

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Acknowledgements | v |
| Abstract..... | vii |
| Zusammenfassung | ix |
| List of Figures | xv |
| List of Tables..... | 17 |
| Chapter 1 Introduction | 19 |
| 1.1 Motivation | 19 |
| 1.2 Brain oscillations..... | 20 |
| 1.3 Current theories on the role of brain oscillations | 22 |
| 1.3.1 Gating by Inhibition..... | 23 |
| 1.3.2 Communication through coherence..... | 23 |
| 1.3.3 Nested Oscillations | 23 |
| 1.4 Methods to modulate brain oscillations | 24 |
| 1.4.1 Entrainment..... | 25 |
| 1.4.2 tACS..... | 26 |
| 1.4.3 Repetitive sensory stimulation and steady-state evoked potentials | 28 |
| 1.5 Chapter overview | 29 |
| 1.5.1 Chapter 2..... | 29 |
| 1.5.2 Chapter 3..... | 29 |
| 1.5.3 Chapter 4..... | 29 |
| 1.5.4 Chapter 5..... | 29 |
| Chapter 2 Concurrent tACS-fMRI reveals causal influence of power-synchronized neural activity on resting state fMRI connectivity..... | 31 |
| 2.1 Abstract..... | 31 |
| 2.2 Introduction..... | 32 |
| 2.3 Methods..... | 32 |

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------|
| 2.3.1 | Experimental Design..... | 33 |
| 2.3.2 | Subjects..... | 33 |
| 2.3.3 | EEG acquisition..... | 34 |
| 2.3.4 | EEG preprocessing..... | 34 |
| 2.3.5 | EEG source localisation..... | 34 |
| 2.3.6 | EEG analysis..... | 34 |
| 2.3.7 | tACS 3-electrode setup..... | 35 |
| 2.3.8 | MRI acquisition..... | 36 |
| 2.3.9 | rs-fMRI analysis..... | 37 |
| 2.3.10 | Modelling of the electric field induced by tACS..... | 38 |
| 2.4 | Results..... | 38 |
| 2.4.1 | Designing EEG-based tACS signals..... | 38 |
| 2.4.2 | tACS effects on the sensorimotor RSN..... | 41 |
| 2.4.3 | Relationship between EEG connectivity and rs-fMRI connectivity within the sensorimotor RSN..... | 47 |
| 2.5 | Discussion..... | 49 |
| 2.5.1 | Distribution of the electric field..... | 50 |
| 2.5.2 | Conclusion..... | 51 |
| Chapter 3 | Repetitive sensory stimulation: an efficient tool for entraining brain rhythms | 53 |
| 3.1 | Abstract..... | 53 |
| 3.2 | Introduction..... | 54 |
| 3.3 | Methods..... | 55 |
| 3.3.1 | General Setup..... | 55 |
| 3.3.2 | Experiment 1..... | 57 |
| 3.3.3 | Experiment 2..... | 57 |
| 3.3.4 | Experiment 3..... | 57 |
| 3.3.5 | EEG preprocessing..... | 57 |
| 3.3.6 | EEG analysis..... | 57 |
| 3.3.7 | Statistical Analysis..... | 58 |
| 3.4 | Results..... | 58 |
| 3.4.1 | Experiment 1..... | 58 |
| 3.4.2 | Experiment 2..... | 62 |

| | | |
|------------------|--|-----------|
| 3.4.3 | Experiment 3..... | 66 |
| 3.5 | Discussion..... | 68 |
| 3.5.1 | Entrainment Effects..... | 68 |
| 3.5.2 | Phase-synchronization across hemispheres..... | 69 |
| 3.5.3 | Relationship between phase-offset and amplitude response..... | 69 |
| 3.5.4 | Cross-frequency coupling..... | 70 |
| 3.5.5 | Relationship between steady-state evoked potentials and tACS..... | 71 |
| 3.6 | Outlook..... | 71 |
| 3.7 | Conclusion..... | 72 |
| Chapter 4 | Motor slowing occurs despite increasing dis-inhibition of the motor system | 73 |
| 4.1 | Abstract..... | 73 |
| 4.2 | Introduction..... | 74 |
| 4.3 | Methods, results and brief discussion for each experiment..... | 76 |
| 4.3.1 | Experiment 1 - Behavioural characterization of recovery after motor slowing..... | 76 |
| 4.3.2 | Experiment 2 - EEG changes in alpha and beta oscillations after motor slowing..... | 79 |
| 4.3.3 | Experiment 3 - SICI: Alterations of inhibitory circuits in M1 after motor slowing..... | 82 |
| 4.3.4 | Experiment 4 - Cortical and subcortical areas involved during motor slowing..... | 85 |
| 4.4 | General Discussion..... | 89 |
| 4.4.1 | Investigating neural after-effects of Motor Slowing..... | 89 |
| 4.4.2 | Motor slowing leads to dis-inhibition of primary motor cortex..... | 90 |
| 4.4.3 | Other brain structures involved in motor slowing..... | 91 |
| 4.4.4 | Potential causes for motor slowing?..... | 91 |
| 4.5 | Conclusion..... | 92 |
| Chapter 5 | Conclusion & Future Applications..... | 93 |
| 5.1 | Combining tACS with fMRI..... | 93 |
| 5.2 | Repetitive sensory stimulation as alternative to tACS..... | 94 |
| 5.3 | Motor Slowing..... | 95 |
| 5.4 | Modulating GABA-ergic connections via tDCS..... | 95 |
| 5.5 | Modulating motor slowing with tACS..... | 96 |

| | | |
|-----|--|------------|
| 5.6 | Modulating network efficacy with power-synchronized tACS? | 96 |
| 5.7 | Modulation of motor slowing via repetitive sensory stimulation | 97 |
| 5.8 | Conclusion | 97 |
| | References | 99 |
| | Curriculum Vitae | 116 |