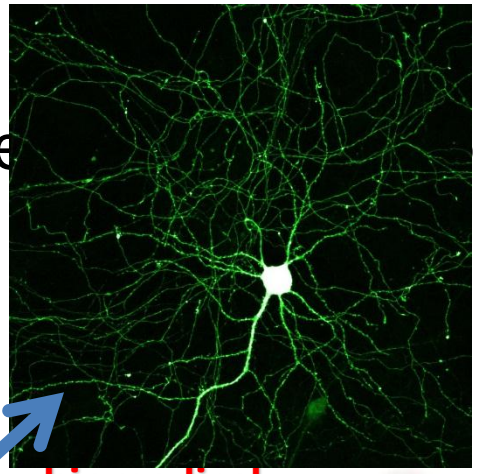
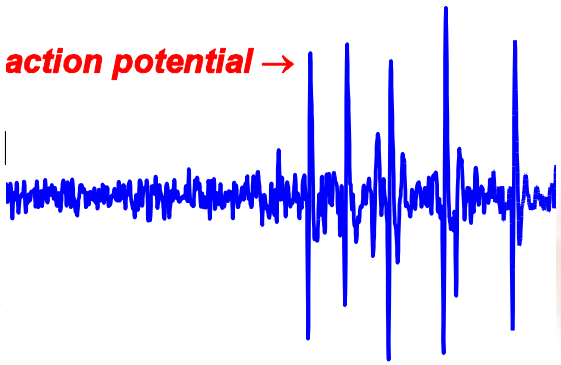
Biomedical Signal Processing and Computation

Zoran Nenadic, DSc
Assistant Professor
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (by courtesy)
The Henry Samueli School of Engineering
University of California Irvine

BME1 Guest Lecture
February 10, 2011

Biomedical signals are ge





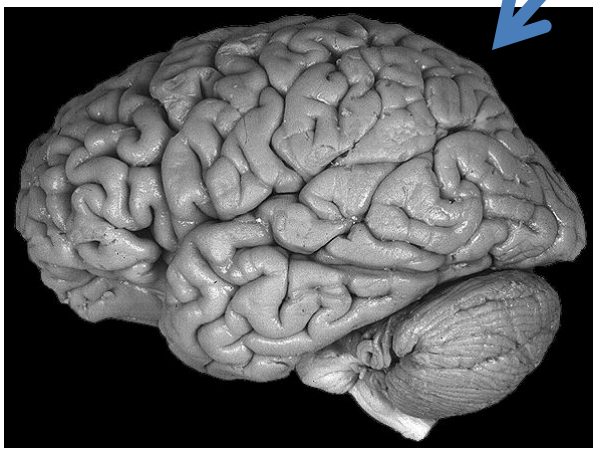
environmental/external variable(s)

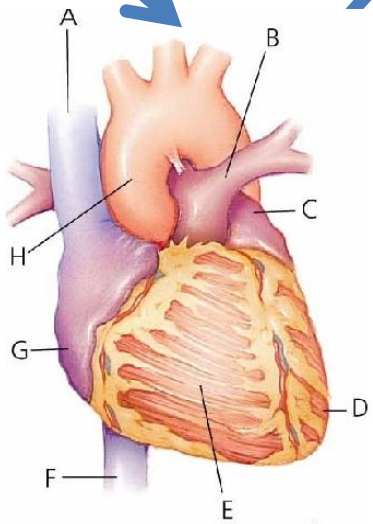
biomedical system

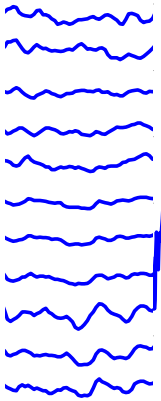
biomedical variable

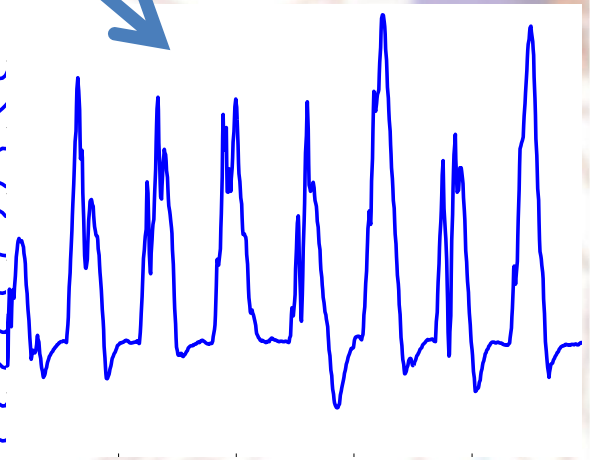
sensor (measuring device)

