

Online transcranial direct current stimulation of the frontal cortex induces dopamine release in the striatum

A spatial and temporal analysis in healthy humans



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Equipe de recherche : Psychiatric disorders: from Resistance to Response (Ψ R2)

Promotion : CH Le Vinatier / Financement : CSR F02



SCHIZOPHRENIA



DEPRESSION



ADDICTION



**30-60 % symptoms stay resistant
to available pharmacological
approaches**

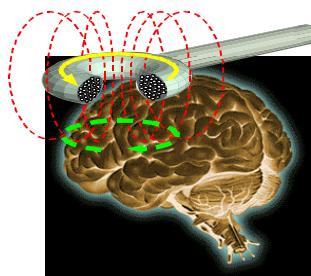
American Psychiatric Association, Am J Psychiatry, 2004



**NEW THERAPEUTIC
APPROACHES
NEUROSTIMULATIONS**

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

TMS



Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation

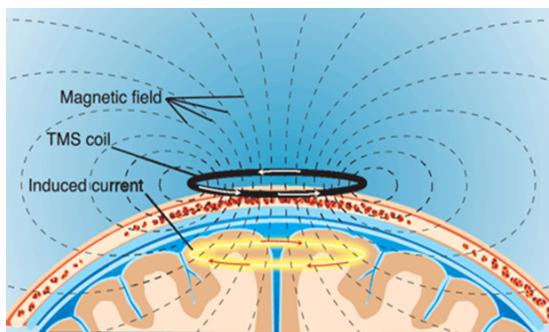
tDCS



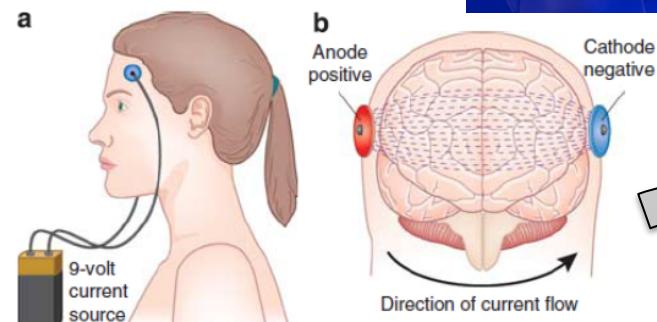
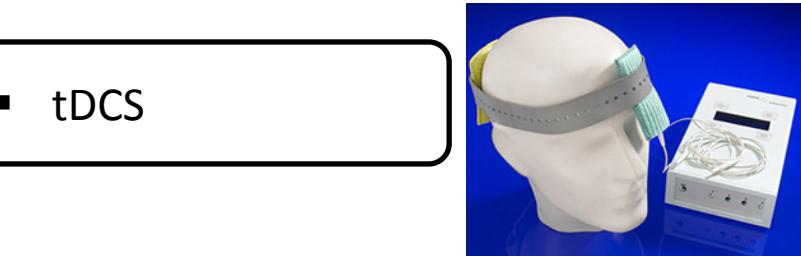
NEUROSTIMULATION



