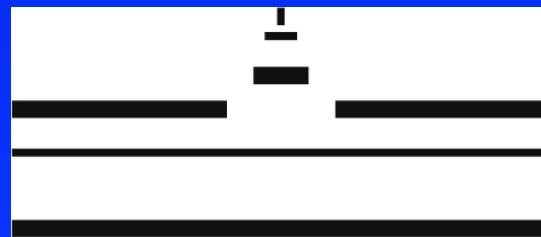
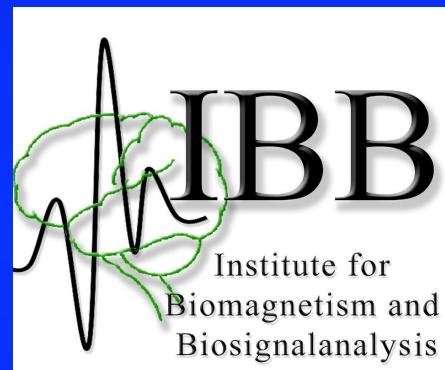


# Electrical field modeling



WESTFÄLISCHE  
WILHELMUS-UNIVERSITÄT  
MÜNSTER

Carsten H. Wolters

# Outline

- Literature
- Head model generation: MRI/DTI registration and segmentation and individual modeling of head tissue conductivities
- Forward problems in EEG/MEG and TES/TMS: Helmholtz reciprocity, validation work
- Target reconstruction: Combined EEG/MEG source analysis
- Inverse problem: Optimization approaches for multi-sensor tES/TMS and application to the individual stimulation of the somatosensory cortex
- Summary

# Link for literature to own work:

Carsten Wolters X +

https://www.medizin.uni-muenster.de/biomag/das-institut/mitarbeiter/carsten-wolters/ ... Suchen

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DAS INSTITUT | FORSCHUNG | STUDIUM

MEDIZINISCHE FAKULTÄT MÜNSTER UNIVERSITÄTSKLINIKUM MÜNSTER DE | EN

Institut für Biomagnetismus und Biosignalanalyse > Das Institut > Mitarbeiter > [Carsten Wolters](#)

Prof. Dr. Carsten Wolters, PhD  
Forschungsgruppenleiter / Senior Scientist  
Institut für Biomagnetismus und Biosignalanalyse  
Malmedyweg 15,  
48149 Münster  
Büro / Office: Anbau HNO-Klinik EG Raum 41  
Tel.: +49-251-8356904 [email](#)

Forschungsschwerpunkte / Research Interests  
[Publikationen / Publications](#) ←  
Lebenslauf / CV

INSTITUT  
MITARBEITER  
EHEMALIGE / ALU  
DIENSTLEISTUNGEN  
OFFENE STELLEN (2)  
KONTAKT UND ANFAHRT  
NICHT Ö  
TERMINE

All own publications

22. Febr. 2018 Biomagnetismus und Biosignalanalyse IBB-KOLLOQUIUM - SPONTANEOUS BRAIN ACTIVITY IN HEALTHY

carsten.wolters@uni-muenster.de

# Link for literature to own work:

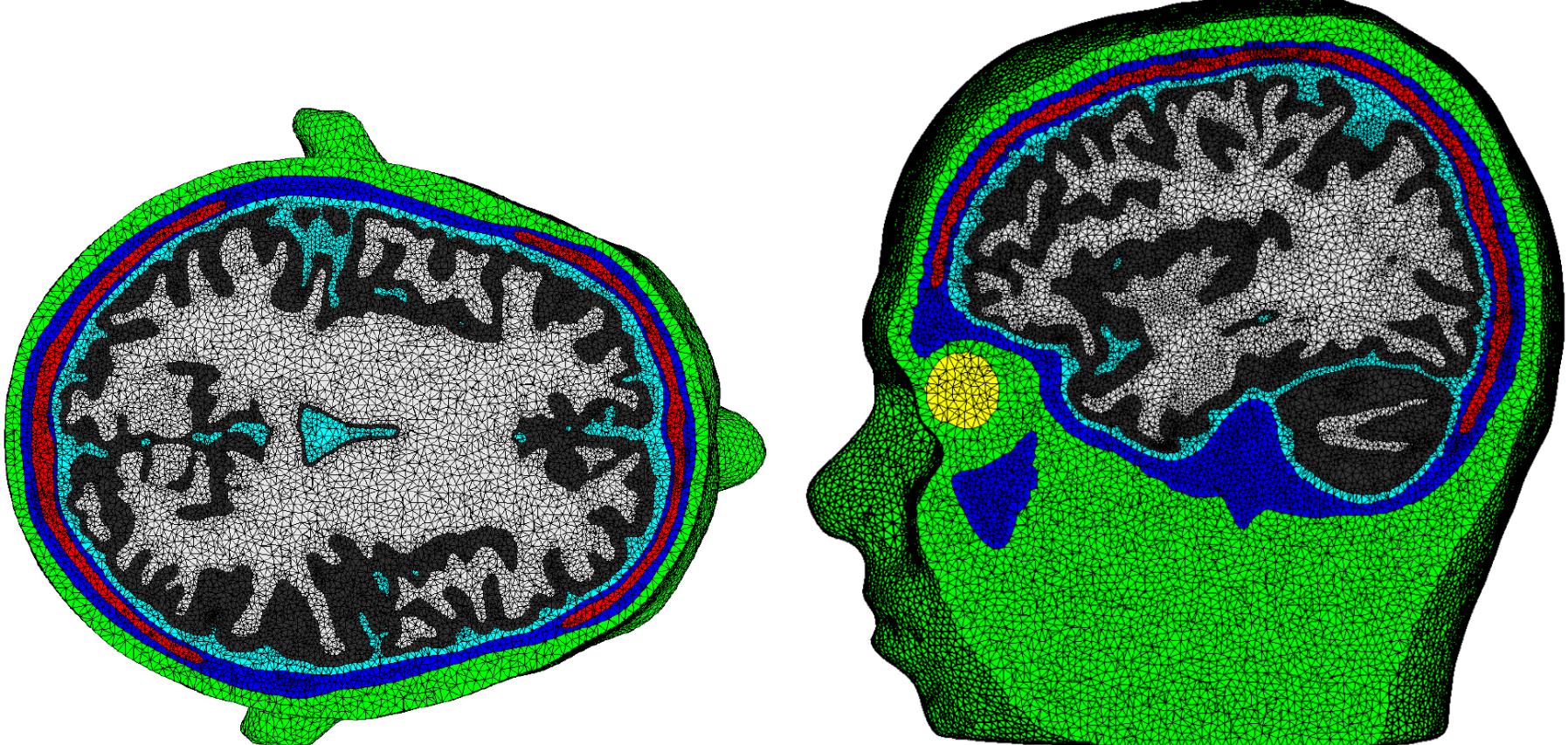
The screenshot shows a web browser window with a dark theme. The title bar reads "PD Dr. Carsten Wolters" and "Wolters-Publications.pdf". The address bar shows the URL "https://campus.uni-muenster.de/fileadmin/einrichtung/biomag/Mitarbeiter/Wolters-Publications.pdf". The page content is a PDF viewer displaying page 4 of 30. The text on the page is: "47. Vorwerk, J., Cho, J.-H., Rapp, S., Hamer, H., Knösche, T.R., Wolters, C.H., A Guideline for Head Volume Conductor Modeling in EEG and MEG". Below the browser window, there is a white box containing the text "NeuroImage, 100, pp.590-607, (2014)." and links for DOI, PubMed, Eprint, and pdf.

NeuroImage, 100, pp.590-607, (2014).  
[DOI](#), [PubMed](#), [Eprint](#), [pdf](#)

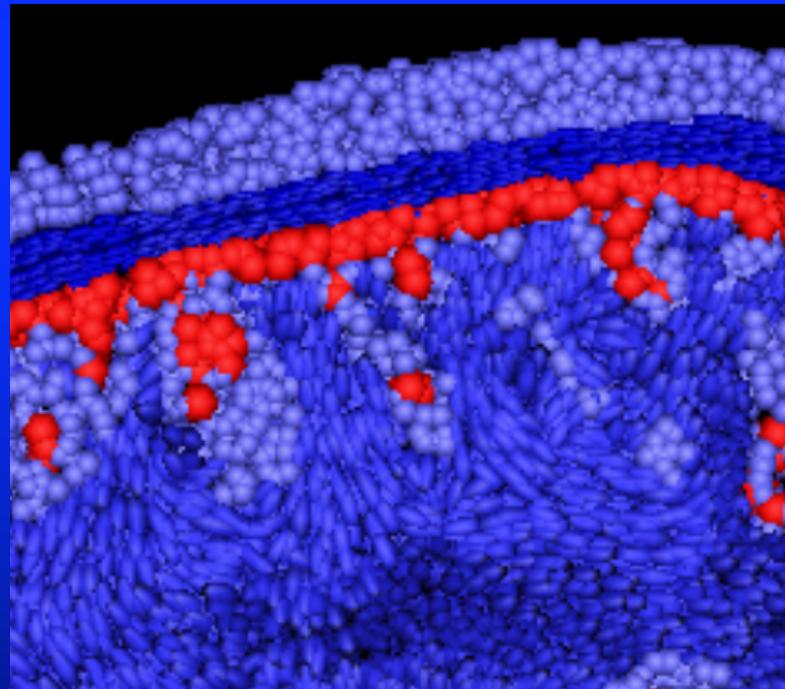
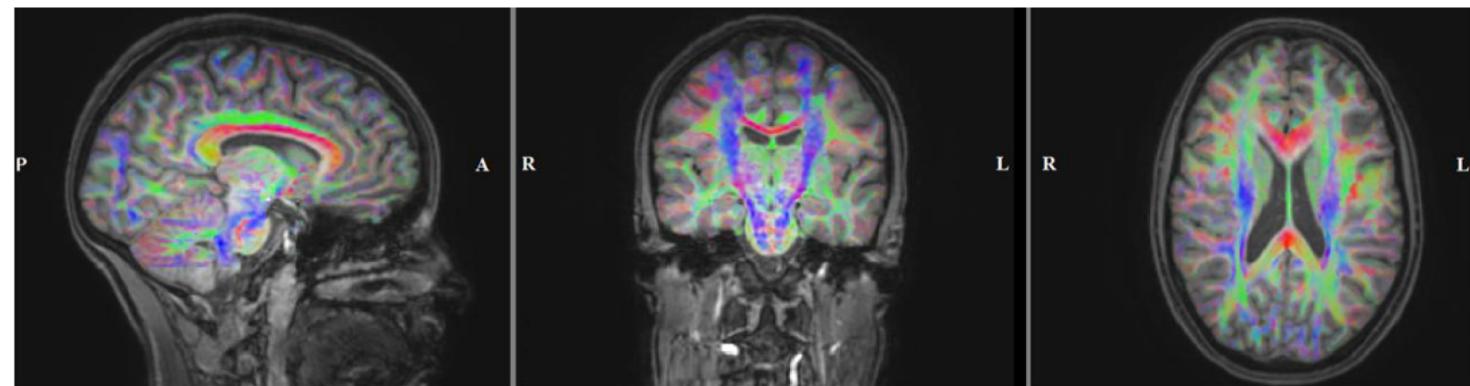
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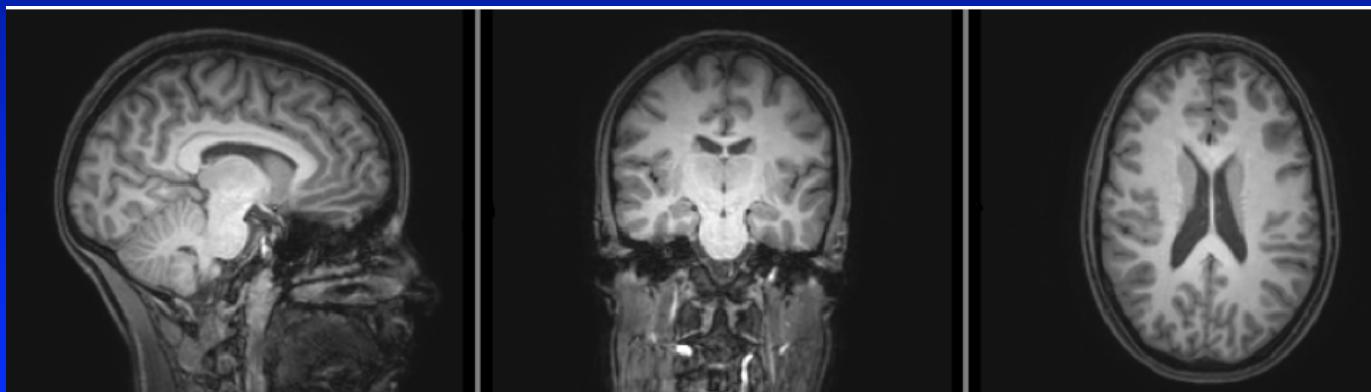
# Goal: Calibrated realistic finite element method (FEM) head volume conductor model...



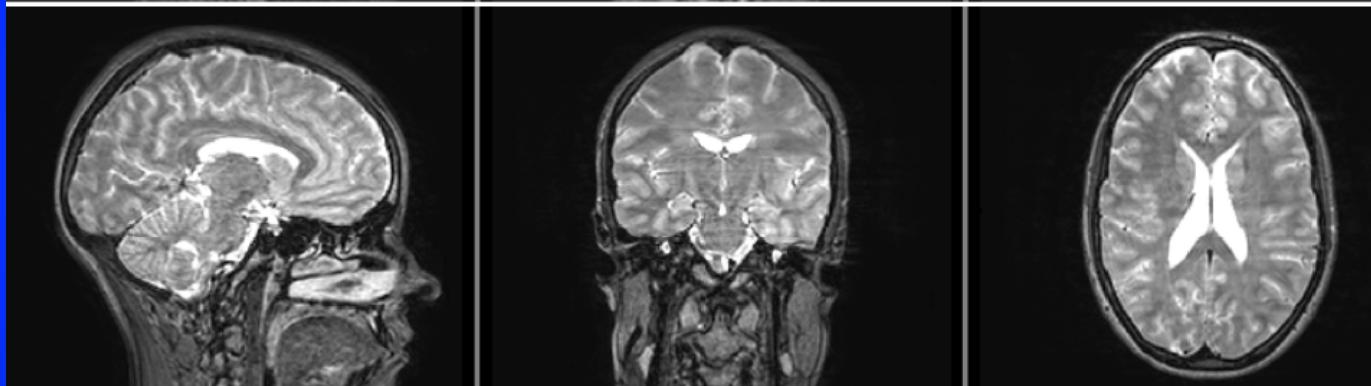
## ...with white matter conductivity anisotropy



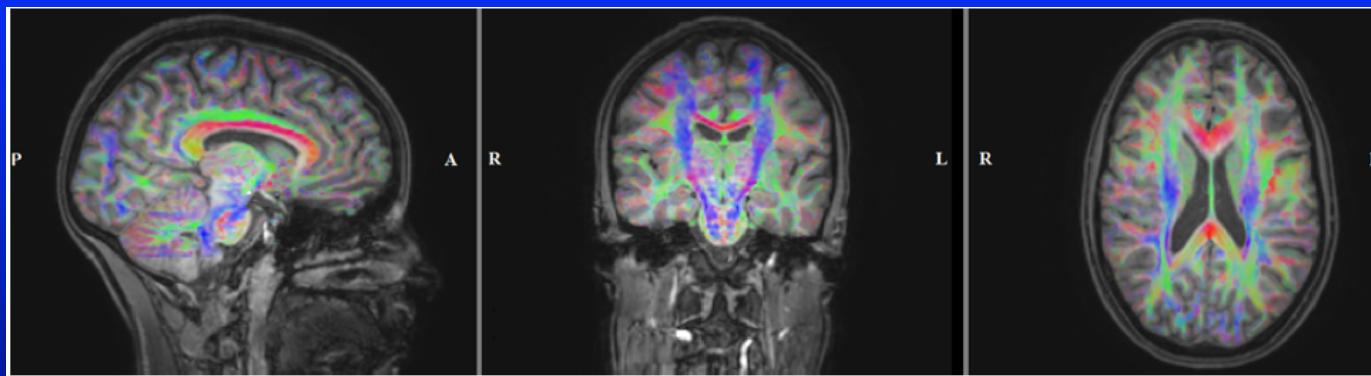
## Recommended input: MRI data (27 min measurement time)



