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Temporal dynamics and response modulation across the human visual system in a spatial attention task: an ECoG study

Anne B. Martin^{1,9}, Xiaofang Yang², Yuri B. Saalman^{1,10}, Liang Wang^{1,11}, Avgusta Shestyuk³, Jack J. Lin^{5,6,7}, Josef Parvizi⁸, Robert T. Knight^{3,4} and Sabine Kastner^{1,2}

¹Princeton Neuroscience Institute

²Department of Psychology, Princeton University

³Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute

⁴Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley

⁵Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory

⁶Department of Biomedical Engineering,

⁷Department of Neurology, University of California, Irvine

⁸Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences, Stanford University

⁹Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, California Institute of Technology

¹⁰Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

¹¹CAS Key Laboratory of Mental Health, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

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Correspondence should be addressed to Dr. Sabine Kastner, Princeton Neuroscience Institute and Department of Psychology, Washington Road, Princeton, NJ 08544. E-mail: skastner@princeton.edu

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1 **Temporal dynamics and response modulation across the human**
2 **visual system in a spatial attention task: an ECoG study**

3 **Abbreviated title:** Electrocorticography of visual attention

4 Anne B. Martin^{1,9}, Xiaofang Yang², Yuri B. Saalman^{1,10}, Liang Wang^{1,11}, Avgusta
5 Shestyuk³, Jack J. Lin^{5,6,7}, Josef Parvizi⁸, Robert T. Knight^{3,4} and Sabine Kastner^{1,2*}

6 ¹Princeton Neuroscience Institute and ²Department of Psychology, Princeton University;
7 ³Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute and ⁴Department of Psychology, University of
8 California, Berkeley; ⁵Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory,
9 ⁶Department of Biomedical Engineering, and ⁷Department of Neurology, University of
10 California, Irvine; ⁸Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences, Stanford
11 University; ⁹Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, California Institute of
12 Technology; ¹⁰Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; ¹¹CAS Key
13 Laboratory of Mental Health, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

14
15 *Correspondence should be addressed to Dr. Sabine Kastner, Princeton Neuroscience
16 Institute and Department of Psychology, Washington Road, Princeton, NJ 08544. E-
17 mail: skastner@princeton.edu.

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35

36 **ABSTRACT**

37 The selection of behaviorally relevant information from cluttered visual scenes (often
38 referred to as 'attention') is mediated by a cortical large-scale network consisting of
39 areas in occipital, temporal, parietal, and frontal cortex that is organized into a functional
40 hierarchy of feedforward and feedback pathways. In the human brain, little is known
41 about the temporal dynamics of attentional processing from studies at the mesoscopic
42 level of electrocorticography (ECoG), that combines millisecond temporal resolution with
43 precise anatomical localization of recording sites. We analyzed high frequency
44 broadband responses (HFB) responses from 626 electrodes implanted in 8 epilepsy
45 patients, who performed a spatial attention task. Electrode locations were reconstructed
46 using a probabilistic atlas of the human visual system. HFB responses showed high
47 spatial selectivity and tuning, constituting ECoG response fields (RFs), within and
48 outside the topographic visual system. In accordance with monkey physiology studies,
49 both RF widths and onset latencies increased systematically across the visual
50 processing hierarchy. We utilized the spatial specificity of HFB responses to
51 quantitatively study spatial attention effects and their temporal dynamics to probe a
52 hierarchical top-down model suggesting that feedback signals back propagate the visual
53 processing hierarchy. Consistent with such a model, the strengths of attentional
54 modulation were found to be greater and modulation latencies to be shorter in posterior
55 parietal cortex, middle temporal cortex and ventral extrastriate cortex as compared to
56 early visual cortex. However, inconsistent with such a model, attention effects were
57 weaker and more delayed in anterior parietal and frontal cortex.

58
59

60 **SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT**

61 In the human brain, visual attention has been predominantly studied using methods with
62 high spatial, but poor temporal resolution such as fMRI, or high temporal, but poor
63 spatial resolution such as EEG/MEG. Here, we investigate temporal dynamics and
64 attention effects across the human visual system at a mesoscopic level that combines
65 precise spatial and temporal measurements by using electrocorticography in epilepsy
66 patients performing a classical spatial attention task. Electrode locations were
67 reconstructed using a probabilistic atlas of the human visual system, thereby relating
68 them to topography and processing hierarchy. We demonstrate regional differences in
69 temporal dynamics across the attention network. Our findings do not fully support a top-
70 down model that promotes influences on visual cortex by reversing the processing
71 hierarchy.

72

73 **INTRODUCTION**

74 The selection of information from cluttered visual environments (often referred to as
75 'attention') is a fundamental problem in cognitive neuroscience. This process is
76 mediated by a cortical large-scale network consisting of areas in occipital, temporal,
77 parietal, and frontal cortex (Desimone and Duncan, 1995; Kastner and Ungerleider,
78 2000; Corbetta and Shulman, 2002; Saalmann and Kastner, 2011; Caspari et al., 2015;
79 Buschman and Kastner, 2015; Moore and Zirnsak, 2017). Anatomical and functional
80 studies indicate that this network is organized into a hierarchy of feedforward and
81 feedback pathways that are dynamically modulated by attention for selective routing of
82 information. Anatomically, this processing hierarchy is constrained by specific laminar
83 projection patterns that index feedforward and feedback connectivity (Felleman and Van
84 Essen, 1991; Markov et al., 2014). Functionally, it is characterized by inter-areal
85 interactions that use distinct frequency channels indexing feedforward and feedback
86 signaling (van Kerkoerle et al., 2014; Bastos et al., 2015; Michalareas et al., 2016).
87 Evidence from studies in patients suffering from attentional deficits due to brain
88 damage, as well as inactivation and microstimulation studies in non-human primates,
89 indicate that fronto-parietal areas generate attention-related modulatory signals that are
90 fed back to sensory cortex (Barceló et al., 2000; Moore and Armstrong 2003; Corbetta
91 and Shulman 2011). Consistent with such a feedback model of attention control, it has
92 been shown in monkey physiology studies that modulatory attention effects are greater
93 and modulation latencies are shorter in higher-order as compared to lower-order cortex,
94 suggesting that attention-related feedback signals reverse the visual processing
95 hierarchy (Mehta et al., 2000; Buffalo et al., 2010).

96 In the human brain, selective attention has been predominantly studied with methods
97 that emphasize network level analyses and have either relatively high spatial, but poor
98 temporal resolution such as fMRI, or high temporal, but relatively poor spatial resolution
99 such as MEG/EEG. The functional hierarchy of feedforward and feedback pathways
100 based on inter-areal interactions has been recently reported for the human visual
101 system using MEG (Michalareas et al., 2016). However, the precise temporal dynamics
102 during feedforward and feedback selective visual processing are not known. Only few
103 studies have been performed at the mesoscopic level of intracranial EEG, or
104 electrocorticography (ECoG), that combines millisecond temporal resolution with
105 precise anatomical localization of recording sites (for a review, see Parvizi and Kastner,
106 2018). In particular, high frequency broadband (HFB) responses above 70 Hz show
107 time-locking to specific sensory, motor, and cognitive events (Kreiman et al., 2006;
108 Flinker et al., 2011; Hermes et al., 2012; Mesgarani et al., 2014). Thus far, spatially and
109 feature-specific attentional modulation of HFB responses have been reported in visual
110 cortex (Yoshor et al., 2007; Davidesco et al., 2013; Szczepanski et al., 2014).

111

112 Here, we studied HFB responses from hundreds of electrodes covering occipital,
113 temporal, parietal, and frontal cortex in patients performing a classical spatial attention
114 task. Electrode locations were reconstructed using a probabilistic atlas of the human
115 visual system (Wang et al., 2015), thereby relating them to topography and processing
116 hierarchy. We characterized the spatial specificity of HFB responses and utilized this
117 property to quantitatively study spatial attention effects on baseline and visually-evoked
118 activity across topographic and non-topographic cortex. Further, we investigated

119 response onset and attentional modulation latencies to characterize the temporal
120 dynamics of feedforward and feedback processing across the visual system during
121 spatial attention.

122

123 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

124 **Subjects**

125 Eight subjects (S1-S8, 6 males, age: 35 +/- 5, mean +/- SEM; see **Table 1** for further
126 information), who underwent pre-surgical epilepsy evaluation, provided written informed
127 consent to participate in the study. Experimental procedures were approved by the
128 Institutional Review Boards of the participating institutions. Anti-epileptic medications
129 were discontinued for 2-3 days before testing, and subjects were seizure free for at
130 least five hours before testing. Subjects had normal or corrected-to-normal vision.

131

132 Subjects were implanted with 52-128 electrodes (1 cm spacing in grids and strips),
133 covering extensive parts of frontal, parietal, occipital, and temporal cortex in their left (7
134 subjects) and right (1 subject) hemispheres (see **Figure 1** for electrode locations from
135 all subjects and **Table 1** for coverage information of each subject). The positioning of
136 electrode grids and strips was entirely based on clinical criteria pertaining to diagnostic
137 procedures.

138

139 **Visual display, stimuli, and task**

140 Visual displays were generated on a Dell Precision M4600 laptop (Dell Inc.) using
141 Presentation software (Neurobehavioral Systems, Inc.). Light gray stimuli were
142 presented on a darker gray background at 50% contrast (**Figure 2A**). The timing of
143 visual and auditory stimulus presentations was verified using a custom photodiode and
144 microphone system. A microphone recorded auditory cues (starting tone and response
145 feedback sounds; see below for task description). A photodiode placed at the lower right

146 corner of the monitor recorded timing of each visual stimulus using a simultaneous light
147 square presented at the location of the photodiode receptor. The computer screen was
148 placed at a distance of approximately 80 cm from the subject's eyes.

149

150 Subjects performed a variant of the Eriksen flanker task (Eriksen and Eriksen, 1974;
151 Eriksen, 1995; Saalman et al., 2012), discriminating between one of two target shapes
152 that were shown embedded in a circular array of distracter shapes (**Figure 2A**).

153 Subjects were instructed to maintain fixation throughout the duration of each trial.

154 Following a 2 s inter-trial interval, each trial started with the presentation of a central
155 fixation point (0.5°) and a coincidental tone. After 1100 ms, a circular spatial cue (1.5°)
156 was displayed for 100 ms at a pseudo-randomly chosen peripheral location (7°
157 eccentricity), followed by a variable delay period (300-700 ms) and the presentation of a
158 circular array of equally spaced barrel and bowtie shapes (each approximately $2 \times 2^\circ$).
159 The array was displayed for 2000 ms or until the subject responded, indicating with a
160 left or right mouse-button press, respectively, whether a barrel or bowtie shape was
161 presented at the cued location. Barrel and bowtie target stimuli were presented
162 randomly with equal likelihood, and flanking shapes were either congruent (same shape
163 in nearest neighboring positions) or incongruent (different shape in nearest neighboring
164 positions). Feedback on performance was given to the subject upon completion of each
165 trial via tones signaling a correct or incorrect response. In order to minimize stress for
166 the patients, they were instructed to emphasize accuracy rather than speed of
167 responses. Following task instructions, subjects performed a training block to familiarize
168 themselves with the task. During the experiment, trials were presented in blocks of 50,

169 and 3-6 blocks were recorded per subject (see **Table 1**). The number of cued locations
170 and shapes in the target array was 8 (1 subject), 14 (5 subjects), or 16 (2 subjects).

171

172 To confirm fixation performance throughout the task, eye movements were visually
173 monitored by the experimenter, and video recordings of the patient's face and eyes
174 were performed throughout the experiment in the epilepsy monitoring care unit. No
175 systematic saccadic eye movements were observed during task performance.

176

177 **Data acquisition**

178 Electrophysiological and peripheral (photodiode and microphone) channels were
179 recorded using a 128-channel Tucker-Davis Technologies recording system at Stanford,
180 a 128-channel Stellate Harmonic or Blackrock recording system at Johns Hopkins, a
181 128-channel Nihon Kohden recording system at Children's Hospital, and a 256-channel
182 Nihon Kohden recording system (model JE120A) at UC Irvine. Signals were sampled at
183 3,052 Hz (Tucker-Davis), 1,000 Hz (Stellate), 5,000 Hz (Nihon Kohden) or 10,000 Hz
184 (Blackrock), amplified and filtered (0.5-300 Hz at Stanford; 0.1-350 Hz (Stellate), or 0.3-
185 2,500 Hz (Blackrock) at Johns Hopkins), using a subdural electrode reference and a
186 scalp ground. Data were digitized and resampled offline at 1000 Hz to equate analysis
187 across sites.

188

189 **Electrode localization**

190 For subjects S1-6, post-operative CT images of the implanted electrodes were aligned
191 with pre-operative structural MRIs. For localization of electrodes within the visual

192 system, a probabilistic atlas of visuospatial topographic areas, which is based on fMRI
193 retinotopic mapping data from 53 healthy subjects (Wang et al., 2015), was combined
194 with each subject's structural MRI. Specifically, after obtaining co-registration
195 parameters between the MRI and CT images using normalized mutual information
196 algorithms implemented in Bioimage Suite software, electrode locations were mapped
197 onto a rendering of the 3-D brain surface that was generated from the subject's
198 structural MRI volume using FreeSurfer software (Dale et al., 1999; Fischl et al., 1999)
199 and converted to a standard surface template using SUMA (Saad et al., 2004) and AFNI
200 software. The probabilistic atlas of visuospatial topographic areas (Wang et al., 2015)
201 was then superimposed onto each subject's brain surface. Using the maximum
202 probability map, which assigns each node in the standard space to the topographic area
203 with the highest probability, each electrode location that overlapped with the atlas was
204 assigned to its maximally probable area. Sites that did not overlap the maximum
205 probability map but were within one grid spacing ($N = 17$, 10 mm spacing) to the nearest
206 maximally probable area were included with the area. For subjects S7 and S8, the
207 electrode locations were reconstructed on a standard surface based on post-operative
208 drawings of the electrode positions. The electrode grids in these two subjects did not
209 overlap with the probabilistic atlas. Recording sites outside visuospatial topographic
210 areas were located using the Harvard-Oxford cortical parcellation that is based on
211 anatomical markers (Desikan et al., 2006).

212

213 **Data analysis**

214 *Behavioral data.* For each subject, accuracy (as the proportion of correct trials relative
215 to the number of all trials) and mean reaction times (RTs; averaged across all correct
216 trials) were computed. Trials with RTs > 3 standard deviations from the mean were
217 excluded from analyses (median 2% of trials, min = 0.5%, max = 3.5%). We also
218 computed accuracy as a function of flanker condition to determine behavioral flanker
219 effects (i.e. higher accuracy for congruent than incongruent conditions). Since response
220 speed was not emphasized in our task, RTs were not a reliable measure of flanker
221 effects. For the analyses of neural data, only trials with correct responses and
222 appropriate RTs were included; there were insufficient numbers of incorrect trials for
223 reliable analysis.

224

225 *Neural data – preprocessing and time frequency analysis.* A neurologist manually
226 inspected all ECoG channels to identify those with interictal or ictal epileptiform activity
227 and artifacts. Channels and epochs contaminated by epileptiform activity or abnormal
228 signals (e.g. poor contact, excess drift, high frequency noise) as well as those located
229 over MRI defined abnormal sites were excluded from analysis (see **Table 1** for number
230 of electrodes recorded and analyzed per subject). We excluded 16% of recorded
231 electrodes based on these criteria (122/758). Offline, the intracranial field potentials
232 (IFPs) from the remaining 636 electrodes recorded across the 8 subjects were
233 referenced to each subject's common average. Power line noise and its harmonics were
234 removed using a two-way zero phase-lag finite impulse response notch filter (± 2 Hz).

