

The drift diffusion model as a tool for computational psychiatry and neurology



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Deep Brain Stimulation of the Subthalamic Nucleus (STN) for treatment of Parkinson's disease



Video #1: <http://ski.clps.brown.edu/dbs2.mp4>

Video #2: <http://ski.clps.brown.edu/dbs.mp4>

But not all is grand in the world of DBS...

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hi, i found your email address in an article i was reading about dbs surgery for parkinsons. my dad had the surgery last may and we have a mess on our hands. two months following the surgery we began to notice some personality changes. he became impulsive, cocky, oblivious to his surroundings, forgetful, has lied, he has no empathy, he uses foul language ... canceled his 2 follow up dr appointments, he was always very detailed oriented and now he is sloppy, and he is spending a lot of money. he has NOT gone one day without buying something. he can't sit still, he's always on the move. going somewhere and buying something...

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STN-DBS dramatically improves PD motor symptoms, but can induce impulsivity

(Saint-Cyr et al 06, Frank et al, 07; Wylie et al 10; Hälbig et al 09; Green et al 13)

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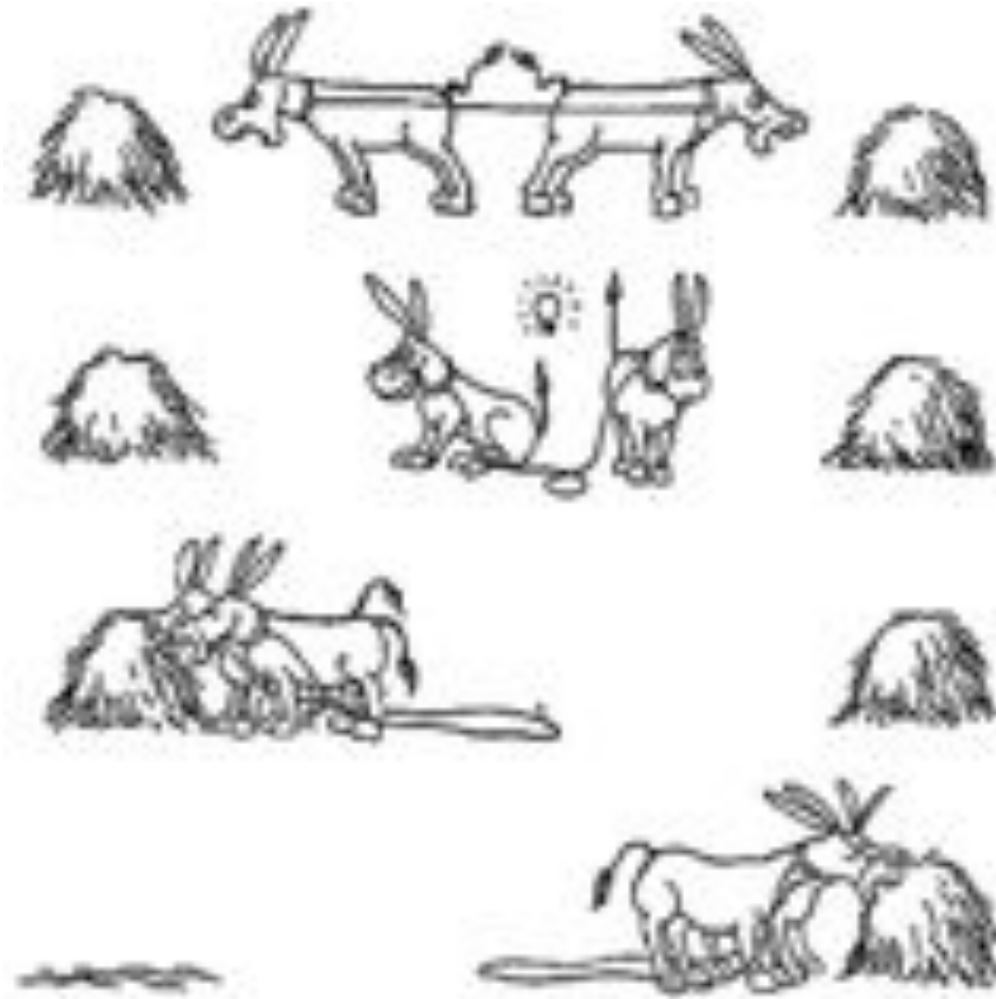
(Saint-Cyr et al 06, Frank et al, 07; Wylie et al 10; Hälbig et al 09; Green et al 13)

Mechanism? What sort of models can be useful?

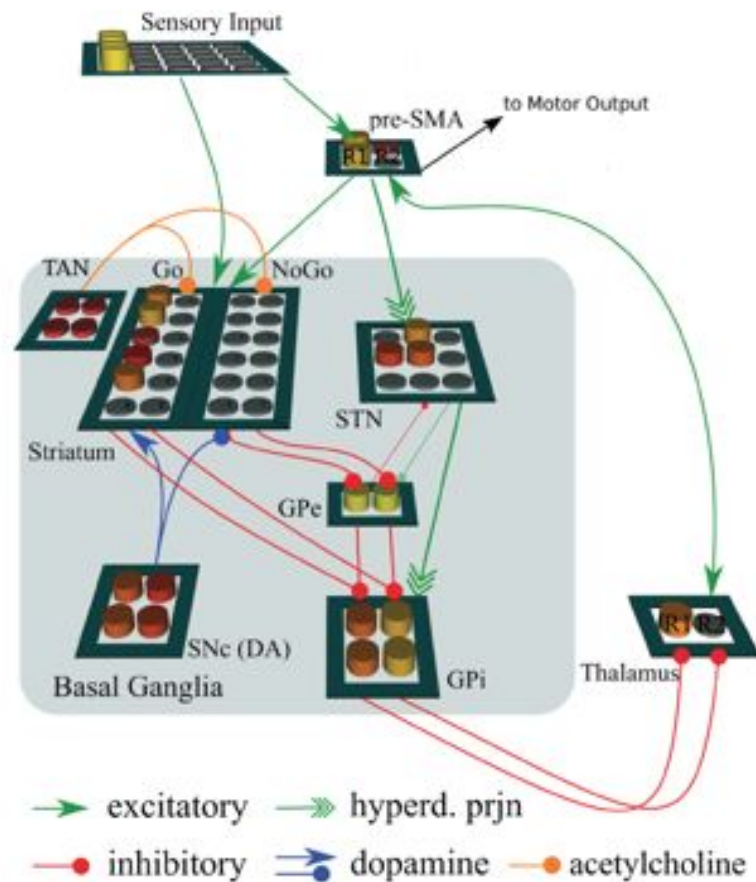
From reinforcement learning...



...to reinforcement conflict-based decision making



Neural model of basal ganglia (BG) in learning / decision making



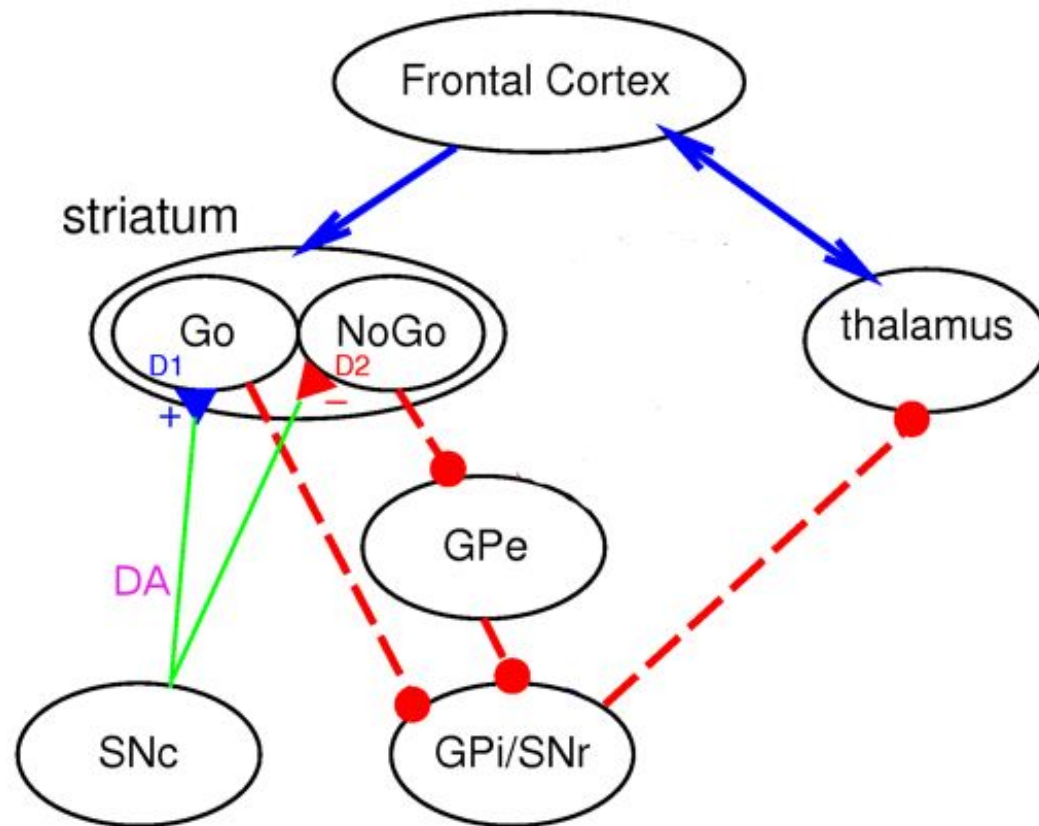
$$c\dot{V}_m = g_e \sigma_e [E_e - V_m] + g_i \sigma_i [E_i - V_m] + g_l \sigma_l [E_l - V_m] + \dots$$

