

# Brain Dynamics, Reward, & Mocap

Howard Poizner and David Peterson

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## I. MC/BDL Developments

A. Science meets Art

B. VR System Development

a. Multimodal VR

b. Mocap-EEG-fMRI

## II. Project 2.1.3 Update

(With Scott Makeig &  
Terry Sejnowski)

# Multimodal VR & integration with fMRI

## Virtual Reality



Panoramic HMD



Haptic Robot



Eye Tracker



MRI Glove



VR + Motion Capture  
+MRI

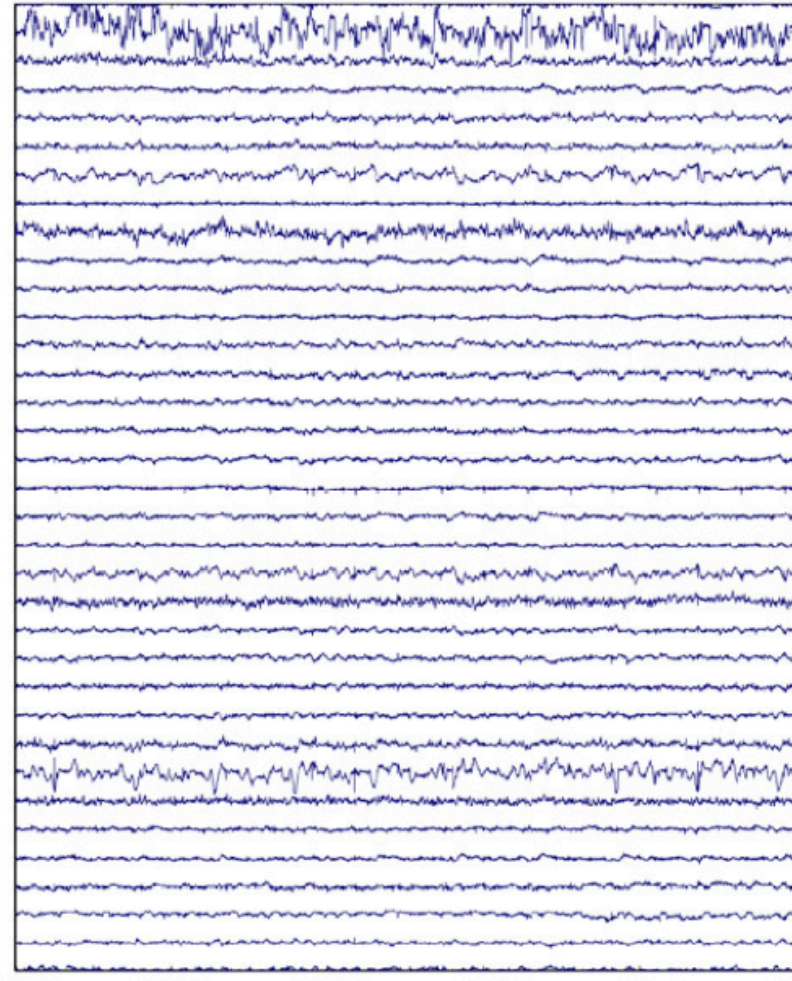
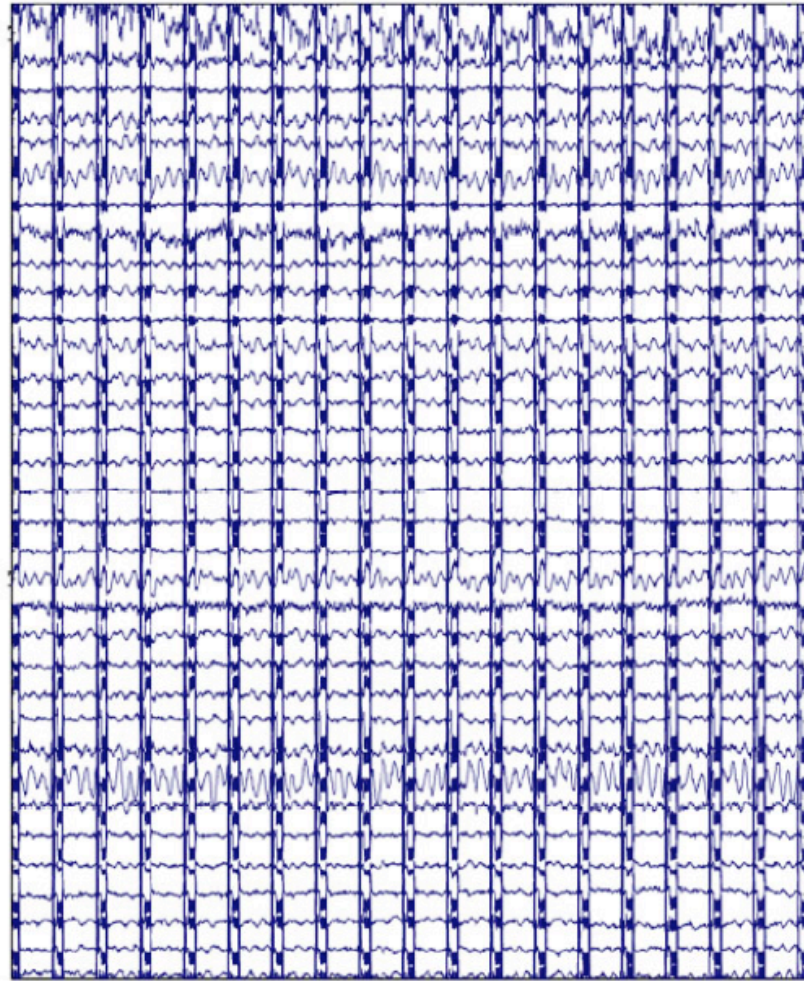