biomedical signal







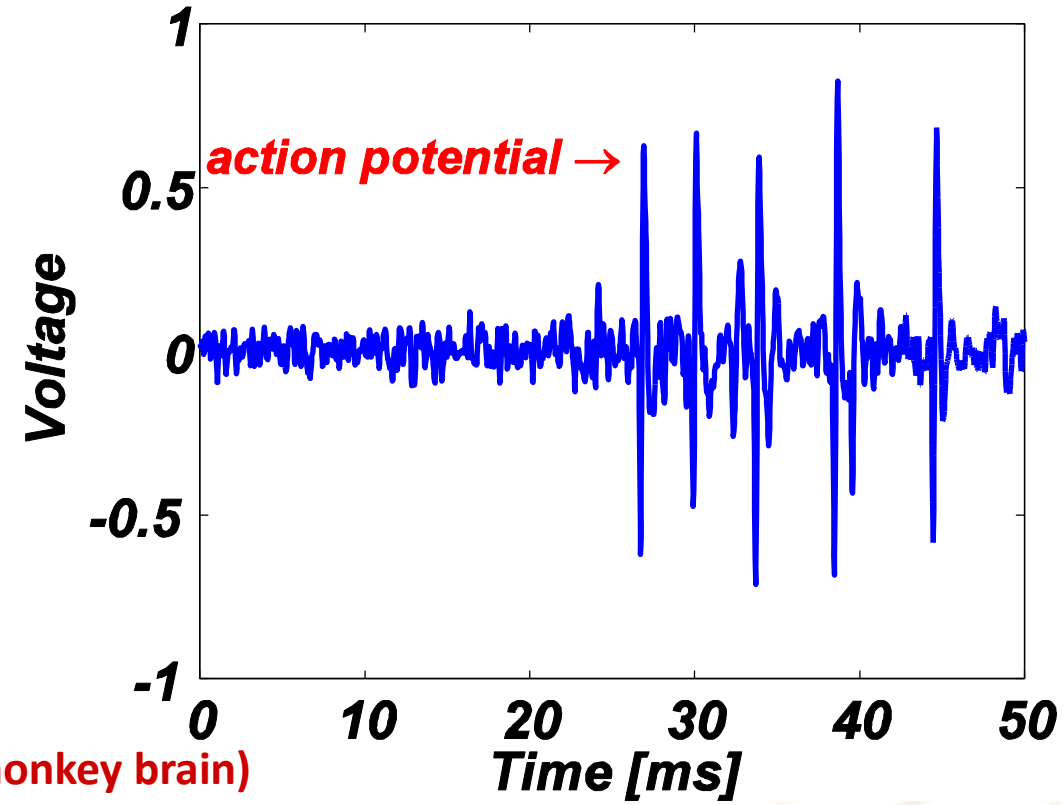


Properties of Biomedical Systems and Signals

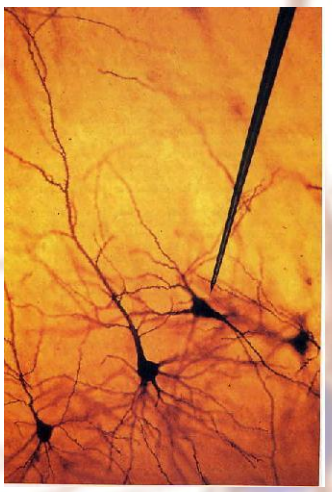
Biomedical systems are:
- dynamic
- nonlinear
- stochastic
- non-stationary (time varying)
- spatially distributed
- most have multiple signaling pathways
- some of them are oscillatory

Consequently, biomedical signals are:
- of limited bandwidth with noise that is colored
- complex (attractors, chaos, fractals)
- noisy
- non-stationary
- high dimensional
- redundant (spatial correlations)
- some of them are periodic

Example 1 Neuronal action potentials

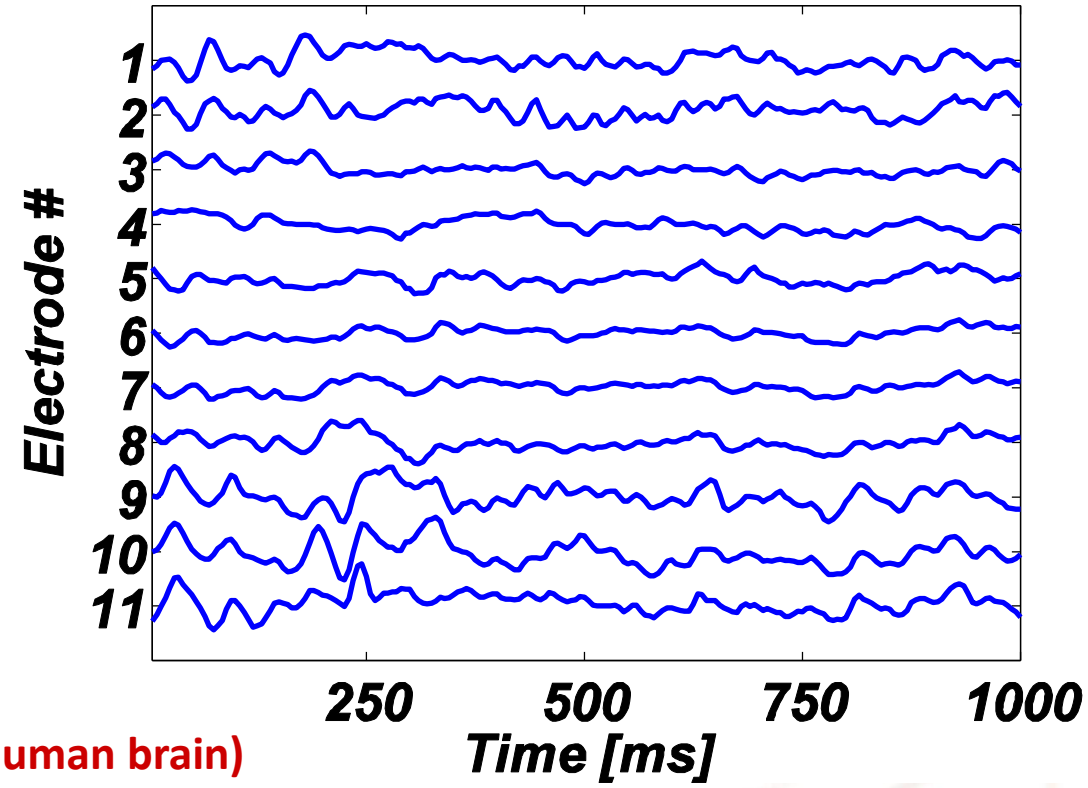


(data from monkey brain)



