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## Deep brain stimulation induces BOLD activation in motor and non-motor networks: An fMRI comparison study of STN and EN/GPi DBS in large animals

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### Abstract

The combination of deep brain stimulation (DBS) and functional MRI (fMRI) is a powerful means of tracing brain circuitry and testing the modulatory effects of electrical stimulation on a neuronal network *in vivo*. The goal of this study was to trace DBS-induced global neuronal network activation in a large animal model by monitoring the blood oxygenation level-dependent (BOLD) response on fMRI. We conducted DBS in normal anesthetized pigs, targeting the subthalamic nucleus (STN) (n=7) and the entopeduncular nucleus (EN), the non-primate analogue of the primate globus pallidus interna (n=4). Using a normalized functional activation map for group analysis and the application of general linear modeling across subjects, we found that both STN and EN DBS significantly increased BOLD activation in the ipsilateral sensorimotor network (FDR < 0.001). In addition, we found differential, target-specific, non-motor network effects. In each group the activated brain areas showed a distinctive correlation pattern forming a group of network connections. Results suggest that the scope of DBS extends beyond an ablation-like effect and that it may have modulatory effects not only on circuits that facilitate motor function but also on those involved in higher cognitive and emotional processing. Taken together, our results show that the swine model for DBS fMRI, which conforms to human implanted DBS electrode configurations and human neuroanatomy, may be a useful platform for translational studies investigating the global neuromodulatory effects of DBS.

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## Keywords

Deep brain stimulation (DBS); Parkinson's disease (PD); subthalamic nucleus (STN); globus pallidus interna (GPi); entopeduncular nucleus (EN); pedunculopontine nucleus (PPN); functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI); swine model; neural circuitry

## Introduction

Deep brain stimulation (DBS) is a well-established restorative therapy for movement disorders, such as those associated with Parkinson's disease (PD) (Benabid, 2003; Deuschl et al., 2006), essential tremor (Benabid et al., 1993), and dystonia (Greene, 2005). The nucleus ventralis intermedius of the thalamus, the globus pallidus interna (GPi), and the subthalamic nucleus (STN) are the most frequently used DBS targets for movement disorders (Benabid et al., 1998; Krack et al., 1999).

The two most common targets for the motor symptoms of advanced PD are GPi and STN (Anderson et al., 2005; DBS-study-group, 2001). Both have been found effective for treating tremor, rigidity, and bradykinesia (Anderson et al., 2005; Benabid et al., 1994; Burchiel et al., 1999; Ghika et al., 1998; Okun and Foote, 2005), but with some notable differences. For example, GPi DBS has been found more effective than STN for treating dyskinesias (Anderson et al., 2005; Wu et al., 2001). Conversely, STN DBS appears more effective in treating severe tremor (Krack et al., 1998), akinesia (Brown et al., 1999), and for reducing dependence on dopaminergic drugs such as L-Dopa and the dyskinesias associated with its use (Krack et al., 1999; Limousin et al., 1998). Finally, adverse cognitive and behavioral effects are more frequently associated with STN than with GPi (Anderson et al., 2005; DBS-study-group, 2001; Okun and Foote, 2005).

The cognitive and psychiatric complications induced by DBS may be partly attributed to current spread into structures and substructures adjacent to the implantation site, causing unintended neural network activation (Alexander et al., 1986; Chopra et al., 2011). Both STN and GPi are key relay areas in the basal ganglia-thalamocortical circuitries, and both project to sensorimotor, limbic, and associative areas in the cortex (McIntyre and Hahn, 2010). In accordance with the classic basal ganglia model, electrical stimulation of STN and GPi should facilitate projections to these cortical areas (Kringelbach et al., 2007).

To investigate the global effects of STN and GPi DBS stimulation *in vivo*, previous studies have used fMRI or PET in conjunction with DBS stimulation in human patients who have had DBS surgery for PD. These investigations have been single-case reports or within-subject studies of motor and behavioral changes with and without DBS stimulator activation. In general, these fMRI and PET studies have found activation or, in some cases, deactivation of ipsilateral primary sensorimotor cortex, premotor cortex, the supplementary motor area, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, the basal ganglia, the brainstem and the contralateral cerebellum (Haslinger et al., 2003; Jech et al., 2001; Phillips et al., 2006; Stefurak et al., 2003).

To better characterize the neural network and circuitry fed by STN and EN/GPi in the normal brain and to better understand the global effects of DBS, we combined DBS with fMRI studies in a large animal model, focusing on cortical as well as subcortical pathways activated by electrical stimulation. The combination of functional imaging with DBS is a powerful technique for tracing the brain's circuitry (Grafton and DeLong, 1997). For example, selective and reversible changes can be made in stimulation parameters during a single fMRI scanning session, which allows one to vary, and thus test, the modulatory potential of electricity on a subcortical-cortical pathway (Ceballos-Baumann et al., 1999;

Ceballos-Baumann et al., 2001; Davis et al., 2000; Deiber et al., 1993; Haslinger et al., 2003; Jech et al., 2001; Rezai et al., 1999; Stefurak et al., 2003).

To investigate the global neuronal network effect of DBS we compared the blood oxygenation level-dependent (BOLD) response evoked by STN stimulation in anesthetized normal pigs with that evoked by stimulation of the entopeduncular nucleus (EN), which is the non-primate analog of the human GPi segment. Prior to the initiation of the experiment, we targeted the substantia nigra (SN) in a single pig for proof-of-principle.

The swine model was chosen because the large brain volume (pig brain:~160g) is comparable to that of the non-human primate (rhesus monkey brain:~100g) (Hardman et al., 2002; Shon et al., 2010), and with a gyrencephalic cortex, more closely represents human brain anatomy than do the brains of small animal models, such as rodents (Pour-El, 2006; Shon et al., 2010; Van Gompel et al., 2011; Wakeman et al., 2006). We took a novel approach using a high-resolution 3-dimensional pig brain atlas (Saikali et al., 2010), which allowed us to normalize the functional activation map and to apply general linear modeling in each subject group. This method has the advantage of permitting regression analysis for every voxel across subjects, resulting in a high statistical power that corresponds to the predictor variables (e.g., electrical stimulation parameters and target location).

## Materials and Methods

### Animals and DBS Electrode Implantation

All study procedures were performed in accordance with the National Institutes of Health Guidelines for Animal Research (Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals) and approved by Mayo Clinic Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. The subject groups consisted of 7 pigs with STN as the stimulation target and 4 pigs with EN/GPi as the stimulation target. Prior to the STN-EN/GPi comparison study, we targeted the SN in a single pig for proof of principle. The domestic male pigs weighed  $30\pm 5$  kg at the time of the fMRI experiment. They were fed once a day, had ad libitum access to water, and were housed individually, but with visual access to each other, in a controlled environment with humidity at 45% and temperature at 21°C. Each subject was initially sedated with Telazol (5 mg/kg i.m.) and Xylazine (2 mg/kg i.m.), followed by intubation. Sedation was maintained with a solution of 1.5–3% isoflurane during surgery and 1.5–2% isoflurane during the fMRI experiment. The vital signs (heart rate:~120bpm, respiration rate:12/min, and temperature: 36–37°C) were continuously monitored throughout the procedure.

