

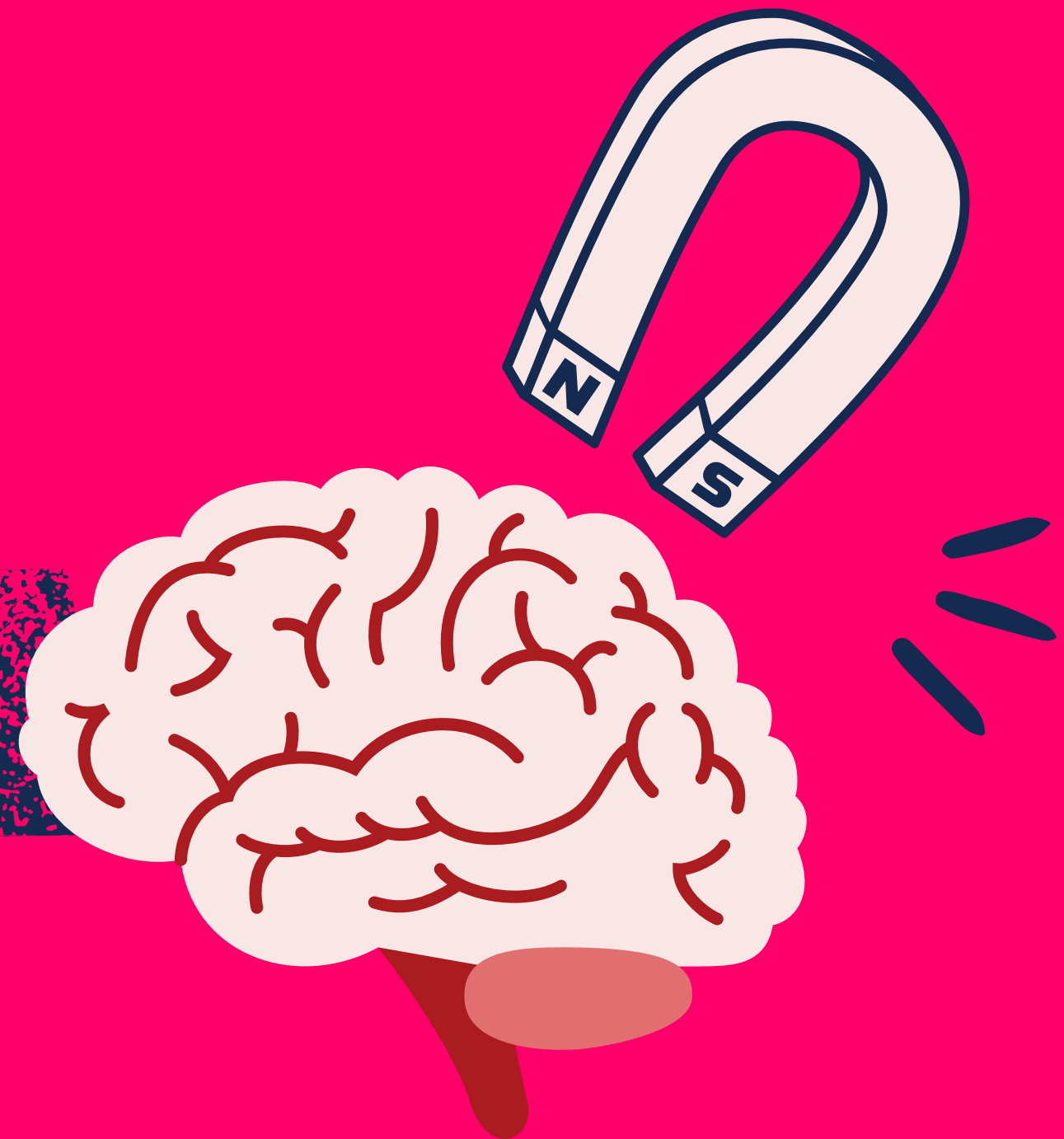
Resting or restless?

