# Nonhuman primate fMRI and everything it has to offer

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National Institutes of Health Research in nonhuman primates has always played a paramount role in understanding the human brain:

• electrical microstimulation to study functional organization



Beevor and Horsley (1890)



Neuroprosthetic control (2016)

neuroanatomical connections

Waller method (1850) Nauta method (1951)





Saleem and Logothetis

Markov,..., Van Essen, Kennedy (2014)

Research in nonhuman primates has always played a paramount role in understanding the human brain:

neuropsychological studies



understanding consequences of brain damage

electrophysiological studies







Kreiman, Koch, Fried (2000)

Hubel and Wiesel (1962)

Bruce, Desimone, Gross (1982)

### fMRI has revolutionized our understanding of human brain networks



Maurizio Corbetta



Thinking about what others are thinking

Rebecca Saxe

### Monkey fMRI has provided fresh insights into brain systems Example: face patches



### Monkey fMRI has provided new insight into brain systems Example: face patches





functionally-defined areas vs. histologically-defined areas



Reveley, Gruslys, Ye, Samaha, Glen, Russ, Saad, Seth, Leopold and Saleem (in press)

### Monkey fMRI: challenges and special considerations

- Custom chairs, holders, all fMRI compatible
- Specialized coils, and sometimes specialized scanners
- Susceptibility artifacts from implants, subject movement
- Use of intravenous contrast agents
- Need for custom analysis
- Small number of subjects

### Macaque fMRI in a specialized or commercial scanner

#### 4.7T vertical scanner (Bruker)



#### 3T horizontal scanner (Siemens)



Siemens AC88 Gradient Insert



### Monkey fMRI depends on custom coil design and manufacture







Charles Zhu, NIF

Hellmut Merkle, NINDS

### Implanted coils: optimizing signal-to-noise / spatial resolution















Zhu, Ye, Yu and Leopold (under testing)

Logothetis, Merkle, Augath, Trinath and Ugurbil (2002) Janssens, Keil, Farivar, McNab, Polimeni, Gerits, Arsenault, Wald and Vanduffel (2012) What are the merits of fMRI in nonhuman primates?

- **Bridging:** monkey fMRI helps link human fMRI results to detailed knowledge of the macaque brain.
- **Functional localization:** determining functional targets for electrophysiological recordings or activity manipulation
- **Combining methods:** reading out whole-brain fMRI activity while applying methods impossible in humans
- **Technical development:** prototyping of coils, sequences, and preparations before use in humans.
- **Comparative research:** targeted investigation of functional homologies across different species.

### Combining <u>Electrical Microstimulation</u> with fMRI Responses throughout the Brain



## Microstimulation mapping of the early visual system



Area V1

Tolias, Sultan, Augath, Oeltermann, Tehovnik, Schiller, and Logothetis (2005)



Lateral Geniculate Nucleus (LGN)

Logothetis, Augath, Murayama, Rauch, Sultan, Goense, Oeltermann, and Merkle (2010)

## Microstimulation mapping of face patches







Moeller, Freiwald, Tsao (2008)

## Microstimulation mapping of the amygdala



Single-site Amygdala Stimulation

Projections of Lateral vs Basal Nuclei

### Combining <u>Reversible Inactivation</u> with fMRI Responses throughout the Brain



# Inactivation of the **superior colliculus**: effects on the expression of attention

Attention task in fMRI paradigm



Inactivation of superior colliculus causes deficits in spatial attention



GABA<sub>A</sub> Agonist Muscimol (0.5 μl)



Drs. Amar Boghadi, Anil Bollimunta, and Rich Krauzlis (NEI)

# Inactivation of the **nucleus basalis**: effects on spontaneous fMRI fluctuations



Drs. Janita Turchi (NIMH) and Catie Chang (NINDS)

# Lesion of **area V1** + inactivation of the **LGN**: effects on responses in extrastriate visual areas



Schmid, Mrowka, Turchi, Saunders, Wilke, Peters, Ye and Leopold (2010)

### Combining <u>Neural Recordings</u> with fMRI Responses throughout the Brain



## Resting state: comparing **local field activity** to fMRI responses throughout the brain



neural basis of global fMRI signal



Schölvinck, Maier, Ye, Duyn and Leopold (2010)



# Resting state: comparing **single unit activity** to fMRI responses throughout the brain



### "single-unit fMRI mapping"

# Visual responses: understanding local circuits through global mapping

microwire bundle in face patch AF



microCT of bundle *in situ* (post-mortem)



depiction of bundle within a (1.5 mm)<sup>3</sup> voxel





**Brian Russ** 



Soo Hyun Park



Igor Bondar



David McMahon

# Visual responses: understanding local circuits through global mapping

microwire bundle in face patch AF





neurons in area AF are "face cells"



# How do individual neurons in face patch AF respond during natural viewing?



### High reliability across trials for a given neuron but...



## High reliability across trials for a given neuron but... very low response correlation between neurons!



## Why do adjacent neurons in a face patch respond so differently?



### **Possibility 1:**

Response differences reflect the internal workings of a cortical column ("distribution of labor" hypothesis)

### **Possibility 2:**

Response differences reflect contributions of specific long-range connections ("selective inputs" hypothesis)

### Using whole brain fMRI as a readout of single cells



### Using whole brain fMRI as a readout of single cells



Soo Hyun Park

### Examples of single-unit fMRI maps





# Functional maps from simultaneously recorded neurons in face patch AF population

each map from isolated single cell (total volume ~500  $\mu$ m)

cell T065a



cell T082a



Can single unit fMRI mapping aid in classifying neural function?

Simultaneously recorded neurons from the same microwires



### Grouping neurons based on fMRI maps



### Comparing flattened average maps for four of the cell groups



#### Group maps

0.5

-0.5

### What about the local fMRI and LFP signals?



 One group map (~14% of recorded single units) matches functional maps based on the the fMRI seed voxel and gamma LFP power

### Functional units distinct but not localized?



- spatial concentrations of broad selectivity (i.e. patches)
- units with different expertise (selectivity) interspersed within each area
- units with similar expertise have selective long-range communication (connections)
- functionally coherent modules are confined in their location, but not strictly segregated

### Summary

- Experiments in nonhuman primates have fundamentally shaped our current understanding of the human brain
- The great advantage of fMRI is whole brain readout of activity, for monkeys as well as humans.
- The combination of this readout with established and emerging methods will continue to be of great neuroscientific value.
- The long term value of fMRI will depend, in part, on the extent to which functional specialization is spatially segregated in the brain – question of the century.

### Collaborators





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Soo Hyun Park



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