T1w-MRI

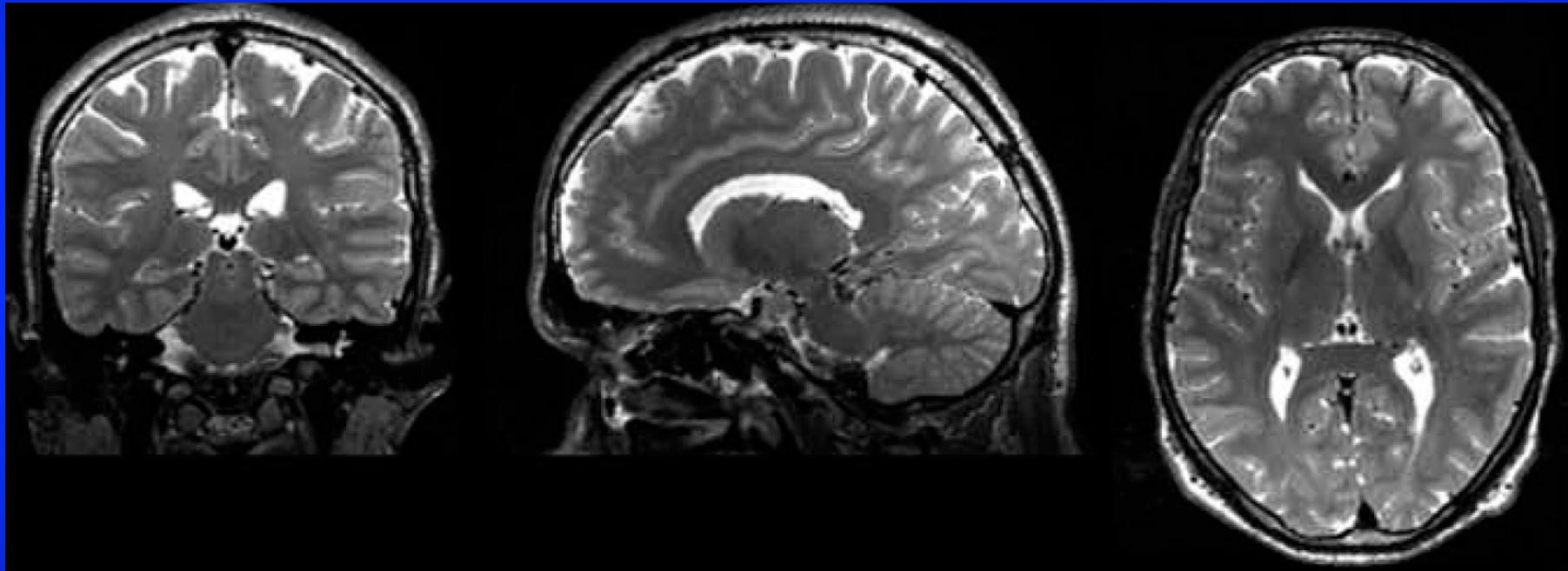


T2w-MRI



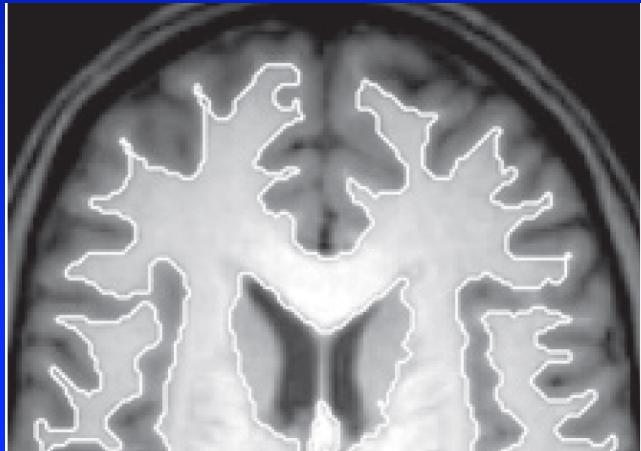
Dw-MRI

# Why T2-MRI: Good basis for segmentation of CSF and skull



# **Registration of multimodal MRI for head volume conductor modeling**

# Registration of T1w-, T2w- and dw-MRI



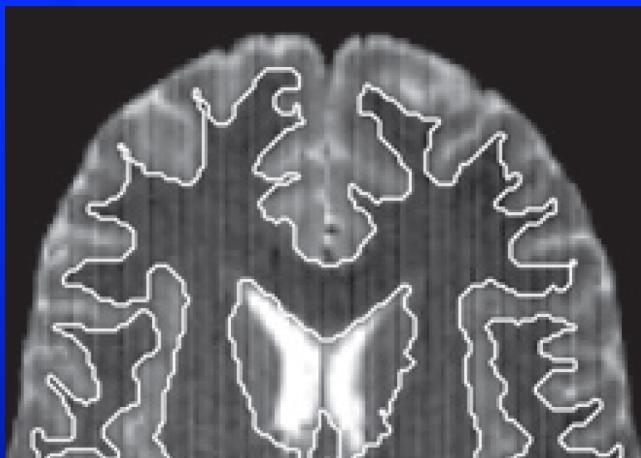
White matter surface on linearly registered T1w- and T2w-MRI



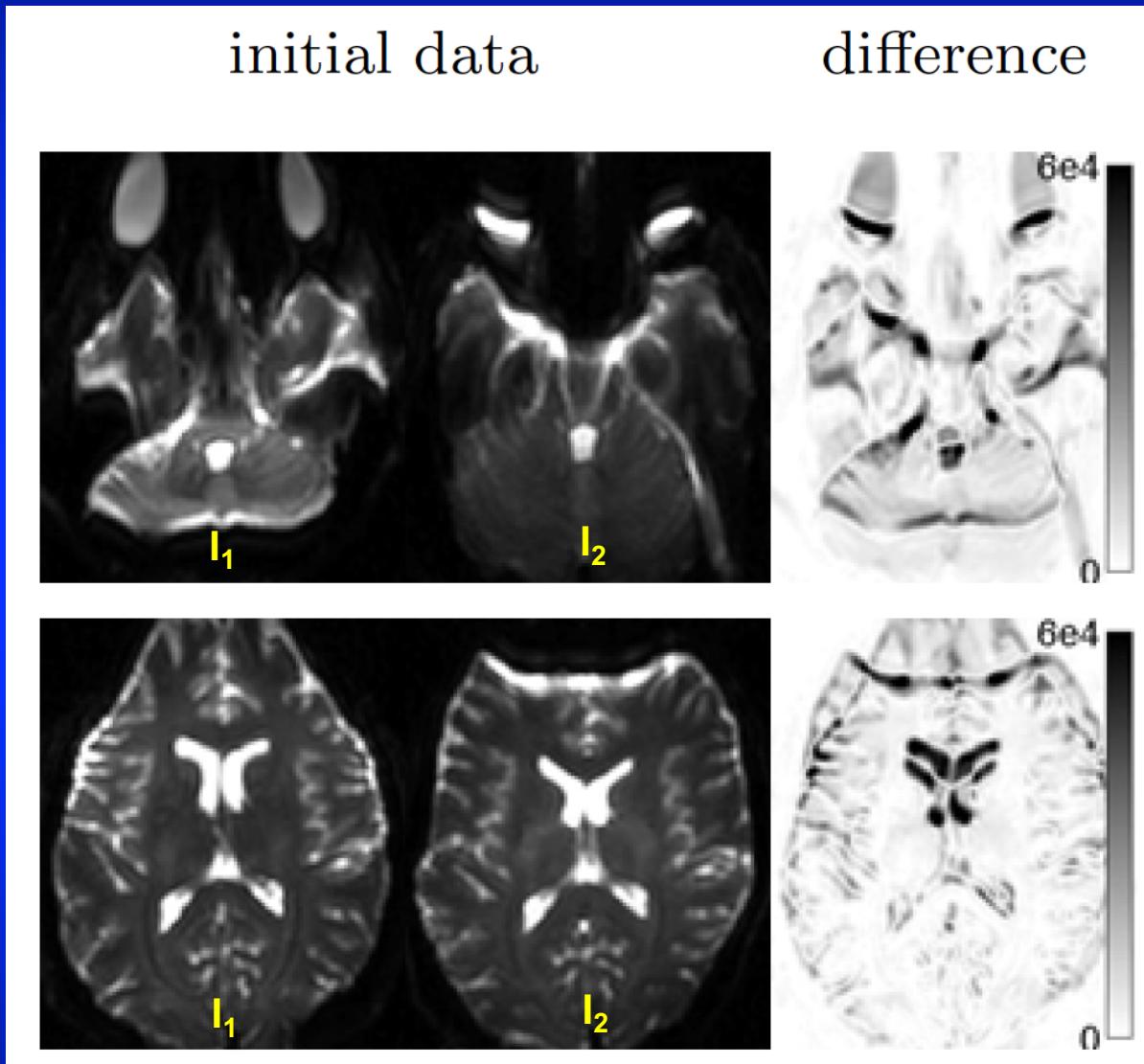
$I_1$

$I_2$

Not good enough: White matter surface on linearly registered DW-MRI with flat diffusion gradients (diffusion weighting factor  $b=0$ ) and reversed spatial (i.e., phase and frequency) encoding gradients ( $I_1$  and  $I_2$ )

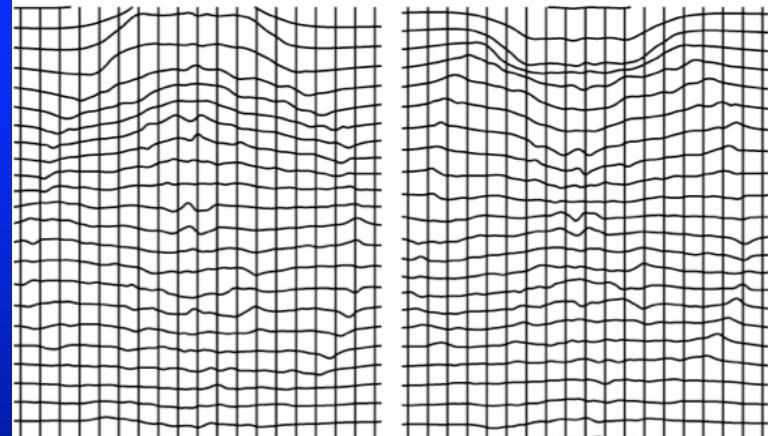
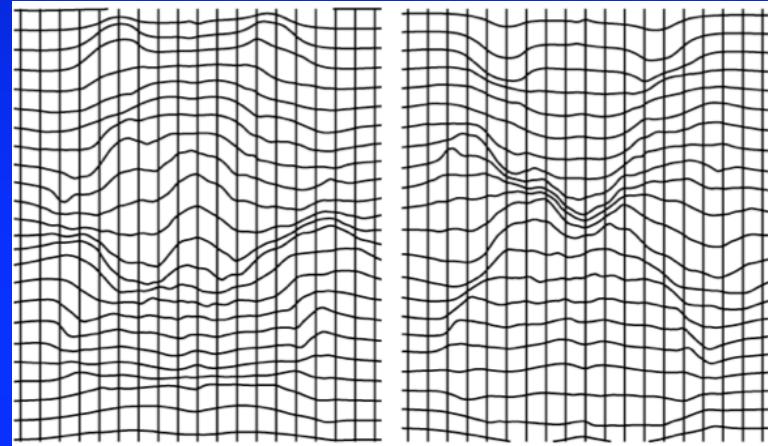
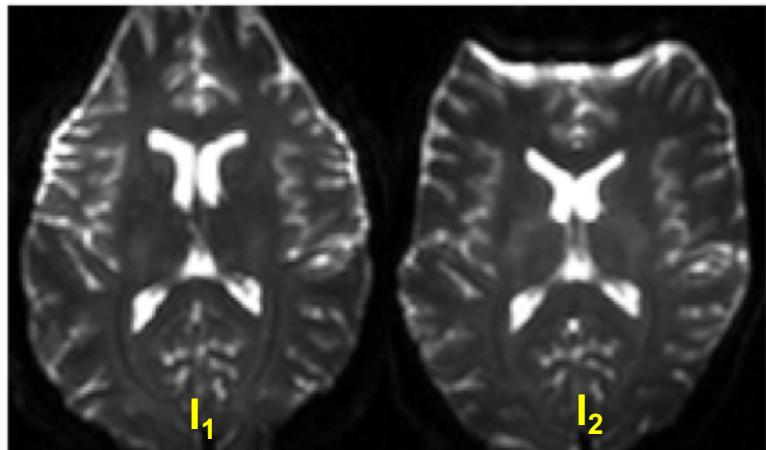
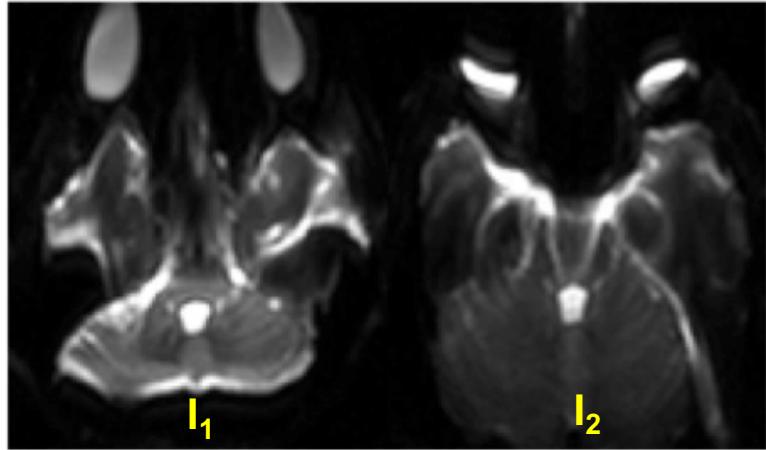


# Nonlinear registration and correction of dw-MRI



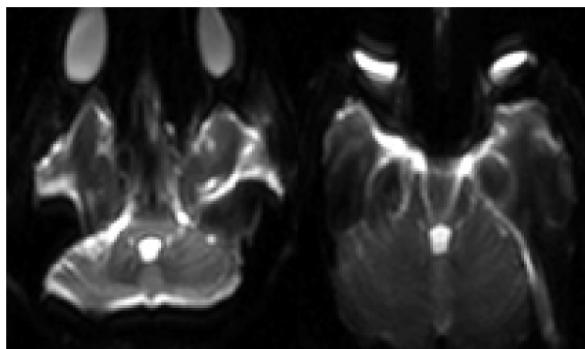
# Compute nonlinear diffeomorphic mass-preserving registration and apply it to a regular grid

initial data

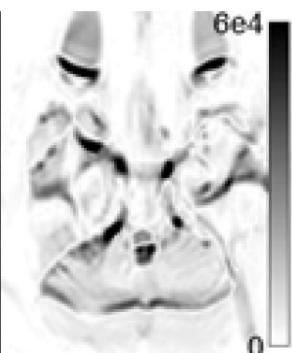


# Apply registration to initial data for correction

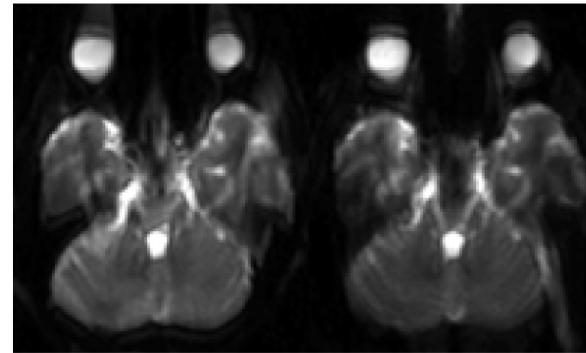
initial data



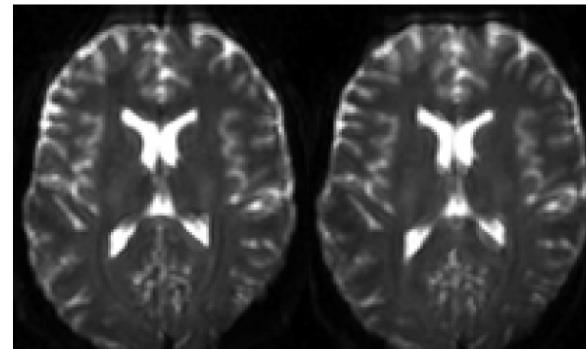
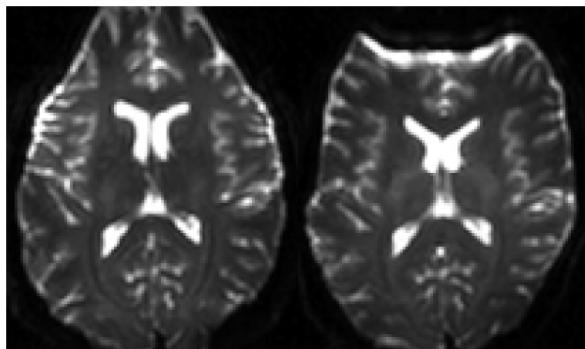
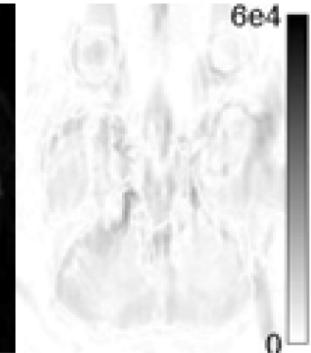
difference



corrected data



difference

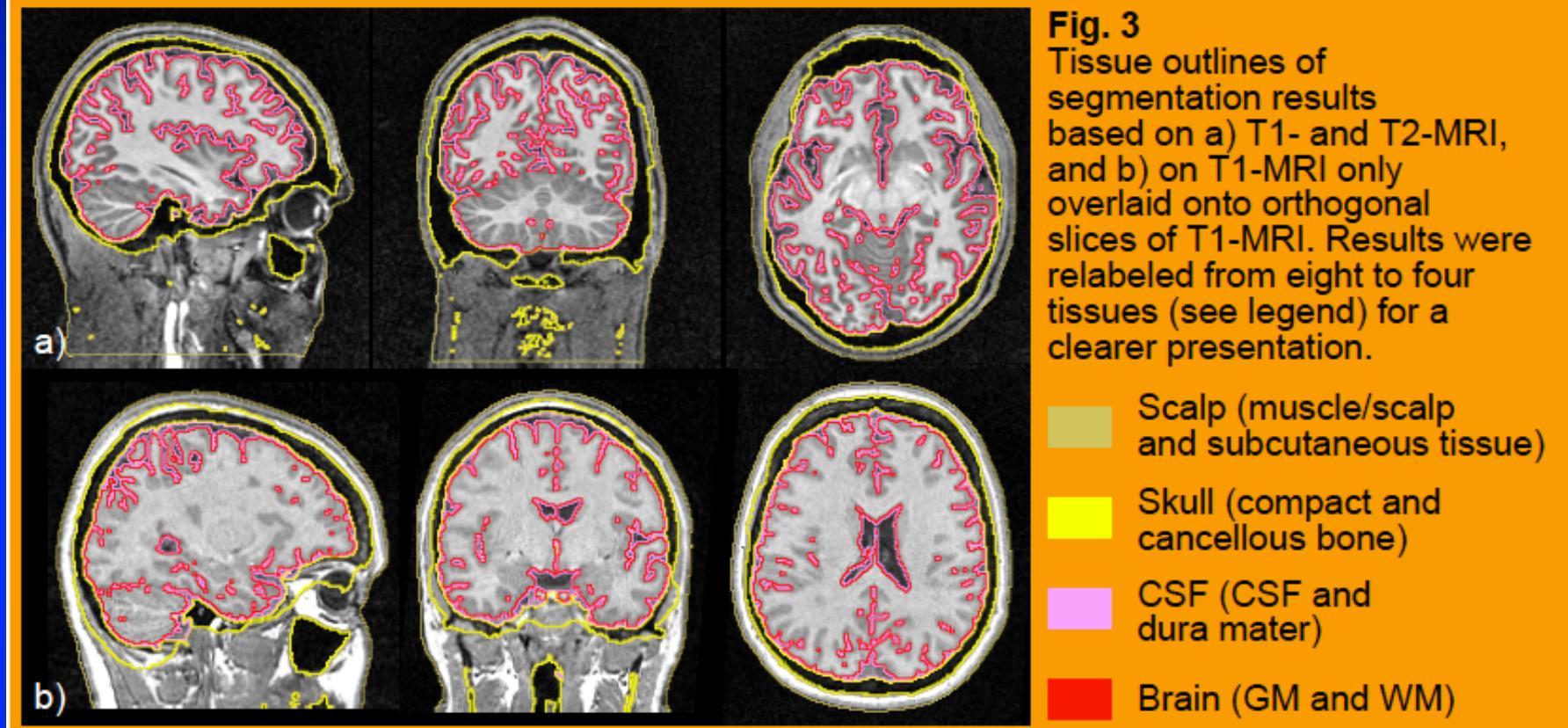


# Software for registration of multimodal MRI for head volume conductor modeling:

- Open source SPM HySCO registration tool  
(<http://www.diffusiontools.com/documentation/hysco.html>)