Controlling for baseline muscle activity

Dr Roisin McMackin,
TMS MultiLab July Meeting



MCMACKIN LAB
NEUROPHYSIOLOGY RESEARCH



Why does it matter?

Replications/Inconsistencies

Multicenter clinical trials/treatment centers/research studies

Valid biomarkers

Correct interpretations

Easier/more feasible protocols





Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Brain Stimulation

journal homepage: www.brainstimjrnl.com



The Resting Motor Threshold – Restless or Resting? A Repeated Threshold Hunting Technique to Track Dynamic Changes in Resting Motor Threshold

Anke Ninija Karabanov^{a,b,*,1}, Estelle Raffin^{a,c,d,1}, Hartwig Roman Siebner^{a,e}





Acceptable resting trials - Are we ever truly “resting”?

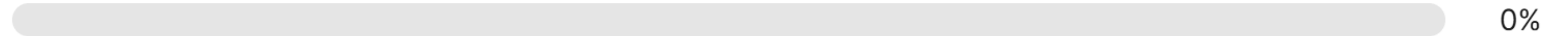


Go to www.slido.com

Code: 4050364

Which EMG criteria do you use to define "too much activity"?

Peaks exceeding specific amplitude



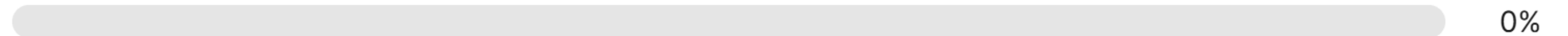
0%

Root mean squared amplitude



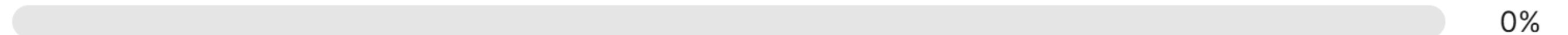
0%

Absolute amplitude



0%

Eyeballing



0%

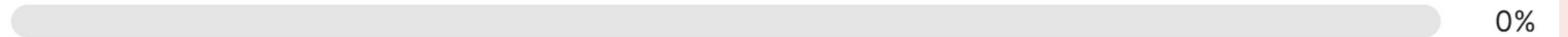


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Code: 4050364

If you use root mean squared amplitude, what is the maximum value at which you allow data to be included?

51-100uV



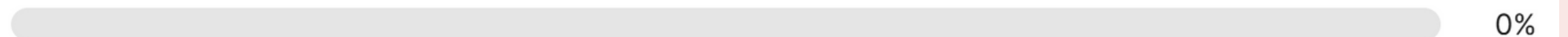
21-50uV



11-20uV



6-10uV



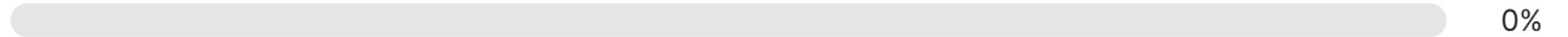
5uV



Go to www.slido.com
Code: 4050364

If you exclude data with baseline peaks above a given amplitude, what is the maximum value at which you allow data to be included?

51-100uV



21-50uV



11-20uV



6-10uV





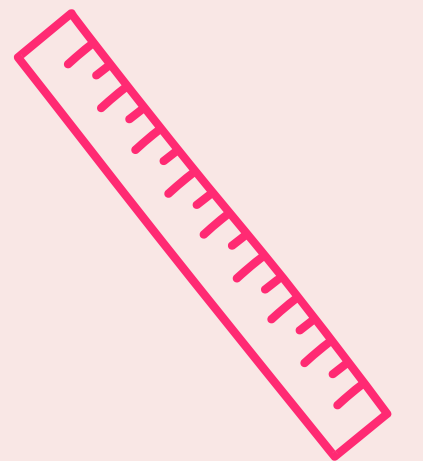
Our study on baseline EMG effects below the threshold (preprint available next week)