■ TMS

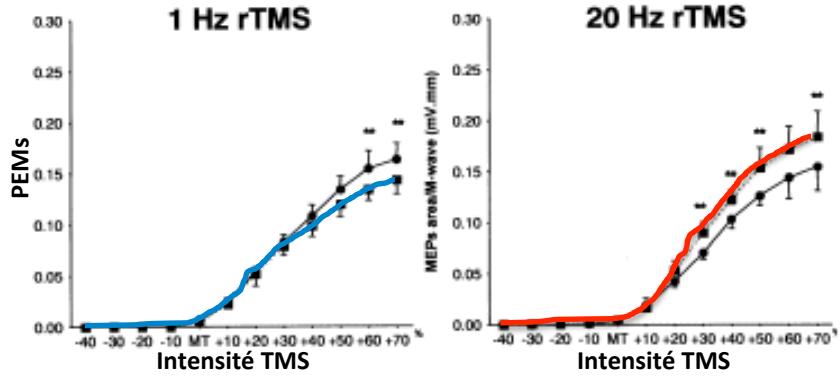


■ tDCS



Low Frequency

1 Hz rTMS



High Frequency

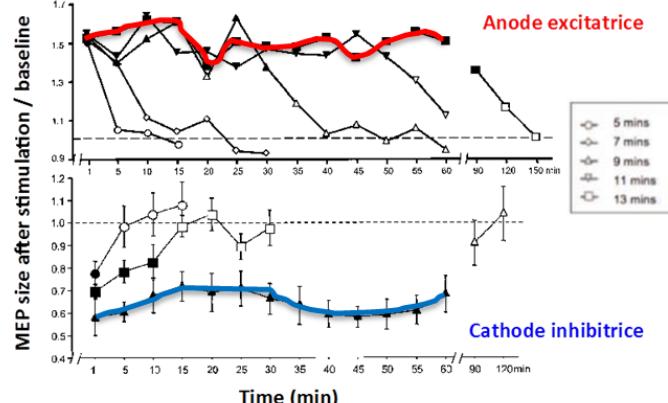
20 Hz rTMS

Gangitano et al., Clin Neurophysiol, 2002

Inhibitory

Excitatory

Mesure du Potentiel Evoqué Moto



Nitsche et al., Neurology, 2001

Nitsche et al., Clin Neurophysiol, 2003b

➤ Cortical excitability modulation

SCHIZOPHRENIA



DEPRESSION



ADDICTION



PREFRONTAL CORTEX ALTERATIONS

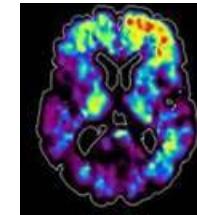
EXAMPLES

- DEPRESSION

Left prefrontal cortex hypoactivity

Bunney&Bunney, Brain Res Rev, 2000

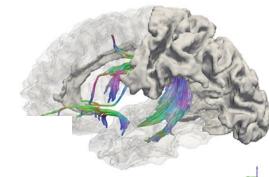
George et al., Depression, 1994



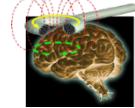
- ADDICTION

Frontal network Dysconnectivity

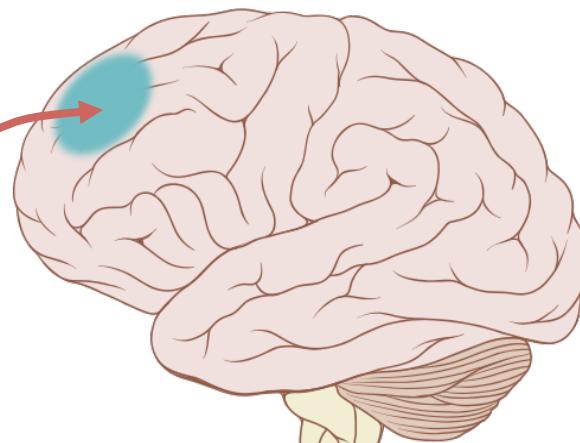
Kravitz et al., Brain Research, 2015

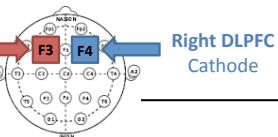


PREFRONTAL CORTEX



Neurostimulation

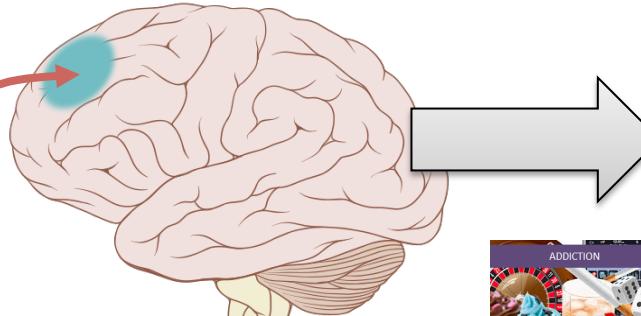




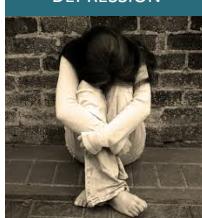
PREFRONTAL CORTEX



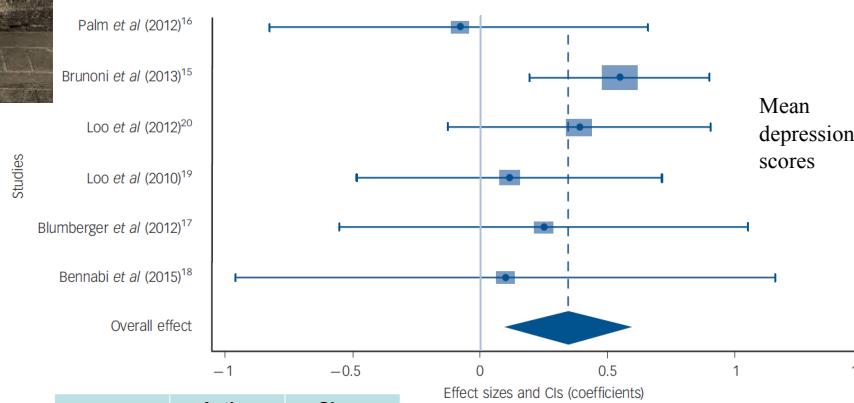
Neurostimulation



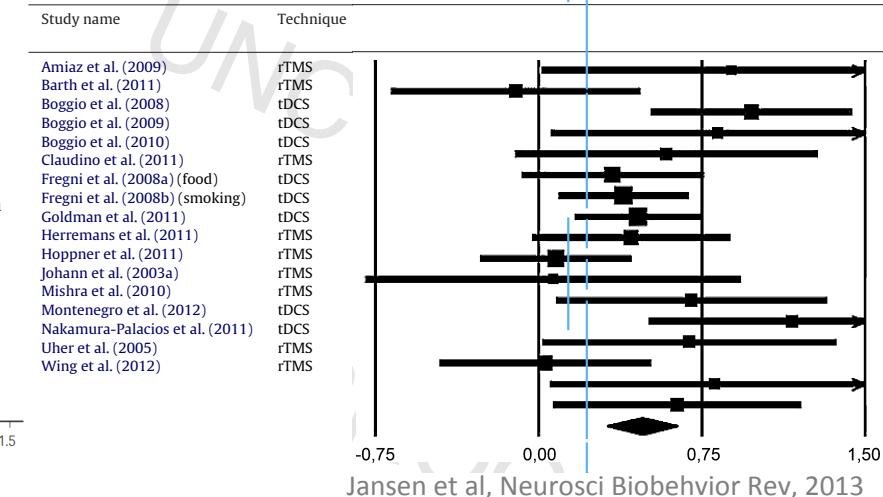
DEPRESSION



Brunoni.....Loo, 2016. tDCS Efficacy in Depression Individual Patient Data Meta-Analysis



Effects of DLPFC neurostimulation on craving (nicotine, food, alcohol, marijuana)



Jansen et al, Neurosci Biobehav Rev, 2013

Associées à des altérations monoaminergiques, notamment dopaminergiques

Brunelin et al., Am J Psychiat, 2012

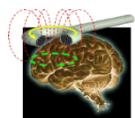
Effect of the stimulations on the dopaminergic transmission ?



DLPFC



Effect of bifrontal tDCS on the dopaminergic transmission ?

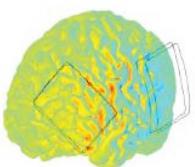


➤ rTMS

rTMS on the DLPFC induces subcortical dopamine release

Strafella et al., Brain, 2003

Brunelin et al., Schizophr Res, 2011



➤ Etude chez l'animal

tDCS impacts the dopaminergic system in rat basal ganglia

Tanaka et al., Front Syst Neurosci, 2013



Insula gauche Cingulaire Droit Ganglions de la base Hippocampe

➤ Modélisation

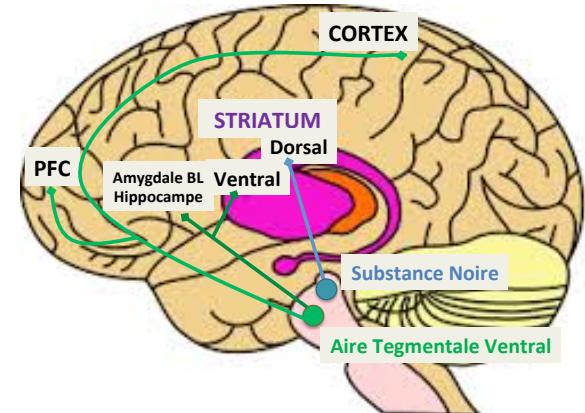
tDCS seems to have an impact on subcortical areas such as basal ganglia