235

236 All analyses were performed using the EEGLAB toolbox (Delorme and Makeig, 2004)
237 and customized scripts written in Matlab (Mathworks, Inc.). Time series were aligned
238 separately to the cue and array onset and sorted by cue location. To increase the
239 number of trials available for each analysis, trials from each cue location were combined
240 with the two closest locations on either side (only in cases of 14-16 cue locations). This
241 resulted in spatial smoothing around each location of approximately 25 degrees of
242 visual angle, yielding a minimum of 25 correct trials per cue location.

243

244 For each electrode, power spectra were calculated by applying a Hilbert transform to
245 band pass filtered ECoG IFPs. First, the IFPs were filtered using a two-way zero phase-
246 lag finite impulse response filter. We defined the filter order as $3r$, where r is the ratio of
247 the sampling rate to the low-frequency cutoff of the filter, rounded down, in each of the
248 pass bands described below. For full spectrum analyses, we used multiple
249 logarithmically-spaced pass bands with partially overlapping bands from 0.5-250 Hz (as
250 in Voytek et al., 2013): the first pass band was seeded such that $f_{p(1)} = [0.5 \ 0.9]$, and in
251 subsequent bands $f_{L(n)} = 0.85 \times (f_{H(n-1)})$ and $f_{H(n)} = 1.1 \times (f_{H(n-1)} - f_{L(n-1)}) + f_{L(n)}$. We applied
252 the Hilbert transform to each filtered time series x to acquire the analytic amplitude
253 $a_x(n)$. The instantaneous power in band $f_{p(n)}$ at each time point in x is the mean over
254 trials of $a_x(n)$. In this report, we focus our analyses on task-related power modulations in
255 high-frequency broadband (HFB) responses above 70 Hz due to their high spatial
256 specificity and temporal precision (Crone et al., 1998; Crone et al., 2006; Cheung et al.,
257 2016; Parvizi and Kastner, 2018). While the neural basis of HFB responses is still not
258 entirely clear, these signals have been shown to correlate with multi-unit activity

259 obtained from thousands of neurons in the immediate vicinity of the recording electrode
260 (Ray et al., 2008a; Ray and Maunsell, 2011; Rich and Wallis, 2017; Watson et al.,
261 2018). More recent findings indicate CA+ dendritic spikes in supragranular cortex as a
262 principle contributor to pial HFB responses (Leszczyński et al., 2018). Here, HFB
263 responses were defined as the average power between the pass bands centered at 70
264 and 200 Hz. These band definitions applied to the logarithmically-spaced bands yielded
265 averages between 61.6-206.6 Hz.

266

267 Outlier time points (HFB power modulations greater than 6 standard deviations of the
268 mean for time points in the 50-400 ms following cue and array onset), and trials with
269 outlier cue- or array-evoked power compared to other trials of that same condition (each
270 trial mean in the interval 50-300 ms following the cue or array greater than 6 standard
271 deviations of the mean across all trials in that condition) were eliminated. Typically,
272 fewer than 6% of trials per electrode were excluded (median 5%, min = 0%, max =
273 16%).

274

275 *Identification of task-related activity.* For each electrode, the mean IFP HFB power was
276 calculated for each of the 8-16 peripheral locations and for four task-related epochs:
277 cue-evoked (50-250 ms after cue onset), delay-related (200 ms before array onset),
278 early array-evoked (50-200 ms after array onset), and late array-evoked (300-500 ms
279 after array onset). HFB power fluctuations during these epochs were compared to
280 baseline activity occurring 200 ms before cue onset. Because there is no sharp
281 transition in the signals between cue-evoked and delay activity, we defined the length of

282 the presumed cue-evoked time interval post-hoc based on the time course of cue-
283 evoked activity in topographic area V1d/v, which showed a sharp decline of cue-evoked
284 responses after 250 ms and did not appear to show any elevated delay activity in our
285 recordings (e.g. **Figure 4A**, red trace). To avoid contamination of cue-evoked (i.e.
286 sensory-driven) with delay-related (i.e. driven by the cognitive state) activity, only trials
287 with delays longer than 450 ms (the median split of trials) were used for all analyses
288 regarding delay-related activity. Similarly, to avoid contamination from motor responses,
289 trials with reaction times shorter than 500 ms were excluded from analyses of array-
290 related activity (median 0, min = 0, max = 9).

291

292 Task-responsive recording sites were identified based on the following criteria. First, a
293 non-parametric cluster method (described below) was used to determine whether
294 significant cue-evoked HFB power (as compared to baseline) was sustained for at least
295 100 consecutive milliseconds at any of the peripheral locations. Second, the reliability of
296 the trial-wise power at those locations was measured by generating bootstrapped
297 distributions of the mean power during the cue-related epoch (1000 re-samplings over
298 trials of the cue-evoked HFB power relative to the mean baseline power); sites were
299 included only if the 95% confidence interval of the bootstrapped distribution was greater
300 than zero. Sites with significant delay- or array-related HFB power modulation were
301 identified using the second criterion applied to the respective epochs.

302

303 *Spatial tuning functions.* After identifying sites with significant task-evoked responses in
304 the HFB power of the IFPs for at least one peripheral location, we examined their

305 relative responses across all peripheral locations to determine their spatial tuning
306 properties. In cases of spatial tuning, we defined a response field center (RF_C) as the
307 location evoking the strongest power relative to baseline in response to the cue. Each
308 site was considered to have a spatially-tuned IFP response field, if its tuning curve met
309 three criteria. First, it had a significant task-evoked response at RF_C, as described
310 above. Second, we determined whether the IFP responses were spatially selective by
311 comparing the peak of the tuning curve (defined as RF_C) to the opposite location (RF_{null})
312 using a bootstrapped randomization. We generated a null distribution of randomized
313 differences between RF_C and RF_{null} means by drawing with replacement from a pool of
314 all RF_C and RF_{null} trials, including the number of RF_C trials in one mean and the number
315 of RF_{null} trials in the other. The difference between these randomly generated means
316 was added to a null distribution of randomized differences. The quantile of the real
317 difference (RF_C – RF_{null}) in the null distribution of randomized differences was taken as
318 the *p*-value of the real difference. We rejected the null hypothesis that activity in RF_C
319 and RF_{null} trials were recorded from the same distribution of responses for *p*-values <
320 0.01. And third, we determined whether each tuning curve was well described by a
321 Gaussian function, where the variance explained by the fit of a Gaussian function was
322 greater than 60% ($r^2 > 0.6$). Since task-evoked responses were recorded at locations
323 arranged around a circular array at a constant eccentricity of 7°, the measured widths
324 were converted from degrees of visual angle (dva) to circular distance around the arc:
325 $wid = dva \times 2\pi 7^\circ / 360$. A few sites were excluded due to exceptionally wide variance
326 of the Gaussian fit (excluded if $\sigma > 240$ dva; $N = 6$). Across all sites that met these
327 criteria, the median σ was 52 dva, which corresponds to an arc length of 6° (min = 2°,

328 max = 17°). Spatial tuning was similarly determined for delay and late array activity by
329 comparing HFB responses when attention was directed to RF_C (or neighboring
330 locations) as compared to RF_{null}. We refer to the spatial tuning properties during the
331 delay as ‘memory field’, and those in response to the attended (vs. unattended) array as
332 ‘attention field’ (see **Figure 3** for examples).

333

334 Spatial tuning functions were generated by centering the mean power at each location
335 on RF_C, and the tuning width was measured as half the area under the normalized
336 tuning curve. Since subjects had different numbers of cue locations, we found the cubic
337 spline interpolation of each tuning curve using the least common multiple of the
338 subjects’ location counts, which allowed us to compare spatial tuning of HFB responses
339 from all recording sites within a cortical area. Each tuning curve was then normalized to
340 its peak. The population response is shown as the mean of the smoothed, normalized
341 tuning curves within each area. Error bars correspond to the 95% confidence intervals
342 of bootstrapped distributions generated by resampling 500 times with replacement from
343 trials in each condition at each site.

344

345 *Response onset latencies.* For each electrode, the onset latency of HFB responses was
346 measured as the time-to-half-peak at RF_C in response to the cue, following analytical
347 steps as in Lee et al. (2007). We first smoothed the HFB time series of each trial at RF_C
348 with an 8 ms σ Gaussian kernel. A distribution of baseline trial-wise means (blm) was
349 generated by randomly selecting power values 1000 times from all the baseline times
350 and trials, equivalent to the number of trials (Ntr) and times (Nti) at RF_C, then taking the

351 mean over the Ntr to generate a distribution of 1000 randomized baseline time series.
352 The response peak was defined as the maximum at RF_C in the 50-250 ms following cue
353 onset that was greater than 99.9% of the blm distribution ($p < 0.001$). To ensure that we
354 measured elevated, increasing responses, we set the minimum response time (L_0) as
355 the first time at least 50 ms after cue onset that the response was more than half the
356 peak value. The response onset latency was then taken as the first time point between
357 L_0 and 250 ms after cue onset that the power exceeded half the peak. Only sites with
358 response onset latencies during this time period were considered to have cue-evoked
359 responses. To compare array onset latencies to cue responses, we also performed this
360 analysis using array-evoked activity in the attend-to- RF_{null} condition, defined below.

361

362 *Attentional modulation: magnitude and topography of effects.* To determine the
363 strengths of attentional modulation during the delay and in response to the array, we
364 compared mean HFB power from trials when attention was directed to RF_C (the attend-
365 to- RF_C condition) to trials when attention was directed away from RF_C toward the
366 opposite field location (the attend-to- RF_{null} condition). We compared these trial-wise
367 means by calculating an attentional modulation index (MI) of the normalized means in
368 each epoch. For each site, the time series of the responses in the attend-to- RF_C and the
369 attend-to- RF_{null} conditions were normalized to the maximum value in the 500 ms window
370 following cue onset (for delay effects) or array onset. The population time series for
371 each area was the mean of these normalized time series across sites. The modulation
372 index was the mean difference between the normalized attend-to- RF_C and the attend-
373 to- RF_{null} time series in the time window of interest, yielding the proportion of the

374 maximum response. A distribution of bootstrapped MI values was found for each area
375 by repeating the MI calculation 1000 times after resampling with replacement from trials
376 in the attend-to-RF_C and attend-to-RF_{null} conditions.

377

378 MI values were determined for each site, and sites were assigned to an enhanced (MI >
379 0) or suppressed (MI < 0) group within each area, and then averaged across sites to
380 yield population data. Note that the assignment of sites to these groups did not rely on a
381 significance test, and was presumed to include noise around zero.

382

383 The MI values during the delay and in the late array window were mapped onto brain
384 surfaces and combined across subjects onto a surface in common space to yield their
385 topography. Specifically, electrode coordinates of each subject were first identified in
386 their native brain space then realigned to a normalized brain. For sites with a response
387 field, the topography of attentional modulation effects during the delay and late array
388 windows across subjects were plotted in this common space with color indicating MI
389 spread cortically using a Gaussian kernel of 4 cm. Large dots denote the topographic
390 sites, and small dots the non-topographic ones.

391

392 *Attentional modulation: latencies.* Attentional modulation latencies were calculated
393 based on the time courses of HFB responses evoked by the array in the attend-to-RF_C
394 condition versus the attend-to-RF_{null} condition. Time series were averaged across
395 recording sites from the same area with an enhanced (or separately for suppressed)
396 modulation index to yield population data; the modulation latencies were determined

397 based on these population data. The modulation latency was defined as the first time
398 point in a series of at least 50 consecutive milliseconds after the array onset latency
399 (defined above as the time to half peak of the response at RF_{null}) during which the
400 responses in the attend-to- RF_C condition were greater (or smaller in the case of
401 suppressive effects) than in the attend-to- RF_{null} condition using the cluster method
402 described below. Our approach is similar to other studies measuring attentional
403 modulation latencies, using the first of several consecutive significant time points (e.g.
404 Gregoriou et al., 2009; Buffalo et al., 2010); however, we required longer clusters of
405 significance (50 ms compared to 30 ms) and smaller time bins (1 ms compared to 10
406 ms) due to the differences in signal quality in HFB power compared to spiking activity.

407

408 *Tests of statistical significance.* To compare effects between areas, we generated
409 bootstrapped distributions of the population means across sites within each area by
410 randomly resampling 500 times with replacement from the trials in each condition. For
411 example, for tuning widths we resampled from trials at each cue location to generate a
412 randomized mean for each site at that cue location, then took the mean across the sites
413 in the area, repeated 500 times to generate a distribution across the population of sites
414 in that area. Using these distributions, we compared the means between every area
415 using ANOVA, and the significance of each difference was determined by applying the
416 Holm-Bonferroni sequential correction for multiple comparisons on the resulting p -
417 values. In this method, a single target alpha level is applied across the set of tests,
418 yielding a single p -value for all tests. Across all comparisons, the p -values from the

419 ANOVA were ranked from the smallest to the largest and compared to a ranked alpha
420 level determined by:

$$\alpha_{rank} = \frac{\text{Target Alpha Level}}{n - rank + 1}$$

421 where n was the number of tests, and the *Target Alpha Level* was set as 0.05. For
422 instance, 15 areas were included in the comparison of tuning widths (**Table 5**), so the
423 number of tests n was $\binom{15}{2} = 105$. In order of their rank, if a test had $p - value_{rank} <$
424 α_{rank} then that test was considered significant at the *Target Alpha Level*. The first test
425 with $p - value_{rank} \geq \alpha_{rank}$ was not significant, as well as all subsequent tests.

426

427 To determine whether an effect within an area was significantly different from zero, we
428 found the 95% confidence interval (CI) of the bootstrapped distribution. Areas with CI
429 that did not overlap zero were significantly modulated ($p < 0.05$). We employed
430 Spearman's rank correlation to determine the relationship between cue-evoked tuning
431 widths and latencies.

432

433 For measurements of sustained cue-evoked activity, we used a non-parametric cluster
434 method (Maris and Oostenveld, 2007) to determine the number of sequential time
435 points with significant enhancement relative to baseline. With this method, we set a
436 threshold for significance ($p < 0.05$) and found clusters of sequential time points after
437 the cue onset latency with significantly elevated power at RF_C . We used the quantile of
438 the RF_C power at each time point relative to a randomized distribution of baseline mean
439 values as the test statistic at each time point. The cluster level statistic was the sum of
440 the test statistics in the cluster. We compared veridical cluster level statistics to a null

441 distribution of cluster level statistics generated by randomly assigning time points as
442 event-related or baseline. Clusters of time points were significant if their veridical cluster
443 level statistic was greater than 99% of the randomly generated cluster level statistics in
444 the null distribution ($p < 0.01$).

445

446 To determine the attentional modulation latencies after array onset, we repeated the
447 assessment of sustained activity but used the time series after the array onset and
448 compared the attend-to-RF_C condition to the attend-to-RF_{null} condition rather than to
449 baseline. The latency of attentional modulation was the first time point of the first cluster
450 after the array onset latency when attend-to-RF_C was greater than attend-to-RF_{null} (or
451 smaller in the case of suppression effects).

452

453 Only areas with at least half of the bootstrapped calculations yielding a modulation
454 latency were included in the group-wise comparison, thus areas ISP4+, FEF, and the
455 non-topographic regions of occipital cortex were excluded from the group of modulation
456 latencies. For area V1d/v enhanced sites, the distribution of bootstrapped modulation
457 latencies was bimodal, so we separated the population of those latencies into two
458 groups, which had an early (V1c1) and a late (V1c2) component. The distributions for
459 V1c1 and V1c2 were used in the group-wise comparisons.

460

461 **RESULTS**

462 We recorded IFPs from 758 subdural electrodes implanted over parietal, occipital,
463 temporal, and frontal cortex in 8 patients, who underwent pre-surgical epilepsy
464 evaluation (**Table 1, Figure 1**), while performing a spatial attention task. We eliminated
465 122 electrode channels that were compromised due to noise or epileptiform activity,
466 yielding 636 channels for analysis.