MRI HMD with  
Eye-tracker

## Artifact Removal

before

after



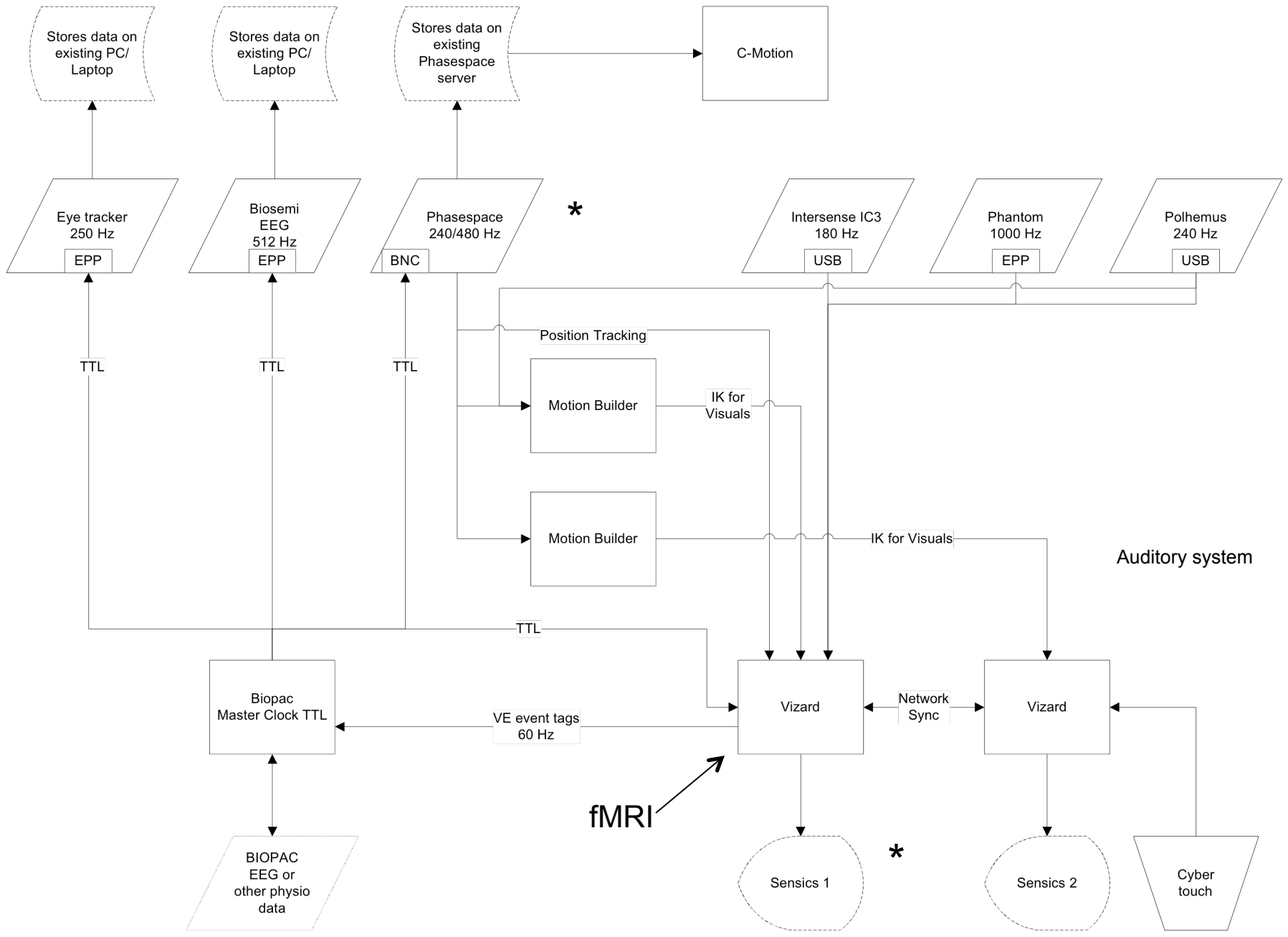
220 221 222 223 224 225  
I scale = 6000

220 221 222 223 224 225  
time (s)

[From: Tom Liu](#)

EEG data from a simultaneous EEG-fMRI experiment before (left) and after (right) the application of artifact removal.





# Brain Dynamics, Dopamine, & Reward-Based Learning [Project 2.1.3]

- Simultaneous recording of EEG and Movement
- Reward-based learning & Computation Modeling in normals and dopamine depleted patients
- **Simultaneous recording of EEG and Movement during reward-based learning in normals**
- Simultaneous recording of EEG and Movement during reward-based learning in dopamine depleted patients

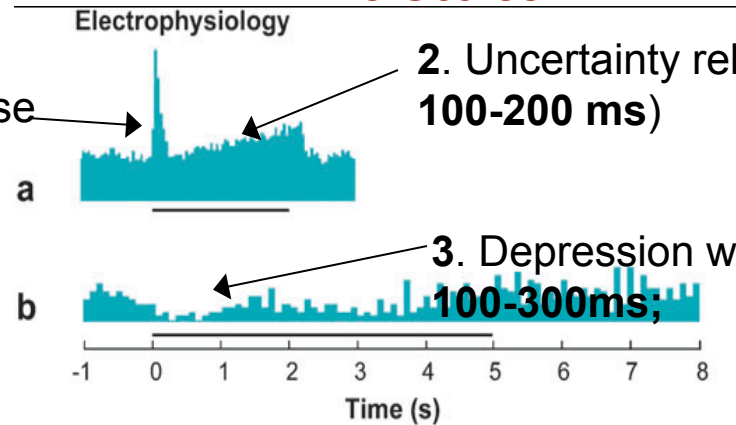
# Time Scales, Dopamine, & Behavior

**Wolfram Schultz**, *Annual Review of Neuroscience*, 2007, p.259

“Dopamine is involved in mediating the reactivity of the organism to the environment at ***Different Time Scales***, from fast impulses related to reward, via slower changes with uncertainty, punishment, and possibly movement, to the tonic enabling of postsynaptic motor, cognitive, and motivational systems deficient in Parkinson’s disease.”

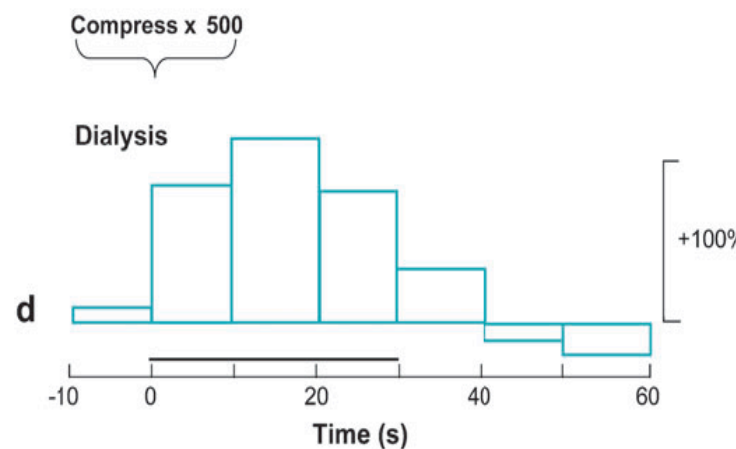
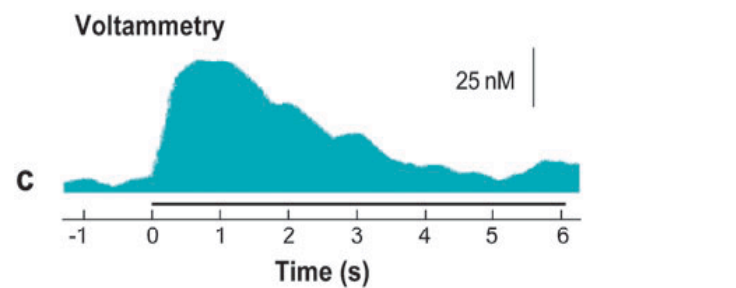
## DA Time Scales

1. Reward predicting response  
(graded; latency =  
60-100ms  
Duration  
<200 ms)



2. Uncertainty related response (latency =  
100-200 ms)  
Duration < 2  
seconds

3. Depression with pain (latency =  
100-300ms;  
Duration = seconds



Modified from  
**Schultz (2007)**  
*Ann Rev  
Neurosci*

**4. Tonic enabling  
function**

e) Tonic enabling of post synaptic  
receptors – very slow; ***Minutes***

**5. Decision function**

f) History of DA cell  
responses encodes  
decisions for future  
action; **Minutes to hours**