$$y_j \approx \frac{\gamma [V_m - \Theta]_+}{\gamma [V_m - \Theta]_+ + 1}$$

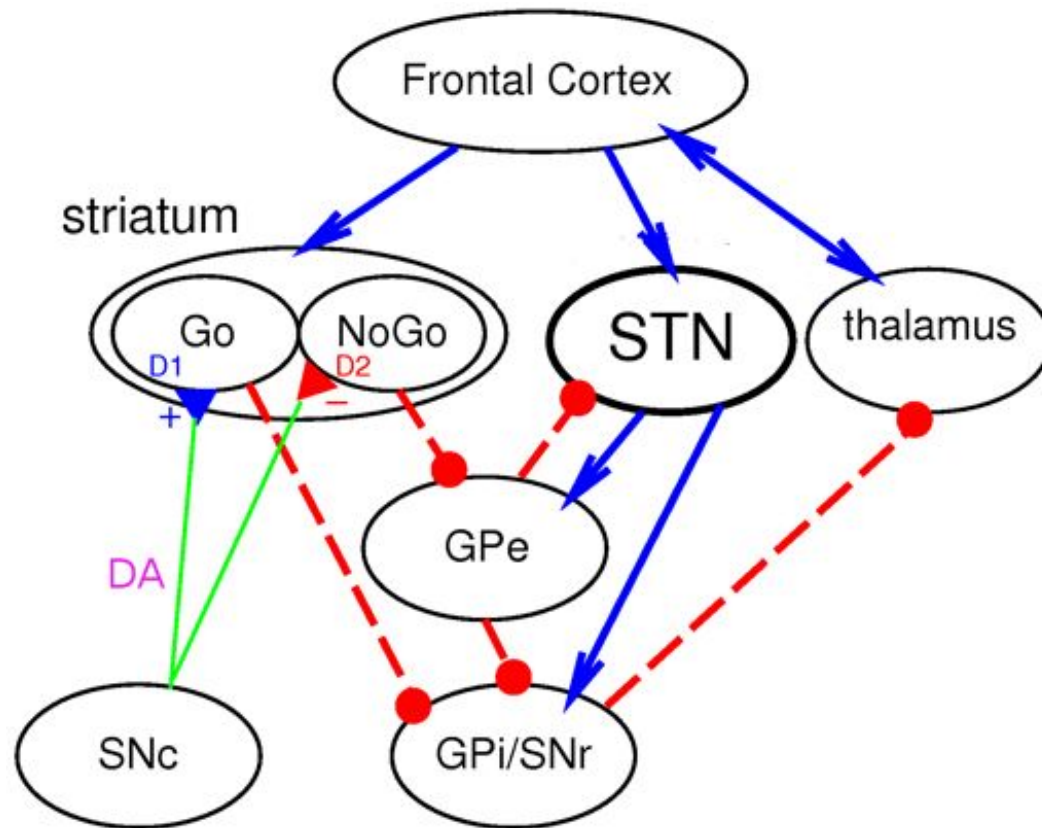
$$\text{net} = g_e \approx \langle x_i w_{ij} \rangle + \frac{\beta}{N}$$

Frank, 2005, 2006; Wiecki & Frank 2013, etc

Anatomy of action selection: without STN

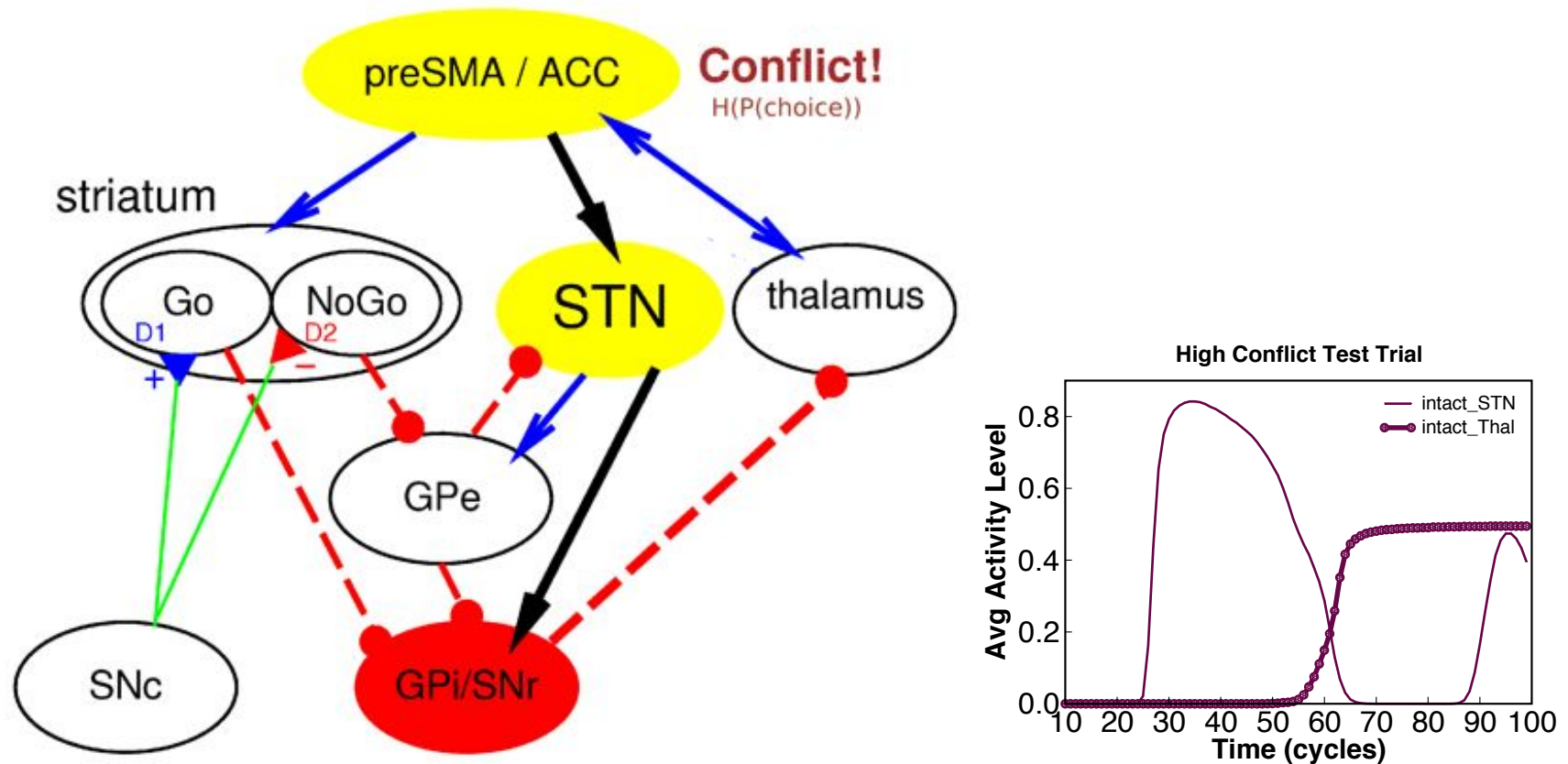


Anatomy of action selection: with STN



- Role of STN?

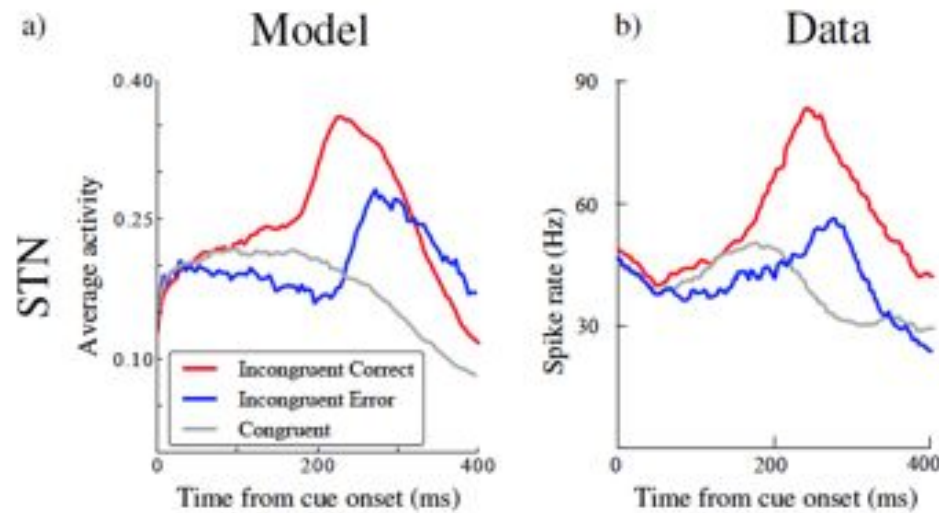
Subthalamic Nucleus: Dynamic modulation of decision threshold



- Conflict (entropy) in choice prob: \Rightarrow *Hold Your Horses!*

Neural model and STN ephys: decision conflict

spike rate:

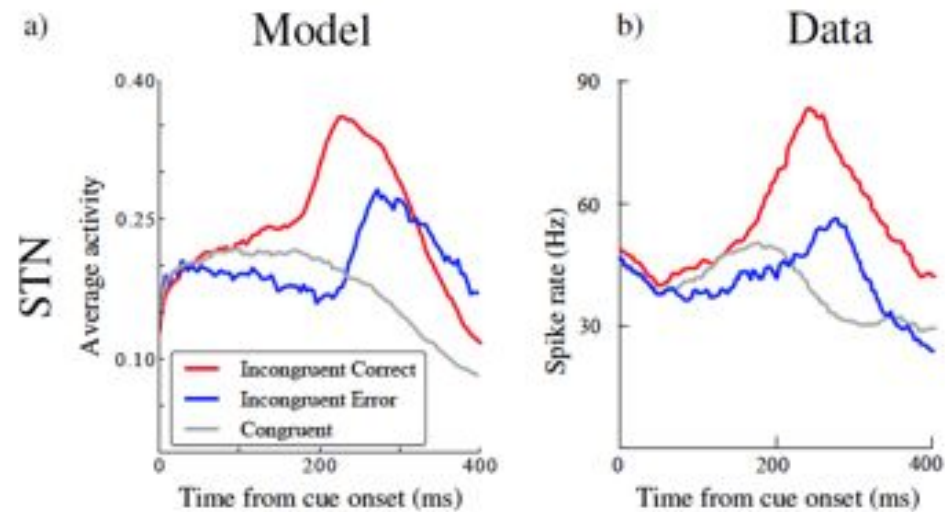


data from Isoda & Hikosaka 2008

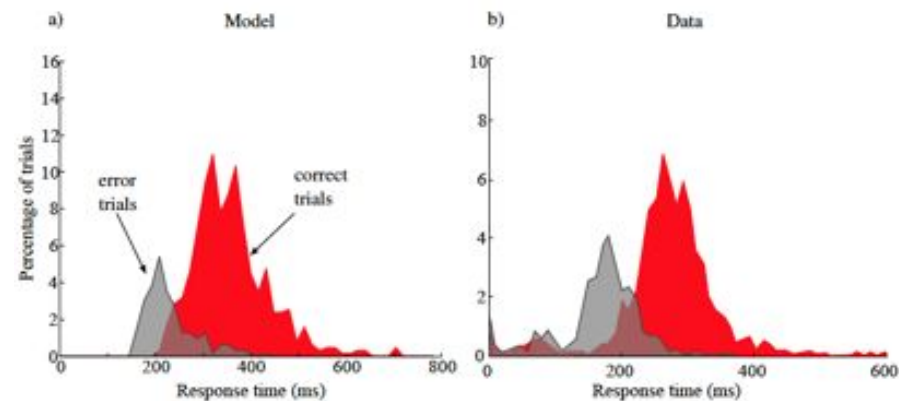
Wiecki & Frank, 2013 *Psych Review*

Neural model and STN ephys: decision conflict

spike rate:



