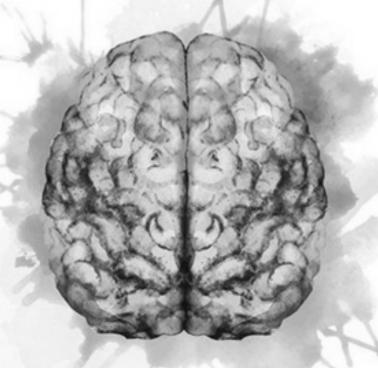
# Manipulating consciousness: the role of stimulus amplitude, attention and task-relevance on conscious perception

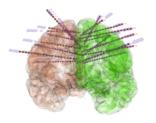
Siena, 10 Novembre 2023

Maria Del Vecchio, IN-CNR Parma



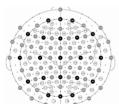


## iEEG recording



- No report
- Task-irrelevant
- Human subjects
- Across sensory modalities
- Invasive/intracranial

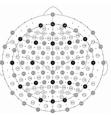


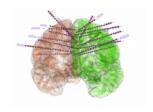


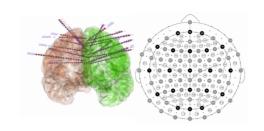
# Simultaneous iEEG-EEG recording

• Creation of a transfer function model f<sup>-1</sup>

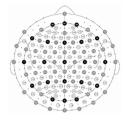








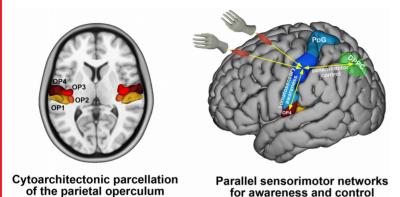




## Generalization on healthy volunteers means:

- Larger, homogeneously sampled datasets
- easier way to manipulate experimental procedures
- better comparability with existing literature and easier apporaches to pre-clinical campaigns

#### **SOMATOSENSORY AWARENESS, A CRUCIAL ISSUE**

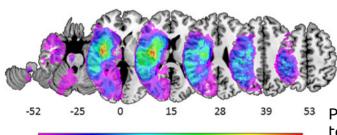


Somatosensation also shares a tight link with motion and in particular with transitive gestures such as grasping, or body-to-body interaction.

Disorders in somatosensory awareness may affect patients' motor physiological functions.

#### A Lesion overlay

Sum lesion image of all 101 stroke lesions



Stroke lesions in the **primary and secondary somatosensory cortex** and in the **insula** showed
a strong association with somatosensory
impairment with **additional different patterns for the different somatosensory modalities**.

Proprioception, temperature, sensory extiction,

two-point discrimination, light touch..

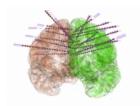
Sirigu and Desmurget, *Brain*, 2021 Kessner et al., *Stroke*, 2019

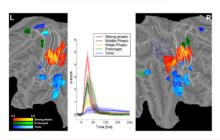
### **NEURAL UNDERPINNINGS OF SOMATOSENSORY AWARENESS**



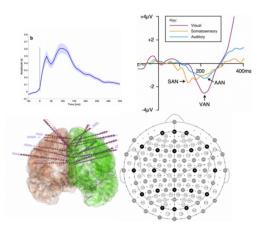
#### **TONIC RESPONSES**

6.0 Kg 6.

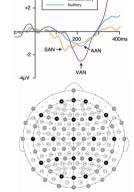




**TONIC RESPONSES, N140??** 



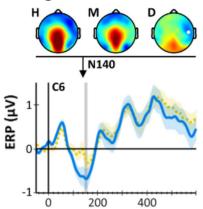
Tonic component and SAN/N140 share common features (e.g. late latency, origin in sensory regions, separation from pre- and post-perceptual processing of sensory information);



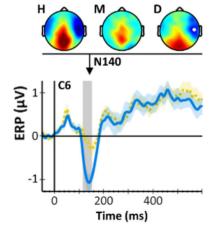
Avanzini et al., *PNAS*, 2016 Mikulan et al., *In preparation* 