# **Segmentation of multimodal MRI for head volume conductor modeling**

# Automatic head tissue segmentation from T1- and T2-MRI



- Skin, skull, CSF and brain surfaces reconstructed from T1- and T2-MRI (Fig.3a) and only from T1-MRI (Fig.3b)
- Accurate and quasi-automatic segmentation of major head tissue compartments
- Accurate skull segmentation is especially important for applications in bioelectromagnetism

# **Software for segmentation of multimodal MRI for head volume conductor modeling:**

- Open source SPM12 toolbox for multi-compartment segmentation:  
<http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/software/spm12>
- Open source Seg3D toolbox: Compacta and spongiosa segmentation and manual correction: <http://www.sci.utah.edu/cibc-software/seg3d.html>
- Open source Freesurfer toolbox for segmentation of grey matter:  
<http://surfer.nmr.mgh.harvard.edu>
- Open source FSL toolbox for segmentation of skin, skull, brain:  
<http://www.fmrib.ox.ac.uk/fsl>
- Open source SIMNIBS toolbox: <http://simnibs.de/>
- Lanfer-dissertation resulted in user-friendly, but commercialized, BESA-MRI pipeline: <http://www.besa.de/products/besa-mri/besa-mri-overview/>

# **Head tissue conductivity modeling**

# Simulation of two patch auditory TES

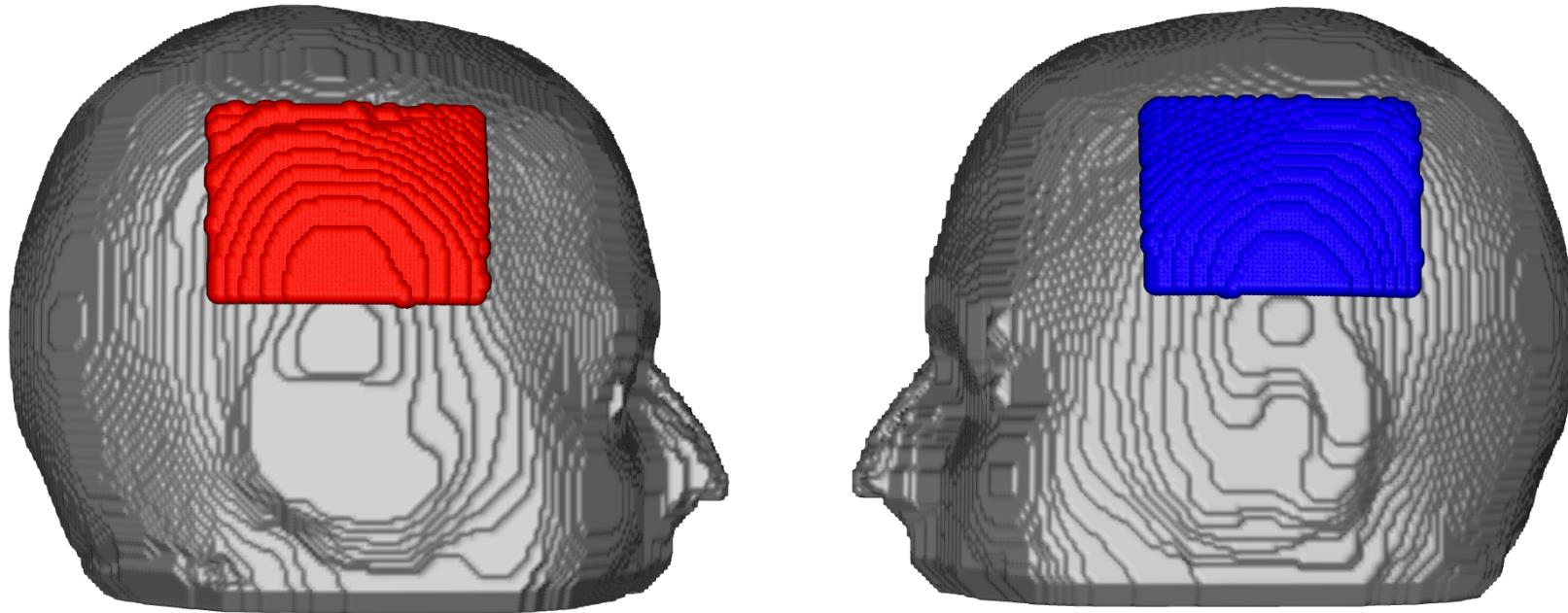
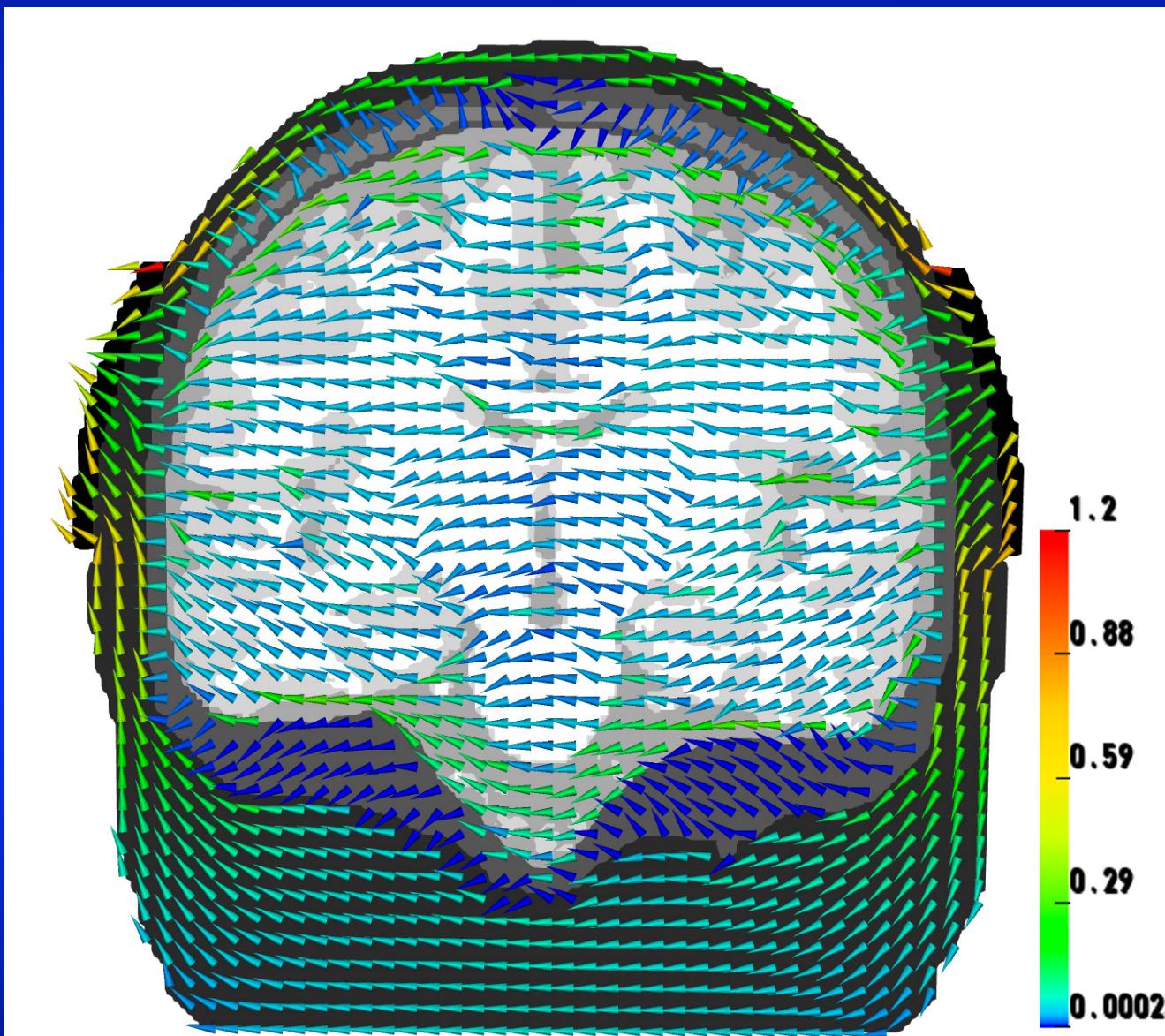
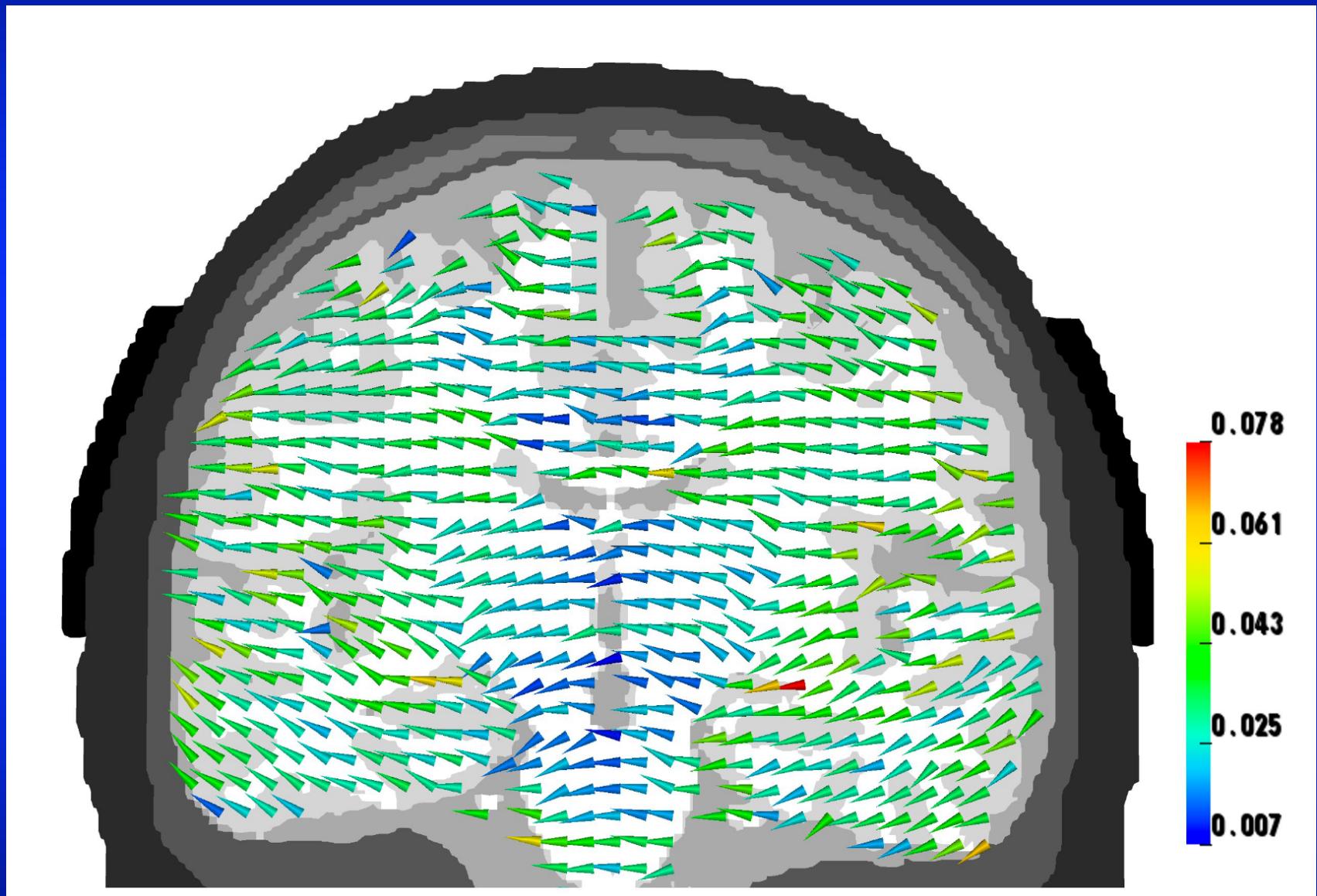


Figure: Two conventional tCS patches are modeled as rectangular sponge-based pads with a commonly used size in clinical practice of 7x5 cm, thickness of 4mm and saline-like conductivity of 1.4 S/m. The anode is colored red and the cathode is blue.

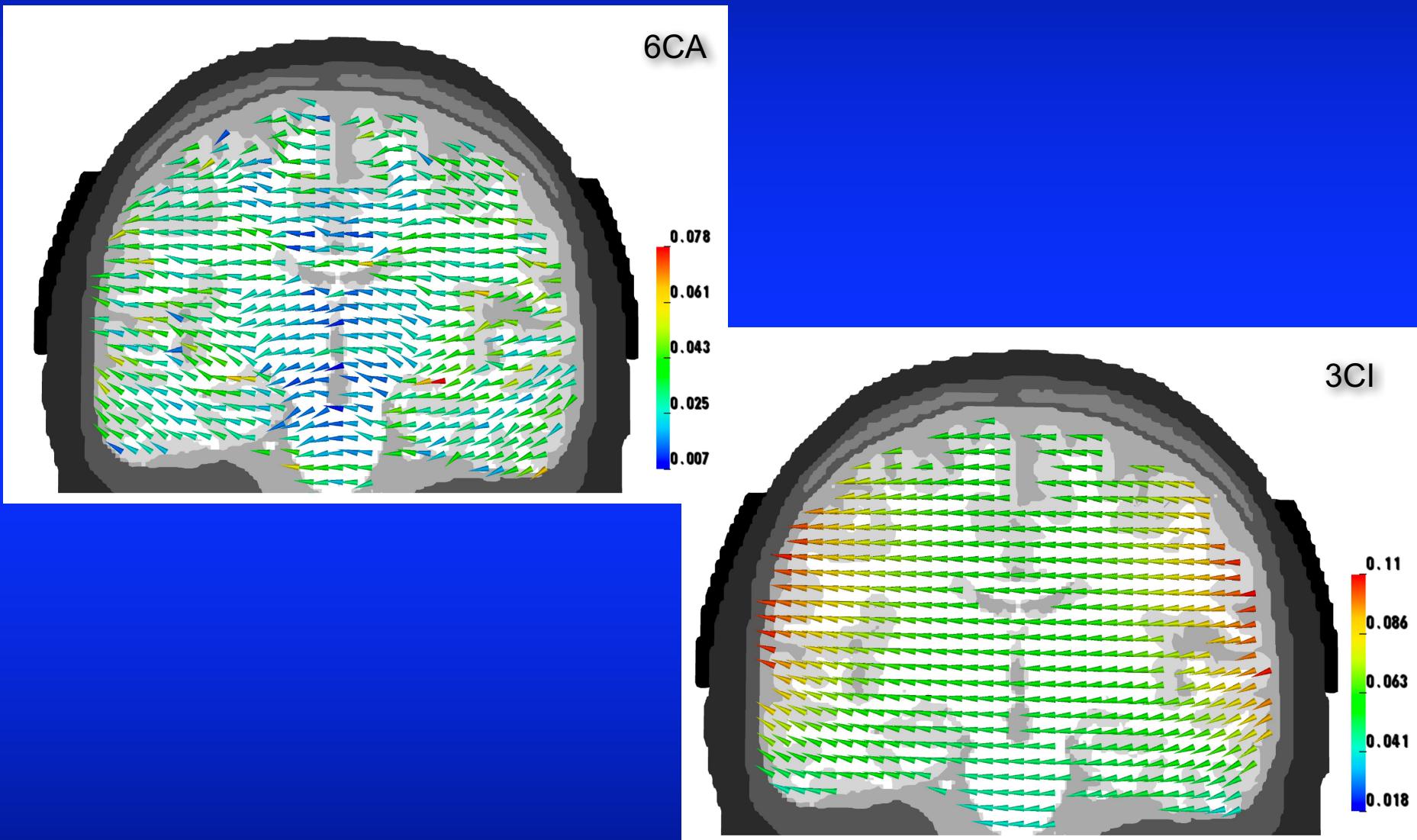
# Current density in 6 comp. anisotropic head model



# Brain current density in 6 comp. anisotropic head model

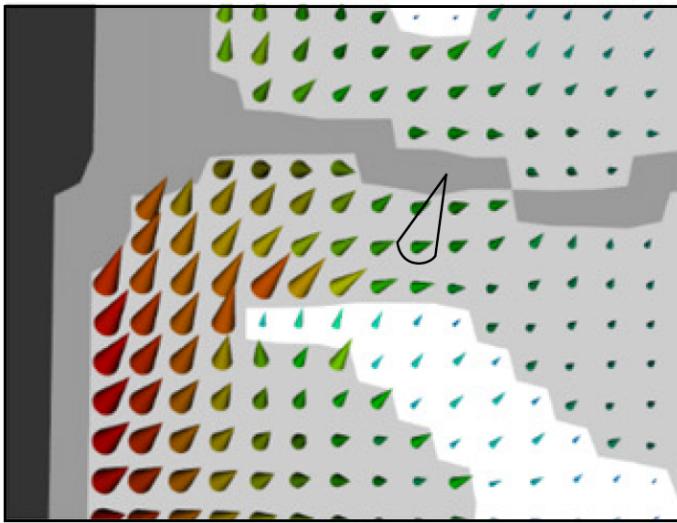


## Comparison: Brain current density in 6 compartment anisotropic (6CA) and in 3 compartment isotropic (3CI) head model

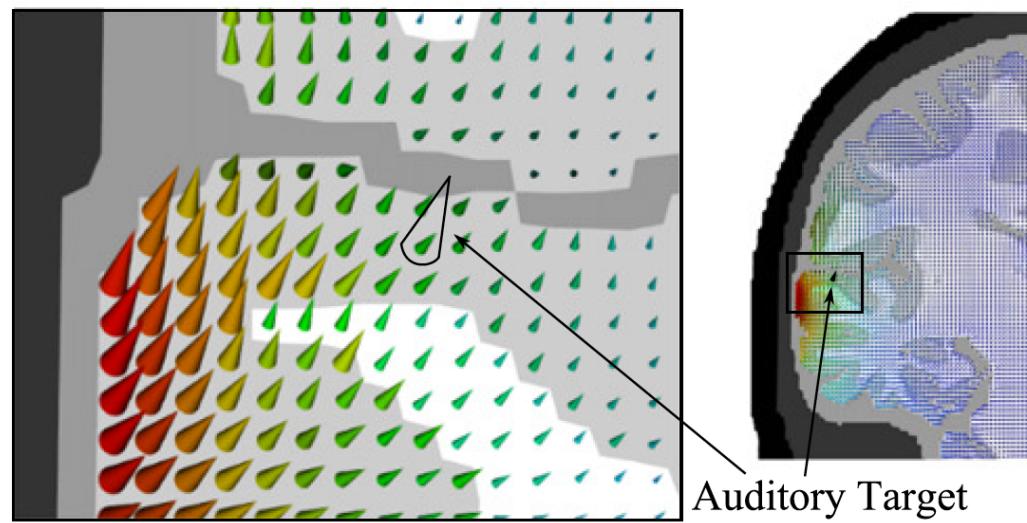


# Influence of white matter conductivity

Low white matter conductivity



High white matter conductivity



**Table 2.** Sensitivity of the stimulation amplitudes of the main electrodes with respect to the uncertainty in each tissue type and the stochastic interactions for the conductivity of skin  $\sigma_{\text{skin}}$ , skull  $\sigma_{\text{skull}}$ , gray matter  $\sigma_{\text{gm}}$ , and white matter  $\sigma_{\text{wm}}$ .

