

What fMRI Can, Can't, and Might Do

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&

Functional MRI Facility

<http://fmrif.nimh.nih.gov>



Overview of fMRI

Functional Contrast:

Blood volume
Blood flow/perfusion
Blood oxygenation

Spatial resolution:

Typical: 3 mm^3
Upper: 0.5 mm^3

Temporal resolution:

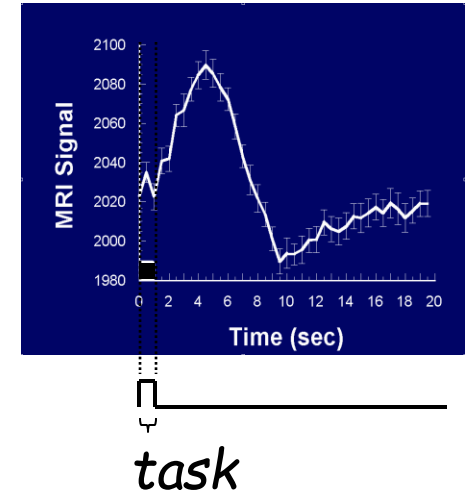
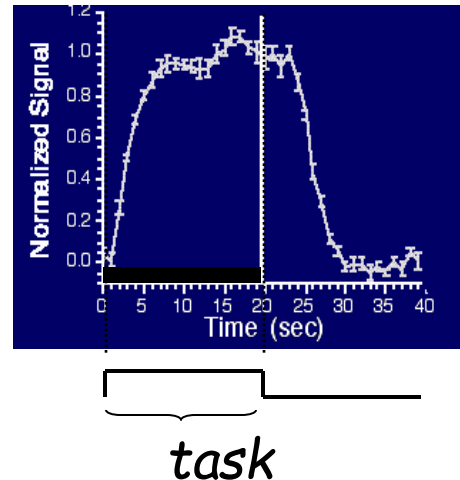
Minimum duration: $< 16 \text{ ms}$
Minimum onset diff: 100 ms to 2 sec

Sensitivity:

$t\text{SNR} = 40/1$ to $120/1$
 $f\text{CNR} = 1/1$ to $6/1$

Interpretability issues:

Neurovascular coupling, vascular sampling, blood, physiologic noise, motion and other artifacts, etc..



What fMRI Is Currently Being Used For

Research Applications

- map networks involved with specific behavior, stimulus, or performance
- characterize changes over time (seconds to years)
- determine correlates of behavior (response accuracy, etc...)
- characterization of groups or individuals

Clinical Research

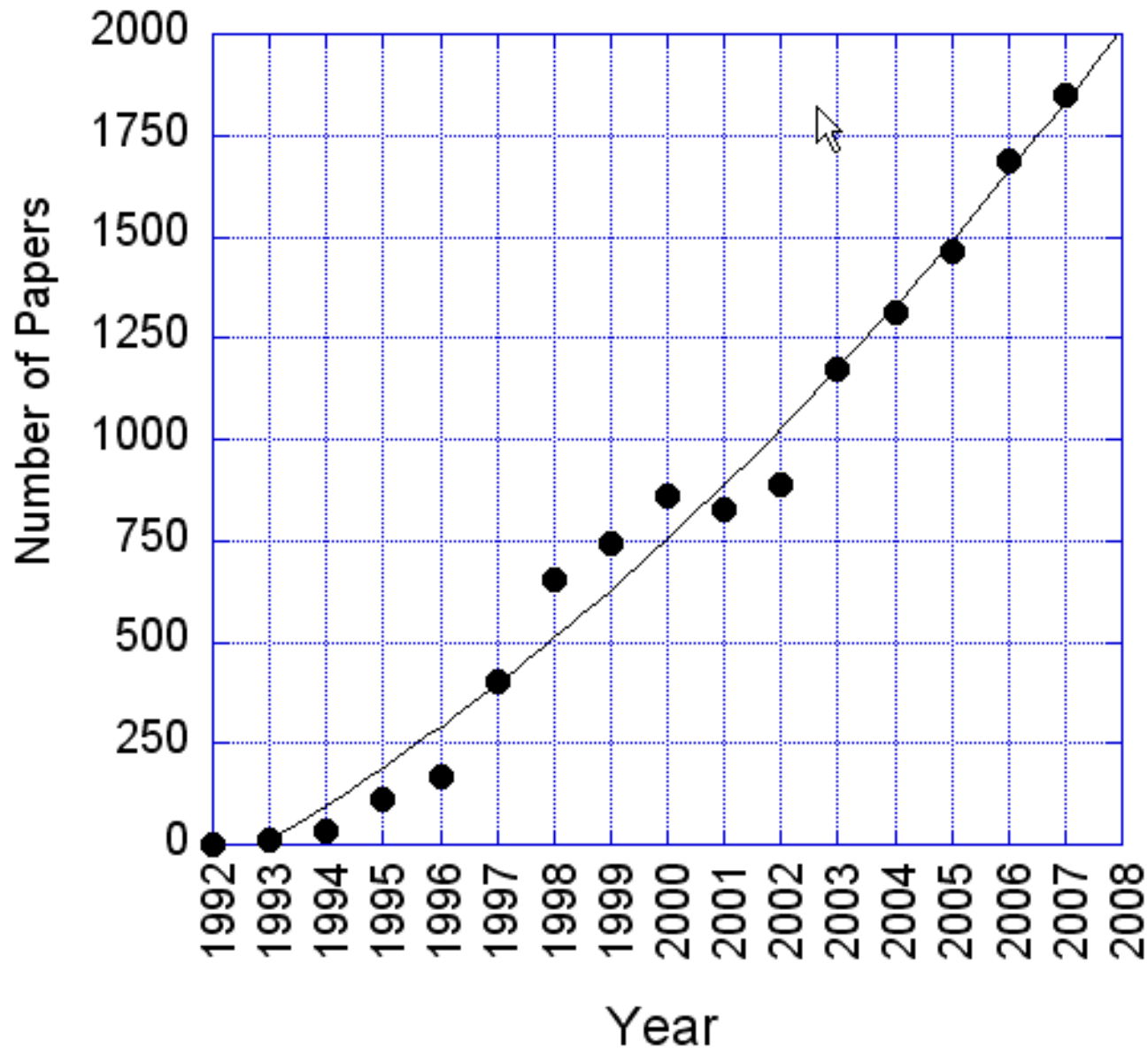
- clinical population characterization (probe task or resting state)
- assessment of recovery and plasticity
- attempts to characterize (classify) individuals

Clinical Applications

- presurgical mapping (CPT code in place as of Jan, 2007)

Scopus: Articles or Reviews Published per Year

"fMRI" or "functional MRI"



What fMRI Can't Do

What some would argue are shortcomings with fMRI

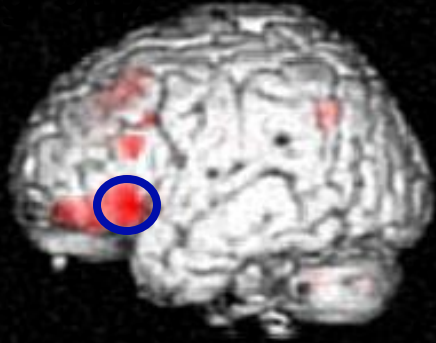
- Too low SNR vs subject/patient limits of compliance (about 2 hours)
- Requires motivated subjects/patients (motion sensitivity)
- Too low spatial resolution (each voxel has several million neurons)
- Any higher resolution than 3 mm^3 lost with subject averaging.
- Too low temporal resolution (hemodynamics are variable and sluggish)
- Too inconsistent activation patterns
- Anatomical images for fMRI are low quality (dropout/distortion)
- Requires a task (BOLD cannot look at baseline maps)
- Too confined space and high acoustic noise (environment non-optimal).
- Too many physiologic variables influence signal.

Altered neurovascular coupling: Pathology, drugs

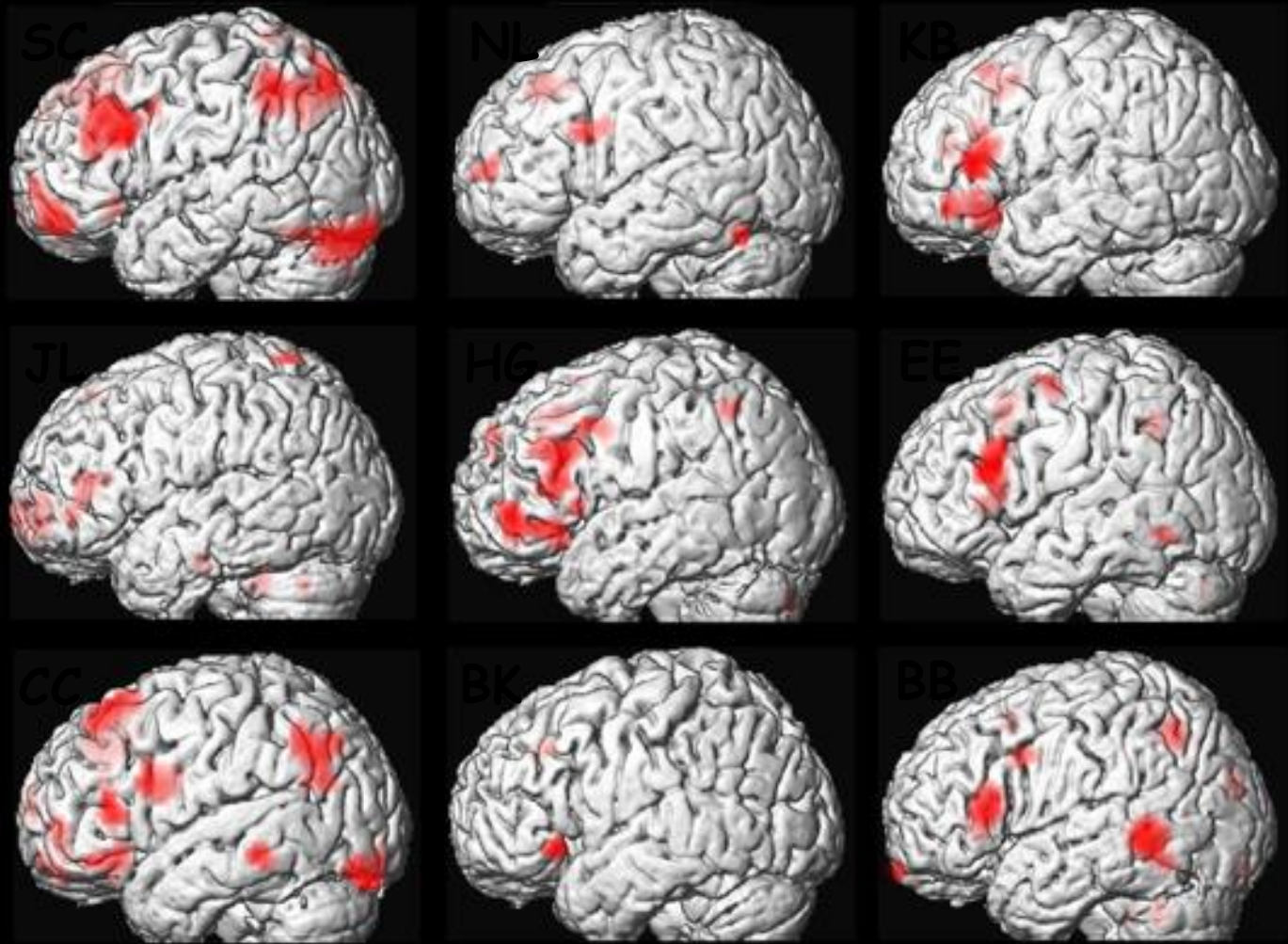
| Pathologic state / Drug | Reference |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Carotid occlusion | Röther et al. 2002 |
| Transient global ischemia | Schmitz et al. 1998 |
| Penumbra of cerebral ischemia | Mies et al. 1993, Wolf et al. 1997 |
| Subarachnoid hemorrhage | Dreier et al. 2000 |
| Trauma | Richards et al. 2001 |
| Epilepsy | Fink et al. 1996, Brühl et al. 1998, von Pannwitz et al. 2002 |
| Alzheimer's disease | Hock et al. 1996, Niwa et al. 2000 |
| Theophylline | Ko et al. 1990, Dirnagl et al. 1994 |
| Scopolamine | Tsukada et al. 1998 |

