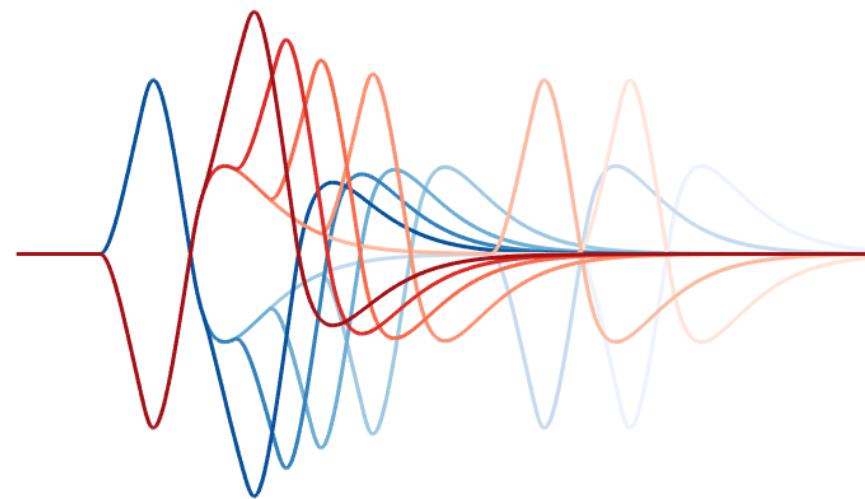




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## Reaction times capture temporal interactions in electrical hearing

Ignacio Calderon De Palma, Andy J. Beynon, A. John van Opstal, Joerg Pesch,  
Emmanuel A. M. Mylanus, Marc M. van Wanrooij

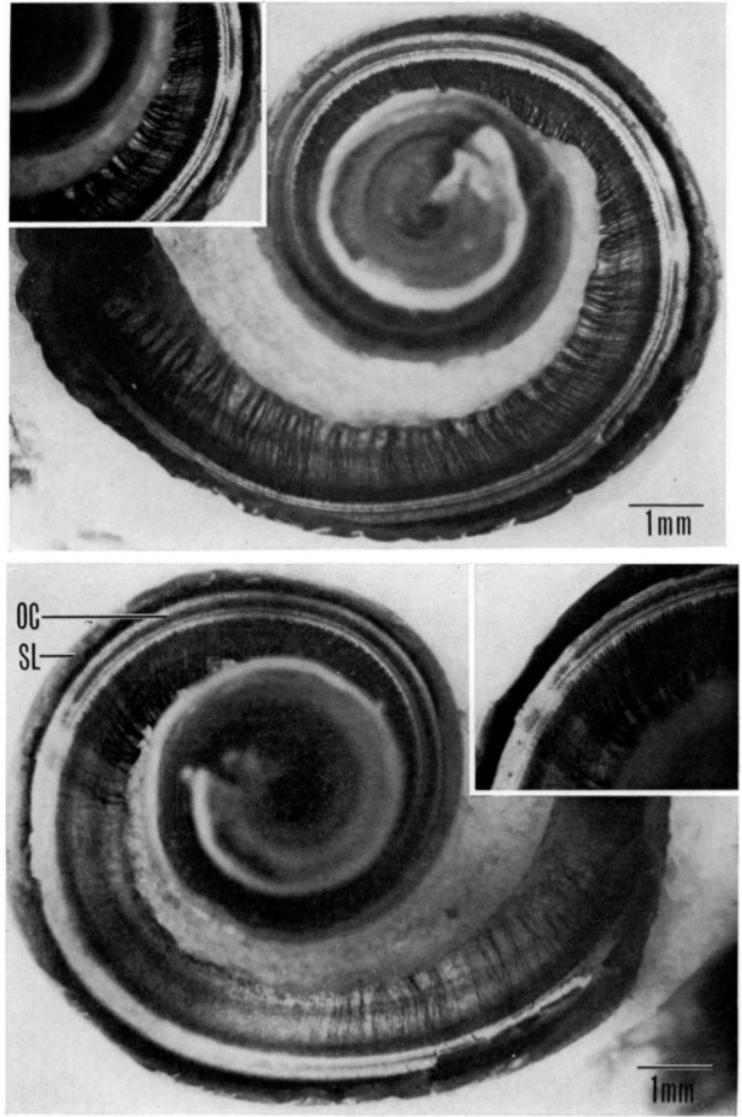


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Introduction

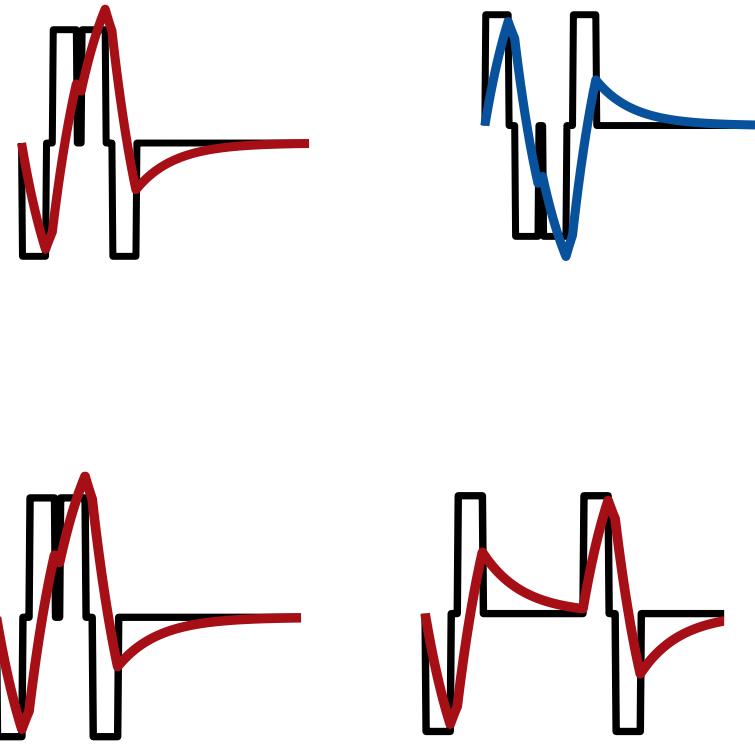
## It's about time

- How does **timing between pulses** affect perception for cochlear implant users?
  - What can this tell us about the auditory periphery?
- How to **improve** measurement efficiency?
  - Reaction times?



