



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

**DNS**  
Dipartimento  
NeuroScienze



REGIONE DEL VENETO  
Azienda  
Ospedale  
Università  
Padova



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PAVIA

# Sensorimotor adaptation in Rehabilitation

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Funded by the  
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NextGenerationEU



Ministero  
dell'Università  
e della Ricerca

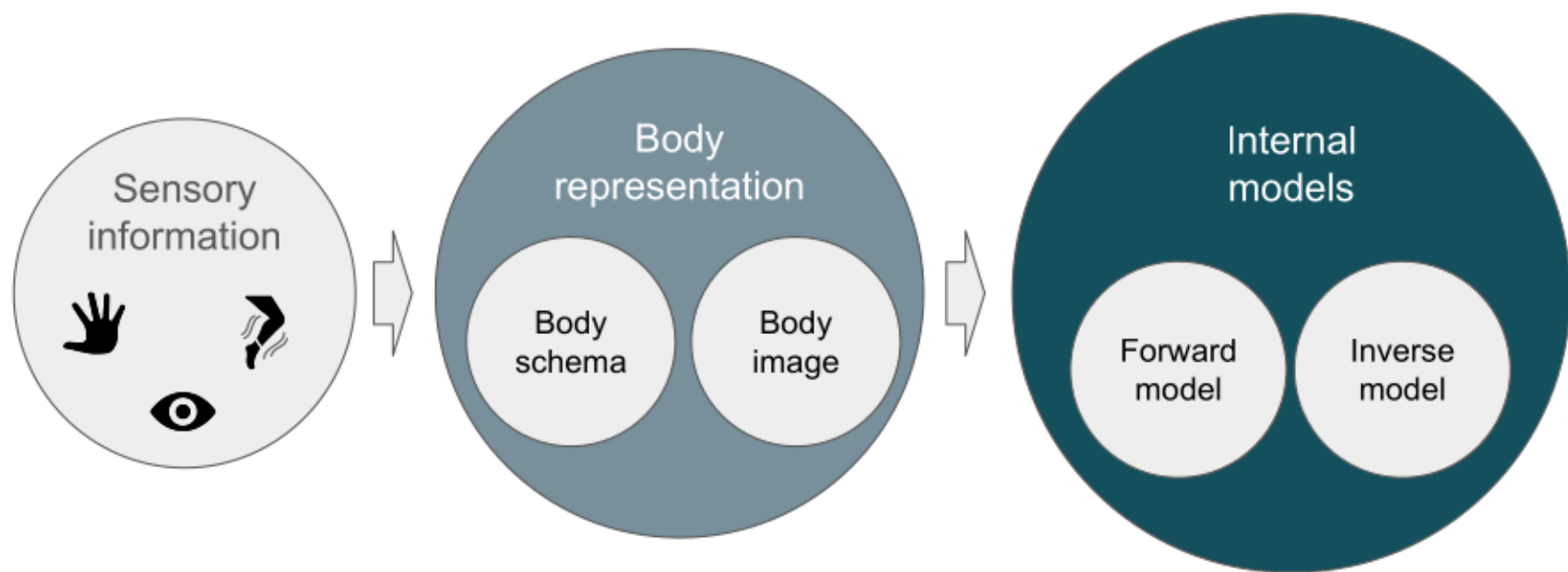


**Italiadomani**  
PIANO NAZIONALE  
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA

Fondo  
Beneficenza

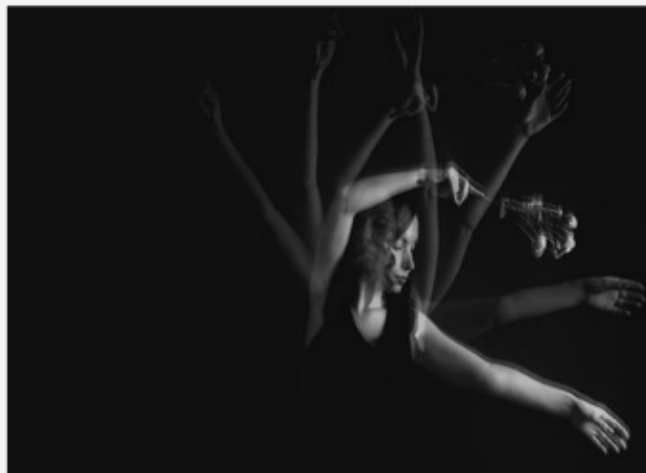
INTESA SANPAOLO