behavior:



data from Isoda & Hikosaka 2008

Wiecki & Frank, 2013 *Psych Review*

Human probabilistic reward/choice conflict

ま み

A (80%) B (20%)

そ の

C (70%) D (30%)

ら や

E (60%) F (40%)

Low Conflict: e.g., 80 vs 30% $H(P_{softmax}) = .06$

High Conflict: e.g., 80 vs 70% $H(P_{softmax}) = .84$

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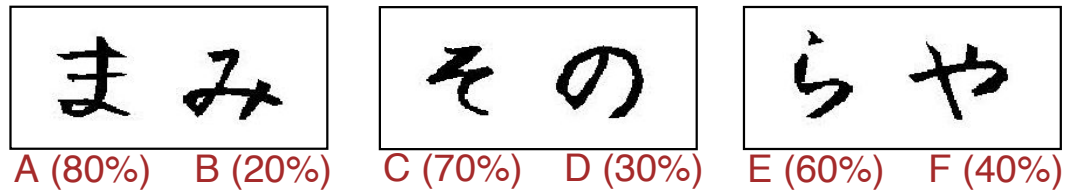
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→ Need STN to prevent impulsive responses

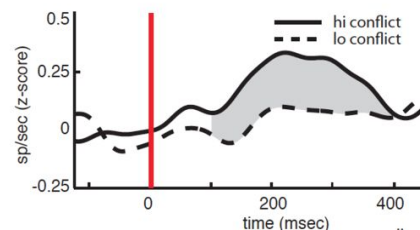
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Low Conflict: e.g., 80 vs 30% $H(P_{softmax}) = .06$

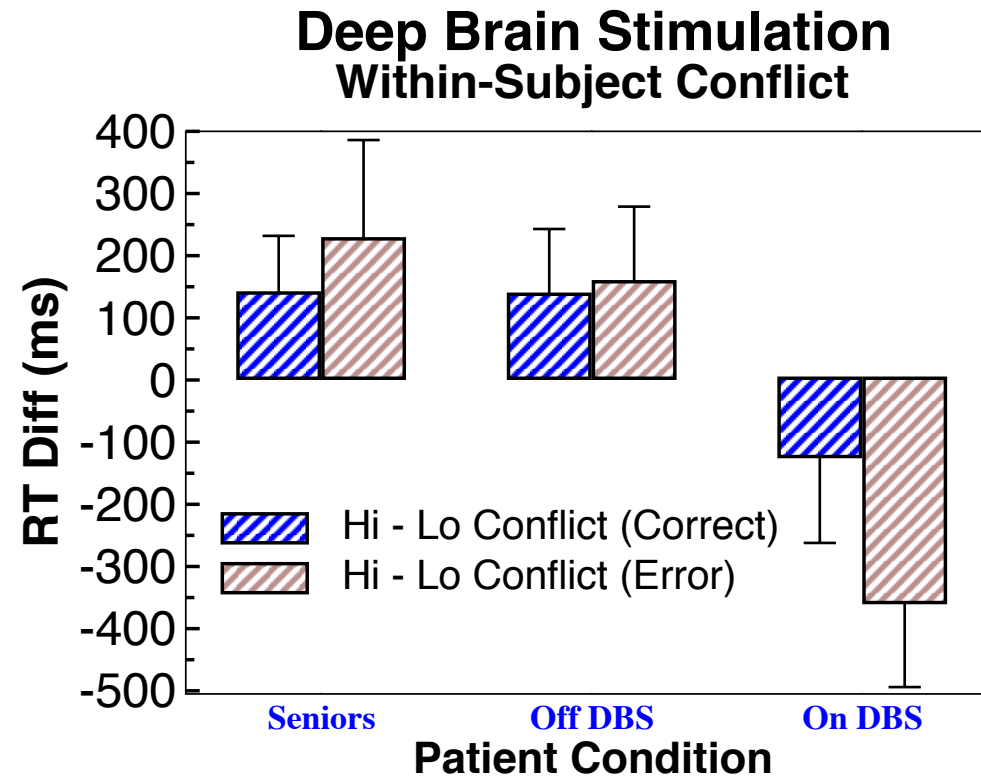
High Conflict: e.g., 80 vs 70% $H(P_{softmax}) = .84$

→ Need STN to prevent impulsive responses



human STN spiking, Zaghoul et al., 2012

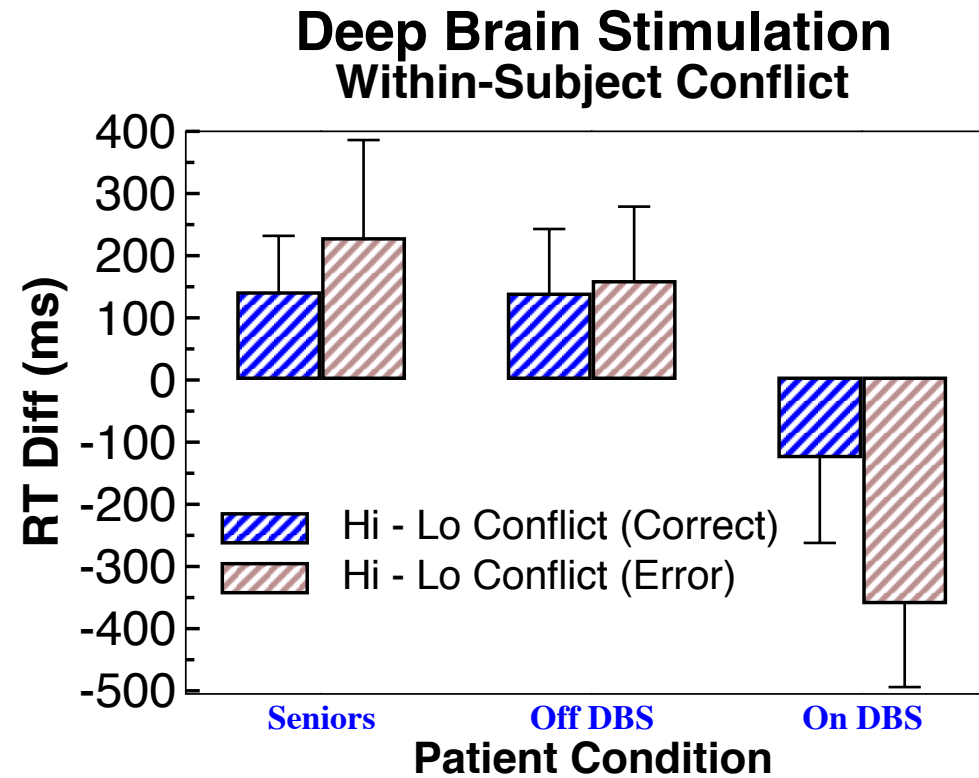
STN-DBS reverses conflict RT adjustments



Frank, Samanta, Moustafa & Sherman (2007)

see also Wylie et al 10; Hälbig et al 09; Cavanagh et al 11; Coulthard et al 12; Green et al 13

STN-DBS reverses conflict RT adjustments



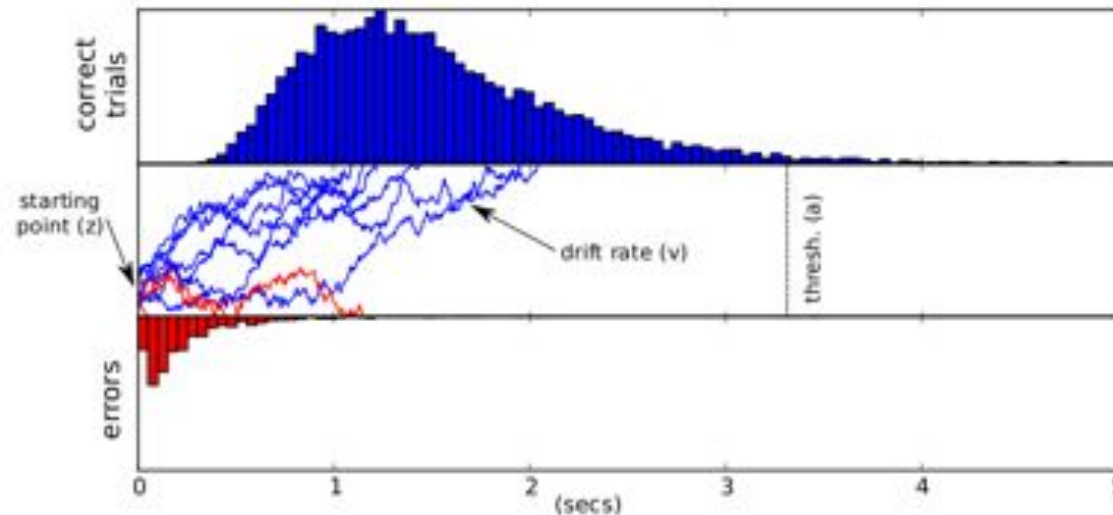
... But RT is poor measure of generative process!

