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Faculty of Engineering of
University of Porto



Unraveling the Mysteries of the Brain: Exploring Visual Event-Related Potentials (ERPs)

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I Project Introduction

EEG inside a fMRI machine



Some studies have already been conducted to measure the degradation of the EEG inside fMRI

Our Goal

Understanding if there are differences in the cognitive process when the patient is inside the fMRI machine

How?

Analyzing the EEG signal in different situations;

Sitting

Sitting with sounds

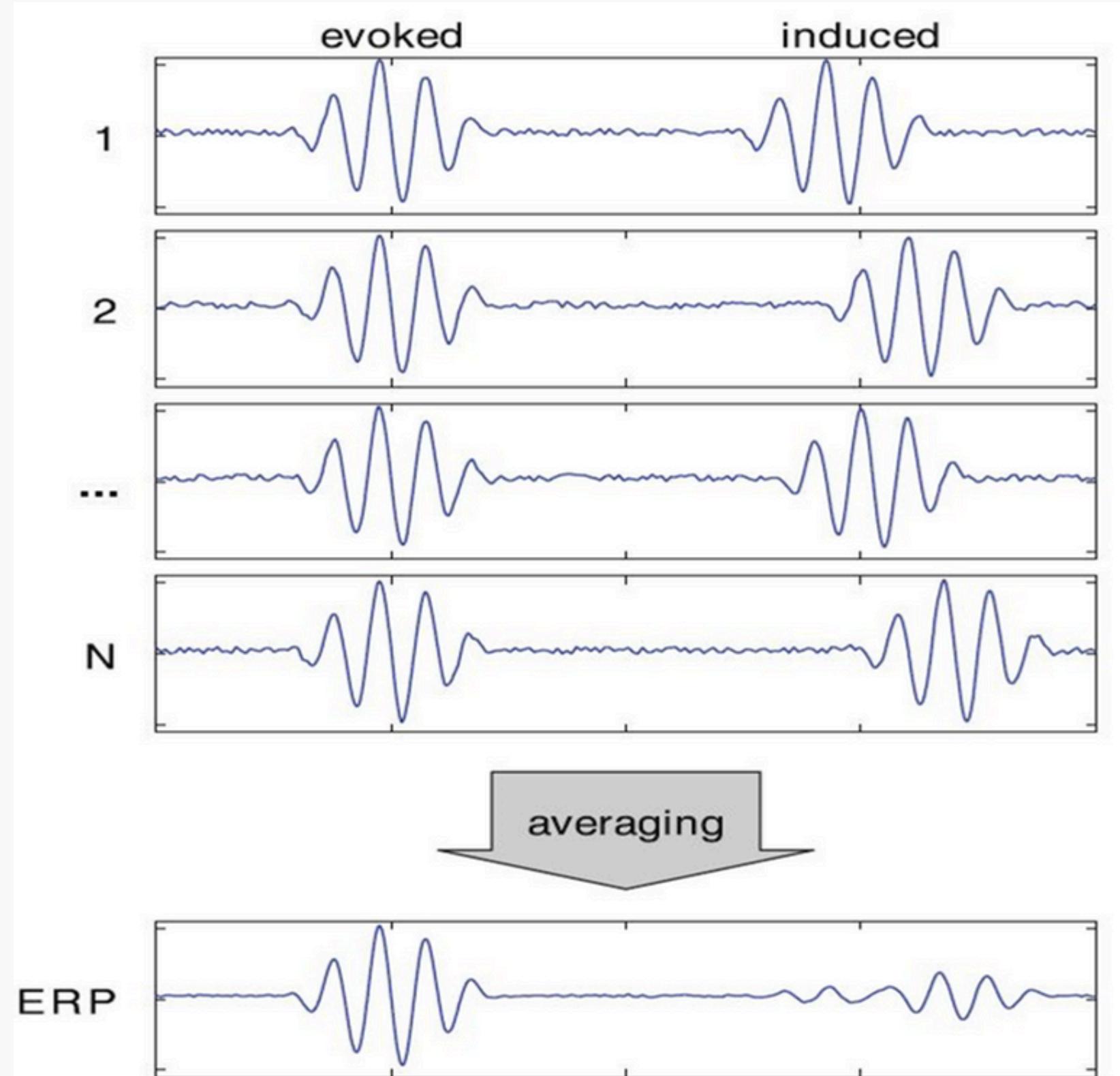
Lying inside fMRI

Lying inside fMRI with sounds

II Theoretical Review

ERP : Event-Related Potentials

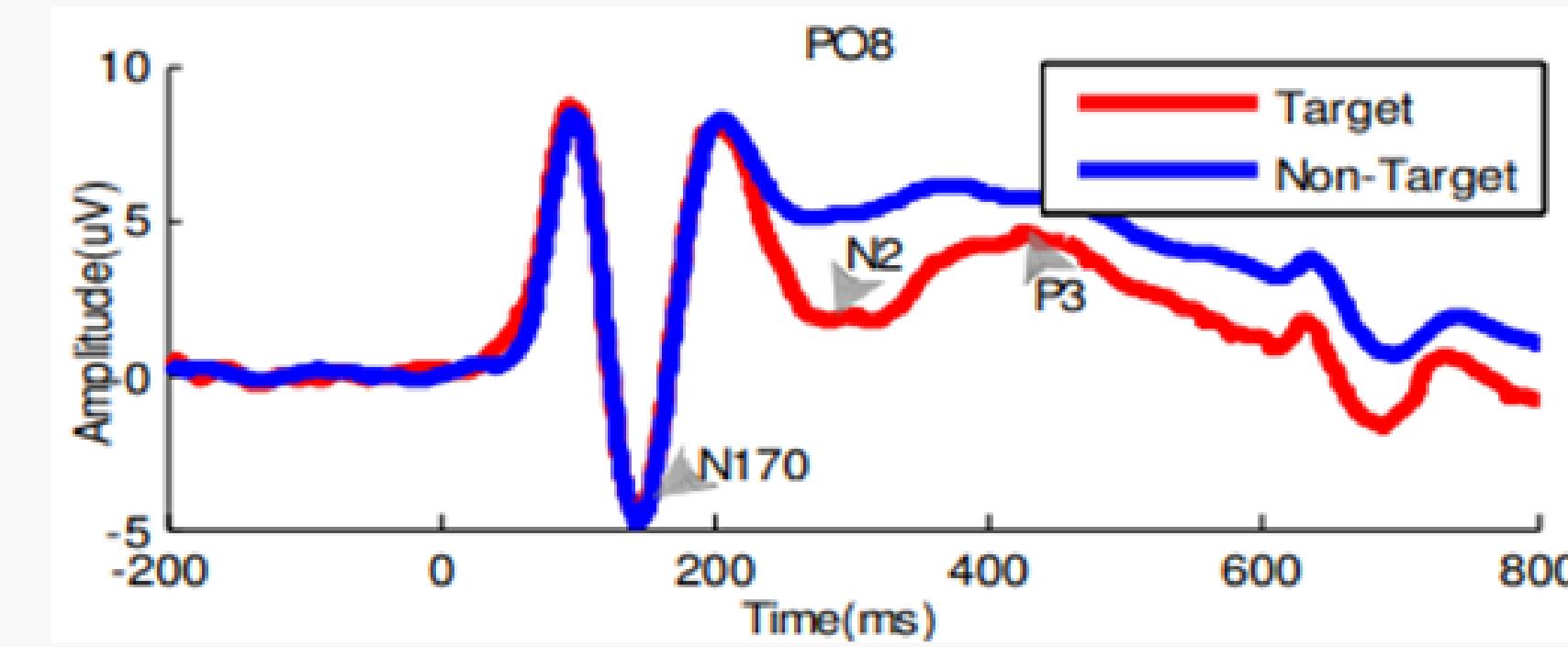
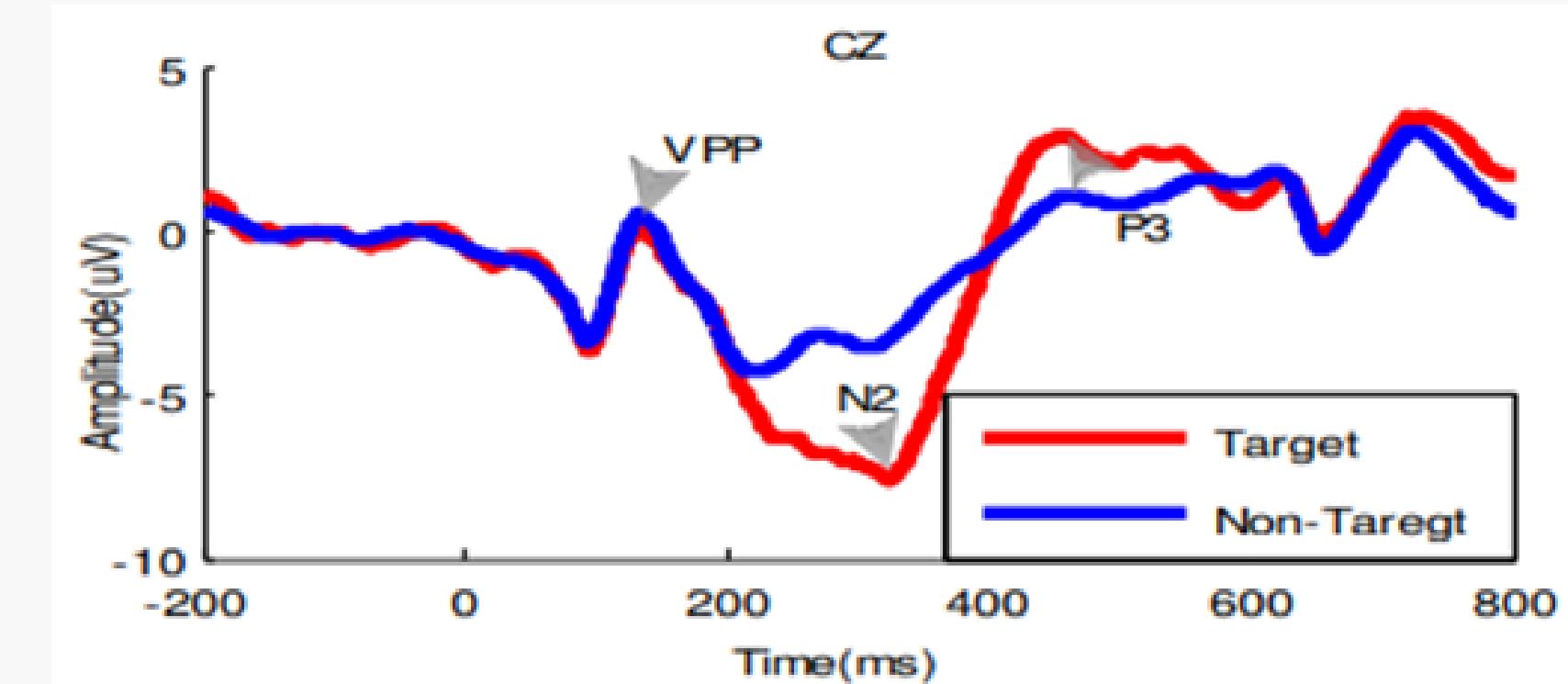
- Electrical brain responses that can be measured using EEG;
- Linked in time to specific events or stimuli;
- Used to study cognitive process and brain function;
- Labeled based on their polarity and time.



II Theoretical Review

ERP's components

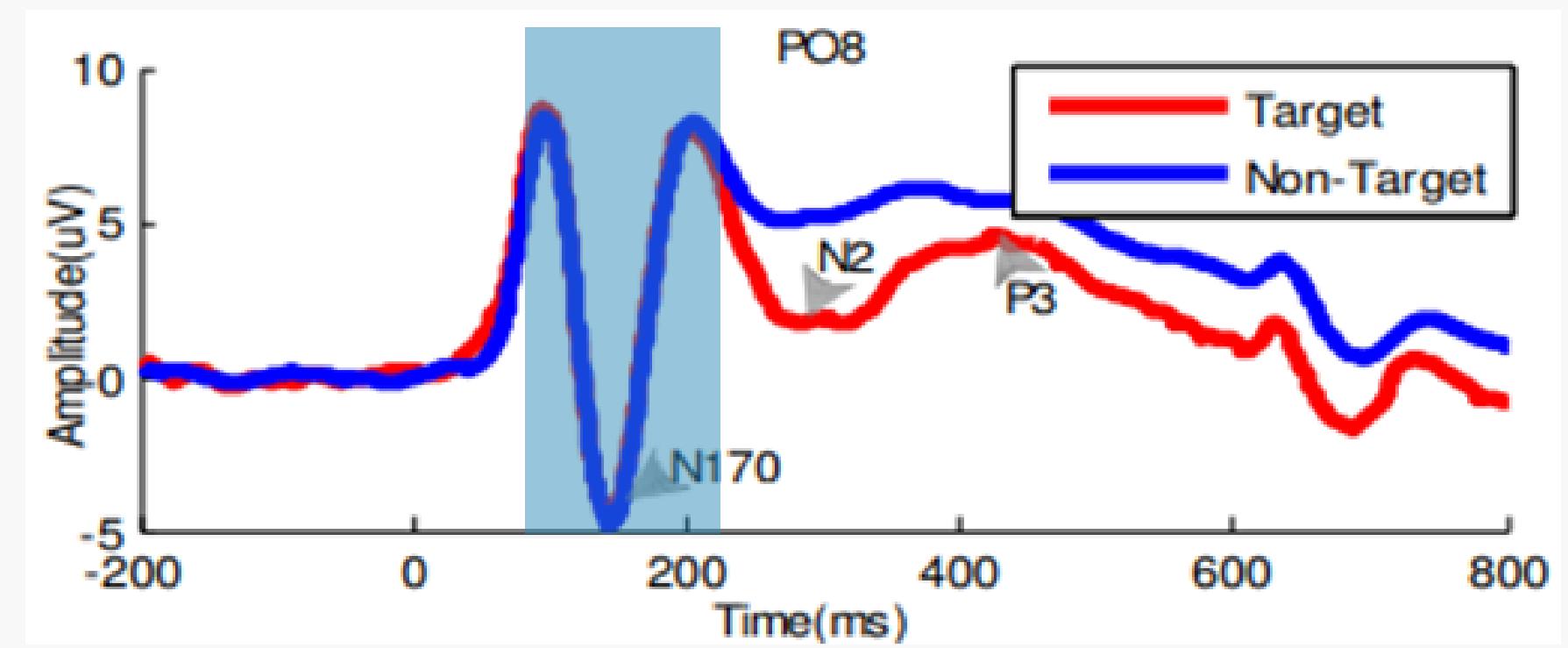
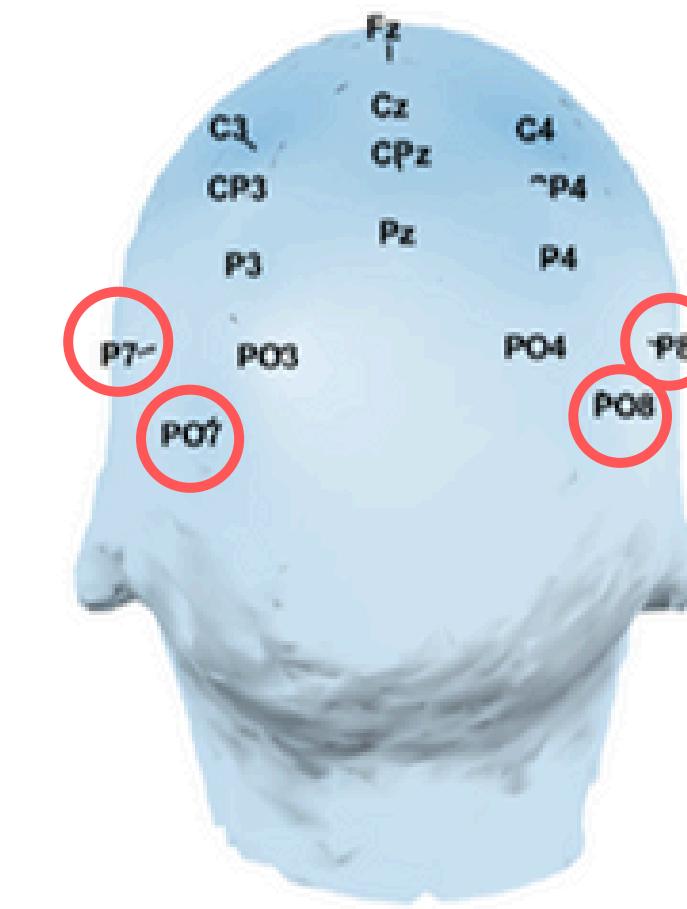
- N170
- VPP
- N2
- P300



II Theoretical Review

N170

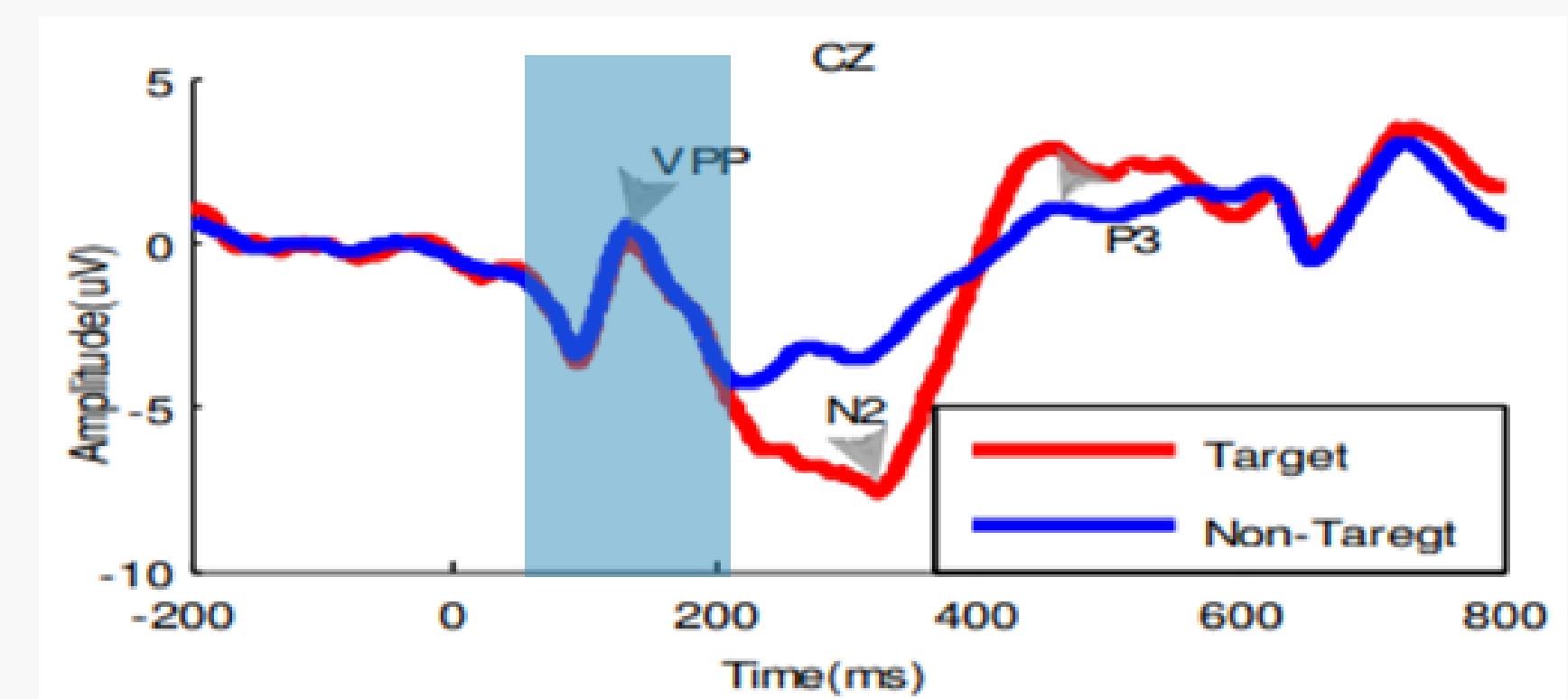
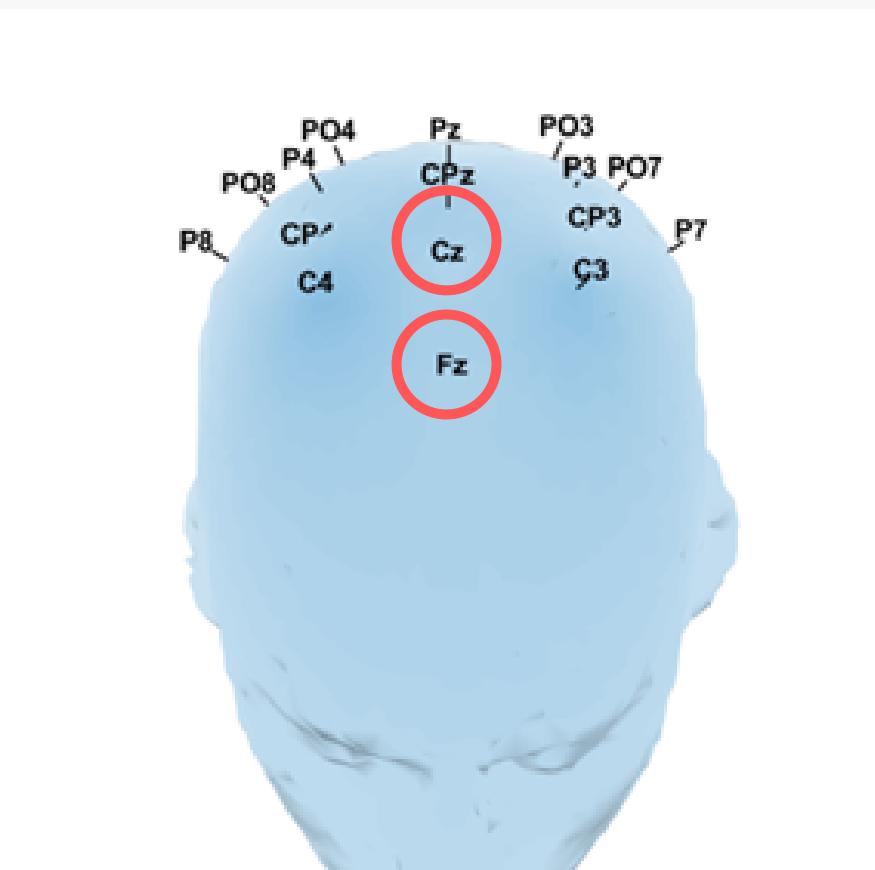
- Negative waveform
- 140ms to 200ms latency
- Face-sensitive
- Higher amplitude regarding faces stimuli
- Lateral-posterior distribution