# Sensorimotor control



# Brain representation of human body

Body schema



Body image



# Brain representation of human body

Body schema



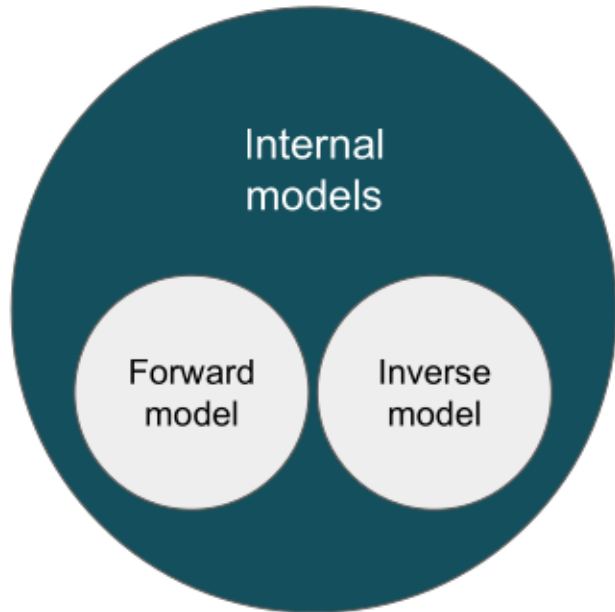
Sensorimotor integration

Body image



Mostly visual information

# Internal models for sensorimotor control



## Forward model

*“uses the current state of the motor system to predict its next state”*

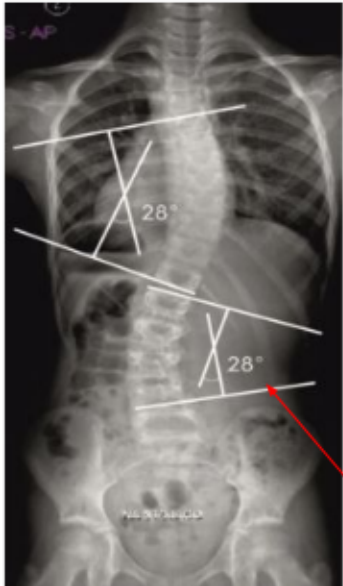
movement → outcome

## Inverse model

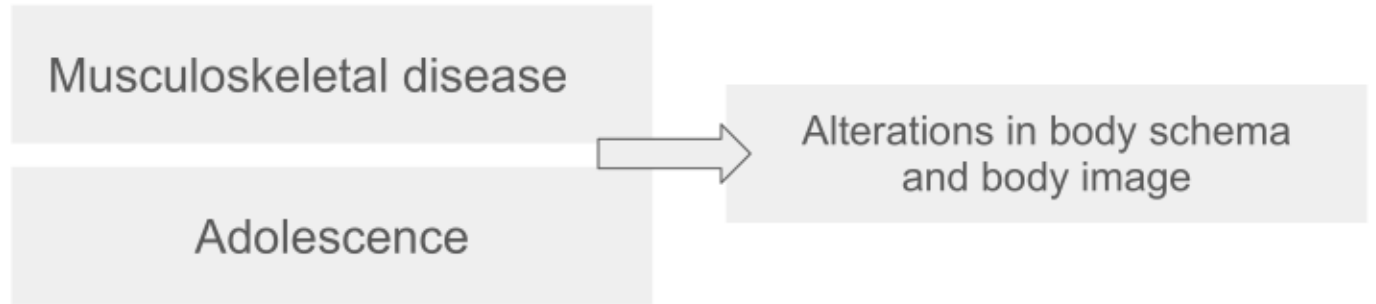
*“determine the motor commands necessary to achieve a desired state”*

outcome → movement

# Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis (AIS)



