

# Dynamic shifts in internal and external hippocampal processing during event perception

Karen Sasmita, Ruiyi Chen, & Khena M. Swallow | Department of Psychology & Cognitive Science Program, Cornell University

## Event models guide event perception<sup>1</sup>

- Active representations of the current situation (event models) may guide event perception via predictive processing.
- For accuracy, event models need to be updated when the event changes (i.e., at event boundaries).
- **Does updating involve integrating information from the external world with internal knowledge about how events typically unfold?**

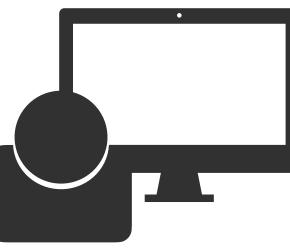
We examined **dynamic functional connectivity**<sup>2</sup> (dFC) between a region involved in **event representations**<sup>3</sup> (hippocampus; Hipp) and networks<sup>4</sup> associated with:

- More **internal** (DMN) vs **external** (visual) information processing.
- **Modulation** of attention to internal vs external processing<sup>5</sup> (VAN).



## Sherlock imaging dataset<sup>6</sup> ( $n = 14$ )

- participants viewed BBC Sherlock ep.1 in scanner.

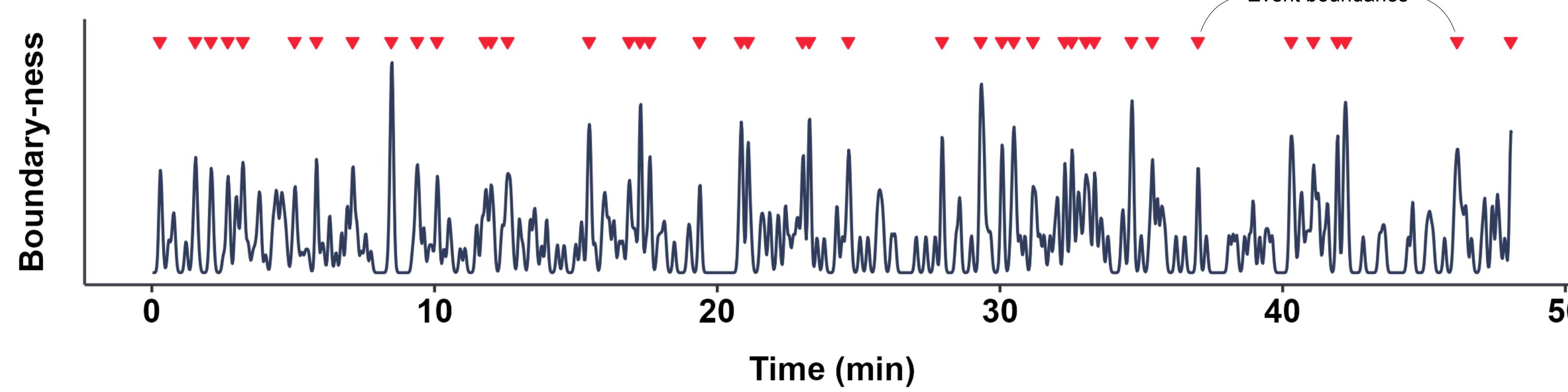


## Segmentation task - coarse ( $n = 11$ )

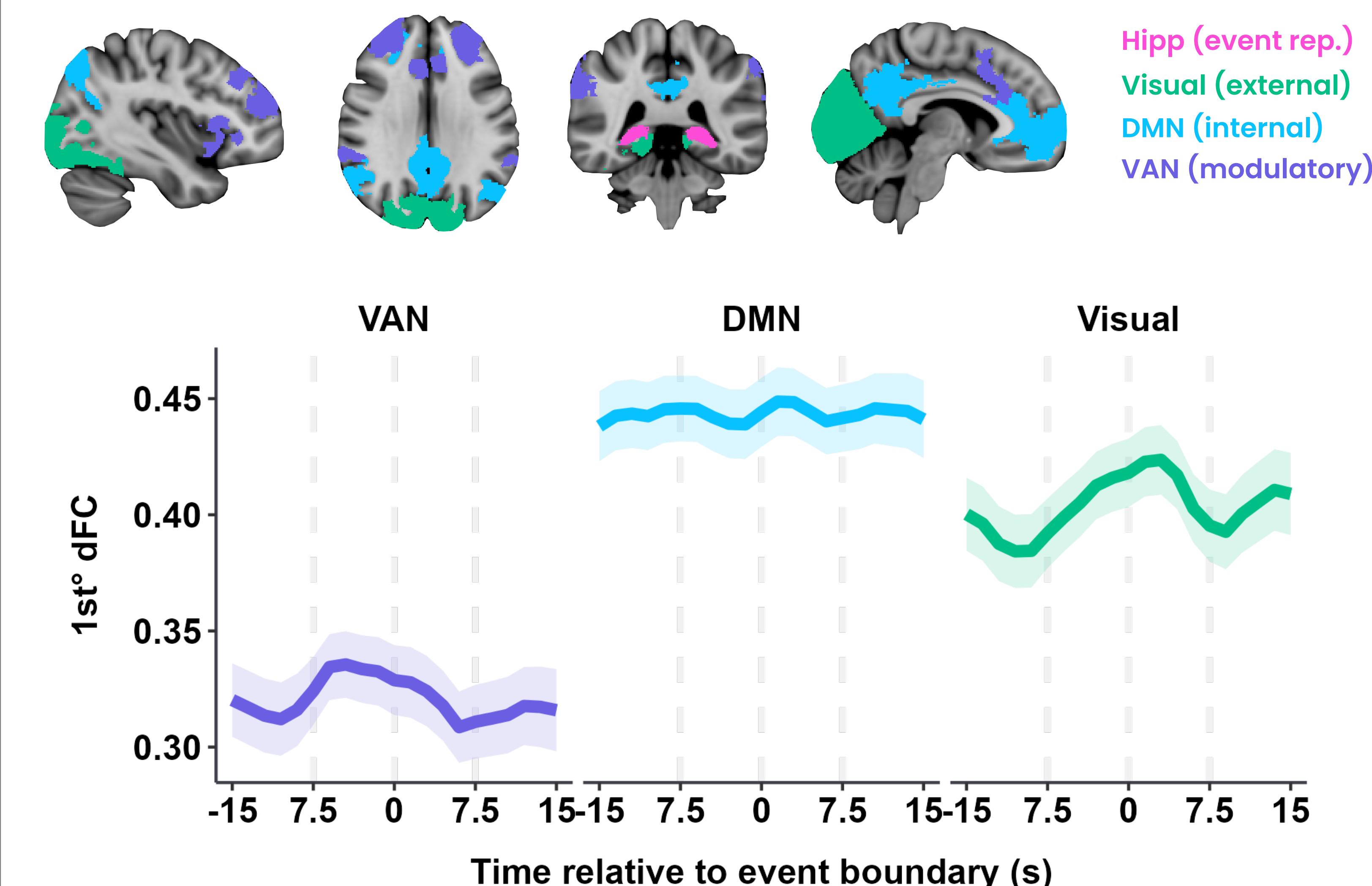


"Press the spacebar when one event ends and another begins."

