

Non-invasive segmentation of individual watershed areas allows detection of hemodynamic impairments in internal carotid artery stenosis

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Session: Flow, Fluid Exchange &
Microvasculature in the Human Brain



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Internal Carotid Artery Stenosis (ICAS) and individual Watershed Areas (iWSA)

Background

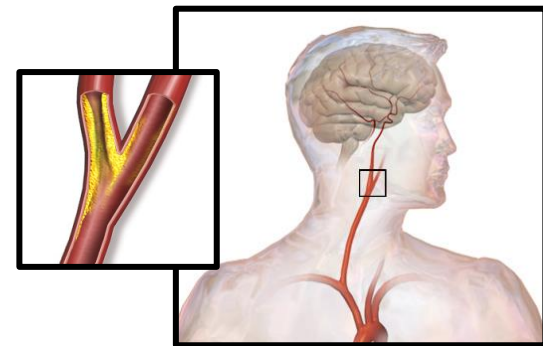
- ICAS major health risk in developed countries^{1,2}
- Watershed areas (WSA) especially vulnerable^{3,4}
- Individual (i)WSA from DSC-based time-to-peak (TTP) maps^{5,6}

Purpose

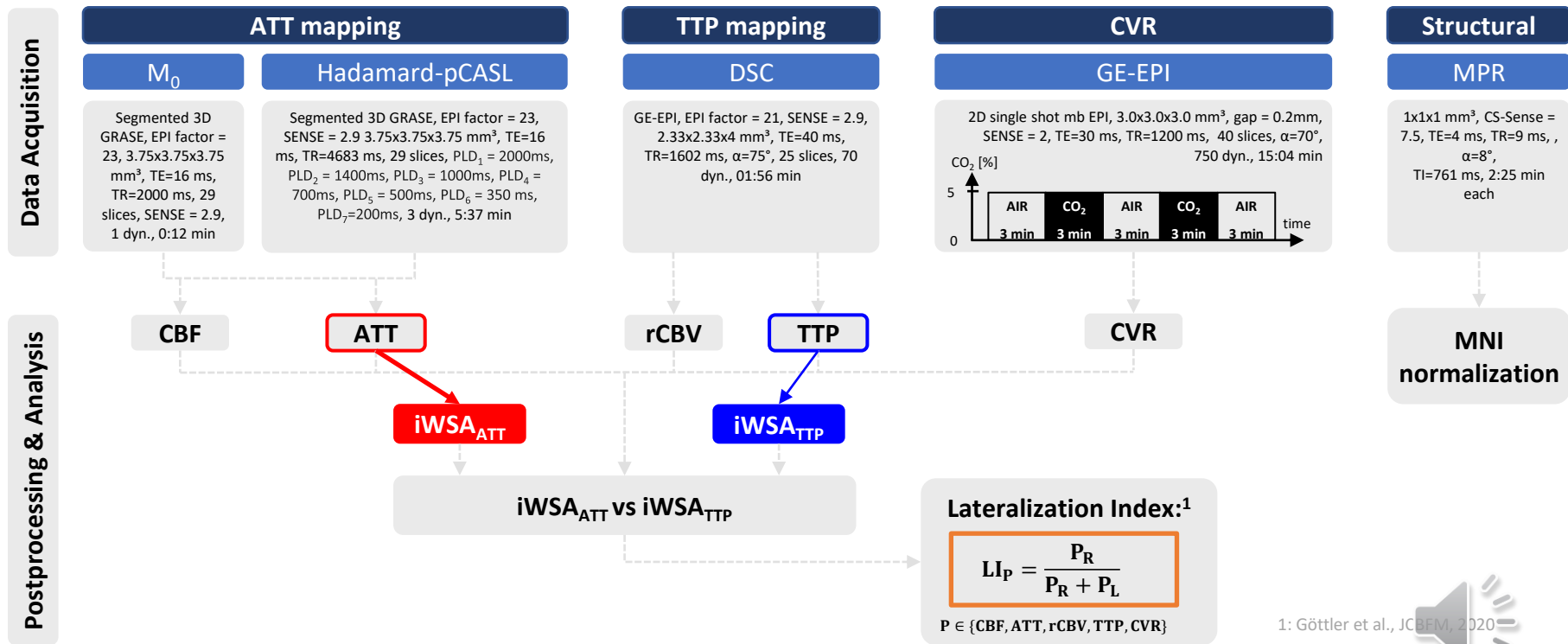
- Evaluate iWSA masks from non-invasive Arterial Transit Time (ATT) based on Hadamard pCASL

