



# BMIs for human enhancement: what has been done, and what is coming?



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Google: Wlodzislaw Duch

BMI Workshop, IEEE SMC, Prague 10/2022

# Toruń



# Toruń



Nicolaus Copernicus, born in 1473 in Toruń.  
Studied in Krakow, Bologna, Padova and Ferrara

# The rise of Braintech

# Development of civilization



We are in extraordinary moment in the history of the world!

Growing understanding of the world, since antiquity:

1. Magical thinking, the whims of the gods, fatalism.
2. Causality, empirical observations, descriptive knowledge - protoscience.
3. Theories, empirical verification, math and statistics – classical science.
4. Computer simulations, complex systems, “new kind of science” (Wolfram).
5. Knowledge from data (KDD), collection and access to all information.
6. Artificial intelligence support for thinking, superhuman augmentation.
7. Autonomous AI + human augmentation, around the corner?

AI is based on increasingly complex data models: IBM Watson, CyC, GPT-3, Google Mixture of Experts (MoE), models with more than trillion parameters.

Can these models interact directly with our brains?

# WEF: 4th Industrial Revolution driven by AI/neuro



3D Printing



Advanced Materials



Artificial Intelligence and Robotics



Behavioural Sciences



Blockchain



Drones



Fourth Industrial Revolution



Human Enhancement



Neuroscience



Precision Medicine



Sensors



Virtual and Augmented Reality

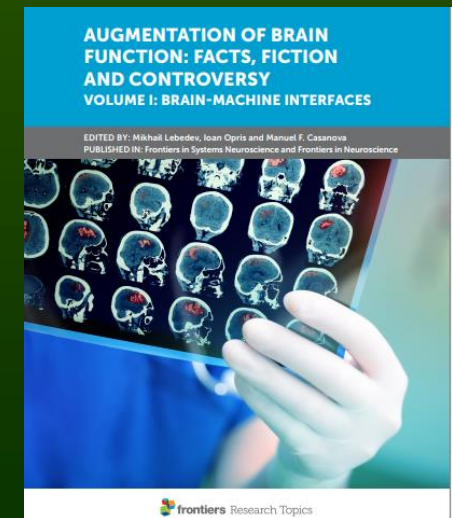
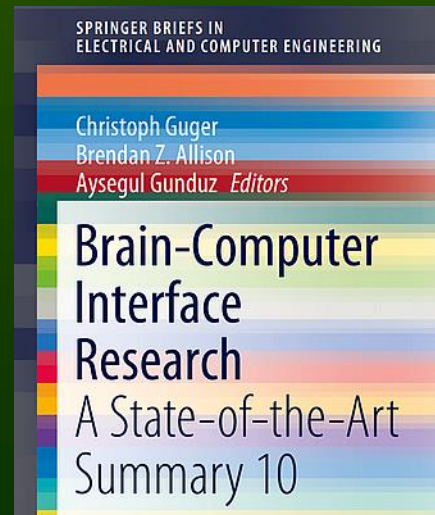
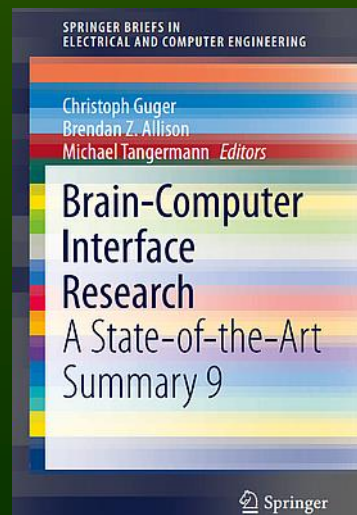
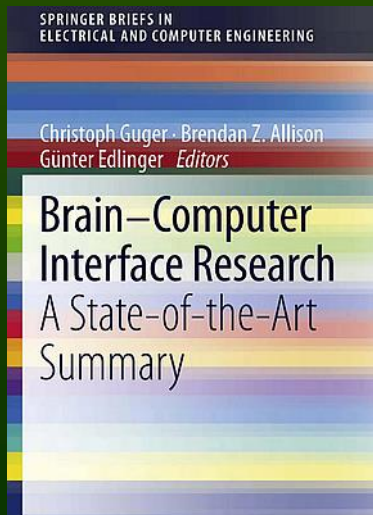
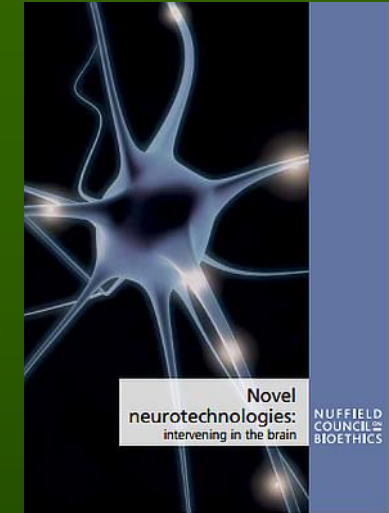
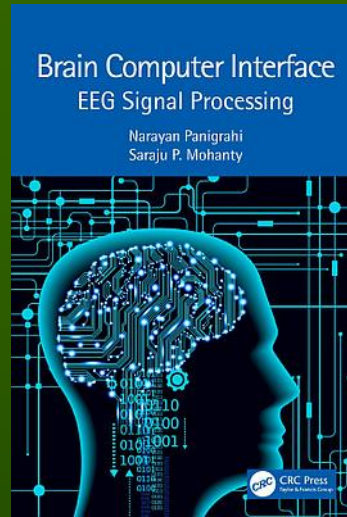
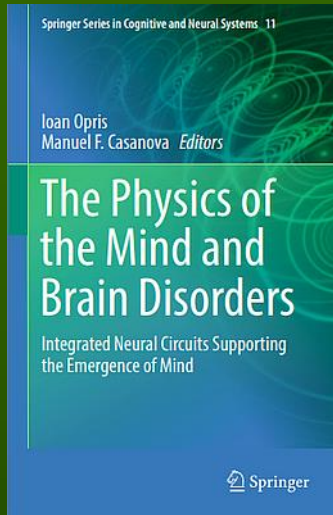
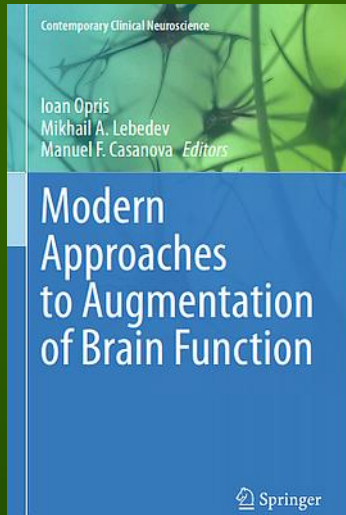


Internet of Things



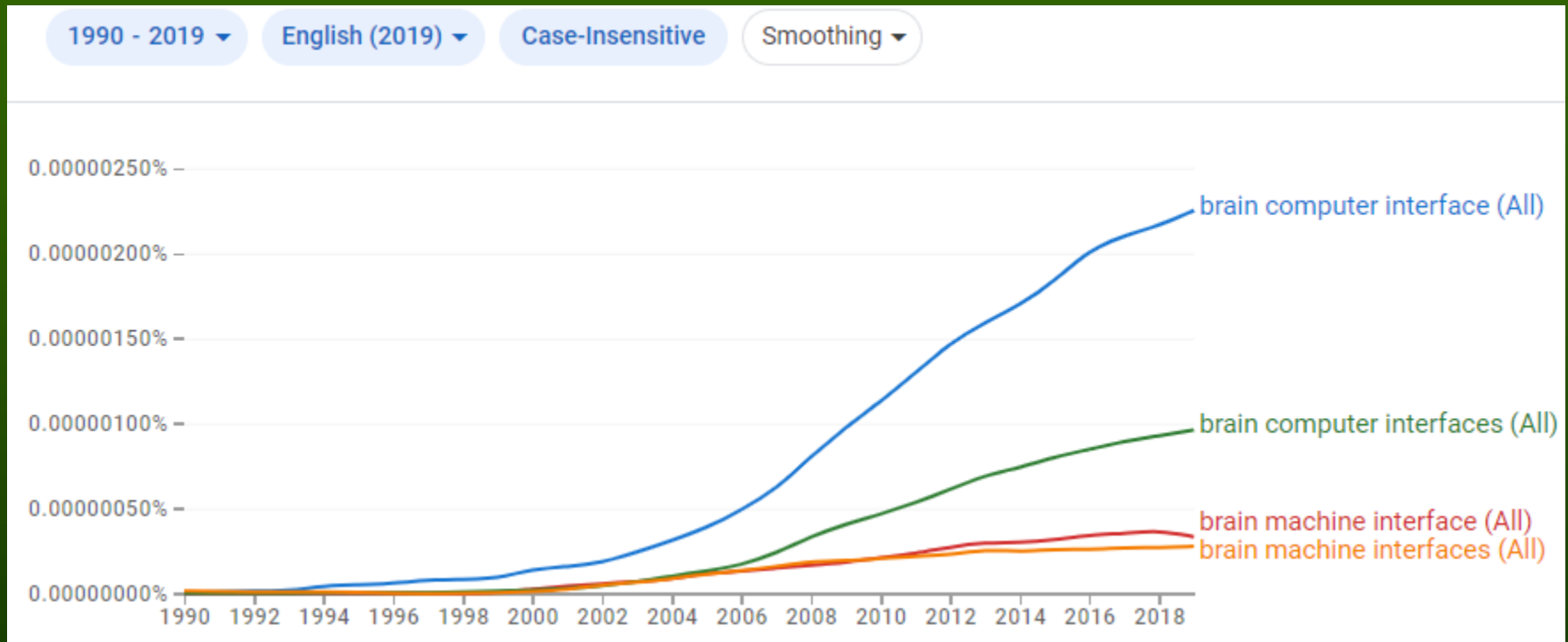
Biotechnology

# Books



# BMI and BCI

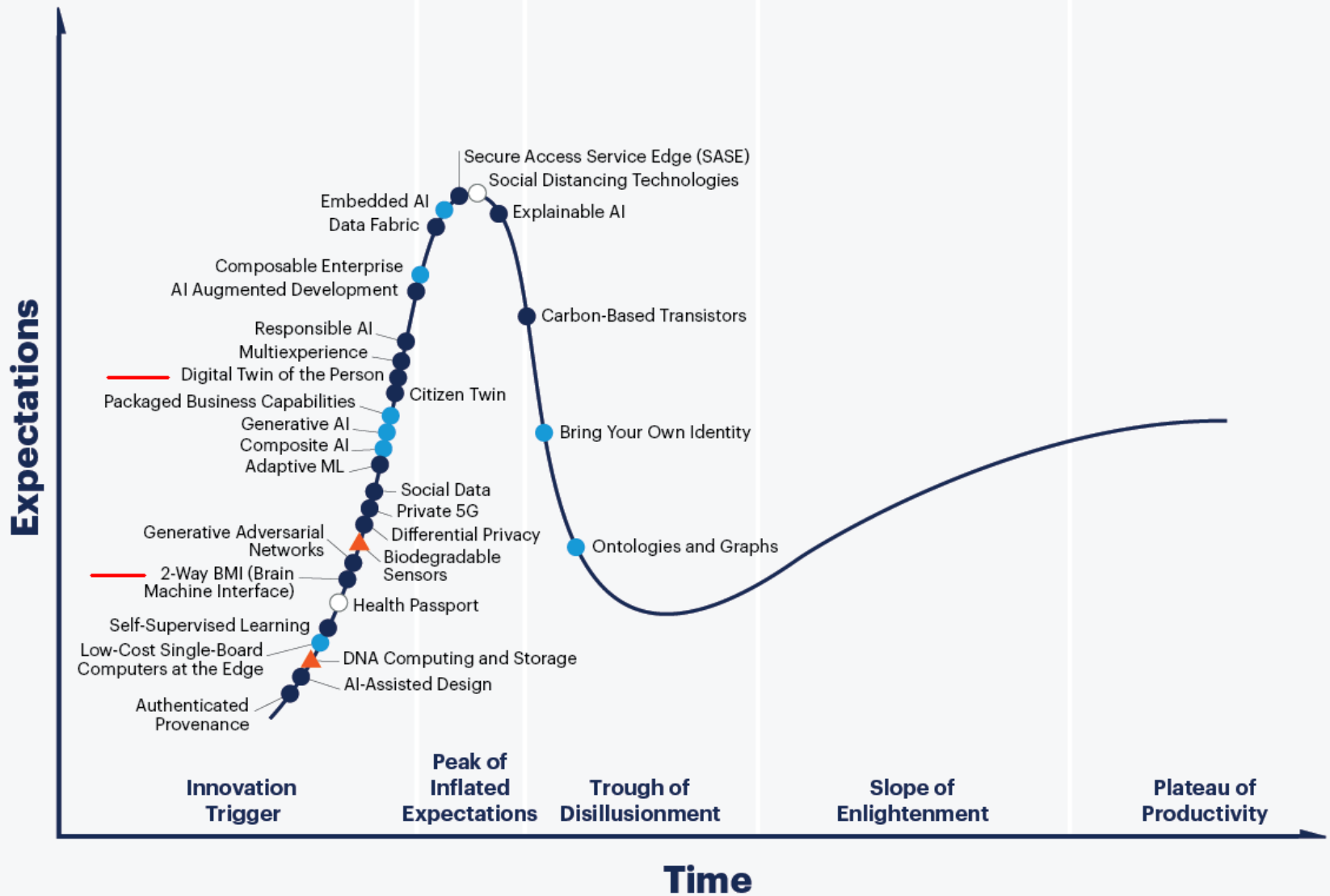
XXI century science! But still exotic, in 2019 it was mentioned only 2.5 times in 100 M books. “Brain” was mentioned almost 90 000 times per 100 M books.



IEEE SMCS Human-Machine Systems covers integrated human/machine systems: human/machine interaction; cognitive ergonomics/ engineering; assistive / companion technologies; human/machine system modeling, testing and evaluation; and human-centered phenomena in engineered systems.



# Technologies, 2020 Gartner Hype Cycle



Plateau will be reached:

○ less than 2 years

● 2 to 5 years

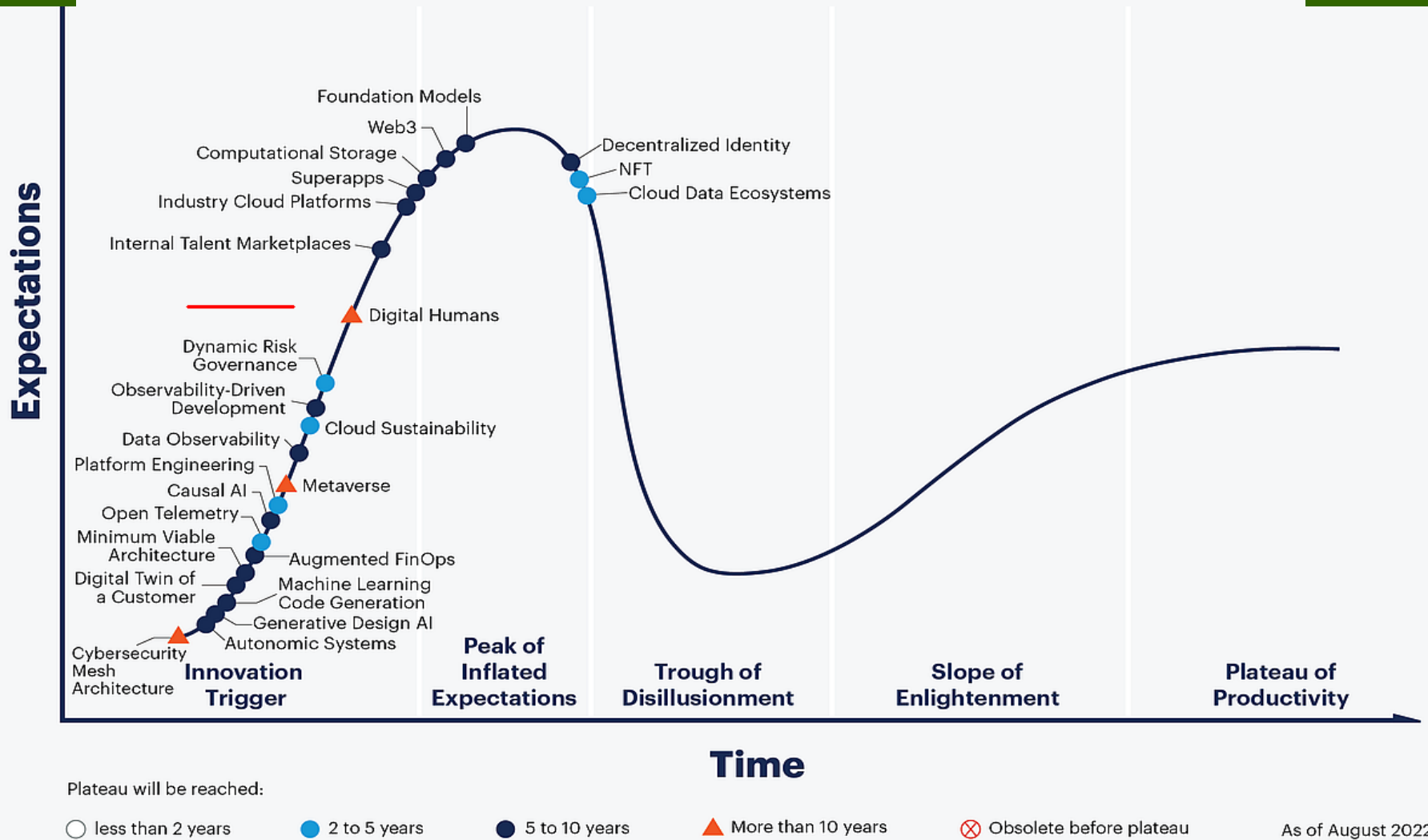
● 5 to 10 years

▲ more than 10 years

⊗ obsolete before plateau

As of July 2020

# Hype Cycle for Emerging Tech, 2022



Sylvain Fabre, Gartner senior director: digital me, digital humans: bidirectional brain machine interface. Important, but > 10 years to plateau.

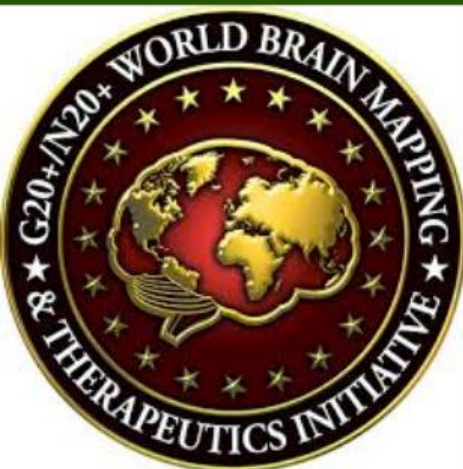
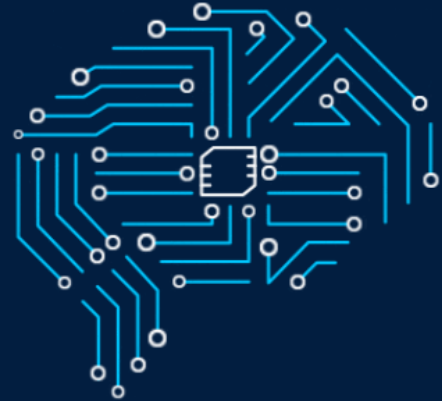
BRAIN  
INITIATIVE



## Advance Neurotechnologies

Accelerate the development and  
application of new neurotechnologies.

Support multi-disciplinary teams and  
stimulate research to rapidly enhance current  
neuroscience technologies and catalyze  
innovative scientific breakthroughs.



2013: Human Brain Project, EU Flagship, EBRAINS, and Obama BRAIN Initiative.  
BRAIN=Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies.



Cogni  
Cognitive sciences

Biohybrids

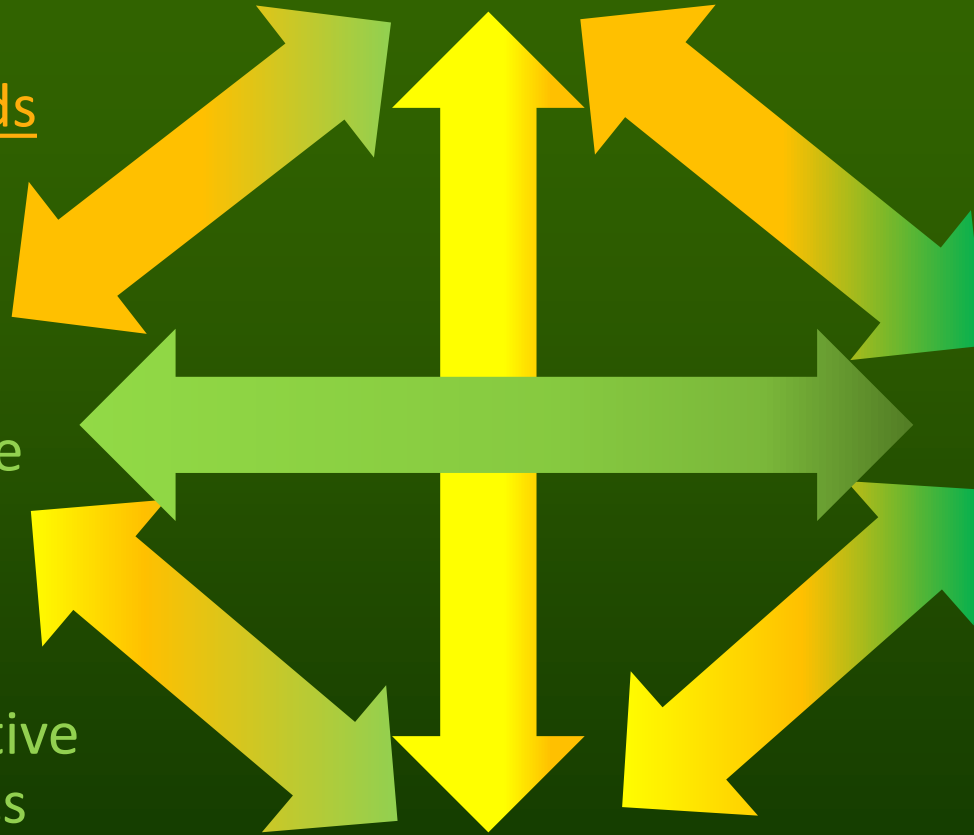
Bio  
Neuroscience

Nano  
Quantum  
Technologies

Neurocognitive  
Informatics

Info

Artificial/Computational Intelligence,  
Machine Learning, Neural Networks

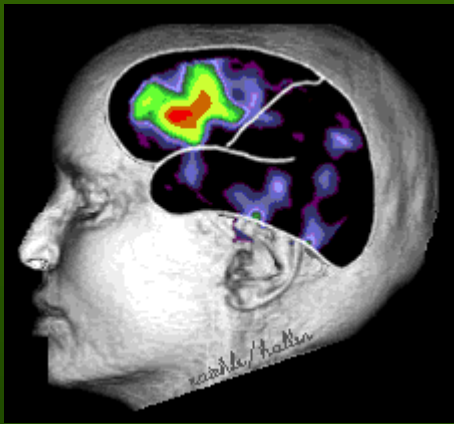


# AI, brains and mind

# Mapping brain states to mental images

Neurodynamics: bioelectrical activity of the brain.

Mental states: shadows of neurodynamics that can be subjectively interpreted.



Mapping:  
State(Brain)  $\leftrightarrow$  State(Mind)  
via intermediate BCI models.



Brain states, activation patterns  $\leftrightarrow$  trajectories in psychological spaces,  
movement of thoughts.

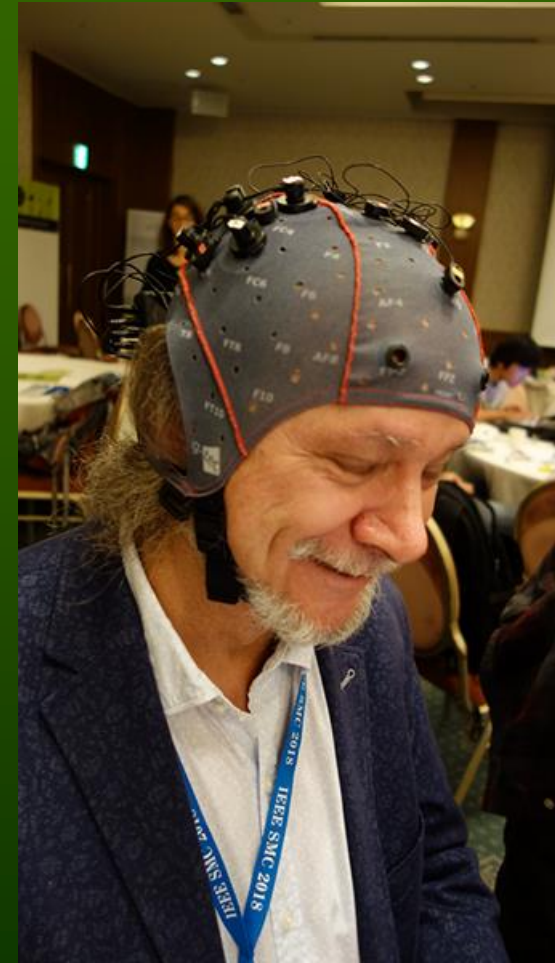
- From neuroimaging to mental images.
- From computer simulations and brain signals to mental trajectories.

# On the threshold of a dream ...

## Final goal: optimize brain processes!

To repair damaged brains and increase efficiency of healthy brains we need to understand brain processes:

1. Create **models of cognitive architectures** that help to understand information processing in the brain.
2. Find **fingerprints of specific brain activity** (regions, subnetworks) using neurotechnologies.
3. Create **diagnostic and therapeutic procedures**.
4. Use **neurofeedback decoding local activity and functional connectivity to stimulate the brain**.
5. **Stimulate neuroplasticity** in a closed loop, monitoring brain activity and applying TMS, DCS, EM and other forms of neuromodulation.



G-tec wireless NIRS/EEG on my head.

# Brain-mind relations

Brain, physical space  $S(B) \leftrightarrow S(M)$  Mind, mental space

$S(B)$ =neurodynamics, estimated by EEG, MEG, NIRS-OT, fMRI, PET, or other techniques.

Map = interpret brain activations in terms of subjective mental states: attention, saliency, intentions, percepts, emotions ...

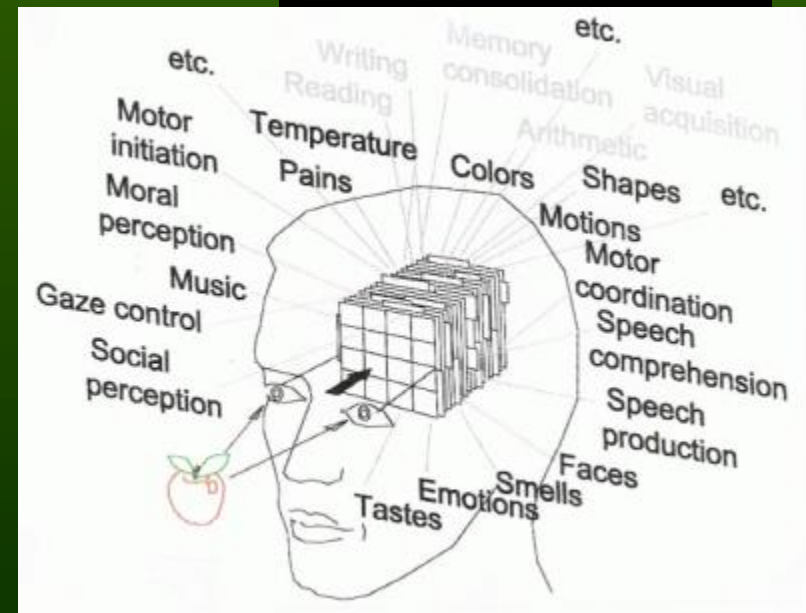
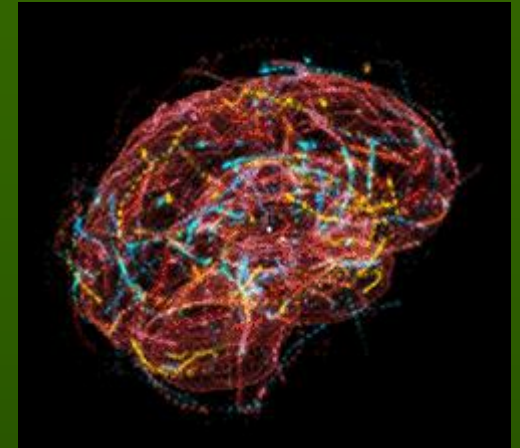
$S(M)$  = space based on such dimensions.

Neurodynamics => dynamics of mental states, movement of thoughts in  $S(M)$ .

Motor intentions – relatively easy.

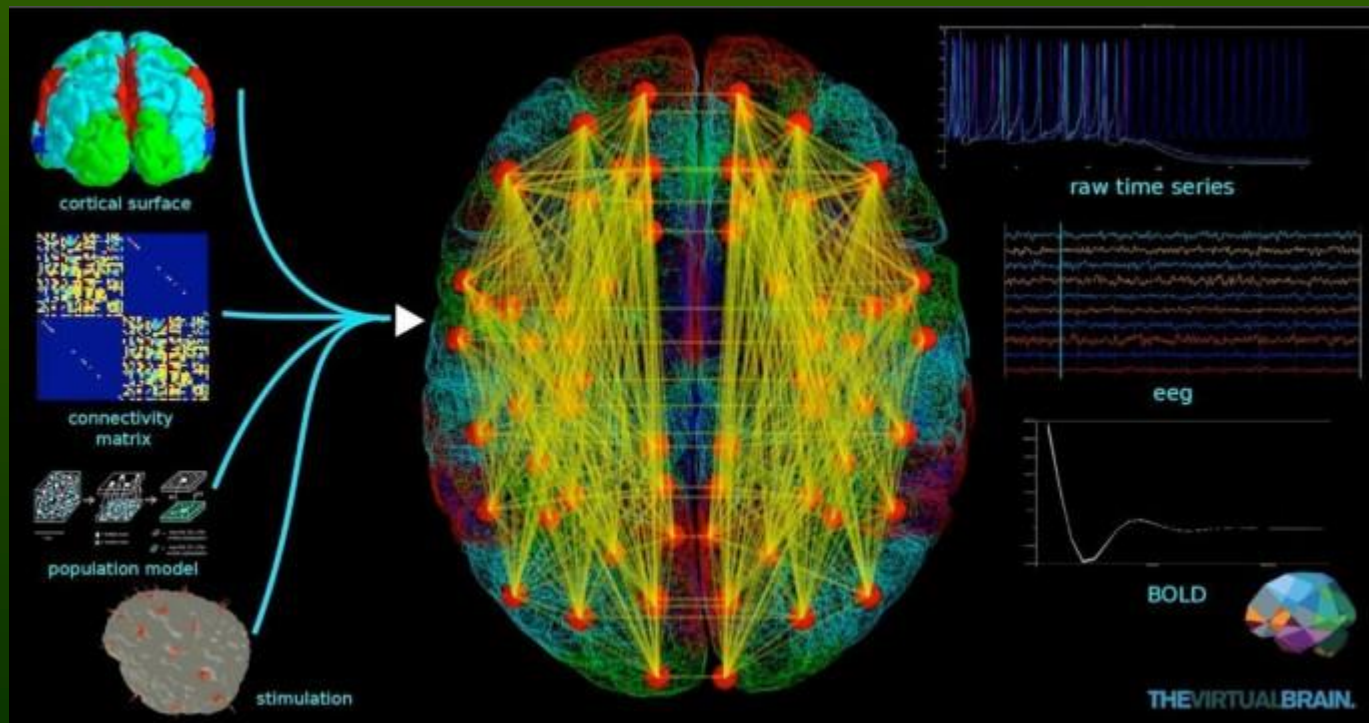
Emotions, feelings, pains, thoughts ...  
hard, fluid nature of mental states.

Hurlburt & Schwitzgabel,  
Describing Inner Experience? MIT Press 2007





# Cognitive architectures



# AGI & BICA

From an engineer's perspective:  
understand the brain = build a working  
model that exhibits the same functions.

AGI = Artificial General Intelligence,  
Deep Mind Gato learned 600 tasks.

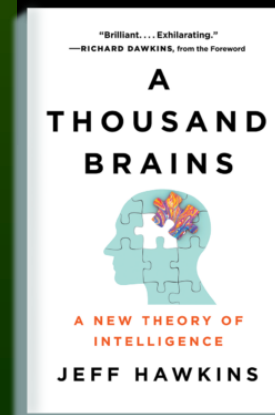
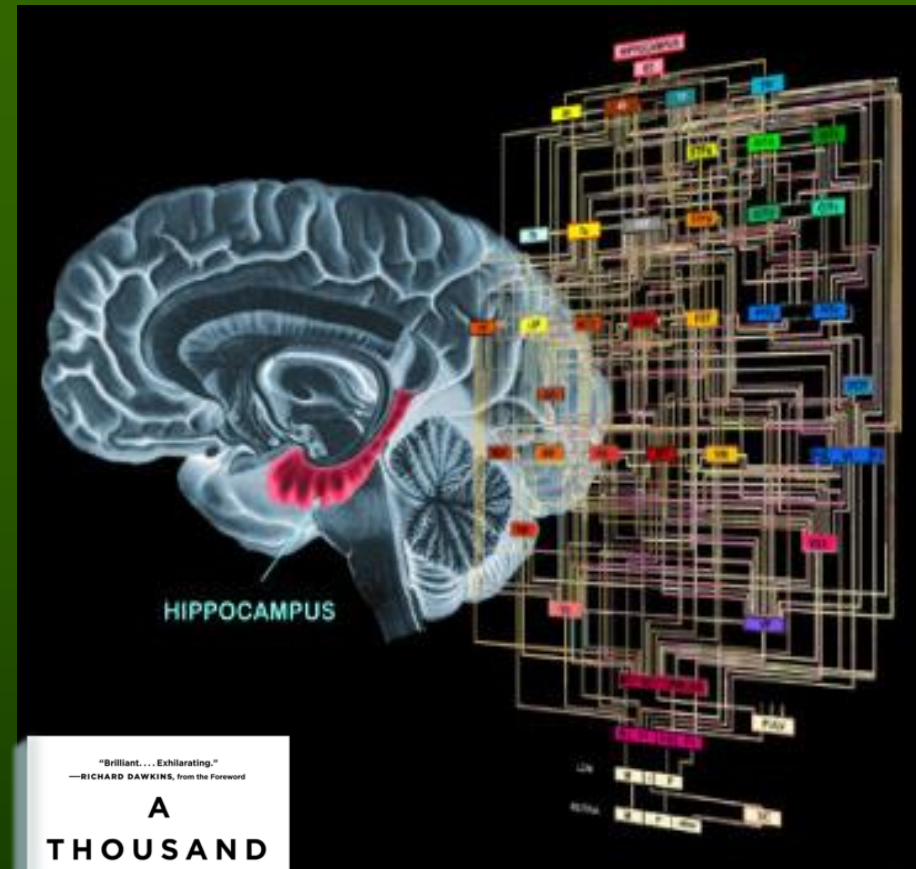
BICA (Brain-Inspired Cognitive  
Architecture) brain-like intelligence.

Duch, Oentaryo, Pasquier,  
Cognitive architectures: where do we  
go from here?

**“We’ll never have true AI without first  
understanding the brain”**

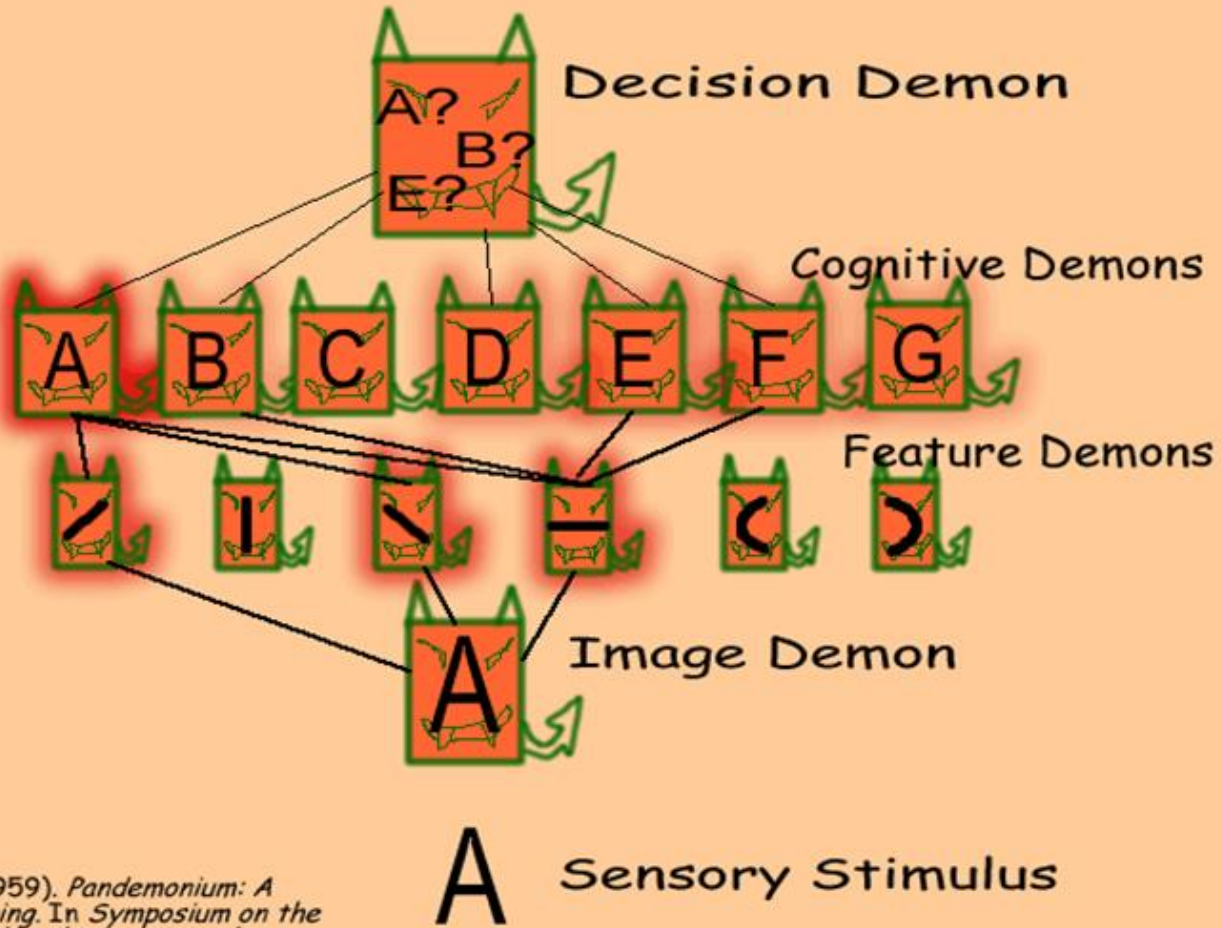
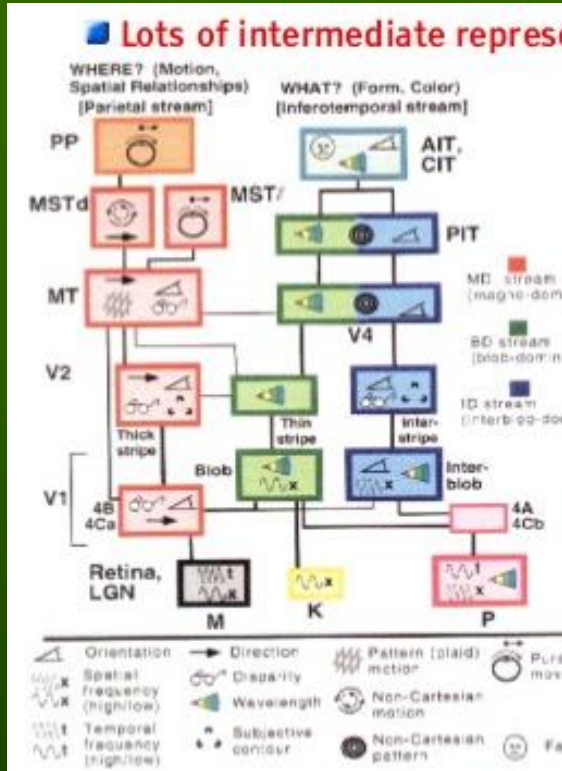
Jeff Hawkins (2020).

The Virtual Brain – population model,  
enables model-based inference of  
macroscopic brain processes.



- Marr/Poggio (1976)
- Purpose - why, goals
  - Algorithm - how
  - Implementation

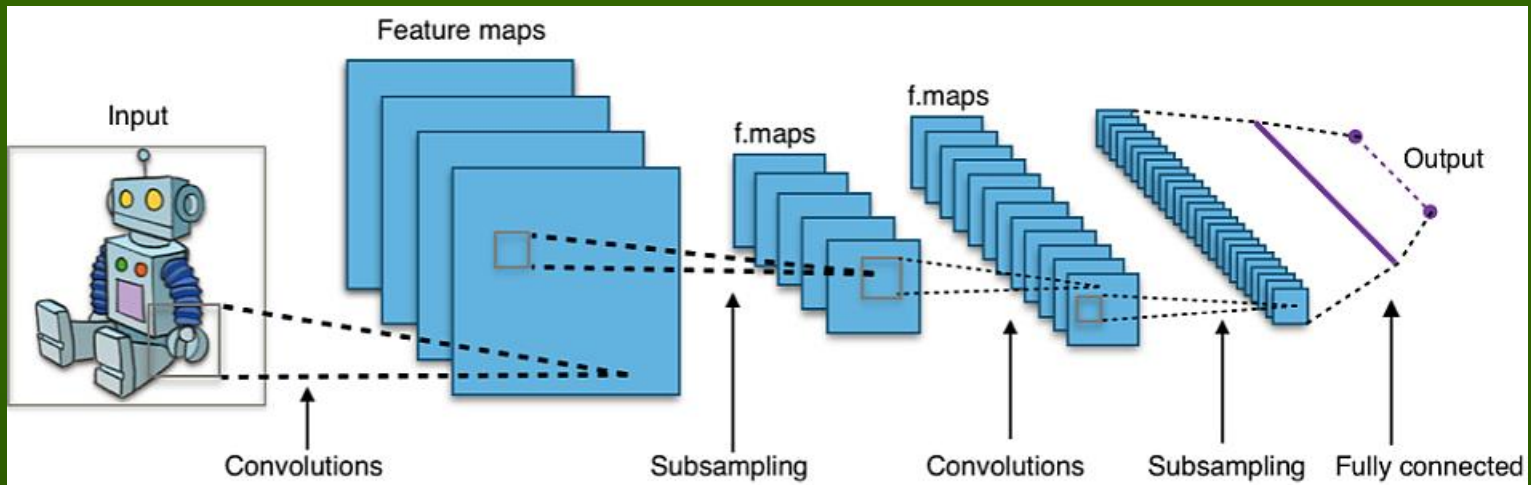
# Selfridge NN Model (1959)



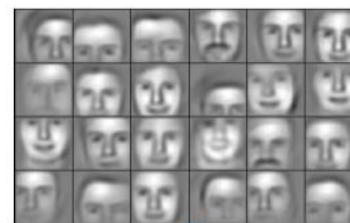
32 visual cortical areas were known already in 1991!