Temporal resolution: <1ms
Spatial resolution: ~20 μm

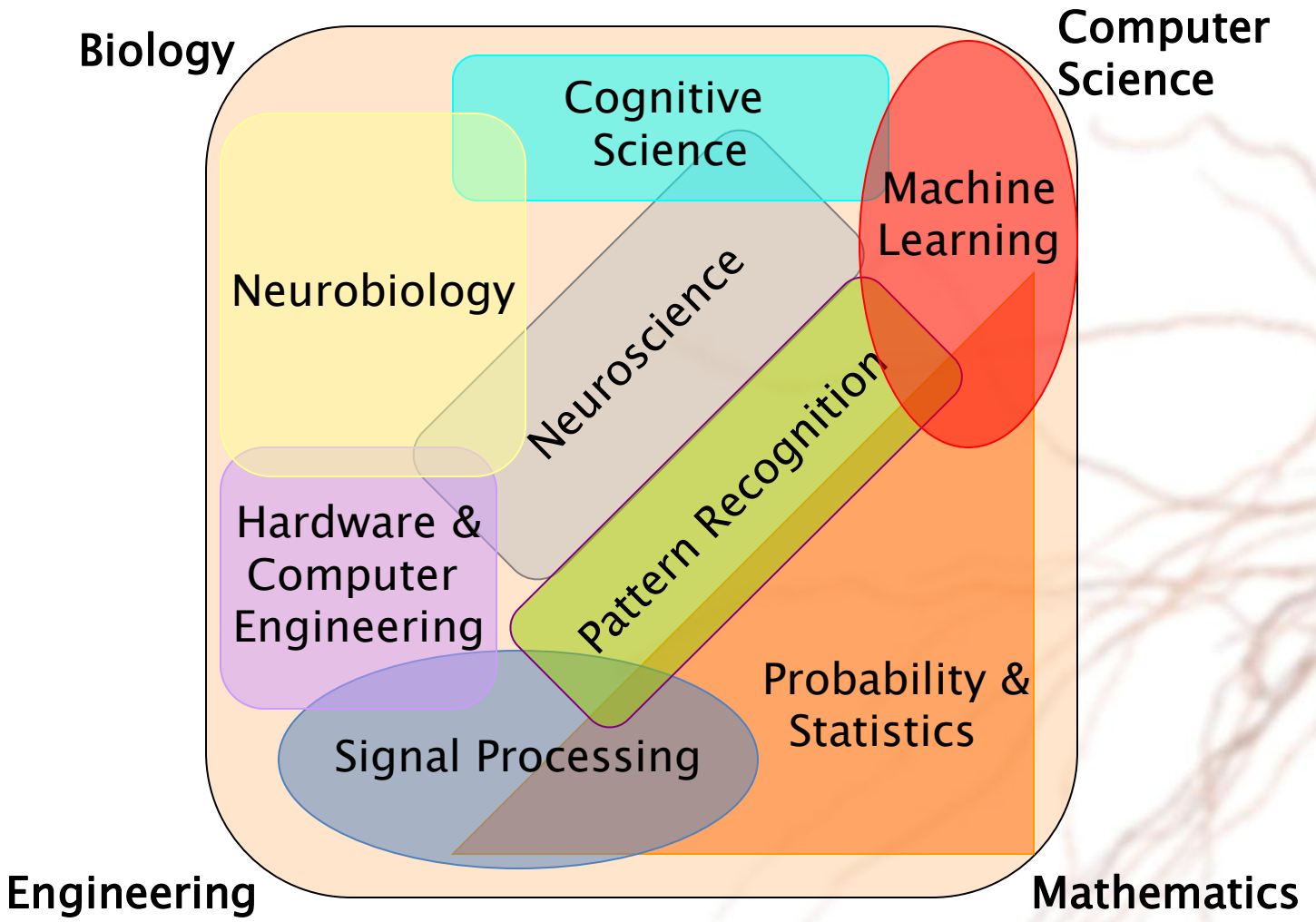
Example 2 Electroencephalogram (EEG)



(data from human brain)

Temporal resolution: ~10 ms
Spatial resolution: ~2 cm

Research in this area is highly cross-disciplinary!



Investigator and the Lab

Investigator: Zoran Nenadic

- DSc in Systems Science and Mathematics, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- Postdoctoral Training, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena CA

Graduate students:

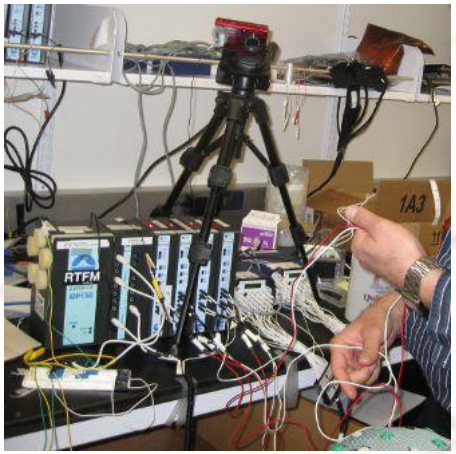
- Christine E. King (BME)
- Chang Won Lee (BME)
- Po T. Wang (BME)
- Victor Quintanar-Zilinskas (MCSB)

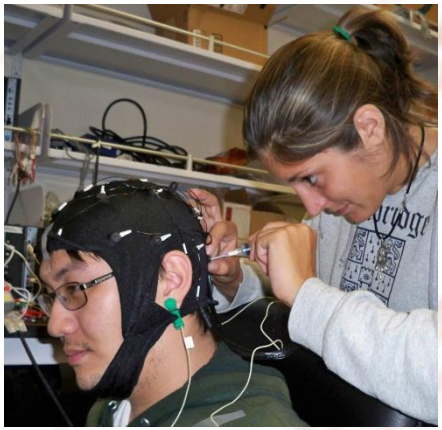
Undergraduate students:

- Ahmad Abiri (EECS)
- Varshini Chakravarthy (BME)

Collaborator: An H. Do, MD (Neurology)

3474-3476 Natural Sciences II
(~1,100 sq. ft.)





Long-term research question: How does the brain process information?

