The background of the slide consists of a dense grid of numerous brain MRI slices. These slices are arranged in a staggered pattern, creating a sense of depth. Each slice shows a cross-section of the brain's internal structures, including the cerebral cortex, white matter tracts, and ventricles. The colors used in the MRI slices range from dark blues and blacks to bright whites and yellows, highlighting different tissue types and anatomical features.

# IMaGES in the Brain

Catherine Hanson  
CMU – October 2013

# The Research Problem

## • Atypical social behavior in ASD

- ▶ communication
- ▶ emotional reaction
- ▶ behavioral response

# The Explanation

**Impaired social cognitive processing**

- ▶ face processing

# Face Processing

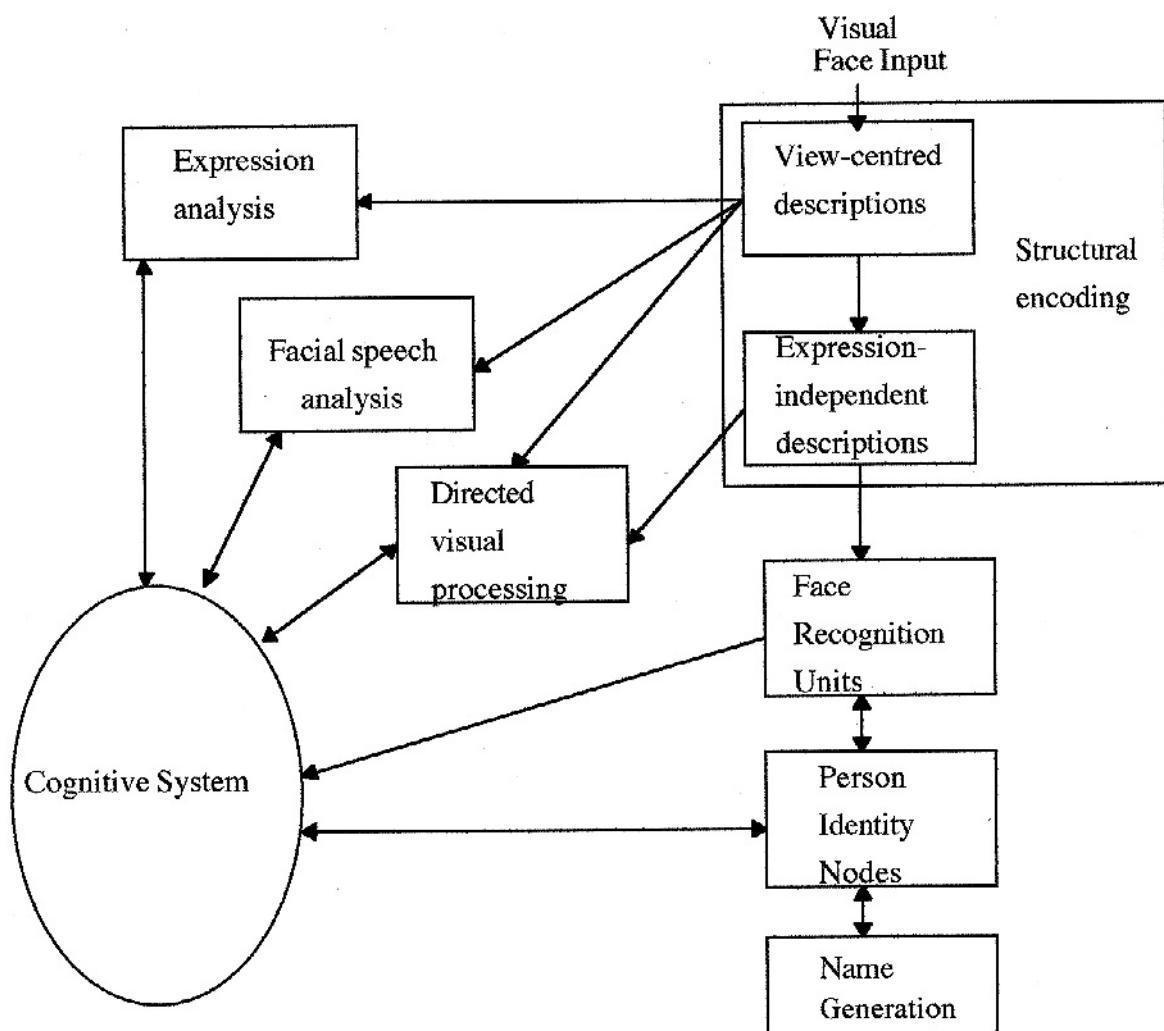


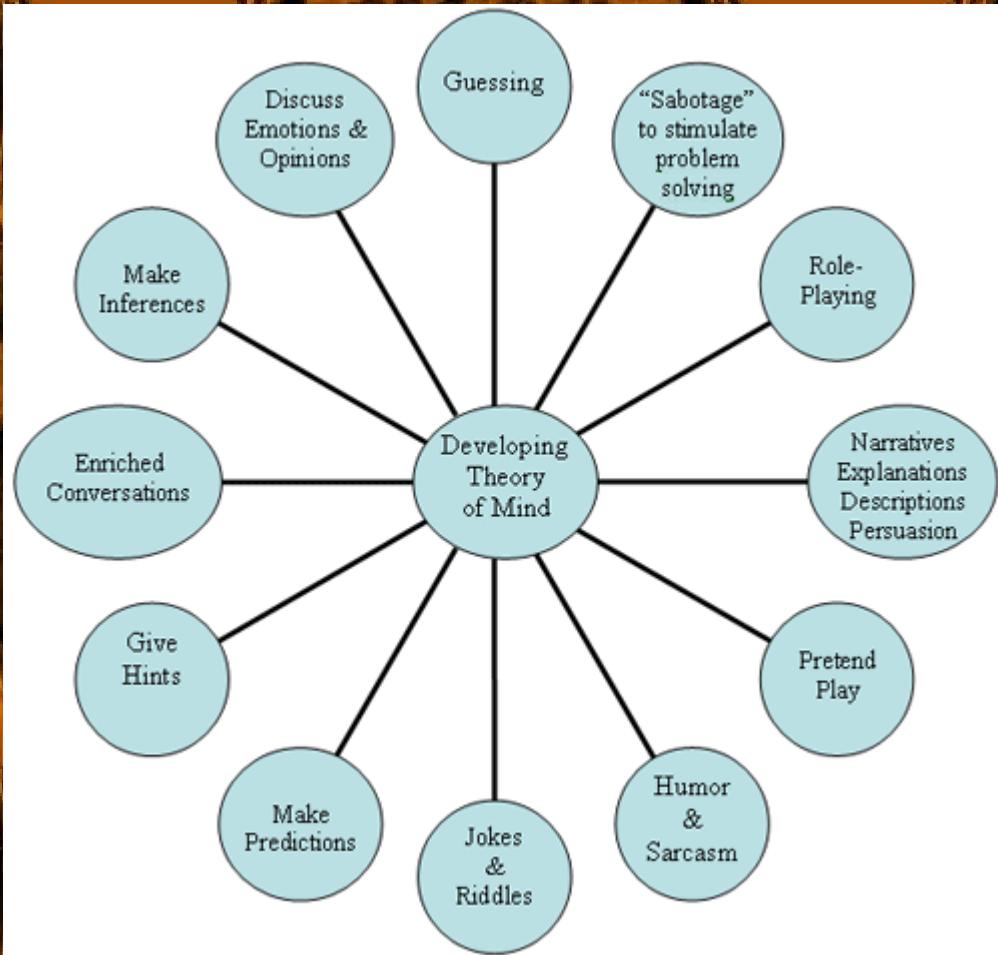
Figure 1: A copy of Bruce and Young's (1986) face processing model.