Based on:

Selfridge, O. G. (1959). *Pandemonium: A paradigm for learning*. In *Symposium on the mechanization of thought processes* (pp. 513-526). London: HM Stationery Office.



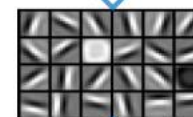
### Feature representation



3rd layer  
"Objects"



2nd layer  
"Object parts"

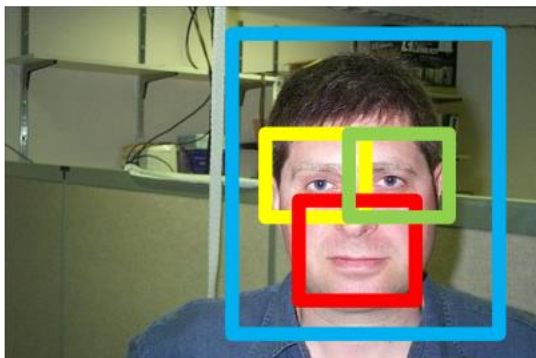


1st layer  
"Edges"



Pixels

Input data



Lee et al., ICML 2009;  
CACM 2011

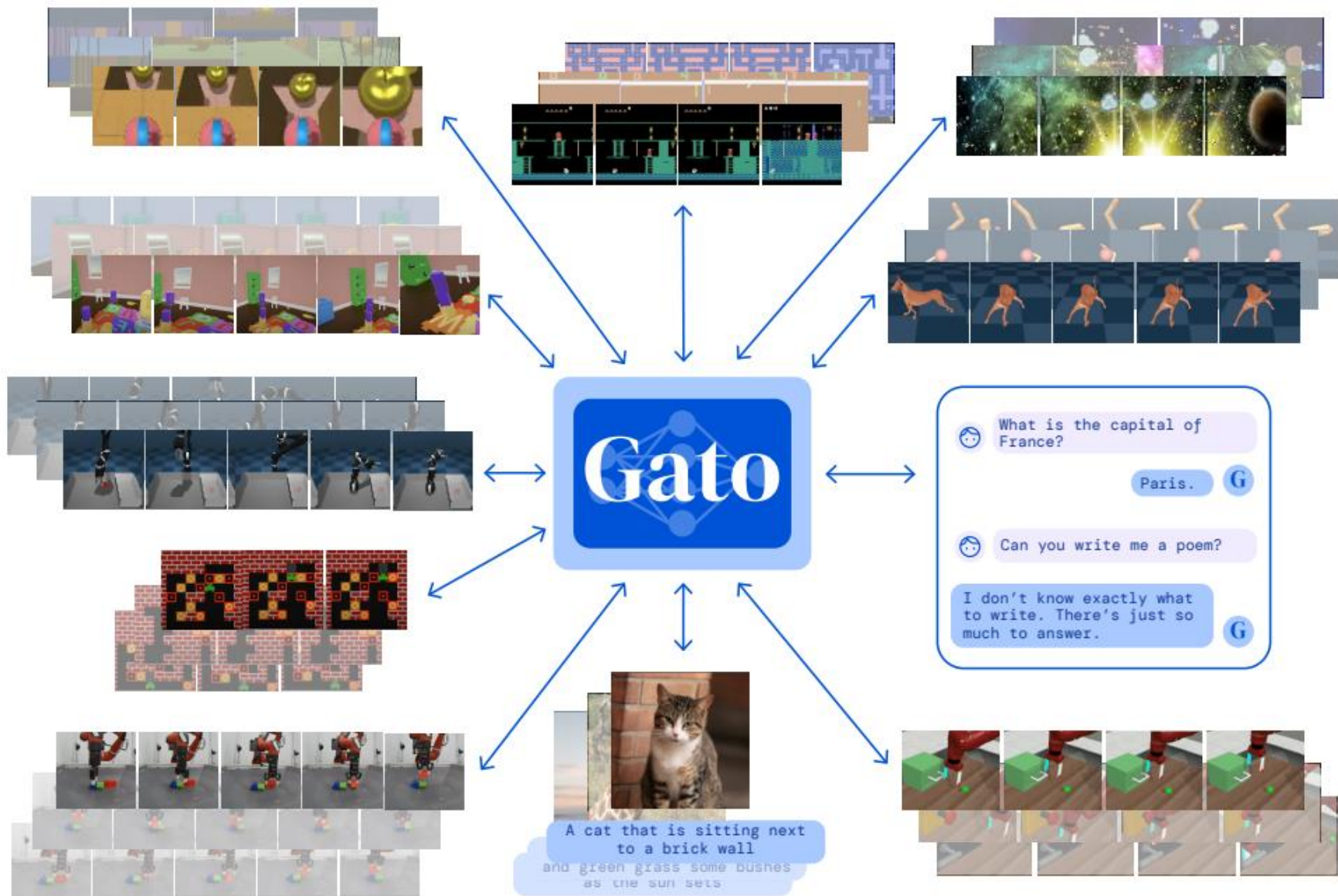


Figure 1 | **A generalist agent.** Gato can sense and act with different embodiments across a wide range of environments using a single neural network with the same set of weights. Gato was trained on 604 distinct tasks with varying modalities, observations and action specifications.

# Tensorization of Convolutive Deep Learning NN

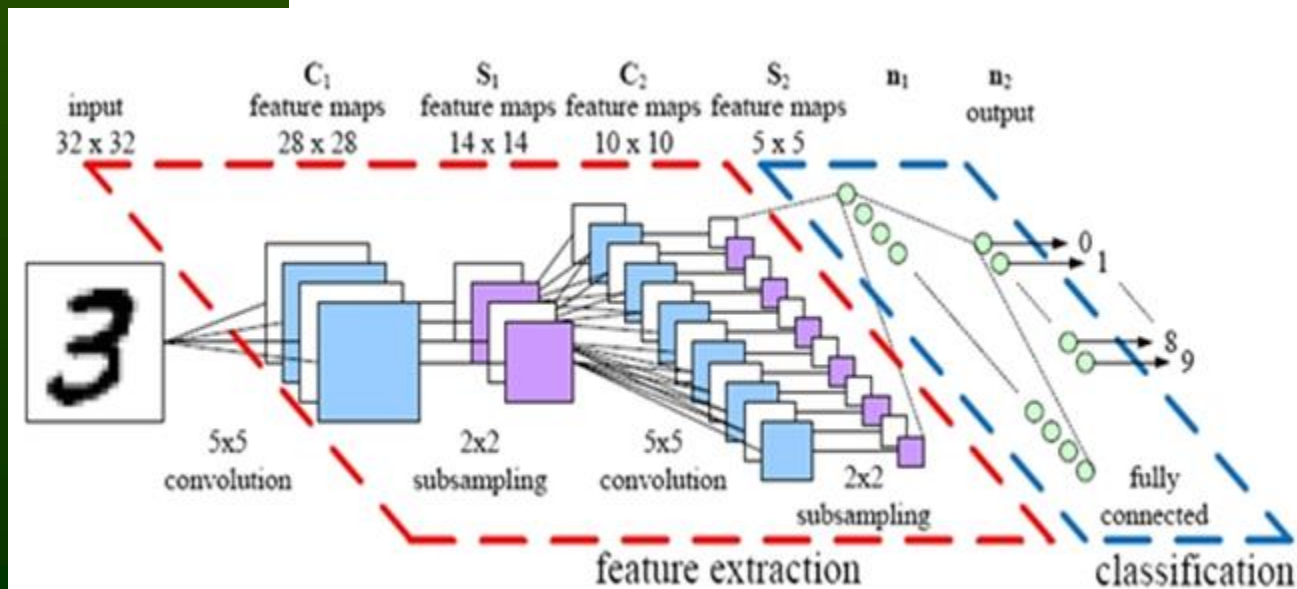
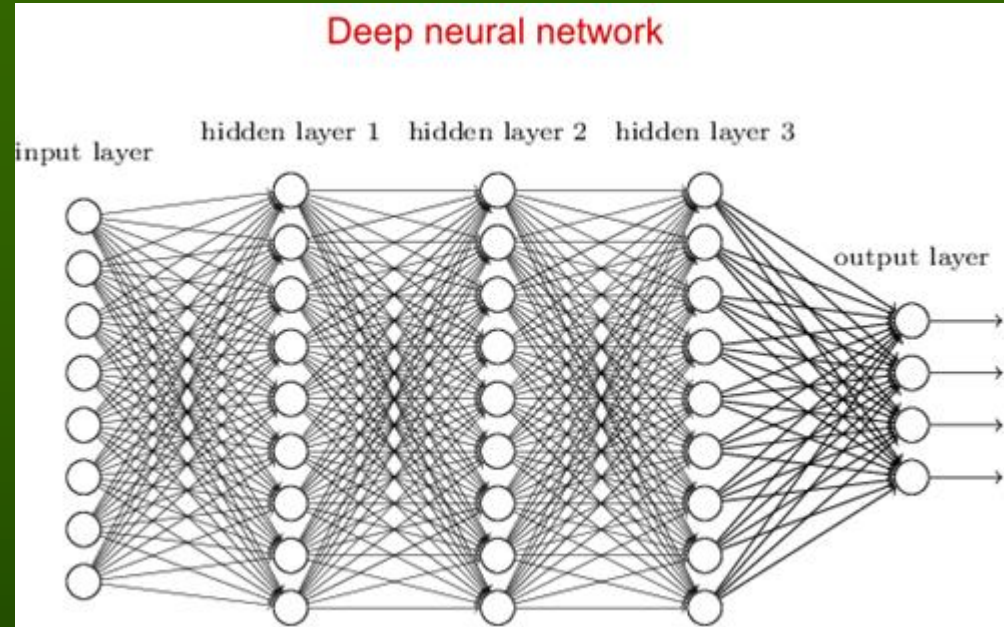
NN “neurons” perform elementary nonlinear functions, semi-linear ReLu, exchanging information through fixed connections, correcting adaptive coefficients to learn transformations. All this is far from biology.

Tensor networks discover latent features (Cichocki Lab, RIKEN BSI).

Neocognitron is using complex neurons.

We don't know how to use oscillators for calculations.

WD: Support Feature Machines (2011).





# Neuromorphic future

Wall with 1024 TrueNorth chips, equivalent of 1 Billion neurons, 256 B synapses.  
1/6 of chimp brain. Cerebras CS-2 chip has 2600 B transistors, almost 1M cores!

Integration:

Nano +

Neuro +

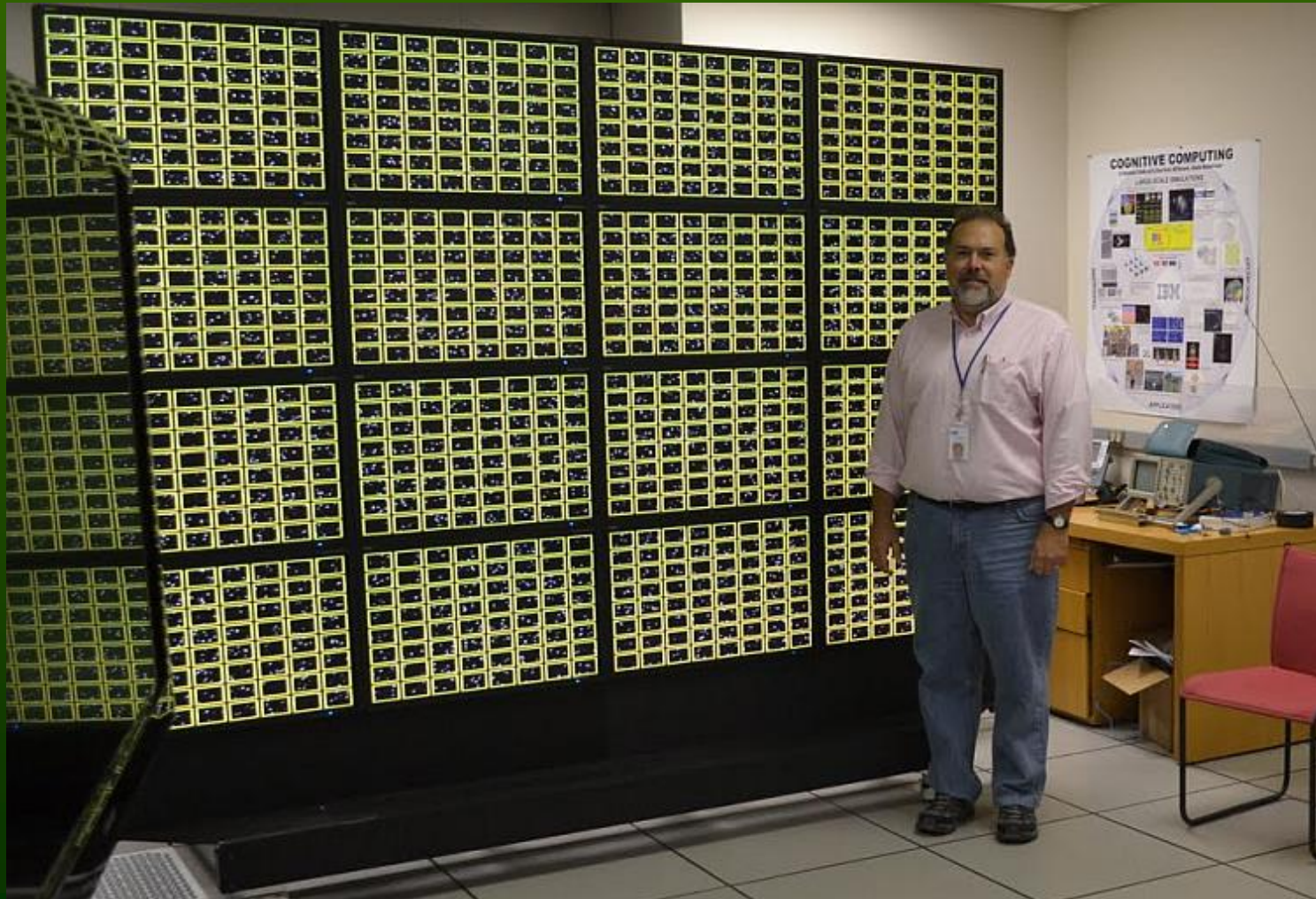
Info +

Kogni

Neural AI  
accelerators

AD 2021

200 x CS-2,  
models  $> 10^{14}$   
parameters.





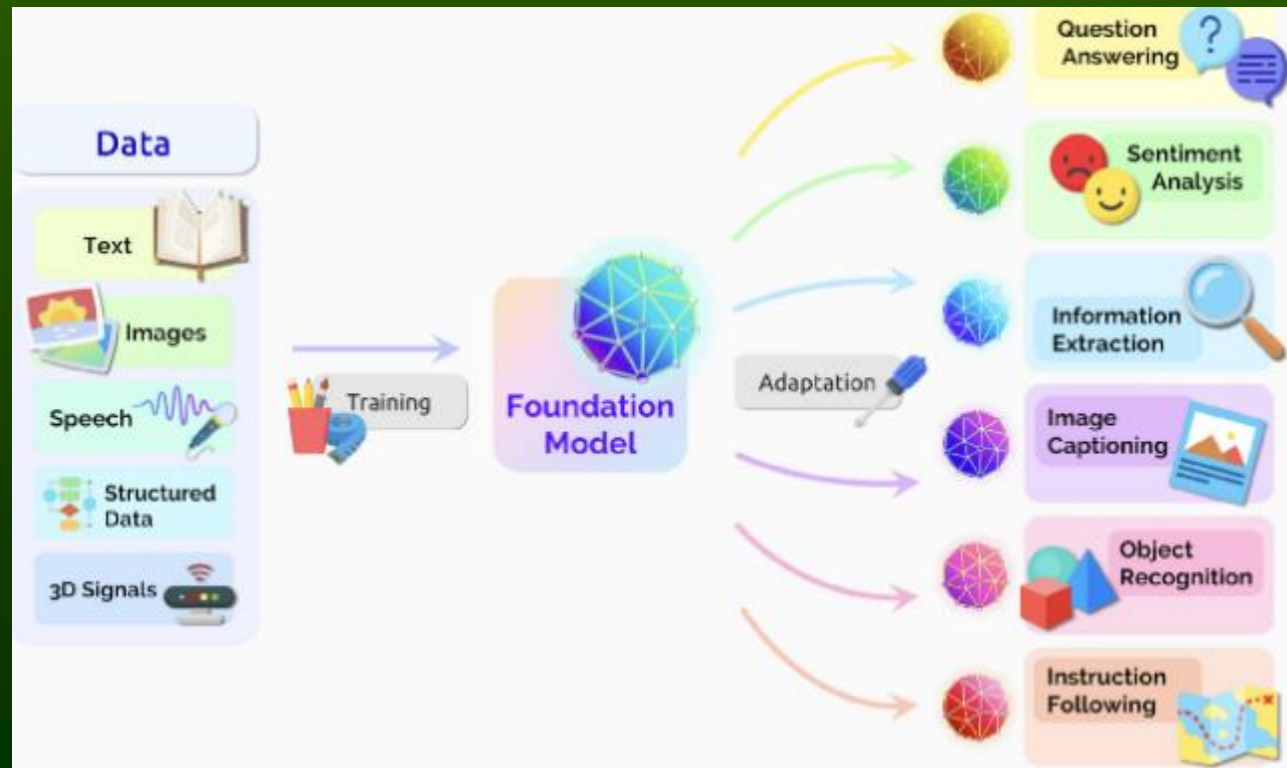
# Multimodal foundational models

Multimodal transfer learning - different types of modalities with different statistical properties, embedded in the same model.

- Multimodal Affective Computing (MAC), sentiment analysis.
- Natural Language for Visual Reasoning (NLVR).
- Multimodal Machine Translation (MMT).
- Visual Retrieval (VR) and Vision-Language Navigation (VLN).

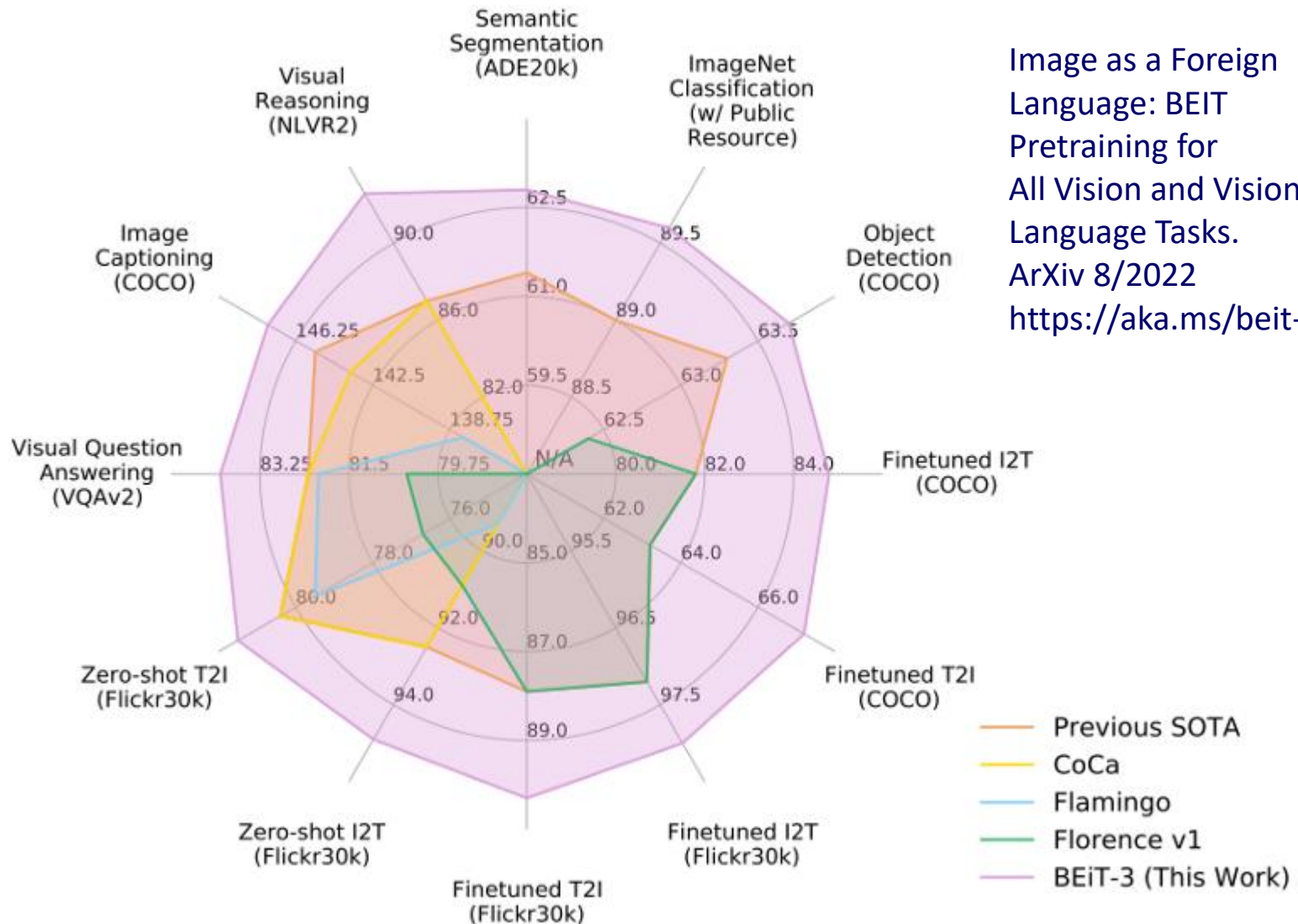
Image: [Center for Research on Foundation Models \(CRFM\)](#), Stanford [Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence \(HAI\)](#)

Can this be used to analyze brain signal patterns?



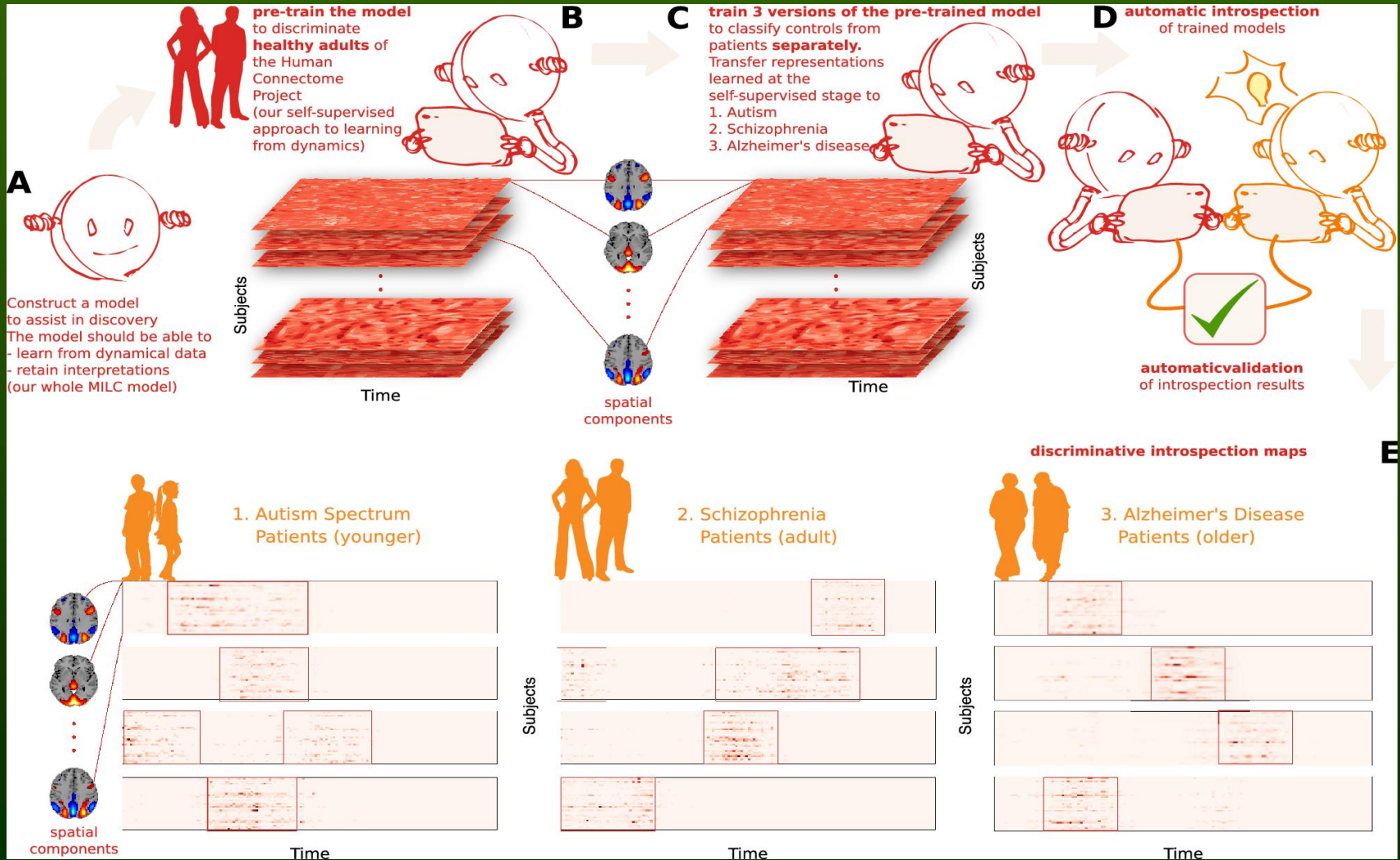
# Vision-language models

MS BEiT-3 (BERT Pretraining of Image Transformers), a general-purpose state-of-the-art multimodal foundation model for vision-language tasks.

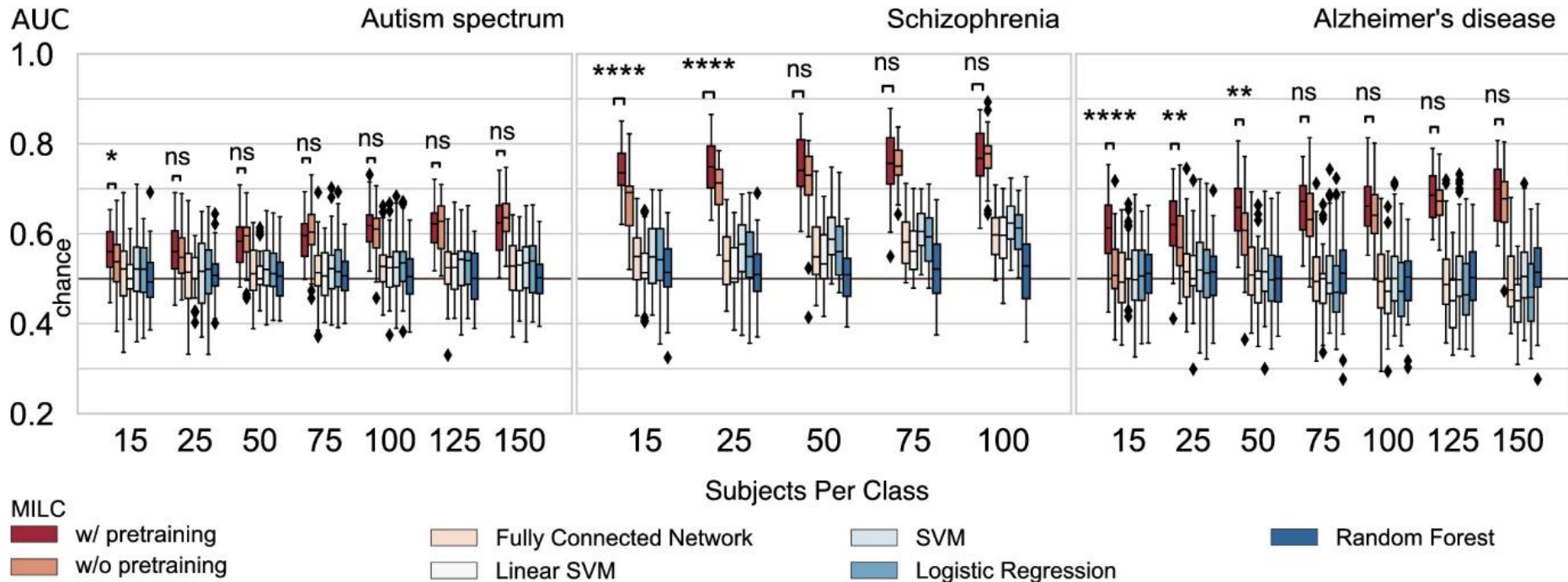


# MILC model

Rahman, ... & Plis, S. M. (2022). Interpreting models interpreting brain dynamics. *Scientific Reports*, 12(1), 12023. Supervised pretraining scheme, which maximizes “Mutual Information Local to (whole) Context” (MILC).



# MILC model results



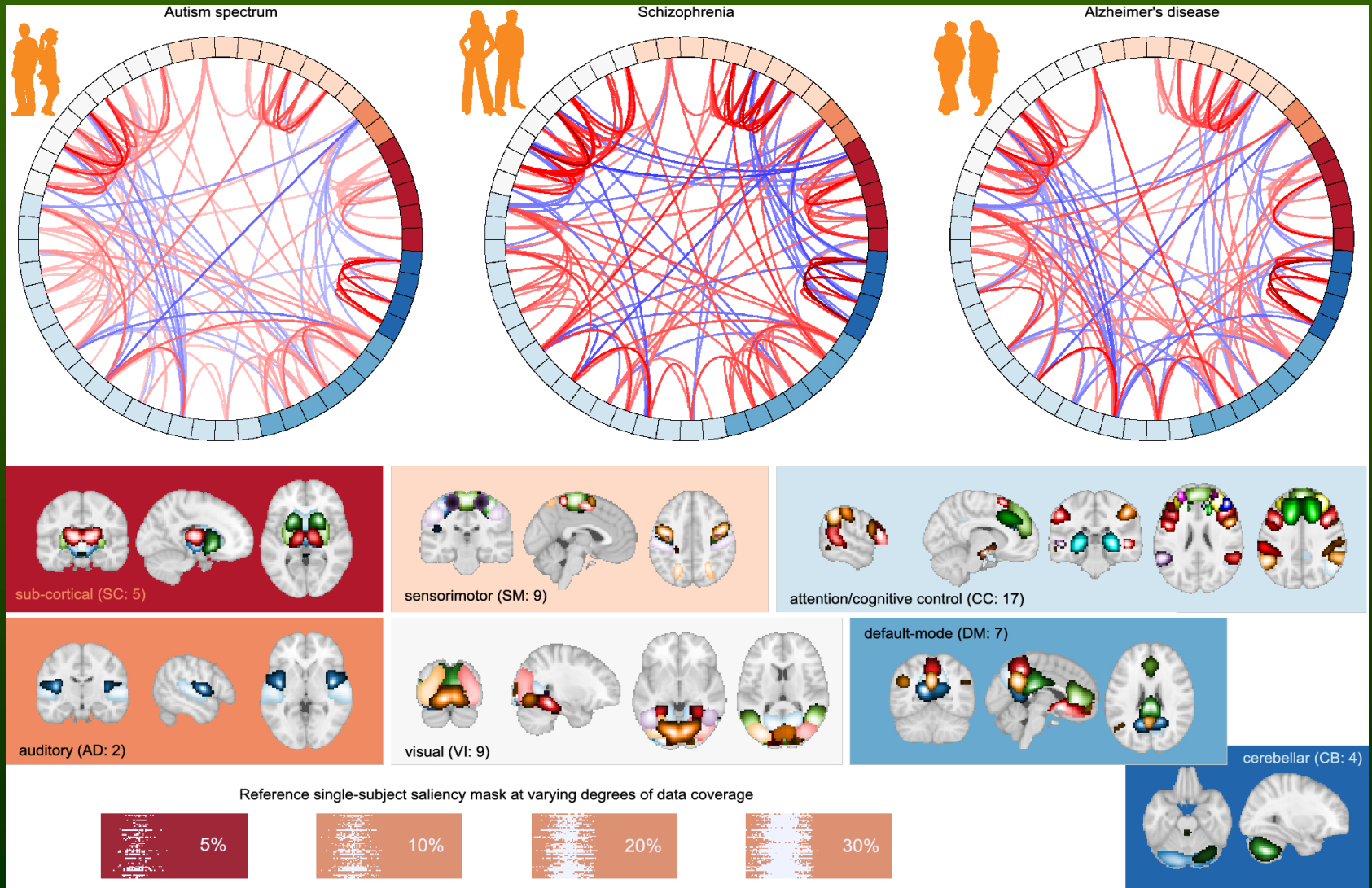
Deep learning + MILC can learn directly from high-dimensional signal dynamics even in small datasets (15 subjects), after pre-training on large data.

Mutual information maximization between the whole sequence (context embedding) and local windows (local embedding) from the same sequence.

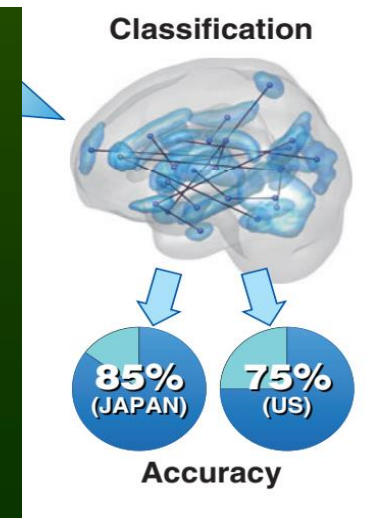
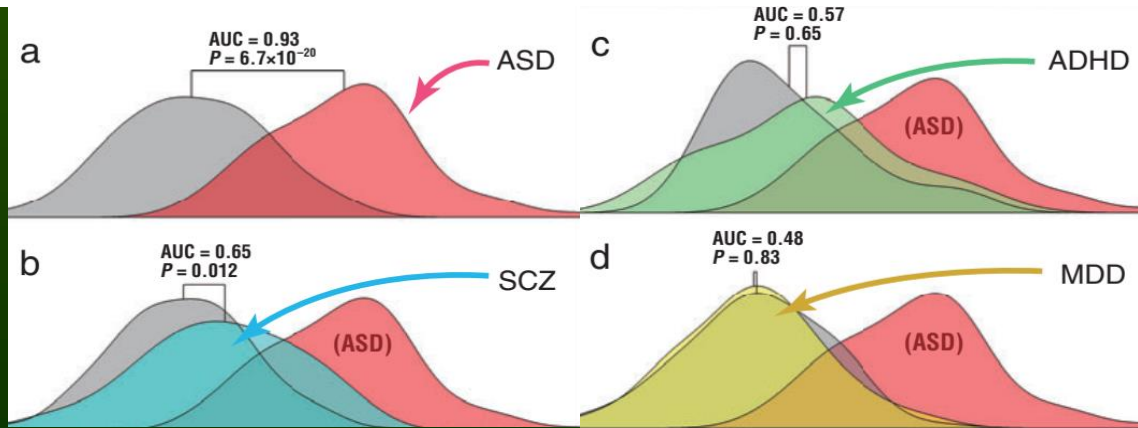
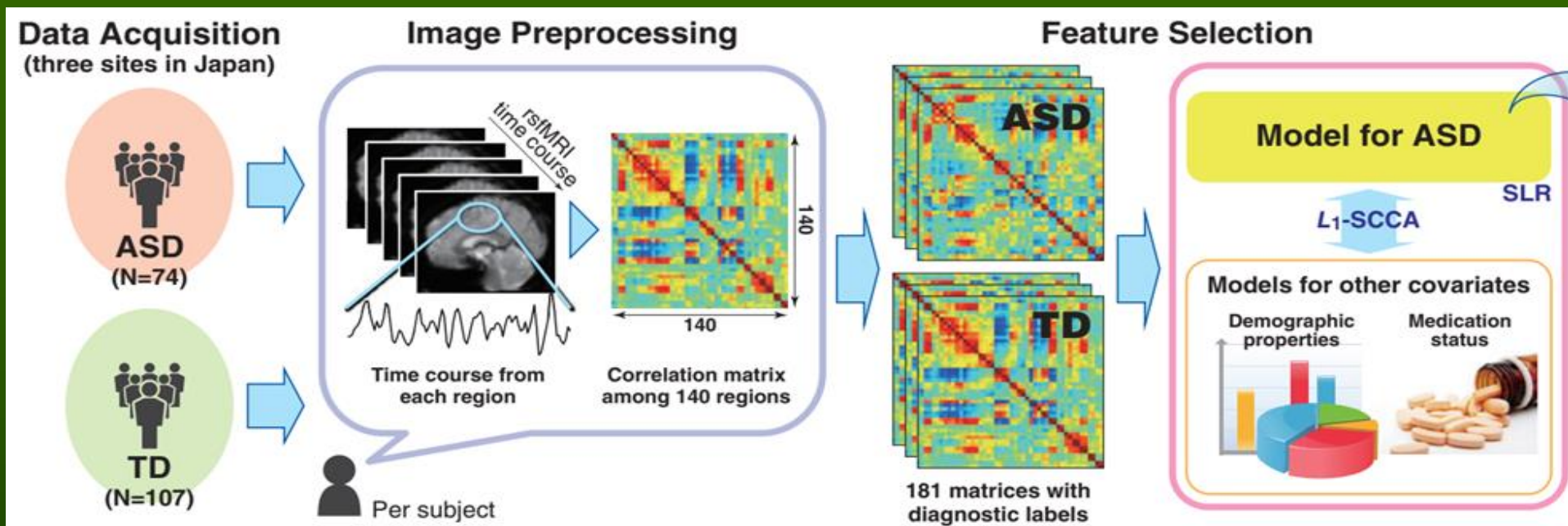
FNC (Functional Network Connectivity) was computed as Pearson's correlations between time courses of the components obtained by spatial independent component analysis (sICA).

# MILC diagnosis

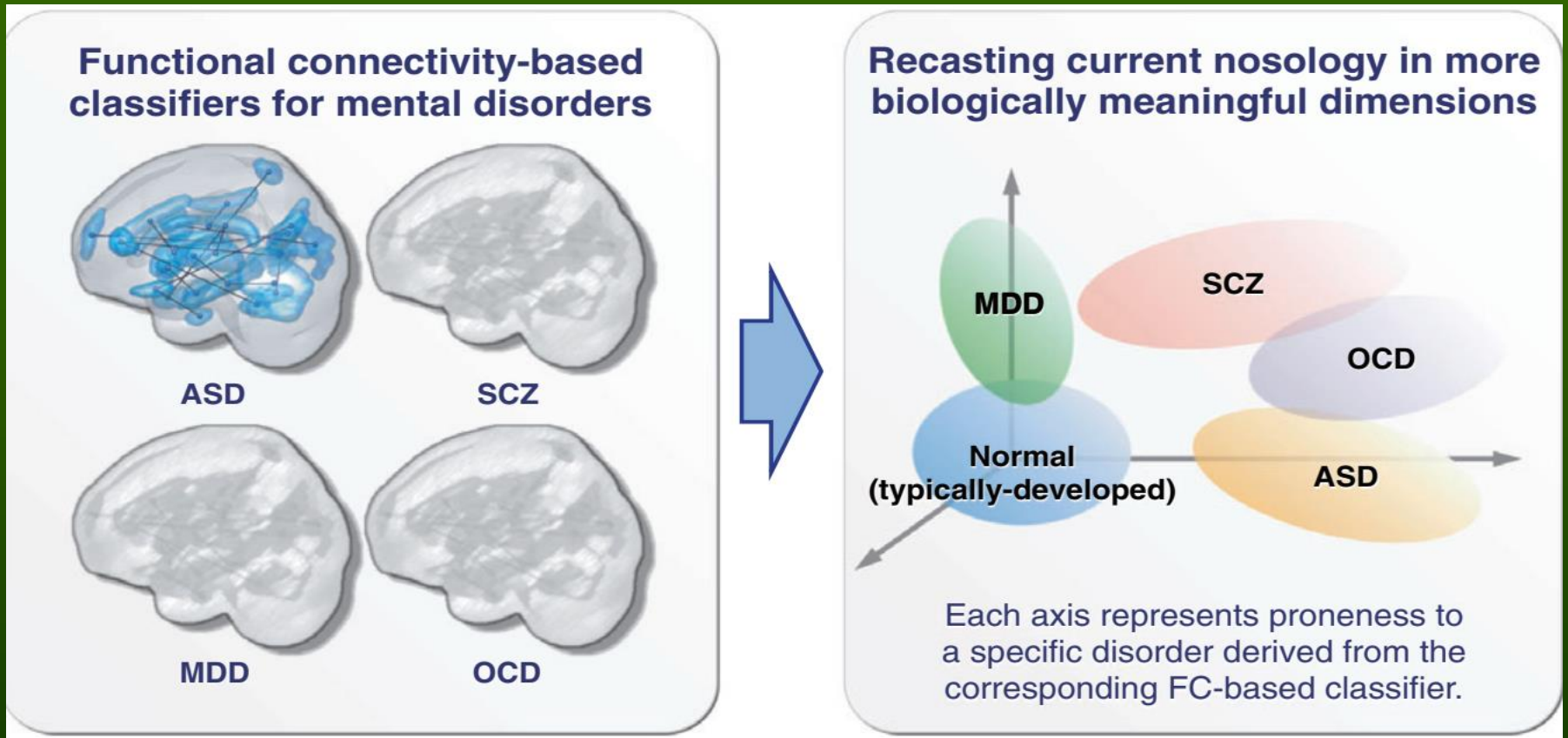
Top 10% FNC for patients computed using most 5% of the salient data as thresholded using feature attribution maps (saliency maps) for 3 disorders.



# Biomarkers from neuroimaging



# Biomarkers of mental disorders



MDD, deep depression, SCZ, schizophrenia, OCD, obsessive-compulsive disorder, ASD autism spectrum disorder. fMRI biomarkers allow for objective diagnosis.

N. Yahata et al, *Psychiatry & Clinical Neurosciences* 2017; **71**: 215–237

Use it in neurofeedback.