Frank, Samanta, Moustafa & Sherman (2007)

Abstraction: the drift diffusion model

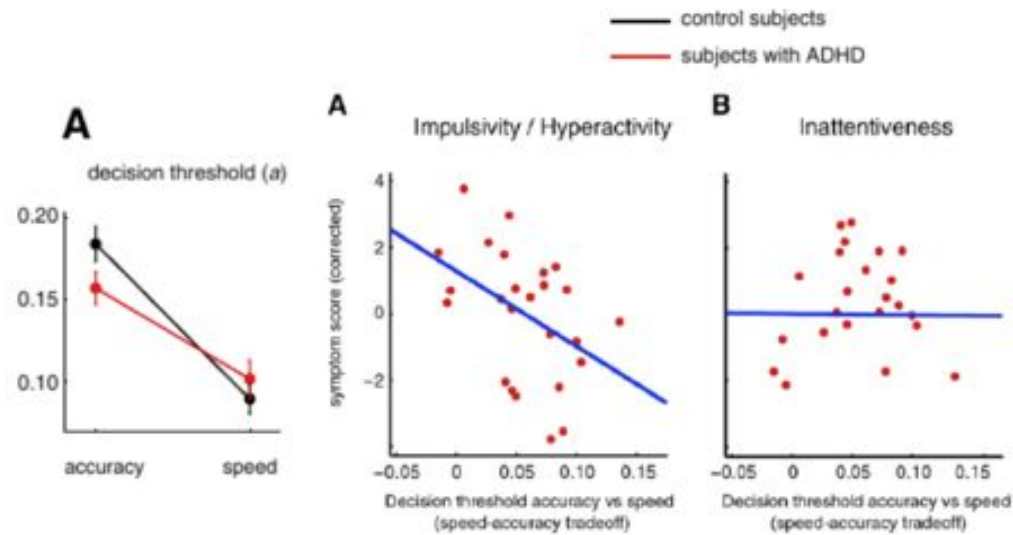
Drift-Diffusion-Model (DDM)

Models decision making as a noisy accumulation of evidence; once the diffusion process crosses one of two thresholds, a response is made.



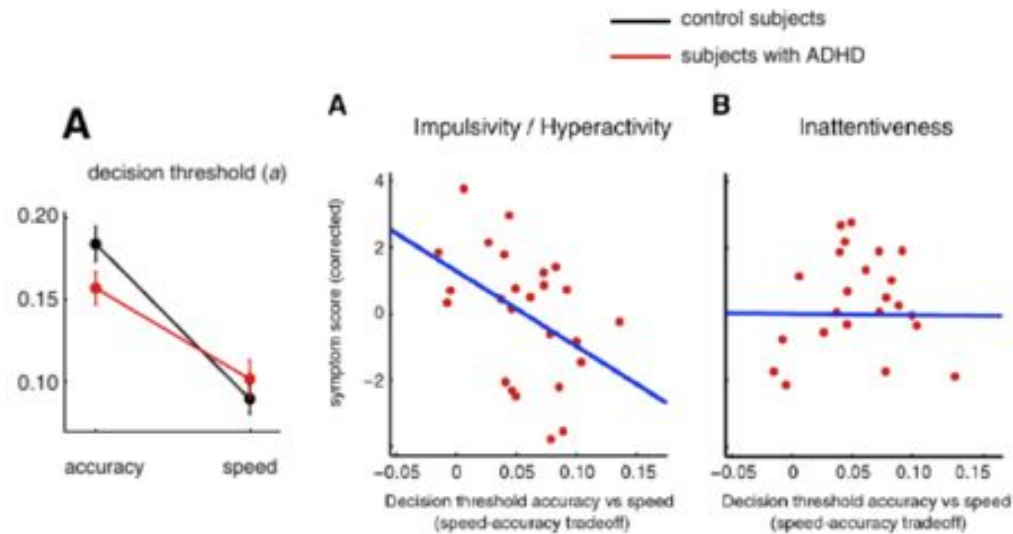
- Provides quantitative fits to error rates and RT distributions in many tasks
- Allows estimation of decision threshold (a), separately from other factors (v, z, Ter)

Application to Computational Psychiatry



Mulder et al 2010

Application to Computational Psychiatry



Mulder et al 2010

Which mechanism? Which treatment?

Linking levels

Linking Across Levels of Computation in Model-Based Cognitive Neuroscience

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Reinforcement-Based Decision Making in Corticostriatal
Circuits: Mutual Constraints by Neurocomputational
and Diffusion Models

- Strategy to interpret and link across levels of description
- Mutually informative: algorithm informs biological interpretation ; biophysics informs abstraction

Frank, 2015; Collins & Frank, 2013; Ratcliff & Frank, 2012; Franklin & Frank, submitted)

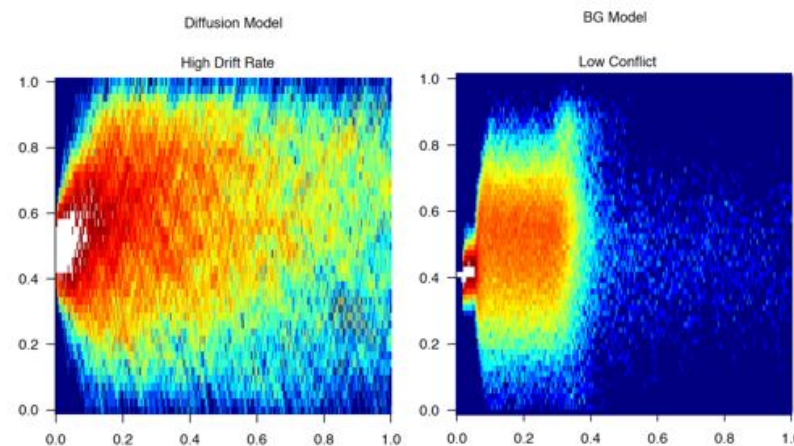
Linking levels

Linking Across Levels of Computation in Model-Based Cognitive Neuroscience

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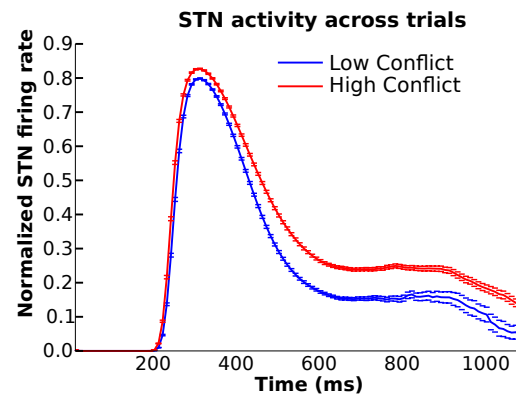
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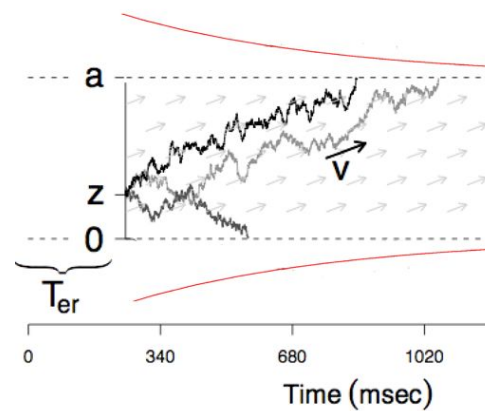
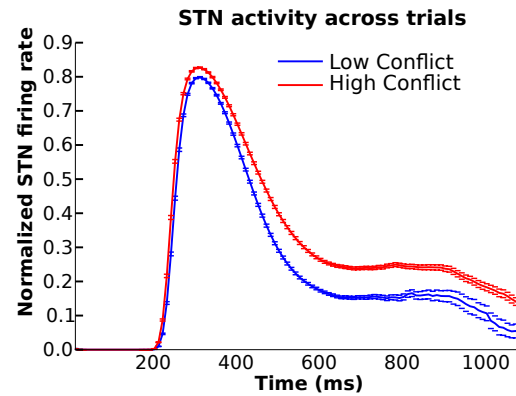
Frank, 2015; Collins & Frank, 2013; Ratcliff & Frank, 2012; Franklin & Frank, submitted)

Does STN affects network's decision threshold?

