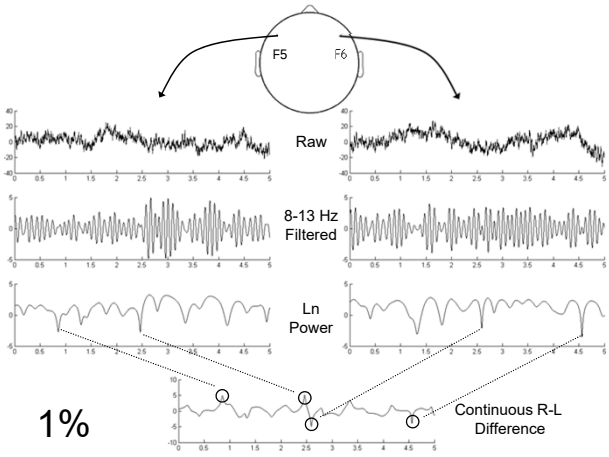
A bit more on
Frequency-domain EEG

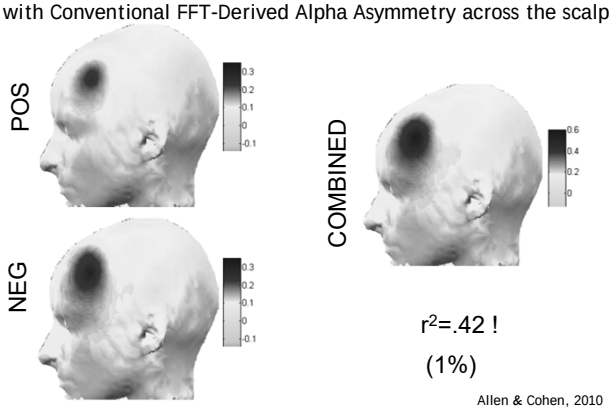
and then…

The Event-related Brain Potential
(Part 1)

TIME AND SPACE



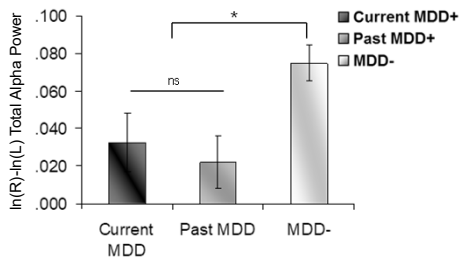
Relationship of Peri-Burst Alpha Asymmetry at F6-F5
with Conventional FFT-Derived Alpha Asymmetry across the scalp



r^2=.42 !
(1%)

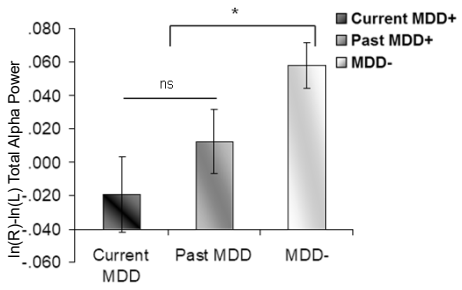
Allen & Cohen, 2010

Conventional Frontal EEG Alpha Asymmetry
by MDD status

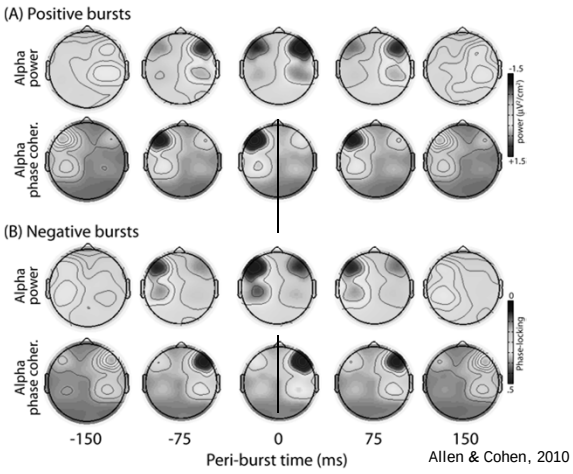


Stewart, Bismark, Towers, Coan, & Allen 2010, *J Abnormal Psychology*

Peri-burst Frontal EEG Alpha Power Asymmetry
by MDD status



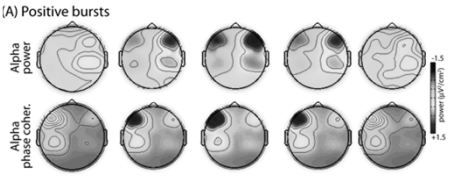
Allen & Cohen, 2010



Allen & Cohen, 2010

So?

- Bursts reflect …
  - Transient lateralized alpha suppression that shows a highly consistent phase relationship across bursts
  - Along with concurrent contralateral transient alpha enhancement that is less tightly phase-locked across bursts



So?

- The fact that the alpha suppression is particularly tightly phase-locked across bursts raises the possibility that the lateralized alpha suppression may drive or regulate cortical processing
- Alpha has been shown to regulate gamma power (i.e., cross-frequency coupling, Cohen et al., 2009)

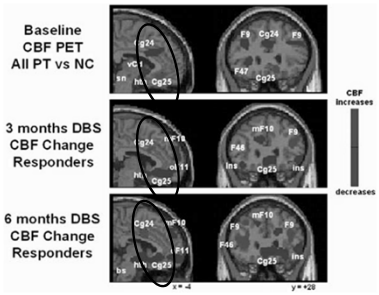
TIME AND SPACE

Multi-modal Imaging

- Tether EEG asymmetry to other measures neural systems known to be involved in MDD
- 23 subjects with simultaneous EEG and fMRI during resting state

Multi-modal Imaging

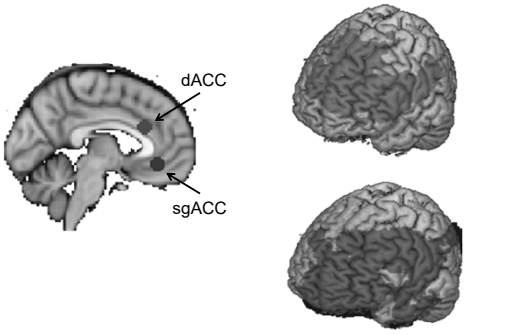
- Tether EEG asymmetry to other measures neural systems known to be involved in MDD



Mayberg et al., 2005

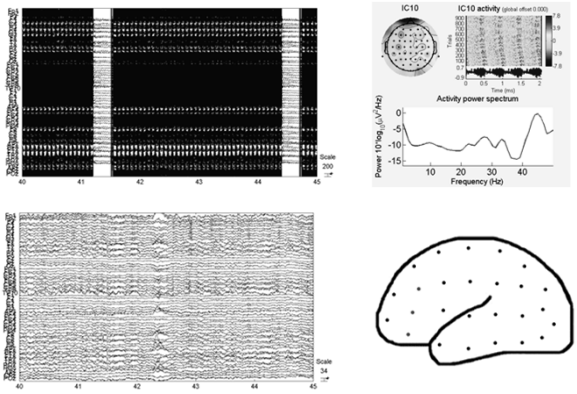
Multi-modal Imaging

- Create RS-fMRI network with ACC seeds



Allen, Hewig, Miltner, Hecht, & Schnyer, *in preparation*

Remove Artifacts from Resting EEG

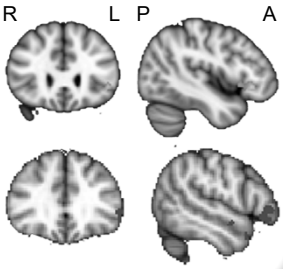


EEG Alpha Asymmetry is Negatively Correlated with IFG Connectivity in Two ACC-seeded Resting State Networks

Spatially-enhanced EEG asymmetry (using CSD transform) at sites F8-F7 is related to resting state connectivity between left inferior frontal gyrus and two ACC-seeded networks.