Individual Differences in Brain Activations During Episodic Retrieval

Miller et al., 2002



Individual activations from the left hemisphere of the 9 subjects

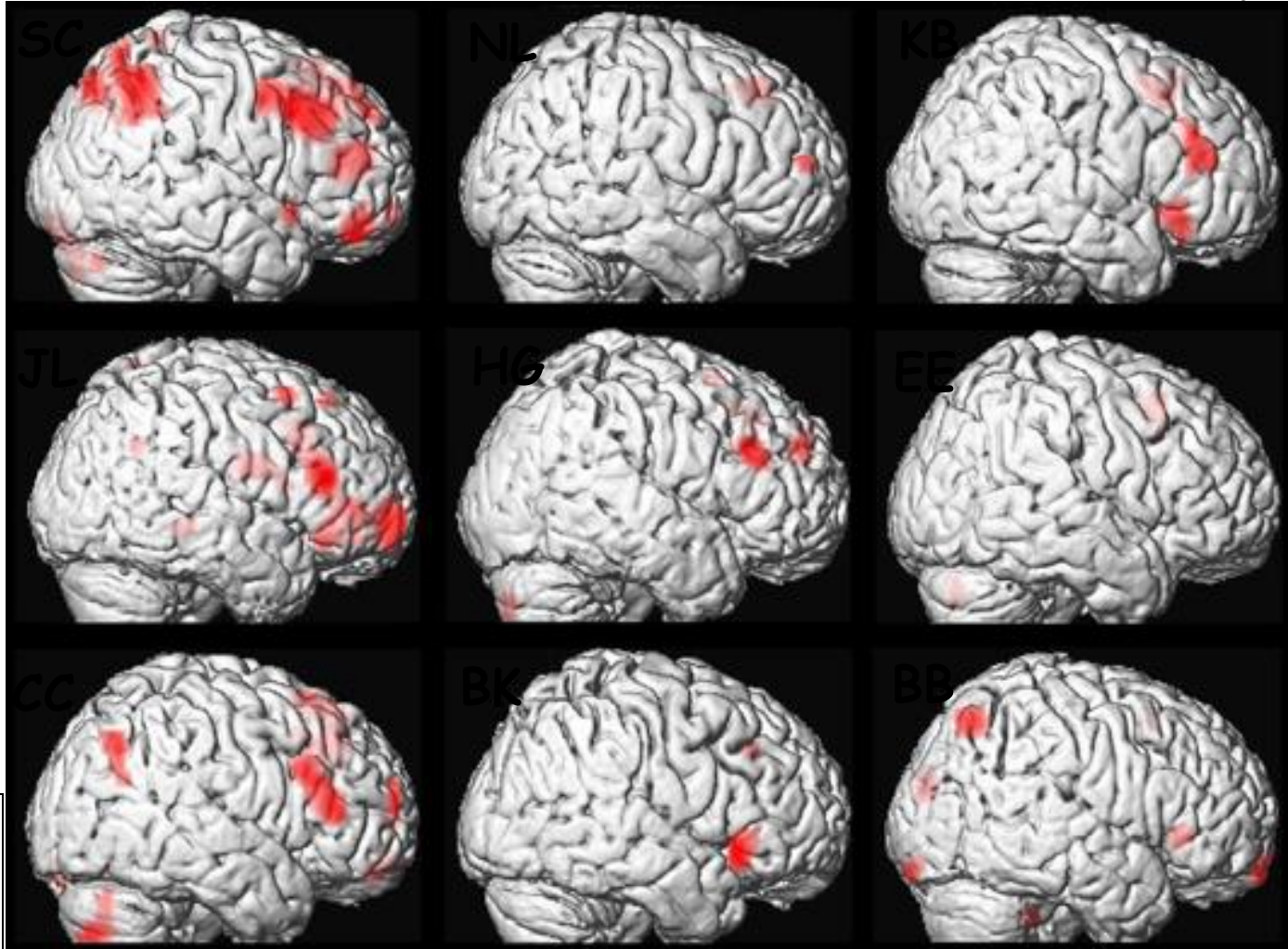
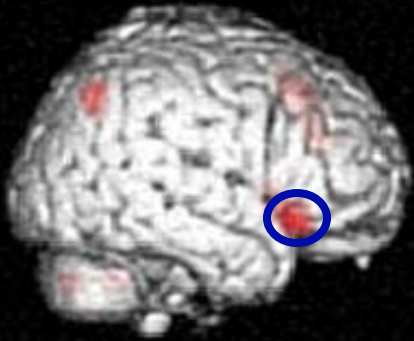


Courtesy, Mike Miller, UC Santa Barbara and Jack Van Horn, fMRI Data Center, Dartmouth University

Individual Differences in Brain Activations During Episodic Retrieval

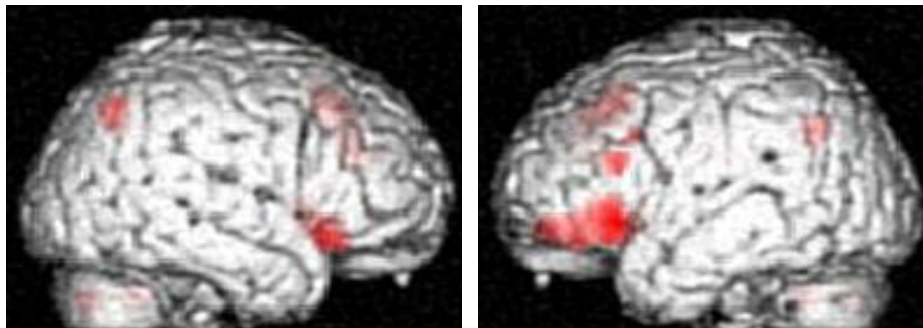
Miller et al., 2002

Individual activations from the right hemisphere of the 9 subjects

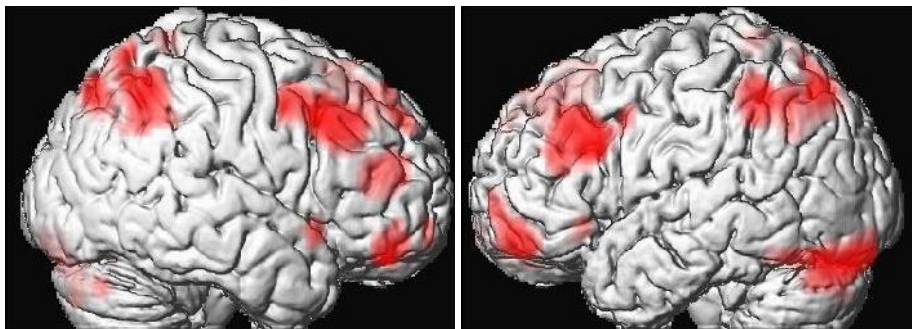


Courtesy, Mike Miler, UC Santa Barbara and Jack Van Horn, fMRI Data Center, Dartmouth University

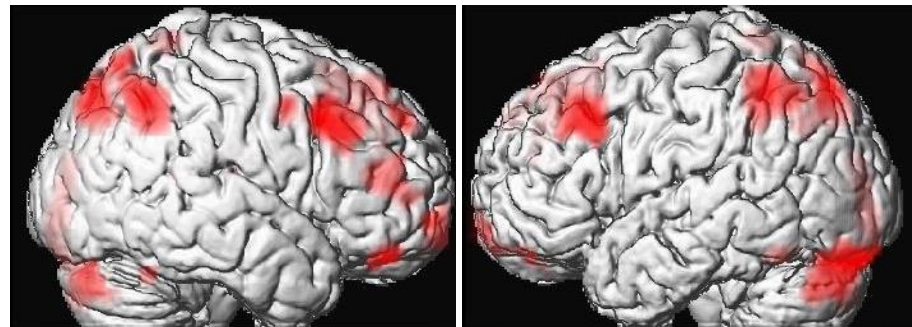
These individual patterns of activations are stable over time



Group Analysis of Episodic Retrieval



Subject SC



Subject SC 6 months later

Courtesy, Mike Miler, UC Santa Barbara and Jack Van Horn, fMRI Data Center, Dartmouth University

Four Aspects of fMRI Advancement:

Increased sensitivity and resolution

Understanding and characterization of variability and noise...then classification or calibration

Develop more sophisticated paradigms/processing methods

More than just "mapping"

Technology

Coil arrays
High field strength
High resolution
Novel functional contrast

Methodology

Functional Connectivity Assessment
Multi-modal integration
Pattern classification
Real time feedback
Task design (fMRIa...)

Fluctuations
Dynamics
Spatial patterns

Basic Neuroscience
Behavior correlation/prediction
Pathology assessment

Interpretation

Applications

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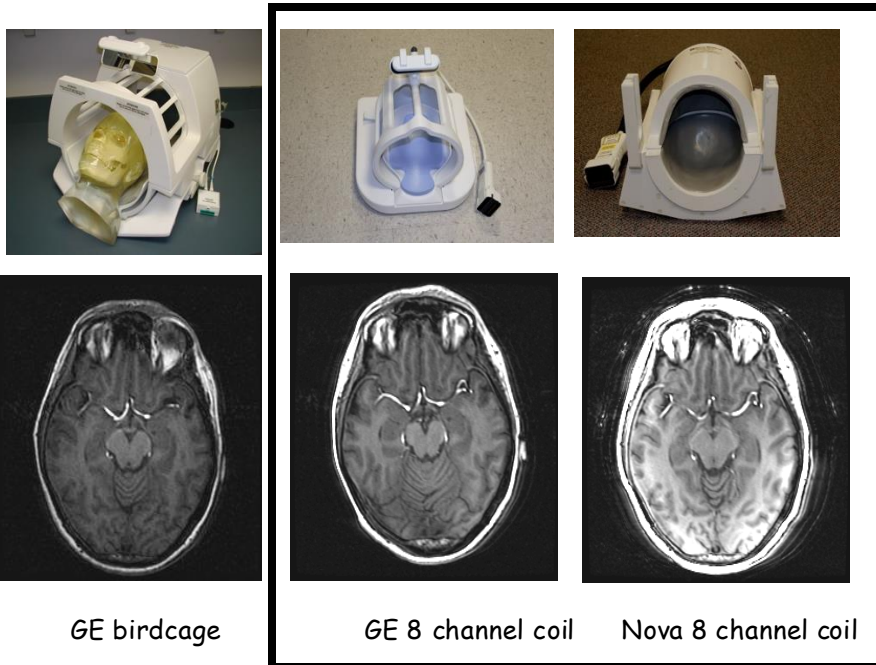
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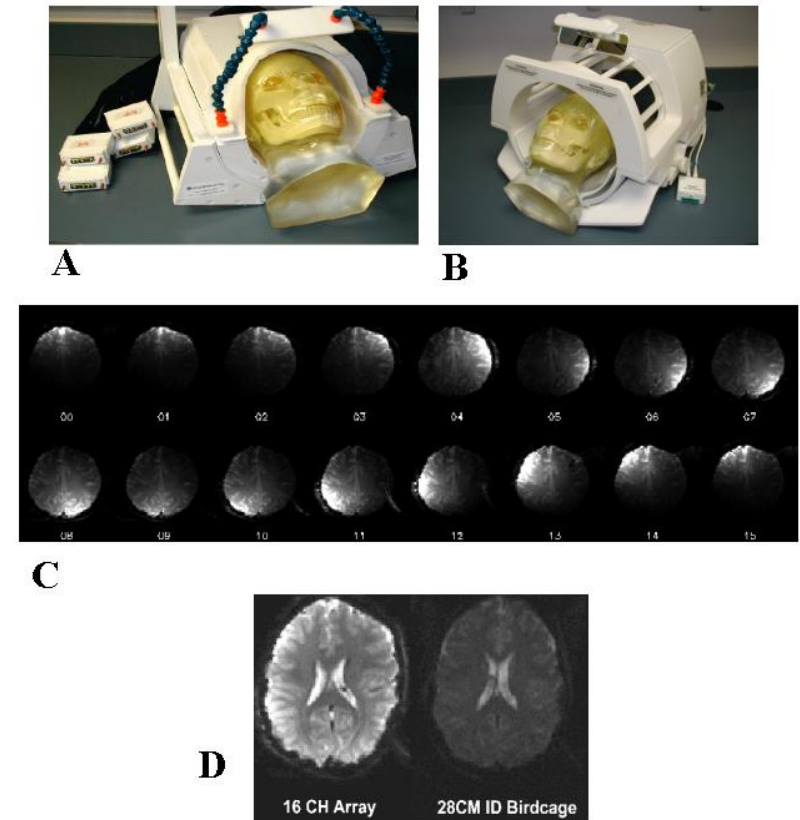
Applications

