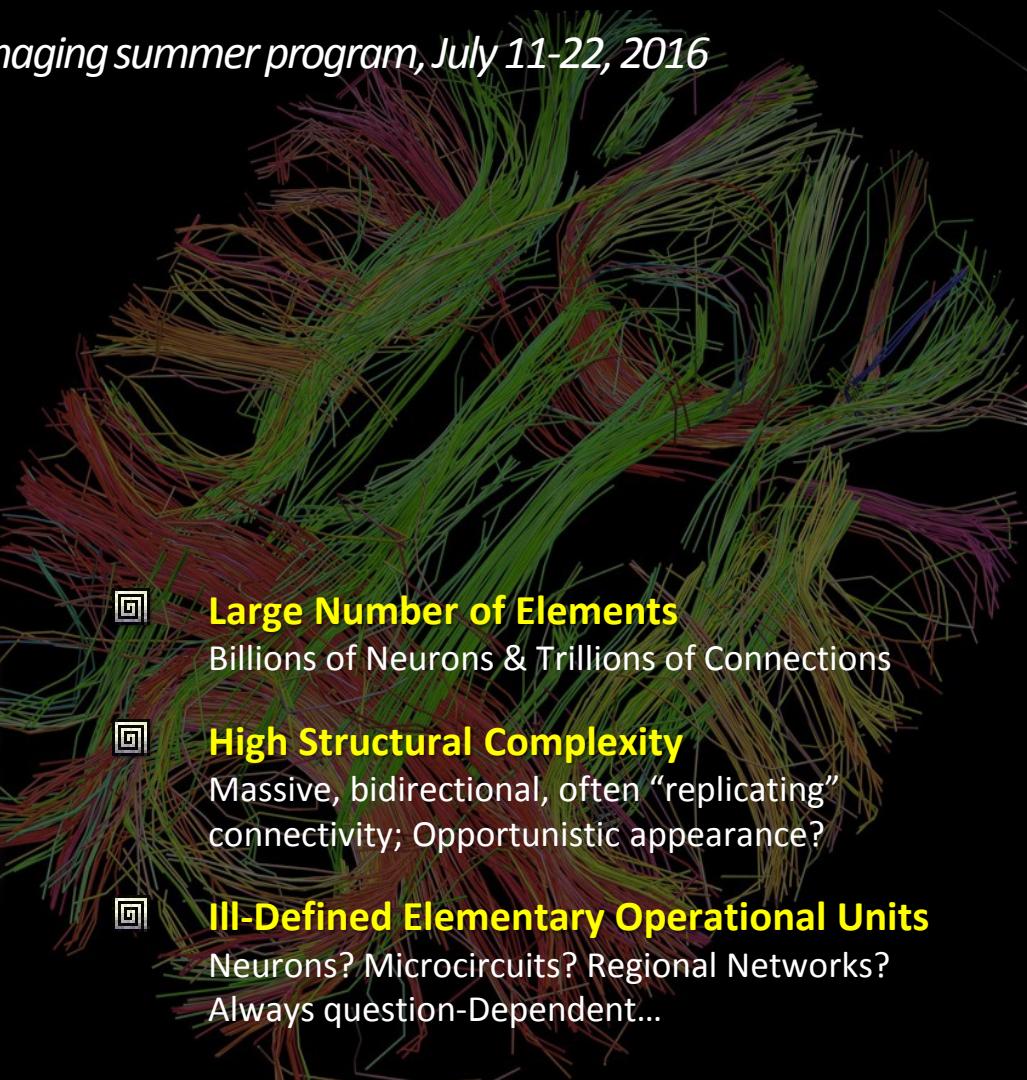
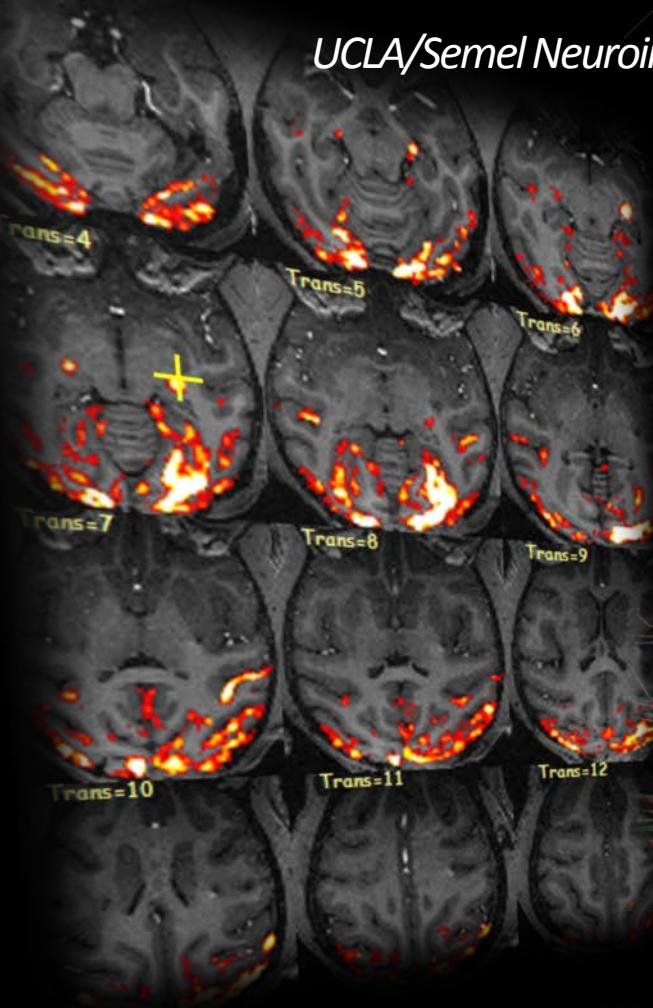


# DES-fMRI: Direct Electrical Stimulation and fMRI

Mapping Monosynaptic Connectivity & Cortico-Thalamo-Cortical Loops

UCLA/Semel Neuroimaging summer program, July 11-22, 2016



- **Large Number of Elements**  
Billions of Neurons & Trillions of Connections
- **High Structural Complexity**  
Massive, bidirectional, often “replicating” connectivity; Opportunistic appearance?
- **Ill-Defined Elementary Operational Units**  
Neurons? Microcircuits? Regional Networks?  
Always question-Dependent...



Nikos K. Logothetis

Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics



# Connectivity: Histology, DTI, MEMRI, DES-fMRI & NET-fMRI

## Traditional Fix Tissue-Requiring Histological Techniques

### ➤ Degeneration Studies

### ➤ Conventional Tracers

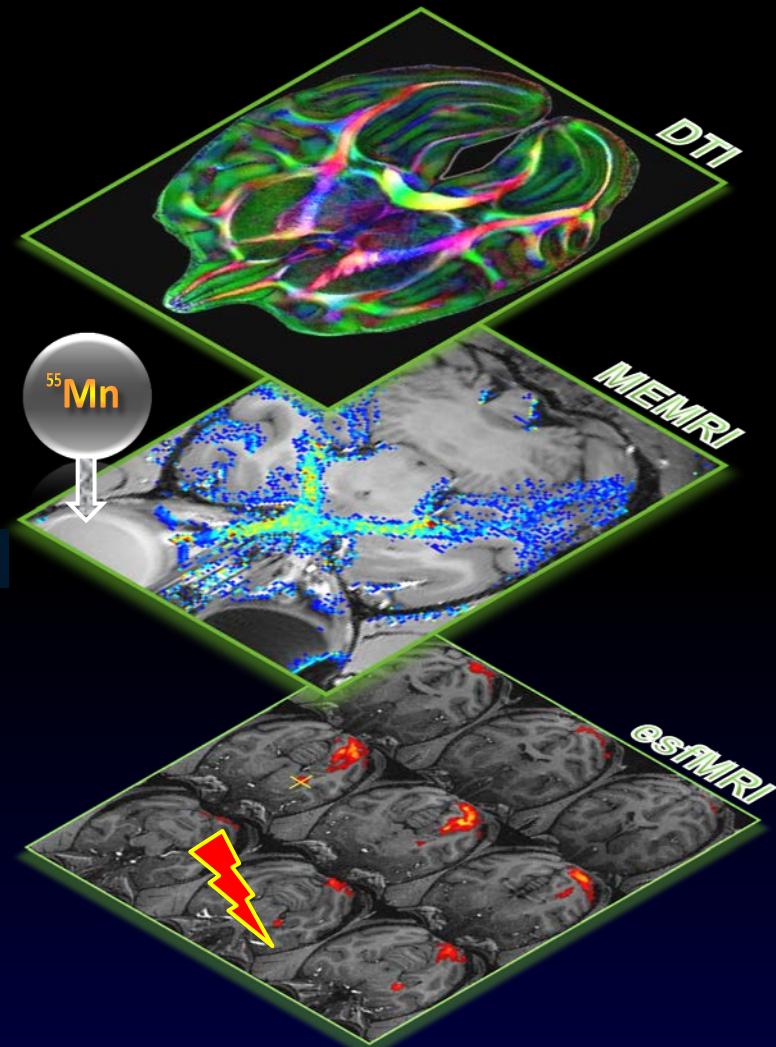
CT-HRP:	Horseradish peroxidase, conj. cholera toxin A/R
HRP:	Horseradish Peroxidase A/R
TAA-HRP:	HRP tritiated amino acids A/R
WGA:	Wheat germ agglutinin A/R
WGA-HRP	Anterograde tracing

### ➤ Transneuronal Tracers

Herpes-Simplex Virus (HSV)  
Indocyanine green, carbocyanine fast Di-I Biotinylated dextran

### ➤ Genetically Encoded Markers & Viral-Based Methods

Fluorescent proteins, transgenic constitutive & site-specific expression of markers for axonal connectivity



## Non-Invasive or Minimally Invasive In vivo Connectivity with MRI Techniques

### ➤ DTI & Effective Connectivity

### ➤ Paramagnetic Tracers - Mapping

Sensory Pathways

[1] Diffuse ascending Systems (before/after learning)

[2] Cortico-Subcortical Pathways

### ➤ DES-fMRI (Direct Electrical Stimulation & fMRI)

### ➤ NET-fMRI (Neural Event Triggered fMRI)

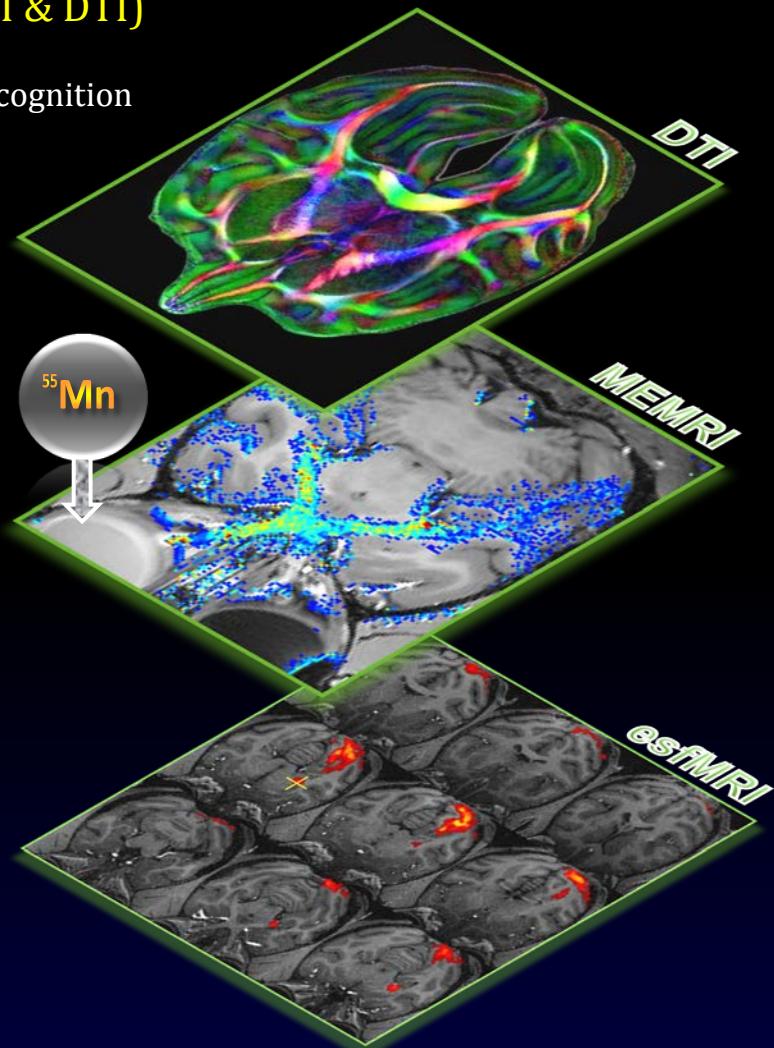
# Potential Applications of DES-fMRI

## ➤ *In vivo Connectivity* (potentially combined w/ MEMRI & DTI)

Study of projective fields (\*)

In search of “causalities” between neural activity and perception/cognition

Study of motor systems



## ➤ *Network Plasticity*

*Study of synaptic plasticity*

*Effect of local plasticity changes on global networks*

*Study of neuromodulatory systems*

## ➤ *Clinical Applications*

*Identification of “eloquent” areas before surgical intervention*

*Insights into the mechanisms of electrotherapy*

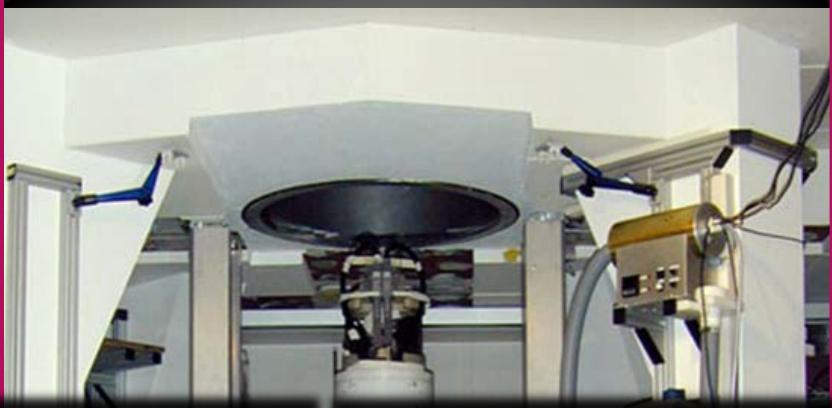
*Design of neural prosthetic systems*

# MPIK Scanners for Combining fMRI with other Neuroscience-Techniques

**4.7T/40cm - 50mT/m 180µs**



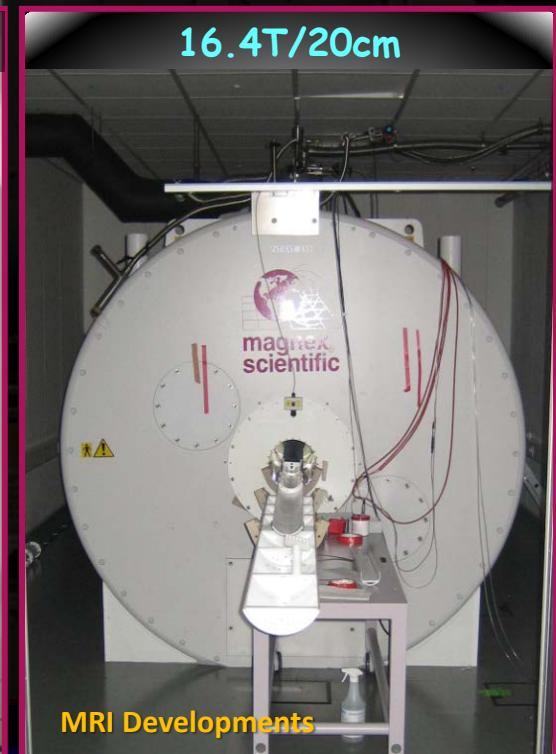
**7T/60cm - 85mT/m 190µs**



**7T/30cm**



**16.4T/20cm**

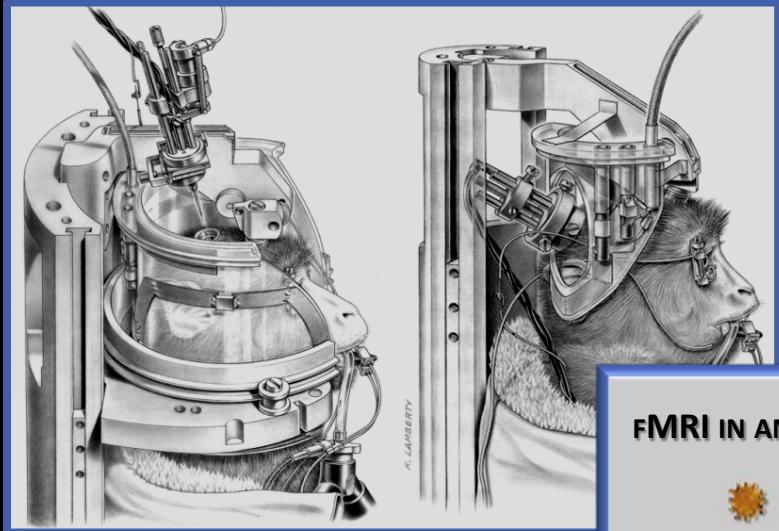


**Rat – Physiology/fMRI  
Smart Contrast Agents  
Microsampling-MS-fMRI**

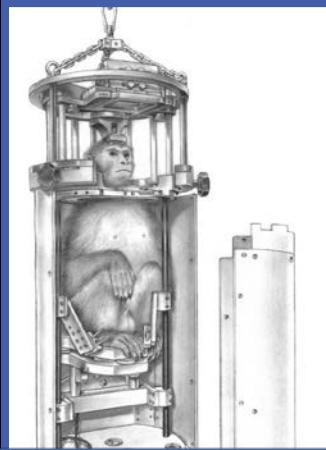
**MRI Developments**

# Electrophysiology, DES and fMRI in Anesthetized & Alert-Behaving Animals

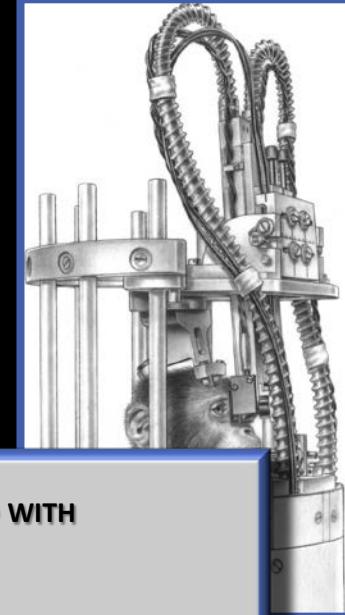
Coils, Sensors & Electrode-Holders



Chairs & Transport



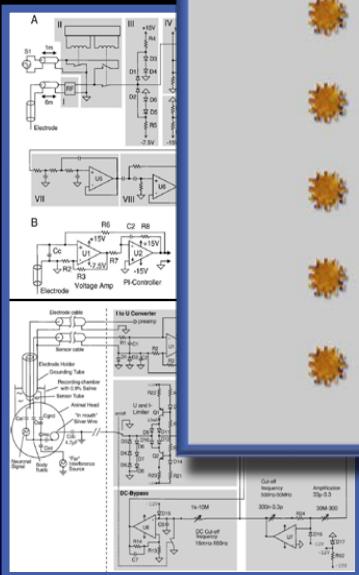
Behavioral Monitoring



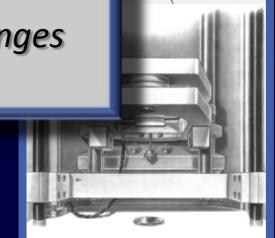
Electrodes & Interference-Sensors



Interference Compensation



Model

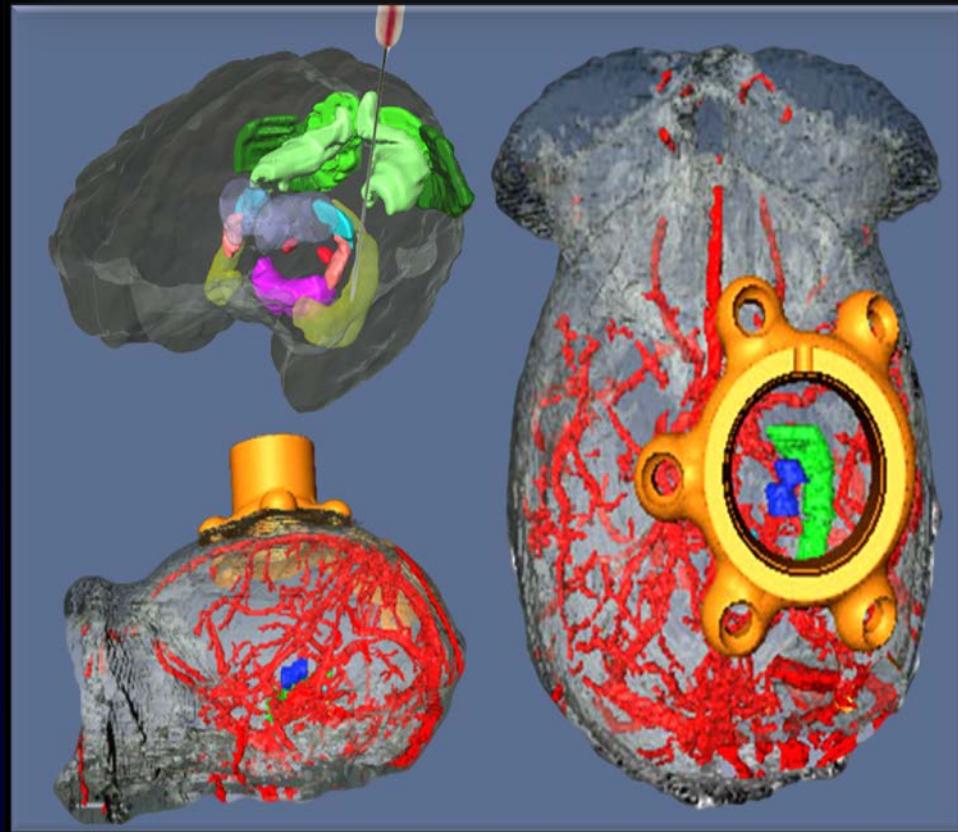


Sensors

# Safe Targeting of Deep Brain-Structures

## Angiography & 3D Site-Reconstruction

An attempt to reduce electrode-induced injury and infections  
Localization verified w/ recordings



## Parallel Imaging in the NHP

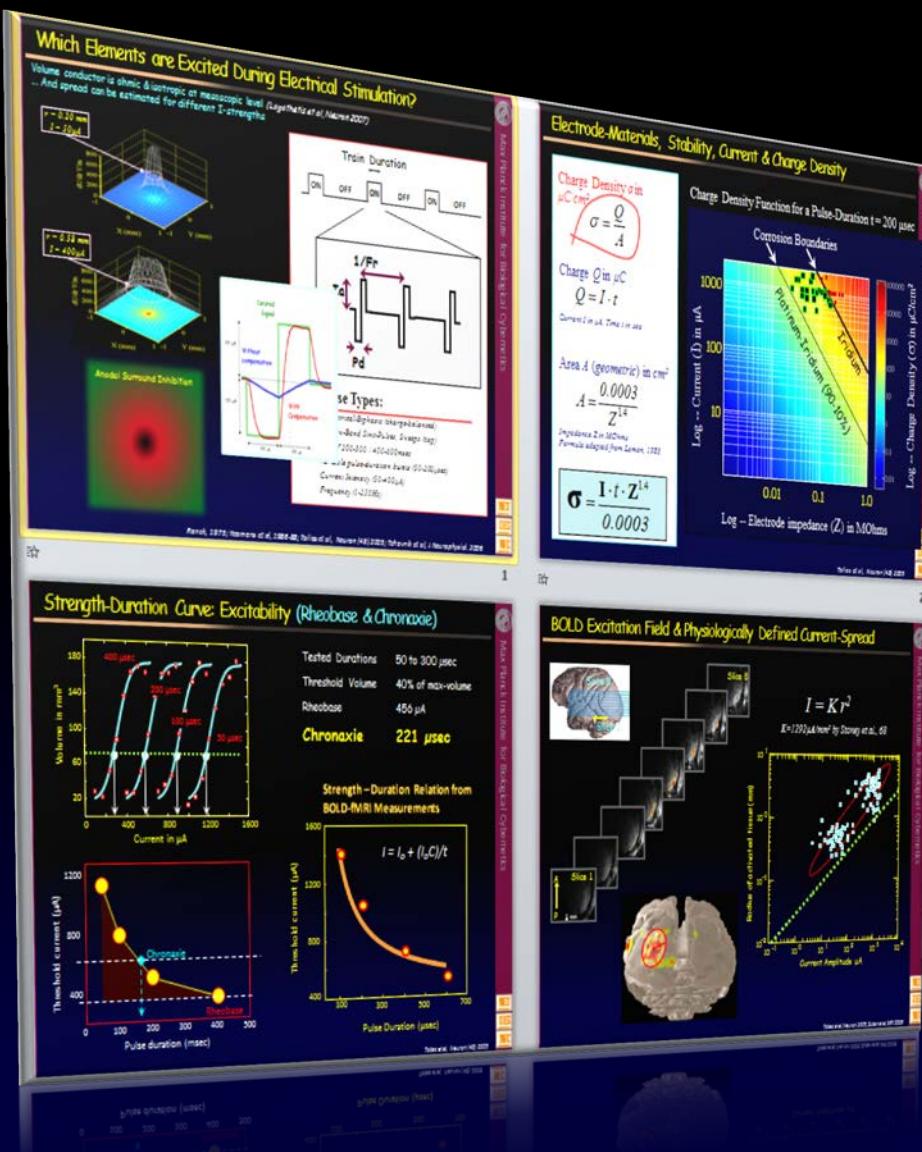
Phased RF-coil arrays;  
Subject-Specificity w/ CAD-Reconstructed Heads

**Voxel size .5x.5x1mm, Volume TR 500-250ms**



# DES-fMRI (Direct Electrical Stimulation & fMRI)

Connectivity of Structures Studied in Behavioral Experiments  
Effects of Neuromodulation on Cortical Microcircuits  
Network-Plasticity, E.G. Local-LTP-Induced Global Changes



## DES-fMRI: Detailed Characterization

- Studies of Volume Conduction (isotropy/anisotropy)
- Selection of Electrode-Materials
- Current , Stability & Charge Density
- Electrophysiological & BOLD Estimation of Excitability
- Physiological Current-Spread & BOLD Excitation Fields

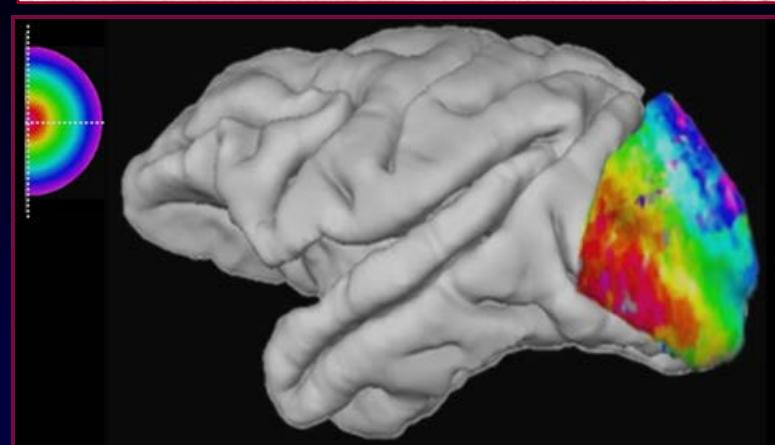
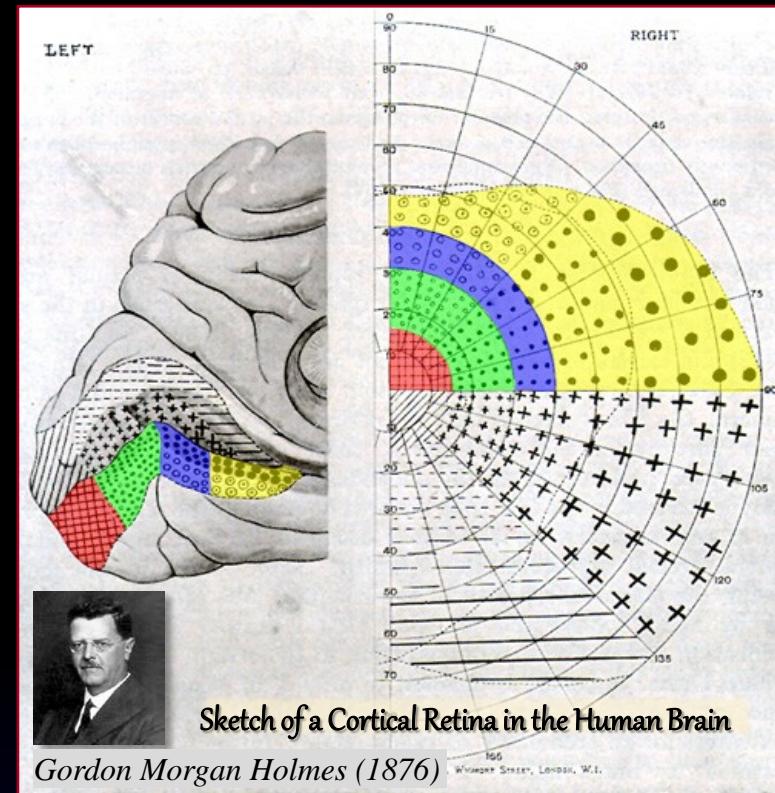
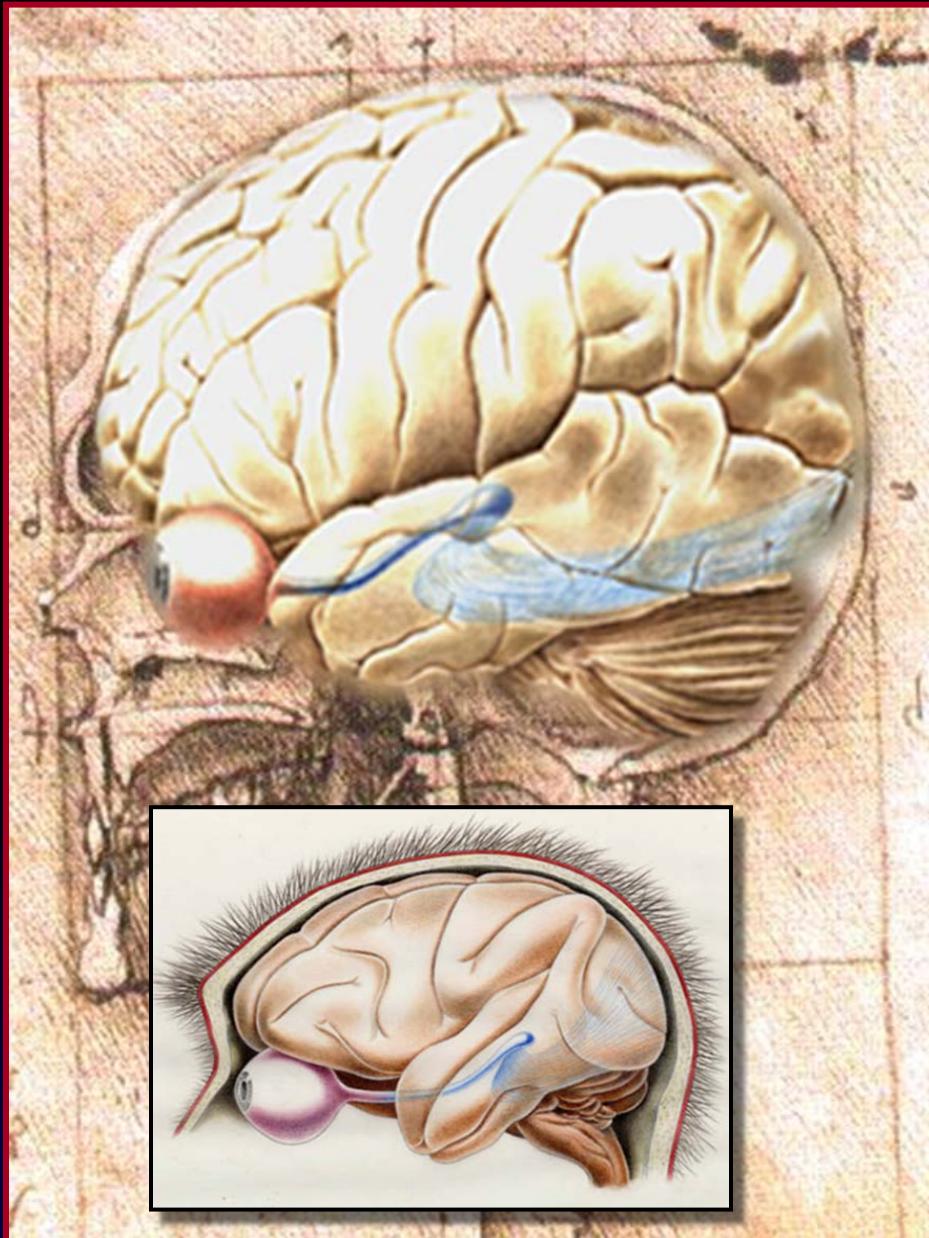
## DES-fMRI: State-of-the-Art

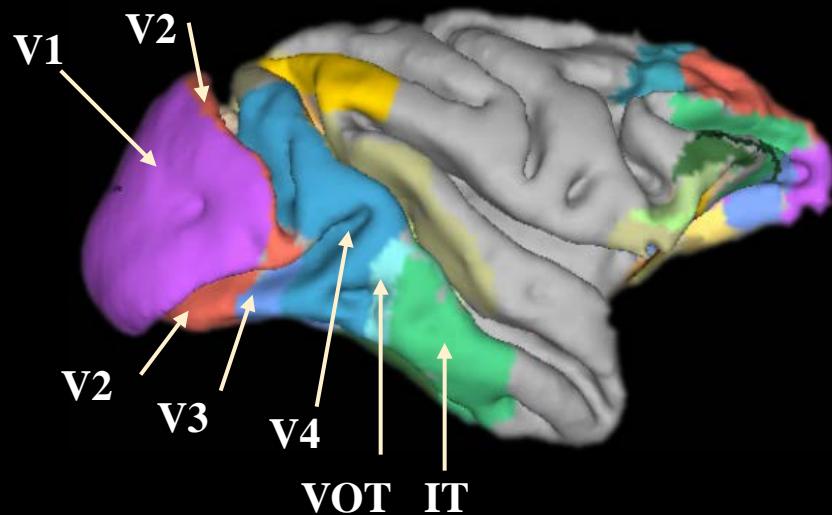
- Rheobase/Chronaxie excludes smooth-muscle excitation
- Overlap of Phys- and BOLD-Defined Current-Spread
- BOLD-fields ~2.5mm larger than neuronal-fields
- PBR reflect field potentials
- NBR reflect reduction of MUA

## LAYOUT OF THE TALK

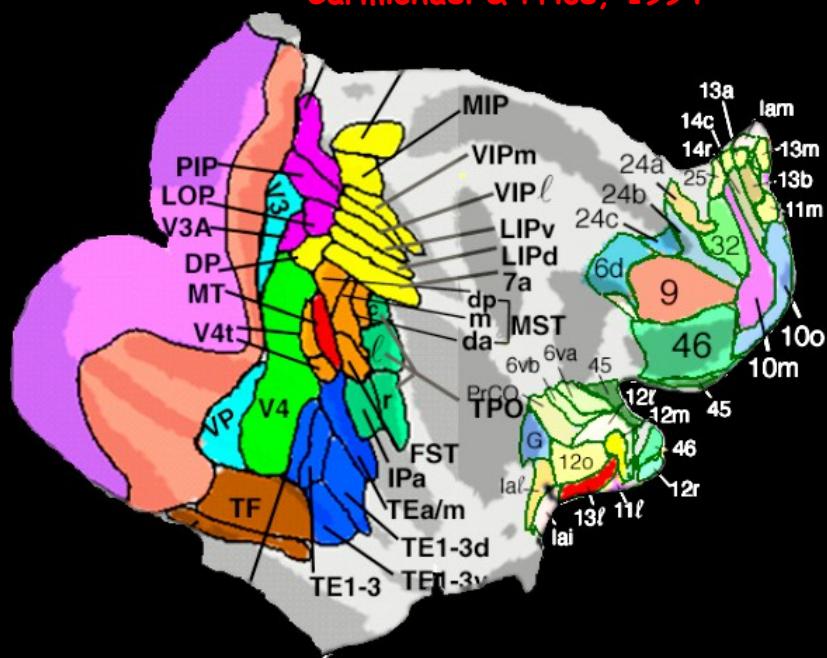
- DES of Striate Cortex (V1)
- DES of Thalamic Nuclei (e.g. LGN & Pulvinar)
- DES & pharmacology in the Visual System
- DES & Lesion-Studies in the Visual System
- Optogenetic Stimulation of the LGN Konio-System
- DES of Hippocampus & LC

# DES in Structures of the Visual System

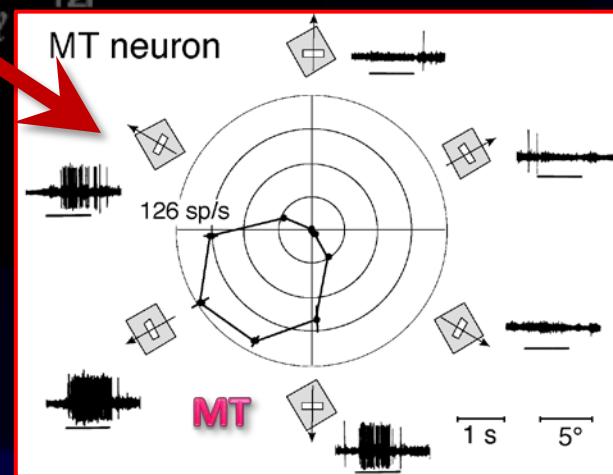
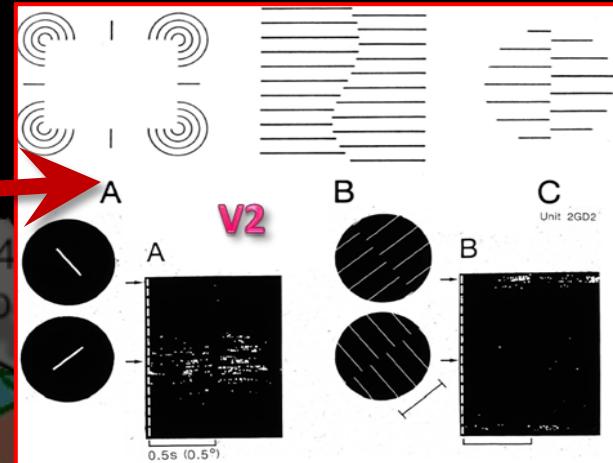
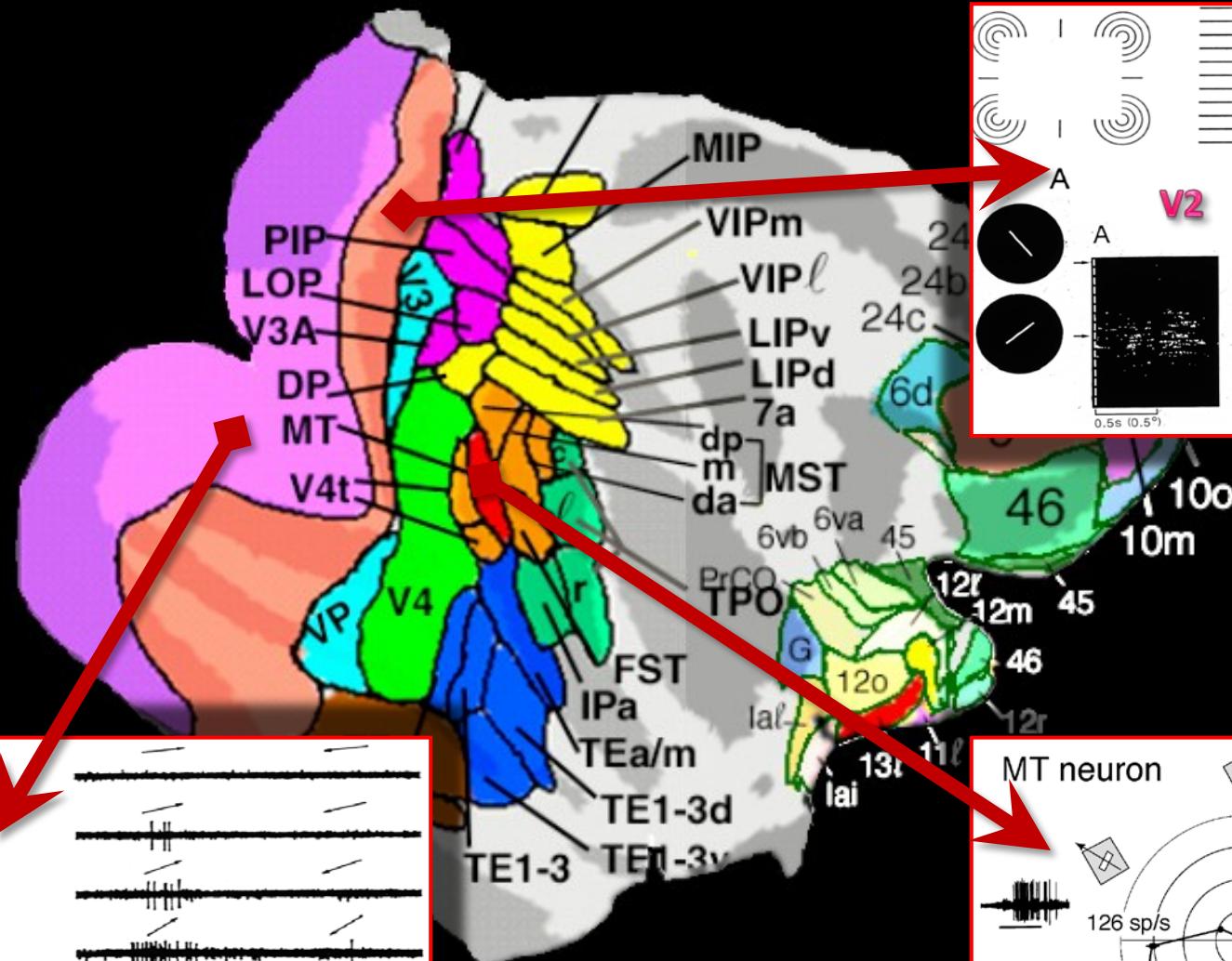
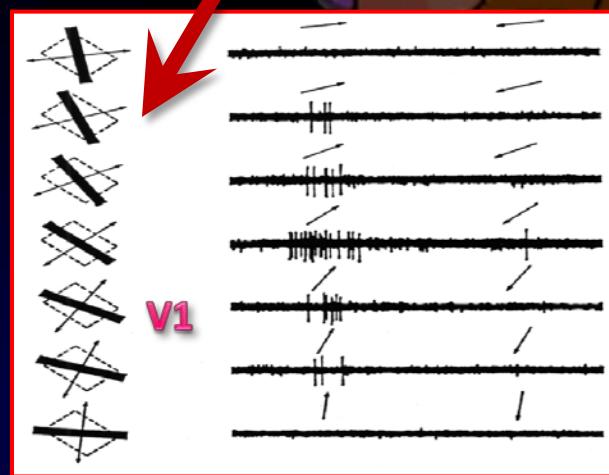