Brunoni et al., Expert Rev. Med. Devices, 2014

Bai et al., NeuroImage, 2014



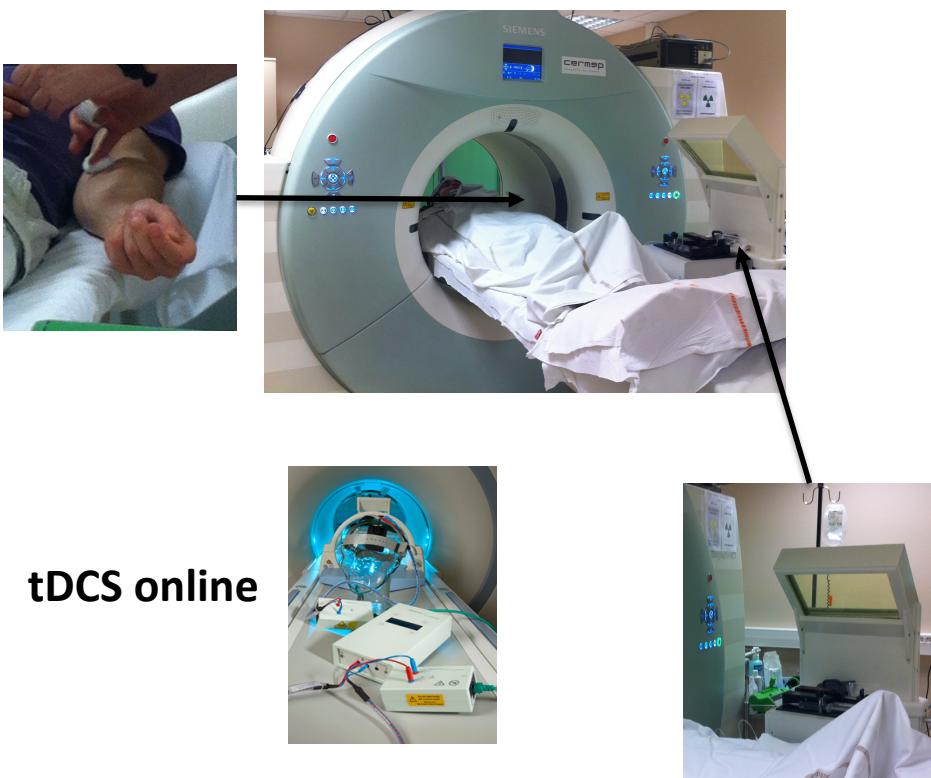
HYPOTHESIS : tDCS releases subcortical dopamine



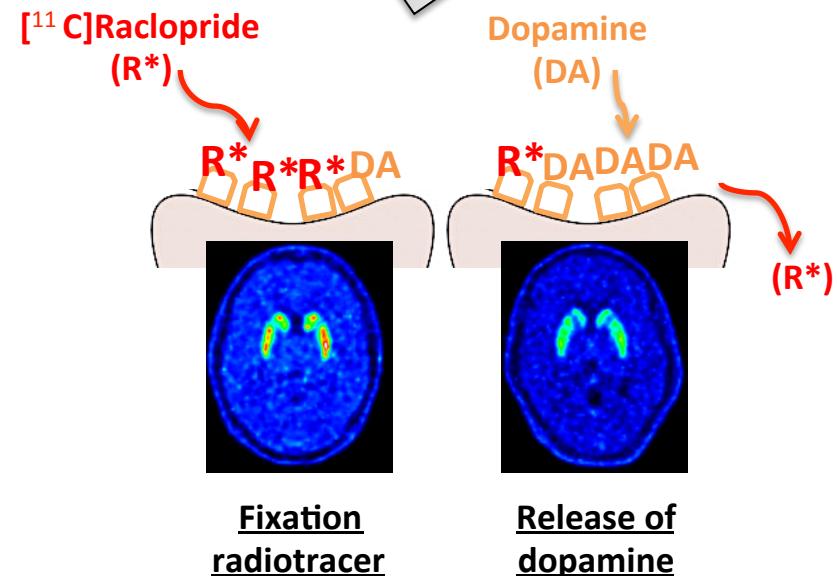
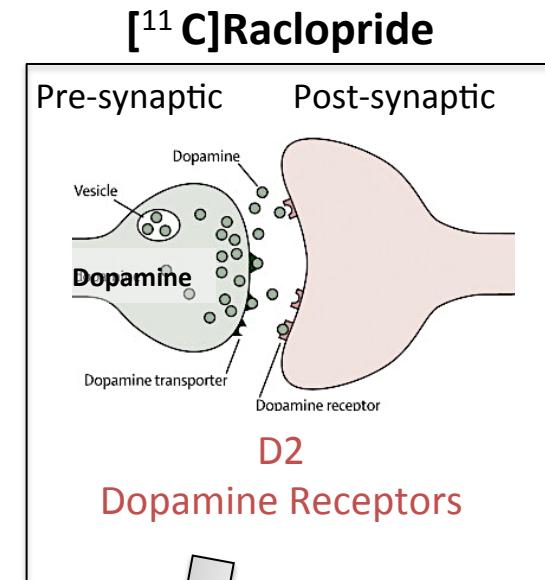


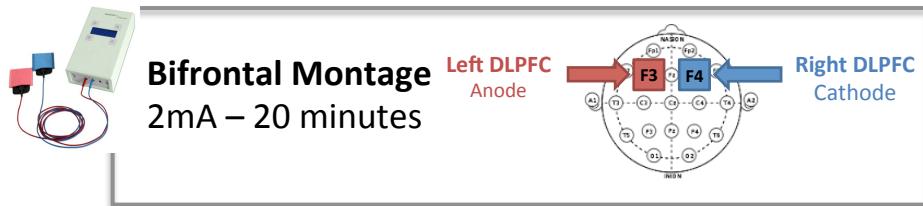
Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

