Investigating the physiological and behavioral effects of transcranial alternating current stimulation (tACS)

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Goal

To demonstrate reliable behavioral effects of phase-matched transcranial alternating current stimulation (tACS).

Behavioral Task



Participants (n=18) performed a perceptual attention task, involving

a flickering stimuli to induce steady state visually evoked potentials



* Joint decorrelation, de Cheveigné, A., & Parra, L. C. (2014)

Matching phase of SSVEP and tACS is difficult!

PRE

POST



Before Timing Correction

SSVEP phase



After Timing Correction

SSVEP phase



Record EEG

(SSVEPs).

Record EEG

15Hz tACS was delivered while the participants performed the behavioral task, in the STIM block. In the PRE and POST blocks, EEG data were recorded during the behavioral task.

Montage to target Visual Cortex







No behavioral effects of online tACS



Phase difference between tACS and SSVEP were estimated for each trial. Trials were binned based on the phase difference values, into 0°, 90°, 180°, and 270°. No significant differences in percent correct values were found between various phase difference values.



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