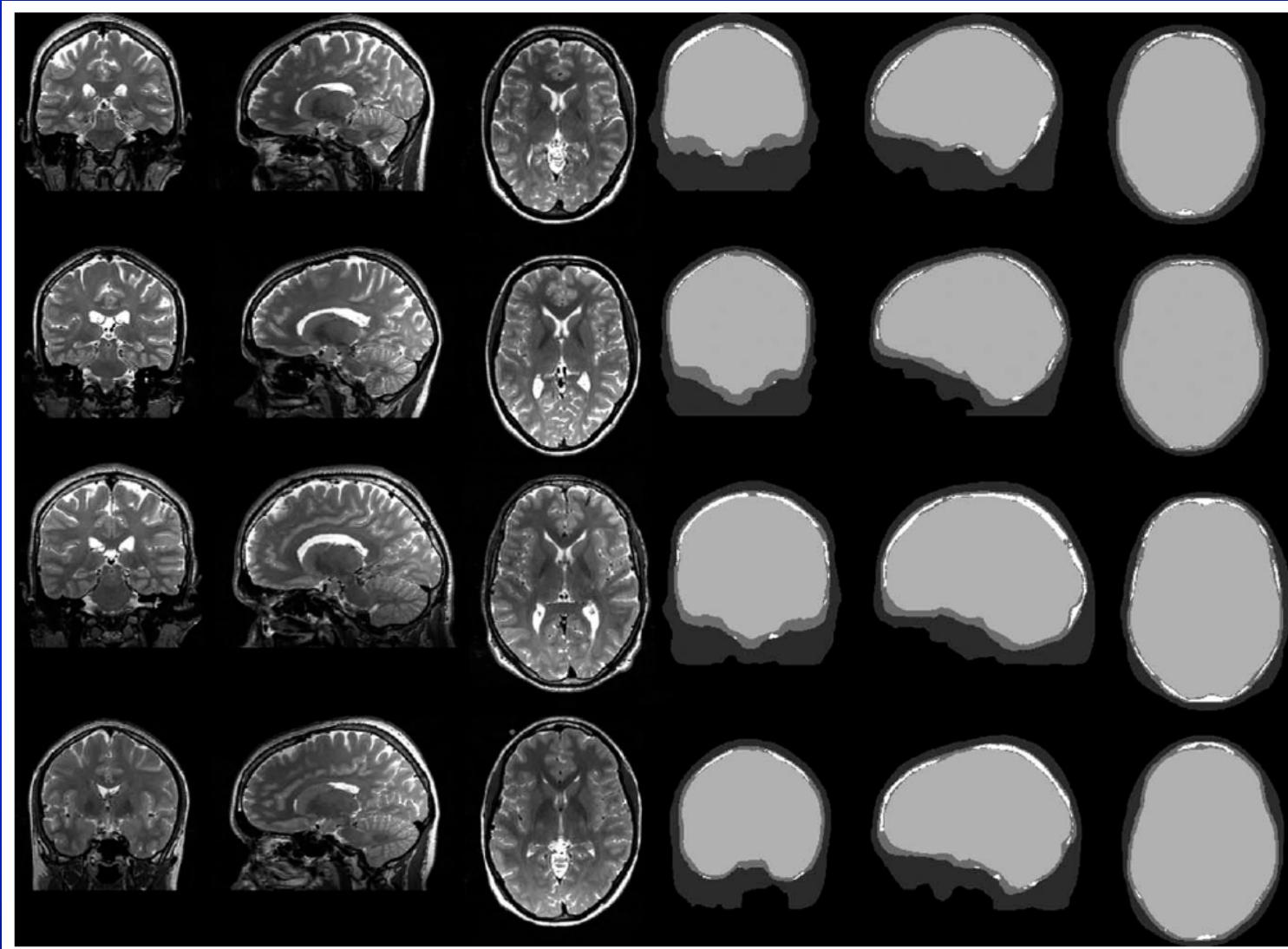
Parameter	Sensitivity on stimulation amplitude		
	T8(%)	FC6(%)	FT8(%)
$\sigma_{\text{skin}}$	5.9	7.7	4.0
$\sigma_{\text{skull}}$	<b>28.9</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>70.1</b>
$\sigma_{\text{gm}}$	16.2	6.9	13.0
$\sigma_{\text{wm}}$	<b>27.2</b>	0.5	3.1
$\sigma_{\text{skin}}, \sigma_{\text{skull}}$	12.0	3.5	6.6
$\sigma_{\text{skull}}, \sigma_{\text{gm}}$	7.3	1.2	2.8
<b><math>\Sigma</math></b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>99.6</b>

# Influence of skull conductivity

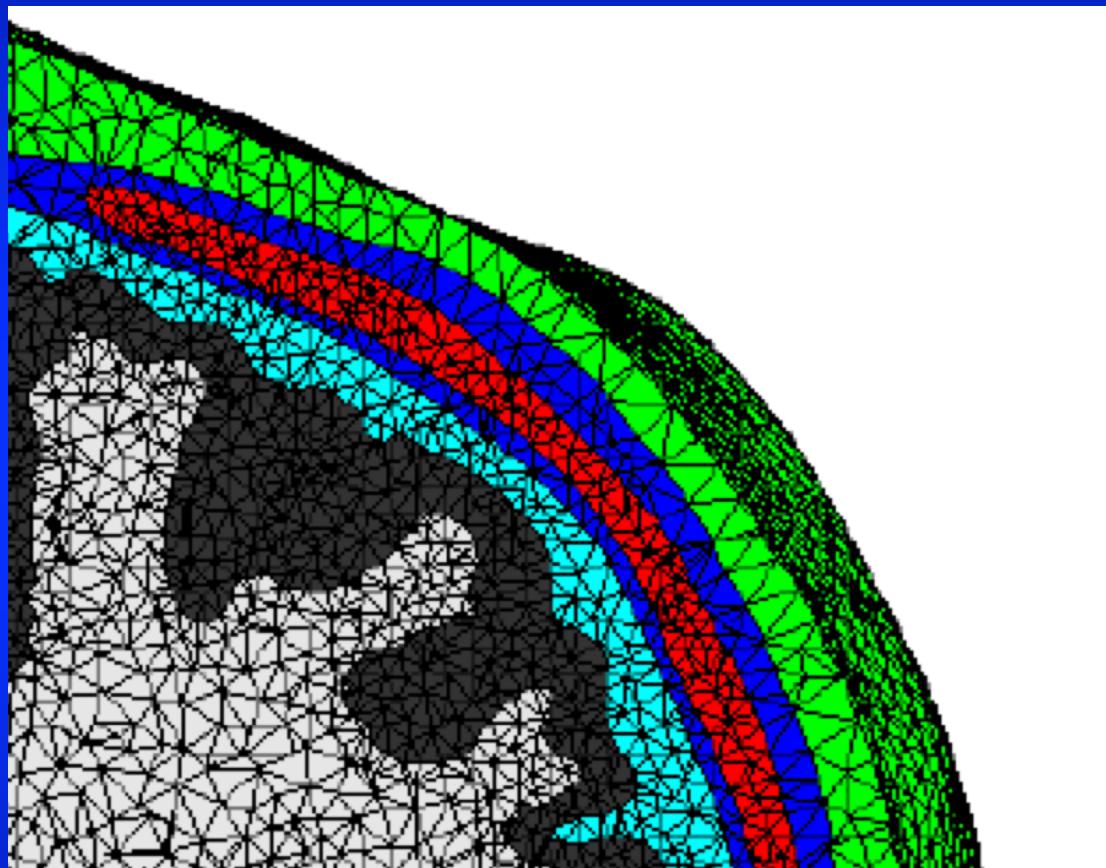
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# Modeling skull compacta and spongiosa



# Individual skull conductivity calibration



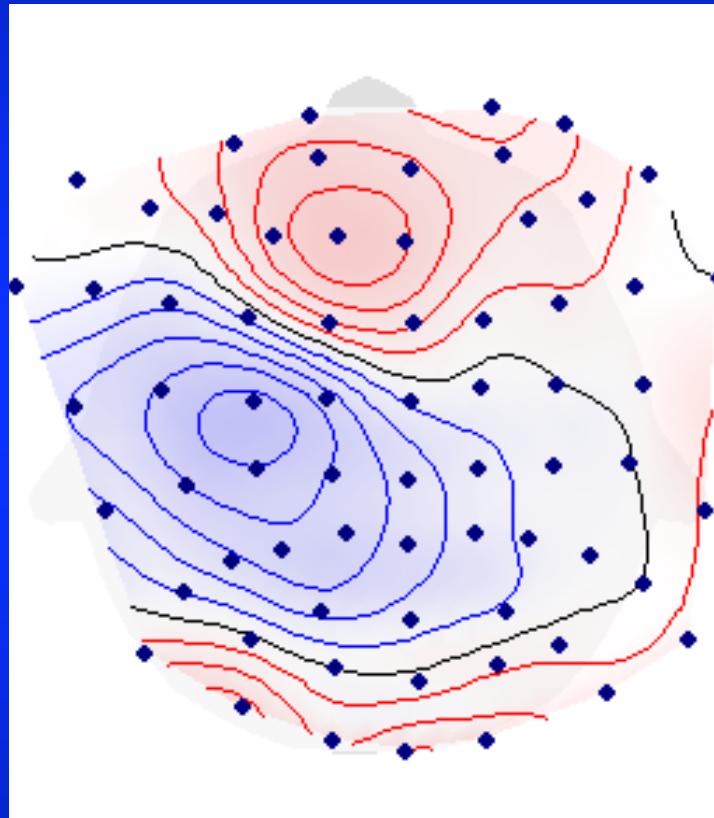
**Conductivity of the skull varies inter- and intra-individually depending, e.g., on age: Literature skull conductivities range from 0.0016 S/m to 0.033 S/m**

