

# Network functional connectivity under naturalistic and resting fMRI conditions

JÜLICH Forschungszentrum

Lisa N. Mochalski<sup>1, 2</sup>, Patrick Friedrich<sup>2</sup>, Simon B. Eickhoff<sup>1, 2</sup>, and Susanne Weis<sup>1, 2</sup>

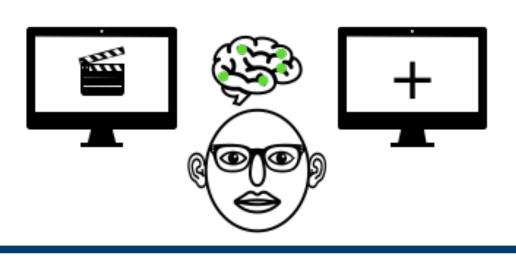
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<sup>1</sup>Institute of Systems Neuroscience, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany; <sup>2</sup>Institute of Neuroscience and Medicine (INM-7: Brain and Behaviour), Research Centre Jülich, Jülich, Germany I.mochalski@fz-juelich.de



### Introduction

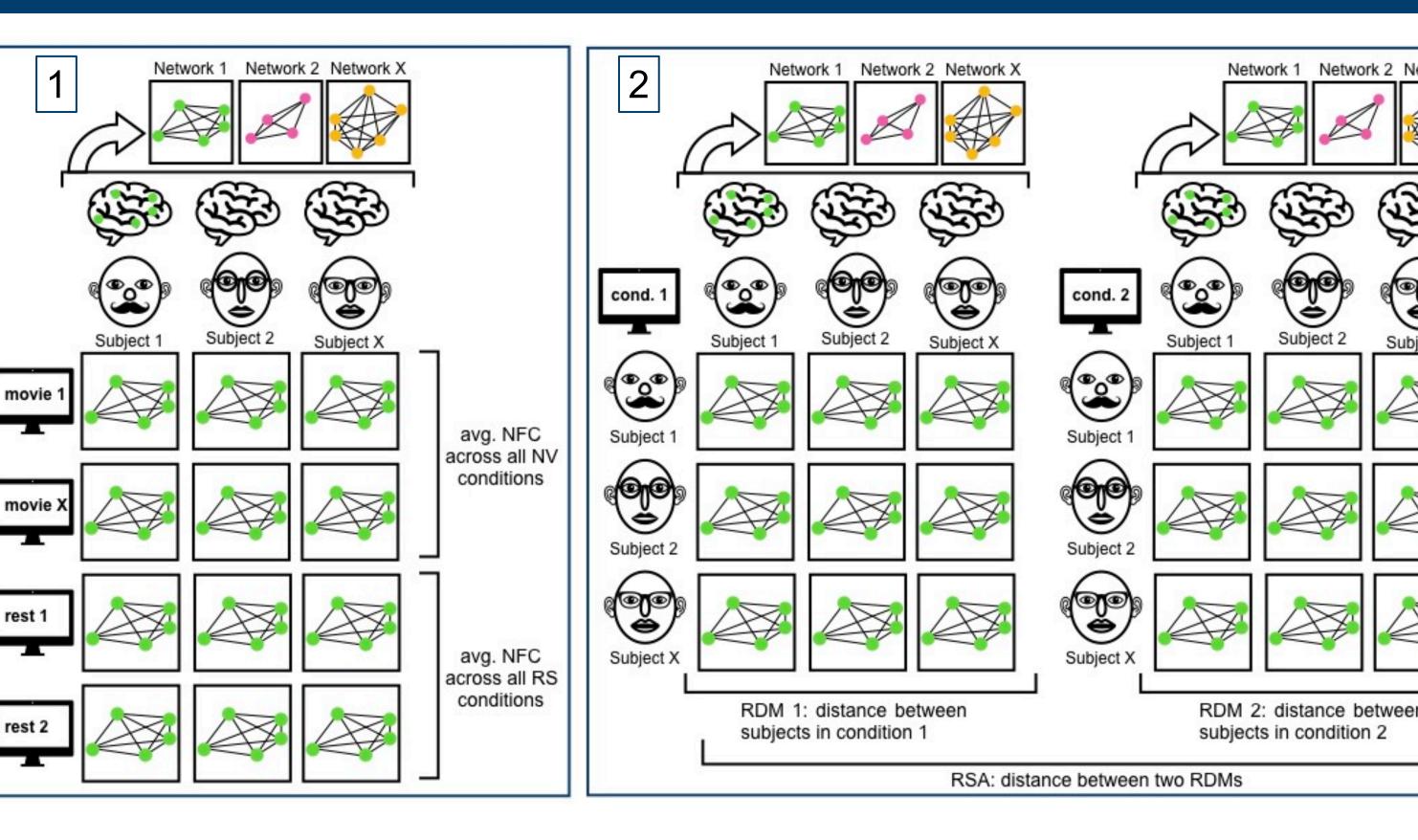
- Movies: more similar to real-life experiences because of continuity, complexity and dynamics
- Life-like situations in naturalistic viewing (NV) might give controlled push into brain states emerging naturally outside the MRI (Finn et al., 2017)<sup>1</sup>
- Induced brain states give basis to investigate inter-individual differences and clinical questions (Eickhoff, Milham & Vanderwal, 2020)<sup>2</sup>
- Effect of might be best measured in functional networks related to processing content and features of movie
- We investigate the effect of NV in comparison to resting state (RS) on network functional connectivity (NFC) in 14 meta-analytically defined networks



