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Dimensions of anxiety and depression and neurophysiological indicators of error-monitoring:
Relationship with delta and theta oscillatory power and error-related negativity amplitude
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24 Impact Statement

25 In line with the RDoC framework, we tested the relationship between anxiety and
26 depressive symptom dimensions and neural indices of error-processing (delta and theta power,
27 error-related negativity ERP amplitude) in 178 participants with a range of pathology symptoms.
28 A non-significant relationship emerged between neural and symptom measures suggesting
29 anxiety and depressive symptomology have a nuanced relationship with error-monitoring in a
30 large sample across a range of anxiety and depression symptoms.

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47 Abstract

48 Error-monitoring processes may be affected by transdiagnostic dimensions of psychopathology
49 symptoms including trait anxiety, worry, and severity of depressive symptoms. We tested the
50 relationship between continuous measures of anxiety and depressive symptomology and neural
51 correlates of error-monitoring as measured by time-frequency domain delta and theta oscillatory
52 power and time domain error-related negativity (ERN) amplitude extracted from the
53 electroencephalogram (EEG). Secondary analyses tested for diagnostic group differences in
54 error-related neural responses in individuals with generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), major
55 depressive disorder (MDD), and comorbid psychiatric disorders. 178 participants (104 female,
56 $M[SD]_{age} = 21.7[4.6]$) with a wide range of psychopathology symptoms completed a modified
57 version of the Eriksen flanker task and symptom questionnaires. Residualized difference values
58 between correct and error trials for delta/theta power and error/correct ERN amplitude were
59 dependent variables. Linear regression analyses adjusted for age and sex showed nonsignificant
60 associations of symptom dimension measures with error-related residualized delta/theta power or
61 residualized ERN amplitude. Subset analyses on those with confirmed psychopathology
62 diagnoses also did not predict residualized error-related delta/theta power nor ERN amplitude.
63 Exploratory analyses with only error trial delta/theta power and ERN amplitude also revealed
64 nonsignificant relationships. Taken in the context of previous literature, results suggest a
65 heterogeneous relationship between depressive and anxiety symptom dimensions and
66 neurophysiological indices of error-monitoring.

67 *Keywords:* delta power, theta power, error-related negativity, GAD, MDD, comorbid disorders

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70 **1 Introduction**

71 Error-monitoring, an individual's ability to detect an incorrect response and subsequently
72 adjust to improve future behavior, is an essential skill to achieve successful goal-directed
73 behavior (Mohamed, Börger, Geuze, & van der Meere, 2019; Rabbitt & Rodgers, 1977).
74 Individual differences in error-monitoring may be related to personality traits and transdiagnostic
75 psychopathology symptoms, such as worry, negative affect, impulsivity, and conscientiousness
76 (Hill, Samuel, & Foti, 2016; Moser, Moran, & Jendrusina, 2012). Error-monitoring processes are
77 altered in individuals with psychopathology. For example, individuals with generalized anxiety
78 disorder and obsessive-compulsive disorder have heightened error-monitoring processes (Riesel,
79 Kathmann, & Endrass, 2014; Weinberg, Olvet, & Hajcak, 2010); however, the relationship
80 between error-monitoring processes and symptoms of psychopathology is heterogeneous for
81 other disorders such as major depressive disorder (Aarts, Vanderhasselt, Otte, Baeken, &
82 Pourtois, 2013; Gorka & Phan, 2017; Weinberg, Liu, & Shankman, 2016). We tested the
83 relationship between transdiagnostic symptom dimensions of depression and anxiety and
84 neurophysiological reflections of error-monitoring processes, including event-related potentials
85 (ERP) and electroencephalogram (EEG) oscillatory power in a sample with a wide range of
86 psychopathology symptoms. A secondary aim was to test diagnostic group differences in
87 neurophysiological responses to errors in individuals with confirmed diagnoses of generalized
88 anxiety disorder (GAD), major depressive disorder (MDD), and comorbid psychiatric disorders.

89 **1.1 Neurophysiological Measures of Error Monitoring**

90 The error-related negativity (ERN) is an ERP often used to quantify neural manifestations of
91 error-monitoring. The ERN is a negative deflection in the ERP waveform approximately 0 to 150
92 ms following an erroneous response (Gehring, Goss, Coles, Meyer, & Donchin, 1993) that

93 originates in the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC; van Veen & Carter, 2002). Despite numerous
94 theories concerning the functional significance of the ERN, the current consensus is that the
95 ERN represents an early monitoring system interpreting cognitive or emotional responses to
96 errors, after which additional cognitive resources are recruited to improve future behavior
97 (Gehring et al., 1993; Larson, Clayson, & Clawson, 2014; Proudfit, Inzlicht, & Mennin, 2013;
98 Weinberg, Liu, Hajcak, & Shankman, 2015).

99 In addition to time domain measures, analyses of EEG data in the time and frequency
100 domains can be used to quantify neural response to errors. Time-frequency analyses measure the
101 magnitude of frequency band oscillations and are thought to reflect increased synchronization of
102 a group of neurons working together to produce a cognitive response (Buzaski, 2006). While
103 time domain measures such as ERN amplitude capture phase-locked data, time-frequency
104 measures capture both phase- and non-phase locked data, resulting in a richer representation of
105 the EEG signal (Cohen, 2014). Thus, utilization of both time and time-frequency measures to
106 quantify neural response to errors provides a rich and holistic view of the neurophysiological
107 processes related to error-monitoring.

108 Oscillations in the delta (1-3 Hz) and theta (4-8 Hz) frequency bands are thought to reflect
109 error-monitoring processes. Specifically, both midline delta and theta activity increase directly
110 following an incorrect response compared to following correct responses (Cavanagh, Cohen, &
111 Allen, 2009; Luu & Tucker, 2001; Munneke, Nap, Schippers, & Cohen, 2015) and are present in
112 frequency decompositions of the ERN (Luu & Tucker, 2001; Yordanova, Falkenstein,
113 Hohnsbein, & Kolev, 2004). The functional roles of delta- and theta-band activity may also be
114 dissociable (Cohen & Cavanagh, 2011), with evidence suggesting that the delta-band is primarily
115 associated with error-monitoring, while theta-band activity includes both conflict- (i.e., the

116 simultaneous presentation of competing options) and error-related processes (Cohen &
117 Cavanagh, 2011). The ERN and delta/theta oscillatory power quantify both similar and
118 independent portions of neural signal (Cavanagh, Meyer, & Hajcak, 2017; Munneke et al.,
119 2015), suggesting the utility of using both the ERP and oscillation-based measures to quantify
120 neural indices of error-monitoring.

121 **1.2 Symptoms of Anxiety and Depression and Error-Monitoring Processes**

122 There is increasing focus on the relationship between symptom dimensions of
123 psychopathology on a continuous scale and error-monitoring processes, regardless of formal
124 psychiatric diagnosis (i.e., a transdiagnostic approach). This approach is in line with the
125 Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) initiative, which aims to establish cognitive and behavioral
126 constructs under which psychopathology can be studied, regardless of traditional diagnostic
127 labels. In the past, diagnostic status was used to group individuals, after which those group
128 differences in error-monitoring were tested (i.e., Aarts et al., 2013; Weinberg et al., 2010).
129 However, it is possible traditional nosology of psychopathology may not be valid nor capture
130 underlying aberrant biology that results in presentation of abnormal behavior (Cuthbert & Insel,
131 2013). Error-monitoring processes fit well in the RDoC framework, as error-monitoring has the
132 potential to link psychopathology to underlying deviant neural functioning that affects outward
133 behavior (Hanna & Gehring, 2016). Thus, investigating relationships between transdiagnostic
134 symptom dimensions and personality traits in samples with a wide range of psychopathology
135 symptoms allows for a better understanding of what factors may influence individual differences
136 in error-monitoring abilities. The primary approach employed in the current study was to use
137 individual difference psychopathology symptom measures to test for relationships with error-
138 related neurophysiology, regardless of psychiatric diagnosis.

139 Trait anxiety is a stable personality trait in which an individual tends to be in a continuously
140 anxious state (Kennedy, Schwab, Morris, & Beldia, 2001). Individuals high on trait anxiety show
141 greater frontal midline theta when compared to those lower on scales of trait anxiety (Schmidt,
142 Kanis, Holroyd, Miltner, & Hewig, 2018); however, other results suggest no relationship
143 between trait anxiety and midline theta (Neo & McNaughton, 2011). In the time domain, larger
144 ERN component amplitude is related to higher trait anxiety scores (Olvet & Hajcak, 2008),
145 which has been interpreted as an indicator of greater expectancy violation in individuals with
146 higher trait anxiety (Compton et al., 2007). When examining the relationship between anxiety
147 symptoms and neural mechanisms of error-monitoring, it is important to dissociate state anxiety
148 from trait anxiety. Anxiety inducing paradigms produced no change in ERN amplitude (Moser,
149 Hajcak, & Simons, 2005) suggesting the ERN is trait-like in nature (Olvet & Hajcak, 2008).
150 Therefore, in the current study, only the trait subscale of the State Trait Anxiety Inventory
151 (STAI) was used to investigate the relationship between trait anxiety and neural measures of
152 error-monitoring.

