

Recent Progress in Detection and Prediction of Epilepsy  
Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 (3:30 p.m.)

# Cross-frequency coupling studies of intracranial EEG data of epilepsy patients using time-frequency distributions

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# In memoriam



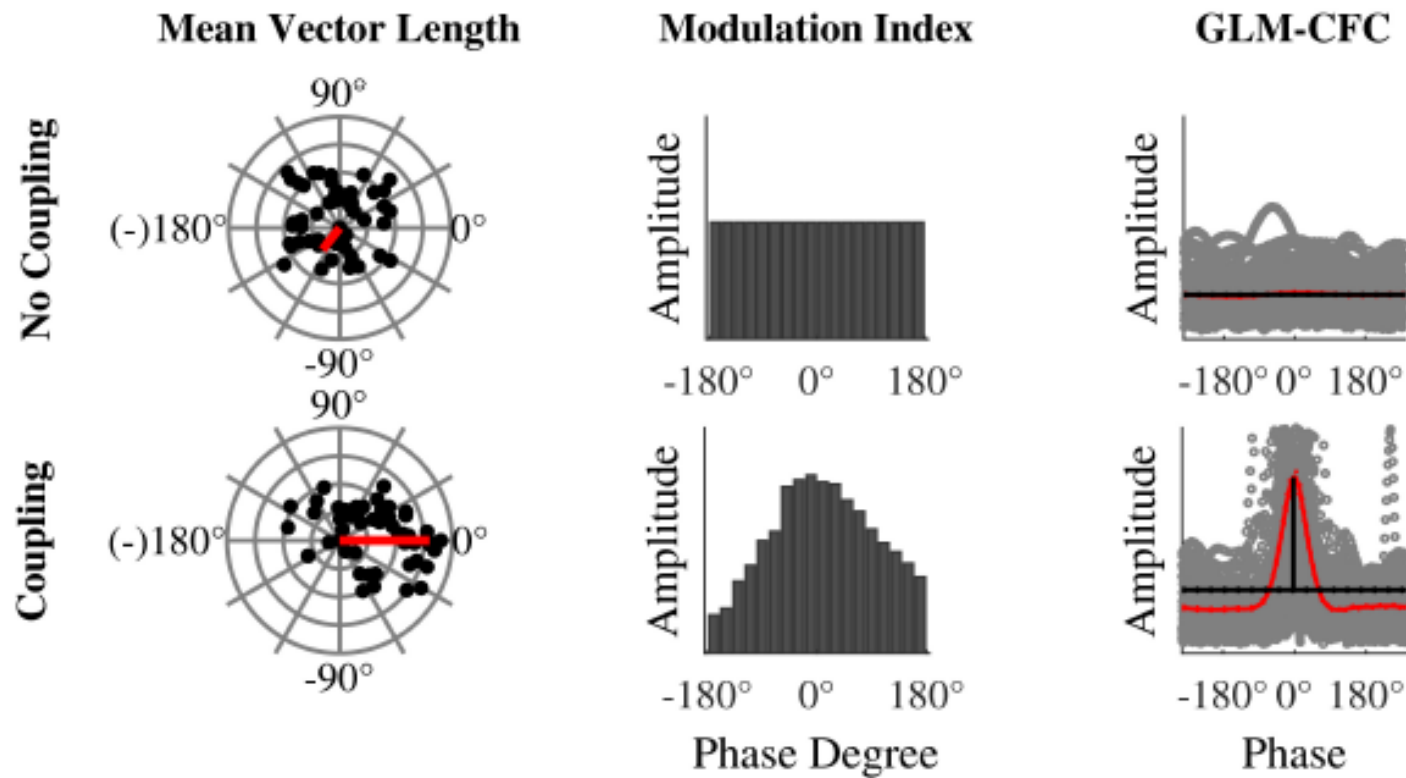
Dr. Kris Vasudevan  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1944 – August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022

Dedicated to an inspiring  
mentor, caring supervisor  
– and just a great friend,  
  
with whom I am proud to  
have worked,  
  
and proud to have made  
proud.