# The Explanation

**Impaired social cognitive processing**

- ▶ face processing
- ▶ Theory of Mind

# Theory of Mind

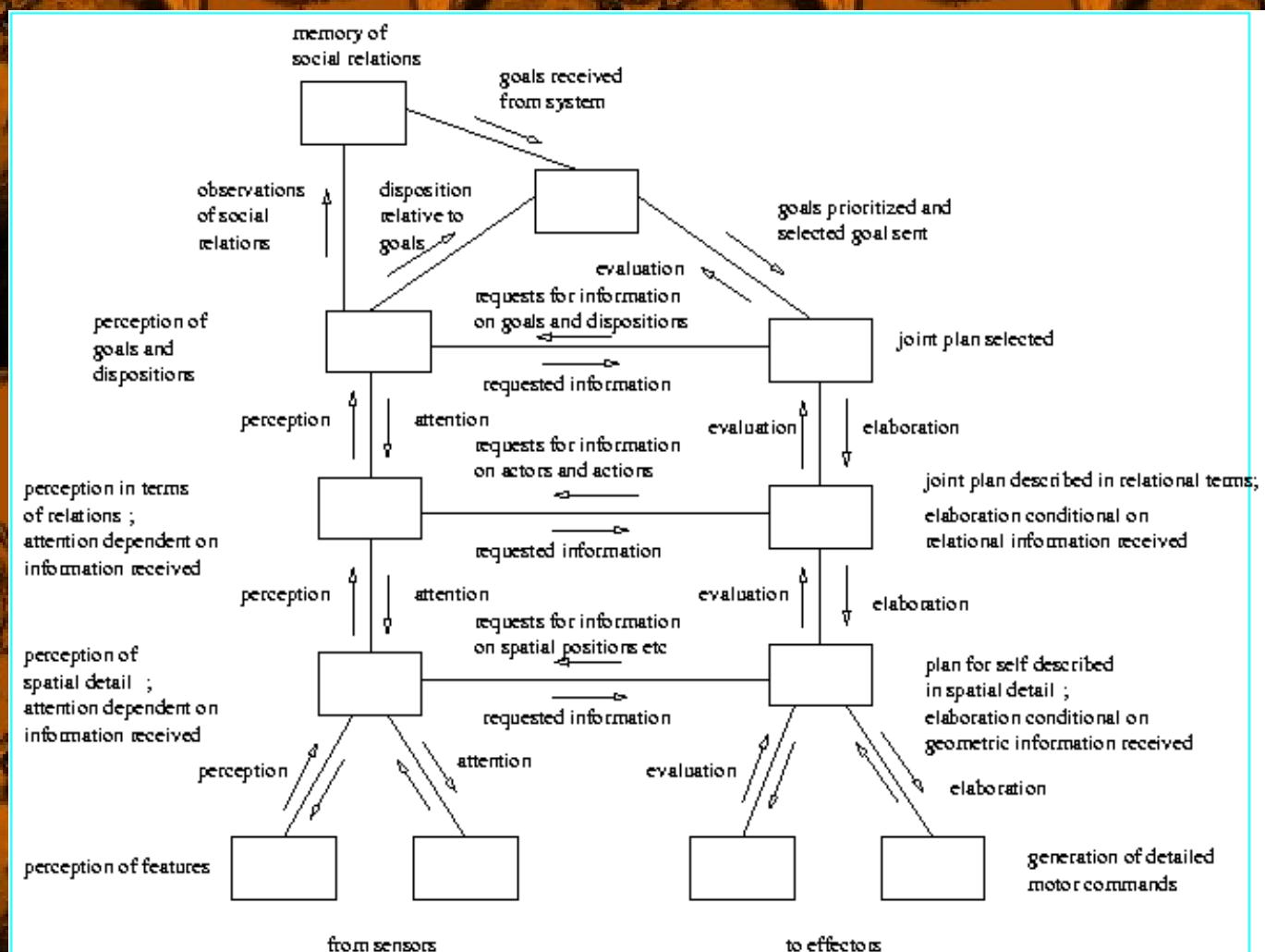


# The Explanation

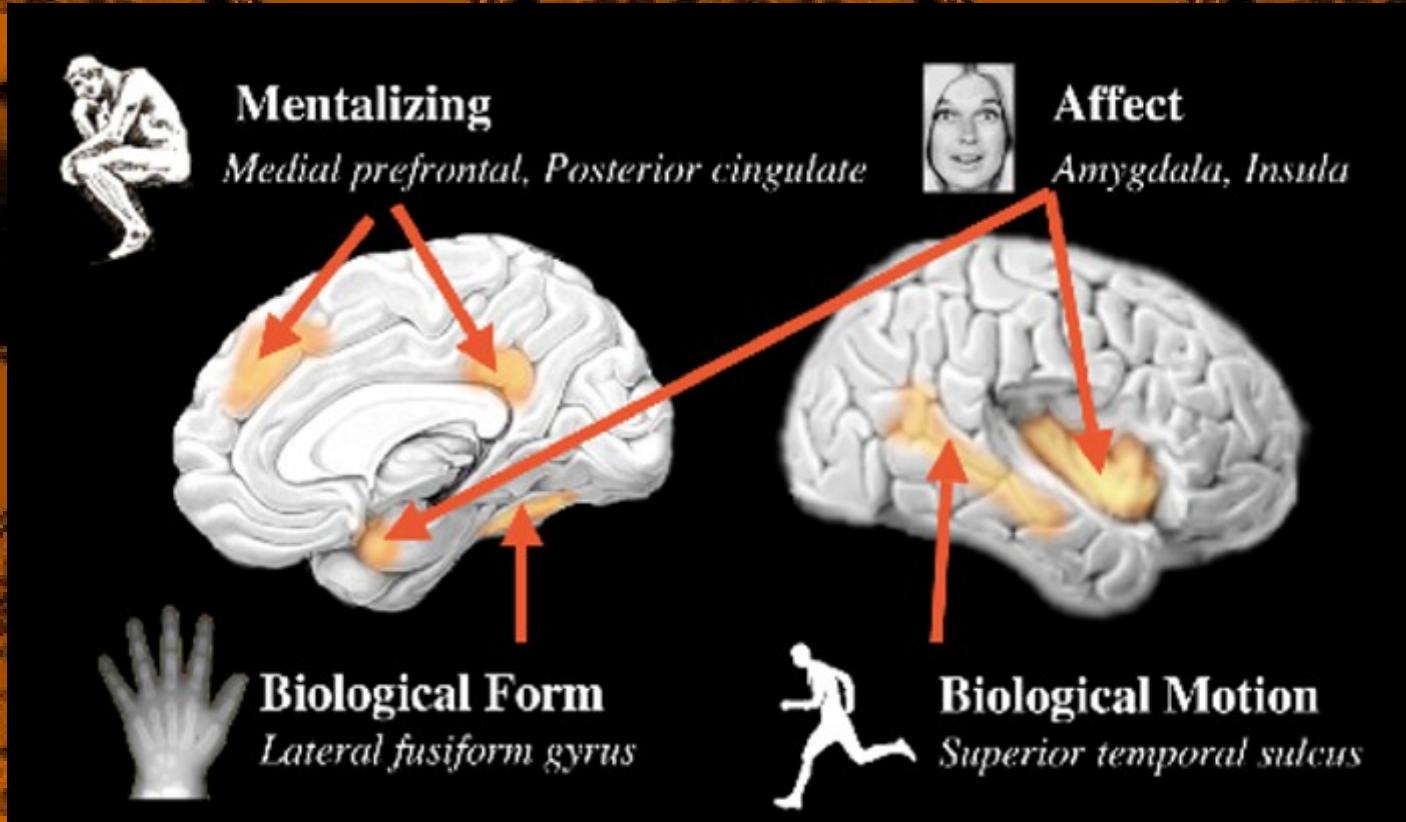
## Impaired social cognitive processing

- ▶ face processing
- ▶ Theory of Mind
- ▶ action understanding

# Action Understanding

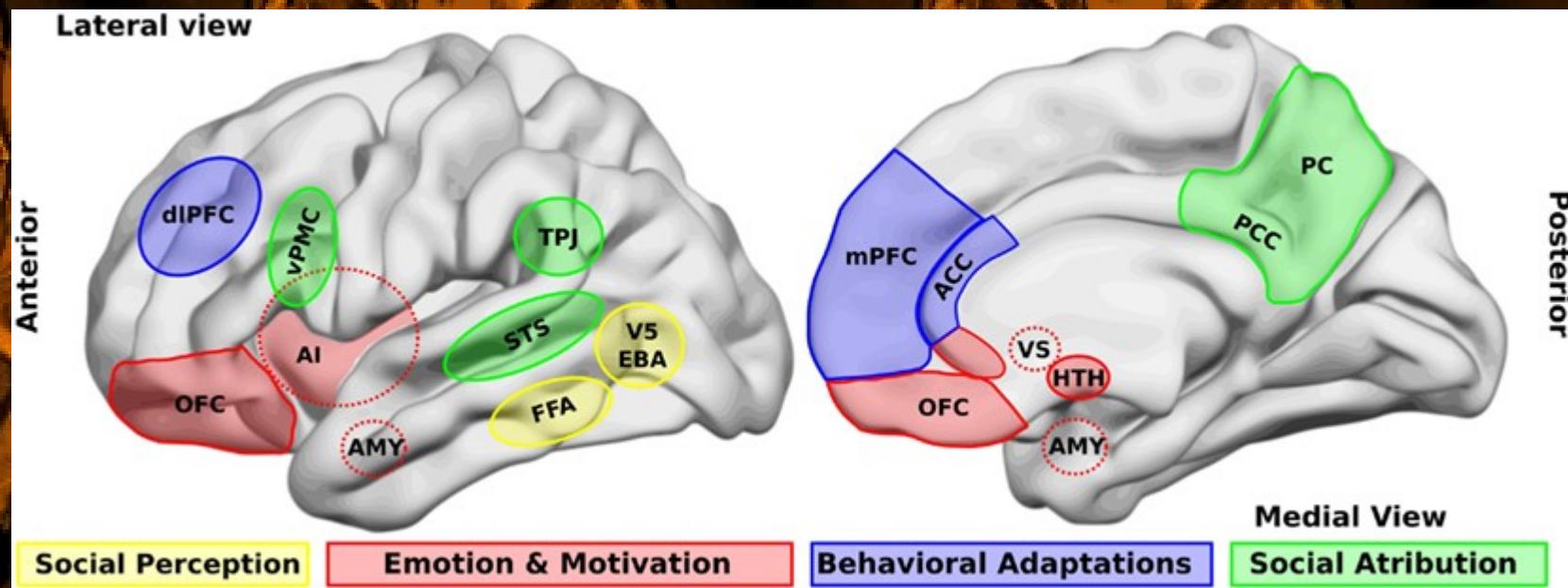


