**Effects of Tasks on Functional Brain Connectivity Derived from Inter-Individual Correlations:**

**Insights from Regional Homogeneity of Functional MRI Data**

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**Abstract**

Research on brain functional connectivity often relies on intra-individual moment-to-moment correlations

of functional activity, typically using functional MRI (fMRI). Inter-individual correlations are also

employed on data from fMRI and positron emission tomography (PET). Many studies have not specified

tasks during scanning, keeping participants in an implicit "resting" condition. This lack of task specificity

raises questions about how different tasks impact inter-individual correlation estimates. In our analysis of

fMRI data from 100 unrelated participants, scanned during seven tasks and in a resting state, we

calculated Regional Homogeneity (ReHo) for each task as a regional measure of brain functions. We

found that changes in ReHo due to tasks were relatively small compared with its variations across brain

regions. Cross-region variations of ReHo were highly correlated among tasks. Similarly, whole-brain

inter-individual correlation patterns were remarkably consistent across the tasks, showing correlations

greater than 0.78. Changes in inter-individual correlations between tasks were primarily driven by

connectivity in the visual, somatomotor, default mode network, and the interactions between them. This

subtle yet statistically significant differences in functional connectivity may be linked to specific brain

regions associated with the studied tasks. Future studies should consider task design when exploring inter-

individual connectivity in specific brain systems.

**Keywords:** Brain connectivity, covariance network, molecular connectivity, motor network, task

modulation.

**Impact Statement**

Inter-individual correlation is increasingly used to estimate brain connectivity, complementing intra-

individual correlations in fMRI, particularly for measures like cerebral blood flow obtained via fMRI and

PET. However, how task performance affects inter-individual correlations is largely unknown. This study

used regional homogeneity as a summary measure of brain functions from task-based fMRI data across

eight tasks. The inter-individual correlations were highly similar across tasks, indicating the underlying

brain network structure can be inferred under various conditions. Subtle but statistically significant

differences in connectivity estimates suggest the functional significance of this approach.

**1. Introduction**

An important goal of brain research is to understand the brain connectivity between remote brain regions (Friston, 2011, 1994). Functional connectivity is mainly studied based on moment-to-moment correlations of brain measures from functional MRI (fMRI) (Biswal et al., 1995, 2010; Fox et al., 2005). An alternative approach is to estimate functional connectivity based on inter-individual correlations of brain functional measures, such as glucose metabolic activity measured using $[^{18}F]$fluorodeoxyglucose $([^{18}F]FDG)$ positron emission tomography (PET) (Horwitz et al., 1984; Metter et al., 1984). Inter-individual covariance of functional structural brain measures have been used for characterizing brain connectivity in both fMRI (Taylor et al., 2012) and PET studies (Di et al., 2017a; Di and Biswal, and Alzheimer's Disease Neu, 2012).

Previous studies have shown that the inter-individual correlation approach can produce connectivity that are similar to those derived from moment-to-moment correlations using fMRI (Di et al., 2017a) and anatomical connectivity derived from diffusion weighted imaging (Lizarraga et al., 2023). More importantly, the inter-individual approach can take advantage of molecular imaging to measure different aspects of physiology related to neuronal activity (Sala et al., 2023). For example, molecular imaging using PET can measure cerebral blood flow with $[^{15}O]H_2O$ (Frackowiak et al., 1980), glucose metabolism using (F-18)2-fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (FDG) (Phelps et al., 1979), and others (Fang et al., 2021). For fMRI, different types of parameters can also be exploit to reveal different aspects of functions (Taylor et al., 2012). Therefore, although limited by the amount of data, the inter-individual approach could provide unique information regarding brain functional organizations.

