

# The simple complexity of the language the 'Body and Brain' system uses communicating with the environment



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ISINP 31 July 2019 Como



# **The organization of the 'Body and Brain' system determines its communication language**

**Feedback, Synchrony, Plasticity**

**Structure-function unit:  
functional shape – structural pattern**

**Listening to intervene**

**Fractal governing principles  
transcranial Individual neuroDynamics Stimulation (tIDS)**

**Functional Source Separation (FSS)**



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# Feedback

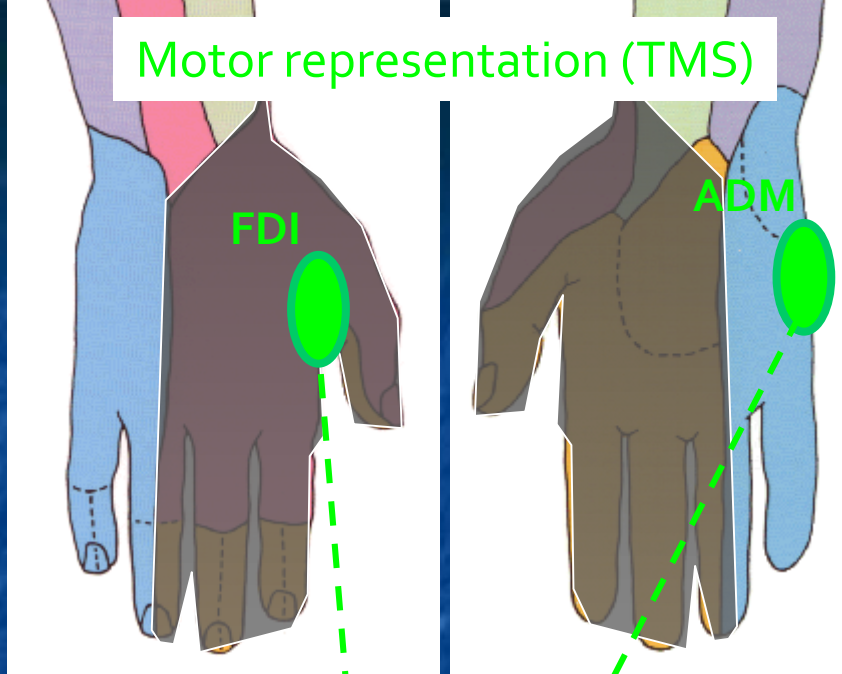


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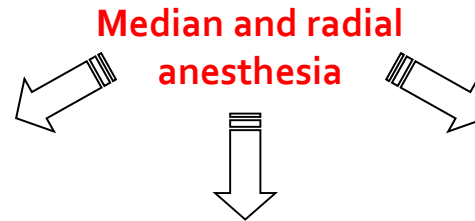
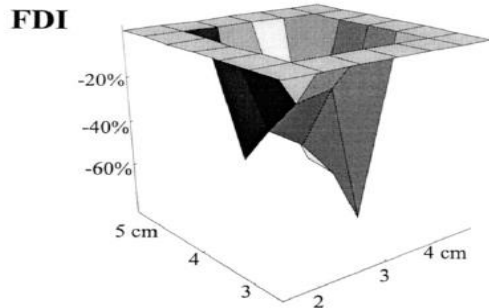
**Somatosensory**  
representation  
changes the  
**Motor** one

Rossi et al. Neuroimage 1998



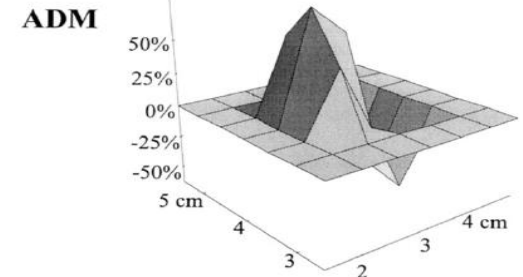
FDI and ADM  
motor ulnar innervation

**FDI without**  
sensory perception



**ADM and FDI**  
intact motor innervation

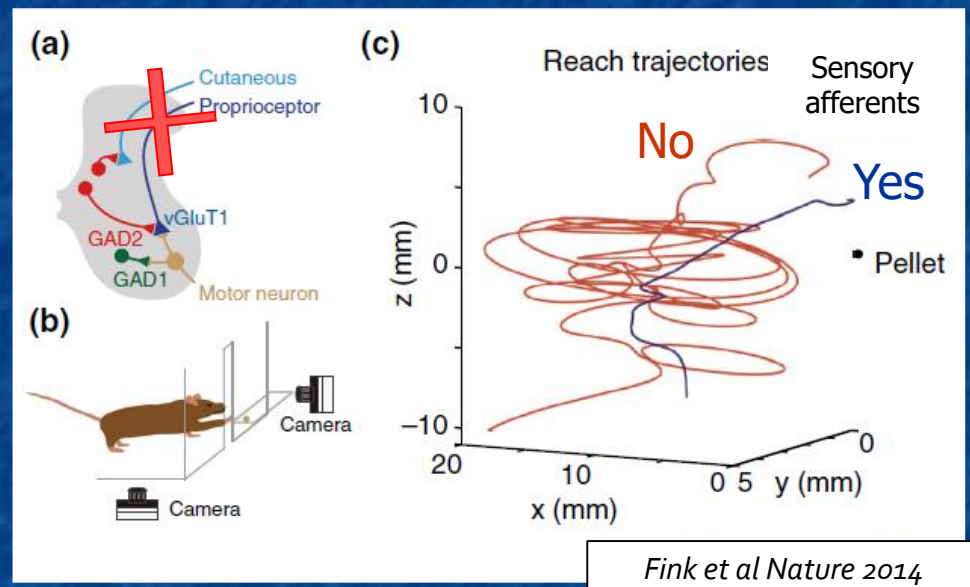
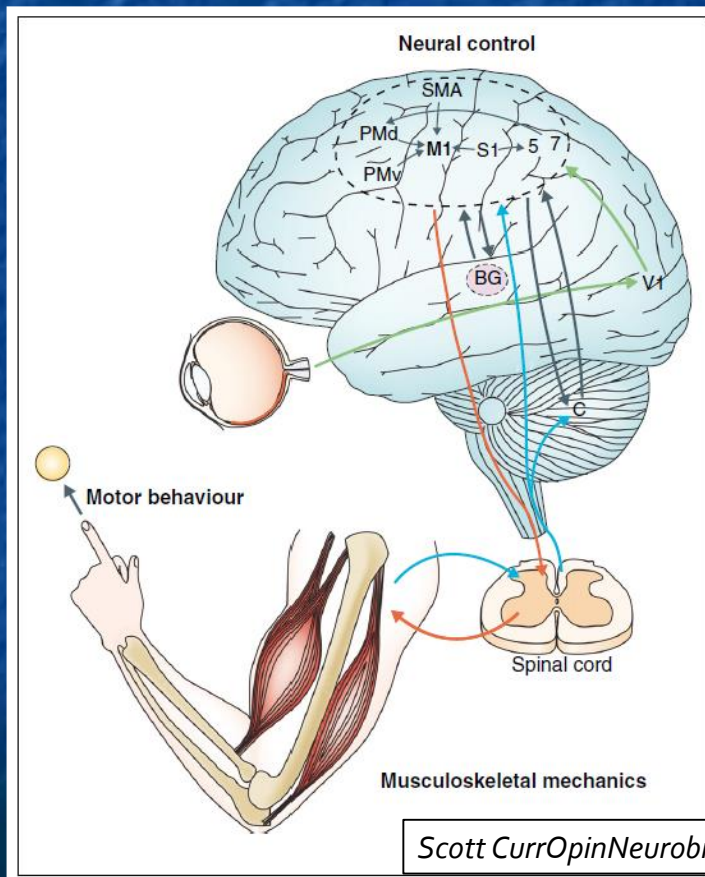
**ADM with**  
sensory perception





# Feedback

Pharmacological block of primary afferent impairs voluntary movement control.



# Synchrony

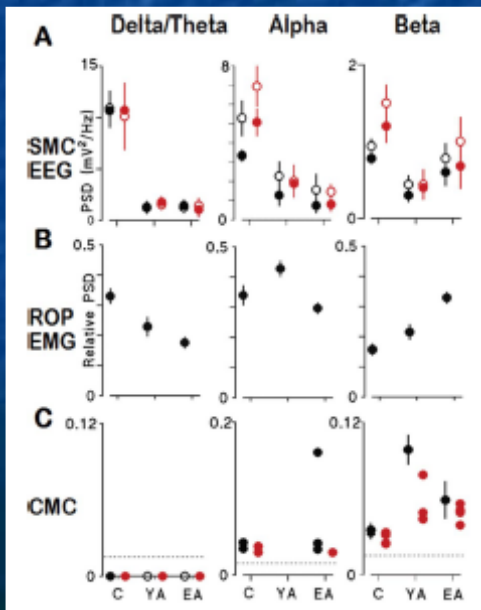
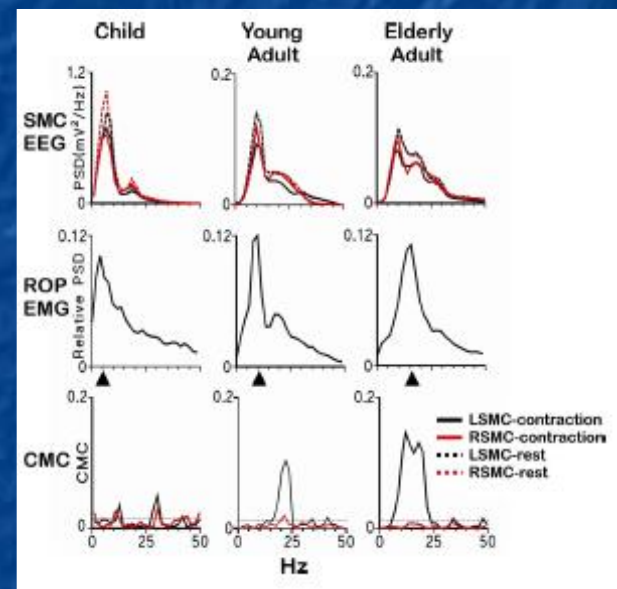
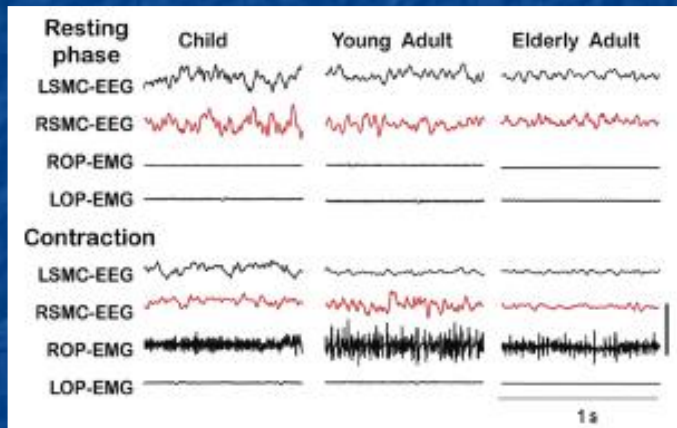