# The Social Brain



# The Approach

Examine the recruitment of brain regions

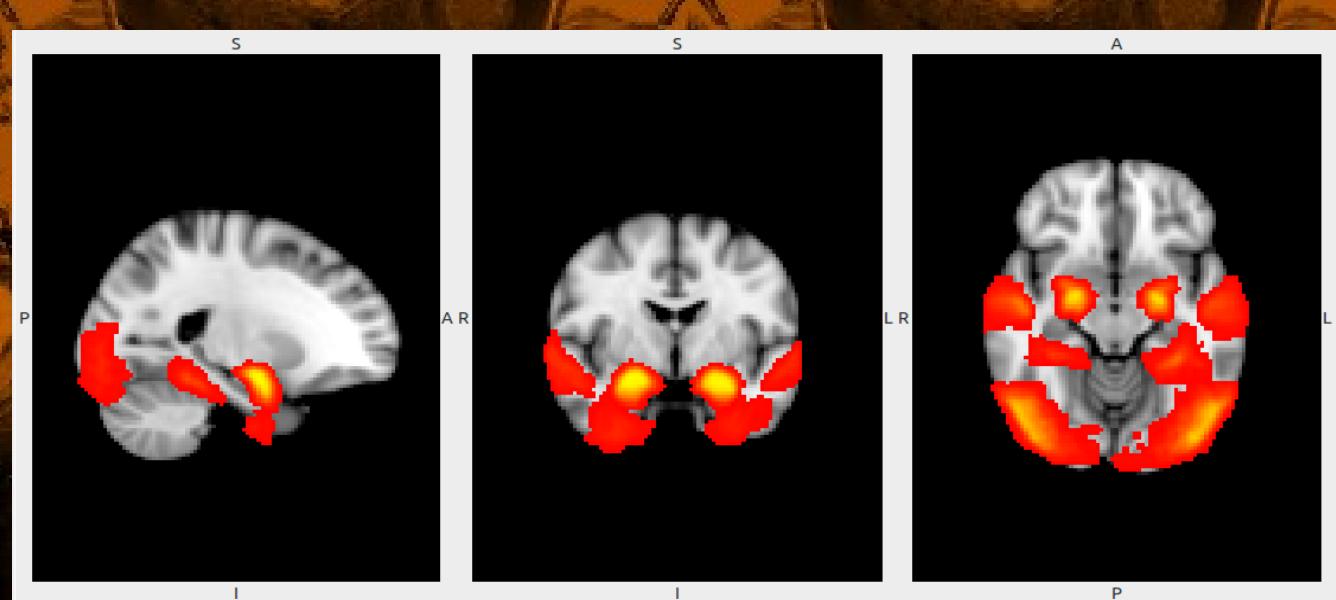
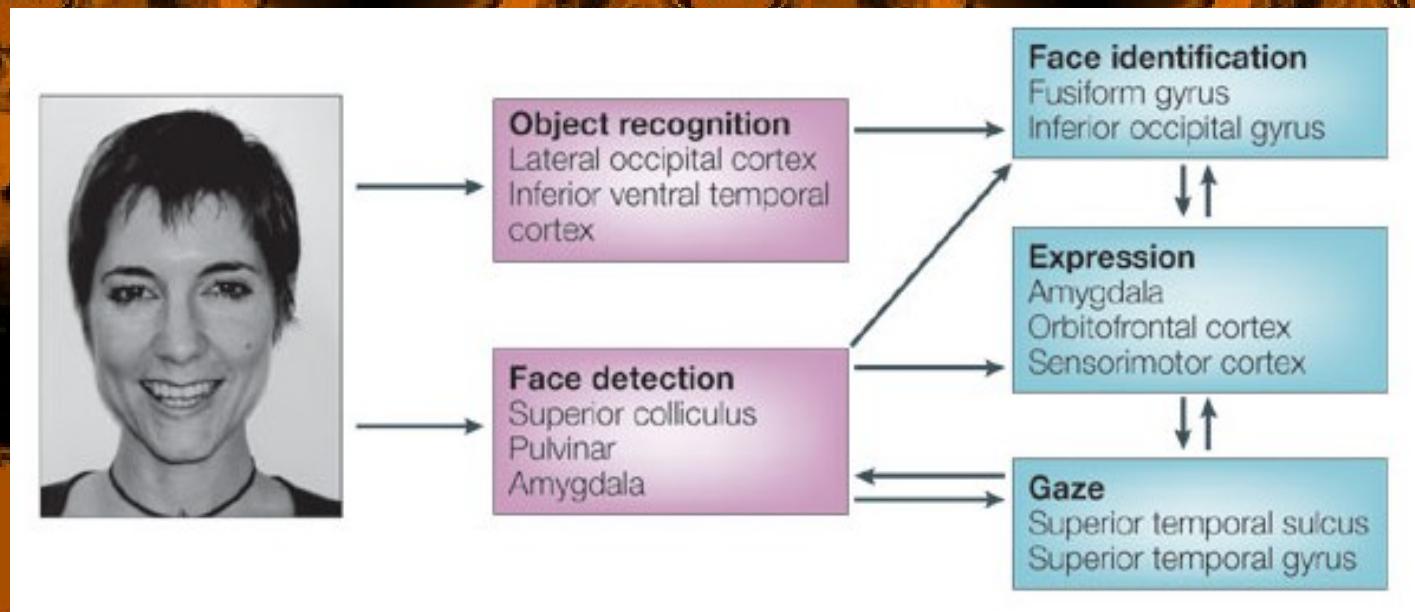


# The Improved Approach

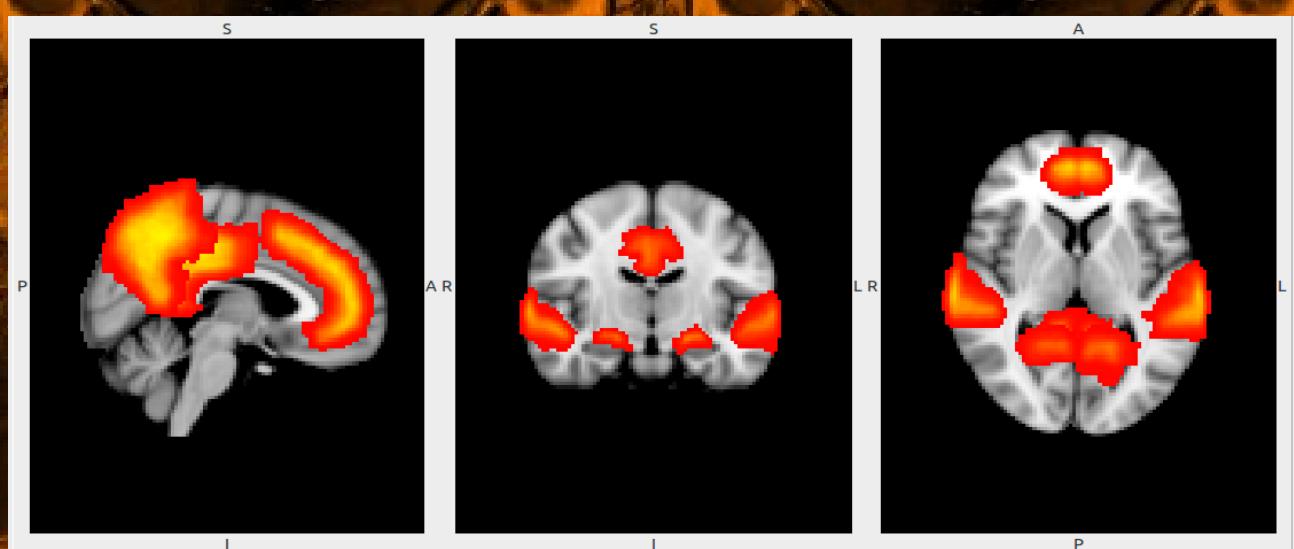
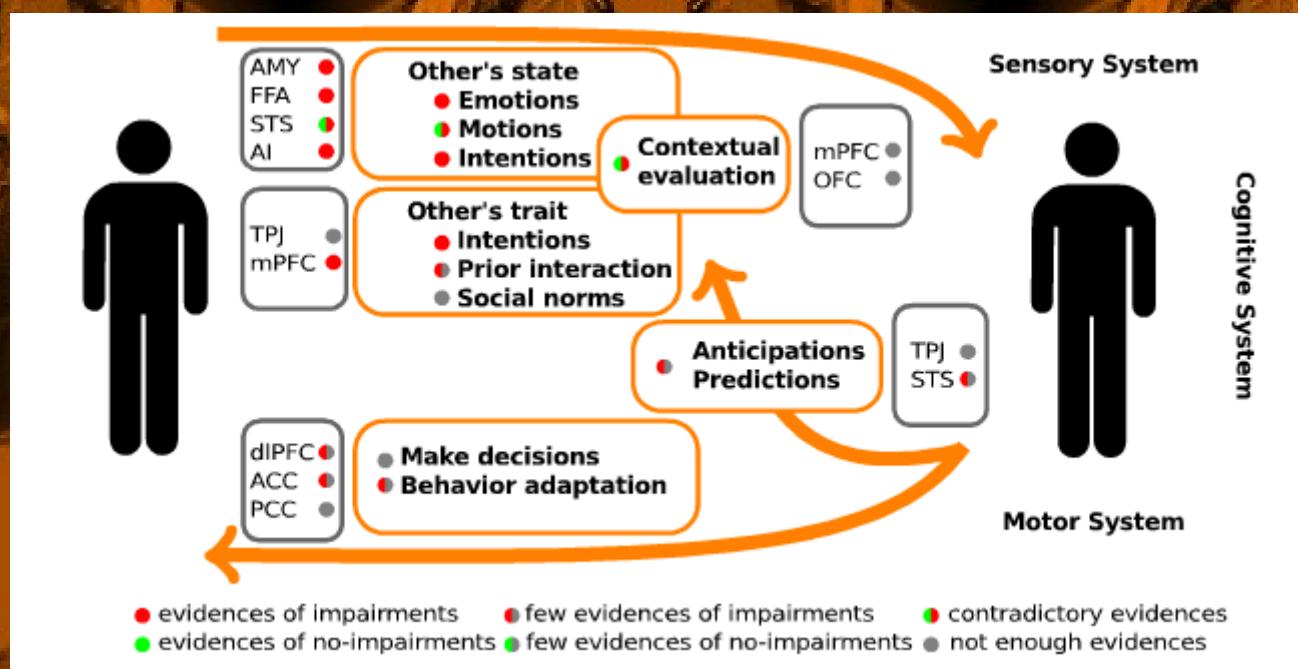
## **Examine connectivity of ROIs**

- ▶ face processing network
- ▶ Theory of Mind network
- ▶ action understanding network