Retrospective

45 people, 1761 data points

GLM - Probability of getting an MEP with p2p
amplitude $\geq 50\mu\text{V}$





Our study on baseline EMG effects below the threshold (preprint available next week)

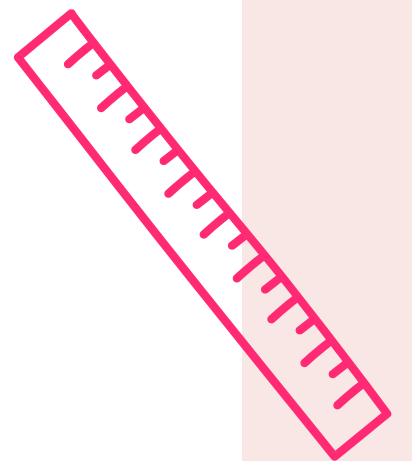
Retrospective

45 people, 1761 data points

GLM - Probability of getting an MEP with p2p amplitude $\geq 50\mu\text{V}$

Normalised stimulation intensity (%RMT) + Baseline RMS amplitude (μV)

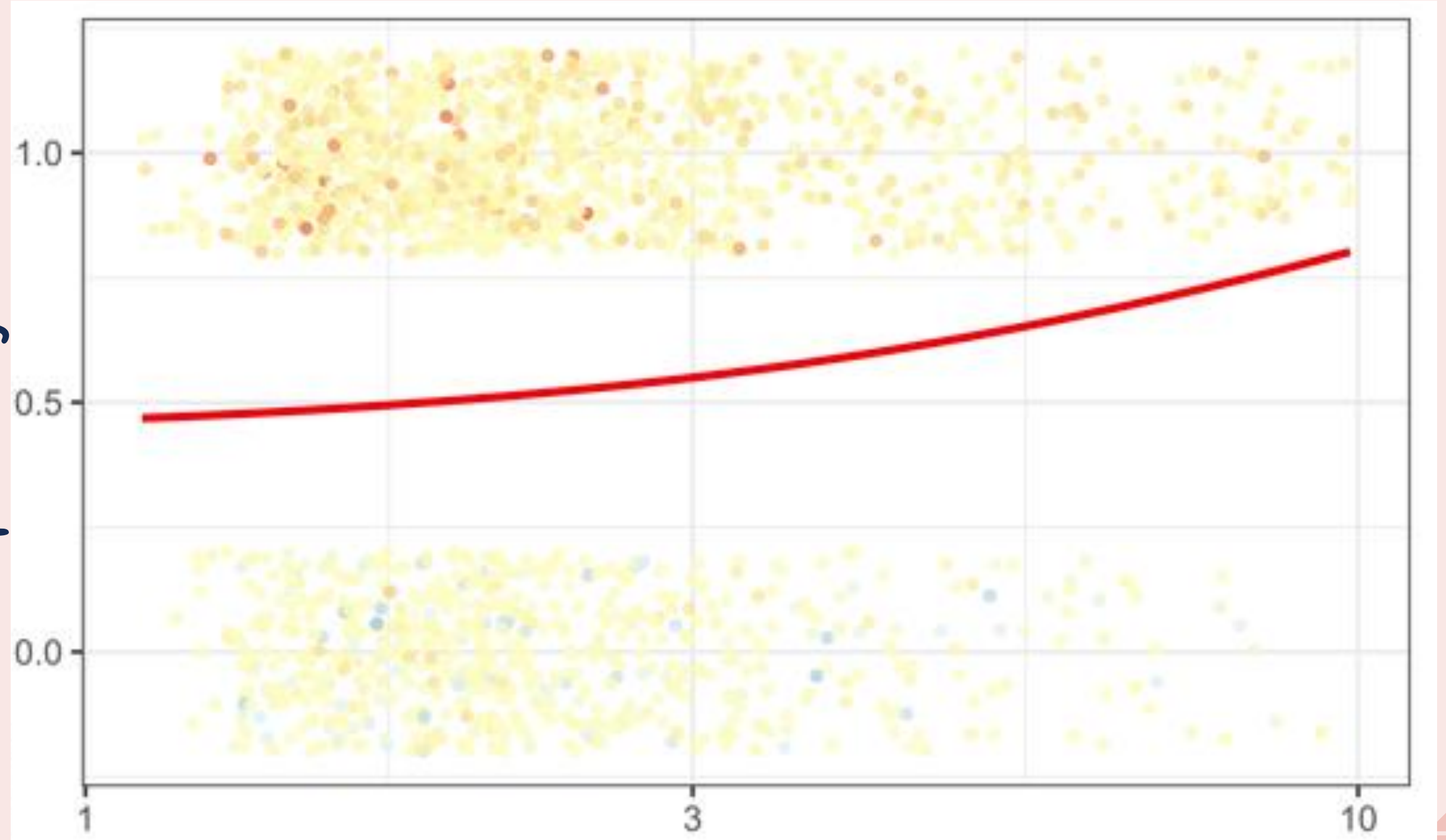
All data with RMS baseline amp $< 10\mu\text{V}$



