

# NIBS and multimodal imaging

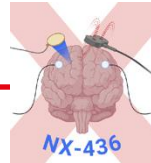
Prof. Dr. med. Friedhelm Hummel

Defitech Chair for Clinical Neuroengineering,  
Neuro-X Institute (INX) & Brain Mind Institute (BMI)  
Ecole Federale Polytechnique de Lausanne (EPFL)

Department of Clinical Neuroscience, University Hospital of Geneva



What are the potential benefits of multimodal imaging combined with neuromodulation?

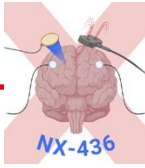


## **Recording of brain activity simultaneously**

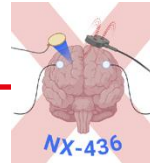
- focally and at the network level
- adds to mechanistic understanding
- safety monitoring
- state dependent close-loop applications

## **Online interference with brain activity**

- causal understanding
- network vs. local effects
- state dependent close-loop applications

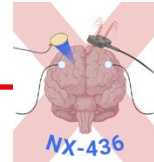


What are the disadvantages and challenges of multimodal imaging combined with neuromodulation?



## Challenges

- temporal, spatial resolution
- safety
- artefacts
- feasibility
- accessibility, clinical translation
- cost

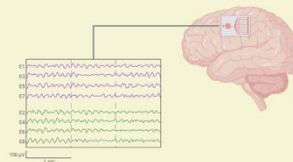


## INVASIVE

## NON-INVASIVE

**Neurosensing/ Neuro-monitoring  
"READ"**

Monitors electrical/BOLD activity in the central nervous system



eCoG, iEEG



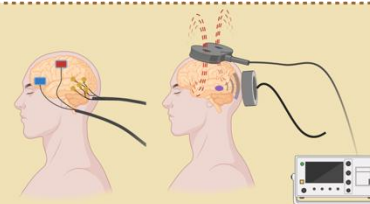
EEG, MEG, fMRI

**Neuromodulation  
"WRITE"**

Targets and improves functions such as motor, attention, memory, decision-making, self-regulation either electrically, magnetically or via ultrasound



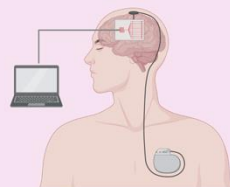
DBS



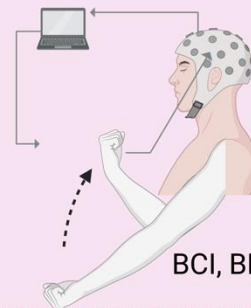
TMS, tES, TUS

**Combinatory (bidirectional)  
"READ + WRITE"**

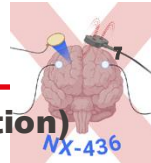
Monitors and reacts to brain states with prosthetics, robotics, brain stimulation



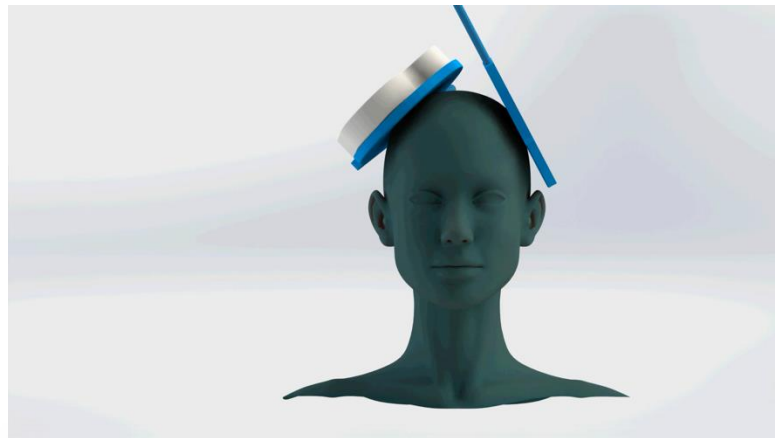
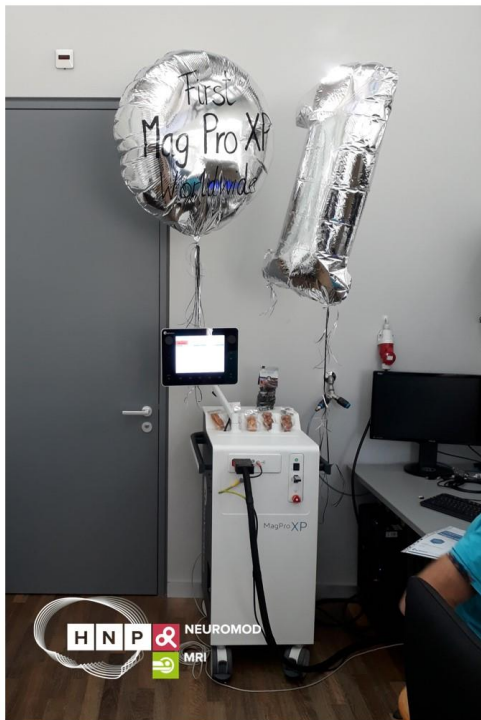
Closed-loop DBS



BCI, BBI, ...

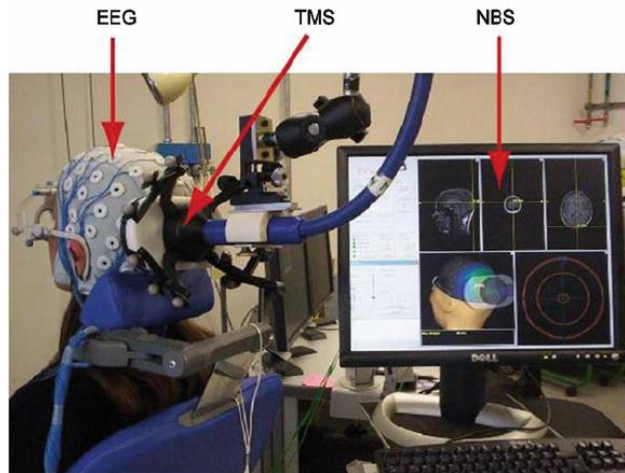


**WHITE: TMS coil (stimulation)**





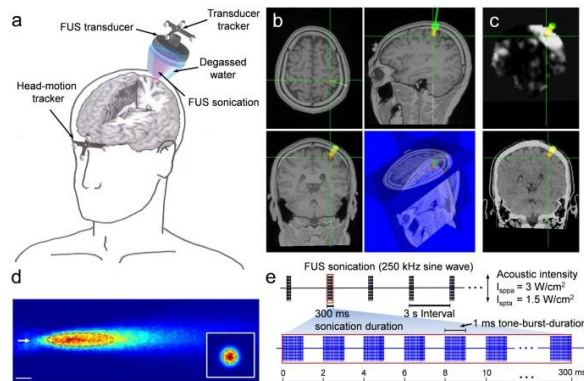
## TMS-EEG



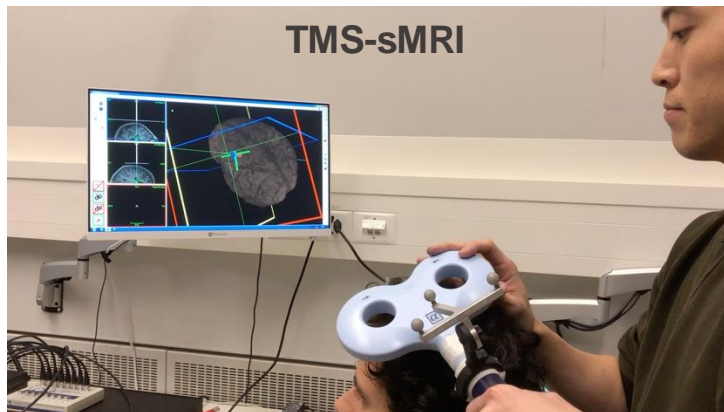
## TMS-fMRI



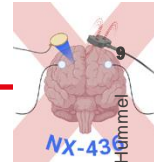
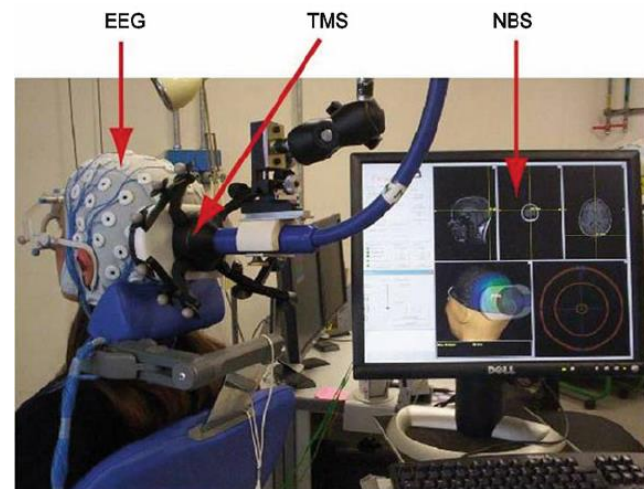
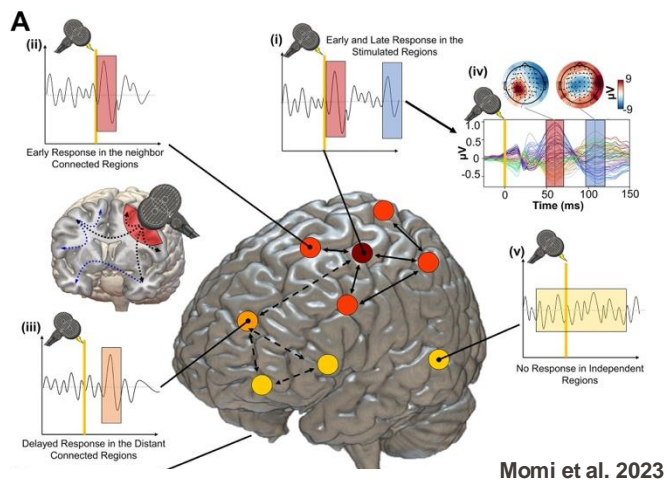
## fUS-TMS/EEG/MRI

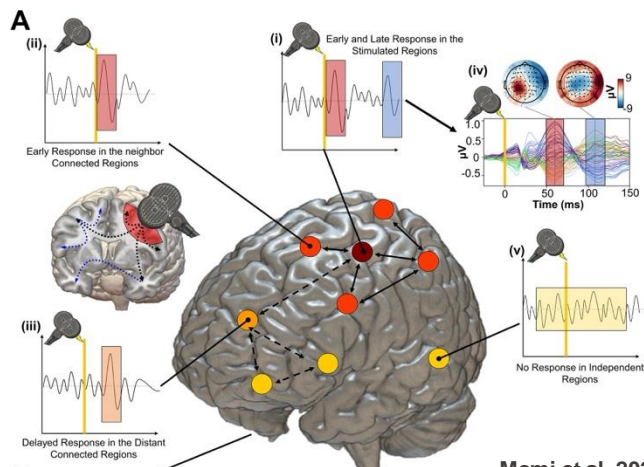


## TMS-sMRI

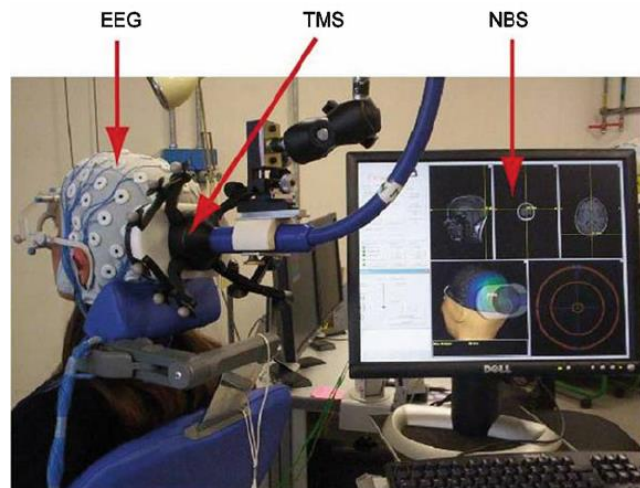
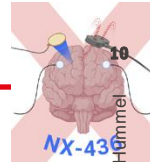
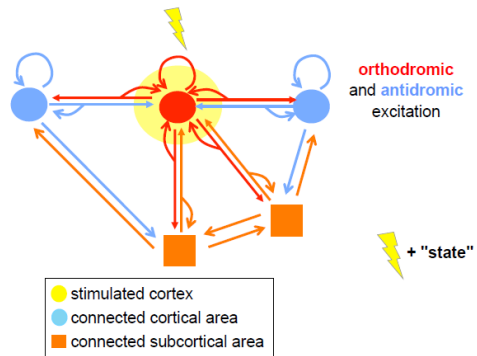




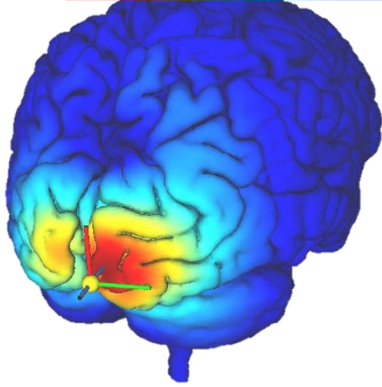
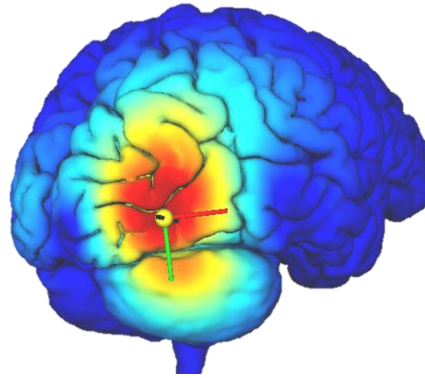
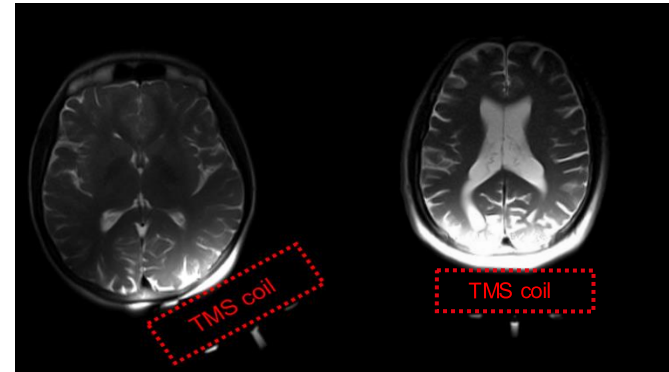


