



# ***Representational similarity analysis of neuroimaging and electrophysiology data: Strengths, outstanding issues and potential***

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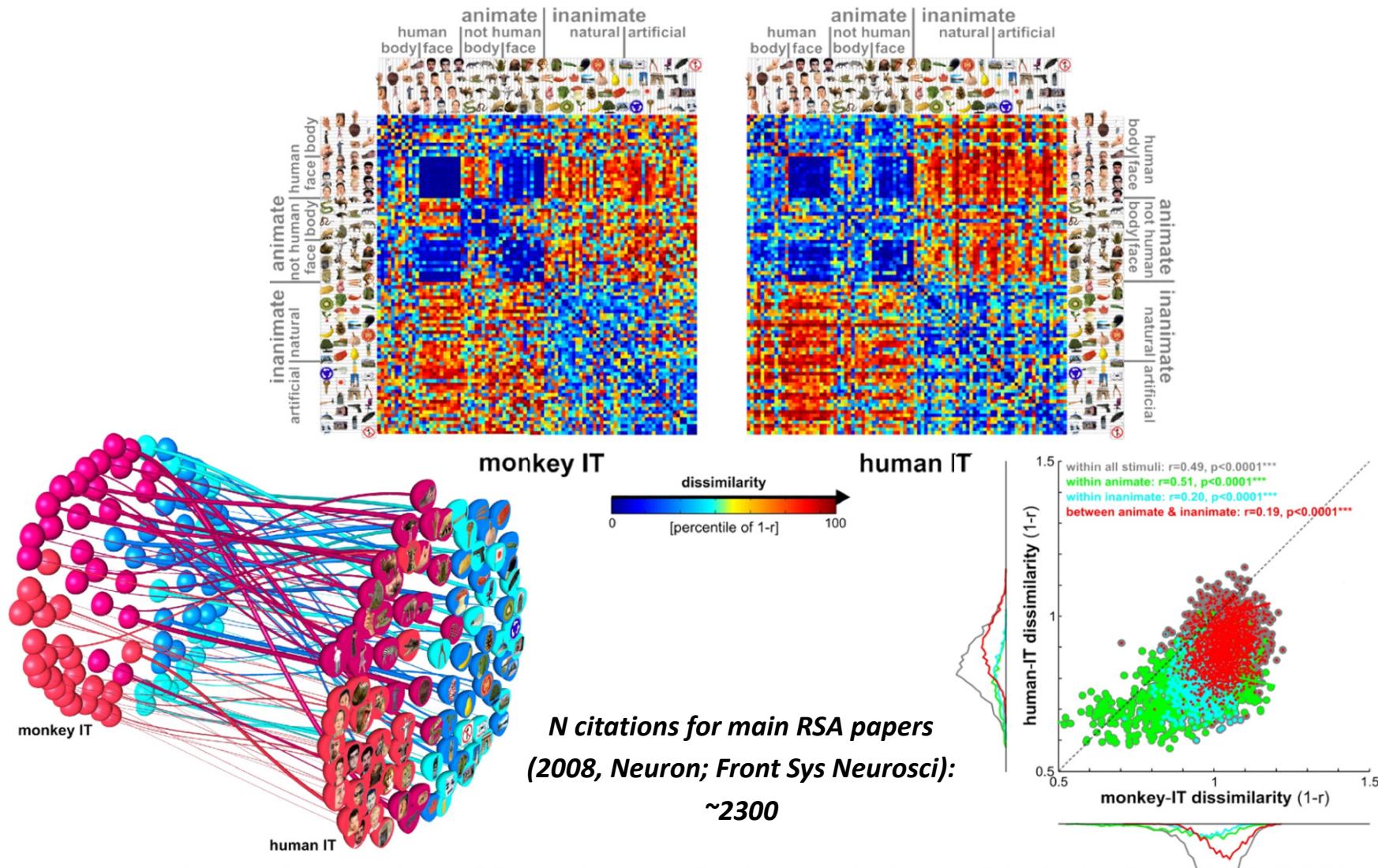
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21/11/2019 – MVPA workshop @ CERIMED

# Matching Categorical Object Representations in Inferior Temporal Cortex of Man and Monkey

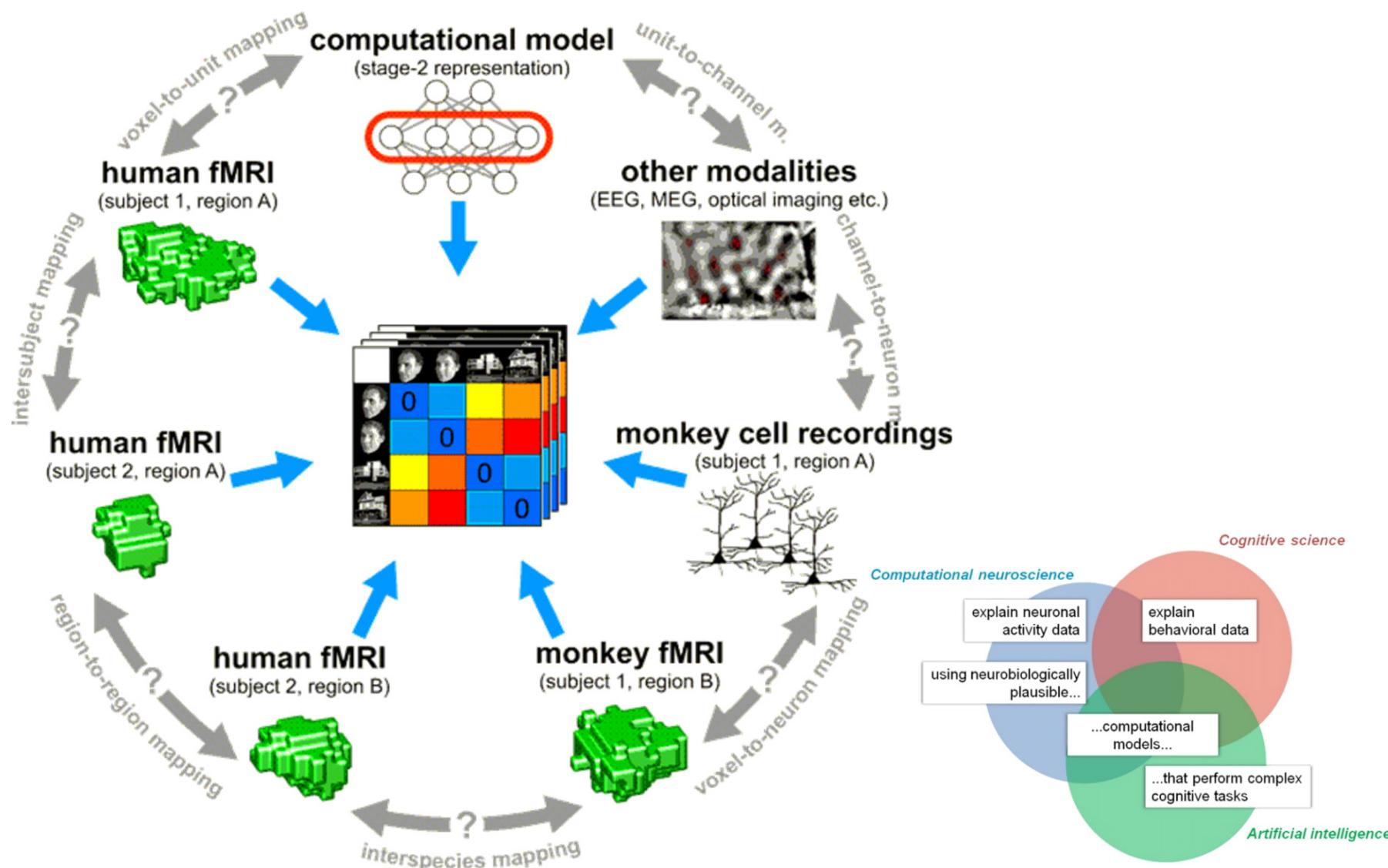
Nikolaus Kriegeskorte,<sup>1,\*</sup> Marieke Mur,<sup>1,2</sup> Douglas A. Ruff,<sup>1</sup> Roozbeh Kiani,<sup>3</sup> Jerzy Bodurka,<sup>1,4</sup> Hossein Esteky,<sup>5,6</sup> Keiji Tanaka,<sup>7</sup> and Peter A. Bandettini<sup>1,4</sup>