$p=0.0004$



MEP probability

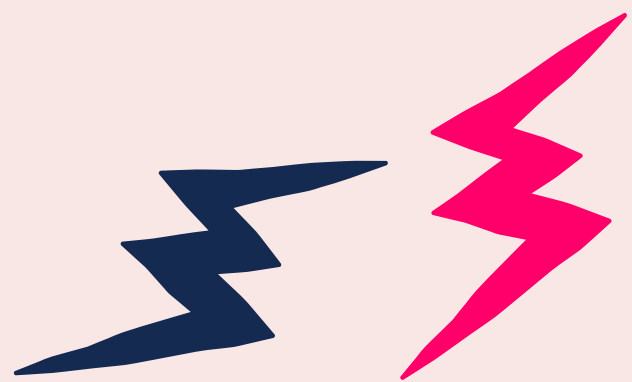


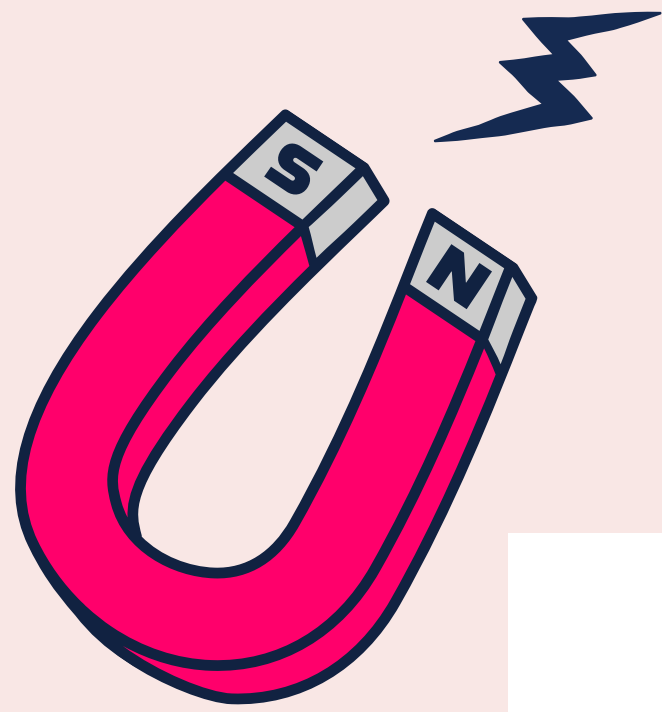
RMS baseline EMG amplitude
(μV)

Red line - Predicted $P(\text{MEP})$

Coloured points - individual trials, where MEP either occurred (top) or did not (bottom).