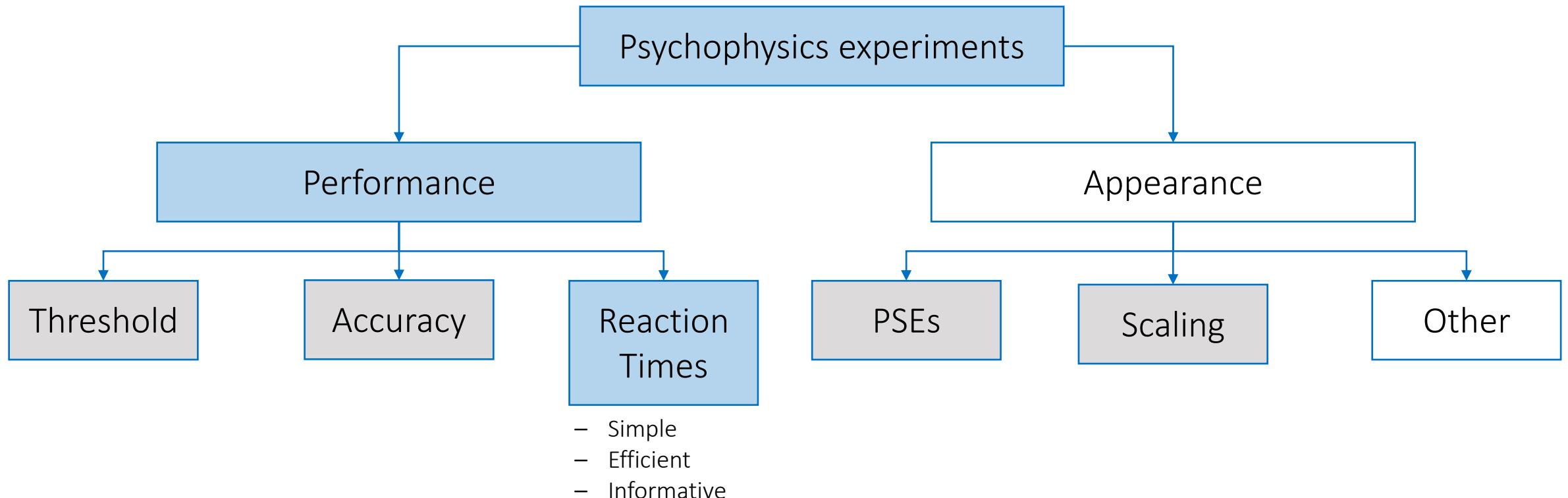
## Interactions between pulses: Why?

- **Polarity sensitivity**
  - Differential sensitivity to a phase of the stimulus.
- **Temporal integration**
  - Passive membrane properties of neurons.
  - Active mechanisms related to number of sodium channels



## Behaviour

- Reaction time



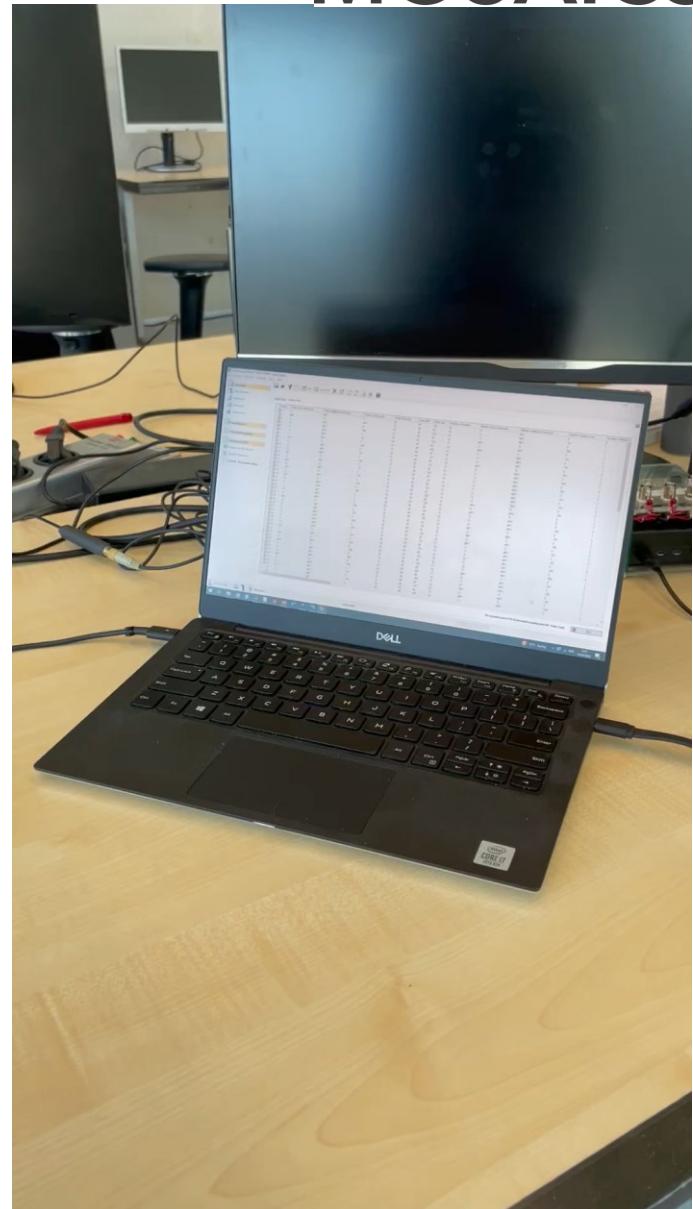
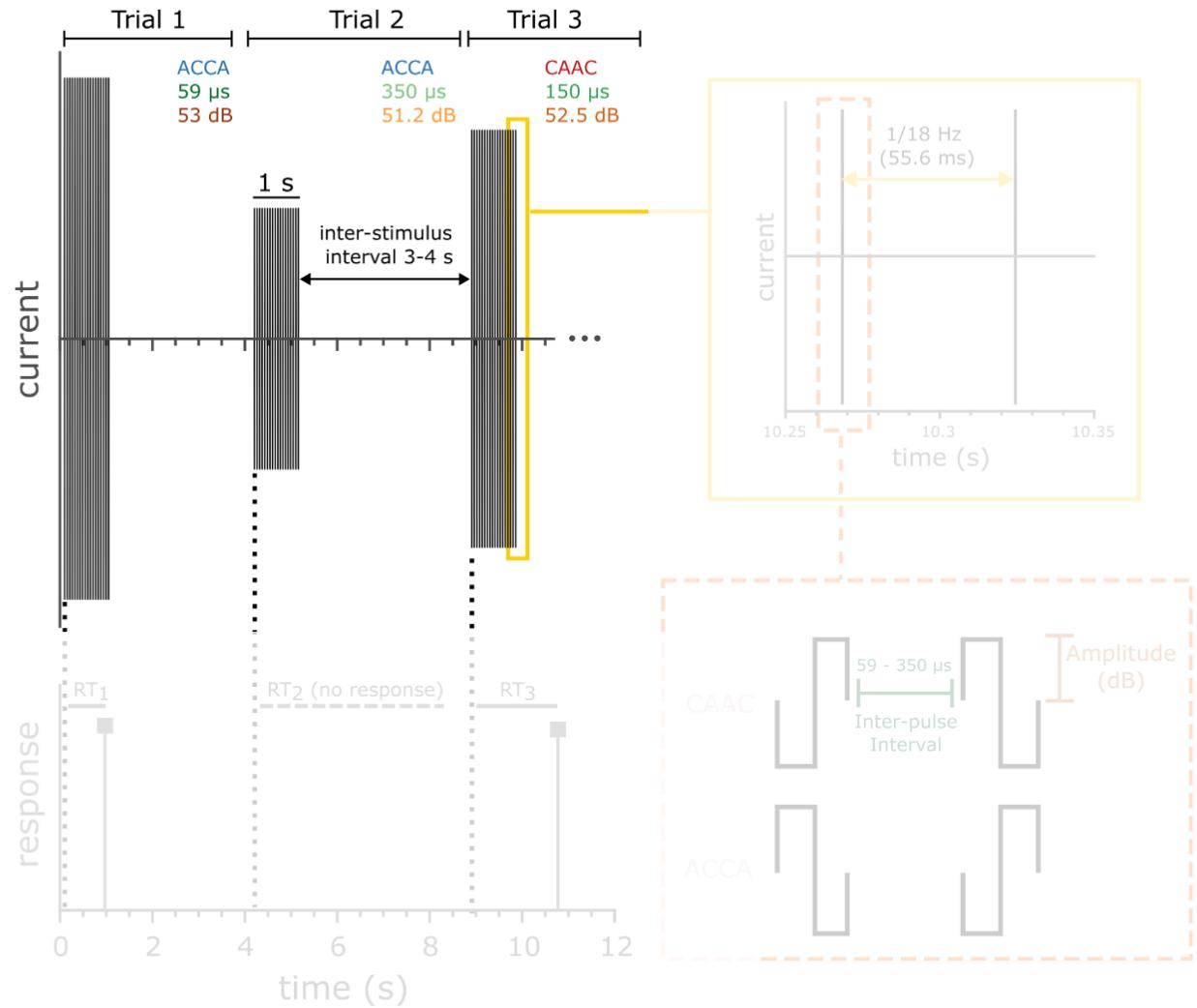
Humans: de Balthasar et al, 2003; Nelson et al. 2011, **Karg et al., 2013; Guerit et al., 2020, 2021**