153 Along with trait anxiety, anxious apprehension (i.e., worry), depressive symptomology, and
154 biological sex may be factors influencing the neurophysiological representations of error-
155 monitoring processes. Anxious apprehension (i.e., worry) is a cognitive component of anxiety
156 where worrisome thoughts dominate day to day life (Nitschke, Heller, Imig, McDonald, &
157 Miller, 2001). Individuals who scored high on measures of anxious apprehension, regardless of
158 diagnosis, displayed enhanced ERN amplitude when compared to controls (Hajcak, McDonald,
159 & Simons, 2003; Moser et al., 2012; Moser, Moran, Kneip, Schroder, & Larson, 2016; Moser,
160 Moran, Schroder, Donnellan, & Yeung, 2013). When looking at the relationship between
161 depressive symptomology and error monitoring processes, there is great heterogeneity in the

162 literature with some evidence that ERN amplitude is not related to depressive symptoms (Chang,
163 Davies, & Gavin, 2010; Schroder, Moran, Infantolino, & Moser, 2013). Other research indicates
164 that ERN amplitude is related to facets of melancholia (Weinberg et al., 2016), suggesting that
165 the ERN may be more specifically related to facets of depression rather than depressive
166 symptoms as a whole. In addition to the possible modulation of ERN amplitude by worry and
167 depressive symptomology, ERN amplitude may differ as a function of biological sex; however
168 the current literature is unclear as to whether men or women display greater ERN amplitudes
169 (Fischer, Danielmeier, Villringer, Klein, & Ullsperger, 2016; Hill, Ait Oumeziane, Novak,
170 Rollock, & Foti, 2018; Larson, South, & Clayson, 2011; Moser et al., 2016). Thus, it is important
171 to account for biological sex when examining individual differences in error-monitoring.

172 **1.3 Diagnostic Status and Error-Monitoring Processes**

173 There is a significant amount of heterogeneity in studies of error-monitoring processes within
174 individuals formally diagnosed with MDD, GAD, or comorbid disorders. ERN amplitude is
175 generally heightened in individuals with anxiety disorders such as GAD (Meyer, Nelson,
176 Perlman, Klein, & Kotov, 2018; Weinberg, Liu, et al., 2015) and enhanced theta power reliably
177 dissociated individuals with GAD from psychiatrically healthy controls (Cavanagh et al., 2017).
178 However, there is also evidence that ERN amplitude is unchanged in people with diagnosed
179 GAD (Kujawa et al., 2016; Xiao et al., 2011). In individuals with comorbid anxiety and
180 depression, there is evidence that ERN amplitude is unchanged from psychiatrically healthy
181 controls (Weinberg, Klein, & Hajcak, 2012; Weinberg, Kotov, & Proudfit, 2015), implying
182 comorbid depression may moderate the relationship between ERN amplitude and GAD
183 diagnostic status. When looking at individuals diagnosed with MDD, although there is some
184 evidence that individuals with MDD have an enhanced ERN when compared to controls (Aarts

185 et al., 2013; Chiu & Deldin, 2007; Holmes & Pizzagalli, 2008, 2010), other evidence suggests
186 that either ERN amplitude is blunted (Olvet, Klein, & Hajcak, 2010; Weinberg et al., 2016), or
187 that there is no difference in ERN amplitude between those with MDD and those without (Gorka
188 & Phan, 2017; Moran, Schroder, Kneip, & Moser, 2017; Weinberg et al., 2012). In addition to
189 this heterogeneity of evidence, there is a lack of evidence present concerning error-related delta
190 and theta power in relation to GAD, MDD, and comorbid disorders. As such, combining time
191 domain and time-frequency domain measures of error processing in GAD, MDD, and comorbid
192 disorders may assist in elucidating the relationship between diagnostic status and neural indices
193 of error-monitoring.

194 **1.4 Aims and Hypotheses**

195 The current study had two aims. Our primary aim was to quantify the relationship
196 between symptom dimensions of trait anxiety, worry, and depressive symptomology and error-
197 monitoring processes in individuals with a wide range of symptoms regardless of psychiatric
198 diagnosis using commonly utilized measures of psychopathology. To isolate error-related
199 activity instead of general response-related activity, residualized difference values between
200 correct and error trials for delta/theta power and ERN amplitude were used as the dependent
201 variable of interest (Meyer, Lerner, Reyes, Laird, & Hajcak, 2017). We hypothesized, based on
202 the current literature, that higher trait anxiety and worry would be related to residual delta power,
203 theta power, and ERN amplitude. Due to the heterogeneity of the literature, we also hypothesized
204 there would be no relationship between depressive symptoms and residual delta power, theta
205 power, and ERN amplitude. A secondary aim of the current study was to characterize error-
206 monitoring processes in individuals with a diagnosis of GAD, MDD, or comorbid disorders.
207 Similar to the previous hypotheses, we hypothesized that individuals with GAD would have

208 greater residualized delta power, theta power, and ERN amplitude when compared to
209 psychiatrically healthy controls, but there would be no difference in dependent variables between
210 those with MDD, comorbid disorders, and controls.

211 **2 Method**

212 All data and code are posted on the Open Science Framework (OSF) and can be found at
213 <https://osf.io/pujsv>. All methods are in compliance with the methodological reporting checklist
214 for EEG/ERP data as outlined in Keil et al. (2014; see also Clayson, Carbine, Baldwin, &
215 Larson, 2019). A subset of the current data testing different data aspects and hypotheses have
216 been previously published (see Baldwin, Larson, & Clayson, 2015; Clawson, Clayson, & Larson,
217 2013).

218 **2.1 Participants**

219 Procedures were approved by the Brigham Young University Institutional Review Board.
220 Psychiatrically-healthy control participants were recruited through undergraduate psychology
221 courses, whereas individuals with psychiatric diagnoses and elevated symptoms of
222 psychopathology were recruited through flyers placed at the local university counseling center
223 and community mental health centers. All participants were compensated through course credit
224 or monetary payment.

225 The final sample consisted of 178 participants (female = 104; $M(SD)_{age} = 21.7[4.6]$). For
226 those with psychopathology, diagnoses were initially made by a psychiatrist, psychologist, or
227 physician in the community and subsequently confirmed upon enrollment using the Mini-
228 International Neuropsychiatric Inventory (MINI; Sheehan et al., 1998). The MINI has a high
229 concordance rate with the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis I disorders (SCID) but
230 requires less time to administer (Sheehan et al., 1998). Participants were excluded if they had

231 medication changes within the two months prior to data collection, they had a diagnosis of a
232 psychotic or bipolar disorder, they reported a learning disorder or attention deficit/hyperactivity
233 disorder, they had a history of substance use or dependence, neurological disease, or they were
234 left-handed. At the time of participation 33.1% of all participants were taking a psychotropic
235 medication (GAD = 78.6%, MDD = 60.7%, Comorbid = 58.8% [see Table S1 in the
236 supplementary material on OSF for a list of comorbid disorders] No confirmed diagnosis =
237 61.8%, Control = 0%). The proportion of participants taking psychotropic medications did not
238 differ between the three (GAD, MDD, comorbid) psychopathology groups ($\chi^2(2) = 1.62, p =$
239 0.44; see Table S2 in the supplementary material on OSF).

240 Participants were excluded if they had ERP noise levels greater than 20 (root mean
241 square of the residual noise after the consistent ERP is canceled by inverting every other trial;
242 see Schimmel, 1967), if they had less than 50% accuracy on the computerized tasks, or if they
243 had missing or incomplete questionnaire data. To ensure similar number of trials for the
244 oscillatory power and ERP analyses, all participants had a minimum of ten useable trials for all
245 conditions. Because reliability is a product of the context of a current sample and study (Clayson
246 & Miller, 2017a) dependability of ERN amplitude (for both error and correct trials) was
247 estimated using the ERP Reliability Analysis Toolkit in Matlab (Clayson & Miller, 2017b). This
248 toolkit uses generalizability theory to estimate the g-theory reliability analogue known as
249 dependability in ERP components. The error trials had an average dependability of 0.63 and the
250 correct trials had an average dependability of 0.86.

251 Of the 178 participants, 32 participants who originally indicated they had a psychiatric
252 diagnosis were excluded from secondary diagnostic analyses due to a lack MINI confirmation of
253 their diagnostic status (i.e., they were diagnosed by a practitioner in the community, but the

254 diagnosis was not confirmed by MINI administration in the lab). Thus, the final sample for our
255 secondary diagnostic subgroup secondary analyses consisted of 146 participants (87 controls, 61
256 individuals with psychopathology; $M(SD)_{age} = 21.3(3.4)$, female = 87; $n_{GAD} = 14$; $n_{MDD} = 28$;
257 $n_{Comorbid} = 19$; $n_{Control} = 85$). In order to be included in the comorbid group, the participant had to
258 have a confirmed diagnosis of either GAD or MDD, comorbid with any other disorder(s) (see
259 Table S1).

260 **2.2 Experimental Procedures**

261 Upon entering the lab, informed consent was obtained after which participants completed
262 a battery of cognitive tests and questionnaires. Cognitive tests included the Rey-Auditory Verbal
263 Learning Test (RAVLT), Trail Making Test parts A and B, Digit Span forward and backward,
264 Controlled Oral Word Association Test, and animal fluency. The State Trait Anxiety Inventory
265 (STAI), Penn State Worry Questionnaire (PSWQ), and Beck Depression Inventory-Second
266 Edition (BDI-II) were administered as measures of psychiatric symptom severity. All measures
267 collected are reported here for the sake of transparency; however only the BDI-II, STAI, and
268 PSWQ, measures commonly used in clinical settings for psychopathology symptom
269 quantification, were used in the data analyses of the current paper. Therefore, no further
270 information will be reported on the other measures (see Baldwin et al., 2015 & Clawson et al.,
271 2013 for comprehensive information). Information on the psychometric properties of the
272 measures included is reported below in section 2.3.

273 Following completion of the neuropsychological tests and symptom questionnaires,
274 participants completed a modified arrow version of the Eriksen flanker task (Eriksen & Eriksen,
275 1974). Participants were presented with five arrows and asked to respond to the direction of the
276 point of the middle arrow with an index or middle finger button press. There was a total of 798

277 randomly presented trials with 354 trials (45%) being congruent (e.g., <<<<<) and 444 trials
278 being incongruent (55%) (e.g., <<><<). Participants completed a practice block of 24 trials prior
279 to the beginning of the task to ensure understanding. Stimuli were presented in white 36-point
280 Arial font on a black background on a 17-inch computer approximately 20 inches from the
281 participant. Flanking arrows were presented for 100 ms followed by the target arrow which was
282 presented for an additional 600 ms. Subsequently, a fixation cross was shown for a jittered
283 intertrial interval of 800, 1000, or 1200 ms. Responses occurring over 1600 ms after stimulus
284 presentation were seen as an error of omission and were not included in the data analyses as the
285 next trial was queued after 1600 ms.