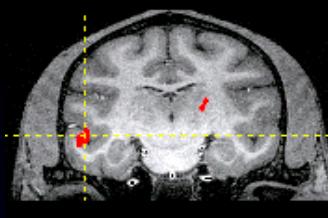
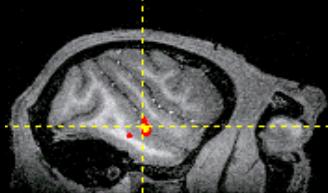
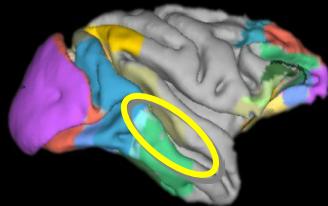
Lewis & Van Essen, 2000  
Carmichael & Price, 1994



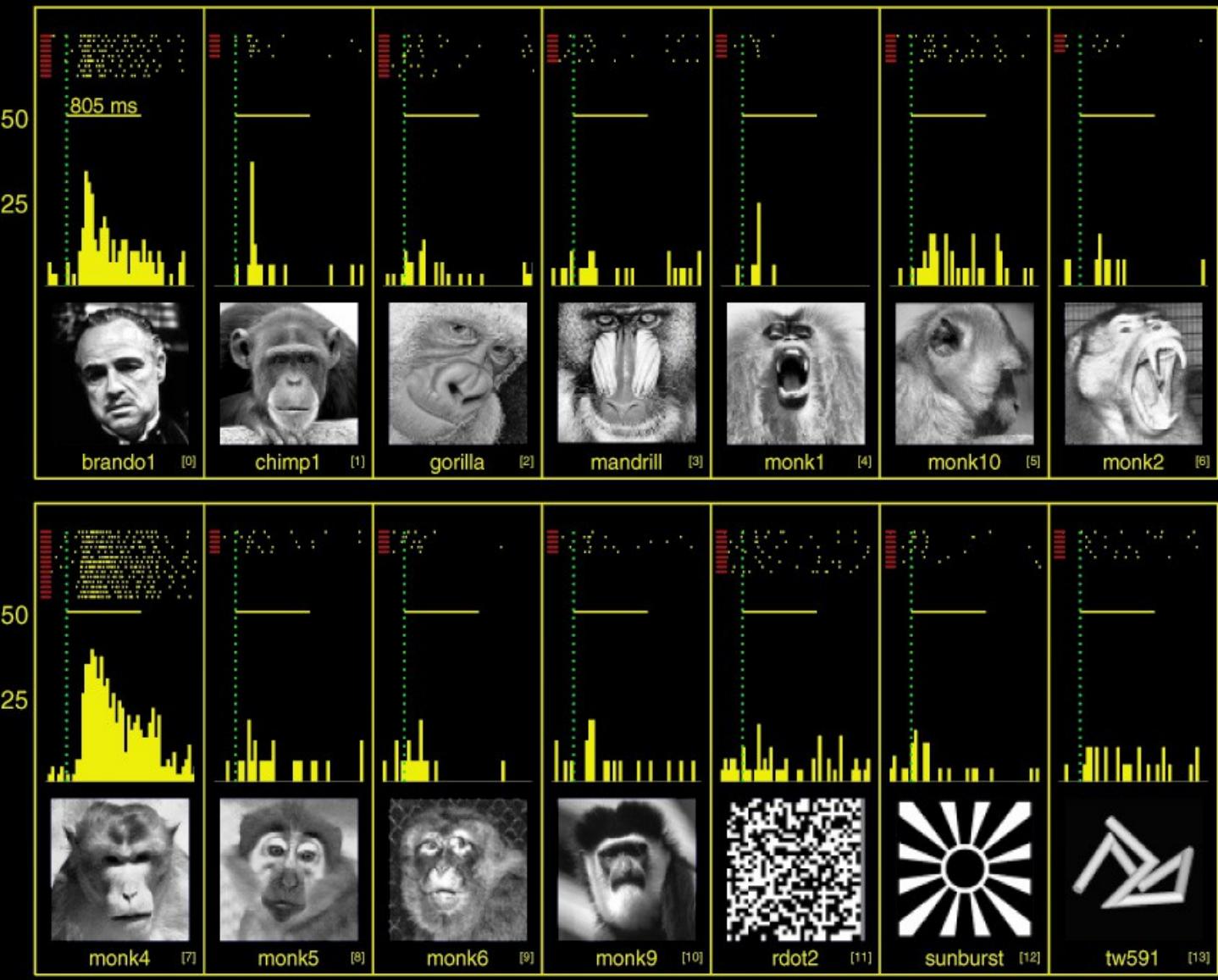
# Neuronal Selectivity in areas V1, V2 & MT (V5)



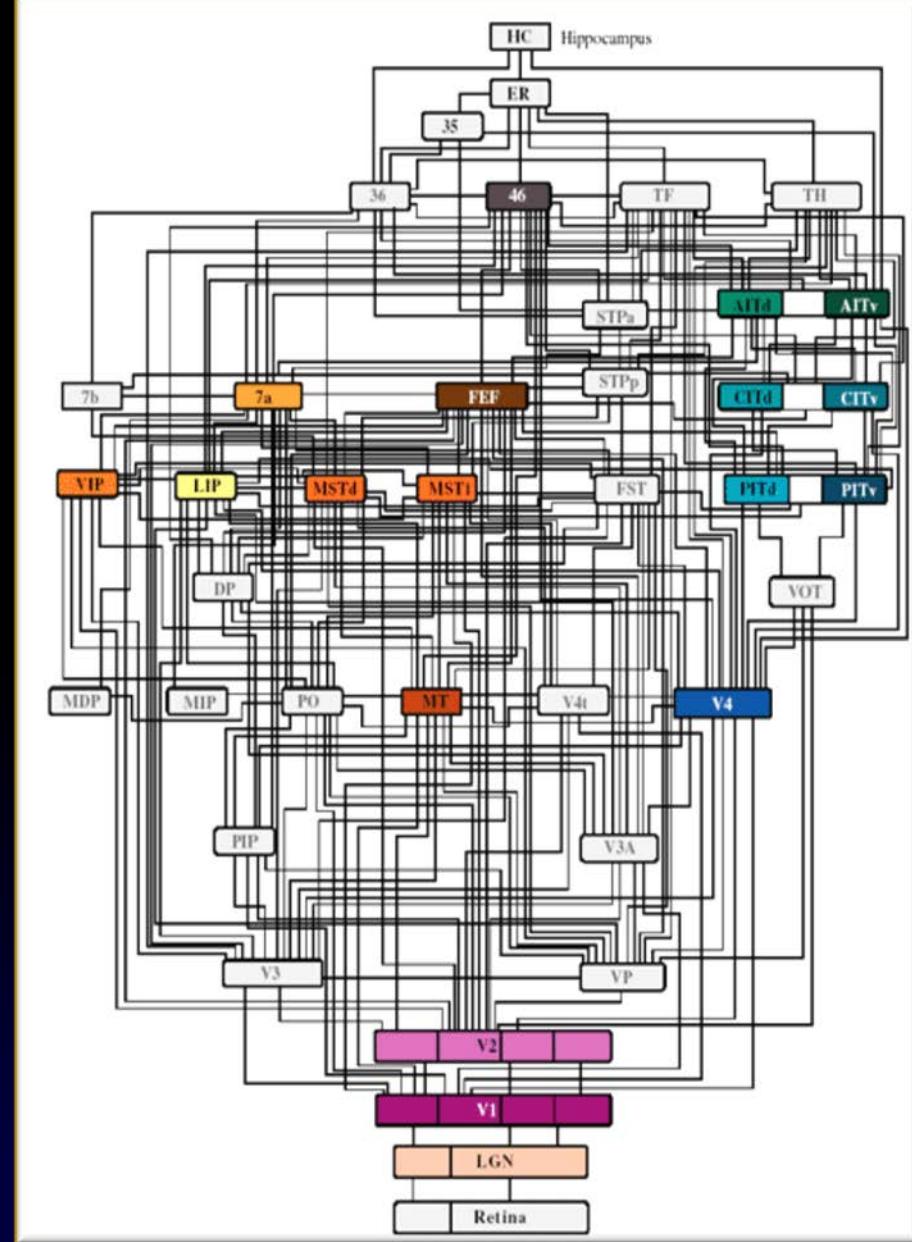
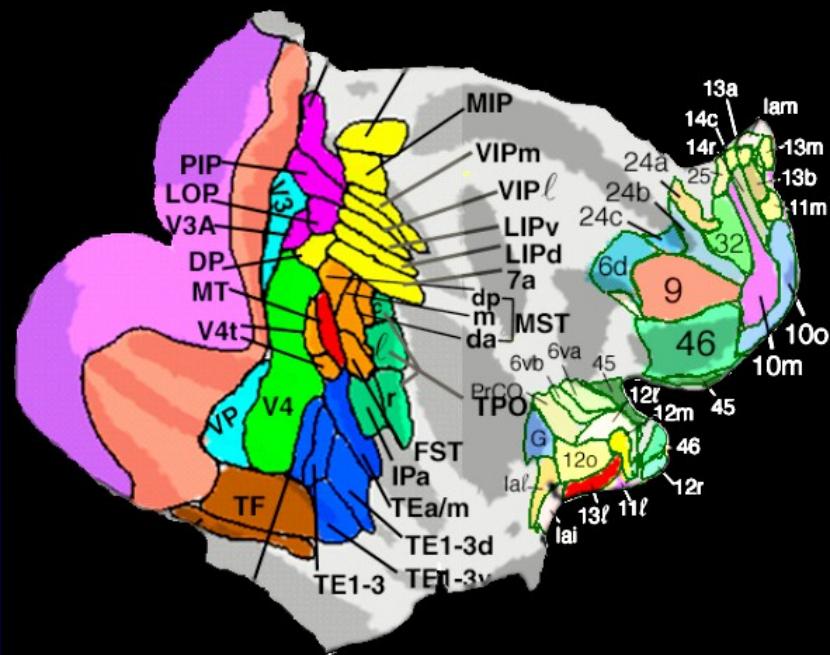
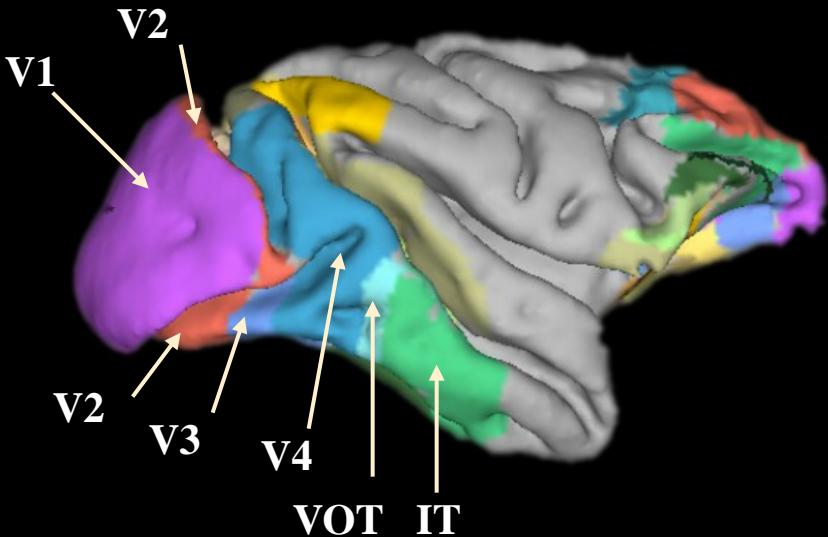
# Neuronal Selectivity in areas in ITC (Top-14 out of 300)



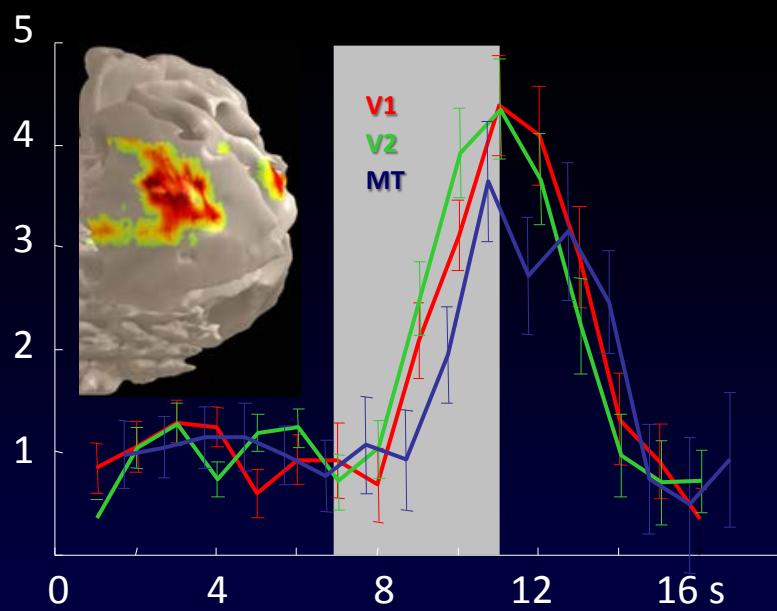
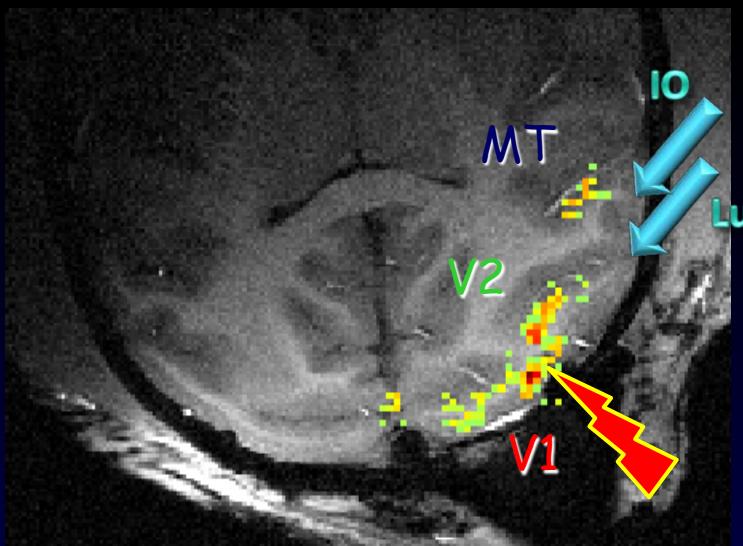
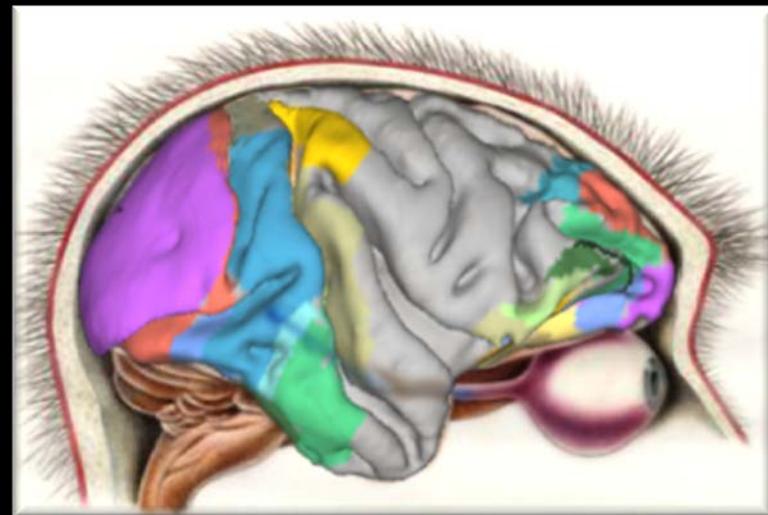
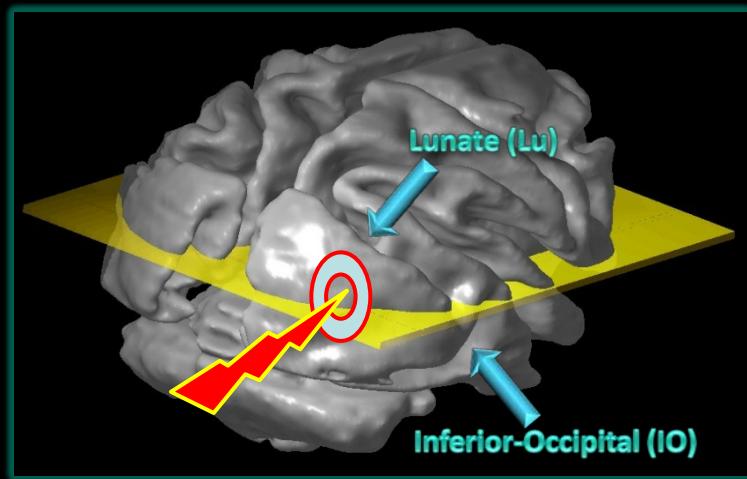
150 Spikes  
per  
Second



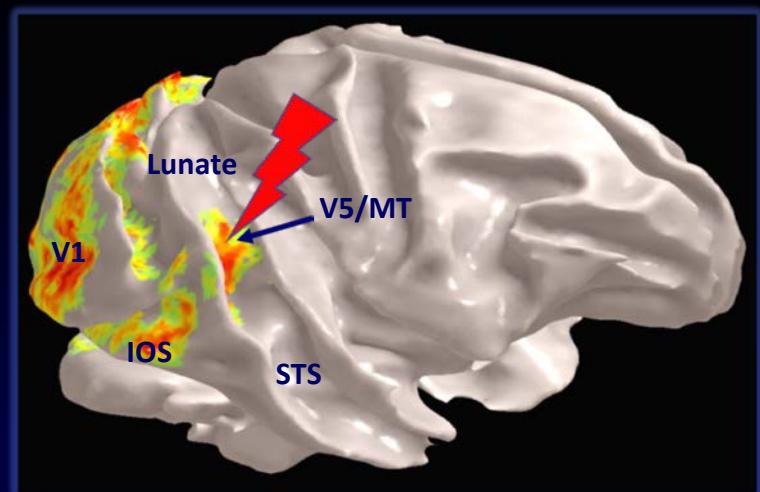
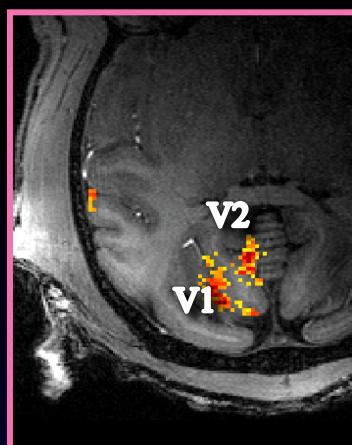
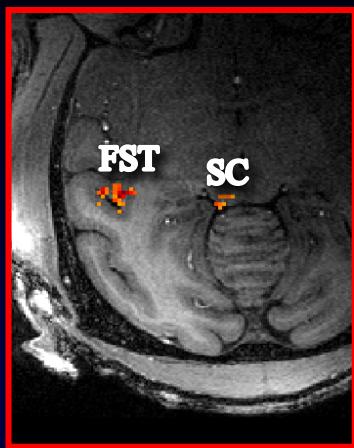
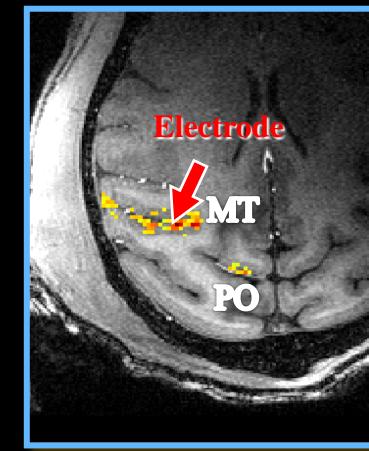
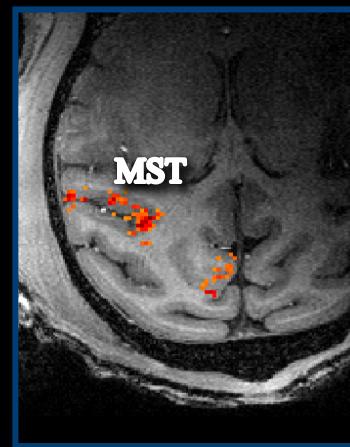
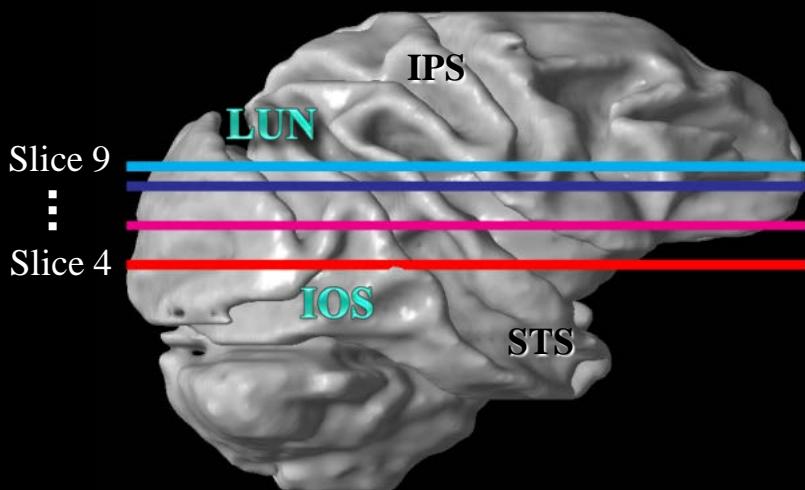
# Hierarchical Processing in the Visual System



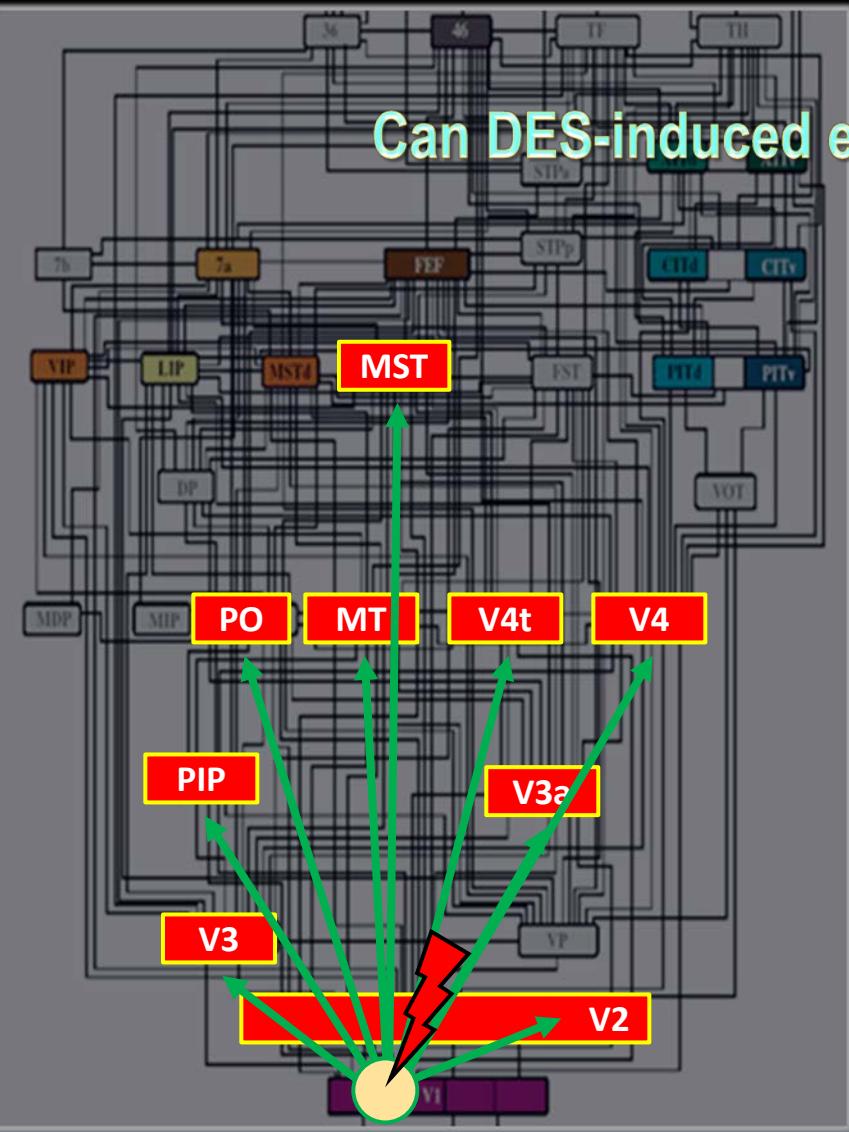
# DES-fMRI – Activated Sites during DES of Primary Visual Cortex (V1)



# DES-fMRI – Activated Sites during DES of Association Visual Cortex (V5/MT)

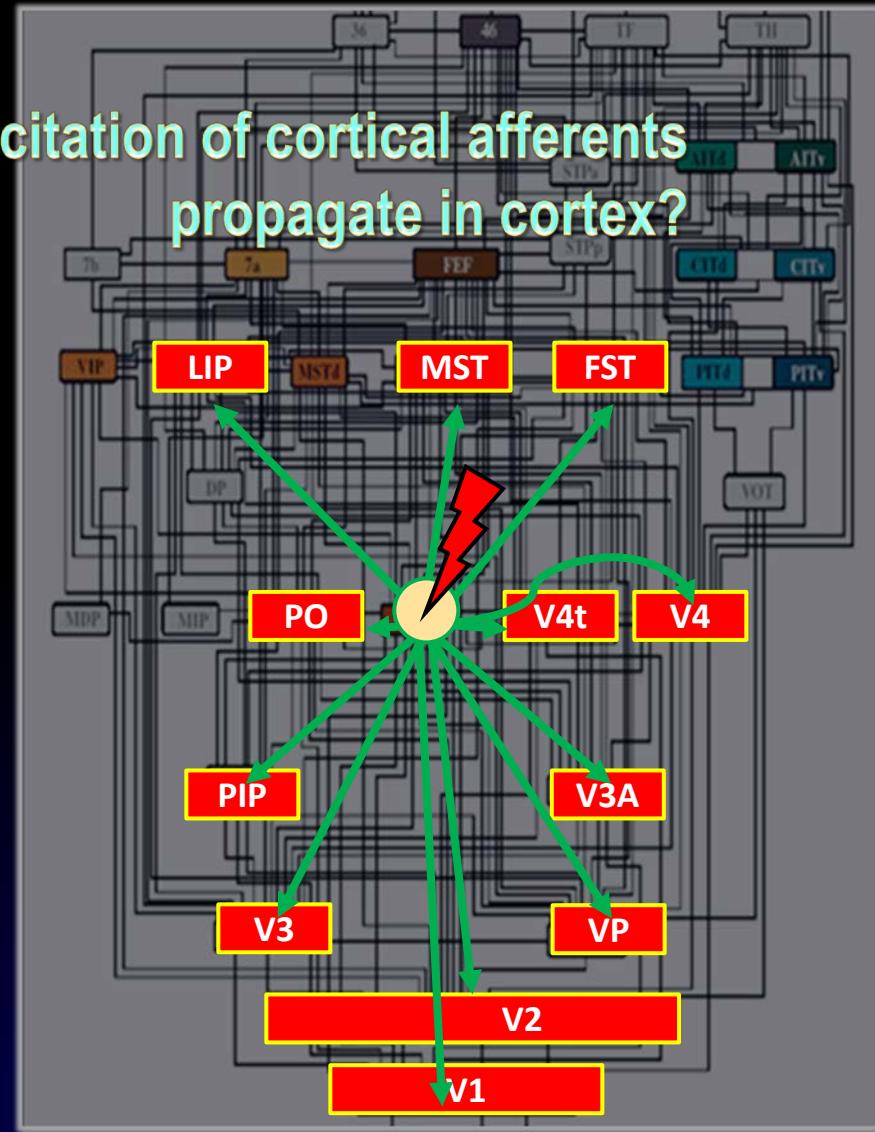


## V1 Stimulation

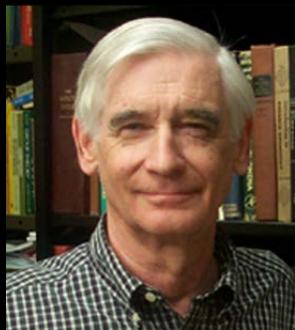


Can DES-induced excitation of cortical afferents propagate in cortex?

## V5 (MT) Stimulation



# What is Stimulated During DES (& DES-fMRI)

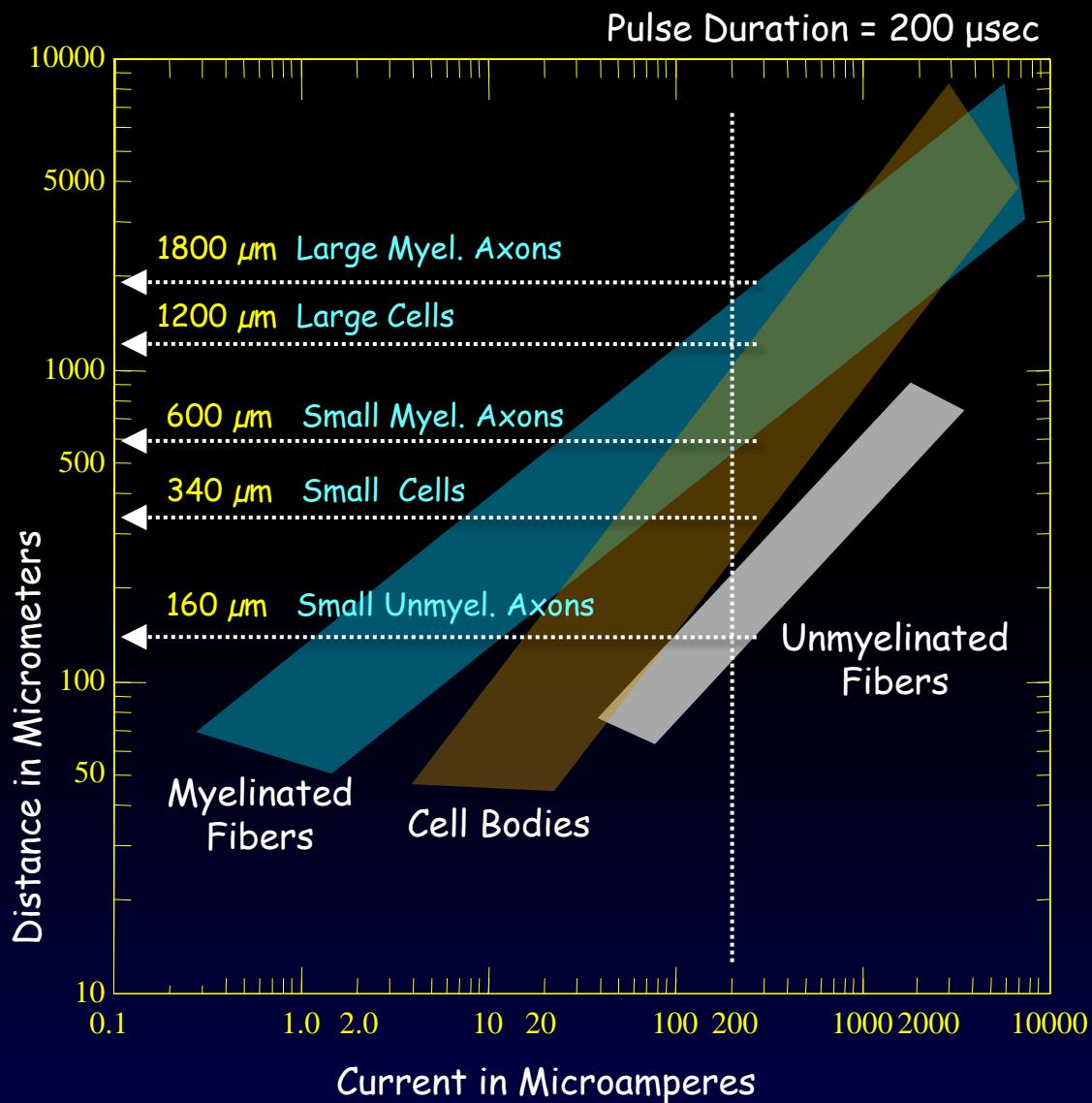


*“...electrical stimulation of the lateral hypothalamus”*

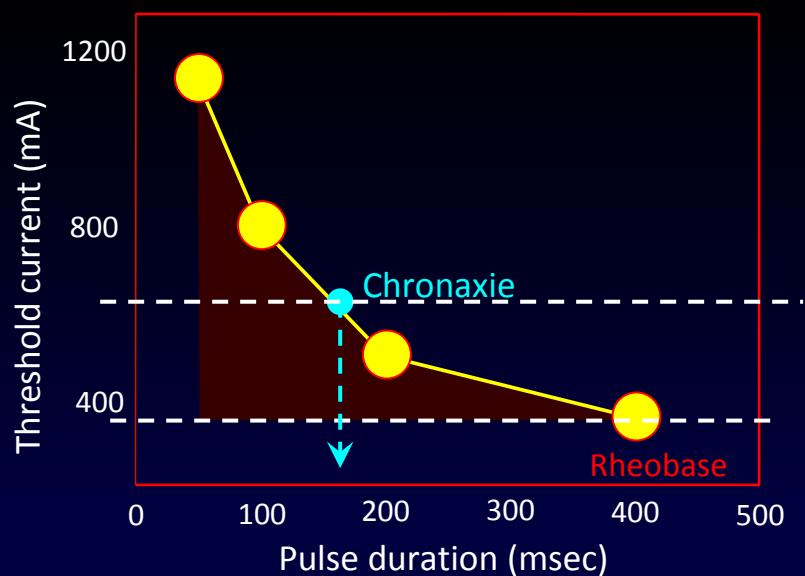
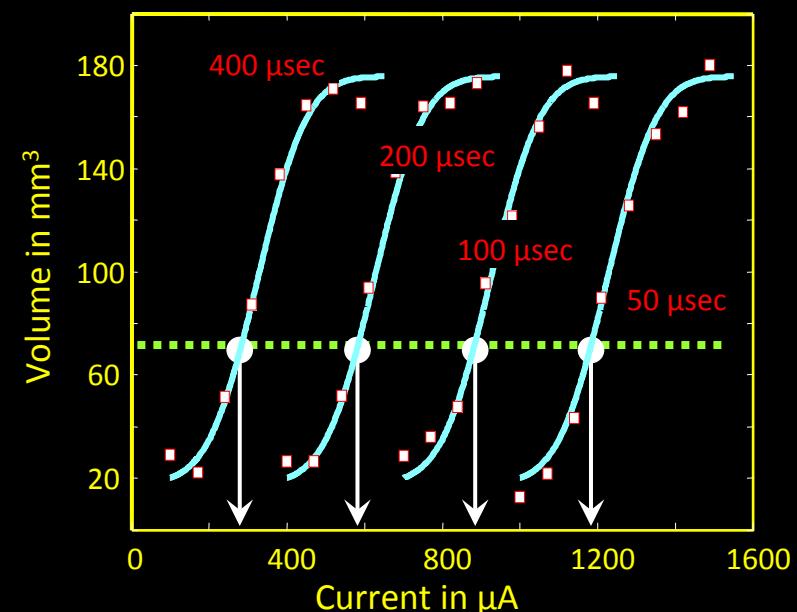
*is a shorted version of the statement that  
“there was a stimulating electrode in the  
lateral hypothalamus which affected an  
unknown number and unknown kinds of  
cells at unknown locations in the vicinity of  
the electrode...”*

**James B. Ranck Jr 1975**

... About 40 percent of all DBS-treated patients experience a multitude of serious adverse events; They include psychiatric disorders, and other nervous system or cardiac disorders...