# Representational similarity analysis

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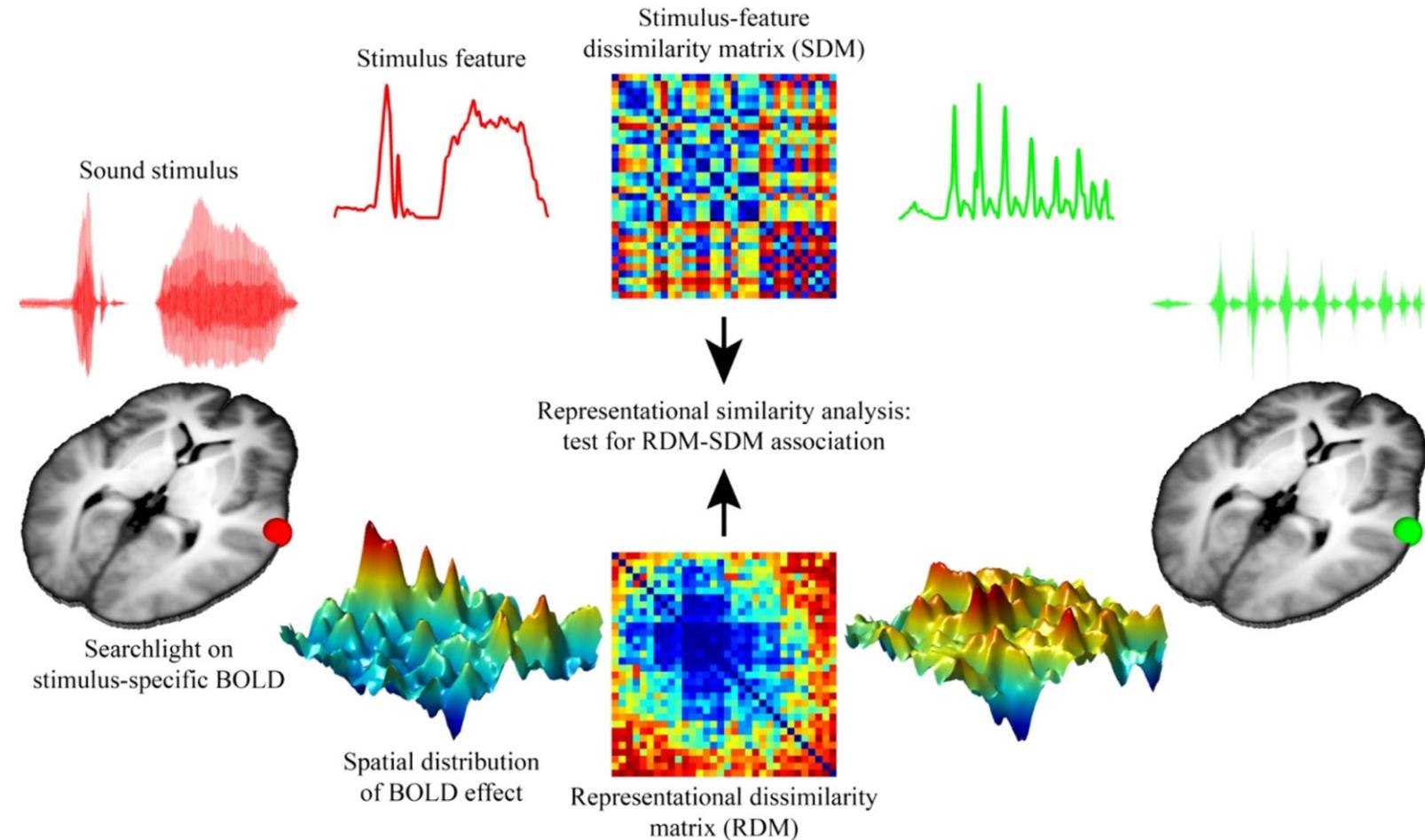
Kriegeskorte et al. (2008, *Front Sys Neurosci*)



Douglas and Kriegeskorte (2018, *Nat Neurosci*)