II Theoretical Review

VPP

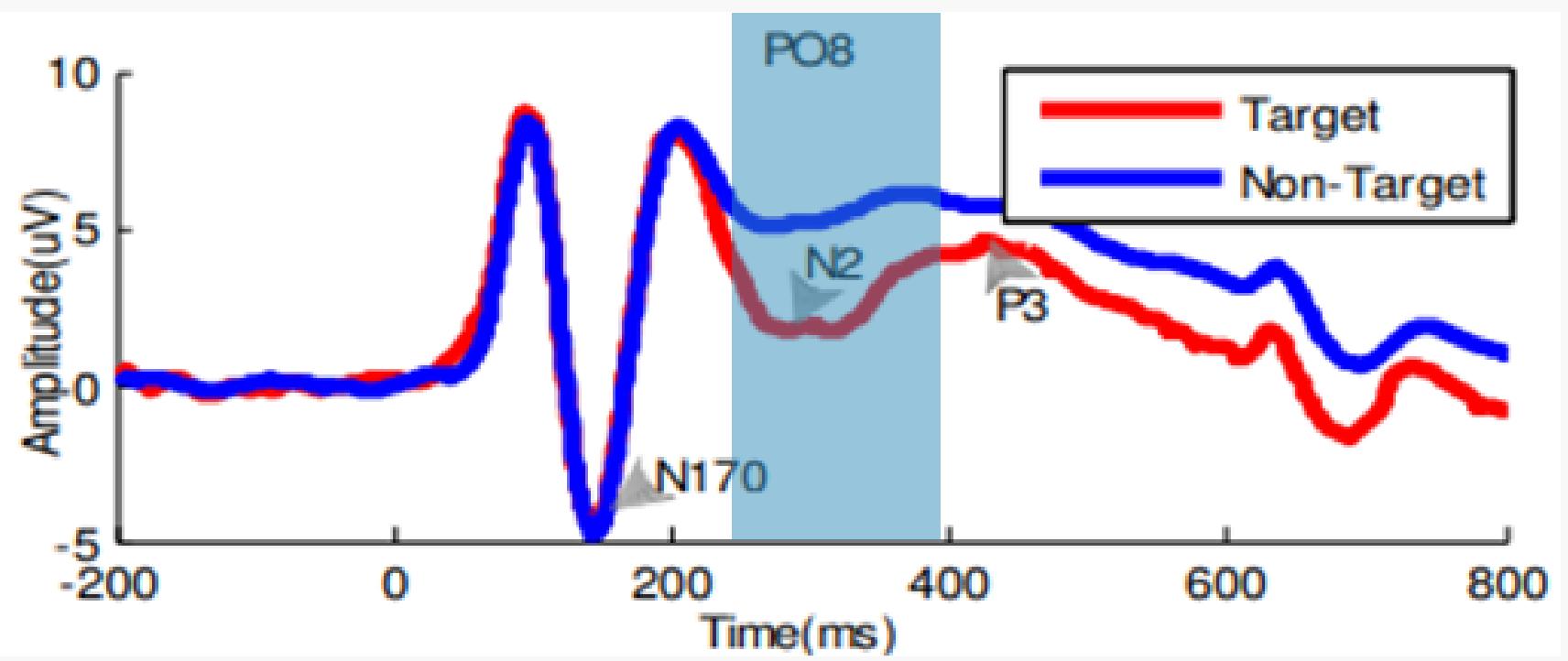
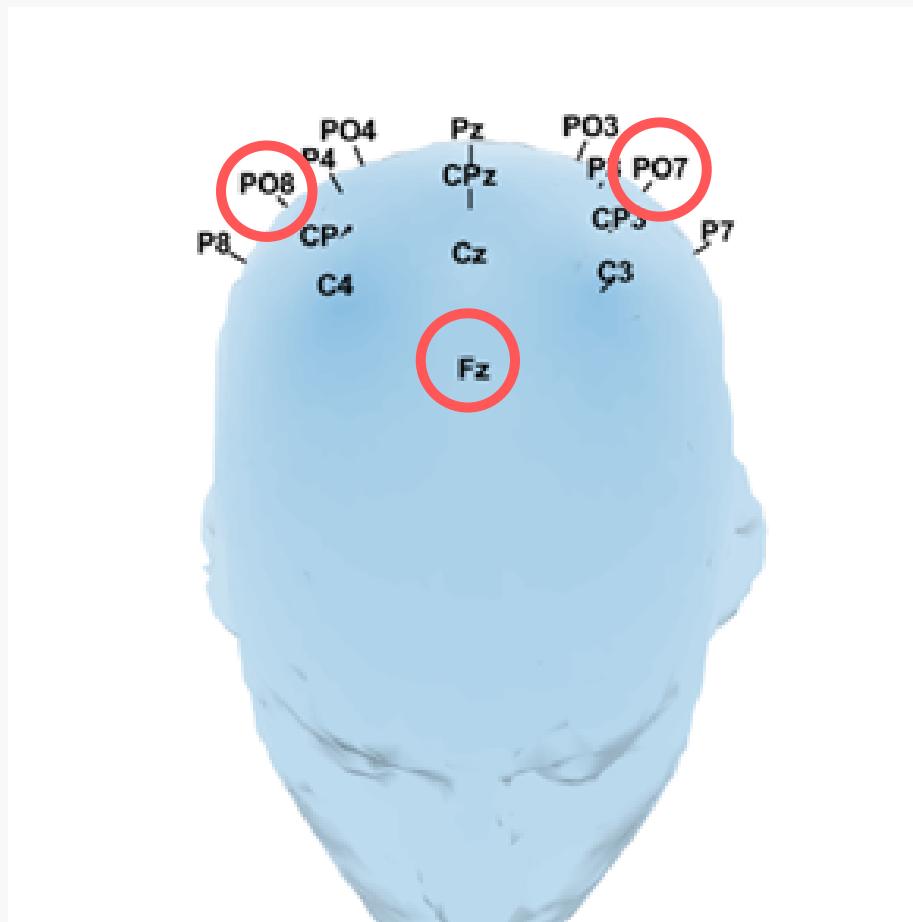
- N170 positive Counterpart
- 140ms to 200ms latency
- N170 and VPP responses are associated
- Medial zone distribution



II Theoretical Review

N2

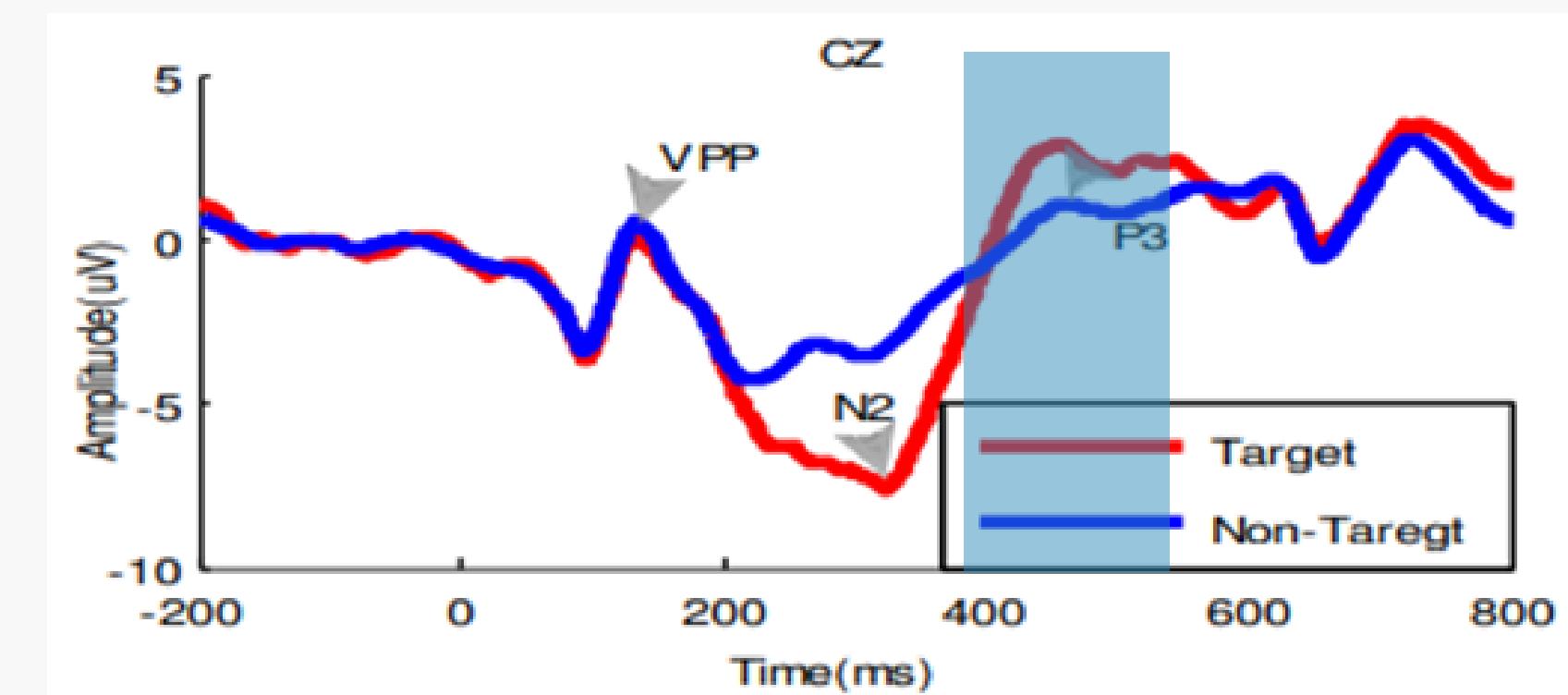
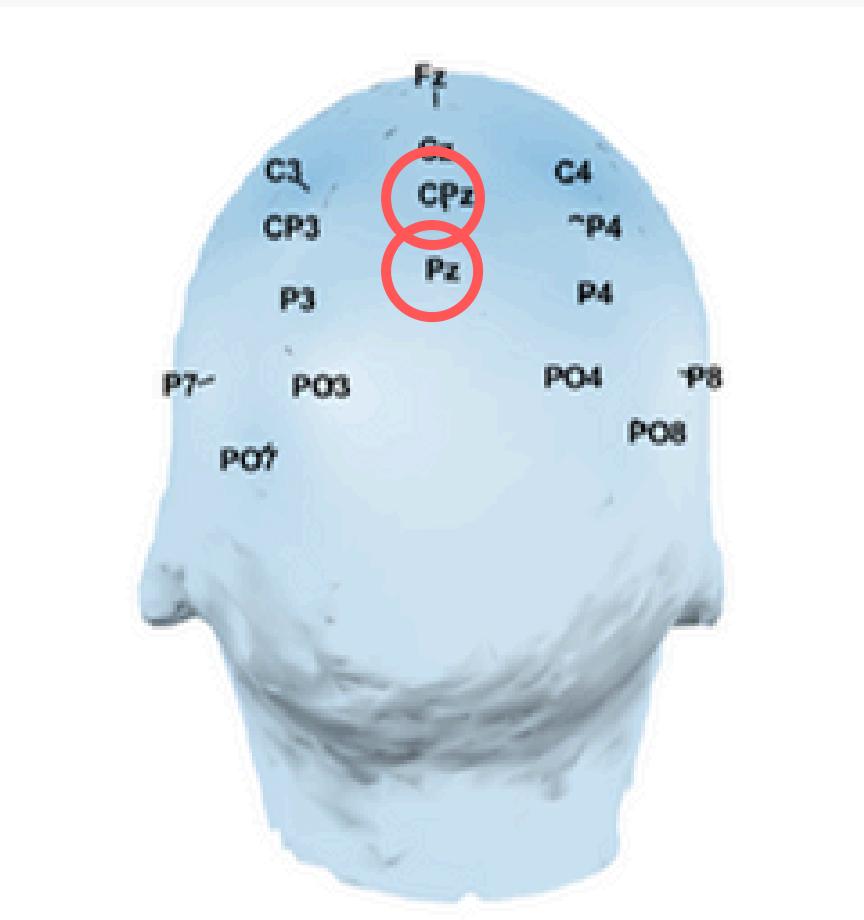
- Negative waveform
- 200ms to 350ms latency
- Studied in oddball paradigm
- Rare, unexpected or deviant stimuli
- Ocipital/frontocentral distribution



II Theoretical Review

P300

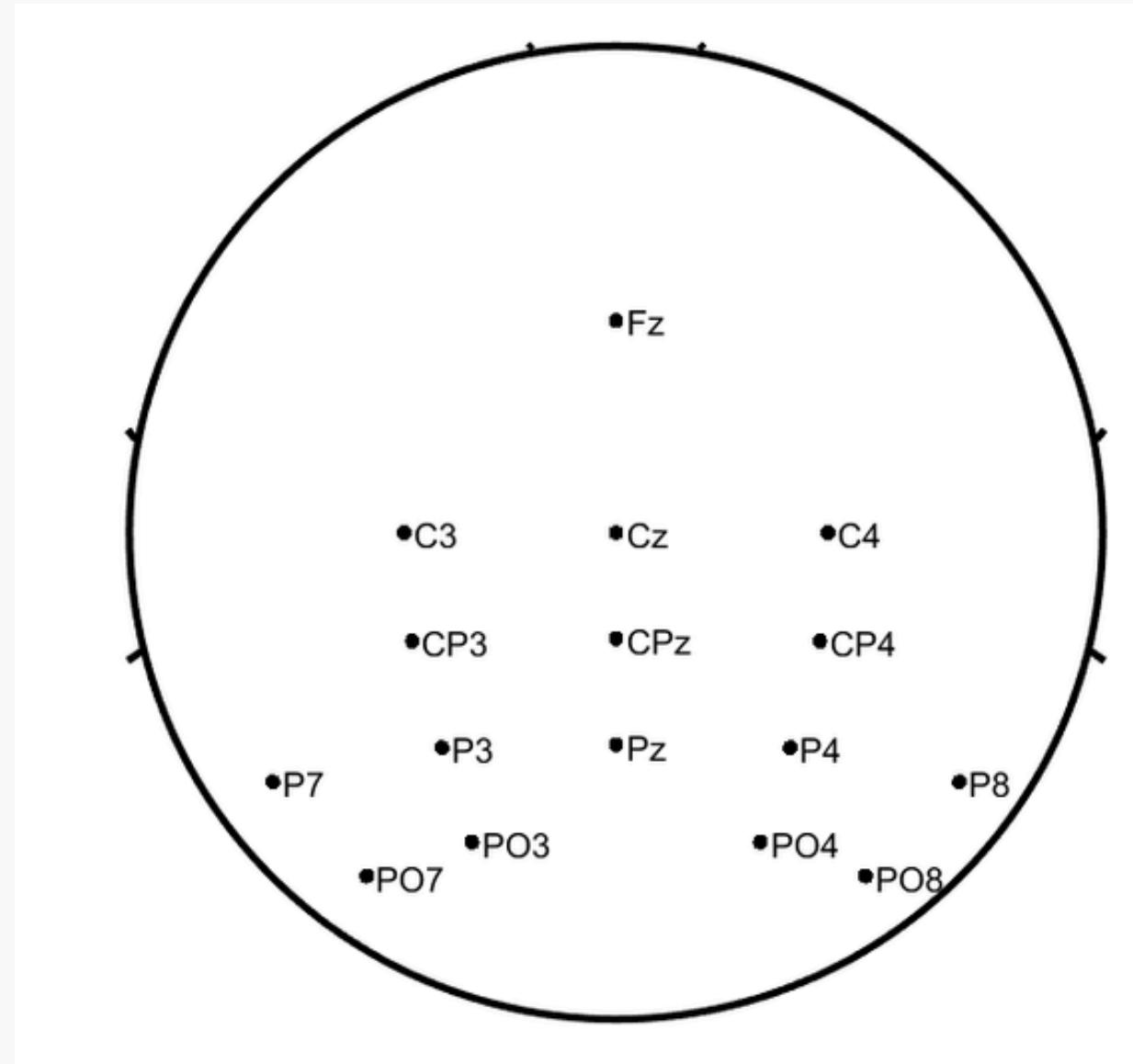
- Positive waveform
- 220ms to 380ms latency
- Studied in oddball paradigm
- Amplitude and latency vary with stimuli' salience, attention, task demands
- Parietal/centroparietal distribution



II Theoretical Review

Electrode Selection

2D Channel Location



16 Electrodes with special focus on the Parietal-Occipital region, associated to the visual paradigm.

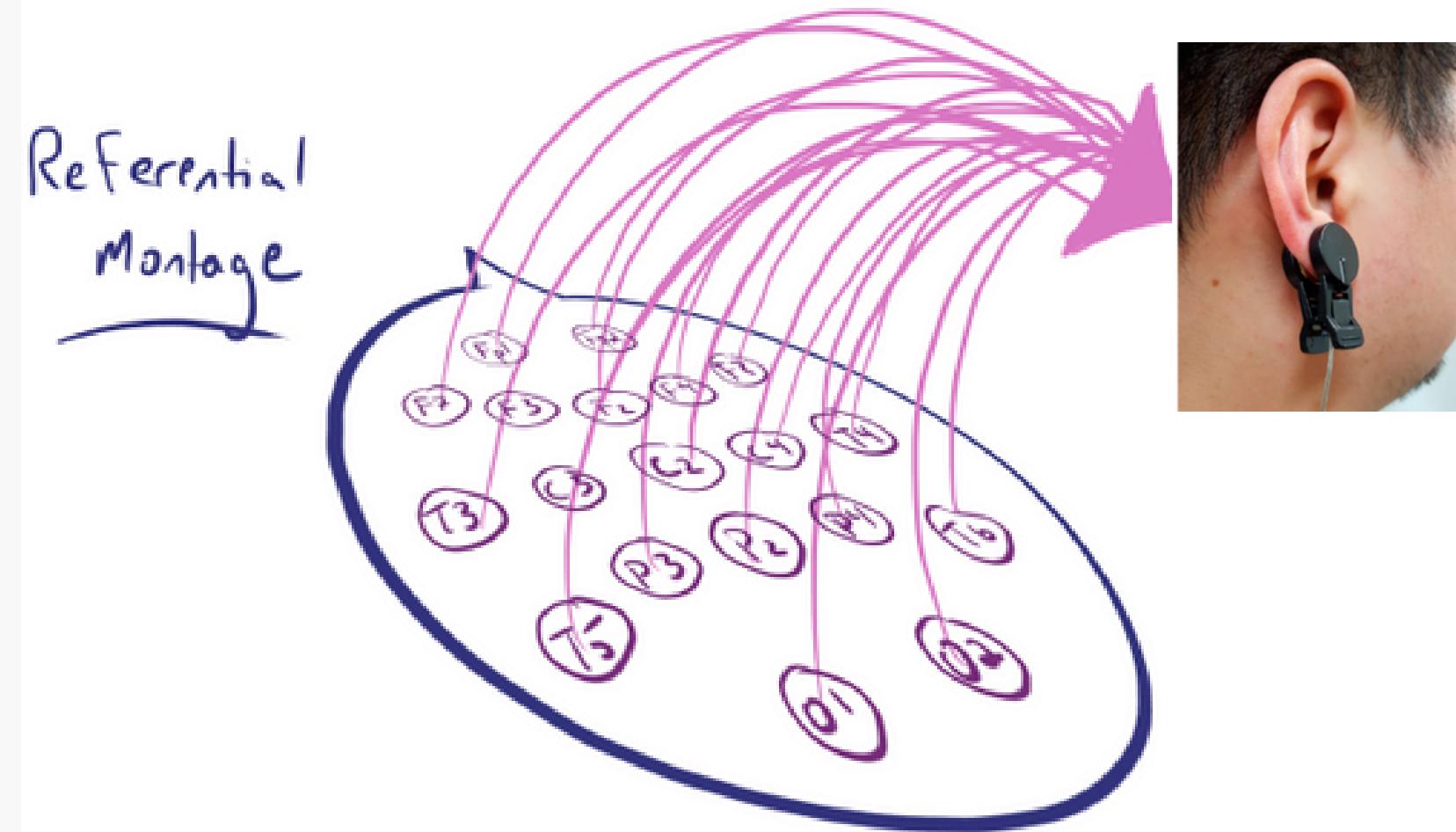
II Theoretical Review

EEG Montage

Common Reference: all electrodes are compared to a reference electrode

Advantages

- Simpler
- No phase reversals
- Easier to find maximum amplitude electrodes
- Minimizes abnormalities from distributed brain potentials