467

468 **Electrode localization**

469 In each patient, structural MRI and CT images of the implanted electrodes were used to
470 reconstruct their locations in occipital (N = 54), temporal (N = 170), parietal (N = 280),
471 and frontal cortex (N = 132). To relate electrode positions more specifically to
472 topographically organized areas of the visual system, we combined the structural MRI of
473 each individual patient with a probabilistic atlas of visuospatial topographic cortex
474 (Wang et al., 2015). Electrode locations from all patients in relation to this probabilistic
475 atlas are shown in **Figure 1**, rendered onto the left hemispheric surface of a standard
476 brain and displaying posterior, lateral, and medial views. One hundred and thirty-three
477 electrodes were located in the topographic visual system, including in early visual (V1-
478 V3d/v, N = 36), dorsal extrastriate (V3A/B, TO1-2, N = 24), ventral extrastriate (hV4,
479 LO1-2, VO1-2, PHC1-2, N = 24), and posterior parietal cortex, particularly in areas
480 along the intraparietal sulcus (IPS; N = 42), as well as in the superior parietal lobule
481 (SPL1, N = 3), and in frontal cortex (frontal eye fields, FEF, N = 4). The remaining 503
482 electrodes were implanted outside visuospatial topographic areas. Using the Harvard-
483 Oxford parcellation that differentiates cortical areas using anatomical markers (Desikan

484 et al., 2006), these electrodes were broadly localized by lobe into occipital, temporal,
485 parietal, and frontal categories. Since we did not find systematic differences in our
486 analyses within a given category, results were combined by lobe (designated “Non-
487 topographic, occipital” etc.). The electrodes in non-topographic cortex were distributed
488 across parietal (N = 235), temporal (N = 134), and frontal lobes (N = 128), with only 6
489 electrodes in the occipital lobe located outside topographic cortex.

490

491 **Task design and behavioral results**

492 The patients were tested in a variant of the Eriksen flanker task (Eriksen and Eriksen,
493 1974; Eriksen, 1995), a classical spatial attention task that we also use in parallel
494 monkey electrophysiology studies (Saalman et al., 2012). Each trial of the task (**Figure**
495 **2A**) was initiated by an auditory tone and the presentation of a fixation point on a
496 computer monitor. After a fixation period of 1100 ms, a cue was flashed briefly in a
497 pseudo-randomly selected location arranged in a circular manner around the fixation
498 point at a fixed eccentricity of 7°. The cue indicated with 100% validity the location of a
499 subsequently presented target shape. After a variable delay period (300-700 ms), a
500 circular array of barrel and bow tie shapes was presented, and the patients indicated
501 with a left or right mouse button press which shape (i.e. barrel or bow tie) appeared at
502 the cued location. Patients performed between 150 and 300 trials of this task (**Table 1**)
503 and achieved high accuracies ranging from 83 to 96% (mean = 93±2%). Importantly, the
504 patients showed the classical flanker effect, with higher accuracies for targets that were
505 flanked by congruent shapes than targets that were flanked by incongruent shapes
506 (congruent: mean = 96±2%, incongruent: mean = 90±3%, ttest $p < 0.04$). This

507 behavioral pattern indicates that the patients were engaged in the task and able to
508 successfully perform it. In order to characterize the temporal dynamics of visual
509 processing and its influences by attentional task demands, we report here on
510 electrophysiological results from three epochs of the flanker task: cue-evoked (i.e.,
511 ‘bottom-up’ visual stimulation), delay period-related (i.e., maintenance of location
512 information in the absence of visual stimulation), and array-evoked (i.e., the selection of
513 behaviorally relevant stimuli among distracters).

514

515 **Spatial selectivity of cue-evoked HFB response fields**

516 We first examined the spatial selectivity of event-related power fluctuations of the
517 intracranial field potentials (IFP) recorded from each electrode. A representative
518 example of a response profile from an IFP evoked by cue stimuli is shown in **Figure 2**.
519 The recording site was located in left dorsal V3 (cortical location shown in **Figure 3A**,
520 electrode E). Cue-evoked power modulations (50-250 ms after the cue onset) were
521 compared to a baseline period (200 ms before cue onset). Averaged across all trials, a
522 cue-evoked enhancement in power was observed across a broad band of high
523 frequencies (30-200 Hz) with a concomitant suppression of power in a narrow band of
524 lower frequencies (7-20 Hz) (**Figure 2B**), similar to typical profiles of IFP power
525 fluctuations in response to visual stimuli previously reported in ECoG studies (e.g.
526 Lachaux et al., 2005).

527

528 By examining power modulations relative to baseline as a function of time, we found
529 that cue and array stimuli evoked a robust increase in the high frequency broadband

530 (HFB) power with a precise temporal profile marking the onset of the visual stimulation
531 (**Figure 2C, D** top panel; **Figure 3E**). In this report, we focus our analyses on
532 modulations in HFB power between 70-200 Hz to exclude frequency bands that have
533 been shown to have oscillatory properties such as gamma, beta, alpha or theta activity
534 (Fries, 2009; Engel and Fries, 2010; Lisman and Jensen, 2013). However, control
535 analyses on broadband activity that included gamma and beta frequency bands with the
536 HFB responses yielded similar results. For the example electrode from dorsal V3, we
537 sorted HFB responses in each trial based on cue location and found that the highest
538 power was consistently evoked by the cue presented in positions 5 and 6 in the lower
539 right quadrant (**Figure 2D**, center panel; **Figure 3E**, orange polar plot). Cues presented
540 at locations further from the peak locations exerted continuously smaller HFB
541 responses, thereby showing the typical profile of the cross section of a response field,
542 which presents as a spatial tuning curve (**Figure 2D**, right panel). Thus, the visually-
543 evoked increases in HFB power recorded from this site were highly spatially specific,
544 constituting a contralateral ECoG HFB response field. We defined the location that
545 evoked the strongest HFB responses as the response field center (RF_C) (**Figure 3E**,
546 position 6) and the opposite field location as RF_{null} (**Figure 3E**, position 13). It is
547 noteworthy that trial-wise responses for each cue position were reliable, with
548 consistently stronger responses at RF_C (412% ± 32% of baseline, bootstrap
549 randomization test $p < 0.001$) and consistently weaker or absent responses at the
550 opposite field location (RF_{null}, 0.4% ± 3% of baseline, $p = 0.8$).

551

552 Cue-evoked HFB responses showed a high degree of spatial specificity across cortex,
553 both within topographic visual cortex and outside of topographic areas. We obtained
554 distinct spatial profiles even from adjacent electrodes, as illustrated in **Figure 3** for
555 electrodes that were part of a strip with 10 mm spacing. In addition to the example V3d
556 electrode (**Figure 3A**, electrode E), three nearby electrodes with ECoG HFB response
557 fields were implanted in areas IPS0 (**Figure 3A**, electrodes B and C, separated by 10
558 mm), and in V3B (**Figure 3A**, electrode D bordering V3A, separated from C and E by 10
559 and 14 mm respectively). We did not find HFB response fields in two other electrodes of
560 this strip (**Figure 3A**, blank circles). The peaks of the HFB response fields shifted from
561 position 5, just below the right horizontal meridian (**Figure 3B**) to position 3 in the upper
562 right quadrant (**Figure 3C**) within IPS0, and from position 3 in the upper right quadrant
563 within V3B (**Figure 3D**) to position 6 in the lower right quadrant of V3d (**Figure 3E**). This
564 topographic pattern of peak responses reflects the visual field sign reversals of the
565 underlying topographic maps (Wang et al., 2015; see also Konen and Kastner, 2008;
566 Silver and Kastner, 2009; Arcaro et al., 2011). Thus, HFB responses reflected activity
567 from spatially selective, local neuronal populations, and these signals did not appear to
568 be compromised by volume conduction from more distant sites (see Buzsáki et al.,
569 2012), corroborating and extending previous reports on the specificity of HFB responses
570 (e.g. Crone et al., 1998; Canolty et al., 2007; Parvizi et al., 2012). The spatial selectivity
571 of HFB responses across the human visual system formed the basis for our quantitative
572 analyses of the temporal dynamics and modulatory effects of selective attention on
573 baseline and visually-evoked activity.
574

575 Next, we determined the spatial tuning properties of cue-evoked HFB responses based
576 on the following criteria. First, for each recording site, we required responses to be
577 visually selective such that cue-evoked HFB power increased significantly relative to
578 baseline in response to at least one cue presentation location, as well as significant
579 differences between cue-evoked responses at the preferred location (RF_C) compared to
580 the opposite location (RF_{null}). Second, we required that the response profile of the
581 spatial tuning curve centered on RF_C had a regular shape (i.e., a Gaussian fit centered
582 on RF_C explained at least 60% of the variance, and the tuning widths were less than
583 240 degrees of visual angle). And third, in order to capture cue-evoked spatial tuning
584 only (and not delay-related tuning), we determined whether the response onset latency
585 at RF_C was within 50-250 ms of cue onset (latencies are discussed in detail below).

586

587 Using these criteria, 45% of electrodes located in topographic areas exhibited spatially-
588 tuned, cue-evoked responses (60/133) with a well-defined response field. The vast
589 majority of these had their RF_C in the contralateral hemifield (58/60, 97%). Additionally,
590 in ventral and dorsal parts of visual areas V1-V3, spatial tuning was predominantly
591 limited to the respective upper and lower visual field quadrants. Eighty-two percent, or
592 9/11 of the dorsal sites had their RF_C in the lower contralateral quadrant, and 2/2 of the
593 ventral sites had their RF_C in the upper contralateral quadrant. Of the recording sites
594 outside of topographic visual areas, 12% exhibited spatially tuned, cue-evoked HFB
595 responses (60/503), typically with their RF_C contralateral to the implanted hemisphere
596 (46/60, 77%). These sites were located in parietal (N = 35 selective, 27 with
597 contralateral RF_C), temporal (N = 14 selective, 12 with contralateral RF_C) and frontal

598 lobes (N = 11 selective, 7 with contralateral RF_C). Except if noted otherwise, only the
599 sites with a cue-evoked response field were included in further analyses.

600

601 **Cue-evoked response onset latencies**

602 We then examined the temporal dynamics of feedforward processing across the human
603 visual system by analyzing HFB cue response onset latencies at RF_C in topographic
604 and non-topographic areas. We defined onset latency as the time to half peak of the
605 power increase at RF_C in response to the cue (see Lee et al., 2007). For each recording
606 site, we compared the mean timeseries of HFB power at RF_C to a bootstrapped
607 distribution of baseline means, finding the peak power in the cue interval that was
608 greater than at least 99.9% of the bootstrapped baseline distribution. The onset latency
609 was taken as the first time point at which the power was greater than half the peak. In
610 the example area V3d electrode, the cue-evoked responses at RF_C were highly
611 consistent across trials and had a reliable onset latency of 59±8 ms (**Figure 2D**, top
612 panel). As expected from monkey single-unit recording studies (e.g. Schmolesky et al.,
613 1998), HFB latencies increased systematically across the ventral and dorsal processing
614 pathways (**Figure 4; Tables 2, 3**).

615

616 Response onset latencies increased along the dorsal pathway from early visual areas
617 (V1-V3d/v mean = 73±4 ms) to dorsal extrastriate areas (V3A/B and TO1-2 mean =
618 107±9 ms, $p < 0.05$, see **Table 3** for all area-wise comparisons) and IPS0 (106±5 ms).
619 IPS0 latencies were faster than those in more anterior IPS areas. Response onset
620 latencies in the ventral pathway were quite long, with ventral extrastriate area

621 responses (mean = 149 ± 5 ms) on the order of those in the anterior IPS, and slower than
622 in dorsal extrastriate and posterior IPS. These findings were not only observed in the
623 population data, but they were remarkably consistent across the 4 individual patients
624 with extensive electrode coverage of the visual system (results not illustrated).
625 Interestingly, as in previous monkey studies (Schmolesky et al., 1998), area FEF had a
626 fast latency of 62 ± 5 ms, on the order of the population latencies in early visual cortex.
627 This fast latency likely reflects projections from the superior colliculus that bypass the
628 cortex. Although this latency was obtained from only two sites, these fast latencies were
629 quite consistent (**Figure 4C**), and they were recorded from two patients (S3 and S6).
630 Conduction delays between subsequent processing stages along the dorsal pathway
631 were estimated to be on the order of ~ 15 ms by examining the progression from V1-V2-
632 V3-V3A-IPS0 (see **Table 2**). In non-topographic sites, response onset latencies in the
633 frontal (84 ± 5 ms), parietal (100 ± 3 ms), and temporal lobes (109 ± 5 ms) were slower than
634 early visual areas and faster than the anterior topographic IPS and ventral extrastriate
635 areas (**Figure 4C**).

636

637 To determine whether the cue onset latencies were biased by particular stimulus
638 properties such as shape and size, we also compared array onset latencies of trials in
639 which attention was not at RF_C (the attend-to- RF_{null} condition) to the cue onset
640 latencies, and found no differences in latencies across the topographic areas (ttest, $p =$
641 0.6). Thus, response onset latencies did not appear to depend on the different stimulus
642 configurations used in our study.

643

644 Taken together, the temporal dynamics of cue-evoked responses along the dorsal and
645 ventral visual pathways were consistent with the notion of a hierarchical feedforward
646 architecture of visual processing.

647

648 **Attentional modulation effects and their topography**

649 In order to determine dynamic task-related modulations of visual processing and probe
650 feedback effects, we examined attention effects on baseline activity in the absence of
651 visual stimulation (i.e. during the delay) and in response to the array by comparing
652 responses from trials when attention was allocated at RF_C to trials when attention was
653 allocated at RF_{null} , similar to approaches typically taken in monkey physiology studies
654 (e.g. Reynolds and Chelazzi, 2004). First, we characterized the different types of
655 attentional modulation and their topography across the human visual system and non-
656 topographic cortex. The vast majority of attention effects were enhancement of HFB
657 responses during the delay and in response to the array, as shown for an example
658 electrode located in area TO and for the TO population response in **Figure 5** (upper
659 panels). Such enhancement effects were not only observed at RF_C , but typically had a
660 spatial extent that was similar to the cue-evoked HFB response field, as can be seen in
661 the examples shown in **Figure 3** (modulation of array-evoked responses: solid purple
662 plot; modulation of responses during delay: dashed purple plots). Collectively, the
663 modulation at the different spatial locations relative to the response at RF_{null} gave rise to
664 an 'attention field'. Similarly, response enhancement during the delay was spatially
665 tuned and gave rise to a 'memory field' (see below for further results).

666

667 Attention and memory fields were observed in many extrastriate sites but were
668 markedly absent in early visual cortex (**Figure 6**), especially during the delay. Of the
669 sites in early visual cortex that had a response field, only one site showed significant
670 attentional modulation during the delay ($N_{\text{delay}} = 1/13$, 8%). Ventral extrastriate areas
671 also had a low proportion of sites with a significant delay enhancement effect ($N_{\text{delay}} =$
672 $2/11$, 18%). In comparison, in dorsal extrastriate and IPS areas about 50% of sites
673 showed significantly enhanced delay activity (dorsal extrastriate $N_{\text{delay}} = 5/11$, 45%;
674 IPS0-2 $N_{\text{delay}} = 6/12$, 50%; IPS3-5 and SPL1 $N_{\text{delay}} = 6/11$, 54%). Among non-
675 topographic areas, 20% of the sites that showed cue-evoked spatial tuning exhibited
676 significant modulation of activity during the delay ($N_{\text{delay}} = 12/60$). Early visual areas also
677 had relatively few sites with a significant effect of attention in response to the array
678 ($N_{\text{array}} = 5/13$, 38% in the late array period) compared to dorsal extrastriate areas and
679 posterior IPS which had a high proportion with a significant attentional enhancement
680 during the late array period (V3A, V3B, TO1-2 $N_{\text{array}} = 7/11$, 64%; IPS0-2 $N_{\text{array}} = 7/12$,
681 58%).

