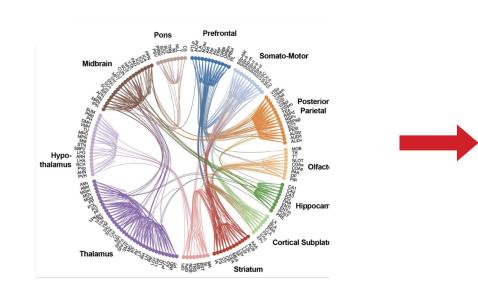
-Warren Buffet

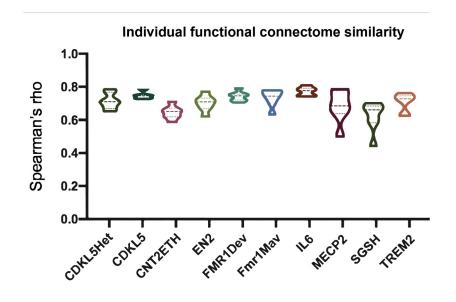
(CEO, investor, business tycoon, & philanthropist)

# **ALWAYS MANUALLY CHECK YOUR DATA!**



# "If you can't replicate your findings, would you trust your data?"





High reproducibility (r>0.73) of functional connectivity between **95 wildtype animals** across in **ten different cohorts** 

Zerbi et al., J Neuroscience 2014; Zerbi et al., Neurolmage 2015; Haberl et al., Science Adv, 2015; Zerbi-Weismann M et al., Neur Plast. 2016; Arnoldussen et al., J Nutr Biochem, 2016; Sethi - Zerbi et al., Chaos, 2017; Wiesmann et al., Theranostic, 2017; Grandjean-Zerbi et al., J Neuroscience, 2017; Filipello et al., Immunity, 2018; Zerbi et al., C Cortex 2018; Schwab et al., Neurolmage 2018; Chelini-Zerbi et al., J Neuroscience 2019; Zerbi et al., Neurolmage 2019; Zerbi-Floriou-Servou et al., Neurolmage 2019; Fulcher et al., PNAS, 2019; Greandjean et al., Neurolmage 2020; Balsters-Zerbi et al., Mol Psy 2021

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# THE ISSUE OF ANESTHESIA

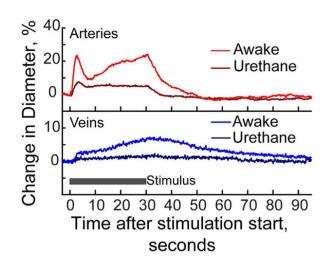


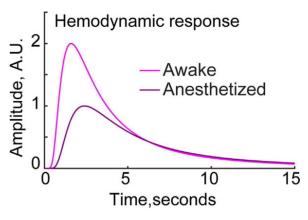
#### Good because

- Rodents are not usually compliant to human indications
- Massively reduce motion artifacts
- Easy handling and positioning
- Allow high throughput
- Remove "emotional" components from brain states

#### Bad because

- Can change neurovascular coupling
- Many anaesthetics act on vasoconstriction/dilation



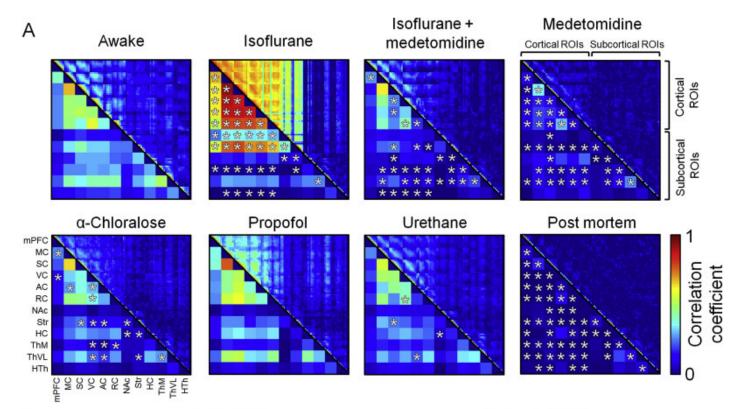


Gao et al., Neuroimage 2017

# THE ISSUE OF ANESTHESIA



# Be aware, all anaesthetics change the "state" of the brain



Paasonen et al., Neuroimage 2018

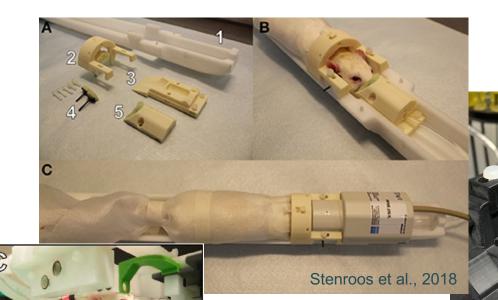
# PATH TOWARDS AWAKE IMAGING

R L

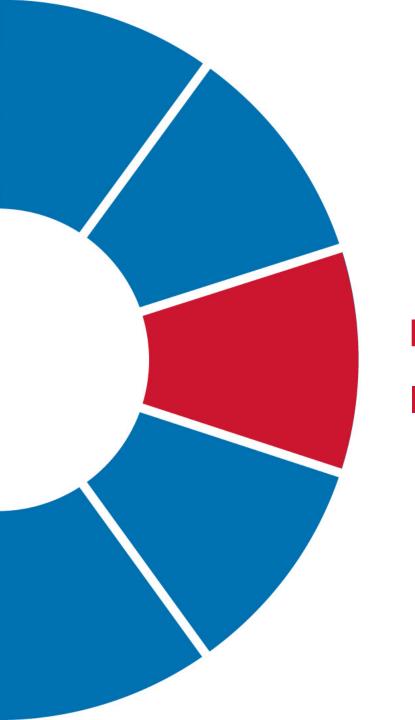
Paasonen et al 2021



Awake functional imaging setup





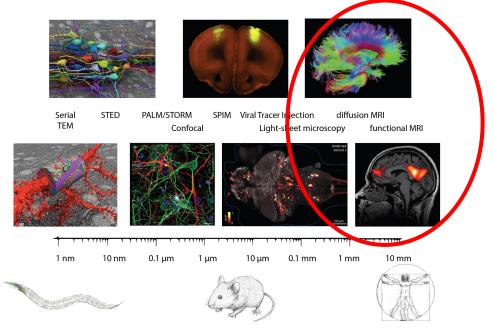


PART 2. THE FUNCTIONAL CONNECTOME IN RODENTS

# ALWAYS THINK OF YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION



- Q: Is the MRI-based connectome ... meaningful?
- A: To answer this question we need to compare it with the current GOLD STANDARD



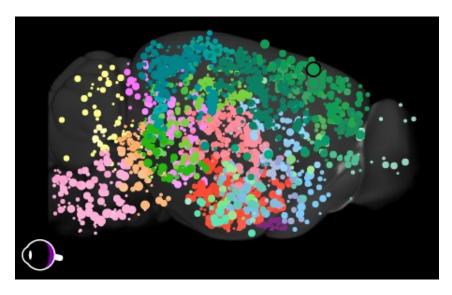


# A mesoscale connectome of the mouse brain

Seung Wook Oh<sup>1</sup>\*, Julie A. Harris<sup>1</sup>\*, Lydia Ng<sup>1</sup>\*, Brent Winslow<sup>1</sup>, Nicholas Cain<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Mihalas<sup>1</sup>, Quanxin Wang<sup>1</sup>, Chris Lau<sup>1</sup>, Leonard Kuan<sup>1</sup>, Alex M. Henry<sup>1</sup>, Marty T. Mortrud<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin Ouellette<sup>1</sup>, Thuc Nghi Nguyen<sup>1</sup>, Staci A. Sorensen<sup>1</sup>, Clifford R. Slaughterbeck<sup>1</sup>, Wayne Wakeman<sup>1</sup>, Yang Li<sup>1</sup>, David Feng<sup>1</sup>, Anh Ho<sup>1</sup>, Eric Nicholas<sup>1</sup>, Karla E. Hirokawa<sup>1</sup>, Phillip Bohn<sup>1</sup>, Kevin M. Joines<sup>1</sup>, Hanchuan Peng<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Hawrylycz<sup>1</sup>, John W. Phillips<sup>1</sup>, John G. Hohmann<sup>1</sup>, Paul Wohnoutka<sup>1</sup>, Charles R. Gerfen<sup>2</sup>, Christof Koch<sup>1</sup>, Amy Bernard<sup>1</sup>, Chinh Dang<sup>1</sup>, Allan R. Jones<sup>1</sup> & Hongkui Zeng<sup>1</sup>

- Recombinant adeno-associated virus (AAV) expressing EGFP as anterograde tracer to map axonal projections
- EGFP-labelled axonal projections were systematically imaged using a two-photon tomography system

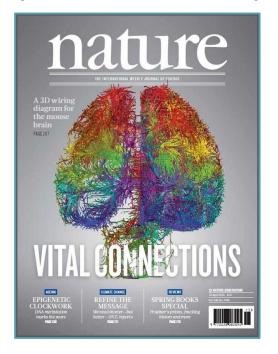


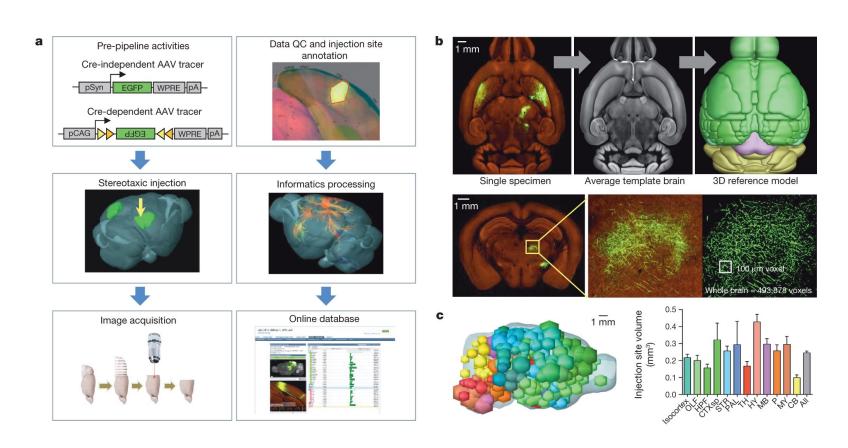


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# **Tracer Injection data** (Structural Connectome)

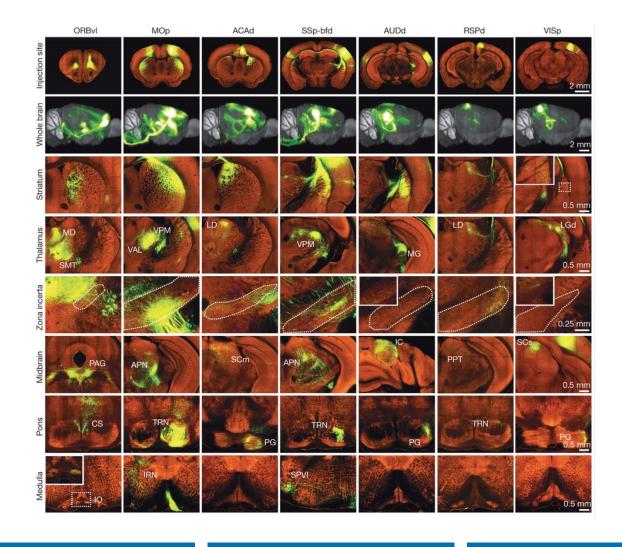




Oh et al., Nature 2014

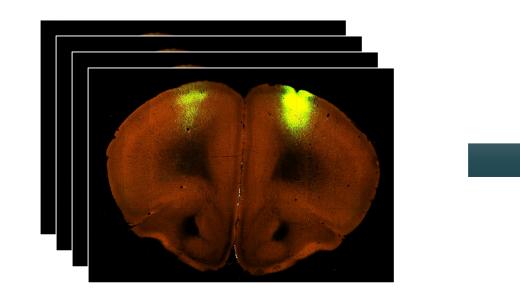
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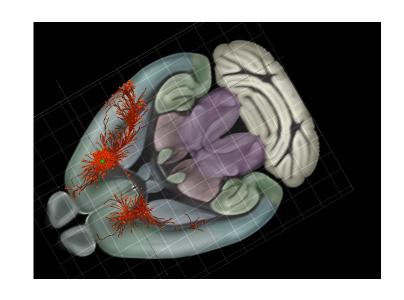




Oh et al., Nature 2014





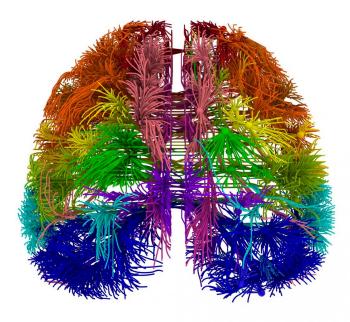


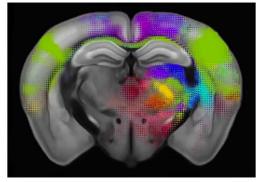
One mouse, one tracing experiment

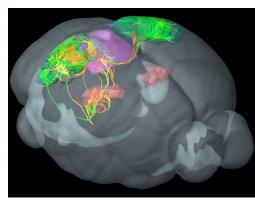
Kuan L., et al., Neuroinformatics of the Allen Mouse Brain Connectivity Atlas. Methods. 2015 Feb;73:4-17.