Normalised SI
0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0



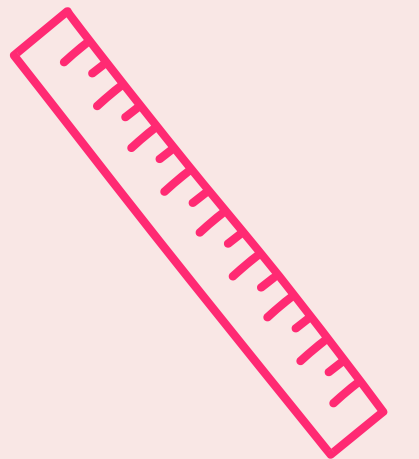


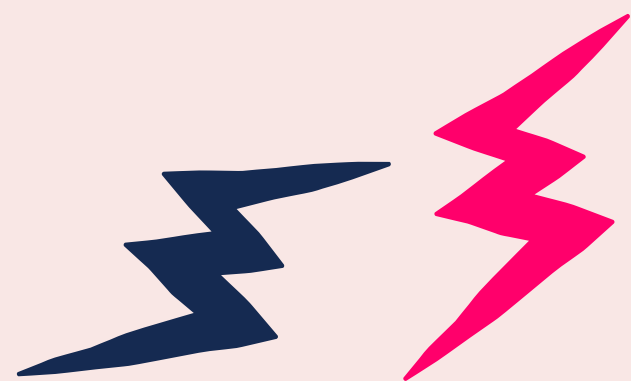
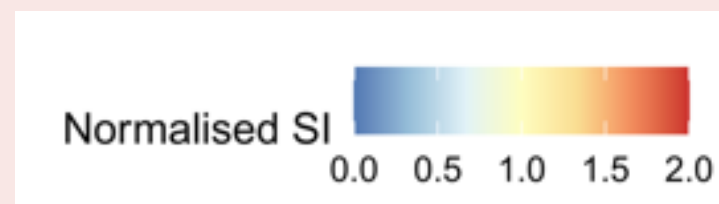
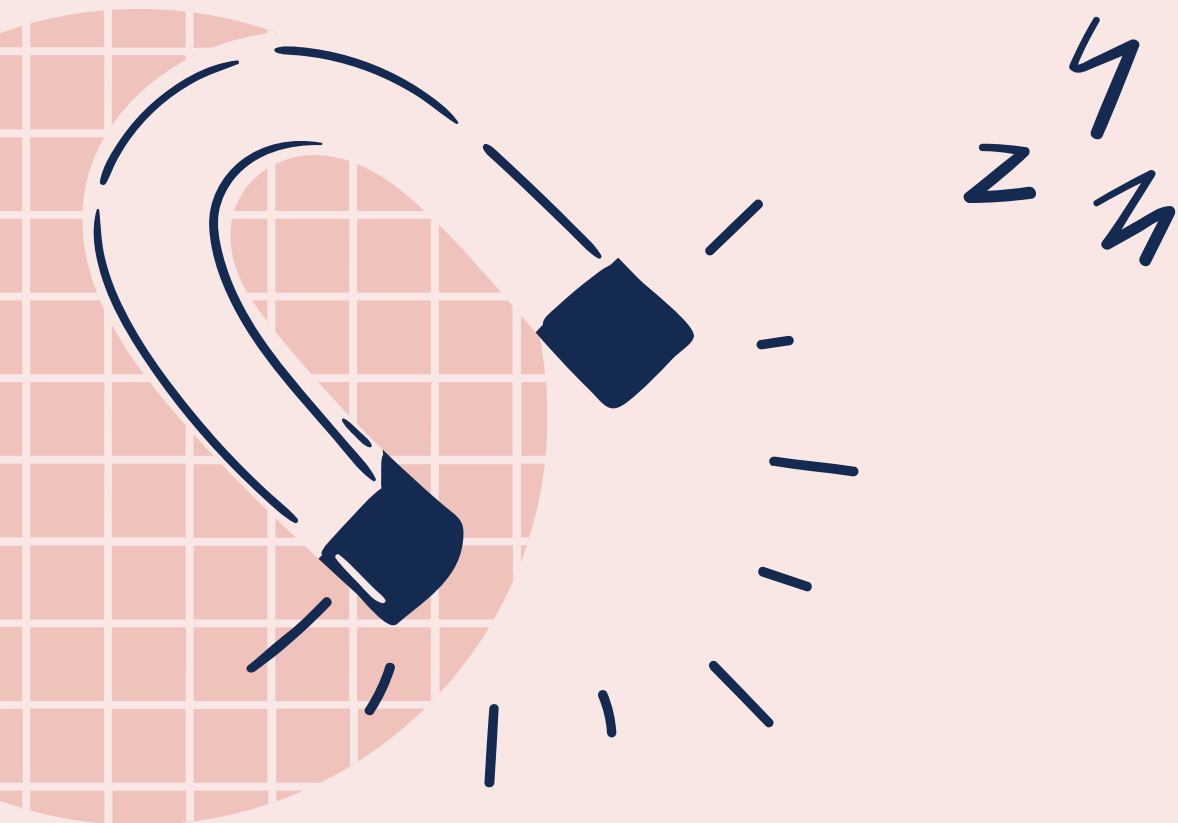
Our study on baseline EMG effects below the threshold (preprint available next week)