# The mechanics of RSA

Giordano et al. (2013, Cereb Cortex)  
Steps 1.-4.: I Charest



1. Estimate  
the patterns  
(e.g., BOLD response)

2. Select the  
voxels (or sensors  
or time points)

3. Estimate  
the distance

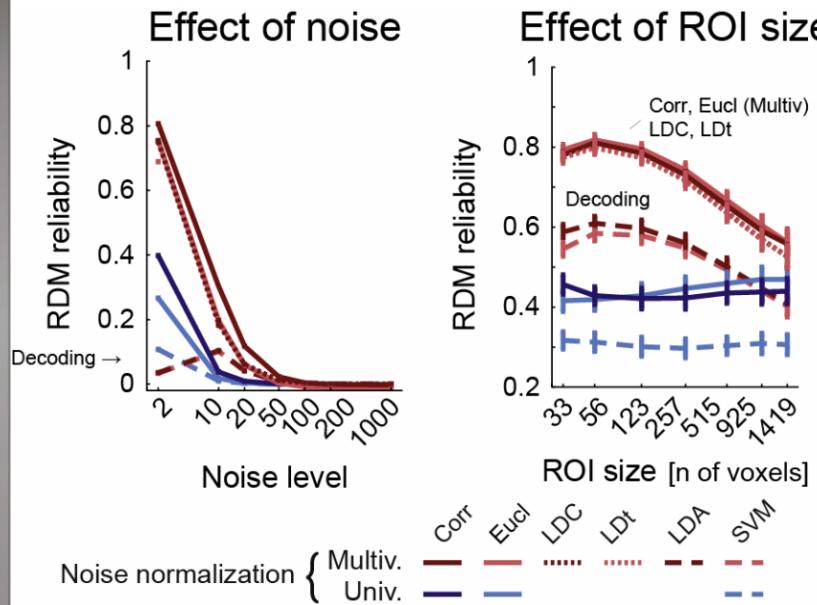
4. Test the  
representational  
model

# RSA vs. decoding vs. encoding

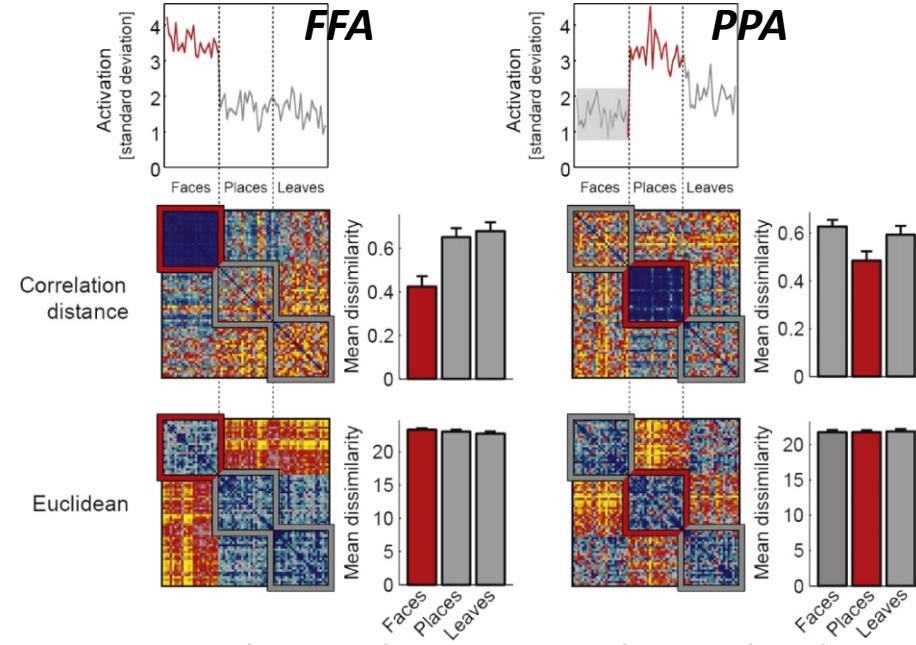
1. *More reliable than decoding: confusions are quantized and range-constrained (next slide);*
  
2. *More computationally efficient than encoding  
(regularization; Diedrichsen and Kriegeskorte, 2017, Plos Comp Bio);*

# Which distance?

Walther et al. (2016, *NeuroImage*)



*Decoding confusions are less reliable and more vulnerable to noise*



*Correlation distance can be misleading with strong regional activation differences!*

## Current recommendations:

1. **Crossnobis**: cross-validated Euclidean with **multivariate noise normalization**  
(Walther et al., 2016, *NeuroImage*)
2. **Correlation with clean data** (*GLMdenoise*) and **univariate noise normalization**  
(Charest, Kay and Kriegeskorte, 2018, *NeuroImage*).

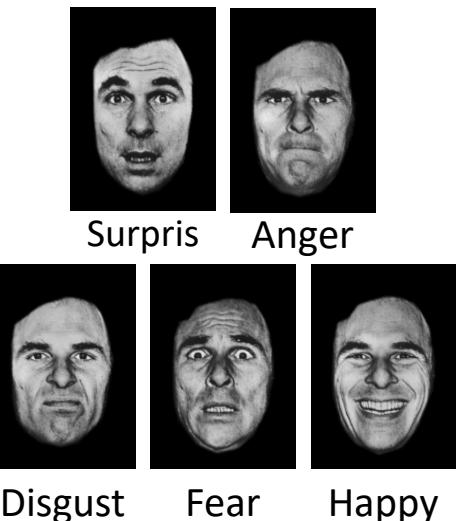
# Remainder of talk

1. *Testing otherwise complex hypotheses (high-dimensional models);*
2. *Handling correlated models with variance partitioning;*
3. *Fusion of multimodal data;*
4. *RSA for interindividual differences;*
5. *RSA for directed connectivity;*
6. *Which distance?*
7. *Visualization tips and tricks;*
8. *Python packages.*

# *Representational dynamics of perceived voice emotions unfolds categories into dimensions*

*BL Giordano, C Whiting , N Kriegeskorte, SA Kotz, J Gross\*, P Belin\**    \*co-senior  
*BiorXiv (2018): <https://goo.gl/ChbTdN>*

*Categories*



*Ekman & Friesen (1978)*

*Dimensions*

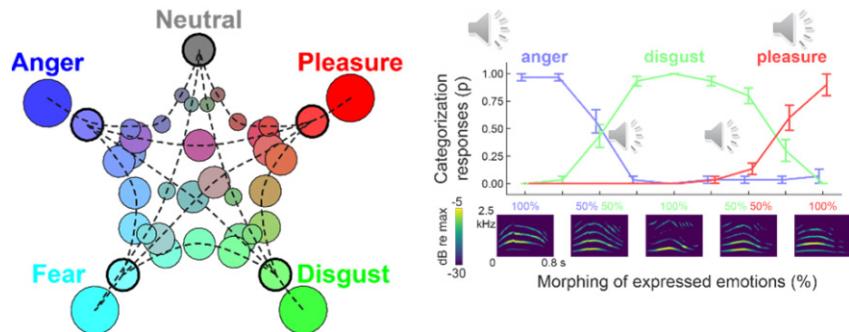


*Russell (1980)*

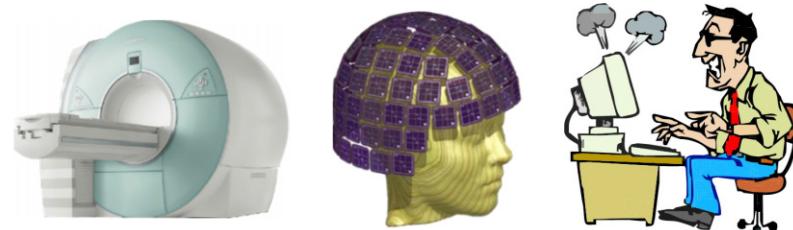
# Methods

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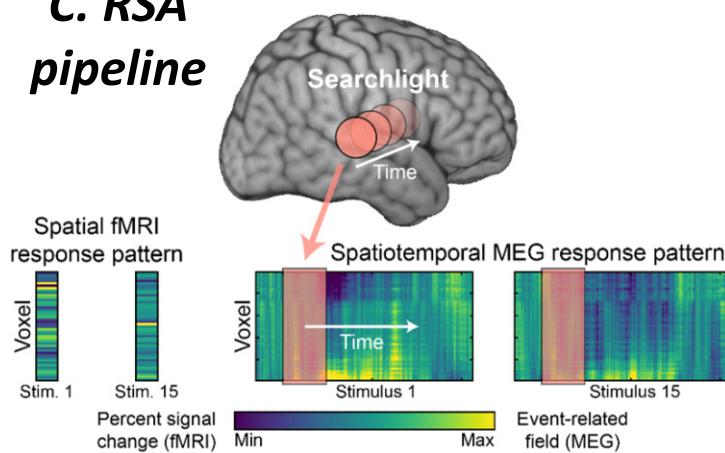
## A. Stimuli