Collapsing bounds

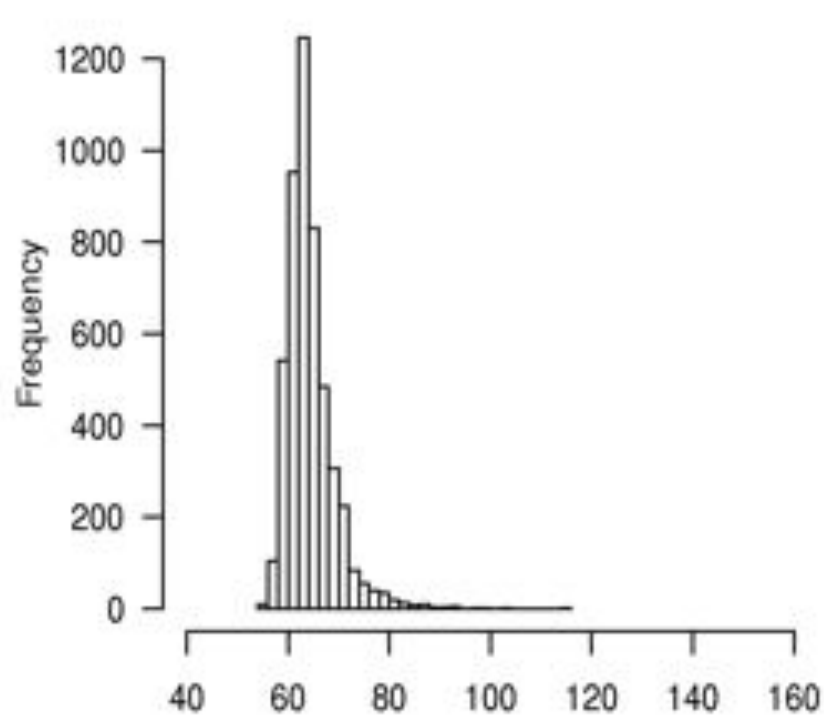


Does STN affects network's decision threshold? Collapsing bounds

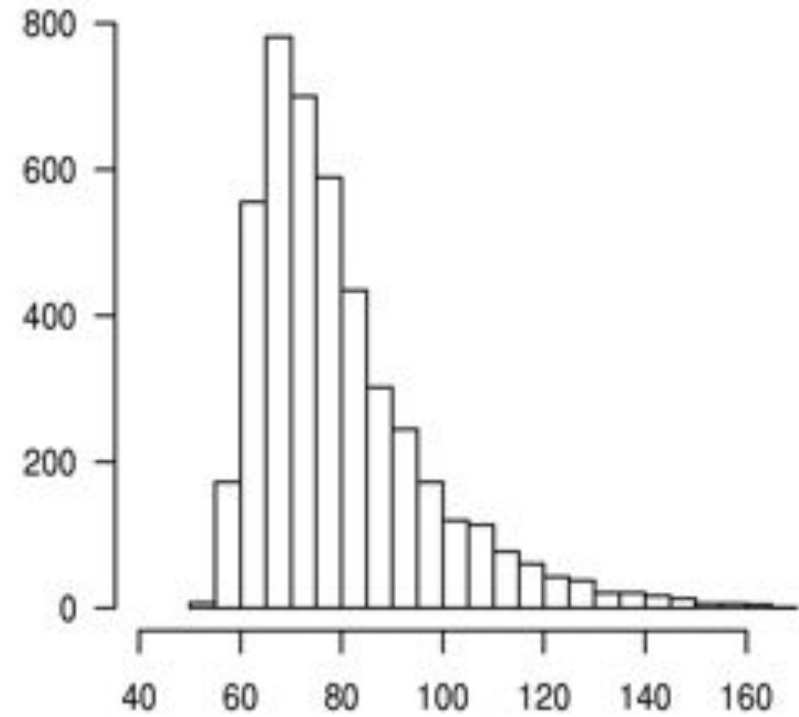


- Collapsing decision threshold in DDM (see also Frazier & Yu, 2008; Ditterich, 2006, Shadlen...)

Simulated RT distributions from BG model: Conflict effects

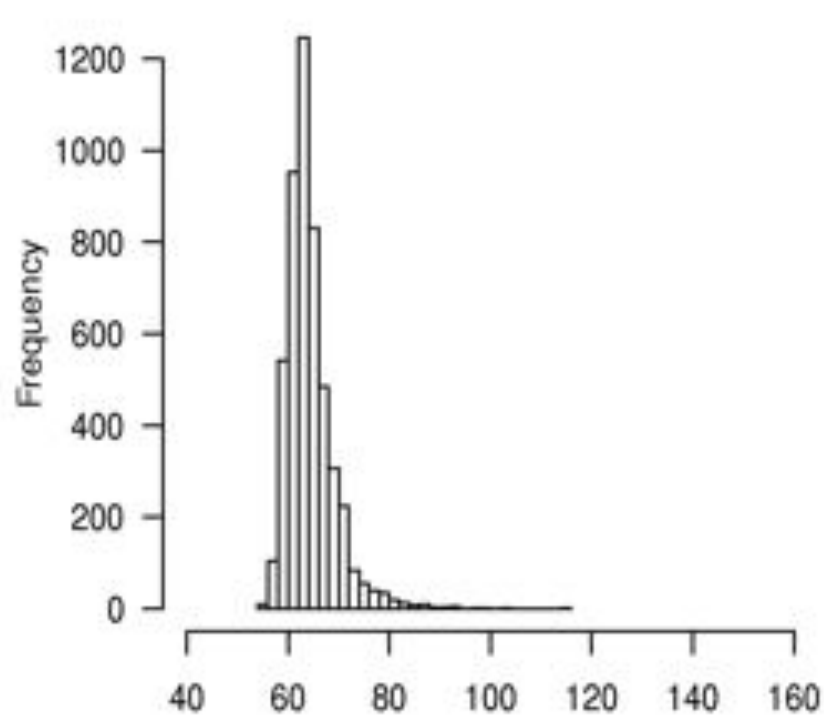


low conflict RT

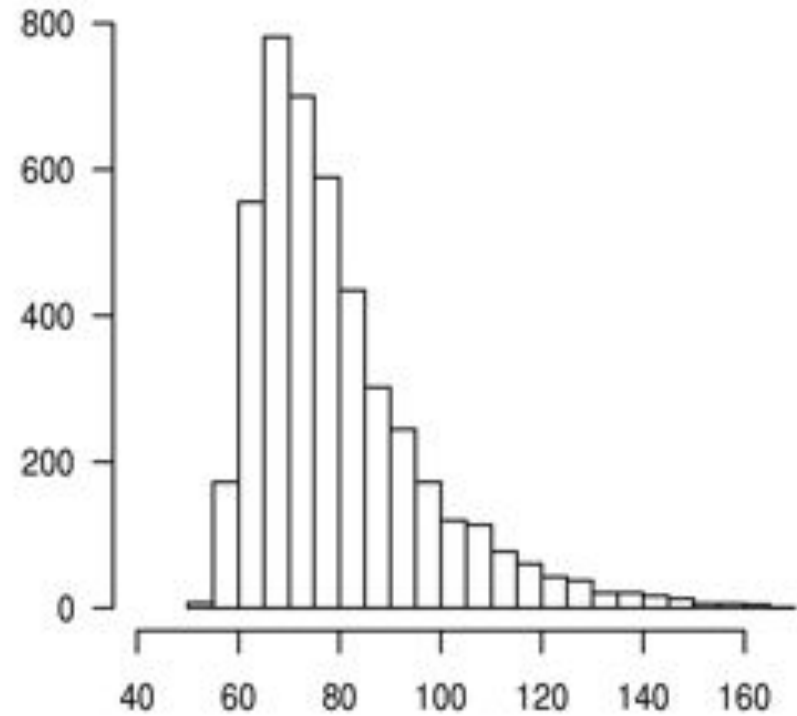


high conflict RT

Simulated RT distributions from BG model: Conflict effects



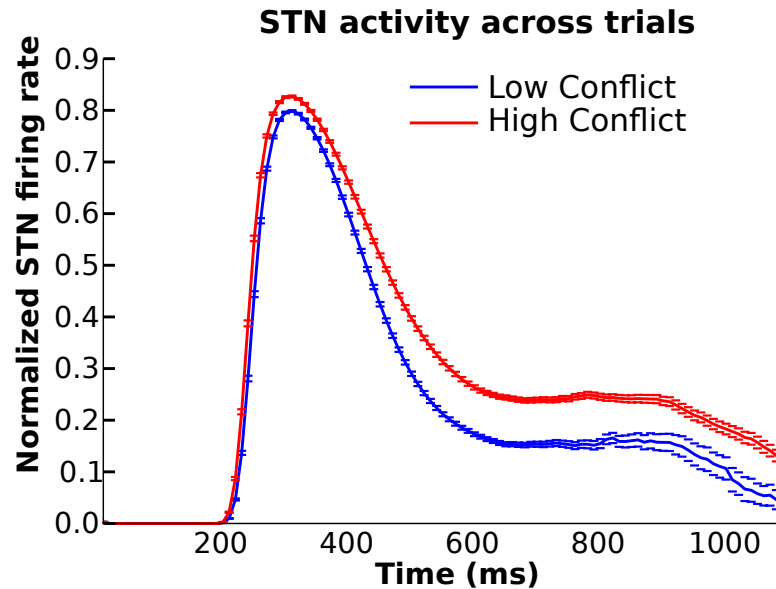
low conflict RT



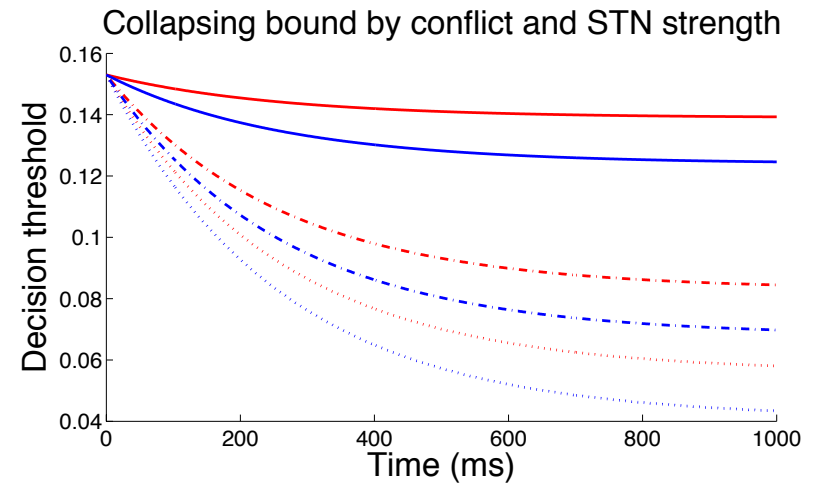
high conflict RT

Does conflict increase the decision threshold? Is this STN-dependent?