Intraveneous injection :
Radioactive tracer - $[^{11}\text{C}]\text{Raclopride}$



tDCS online





1) Visite d'inclusion

Pré-inclusion

Randomisation

IRM
anatomique :
30min

MRI

Vérification critères
d'inclusion/exclusion,
Consentement,
Questionnaires

T-80

T-50

MRI

Questionnaires

Insertion
cathéter
veineux

2) Visite d'expérimentation

TEP : 100min



Active tDCS (n=14)

PET

PET

T40 → T60



Sham tDCS (n=18)

T100

T120

Perfusion [¹¹C]raclopride

10h30

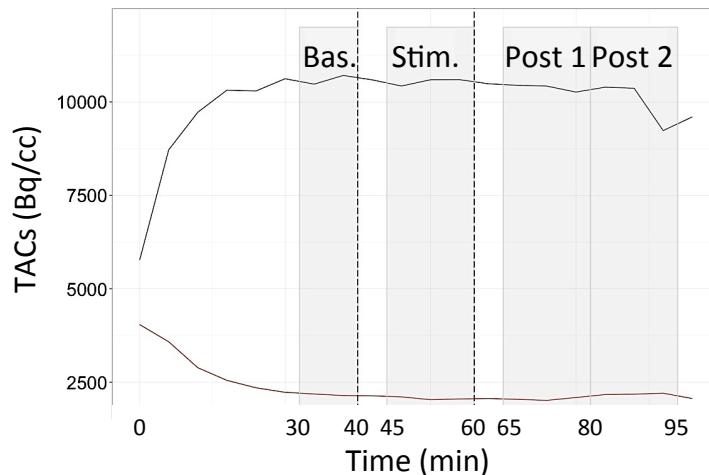
9h30

12h30



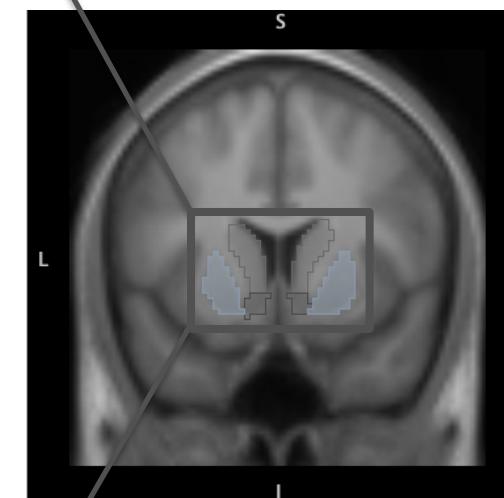
- **Extraction of time activity curve (TACs)**

In the region of interest (**striatum**) and reference region (**cerebellum**)



Striatum
(subcortical dopaminergic region)

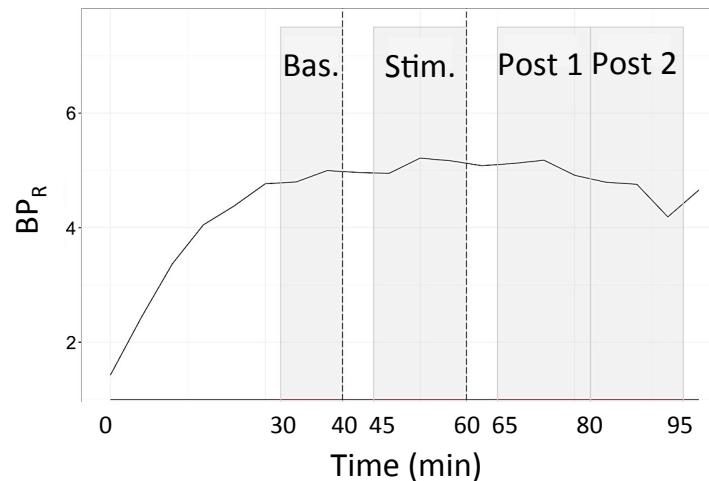
Cerebellum
(reference region)



Regions of interest
Atlas on MRI

- **Binding potential (BP_R) → Extracellular Dopamine**

Ratio of region of interest / cerebellum activities



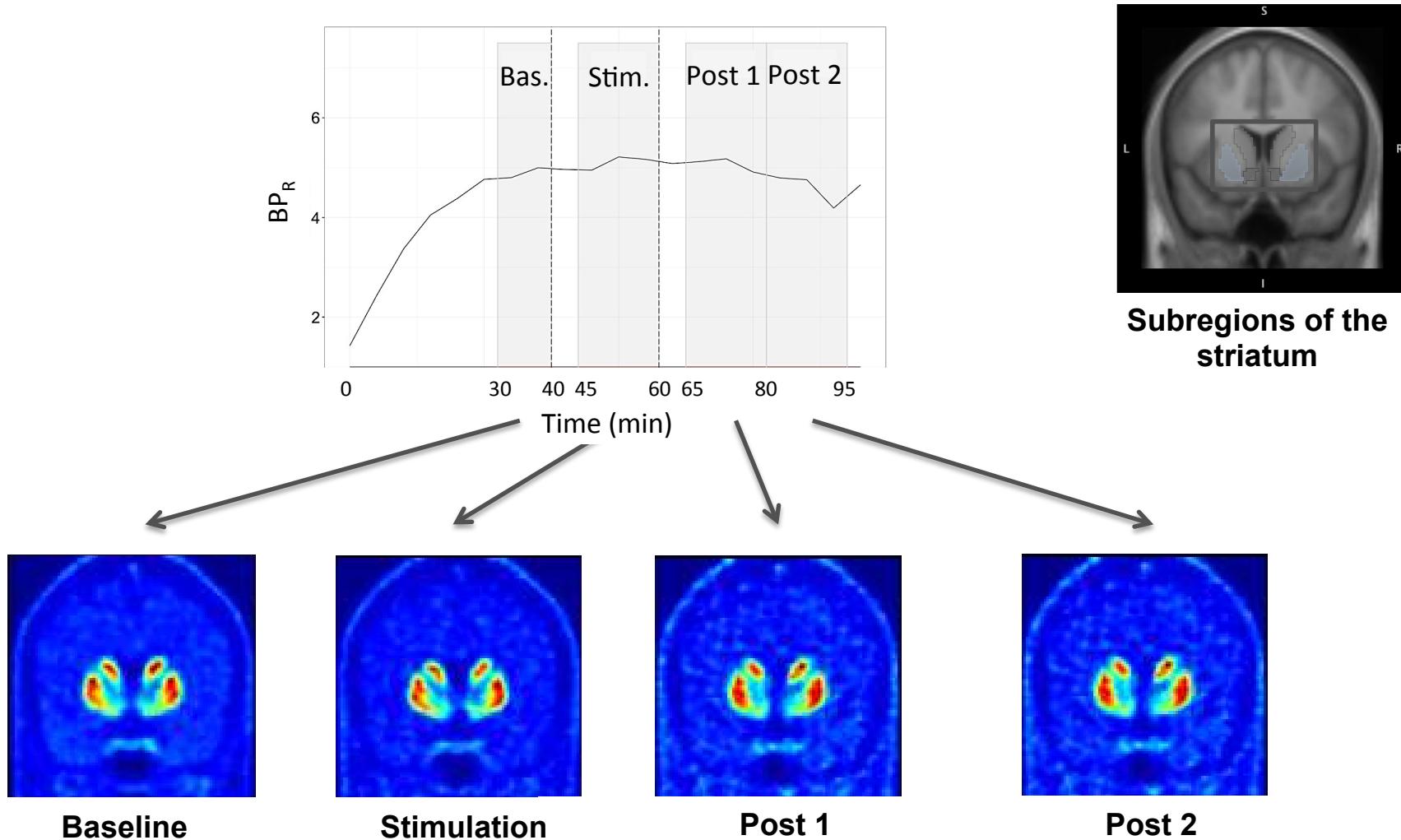
Striatum
(subcortical dopaminergic region)