286 **2.3 Measures**

287 Means and standard deviations along with Chronbach's alpha (overall and by group) are
288 presented in Table 1. The Beck Depression Inventory, Second Edition (BDI-II; Beck, Steer, &
289 Brown, 1996) was used to quantify depressive symptoms. Participants were asked to rate 21
290 statements on a scale from 0 (I do not feel sad) to 3 (I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it)
291 after which individual item scores were summed to a total score. Possible scores range from 0 to
292 63. The BDI-II has been shown to have a high level of internal consistency (Chronbach's alpha
293 .89-.93; Beck et al., 1996; Whisman, Perez, & Ramel, 2000).

294 The State Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI form Y-2) was used to quantify trait anxiety
295 symptoms (Speilberger, Gorsuch, & Lushere, 1970). Items on the STAI include statements such
296 as "I feel calm" or "I am worried". Participants were asked to rank the statements on a four-point
297 Likert type scale ranging from "not at all" (1) to "very much" (4). Because only trait anxiety is of
298 interest to the current study, we just used trait anxiety subscale score was used for analyses.
299 Possible scores on the STAI trait subscale range from 20-80. In previous studies, the STAI

300 shows good internal consistency (Chronbach's $\alpha > .7$; Bergua et al., 2012; Spielberger et al.,
301 1970).

302 The Penn State Worry Questionnaire (PSWQ; Meyer, Miller, Metzger, & Borkovec,
303 1990) was used to quantify anxious apprehension and worry symptoms. Participants were
304 presented with 16 items and asked to rank their feelings on a 5-point Likert scale from “Not at all
305 typical of me” (+1) to “Very typical of me” (+5). Items were reverse scored as needed and total
306 score for the PSWQ was calculated through the summing of each item. Possible scores on the
307 PSWQ range from 0-80. The PSWQ has good validity and internal consistency (Meyer et al.,
308 1990).

309 **2.4 Electroencephalogram recording and reduction**

310 Data were collected from 128 equidistant passive Ag/AgCl electrodes on a hydrocel
311 sensor net from Electrical Geodesics, Inc. using a NA 300 amplifier system (EGI; Eugene, OR;
312 20K nominal gain, bandpass = 0.01 – 100 Hz). During data collection, all data were referenced to
313 the vertex electrode (Cz) and digitized continuously at 250 Hz with a 16-bit analog to digital
314 converter. Per the manufacturer’s recommendation, impedances were kept at or below 50 k Ω .
315 Offline, all data were digitally high-pass filtered at 0.05 Hz filter and digitally low-pass filtered
316 at 30 Hz in NetStation (v 5.3.0.1). Data were then segmented from -1000 ms before response
317 until 1000 ms after response for both correct and error trials for the time-frequency analyses, and
318 400 ms before response to 800 ms after correct and erroneous responses for ERN analyses.
319 Segmentation was extended for the time-frequency analyses from the traditional ERN
320 segmentation in order to create a long enough epoch to extract low delta frequencies and to avoid
321 edge artifacts common in time-frequency analyses (Cohen, 2014). For both the ERN and time-
322 frequency measures, following segmentation eye movements and blink artifacts were corrected

323 using independent components analysis (ICA) in the ERP PCA toolkit in Matlab (Dien, 2010). If
324 any ICA component correlated with two blink templates (one template being provided by the
325 ERP PCA Toolkit (Dien, 2010) and one template being derived from previous data by the
326 authors) at a rate of 0.9 or higher, the specific component was removed from the data (Dien,
327 2010). Additionally, if the differential average amplitude was greater than 50 microvolts or if the
328 fast average amplitude of a particular channel was greater than 100 microvolts, the channel was
329 defined as bad and the nearest neighbor approach (using six electrodes) was used to interpolate
330 the data for that electrode (Dien, 2010). Following artifact correction, data were re-referenced to
331 an average reference in the ERP PCA toolkit in Matlab and baseline adjusted from 400 ms to 200
332 ms pre-response for all measures.

333 **2.4.1 Time-Frequency Data Reduction**

334 Time-frequency power values were extracted through Matlab (R2018a) from four fronto-
335 central electrodes (6 [FCz], 7, 106, 129 [Cz]; see Larson et al., 2014 for electrode montage).
336 These electrodes were chosen as we were combining both time- and time-frequency domain
337 indices of error-monitoring, and ERN amplitude is maximal over fronto-central electrodes (e.g.,
338 Clawson, South, Baldwin, & Larson, 2017). Twelve log-spaced frequencies ranging from 1.5 Hz
339 to 14 Hz were used for a complex Morlet wavelet convolution with trial averaged EEG data. To
340 avoid edge artifacts that are common in time-frequency analyses (Cohen, 2014), 300 ms of data
341 were removed from the epoch, with 100 ms being removed pre-stimulus and 200 ms being
342 removed at the very end prior to convolution. This resulted in a final epoch of 900 ms before
343 response until 800 ms after. Due to the imbalance of correct and error trials, a random
344 permutation of correct trials matching the number of error trials were selected for each
345 participant (Cohen, 2014) as to not bias results towards one trial type or the other. Thus, each

346 participant had the same number of error and correct trials for all analyses (all trial numbers per
347 group are reported in Table 2). After, wavelet convolution was performed using complex Morlet
348 wavelets, data were decibel baseline normalized with a condition-average from 400 ms to 200
349 ms prior to response. Data were then grand averaged across all groups and visually inspected to
350 determine a time window from which to extract delta and theta power values (similar to the
351 collapsed localizer approach advocated in Luck & Gaspelin, 2017). The time window chosen
352 was 0 to 150 ms following response, which is consistent with previous research examining error-
353 related neural activity (Dehaene, Posner, & Tucker, 1994; Gehring et al., 1993). Average delta
354 power for correct and error trials was extracted from the 1-4 Hz range while average theta power
355 was extracted from the 4-8 Hz range.

356 **2.4.2 Error-Related Negativity Data Reduction**

357 Event-related potential values were extracted using Matlab (R2018a) and R (v. 1.1.463)
358 from the same four fronto-central electrodes (6 [FCz], 7, 106, 129 [Cz]). After all data were
359 baseline adjusted from 400 ms to 200 ms pre-response, mean amplitude was extracted for both
360 error and correct trials (ERN and CRN amplitude respectively for time-domain measures) from 0
361 to 150 ms post-response. Mean amplitude measure was employed due to research suggesting the
362 mean amplitude is more reliable than other ERP peak measures (Clawson et al., 2013; Luck,
363 2005). All means and standard deviations of dependent variables and trial numbers are reported
364 in Table 2.

365 **2.5 Data Analysis**

366 **2.5.1 Questionnaire and Behavioral Data**

367 All statistical analyses were performed in R (v 3.5.2). To determine if individuals with a
368 diagnosis of pathology did indeed present with greater anxiety and depressive symptoms, three

369 4-group (GAD, MDD, Comorbid, Control) one-way ANOVAs were conducted, one for each
370 questionnaire (BDI, PSWQ, STAI Trait) with generalized eta squared (η^2) used as a measure of
371 effect size. Post-hoc Tukey HSD were used to adjust significant group differences.

372 For the behavioral data, mean accuracy and median response time (RT) were calculated
373 overall and as a function of congruency. In the flanker task, it is expected that accuracy will be
374 lower and response time will be longer for incongruent versus congruent trials. Two 4-group by
375 2-congruency (congruent, incongruent) repeated measures analysis of variances (ANOVAs) were
376 conducted with accuracy and RT as dependent variables and general eta squared (η^2) used as a
377 measure of effect size. Either paired samples *t*-tests (for within-subjects) with Cohen's d_z for
378 effect size or follow-up one way ANOVAs with generalized eta squared for effect size were used
379 to decompose any significant main effects or interactions

380 Pearson's correlations between residualized delta/theta power and residualized ERN
381 amplitude and all three questionnaires were conducted to characterize the relationship between
382 all six variables.

383 **2.5.3 Continuous Linear Regressions**

384 As a manipulation check, three paired samples *t*-tests were initially conducted on the
385 whole sample to ensure that error trials demonstrated greater delta and theta power and more
386 negative ERN amplitude when compared to the correct-related negativity (CRN).

387 In order to isolate error-related brain activity from response-related activity, the residuals
388 between correct and error power and ERP amplitude were used as the dependent variable for the
389 subsequent regressions. Error trials were used as the outcome variable and correct trials were
390 used as the predictor in creation of the residualized difference scores (Meyer et al., 2017).

391 To test our first hypothesis that transdiagnostic measures of anxiety, worry, and
392 depressive symptoms would predict delta power values, theta power values, and ERN amplitude,
393 nine linear regressions were performed. In order to account for the large amount of linear
394 regressions being performed it was decided *a priori* that only *p*-values less than 0.01 would be
395 interpreted as significant in order to control for family wise error-rate. Age and sex were entered
396 into linear regressions as predictors due to evidence that ERN amplitude may vary as a function
397 of sex (Fischer et al., 2016; Hill et al., 2018; Larson et al., 2011; Moser et al., 2016) and that
398 ERN amplitude increases as an individual ages (Tamnes, Walhovd, Torstveit, Sells, & Fjell,
399 2013). Each linear regression used one questionnaire as an independent variable of interest (BDI,
400 STAI Trait, or PSWQ) to predict one dependent variable (residual delta power, residual theta
401 power, residual ERN). Separate regressions were used as the BDI and STAI Trait scales were
402 found to be highly correlated, and, therefore, could not be entered in the same regression.
403 Normality of residuals was adequate.

