

# Independent Component Analysis of Electrophysiological Data



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Institute for Neural Computation  
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**28th EEGLAB Workshop**

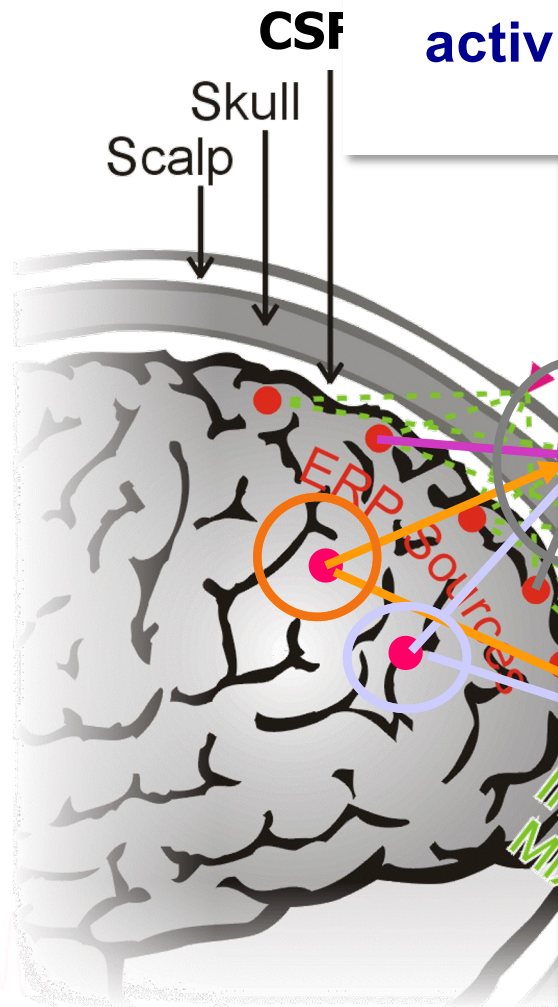
November, 2018

# Blind EEG Source Separation by Independent Component Analysis



Tony Bell,  
developer  
of Infomax  
ICA

ICA can find distinct EEG source activities -- and their 'simple' scalp maps!



**Independent Component Analysis  
of Electroencephalographic Data**

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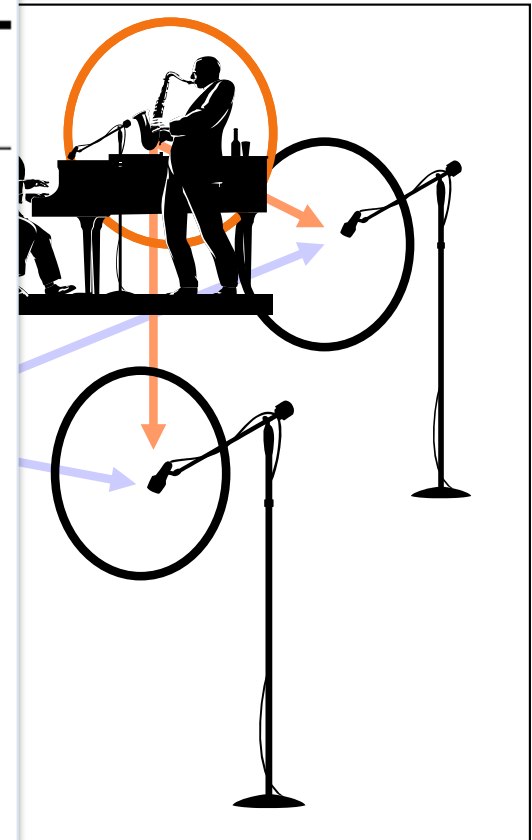
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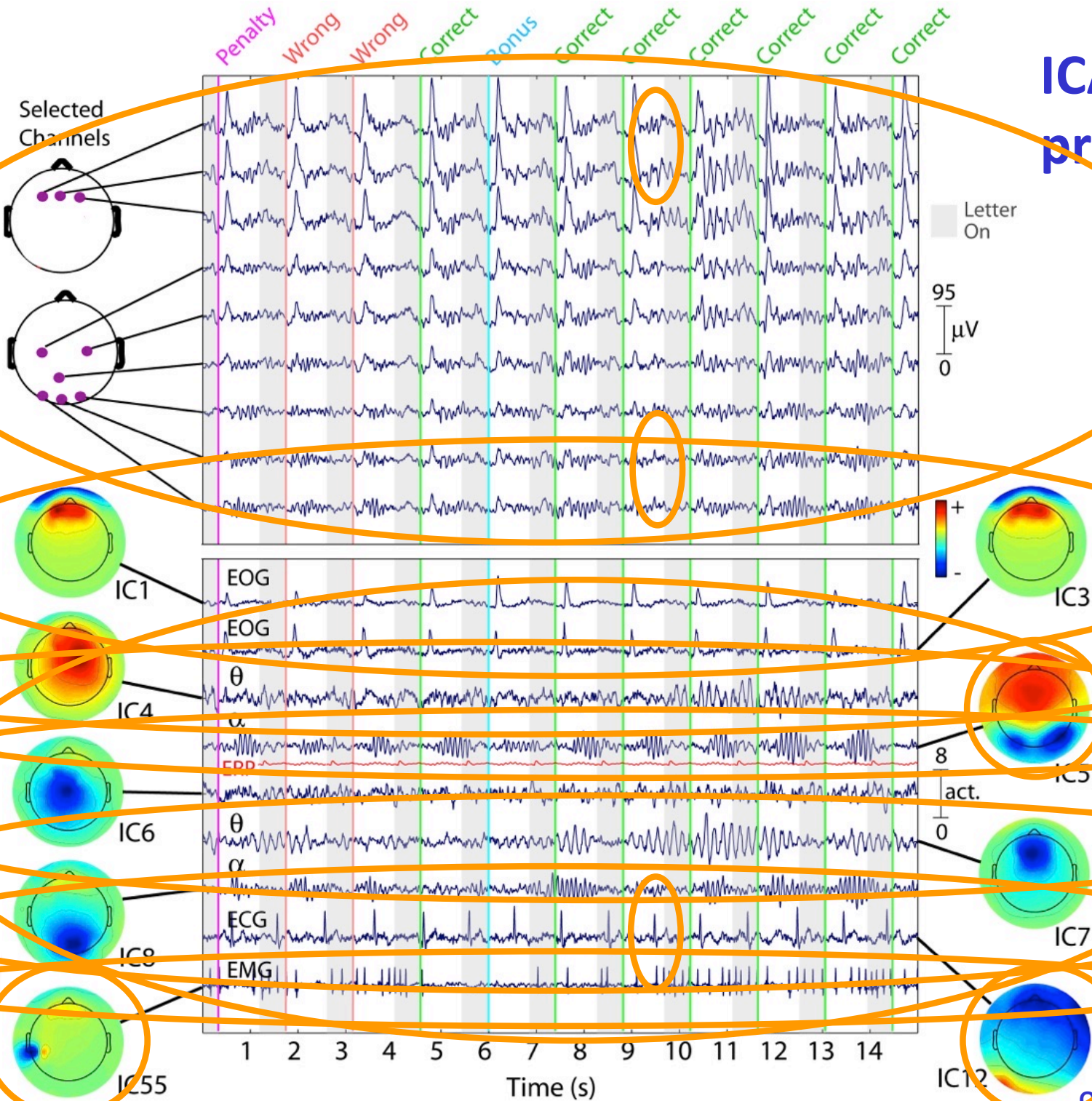
Tomasz J. Sejnowski  
Howard Hughes Medical Institute and  
Computational Neurobiology Lab  
The Salk Institute, P.O. Box 85800  
San Diego, CA 92186-5800  
terry@salk.edu

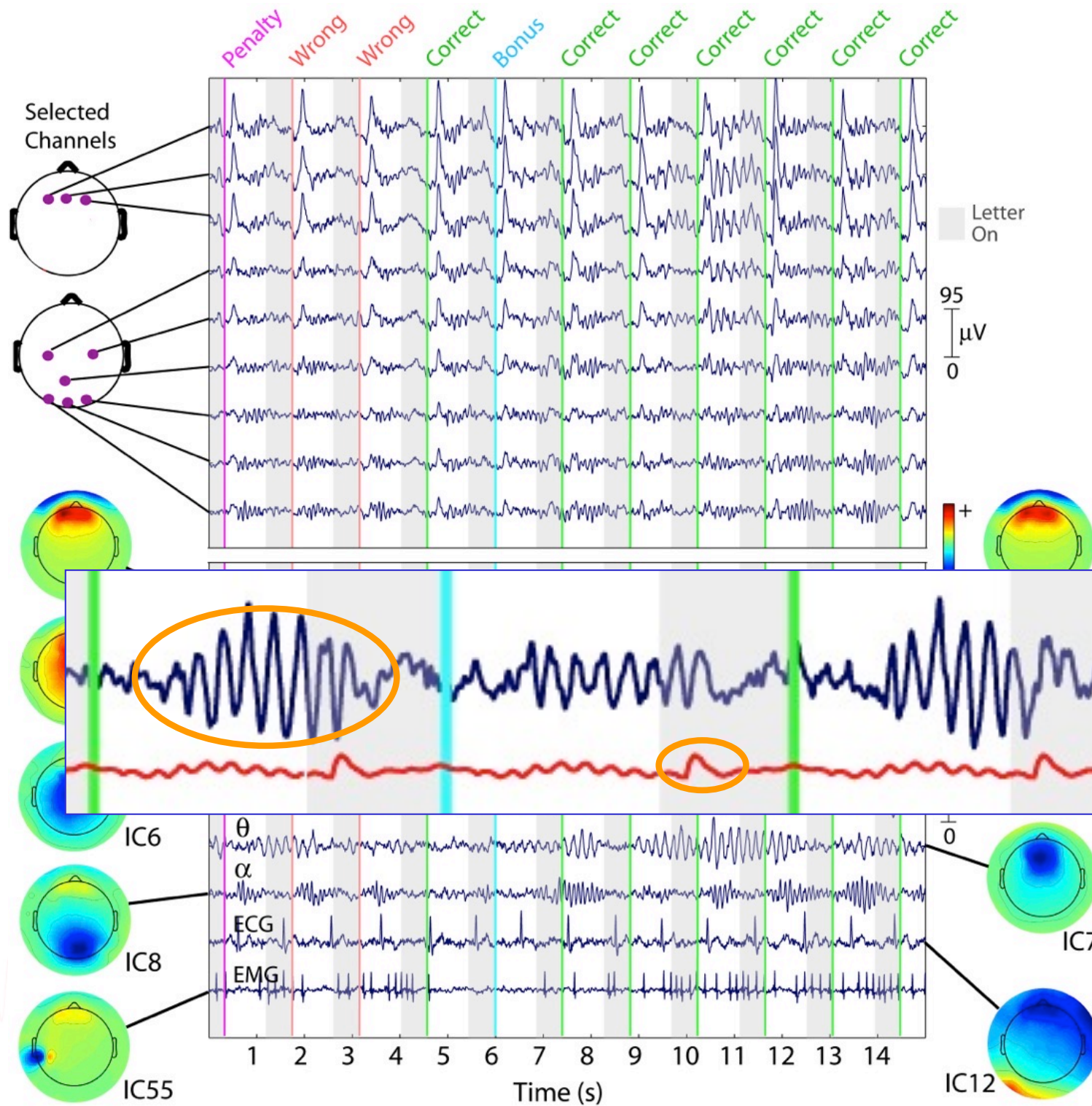
**Abstract**

Because of the distance between the skull and brain and their different sensitivities, electroencephalographic (EEG) data collected from any point on the human scalp includes activity generated within a large brain area. This spatial smearing of EEG data by volume conduction does not involve significant time delays, however, suggesting that the Independent Component Analysis (ICA) algorithm of Bell and Sejnowski (1) is suitable for performing blind source separation on EEG data. The ICA algorithm separates the problem of source identification from that of source localization. First results of applying the ICA algorithm to EEG and event-related potential (ERP) data collected during a sustained auditory detection task show: (1) ICA training is insensitive to different random seeds; (2) ICA may be used to segregate obvious artifactual ERP components (eye and muscle noise, eye movements) from other sources; (3) ICA is capable of isolating overlapping ERP phenomena, including alpha and theta bursts and spatially-separable ERP components, to separate ICA channels; (4) Nonstationarities in EEG and behavioral state can be tracked using ICA via changes in the amount of residual correlation between ICA-filtered output channels.



# ICA in practice

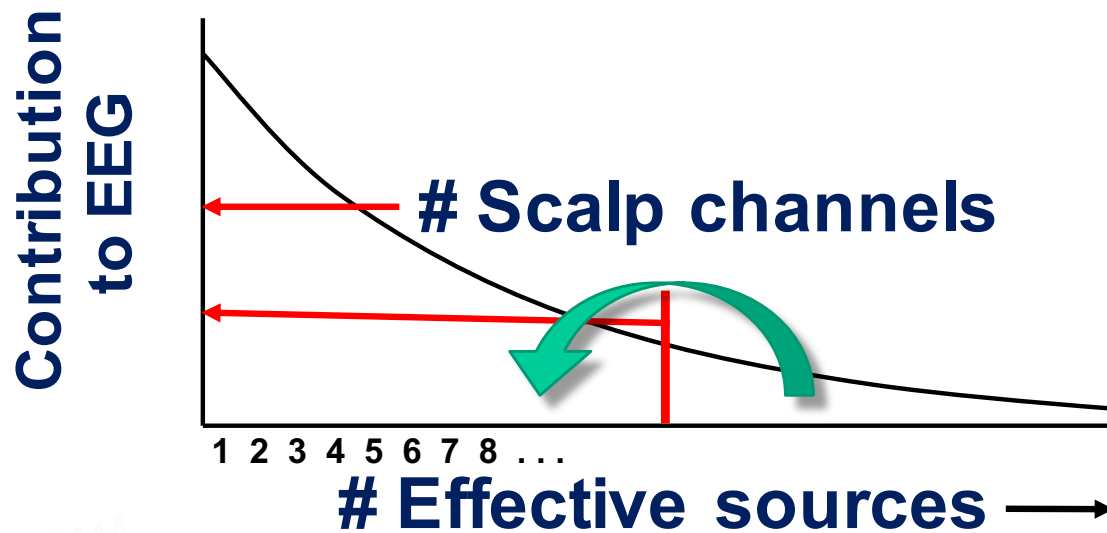
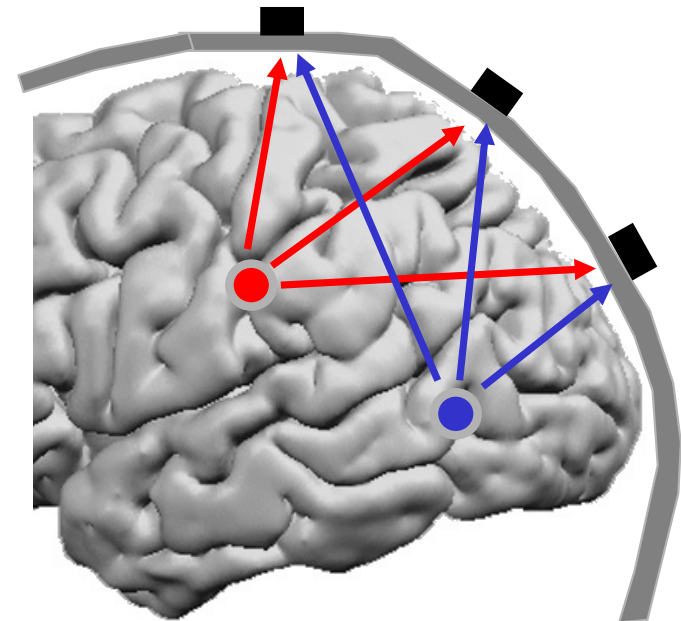




# ICA Assumptions

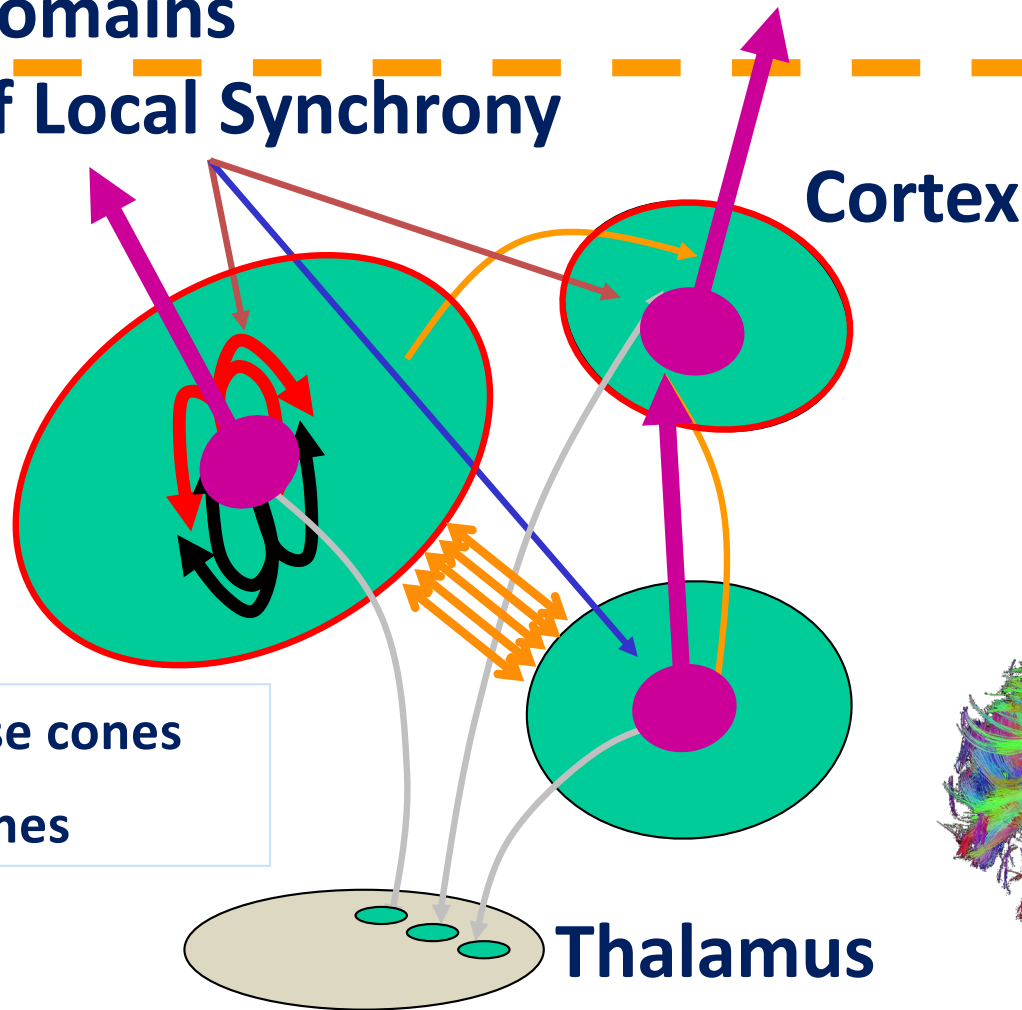
- Mixing is linear at electrodes ✓
- Propagation delays are negligible ✓
- Component locations are fixed (?)
- Component time courses are independent ?
- # components  $\leq$  # scalp channels ?