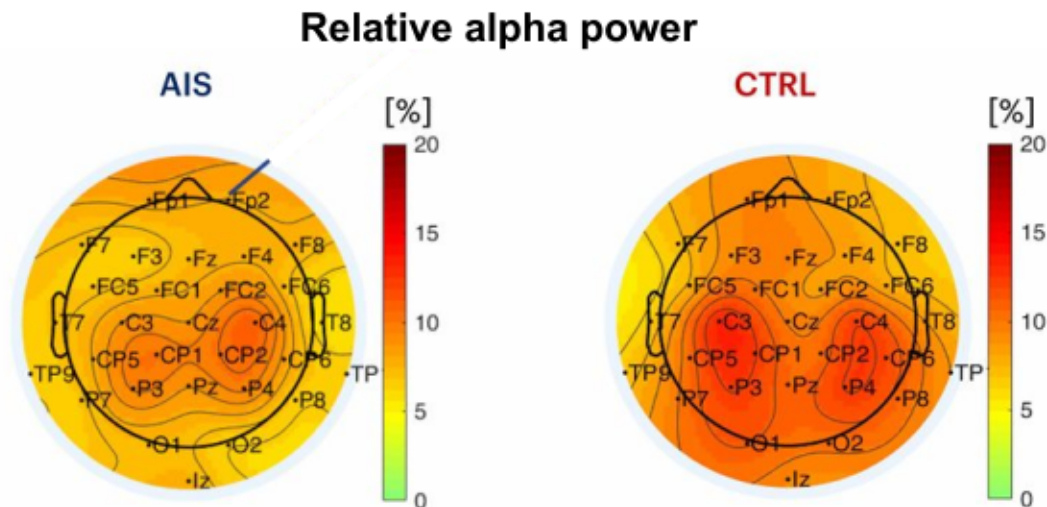
COBB  
angle



# Sensorimotor integration in AIS

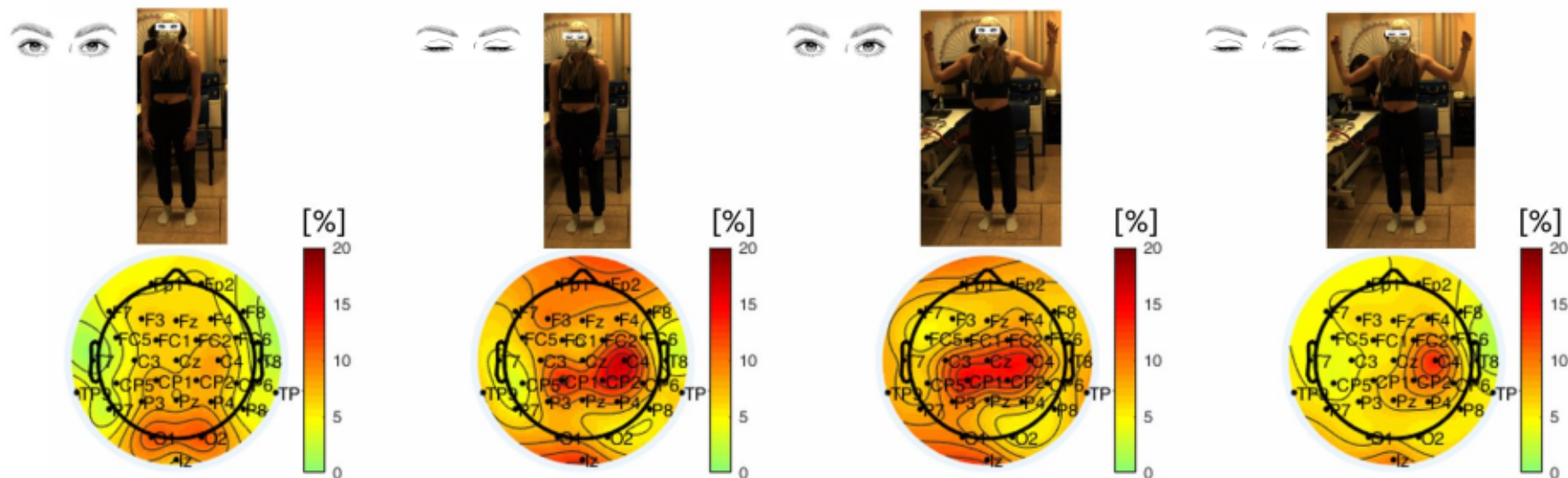
Compensatory strategy to overcoming sensorimotor dysfunction mirrored by altered body schema.