## B. Data: fMRI, MEG, behavior

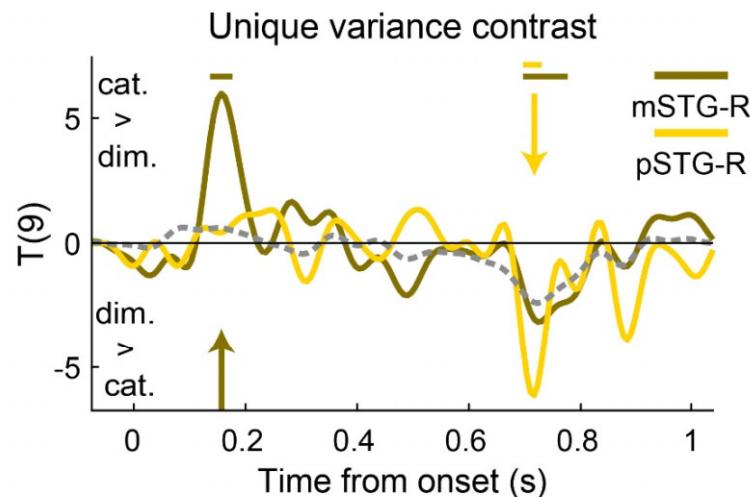
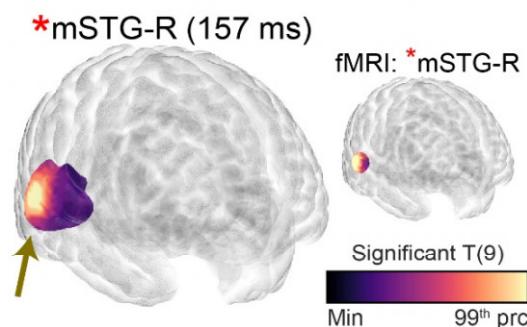


## C. RSA pipeline

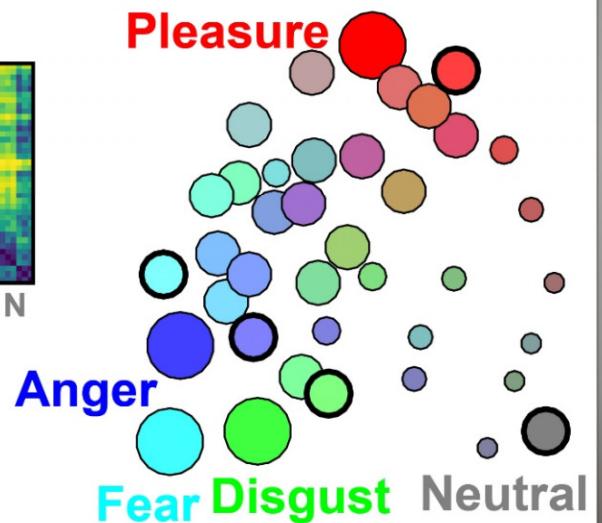
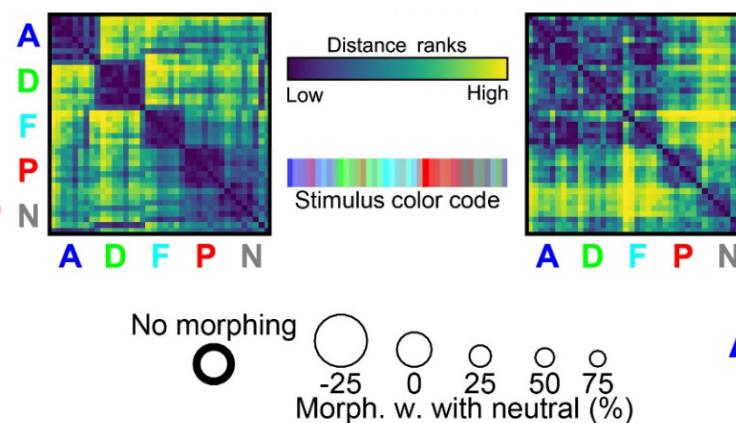
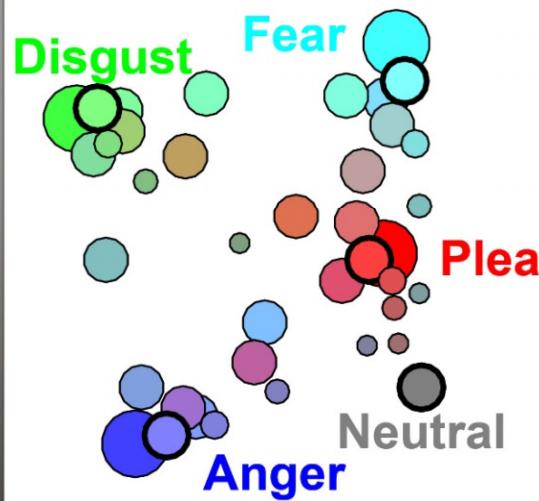
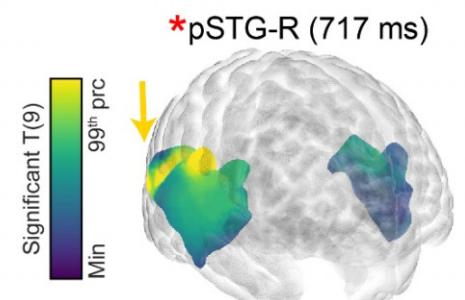