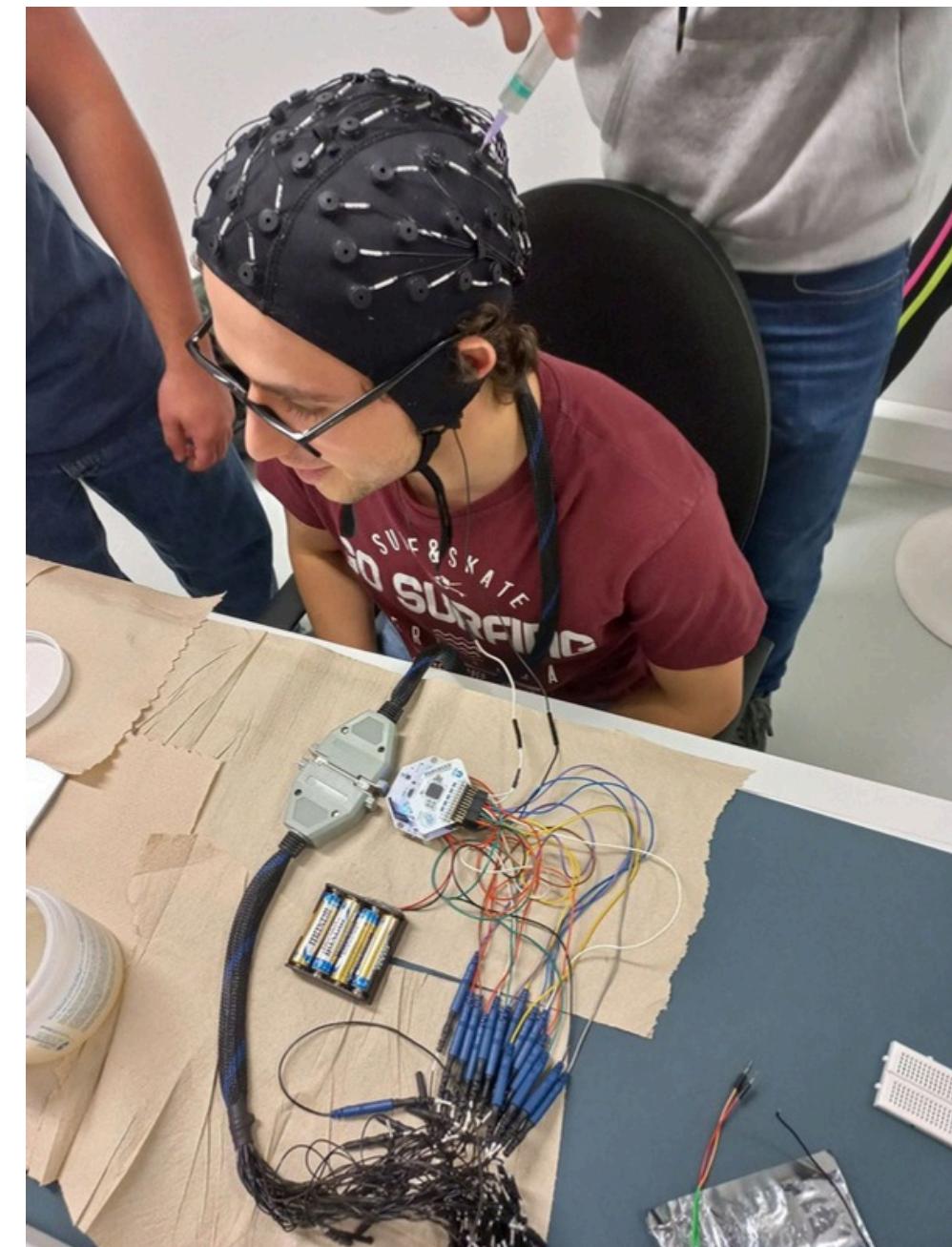


III Methods

Setup

Materials:

- fMRI simulator
- 64 electrode cap
- Adaptor cables
- Cyton + Daisy
- Dongle
- Photoresistor (+ breadboard circuit)
- Seringe + Electrode gel



III Methods

fMRI simulator



III Methods

OpenBCI

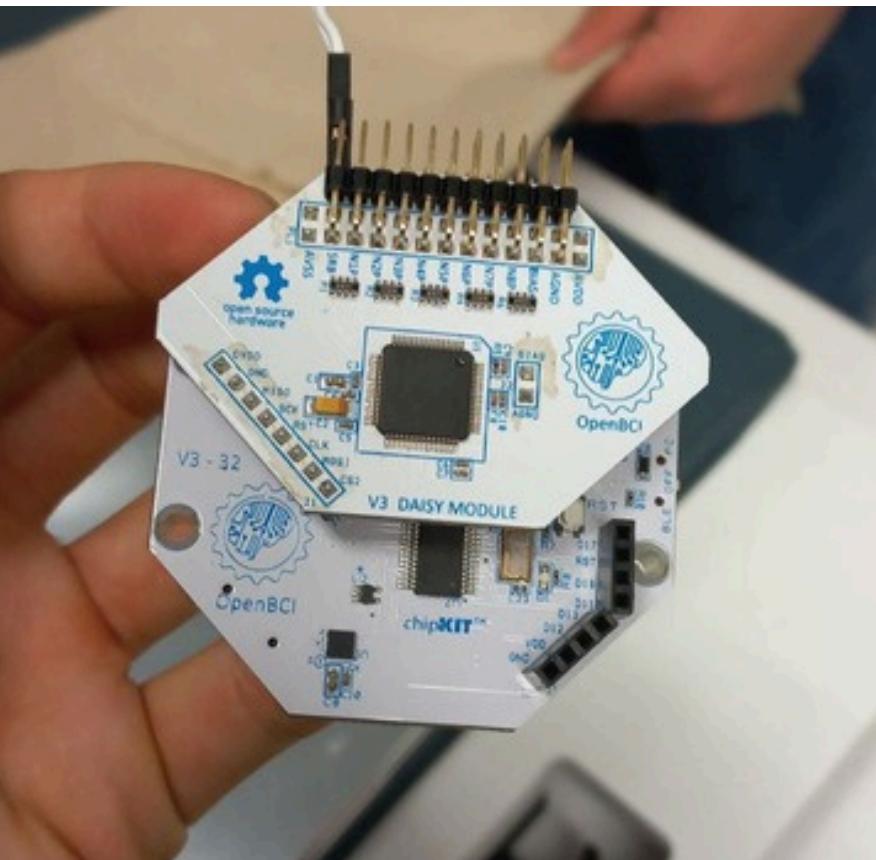


OpenBCI creates open-source tools for biosensing and neuroscience. OpenBCI's mission is to lower the barrier to entry for brain-computer interfacing, while ensuring that these technologies are adopted into the consumer landscape in an ethical way that protects user agency and mental health.

<https://openbcicom/about>

III Methods

OpenBCI



Cyton + Daisy
Biosensing Boards

- Cyton is the main microcontroller
- Daisy is an expandable module
- 16 channels
- EEG, EMG, and ECG
- Wireless communication (dongle)
- Sampling Frequency of 125 Hz
- 24-bit channel data resolution
- Pre-loaded with OpenBCI firmware

III Methods

OpenBCI

OpenBCI GUI and drivers



BrainFlow Python Libraries



BrainFlow

How Biosensors Work

```
from brainflow.board_shim import BoardShim, BrainFlowInputParams, BoardIds  
from brainflow.data_filter import DataFilter  
  
board_id = BoardIds.CYTON_DAISY_BOARD.value
```

III Methods

PsychoPy



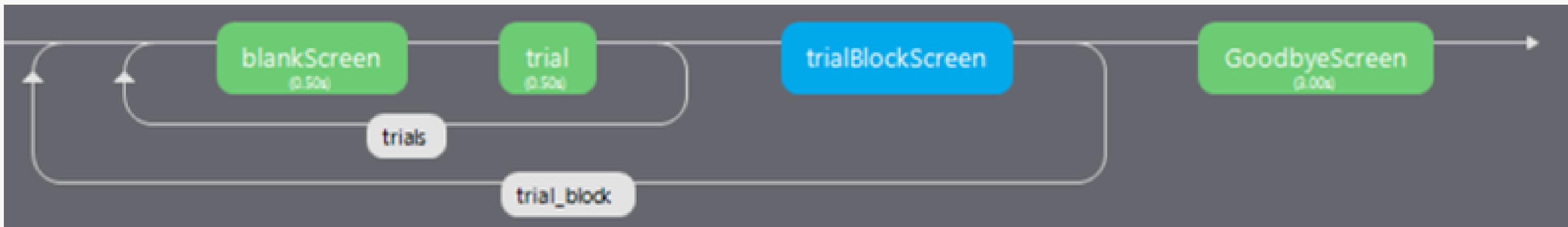
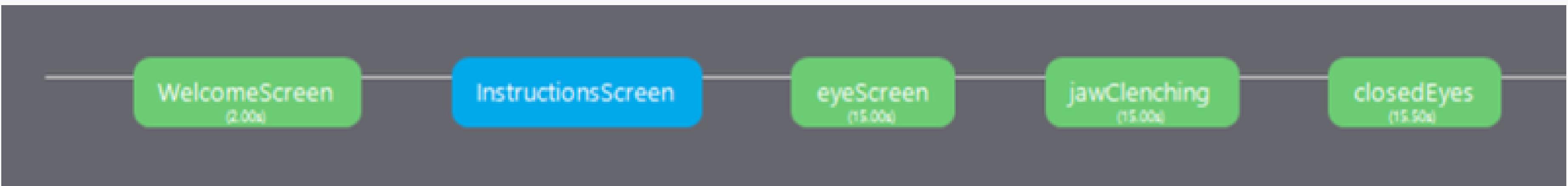
PsychoPy is a free cross-platform package allowing you to run a wide range of experiments in the behavioral sciences (neuroscience, psychology, psychophysics, linguistics...) with a friendly user interface.



Enables conversion of
graphical programming
into python code

III Methods

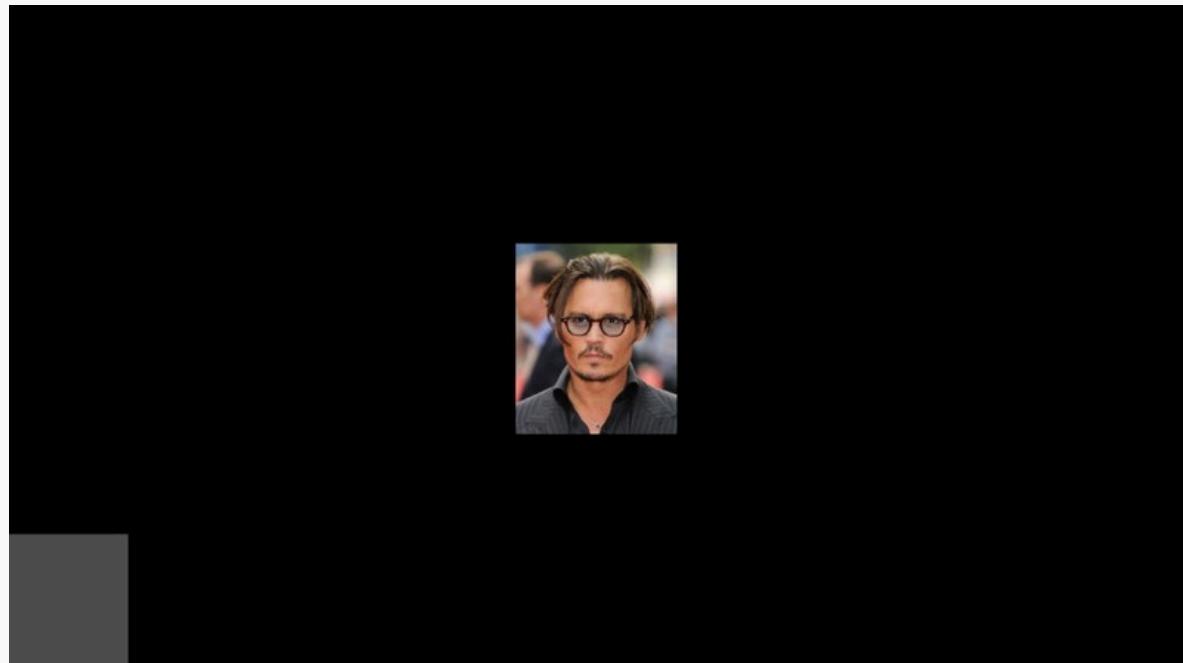
Protocol



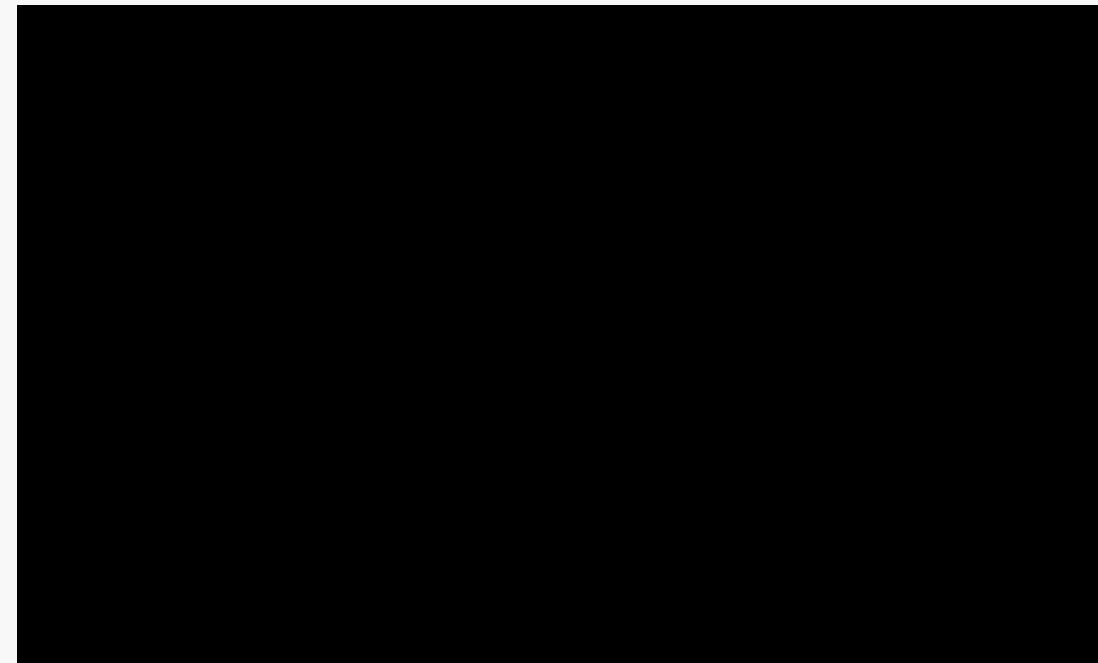
III Methods

Protocol

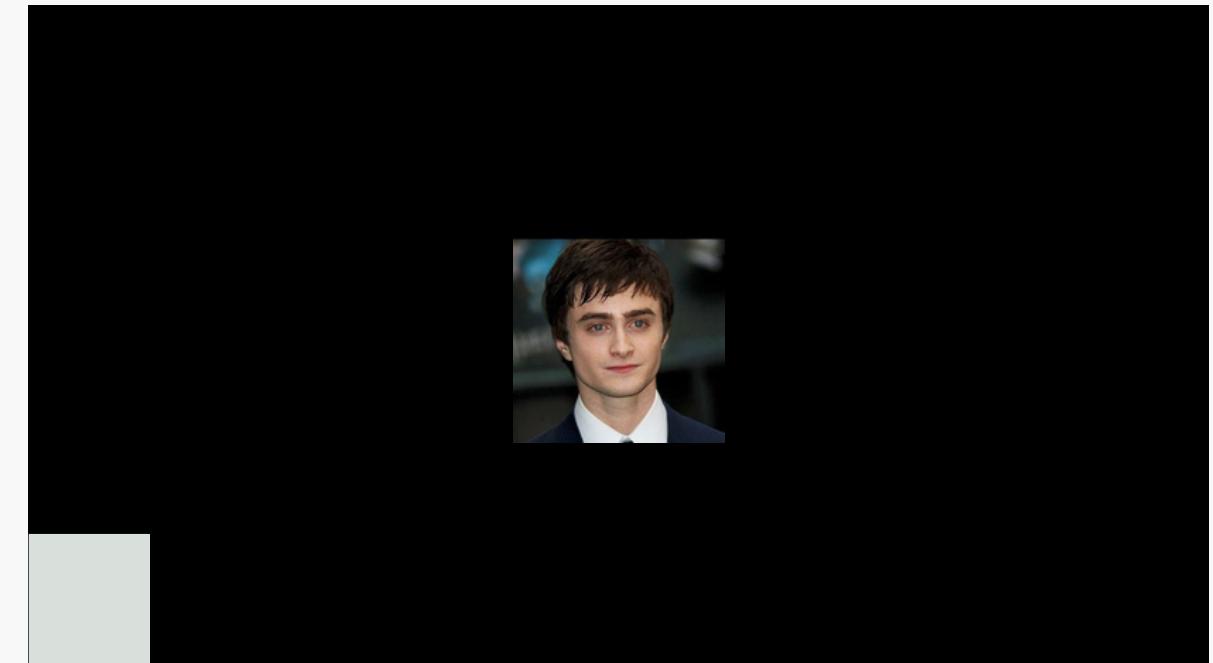
Non-target



Blank



Target



- 10 celebrities with 12 images each
- Complete acquisition: 12 blocks of 120 images each
- Target celebrity appears 10%

III Methods

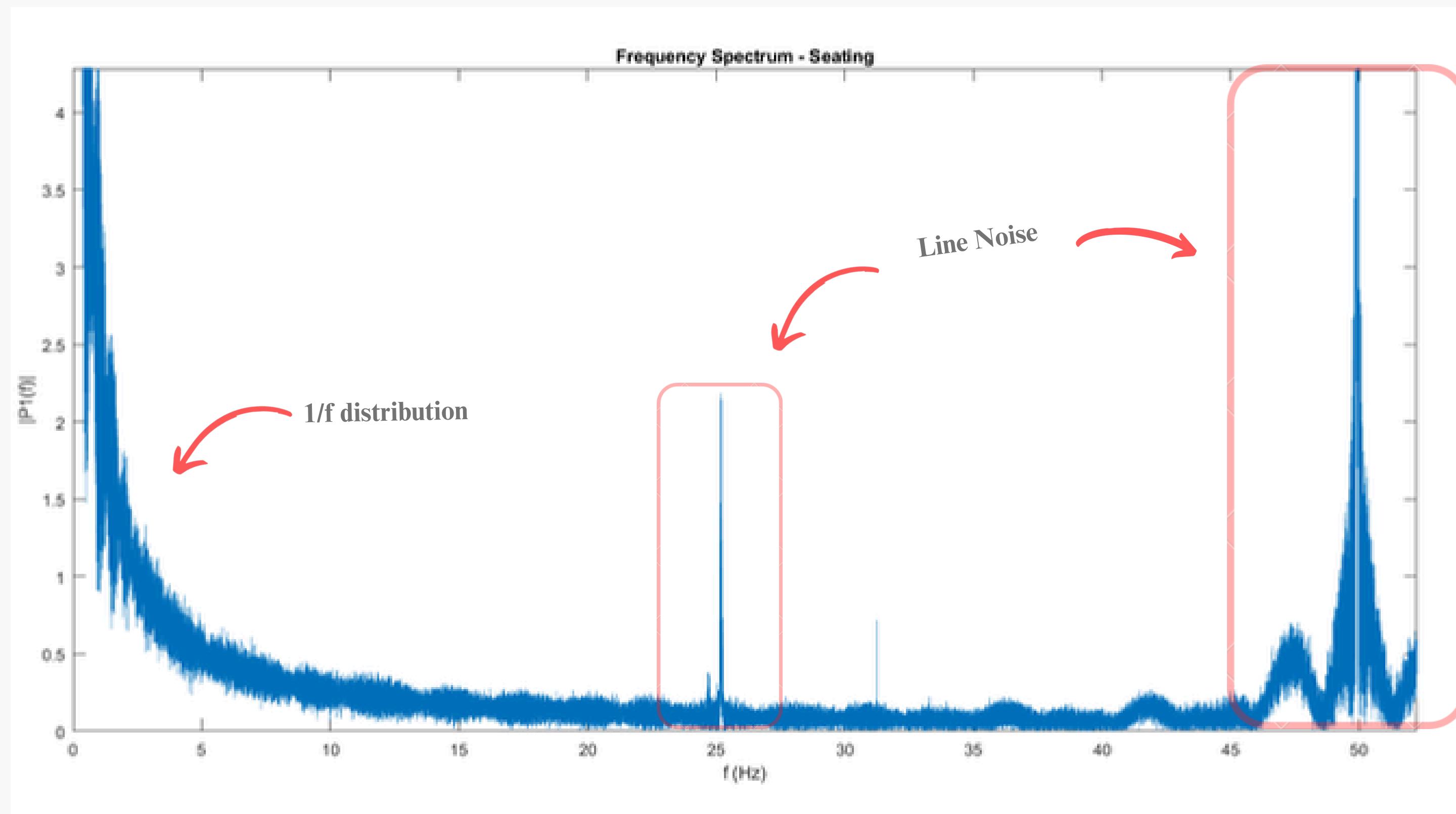
Protocol

Close your eyes and open them when you hear the beep.