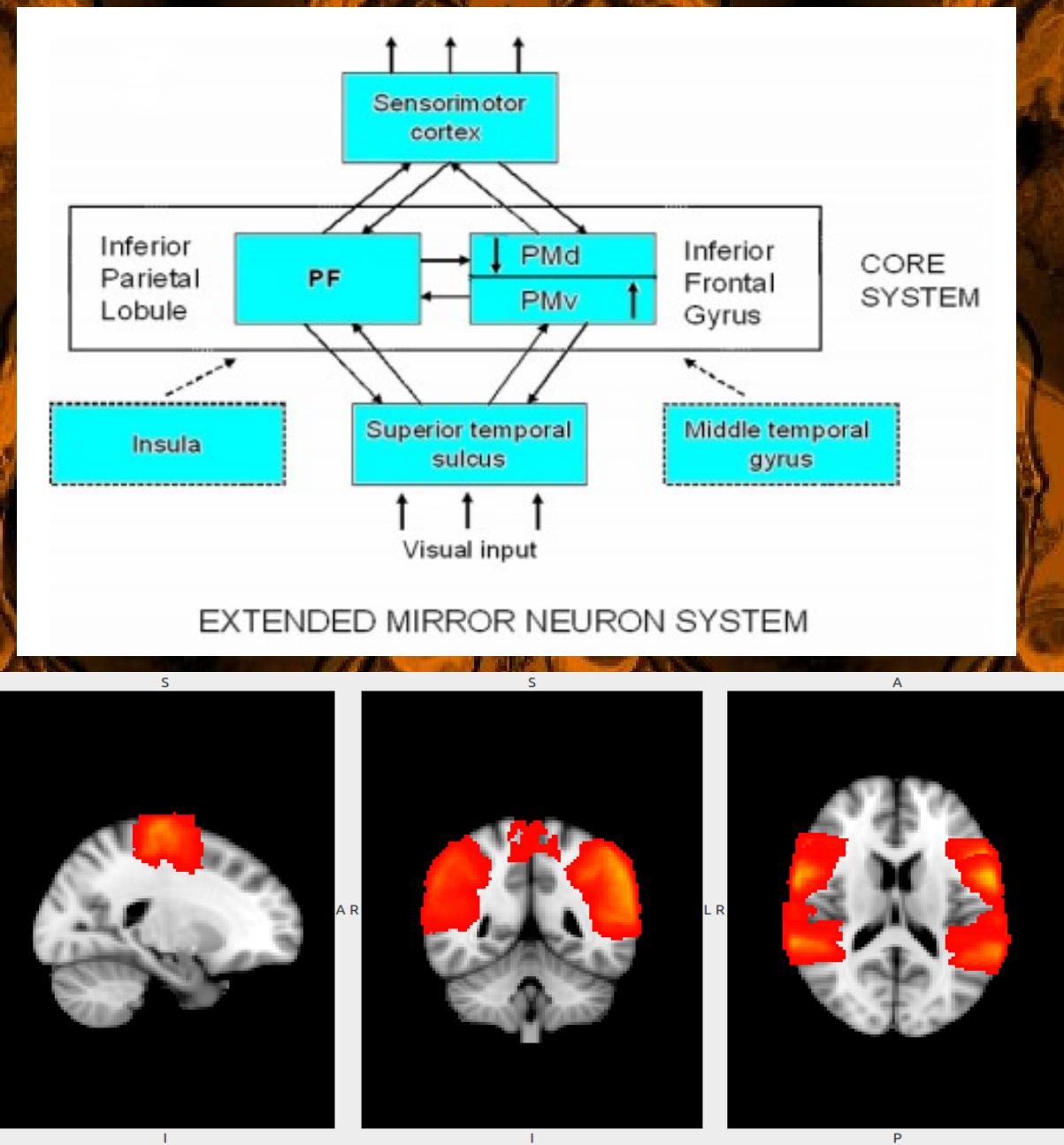
# Face Processing Network



# Theory of Mind Network



# Action Understanding Network



# The Experiment

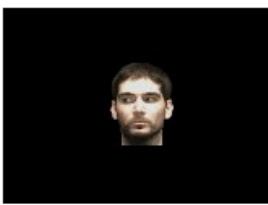
Arrow-Object (AO)



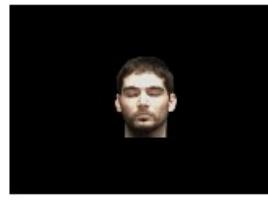
Eyes-Object (EO)



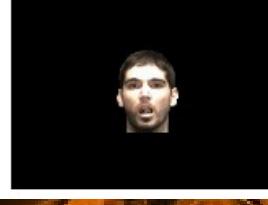
Eyes-LeftRight (ELR)



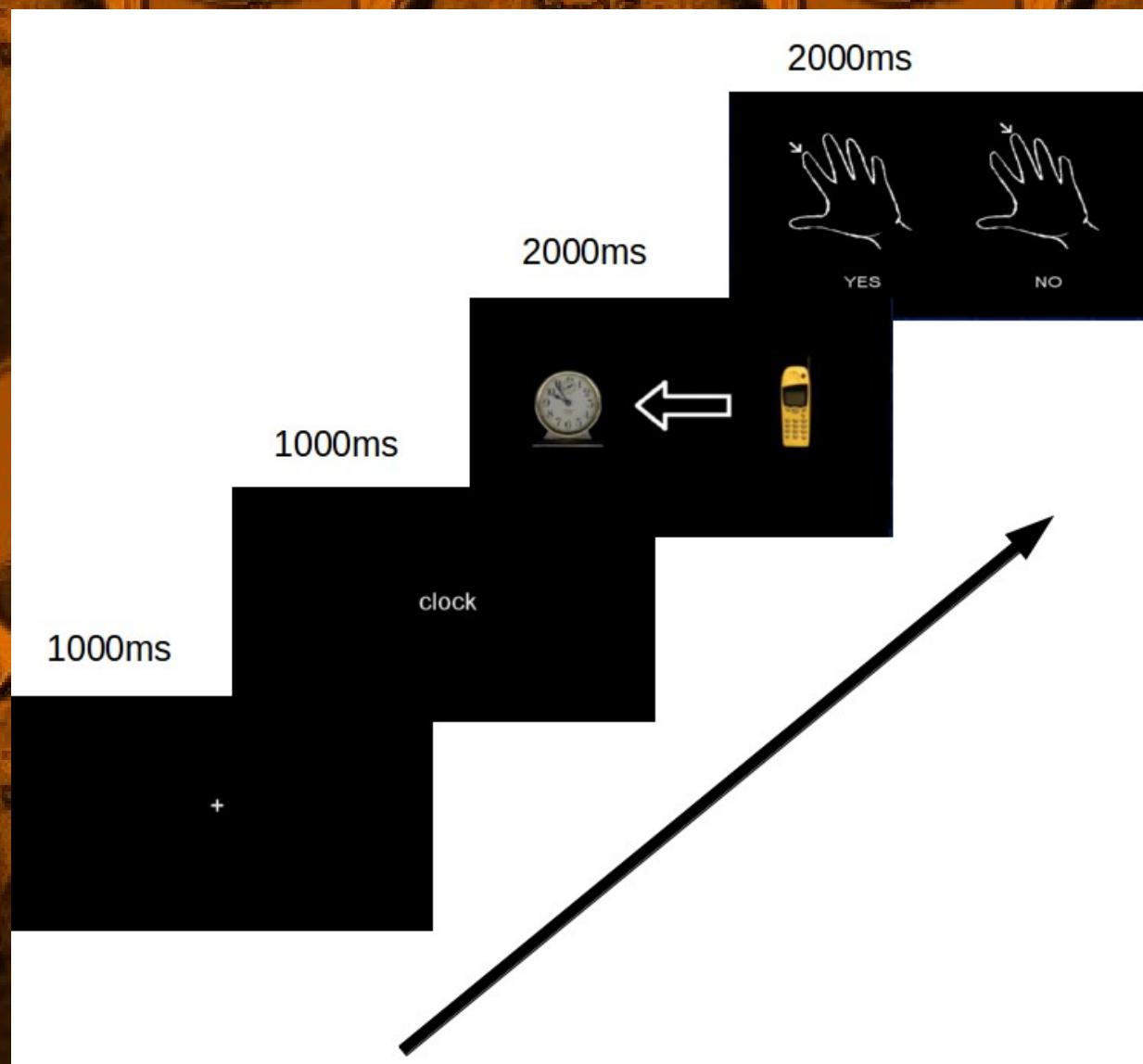
Eyes-OpenClosed (EOC)



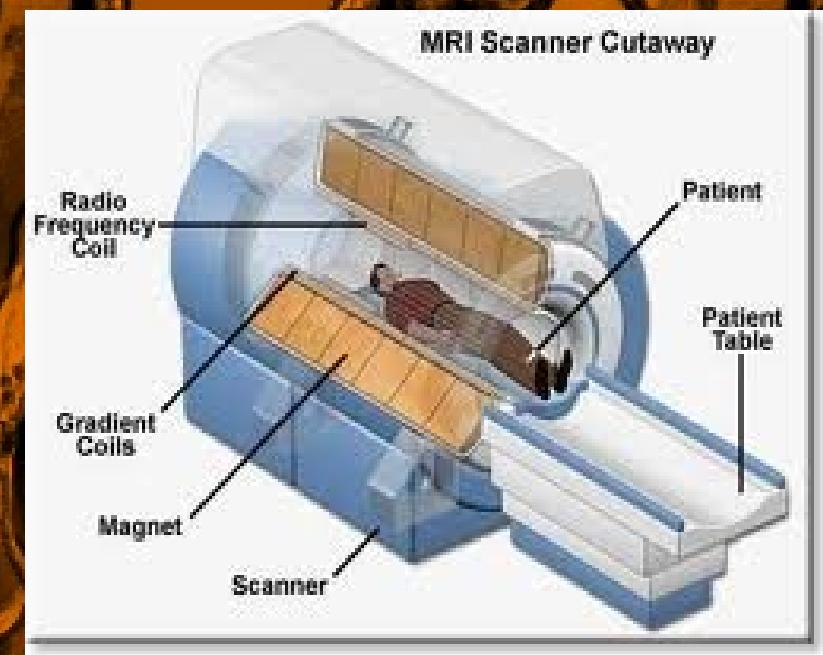
Mouth-OpenClosed (MOC)