Animal models: Middlebrooks, 2004, Cartee et al. 2006

Measuring interactions: How?

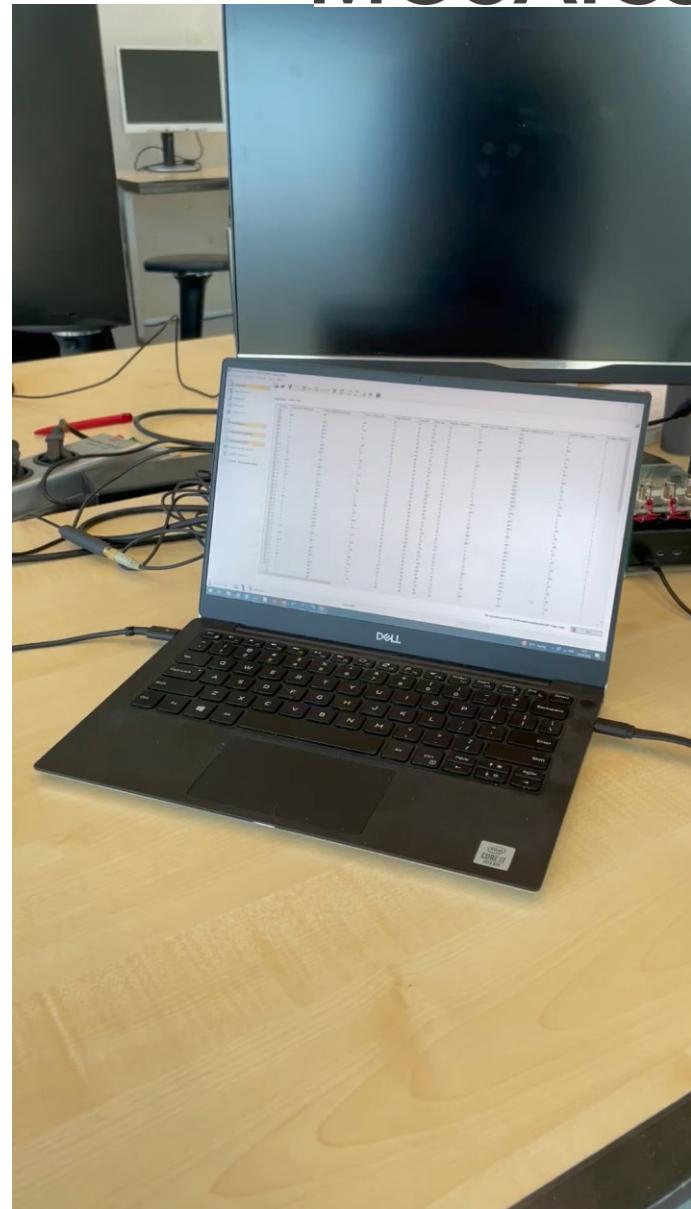
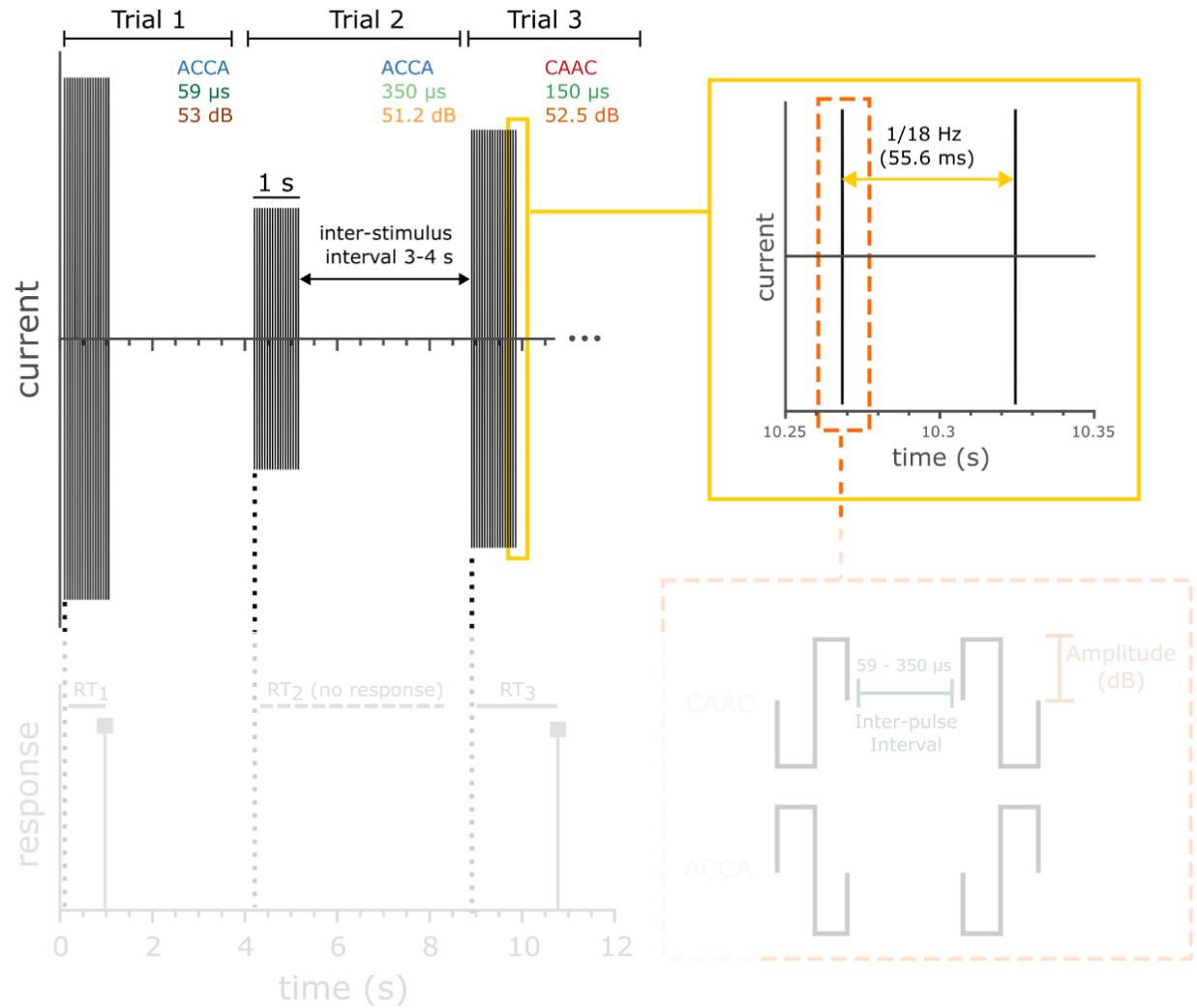
# Methods