## A GREAT RESOURCE, BUT NOT SCALABLE!

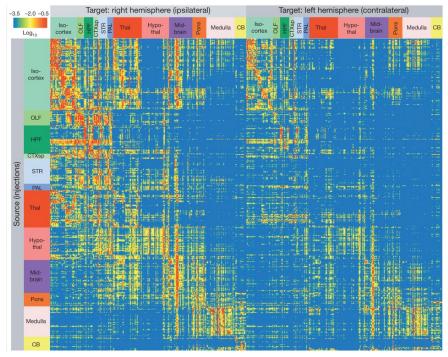




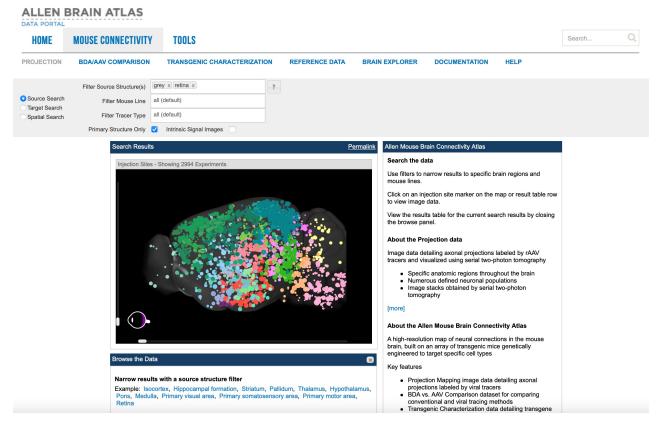




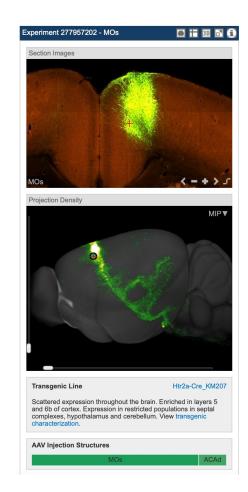








https://connectivity.brain-map.org
A GREAT RESOURCE, BUT NOT SCALABLE!



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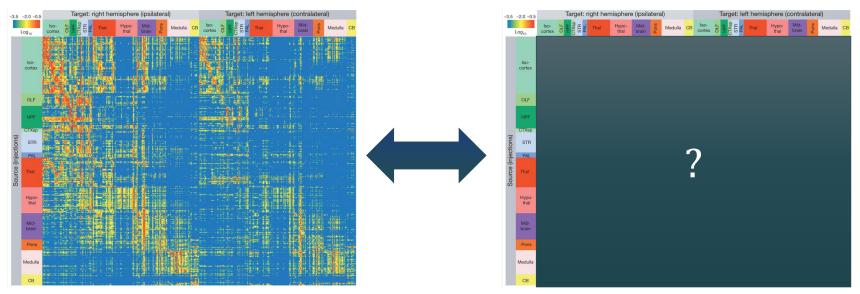


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## A Diffusion MRI Tractography Connectome of the Mouse Brain and Comparison with Neuronal Tracer Data

Evan Calabrese, Alexandra Badea, Gary Cofer, Yi Qi, and G. Allan Johnson

Center for In Vivo Microscopy, Duke University Medical Center, Department of Radiology, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710, USA



Allen brain mesoscale connectivity matrix

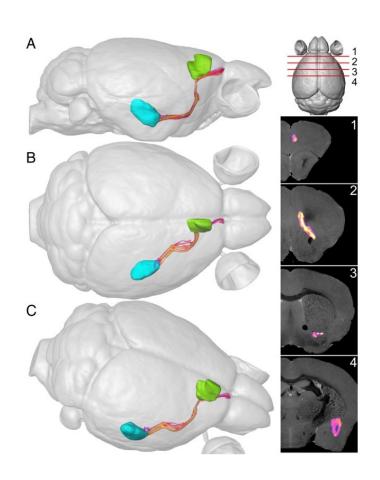
Diffusion-weighted macroscale connectivity matrix

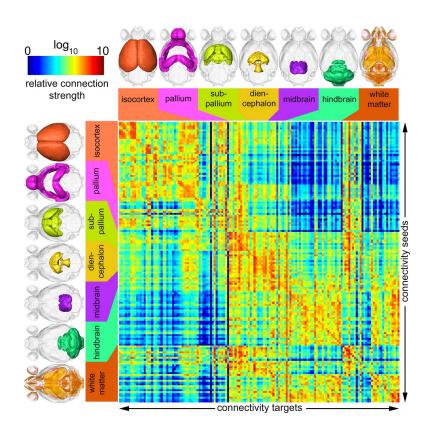
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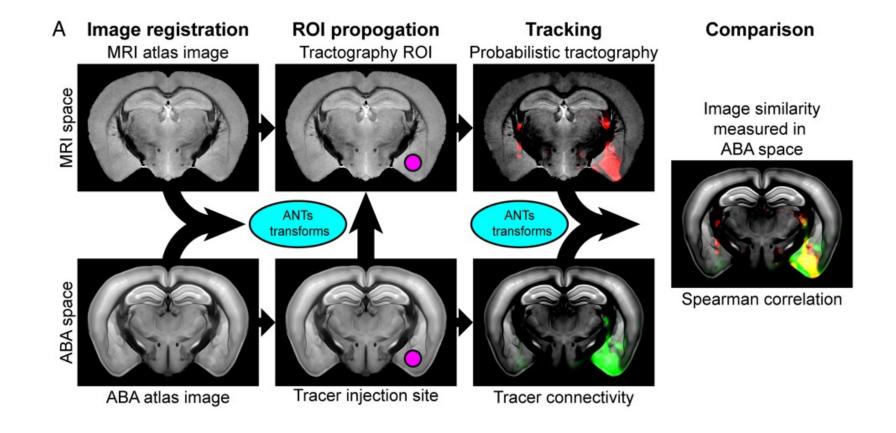


2 mice (Ex-vivo) b-value = 4000 s/mm2 Resolution = 43um isotropic 120 directions + 11b0 **Acquisition time = 235h** FSL PROBTRACKX

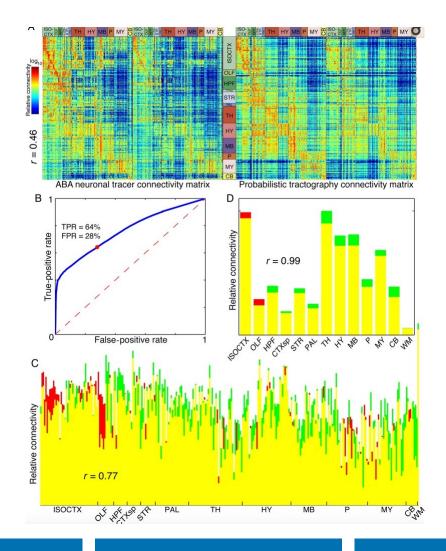












- Whole brain mouse DWI-tractography connectome
- Good overall similarity with Allen Institute tracerconnectome
- Requires ultra-high resolution (43um isotropic)
- 235 hours scans (ex-vivo) (!!)

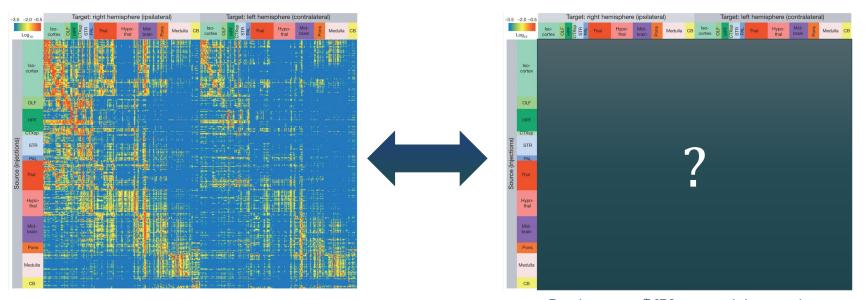


Research Articles, Systems/Circuits

## Structural Basis of Large-Scale Functional Connectivity in the Mouse

Joanes Grandjean, Valerio Zerbi, Joshua Henk Balsters, Nicole Wenderoth, and Markus Rudin

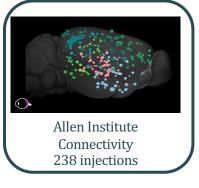
Journal of Neuroscience 23 August 2017, 37 (34) 8092-8101; DOI: https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0438-17.2017

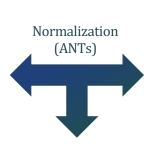


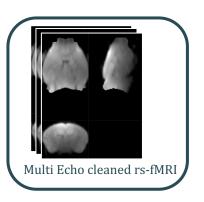
Allen brain mesoscale connectivity matrix

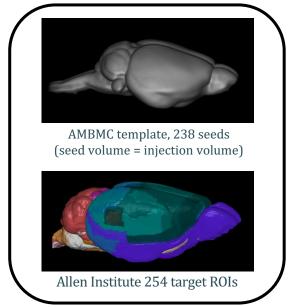
Resting-state fMRI connectivity matrix





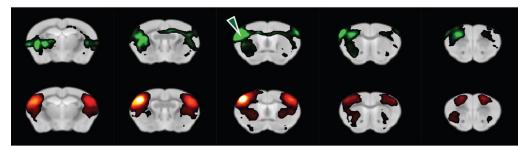






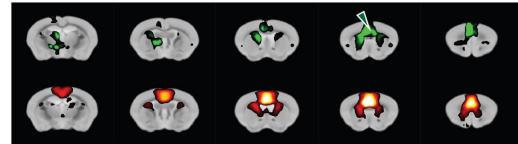
- 238 viral tracer experiments
- 238 seed-based rs-fMRI experiments
- 14 mice in vivo
- 10 minutes scans
- 9.4T with Cryocoil
- GE-EPI (MultiEcho)

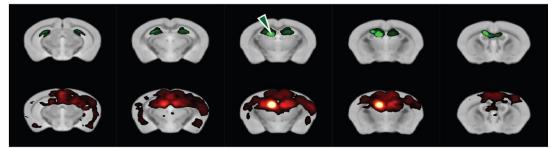




Injection ID: 112162251 Target: SSp-bfd

Injection ID: 100140756 Target: MOs





Injection ID: 112514202 Target: ACAv

Injection ID: 100141214 Target: DG



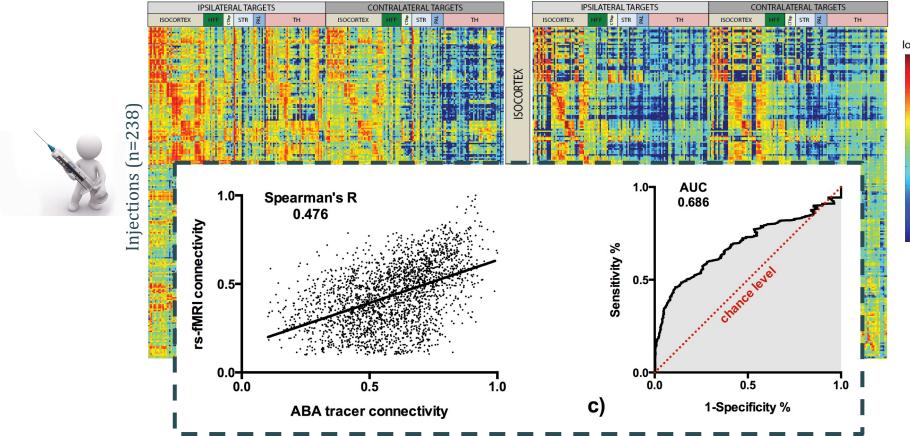


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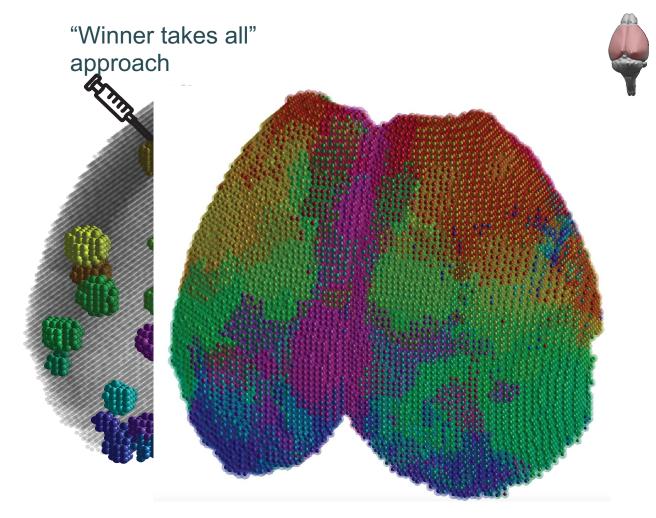
Targets ROIs (n=254)