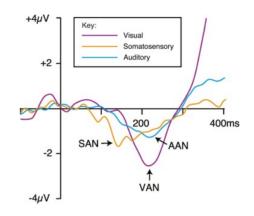
#### **N140: THE PUTATIVE CORRELATE OF SOMATOSENSORY AWARENESS**

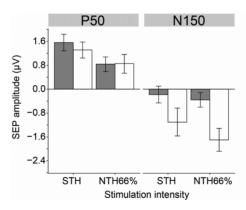
#### Matching task

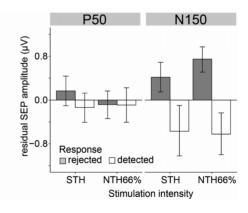


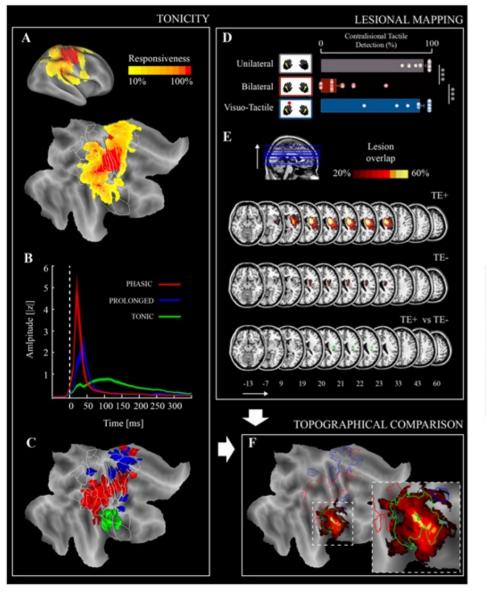


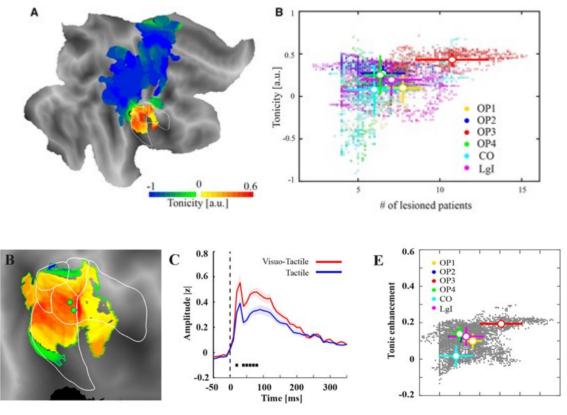












COLOCALIZE COVARY COMODULATE

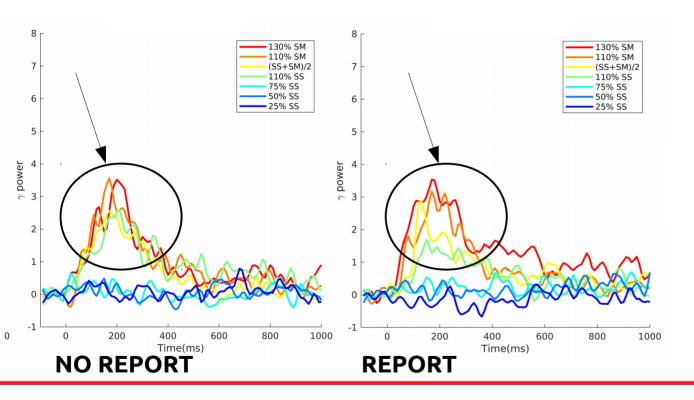
Del Vecchio, Fossataro et al., *Brain*, 2021

