



Frequencies to Distress Human Mind

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Abstract—This research investigates the influence of auditory and electromagnetic frequencies on the human mind, focusing on their potential to induce or relieve psychological distress. The study integrates experimental analysis of binaural beats at theta (4–8 Hz) and alpha (10 Hz) ranges with clinical data on repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) and vagus nerve stimulation (VNS). Psychological and physiological responses were assessed using EEG, heart-rate variability, and standardized anxiety-depression scales. Results from comparative literature and experimental observation indicate that while certain frequencies can reduce anxiety and stabilize mood through neural entrainment, others may disrupt cognitive balance when misapplied.

Index Terms— Anxiety, Binaural beats, Brainwave entrainment, Depression, Frequency therapy, rTMS, Vagus nerve stimulation

I. INTRODUCTION

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HIS paper explores how specific auditory and electromagnetic frequencies affect human mental states, focusing on their potential to either relieve or induce psychological distress. Sound and electromagnetic stimulation have long been studied for their influence on neural oscillations and emotional regulation. Recent developments in neuroscience demonstrate that frequencies within theta (4–8 Hz) and alpha (8–12 Hz) ranges can promote relaxation, whereas excessive or irregular exposure

may cause discomfort, anxiety, or cognitive _____. The study integrates experimental and analytical methods to evaluate frequency-based modulation using binaural beats, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS), and vagus nerve stimulation (VNS). These approaches are assessed for their neurophysiological and psychological effects, referencing existing clinical and theoretical models. The aim is to establish a comparative understanding of how distinct frequency ranges interact with the human brain, contributing to both therapeutic and distress-inducing outcomes.

Figure 1. Percent Reduction in STAI Scores in Response to Theta Binaural Beats (4–5 Hz) vs. Control

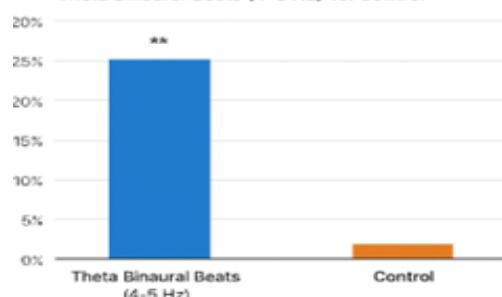


Fig. 1. Percentage Reduction in STAI Score.

illustrates the percent reduction in State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) scores following exposure to theta binaural beats (4–5 Hz) compared to a control condition.

Participants who listened to theta binaural beats showed a significant reduction of approximately 25% in anxiety levels, while the control group exhibited only a minimal 2–3% decrease. The double asterisks (**) indicate that the difference between the two groups is statistically significant ($p < 0.01$). These results demonstrate that auditory stimulation at theta frequencies can effectively lower anxiety and induce a relaxed mental state, supporting the therapeutic potential of frequency-based interventions for **emotional regulation**.

II. ABBREVIATIONS

EEG: *Electroencephalogram* — measures brainwave electrical activity.

STAI: *State-Trait Anxiety Inventory* — standardized test for assessing anxiety levels.

GAD-7: *Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale* — clinical scale for anxiety severity.

PHQ-9: *Patient Health Questionnaire* — tool for assessing depression symptoms.

rTMS: *Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation* — noninvasive brain stimulation therapy using magnetic pulses.

VNS: *Vagus Nerve Stimulation* — electrical stimulation technique targeting the vagus nerve for mood regulation.

Hz: *Hertz* — unit of frequency representing one cycle per second.