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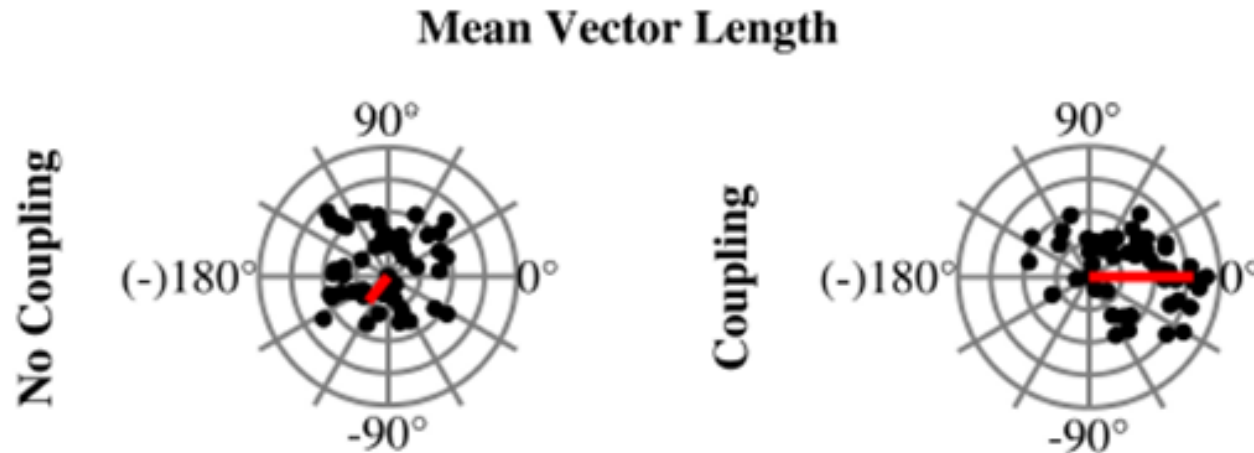
**Essentials we need (phase & amplitude estimates);  
metric definitions i.e. how to quantify PAC?**

Taken from *Hülsemann M.J., Naumann E. and Rasch B.* — Quantification of Phase-Amplitude Coupling in Neuronal Oscillations: Comparison of Phase-Locking Value, Mean Vector Length, Modulation Index, and Generalized-Linear-Modeling-Cross-Frequency-Coupling. — // *Front. Neurosci.* — 2019. — Vol. 13 — P. 573.

# Methods for Detecting CFC

1. **Mean Vector Length (MVL)** -- Canolty et al (2006)
2. **Modulation Index (MI)** -- Canolty et al (2006), Tort et al (2010)
3. **GLM-CFC** -- Penny et al (2008), Voytek et al (2013), Mark & Kramer (2013), Nadalin et al (2019)
4. **Phase-locking Value (PLV)** -- Mormann et al (2005), Lachaux et al (1999), Vanhatalo et al (2004)
5. **Correlation Coefficient** -- Penny et al (2008)
6. **Envelope-to-signal Correlation** -- Bruns and Eckhorn (2004)
7. **Analysis of amplitude spectra** – Cohen (2008)
8. **Coherence between amplitude and signal** -- Colgin et al (2009)
9. **Coherence between the time course of power and signal** -- Osipova et al (2008)
10. **Eigendecomposition of multichannel covariance matrices** -- Cohen (2017)

# Methods for detecting CFC -- MVL



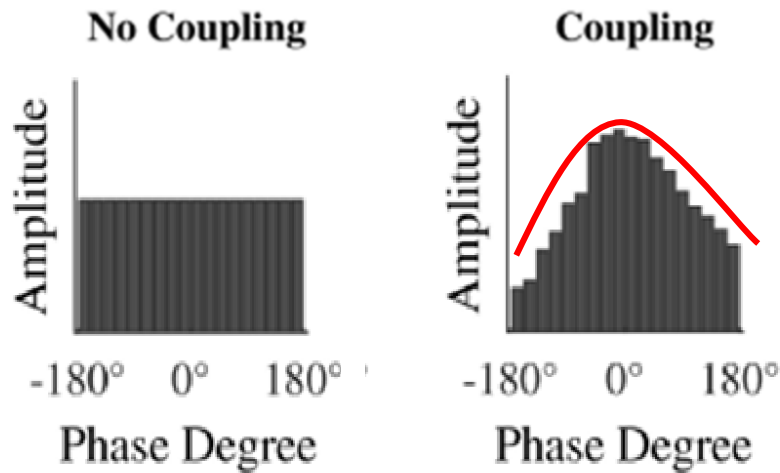
$$MVL = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N \left\| A_{f_A}[n] e^{j\varphi_{f_p}[n]} \right\|}{N}$$

