

Reliability of gamma activity during semantic integration

Jona Sassenhagen Phillip Alday

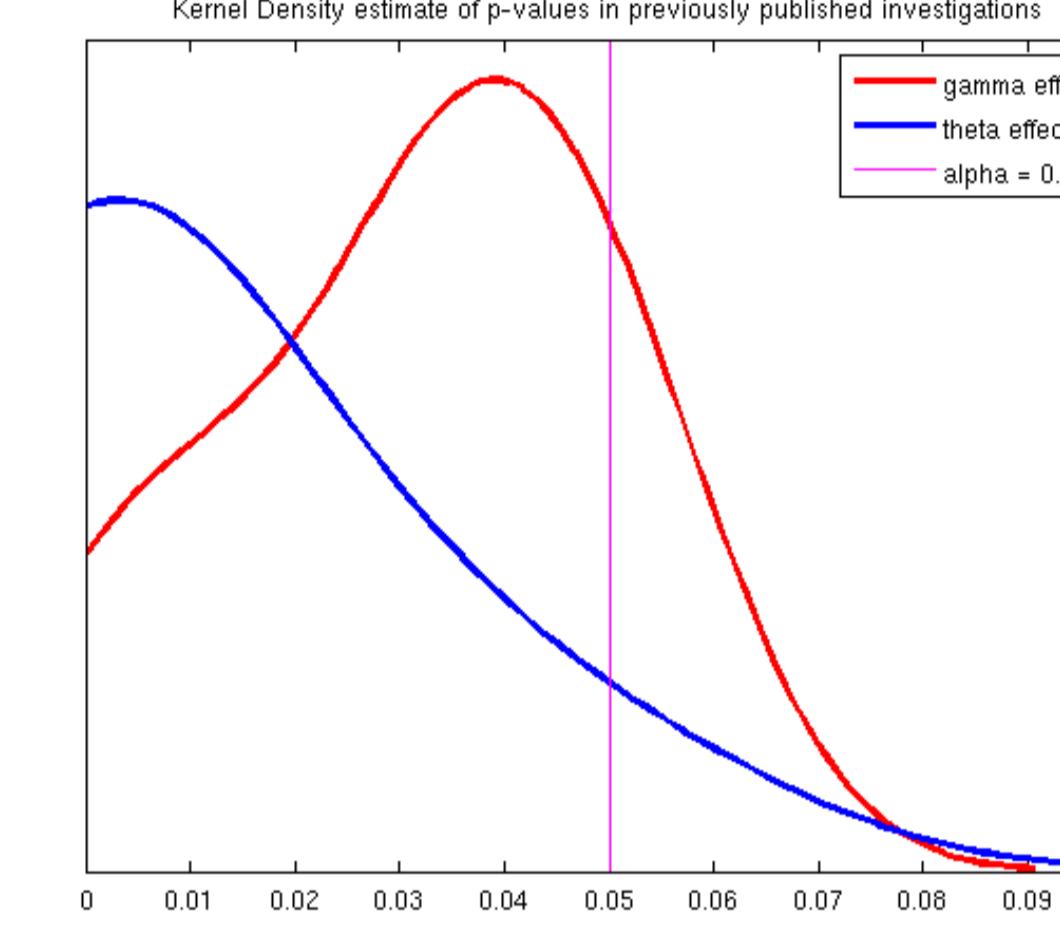
Motivation: Reproducibility of Results

Recently, research on event-related spectral perturbations (ERSPs) has begun to focus on the gamma band of the human EEG. Recent studies have reported gamma effects for semantic integration (related to cloze probability in classical N400 paradigms) [1–5], but the effects thus far have been far less consistent than previous findings in the lower frequency bands (cf. [6–10]). In line with recent concerns about the reliability of effects in the brain sciences [11–13], we performed meta-analysis of existing data. As the inconsistent previous findings do not allow for specific predictions, we used a pseudo-jackknife method.