Methods - Voxel-based analysis

DOPA-STIM



- Parametric Ratio Images for each time period
(baseline, stimulation, post 1, post 2)

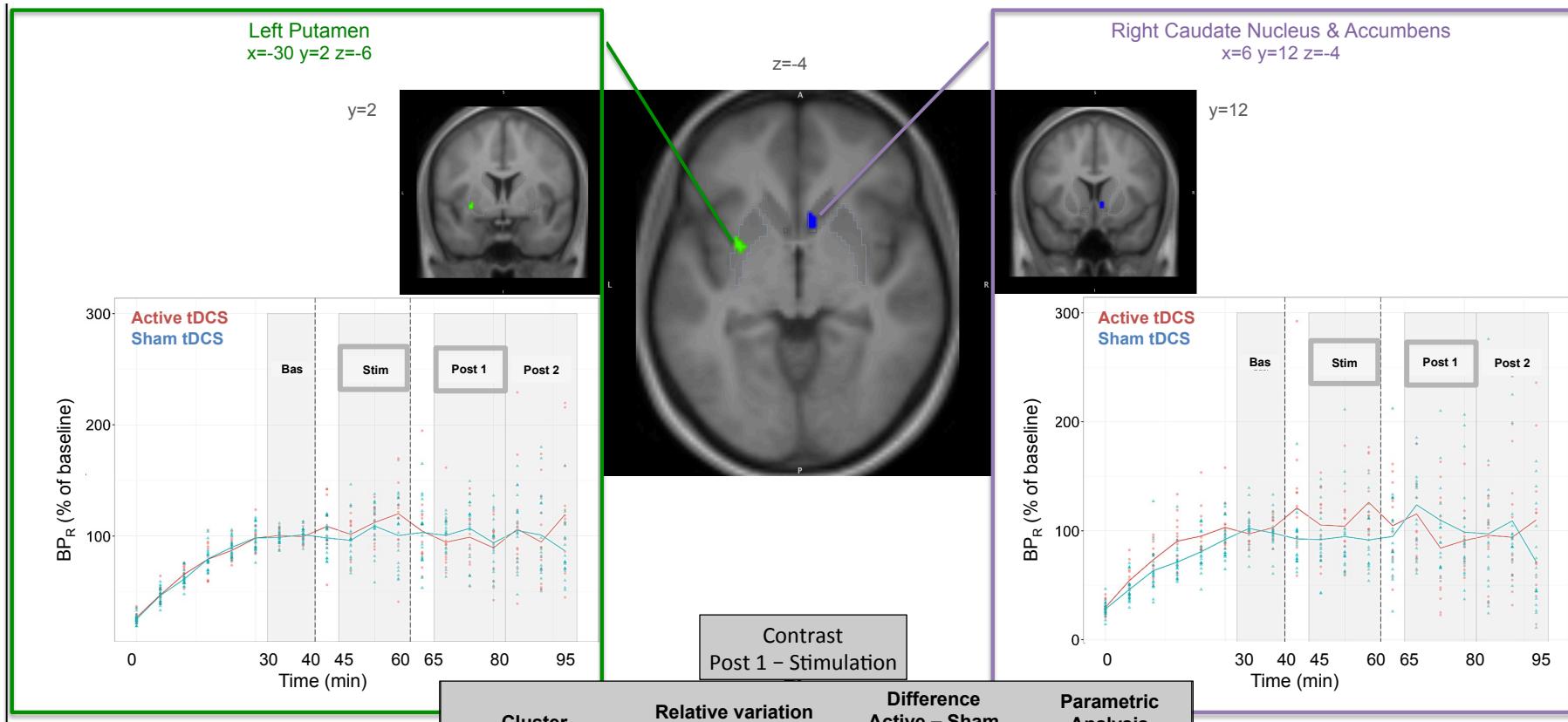


Flexible factorial design (Group * Timepoint)
($P_{\text{uncorrected}} < 0.001$, $k>4$)



Acute effects

- BP_R decrease during the 20 minute period (**Post 1**) following the stimulation in the **striatum**, compared to the stimulation period