III Methods

Pipeline

EEG analysis



III Methods

Pipeline

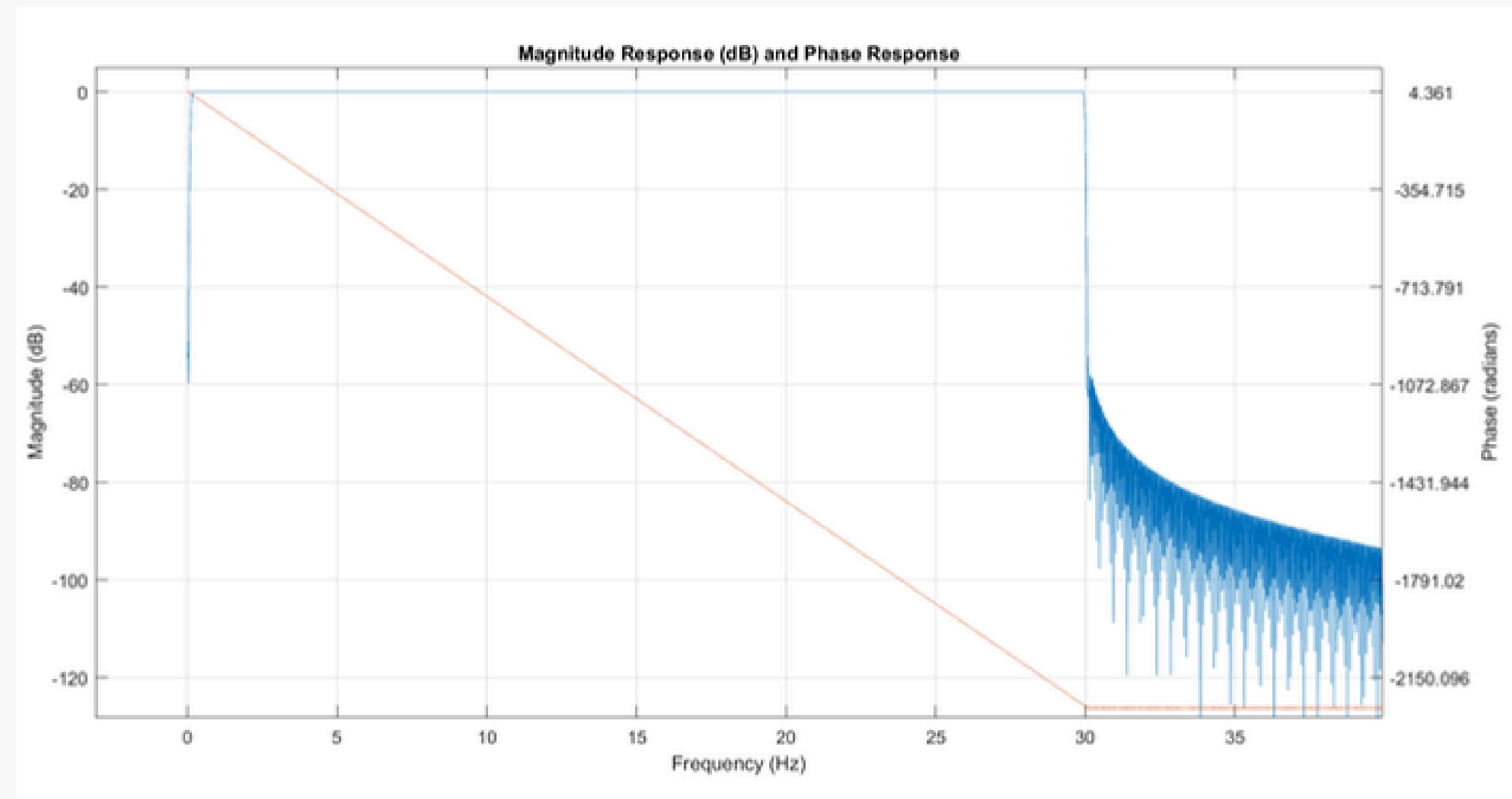
Filtering

FIR

0.1 - 30 Hz

Hamming

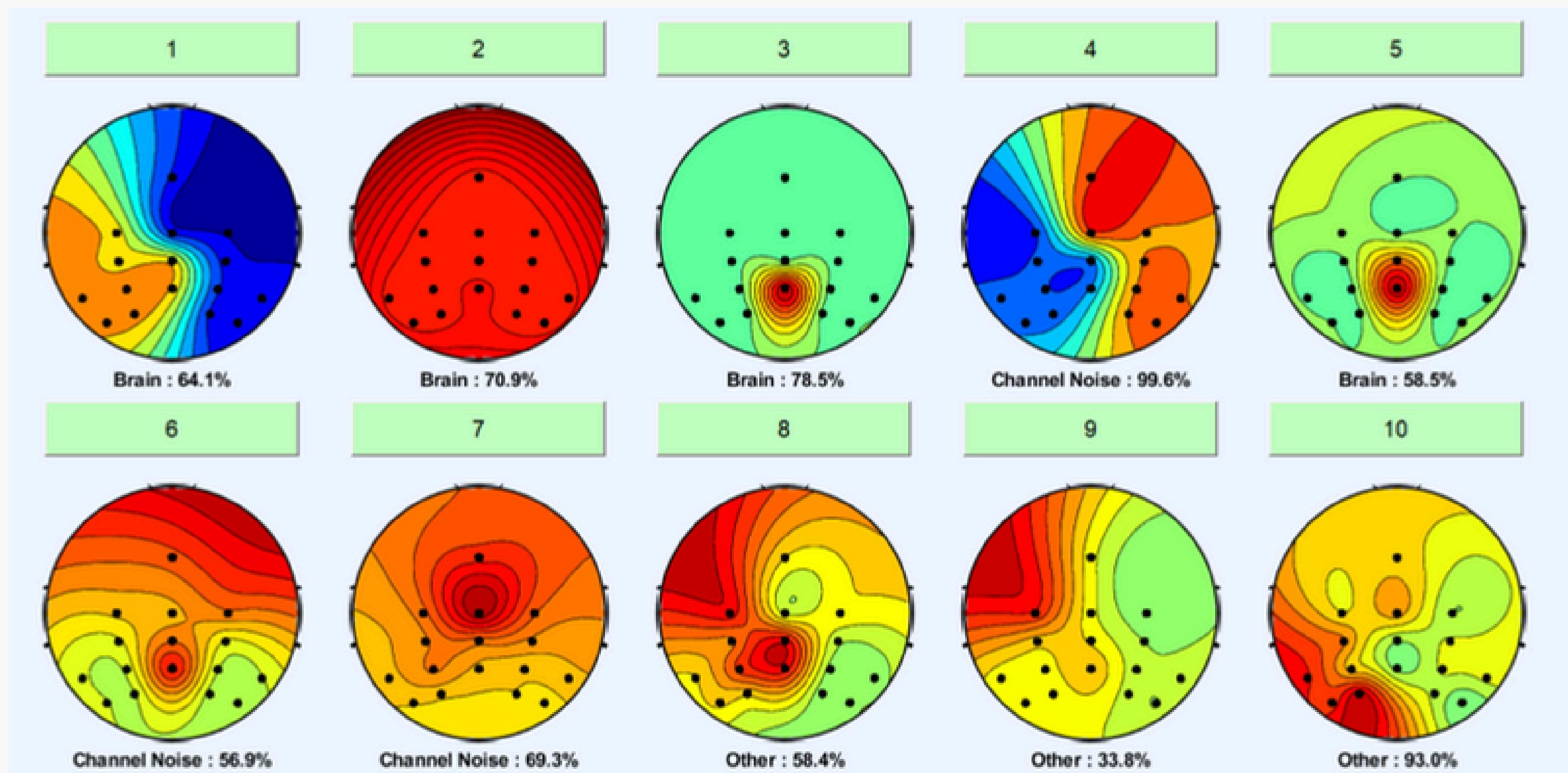
3000 Order



III Methods

Pipeline

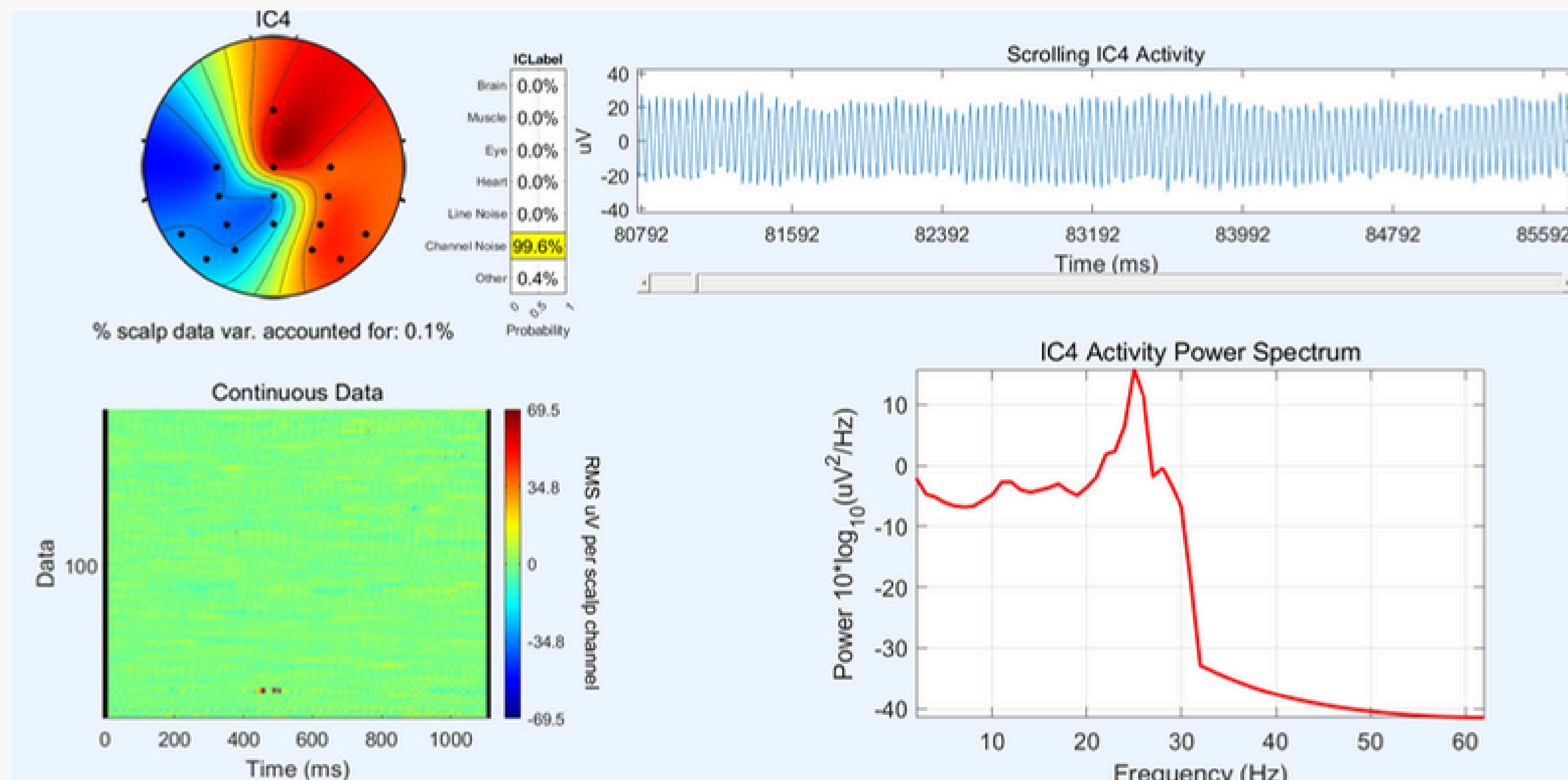
ICA Analysis



III Methods

Pipeline

ICA Analysis

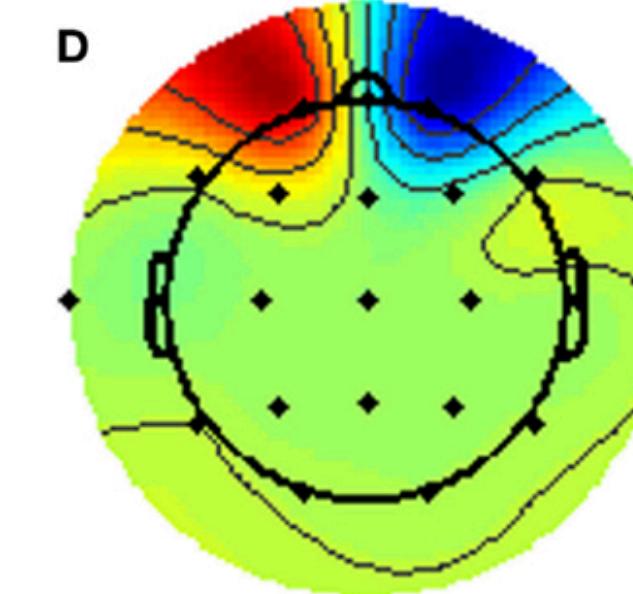
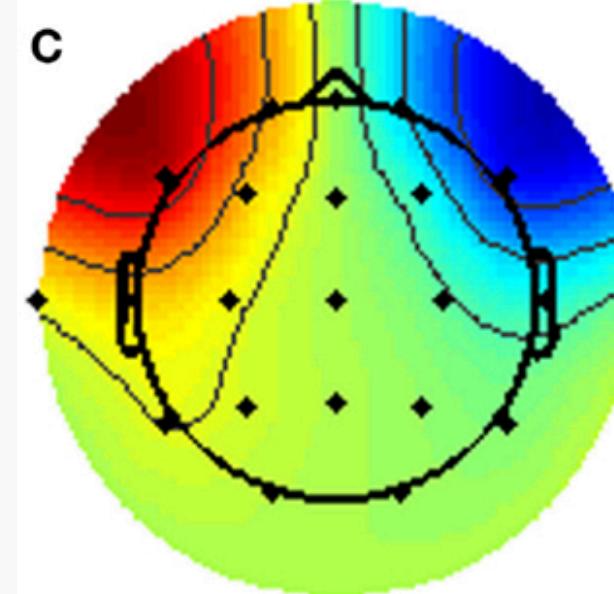
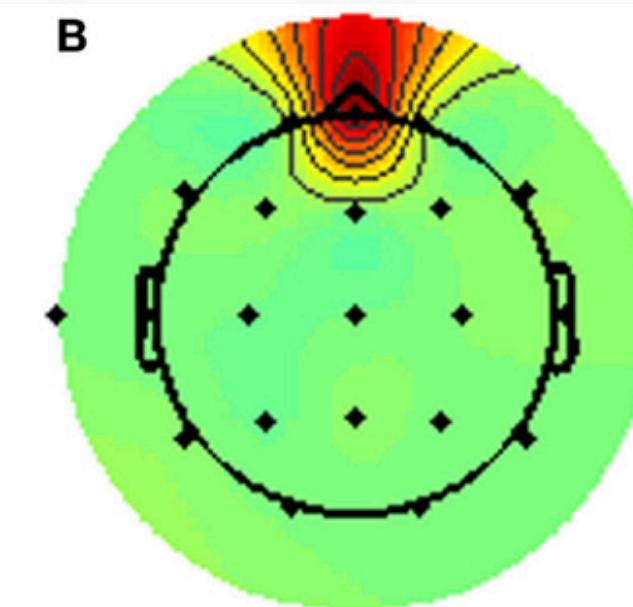
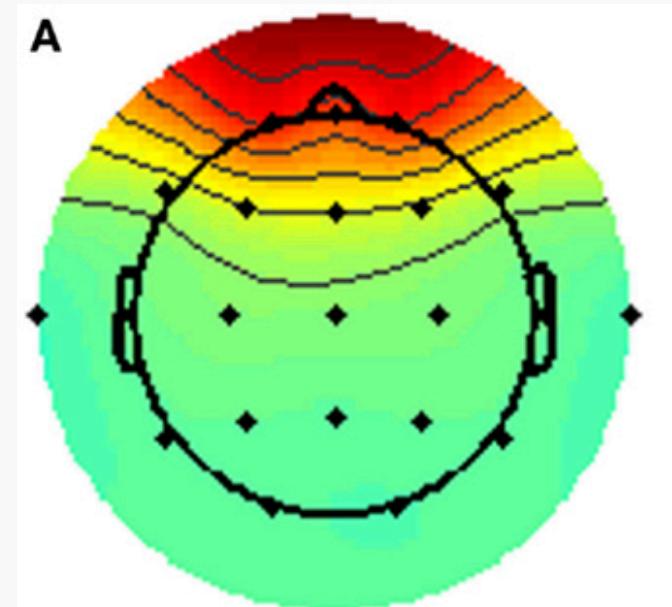