## No Report Vs Report paradigms in the neuroscience of consciousness

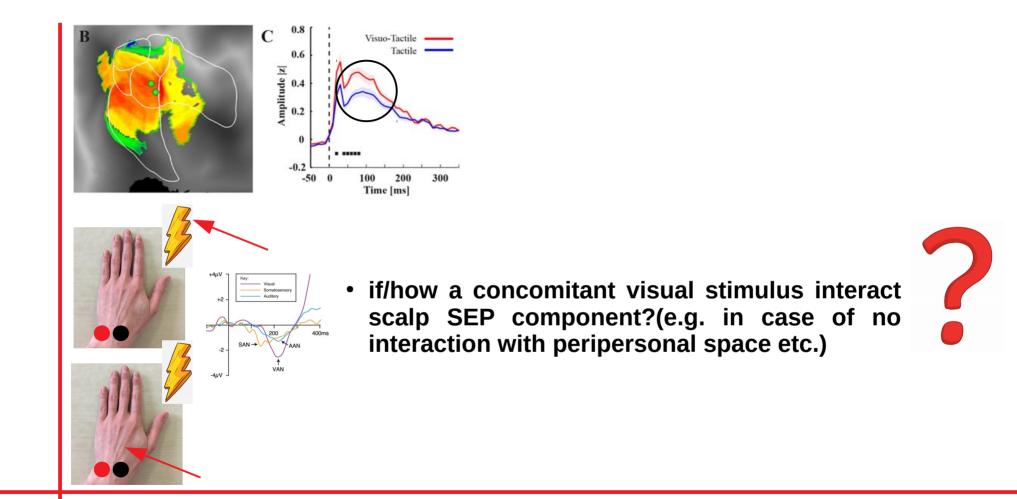


#### TONIC BEHAVIOR as ALL-OR-NOTHING PHENOMENA

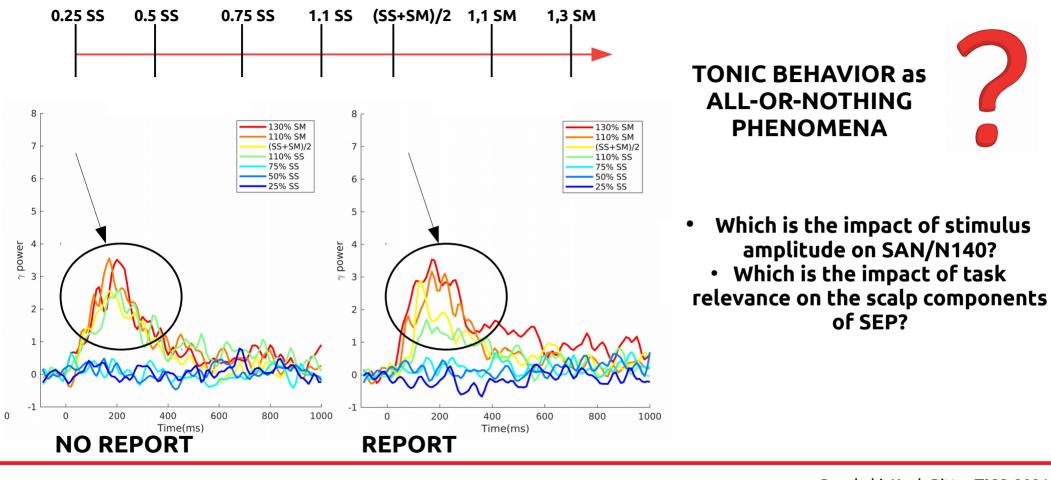
recorded patients







# No Report Vs Report paradigms in the neuroscience of consciousness



#### **Trends in Cognitive Sciences**



### The physiological correlates of sensory consciousness

Volume 25, Issue 8, August 2021, Pages 660-670

Opinion

Perceptual awareness negativity: a physiological correlate of sensory consciousness

Cole Dembski ¹, Christof Koch ² 🙎 🖂 , Michael Pitts ¹

#### **Outstanding questions**

How do stimulus salience (e.g., stimulus energy, contrast), stimulus duration (i.e., is the PAN associated with the onset or with the duration of stimulus consciousness?), and levels of processing (e.g., low-level feature detection, such as line orientation or color, versus high-level identification, such as word and face recognition) affect the latency, topography, and amplitude of the PAN?

How do expectations and task relevance modulate the PAN?

How does selective attention (and the associated negativities) interact with the PAN?

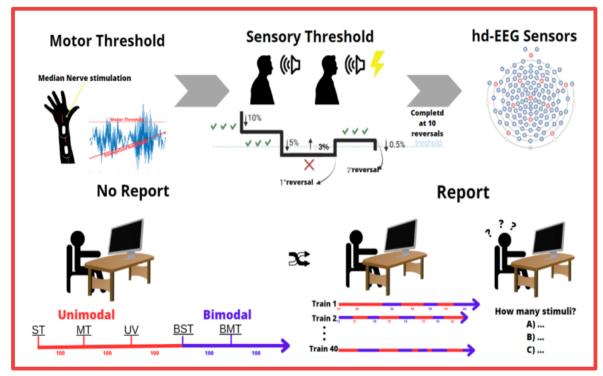
Can a standard paradigm for eliciting the PAN be developed for use in patients with disorders of consciousness?

