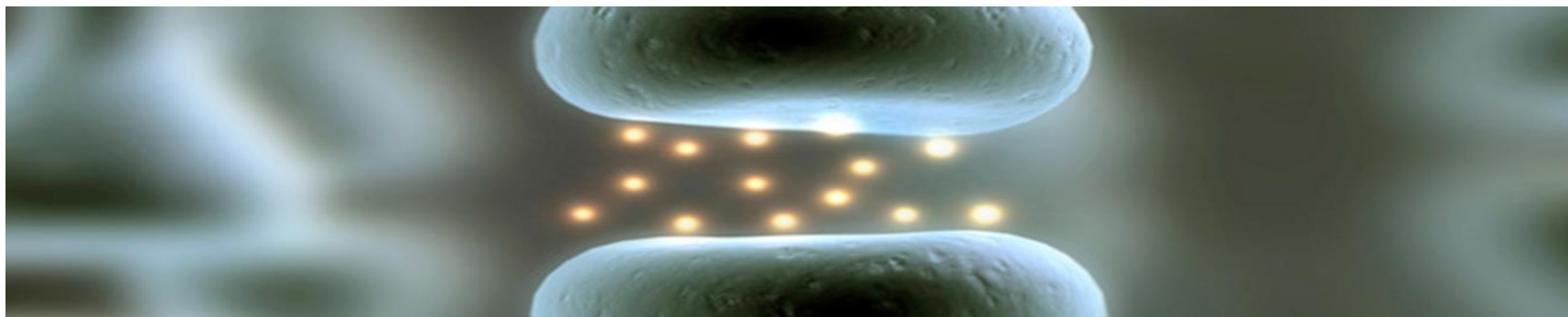


Implants designed to restore sensorimotor functions



Thomas Guiho – October 6th 2023
M2 – Bionic – Part II
thomas.guiho@inria.fr – CAMIN team (INRIA)

Implants designed to restore sensorimotor functions



Introduction – Neuroprostheses?

Application domains

Marketed technologies

Research perspectives

Beyond stimulation...

A - CAMIN team ?

INRIA : National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology

Based in Montpellier and attached to the Sophia Antipolis center

CAMIN : Dedicated to **Neuroprostheses**

Axes of research :

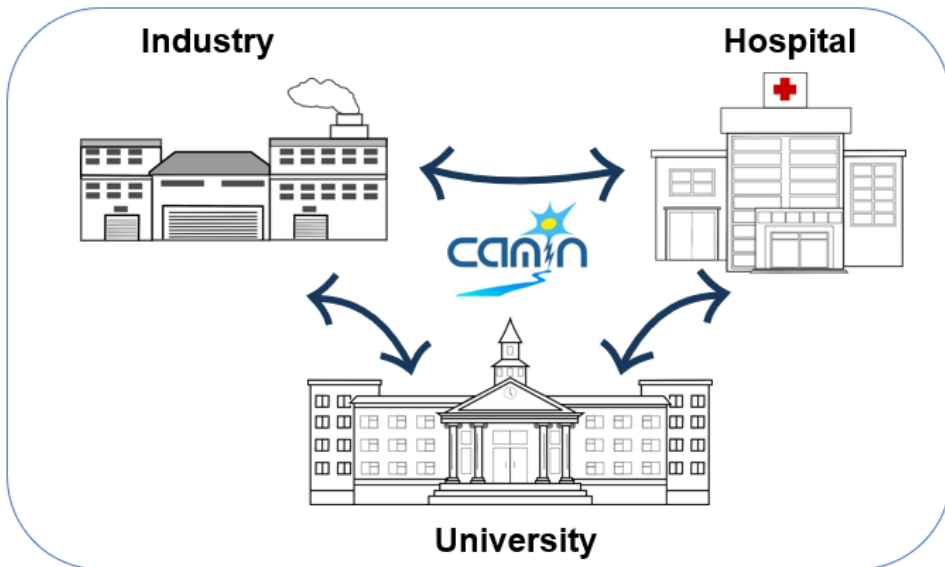
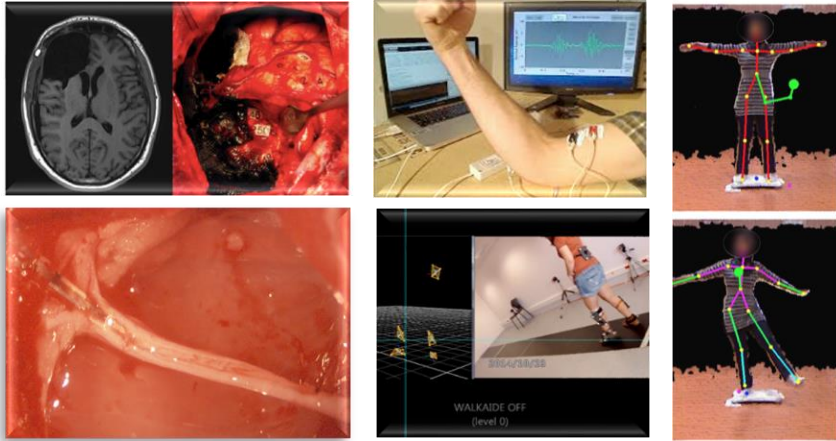
**Exploration
&
analysis**