✓  
✓  
(?)  
?  
?



# Are EEG effective source signals independent?

Independent  
Domains  
of Local Synchrony



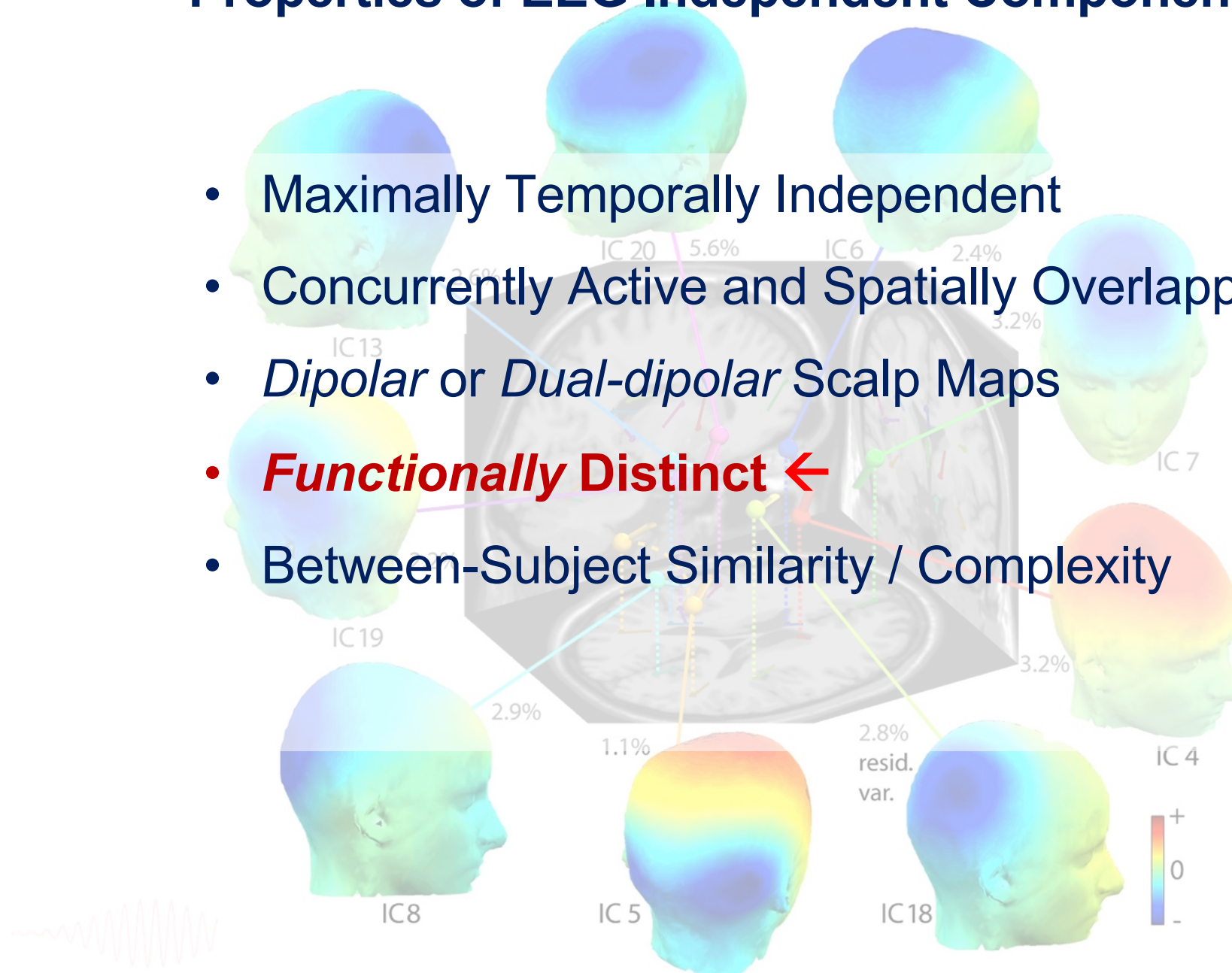
Freeman - phase cones

Plenz - avalanches



# Properties of EEG Independent Components

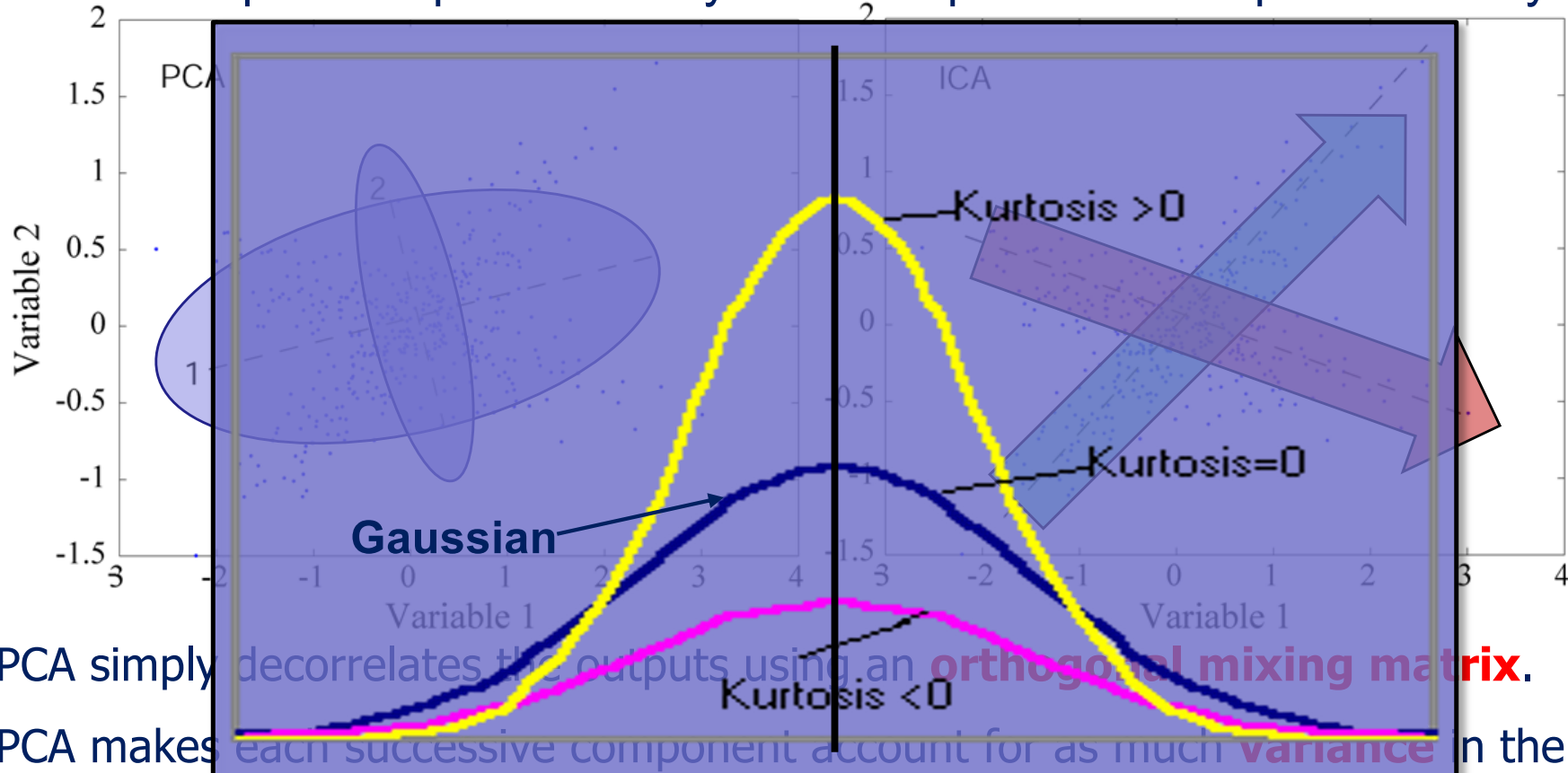
- Maximally Temporally Independent
- Concurrently Active and Spatially Overlapping
- *Dipolar or Dual-dipolar* Scalp Maps
- **Functionally Distinct** ←
- Between-Subject Similarity / Complexity



# ICA vs. PCA

Principal Component Analysis

Independent Component Analysis



PCA simply decorrelates the outputs using an **orthogonal mixing matrix**.

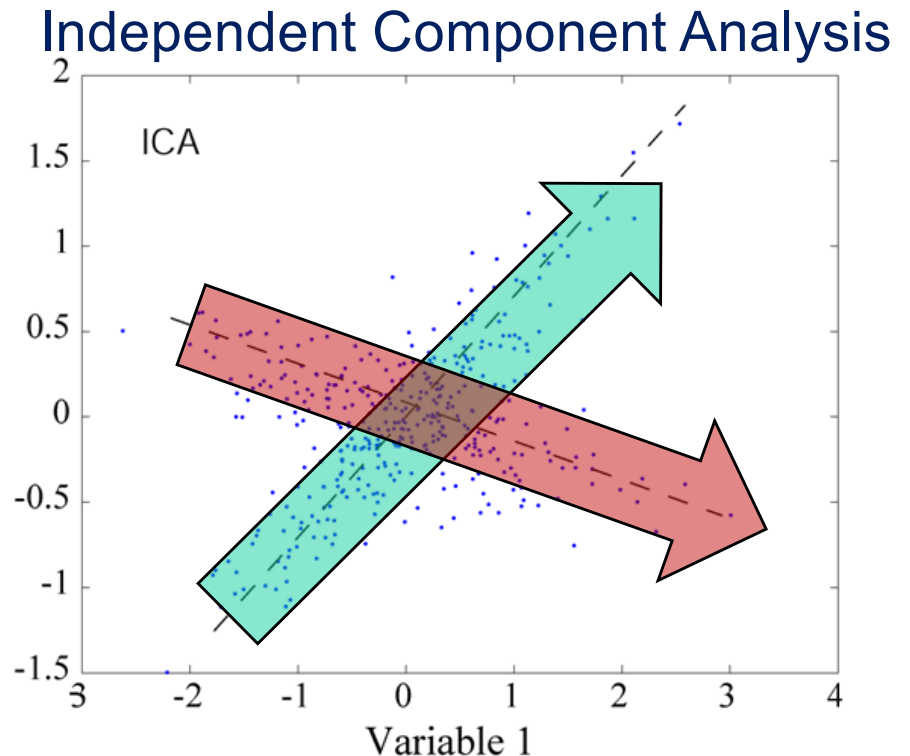
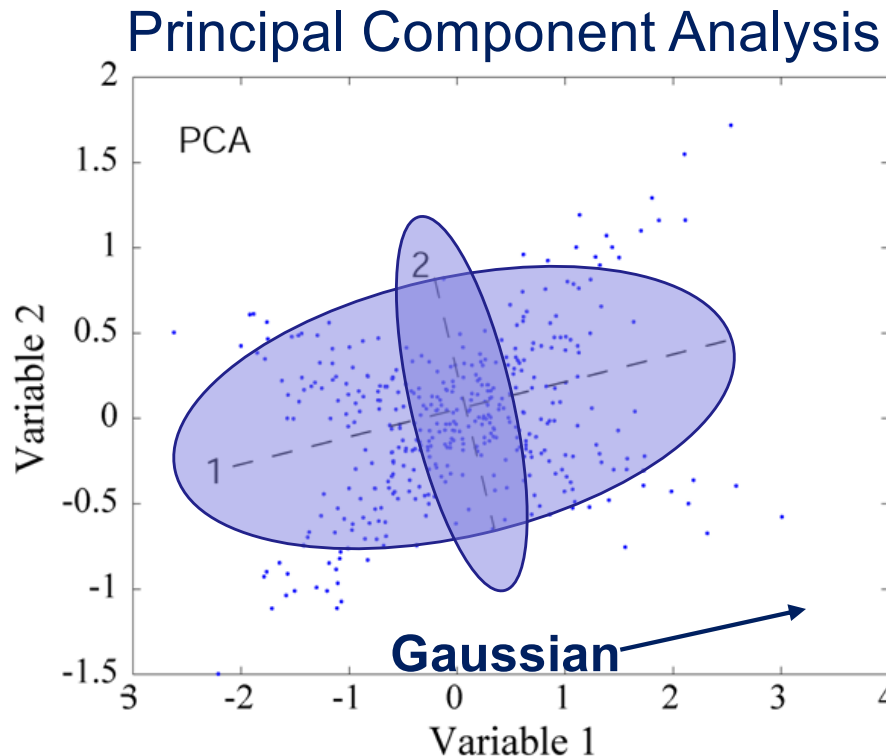
PCA makes each successive component account for as much **variance** in the data as possible.

ICA makes each component account for as much **temporally independent information** in the data as possible, with no constraints on the mixing matrix.

***PCA lumps – ICA splits!***



# ICA vs. PCA



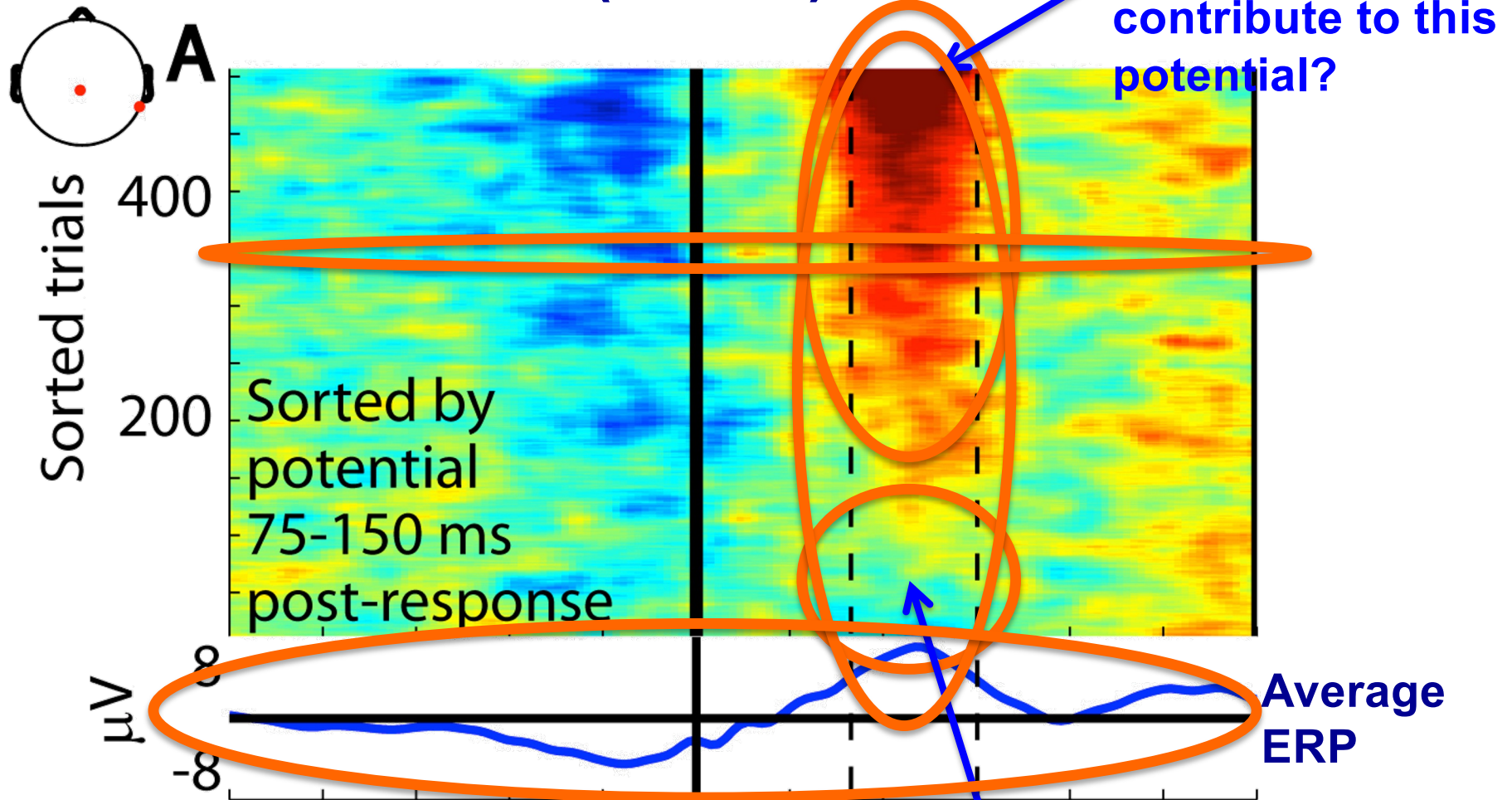
PCA simply decorrelates the outputs using an **orthogonal mixing matrix**.