What is the significance of the PAN to multimodal integration, binding, and other crossmodal interactions?





N = 12



# **Experimental procedure**

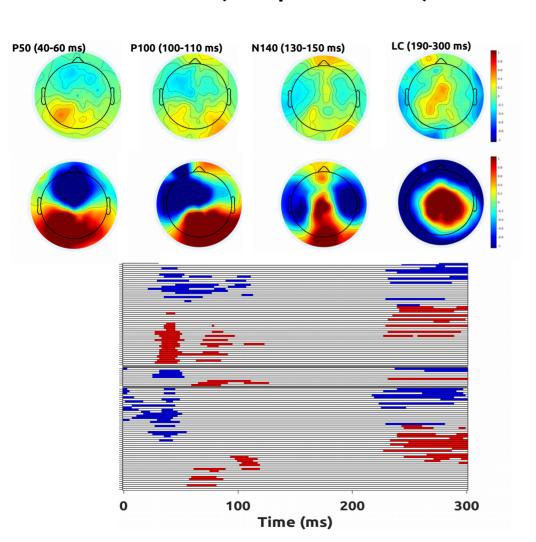
# **Comparisons:**

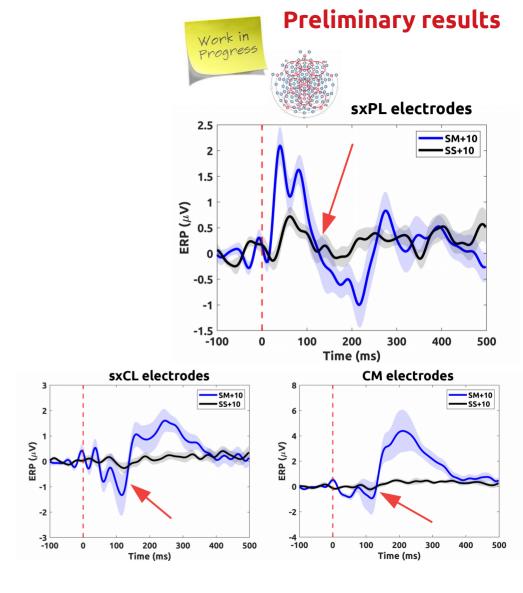
- ST+10% Vs MT+10%
- Report Vs NoReport

ST ST MT MT

amplitude

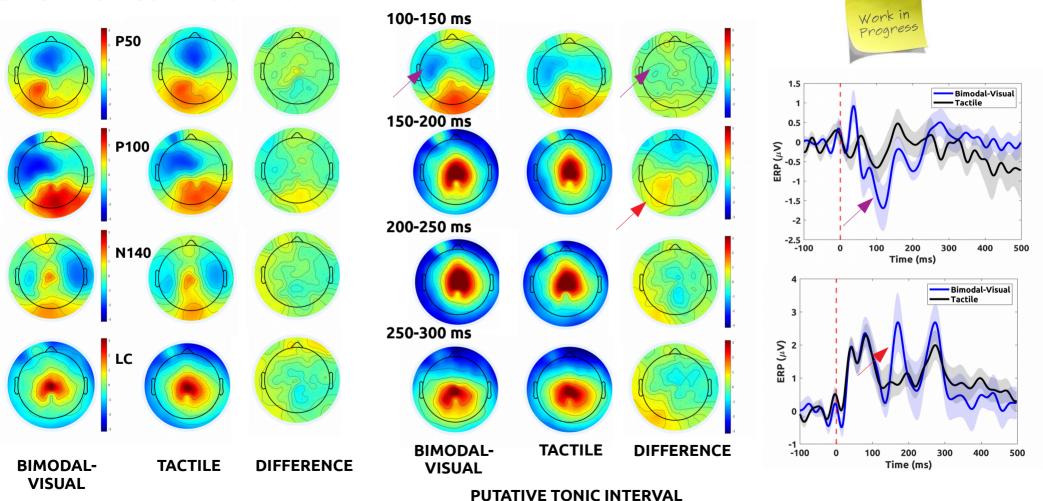
# AMPLITUDE ST+10% Vs MT+10% (no report condition)