# Brain Dynamics in Rewarded Learning

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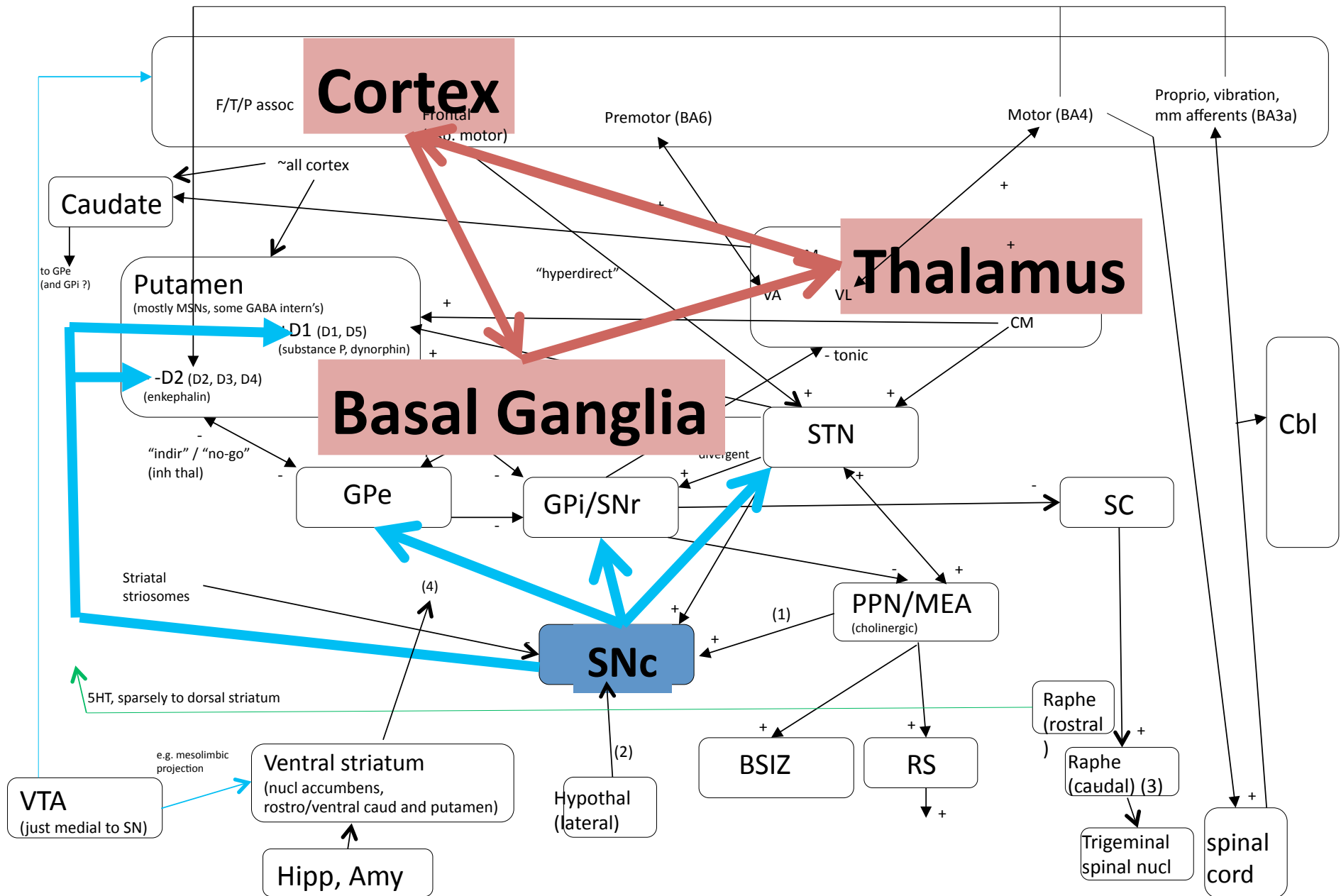
<sup>3</sup>Swartz Center for Computational Neuroscience

<sup>4</sup>Department of Radiology, UCSD

<sup>5</sup>Computational Neurobiology Laboratory, Salk Institute

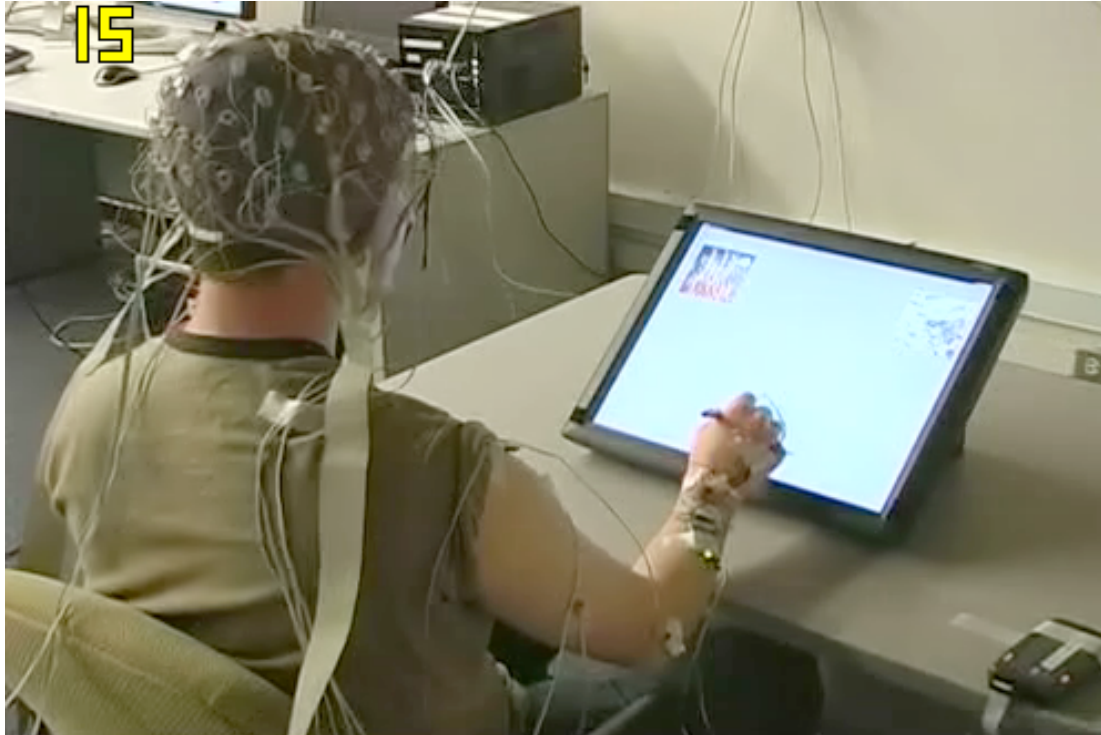


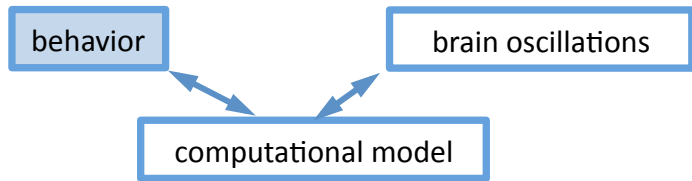
# Basal ganglia mediate cortical oscillations



# Experimental Paradigm

What aspects of **ensemble dynamics** important for rewarded learning?

