

# Driving brain function with non-invasive rhythmic stimulation: a new way of shaping behavior?

*Philippe Albouy*

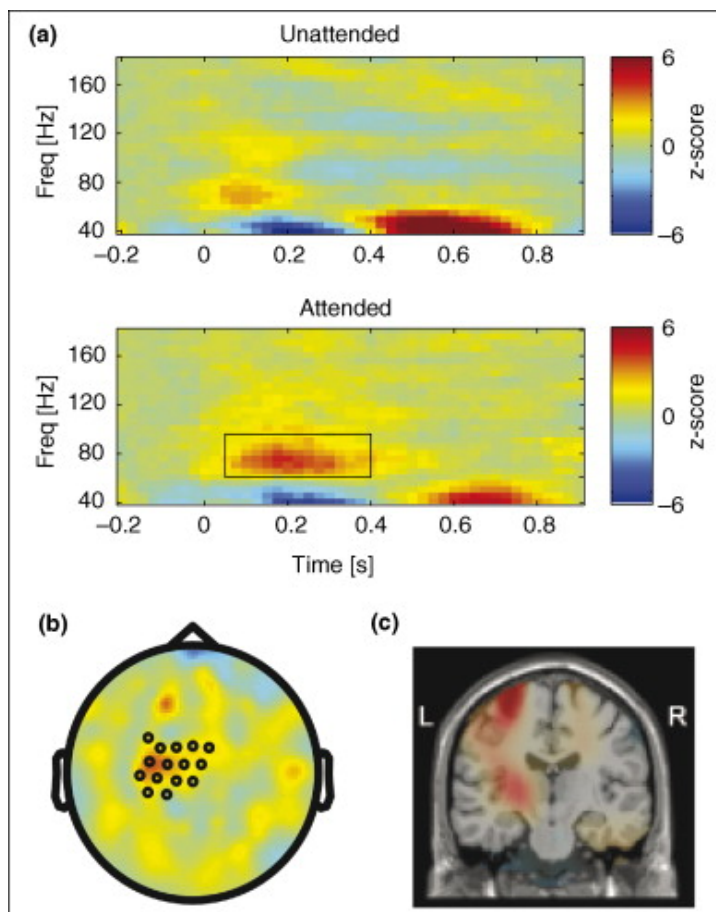
*McGill University, Montreal Neurological Institute*



# Introduction

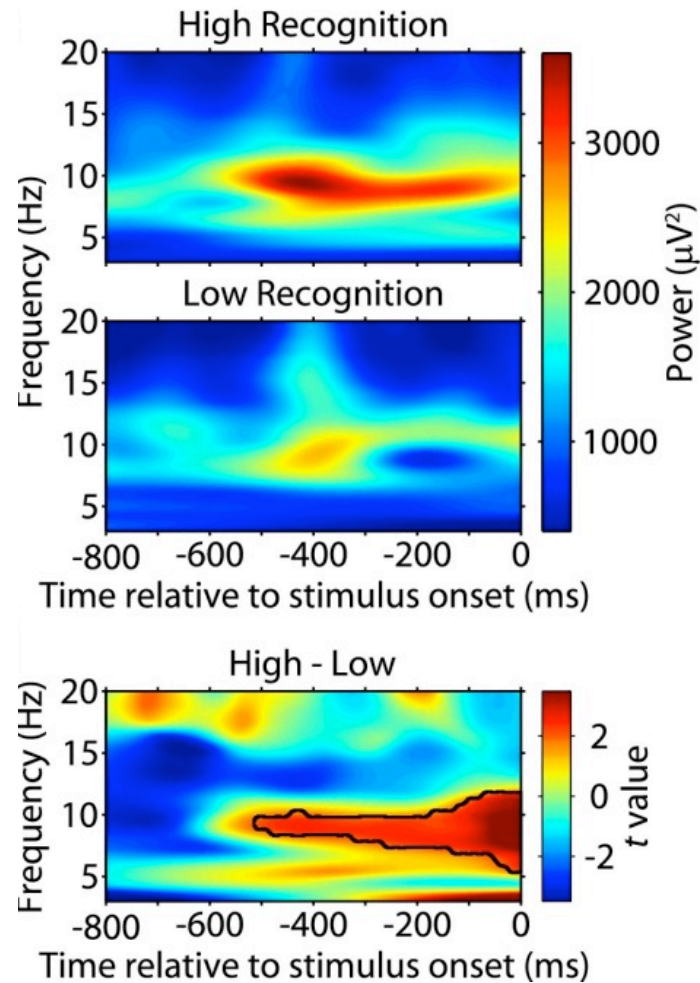
## *Functional role of brain oscillations*

### *Selective attention*



*Jensen et al., 2007*

### *Memory Recognition*

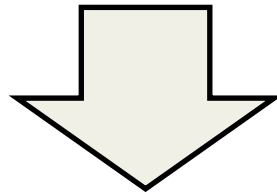


*Jutras et al., 2013*

# Introduction

Neural oscillations can predict or correlate with participants' performance

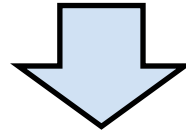
The causal relationship brain oscillations and behavior needs to be clarified



Directly modulate brain oscillations during task performance and observe the consequences on behavior

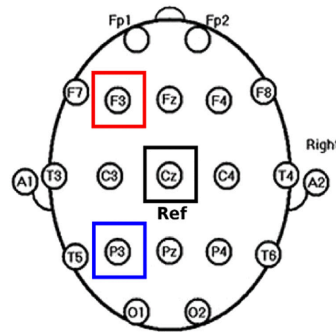
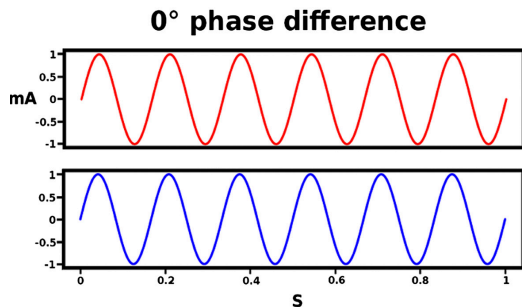
# Information based Stimulation

Stimulations that match functionally relevant brain rhythms



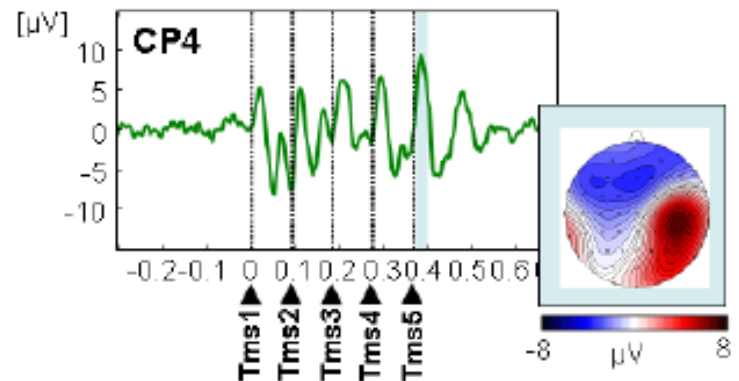
Brain oscillations

tACS



*Polania et al, 2012, Current Biology*

Rhythmic TMS

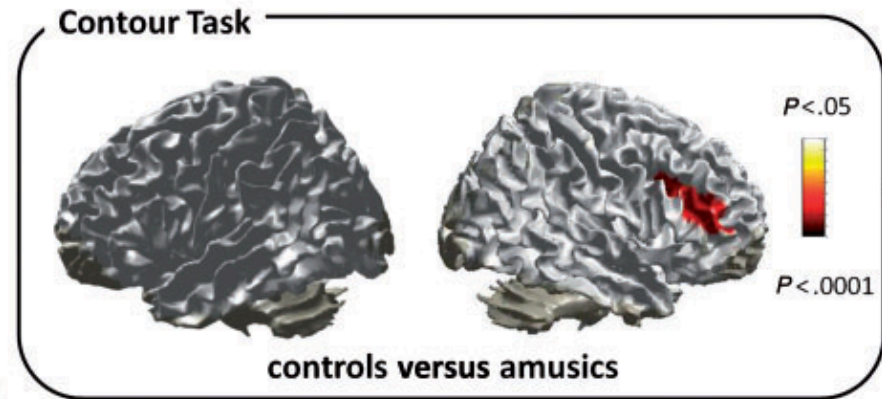
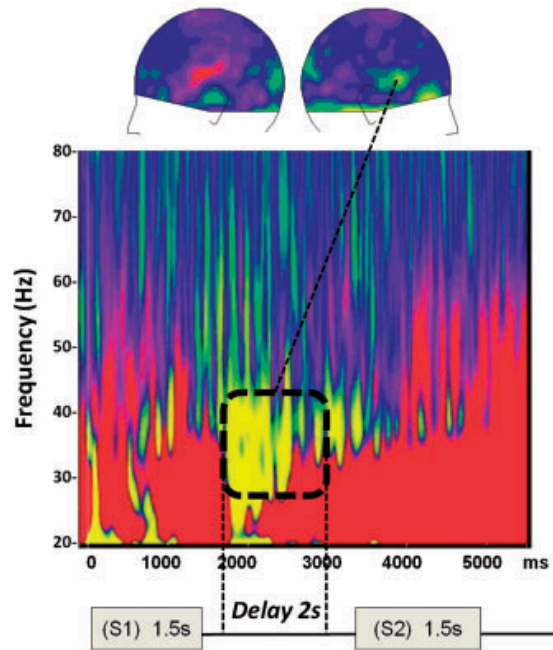


*Thut et al, 2012 current Biology*

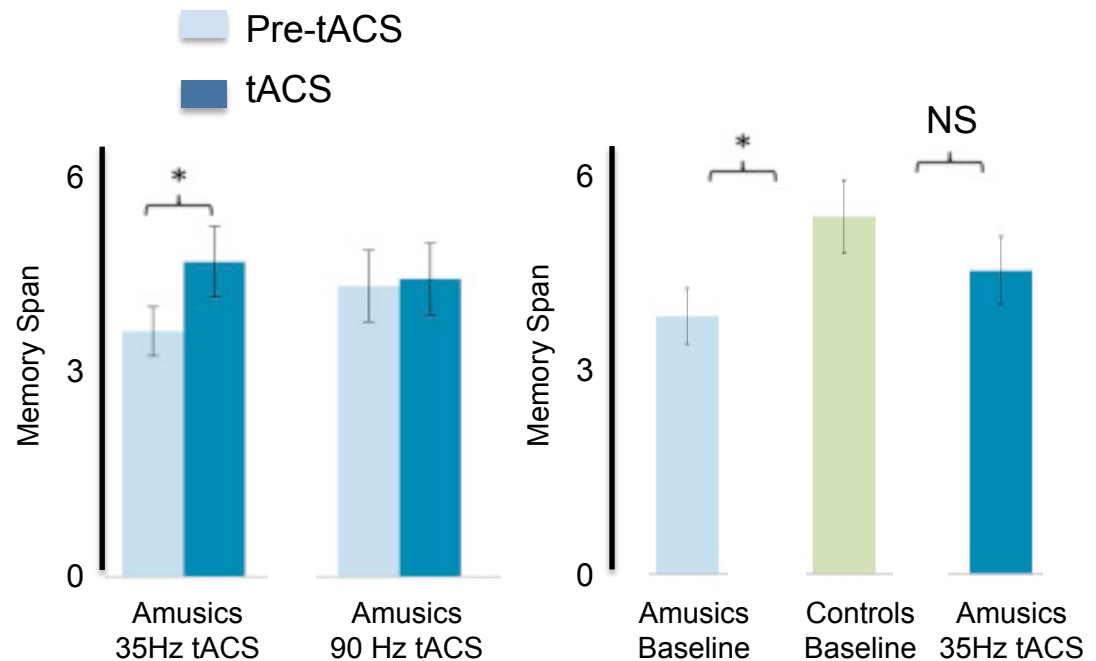
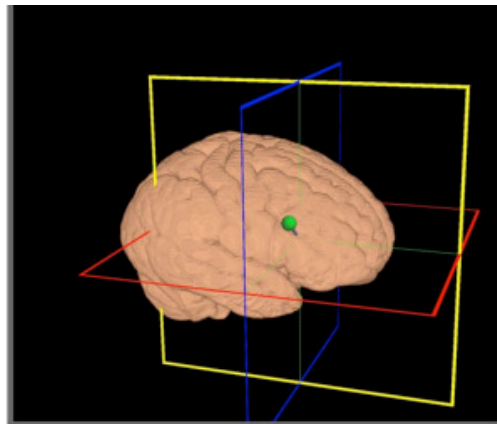
Phase resetting or entrainment of brain oscillations



# tACS to boost Short-Term Memory



*Albouy et al., 2013 Brain*



*Schaal et al., 2015 Behav Brain Research*

# Introduction

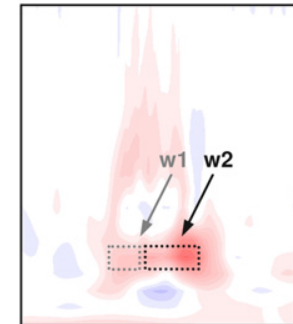
*Modulate functionally relevant oscillations  
to modify the perceptual experience*

Current Biology 21, 1176–1185, July 26, 2011

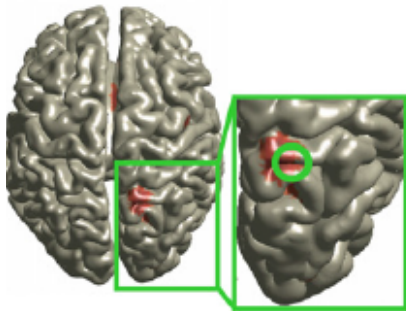
## Rhythmic TMS Causes Local Entrainment of Natural Oscillatory Signatures

Gregor Thut,<sup>1,\*</sup> Domenica Veniero,<sup>2,3</sup> Vincenzo Romei,<sup>4,5</sup>  
Carlo Miniussi,<sup>2,3</sup> Philippe Schyns,<sup>1</sup> and Joachim Gross<sup>1</sup>

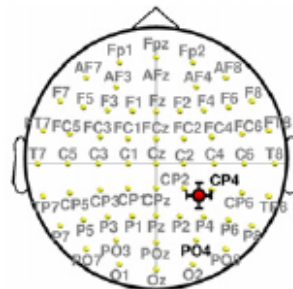
Alpha TMS  
VS  
Arrhythmic TMS



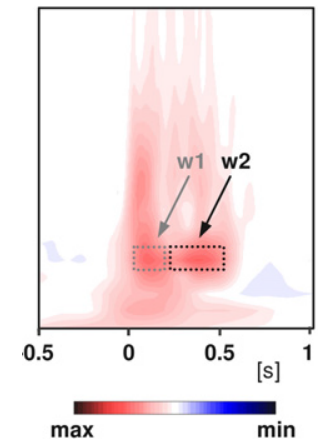
**B** Source estimate of  
 $\alpha$ -generators in MR