# Methods for detecting CFC -- MI

$$P(j) = \frac{\langle A_{f_A} \rangle_{\varphi_p}^{(j)}}{\sum_{k=1}^K \langle A_{f_A} \rangle_{\varphi_{f_p}}^{(k)}} \quad MI = \left[ \frac{D_{KL}(P,U)}{\log(N)} \right]$$

1.  $\langle A_{f_A} \rangle_{\varphi_{f_p}}$  -- mean of instantaneous amplitude values over binned phases, with bins  $j$

## Modulation Index



2.  $P(j) = \frac{\langle A_{f_A} \rangle_{\varphi_p}^{(j)}}{\sum_{k=1}^K \langle A_{f_A} \rangle_{\varphi_{f_p}}^{(k)}}$  -- amplitude distribution, where  $P(j) \geq 0 \forall j$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^J P(j) = 1$
3.  $D_{KL}(P, Q) = \sum_{j=1}^J P(j) \log \left[ \frac{P(j)}{Q(j)} \right]$  -- Kullback-Leibler (KL) distance, where  $D_{KL}(P, Q) \geq 0$ , and  $D_{KL}(P, Q) = 0 \Leftrightarrow P = Q$
4.  $H(P) = -\sum_{j=1}^J P(j) \log[P(j)]$  -- Shannon Entropy
5.  $D_{KL}(P, U) = \log(N) - H(P)$  -- relationship b/ween Shannon entropy and KL distance
6.  $MI = \left[ \frac{D_{KL}(P,U)}{\log(N)} \right] = \left[ \frac{D_{KL}(P,U)}{D_{KL}(P,U)+H(P)} \right]$  -- definition of MI

The KL Distance quantifies the amplitude (over binned phases) distribution's deviation from the Uniform distribution.



# Methods for detecting CFC -- GLM

Proposed by Kramer & Eden (2013); expanded to include other models by Nadalin et al (2019)

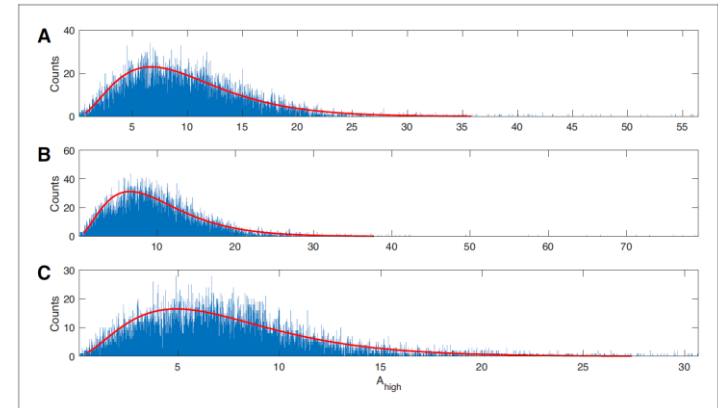
**The  $\varphi_{low}$  model** -- relates  $A_{high}$ , the response variable, to a linear combination of  $\varphi_{low}$ , the predictor variable, expressed in a spline basis.

$$A_{high} | \varphi_{low} \sim \text{Gamma}[\mu, \nu]$$

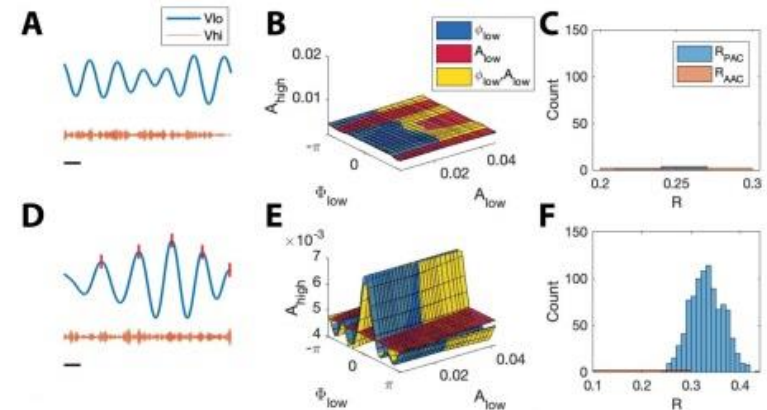
- Gamma distribution is chosen because it ensures real, positive amplitude values: The Gamma distribution is common for data for which the sd increases linearly with the mean
- $\mu$  is the mean parameter
- $\nu$  is the shape parameter

