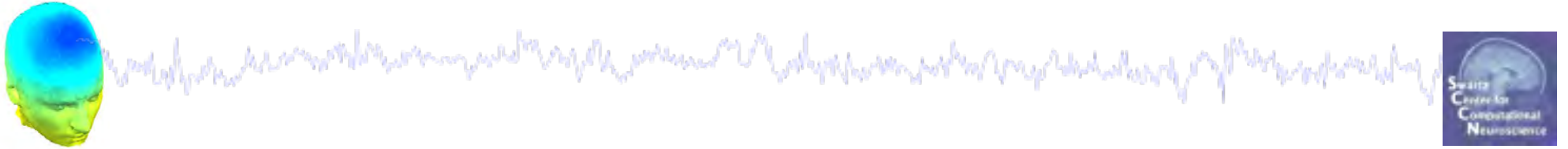


# **Time-frequency decomposition**

## **Theory and Practice**

EEGLAB Workshop XX  
Sheffield, England  
Day 3, 9:00-10:45

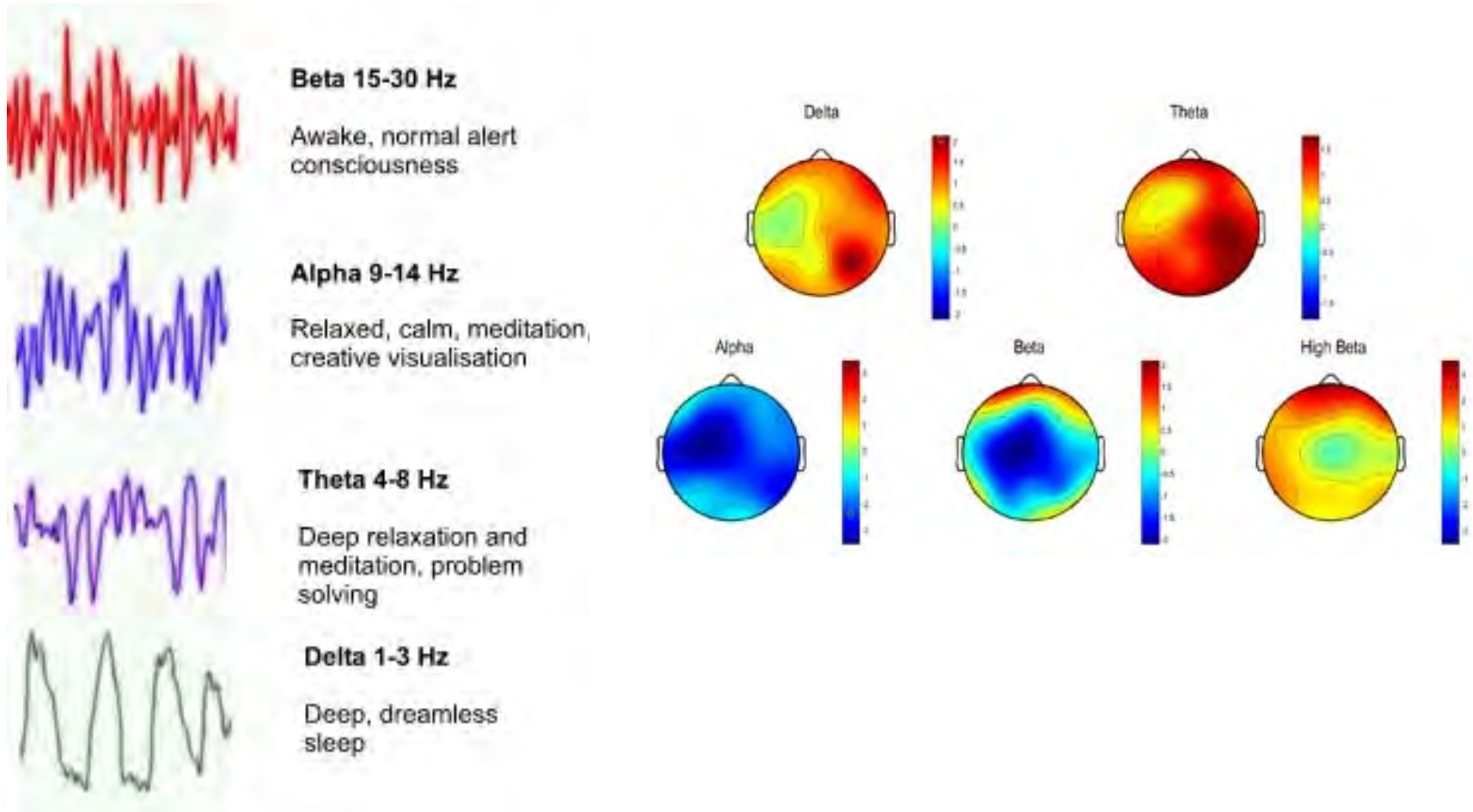
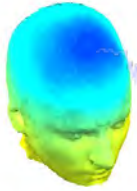




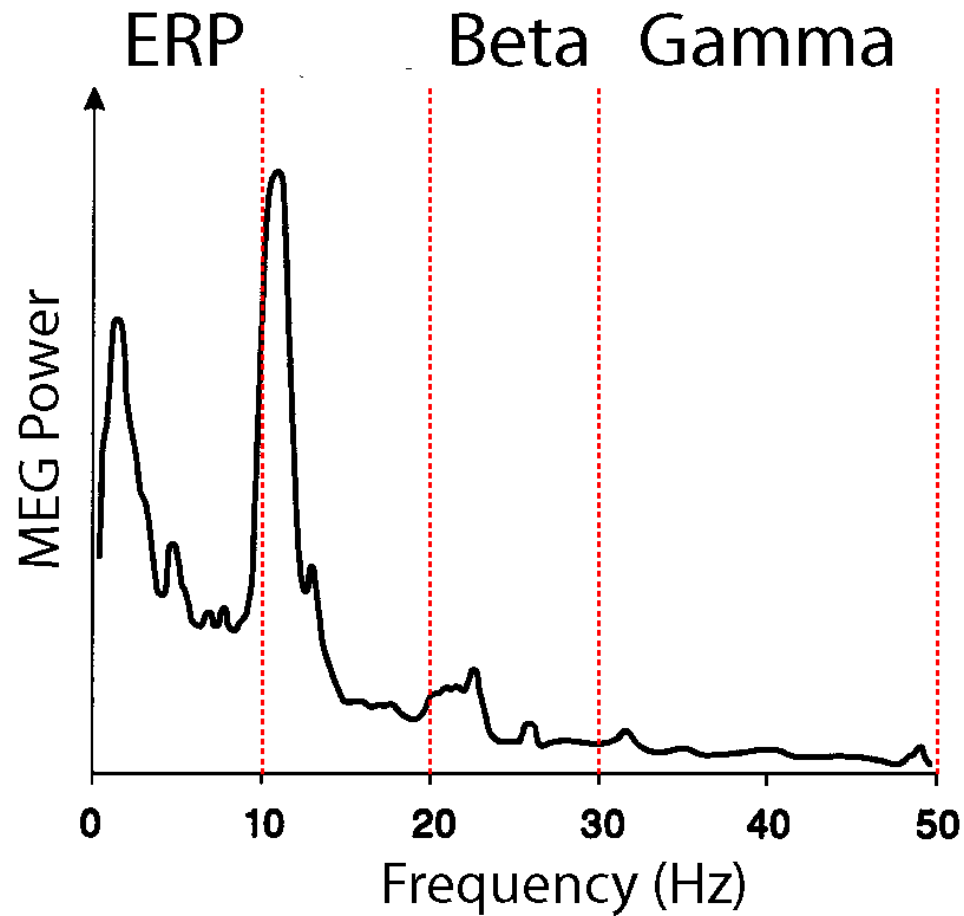
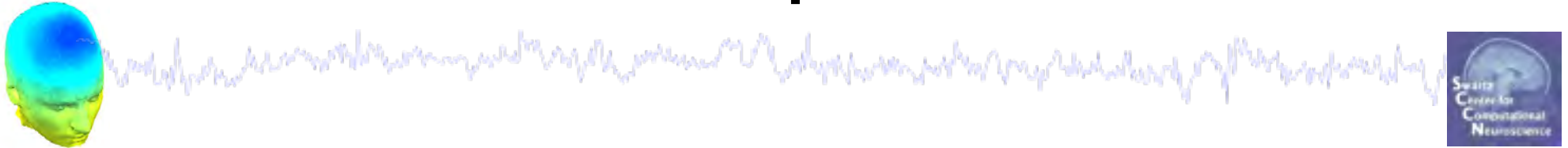
- Signals – EEG
- Goals
  - Describe dynamic characteristics of brain activity
  - Describe relation between different regions of brain
- Approaches
  - Time domain
  - Frequency domain
  - Time/Frequency



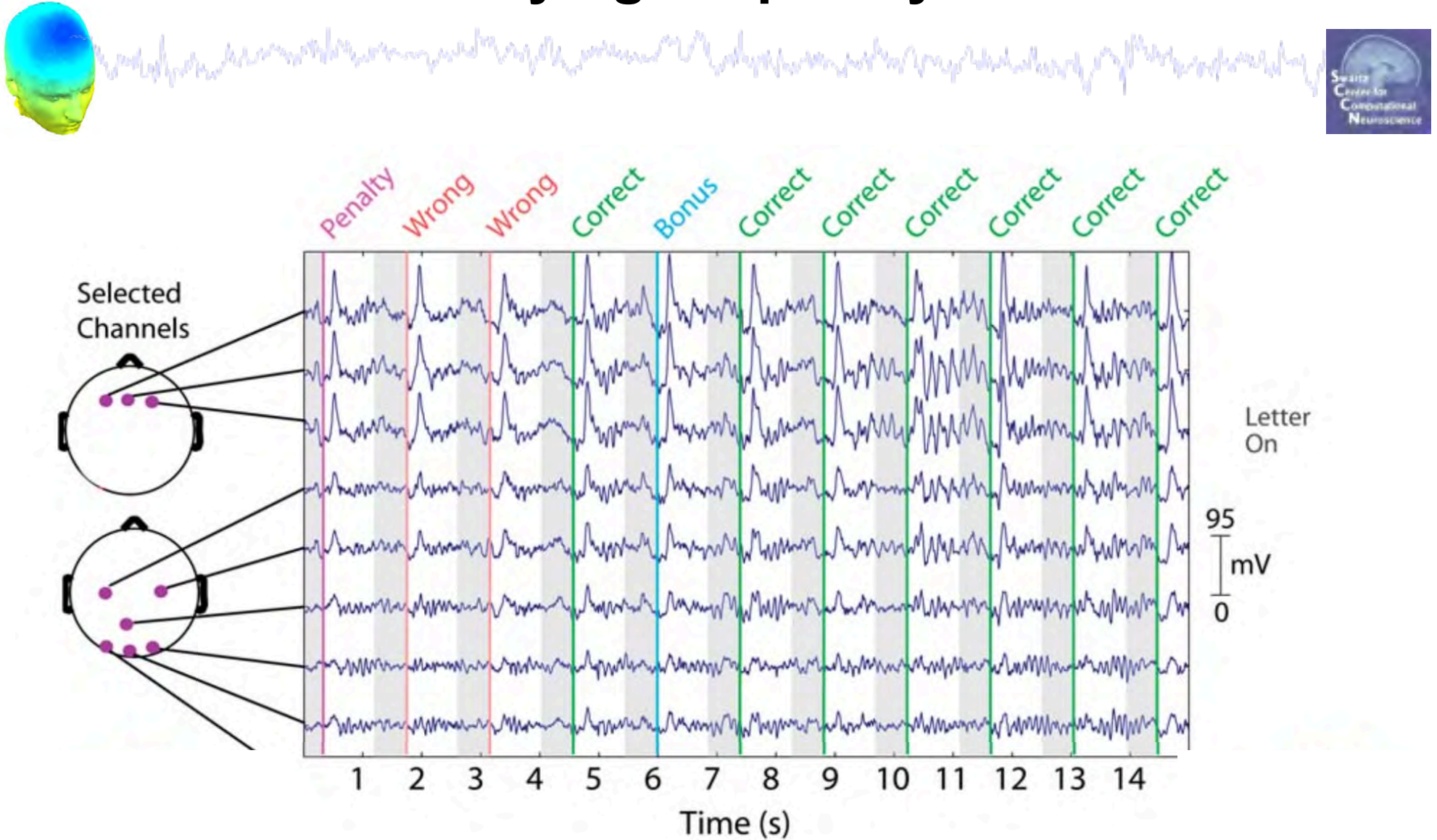
# Different meanings traditionally given to different frequency bands



# MEEG spectrum

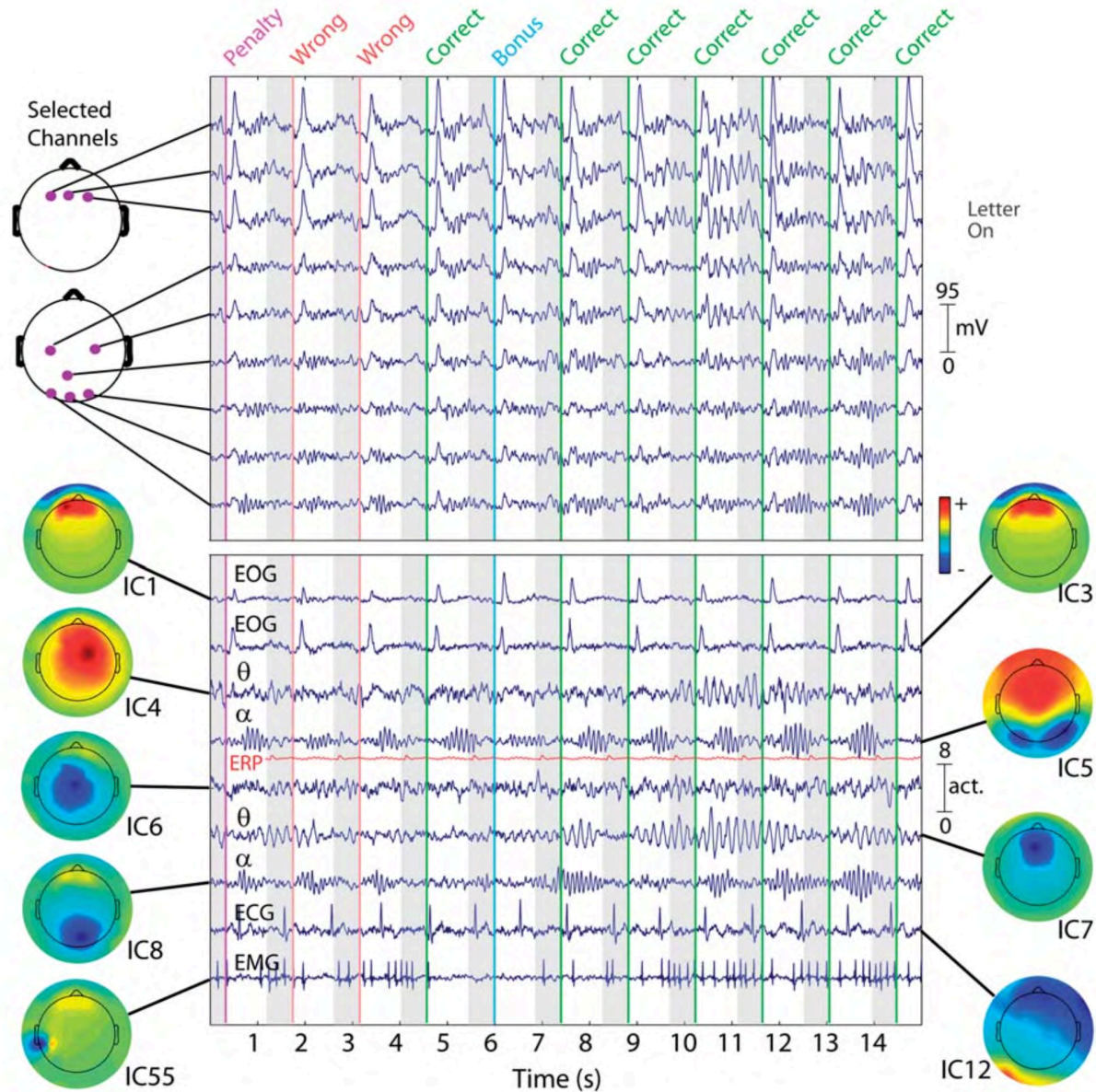
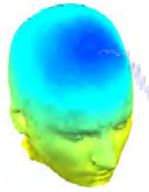