Most previous studies do not ask the participants to perform a specific task or place the participants with an explicit "resting" condition. It remains unclear how different task conditions may affect the estimates of functional covariance measures of functional connectivity. Studies using PET have shown that regional functional measures of cerebral blood flow and glucose metabolism were modulated by task conditions in a regionally selective manner. That is, there are certain sets of regions that involved in a particular task performance showed differences in the tasks. These task-specific regional signals may

enhance or at least modulate inter-individual correlations between the given region and other brain

regions. Alternatively, the enhanced activity might reduce the inter-individual variability, therefore

reducing connectivity estimates. In any circumstance, task may lead to changes in inter-individual

correlations. However, studies on within individual measures of functional connectivity generally showed

that functional connectivity was largely similar across tasks (Cole et al., 2014; Di et al., 2020), and

changes in connectivity between task conditions are rather small compared with their absolute values

(Cole et al., 2014; Di and Biswal, 2019). The question becomes to what extend is inter-individual

connectivity modulated by different task conditions.

Collecting PET data for multiple tasks from the same individuals presents challenges, while

obtaining fMRI data, especially when large-scale datasets like the Human Connectome Project (HCP)

(Barch et al., 2013) are available, is relatively straightforward. In the HCP dataset, for instance,

participants underwent MRI scanning while performing various tasks. We measured functional activations

during different tasks using the HCP dataset by using regional homogeneity (ReHo) (Zang et al., 2004),

which summarizes brain activations over a period, usually a few minutes. ReHo has demonstrated

correlations \with PET and fMRI measures of cerebral blood flow and glucose metabolism (Adhikari et

al., 2022; Aiello et al., 2015; Li et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2021). It has also been utilized to derive resting-

state functional brain networks using resting-state data (Taylor et al., 2012). In the current study, we

further ask how functional connectivity derived from cross-subject correlations of ReHo was modulated

by different task conditions.

We first hypothesize that ReHo is a valid measure of brain functions, therefore could show

regional alterations in different task conditions according to the task demands. We predict that alteration

in ReHo in a task may involve regions that associated with certain task components. We are particularly

interested in the extent of changes in ReHo due to task conditions, compared with the variations across

different brain regions. Next, we hypothesize that inter-individual correlations of ReHo would be similar

across different task conditions. However, we are still interested in specific connections that showed

variable connectivity in different task conditions.

## 2. Methods

### 2.1. MRI Data and Task Designs

We conducted an analysis of fMRI data from 100 unrelated participants from the Human Connectome

Project (HCP) (Barch et al., 2013), encompassing resting-state scans and seven tasks. Among these

participants, 54 were females. Their ages were provided in ranges rather than specific years: 22-25 years

(17 participants), 26-30 years (40 participants), 31-35 years (42 participants), and older than 36 years (1

participant).

The participants engaged in seven tasks and a resting state during MRI scanning. These tasks

were structured as block designs, each comprising one or more task conditions, corresponding control

conditions, and a fixation condition. The resting state is a special task, where participants were instructed

to keep their eyes open, avoid falling asleep, and think of nothing in particular. They viewed a "relaxed"

fixation, represented by a white cross on a dark background (Smith et al., 2013). With the exception of the

language task, which involved auditory stimuli, all tasks utilized visual stimuli or instructions. In each

task, participants were required to respond after receiving stimuli, while no response was needed during

the resting-state condition. Table 1 provides a breakdown of task parameters for each task.

[Table 1 about here]

We used the minimally preprocessed data in the current analysis. The MRI data were acquired

using Siemens' standard 32-channel head coil. Each task underwent two fMRI runs with variable

durations. One run for each task used right-to-left phase encoding (RL), while the other used left-to-right

phase encoding (LR). The resting-state task was scanned in four runs, with two runs for each phase

encoding direction. The fMRI scanning parameters were as follows: repetition time (TR) = 720 ms; echo

time (TE) = 33.1 ms; flip angle (FA) = 52°; field of view (FOV) = 208 × 180 mm²; slice number = 72;

voxel size = 2.0 mm isotropic; multiband factor = 8. The T1-weighted MRI scanning parameters were:

TR = 2400 ms; TE = 2.14 ms; FA = 8°; FOV = 224 × 224; voxel size = 0.7 isotropic.

**2.2. Data Processing and Statistical Analysis**

The image processing and data analysis were performed in MATLAB (https://www.mathworks.com),

with in-house codes and codes from Statistical Parametric Mapping (SPM12;

https://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/spm/) and Resting-State fMRI Data Analysis Toolkit v1.8 (REST) (Song et

al., 2011). BrainNetViewer was used for visualization of brain regions and connections (Xia et al., 2013).