 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 

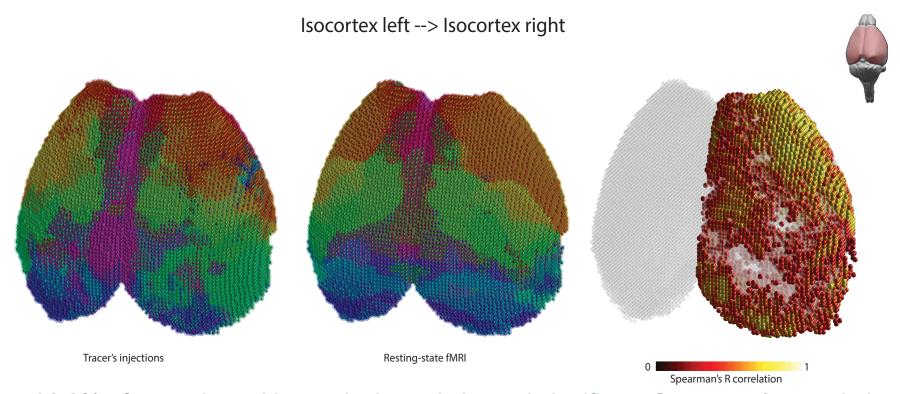




 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 



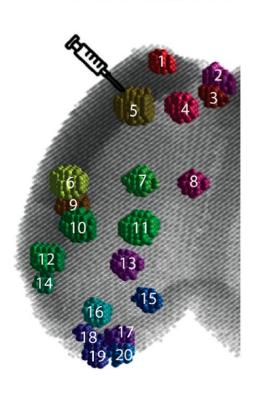
## Isocortex topographical maps

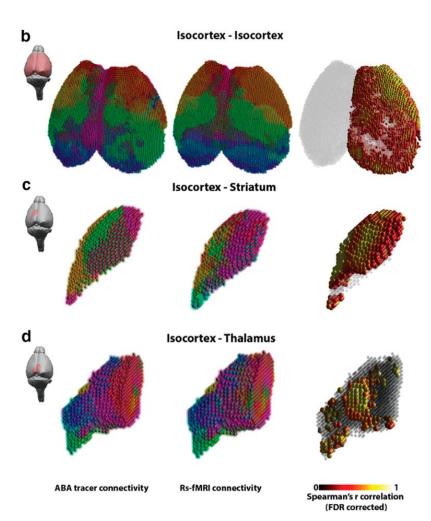


86.9% of contralateral isocortical voxel showed significant Spearman's correlation





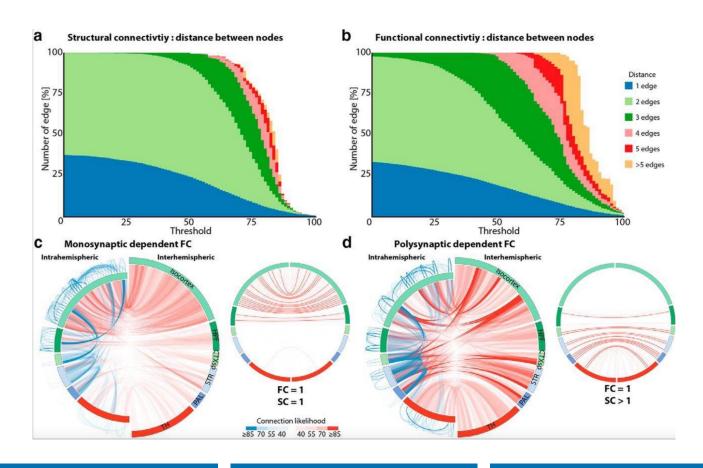




- Whole brain mouse resting-state fMRI connectome
- Good overall similarity with Allen Institute tracer-connectome
- Bad correlation between corticothalamic connections
  - Anaesthesia (?)
- 10 minute scans (in-vivo) → SCALABLE



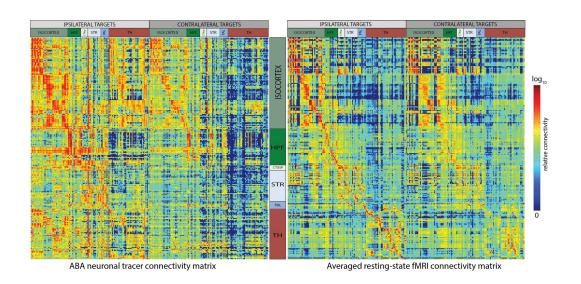
It may be useful to study also what is NOT similar...

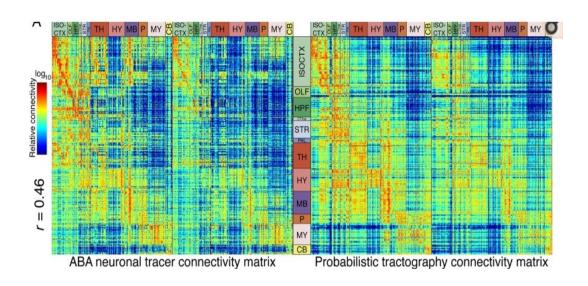


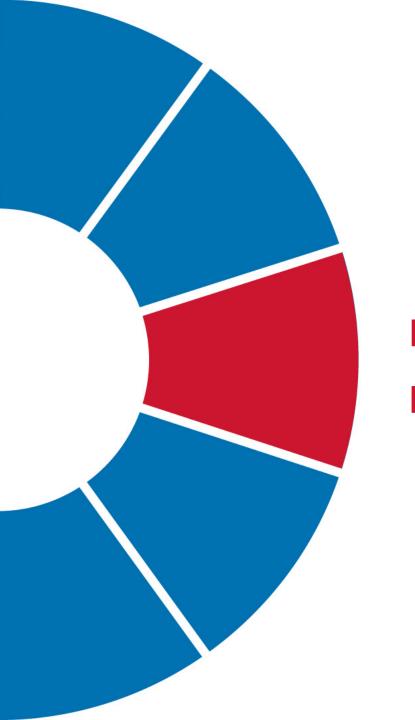
## TAKE HOME MESSAGE



What we measure is meaningful. Both the structural and the functional connectome reflects the anatomical or axonal connectome. But they are not the same thing.



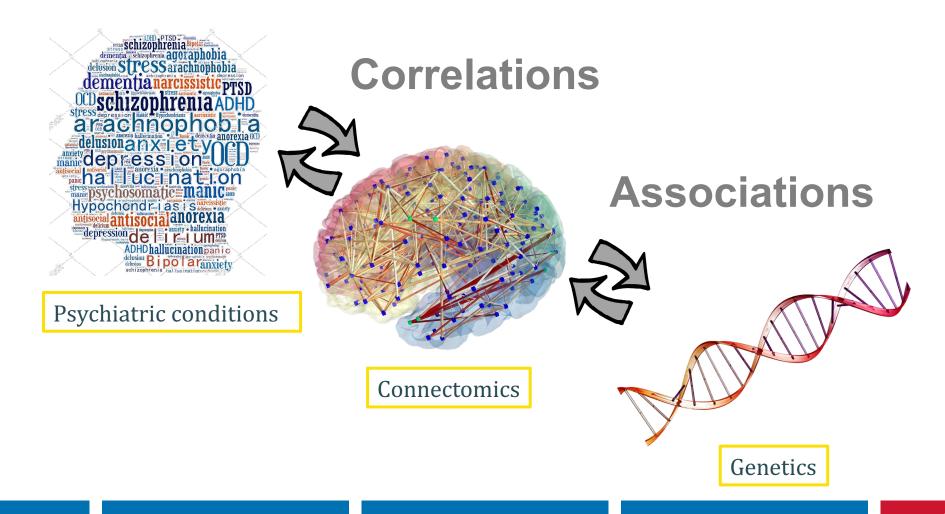




PART 3. FMRI IN TRANSGENIC RODENT MODELS FOR HUMAN DISORDERS

# HOW ARE BRAIN DISORDERS, CONNECTOMICS AND GENETICS CONNECTED?



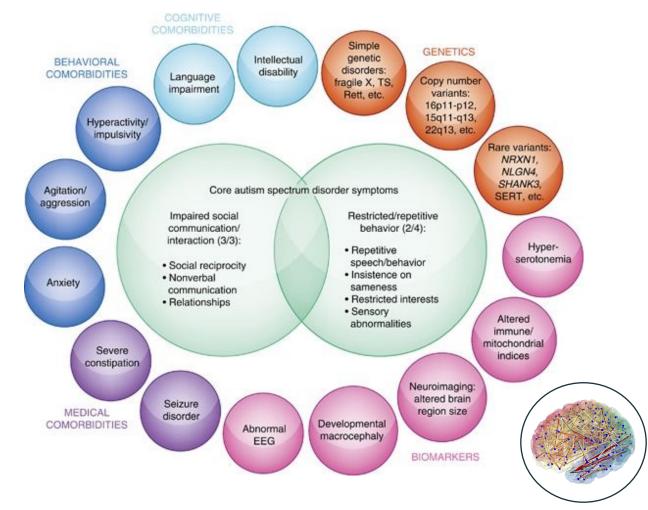


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## AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASD)



- Diagnosis based on behavioural symptoms
- High Prevalence: 1/54 children
- Highly heterogeneous (in both aetiology and symptoms)
- Genetic alterations are the largest contributors to ASD risk
- Many of these genes are linked to neuronal circuit wiring and neuronal communication.



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## BRAIN CONNECTIVITY AS ASD BIOMARKER: YES OR NO?







#### **HHS Public Access**

Author manuscript

Mol Psychiatry. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2014 December 01.

Mol Psychiatry. 2014 June; 19(6): 659-667. doi:10.1038/mp.2013.78.

#### The Autism Brain Imaging Data Exchange: Towards Large-Scale Evaluation of the Intrinsic Brain Architecture in Autism

Adriana Di Martino, M.D.1, Chao-Gan Yan, Ph.D.2, Qingyang Li, M.S.3, Erin Denio, B.A.1, Francisco X. Castellanos, M.D.<sup>1,2</sup>, Kaat Alaerts, Ph.D.<sup>1,4</sup>, Jeffrey S. Anderson, M.D., Ph.D. <sup>5,6,7,8</sup>, Michal Assaf, M.D.<sup>9,10</sup>, Susan Y. Bookheimer, Ph.D.<sup>11,12,13,14</sup>, Mirella Dapretto, Ph.D. 11,12,13,15, Ben Deen, B.S. 10,16, Sonja Delmonte, B.A. 17, Ilan Dinstein, Ph.D. 18,19, Birgit Ertl-Wagner, M.D.<sup>20</sup>, Damien A. Fair, Ph.D.<sup>21</sup>, Louise Gallagher, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>17</sup>, Daniel P. Kennedy, Ph.D.<sup>22,23</sup>, Christopher L. Keown, B.S.<sup>24</sup>, Christian Keysers, Ph.D.<sup>25,26</sup>, Janet E. Lainhart, M.D.<sup>27,28</sup>, Catherine Lord, Ph.D.<sup>29</sup>, Beatriz Luna, Ph.D.<sup>30</sup>, Vinod Menon, Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Nancy Minshew, M.D.32, Christopher S. Monk, Ph.D.33, Sophia Mueller, M.D.20, Ralph-Axel Müller, Ph.D.<sup>24</sup>, Mary Beth Nebel, Ph.D.<sup>34</sup>, Joel T. Nigg, Ph.D.<sup>21</sup>, Kirsten O'Hearn, Ph.D.<sup>30</sup>, Kevin A. Pelphrey, Ph.D.<sup>10</sup>, Scott J. Peltier, Ph.D.<sup>33</sup>, Jeffrey D. Rudie, Ph.D.<sup>12,13,14,15</sup>, Stefan Sunaert, M.D., Ph.D.35, Marc Thioux, Ph.D.25, J. Michael Tyszka, Ph.D.36, Lucina Q. Uddin. Ph.D.<sup>31</sup>, Judith S. Verhoeven, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>35</sup>, Nicole Wenderoth, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Jillian L. Wiggins, M.S.<sup>33</sup>, Stewart H. Mostofsky, M.D.<sup>34,37</sup>, and Michael P. Milham, M.D., Ph.D<sup>2,3</sup>

#### **ABIDE I**

1112 dataset from **539 individuals with** ASD and 573 controls (ages 7-64 years).