# Time varying frequency content



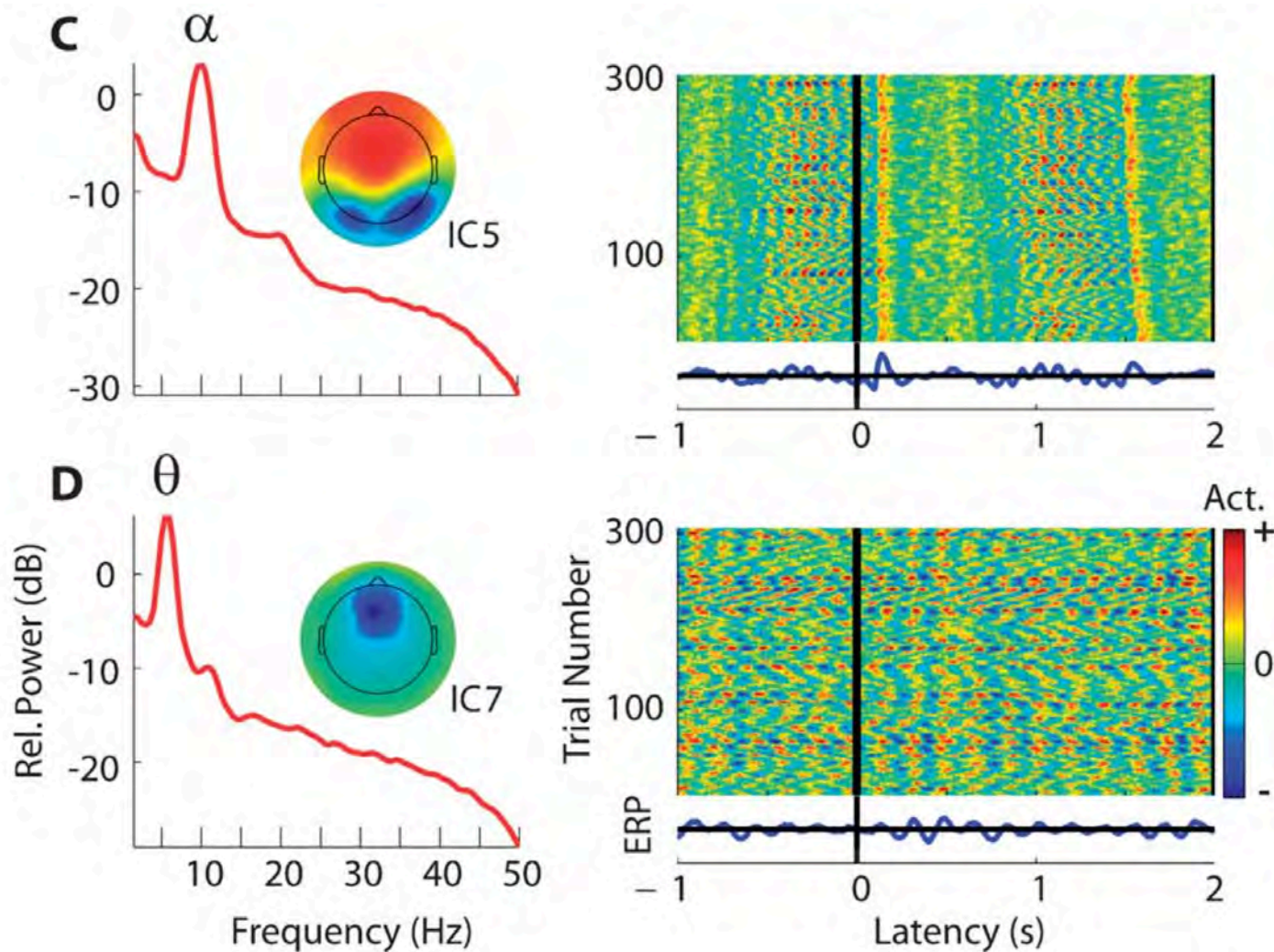
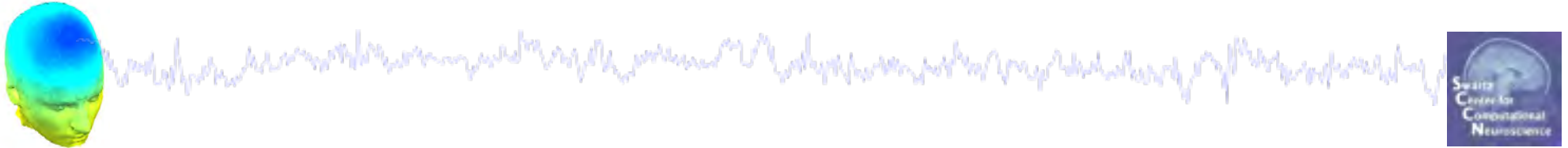


# Time-varying frequency content



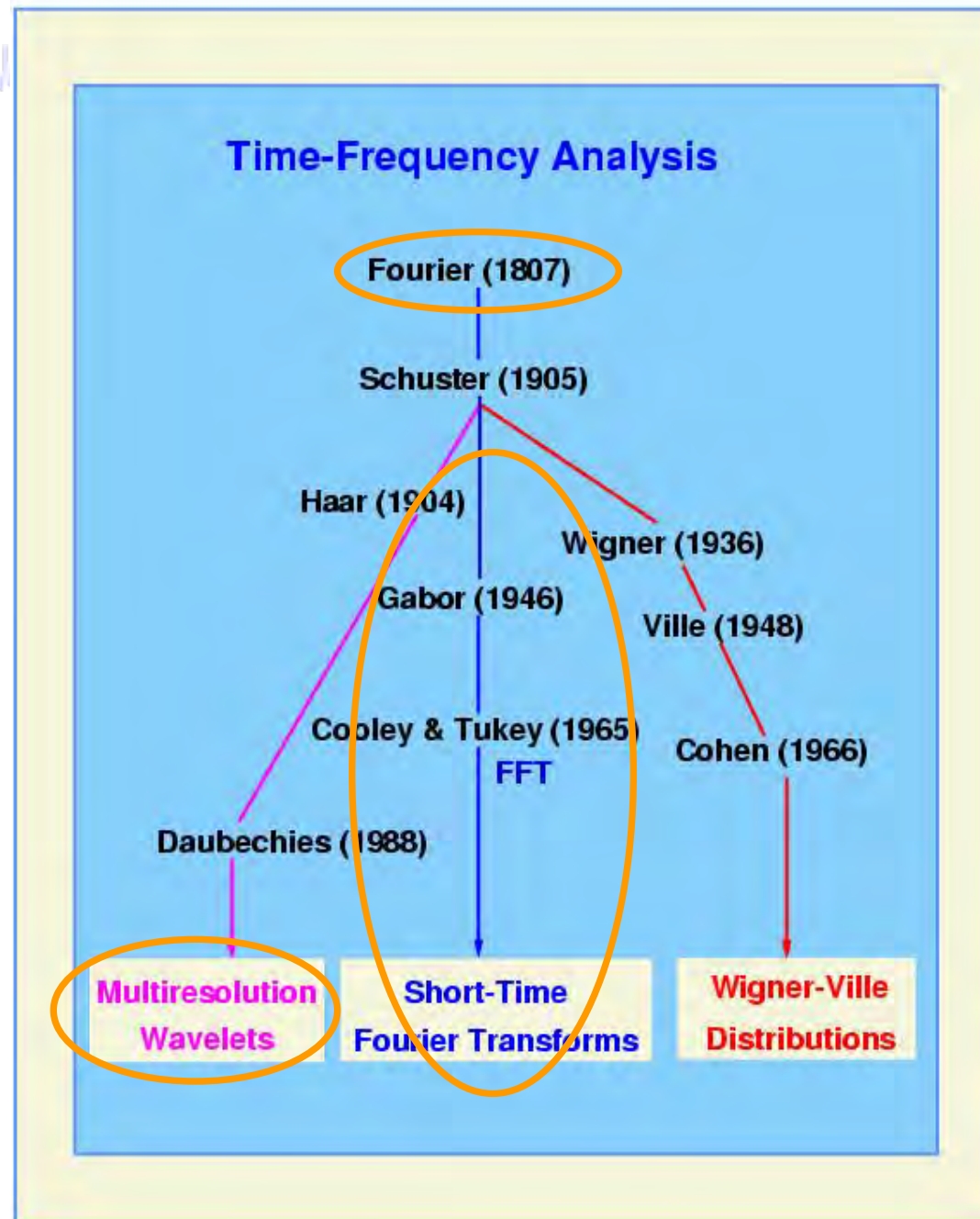
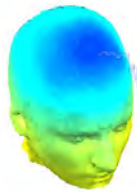
Onton & Makeig, 2006

# Power Spectrum does not describe temporal variation



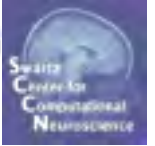
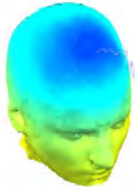
Onton & Makeig, 2006







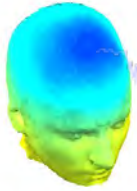
# Plan



- Part 1: Frequency Analysis
  - Power Spectrum
    - Approaches
      - FFT
      - Welch's Method
    - Windowing
- Part 2: Time-Frequency Analysis
  - Short Time Fourier Transform
  - Wavelet Transform
  - ERSP
- Part 3: Coherence Analysis
  - Inter-Trial Coherence
  - Event-Related Coherence



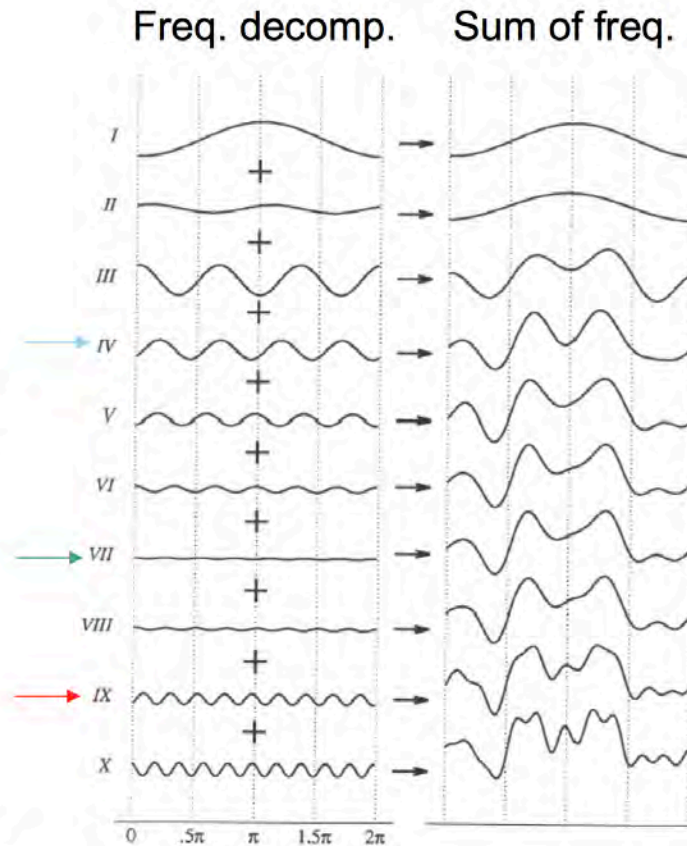
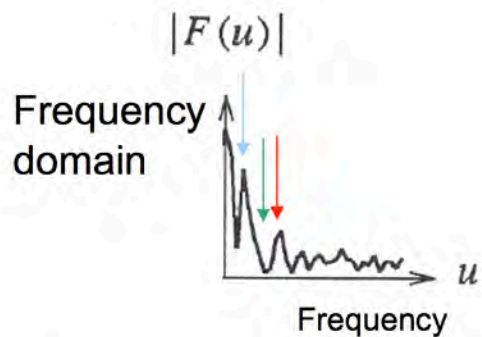
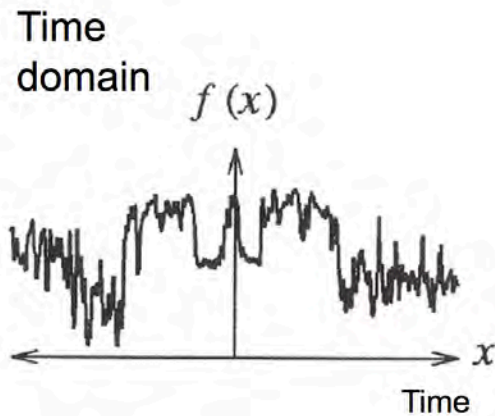
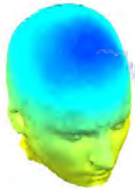
# Part 1: Frequency Analysis



- Goal: What frequencies are present in signal?
- What is power at each frequency?
- Principle: Fourier Analysis



# Fourier Analysis



Forward transform

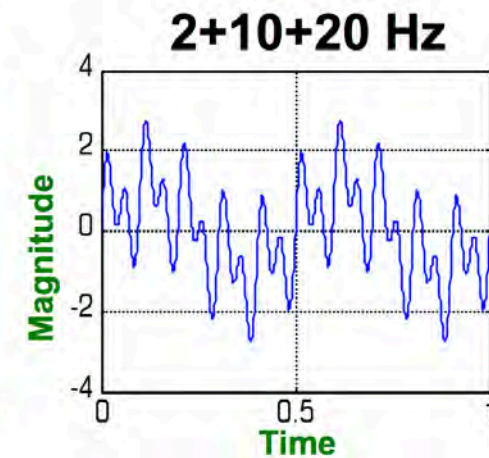
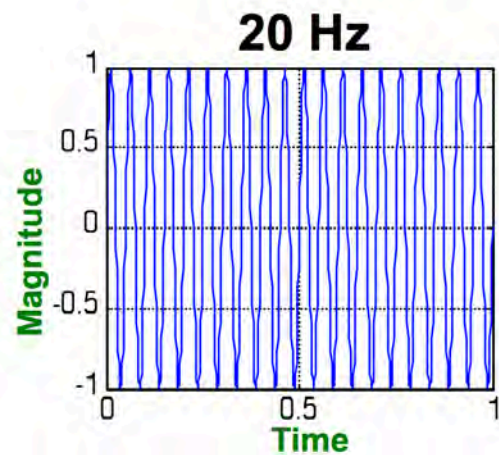
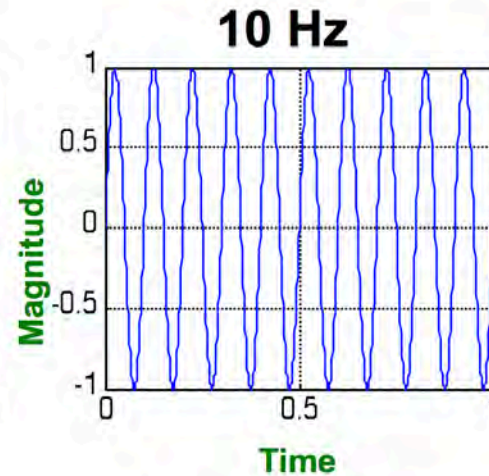
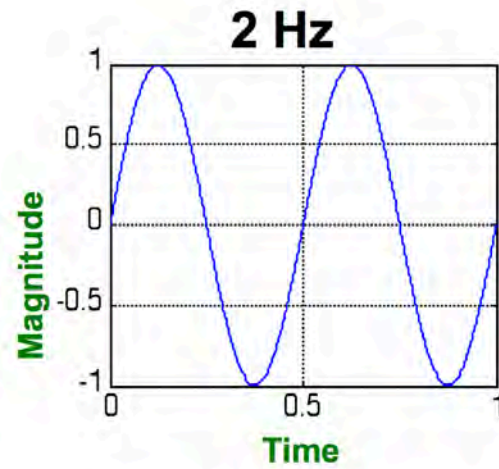
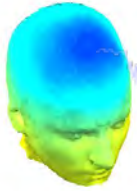
$$F(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-2\pi i u x} dx$$