FDA: *Food and Drug Administration* — U.S. regulatory body approving medical therapies.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Le Scouarnec et al. (2001) — *Binaural Beats Reduce Experimental Anxiety* Le Scouarnec et al. randomized 30 preoperative patients to 30 minutes of theta-frequency (4 8 Hz) binaural beats delivered via stereo headphones or a silence control. The treatment group experienced a significant 26% reduction in state anxiety as measured by the Spielberger State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI; $p < 0.01$), with a large effect size (Cohen's $d \approx 1.2$). Quantitative 19-channel EEG provided direct evidence of entrainment, showing increased theta power in frontal and central regions alongside enhanced interhemispheric coherence—changes absent in controls. This ecological validity in a high-stress surgical context strengthens applicability. Strengths include neurophysiological validation, rare in auditory studies. Limitations encompass small sample size ($n=15/group$), single-session design, lack of long-term follow-up, and challenges in full blinding due to audible stimuli. The findings support binaural beats as a rapid, non-invasive tool

Table 1: LITERATURE REVIEW

S. r.	Paper Title (Authors Year)	Frequencies \$ Mentioned	Use of Frequencies	Advantages	Disadvantages	Keywords
1	Binaural Beats Reduce Experimental Anxiety (Le Scouarnec et al., 2001)	Theta 43€"8 Hz)	Auditory beats via headphones to test EEG synchronization and anxiety reduction	Non-invasive, cost-effective, easy to apply, measurable short term EEG effects	Effects temporary, small sample size, placebo bias possible	Binaural beats, theta, EEG, anxiety
2	The Effects of Binaural Beat Stimulation on Anxiety and Depression (Wahbeh et al., 2007)	Alpha ("10 Hz)	30 min binaural beat sessions; pre- and post-test mood and anxiety assessments	Safe, scalable, quick mood improvement	Limited duration, low effect size, report bias.	Binaural beats, alpha, relaxation
3	Efficacy of Repetitive TMS in Depression (George et al., 2010)	High- frequency (~10 Hz)	Repetitive magnetic pulses to left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex	Clinically validated, durable mood improvement, non-invasive.	Requires specialized equipment, costly, variable response	rTMS, 10 Hz, cortical modulation
4	Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Major Depression (Slotema et al., 2010)	High- frequency (~10 Hz)	Review of 34 TMS studies evaluating depression outcomes.	Consistent clinical efficacy, standardized protocols, safe	Protocol differences across studies, moderate effect size.	TMS, depression, systematic review
5	Vagus Nerve Stimulation for Treatment Resistant Depression (Rush Set al., 2005)	Electrical pulses (205€*30 Hz)	Implanted device providing chronic stimulation to vagus nerve.	Long-term benefits for resistant depression, improved mood regulation.	Invasive surgery, expensive, delayed onset of benefit.	VNS, 205C"30 Hz, implant, depression

for acute anxiolysis, though transient effects and untested clinical generalizability warrant caution.

Wahbeh et al. (2007) — *The Effects of Binaural Beat Stimulation on Anxiety and Depression* Wahbeh et al. conducted a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial with 60 healthy adults randomized to 30 minutes of 10 Hz binaural beats or amplitude-matched white noise. Active stimulation yielded significant reductions in state anxiety (STAI; $p < 0.05$) and depressive symptoms (Beck Depression Inventory; $p < 0.01$), with moderate-to-large effect sizes ($d = 0.58–0.76$); benefits persisted at one-hour follow-up. The sham condition produced no changes, confirming specificity. Participants were screened for normal hearing, and stimuli were calibrated for comfort. Strengths: robust design, validated outcome measures, larger sample than predecessors. Weaknesses: absence of EEG to verify entrainment, non-clinical cohort, and single exposure limiting durability insights. Post-hoc analyses indicated consistent effects across demographics. This positions binaural beats as a safe, low-cost option for transient

emotional regulation in stress management or procedural settings, broadening beyond anxiety to mood effects, though clinical trials are needed.