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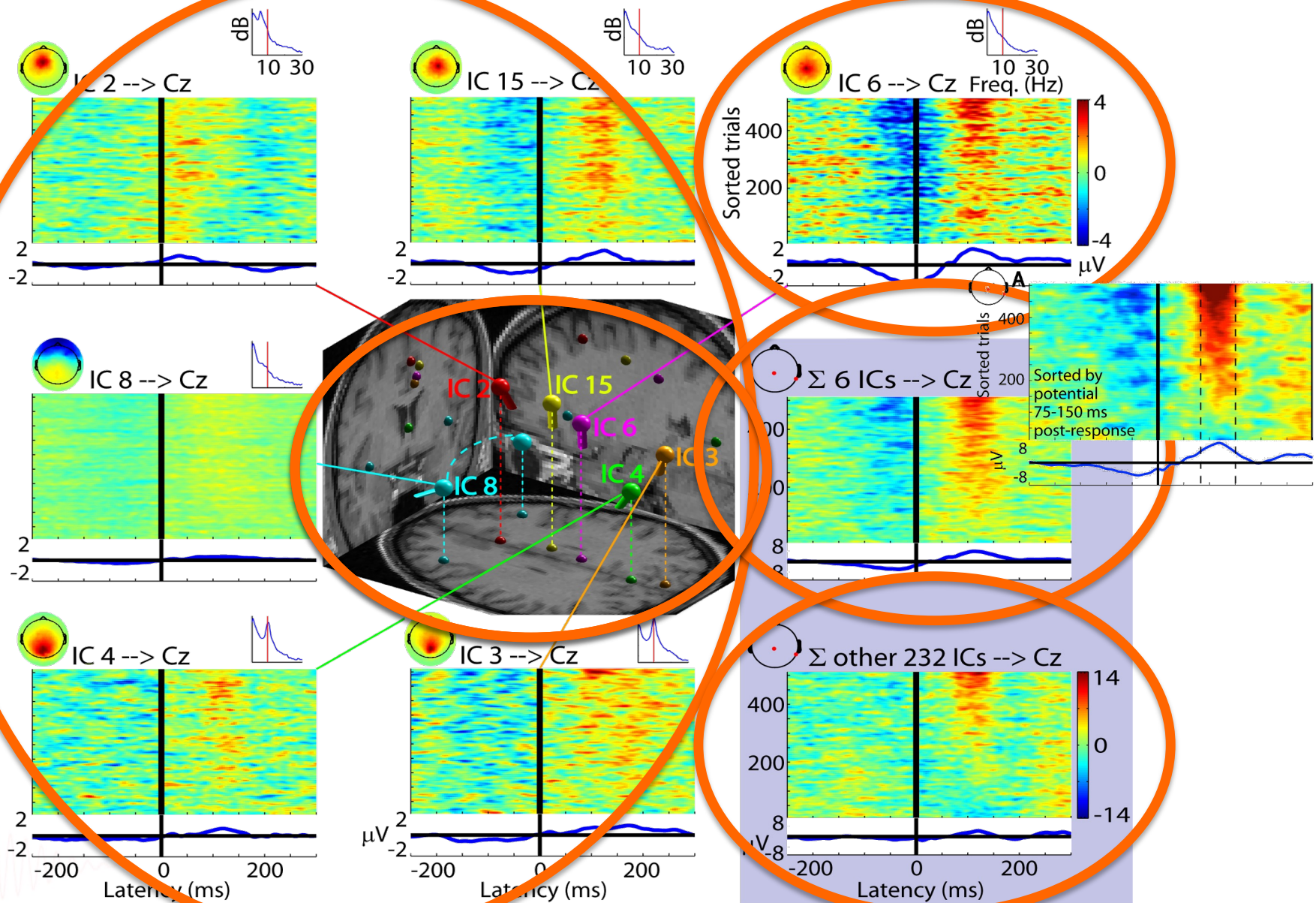
*PCA lumps – ICA splits!*

# A P300' visual target response at electrode Cz (vertex)

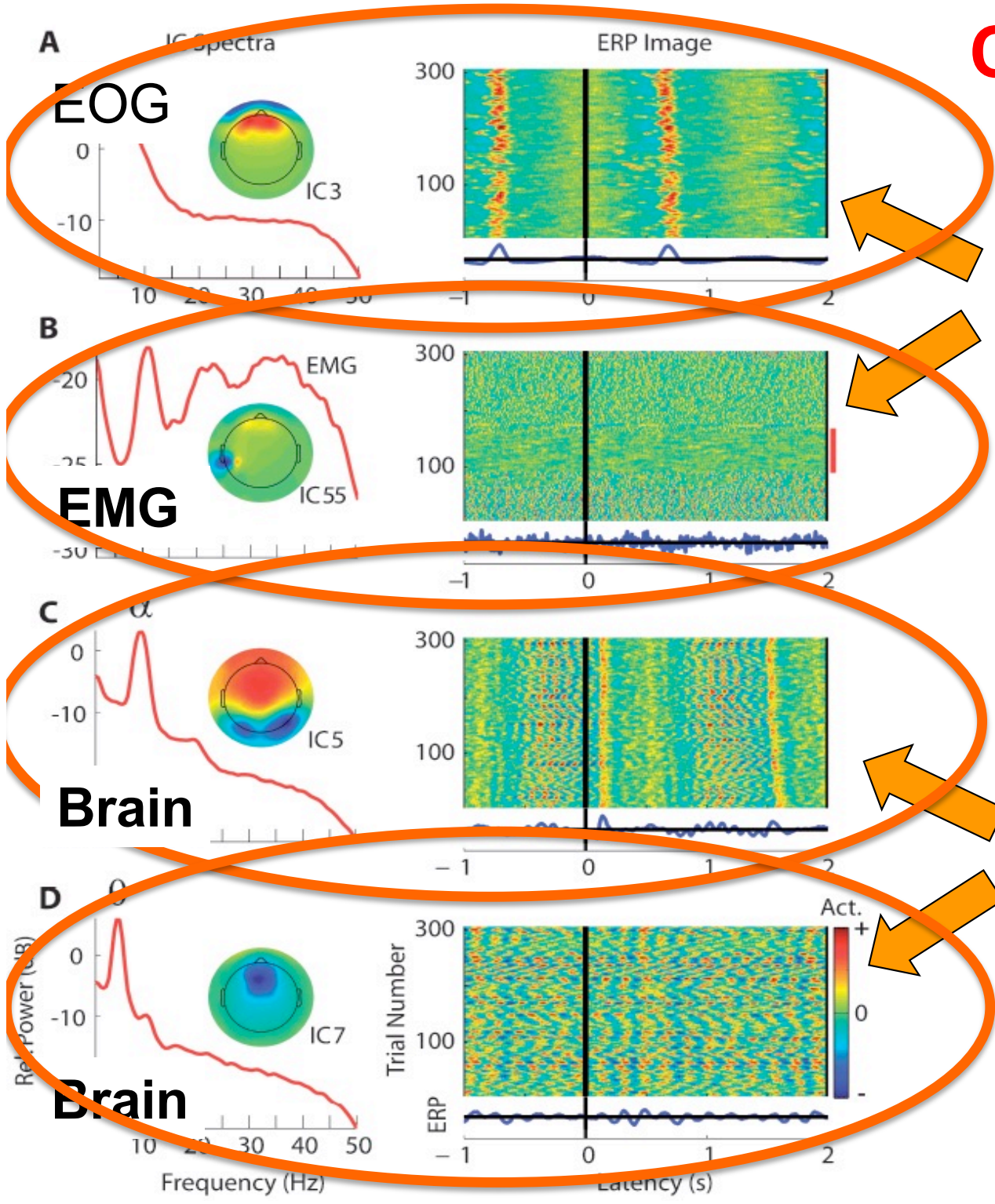


No scalp response in these trials ... Why not?

# The response (at Cz) sums 238 independent sources



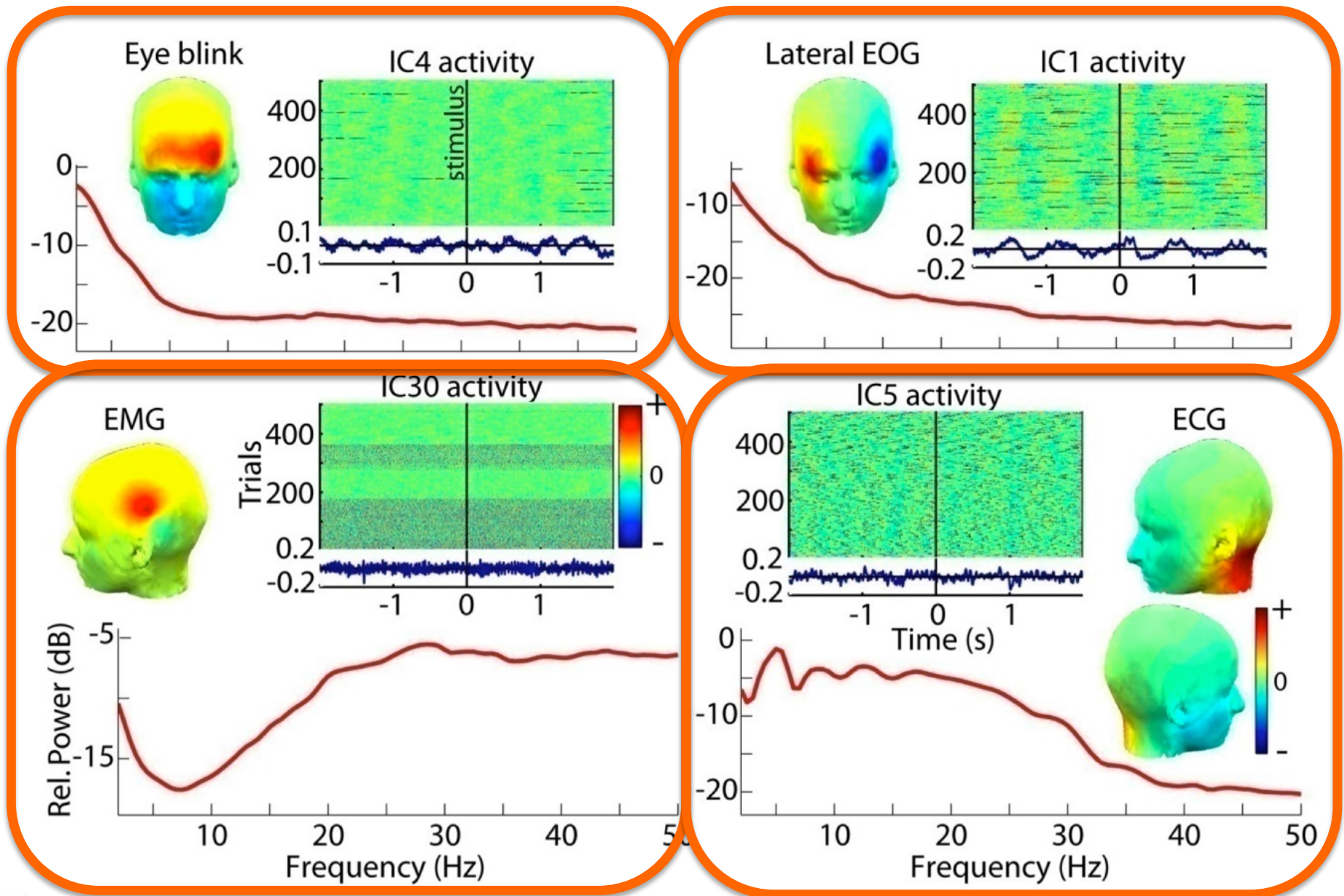
# Classifying ICs



Non-brain sources

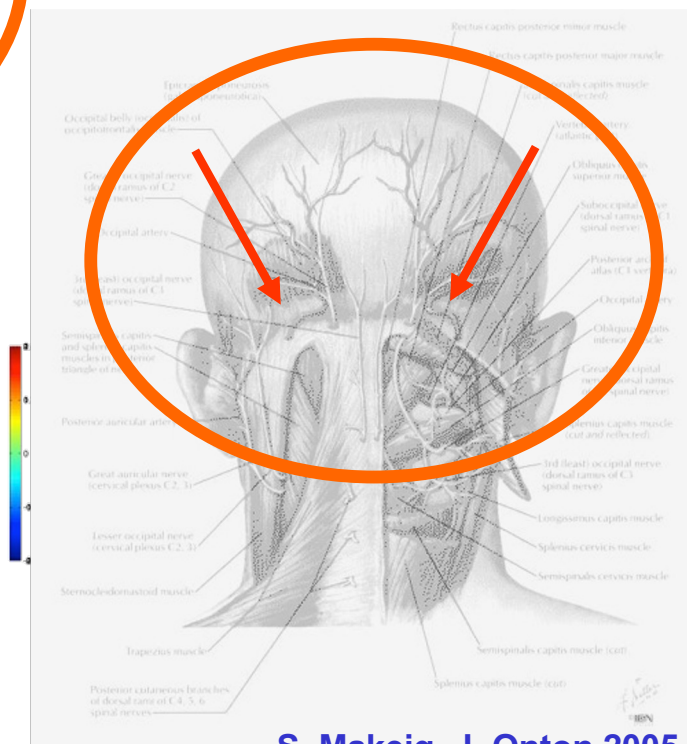
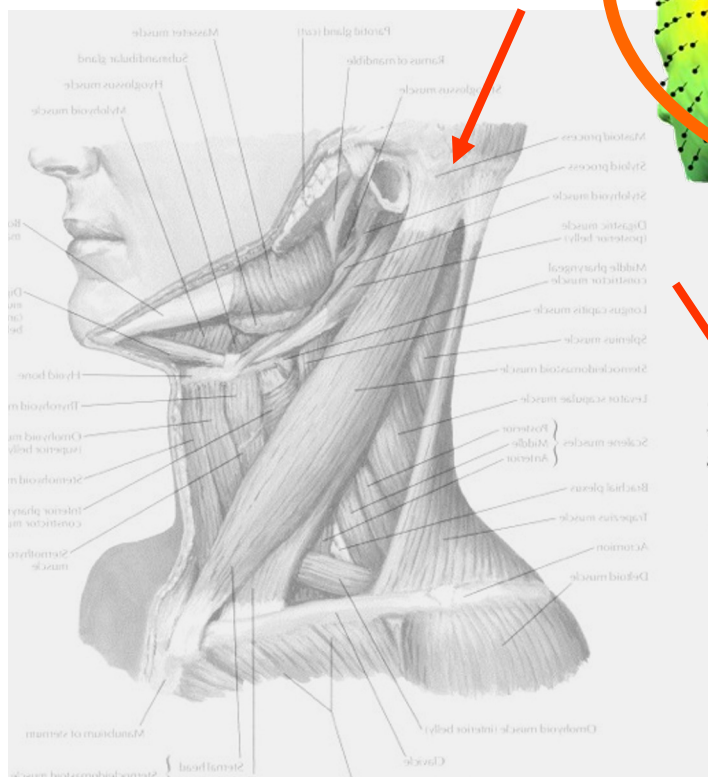
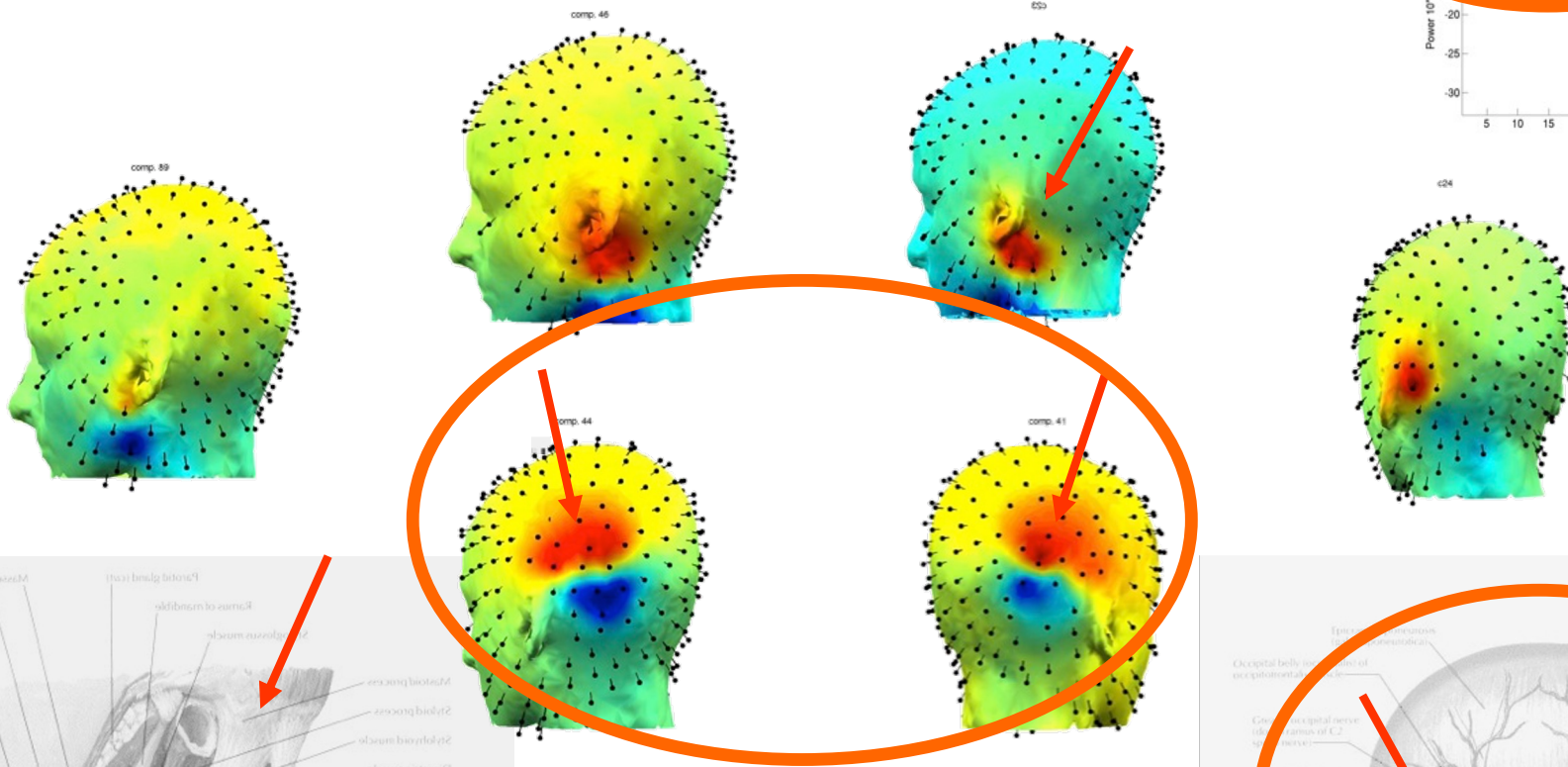
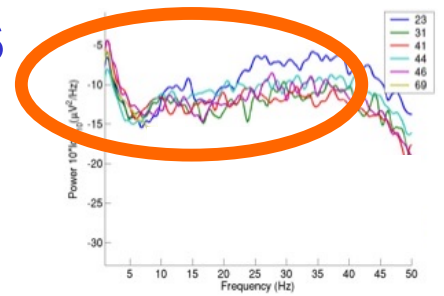
Effective brain sources

# ICA finds Non-Brain Independent Component (IC) Processes ...

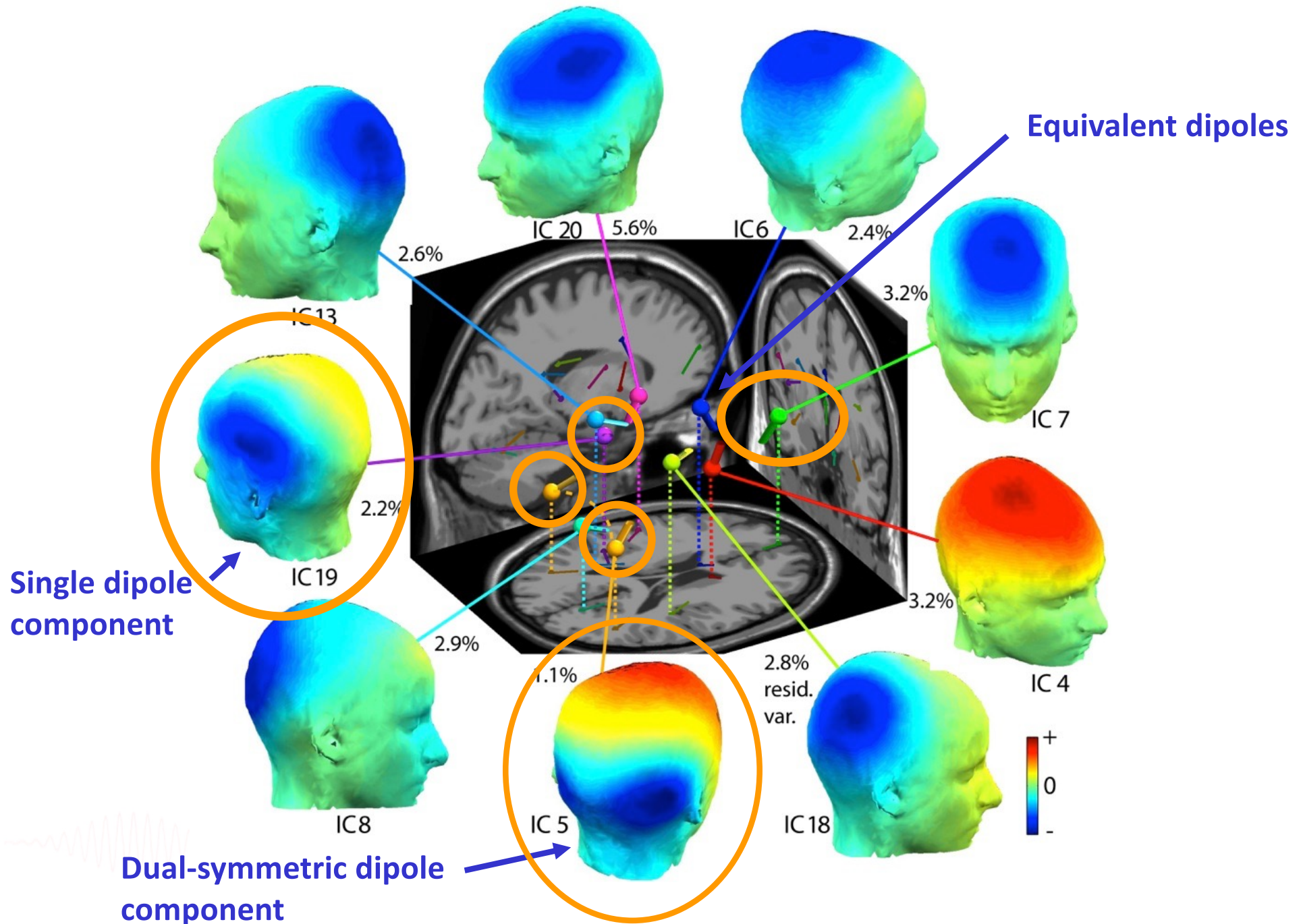


... separates them from the remainder of the data ...