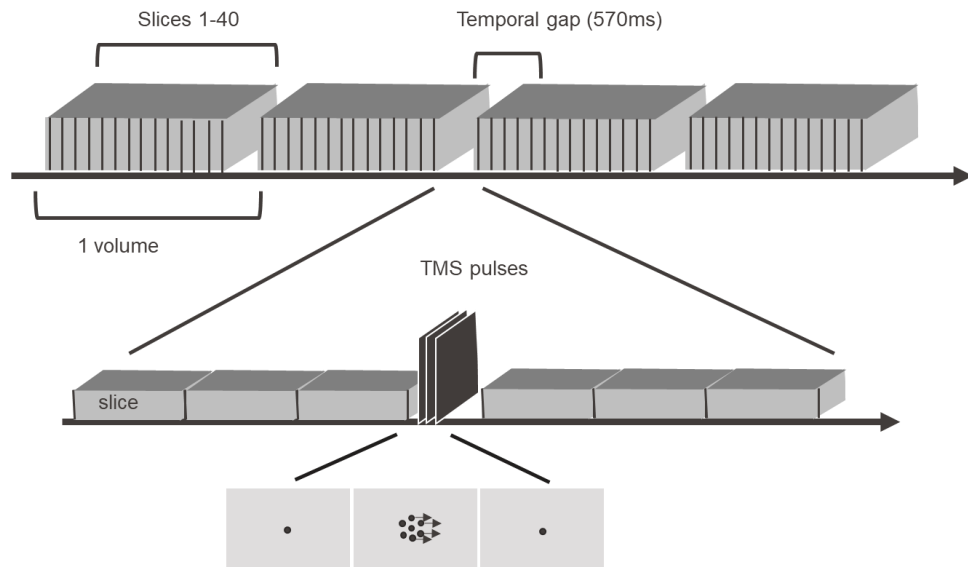


Momi et al. 2023

**"Focal" TMS can induce systems effects**Applications  
TMS-fMRI



$E_{\text{norm}}$  $\text{TMS}_{(\text{V1})}$  $\text{TMS}_{(\text{MT})}$ 

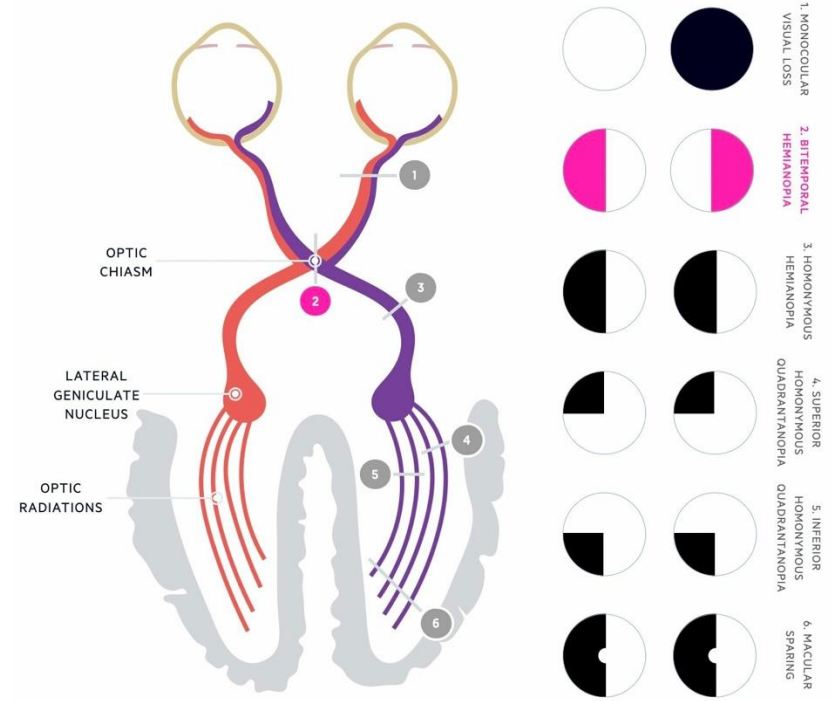


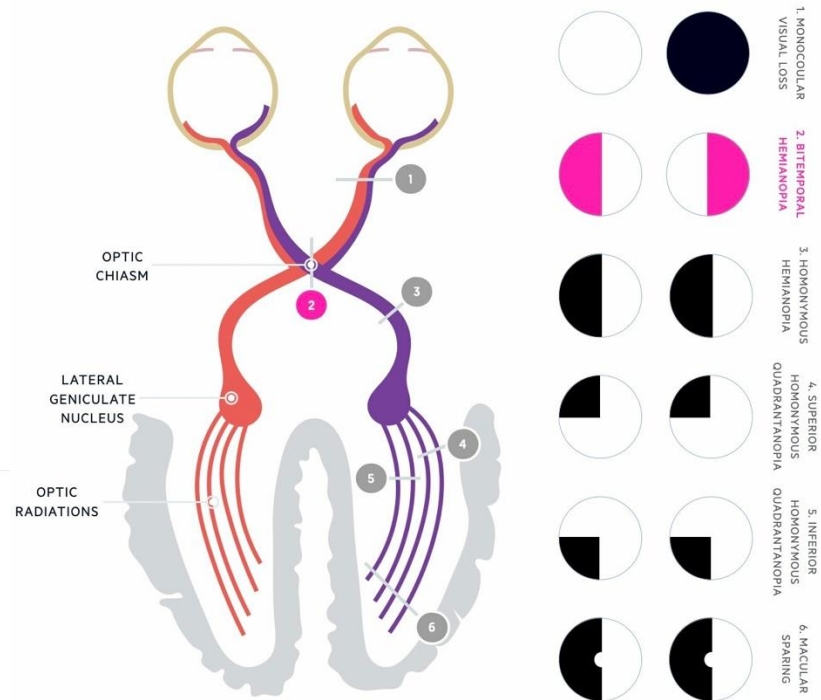
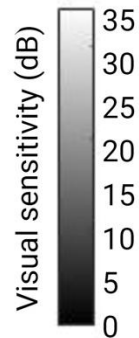
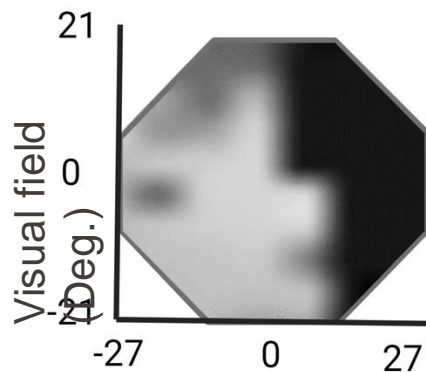
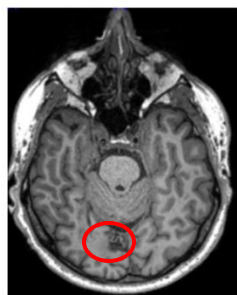
# Visual field defects



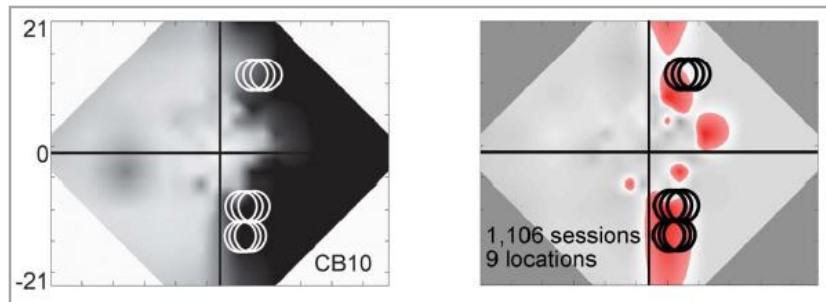
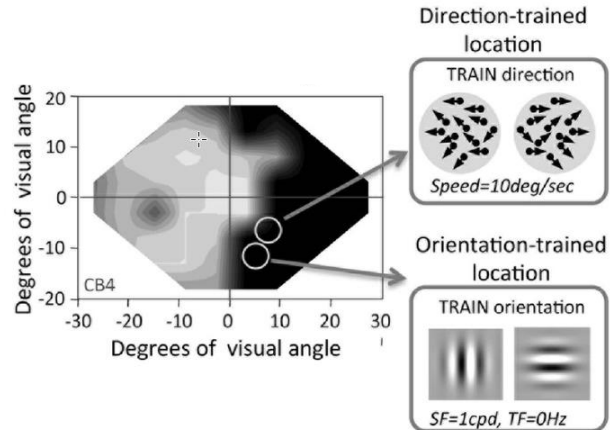




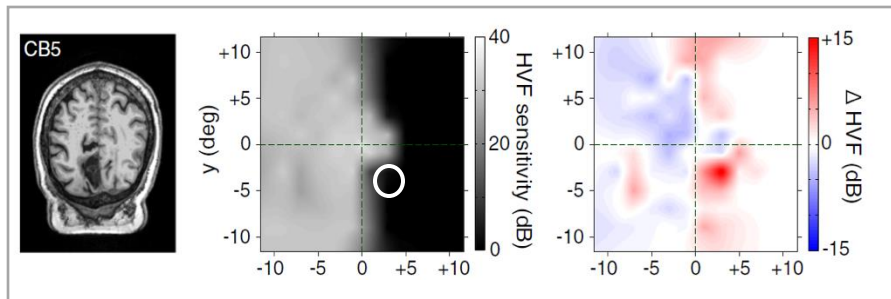




# Visuo-attentional training

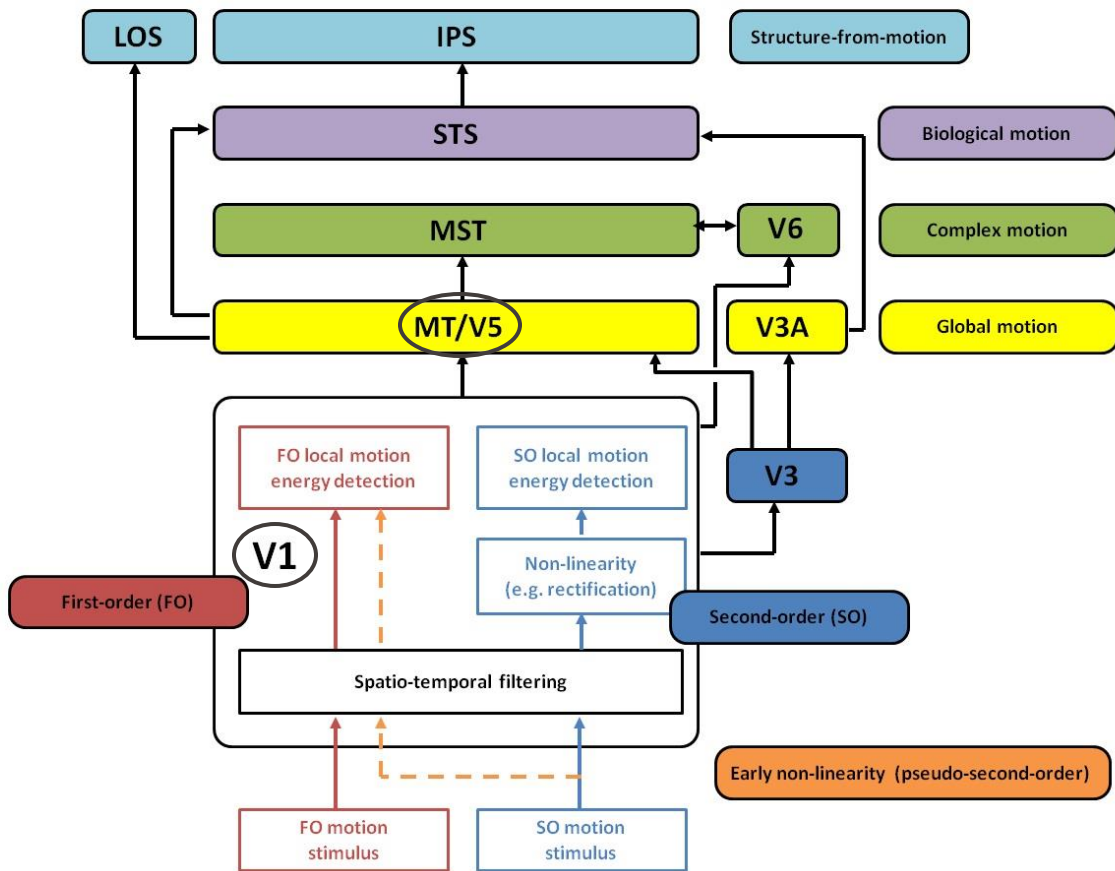


*Cavaunaugh and Huxlin et al., 2017, Neurology*



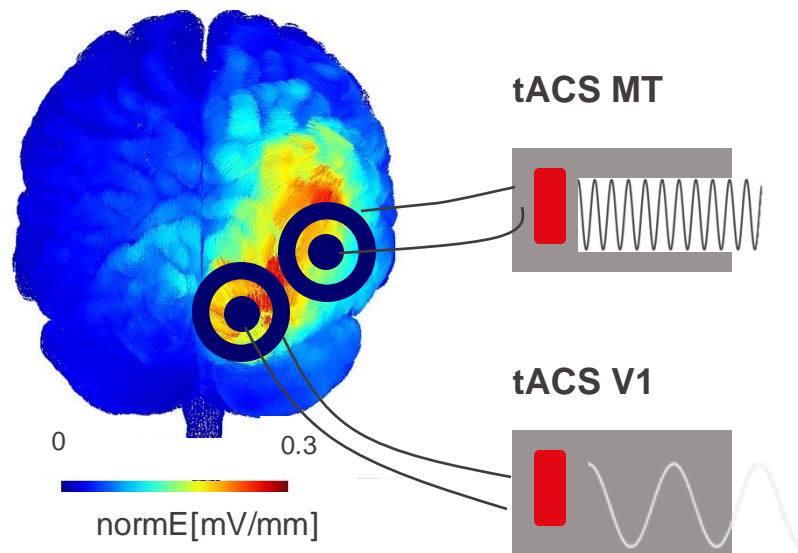
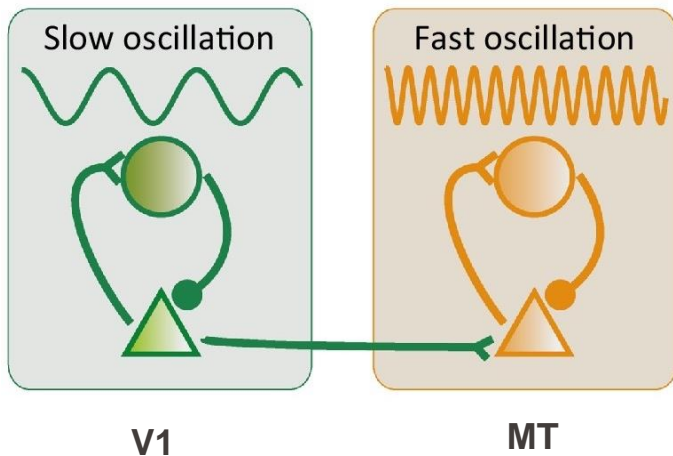
*Barbot et al., 2021, J Neurosc.*

# The motion processing hierarchy



# How to promote inter-areal communication?

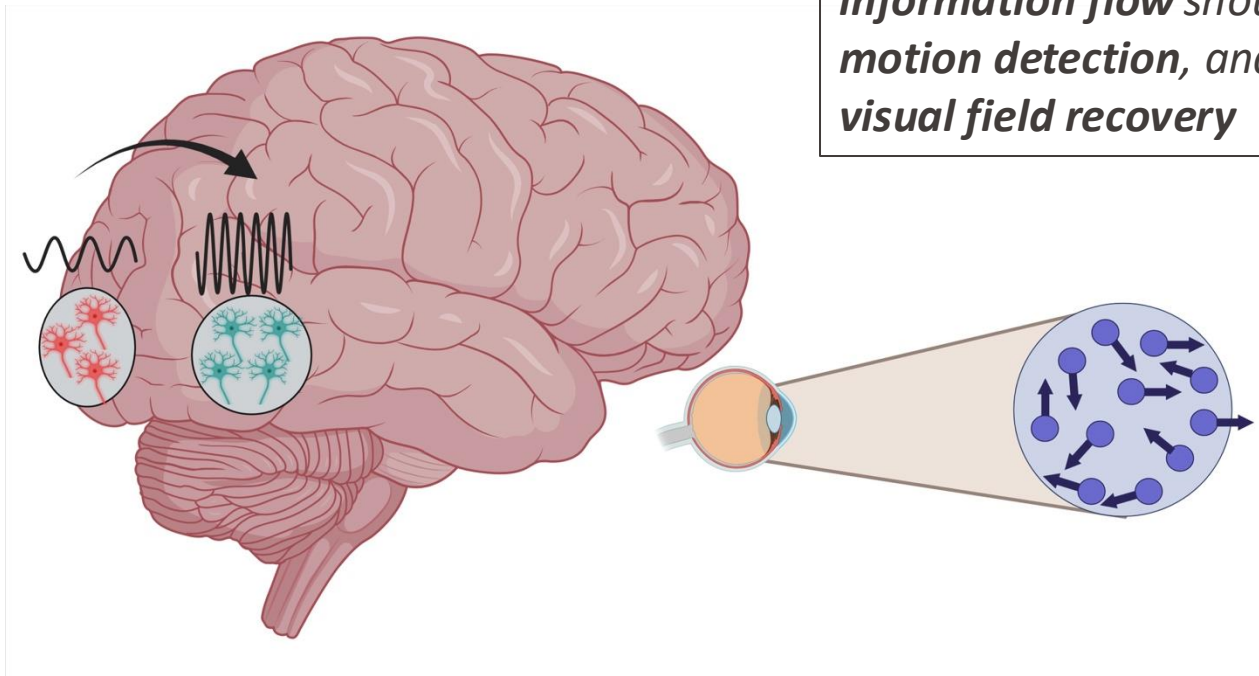
Inter-regional Phase-Amplitude Coupling (PAC)  
reflects **unidirectional coupling**



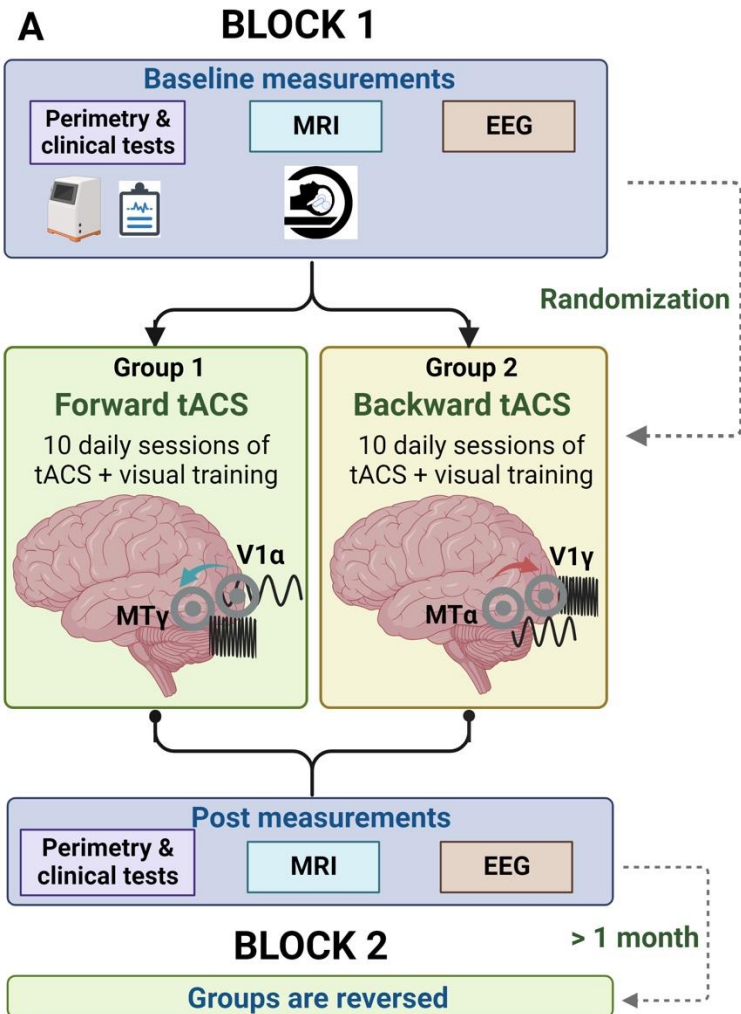


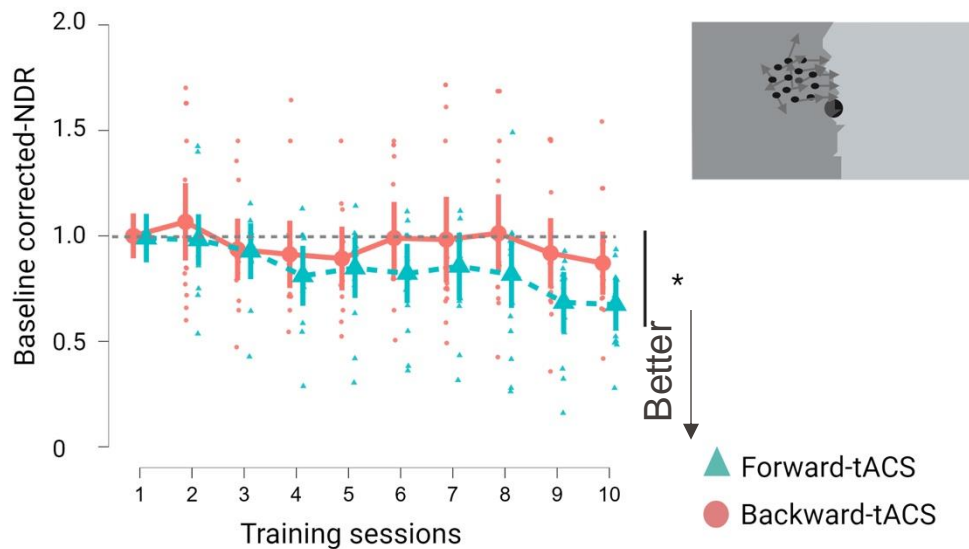
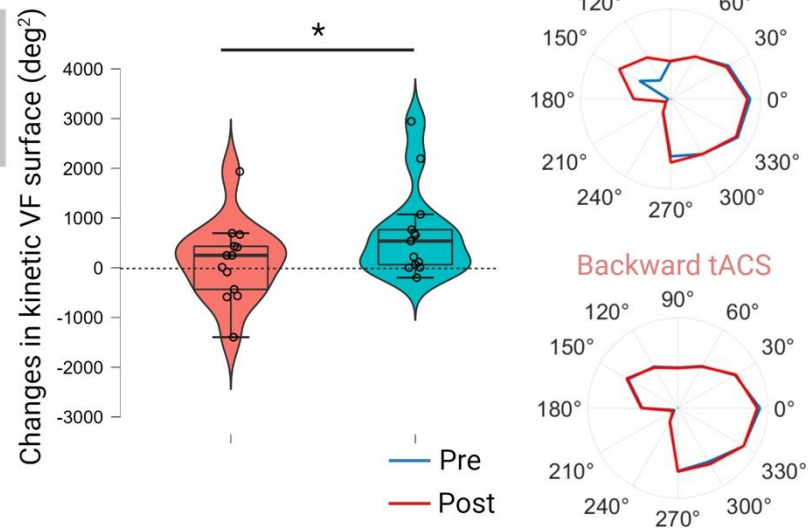
# Hypothesis