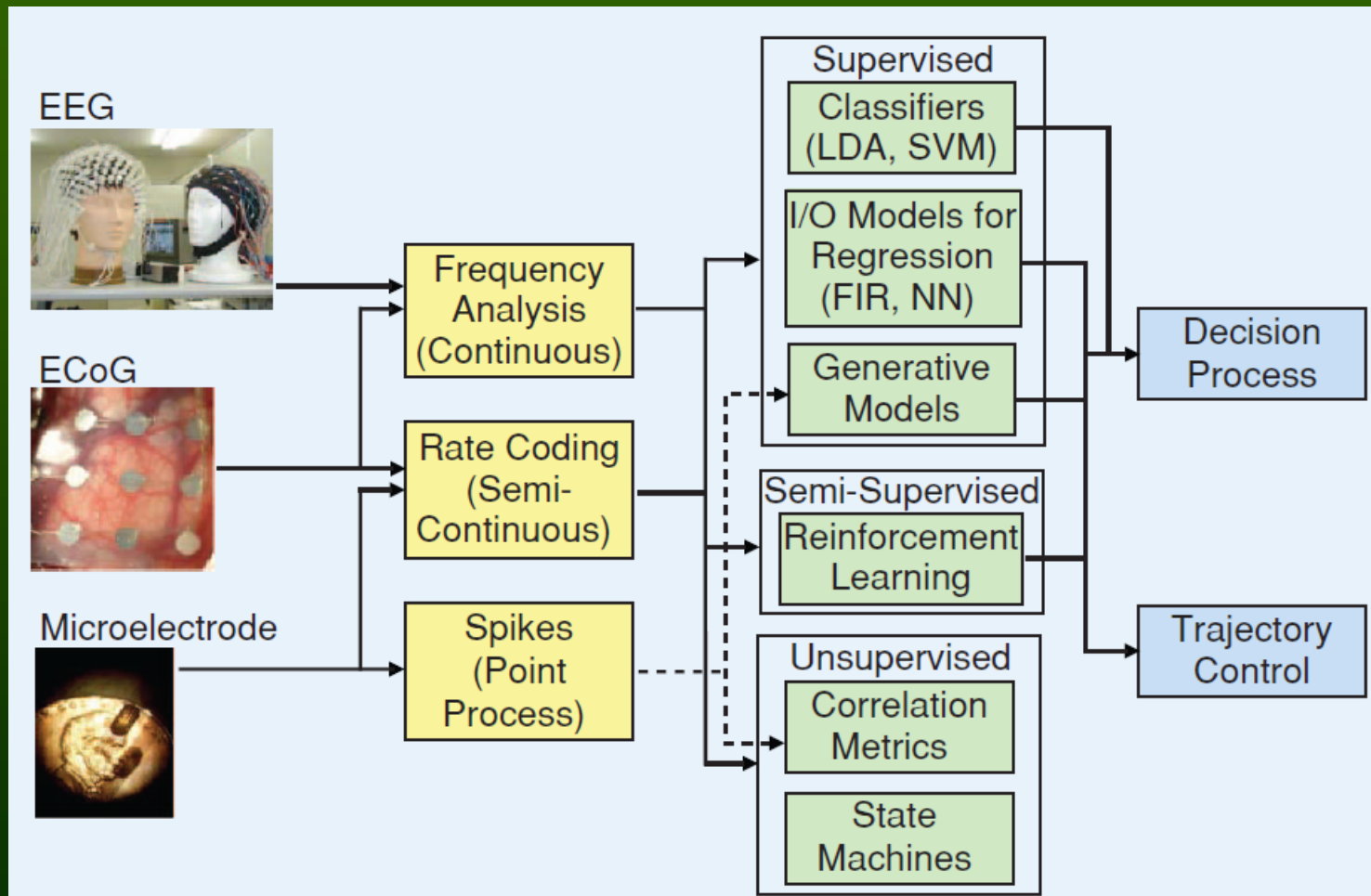
# BCI/BMI hardware



# BMI: time to connect our brains ...

Non-invasive, partially invasive and invasive methods carry increasing amount of information, but are more difficult to implement.

EEG+ML still reigns supreme!



# Cyberdyne Hal-5

Ford is using EksoVest exoskeletons,  
LG makes CLOi SuitBot, some exoskeletons may  
lift 100 kg, but without bionic control.

Cyberdyne plans on renting and selling its robot  
suit, called Hal-5, or "Wearable Cyborg".  
Sensors attached to the user's skin monitor  
changes in the body's biosignals.

Anytime you think of what you're going to move,  
your brain sends a nerve biosignal to your  
muscles, telling them to carry out the action.

Medical: improving physical functions.

Labor: heavy work support in other workplaces,  
mitigates risks of the wearer's back pain.

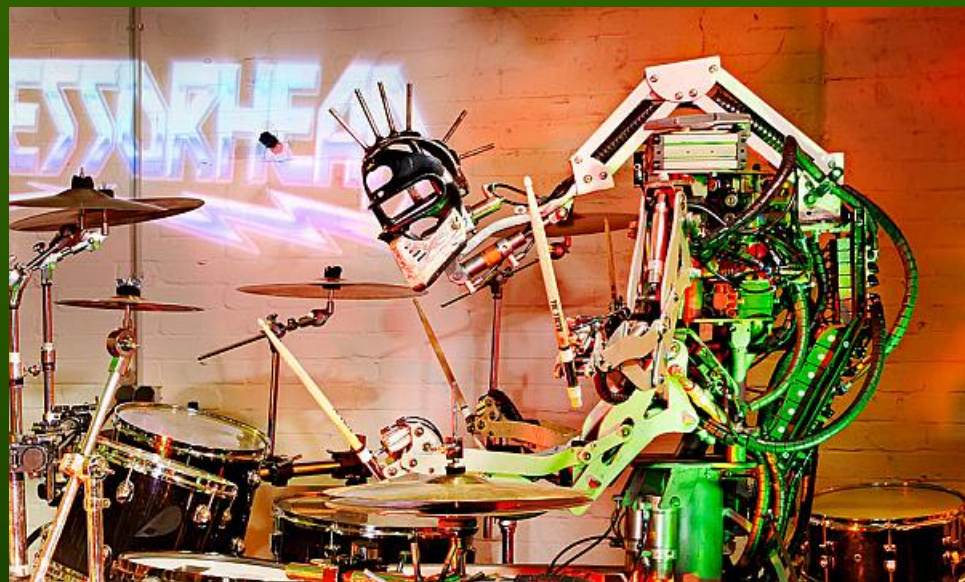
Supporting recovery activities at disaster sites.

Many military „future soldier programs” ...



# What could I do with additional hand?

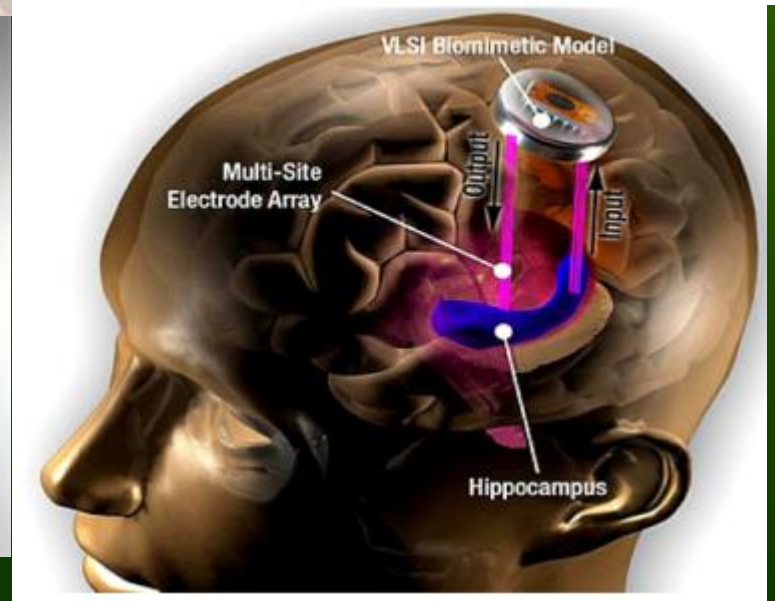
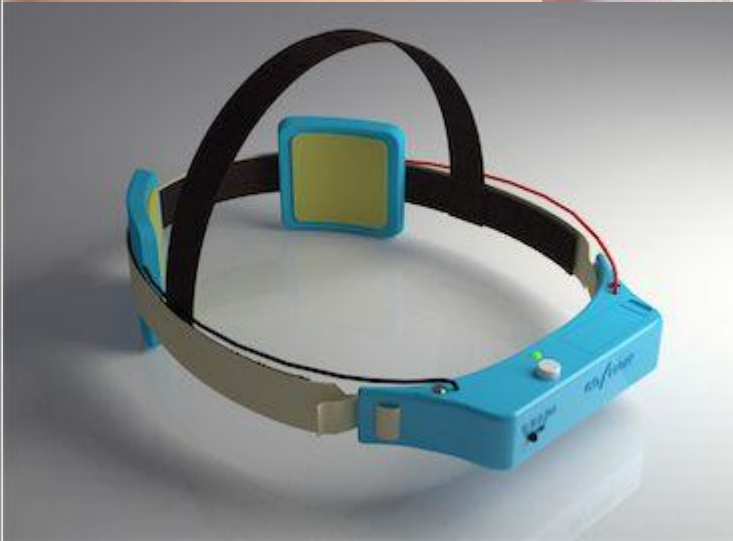
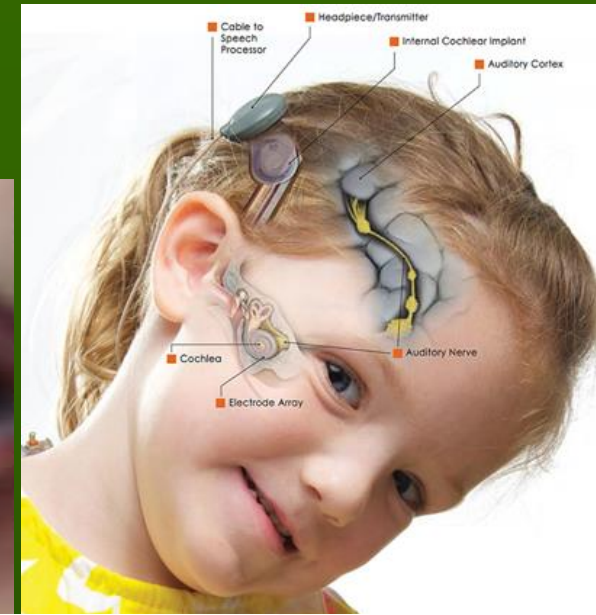
If I was like an octopus ... I would be the best drummer in the world!



And if I were a robot, I would just play with 4 hands ... [YouTube](#)  
Animatronic robot band [Compressorhead](#) goes on a tour around the world.

4 legs (or hands) better than two!

# Amplification



Expansion of the senses: sight, hearing, touch, memory, attention ...  
Improving brains by adding new senses (Eagleman, Livewired 2020).

# EEG headphones

EEG + music for mood/concentration.



## COMFORT FEATURES

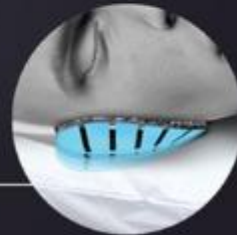
- Air Flow System
- CoolGel cushioning
- Ultra lowprofile
- Soft moulding body
- 4000 count Egyptian Cotton
- Washable covers
- Organic leather outer covering



StayCool Air Flow system



CoolGel comfort system

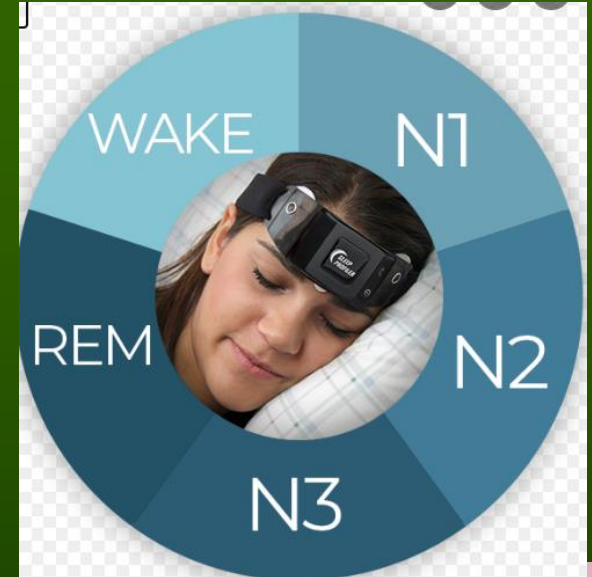


Patented FlexMould™  
Bed comfort



# Sleep

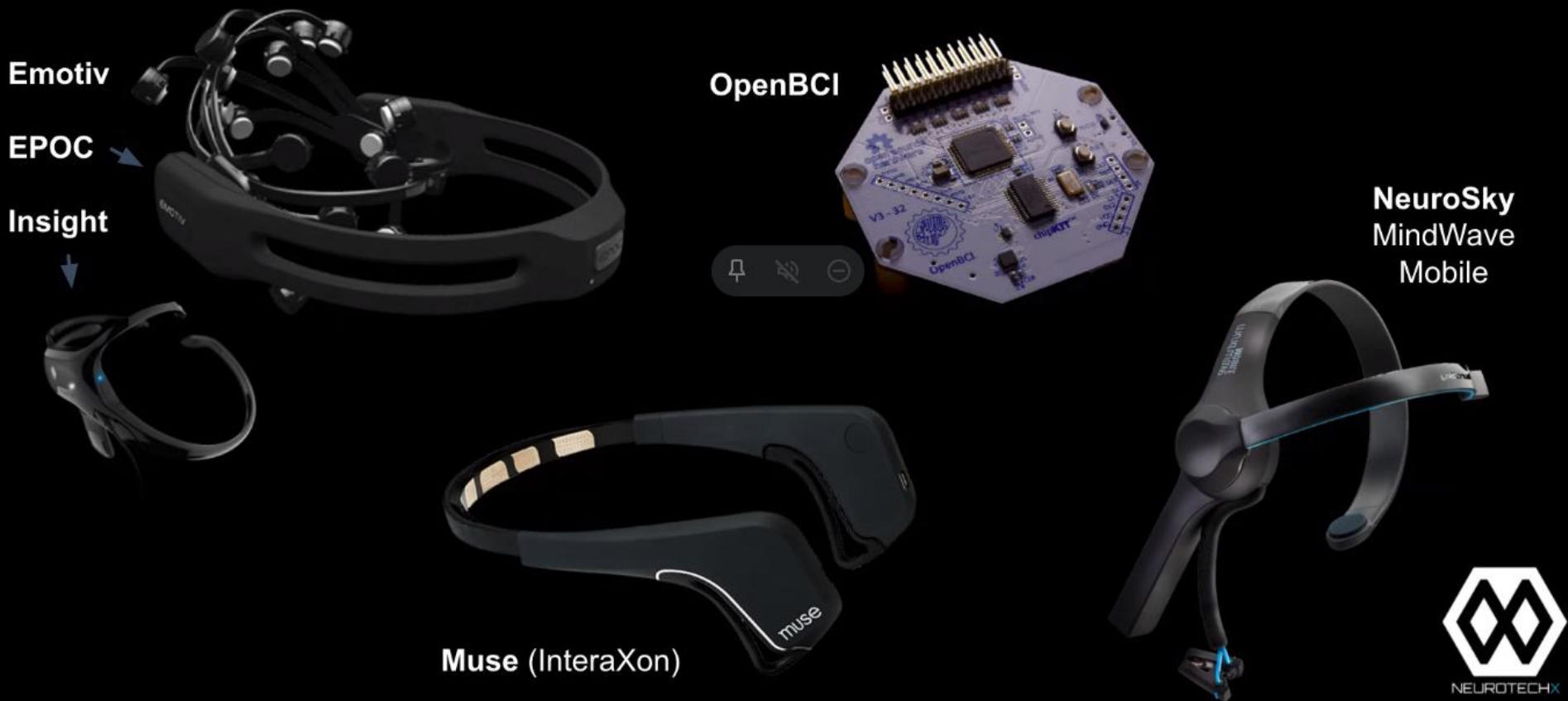
Neurosky-Sleep Shepherd Blue; Flowtime; Bittium BrainStatus (for ICU); Kokoon



# BCI tools

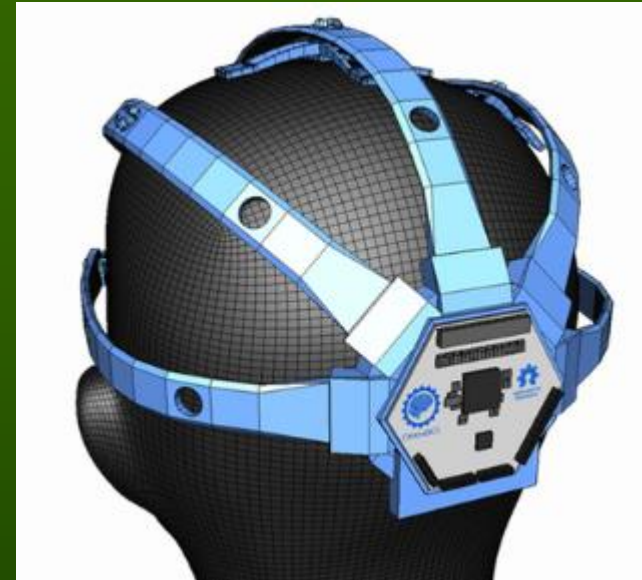
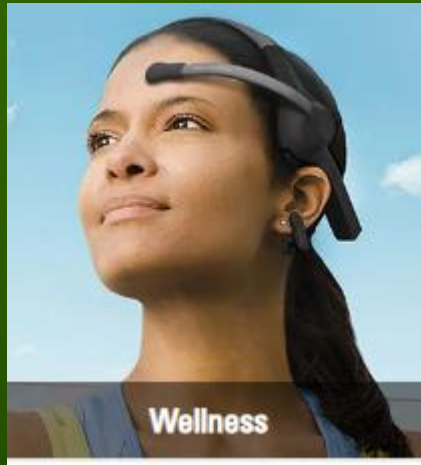
Many inexpensive EEG solutions, but analysis of brain signals is always hard.

## Consumer EEG - "The Original Big Four"



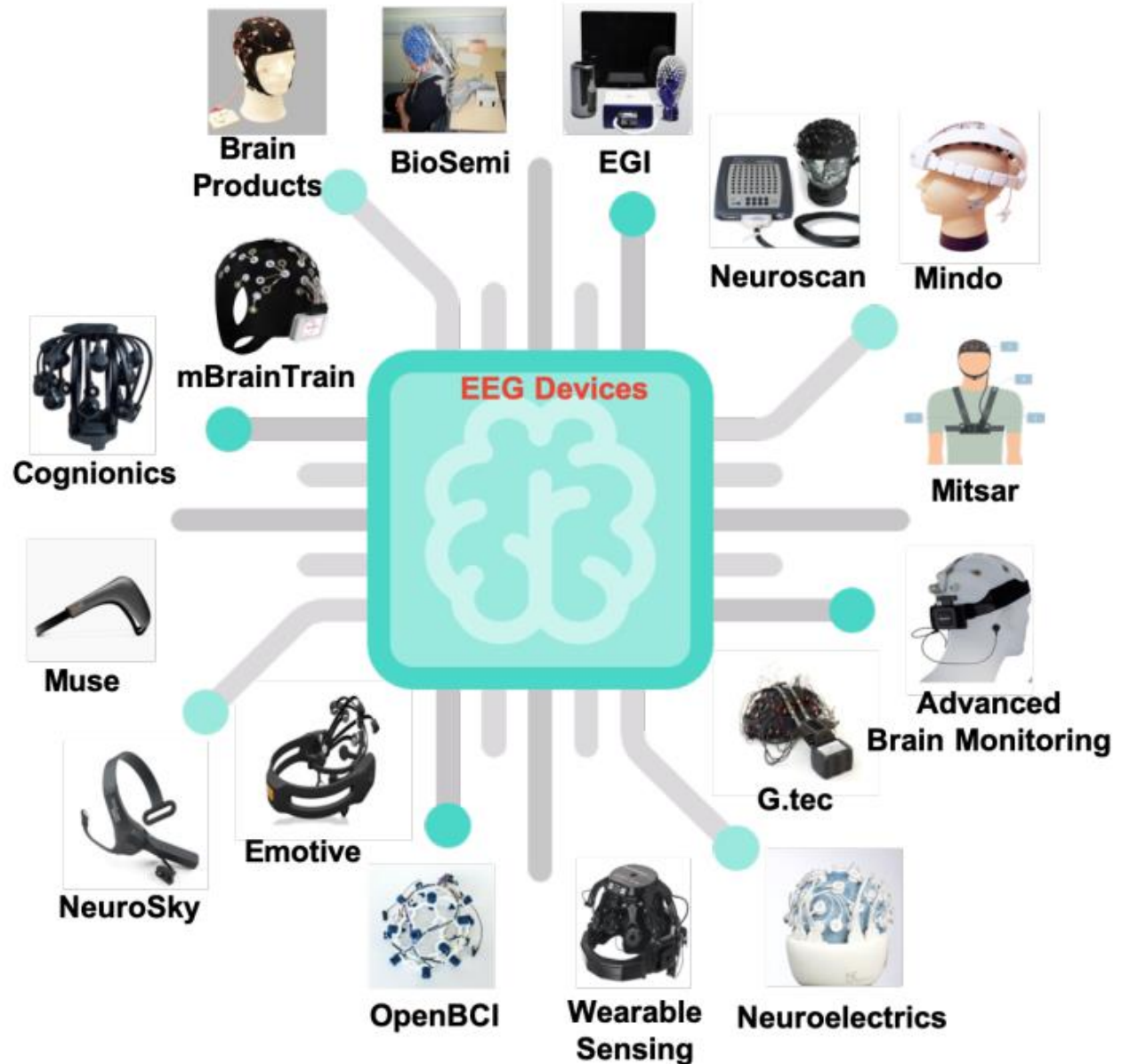
# Over 30 companies

Neurosky-[MindWave Mobile 2](#); G-Tec, OpenBCI, ANT-neuro, Waveguard, [Google Wireless EEG](#) ...





# BCI tools



Gu ... & Lin, C.-T.  
(2021).  
EEG-Based BCIs:  
A Survey of Recent ...  
IEEE/ACM Transactions  
on Computational  
Biology & Bioinformatics,  
18(5), 1645–1666.

# BCI tools

Combination of Virtual Reality with BCI has great potential.

VR

InteraXon

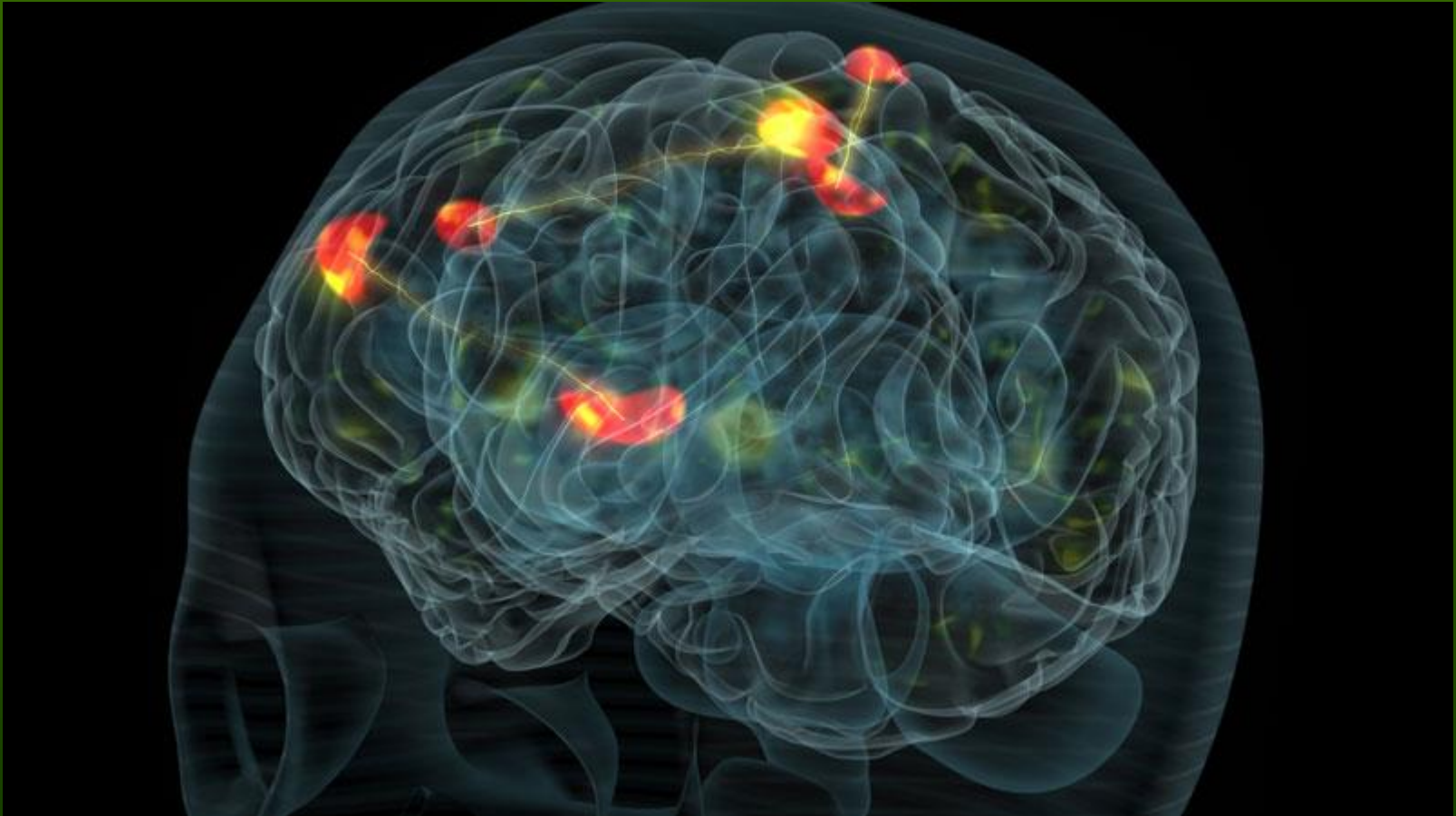
Looxid Labs

Neurable



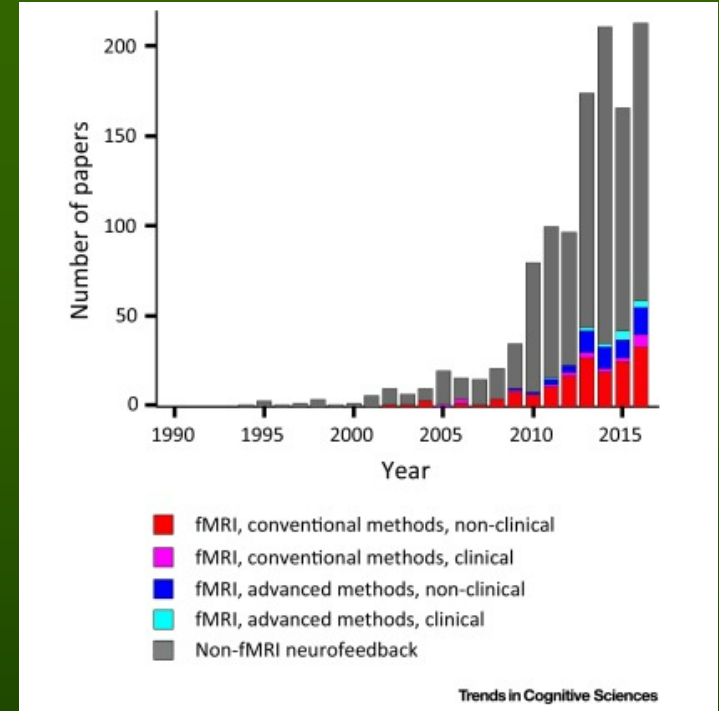
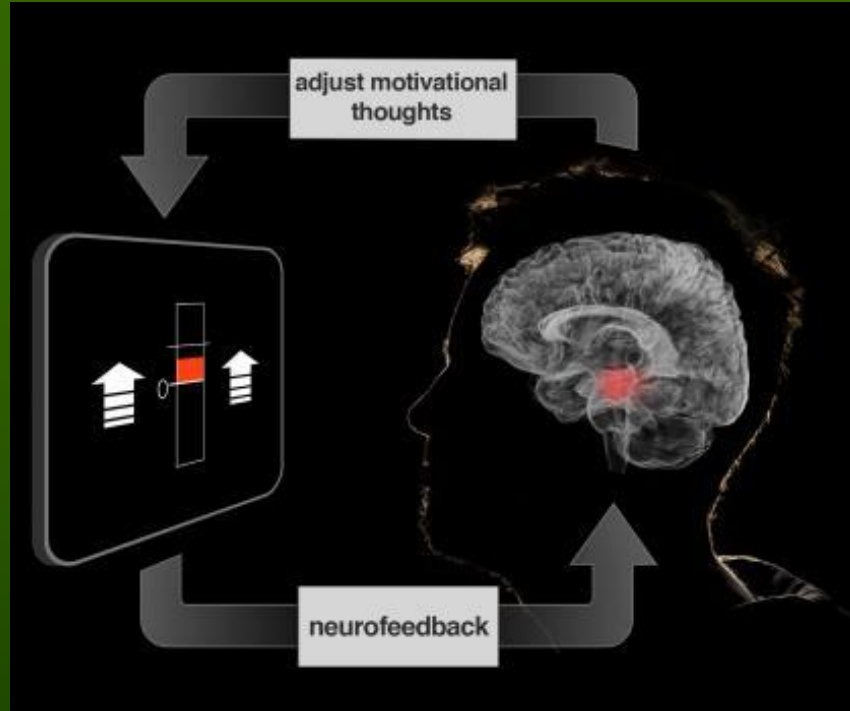
# Decoding brain activity

# Mental state: strong coherent activation



Many processes go on in parallel, controlling homeostasis and behavior. Most are automatic, hidden from our Self. What goes on in my head? Various subnetworks compete for access to consciousness, the highest level of control, using the winner-takes-most mechanism. How to extract stable intentions in such chaos? BCI has to be hard.

# Neurofeedback: early BMI



W. Duch, popular art. Stress and electronics, 1978!

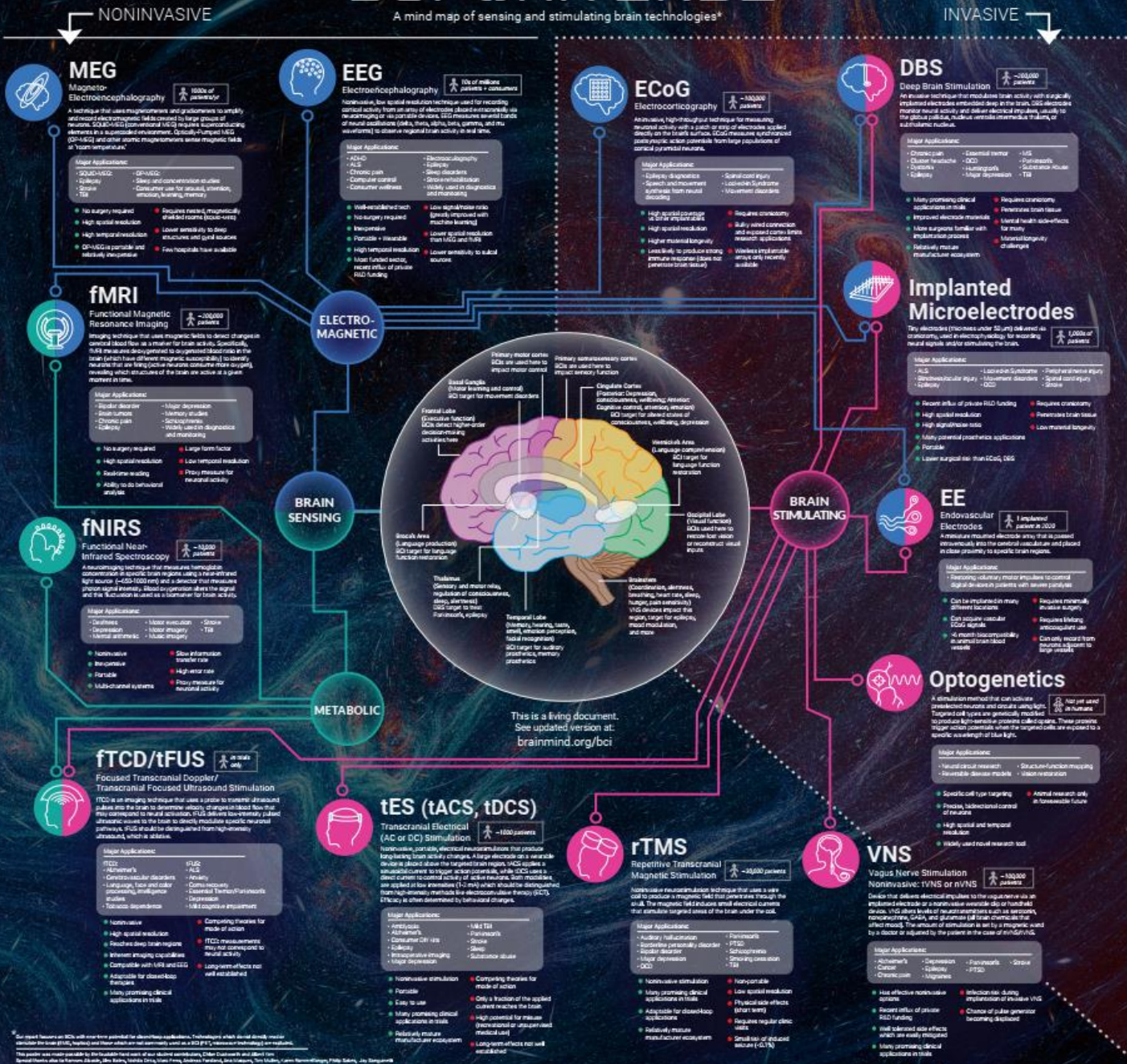
Still used in clinical practice,  $\alpha/\theta$  rhythms for relaxation.

CHADD classifies EEG neurofeedback as 2/5, or “possibly efficacious”.

fMRI more effective, new forms based on the brain fingerprinting are needed.

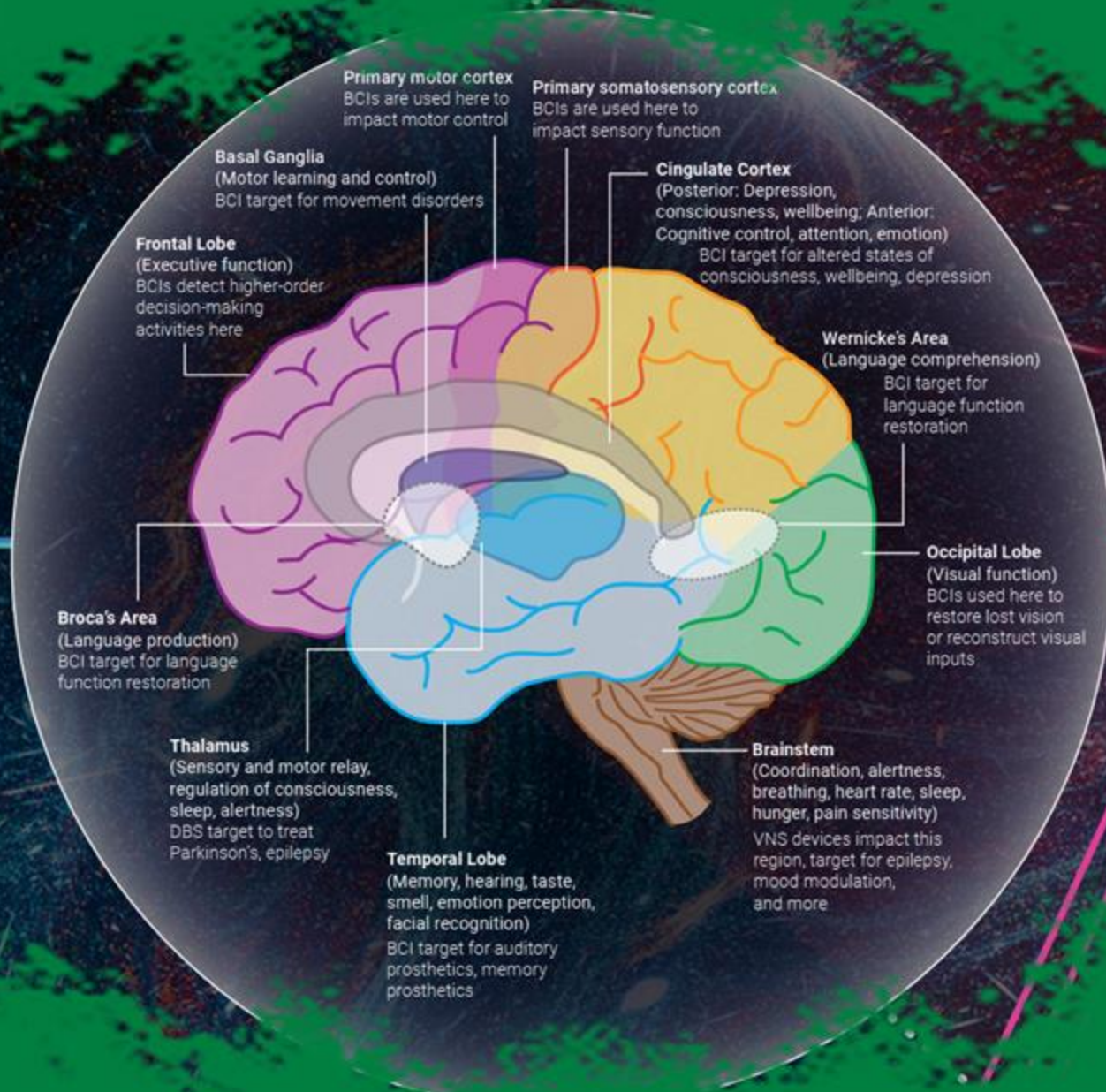
# BCI UNIVERSE

A mind map of sensing and stimulating brain technologies\*



\*Our report focuses on BCI with wire-based interfaces for diagnostic applications. Technologies which do not directly measure electrical activity for BCI (e.g., hearing aids) are not included, and an EEG is a non-invasive technology for diagnosis. This paper does not include technologies for neuroprosthetics or neurostimulation. Other categories of BCI are not included due to space constraints. See: Barry, Ingham, O'Connell, et al. (2014) 'Brain Computer Interfaces: A Review of the State of the Art'.

## BRAIN SENSING



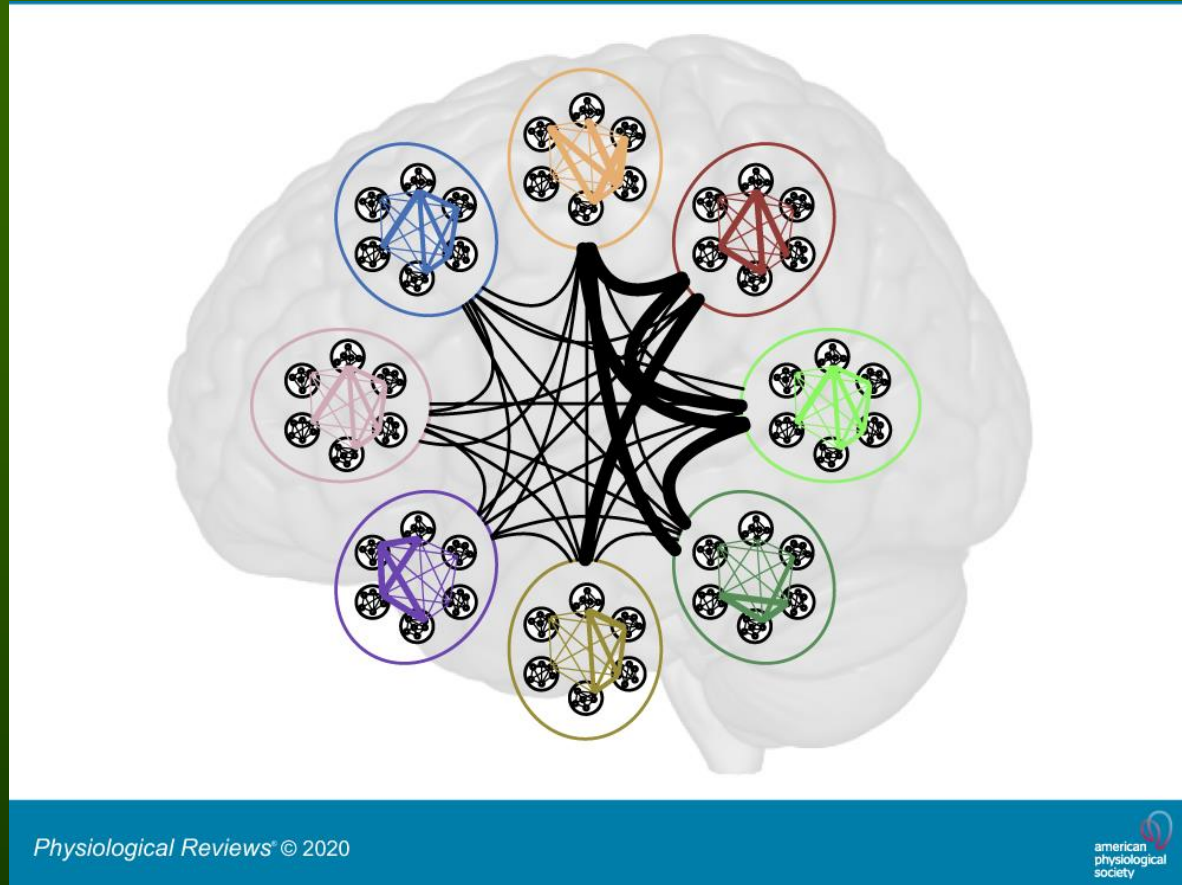
## BRAIN STIMULATION

# ≈ Small worlds architecture

Small world: high levels of clustering, short path lengths, preserved across multiple frequency bands and behavioral tasks.

Local modules are densely connected, extract relevant information from sensory data, salience, memory associations, orchestrate motor actions.

Needs a switchboard?



All complex functions are based on synchronization of activity among brain areas. Memory, personality, or consciousness are processes engaging many functions. Similar to multi-agent systems, the “society of mind”, or the Global Workspace Theory. “Deconstruct” psychological constructs, link them to the brain processes.



# fMRI

## Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging

 ~200,000 patients

Imaging technique that uses magnetic fields to detect changes in cerebral blood flow as a marker for brain activity. Specifically, fMRI measures deoxygenated to oxygenated blood ratio in the brain (which have different magnetic susceptibility) to identify neurons that are firing (active neurons consume more oxygen), revealing which structures of the brain are active at a given moment in time.

### Major Applications:

- Bipolar disorder
- Brain tumors
- Chronic pain
- Epilepsy
- Major depression
- Memory studies
- Schizophrenia
- Widely used in diagnostics and monitoring

- No surgery required
- High spatial resolution
- Real-time reading
- Ability to do behavioral analysis
- Large form factor
- Low temporal resolution
- Proxy measure for neuronal activity



## ELECTRO-MAGNETIC

## BRAIN SENSING

# fNIRS

## Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy

 ~10,000 patients

A neuroimaging technique that measures hemoglobin concentration in specific brain regions using a near-infrared light source (~650-1000 nm) and a detector that measures photon signal intensity. Blood oxygenation alters the signal and this fluctuation is used as a biomarker for brain activity.