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# Synchrony between cortical and muscular activity

## Tuning corticospinal system activities along life



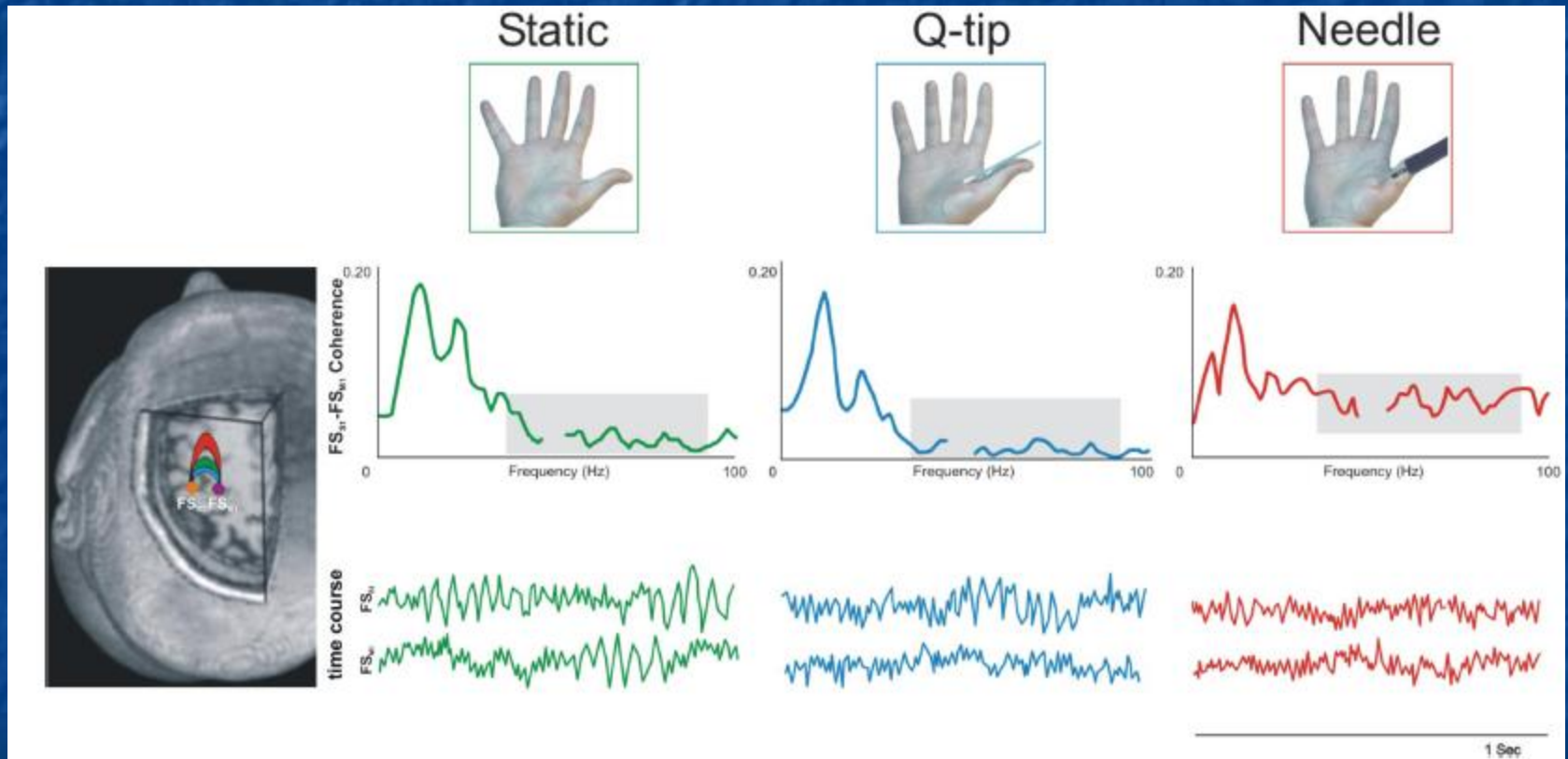
With maturation, the corticospinal system increases

- the frequencies of activity fluctuations
- F-specific reactivity (rest > movement)
- Contra vs. Ipsi lateral specificity

Graziadio et al J Neurosci 2010  
(12 children 10 y. adults 10 e. adults hv)



At cortical level, the **synchrony** between primary somatosensory (S1) and motor (M1) areas mediates the empathic sharing of others' pain

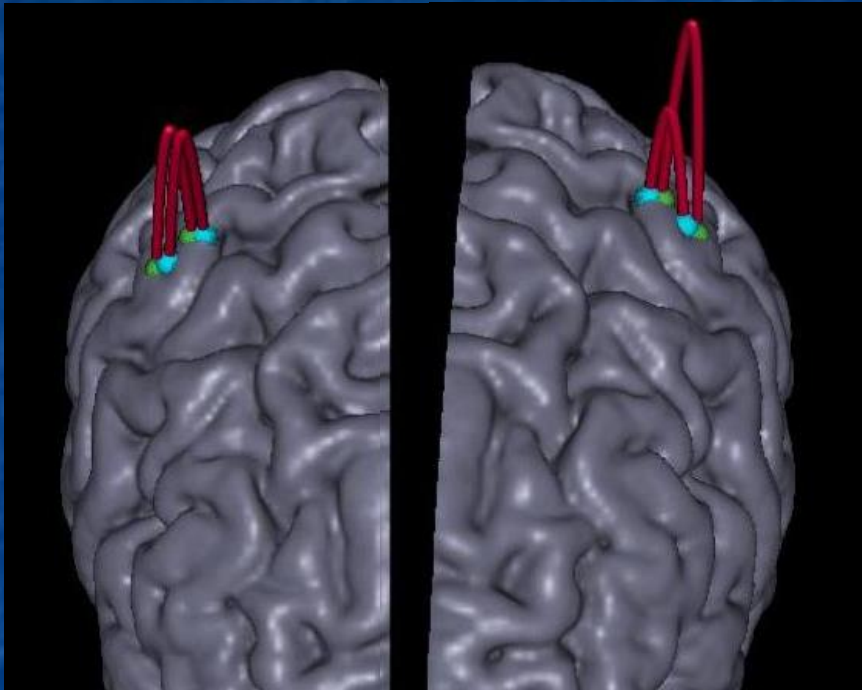



*Betti et al J Neurosci 2009  
(12 controls)*




Intra-cortical **synchrony** is higher for more dexterous controlled districts

Hemisphere  
Right (non-dominant)      Left (dominant)



  
Thumb  
(higher dexterous)

  
Little finger  
(lower dexterous)



In the left dominant hemisphere both  $ICC_T$  and  $ICC_L$  correlated with the dexterity (FtW test) of the finger they represent.

Intra-cortical connectivity (ICC) within the areas devoted to thumb ( $ICC_T$ ) and little finger ( $ICC_L$ )

*Tecchio et al Neuroimage 2007, 14 controls*

Local intra-cortical synchrony (ICC) appears to be a new code for sensorimotor dexterity complementary to 'magnification' principle

# Plasticity

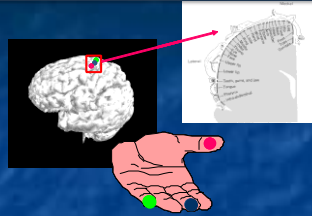


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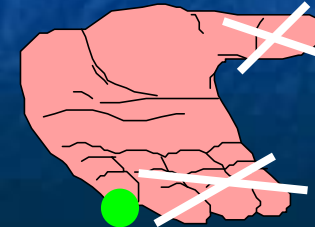
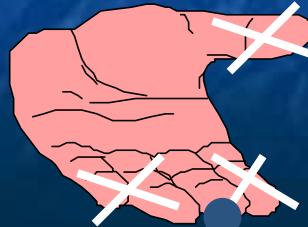
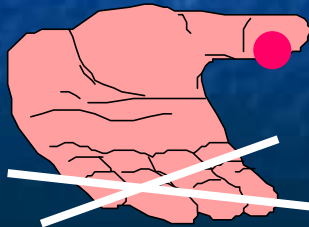


# Plastic changes of cortical representation: 'spared' territories invade 'deprived' ones

○ PRE ● POST  
anesthesia

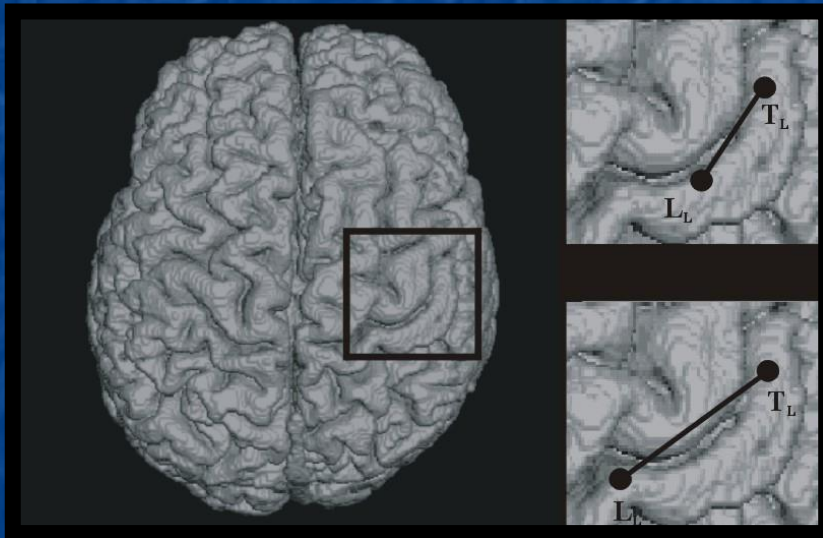


Rossini et al ClinPh 1994  
10 subjects



**Plastic** changes of cortical representation:  
hand representation depends on how we perceive it

Hand representation in carpal tunnel syndrome



Prevailing symptom  
(referred from the person)