## Reaction times - Setup



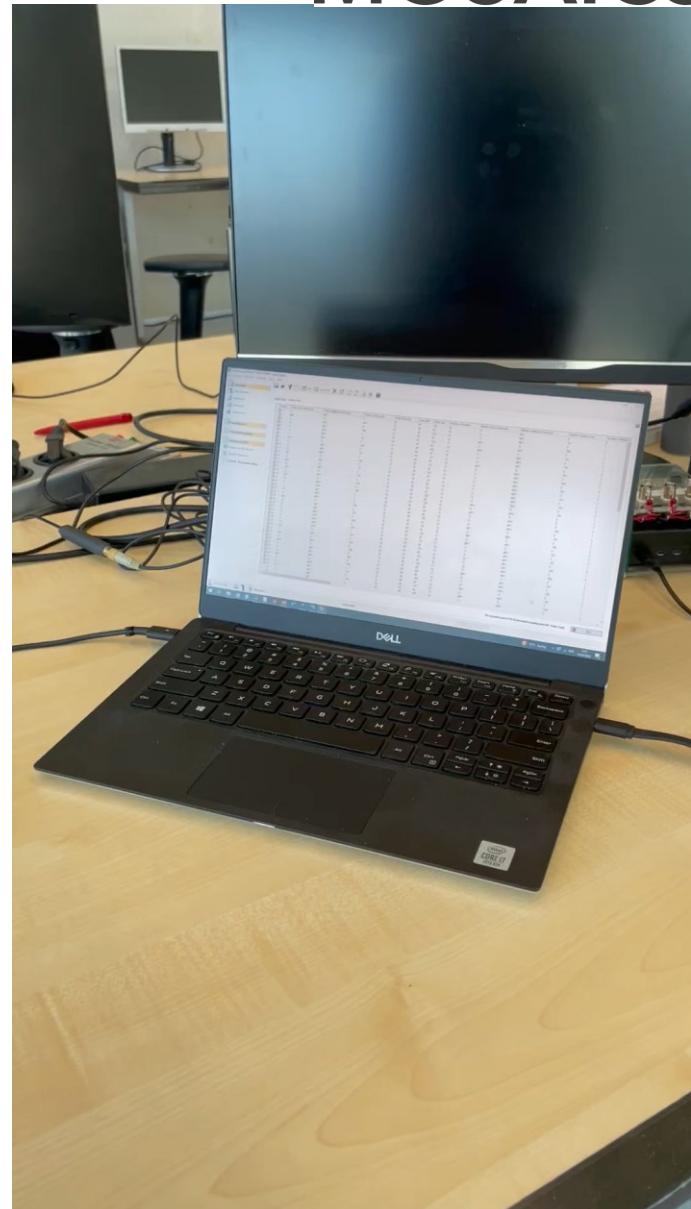
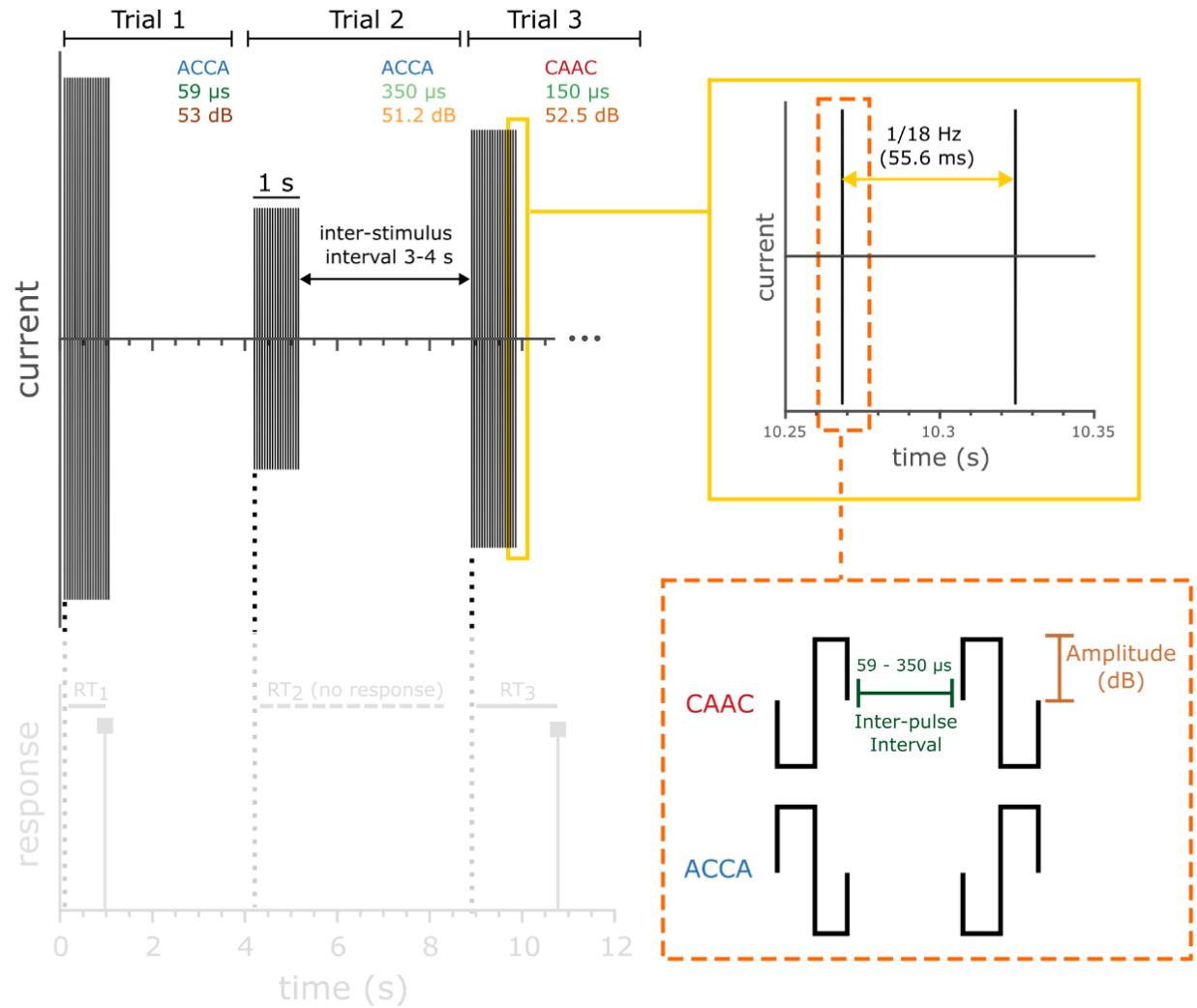
# Methods