N = 28 (14 AIS, 14 CTRL)



# Sensorimotor integration in AIS

Compensatory strategy to overcoming sensorimotor dysfunction mirrored by altered body schema.





## Our open questions

- Are EEG alterations in the alpha rhythm related to AIS pathophysiology or its treatment?
- Is AIS affecting the inverse model, the forward model or both?

# Longitudinal assessment of body representation in AIS

20/20 participants  
(100% F, age: [11, 16] y)  
6/20 controls  
(100% F, age: [11, 16] y)



- EEG
- CoP
- Motion
- X-ray

A large blue circle containing the text "6-month corrective postural exercises & brace therapy".

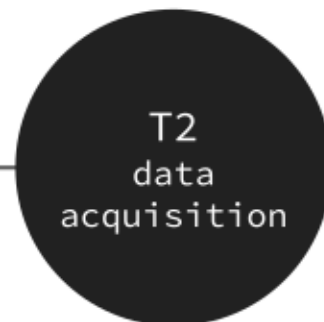
9/19 participants



- EEG
- CoP
- Motion

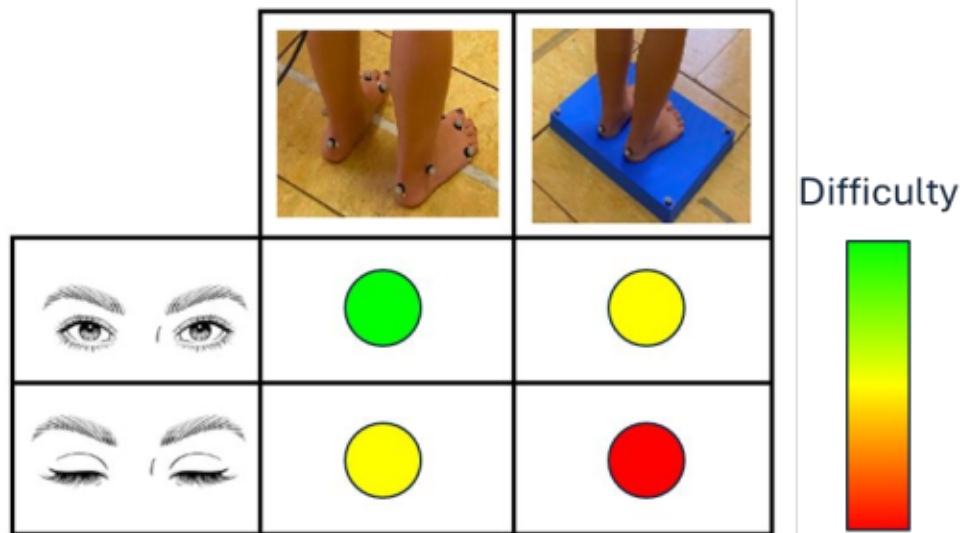


5/19 participants

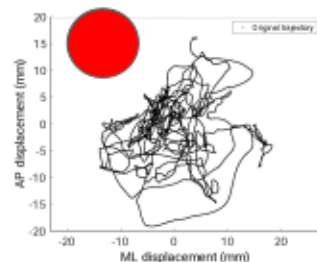
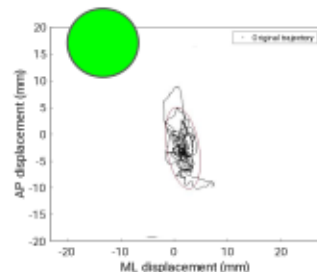