Dorsal ACC-seeded Network
Center of the depicted cluster is (x,y,z) -46, 28, -4 MNI coordinates.
Largest correlation: r = -0.69

Subgenual ACC-seeded Network
Center of the depicted cluster is (x,y,z) -54, 28, -4 MNI coordinates.
Largest correlation: r = -0.71



Allen, Hewig, Miltner, Hecht, & Schnyer, *in preparation*

EEG-fMRI Synopsis

- Less relative left frontal activity (indexed by EEG) is related to increased connectivity of left IFG to two ACC-seeded RS networks
- Consistent with:
  - Hyper-connectivity in RSfMRI emotion networks in MDD (e.g., Grecius et al., 2007; Sheline et al., 2010; Kaiser et al., 2015)
  - Frontal EEG asymmetry findings of less relative left frontal activity in risk for MDD.
- Alpha power may regulate network connectivity
  - Note: Between vs Within Subjects

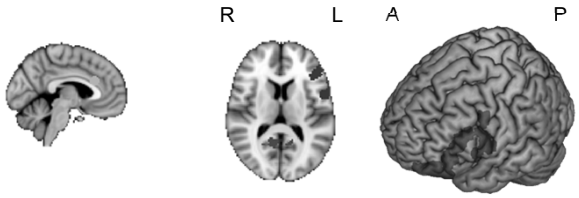
BETWEEN-SUBJECTS' DATA DOES NOT NECESSARILY SUPPORT A WITHIN-SUBJECTS' INTERPRETATION

Within Subjects' Moderation of RSfMRI Connectivity

- Calculate F8-F7 alpha asymmetry for each TR
  - EEG leads TR by 4.096 seconds
- Median split into high (left) and low (right)
- Entered as moderator in PPI approach (cf. Friston et al., 1997)
  - Tests whether strength of connectivity to seed region varies as a function of the moderator

Allen, Hewig, Miltner, Hecht, & Schnyer, *in preparation*

Within Subjects' Moderation of RSfMRI Connectivity

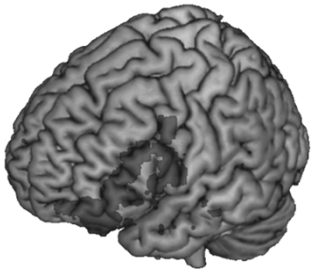


Dorsal ACC Seed

Greater Connectivity with
Less Left Frontal Alpha or
Greater Left Frontal Alpha

Allen, Hewig, Miltner, Hecht, & Schnyer, *in preparation*

Within (red) and Between (blue)
Within-subject effects more extensive

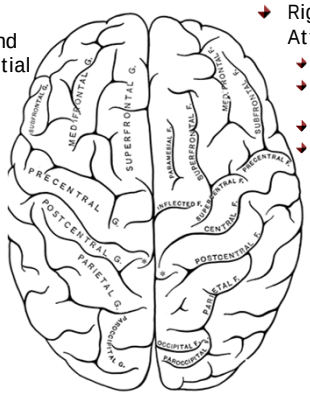


Cognitive Control over Emotion

- IFG has a key role in mediating the success of cognitive control over emotional stimuli

Cognitive Control over Emotion

- Left IFG: Language and self-referential processing
- Right IFG: Attentional control
  - behavioral inhibition
  - suppression of unwanted thoughts
  - attention shifting
  - efforts to reappraise emotional stimuli



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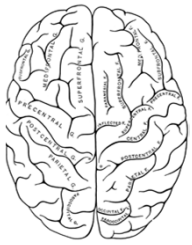
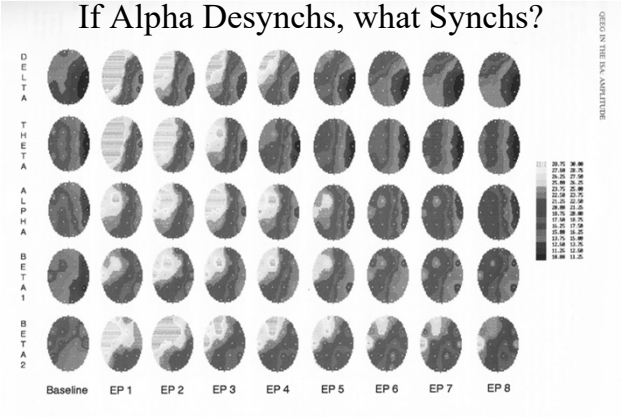


- Working Hypothesis:
  - Hyperconnected left IFG and emotion networks: rumination
  - Hypoconnected right IFG: difficulty disengaging from emotion

Synchronization and Desynchronization

- Supposition that alpha blocking meant that the EEG had become desynchronized
  - Yet the activity is still highly synchronized -- not at 8-13 Hz
  - May involve fewer neuronal ensembles in synchrony

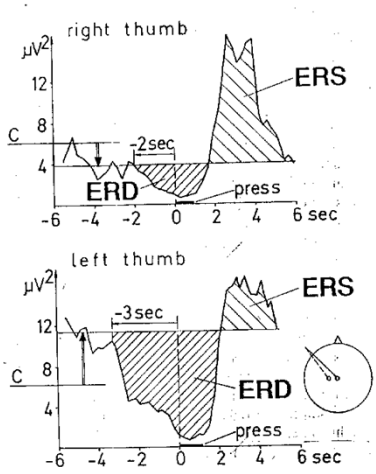
If Alpha Desynchs, what Synchs?



Ahern et al., (1994) *Electroencephalography and clinical Neurophysiology*

Event-related Synchronization and Desynchronization

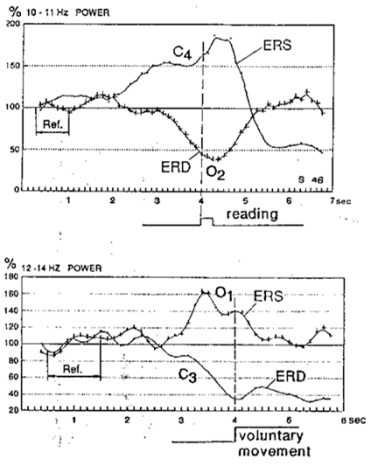
- Pfurtscheller (1992) -- Two types of ERS
  - Secondary (follows ERD)



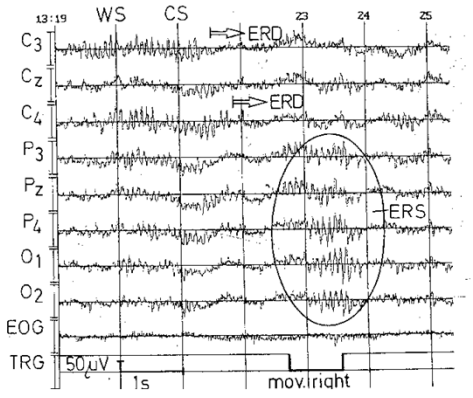
Alpha Power time course over left central region during voluntary movements with right and left thumb

Event-related Synchronization and Desynchronization

- Pfurtscheller (1992) -- Two types of ERS
  - Secondary (follows ERD)
  - Primary (**Figure 3 & Figure 4**)



Alpha power time course during reading (upper) and voluntary finger movements (lower). Primary ERS is seen over electrodes overlying cortical areas not involved in the task.