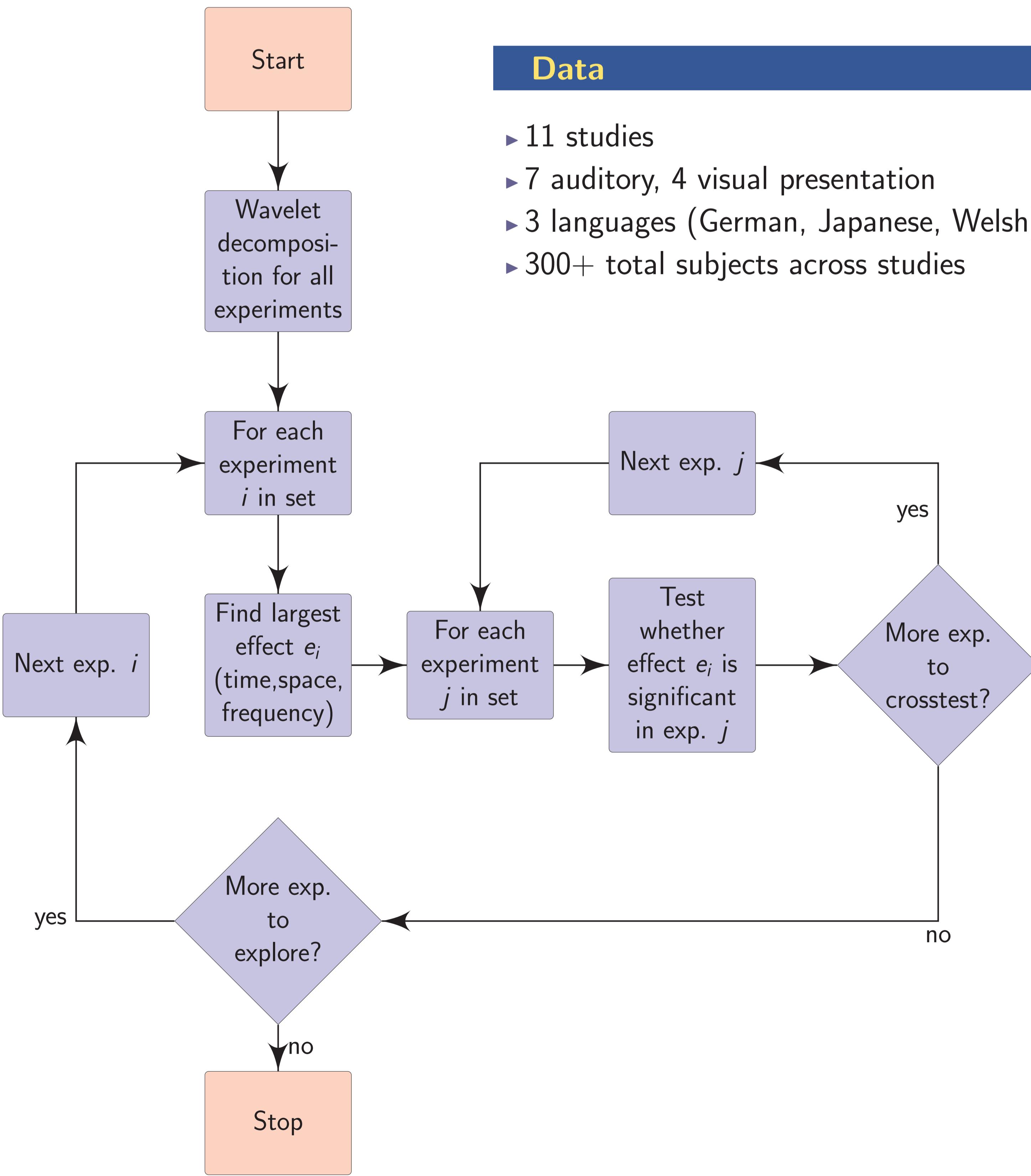
Literature

p-Values in Prior Research

- [1] M. S. Mellem, R. B. Friedman, et al. (in press). *Brain and Language*.
- [2] L. Wang, Z. Zhu, et al. (2012). *Frontiers in Psychology*.
- [3] B. Penolazzi, A. Angrilli, et al. (2009). *Neuroscience Letters*.
- [4] P. Hagoort (2008). *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*.
- [5] P. Hagoort, L. Hald, et al. (2004). *Science*.
- [6] M. Bastiaansen & P. Hagoort (2006). *Prog Brain Res*.