# Independent muscle signals



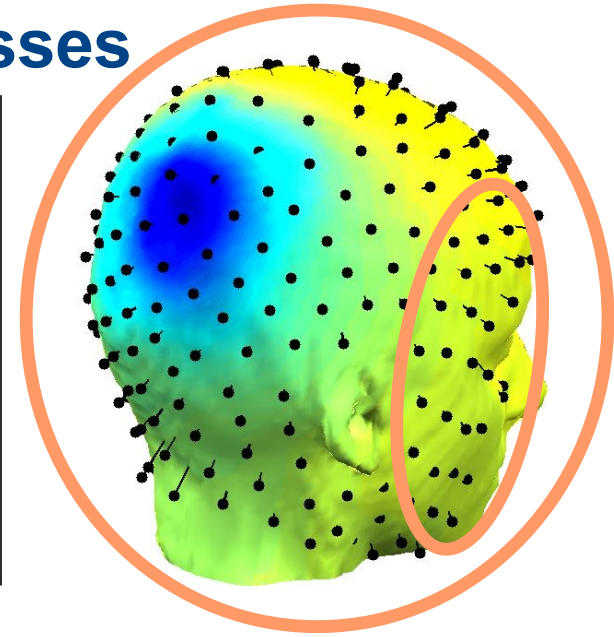
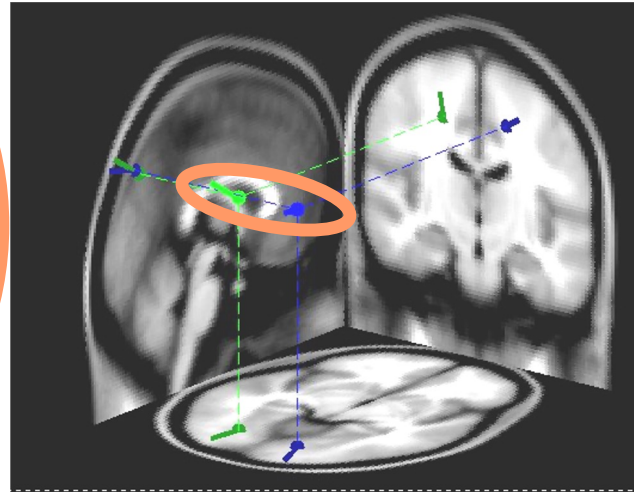
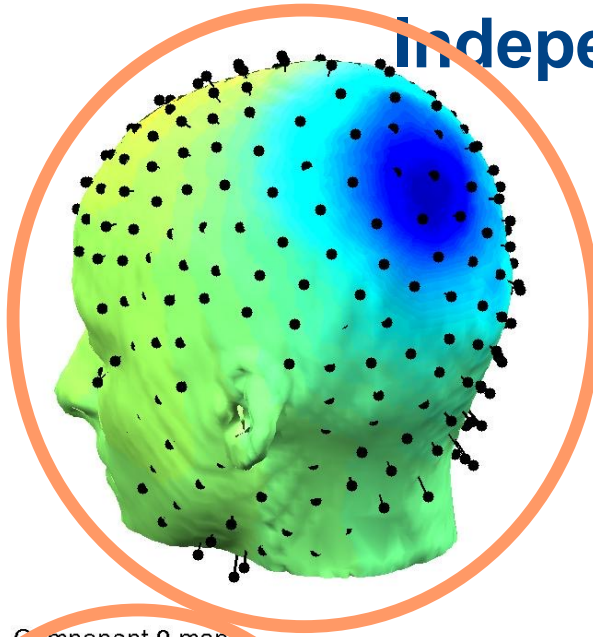
# ... and also separates cortical brain IC processes



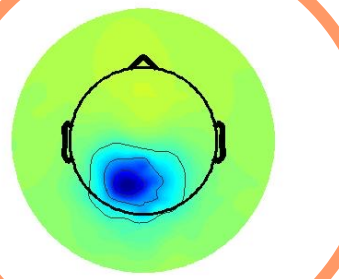
IC9

# Single Session - Two Maximally Independent Alpha Processes

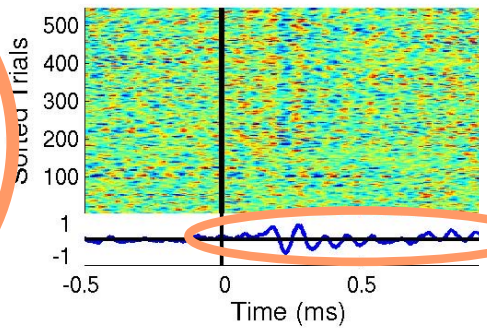
IC11



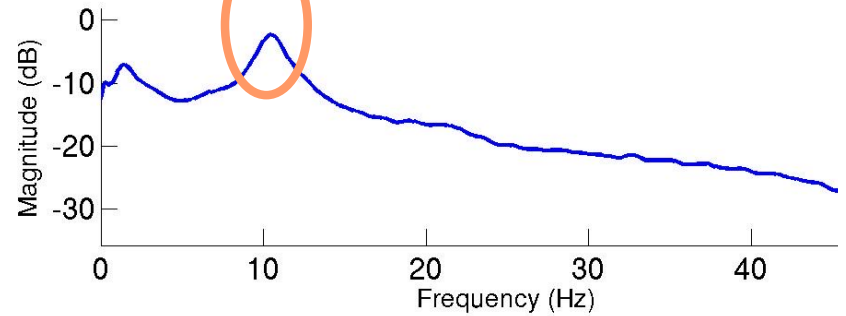
Component 9 map



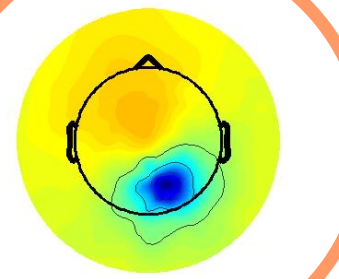
Component 9 activity (global offset 0.02)



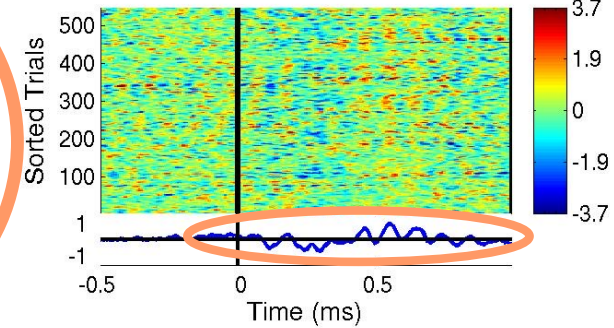
Activity power spectrum



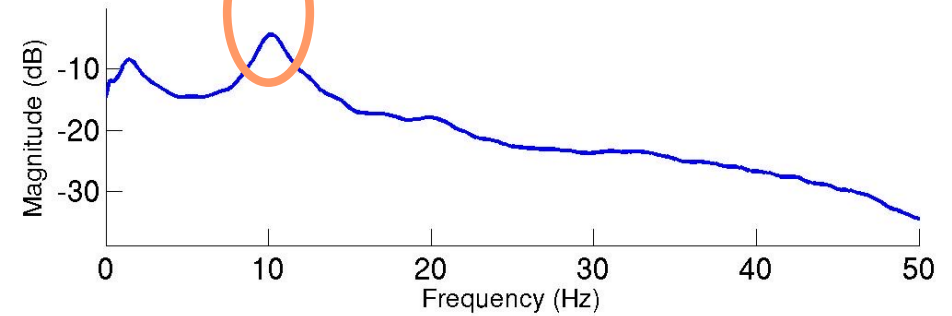
Component 11 map



Component 11 activity (global offset -0.038)

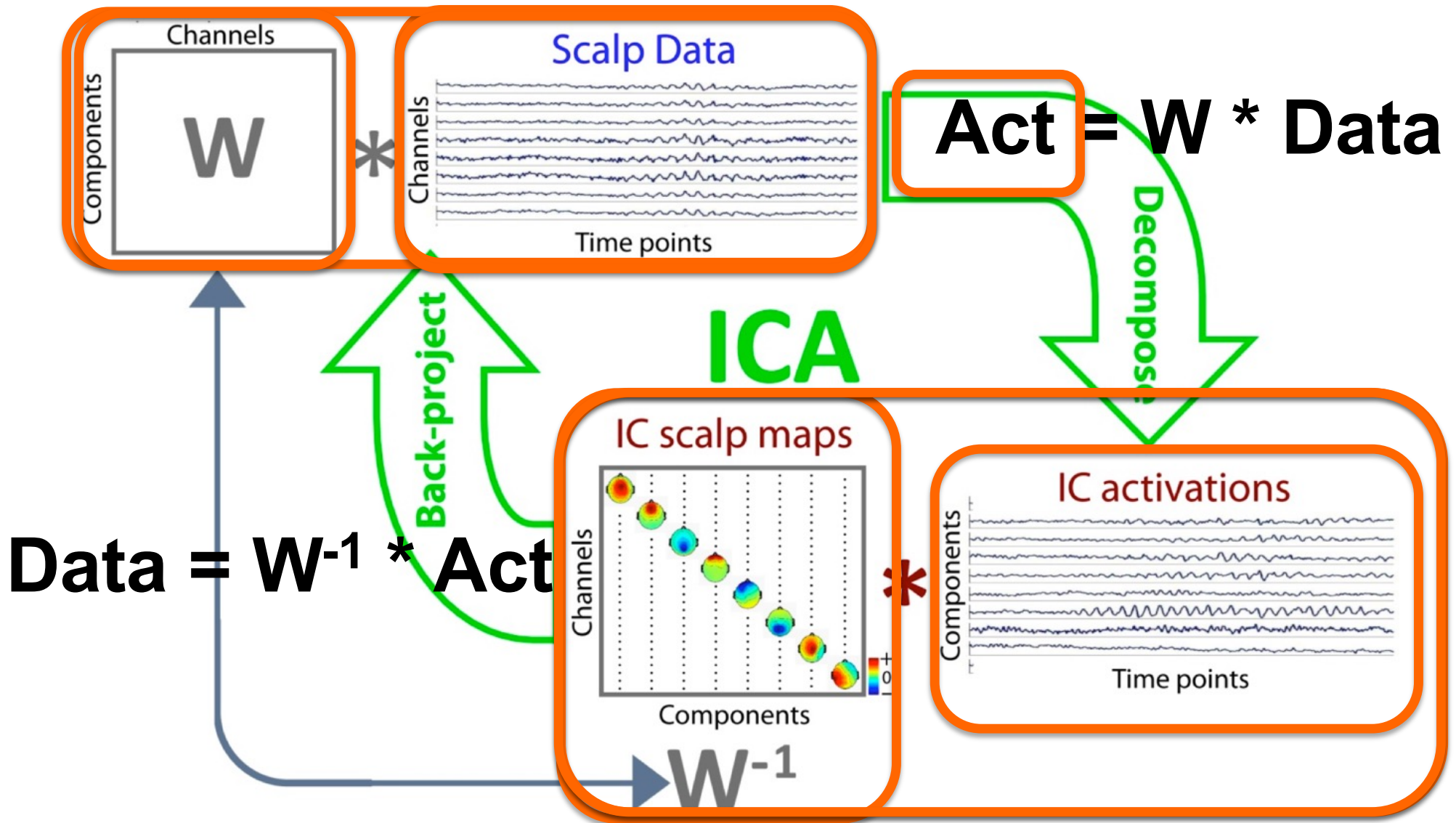


Activity power spectrum





# ICA is a linear data decomposition method



$$\text{Data} = W^{-1} * \text{Act}$$

$$\text{Data} = W^{-1} * (W * \text{Data})$$

# Infomax ICA learning approach

How to make the outputs statistical independent?

Minimize their redundancy or mutual information.

Consider the joint entropy of two components,

$$H(y_1, y_2) = H(y_1) + H(y_2) - I(y_1, y_2).$$

Maximizing  $H(y_1, y_2)$

minimizing  $I(y_1, y_2)$ .

Infomax

The learning rule:

$$\Delta \mathbf{W} \propto \frac{\partial H(\mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \underbrace{\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W}}_{\text{Natural gradient normalization (Amari)}}$$

Is 0 if the two variables are independent

# Some ICA History

- Herault & Jutten ("Space or time adaptive signal processing by neural network models", *Neural Nets for Computing Meeting*, Snowbird, Utah, 1986): **Seminal paper**
- Bell & Sejnowski (1995): Information maximization (**Infomax**)
- Makeig, Bell, Jung, Sejnowski (1996); ICA decomposition of EEG
- Amari et al. (1996): Natural gradient learning
- Cardoso (1996): Joint approximate diagonalization (JADE)
- Hyvarinen (1999): (fastICA)
- Lee/Girolami (1999): Mixture model ICA (**Extended Infomax**)
- Palmer (2006): Adaptive mixture ICA (**AMICA**)

## **Applications of ICA to biomedical signals**

- EEG/ERP analysis (Makeig, Bell, Jung & Sejnowski, **NIPS 1996**)
- fMRI analysis (McKeown et al., 1998)
- Fetal/mother ECG separation (Cardoso, 1998)
- Electrocorticography (ECoG) (Whitmer, 2010)

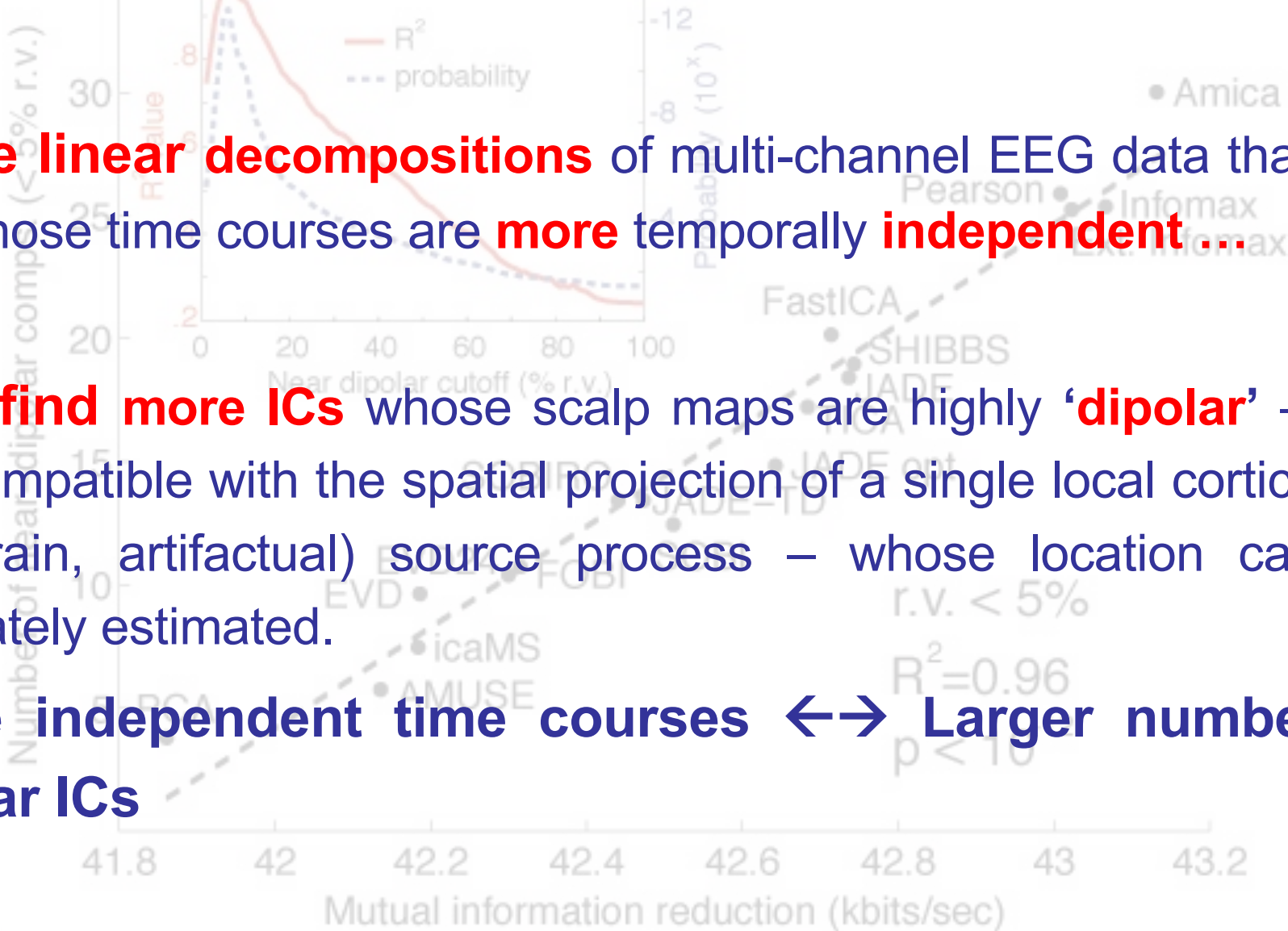
# Important Recent Result (2012)