# Individual skull conductivity calibration

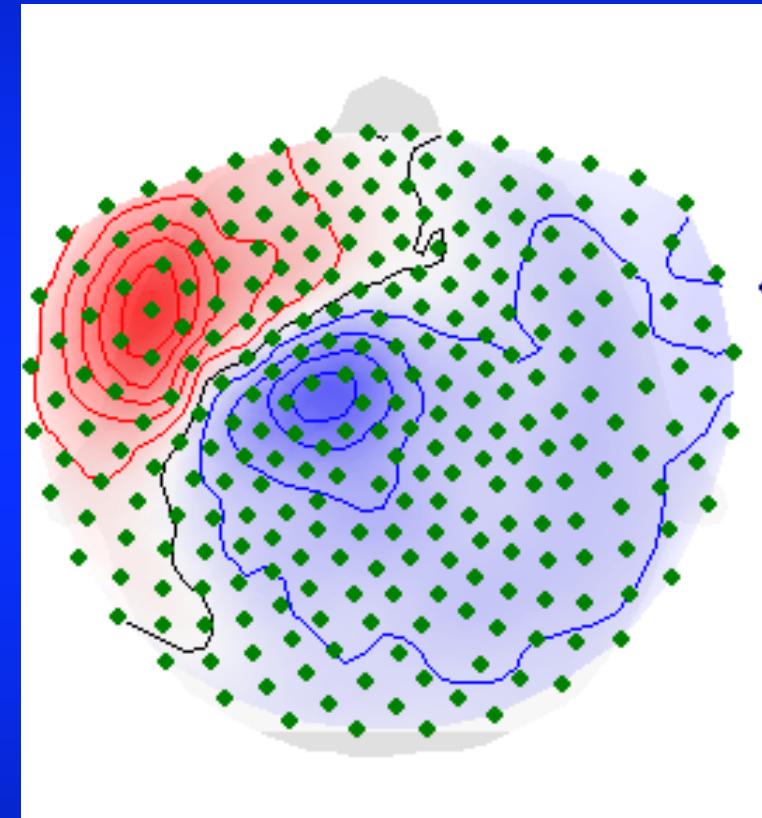


**Measure somatosensory evoked field (SEF) and potential (SEP)  
for electrically stimulated median-nerve (7 min)**

# Individual skull conductivity calibration

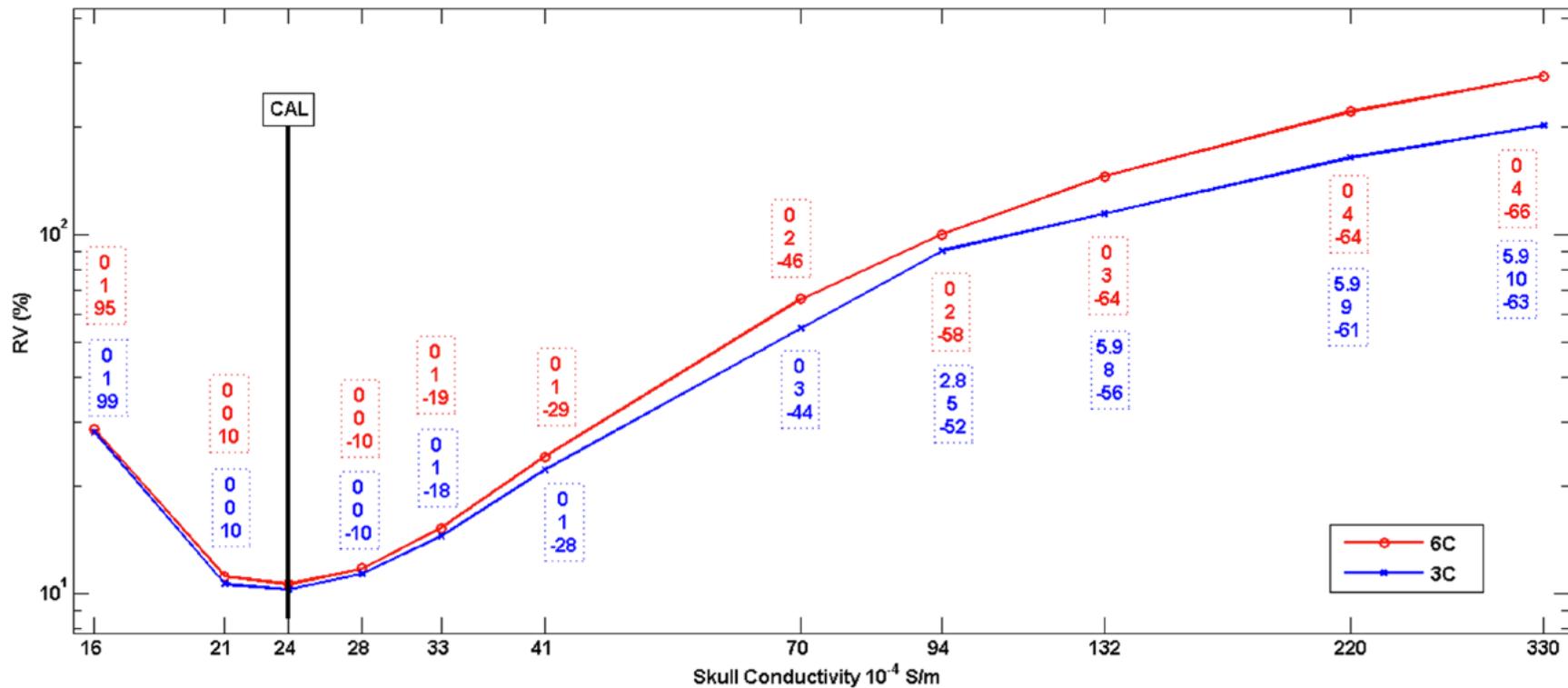


SEP-P20/N20



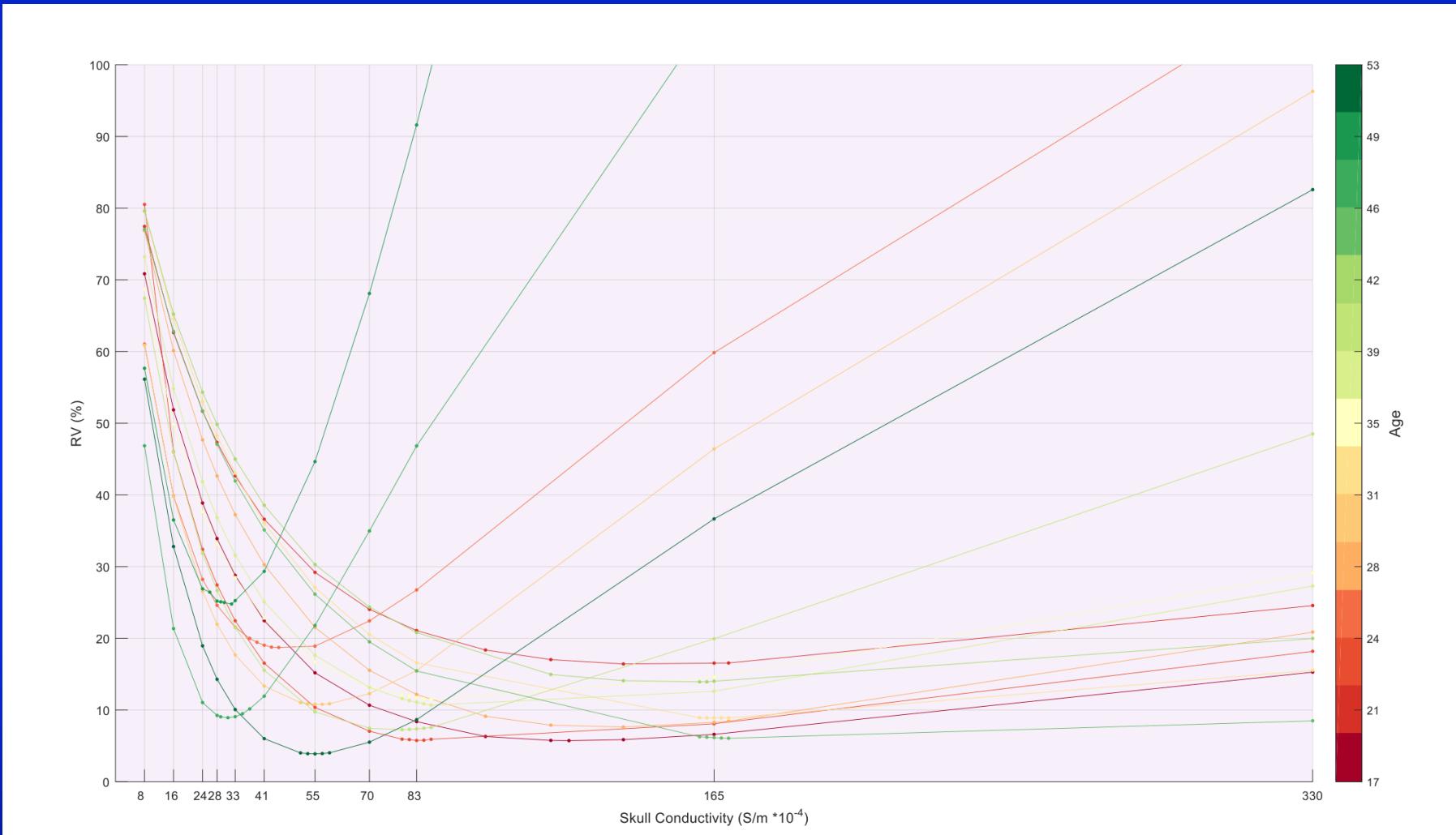
SEF-M20

# Individual skull conductivity calibration



**Figure 3. Skull conductivity calibration graph.** RV (in %) obtained from Algorithm 2 in step 2.d. for different skull conductivity parameters for 6C (red) and 3C (blue) head models. The differences to the calibrated head models 6C\_Cal and 3C\_Cal (indicated by the black bar, see also Table 1) in source reconstruction are indicated by boxes with dashed frames: Difference in source location x (top row, in mm), orientation  $o_2$  (middle row, in degree) and strength  $m_2$  (bottom row, in %).

# Individual skull conductivity calibration



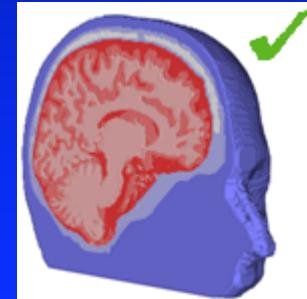
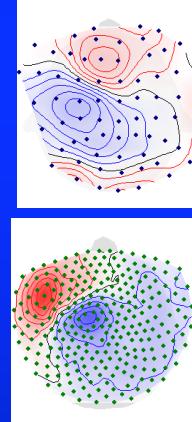
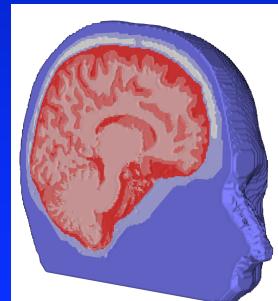
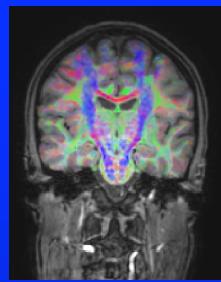
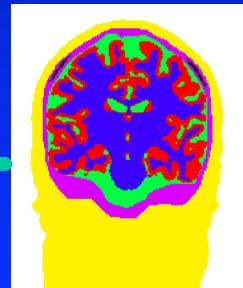
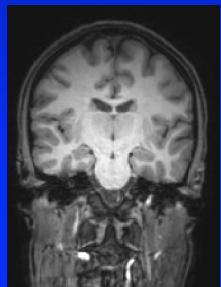
# Summary: Calibrated head volume conductor modeling

MRI  
measurement

Registration  
Segmentation

Anisotropic  
head model

Calibrated volume  
conductor model



- T1, T2, DTI (27 min)
- Medianus-nerve SEP/SEF (7 min)

# Outline

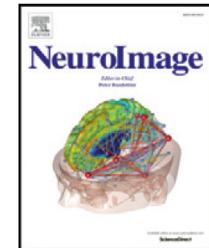
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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ynimng](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ynimng)



## Using reciprocity for relating the simulation of transcranial current stimulation to the EEG forward problem



S. Wagner <sup>a</sup>, F. Lucka <sup>a,b,f</sup>, J. Vorwerk <sup>a</sup>, C.S. Herrmann <sup>c</sup>, G. Nolte <sup>d</sup>, M. Burger <sup>b,e</sup>, C.H. Wolters <sup>a,e,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute for Biomagnetism and Biosignalanalysis, University of Münster, Münster, Germany

<sup>b</sup> Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics, University of Münster, Münster, Germany

<sup>c</sup> Experimental Psychology Lab, Center for Excellence Hearing4all, European Medical School, University of Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany

<sup>d</sup> Department of Neurophysiology and Pathophysiology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany

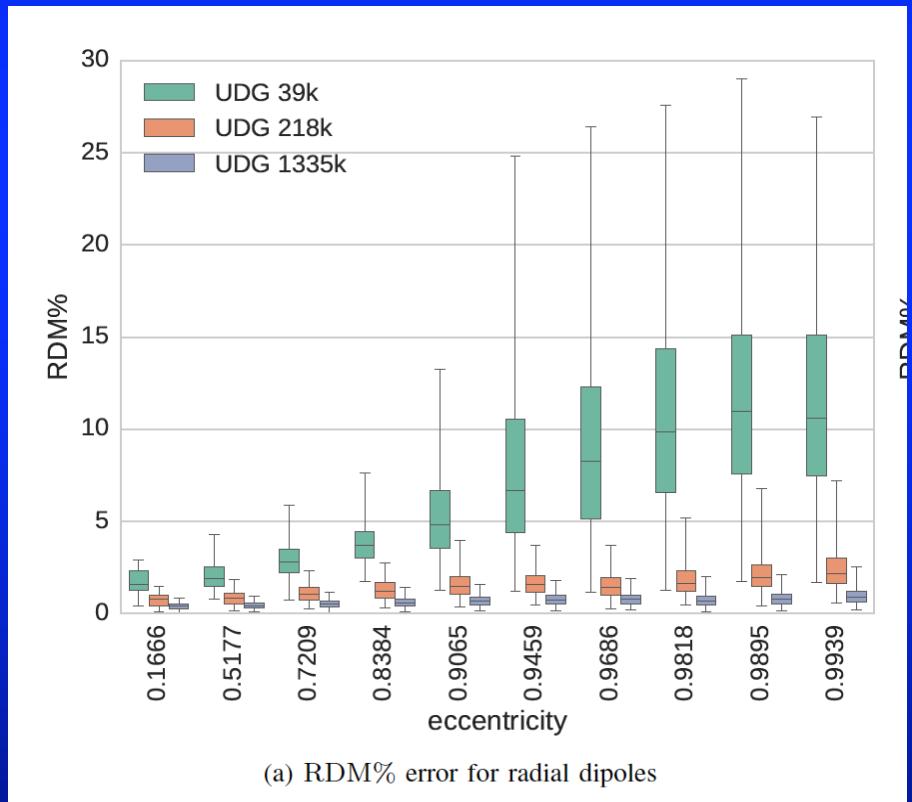
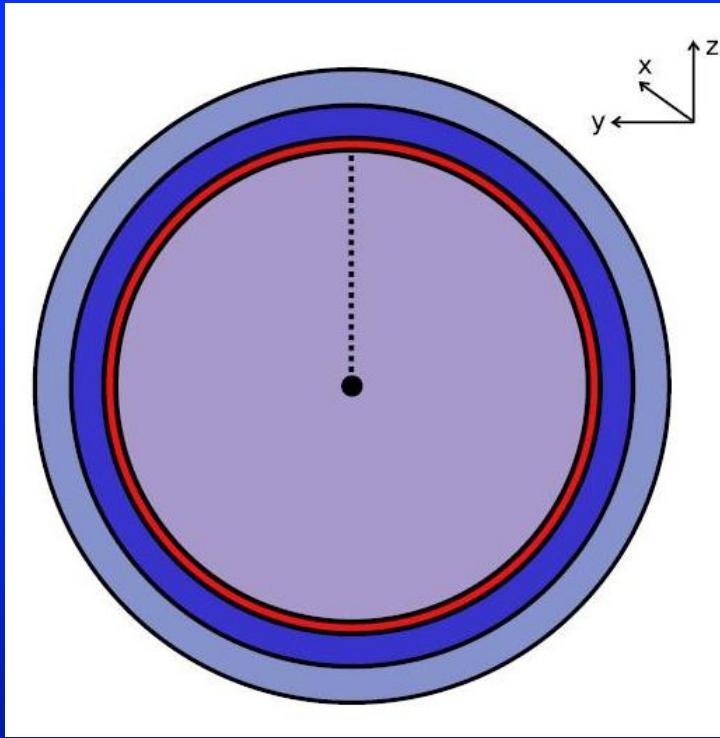
<sup>e</sup> Cells in Motion Cluster of Excellence, University of Münster, Münster, Germany

<sup>f</sup> Centre for Medical Image Computing, University College London, WC1E 6BT London, UK

# **Validation of finite element method (FEM) forward modeling for the electric potential**

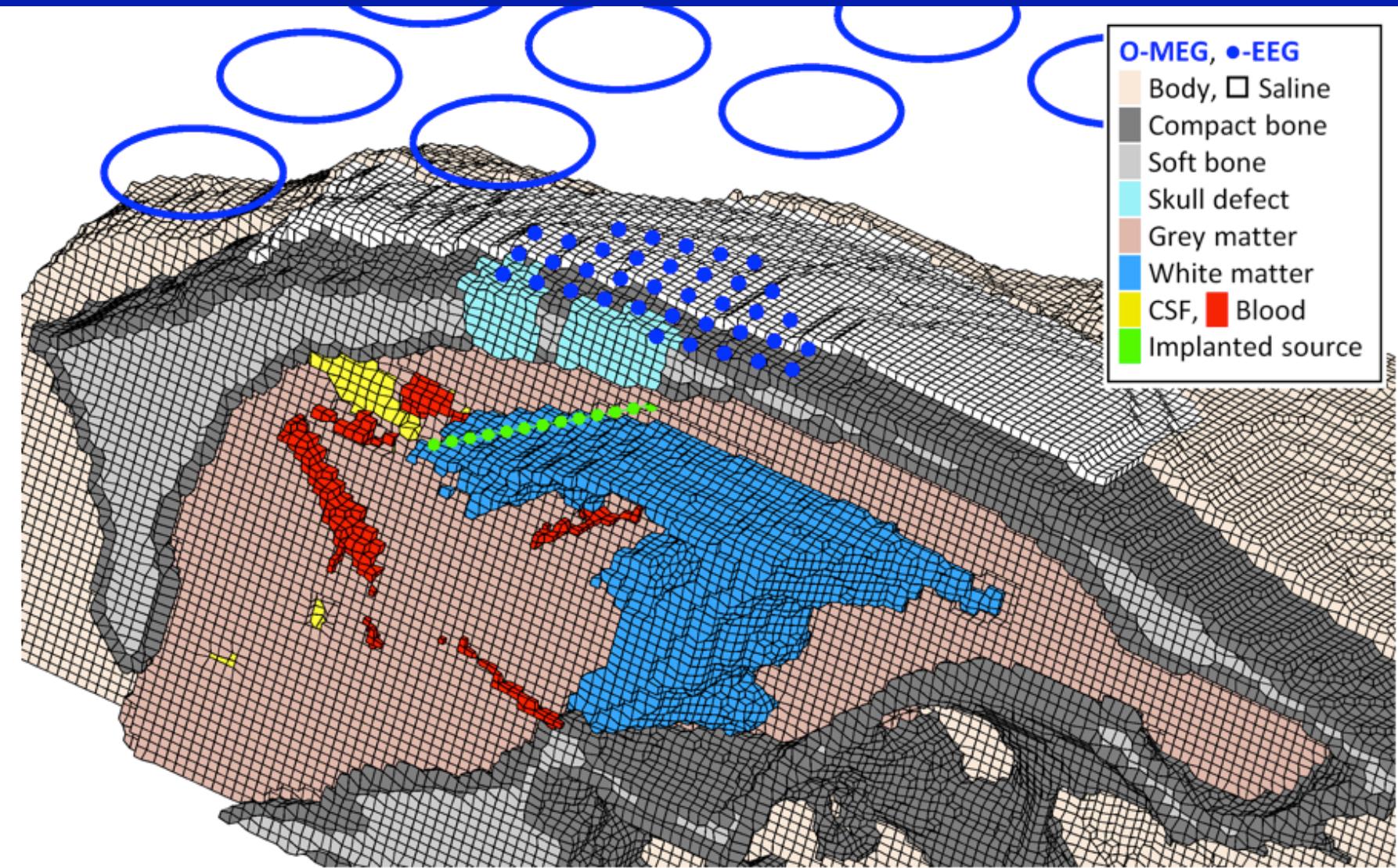
- [Nüßing, Wolters, Brinck & Engwer,...UDG-FEM for EEG..., *IEEE Trans Biomed Eng*, 2016]  
 [Piastra,..., Wolters, ...DG-FEM for combined EEG/MEG..., *Frontiers in Neurosci.*, 2018]  
 [Engwer, Vorwerk, Ludewig & Wolters, ...DG-FEM for EEG..., *SIAM J. Sci. Comp.*, 2017]  
 [Vorwerk, Pursiainen, Engwer & Wolters, ...Mixed-FEM..., *IEEE Trans Med Imag*, 2017]  
 [Pursiainen, Lucka & Wolters, ...complete electrode model..., *Phys.Med.Biol.*, 2012]  
 [Pursiainen, Vorwerk & Wolters,...H(div) source models..., *Phys Med Biol*, 2016]  
 [Wolters et al.,...subtraction source model..., *SIAM J. Sci. Comp.*, 2007]  
 [Wolters et al.,...geometry-adapted hexahedra..., *IEEE Trans. Biomed. Eng.*, 2007]  
 [Wolters et al.,...EEG and MEG transfer matrices..., *Inverse Problems*, 2004]  
 [Wolters et al.,...Algebraic Multigrid..., *Comp.Vis.Sci.*, 2002]

## Validation of new FEM approaches for source analysis and brain stimulation

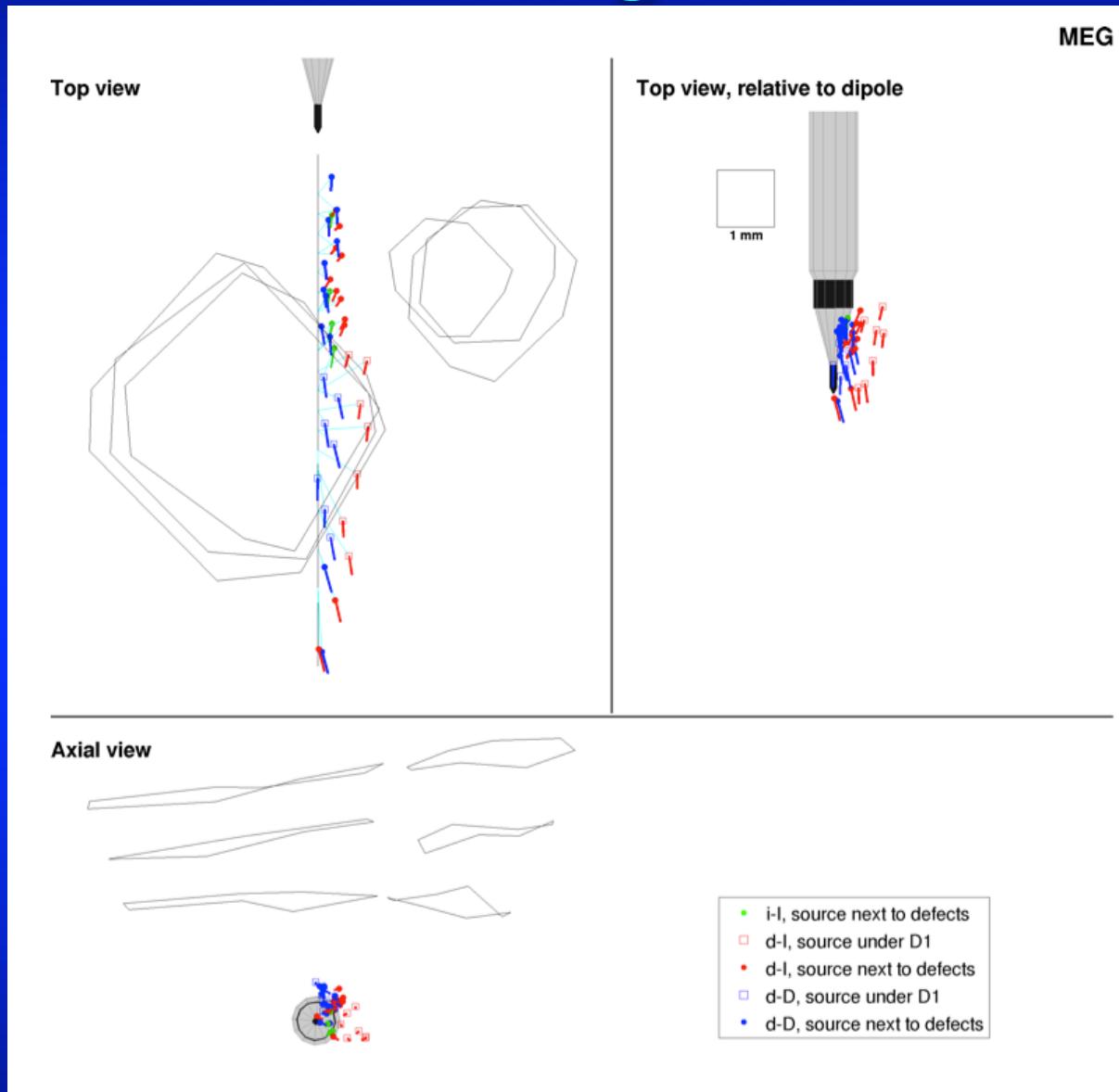
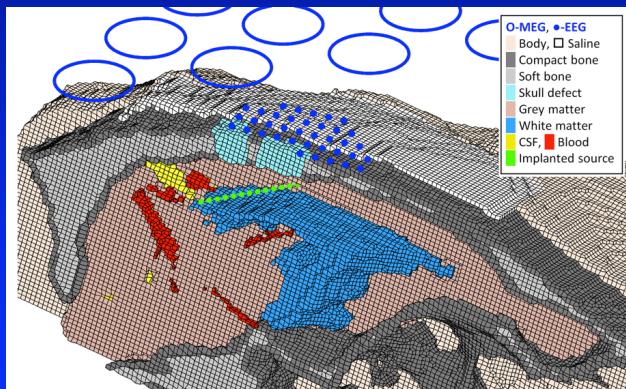