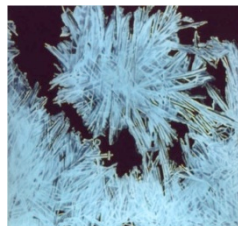
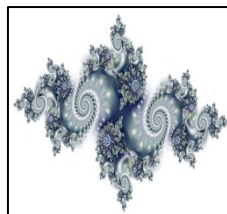
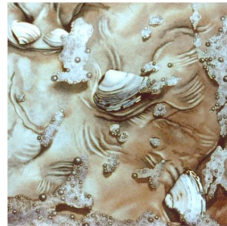




# Images and rewards

2 phases,  
256 trials each

Image

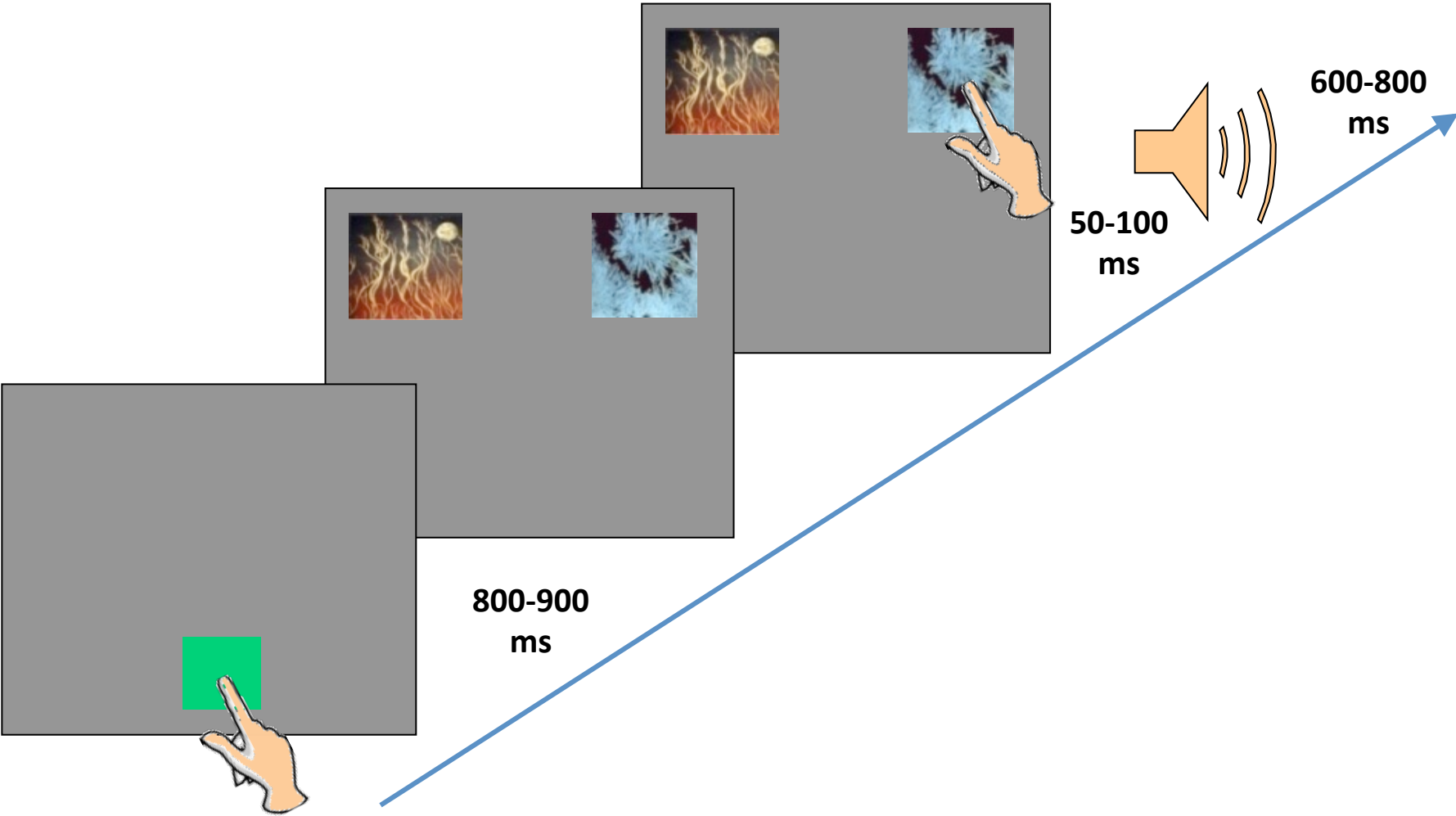
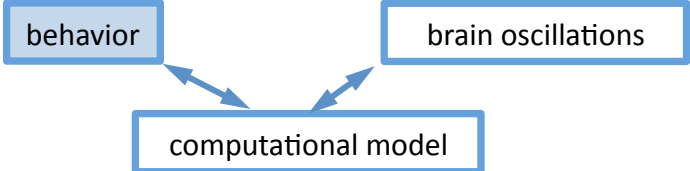


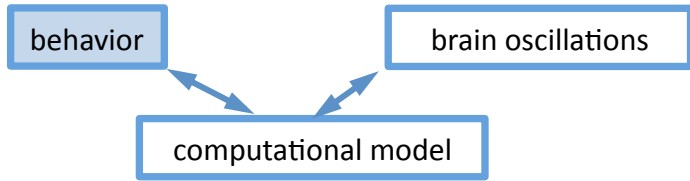
Probability (reward)

$j$  Initial Phase Reversal Phase

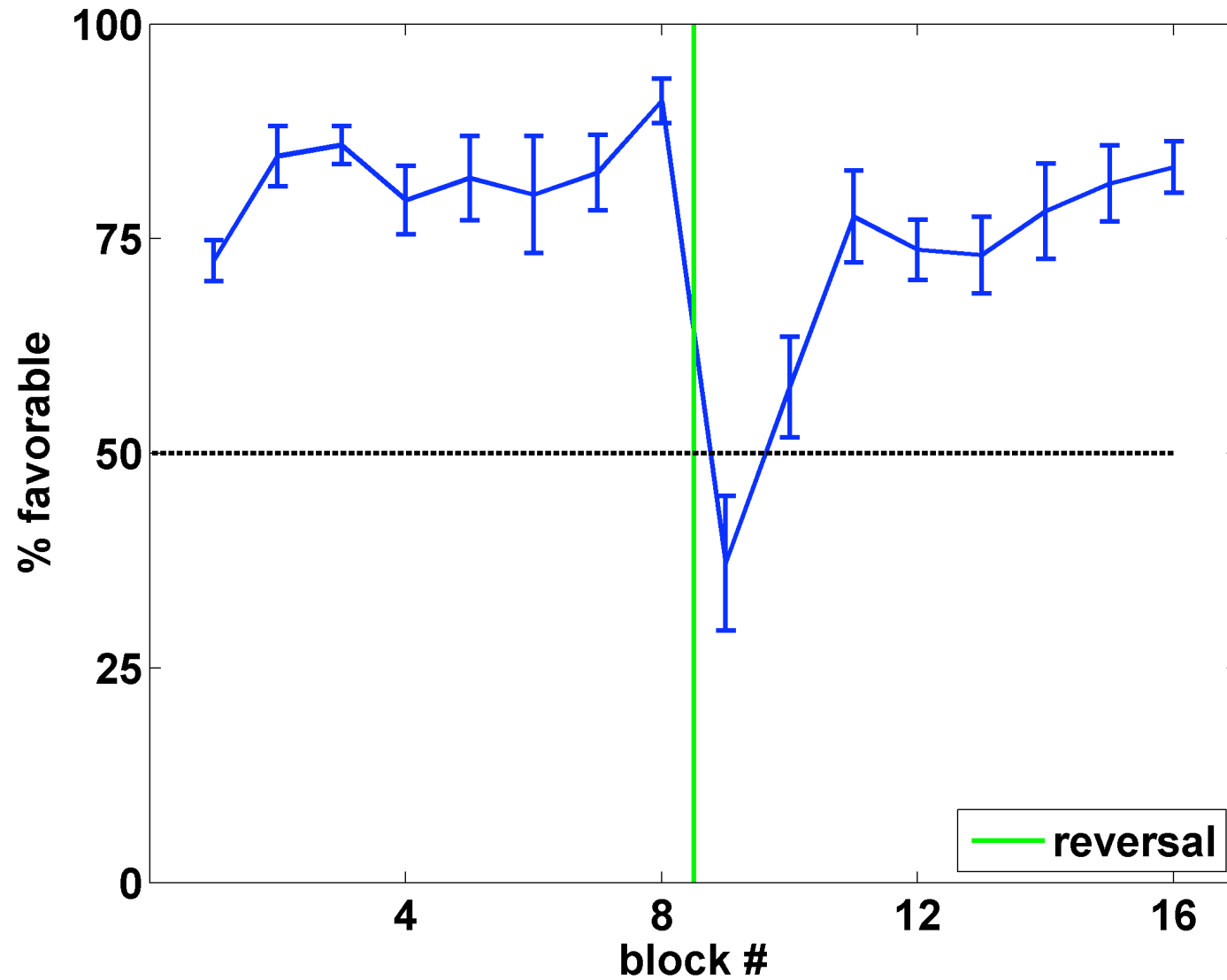
1	0.25	1.00
2	0.50	0.75
3	0.75	0.50
4	1.00	0.25