*promoting **bottom-up direction of information flow** should facilitate **motion detection**, and in turn, boost **visual field recovery***

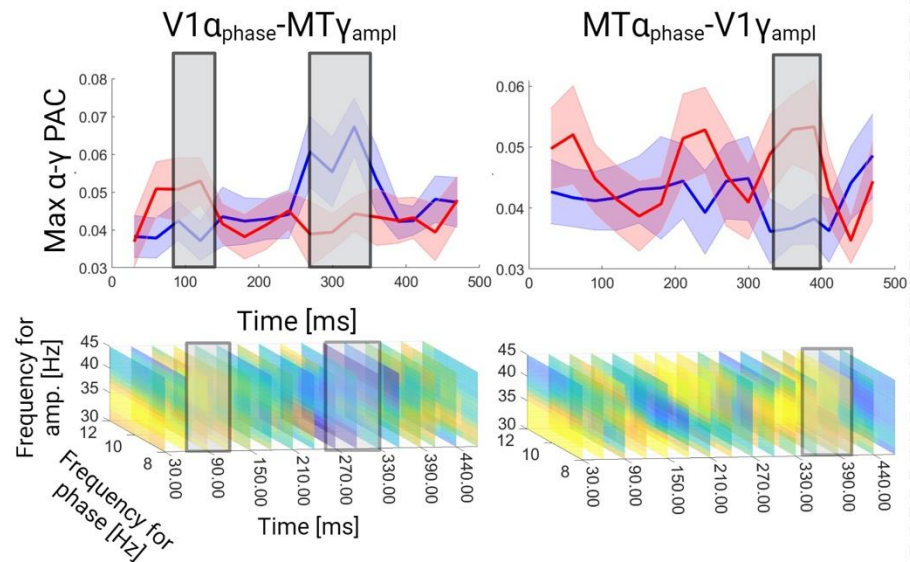
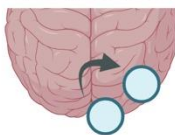


# Experimental design

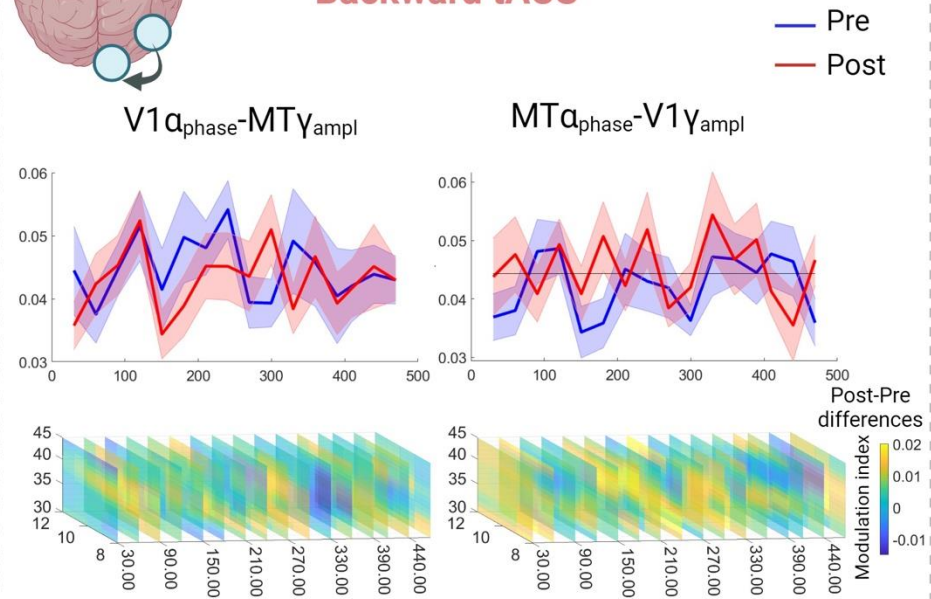
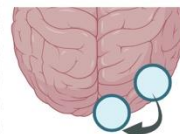


**A. Daily motion discrimination performances****B. Kinetic visual field maps**

## Forward tACS



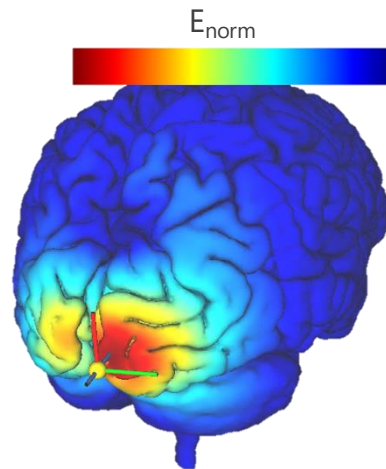
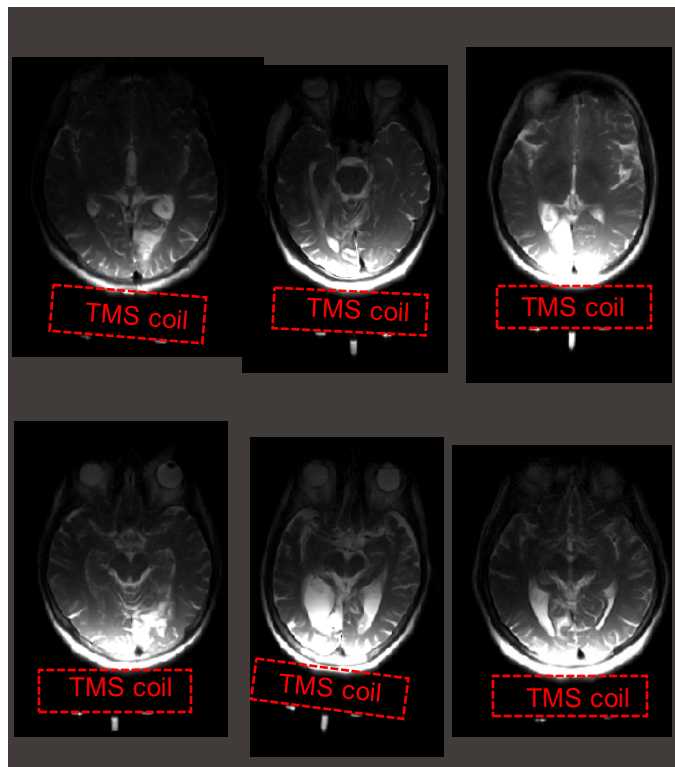
## Backward tACS



# Does V1 reactivity predict recovery?

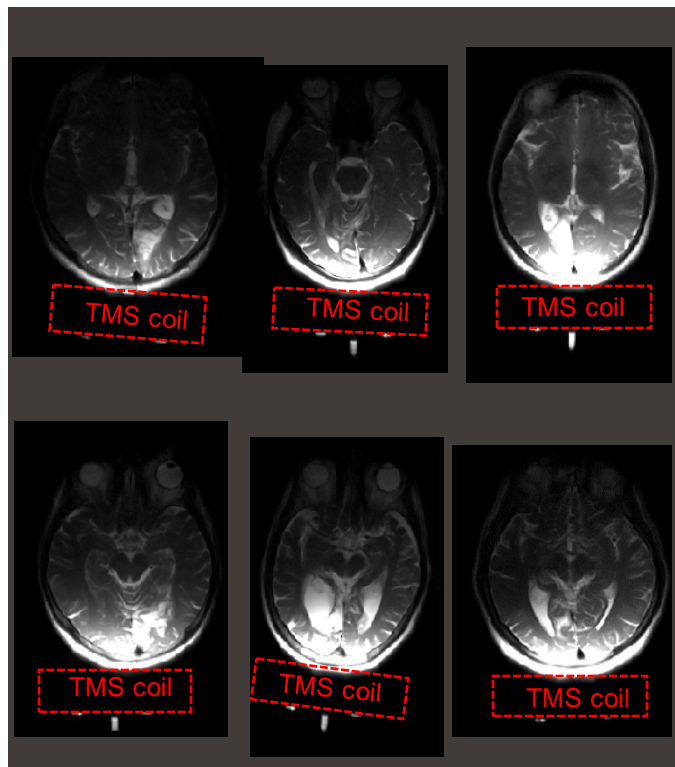


# Does V1 reactivity predict recovery?

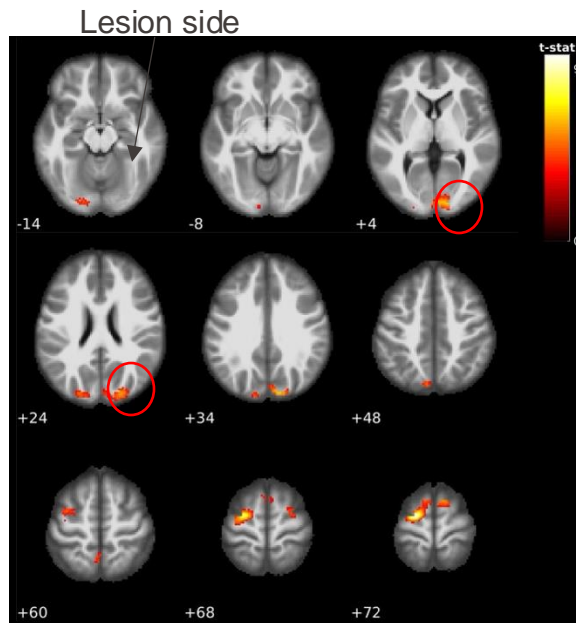




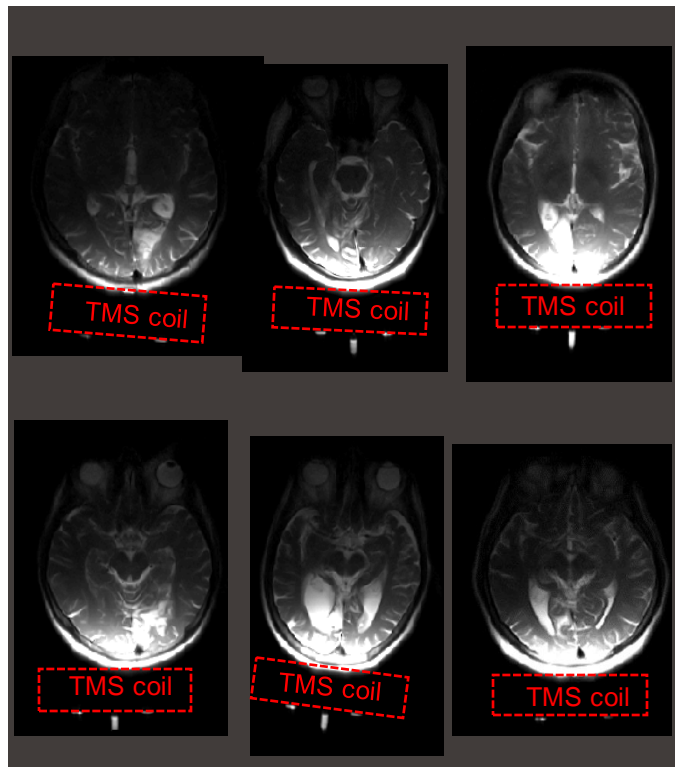
# Does V1 reactivity predict recovery?



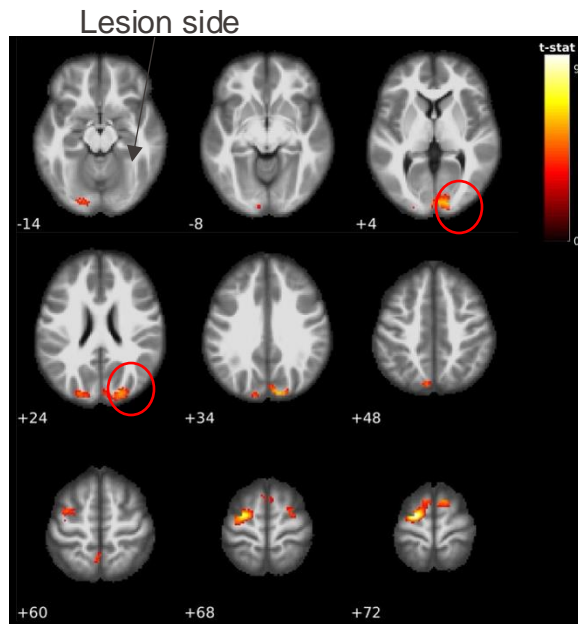
## Group results (HighTMS>LowTMS)



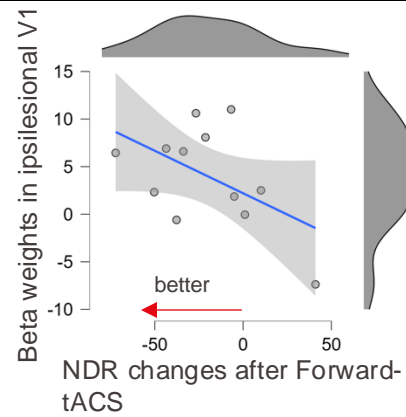
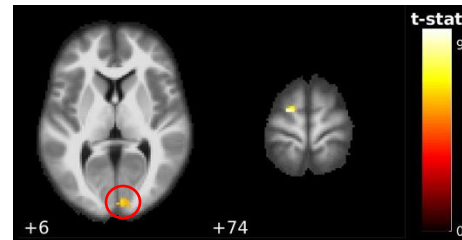
# Does V1 reactivity predict recovery?



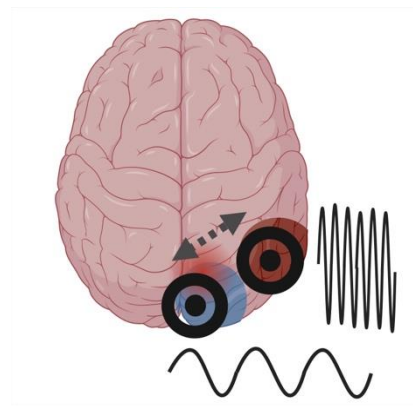
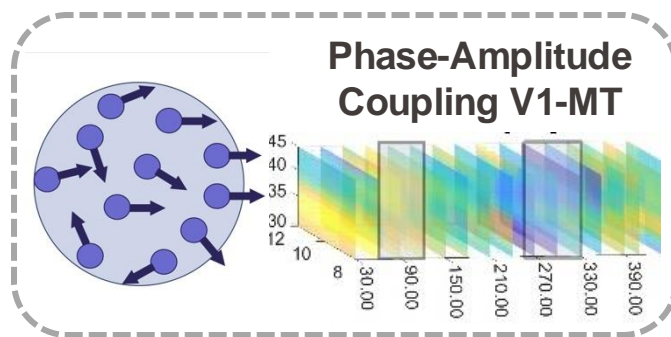
## Group results (HighTMS>LowTMS)



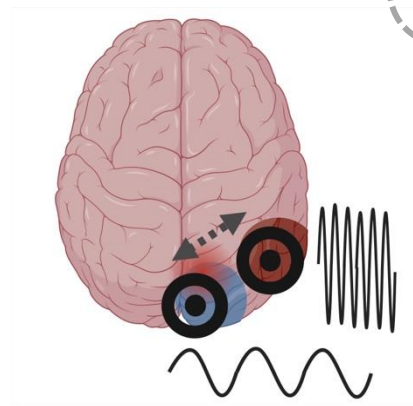
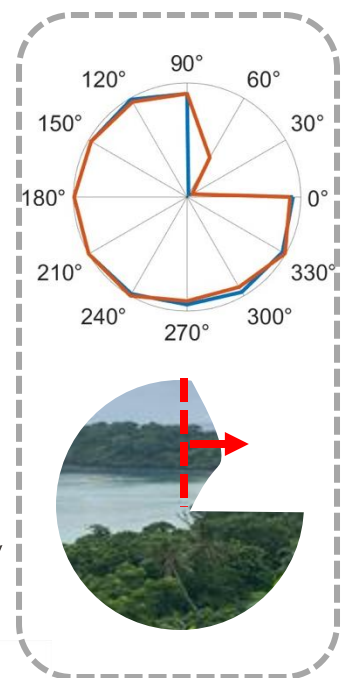
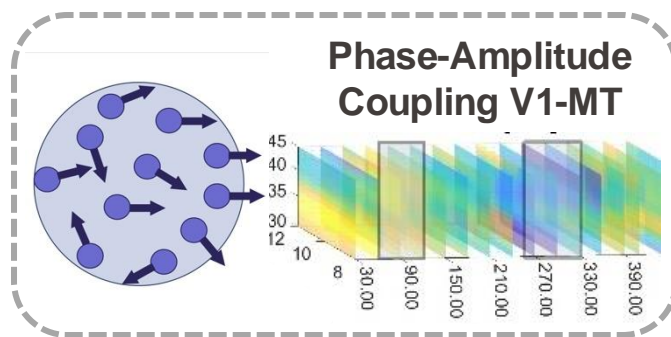
## Covariate analysis (Changes in motion discrimination)