pain

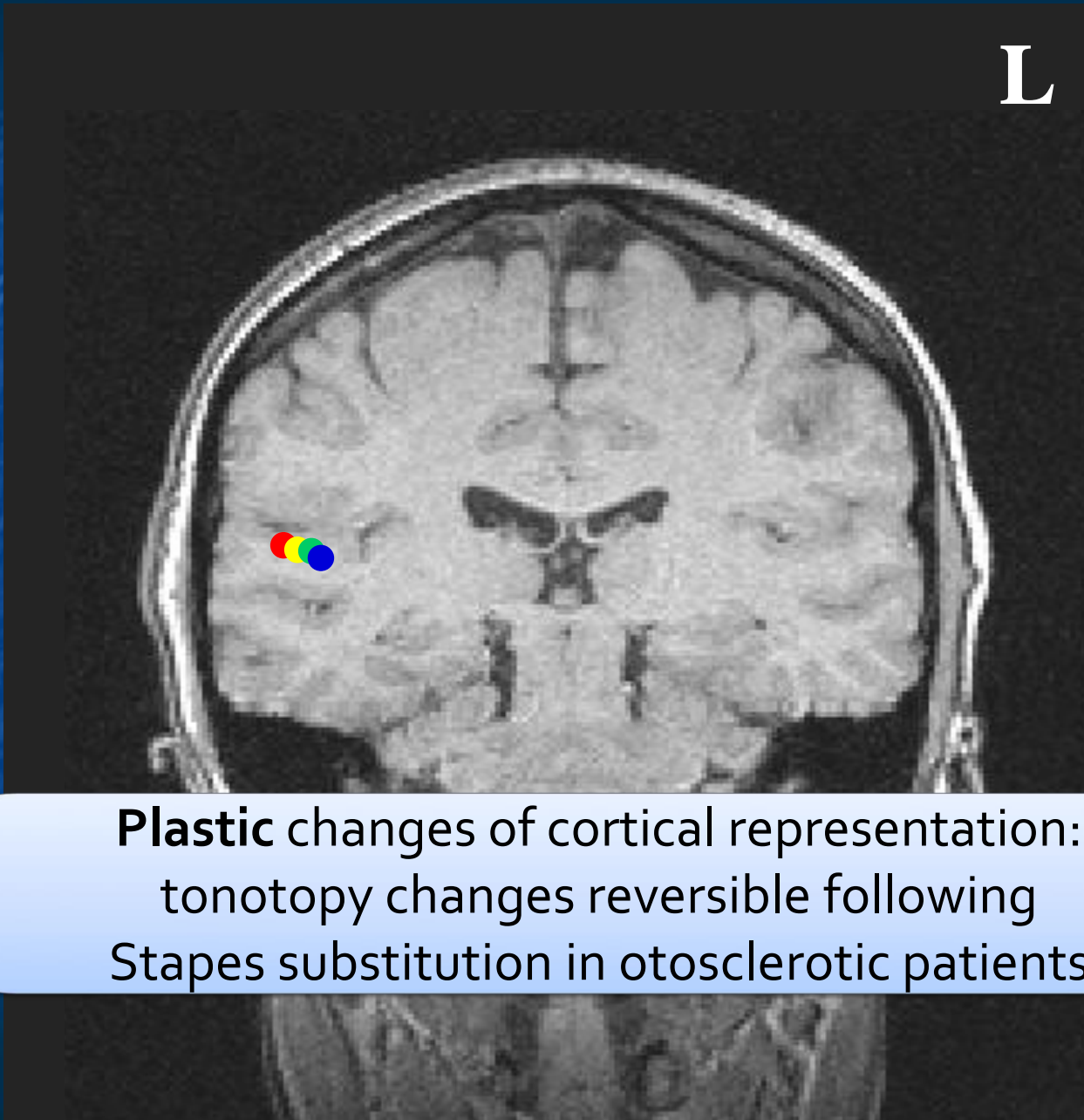
paresthesia

*Tecchio et al. HBM 2002*  
*14 carpal tunnel patients - 10 controls*



# MEG discriminates auditory tonotopicity

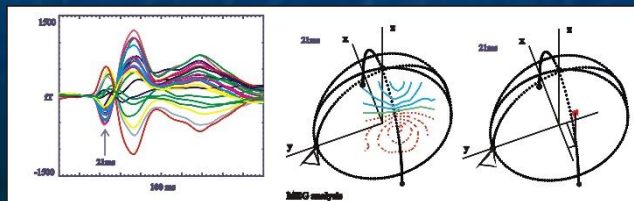
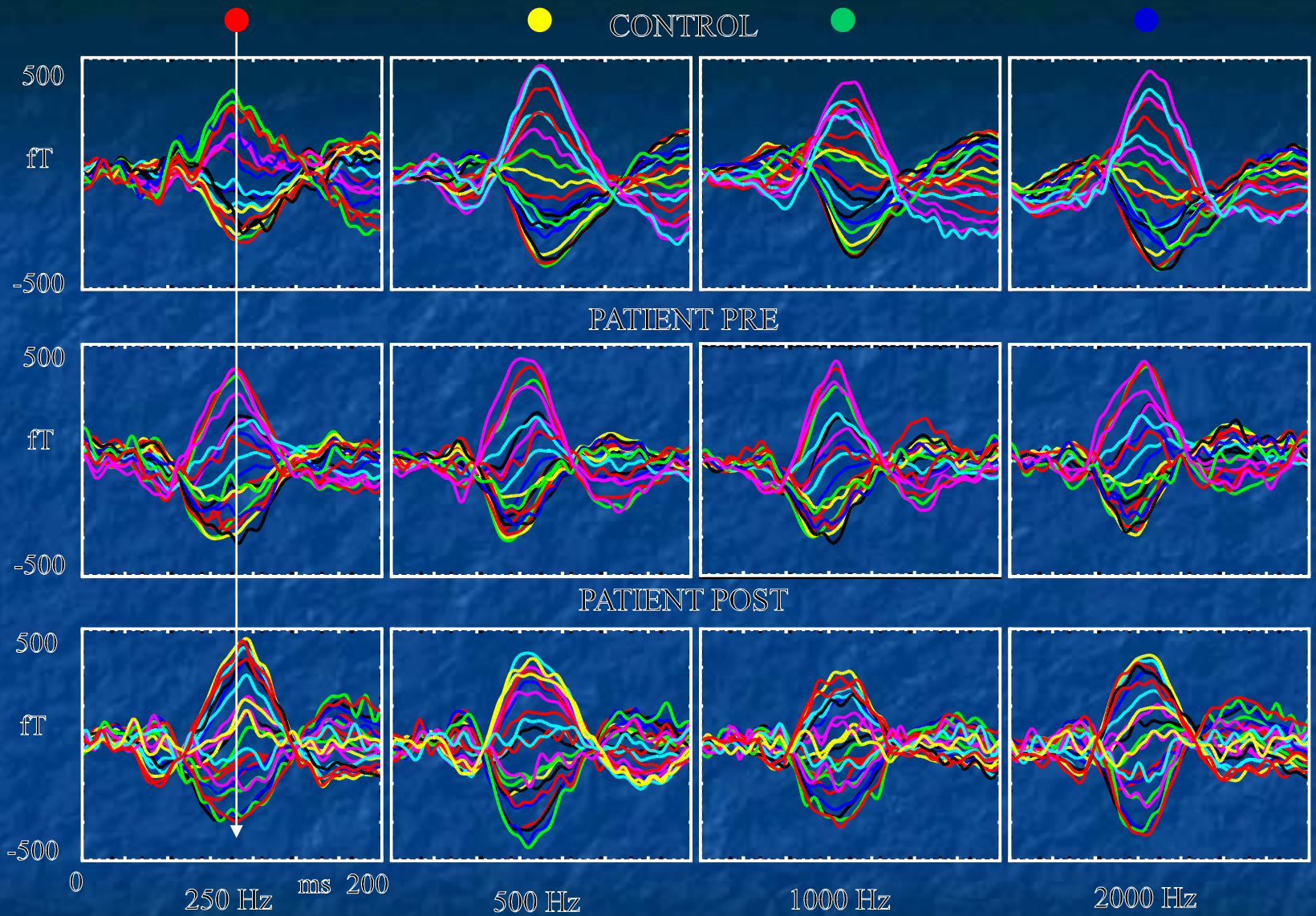
L



Frequency (Hz)

- 250
- 500
- 1000
- 2000

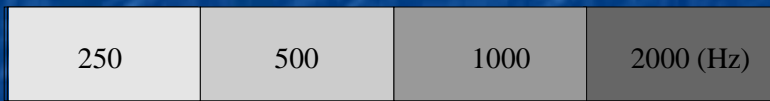
**Plastic** changes of cortical representation:  
tonotopy changes reversible following  
Stapes substitution in otosclerotic patients



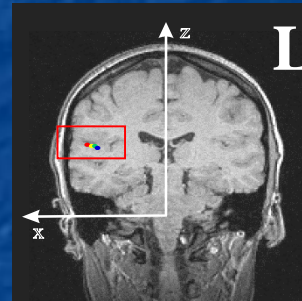
*Tecchio et al. HBM 2000  
10 otosclerotic patients - 10 controls*

# Plastic changes of cortical representation: tonotopy changes reversible following Stapes substitution in otosclerotic patients

Normal-hearing

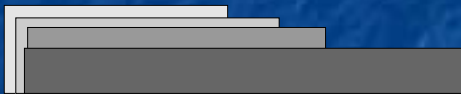


9 mm

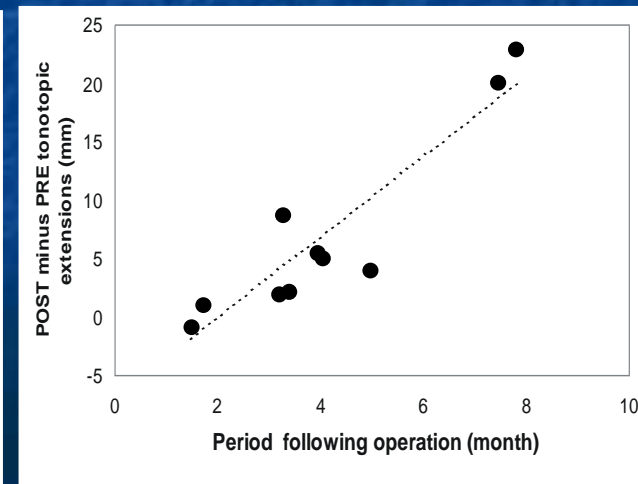
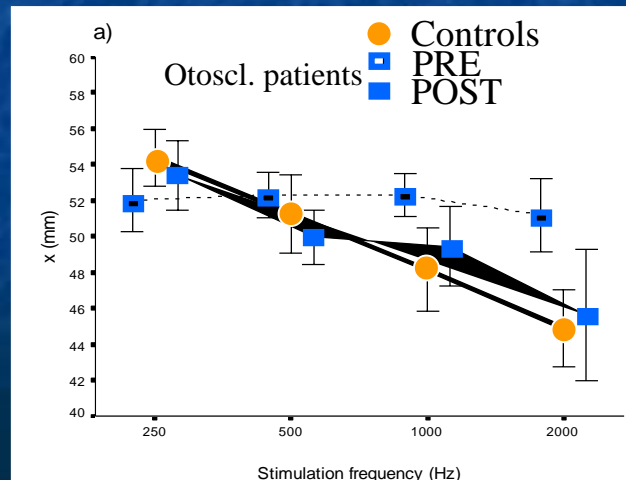


*Tecchio et al. HBM 2000  
10 otosclerotic patients - 10 controls*

Otosclerotic



2 mm





# The organization of the 'Body and Brain' system determines its communication language

**Feedback, Synchrony, Plasticity**

*The **feedback** of actions  
creates **synchrony** among the nodes of dedicated functional networks  
that, in turn, engage in **plastic** adaptations.*



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**Structure°function unit:  
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**Listening to intervene**