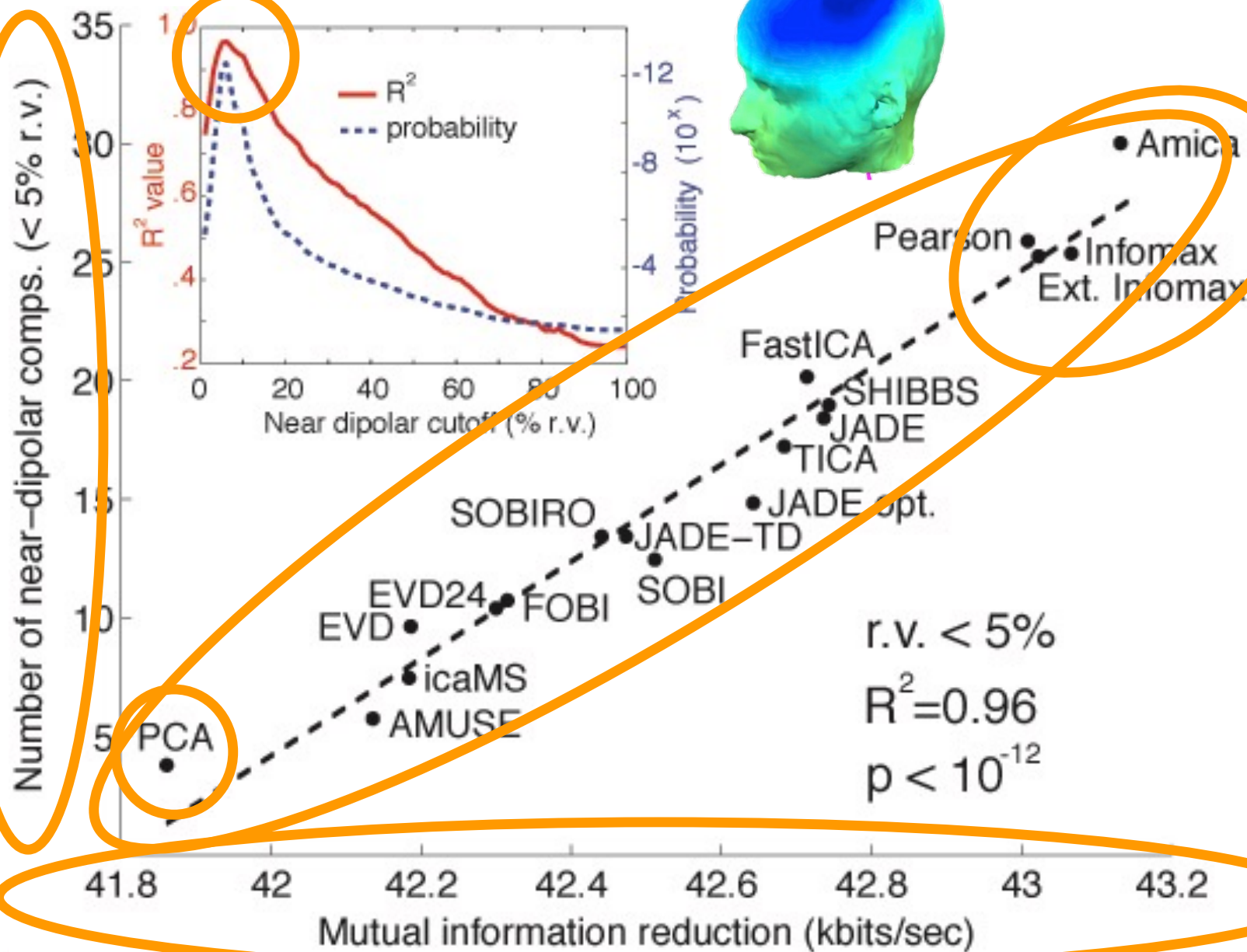
**Those linear decompositions** of multi-channel EEG data that find ICs whose time courses are **more temporally independent** ...

**Also find more ICs** whose scalp maps are highly '**dipolar**' – i.e., ICs compatible with the spatial projection of a single local cortical (or non-brain, artifactual) source process – whose location can be accurately estimated.

**More independent time courses**  $\leftrightarrow$  **Larger number of dipolar ICs**

**Hypothesis: Dipolar ICs = Localized cortical source processes**





Delorme et al., *PLOS One*,  
2012

S. Makeig, 2011

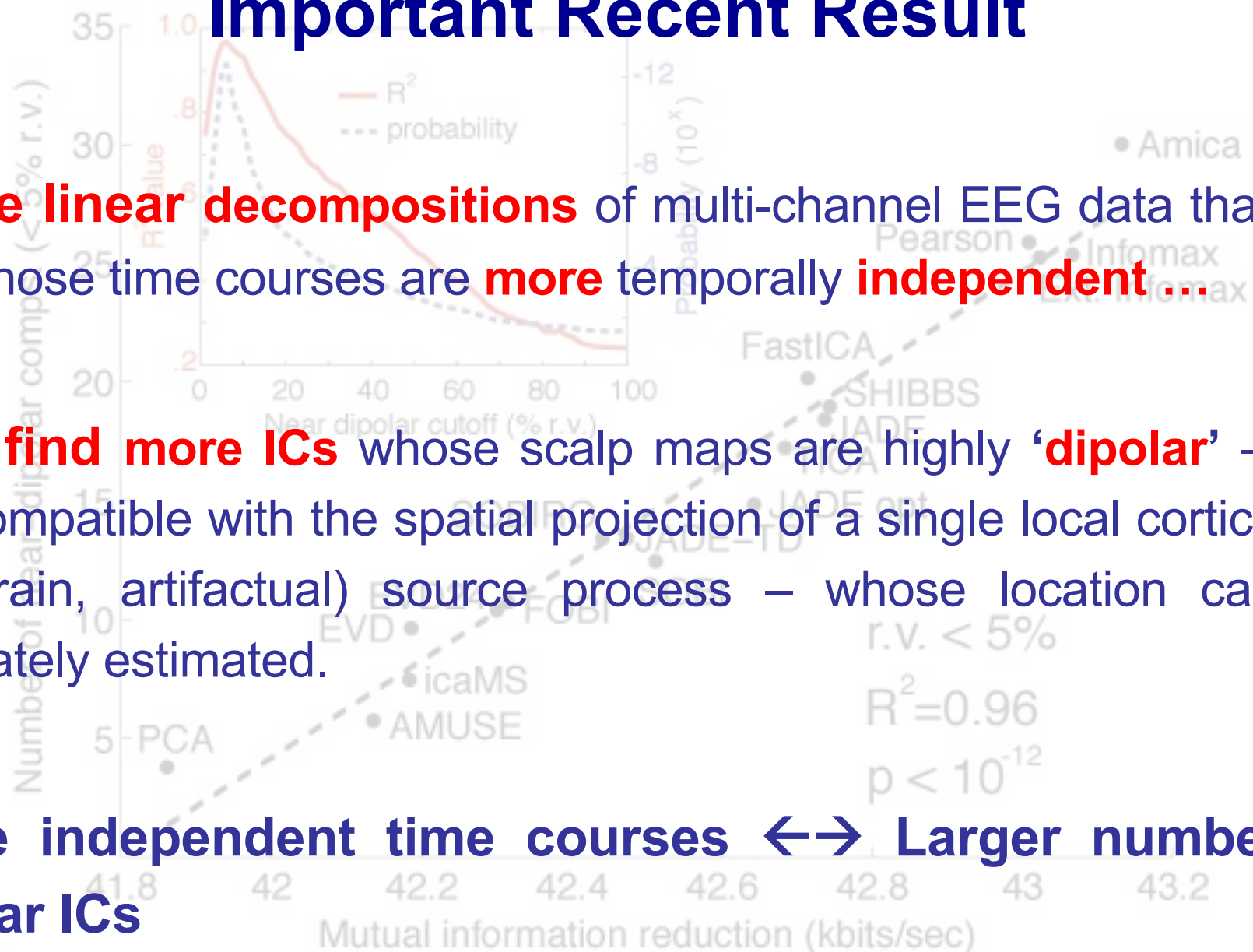
# Important Recent Result

Those **linear decompositions** of multi-channel EEG data that find ICs whose time courses are **more temporally independent** ...

**Also find more ICs** whose scalp maps are highly '**dipolar**' – i.e., ICs compatible with the spatial projection of a single local cortical (or non-brain, artifactual) source process – whose location can be accurately estimated.

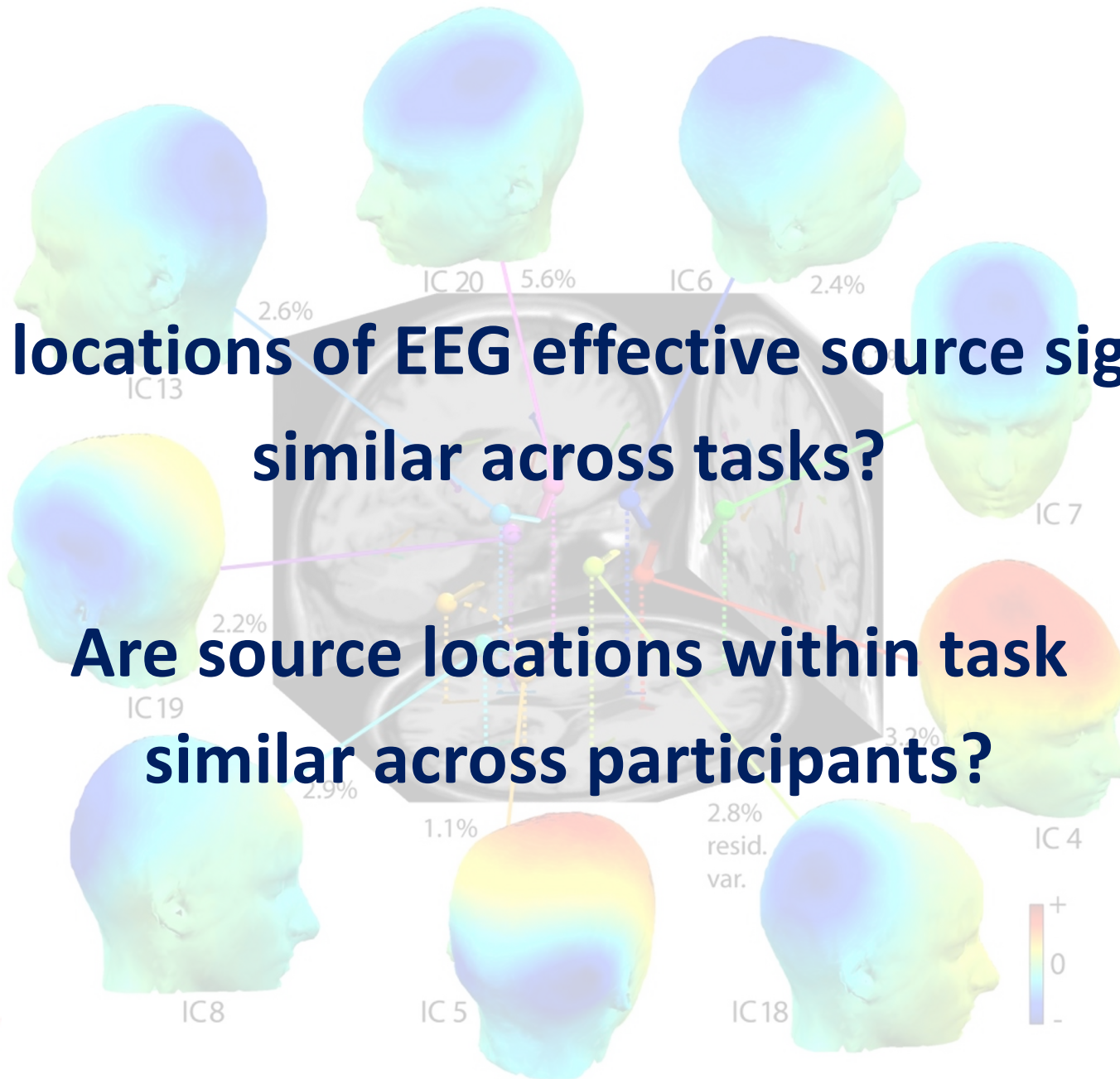
**More independent time courses**  $\leftrightarrow$  **Larger number of dipolar ICs**

Dipolar ICs = Localized cortical source processes



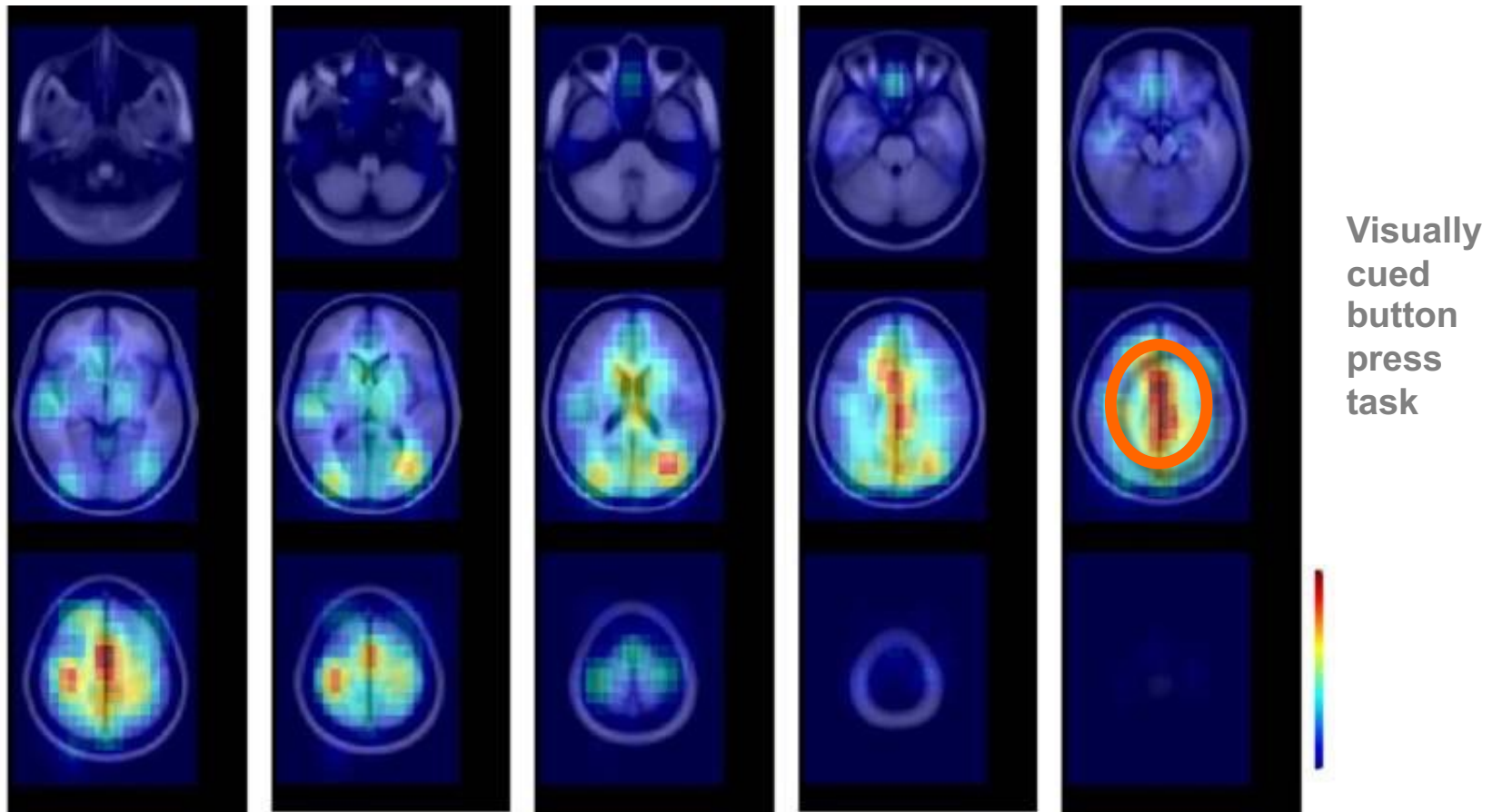
**Are locations of EEG effective source signals similar across tasks?**