**C** Stimulation site on  
electrode array



Alpha TMS  
VS  
SHAM



# Introduction

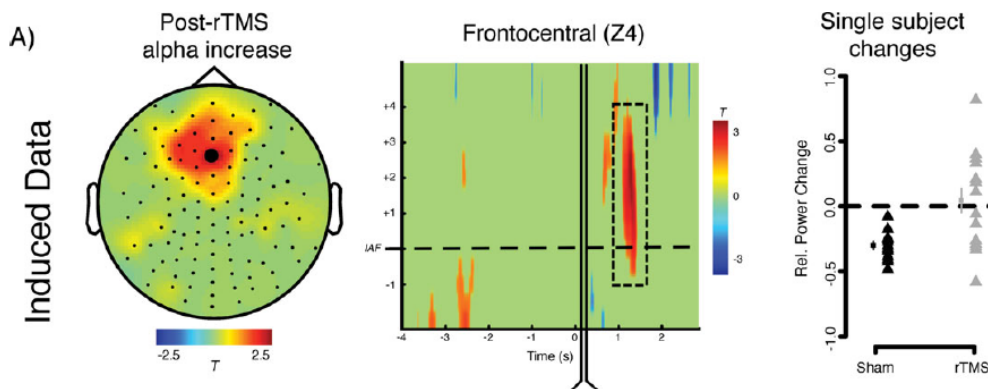
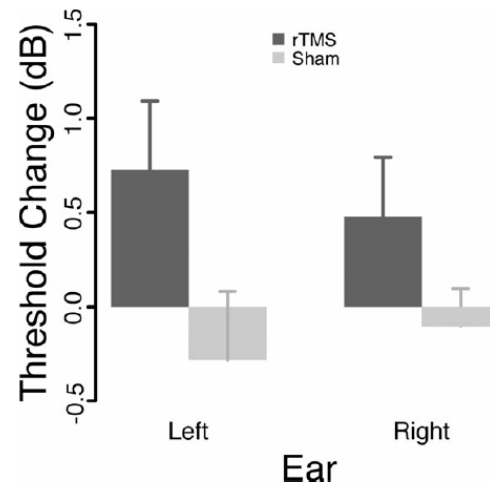
## *Entraining functionally relevant oscillations to modulate the perceptual experience*

♦ **Human Brain Mapping** 35:14–29 (2014) ♦

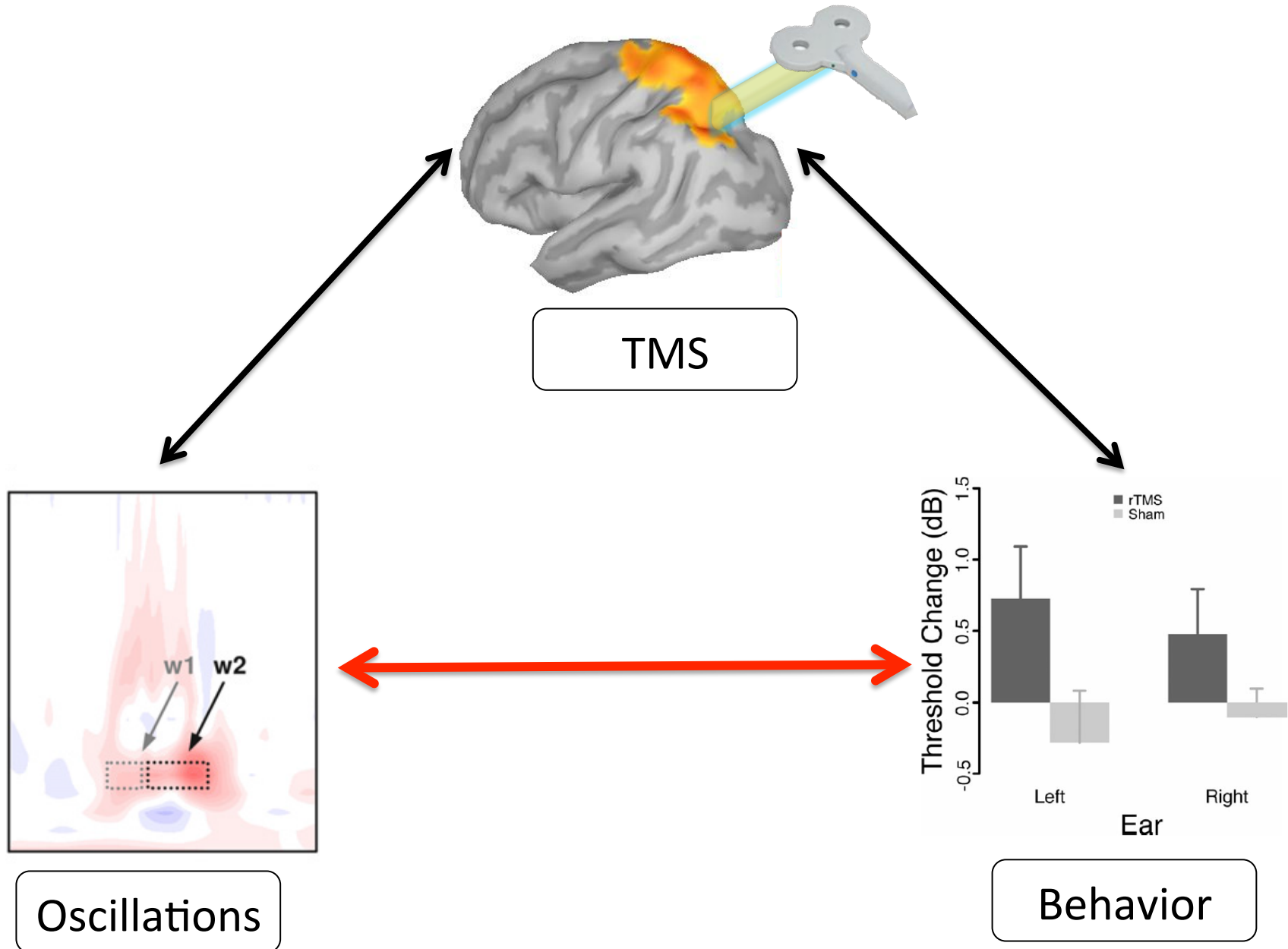
### **Effects of Individual Alpha rTMS Applied to the Auditory Cortex and Its Implications for the Treatment of Chronic Tinnitus**

Nathan Weisz,<sup>1\*</sup> Claudia Lüchinger,<sup>2</sup> Gregor Thut,<sup>3</sup> and Nadia Müller<sup>2</sup>

*Alpha TMS over left auditory cortex*  
*Single tone comparison – Intensity threshold*



# Introduction



# Questions

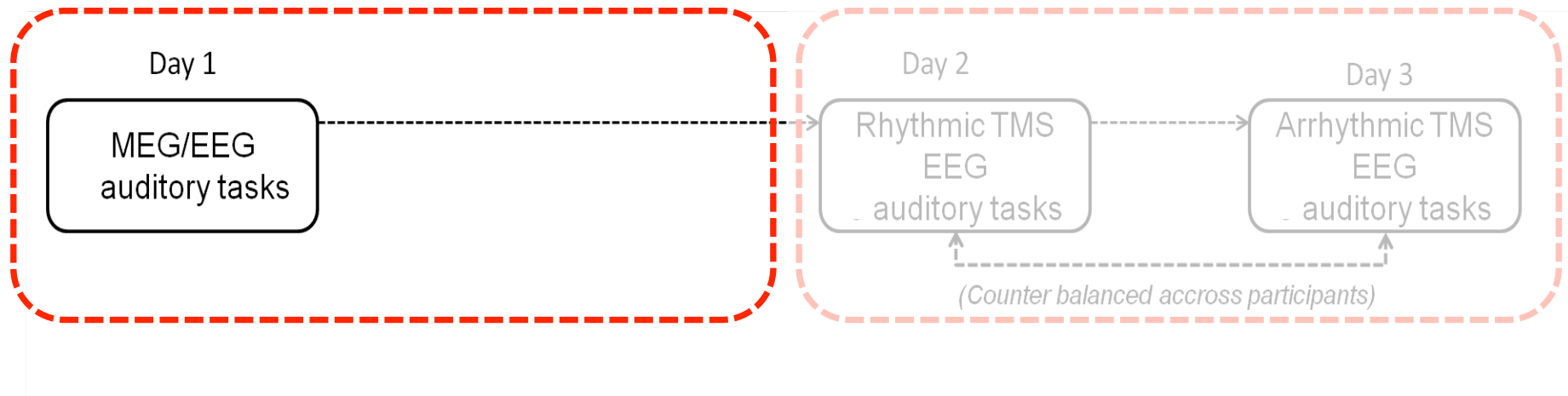
How a functionally relevant periodic stimulation applied over specific nodes of the auditory network during auditory processing can ...

1) causally influence the activity of the auditory network

2) causally influence connectivity patterns of the auditory network

3) affect participants' behavioral performance (accuracy, RTs)

# Protocol



*Region to be targeted with rTMS*

*Frequency of the stimulation*

*Baseline behavioral performance*

*Baseline ERFs and oscillatory markers*

*Baseline connectivity patterns*

*TMS Behavioral performance*

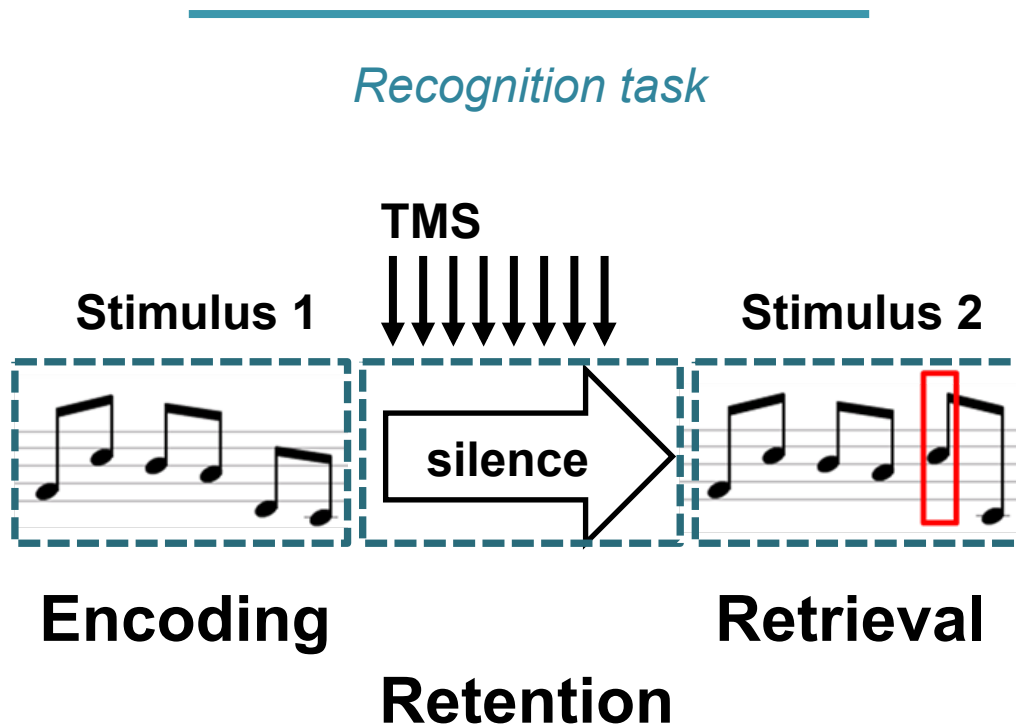
*TMS ERFs and oscillatory markers*

*TMS connectivity patterns*

# Task

## Auditory Working Memory

The mechanism that allows the retention in memory of recent auditory information  
(Cowan 2008, Baddeley 2003, 2010, Schulze and Kloesh 2012)



# Task

## Simple Memory

### CONTROL

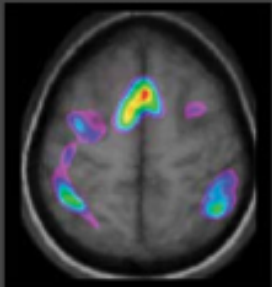
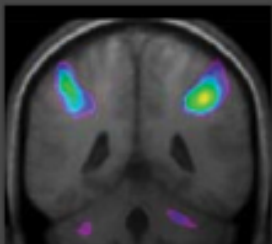


## Memory + Manipulation

### REVERSED



Reversed  
Melodies  
vs. Control

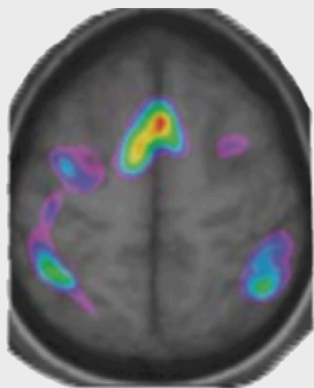


Zatorre et al. (2010)