**Fractal governing principles  
transcranial Individual neuroDynamics Stimulation (tIDS)**

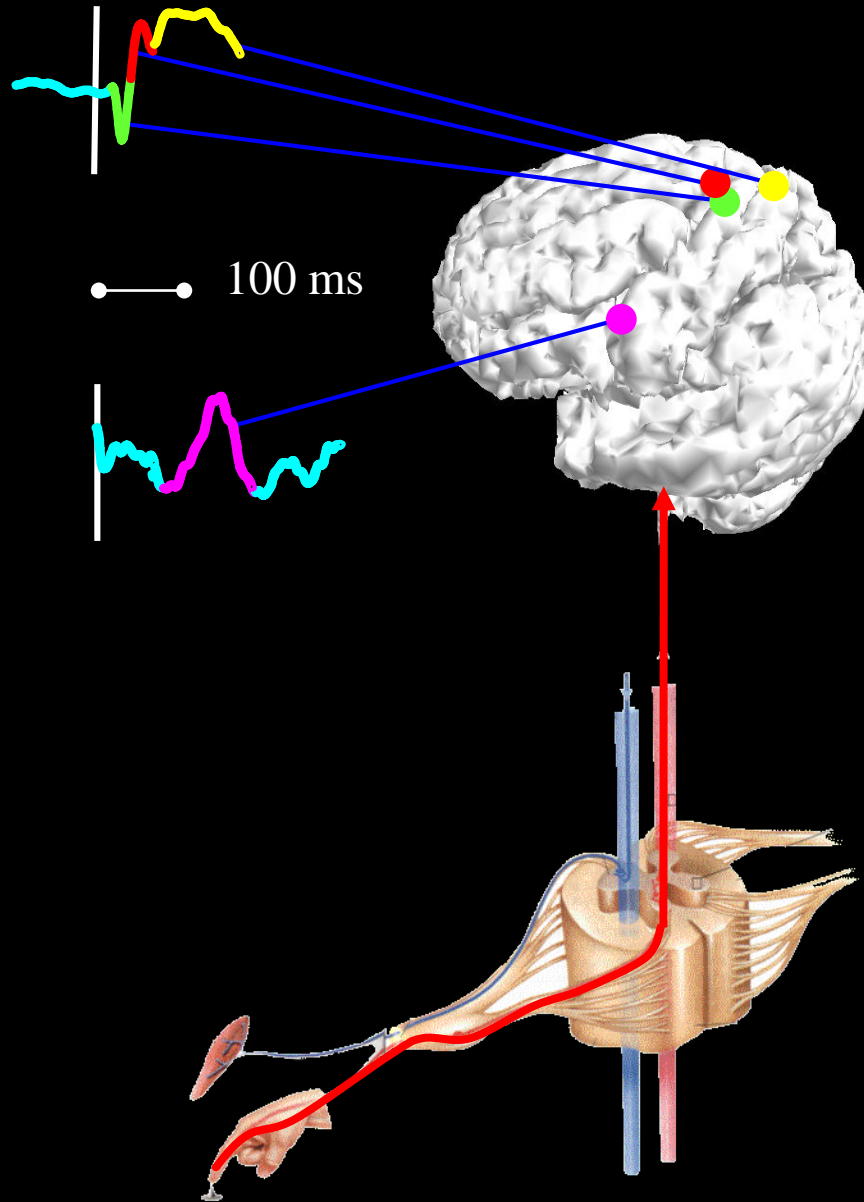
**Functional Source Separation (FSS)**



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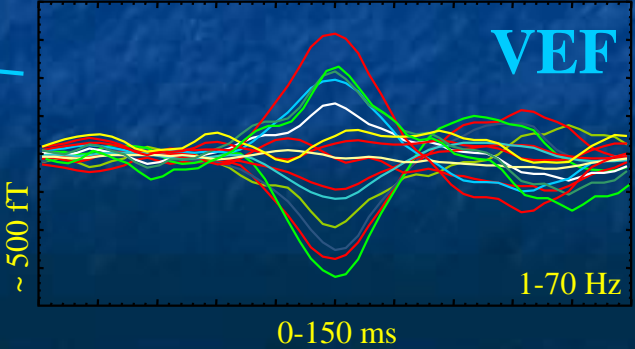
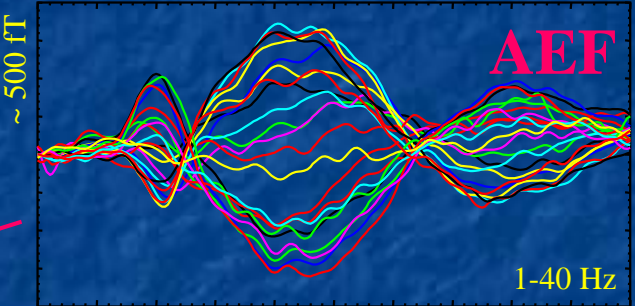
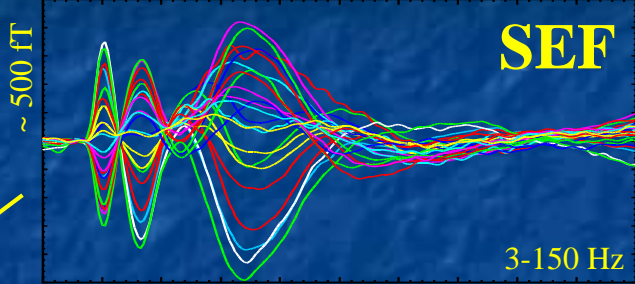
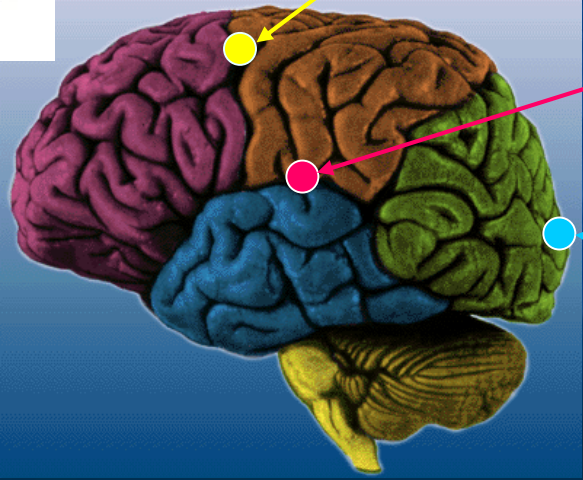
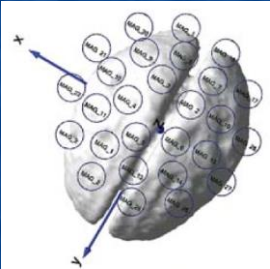
**EEG/MEG allow following the temporal evolution of the brain processing**



# Neuronal Network

response shape  $\rightarrow$   $\leftarrow$  recruited pattern

The cortical area answering to a **light beam**, a **sound**, a **pat**, presents a typical *shape* of its answer



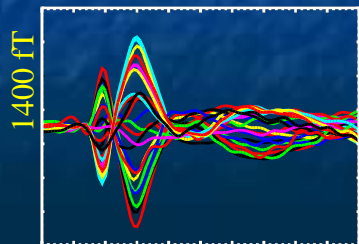
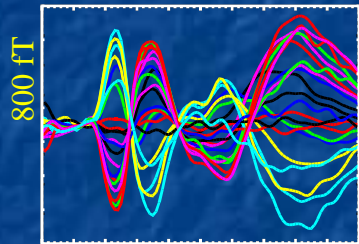
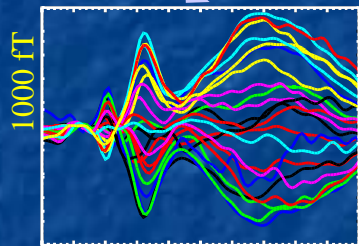
# Neuronal Network

response shape  $\rightarrow$   $\leftarrow$  recruited pattern

Shape similarity  
from hemispheric homologs

*Tecchio et al NeurosciLett 2000*

Shape variability  
across subjects



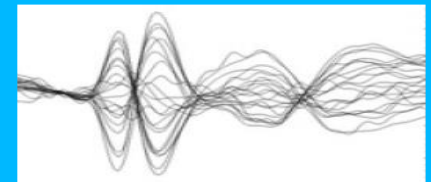
0-100 ms

## Somatosensory evoked responses

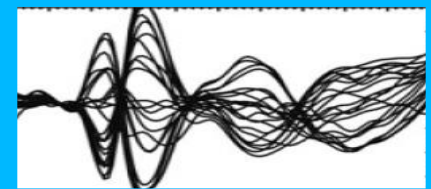
from districts innervated by

median nerve

thumb

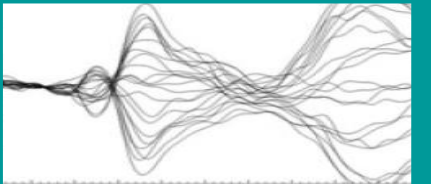


median n.



ulnar nerve

little finger

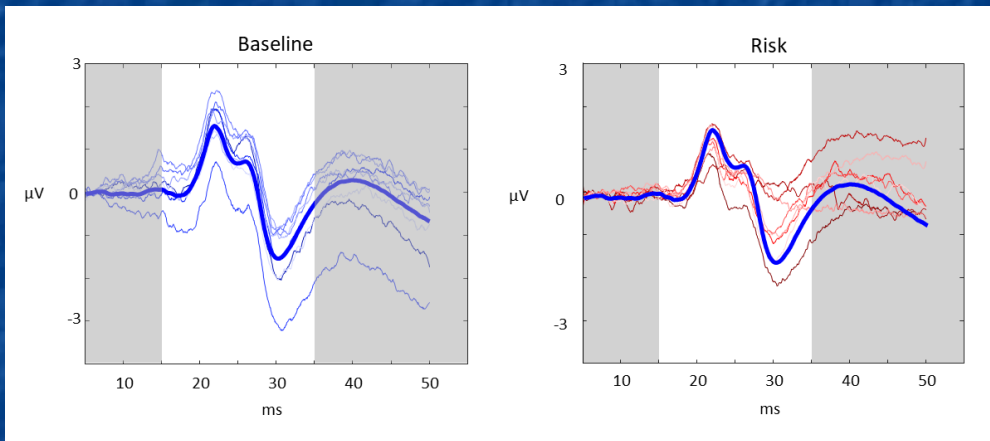


0-100 ms

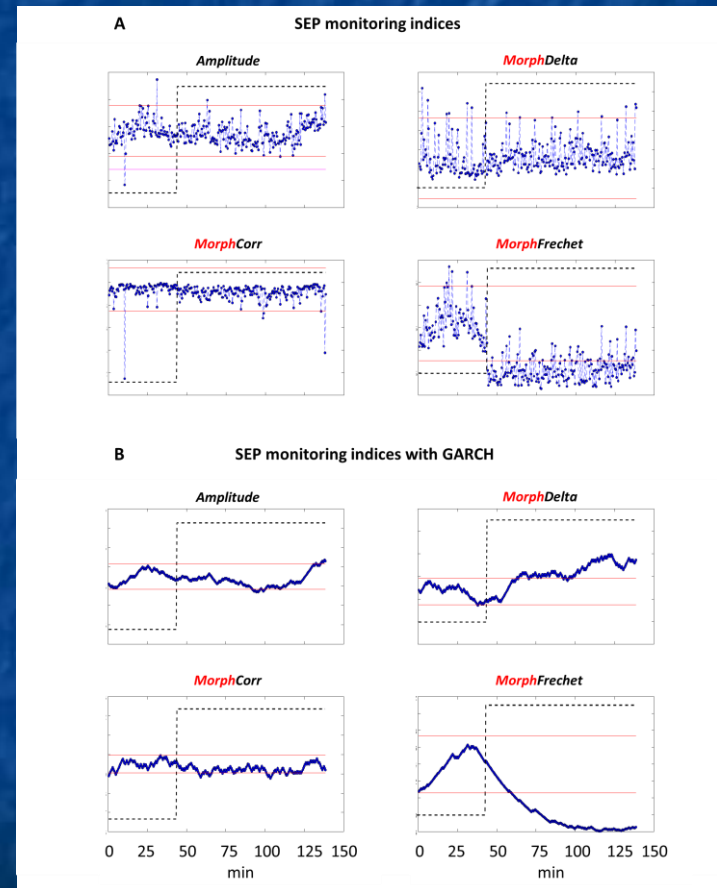
*Tecchio et al HBM 2005*



# SEP morphology senses blood flow reduction more than SEP amplitude



The higher sensitivity to blood flow reduction of SEP morphology than amplitude promises to improve the effectiveness of intraoperative monitoring during middle cerebral artery (MCA) aneurysm clipping procedures.