# **Evaluation of FEM forward modeling accuracy in rabbit investigations**

# Validation in rabbit investigations



# Validation in rabbit investigations



# Guideline for volume conductor modeling

- The volume conductor model needs to contain all important tissues between the electrodes and the target brain areas
- Isotropic representations of the compartments skin, skull, CSF and brain grey and white matter are indispensable for any simulation
- The individual skull conductivity needs to be estimated (e.g. through SEP/SEF calibration)
- Skull compacta and spongiosa compartments should be distinguished, if a significant layer of spongiosa is between the electrodes and the targets
- White matter conductivity anisotropy modeling is important for deeper target areas

# Software for FEM forward modeling:

- Freely available SimBio toolbox:  
[https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main_Page)
- Freely available DUNEuro code:  
<https://www.duneuro.org>
- Freely available Fieldtrip-SimBio pipeline (until now only EEG):  
[Vorwerk, Oostenveld, Magyari, Wolters, *Biomed Eng Online*, 2018]  
[http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/tutorial/headmodel\\_eeg\\_fem](http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org/tutorial/headmodel_eeg_fem)
- Soon: Freely available Brainstorm-SimBio/DUNEuro (NIH-funded)
- Open source SimNIBS toolbox: <http://simnibs.de/>
- Commercial codes: BESA MRI, CURRY8

# Outline

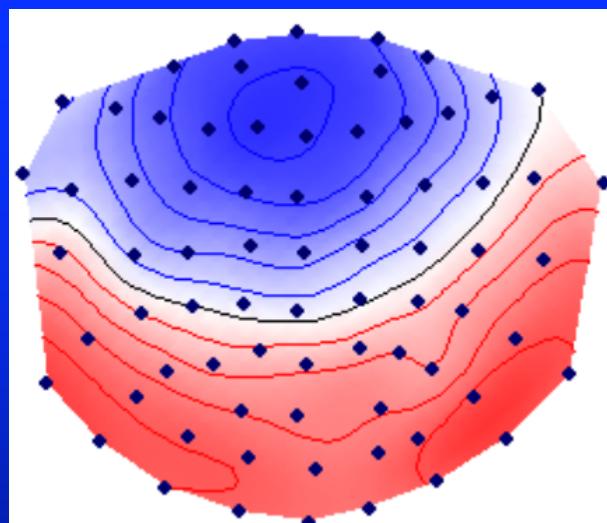
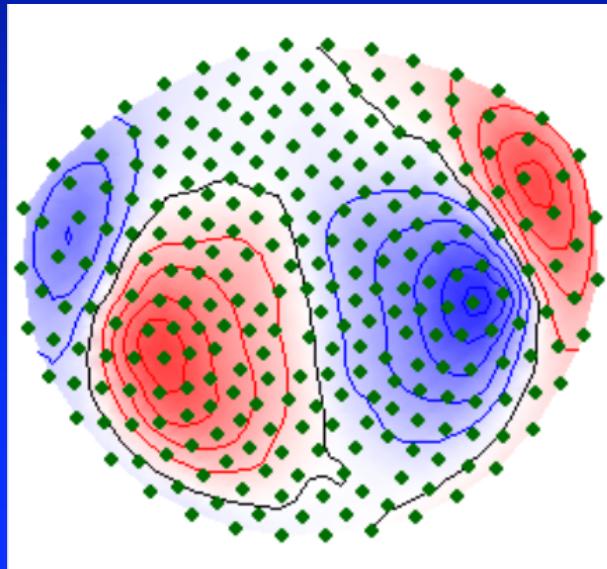
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# Measure combined EEG/MEG



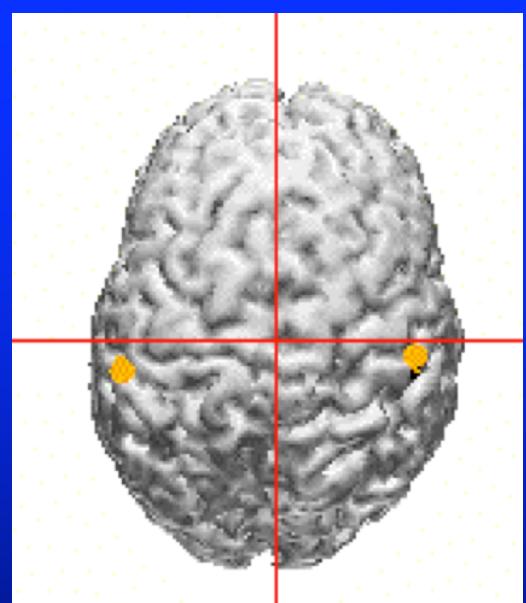
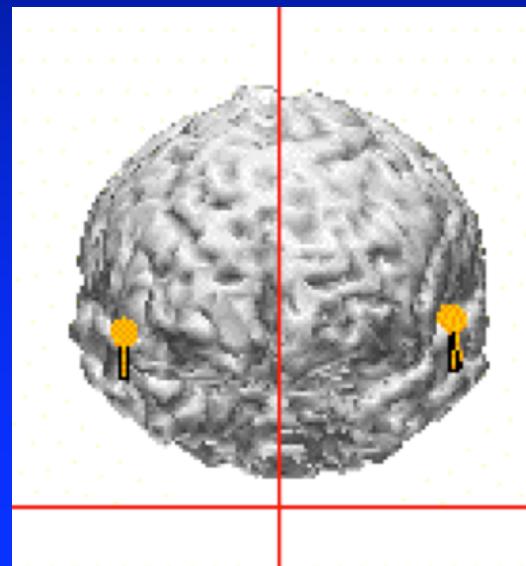
**Measure auditory evoked field (AEF) and potential (AEP) when listening to sinus-tones**

# EEG/MEG source analysis



Auditory N1 component

Compute  
underlying  
sources

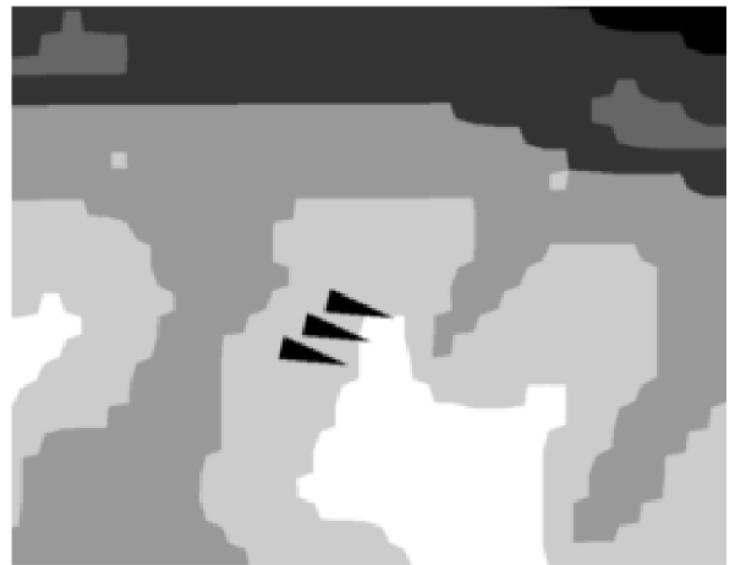


# Reconstructed sources might also be extended or patch-like

A1



A2



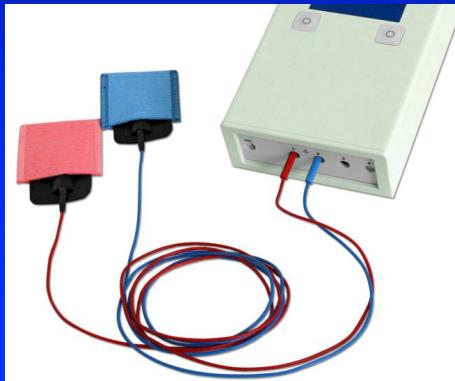
# Software for EEG/MEG source analysis:

- Freely available SimBio toolbox:  
[https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main_Page)
- Freely available Fieldtrip toolbox:  
<http://www.fieldtriptoolbox.org>
- Freely available Brainstorm toolbox:  
<http://neuroimage.usc.edu/brainstorm>
- Freely available MNE toolbox:  
<https://martinos.org/mne/stable/index.html>
- Commercial tools such as BESA or CURRY

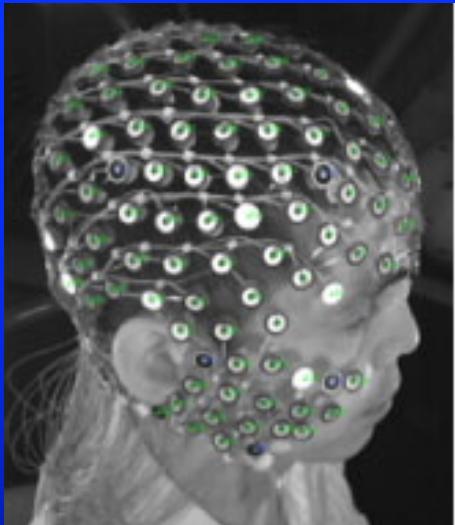
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# Hardware for transcranial electric stimulation (tES)



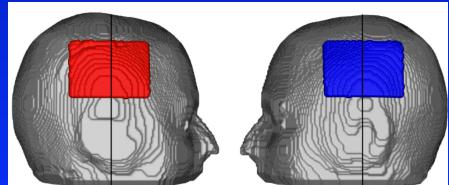
- Standard hardware for tES are two electrode patches, one anode and one cathode, used in many studies



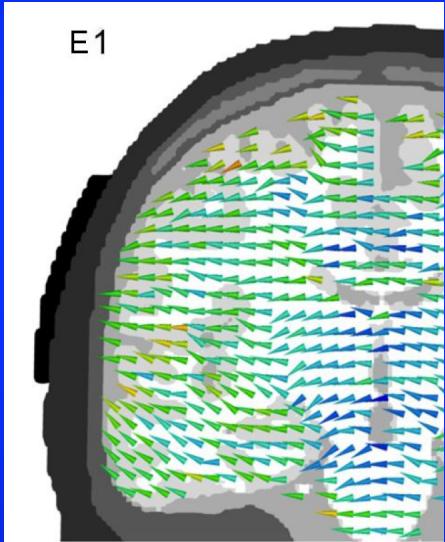
- However, first multi-electrode tES hardware and electrode optimization approaches exist, bearing the potential for much improved effects (see, e.g., Dmochowski et al., 2011, 2013; Sadleir et al., 2012; Ruffini et al., 2014; Fernandez-Corazza et al., 2016; Wagner et al., 2016)

# Simulation of auditory tES

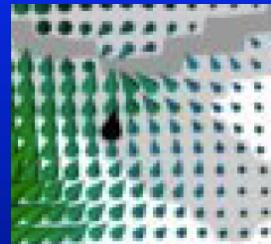
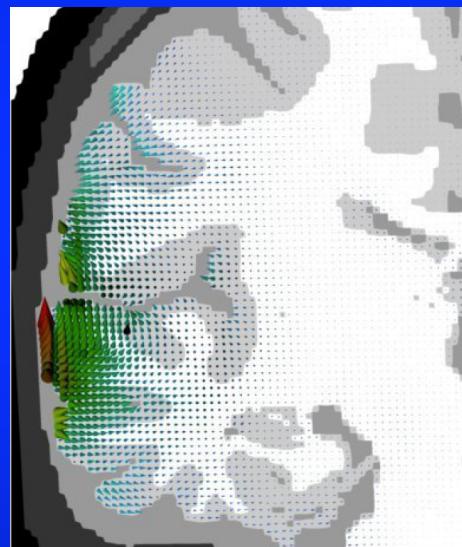
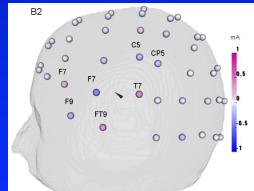
## Standard two-patch



E1



## 10/10 system electrodes



- Individual targeting: Electric field should be
  - maximal in area of interest
  - minimal in other areas
  - oriented radially-inwards to target cortex (Creutzfeldt et al., 1962; Krieg et al., 2013,2015; Seo, PhD thesis, 2016)

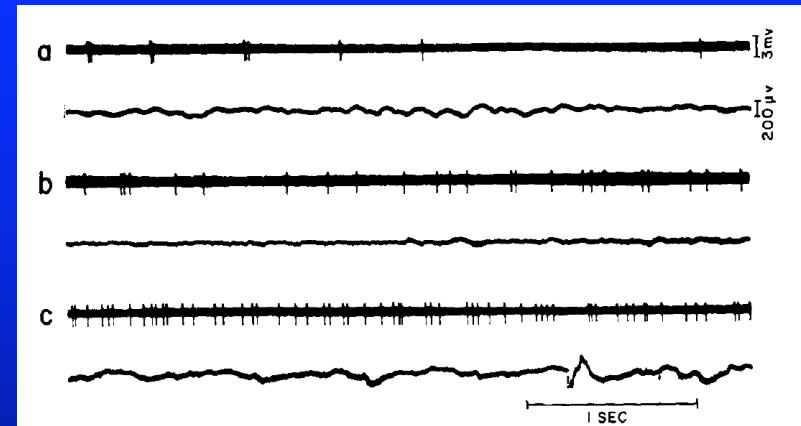
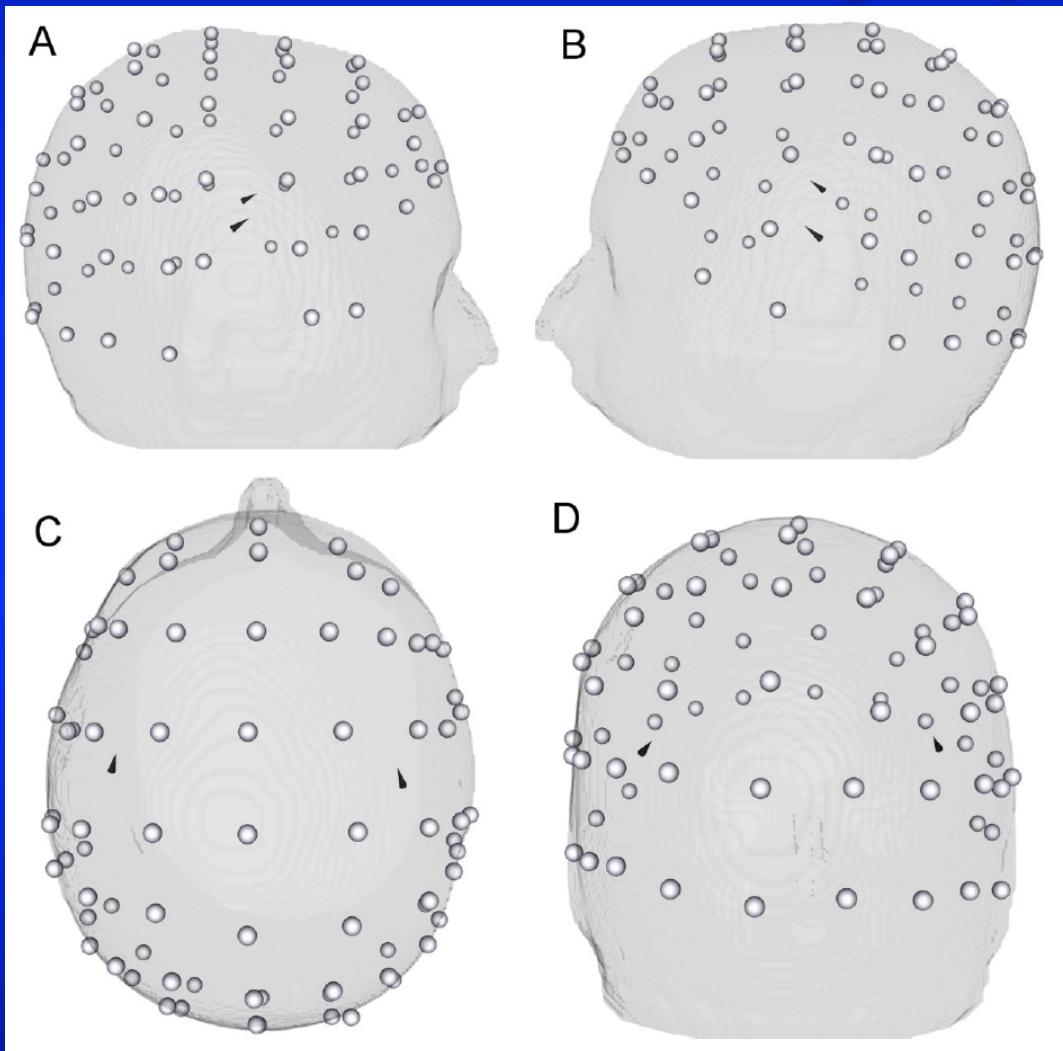


FIG. 2. Effect of transcranial d-c current on spontaneous neuron activity and EEG in the optic cortex; *a*,  $500 \mu\text{A}$  outward (surface-negative); *b*, control; *c*,  $500 \mu\text{A}$  inward (surface-positive).