Retrospective

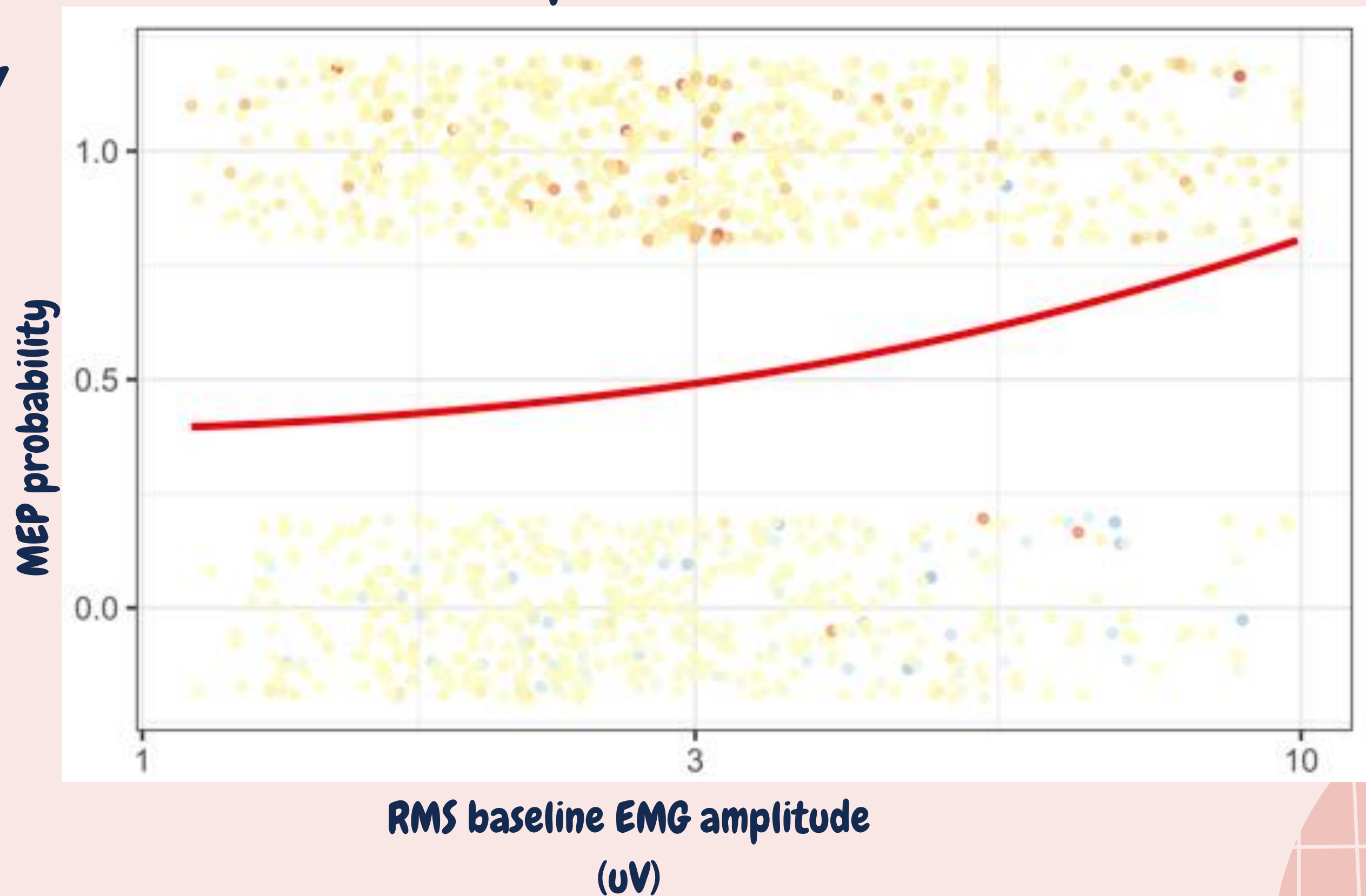
35 people, 1238 data points

GLM - Probability of getting an MEP with p2p