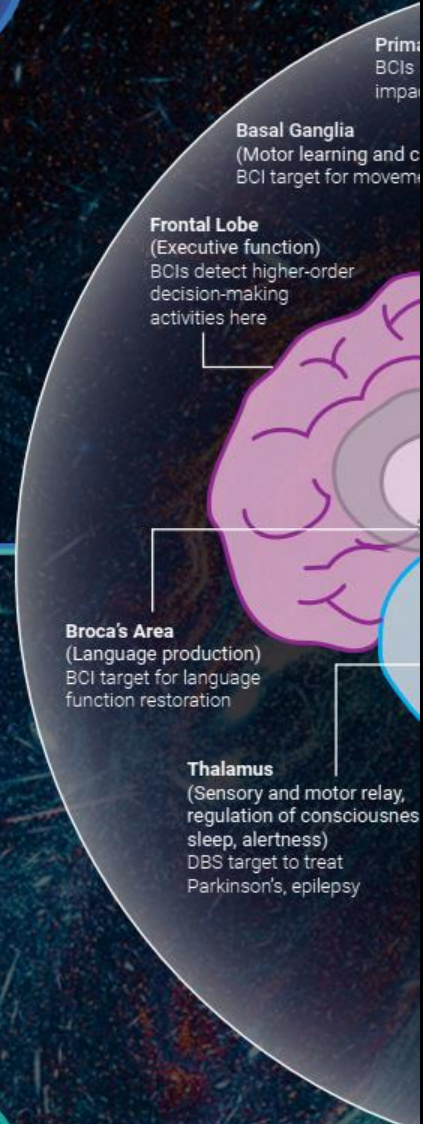
### Major Applications:

- Deafness
- Depression
- Mental arithmetic
- Motor execution
- Motor imagery
- Music imagery
- Stroke
- TBI

- Noninvasive
- Inexpensive
- Portable
- Multi-channel systems
- Slow information transfer rate
- High error rate
- Proxy measure for neuronal activity



## METABOLIC



Primary BCI target for movement

**Basal Ganglia**  
(Motor learning and control)  
BCI target for movement

**Frontal Lobe**  
(Executive function)  
BCIs detect higher-order decision-making activities here

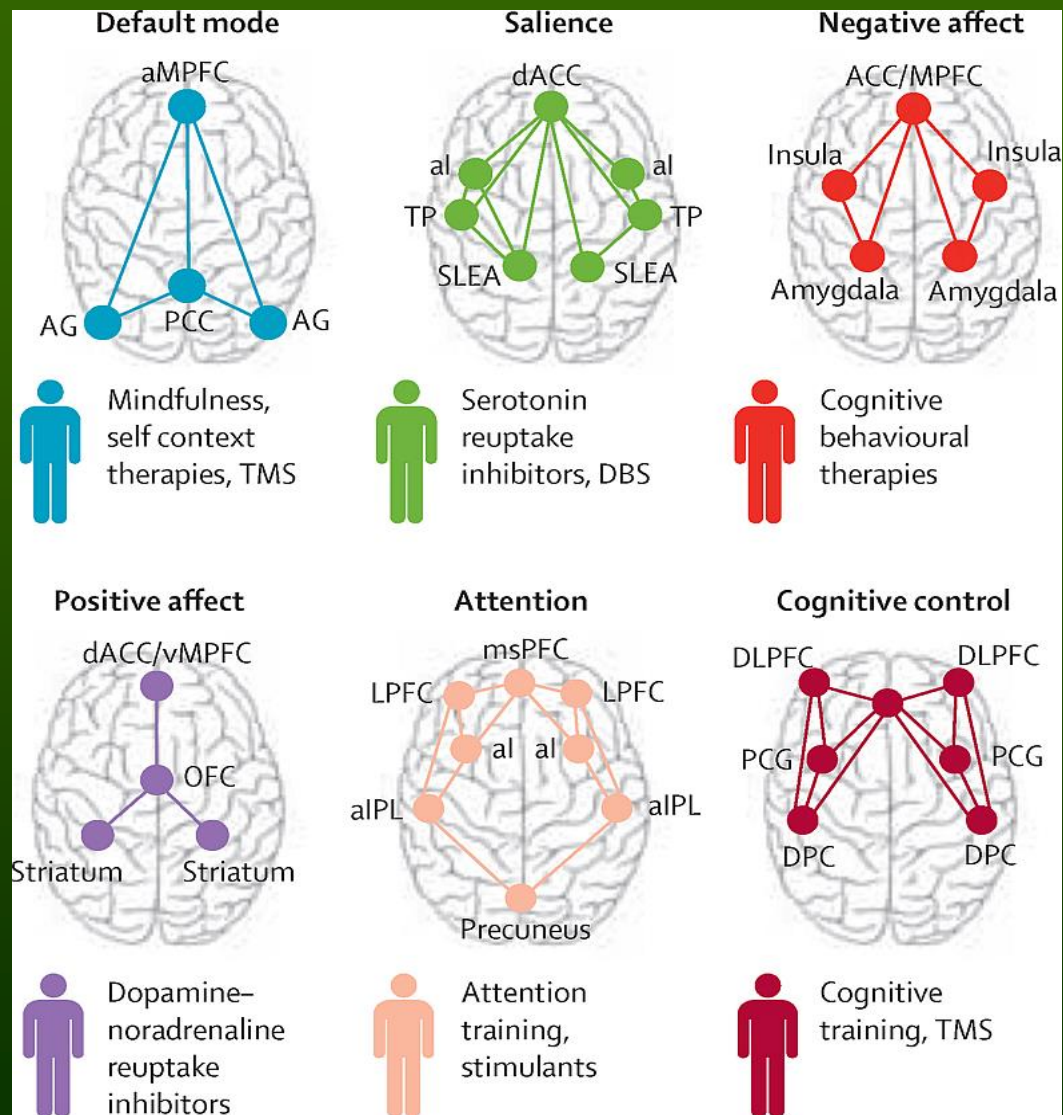
**Broca's Area**  
(Language production)  
BCI target for language function restoration

**Thalamus**  
(Sensory and motor relay, regulation of consciousness, sleep, alertness)  
DBS target to treat Parkinson's, epilepsy

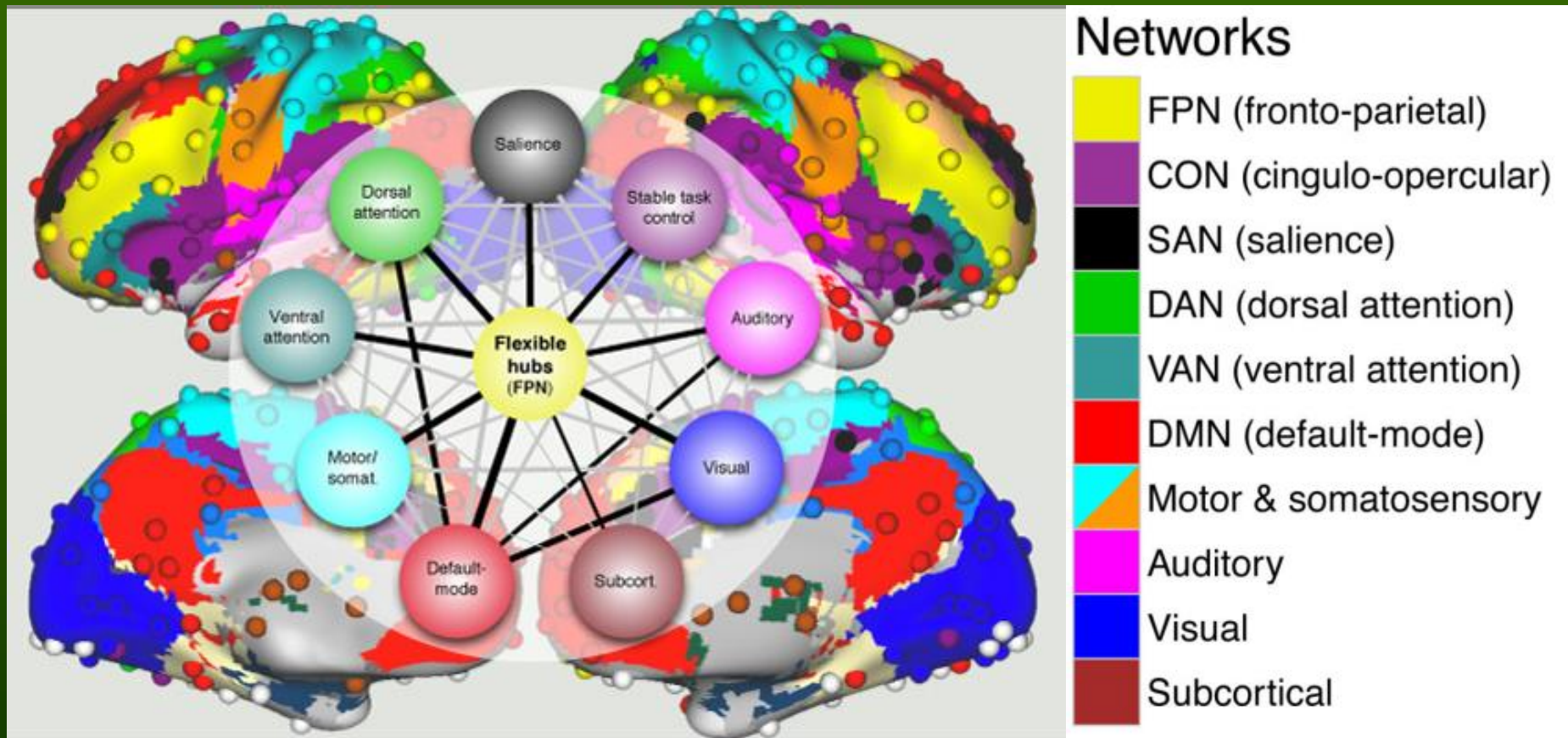
# Large-Scale Networks from fMRI

- Large brain systems depend on coordination of activity in many brain regions.
- Decompose neurodynamics into activity of large-scale networks, related to various brain functions.
- LSN or intrinsic brain networks are derived from functional connectivity by statistical analysis of various neuroimaging experiments.
- How many? From 7 to 17 to 120, or much more (3 mln minicolumn)
- Brain networks have specialized functions, dominating frequencies, dynamics, neurotransmitters.

Network science for complex systems.

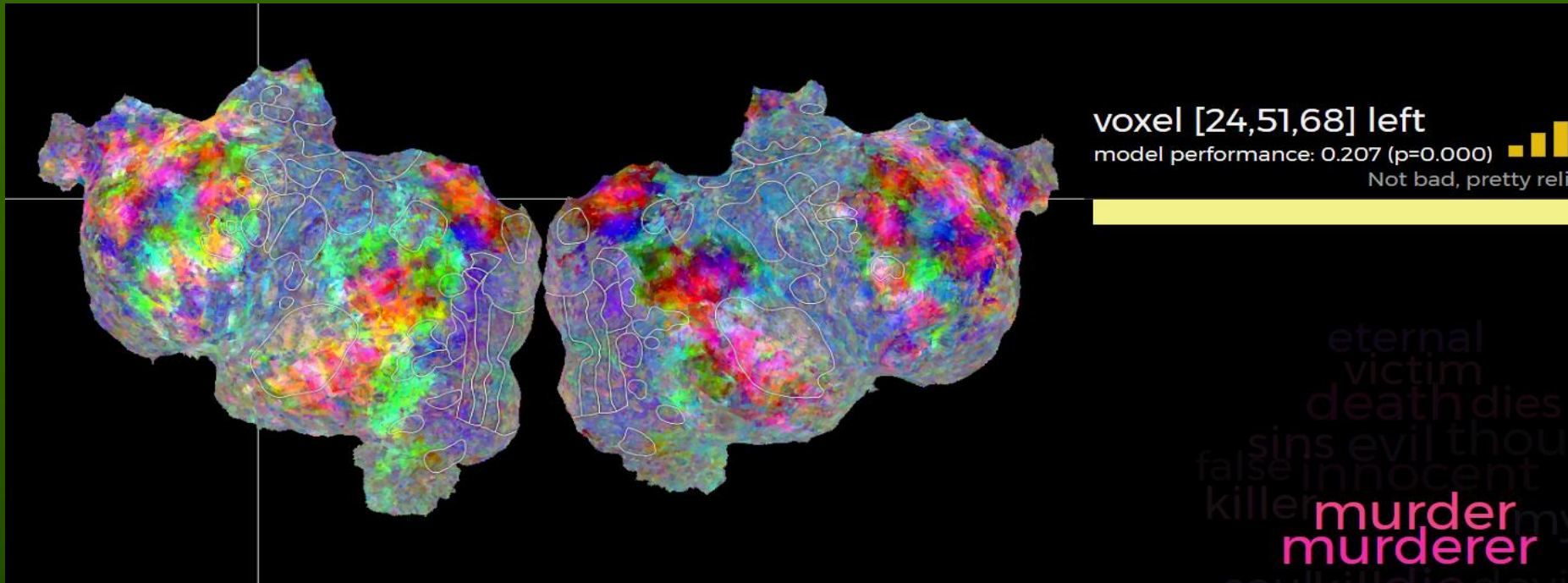


# Neurocognitive Basis of Cognitive Control



Central role of fronto-parietal (FPN) flexible hubs in cognitive control and adaptive implementation of task demands.

Black lines=correlations significantly above network average (Cole et al. 2013).



Whole fMRI activity map for the word “murder” shown on the flattened cortex.

Each word activates a whole map of activity in the brain, depending on sensory features, motor actions and affective components associated with this word.

Why such activity patterns arise? Brain subnetworks connect active areas.

<http://gallantlab.org/huth2016/> and [short movie intro](#).

Can one do something like that with EEG or MEG?

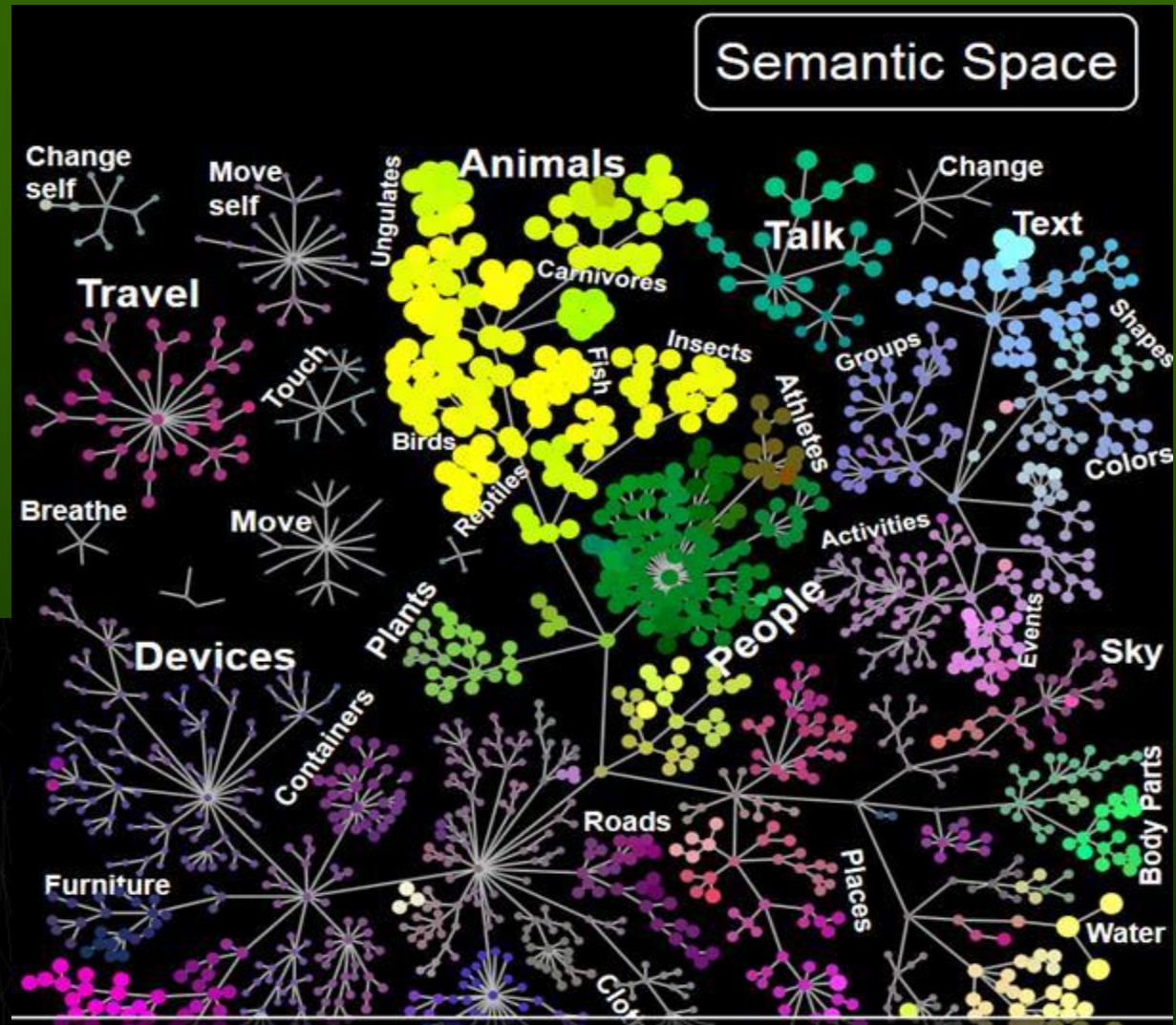
# Semantic neuronal space

Words in the semantic space are grouped by their similarity.

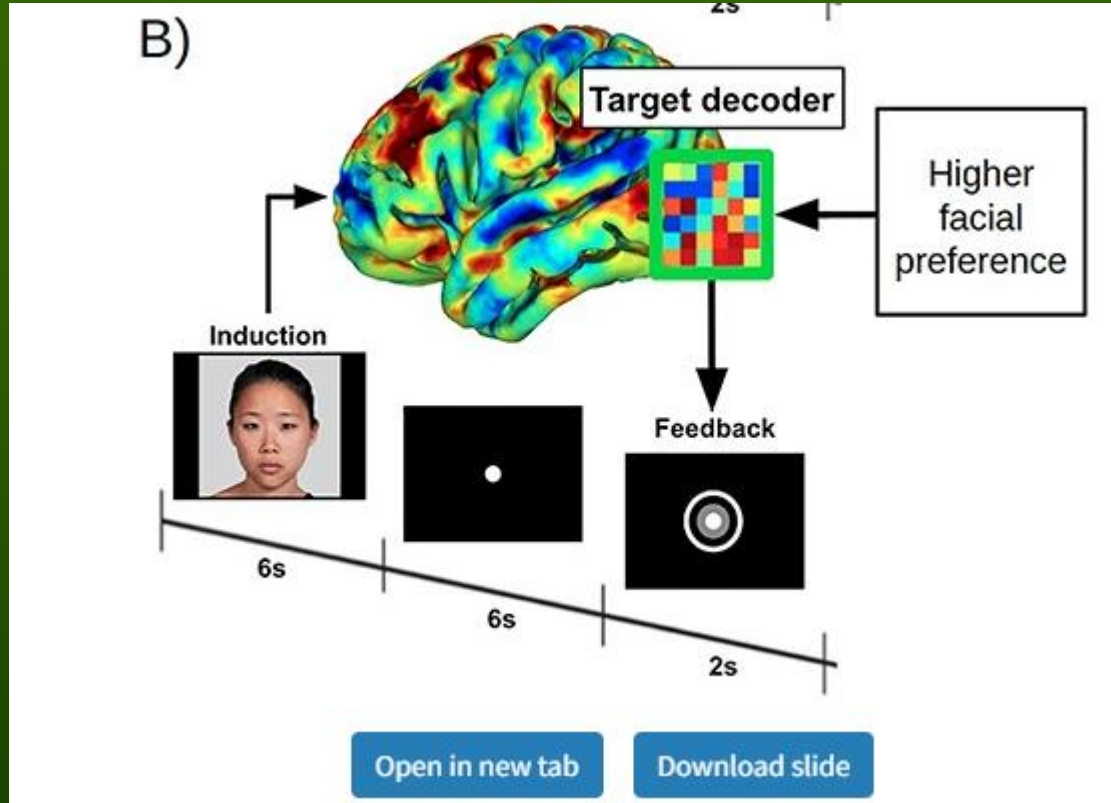
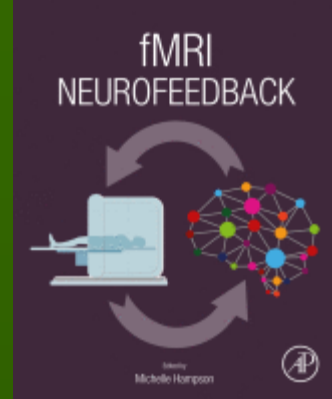
Words activate specific ROIs, similar words create similar maps (1700 states) of brain activity.

Video or audio stimuli, fMRI 60.000 voxel).

[Gallant lab, Berkeley.](#)



# fMRI neurofeedback



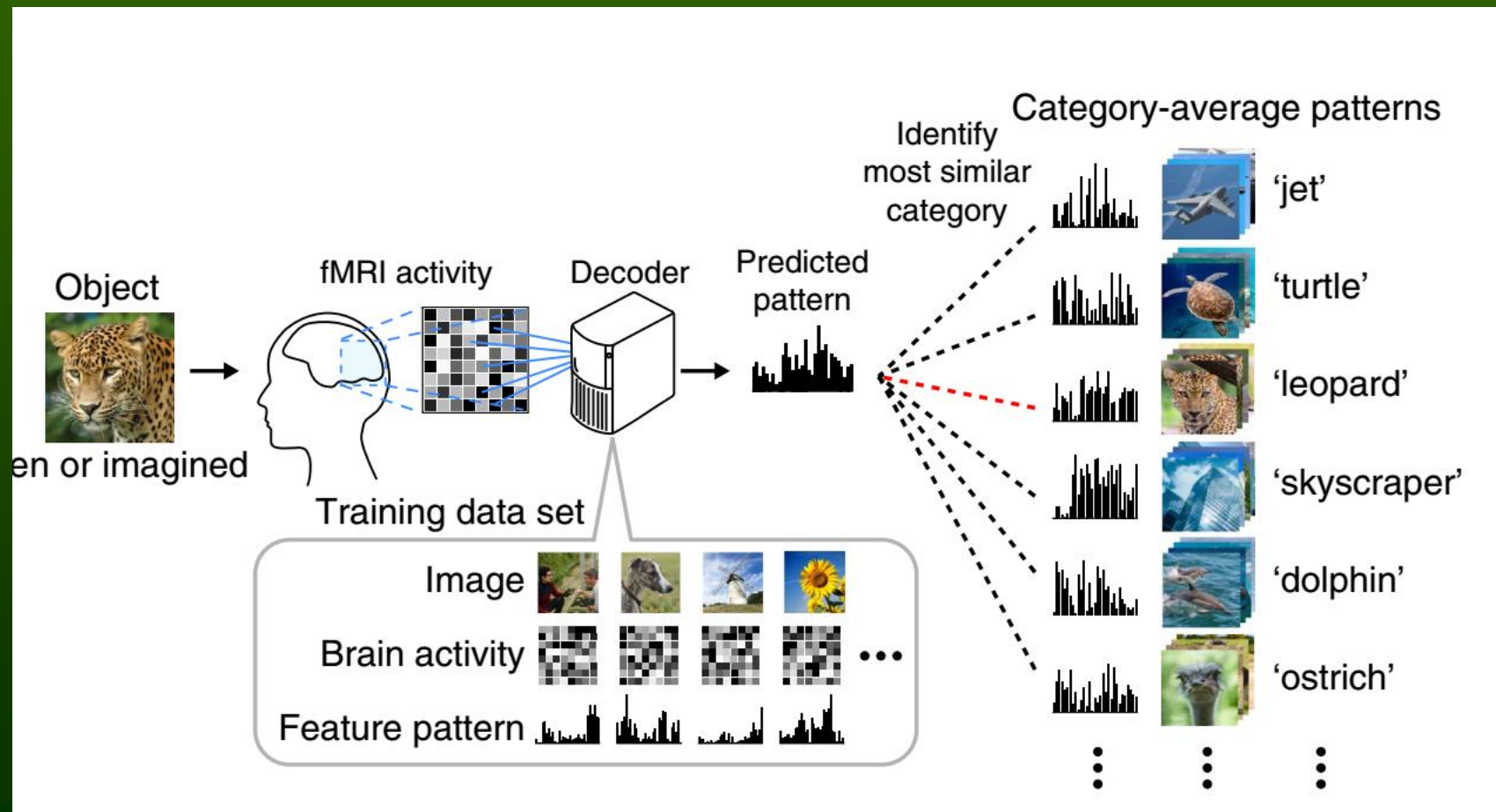
- Decoded Neurofeedback (DecNef).  
Target ROIs or occurrences of specific multivoxel representations.
- Functional Connectivity Neurofeedback (FCNef).

Taschereau-Dumouchel, V., Cortese, A., Lau, H., & Kawato, M. (2021). Conducting decoded neurofeedback studies. *Social Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience* 16, 838–848.

# Brain activations $\leftrightarrow$ Mental images

fMRI activity can be correlated with deep CNN network features; using these features most similar image from a large database is selected.

Horikawa, Kamitani, Generic decoding of seen and imagined objects using hierarchical visual features. Nature Communications, 2017.



# Dreams



[Decoding Dreams](#), ATR Kyoto, Kamitani Lab.

fMRI images analyzed during REM sleep or while falling asleep allow for the classification of dreams (~20 categories).

Dreams, thoughts... is it possible to hide what we have seen and experienced?



NONINVASIVE

A mind map of sensing



# MEG

## Magneto- Electroencephalography

1000s of patients/yr

A technique that uses magnetometers and gradiometers to amplify and record electromagnetic fields created by large groups of neurons. SQUID-MEG (conventional MEG) requires superconducting elements in a supercooled environment. Optically-Pumped MEG (OP-MEG) and other atomic magnetometers sense magnetic fields at "room temperature."

### Major Applications:

- SQUID-MEG:
  - Epilepsy
  - Stroke
  - TBI
- OP-MEG:
  - Sleep and concentration studies
  - Consumer use for arousal, attention, emotion, learning, memory

- No surgery required
- High spatial resolution
- High temporal resolution
- OP-MEG is portable and relatively inexpensive
- Requires nested, magnetically shielded rooms (SQUID-MEG)
- Lower sensitivity to deep structures and gyral sources
- Few hospitals have available



# EEG

## Electroencephalography

10s of millions patients + consumers

Noninvasive, low spatial resolution technique used for recording cortical activity from an array of electrodes placed extracranially via neuroimaging or via portable devices. EEG measures several bands of neural oscillations (delta, theta, alpha, beta, gamma, and mu waveforms) to observe regional brain activity in real time.

### Major Applications:

- ADHD
- ALS
- Chronic pain
- Computer control
- Consumer wellness
- Electrooculography
- Epilepsy
- Sleep disorders
- Stroke rehabilitation
- Widely used in diagnostics and monitoring

- Well-established tech
- No surgery required
- Inexpensive
- Portable + Wearable
- High temporal resolution
- Most funded sector, recent influx of private R&D funding
- Low signal/noise ratio (greatly improved with machine learning)
- Lower spatial resolution than MEG and fMRI
- Lower sensitivity to sulcal sources



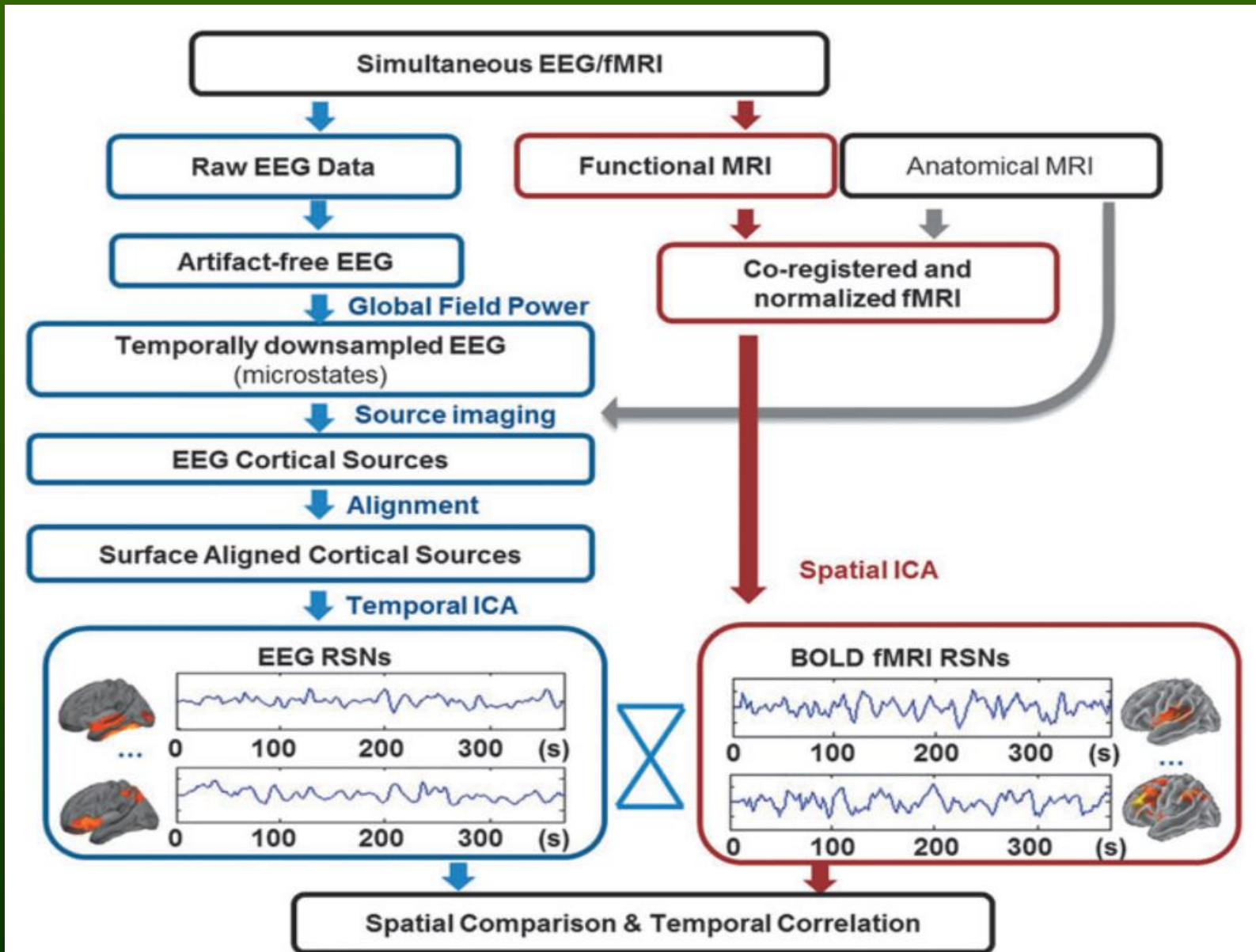
# fMRI

## Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging

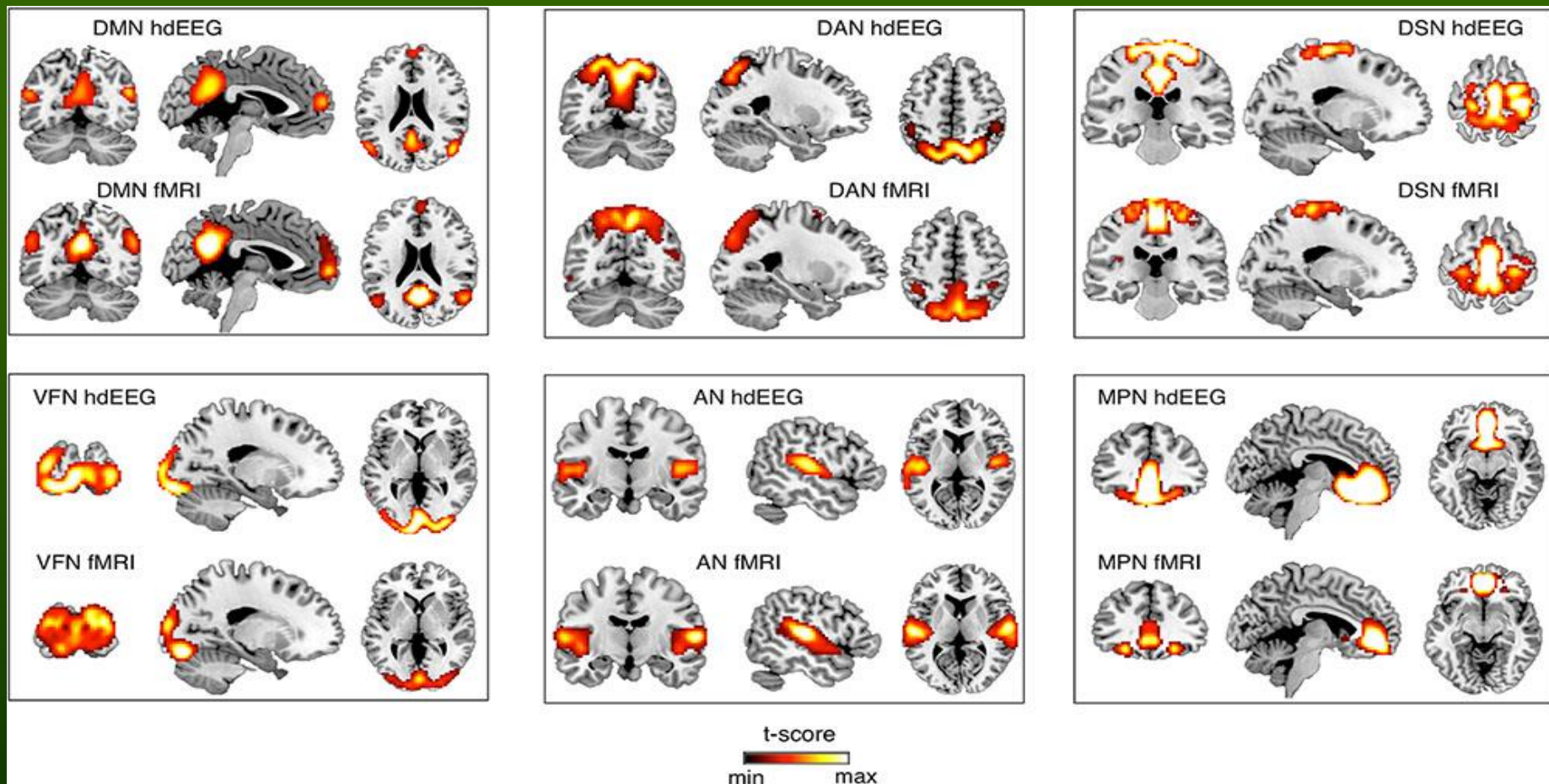
~200,000 patients

Imaging technique that uses magnetic fields to detect changes in cerebral blood flow as a marker for brain activity. Specifically,

# ELECTRO- MAGNETIC



# 14 networks from BOLD-EEG



Spatial ICA, 10-min fMRI ( $N = 24$ ). Networks: DMN, default mode; DAN, dorsal attention; DSN, dorsal somatomotor; VFN, visual foveal; AN, auditory; MPN, medial prefrontal. Liu et al. Detecting large-scale networks in the human brain. HBM (2017; 2018).


● Multi-channel systems

● Proxy measure for neuronal activity

## METABOLIC

This is a living  
See updated  
brainmin

# fTCD/tFUS

 *in trials only*

## Focused Transcranial Doppler/ Transcranial Focused Ultrasound Stimulation

fTCD is an imaging technique that uses a probe to transmit ultrasound pulses into the brain to determine velocity changes in blood flow that may correspond to neural activation. tFUS delivers low-intensity pulsed ultrasonic waves to the brain to directly modulate specific neuronal pathways. tFUS should be distinguished from high-intensity ultrasound, which is ablative.

### Major Applications:

#### fTCD:


- Alzheimer's
- Cerebrovascular disorders
- Language, face and color processing, intelligence studies
- Tobacco dependence

#### tFUS:

- ALS
- Anxiety
- Coma recovery
- Essential Tremor/Parkinson's
- Depression
- Mild cognitive impairment

- Noninvasive
- High spatial resolution
- Reaches deep brain regions
- Inherent imaging capabilities
- Compatible with MRI and EEG
- Adaptable for closed-loop therapies
- Many promising clinical applications in trials
- Competing theories for mode of action
- fTCD: measurements may not correspond to neural activity
- Long-term effects not well established

# tES (tACS, tDCS)

 *~1000 patients*

## Transcranial Electrical (AC or DC) Stimulation

Noninvasive, portable, electrical neurostimulators that produce long-lasting brain activity changes. A large electrode on a wearable device is placed above the targeted brain region. tACS applies a sinusoidal current to trigger action potentials, while tDCS uses a direct current to control activity of active neurons. Both modalities are applied at low intensities (1-2 mA) which should be distinguished from high-intensity methods like electroconvulsive therapy (ECT). Efficacy is often determined by behavioral changes.

### Major Applications:

- Amblyopia
- Alzheimer's
- Consumer DIY kits
- Epilepsy
- Intraoperative imaging
- Major depression
- Mild TBI
- Parkinson's
- Stroke
- Sleep
- Substance abuse

- Noninvasive stimulation
- Portable
- Easy to use
- Many promising clinical applications in trials
- Relatively mature manufacturer ecosystem
- Competing theories for mode of action
- Only a fraction of the applied current reaches the brain
- High potential for misuse (recreational or unsupervised medical use)
- Long-term effects not well established

\* Our report focuses on BCIs with near-term potential for closed-loop applications. Technologies which do not directly read or stimulate the brain (EMG, haptics) and those which are not commonly used as a BCI (PET, microwave technology) are excluded.

This poster was made possible by the laudable hard work of our student contributors, Chloe Duckworth and Albert Kim. Special thanks also to Ramses Alcaide, Alex Bates, Nishita Deka, Marc Ferro, Andreas Forsland, Ana Maiques, Tim Mullen, Karen Rommelfanger, Philip Sabes, Jay Sanguinetti

# HD DCS for BCBI

Reading brain states =>  
transforming to common  
space => duplicating in  
other brains ...

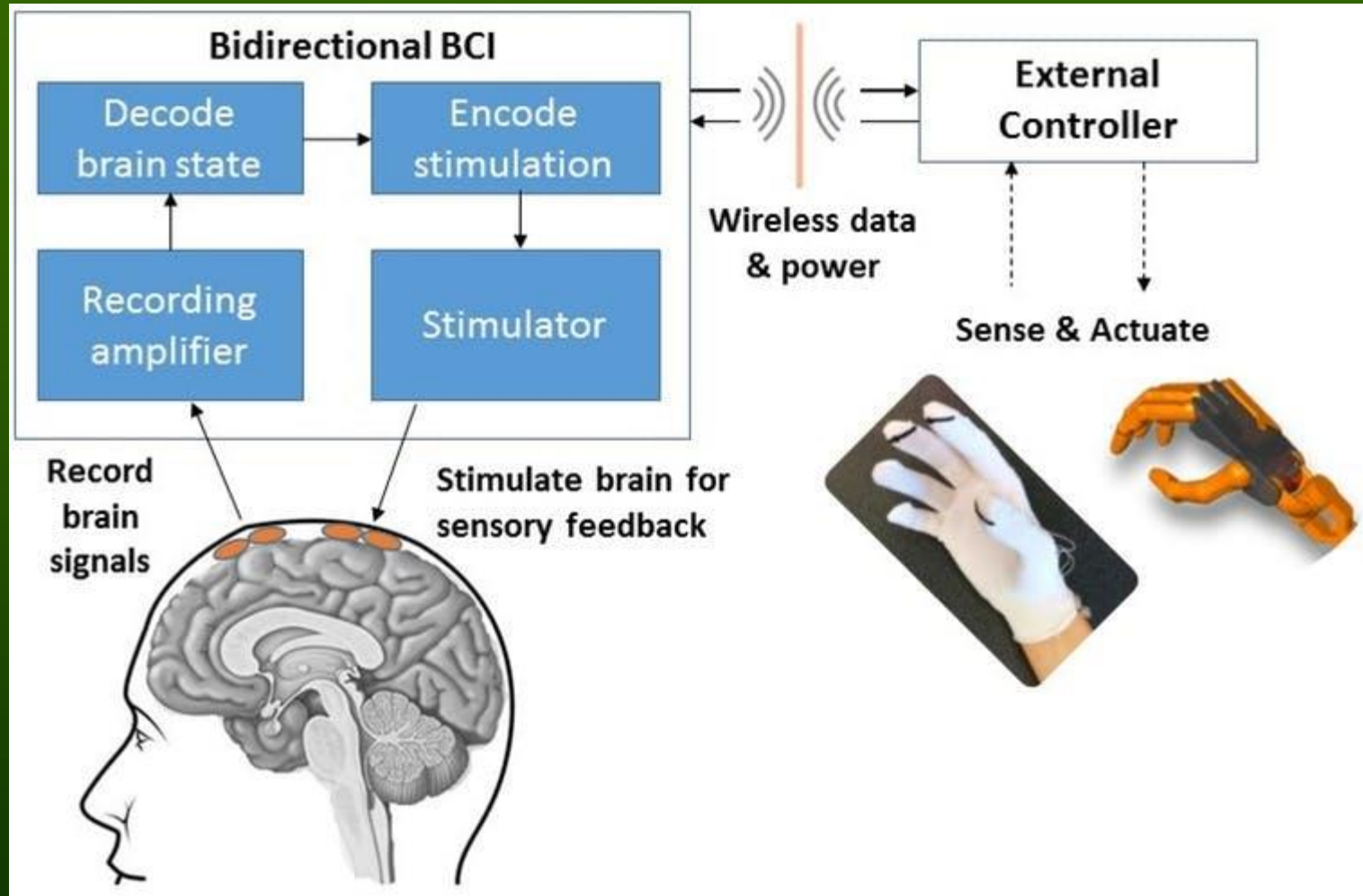
Depression, neuro-plasticity,  
pain, psychosomatic  
disorders, teaching!

Multielectrode DCS  
stimulation with 256  
electrodes induces changes  
in the brain increasing  
neuroplasticity.

But **no-one really knows**  
why it works ...