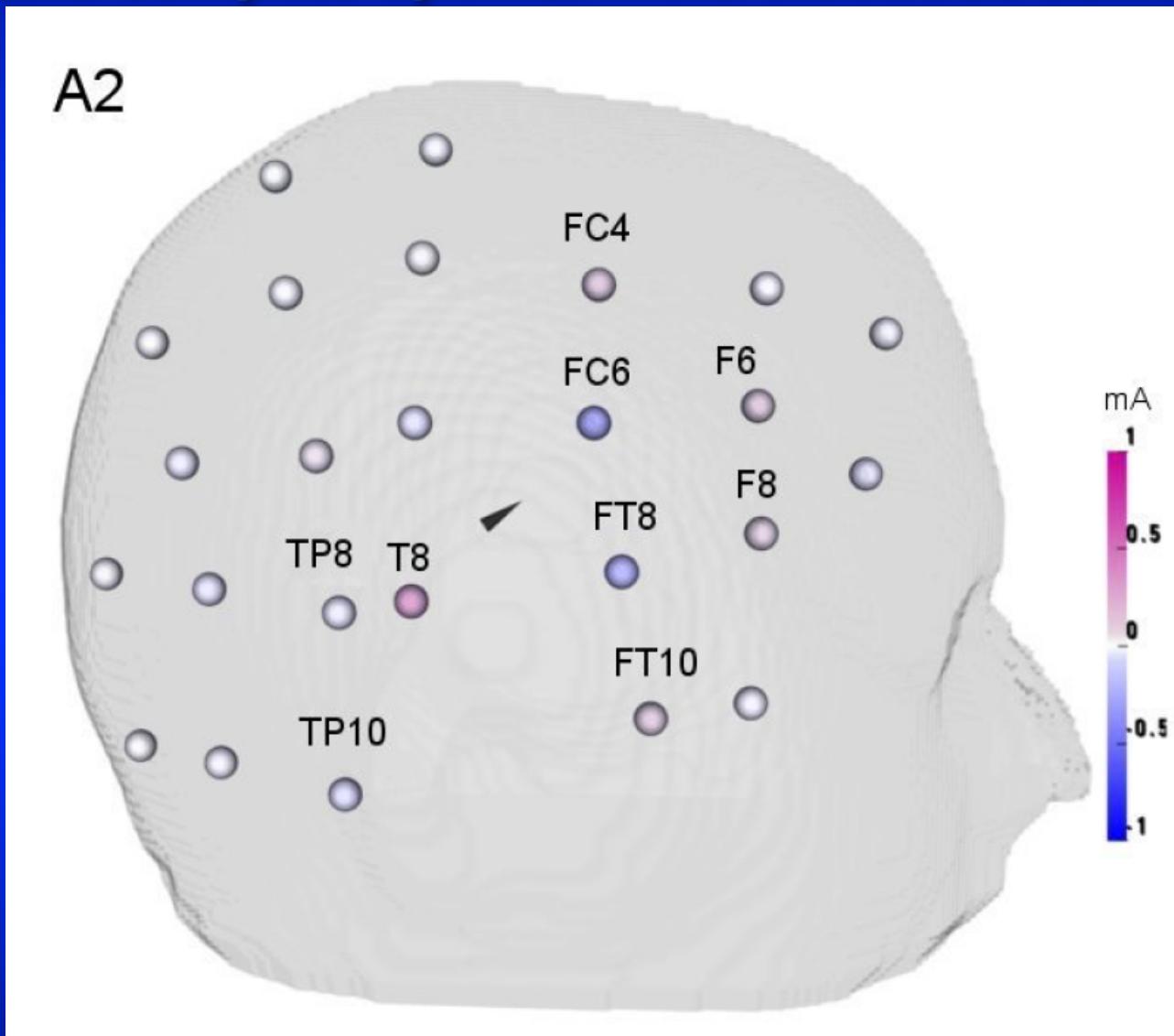
# Mathematics for targeted multi-electrode tES

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathbf{P}) \quad & - \int_{\Omega_t} \langle \sigma \nabla \Phi, \mathbf{e} \rangle \, d\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \min_{\mathbf{I} \in H_\diamond^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\Gamma)} \\
 & \text{subject to} \quad \omega |\sigma \nabla \Phi| \leq \epsilon \\
 & \quad \int_{\Gamma} |\mathbf{I}| \, d\mathbf{x} \leq 4 \\
 & \quad \nabla \cdot \sigma \nabla \Phi = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\
 & \quad \langle \sigma \nabla \Phi, \mathbf{n} \rangle = \mathbf{I} \quad \text{on } \Gamma \\
 & \quad \Phi = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D
 \end{aligned}$$

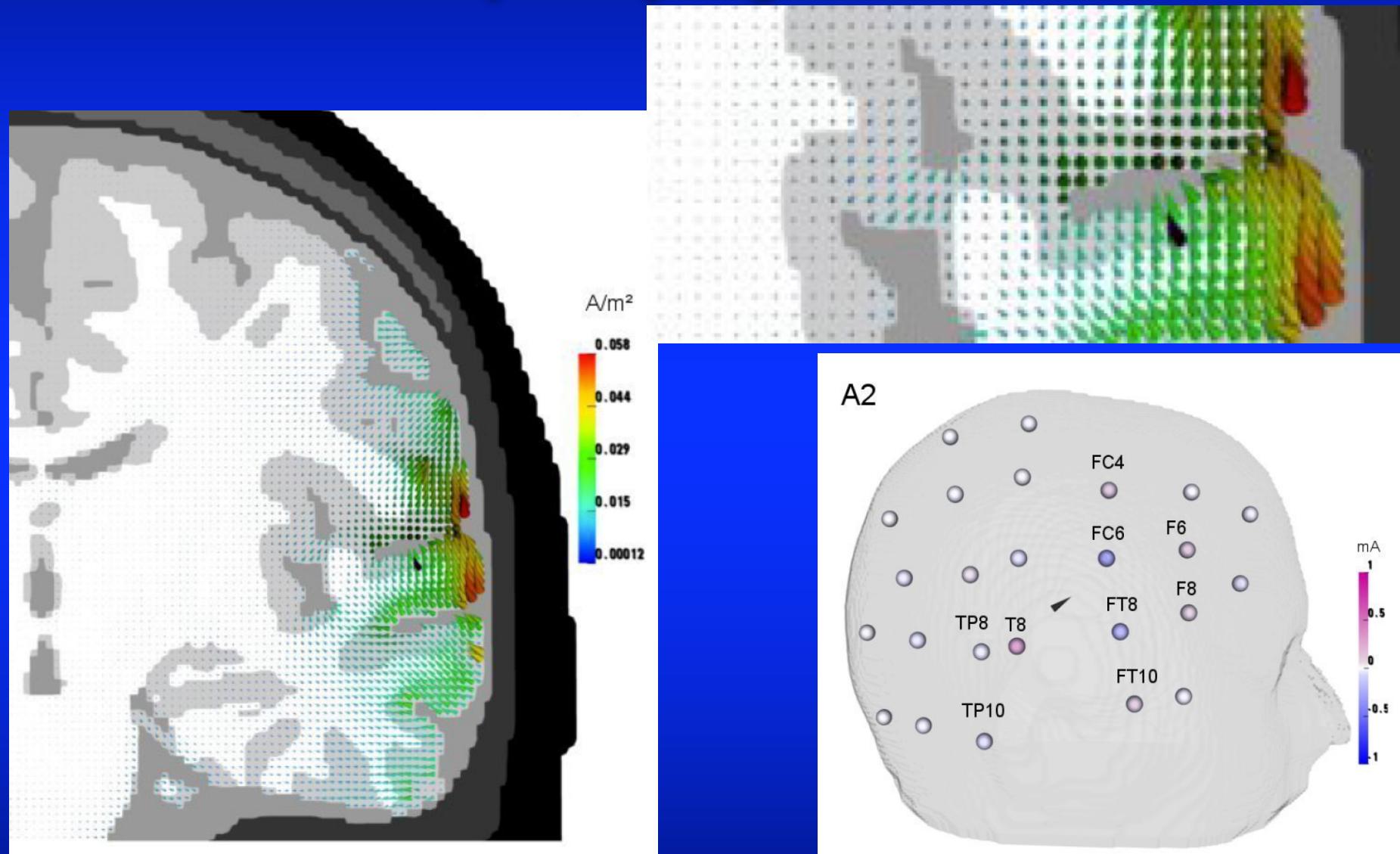
# Use individualized head model and targets (here: sources of auditory N1)...



... and compute optimal multi-electrode currents...



...that lead to optimally-targeted brain currents



# Mathematics for multi-coil TMS

$$(\mathbf{P}_{\text{TMS}}) \quad - \int_{\Omega_t} \langle \sigma \nabla \Phi, e \rangle \, dx \rightarrow \min$$

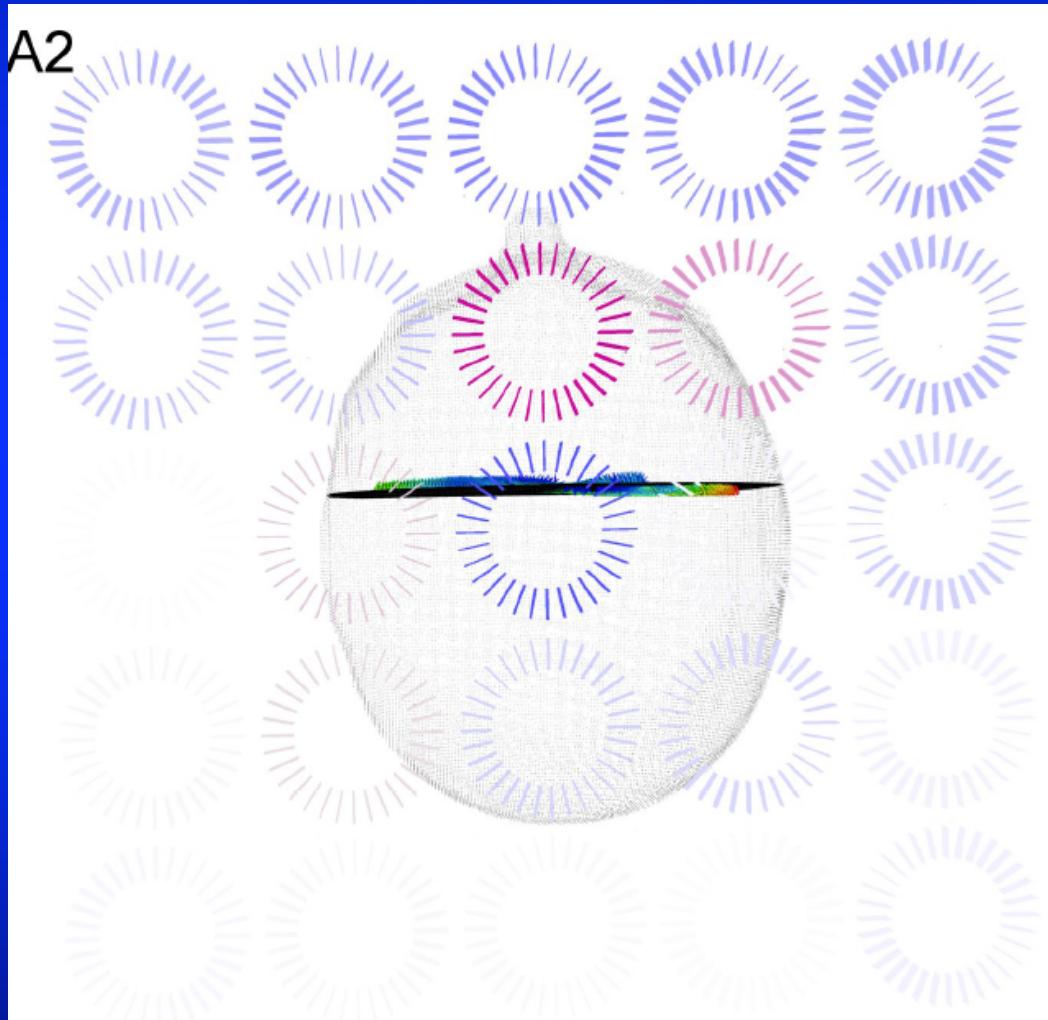
$$\text{subject to} \quad \omega |\sigma \nabla \Phi| \leq E_M$$

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma \nabla \Phi = -\nabla \cdot \sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\langle \sigma \nabla \Phi, \mathbf{n} \rangle = -\langle \sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t}, \mathbf{n} \rangle \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

$$\Phi = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D$$

# Mathematics are similar for multi-coil TMS: Use head model and targets. Software then computes optimal multi-coil TMS currents



# **Evaluation of inverse optimization approaches for the stimulation of the somatosensory cortex**

# Multi-channel optimization for individual stimulation of somatosensory cortex

TABLE 1. CURRENT DENSITY ( $A/m^2$ ) IN TARGET (IT), IN NON-TARGET (INT) REGIONS, DIRECTIONALITY (DIR) AND PARALLELITY (PAR) ACROSS 4 OPTIMIZATION APPROACHES FOR ALL 4 SUBJECTS.

Subjects	2-Patch			
	IT ( $A/m^2$ )	INT ( $A/m^2$ )	DIR ( $A/m^2$ )	PAR
S1	0.0783	0.0278	0.0278	36
S2	0.1129	0.0400	0.0400	35
S3	0.1428	0.0424	0.0424	30
S4	0.0825	0.0320	0.0320	39
	MI			
S1	0.0737	0.0328	0.0572	78
S2	0.1762	0.0284	0.1341	76
S3	0.2298	0.0482	0.1783	78
S4	0.0811	0.0208	0.0653	81
	CMI			
S1	0.0716	0.0270	0.0540	75
S2	0.1613	0.0344	0.1231	76
S3	0.2141	0.0447	0.1703	80
S4	0.0844	0.0280	0.0633	75
	ADMM			
S1	0.0142	0.0019	0.0109	77
S2	0.0315	0.0027	0.0239	76
S3	0.0401	0.0014	0.0310	77
S4	0.0199	0.0014	0.0146	73

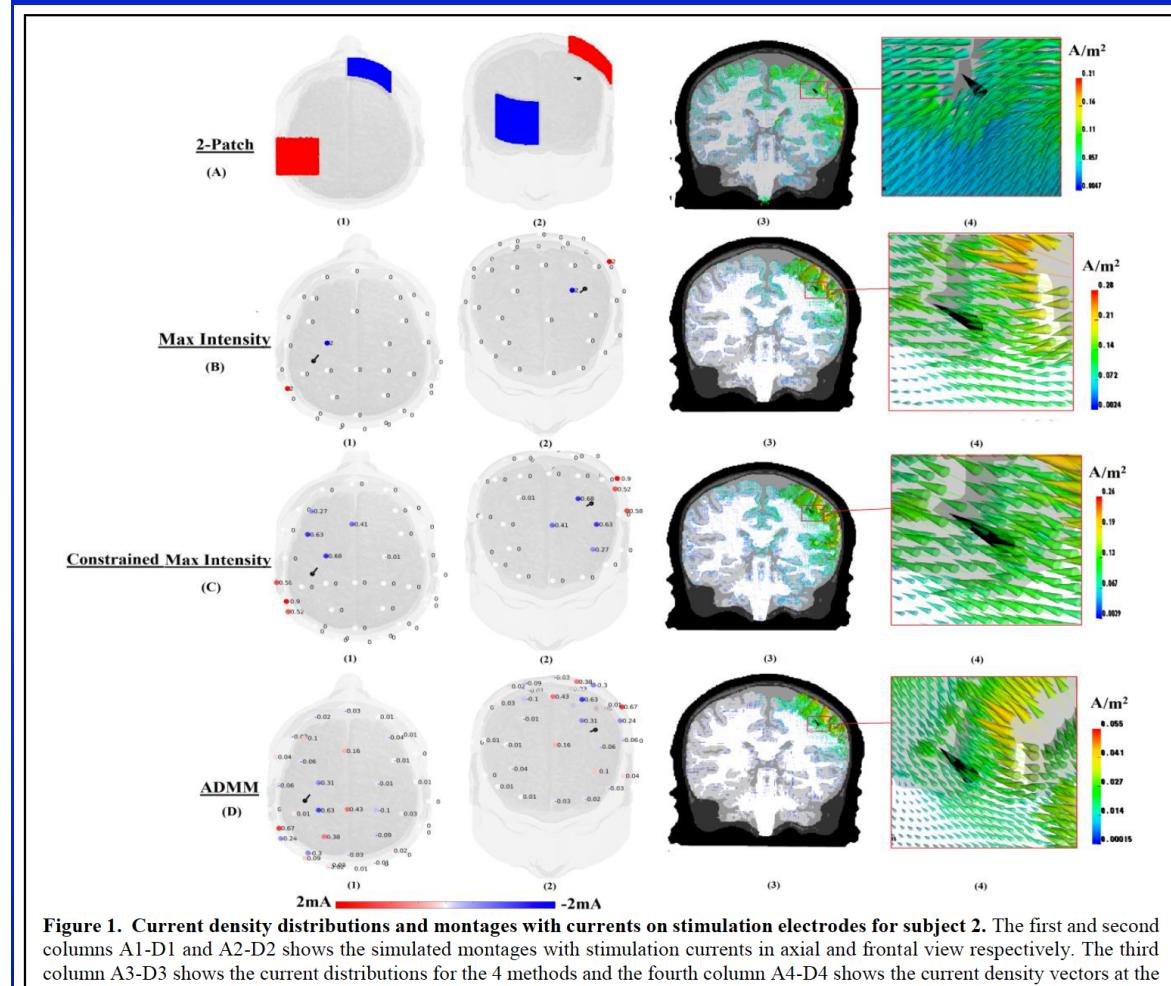


Figure 1. Current density distributions and montages with currents on stimulation electrodes for subject 2. The first and second columns A1-D1 and A2-D2 shows the simulated montages with stimulation currents in axial and frontal view respectively. The third column A3-D3 shows the current distributions for the 4 methods and the fourth column A4-D4 shows the current density vectors at the