Short-term research problem(s):

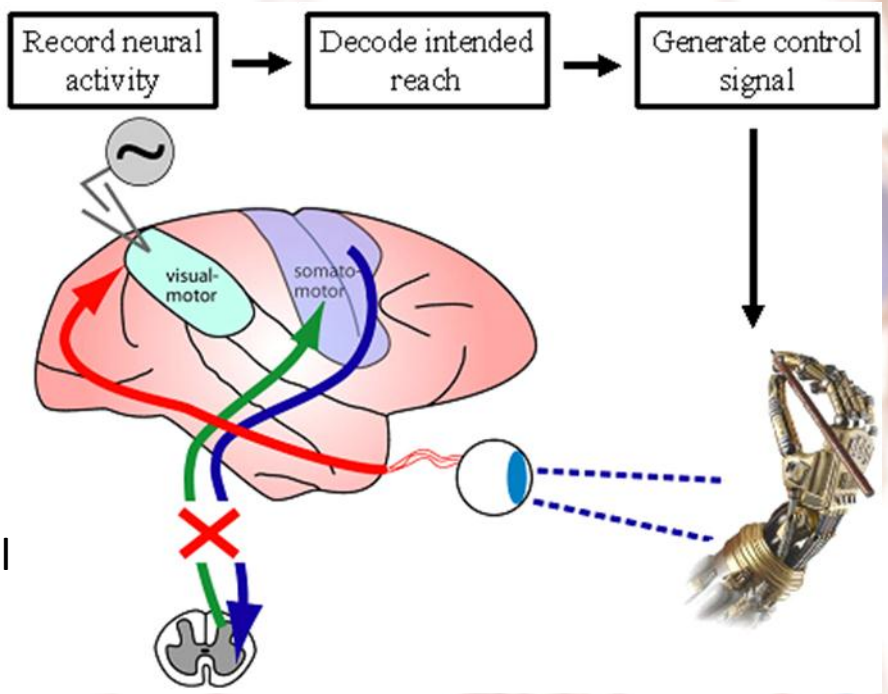
- If we measure brain activity, what inferences can we make about the underlying cognitive processes?
- Can we develop analytical and computational tools to efficiently analyze measurements without making unnecessary or unsupported assumptions? Can this lead to the development of new theories?
- Can we translate this into something useful?

Major project: Brain-computer interface (BCI)

Background:

"We will be engaged in the development of principles and techniques by which information from the nervous system can be used to control external devices such as prosthetic devices, communications equipment, teleoperators [· · ·] and ultimately perhaps even computers."

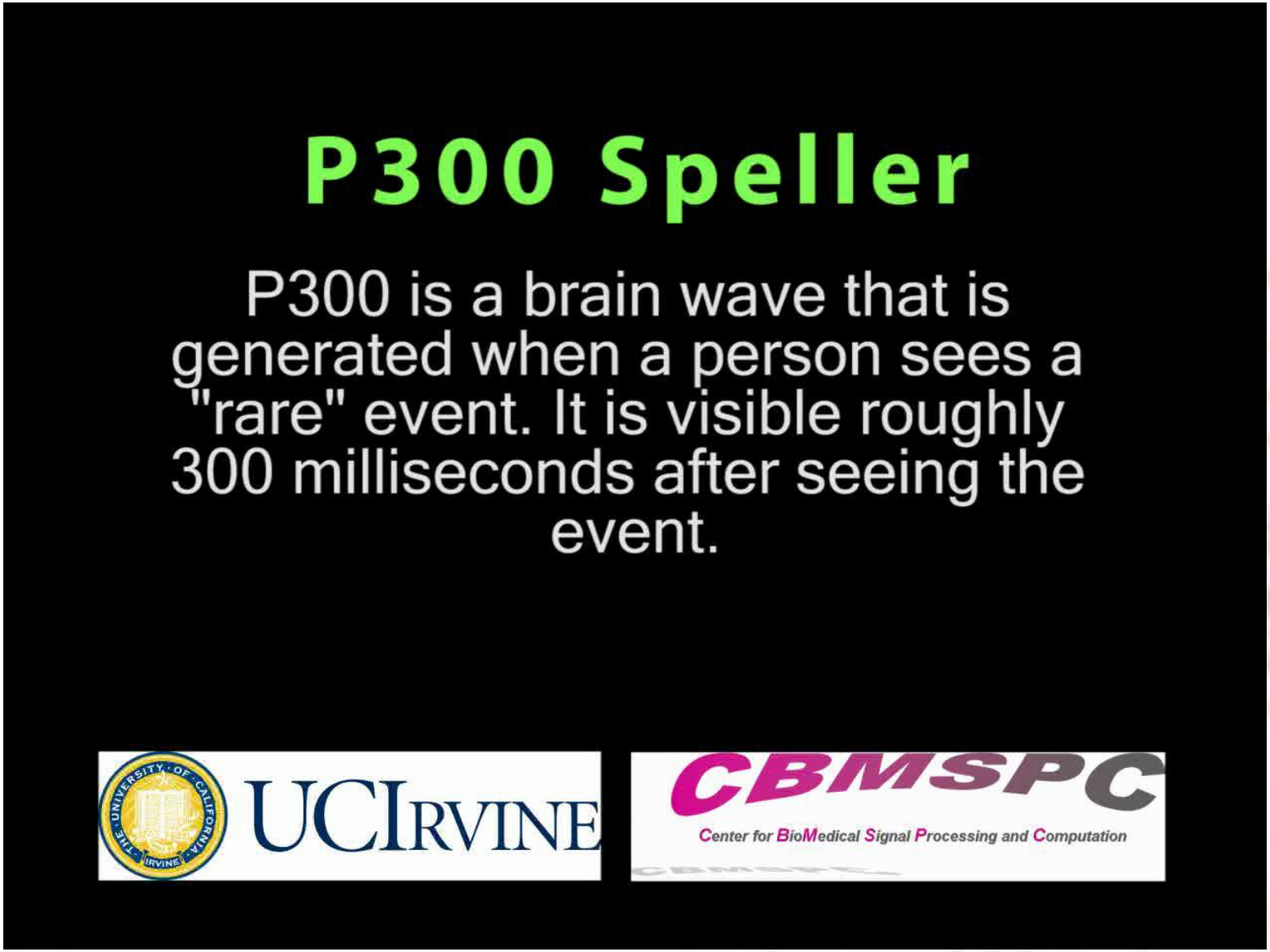
Karl Frank, Founder of the Laboratory of Neural Control at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, [1].



[1] K. Frank. Some approaches to the technical problem of chronic excitation of peripheral nerve. Ann Otol Rhinol Laryngol, 77(4):761–771, Aug 1968.