# 2-AFC trial

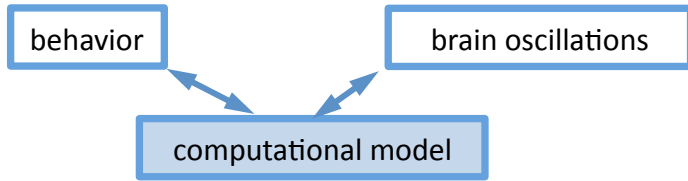




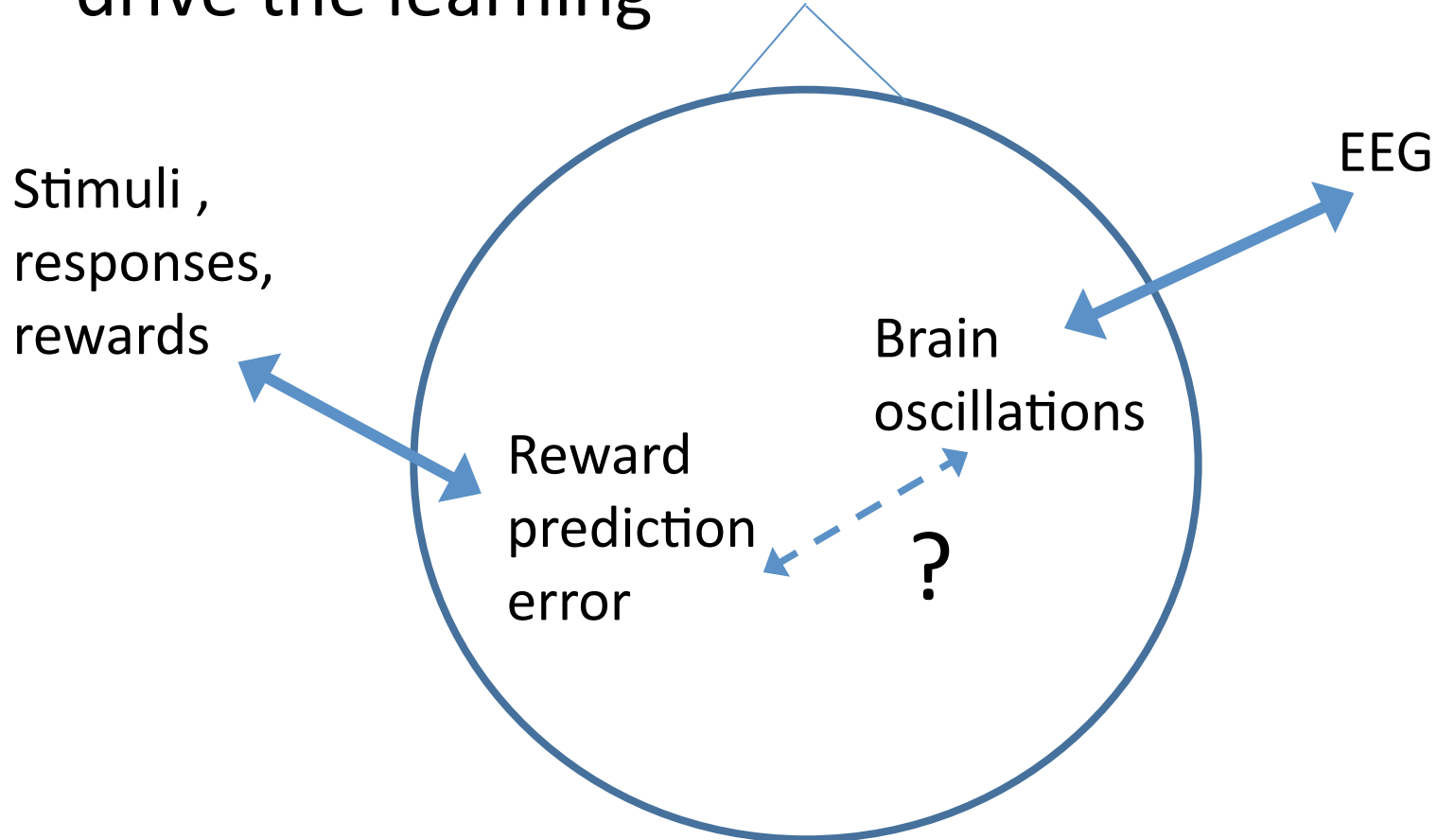
# Learning curve (N = 13)



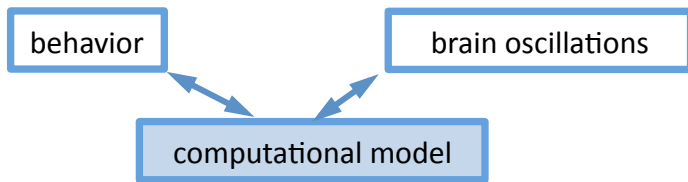
# Why model the behavior?