$$\log \mu = \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k f_k(\varphi_{low})$$

- Log-link functions are common in GLMs using Gamma distributions, and leads to models where predictors have multiplicative effects on the response
- $\beta_k$  are underdetermined coefficients
- Functions  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  correspond to spline basis functions, with  $n$  control points equally spaced between 0 and  $2\pi$ , used to approximate  $\varphi_{low}$ 
  - Spline basis functions sum to 1
  - $n$  set to 10 because experiments have shown it is a sound choice to identify PAC with one or two broad peaks; determination of  $n$  is performed using the AIC:  $AIC = \Delta + 2n$
  - Tension parameter of 0.5 to control smoothness of splines



Taken from Nadalin et al – A statistical framework to assess cross-frequency coupling while accounting for confounding analysis effects. – // Elife. – 2019 Oct 16. – doi:10.7554/eLife.44287



Taken from Nadalin et al – A statistical framework to assess cross-frequency coupling while accounting for confounding analysis effects. – // Elife. – 2019 Oct 16. – doi:10.7554/eLife.44287

**Note:** the use of the basis/cardinal spline functions move the model into the larger class of Generalized Additive Models (GAMs)

# Methods for detecting CFC -- GLM

1. **The  $\varphi_{low}$  model** -- relates  $A_{high}$ , the response variable, to a linear combination of  $\varphi_{low}$ , the predictor variable, expressed in a spline basis
  - $A_{high}|\varphi_{low} \sim \text{Gamma}[\mu, v]$  -- conditional distribution of  $A_{high}$  given  $\varphi_{low}$
  - $\log \mu = \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k f_k(\varphi_{low})$
2. **The  $A_{low}$  model** -- relates the high frequency amplitude to the low frequency amplitude
  - $A_{high}|A_{low} \sim \text{Gamma}[\mu, v]$  -- conditional distribution of  $A_{high}$  given  $A_{low}$
  - $\log \mu = \beta_1 + \beta_2 A_{low}$
3. **The  $A_{low}, \varphi_{low}$  model** -- extends the  $\varphi_{low}$  model by including three additional predictors
  - $A_{high}|\varphi_{low}, A_{low} \sim \text{Gamma}[\mu, v]$  -- conditional distribution of  $A_{high}$  given  $\varphi_{low}$  and  $A_{low}$
  - $\log \mu = \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k f_k(\varphi_{low}) + \beta_{n+1} A_{low} + \beta_{n+2} A_{low} \sin(\varphi_{low}) + \beta_{n+3} A_{low} \cos(\varphi_{low})$
4. **Evaluate the model in 3D using MATLAB function 'glmfit'**
  - i. Create surface  $S_{A_{low}, \varphi_{low}}$ , which fits the  $A_{low}, \varphi_{low}$  model in 3D  $(A_{low}, \varphi_{low}, A_{high})$  space
  - ii. Create surface  $S_{A_{low}}$ , which fits the  $A_{low}$  model in 3D  $(A_{low}, \varphi_{low}, A_{high})$  space
  - iii. Create surface  $S_{\varphi_{low}}$ , which fits the  $\varphi_{low}$  model in 3D  $(A_{low}, \varphi_{low}, A_{high})$  space
5. **rPAC statistic** -- measures the effect  $\varphi_{low}$  on  $A_{low}$ , while accounting for fluctuations in  $A_{low}$ 
  - $rPAC = \max \left[ \text{abs} \left[ \frac{1 - S_{A_{low}}}{S_{A_{low}, \varphi_{low}}} \right] \right]$  -- maximum absolute fractional difference b/w/een resulting surfaces  $S_{A_{low}}$  and  $S_{A_{low}, \varphi_{low}}$

**Note:** 'glmfit' uses the Fischer scoring/iteratively reweighted least squares algorithm

# Traditional (Hilbert-transform) method vs. time-frequency method

## Hilbert-transform method

$$\mathcal{H}\{f(\tau)\}(t) = f(t) * \frac{1}{\pi t} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(\tau)}{t-\tau} d\tau$$

The Hilbert transform is an integral transform, procured through the convolution operation.