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**Listening to intervene**

**Fractal governing principles  
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**Functional Source Separation (FSS)**



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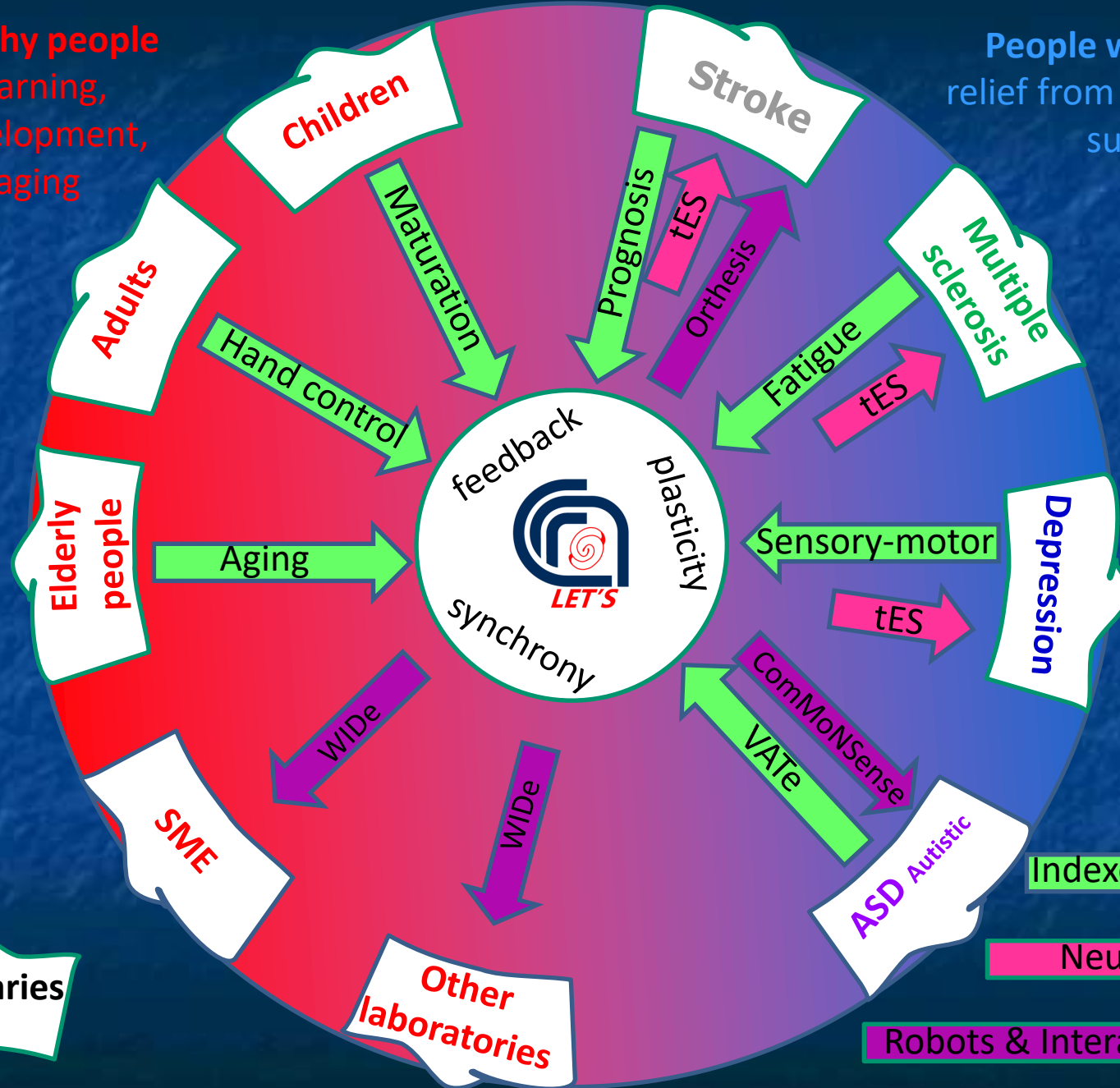




# works to build interventions supporting

healthy people  
learning,  
development,  
aging

People with ailments  
relief from disease-related  
suffering



Beneficiaries

Actions

Indexes sensitive to

Neuromodulation

Robots & Interacting Devices



# The organization of the 'Body and Brain' system determines its communication language

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Functional Source Separation (FSS)

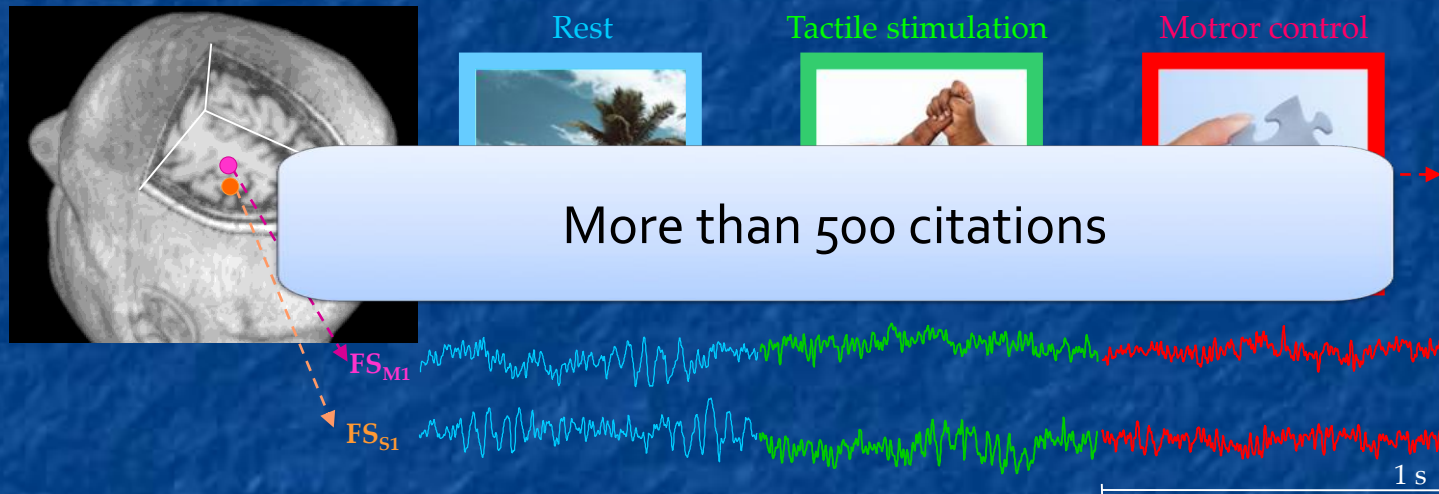
Fractal governing principles  
transcranial Individual neuroDynamics Stimulation (tIDS)



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LET'S developed a new concept-source identification method  
with MEG/EEG/EMG: the  
**Functional Source Separation (FSS)**  
which exploits a  
**specific functional fingerprint** of the source neurodynamics  
-instead of the source's position-



## Methods

Procaro et al IJNT 2017  
Porcaro & Tecchio Book Chapter 2015  
Porcaro et al Neuroimage 2010  
Porcaro et al ClinPh 2009  
Porcaro et al Hum Brain Mapp 2009  
Porcaro et al Hum Brain Mapp 2008  
Barbati et al Hum Brain Mapp 2008  
Tecchio et al J Physiol 2007, Review  
Barbati et al Hum Brain Mapp 2006

## Investigation tool

Cottone et al JN 2017  
Cottone et al Brain Struc Func 2016  
Melgari et al Neurosci 2013  
Procaro et al ClinPh 2013  
Di Pino, Porcaro et al RNN 2012  
Pellegrino et al RNN 2012  
Porcaro et al Neuroimage 2011  
Pittaccio et al Hum Brain Mapp 2011  
Tecchio et al Brain 2009  
Betti et al J Neurosci 2009  
Tecchio et al Neuroimage 2008  
Tecchio et al Neuroimage 2007

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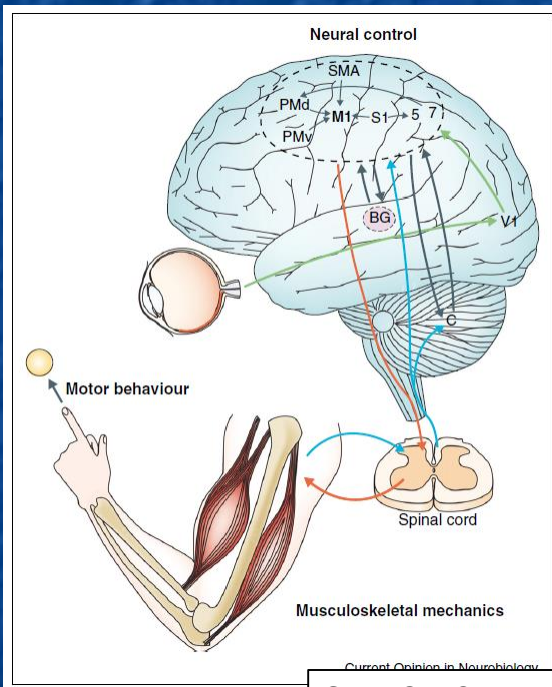
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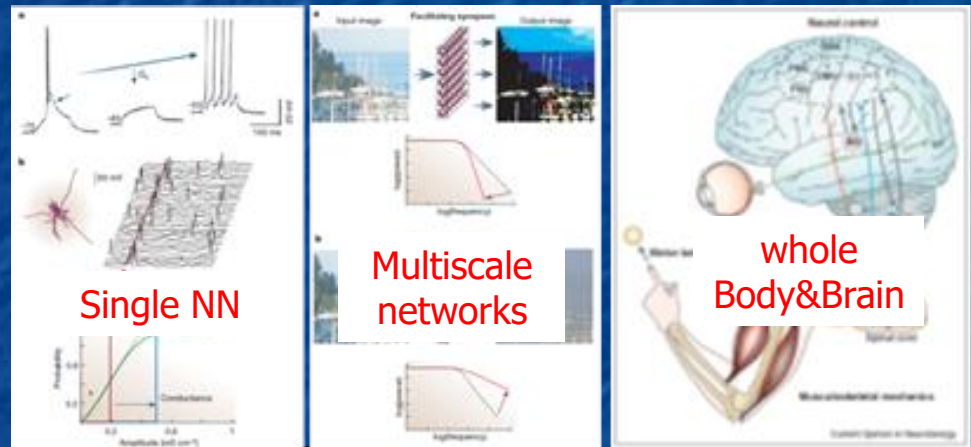