Technology

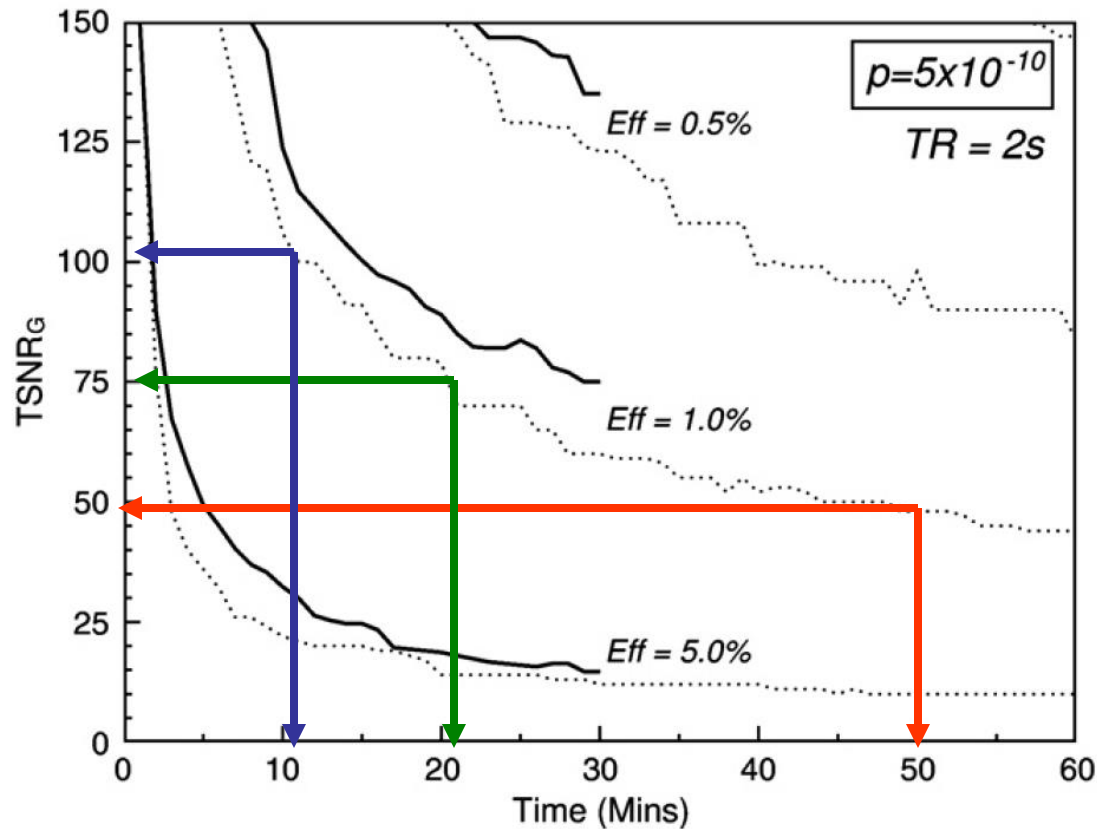
8 channel parallel receiver coil



16 channel parallel receiver coil



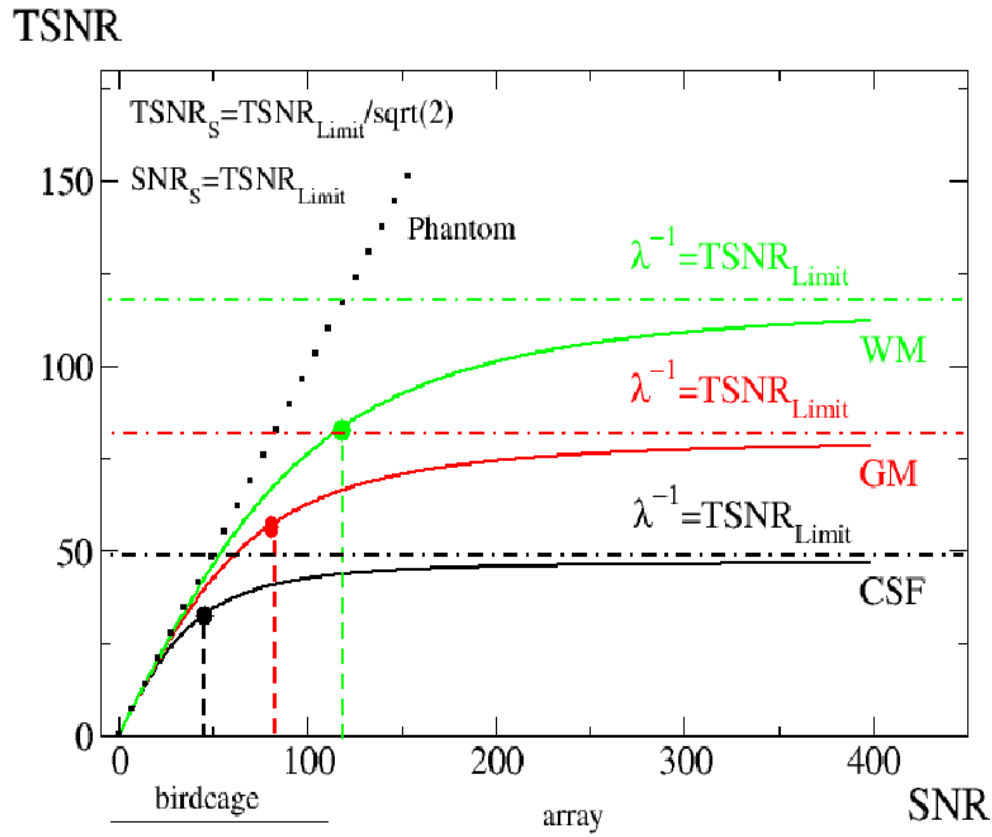
Technology



K. Murphy, J. Bodurka, P. A. Bandettini, How long to scan?
The relationship between fMRI temporal signal to noise and the
necessary scan duration. *NeuroImage*, 34, 565-574 (2007)

Technology

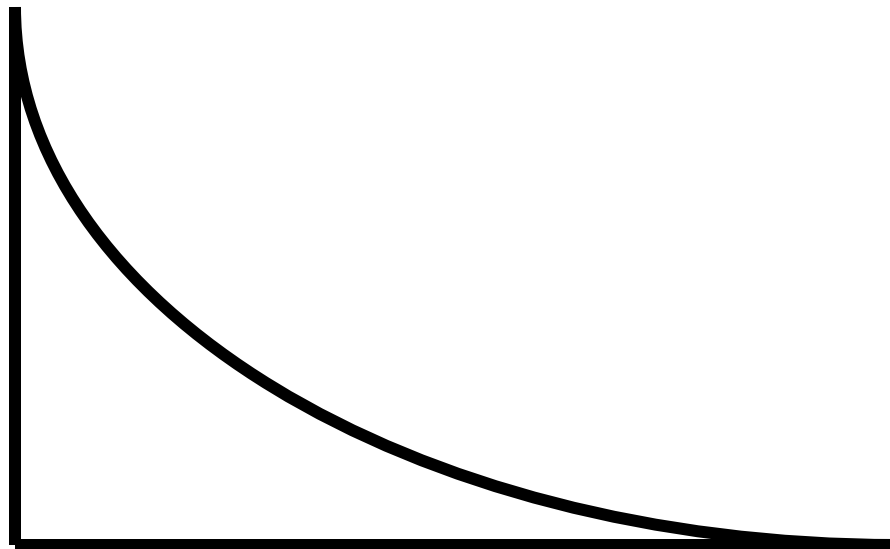
Temporal Signal to Noise Ratio (TSNR) vs. Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR)



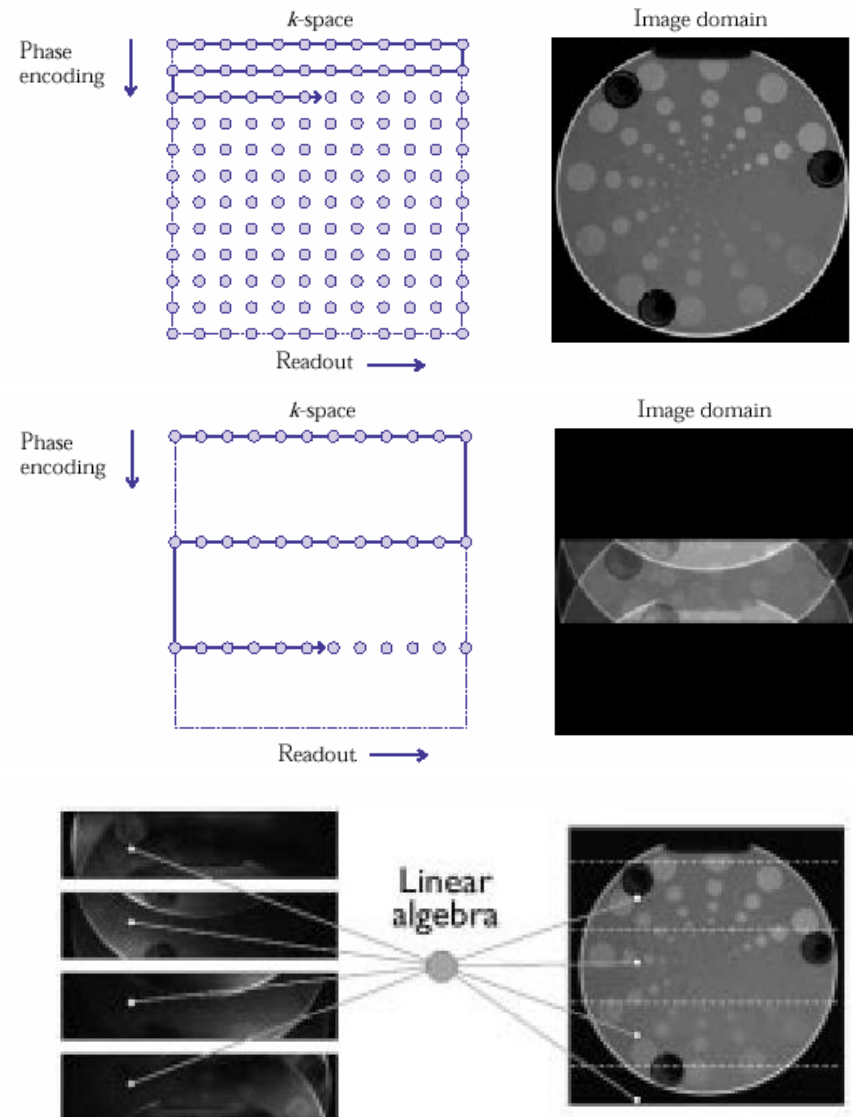
suggested voxel volume

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 3T, birdcage: | 2.5 mm ³ |
| 3T, 16 channel: | 1.8 mm ³ |
| 7T, 16 channel: | 1.4 mm ³ |