The method involves (1) filtering the signal before (2) converting the filtered low- and high-frequency components into their analytic representations, from which one can (3) procure the phase and amplitude estimates through the arctangent and absolute value operations respectively.

```
phase_low = arctangent(hilbert(V_low))  
amp_high = abs(hilbert(V_high))
```

## Time-frequency method

$$E = \iint_D P(t, \omega) d\omega dt$$

Total energy of the signal as a function of its tf distribution.

The time frequency method involves the use of a function, called the distribution, with variables time  $t$  and frequency  $\omega$ , which represents the energy or intensity per unit time per unit frequency, namely  $P(t, \omega)$ . The signal's total energy is given by the integration of the distribution across its t-f domain.

Like with the Hilbert-transform method, both phase and amplitude are extracted using the arctangent and absolute value operations.

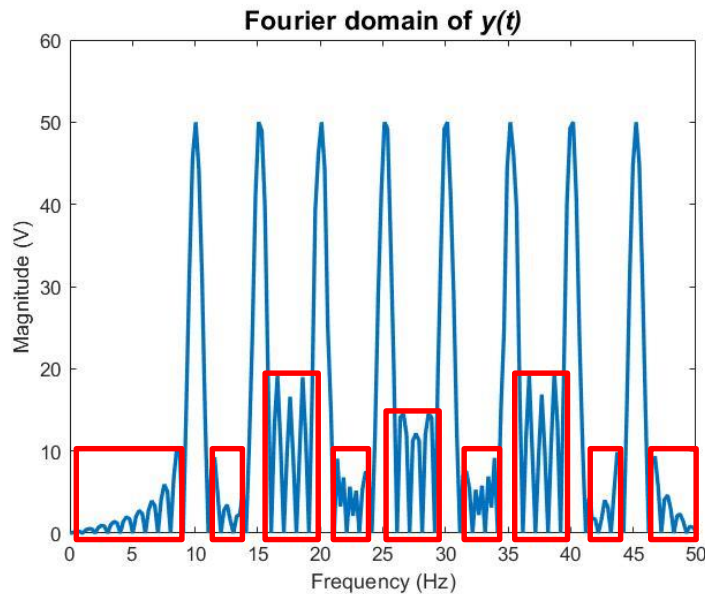
# Hilbert-transform method

1. **Choose signal  $x_{raw}[n]$  and filter it to give**
  - $x_{f_p}[n] = LPF\{x_{raw}[n]\}$  -- phase-giving signal
  - $x_{f_A}[n] = HPF\{x_{raw}[n]\}$  -- amplitude-giving signal
2. **Convert signals  $x_{f_p}[n]$  and  $x_{f_A}[n]$  to analytic form using the Hilbert transform**
  - $\left[x_{f_p}[n]\right]_a = x_{f_p}[n] + i\mathcal{H}\{x_{f_p}[n]\}$  -- analytic signal representation of  $x_{f_p}[n]$
  - $\left[x_{f_A}[n]\right]_a = x_{f_A}[n] + i\mathcal{H}\{x_{f_A}[n]\}$  -- analytic signal representation of  $x_{f_A}[n]$
3. **Procure instantaneous phase & amplitude values**
  - $\varphi_{f_p}[n] = \arctan\left[x_{f_p}[n]\right]_a$  -- instantaneous phase values
  - $A_{f_A}[n] = \left\|\left[x_{f_A}[n]\right]_a\right\|$  -- instantaneous amplitude values