# The **triadic principle**, which governs the Body&Brain system, **modularly repeats at multiple scales.**

Motor control: paradigmatic model

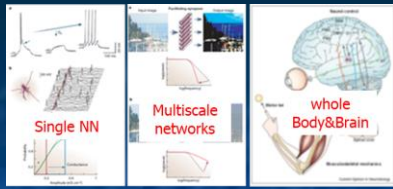


Scott CurrOpinNeurobiol 2017



Destexhe&Marder Nature 2004

Feedback → Synchrony → Plasticity



Modular multiscale triadic principle:  
Feedback  $\rightarrow$  Synchrony  $\rightarrow$  Plasticity



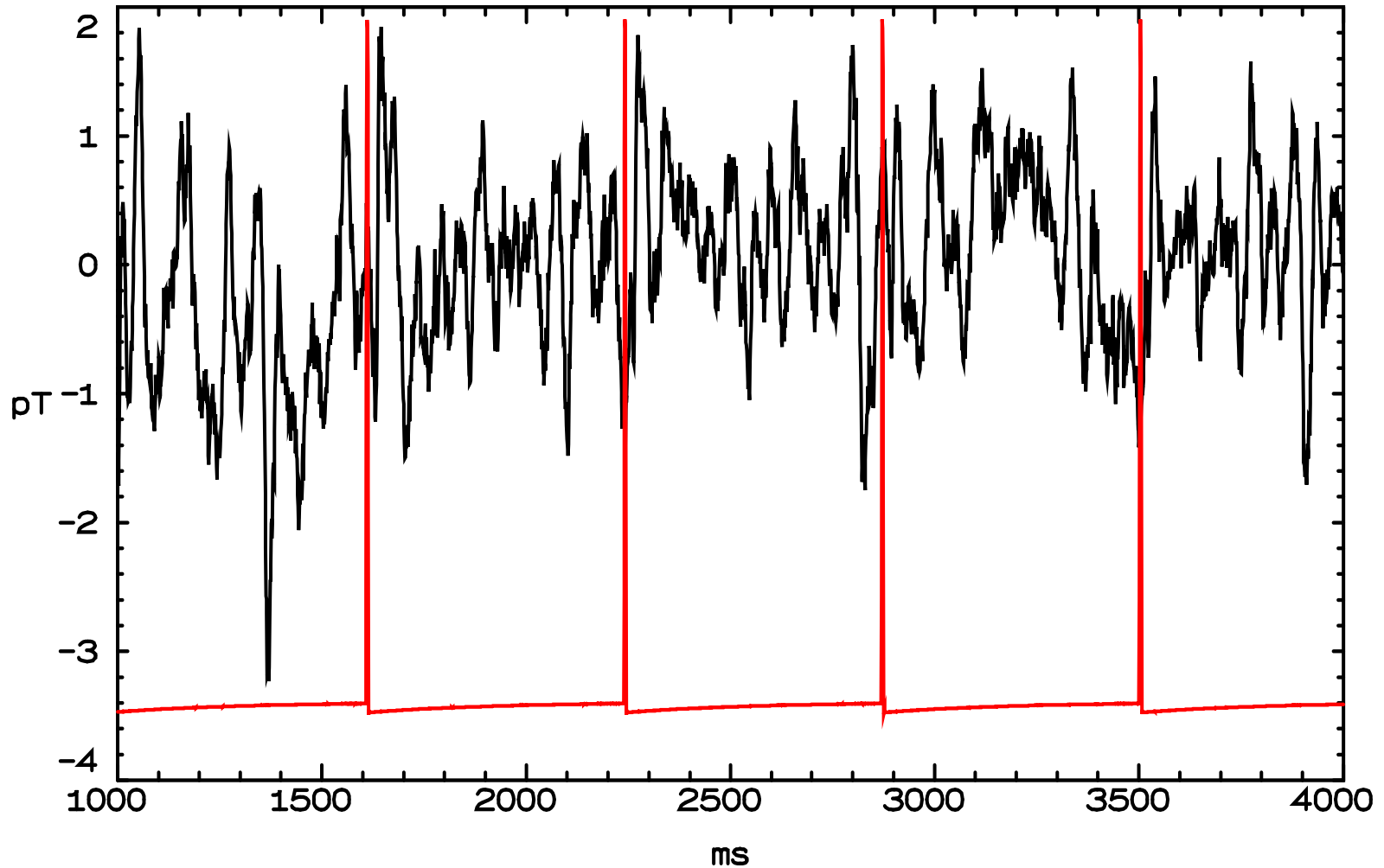
Fractal structure

# Neuronal electric activity dynamics [neurodynamics]: Is it fractal?

Recording date:

Sample: 2

MAG\_2  
ELE\_1



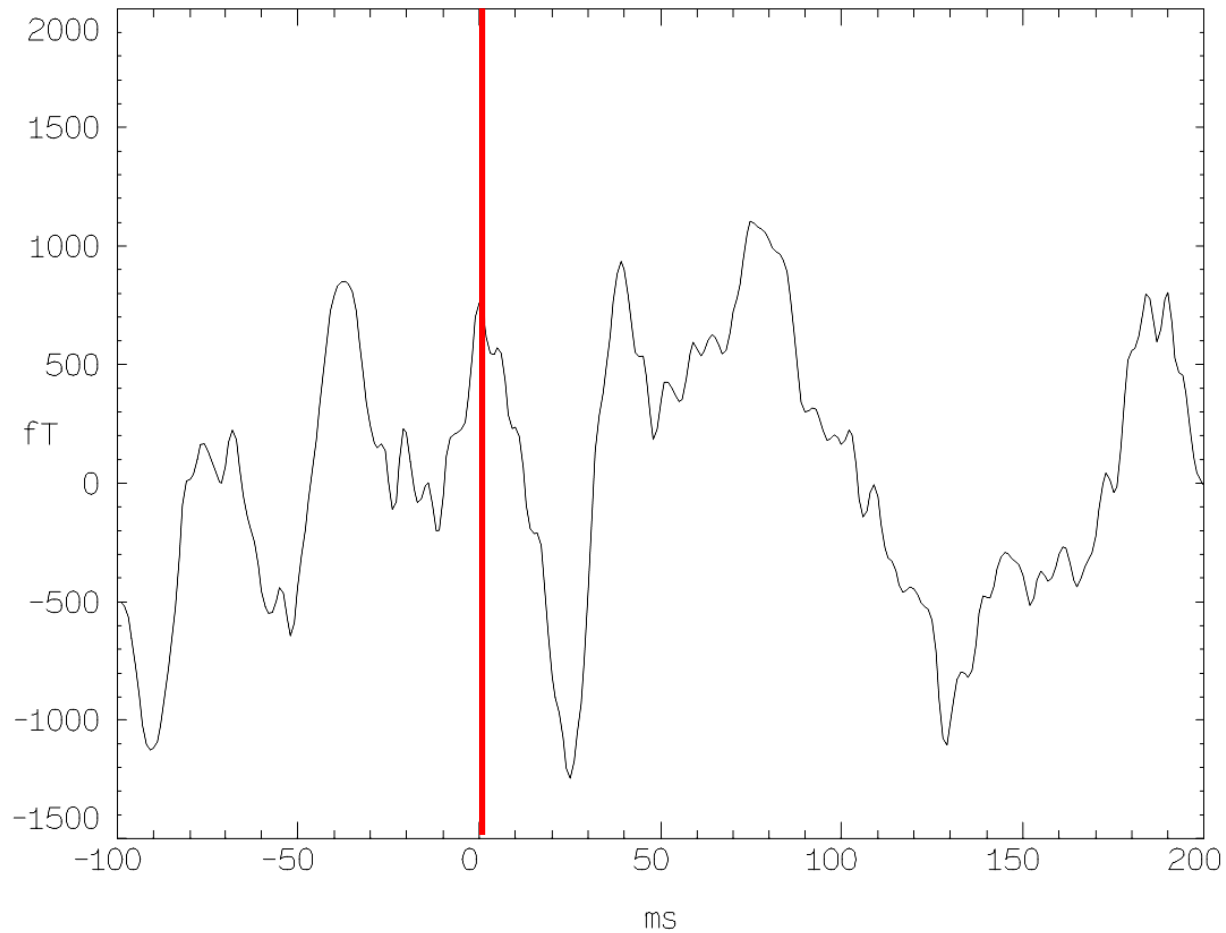
# Neuronal electric activity dynamics [neurodynamics]: Is it fractal?