An MR image-guided stereotactic targeting system for large animals, developed by our group, was used for DBS electrode targeting and has been previously described (Figure S1) (Shon et al., 2010). The preoperative anatomical 3D MP-RAGE image obtained for targeting was generated from a General Electric (GE) Signa HDx 3.0 Tesla (T) whole-body MRI scanner with the following parameters: repetition time (TR), 11 ms; echo time (TE), 5.16 ms; inversion time (TI), 1000 ms; flip angle (FA), 8°; slice thickness (ST), 1 mm; field of view (FOV), 24 × 24 mm; matrix, 256 × 256; slice number, 128; frequency direction (FD), A/P; Fast SPGR; ZIPx2; ZIP 512; number of excitations (NEX), 3; acquisition time (TA), 38.20 min. A custom 3.0 T radiofrequency (RF) coil, developed in our institution's MRI RF coil laboratory specifically for this research, was used for all imaging. This fabricated RF coil is a four channel, receive-only, phased array coil with four overlapping octagon-shaped elements with each element measuring 7.3 centimeters in diameter. The coil array is small enough to fit just above the pig's skull inside the stereotactic head frame, a set-up that provides excellent signal-to-noise ratio. MR image-based targeting using a pig brain atlas as a reference (Felix et al., 1999; Saikali et al., 2010) was performed using COMPASS navigational software (modified for large animals) to determine the Leksell coordinates for

targets STN, EN/GPi or SN and to determine a safe trajectory for delivery of the electrode (Figure S1B). A DBS electrode (Model 3389, Medtronic Inc.) was introduced using an Alpha-Omega computer-controlled microdrive (Alpha Omega Co.). The DBS lead was secured on the skull using an anchoring system of burr hole ring and cap before being transferred from the surgical suite. Additionally, the animals were firmly secured on a carrying plate to minimize motion while moving to the MR/CT scanner. The location of the electrode was confirmed through a post-surgical CT (Dual source Somatom Definition, Siemens AG) scan (Image resolution  $0.6 \times 0.6 \times 0.6$  mm) which was co-registered using a 6-parameter rigid-body transformation with the pre-MRI MP-RAGE scan (FSL, FM-RIB Analysis group) (Cho et al., 2010; Smith et al., 2004; Starr et al., 2002) (Figure 1C).

## fMRI and DBS

Following electrode implantation, subjects were transferred to the MRI scanner. For anatomical registration, 2D T2-weighted fast spin-echo (FSE) images were obtained with the following parameters: TR, 3000 ms; TE, 110 ms; FA,  $90^\circ$ ; BW, 8.33 kHz; echo train length, 10; ST, 2.4 mm; FOV,  $15 \times 15$  mm; matrix,  $320 \times 320$ ; slice number, 32; NEX, 1; TA, 5.07 min. fMRI was performed using a gradient echo (GRE) echo-planar imaging (EPI) pulse sequence with the following parameters: TR, 3000 ms; TE, 34.1 ms; FA,  $90^\circ$ ; BW, 62.5 kHz; ST, 2.4 mm; FOV,  $15 \times 15$  mm; matrix,  $64 \times 64$ ; slice number, 32; FD, R/L; TA, 12.45 min. GRE EPI integrated spatial spectral pulse was used for fat suppression. To eliminate any movement during the fMRI experiment, the pigs were administered a 2mg bolus of pancuronium bromide, and maintained with 3mg/hr throughout the remainder of the experiment. To detect a putative BOLD signal response within the brain after electrical stimulation of either STN or EN/GPi, the following general stimulation block design was applied. After scanning 15s (5 volumes) of discarded acquisitions to allow for scanner equilibrium, 120 s of initial scanning at rest (40 volumes of fMRI) were performed followed by five stimulus/rest blocks. These blocks each consisted of 6 s electrical stimulus (two volumes of fMRI) followed by 120 s rest (40 volumes of fMRI). This provided for a total scanning time of 12 min 45 sec (255 volumes of fMRI). For STN and EN/GPi, the subjects received stimulation parameters of biphasic 1V pulses at 130Hz and pulse widths of 500 $\mu$ sec (A-M system isolated pulse stimulator Model 12100) using 0–1 contact of the Medtronic 3389 lead. To test the effects of stimulation intensity, 4 pigs from the STN DBS group and 3 pigs from the GPi DBS group were randomly selected to receive biphasic 2V pulses at 130Hz and pulse widths of 500 $\mu$ sec followed by a ~10min rest after the first fMRI scan. For the single subject in which SN was the target, stimulation parameters of biphasic 300 $\mu$ A pulses at 60Hz, and pulse widths of 2 ms were applied.

## Anatomical Confirmation of the DBS Lead Location

Upon completion of the experimental fMRI DBS procedure, subjects were deeply anesthetized with intravenous sodium pentobarbital (100mg/kg) and euthanized. The brain was extracted and kept in 10% formalin for two weeks. The brain was then sectioned at 250 $\mu$ m in the coronal plane by a vibratome (VT 1000s, Leica) to confirm the DBS lead location by visual inspection of the DBS lead track. The electrode position was marked in the pig brain atlas as shown in Figure 1B.

## Data Processing and Analysis

The fMRI data were converted into BrainVoyager data format. A standard sequence of pre-processing steps, including 3D motion correction and temporal filtering (Gaussian filter; FWHM 3 data points), was implemented in the BrainVoyager QX software and applied to each data set. Functional activation was analyzed by correlating the observed signal intensity changes in each voxel with the given stimulus protocol. Based on the results of this procedure, an appropriate activation map was generated for each subject.

To account for hemodynamic delay, the stimulus representing the block design was convolved with a double-gamma hemodynamic response function (onset 0 s, time to response peak 5 s, time to undershoot peak 15 s). To correct for multiple comparisons and exclude false positive voxels, we considered only voxels with a significance level less than the False Discovery Rate (FDR) < 0.001 to represent sites of activation.

To visualize the group activation pattern during each of the five stimulation blocks, each fMRI dataset was normalized to a 3D ultra-high resolution pig brain MRI atlas (Saikali et al., 2010). Using the 2D FSE anatomical image and the first volume of the fMRI data, a manual skull and muscle stripping was performed on both 2-dimensional image leaving only the brain by Analyzer 10.0 software (Mayo Clinic) and then the image was used for a full affine (12 parameters) normalization to the 3D atlas by BrainVoyager QX.

Event-related BOLD responses were calculated by measuring the signal intensities that began 10 volumes before the stimulus onset and continued for 25 volumes after the stimulus ended. The averaged signal intensity within the appropriate area in the first 10 volumes was set to 100% signal intensity as a baseline, and post-stimulus signal variation was calculated relative to it. These datasets were then further analyzed using linear regression analysis with the general linear model (GLM) and multi-subject analysis, as implemented in BrainVoyager QX software.