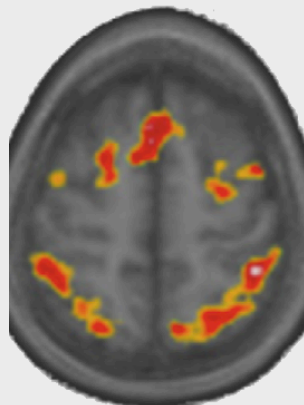


# Introduction

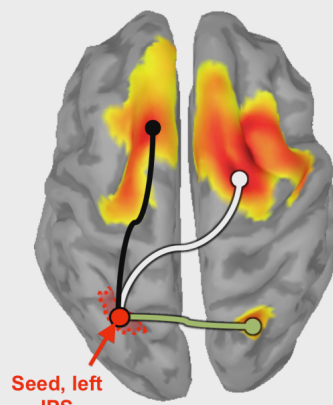
## Manipulation of Melodies in Memory



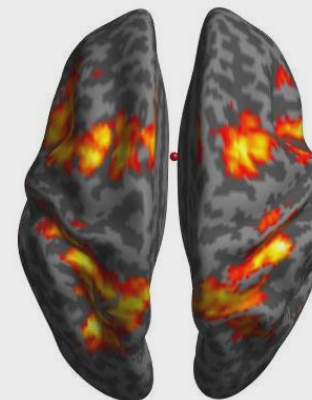
*Zatorre et al., 2010*



*Foster et al., 2013*

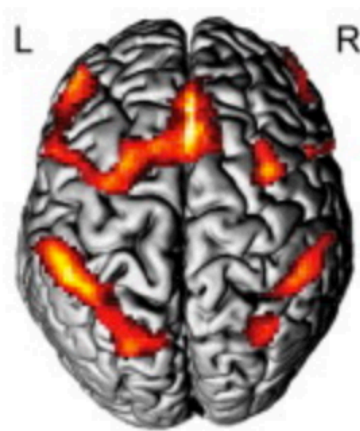


*Albouy et al., 2017*



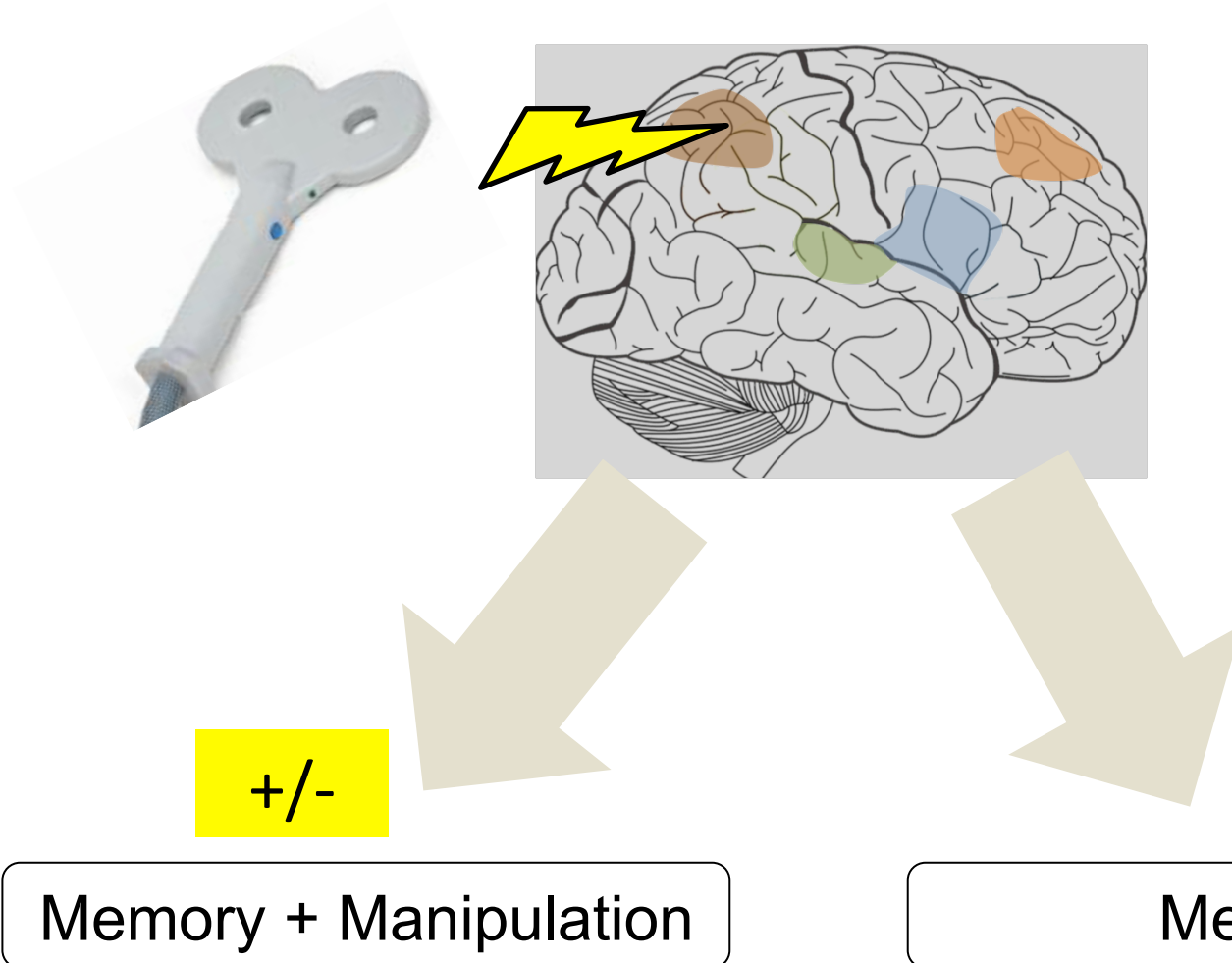
*Malinovitch et al, in preparation*

Quantitative calculation, Visual mental rotation ...

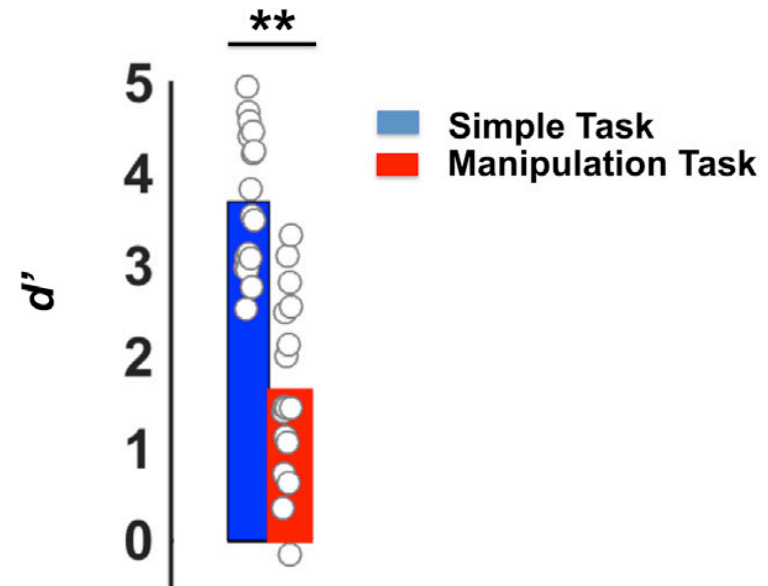
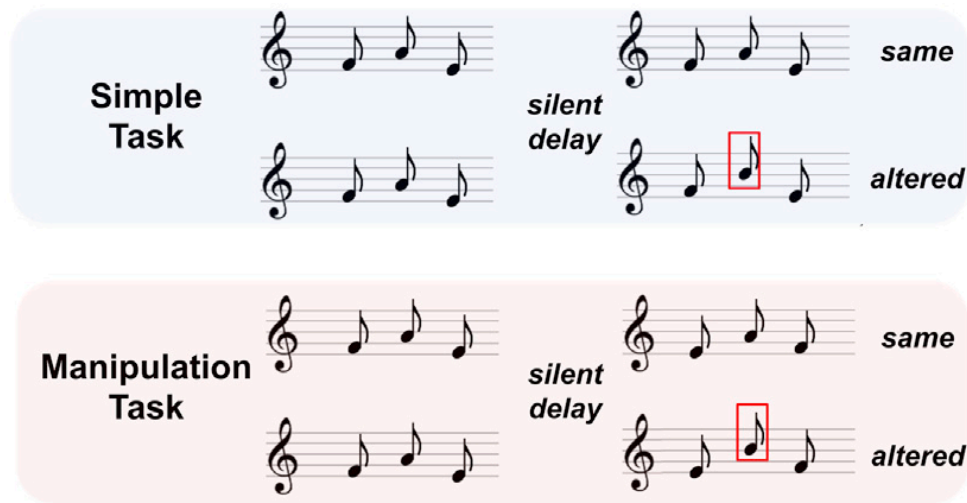


*Zago et al., 2008*

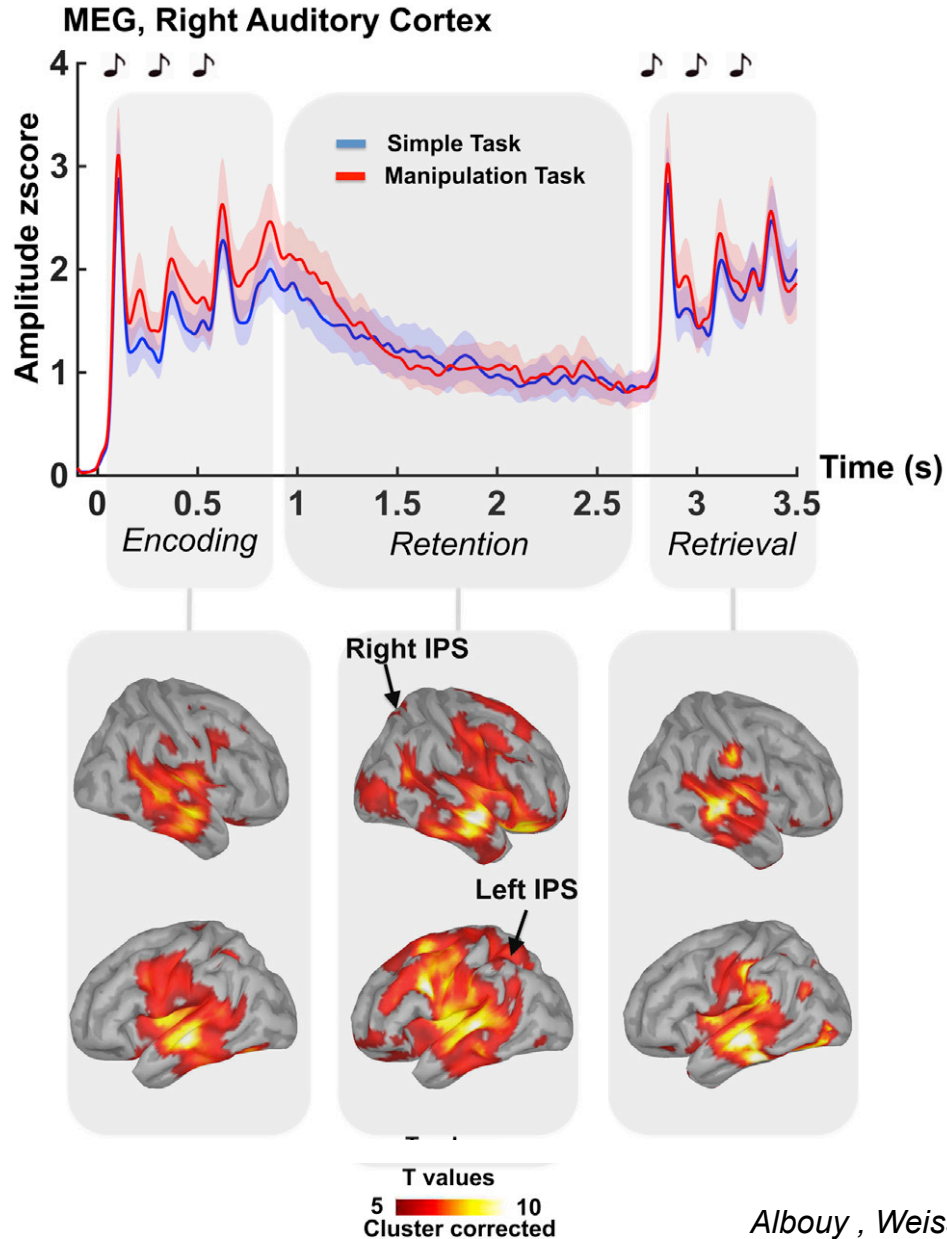
# Objectives



# Task and behavioral performance

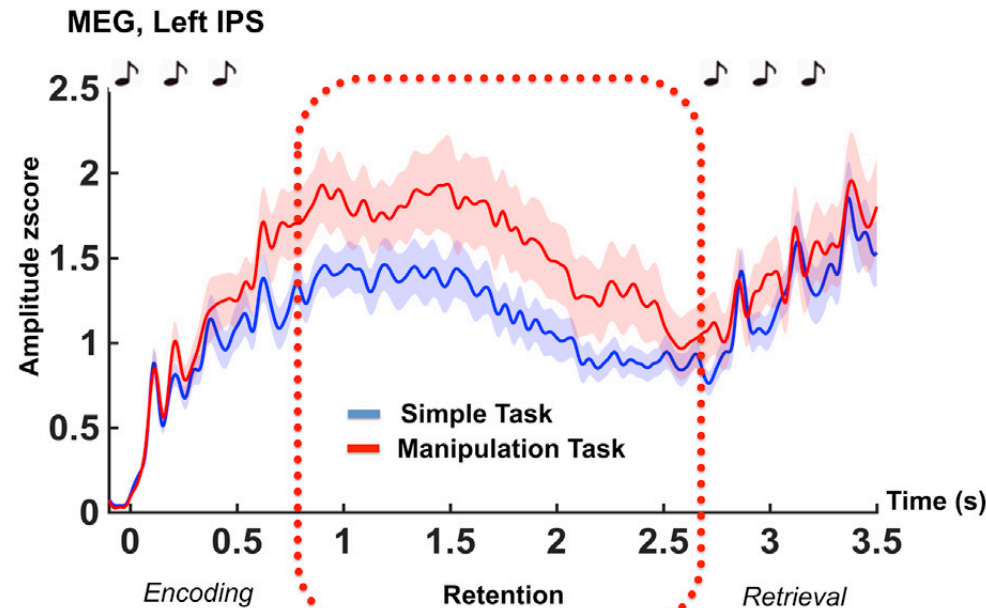


# Event Related Fields

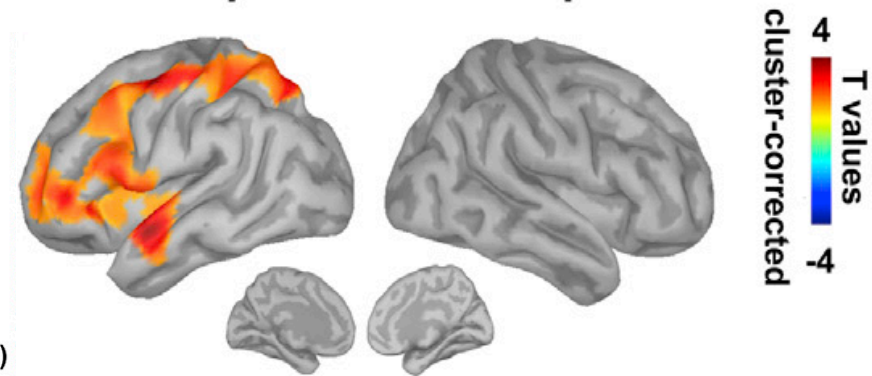


# Task Comparison, MEG/EEG

## A Day I: MEG Event Related Fields



## Retention, MEG: Manipulation vs Simple

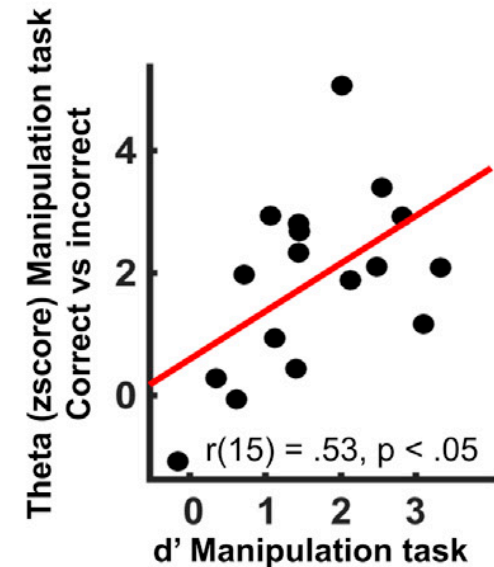
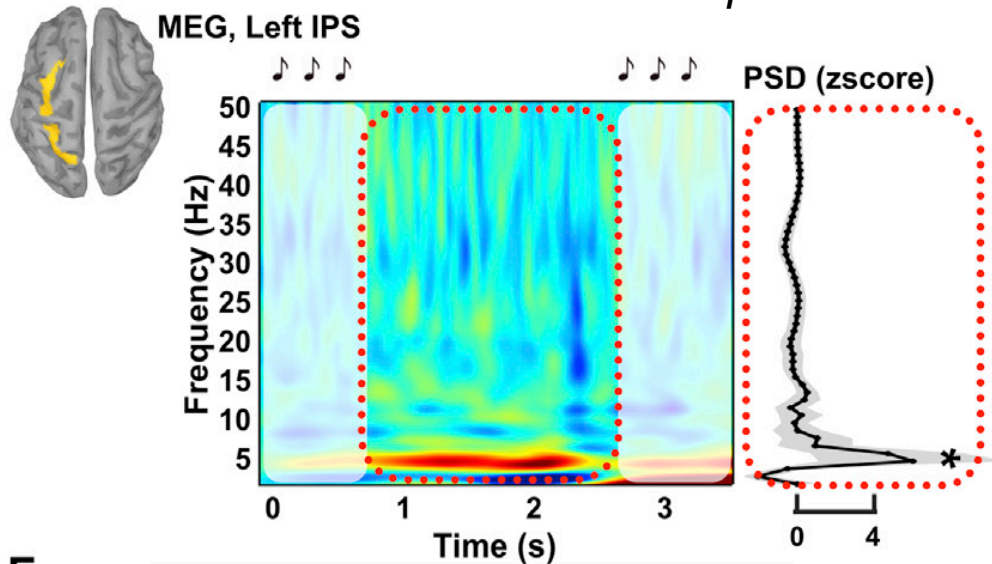