**2.2.1. Calculation of ReHo**

ReHo was computed as a regional functional measure for each task run (Taylor et al., 2012; Zang et al.,

2004). To ensure reliability in correlational analyses, ReHo values were computed across the entire task

run without distinguishing between specific experimental conditions within the task (Zuo et al., 2013).

Consequently, interpretations should focus on the overall task performed in each run (Table 1) rather than

on detailed experimental or control conditions. The whole ReHo calculation process is illustrated in

Supplementary Figure S1. Specifically, the preprocessed fMRI images for each run were fed into the

ReHo function in REST toolbox to calculate a ReHo map. An intracranial mask was created by

combining the intracranial mask from SPM with available functional images for each participant.

Furthermore, the mean ReHo value across all voxels within the intracranial mask was calculated as a

global ReHo value, which would be used to standardize regional ReHo values later. Supplementary

Figure S2 depicts the averaged ReHo maps for the eight task conditions.

**2.2.2. Regions of Interest (ROIs)**

We adopted Shaefer's 100-region parcellation for the cortex (Schaefer et al., 2018). In addition,

subcortical regions were also included based on Automated Anatomical Labeling (AAL) atlas (Tzourio-

Mazoyer et al., 2002). The 14 included subcortical nuclei were bilateral hippocampus, parahippocampus,

amygdala, caudate, putamen, pallidum, and thalamus. For the Schaefer atlas, the regions were separated

by the left (#1 to #50) and right (#51 to #100) hemispheres and were further divided into seven functional

networks, including visual, sensorimotor, dorsal attention, salience/ventral attention, limbic, control, and

default mode networks. In total, 114 regions of interest (ROIs) were used. For each task run, averaged

ReHo values were extracted for each ROI, and were divided by the global ReHo value of the participant.

**2.2.3. Regional Analysis**

Both voxel-wise and ROI-wise analyses were carried out in SPM12 and MATLAB using a repeated-

measure generalized linear model (GLM) to assess task-related changes in ReHo (Henson and Penny,

2007). For each of the 100 participants, we concatenated either the mean ReHo images (voxel☐wise) or

the mean ReHo values within each ROI across seven task conditions (two runs each) and one

resting☐state condition (four runs), yielding a single dependent☐variable vector of length 1,800

$[(7 \times 2 + 1 \times 4) \times 100]$. The design matrix included eight regressors for the experimental conditions, 100

regressors for subject-specific intercepts, and one regressor coding acquisition phase (LR vs. RL).

First, we specified an omnibus F-contrast to test for any pairwise differences among the eight

conditions. Next, we introduced F-contrasts comparing each task condition directly against the resting-

state. Finally, we examined the main effect of acquisition phase. Because this phase regressor reached

significance (Supplementary Figure S3), we then (1) averaged the LR and RL runs to obtain

phase-collapsed estimates and (2) analyzed LR and RL separately to confirm that acquisition order did not

confound the observed task effects.

To compare spatial ReHo patterns across task conditions, we first averaged ReHo within each of

the 114 ROIs for each task or resting condition by pooling data from all participants and their respective

runs (two runs per task, four runs for resting state), yielding an $8 \times 114$ matrix (eight conditions $\times$ 114

ROIs). We then computed Pearson's correlation coefficients between these condition☐specific ROI

profiles to produce an $8 \times 8$ similarity matrix. The same procedure was applied separately to the LR and

RL acquisition runs, resulting in one $8 \times 8$ correlation matrix for each phase.

**2.2.4. Inter-Individual Correlation Analysis**

Inter-individual correlation matrices among the 114 ROIs were computed using Pearson's r for each run,

yielding a $114 \times 114$ matrix per run. For task conditions (two runs) and rest (four runs), we first averaged

each participant's run-specific matrices across runs, then averaged those matrices across all 100

participants to produce one $114 \times 114$ matrix per condition. To quantify similarity between conditions, we

extracted the lower-triangular elements of each averaged matrix, vectorized them, and calculated

Pearson's correlations between every pair of condition-specific vectors. In addition, this entire procedure

was carried out separately for the LR and RL acquisition phases.