# Main results

## Categories dominance



## Dimensions dominance

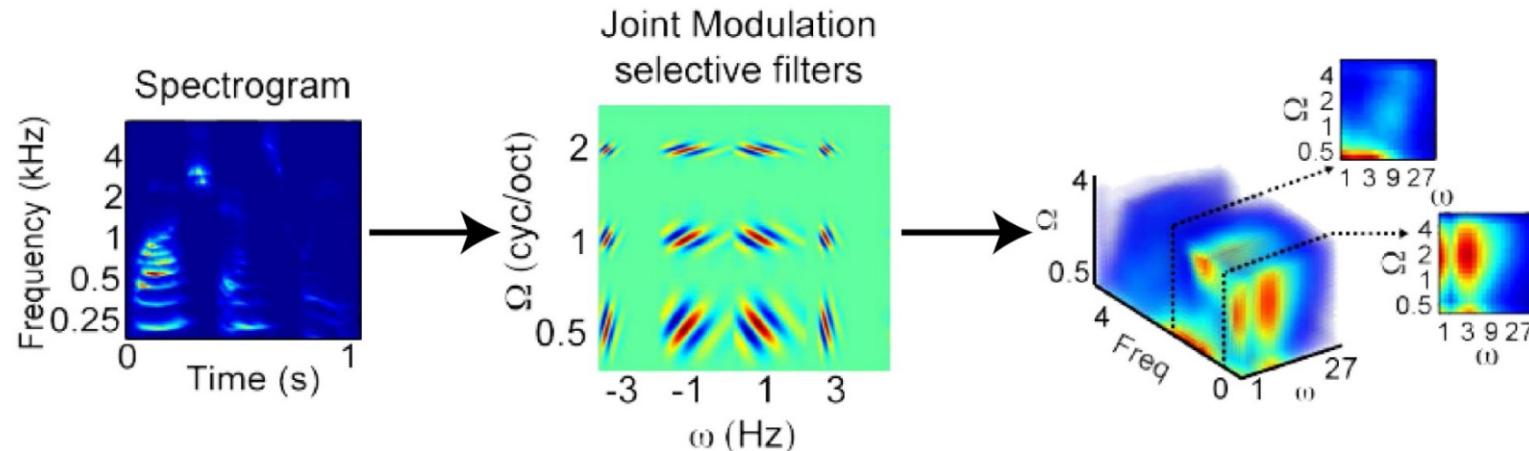


# Acoustics 🤝 confound 🤝

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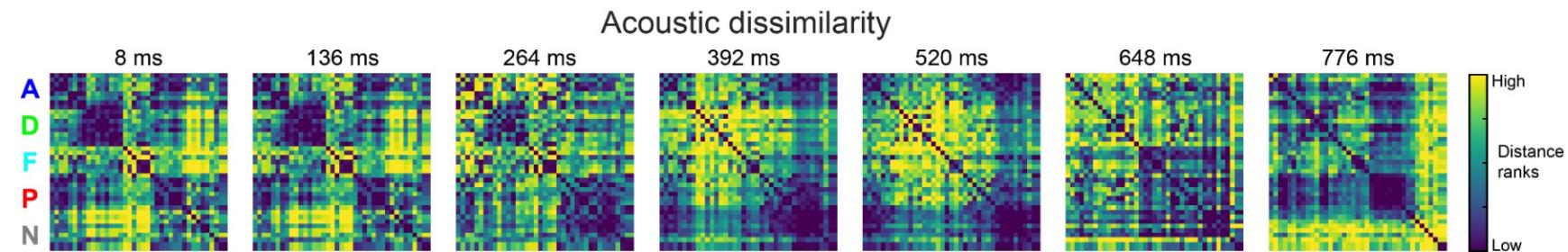
## Modulation Transfer Function

Chi et al. (2005; Jasa; Santoro et al. 2014)

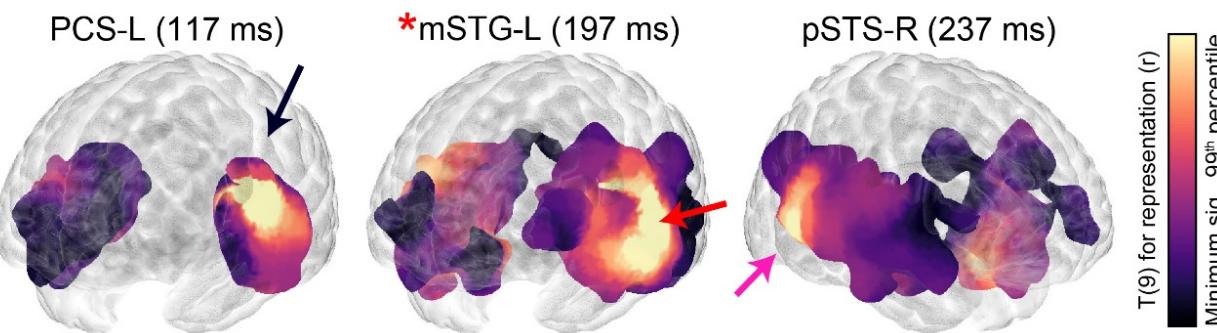
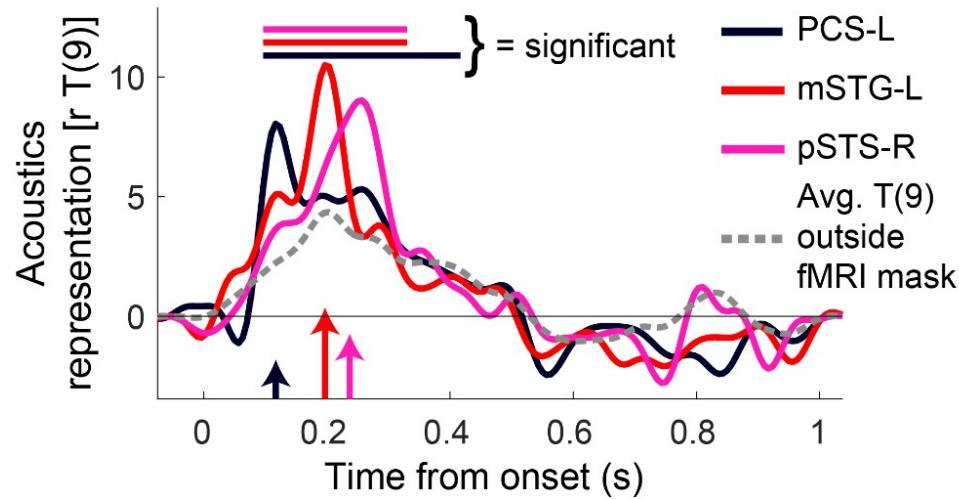


*Highly dimensional complex-number representation:*

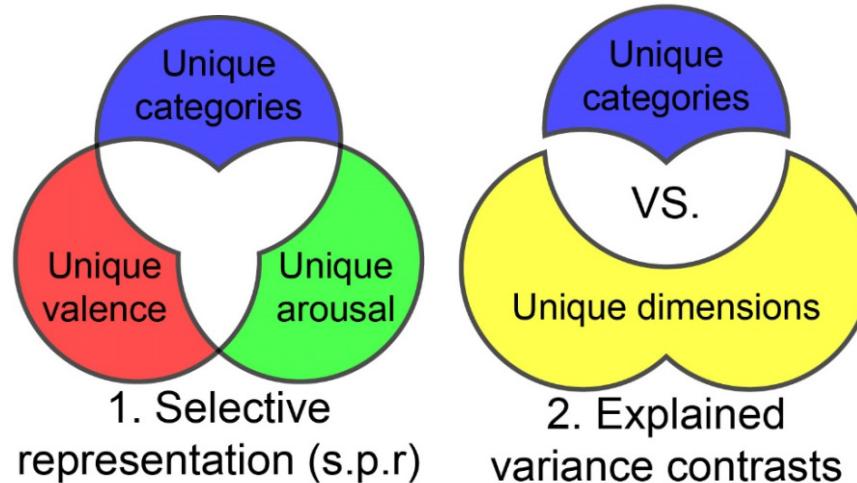
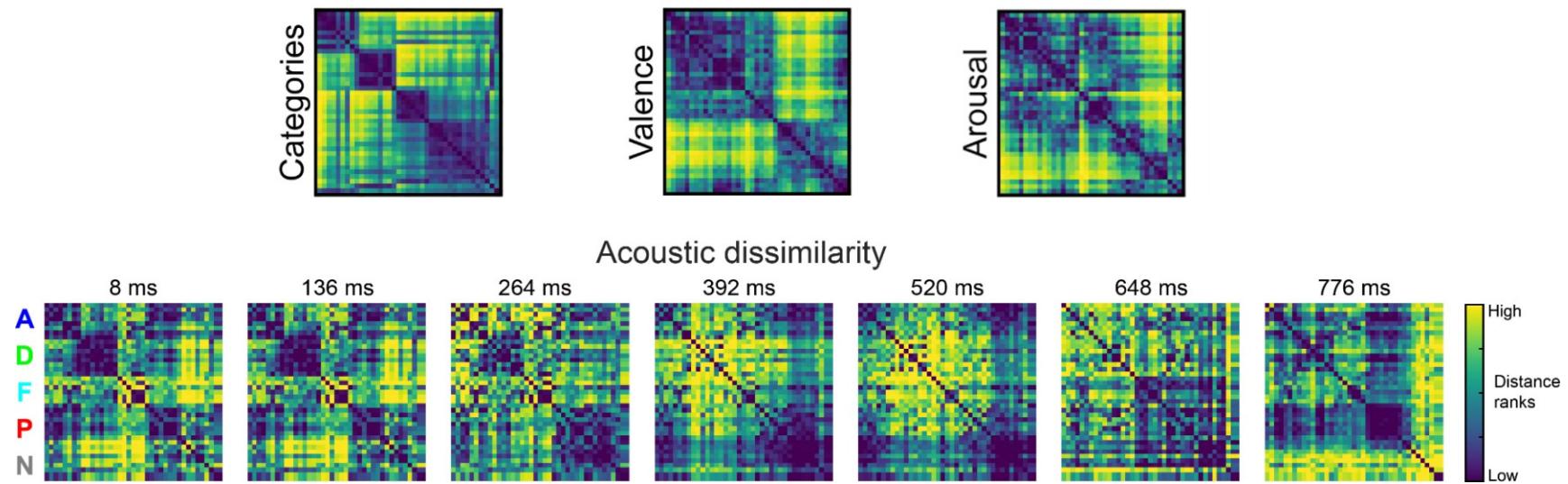
1. frequency; 2. rate (temp. mod.); 3. scale (spectr. mod.); 4. direction (up/down); 5. time.