Left Fronto Parietal Pathway involved in the Manipulation of Auditory Information

# rTMS to boost Working Memory specifically

*Manipulation vs Simple*

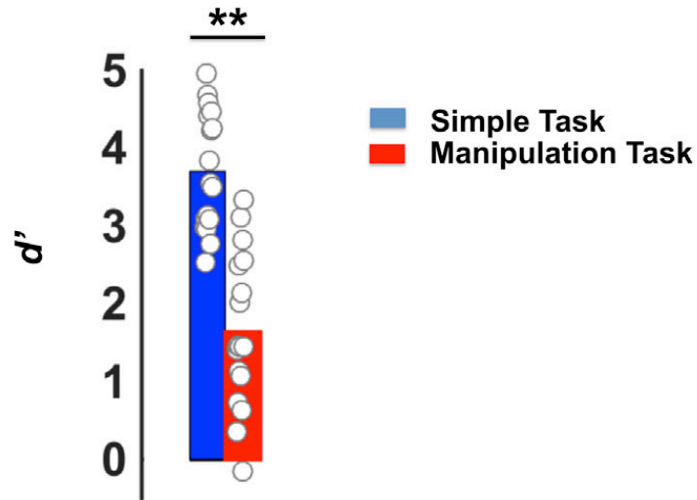
*Correct vs Incorrect trials  
Manipulations Task*



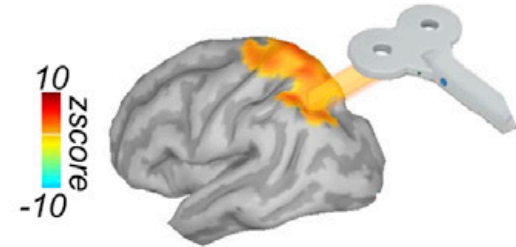
Theta power in the dorsal pathway during the retention period predicts participants manipulation abilities

# Conclusion phase 1

## Performance

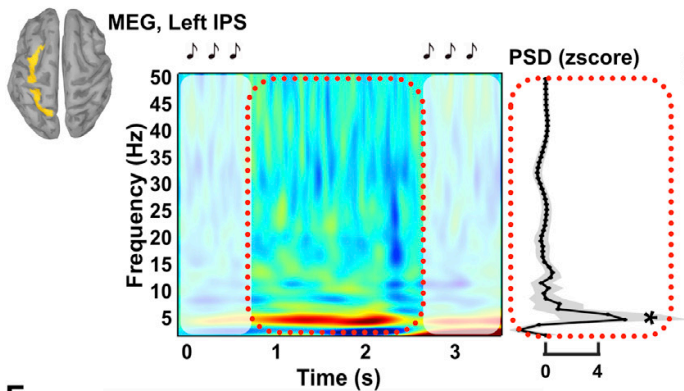


## Target region



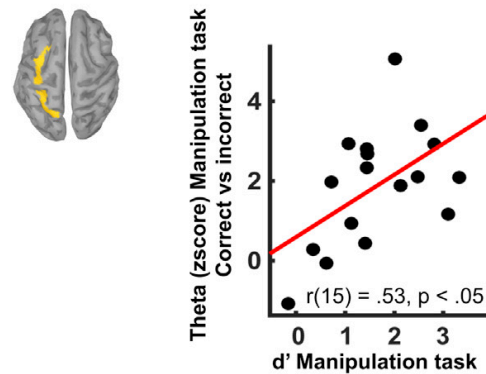
TMS at Theta Frequency

## Frequency of stimulation



## Link with behavior

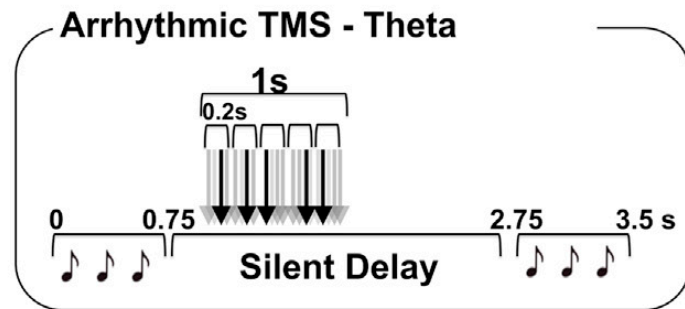
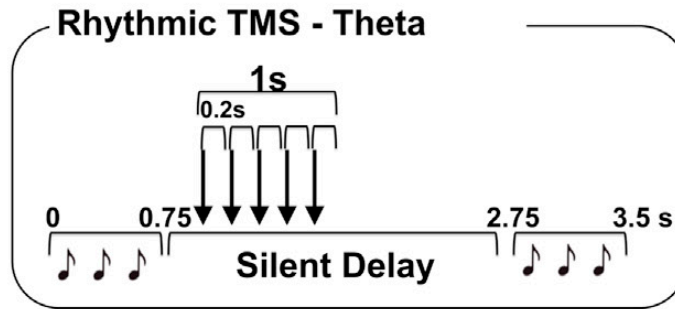
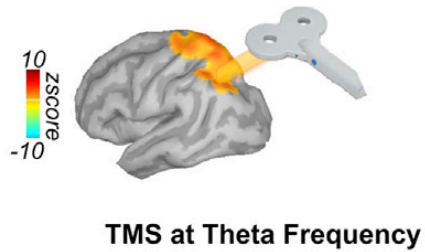
Day I: MEG Correlation with Behavior



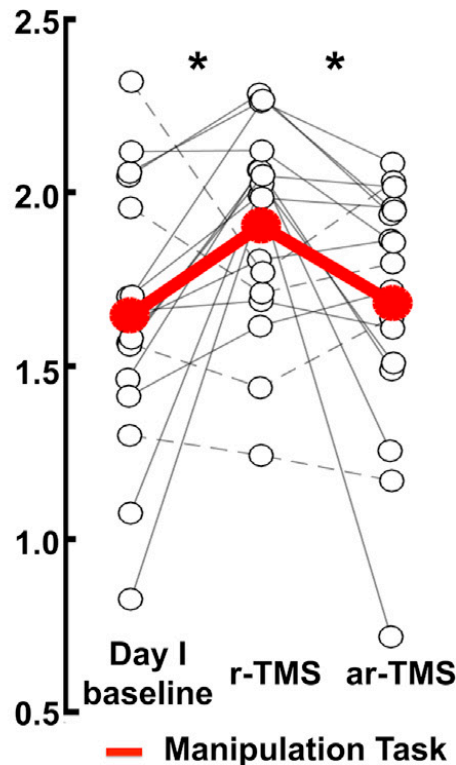
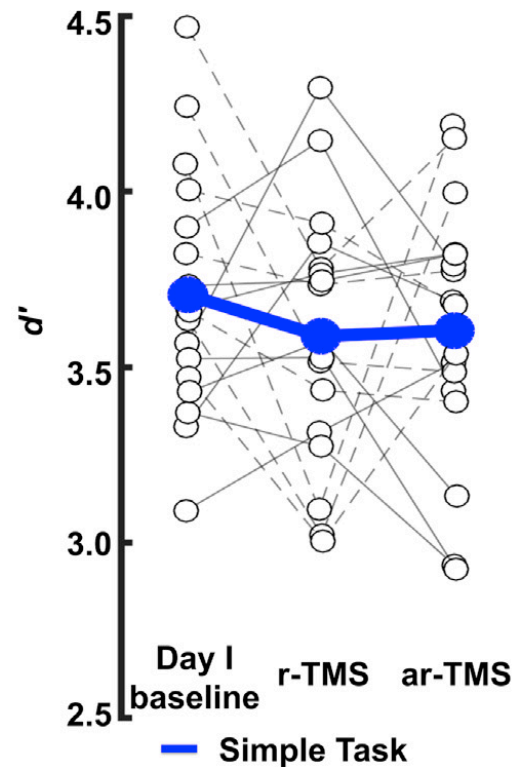


# rTMS boosts Manipulation specifically

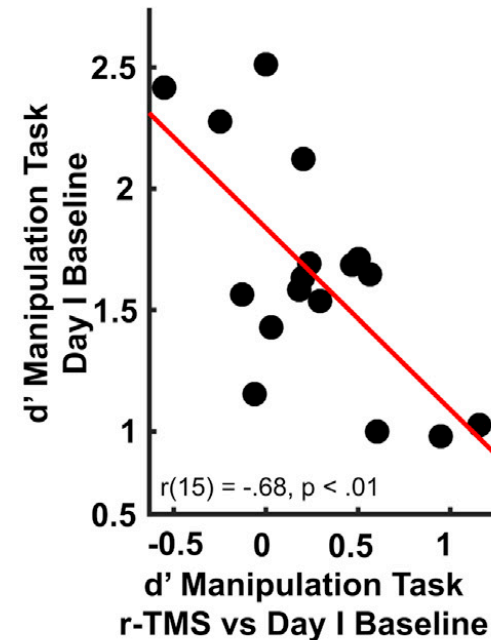
## A TMS Protocol



## B Behavioral Performance



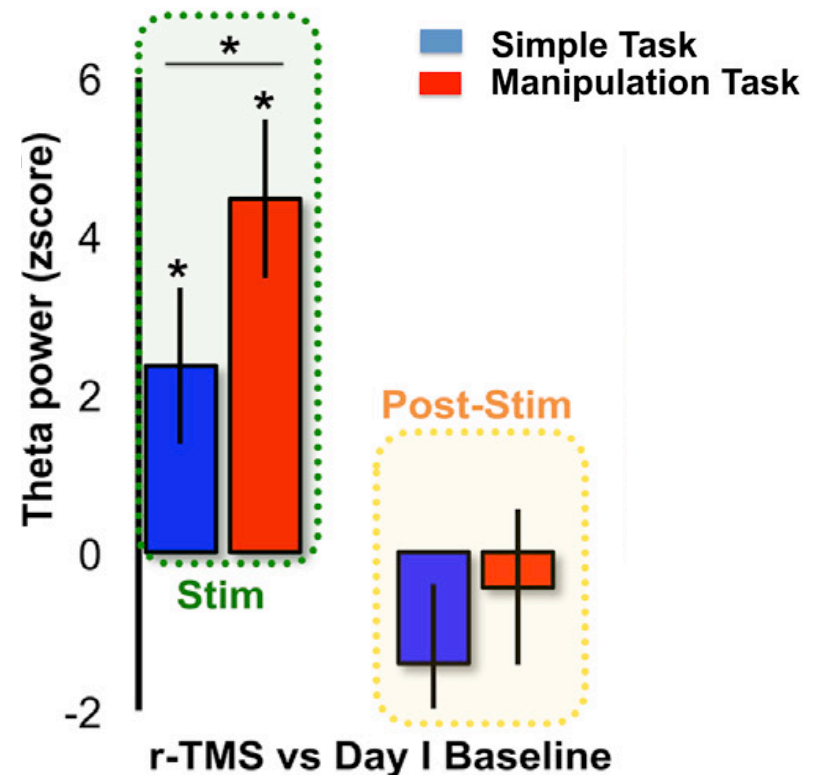
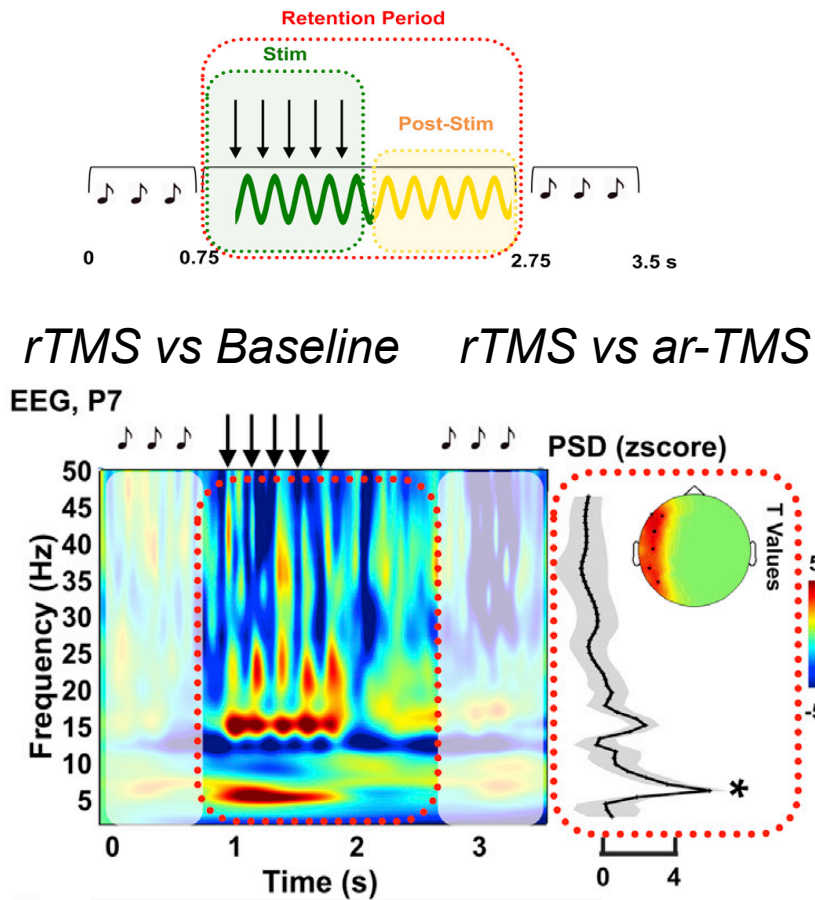
## Correlation with Enhancement