To investigate the pattern of relationships among the activated brain areas, regions of interest (ROI) were selected based on clusters of functional activation identified from the normalized averaged group data for each target. Pearson correlation was performed to compare the maximum signal intensity of each ROI (See supplementary data Figure S3). Factor analysis based on principal component analysis (PCA) with varimax rotation of the correlation matrix was then performed to identify patterns among the ROIs, and was followed by k-means clustering of the three-dimensional Eigen plot (Dunteman, 1989; Mardia et al., 1979). Agglomerative hierarchical clustering was also used to verify the number of clusters by the elbow rule (Anderberg, 1973) (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, version 20, IBM).

## Results

Stimulation of both STN (Table 1 and Figure 2) and EN/GPi DBS (Table 1 and Figure 3 ) significantly increased the BOLD signal in the ipsilateral sensorimotor network, including the premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, and primary somatosensory cortex (FDR < 0.001). Group comparisons showed that there were large areas of overlap in the regions activated by these two targets. Additional areas of activation for both target sites were the ipsilateral dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, caudate nucleus, anterior cingulate cortex, and the anterior part of the insular cortex. The largest and most significant clusters of activation were detected in the sensorimotor cortex for both STN and EN/GPi DBS (Table 1).

There were also target-specific results. STN DBS was uniquely associated with activation in the ipsilateral thalamus (ventral anterior/posterior areas), the somatosensory association cortex, prepyriform area, hippocampus, lateral geniculate nuclei, pedunculopontine nucleus (PPN), the contralateral temporal cortex, parahippocampal gyrus, and cerebellum (Table 1). EN/GPi DBS was uniquely associated with periaqueductal gray and superior colliculus activation (Table 1). In the single subject experiment testing SN stimulation, DBS activated bilateral caudate nuclei, including activation of the putamen, with a stronger ipsilateral than contralateral activation. There were no regions of negative BOLD signal induced by DBS in any group. The time course representing percent change in the BOLD signal versus time

demonstrated clear increases that were time-locked with each of the five blocks of stimulation pulses in each ROI (Figure S2).

Figure 4, A and B, shows a comparison between ROI cluster sizes and the event-related time course of percent change in the BOLD signal of STN versus EN/GPi stimulation. STN stimulation resulted in larger cluster size, >30% increase than EN/GPi, which included premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, insular cortex, caudate nucleus and anterior cingulate cortex. STN stimulation also induced higher BOLD% change in the caudate than did EN/GPi ( $p<0.001$ , t-test).

Figure 4C, shows the effects of varying stimulus intensity (1 V vs 2 V) within each group (STN DBS( $n=4$ ) and EN/GPi DBS( $n=3$ )). The results showed that the size of the activated areas of the brain increased as intensity increased with STN DBS. Stimulation at 2 V (vs 1 V) generated a >30% increase in the size of the activated area, including primary somatosensory cortex, cingulate cortex, caudate, and putamen and showed a higher BOLD% change in the premotor cortex and primary motor cortex ( $p<0.001$ , t-test). A similar comparison with EN/GPi DBS, showed increased area of activation in primary somatosensory cortex, insula cortex and a decreased area of activation in prefrontal cortex. In addition, there was no significant difference in BOLD % change with EN/GPi DBS.

PCA was performed comparing each of seventeen STN ROI and nine EN/GPi ROI, defined functionally by the group analysis results in order to identify correlation patterns of the BOLD percent change in each group (Figure 5 and Figure S3). The PCA and subsequent cluster analysis revealed seven distinct clusters associated with STN ( $p<0.001$ ). Cluster 1 consisted of the thalamus and PPN. Cluster 2 consisted of the caudate nucleus, putamen, and prepyriform area. Cluster 3 consisted of primary motor cortex, lateral geniculate nuclei, and cerebellum. Cluster 4 consisted of parahippocampal gyrus. Cluster 5 consisted of primary somatosensory cortex, somatosensory association cortex, and insular cortex. Cluster 6 consisted of premotor cortex, anterior cingulate cortex and the hippocampus. Cluster 7 consisted of dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and temporal cortex (Figure 5A).

EN/GPi DBS PCA revealed five clusters ( $p<0.05$ ). Clusters 1 and 2, with one component each, consisted of periaqueductal gray and primary motor cortex, respectively. Cluster 3 consisted of caudate and insular cortex. Cluster 4 consisted of primary sensory cortex and dorsolateral prefrontal cortex. Cluster 5 consisted of premotor cortex, anterior cingulate cortex, and superior colliculus (Figure 5B).

## Discussion

Our results show significant activation in the ipsilateral premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, primary somatosensory cortex, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, head of the caudate, anterior cingulate cortex, and insular cortex with both STN and EN/GPi stimulation. Combined with previous findings, our data support the theory that DBS has a neuromodulatory effect, which facilitates the basal ganglia-thalamocortical loop complex in modulating global neural activity in both motor and non-motor circuits (Grill et al., 2004; Kringelbach et al., 2007; McIntyre et al., 2004a; McIntyre et al., 2004b; Vitek, 2002b) (See Table 2).

The activation of premotor, primary motor and sensory cortices by both STN and EN/GPi DBS supports the sensorimotor network as the basis for the common therapeutic effect of these two targets in the treatment of PD. Compared to EN/GPi DBS, STN DBS was shown on fMRI to recruit a larger area of the motor network. This finding is in concert with the suggestion that STN DBS is a superior target for improving motor performance scores (DBS-study-group, 2001). Of note, our study was not a within-subject design, and the group

comparison results may have been affected by the unequal number of subjects per group (4 vs 7). However, our data shows that activation patterns in individual subjects conform well to the group data. The difference in activation found between STN and GPi DBS may be related in part to the physical size difference of GPi compared to STN. The anatomical size of GPi is larger than STN, and the use of an identical stimulation parameter could thus have induced greater electrical stimulation effects for STN DBS compared to GPi DBS. Our voltage comparison results (Figure 4C) suggest that STN is more sensitive than EN/GPi to stimulation intensity. This discrepancy has been demonstrated in the clinical setting in which GPi DBS requires a higher charged density parameter (higher voltage) than does STN-DBS to produce the same therapeutic outcome (Anderson et al., 2005; Okun and Foote, 2005). However, because the outcome can be optimized by changing stimulation contacts and/or stimulation parameters, both STN and GPi are considered appropriate therapeutic targets for DBS, as shown recently in a randomized clinical study on the motor symptoms associated with PD (Anderson et al., 2005).