**Are source locations within task similar across participants?**



# Effective Source Density

## B. Visually cued selective response

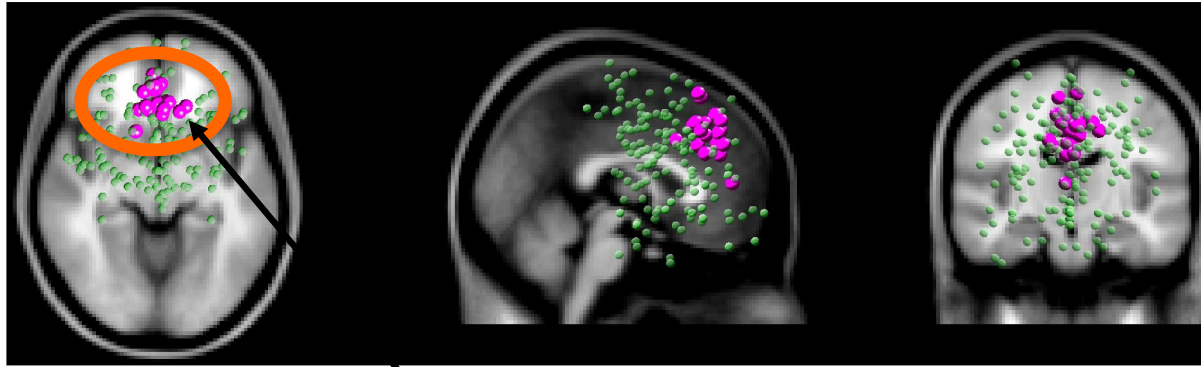




# Example: frontal midline theta cluster

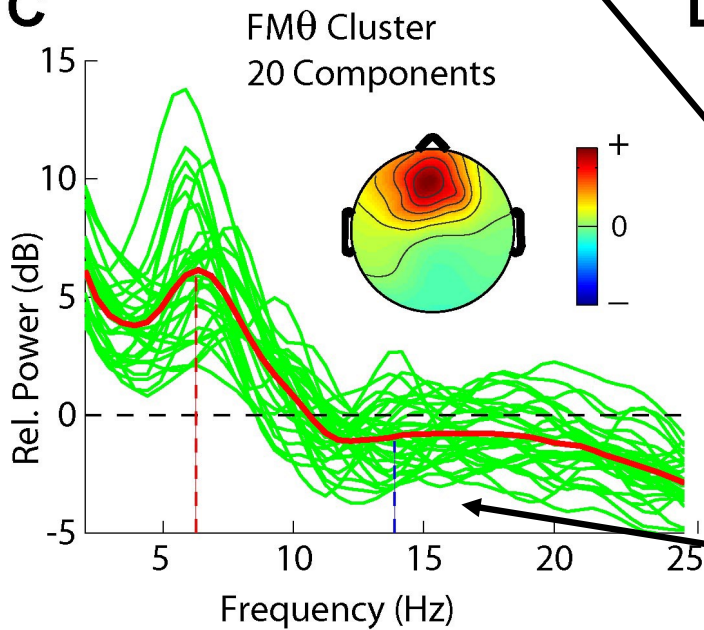
**B**

FM $\theta$  Cluster

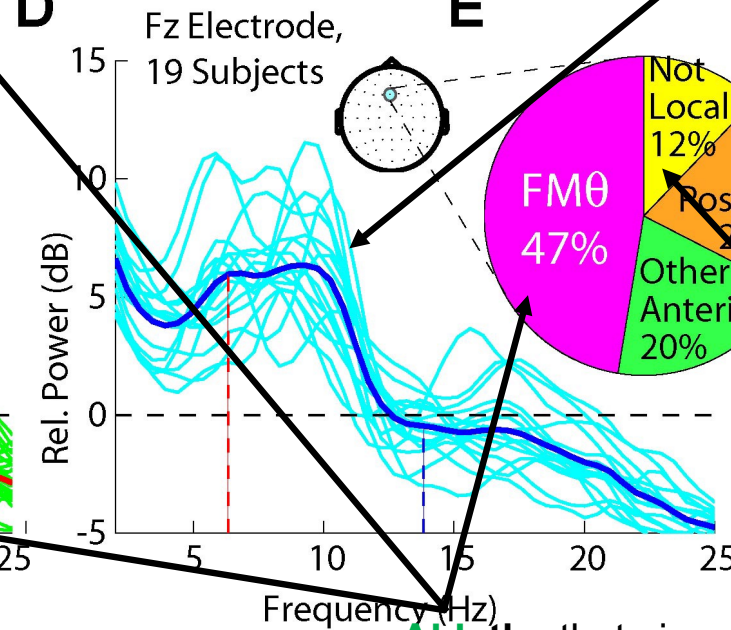


Channel data spectrum for the Fz $\rightarrow$ Ref channel

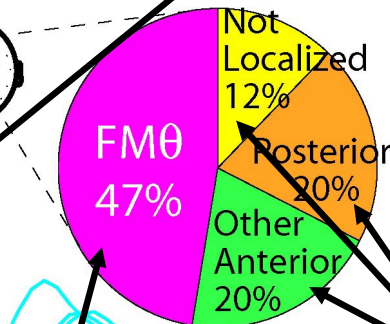
**C**



**D**



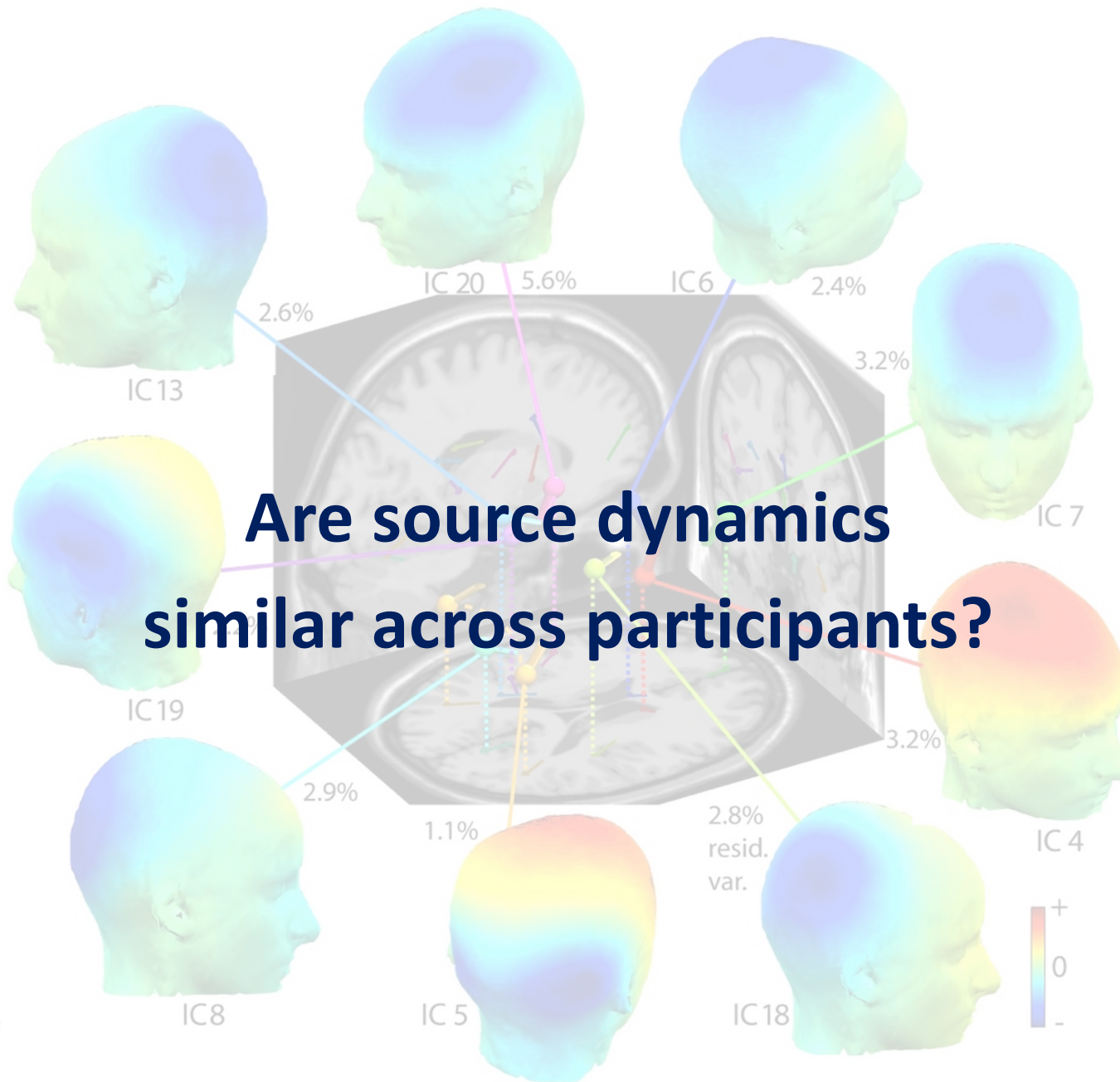
**E**



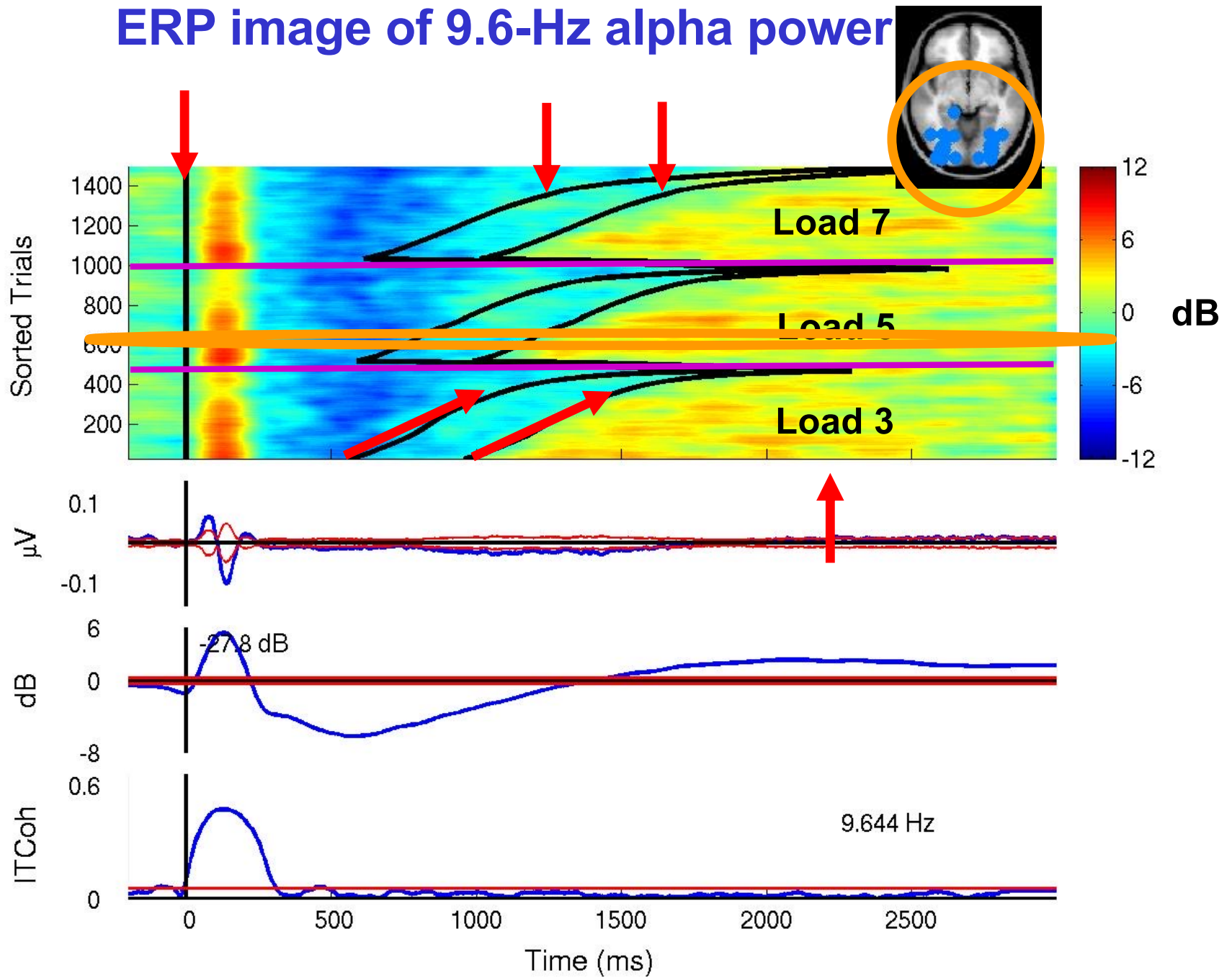
**NO** theta increase with more letters in memory!

**ALL** the theta increase with more letters in memory *from this IC cluster!*

# Are source dynamics similar across participants?

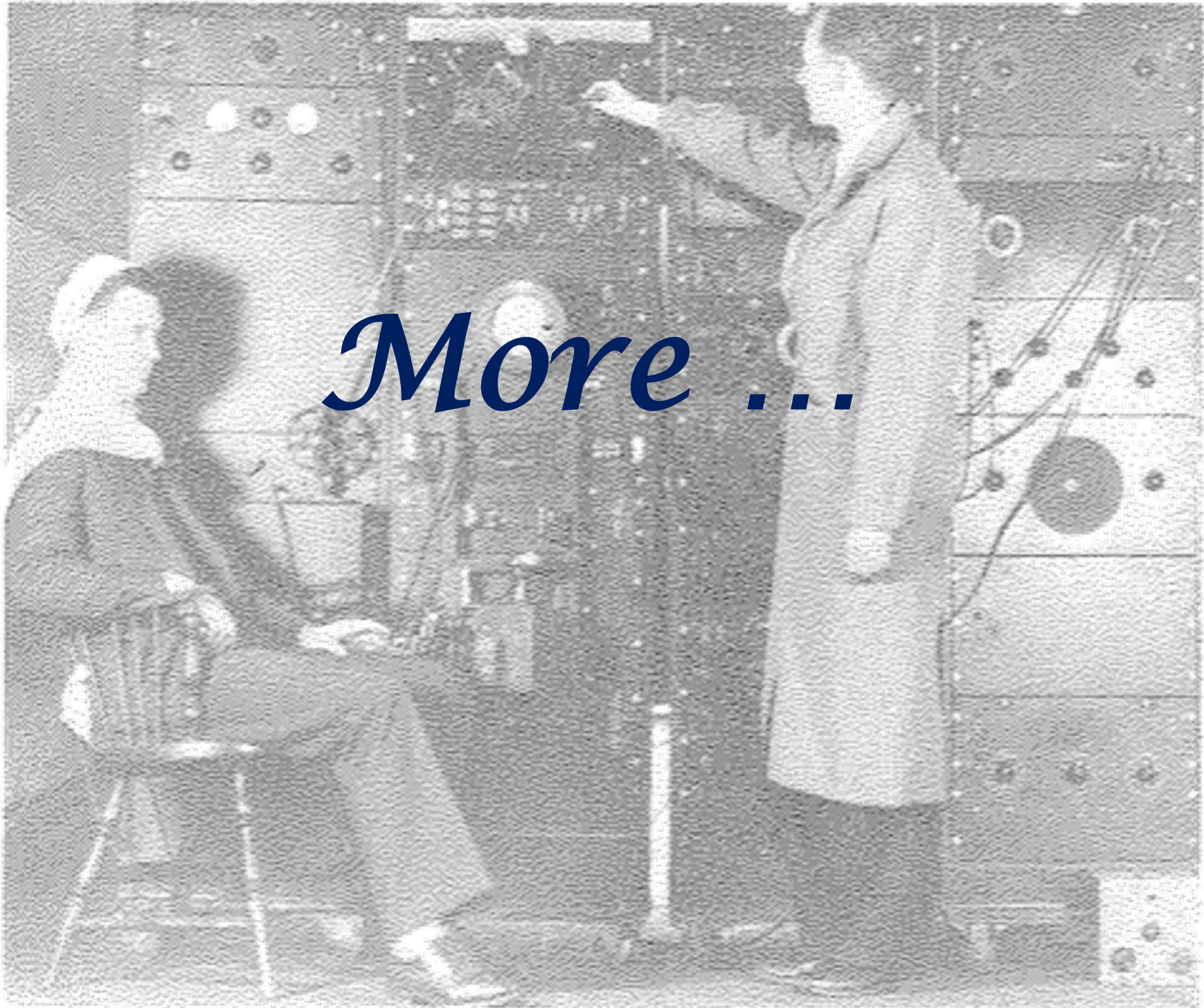


# ERP image of 9.6-Hz alpha power



erpimage()

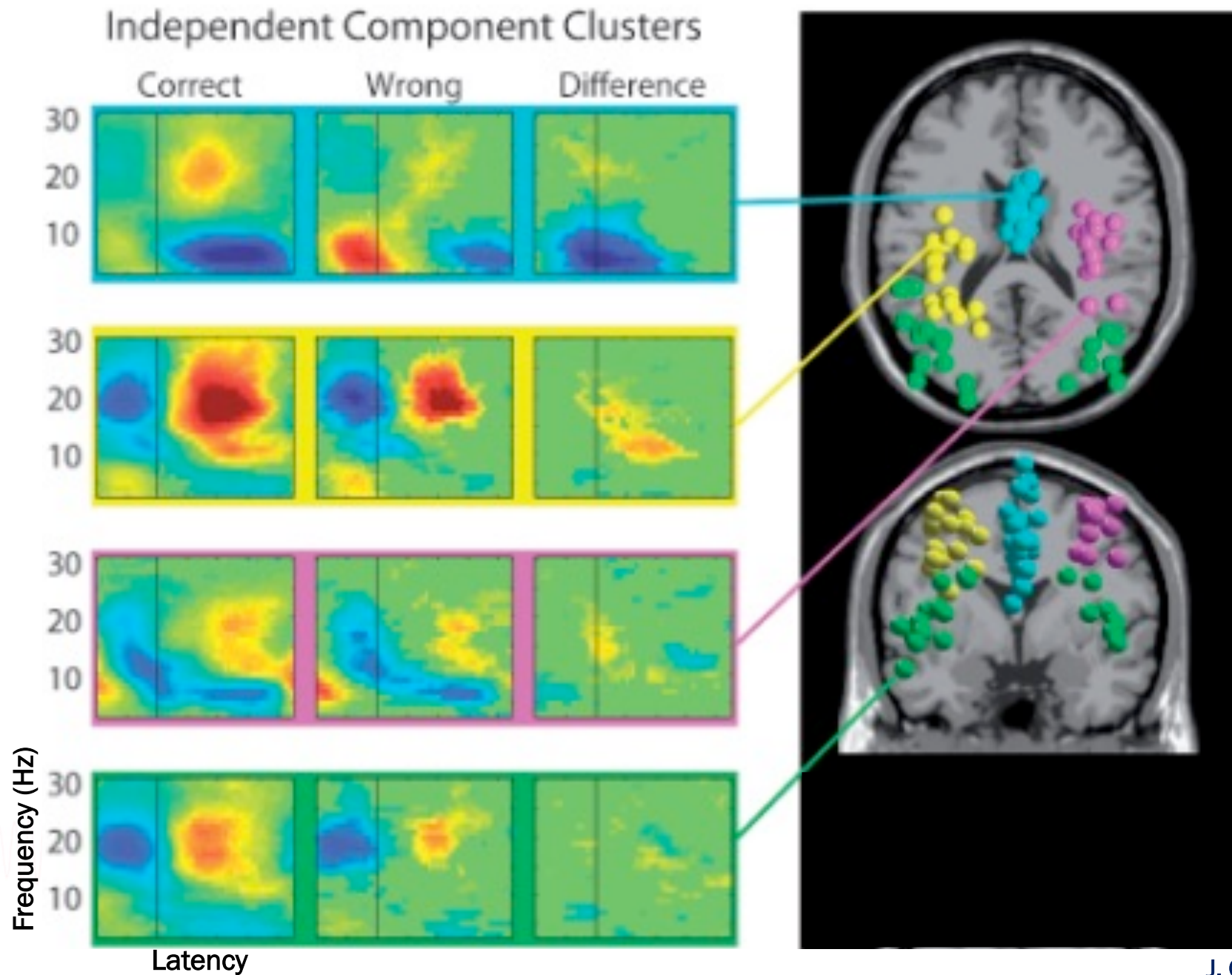
Onton, Delorme & Makeig, 2005.