amplitude $\geq 50\mu\text{V}$

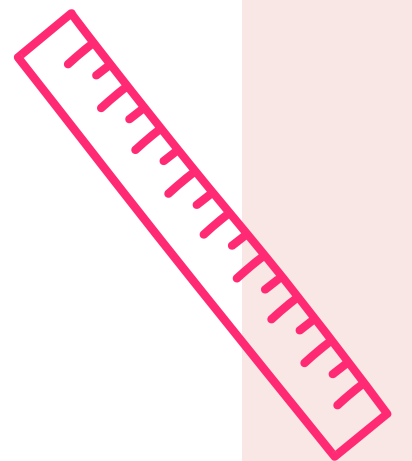
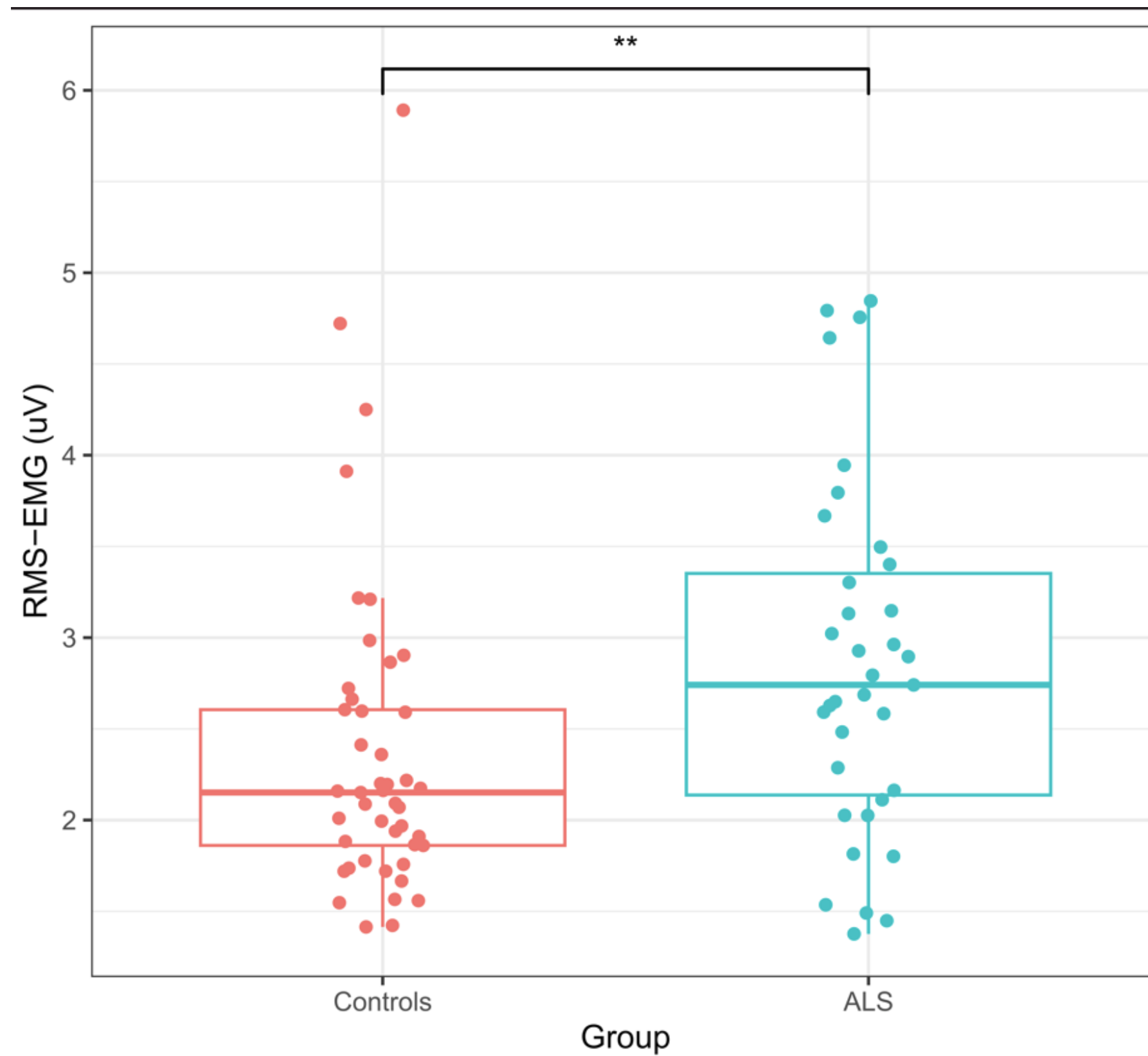