Hypothesis

- ATT-based iWSAs agree spatially with TTP-based iWSAs
- Hemodynamic alterations within ICAS patients' iWSAs



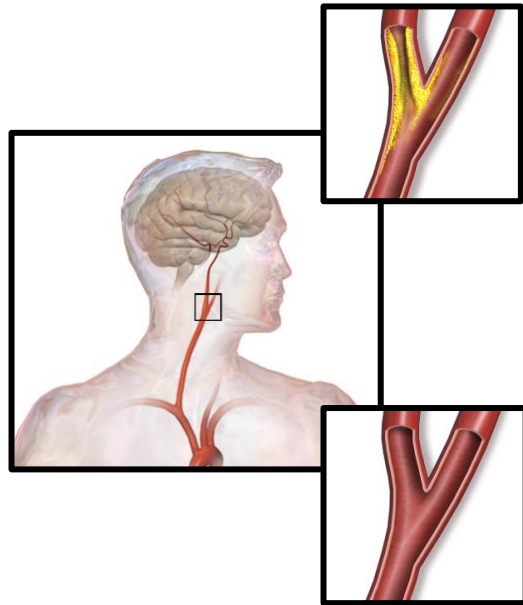
MRI protocol and analysis for comparing iWSA from ATT and TTP



1: Göttler et al., JCBFM, 2020



Study population contains patients and age-matched HCs



ICAS

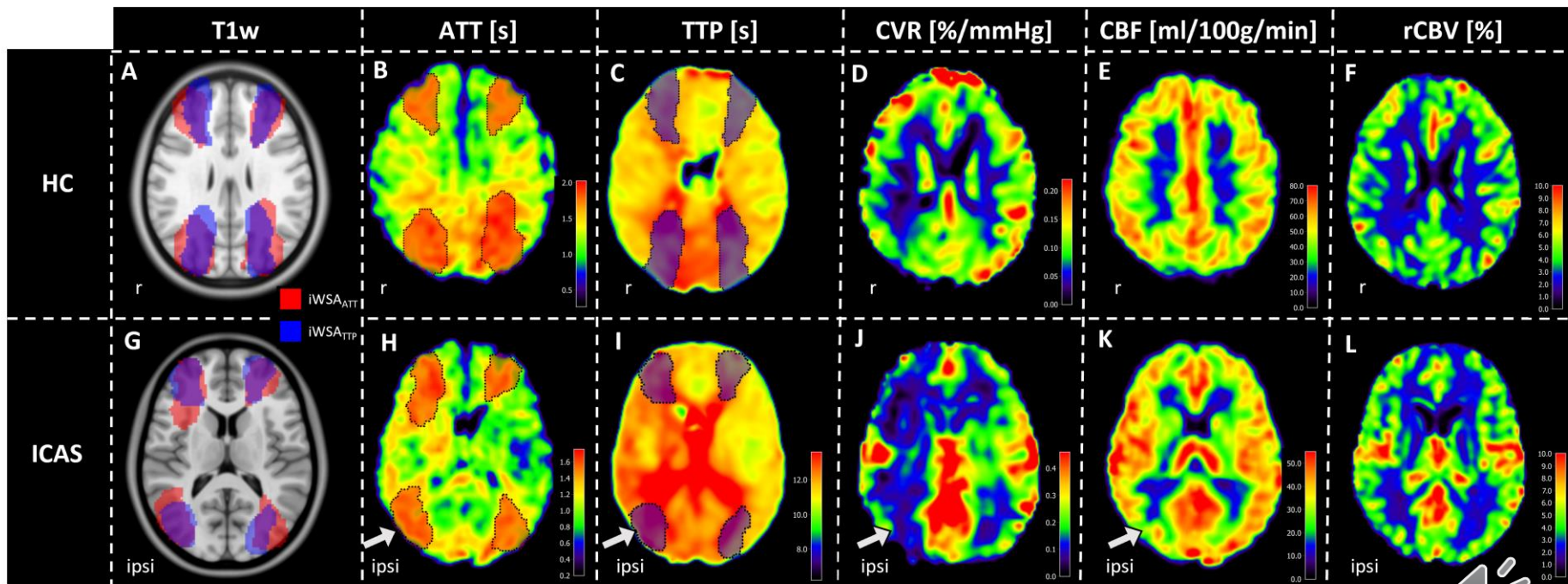
- 6 patients (age 71.7 ± 8.8 years)
- 2 female / 4 male
- Unilateral
- NASCET $>60\%$