# SCIENTIFIC DATA (110110)

### **OPEN** Data Descriptor: Enhancing studies of the connectome in autism using the autism brain imaging data exchange II

Received: 21 September 2016 Accepted: 05 January 2017

Adriana Di Martino<sup>1,#</sup>, David O'Connor<sup>2,3</sup>, Bosi Chen<sup>1</sup>, Kaat Alaerts<sup>4</sup>, Jeffrey S. Anderson<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>, Michal Assaf<sup>9,10</sup>, Joshua H. Balsters<sup>11</sup>, Leslie Baxter<sup>12</sup>, Anita Beggiato<sup>13,14</sup>, Sylvie Bernaerts<sup>5</sup>, Laura M.E. Blanken<sup>15</sup>, Susan Y. Bookheimer<sup>16,17,18,19</sup>, B. Blair Braden<sup>12,20</sup>, Lisa Byrge<sup>21</sup>, F. Xavier Castellanos<sup>1,2</sup>, Mirella Dapretto<sup>17,18,19,22</sup>, Richard Delorme<sup>13,14</sup>, Damien A. Fair<sup>23,24,25</sup>, Inna Fishman<sup>26</sup>, Jacqueline Fitzgerald<sup>27,28</sup>, Louise Gallagher<sup>27,28</sup>, R. Joanne Jao Keehn<sup>26</sup>, Daniel P. Kennedy<sup>21</sup>, Janet E. Lainhart<sup>6,7,29,30</sup>, Beatriz Luna<sup>31</sup>, Stewart H. Mostofsky<sup>32,33,34</sup>, Ralph-Axel Müller<sup>26</sup>, Mary Beth Nebel<sup>32,33</sup>, Joel T. Nigg<sup>23,24</sup>, Kirsten O'Hearn<sup>31</sup>, Marjorie Solomon<sup>35,36</sup>, Roberto Toro<sup>14</sup>, Chandan J. Vaidya<sup>37,38</sup>, Nicole Wenderoth<sup>11</sup>, Tonya White<sup>15</sup>, R. Cameron Craddock<sup>2,3</sup>, Catherine Lord<sup>39</sup>, Bennett Leventhal<sup>60</sup> & Michael P. Milham<sup>2,3</sup>

#### **ABIDE II**

1114 datasets from **521 individuals with** ASD and 593 controls (age range: 5-64 years)

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## Resting-State Functional Connectivity in Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Review



Jocelyn V. Hull, Lisa B. Dokovna, Zachary J. Jacokes, Carinna M. Torgerson, Andrei Irimia and John Darrell Van Horn\* for the GENDAAR Research Consortium

"Classifying autism using brain connectivity is complicated by the heterogeneous nature of the condition, allowing for the possibility of widely variable connectivity patterns among individuals with the disorder"



RESEARCH ARTICLE 🙃 Open Access 🙃 🚯

Nonreplication of functional connectivity differences in autism spectrum disorder across multiple sites and denoising strategies

Ye He ⋈, Lisa Byrge, Daniel P. Kennedy ⋈

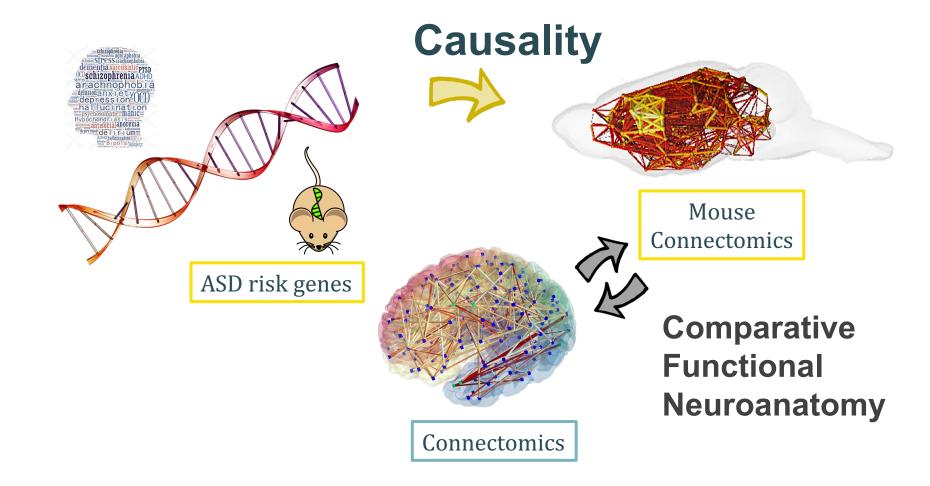
First published: 09 January 2020 | https://doi.org/10.1002/hbm.24879

"even the basic **directionality** of effects is still debated (i.e., systematic overconnectivity, underconnectivity, both, or neither)"

# HOW ARE BRAIN DISORDERS, CONNECTOMICS AND

# CIBM Center for Biomedical Imaging

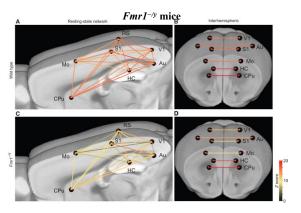
## **GENETICS CONNECTED?**



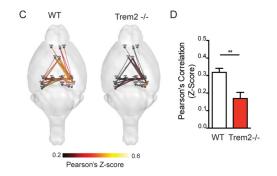
## HOW ARE BRAIN DISORDERS, CONNECTOMICS AND

## **GENETICS CONNECTED?**

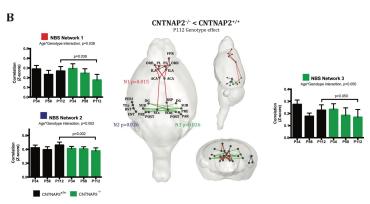




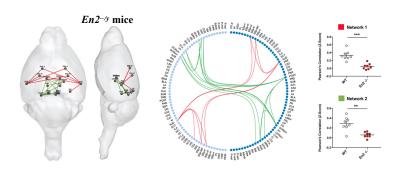
Haberl et al., 2015 Science Advances



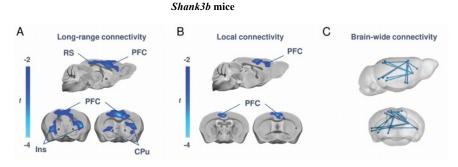
Filipello, et al., 2018 Immunity



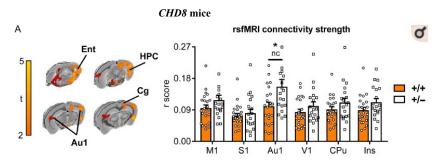
Zerbi, et al., 2018 Cerebral Cortex



Chelini\*, Zerbi\*, et al., 2019 J Neuroscience



Pagani et al., 2019 J Neuroscience



Suetterlin et al., 2018 Cerebral Cortex



#### Table 1. Available datasets

ASD mouse model	Control Strain	Sex	Age (weeks)	Behavioural traits *	Construct validity †	References	Scan Site
16p11.2 (df/+)	129/C57BL6J	males	18-20	3,5	С	11	ПТ





# Overarching research question

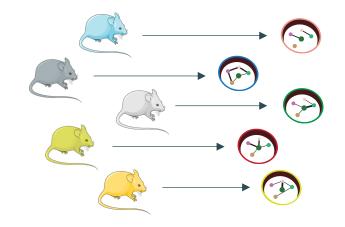
Do genetic risk factors lead to (specific or unspecific) brain network dysfunction?

Matched littermate controls

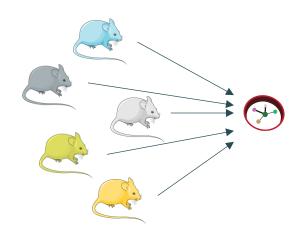
<sup>\*</sup> Behavioural traits related to ASD reported by others in selected models: (1) social behavior deficits; (2) reduced vocalizations; (3) repetitive behavior; (4) cognitive behavior; (5) motor performance. † Construct validity includes: (a) Genetic association; (b) Related syndrome; (c) Autism copy number variants; (d) Autistic-like behavior; (e) Serotonin-related phenotype; (f) Synapse related

## THREE POSSIBLE SCENARIOS

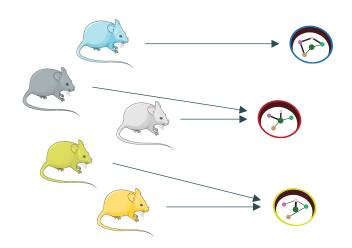




1. Each gene : One connectivity profile



2. All genes: One connectivity profile



3. Gene-Clusters: One connectivity profile

 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 

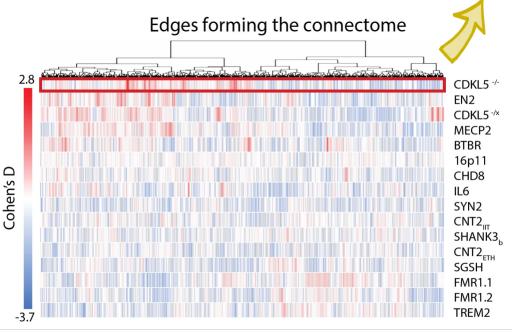


Table 1. Available datasets

ASD mouse model	Control Strain	Sex	Age (weeks)	Behavioural traits *	Construct validity †	References	Scan Site
16p11.2 (df/+)	129/C57BL6J	males	18-20	3,5	с	11	ПТ
BTBR T+tf/J	C57BL/6J	males	26	1,2,3,4,5	d	34	IIT
CDKL5 KO	C57BL/6J	males	23-25	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CDKL5 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	17-19	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CHD8	C57BL/6J	mixed	15-18	3,4,5	a	26	ПТ
CNTNAP2_ETH (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	14-16	1,4,5	a,f	16	ETH
CNTNAP2_IIT (-/-)	C57BL/6J	males	13-14	1,4,5	a,f	23	ПТ
En2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-16	1,4,5	a,e,d	24	ETH
FMR1.1 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	14-16	1,2,3,4	b,f	16	ETH
FMR1.2 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	13-15	1,2,3,4	b,f	35	ETH
IL6	C57BL/6J	mixed	14	1,4	d	-	ETH
Mecp2 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	12-14	1,4,5	b,f	-	ETH
SGSH (-/-)	C57BL/6N	mixed	20-22	5	b	-	ETH
SHANK3b ex4-9	C57BL/6J	males	19-21	1,2,3,4,5	a,f	25	IIT
Syn2	C57BL/6J	males	25-31		f	36	IIT
TREM2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-15	3,4	d	29	ETH

<sup>\*</sup>Behavioural traits related to ASD reported by others in selected models: (1) social behavior deficits; (2) reduced vocalizations; (3) repetitive behavior; (4) cognitive behavior; (5) motor performance. † Construct validity includes: (a) Genetic association; (b) Related syndrome; (c) Autism copy number variants; (d) Autistic-like behavior; (e) Serotonin-related phenotype; (f) Synapse related







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BTBR T+tf/J	C57BL/6J	males	26	1,2,3,4,5	d	34	IIT
CDKL5 KO	C57BL/6J	males	23-25	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CDKL5 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	17-19	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CHD8	C57BL/6J	mixed	15-18	3,4,5	a	26	IIT
CNTNAP2_ETH (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	14-16	1,4,5	a,f	16	ETH
CNTNAP2_IIT (-/-)	C57BL/6J	males	13-14	1,4,5	a,f	23	IIT
En2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-16	1,4,5	a,e,d	24	ETH
FMR1.1 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	14-16	1,2,3,4	b,f	16	ETH
FMR1.2 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	13-15	1,2,3,4	b,f	35	ETH
IL6	C57BL/6J	mixed	14	1,4	d	-	ETH
Mecp2 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	12-14	1,4,5	b,f	-	ETH
SGSH (-/-)	C57BL/6N	mixed	20-22	5	ь	-	ETH
SHANK3b ex4-9	C57BL/6J	males	19-21	1,2,3,4,5	a,f	25	IIT
Syn2	C57BL/6J	males	25-31		f	36	IIT
TREM2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-15	3,4	d	29	ETH