File: paro0502.ave

Recording date: 10 FEB 1995

Averages: 1

MAG\_1





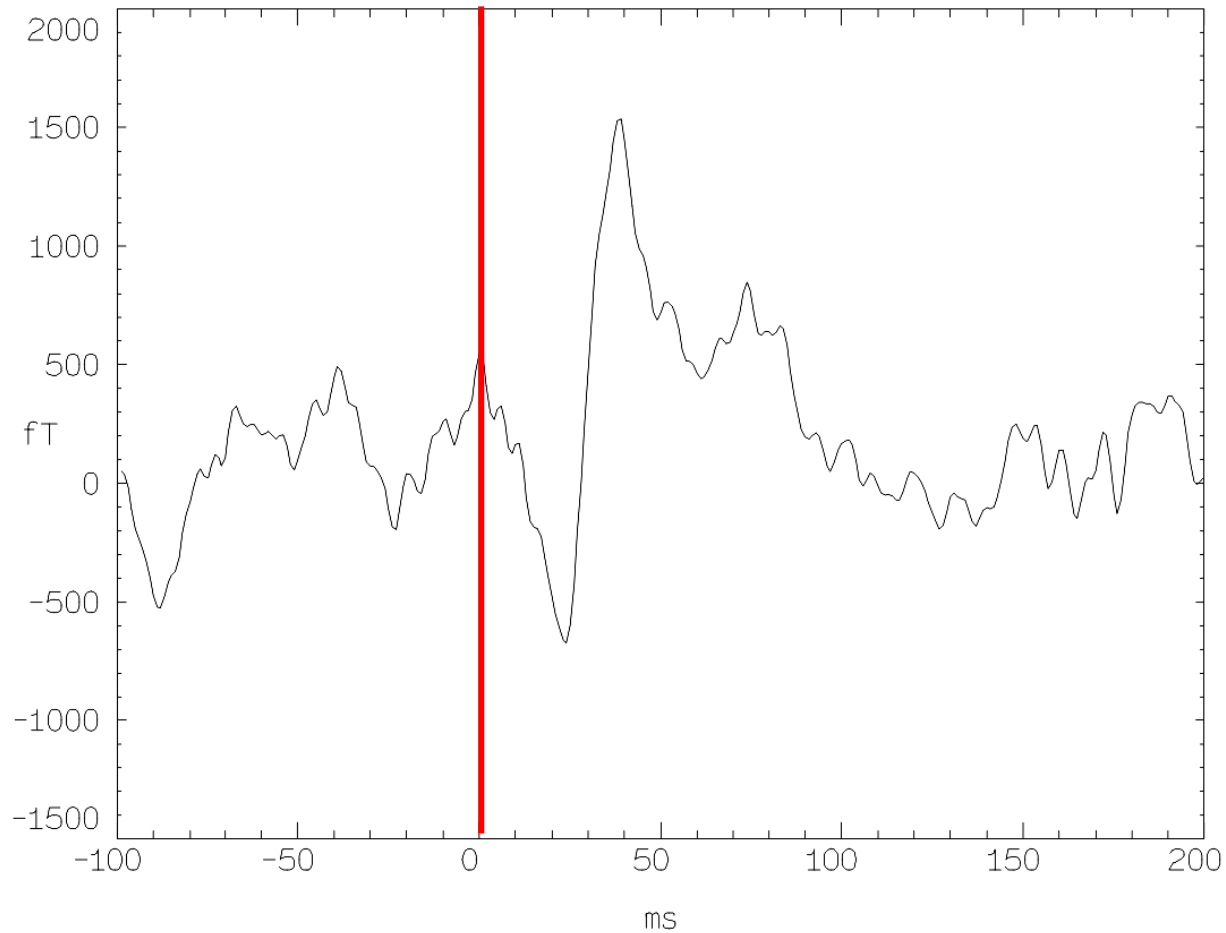
# Neuronal electric activity dynamics [neurodynamics]: Is it fractal?

File: paro0503.ave

Recording date: 10 FEB 1995

Averages: 2

MAG\_1



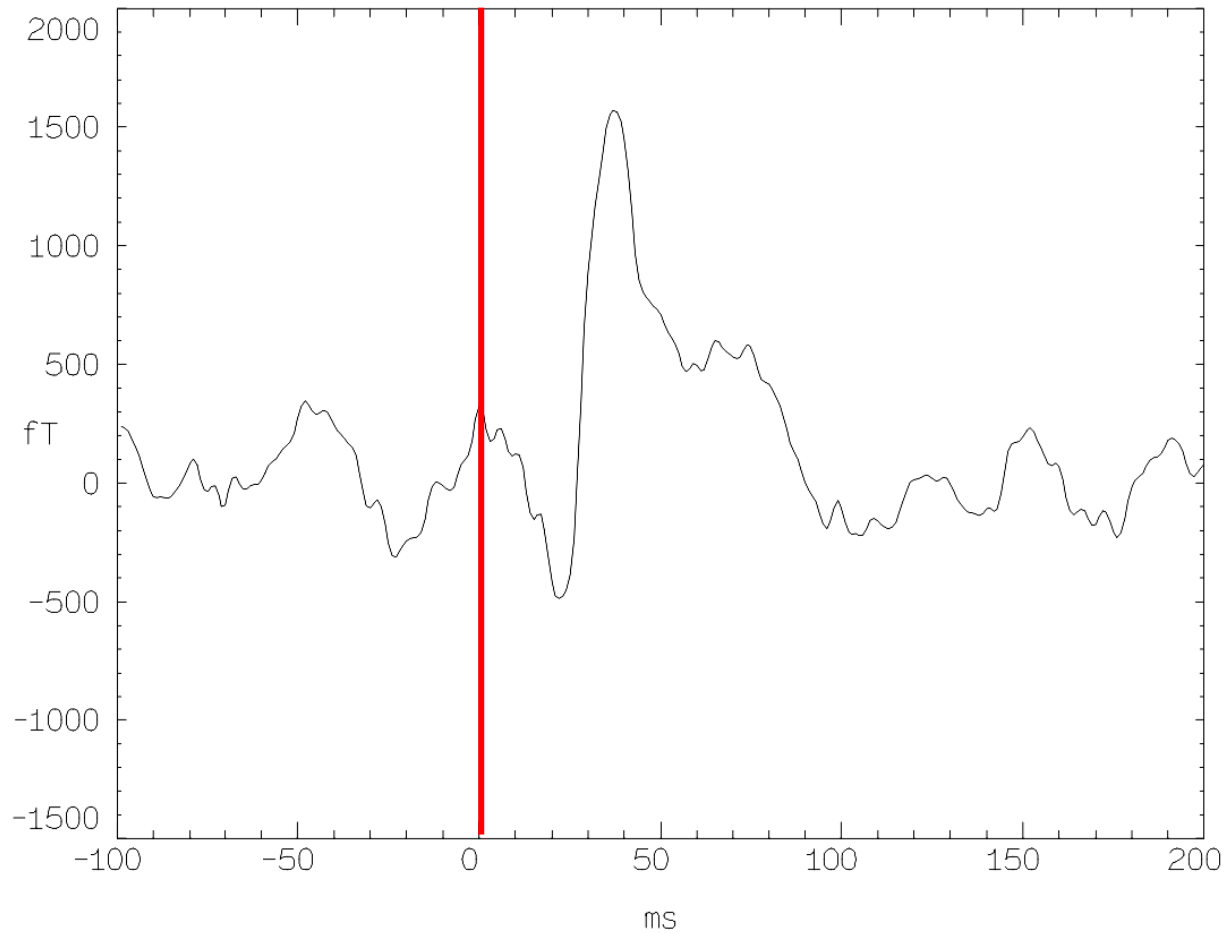
# Neuronal electric activity dynamics [neurodynamics]: Is it fractal?

File: paro0504.ave

Recording date: 10 FEB 1995

Averages: 5

MAG\_1



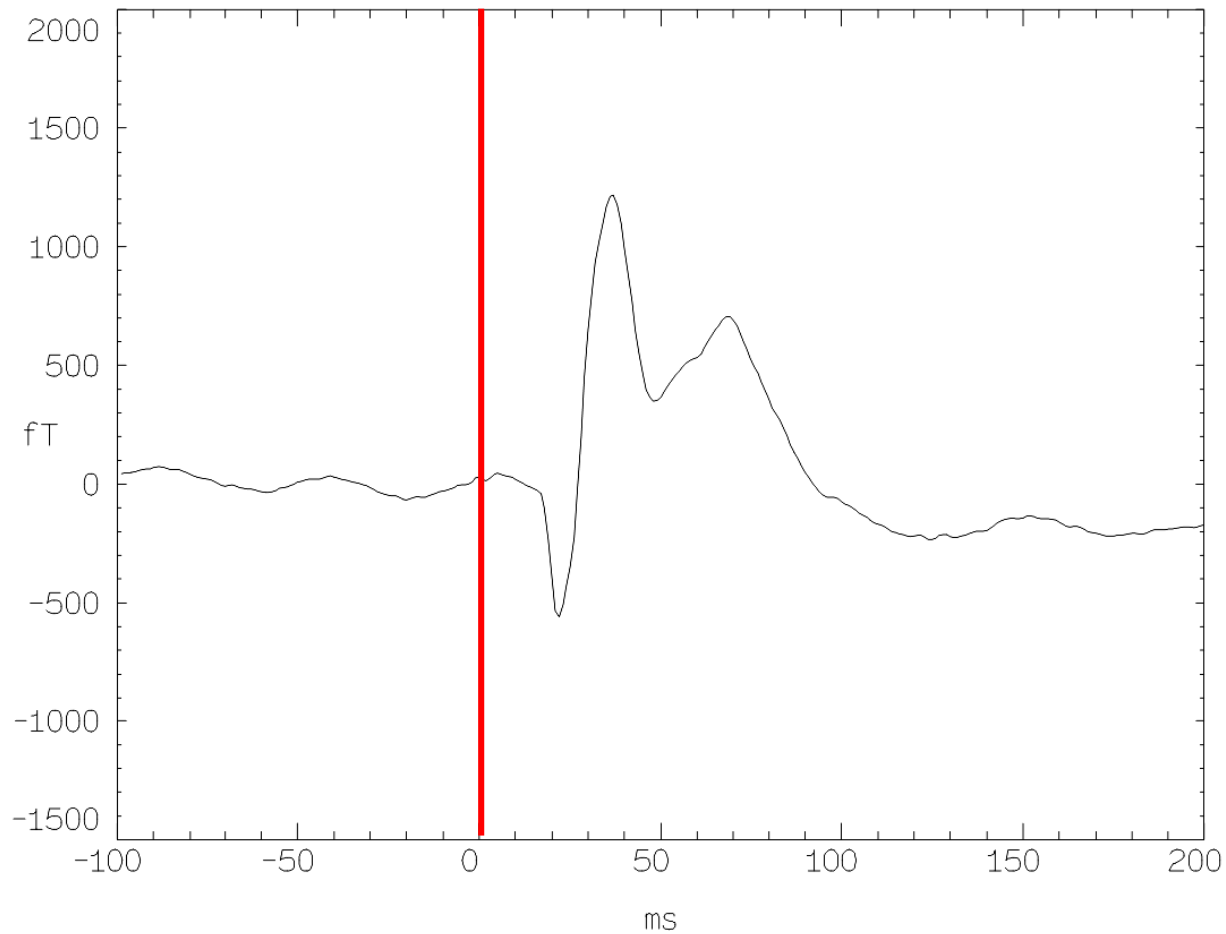
# Neuronal electric activity dynamics [neurodynamics]: Is it fractal?