Of note, although the pig brain is closer in volume and structure to the human brain than the rodent brain, there are marked differences between pigs and humans in the volume of both STN and GPi/EN. The volume of STN is  $0.8 \pm 0.1 \text{ mm}^3$  in the rat,  $50 \pm 7 \text{ mm}^3$  in the pig,  $34 \pm 6 \text{ mm}^3$  in the Macaque monkey, and  $240 \pm 23 \text{ mm}^3$  in the human. The volume of EN/GPi is  $2.2 \pm 0.7 \text{ mm}^3$  in the rat,  $\sim 180 \text{ mm}^3$  in the pig,  $127 \pm 26 \text{ mm}^3$  in the Macaque, and  $957 \pm 209 \text{ mm}^3$  in the human (Felix et al., 1999; Hardman et al., 2002; Saikali et al., 2010; Shon et al., 2010). We took several steps to accommodate these volumetric differences. We used a human DBS electrode with low voltage (1V) and long pulse duration (500 $\mu$ sec) in an effort to increase current density while containing the spread of the electrical field. Each DBS electrode has four contact points. The Medtronic 3389 DBS electrode used in this study has smaller gap (0.5mm) between contact points than the Medtronic 3387 electrode, which has a gap of 1.5 mm and is commonly used for human DBS surgery in North America. In addition, we stimulated only the 0–1 contact.

Nonetheless, given the small size of the swine STN and EN/GPi, it is likely that we activated the entire STN and EN/GPi and partly surrounding areas in the pig brain. However, as Figure 5 shows, the activated areas for each target revealed a specific correlation pattern, which suggests a distinct set of network connections.

Other sources of variance in this study include consistency of targeting and the influence of the stimulation block-design. As is true of any electrode implantation study, anatomic variations across subjects can translate into small variations in the precise position of the stimulating electrode. In addition, while stimulations within a stimulation-block may have been independent, it may also have influenced the succeeding stimulations (See supplementary data Figure S2). This potential composite stimulation effect could cause fluctuations in the brain areas that are activated. These inter- and intra-subject sources of variance make the resulting correlations among activated areas seen in Figure 5 and the consistent, integrated networks they appear to define for each target all the more notable.

Obtaining optimal clinical benefit from DBS requires maximal coverage of the targeted subcortical region by the stimulation fields while minimizing current spread to adjacent structures that may induce adverse side-effects (Kringelbach et al., 2007; Montgomery and Gale, 2008). Thus, it is of note that, despite some current spread, we nonetheless found differential, target-specific non-motor network effects. The PCA analysis for STN revealed distinct correlation patterns, each comprising functional connectivity between ROI. Clusters 1 and 2 consisted of brain areas that may represent the basal ganglia-thalamocortical network, including the putamen, caudate nucleus, and thalamus. Clusters 3 and 5 consisted of brain areas representing the sensorimotor network, including primary motor cortex,

cerebellum, primary somatosensory cortex, and sensory association cortex. Clusters 4, 6, and 7 consisted of brain areas representing the cognitive/emotional network, including the anterior cingulate cortex, hippocampus, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and temporal cortex. Although our results also revealed clustering of EN/GPi DBS brain areas, the pattern that emerged did not share characteristics with any known neural-network pattern.

The regional connections found in this study may also shed light on the growing body of evidence that suggests DBS for PD can induce psychiatric complications. Among the known adverse effects, which can include suicide (Appleby et al., 2007; Funkiewiez et al., 2004), are depression (Bejjani et al., 1999; Berney et al., 2002; Doshi et al., 2002; Houeto et al., 2002), hypomania, euphoria, impulsivity and hypersexuality (Burn and Troster, 2004; Chopra et al., 2011; Frank et al., 2007; Herzog et al., 2003; Krack et al., 2001; Kulisevsky et al., 2002; Romito et al., 2002; Witt et al., 2008). These complications are most often associated with STN (versus GPi) DBS (Anderson and Mullins, 2003; Burn and Troster, 2004; Fields et al., 1999; Herzog et al., 2003; Kulisevsky et al., 2002; Miyawaki et al., 2000; Saint-Cyr et al., 2000; Tarsy, 2008; Trepanier et al., 2000; Vingerhoets et al., 1999; Vitek, 2002a; Voon et al., 2006).

Functional neuroimaging studies have shed light on the involvement of non-motor circuits in the cognitive effects and pathophysiology of PD. Metabolic decrease in the left orbitofrontal cortex and dorsal anterior cingulate, for example, has been associated with a decline in verbal learning. Decreased verbal fluency associated with FDG uptake in the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and right dorsal anterior cingulate following STN DBS has also been reported (Kalbe et al., 2009). Reduced gray matter density in the insular cortex and cingulate has been linked to apathy in PD (Reijnders et al., 2010). Finally, white matter loss in the cingulate and orbitofrontal cortex is associated with depression in PD (Kostic et al., 2010).

An early human fMRI DBS case study with fMRI results similar to our STN results, reported both mood and motor responses induced by STN DBS. In a patient with PD, left DBS improved motor symptoms. However, unexpectedly, right DBS elicited several reproducible episodes of acute depressive dysphoria. The fMRI data revealed that left DBS primarily affected motor regions, which included increased activation of premotor and motor cortex, ventrolateral thalamus, putamen, and cerebellum, as well as decreased activation of sensorimotor/supplementary motor cortex. Right DBS showed similar but less extensive changes in motor regions. More prominent were the unique increases in the superior prefrontal cortex, anterior cingulate, anterior thalamus, caudate, and brainstem, with marked and widespread decreases in medial prefrontal cortex activation (Stefurak et al., 2003).

A PET study of two patients with PD who underwent DBS surgery revealed additional non-motor effects of STN stimulation (Mallet et al., 2007). Selective stimulation of subterritories of the STN with simultaneous PET assessment of cortical activation showed that with a target localized in the anteromedial STN, stimulation of the anteromedial contact and the contact immediately dorsal to it led to a reduction in motor symptoms, but also consistently produced a hypomanic state. This state was likely mediated by the activation of limbic and association cortex, including areas of the anterior cingulate gyrus and ventral anterior nucleus of the thalamus (Benarroch, 2008; Mallet et al., 2007).

A recent clinical report showed that using model-based optimization of DBS stimulation parameters to avoid current spread to non-motor areas reduced cognitive and cognitive-motor impairments while maintaining therapeutic motor benefit (Frankemolle et al., 2010). Our data suggest that anatomical target placement decisions during human DBS surgery



could be augmented by consideration of the functional consequences of STN stimulation on non-motor cortical areas, which, from our results, appear to be part of an electrically influenced STN neural network.

In our study, STN stimulation induced greater activation in the caudate and putamen than EN/GPi. This finding may help to explain why more patients have been able to reduce medication dosage following STN DBS than following GPi DBS (Benabid et al., 1994; DBS-study-group, 2001; Kumar et al., 1998). In previous studies we have shown that electrical stimulation of the STN in the rat induces excitatory postsynaptic potentials in substantia nigra pars compacta (SNc) dopaminergic neurons *in vitro* (Lee et al., 2004; Lee et al., 2003) and increased striatal dopamine release *in vivo* (Lee et al., 2006). We have also found that STN DBS in pigs evokes intensity- and frequency-dependent striatal dopamine release (Shon et al., 2010). While it appears that both medication reduction and improved motor performance are consistent with STN DBS in humans, it may be that increased dopamine release produces dopaminergic-related behavioral complications such as impulse control disorders (Broen et al., 2011).