 Data: 60 healthy German native speakers (33 male, mean age 23.4 years, SD = 3.6 years)

- fMRI acquisition on 3T Siemens Prisma
- 2 resting state (RS) scans, approx. 8 min
- 8 movie scans, 7 individual clips (approx. 7-10 min each, "Dirty Dancing", "Dead Poets Society", "Dead Man Walking", "Forrest Gump", "Life is Beautiful", "Scream", "The Good, the Bad, the Ugly"), 1 compilation of 12 shorter clips from commercial movies (approx. 10 min, "Short Sequences")
- fMRIPrep preprocessing incl. skullstripping, motion correction using ICA-AROMA, slice-time correction, resampling into MNI152NLin6Asym standard space, smoothing using a 6mm FWHM Gaussian kernel, GSR
- Functional connectomes based on pairwise correlations between nodes of 14 meta-analytically defined networks were calculated using in-house code

### Methods



### 1: Analysis of averaged network functional connectivity (NFC) across networks

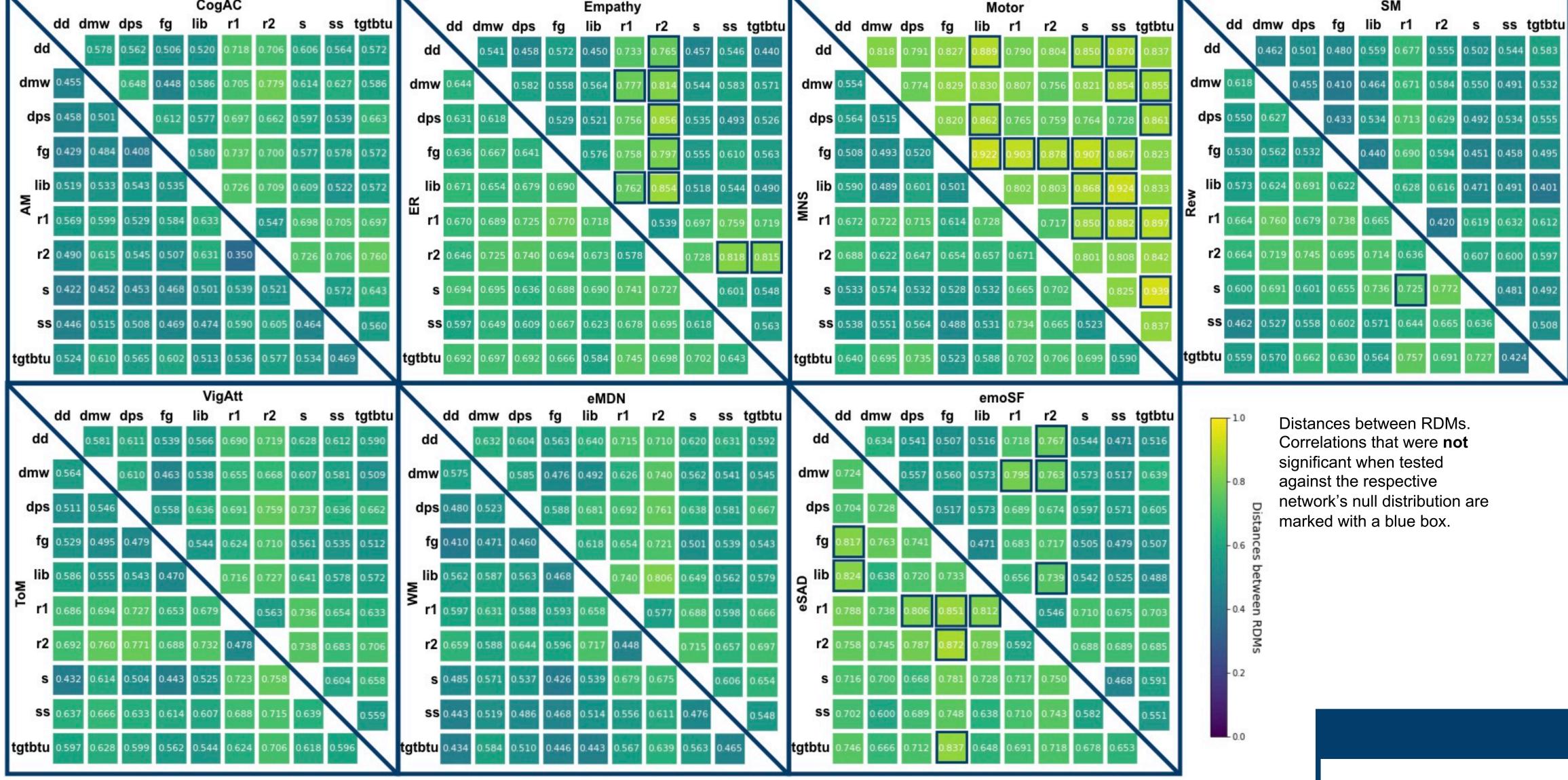
- Average NFC was calculated for every network, once across movie conditions and once across RS conditions
- We used a repeated measures ANOVA with factors condition (avg. movie vs avg. RS) and network to test which network's FC is affected by NV in comparison to RS