File: paro0507.ave

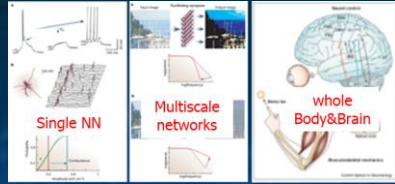
Recording date: 10 FEB 1995

Averages: 285

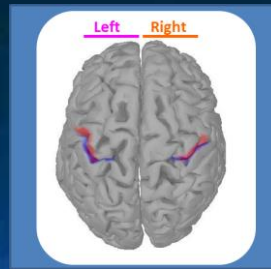
MAG\_1



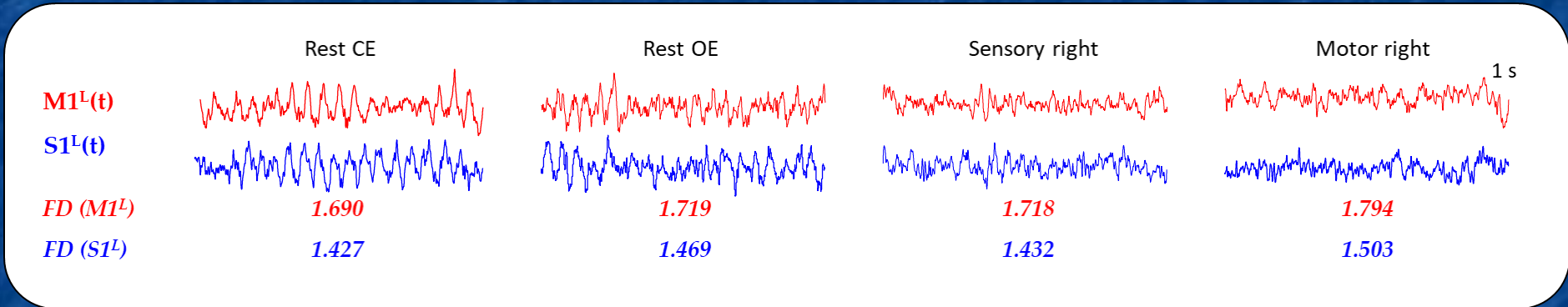




# NeuroDynamics: local signature



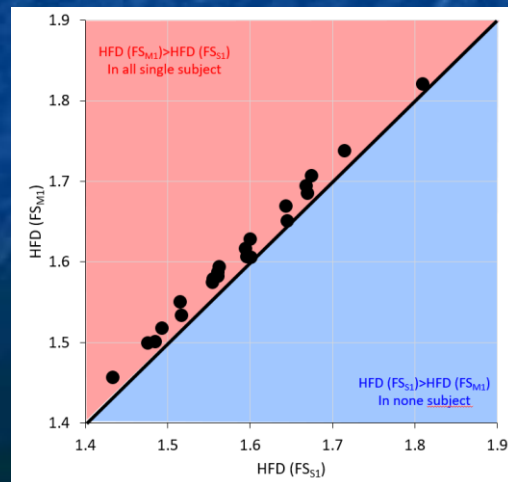
fractal dimension of the neuronal electric activity



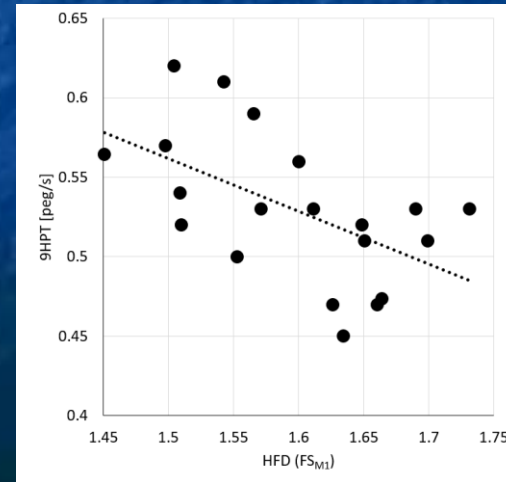
*Cottone et al BSAF 2017*  
18 healthy people

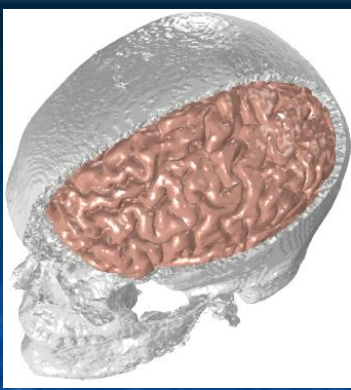
in single persons

the fractal dimension of  
 $M1 > S1$

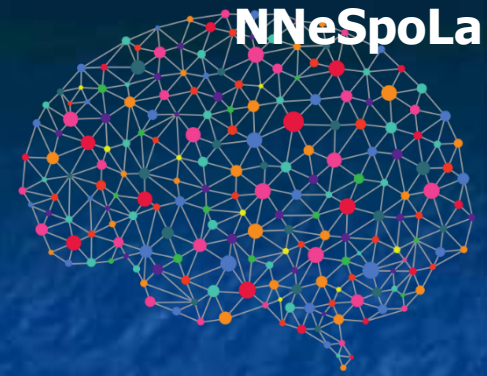


M1 fractal dimension correlates to  
fine hand motor skill





# Neural Network Spoken Language [NNeSpoLa]



## Definitions:

1. a **Neuronal Network [NN]** is made up of **nodes** and their **connections**
2. at least 1 NN node receives **input**, and 1 NN node produces **output**
3. The connections are necessarily both **negative** and **positive**
4. a **NN Node** is a neuron or a group of neurons or a group of diverse brain regions

## Model:

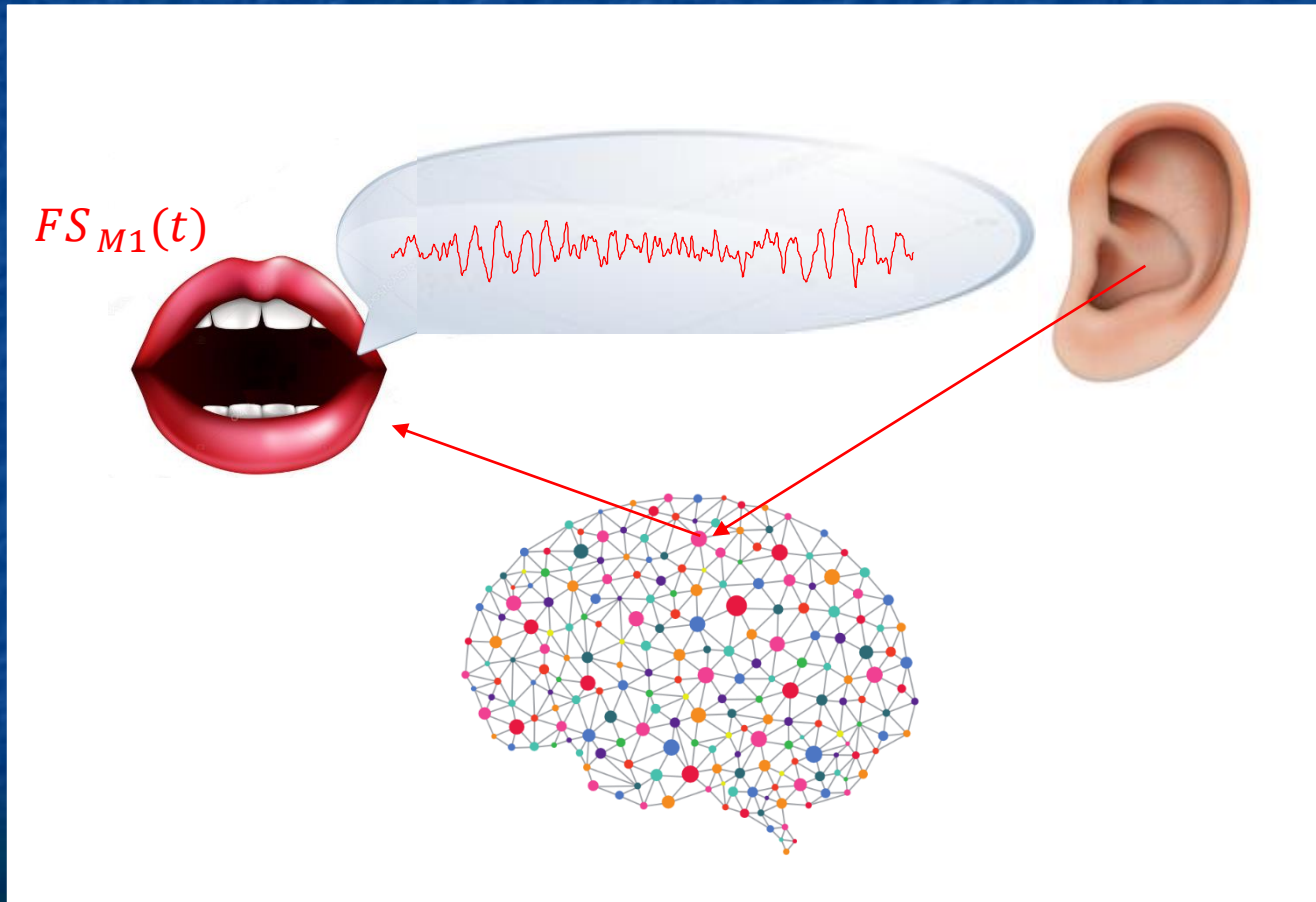
1. Every NN develops a **NN language** - shared by all NN nodes-
2. Every NN node '**necessarily**' produces a **word-OUT**, when the **word-IN** arrives.

## *Hypothesis:*

If via fluctuating tES we send a message 'typical' of the node's language, the node increases the probability to produce its word-OUT (i.e. it is more excitable).

The cortical area speaks its 'typical' language.

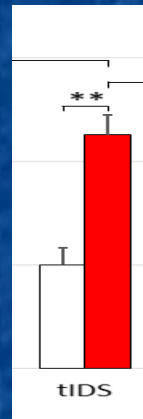
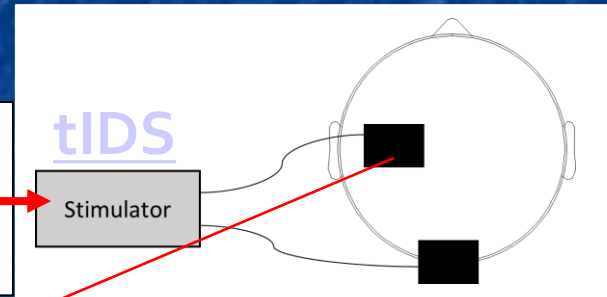
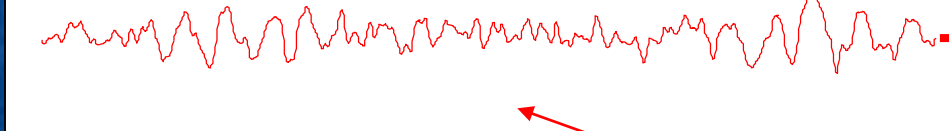
When it hears a similar message, it tends to speak.





# transcranial Individual neuroDynamics Stimulation (tIDS)

$FS_{M1}(t)$



*Cottone et al J Neurosci 2018,  
11 + 5 healthy people*

*Sustaining our hypothesis:*  
 sending a message 'typical' of M1 language via tIDS  
 M1 increases the probability to produce 'its' word-OUT  
 (i.e. it is more excitable).

# The organization of the 'Body and Brain' system determines its communication language

Triadic principle Feedback, Synchrony, Plasticity  
fractal governing principles

Functional Source Separation (FSS)

Listening to intervene  
transcranial Individual  
neuroDynamics Stimulation (tIDS)



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# Thank the LET'S present and past collaborators



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Paolo M. Rossini, Patrizio Pasqualetti, Vittorio Pizzella, Giulia Barbati, Carlo Salustri, Giancarlo Zito

Rosanna Squitti, Mariacarla Ventriglia



Elzbieta Olejarczyk, Simone Pittaccio, Luca Paulon, Maria Luisa Malosio



and thank you for your attention!



Franca Tecchio  
ISINP 31 July 2019 Como



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