It is well-known that the STN has reciprocal interactions with the dopaminergic neurons of the SNc. The STN, both directly and indirectly, via the PPN conveys excitatory influence from prefrontal cortex to these dopaminergic neurons, which is critical for their reward-related activity (Benarroch, 2008) (See Table 2). For example, a case report of a patient with PD found that ventral STN DBS induced manic symptoms which resolved with dorsolateral STN stimulation (Ulla et al., 2006). The report suggested that the patient's mania was induced by dopaminergic circuit stimulation. We, too, have reported on a patient with PD in whom STN DBS generated a voltage-dependent mania, possibly due to electrical spread (Chopra et al., 2011). However, a series of [C-11] raclopride PET studies in PD patients failed to demonstrate any changes in synaptic dopamine release induced by DBS (Abosch et al., 2003; Hilker et al., 2003; Strafella et al., 2003). Thus the role of dopamine in DBS remains unclear and warrants further study.

Current postoperative DBS pulse generator programming decisions are based on and limited by the subjective judgments of the patient and the stimulus programmer. It has been reported that more than one-third of patients referred to two specialized movement disorder centers for "DBS failures" were not properly programmed (Okun et al., 2005). Given the potential for fMRI to reveal distal activation from DBS, we envision it could be a useful adjunct for objectively determining and evaluating programming parameters after DBS surgery (Kringelbach et al., 2007). We also recognize that it is important to keep in mind safety precautions when using fMRI with DBS, predominant among which is the increase in temperature near the electrode tips from the scanner RF field focusing (Baker et al., 2007; Carmichael et al., 2007; Phillips et al., 2006; Pictet et al., 2002; Rezai et al., 2005; Rezai et al., 2002).

We recognize several limitations of the present study. In our data, the frontal sinus of the pig brain is thought to cause a geometric distortion in the EPI image, which is limited to rostral part of the prefrontal cortex and anterior part of the primary somatosensory cortex. Thus, some activated brain regions in the frontal cortex were outside of the atlas borders. However, although this MRI distortion could have caused an error in the voxel-based analysis, especially in prefrontal cortex, it is of note that it is limited to the tissue-air interfaces and thus unlikely to affect other brain areas (Jezzard and Clare, 1999).

We also recognize that our STN DBS vs GPi DBS comparison is not a within-subject design using within-scan comparison. Therefore more sophisticated fMRI experiments would be needed in the future to further evaluate the question of clinical therapeutic effects vs side

effects of STN vs GPi DBS. This question remains a matter of considerable debate (Green et al., 2006; Moum et al., 2012; Okun and Foote, 2005; Weaver et al., 2012).

In addition, to better accommodate the small size of the pig STN and EN/GPi, rather than using a human DBS electrode, we plan to use miniaturized DBS leads (Miocinovic et al., 2007). We also envision that a more sophisticated lead design (Chaturvedi et al., 2012; Martens et al., 2011) and a selective neuronal activation method, such as optogenetic stimulation (Kravitz et al., 2010; Lee, 2012), which can be combined with neuroimaging would allow enhanced discrimination of the global neuromodulatory network effects of neural stimulation.

Functional neuroimaging is extremely difficult in the conscious animal. Although awake fMRI might yield different results from those in the anesthetized state, our use of sedation and muscle relaxant was based on previous animal fMRI studies which showed robust visual and electrical stimulation-dependent BOLD responses and electrophysiological responses in the anesthetized state (Angenstein et al., 2009; Angenstein et al., 2010; Jin and Kim, 2008; Masamoto et al., 2007).

In the present study, we used an acute protocol in a non-PD animal model, which enabled both proof of principle and an investigation of the effects of neural network electrical stimulation on the normally functioning swine brain model. We have recently confirmed our MR image-guided targeting system and fMRI group analysis method in Yucatan minipigs (data not included) for which there is a PD model available (Bjarkam et al., 2008; Nielsen et al., 2009). The work reported here, thus sets the stage for future investigations that combine functional neuroimaging with electrical stimulation in a chronic MPTP (1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine) PD model.

## Conclusions

Our findings suggest that DBS at both targets increased BOLD activation at a number of subcortical and cortical projection areas within the basal ganglia-thalamocortical network. The activated brain areas shown in our data reflect an effect of electrical stimulation spreading via orthodromic and/or antidromic activation for each DBS target. While STN and EN/GPi stimulation showed common sensorimotor network activation, our correlation data suggest that each target also activates a distinctive neural network. Taken together our results support the differences and similarities between STN and GPi noted in clinical reports comparing the two targets. The results also suggest that the swine model for DBS fMRI, which conforms to human implanted DBS electrode configurations and human neuroanatomy, may be a useful platform for translational studies investigating the global neuromodulatory effects of DBS.

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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### Highlights

First report to set up a fMRI group analysis method for pigs.

STN vs EN/GPi stimulation shown common sensorimotor network activation.

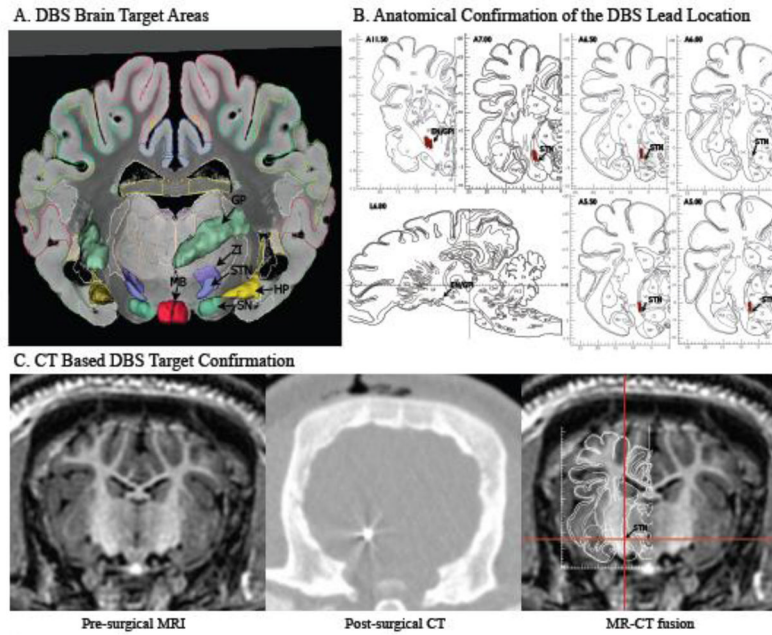
PCA data also show that each target activates a distinctive neural network.

Swine model may be a useful platform for global neuromodulatory DBS studies.

