Time-frequency analysis of MEG data

Alex Clarke



Centre for Speech, Language and the Brain Department of Experimental Psychology



Oscillations in the brain

- Brain oscillations show power changes in response to events
 - Changes linked to distinct frequency bands

Name:	Frequency:	Example association:
Delta	0-4 Hz	Sleep, clinical disorders
Theta	4-8 Hz	Working memory
Alpha	8-12 Hz	Sensory stimulation, memory, attention
Beta	12-30 Hz	Motor actions, planning
Gamma	30-80 Hz	Binding, consciousness, attention

Herrmann, Grigutsch & Busch (2005)

However, oscillations recorded in MEG contain confluence of information from different frequencies

• Need specialised analysis techniques

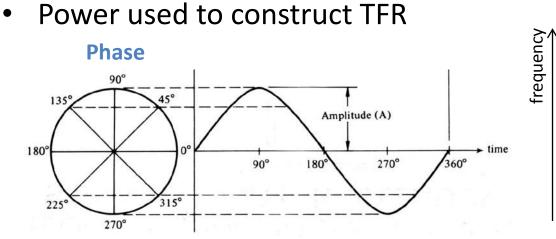
Oscillations in the brain

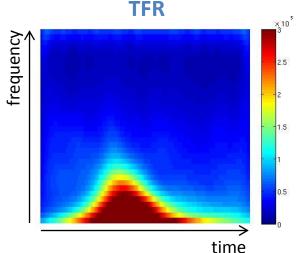
Techniques allow us to ask:

- Are different frequencies more tuned to different sensory/cognitive functions?
- Is different information about a stimulus encoded in different frequency bands?

Oscillations in the brain

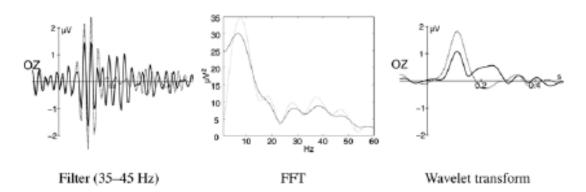
- Complex oscillations we record can be decomposed into different frequencies
- The frequency-tuned **power** and **phase** can then be extracted for each time-period





Decomposing the oscillations

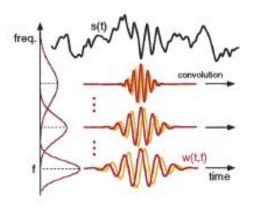
- Methods to extract freq-tuned oscillations:
 - Filtering
 - FFT
 - Multi-tapers
 - Wavelets

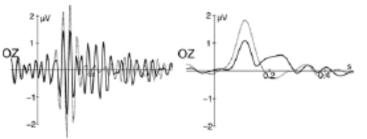


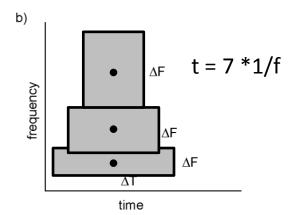
Wavelets

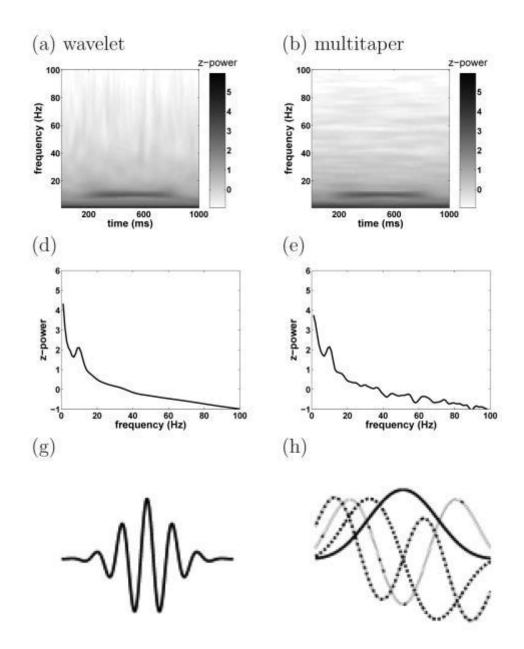
- Extract power and phase centred at *t* and *f*
- Morlet wavelet transformation of the signal
 - Signal convolved with frequency-specific wavelet function
 - Shifted, scaled version of mother wavelet
 - Though of as envelop of filtered signal

- Reveals freq-specific power (and phase)
 - But temporal/frequency resolution variable
 - No. cycles/window
 - <u>Cycles go up:</u> Time res goes down, Freq res goes up
 - Typical 5 7 cycles