Technology

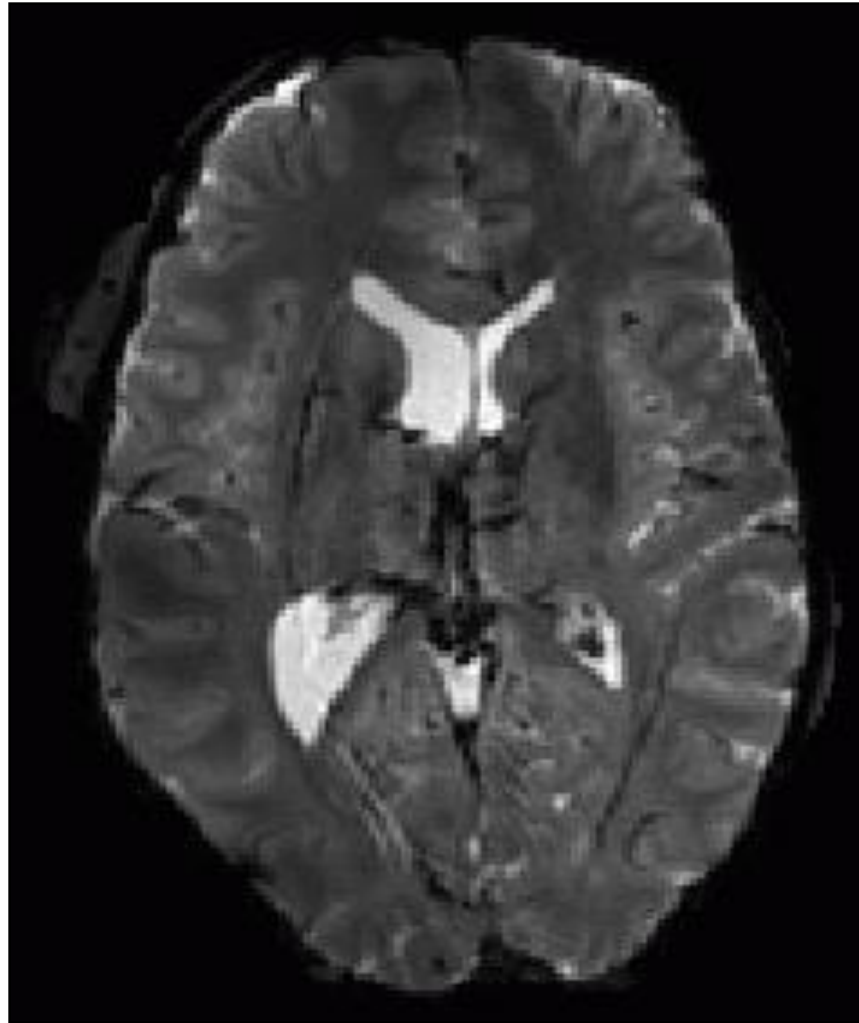


≈ 5 to 30 ms



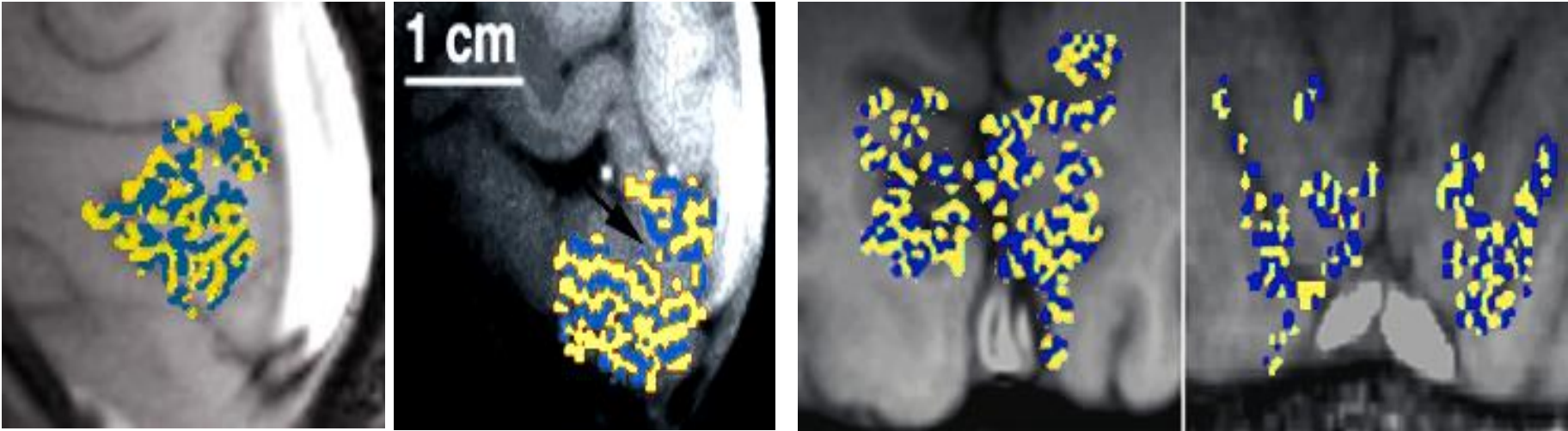
Pruessmann, et al.

Technology

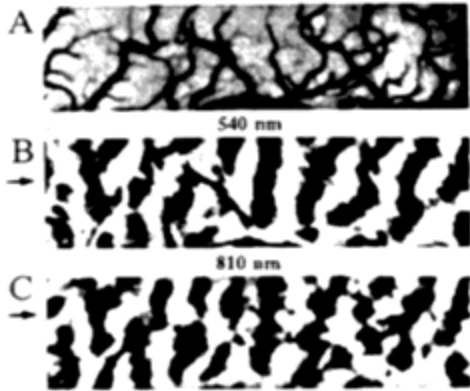


3T single-shot SENSE EPI using 16 channels: 1.25x1.25x2mm

Ocular Dominance Column Mapping using fMRI



Menon, R. S., S. Ogawa, et al. (1997). "Ocular dominance in human V1 demonstrated by functional magnetic resonance imaging." *J Neurophysiol* 77(5): 2780-7.



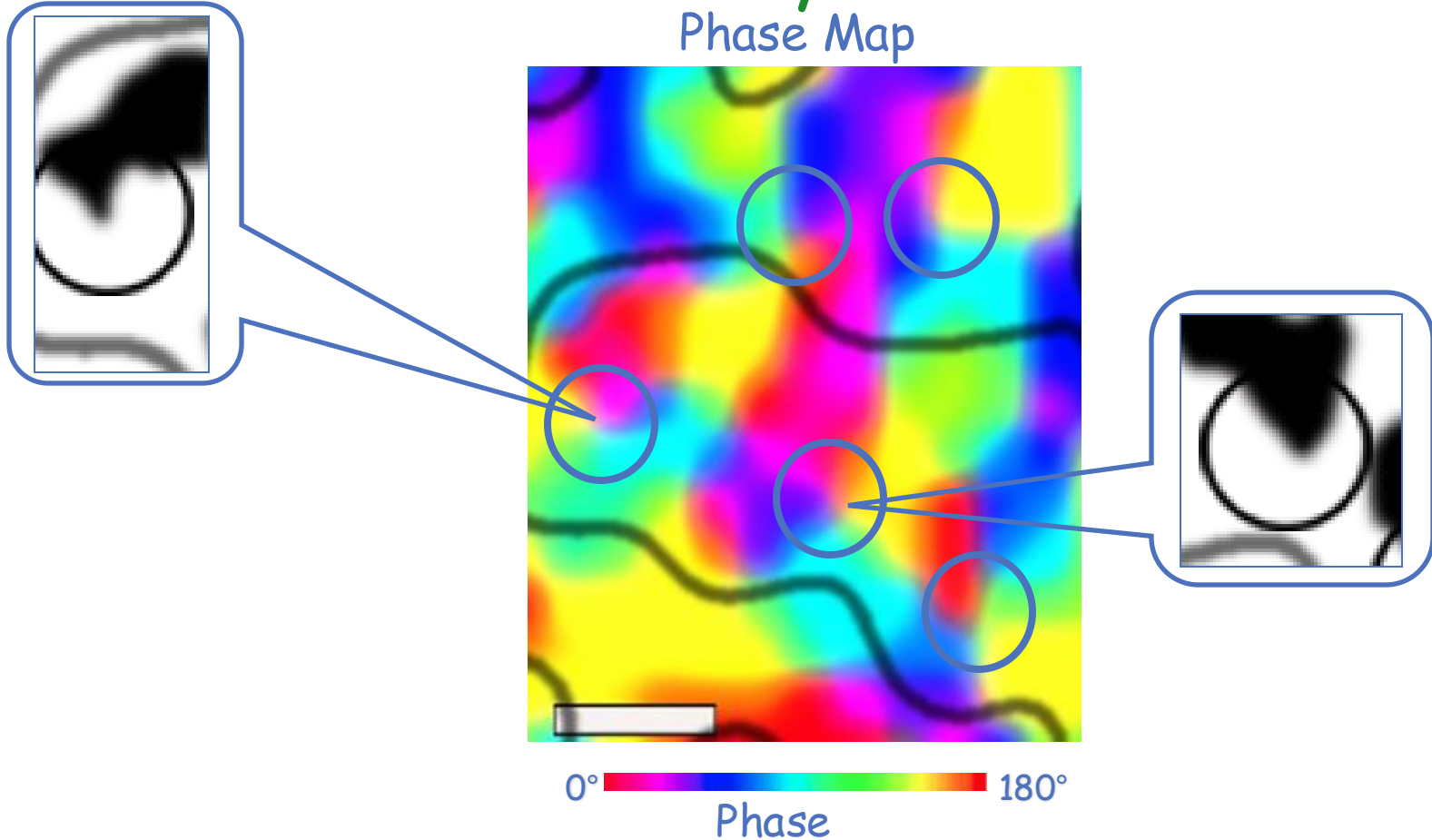
Optical Imaging

R. D. Frostig et. al, PNAS 87: 6082-6086, (1990).

Technology

Orientation Columns in Human V1 as Revealed by fMRI at 7T

Phase Map



Yacoub, Ugurbil & Harel

Scale bar = 0.5 mm

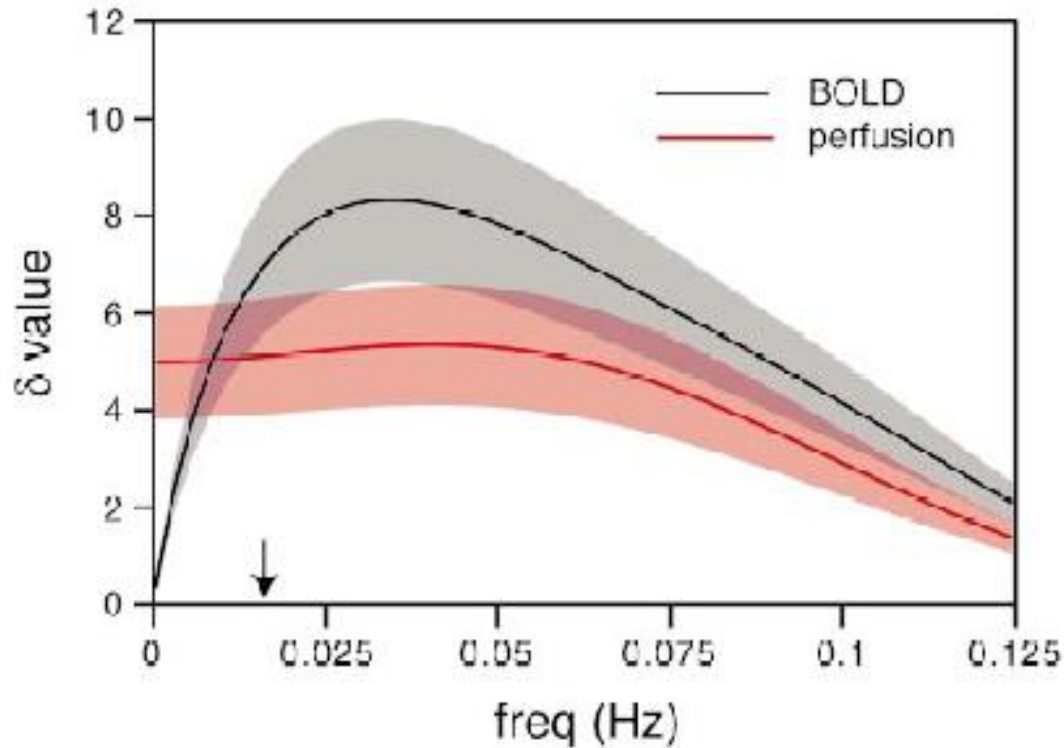
fMRI Contrast

- Volume (gadolinium)
- BOLD
- Perfusion (ASL)
- ΔCMRO_2
- ΔVolume (VASO)
- Neuronal Currents
- Diffusion coefficient
- Temperature

Technology

Perfusion (ASL)

Better than BOLD for long duration activation...



GK Aguirre et al, (2002) NeuroImage 15 (3): 488-500

Technology

Coil arrays
High field strength
High resolution
Novel functional contrast

Methodology

Functional Connectivity Assessment
Multi-modal integration
Pattern classification
Real time feedback
Task design (fMRIa...)

Fluctuations
Dynamics
Spatial patterns

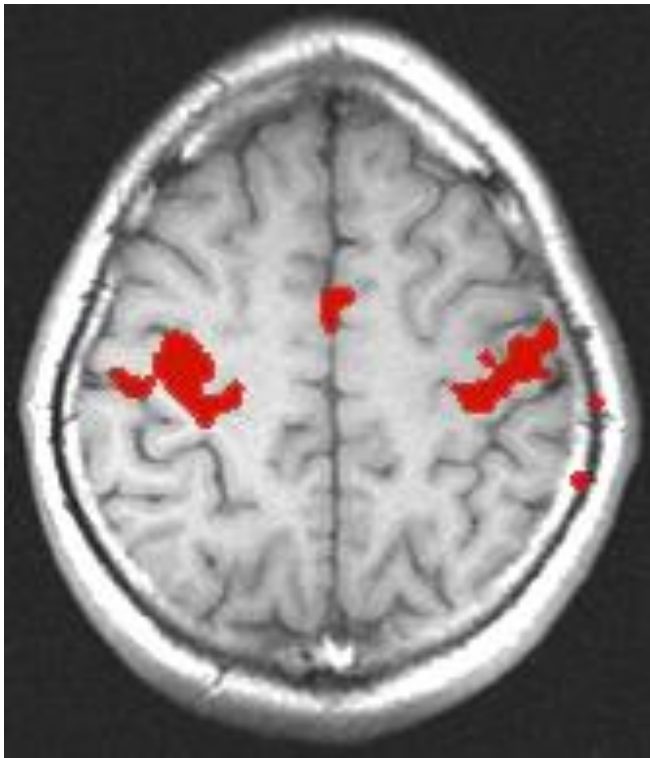
Basic Neuroscience
Behavior correlation/prediction
Pathology assessment

