



Point-and-click cursor control using intracortical neural interface systems in a human with tetraplegia

Sung-Phil Kim¹, John D. Simeral^{2,3},
Leigh R. Hochberg^{2,3,4}, John P. Donoghue^{3,5},
Gerhard M. Friehs⁶, Michael J. Black¹

¹Dept. Computer Science, Brown University

²Rehabilitation R&D Services, Dept. of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

³Dept. of Neuroscience, Brown University

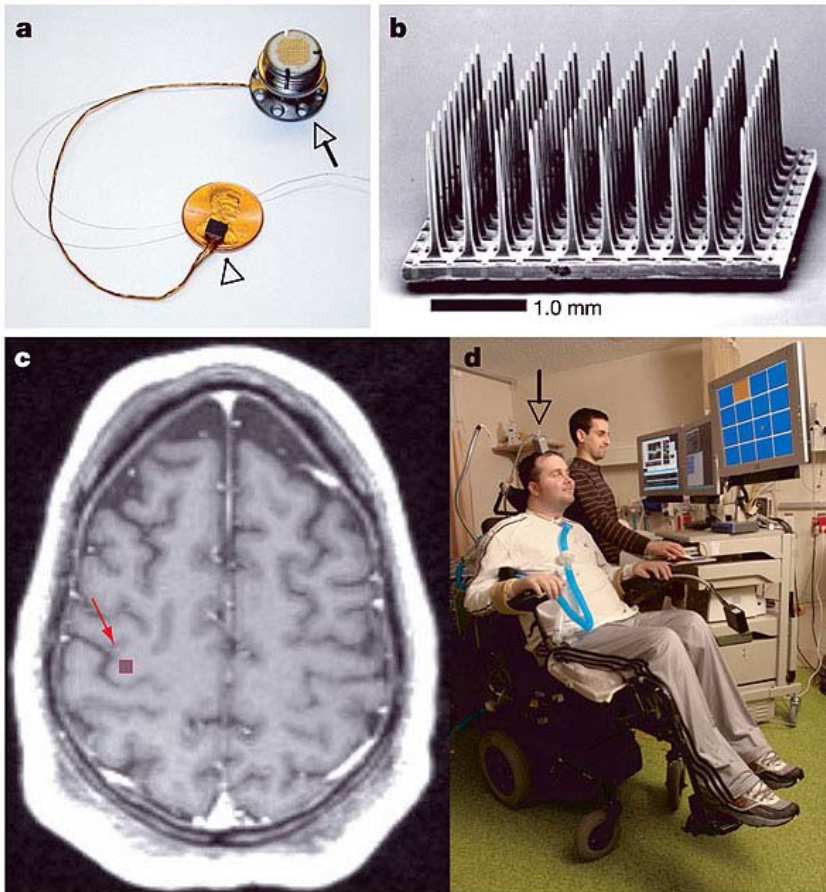
⁴Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

⁵Cyberkinetics Neurotechnology Systems, Inc.

⁶Dept. of Clinical Neuroscience, Brown University



Intracortical human neural prosthesis BrainGate™ pilot trials



- Motor signals in MI activity after paralysis
- Control external devices
 - e.g. computer cursor
- Position decoding by linear regression
- Unsteady cursor movements
- No click

Hochberg et al. Nature 2006



Challenge: Practical interfaces

- **Steady** and **accurate** cursor movements ?
- Simultaneously decode continuous (**point**) and discrete (**click**) signals from the same neural population of humans ?
 - Non-human studies:
 - Darmanjian et al (IEEE/ RSJ, 2003)
 - Wood et al (EMBS, 2004)
- How to **train** paralyzed humans and decoding algorithms for “point” and “click” ?