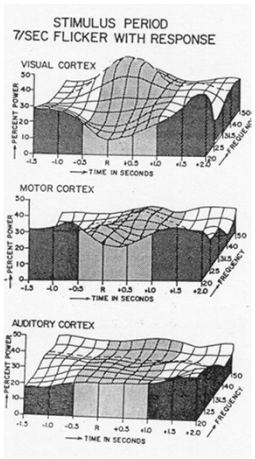
Primary ERS seen over parietal and occipital leads during right finger movement. ERD is seen over central electrodes, with earlier onset over hemisphere contralateral to movement.

40 Hz Activity

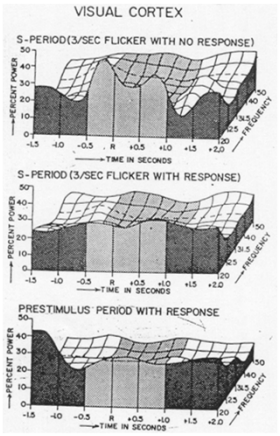
- First reports of important 40 Hz activity
- Sheer & Grandstaff (1969) review
  - pronounced rhythmic electrical bursting
- Daniel Sheer's subsequent work until his death renewed interest in "40 Hz" phenomena

Sheer work with Cats

- Learning paradigm
- Cat must learn
  - press to S_D (7cps light flicker)
  - not S- (3 cps light flicker)
  - the hypothesis is that the synchronized 40 Hz activity represents the focused activation of specific cortical areas necessary for performance of a task



Note specificity of response to S_D, over visual cortex to discriminative stimulus, in 40-Hz range; Some hint of it later in the motor cortex. Note also decreased activity in slower bands during the same time periods.



Note very different pattern to S-. No 40-Hz change in visual cortex, and marked increase in lower frequencies at same time period.

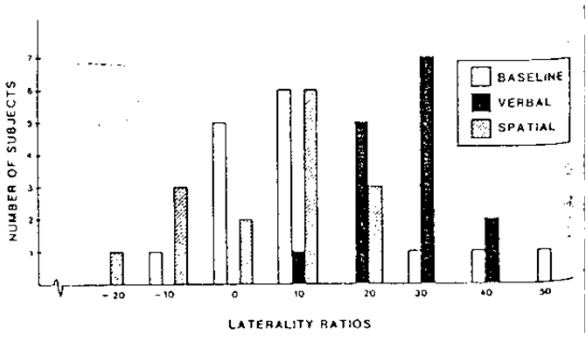
Human Studies

- Hypothesis is that 40 Hz activity correlates with the behavioral state of focused arousal (Sheer, 1976) or cortical activation
  - a "circumscribed state of cortical excitability" (Sheer, 1975)
  - Bird et al (1978)
    - biofeedback paradigm
    - increased 40 Hz activity is associated with high arousal and mental concentration
  - Ford et al., (1980)
    - subjects once trained to voluntarily suppress 40 Hz EEG are unable to maintain that suppression while simultaneously solving problems
    - concluded that problem solving and absence of 40 Hz are incompatible

Lateralized Task Effects

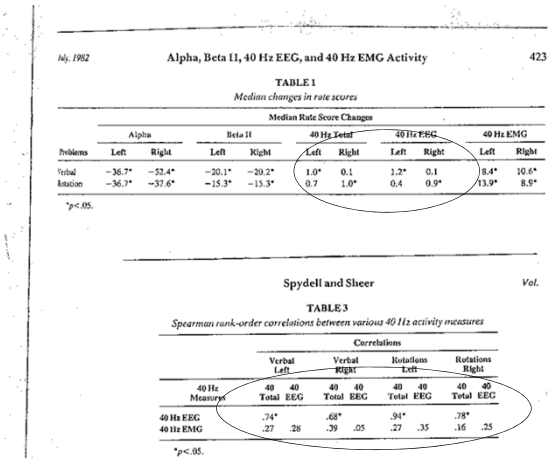
- Loring & Sheer (1984)
  - right-handed students
  - analogies task
  - spatial Task
- Results transformed into laterality ratios:
  - (L-R)/(L+R) 40 Hz
  - higher # => greater LH activity (P3-O1-T5 triangle vs P4-02-T6 triangle);
- Results
  - greatest variability during baseline
  - smallest variability and greatest LH activation during verbal
  - no laterality effects in the 40Hz EMG bands

Laterality of 40 Hz



Controlling for EMG contributions

- Spydell & Sheer (1982)
  - used similar tasks and found similar results
  - using conservative controls for muscle artifact



July, 1982 Alpha, Beta II, 40 Hz EEG, and 40 Hz EMG Activity 423

TABLE 1
Median changes in rate scores

	Median Rate Score Changes									
	Alpha		Beta II		40 Hz Total		40 Hz EEG		40 Hz EMG	
Problems	Left	Right	Left	Right	Left	Right	Left	Right	Left	Right
Verbal	−36.7*	−52.4*	−20.1*	−20.2*	1.0*	0.1	1.2*	0.1	8.4*	10.6*
Intuition	−36.7*	−37.6*	−15.3*	−15.3*	0.7	1.0*	0.4	0.9*	13.9*	8.5*

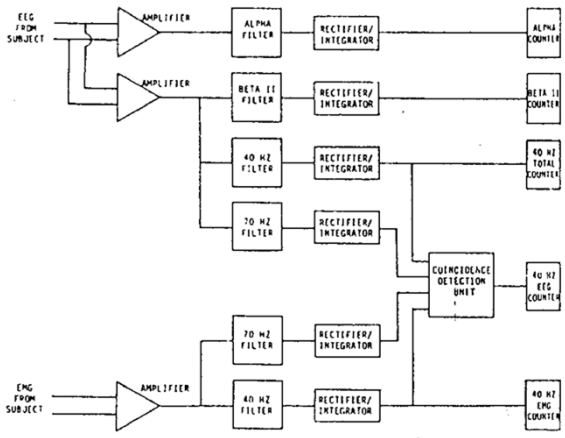
*$p < .05$.

Spydell and Sheer Vol.

TABLE 3
Spearman rank-order correlations between various 40 Hz activity measures

	Correlations							
	Verbal Left		Verbal Right		Rotations Left		Rotations Right	
40 Hz Measures	40 Total	40 EEG	40 Total	40 EEG	40 Total	40 EEG	40 Total	40 EEG
40 Hz EEG	.74*		.68*		.94*		.78*	
40 Hz EMG	.27	.28	.39	.05	.27	.35	.16	.25

*$p < .05$.

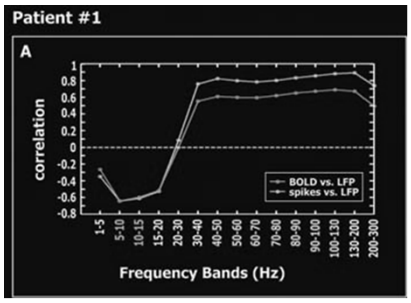


Individual Differences

- Spydell & Sheer (1983), Alzheimers
  - controls showed task related changes in EEG with appropriate lateralization
  - Alz did not
- Schnyer & Allen (1995)
  - Most highly hypnotizable subjects showed enhanced 40 hz activity

So this is exciting, why didn't this work take off immediately?

- The EMG concern
  - The concern is likely over-rated (recall **Table 3**)
- Sheer died
- But not all is lost, as there is renewed interest…



Mukamel et al *Science* 2005
recorded single unit activity and local field potentials in auditory cortex of two neurosurgical patients and compared them with the fMRI signals of 11 healthy subjects during presentation of an identical movie segment. The predicted fMRI signals derived from single units and the measured fMRI signals from auditory cortex showed a highly significant correlation.