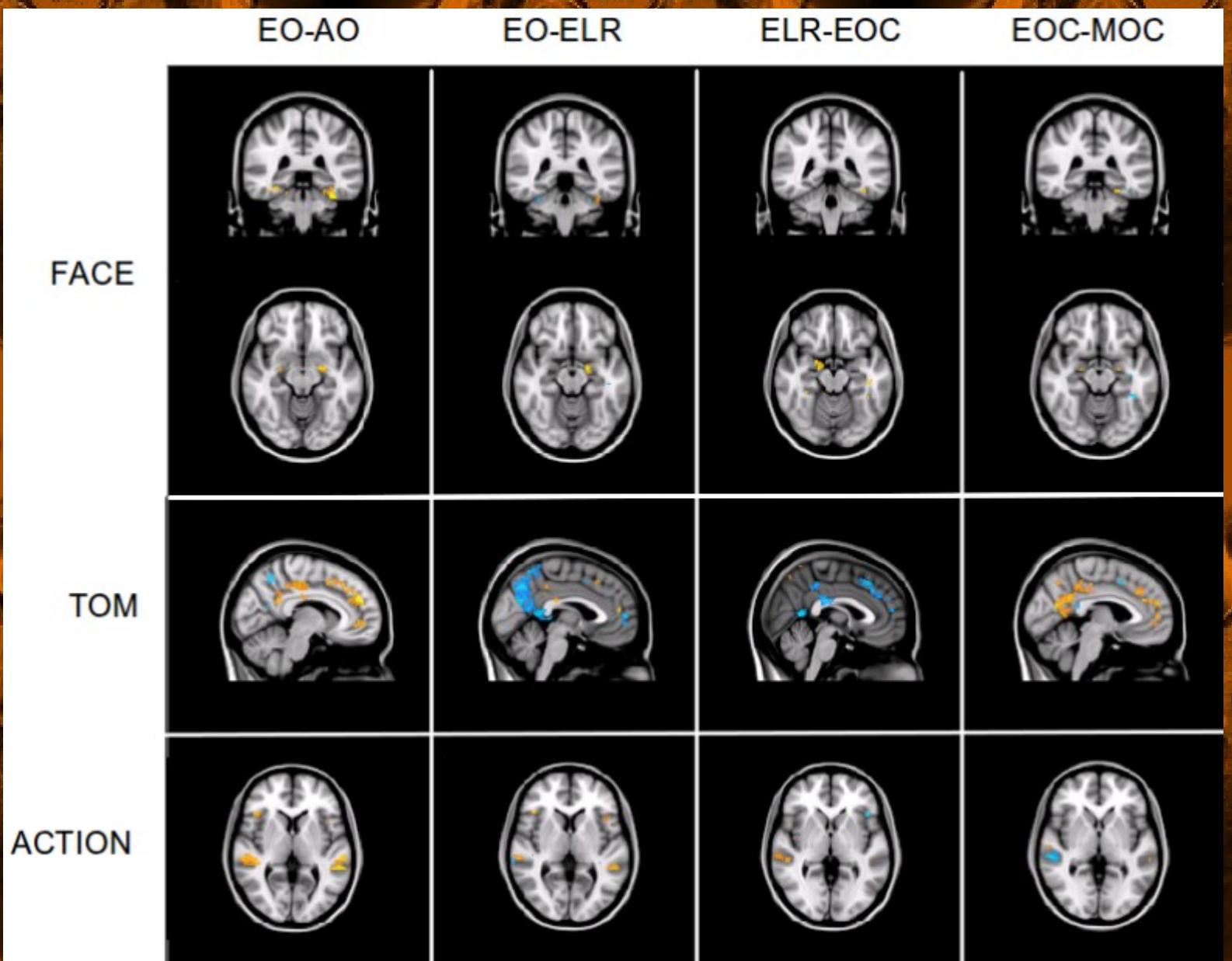
# The Experiment



# Collecting fMRI Data

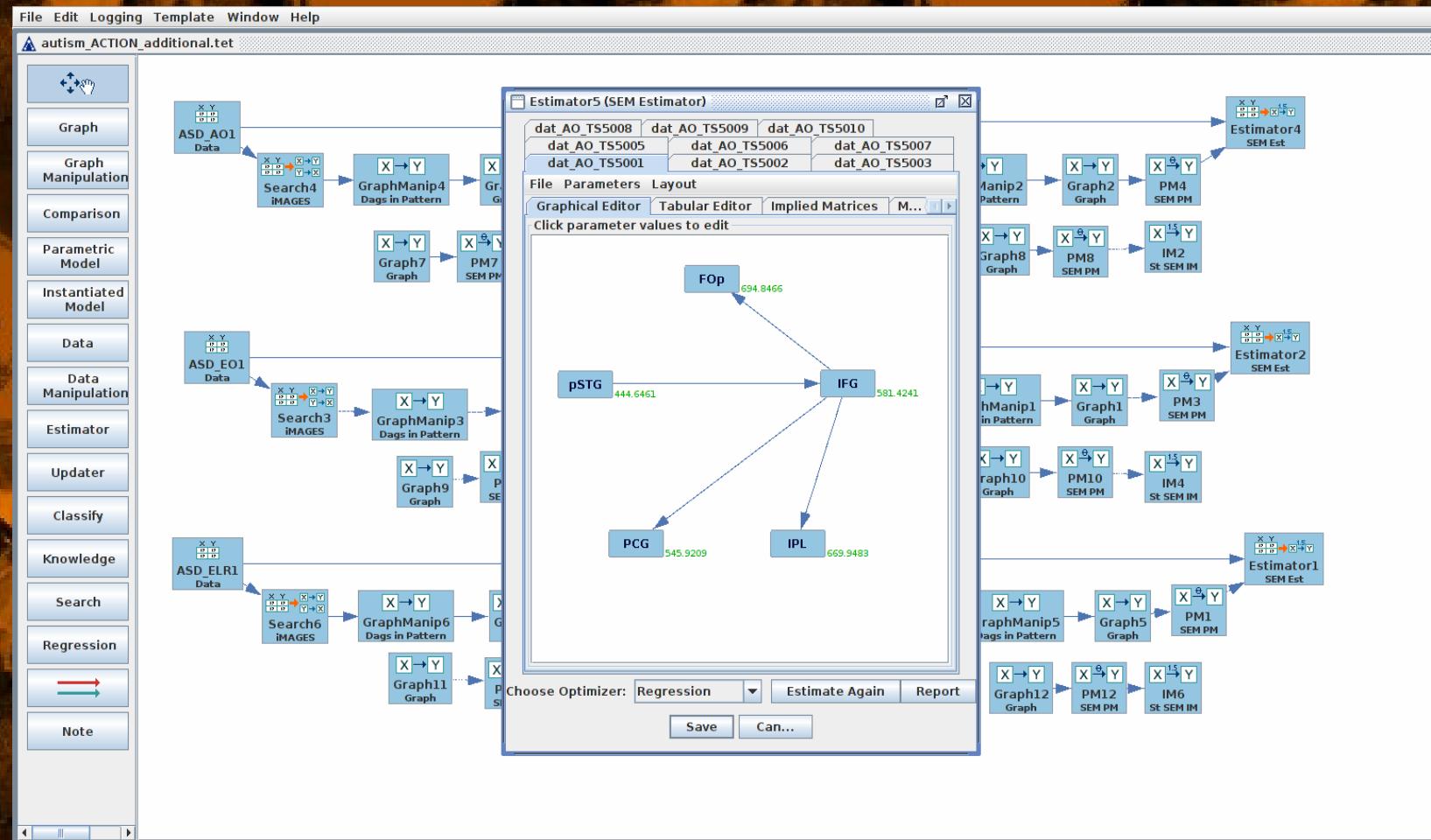


# The fMRI Data



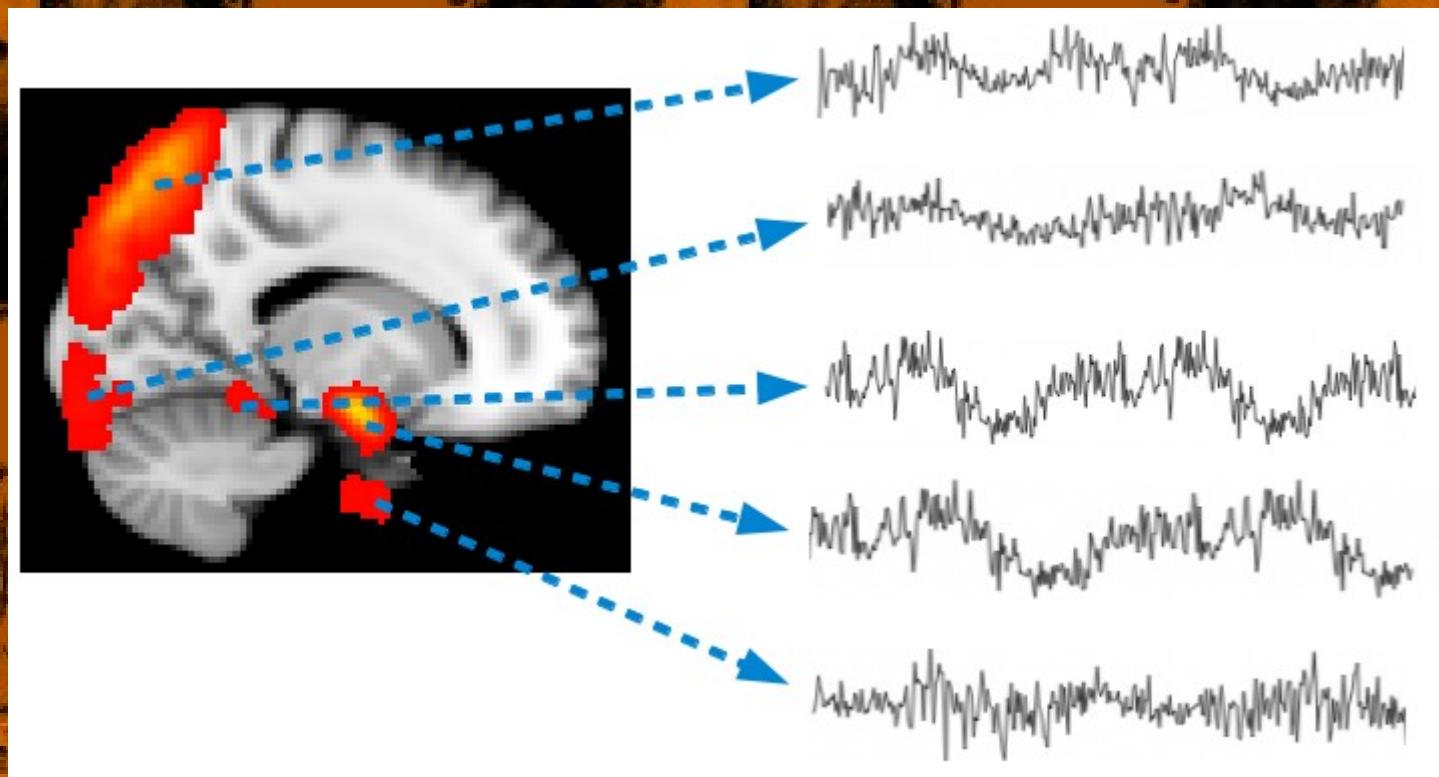
# Using IMaGES

## Independent Multiple-sample Greedy Equivalence Search

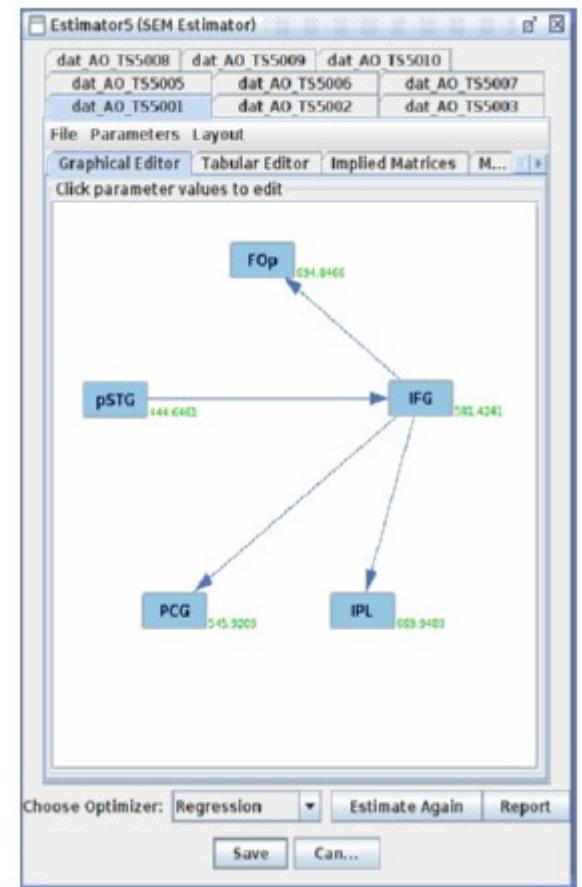
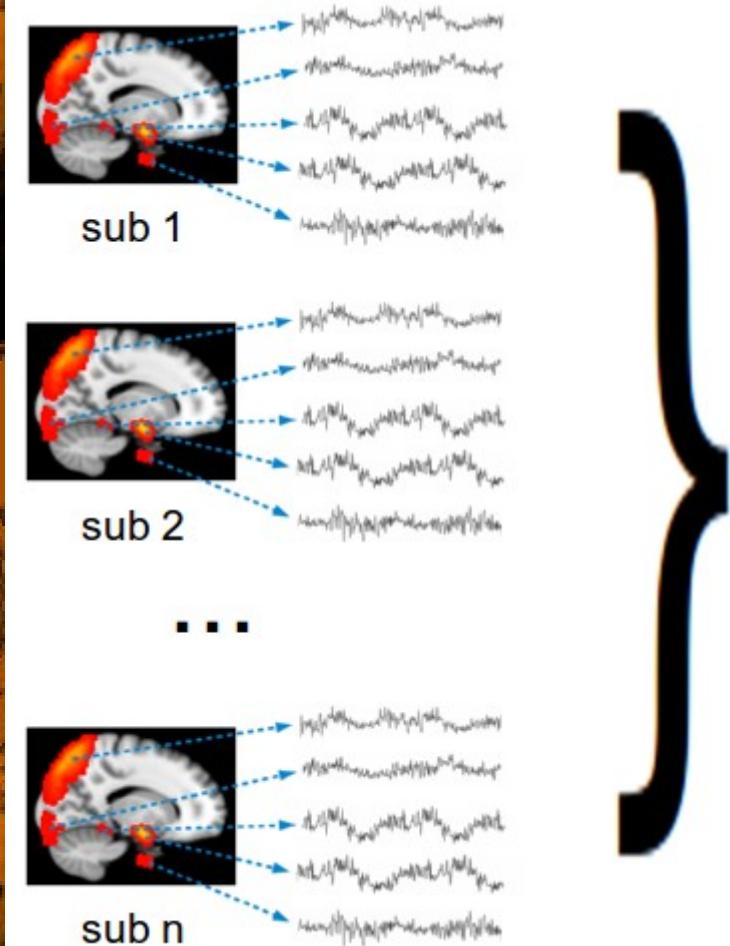