Human Participant

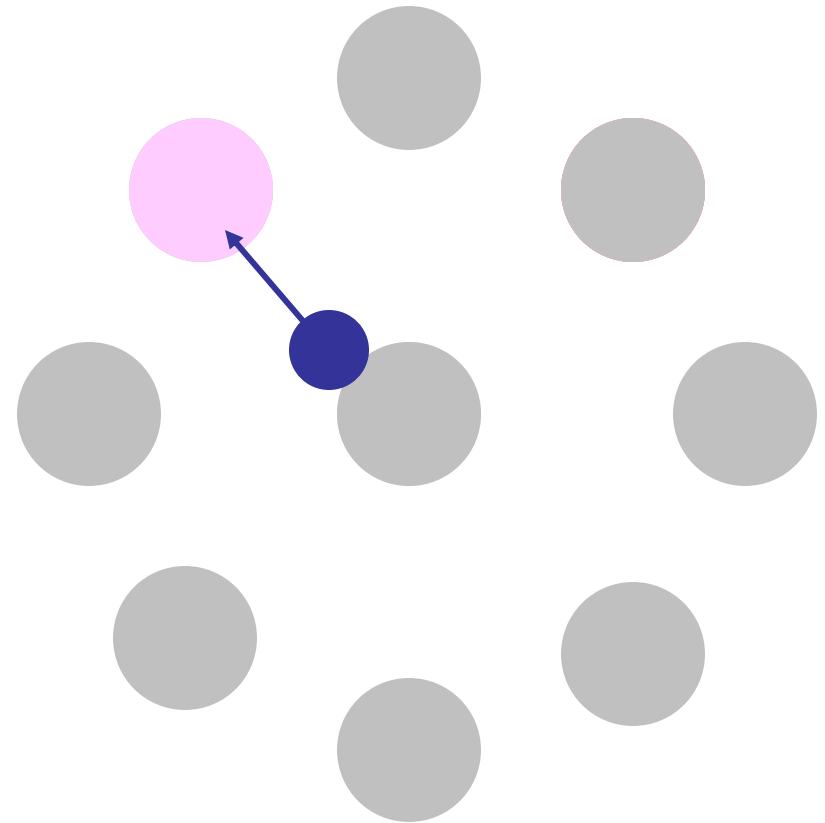
- 52-year-old female
- Brainstem stroke
- 9 years prior to trial enrollment
- Microelectrode array was implanted in November 2005

Donoghue et al. SfN 2006



Point-and-click performance

- 8 center-out target acquisition task
- Point-and-click within timeout
- Move back to center