682

683 It is notable that the topography of attentional enhancement effects during the delay and
684 in response to the array was not identical (**Figure 6**; red colors). In particular, although
685 ventral extrastriate areas LO/VO had a low proportion of sites that showed significant
686 enhancement during the delay (18%), these areas had a majority of sites showing an
687 enhancement effect in response to the array ($N_{\text{array}} = 7/11$, 64%). In non-topographic
688 parietal areas, only 15% of sites showed enhanced delay activity ($N = 9/60$), while 40%
689 exhibited attentional enhancement in response to the array ($N = 24/60$). Conversely,

690 while anterior IPS areas IPS4+ had a high proportion of sites with a significant effect
691 during the delay (54%), it had only few sites with significant enhancement in response
692 to the array ($N_{\text{array}} = 3/11$, 27%). Thus, only dorsal extrastriate areas and posterior IPS
693 had a majority of sites enhanced by attention during both the delay and in response to
694 the array (dorsal extrastriate: delay 45%, array 64%; IPS0-2: delay 50%, array 58%).

695

696 We also observed attentional suppression effects during the delay or in response to the
697 array, albeit less frequently (**Figure 6**; green colors). The example electrode shown in
698 **Figure 5** (mid-left panel) was located in V1 and showed a reduction of about 50% in
699 HFB responses to the array when attention was directed to RF_C as compared to RF_{null}.

700 Attentional suppression has been previously observed in monkey physiology studies as
701 a decrease of LFP power and spike-field coherence in gamma frequency bands (40-60
702 Hz; Chalk et al., 2010). Given that we used an array of stimuli it is likely that inhibitory
703 center-surround interactions and top-down influences contributed to these effects (Ito
704 and Gilbert, 1999; Angelucci et al., 2002; Bair et al., 2003; Ozeki et al., 2009; Zhang et
705 al., 2014; Cox et al., 2017). A similar result was obtained for the population of V1d/v
706 sites, with an overall suppression effect of about 10% in response to the array (**Figure**

707 **5**, mid-right panel). Attentional suppression effects were also found in IPS areas (**Figure**
708 **6**; green colors). Interestingly, array-related suppression in IPS could be observed with
709 elevated delay activity, as shown in **Figure 5** (lower left panel) for an electrode located
710 in area IPS3 (see also the blue arrows for sites with such effects, **Figure 6A** and **B**).

711 Since both array-related attentional enhancement and suppression effects were found

712 in this area, no net effect of modulation resulted in the population response (**Figure 5**,
713 lower right panel, mean = $5 \pm 6\%$ enhancement, bootstrap randomization test $p = 0.06$).

714

715 **Strengths of attentional modulation effects**

716 Hierarchical top-down models assume modulatory attention effects to reverse the
717 bottom-up processing hierarchy. One prediction of such a model is that effects of
718 attention are stronger at advanced as compared to early stages of visual processing.
719 Therefore, we probed the strengths of modulatory effects across the human visual
720 system as well as in non-topographic cortex. We quantified the attention effects
721 obtained during the delay and in response to the array using a modulation index (MI;
722 defined as the difference between the mean power in attend-to-RF_C and attend-to-RF_{null}
723 conditions, normalized to the maximum response). The MI therefore calculates the
724 modulation effect as the proportion of the maximum HFB response. We calculated the
725 MI for the delay period (200 ms before array onset, only including trials with cue-target
726 intervals greater than 450 ms to capture attention effects that were not contaminated by
727 cue-evoked responses), early array (50-200 ms), and late array period (300-500 ms).
728 Positive values indicate enhancement effects (shown in red colors in **Figure 6**) and
729 negative values indicate suppression effects (shown in green colors in **Figure 6**).

730

731 To compare the effects of attention between areas, we separately generated
732 bootstrapped distributions of MIs using the population of sites with either enhanced or
733 suppressed effects in each area. Importantly, sites were not assigned to those groups
734 based on any measure of significance, but strictly based on whether their MI was

735 positive or negative. Statistical analyses for each area were then performed on the
736 population means of each of those groups. During the delay, we found significant
737 enhancement effects of attention in dorsal and ventral extrastriate areas (V3A, TO1-2,
738 LO1-2, hV4, VO1-2), as well as in IPS areas IPS0-3 (bootstrap randomization test, each
739 $p < 0.001$) (**Figure 6A** red colors, **7A**). No significant enhancement effects were found in
740 early visual areas V1d/v, V2d/v, or V3d/v, nor in dorsal extrastriate area V3B or anterior
741 IPS areas IPS4-5, SPL1, and FEF (each $p \sim 0.1$) (**Figure 6A** red colors, **7A**). Of the
742 areas with a significant effect, V3A ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 12 \pm 8\%$, $N = 3$) and LO ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 20 \pm 14\%$,
743 $N = 8$) showed weaker modulation during the delay than IPS areas (IPS0: $MI_{\text{delay}} =$
744 $23 \pm 8\%$, $N = 8$; IPS1-2: $MI_{\text{delay}} = 28 \pm 16\%$, $N = 2$; IPS3: $MI_{\text{delay}} = 24 \pm 8\%$, $N = 7$) and
745 dorsal extrastriate area TO ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 37 \pm 17\%$, $N = 3$). The significance of each
746 comparison is shown in **Table 4**.

747

748 Outside visual topographic cortex, we found significant population enhancement effects
749 in parietal ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 34 \pm 10\%$, $N = 23$), frontal ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 33 \pm 16\%$, $N = 7$), and temporal
750 lobes ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 25 \pm 16\%$, $N = 8$) (each $p < 0.001$) (**Figure 6A** red colors, **7A**), with
751 modulatory effects similar in strength to higher order topographic areas (**Table 4**).

752

753 Of the sites with a negative MI, attention significantly suppressed HFB power
754 modulations in the population of V1d/v ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 11 \pm 7\%$, $N = 3$), ISP4+ ($MI_{\text{delay}} =$
755 $33 \pm 27\%$, $N = 1$), and non-topographic temporal lobe sites ($MI_{\text{delay}} = 21 \pm 18\%$, $N = 6$)
756 (bootstrap randomization test, all $p < 0.001$) (**Figure 6A** green colors, **7A**). Notably,
757 although the positive effects were not always significant in these areas, when we

758 examined the effect across all sites in each area we found no *overall* effect of attention
759 during the delay (V1d/v $p = 0.06$, IPS4+ $p = 0.4$, non-topographic temporal sites $p =$
760 0.8).

761

762 Next, we investigated attentional modulation of array-evoked activity. Attention effects
763 can typically be observed in later time windows, since the feedforward cascade of visual
764 stimulation strongly activates sites within the visual system regardless of whether they
765 are attended to or not. For the time period of 300-500 ms after array onset, we found
766 significant positive modulation effects in early, dorsal and ventral extrastriate visual
767 areas ($p < 0.001$), as well as consistently strong effects in IPS areas ($p < 0.001$) (**Figure**
768 **7C**). The strength of the modulation generally increased across the cortical hierarchy
769 through IPS0, with the weakest modulation in early visual areas (V1d/v $MI_{array} =$
770 $15 \pm 7\%$), and the strongest modulation in dorsal extrastriate area TO ($MI_{array} = 40 \pm 14\%$),
771 ventral extrastriate areas LO/VO ($MI_{array} = 40 \pm 7\%$), and posterior parietal area ISP0
772 ($MI_{array} = 53 \pm 7\%$) (**Figure 6B** red colors, **7C**; significance of all comparisons shown in
773 **Table 4**). Interestingly, the anterior IPS areas were as weakly modulated as early visual
774 area V1d/v (IPS4+ $MI_{array} = 16 \pm 10\%$) (**Figure 7C**, **Table 4**). We also observed
775 significant suppression in areas V1d/v and IPS3 ($MI_{array} = -27 \pm 9\%$ and $-25 \pm 14\%$,
776 respectively) (**Figure 7C**), which were the only areas with this effect either across the
777 population or from individual sites (sites with significant array suppression in V1d/v,
778 $N_{array} = 2$ from patient S1; IPS3, $N_{array} = 1$ from S5). In contrast, during the early array
779 period, when attention effects and visual onset activity interact, only topographic areas
780 TO, IPS0-2, and LO/VO were significantly modulated (bootstrapped mean \pm 95%CI, TO

781 $MI_{array} = 41 \pm 14\%$; IPS0 $MI_{array} = 14 \pm 7\%$; IPS1-2 $MI_{array} = 22 \pm 14\%$; LO/VO $MI_{array} =$
782 $18 \pm 8\%$) (**Figure 7B**).

783

784 In summary, TO, IPS0-2, and LO/VO exhibited stronger attentional modulation effects
785 than early visual and anterior IPS areas both during the delay and in the late array
786 window, and these were the only topographic areas that were significantly modulated
787 during their early response to the array. While the stronger attention effects in
788 extrastriate and posterior parietal cortex relative to early visual cortex are consistent
789 with hierarchical top-down models of attention, the weak or absent attention effects in
790 the anterior IPS and frontal cortex, particularly during visual processing, are in conflict
791 with such models.

792

793 **Attentional modulation latencies**

794 Just as the temporal order of visual onset responses informs about the temporal
795 dynamics of feedforward visual processing, the timing of selective processing after the
796 array onset provides insight into the temporal dynamics of feedback attentional
797 modulation. Hierarchical top-down models predict that the latencies of attentional
798 modulation systematically increase from advanced to early processing stages as a
799 further indication for a reversal of the processing hierarchy during attentional selection.
800 To determine the latency of attentional modulation after array onset, we examined the
801 population time courses of each area sorted by modulation effects (i.e. enhancement or
802 suppression based on each sites' MI in the late array window). First, we determined
803 which time points showed a significant effect of attention in response to the array

804 (attend-to-RF_C > attend-to-RF_{null}, bootstrap randomization $p < 0.05$). Then, we identified
805 clusters of consecutive significant time points after array onset that lasted for at least 50
806 ms (Maris and Oostenveld, 2007). The first time point in the first cluster of significant
807 ones after array onset was defined as attentional modulation latency (see Methods for
808 more details). To compare latencies across areas, we generated bootstrapped
809 distributions of attentional modulation latencies by resampling 500 times, with
810 replacement, from trials in each condition by site and recalculating the latency based on
811 that set of trials. We determined whether two areas had significantly different latencies
812 by comparing the population means of the distributions, then applying Holm's sequential
813 Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons at alpha level $p < 0.05$ across all the
814 comparisons. The results are summarized in **Tables 2** and **3**.

815

816 Consistent with the idea that feedback signals are generated in higher order cortex and
817 modulate early sensory processing areas via cortico-cortical feedback, we found that
818 modulation latencies were longest in early visual cortex (**Figures 8, 9** and **Tables 2, 3**).
819 Modulation latencies were slowest in V1d/v (late component, 315 ± 33 ms), followed by
820 V2d/v (295 ± 16 ms), V3d/v (233 ± 12 ms), V3A (246 ± 8 ms), and V3B (268 ± 22 ms)
821 (significance of all comparisons shown in **Table 3**). The attentional modulation latencies
822 in posterior IPS (IPS0: 156 ± 18 ms, IPS1-2: 119 ± 22 ms), dorsal extrastriate area TO1-2
823 (129 ± 3 ms) and ventral extrastriate areas LO/VO (172 ± 7 ms) were significantly faster
824 than those in early visual areas. However, the modulation latency in area IPS3, located
825 anterior to IPS0-2, was significantly longer than the latencies in the posterior IPS and on
826 the order of latencies in early visual areas (IPS3 latency = 225 ± 11 ms; **Figures 8, 9** and

827 **Tables 2, 3**). Although the more anterior IPS areas of IPS4+ had significant modulation
828 effects (**Figure 7C**), the responses were not robust across trials and sites, yielding less
829 than 50% of bootstrapped time series with a significant modulation effect. Therefore, the
830 latencies calculated in this area were not considered significant (see Methods).
831 However, it is worth mentioning that the trend of increasing latencies through the higher
832 order IPS areas continued in IPS4+: of the bootstrapped time series where we were
833 able to determine a modulation effect, the latency was even slower than IPS3 and on
834 the order of the slow V1d/v effects (latency = 352 ± 22 ms from 41% of the bootstrapped
835 time series). Further, modulation latencies could not be determined in FEF due to the
836 absence of modulation effects (**Figure 7**). Thus, the pattern of attentional modulation
837 latencies did not strictly follow the concept of top-down feedback from higher to lower
838 order cortex, with the fastest latencies found instead in intermediate areas of the
839 processing streams.

840

841 In V1d/v, we found that the distribution of modulation latencies was bimodal, reflecting
842 two components (**Figure 9B**, red traces). A fast component indicated the effect of
843 attention as early as 80 ms in V1 after array onset (83 ± 9 ms) (**Figure 8**, V1), which was
844 the fastest effect of attentional enhancement that we observed across all areas.

845 Although these responses are too fast to reflect cortico-cortical feedback modulation,
846 they are consistent with the very fast attention latencies reported in LGN magnocellular
847 populations (McAlonan et al., 2008), suggesting that a feedforward attentional
848 modulation may be passed onto V1 from LGN. We also measured the response onset
849 latencies of the suppression effects (**Figure 7C**). In V1d/v, the suppression effect was

850 even earlier than the fast component of the enhanced responses (68 ± 7 ms, bootstrap
851 randomization $p < 0.01$). The suppression effects in IPS3 sites with a negative MI were
852 late (265 ± 142 ms), on the order of the late enhancement effects found in IPS3 ($p = 0.7$).

853

854 Outside the topographic areas, parietal lobe sites had fast modulation latencies similar
855 to those observed in IPS0 and IPS1/2 (124 ± 7 ms), and temporal lobe sites had
856 modulation latencies on the order of those in ventral extrastriate areas (223 ± 16 ms).

857

858 In a further test of the effect of attention on response onset latencies, we examined
859 whether array onset responses were faster with attention. Previous studies of response
860 onset latencies in extrastriate cortex of macaques had found a small, but consistent lag
861 in response to ignored stimuli (Sundberg et al., 2012). However, we did not observe any
862 systematic increases or lags in onset latencies with attention across the topographic
863 areas (ttest $p \sim 0.6$).

864

865 **Spatial tuning of response, memory, and attention fields**

866 Although our task was not designed to probe spatial tuning properties systematically
867 and in detail (e.g. such as a function of eccentricity), we examined spatial tuning
868 properties at a fixed peripheral eccentricity (i.e., 7° , which was the constant eccentricity
869 at which the cue was presented) across the human visual system as well as outside of
870 topographic visual cortex. Across all recording sites in each area that exhibited cue-
871 evoked, spatially-tuned HFB response fields, we determined the population HFB spatial
872 tuning curves (**Figure 10A**), and the population widths at half height of the tuning curves

873 (Figure 10B), as well as their individual distributions by area (Figure 10C; see Methods
874 for further details). We compared the tuning widths between the areas by generating
875 bootstrapped distributions of mean tuning widths in each area after resampling, 500
876 times, from trials in each condition. The significance of the differences between these
877 bootstrapped distributions was determined by applying the Holm-Bonferroni sequential
878 correction for multiple comparisons at the target alpha level of $p < 0.05$ (see Methods).
879 As expected from a wealth of fMRI studies in humans and electrophysiology studies in
880 monkeys (e.g. Felleman and Van Essen, 1987; Dumoulin and Wandell, 2008; Wandell
881 and Winawer, 2015), spatial tuning widths increased systematically across both the
882 dorsal and ventral visual processing pathways (Figure 10, Table 5). This progression
883 was apparent in the population data (Figure 10B), as well as in the distribution of tuning
884 widths from individual recording sites (Figure 10C). Early visual areas V1-V3d/v had
885 significantly narrower tuning widths (mean = $9.5 \pm 0.1^\circ$, N = 13) than dorsal extrastriate
886 areas (V3A/B and TO1-2 mean = $13.1 \pm 0.2^\circ$, N = 12; $p < 0.05$, see Table 5 for all area-
887 wise comparisons) and ventral extrastriate areas (LO1-2, hV4, and VO1-2 mean =
888 $13.2 \pm 0.4^\circ$, N = 11). Dorsal and ventral extrastriate areas were in turn more sharply
889 tuned than posterior and anterior IPS areas (IPS0-2 mean = $15.5 \pm 0.5^\circ$, N = 12; IPS3-5
890 and SPL1 mean = $15.8 \pm 0.6^\circ$, N = 11). Tuning widths of areas along the IPS were
891 comparable. Non-topographic sites had tuning widths similar to higher order
892 topographic areas, with parietal lobe sites' tuning widths on the order of the topographic
893 IPS sites (mean = $14.4 \pm 0.2^\circ$, N = 35), and temporal lobe sites' widths comparable to the
894 dorsal and ventral extrastriate sites (mean = $11.9 \pm 0.7^\circ$, N = 14).
895

896 We also determined the spatial tuning widths during the delay period ('memory field')
897 and in response to the array ('attention field'). At individual sites, a general broadening
898 of the attention fields relative to the cue-evoked response fields was observed (**Figure**
899 **3, B-E** purple compared to orange polar plots). At the population level, we investigated
900 the effect of attention on the response field widths by examining the population of sites
901 in each area that had a significant population enhancement effect (sites from areas with
902 a significant positive MI in **Figure 7**). We generated trial-wise bootstrapped distributions
903 of mean memory and attention fields, from which we calculated the widths during the
904 delay and in the late array window. We found that memory fields were significantly
905 broader than response fields in TO1-2 and ventral extrastriate areas (increase of
906 $2.7\pm 0.3\%$ and $7.5\pm 0.5\%$, respectively; bootstrap randomization test $p < 0.001$), as well
907 as the non-topographic areas (mean increase = $8.6\pm 0.5\%$, $p < 0.01$). In contrast, we did
908 not find significant differences in response and memory field widths in area V3A, nor the
909 IPS areas IPS0-3 ($p \sim 0.1$) (**Figure 11A**).