Healthy controls (HC)

- 20 age-matched HCs (age 69.2 ± 5.8 y)
- 12 female/ 8 male



Exemplary data of a Healthy Control (HC) and an ICAS patient

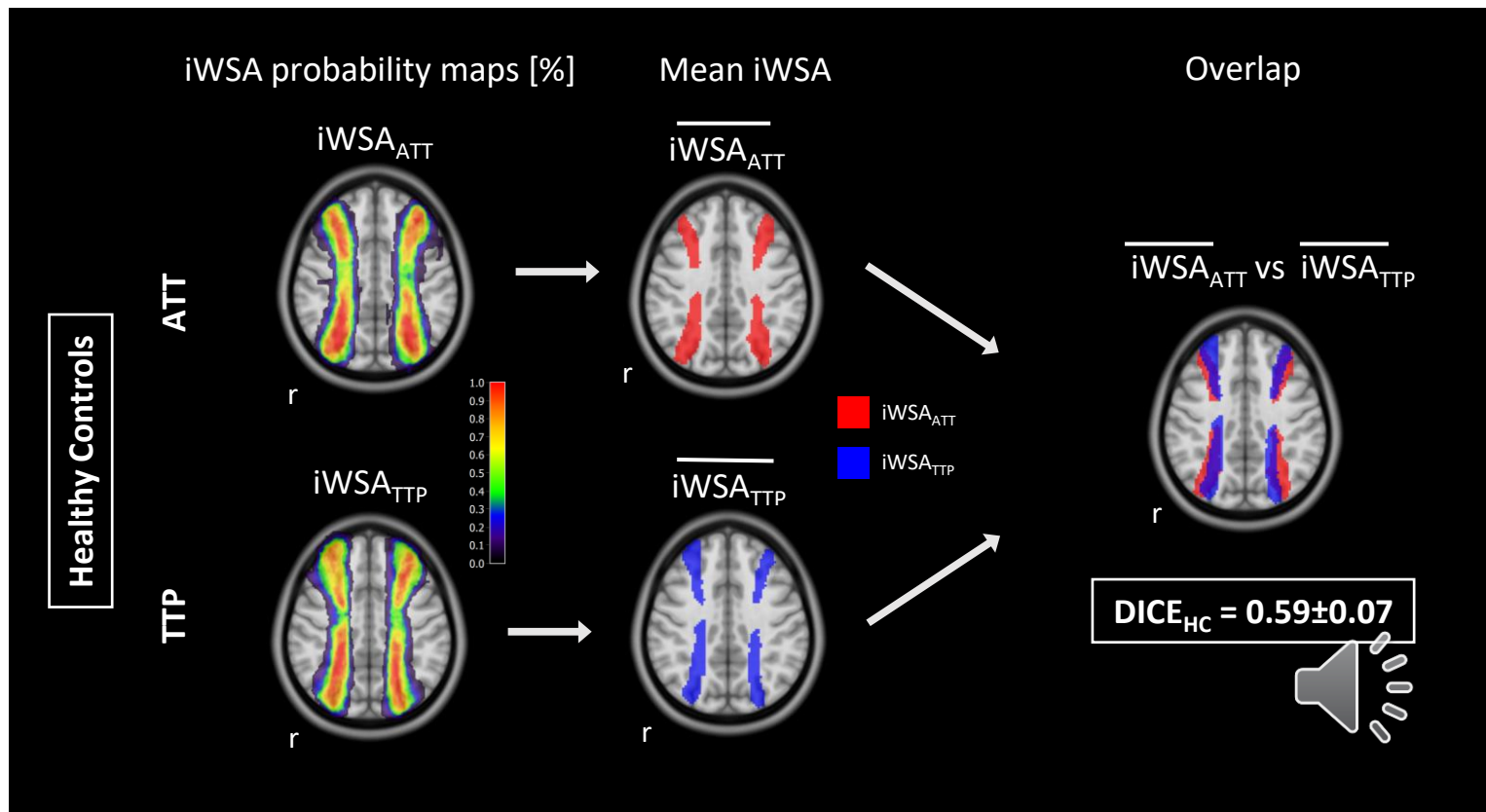


