

# Resting Brain and Mind

How brain dynamics are associated with ongoing cognition

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## Studying Mind and Brain

Mind



**Resting State** 



## **Brain**





Blood Oxygen-Level Dependent (BOLD) signal

### Diffusion Weighted Imaging (DWI)





#### Performing Cognitive Tasks

Introduction

Study I:

Mind Blanking

Study II:

**Psychedelics** 

**Study III:** 

Spaceflight

**Study IV:** 

**Mental State** Decoding

Discussion and

**Perspectives** 



Study I: Mind Blanking

Study II: Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives













#### **Functional connectome**



1.0

-0.5 -1.0

Phase-based coherence matrices

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Sporns et al., PLoS Comput. Biol., 2005



## How rigid structure and dynamic function support the richness of the mind?

Extreme

Study III:



**Study IV:** Toward mental state decoding at rest



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### Introduction **Study I: Mind Blanking** Study II: **Psychedelics** Study III: Spaceflight **Study IV: Mental State** Decoding Discussion and **Perspectives**

## **Study I:**

## "Spontaneous occurrences of mind blanking"



#### Based on:

**Mortaheb, S.,** Van Calster, L., Raimondo, F., Klados, M.A., Boulakis, P.A., Georgoula, K., Majerus, S., Van De Ville, D. and Demertzi, A. Mind blanking is a distinct mental state linked to a recurrent brain profile of globally positive connectivity during ongoing mentation. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences,* 119(41), p.e2200511119. (2022)





## Methods



Violet (Ventral Attention)

Cream (Limbic) Orange (Frontoparietal)

Red (Default)

Phase-based coherence

K-means clustering Cosine similarity



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#### Mortaheb et al, PNAS, 2022

Data originally shared by S. Majerus, Psychology and Neuroscience of Cognition Research Unit, University of Liège, Belgium

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Study I: Mind Blanking

**Study II:** Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives

## MB is characterized by distinct neural profiles

MB reports classification based on phased-based coherence matrices

	BALANCED ACCURACY	RECALL	PRECISION
MB VS. SENS	0.97	0.95	0.99
MB VS. SDEP	0.96	0.92	1
MB VS. SIND	0.94	0.88	1
MB VS. OTHERS	0.90	0.81	1
MB VS. OTHERS (DUMMY)	0.50	0.05	0.06

$$Presicion = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} \qquad Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$
$$Balanced Accuracy = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{TP}{TP + FN} + \frac{TN}{TN + FP}\right)$$

TP: True Positive FP: False Positive TN: True Negative FN: False Negative

Positive: MB Reports



## MB is associated with functional hyper-connectivity pattern





## Is this an effect of Global Signal (GS)?





and

## Effects of GSR on dynamic connectivity patterns





## MB is characterized by high amplitudes of global signal

MB is associated with higher global signal amplitude



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## Discussion



## Study I: Mind Blanking Study II: Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives

Introduction

## **Study II:**

## "Effects of external perturbation on the brain and the mind"







and

## Methods



Analysis

Data originally shared by J. Ramaekers, Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, Maastricht University, Netherland



Study I: Mind Blanking

Study II: Psychedelics

**Study III:** 

Spaceflight

## Profound alterations in subjective experience



Study IV: Mental State Decoding Discussion and Perspectives



## Overall increase in the whole-brain functional connectivity

Psilocybin - placebo





## Overall tendency of the brain to return to a hyper-connectivity state



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Study I: Mind Blanking

## Overall decrease in regional BOLD signal amplitude

Psilocybin vs Placebo



Study II: Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives



## Functional hyper-connectivity state is associated with feelings of depersonalization

Introduction

**Study I:** Mind Blanking

Study II: Psychedelics

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## Functional hyper-connectivity state is associated with feelings of depersonalization

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**Perspectives** 





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Mihalik et al., Biological Psychiatry, 2022



Study I: Mind Blanking

## Functional hyper-connectivity state is associated with feelings of depersonalization







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## Discussion



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Lord et al., Neuroimage, 2019