# Acoustics representation

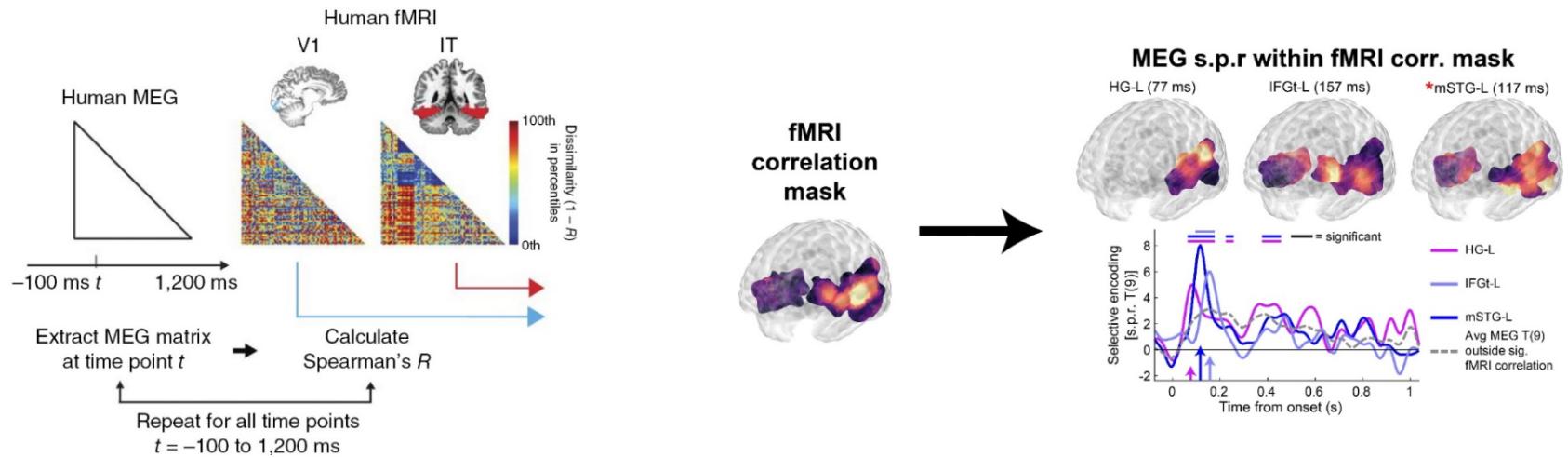


# Variance partitioning



*Equivalent (quick) methods:  
closed form solutions  
or  
regression residuals.*

# RSA fusion of multimodal imaging data

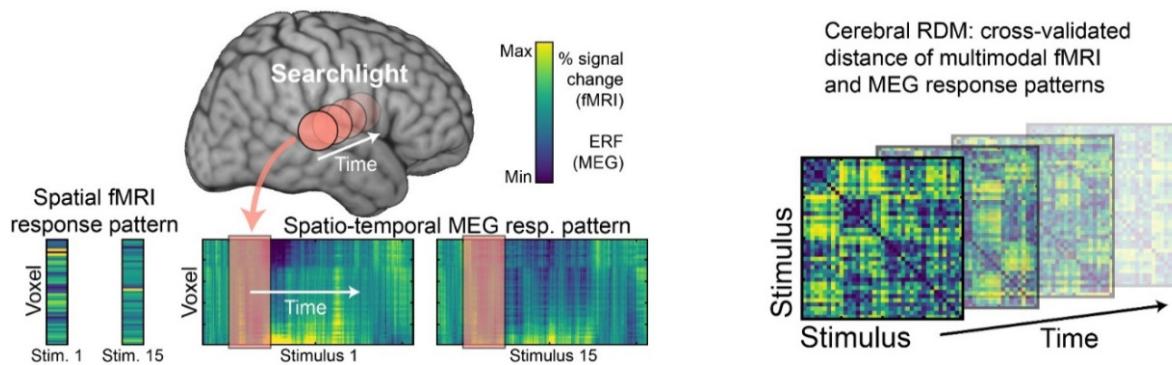


- ✓ **MEG in sensor space (suboptimal)**
- ✓ **No MEG tests of representation**

Cichy et al. (2014, Nat Neurosci)

- ✓ **Uses spatial information in MEG**
- ✓ **Tests for MEG representation**

Giordano et al. (2018, BioRxiv)

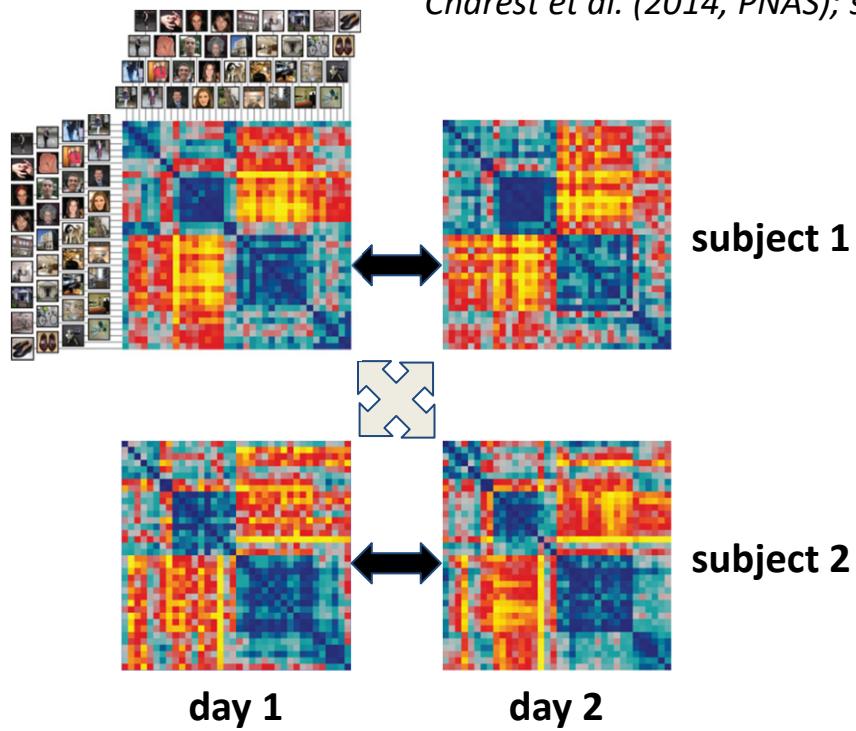


**RDM at simultaneous high spatial and temporal resolution (Holy Grail)**

Giordano et al. (work in progress)