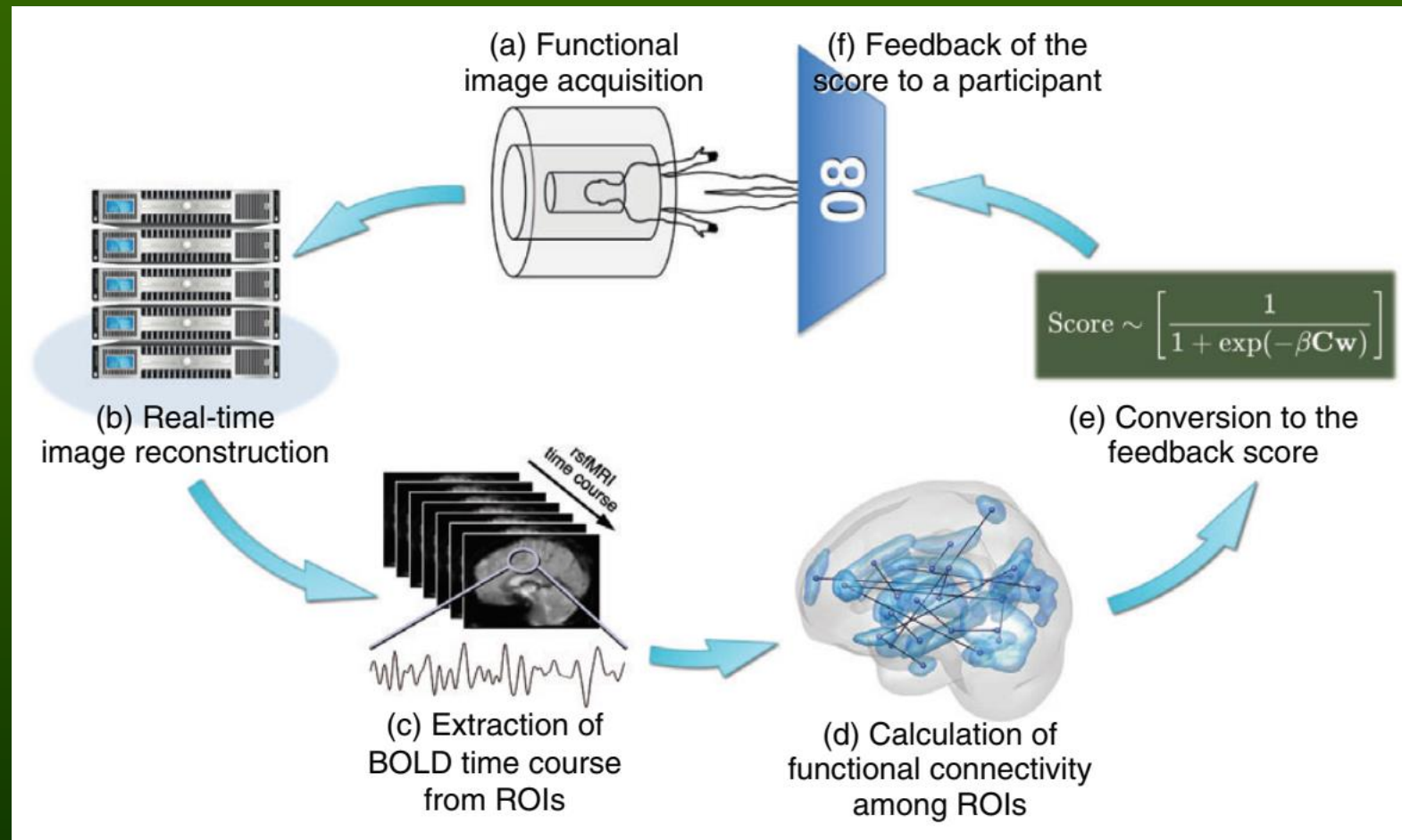


# BCBI: Brain-Computer-Brain



BCI + brain stimulation = BCBI – a closed loop through which the brain begins to restructure itself. The body can be replaced by signals in Virtual Reality.

# Will neurofeedback repair our brains?



Megumi F, Yamashita A, Kawato M, Imamizu H. Functional MRI neurofeedback training on connectivity between two regions induces long-lasting changes in intrinsic functional network. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* 2015; 9: 160.

# Brain to brain

Engagement Skills Trainer (EST), procedures for training American soldiers.

## Intific Neuro-EST

a technology that uses EEG analysis and a multi-channel transcranial stimulator (MtCS) to transfer skills between master and student, brain-to-brain.





...ing document.  
...ated version at:  
...ind.org/bci

large vessels



## rTMS

### Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

 ~30,000 patients

Noninvasive neurostimulation technique that uses a wire coil to produce a magnetic field that penetrates through the skull. The magnetic field induces small electrical currents that stimulate targeted areas of the brain under the coil.

#### Major Applications:


- Auditory hallucination
- Borderline personality disorder
- Bipolar disorder
- Major depression
- OCD
- Parkinson's
- PTSD
- Schizophrenia
- Smoking cessation
- TBI

- Noninvasive stimulation
- Many promising clinical applications in trials
- Adaptable for closed-loop applications
- Relatively mature manufacturer ecosystem
- Non-portable
- Low spatial resolution
- Physical side effects (short term)
- Requires regular clinic visits
- Small risk of induced seizure (<0.1%)



## Optogenetics

A stimulation method that can activate preselected neurons and circuits using light. Targeted cell types are genetically modified to produce light-sensitive proteins called opsins. These proteins trigger action potentials when the targeted cells are exposed to a specific wavelength of blue light.

 Not yet used in humans

#### Major Applications:

- Neural circuit research
- Reversible disease models
- Structure-function mapping
- Vision restoration

- Specific cell type targeting
- Precise, bidirectional control of neurons
- High spatial and temporal resolution
- Widely used novel research tool
- Animal research only in foreseeable future



## VNS

### Vagus Nerve Stimulation Noninvasive: tVNS or nVNS

 ~100,000 patients

Device that delivers electrical impulses to the vagus nerve via an implanted electrode or a noninvasive wearable clip or handheld device. VNS alters levels of neurotransmitters such as serotonin, norepinephrine, GABA, and glutamate (all brain chemicals that affect mood). The amount of stimulation is set by a magnetic wand by a doctor or adjusted by the patient in the case of nVNS/tVNS.

#### Major Applications:

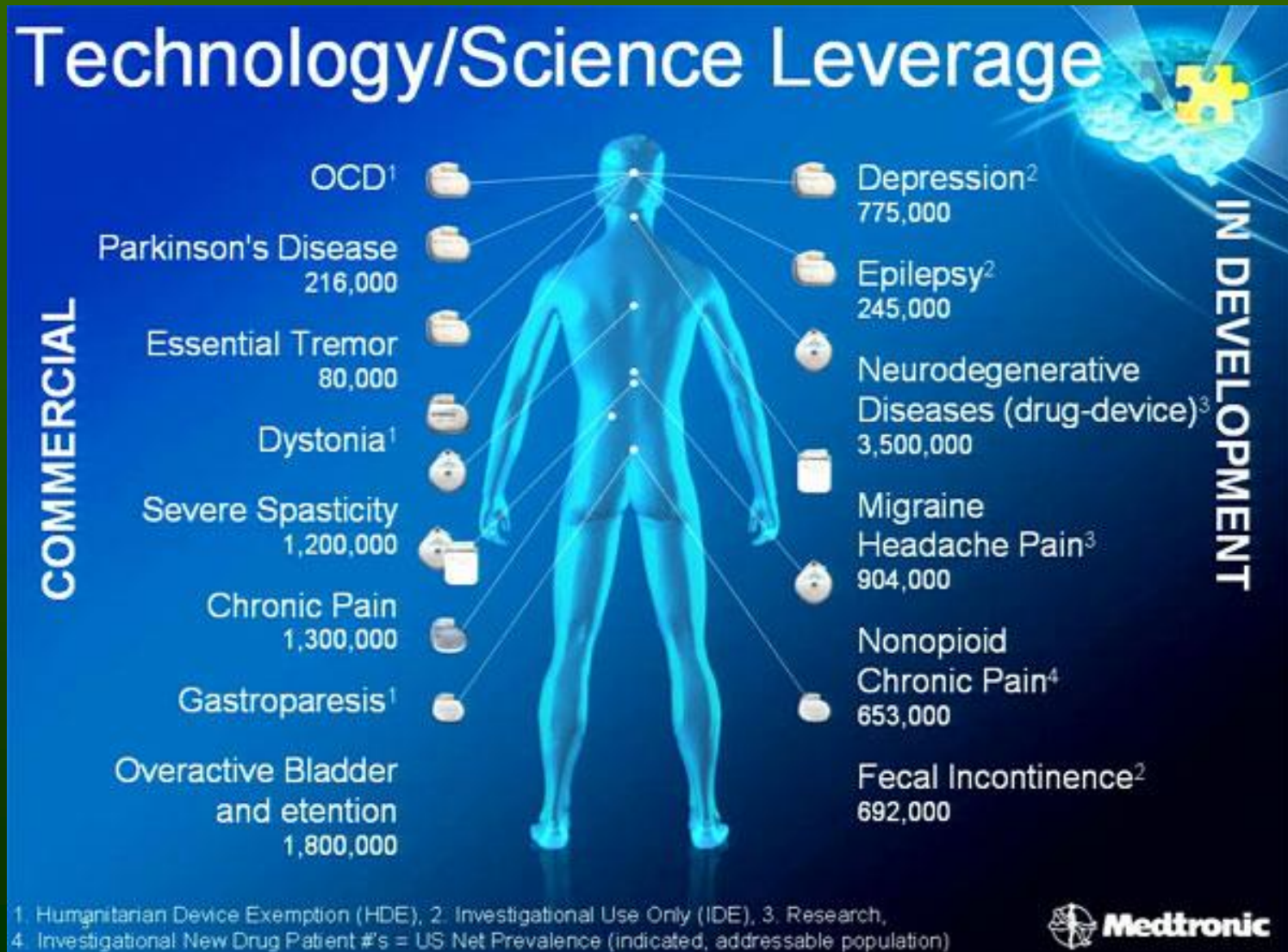
- Alzheimer's
- Cancer
- Chronic pain
- Depression
- Epilepsy
- Migraines
- Parkinson's
- PTSD
- Stroke

- Has effective noninvasive options
- Recent influx of private R&D funding
- Well tolerated side effects which are easily mitigated
- Many promising clinical applications in trials
- Infection risk during implantation of invasive VNS
- Chance of pulse generator becoming displaced

# Neuromodulation

Cochlear implants are common, deep implants stimulate brain structures, not only for deficits of perception, but to regulate cortical neural processes.

Market:  
10B\$ (2021),  
25B\$ in 2027.





## ECoG

### Electrocorticography

~100,000 patients

An invasive, high-throughput technique for measuring neuronal activity with a patch or strip of electrodes applied directly on the brain's surface. ECoG measures synchronized postsynaptic action potentials from large populations of cortical pyramidal neurons.

#### Major Applications:

- Epilepsy diagnostics
- Speech and movement synthesis from neural decoding
- Spinal cord injury
- Locked-in Syndrome
- Movement disorders

- High spatial coverage vs other implantables
- High spatial resolution
- Higher material longevity
- Less likely to produce strong immune response (does not penetrate brain tissue)
- Requires craniotomy
- Bulky wired connection and exposed cortex limits research applications
- Wireless implantable arrays only recently available



## DBS

### Deep Brain Stimulation

~200,000 patients

An invasive technique that modulates brain activity with surgically implanted electrodes embedded deep in the brain. DBS electrodes monitor neural activity and deliver electrical impulses, usually to the globus pallidus, nucleus ventralis intermedius thalami, or subthalamic nucleus.

#### Major Applications:

- Chronic pain
- Cluster headache
- Dystonia
- Epilepsy
- Essential tremor
- OCD
- Huntington's
- Major depression
- MS
- Parkinson's
- Substance Abuse
- TBI

- Many promising clinical applications in trials
- Improved electrode materials
- More surgeons familiar with implantation process
- Relatively mature manufacturer ecosystem
- Requires craniotomy
- Penetrates brain tissue
- Mental health side-effects for many
- Material longevity challenges



## Implanted Microelectrodes

Tiny electrodes (thickness under 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ) delivered via craniotomy, used in electrophysiology for recording neural signals and/or stimulating the brain.

1,000s of patients

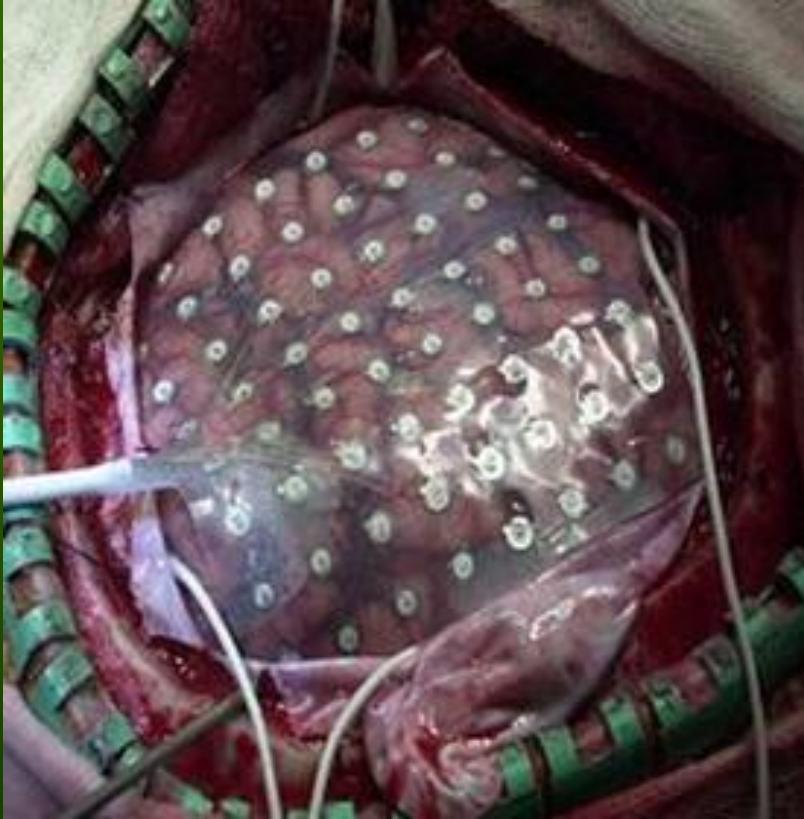
#### Major Applications:

- ALS
- Blindness/ocular injury
- Epilepsy
- Locked-in Syndrome
- Movement disorders
- OCD
- Peripheral nerve injury
- Spinal cord injury
- Stroke

**Primary somatosensory cortex**  
BCIs are used here to impact sensory function

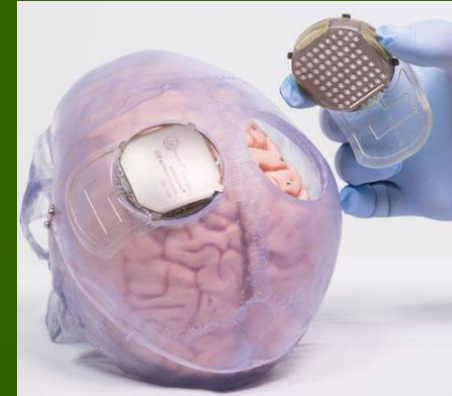
**Cingulate Cortex**  
(Posterior: Depression, consciousness, walking; Anterior: ...)

# Invasive brain computer interfaces



People with Parkinson's disease or compulsive-obsessive disorder who have pacemakers implanted in their brain can regulate their behavior with an external controller.

# Neuroprosthesis



Classical BMI: motor control.

Benabid, A. L... Chabardes, S. (2019).  
An exoskeleton controlled by an epidural  
wireless brain–machine interface in a tetraplegic  
patient: A proof-of-concept demonstration.  
*The Lancet Neurology*, 18(12), 1112–1122.

Tetraplegic man walking using a mind-controlled  
65kg exoskeleton with two brain implants that  
read and transmit information  
via the patient’s sensorimotor cortex,  
which controls motor function.

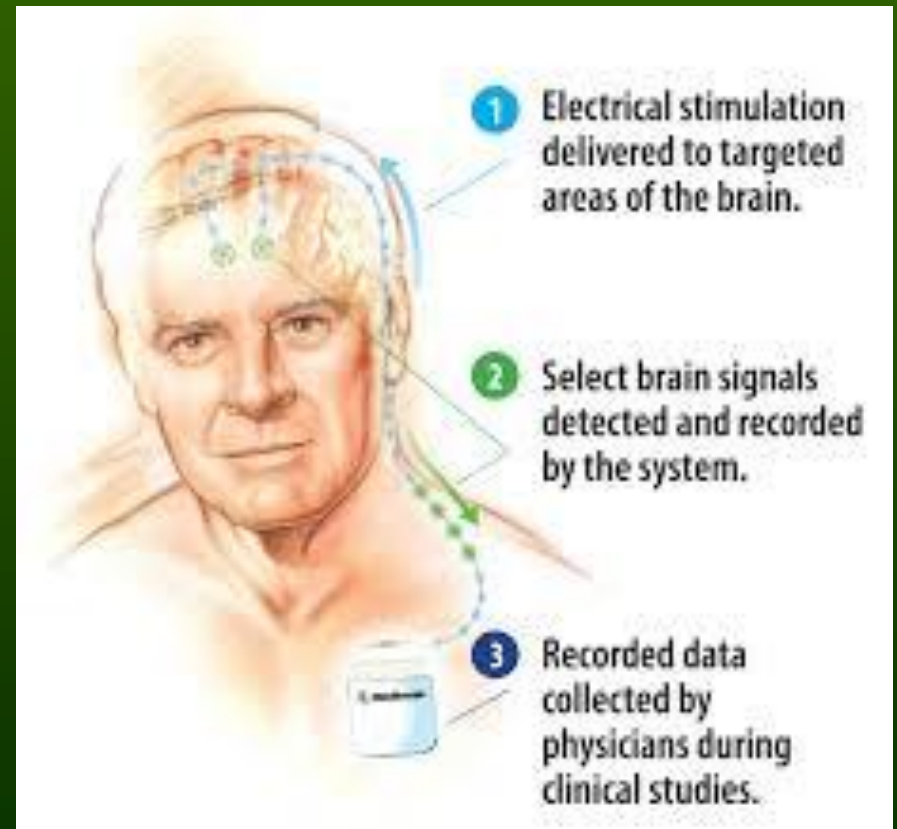
Amazon introduces neural implant for  
subconscious shopping (Some News, 12/07/22)



# Deep brain stimulation

People suffering from Parkinson's disease or compulsive-obsessive disorder who have electrodes implanted deeply in their brain can regulate their behavior with an external controller.

Let's turn up our brains ... Can I program my brain?

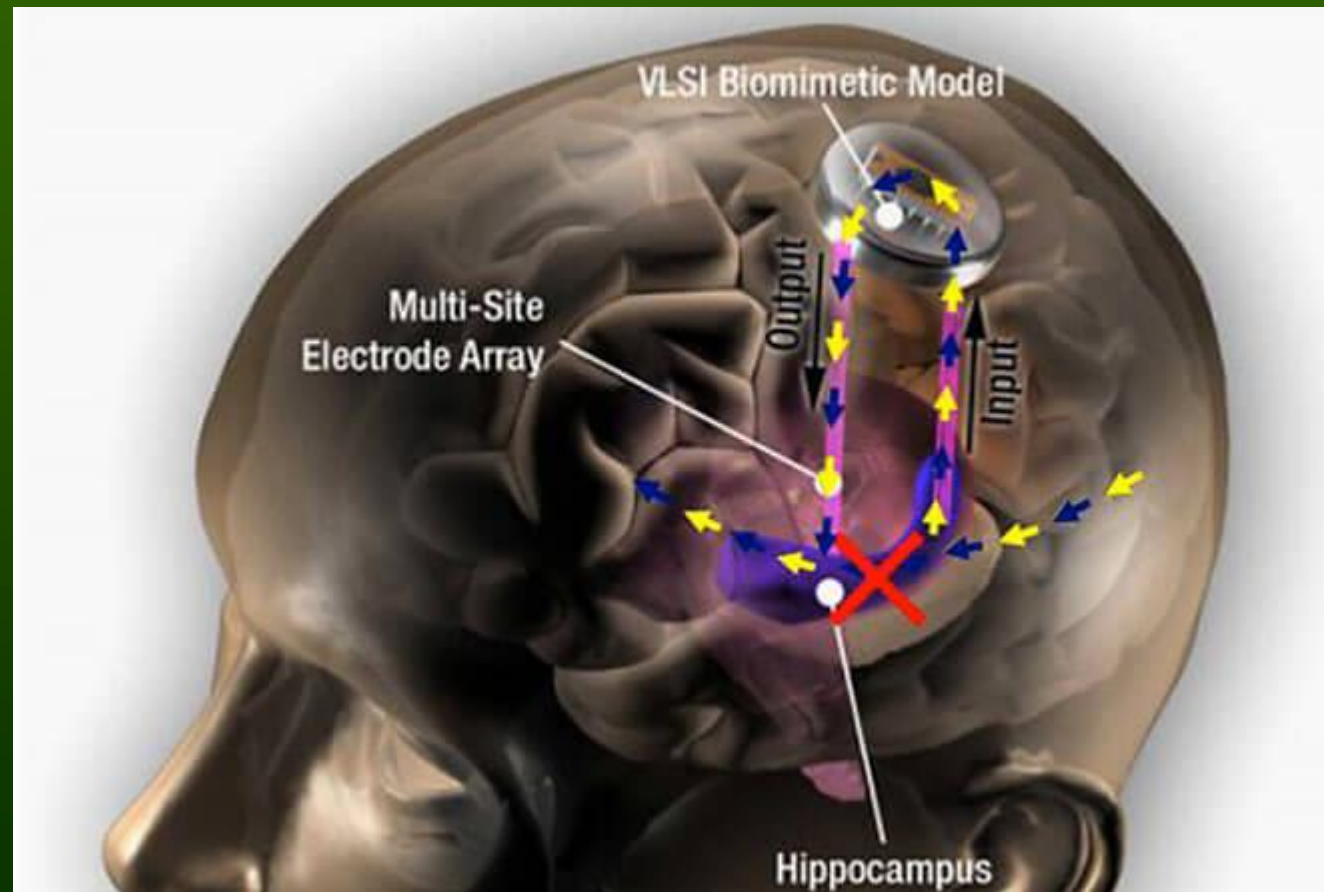


# Memory implants

Tests on rats, monkeys, and in 2017 on 20 humans gave an improvement in memory by 30% (on rats by 35%). Ted Berger (USC, [Kernel](#)) : There are good reasons to believe that the integration of memory with electronics is possible.

DARPA: Restoring Active Memory (RAM) program, for people with brain damage (TBI), should be non-invasive.

Neurofeedback + closed-loop neurostimulation.



ain tissue) available



# Implanted Microelectrodes

Tiny electrodes (thickness under 50 μm) delivered via craniotomy, used in electrophysiology for recording neural signals and/or stimulating the brain.

1,000s of patients

### Major Applications:

- ALS
- Blindness/ocular injury
- Epilepsy
- Locked-in Syndrome
- Movement disorders
- OCD
- Peripheral nerve injury
- Spinal cord injury
- Stroke

- Recent influx of private R&D funding
- High spatial resolution
- High signal/noise ratio
- Many potential prosthetics applications
- Portable
- Lower surgical risk than ECoG, DBS
- Requires craniotomy
- Penetrates brain tissue
- Low material longevity

## BRAIN STIMULATING



# EE Endovascular Electrodes

1 implanted patient in 2020

A miniature mounted electrode array that is passed intravenously into the cerebral vasculature and placed in close proximity to specific brain regions.

### Major Applications:

- Restoring voluntary motor impulses to control digital devices in patients with severe paralysis

- Can be implanted in many different locations
- Can acquire vascular ECoG signals
- >6 month biocompatibility in animal brain blood vessels
- Requires minimally invasive surgery
- Requires lifelong anticoagulant use
- Can only record from neurons adjacent to large vessels

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depression

**Area**  
(comprehension)  
target for  
guage function  
toration

**Occipital Lobe**  
(Visual function)  
BCIs used here to  
restore lost vision  
or reconstruct visual  
inputs

ness,  
, sleep,  
rity)  
this  
lepsy,



Intracortical array  
with 192 electrodes.

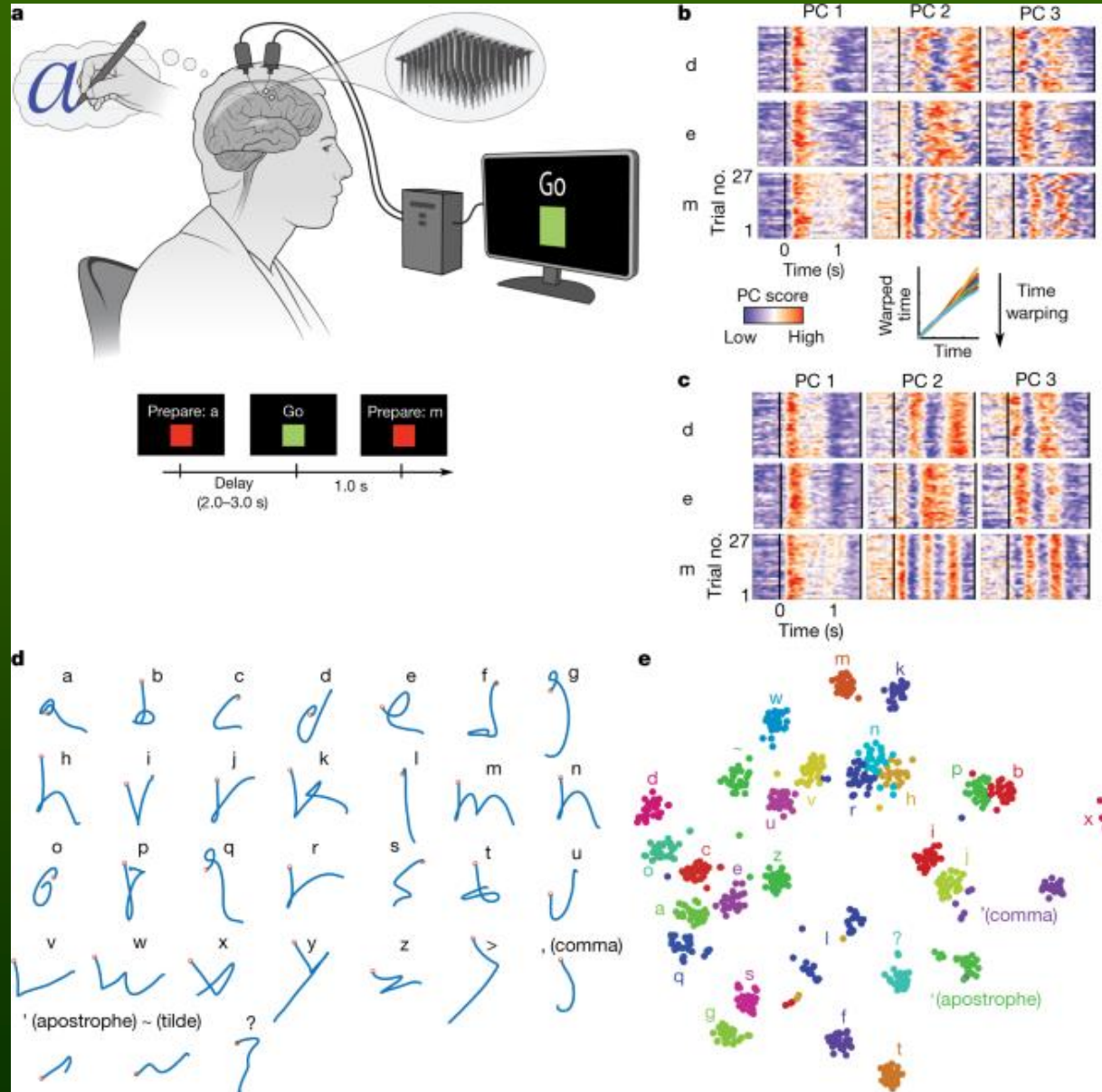
Decoded pen  
trajectories are  
shown for all  
31 characters.

Time wrapping (shift +  
scale) is essential for  
denoising.

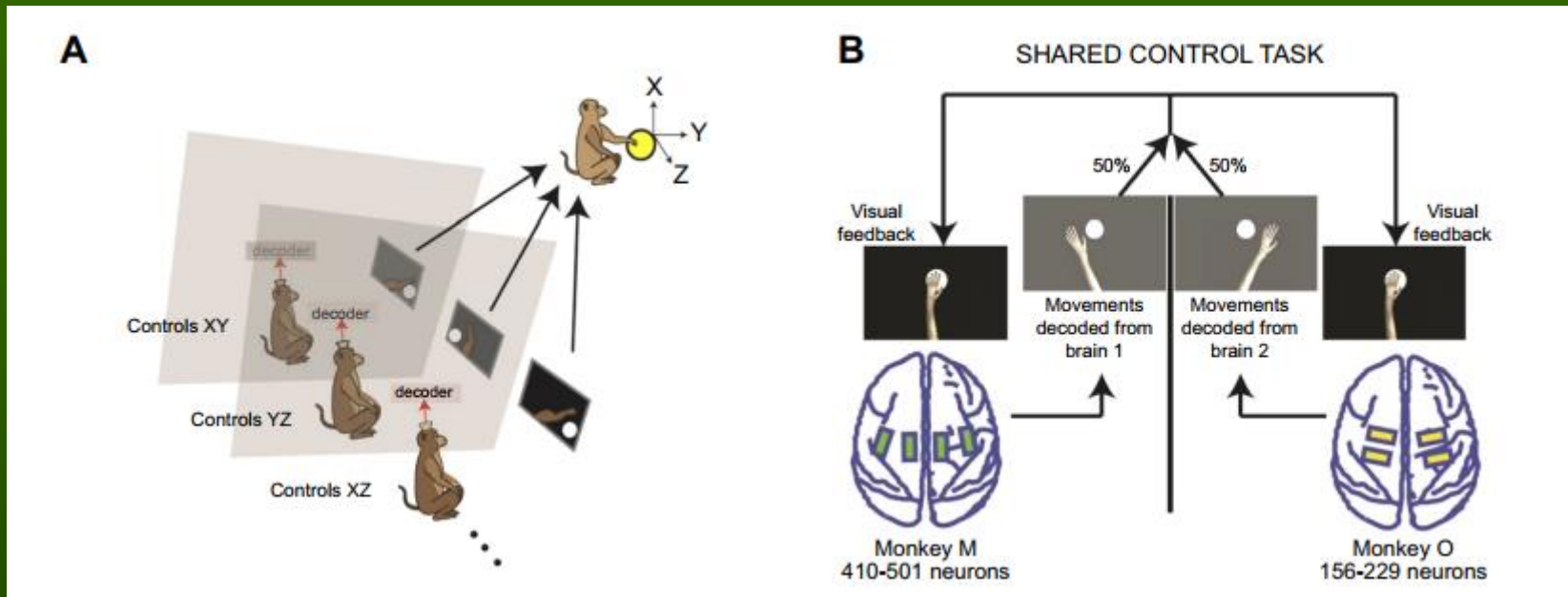
Speed: 90 char/min!

Willett, F.R. .... &  
Shenoy, K.V.(2021)  
High-performance  
brain-to-text  
communication via  
handwriting.

*Nature*, 593, 249



# Brainnets and cBCI



3 monkeys in virtual reality synchronize their brain activity!

Lebedev, M. A., & Nicolelis, M.A.L. (2017). Brain-Machine Interfaces: From Basic Science to Neuroprostheses and Neurorehabilitation. *Physiological Reviews*, 97(2), 767–837

Bhattacharyya, S., Valeriani, D., Cinel, C., Citi, L., & Poli, R. (2021). Anytime collaborative brain–computer interfaces for enhancing perceptual group decision-making. *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), Article 1.

# Neural screen

Features of the face image are analyzed and their combination remembered.

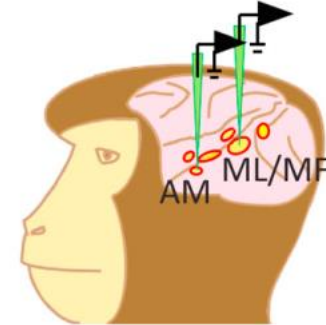
This can be decoded from brain signals if we have access to neural spikes.

It took only 205 neurons in several visual cortex areas to reproduce images of the faces from spikes.

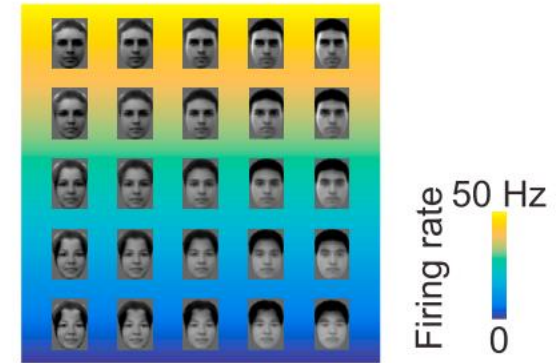
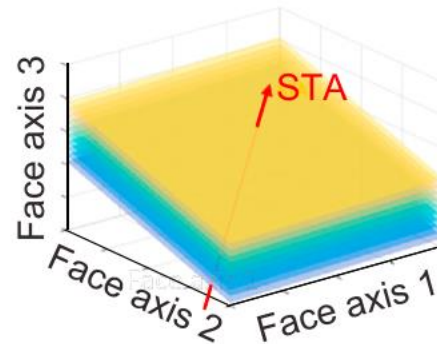
L. Chang and D.Y. Tsao, **“The code for facial identity in the primate brain”** *Cell* 2017

Voice, and even thoughts can be read in a similar way.

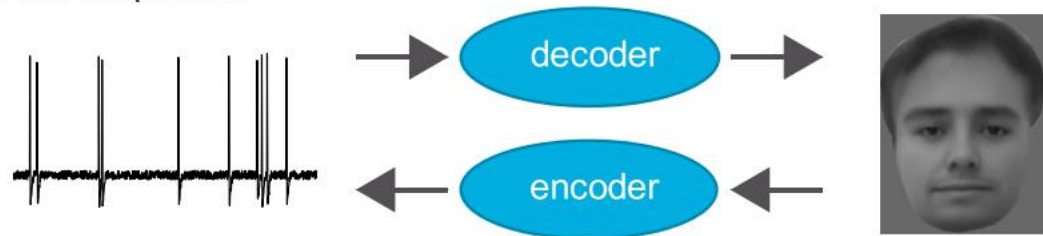
1. We recorded responses to parameterized faces from macaque face patches



2. We found that single cells are tuned to single face axes, and are blind to changes orthogonal to this axis

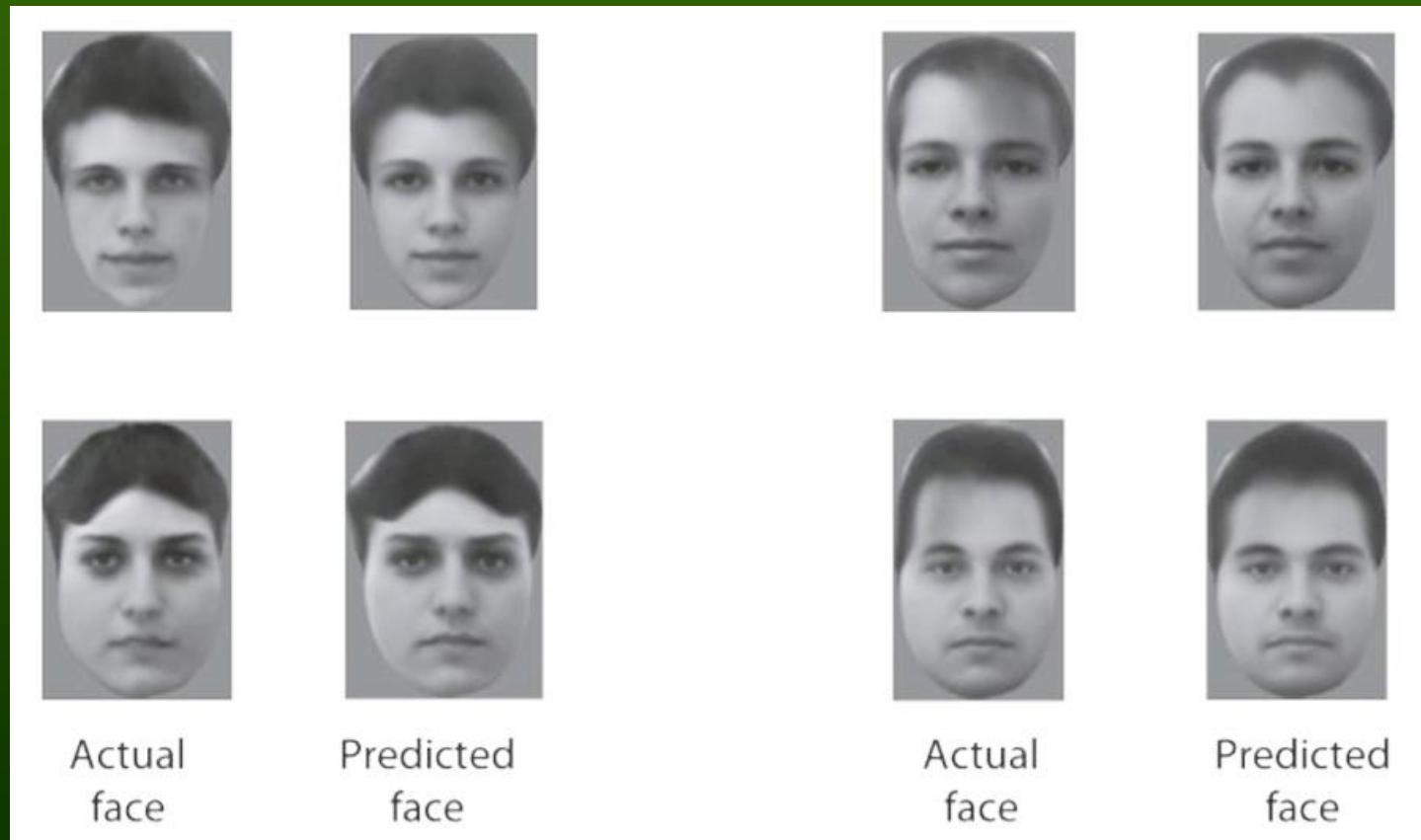


3. We found that an axis model allows precise encoding and decoding of neural responses



# Mental images

The image of the face is encoded using a simple neural code that is based on the ability of neurons to distinguish facial features along specific axes in the facial features space.



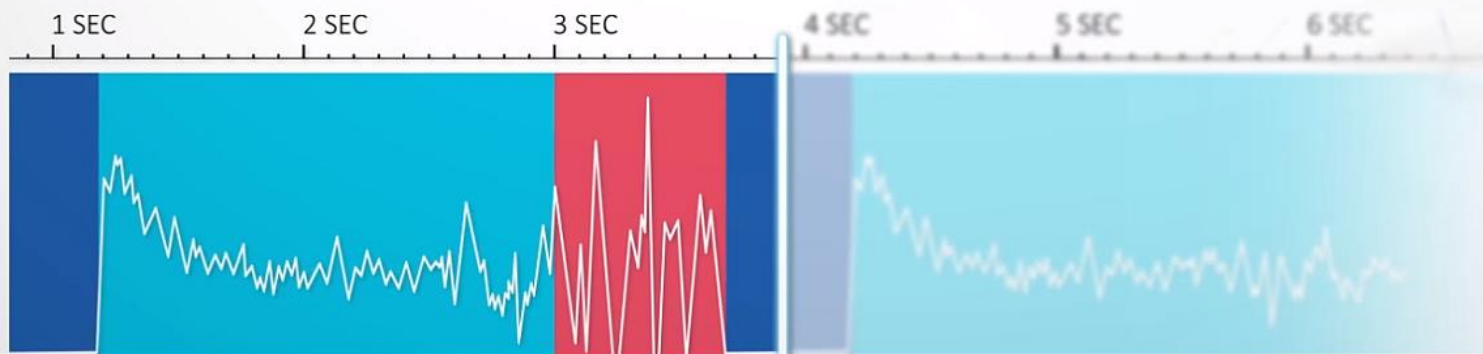
# Epilepsy

## The RNS<sup>®</sup> System

Monitors brainwaves

Detects unusual activity

Responds in real time



The neurostimulator and detector stops attacks of drug-resistant epilepsy before cramps occur. About 1% of people in the world have epilepsy.

# A million nanowires in the brain?

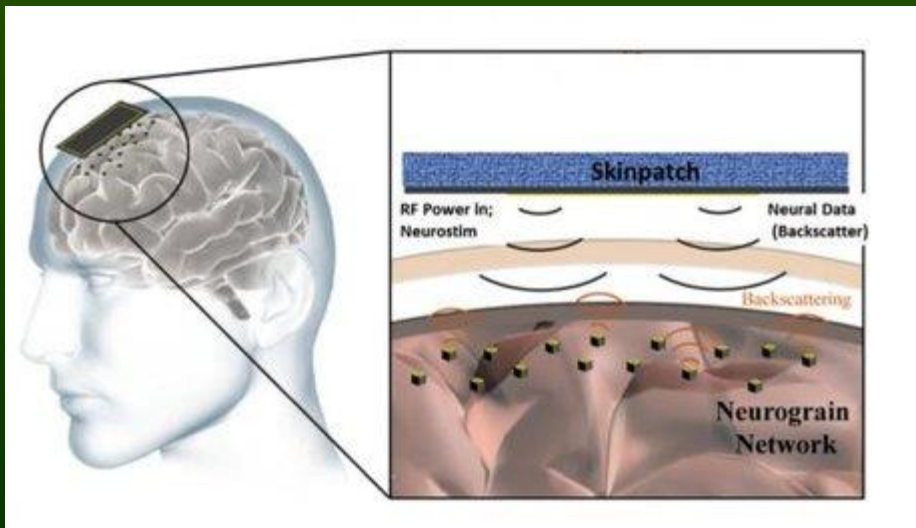
DARPA initiative: **Neural Engineering System Design (NESD)** and other projects.

An interface that reads the impulses of  $10^6$  neurons, stimulates  $10^5$  neurons, simultaneously reads and stimulates  $10^3$  neurons.

DARPA awarded grants to research groups for projects under the program Electrical Prescriptions (ElectRx), whose aim is to develop BCBI systems modulating the activity of peripheral nerves for therapeutic purposes.

Neural dust – microscopic wireless sensors in the brain.

Elon Musk and the much-heralded technology neuralink (neural lace).



neural  
lace  
*ultra-thin*  
mesh

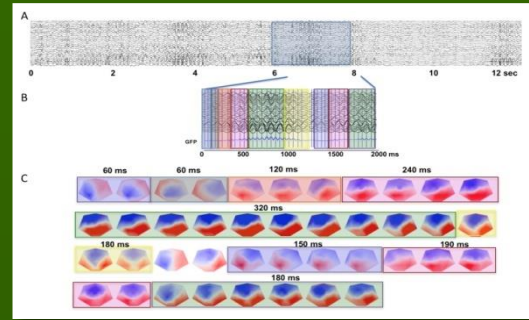


# Understanding the brain

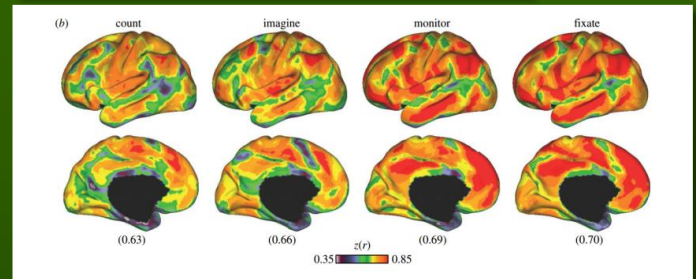
# Brain fingerprinting

- Find unique patterns of brain activity to identify:
  - brain regions of interest (ROI)
  - active neural networks
  - mental states, tasks, processes.
- **Several approaches:**
  1. Microstates and their transitions (Michel & Koenig 2018)
  2. Reconfigurable task-dependent modes (Krienen et al. 2014)
  3. Contextual Connectivity (Ciric et al. 2018)
  4. Spectral Fingerprints (Keitel & Gross 2016)
  5. fMRI networks (Yuan ... Bodurka, 2015).
  6. Recurrence quantification analysis.
- + many more approaches...