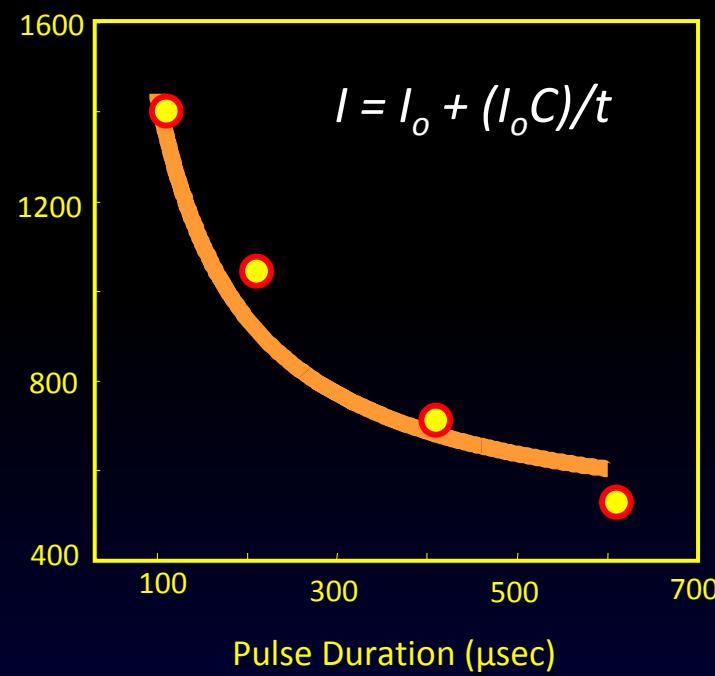


# Source of fMRI-Activations: Neurons or Smooth-Muscles?



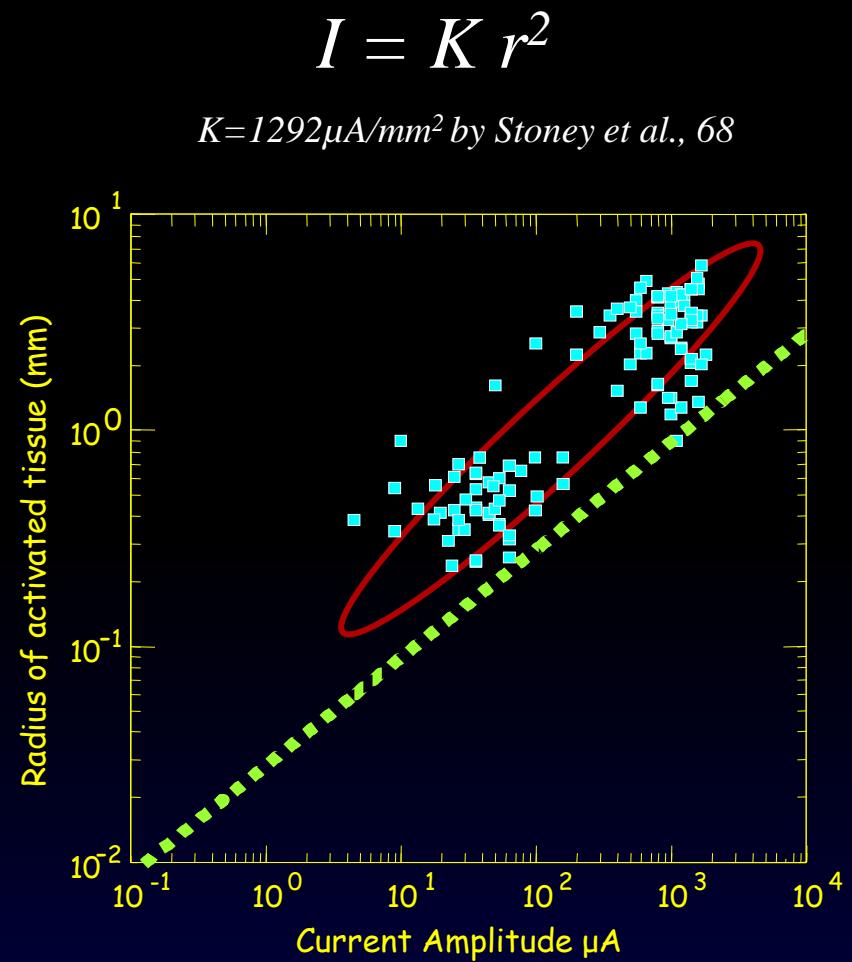
## Strength – Duration Relation from BOLD-fMRI Measurements

Tested Durations      50 to 300 μsec  
Threshold Volume      40% of max-volume

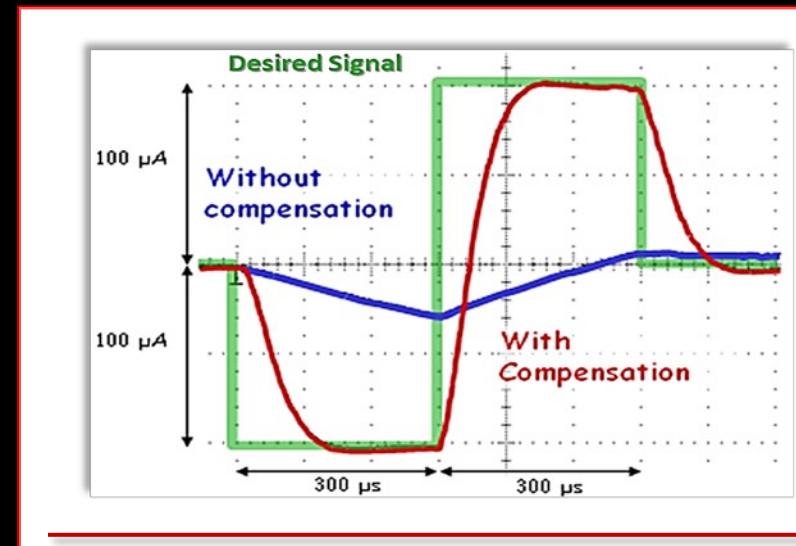
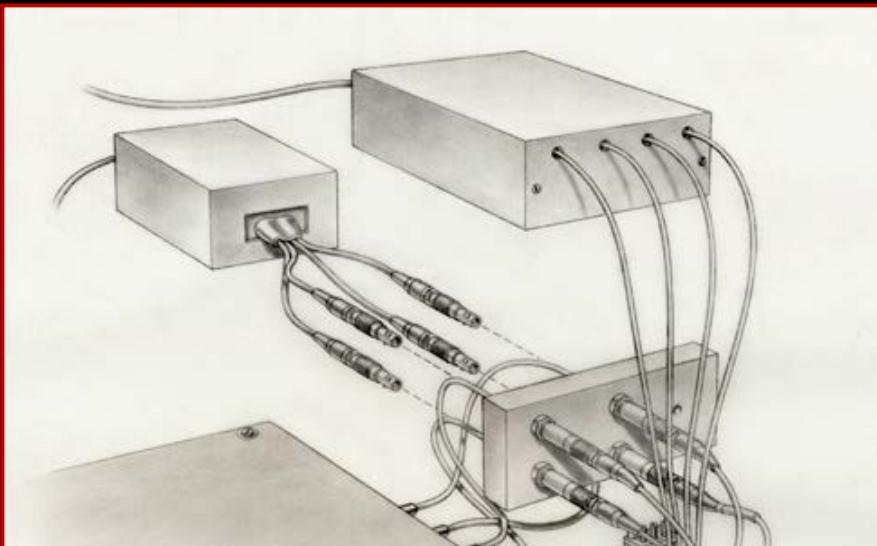


Rheobase 456 μA  
Chronaxie 221 μsec (w/ Weiss-Method)

# BOLD Excitation Field & Physiologically Defined Current-Spread

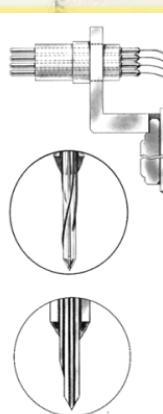


# Custom-Made Current Sources & Optimization of Electric-Pulses



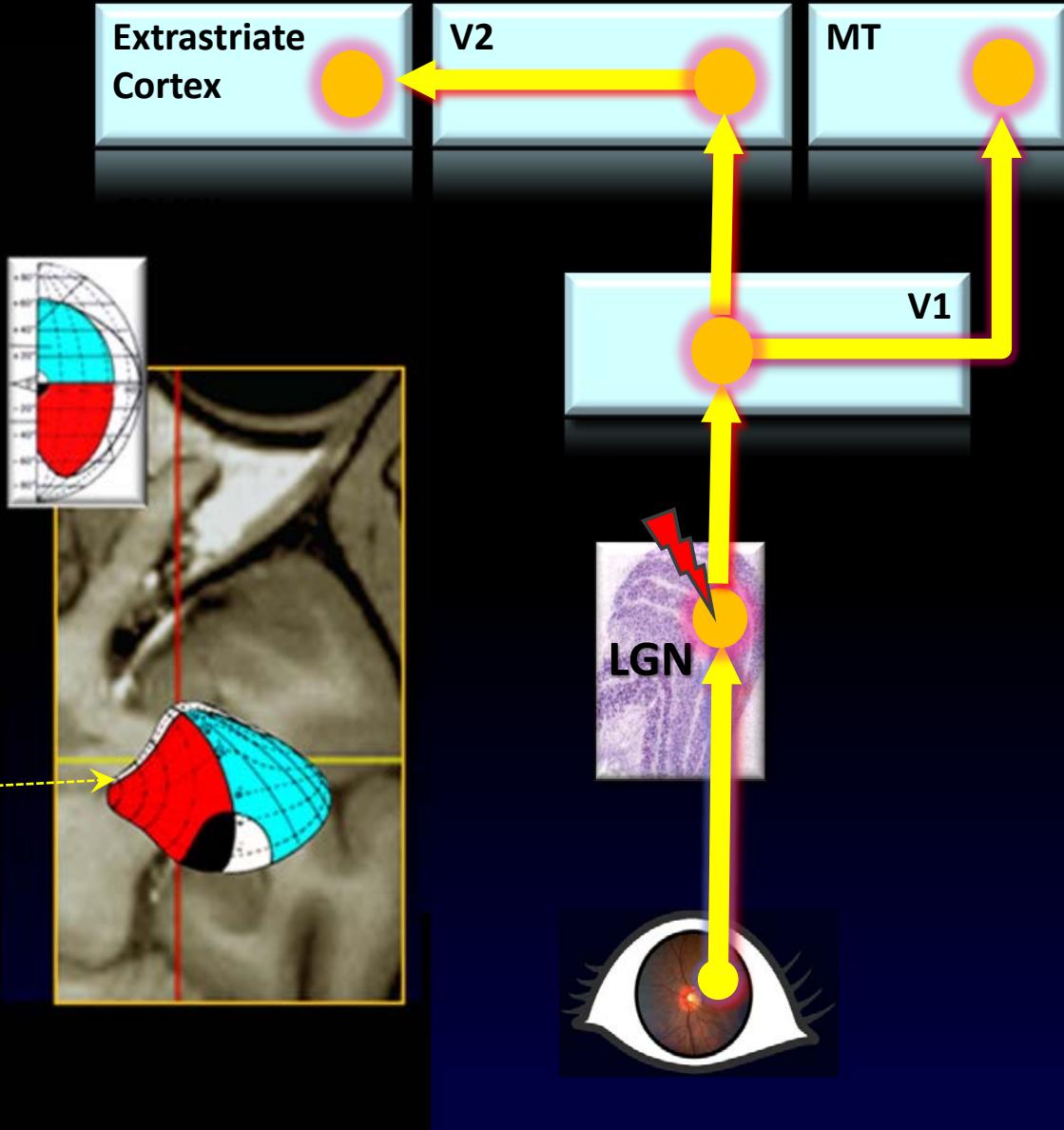
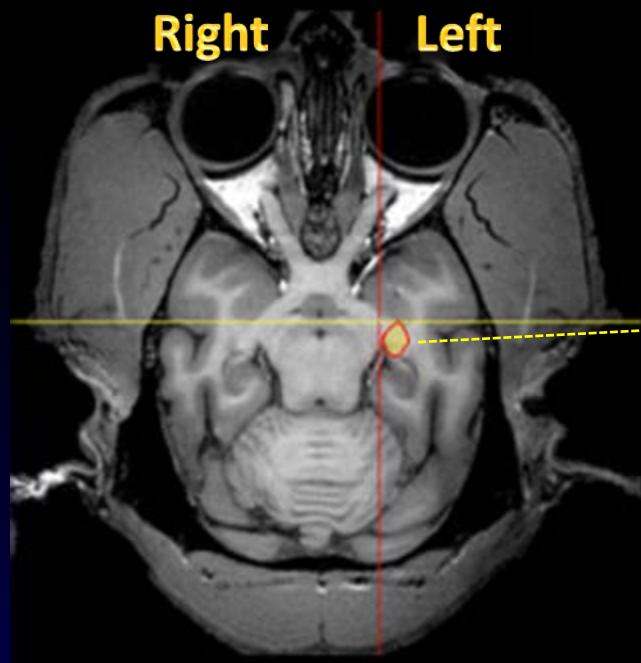
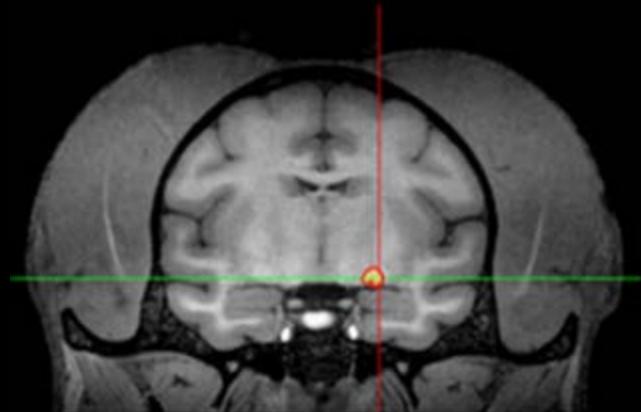
## State-of-the-Art Before Starting DES-LGN

- Correct estimation of pulse-shape and strength
- LFP/MUA-based excitability measurements are similar to those obtained with fMRI
- Activated are Axons and not “smooth muscles” or other irrelevant elements
- fMRI-Estimated Current-spread is consistent with Field-Potential Recordings

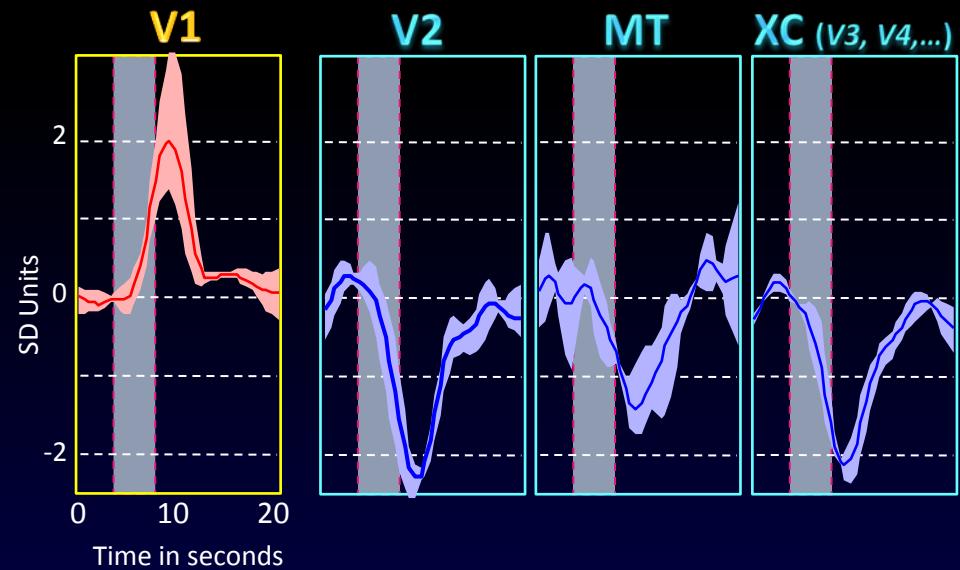
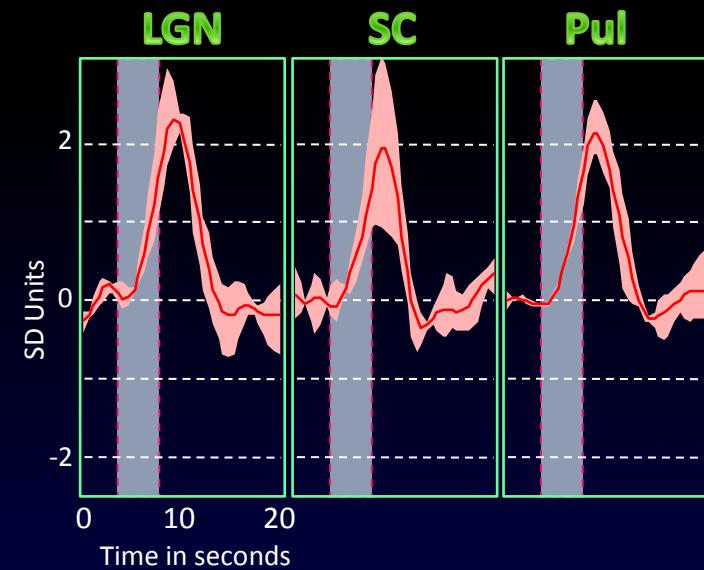
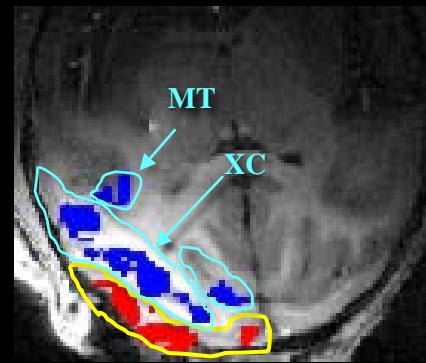
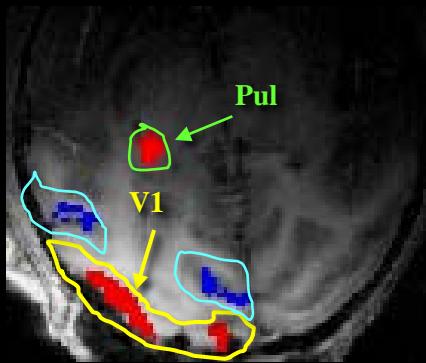
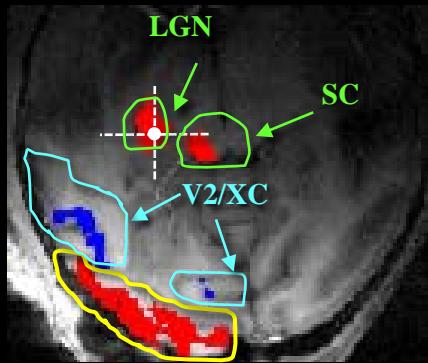


*Symmetrical-Biphasic (charge-balanced)  
On/Off 200-300 / 400-600 msec  
Variable pulse-duration bursts (50-200 μsec)  
Current Intensity (50-400 μA)  
Frequency (1-250 Hz)*

# Retino-Geniculo-Cortical Pathway in the Monkey



# DES-fMRI of dLGN: Cortical Activation & Deactivation Patterns



# Extrastriate-Cortex Deactivation is Independent of Animal State



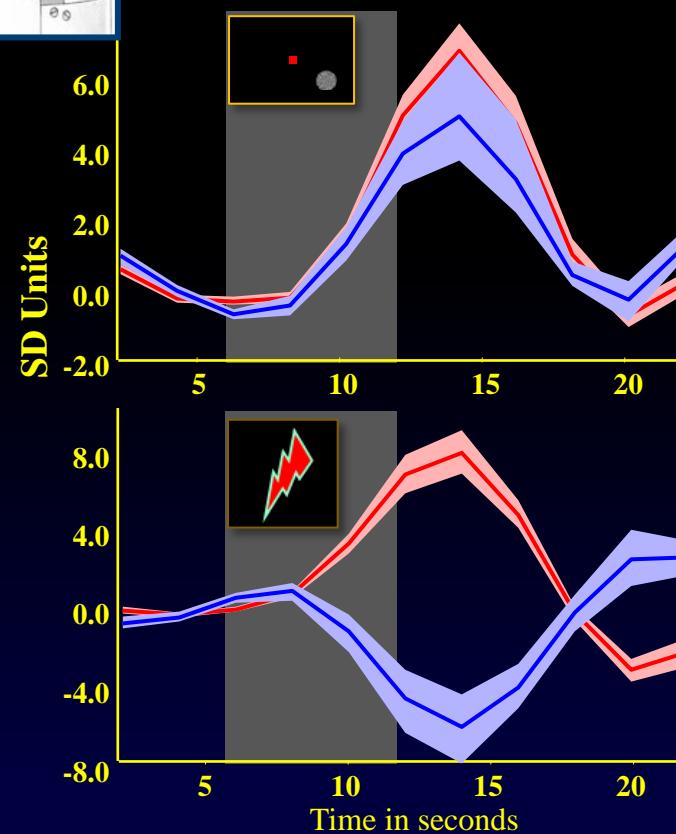
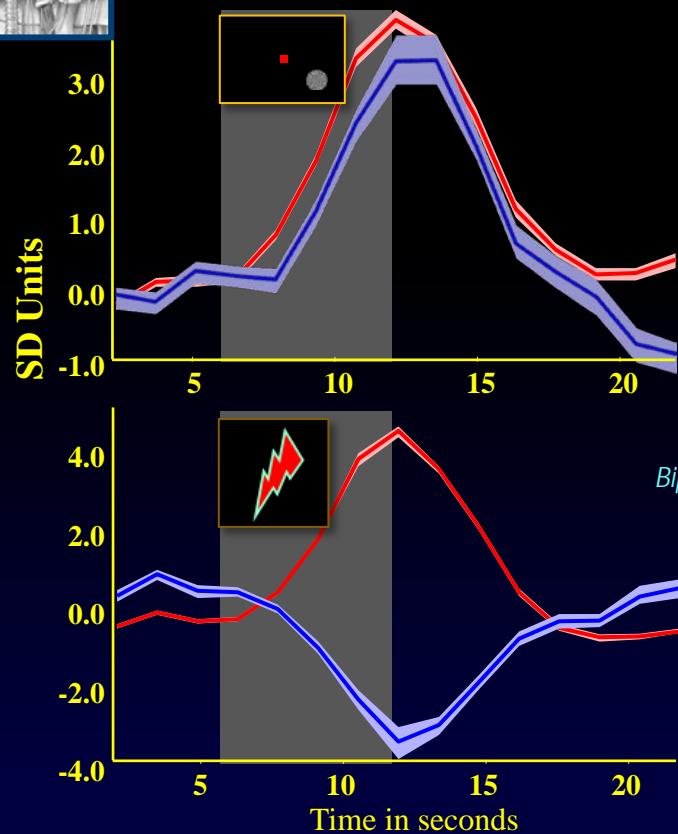
Opiate (Remifentanil) Anesthesia

( $p < 0.0001$ )



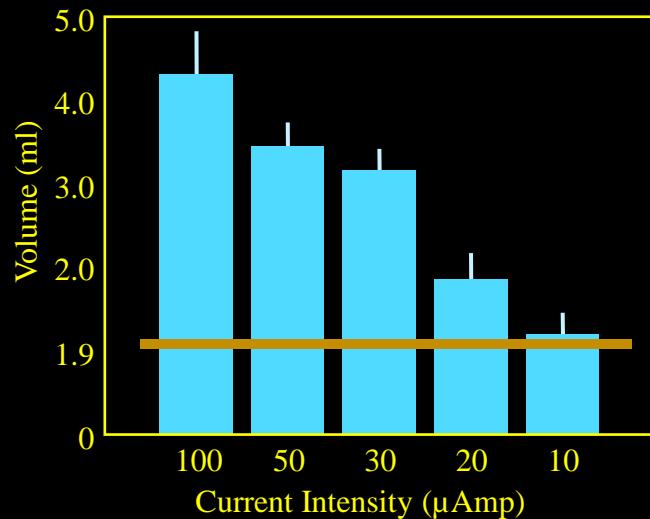
Awake Animal (Fixation Task)

( $p < 0.0001$ )

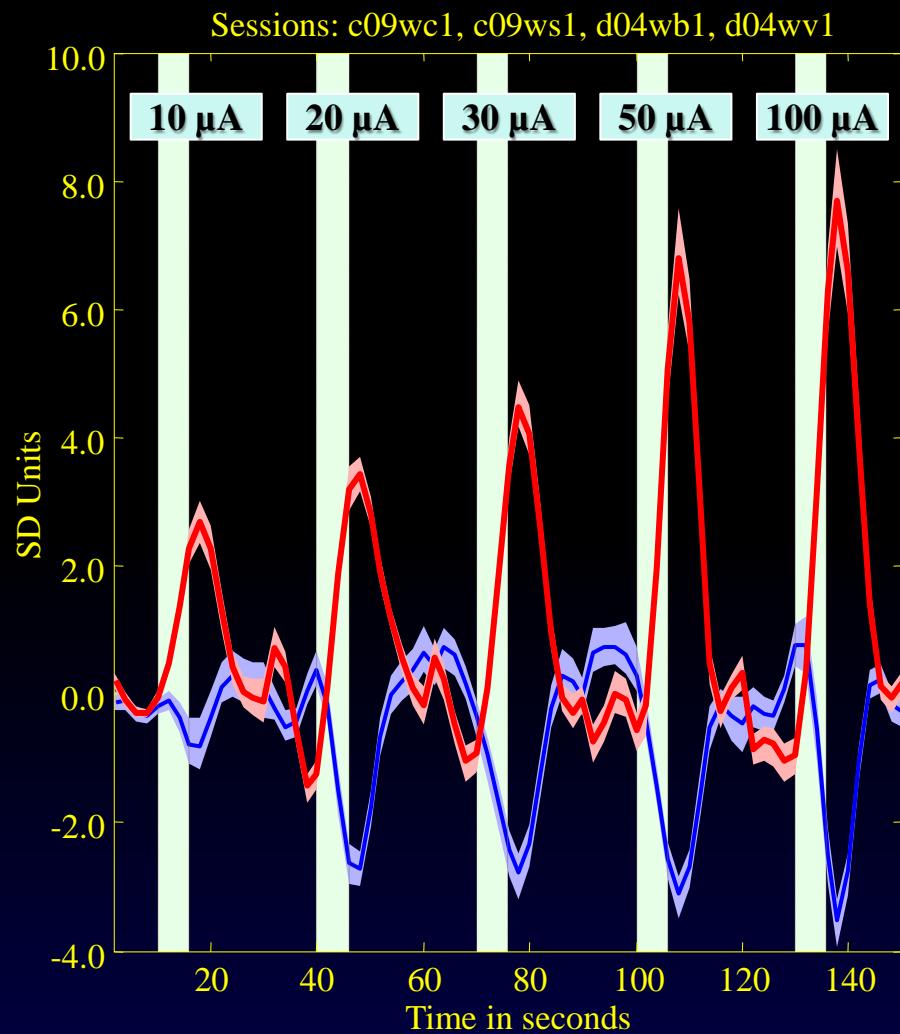
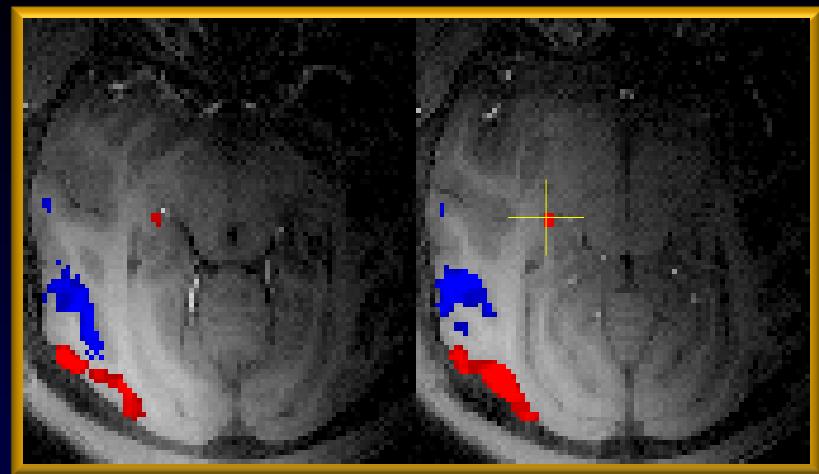


# ... and Independent of Current Intensity (10-450 $\mu$ A)

Effect of Current-Strength on Activated Volume

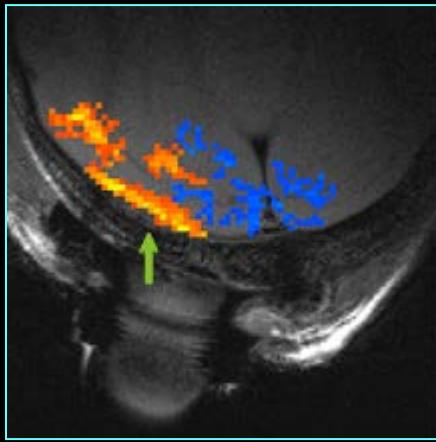


Areas with Significant Changes at All Intensities

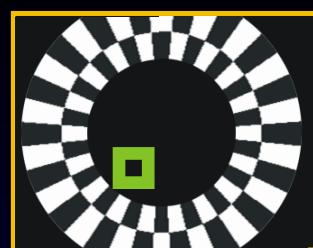
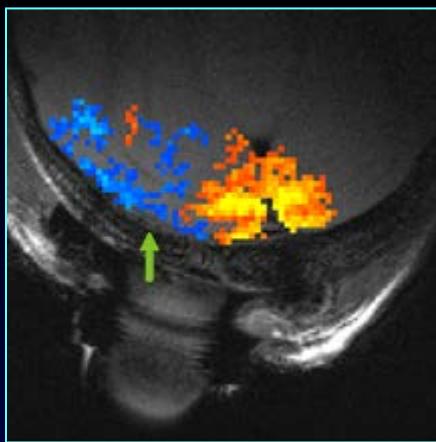


# Extrastriate-Cortex Deactivation is not related to sensory NBR

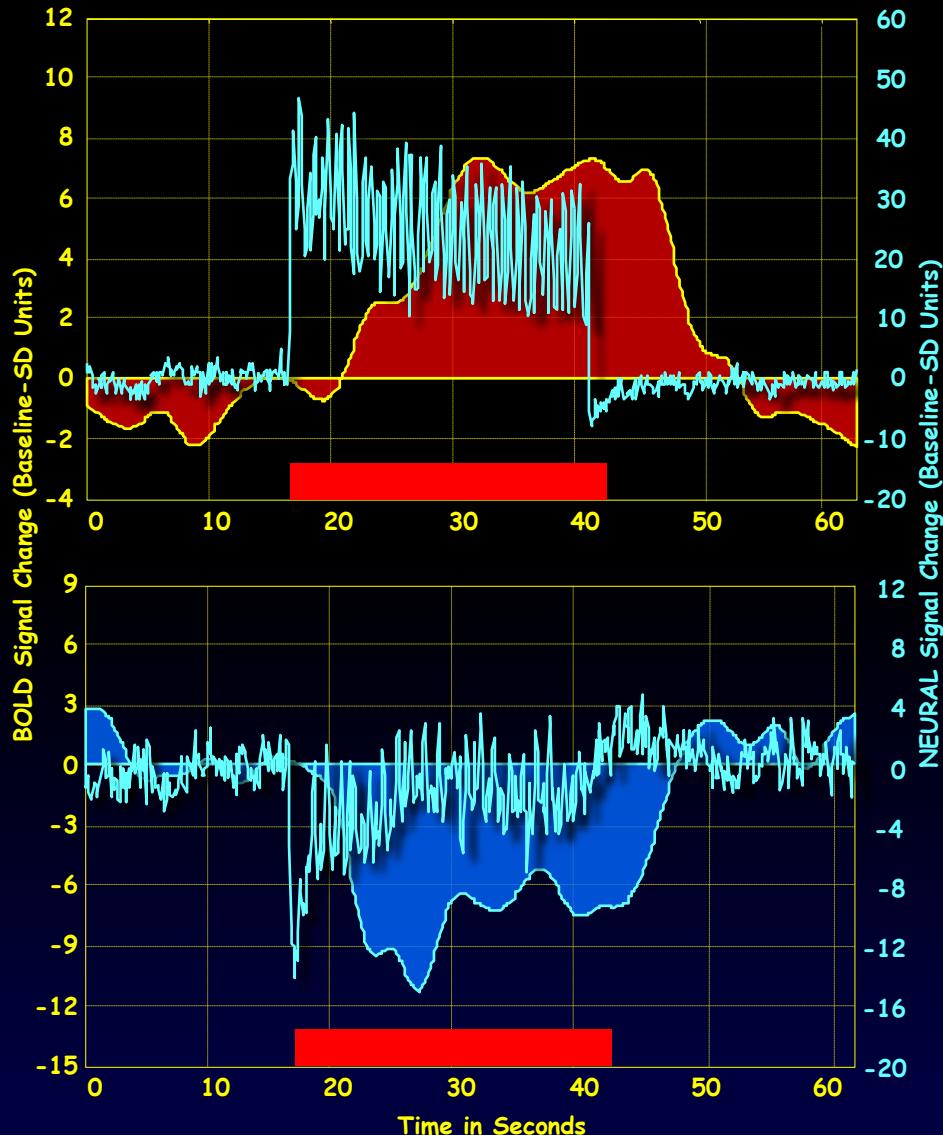
NBR is observed in brain regions that are not directly activated by sensory stimulation, and often occur together with PBR within a single cortical area...



3.5°-6.1°

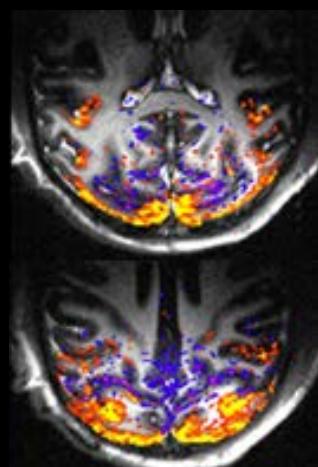


8.5°-14.7°

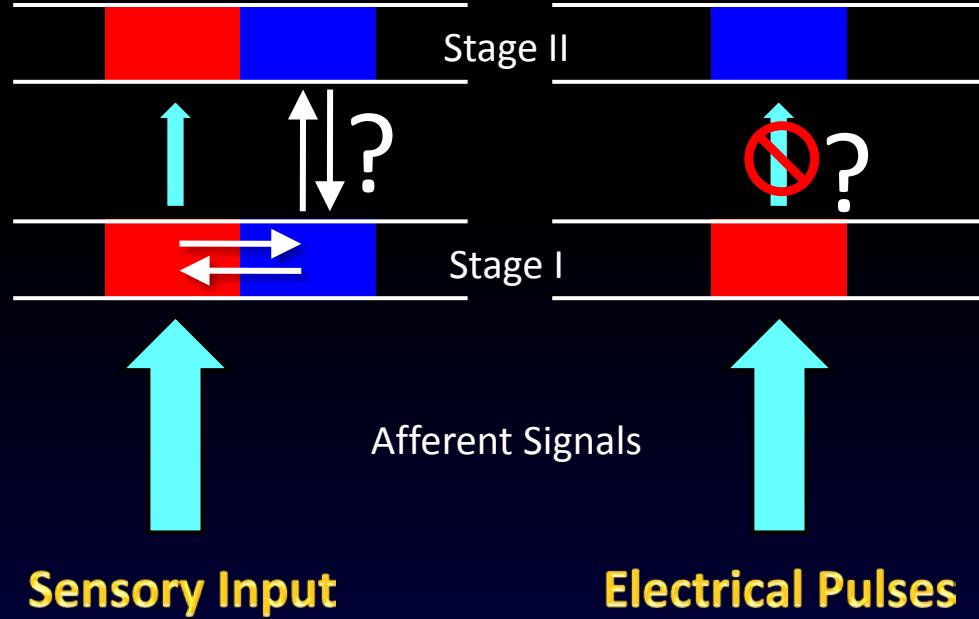
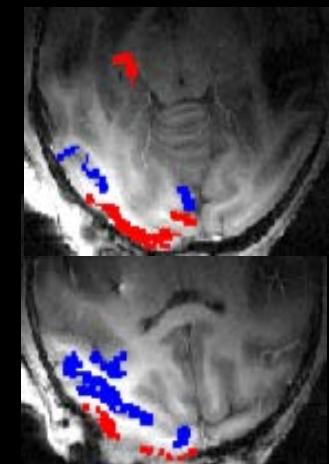


# Two Different Types of Cortical Negative BOLD Responses

*Negative BOLD during sensory stimulation*



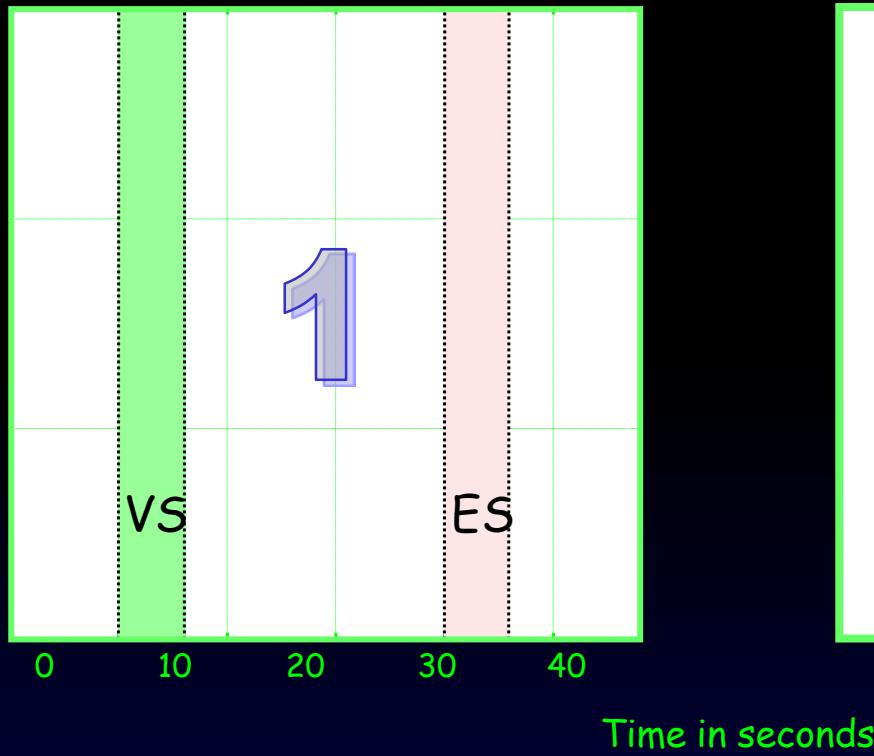
*Negative BOLD during electrical stimulation*



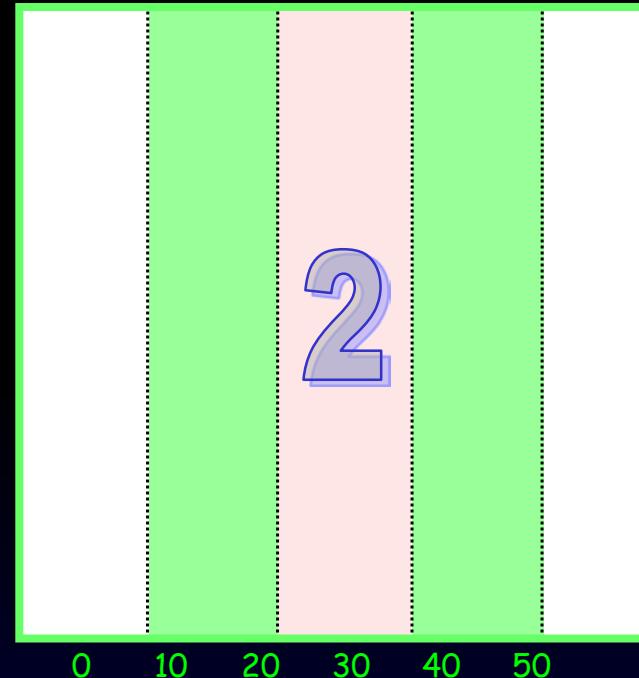
# Mixed Event-Related Designs

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**Sequential Stimulation**

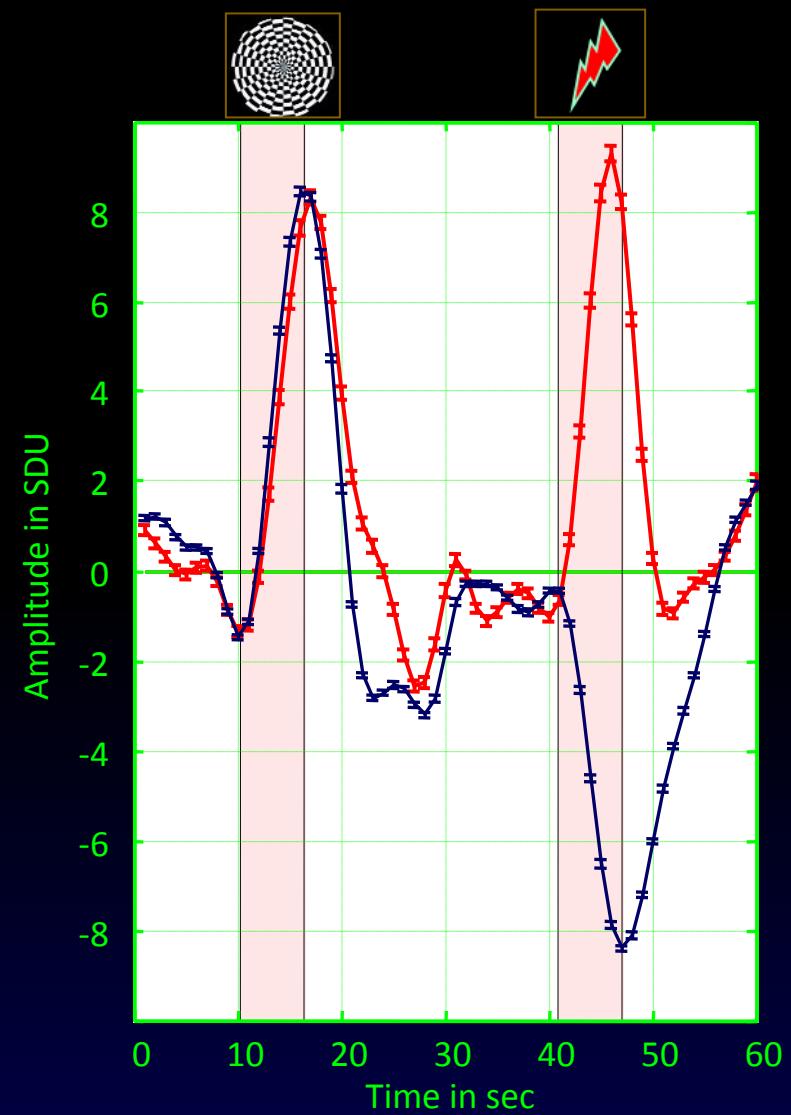
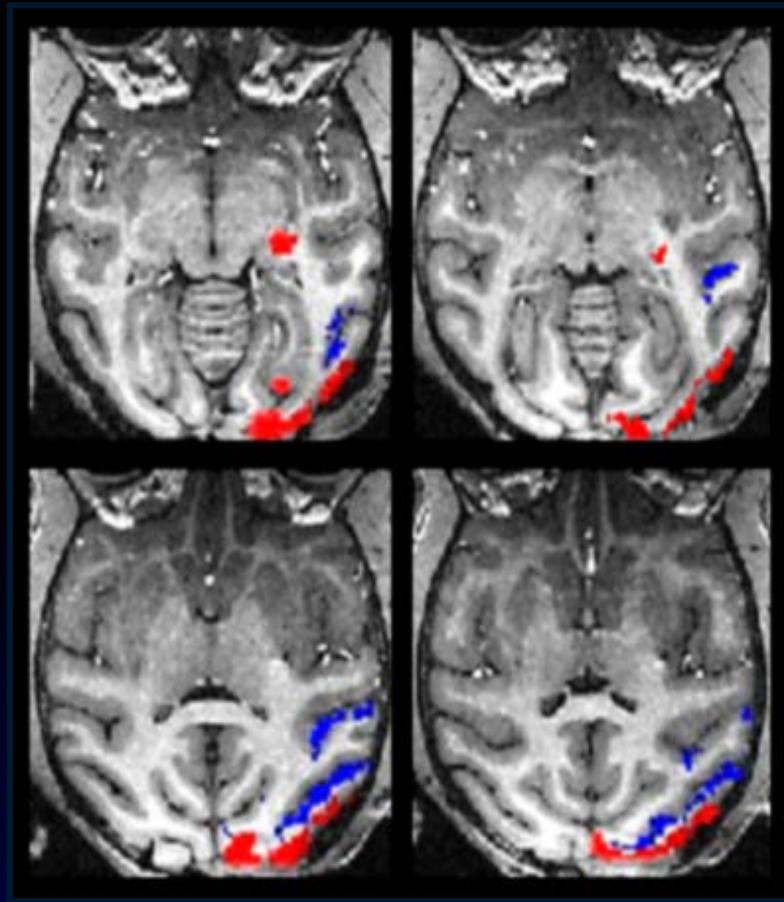