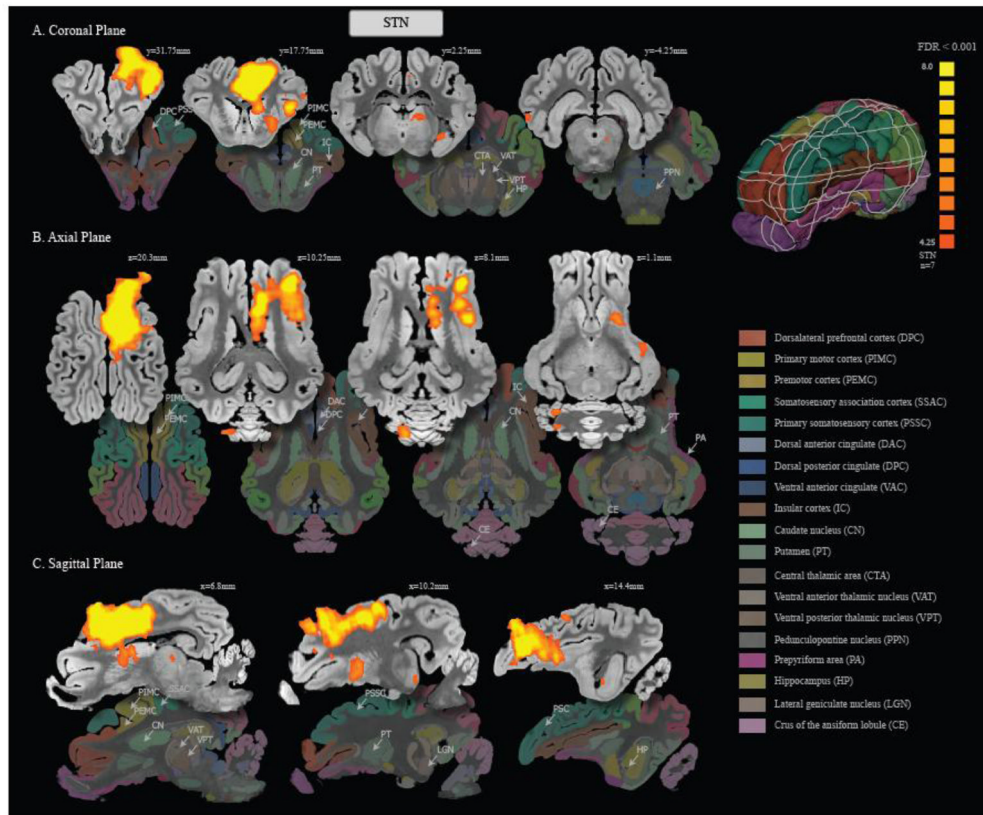
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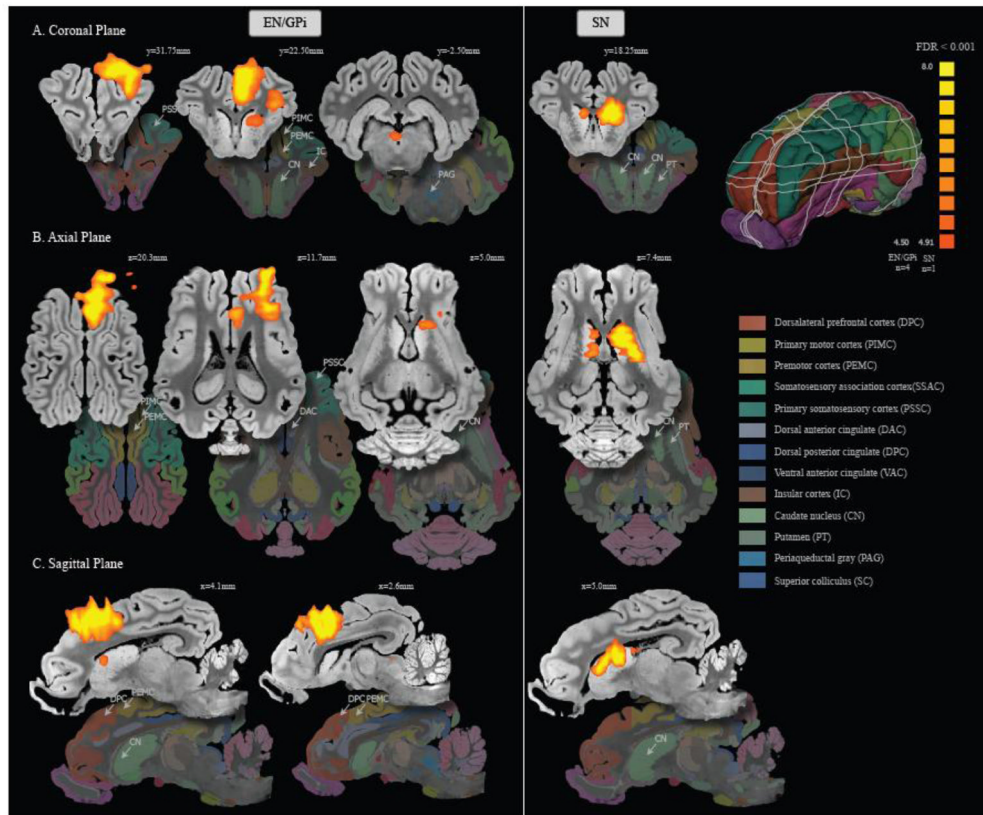
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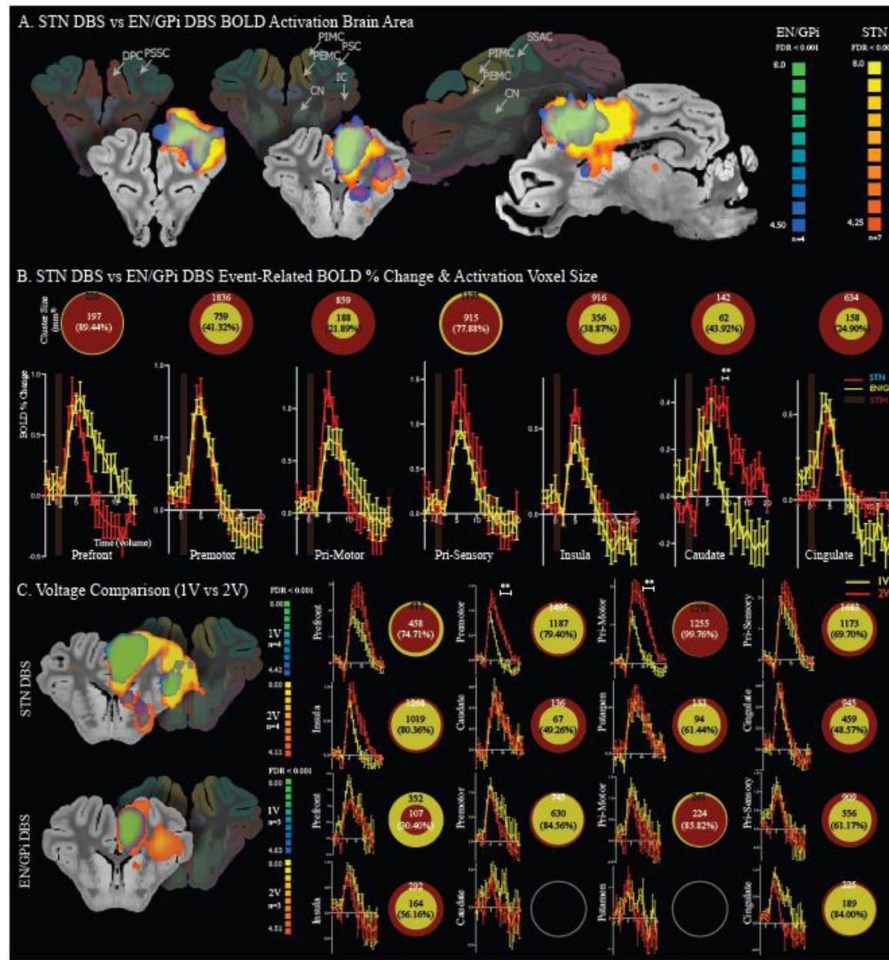
**Figure 1.** DBS electrode target localization in the pig brain. A) 3D rendering of target structures (left) and atlas-based location of the STN, GP and SN (Saikali et al., 2010). B) Anatomical confirmation of the DBS lead location was marked in the pig brain atlas (Felix et al., 1999). C) Pre-surgical MRI scan (left), post-surgical CT scan (middle), and MR-CT fusion with atlas overlay demonstrating the location of the electrode tip in the STN (right). Abbreviations CT, Computed tomography; DBS, Deep brain stimulation, EN, Entopeduncular nucleus; GP, Globus pallidus; GPi, Globus pallidus interna; HP, Hippocampus; MB, Mammillary body; MRI Magnetic resonance imaging; STN, Subthalamic nucleus; ZI, Zona incerta