**Note:**  $[n]$  refers to sample  $n$  in an  $N$ -sized signal, which MATLAB treats as a vector

# Problems with the TF method

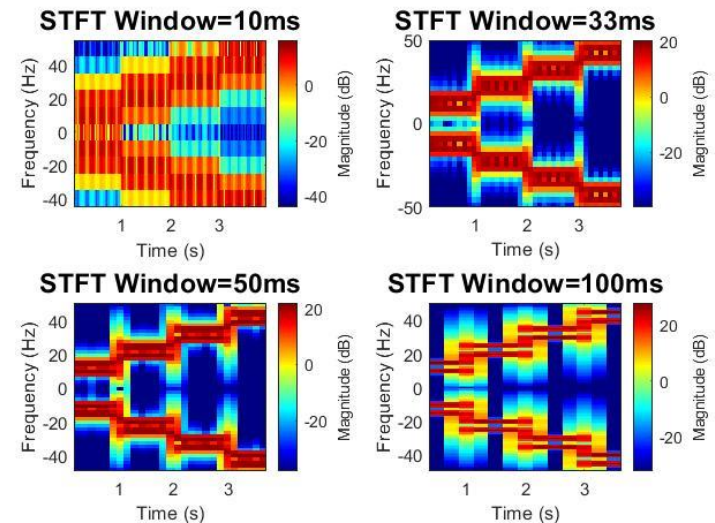
Let  $y(t) = \cos(2\pi f_1 t) + \cos(2\pi f_2 t)$   $\begin{cases} f_1 = 10, f_2 = 15, & 0s \leq t < 1s \\ f_1 = 20, f_2 = 25, & 1s \leq t < 2s \\ f_1 = 30, f_2 = 35, & 2s \leq t < 3s \\ f_1 = 40, f_2 = 45, & 3s \leq t < 4s \end{cases}$



Traditional Fourier transform methods fail to account for changing frequencies.

Also, **spectral leakage** has been introduced.

Short-time Fourier transform (STFT) distributions of  $y(t)$



Better resolution in the time domain results in worse resolution in the frequency domain and vice-versa -- i.e. the Heisenberg uncertainty principle.

# Cohen's class of TF distributions

Are all generalizations of

$$P(t, \omega) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \iiint e^{-j\theta t - j\tau\omega + j\theta u} \boxed{\phi(\theta, \tau)} s^* \left( u - \frac{1}{2}\tau \right) s \left( u + \frac{1}{2}\tau \right) du d\tau d\theta$$

where  $\phi(\theta, \tau)$  is an arbitrary function called the kernel function originally by Claasen and Mecklenbrauker. Choosing different kernel functions results in different distributions, each with their own properties.

For the Wigner, Rihaczek, and Page distributions, these are their respective kernel functions:  
 $\phi(\theta, \tau) = 1, e^{j\theta\tau/2}, e^{j\theta|\tau|/2}$   
 (kernel #1 – next slide)

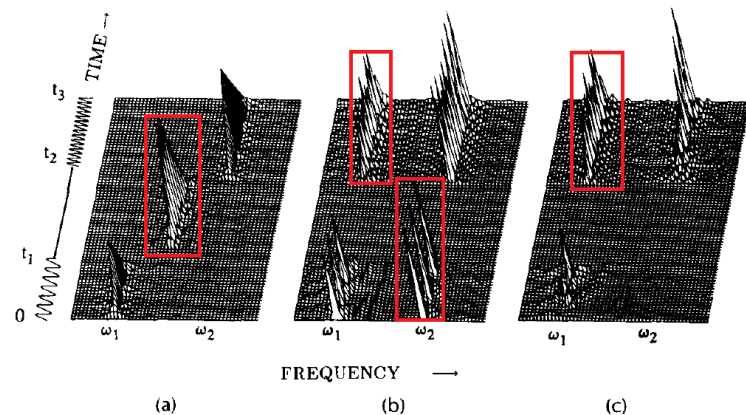


Fig. 1. (a) Wigner, (b) Rihaczek, and (c) Page distributions for the signal illustrated at left. The signal is turned on at time zero with constant frequency  $\omega_1$  and turned off at time  $t_1$ , turned on again at time  $t_2$  with frequency  $\omega_2$  and turned off at time  $t_3$ . All three distributions display energy density where one does not expect any. The positive parts of the distributions are plotted. For the Rihaczek distribution we have plotted the real part, which is also a distribution.