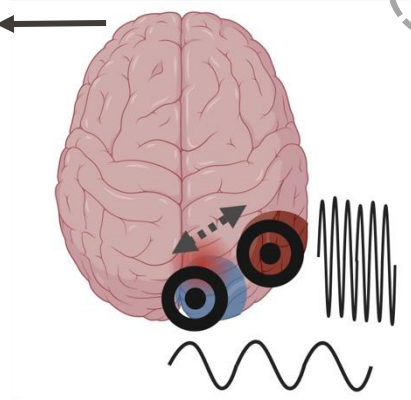
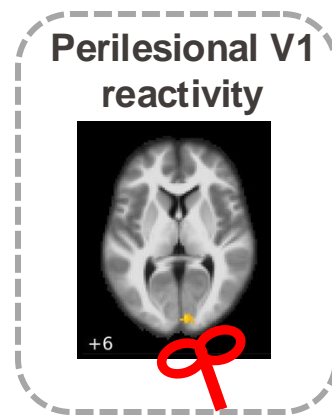
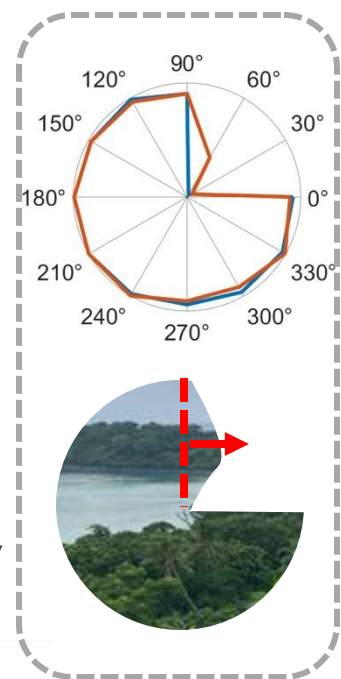
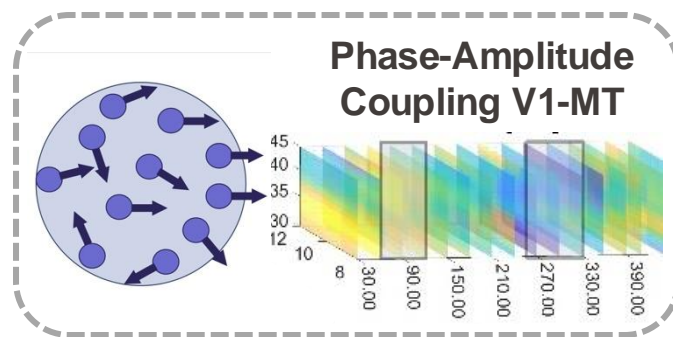
- The pathway and direction-dependent tACS protocol **improves motion processing in the blind field**
  - Changes in bi-directional cross-frequency V1-MT interactions
  - More efficient pathway-dependent processing

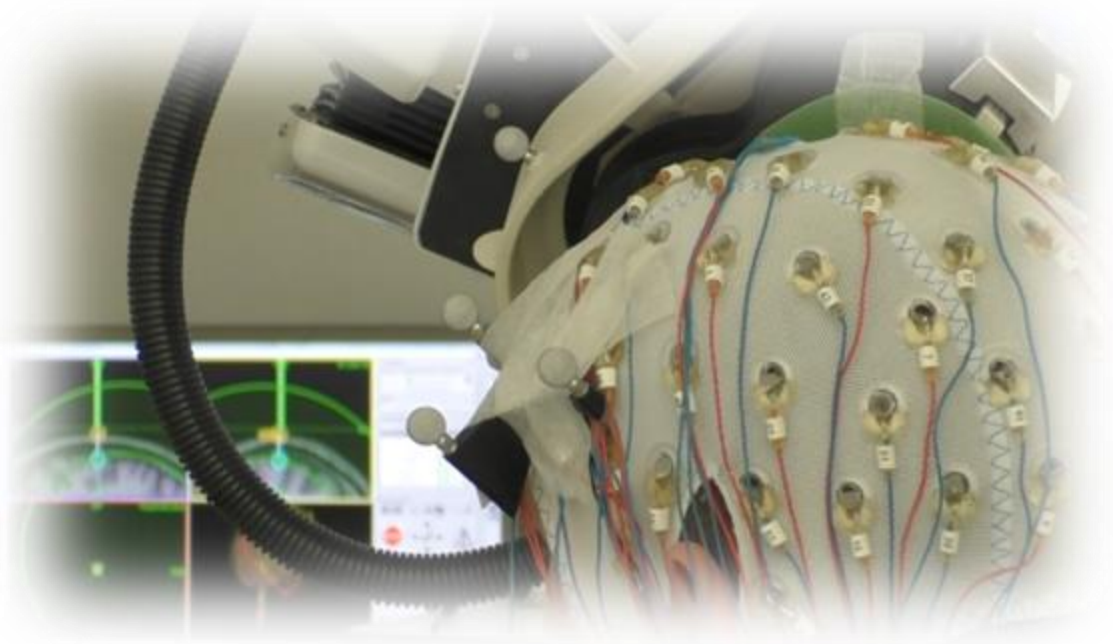
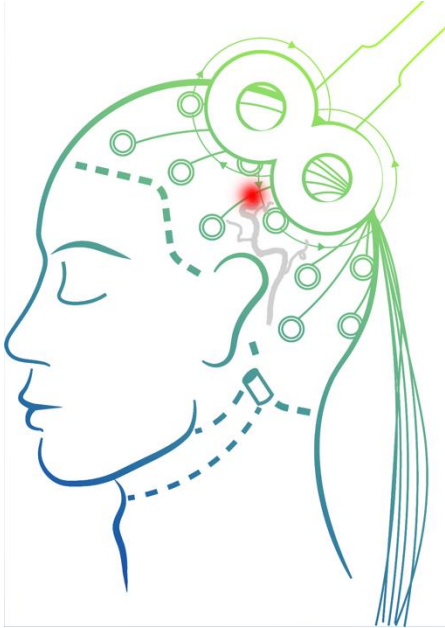


- The pathway and direction-dependent tACS protocol **improves motion processing in the blind field**
  - Changes in bi-directional cross-frequency V1-MT interactions
  - More efficient pathway-dependent processing
- and **enlarges visual field borders**

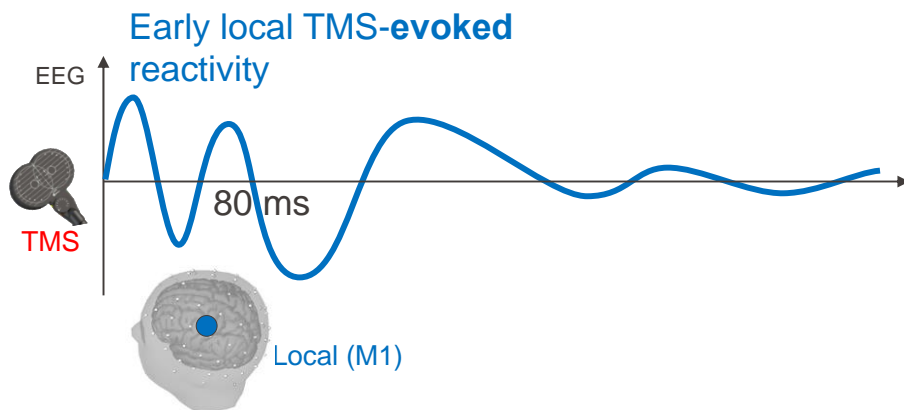
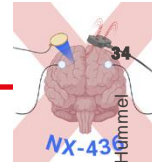


- The pathway and direction-dependent tACS protocol **improves motion processing in the blind field**
  - Changes in bi-directional cross-frequency V1-MT interactions
  - More efficient pathway-dependent processing
- and **enlarges visual field borders**
- was predicted by **more perilesional V1 activity** in response to TMS at baseline

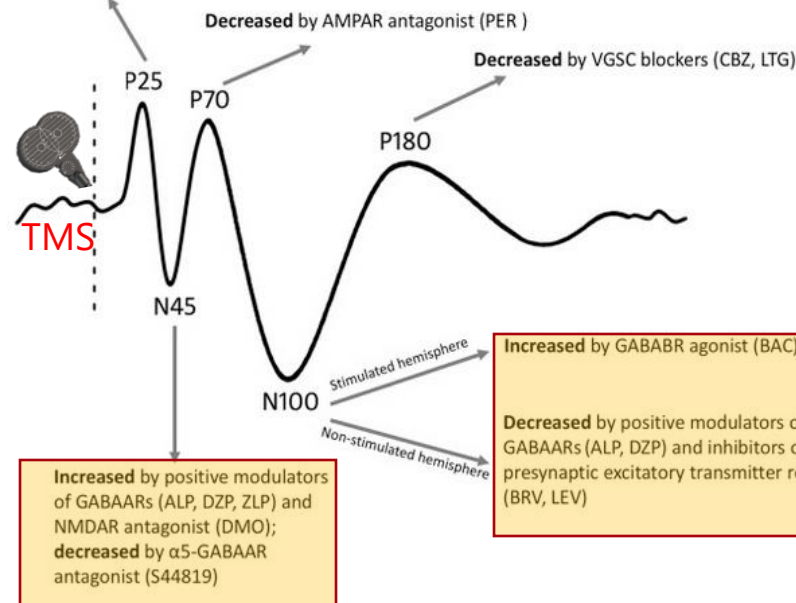


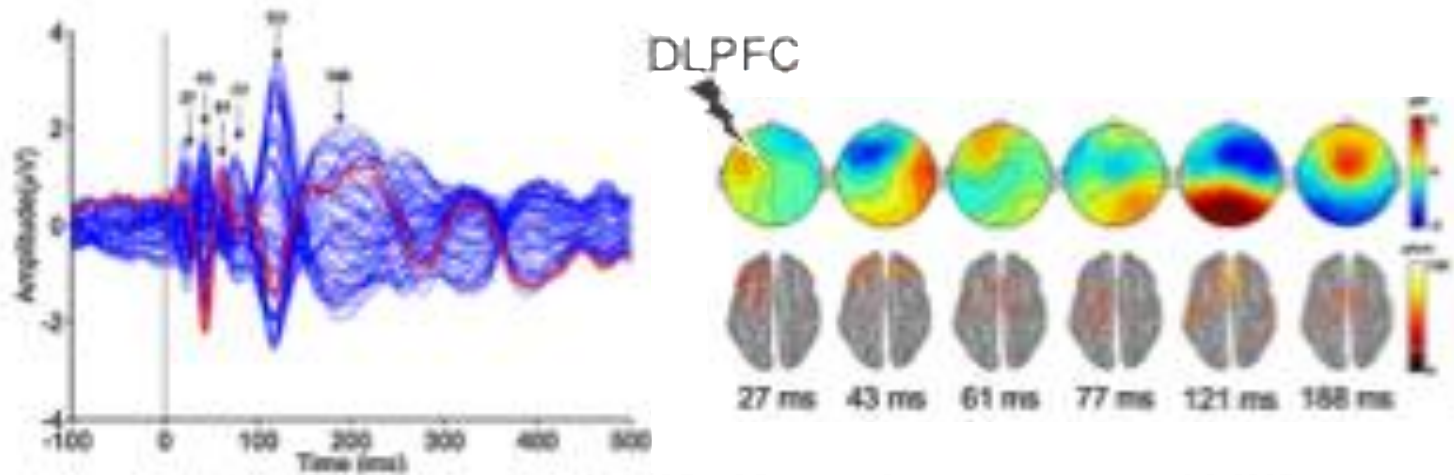




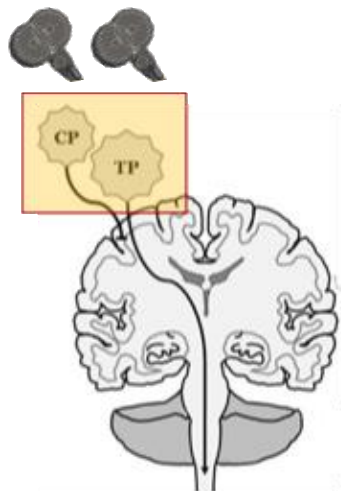
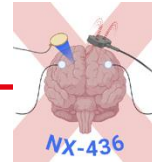


Correlates with MEP amplitude;  
**decreased** by VGSC blockers (CBZ)

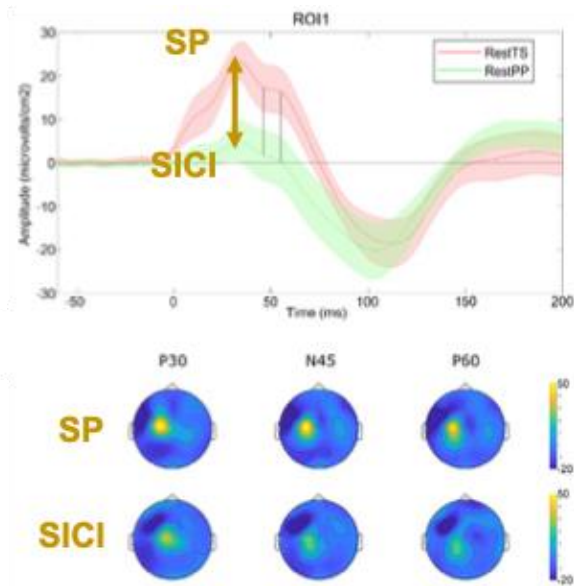




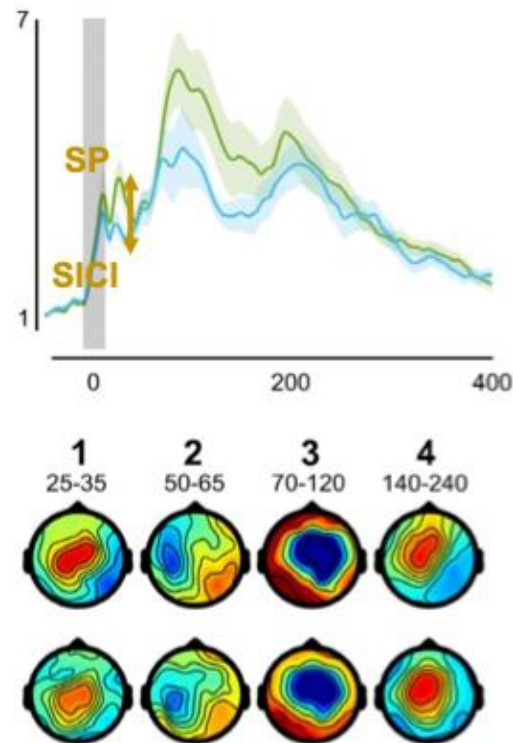
TEPs = **local** activity + remote **connectivity**



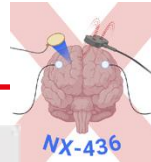
Short-Interval Cortical  
inhibition (SICI)



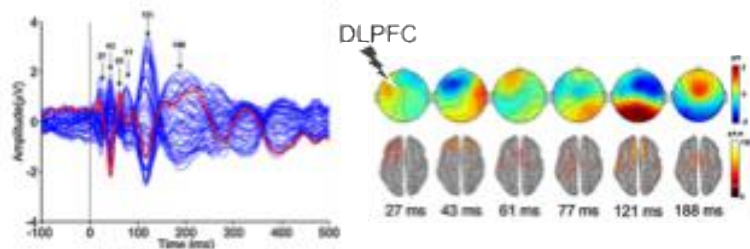
Leodori *et al.*, 2019



Raffin & Harquel *et al.*, 2020

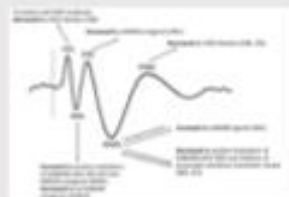


Clinical

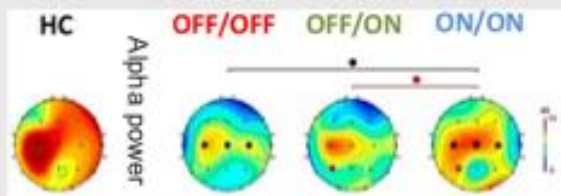


TEPs = local activity + remote connectivity

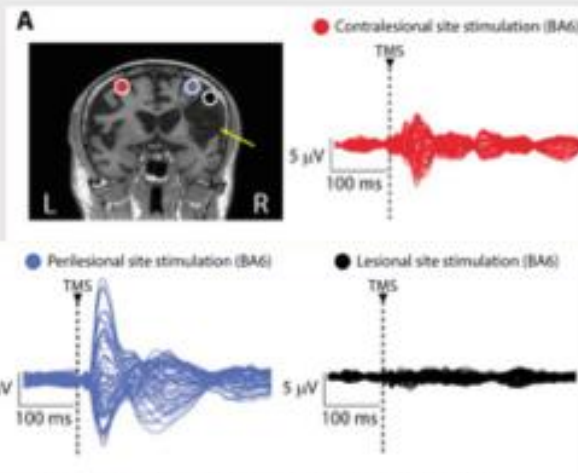
Neurotransmitters

Darmeni et al.  
*Brain stim.*, 2019

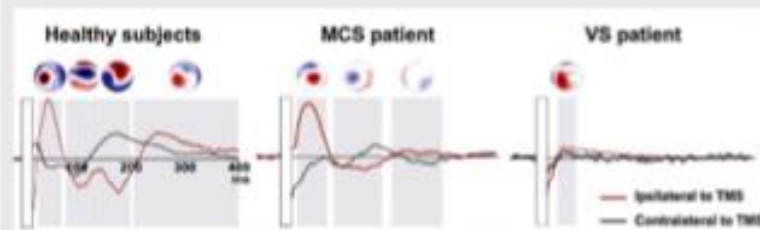
Pharmac TMS-EEG

Casula  
et al.,  
2017

DBS and levodopa in PD patients



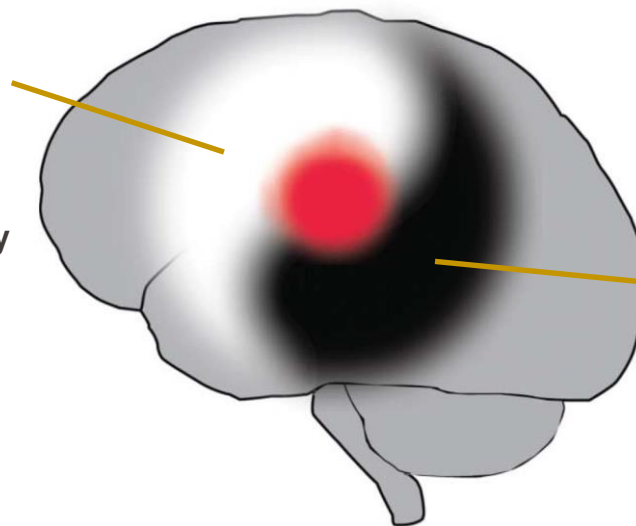
Cortical reactivity after focal injury

Sarasso et al., *Brain*, 2020Impairment of reactivity and connectivity in  
vegetative state patientsRagazzoni et al., *PLOS One*, 2013