BCI featured on “60 Minutes”

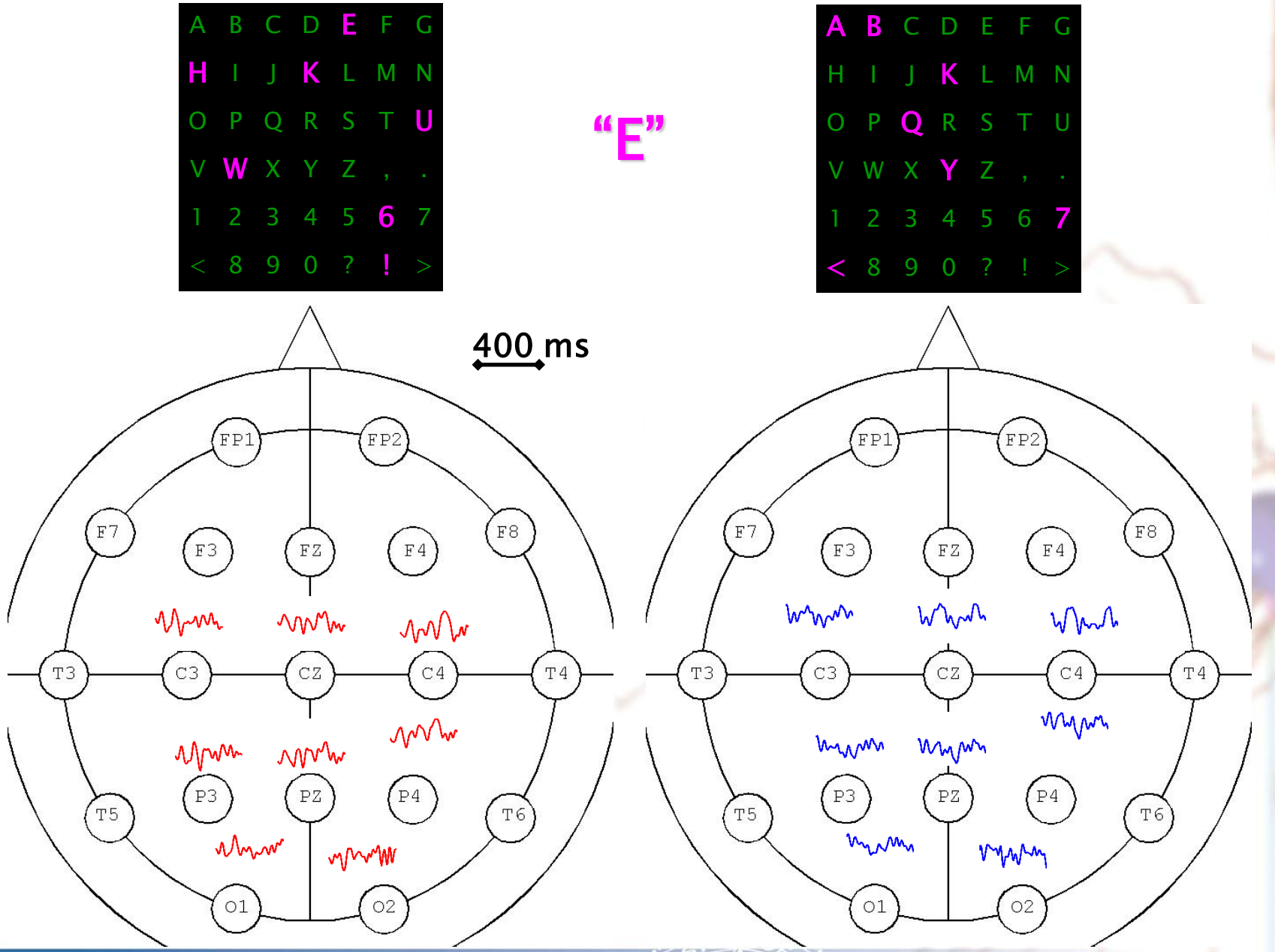
Experimental Results: BCI research at UC Irvine



2nd generation P300 speller

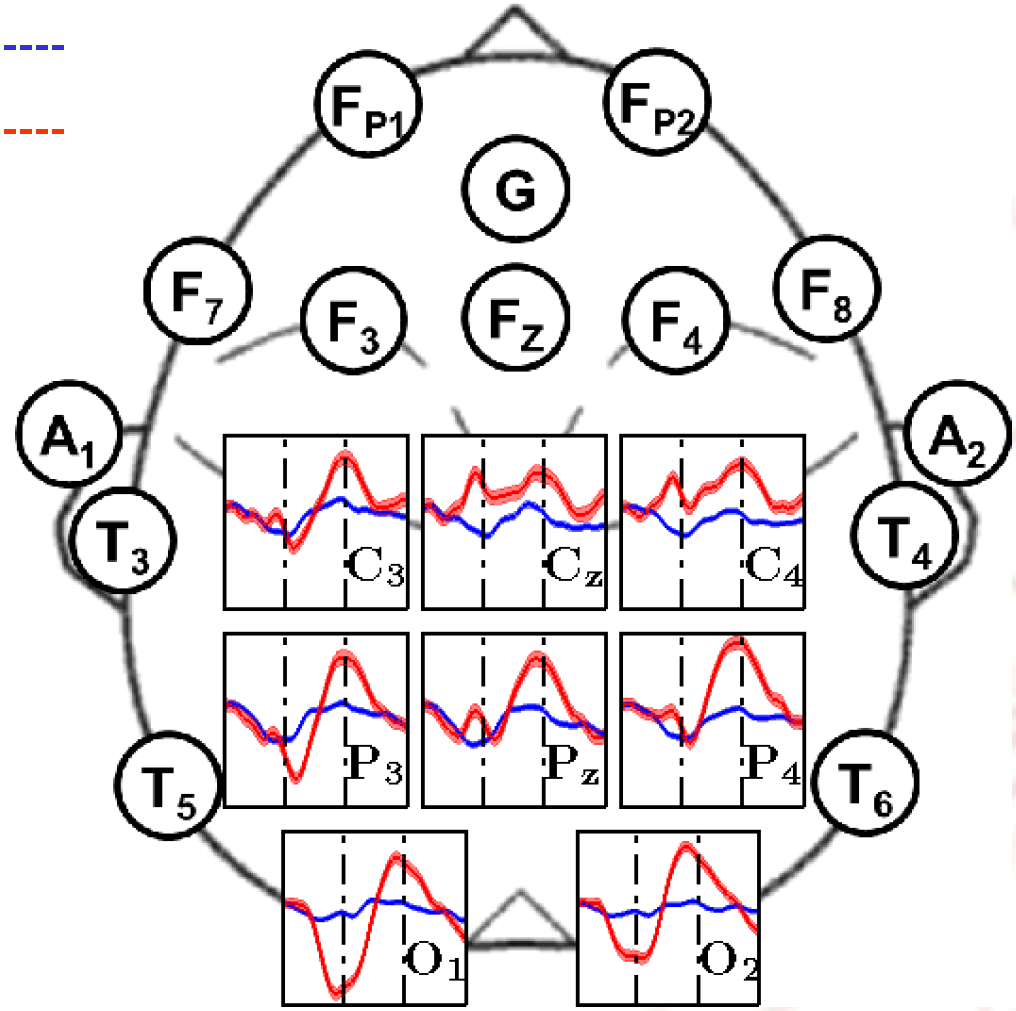
- Practical error-free typing rates as high as 12.75 characters/min.
- Error-free information transfer rates >3 bit/sec.
- These are 3 times higher than the performance of similar systems in the field.