<sup>\*</sup> Behavioural traits related to ASD reported by others in selected models: (1) social behavior deficits; (2) reduced vocalizations; (3) repetitive behavior; (4) cognitive behavior; (5) motor performance. † Construct validity includes: (a) Genetic association; (b) Related syndrome; (c) Autism copy number variants; (d) Autistic-like behavior; (e) Serotonin-related phenotype; (f) Synapse related

# Clustering Probability

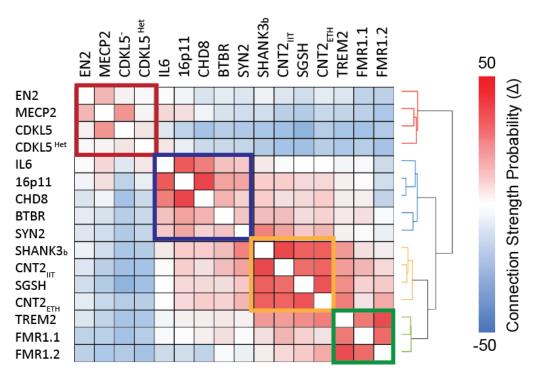




Table 1. Available datasets

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BTBR T+tf/J	C57BL/6J	males	26	1,2,3,4,5	d	34	IIT
CDKL5 KO	C57BL/6J	males	23-25	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CDKL5 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	17-19	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CHD8	C57BL/6J	mixed	15-18	3,4,5	a	26	ПТ
CNTNAP2_ETH (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	14-16	1,4,5	a,f	16	ETH
CNTNAP2_IIT (-/-)	C57BL/6J	males	13-14	1,4,5	a,f	23	ПТ
En2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-16	1,4,5	a,e,d	24	ETH
FMR1.1 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	14-16	1,2,3,4	b,f	16	ETH
FMR1.2 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	13-15	1,2,3,4	b,f	35	ETH
IL6	C57BL/6J	mixed	14	1,4	d	-	ETH
Mecp2 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	12-14	1,4,5	b,f	-	ETH
SGSH (-/-)	C57BL/6N	mixed	20-22	5	b	-	ETH
SHANK3b ex4-9	C57BL/6J	males	19-21	1,2,3,4,5	a,f	25	ПТ
Syn2	C57BL/6J	males	25-31		f	36	IIT
TREM2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-15	3,4	d	29	ETH

<sup>\*</sup>Behavioural traits related to ASD reported by others in selected models: (1) social behavior deficits; (2) reduced vocalizations; (3) repetitive behavior; (4) cognitive behavior; (5) motor performance. † Construct validity includes: (a) Genetic association; (b) Related syndrome; (c) Autism copy number variants; (d) Autistic-like behavior; (e) Serotonin-related phenotype; (f) Synapse related

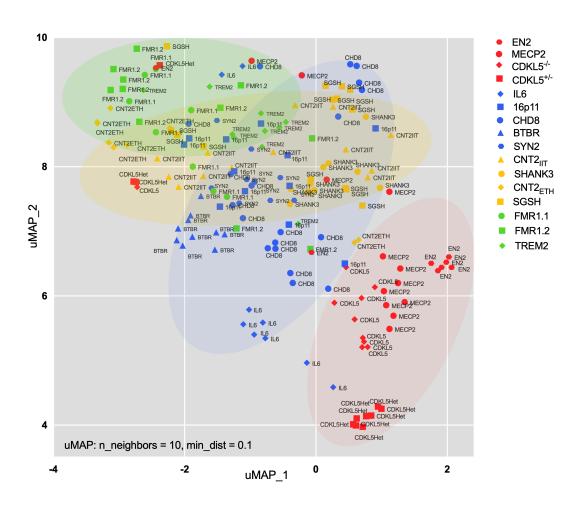
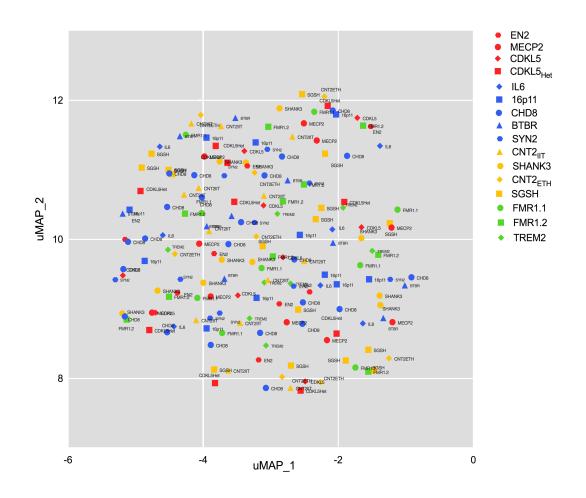




Table 1. Available datasets

ASD mouse model	Control Strain	Sex	Age (weeks)	Behavioural traits *	Construct validity †	References	Scan Site
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CDKL5 KO	C57BL/6J	males	23-25	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CDKL5 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	17-19	3,5	b,f	-	ETH
CHD8	C57BL/6J	mixed	15-18	3,4,5	a	26	ПТ
CNTNAP2_ETH (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	14-16	1,4,5	a,f	16	ETH
CNTNAP2_IIT (-/-)	C57BL/6J	males	13-14	1,4,5	a,f	23	ПТ
En2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-16	1,4,5	a,e,d	24	ETH
FMR1.1 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	14-16	1,2,3,4	b,f	16	ETH
FMR1.2 (-/y)	C57BL/6J	males	13-15	1,2,3,4	b,f	35	ETH
IL6	C57BL/6J	mixed	14	1,4	d	-	ETH
Mecp2 Het (+/-)	C57BL/6J	females	12-14	1,4,5	b,f	-	ETH
SGSH (-/-)	C57BL/6N	mixed	20-22	5	b	-	ETH
SHANK3b ex4-9	C57BL/6J	males	19-21	1,2,3,4,5	a,f	25	ПТ
Syn2	C57BL/6J	males	25-31		f	36	IIT
TREM2 (-/-)	C57BL/6J	mixed	12-15	3,4	d	29	ETH

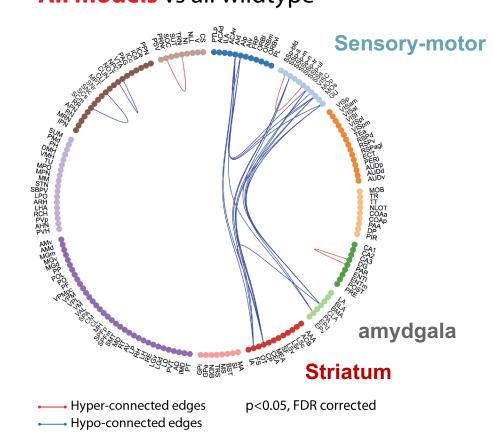
<sup>\*</sup>Behavioural traits related to ASD reported by others in selected models: (1) social behavior deficits; (2) reduced vocalizations; (3) repetitive behavior; (4) cognitive behavior; (5) motor performance. † Construct validity includes: (a) Genetic association; (b) Related syndrome; (c) Autism copy number variants; (d) Autistic-like behavior; (e) Serotonin-related phenotype; (f) Synapse related

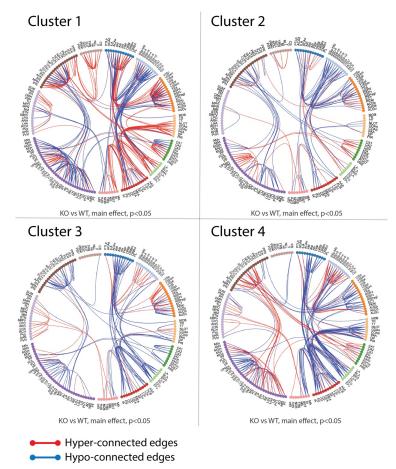


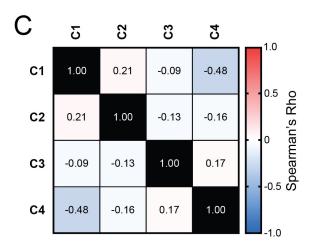
## TWO IMPORTANT TAKES

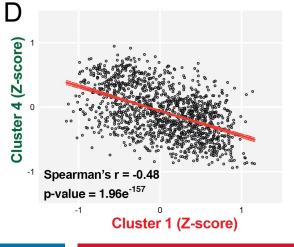


## All models vs all wildtype



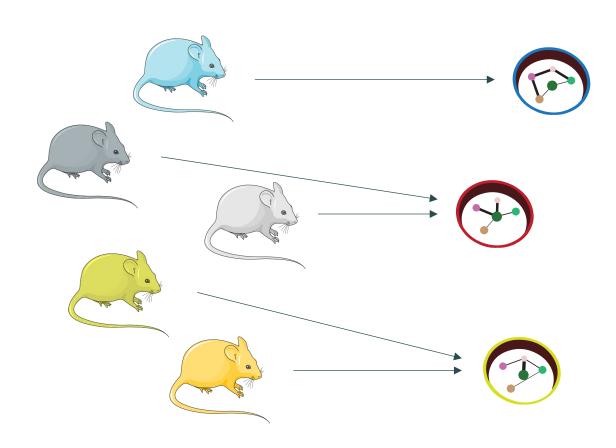






## TAKE HOME MESSAGE





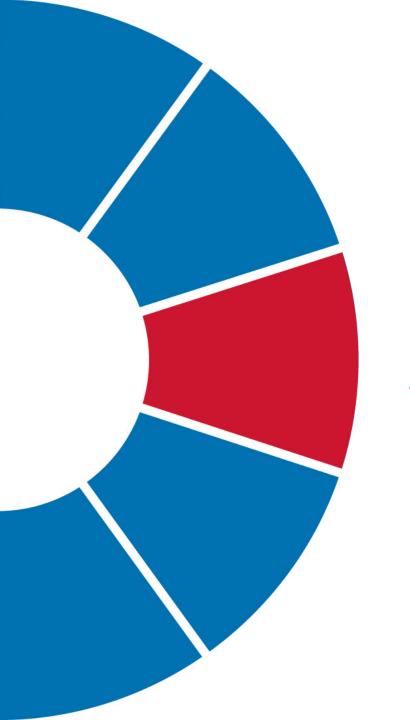
### **Good because**

Helps understanding pools of genes that cause similar alterations at the network level (*mechanism*)

Proximity in the dys-connectivity landscape helps to define possible treatment options (*outcome*)

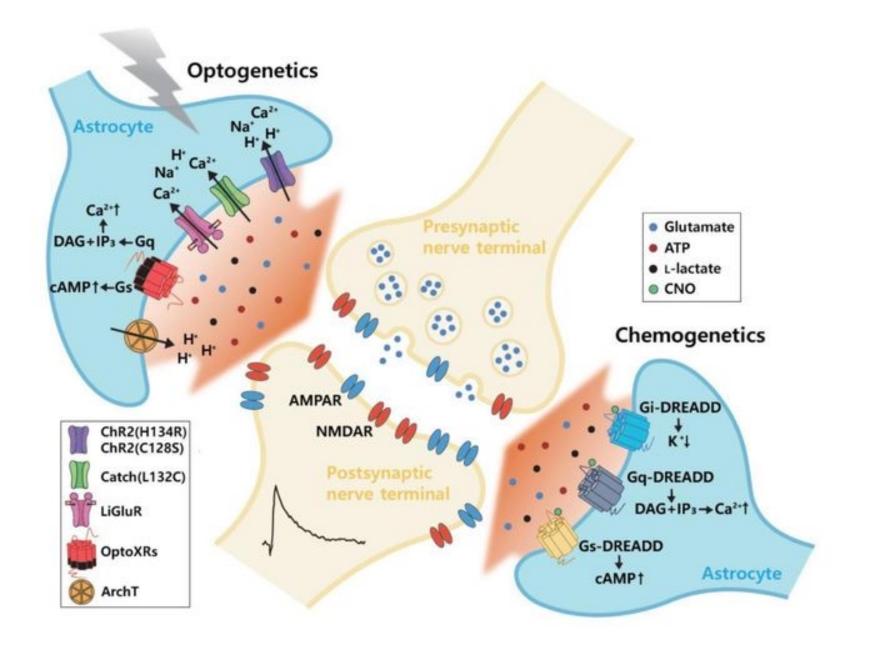
## Careful at:

Group-level analyses, as done in humans, may reduce effect size



PART 4. MANIPULATING CELL ACTIVITY
TO OBSERVE NETWORK REACTION





#### CHEMO-FMRI AND OPTO-FMRI



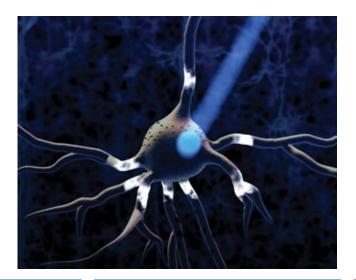
#### Chemogenetic

- AAV delivery
- Neuron-specific
- Activated systemically by drug
- Reversible
- Excite or inhibit
- No external implant
- Effect lasts 30min-2h (?)