Singer (1993)

- Revitalized interest in the field

The Binding Problem

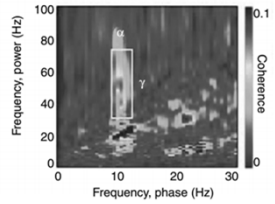
- Potentially infinite number of things and ideas that we may attempt to represent within the CNS
  - Cells code for limited sets of features,
  - These must somehow be integrated
  - -- the so-called binding problem
- If there exists a cell for a unique contribution of attributes, then convergent information from many cells could converge on such a cell
  - But there are a finite # of cells and interconnections
- And even the billions and billions of cells we have cannot conceivably handle the diversity of representations

The Functional Perspective -- as yet merely a theory

- There is no site of integration
  - Integration is achieved through simultaneous activation of an assembly of neurons distributed across a wide variety of cortical areas
  - Neurons in such assemblies must be able to adaptively identify with other neurons within the assembly while remaining distinct from other neurons in other assemblies
  - This association with other neurons is through a temporal code of firing (Synchronicity)
    - This even allows for the possibility that a single neuron could be part of two active assemblies (via a multitasking procedure)

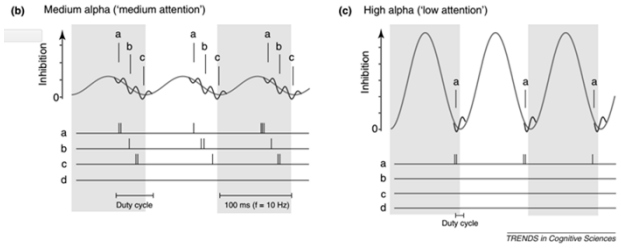
Implications

- Also allows for the possibility that there exists no direct neuronal connection between neurons within an assembly
  - merely the fact that they are simultaneously activated that makes the unified experience of the object possible
- Yet what can synchronize these oscillations?



Jensen et al, *TICS*, 2012

Implications – Alpha as a synchronization mechanism



Jensen et al, *TICS*, 2012

Functional Role of Gamma Synchronization

- Feedforward coincidence detection
  - To summate effectively, signals must arrive at post-synaptic neuron from multiple sources within msec of each other (else decay)
  - Gamma-band synchronization can lead to temporal focusing of inputs from multiple and distributed pre-synaptic neurons
- Rhythmic Input Gain Modulation
  - Excitatory input is most effective when it arrives out of phase with inhibitory input and vice versa
  - Allows for precision and efficiency of signal transmission (or inhibition)

Fries, 2009

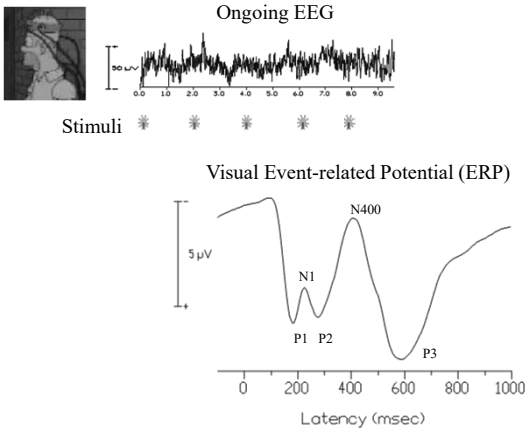
Implications

- This view is a dynamic view
  - depends on experience
  - can change with experience
- Synchronously activated units more likely to become enhanced and part of an assembly that will subsequently become synchronously activated
- Singer concludes:
  - Points out the problem of looking for synchronous activation on the micro level, suggesting that a return to the EEG literature looking for task-dependent synchronization in the gamma (aka 40 Hz) band!
- "Forty-Hz" activity is alive and well
  - "Forty" = 40 ± some range
  - Gamma! (Stay tuned during advanced topics)

The Event-Related Potential (*aka* the ERP)

Overview

Event-related potentials are patterned voltage changes embedded in the ongoing EEG that reflect a process in response to a particular event: e.g., a visual or auditory stimulus, a response, an internal event



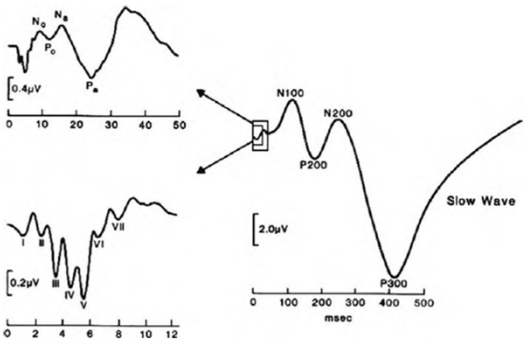
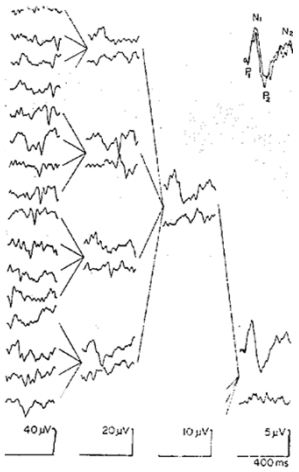


Figure 4.2. A schematic representation of ERP components elicited by auditory, infrequent target stimuli. The three panels represent three different voltage × time functions: the left bottom panel shows the very early sensory components (with a latency of less than 10 ms); the left top panel shows the middle latency sensory components (with a latency of between 10 and 50 ms); and the right panel shows late components (latency exceeding 50 ms). Note the different voltage and time scales used in the three panels, as well as the different nomenclatures used to label the peaks (components). (Adapted with permission of the author from Donchin, 1979, with kind permission of Springer Science and Business media.)

Time-locked activity and extraction by averaging



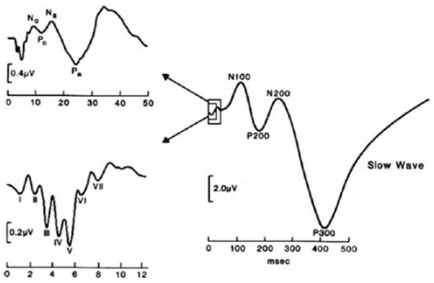
The Classic View:
Time-locked activity and extraction by signal averaging

- Ongoing activity reflects "**noise**"
- Activity that reflects processing of a given stimulus **"signal"**
- The signal-related activity can be extracted because it is **time-locked** to the presentation of the stimulus
- Signal Averaging is most common method of extracting the signal
  - Sample EEG for ~1 second after each stimulus presentation & average together across like stimuli
  - Time-locked signal emerges; noise averages to zero
  - Signal to noise ratio increases as a function of the **square root** of the number of trials in the average

What does the ERP reflect?

- May reflect sensory, motor, **and/or** cognitive events in the brain
- Reflect the synchronous and phase-locked activities of large neuronal populations engaged in information processing

Component is a "bump" or "trough"



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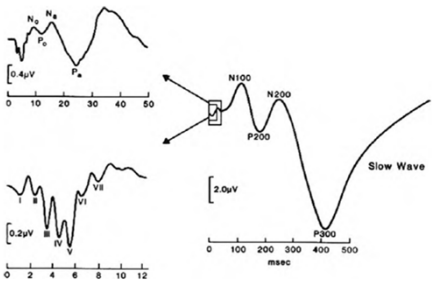
Making Meaning from the bumps

Pores o'er the Cranial map with learned eyes,
Each rising hill and bumpy knoll decries
Here secret fires, and there deep mines of sense
His touch detects beneath each prominence.