## Animal Models

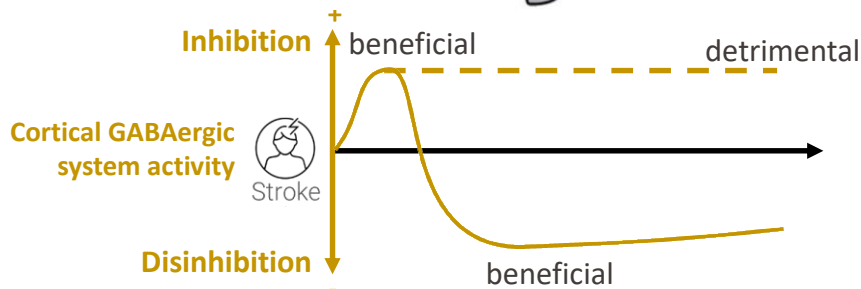
- Tonic Hyperinhibition
- Low excitability

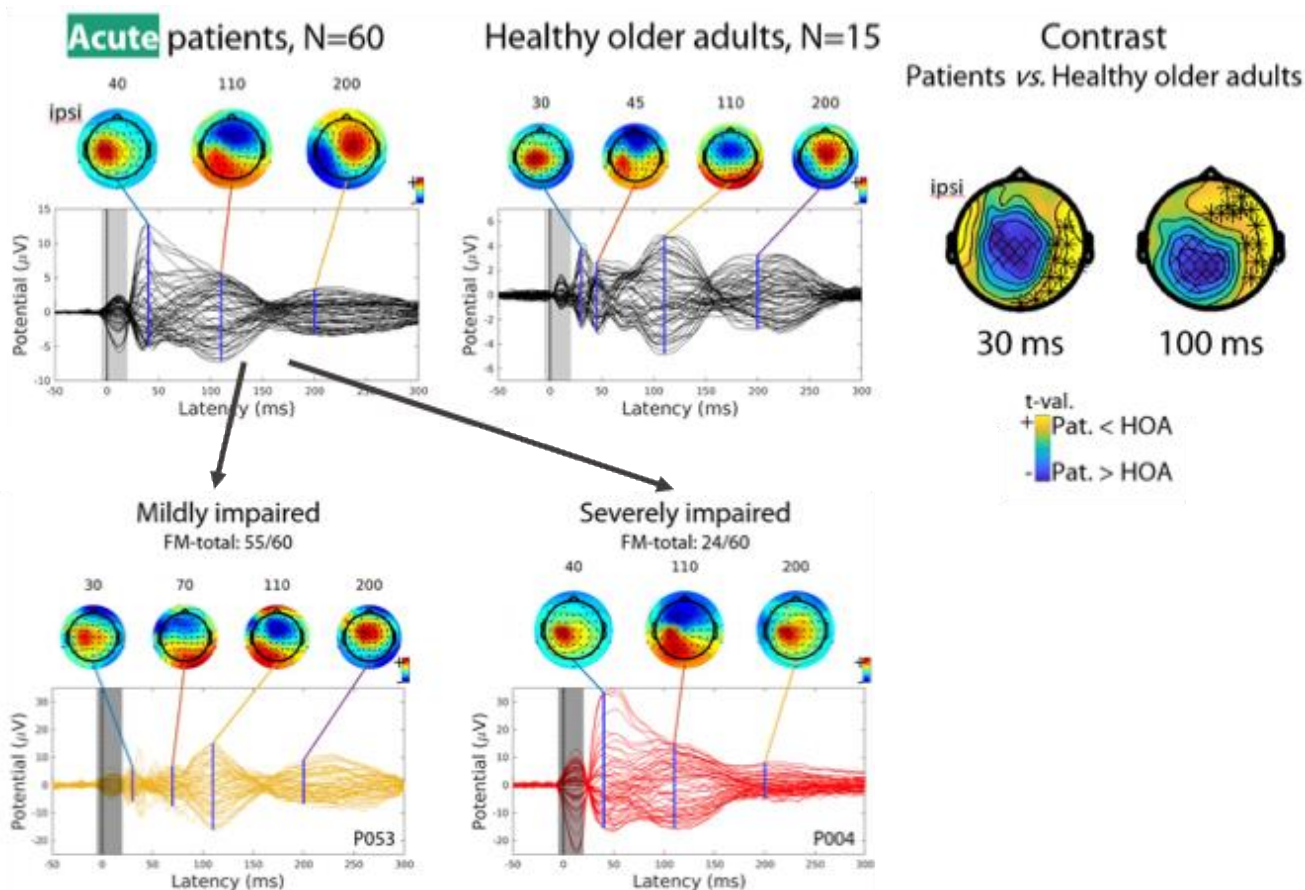
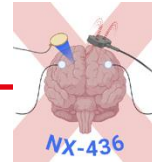
-> **Beneficial** for preventing **excitotoxicity**



- Hyperexcitability
- Decrease of tonic inhibition

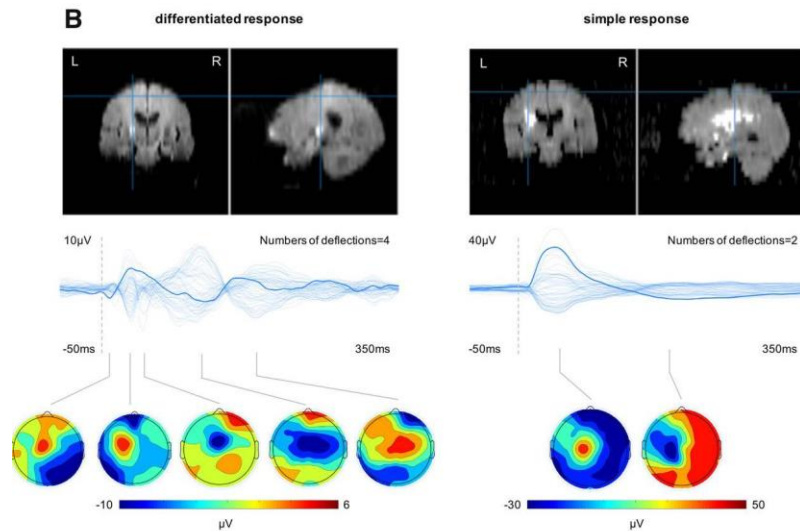
-> **Beneficial** for **plasticity**



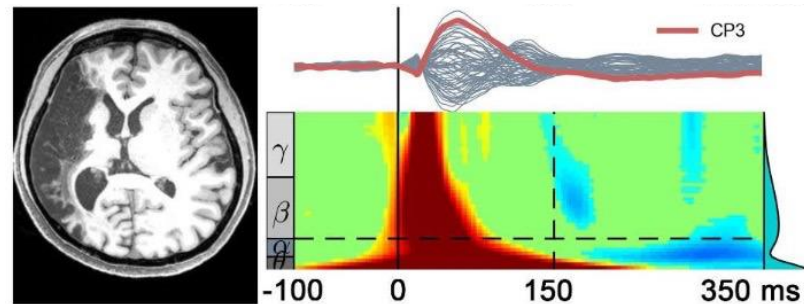




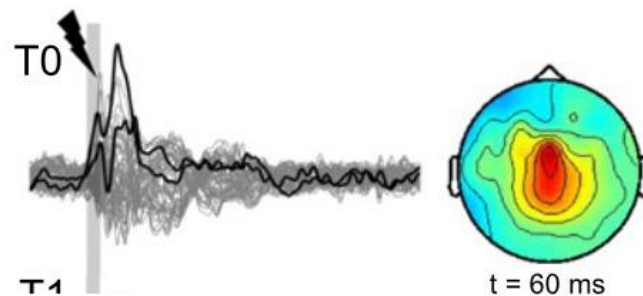
# Stroke Patients

Tscherpel *et al.*, 2020

Acute stroke

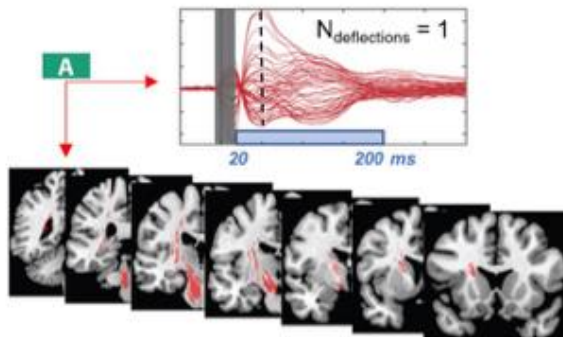


Chronic stroke

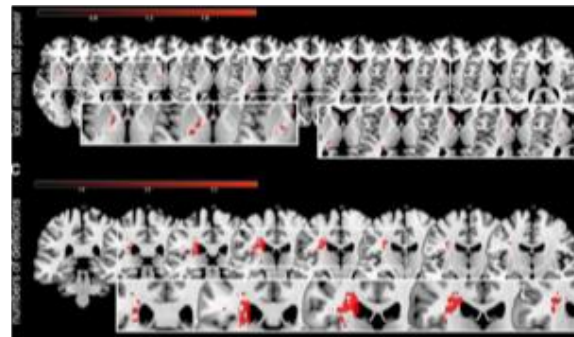
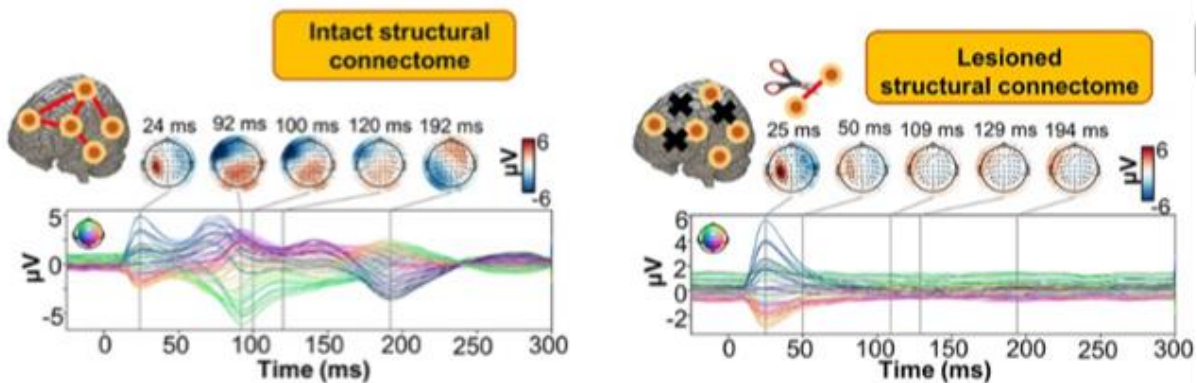
Bai *et al.*, 2023

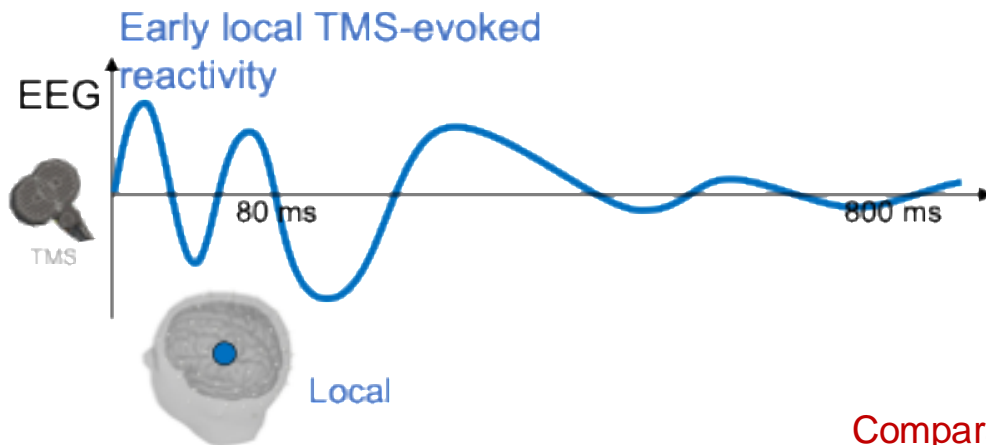
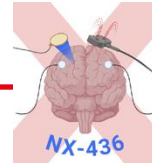
Chronic stroke

Bigoni *et al.*, 2023

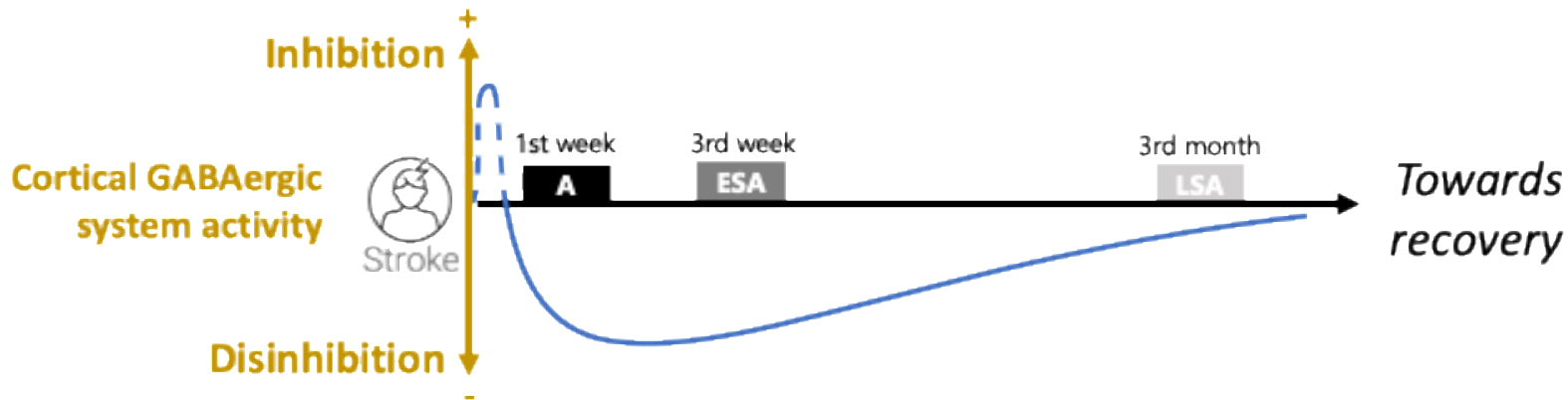
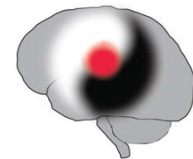


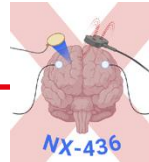
Internal capsule (TiMeS)

Internal capsule, caudate nucleus  
(Tscherpel *et al.*, 2020)Computational modelling (Momi *et al.*, 2023)



Comparable to animal work

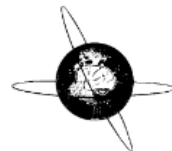




ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Clinical Neurophysiology

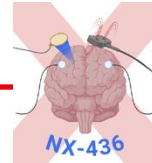
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clinph](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clinph)

## Review

## Clinical utility and prospective of TMS-EEG

Sara Tremblay<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Nigel C. Rogasch<sup>c</sup>, Isabella Premoli<sup>d</sup>, Daniel M. Blumberger<sup>a</sup>,  
Silvia Casarotto<sup>e</sup>, Robert Chen<sup>f</sup>, Vincenzo Di Lazzaro<sup>g</sup>, Faranak Farzan<sup>h</sup>, Fabio Ferrarelli<sup>i</sup>,  
Paul B. Fitzgerald<sup>j,k</sup>, Jeanette Hui<sup>a</sup>, Risto J. Ilmoniemi<sup>l</sup>, Vasilios K. Kimiskidis<sup>m</sup>,  
Dimitris Kugiumtzis<sup>n</sup>, Pantelis Lioumis<sup>a</sup>, Alvaro Pascual-Leone<sup>o</sup>, Maria Concetta Pellicciari<sup>p</sup>,  
Tarek Rajji<sup>a</sup>, Gregor Thut<sup>q</sup>, Reza Zomorodi<sup>a</sup>, Ulf Ziemann<sup>r</sup>, Zafiris J. Daskalakis<sup>a</sup>





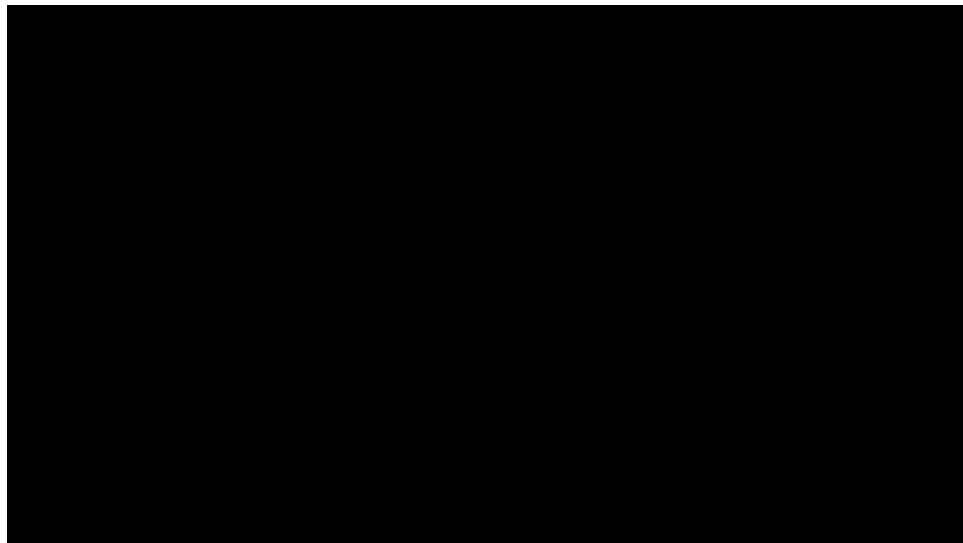
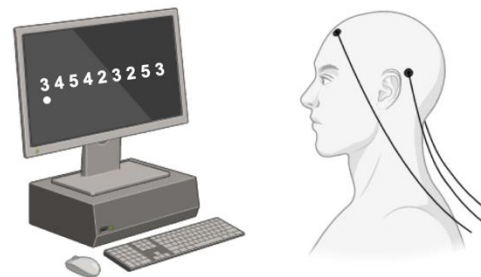
nature neuroscience