Interpretation

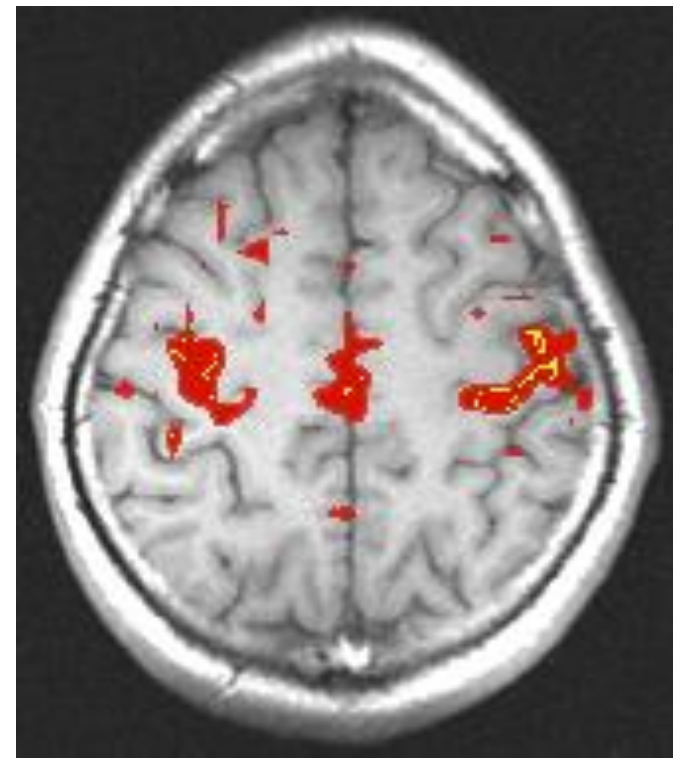
Applications

Methodology

Resting State Correlations



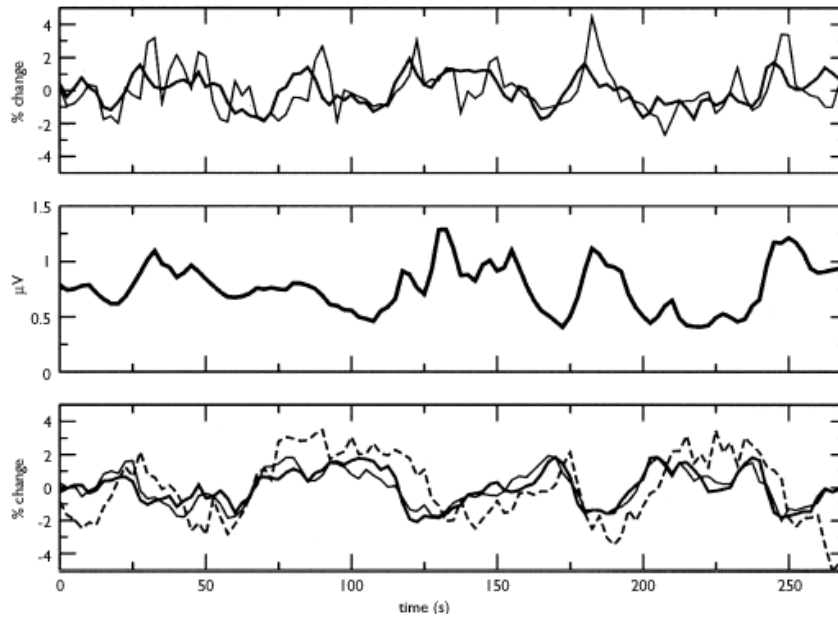
Activation:
correlation with reference function



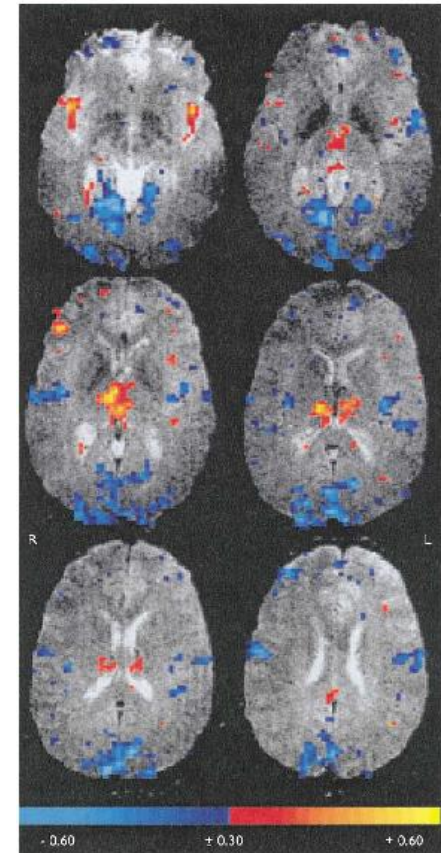
Rest:
seed voxel in motor cortex

BOLD correlated with 10 Hz power during "Rest"

Positive
10 Hz power
Negative



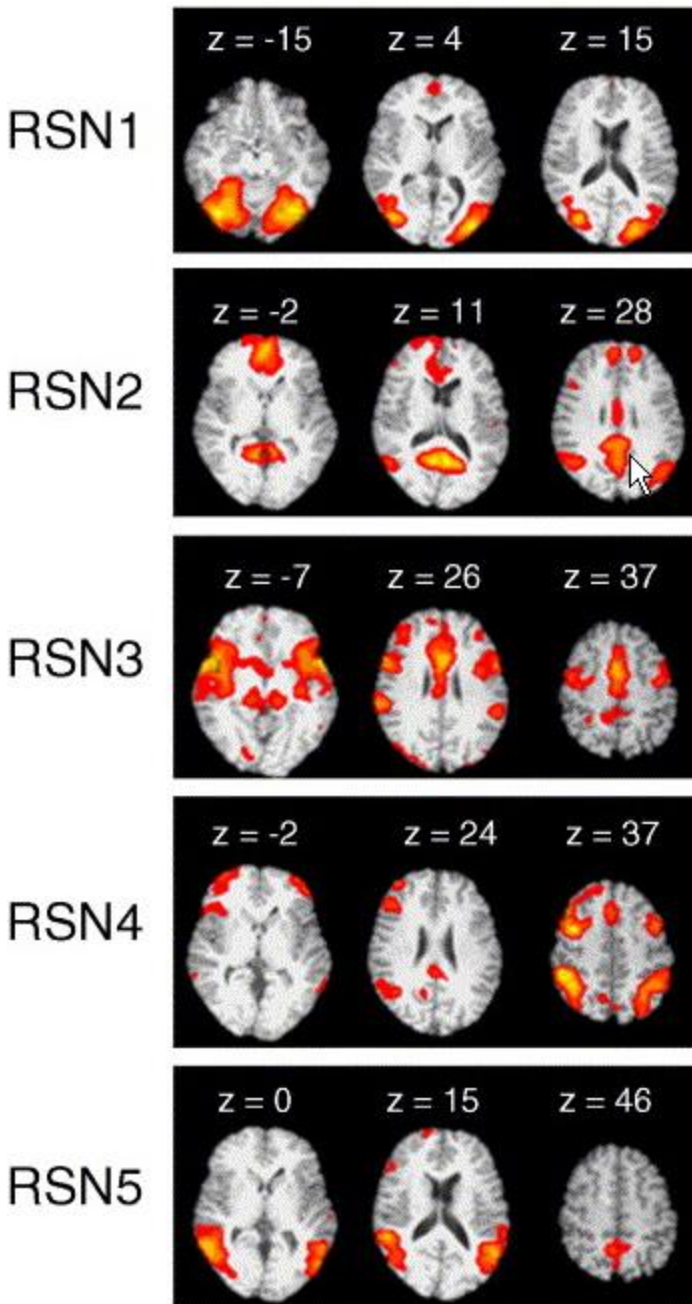
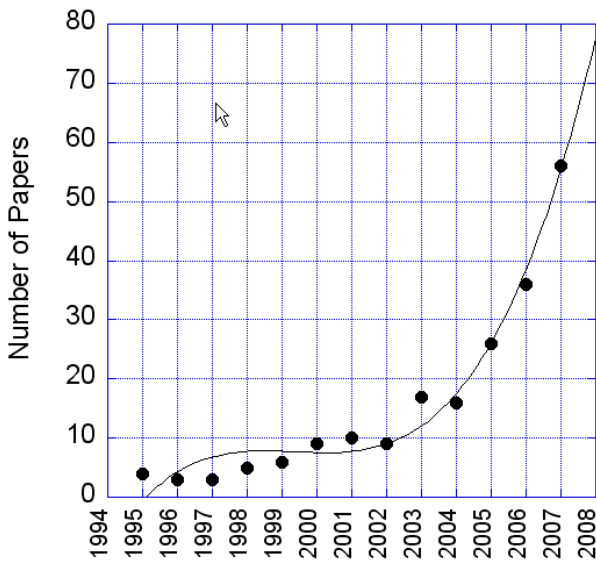
Goldman, et al (2002), Neuroreport



Methodology

Resting state networks identified with ICA

M. DeLuca, C.F. Beckmann, N. De Stefano, P.M. Matthews, S.M. Smith, *fMRI resting state networks define distinct modes of long-distance interactions in the human brain*. *NeuroImage*, 29, 1359-1367



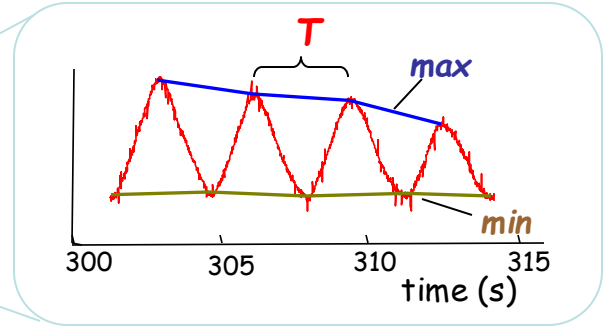
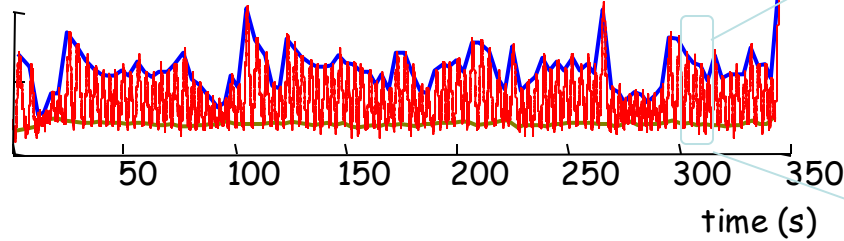
Interpretation

Sources of time series fluctuations:

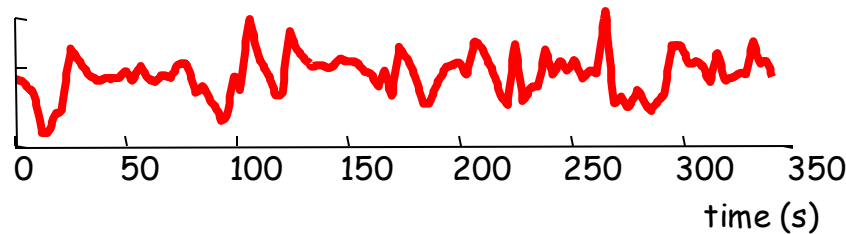
- Blood, brain and CSF pulsation
- Vasomotion
- Breathing cycle (B_0 shifts with lung expansion)
- Bulk motion
- Scanner instabilities
- Changes in blood CO_2 (changes in breathing)
- Spontaneous neuronal activity

Estimating respiration volume changes

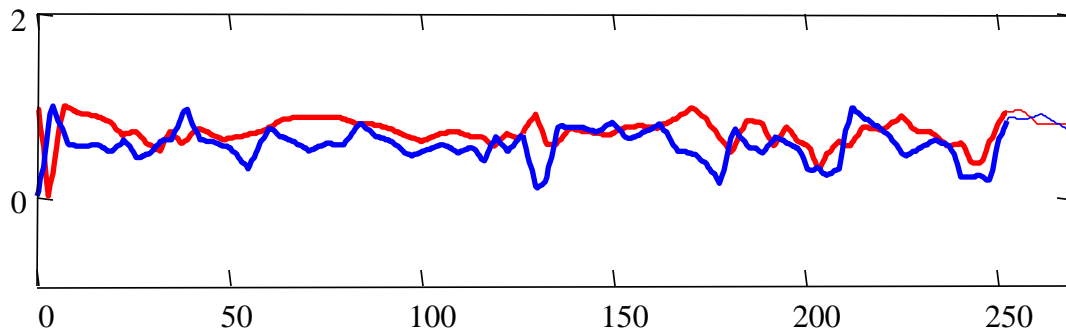
Respiration



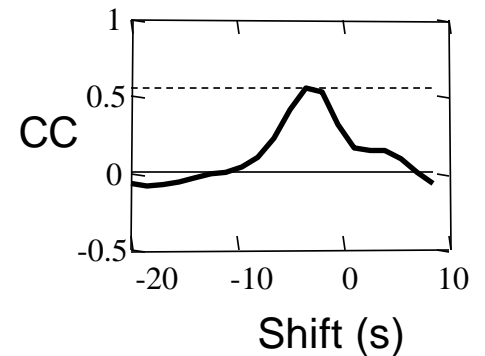
Respiration Volume / Time (RVT)