Inverse transform

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u) e^{2\pi i u x} du$$

Figure, courtesy of Ravi Ramamoorthi & Wolberg

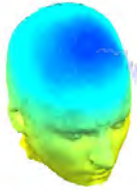
# “Stationary” sinusoidal signals



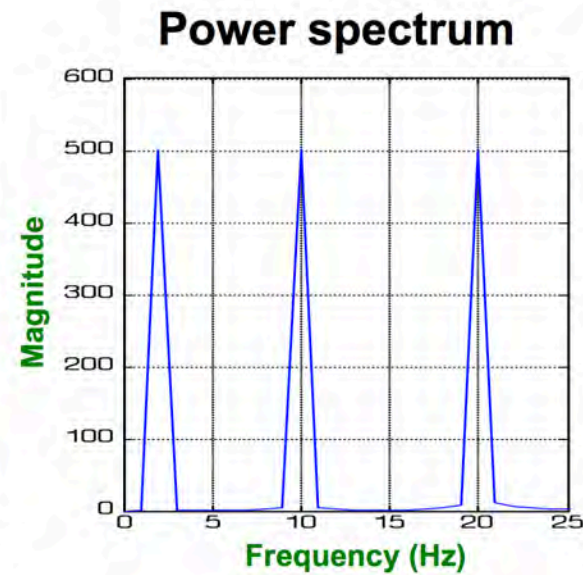
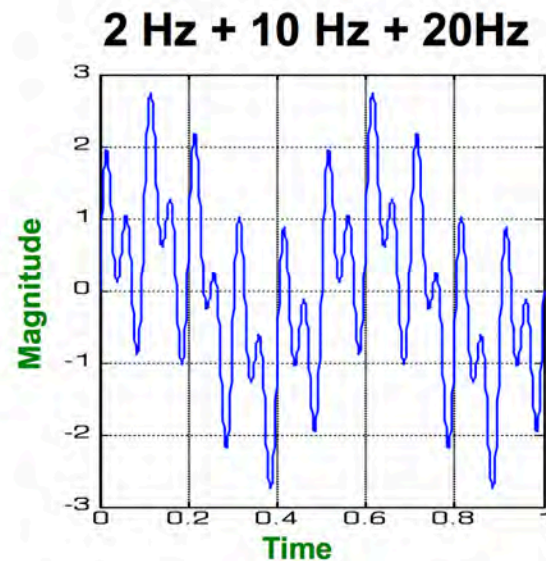
Slide courtesy of Petros Xanthopoulos, Univ. of Florida



# Simplest case of frequency analysis



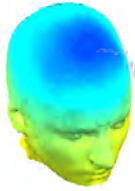
**Stationary**



By looking at the Power spectrum of the signal we can recognize three frequency Components (at 2,10,20Hz respectively).

Slide courtesy of Petros Xanthopoulos, Univ. of Florida

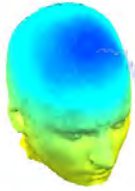
# Power Spectrum. Approach 1: FFT



- Why not just take FFT of our signal of interest?
- Advantage – fine frequency resolution
  - $\Delta F = 1 / \text{signal duration (s)}$
  - E.g. 100s signal has 0.01 Hz resolution
  - But, do we really need this?
- Disadvantage – bias and variance
  - Solution: e.g. Welch's method
- Disadvantage – no temporal resolution
  - Solution 1: Short-Time Fourier Transform



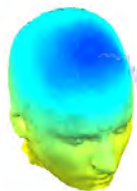
# Amplitude and phase



- Power spectra describe the *amount* of a given frequency present
- NOT a complete description of a signal: We also must know the *phase* at each frequency
- FFT/STFT/Wavelet return an amplitude and phase at each time and frequency (represented as complex #).
- To find power, we compute the magnitude, which discards phase.



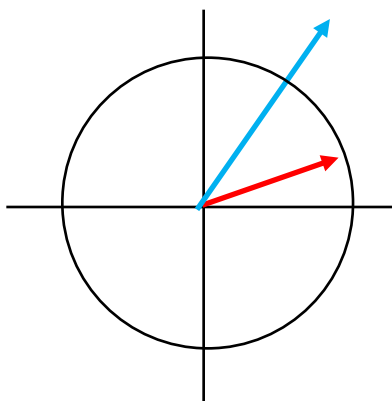
# Phasor representation



- A complex number  $x + yi$  can be expressed in terms of amplitude and phase:  $ae^{i\theta}$

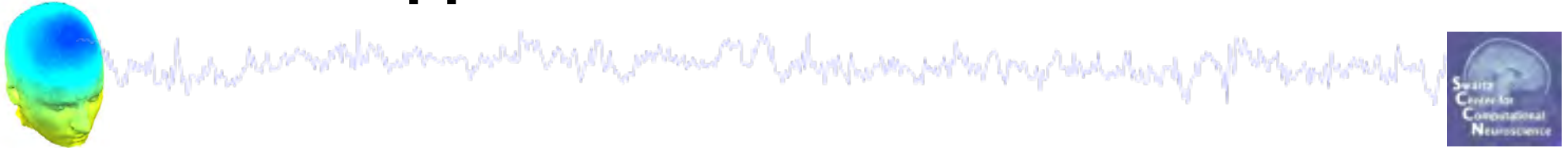
*amplitude \* exp(i\*phase)*

*amplitude = sqrt(x^2 + y^2);    phase = atan(y/x);*





# Approach 2: Welch's Method



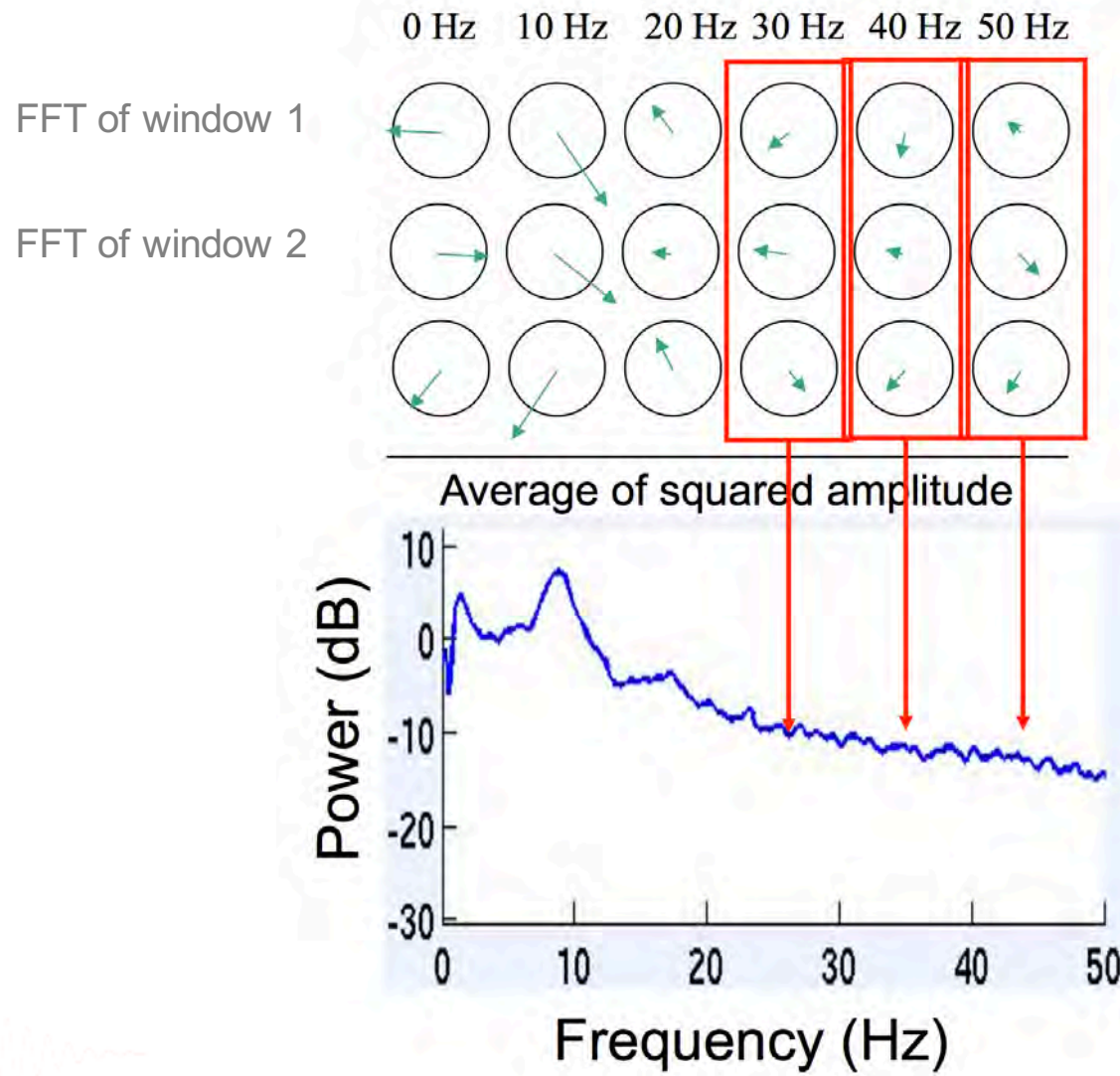
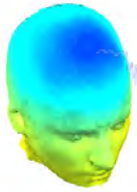
Calculate power spectrum of short windows, average.

Advantage: Smoother estimate of power spectrum

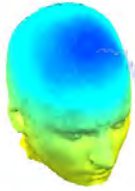
Frequency resolution set by window length

e.g. 1s window  $\rightarrow$  1 Hz resolution

In practice: taper, don't use rectangular window

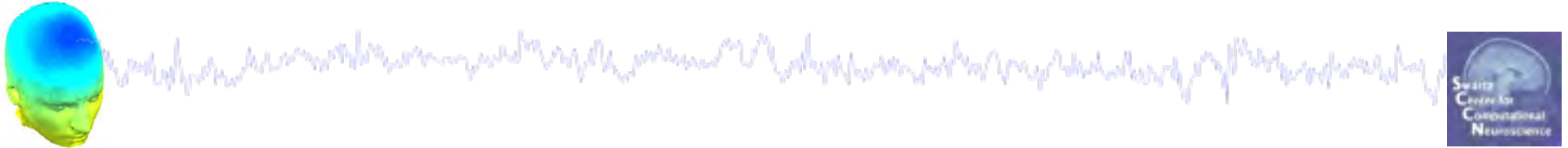


# Windowing

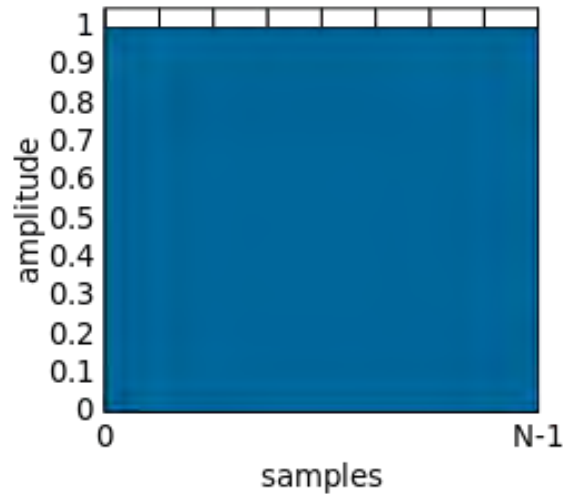


- When we pick a short segment of signal, we typically window it with a smooth function.
- Windowing in time = convolving (filtering) the spectrum with the Fourier transform of the window
- No window (=rectangular window) results in the most smearing of the spectrum
- There are many other windows optimized for different purposes: Hamming, Gaussian...

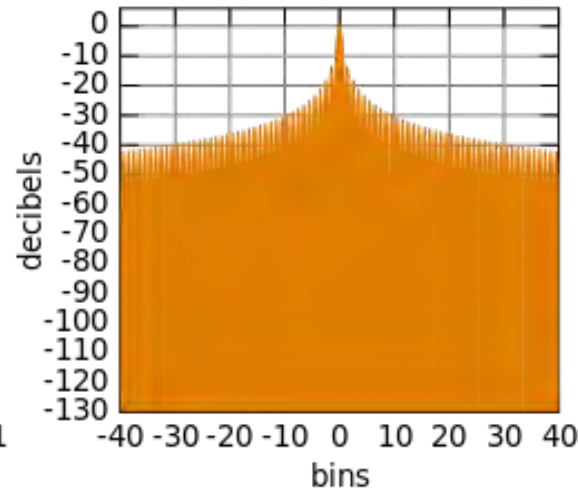
# Windows and their Fourier transforms



Rectangular window

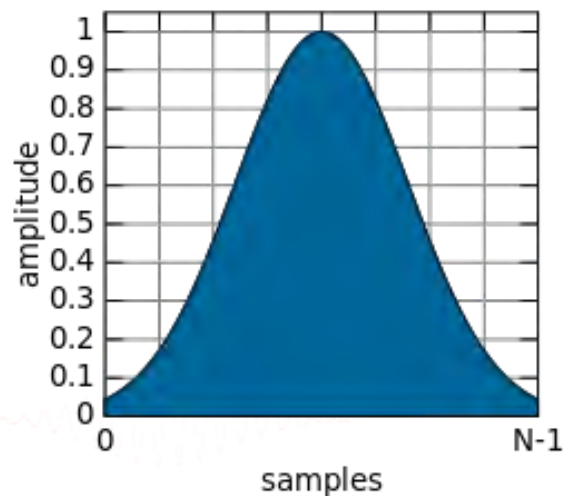


Fourier transform

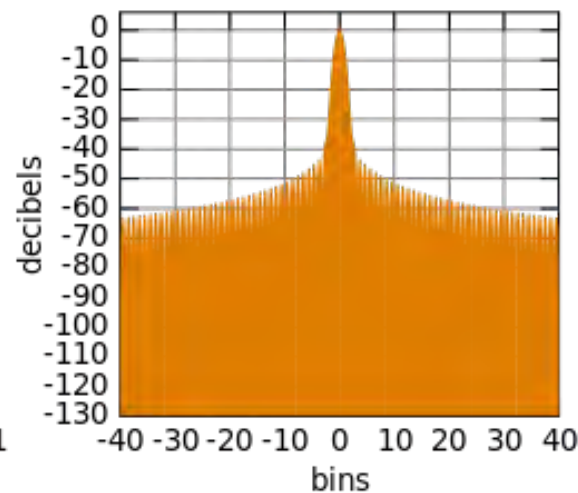


Narrowest main peak, but  
Highest side-lobes  
Most spectral 'smearing'

Gaussian window ( $\sigma = 0.4$ )