## Reaction times - Setup



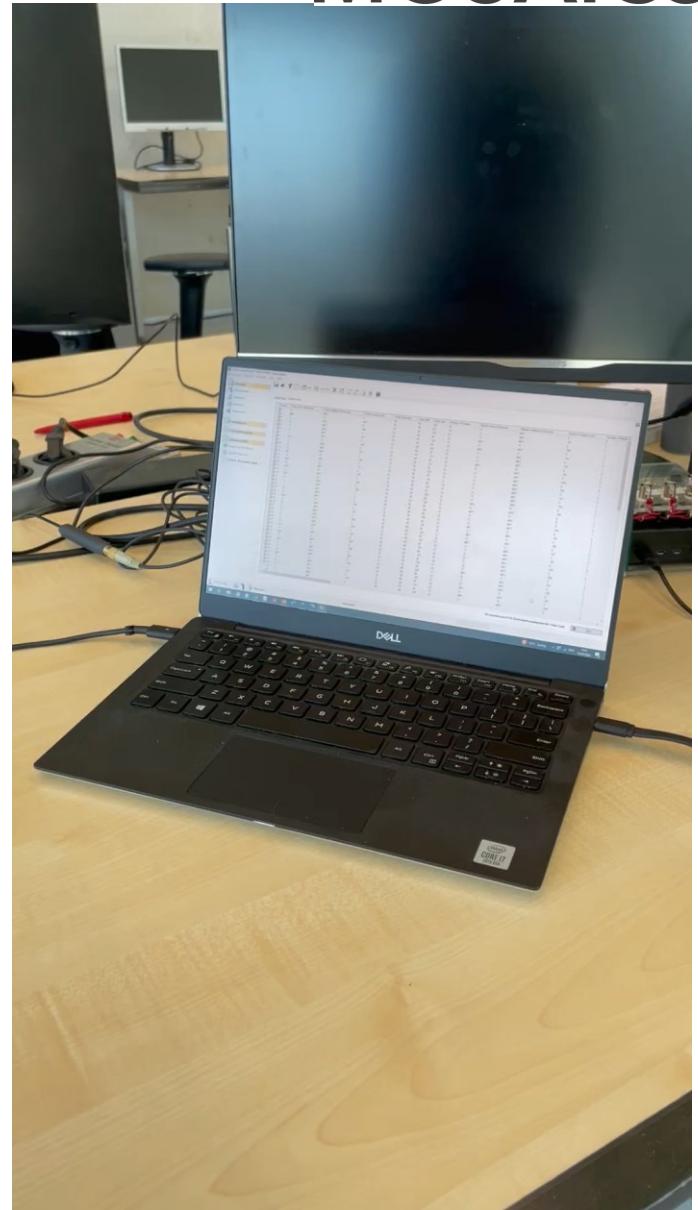
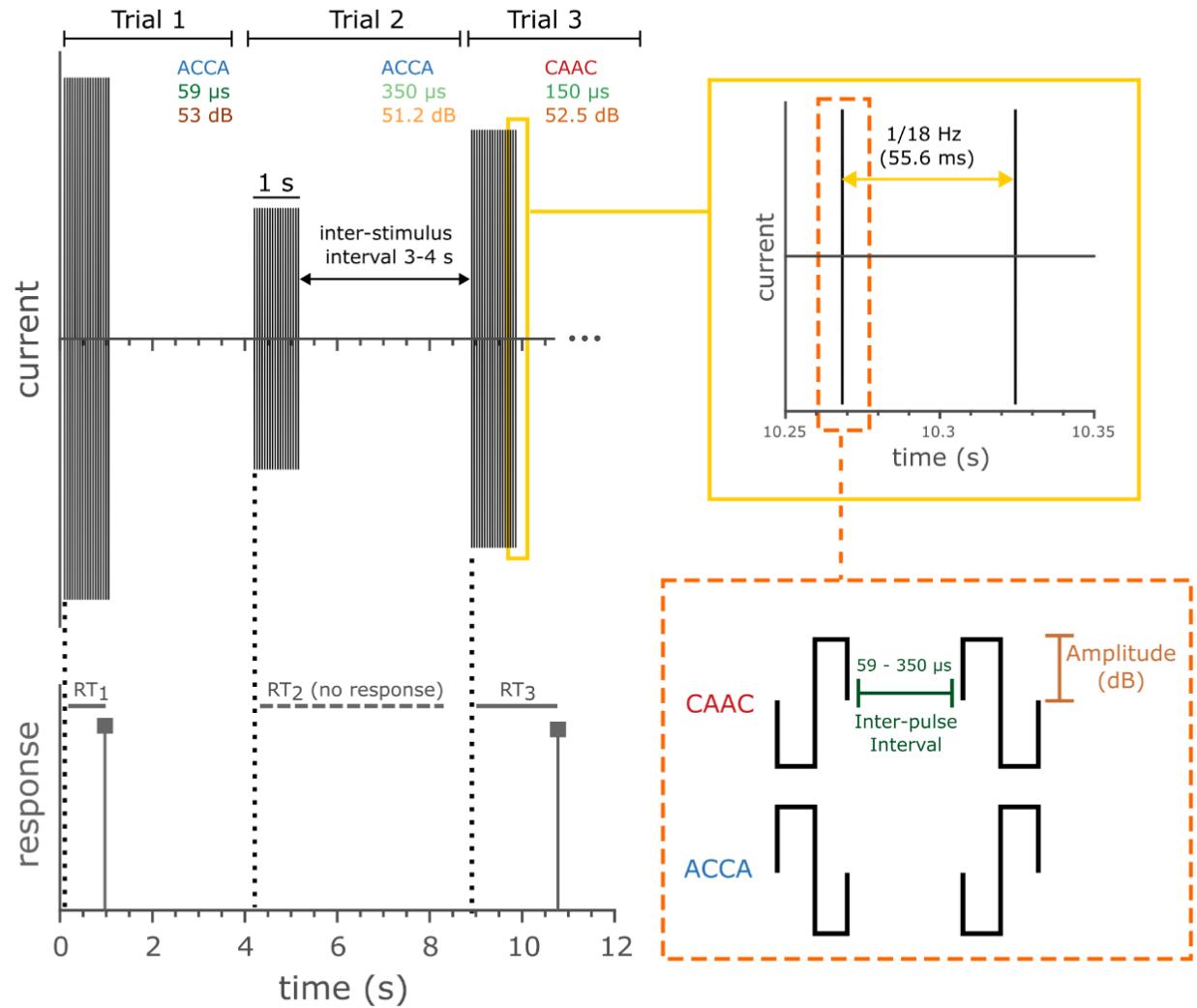
# Methods