Nomenclature & Quantifying

- Most commonly label peaks and troughs by polarity (P or N) and latency at active recording site
- Quantifying
  - Amplitude
  - Latency
  - Area
  - "String" measure
  - Fancy stuff to be discussed in "advanced" topics

Component is a "bump" or "trough"



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Early Components

- Waves I-VI represent evoked activity in auditory pathways and nuclei of the brainstem
- Early components <60-100 msec
  - occur in **obligatory** fashion
  - are called **Exogenous** = determined "outside" organism
- Even subtle deviations in appearance may be indicative of pathology

Later ERP components

- Highly sensitive to changes in
  - State of organism
  - Meaning of stimulus (NOT physical characteristics)
  - Information processing demands of task
- Therefore termed **Endogenous** = determined "within" organism

Not all components fit neatly into exogenous or endogenous categories

- Both Obligatory but modulated by psychological factors
- "Mesogenous"

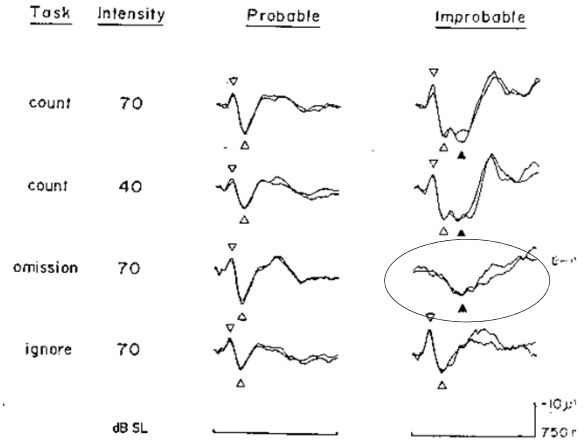
Defining Components: *aka* how do I know one when I see one?

- By positive and negative peaks at various latencies and scalp locations
- By functional associations, covarying across subjects, conditions, or scalp locations in response to experimental manipulations
- By neuronal structures that plausibly give rise to them

After Fabiani, Gratton, Federmeier, 2007

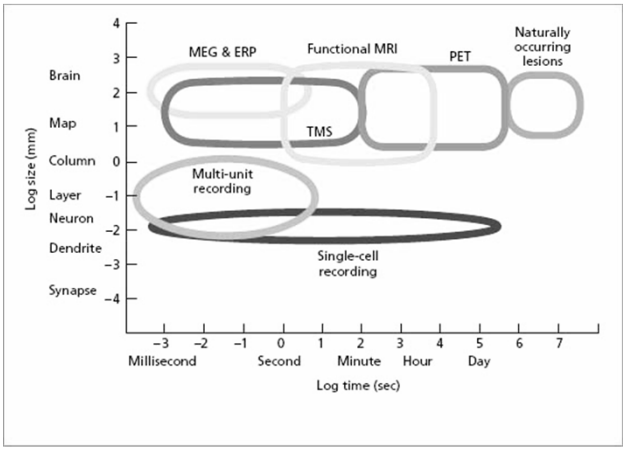
Evoked Vs Emitted ERP's

- Evoked are most commonly studied: occur in response to a physical stimulus
- Emitted potentials occur in absence of a physical stimulus (e.g., omission of item in sequence)
- Evoked can have both exogenous and endogenous components; emitted usually have only endogenous



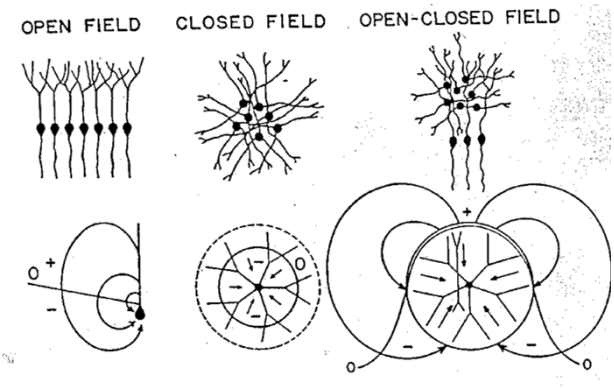
Comparison to other "windows on the brain"

- Very precise temporal resolution



Comparison to other "windows on the brain"

- Very precise temporal resolution
- Spatial localization is more difficult
  - At the surface, activity of many functional synaptic units recorded
  - ERP's generated only by groups of cells that are synchronously activated in a geometrically organized manner



After Lorente de Nó, 1947

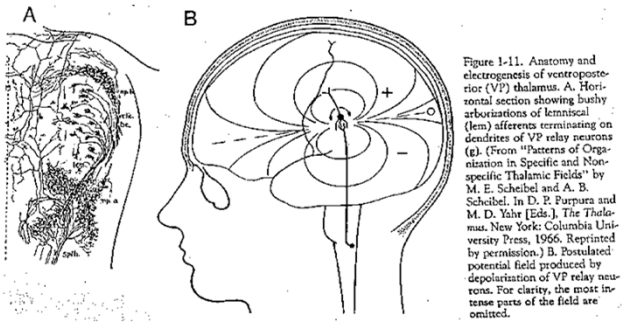


Figure 1-11. Anatomy and electrogenesis of ventroposterior (VP) thalamus. A. Horizontal section showing bushy arborizations of lemniscal (lem) afferents terminating on dendrites of VP relay neurons (g). (From "Patterns of Organization in Specific and Nonspecific Thalamic Fields" by M. E. Scheibel and A. B. Scheibel. In D. P. Purpura and M. D. Yahr [Eds.], *The Thalamus*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1966. Reprinted by permission.) B. Postulated potential field produced by depolarization of VP relay neurons. For clarity, the most intense parts of the field are omitted.

Comparison to other "windows on the brain"

- Very precise temporal resolution
- Spatial localization is more difficult
  - At the surface, activity of many functional synaptic units recorded
  - ERP's generated only by groups of cells that are synchronously activated in a geometrically organized manner
  - Synchronous activation may occur in one or more than one location
  - Monopolar recording technique most often used
  - Yet localization is not impossible in conjunction with other techniques

Caveat Emptor

- DO NOT interpret scalp distribution of ERP's as reflect cortical specialization
- Also, DO NOT interpret area of maximum amplitude to suggest that generator lies underneath

Correlate Vs substrate (AGAIN)

- Late ERP components should not be taken to indicate the existence of a neurological substrate of cognitive processing
- Rather should be considered a correlate
- Constructs in search of validation; Process of validation:
  - Determine antecedent conditions under which the ERP component appears and also magnitude and latency of ERP component
  - Develop hypotheses concerning functional significance of the "subroutine" underlying the ERP component
  - Predict consequences of subroutine--validate empirically

Basic Signal Processing

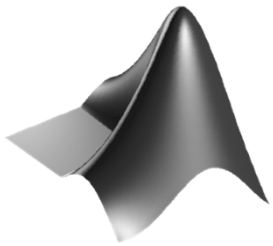
Paradigms and acquisition

- Precise temporal control over stimulus presentation necessary
  - Requires discrete stimuli or responses
- Individual stimuli are presented numerous times; ERP's generally do not habituate, unlike peripheral measures
- Concurrent with each stimulus, a signal/pulse must be sent to the A/D converter to indicate time of stimulus onset
- Sampling epochs (legacy!) vs continuously
  - Considerations for sampling epochs
    - pre-onset samples (to provide a baseline for comparison)
    - **epoch** length
- Epochs for like stimuli averaged together to create ERP for that set of stimuli

Assumptions of Averaging methods

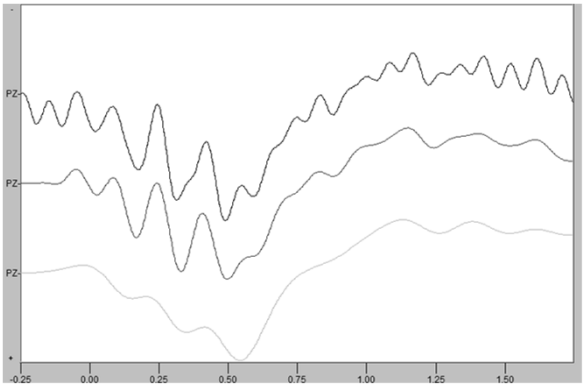
- Signal and noise (in each epoch) sum linearly together to produce the recorded waveform for each epoch (not some peculiar interaction)
- The evoked signal waveshape attributable **solely** to the stimulus is the same for each presentation
- The noise contributions can be considered to constitute statistically independent samples of a random process