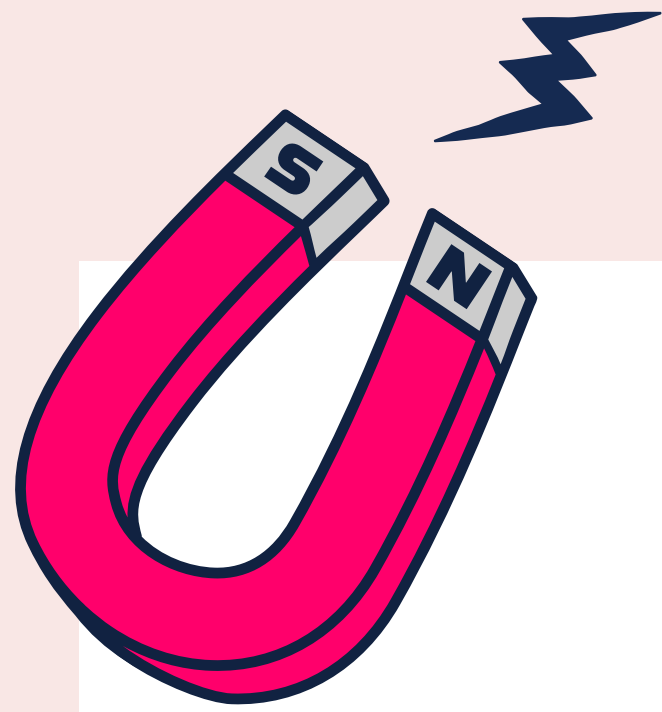
$p=0.001$



Comparing cohorts



So what?



The “restless” motor threshold

Accounting

Reporting

Realism