III Methods

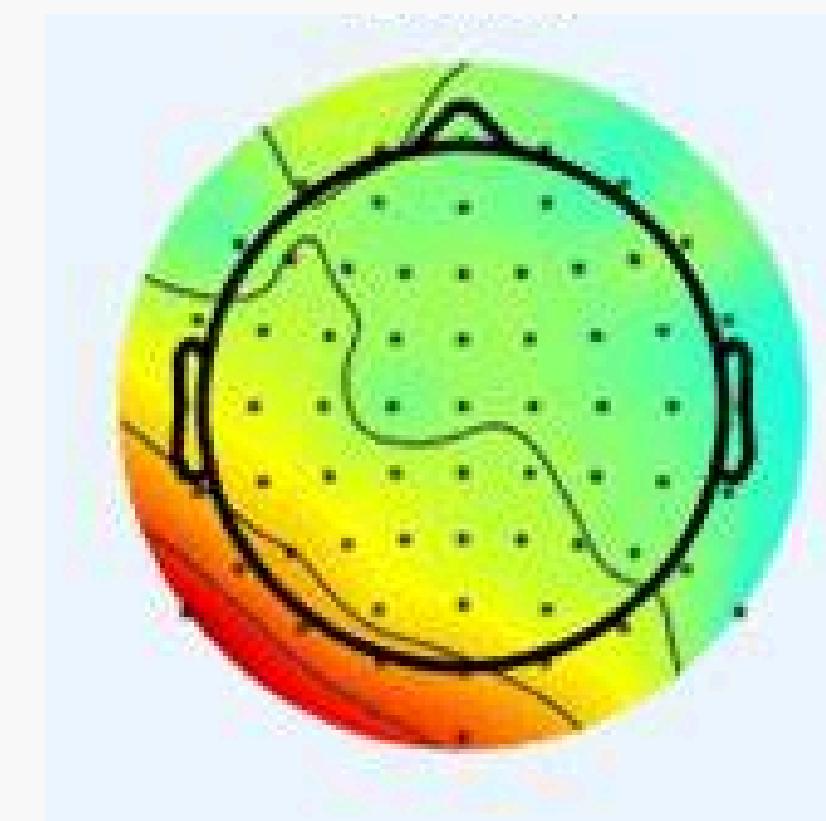
Pipeline

ICA Analysis

EOG



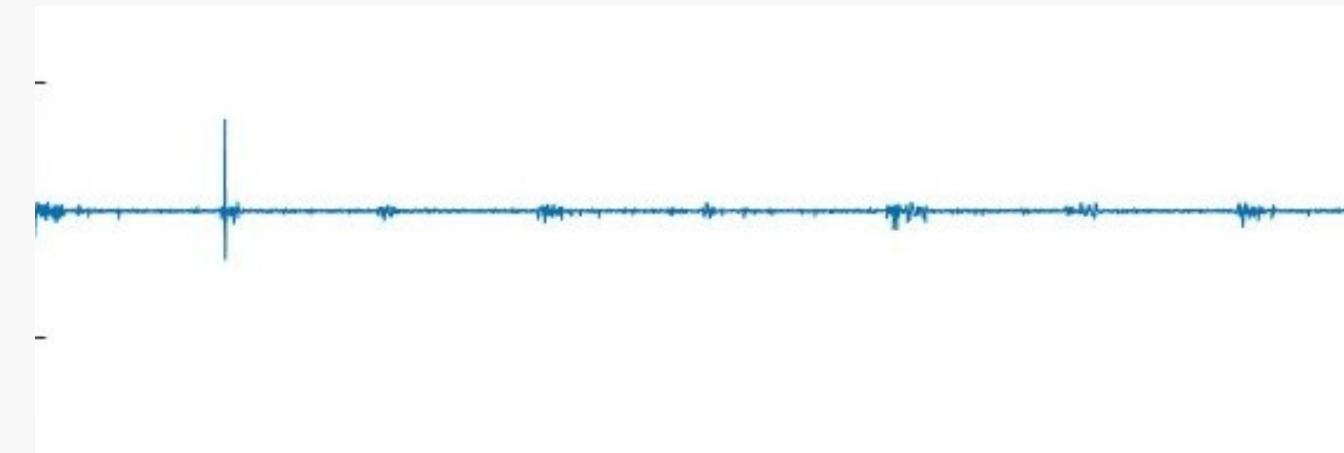
Neck EMG



III Methods

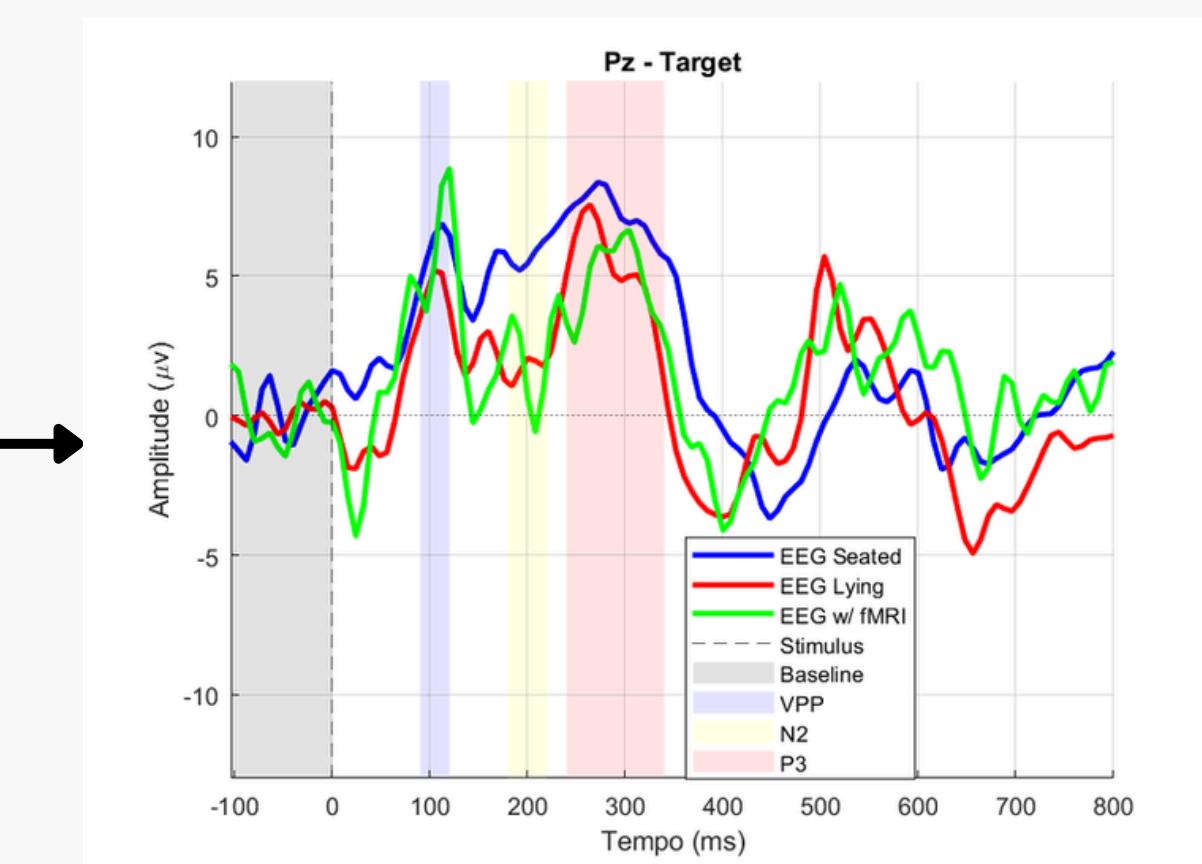
Pipeline

Segmentation



Whole EEG signal

?