Diffusion model fits to BG neural model



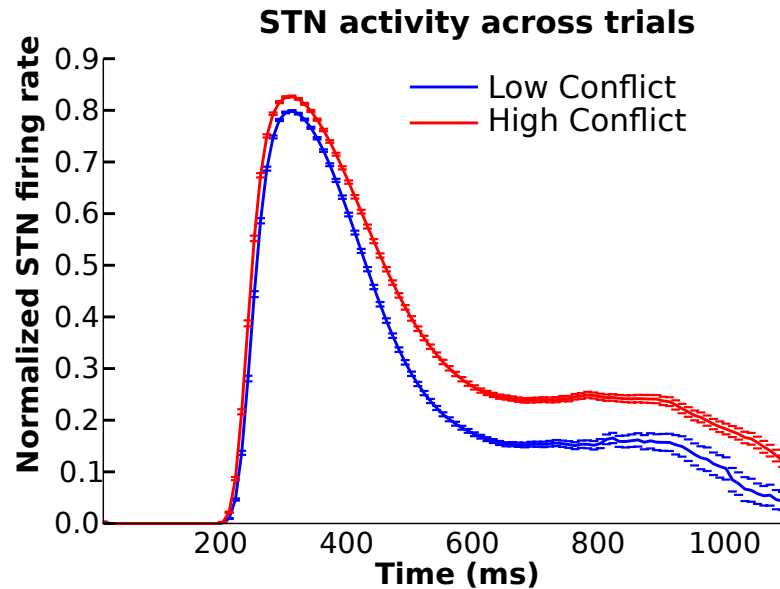
Simulated STN activity



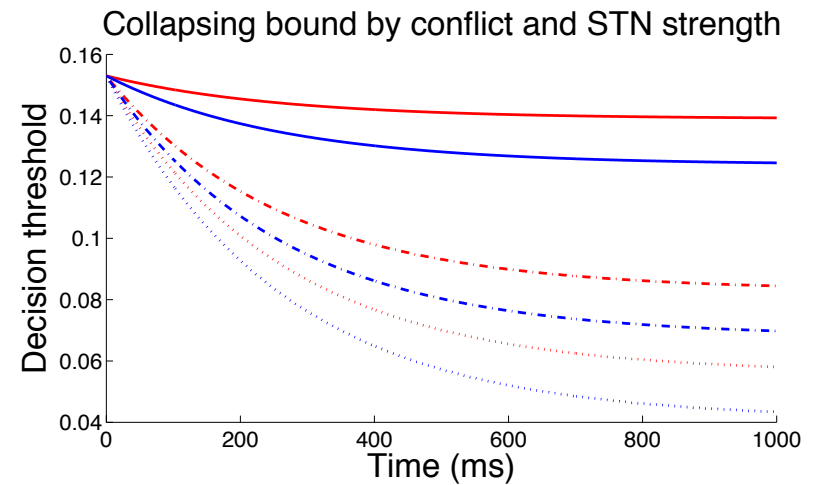
Best fit threshold trajectories

Ratcliff & Frank, 2012; Wiecki & Frank 2013

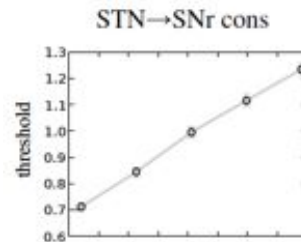
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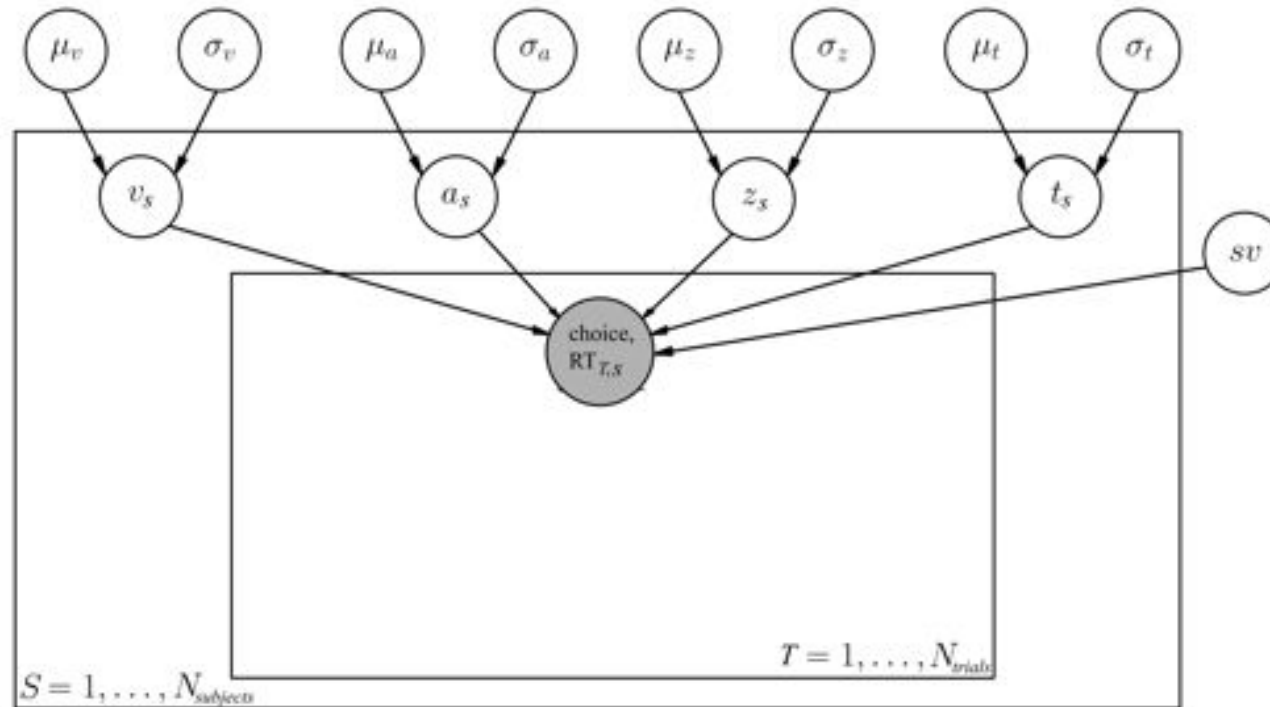
Best fit threshold trajectories



Ratcliff & Frank, 2012; Wiecki & Frank 2013

How to best fit DDM to real data?

Hierarchical bayesian parameter estimation of the DDM (*HDDM*)



Wiecki, Sofer & Frank 2013

free software: http://ski.clps.brown.edu/hddm_docs

Leveraging model synergy to test theory

Example of how:

- bio informs abstraction (threshold change with conflict)
- abstraction yields tool to quantify latent threshold parameter from behavior

Question: Does decision threshold vary \propto cortical-STN conflict?

- Test patients on and off STN-DBS while recording EEG
- Estimate decision threshold from behavior (RT distributions, error rates) and EEG

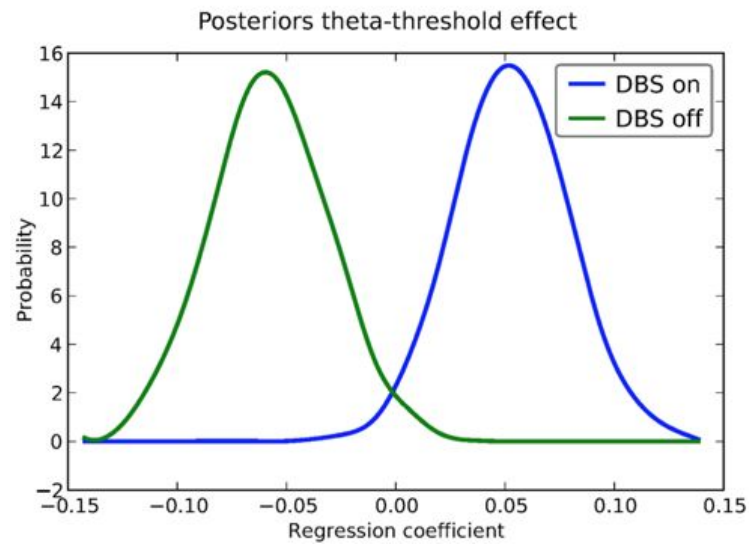
Conflict-related activity in mPFC theta



High - Low conflict effects on theta power

Cavanagh et al 2011, *Nat Neurosci*

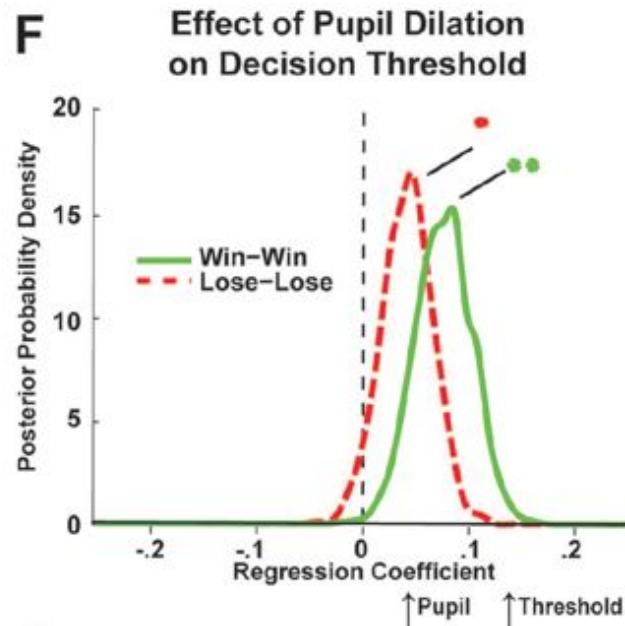
STN-DBS reverses mPFC influence over decision threshold



hierarchical-Bayes param estimation tool for DDM:

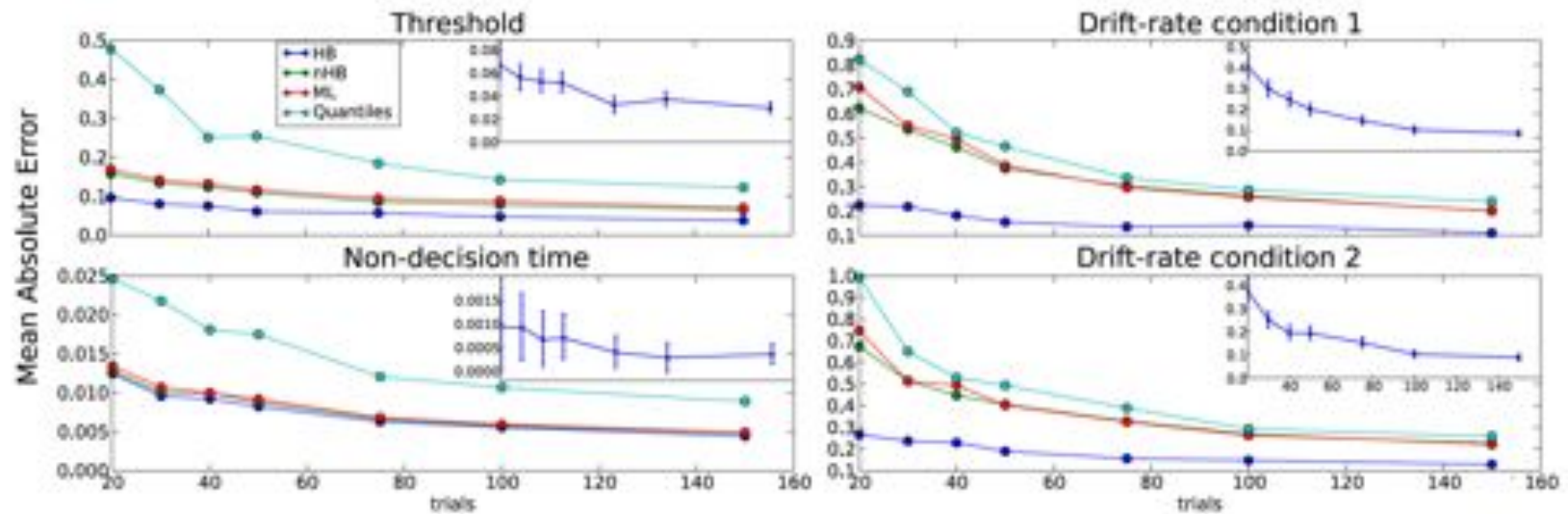
http://ski.clps.brown.edu/hddm_docs

High conflict decision thresholds also correlate with trial to trial variation in pupil dilation