# Interindividual representational differences

Charest et al. (2014, PNAS); slide courtesy of I Charest

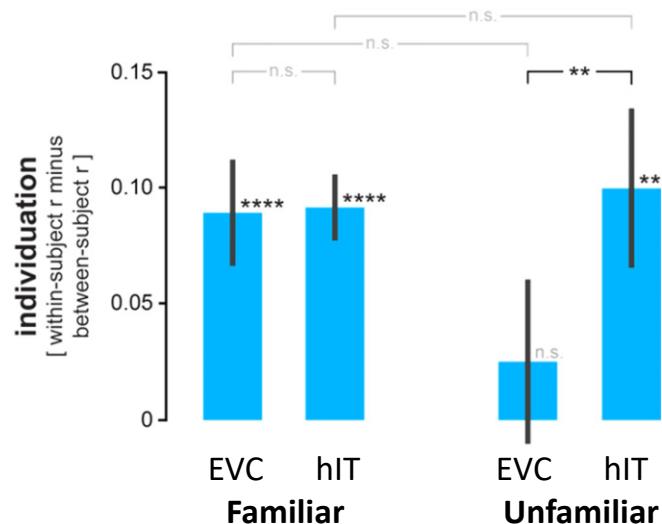
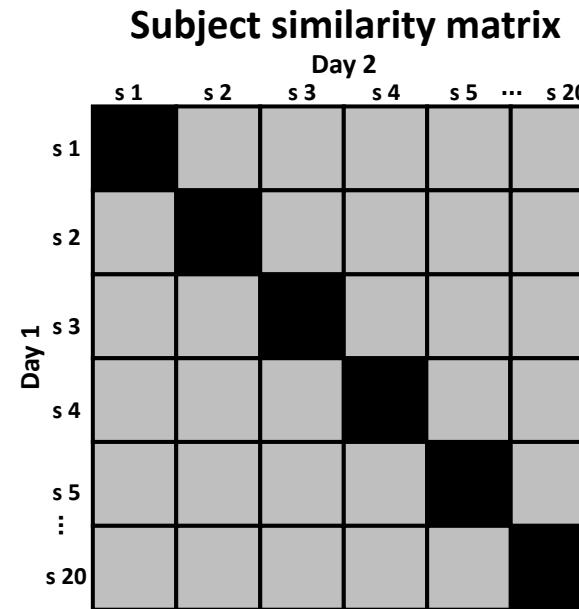


correlation

↔ within-subject (ws)

↔ between-subject (bs)

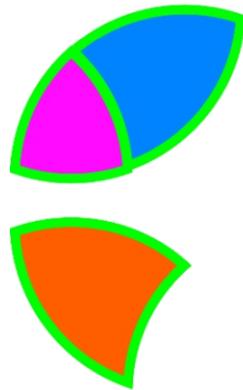
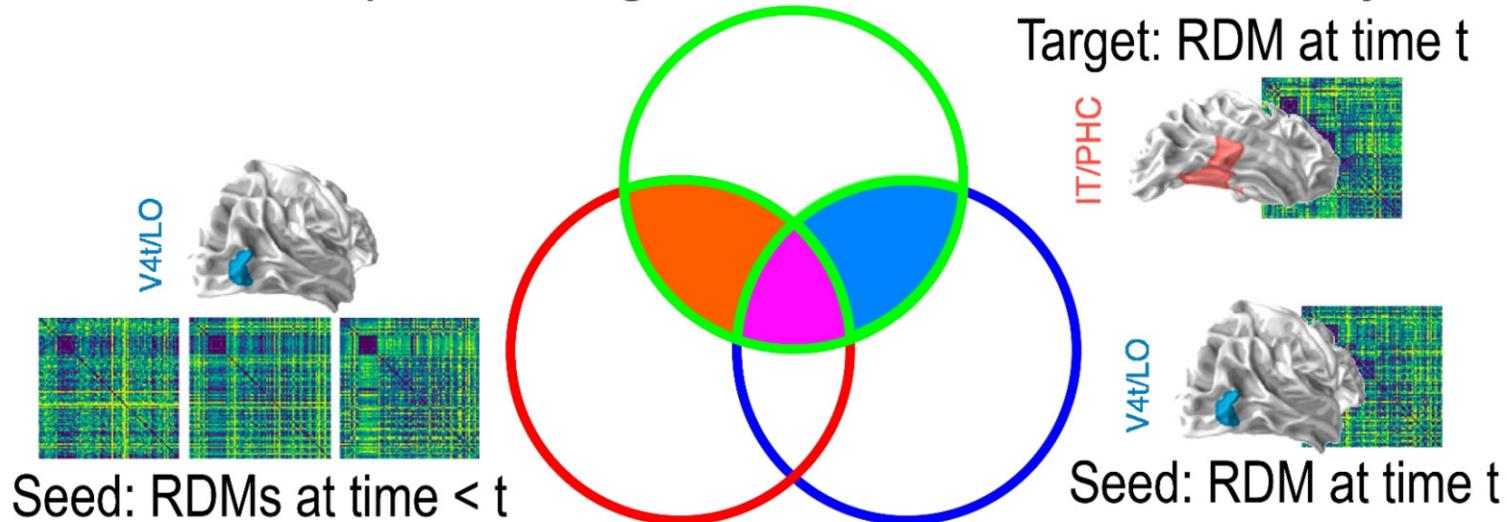
individuation index ( ws - bs )



# Directed RSA connectivity (“Granger”)

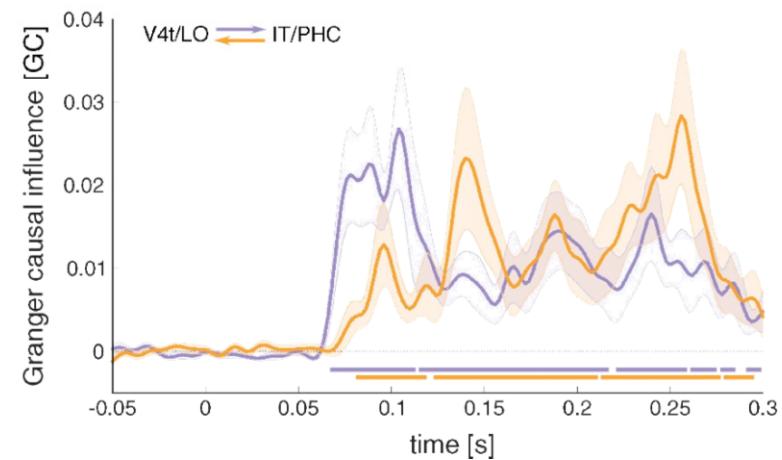
Kietzmann et al. (2019, PNAS)