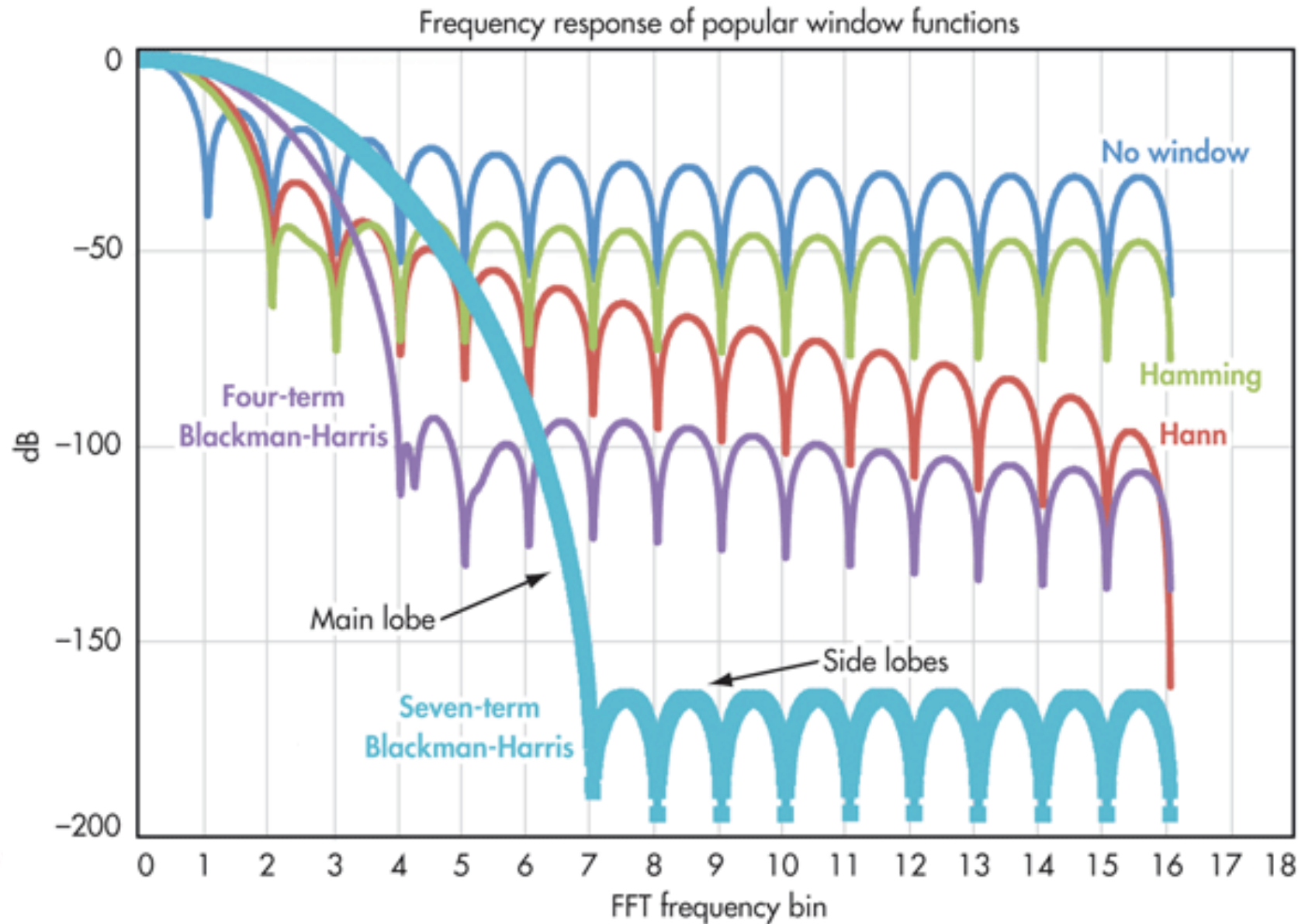
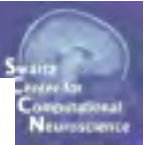
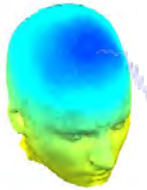
Fourier transform



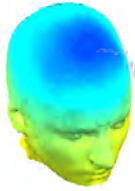
Wider main peak, and  
much lower side-lobes



# Close-up view



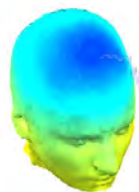
# Part 2: Time-Frequency Analysis



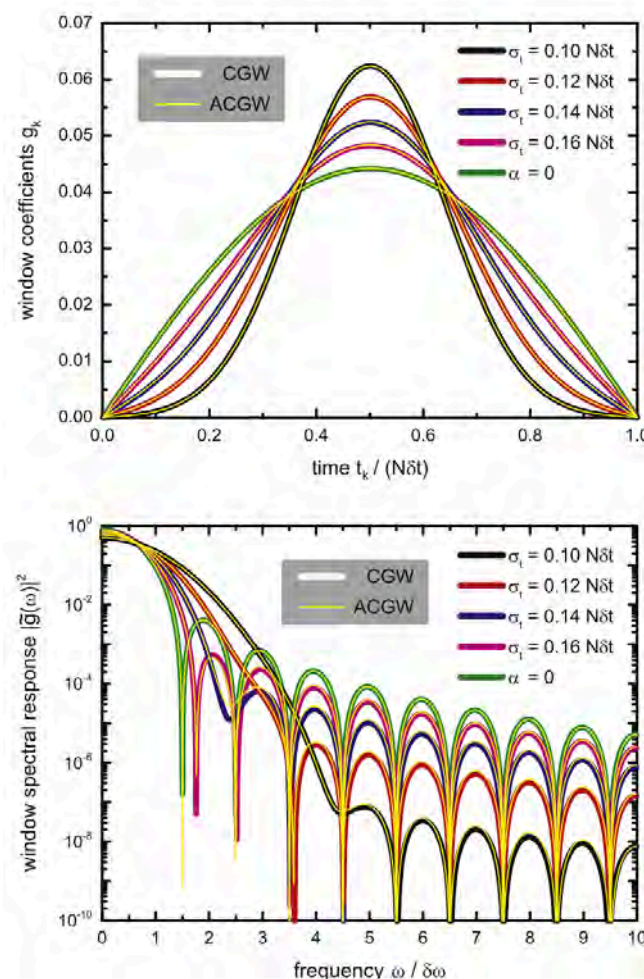
- Short-Time Fourier Transform
  - Find power spectrum of short windows
  - “Spectrogram”
- Advantage: Can visualize time-varying frequency content
- Disadvantage: Fixed temporal resolution is not optimal



# Time-Frequency Uncertainty

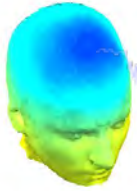


- You cannot have both arbitrarily good temporal and frequency resolution!
  - $\sigma_t * \sigma_f \geq 1/2$
- If you want sharper temporal resolution, you will sacrifice frequency resolution, and vice versa.
- (Optimal: Confined Gaussian)

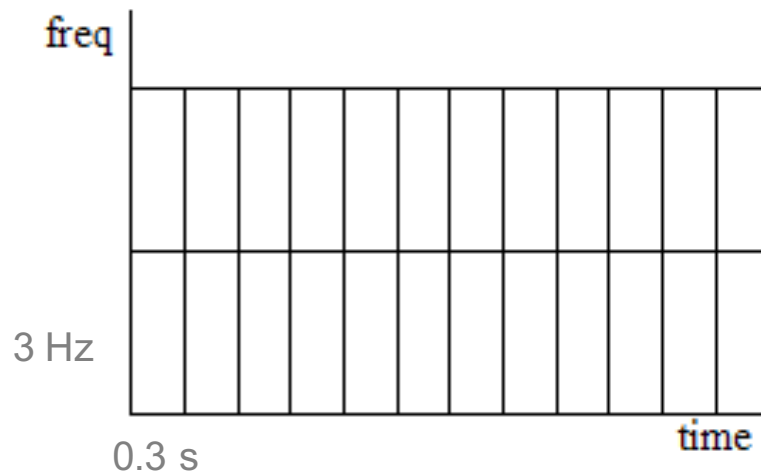


Starosielec S, Hägele D (2014) Discrete-time windows with minimal RMS bandwidth for given RMS temporal width. Signal Processing 102:240–6.

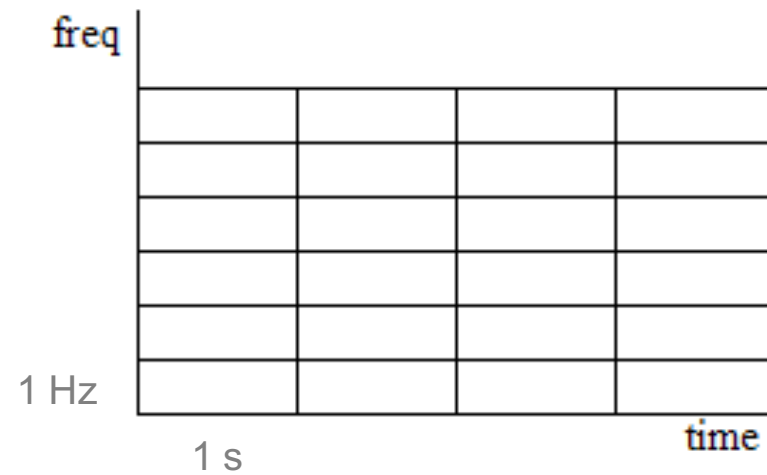
# Consequence for STFT



Shorter Windows  
poorer frequency resolution

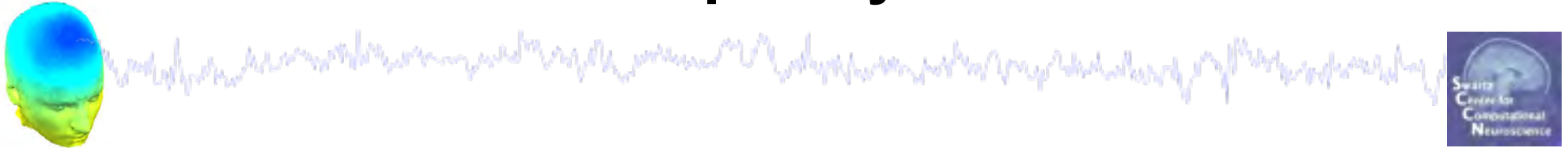


Longer Windows  
finer frequency resolution

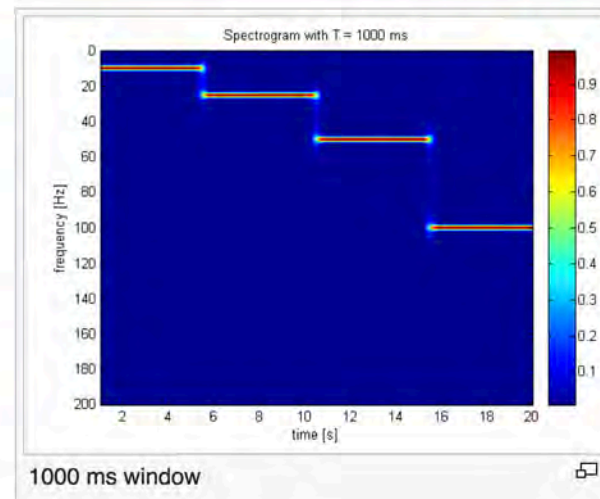
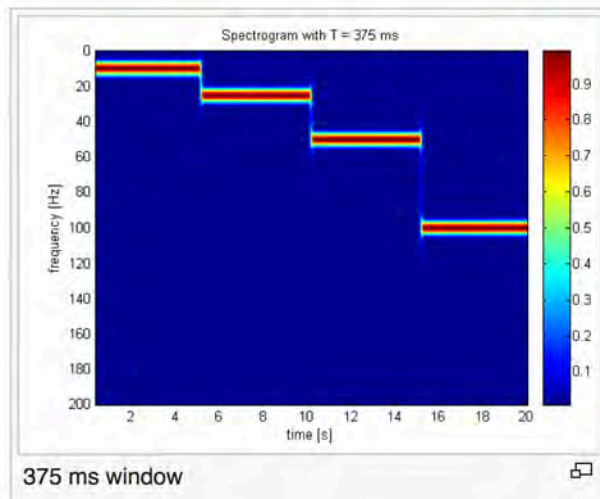
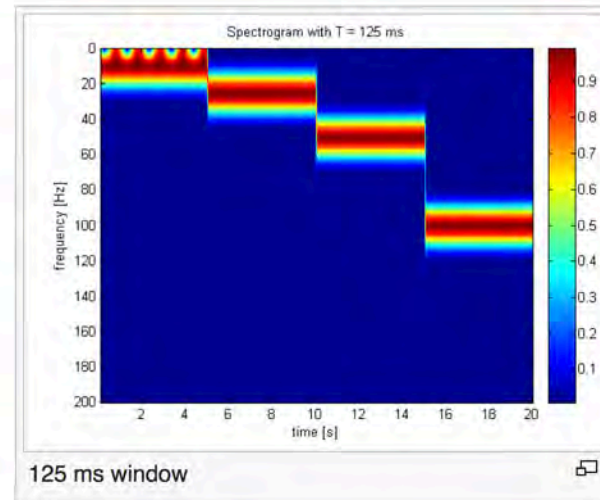
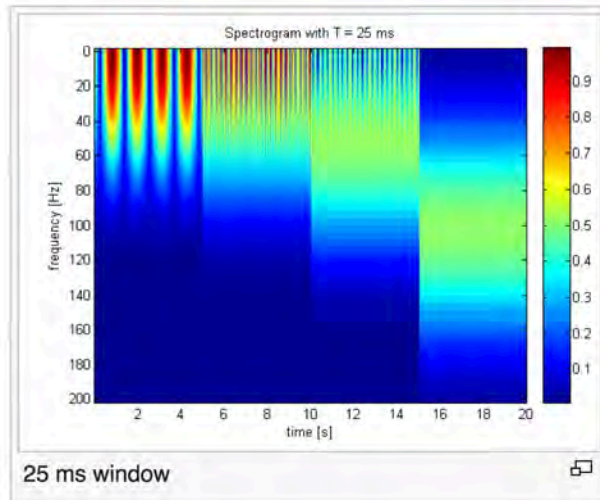




