

SEGREGATING THE PREFRONTAL CORTEX BY MEANS OF DBS

Barbara Hollunder^{1,2,3*}, **Ningfei Li**^{1*}, Jill L. Ostrem⁴, Mircea Polosan^{5,6,7}, Harith Akram^{8,9}, Matteo Vissani^{10,11,12}, Chencheng Zhang¹³, Bomin Sun¹³, Martin Reich¹⁴, Jens Volkmann¹⁴, Carsten Finke^{2,3,15}, Andrea A. Kühn^{1,2,3,16}, Alberto Mazzoni^{10,11}, Luigi M. Romito¹⁷, Ludvic Zrinzo^{8,9}, Eileen Joyce^{8,9}, Stephan Chabardes⁵, Philip A. Starr¹⁸, Andreas Horn^{1,2,12,19}

**Equal contributions*

INTRODUCTION

Fronto-subcortical neurocircuits are involved in the **motor, cognitive, and affective dysfunctions** of multiple brain disorders which can be treated by DBS

AIM

To investigate the **functional segregation of the prefrontal cortex** via optimal connectivity profiles from DBS electrodes to the **subthalamic nucleus (STN)** treating 4 different disorders

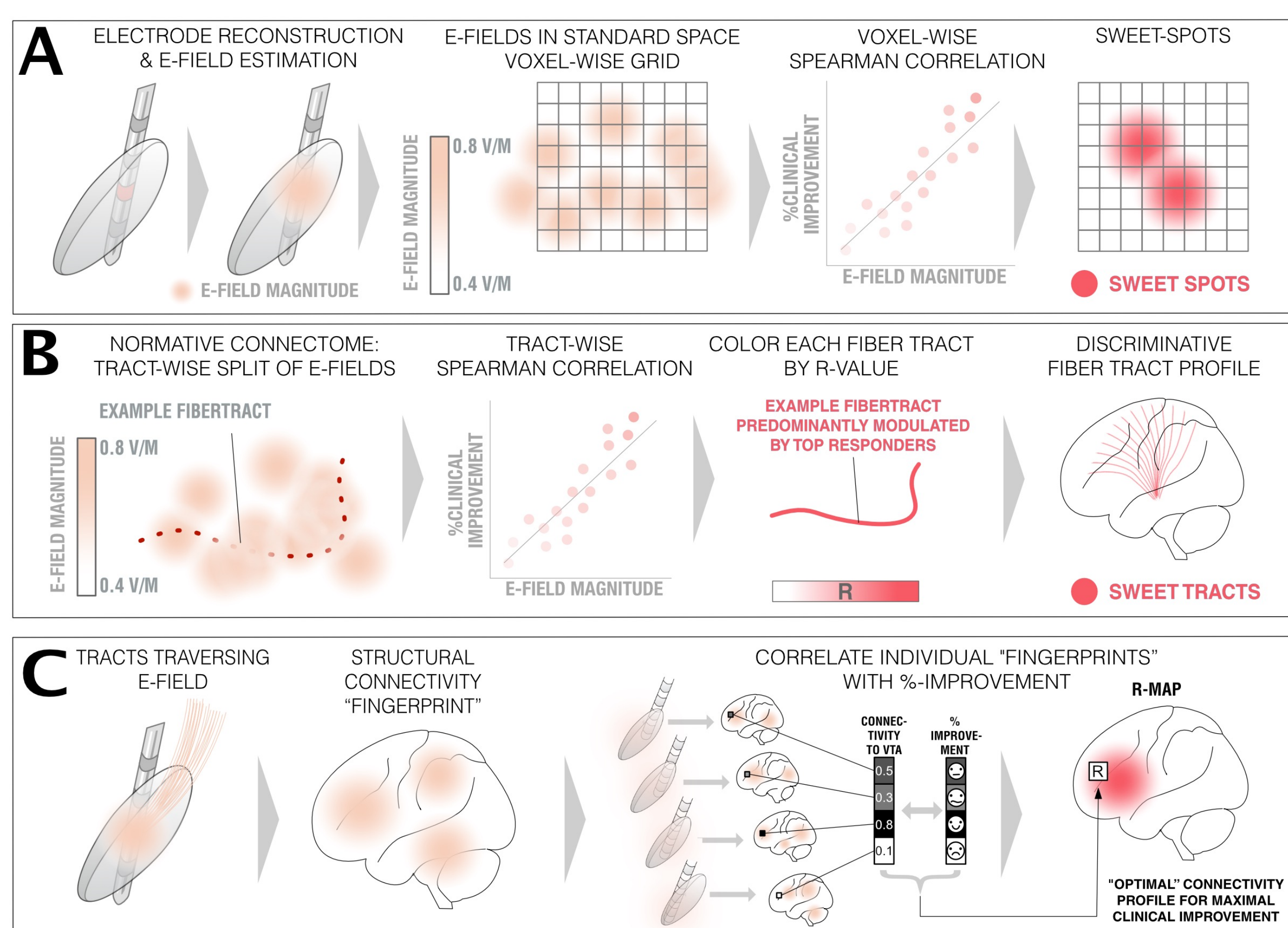
METHODS

PATIENTS: 8 DBS patient cohorts from 7 centers – **dystonia** (DYT; N = 76), **Parkinson's disease** (PD; N = 95), **Tourette syndrome** (TS; N = 14), and **obsessive-compulsive disorder** (OCD; N = 19)

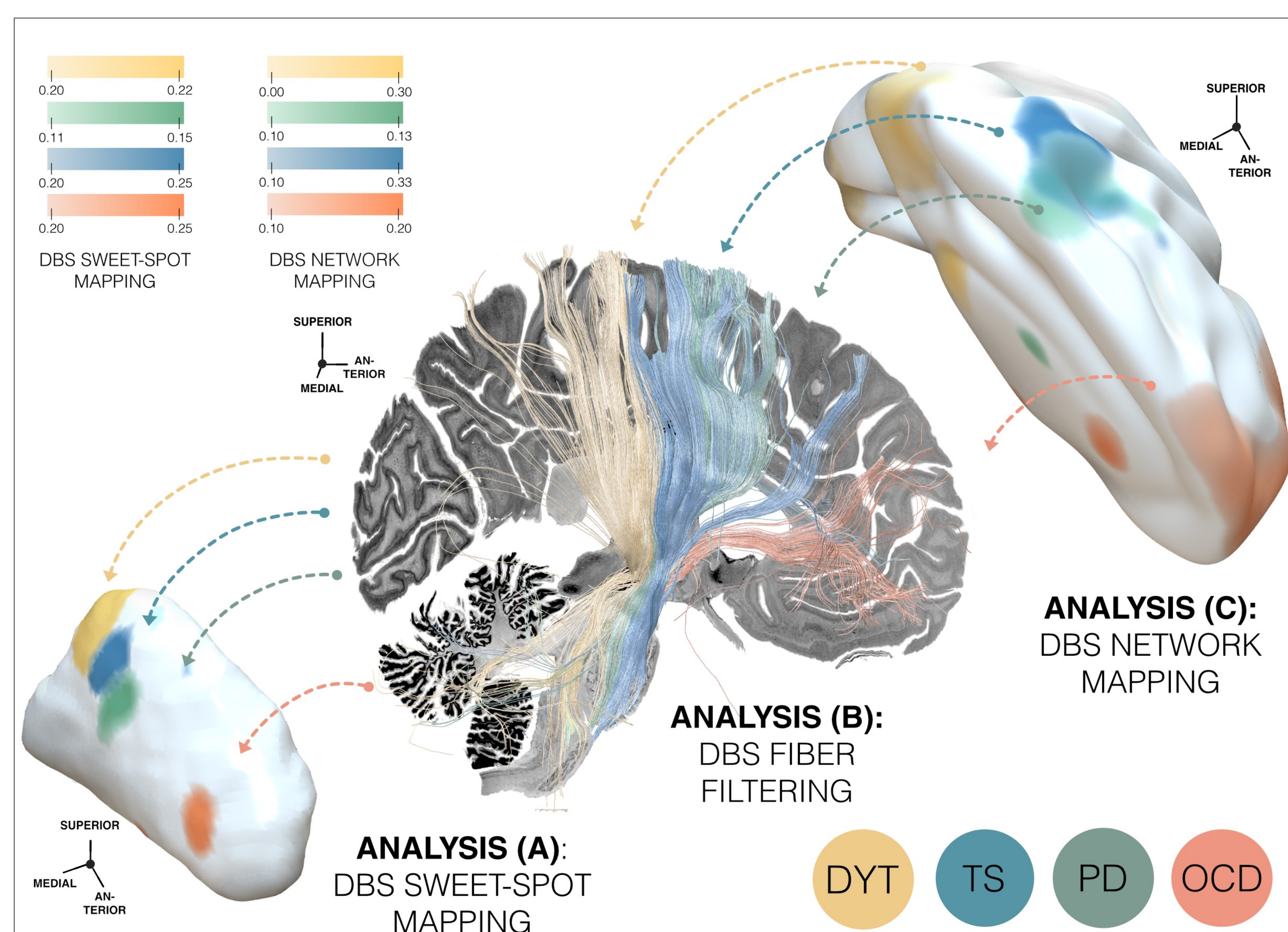
CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT: **Burke-Fahn-Marsden Dystonia Rating Scale** (DYT), **Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale–Part III** (PD), **Yale Global Tic Severity Scale** (TS), and **Yale-Brown Obsessive-Compulsive Scale** (OCD)