Taken from *Cohen L. — Time-frequency distributions-a review. — // Proceedings of the IEEE. — 1989. — Vol. 77, no. 7. — P. 941–981.*

# Reduced Interference (RID) - Rihaczek time-frequency distribution

$$C(t, f) = \iint \exp\left(-\frac{(\theta\tau)^2}{\sigma}\right) \exp\left(j\frac{\theta\tau}{\sigma}\right) A(\theta, \tau) e^{-j(\theta t + 2\pi f\tau)} d\tau d\theta$$

Where  $\exp\left(-\frac{(\theta\tau)^2}{\sigma}\right)$  is the Choi-Williams kernel

Where  $\exp\left(j\frac{\theta\tau}{\sigma}\right)$  is the kernel function for the reduced-Rihaczek distribution (aforementioned kernel #1)

- reduces the effect of the cross-terms and localizes the energy and phase estimates

Where  $A(\theta, \tau) = \int x\left(u + \frac{\tau}{2}\right) x^*\left(u - \frac{\tau}{2}\right) e^{i\theta u} du$  is the ambiguity function

- Both kernel functions can be thought of as two-dimensional lowpass filters that act on the ambiguity function that captures the time-varying autocorrelation of the signal
- The ambiguity function itself pulls interference terms into central locations, thereby minimizing their influence

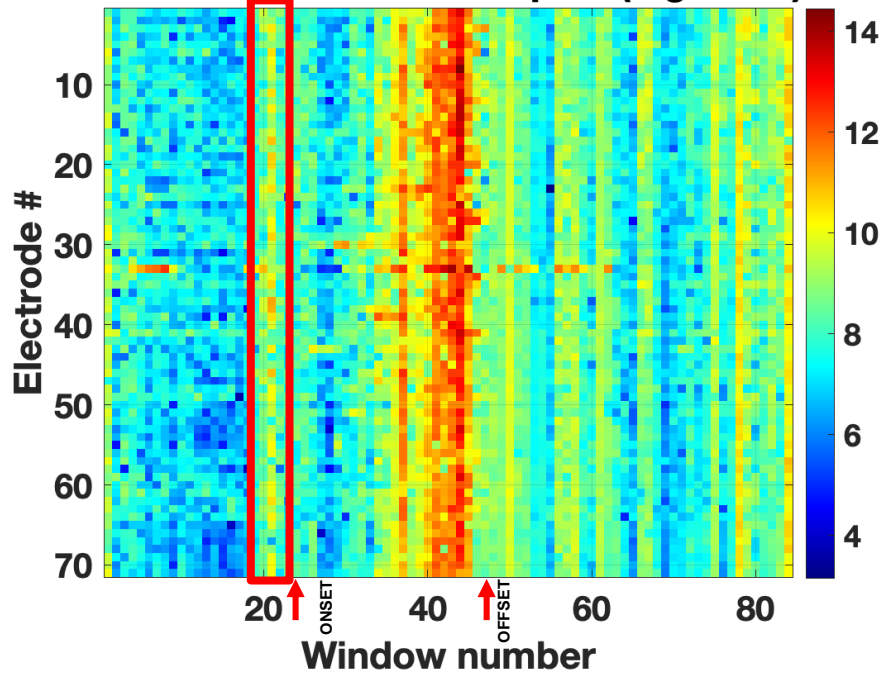
# RID-Rihaczek tfd method

1. Choose signal  $x_{raw}[n]$
2. Compute Reduced-Rihaczek TFD matrix using MATLAB function: `rid_rihaczek4(x,Fs)`
  - Where argument  $x \equiv x_{raw}[n]$
  - Where argument  $Fs$  is the sampling frequency
  - Return value is matrix  $TFD$  with size  $=(rows) \times (columns) = (Fs/2) \times (N)$ 
    - $Fs/2$  refers to the Nyquist limit: Frequencies above  $Fs/2$  will show traits of aliasing and are therefore unusable
3. Remove 1<sup>st</sup> row of TFD because it represents the 0Hz component: essentially, a constant voltage source, like a Duracell battery
4. Extract two rows
  - $TFD_{low}$
  - $TFD_{high} = \|A_{f_A}[n]\|^2$  -- by virtue of the theory behind the Reduced-Rihaczek tfd
5. Procure instantaneous phase & amplitude values
  - $\varphi_{f_p}[n] = \arctan[TFD_{low}]$  -- instantaneous phase values
  - $A_{f_A}[n] = \sqrt{\|A_{f_A}[n]\|^2} = \sqrt{\|TFD_{high}\|}$  -- instantaneous amplitude values