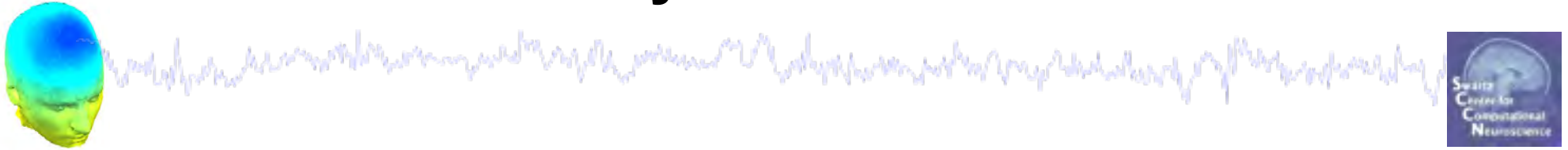
# Time-Frequency Tradeoff



Signal: 10, 25, 50, 100 Hz



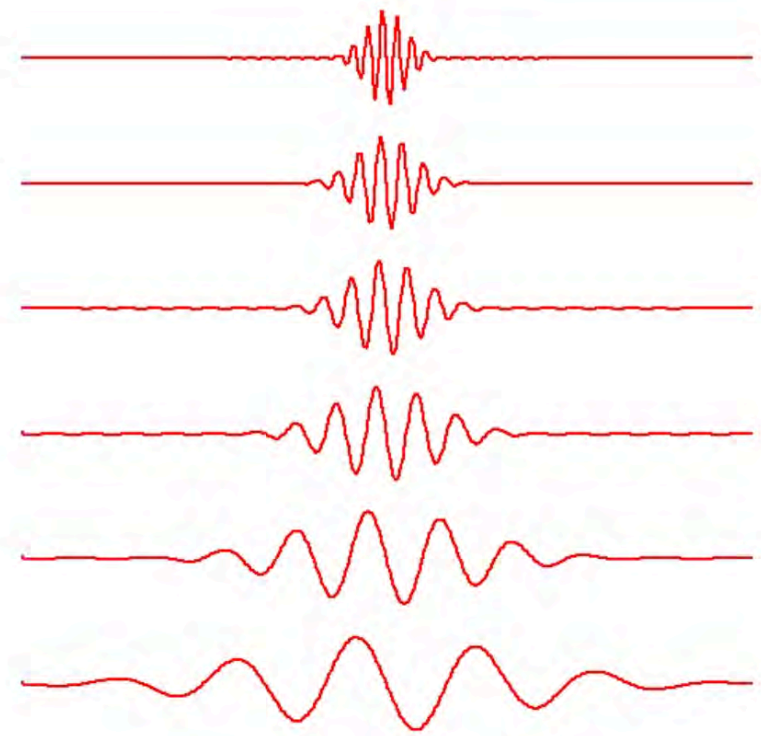
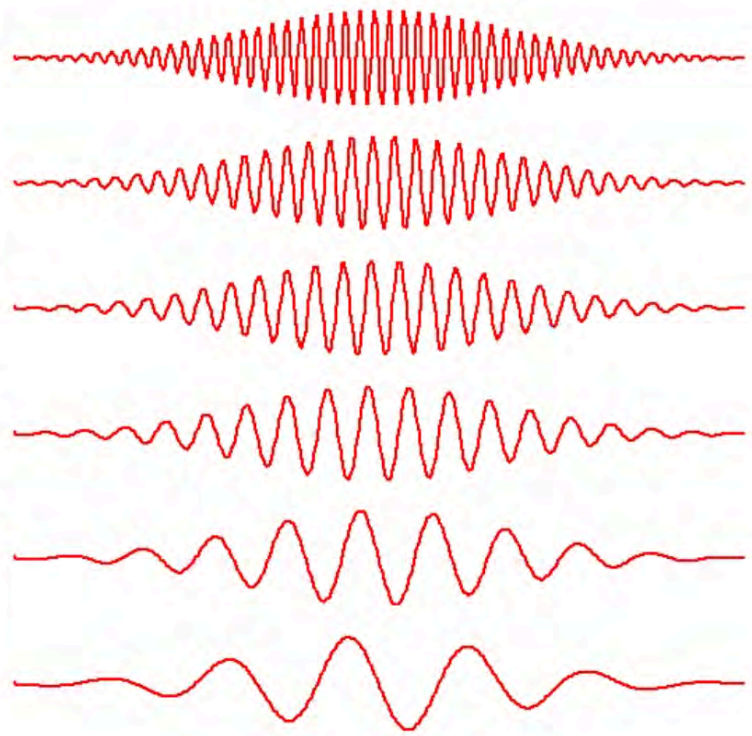
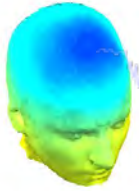
# A better way: Wavelet transform



- Wavelet transform is a ‘multi-resolution’ time-frequency decomposition.
- Intuition: Higher frequency signals have a faster time scale
- So, vary window length with frequency!
  - longer window at lower frequencies
  - shorter window at higher frequencies

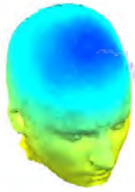


# Comparison of FFT & Wavelet

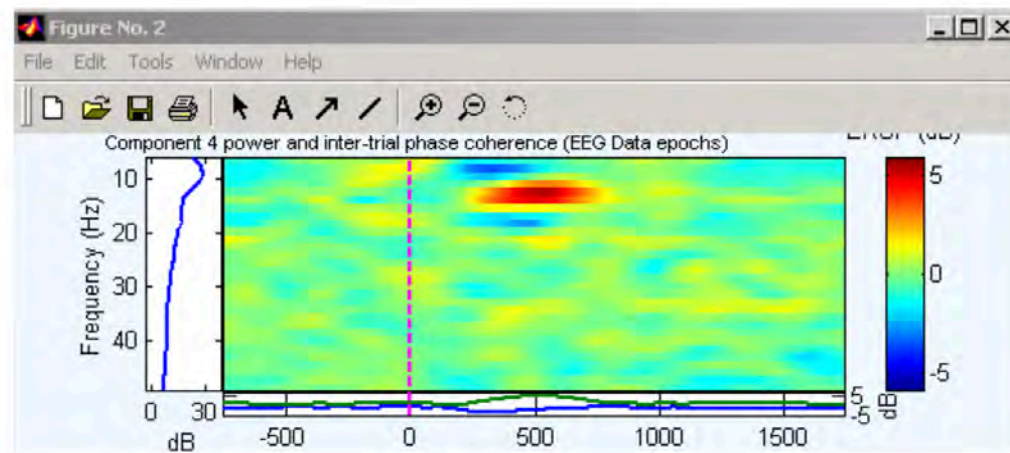


*Scaled versions of one shape  
Constant\* number of cycles*

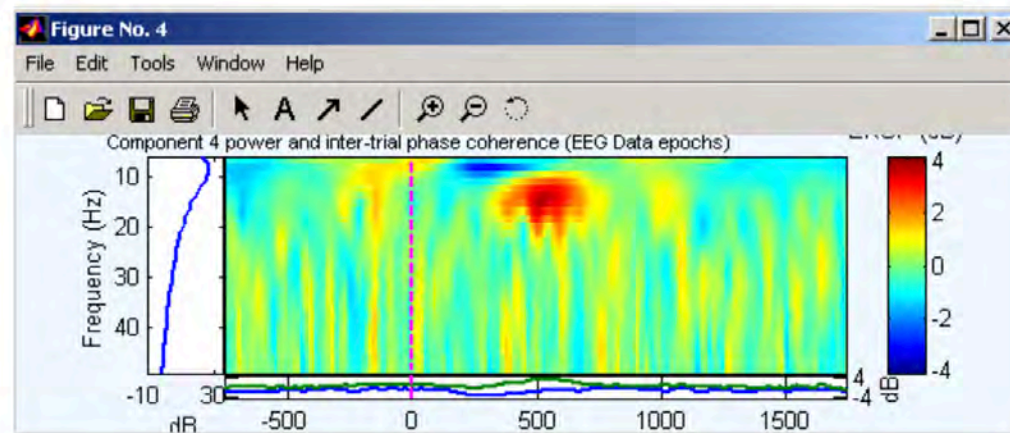


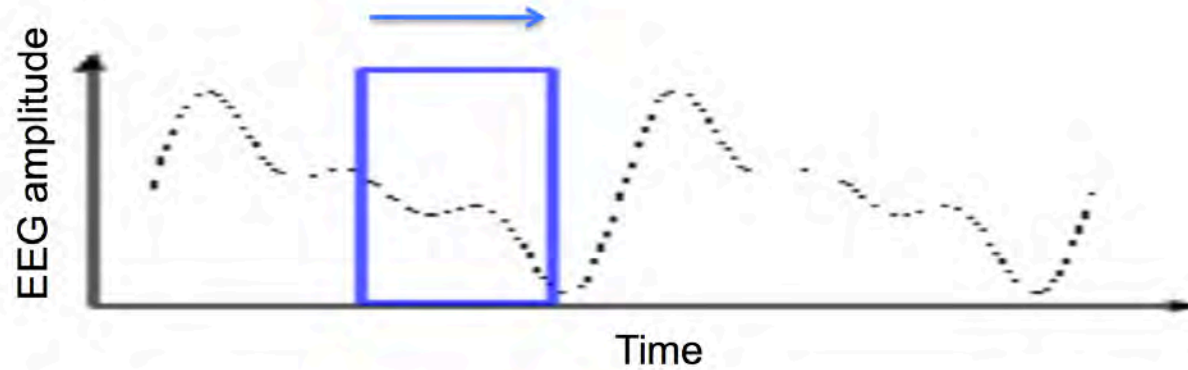
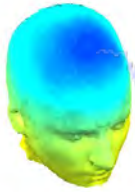


FFT



Wavelet





Sinusoid



\*

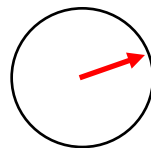
Gaussian



Tapered  
sinusoid

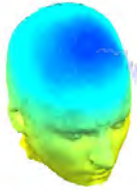


For each time window  
Analyze signal using the wavelets  
for different frequencies.





# Exercise



- Create a signal

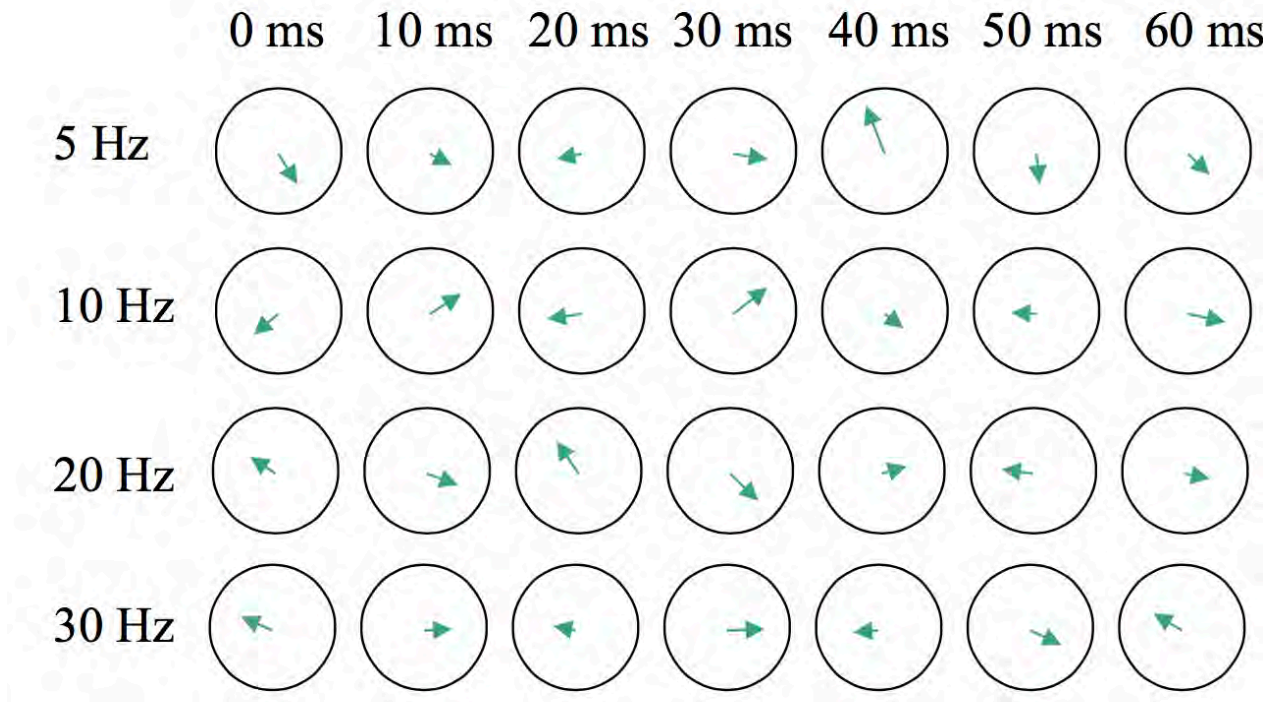
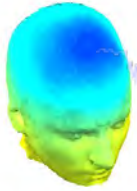
```
>> t = 0:0.01:100;  
>> x = sin(2*pi*10*t); plot(t,x)
```

- Find FFT

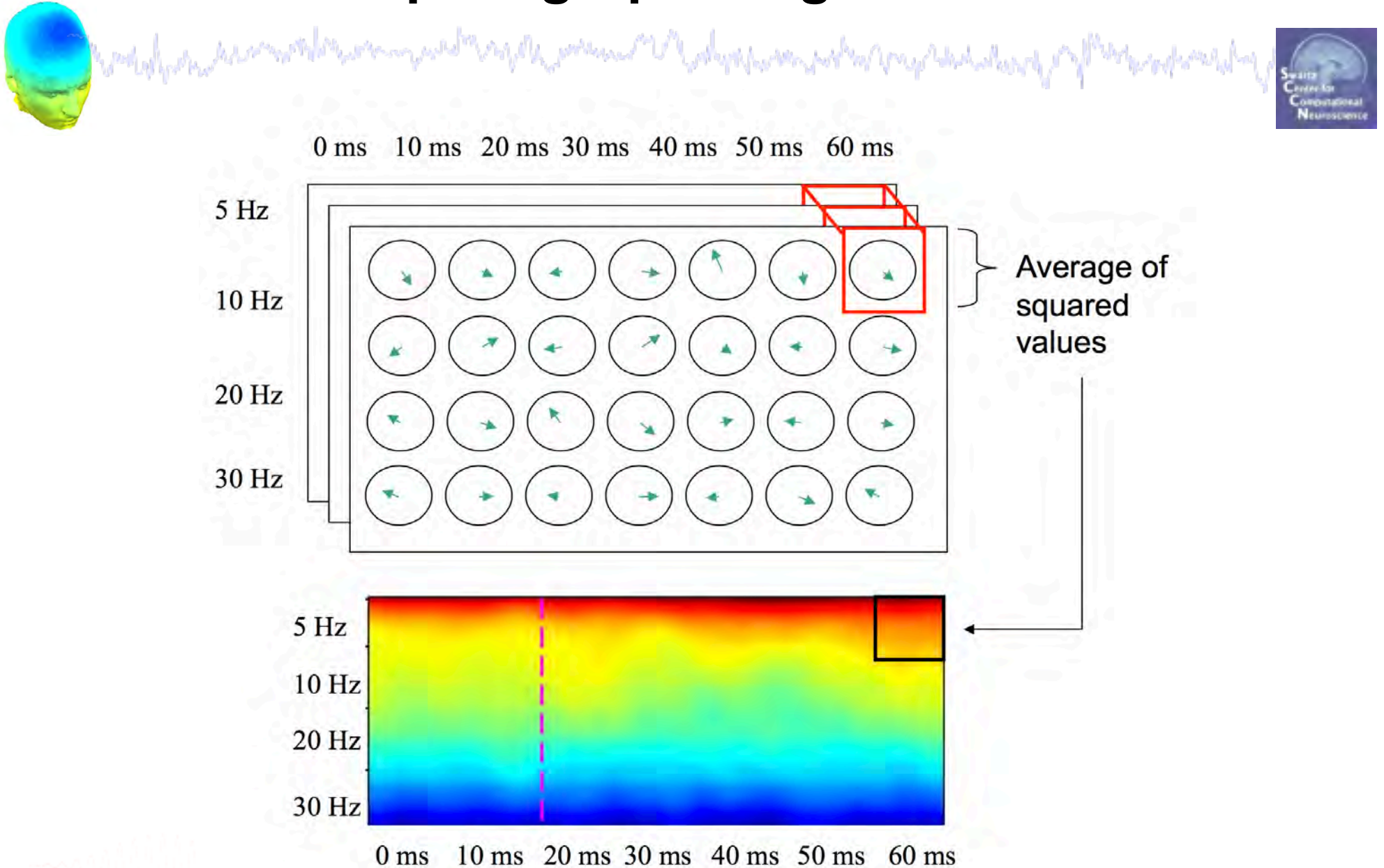
```
>> F = fft(x);  
>> F(1:3) %complex  
>> power = F.*conj(F);
```