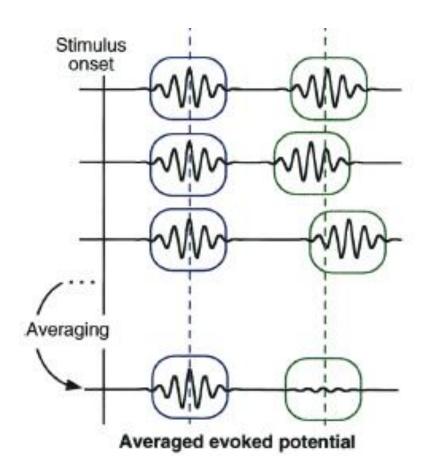






Vugt et al (2007). Journal of Neuroscience methods

Data analysis

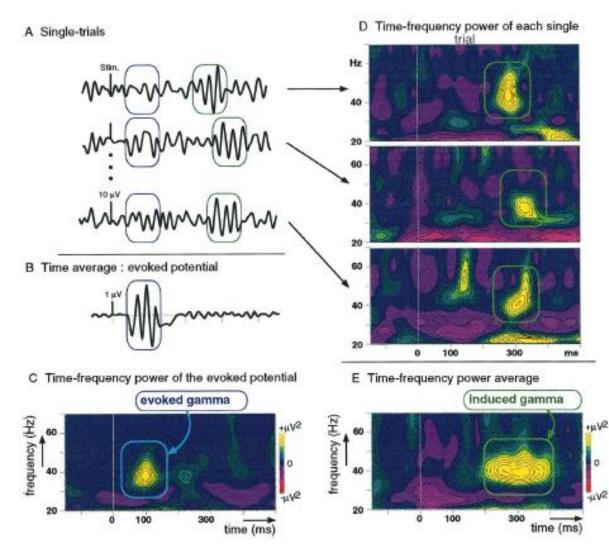


Tallon-Baudry & Bertrand (1999)

Data analysis

Evoked

Induced

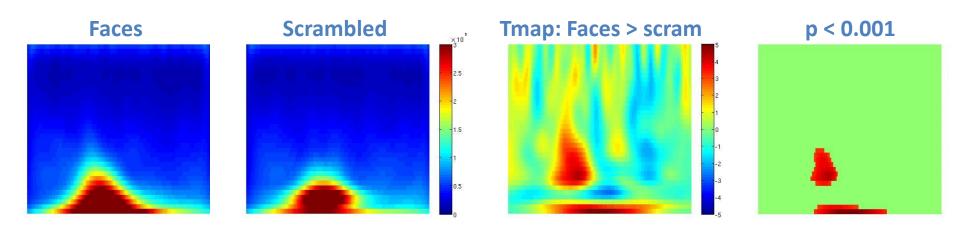


Tallon-Baudry & Bertrand (1999)

Example

Faces vs. scrambled faces

- Epoched, downsampled, artefact rejection
 - TFR of trials, averaged within condition (total)
 - SPM stats showing faces > scrambled
 - 110 ms, 13 Hz
 - 190 ms, 5 Hz



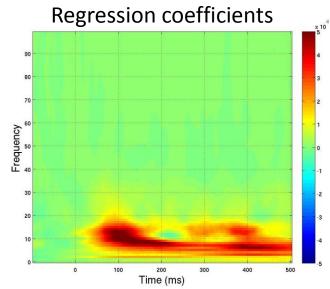
SPM8 multimodal face data: http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/data/

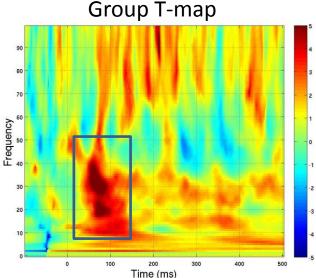
Advanced 1: Regression

- Regression between single-trial power and stimulus properties

 At each time/frequency point
- Reveal TFR increases/decreases with varying linear stimulus properties
- Here, shows increased power with increasingly complex visual images

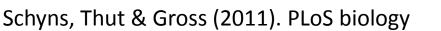
- 10-50 Hz, 50-150 ms

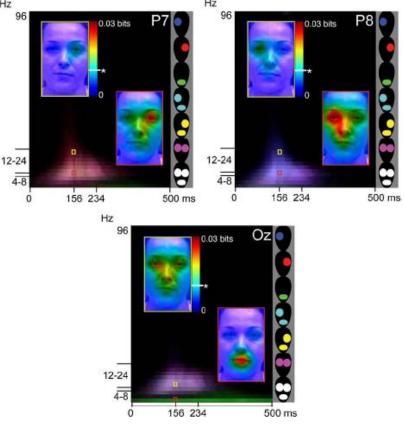




Advanced 2: MI

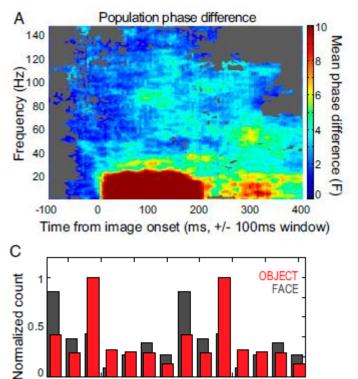
- Mutual information (MI) between presence of pixels and power (& phase)
- Shared info between facial features and frequencyspecific power/phase
- Multiplexing
 - Mouth: Theta
 - Eyes: Beta





Advanced 3: Phase

- Category-specific phase responses in non-human primate STS
 - Phase of oscillations tied to type of image (face vs. object)
- Systematic differences in phase not due to firing rates
- Evidence that phase coding could support rapid object recognition



Tutorials

- SPM8
 - Multimodal face data
 - <u>http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/data/</u>
 - Chapter x of manual
- Fieldtrip
 - <u>http://fieldtrip.fcdonders.nl/tutorial/timefrequencyanalysis</u>
- MNE
 - <u>http://mne-tools.github.com/mne-python-intro/</u>

Reading

- Herrmann, Grigutsch & Busch (2005). EEG oscillations and wavelet analysis. In *Event related potentials: A methods handbook.*
- Tallon-Baudry & Bertrand (1999). Oscillatory gamma activity in humans and its role in object representation. Trends in cognitive science.
- Pfurtschellar & Lopes da Silva (1999). Event-related EEG/MEG synchronization and desynchronization: basic principles. Clinical Neurophysiology.
- Roach & Mathalon (2008). Event-related EEG time-frequency analysys: An overview of measures and an analysis of early gamma band phase locking in Schizophrenia. Schizophrenia bulletin.
- Mitra & Pesaran (1999). Analysis of dynamic brain imaging data. Biophysical journal.