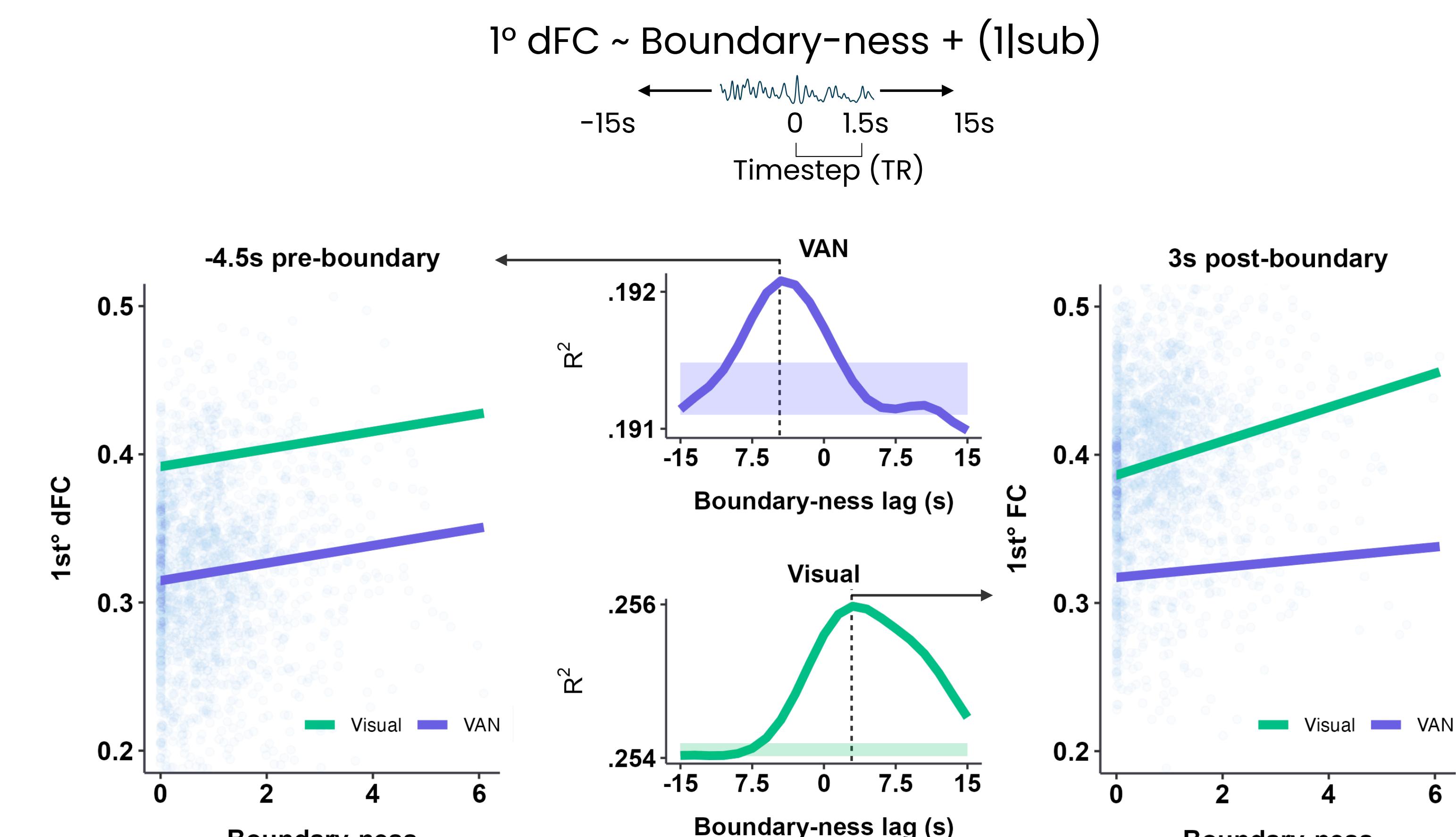
Event boundaries: peaks in group button press density estimates.



## 1° Hipp dFC transitions from modulatory to external around event boundaries.



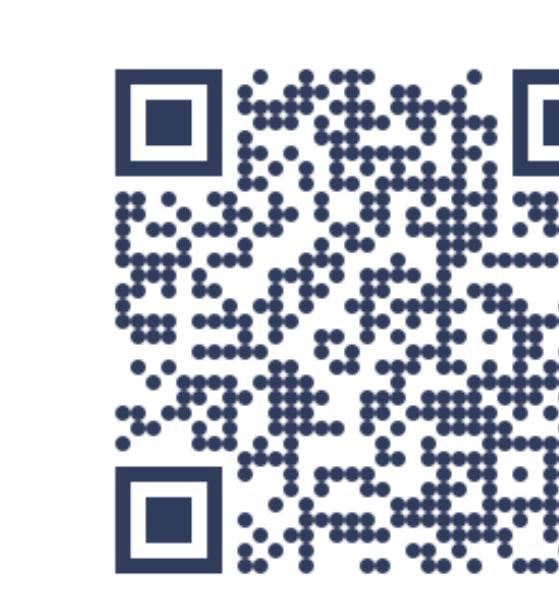
## Boundary-ness explains 1° Hipp dFC to modulatory and external networks at different times



- Boundary-ness does not explain hipp-DMN dFC.