Demo of Averaging

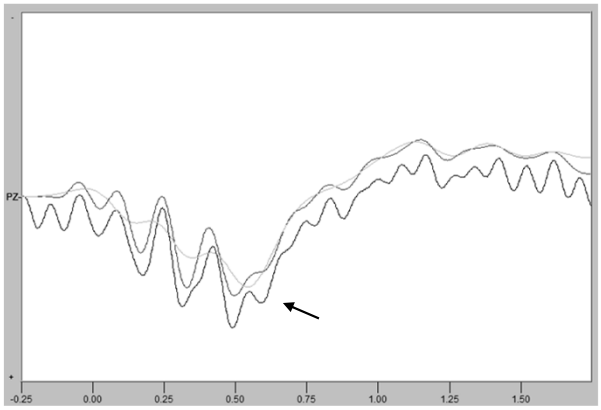


Filtering and its influence on the ERP

- Despite many trials and averaging, some noise may remain in the averaged waveform
- If you are only interested in later & slower components, then a low-pass filter may be of interest



Same ERP filtered with 12.5 (black), 8 (red) , and 5 (lime) Hz Low Pass FIR Filter

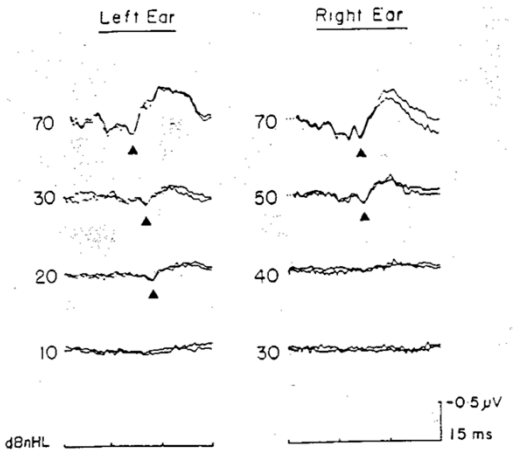


Same ERPs overlaid; note amplitude attenuation in P3 amplitude with stricter filters

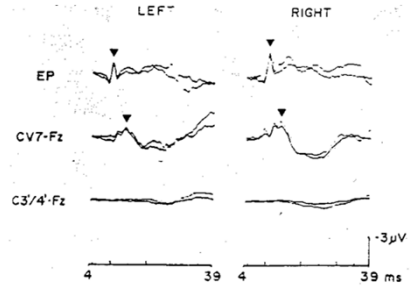
Let's ERP!

Applications of Early Components

- Neurological evaluation of sensory function; e.g. evaluation of hearing in infants
  - Tones of various dB intensities presented and V wave in auditory brainstem ERP examined
  - **Figure 10**; 4000 individual trials per average



Prediction of recovery from coma



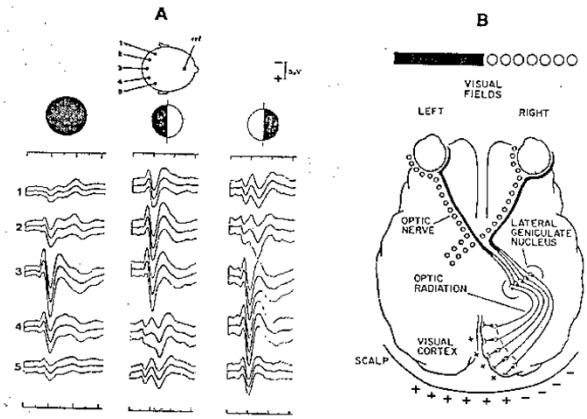
- Somatorsensory evoked potentials were recorded from a patient who was still comatose 1 week after severe closed head injury.
- Responses evoked by electrical stimulation of left and right median nerves
- Normal tracing seen at Erb's point, and from the next over vertebra prominens, but not over C3' of C4'.
- Absense of any cortical response a bad prognostic sign. Patient continued in a chronic vegetative state 1 year after accident

Inter-Hemispheric Transfer Time (IHTT)

- Hypothesized that interhemispheric transfer of information may be abnormal in various disorders (e.g., dyslexia)
- Reaction Time measures contain too much variability not related to Transfer Time
- ERP early components appear promising as a measure of time required to transfer information between hemispheres

IHTT Study (Saron)

- Checkerboards subtending < 1 degree of visual angle presented 2.9 degrees from center
- ERP's recorded at O1 and O2
- Problem of lateralization and Paradoxical results possible; parafoveal regions on banks of calcarine fissure
- P100 wave latency examined; earlier latency in occiput contralateral to presentation
  - Measured by peak picking procedure
  - Also by cross-lagged correlation technique
  - Both methods suggest ~15 millisecond IHTT; found to be in expected direction predicted by anatomy for over 90% of subjects
  - Reaction time data from same task showed no reliable differences



P1, N1, and Attention

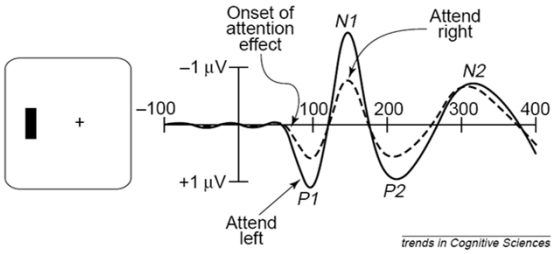


Fig. 1. Paradigm for using ERPs to study attention. Stimulus display (left) and idealized results (right). Subjects fixate a central cross and attend either to the left or right visual field. Stimuli are then presented to the left and right visual fields in a rapid sequence. In this example, the ERP elicited by a left visual field stimulus contains larger P1 and N1 components when the stimulus is attended ('Attend left') than when it is ignored ('Attend right').

From Luck et al, *TICS*, 2000

More than Spatial Directed Attention

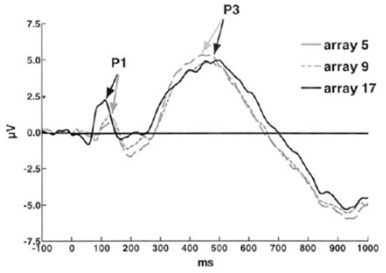


Fig. 2. Grand averaged visual ERPs at Pz electrode for the 3 array sizes, showing the shorter latencies, larger P1s for array size 17, but longer latency P3 (dark arrows) than for array sizes 5 and 9 (grey arrows). These are averaged across colour, orientation and conjunction conditions, as this ERP effect was seen regardless of whether it was a single feature or conjunction trial.

Increases stimulus complexity results in more rapid early processing

Note:
Amplitude of P1
Latency of P1
Latency of N1

Taylor
Clinical Neurophys
2002

More than Spatial Directed Attention

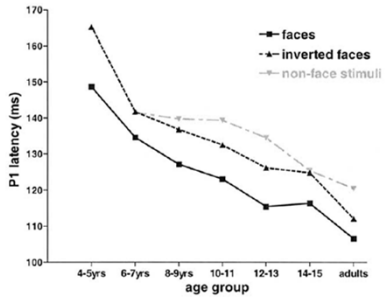
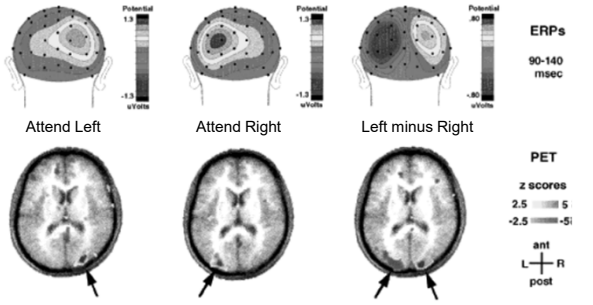


Fig. 3. Mean P1 latencies across 7 age groups, showing the consistently shorter latencies to faces compared to inverted faces and control stimuli (phase-scrambled faces and flowers). There were 15 children in each of the 6 age groups and 38 adults (adapted from Taylor et al., 2001c).