$$RVT = \frac{\text{max} - \text{min}}{T}$$

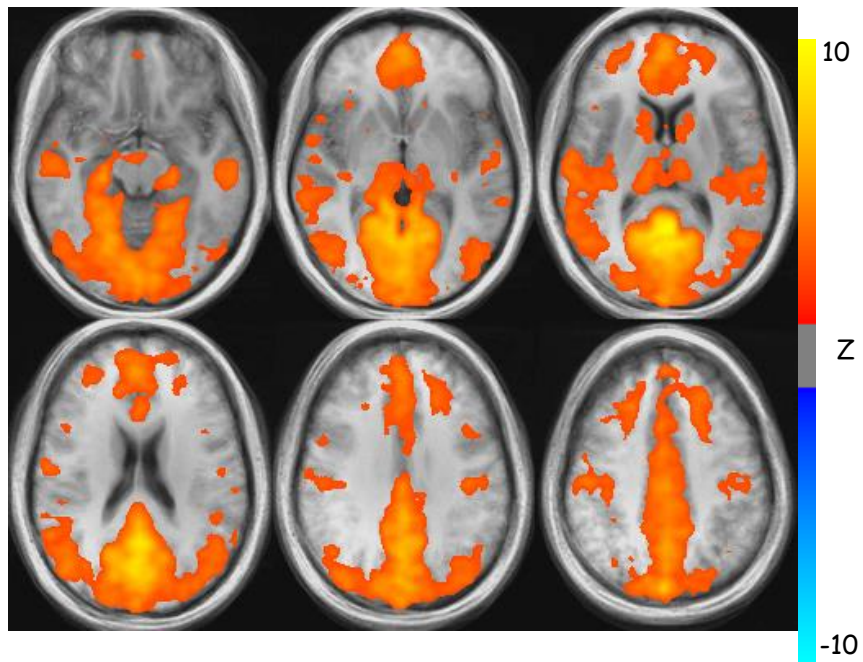


- CO₂
- RVT

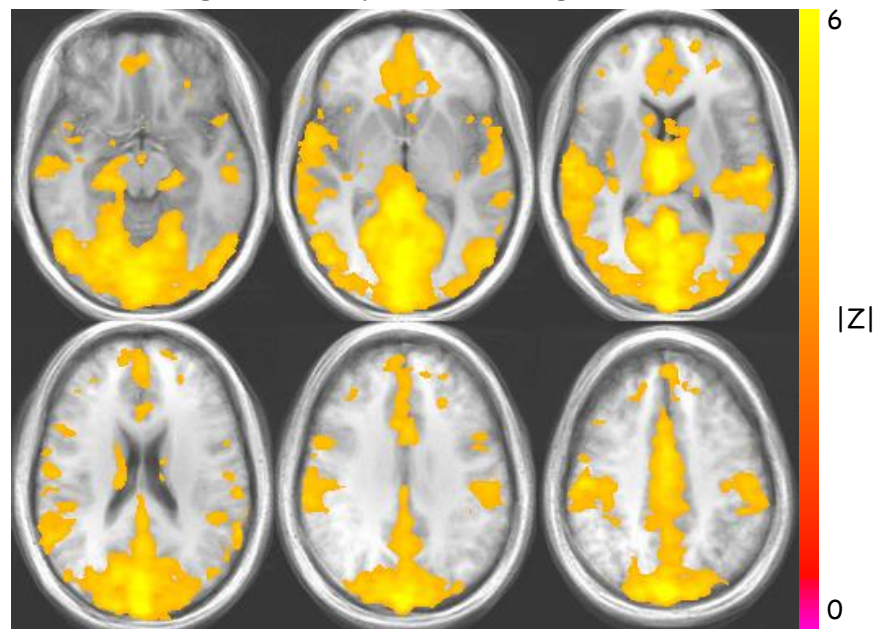


RVT precedes end tidal CO₂ by 5 sec.

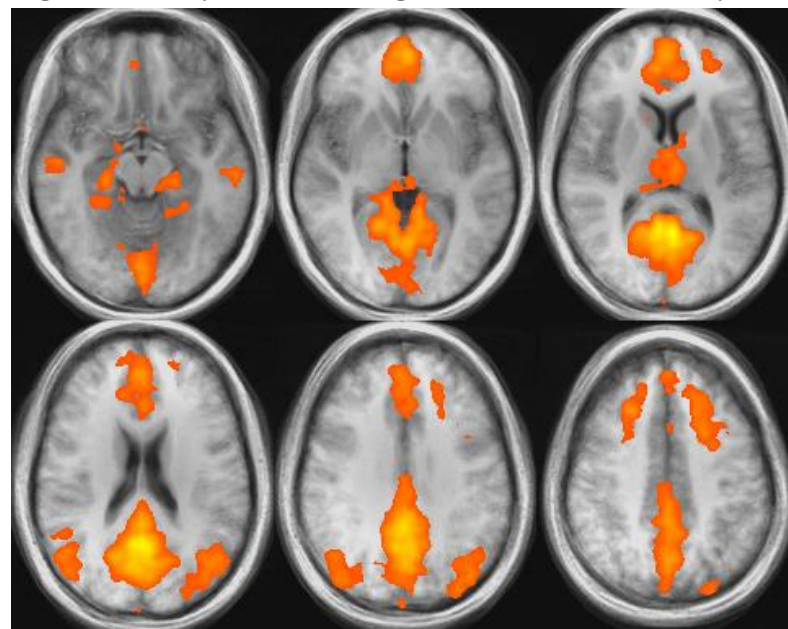
Resting state correlation with RVT signal



Resting state correlation with signal from posterior cingulate



Resting state correlation with signal from posterior cingulate... constant respiration



R.M. Birn, J. A. Diamond, M. A. Smith, P. A. Bandettini, *NeuroImage*, 31, 1536-1548

Methodology

Beyond Mapping



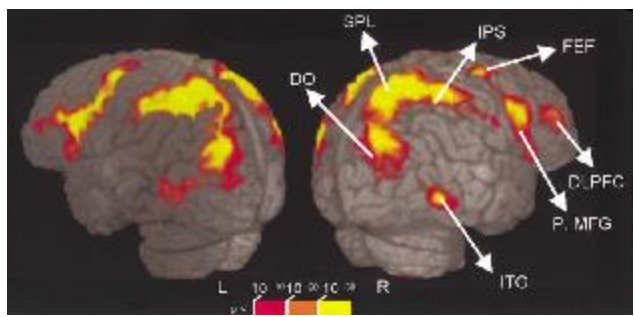
Mapping ↔ "Reading"

Methodology

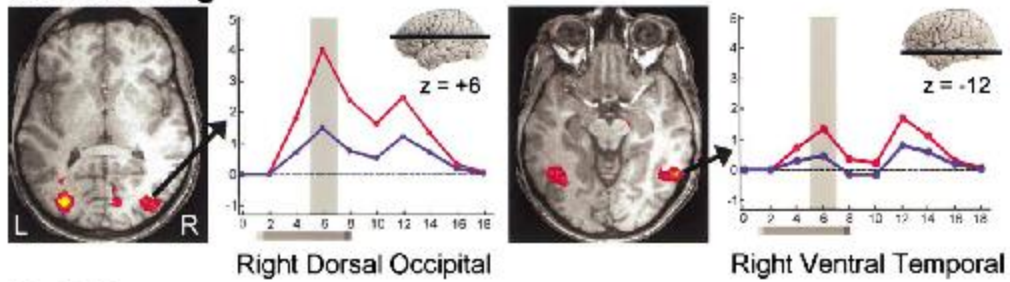
Neuron, Vol. 35, 975-987, August 29, 2002, Copyright ©2002 by Cell Press

Neural Correlates of Visual Working Memory: fMRI Amplitude Predicts Task Performance

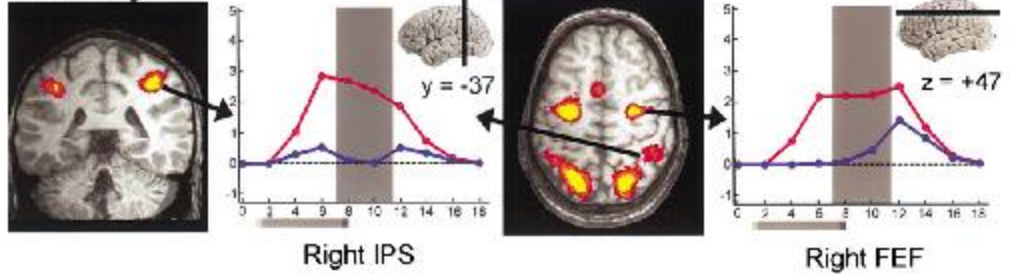
Luiz Pessoa,¹ Eva Gutierrez, Peter A. Bandettini, and Leslie G. Ungerleider
Laboratory of Brain and Cognition
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892



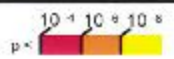
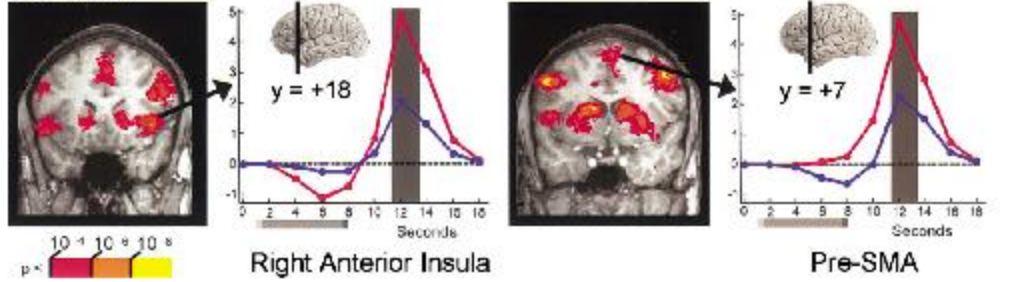
A. Encoding