404 **2.5.4 Diagnostic Linear Regressions**

405 To test our second hypothesis that diagnostic group would predict greater delta residual
406 power, theta residual power, and residual ERN amplitude, three linear regressions were
407 performed. Group (GAD, MDD, comorbid, control), age, and sex were used to predict delta
408 residual power, theta residual power, and residual ERN amplitude. The group variable was
409 entered as a factored variable (i.e., dummy coded), with GAD serving as the contrast variable for
410 each of the linear regressions.

411 **2.6 Sensitivity Analysis**

412 A sensitivity analysis performed in G*Power (v 3.1) revealed that for both the continuous
413 and diagnostic linear regressions, the current sample is adequately powered to detect a small-to-

414 medium f^2 effect. Specifically, for the continuous linear regressions, a sensitivity analysis for a
415 linear multiple regression fixed model, R^2 deviation from zero at an alpha level of 0.01, power of
416 0.80, and 3 predictors (individual questionnaire, age, sex) with a total sample size of 178 reveals
417 sensitivity to detect an small-to-medium f^2 effect size of 0.09. For the secondary diagnostic linear
418 regressions, analyses revealed that with a total sample size of 148 participants and five predictors
419 (three diagnostic groups [with GAD set as the reference group], age, sex), we were powered to
420 detect a f^2 of 0.13; both sets of linear regressions are powered to detect small to medium effects
421 (Cohen, 1988). Thus, we are confident the results of the current study were not due to lack of
422 statistical power.

423 **3 Results**

424 **3.1 Questionnaire and Behavioral Data**

425 A one-way ANOVA with BDI total score as a dependent variable revealed a difference
426 between groups ($F(3,142) = 35.5, p < .001, \eta^2 = 0.43$). Individuals with psychopathology,
427 regardless of diagnosis, had significantly higher BDI scores when compared to controls, but
428 pathology groups did not significantly differ ($p_{\text{GAD v Control}} < .01, p_{\text{MDD v Control}} < .01, p_{\text{Comorbid v}}$
429 $\text{Control}} < .01; p_{\text{GAD v MDD}} = .62, p_{\text{GAD v Comorbid}} = .06, p_{\text{Comorbid v MDD}} = .36$). Group differences
430 between PSWQ score were evident ($F(3,137) = 11.1, p < 0.001, \eta^2 = 0.20$) with individuals with
431 psychopathology, regardless of diagnosis, having higher PSWQ scores when compared to
432 controls and no differences amongst pathology groups ($p_{\text{GAD \& Control}} = .01, p_{\text{MDD \& Control}} = .01,$
433 $p_{\text{Comorbid \& Control}} < .01; p_{\text{GAD \& MDD}} = .87, p_{\text{GAD \& Comorbid}} = .83, p_{\text{Comorbid \& MDD}} = .26$). Lastly,
434 individuals with psychopathology had significantly higher STAI Trait scores when compared to
435 controls ($F(3,140) = 64.4, p < .001, \eta^2 = 0.58; p_{\text{GAD v Control}} < .01, p_{\text{MDD v Control}} < .01, p_{\text{Comorbid v}}$

436 Control < .01), but no difference between individuals with psychopathology ($p_{GAD \vee MDD} = .99$, p_{GAD
437 \vee Comorbid = .18, $p_{Comorbid \vee MDD} = .08$).

438 All behavioral (RT and accuracy) data is reported by group in Table 3. Overall accuracy
439 for the flanker task was 91% and overall median response time was 413 ms. Paired samples *t*-
440 tests confirmed that for the overall sample, there was lower accuracy and longer response time
441 for incongruent trials when compared to congruent trials ($t_{accuracy}(177) = 18.6$, $p < .001$, $d_z = 1.4$;
442 $t_{response\ time}(177) = 154.8$, $p < .001$, $d_z = 11.6$). For accuracy in the smaller diagnostic sample,
443 there was a main effect of congruency ($F(1,142) = 216.8$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2 = 0.25$) as expected, there
444 was no main effect of group ($F(3,142) = 1.63$, $p = .18$, $\eta^2 = 0.03$), but this was qualified by a
445 significant group by congruency interaction ($F(3,142) = 3.2$, $p = .03$, $\eta^2 = 0.01$). A paired
446 samples *t*-test confirmed there was greater accuracy for congruent versus incongruent trials
447 ($t(145) = 16.3$, $p < .001$, $d_z = 1.4$). One-way ANOVAs revealed that groups did not differ on
448 accuracy for congruent trials ($F(3,142) = 0.43$, $p = .74$, $\eta^2 = 0.01$), but did on incongruent
449 trials ($F(3,142) = 2.70$, $p = .05$, $\eta^2 = 0.05$). However, post-hoc tests revealed no individual group
450 comparisons reached statistical significance (closest *p*-value = .06 between control participants
451 and individuals with MDD). Thus, no clear differences in accuracy based on congruency and
452 group emerged.

453 For response times in the diagnostic sample, there was a main effect of congruency
454 ($F(1,142) = 1660.1$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2 = 0.43$) and a congruency by group interaction ($F(3,142) = 4.05$,
455 $p = .008$, $\eta^2 = 0.01$), but no main effect of group ($F(3,142) = 1.65$, $p = .18$, $\eta^2 = 0.03$). A paired
456 samples *t*-test confirmed response times were longer on incongruent trials when compared to
457 congruent trials ($t(145) = -49.1$, $p < .001$, $d_z = -4.1$) as expected. Follow-up one-way ANOVAs

458 revealed no differences in response times for any group for both congruent ($F(3,142) = 1.68, p =$
459 $.17, \eta^2 = 0.03$) and incongruent trials ($F(3,142) = 1.93, p = .13, \eta^2 = 0.04$).

460

461 **3.4 Transdiagnostic Regression Analyses**

462 In the full sample, error trials were associated with greater delta and theta power (delta:
463 $t(177) = 10.1, p < .001, d_z = 1.0, M(SD)_{error} = 2.5(1.6), M(SD)_{correct} = 1.0(1.3)$; theta: $t(177) =$
464 $12.5, p < .001, d_z = 1.1, M(SD)_{error} = 2.0(2.0), M(SD)_{correct} = -0.1(1.6)$), along with a more
465 negative ERN amplitude when compared to correct trials ($t(177) = -6.3, p < .001, d_z = -0.6,$
466 $M(SD)_{error} = -0.1(2.6), M(SD)_{correct} = 1.5(2.8)$).

467 Scatterplots of questionnaire total score (BDI, STAI Trait, PSWQ) by each dependent
468 variable (delta residual power, theta residual power, ERN residual amplitude) are presented in
469 Figures 1, 2, and 3. Pearson's correlations revealed no significant relationships between
470 psychiatric symptoms measured by the questionnaires and error-related EEG/ERP dependent
471 variables (see supplementary Table S3 on OSF).

472 Time-frequency plots and topographical plots for delta/theta power are presented in
473 Figure 4 with time-frequency plots separated by group in Figure 5. Overall ERN amplitude, ERN
474 amplitude by group, and topographical plots are presented in Figure 6. As a note, for all linear
475 regressions, standardized beta coefficients are reported. While holding age and sex constant, BDI
476 score, STAI trait score, and PSWQ score did not significantly predict delta power values ($\beta_{BDI} =$
477 $0.0, p_{BDI} = 0.53$; $\beta_{STAI} = -0.00, p_{STAI} = 0.99$; $\beta_{PSWQ} = 0.06, p_{PSWQ} = 0.43$; see Table 4).

478 Transdiagnostic measures did not significantly predict theta power values ($\beta_{BDI} = 0.09, p_{BDI} =$
479 0.25 ; $\beta_{STAI} = 0.10, p_{STAI} = 0.20$; $\beta_{PSWQ} = 0.10, p_{PSWQ} = 0.18$; see Table 5) nor ERN residual

480 amplitude ($\beta_{BDI} = -0.02$, $p_{BDI} = 0.77$; $\beta_{STAI} = -0.07$, $p_{STAI} = 0.33$; $\beta_{PSWQ} = -0.10$, $p_{PSWQ} = 0.18$;
481 see Table 6).

482 **3.3 Diagnostic Linear Regressions**

483 Linear regression results for the following models are reported in Table 7. While holding
484 age and sex constant, diagnostic group did not significantly predict delta residual power
485 ($\beta_{MDD \times GAD} = 0.01$, $p_{MDD \times GAD} = 0.92$; $\beta_{Comorbids \times GAD} = 0.06$, $p_{Comorbids \times GAD} = 0.59$; $\beta_{Control \times GAD} = 0.13$,
486 $p_{Control \times GAD} = 0.35$). Similarly, diagnostic group did not significantly predict theta residual power
487 ($\beta_{MDD \times GAD} = -0.03$, $p_{MDD \times GAD} = 0.79$; $\beta_{Comorbids \times GAD} = 0.05$, $p_{Comorbids \times GAD} = 0.69$; $\beta_{Control \times GAD} = 0.03$,
488 $p_{Control \times GAD} = 0.69$). Diagnostic group did not predict ERN residual values ($\beta_{MDD \times GAD} = 0.00$,
489 $p_{MDD \times GAD} = 0.99$; $\beta_{Comorbids \times GAD} = -0.03$, $p_{Comorbids \times GAD} = 0.78$; $\beta_{Control \times GAD} = 0.03$, $p_{Control \times GAD} = 0.82$).

490 Exploratory linear regressions that mirrored the regressions described above were
491 performed with error trial only delta/theta power and ERN amplitude (i.e., not the residualized
492 difference scores, but the error trials only). The results for these linear regressions are presented
493 in the supplementary material on OSF (see supplementary material Tables S4-S7). All results
494 mirrored the results presented above, with no questionnaire nor diagnostic group predicting
495 delta/theta power and ERN amplitude. In addition, upon visual inspection of the data, there may
496 have been potential outliers in the BDI, STAI Trait, and PSWQ scales. Therefore, to ensure that
497 outliers were not driving the current results, outliers were defined as 2 times the inter-quartile
498 range and taken out for exploratory regressions. The pattern of significance in the results did not
499 change with the removal of these outliers. All p -values were above .23.