Taylor
Clinical Neurophys
2002

"These combined PET/ERP data therefore provide strong evidence that sustained visual spatial attention results in a preset, top-down biasing of the early sensory input channels in a retinotopically organized way"



Woldorff et al., *Human Brain Mapping*, 1997

Prelude to Advance Topic: Source Localization

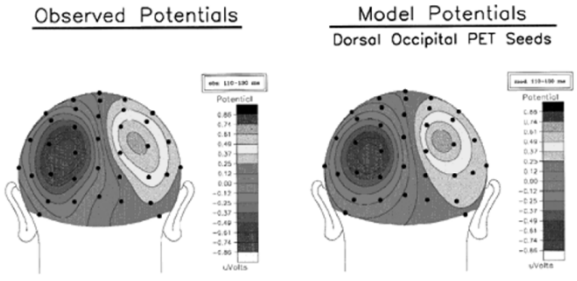
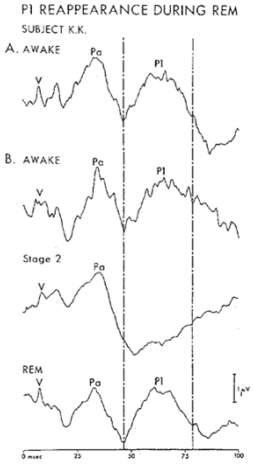


Figure 3.
Left: Observed potential distributions in the attend-left-minus-attend-right difference waves at the peak of the P1 attention effect (110–130 msec). **Right:** Corresponding model potential distributions seeded by the dorsal occipital PET foci, which provided an excellent fit to the P1 effect (residual variance 2%).



P1 and Sleep

Note P1 disappears in Stage 2 sleep, but reemerges in REM sleep

Construct Validity of P300 (P3, P3b)

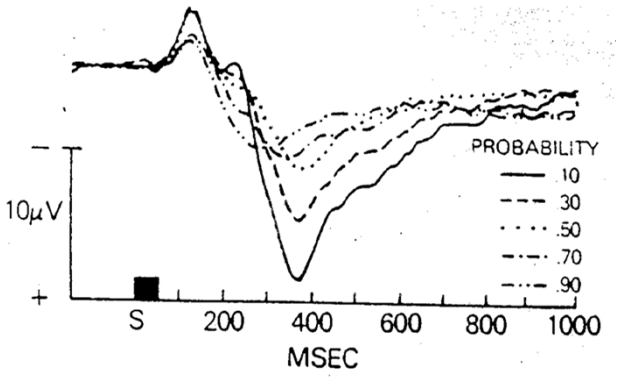
- First observed by Sutton, Braren, Zubin, & John (1965)
- P300 Amplitude; Johnson's model is

  P300 Amplitude = *f*[T x (1/P + M)]

  where
  - P = probability of occurrence,
  - M = Stimulus meaning, &
  - T = amount of information transmitted

Aspects of the Model

- Rarity
  - The P300 is observed in variants of the "oddball paradigm"
  - The rare stimulus almost invariantly elicits a P300: largest at parietal, then central, and then frontal sites
  - **Subjective probability**
- Stimulus meaning
  - Actually composed of three dimensions
    - task complexity
    - stimulus complexity
    - stimulus value
- Information Transmission (proportion 0 to 1; example)



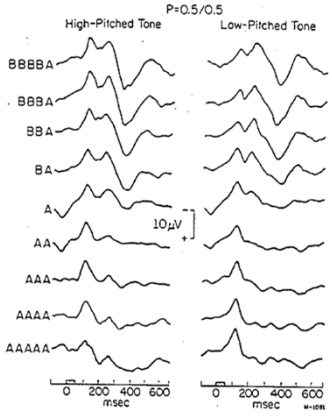


Figure 12-1. The ERPs in each column were elicited by the same physical tone; high-pitched tones were used for the left column and low-pitched tones for the right column. Both were presented in a Bernoulli series in which the probability of the two stimuli were equal. In the middle of each column (labeled "A") is the ERP elicited by all the presentations of the stimulus. The curve labeled "AA" was obtained by averaging together all the tones of one frequency that were preceded on the previous trial by tones of the same frequency. On the other hand, the curves labeled "BA" were elicited by stimuli preceded on the previous trial by the tones of different frequency. Similar sorting operations were applied to all other curves in this figure. It can be seen that the same physical tone elicited quite different ERPs, depending on the events that occurred on the preceding trials. Whenever a tone terminated a series of tones from the other category, a large P300 was elicited, and its magnitude was a function of the length of the stimulus series. (From "Effect of Stimulus Sequence on the Waveform of the Cortical Event-Related Potential," by K. C. Squires, C. D. Wickens, N. K. Squires, and E. Donchin. *Science*, 1976, 193, 1142–1146. Copyright 1976 by the AAAS.

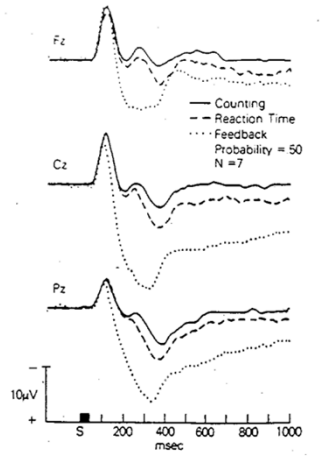


Figure 2. Grand-mean waveforms (N = 7) from F_Z, C_Z, and P_Z from three different tasks. The ERPs elicited in an oddball paradigm run under two different task conditions, Counting (solid line) and Reaction Time (dashed line), are superimposed on the ERP elicited when the same stimulus signified correct performance in a feedback paradigm (dotted line). The waveforms were all elicited by a 1000 Hz, 50dB SL tone ($p = .50$).

Information Transmission

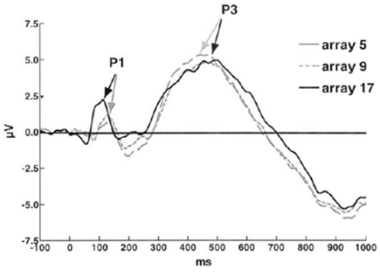
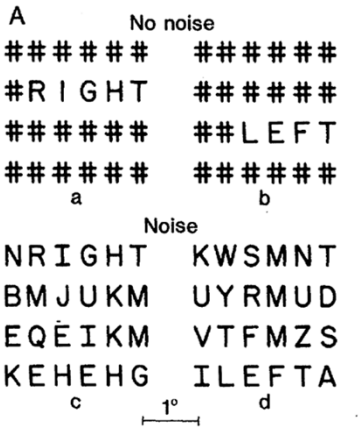


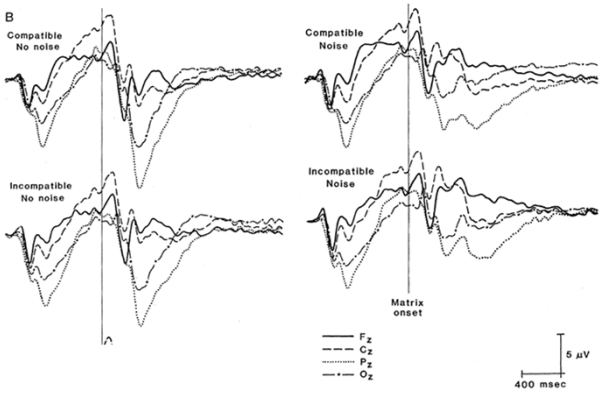
Fig. 2. Grand averaged visual ERPs at Pz electrode for the 3 array sizes, showing the shorter latencies, larger P1s for array size 17, but longer latency P3 (dark arrows) than for array sizes 5 and 9 (grey arrows). These are averaged across colour, orientation and conjunction conditions, as this ERP effect was seen regardless of whether it was a single feature or conjunction trial.