#### **Optogenetics**

- AAV delivery
- Neuron-specific
- Activated locally by light
- Reversible
- Excite or inhibit
- Requires external implant
- Millisecond control



#### **EXAMPLE 1. EXITATION: INHIBITION IMBALANCE**

#### SIGNATURE AT THE NETWORK LEVEL?



Top-down input

#### **ARTICLE**

doi:10.1038/nature10360

### Neocortical excitation/inhibition balance in information processing and social dysfunction

Ofer Yizhar<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Lief E. Fenno<sup>1,3\*</sup>, Matthias Prigge<sup>4</sup>, Franziska Schneider<sup>4</sup>, Thomas J. Davidson<sup>1</sup>, Daniel J. O'Shea<sup>1,3</sup>, Vikaas S. Sohal<sup>1,5</sup>, Inbal Goshen<sup>1</sup>, Joel Finkelstein<sup>1</sup>, Jeanne T. Paz<sup>6</sup>, Katja Stehfest<sup>4</sup>, Roman Fudim<sup>4</sup>, Charu Ramakrishnan<sup>1</sup>, John R. Huguenard<sup>6</sup>, Peter Hegemann<sup>4</sup> & Karl Deisseroth<sup>1,7,8,9</sup>

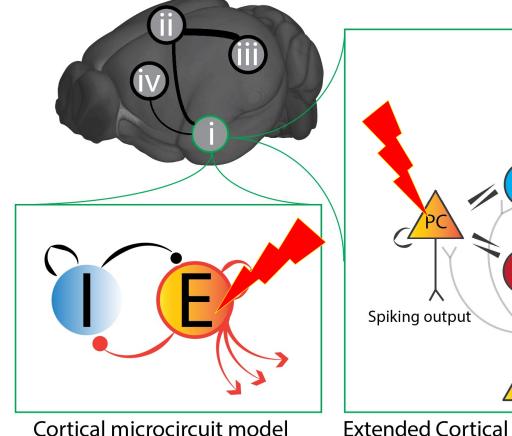
Genes, Brain and Behavior

☐ Free Access

Model of autism: increased ratio of excitation/inhibition in key neural systems

J. L. R. Rubenstein M. M. M. Merzenich

First published: 16 October 2003 | https://doi.org/10.1034/j.1601-183X.2003.00037.x | Citations: 1123



Extended Cortical microcircuit model

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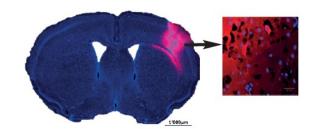
Local feed-forward

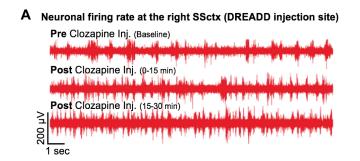
inputs

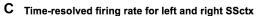
#### **EXAMPLE 1. EXITATION: INHIBITION IMBALANCE**

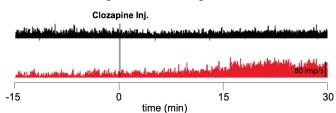


## DREADDS EXCITATION OF PYRAMIDAL CELLS hM3Dq (CamKIIa)

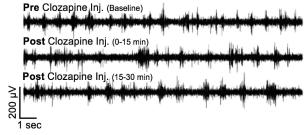




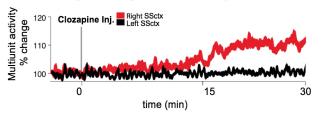




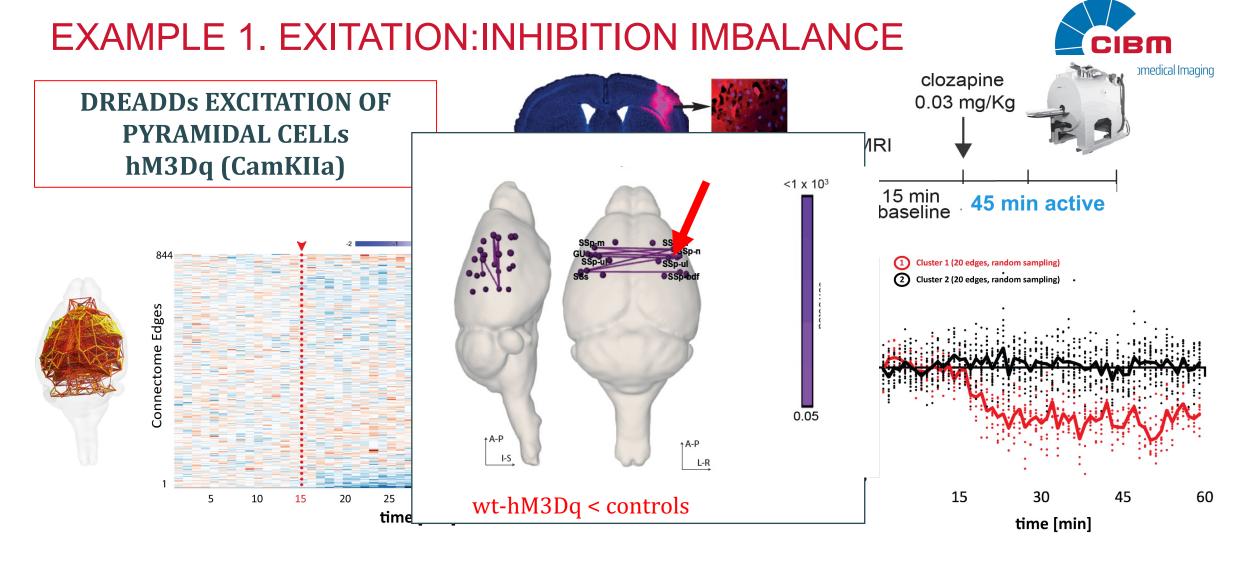




#### D Relative change of averaged multiunit activity



# DREADDs manipulation increased neuronal firing rate in the targeted region



E:I imbalance at the circuit level propagates to the network level as **hypo-connectivity** and are **restricted to the targeted network** 

#### **EXAMPLE 1. EXITATION: INHIBITION IMBALANCE**



nature > nature communications > articles > article

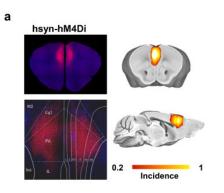
Article | Open Access | Published: 25 February 2022

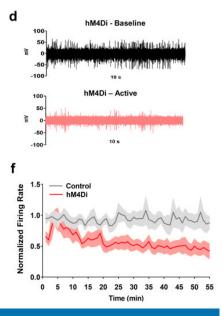
### Increased fMRI connectivity upon chemogenetic inhibition of the mouse prefrontal cortex

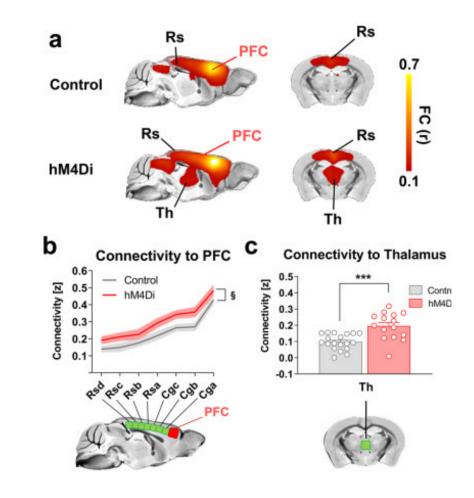
Federico Rocchi, Carola Canella, Shahryar Noei, Daniel Gutierrez-Barragan, Ludovico Coletta, Alberto Galbusera, Alexia Stuefer, Stefano Vassanelli, Massimo Pasqualetti, Giuliano Iurilli, Stefano Panzeri ⊠ & Alessandro Gozzi ⊠

Nature Communications 13, Article number: 1056 (2022) | Cite this article

6338 Accesses | 8 Citations | 73 Altmetric | Metrics







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#### **EXAMPLE 1. EXITATION: INHIBITION IMBALANCE**



nature > nature communications > articles > article

Article | Open Access | Published: 25 February 2022

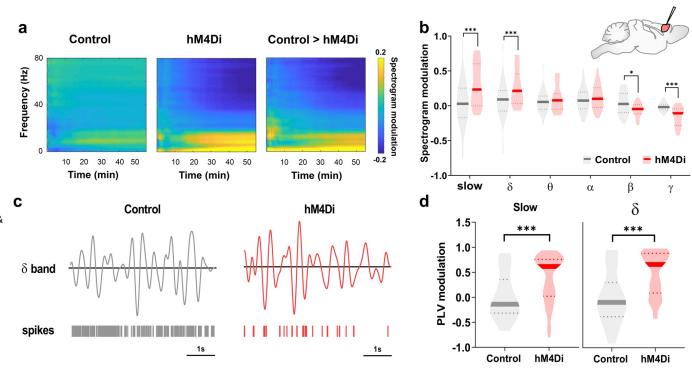
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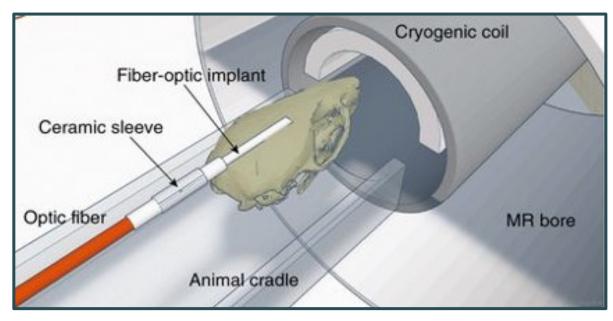
6338 Accesses | 8 Citations | 73 Altmetric | Metrics



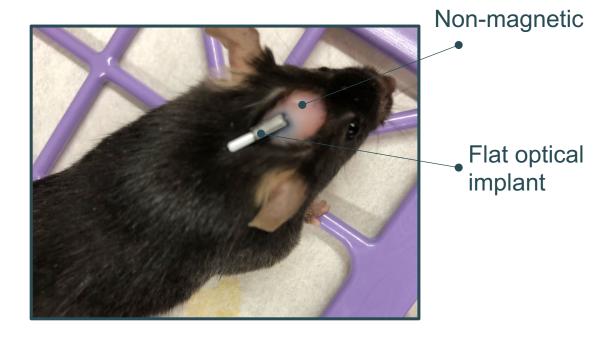
#### **OPTOGENETICS-FMRI: IMPLANT**



#### Hardware constrains



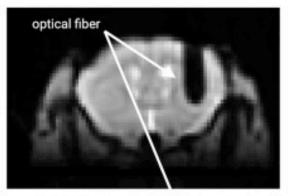
Schlegel et al., Nature Protocols 2019

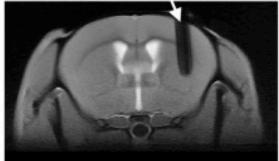


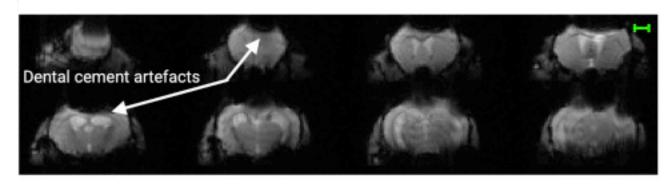
#### **OPTOGENETICS-FMRI: CHALLENGES**

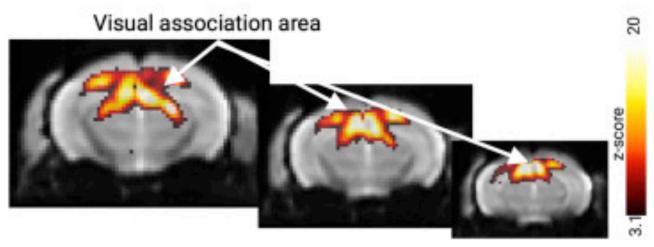


#### Watch out for:





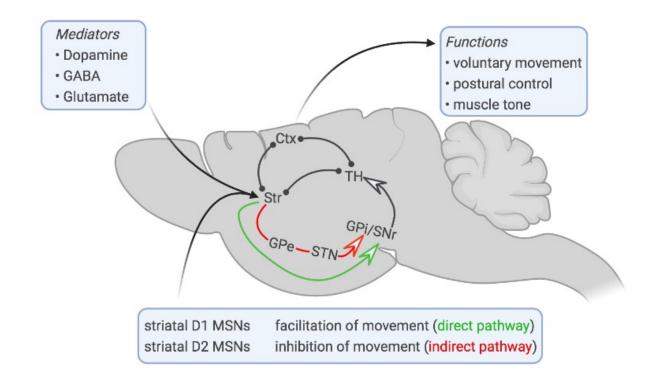




 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 

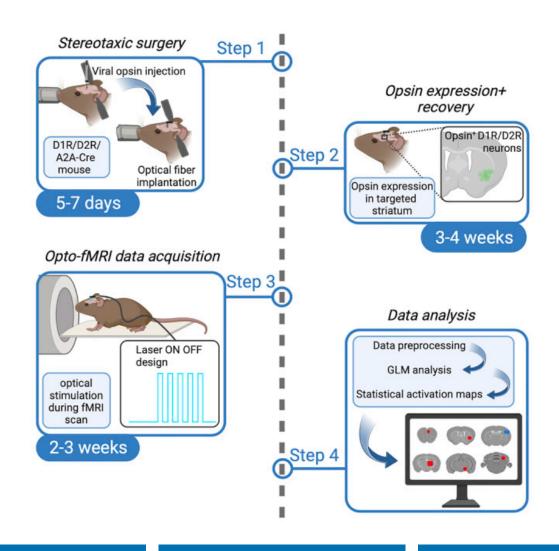


RQ: Can we use opto-fMRI to study different cell types within a circuit?