<http://www.phil.cmu.edu/projects/tetrad/>

# Extracting the Time Series

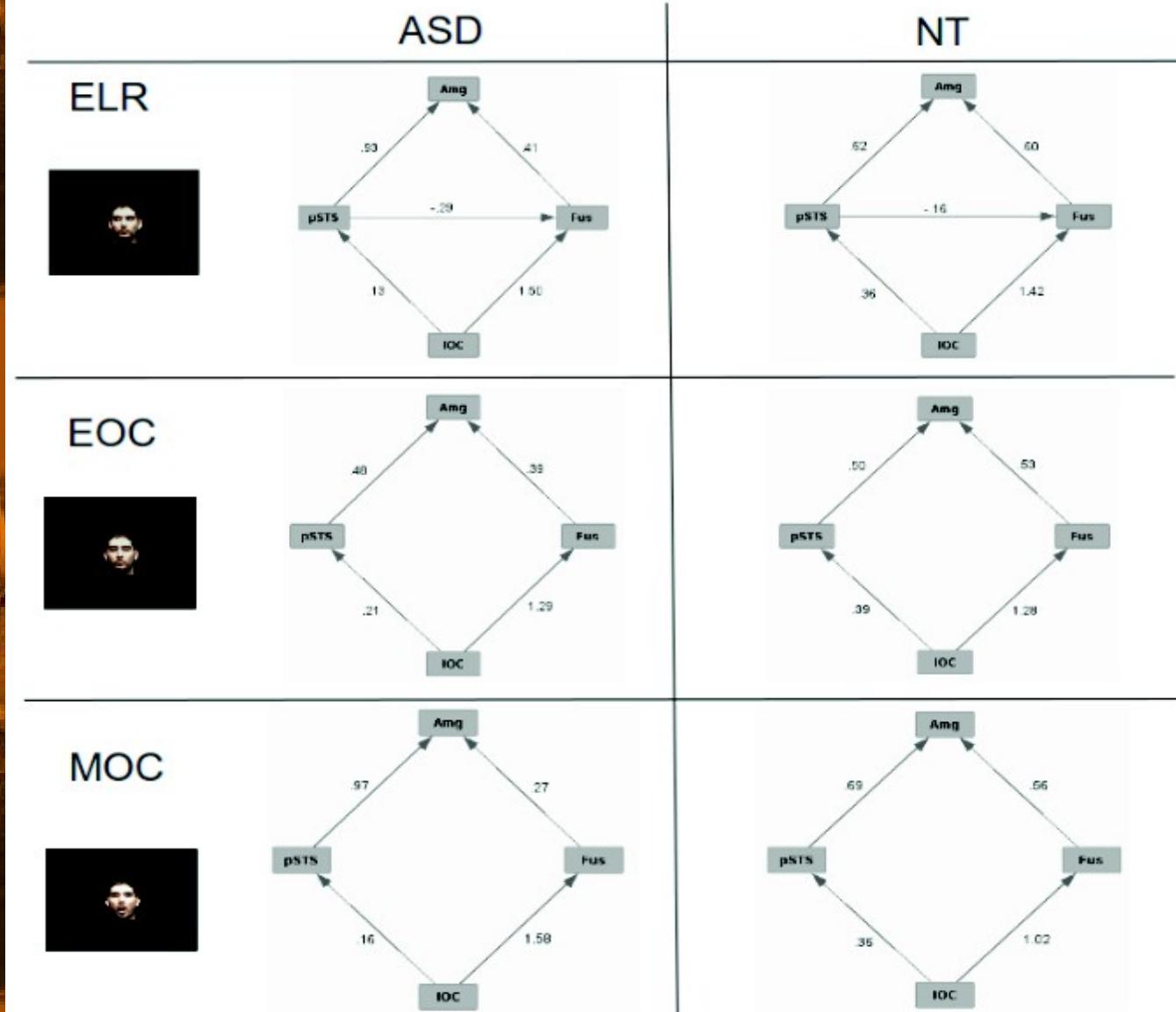


# Time series to IMaGES graph



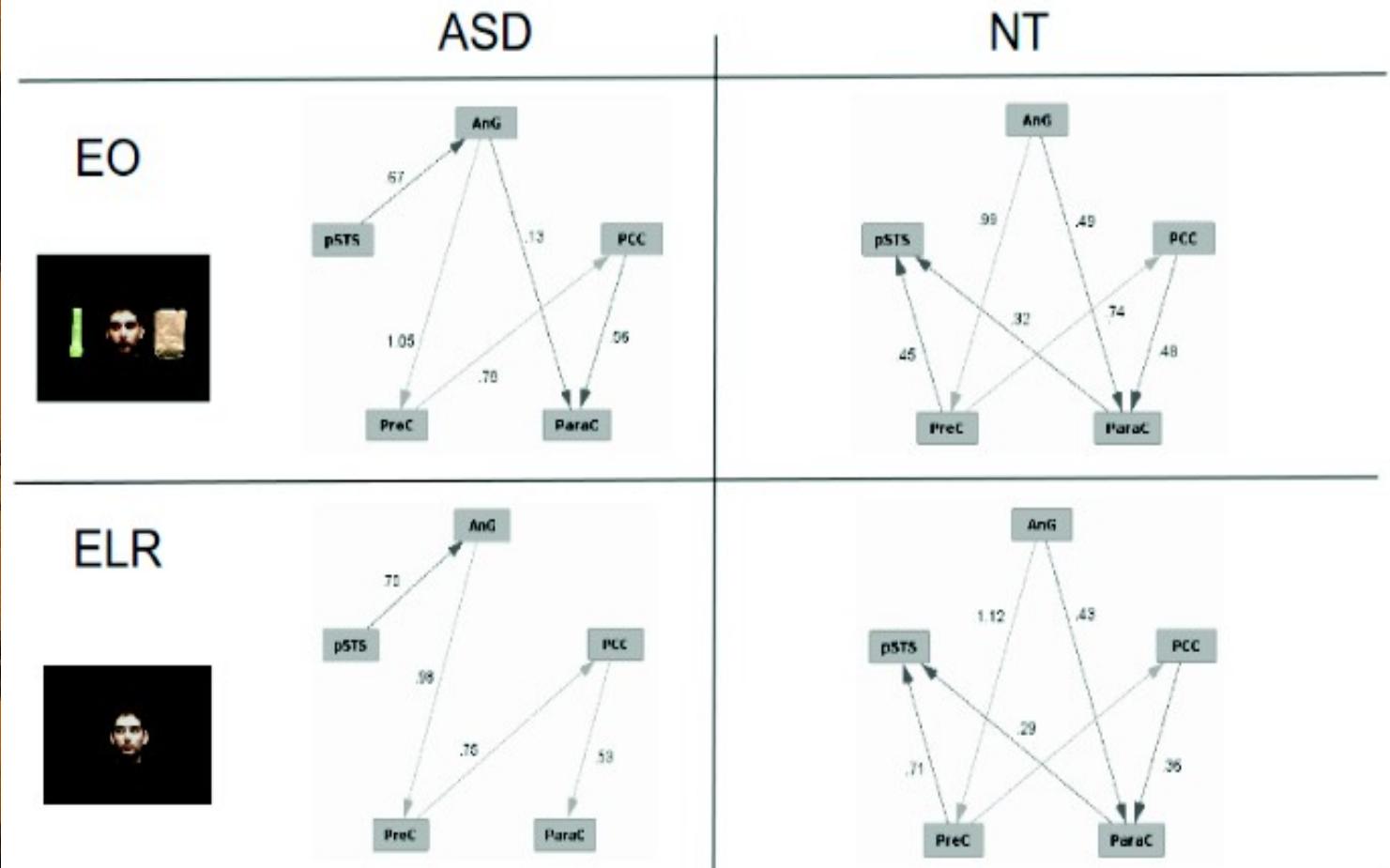
# The Results

FACE Network



# The Results

TOM Network



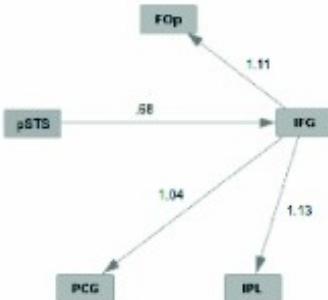
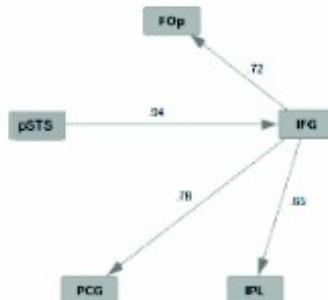
# The Results