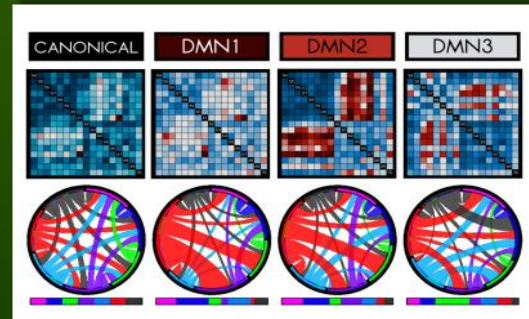
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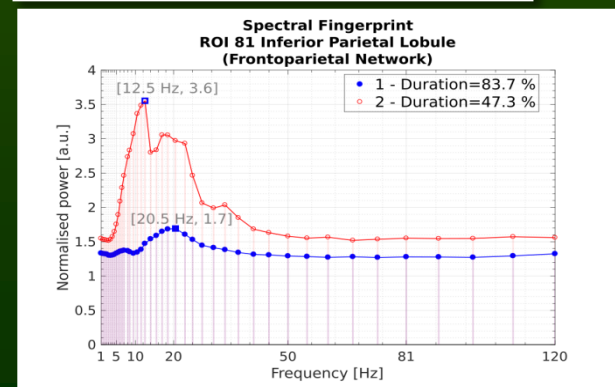
2



3

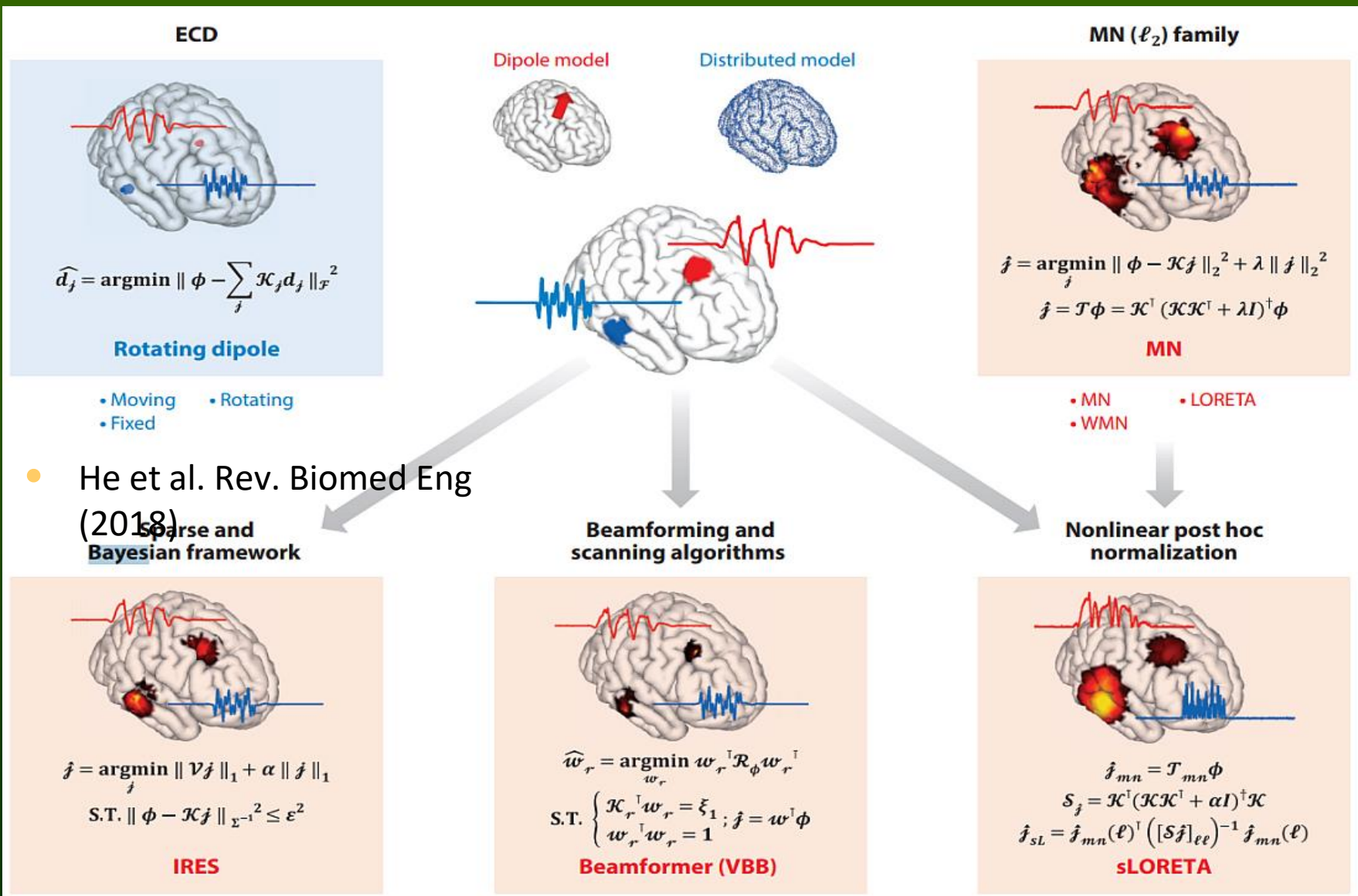


4





# EEG localization and reconstruction



# Spatial filters

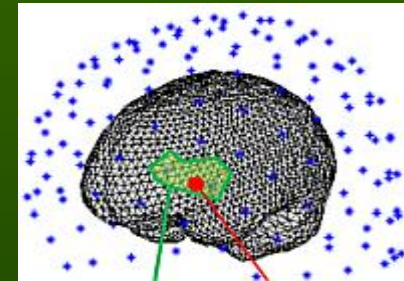
- LCMV (Linearly Constrained Minimum Variance), classical reconstruction filter is a solution to the following problem:  
 $K$  - lead-field matrix;  $\theta$  - dipole positions,  $j$  - activations;  $W$  - spatial filter, leadfiled

$$\Phi = K(\theta)j + n, j \approx W\Phi, WK(\vartheta) \approx I$$

- LCMV has large error if:
  - sources are correlated,
  - signal to noise ratio (SNR) is low, or
  - forward problem is ill-conditioned.
- Minimum variance pseudo-unbiased reduced-rank, MV-PURE:  
 T. Piotrowski, I. Yamada, IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing **56**, 3408-3423, 2008

$$W = \bigcap_{j \in \Upsilon} \arg \min_{\hat{W} \in X_r} \left\| \hat{W}K(\theta) - I_l \right\|_j^2$$

where  $X_r$  is a set of all matrices of rank at most  $r$ , and set  $\Upsilon$  denotes all unitary norms. We use 15000 vertex FreeSurfer brain tessellation together with brain atlases that provide parcellation of the mesh elements into 100-240 cortical patches (ROIs).



# SupFunSim

- SupFunSim: our library/Matlab /toolbox, direct models for EEG/MEG, [on GitHub](#).
- Provides many spatial filters for reconstruction of EEG sources: linearly constrained minimum-variance (LCMV), eigenspace LCMV, nulling (NL), minimum-variance pseudo-unbiased reduced-rank (MV-PURE) ...
- Source-level directed connectivity analysis: partial directed coherence (PDC), directed transfer function (DTF) measures.
- Works with FieldTrip EEG/ MEG software. Modular, object-oriented, using Jupyter notes, allowing for comments and equations in LaTeX.

$$A := H_{Src,R} := R^{-1/2} H \quad (34)$$

$$B := H_{Src,N} := N^{-1/2} H \quad (35)$$

```
1 %%file calculate_H_Src.m
2 function model = calculate_H_Src(MODEL)
3     model = MODEL;
4
5     model.H_Src_R = pinv(sqrtm(model.R)) * model.H_Src;
6     model.H_Src_N = pinv(sqrtm(model.N)) * model.H_Src;
7 end
```

- K. Rykaczewski, J. Nikadon, W. Duch, T. Piotrowski, *Neuroinformatics* **19**, 107-125, 2021.

# Understanding brains: ERP

What do brain signals tell us?

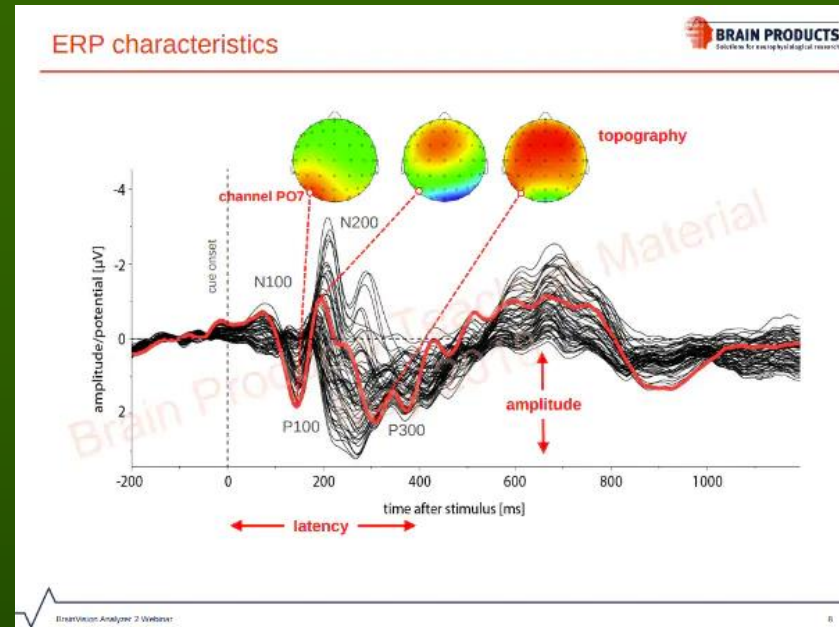
Evoked potentials:

- Visual evoked potential VEP, SSVEP
- Auditory evoked potential AEP
- Somatosensory evoked potential SEP
- Motor evoked potentials MEP

Event-Related Potentials, higher cognitive processing.

ERP – most popular, average of many trials.

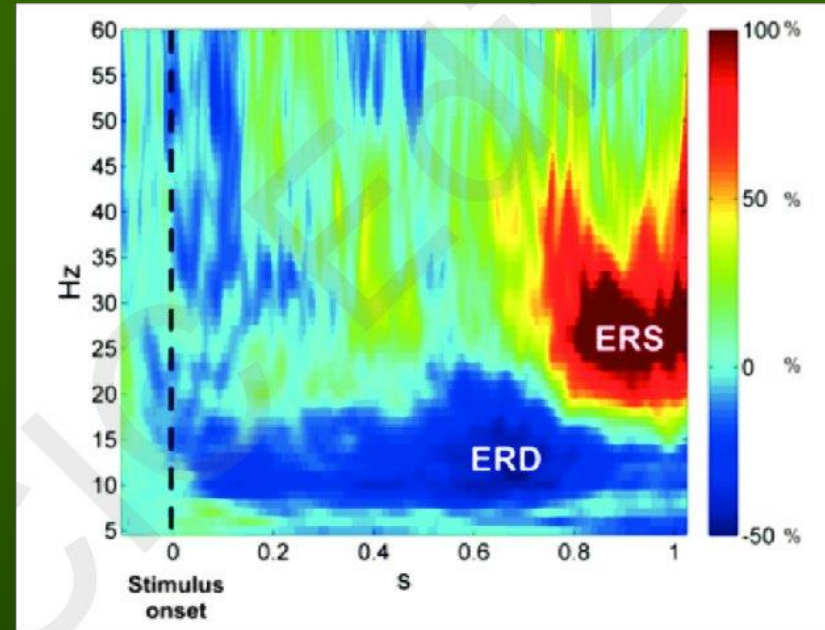
- Negativity: N100 • Visual N1 • N170 • N200 • N2pc • N400
- Positivity: P200 • P300 • P3a • P3b • Late positive component • P600
- Contingent negative variation (CNV), Error-related negativity (ERN)
- Mismatch Negativity (MMN), Centro-parietal positivity (CPP)



# Understanding brains: ERS/ERD

Event-Related Synchronization (ERS) and Desynchronization (ERD).

- bandpass filtering of each trial, averaging over trials and sample points.
- Sensory, cognitive and motor processing can result in changes of the ongoing EEG in form of ERD or ERS.
- Both phenomena are time-locked but not phase-locked to the event and they are highly frequency-band specific.
- The ERD is correlated with activated cortical area with increased excitability and the ERS in the alpha and lower beta bands can be interpreted, at least under certain circumstances, as a correlate of a deactivated cortical area.
- Spatial mapping of ERD/ERS can be used to study the dynamics of cortical activation patterns. Examples from a movement task are reported.



# Understanding brains: microstates

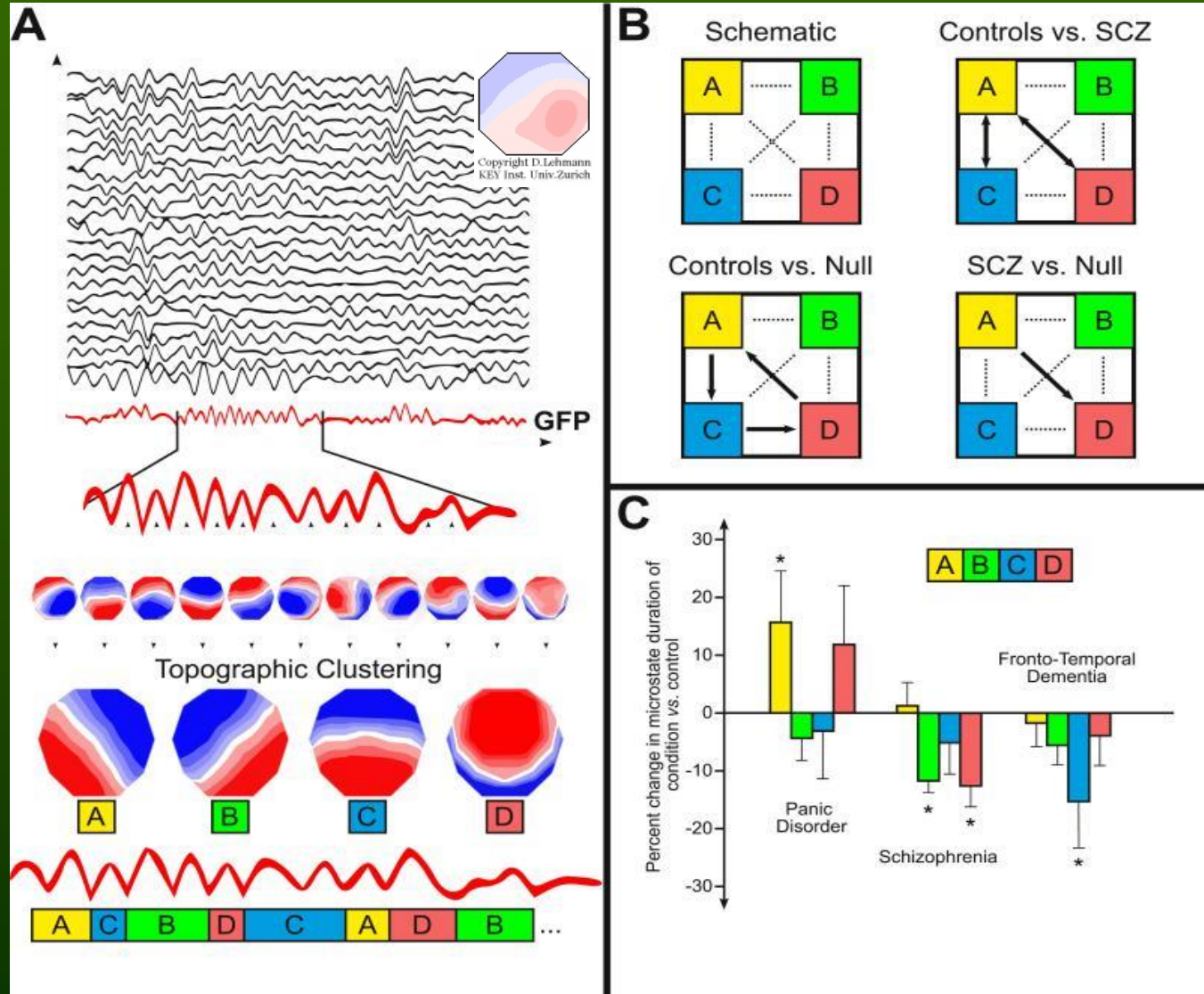
Global EEG Power.  
4-7 states, 60-150 ms.

Khanna et al. (2015)  
Microstates in  
Resting-State EEG.  
*Neuroscience and  
Biobehavioral  
Reviews.*

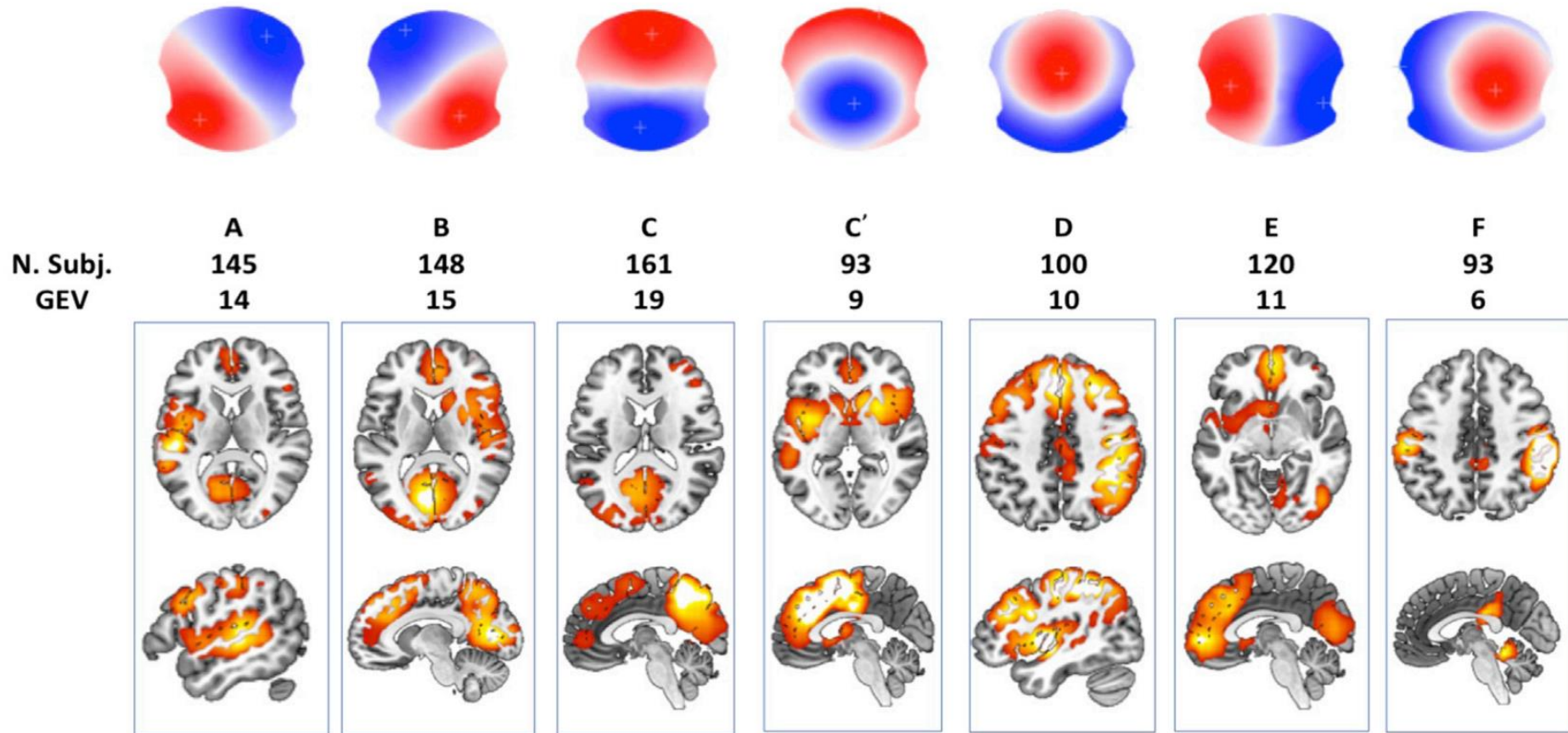
**Symbolic dynamics:**  
statistics of A-D  
symbol strings. Fuzzy  
Symbolic Dynamics  
(FSD) + visualizations.

Duch W, Doboşz K.  
(2011). *Cognitive  
Neurodynamics* 5, 145

Doboşz K, Duch W.  
(2010). *Neural Networks*,  
23(4), 487–496.



# Microstates and their sources

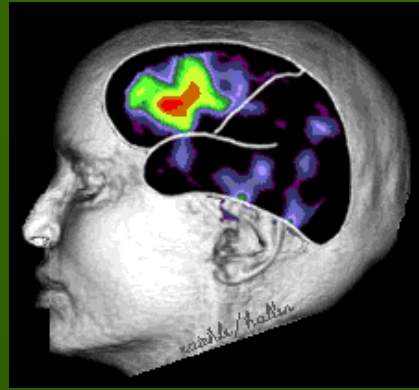


Michel, C. M., & Koenig, T. (2018). EEG microstates as a tool for studying the temporal dynamics of whole-brain neuronal networks: A review. *NeuroImage*, 180, 577–593.





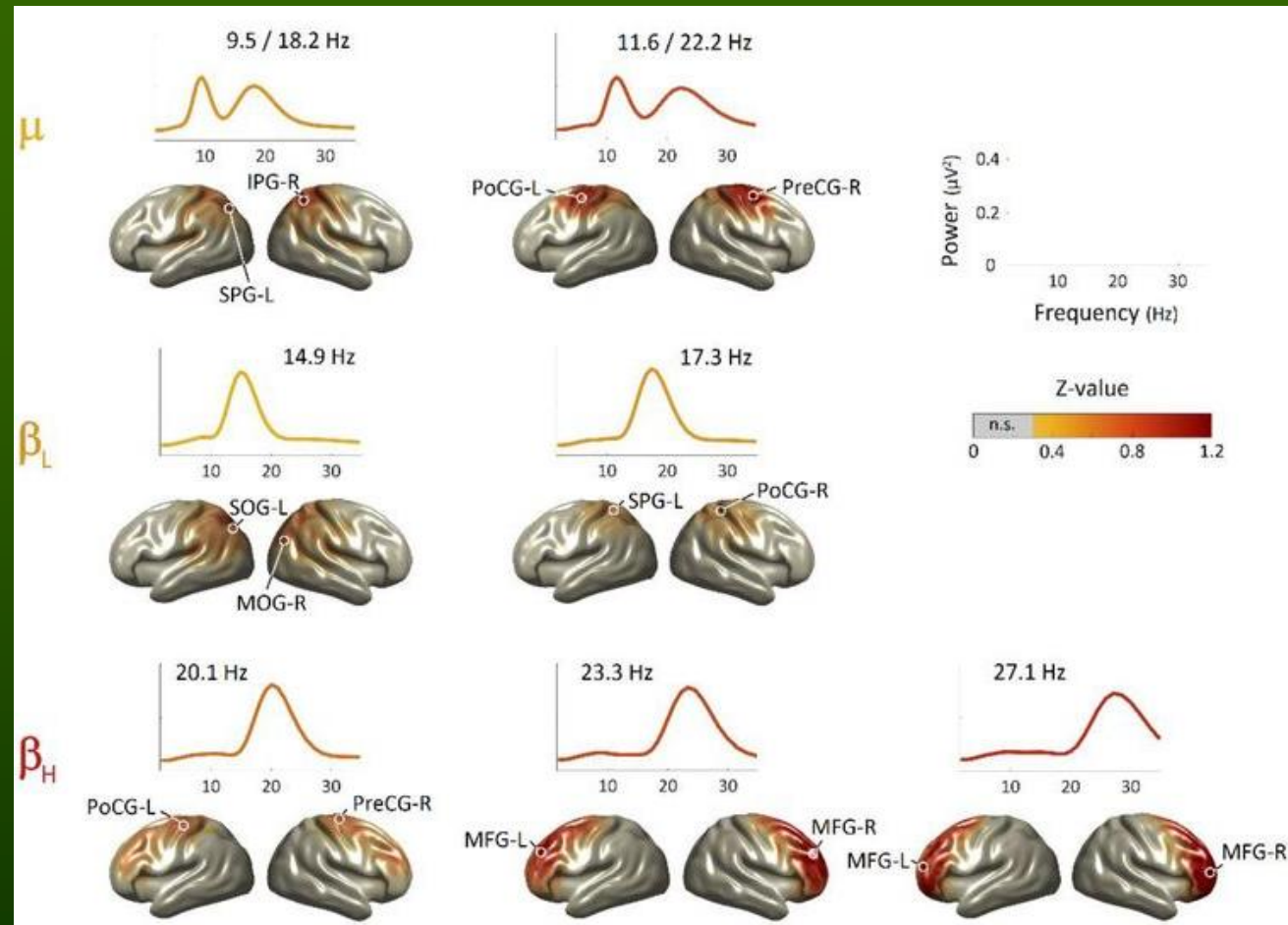




# EEG and neurodynamics

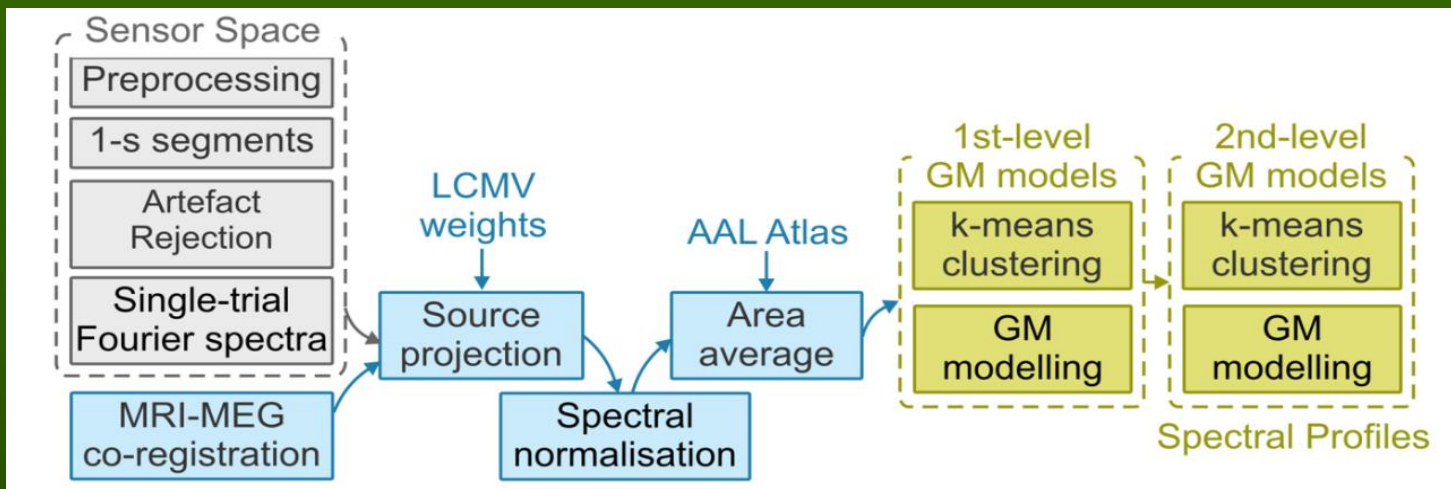
# Atlas of the natural frequencies, resting brain

Peak frequencies in selected brain areas observed using MEG in the resting brain.



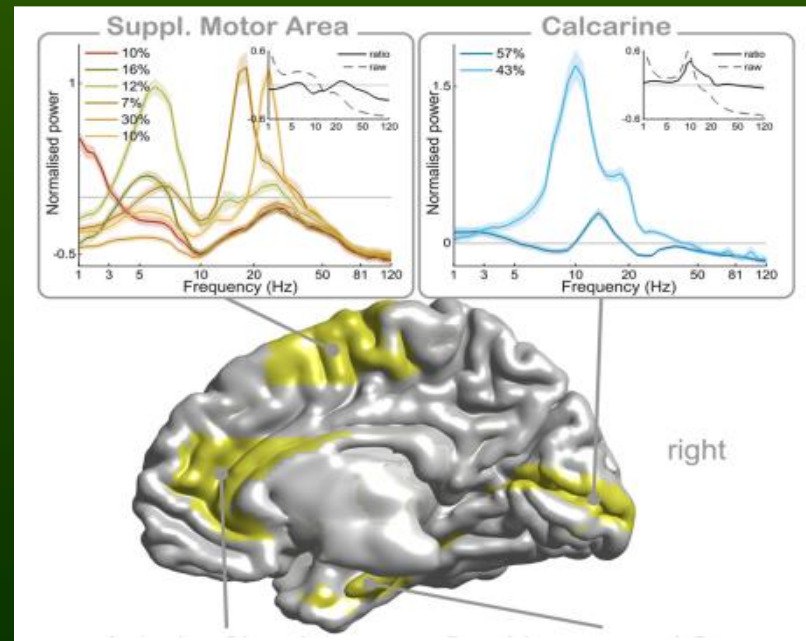
Capilla, A., Arana, L., García-Huésca, M., Melcón, M., Gross, J., & Campo, P. (2021). *The natural frequencies of the resting human brain: An MEG-based atlas*. BioRxiv 2021 11.17.468973

# Spectral analysis

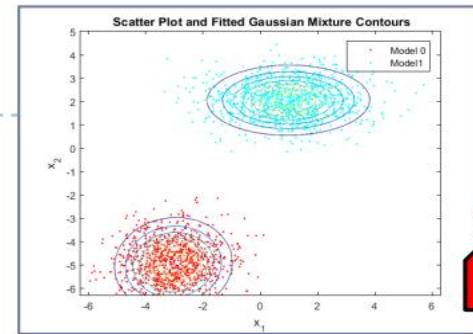
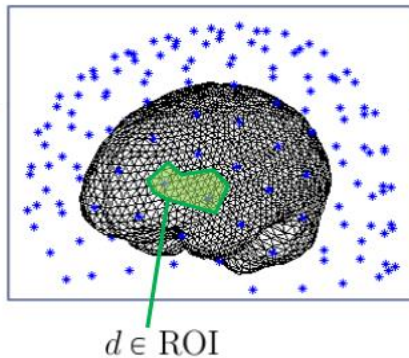


Create spectral fingerprints of ROIs.

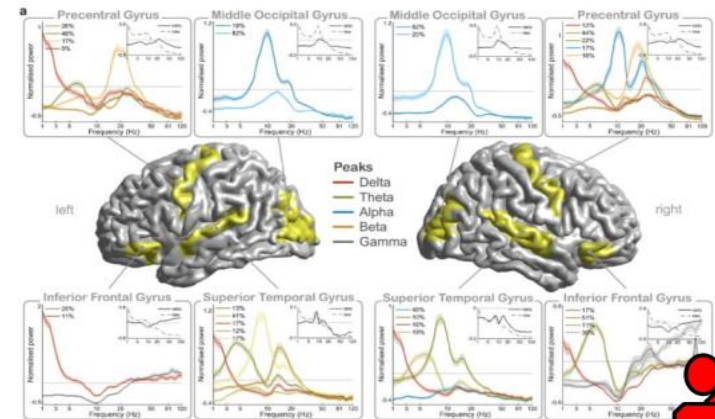
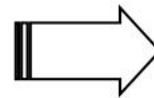
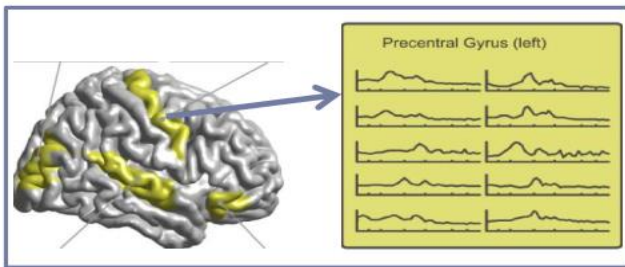
- Analyze EEG/MEG power spectra in 1 sec time windows; project them to the source space of ROIs based on brain atlas; clusterize individual/group to create spectra.
- A. Keitel & J. Gross. Individual human brain areas can be identified from their characteristic spectral activation fingerprints. *PLoS Biol* 14, e1002498, 2016



# Spectral fingerprints



Single subject



5

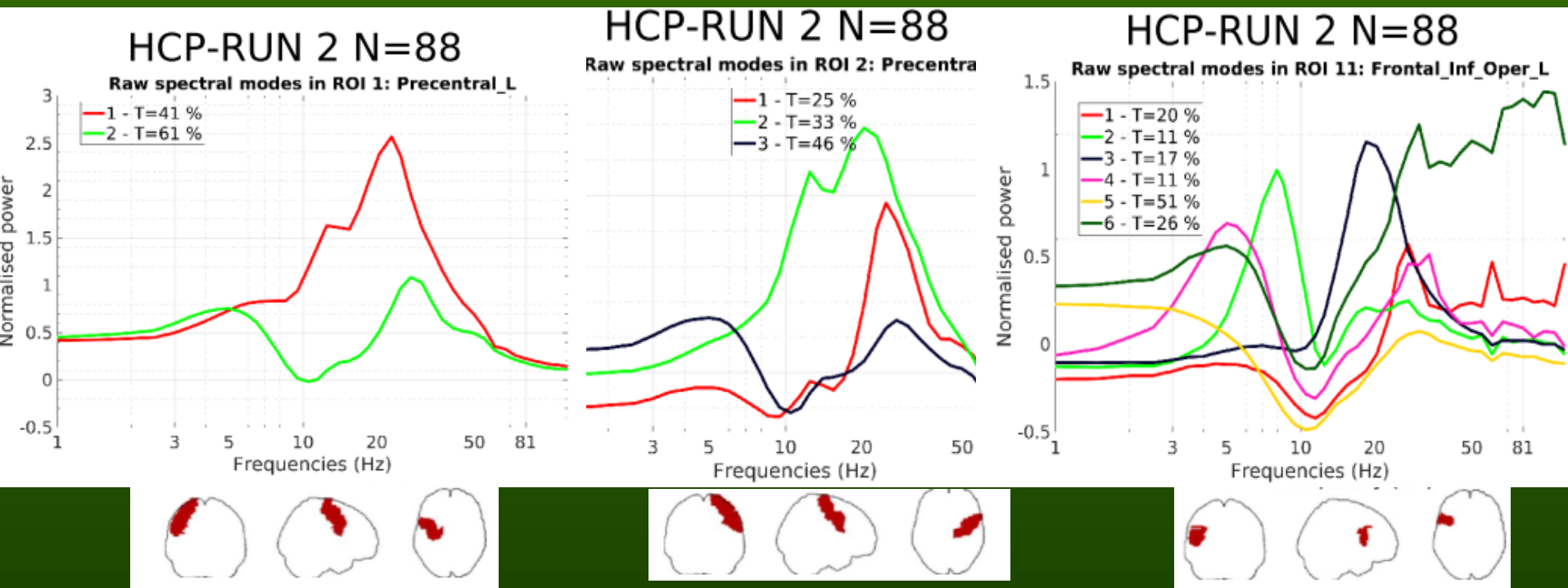
\* Pictures from Keitel & Gross 2016 and Fieldtrip beamforming tutorial

Group model

One ROI, two or more spectra. Static picture showing natural frequencies.

A. Keitel, J. Gross, „Individual human brain areas can be identified from their characteristic spectral activation fingerprints”, *PLoS Biol* 14(6), e1002498, 2016

# Spectral fingerprints



- Example of spectra showing modes of oscillation characteristic to precentral left and right gyrus, and much more complex opercular part of inferior frontal gyrus. MEG data from the Human Connectome Project (HCP).

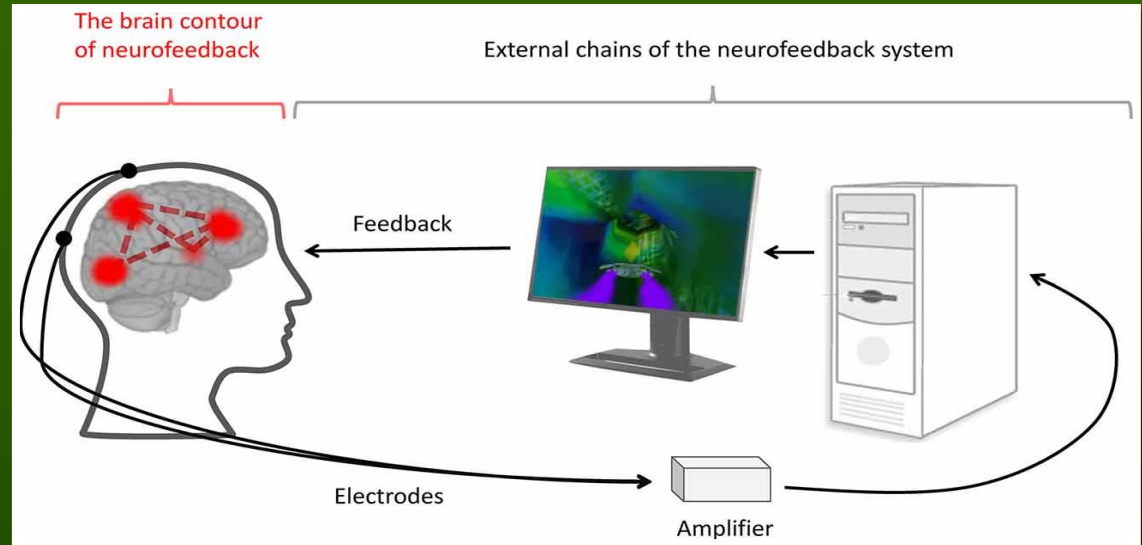
# Spectral Fingerprint Challenges



Michał Komorowski

Method was tested for MEG resting-state data, will it work for EEG recordings?

M.K. Komorowski, K. ... W. Duch (2022)  
ToFFi - Toolbox for Frequency-based Fingerprinting of Brain Signals. Neurocomputing (revised + Arxiv).



Source: O. R. Dobrushina et al. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* 14, 2020

- Can we extract features that will be useful as biomarkers for brain disorders?
  - Can we do it in real time for neurofeedback applications?
- Are linear constraint minimum variance filters (LCMV) sufficient for signal reconstruction?

# Spectral fingerprints of cognitive processes

Decompose neurodynamics.  
Find subnetworks binding ROIs at specific frequencies.  
Oscillations can rapidly change, one ROI is engaged in different subnetworks for short time periods. This is reflected very crudely in microstates, recurrence plots show more precise information.

Siegel, M., Donner, T. H., & Engel, A. K. (2012). Spectral fingerprints of large-scale neuronal interactions. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, 13(2), 121–134.

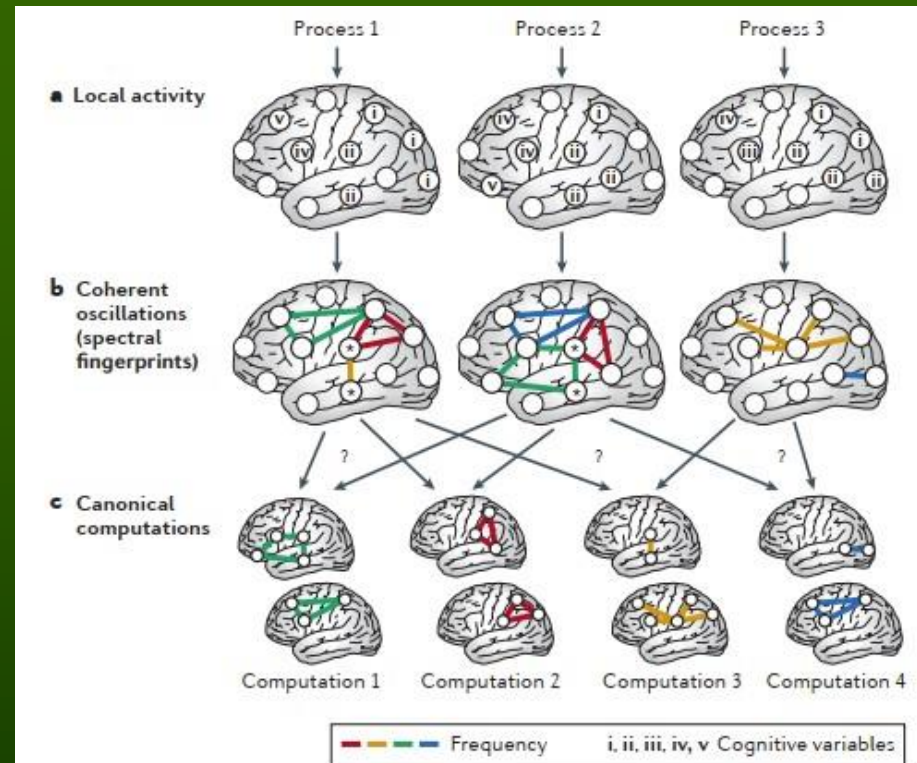


Figure 4 | Large-scale spectral fingerprints of cognitive processes. Schematic illustration of how coherent oscillations provide 'spectral fingerprints' for regrouping of cognitive processes 1–3. **a** | Studies of neuronal activity in individual brain regions (circles) elucidate the activation of different regions (bold circles) and the encoding of various cognitive variables (Roman numerals) during different cognitive processes. Several cognitive variables (for example, different sensory features) are simultaneously encoded in each region, but for simplicity only one variable is depicted per region. Note that the pattern of local activity and encoding can be similar between processes. **b** | Coherent oscillations allow for the characterization of the interactions between different brain regions (coloured lines) during different cognitive processes. The frequency of these oscillations (indicated by the colours) allows the corresponding network



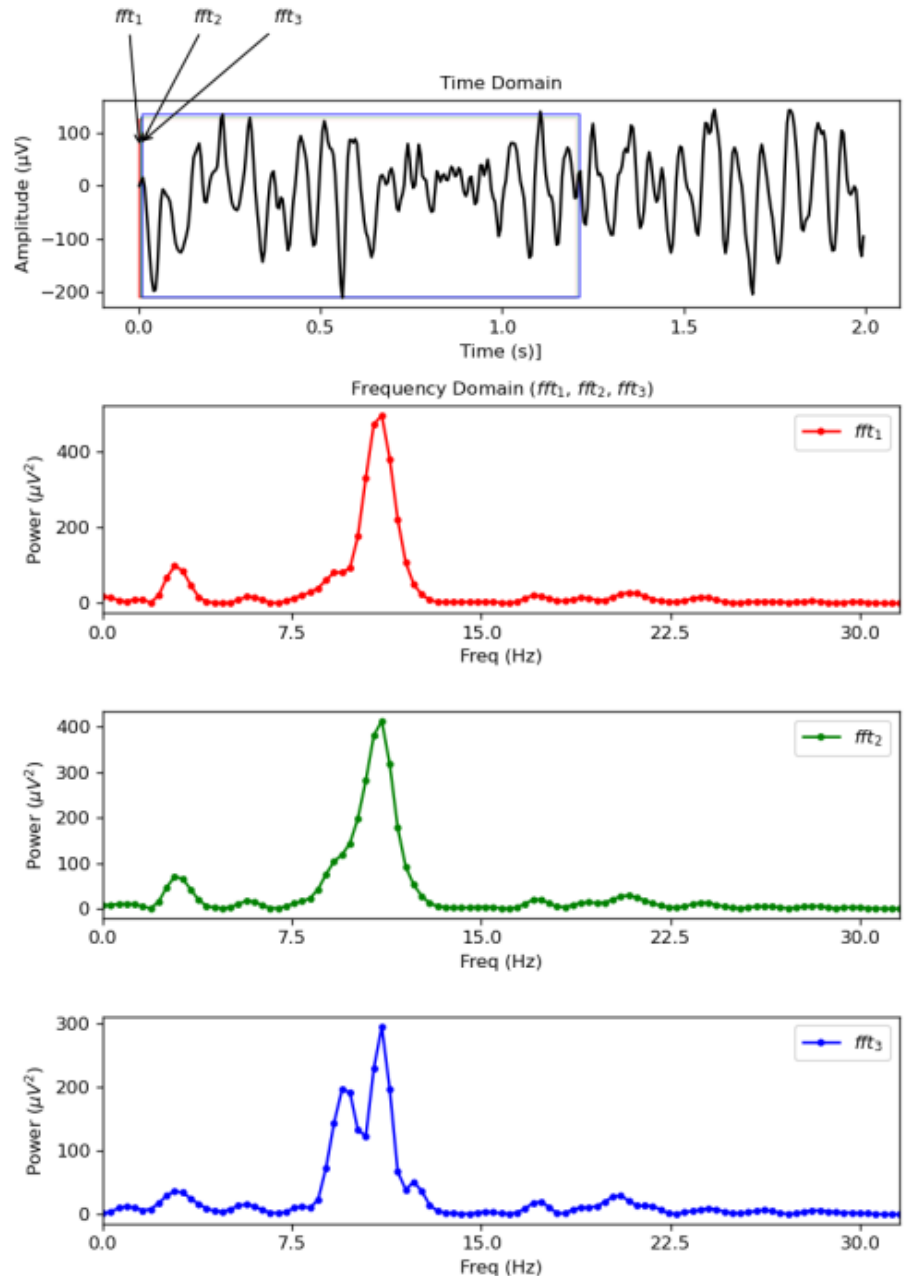
# Recurrence analysis

# STFT vs. embedding

Takens theorem: attractors are recreated from signals sampled using time-delay embedding, vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i = (u_i, u_{i+\tau}, \dots, u_{i+(m-1)\tau\Delta t})$ . Here  $m$  is the embedding dimension, and  $\tau$  is an index enumerating time delays,  $\tau\Delta t$ .