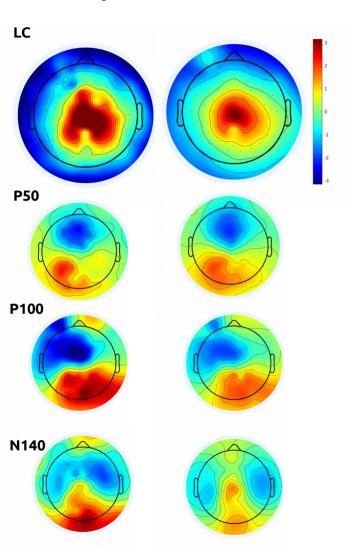
# UNIMODAL/BIMODAL (no report condition) BIMSM+10-VISUAL VS SM+10

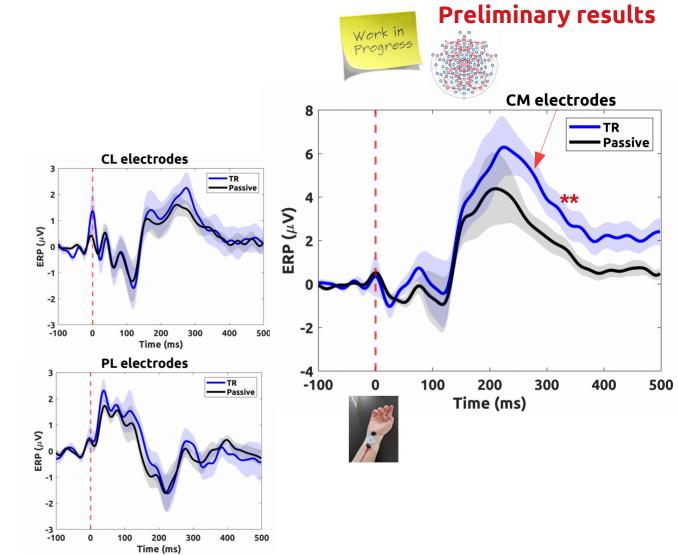
# **Preliminary results**

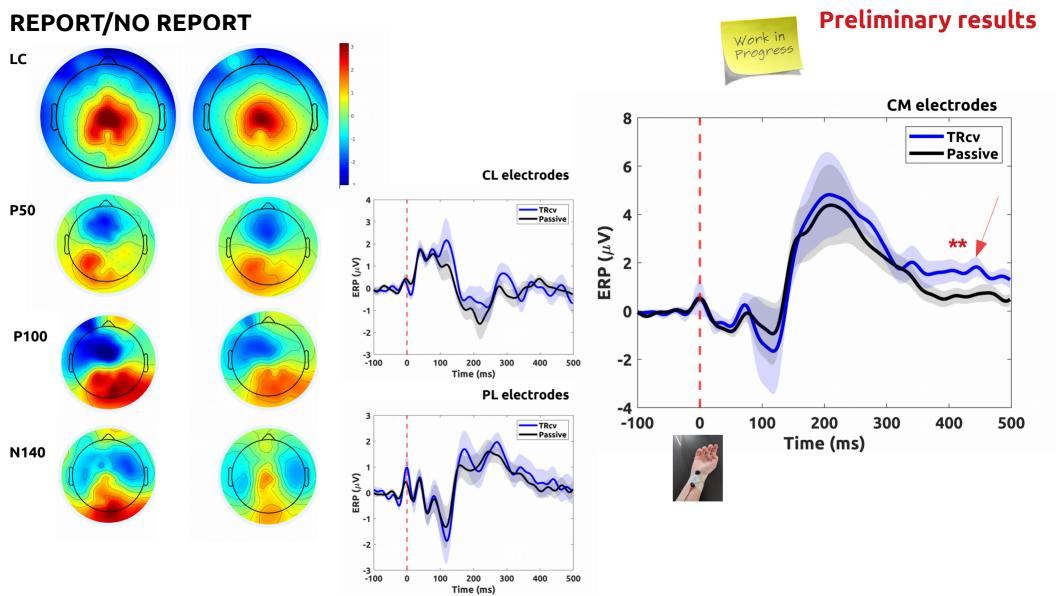


(100-300 ms)