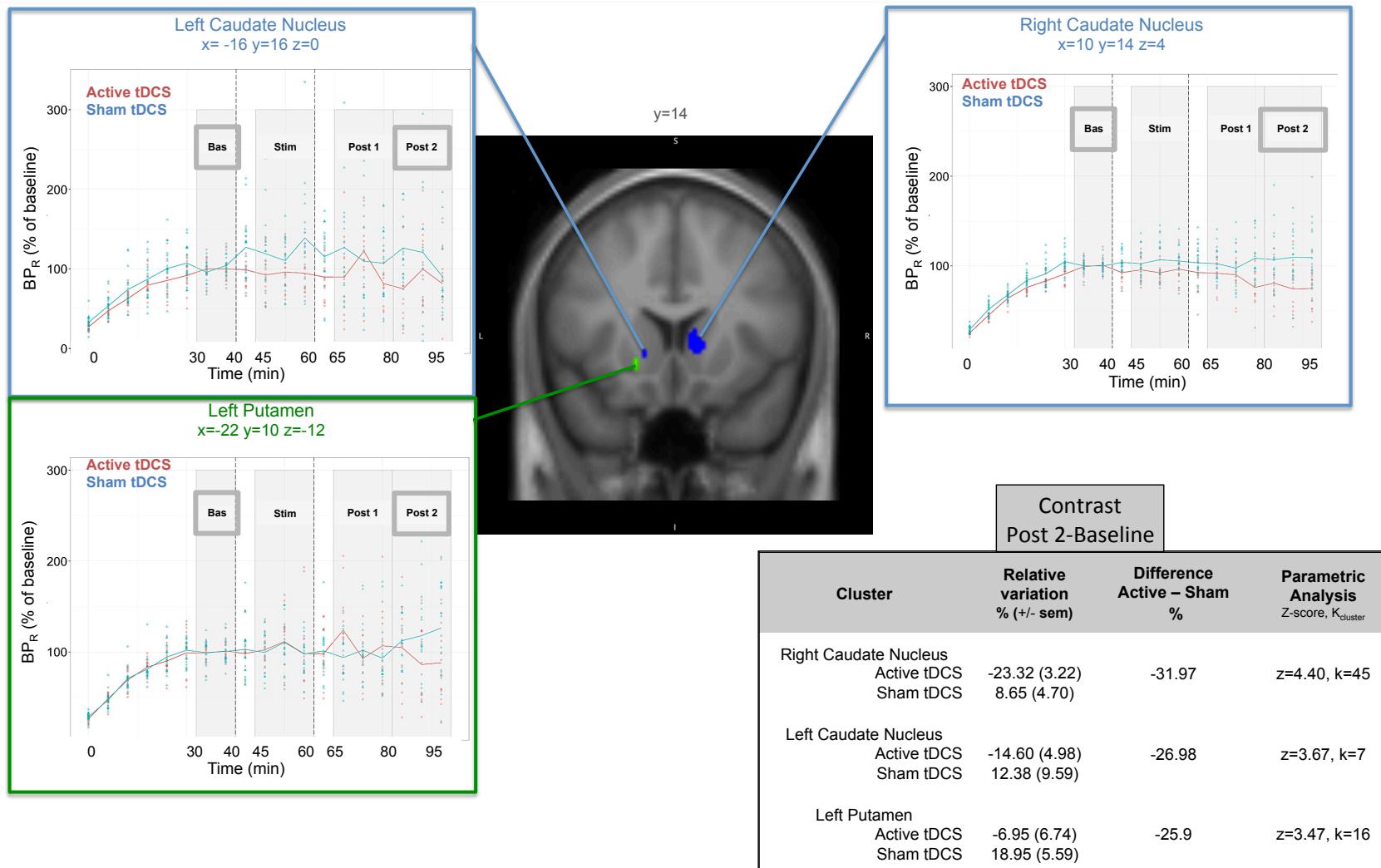


Cluster	Relative variation % (+/- sem)	Difference Active – Sham %	Parametric Analysis Z-score, $K_{cluster}$
Right Caudate and Accumbens Nuclei Active tDCS Sham tDCS	-13.34 (5.00) 20.48 (6.14)	-33.82	$z=4.17$, $k=18$
Left Putamen Active tDCS Sham tDCS	-13.99 (5.82) -0.001 (4.25)	-13.989	$z=3.53$, $k=24$



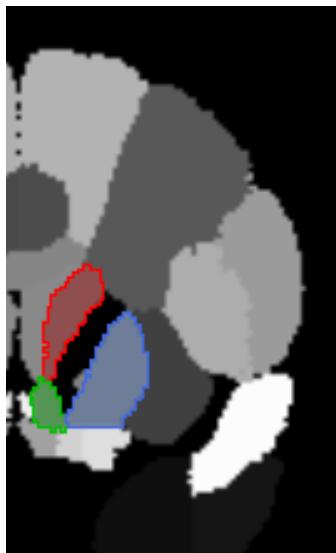
Subsequent effects

- BP_R decrease during the 20 to 35 minutes period (**Post 2**) following the stimulation in the **striatum**, compared to the baseline and stimulation period





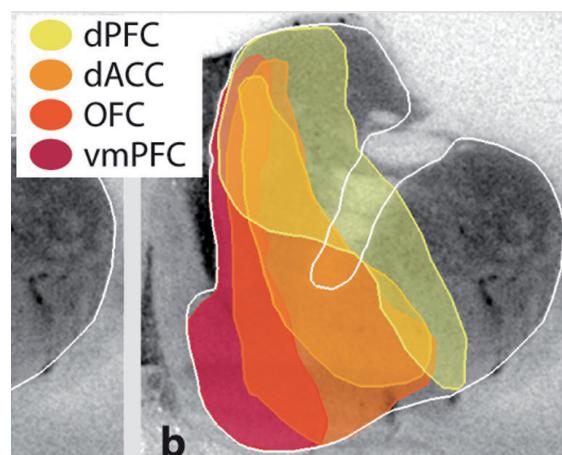
Anatomy (caudate, accumbens, putamen)