ACTION Network

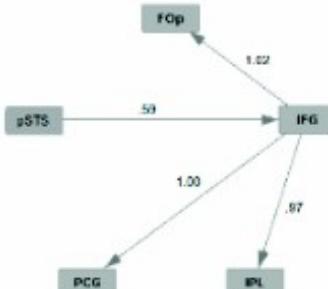
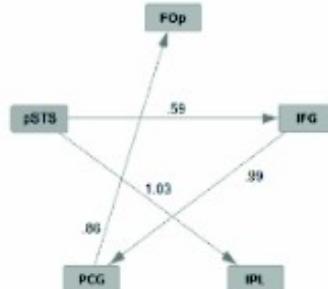
ASD

NT

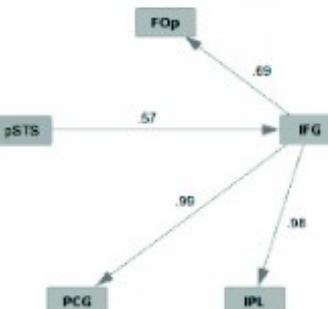
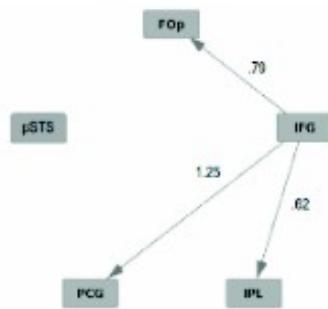
AO



EO



ELR

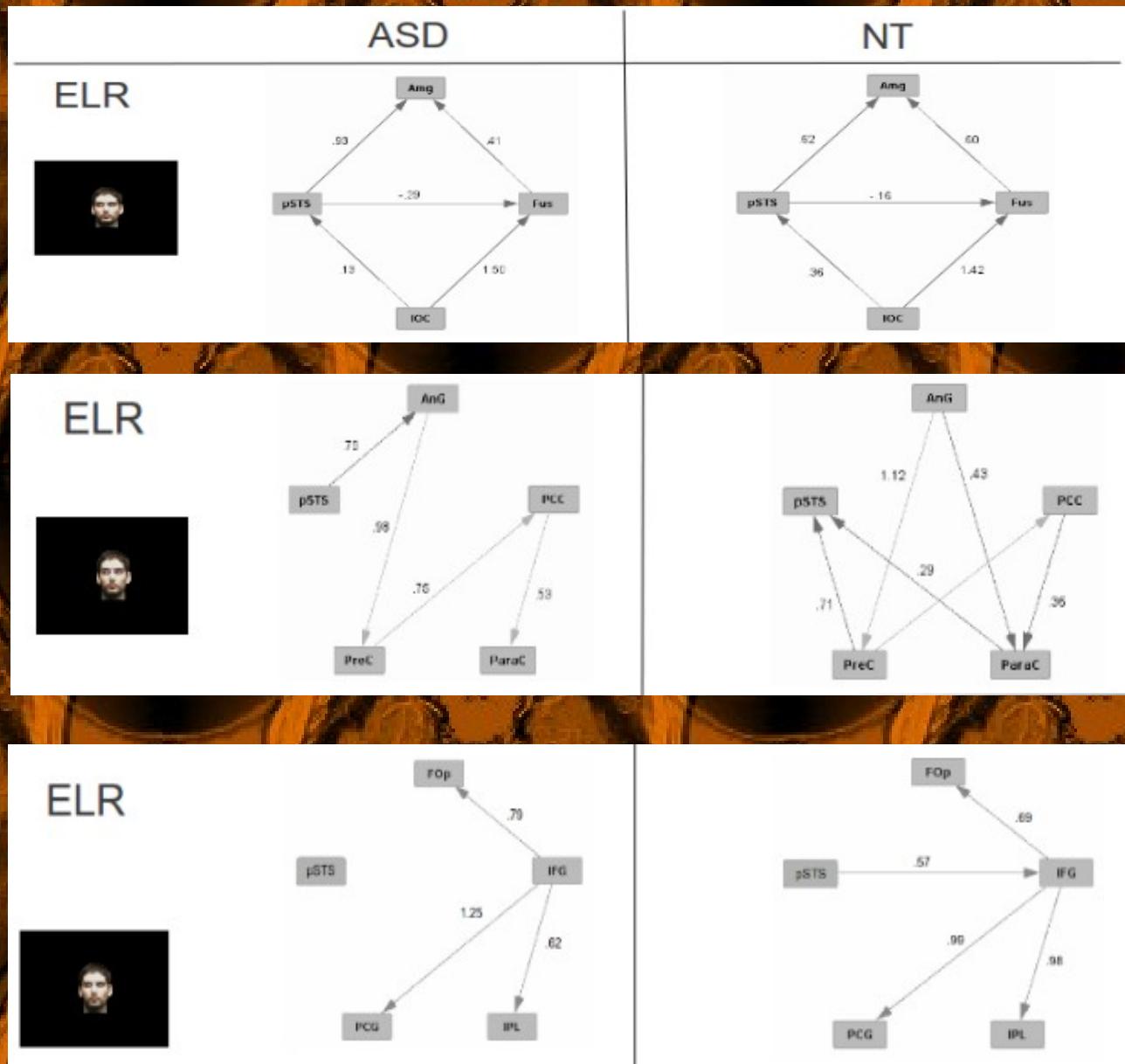


# The Results

FACE

TOM

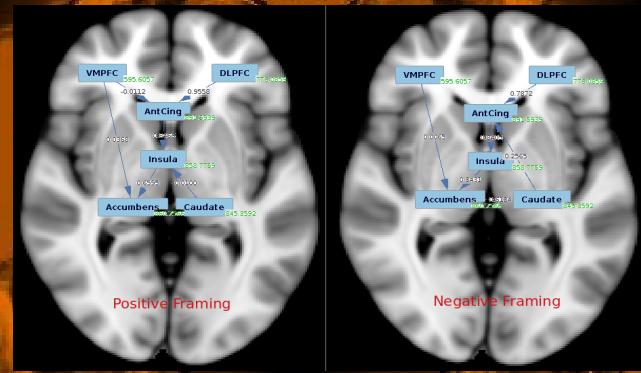
ACTION



# What was Learned

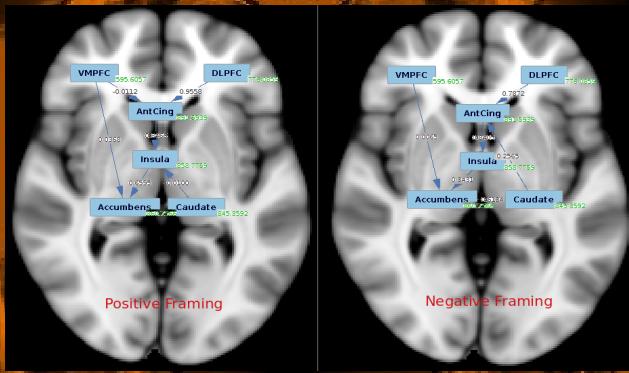
- ▶ face processing: ASD  $\approx$  NT
- ▶ Theory of Mind: ASD  $\neq$  NT
- ▶ action understanding: ASD  $\neq$  NT  
when faces involved
- ▶ ASD networks less stable than NT