- EEG
- CoP
- Motion
- X-ray

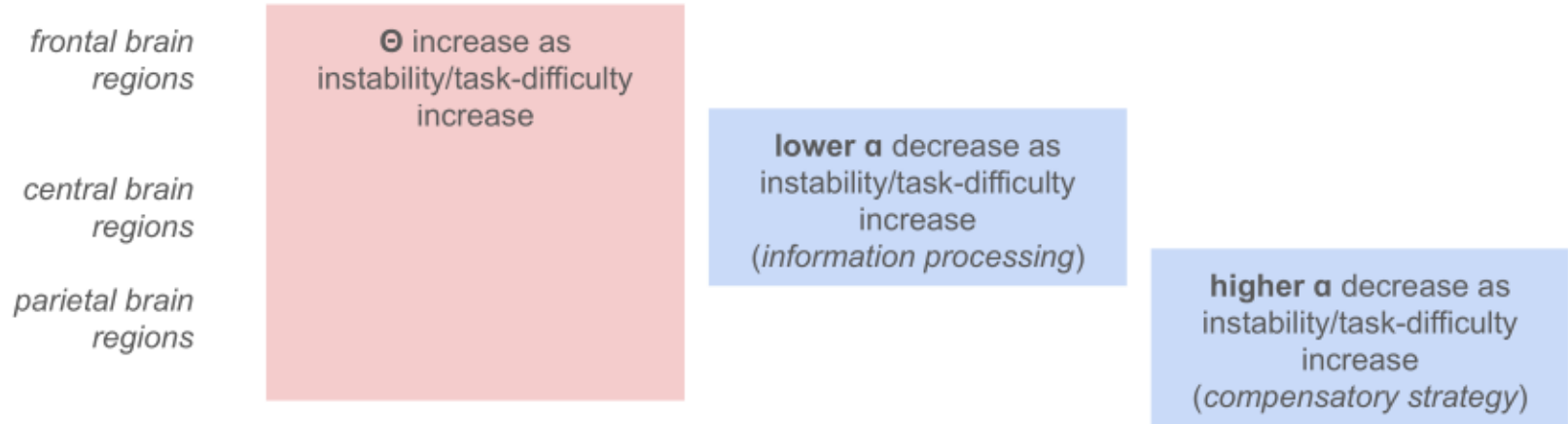
# Are EEG alterations in the alpha band related to AIS pathophysiology or its treatment?