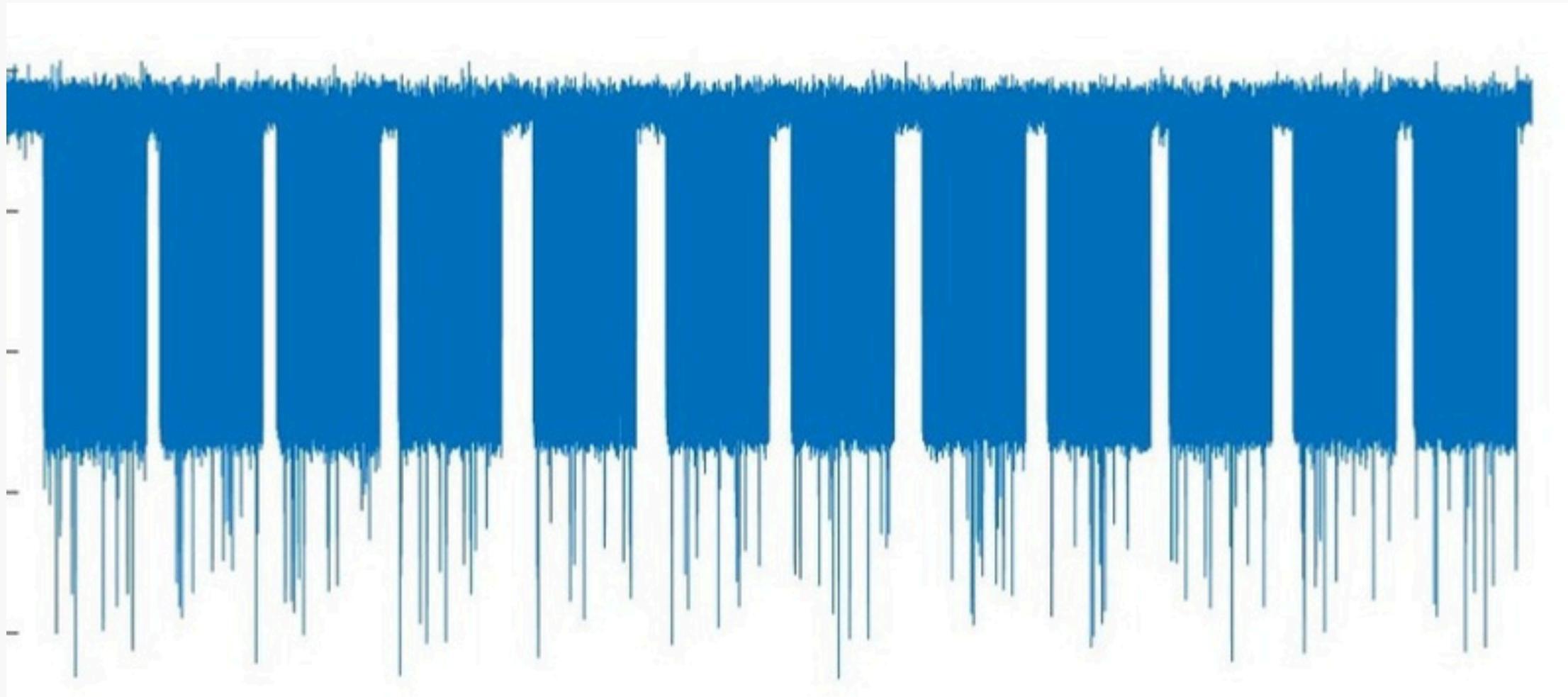
Segmented EEG signal

III Methods

Signal Segmentation

Pipeline

Segmentation

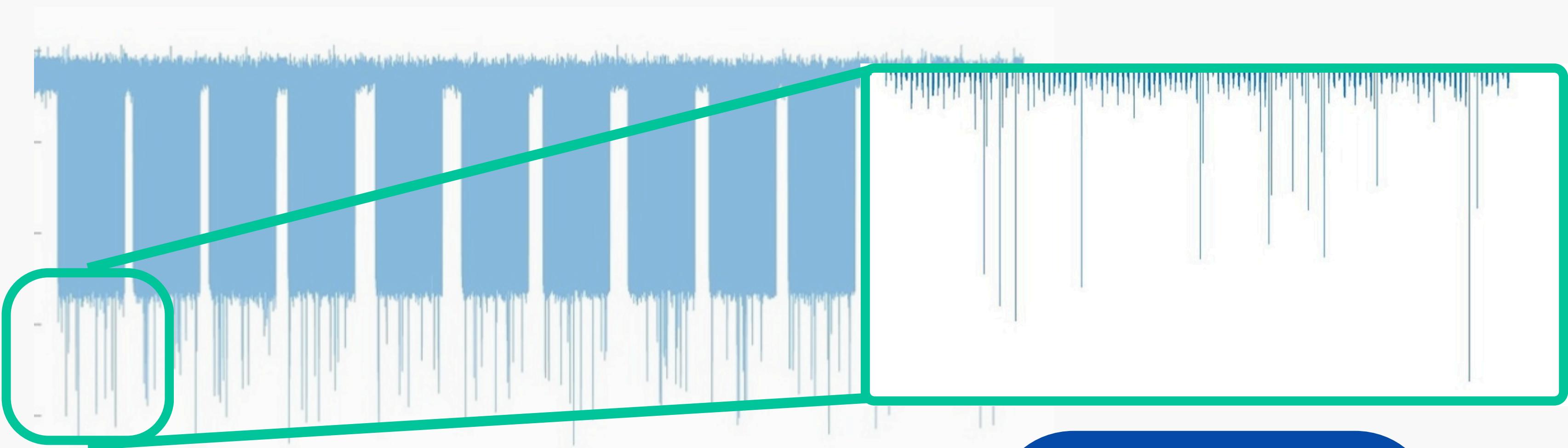


12 Blocks = 12 Trials

III Methods

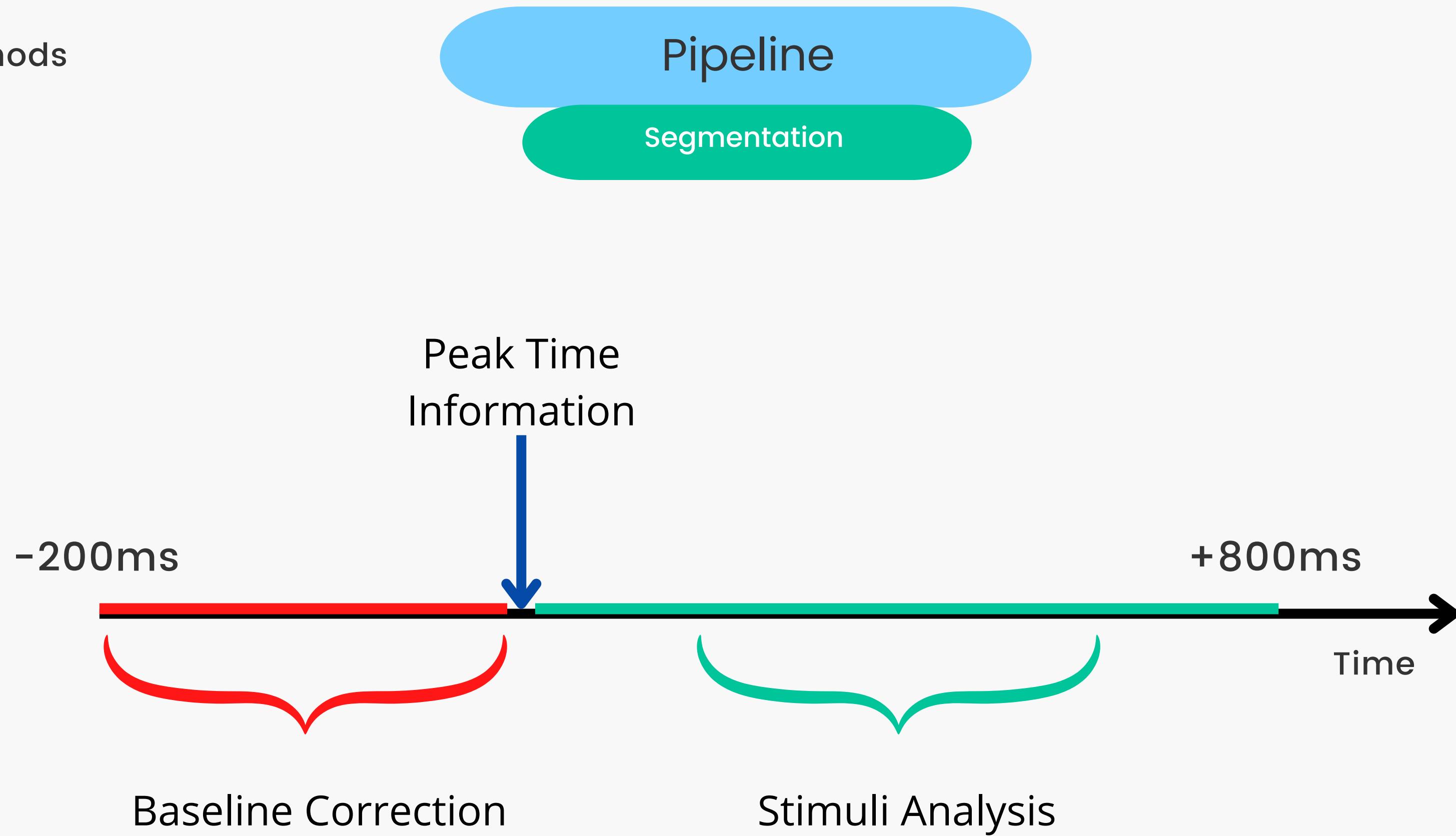
Pipeline

Segmentation



12 Peaks = 12 Targets

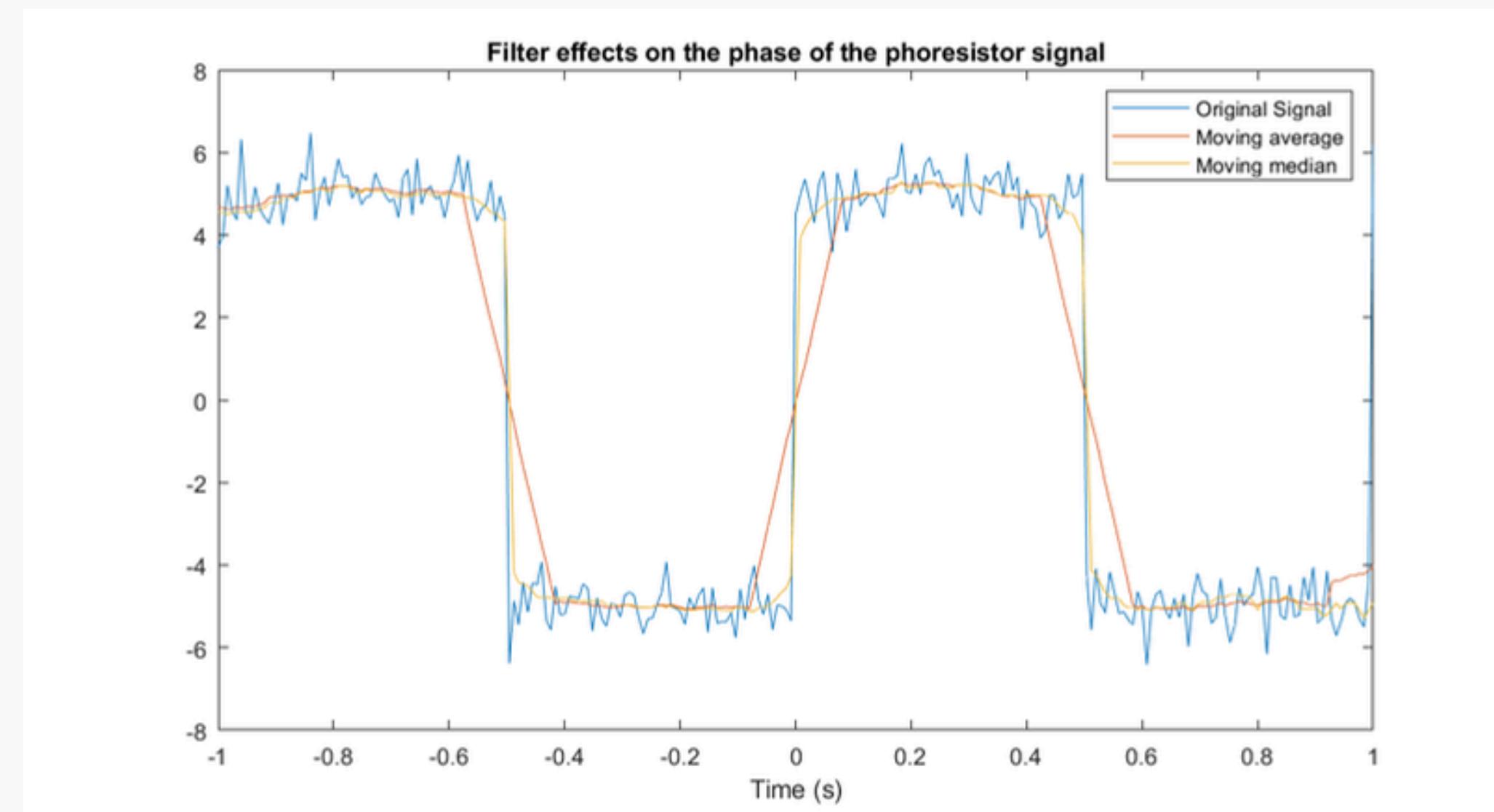
III Methods



III Methods

Pipeline

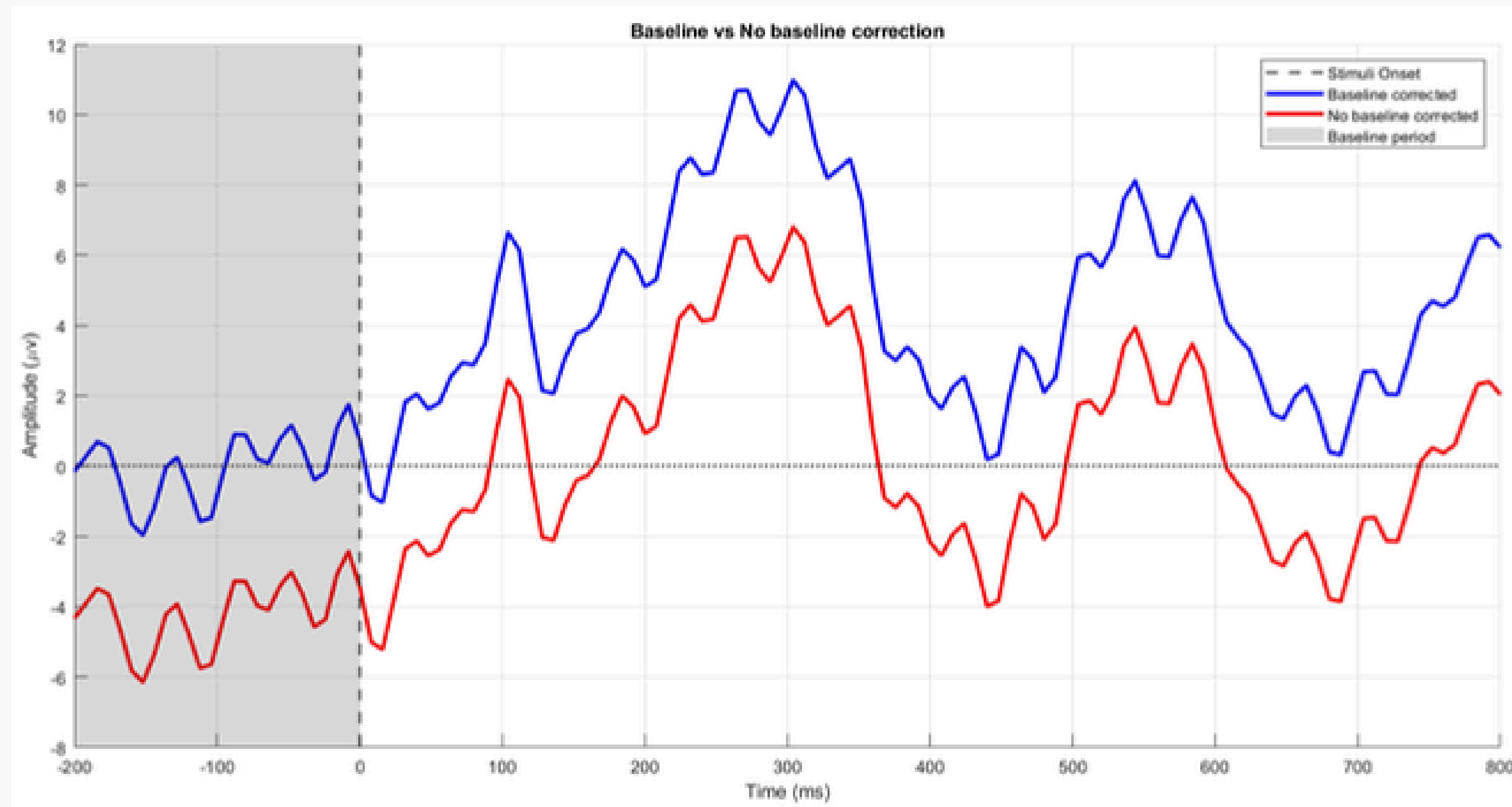
Segmentation



III Methods

Pipeline

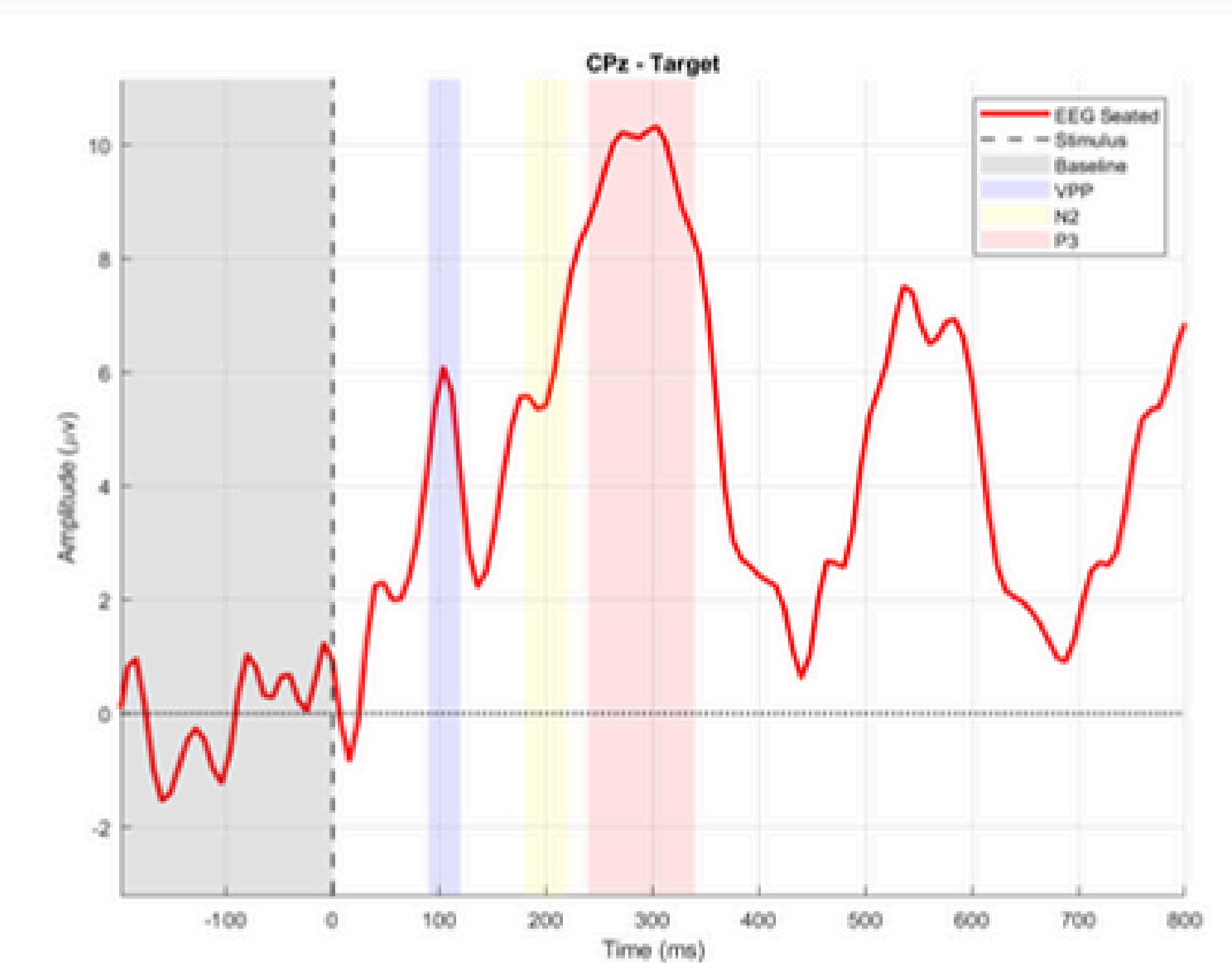
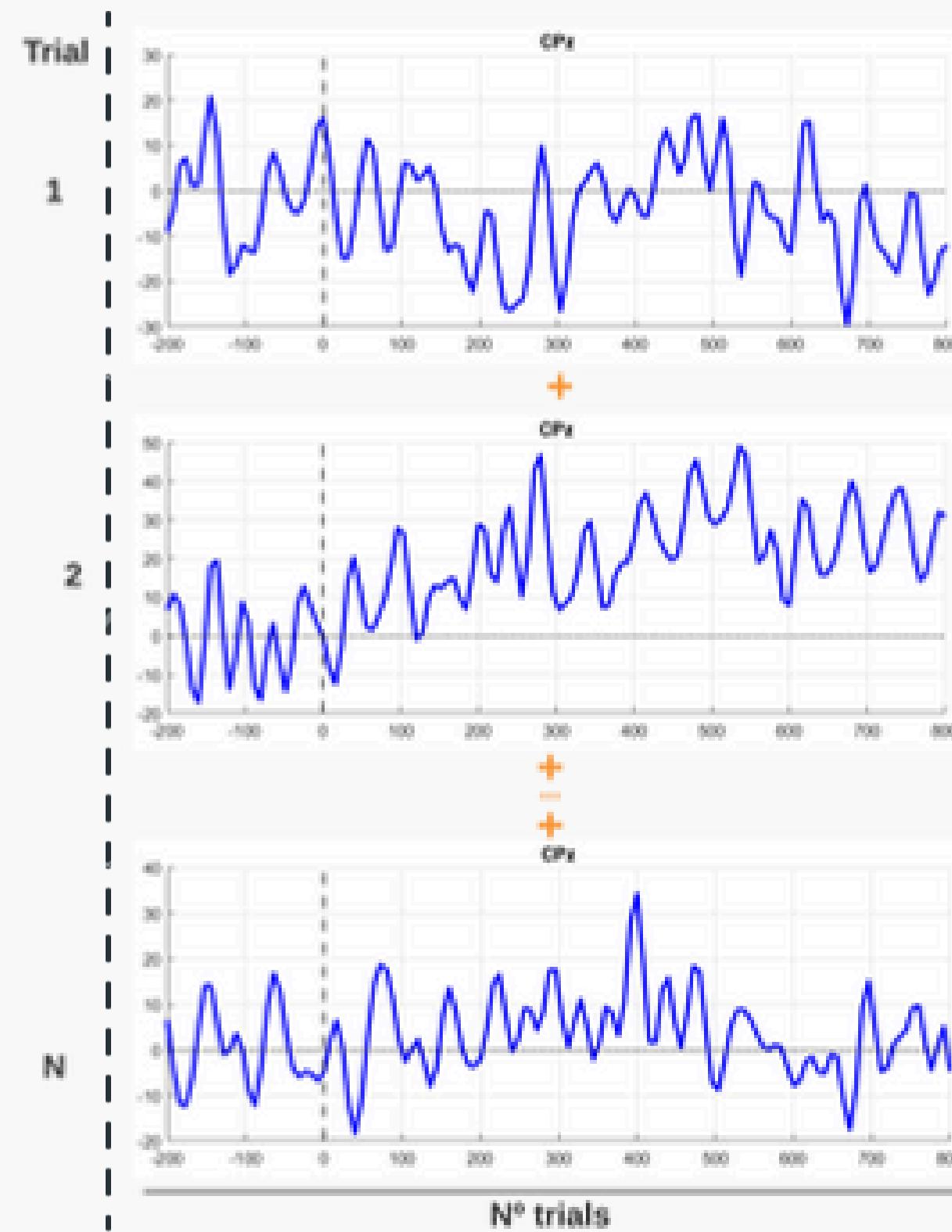
Baseline correction



III Methods

Pipeline

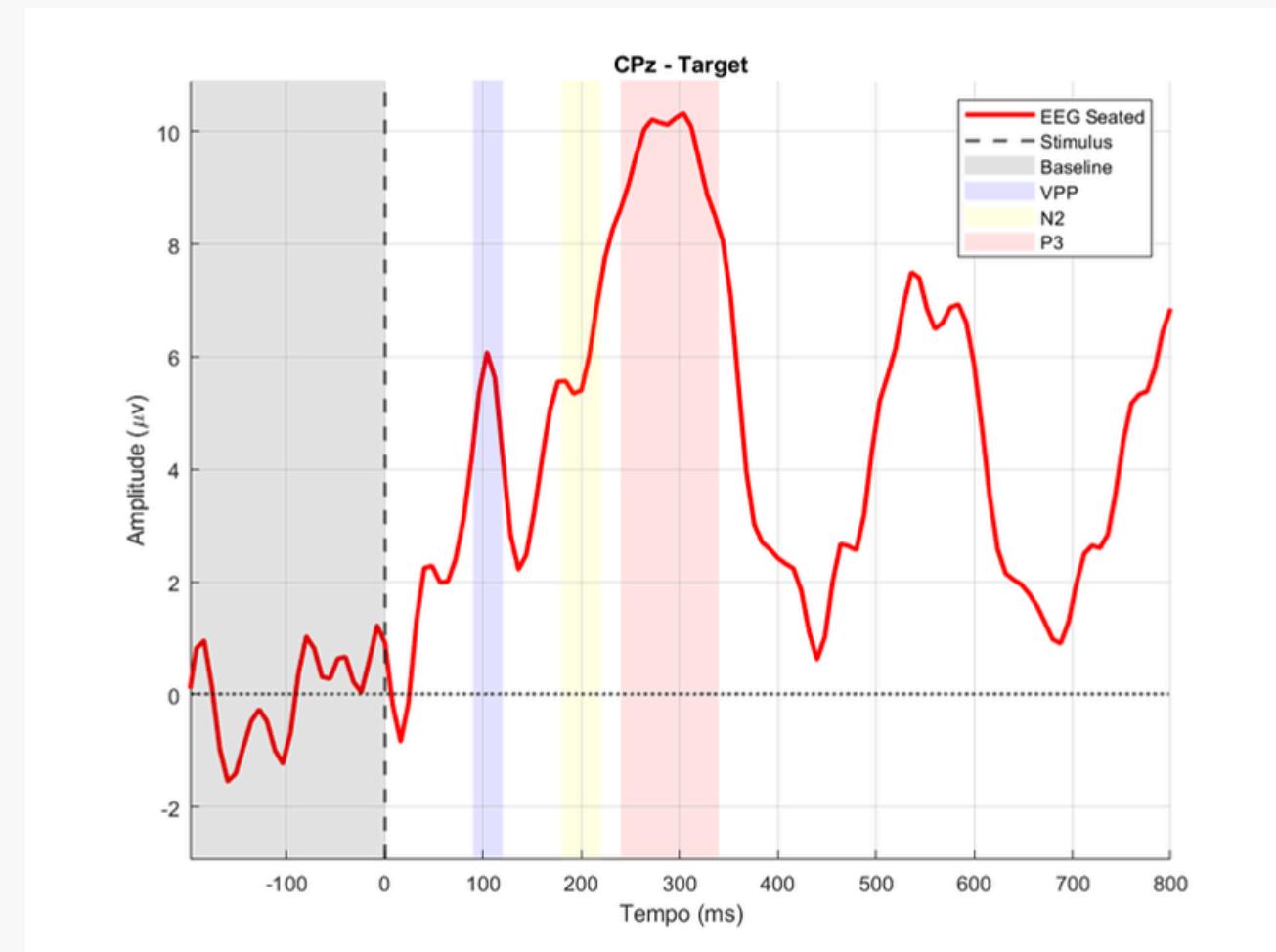
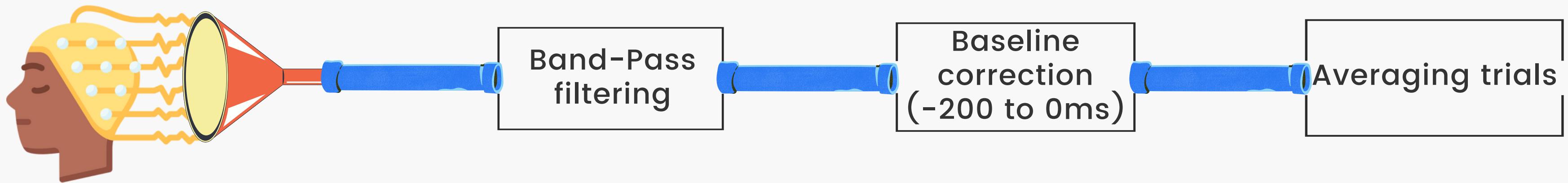
Computing the ERPs



Question

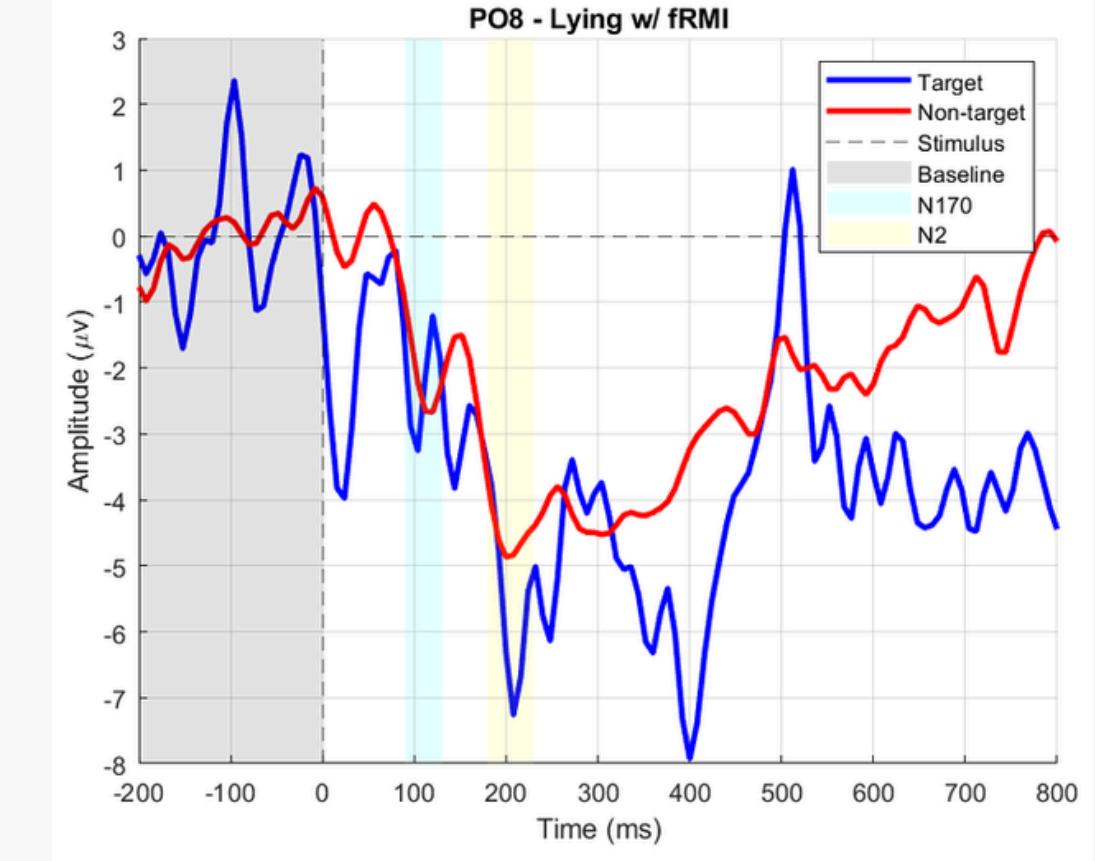
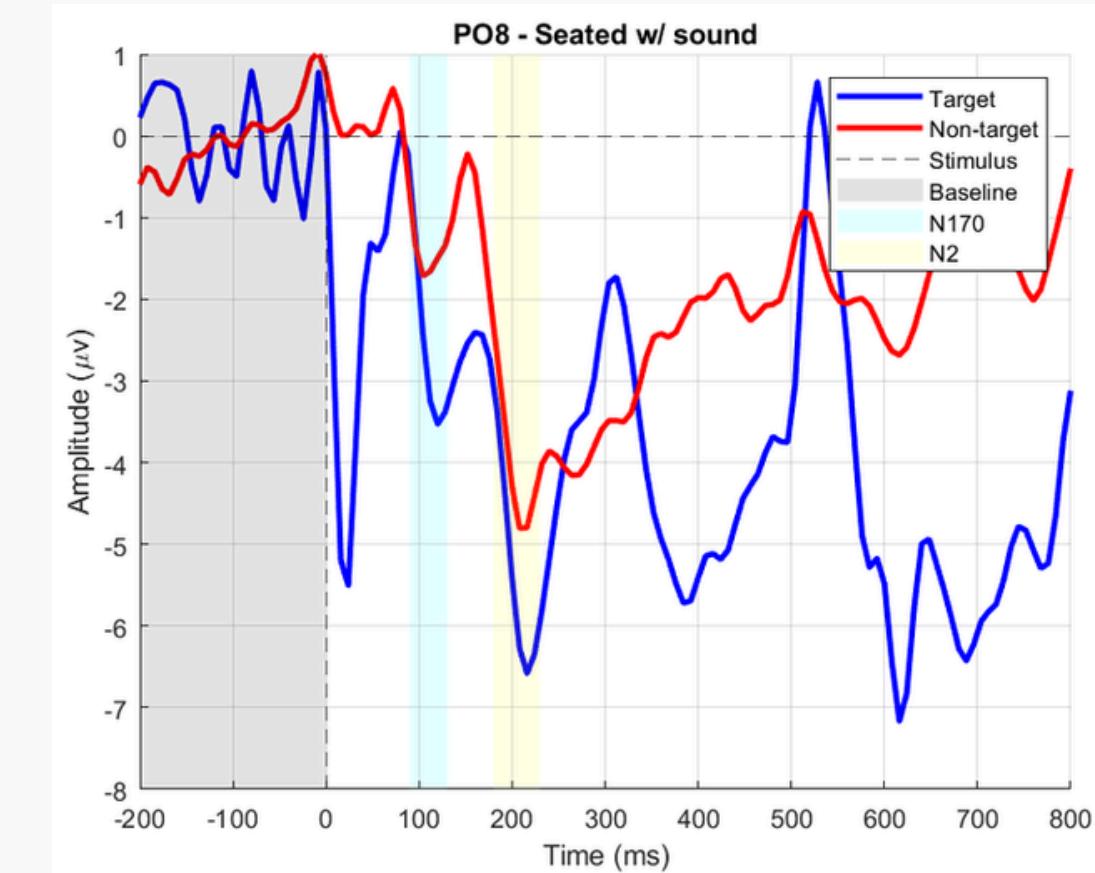
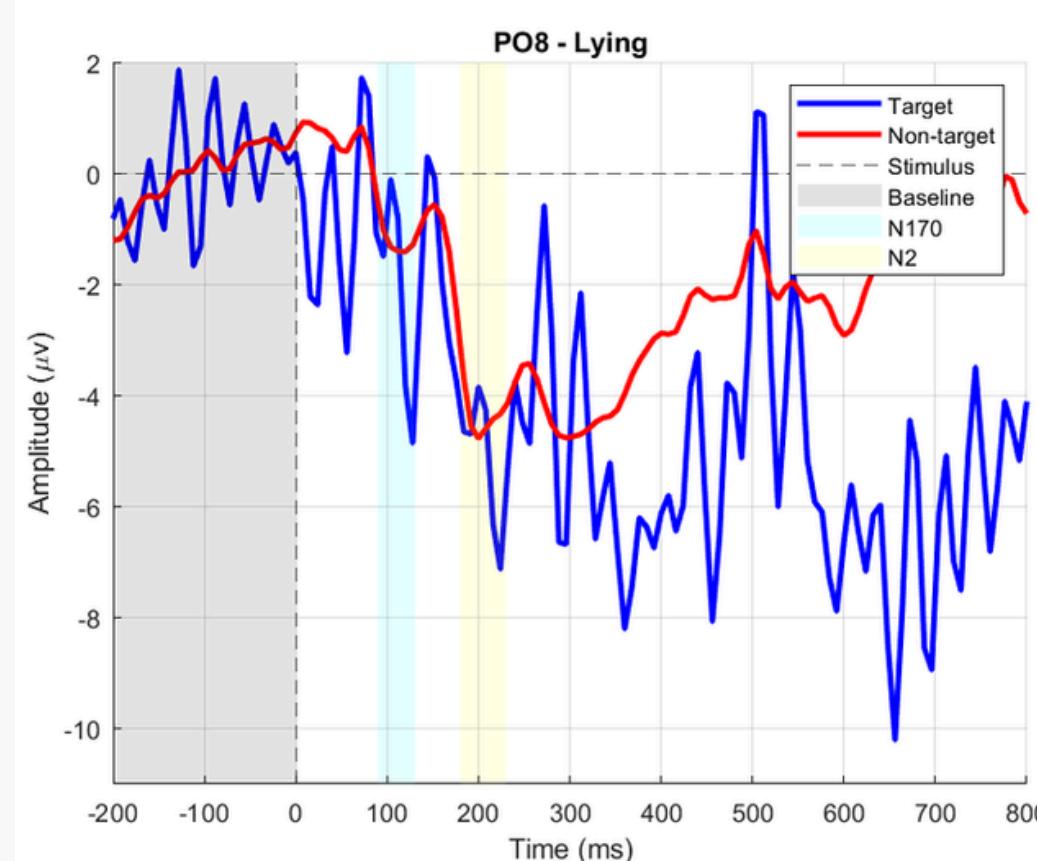
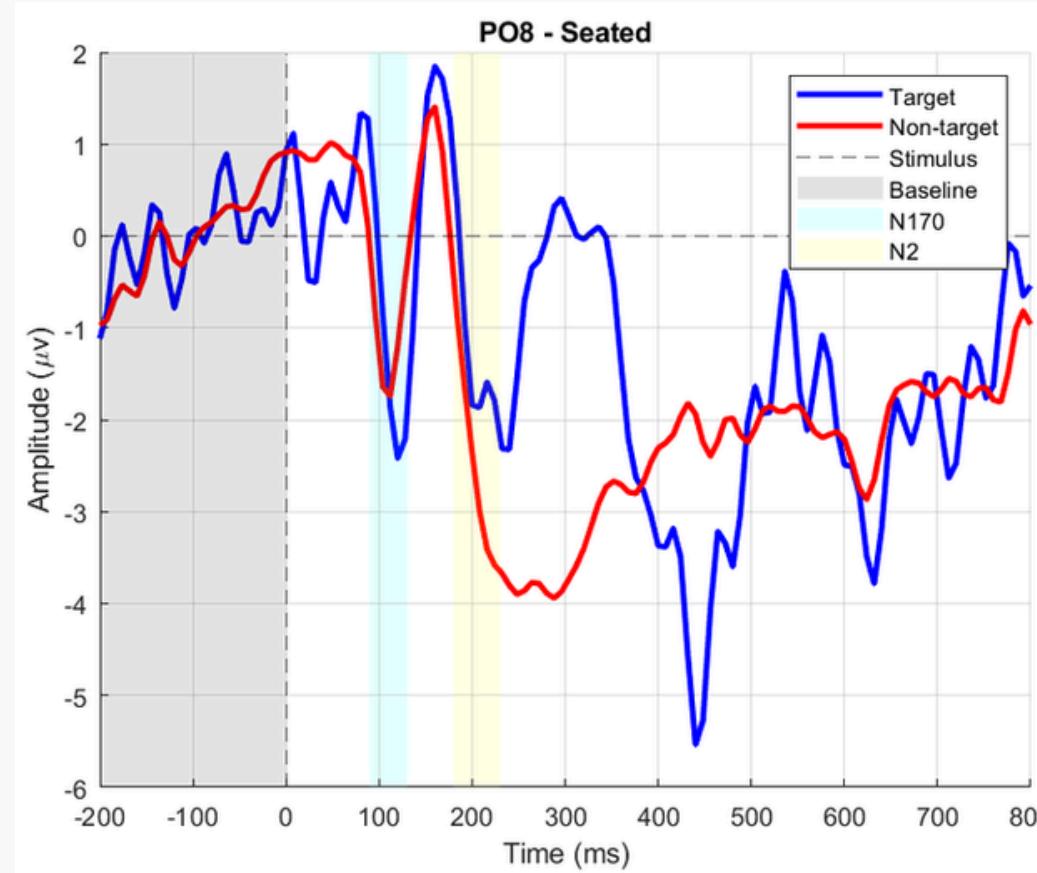