Grimm et al., 2022





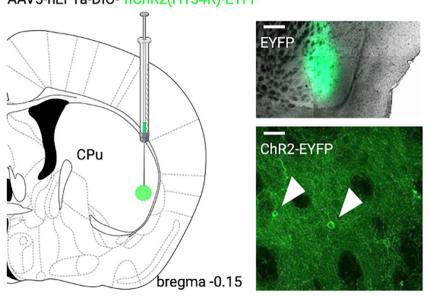
Grimm et al., 2022

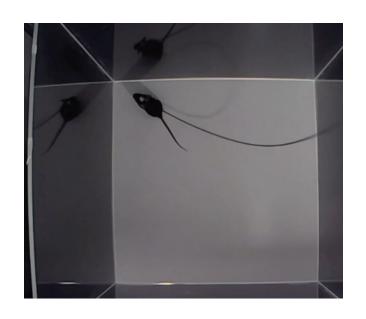


#### Results: immunohistochemistry and behaviour



#### AAV5-hEF1a-DIO- hChR2(H134R)-EYFP







D1r D2r

CIBM.CH





Results: fMRI



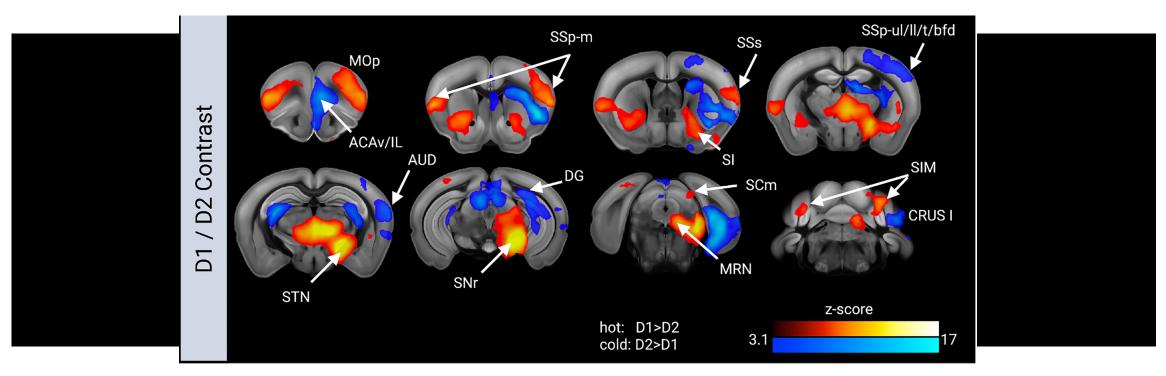


D1r D2r





Results: fMRI

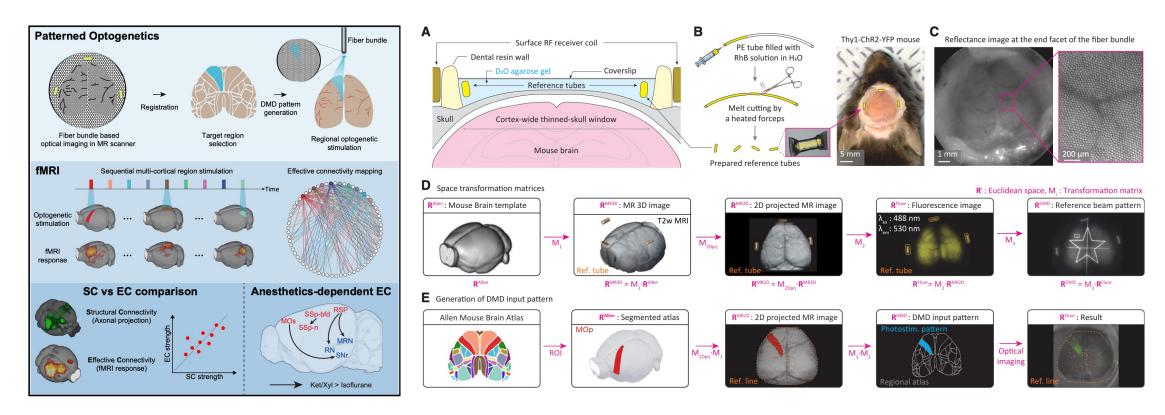


D1r D2r

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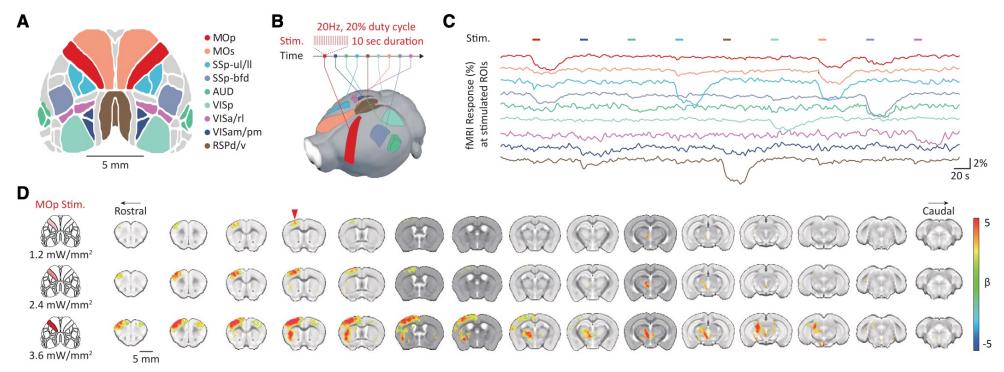


### RQ: Can we use opto-fMRI to perform whole-brain mapping of effective connectivity?





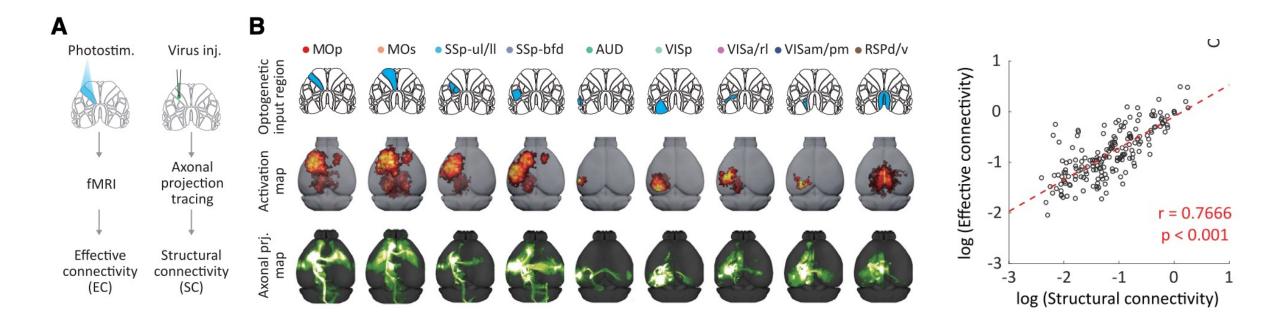
## RQ: Can we use opto-fMRI to perform whole-brain mapping of effective connectivity?



Kim et al., 2023

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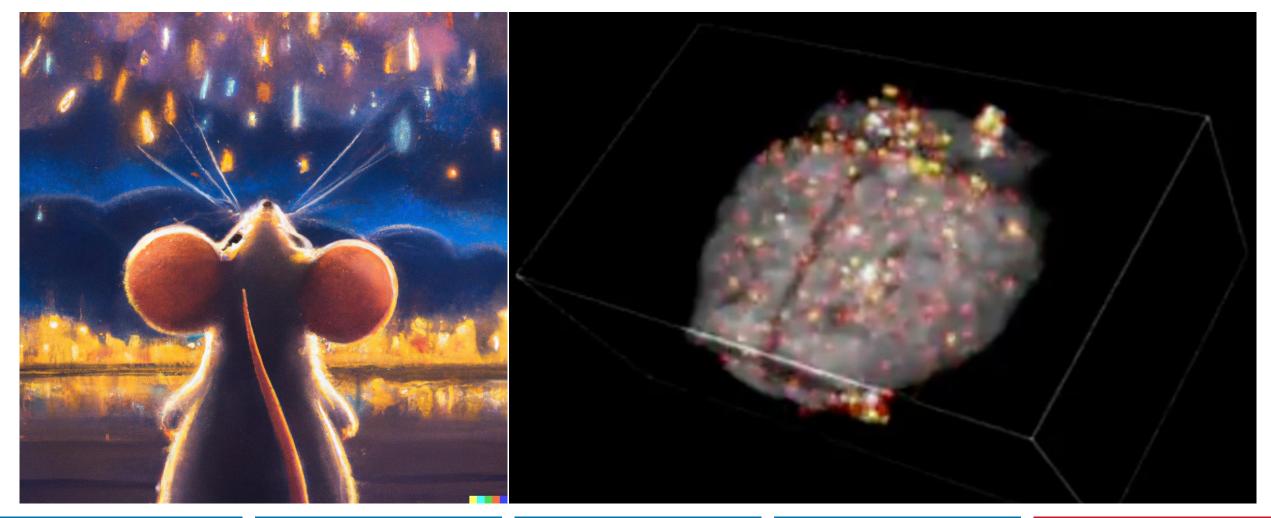


Excellent agreement between effective FC and structural axonal connectivity (but only from the cortex)

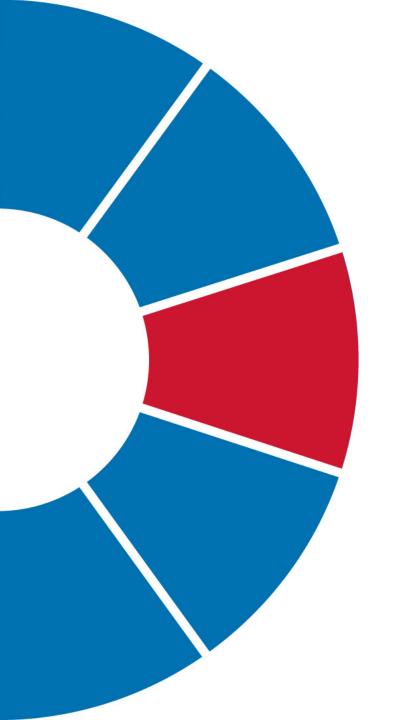
Kim et al., 2023

#### OPTOGENETICS-FMRI: FIREWORKS IN THE BRAIN





 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 



# PART 5. TRANSLATING FMRI RESULTS FROM RODENT TO HUMANS

"Many argue about that we can't compare mouse fMRI data with human fMRI data because of the anaesthesia,. Those people forget the elephant in the room. Of course we can't compare it. We are measuring fMRI in a bloody mouse!"

#### FROM RODENTS TO HUMANS.. AND BACK



If our goal is to translate fMRI findings between animals and humans, which part of the brain (or brain networks) should we study?