Electrophysiology
Signal processing
Sensors
Technology
Experimentation

**Assistance
&
restoration**

Neuroprosthesis
Automatic control
Technology
Experimentation







Keywords:

Sensorimotor disabilities

Nervous system

Biomechanics

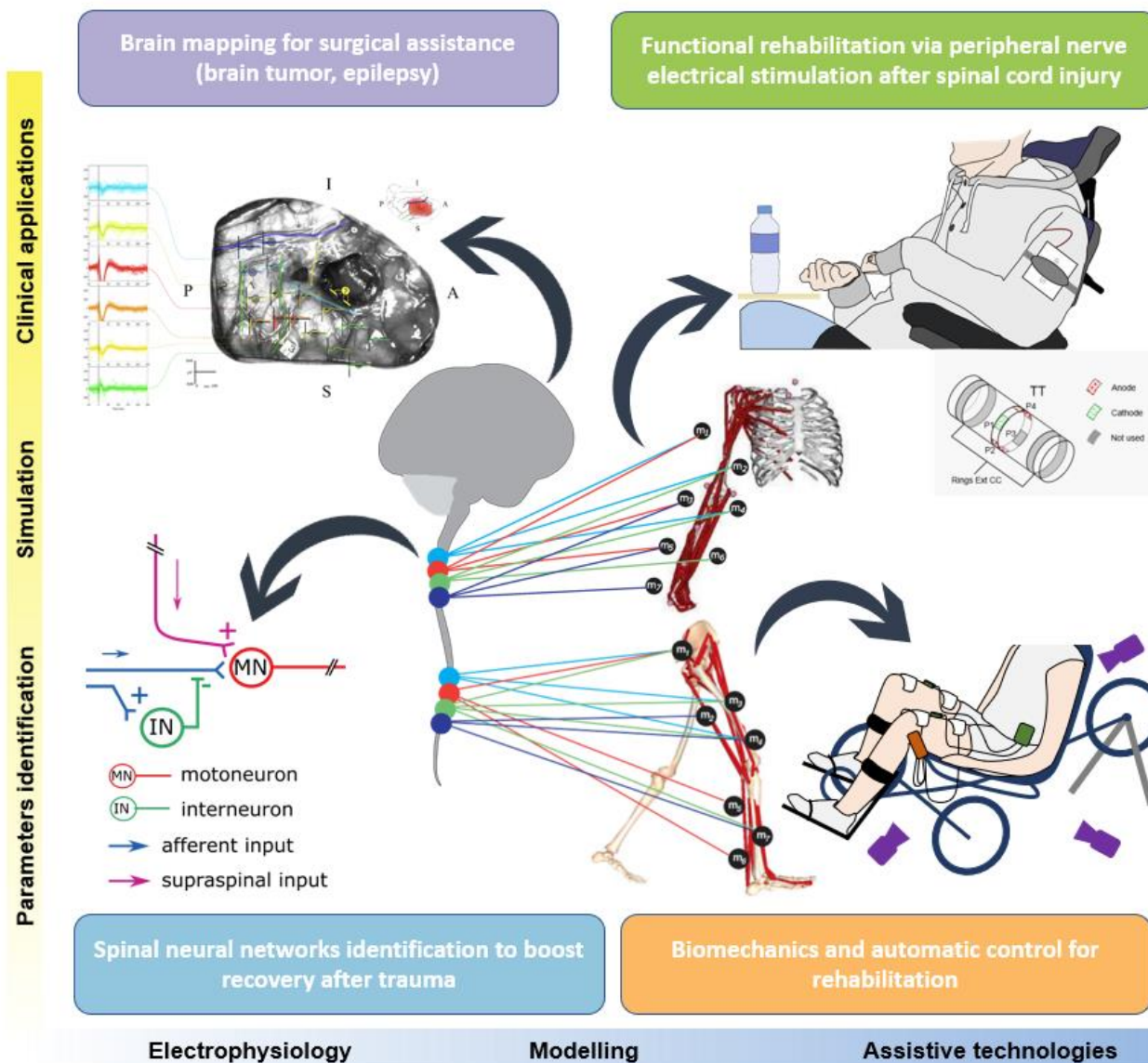
Modeling

Simulation

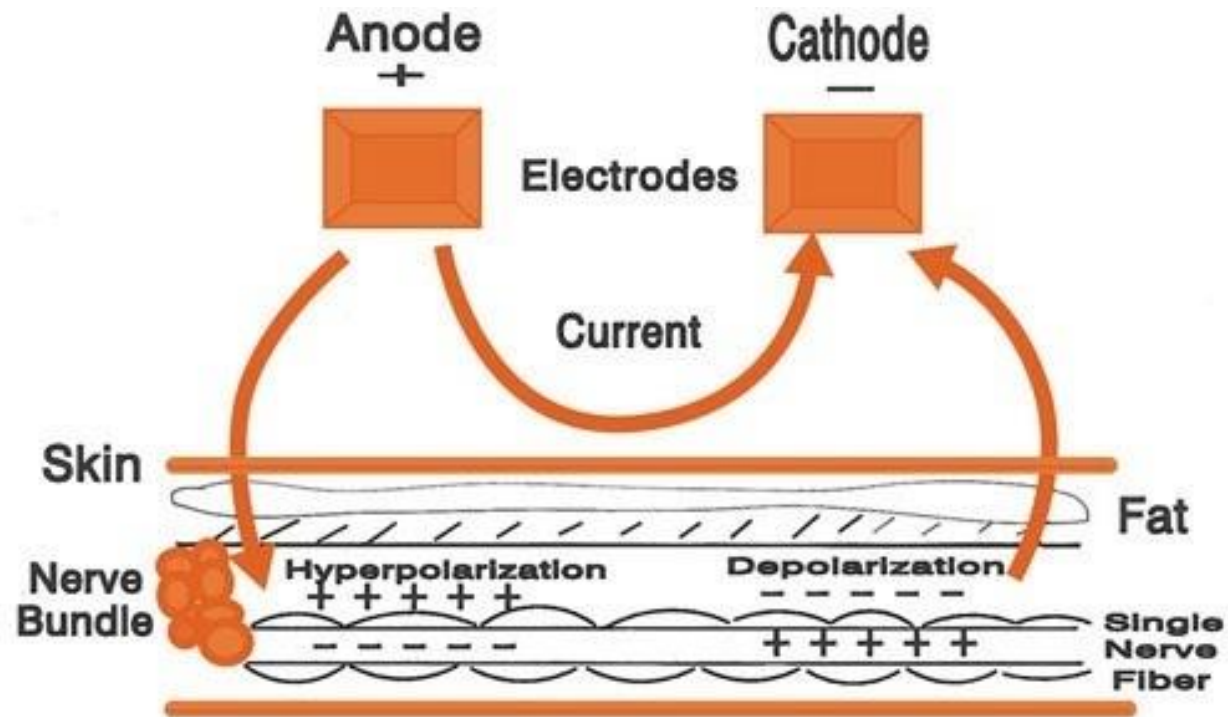
Stimulation

Optimal control

Rehabilitation



D - Principle of Electrical Stimulation



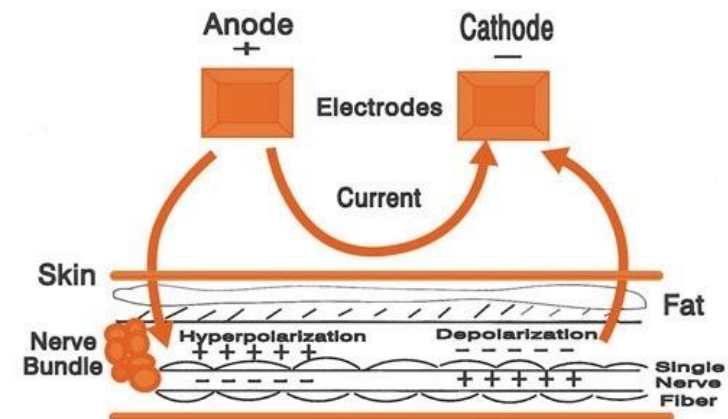
© F.A. Davis Company 2006 www.fadavis.com