Alternative representation: STFT, shows power distribution in subsequent time windows. Here changes of spectrum every 100 ms, O1 electrode.

W. Duch, Ł. Furman, K. Tołpa, L. Minati, Short-Time Fourier Transform and Embedding Method for Recurrence Quantification Analysis of EEG Time Series. The European Physical Journal Special Topics (in print).



# Time/frequency spectrograms & RPs

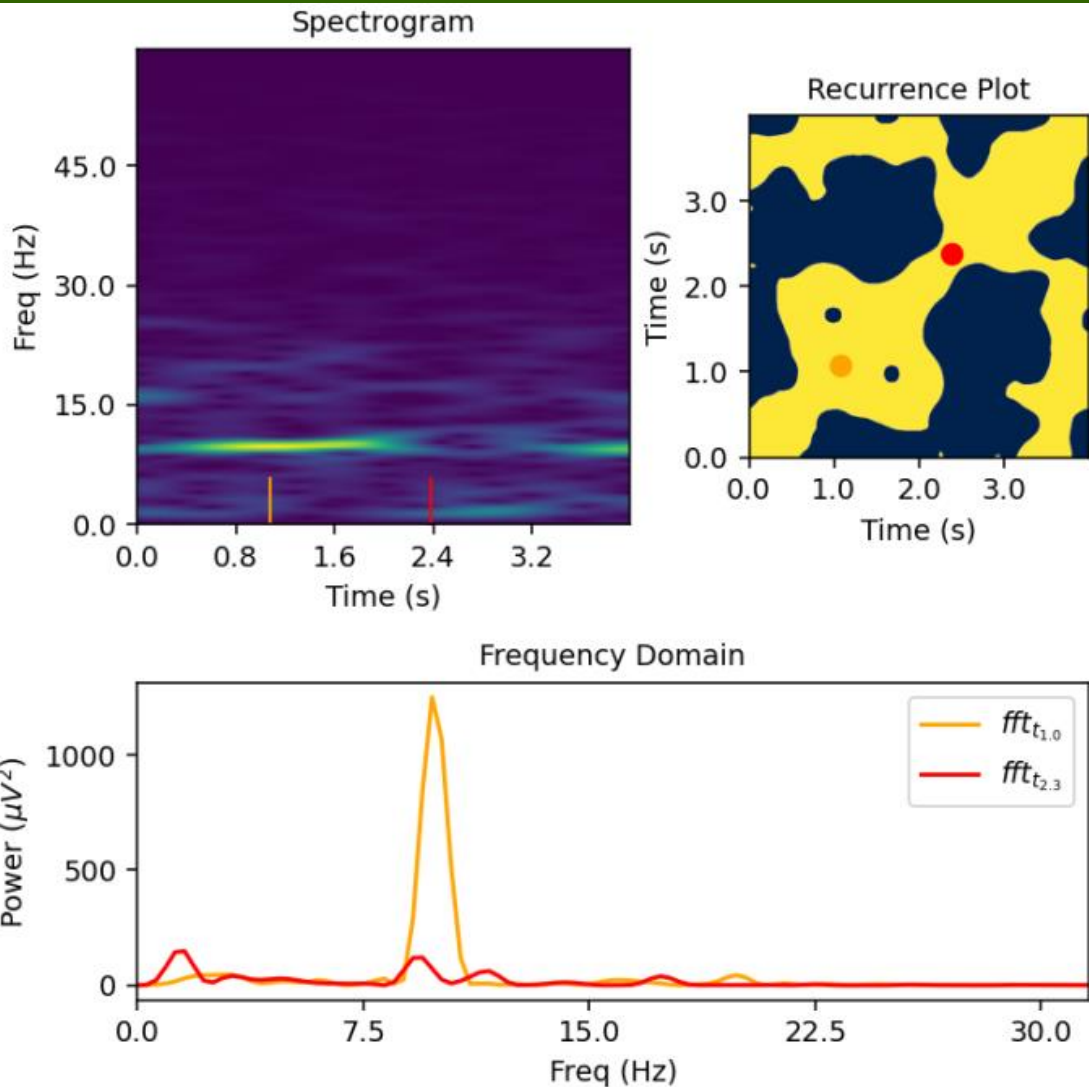
Information in t/f spectrograms is represented in recurrence plots, that can be analyzed using RQA, recurrence quantification analysis to extract non-linear features characterizing dynamics, see

[recurrence-plot.tk](http://recurrence-plot.tk)

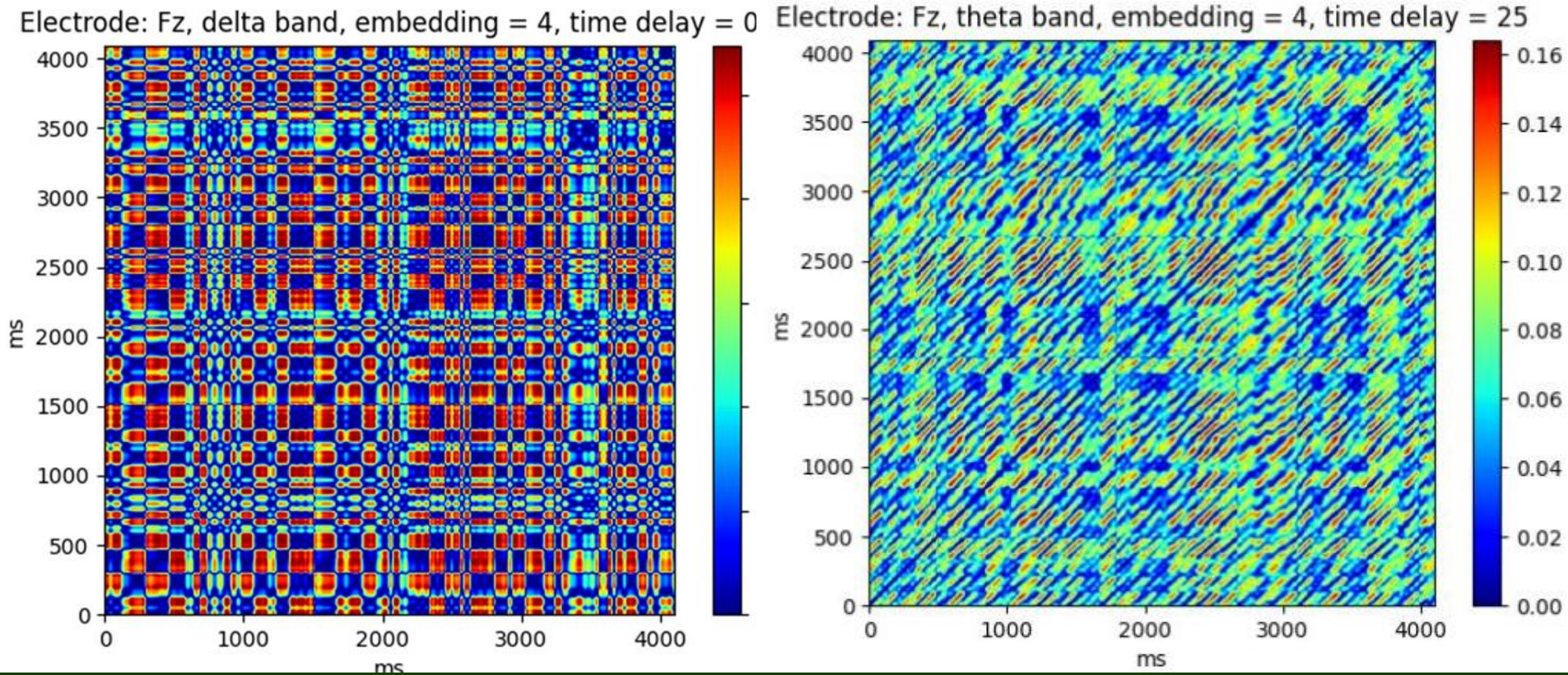
Pipelines: raw signal to X (emb) or Y (STFT) to recurrence matrix to non-linear features.

$U \Rightarrow X \Rightarrow RX \Rightarrow FX$

$U \Rightarrow Y \Rightarrow RS \Rightarrow FS.$



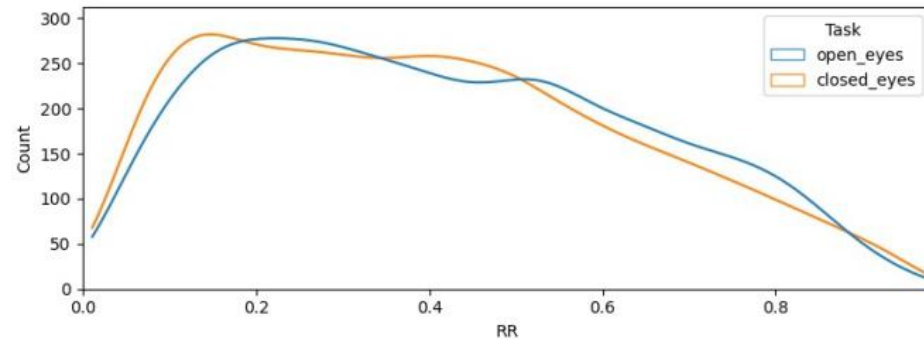
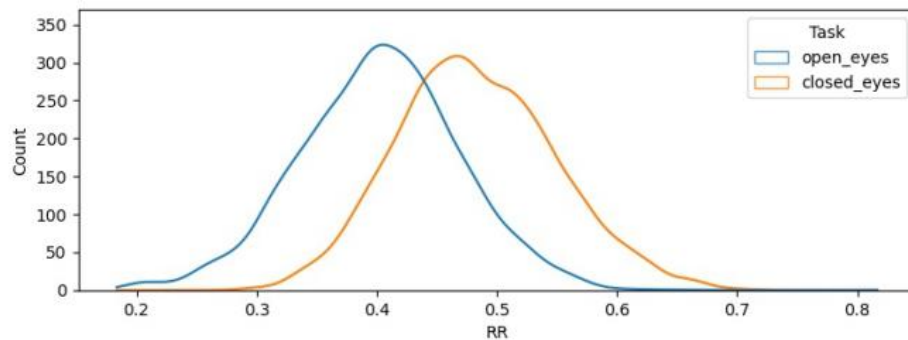
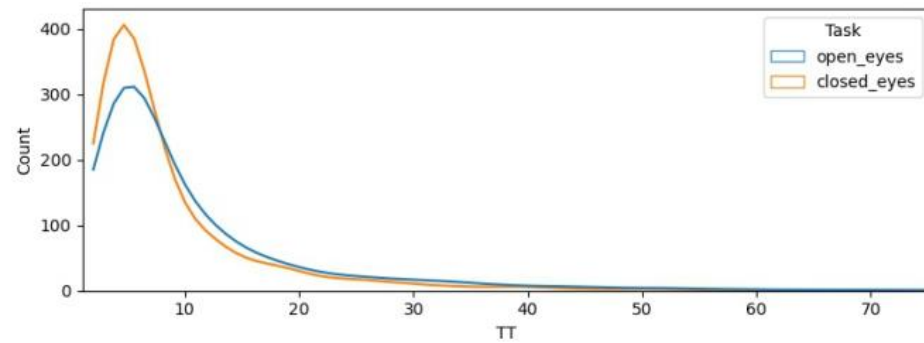
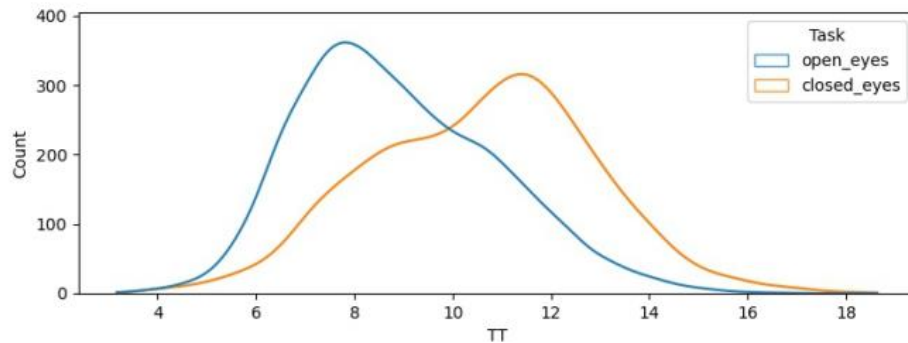
# Recurrence plots $\delta$ , $\theta$



Unthreshold RPs for delta and theta bands, Fz electrode.

Distance scale changes parameters of the metastable states along diagonal, and influence non-linear parameters. Łukasz Furman builds BrainPulse tools for analysis of RPs. [This movie](#) shows changes of t/f spectra, RPs and STFT power spectra.

# Features for classification

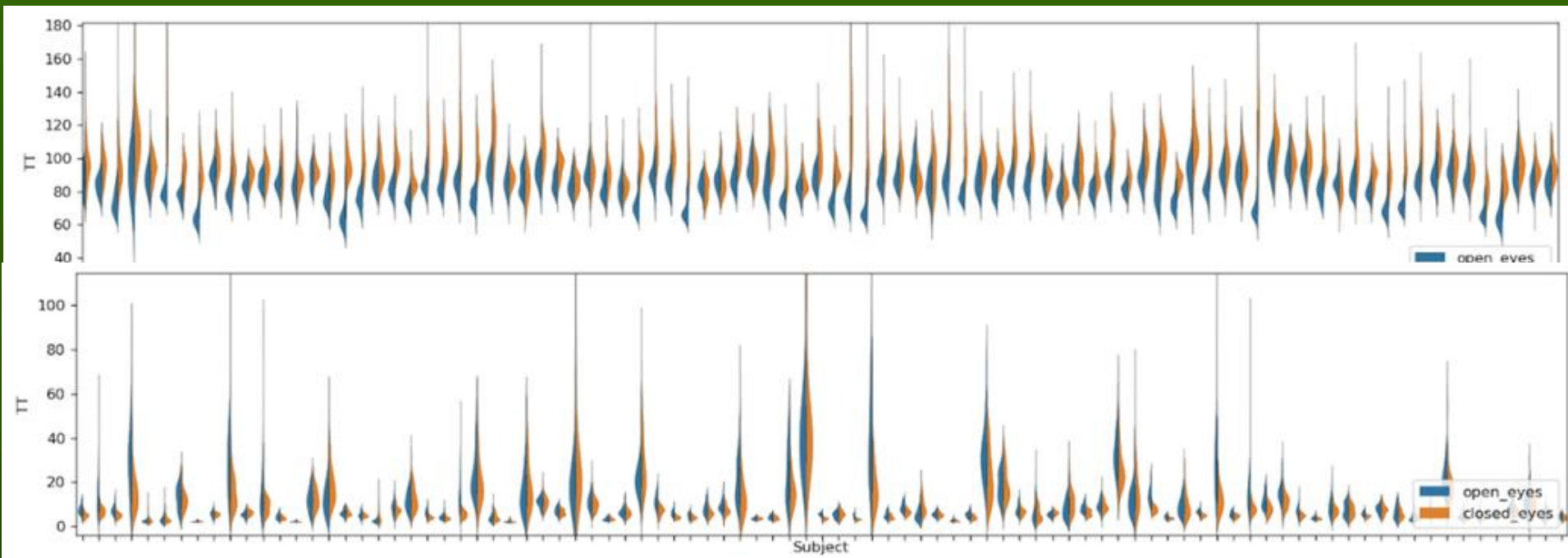


Example of distribution of values of trapping time (TT) and recurrence rate (RR), calculated from 31 seconds of EEG, each containing about 5000 samples per channel, 90 people, in two conditions: eyes closed and open.

Left side: STFT representation, right side embedding with  $d=2$ ,  $\tau=9$ .

We have used 6 out of 12 non-linear RQA features for classification.

# RQA features for 64 electrodes



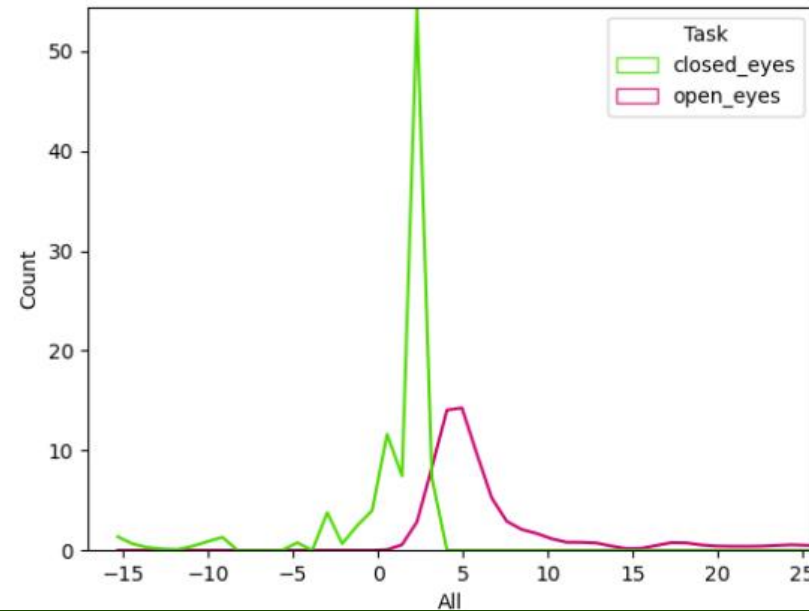
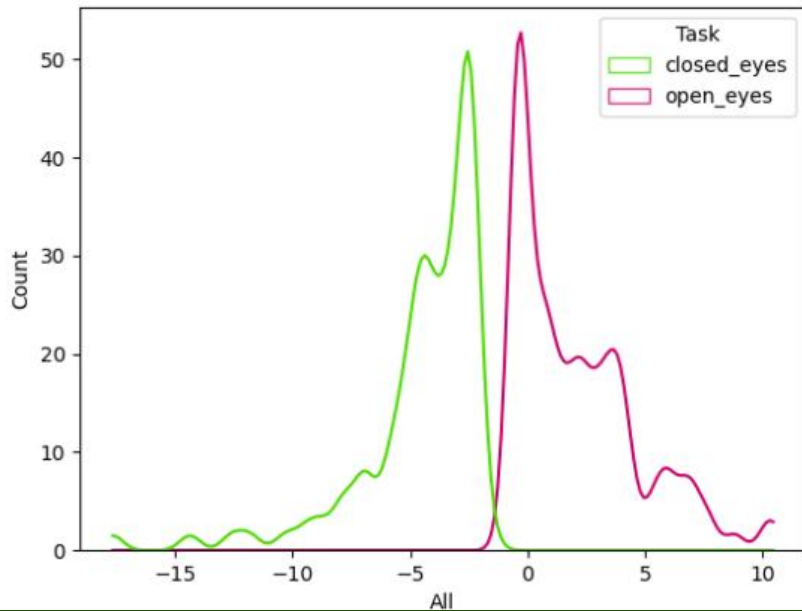
Distribution of trapping time values for 64 electrodes shown for all 90 subjects.

Top: STFT, bottom: optimized embedding.

For some people STFT allows for easy separation of the two conditions using a single RQA feature. Variance is very different, depending on the person.

Linear SVM provides weights for (feature, electrode), facilitating selection of relevant combinations and reducing number of EEG channels.

# LSVM classification



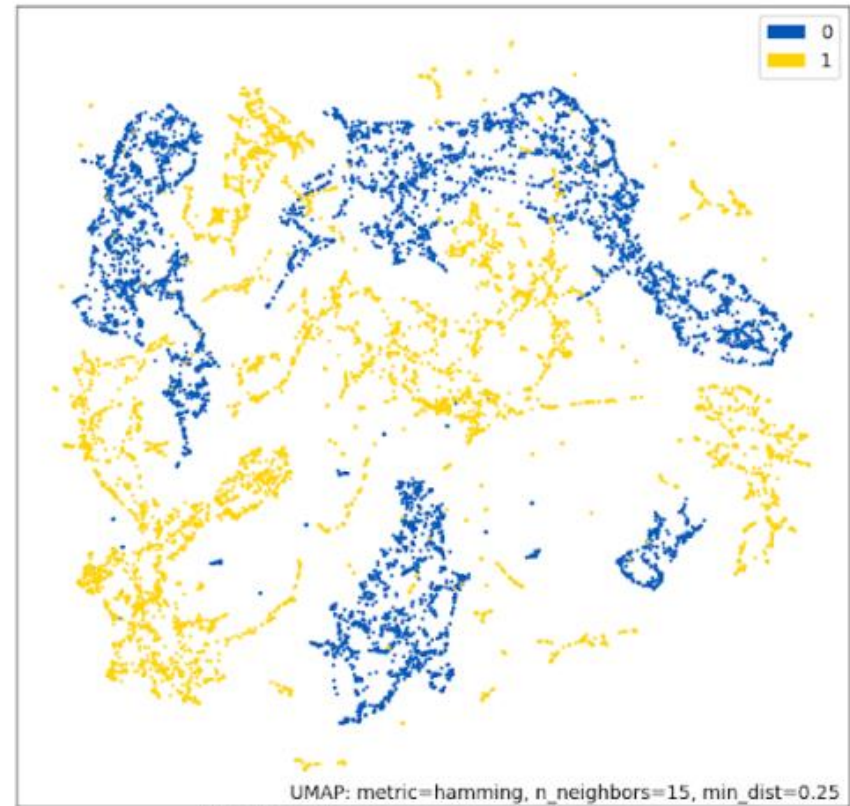
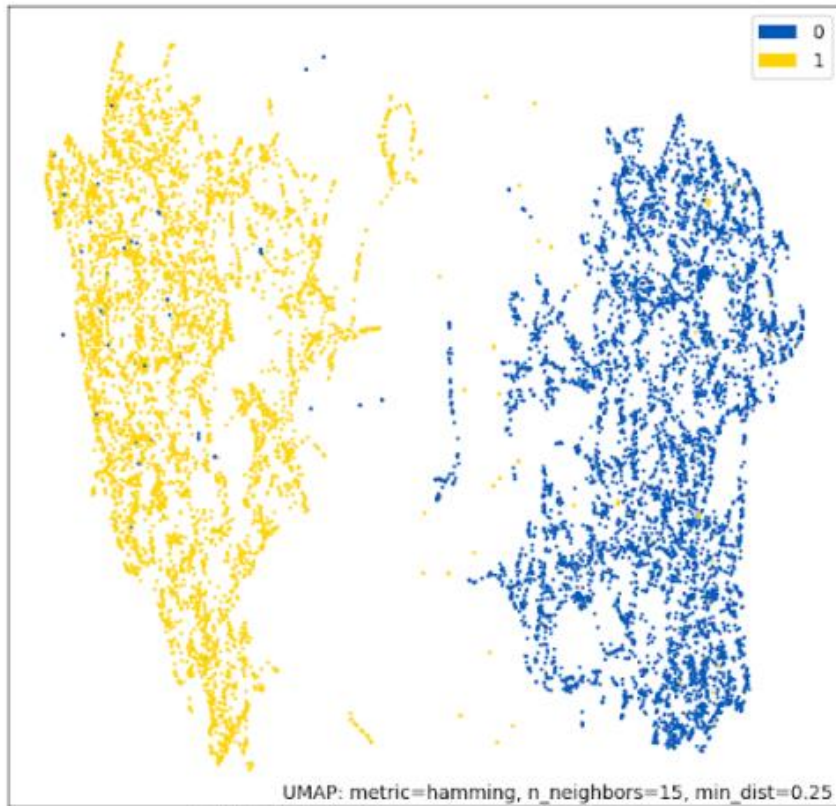
Projection in the direction perpendicular to the LSVM hyperplane, for all data for 90 subjects.

Input has 384 features = 6 RQA features x 64 electrodes.

Left - STFT, window 240 samples (6.2 ms each), test accuracy 90% (open 80%, closed 100%).

Right - embedding dim=2, delay = 9, test accuracy 61% (open 67%, closed 55%).

# UMAP distribution



UMAP Visualization of 6 features. 5760 points = 64 electrodes x 90 subjects,

Left: STFT representation.

Right: signal embedding.



# Labeling states

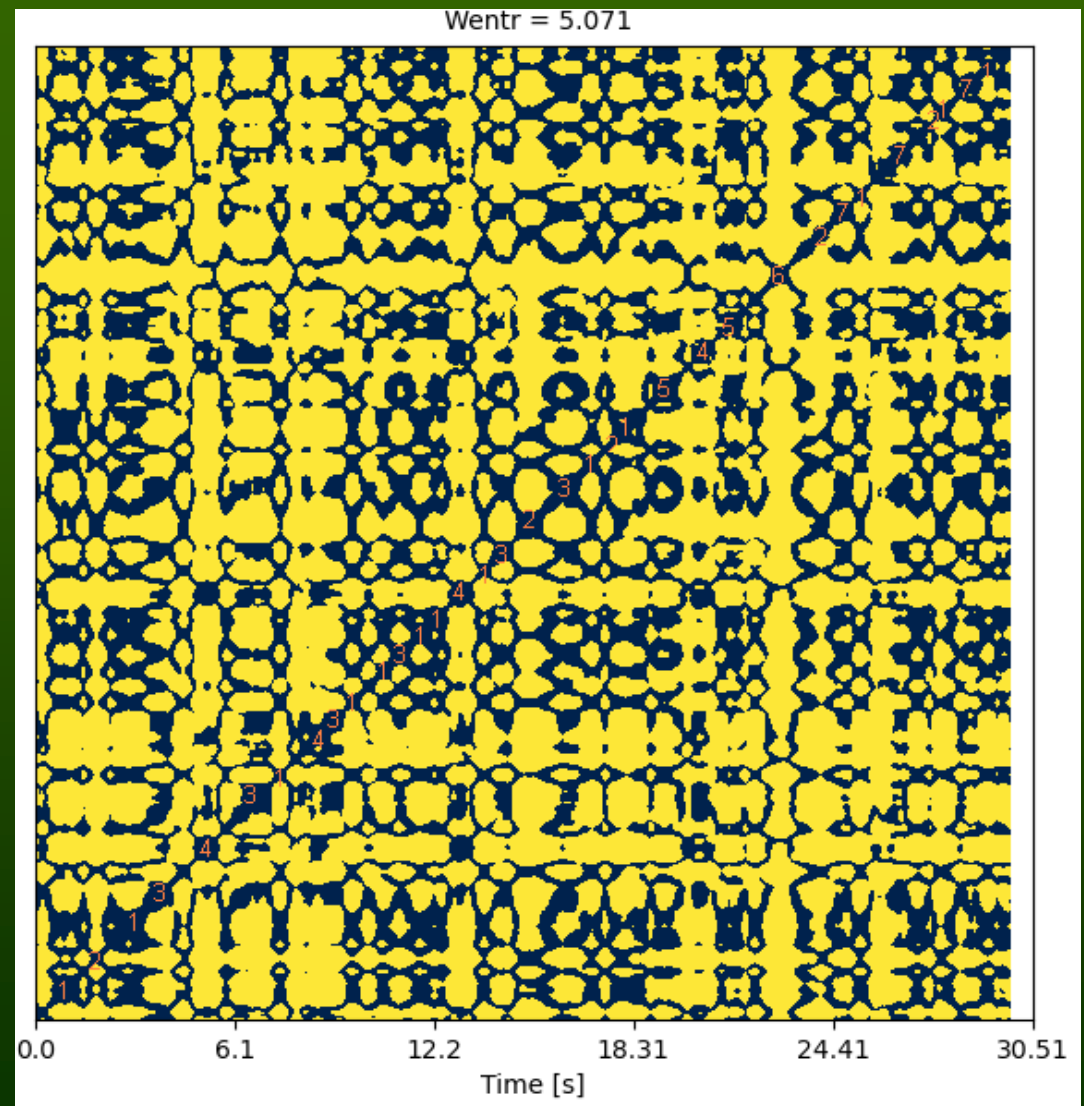
Automatic labeling of states and estimation of their recurrence may be important for biofeedback.

Metabolic costs of transitions between states may be important.

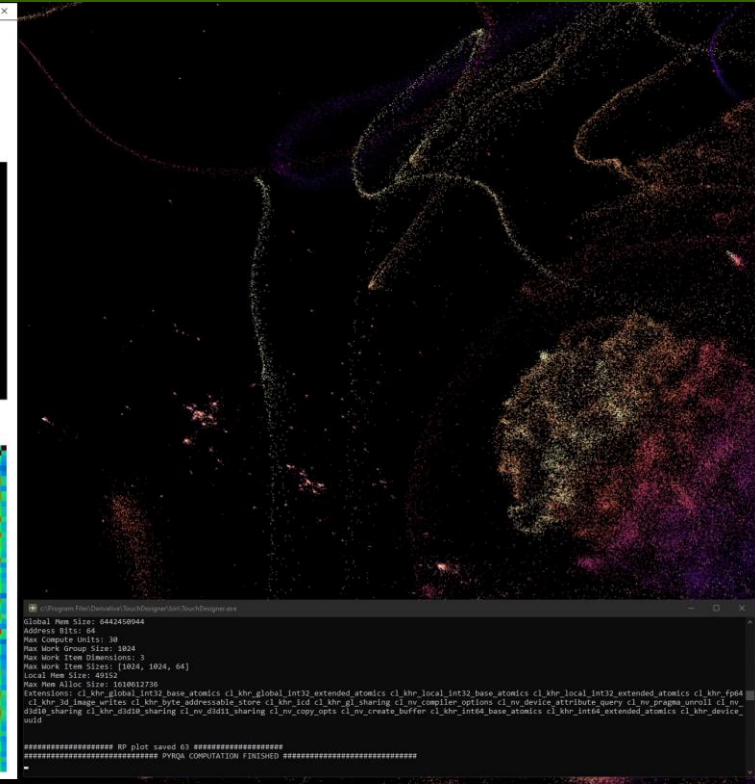
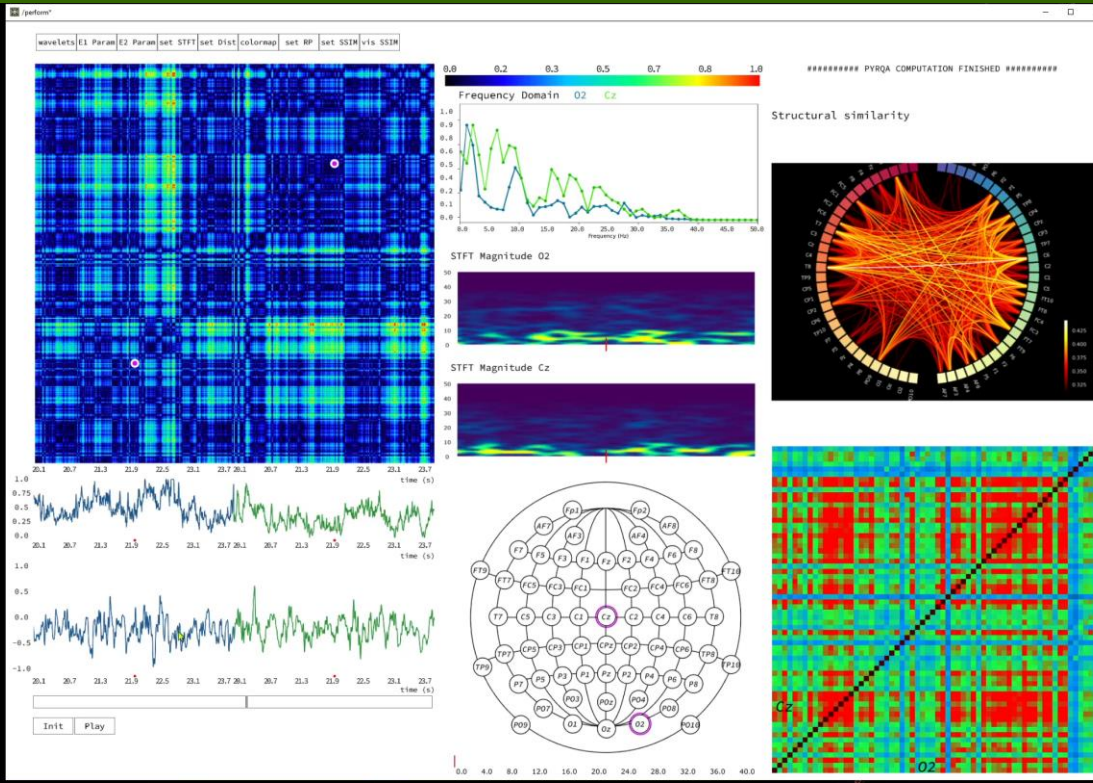
Ruminations? Pain states?  
How external stimuli influence this dynamics?

Needs automatic method for recognition of metastable, multivariate states.

More precise than micorstates.



# EEG analysis

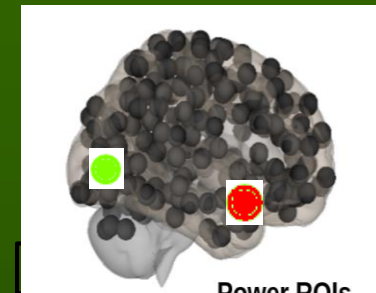


- EEG data, 128 channels, recursion graphs, power spectrum for two electrodes, information flow and correlations between brain regions (Łukasz Furman).

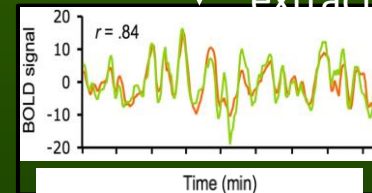
# fMRI and neurodynamics

# Human connectome and MRI/fMRI

Node definition (parcelation)



Signal extraction

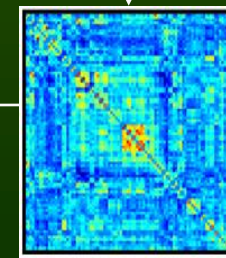


Correlation calculation

Binary matrix

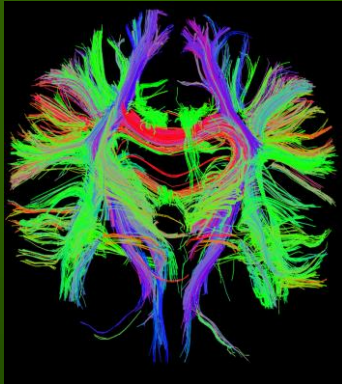


Correlation matrix

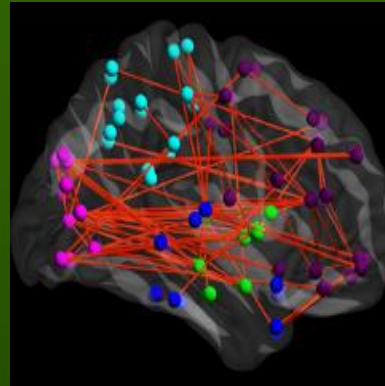


Bullmore & Sporns (2009)

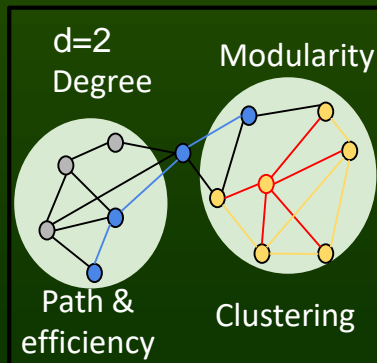
Structural connectivity



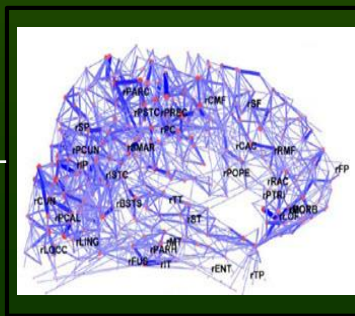
Functional connectivity



Graph theory



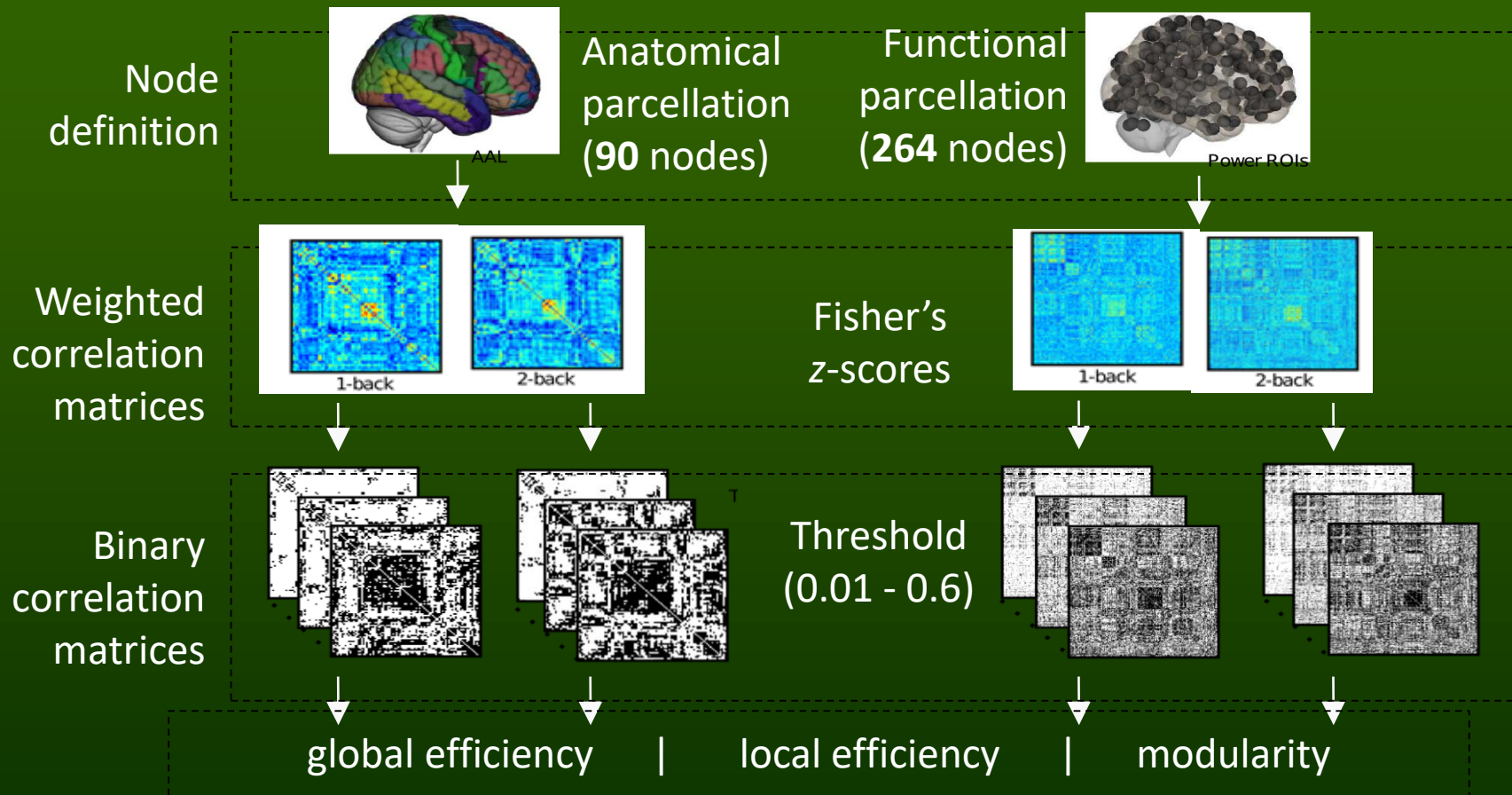
Whole-brain graph



Many toolboxes available for such analysis.

# Effects of load and training.

Two experimental conditions: 1-back, 2-back, 35 subjects, letter N-back.



Finc, Bonna, Lewandowska, Wolak, Nikadon, Dreszer, Duch, Kühn. Transition of the functional brain network related to increasing cognitive demands. Human Brain Mapping 38, 3659–3674, 2017.