To compare the differences in inter-individual correlations between different task conditions, we

adopted an inter-individual psychophysiological interaction (PPI) analysis, which is similar to the regular

within participant PPI analysis (Di et al., 2020). The model was constructed on each pair of ROIs, with

one as the independent variable and the other as the dependent variable. For both regions, the mean ReHo

values across tasks, runs, and participants were concatenated into 1,800 vectors. Before concatenation, the

ReHo values were z transformed for each run to normalize the variances. The model included eight

regressors representing the task conditions, eight regressors representing ReHo variations of a region in

the eight task conditions, 100 regressors represent participant specific effects, and one regressor

corresponding to acquisition phase. Please note that this PPI model is an extension to the repeated

measure ANOVA model by adding the eight regressors of ReHo values in different task conditions. The

regression coefficients of these regressors represent inter-individual correlations between the two regions

in a particular condition. Similarly, we defined an F contrast to examine the differences in correlations

between any of the two conditions. Further, we also defined F contrasts between each of the task

conditions compared with the resting-state condition. Lastly, we performed similar analysis separately for

LR and RL runs.

**3. Results**

**3.1. Regional Effects of ReHo**

Whole-brain ReHo maps revealed similar spatial distributions across task conditions (Supplementary

Figure S2). As shown in Figure 1A, we present the mean ReHo values across 114 ROI for each run and

task conditions. Regionally, posterior regions-including the occipital and parietal regions-generally

exhibited higher ReHo values, while frontal, limbic, and subcortical regions showed lower Reho values.

Across tasks, the ReHo pattern remained consistent. In addition, there were recurring patterns across the

rows, reflecting the effects of acquisition phase (LR vs. RL). To quantify the contribution of these factors,

we applied a three-way ANOVA to the matrix shown in Figure 1A. The regional factor accounted for the

largest variance (*0.7047*), whereas task conditions and acquisition phase accounted for substantially less

variance (0.0019 and 0.022, respectively). Moreover, the mean ReHo patterns across regions were

strongly correlated across different task conditions (Figure 1B), with correlation coefficients ranging from

*0.7687* to *0.9740*. The lower correlations were primarily observed between the motor task and other task

conditions. Similar correlation patterns were found when considering only LR or RL runs separately

(Supplementary Figure S4A and S4C).

212                              [Figure 1 about here]

We utilized repeated measure one-way ANOVA for each region, with task conditions as the

within-subject factor and acquisition phase as covariance, to pinpoint regions influenced by task

conditions. Figure 1C illustrates the F values for the repeated-measure factor per region, indicating the

extent of differences in ReHo among the eight task conditions. Notably, most of the F statistics were

statistically significant. However, what's particularly intriguing are the regions with relatively high F

values. Figure 1D reveals that these high F value regions were predominantly situated in the posterior

visual regions. Additionally, some sensorimotor network and dorsal attention network regions also

exhibited elevated F values compared to other brain regions. Lastly, similar spatial patterns were observed

when analyses were conducted separately for LR and RL runs (Supplementary Figure S4B and S4D).

The resting-state condition naturally serves as a control condition for the other tasks.

Consequently, we compared each task condition to the resting-state condition (refer to Figure 2). The

regions displaying decreased ReHo were primarily within the sensorimotor and dorsal attention networks,

notably not the default mode network. Regions exhibiting increased ReHo compared to the resting state

varied depending on the tasks. Tasks involving visual stimuli typically led to increased ReHo in visual

regions. Additionally, ReHo in certain subcortical regions increased during the gambling task, language

task, and notably, the motor task.

231                                    [Figure 2 about here]

**3.2. Inter-Individual Correlations**

The inter-individual correlation matrices for different task and resting-state runs are depicted in Figure 3.

It is evident that these matrices for different task conditions are largely similar. Specifically, within-

network connectivity tended to be stronger than between-network connectivity, as seen by the higher

values along the diagonal squares. Moreover, there was notable correlation between corresponding

networks in the left and right hemispheres. Subcortical regions also displayed strong correlations among

themselves, visible in the bottom right corners of the matrices.