*More ...*

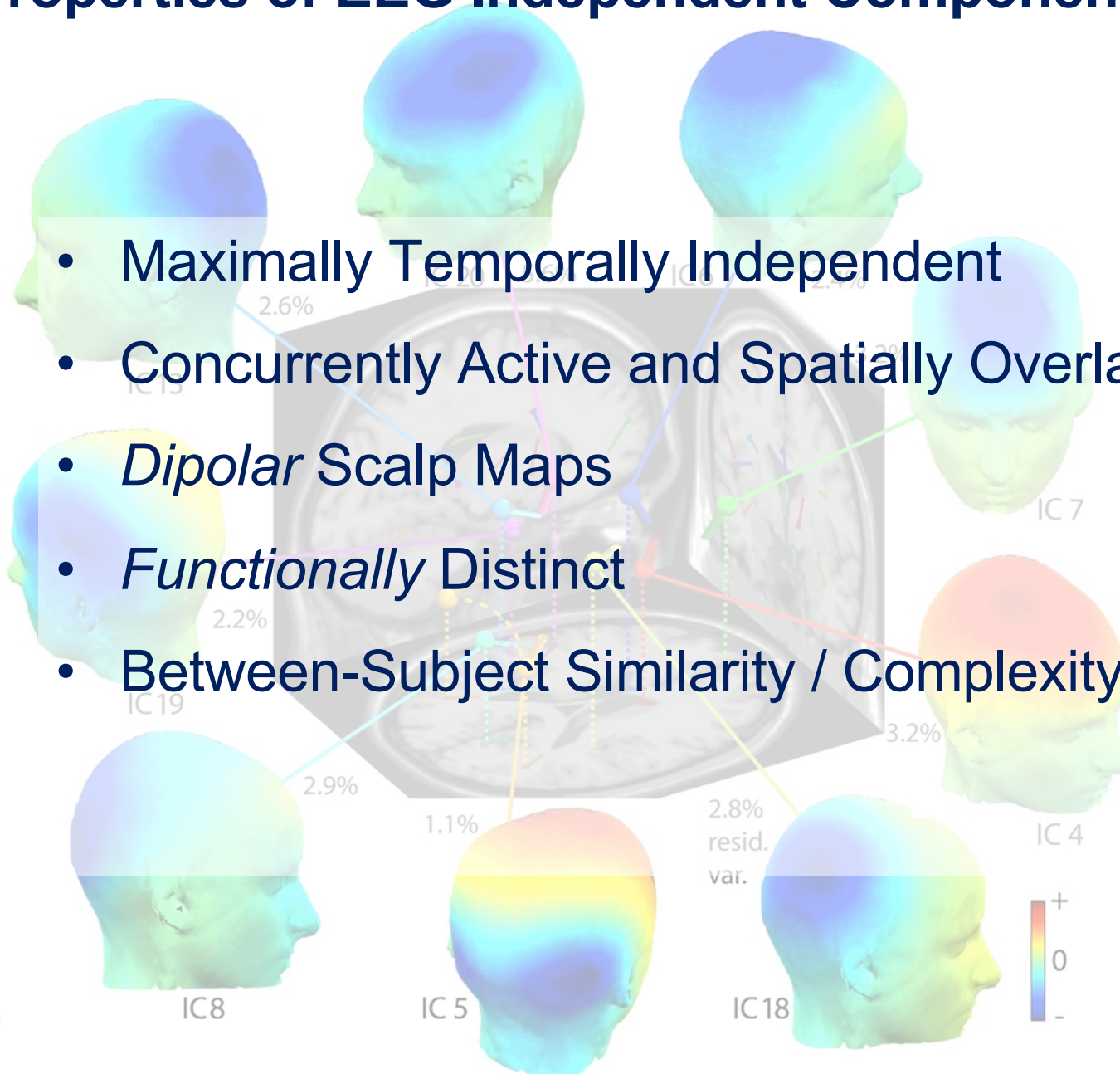


# Goal: To cluster equivalent ICs across subjects

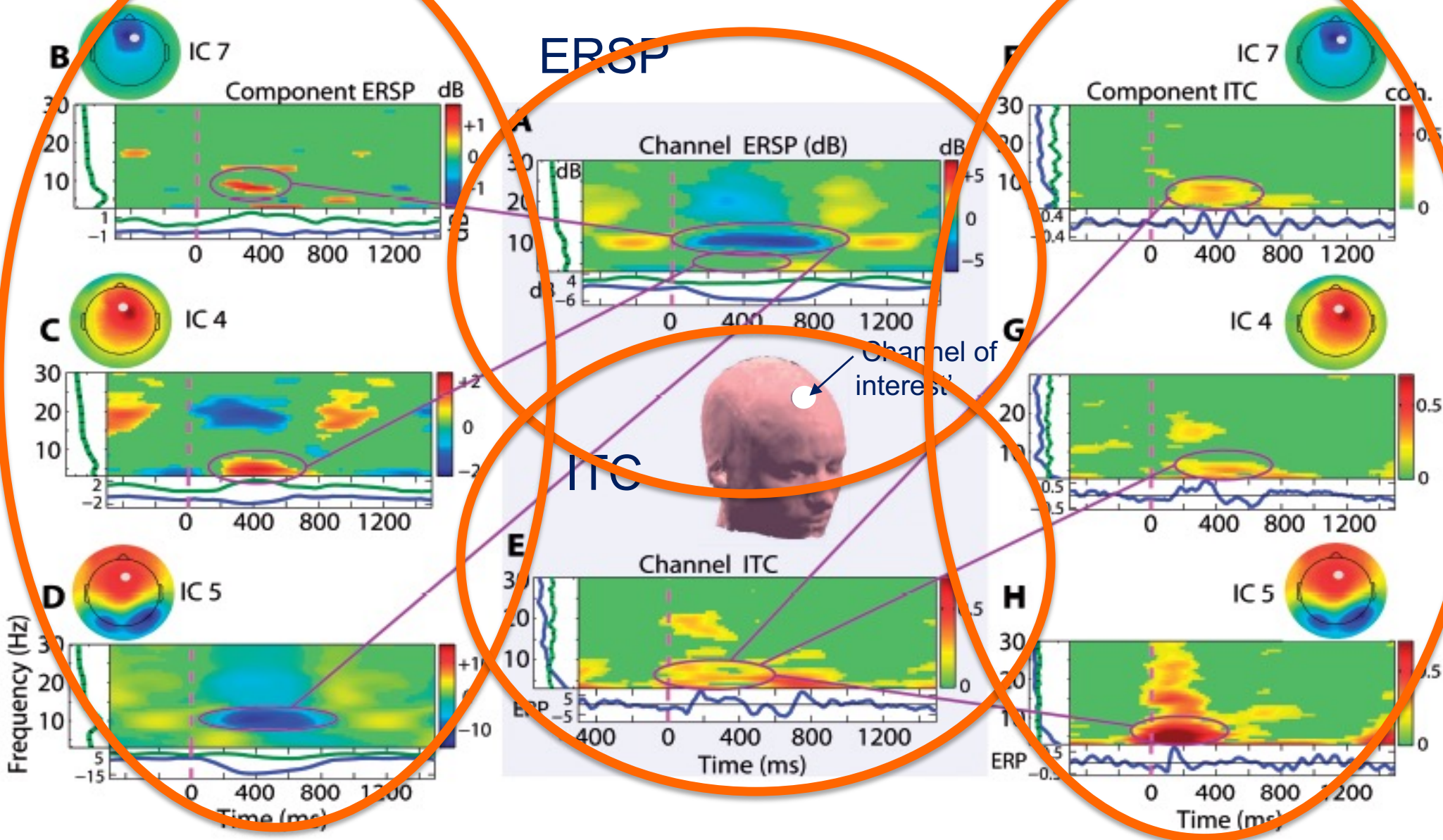


# Properties of EEG Independent Components

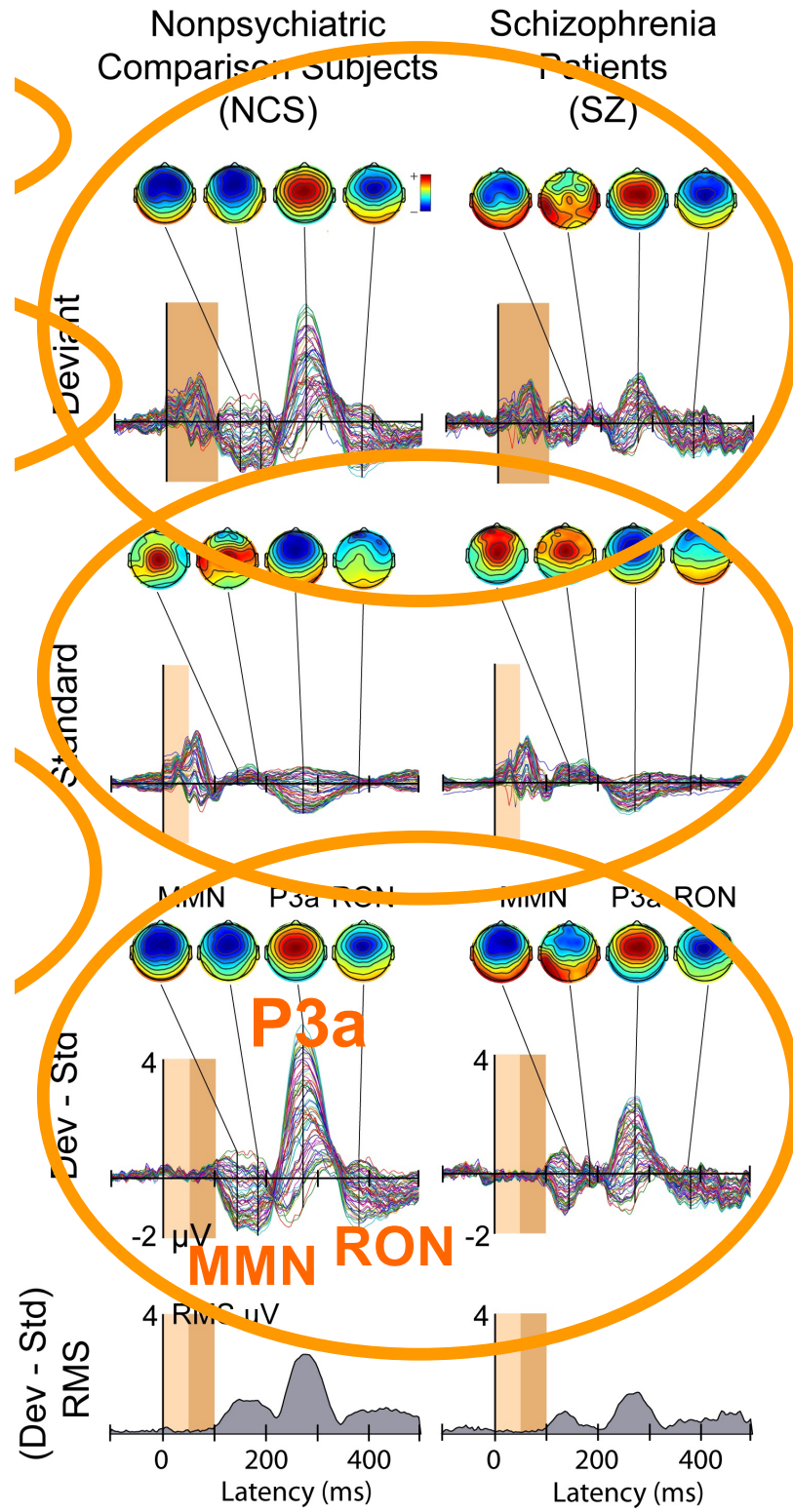
- Maximally Temporally Independent
- Concurrently Active and Spatially Overlapping
- *Dipolar Scalp Maps*
- *Functionally Distinct*
- Between-Subject Similarity / Complexity



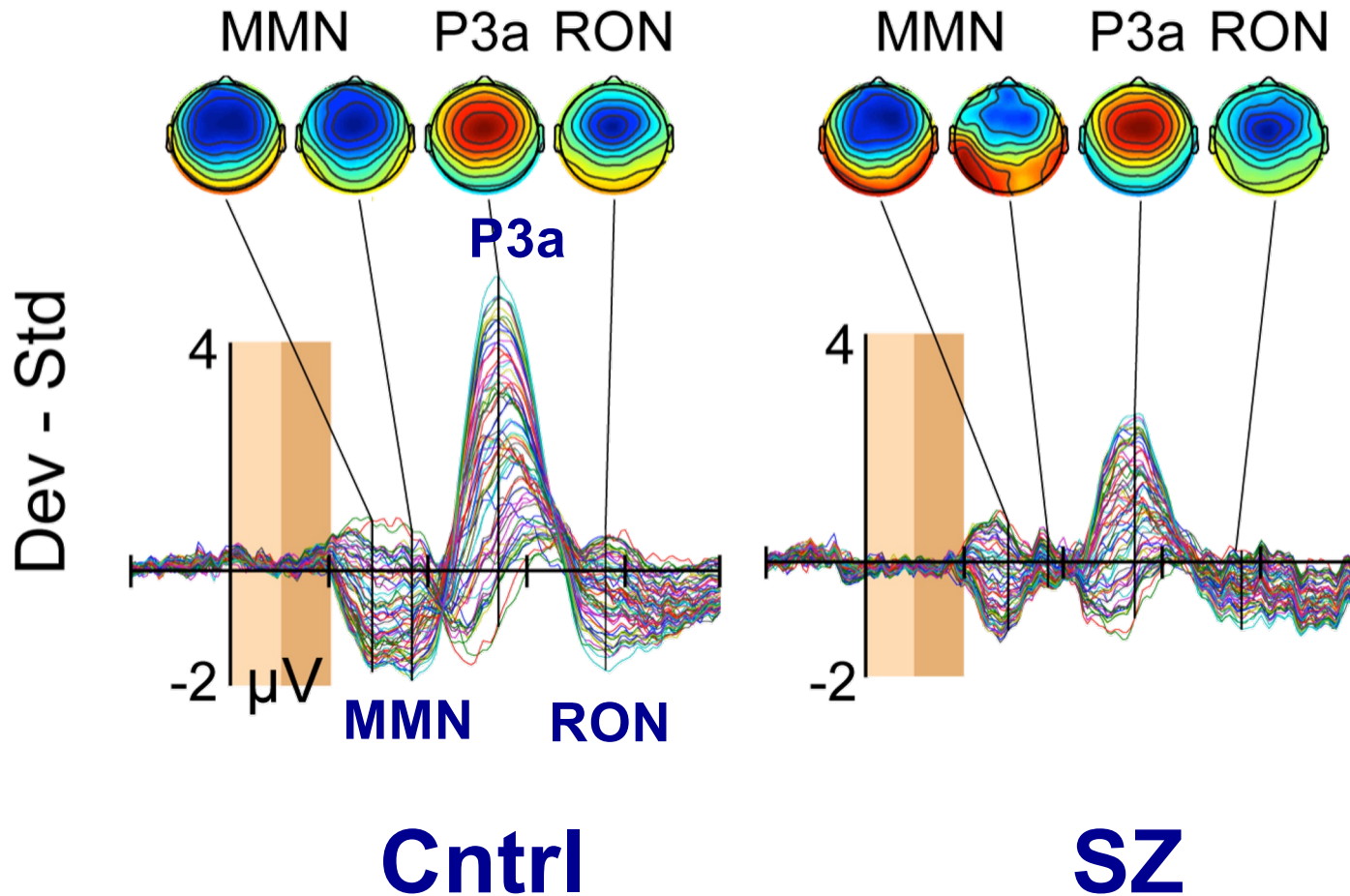
# Why analyze sources instead of channel activities?







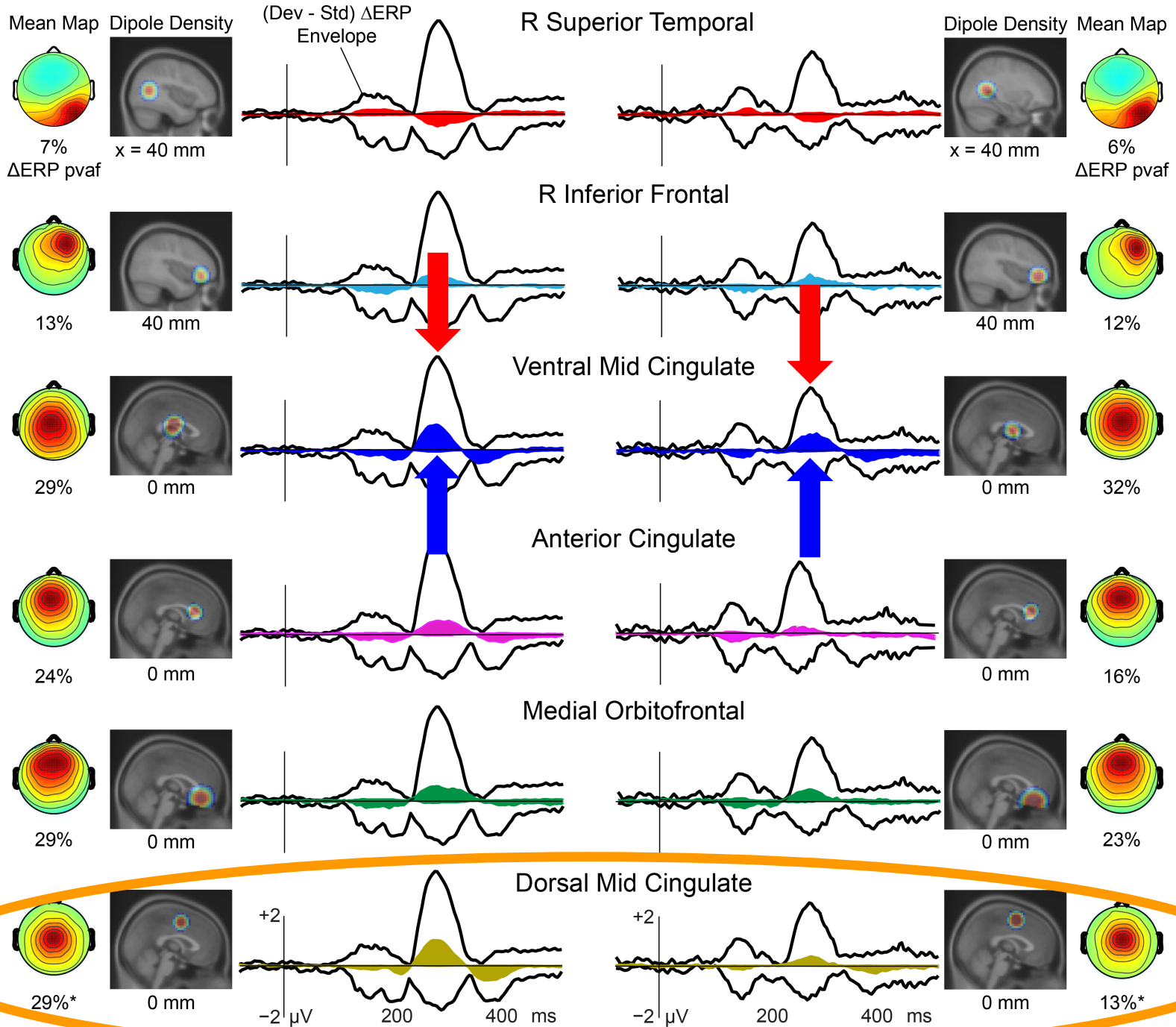
# Auditory Deviance Response



The deepest mental trap in electrophysiology  
lurks in the word "THE" !!!