910

911 All of the topographic areas that were significantly enhanced by attention (positive MI in
912 **Figure 7C**) showed increased attention field widths relative to their respective cue-
913 evoked response fields (**Figure 11B**). The effect was remarkably similar across the
914 topographic areas, suggesting a global effect of attentional modulation on visual space,
915 consistent with a recent fMRI study (Klein et al., 2014). Except for areas V1d/v and
916 V3d/v, which had spatial attention field widths about 8% broader than their response
917 fields, all other topographic areas and the non-topographic sites showed broadening of
918 spatial attention tuning widths on the order of 3% (mean increase = $2.6\pm 0.3\%$, all $p <$

919 0.001). Such broadening may be due to expansion of RFs, as observed in single
920 neurons when attention is allocated next to the RF (Anton-Erxleben et al., 2009). At the
921 same time, there is also evidence that RFs shrink in extent when attention is allocated
922 (e.g. Womelsdorf et al., 2006). Reconciling these contradictory observations with our
923 findings may imply that, at the intracranial field potential (IFP) spatial scale, the overall
924 effect appears to be broadening of the IFP response field due to the many contributing
925 individual neurons' RFs expanding and only a smaller number of individual neurons'
926 RFs shrinking. Such broadening appears to occur only in response to visual stimuli,
927 since we did not observe the same effect for memory fields. Relative to the memory
928 field widths, attention fields were broader in areas TO1-2, IPS1-2, and IPS3 ($p < 0.001$),
929 narrower in ventral extrastriate areas LO/VO and non-topographic areas ($p < 0.001$),
930 and similar in V3A and IPS0 ($p = 0.4$) (**Figure 11C**).

931

932 **DISCUSSION**

933 We analyzed HFB responses from intracranial recordings of 626 electrodes implanted in
934 8 epilepsy patients, who performed a spatial attention task, in order to characterize a
935 dynamic visual processing architecture, modulated by attentional task demands, in the
936 human brain. Electrode locations were reconstructed using a probabilistic atlas of the
937 human visual system (Wang et al., 2015). HFB responses showed high spatial
938 selectivity and tuning, constituting ECoG response fields (RFs) that were found within
939 and outside the topographic visual system. Both RF widths and onset latencies
940 increased systematically across the visual processing hierarchy. We utilized the spatial
941 specificity of ECoG responses to quantitatively study spatial attention effects on
942 baseline and visually-evoked activity. Attention effects were stronger, and attention
943 modulation latencies were shorter, in extrastriate, and posterior parietal cortex than in
944 early visual cortex. However, attention effects in anterior IPS and frontal cortex were
945 weaker, and modulation latencies in anterior IPS were longer, than in posterior IPS.
946 Together, the temporal dynamics and modulatory effects of spatial attention revealed in
947 these studies only partially support attentional top-down models that assume a reversal
948 of the visual processing hierarchy.

949

950 The electrophysiological basis of HFB responses is still an area of active investigation.
951 HFB power fluctuations have been shown to correlate with multi-unit activity from large
952 populations of neurons in the vicinity of the recording electrode (Ray et al., 2008a; Ray
953 and Maunsell, 2011; Rich and Wallis, 2017; Watson et al., 2018). More recent findings
954 indicate CA+ dendritic spikes in supragranular cortex as a principle contributor to pial

955 HFB responses (Leszczyński et al., 2018). However, models of HFB responses have
956 also shown that power increases are predicted by increases in neuronal synchronization
957 (Ray et al., 2008a). The underlying firing patterns may consist of multiple band-limited
958 neuronal oscillations at different peak frequencies within the gamma band (Crone et al.,
959 2011). Thus, it is possible that HFB responses index to some extent neuronal
960 synchronization. We utilized the high spatial and temporal precision of HFB responses
961 to track the temporal dynamics of visual and attentional processing.

962

963 **Spatial specificity of ECoG response fields**

964 Similar to previous reports from human early visual cortex (Yoshor et al., 2007; Winawer
965 and Parvizi, 2016) and monkey visual cortex (Bosman et al., 2012), we found spatially
966 confined ECoG RFs based on cue-evoked HFB responses. The spatial configurations of
967 the RFs reflected the visual field representations of the underlying maps that are known
968 from fMRI studies (Wang et al. 2015; see also Konen and Kastner, 2008; Silver and
969 Kastner, 2009; Arcaro et al., 2011). Remarkably, electrodes that were located as little as
970 1 cm apart showed visual field sign reversals along the horizontal meridian with RF
971 peaks in the upper and lower quadrants, respectively, underlining the impressive
972 specificity of HFB responses, shown in several other domains (e.g. Crone, 1998;
973 Canolty et al., 2007; Parvizi et al., 2012; Daitch et al., 2016). Interestingly, a large
974 proportion of electrodes with ECoG RFs was found outside topographic cortex, equally
975 distributed across the major lobes. The identification of spatially-selective, but relatively
976 isolated sites outside of visual maps is difficult with techniques such as MEG/EEG and

977 fMRI, which have a poor signal-to-noise ratio. Thus, spatially selective responses
978 appear to be surprisingly ubiquitous outside of the topographic visual system.

979

980 **Temporal dynamics of feedforward processing**

981 This is the first report of systematic HFB response onset latencies across the human
982 visual system (see Yoshor et al., 2007 for LFP onset latencies). Onset latencies
983 increased gradually across the dorsal processing pathway, where we had systematic
984 coverage, with estimated conduction delays of 10-15 ms between areas. Responses in
985 V1 were recorded as fast as 50 ms after stimulus onset. In general, these results are in
986 excellent agreement with monkey physiology studies (e.g. Schmolesky et al., 1998).
987 Notably, we also found extremely short latencies in FEF that were comparable to the
988 onset latencies in early visual cortex. However, a few of our findings were not
989 predictable from what is known about the monkey visual system and therefore may be
990 unique features of the human visual system. First, in humans, onset latencies in TO (the
991 human MT/MST complex) were well above 100 ms and significantly longer than those in
992 other dorsal extrastriate areas such as areas V3d/v, or V3A. In contrast, in the monkey,
993 onset latencies in these areas are typically shorter and similar to one another (~70 ms;
994 Schmolesky et al., 1998; but see large range in Raiguel et al., 1989 and Azzopardi et
995 al., 2003). Second, onset latencies between higher-order dorsal and ventral extrastriate
996 areas, IPS1-4 and LO/VO were similar in humans. In contrast, onset latencies between
997 dorsal and ventral higher-order cortex differ significantly in monkeys due to the relatively
998 greater magnocellular input to the dorsal pathway. For example, neurons in LIP respond
999 to shape stimuli with a latency of ~60 ms, whereas neurons in anterior inferotemporal

1000 cortex will respond after ~100 ms (Lehky and Sereno, 2007). This discrepancy, as well
1001 as the longer latencies in TO, may be attributable to the greater capacity of the human
1002 dorsal pathway to represent shape and object information (Konen and Kastner, 2008;
1003 Freud et al., 2016; Kastner et al., 2017). fMRI studies have shown that the human
1004 ventral and dorsal visual pathways represent non-spatial shape and object information
1005 similarly (Konen and Kastner, 2008), and thus the human dorsal pathway must receive
1006 a relatively greater input from the slower parvocellular system as compared to the
1007 monkey dorsal pathway, which in turn might explain the longer onset latencies in TO
1008 and IPS. Despite these notable human-specific features in the dynamics of feedforward
1009 processing, as indexed by response onset latencies, our results provide strong support
1010 for a hierarchical visual processing architecture in the human brain.

1011

1012 **Spatial attention effects and modulation latencies**

1013 The temporal dynamics and strengths of attentional modulation have been interpreted
1014 as evidence in support of a top-down feedback model of selective attention. Specifically,
1015 monkey physiology studies have shown that attentional modulation latencies were
1016 shorter and the strength of attentional modulation was greater in higher-order cortex
1017 than in lower-order cortex. For example, Buffalo et al. (2010) recorded from areas V1,
1018 V2, and V4 and found that attention effects reversed modulation strengths and temporal
1019 order such that attentional enhancement was found to be larger and earlier in V4 and
1020 smaller and later in V1, with V2 showing intermediate results, similar to earlier findings
1021 by Mehta et al. (2000). These studies have provided support for the idea of a backward
1022 propagation of attentional feedback signals across the visual processing hierarchy.

1023 We found widespread spatially-selective attention effects on HFB responses both on
1024 baseline activity during the delay and in response to the array, thereby corroborating
1025 previous ECoG studies on selective sensory processing (Szczepanski et al., 2010;
1026 Davidesco et al., 2013; Ray et al., 2008b; Golumbic et al., 2013). In accordance with a
1027 large body of literature from monkey physiology (e.g. Luck et al., 1997; Cook and
1028 Maunsell, 2002) and human brain imaging (e.g. O'Connor et al., 2002; Siegel et al.,
1029 2008), attentional modulation was generally stronger in higher-order compared to lower
1030 order areas.

1031

1032 Specifically, our recordings focused on a multitude of areas along the dorsal processing
1033 pathway. We found indeed a systematic 'backward propagation' in early visual cortex,
1034 from areas V3 to V2 and V1 with increasingly longer attentional modulation latencies,
1035 and these latencies were also significantly longer than those obtained in dorsal
1036 extrastriate cortex. However, the temporal dynamics in dorsal extrastriate and posterior
1037 parietal cortex were more complex. For example, area TO and IPS0 had significantly
1038 faster latencies than IPS3. Thus, these modulation latencies did not appear to follow a
1039 strictly hierarchical processing that was reversed during spatial attention and they do
1040 not lend unequivocal support for the top-down feedback model. However, our
1041 assumptions on the visual processing hierarchy along the human dorsal pathway can
1042 only be tentative. Based on the anatomical locations of areas, one would assume that
1043 TO projects to and receives feedback from the IPS areas, and the same would hold for
1044 the posterior relative to the anterior IPS areas, but detailed anatomical studies on
1045 structural connectivity are lacking. Connectivity – both structurally and functionally –

1046 may be increasingly more divergent in higher-order cortex, thereby promoting parallel
1047 rather than hierarchical processing. For example, anterior IPS shows grip- and reach-
1048 related activations (Konen et al., 2013) as well as representations of tool and
1049 manipulable object information (Mruczek et al., 2013). Further, posterior IPS, but not
1050 IPS3-5, has been reported to interact with other fronto-parietal attention areas, like FEF
1051 and SEF, in visuospatial attention tasks (Szczepanski et al., 2013). Anterior IPS may
1052 thus contribute to a different network than posterior IPS, which may predominantly
1053 serve visuospatial attention and oculomotor functions. Interestingly, based on analyses
1054 of directed feedforward and feedback signaling indexed by synchronization in certain
1055 frequency channels, Michalareas et al., (2016) placed the anterior IPS areas below the
1056 posterior IPS areas in their functional hierarchy, which is further evidence for the more
1057 complex inter-areal dynamics during attentional processing particularly in human
1058 parietal cortex. Further, it is noteworthy that cortical network interactions are influenced
1059 by additional sources such as thalamic nuclei, which complicates the interpretation of
1060 temporal cortico-cortical interactions (see Halassa and Kastner, 2017 for an extensive
1061 discussion of alternative attention control models).

1062

1063 **Attentional modulation in V1**

1064 Attention effects on array-evoked activity were moderate in early visual cortex. Both
1065 enhancement and suppression effects were found in V1, without a net effect of
1066 attention. The strongest attention effect that we obtained in V1 was attentional
1067 suppression, likely due to modulation of activity in extra-RF surrounds. These findings
1068 are consistent with previous monkey physiology studies that have shown attention-

1069 related decreases in LFP gamma power in the 40-60 Hz frequency band and spike-field
1070 coherence in V1 using stimuli that engaged suppressive extra-RF surrounds (Chalk et
1071 al., 2010), as well as with findings of attention-related increases of LFP gamma power
1072 when extra-RF surrounds were less stimulated (Bosman et al., 2012). Thus, it is
1073 possible that HFB responses also reflect neuronal synchronization processes, since
1074 attention-related modulation of spiking activity is typically moderate (Motter, 1993; Luck
1075 et al., 1997; McAdams and Maunsell, 1999; Grunewald et al., 2002; Marcus and Van
1076 Essen, 2002; see also, Yoshor et al., 2007).

1077

1078 Interestingly, we also found evidence of attentional feedforward modulation in V1, where
1079 three modulatory temporal components were found, two early components that were
1080 observed at array onset of attentional suppression and enhancement, and a late
1081 component that was observed with attentional enhancement and followed the top-down
1082 feedback model, discussed above. In monkey physiology studies, attentional
1083 feedforward modulation has been found in LGN and TRN (McAlonan et al., 2008). This
1084 modulation may be mediated through direct influences of prefrontal cortex on the TRN
1085 that bypass cortico-cortical feedback, as shown in the mouse model (Wimmer et al.,
1086 2015). The feedforward modulation observed in LGN-TRN may be passed on to V1 and
1087 thus account for our observations. In human EEG studies, attention effects on the
1088 earliest component (the 'C1'; ~50 ms onset) that is typically attributed to a generator in
1089 striate cortex have been controversial (Martinez et al., 1999; Di Russo et al., 2003; Kelly
1090 et al., 2008). Our findings of two early components support the possibility that the
1091 earliest EEG component may be modulated by spatial attention.

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- 1364

1365 **Figure and Table Legends**

1366 **Figure 1. Electrode coverage.** Electrode locations (combined across 8 patients; N =
1367 636) rendered onto a brain surface in standardized space, shown from posterior, lateral,
1368 and medial views. A probabilistic atlas of visuospatial topographic areas (Wang et al.,
1369 2015) is superimposed to clarify electrode locations relative to retinotopically organized
1370 cortex (see color-code for areas to the right). Individual subject's electrodes were
1371 localized on their brain surfaces after aligning post-operative CT images of the
1372 implanted electrodes with pre-operative structural MRIs; the surfaces and electrode
1373 locations were converted to a standard surface template. The probabilistic atlas was
1374 superimposed, and electrodes that overlapped the atlas maximum probability map were
1375 assigned to the maximally probable area (see Methods for further details).