B. Delay



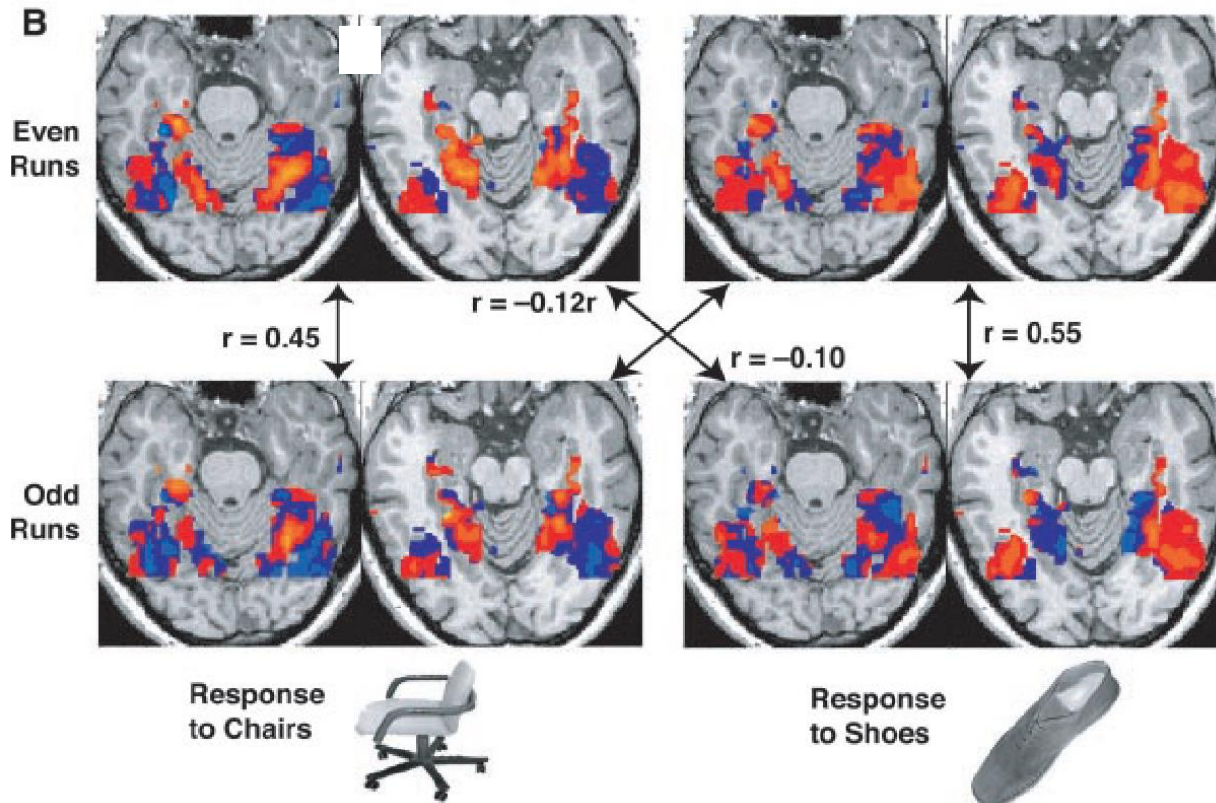
C. Test



Methodology

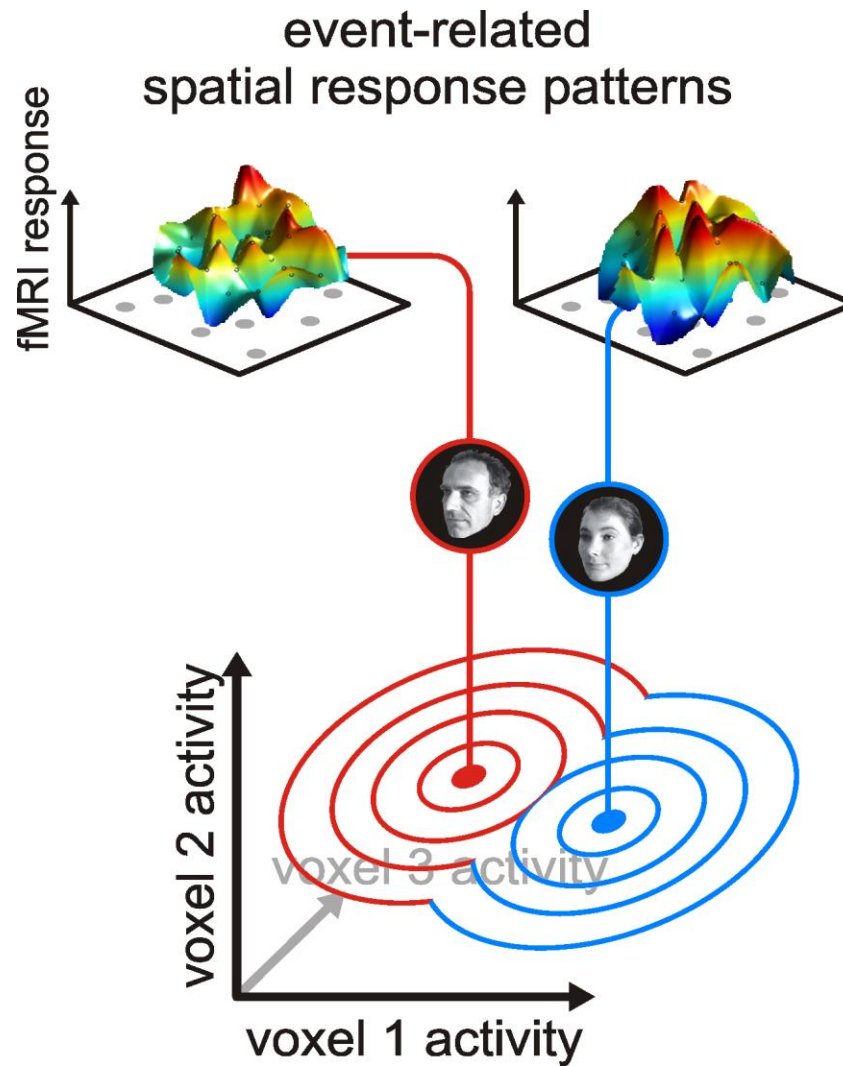
Ventral temporal category representations

Object categories are associated with distributed representations in ventral temporal cortex

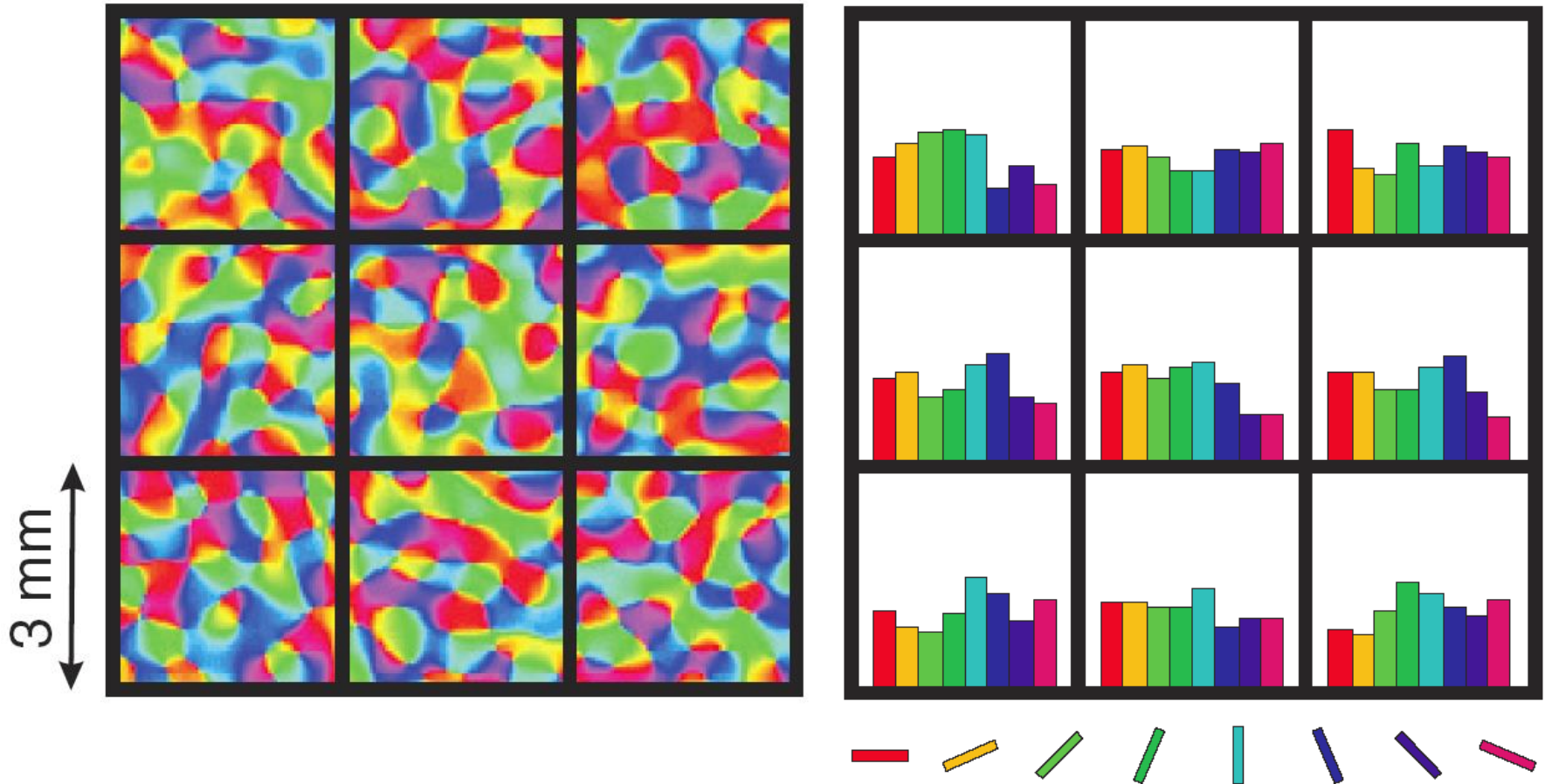


Haxby et al. 2001

Pattern Information Mapping



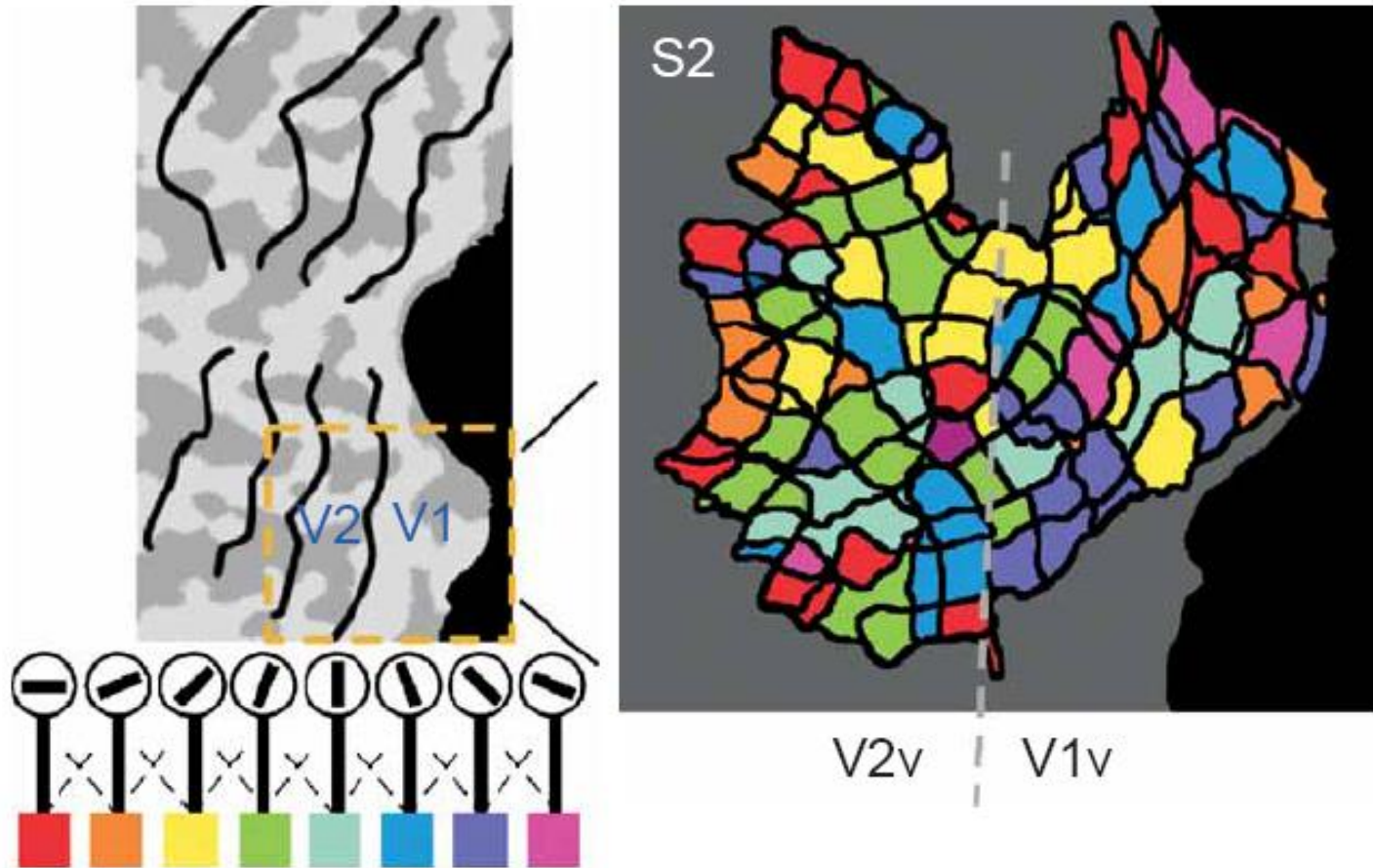
Methodology



Boynton (2005), News & Views on Kamitani & Tong (2005) and Haynes & Rees (2005)

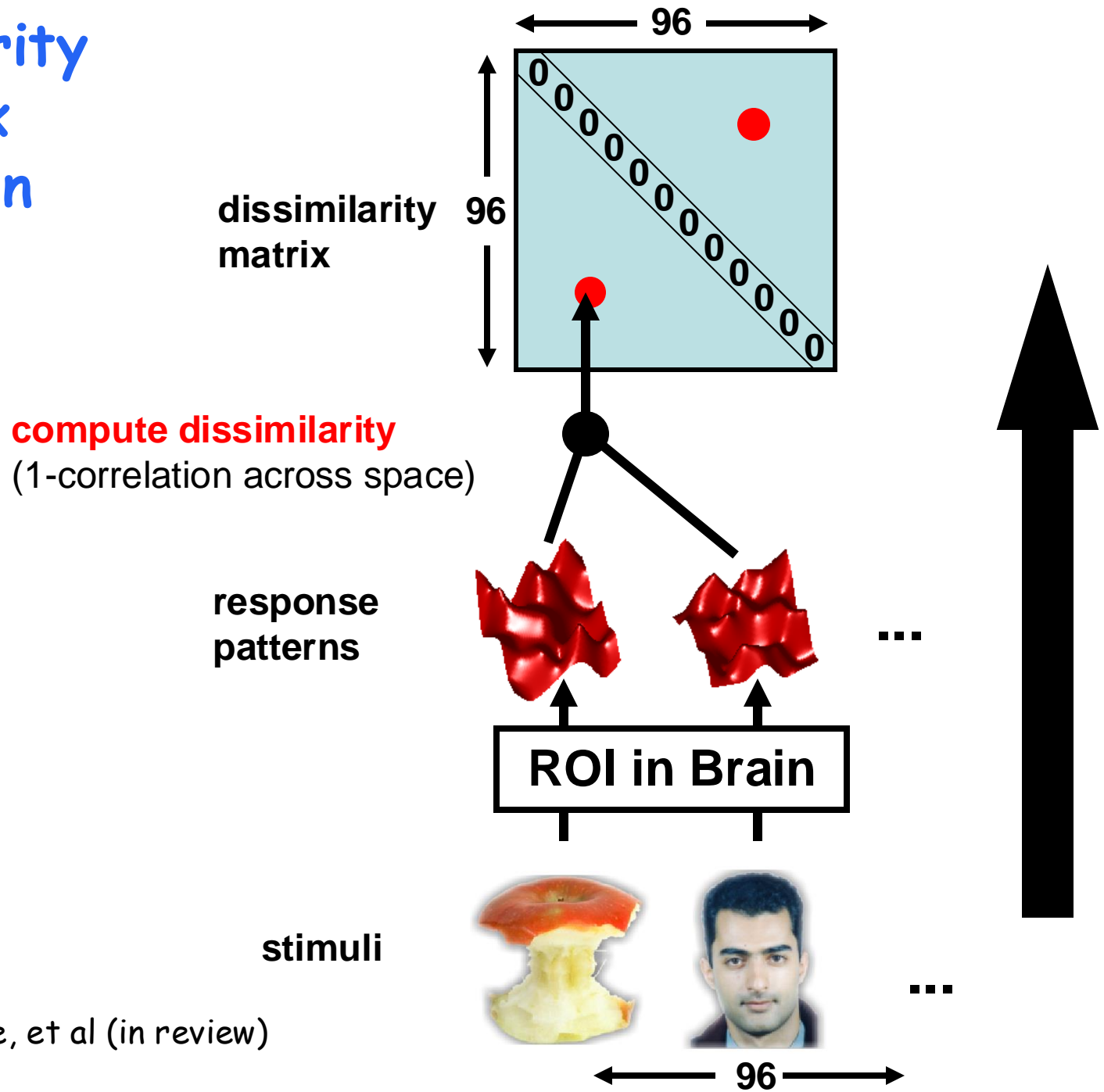
Methodology

Lower spatial frequency clumping



Kamitani & Tong (2005)