→ $iWSA_{ATT}$ concord with $iWSA_{TTP}$ (B,H vs C,I)

→ ICAS induces lateralization (H-L)

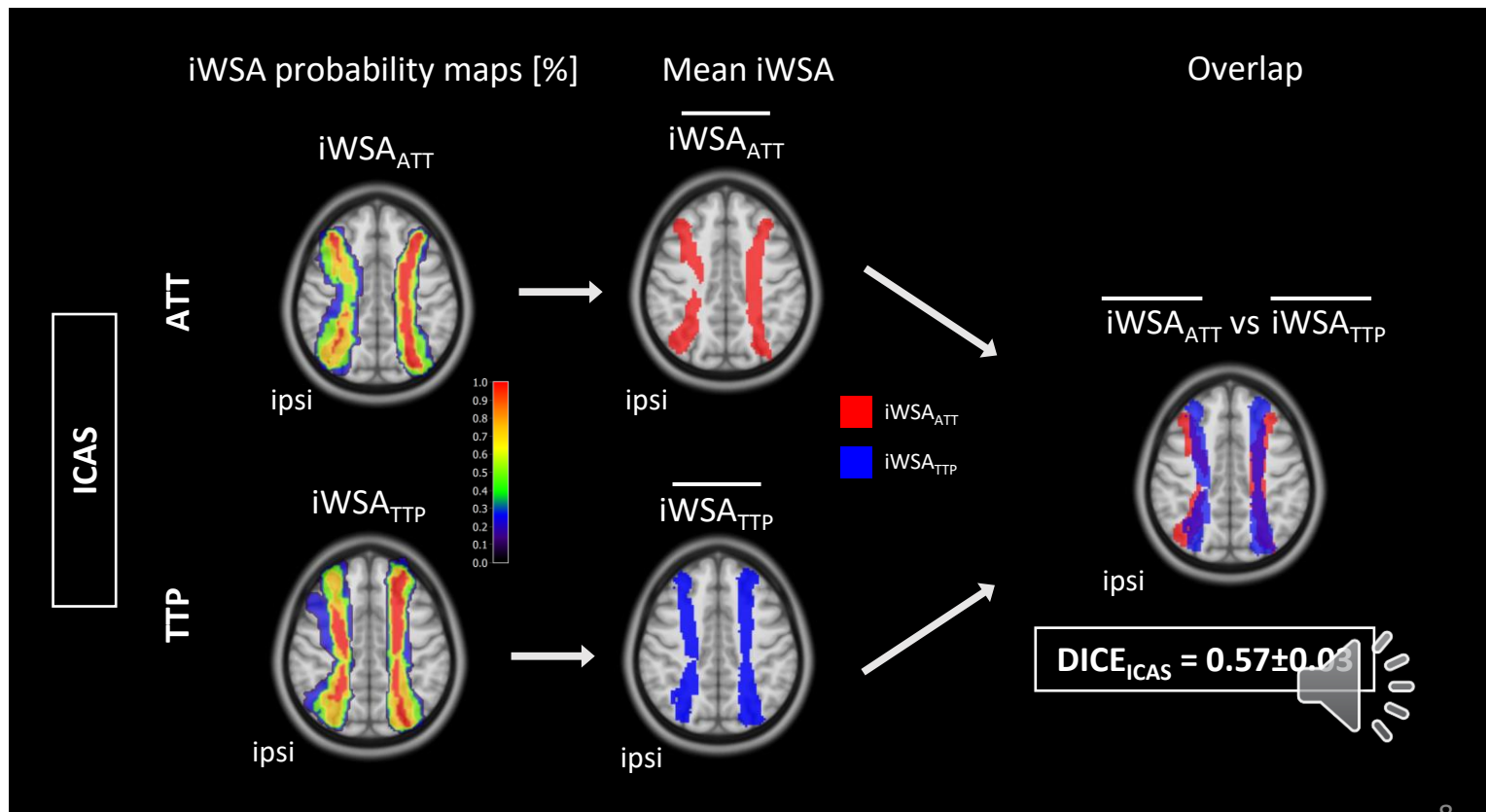
Do $iWSA_{ATT}$ and $iWSA_{TTP}$ overlap?