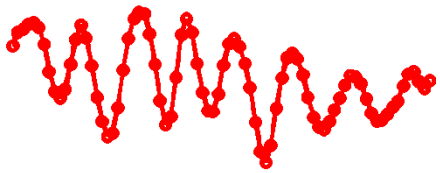
P.T. Wang, C.E. King, A.H. Do and Z. Nenadic, Pushing the communication speed limit of a noninvasive BCI speller. (submitted)


A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z , .
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
< 8 9 0 ? ! >
"E"
A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z , .
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
< 8 9 0 ? ! >
400 ms
FP1
FP2
F7
F3
FZ
F4
F8
T3
C3
CZ
C4
T4
T5
P3
PZ
P4
T6
O1
O2

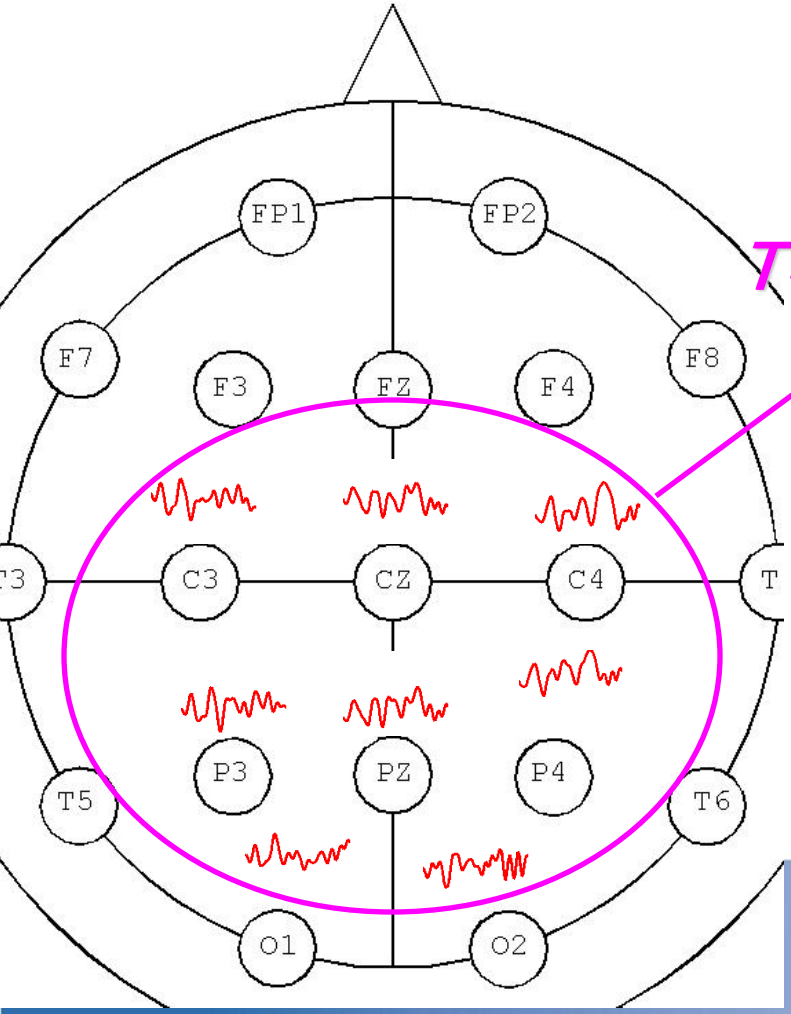
Non-oddball ----

Oddball ----





80 points
(numbers)