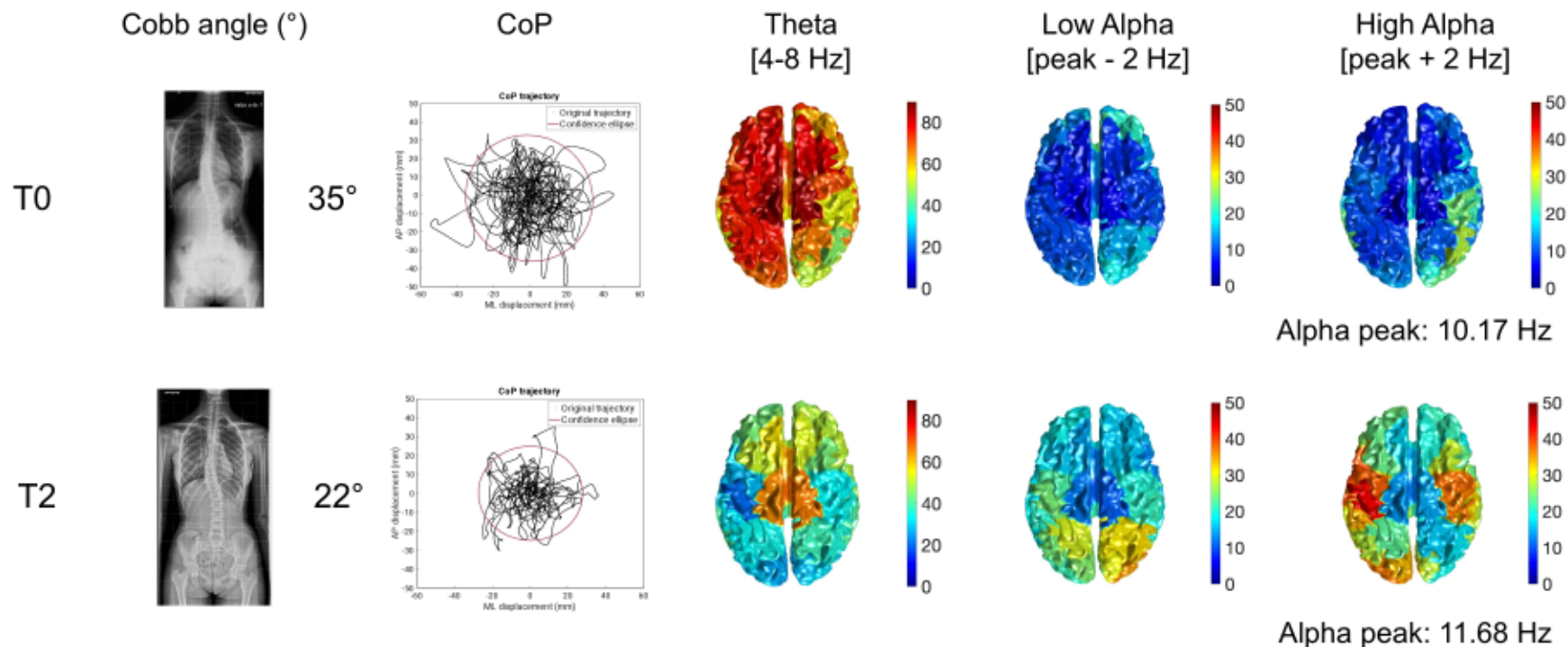
## CoP displacement



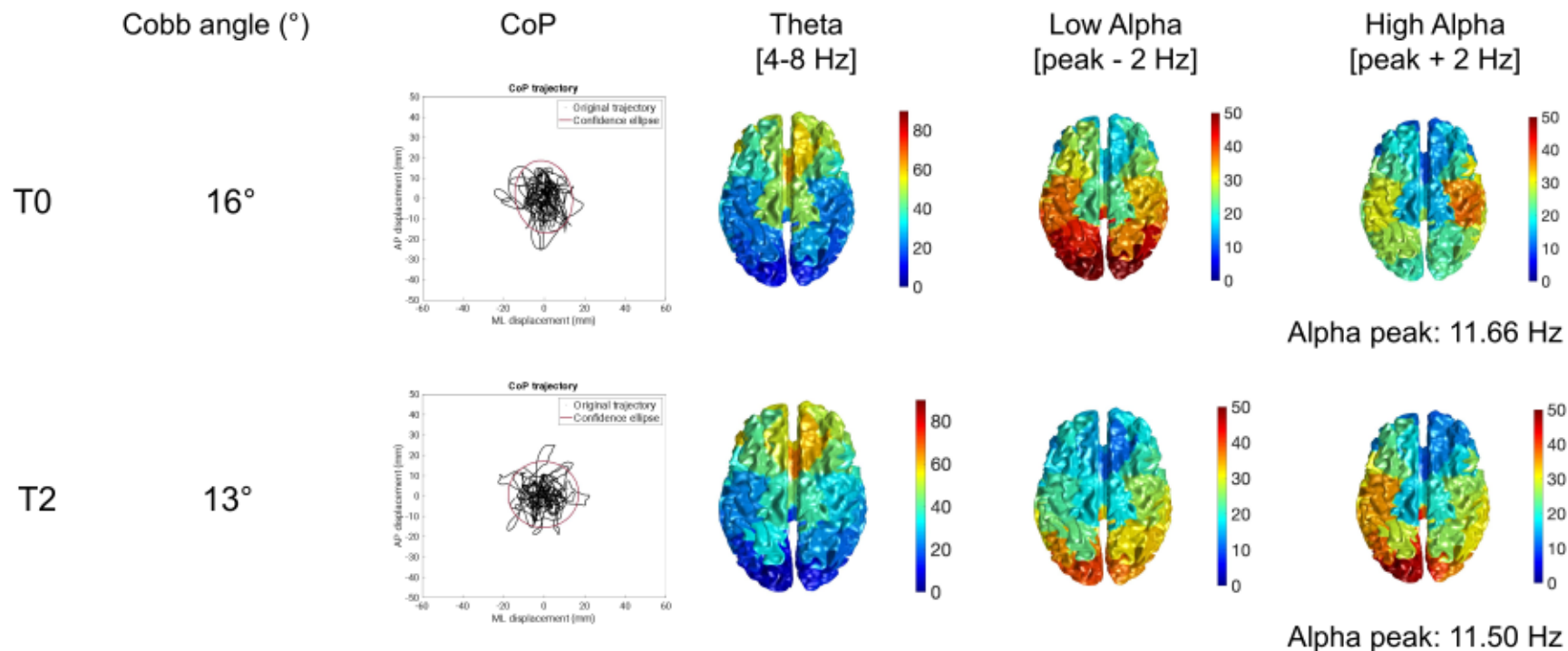
# EEG correlates of *postural* control



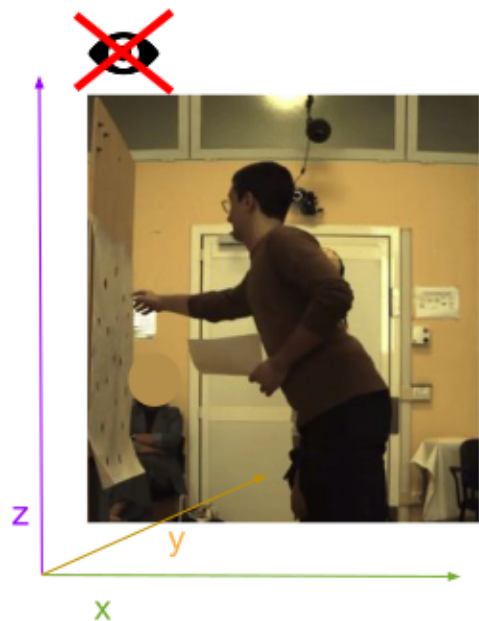