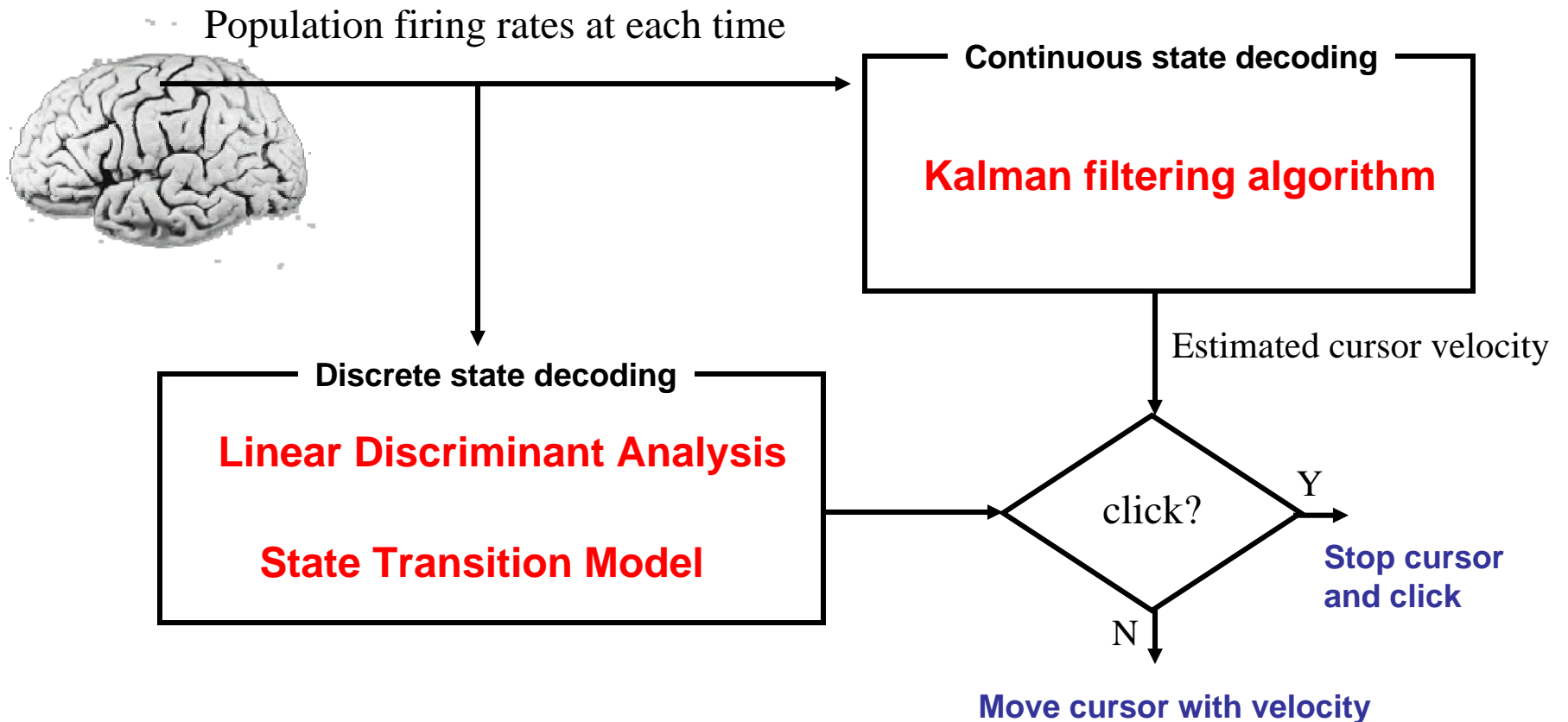




- Demonstration of closed-loop cursor control performance: 292 trial day after implantation
- Demo: [movie](#)