Hammer Atlas

- Caudate Nucleus
- Nucleus Accumbens
- Putamen

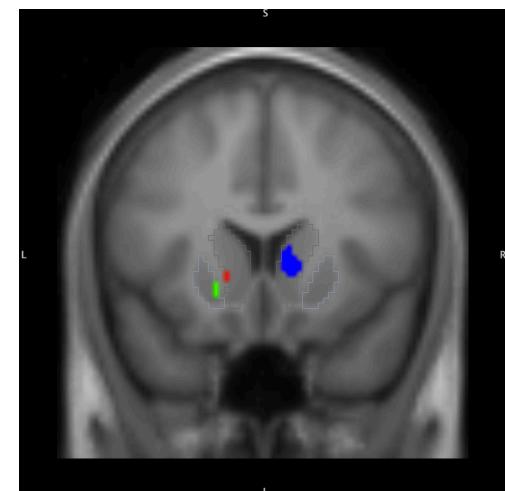
Cortical and functional connectivity (limbique, associatif, sensorimotor)



Haber, Dialogues Clin Neurosci, 2016
Martinez et al, 2003

- **Limbic striatum** : Ventral caudate and putamen and the nucleus accumbens)
- **Associative striatum (cognition)** : Rostral putamen + head of the caudate
- **Sensorimotor striatum** : Caudal and dorsolateral putamen and dorsolateral rim of the caudate

Significant clusters (dopamine release after tDCS)



Subsequent effects

- **Limbic and associative** regions of the striatum

➤ These results suggest that bifrontal tDCS induces subcortical dopamine release specifically in the limbic and executive parts of the striatum, after the end of the stimulation.



→ Subcortical extracellular dopamine release in parts of the striatum involved in the **reward-motivation network**



Pro-cognitive effects

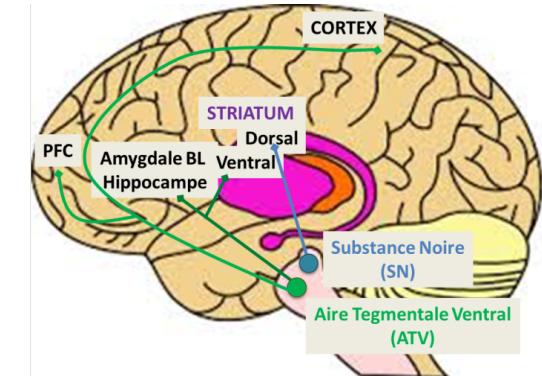
Kuo & Nitsche, Neurosci Bull, 2015

Egerton et al, Neurosci Behav Rev, 2009



Therapeutic effects

Ex : Anhedonia



Cuthbert & Insel, BMC Med, 2013

Schlaepfer et al, NPP, 2014

→ Impact for further studies :
Condition where basal dopamine activity is altered

1. Psychiatric – Biomarker

- Change in dopamine after the first tDCS session act as a biomarker for response to the cure ?

2. Recreational use – auto-stimulation

- Interaction with medication or psycho-stimulant ?



Medication/drugs

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Equipe PsyR²

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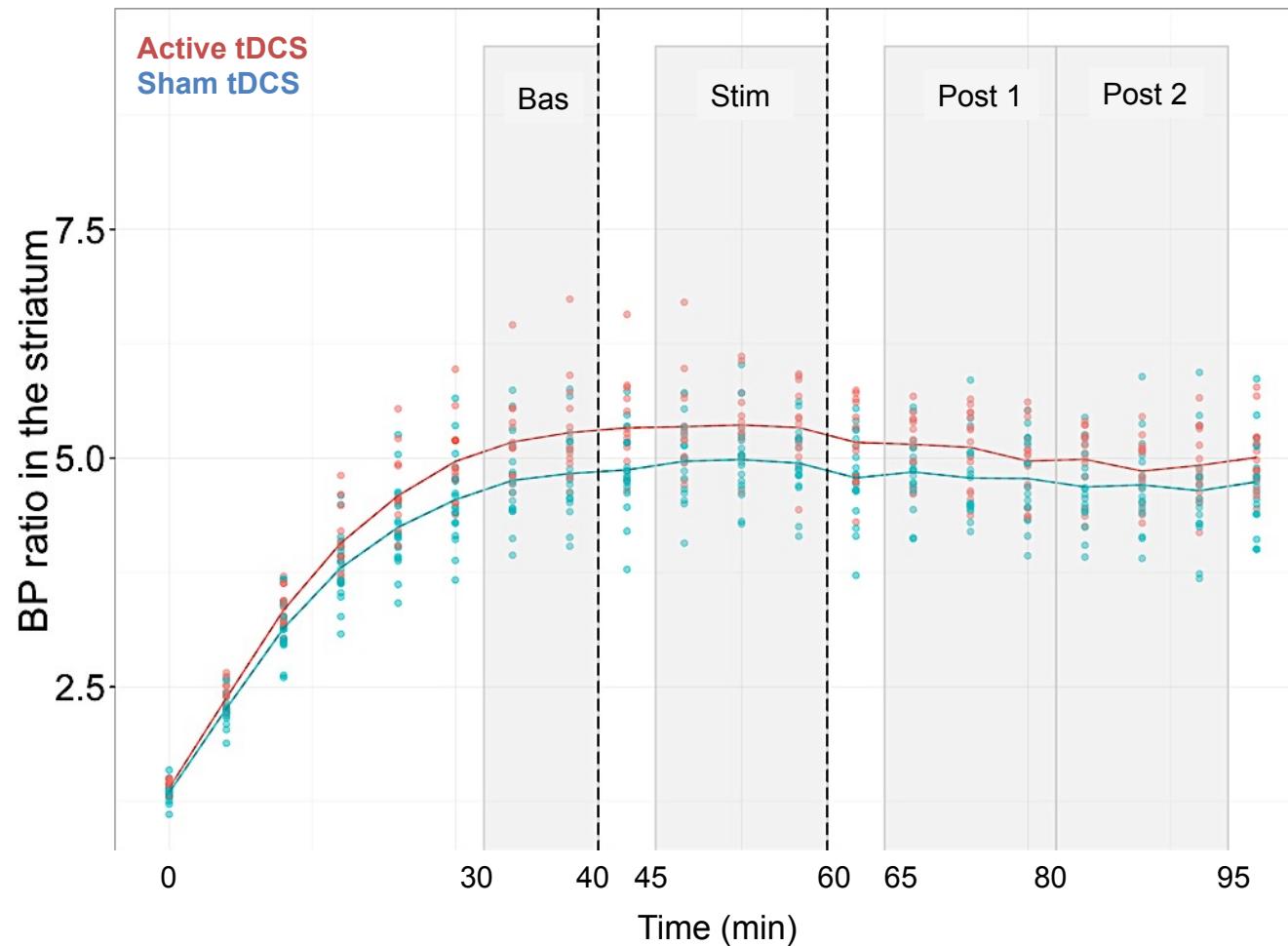
Centre hospitalier
Le Vinatier