# rTMS boosts ongoing oscillations

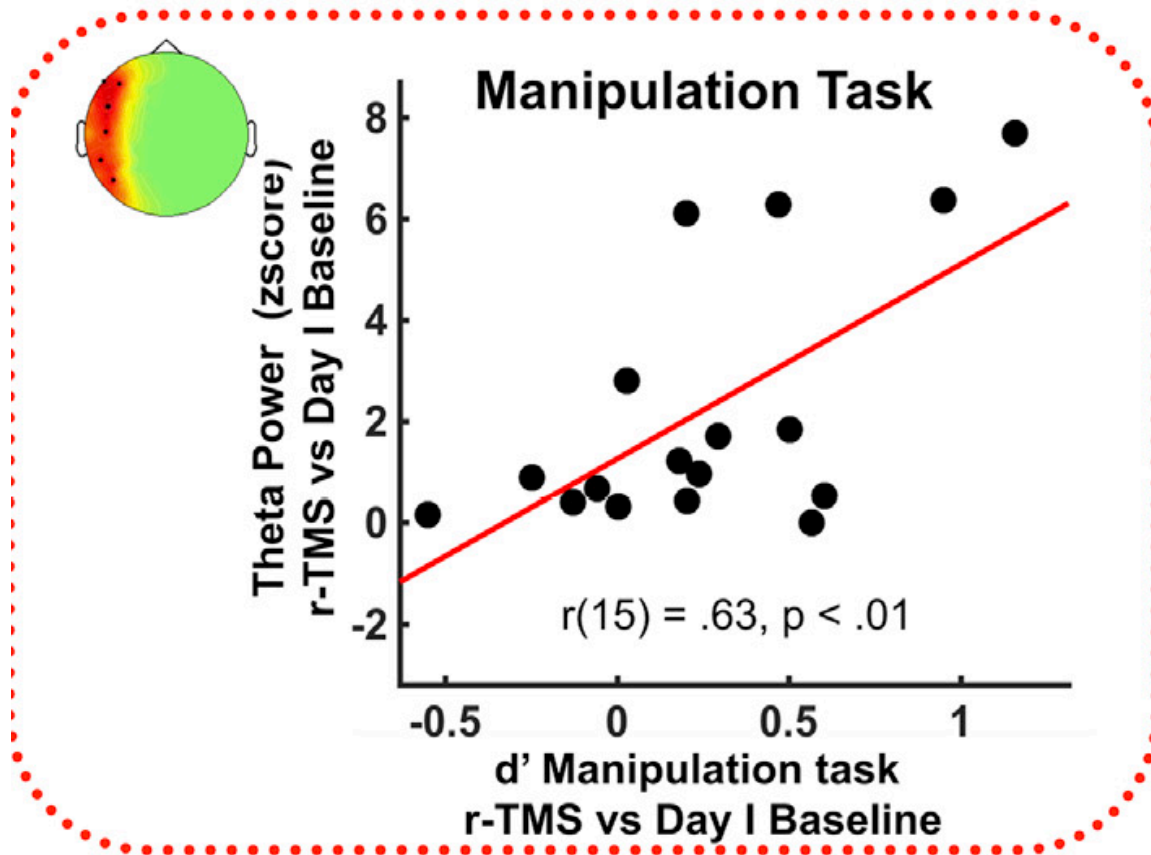
## A Time-windows of interest



Entrainment is Task specific, but is efficient only during the stimulation time period

# rTMS boosts ongoing oscillations

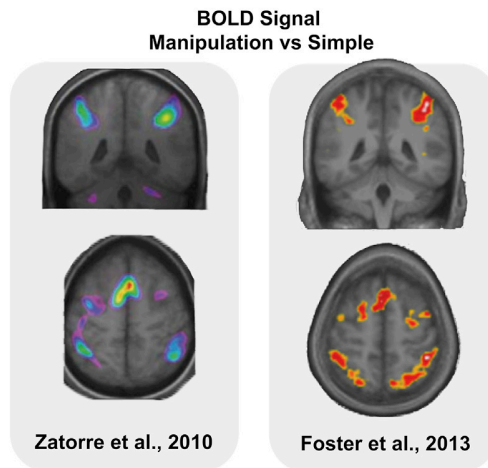
## Correlation with Behavioral Enhancement



TMS-induced behavioral enhancement is causally related to theta entrainment

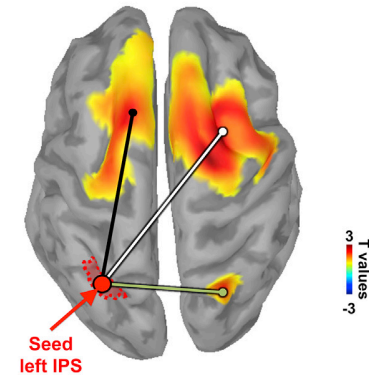
# Functional connectivity patterns

## A Regions of Interest



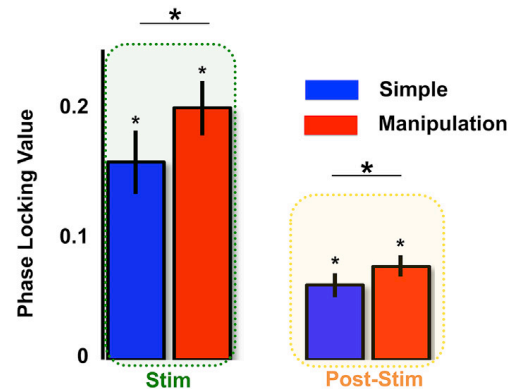
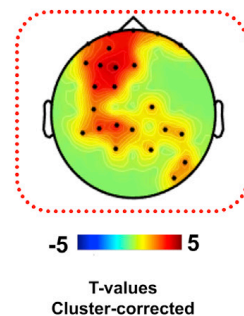
## B Day I: Whole Brain Regression

Theta Phase Locking with left IPS  
(Manipulation vs Simple) and Behavioral Performance



## F r-TMS – Brain Phase Locking

Manipulation vs Simple



Phase locking is Task specific, and is efficient during both stimulation and post stimulation time periods

# Conclusions

Rhythmic TMS at theta boosts specifically participants performance on the inverted task

No behavioral modulation for the control task or arrhythmic stimulation

Rhythmic TMS boosts ongoing oscillations

Theta power entrained with TMS predicts behavioral benefits

# Perspectives

Long term effects of the stimulation

Impact of non information based stimulation on behavioral training (*Venerio et al., 2015*)

Impact of such tools on cognitive disabilities impacting memory

Aging

(*Kirova et al., 2015*)

Schizophrenia

(*Li et al., 2015*)

Depression

(*Soraggi-Frez et al., 2017*)

Developmental Disorders

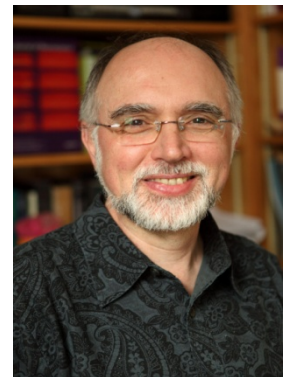
(*Tillmann et al., 2016*)

Alzheimer's disease

(*Kirova et al., 2015*)

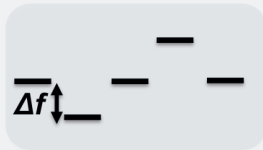
# Thank you !

Philippe Albouy, Aurélien Weiss, Sylvain Baillet & Robert J. Zatorre



# Behavioral training: Working vs Short-term memory

Short-Term  
Memory



silent  
delay

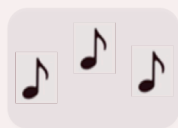


Same  
Different

$\Delta f = 60, 30$  or  $15$  cents

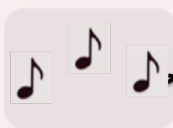
*Micromelodies: Zatorre et al., 2012*

Working  
Memory



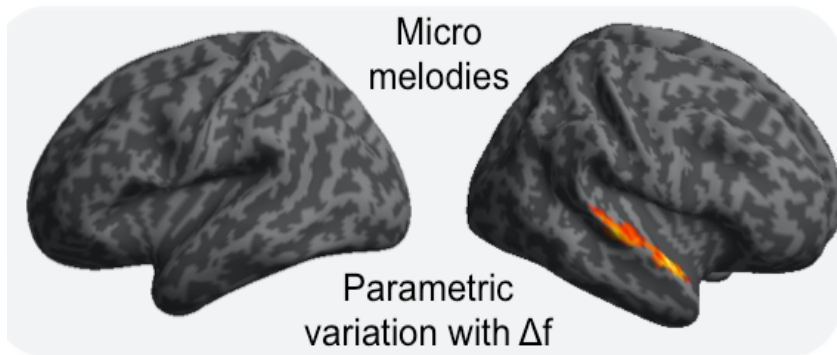
Silent delay

1 3 2  
Visual  
instruction

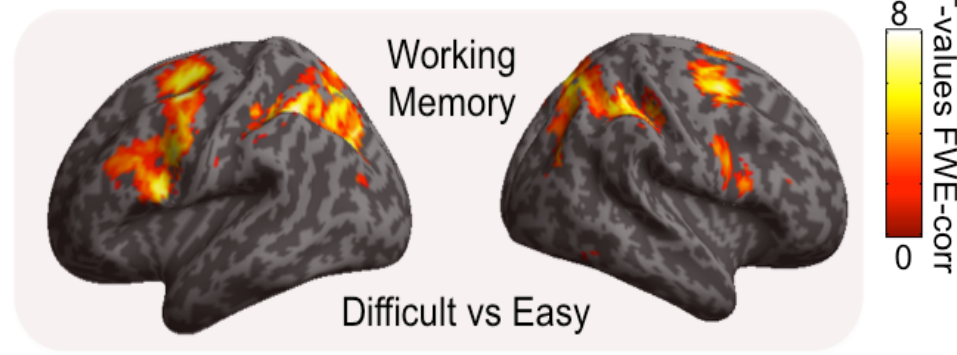


Match  
Mismatch

Short-Term Memory



Working Memory



Pre

fMRI  
Working Memory  
Short-Term Memory

Training

Group 1: Working Memory  
Group 2: Short-Term Memory

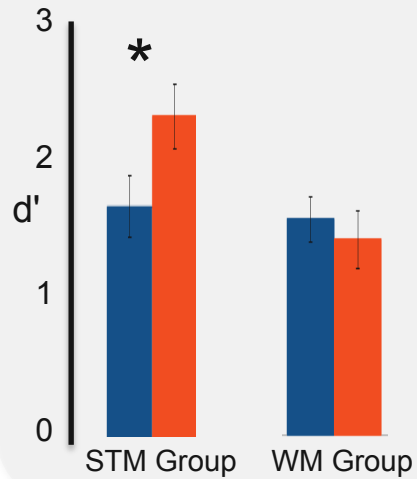
Post

fMRI  
Working Memory  
Short-Term Memory

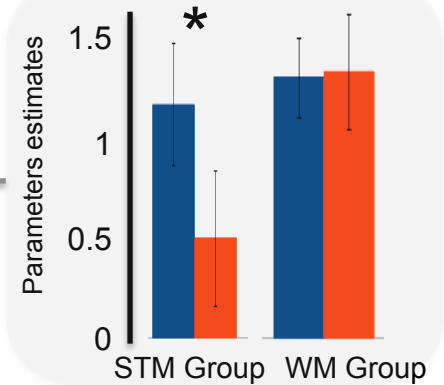
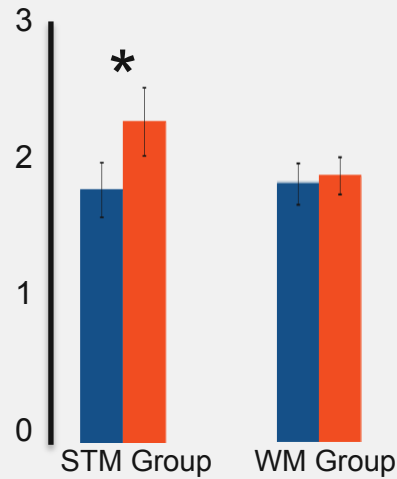
*Collaboration with Ahissar Lab, Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

# Behavioral training: Working vs Short-term memory

## Short-term Memory



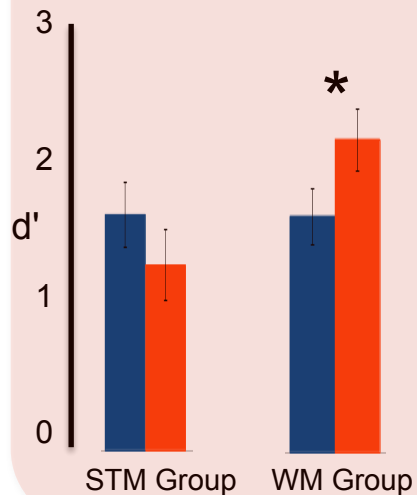
## Near Transfer task pitch discrimination



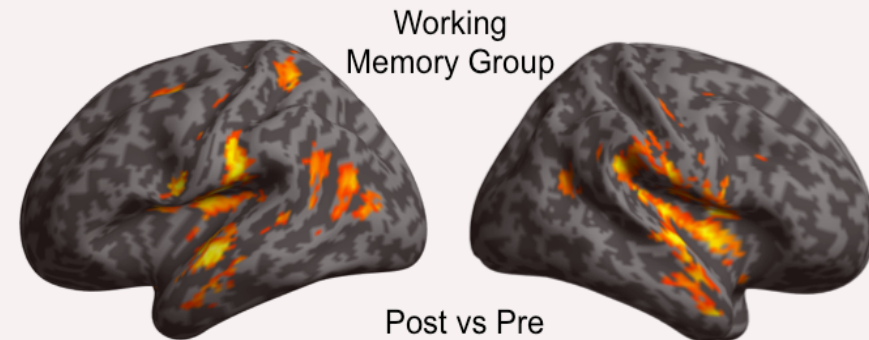
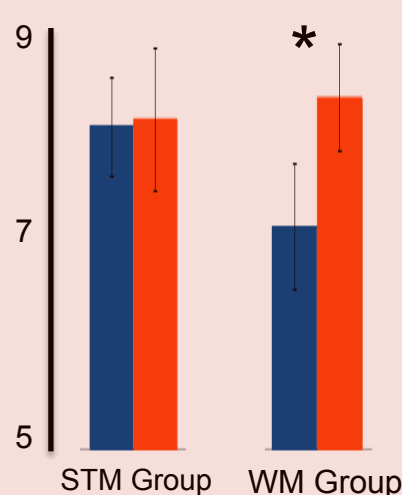
T-values FWE-corr  
6  
0

Pre-training  
Post-training

## Working Memory



## Far Transfer Task Digit Span Backward





# Discussion

Training Task is specific

Near transfer only for STM, far transfer for WM

STM: see Zatorre et al, (2012) decreased activity post training in the auditory cortex

WM task post –training effects in low level sensory regions

WM: Reverse Hierarchy theory (Ahissar and Hochstein 1997): Dorsal pathway sending backward signals to sensory areas to optimize stimulus representation (connectivity)

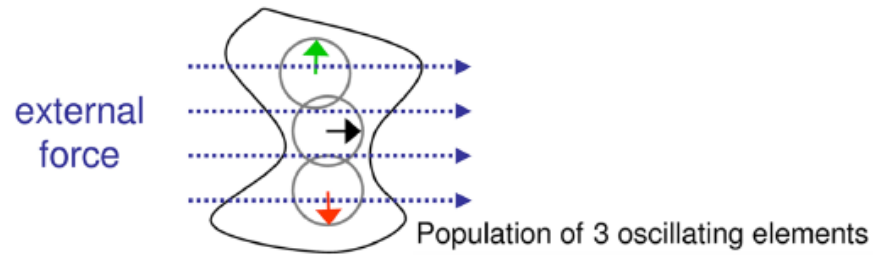
Can behavioral performance be boosted without training, via external non-invasive intervention ?