# Brain modules and cognitive processes

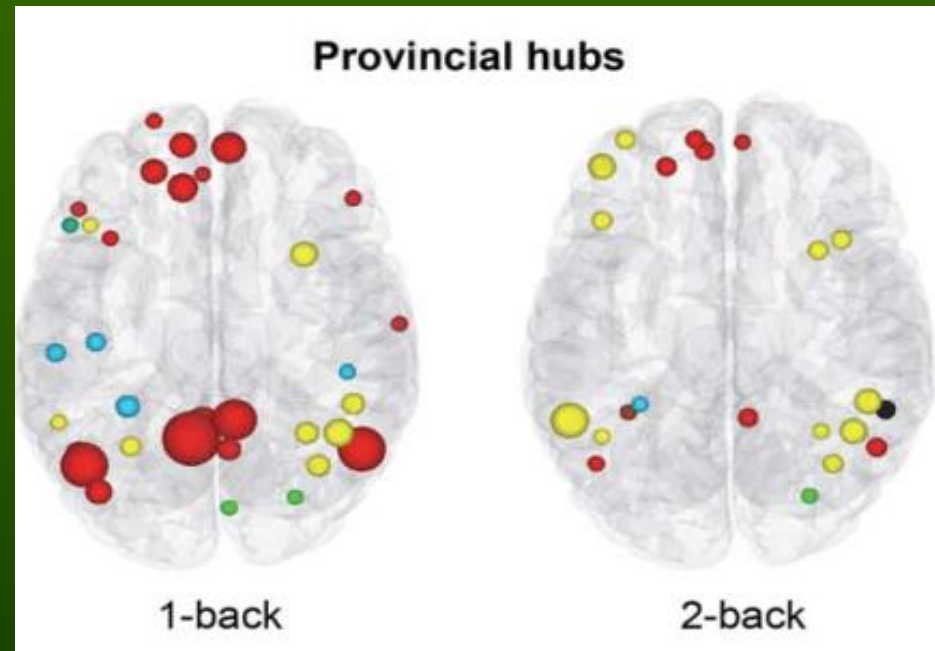
- Simple and more difficult tasks, requiring the whole-brain network reorganization.

Left: 1-back local hubs

Right: 2-back local hubs

Average over 35 *participants*.

Dynamical change of the landscape of attractors, depending on the cognitive load. Less local (especially in DMN), more global binding (especially in PFC).



K. Finc, et al. Transition of the functional brain ... Human Brain Mapping 38, 3659–3674, 2017.

# Effect of cognitive load on info flow

- Simple and more difficult tasks, requiring the whole-brain network reorganization.

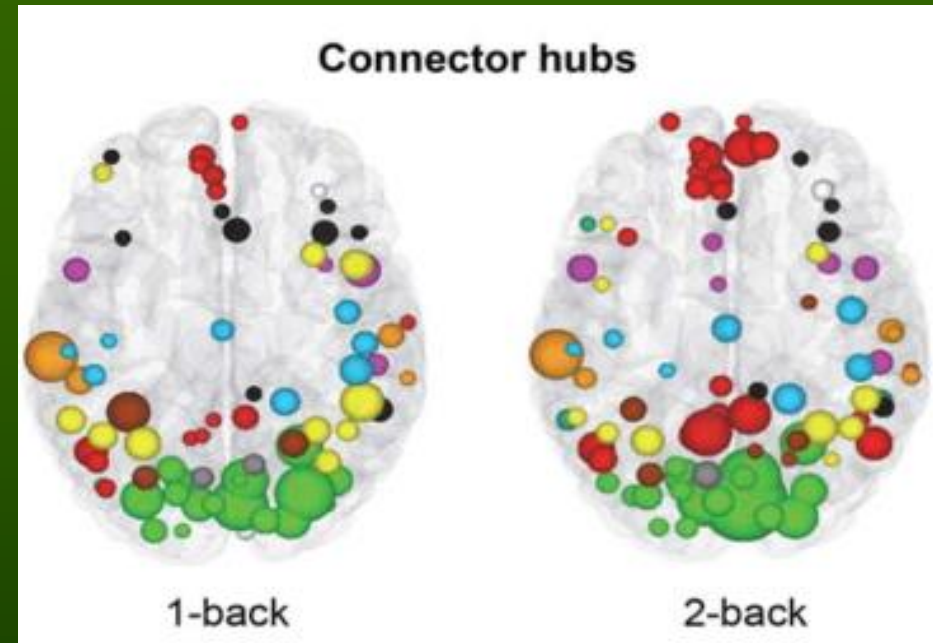
Left: 1-back connector hubs

Right: 2-back connector hubs

Average over 35 *participants*.

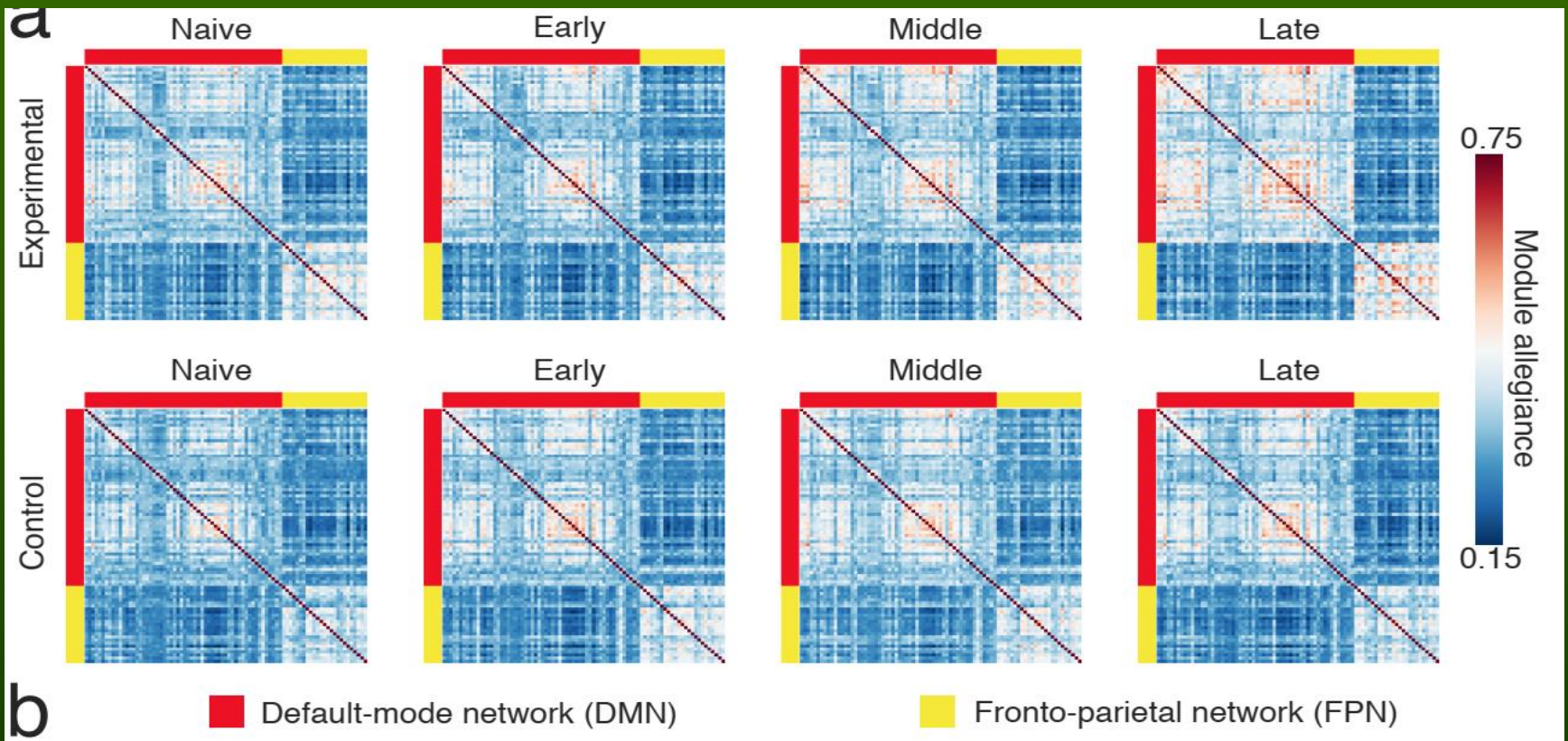
Dynamical change of the landscape of attractors, depending on the cognitive load  
– System 2 (D. Kahneman).

DMN areas engaged in global binding!



K. Finc, et al. Transition of the functional brain ... Human Brain Mapping 38, 3659–3674, 2017.

# Working memory training

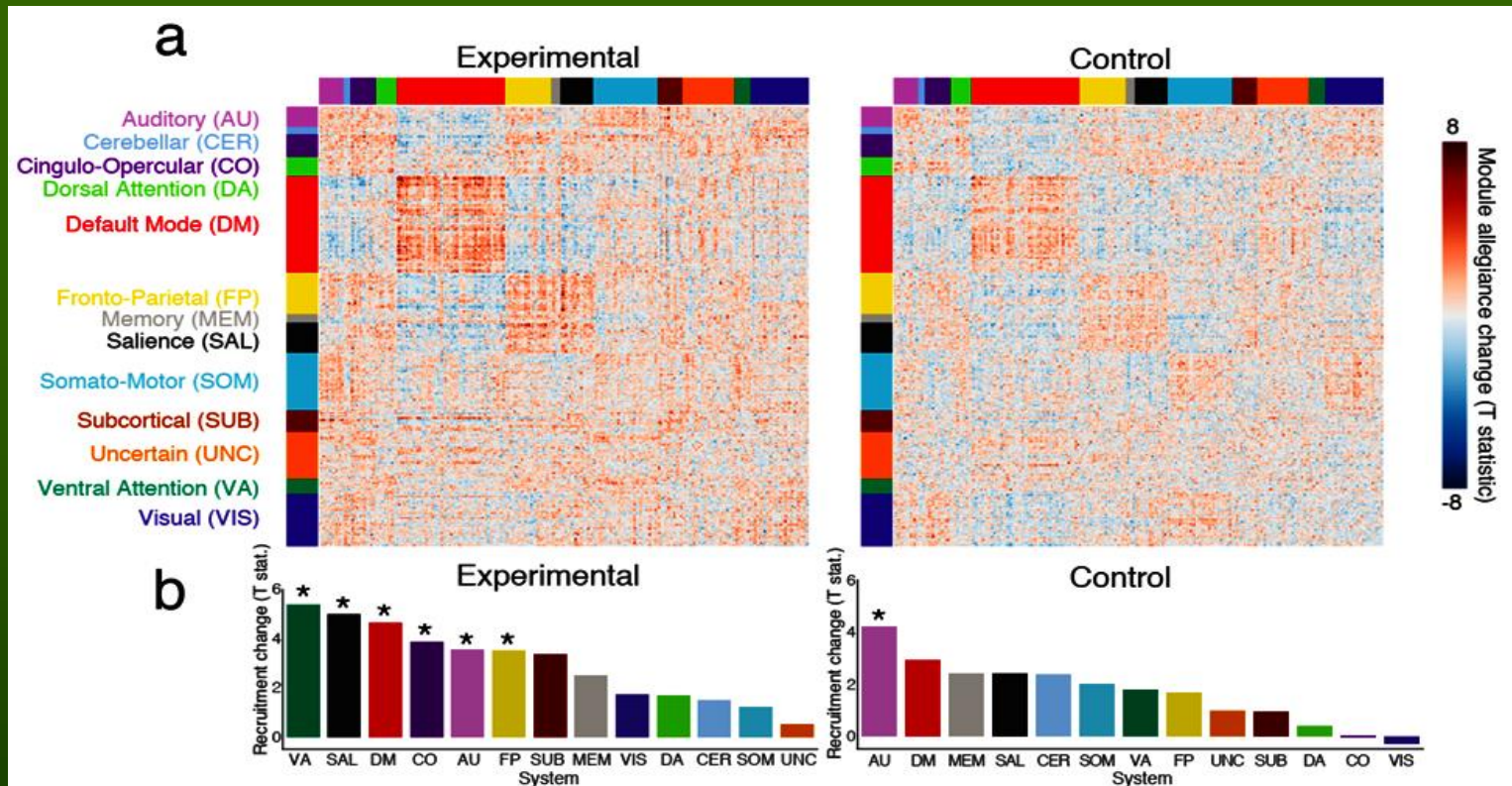


6-week training, dual n-back task (visual+auditory), **changes in module allegiance of fronto-parietal and default-mode networks**. Each matrix element represents the probability that the pair of nodes is assigned to the same community.

Segregation of task-relevant DMN and FPN regions is a result of training and complex task automation, i.e. from conscious to automated processing.



# Working memory training

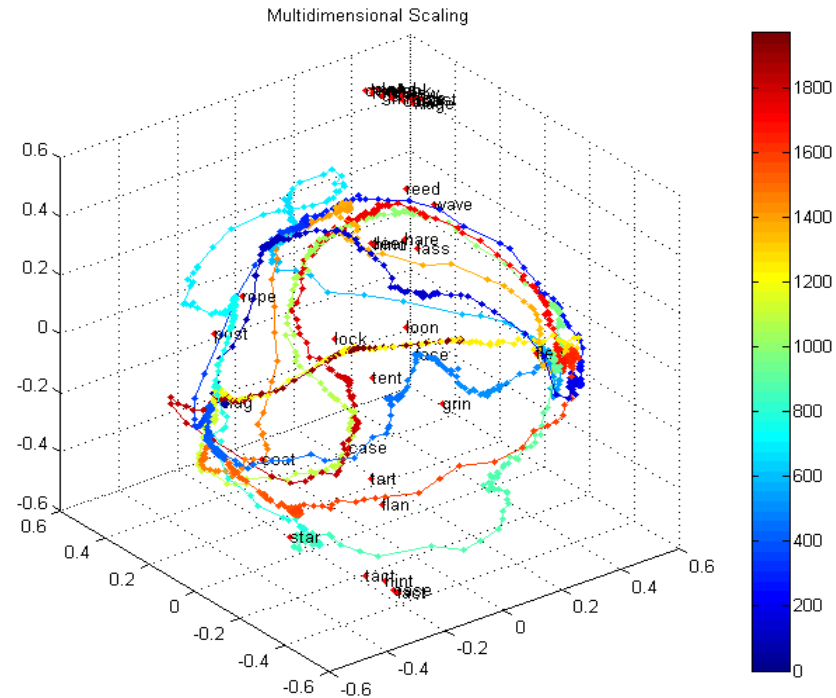
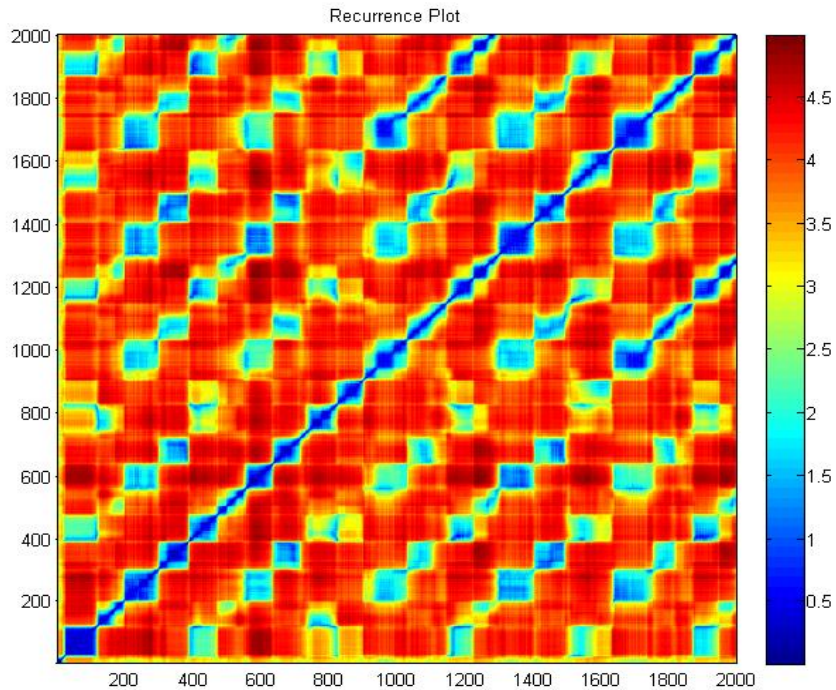


Whole-brain changes in module allegiance between the start and after 6-week of working memory training. (a) Changes in node allegiance as reflected in the two-tailed *t*-test. (b) Significant increase \* in the default mode DM, fronto-parietal ventral attention VA, salience SAL, cingulo-opercular CO, and auditory systems AU recruitment.

Finc, Bonna, He, Lydon-Staley, Kühn, Duch, Bassett, Dynamic reconfiguration of functional brain networks during working memory training. Nature Communications 11 (2020).

# Simulations of neurodynamics

# Trajectory visualization



Recurrence plots and MDS visualization of trajectories of the brain activity. Here evolution of 140-dim semantic layer activity during spontaneous associations in the 40-words microdomain is presented, starting with the word “flag”. Trajectories may be displayed using tSNE, UMAP, MDS or our FSD visualization. Identify metastable states, calculate trapping times, recurrence rates, entropy ...

# Recurrence network

Real brains, ECoG data: recurrence plots depend on the similarity threshold  $\varepsilon$ , cosine distance, Takens embedding of oscillatory data with dimension  $d$  and lag  $\tau$ .

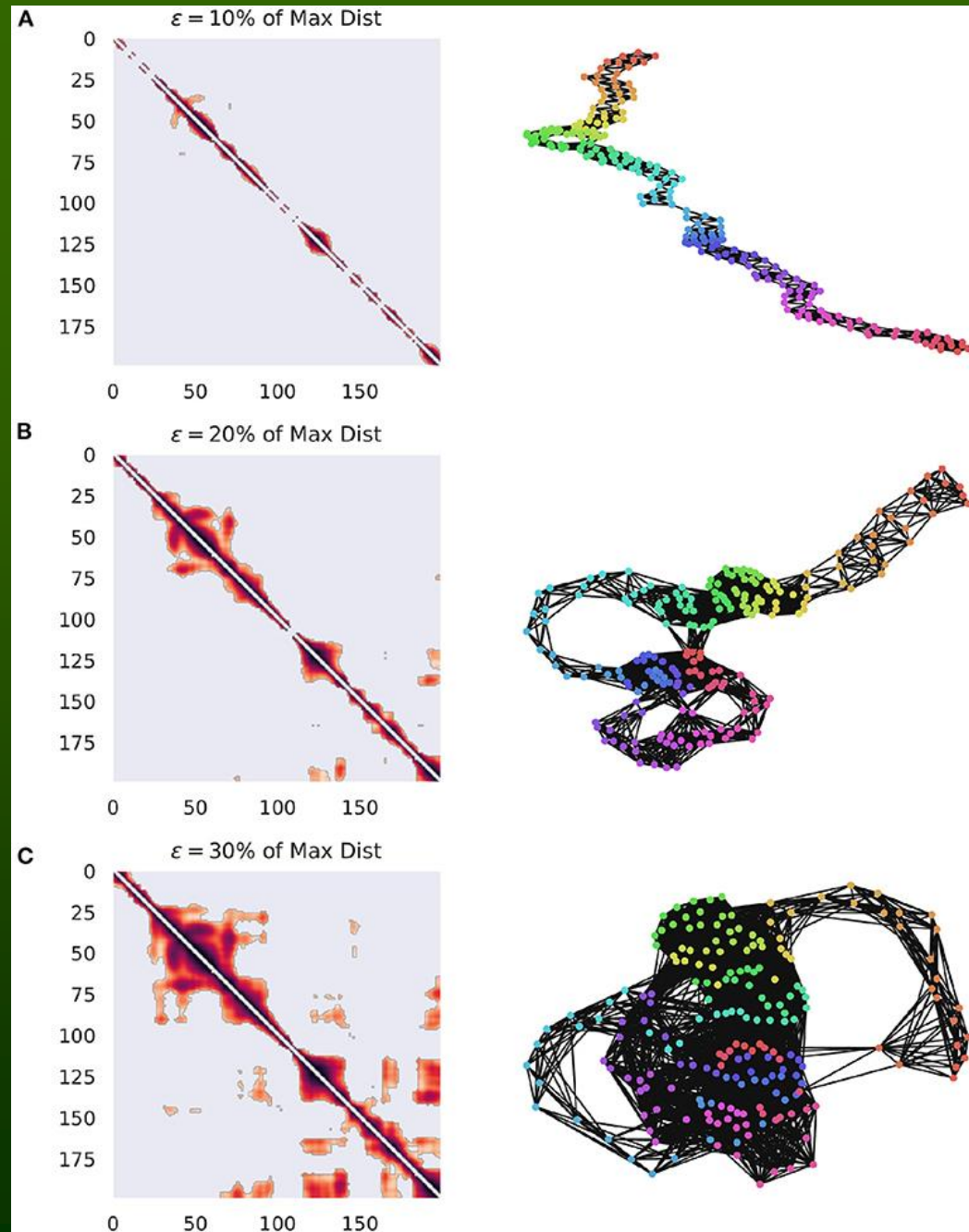
Varley, T. F., & Sporns, O. (2022). Network Analysis of Time Series: Novel Approaches to Network Neuroscience.

*Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 15. [10.3389/fnins.2021.787068](https://doi.org/10.3389/fnins.2021.787068)

For mathematically inclined:

Caputi, L., Pidnebesna, A., & Hlinka, J. (2021). Promises and pitfalls of topological data analysis for brain connectivity analysis.

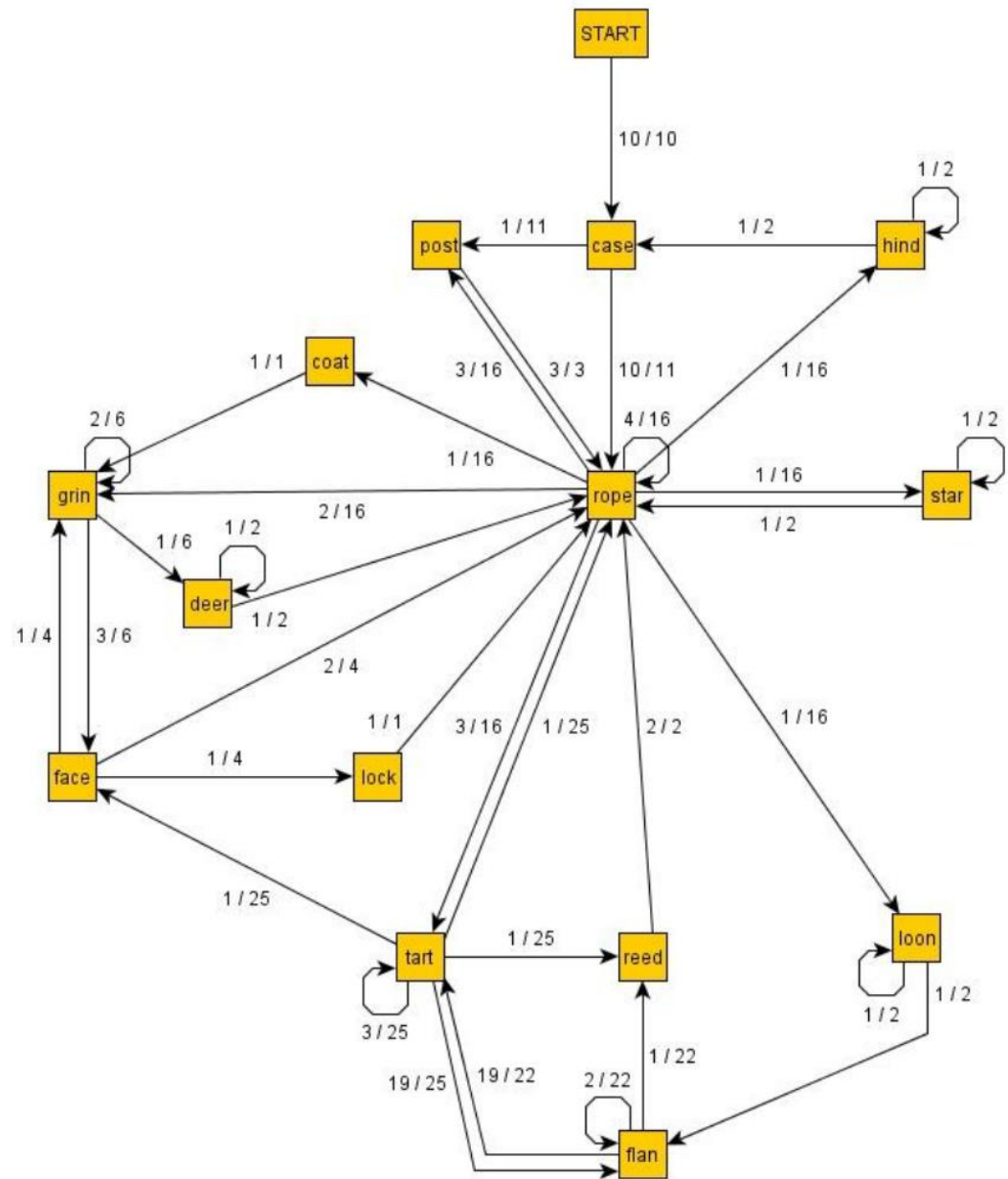
*NeuroImage*, 238, 118245.



Multiple starts from the same word lead to different trajectories. Calculate transition probabilities between metastable states from frequency of transitions.

### Why such transitions?

Linked state have patterns sharing few features, that recruit less active, but strongly connected neurons, and relax those currently active, making the previous state inaccessible for some time (refractory period).

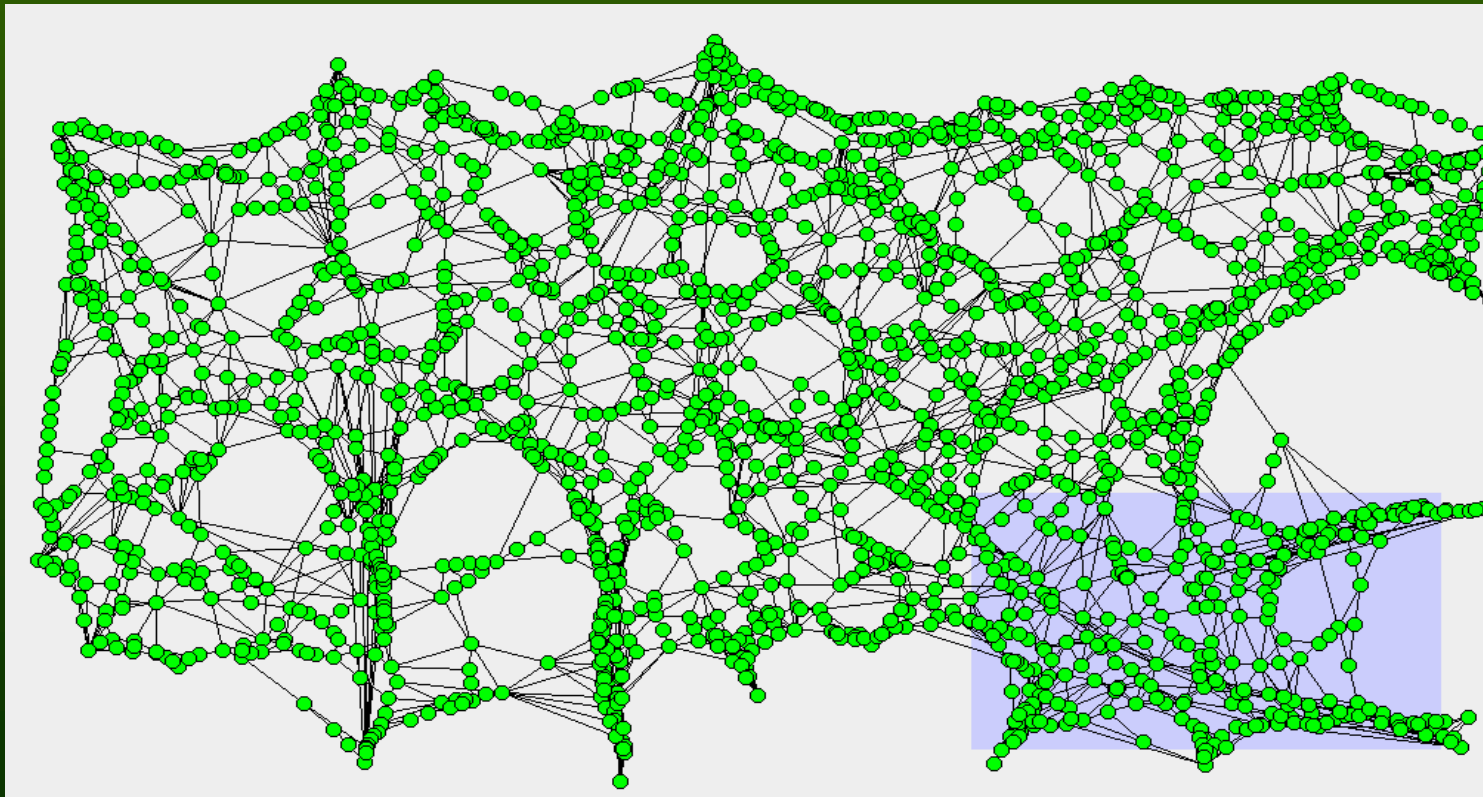


# Learning in real situations

Learning complex information creates conceptual grid, each node = metastable brain state, links = associations, thinking = transitions between states, following associations. Conceptual grid approximates environmental states, but **rapid learning distorts relations**.

Strong emotions increase neuroplasticity, but may lead to accidental associations, save mental energy, creating „sinks” that attract many unrelated episodic memory states.

Growing Neural Gas model, trained on blue patches.

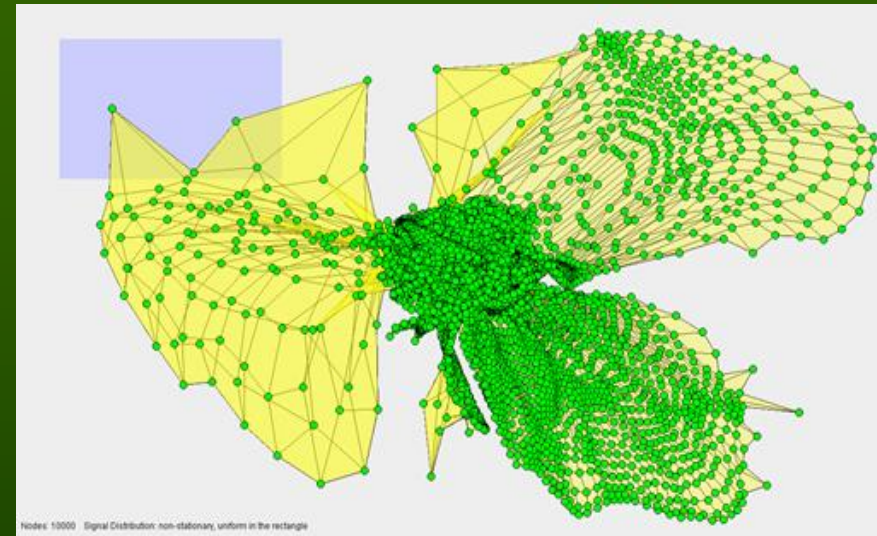
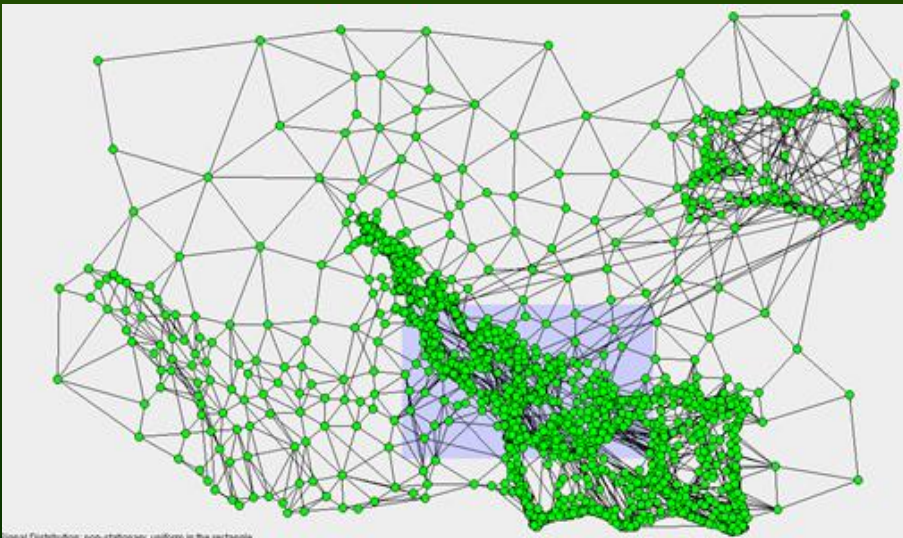


# Memoids ...

In extreme cases everything is associated with one great idea or cause.  
“A lie that is repeated a thousand times becomes truth”.

World view is totally distorted, mind states form one big memplex ...

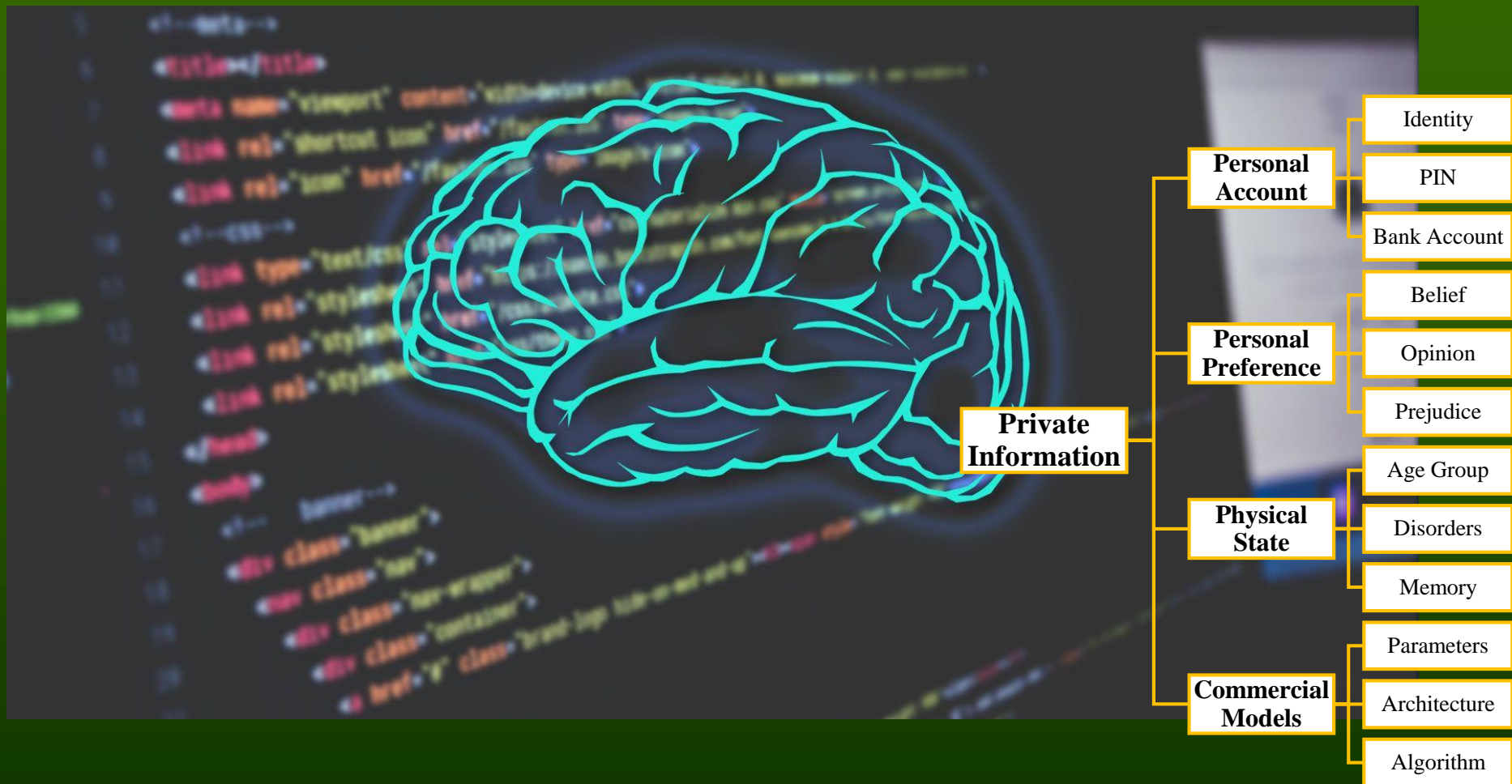
- Extraterrestrials, politics, Nazis, religion, apocalypse, vaccines, 5G ... anything.
- Simplifies dynamics, saves energy.



The rapid freezing of high neuroplasticity (RFHN) model. Overtraining => inhibition of alternatives!

Duch W. (2021) Memetics and Neural Models of Conspiracy Theories. Patterns. Cell Press.

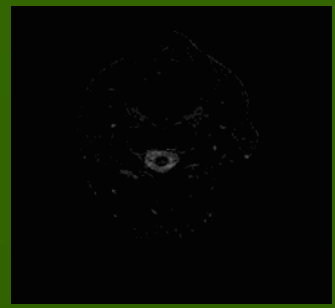
# Private Information in BCIs



K. Xia, W. Duch, Y. Sun, K. Xu, W. Fang, H. Luo, Y. Zhang, D. Sang, D. Wu, X. Xu, F-Y Wang, [Privacy-Preserving Brain-Computer Interfaces](#): A Systematic Review, IEEE Trans. on Computational Social Systems, 2022



# Conclusions



- Neurodynamics is the key to understanding mental states. BMI has now hundreds of applications, medical, entertainment, but does not use cognitive architectures to build better models.
- Simulations show how attractor networks create metastable states, behavioral trajectories, test hypothesis (autism, ADHD, belief formation).
- Brain networks have fluid nature: dynamic, change due to priming, history, refraction, cognitive load, memory training, emotional arousal, aging.
- Many brain fingerprinting methods exists; we have focused on microstates, spectral fingerprinting and recurrence analysis.
- Neurocognitive technologies may help to diagnose, repair and optimize brain processes, improve AI algorithms. Develop close-loop systems based on DecNef and FCNef approaches.

Neurocognitive technologies will profoundly change ourselves.

The integration of brains with AI becomes feasible. Memory implants?

Brain synchronization? Metaverse? Impossible yesterday common tomorrow.

# BMI perspectives



- BMI has now hundreds of applications, from medical to entertainment.
- Neuroprosthesis and neurorehabilitation are coming of age.
- ECoG and intracortical recordings show what is possible with direct access to cortex.
- Hippocampal memory prosthesis is a step towards deep future.
- Medical diagnostics and closed loop systems for therapy of brain disorders are the driving forces.
- DecNef and FCNef approaches used by rt-fMRI should be converted to EEG
- AI development, especially foundational models, should help in creation of more accurate models, enable transfer learning.
- Neurocognitive technologies will profoundly change our selves. The integration of brains with AI becomes feasible.
- Metaverse? Brain synch?
- What was impossible yesterday tomorrow will be common. The singularity may come faster than we think!

# Towards Human-like Intelligence

**IEEE** Computational Intelligence Society Task Force (Mandziuk, Duch, M. Woźniak),  
**Towards Human-like Intelligence**



**IEEE SSCI CIHLI 2022** Symposium on Computational Intelligence for Human-like Intelligence, Singapore.

**AGI** conference, Journal of Artificial General Intelligence comments on Cognitive Architectures and Autonomy: A Comparative Review (eds. Tan, Franklin, Duch).

**BICA** Annual International Conf. on Biologically Inspired Cognitive Architectures, 11th Annual Meeting of the BICA Society, Natal, Brazil, 2020.

**Brain-Mind Institute Schools** International Conference on Brain-Mind (ICBM) and Brain-Mind Magazine (Juyang Weng, Michigan SU).

# In search of sources of brain's cognitive activity

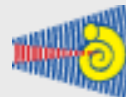
Project „Symfonia”, NCN, Kraków, 18.07.2016



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nencki institute  
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# VIRTUAL BR41N.IO HACKATHON

📅 April 17-18, 2021

during the

Spring School 2021\*



\*BR41N.IO and Spring School 2021 are part of g.tec's Teaching Plan 2021 with more than 140 hours of online courses and lectures.



## 1. PLACE WINNER

"NeuroBeat"

BCI application

Team members: Alicja Wicher, Joanna Maria Zalewska, Weronika Sójka, Ivo John Krystian Dereziński, Krzysztof Tołpa, Lukasz Furman, Sławomir Duda

IMPROVING HUMAN DAILY LIFE FUNCTIONING

# NEUROHACKATOR 2021

21. - 23.  
MAY 2021 //  
ONLINE

SATURDAY

Project development  
in groups



STARTS  
10 a.m.

SUNDAY

Evaluation



ENDS  
10 a.m.

FRIDAY

Organisers  
presentation



workshops  
with Judges

working 24h

## REQUIREMENTS:

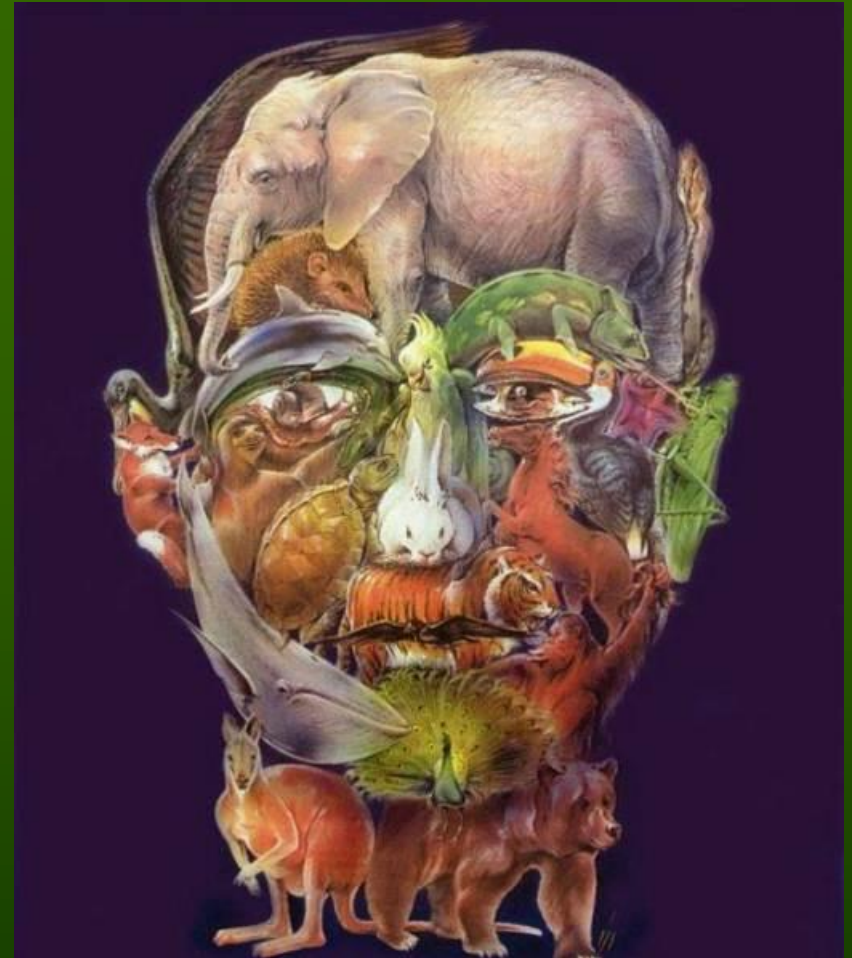
1. Create a team consisting of **3-5 people**.
2. Fill in the Registration Form (available on Facebook event).

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

Write an e-mail:  
[NEUROTECTOR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEUROTECTOR@GMAIL.COM)

Neurotechnology Scientific Club  
Center for Modern Interdisciplinary Technologies  
at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń  
Wileńska 4 Street

# Intelligence?



Google: Wlodek Duch  
=> talks, papers, lectures ...