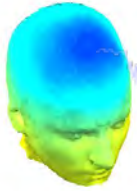
# Spectrogram of one window of data



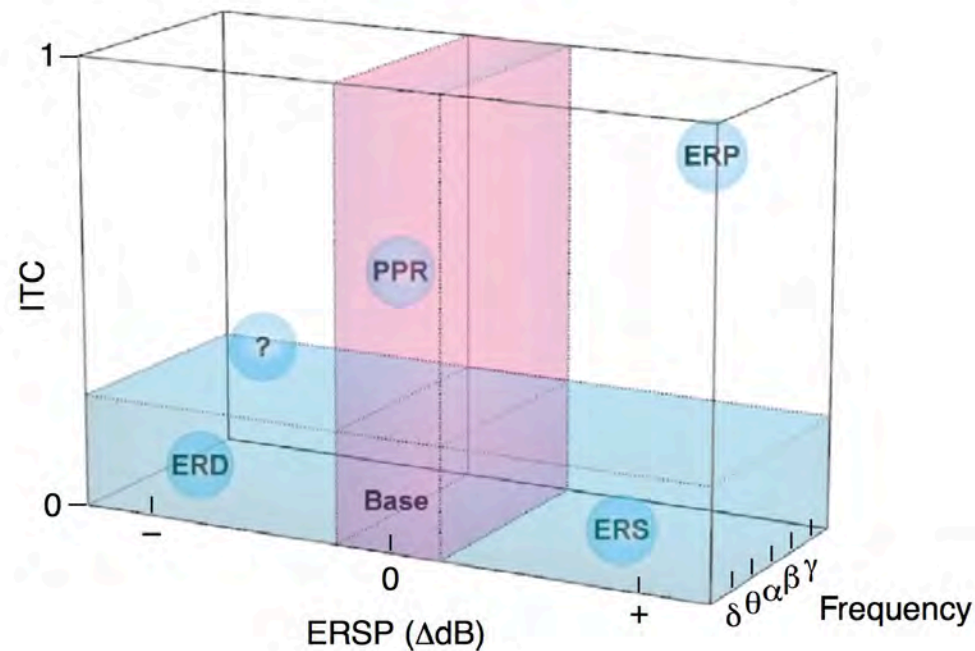
# Computing Spectrogram Power



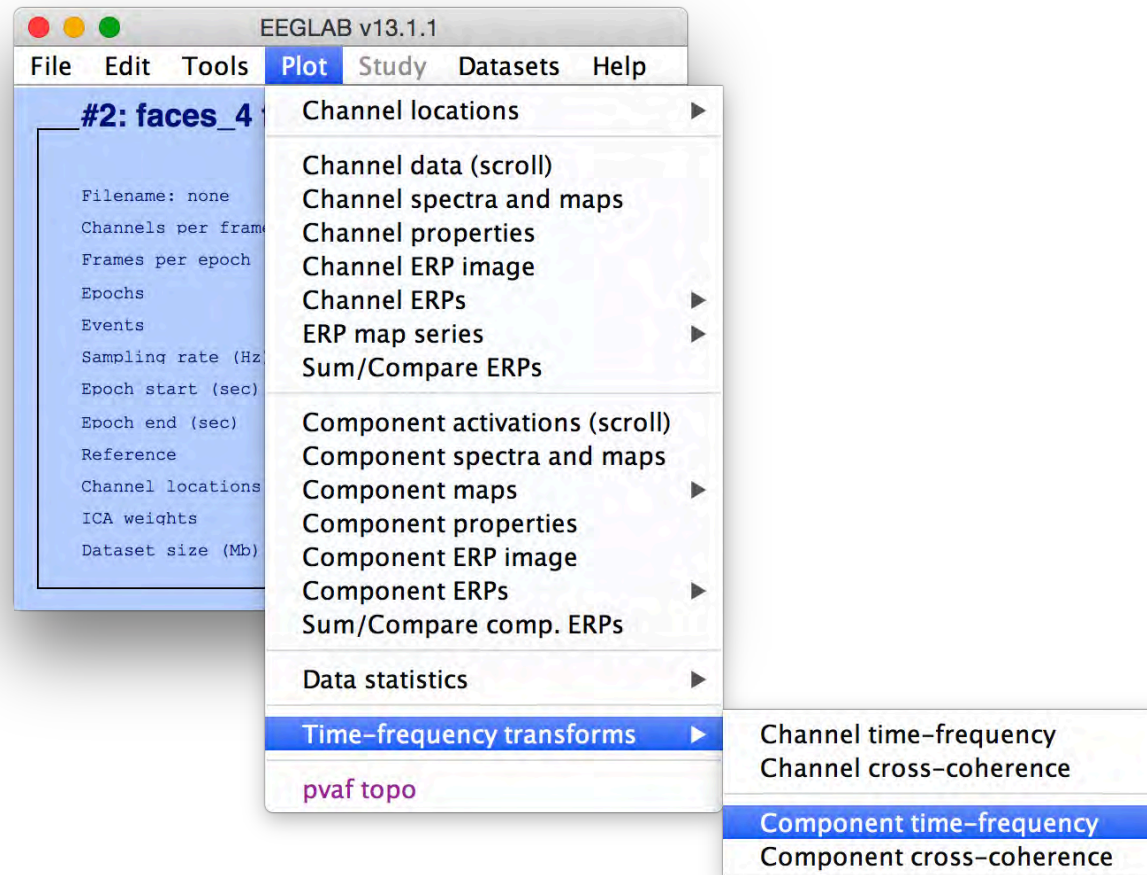
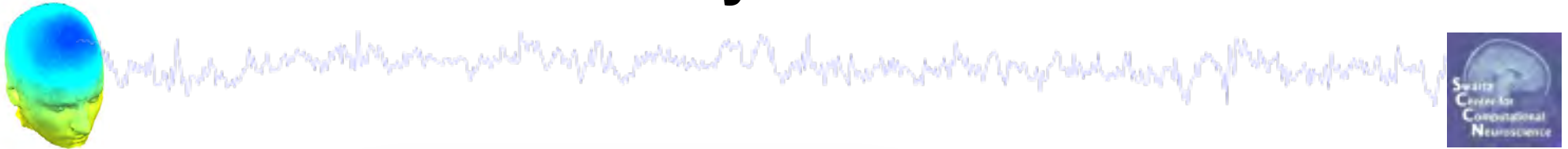
# Definition: ERS



- Event Related Spectral Perturbation
- Change in power in different frequency bands relative to a baseline. ERS , ERD

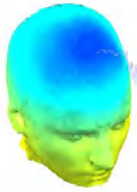


# Try it out





# Display ERS vs. ERSP



Event-related  
Spectrogram (ERS)

Plot component time frequency -- pop\_newtimef()

Component number: 1

Sub epoch time limits [min max] (msec): -1000 1996

Frequency limits [min max] (Hz) or sequence: [empty]

Baseline limits [min max] (msec) (0->pre-stim.): 0

Wavelet cycles [min max/fact] or sequence: 3 0.5

ERSP color limits [max] (min=-max): [empty]

ITC color limits [max]: [empty]

Bootstrap significance level (Ex: 0.01 -> 1%): [empty]

Optional newtimef() arguments (see Help): [empty]

Use 200 time points [dropdown]

Use limits, paddin... [dropdown]

Use divisive basel... [dropdown]

Log spaced [checkbox]

**No baseline [checkbox checked]**

Use FFT [checkbox]

see log power (set) [checkbox checked]

plot ITC phase (set) [checkbox]

FDR correct (set) [checkbox]

Plot Event Related Spectral Power [checkbox checked]

Plot Inter Trial Coherence [checkbox checked]

Plot curve at each frequency [checkbox]

Help Cancel Ok

Event-Related  
Spectral Perturbation  
(ERSP)

Plot component time frequency -- pop\_newtimef()

Component number: 1

Sub epoch time limits [min max] (msec): -1000 1996

Frequency limits [min max] (Hz) or sequence: [empty]

Baseline limits [min max] (msec) (0->pre-stim.): 0

Wavelet cycles [min max/fact] or sequence: 3 0.5

ERSP color limits [max] (min=-max): [empty]

ITC color limits [max]: [empty]

Bootstrap significance level (Ex: 0.01 -> 1%): [empty]

Optional newtimef() arguments (see Help): [empty]

Use 200 time points [dropdown]

Use limits, paddin... [dropdown]

Use divisive basel... [dropdown]

Log spaced [checkbox]

No baseline [checkbox]

Use FFT [checkbox]

see log power (set) [checkbox checked]

plot ITC phase (set) [checkbox]

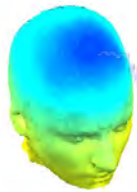
FDR correct (set) [checkbox]

Plot Event Related Spectral Power [checkbox checked]

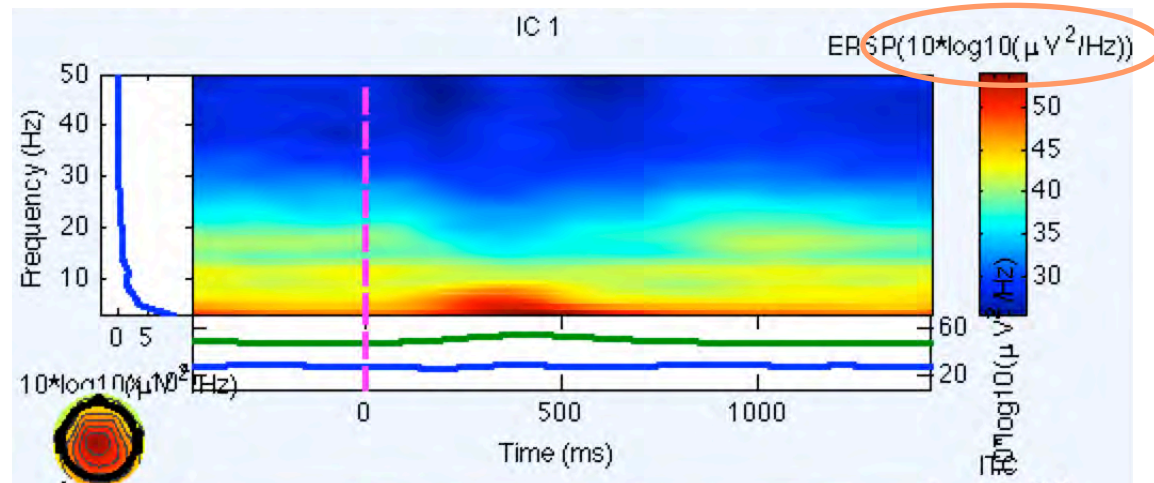
Plot Inter Trial Coherence [checkbox checked]

Plot curve at each frequency [checkbox]

Help Cancel Ok



Event-related  
Spectrogram (ERS)



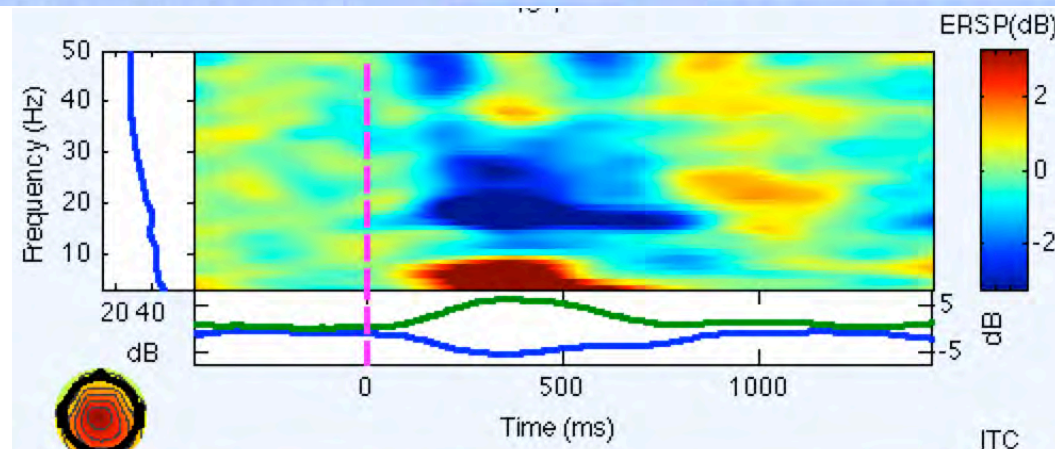
Baseline limits [min max] (msec) (0->pre-stim.)

0

Use divisive basel...

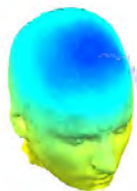
☐ No baseline

Event-Related  
Spectral Perturbation  
(ERSP)



$10 \cdot \log_{10} (SG(t,f) / \text{baseline}(f))$

# Exercises



- Try different baseline methods
  - divisive
  - standard deviation (express spectral perturbations in #sd relative to baseline sd)
- Try different wavelet specifications

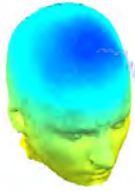
Wavelet cycles [min max/fact] or sequence

3 0.5

- Default: 3 0.5
  - 3 cycles
  - What is the 0.5? Try 0. Try 1...



# Wavelet Specification



Wavelet cycles [min max/fact] or sequence

3 0.5

Answer: The first #cycles controls the basic duration of the wavelet in cycles.

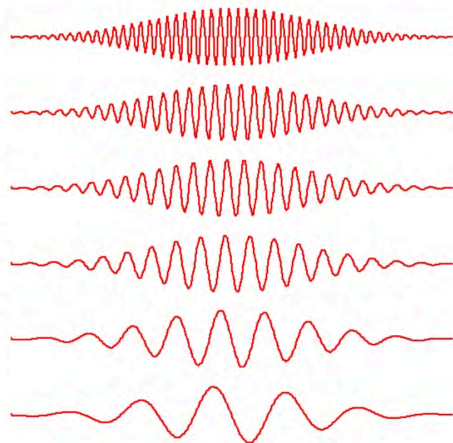
The second factor controls the degree of shortening of time windows as frequency increases

0 = no shortening = FFT (duration remains constant with frequency)

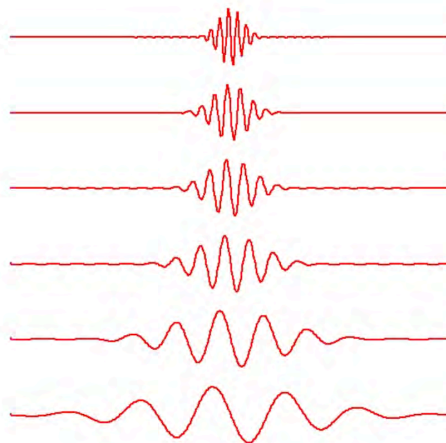
1 = pure wavelet (#cycles remains constant with frequency)

0.5 = intermediate, a compromise that reduces HF time resolution to gain more frequency resolution

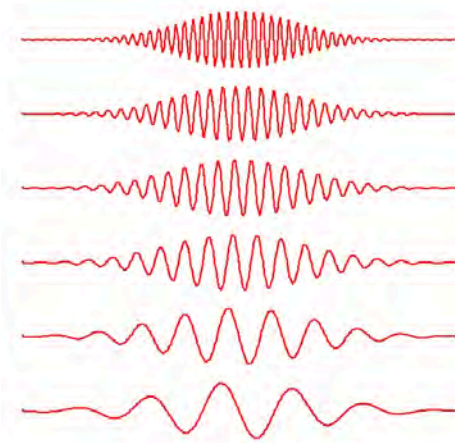
3 0



3 1

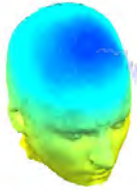


3 0.5





# Part 3: Coherence Analysis

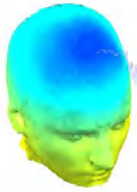


- Goal: How much do two signals resemble each other
- Coherence = complex version of correlation: how similar are power and phase at each frequency?
- Variant: phase coherence (phase locking, etc.) considers only phase similarity, ignoring power
  - Regular coherence is simply a power-weighted phase coherence



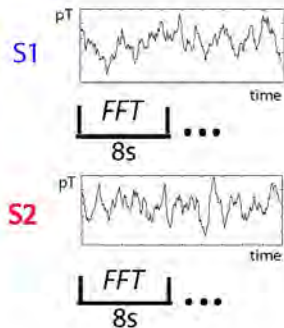
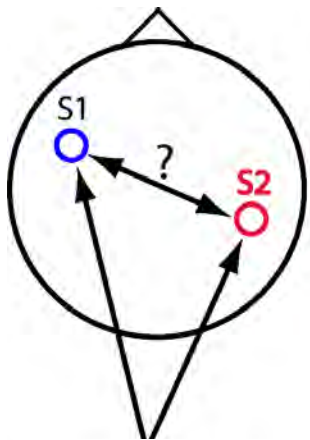