- Infer internal, unobservable “processes” that drive the learning







# RL model

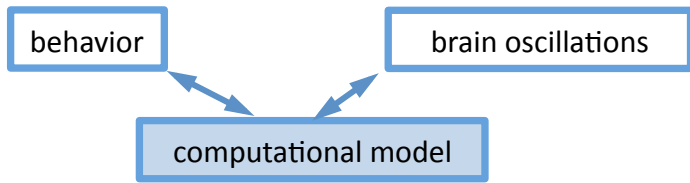
Learning from reward prediction error (**PE**):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & Q_j(t + 1) \\
 = & \begin{cases} Q_j(t) + \varepsilon [r(t) - Q_j(t)] & j \text{ chosen} \\ Q_j(t) & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

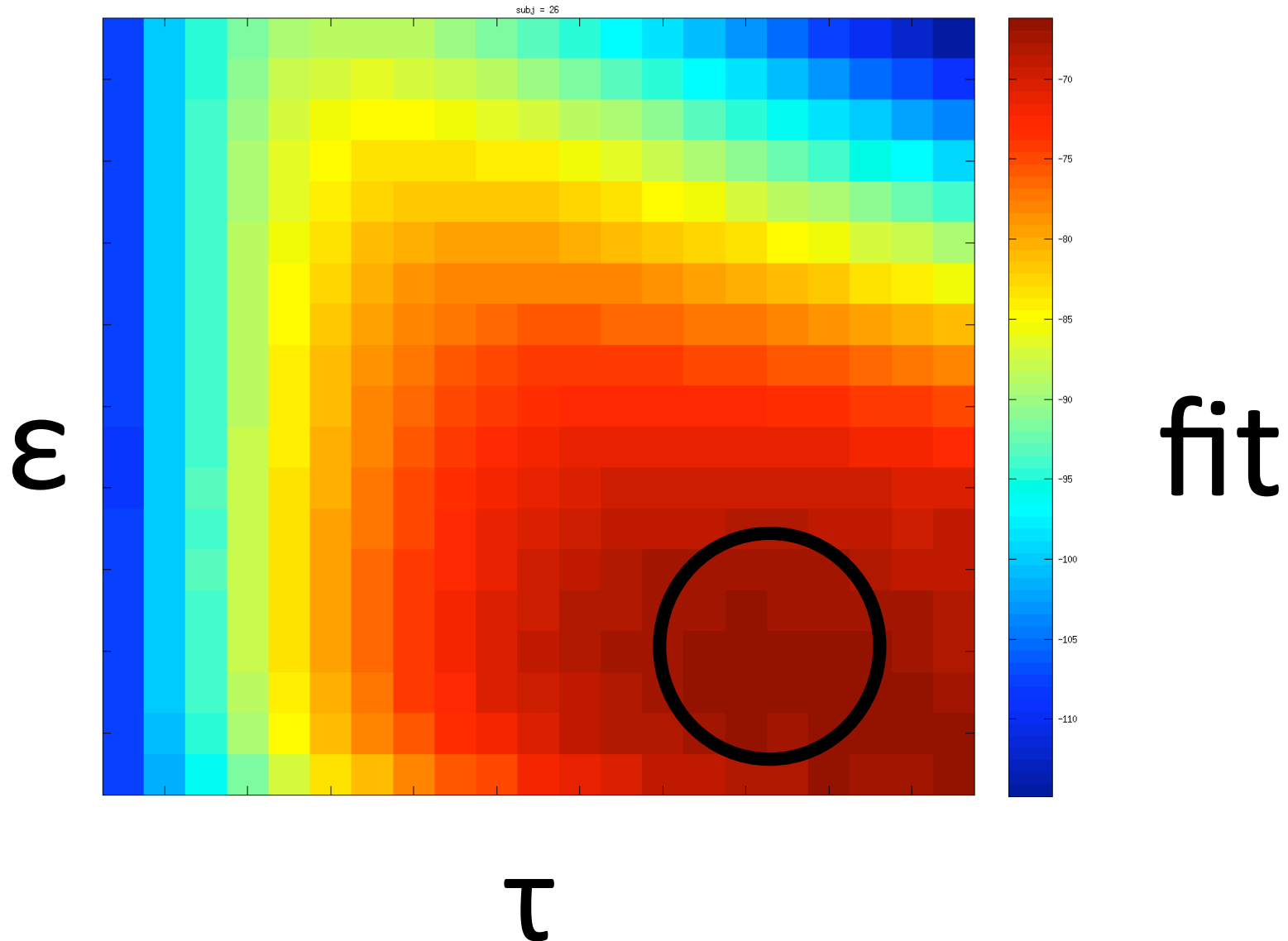
Action selection: Probability of choosing image  $k$  from  $\{k, m\}$ :

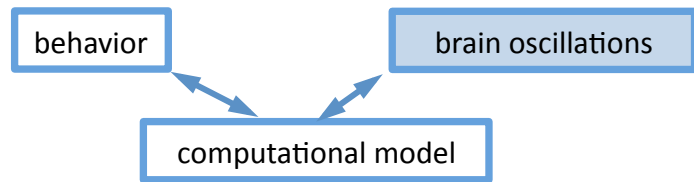
$$p_k(t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\tau(Q_k(t) - Q_m(t))}}$$

Exploration  
vs.  
exploitation

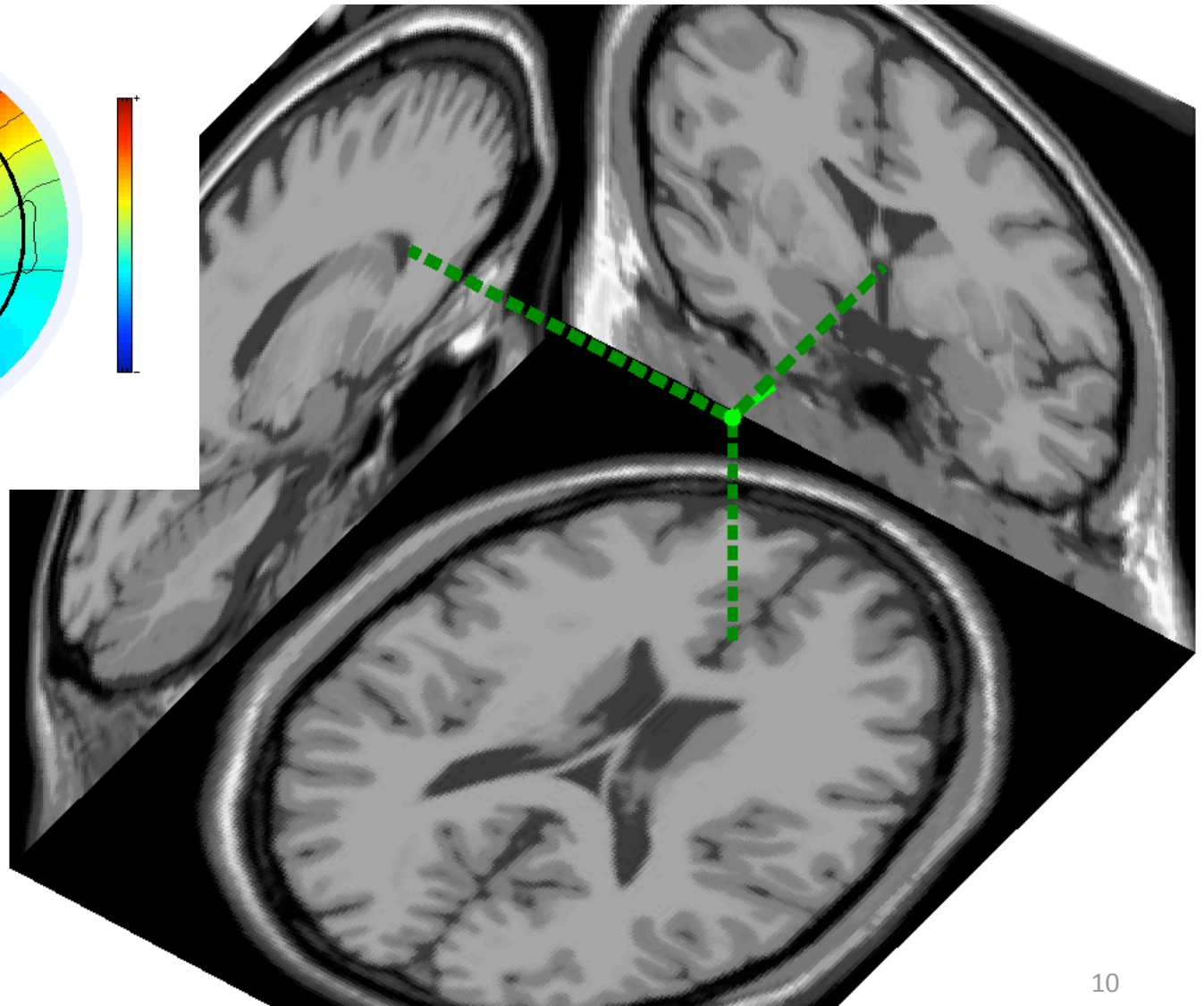
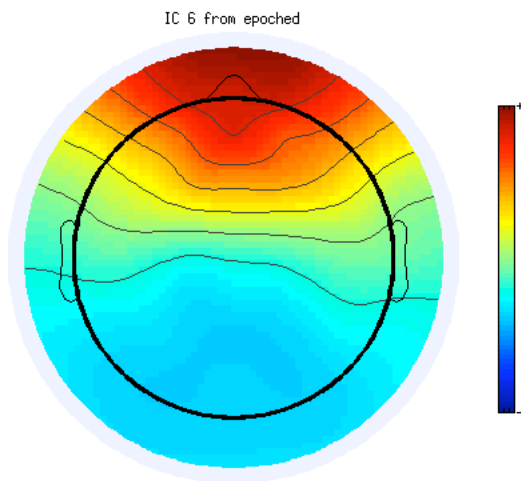