## Reaction times - Setup



# Methods

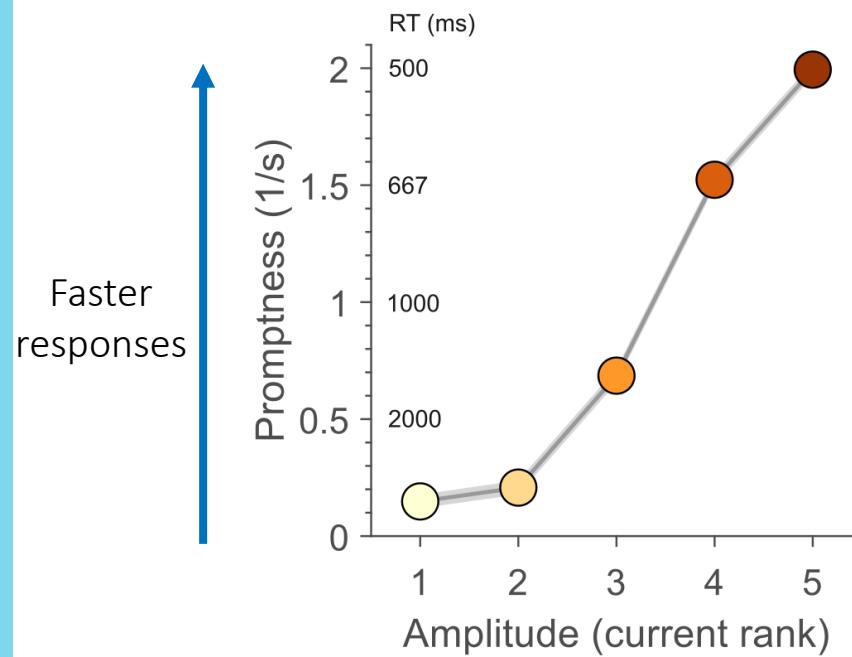
## Reaction times - Setup



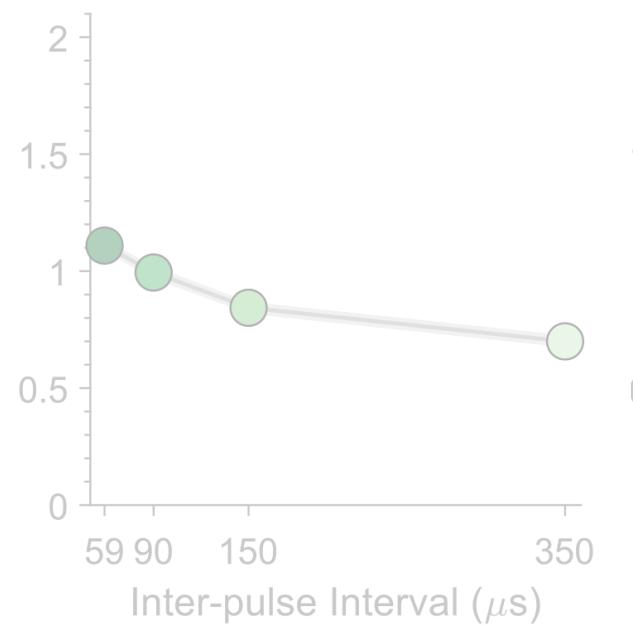
Group data (N = 14 Adults)

CI users become:

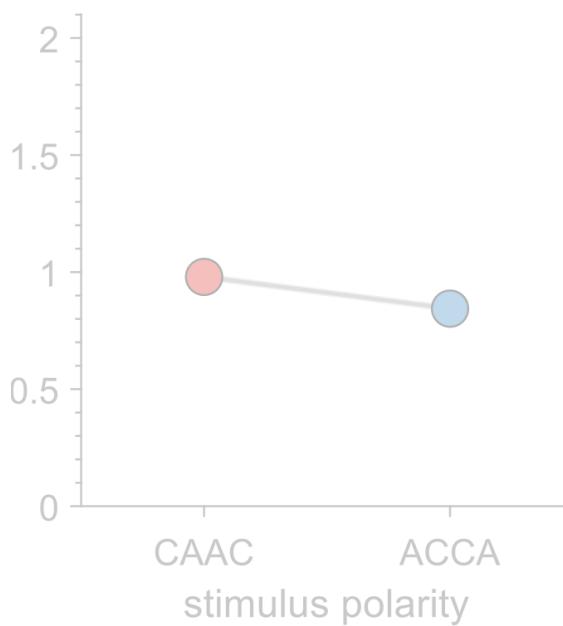
**Faster with increasing amplitude**



Faster with decreasing inter-pulse interval



Faster for anodic consecutive phases



ANOVA

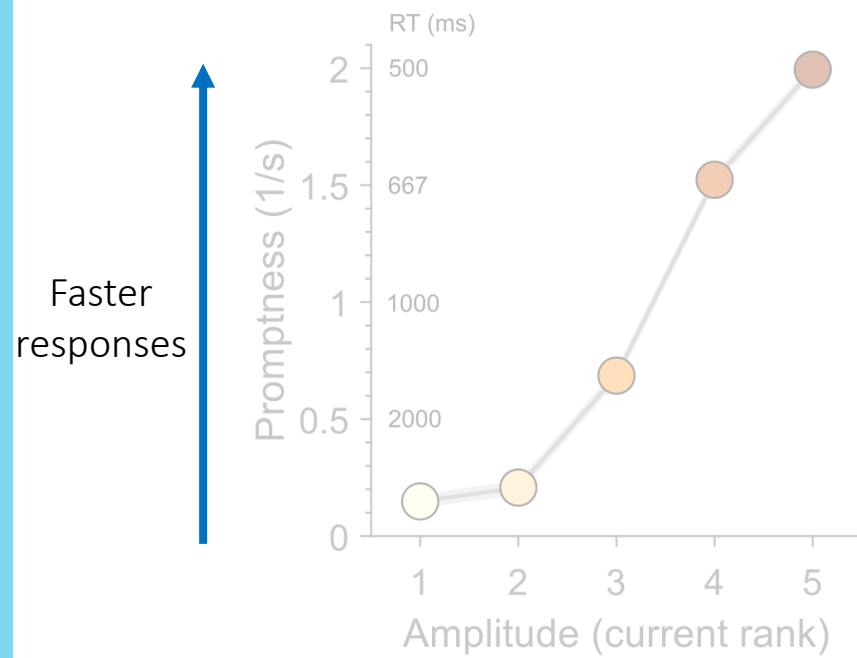
N=14 (Adults, single medial electrode)

Mean  $\pm$  95% highest density intervals (shaded region)

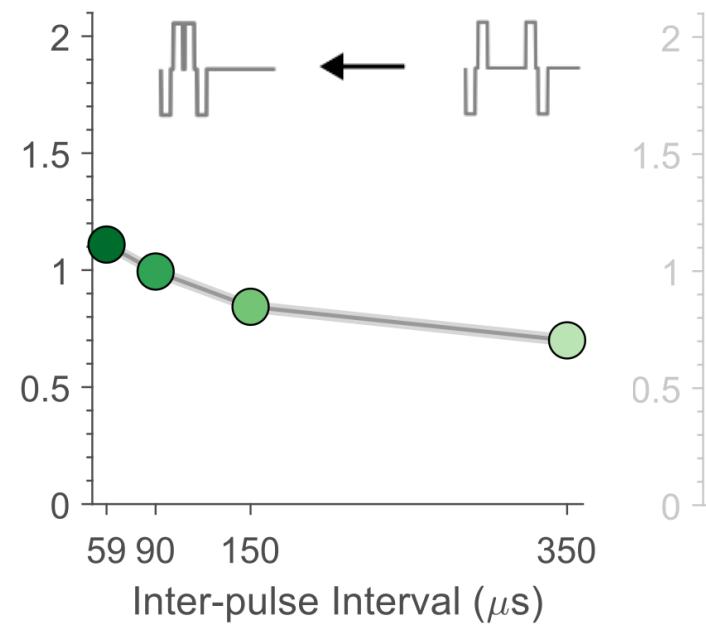
Group data (N = 14 Adults)

CI users become:

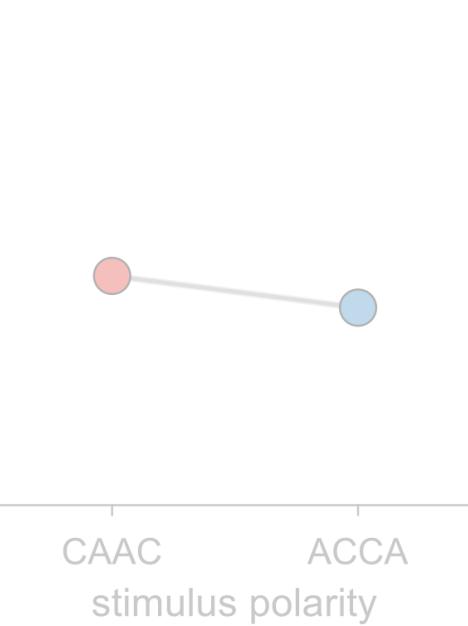
Faster with increasing amplitude



Faster with decreasing inter-pulse interval



Faster for anodic consecutive phases



ANOVA

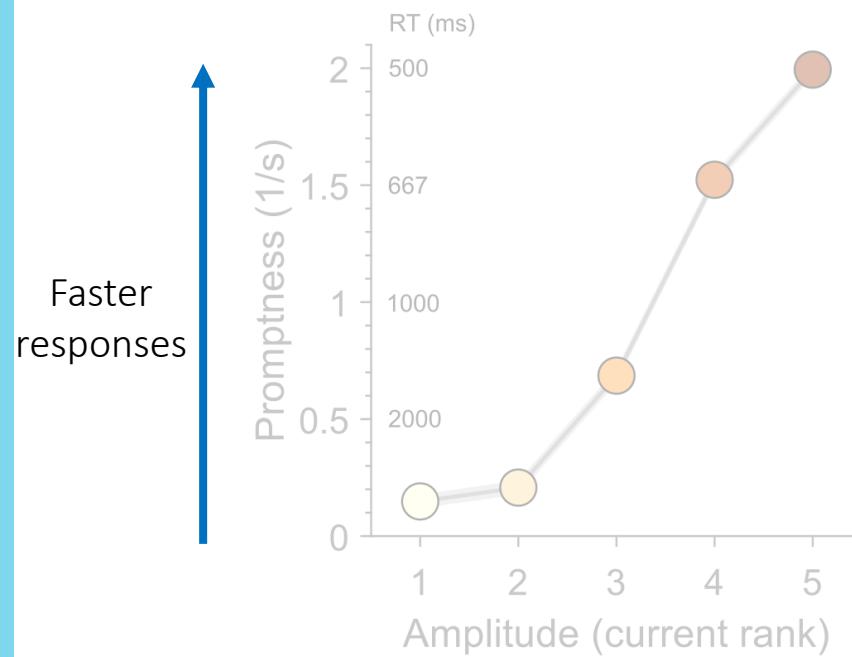
N=14 (Adults, single medial electrode)