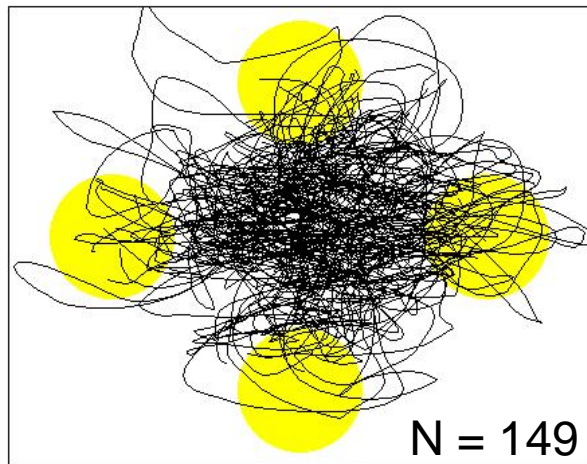
Continuous and discrete decoding





Stable and accurate cursor control

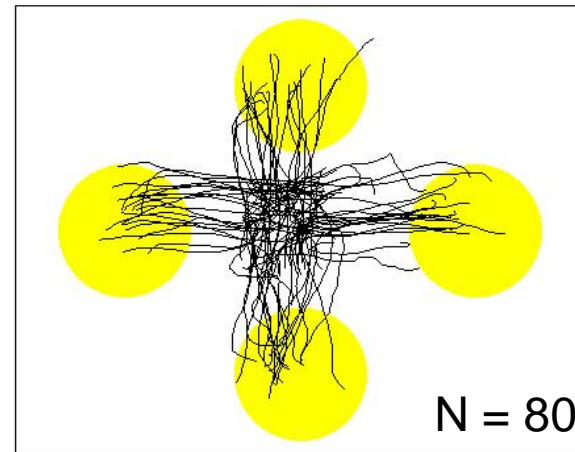
Position decoding
Linear filter



OLD



Velocity decoding
Kalman filter



NEW

Kim et al. SfN 2006

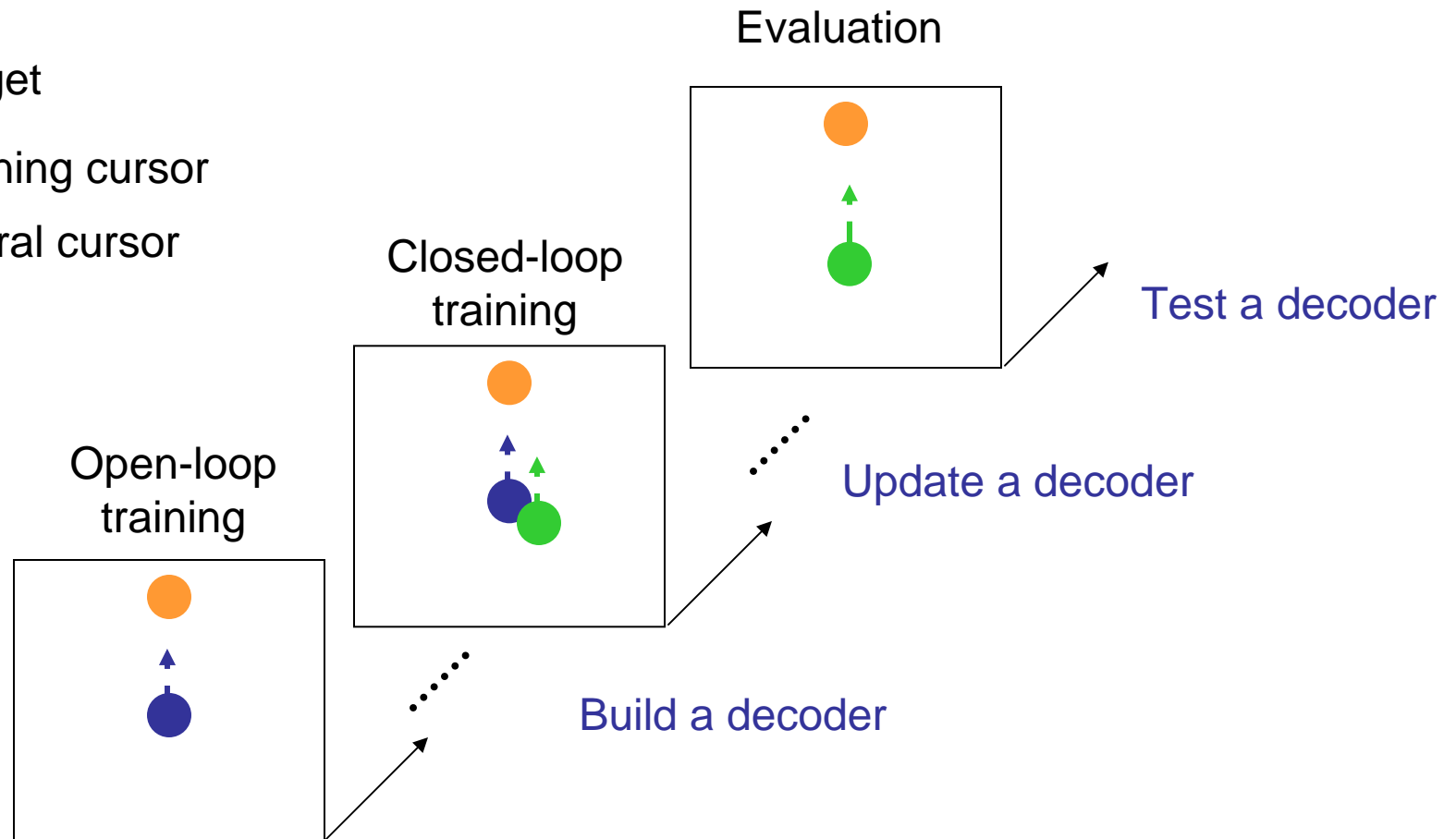