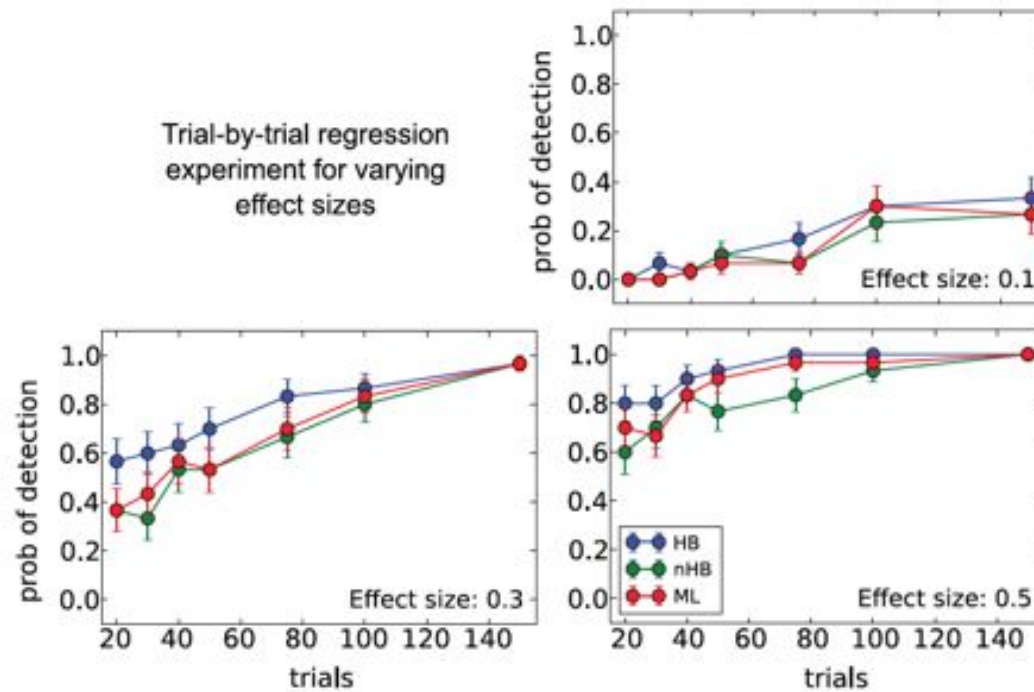
(whereas drift rate correlates with eye gaze)