To quantify the similarity across task conditions, we computed correlation coefficients between

vectorized upper triangular of the matrices for each task. These matrices exhibited high correlations

(ranging from *0.7807* to *0.9386*). Notably, all seven task conditions showed extremely high correlations

among each other (around *0.9*), while the correlation between the resting condition and task conditions

was slightly lower (around *0.8*). Similar spatial patterns were observed when analyses were conducted

separately for LR and RL runs (Supplementary Figure S5).

247                                    [Figure 3 about here]

To pinpoint region pairs whose connectivity is influenced by task conditions, we conducted an

inter-subject PPI analysis. This involved employing a repeated-measures ANOVA to detect connectivity

that showed significant differences across various task conditions. Although the statistical results differed

when one region was treated as the dependent variable and the other as the independent variable, they

were generally similar. Consequently, we averaged the lower and upper diagonals to create a symmetrical

matrix (refer to Figure 4). The critical F value for p < 0.001 was recorded as 3.50. However, no threshold

was applied to the matrix to display all task-modulated connectivity effects. The connections displaying

modulated connectivity due to tasks were predominantly within the visual network, somatomotor network,

the control network, and among these three networks. Similar spatial patterns were observed when

analyses were conducted separately for LR and RL runs (Supplementary Figure S6).

260                        [Figure 4 about here]

We further contrasted the correlation matrices of each task condition with respect to the resting-

state condition (Figure 5). It shows that the general pattern of altered covariance in different task

conditions with respect to the resting-state were very similar across tasks. In general, reduced correlations

were found within the visual network, sensorimotor network, and between the visual and sensorimotor

networks. In contrast, increased correlations were found between the control network and the visual or

sensorimotor network, and between the sensorimotor and subcortical networks. For a specific task, there

may be unique connectivity modulations, but it is beyond the scope of the current report. To reveal the

spatial location of the changes in connectivity for the different tasks, we used BrainNetViewer to show

their spatial locations in brain (Figure 6).

272                     [Figure 5 and 6 about here]

**4. Discussion**

By using ReHo as a measure of regional brain functions in a temporal scale of minutes, the current

analysis showed to what extent ReHo were modulated by different task conditions and how they may

affect the estimates of inter-individual correlation measures of brain functional connectivity. The main

results can be summarized as follows: First, the changes in ReHo across different task conditions were

relatively small compared with the variations across different brain regions, therefore the spatial

correlations of ReHo in different task conditions were highly correlated. Second, inter-individual

correlations of ReHo among regions of interest in different task conditions were also highly correlated.

The spatial patterns of ReHo were remarkably consistent among all the task conditions, implying

that brain structures likely play a significant role in regulating local synchronizations as assessed by ReHo.

Notably, numerous cortical regions exhibited elevated ReHo values, contrasting with the generally lower

ReHo observed in subcortical regions. This discrepancy may arise from the greater voxel-level

homogeneity within cortical areas compared to the heterogeneous nature of subcortical regions, which

encompass various subnuclei. These findings present challenges in utilizing the ReHo method to study

subcortical brain activity.

ReHo was developed and mainly used on resting-state fMRI data to reflect functions. Regional

ReHo values in resting-state were associated task performance in separate testing (Lee and Hsieh, 2017;

Tian et al., 2012), and were also correlated with regional task activations in different tasks (Yuan et al.,

2013). But to the best of our knowledge, the current study was the first to demonstrate that ReHo can

reflect brain functions in different task conditions. Among a wide range of tasks, we pinpointed brain

regions that were more likely to be modulated by the task conditions, which include the visual,

sensorimotor, and dorsal attention networks. It makes sense because the unimodal regions directly receive

input from outside world and generate response, which varied by different task conditions. In contract, the

default mode network regions were among the regions that showed the smallest changes in ReHo values

in different task conditions. And by directly contrasting each task condition with the resting-state

condition, we further confirmed the regions showed reduced activity in tasks compared with resting-state

were mostly sensorimotor, dorsal attention, and visual regions, but not the default mode regions. This

result is a little in contrast with PET studies (Shulman et al., 1997), and may reflect the dissociations

between glucose metabolism and BOLD oxygenation in the default mode regions (Stiernman et al., 2021).