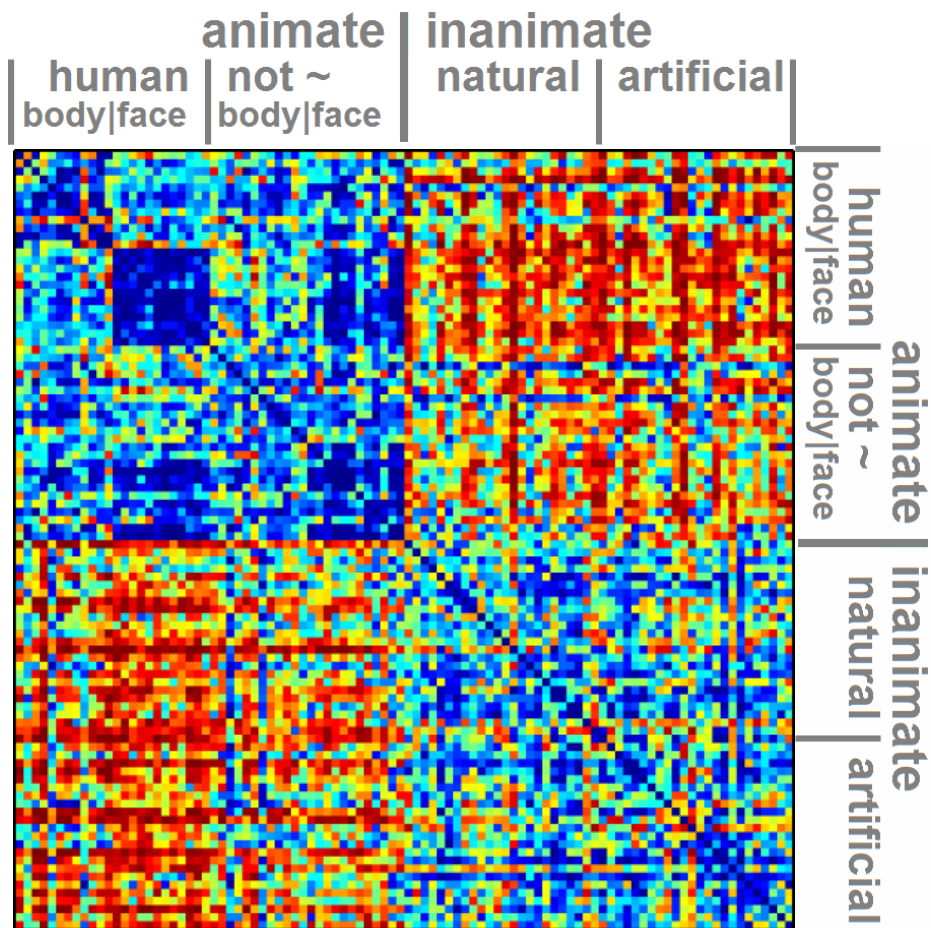
Dissimilarity Matrix Creation



N. Kriegeskorte, et al (in review)

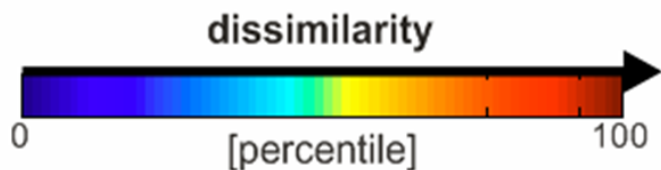
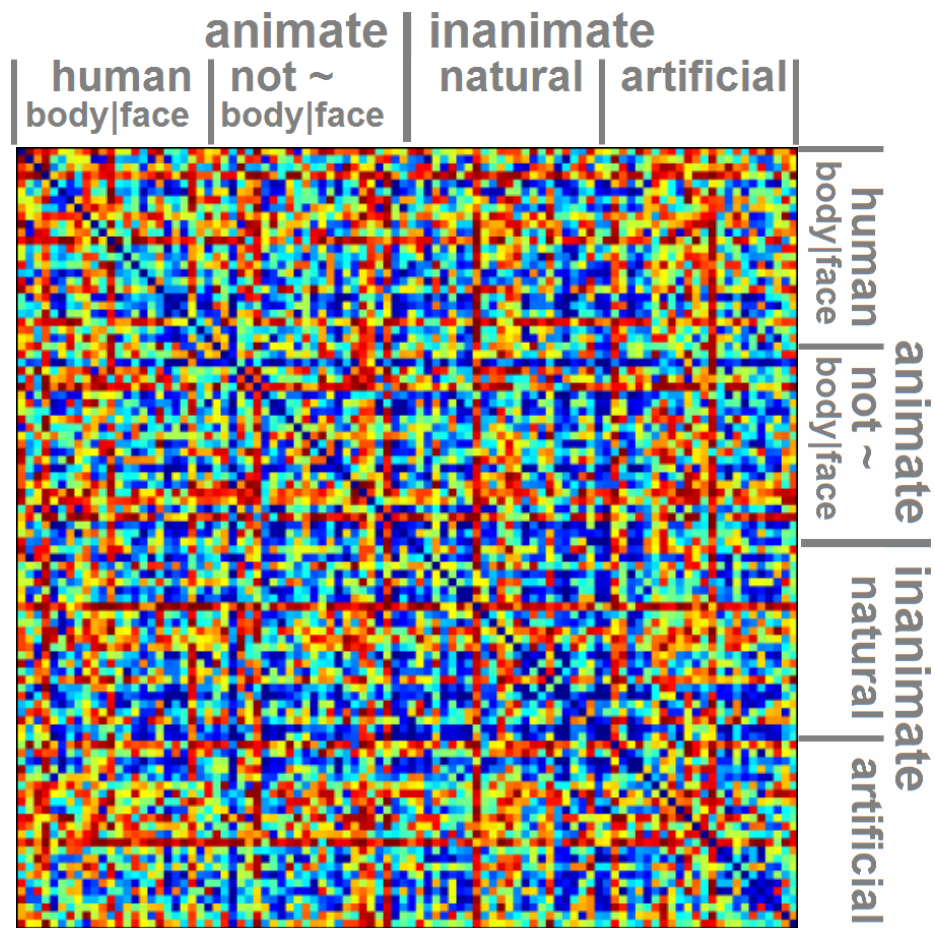
Human IT

(1000 visually most responsive voxels)



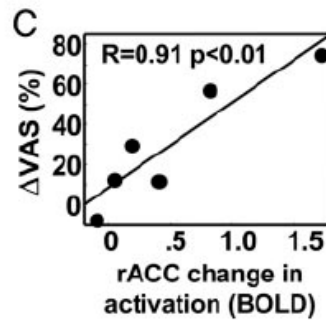
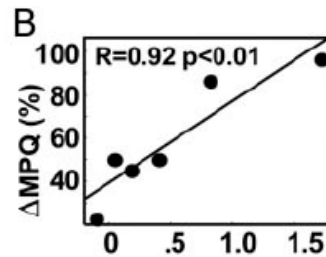
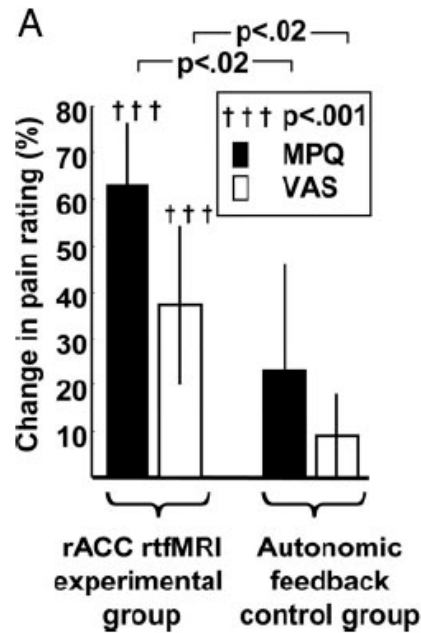
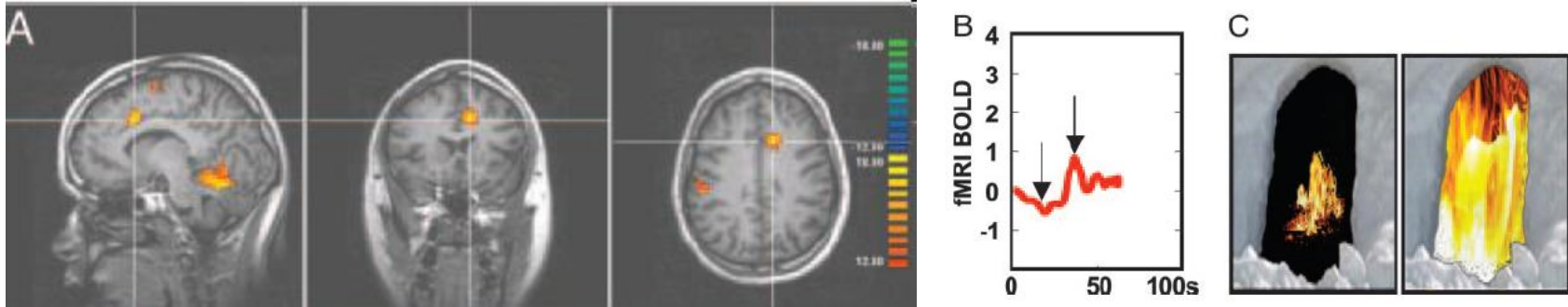
Human Early Visual Cortex

(1057 visually most responsive voxels)



Applications

Real time fMRI feedback from Anterior Cingulate Cortex to reduce chronic pain



Control over brain activation and pain learned by using real-time functional MRI, R. C. deCharms, et al. PNAS, 102; 18626-18631 (2005)

How most fMRI studies are performed

MRI parameters:

1.5T - 3T, 64 x 64 matrix, 3mm x 3mm x 5mm voxel size, whole brain, TR = 2 sec.

Paradigm:

Block design or event-related, single or multiple conditions.

Analysis:

Motion correct, multi-regression, spatial smoothing and spatial normalization, standard classical statistical tests, multi-subject averaging.

Hypothesis:

A region or network of regions show modulation with a task. This modulation is unique to the task and/or population.

How fMRI might be performed

MRI parameters:

3T - 11.7T, 256 × 256 matrix, 0.5 × 0.5 × 0.5 voxel size, whole brain TR = 1sec or select slab TR = 100 ms.

Paradigm:

Natural, continuous, fMRI-adaptation, or no stimuli/task. Simultaneous multi-modal, or multiple contrast measurements.

Analysis:

Motion correct, dynamic Bo-field correction, no spatial or temporal smoothing, machine learning algorithms, pattern classification, hemodynamic parameter assessment - calibration, correlation with behavior.

Hypothesis:

Similar to previous but using the high resolution patterns, fluctuations, dynamics, and contrast mechanisms that we are still figuring out how to interpret and extract.

What fMRI Might Do

Complementary use for clinical use

- usage of clinical research findings for more effective diagnoses, prediction, characterization, and intervention

Clinical treatment and assessment of therapy

- better understanding of the specific pathology mechanism
- drug effect assessment
- assessment of therapy progress, biofeedback
- epileptic foci mapping
- neurovascular physiology assessment

Non clinical uses

- lie detection
- prediction of behavior tendencies
- brain/computer interface

Section on Functional Imaging Methods & Functional MRI Facility Jan 19, 2007



Back row: **Wenming Luh**, **Niko Kriegeskorte**, **Rasmus Birn**, **Tyler Jones**, **Sean Marrett**
Middle row: **Jon West**, **Kay Kuhns**, **Anthony Boemio**, **Peter Bandettini**, **Joey Dunsmoor**, **Doug Ruff**, **Kevin Murphy**
Front row: **Dorian Van Tassel**, **Jerzy Bodurka**, **Adam Thomas**, **Marieke Mur**, **David Knight**