Training Paradigm

● Target

● Training cursor

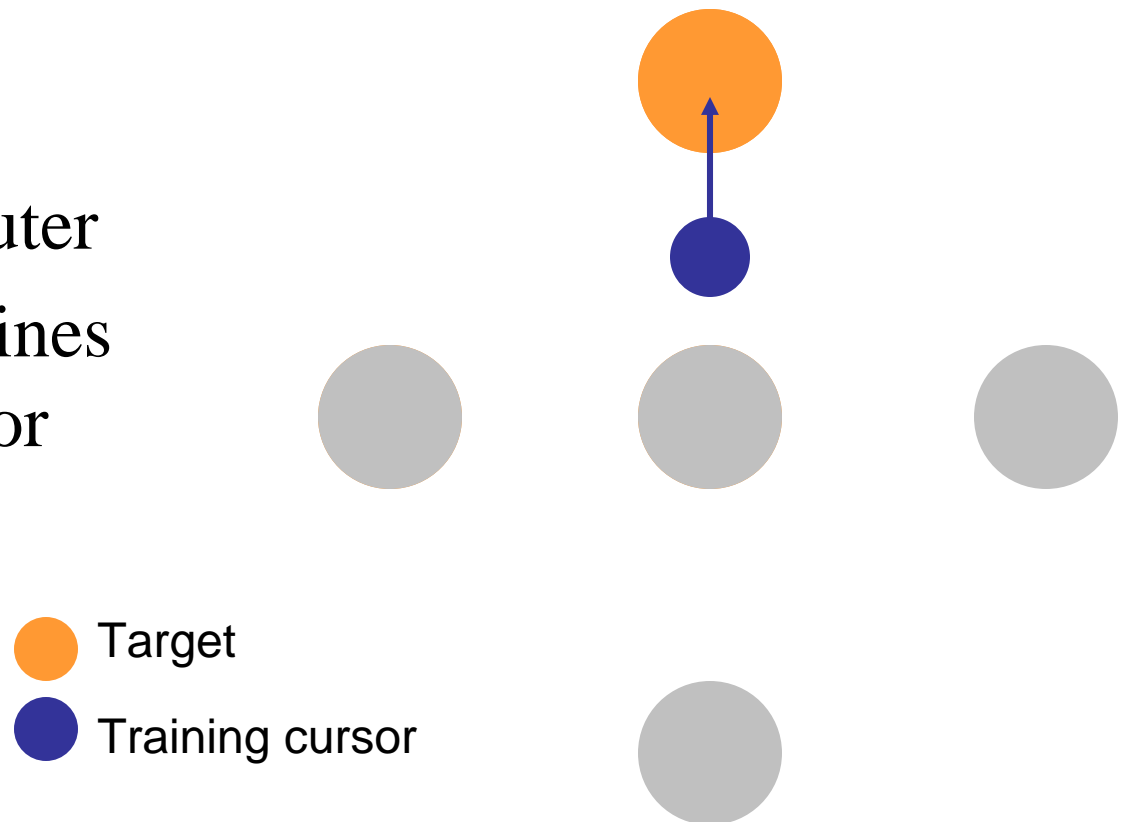
● Neural cursor





Training – Continuous state

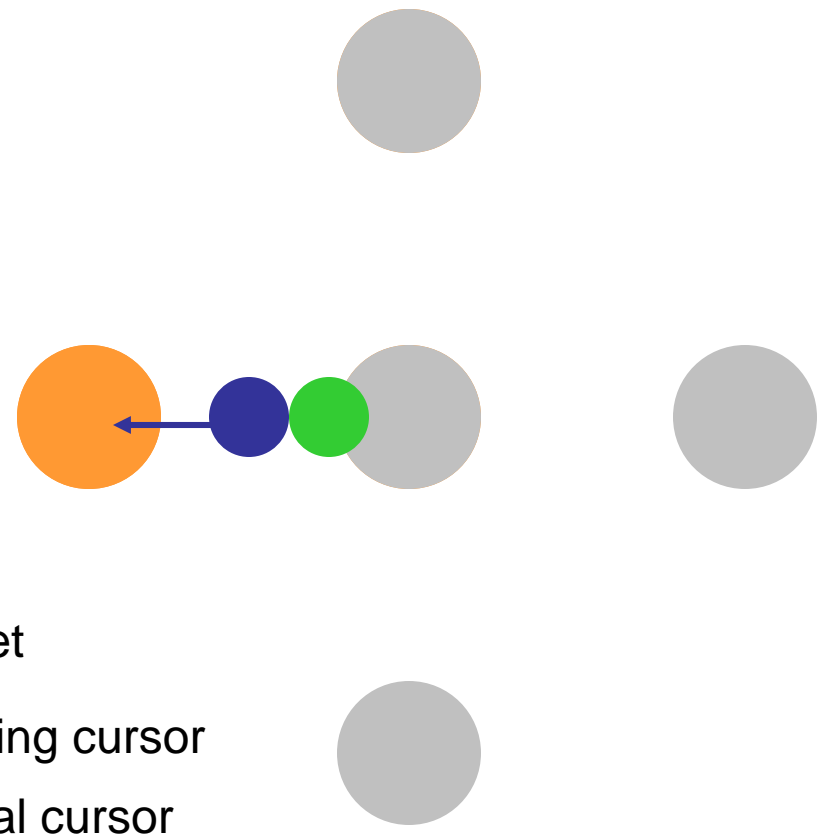
- Open-loop training
 - Center-out task
 - Training cursor moved by computer
 - Participant imagines the training cursor movement