**Figure 2.** Areas of activation with STN stimulation at 1V 130Hz 0.5ms, normalized to a 3D pig brain template(Saikali et al., 2010). Significant activation (FDR < 0.001) was observed in the ipsilateral premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, primary somatosensory cortex, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, caudate nucleus, putamen, anterior cingulate cortex, insular cortex, thalamus (central, ventral anterior and ventral posterior areas), prepyriform area, hippocampus, lateral geniculate nucleus, pedunculopontine nucleus, and the contralateral cerebellum.



**Figure 3.** Areas of activation with EN/GPi stimulation at 1V 130Hz 0.5ms (left) and SN stimulation at 300mA 60Hz 2ms (right), normalized to a 3D pig brain template (left)(Saikali et al., 2010). With EN/GPi stimulation, significant activation (FDR < 0.001) was observed in the ipsilateral premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, primary somatosensory cortex, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, caudate nucleus, anterior cingulate cortex, insular cortex, and contralateral periaqueductal gray. SN stimulation activated ipsilateral and contralateral caudate nucleus and ipsilateral putamen.

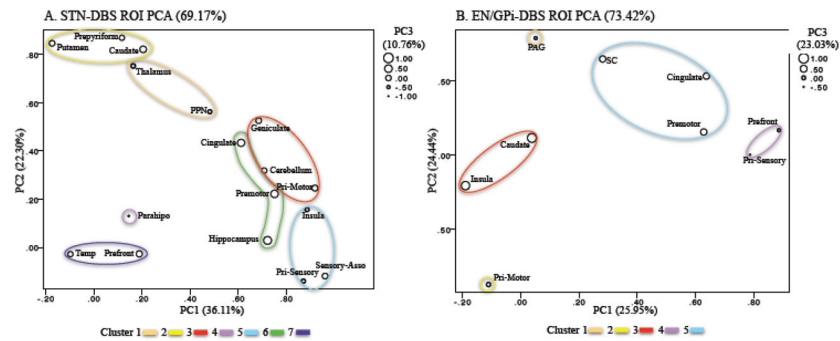


**Figure 4.** A) The fMRI activation map of STN (red scale) and EN/GPi (blue scale) DBS fMRI activation map. Areas of overlap include dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, primary somatosensory cortex, insula cortex, caudate and anterior cingulate cortex. B) Region of interest cluster sizes (top) and event-related time course of percent change in BOLD signal from baseline (bottom) with STN stimulation (red) versus EN/GPi stimulation (yellow). STN stimulation resulted in greater area of activation of premotor cortex, primary motor cortex, insular cortex, caudate and anterior cingulate cortex than EN/GPi stimulation. STN also showed higher BOLD activation in the Caudate ( $p < 0.001$ , t-test). C) Voltage comparison showing fMRI activation map of 1V (blue scale) and 2V (red scale) of each group. Region of interest cluster sizes and event-related time course of percent change in BOLD signal have been compared (1V-yellow vs 2V-red). Abbreviations: BOLD, blood oxygenation level-dependent; Caudate, Caudate nucleus; Cingulate, Anterior cingulate cortex; CN, Caudate nucleus; DBS, Deep brain stimulation; DPC, Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex; EN, Entopeduncular nucleus; FDR, False discovery rate; GPi, Globus pallidus interna; IC, Insular cortex; Insula, Insular cortex; PIMC, Primary motor cortex; PEMC, Premotor cortex; Premotor, Premotor cortex; Prefront, Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex; Pri-Motor, Primary motor cortex; Pri-sensory, Primary Somatosensory cortex PSSC, Primary Somatosensory cortex; SSAC, Somatosensory association cortex; STIM, DBS stimulation; STN, Subthalamic nucleus

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**Figure 5.**

Principal component analysis between functionally-defined regions of interest for STN (A) and EN/GPi (B) DBS. Additional cluster analysis revealed seven groups for STN DBS and five groups for EN/GPi, which are outlined in circles. For STN DBS clusters 1 and 2 consist of brain areas that represent the basal ganglia-thalamocortical network. Clusters 3 and 5 consist of brain areas representing the sensorimotor network. Clusters 4, 6, and 7 consist of brain areas representing the cognitive/emotional network. EN/GPi DBS pattern that emerged did not share characteristics with any known neural-network pattern.

Abbreviations: BOLD, blood oxygenation level-dependent; Caudate, Caudate nucleus; Cingulate, Anterior cingulate cortex; DBS, Deep brain stimulation; EN, Entopeduncular nucleus; Genuculata, Lateral geniculate nucleus; GPi, Globus pallidus interna; Insula, Insular cortex; PAG, Periaqueductal gray; Parahipo, Parahippocampal gyrus; PC, Principal component; PCA, Principal component analysis; PPN, Pedunculopontine nucleus; Premotor, Premotor cortex; Prefront, Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex; Prepyriform, Prepyriform area; Pri-Motor, Primary motor cortex; Pri-sensory, Primary Somatosensory cortex; ROI, Region of Interest, SC, Superior colluculus; Sensory-Asso, Somatosensory association cortex; STN, Subthalamic nucleus Temp, Temporal nucleus