The regions displaying increased task modulation primarily belong to unimodal brain networks.

For instance, the visual networks exhibited increased ReHo values during tasks involving constant visual

stimuli, like the emotion task, relational task, social task, and working memory task. Similarly, the

auditory region showed elevated ReHo values during the language task, aligning with the auditory nature

of the stimuli in this task. Interestingly, the motor regions demonstrated a reduction in ReHo during tasks

compared to resting-state conditions. This suggests that task execution involves specific regions within

the sensorimotor network, leading to decreased activity in other sensorimotor network regions.

Additionally, subcortical regions displayed elevated ReHo values during certain tasks such as the

gambling task, language task, motor task, and social task, which is logical given their involvement in

motor and reward-related functions. A noteworthy practical implication is that although ReHo values are

generally low in subcortical regions, engaging in certain tasks can boost brain activation levels in these

regions, thereby enhancing signals within them.

The inter-individual correlations of ReHo were also highly similar across the task conditions,

which is consistent with studies of within-individual connectivity (Cole et al., 2014; Di et al., 2020;

Krienen et al., 2014). This is also consistent with the high similarity of regional activity, and suggest a

common brain network structure may contribute to the highly correlated connectivity structure.

Notable differences in local inter-individual connectivity were also present. The resting state was

the most deviate condition and showed relatively lower correlations with all the seven tasks. The

connectivity that was modulated by different task conditions can be further categorized into two groups.

Firstly, the connectivity within the visual and sensorimotor networks and the connectivity between the

two networks typically showed reduced connectivity in any task conditions compared with the resting

state. This is in line with within-individual connectivity changes, where similar connectivity reduction are

seen when comparing task conditions with the baseline fixation condition within a task run (Di et al.,

2020, 2017b) a separate resting-state run (Cole et al., 2014). Second, the connectivity between the control

network and regions from the visual, sensorimotor, and subcortical networks showed increased

connectivity in various tasks compared with the resting-state. This is also in line with within-individual

comparison between tasks and resting-state (Cole et al., 2014), which in line with the role of the control

network as a flexible hub that dynamically connected to other brain regions upon task demands (Cole et

al., 2013). Again, a notable absence was the connectivity involving the default mode network, which

didn't show much task modulations on connectivity.

Task modulation provides stronger evidence of inter-individual correlations reflecting functional

connectivity, contrasting previous mere observations of such correlations. The current findings also carry

practical implications for utilizing inter-individual correlation in studying functional connectivity.

Specifically, they demonstrate that the overall connectivity pattern remains largely consistent across

different task conditions, indicating the feasibility of studying whole-brain functional connectivity in

diverse psychological states.

However, subtle yet statistically significant connectivity changes also highlight the importance of

considering task design, especially for regions with well-known functions. For instance, if a region of

interest is typically activated during a specific task, employing that task may enhance activity and impact

correlation estimates with other regions. This consideration is particularly relevant for subcortical regions,

where activity is generally weak during resting-state. Additionally, interpretations of results involving

sensorimotor regions require attention, as regional activity often decreases during tasks compared to

resting-state conditions.

The current analysis was centered on blood-oxygen-level dependent (BOLD) signals, leaving

uncertainties about generalizing these results to molecular imaging. Task-induced signal changes typically

remain under 5% in a standard 3T MRI scanner (Zandbelt et al., 2008; van der Zwaag et al., 2009),

possibly resulting in limited ReHo alterations. Contrastingly, changes in regional cerebral blood flow and

glucose metabolism can lead to significant signal fluctuations. For instance, cerebral blood flow changes

measured by arterial spin labeling (ASL) MRI have been reported to range from 10% to 26% during a 2-

back task (Kim et al., 2006), while glucose metabolic activity changes vary from 18% to 28% across

different tasks and studies (Rischka et al., 2018; Vlassenko et al., 2006). Task-related modulation may be

more pronounced in PET imaging due to substantial signal changes, necessitating further systematic

investigation.