# Best model fit: varies by subject

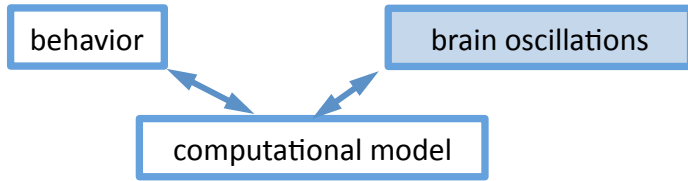




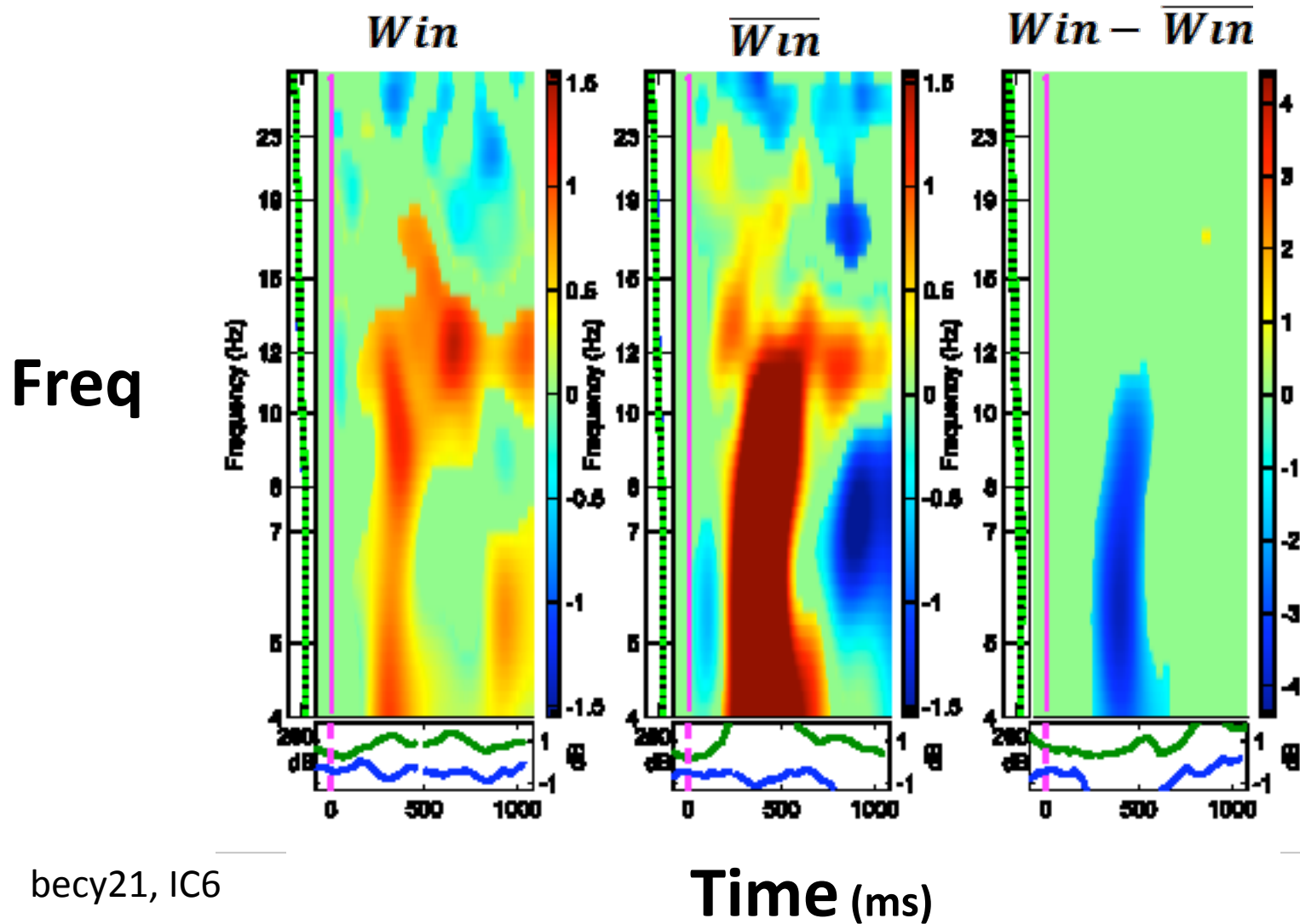
**ICA → e.g. dipole in vmPFC**



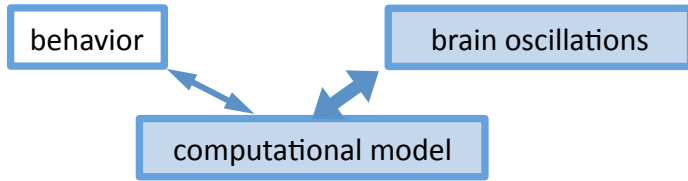
becy21, IC6



# Spectral dynamics & PE sign



# Spectral dynamics correlated with PE

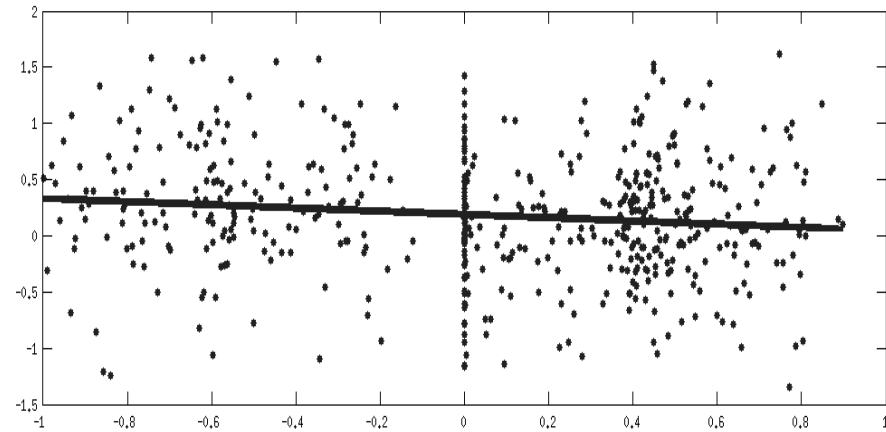


**alpha...**

slope = -0.14

$R^2 = 0.016$

$p = 0.004$

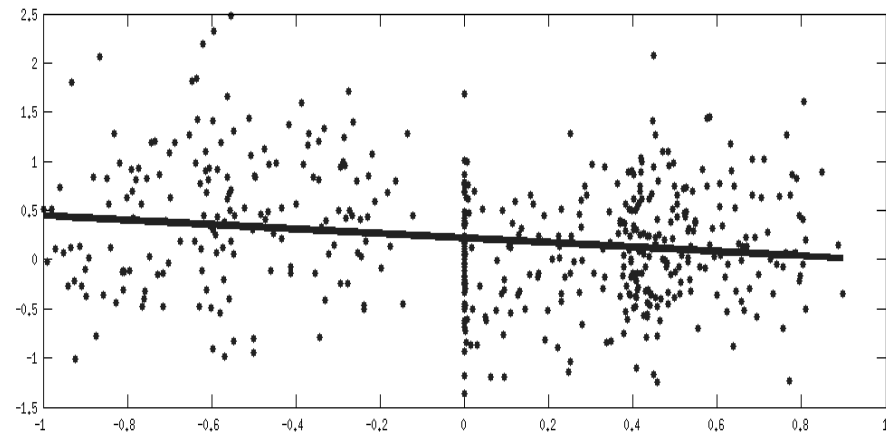


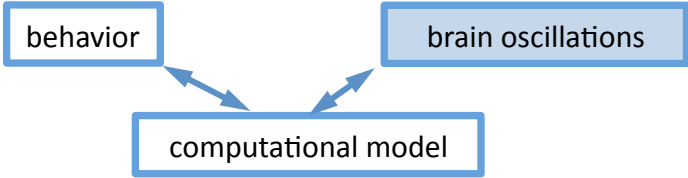
**theta...**

slope = -0.23

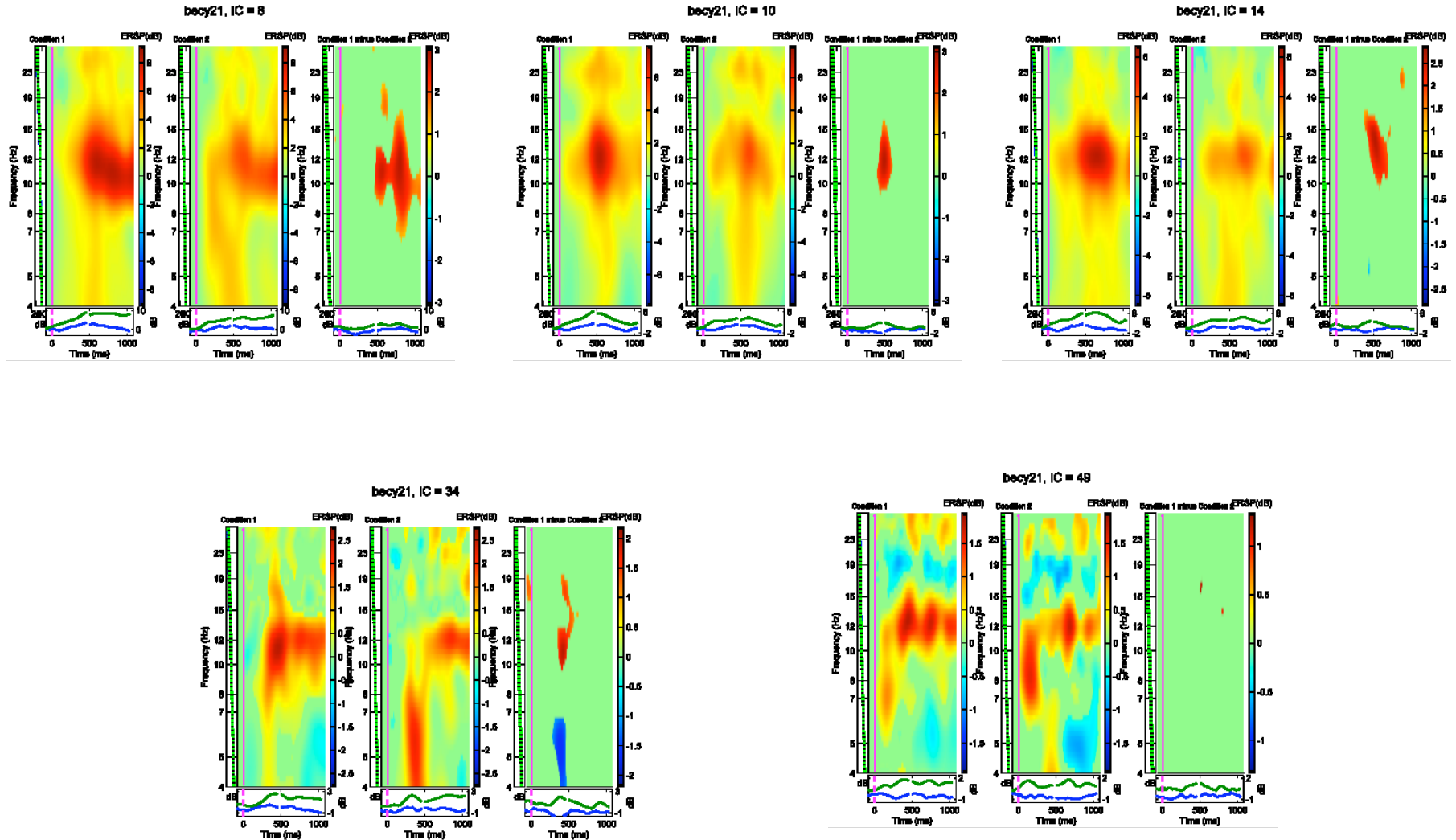
$R^2 = 0.031$

$p = 0.00006$





# What about PPC?





# Summary

- Rewarded learning is associated with intra-trial temporal dynamics in macroscopic brain oscillations.
  - putatively driven by PE
  - frontal sources: relative desync in theta and alpha
- Next steps:
  - Spatial selectivity ? (e.g. parietal sources)
  - what is the influence of electrophysiological neuromodulation (e.g. deep brain stimulation) ?

## Contributors:

### UCSD

INC: Howard Poizner, Dan Lotz, Alice Ahn, Chris Elliott

SCCN: Scott Makeig, Klaus Gramann, Julie Onton, Ying Wu, Andrey Vankov

MIL: Eric Halgren

Salk: Terry Sejnowski, Jason McInerney

Our Participants !