# Additional Material

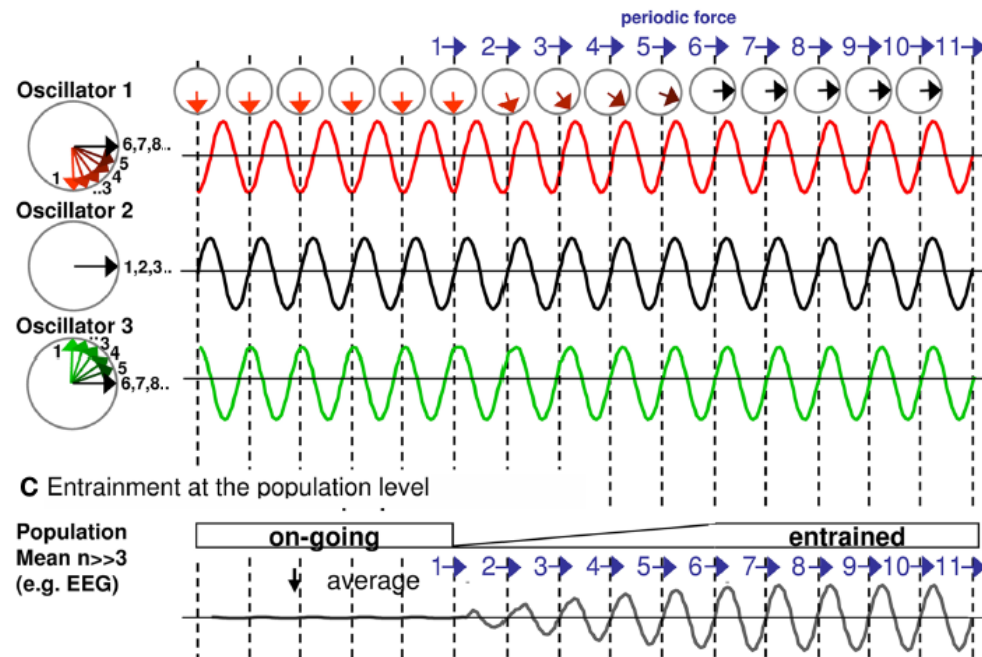
Boosting working memory with Behavioral Training

# Introduction

## *Rhythmic TMS*

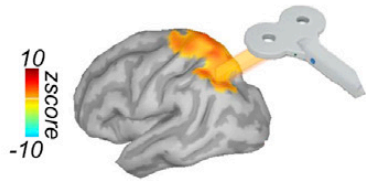


## Phase resetting of ongoing oscillations

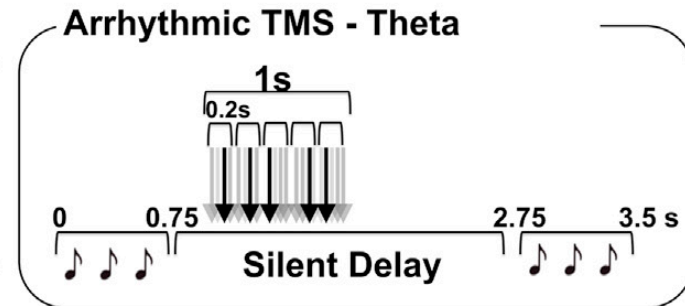
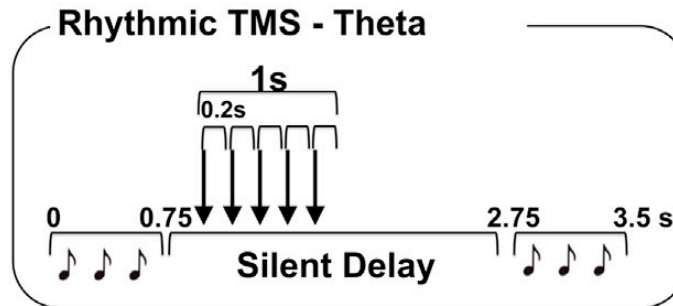


# Phase 2

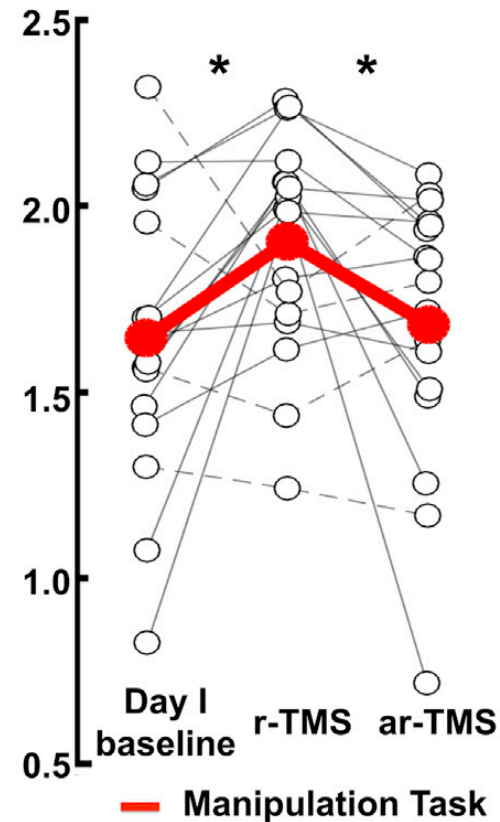
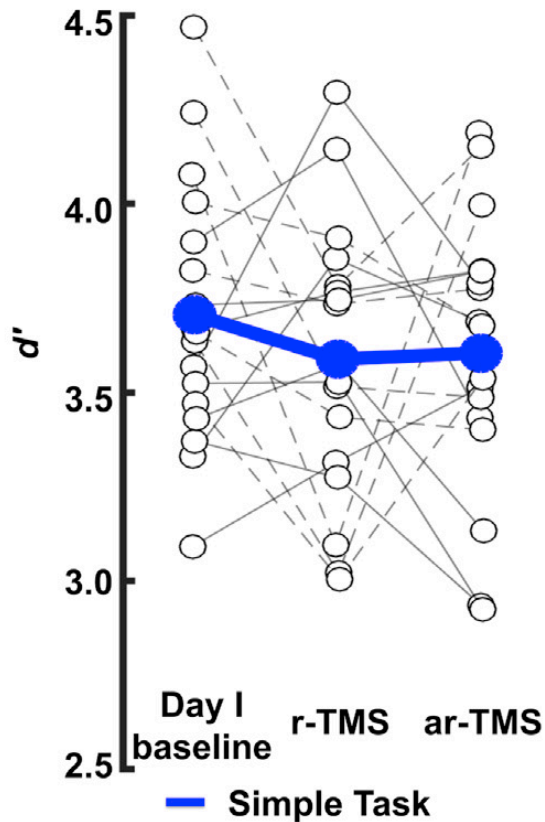
## A TMS Protocol



TMS at Theta Frequency

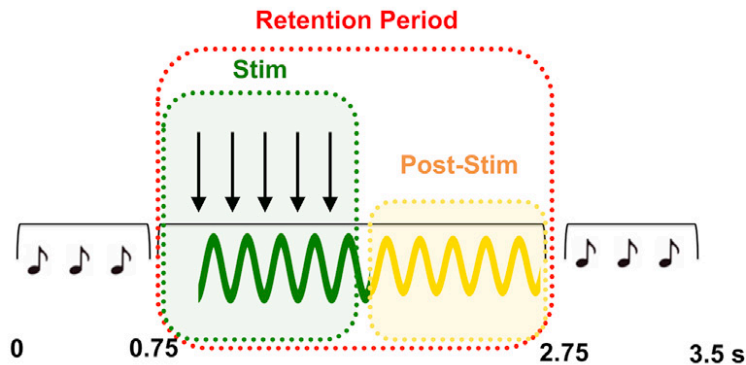


## B Behavioral Performance

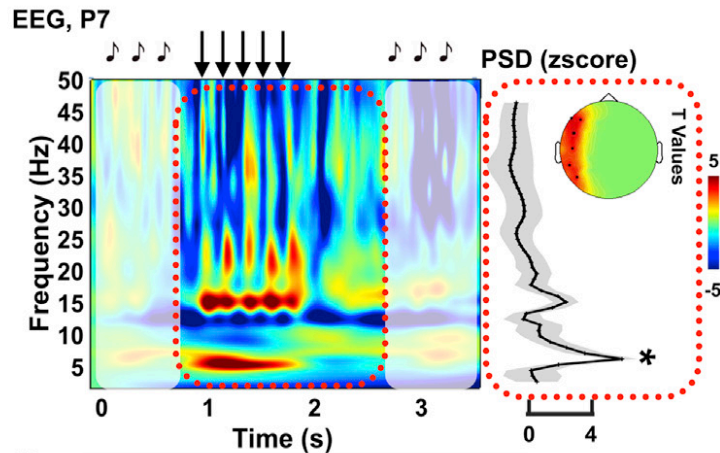


# EEG data : Entrainment

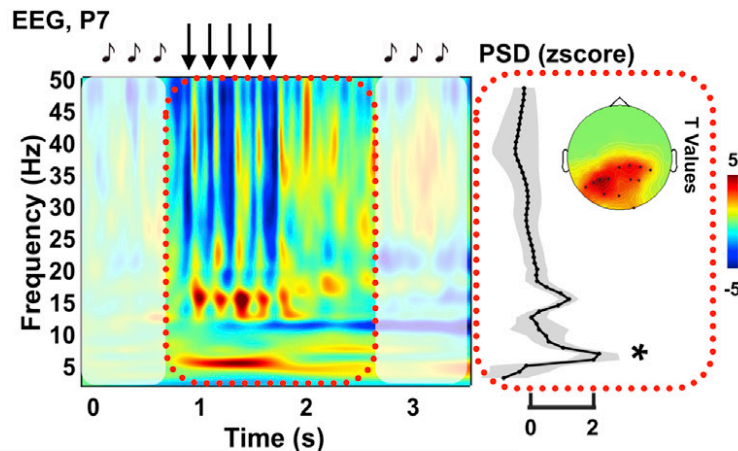
## A Time-windows of interest



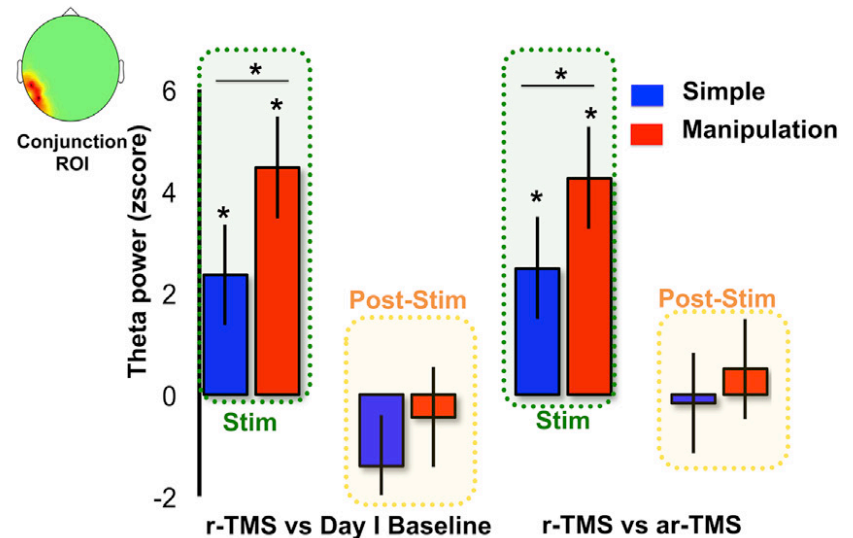
## B r-TMS vs Day I Baseline



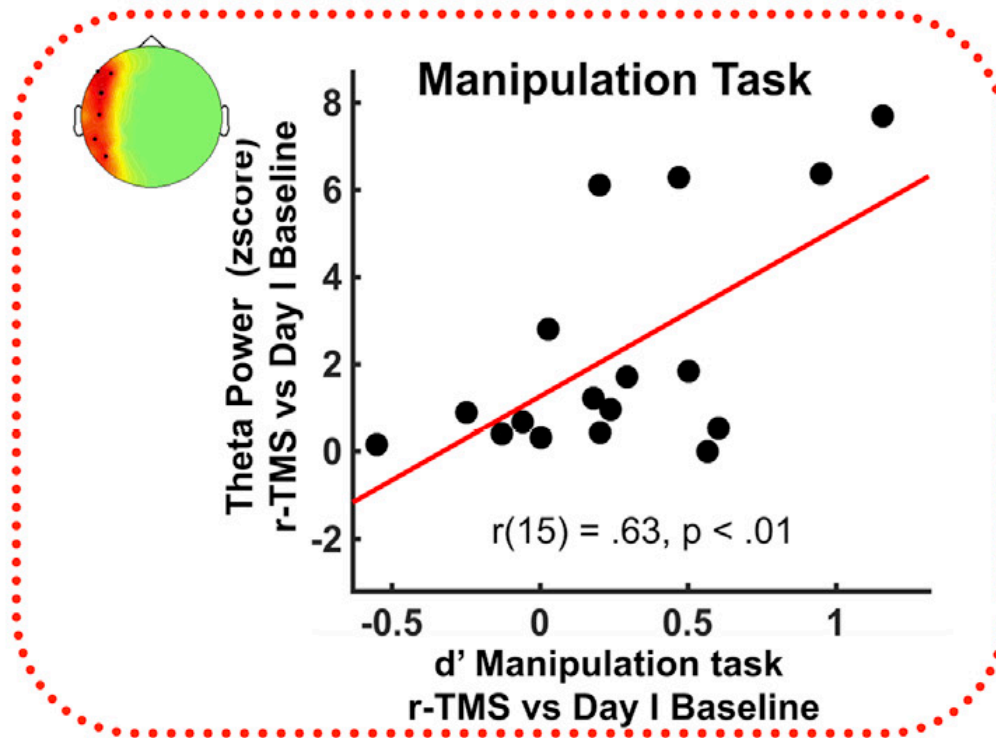
## C r-TMS vs ar-TMS



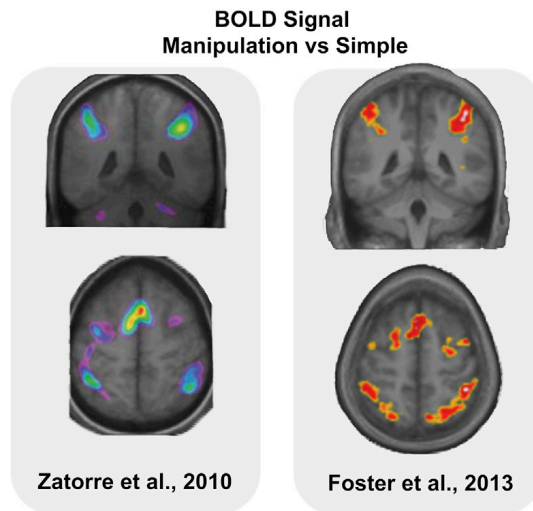
## D Tasks and Time Windows



## E Correlation with Behavioral Enhancement

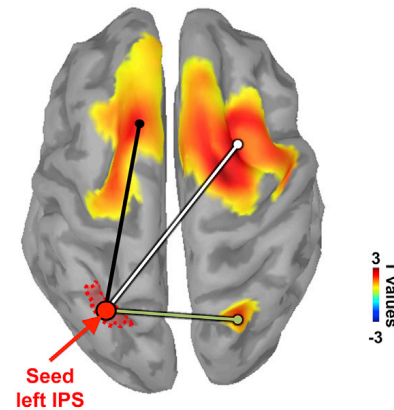


## A Regions of Interest

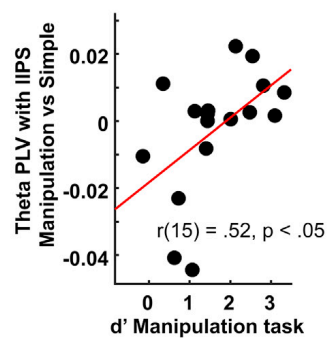


## B Day I: Whole Brain Regression

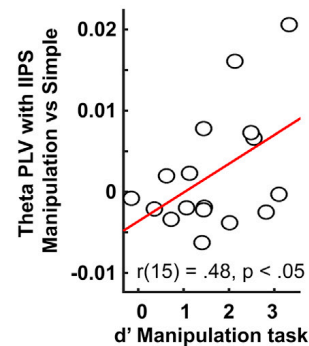
Theta Phase Locking with left IPS  
(Manipulation vs Simple) and Behavioral Performance