### 2: Representational similarity analysis (RSA) of different scanning conditions across networks

- Representational dissimilarity matrices (RDMs) were calculated between subjects in every condition and every network based on Spearman rank correlations
- RDMs of different conditions in the same network were correlated to calculate RSAs
- 1 Spearman correlation coefficients create the distances between the similarity of subjects in different conditions
- Significance was tested against family-wise null distribution in each network

**Meta-analytically defined networks:** autobiographical memory (AM)<sup>3,</sup> cognitive attention control (CogAC)<sup>4,</sup> extended multiple demand network (eMDN)<sup>5,</sup> emotional scene and face processing (EmoSF)<sup>6,</sup> Empathy<sup>7,</sup> theory of mind (ToM)<sup>8,</sup> emotion regulation (ER)<sup>9,</sup> extended socio-affective default (eSAD)<sup>10,</sup> mirror neuron system (MNS)<sup>11,</sup> Motor<sup>12,</sup> reward (Rew)<sup>13,</sup> semantic memory (SM)<sup>14,</sup> vigilant attention (VigAtt)<sup>15,</sup> working memory (WM)<sup>16</sup>

### Results



1: Analysis of averaged network functional connectivity (NFC) across networks

- RM ANOVA: sign. network\*condition interaction effect  $F_{(13,832)} = 13.067$ , p < .001
- Bonferroni-corrected post-hoc test: sign. difference between avg. movies and avg. RS only in **eSAD** (t = -4.004, p = .045)

## 2: Representational similarity analysis (RSA) of different scanning conditions across networks

- Correlations between RDMs of different conditions in same network tested against null distribution of respective network: all conditions sign. in most networks, except Empathy, Motor, Rew, eSAD, emoSF
- Differences between networks in distances between RDMS:
- Motor network shows highest distances between conditions overall
- AM and WM networks show lowest distances between conditions overall
- Often higher distances between movie and RS conditions, while RS conditions and movie conditions show lower distances among themselves respectively; greatest differences in Empathy network

### Discussion

- Averaged NFC only shows significant differences between NV and RS conditions in one network
- Might be too unspecific to detect effect of NV vs RS on NFC, RSA allows closer inspection of effect of condition on NFC in different networks
- Investigates the distances in the similarities of subjects in different conditions, how similar is the covariation in NFC of subjects across conditions?
- Some non-sign. results: no association between covariation in NFC in these conditions, but covariation patterns seem to be shared in most conditions across networks
- Different patterns across networks, but often subjects' NFC covaries more similarly among NV and among RS conditions, respectively
- Hints towards shared brain states among NV and among RS conditions, and NV and RS separable
- Differences between networks in distances between different NV conditions: open question of effects of content and features of movies

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References: <sup>1</sup>Finn et al., 2017; <sup>2</sup>Eickhoff, Milham & Vanderwal, 2020, <sup>3</sup>Spreng, Mar & Kim, 2008; <sup>4</sup>Cieslik, Mueller, Eickhoff, Langner, & Eickhoff, 2013; <sup>5</sup>Camilleri et al., 2016; <sup>6</sup>Sabatinelli et al., 2011; <sup>7</sup>Bzdok et al., 2012; <sup>8</sup>Buhle et al., 2014; <sup>9</sup>Amft et al., 2015; <sup>10</sup>Caspers et al., 2016; <sup>11</sup>Witt, Meyerand, & Laird, 2008; <sup>12</sup>Liu, Hairston, Schrier, & Fan, 2011; <sup>13</sup>Binder et al., 2009; <sup>14</sup>Langner & Eickhoff, 2013; <sup>15</sup>Rottschy et al., 2012