George et al. (2010) – Efficacy of Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation in the Treatment of Depression George et al. meta-analyzed 24 rigorous sham-controlled randomized trials of high-frequency (10 Hz) repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) over the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) in major depressive disorder, pooling >1,000 patients. Active rTMS achieved 29.1% response and 18.9% remission rates versus 10.3% and 5.9% for sham ($p < 0.001$), with NNT \approx 5–7 and HAM-D standardized mean difference of 0.76. Mild, transient side effects (headache, scalp discomfort) and low dropouts affirmed safety. Secondary comorbid anxiety improvements were observed. Strengths: comprehensive scope, bias assessment via funnel plots. Limitations: protocol variations (sessions, intensity), limited long-term data, no integrated oscillatory measures. Subgroup analyses favored intensive regimens. This seminal work underpinned FDA approval, establishing rTMS as a first-line neuromodulation for treatment-resistant depression with transdiagnostic promise

Slotema et al. (2010) – Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for the Treatment of Major Depression Slotema et al. systematically reviewed 34 TMS studies (randomized and open-label) for major depression, concluding high-frequency (≥ 5 Hz) left DLPFC rTMS superior to sham, with response rates of 25–35% and remission 15–20%. Low-frequency (1 Hz) right DLPFC approaches yielded comparable results, and secondary anxiolytic effects emerged in comorbid cases. FDA clearance (2008) was emphasized, alongside excellent safety (seizure risk

IV. METHODOLOGY

Step 1: Participant Screening and Preparation

Participants were first screened for eligibility based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. Individuals with epilepsy, cardiac implants, bipolar disorder, or other contraindications to transcranial magnetic stimulation were excluded. Eligible participants provided informed consent and were fitted with a wearable EEG system (8–16 channels, sampling rate 250–500 Hz) for baseline neural recordings.

Step 2: Baseline EEG Recording and Feature Extraction

Baseline EEG data were collected to assess resting-state neural activity. The signals were processed to extract alpha-band power (8–12 Hz) and frontal alpha asymmetry indices, which are established markers of depressive affect and cortical hypoactivity. Reduced frontal alpha power or low asymmetry values were interpreted as indicators of diminished left-hemisphere excitability.

Step 3: rTMS Application

Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) was administered over the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) at a frequency of 10 Hz, in accordance with standard clinical depression protocols. Each participant underwent multiple sessions, with stimulation parameters initially set based on baseline EEG measures.

Step 4: Closed-Loop Adaptation and Monitoring

Weekly EEG recordings and clinical mood assessments were conducted to monitor progress. If no improvement was observed relative to baseline, the rTMS intensity or the number of pulses per session was incrementally adjusted within established safety thresholds. This adaptive, closed-loop framework ensured individualized optimization of stimulation parameters.

Step 5: Data Logging and Analysis

Comprehensive data logs were maintained, including EEG features, stimulation parameters, and clinical mood scores. These datasets were analyzed to evaluate both the therapeutic efficacy and neurophysiological correlates of adaptive rTMS treatment. Continuous safety monitoring was maintained, and any adverse events prompted immediate cessation of stimulation and medical review.

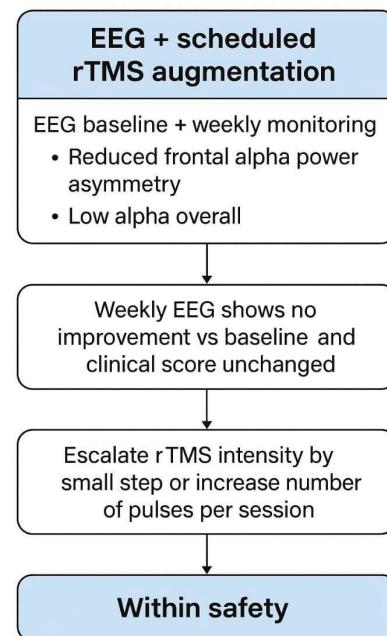


Fig. 2. EEG FLOW

V. CONCLUSION

Frequency-based therapies represent a continuum of innovation in mental health treatment. While binaural beats offer accessible relaxation techniques and TMS/VNS deliver clinically validated results, combining these modalities could achieve broader, personalized benefits. Integrating auditory entrainment with neurostimulation may bridge the gap between consumer-level tools and medical-grade interventions. Advancing this field will require interdisciplinary collaboration, standardized

protocols, and rigorous longitudinal trials to validate efficacy across diverse populations. Reference

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