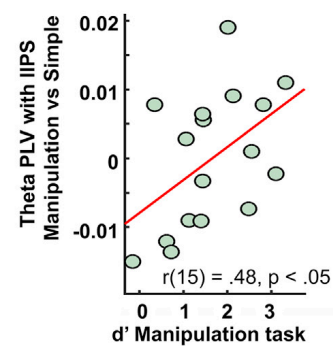
## C Left Frontal



## D Right Frontal

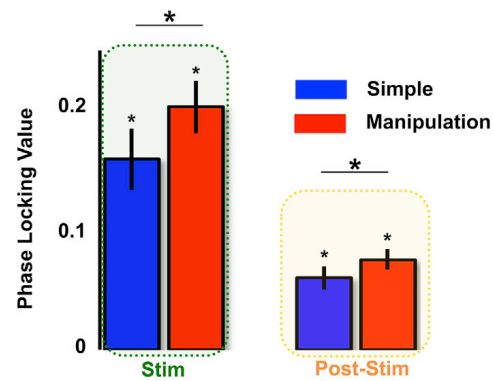
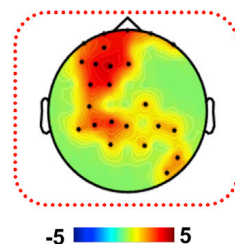


## E Right IPS



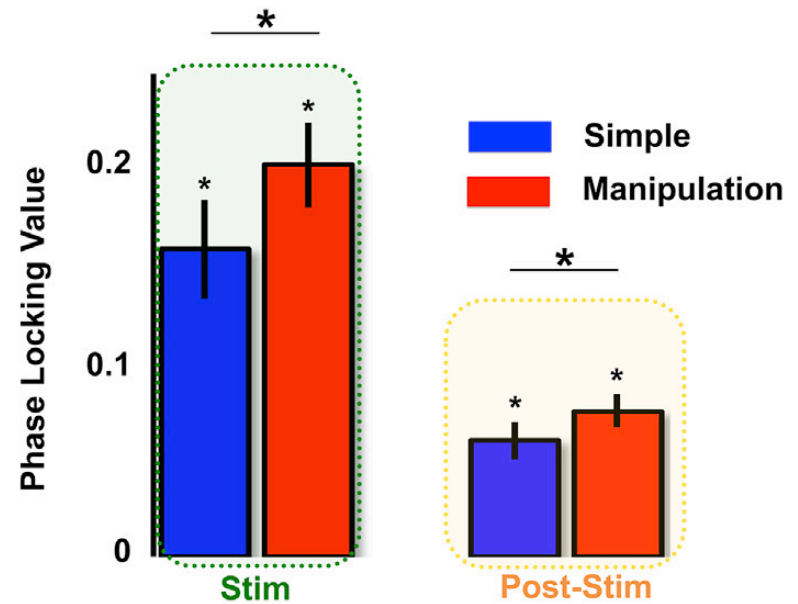
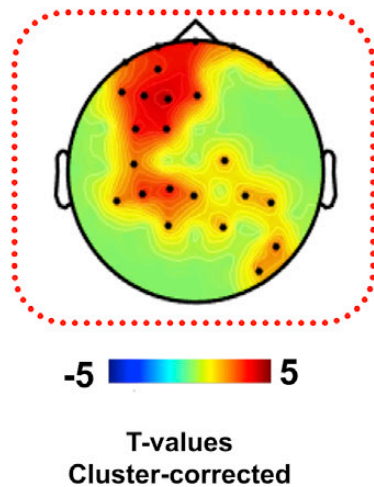
## F r-TMS – Brain Phase Locking

Manipulation vs Simple



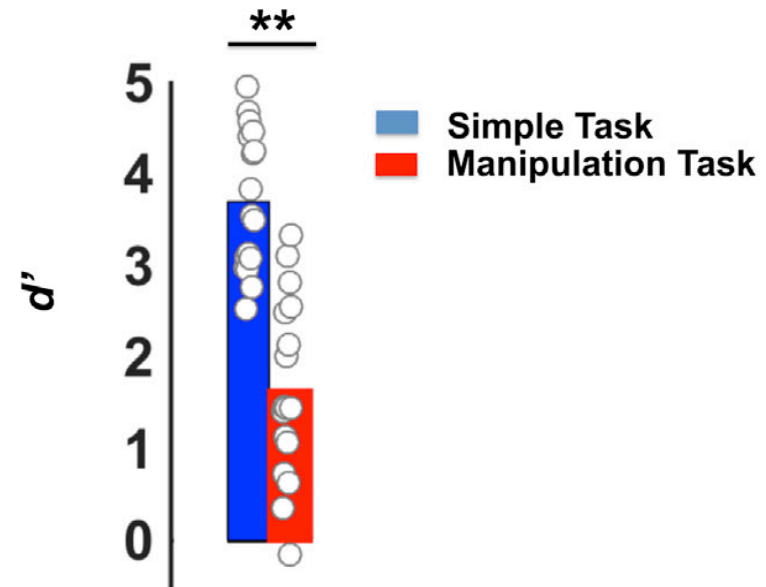
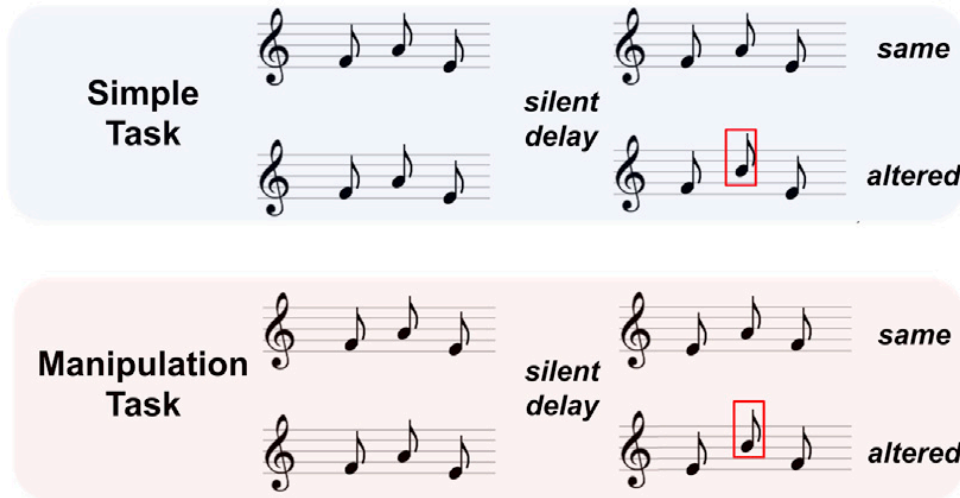
# r-TMS – Brain Phase Locking

Manipulation vs Simple

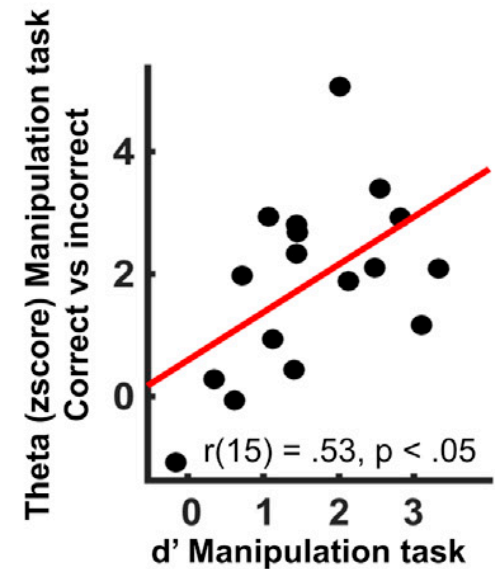
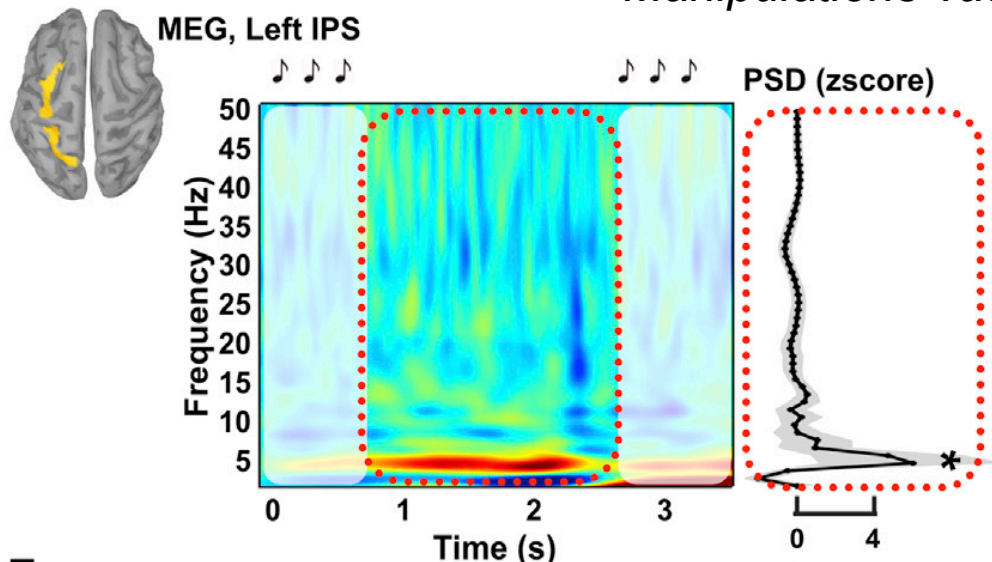




# rTMS to boost Working Memory specifically

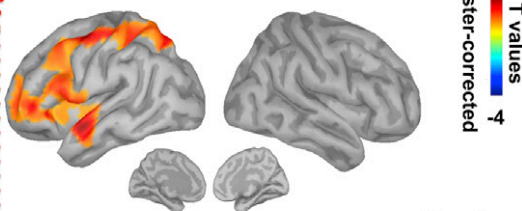
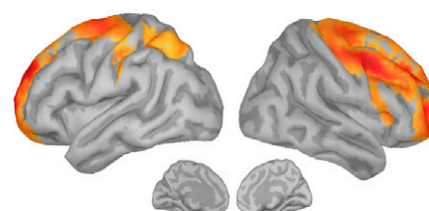


Manipulation vs Simple Correct vs Incorrect trials  
Manipulations Task

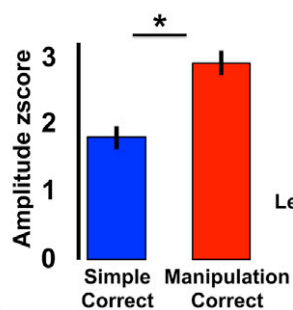


D

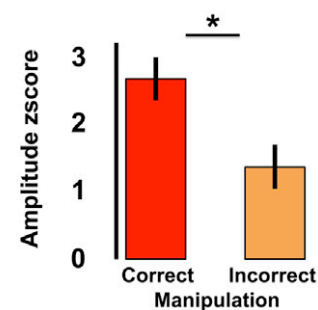
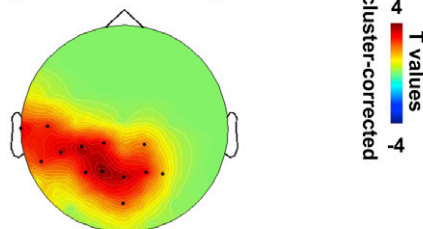
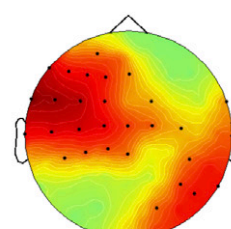
st

Retention, MEG:  
Manipulation vs SimpleRetention, MEG, Manipulation:  
Correct vs Incorrect

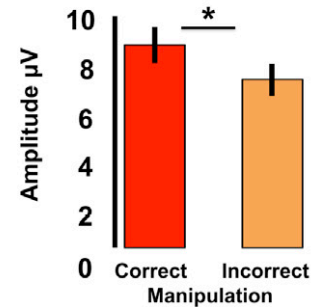
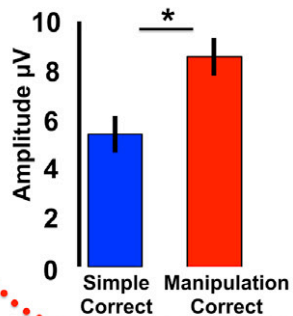
Conjunction



Left IPS

Retention, EEG:  
Manipulation vs SimpleRetention, MEG, Manipulation:  
Correct vs Incorrect

Conjunction



Left Front)

ulation of

# Introduction

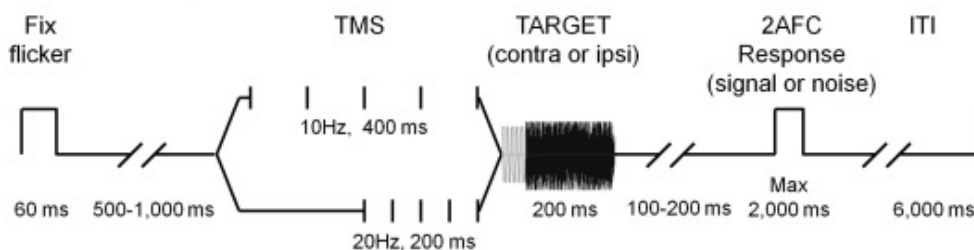
## *Entraining functionally relevant oscillations to modulate the perceptual experience*