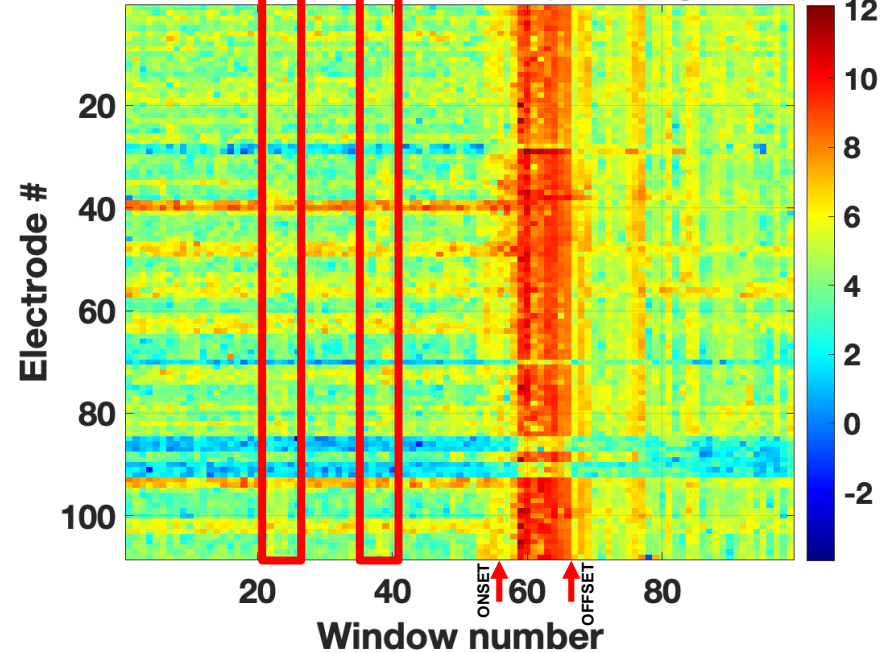
**Note:**  $[n]$  refers to sample  $n$  in an  $N$ -sized signal, which MATLAB treats as a vector



tfMVL for FBTCS1resampled (log scale)



tfMVL for FBTCS2 resampled (log scale)



## Real Data Examples: MVL method, plus analysis & interpretation

Each pixel refers to intra-electrode coupling ( $i=j$  for a given window).

**FBTCS1:** there is a clear CFC signature preceding the physical onset marker by 20 seconds

**FBTCS2:** there are two different window locations preceding the onset where the CFC signature is evident

Note: Having tested both a linear- and log-scale, we found the log-scale allows us to discern finer features in the data

# Conclusions

- The tfMVL method has clearly uncovered evidence of electrophysiological signatures in two iEEG datasets – more are required to confirm our findings
- The tf method is a viable alternative to the Hilbert-transform method

# Thank you!

# Sources

- Aviyente & Mutlu -- A Time-Frequency-Based Approach to Phase and Phase Synchrony Estimation (2011)
- Buzsáki, G., Rhythms of the brain, Oxford University Press (2006)
- Canolty et al -- High Gamma Power Is Phase-Locked to Theta Oscillations in Human Neocortex (2006)
- Hulsemann -- Quantification of PAC in Neuronal Oscillations (Comparison of PLV, MVL, MI, GLM-CFC) (2019)
- Kramer & Eden -- Assessment of CFC with confidence using GLMs (2013)
- Munia & Aviyente -- Time-Frequency Based Phase-Amplitude Coupling Measure For Neuronal Oscillations (2019)
- Nadalin et al -- A statistical framework to assess cross-frequency coupling while accounting for confounding analysis effects (2019)
- Tort et al -- Measuring Phase-Amplitude Coupling Between Neuronal Oscillations of Different Frequencies (2010)

**Note:** Esoteric facts and figures cited at location, while more prominent information is analyzed from several sources, all listed