Carhart-Harris et al., PNAS, 2012

## **Study III:**

Introduction

Study I: Mind Blanking

**Study II:** Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

**Study IV:** 

Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives "Effects of spaceflight on the brain's structure and function"



Circadian rhythm disruption





## Methods



Data originally shared by F. Wuyts, Lab for Equilibrium Investigations and Aerospace, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium



## Methods

Study II:

**Psychedelics** 

**Study III:** 

Spaceflight

#### **Participants**

 $n_1 = 18$  male cosmonauts  $n_2 = 13$  matched controls

#### Paradigm

**Resting State** functional MRI (3T) TR = 1.4 secDWI

#### Analysis

**Study IV: Mental State** Decoding

Discussion and **Perspectives**  Schaefer Atlas (100 ROIs) with 7 Networks



Purple (Visual) Blue (Somatomotor) Green (Dorsal Attention) Violet (Ventral Attention) Cream (Limbic) Orange (Frontoparietal) Red (Default)



#### Structure-function

- Graph Signal Processing (GSP)
- Structural Decoupling Index (SDI)





**Graph Signal** 



### Graph Signal Processing





## Graph Adjacency Eigenvectors as Graph Fourier Basis







## Graph Normalized Laplacian Eigenvectors as Graph Fourier Basis







Study I:

## Graph Normalized Laplacian Eigenvectors (Structural Harmonics) in the Brain

Mind Blanking
Study II:
Psychedelics
Study III:
Spaceflight
Study IV:
Mental State
Decoding
Discussion
and
Perspectives





#### $n_1 = 18$ male cosmonauts Study I: Mind Blanking Study II: **Psychedelics Study III:** Spaceflight **Study IV: Mental State** Decoding Discussion and

 $n_2 = 13$  matched controls

Paradigm **Resting State** functional MRI (3T) TR = 1.4 secDWI

**Participants** 

Analysis

Schaefer Atlas (100 ROIs) with 7 Networks

Purple (Visual) Blue (Somatomotor) Green (Dorsal Attention) Violet (Ventral Attention) Cream (Limbic) Orange (Frontoparietal) Red (Default)

#### **Structure-function**

- Graph Signal Processing (GSP)
- Structural Decoupling Index (SDI)



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**Perspectives** 



## Structural-functional decoupling alterations in multisensory integration regions

Introduction

**Study I:** Mind Blanking

Study II: Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives



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## No dynamic functional alterations due to exposure to prolonged microgravity after spaceflight



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and



## Structural connectivity alterations after space flight

Study I:	Connection	Regions		0.018 <b>R15-R21</b>	R33-R61
Mind Blanking	R15-R21	LH_DAN_Post_1 – LH_DAN_PrCv_1	R96	0.016 0.014 0.014	.0004
Study II: Psychedelics	R33-R61	LH_Cont_Par_1 – RH_SomMot_4	R34 R83 R21 R46 R87 R85		
Spaceflight	R34-R72	LH_Cont_PFCI_1 - RH_DAN_FEF_1	R37 R12 R61	R34-R72	R37-R52
Study IV: Mental State Decoding	R37-R52	LH_DMN_Temp_1 – RH_Vis_3	R15 R33 R52	0.0016	0.0006
Discussion and Perspectives	R46-R96	LH_DMN_PFC_6 – RH_DMN_PFCdPFCm_2	R83-R87	0.0006 Pre Post Followup R83-R85	Pre Post Followup R46-R96
	R83-R85	RH_Cont_PFCI_2 - RH_Cont_PFCI_4	0.017 0.016 0.015 0.014 0.013 0.013	0.0350 0.0325 0.0300 0.0275 0.0250	0.0025
Slide: 27/49	R83-R87	RH_Cont_PFCI_2 – RH_PFCmp_1	Pre Post Followup	Pre Post Followup	Pre Post Followup

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Study I:

Mind Blanking

Study II:

**Psychedelics** 

**Study III:** 

Spaceflight

**Study IV:** 

Mental State

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and

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## Discussion

#### Spaceflight

structure-function decoupling alterations Structure-function decoupling and multi-sensory integration Insular superior parietal 0.5 lobule cortex S R cost 0.3 Switch 5.0 R = 0.57, p = 0.0023.0 4.5 5.0 3.5 Functional decoupling from the structure Decreased connectivity **Decreased Volume** -5.91 x= -35 Insular cortex Left Insular Cortex Jillings et al., Communications Koppelmans et al., npj Microgravity, Biology, 2023 2016

Structure-function decoupling and cognition



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## **Study IV:** "Toward mental state decoding during rest"



#### Based on:

Mortaheb, S., Liégeois, R., Raimondo, F., Boulakis, P. A., Fort, L. D., Moallemian, S., Sharifpour R., Karapanagiotidis, T., Van De Ville, D., and Demertzi, A., 2023. Regional functional-structural coupling and decoupling can decode ongoing mental states during task-free conditions. <u>OSF Preregistration</u>, https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/TK3UW

Mental State Decoding Discussion and

**Study IV:** 

Introduction

Study I: Mind Blanking

**Study II:** Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

and Perspectives





Poldrack, Neuron, 2011



## Methods



Study I: Mind Blanking

Study II: Psychedelics

Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion and Perspectives

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#### Participants

n = 8 typical 5 Women, 3 Men Age: 29.5 <u>+</u> 3.9 y.o

Paradigm

Cognitive Tasks Experience-Sampling functional MRI (3T) TR = 1.133 sec DWI

**Decoding** Schaefer Atlas (100 ROIs)

Purple (\
 Blue (S
 Green (I)
 Violet (\
 Orange (I)
 Orange (I)
 Red (I)

Purple (Visual) Blue (Somatomotor) Green (Dorsal Attention) Violet (Ventral Attention) Cream (Limbic) Orange (Frontoparietal) Red (Default)

Feature extraction: GSP Classification: SVM Cross Validation: stratified 4-fold Performance Evaluation: - balanced accuracy

- recall

- precision





## **Methods**



**Participants** Introduction n = 8 typical 5 Women, 3 Men

Age: 29.5 ± 3.9 y.o

**Cognitive Tasks** 

TR = 1.133 sec

Experience-Sampling functional MRI (3T)

Paradigm

DWI

Decoding

**Study I: Mind Blanking** 

Study II: **Psychedelics** 

**Study III:** Spaceflight

**Study IV: Mental State** Decoding

Discussion and **Perspectives** 

Purple (Visual) (Somatomotor) Green (Dorsal Attention) Violet (Ventral Attention) Cream (Limbic) Orange (Frontoparietal) Red (Default)

Feature extraction: GSP Classification: SVM Cross Validation: stratified 4-fold Performance Evaluation:

- balanced accuracy

- recall

- precision

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## High number of future self-related thoughts and low number of MB





## Higher than chance-level performance for temporal and referent dimension

0.0

Past

Future





Past

Future

Past

Future

**Referent Dimension** 

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## Discussion



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Introduction Study I: Mind Blanking Study II: **Psychedelics** Study III: Spaceflight Study IV: Mental State Decoding Discussion & Perspectives

General Discussion and Future Perspectives





Study III: Spaceflight

Study IV: Mental State Decoding

Discussion & Perspectives



Global signal as a proxy of physiological state

**Resting Brain and Mind** 



Structure-function (de)coupling and cognition



Mind Blanking Ego Dissolution Depersonalization

Arousal Vigilance Cognition Mental Flexibility Fingerprint Mental State Decoding



Study I: Mind Blanking

Study II:

- > Application to individuals with neurologic disorders
- > A brain-body frameworks for mental state decoding



&



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LIÈGE université
 GIGA
 CRC In vivo Imaging



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## Supplementary Information