# Other Studies Using IMaGES

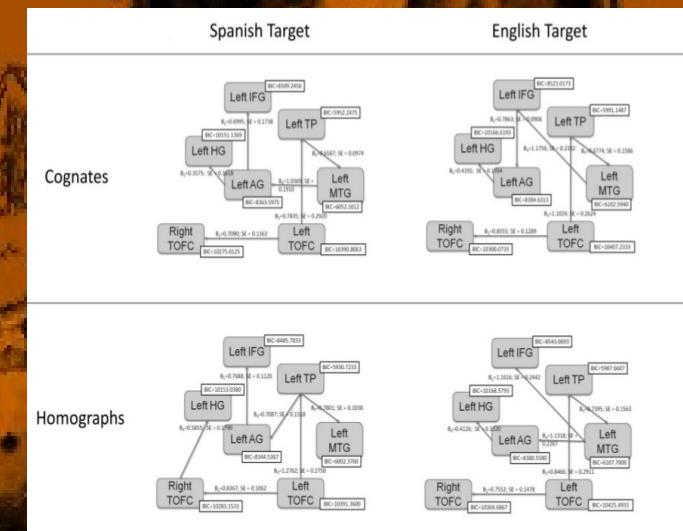


preference decisions

# Other Studies Using IMaGES

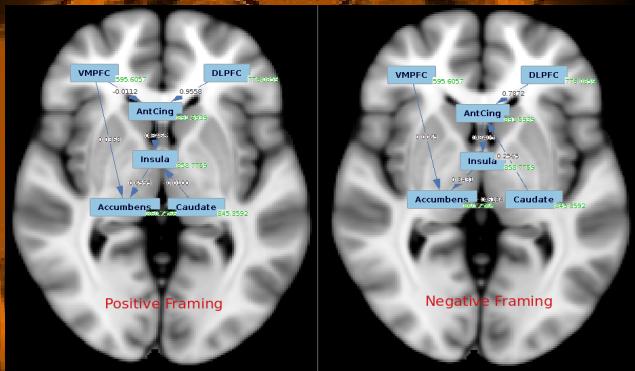


preference decisions

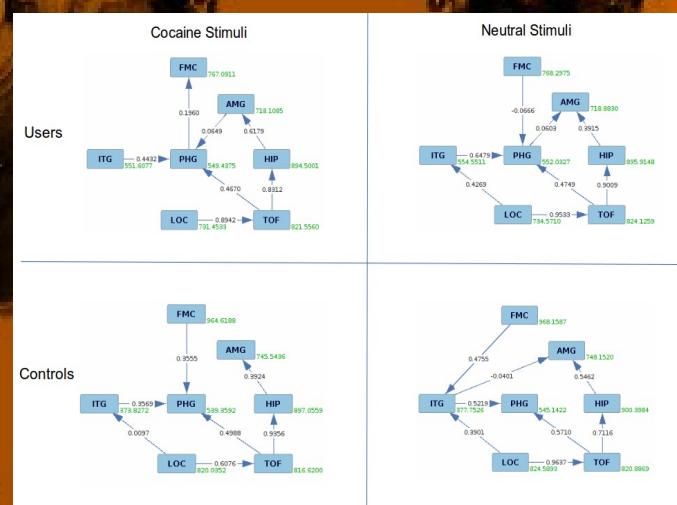


language processing

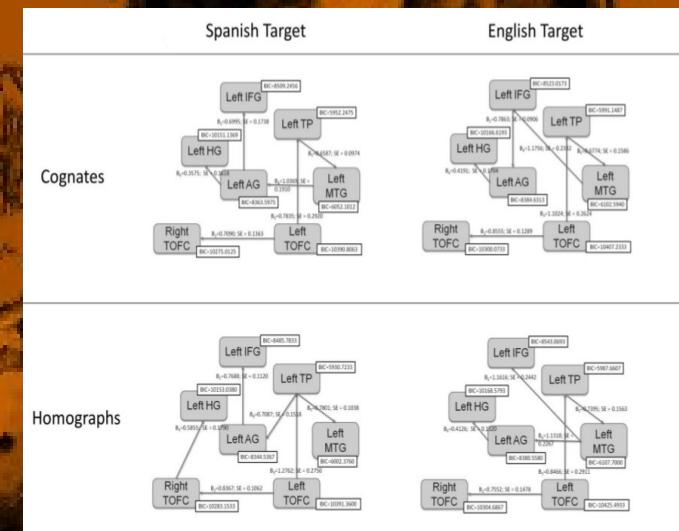
# Other Studies Using IMaGES



preference decisions

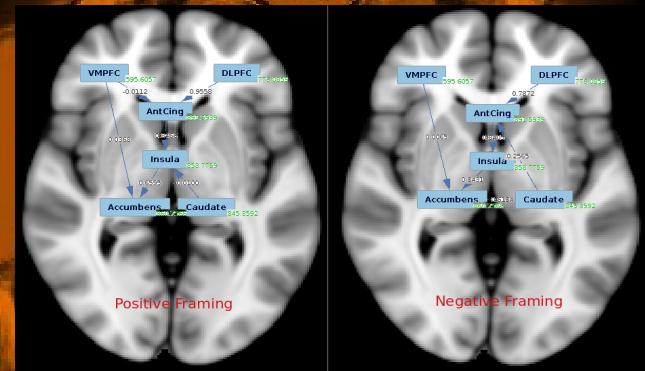


cocaine drug usage

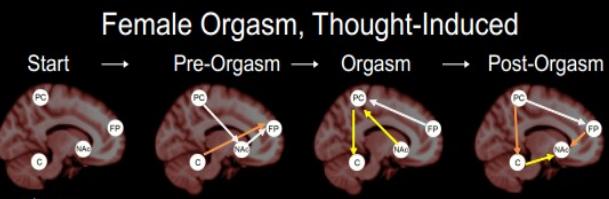
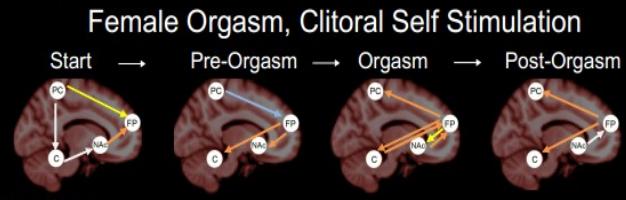
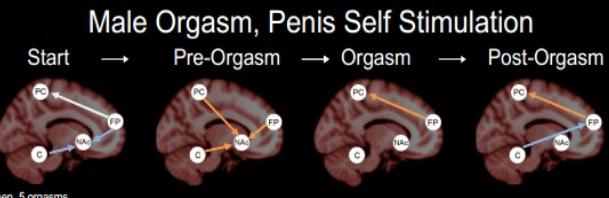


language processing

# Other Studies Using IMaGES

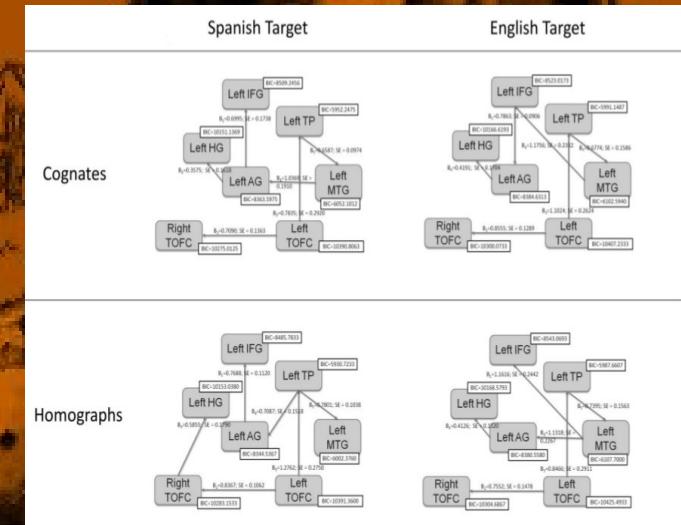


preference decisions



cocaine drug usage

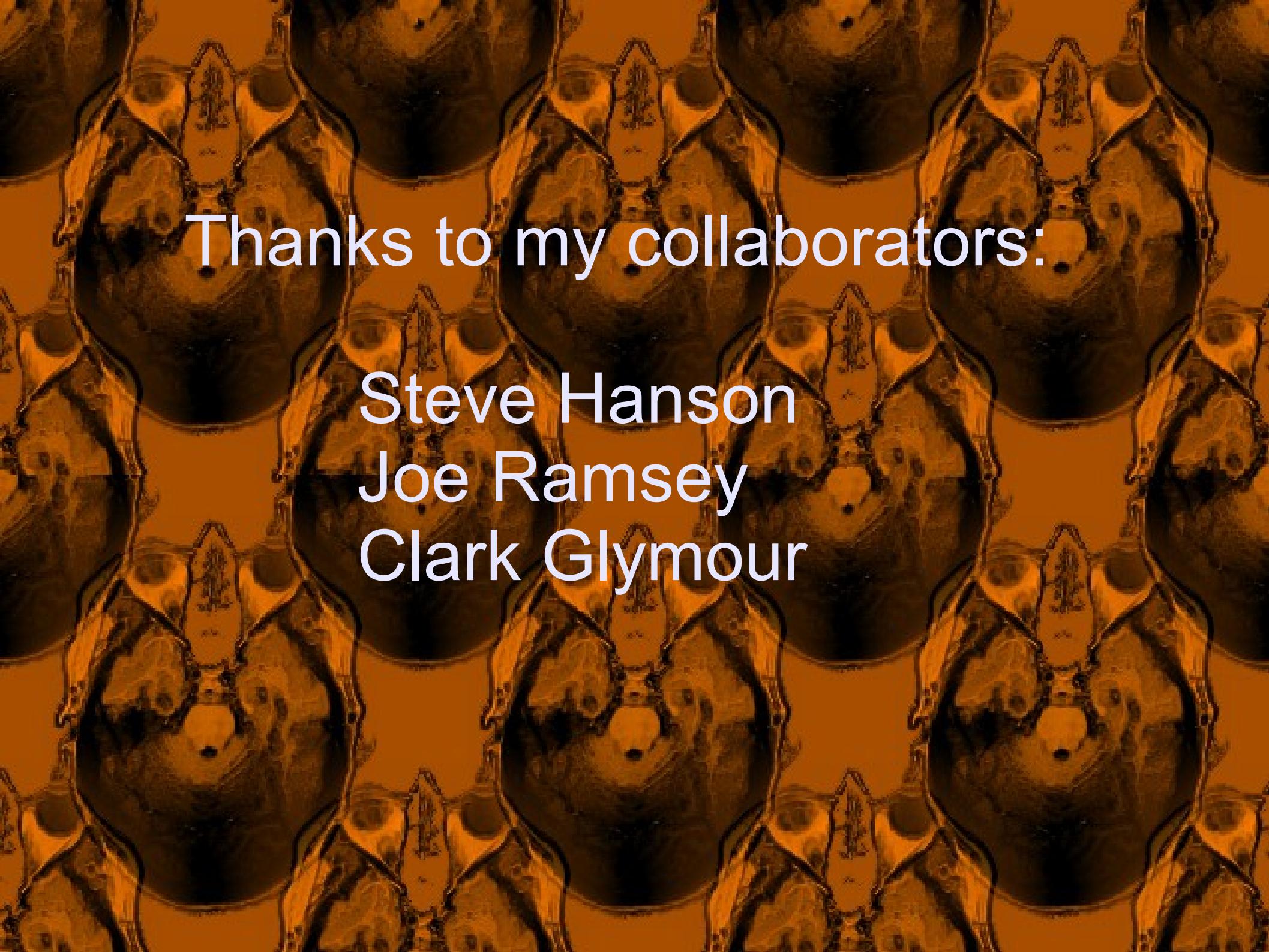
female & male orgasm



language processing

# Wish List

- ▶ Metric for graph comparison
  - How many edges must differ?
  - Role of orientation?
- ▶ Means of assessing model validity
  - Account for time series variance
  - Differentiate models with same GOF



Thanks to my collaborators:

Steve Hanson  
Joe Ramsey  
Clark Glymour