Several methodological considerations merit discussion. First, ReHo was calculated across entire

task runs, encompassing transitions between different task blocks. Given that task-induced changes in

BOLD signals are typically small compared to intrinsic fluctuations (typically $< 5\%$), the observed

decrease in ReHo during tasks compared to resting-state suggests that task transitions did not inflate

ReHo values under task conditions. Second, the varying number of time points across tasks is a limitation.

Although this is suboptimal, the ReHo measure is not dependent on the number of time points, which

ensures valid comparisons across tasks. Arbitrarily matching the number of time points would likely

reduce the reliability of tasks with longer durations. Additionally, we reanalyzed the data using only one

resting-state run and found results comparable to those derived from all four runs, indicating that

differences in the number of time points are unlikely to impact the conclusions of this study. Third, it only

relied on ReHo to depict regional activity, while alternative methods like the amplitude of low-frequency

fluctuations (ALFF) exist (Zang et al., 2007), which could impact inter-individual connectivity patterns

(Taylor et al., 2012). However, exploring these different measures falls beyond the scope of the present

analysis.

**5. Conclusion**

ReHo can be utilized with task fMRI data to capture stable brain functions over minutes. Nevertheless,

ReHo values exhibit smaller differences across various task and resting-state scenarios compared with

cross-region variations. Inter-individual functional connectivity can be inferred from ReHo values, with

whole-brain correlation matrices showing consistency across task and resting-state conditions. Notably,

connectivity strength changes were primarily observed between the resting state and other task conditions.

While the choice of task may not significantly alter the overall connectivity matrix estimate, it can

influence specific connectivity patterns with regions involved in task modulation.

**Author Contribution**

X.D., Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal Analysis, Visualization, Methodology, Funding

acquisition, Writing – original draft.

P.J., Data curation, Formal Analysis, Writing – review & editing.

B.B.B., Conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Writing – review & editing.

**Author Disclosure**

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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**Figure legends**

**Figure 1** A, Mean regional homogeneity (ReHo) for different brain regions of interest and runs under

different task conditions. B, correlations of the mean ReHo values across regions between different task

conditions. C, F-statistics of a repeated-measure one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) with task

conditions as the within-subject factor for each of the regions. Vertical lines in C separate different

functional networks shown in the bottom. D, Brain representation of the F values in region-wise repeated-

measure ANOVA.

**Figure 2** Differences in regional homogeneity (ReHo) between a task condition and the resting-state

condition. Red indicates task greater than rest, and blue indicate rest greater than task. The size of the

nodes represents F-statistics of the specific contrast without thresholding.

**Figure 3** Inter-individual correlation matrices among 114 regions of interest for different task/resting-

state conditions. Black lines separate different functional networks. The right most panel in the bottom

row shows the correlations of the lower diagonal of the inter-individual correlation matrices among the

task and resting-state conditions.

**Figure 4** F-statistics representing the changes of inter-individual correlations between any pair of tasks

(repeated-measure analysis of variance, ANOVA). Black lines separate different functional networks.

**Figure 5** Differences in inter-individual correlations between each task condition with reference to the

resting state. Black lines separate different functional networks.

**Figure 6** Increased (red) and decreased (blue) inter-individual correlations of regional homogeneity

(ReHo) between each task condition compared with the resting condition. The connections were

thresholed at $F > 10$, which correspond to a p value of 0.0016. The size of the nodes represents F-statistics

of the specific contrast without thresholding.

| Task | # of images | # of runs | Stimuli modality | Response |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Emotion | 176 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Gambling | 253 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Language | 316 | 2 | Auditory | Yes |
| Motor | 284 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Relational | 232 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Social | 274 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Working memory | 405 | 2 | Visual | Yes |
| Resting state | 1,200 | 4 | Visual | No |

555 **Table 1** Imaging and task design information for different task conditions.

**A** Mean ReHo values

**B** Correlations

**C** Region-wise repeated-measure ANOVA

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o

**D**

a. L Vis    b. L SomMot    c. L DorsAttn    d. L SalVenAttn    e. L Limbic    f. L Cont    g. L Default

h. R Vis    i. R SomMot    j. R DorsAttn    k. R SalVenAttn    l. R Limbic    m. R Cont    n. R Default    o, Subcor

**Repeated-measure ANOVA (F)**