Current Biology 24, 329–332, February 3, 2014

### Alpha Stimulation of the Human Parietal Cortex Attunes Tactile Perception to External Space

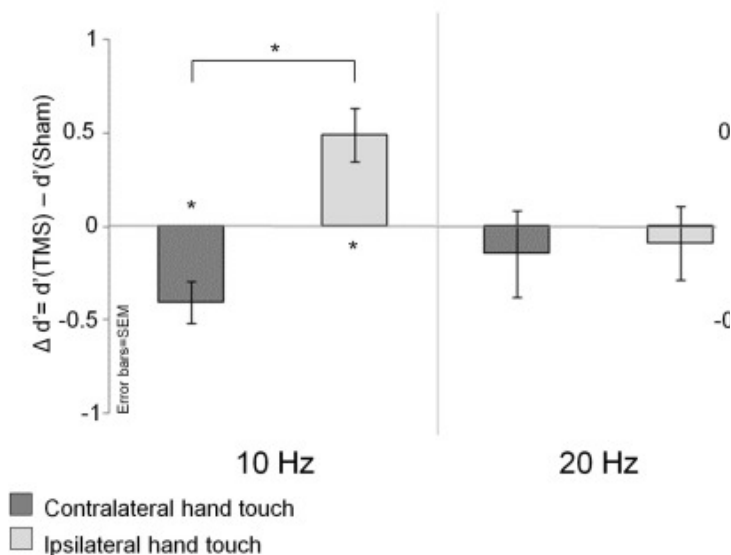
Manuela Ruzzoli<sup>1,3,\*</sup> and Salvador Soto-Faraco<sup>1,2,3</sup>

#### A Trial example



n=12

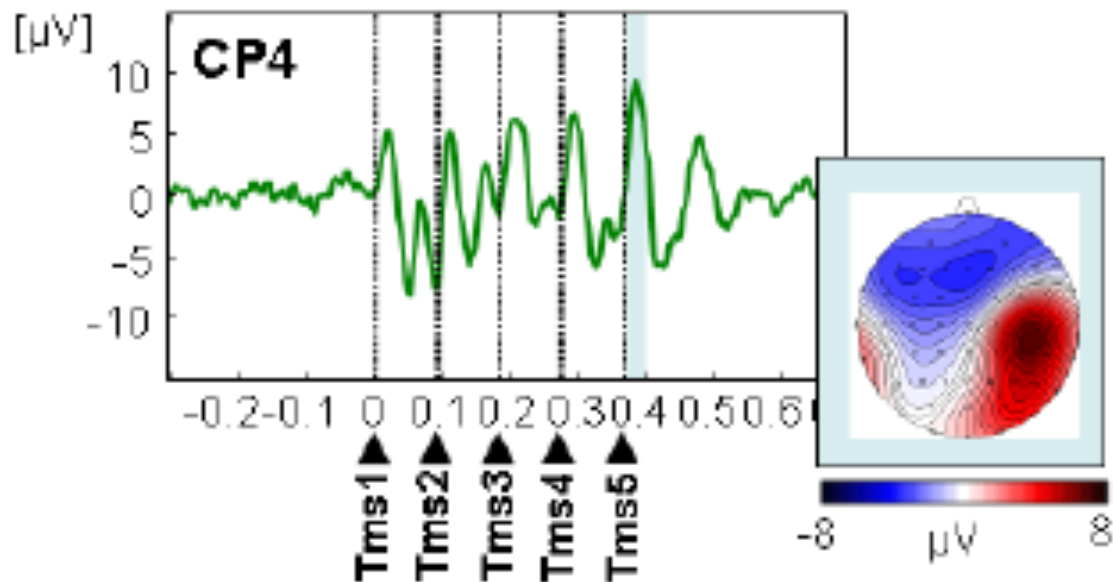
#### B Intraparietal Sulcus

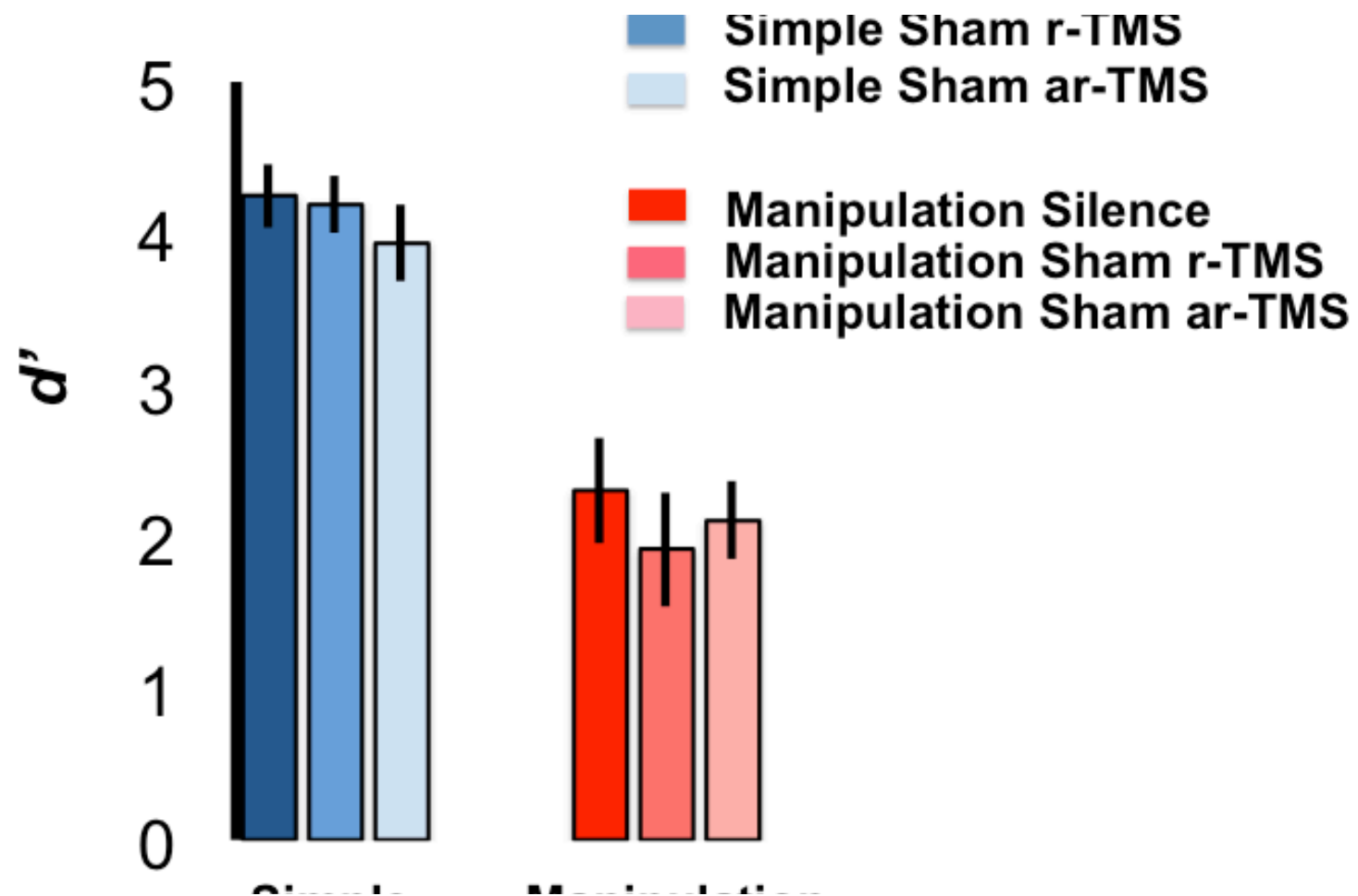


# Introduction

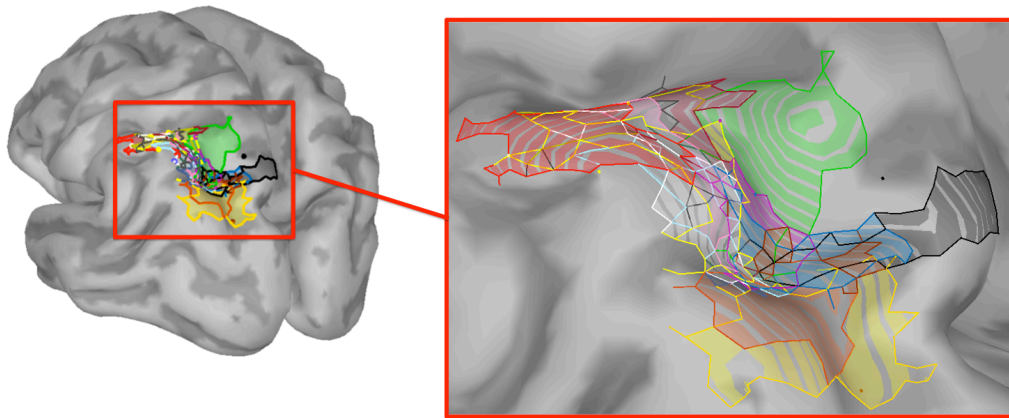
## *Rhythmic TMS*

### Phase resetting of ongoing oscillations

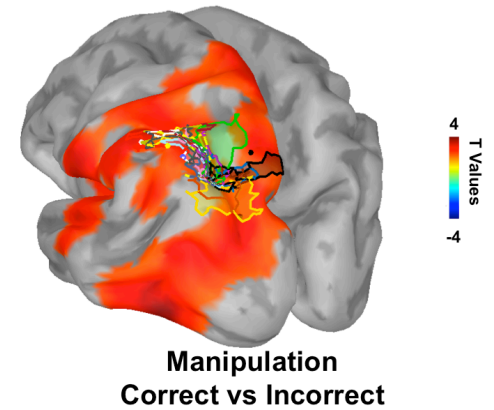




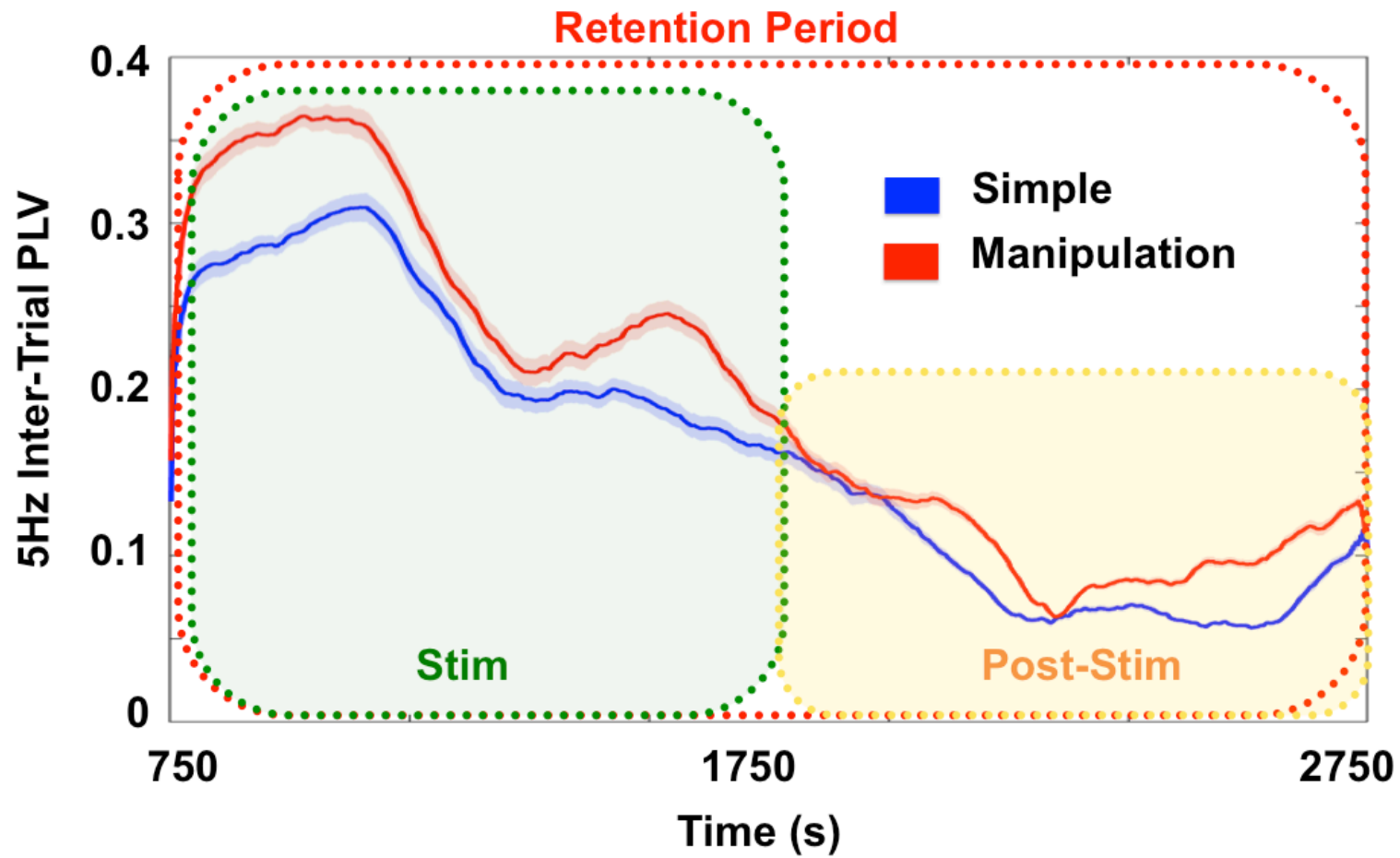
### A. Region of interest (Event Related Fields)



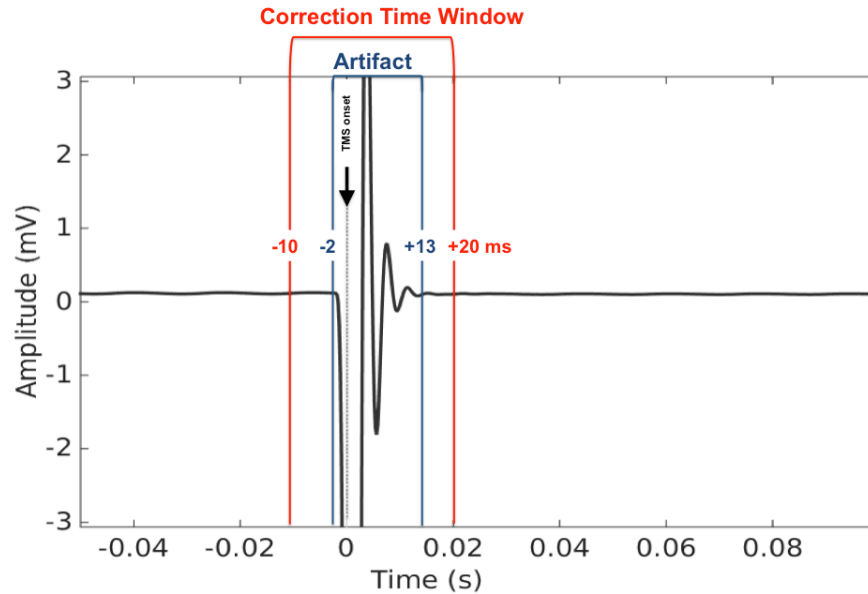
### B. Convergence with Theta Generators



# Inter-Trial Phase Locking Value - r-TMS



## A. Artefact Time Window



## B. Artefact correction – Time Frequency