**Sequential-Combined Stimulation**



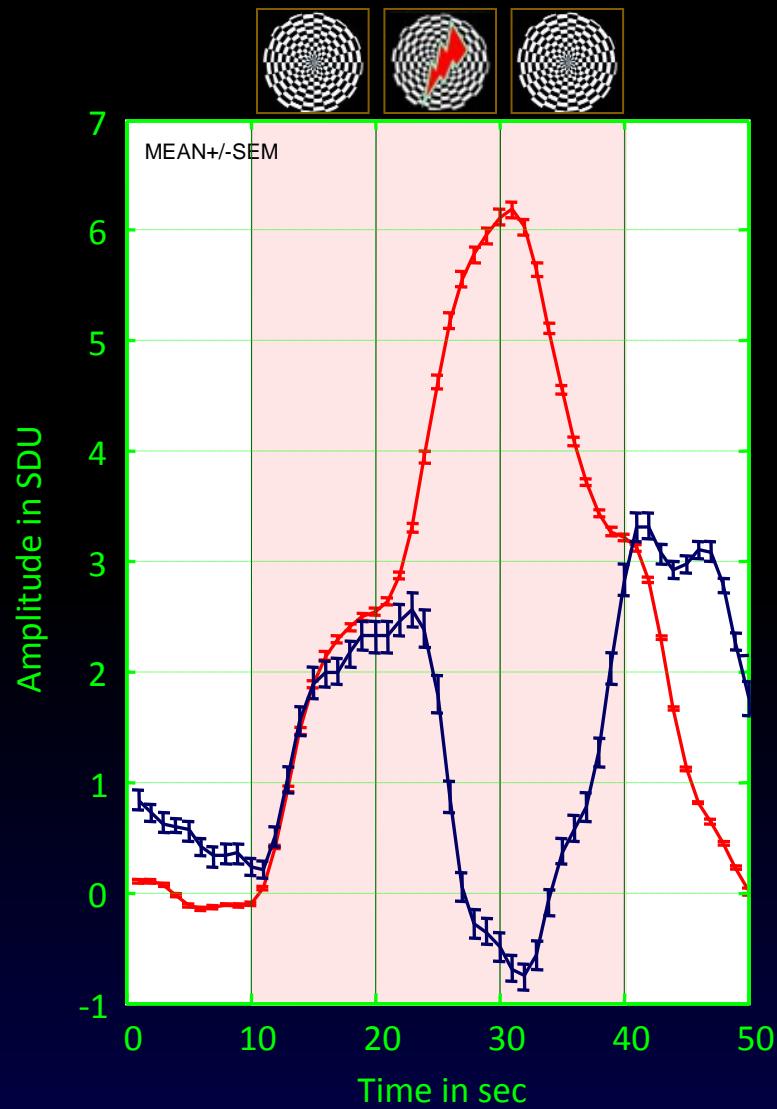
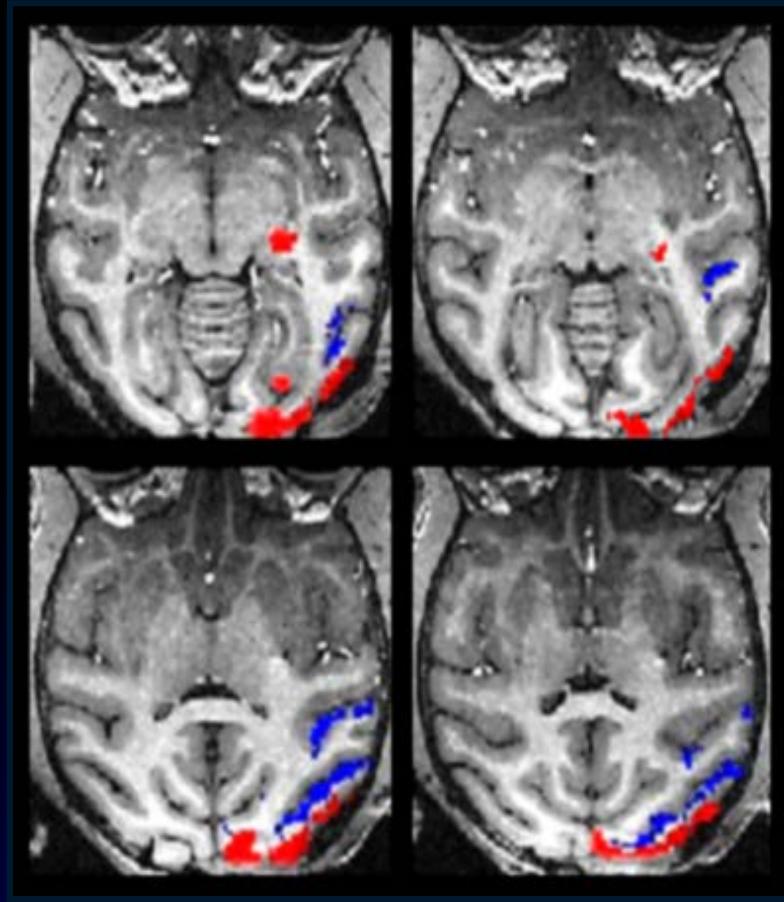
# Visual and Electrical (dLGN) Stimulation: Sequential Design

BOLD signal increases and decreases in striate and extrastriate cortex respectively



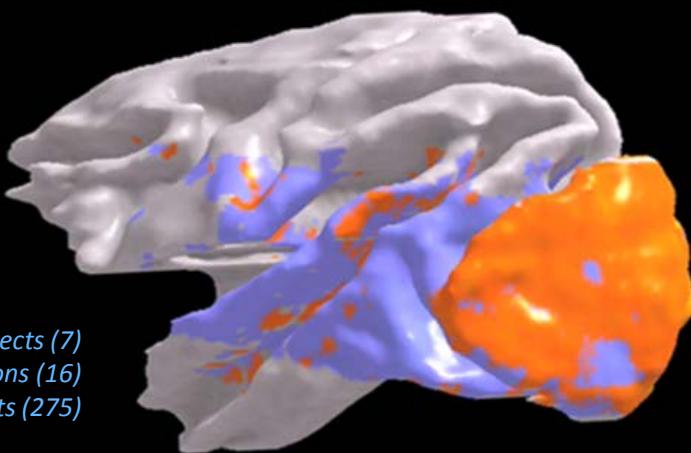
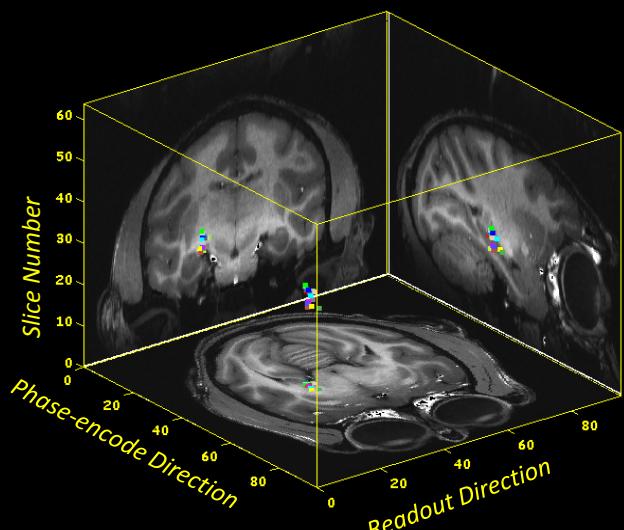
# Visual and Electrical (dLGN) Stimulation: Combined Design

BOLD signal increases and decreases in striate and extrastriate cortex respectively

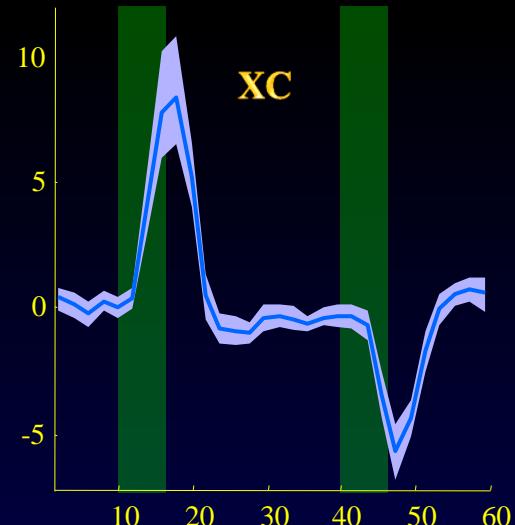
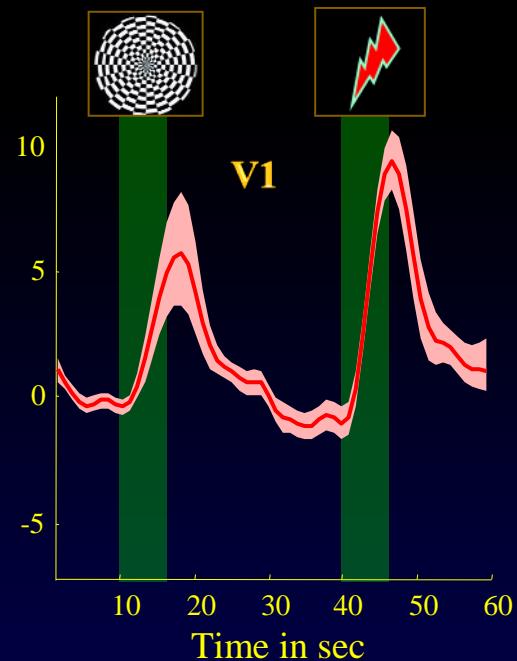
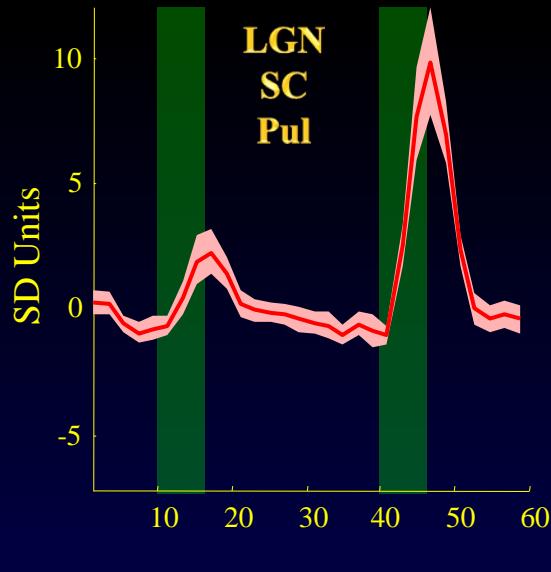


# POPULATION DATA

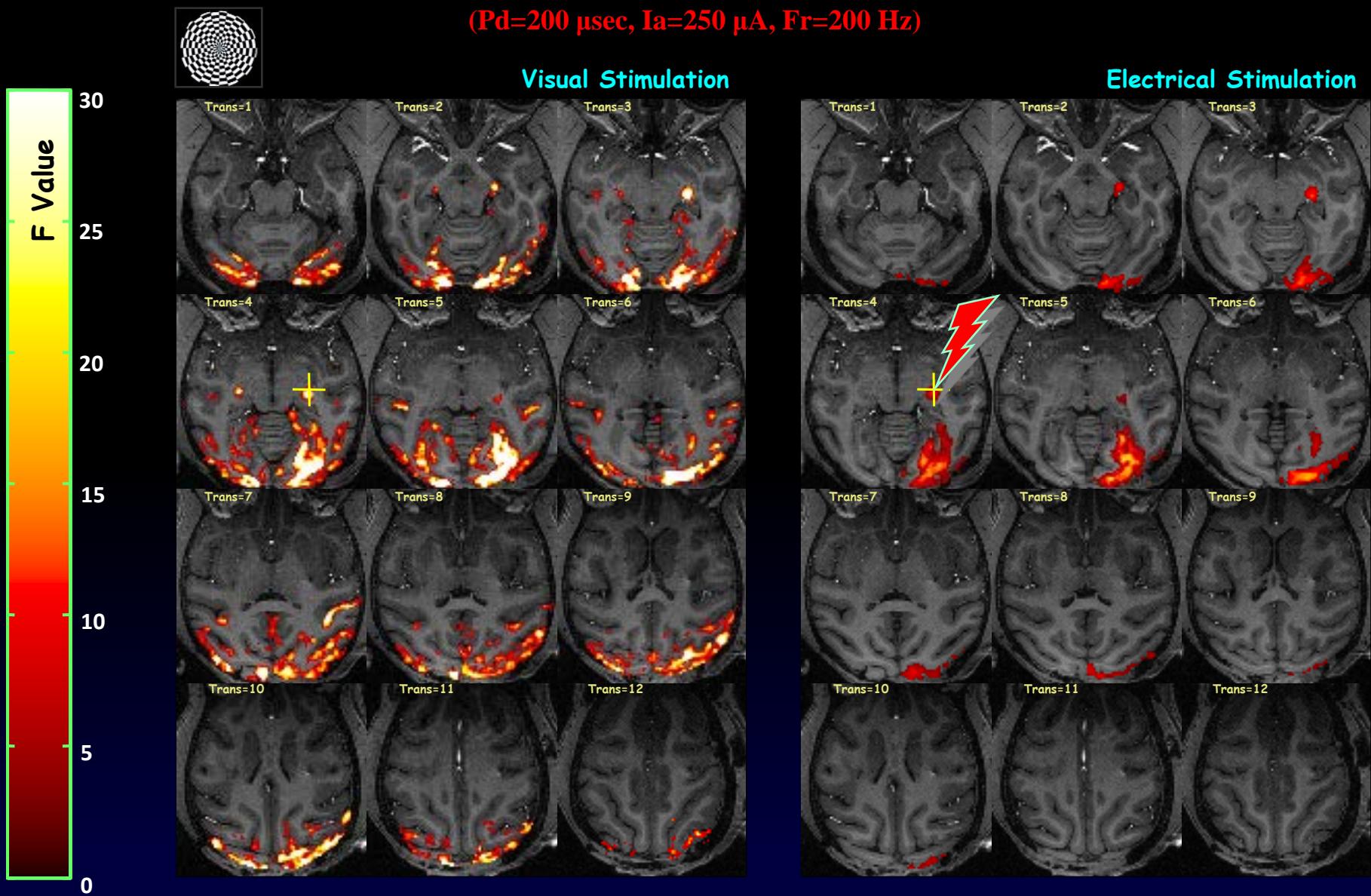
# fMRI of Electrical dLGN Stimulation (100-200Hz)



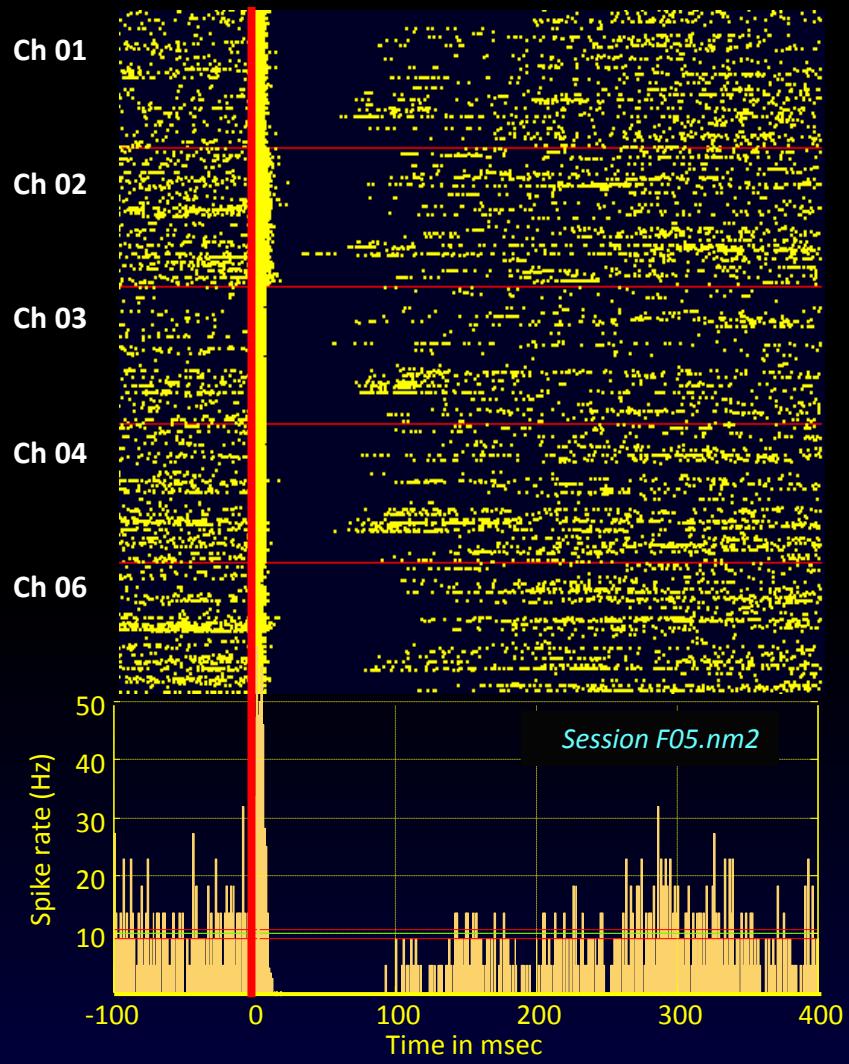
Subjects (7)  
Sessions (16)  
Experiments (275)



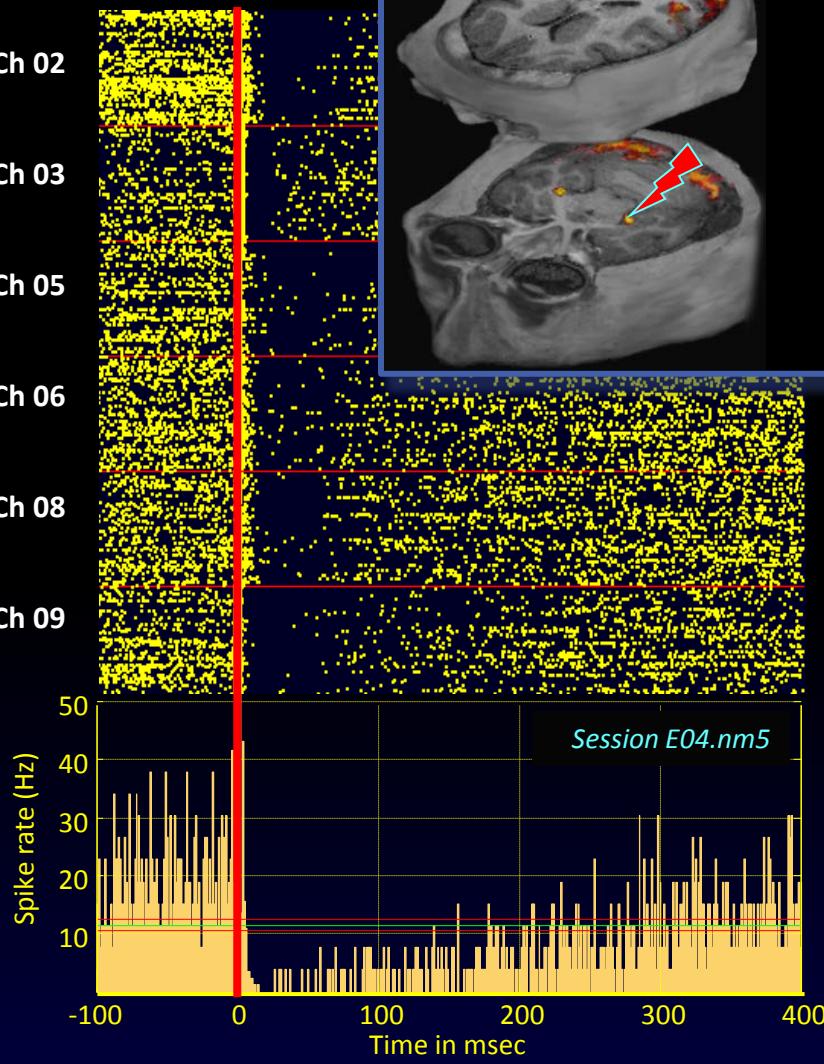
## Subcortical and Cortical Sites with Significant Activity Modulation

(Pd=200  $\mu$ sec, Ia=250  $\mu$ A, Fr=200 Hz)

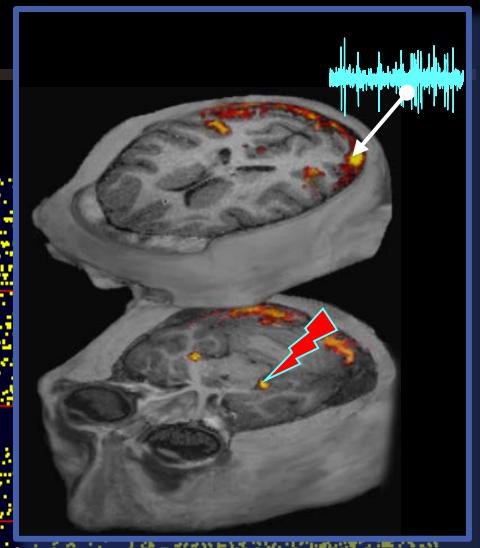
# Cortical Responses to Single LGN Microstimulation Pulses



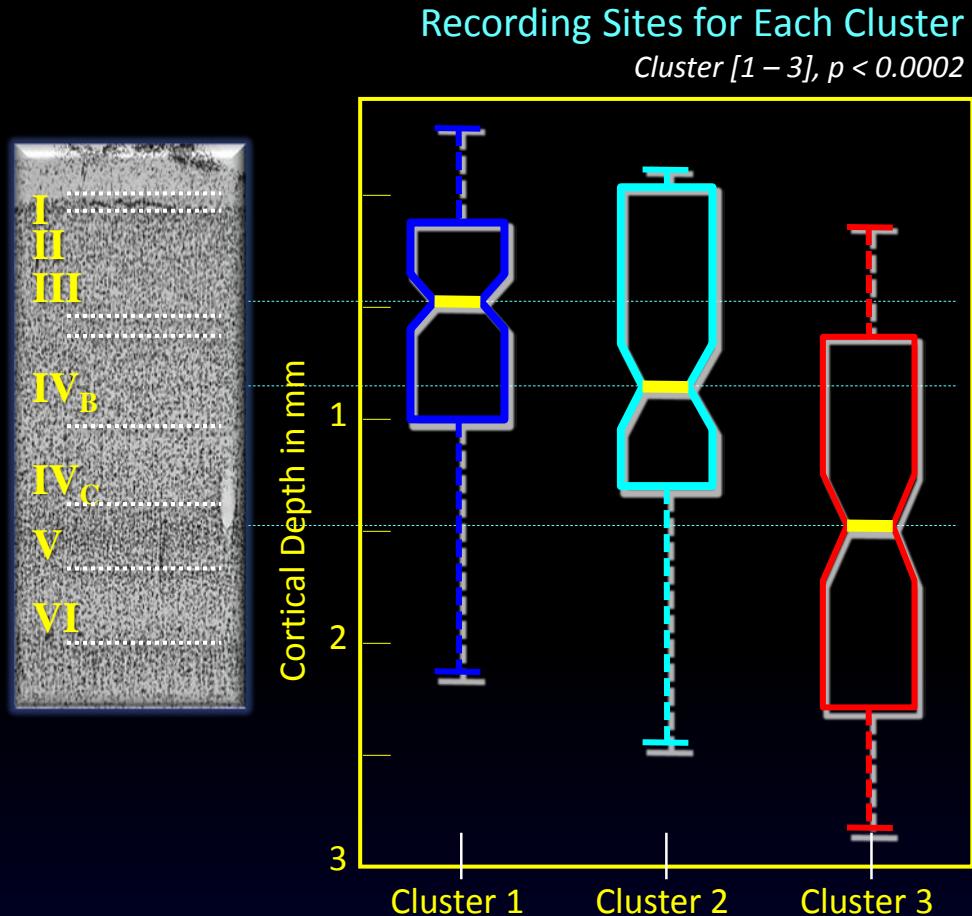
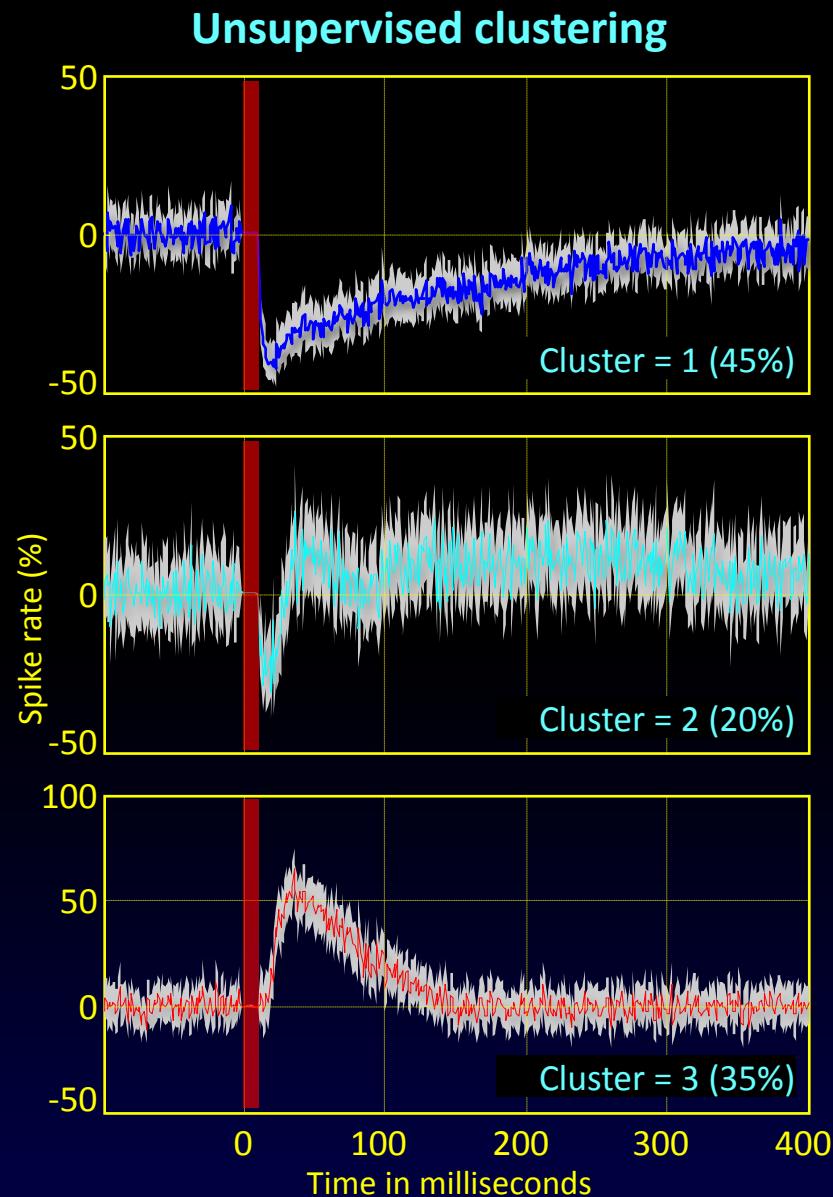
1 Hz, Biphasic 200 $\mu$ sec, 50 $\mu$ A



1 Hz, Biphasic 200 $\mu$ sec, 50 $\mu$ A



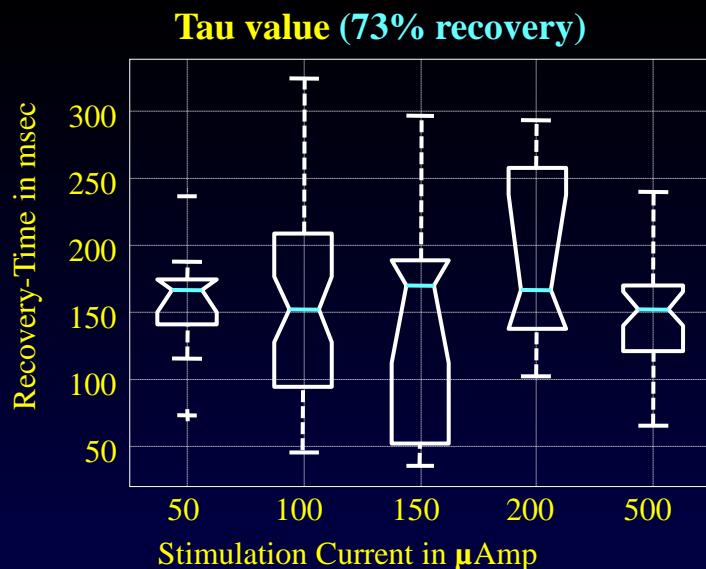
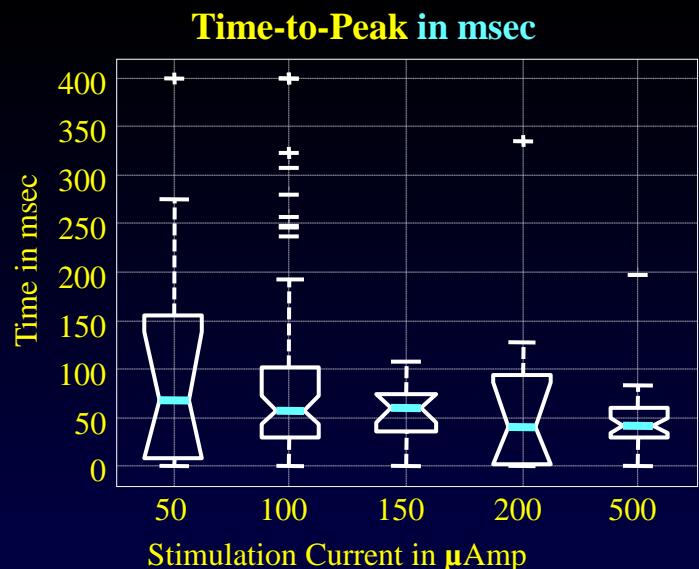
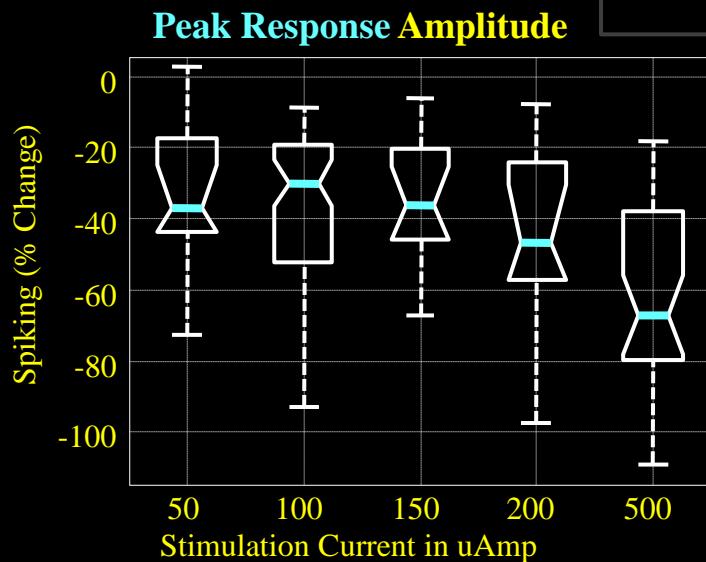
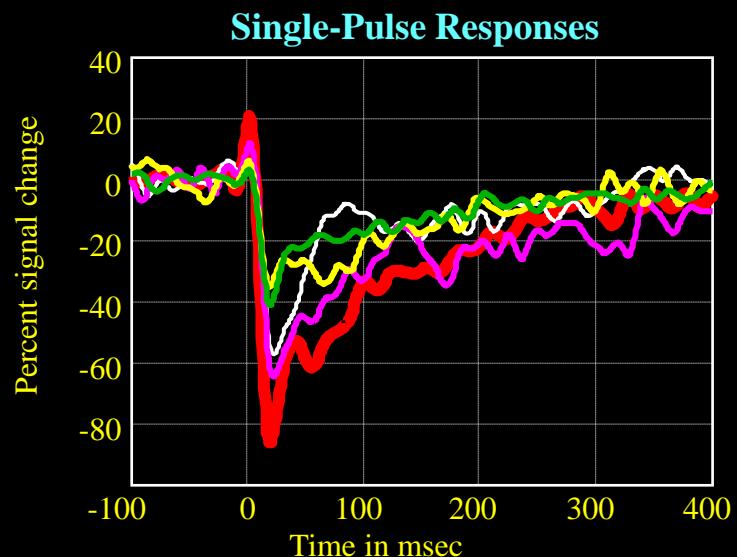
# Cortical Responses to Single LGN Microstimulation Pulses



**What is causing inhibition?**

- Changes in Excitability?
- Synaptic Inhibition?

# DES-Responses for Different Current Strengths: Excitability Changes?



# DES-Responses after Blocking GABAergic Action: **Synaptic Inhibition?**

*Blocking GABAergic action with 100 $\mu$ M solution of bicuculline methiodide (BMI), injected into V1 (Rate: 1  $\mu$ l/min for 10 min)*

## Injector

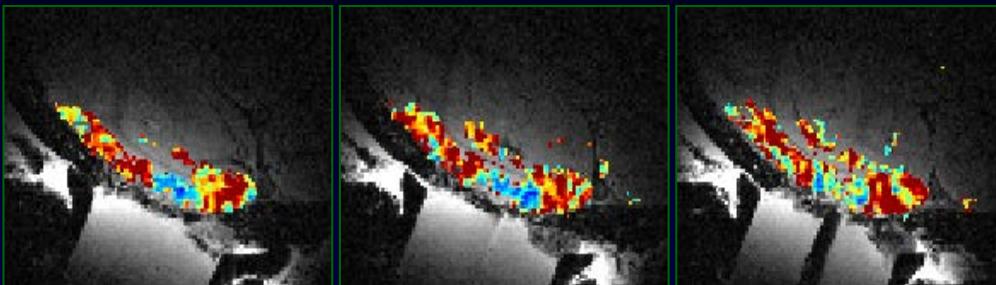
- ❖ Triple-barrel glass tube
- ❖ 3 Independent injection lines
- ❖ 3 HPLC pumps; Online selection
- ❖ High precision flow-meters
- ❖ Online pH adjustment
- ❖ Magnevist Dose-Optimization



0.9  $\mu$ l/min  
in 20 min  
total vol: 12.4  $\mu$ l.



4.2  $\mu$ l/min  
in 10 min  
total vol: 32  $\mu$ l.



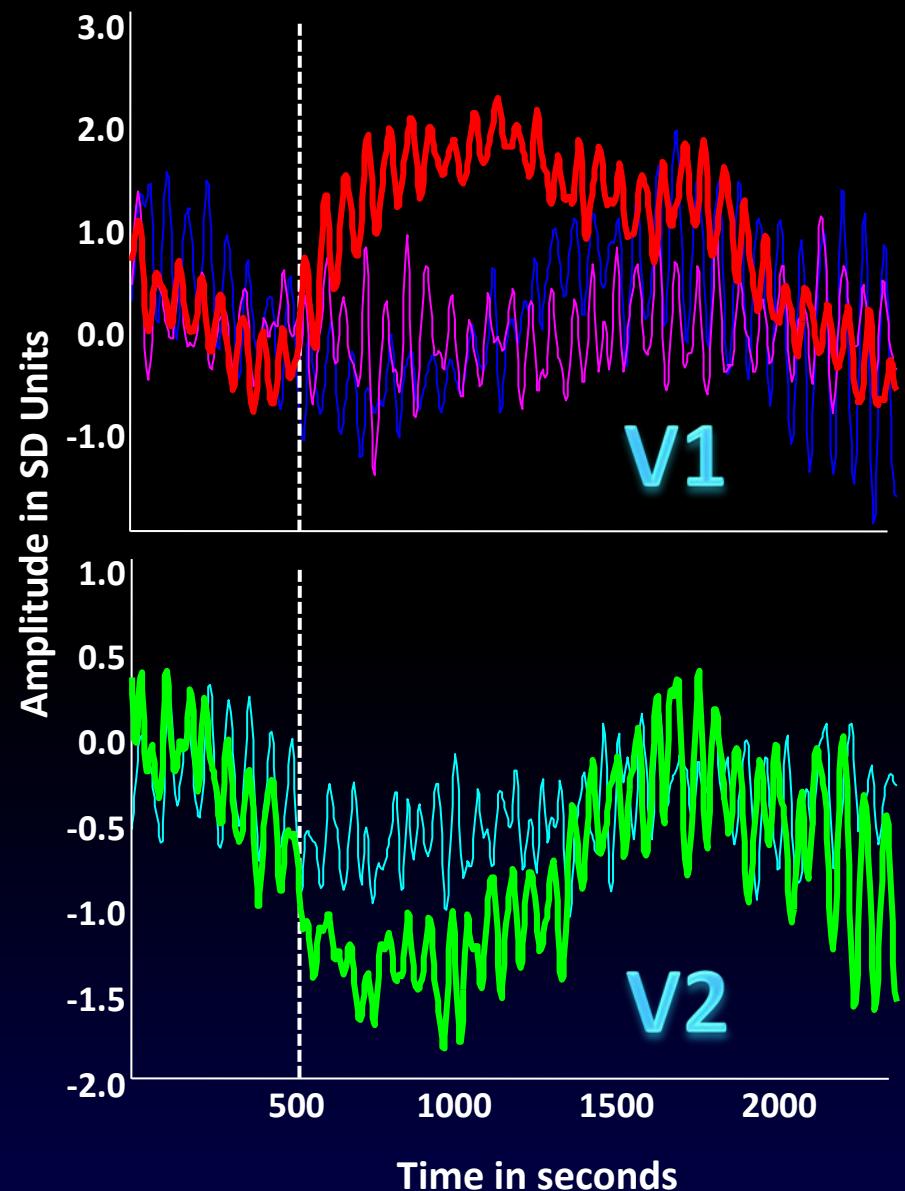
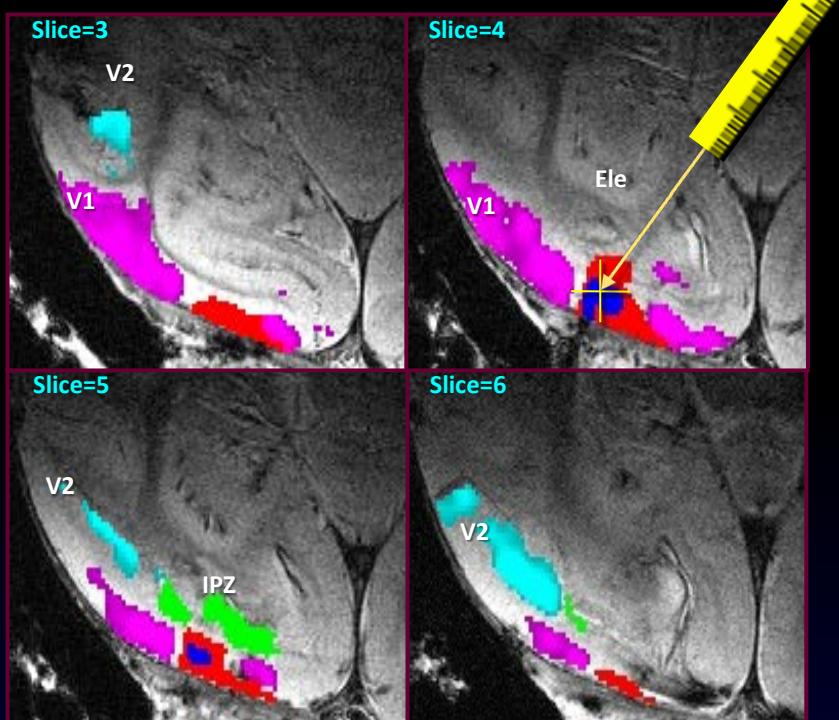
*Example of Lidocaine Injection*

Maximal Distance: 2.7 mm

Electrode Position

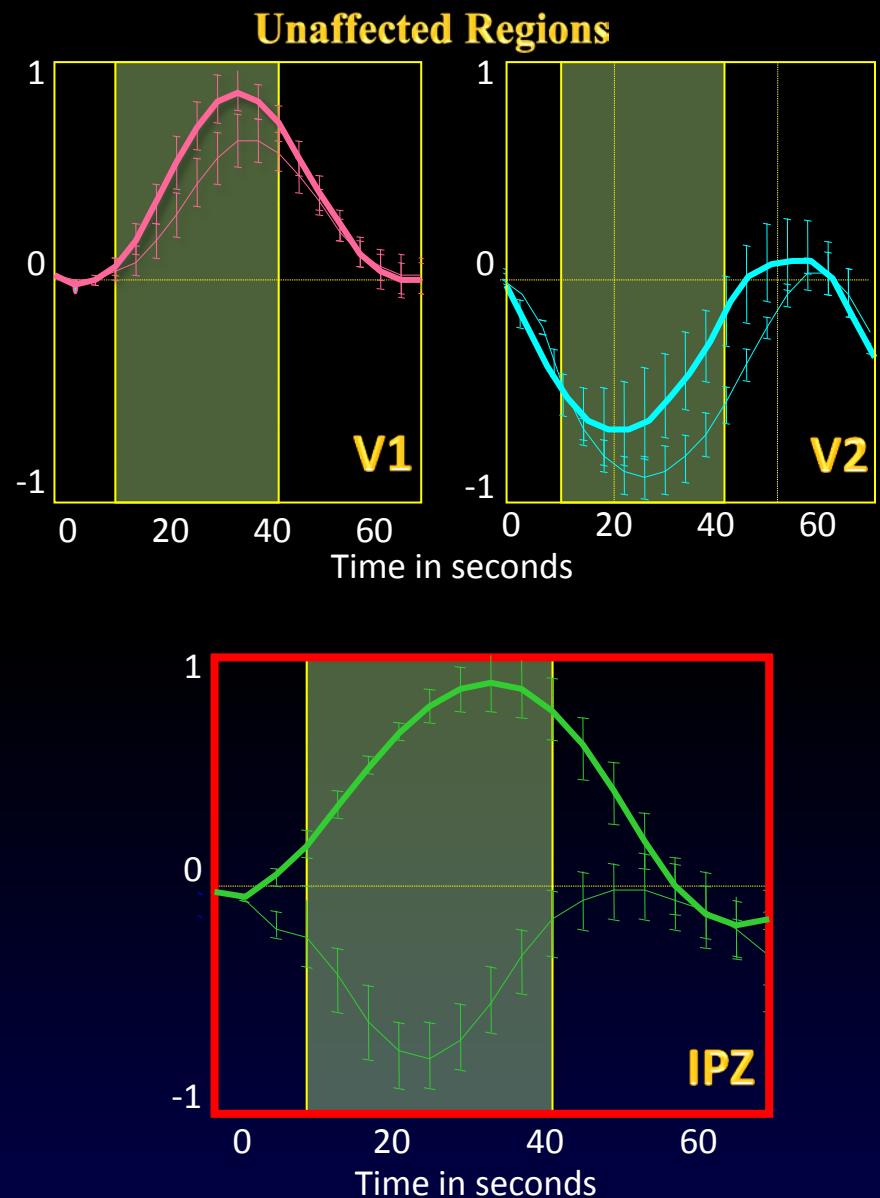
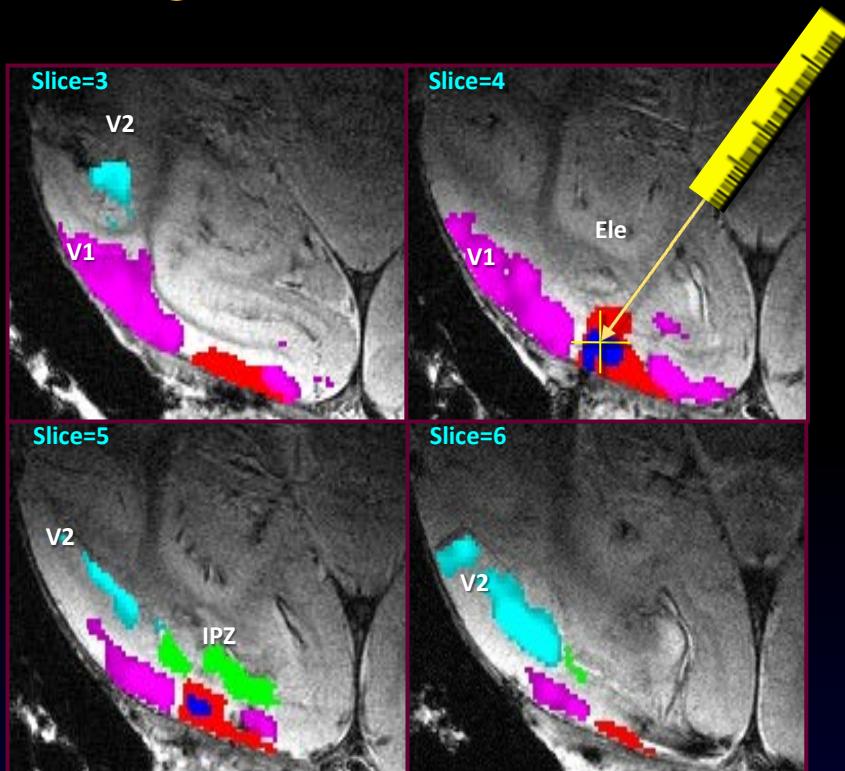
# DES-Responses after Blocking GABAergic Action: **Synaptic Inhibition?**