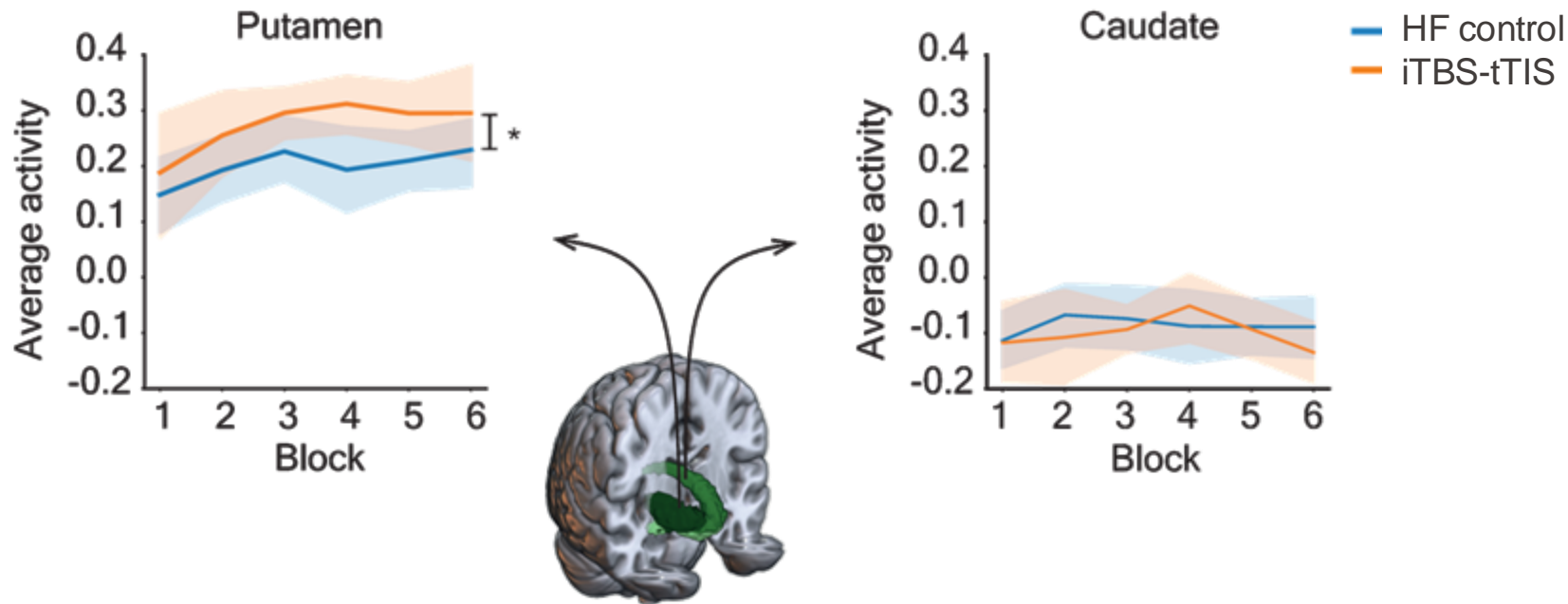
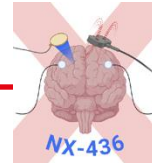


Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41593-023-01457-7>

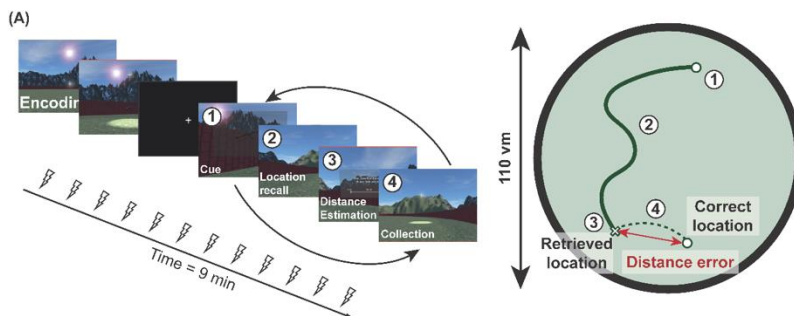
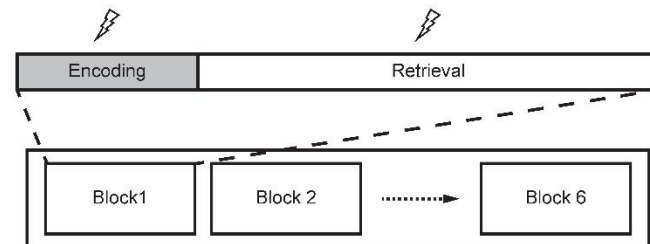
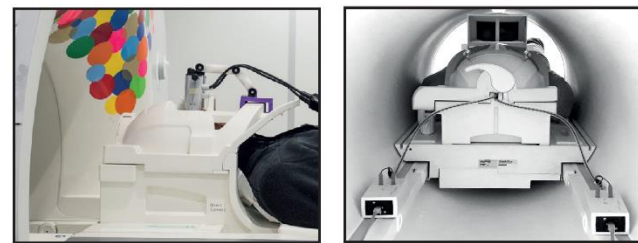
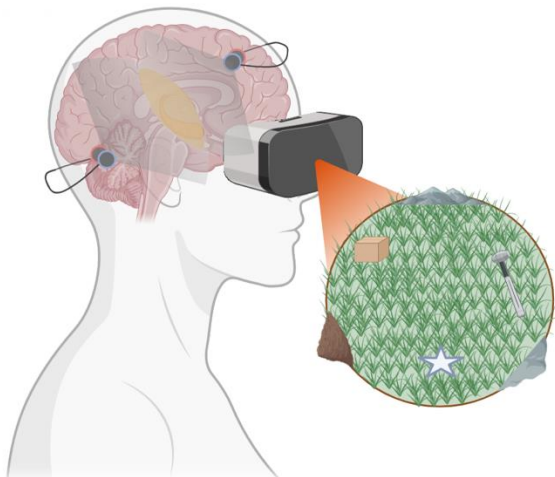
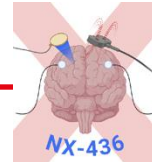
# Noninvasive theta-burst stimulation of the human striatum enhances striatal activity and motor skill learning

Wessel, Beanato *et al.* 2023

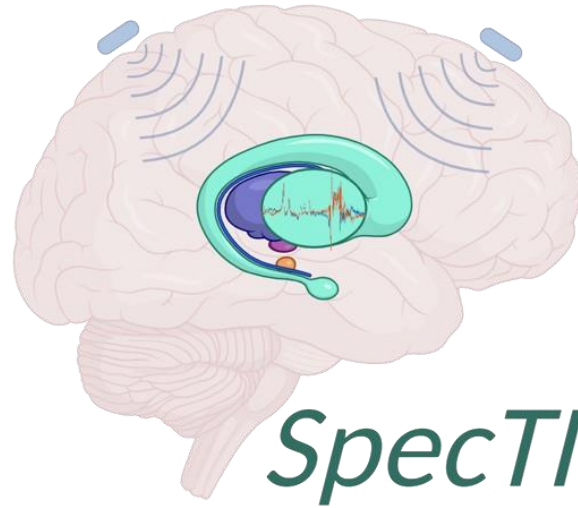


Stimulation effects are specific to the subregion  
already involved in the task

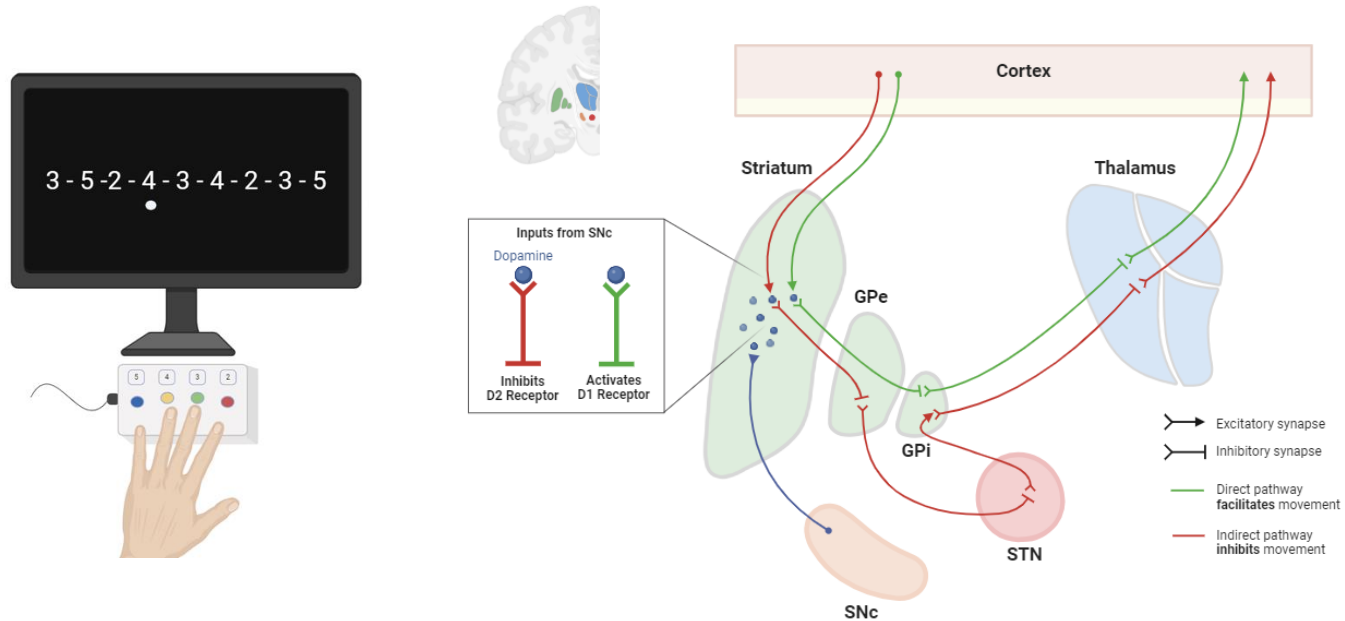




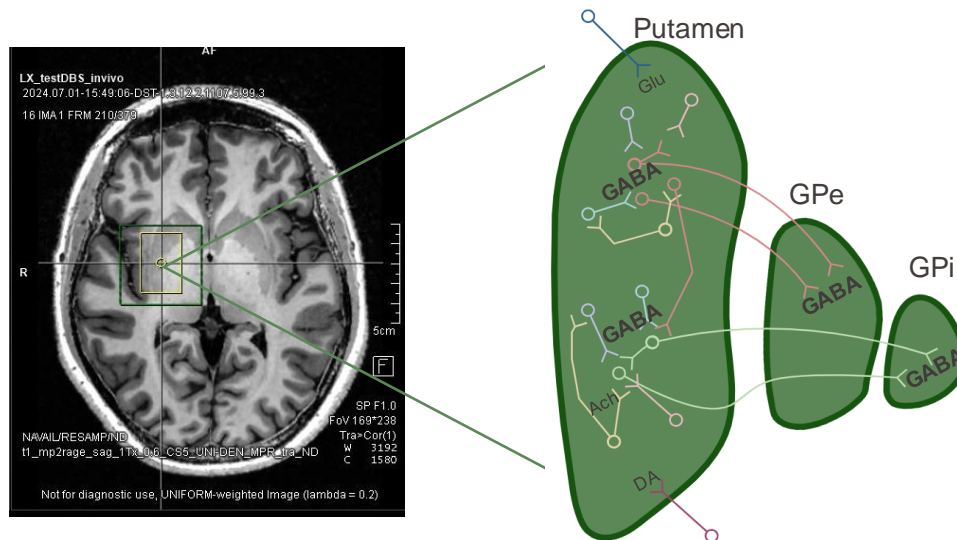
Beanato, Moon *et al.* 2024. *Science Advances*



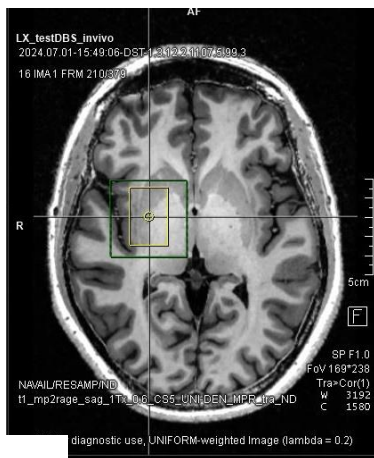
- How does striatal tTIS modulate neuromodulator levels in the putamen?
- How does this differ when performing a motor learning task?



- Majority of neurons in Putamen are GABAergic
  - Medium spiny projection neurons
  - GABAergic Interneurons



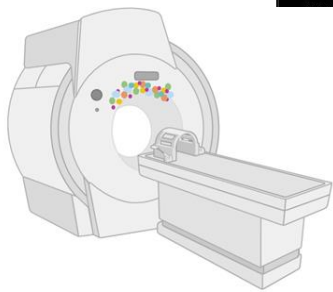
- Record functional MR spectroscopy of the Putamen at 7T

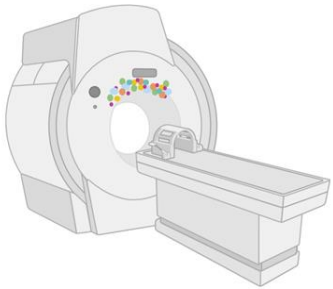
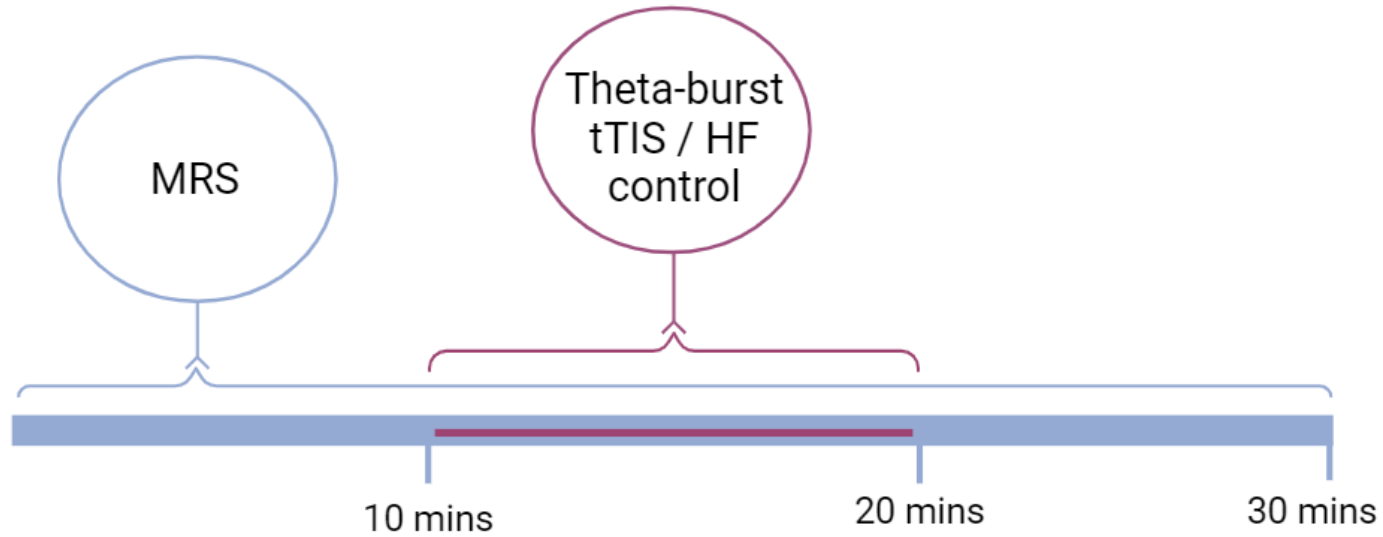


Resting state

Pre-stimulation  
fMRSTheta-burst  
tTIS / HF control  
+ fMRSPost-stimulation  
fMRS