## References

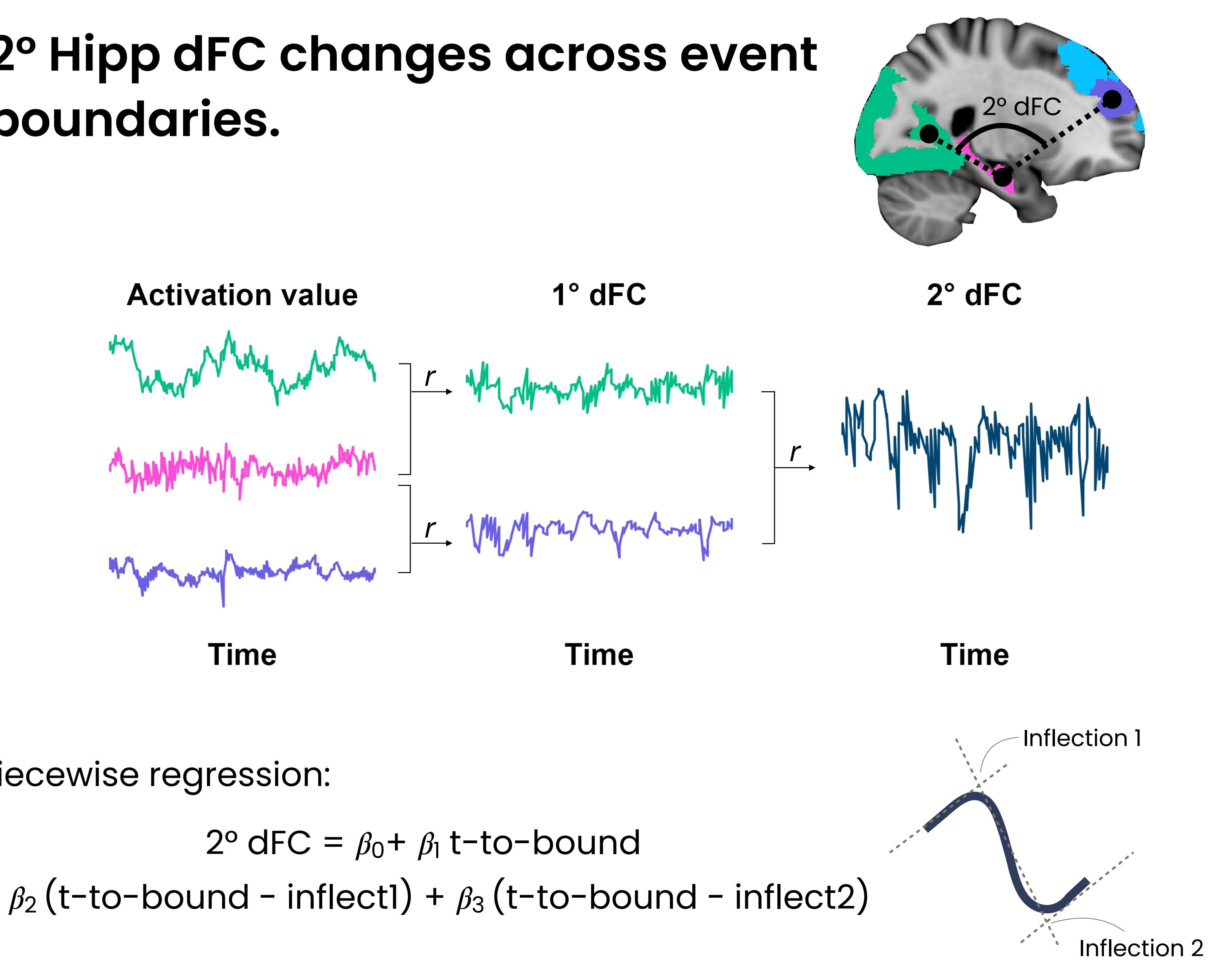
1. Zacks, et al., (2007). *Psych Bull*, 133(2): 273–293.
2. Owen, et al., (2021). *Nat Comms*. 12: 5728.
3. Richmond & Zacks (2017). *TICS*, 21(12): 962 – 980.
4. Schaefer, et al., (2018). *Cereb Cortex*, 28(9): 3095 – 3114.
5. Sestieri, et al., (2017). *Nat Rev Neuro*, 18(2): 183–192.
6. Chen, et al., (2017). *Nat Neuro*, 20: 115 – 125.