Taylor
Clinical Neurophys
2002

P3 Latency

- An index of processing time, independent of response requirements
  - RT measures confounds the two
  - McCarthy & Donchin (1981) experiment:
    - The words "RIGHT" or "LEFT" embedded in a matrix of letters of X's
    - Compatible condition: respond with hand indicated in matrix; Incompatible condition: respond with opposite hand (e.g., LEFT signals right hand response);
    - Results:
      - P300 latency delayed when discriminability more difficult
      - Response compatibility had no effect on P300 latency
      - **Note amplitude reduction as function of noise--information transmission)**





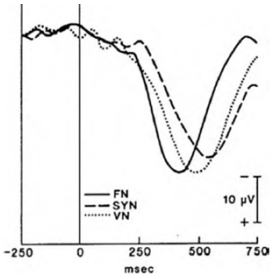


Figure 4.10. ERP waveforms at Pz averaged across subjects for three different semantic categorization tasks. The solid line indicates ERPs obtained during a task in which the subjects had to distinguish between the word DAVID and the word NANCY (the FN condition). The dotted line indicates ERPs obtained during a task in which the subjects had to decide whether a word presented was a male or a female name (the VN condition). The dashed line indicates ERPs obtained during a task in which the subjects had to decide whether a word was or was not a synonym of the word PROD (SYN condition). These three tasks were considered to involve progressively more difficult discriminations. Note the latency of P300 peak is progressively longer as the discrimination is made more difficult. (Copyright 1977, AAAS. Adapted with permission of the author and publisher from Kutas, McCarthy, & Donchin, 1977.)

Not only difficulty in physical discrimination, but difficulty in cognitive categorization

Construct Validity?

- What, then, does the P300 mean in very general terms?
  - A stimulus (or class of stimuli) is "important"; denotes information that is necessary or useful to the task
  - Stimulus is meaningful, important, noticeable
  - Evaluated within context of working memory? (cf. Donchin & Coles, 1988; Verlager 1988; Polich, 2007; Verlager, 2008)
- The P3a (Squires, Squires, and Hillyard, 1975): P3-like component with a frontal maximum and occurs to improbable stimuli in the "to-be-ignored" class of stimuli; a novelty response.

How Many P3s?

- The Classic P3/P300
  - Parietal Central Maximum
  - Largest when stimuli rare and task-relevant
- The P3a (Squires et al., 1975) or Novelty P3 (Courchesne et al., 1975)
  - More anterior scalp distribution
  - Slightly earlier latency
  - Responsive to rare, unexpected, unattended stimuli

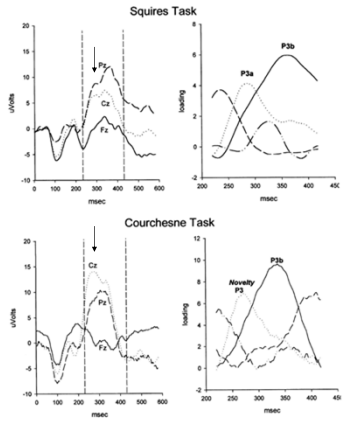


Fig. 1. ERP waveforms (left) and PCA basis waves (right) obtained from infrequent targets during the Squires (top) task and infrequent nontargets/novels during the Courchesne (bottom) task. PCA was conducted during the 220–420 ms epoch following stimulus onset and four factors were extracted from each data set.

Simons et. al, 2001

•Squires Task was tones (two tones)
•Courchesne task was digitized speech ("me" "you" and collection of naturally occurring sounds
•In all cases subjects merely counted Tones

P3a – Can you see it?

- Some inconsistencies in finding P3a following the initial Squires, Squires and Hilyard 1975 report
- Comerchero & Polich (1998) may have resolved the enigma
  - P3a highly dependent on foreground discrimination

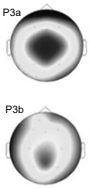
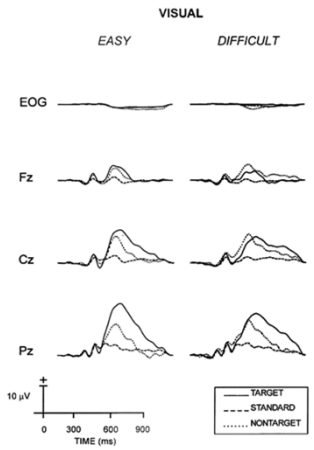


Table 1
Stimulus type (probability) for each task condition and modality (auditory = frequency and intensity, visual = area and shape-color)

Modality	Auditory		Visual	
Nontarget distinctiveness	Low	High	Low	High
Target (0.10)	2000 Hz	2000 Hz	12.57 cm^2	12.57 cm^2
	75 dB	75 dB	● Blue	● Blue
Standard (0.80)	1940 Hz	1940 Hz	10.18 cm^2	10.18 cm^2
	75 dB	75 dB	● Blue	● Blue
Nontarget (0.10)	500 Hz	4000 Hz	12.57 cm^2	12.57 cm^2
	75 dB	90 dB	■ Blue	■ Fuchsia



Note: Nontarget peak amplitude was earlier and larger at the frontal electrodes than those from the target stimuli, but especially when foreground discrimination is difficult

Comerchero & Polich (1998), *Clinical Neurophysiology*

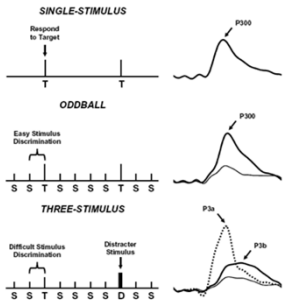


Fig. 1. Schematic illustration of the single-stimulus (top), oddball (middle), and three-stimulus (bottom) paradigms, with the elicited ERPs from the stimuli of each task at the right (Polich and Criado, 2006). The single-stimulus task presents an infrequent target (T) in the absence of any other stimuli. The oddball task presents two different stimuli in a random sequence, with one occurring less frequently than the other (target = T, standard = S). The three-stimulus task is similar to the oddball with a compelling distracter (D) stimulus that occurs infrequently. In each task, the subject is instructed to respond only to the target and otherwise to refrain from responding. The distracter elicits a P3a, and target elicits a P3b (P300). Reprinted with permission of the authors and from Elsevier (Copyright 2006).

Polich, *Clin Neurophys*, 2007

Synopsis

"…the manipulation of target-standard stimulus discriminability produced a stimulus environment in which the infrequently occurring nontarget engaged focal attention in a manner similar to that observed previously for 'novel' stimuli."

"However, all stimuli in the present study were employed because of their 'typical' characteristics, so that the results imply that an anterior P3a component can be produced without using 'novel' stimuli per se."

"If stimulus context is defined primarily by a difficult targetrstandard discrimination, attentional redirection to the nontarget would occur because of the frontal lobe activation that generates P3a."

Comerchero & Polich 1998, p. 47