Training – Continuous state

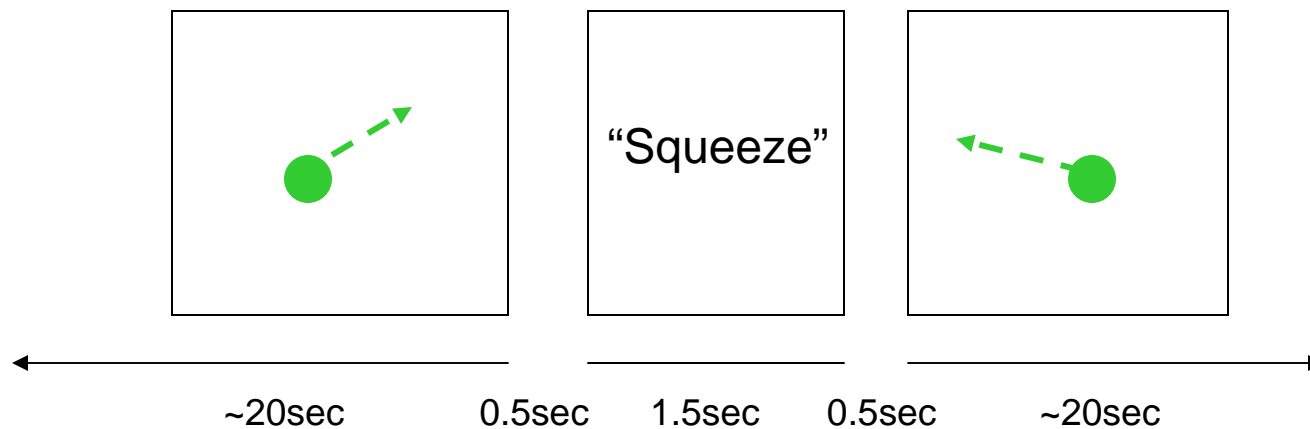
- Closed-loop training
 - Neural cursor follows training cursor
 - Participant imagines the training cursor movement
 - Visual feedback of the neural cursor





Training – Discrete state

- Movements vs click
 - Click motion = “squeeze”
 - Squeeze between movements





Results

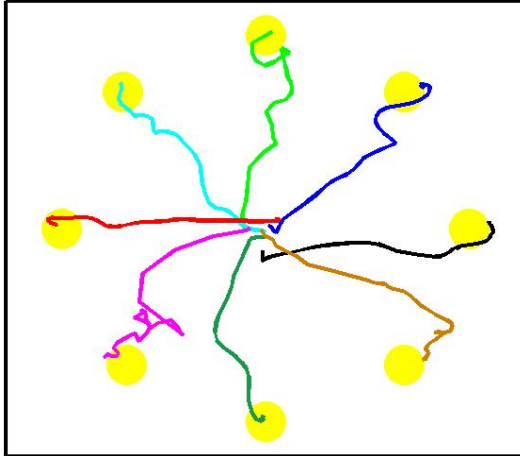
- 3 sessions: 292, 301, 303 days after implant
- # neurons: $N = 37, 38, 57$
- 10-min evaluation period