500 **4 Discussion**

501 The primary aim of the current study was to test the relationship between transdiagnostic
502 measures of trait anxiety, worry, and depressive symptomology and neurophysiological measures

503 of error-monitoring as indexed by residualized delta/theta oscillatory power and residualized
504 error-related negativity amplitude. Our first hypothesis that higher trait anxiety and worry would
505 predict greater residual delta/theta power and ERN amplitude was not supported, as there was a
506 nonsignificant prediction of the residualized values from the trait anxiety and worry
507 questionnaires. However, our hypothesis that there would be no relationship between depressive
508 symptoms and neurophysiological indicators of error monitoring was supported, as depressive
509 symptoms did not predict any dependent variable. A secondary aim of the current study was to
510 test for between-group differences in error-monitoring processes in individuals with GAD,
511 MDD, and comorbid disorders. Our second hypothesis that individuals with GAD would exhibit
512 higher error-related delta/theta residualized power values and residualized ERN amplitude was
513 unsupported, as group status was a nonsignificant predictor any of delta/theta power and ERN
514 amplitude. However, our hypothesis that those with MDD would not differ from controls was
515 supported, as there were nonsignificant differences between those diagnosed with MDD and
516 controls.

517 Although the results of the current study did not support all of our original hypotheses,
518 these results are consistent with the considerable amount of heterogeneity emerging in the extant
519 literature. When examining the results of continuous scales predicting delta/theta power and
520 ERN amplitude, these null results align with the results of Weinberg et al. (2014), where trait
521 worry did not relate to the magnitude of the ERN amplitude. Further, in Weinberg et al. (2012),
522 Mood and Anxiety Symptom Questionnaire- Anxious Arousal (MASQ-AA) subscale score did
523 not relate to error-related brain activity, suggesting that general physiological anxiety symptoms
524 may not be related to ERN amplitude. Although anxious arousal was not directly tested in the
525 current study, this evidence lends credence to a general idea that anxiety symptomology and

526 ERN amplitude may not be related without accounting for additional factors that may influence
527 ERN amplitude, such as intolerance of uncertainty (Jackson, Nelson, & Hajcak, 2016). In
528 addition, when looking at depressive symptoms, anhedonic depression symptoms do not relate to
529 neural measures post-error (Schroder et al., 2013), along with general depressive symptoms
530 (Chang et al., 2010), and distress/misery latent factors (Gorka, Burkhouse, Afshar, & Phan,
531 2017). Again, these results in combination with the current results suggest depressive symptoms
532 may not be related to delta/theta power and ERN amplitude.

533 It is plausible there is simply not a strong relationship between anxious and depressive
534 symptomology and neurophysiological measures of error-monitoring in a large sample of people,
535 or that the relationship depends on extraneous variables not accounted for in the current study
536 (i.e., hidden moderator explanation). A recent meta-analysis showed the relationship between
537 depression and the ERN in the published literature is small (Moran et al., 2017), while another
538 meta-analysis displayed a “small-to-medium” effect between anxiety and ERN (Moser et al.,
539 2013), although this may be overestimated due to publication bias (Moran et al., 2017). When
540 looking at midfrontal theta oscillations, those with higher levels of trait anxiety do display
541 enhanced theta power when performing cognitive control tasks (Cavanagh & Shackman, 2015),
542 but this may be specific to the individual’s reactivity to uncertainty or threat. The current results
543 add to a heterogenous body of literature and present evidence that in a relatively large sample
544 with a wide range of psychopathology symptoms, the relationship between transdiagnostic
545 measures of anxiety and depression and neural indices of error-monitoring may be more nuanced
546 than originally thought.

547 Another possible explanation of the current results is that error-monitoring processes may
548 be related to more nuanced anxiety and depressive symptoms that were not captured in the

549 measures used. We chose broad symptom measures that are commonly used in clinical settings
550 instead of focusing on specific subscales or traits, such as anhedonia, helplessness, or rumination
551 to name a few. It may that the relationship between neurophysiological measures of error
552 processing and pathology are only present in very specific subdimensions. For example,
553 individuals who experience feelings of helplessness display greater ERN amplitude when
554 compared to those who report lower levels of helplessness (Pfabigan et al., 2013) or rumination
555 is correlated with a more negative ERN when compared to those lower on scales of rumination
556 (Tanovic, Hajcak, & Sanislow, 2017), suggesting that specific factors of depressive
557 symptomology may contribute to individual differences in error-monitoring processes. Future
558 research should continue to test which specific dimensions of depressive and anxious
559 symptomology factors relate to error-monitoring processes in order to parse apart relationships
560 with individual differences in error-monitoring.

561 When comparing the results of the group linear regressions to previous research, there is
562 additional evidence that diagnostic group may not specifically relate to error-monitoring
563 processes, along with methodological differences that may contribute to heterogeneity in the
564 literature. When testing for group differences in error-monitoring processes, Kujawa et al. (2016)
565 and Xiao et al. (2011) found no difference in Δ ERN (error minus correct ERN amplitude) in
566 individuals with GAD when compared to controls, suggesting that error-monitoring processes
567 may not be heightened in those with GAD. However, individuals diagnosed with social anxiety
568 disorder had a more negative Δ ERN when compared to controls, suggesting that ERN amplitude
569 may be differentially affected between anxiety disorders (Kujawa et al., 2016). Other studies
570 have demonstrated that Δ ERN was more negative in GAD, but ERN or CRN alone was not
571 (Weinberg et al., 2012). In the current paper, residualized values between ERN and CRN values

572 were used over Δ ERN (Meyer, Lerner, Reyes, Laird, & Hajcak, 2017), and therefore
573 methodological decisions, such as which ERP measure to use, could have affected study
574 outcomes. When examining the literature surrounding depression and ERN amplitude, the results
575 of a recent meta-analysis suggest that the relationship between depression and ERN amplitude is
576 small and that the current literature is possibly contaminated with publication bias (Moser et al.,
577 2017).

578 The results of the current study should be considered within the appropriate limitations.
579 Although the sample size for the linear regressions containing all continuous variables was
580 relatively large ($n = 178$), diagnostic group linear regressions had much smaller sample sizes for
581 each subgroup ($n_{GAD} = 14$, $n_{MDD} = 28$, $n_{Comorbid} = 19$). Therefore, it is possible we did not have
582 enough participants in each diagnostic category to detect small differences in neural
583 measurements of error-monitoring that existed between groups. Further, as the task employed in
584 the current study was originally designed primarily to extract the time domain ERN, the greatest
585 epoch length we could extract surrounding a response was 1000 ms. Thus, the lowest frequency
586 we could extract without violating the Nyquist theorem was 1.5 Hz (Cohen, 2014) although delta
587 frequency extends as low as 1 Hz. This lower boundary may have impeded our ability to
588 accurately quantify frequencies in the delta frequency range. Finally, the reliability of our
589 symptom measures is quite good; however, reliability (in this case dependability) of ERN
590 amplitude was below the commonly-accepted level .70. Thus, the lower reliability at .63 may
591 have reduced the possible relationship between ERN amplitude and the symptom measures and
592 should be considered.

593 In conclusion, for the current sample, trait anxiety, worry, and depressive symptoms were
594 not related to error related delta/theta oscillatory power or ERN. Further, diagnostic group status

595 did not predict error-related residual delta/theta power or ERN amplitude. It is possible the
596 relationship between neural indices of error-monitoring and anxiety and depressive
597 symptomology is more nuanced than original thought, therefore, future research should
598 investigate various factors that could influence the relationship. It is also possible that there is not
599 a large enough relationship between symptomology and neural indices of error-monitoring to
600 bear out in a large sample. Future research should also investigate other individual difference
601 traits that may influence error-monitoring to further understand what factors influence our ability
602 to monitor errors and correct future behavior.