Institut national
de la santé et de la recherche médicale

Promotion Vinatier
Lydie Sartelet
Véronique Vial
CSR du CH Le Vinatier

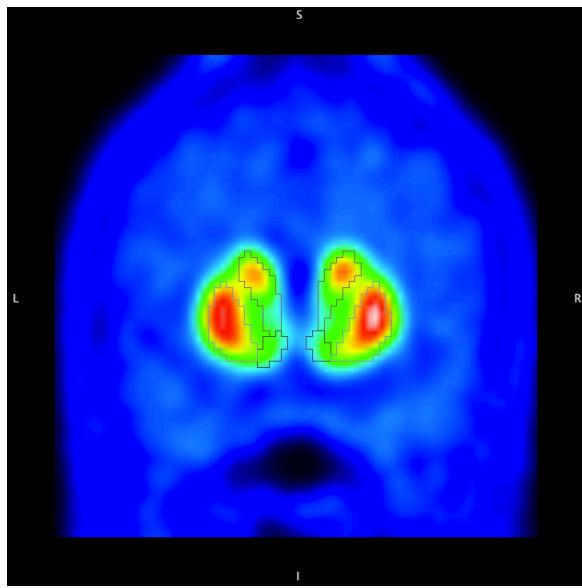


➤ 4 périodes :

- Baseline : 30-40min
- Stimulation : 45-60min
- Post 1 : 65-80min
- Post 2 : 80-95min

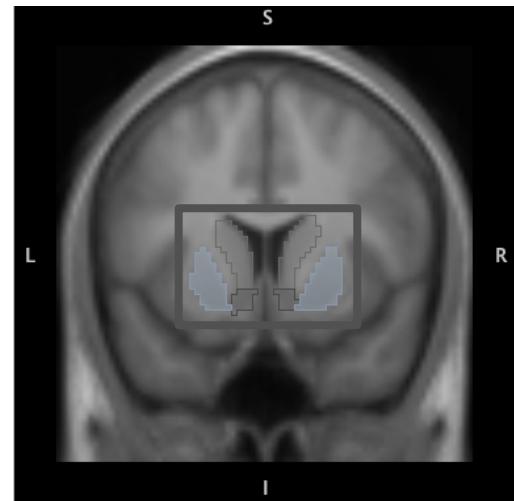


- **Parametric Ratio Images for each time period**
(baseline, stimulation, post 1, post 2)



Parametric PET image
Example: Baseline period

Striatum
(subcortical dopaminergic region)



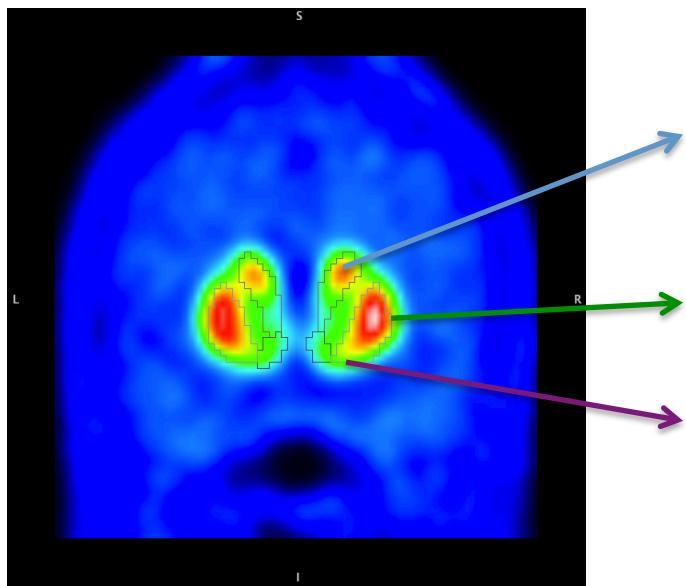
Subregions of the striatum
Atlas on MRI

Regions were determined based on the adult brain atlas developed by A. Hammers et al. (2003)

Analysis were performed on SPM12 with a flexible factorial design (Group * Timepoint), in the striatum.

Significant clusters from the parametric analysis ($P_{\text{uncorrected}} < 0.001$, $k>4$) were selected then a TAC extraction was done for each cluster. The BP_R relative variations were calculated for each contrast.

- **Parametric Ratio Images for each time period**
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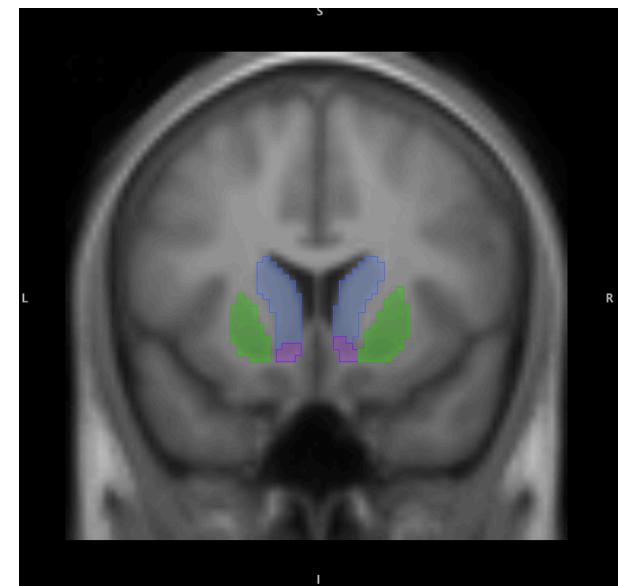


Parametric PET image
Example: Baseline period

Caudate Nucleus

Putamen

Nucleus Accumbens



Subregions of the striatum
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