Mean  $\pm$  95% highest density intervals

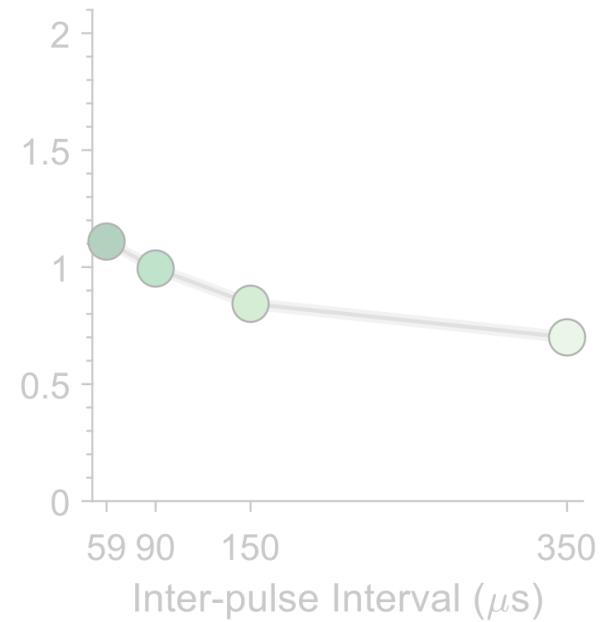
Group data (N = 14 Adults)

CI users become:

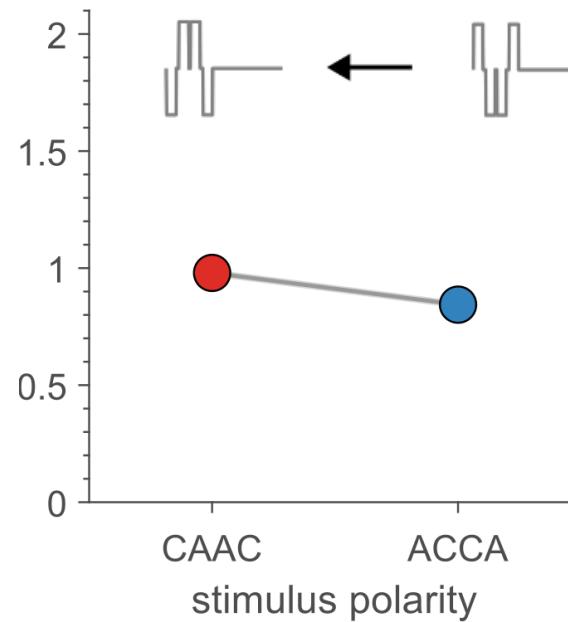
Faster with increasing amplitude



Faster with decreasing inter-pulse interval



**Faster for consecutive anodic phases**



ANOVA

N=14 (Adults, single medial electrode)

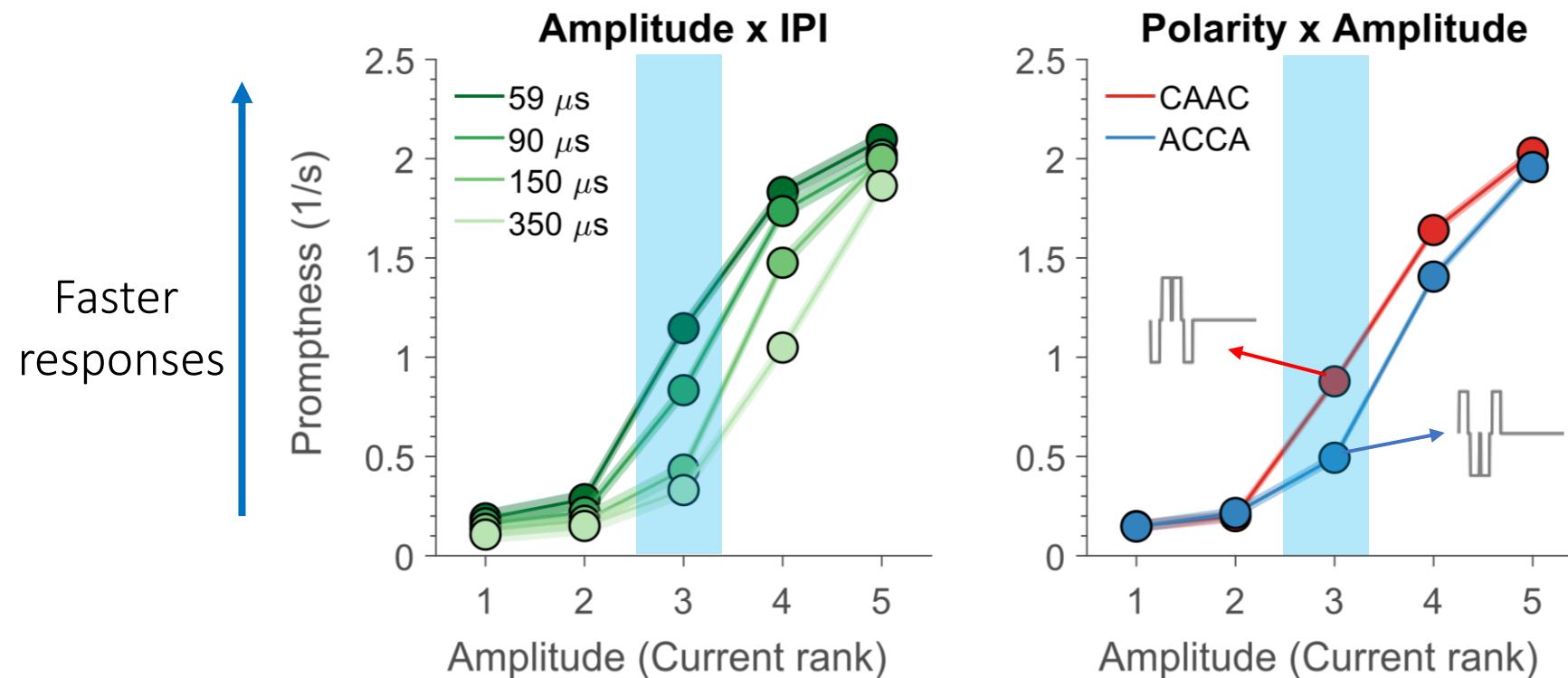
Mean  $\pm$  95% highest density intervals

Group data (N = 14 Adults) - Interactions

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## Polarity sensitivity and temporal interactions captured with reaction times

- Dependence on stimulation amplitude
  - Saturation of chronometric function





Closing

MOSAICS

## Take home messages

- Reaction times provide us a **reliable measure of temporal interactions** for cochlear implant users.



Closing

MOSAICS

## Take home messages

- Reaction times provide us a **reliable measure of temporal interactions** for cochlear implant users.

What does this mean for clinical practice?

- Efficient measures
- Extend to populations **beyond adults**.
- Relate behaviour to electrophysiology (e.g. eCAPs).

# MOSAICS



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Also thanks to Gunther Windau and Ruurd Lof for the Digital Event Recorder

I recycle, re-use grocery bags, only take public transport and cycle, keep a (beautiful) small garden.