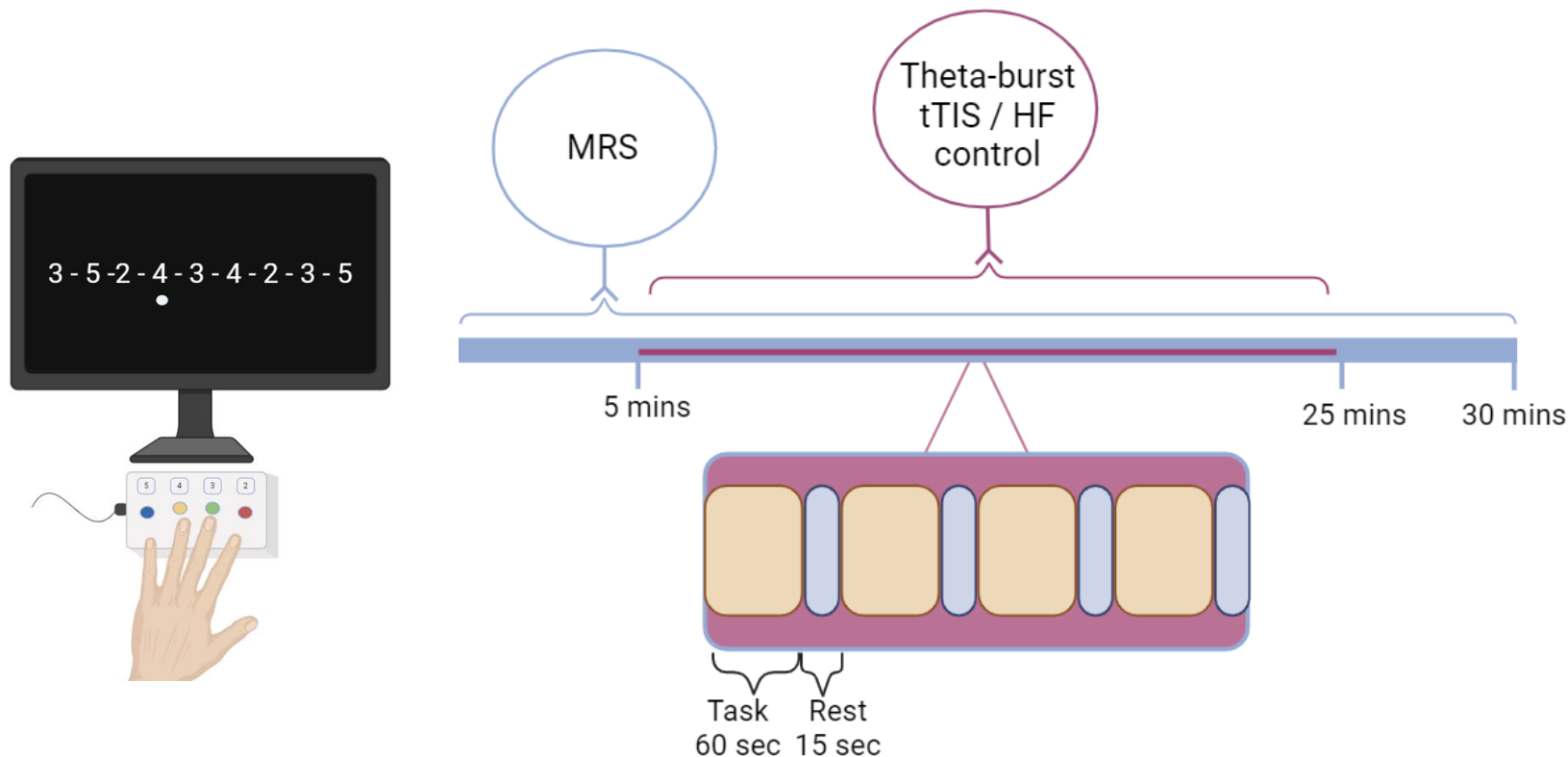
Task-based

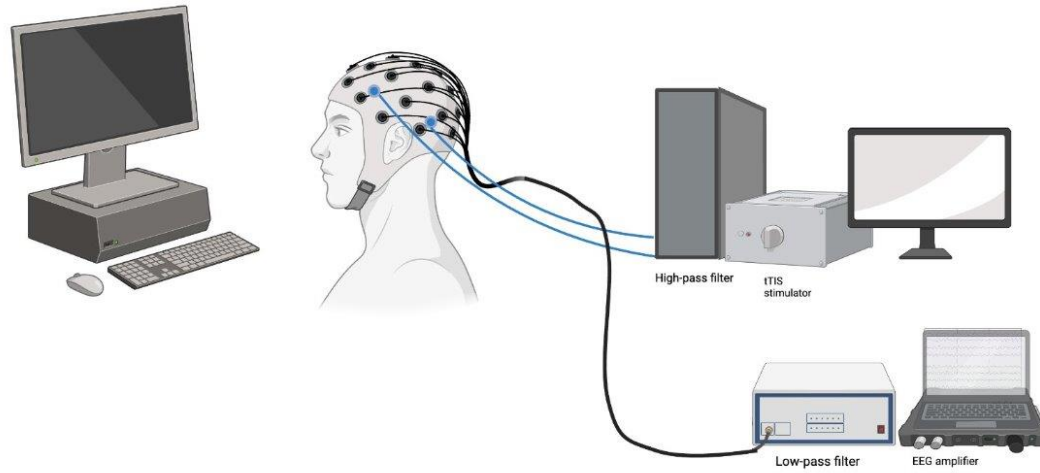
Pre-stimulation  
fMRSTheta-burst  
tTIS / HF control  
+ Task + fMRSPost-stimulation  
fMRS

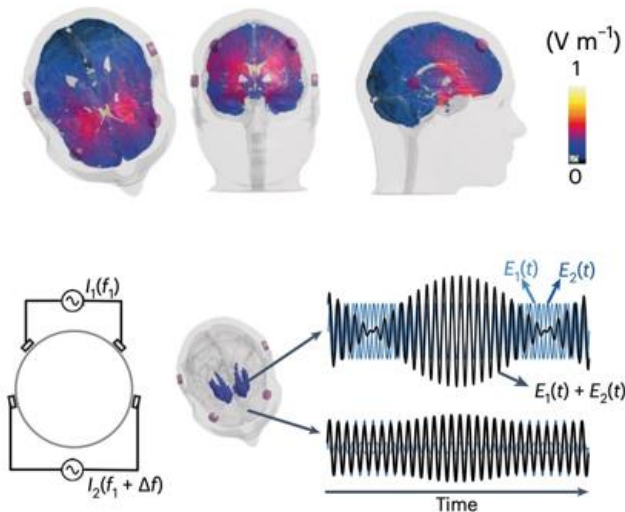




- Sequential finger tapping task to motor learning





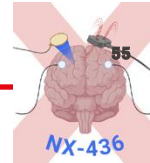


**Electric field modeling with striatal montage**  
 Maximilian J. Wessel, Elena Beanato et al. 2023

**Temporal Interference (TI) Stimulation** uses two electric fields at frequencies  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  to stimulate the brain at the difference frequency ( $|f_1 - f_2| = \Delta f$ ), which lies within the range of brain activity, non-invasively.

**'Pulsed Temporal Interference'** uses two electric fields at frequencies,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , and periodically switch a particular field to  $f_2 + \Delta f$  in a timed, pulsed manner (i.e. in bursts).

Each electric field is generated by a constant current sources



### What is the current hypothesis of how tTIS modulates brain activity?

Subthreshold stimulation that requires behavioral co-activation of the brain area of focus (rs- fMRI vs. task-based fMRI)

(Wessel, Beanato et al. 2023, Violante et al. 2023)

Disruptive effect on the underlying network oscillation pattern when applied in a continuous and not in a pulsed-stimulation pattern (it is not phase locked to the underlying oscillatory rhythm or the continuous stimulation masks the underlying network activity)

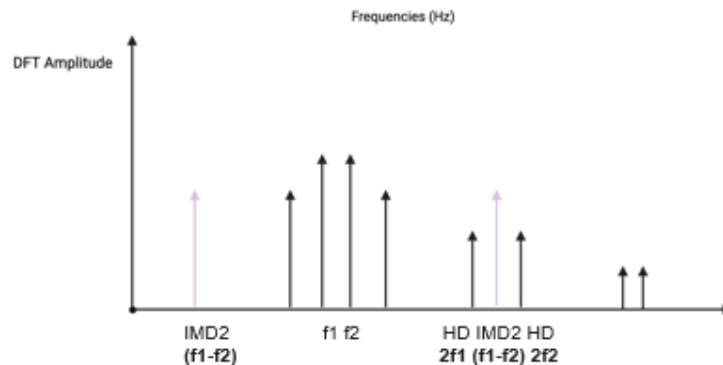
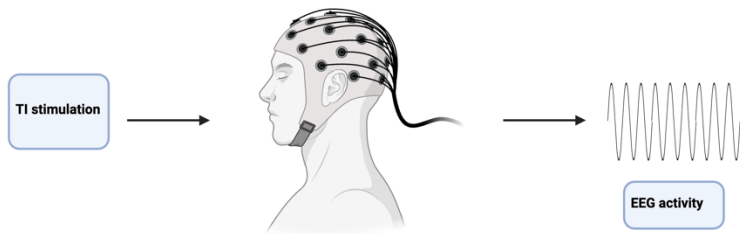
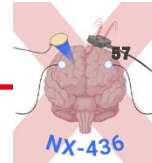
(Vassiliadis et al. 2024, Viera et al. 2024, Chenhao Yang et al. 2024)

At a cellular level, neuron can mix the high carrier frequencies and produces non-linear mixed products – new frequencies -

(Mirzakhaili et al. 2020 )

Neuron is mixing exogenous and endogenous subthreshold membrane potential oscillations to create new oscillatory frequencies  
(Kinetics of voltage-gated sodium channels are non-linear)

(Luff et al. 2024)



### Concurrent TI-EEG recording:

#### Advantages

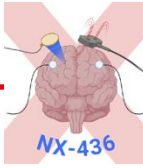
Continuous EEG recording during and after tTIS:

- Mechanistic understudying of tTIS effects on brain circuits with high temporal resolution
- Reveal sustained effects of tTIS during and after the experiment

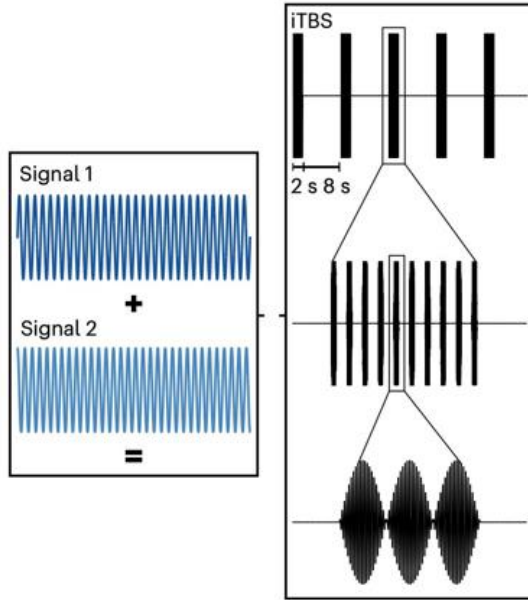
#### Technical challenges

tTIS creates voltage potential that is above the limits of commercially available EEG amplifiers: **non-linear system**

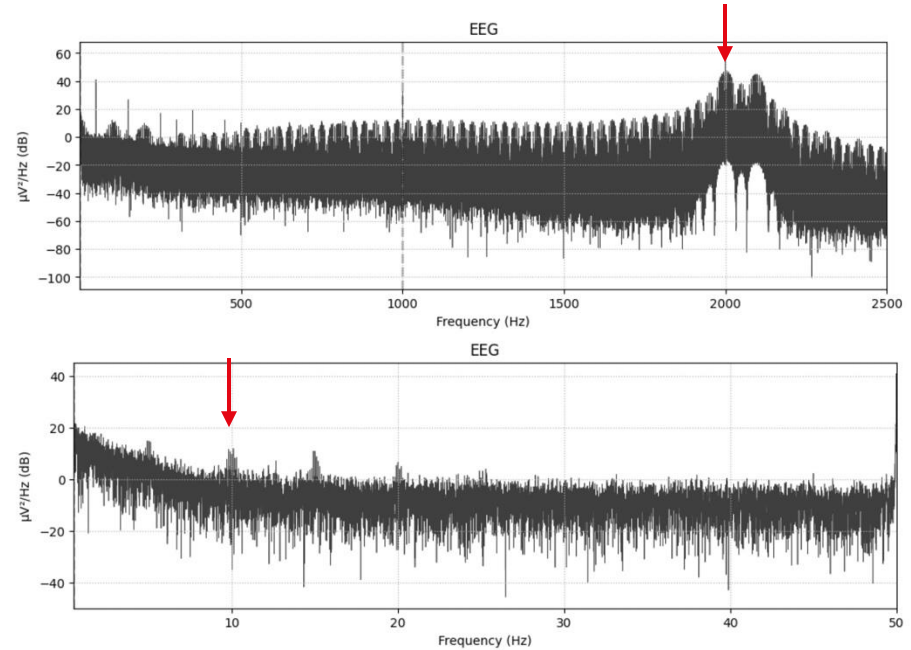
EEG recording will be distorted by non-linear artefacts, as a result of the tTIS



## Example of stimulation artefacts

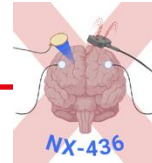


**Intermittent theta burst stimulation pattern**  
Maximilian J. Wessel, Elena Beanato et al. 2023



*Red arrows:* Carrier TI frequencies (2kHz, 2.1kHz), TI stimulation artefact at 5Hz (FFT)





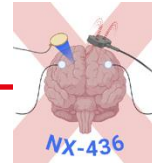
**Stimulation artefacts can be approximated by Taylor expansion:**

Is an infinite sum of terms which represent an approximation of a function around a specific point on the function. It allows any function (including non-linear ones, as long as it is infinitely differentiable) to be represented as the sum of terms scaled by the function's derivatives at a specific point (with approximation accuracy reducing the further one gets from the specified point)

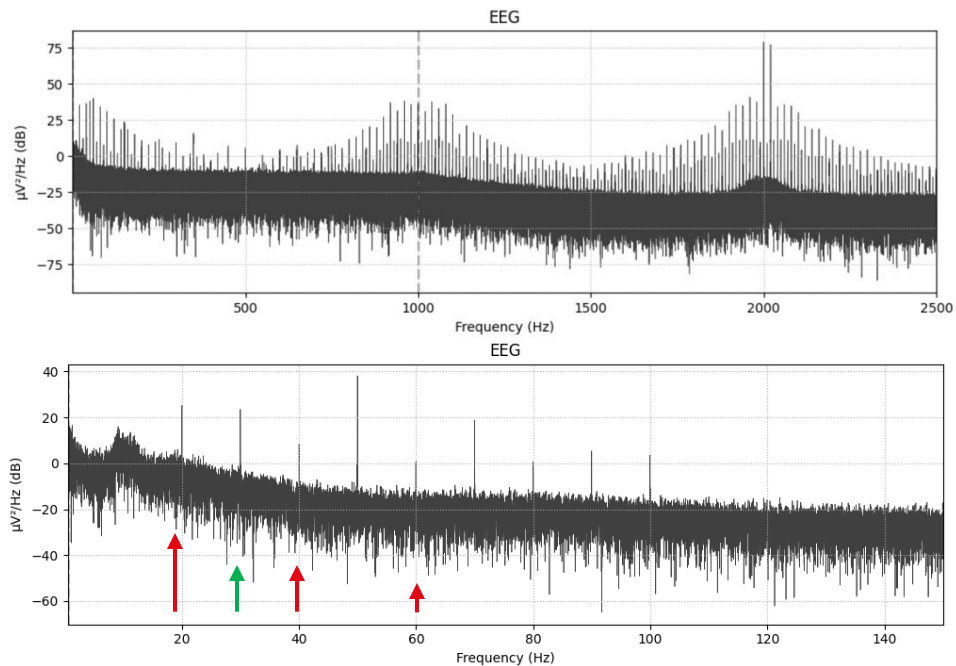
**A Maclaurin Series** is the same thing as a Taylor Series but with the specified point around which to approximate defined as zero:

$$f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!}x + \underbrace{\frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \dots}_{\text{Non-Linear}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}x^n$$

The diagram illustrates the components of the Taylor expansion. The first term,  $f(0)$ , is labeled as **Linear**. The subsequent terms,  $\frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$ , are grouped together and labeled as **Non-Linear**.



### Example of stimulation artefacts with continuous TI stimulation, beat frequency at 20Hz



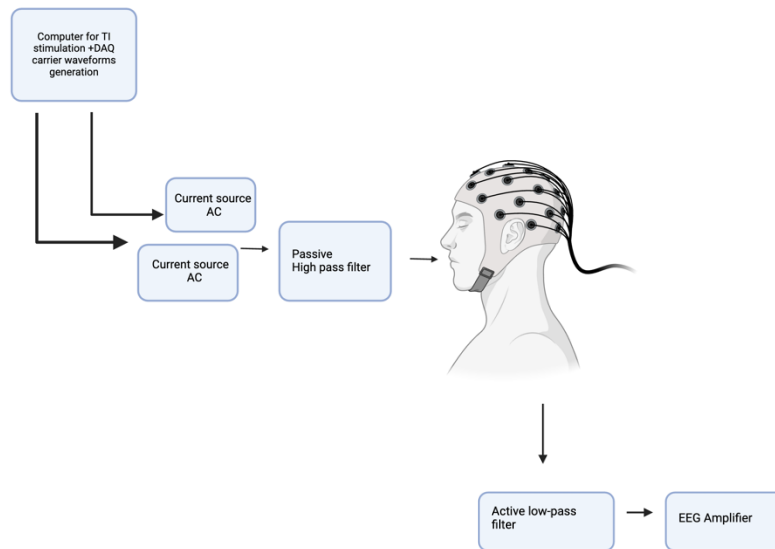
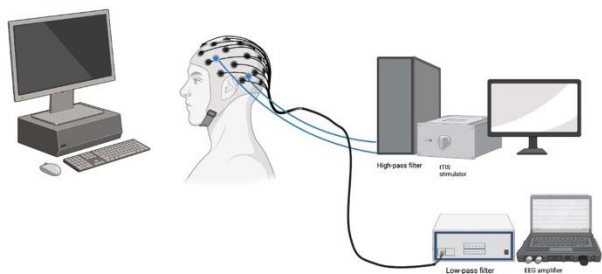
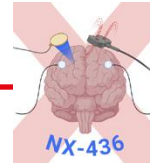
Carrier TI frequencies (2kHz, 2.02kHz)

Red arrows: TI stimulation artefact at 20Hz and its harmonics (FFT)

Green arrows: TI stimulation artefact at 30Hz (mixing with power line noise)



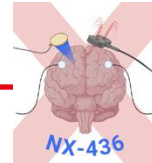
TI stimulation, beat frequency 20Hz (envelope graphical representation)



**TI-EEG set up configuration:**

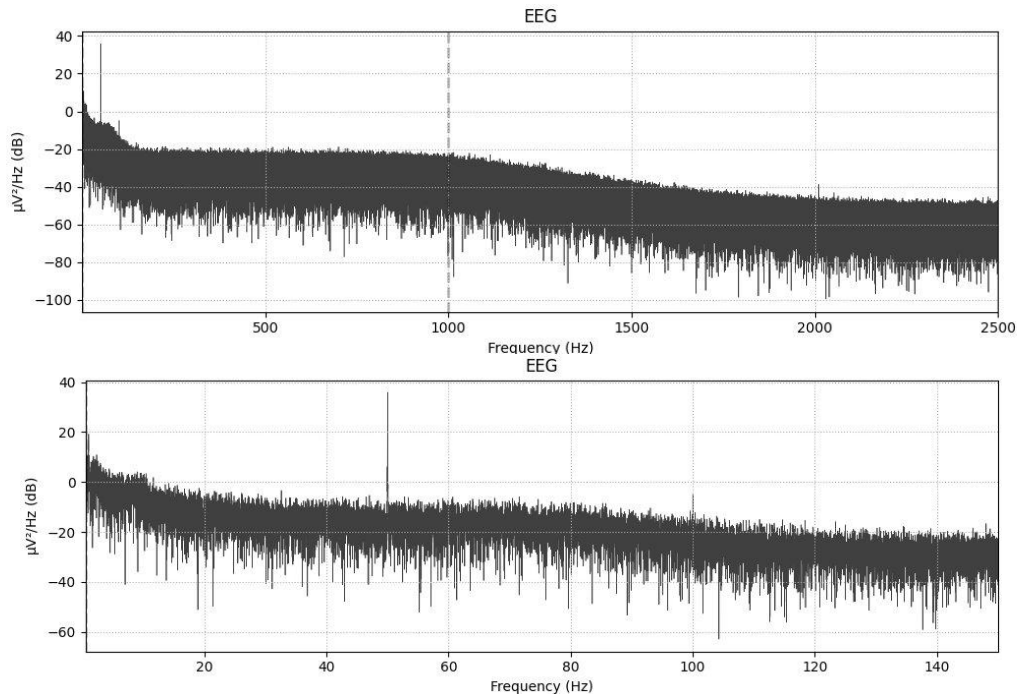
**Passive high-pass filter:** allows only the high carrier frequencies to pass, after the TI stimulators