- [7] A. Heine, S. Tamm, et al. (2006). *NeuroReport*.
- [8] D. Röhm, W. Klimesch, et al. (2001). *Neuroscience letters*.
- [9] D. J. Davidson & P. Indefrey (2007). *Brain Research*.
- [10] D. Roehm, M. Schlesewyk, et al. (2004). *NeuroReport*.
- [11] E. Vul, C. Harris, et al. (2009). *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.
- [12] J. P. Simmons, L. D. Nelson, et al. (2011). *Psychological Science*.
- [13] J. Kilner (2013). *Clinical Neurophysiology*.



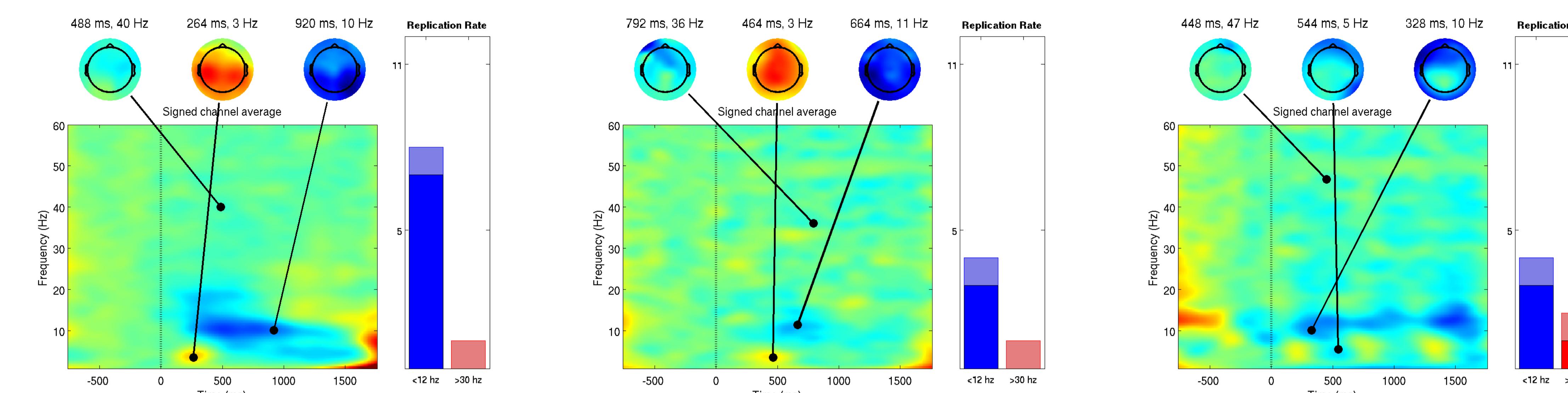
Method (Pseudo-Jackknife)