# Coherence

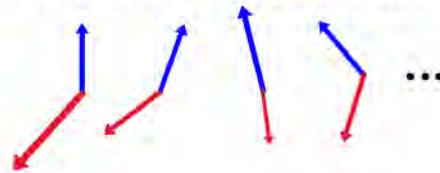


$$C(f, t) \propto \sum_{k=\text{trials}} F1_k(f, t) \overline{F2_k(f, t)}$$

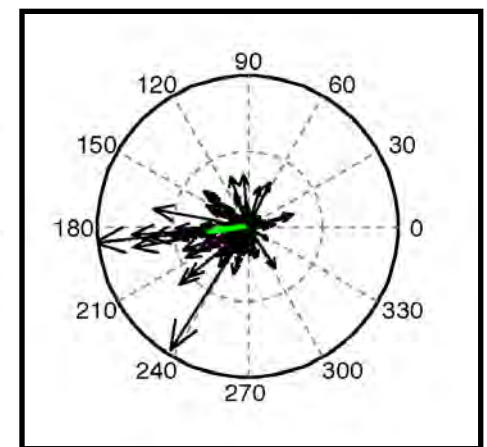
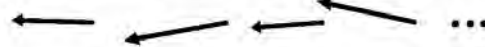
$$a_1 e^{i\theta_1} a_2 e^{-i\theta_2} \propto e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}$$



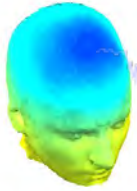
Fourier time series  $F_{S1}$  and  $F_{S2}$



Phase difference between  $S1$  and  $S2$ ,



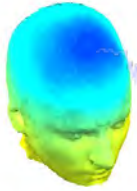
## Part 3a: Inter-Trial Coherence



- Goal: How much do different trials resemble each other?
- Phase coherence not between two processes, but between multiple trials of the same process
- Defined over a (generally) narrow frequency range



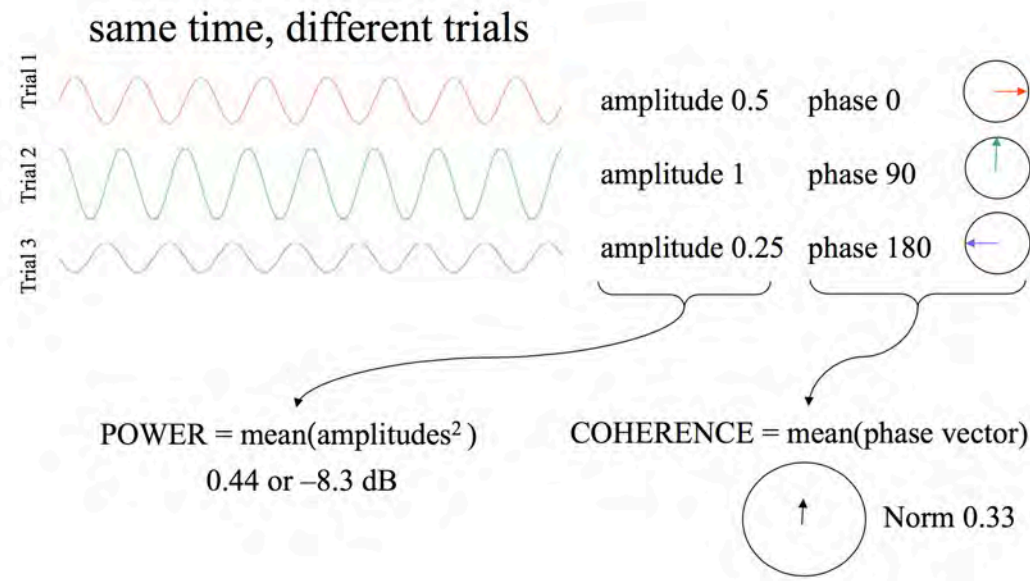
# EEGLAB's Inter-Trial Coherence is *phase* ITC



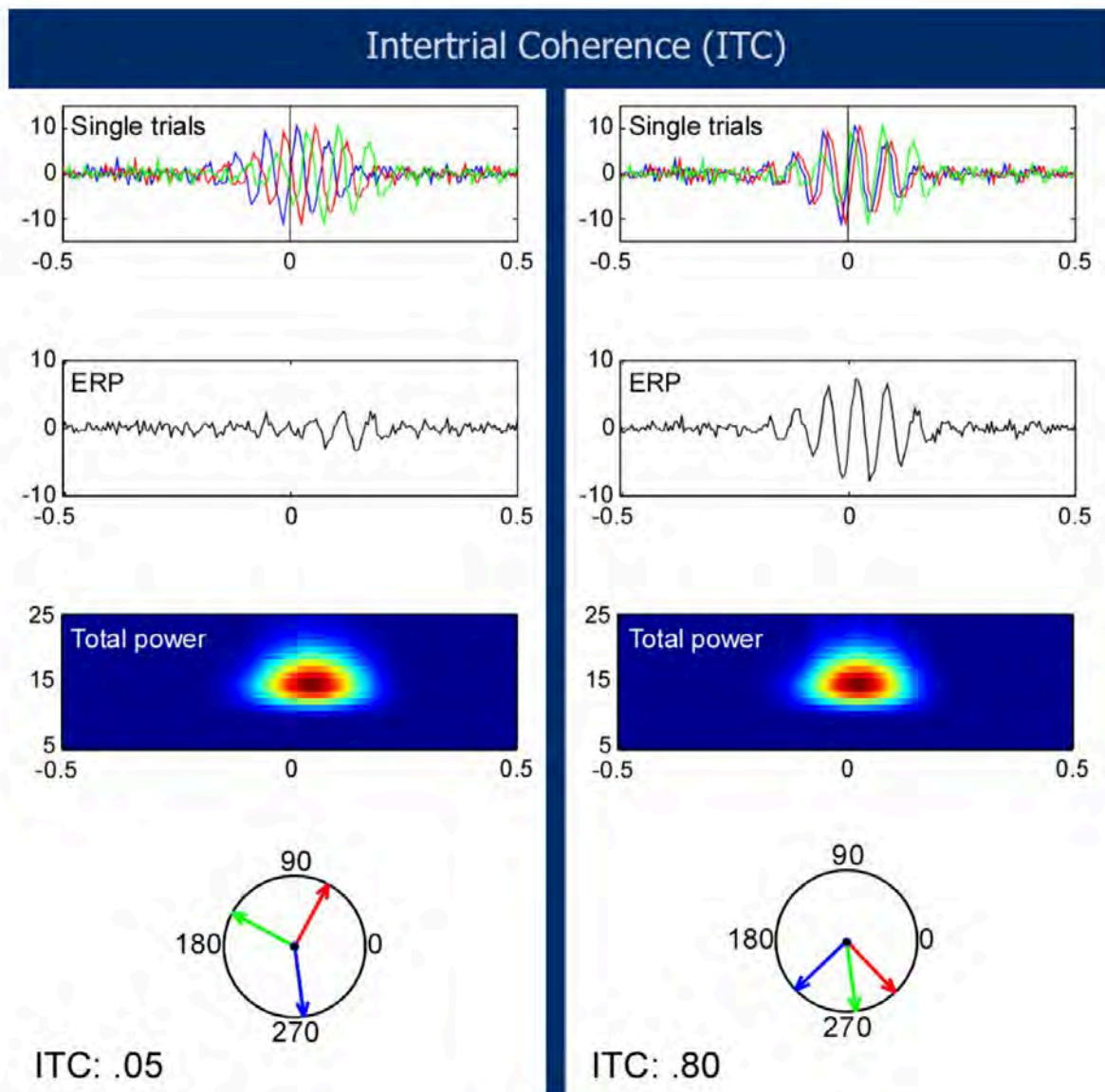
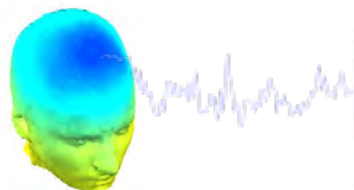
Phase ITC

$$ITPC(f, t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{F_k(f, t)}{\underbrace{|F_k(f, t)|}_{\text{Normalized (no amplitude information)}}}$$

Normalized  
(no amplitude information)



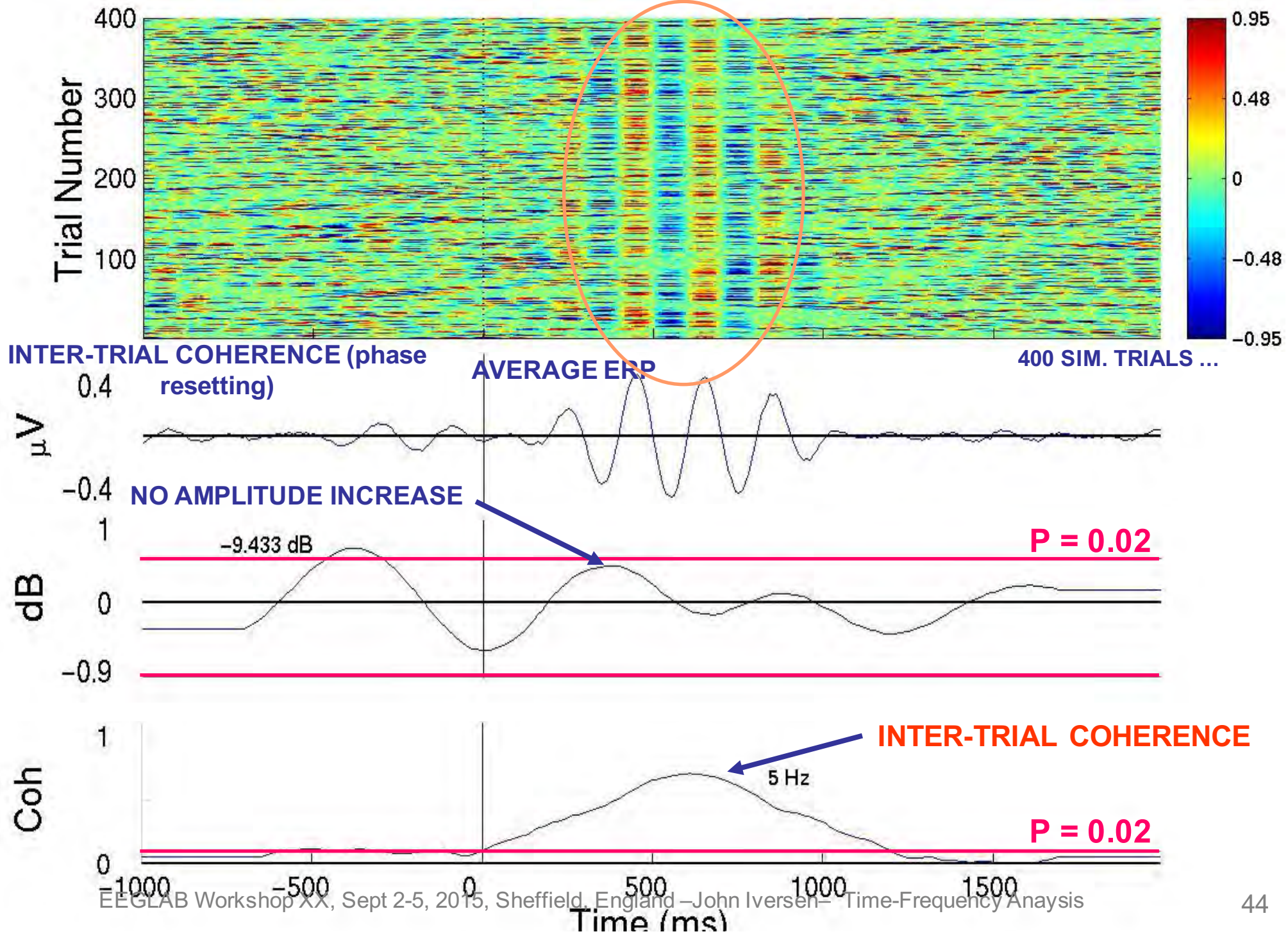
# ITC Example (3 trials)