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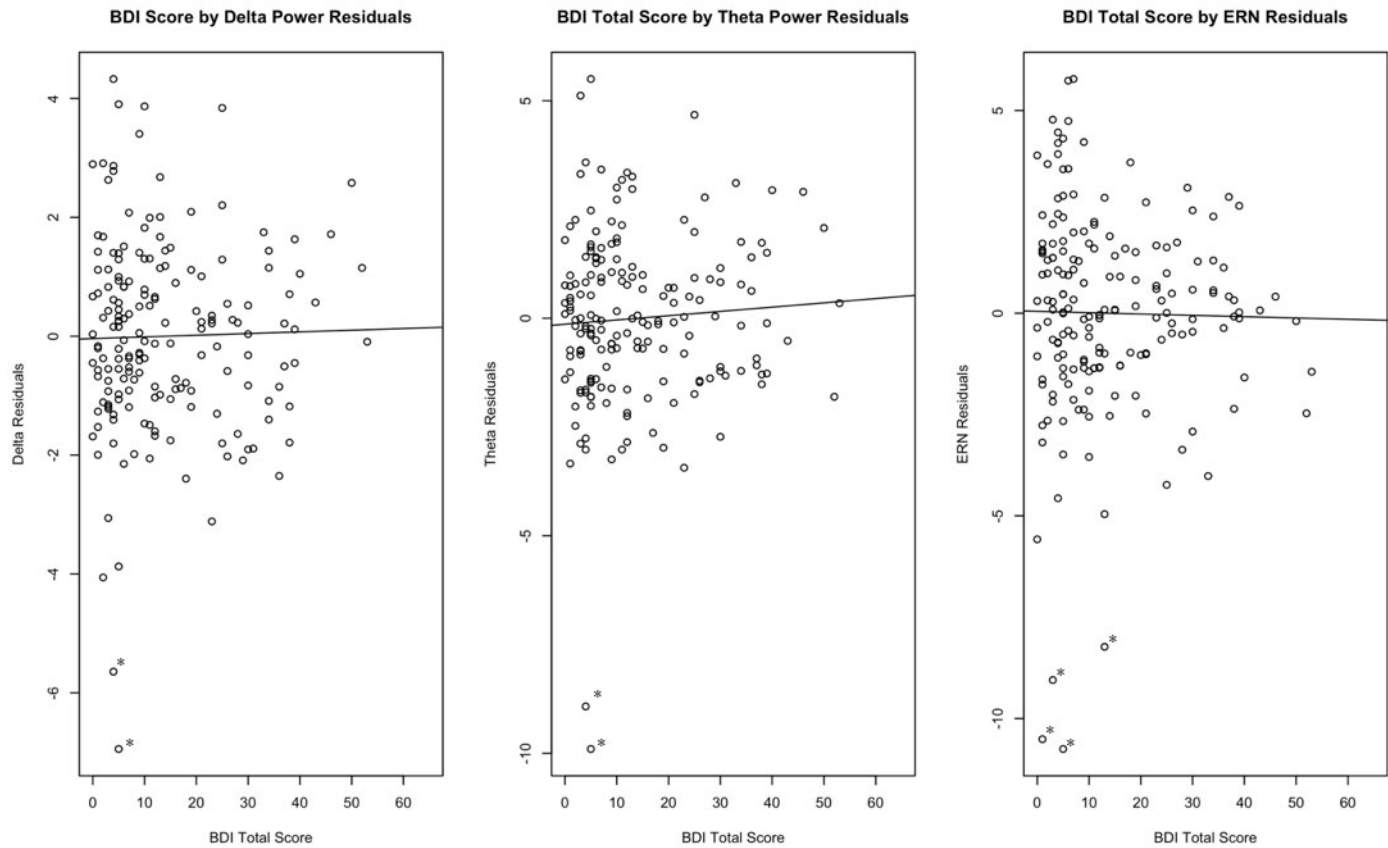
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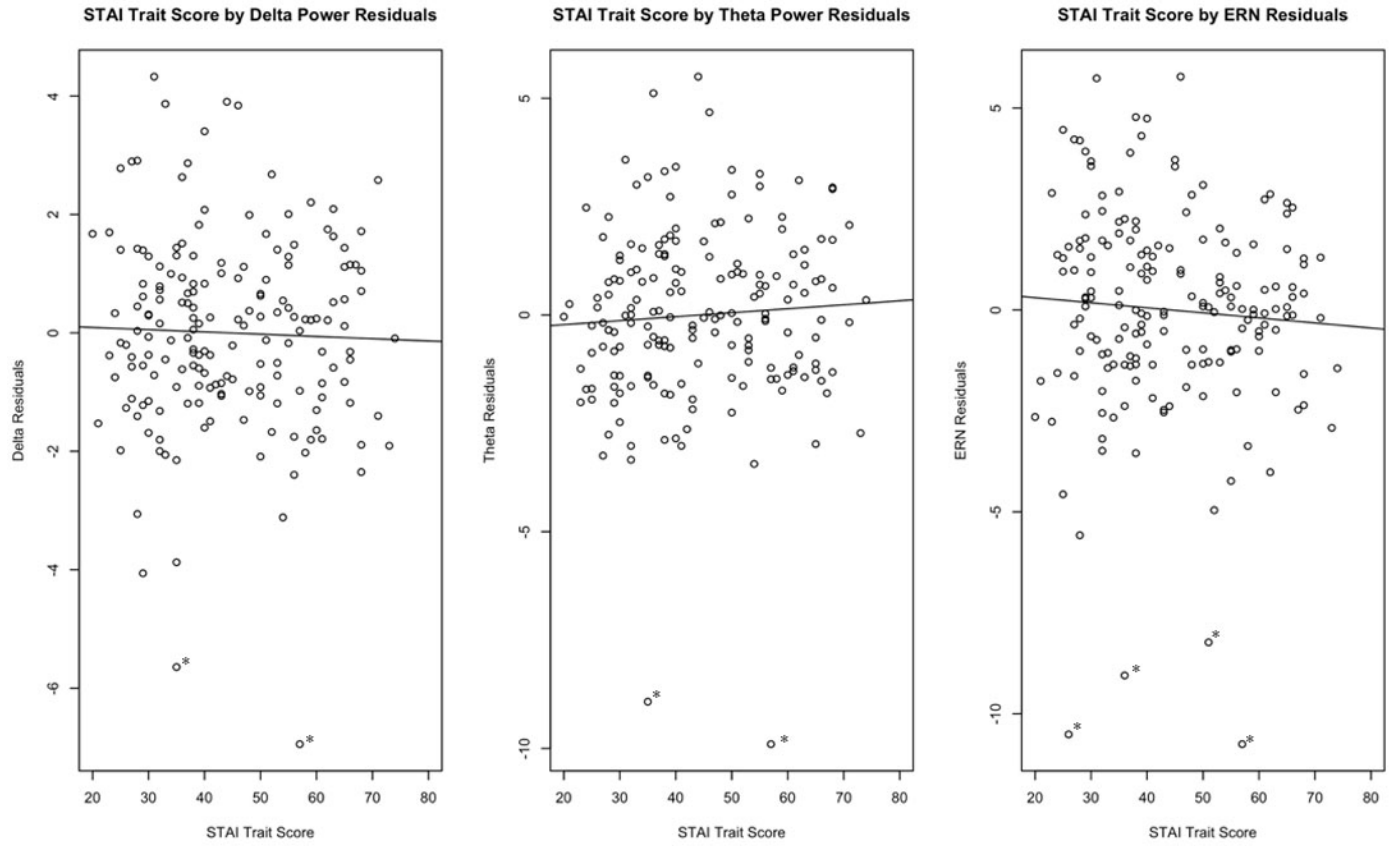
918 *Figure 1:* Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) total score by dependent variables. Possible BDI-

919 II scores range from 0 to 60.

920 * Outliers are marked with an asterisk. Outliers were identified as 2 times the inter-quartile range

921 and taken out for exploratory regressions. Results did not change. All $p > .23$.

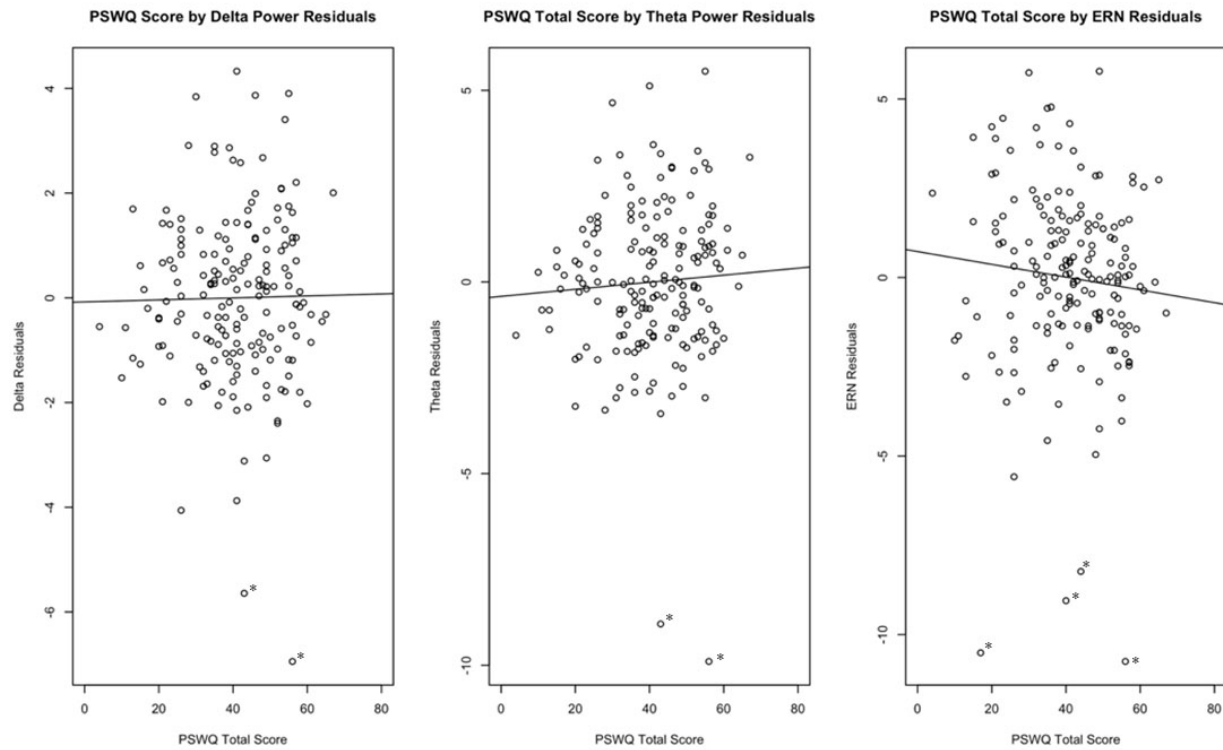
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924 *Figure 2: State Trait Anxiety (STAI) trait scale by dependent variables. Possible STAI scores*