# Subject with a large clinical improvement



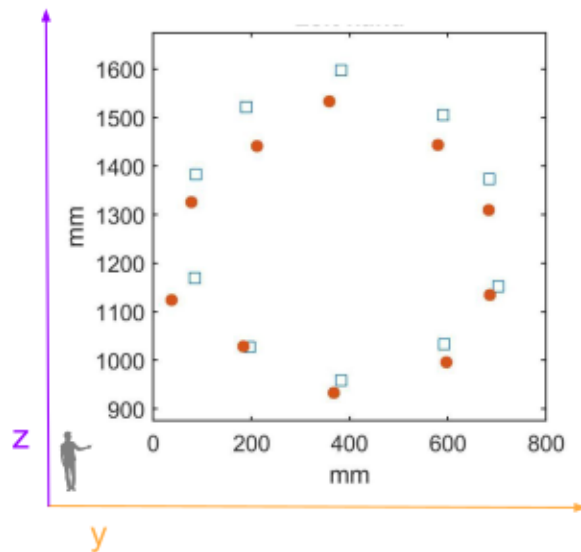
# Subject with a minor clinical improvement



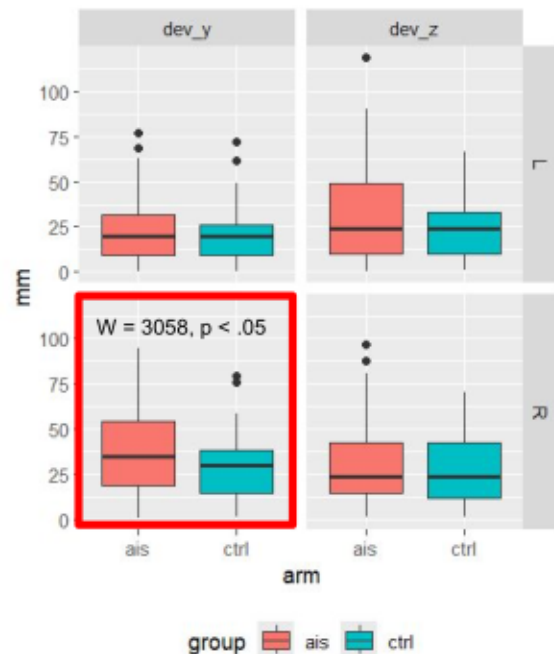
# Is AIS affecting the inverse model, the forward model or both?