→ Good agreement



Do $iWSA_{ATT}$ and $iWSA_{TTP}$ overlap?

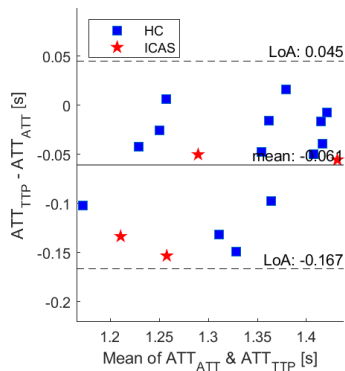
→ Good agreement



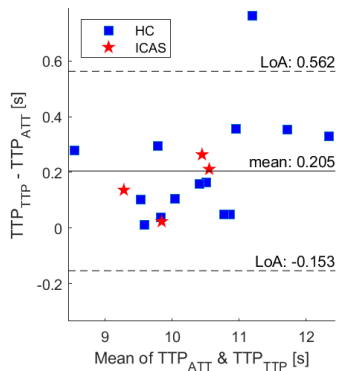
Do Parameter values differ systematically?

Bland Altman analyses : iWSA_{ATT} vs iWSA_{TTP}

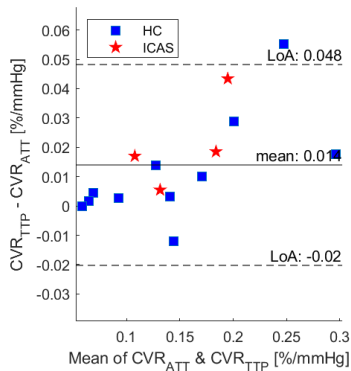
ATT



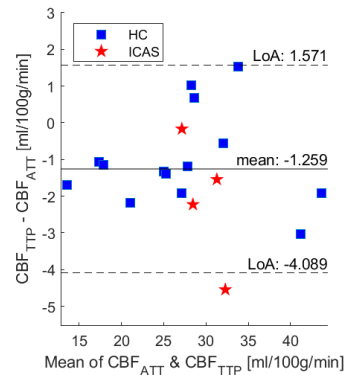
TTP



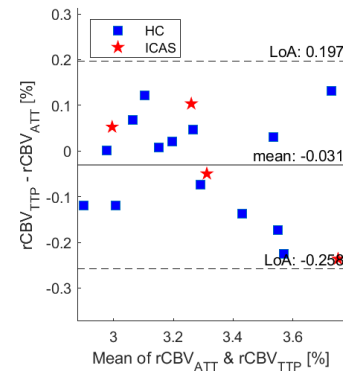
CVR



CBF



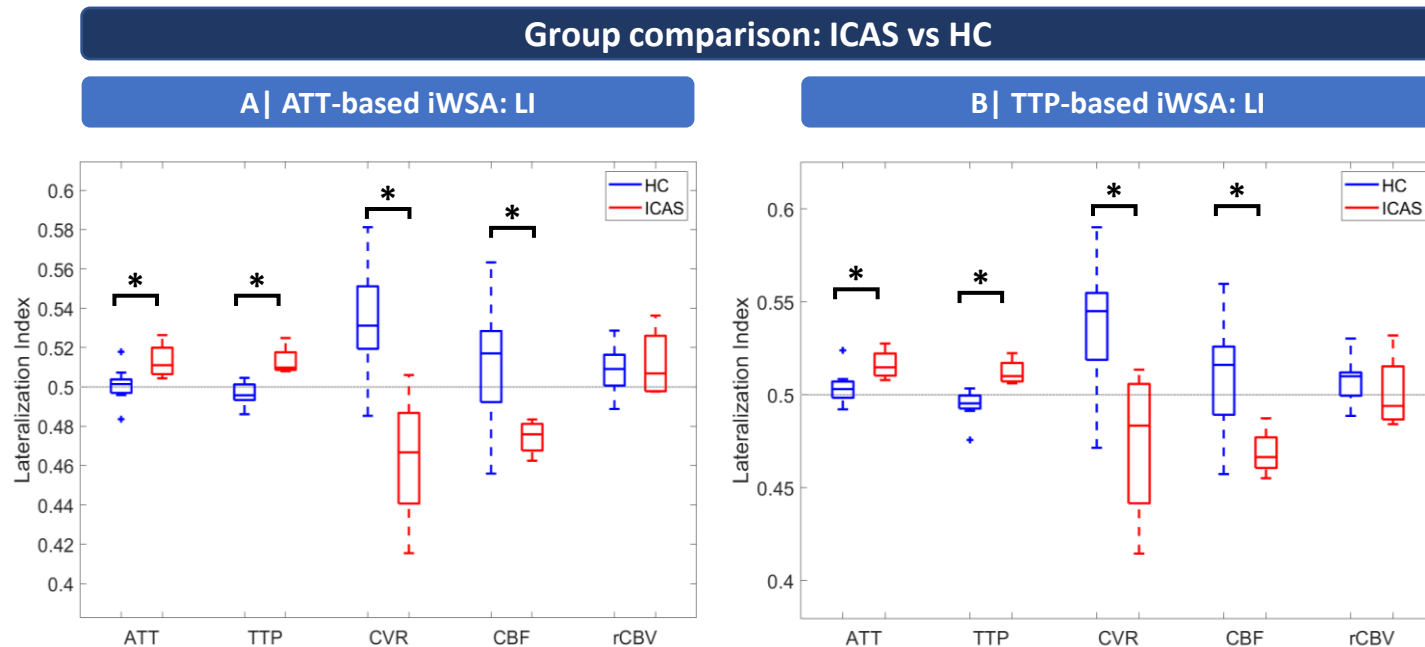
rCBV



→ Bland-Altman: **No systematic differences**



Do lateralization indices (LI) differ between $iWSA_{ATT}$ and $iWSA_{TTP}$



→ ICAS induces **lateralization** in ATT, TTP, CVR and CBF

→ Results from $iWSA_{ATT}$ and $iWSA_{TTP}$ concur

Do ATT and TTP based iWSA concur?

Discussion

Good agreement of iWSA from ATT and TTP

Moderate DICE due to T2*-blooming in TTP-maps & rater-dependency

Increased variability expected for ICAS¹

Ipsilaterally impaired hemodynamics (especially CVR) in ICAS agrees with existing literature^{1,2}

Summary

iWSA can reliably segmented from ATT-maps

ATT-based iWSA revealed impaired hemodynamics including clinically promising CVR⁴

ATT-based iWSAs useful for non-invasive longitudinal mapping of vascular border-zones in ICAS and other CVD such as Moyamoya



Thank you for your attention!

We want to highly appreciate the support by:

German Research Foundation (DFG)
Ev. Studienwerk Villigst