Why use HDDM: Parameter Recovery as a Function of # Trials

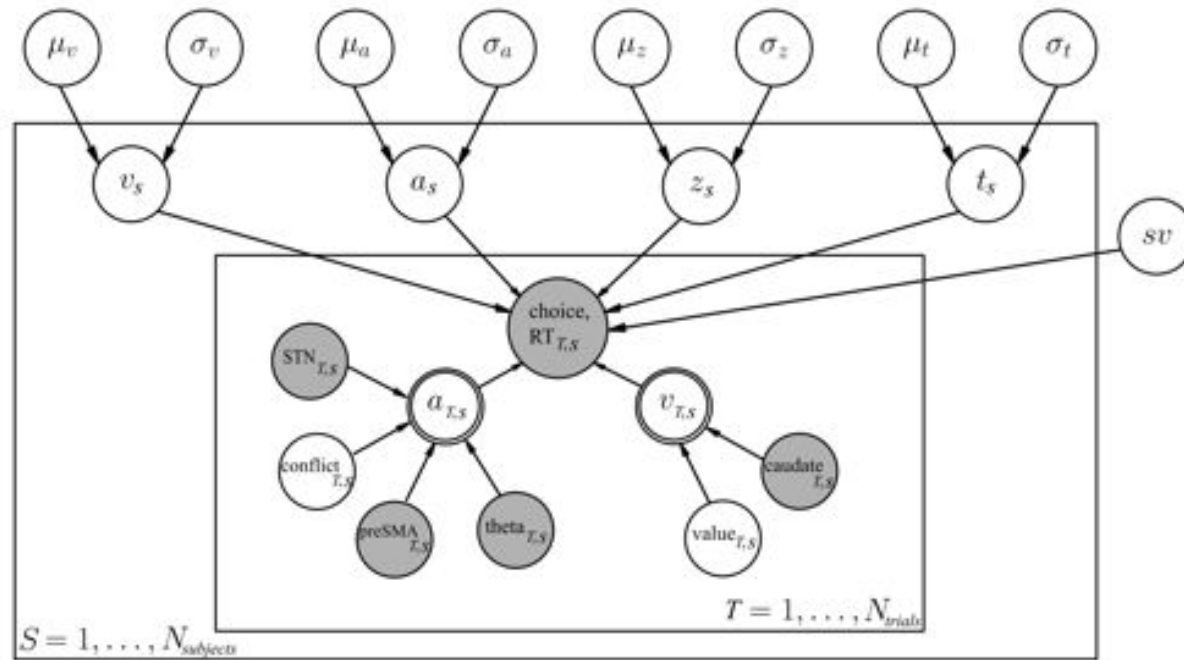


Wiecki et al 2013

Regression of physio variable onto DDM param: Probability of detecting an effect

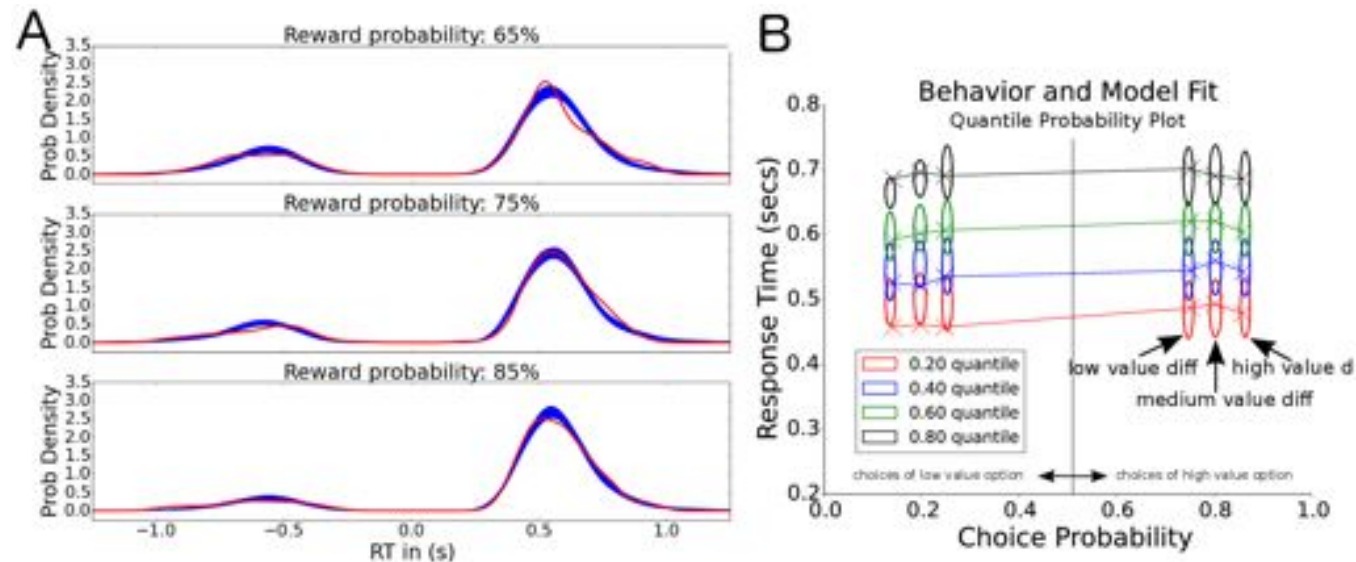


fMRI and EEG experiment



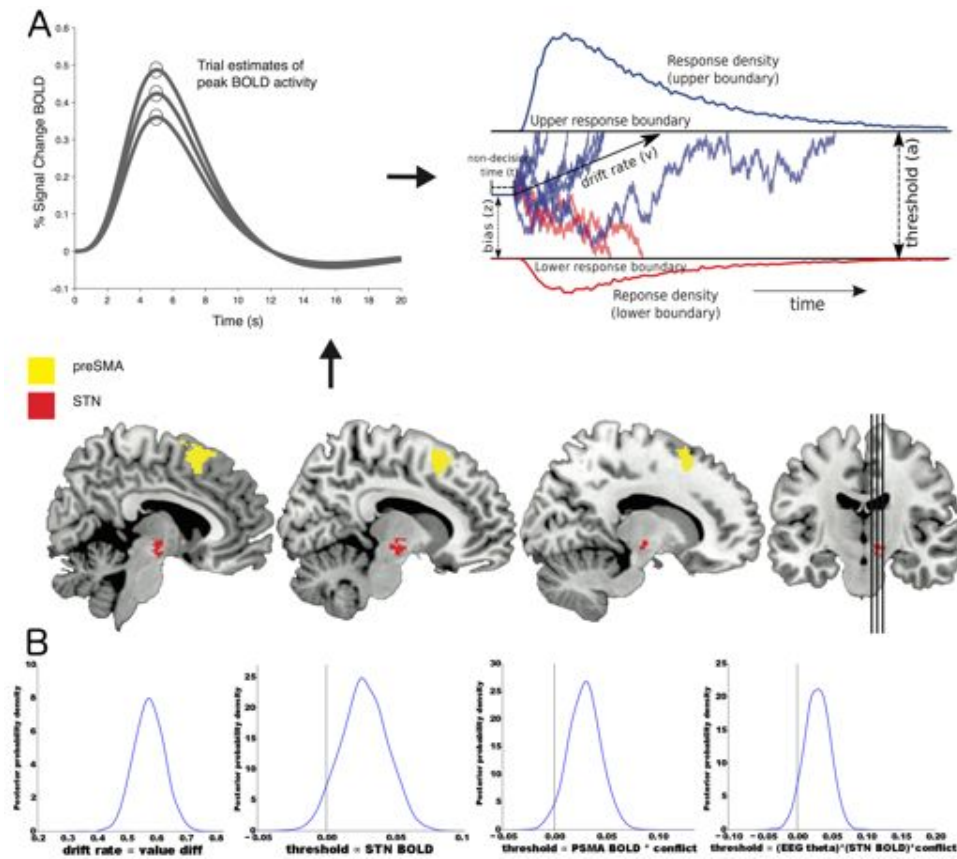
Frank et al 2015

fMRI and EEG experiment: check if model fits behavior



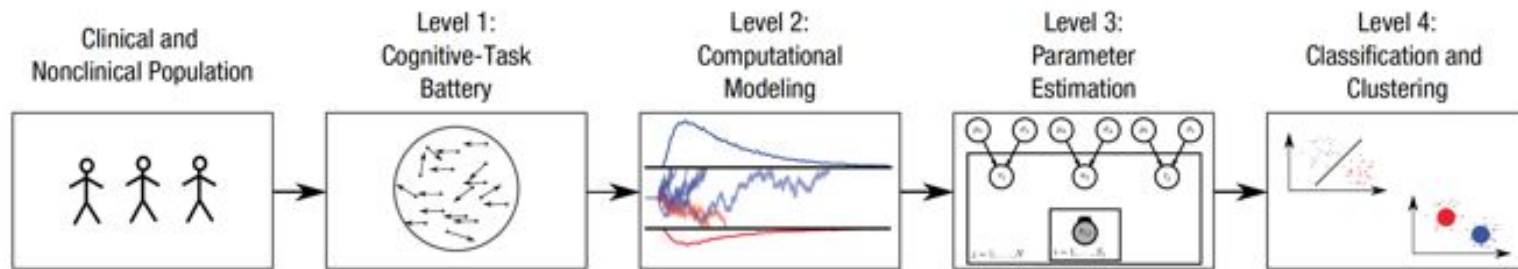
posterior predictive checks are important!

fMRI and EEG experiment



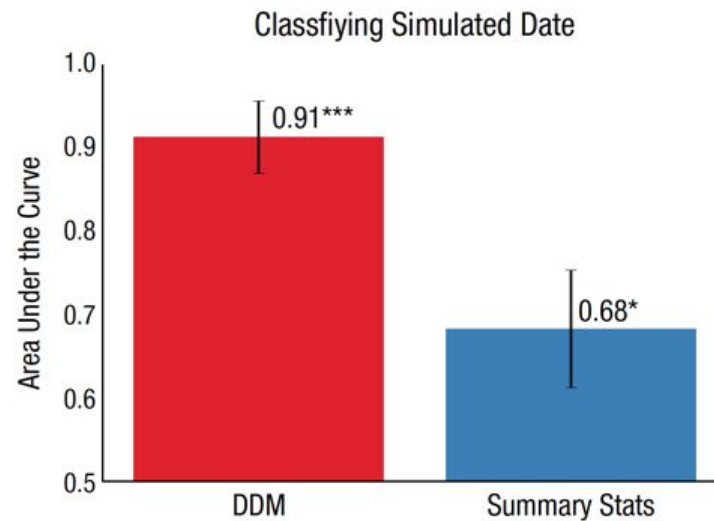
Frank et al 2015

Application to Computational Psychiatry and Neurology



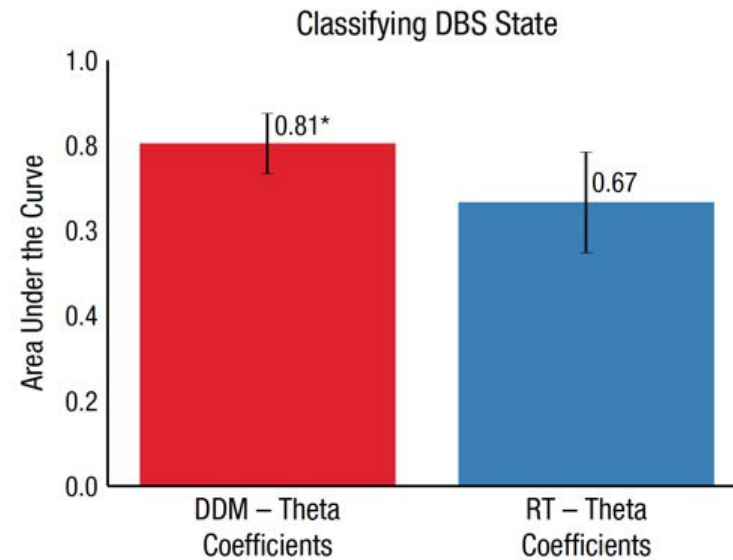
Wiecki, Poland & Frank 2013

Why use DDM: Simulation experiment and classification of groups



- generated data from DDM with two groups with different parameters
- classification of observed data based on fitted model params or raw behavioral summary statistics

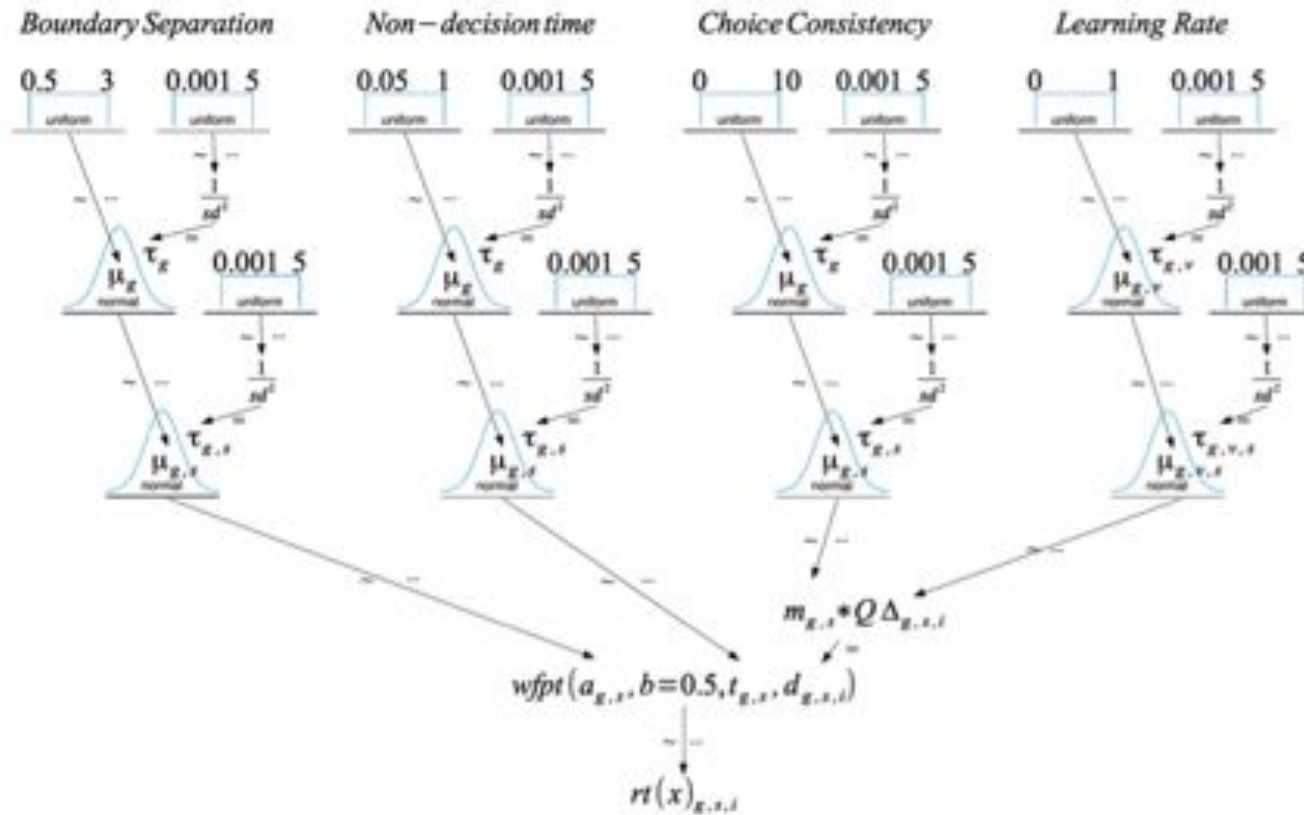
Real data: classification of DBS state



Wiecki, Poland & Frank 2013

Also classifies Huntington's disease before symptom onset! Wiecki, et al., in review

Simultaneous Estimation of RL and DDM



Summary: The good and the bad

- DDM useful for parsing out separate decision parameters
- Can be linked to neural mechanism via regression and model selection
- useful for classification of brain states

Look out for / be cautious about:

- model mimicry
- too much reliance on relative model fit (DIC etc). Use posterior predictive checks!
- convergence for complex models

Thanks To...

Thomas Wiecki
Jim Cavanagh
Jeff Cockburn
Kevin Bath
Mads Pedersen
Julie Helmers
Guido Biele
Chris Gagne
David Badre
Anne Collins
Bradley Doll



Lab for Neural Computation and Cognition