## Spatially filtered ICA Clusters in a Single Session



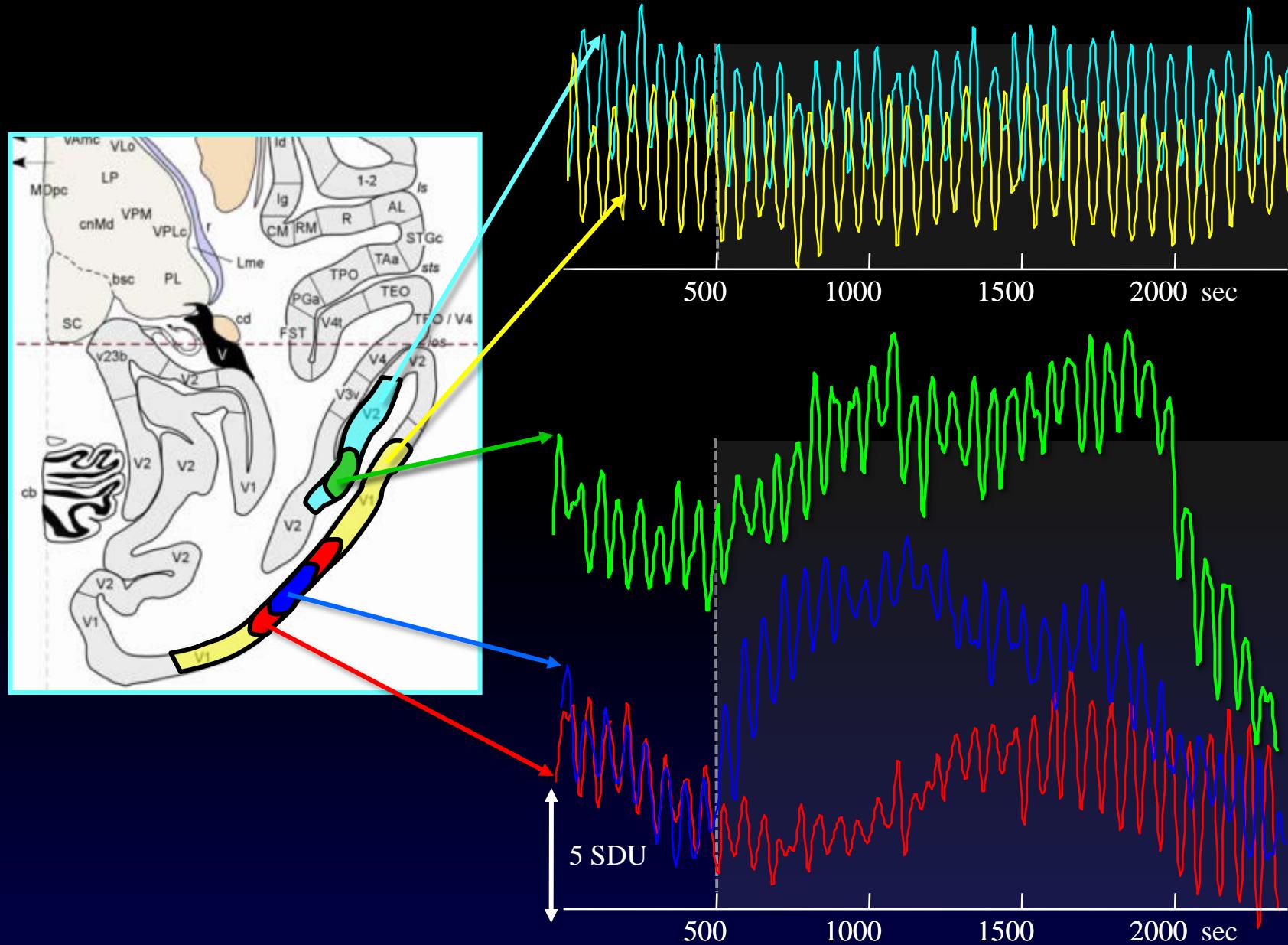
# DES-Responses after Blocking GABAergic Action: **Synaptic Inhibition?**

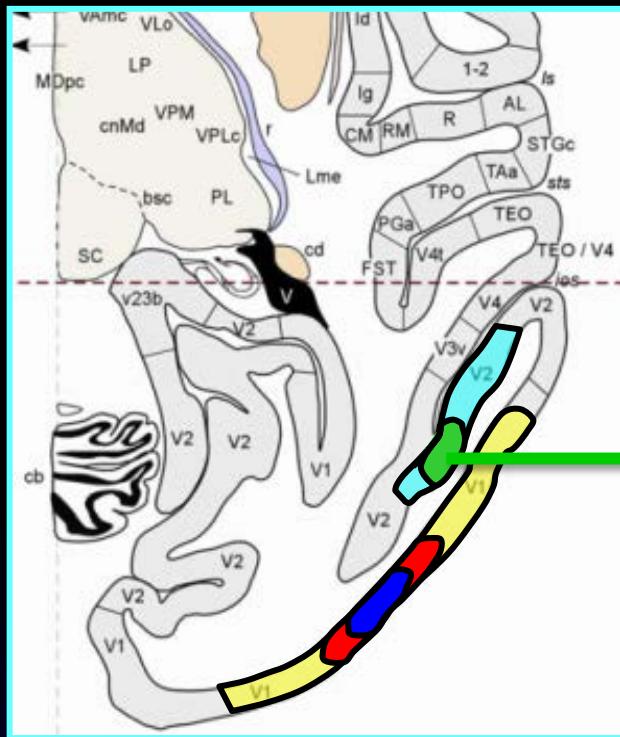
## Spatially filtered ICA Clusters in a Single Session



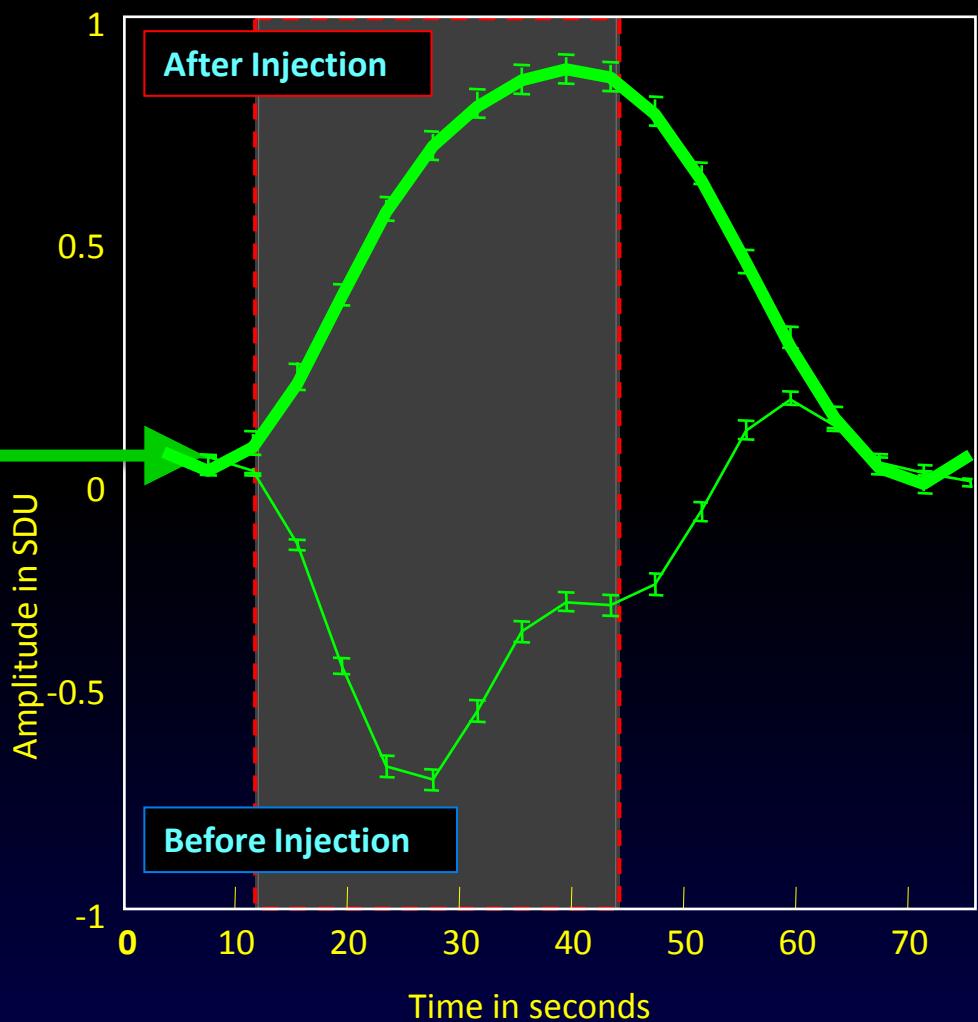
# POPULATION DATA

# Effects of Injection of GABA-Antagonists on DES-fMRI

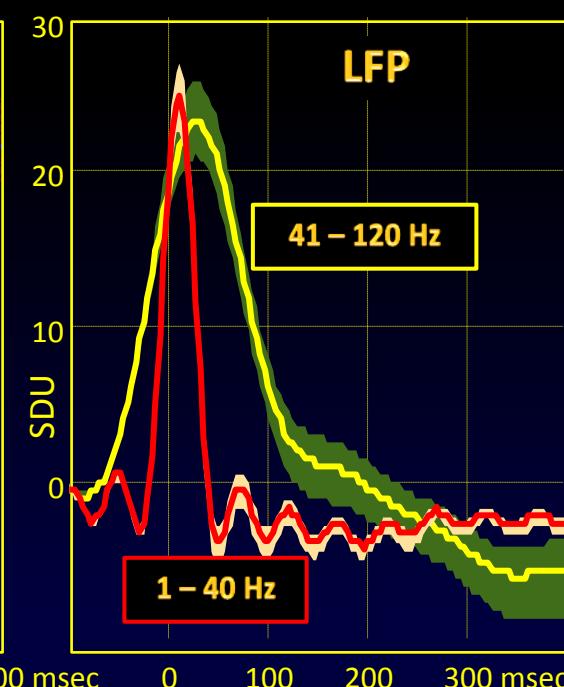
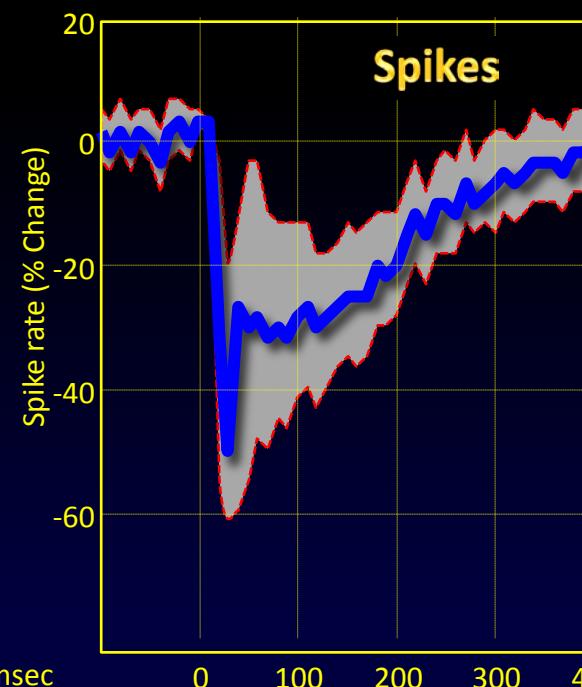
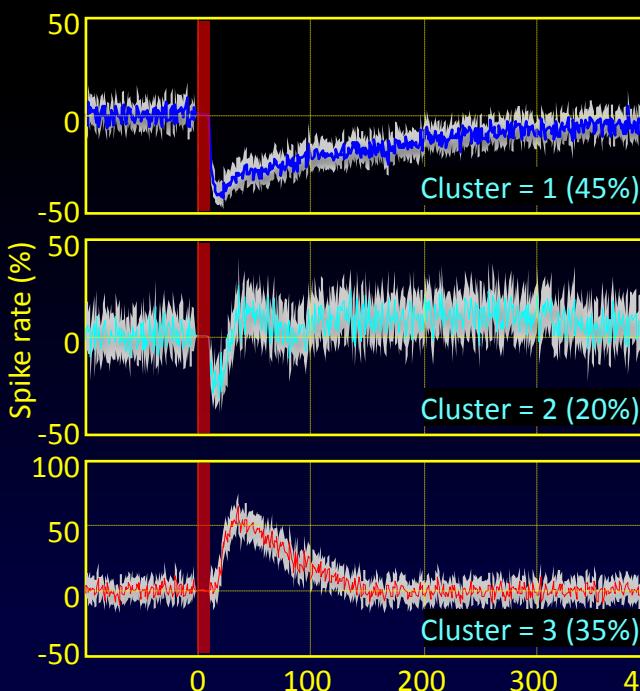


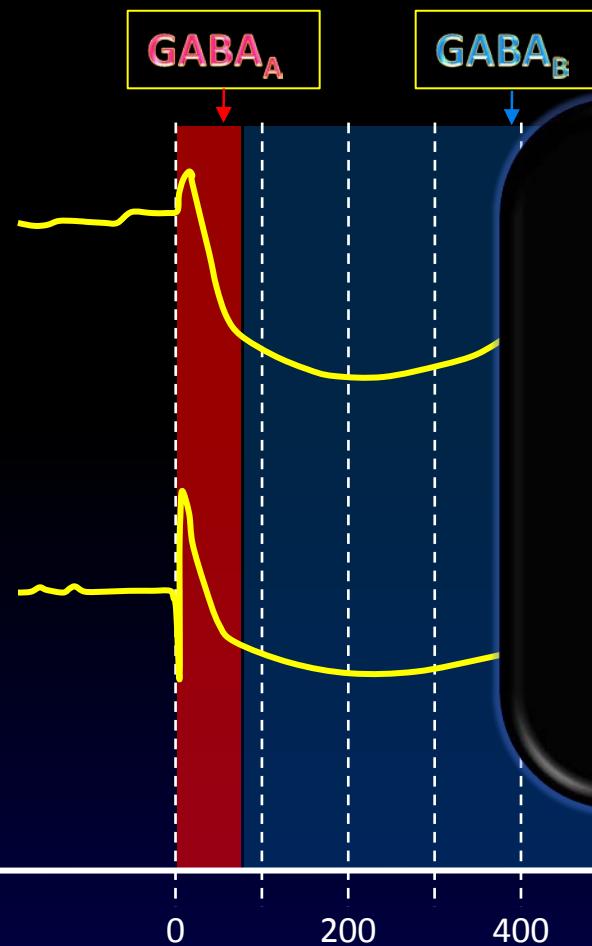
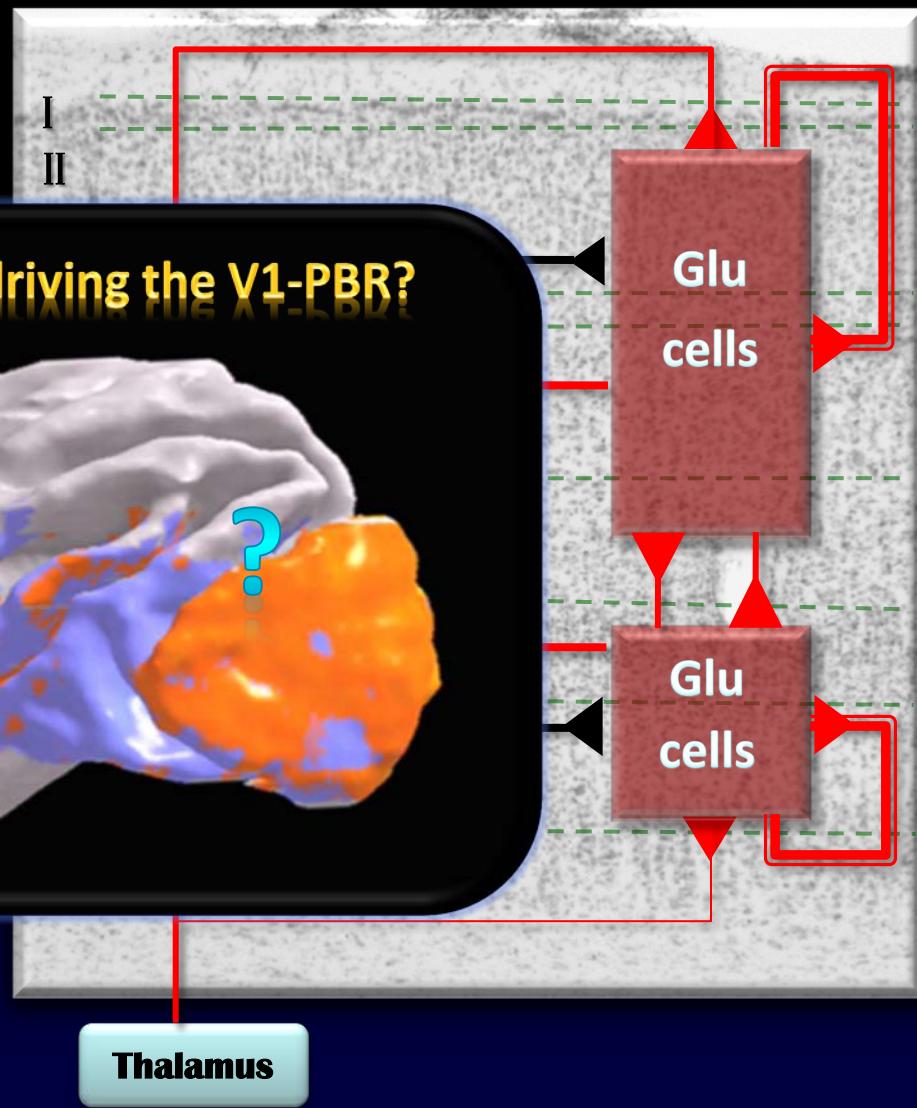


### V2 – Injection-Projection ROI



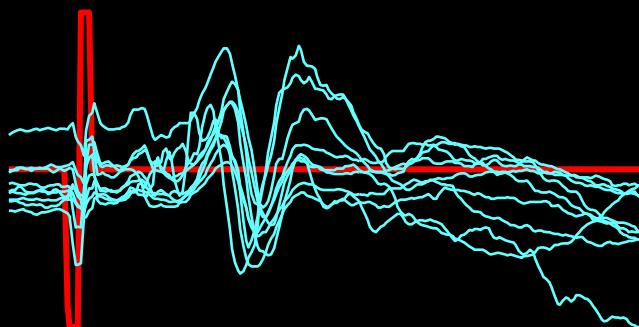
- ❖ DES of V1-afferents **disrupts the propagation of signals from V1 to extrastriate areas..** hence their **NBR**
- ❖ The findings are independent of animal-state and current-strength
- ❖ DES-induced Down Modulations are unrelated to the NBR observed during sensory stimulation
- ❖ Disruption of propagation is due to **synaptic inhibition** (rather than reduced excitability) likely due to the over-synchronized spatiotemporal profile of DES-elicited thalamic-input
- ❖ MUA **drops** in the supra- and briefly **increases** in the infra-granular cortical layers:



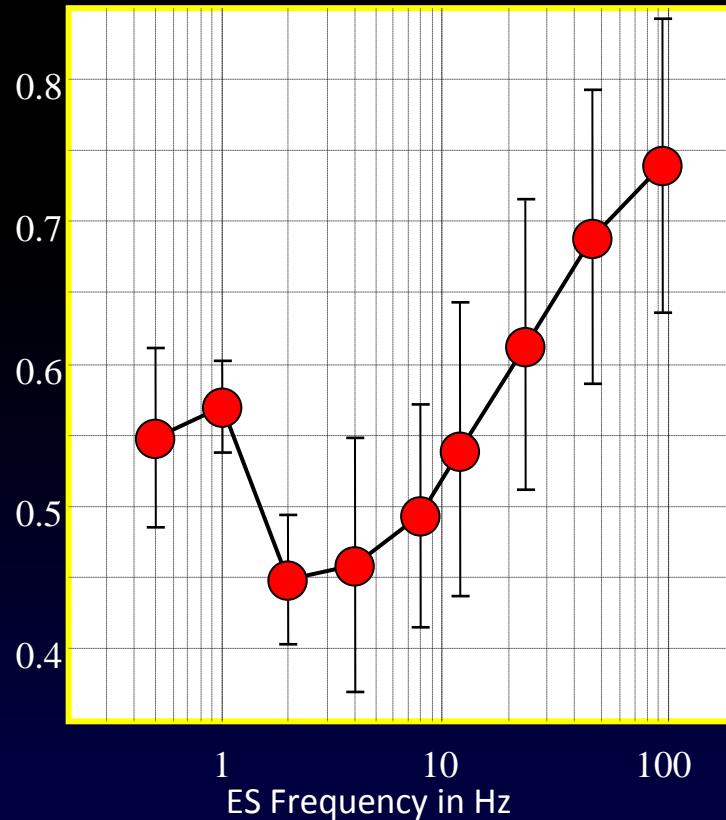
**Intracellular Recordings During Electrical Stimulation of Cortical Afferents****Excitation-Inhibition Networks**

# Neural-Activity Suppression is a Non-Monotonic Function of Frequency

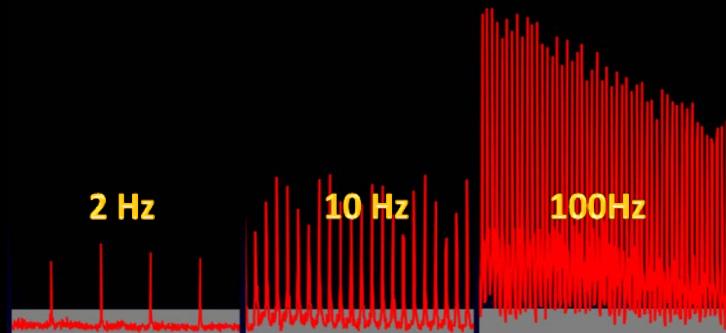
Pulse-Efficiency



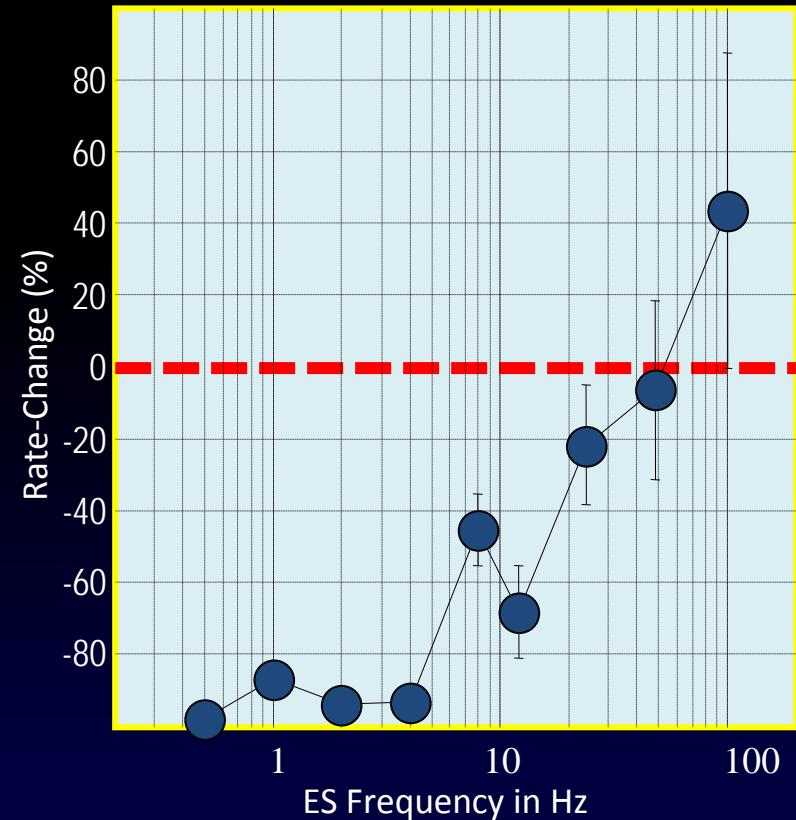
Probability of Spike Occurrence



Interpulse Inhibition

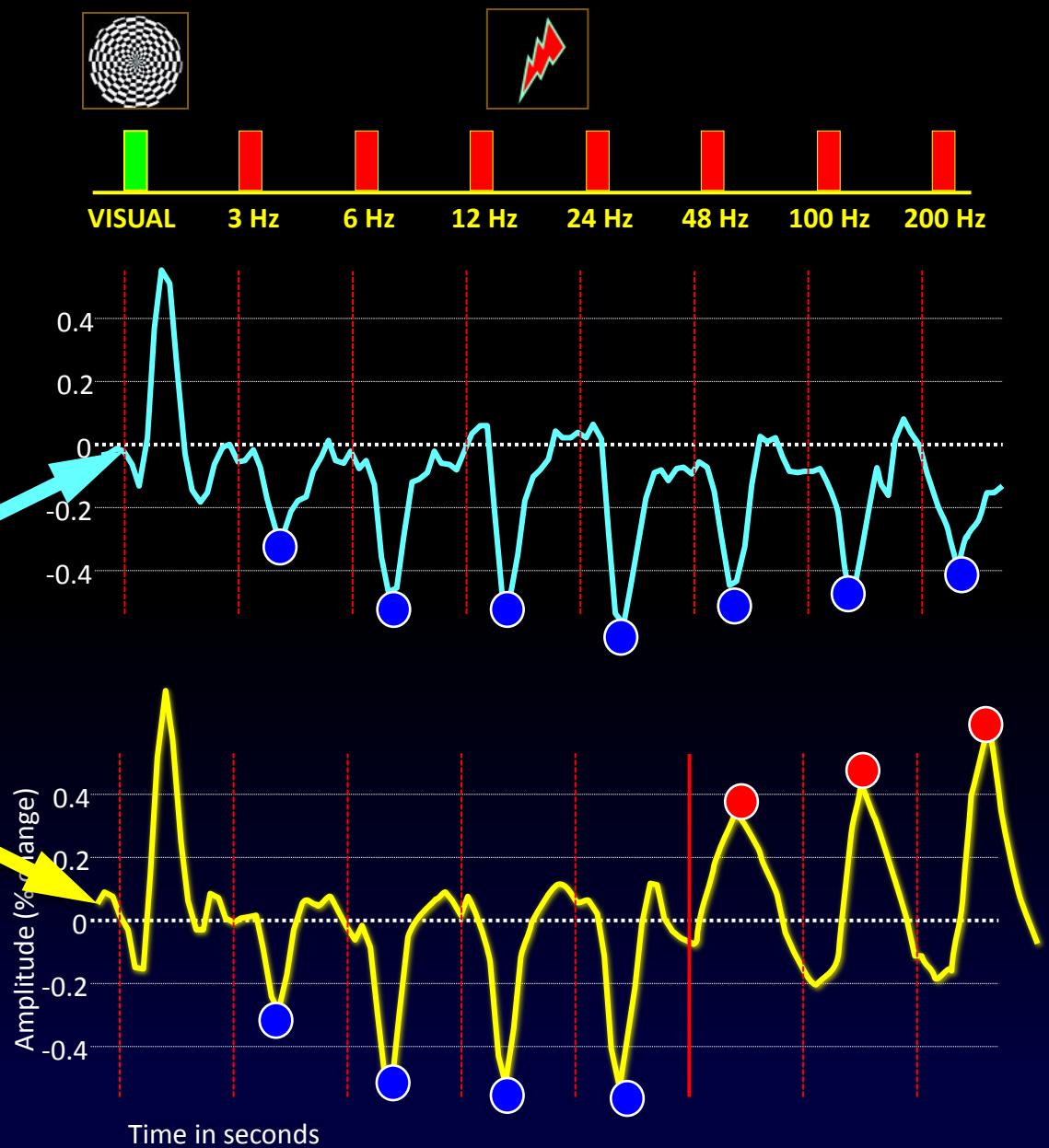
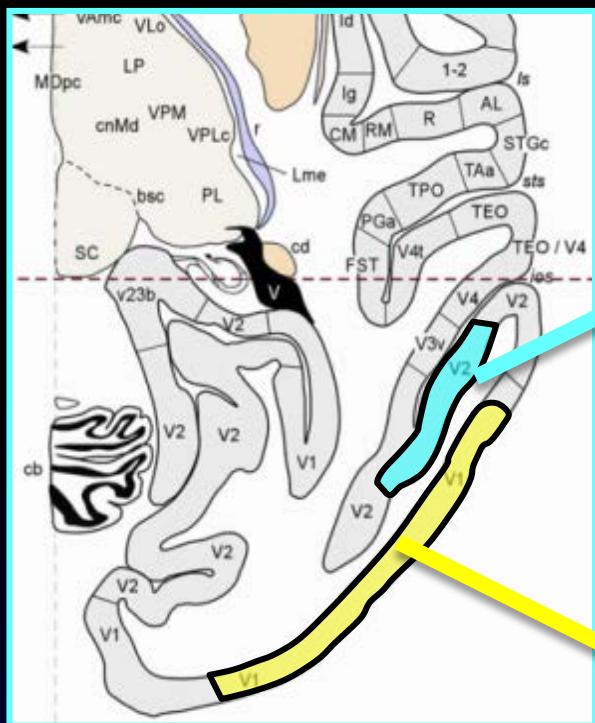


Rate-Change (%)



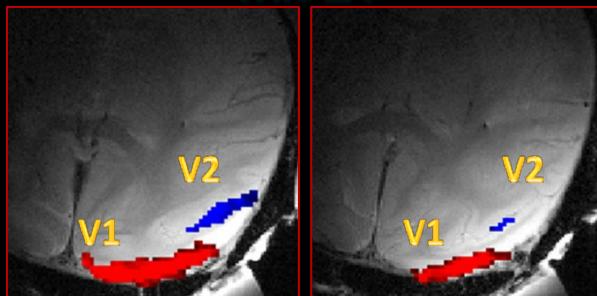
# Neural-Activity Suppression is a Non-Monotonic Function of Frequency

...AND SO IS THE  
BOLD RESPONSE

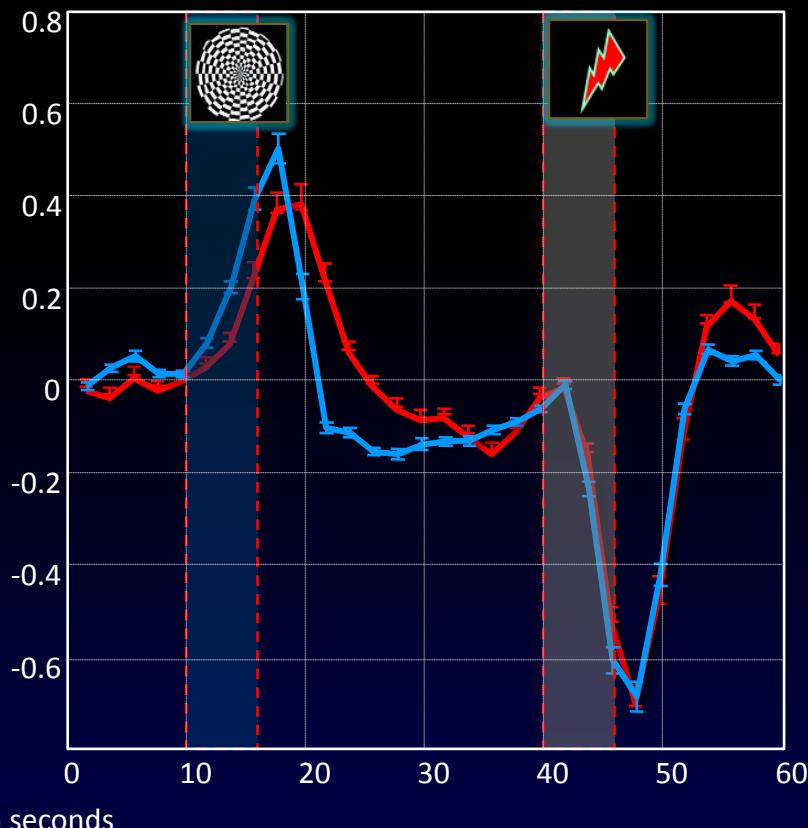
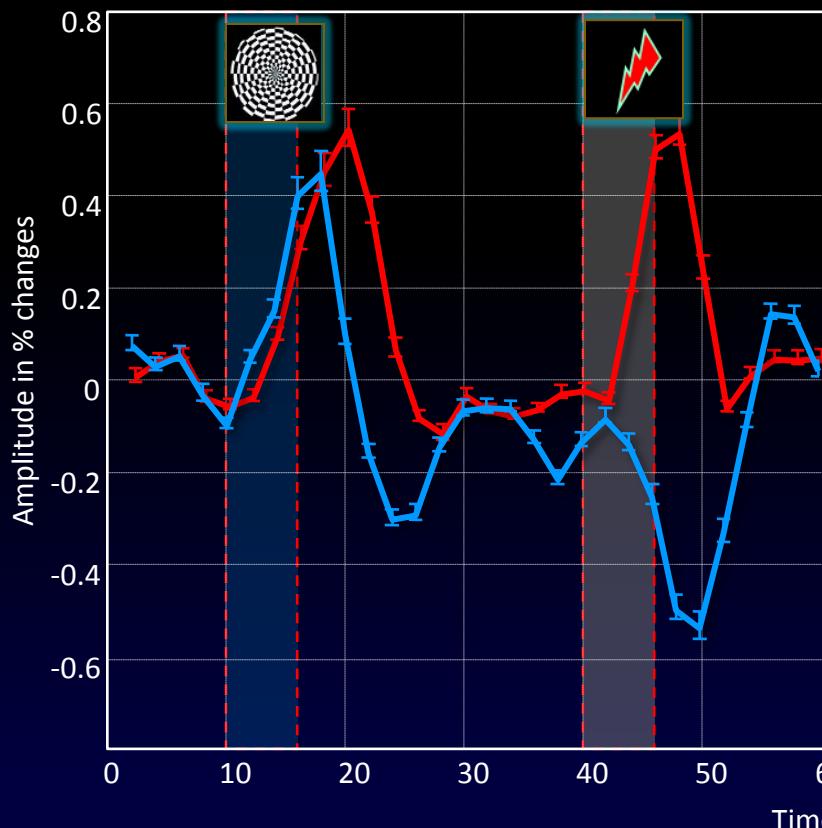
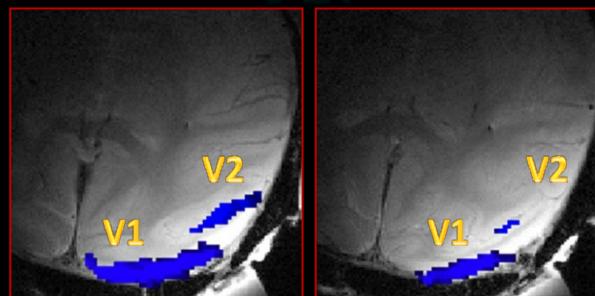


# V1 & V2 BOLD Responses for HIGH and LOW Stimulation Frequencies

200 Hz

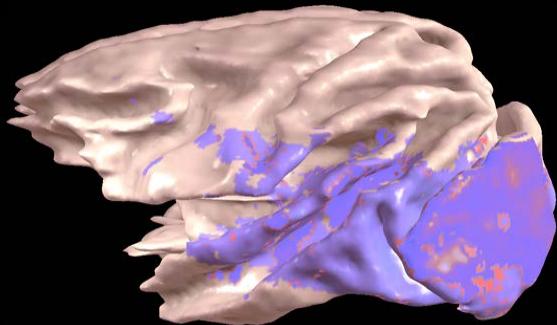


8 Hz



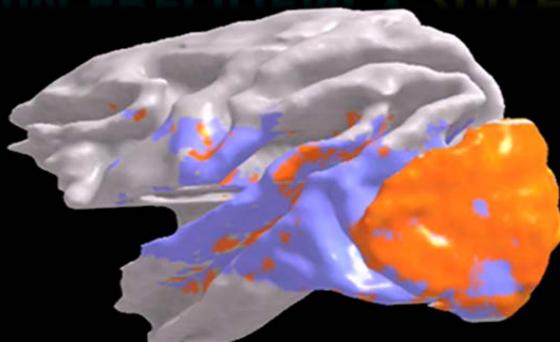
# V1 & V2 BOLD Responses for HIGH and LOW Stimulation Frequencies

STIM FREQUENCY 8 Hz

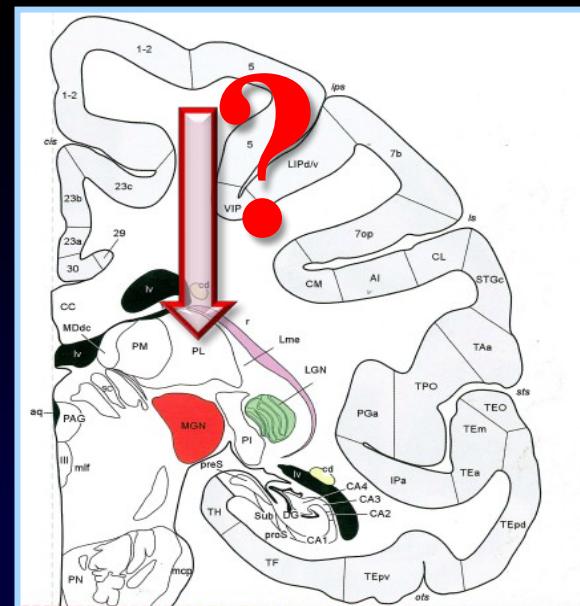
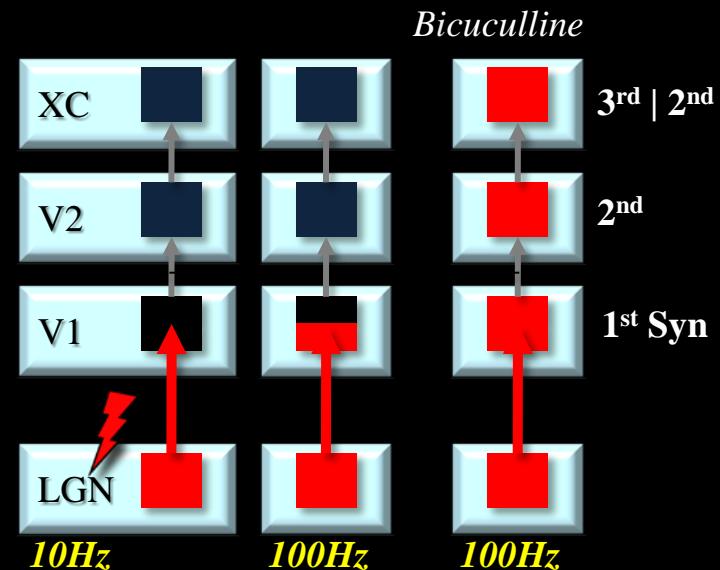


Cortical Output Shunted  
Low Presynaptic Activity (NBR in V1)

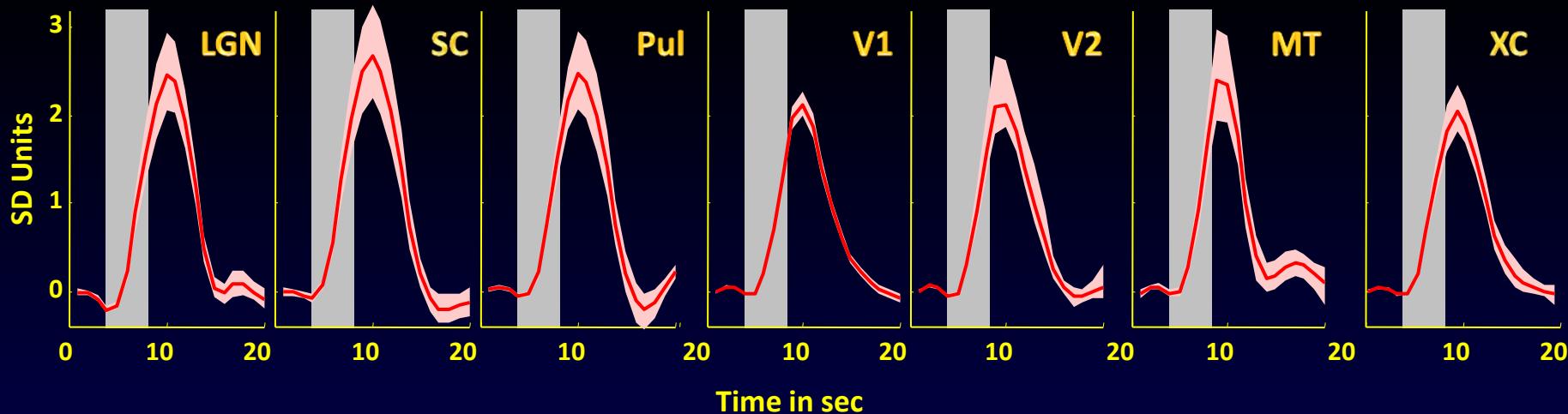
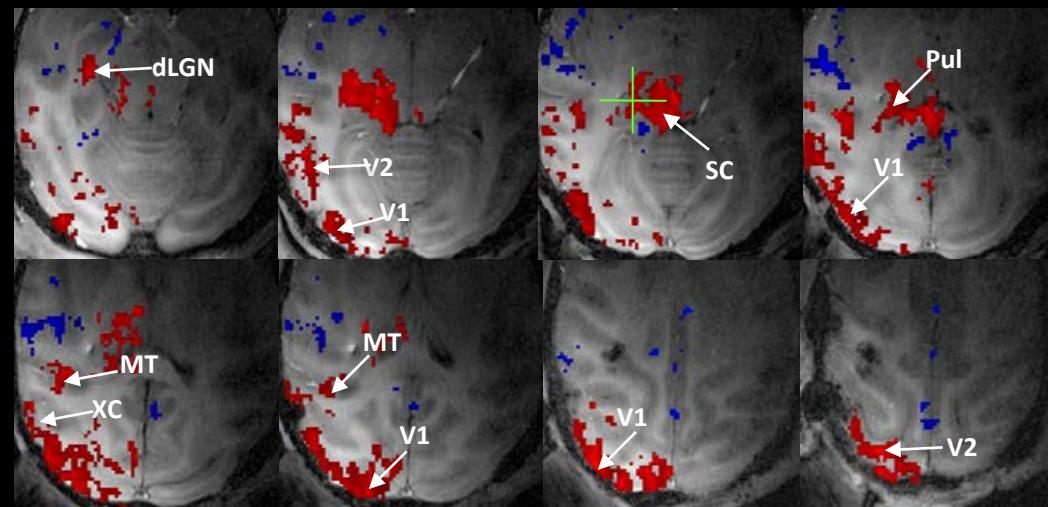
STIM FREQUENCY 200 Hz