1376

1377 **Figure 2. Task and example responses. A:** Subjects performed a variant of the
1378 Eriksen flanker task. After maintaining central fixation for 1100 ms, a brief cue indicated
1379 the location of a target shape, which was displayed in a circular array after a variable
1380 delay of 300-700 ms. Targets were either barrel or bow tie shapes, and flanking stimuli
1381 were either congruent (same shape) or incongruent (different shape). Subjects
1382 responded to indicate the target shape using a left or right mouse-button press. **B:**
1383 Intracranial field potential (IFP) power recorded from one electrode located in area V3d
1384 as a function of frequency during baseline (black line; 200 ms before cue onset) and
1385 visually-evoked (orange line; 50-250 ms after cue onset) windows, mean \pm sem across
1386 trials (N = 149). **C:** Relative cue-evoked IFP power (d' of baseline), mean across trials at
1387 the location exerting the strongest HFB response (same electrode as in B). Time 0

1388 denotes cue onset. Colorscale: ± 2.5 . **D**: Mean cue-evoked HFB power (70-200 Hz, d' of
1389 baseline) at each cue location on a trial-by-trial basis (same electrode as in B and C).
1390 Trials were sorted as a function of distance from the location exerting the strongest HFB
1391 response (response field center, RF_C). Colorscale: ± 30 . Top panel, mean normalized
1392 power over time at $RF_C \pm$ trial-wise sem. Right panel, mean normalized cue-evoked
1393 power at each cue location \pm trial-wise sem.

1394

1395 **Figure 3. Spatial specificity of task-related HFB response fields.** Recordings from
1396 four adjacent electrodes in subject S3 (10 mm strip spacing). **A**: Electrode positions
1397 projected on the subject's anatomical MRI surface in relation to the probabilistic atlas
1398 (color-coded atlas legend as in Figure 1). Electrode diameters are shown to scale.
1399 Blank circles indicate electrodes in the strip lacking response fields. **B-E**: IFP power
1400 spectra (mean across trials) evoked by the cue (left panels) and array (right panels) at
1401 each of the 14 cue locations. Cue-evoked power is shown as d' of baseline power,
1402 indicating visually-evoked responses. Array-evoked power is shown as d' of power at
1403 RF_{null} , indicating the effect of spatial attention. Central panels: circular tuning curves
1404 showing normalized HFB power at each location evoked by the cue (mean of 50-250
1405 ms after cue, solid orange line), during the delay (mean of 200 ms before array, dashed
1406 purple line), and in response to the array (mean of 300-500 ms after array onset, solid
1407 purple line). Polar grid lines indicate normalized minimum and maximum enhancement.
1408 Adjacent electrodes are shown from areas IPS0 (B, C), V3B (D), and V3d (E). Note the
1409 reversal in field location from lower to upper quadrant in adjacent electrodes, indicating
1410 the high spatial specificity of HFB responses.

1411 **Figure 4. Timecourses and response onset latencies of cue-evoked HFB**
1412 **responses. A:** Mean, normalized HFB power at RF_C relative to cue onset, by
1413 topographic area for sites with response fields (same sites as in Figure 4). Color codes
1414 for areas are indicated in panel B. **B:** Mean response onset latency \pm 95%CI by area. N
1415 indicates number of sites per area included in the analysis. **C:** Response onset
1416 latencies of sites with response fields by area. Number of sites per area is indicated in
1417 parentheses.

1418

1419 **Figure 5. Examples of attentional modulation effects during the delay and in**
1420 **response to the array. Upper panels:** Attentional enhancement during the delay and
1421 in response to the array. Mean responses \pm 95%CI evoked by the array during attend-to-
1422 RF_C (green) and attend-to- RF_{null} (gray) trials from an example TO electrode (left) and
1423 the TO population (right). **Middle panels:** Attentional suppression in response to the
1424 array for an example V1v electrode (left) and the V1 population (right). **Lower panels:**
1425 Mixed effects of attentional enhancement and suppression for an example IPS3
1426 electrode showing attentional enhancement during the delay, but suppression in
1427 response to the array (left). In the IPS3 population response (right), only the elevated
1428 delay effect persists, whereas suppression and enhancement effects in individual
1429 electrodes cancel each other out to result in no modulatory net effect in response to the
1430 array. Vertical lines indicate attentional modulation latencies.

1431

1432 **Figure 6. Topography of attentional modulation effects during the delay and in**
1433 **response to the array.** Color indicates the modulation index (MI) for sites with a

1434 response field across all subjects rendered onto a brain surface in standardized space,
1435 shown from posterior, lateral, and medial views. Large dots: topographic sites. Small
1436 dots: non-topographic sites. **A:** Topography and strength of attentional modulation
1437 during the delay (200 ms before array onset, only trials with delays longer than 450 ms
1438 were included in the analysis). **B:** Topography and strength of attentional modulation in
1439 response to the array in the late window (300-500 ms after array onset). Red colors:
1440 enhancement effects; green colors: suppression effects.

1441

1442 **Figure 7. Strengths of attentional modulation during the delay and in response to**
1443 **the array. A:** Attentional modulation index (MI) in each area during the delay (200 ms
1444 before array onset) using trials with delays longer than 450 ms. Mean modulation index
1445 ($\pm 95\%$ CI) shown separately for enhancement and suppression effects obtained in each
1446 area at the population level. * indicates bootstrapped randomization test $p < 0.05$
1447 compared to 0. Outlined bars shown for areas with a single electrode exhibiting the
1448 effect. **B:** As in A for modulation during the early array window (50-200 ms after array
1449 onset). **C:** As in A for modulation during the late array window (300-500 ms after array
1450 onset).

1451

1452 **Figure 8. Timecourses of array-evoked HFB responses.** Mean, normalized power
1453 ($\pm 95\%$ CI) when attention was allocated at RF_C (colored by area) and RF_{null} (gray),
1454 aligned to array onset. Topographic areas with significant response enhancement
1455 effects are shown (population responses). Vertical lines indicate attentional modulation
1456 latencies.

1457 **Figure 9. Attentional modulation latencies. A:** Mean modulation latency ($\pm 95\%CI$) by
1458 area. N indicates number of electrodes per area included in the analysis. **B:** Cumulative
1459 distributions of modulation latencies for each area. Color codes for areas are indicated
1460 in panel A.

1461

1462 **Figure 10. Spatial tuning widths of cue-evoked HFB response fields. A:** Spatial
1463 tuning curves of cue-evoked mean HFB responses relative to baseline, normalized and
1464 centered on RF_C and pooled across all sites with spatial response fields recorded within
1465 a given topographic area, $\pm 95\%CI$. Color codes for areas are indicated in panel B. **B:**
1466 Mean width of tuning curves $\pm 95\%CI$. N indicates number of sites per area included in
1467 the analysis. **C:** Tuning widths of sites with response fields by area. Number of sites per
1468 area is indicated in parentheses.

1469

1470 **Figure 11. Cue-evoked response fields, memory, and attention fields. A:** Mean field
1471 width of population tuning curves ($\pm 95\%CI$) for cue-evoked response fields versus
1472 memory fields for areas with a significant enhanced MI in both windows. **B:** Widths of
1473 cue-evoked response fields versus attention fields. **C:** Widths of memory versus
1474 attention fields. Color codes for areas are indicated in previous figures.

1475

1476 **Table 1. Patient information.** Area coverage by lobe: O, occipital; P, parietal; T,
1477 temporal; LF, lateral frontal; MF, medial frontal. The number of electrodes indicates
1478 those that were included in the analysis relative to all implanted electrodes (in
1479 parentheses). *, † denote subjects tested with cues presented at 8 or 16 locations,
1480 respectively. All other subjects had cues presented at 14 locations. RH = right
1481 hemisphere; LH = left hemisphere.

1482

1483 **Table 2. Response onset and attentional modulation latencies by area.** Numbers in
1484 the second column refer to the response onset latencies for each area (mean \pm 95%CI).
1485 Numbers in the third column refer to the attentional modulation latencies with the
1486 suppression effects in the parentheses. - denotes areas without significant attentional
1487 modulation.

1488

1489 **Table 3. Response onset latencies and attentional modulation latencies:**

1490 **Significance by area.** Response onset latencies (lower triangle): Significance after the
1491 Holm-Bonferroni sequential correction for multiple comparisons at target alpha level $p <$
1492 0.05. + indicates that the latency of the column area was faster than the row area, and
1493 vice versa for -. Attentional modulation latencies (upper triangle): Significance after
1494 Holm-Bonferroni sequential correction for multiple comparisons at target alpha level $p <$
1495 0.05. * indicates that the latency of the column area was faster than the row area, and
1496 vice versa for -. Blank indicates no significant difference between areas.

1497

1498 **Table 4. Attentional modulation during the delay and in response to the array:**
1499 **Significance by area.** Delay period (lower triangle): Significance after Holm-Bonferroni
1500 sequential correction for multiple comparisons at target alpha level $p < 0.05$. + indicates
1501 that the MI of the column area was weaker than the row area, and vice versa for -. Array
1502 period (upper triangle): Modulation index for attentional enhancement in the late array
1503 window (300-500 ms after array onset); significance after Holm-Bonferroni sequential
1504 correction for multiple comparisons at target alpha level $p < 0.05$. * indicates that the
1505 MI of the column area was weaker than the row area, and vice versa for . Blank
1506 indicates no significant difference between areas.

1507

1508 **Table 5. Spatial tuning widths: Significance by area.** Significance after Holm-
1509 Bonferroni sequential correction for multiple comparisons at target alpha level $p < 0.05$.
1510 + indicates that the tuning width of the column area was sharper than the row area, -
1511 indicates that the tuning width of the column area was broader than the row area, blank
1512 indicates no significant difference between areas.

Table 1. Patient information.

Sub	Sex	Age	Handedness	Coverage	Brain Areas	# Elecs	Acc	RT (ms)	# Trials
S1	M	45	Right	RH	O, P, T	99 (112)	96%	802 ± 13	200
S2	M	22	Left	LH	O, P, T	110 (128)	95%	765 ± 13	300
S3	F	22	Right	LH	LF, O, P, MF	86 (100)	83%	888 ± 17	200
S4 [†]	M	18	Right	LH	O, P, T	86 (94)	87% [†]	1024 ± 16 [†]	200
S5 [*]	M	42	Left	LH	LF, O, P, T	52 (74)	97% [*]	599 ± 5 [*]	300
S6	M	51	Right	LH	LF, P, MF	89 (106)	96%	1130 ± 15	250
S7	M	23	Right	LH	LF, P, T	52 (52)	98%	794 ± 11	250
S8 [†]	F	56	Right	LH	LF, T	62 (64)	91% [†]	955 ± 19 [†]	150

Table 2. Response onset and attentional modulation latencies by area.

Brain Areas	Cue Response Latency (ms)	Attention Latency (ms) Enhanced (Suppressed)
V1d/v	64 ± 1	83 ± 9, 315 ± 33 (68 ± 7)
V2d/v	66 ± 3	295 ± 16
V3d/v	82 ± 7	233 ± 12
V3A	80 ± 2	246 ± 8
V3B	81 ± 2	268 ± 22
TO1-2	128 ± 6	129 ± 3
IPS0	106 ± 5	156 ± 18
IPS1-2	120 ± 10	119 ± 22
IPS3	143 ± 1	225 ± 11 (265 ± 142)
IPS4-5, SPL1	137 ± 5	-
FEF	62 ± 5	-
vExtrastriate	149 ± 5	172 ± 7
Parietal	100 ± 3	124 ± 7
Frontal	84 ± 5	-
Temporal	109 ± 5	223 ± 16

Table 3. Response onset latencies and attentional modulation latencies: Significance by area.

Attentional Modulation Latencies

	V1d/v	V1c1	V1c2	V2d/v	V3d/v	V3A	V3B	TO	IPS0	IPS1-2	IPS3	IPS4+	FEF	LO/VO	Parietal	Frontal	Temporal
V1d/v																	
V1c1			•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			•	•		•
V1c2					*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*		*
V2d/v								*	*	*				*	*		*
V3d/v	+			+				*	*	*				*	*		
V3A	+			+				*	*	*				*	*		
V3B	+			+				*	*	*				*	*		*
TO	+			+	+	+	+				•						
IPS0	+			+	+	+	+	-		*	•						•
IPS1-2	+			+	+	+	+		+		•						•
IPS3	+			+	+	+	+	+	+					*	*		
IPS4+	+			+	+	+	+	+	+	+							
FEF					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
LO/VO	+			+	+	+	+	+	+	+			+				
Parietal				+						-	-	-	+	-			
Frontal				+				-		-	-	-	+	-			
Temporal	+			+	+					-	-	-	+	-	+	+	

Table 4. Attentional modulation during the delay and in response to the array: Significance by area.

Attentional Modulation Strength (Array)

	V1d/v	V2d/v	V3d/v	V3A	V3B	TO	IPS0	IPS1-2	IPS3	IPS4+	LO/VO	Parietal	Frontal	Temporal
V1d/v		•	•		•	•	•				•	•	•	•
V2d/v				*		•	•		*	*	•	•		•
V3d/v		+		*		•	•		*	*	•	•		•
V3A	+				•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
V3B				-		•	•		*	*	•	•	*	•
TO	+	+	+	+	+		•	*	*	*		*	*	
IPS0	+	+	+	+	+			*	*	*	*	*	*	*
IPS1-2	+	+	+	+	+						•			
IPS3	+	+	+	+	+						•	•	•	•
IPS4+						-	-	-	-		•	•	•	•
LO/VO	+	+	+		+	-		-		+		*	*	*
Parietal	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+	+		*	•
Frontal	+	+	+		+					+	+			•
Temporal	+	+	+	+	+					+	+			

Table 5. Spatial tuning widths: Significance by area.