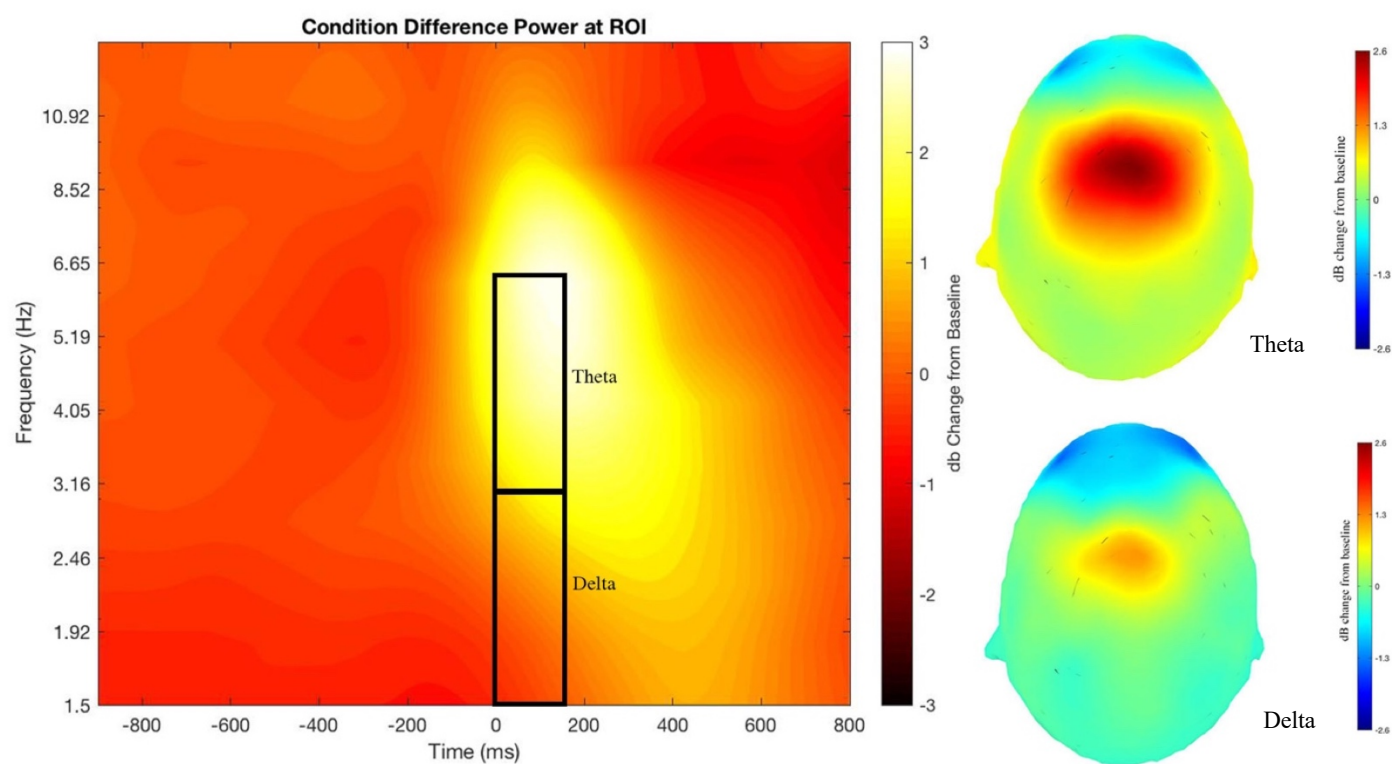
925 range from 20-80.



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928 *Figure 3: Penn State Worry Questionnaire score by dependent variables. Possible PSWQ scores*
929 *range from 0 to 80.*



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931 *Figure 4: Time-frequency and topographical plots of delta and theta difference power (error*
932 *minus correct).*

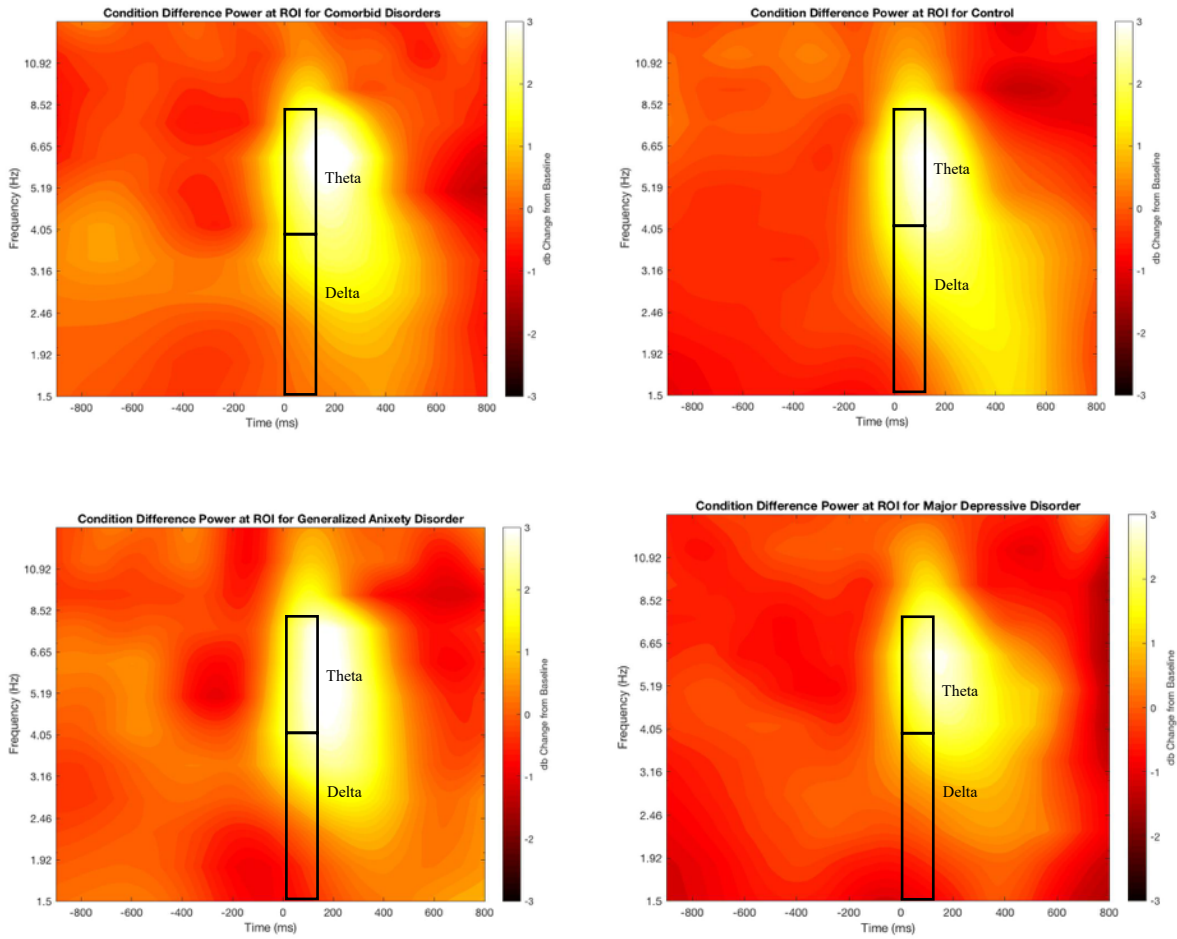
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940 *Figure 5: Time-frequency plots of delta and theta difference power separated by group*

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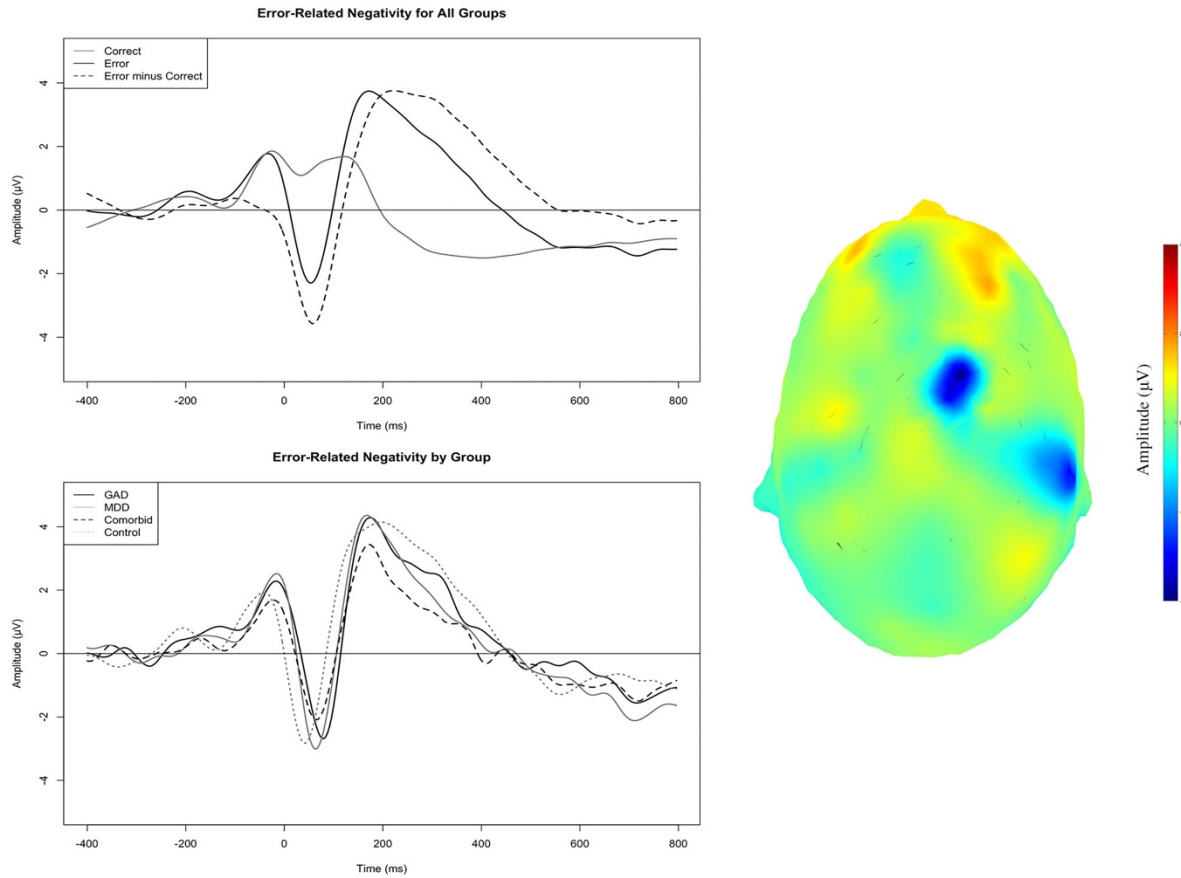
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948 *Figure 6: Plots of error-related negativity (ERN). Topographical plot is the difference ERN*
949 *(error minus correct).*