What is special about the human brain?



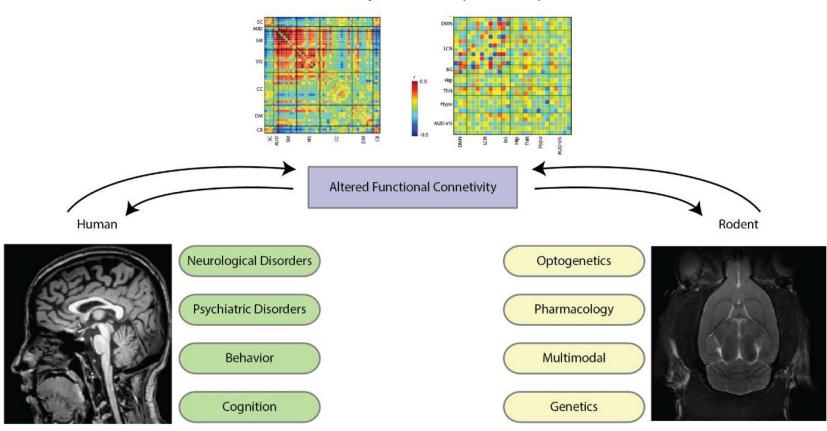
What makes brains different?

www.neuroecologylab.org

#### FROM RODENTS TO HUMANS.. AND BACK



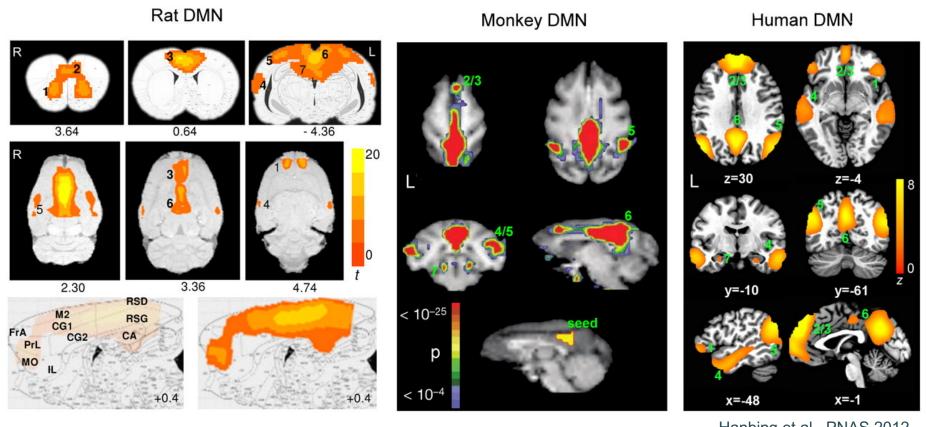




#### MATCHING FUNCTIONAL NETWORKS



#### Comparing network anatomy



Hanbing et al., PNAS 2012

#### MATCHING FUNCTIONAL NETWORKS



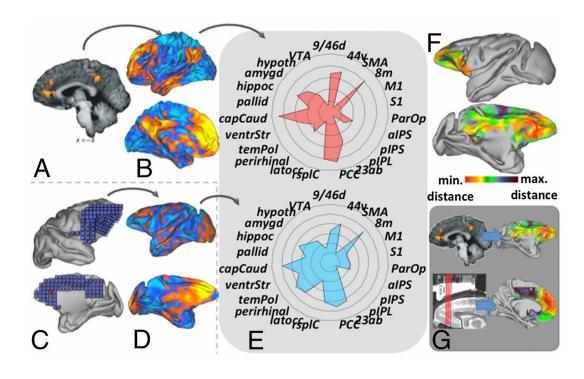


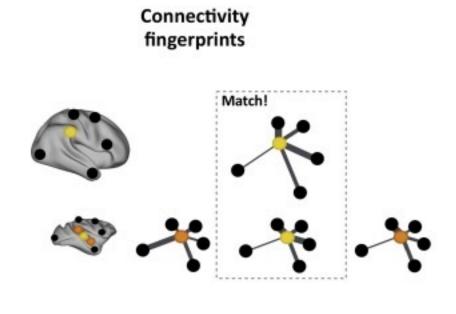


#### MATCHING CONNECTIVITY FINGERPRINTS



KEY HYPOTHESIS: If we can define a set of homologous anatomical/functional regions, we should be able to define homologous connectivity fingerprints in every voxel





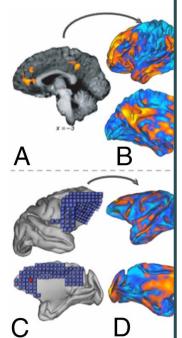
Mars et al., Trends in Cognitive Sciences, 2018

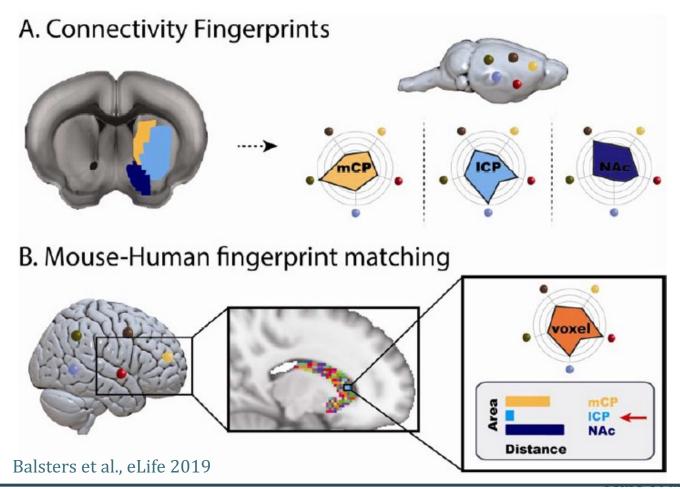
CIBM.CH

#### MATCHING CONNECTIVITY FINGERPRINTS



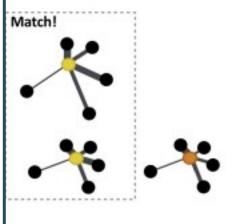
KEY HYPOTH regions, we shevery voxel





pmical/functional ngerprints in

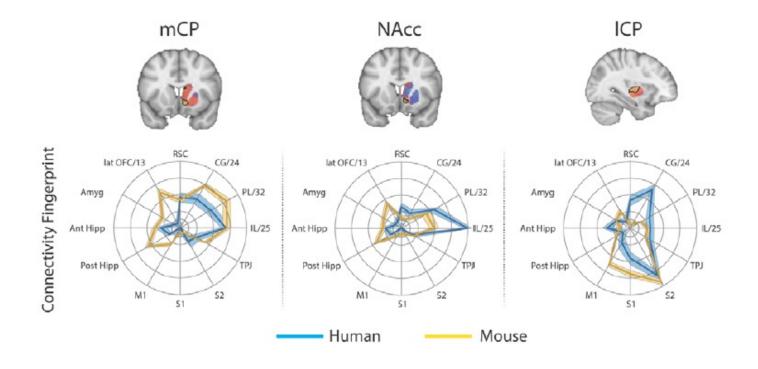
vity ints



Trends in Cognitive Sciences, 2018

#### FROM RODENTS TO HUMANS



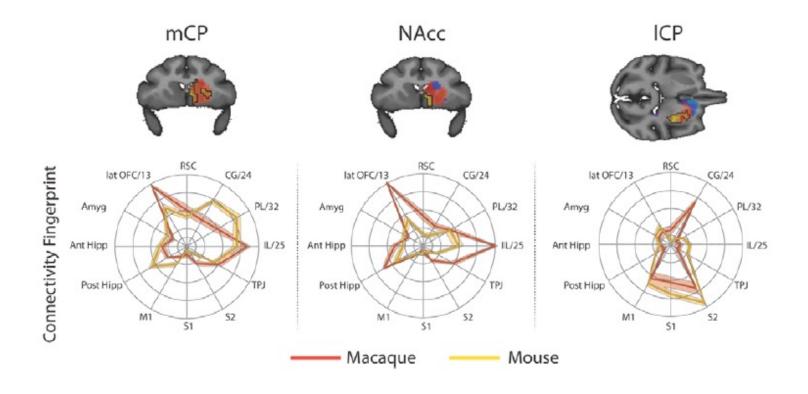


• Unassigned voxels accounted for 85% of the caudate nucleus volume, 77% of the putamen volume, and 5% of the NAcc volume

Balsters et al., eLife 2019

#### FROM RODENTS TO MACAQUES





• Unassigned voxels accounted for 79% of the caudate nucleus volume, 62% of the putamen volume, and 9% of the NAcc volume.

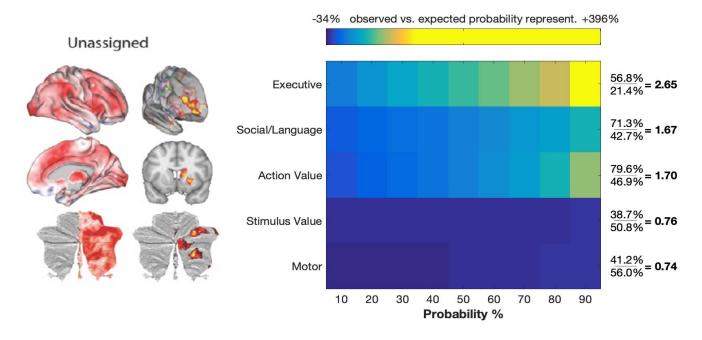
Balsters et al., eLife 2019

#### WHAT IS UNIQUE OF HUMANS?



#### Neurosynth.org

- The unassigned voxels were located to striatal regions associated with executive function, social/language, and action value (Pauli et al., 2016).
- These unassigned voxels map the expansion of the prefrontal cortex in primates.

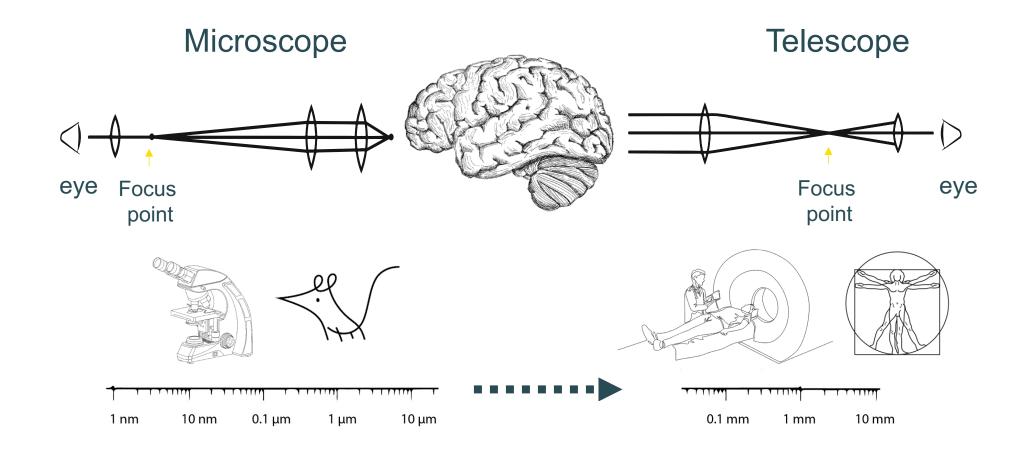


Balsters et al., eLife 2019

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#### TAKE HOME MESSAGE





 $\mathsf{C} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{B} \mathsf{M} \mathsf{.} \mathsf{C} \mathsf{H}$ 



#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

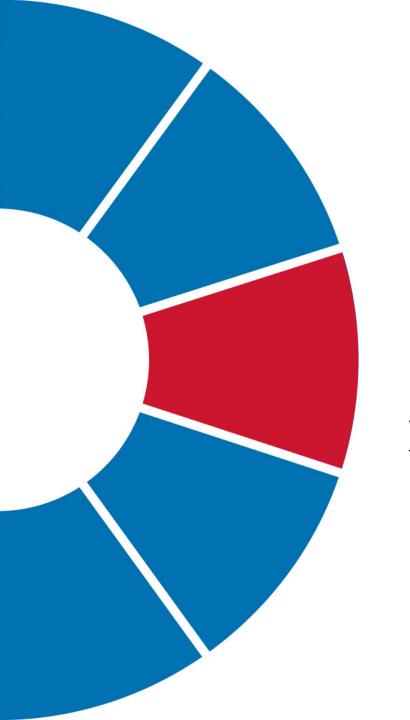












FOR ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE,

PLEASE WRITE ME AT:

VALERIO.ZERBI@EPFL.CH