	V1d/v	V2d/v	V3d/v	V3A	V3B	TO	IPS0	IPS1-2	IPS3	IPS4+	FEF	LO/VO	Parietal	Frontal	Temporal
V1d/v				•	•	•	•		•			•	•		•
V2d/v				•	•	•	•		•			•	•		•
V3d/v				•	•	•	•		•			•	•		•
V3A	+	+	+		•		•						•		
V3B	+	+	+	+			•						•		
TO	+	+	+								+			+	
IPS0	+	+	+	+	+							+	+	+	+
IPS1-2									•						
IPS3	+	+	+					+			+	+		+	+
IPS4+															
FEF						•			•					+	
LO/VO	+	+	+				•		•						
Parietal	+	+	+	+	+		•								
Frontal						•	•		•		•				
Temporal	+	+	+				•		•						

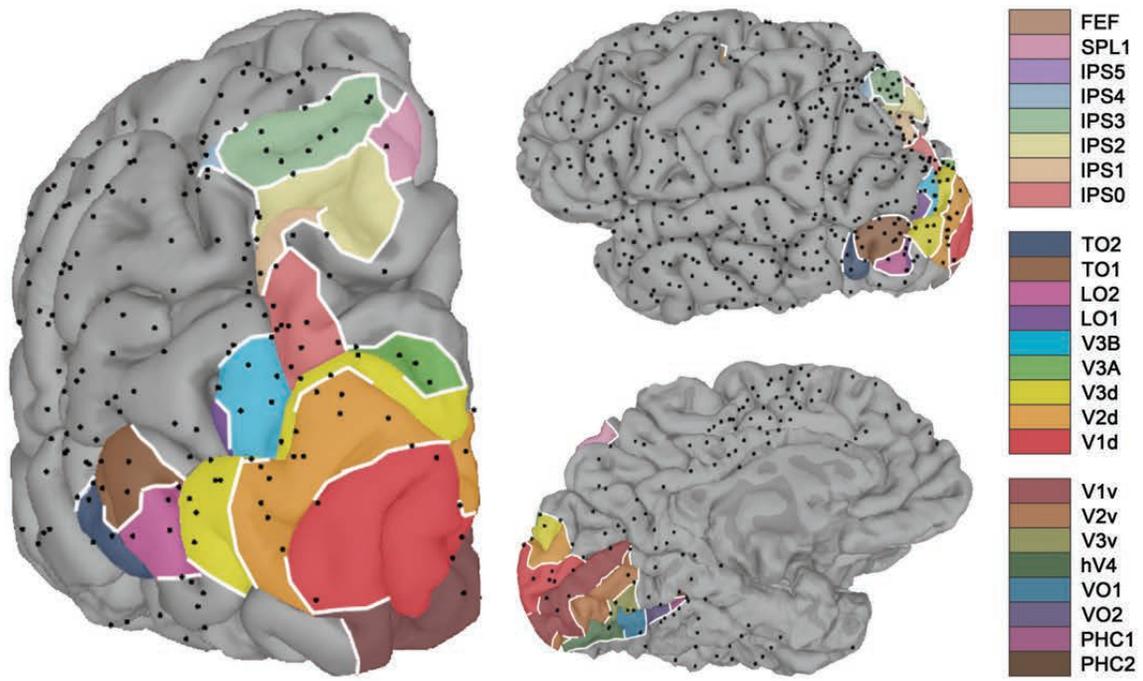


Figure 1