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SYMPTOM DIMENSIONS AND ERROR-MONITORING

Table 1

Means and standard deviations for demographics and questionnaires

	Group	Mean	Standard Deviation	Range (min,max)	Chronbach's Alpha
Age	Overall	21.67	4.59	18,53	
	GAD	22.07	4.53	18, 32	
	MDD	21.89	2.15	18,26	
	Comorbid	22.53	6.56	18,47	
	Control	20.61	2.27	18, 27	
BDI	Overall	13.97	12.45	0,53	0.95
	GAD	17.36	9.29	3,34	0.88
	MDD	21.07	12.17	1,39	0.93
	Comorbid	25.68	17.82	0,53	0.95
	Control	5.85	4.57	0,21	0.81
PSWQ	Overall	40.68	12.68	4,67	0.93
	GAD	46.57	8.4	32, 61	0.9
	MDD	43.54	9.97	25, 58	0.92
	Comorbid	50.29	8.51	34, 64	0.89
	Control	34.99	13.66	4, 67	0.92
STAI	Overall	44.23	13.6	20, 74	0.95
	GAD	52.93	10.83	29, 66	0.91
	MDD	52.82	11.53	24, 68	0.91
	Comorbid	59.35	8.65	45, 74	0.83
	Control	34.42	7.29	20, 55	0.85

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Table 2

Means and standard deviations for dependent variables and trial numbers.

	Group	Mean	Standard Deviation	Range (min,max)
Error delta	Overall	2.46	1.41	-4.85, 6.79
	GAD	2.07	1.46	0.22, 4.80
	MDD	2.17	2.04	-4.85, 6.45
	Comorbid	2.39	1.41	0.48, 5.40
	Control	2.65	1.62	-1.35, 6.79
Correct delta	Overall	0.99	1.31	2.50, 8.59
	GAD	0.94	1.08	-1.21, 2.51
	MDD	0.87	0.97	-1.81, 2.34
	Comorbid	0.98	0.86	-0.40, 3.18
	Control	0.89	1.33	-2.50, 8.59
Error theta	Overall	1.95	2.06	-8.67, 7.70
	GAD	2.06	1.62	-1.35, 4.40
	MDD	1.80	2.70	-8.67, 6.97
	Comorbid	2.34	2.01	0.03, 5.43
	Control	1.94	2.03	-3.68, 7.70
Correct Theta	Overall	-0.14	1.56	-7.29, 11.87
	GAD	0.17	1.09	-2.15, 2.16
	MDD	-0.10	0.89	-2.30, 1.15
	Comorbid	0.18	1.02	-1.44, 3.07
	Control	-0.46	1.42	-7.29, 5.30
Error-related negativity (ERN)	Overall	-0.12	2.59	-11.19, 7.29
	GAD	-0.18	1.56	-2.28, 2.52
	MDD	-0.17	2.75	-11.19, 4.11
	Comorbid	-0.42	1.78	-3.06, 3.70
	Control	-0.03	2.81	-9.51, 7.29
Correct-related negativity (CRN)	Overall	1.46	2.75	-11.87, 18.38
	GAD	1.06	1.10	-0.76, 3.37
	MDD	1.38	2.12	-3.62, 5.02
	Comorbid	1.08	1.66	-1.42, 3.77
	Control	1.78	3.17	-11.87, 18.38

SYMPTOM DIMENSIONS AND ERROR-MONITORING

Correct Trials	Overall	648.7	114.62	164, 784
	GAD	662.79	103.12	443, 771
	MDD	629.82	140.68	192, 775
	Comorbid	606.16	151.65	164,779
	Control	652.81	102.16	278, 773
Error Trials	Overall	47.4	31.07	10, 170
	GAD	49.36	29.52	14, 108
	MDD	58.89	31.23	18, 136
	Comorbid	49.47	32.15	14, 119
	Control	40.13	28.69	11, 158

Note: Correct trials were randomly selected to match the number of error trials in the time-frequency data analyses

Delta/Theta power = db Change from Baseline

ERN/CRN = microvolts

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Table 3
*Means and standard deviations for task accuracy
 and response time*

	Group	Mean	Standard Deviation	Range (min,max)
Overall flanker accuracy (%)	Overall	91	6	57, 98
	GAD	91	5	82, 98
	MDD	90	6	74, 97
	Comorbid	90	6	76, 98
	Control	92	6	57, 98
Congruent trial flanker accuracy (%)	Overall	96	5	61, 100
	GAD	96	3	91, 100
	MDD	95	5	75, 100
	Comorbid	95	6	79, 99
	Control	96	5	61, 100
Incongruent trial flanker accuracy (%)	Overall	88	7	54, 99
	GAD	87	7	74, 97
	MDD	85	8	70, 97
	Comorbid	86	7	73, 97
	Control	89	7	54, 99
Overall flanker RT	Overall	413.32	31.68	317, 493.5
	GAD	413.64	32.63	368, 477.5
	MDD	402.54	33.15	329.5, 472
	Comorbid	405.37	39.64	317, 455
	Control	419.08	30.04	350, 493.5
Congruent flanker RT	Overall	371.32	31.93	278, 460
	GAD	367.36	30.58	315, 421
	MDD	360.14	34.17	291, 433
	Comorbid	371.42	43.78	278, 436
	Control	375.89	30.14	313, 460
Incongruent flanker RT	Overall	441.01	32.43	368, 525
	GAD	446.79	37.67	401, 521
	MDD	432.43	32.85	369, 496
	Comorbid	431.21	32.78	368, 477
	Control	445.68	31.74	383, 525

Table 4

Multiple linear regressions with diagnostic group predicting delta power residual values

	β	t	ΔR^2	VIF	F	df	Adj. R^2	Cohen's f^2
BDI					2.9	3,174	0.03	0.05
BDI	0.05	0.63	0.00	1.02				
Age	-0.01	-0.19	0.00	1.07				
Sex	-0.22	-2.88**	0.05	1.08				
STAI Trait					2.76	3,174	0.03	0.05
STAI Trait	-0.00	-0.01	0.00	1.03				
Age	-0.01	-0.14	0.00	1.09				
Sex	-0.22	-2.78	0.04	1.10				
PSWQ					2.98	3,174	0.03	0.05
PSWQ	0.06	0.78	0.00	1.06				
Age	-0.02	-0.25	0.00	1.09				
Sex	-0.23	-2.93	0.05	1.11				

Note: VIF = variance inflation factor.

* $p < 0.5$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

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Table 5

Multiple linear regressions with diagnostic group predicting theta power residual values

	β	t	ΔR^2	VIF	F	df	Adj. R^2	Cohen's f^2
BDI					2.42	3,174	0.02	0.04
BDI	0.09	1.15	0.01	1.02				
Age	-5.00	-0.66	0.00	1.07				
Sex	-0.20	-2.67*	0.04	1.08				
STAI Trait					2.54	3,174	0.03	0.04
STAI								
Trait	0.10	1.28	0.01	1.04				
Age	-0.06	-0.75	0.00	1.09				
Sex	-0.20	-2.63	0.04	1.10				
PSWQ					2.60	3,174	0.03	0.05
PSWQ	0.10	1.36	0.01	1.06				
Age	-0.06	-0.76	0.00	1.09				
Sex	-0.21	-2.68**	0.04	1.12				

Note: VIF = variance inflation factor.

* $p < 0.5$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

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SYMPTOM DIMENSIONS AND ERROR-MONITORING

Table 6

Multiple linear regressions with diagnostic group predicting ERN residual amplitude

	β	t	ΔR^2	VIF	F	df	Adj. R^2	Cohen's f^2
BDI					0.72	3,174	0.00	0.01
BDI	-0.02	-0.29	0.00	1.02				
Age	-0.06	-0.75	0.00	1.07				
Sex	0.08	1.02	0.00	1.08				
STAI Trait					1.02	3,174	0.00	0.02
STAI Trait								
Trait	-0.07	-0.97	0.01	1.04				
Age	-0.05	-0.63	0.00	1.09				
Sex	0.09	1.15	0.01	1.10				
PSWQ					1.31	3,174	0.01	0.02
PSWQ	-0.10	1.35	0.01	1.06				
Age	-0.05	-0.57	0.00	1.09				
Sex	0.10	1.27	0.01	1.12				

Note: VIF = variance inflation factor.

* $p < 0.5$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

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Table 7

Multiple linear regressions with diagnostic group predicting residual values

	β	t	ΔR^2	VIF	F	df	Adj. R^2	Cohen's f^2	
Delta Residual Power Model with Group					1.72	5, 140	0.02	0.06	
MDD x GAD	0.00	0.97	0.01	1.09					
Comorbid x GAD	0.01	0.1							
Control x GAD	0.06	0.54							
Age	-0.09	-1.1	0.01	1.13					
Sex	-0.19	-2.27	0.03	1.09					
Theta Error Residual Model with Group					1.53	5,140	0.02	0.05	
MDD x GAD	0.00	1.24	0.01	1.09					
Comorbid x GAD	-0.03	-0.27							
Control x GAD	0.05	0.4							
Age	-0.10	-1.11	0.01	1.13					
Sex	-0.21	-2.49	0.04	1.09					
ERN Residual Model with Group					0.53	5, 140	-0.02	0.02	
MDD x GAD	0.00	-1.00	0.00	1.09					
Comorbid x GAD	0.00	0.02							
Control x GAD	-0.03	-0.29							
Age	0.08	0.90	0.01	1.13					
Sex	0.13	1.50	0.02	1.09					

Note: VIF = variance inflation factor.

*p<0.5, **p<.01, ***p<.001