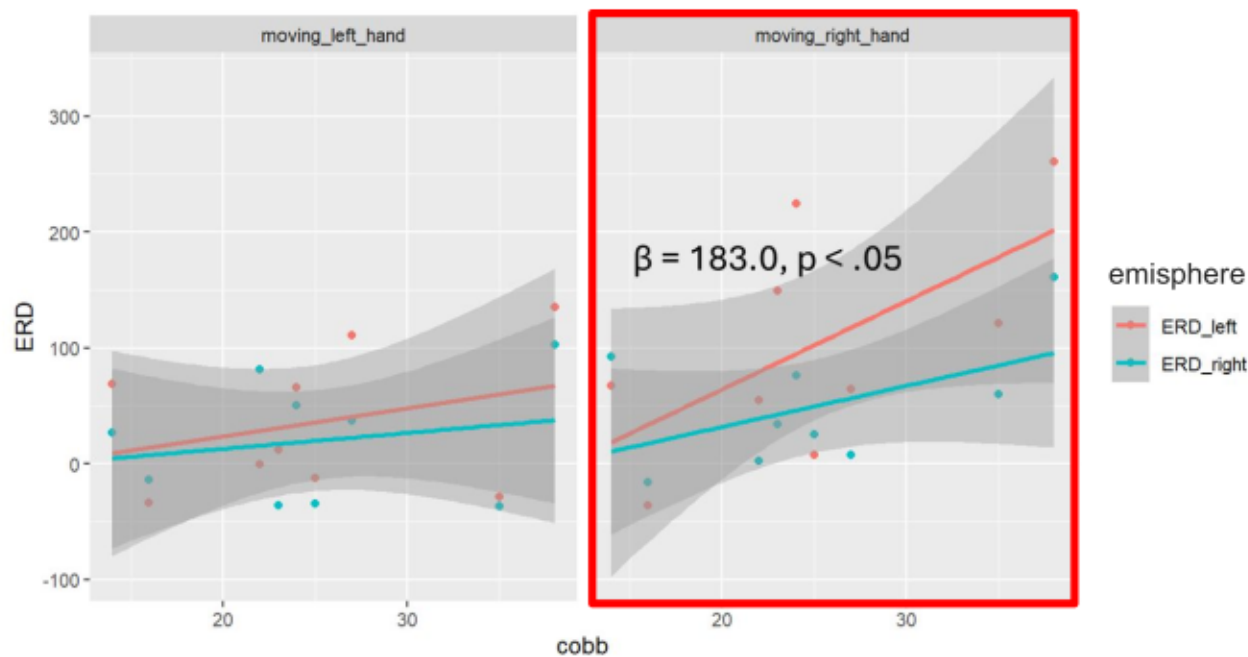
10 trials for each arm (L and R)



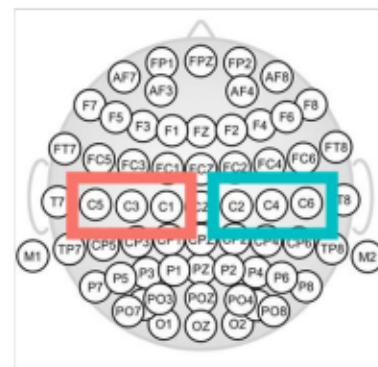
□ target ● touch point



# Alpha power increase with AIS severity



Spinal curvature modulates brain activity during right arm movements





## Preliminary answers

- Are EEG alterations in the alpha rhythm related to AIS pathophysiology or its treatment?

*A major clinical improvement is associated with major differences in cortical activity in theta and alpha band as well as postural improvement.*

- Is AIS affecting the inverse model, the forward model or both?

*It seems to affect in the inverse model. Future research will clarify the effect of AIS on the forward model.*



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