Mean neural cursor paths

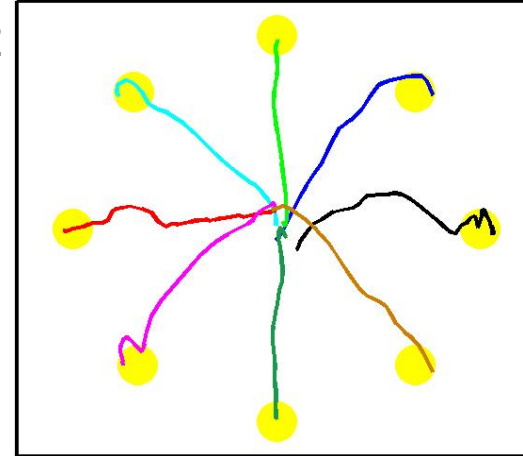
Session 1

N = 37



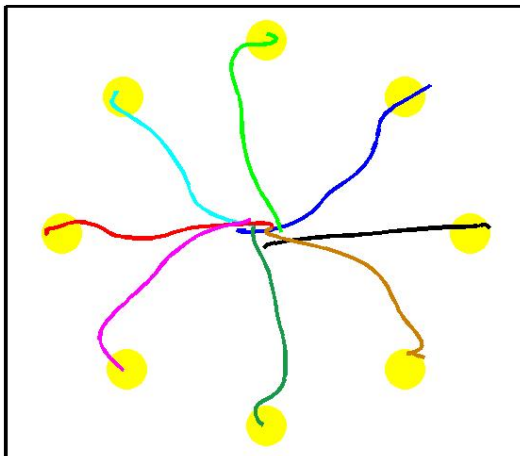
Session 2

N = 38

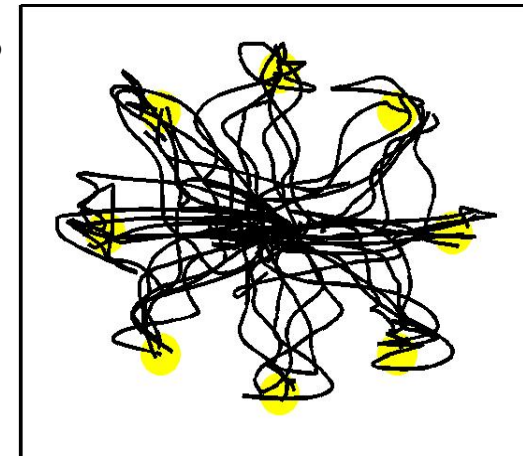


Session 3

N = 57



Session 3





Performance Quantification

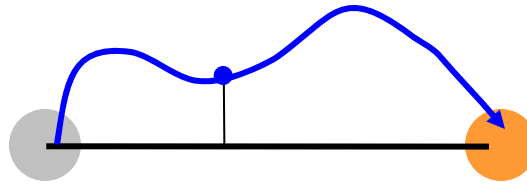
Metric	Session 1 (n = 37)	Session 2 (n = 38)	Session 3 (n = 57)	Avg.
ER(%)	0 (30s)	0 (30s)	3.9 (9s)	
MT(s)	7.89	6.10	5.70	6.43

ER: Error Rate (timeout period)

MT: Mean Movement Time



Movement Variability



Tetraplegia	Parkinson's Disease			Essential Hand Tremor		
NIS	Mouse	Trackball	Joystick	Mouse	Trackball	Joystick
16.73(mm)	15.39	18.08	19.98	18.84	21.95	26.23

* Screen size ~ 366mm x 305mm



Contributions

- Continuous and discrete motor signals could be simultaneously decoded from the same neural population in a human with tetraplegia
- Steady and accurate cursor control
- Develop a training paradigm for paralyzed humans and decoding algorithms for point-and-click



Acknowledgements

Supports: NIH-NINDS, NSF/NIH CRCNS Program , ONR, European Neurobotics Program, Dept. Veterans Affairs, Cyberkinetics Neurotechnology Systems, Inc.

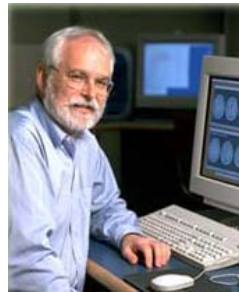
Brown University research group



John D. Simeral



Leigh R. Hochberg



John P. Donoghue



Michael J. Black

Thanks to: Mike Fritz and Abe H. Caplan,
Cyberkinetics Neurotechnology Systems, Inc.