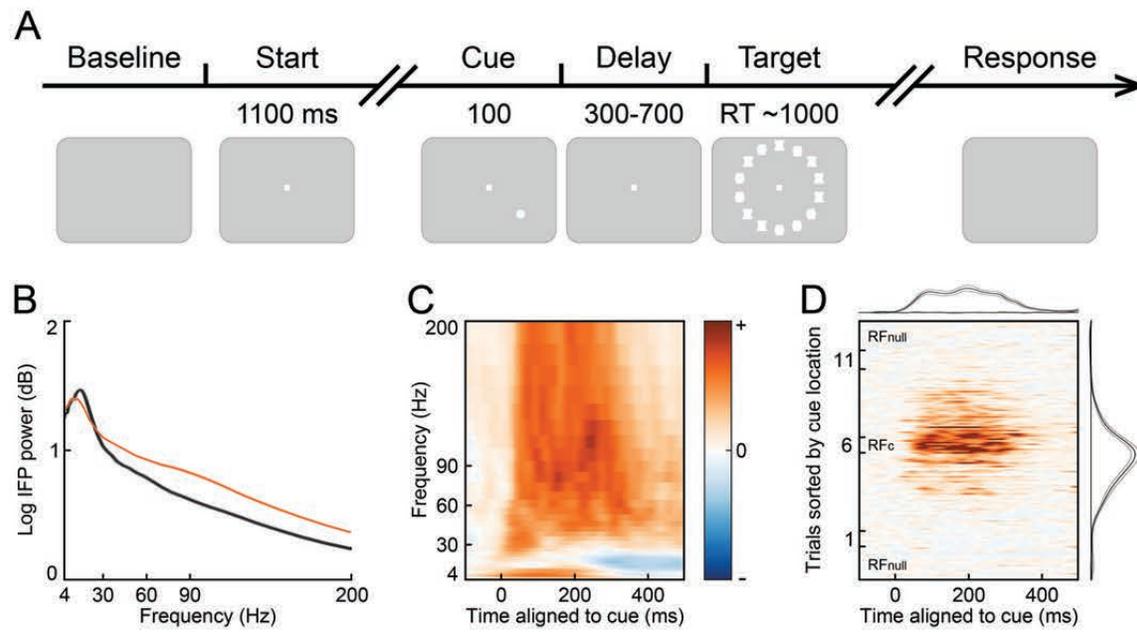


Figure 2

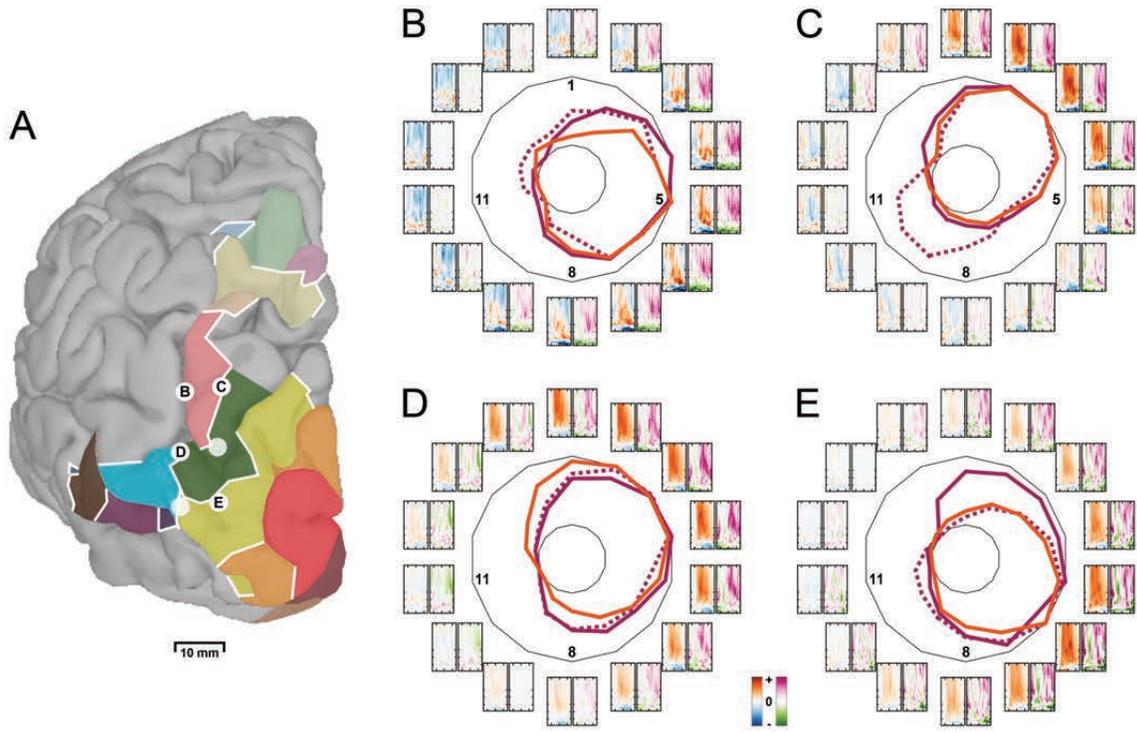


Figure 3

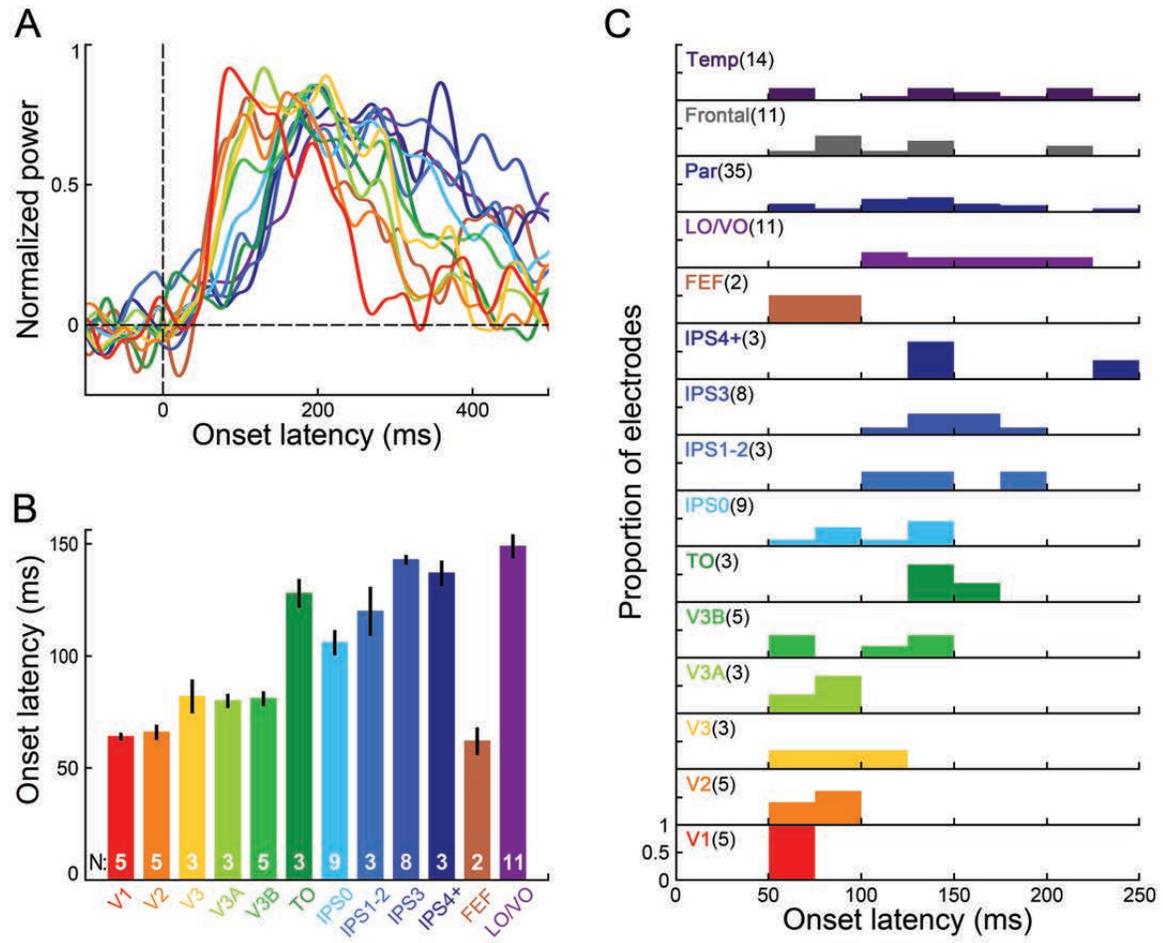


Figure 4

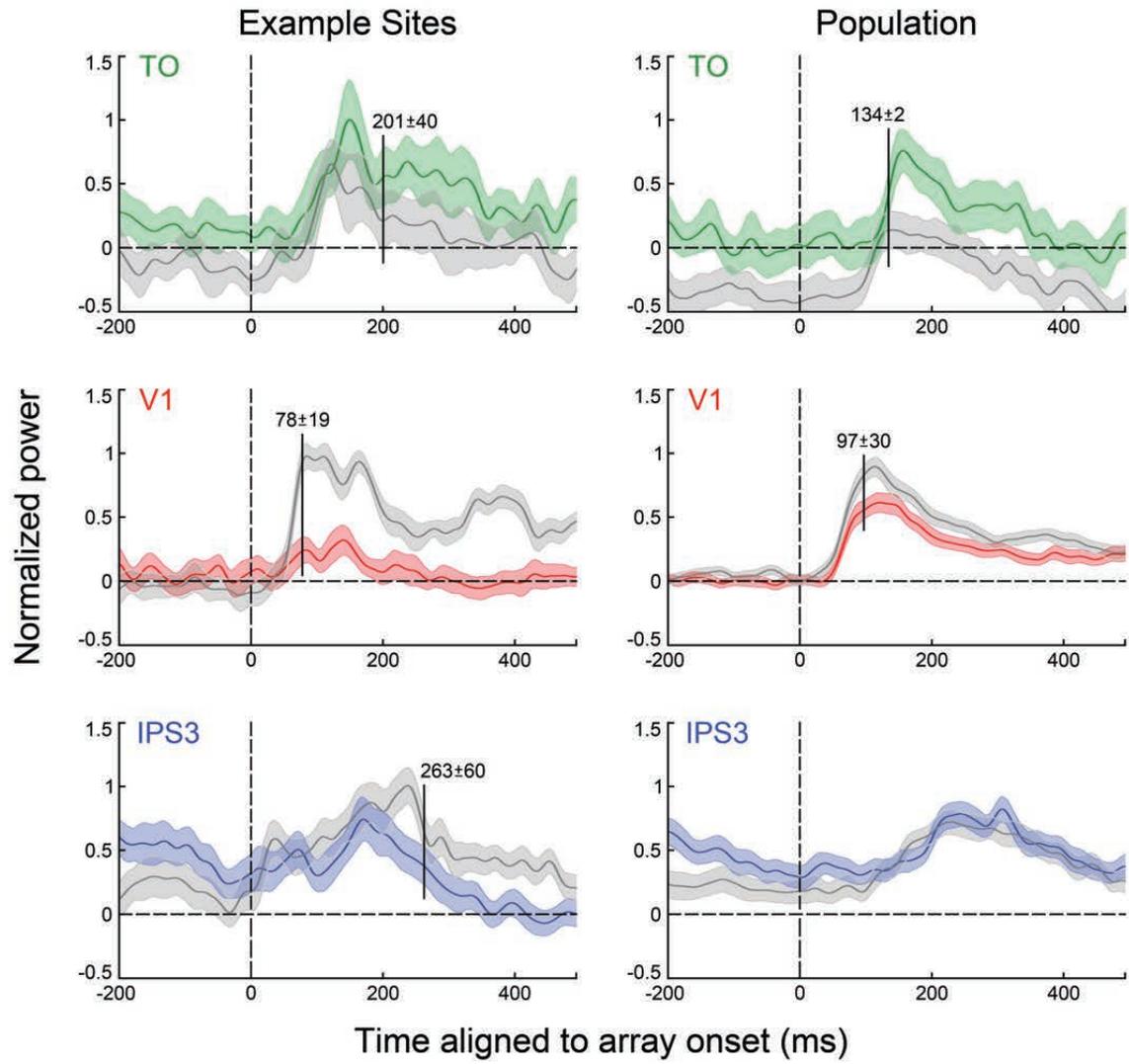


Figure 5

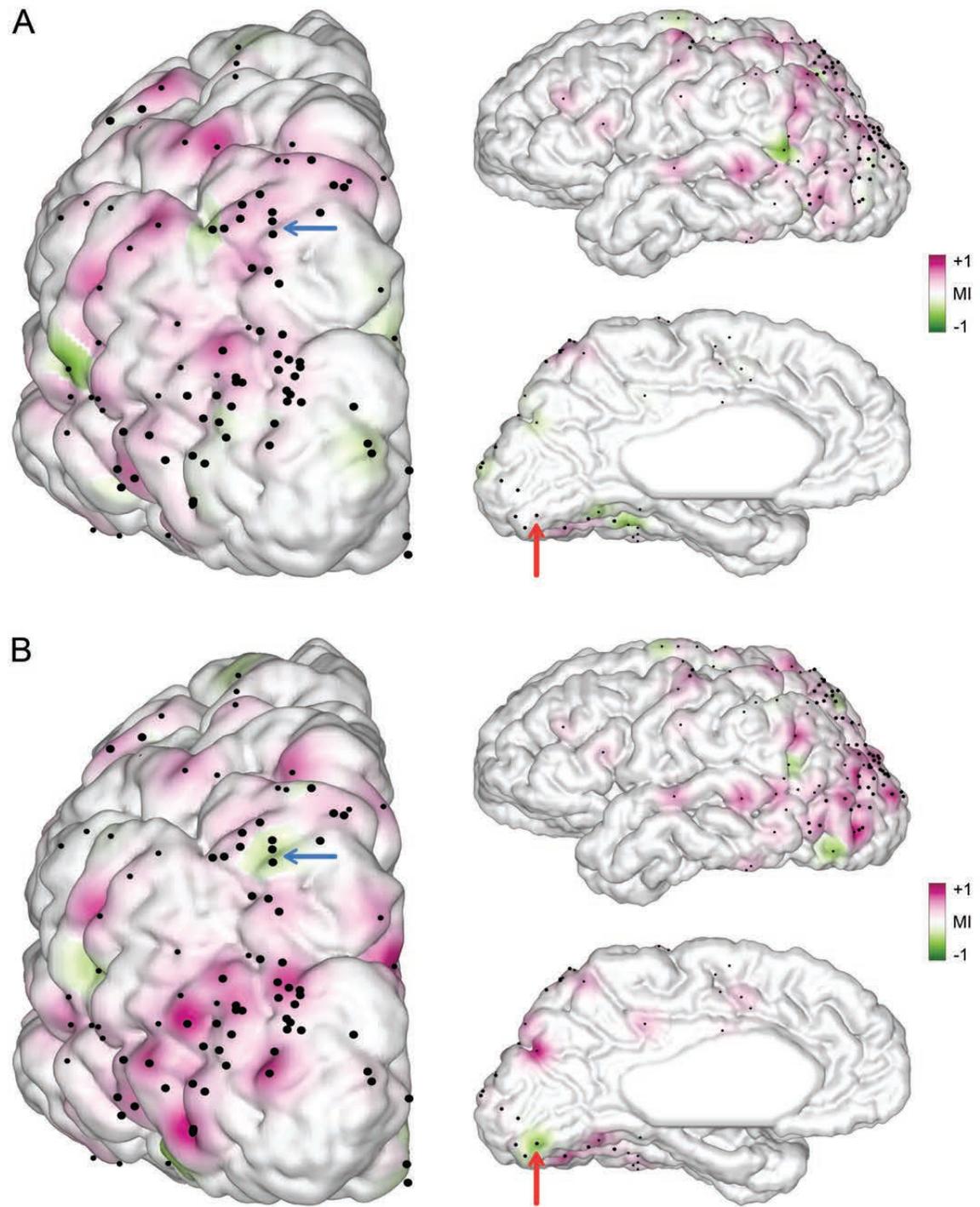


Figure 6

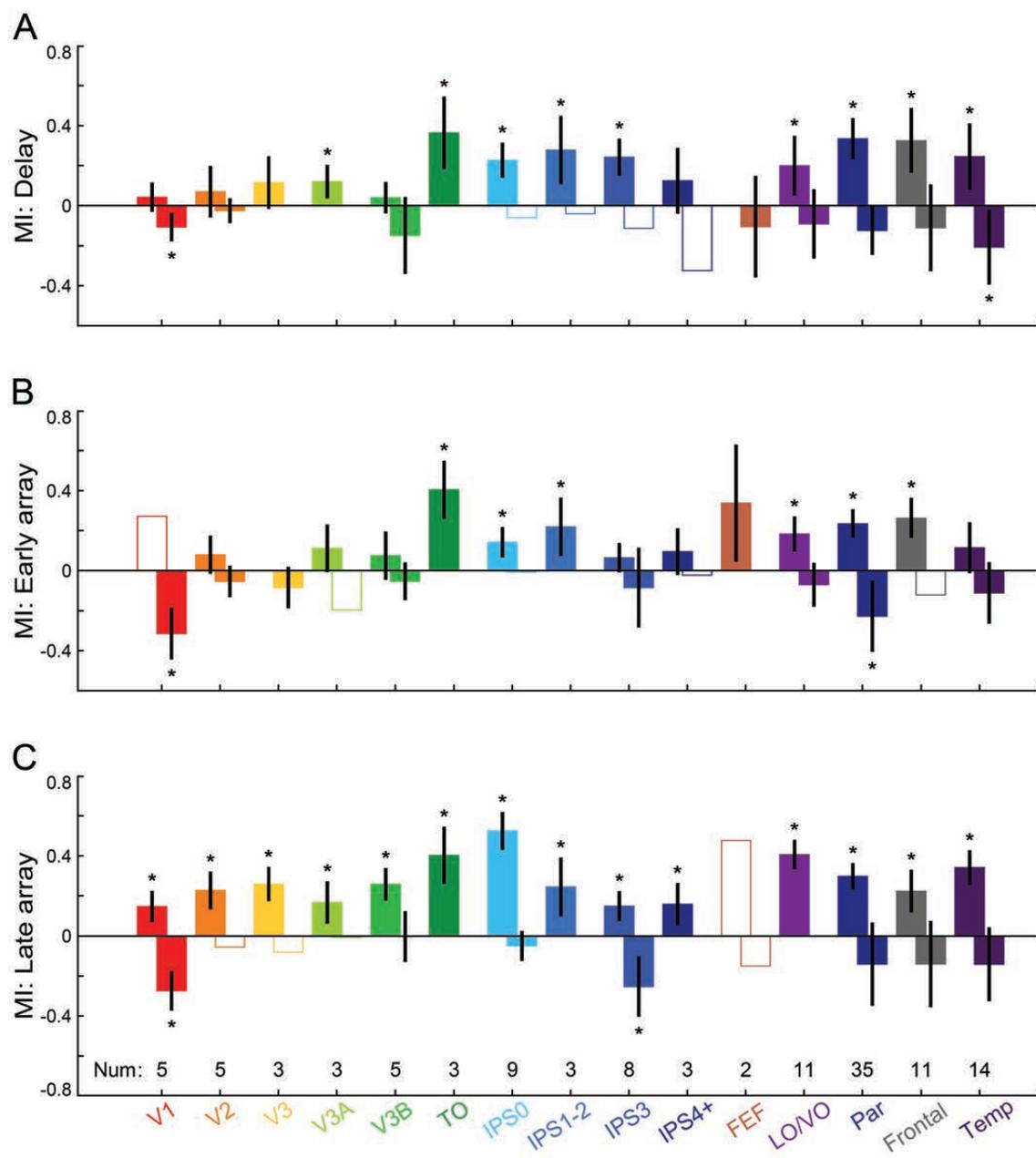


Figure 7

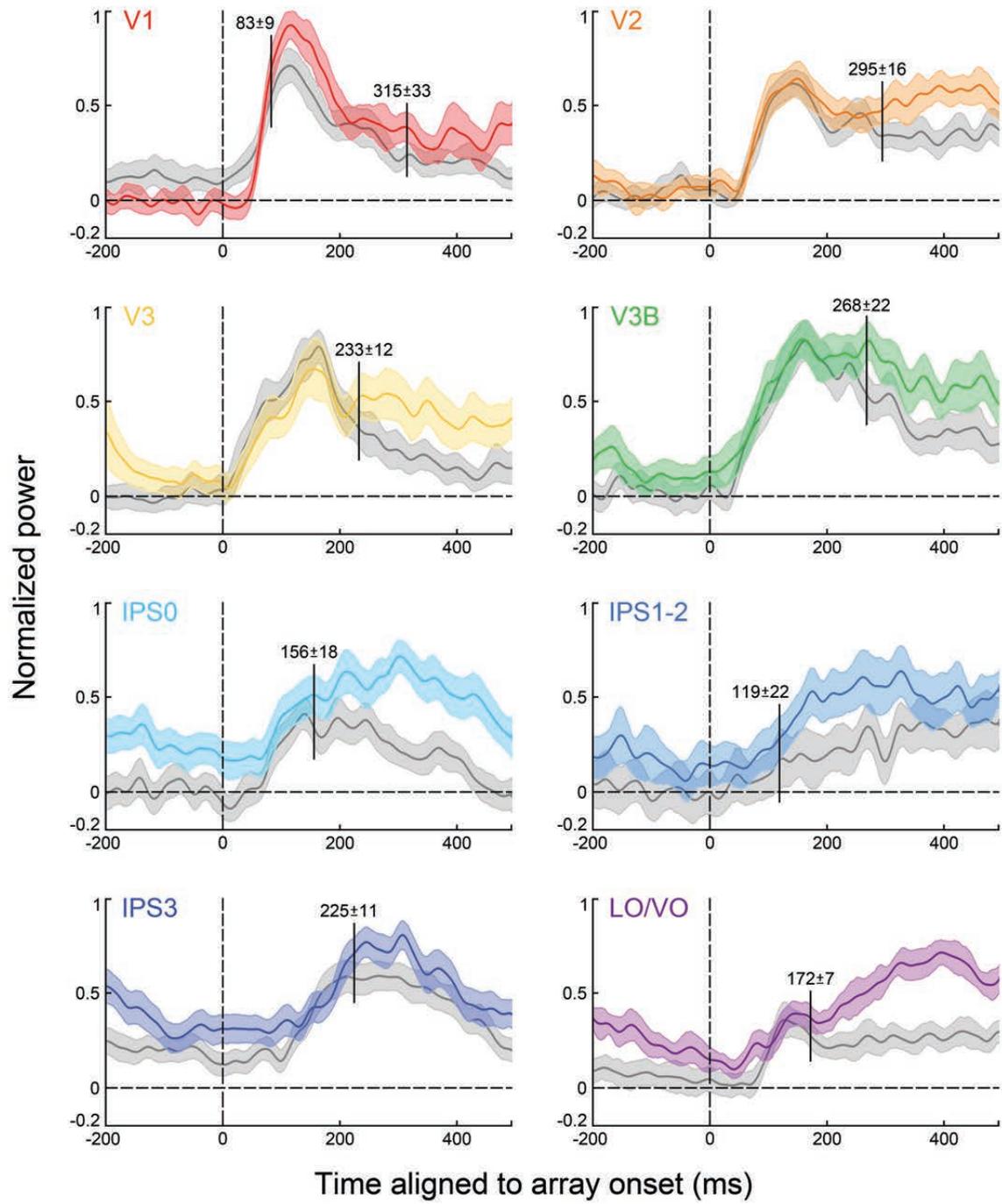


Figure 8

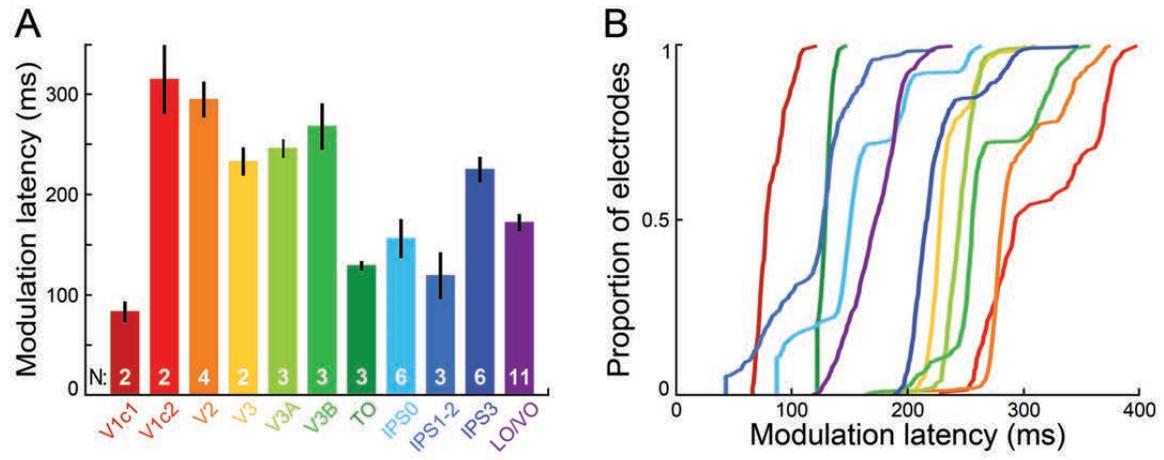


Figure 9

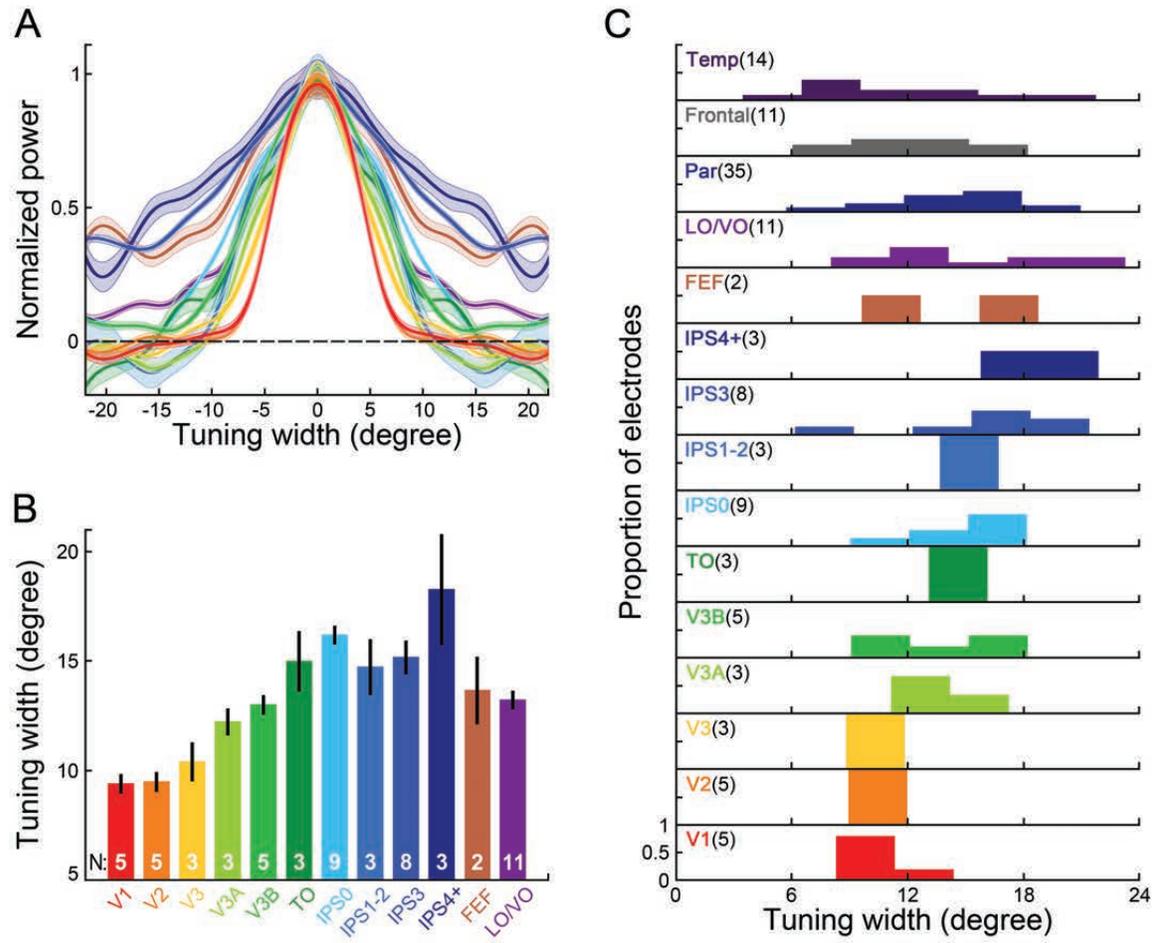


Figure 10

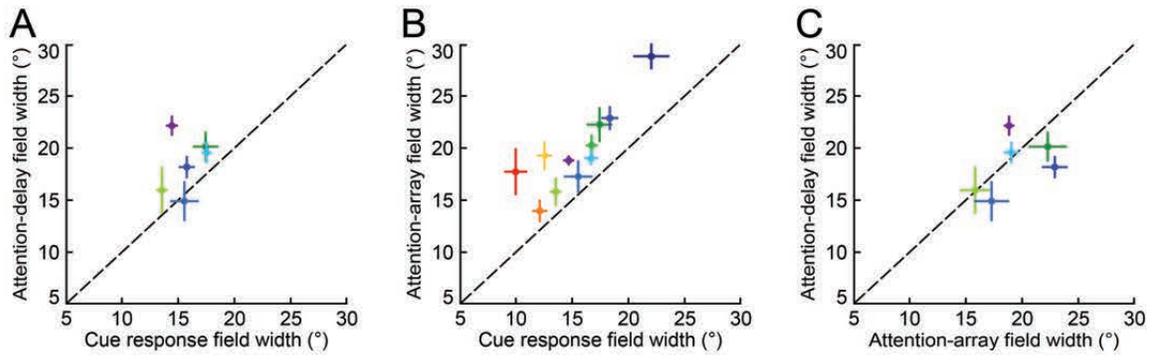


Figure 11