## **Resting State Networks**

## Resting State Networks and Dynamic Functional Patterns



## Mind Blanking

## Mind Blanking due to reduced inner speech?



Kawagoe et al., Human Brain Mapping, 2019

## Mental States Reportability During Acquisition



Mortaheb et al., PNAS, 2022

## Global Signal Amplitude and Reaction Times



Mortaheb et al., PNAS, 2022

## Effects of number of clusters on dynamic connectivity patterns and MB reportability

![](_page_56_Figure_1.jpeg)

Mortaheb et al., PNAS, 2022

![](_page_56_Figure_3.jpeg)

## Mental State Decoding

## Cognitive Tasks

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Reaction Times in Mental States Reporting**

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Mental State Decoding Performance Measures (Temporal Dimension)

Cognitive Tasks

![](_page_60_Figure_2.jpeg)

Classifier	Feature	Cut-off Eigenvalue	Balanced Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Past vs all	Decoupling map	50	0.66	0.50	0.47
Present vs all	Decoupling map	80	0.87	0.87	0.85
Future vs all	Decoupling map	70	0.64	0.46	0.42
MB vs all	Decoupling map	70	0.58	0.16	0.23

Experience Sampling Probes

![](_page_60_Figure_5.jpeg)

Classifier	Feature	Cut-off Eigenvalue	Balanced Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Past vs all	Decoupling map	70	0.60	0.36	0.41
Present vs all	Coupling map	40	0.61	0.39	0.42
Future vs all	SDI map	110	0.65	0.56	0.61
MB vs all	Decoupling map	40	0.60	0.35	0.29

#### From cognitive tasks to ES probes

![](_page_60_Figure_8.jpeg)

## Mental State Decoding Performance Measures (Referent Dimension)

![](_page_61_Figure_1.jpeg)

Temporal Dimension	Feature	Cut-off Eigenvalue	Balanced Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Past	Coupling map	20	0.58	0.57	0.56
Future	SDI map	80	0.55	0.56	0.56

#### Experience Sampling Probes . Accuracy 900 .... 9.25 ..... \* Precision :.. Recall • • Balanced / ••• 2. 0.0 Future Past Future Future Past Past

Temporal Dimension	Feature	Cut-off Eigenvalue	Balanced Accuracy	Precision	Recall
Past	Coupling map	20	0.67	0.64	0.67
Future	SDI map	90	0.62	0.73	0.76

#### From cognitive tasks to ES probes

![](_page_61_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Classification Performance Measures for Imbalanced Datasets

**Precision**: A parameter between 0 and 1 also defined as the ability of the classifier not to label as positive a sample that is negative.

$$Presicion = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

**Recall:** A parameter between 0 and 1 defined as the ability of the classifier to classify positive samples correctly.

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

**Balanced Accuracy:** To compute balanced accuracy, each sample is weighted according to the inverse prevalence of its true class which accordingly will avoid inflated performance estimates on imbalanced datasets.

Balanced Accuracy = 
$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{TP}{TP+FN} + \frac{TN}{TN+FP}\right)$$

## **DWI Acquisition Parameters**

## Mental State Decoding

- multiband SE-EPI sequence
- 2mm isotropic spatial resolution
- TR = 4030 ms
- TE = 69.80 ms
- 70 transverse slices
- slice thickness = 2 mm
- slice acceleration factor = 2
- in-plane resolution 2x2 mm
- FoV = 192x216 mm.
- matrix = 96x108
- acceleration factor 2
- bandwidth per pixel = 2264 Hz/Px.
- Multi-shell (b = 650, 1000 & 2000)
- 118 volumes:
  - The first volume was discarded to avoid T1 saturation effect
  - 105 DW images (15 b=650, 30 b=100, 60 b=2000) interleaved with 12 b=0

## Cosmonauts

- multi-shell (b = 700, 1200, & 2800)
- 153 volumes:
  - 145 DWI images (25 b=700, 45 b=1200, 75 b=2800) interleaved with 8 b=0
- repetition/echo time of 7800/100 ms
- voxel size of 2.4  $\times$  2.4  $\times$  2.4 mm^3
- matrix size of 100  $\times$  100
- 58 slices
- Imaging was accelerated by a factor of 2