What is expected in the final result if the order of the pipeline is changed



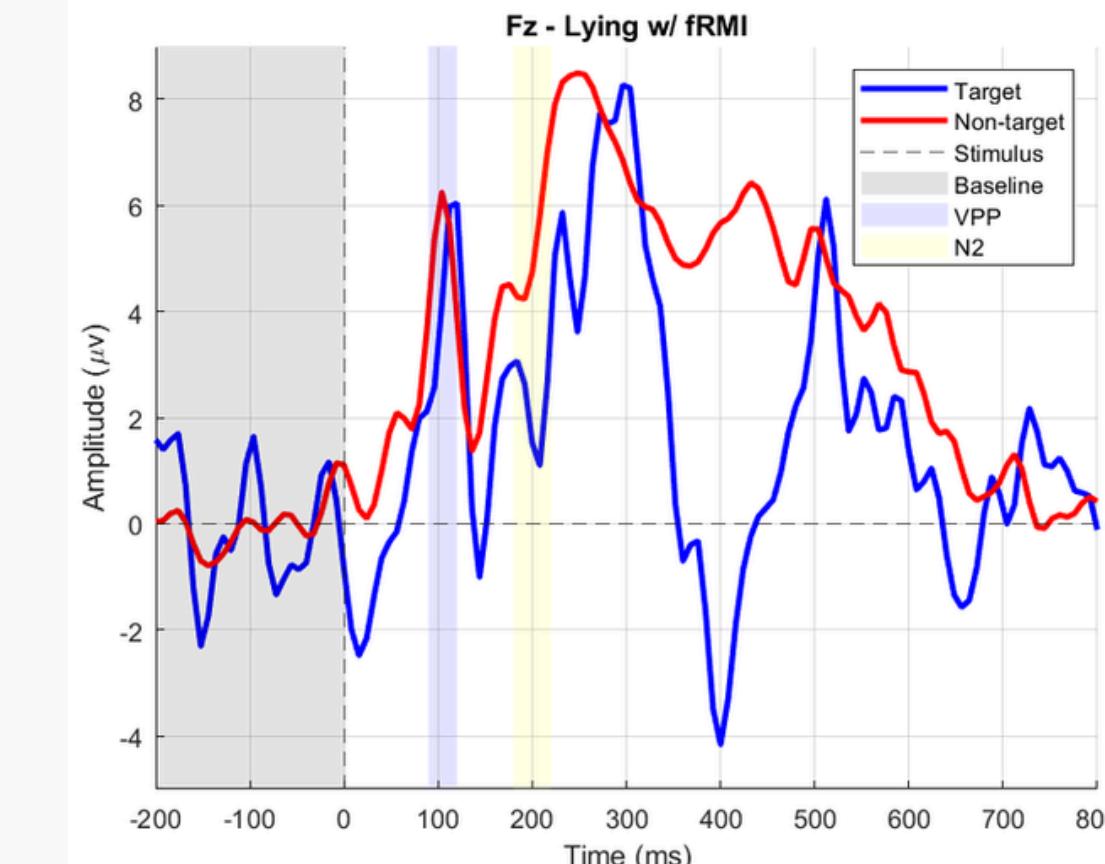
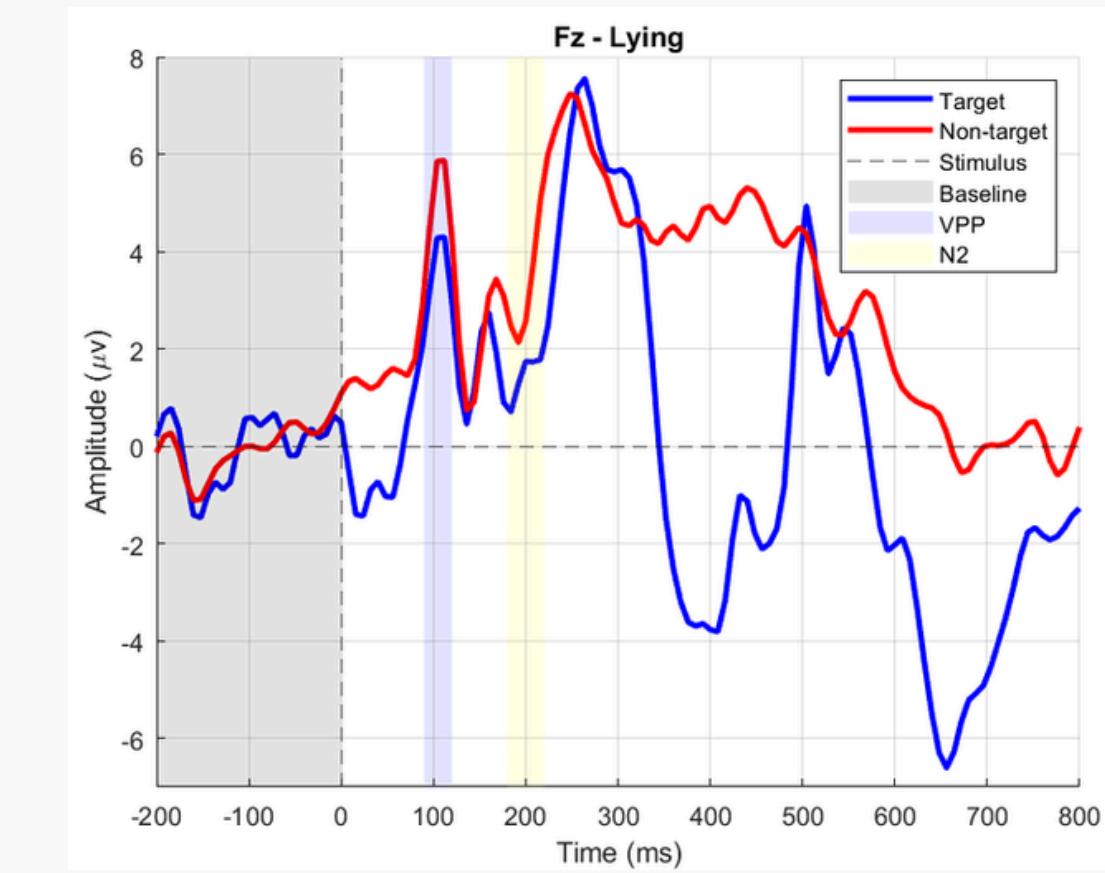
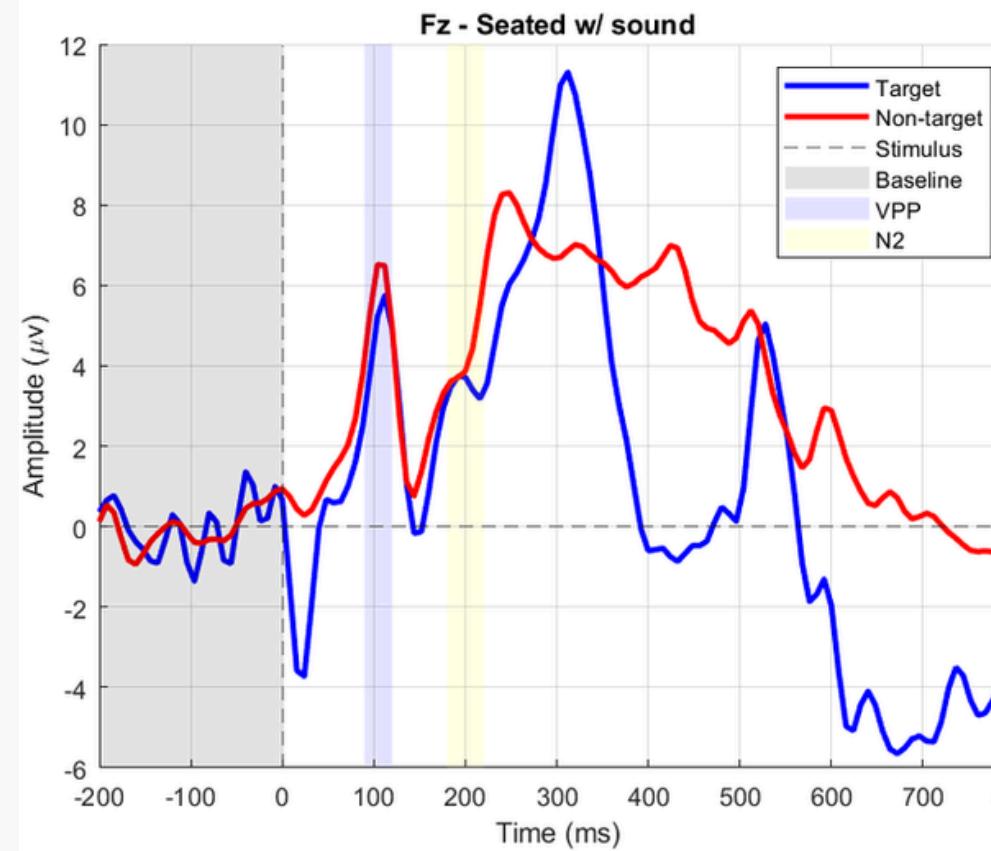
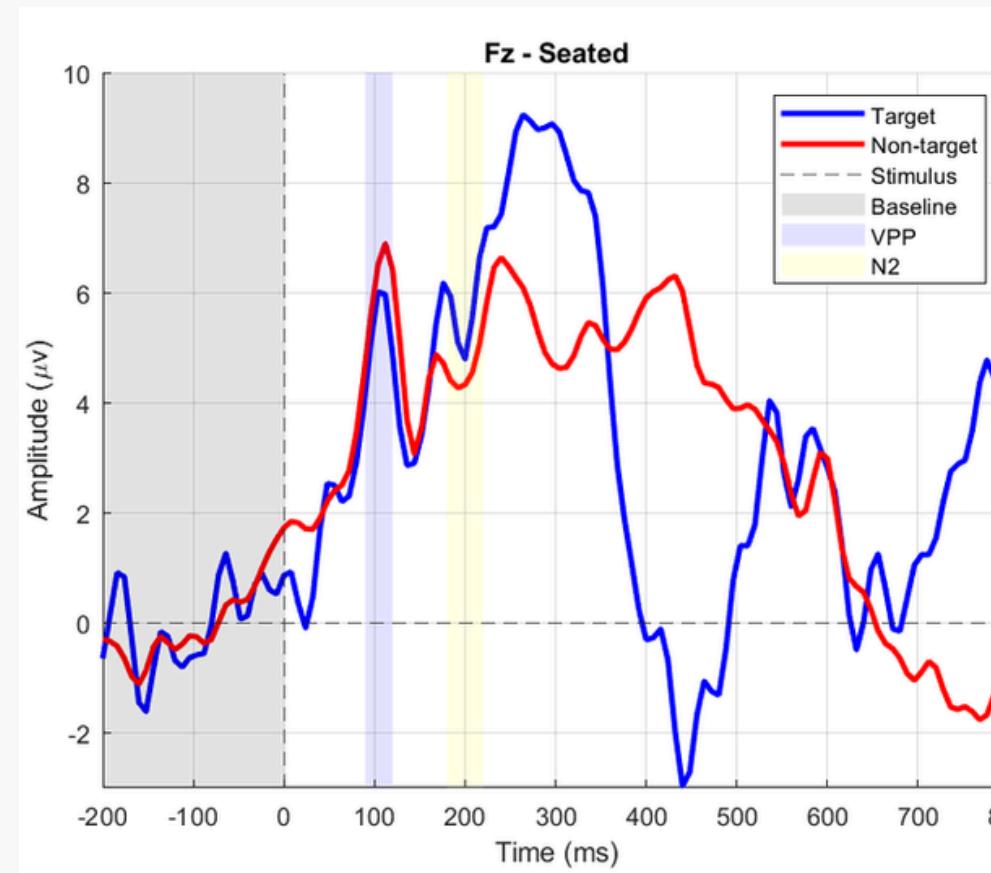
IV Results and discussion