Cortical Output Shunted  
High Presynaptic Activity (PBR in V1)



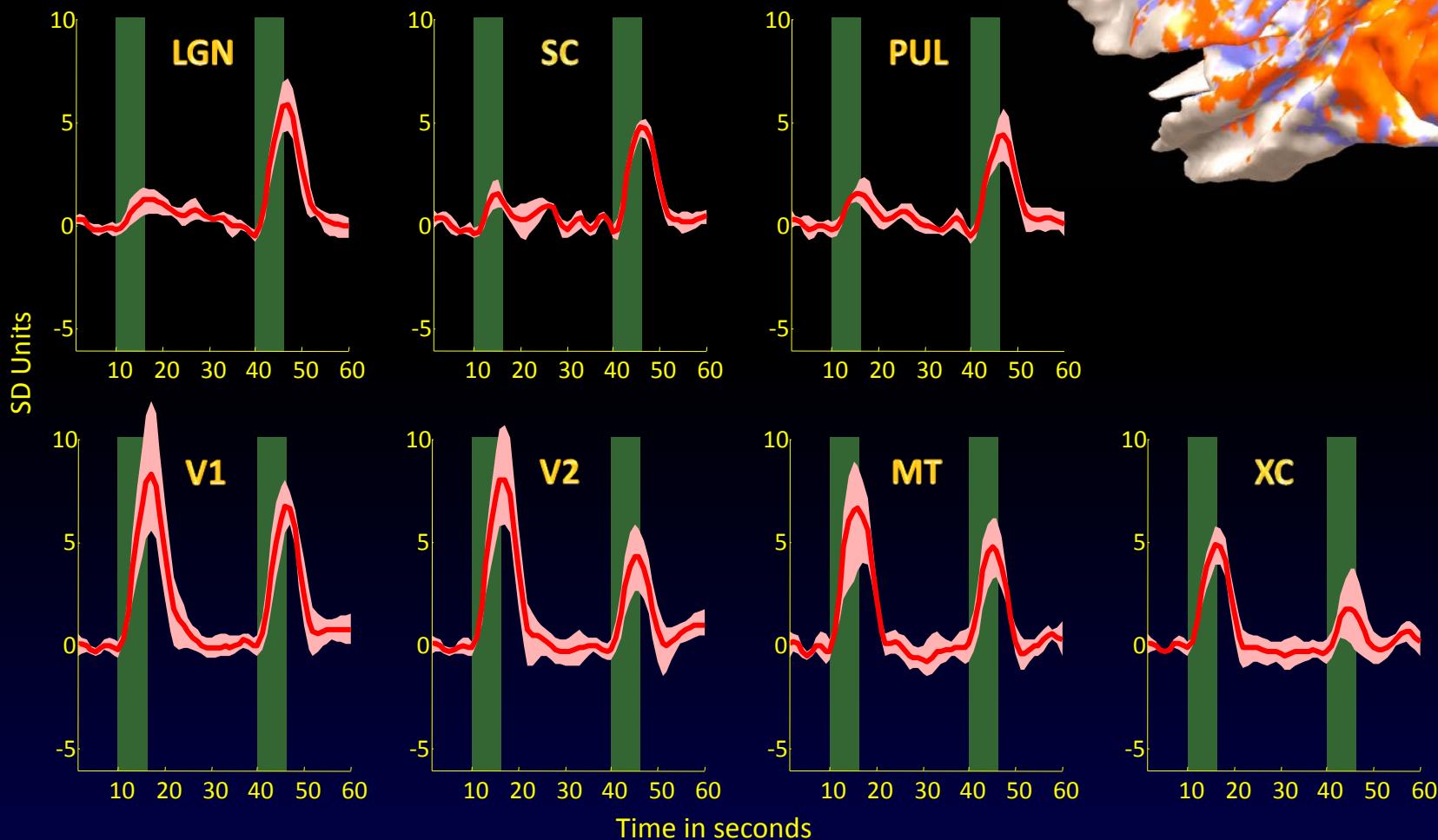
# Pulvinar Stimulation (Single Session)



# POPULATION DATA

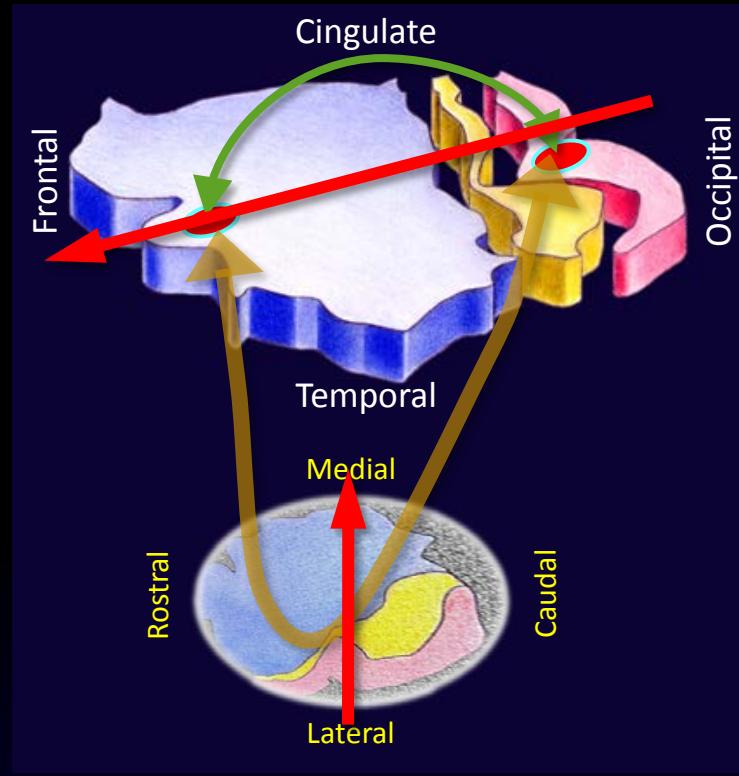
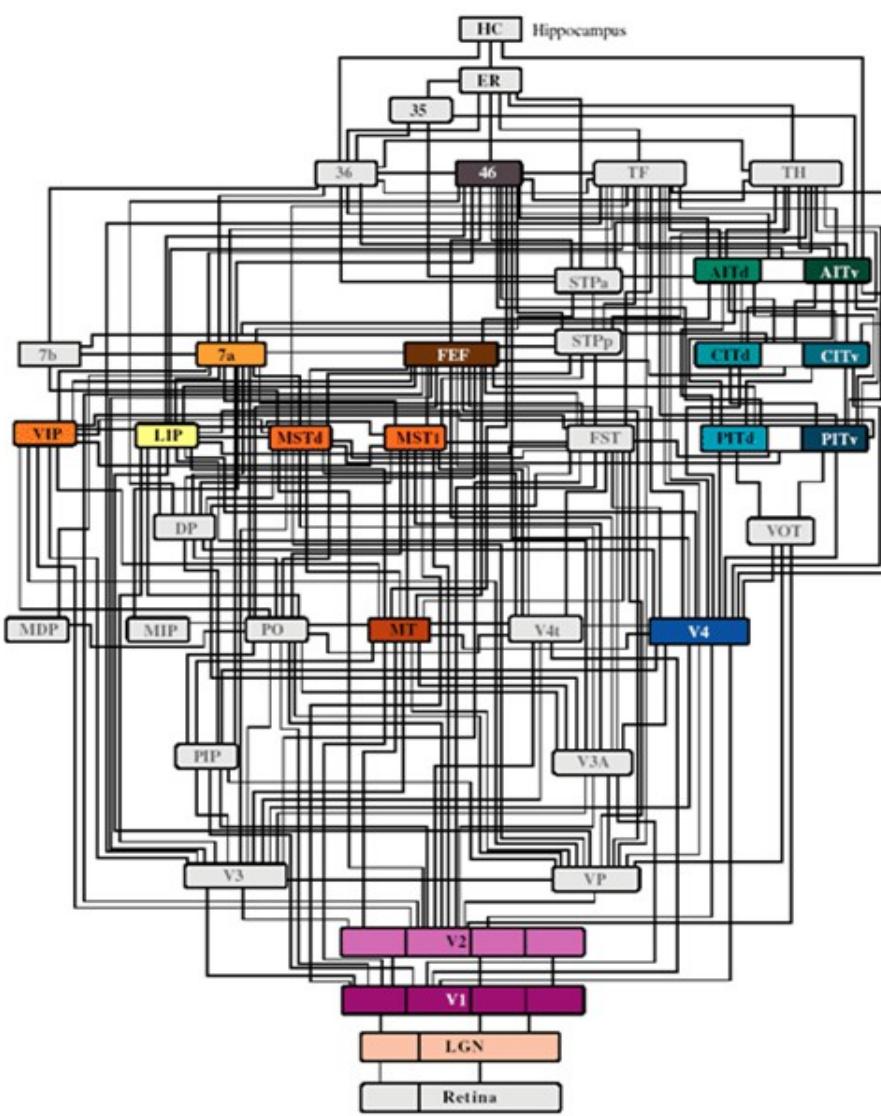
## Pulvinar Stimulation

Subjects = 6, Sessions = 11, Groups = 16, Experiments = 167



# Cortico-Thalamo-Cortical Connectivity

An alternative to the assumption "... once information reaches cortex, it stays within cortex ...", is  
"Information transfer is also on cortico-thalamo-cortical pathways involving higher order thalamic relays...", e.g. Guillory & Sherman, *Neuron* 2002



## *The Replication Principle*

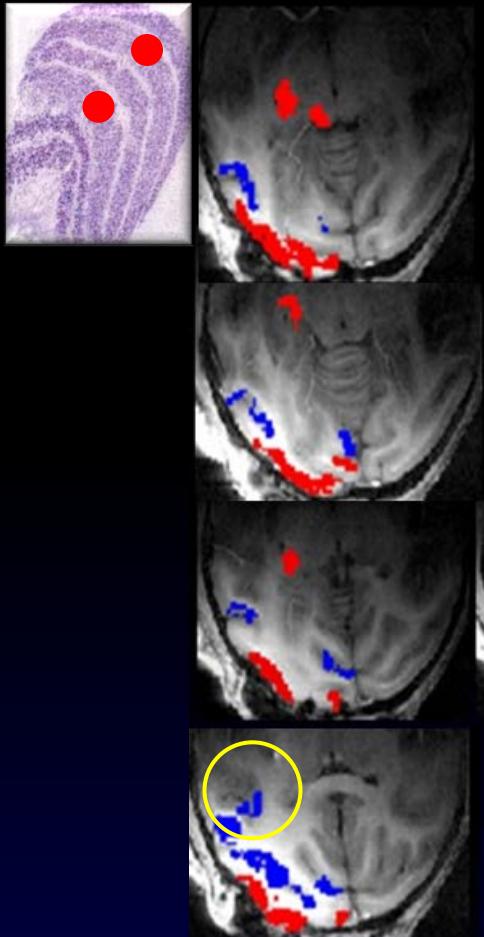
*“... if two cortical areas communicate directly, they are likely to have overlapping thalamic fields; if not, their thalamic fields avoid each other. They are totally separate, or interdigitating!”*

*Stewart Shipp, 2003*

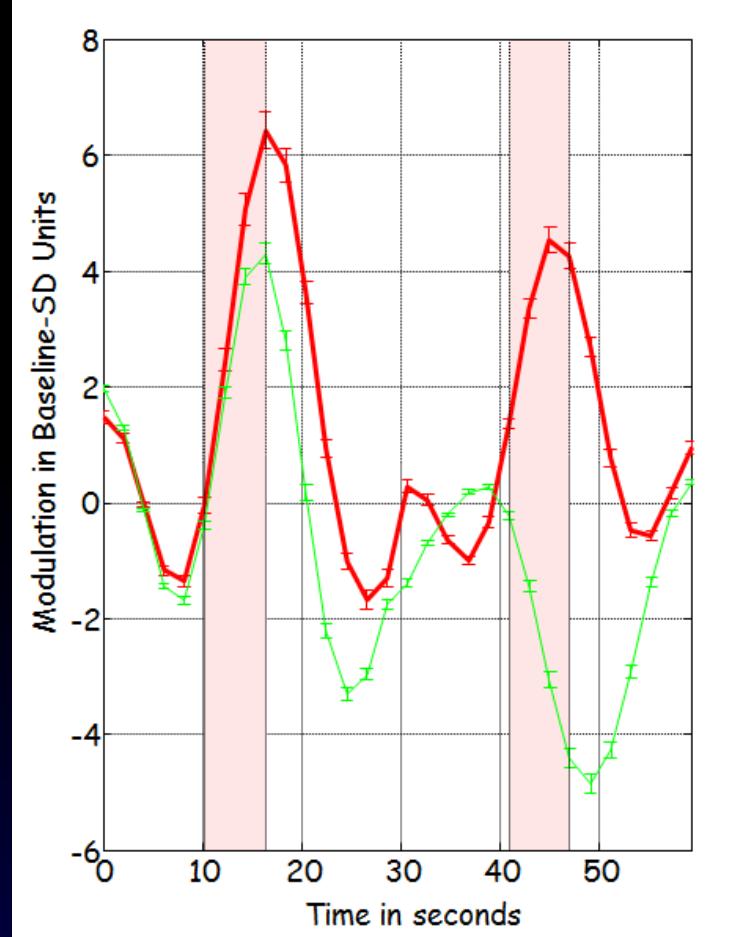
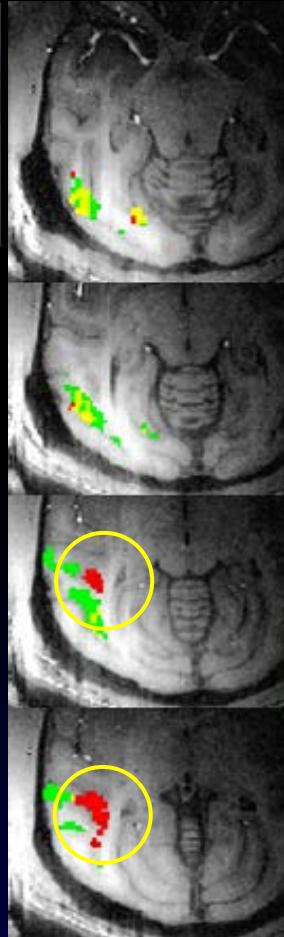
# DES of Konio - Direct Thalamic Input to Extrastriate Cortex?

## ES-Induced BOLD Responses in Area MT

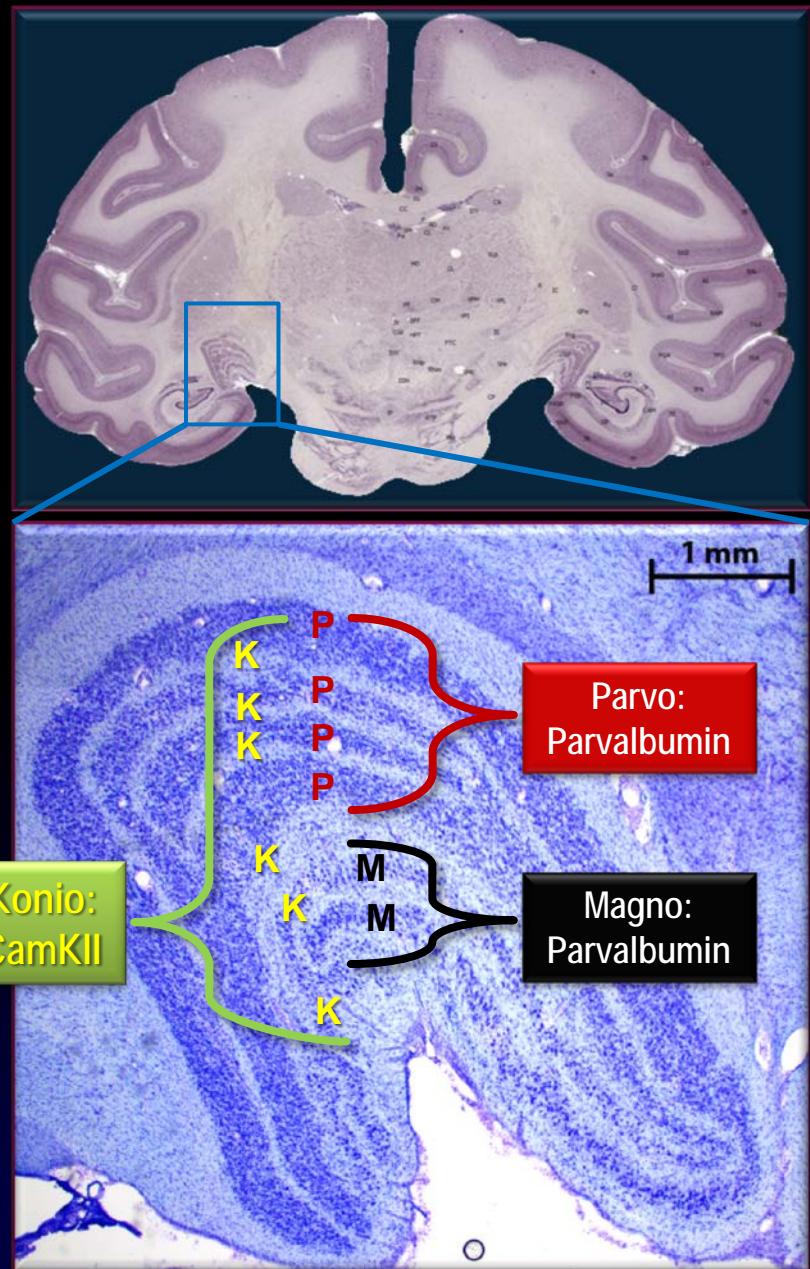
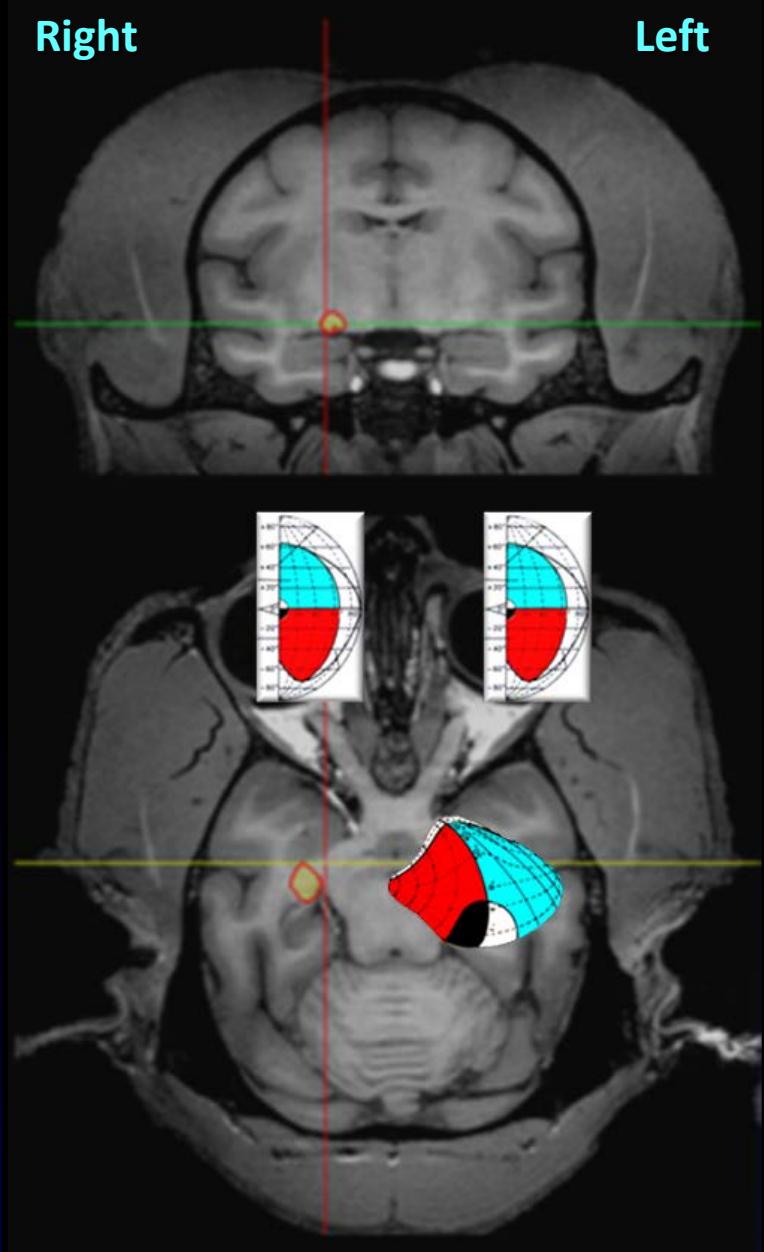
Dominant Stimulation: Relay Cells



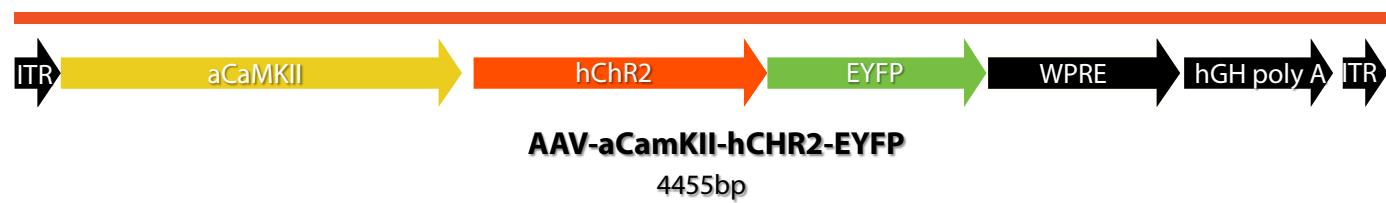
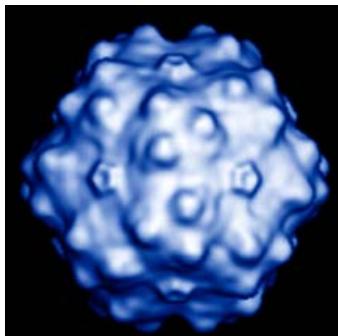
Dominant Stimulation: Koniocellular System (?)



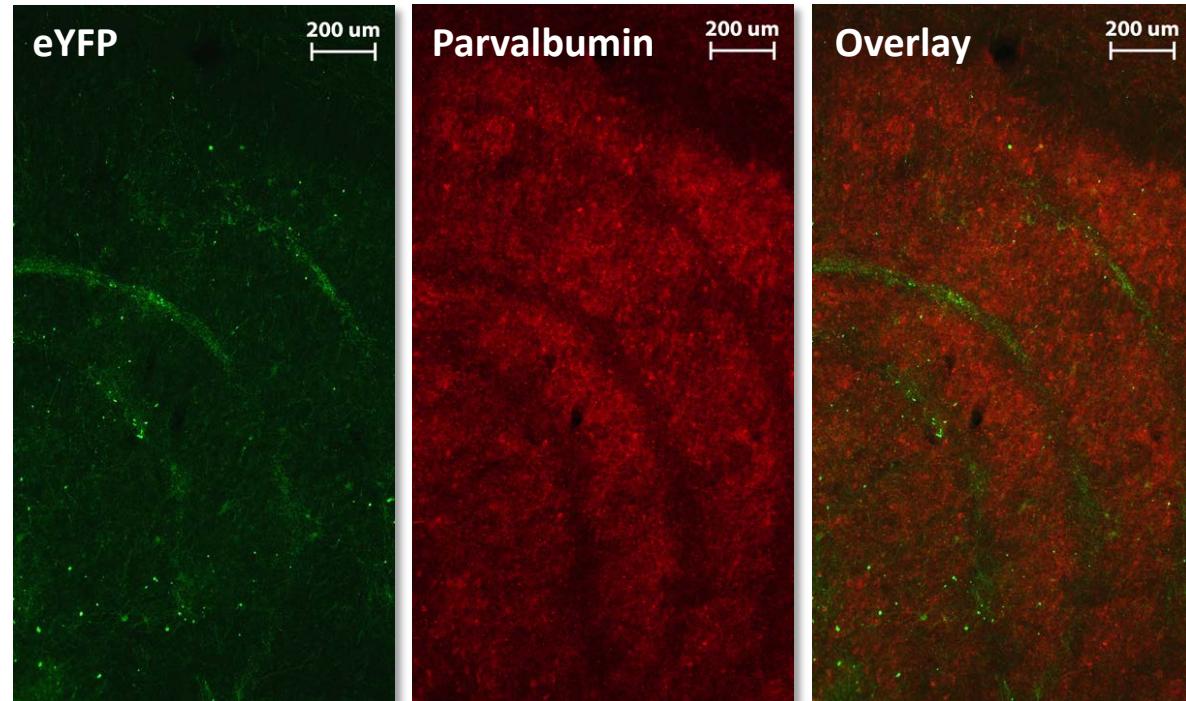
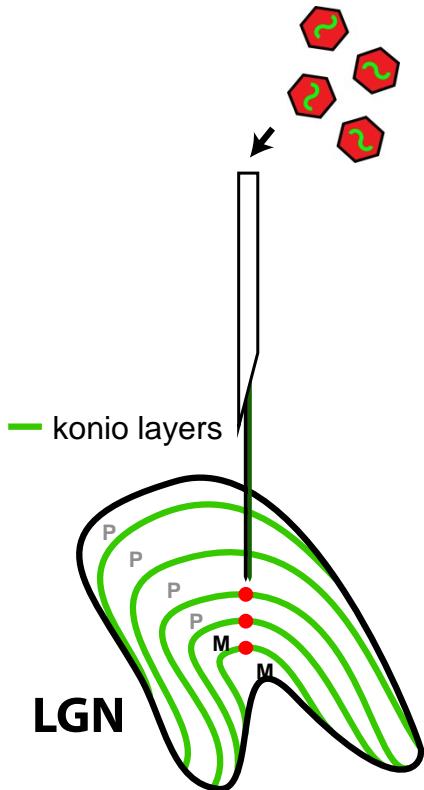
# Structure & Cell Types in the Lateral Geniculate Nucleus (LGN) of Monkeys



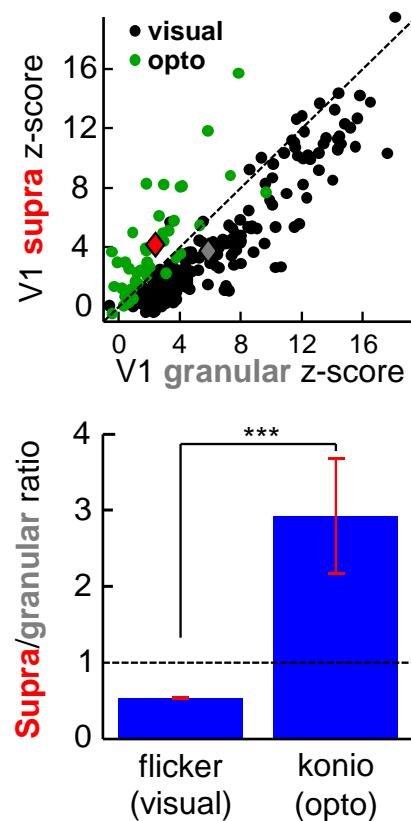
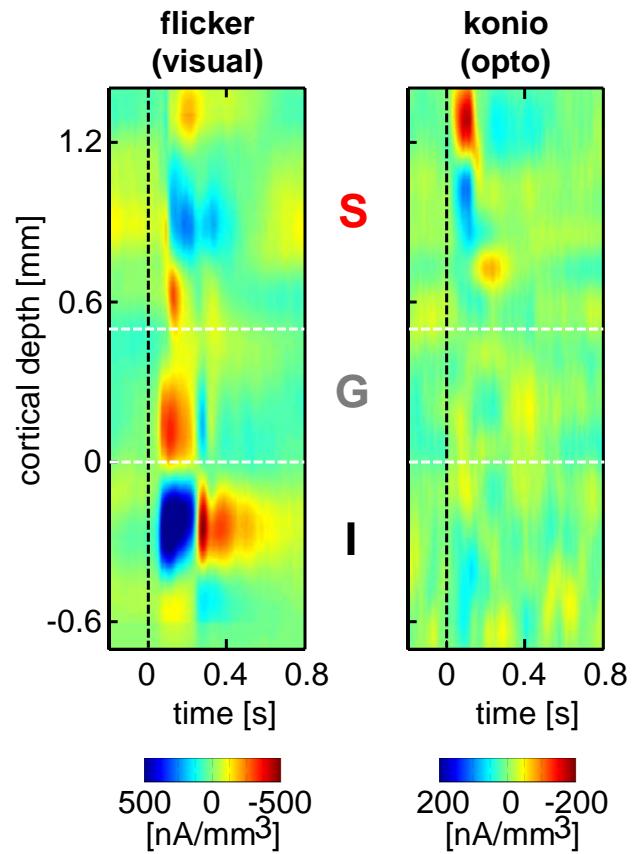
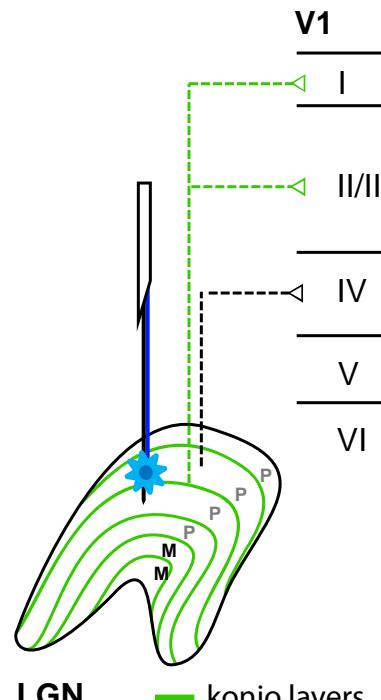
# ChR2 Expression in the LGN Konio layers



AAV5 Capsid

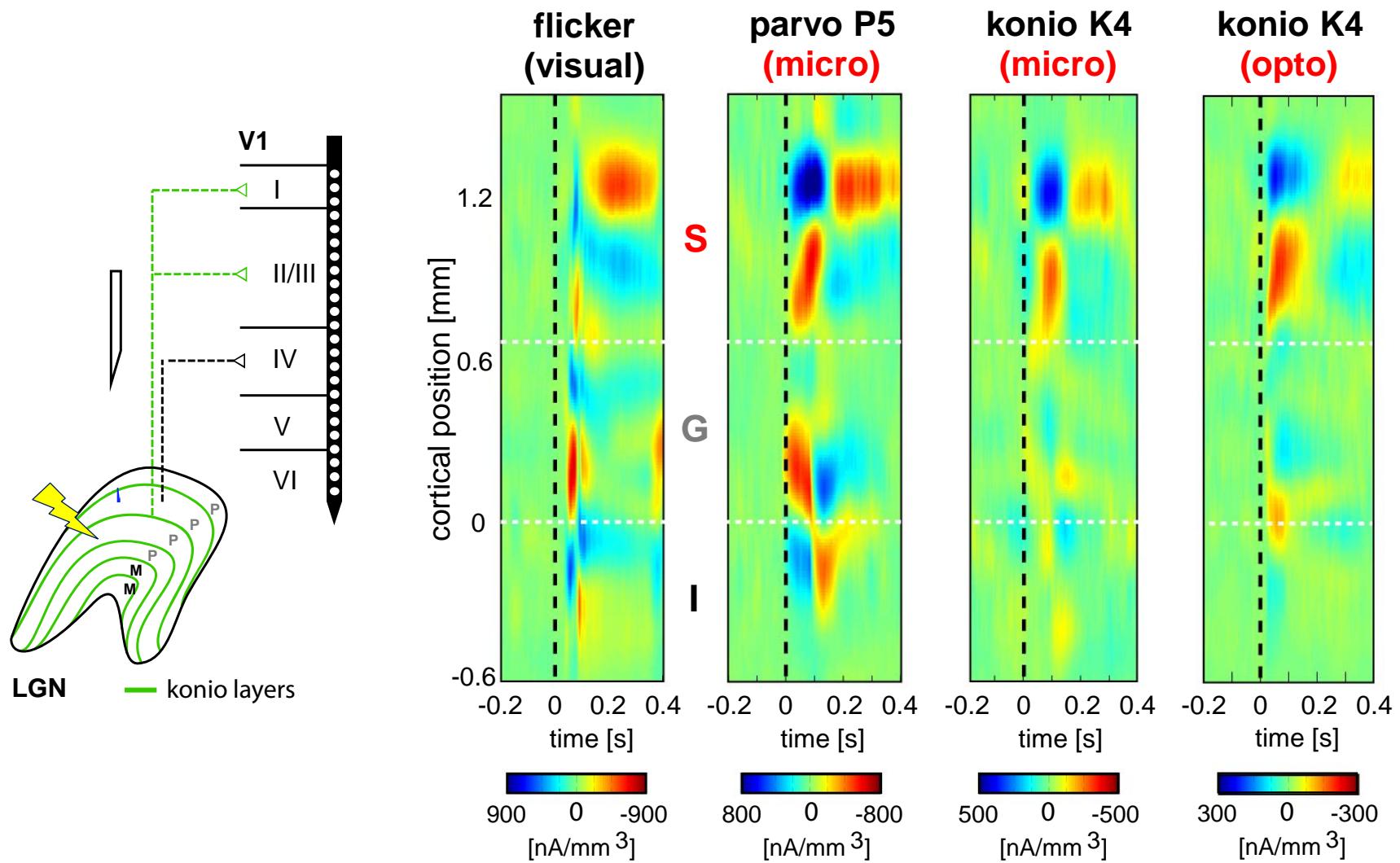


# Result I: DOS of Konio Activates the Supra-Granular Layers of V1

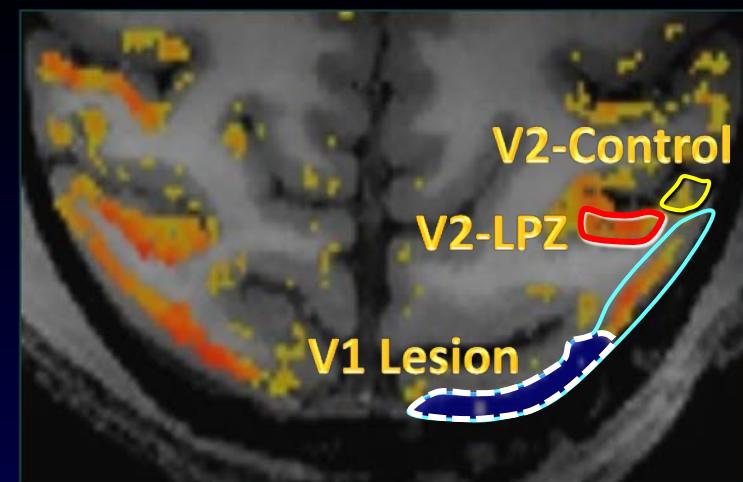
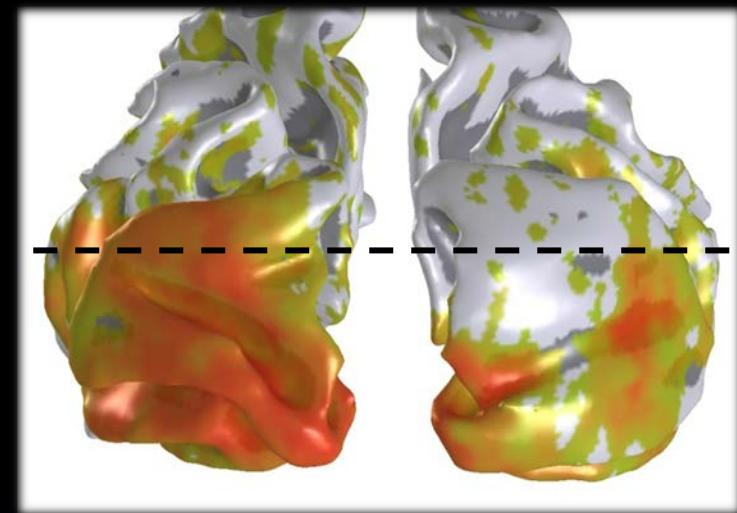
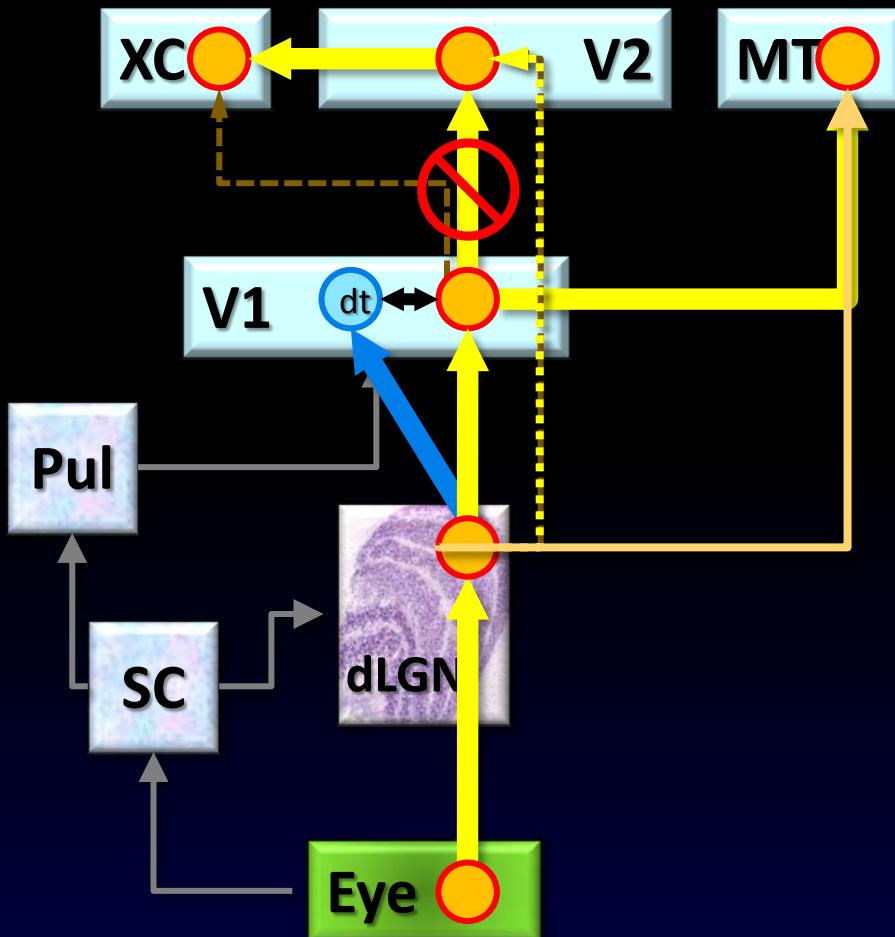


## Result II:

DES of Konio Activates the Supra-Granular Layers of V1 too;  
DES of Parvo Activates Granular Layers