Download a copy

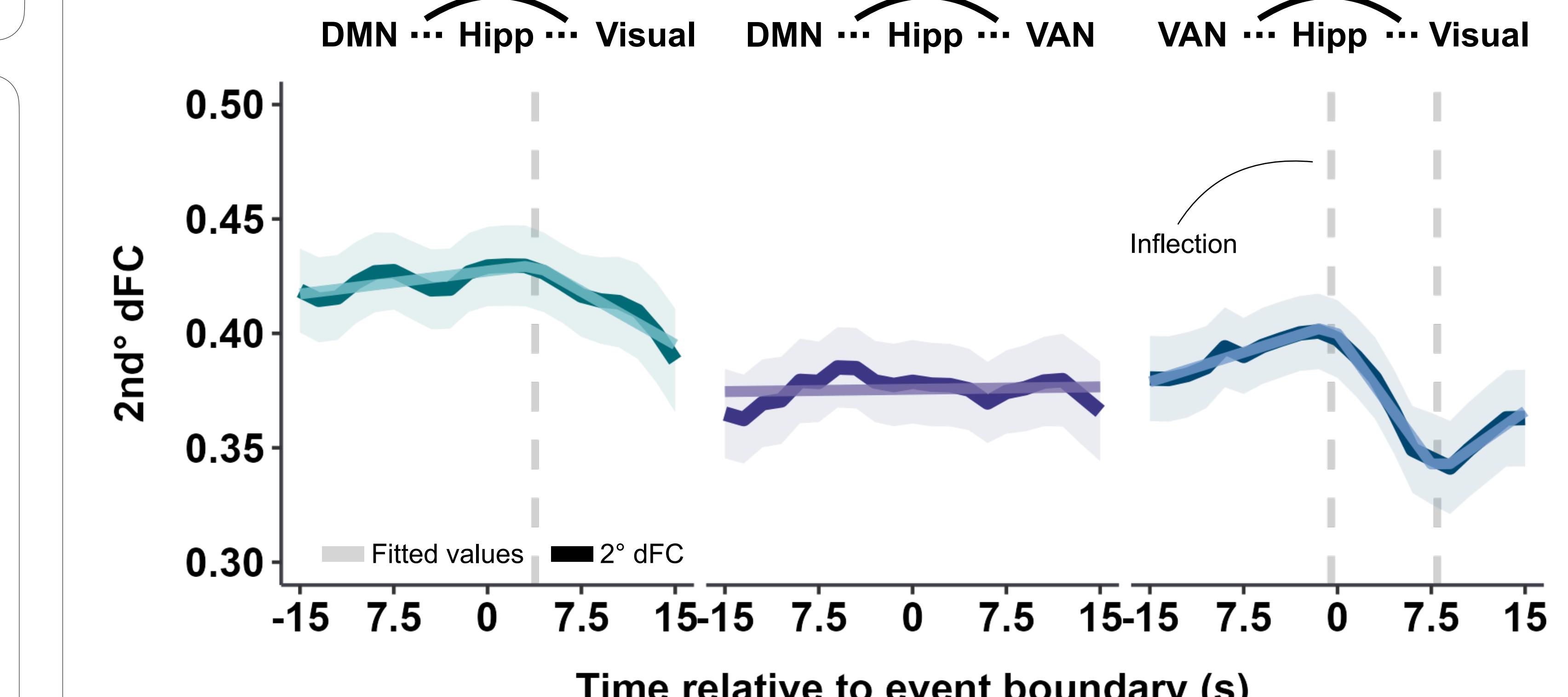
✉ ss3837@cornell.edu

## 2° Hipp dFC changes across event boundaries.



- Piecewise regression:

$$2^{\circ} \text{ dFC} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 t\text{-to-bound} + \beta_2 (t\text{-to-bound} - \text{inflect1}) + \beta_3 (t\text{-to-bound} - \text{inflect2})$$



- 2° dFC between hipp-DMN & hipp-VAN remains constant across event boundary.

## Conclusion

Hippocampal dFC is modulated by event structure:

- Stronger association with modulatory/ control network **precedes** increases with external network.
- Disengage both modulatory and external networks **following** event boundaries.
- **Constant engagement** with internal network.