METHODOLOGICAL WORKFLOW:

- (1) Reconstruction of precise DBS electrode placement and stimulation volumes (E-fields) using Lead-DBS software
- (2) **DBS Sweet-Spot Mapping (A)**, **DBS Fiber Filtering (B)** and **DBS Network Mapping (C)** to identify voxels and *normative* tracts / cortical projection sites related to optimal clinical outcome



MAIN RESULTS

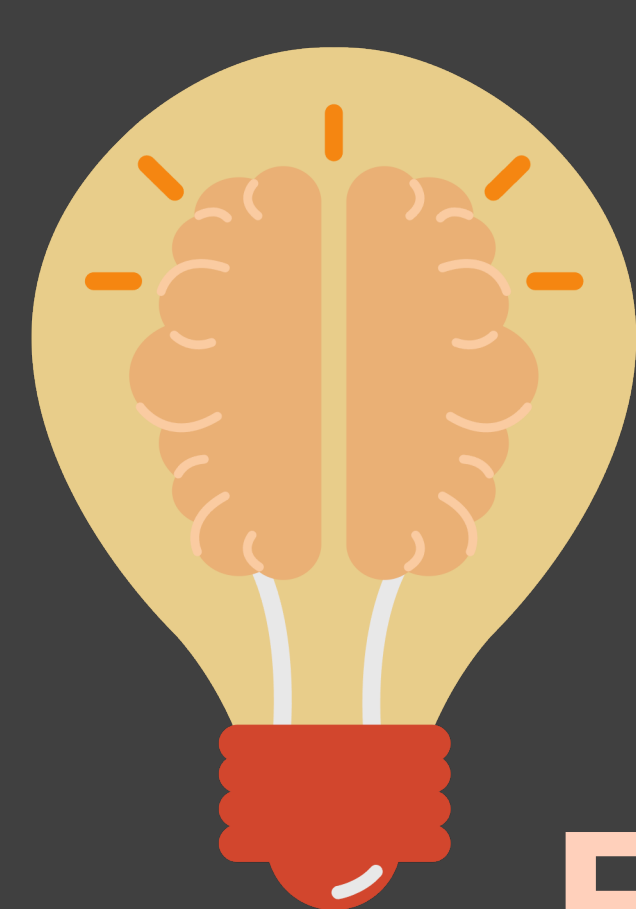


CONCLUSIONS

By its impact on distributed networks, DBS is a meaningful tool to **functionally segregate the prefrontal cortex**.

A functionally selective, caudo-rostral gradient of cortical organization is **mirrored within the subcortex** – in spatially compressed form.

This **"information funnel effect"** may explain why DBS to **integrator hubs** (e.g., the STN) is an effective treatment for a variety of brain disorders of heterogeneous phenomenology.



DBS OPENS A WINDOW INTO THE ORGANIZATIONAL GRADIENT OF FRONTAL NETWORK (DYS)FUNCTION.

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barbara.hollunder@charite.de or ningfei.li@charite.de



@b_hollunder, @NingfeiL or @netstim_org