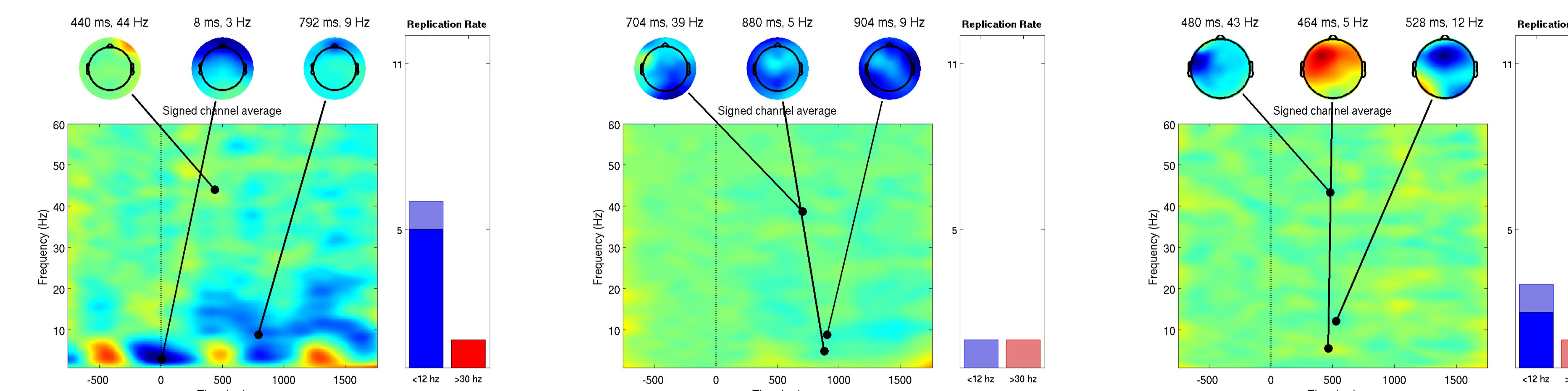
Data

- 11 studies
- 7 auditory, 4 visual presentation
- 3 languages (German, Japanese, Welsh)
- 300+ total subjects across studies