Variance partitioning in directed RSA connectivity



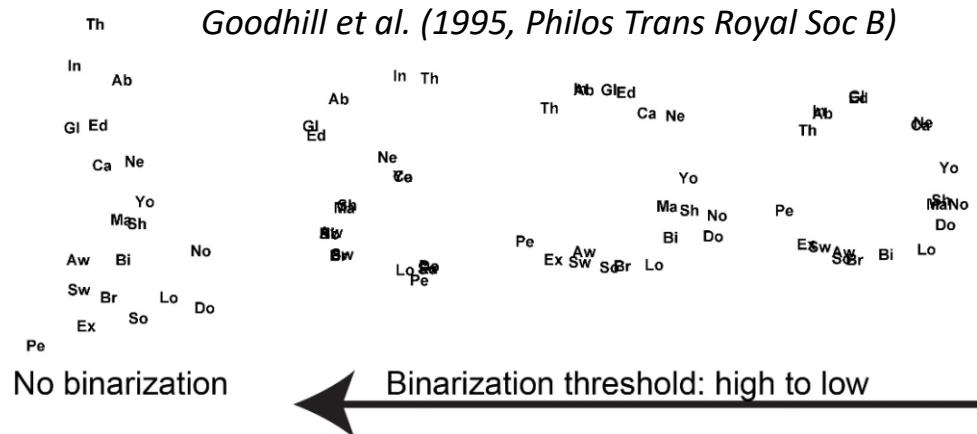
Seed/target correlation  
at time t

“Granger” RSA

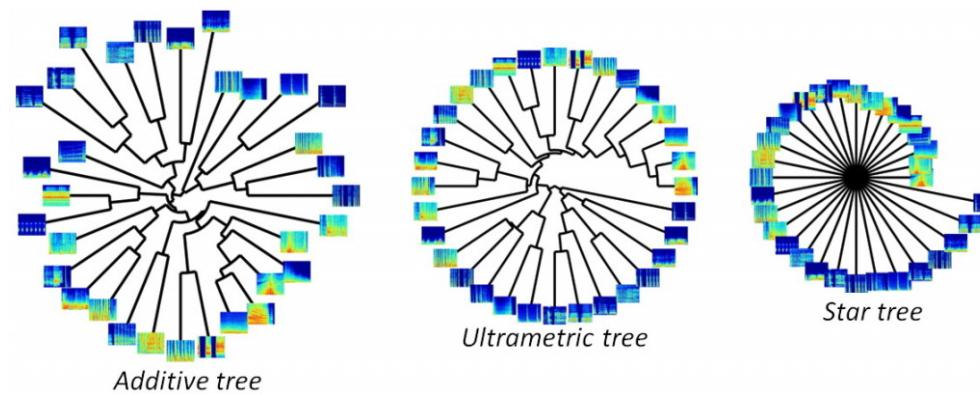


# Visualization: the annular bias et al.

Key to cities	
Ab:	Aberdeen
Aw:	Aberystwyth
Bi:	Birmingham
Br:	Bristol
Ca:	Carlisle
Do:	Dover
Ed:	Edinburgh
Lx:	Exeter
Gl:	Glasgow
In:	Inverness
Lo:	London
Ma:	Manchester
Ne:	Newcastle
No:	Norwich
Pc:	Penzance
Sh:	Sheffield
So:	Southampton
Sw:	Swansea
Th:	Thurso
Yo:	York



1. Be wary of circular solutions;
2. Don't average distances: Euclidean bias (Ashby et al., 1994, *Psychol Sci*)...  
... use INDSCAL instead (e.g., SMACOF, de Leeuw and Mair, 2009, *Stat Softw*);



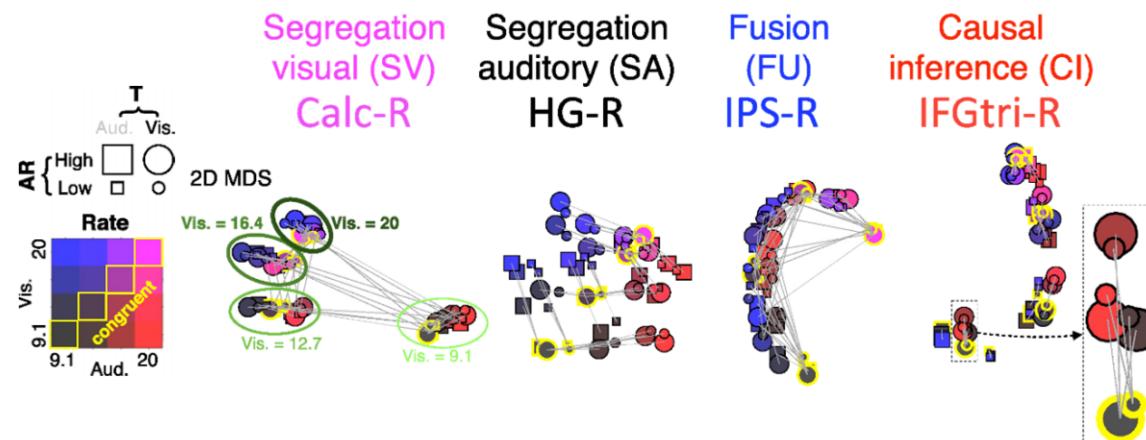
3. Consider other distance models: trees fit clustered data better (Giordano et al., 2011, *Multivariate Behav Res*; appendix: taxonomy of models).

# Visualizing model-diagnostic representations

- ✓ Brain distances can be noisy → MDS suffers.
- ✓ Solution: cross-validated extraction of model-RDM variance in brain RDM → MDS.

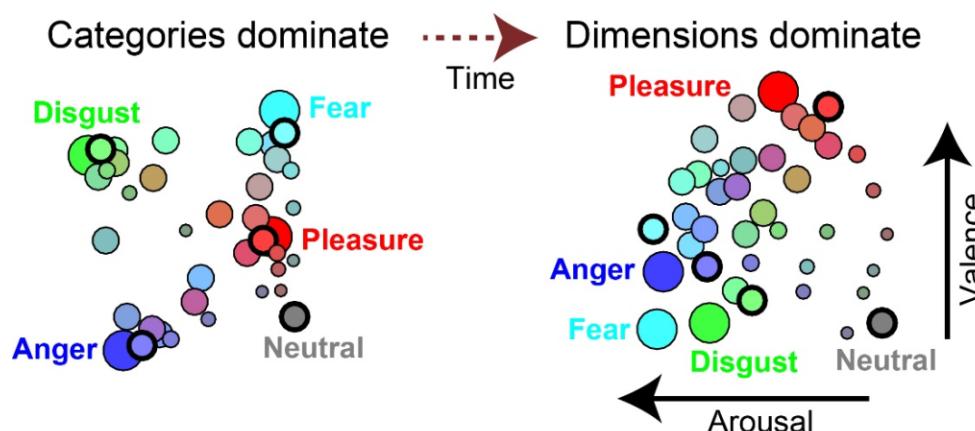
*Computational models  
of audiovisual  
integration*

Cao et al. & Giordano\*,  
Kayser\* (2019, Neuron)



*Behavioral measures  
of perceived emotions  
and dissimilarity*

Giordano et al. (2018, BioRxiv)



# *Python tools (under development)*

 Charestlab / pySearchlight

 Code

 Issues 1

 Pull requests 1

python tool for searchlight mapping

 rsagroup / pyrsa

 Code

 Issues 13

 Pull requests 4

 Actions

Python library for Representational Similarity Analysis



*Merci!*