## Areas of Significant Brain Activation

Table 1

Location	Size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	Coordinates (x, y, z)	Max z-Score	Possible circuits involved
STN	859	5.7, 18.00, 18.9	18.73	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), Antidormic STN-Cortex, DS of CST in IC
Primary motor cortex (I)	1836	2.9, 18.00, 18.1	20.40	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), Antidormic STN-Cortex, DS of CST in IC
Premotor cortex (I)	915	7.6, 30.25, 18.0	12.61	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), Antidormic STN-Cortex, DS of CST in IC
Primary somatosensory cortex (I)	227	7.7, 14.50, 18.9	12.70	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), Antidormic STN-Cortex, DS of CST in IC
Somatosensory association cortex (I)	197	4.3, 27.50, 18.0	13.20	Associative territory of STN
Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (I)	634	2.9, 16.25, 14.9	17.02	Limbic territory of STN
Anterior Cingulate cortex (I)	916	15.3, 30.25, 10.7	14.10	Limbic territory of STN
Insular cortex (I)	142	4.5, 16.75, 7.5	7.01	STN-SNc, DS of SN, DS of NSF, PPN-SNc
Caudate nucleus (I)	152	8.8, 20.75, -0.7	6.04	STN-SNc DS of SN, DS of NSF, PPN-SNc
Putamen (I)	12	5.4, 1.75, 5.4	4.83	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), Antidormic STN-CmPf, DS of thalamus
Thalamus (I)	1	4.8, -4.25, -2.3	4.53	STN-PPN
Pedunculopontine nucleus (I)	51	18.4, 5.75, 0.2	5.07	Limbic territory of STN
Prepyriform area (I)	9	13.3, 1.75, -2.8	4.86	Limbic territory of STN
Hippocampus (I)	25	10.9, -22.5, -1.4	5.56	Associative territory of STN, DS of oculomotor fiber
Lateral geniculate nucleus (I)	183	-5.9, -23.00, 8.3	6.81	Motor Cortex-Cerebellum connection, DS of Cerebello-thalamic fibers
Cerebellum (C)	13	-24.2, -4.25, 5.0	4.78	N/A
Temporal cortex (C)	29	-21.0, 4.50, -3.7	5.20	N/A
Parahippocampal gyrus (C)	188	9.4, 26.5, 17.4	9.56	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), DS of CST in IC
Primary motor cortex (I)	759	4.3, 25.50, 21.0	11.04	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), DS of CST in IC
Premotor cortex (I)	1175	12.7, 35.25, 14.5	11.34	BGTC loop (Indirect pathway), DS of CST in IC
Primary somatosensory cortex (I)	220	5.7, 29.25, 18.1	10.11	Associative territory of EN/GPi
Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (I)	158	2.7, 19.50, 14.8	10.20	Limbic territory of EN/GPi
Anterior Cingulate cortex (I)	356	14.0, 25.50, 10.1	10.47	Limbic territory of EN/GPi
Insular cortex (I)	62	7.0, 24.00, 4.3	6.21	Antidormic EN/GPi-Caudate
Caudate (I)	32	-1.0, -2.00, 0.9	5.72	N/A
Periaqueductal gray (C)	1	2.8, -3.75, 3.4	4.64	DS of optic tract
Superior colliculus (I)				

Coordinates (mm): x = mediolateral, y = rostrocaudal, and z = dorsoventral. Abbreviations: BGTC, Basal ganglia-thalamocortical; C, Contralateral; CmPf, Centromedian and parafascicular nuclei of the thalamus; CST, Corticospinal tract; DS, Direct stimulation through electric spread; EN, Entopeduncular nucleus; GPI, Globus pallidus interna; I, Ipsilateral; IC, Internal capsule; NSF, Nigrostriatal fiber; PPN, Pedunculopontine nucleus; SNc, Substantia nigra pars compacta; STN, Subthalamic nucleus



Table 2

## Anatomical connections of STN and EN/GPI

Category	Locations	Structures	Connections	Functions / Adverse Event (DBS)
STN				
Substructures	Dorsolateral	Motor area	A: Motor & Premotor cortices (Glu) A: GPe (GABA) E: GPi, GPe, and SNr (Glu)	F: 'indirect' pathway of BGTC projection F: 'indirect' pathway of BGTC projection F: 'indirect' pathway of BGTC projection
	Ventromedial	Associative area	A: Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex A: Frontal eye field E: SNr	F: Oculometer control and cognitive aspects of motor behavior F: Oculometer control and cognitive aspects of motor behavior F: Oculometer control and cognitive aspects of motor behavior
	Medial	Limbic area	A: Medial Prefrontal cortex A: Anterior cingulate cortex E: Ventral and medial pallidum	F: Motivational and emotional aspects of motor behavior F: Motivational and emotional aspects of motor behavior F: Motivational and emotional aspects of motor behavior
Other connections			A: CmpPf (Glu) R: PPN (A: Glu & Cho, E: Glu) R: SNC	F: Controlling motor pattern generators (Gait)
Surrounding structures	osterior-medial and dorsolateral and anterior	Thalamus & medial lemniscus IC (corticobulbar fibre) IC (corticobulbar fibre)		AE: Persistent dysesthasias AE: Dysarthria/dysphagia AE: Tonic muscle contractions AE: Acute depression
	Ventral	SN		
	Dorsal	ZI and the H2 FF (includes MFB)		
	Medial and ventral	Oculomotor fibres Cerebello-thalamic fibres		AE: Diplopia/eye deviations AE: Antaxia
EN/GPI				
Substructures	Posteromedial	Red nucleus	A: GPe (GABA) A: STN (Glu)	
	Posteroventral	Sensorimotor area	VA nucleus of the thalamus (GABA) VL nucleus of the thalamus (GABA)	
Other connections	Dorsal	Associative area		AE: Relief of akinesia but no relief of dyskinesia
	Ventromedial	Limbic area	E: CmpPf (GABA) E: Lateral habenular nucleus (GABA) E: PPN	AE: Relief of dyskinesia and rigidity but worse akinesia
Surrounding structures	Anterior	Anterior commissure		

Category	Locations	Structures	Connections	Functions / Adverse Event (DBS)
	Ventral	Optic tract		AE: Visual phenomena
	Medial and posterior	IC (corticobulbar fiber) IC (corticospinal fiber)		AE: Dysarthria AE: Tonic muscle contraction

Abbreviations: A, Afferent connection; AE, Adverse Event; BGTC, Basal ganglia-thalamocortical; Cho, Cholinergic; CmPf, Centromedian and parafascicular nuclei of the thalamus; E, Efferent connection; EN, Entopeduncular nucleus; F, Functions; FF, Field of forel; GABA,  $\gamma$ -Aminobutyric acid; Glu, Glutamatergic; Gpe, Globus pallidus externa; Gpi, Globus pallidus interna; IC, Internal capsule; MFB, Medial forebrain bundle; PPN, Pedunculopontine nucleus; R, Reciprocal connection; SN, Substantia nigra; SNC, Substantia nigra pars compacta; SNr, Substantia nigra pars reticulata; STN, Subthalamic nucleus; VA, Ventral anterior; VL, Ventral lateral; ZI, Zona incerta(Tarsy, 2008; Benaroch, 2008)