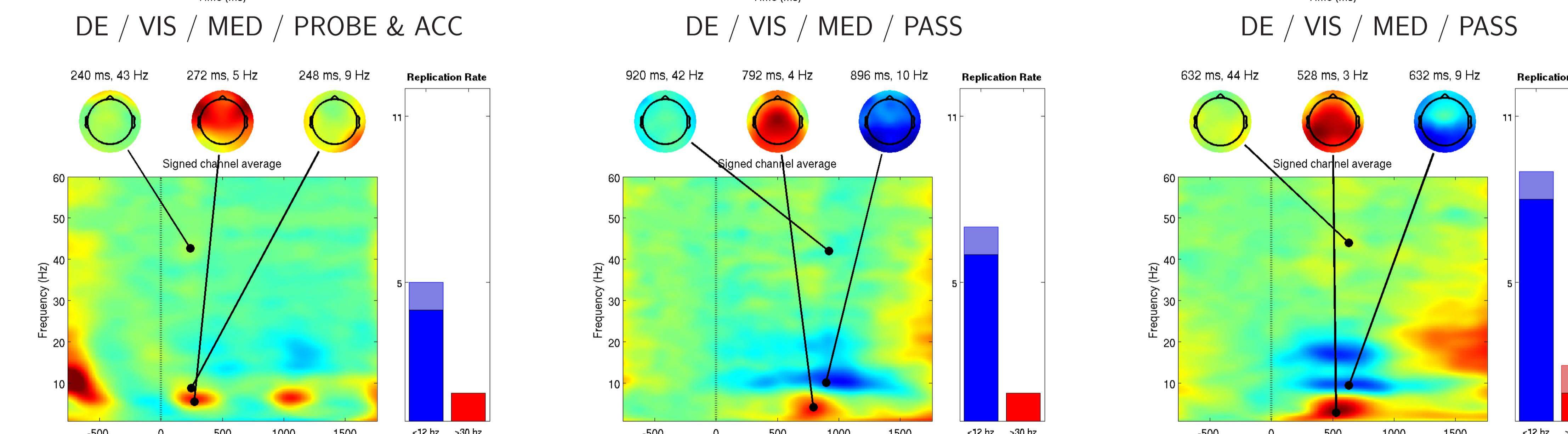
Replication



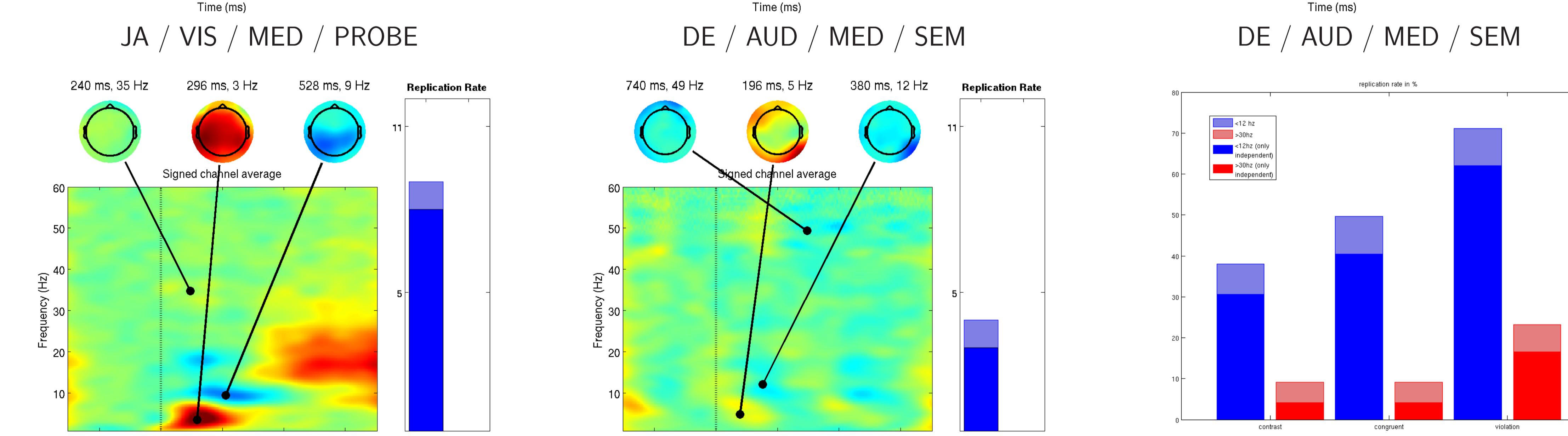
DE / AUD / HIGH / SEM



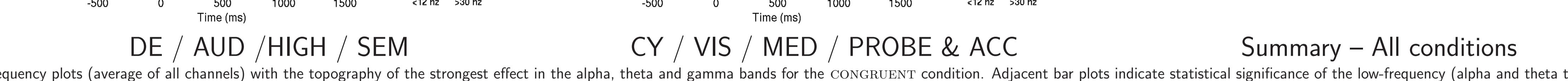
DE / AUD / MED / COMP



DE / VIS / MED / PROBE & ACC



DE / VIS / MED / PASS



DE / VIS / MED / SEM



CY / VIS / MED / PROBE & ACC



Summary – All conditions

Conclusion

Unlike low-frequency effects, **gamma effects** are not reliably elicited by the proposed experimental manipulation.

HIGH, MED, LOW = high, medium, low cloze probability;
SEM = semantic judgment; COMP = comprehension task; PROBE = probe task;
ACC = acceptability judgment task; PASS = passive listening
DE = German; JA = Japanese; CY = Welsh

Detailed description: The slide contains a complex flowchart for a pseudo-jackknife method, a summary of prior research p-value distributions, and a grid of 11 time-frequency plots comparing gamma activity across different semantic integration conditions (DE/AUD/MED/Semantic, DE/VIS/MED/Passive, etc.) for three languages (German, Japanese, Welsh). Each plot includes a topoplott, a time-frequency heatmap, and a bar chart of replication rates for low (<12 Hz) and high (>30 Hz) frequency bands. A final summary bar chart shows the overall replication rates for contrast, congruent, and violation conditions across all conditions.