Slide courtesy of Stefan Debener

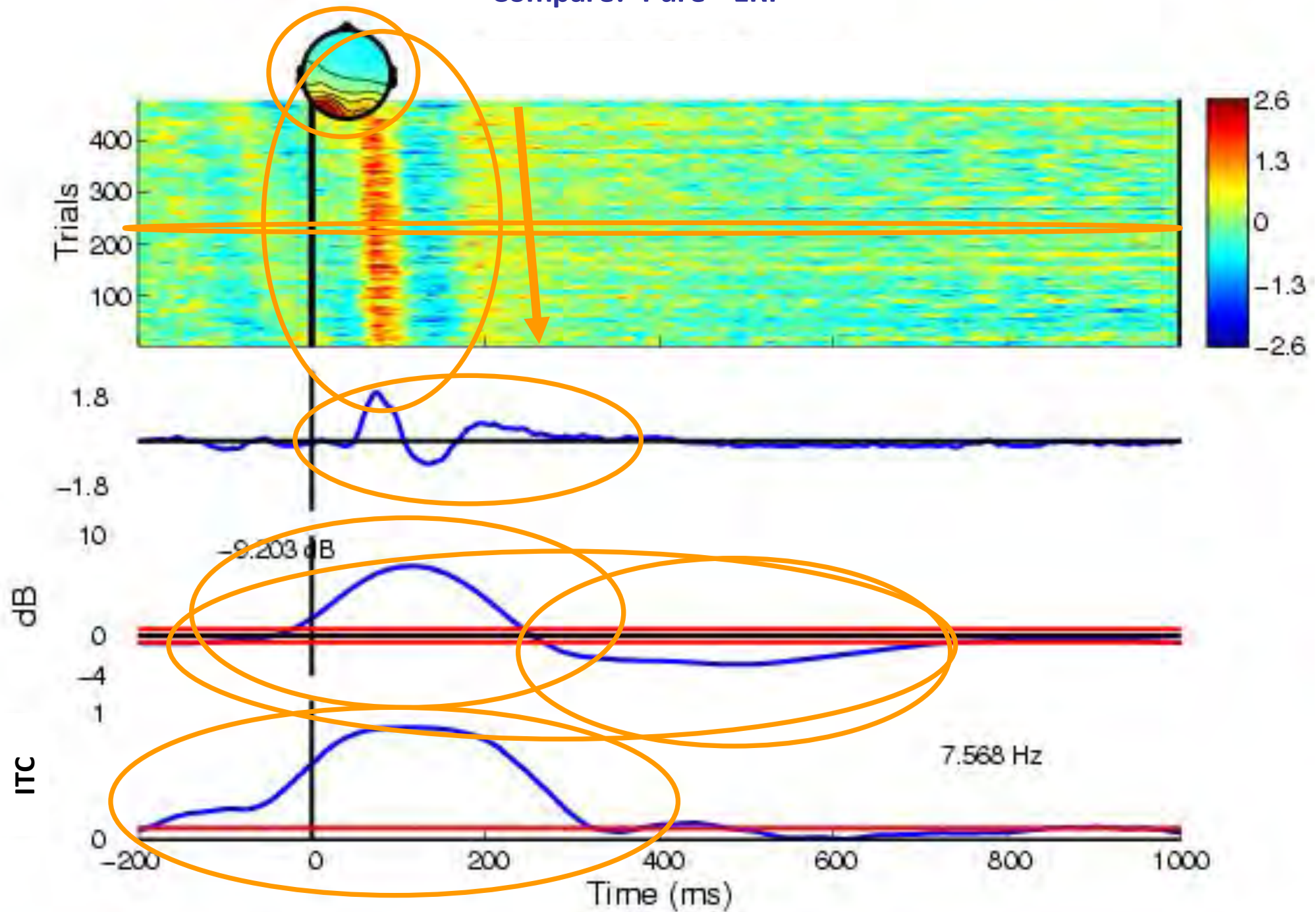


# ERP-IMAGE PLOT

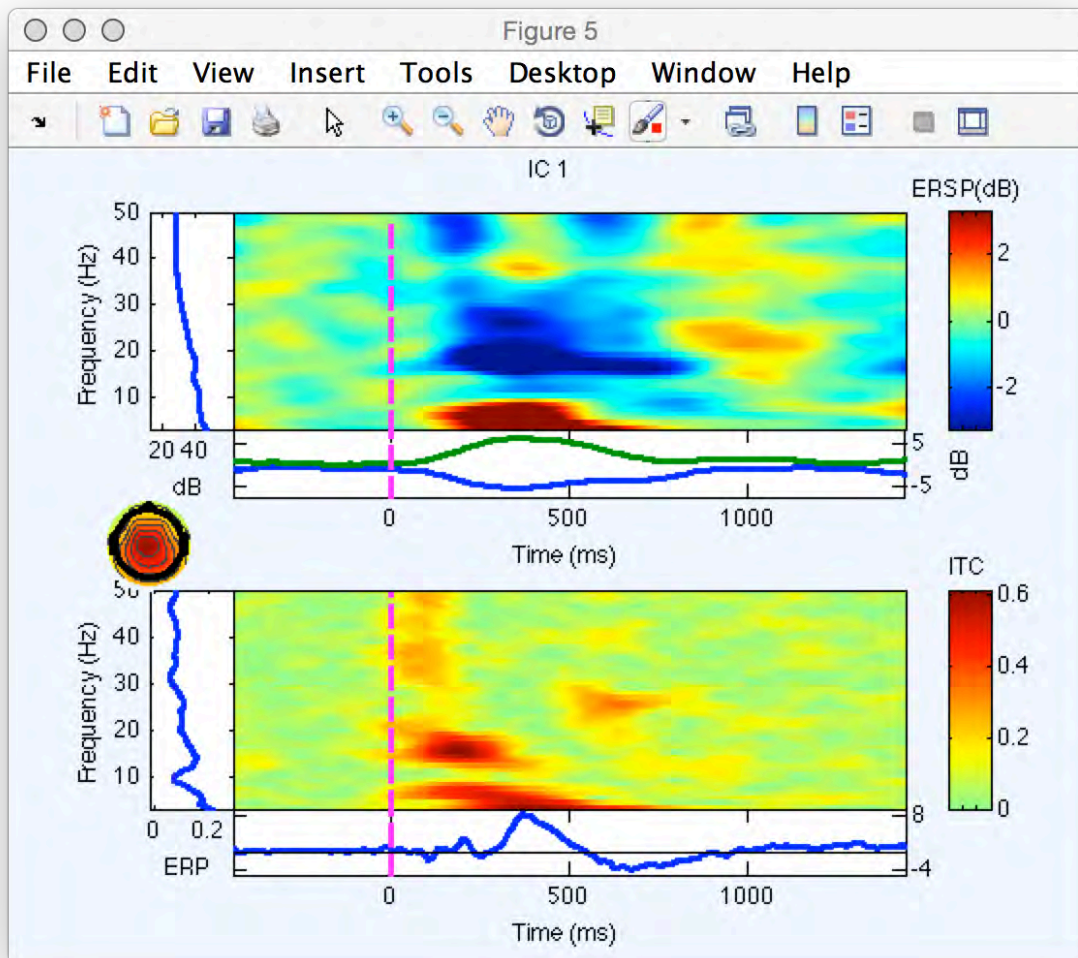
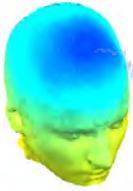




# Compare: Pure ERP



# Putting it all together



## Exercise

All: Compute ERSP/ITC for a component of your choice

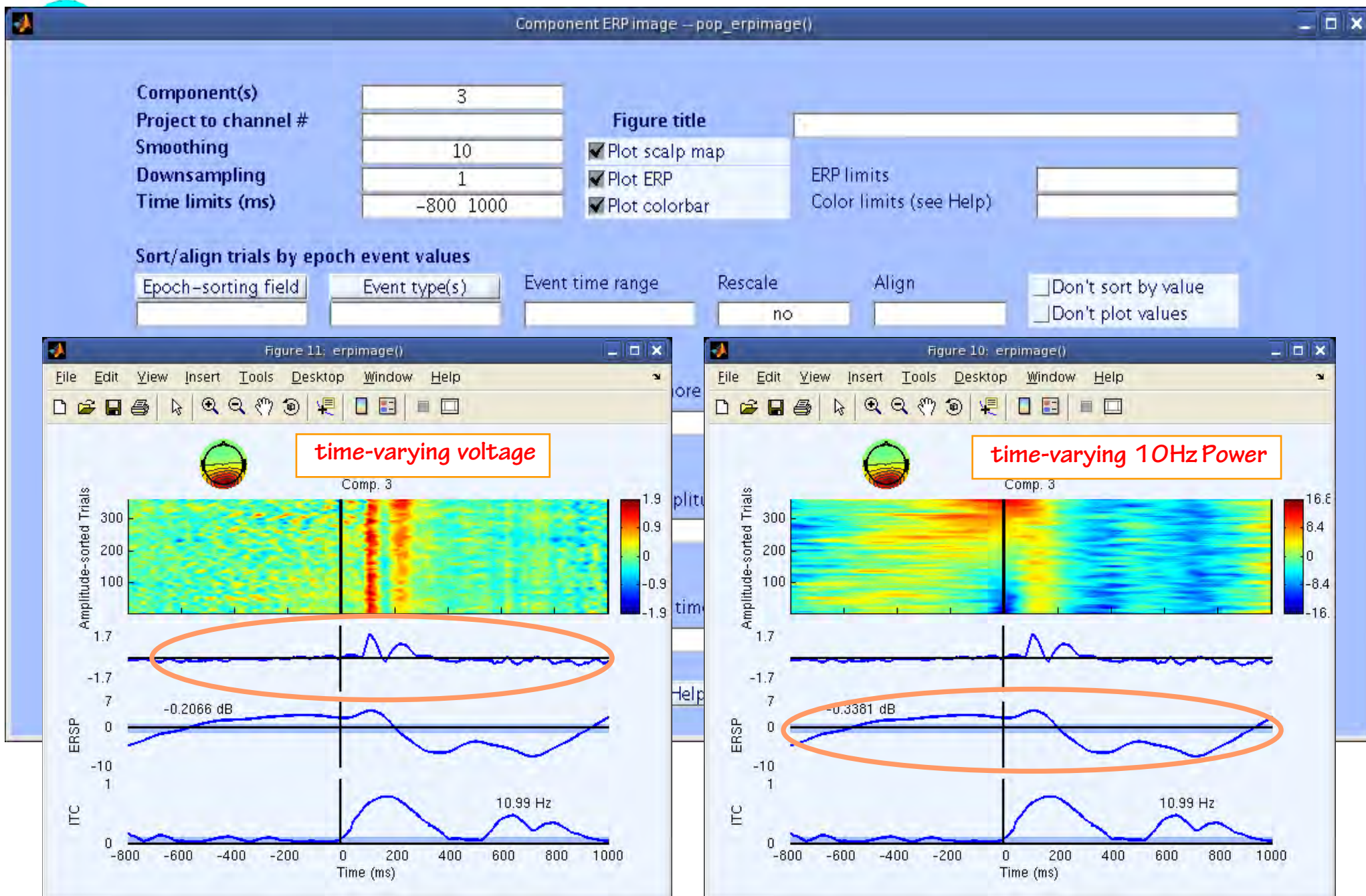
Compute ERP Image (with ERSP and ITC displayed\*)

Use all of this information to explain the origin of the Evoked Response

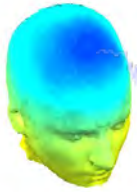
Question: Which changes are significant? Use the options in ERP Image and ERSP dialogs to set significance threshold e.g. 0.01. Do the results survive?



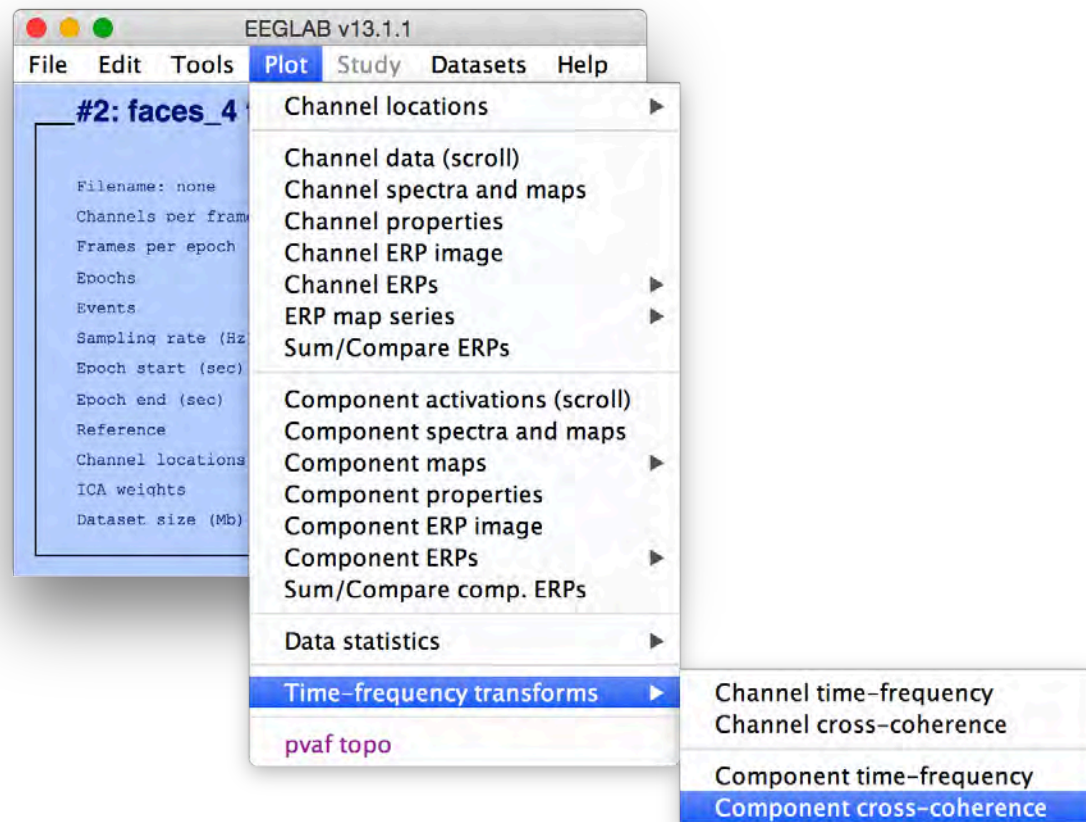
# Component ERP Image: Activation vs. Amplitude



# Part 3b: Event Related Coherence

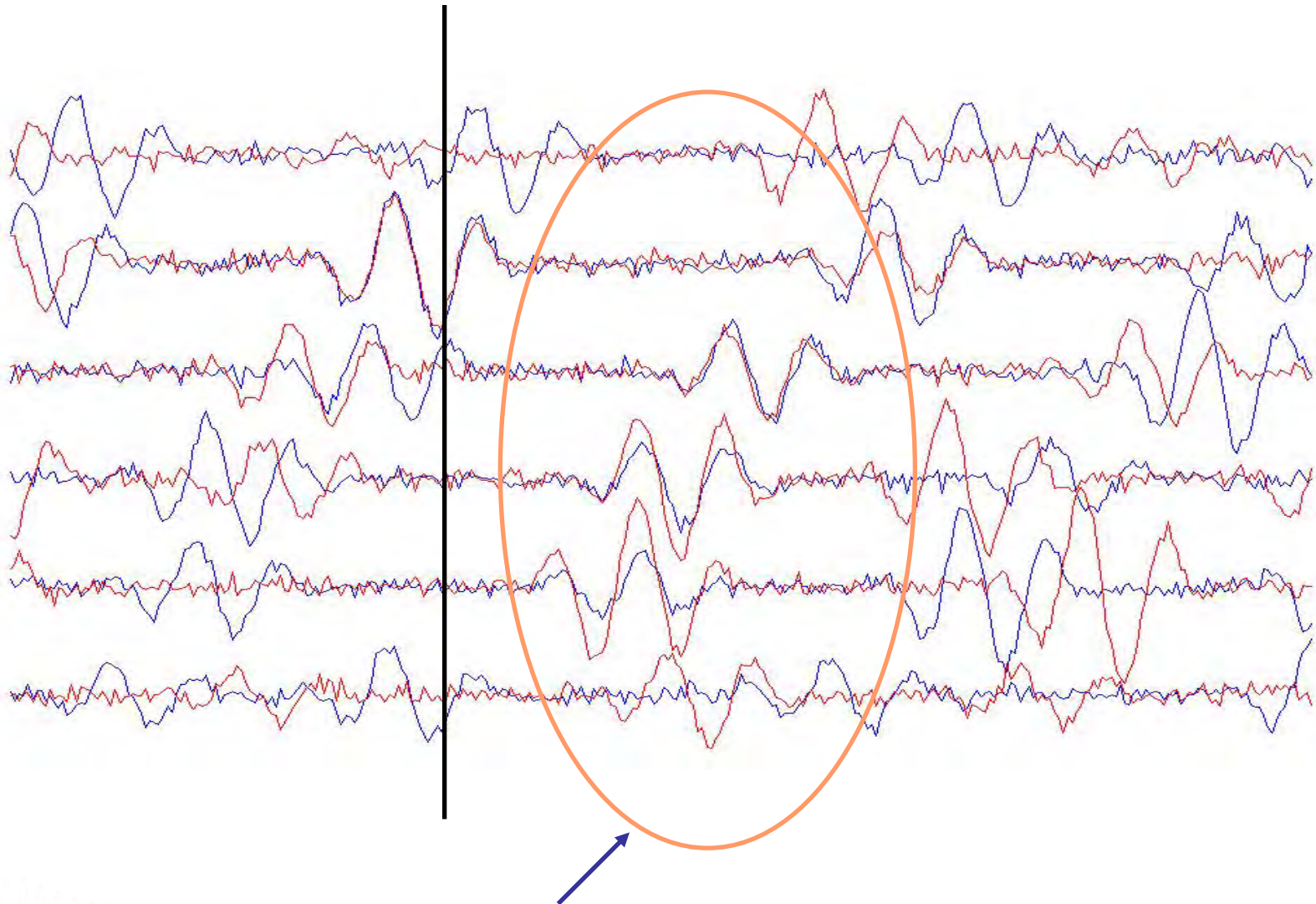
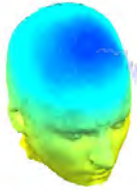


- Goal: How similar is the event-related response of two signals
  - Typically between channels (problematic due to volume conduction)
  - or between ICs





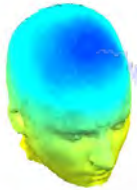
# TWO SIMULATED THETA PROCESSES



**Event-related  
Coherence**



# Try it!



Plot component cross-coherence -- pop\_newcrossf()

First component number

Second component number

Epoch time range [min max] (msec)

Wavelet cycles (0->FFT, see >> help timef)

[set]->log. scale for frequencies (match STUDY) ☐

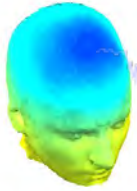
[set]->Linear coher / [unset]->Phase coher ☐

Bootstrap significance level (Ex: 0.01 -> 1%)

Optional timef() arguments (see Help)

☒ Plot coherence amplitude ☒ Plot coherence phase

# Event-Related Coherence Exercise



- Examine event-related coherence between two ICs
  - Which pair did you pick, and why? What do you predict?
  - What did you learn?
- Explore other options:
  - Significance threshold
  - Figure out how to subtract a baseline
  - Phase vs. Linear Coherence