**Active low-pass filter:** allows only the frequencies below 100Hz to pass, eliminating the carrier frequencies before reaching the EEG amplifier

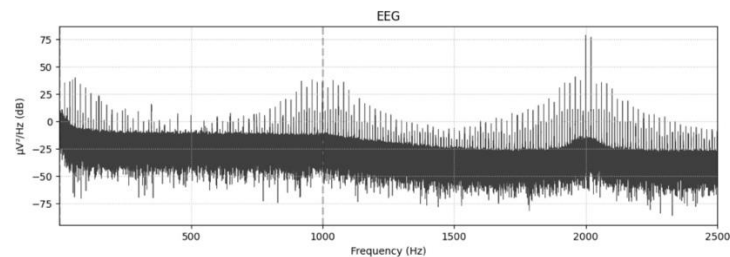


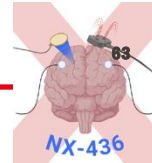
## Hardware filters, tTIS 2kHz, Beat frequency 20Hz

EEG recording with hardware filters, no artefacts for all the EEG channels



Without hardware filters:

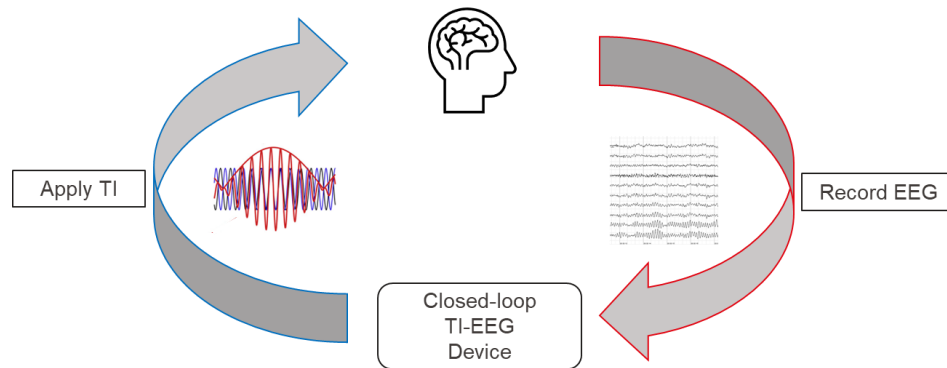


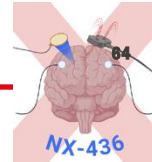


## Applications with tTIS-EEG recording and possible technological developments:

Closed-loop application based on neurofeedback and/or behavioral performance:

1. Optimize tTIS (beat frequency, pattern) based on cortical output EEG activity
2. Deliver pulsed-pattern stimulation, locked to endogenous cortical EEG activity
3. Enhance or disturb reinforcement learning, closed-loop with changes in cortical EEG recording
4. Modeling striatal sEEG activity in correlation with EEG cortical activity:  
adjust online envelope focus, beat frequency to endogenous rhythm, for example in Parkinson s disease
5. Phase-locking tTIS





## Applications with tTIS-EEG recording:

### Hippocampus TI stimulation and EEG cortical output:

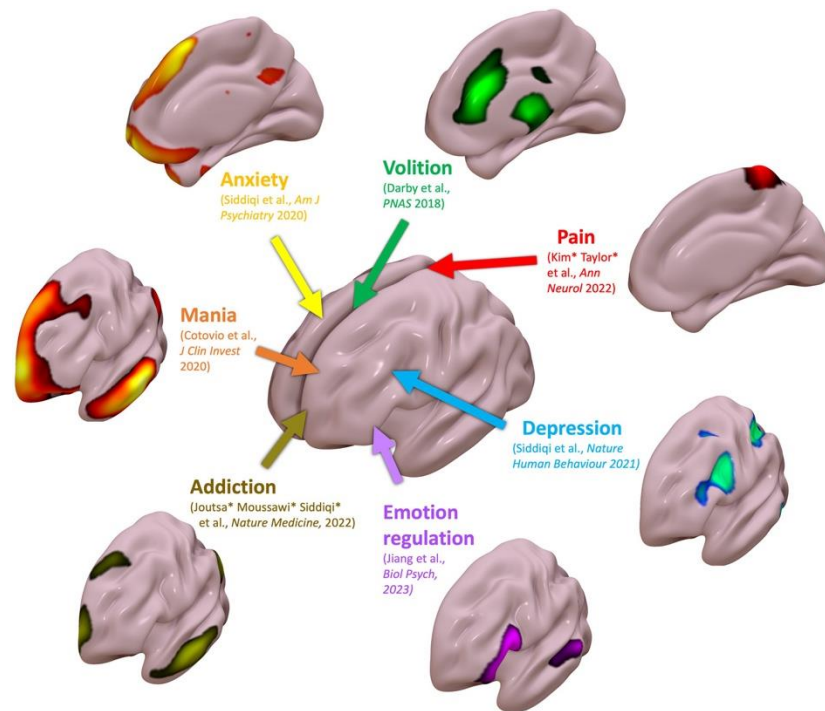
#### Alzheimer's disease (AD):

- Establish physiological rhythm patterns in DMN and FPN
- Cortical biomarkers of response to TI stimulation

### Striatum TI stimulation and EEG cortical output:

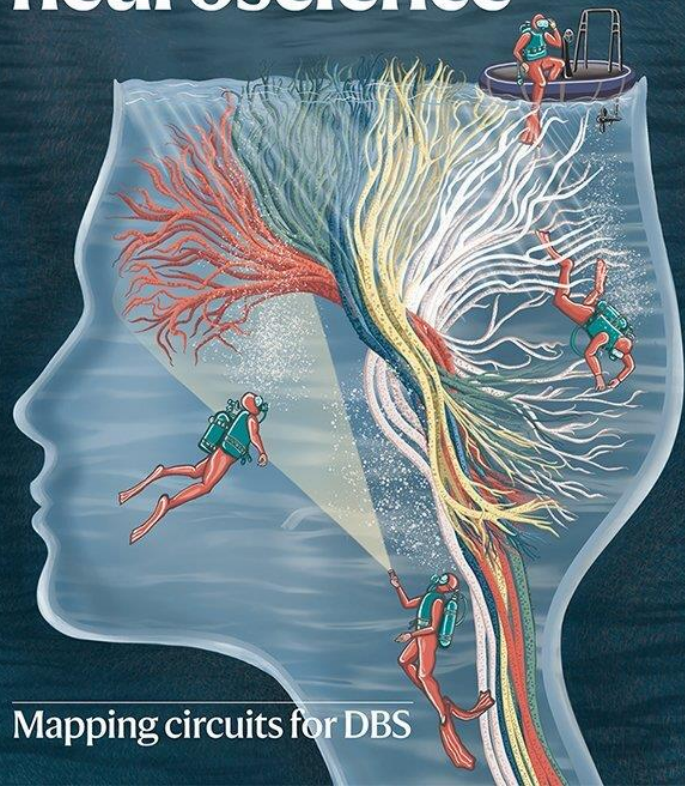
#### Parkinson's disease (PD):

- Establish physiological rhythm patterns in cortico-basal ganglia loop, targeting pathological beta activity
- PD apathetic patients and targeting altered EEG alpha and theta oscillations

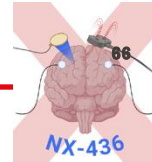
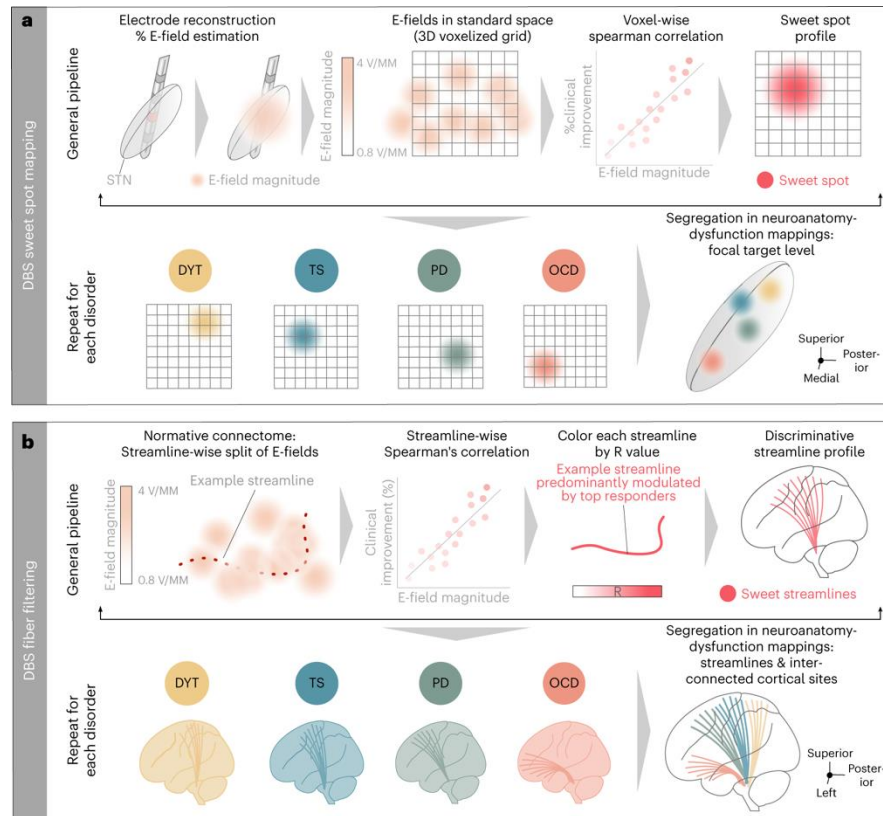


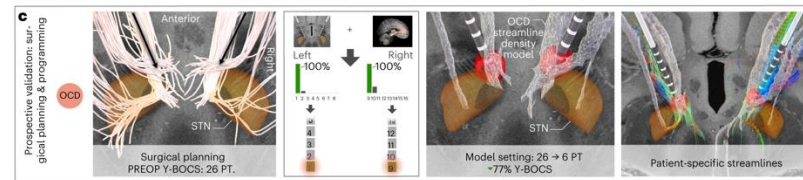
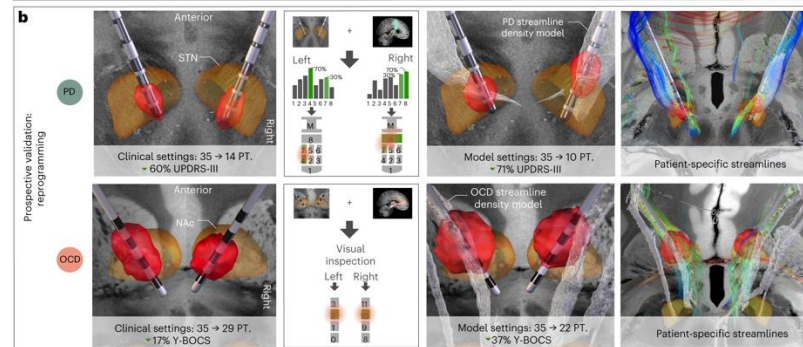
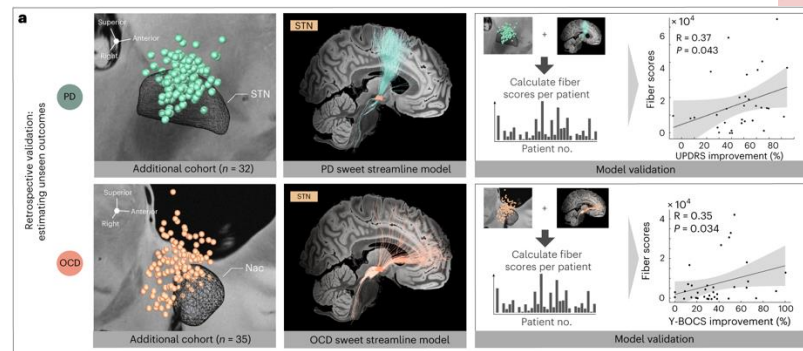
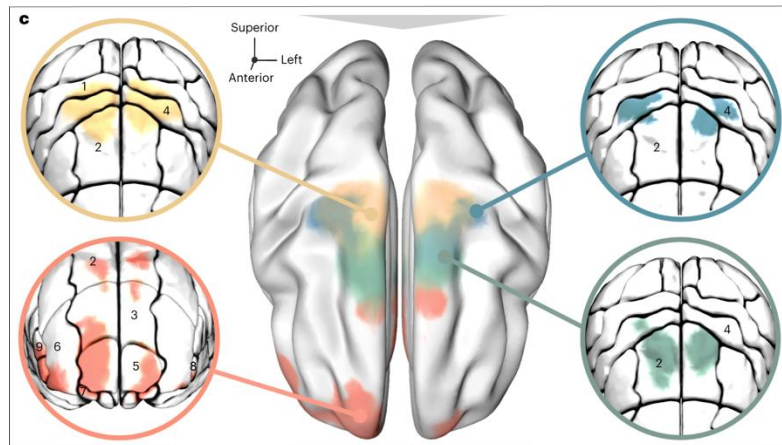
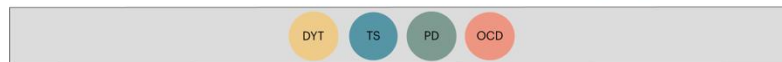
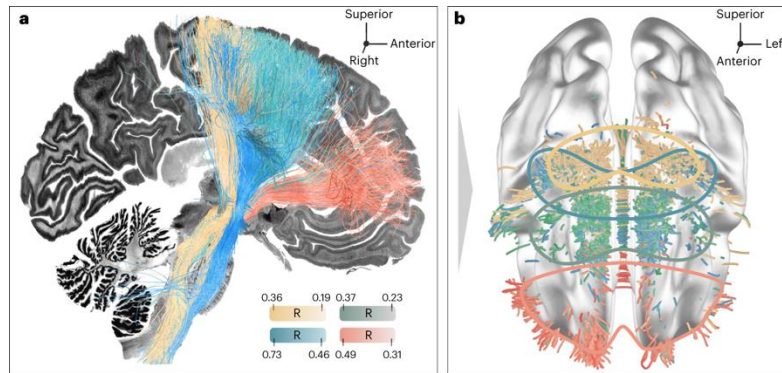
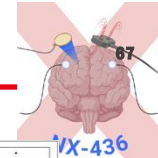


www.nature.com/neuro/March 2024 Vol. 27 No. 3

nature  
neuroscience

Mapping circuits for DBS

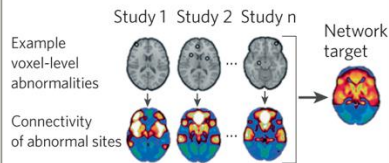






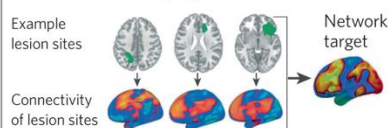
## Step 1: Identify a network target

### Meta-analysis of structural and/or functional neuroimaging data



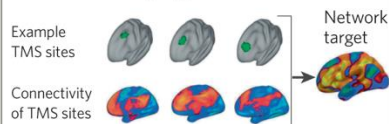
(Modified with permission from Taylor et al., 2023)

### Lesion network mapping



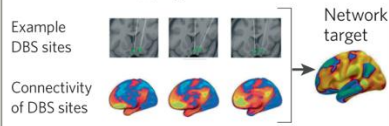
(Modified with permission from Siddiqi et al., 2021)

### TMS network mapping



(Modified with permission from Siddiqi et al., 2021)

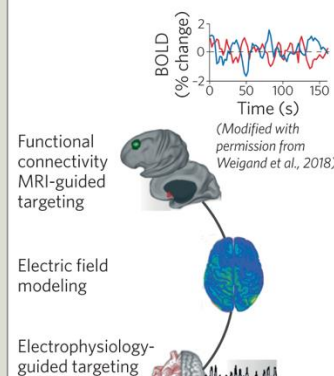
### DBS network mapping



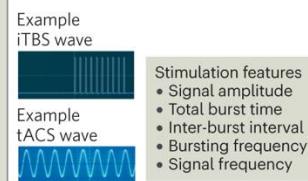
(Modified with permission from Siddiqi et al., 2021)

## Step 2: Optimize the efficacy

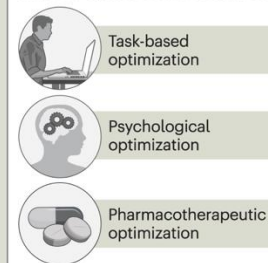
### Step 2a: Individualize the network target



### Step 2a: Individualize the network target



### Step 2b: Optimize the conditions



## Step 3: Modulate the network target

### Step 3a: Noninvasive modulation

Transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS, iTBS)



### Step 3b: Invasive but reversible modulation

Deep brain stimulation



### Step 3c: Invasive and permanent modulation

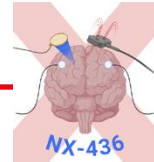
High-intensity focused ultrasound

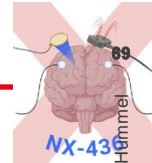


Intracranial electrical stimulation



Focused ultrasound





## Recording of brain activity simultaneously

- focally and at the network level
- adds to mechanistic understanding
- safety monitoring
- state dependent close-loop applications

## Online interference with brain activity

- causal understanding
- network vs. local effects
- state dependent close-loop applications

## Challenges

- safety
- artefacts
- feasibility
- accessibility, clinical translation
- cost

## Selection of method

- local vs network activity
- oscillatory vs. activation
- artefact profile