# **REPORT/NO REPORT**







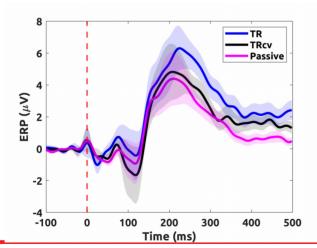
# **Preliminary results**

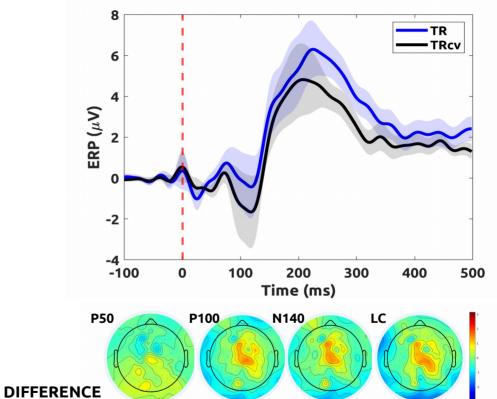
# CUE on TACTILE/VISUAL STIMULUS (report condition)





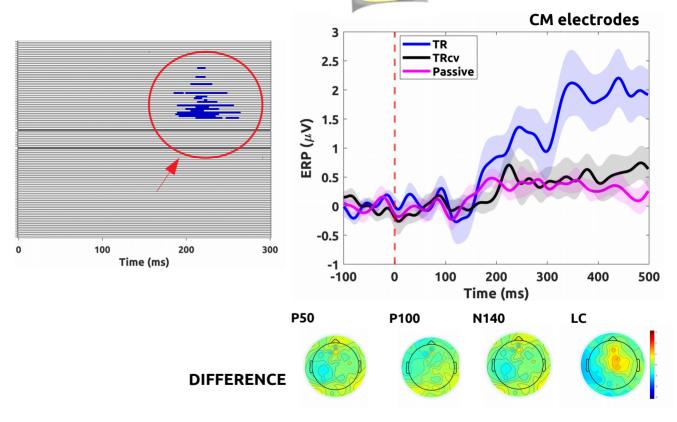






# **Preliminary results**

# CUE on TACTILE/VISUAL STIMULUS (report condition)



Work in Progress

#### **Trends in Cognitive Sciences**



## The physiological correlates of sensory consciousness

Volume 25, Issue 8, August 2021, Pages 660-670

Opinion

Perceptual awareness negativity: a physiological correlate of sensory consciousness

 $\underline{\mathsf{Cole}\;\mathsf{Dembski}^{\,1}},\underline{\mathsf{Christof}\,\mathsf{Koch}}^{\,2}\; \underset{\,\square}{\smile}\; \underset{\,\,\square}{\boxtimes}\,,\underline{\mathsf{Michael}\;\mathsf{Pitts}^{\,1}}$ 

## **Outstanding questions**

How do stimulus salience (e.g., stimulus energy, contrast), stimulus duration (i.e., is the PAN associated with the onset or with the duration of stimulus consciousness?), and levels of processing (e.g., low-level feature detection, such as line orientation or color, versus high-level identification, such as word and face recognition) affect the latency, topography, and amplitude of the PAN?

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What is the significance of the PAN to multimodal integration, binding, and other crossmodal interactions?

#### **Answers**

- The amplitude of a stimulus has no effect on SAN/N140 topography/modulation;
  - Task relevance does not interact with SAN/N140, but modulates LC;
  - Selective attention might modulate LC component;
- An additional, concomitant stimulus modulates SEP after 150 ms in cPL electrodes and interact with SAN/N140



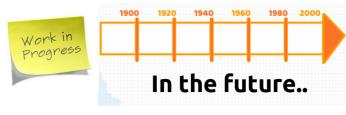
### Sample enlargement

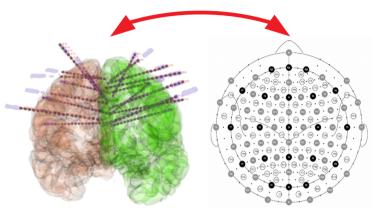


**Brain machinery** 



**Brain sources** 





Increase the cross-talk between invasive and non-invasive technique



Alice Giorgi **Enrico Salemi** Annalisa Cassisi Pietro Avanzini



Ivana Sartori Flavia Maria Zauli



Andrea Pigorini **Ezequiel Pablo Mikulan** 



Davide Albertini







# It's a team job!



