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Aligned motion-direction information for touch and vision in the human brain



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Introduction

Motion can be perceived through multiple senses like vision and touch. Where does this motion information coming from different senses aligns in the brain?

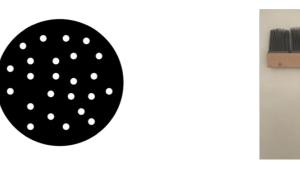
Since vision and touch are initially coded in different spatial frames of reference, it can be hypothesised that the tactile motion-directions can be remapped to a common external frame of reference in a region that is both visual and tactile motion selective.

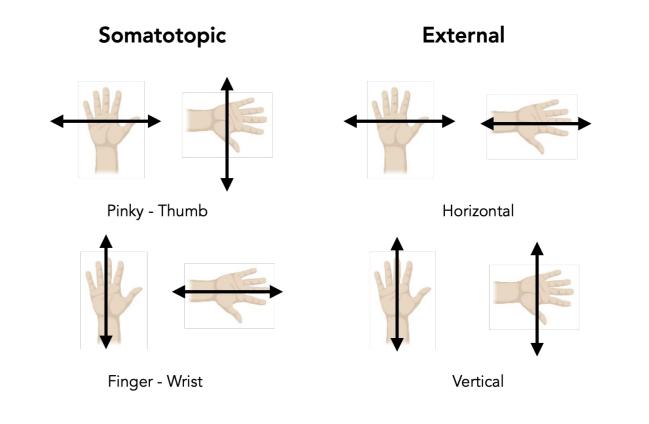
Materials and Method



Healthy adults: right handed



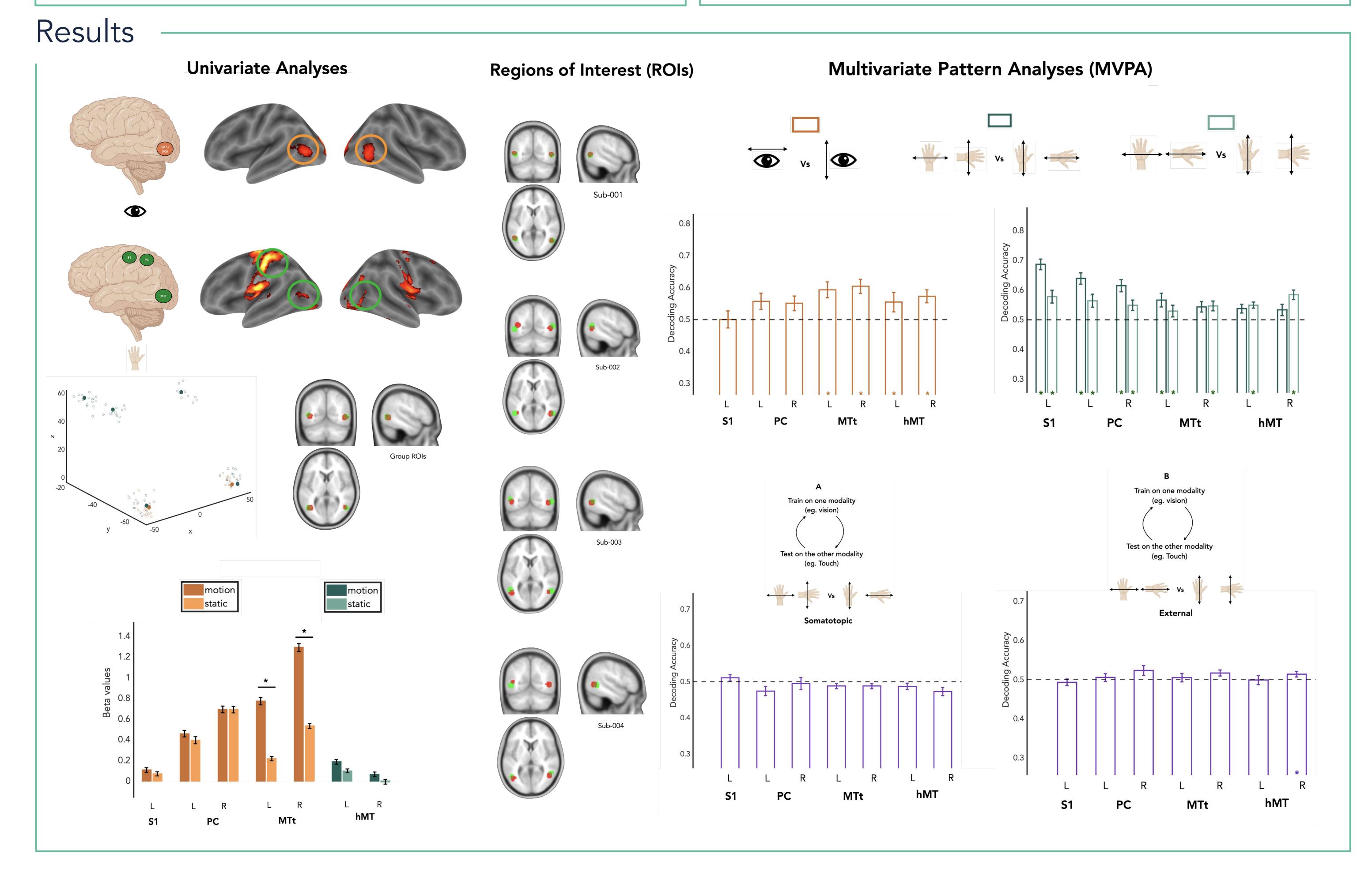




Experiment III: Directional motion decoding experiment

In addition to processing visual motion signals, the middle temporal area hMT+/V5 selectively responds to tactile as well as auditory motion information. Here, we aim to identify the visual and tactile motion selective areas and study the representation of the directions across different frames of references in each of these areas.

(n= 18 subjects)		(n= 20 subjects)	
Visual motion localizer	W.	₹ 1 x 4	
		★ ★ X4 X10 runs	
Tactile motion localizer			
★ ↓ Static Touch ✓ ↓ Static Touch	•	₹ ↑ X4	



Conclusions

hMT/V5 is tactile motion selective.

Tactile motion-direction selectivity is observed in sensory specific as well as in the MT region.

Right hMT/V5 seems to code the tactile motion-directions in a representation that is similar to the visual motion-directions. This suggests that it uses a common external frame of reference.

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