## 2-patch TES for stimulation of somatosensory cortex

2-Patch

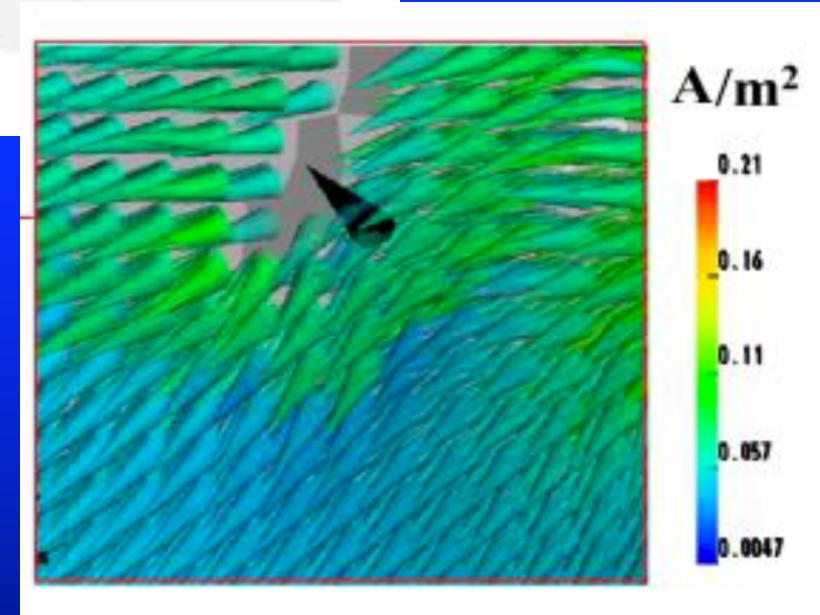
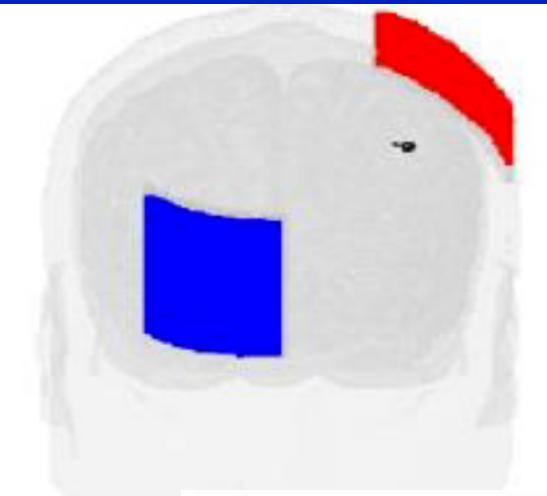
(A)

(1)

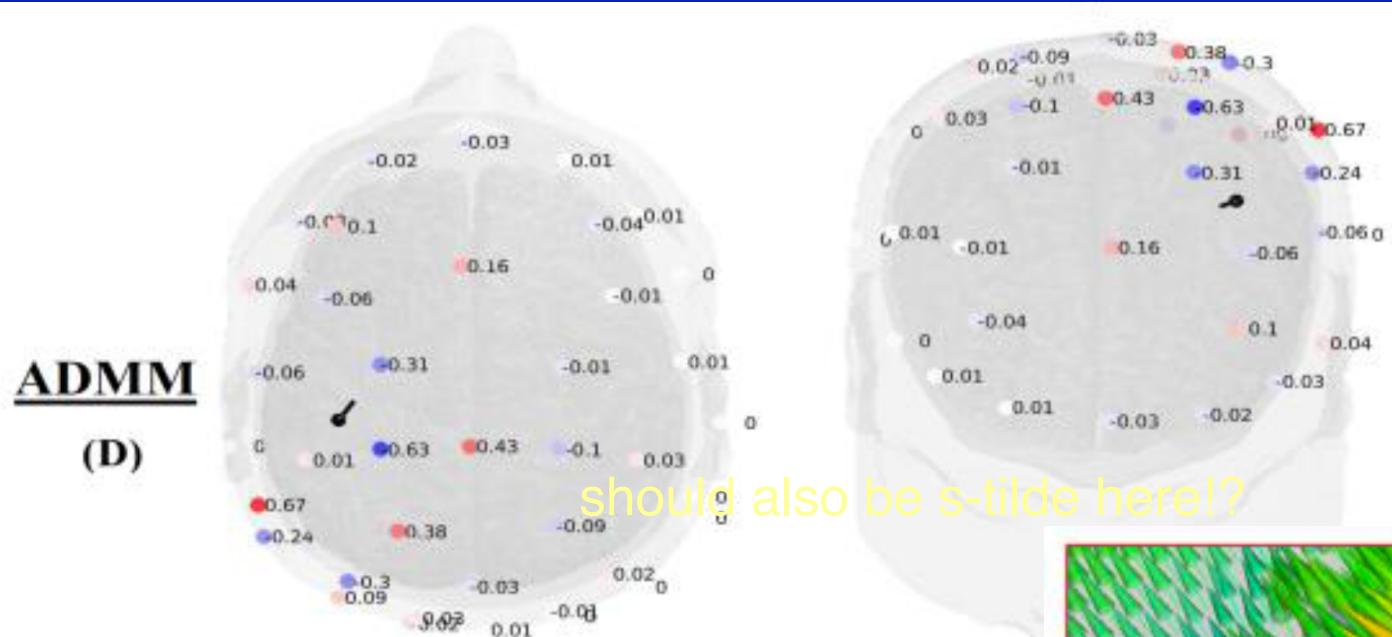
2mA

-2mA

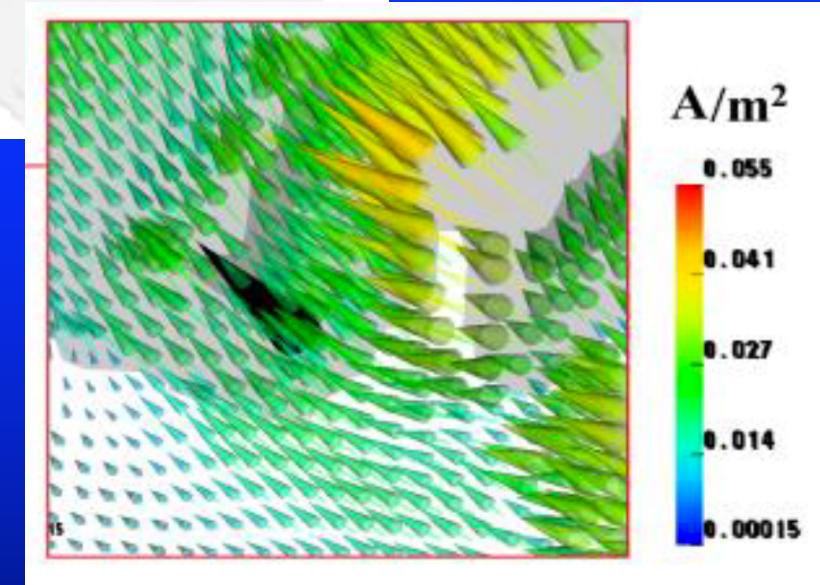
Subjects	2-Patch			
	IT (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	INT (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	DIR (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	PAR
S1	0.0783	0.0278	0.0278	36
S2	0.1129	0.0400	0.0400	35
S3	0.1428	0.0424	0.0424	30
S4	0.0825	0.0320	0.0320	39



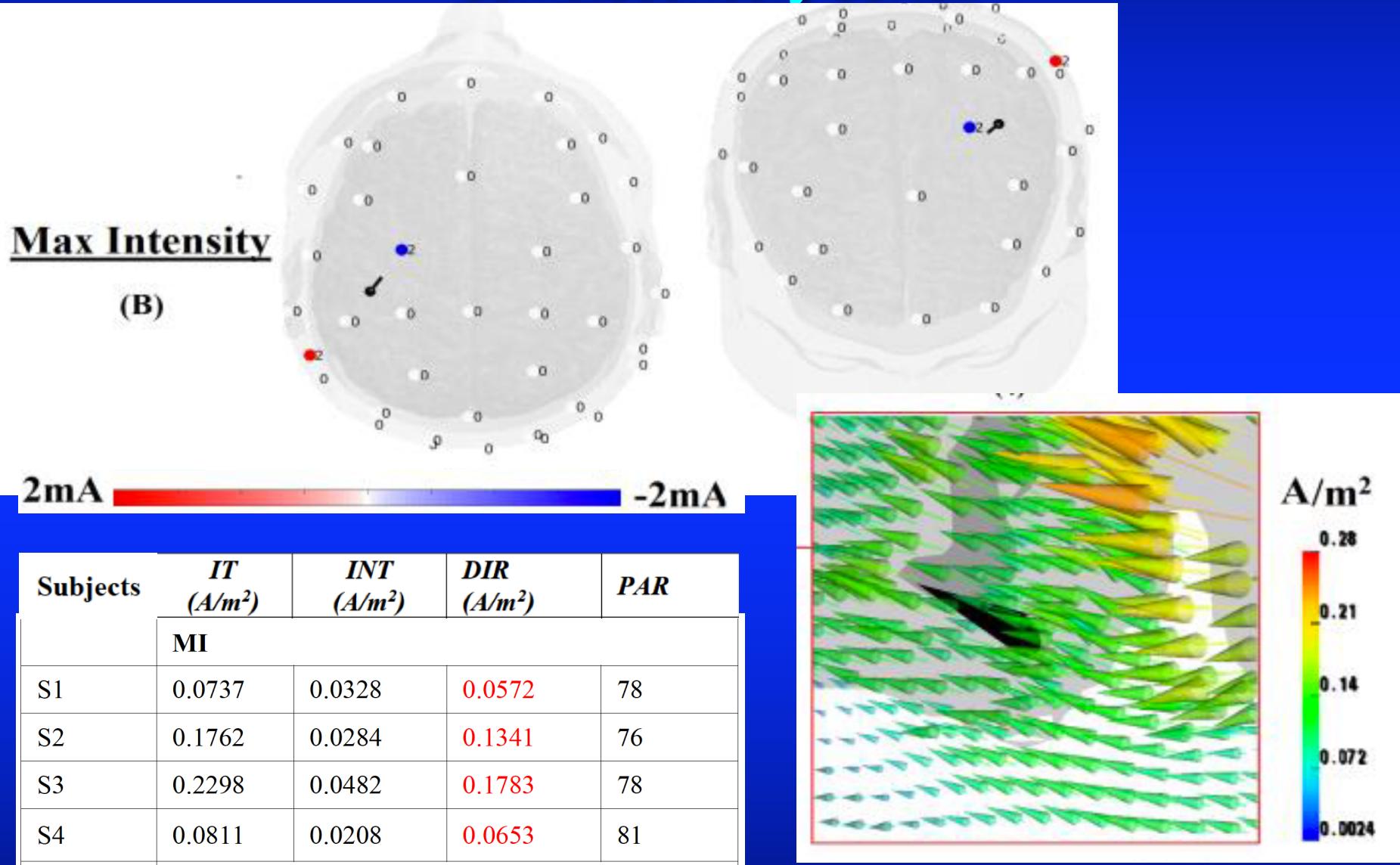
# ADMM optimization for individual stimulation of somatosensory cortex



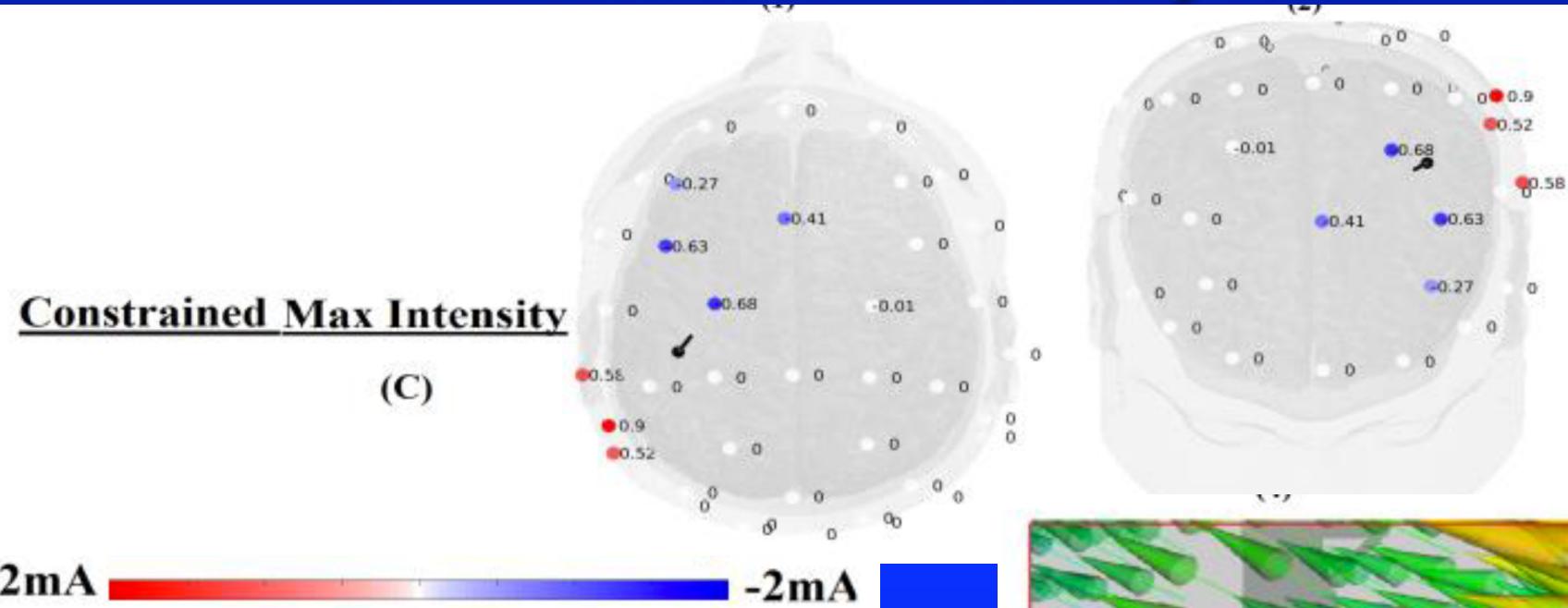
Subjects	<i>IT</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>INT</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>DIR</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>PAR</i>
ADMM				
S1	0.0142	0.0019	0.0109	77
S2	0.0315	0.0027	0.0239	76
S3	0.0401	0.0014	0.0310	77
S4	0.0199	0.0014	0.0146	73



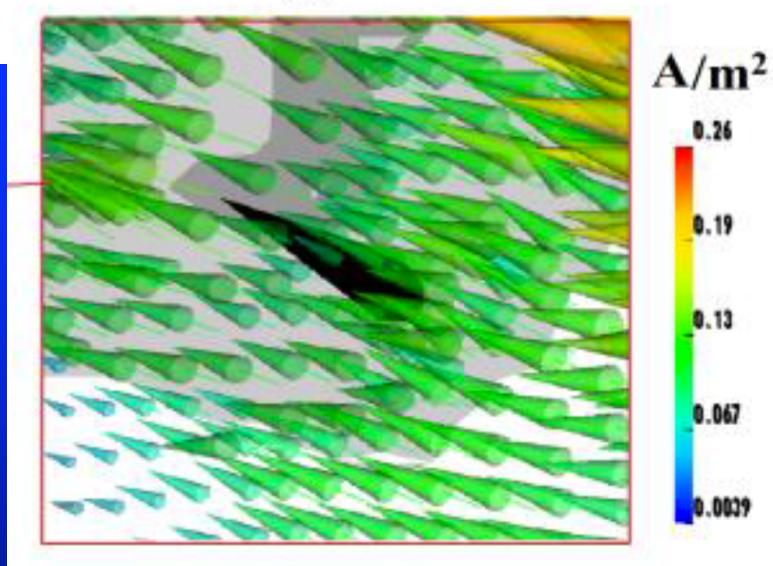
# Max Intensity optimization for individual stimulation of somatosensory cortex



# Constrained Max Intensity optimization for individual stimulation of somatosensory cortex



Subjects	<i>IT</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>INT</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>DIR</i> (A/m <sup>2</sup> )	<i>PAR</i>
<b>CMI</b>				
S1	0.0716	0.0270	0.0540	75
S2	0.1613	0.0344	0.1231	76
S3	0.2141	0.0447	0.1703	80
S4	0.0844	0.0280	0.0633	75



# Software for optimized multi-electrode TES and multi-coil TMS:

- Matlab-code for optimization (PhD theses of Sven Wagner/Asad Khan, Master theses of Simon Homölle/Nikolas Vogenauer)
- Optimizer calls freely available DUNEuro toolbox for TES forward modeling: <https://www.duneuro.org>
- Optimizer calls freely available SimBio toolbox for TES/TMS forward modeling:  
[https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://www.mrt.uni-jena.de/simbio/index.php/Main_Page)

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# Summary

- EEG/MEG contain complementary information so that combined EEG/MEG source analysis offers accurate reconstruction of both source locations and orientations -> Improved setup of targets for multi-sensor TES/TMS (Aydin et al., 2014, 2015; Antonakakis et al., 2019; Khan et al., 2019)
- Inverse multi-sensor TES/TMS problem: Optimized targeting bears potential for improvement of effects (Dmochowski et al., 2011,2013; Sadleir et al., 2012; Ruffini et al., 2014; Schmidt et al., 2015; Wagner et al., 2016; Baltus et al., 2018; Antonakakis et al., 2019; Khan et al., 2019)
- Forward multi-sensor TES/TMS problem:
  - Finite element method (FEM) based calibrated realistic (6CA) head modeling is important and optimized processing pipelines are needed (Windhoff et al., 2011; Ruthotto et al., 2012; Lanfer et al., 2013; Miranda et al., 2013; Aydin et al., 2014,2015; Opitz et al., 2015; ; Antonakakis et al., 2019; Khan et al., 2019)
  - With unfitted FEM we avoid numerical artifacts and achieve best numerical accuracy in realistic head models without topological restrictions, while avoiding complicated FEM meshing strategies (Nüßing, PhD thesis, 2018; Nüßing et al., IEEE TBME, 2016; Engwer et al., SIAM Sci. Comp., 2017)

# Thank you for your attention!



Since 2016



2010-2016

Münster SIM-NEURO workgroup

[carsten.wolters@uni-muenster.de](mailto:carsten.wolters@uni-muenster.de)