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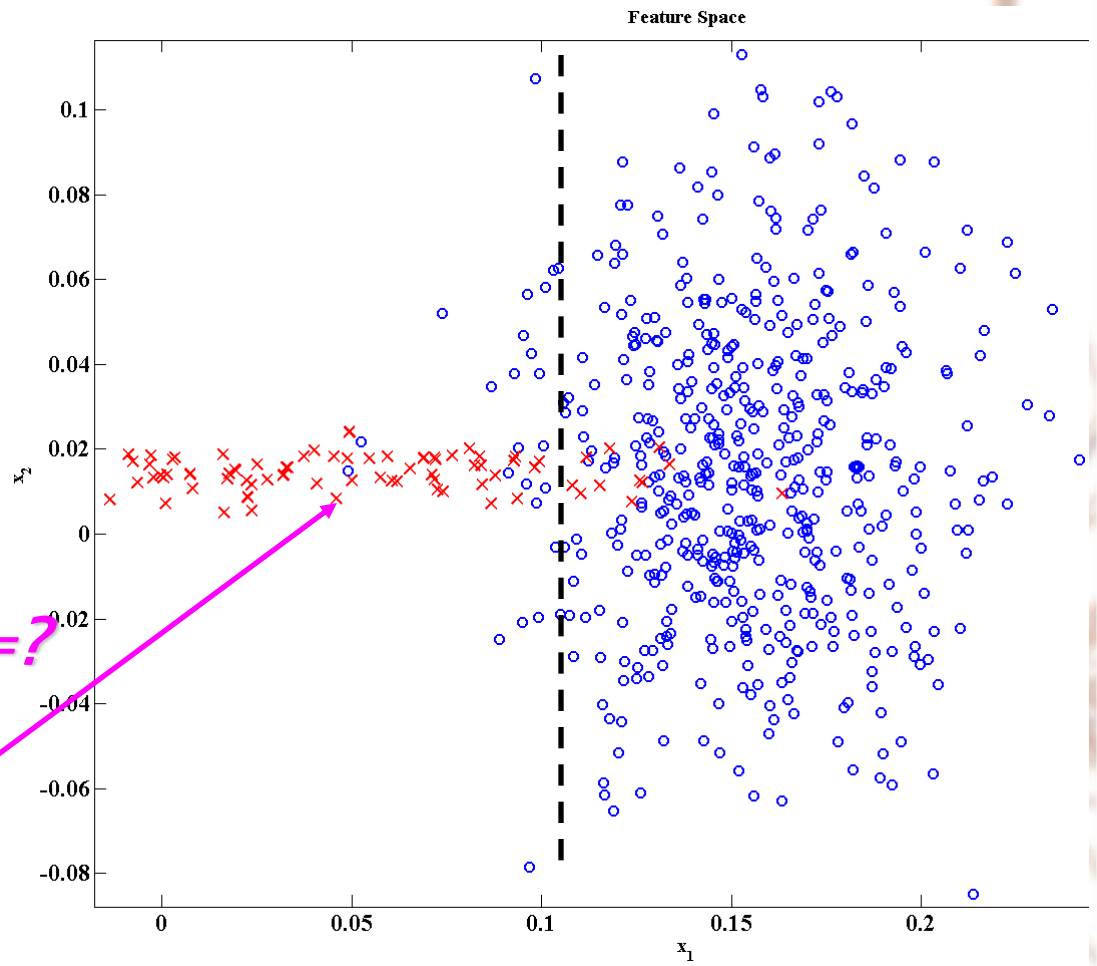


2 numbers

640 numbers

CBMSPC
Center for BioMedical Signal Processing and Computation

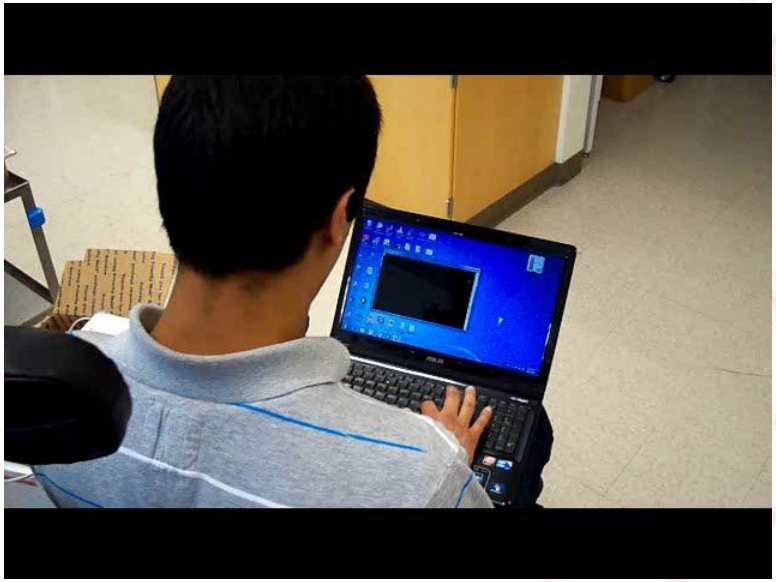
BCI as a rehabilitation technology:

Subject with paraplegia (T8, ASIA B), 11 years post-injury uses BCI to control the linear ambulation of a virtual reality avatar.

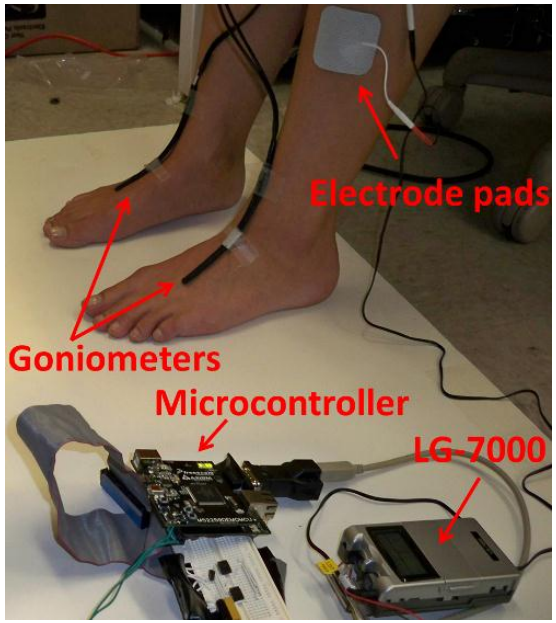
P.T. Wang, C. King, L.A. Chui, Z. Nenadic, A. Do, BCI controlled walking simulator for a BCI driven FES device, In Proc. of RESNA Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26-30, 2010.