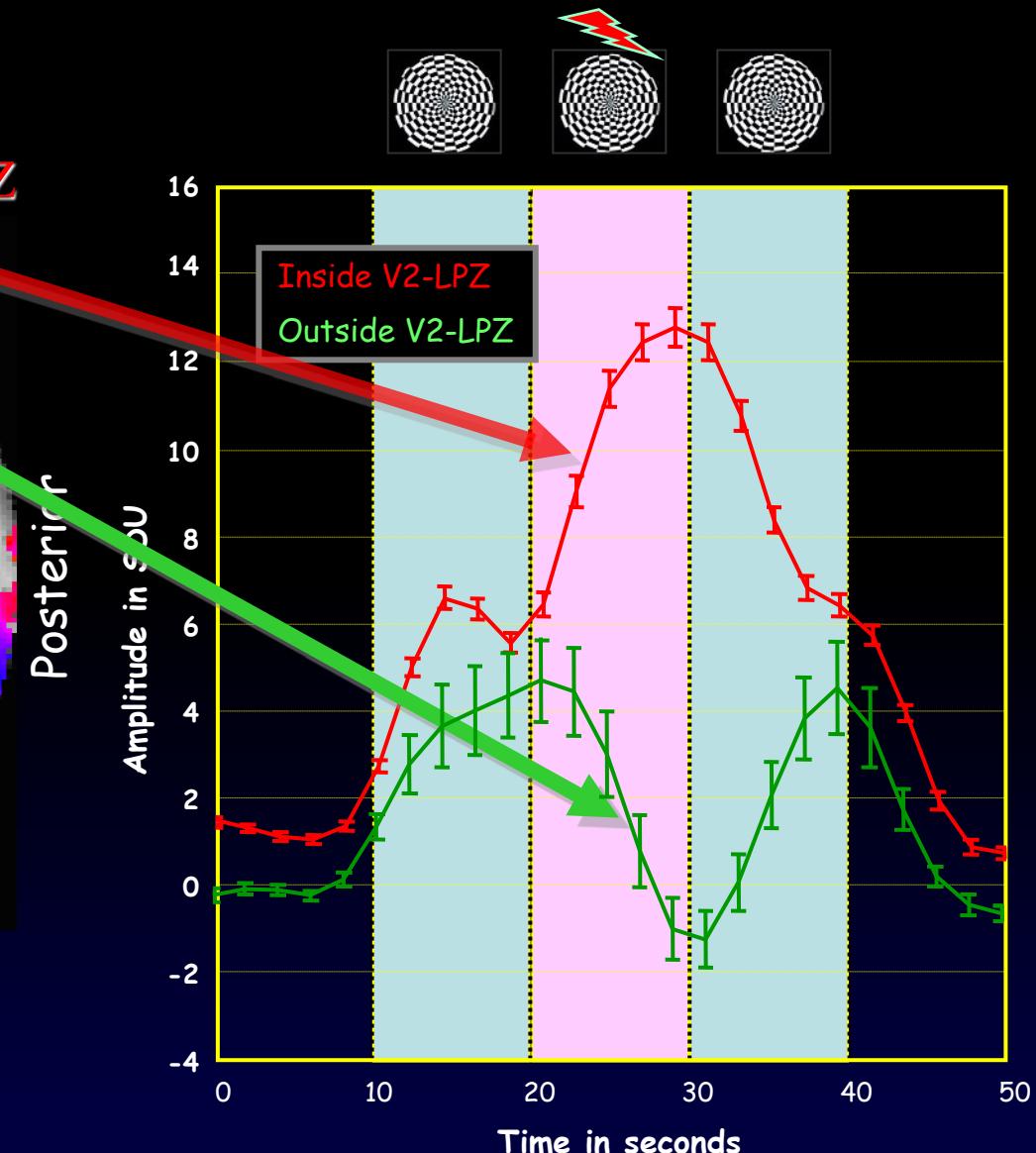
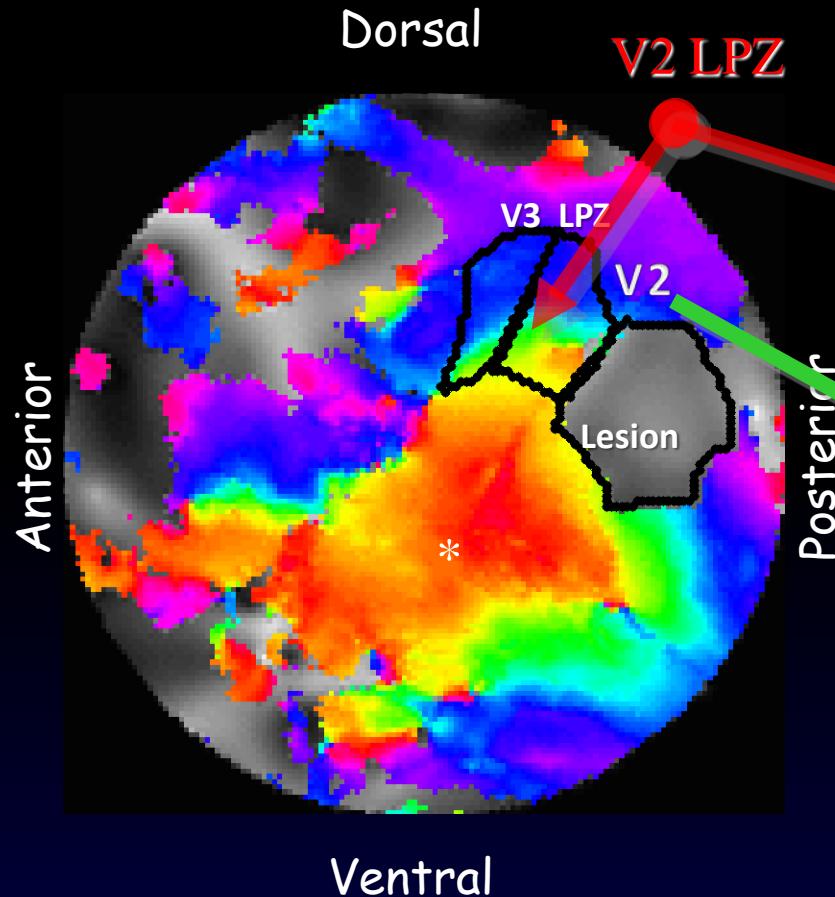


## dLGN: Electrical Stimulation in a V1-Lesioned Brain



# Difference Between Intact Regions and Lesion-Projection-Zones

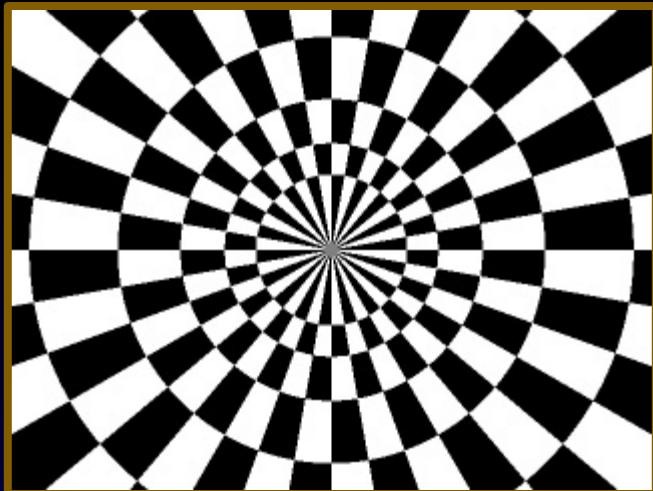
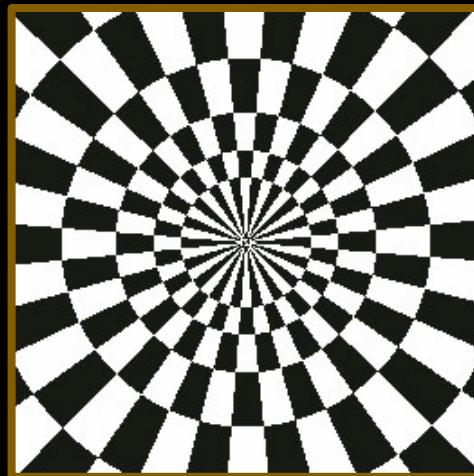
Time Courses of BOLD within and outside of the Lesion-Projection Zone (LPZ) of V2



# Visual Stimuli for the *Luminance-Flicker* Experiments

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**Rotating Pinwheel**

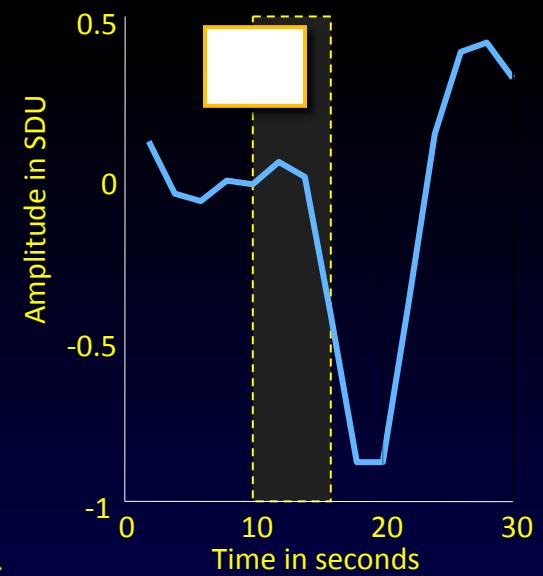
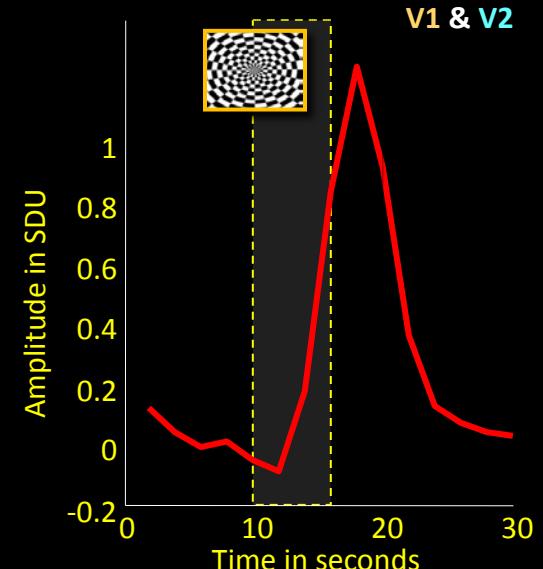
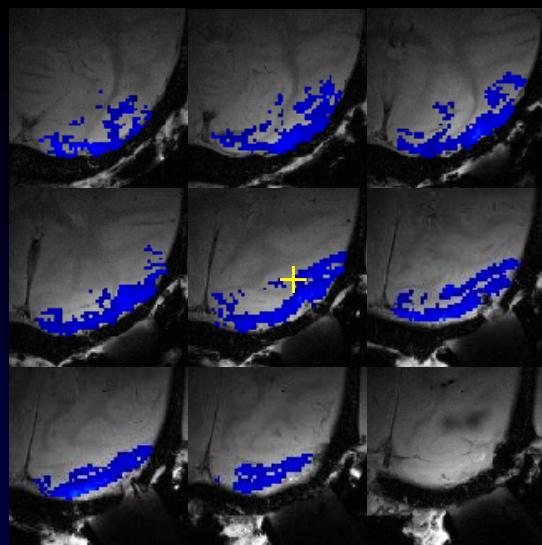
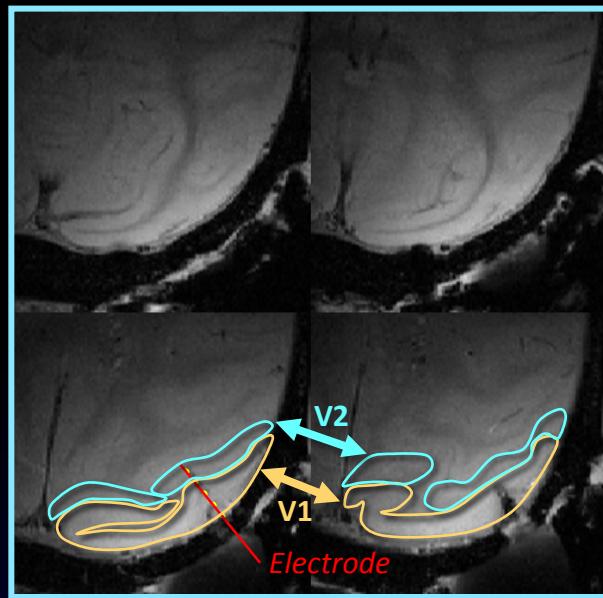
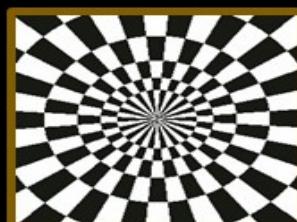
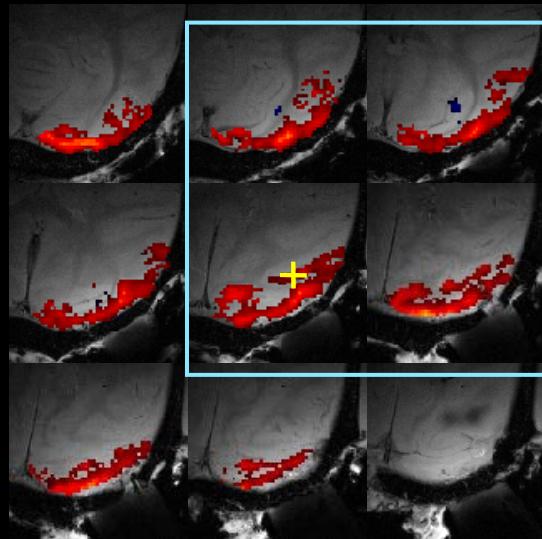


**Counterphase Flicker**



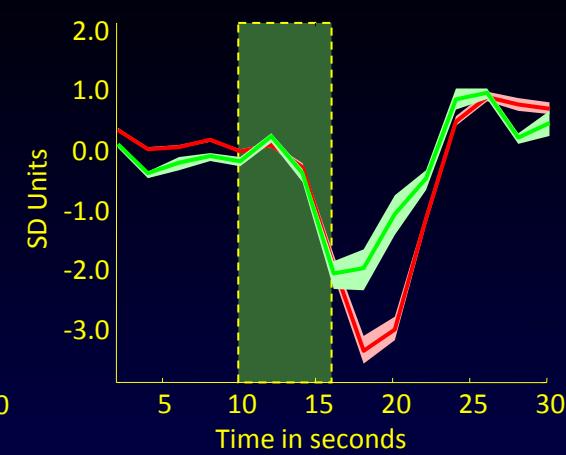
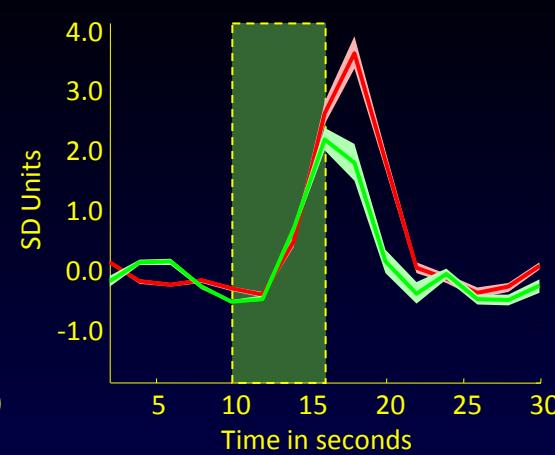
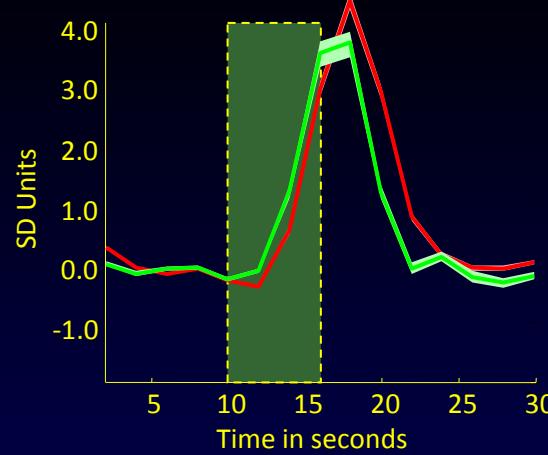
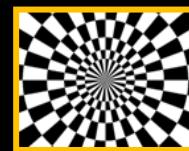
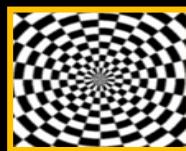
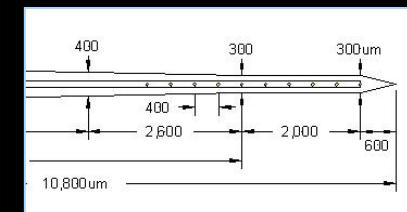
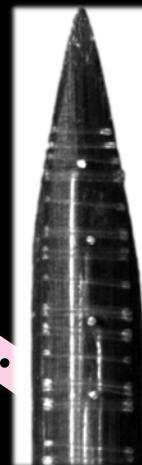
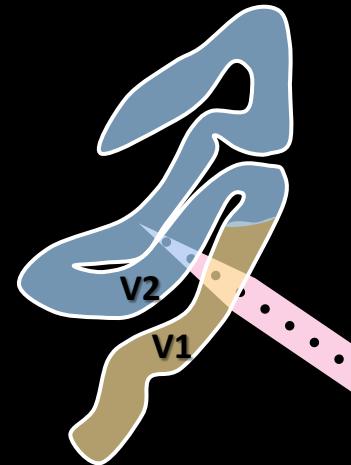
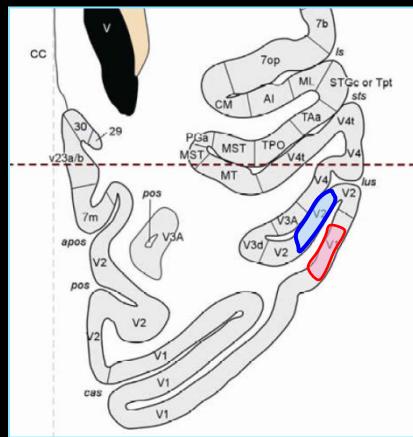
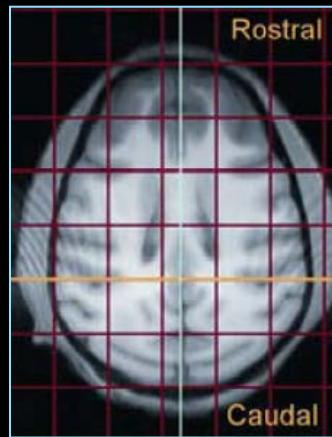
**Whole-Field Luminance Flicker**

# An DES-Analog: Unstructured Whole-Field Flicker ( $p < 0.0001$ )

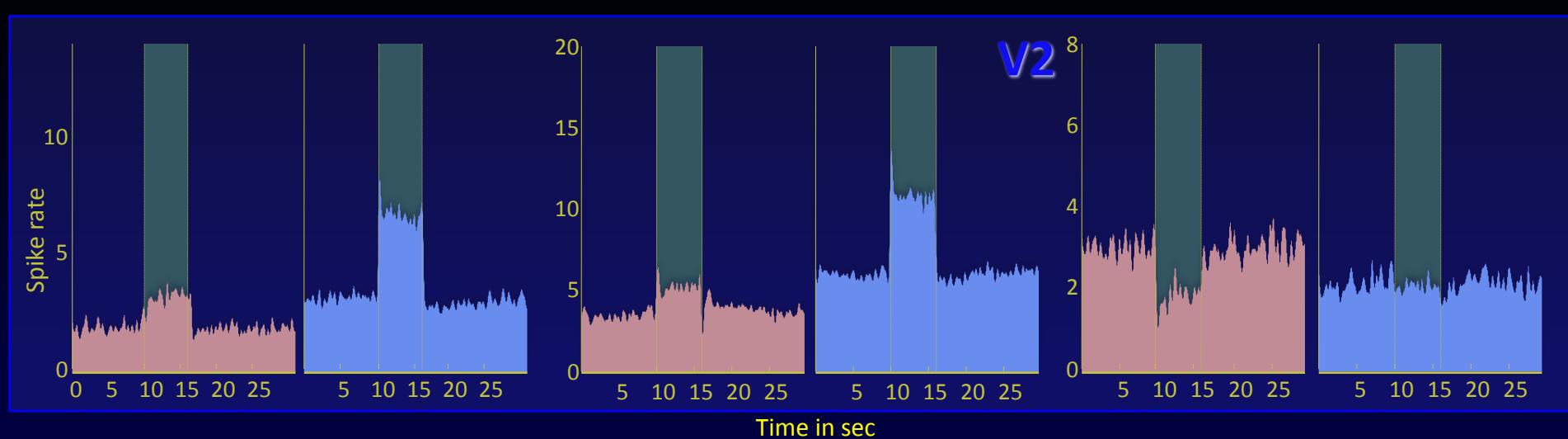
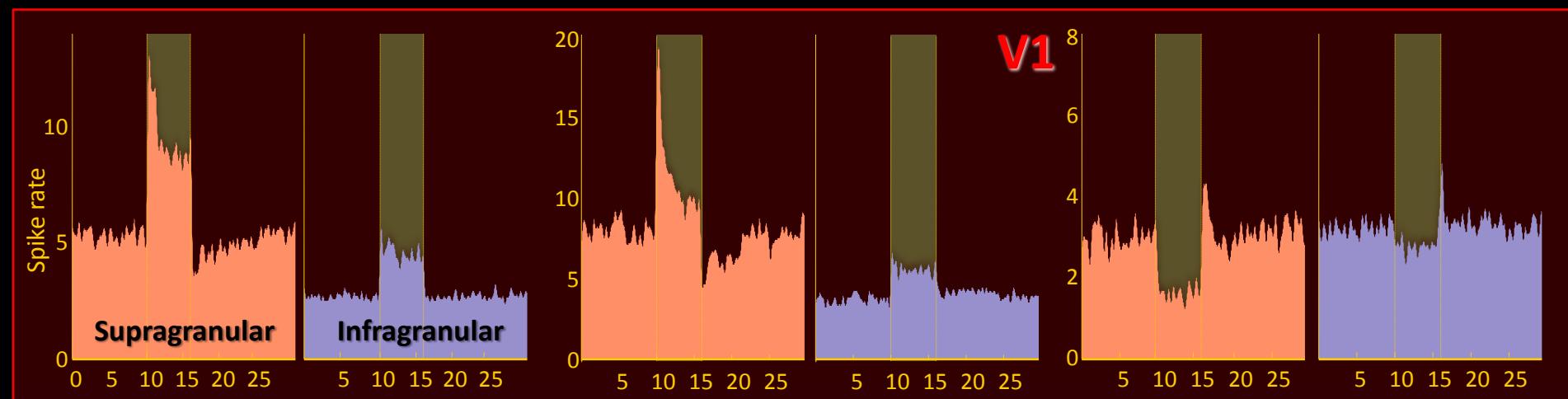


# POPULATION DATA

# Average BOLD Responses for All Sessions (5 Monkeys)



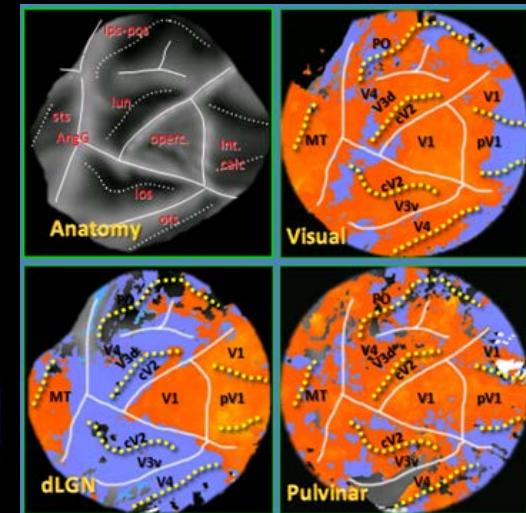
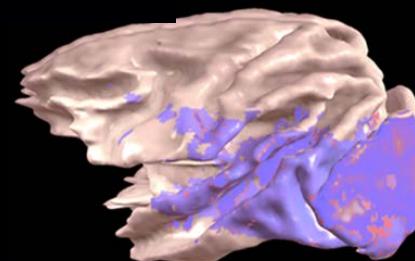
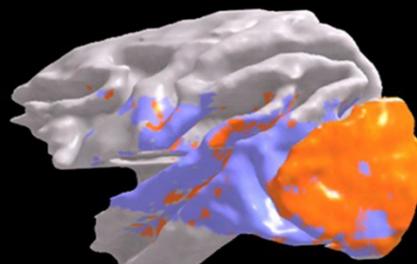
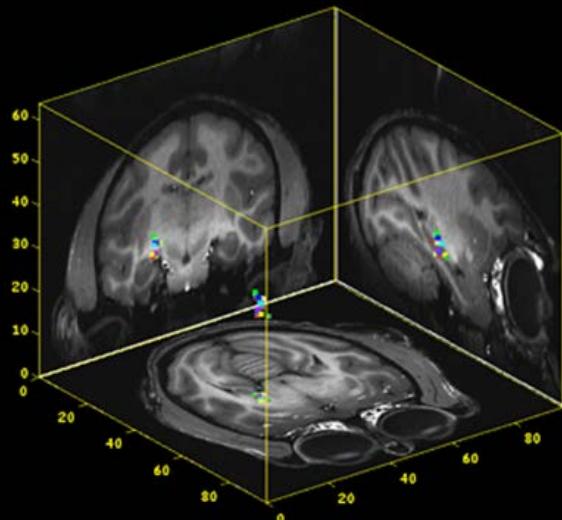
# POPULATION DATA Average Spike Rates for all Sessions for each Recording-Depth



Time in sec

## CONCLUSIONS

## DES-fMRI for the Study of Connectivity



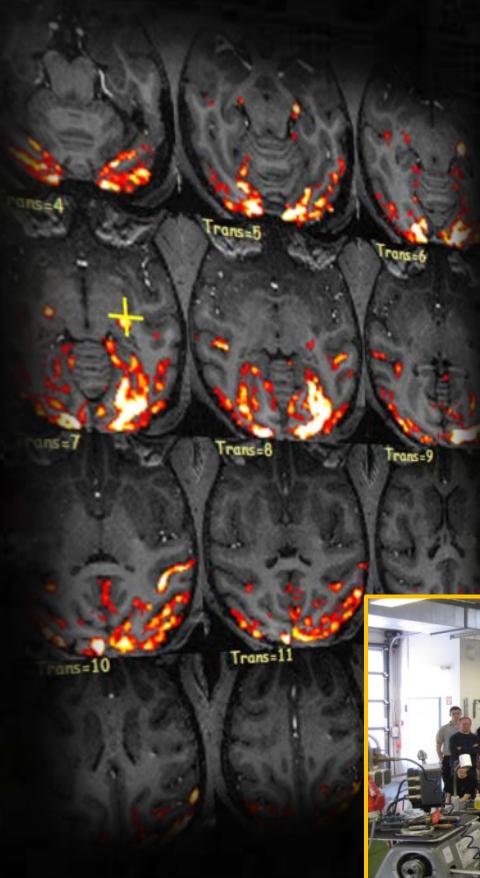
- ❖ DES of afferents of a cortical area disrupts the propagation of signals from the projections neurons of the area to the rest of the brain, inducing Negative BOLD Responses (NBR)
- ❖ Disruption of propagation is due to strong synaptic-inhibition (rather than reduced excitability), that follows the over-synchronized spatiotemporal profile of ES-elicited thalamic-input
- ❖ The use of high-frequency DES increases pulse-efficiency & cortical synaptic activity, demarcating all monosynaptic targets of a stimulated brain-site
- ❖ Activation of polysynaptic targets likely reflects the antidromic stimulation of collaterals of infragranular projection neurons and the recruitment of replicating pathways (*e.g. activation of SC during LGN stimulation*)
- ❖ Behaviors induced by **DES** or **TMS** likely reflect cortico-subcortico-cortical pathways rather than direct cortico-cortical communication

# DES-fMRI: Direct Electrical Stimulation and fMRI

## Mapping Monosynaptic Connectivity & Cortico-Thalamo-Cortical Loops

### Acknowledgments

### Collaborators



*MPI Infrastructure (Machine- & Electronic Shops)*

Yusuke Murayama (Neuroscience)

Fahad Sultan (Neuroscience)

Mark Augath (Electrical & Bioengineering, MRI)

Andreas Tolias (Neuroscience)

Hellmut Merkle (Physics, RF Technology)

Axel Oeltermann (Physics, Electronics)

Thomas Steudel (Electrical Engineering, MRI)

Alexander Rauch (Neuroscience)

Santiago Canals (Neuroscience)

Jozien Goense (MRI, Biophysics)



Nikos K. Logothetis

**Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics**

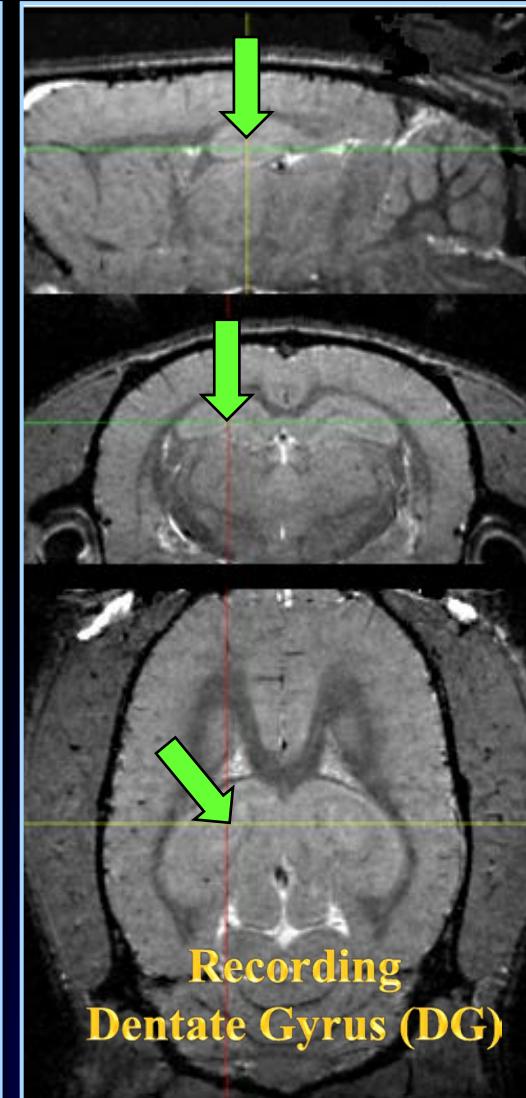
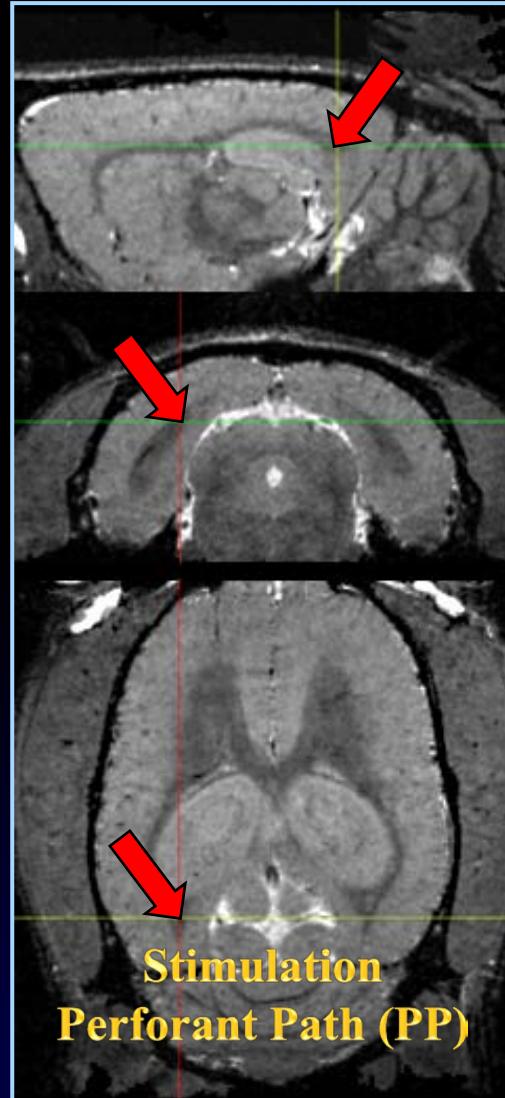
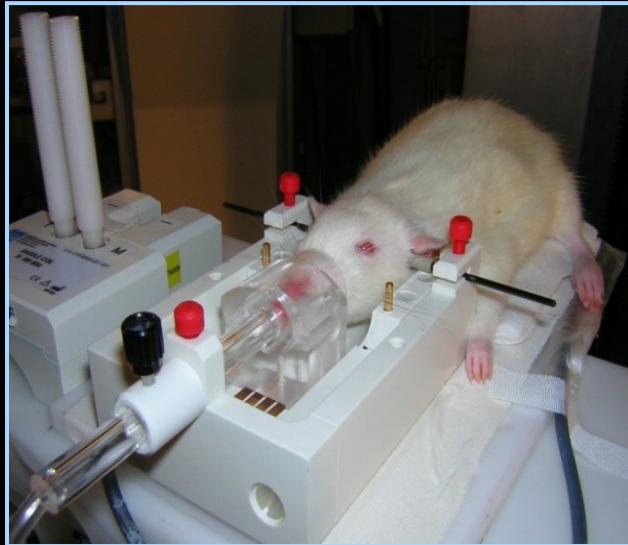


# Basic Setup, Stimulation & Recording Sites

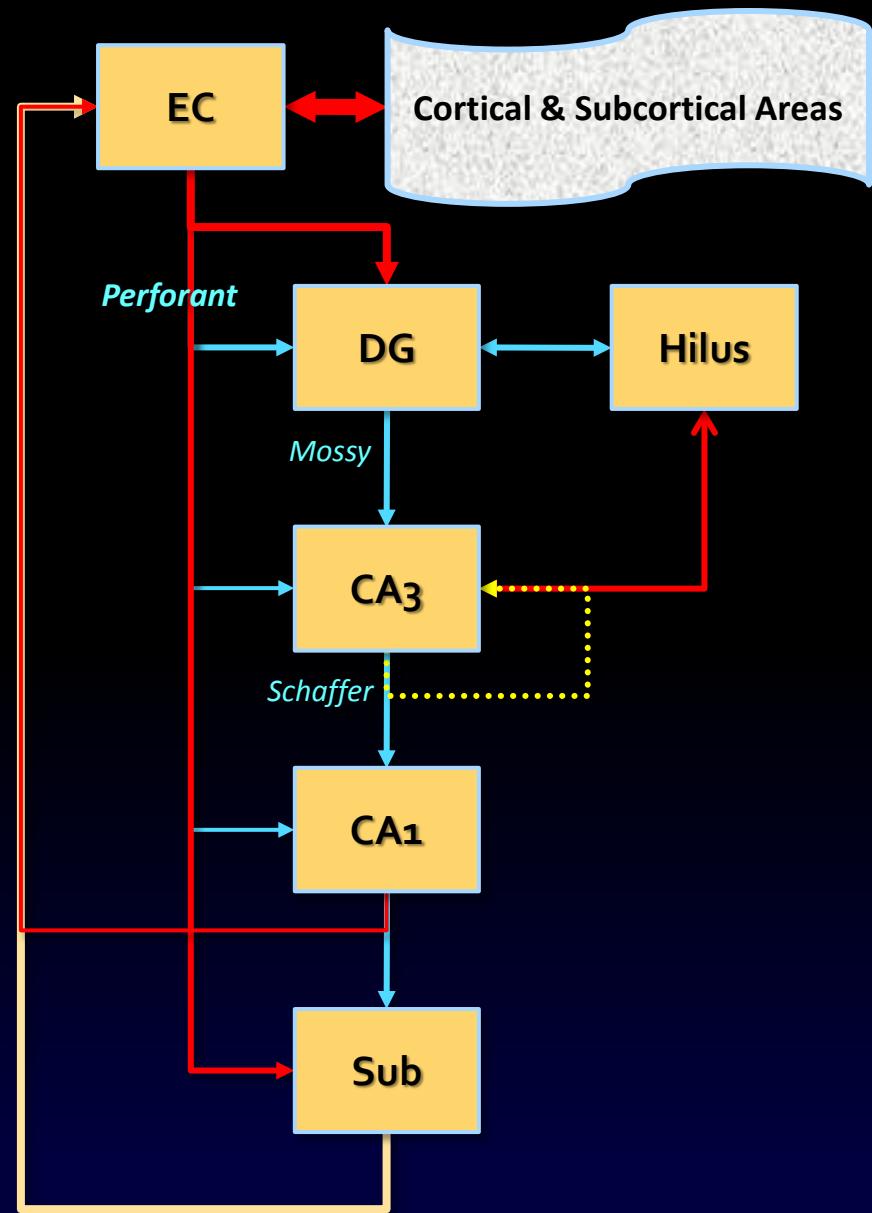
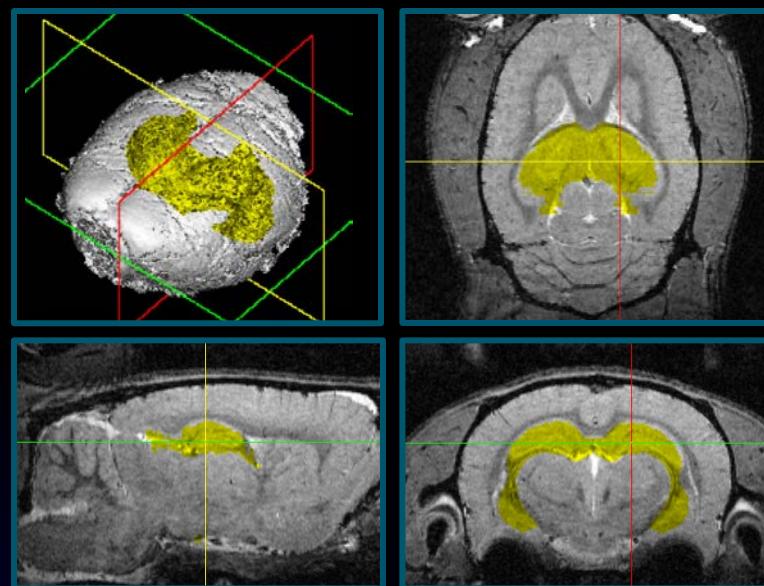
3D-FLASH @16T

Matrix: 256x140x256, FOV=25.6x14x25.6mm<sup>3</sup> (0.1mm Isotropic)

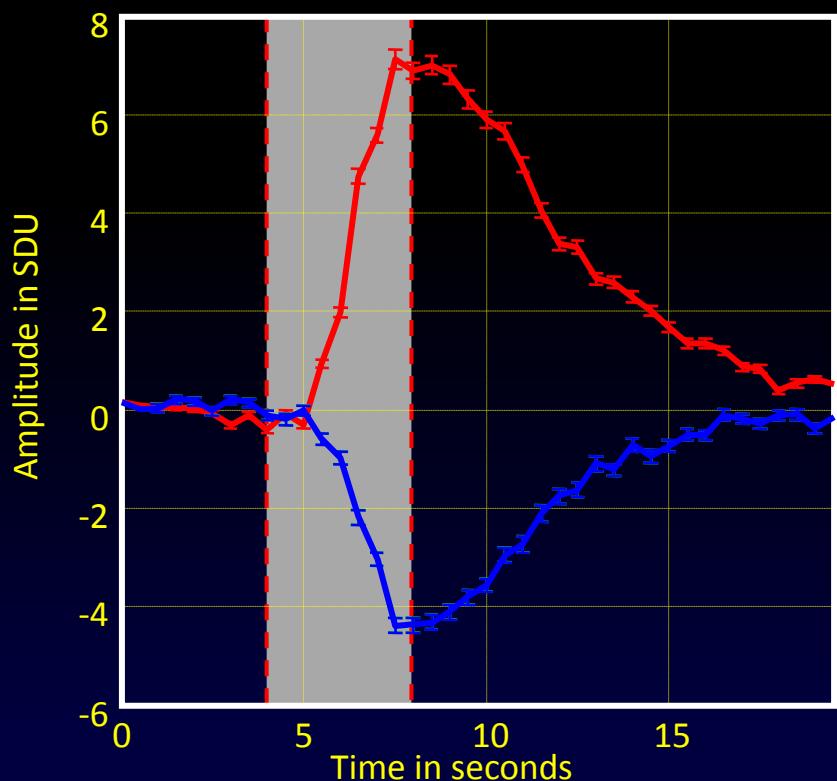
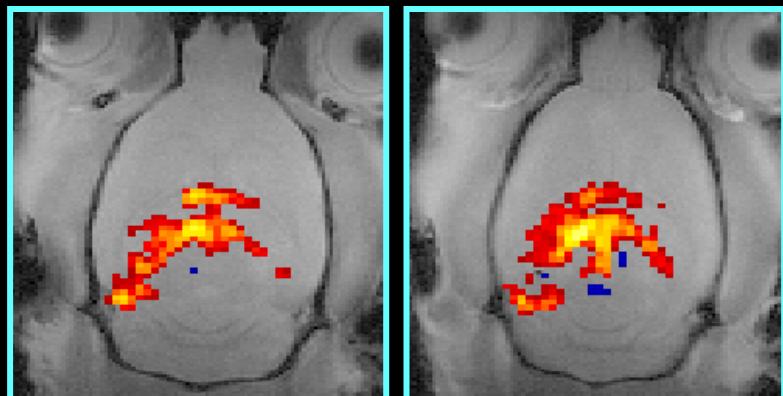
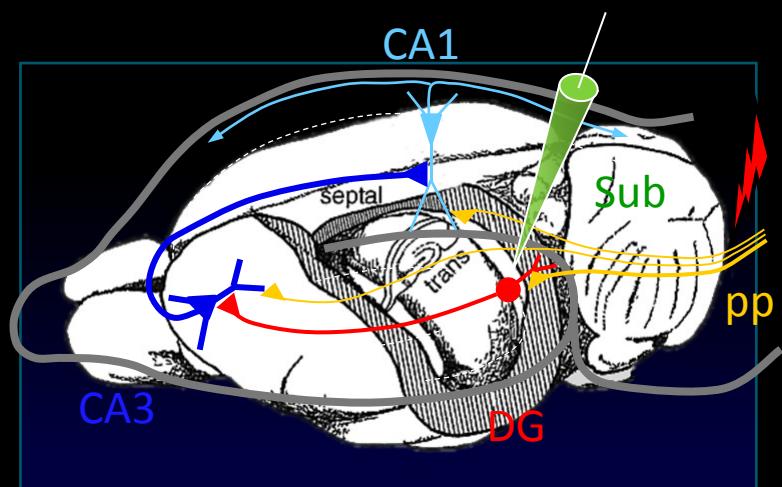
TE/TR=6/25ms, BW=60kHz,



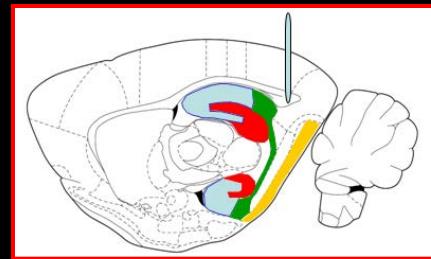
# Hippocampus & fMRI of Long Term Potentiation (LTP)



