## Recent Advances in TMS

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Outline

- TMS technology primer
- TMS Biomarkers
  - Techniques & measurement issues
- Examples





## **Strengths / Limitations**

- Temporal precision
  - Pulse <1ms, but action can be lasting</p>
- Spatial resolution
  - ~0.5 cm; has transsynaptic action but E-field cannot be focused at depth
- Tool to establish causality, with temporal and spatial precision
  - Test hypotheses generated by imaging and EEG
  - Absence of effect doesn't prove the area is uninvolved – may be methodological artifact
  - Interactions between illness/meds and TMS action



### Deception

- Spatial and temporal mapping of behavior-related circuitry
- Illustrates value of site and time specificity as control conditions
- But how can we know this isn't a methodological artifact?



red: truth>lie blue: lie>truth





Luber et al., In Review



## **TMS Dosage Parameters**

Coil

Orientation (current direction), Shape, Field distribution, Inductance (PW), Decay with distance













## Field Drop-Off in Depth



## **Depth versus Focality**





Deng, Peterchev, Lisanby IEEE BME 2008





## 5cm Rule TMS Dosage Parameters



#### Effect size = 0.34



#### Frameless Stereotaxy

#### MRI = 0.82 fMRI = 1.13



# Coil navigation systems



**Device** 



Higher frequencies Magnetic Seizure Therapy





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Sack et al. 2009

## TMS =



## Implies risk of unblinding <u>and</u> somatosensory confounds on ERP and Oscillation effects





Coil Tilt Sound

Metal Shield Sound Look

E-Field Cancellation: Sound; Look Dec. feel of active

Scalp Stim: Sound, Look, Simulates feel of active





## TMS/EMG

#### **Motor Circuitry**



Tracks acute changes in cortical excitability Reliable and reproducible But limited to M1  Motor evoked potential (MEP) measures

- Amplitude
- Latency
- Threshold
- Measures
  - CST integrity
  - Ion channel conductivity
  - Neuronal membrane excitability

## TMS/EEG

# Cortical excitability

- Probe extra-motor cortical excitability
- Passive, taskindependent
- Probe of ability to support neural oscillations – gamma
- Somatosensory confound



Mathalon & Ford. Am J Psych 2008 Ferrarelli et al. Am J Psych 2008

## TMS/fMRI

#### Connectivity











- TMS/fMRI interleaving
- Examine functional connectivity
- Probe pathophysiology
- Index of treatment effect
- Somatosensory confound



## **Concomitant Rx-Stimulation Interaction**

- Interaction of TMS induced neurotransmitter release in presence of med-induced receptor blockade
- Impact of med on excitability

#### Effect of Lamotrigine on TMS-induced BOLD response

•Dissociation between med effect on MT and excitability of other brain regions.

•MT may not always track with drug effects on excitability.

•Limitation in using MT as safety gauge and to individualize dosage

Decreas





Placebo

nus xo uced

ses)

ppTMS/EMG

#### Motor Cortex GABA

TMS Primer

#### Abnormal in Schizophrenia



- In vivo measure of GABA function
- Tracks changes in response to intervention
- Pharmacological underpinnings well studied
- Reliability well established

## Acute ppTMS/EEG

#### **Cortical GABA**

- Probe GABA function outside M1
- Examine functional connectivity
- Pharmacological underpinnings less studied
- Reliability less established

Daskalakis et al Neuropsychopharm 2008





#### Chronic PAS-TMS/EMG

Synaptic Plasticity

Block 3

Probe corticospinal tract excitability to detect deficient synaptic plasticity in schizophrenia

Baseline

-6

Block 1

#### **Deficient MEP enhancement**



#### Plasticity correlates with skill learning Rotary Pursuit Acquisition (sec) 6 $\diamond$ Healthv 2 SC7 2.5 3 1.5 2 -2

Block 2

**PAS-Induced MEP Facilitation** 



## Mechanisms: Repetitive TMS

## Tool to Modulate Cortical Plasticity and track dynamic changes in plasticity





Esser et al., Brain Res Bul 2006;69:86-94





## Controllable Pulse TMS (cTMS)

#### **Conventional TMS**





- Novel circuit topology
- User control of shape, width, directionality
- High frequency
   unidirectional rTMS
  - Novel biomarker first in vivo assessment of neuronal membrane time constant

Peterchev, Jalinous, & Lisanby 2008

TMS Primer

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#### Acute rTMS/EEG/Behavior

- Focal induction of gamma oscillations
- Permits assessment of functional role of neural oscillations
- But no impact on behavior, so unclear relevance



Gamma

Barr et al.



Neuropsychopharmacology (2009) 34, 2359-2367

## Acute rTMS/EEG/Behavior Alpha-Gamma



 Behavioral and physiological effects of TMS vary across individuals
 Is this variance noise or meaningful

rTMS-Induced Change in Alpha-band Power (dB)

Hamidi et al. 2009

signal?



Individual Differences in "Cognitive Reserve"

- The ability to maintain performance despite aging and/or dementia
  - -Neural Reserve
    - Normally occurring brain networks that are efficient and resilient to task demands
  - -Neural Compensation
    - Alternate networks recruited due to inability to utilize healthy networks.

# A new paradigm to study cognitive reserve and resilience

- Identify individual differences in network expression
   associated with working memory performance
  - Validate that network with fMRI-guided TMS (Luber et al, 2007)
- Model cognitive reserve in healthy subjects via sleep deprivation induced memory impairment
  - Identify cognitive reserve network (Habeck et al 2005)
  - Test network using fMRI-guided TMS to remediate function (Luber et al., 2008)
- Intervention development to prevent WM impairment
  - Attempt to prevent the development of WM impairments (Luber et al., in preparation)







## Theta Modulation of Gamma as Mechanisms for TMS WM Enhancement?



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Chen et al. 2009



Modulating

Cognition



600

Sham

SO

PC

LO

Example



- TMS during during task performance to entrain network utilization and block performance decrements before they occur.
- 5 Hz rTMS 100 % MT, 7s, ITI 25 s, retention phase of DMS task, superior occipital gyrus
- Sham-controlled randomized trial



# Active TMS prevented decline in WM performance with sleep deprivation





Luber et al. In preparation



Remediating

Cognition

## TMS Effects on Network Expression

Remediating Cognition



- •fMRI Multivariate linear model analysis
- •Network distinguishes active and sham groups
- •2 regions, left occipito/temporo/parietal and right parahippomcapal gyrus.

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Illustrates power of coupling TMS with fMRI modeling of individual differences
Confirmation of reserve associated networks
Suggests TMS effects on behavior achieved via modulation of network expression



## What we know



What we don't know

- Exact mechanisms of action
- Interactions between TMS mechanisms, illness, and med effects
- Optimal techniques to probe and remediate cognition



## **Future Directions**

- Refined targeting of cortical regions
  - E-field shaping with specialized coils
- Refined targeting of transsynaptic action
  - Structural (DTI) and functional (fMRI, EP) connectivity
- Optimized dosing via intermediate biomarkers
  - To achieve specific physiological effects
- Validated methods to individualize dosage outside M1





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