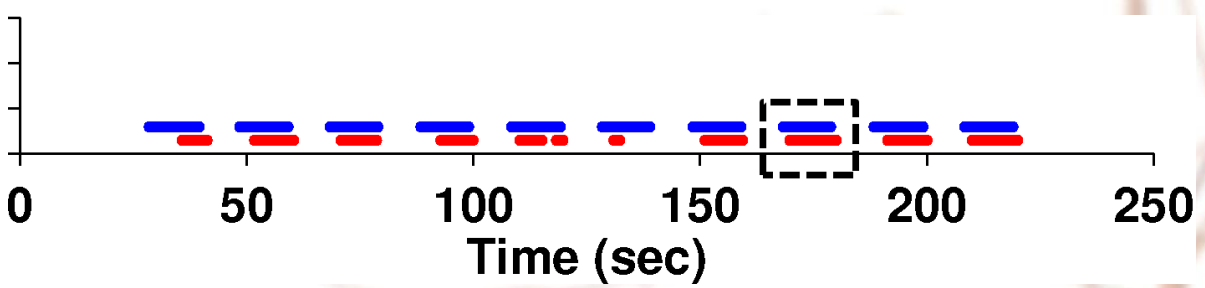
Future work:

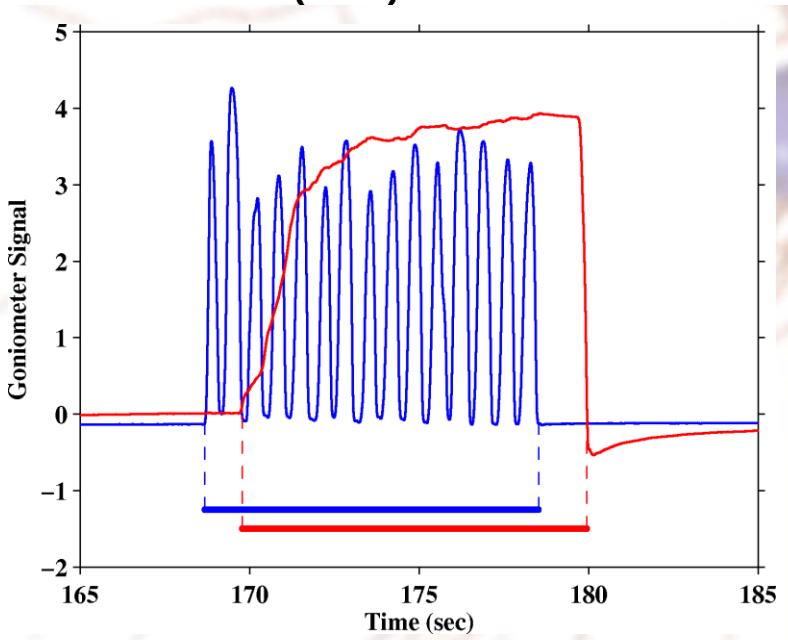
- BCI-driven wheelchair
- BCI-driven functional electrical stimulation device for lower extremity movement
- BCI control of upper extremity prosthesis



BCI-driven functional electrical stimulation device for lower extremity movement

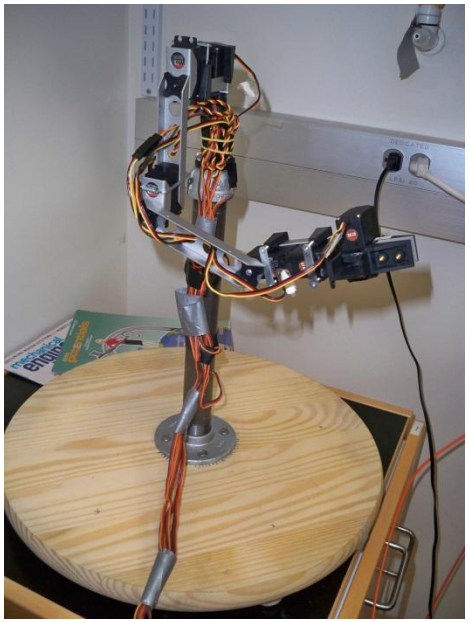


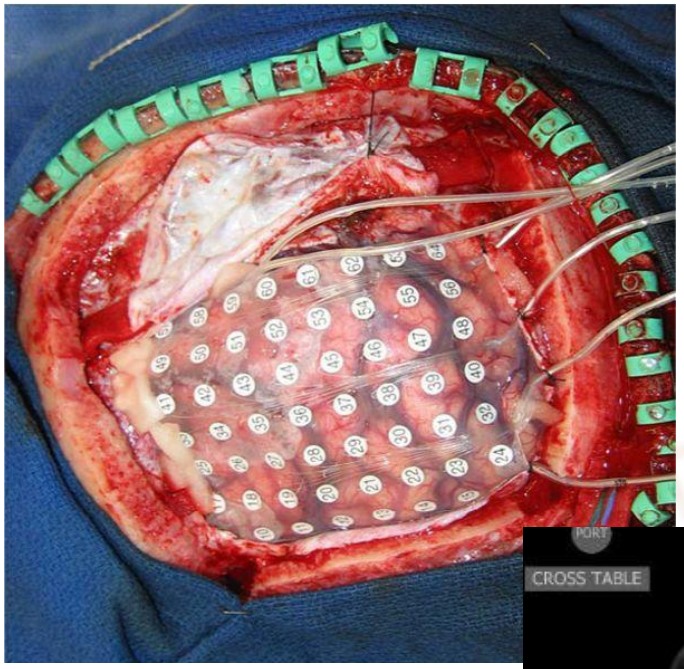




P.T. Wang, C.E. King, A.H. Do, and Z. Nenadic, A durable, low-cost electrogoniometer for dynamic measurement of joint trajectories, Med. Eng. Phys. (in press, DOI: 10.1016/j.medengphy.2010.12.008).

BCI control of upper extremity prosthesis





BCI control of hand orthosis (power glove), in collaboration with Prof. Shunji Moromugi, Nagasaki University

More videos can be found at:

http://cbmspc.eng.uci.edu/
http://www.youtube.com/user/UCIBCI

Funding sources:

Roman Reed Foundation
hope for spinal cord research

ALS Association
Fighting Lou Gehrig's Disease
1985 · 25th Anniversary · 2010

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