Target vs non-Target N170 - N2



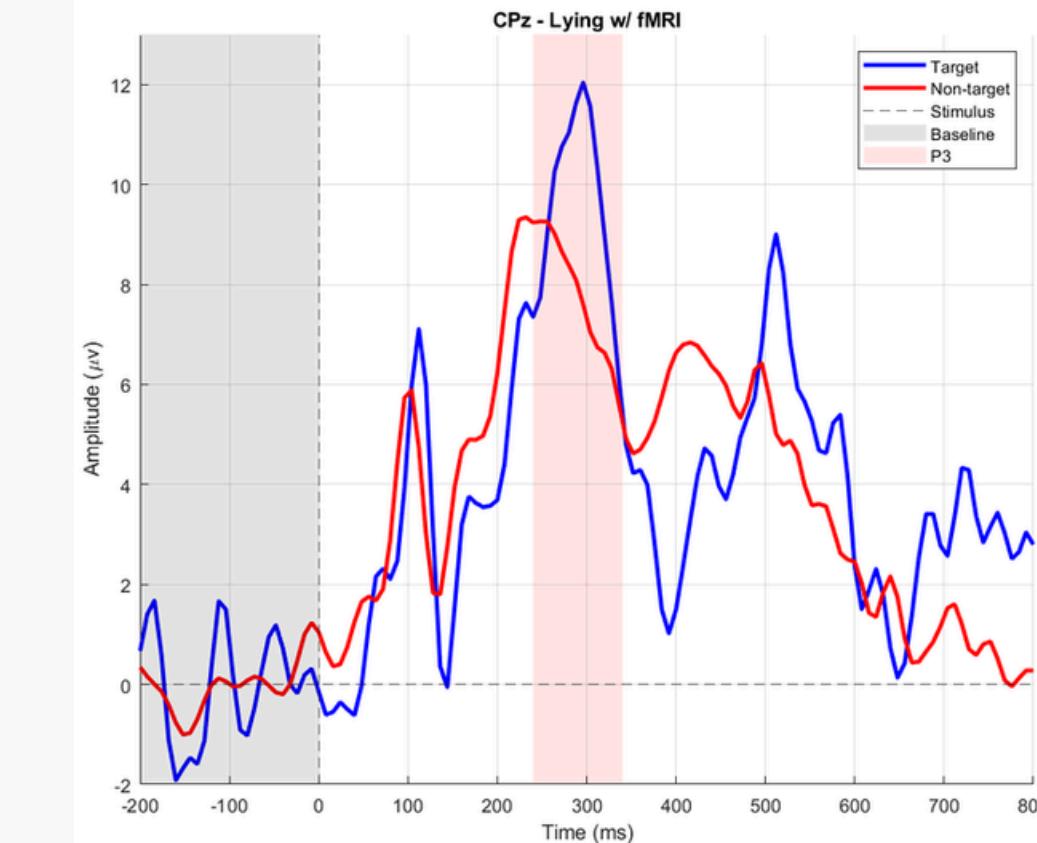
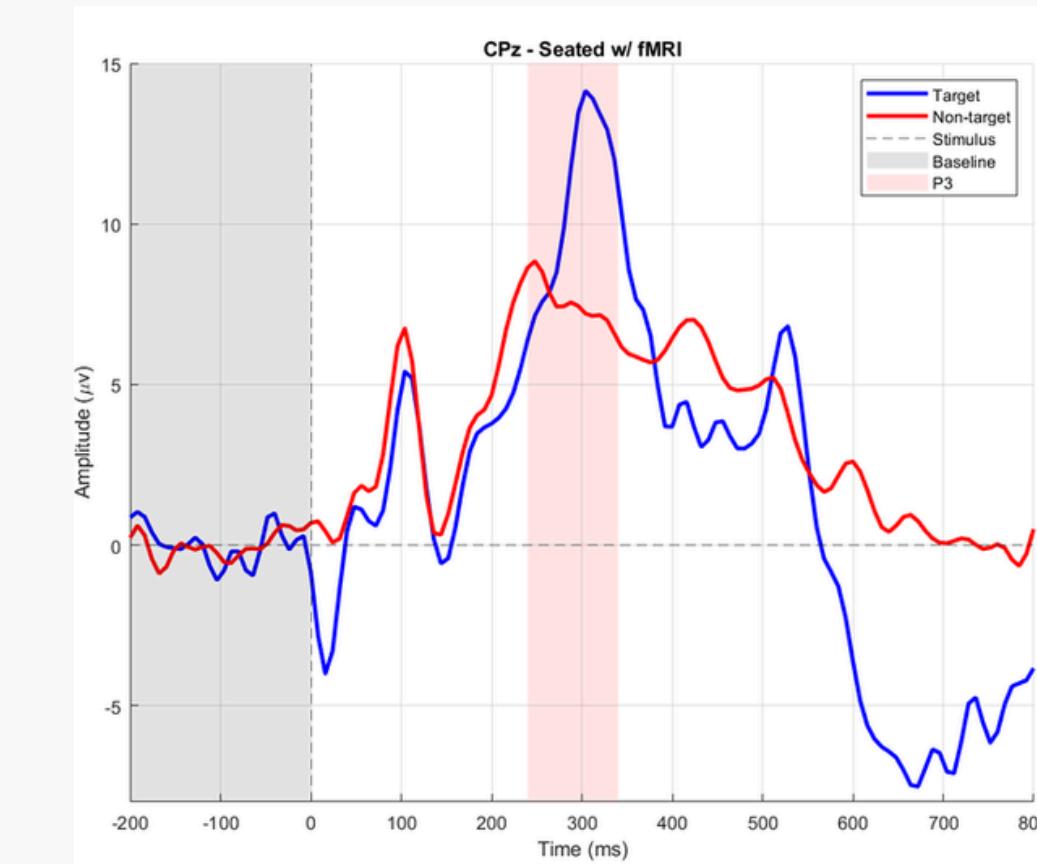
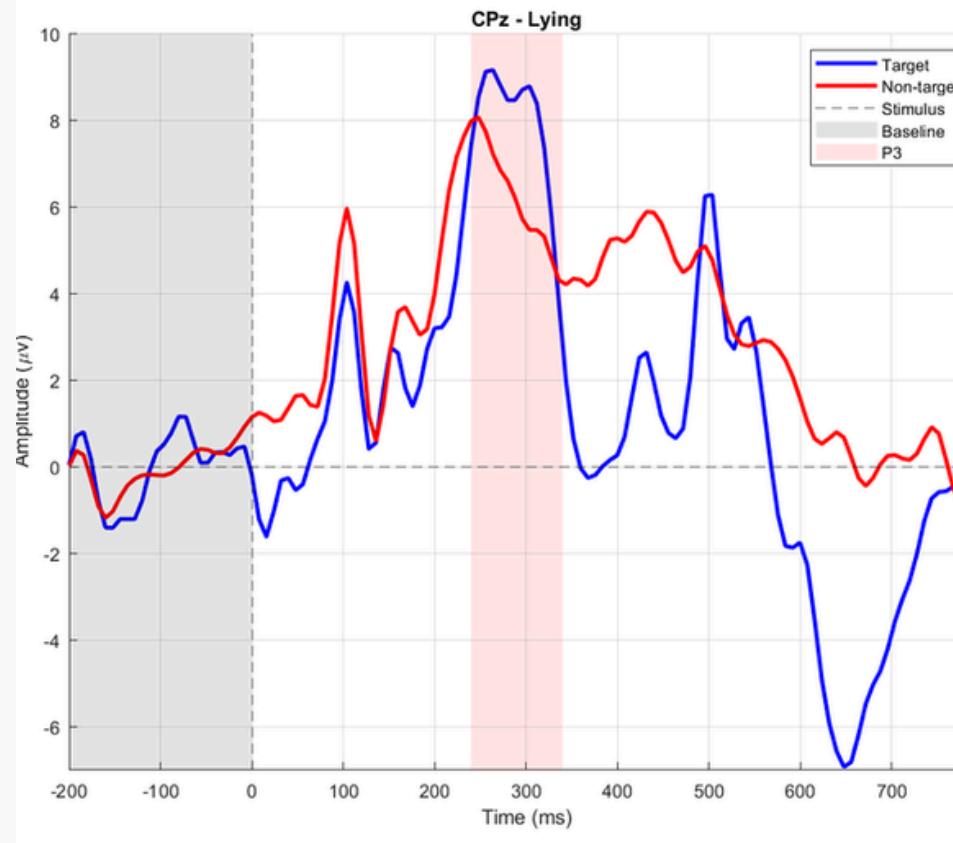
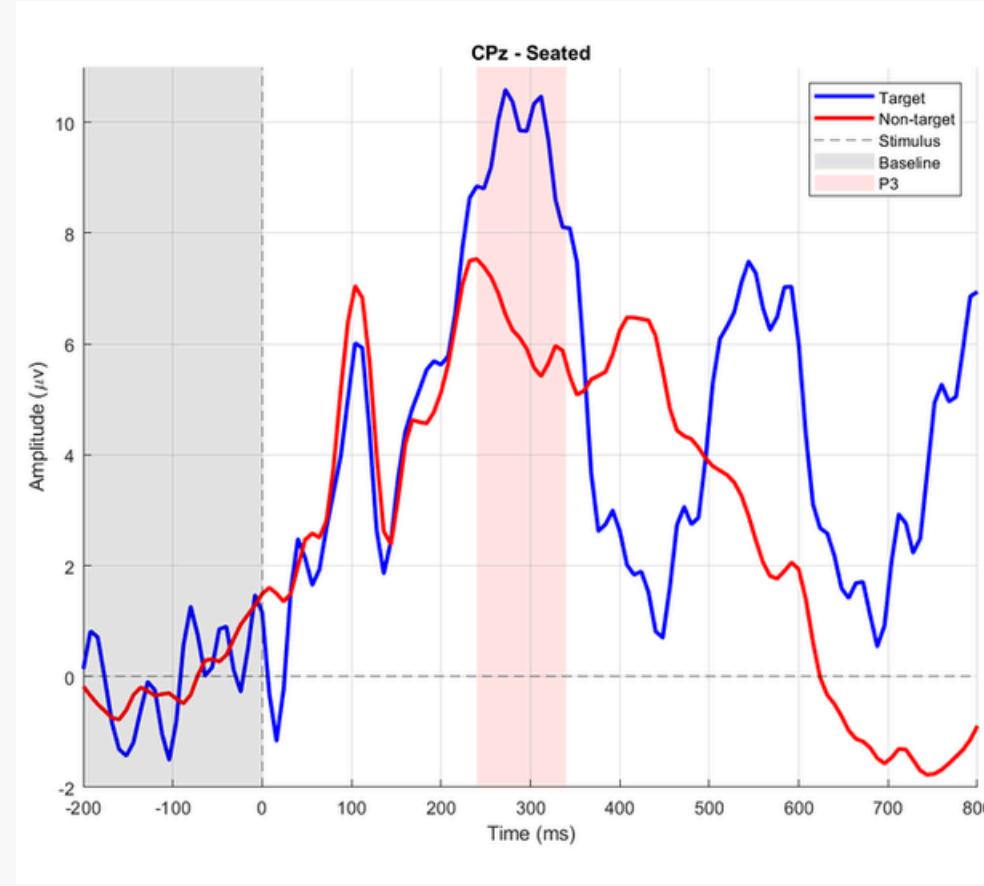
IV Results and discussion

Target vs non-Target VPP - N2

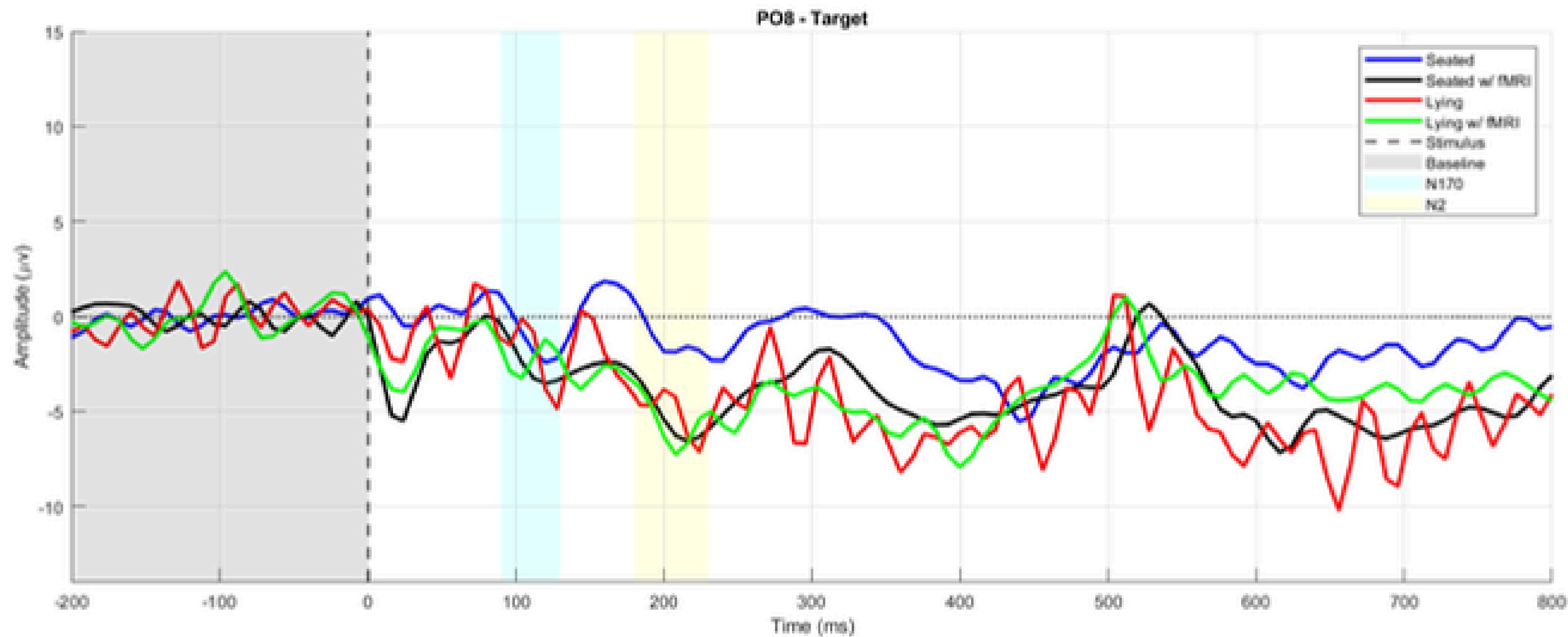


IV Results and discussion

Target vs non-Target P300

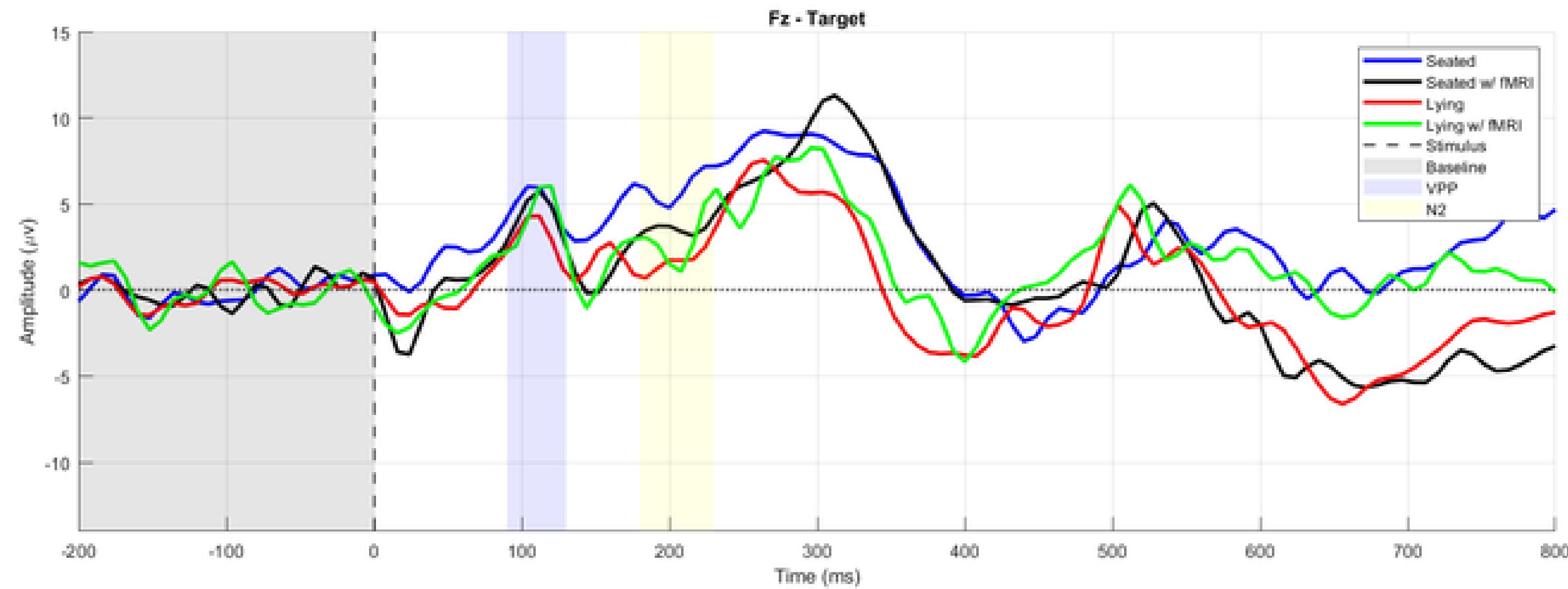


Condition comparison N170 - N2

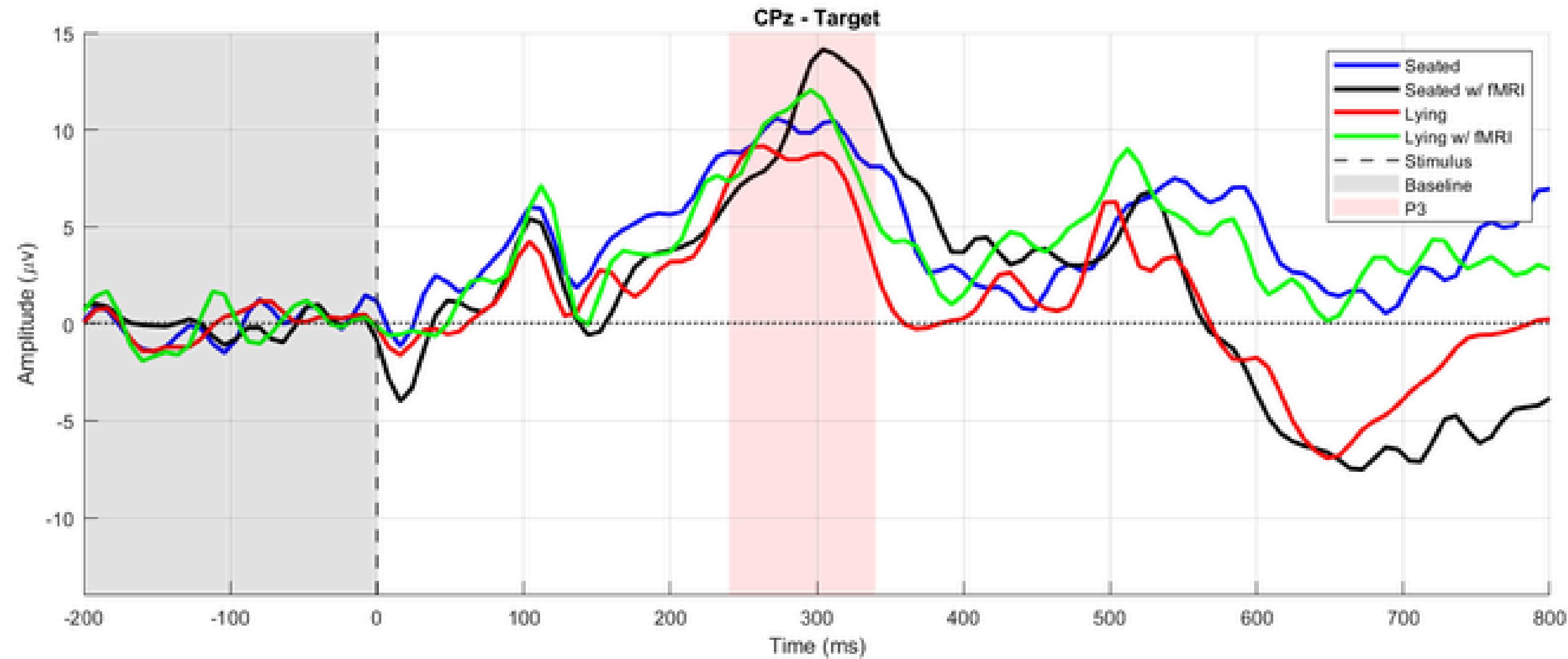


IV Results and discussion

Condition comparison VPP - N2

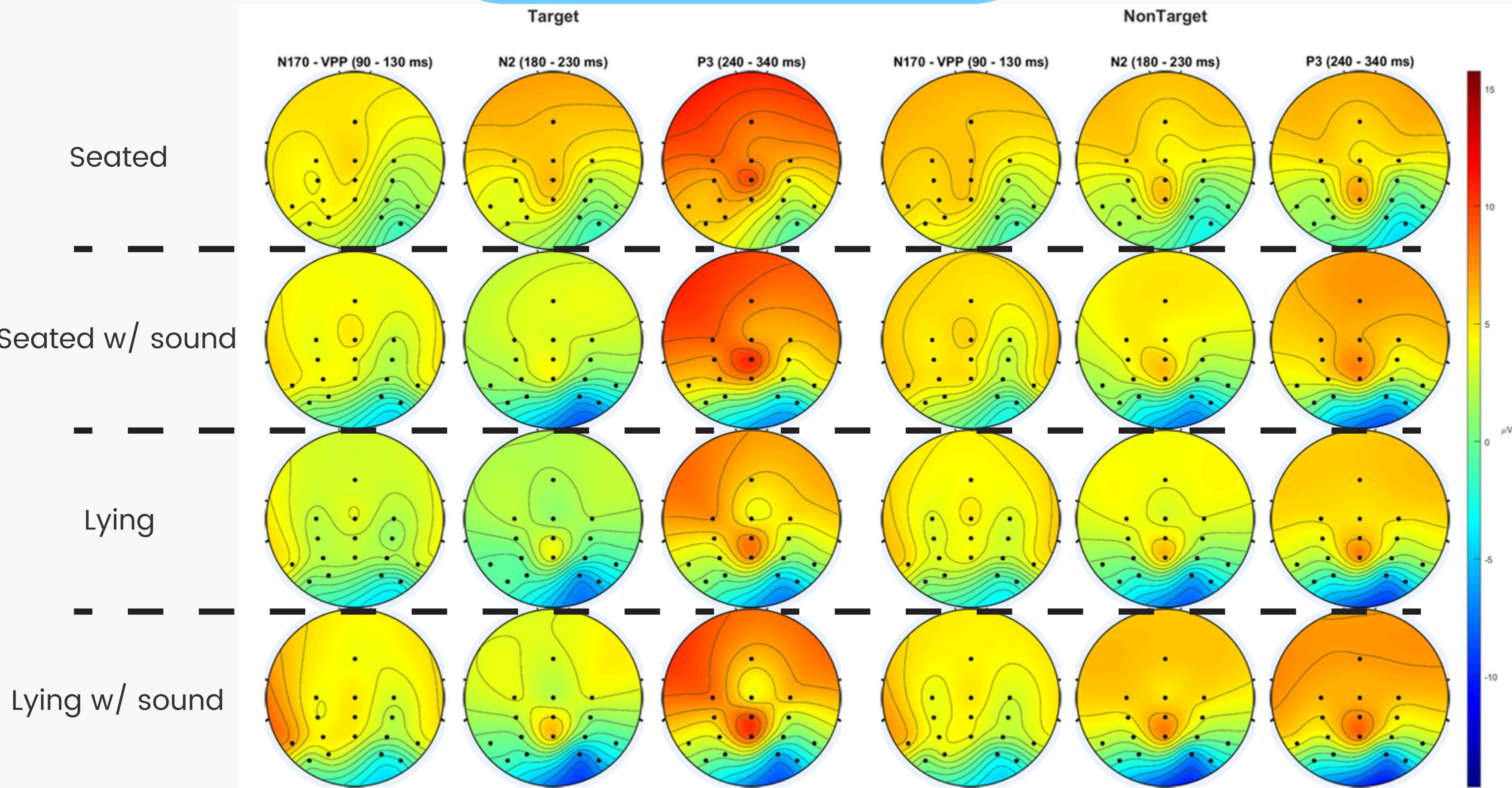


Condition comparison P300



IV Results and discussion

Topographic maps



Live Script

<http://bit.ly/42Txuni>