# BOLD Responses in Hippocampal Subfields Following ES of Perforant Path



# Stimulation of Perforant Path: Frequency-Dependent Activation of Hipp-Fields

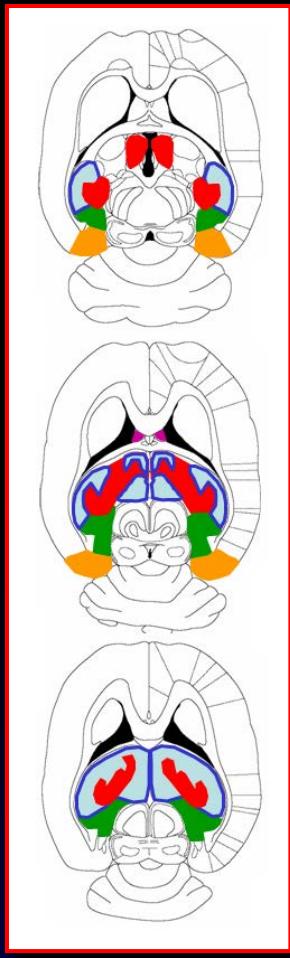


**CA1-CA3**

**Sub**

**DG**

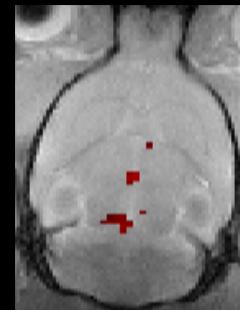
**EC**



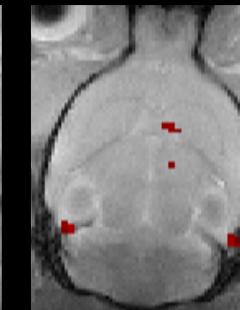
**2 Hz**



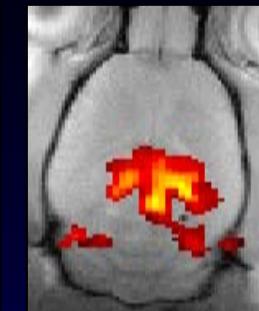
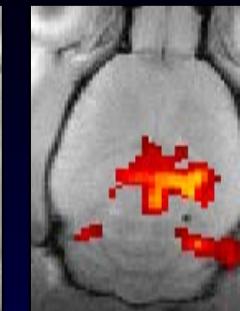
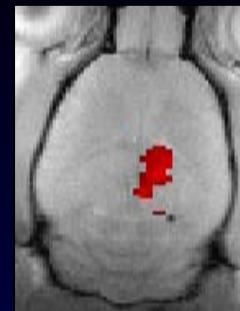
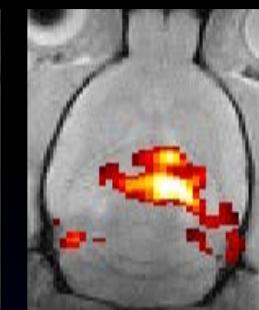
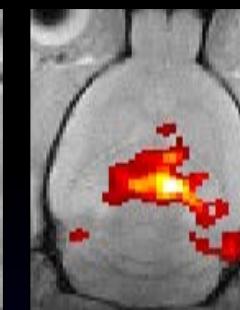
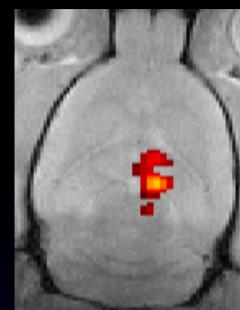
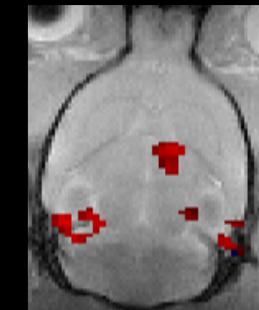
**4 Hz**



**10 Hz**

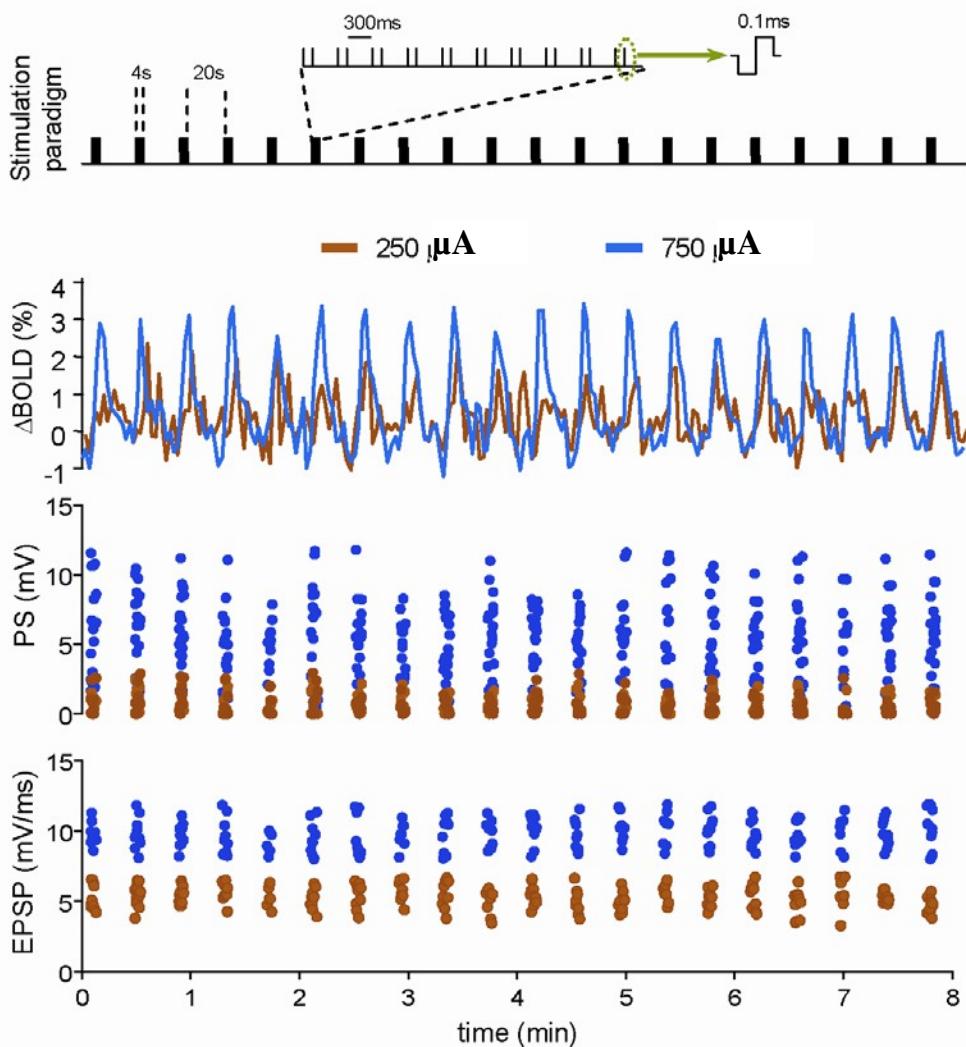


**20 Hz**

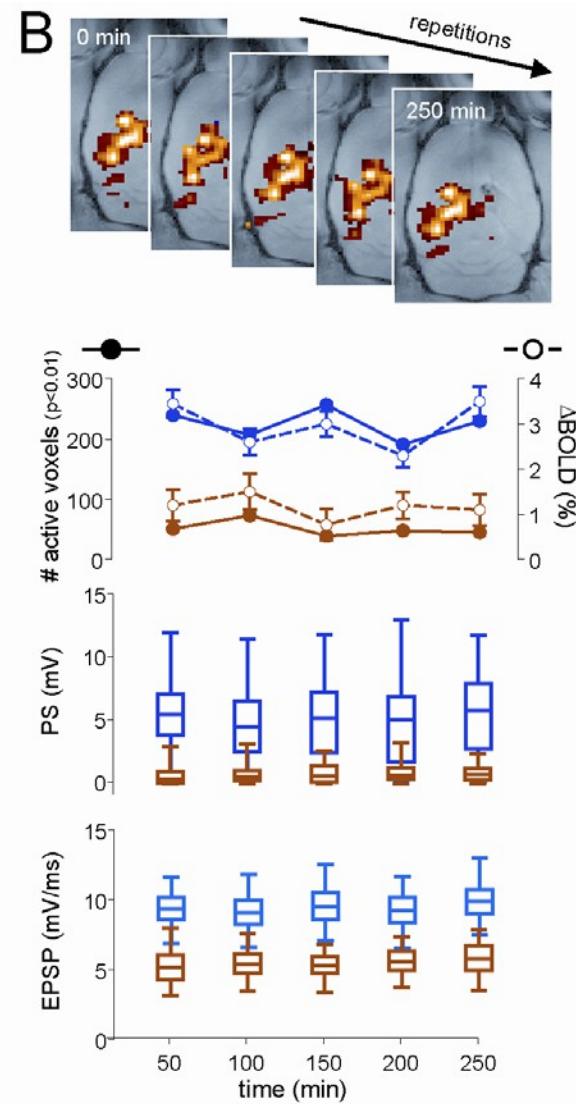


# LTP-fMRI: Stimulation Protocol and Response-Stability

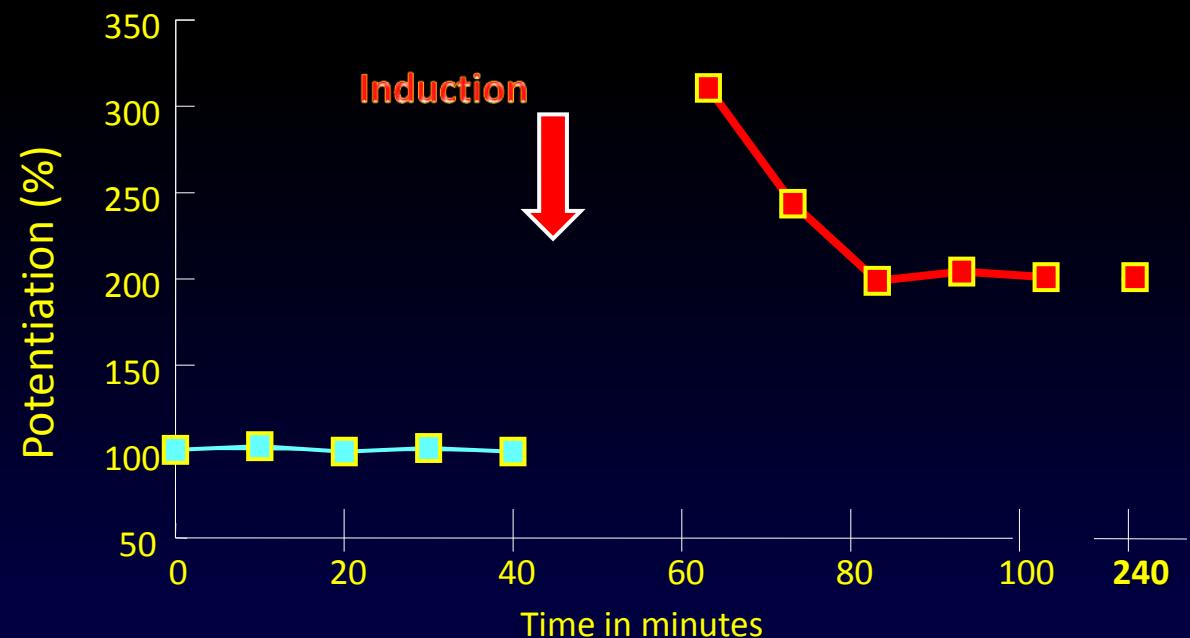
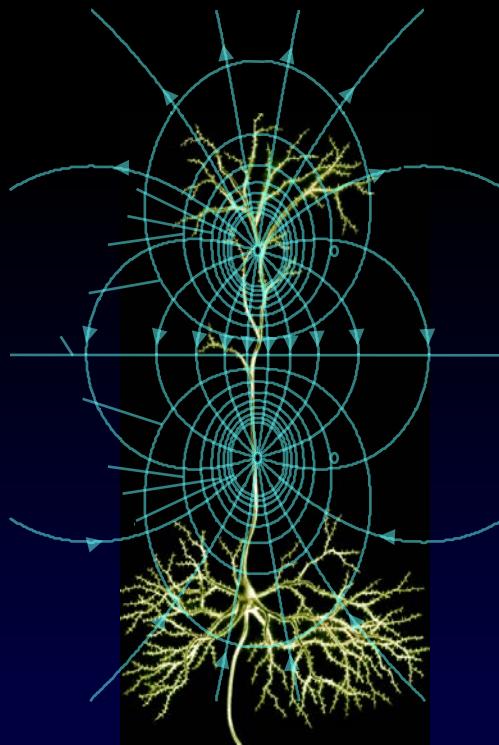
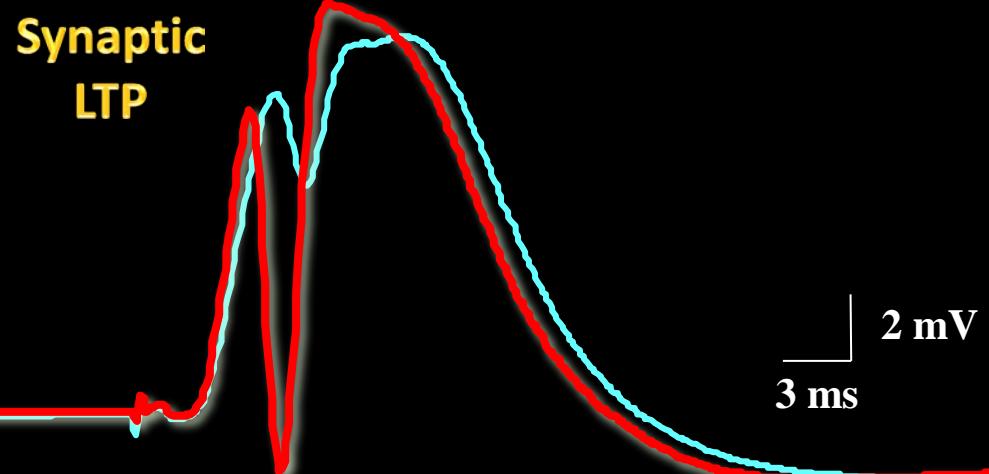
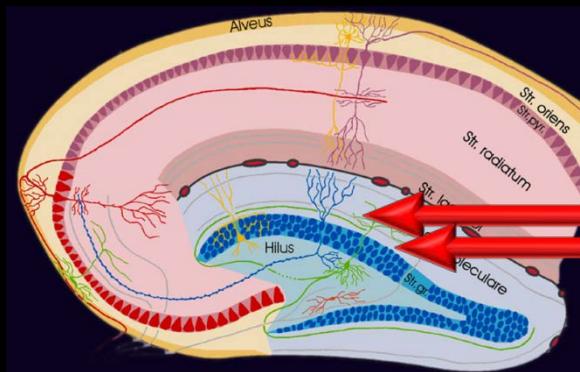
**A**



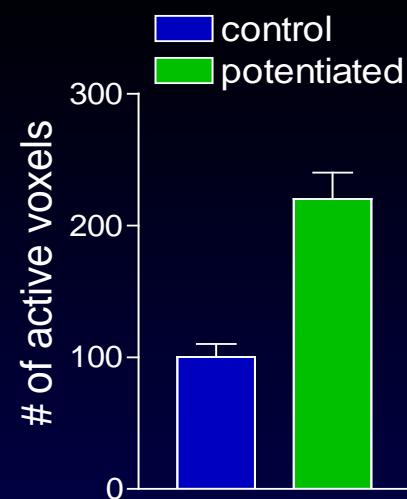
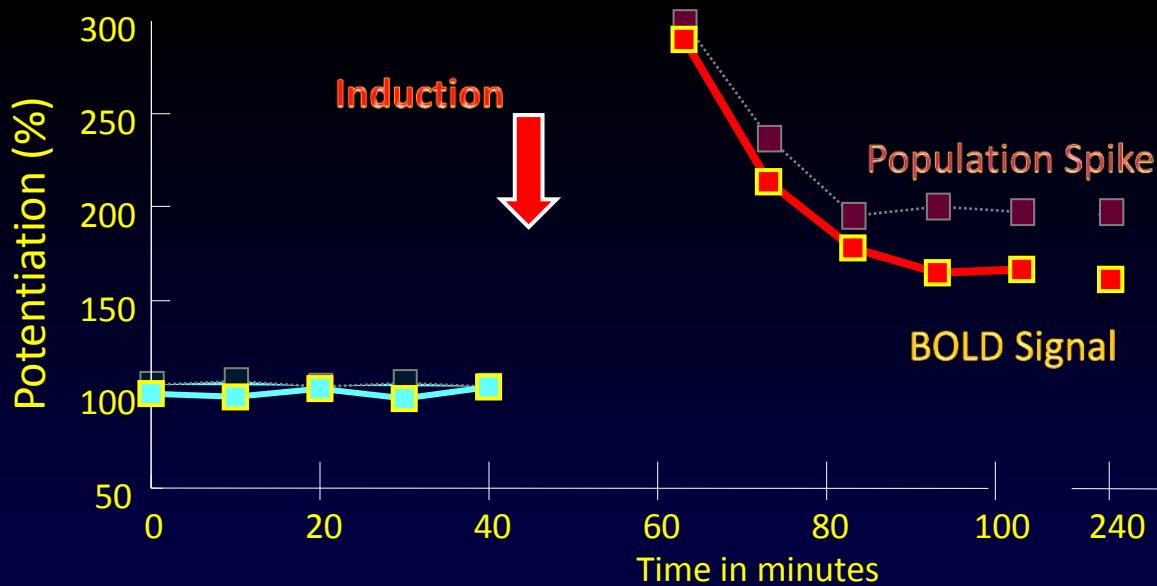
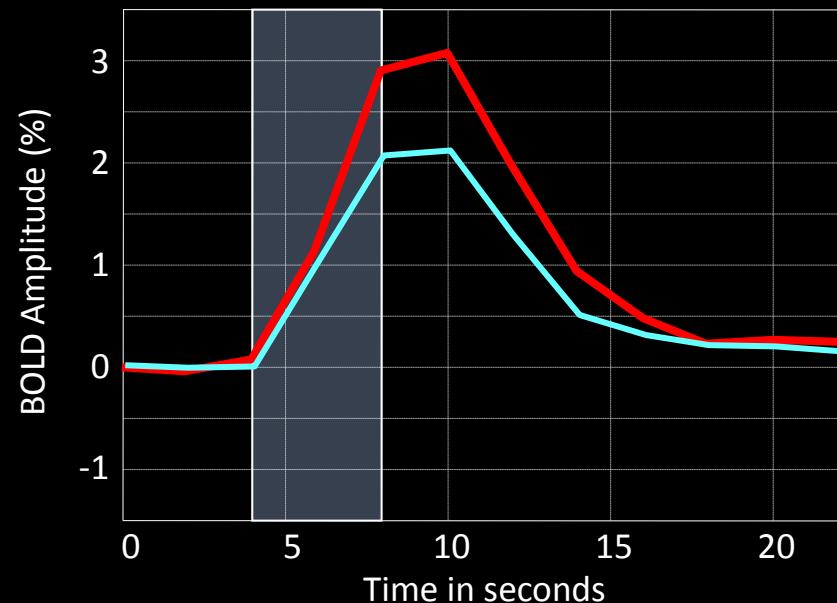
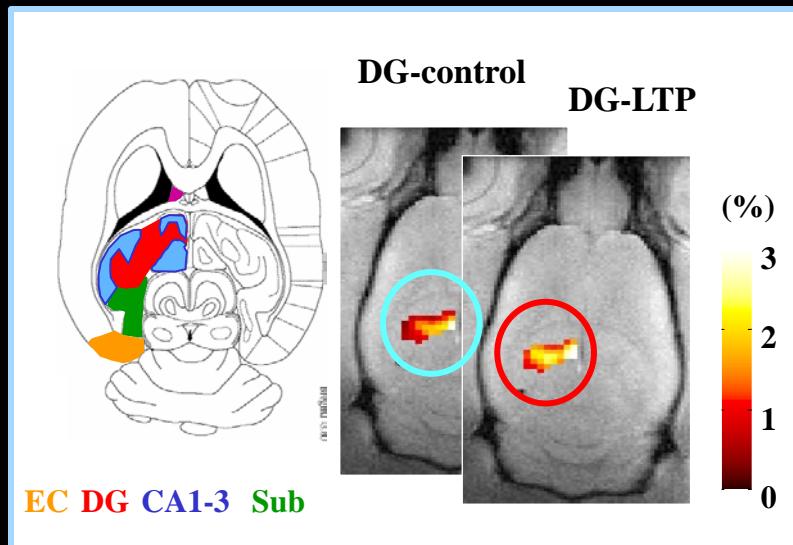
**B**



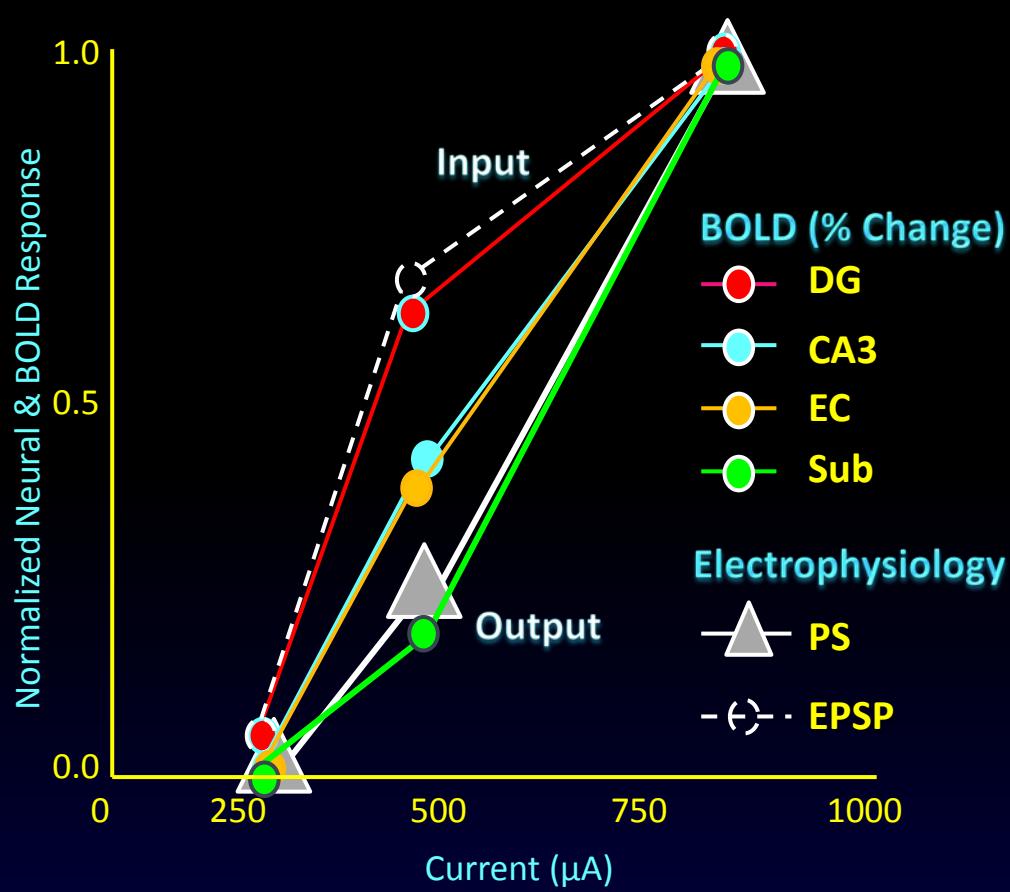
# LTP-fMRI: Population spike – Time course & Amplitude Evolution



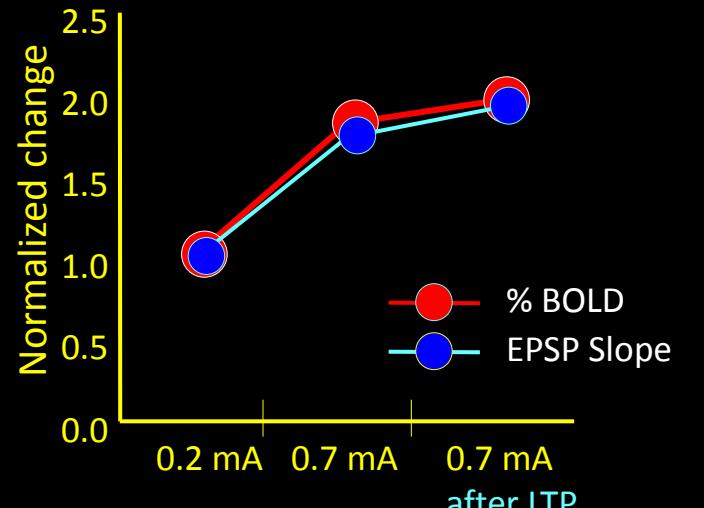
# LTP-fMRI: BOLD Signal – Time course & Amplitude Evolution



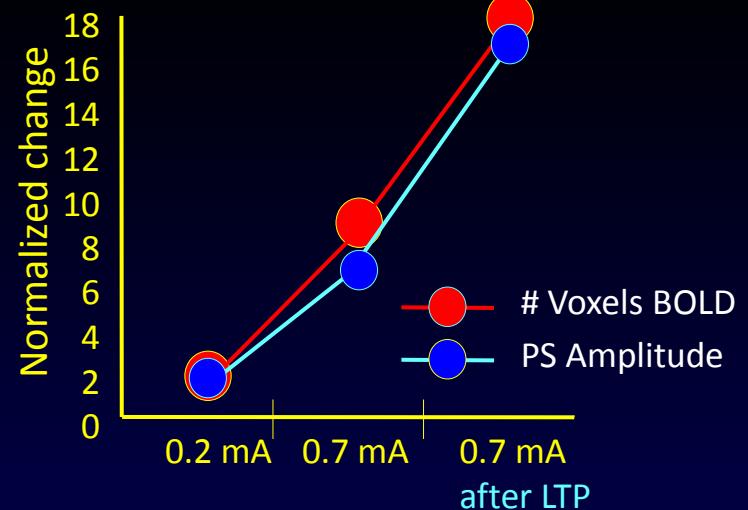
# Neural & BOLD Responses in Hippocampus



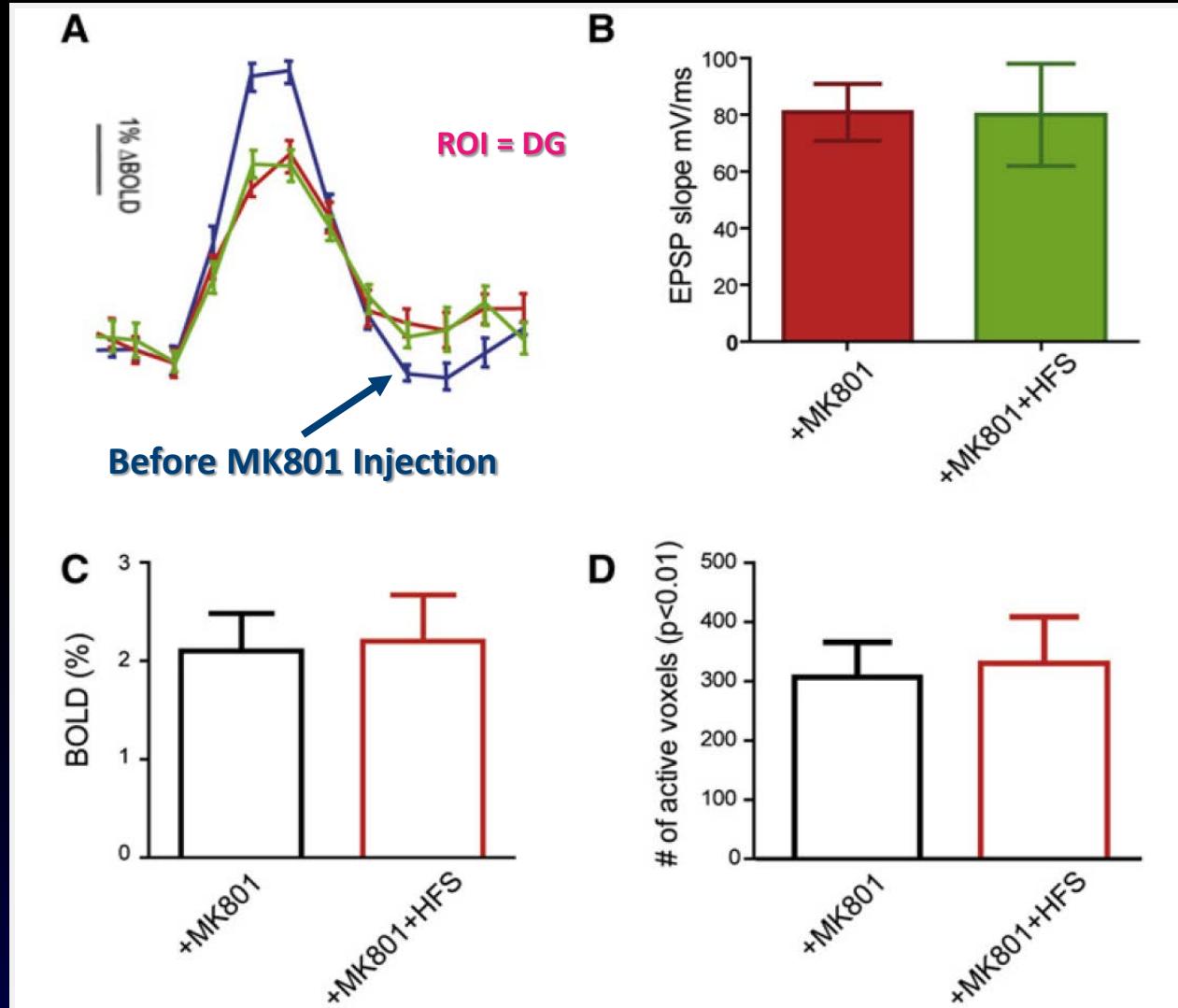
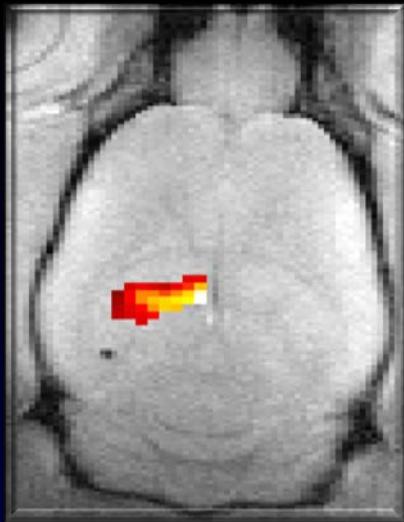
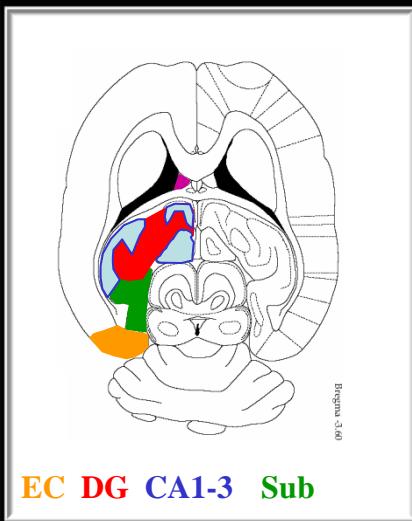
**BOLD Amplitude-Changes in DG correlate the EPSP**



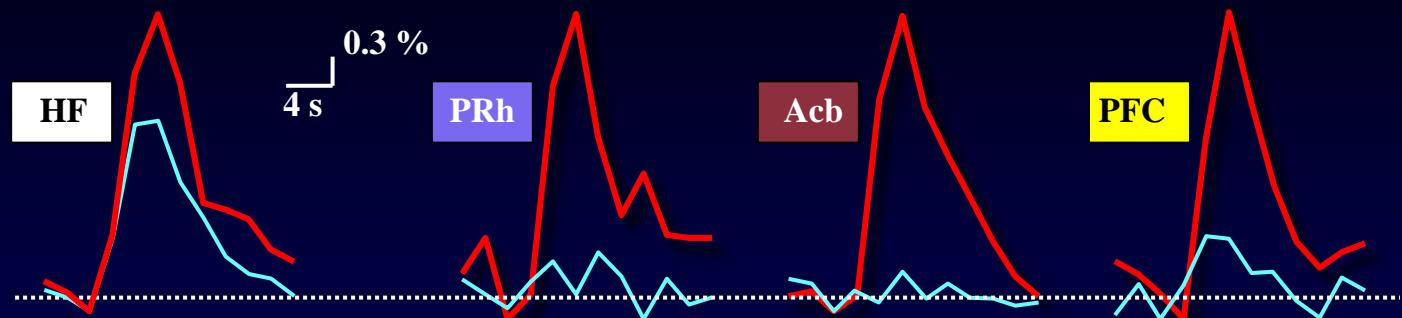
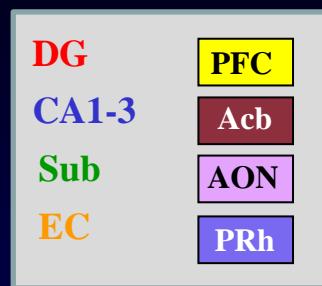
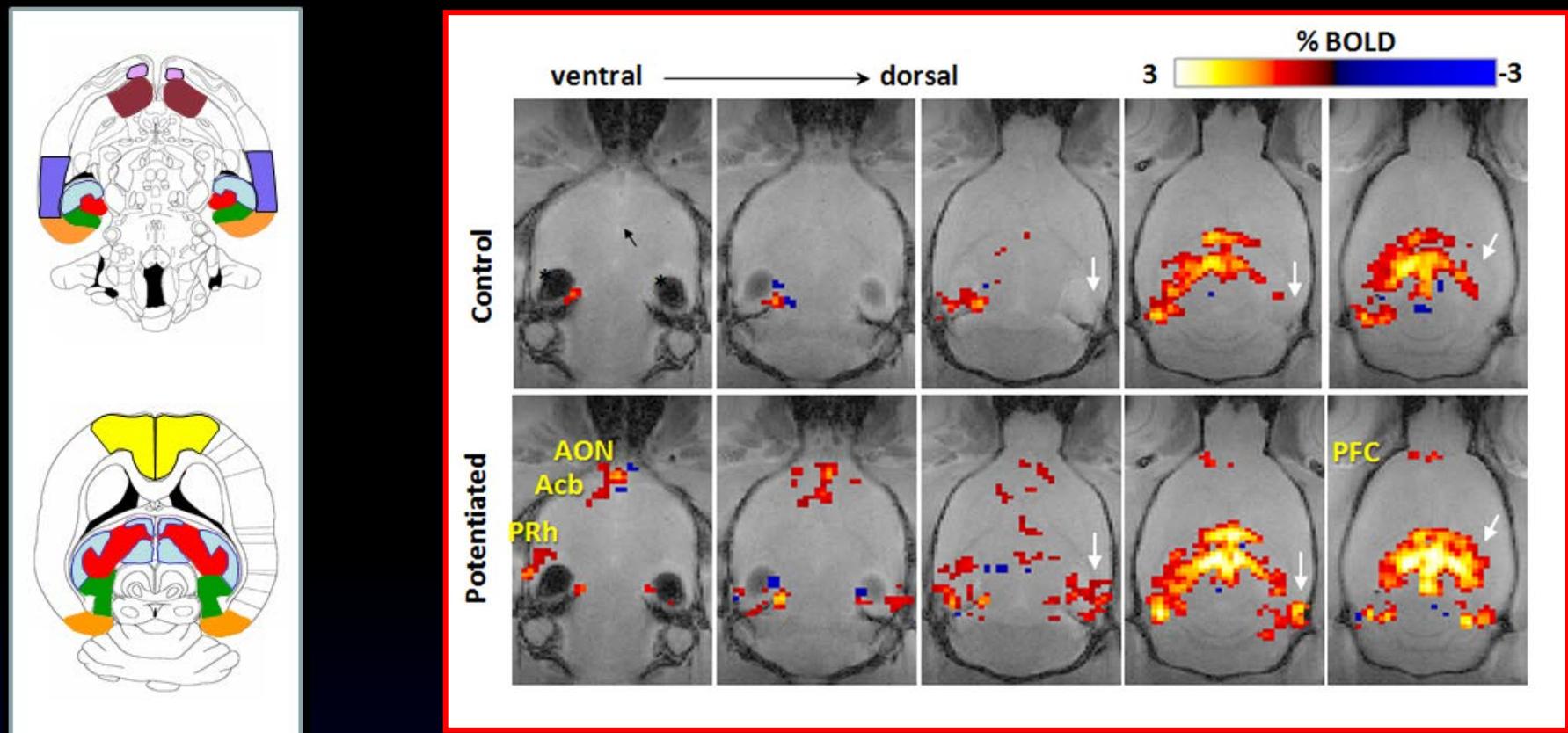
**Activated volume correlates with PS**



# LTP-fMRI: NMDA-Channel Dependency of BOLD-Enhancement

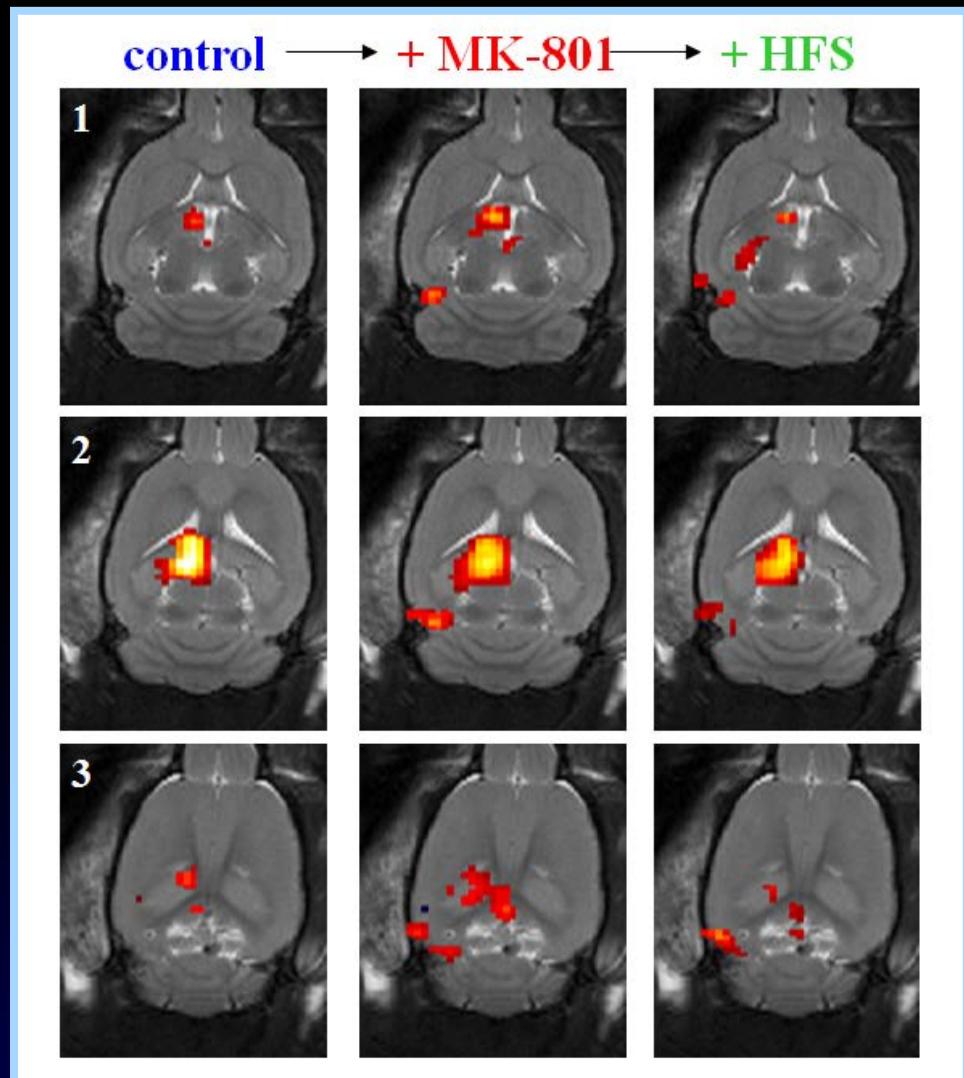
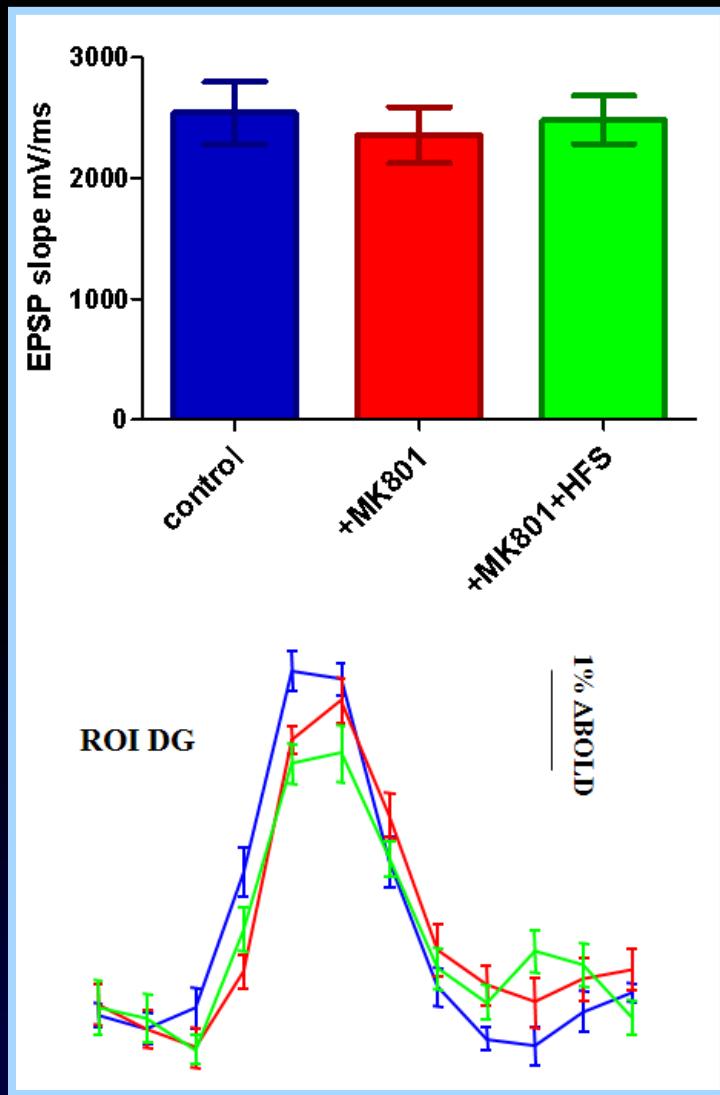


# LTP-fMRI: Synaptic Plasticity & Effective Connectivity – Area Recruitment



# LTP-fMRI: Synaptic Plasticity & Effective Connectivity – NMDA Effects

## Synaptic & Network Plasticity – NMDA Dependence



# Stimulation: PP --- Recording: DG

- ‡ LTP induction changes the BOLD response of the target subfield of the hippocampus
- ‡ LTP-induction results in network-reorganization that includes increased interhemispheric communication, and recruitment of limbic and neocortical circuits
- ‡ The nature of the recruited structures points to an increased communication between associational, polysensory cortices with the cortical and subcortical limbic network subserving memory
- ‡ The number of targets of the hippocampal output greatly exceeds the number of extrahippocampal structures shown in the BOLD maps, suggesting that the functional consequences of synaptic potentiation do not uniformly affect the entire anatomically defined network