Nonpsychiatric Comparison Subjects (NCS)

Schizophrenia Patients (SZ)



# PEAK AMPLITUDES

ERP

r<sup>2</sup>

## Scalp Electrode (Fz)

Verbal IQ (WRAT) P3a 0.11

Functional Capacity (UPSA) RON 0.12

## R Superior Temporal

Working Memory (LNS Reorder) RON 0.15

Verbal IQ (WRAT) RON 0.15

**Immediate Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.28**

Delayed Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.26

**Functional Capacity (UPSA) MMN 0.48**

Functional Capacity (UPSA) RON 0.26

## R Inferior Frontal

**Negative Symptoms (SANS) RON 0.36**

Psychosocial Functioning (SOF) RON 0.24

**Auditory Attention (LNS Forward) MMN 0.38**

**Working Memory (LNS Reorder) MMN 0.30**

**Verbal IQ (WRAT) MMN 0.46**

## Ventral Mid Cingulate

**Positive Symptoms (SAPS) RON 0.29**

**Negative Symptoms (SANS) P3a 0.36**

**Immediate Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.41**

Delayed Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.24

**Verbal IQ (WRAT) RON 0.29**

Executive Functioning (WCST) RON 0.24

## Anterior Cingulate

Functional Status (GAF) MMN 0.18

Functional Status (GAF) RON 0.17

Immediate Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.25

Delayed Verbal Memory (CVLT) RON 0.17

## Medial Orbitofrontal

**Positive Symptoms (SAPS) P3a 0.40**

**Negative Symptoms (SANS) P3a 0.54**

**Psychosocial Functioning (SOF) P3a 0.37**

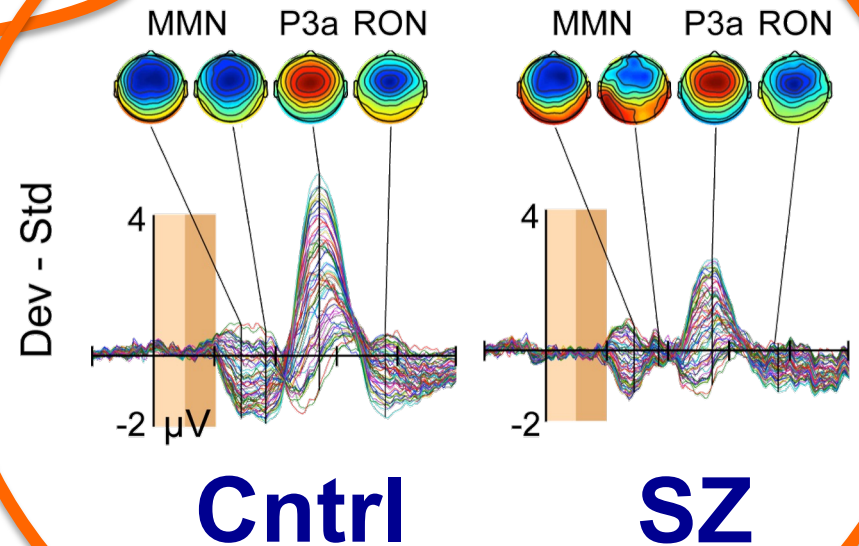
**Functional Capacity (UPSA) P3a 0.32**

## Dorsal Mid Cingulate

Verbal IQ (WRAT) P3a 0.15

Executive Functioning (WCST) MMN 0.18

# ADR



Cntrl

SZ

# PEAK LATENCIES

ERP

r<sup>2</sup>

## Scalp Electrode (Fz)

---n/a---

---

---

## R Superior Temporal

Functional capacity (UPSA)

MMN

0.25

Delayed Verbal Memory (CVLT)

MMN

0.17

## R Inferior Frontal

**Negative Symptoms (SANS)**

**RON**

**0.51**

Psychosocial Functioning (SOF)

RON

0.25

**Executive Functioning (WCST)**

**MMN**

**0.30**

**Executive Functioning (WCST)**

**P3a**

**0.28**

## Ventral Mid Cingulate

**Negative Symptoms (SANS)**

**P3a**

**0.33**

**Negative Symptoms (SANS)**

**RON**

**0.33**

**Psychosocial Functioning (SOF)**

**P3a**

**0.31**

Verbal IQ (WRAT)

MMN

0.25

**Executive Functioning (WCST)**

**P3a**

**0.30**

## Anterior Cingulate

Functional Capacity (UPSA)

RON

0.17

Verbal IQ (WRAT)

MMN

0.24

Auditory Attention (LNS-Forward)

MMN

0.17

## Medial Orbitofrontal

**Negative Symptoms (SANS)**

**RON**

**0.41**

**Positive Symptoms (SAPS)**

**RON**

**0.40**

**Auditory Attention (LNS-Forward)**

**MMN**

**0.29**

**Executive Functioning (WCST)**

**P3a**

**0.32**

## Dorsal Mid Cingulate

Negative Symptoms (SANS)

MMN

0.20

Negative Symptoms (SANS)

P3a

0.17

Global Functioning (GAF)

RON

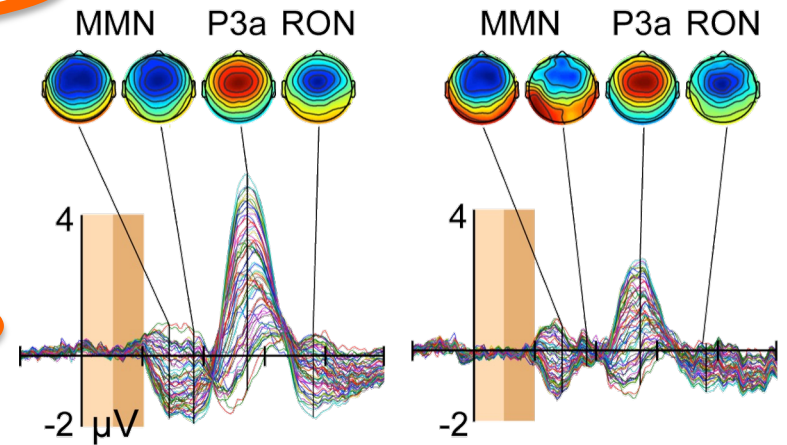
0.24

Functional Capacity (UPSA)

P3a

0.13

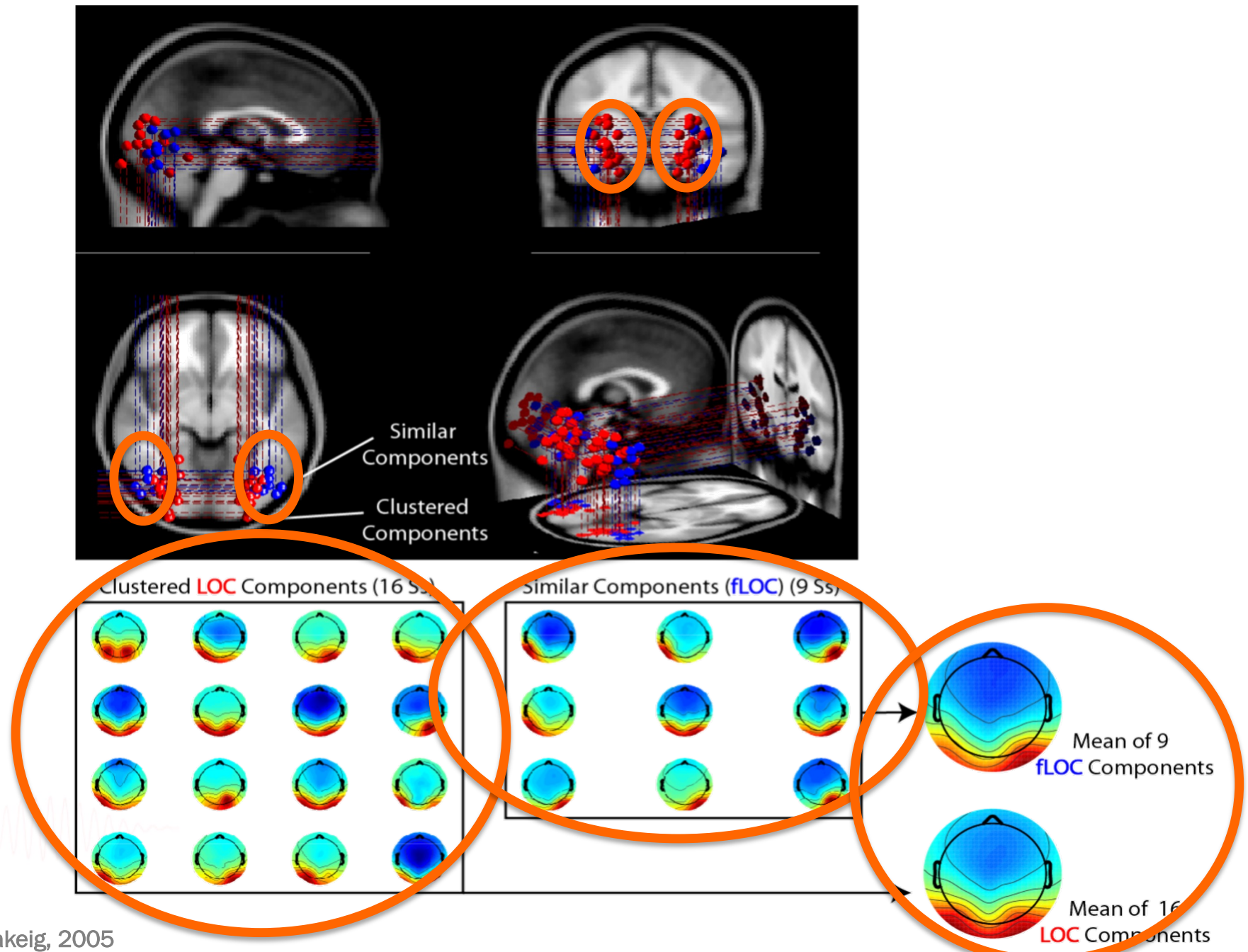
# ADR



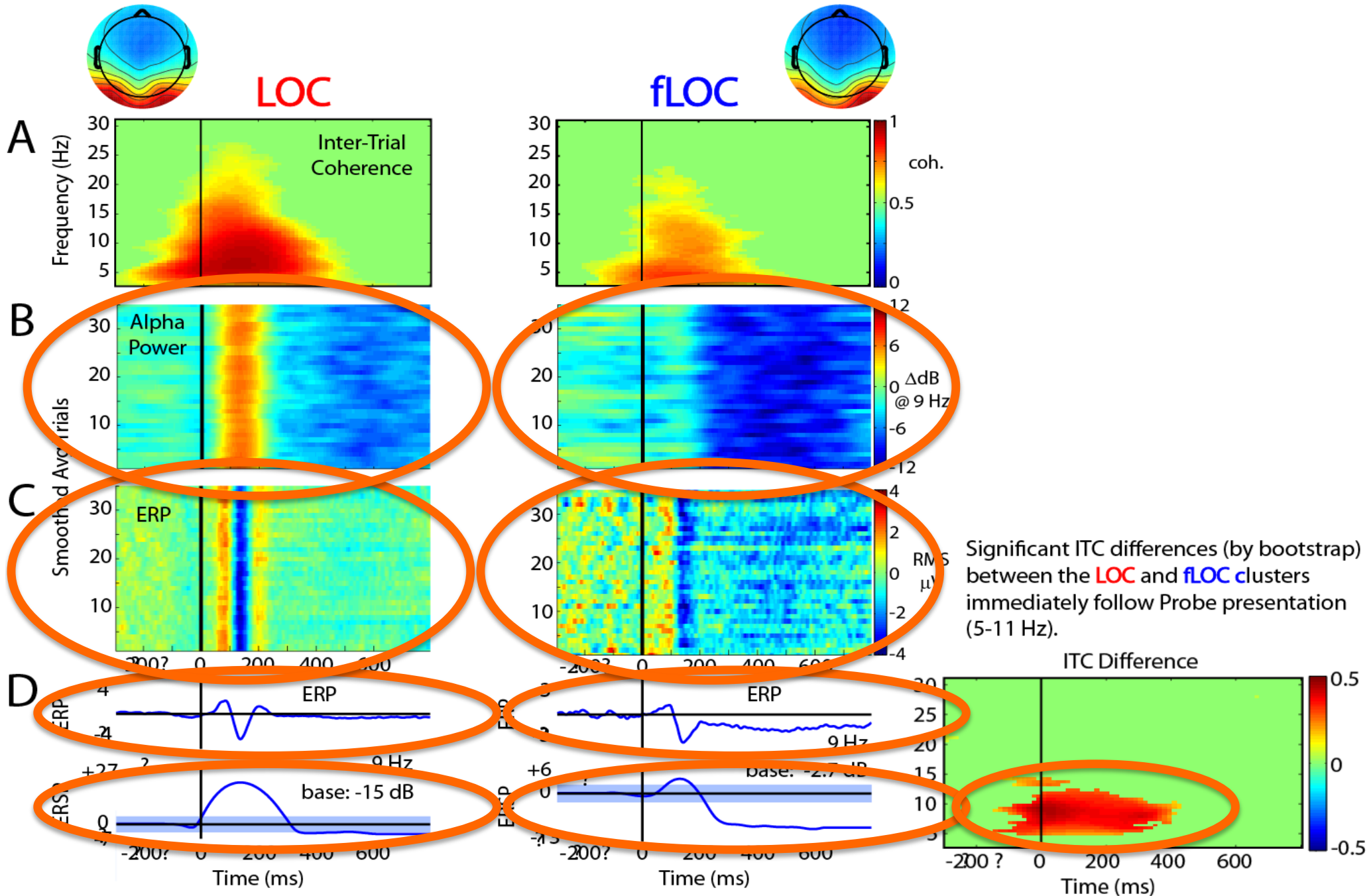
Cntrl

SZ

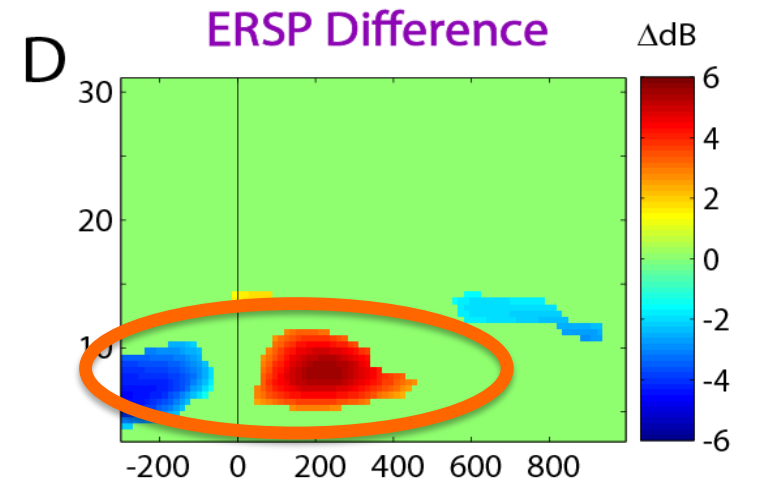
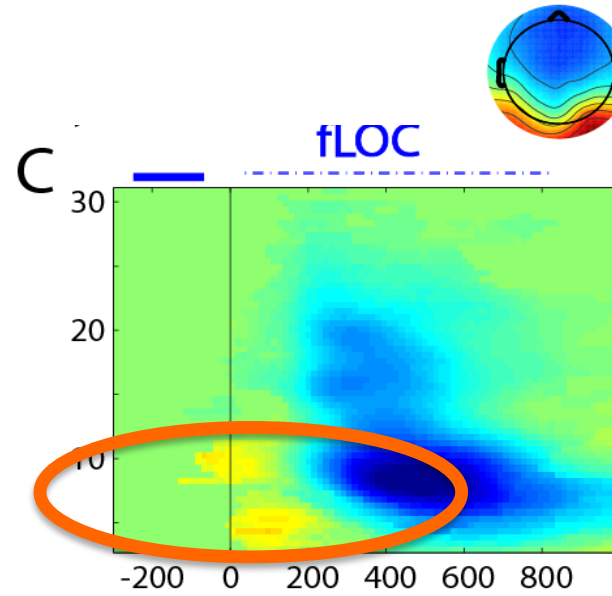
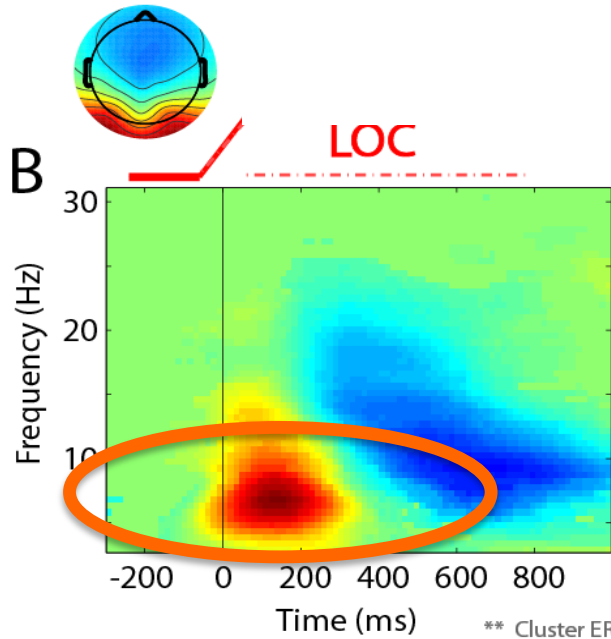
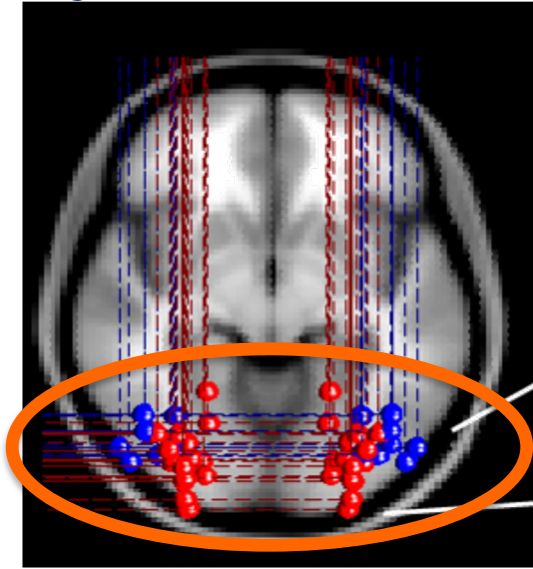
# Why don't all subjects contribute to every IC cluster?



# Subject differences?



# Subject differences?



\*\* Cluster ERSPs show significant activity determined by bootstrap statistics within subject and binomial probability between subjects ( $p < 0.01$ )

\*\*\* Difference ERSP shows significant differences between the two clusters by bootstrap statistics ( $p < 0.001$ )



# Subject differences?