D - Principle of Electrical Stimulation

Direct Current (DC) – Galvanic

Continuous unidirectional flow of charged particles with a duration of at least 1 second.

One electrode is always the anode (+) and one is always the cathode (-) for the entire event.



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There is a build-up of charge since it is moving in one direction causing a strong chemical effect on the tissue under the electrode

"High Volt", "HVGS", "ESTR", and "Iontophoresis" are clinical examples of direct current forms of stimulation

Note : **Monophasic** also refers to direct current, but it is typically pulsed, so the chemical effect is minimal

D - Principle of Electrical Stimulation

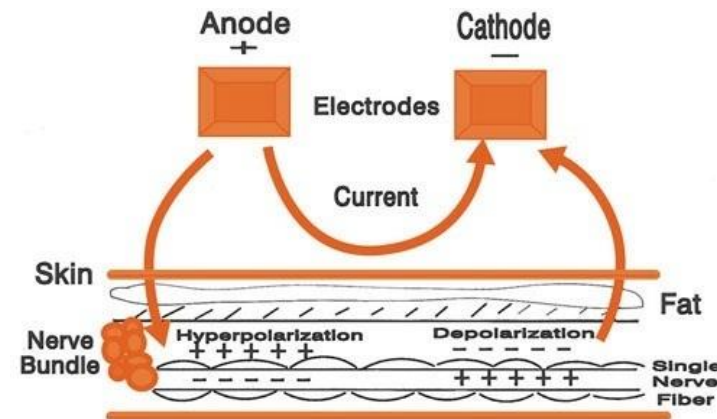
Alternating Current (AC) – Biphasic

Continuous changing voltage level and direction; direction changes at least once per second.

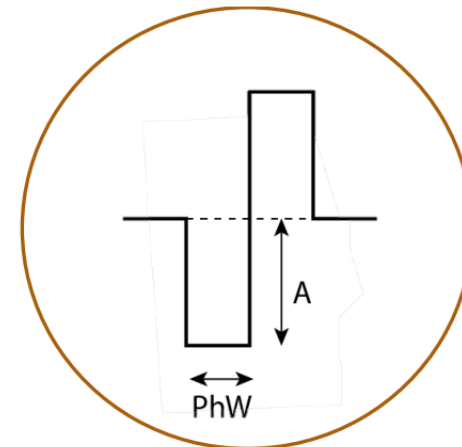
Electrodes continuously alternate their polarity each cycle, therefore no build-up of charge under the electrodes

Alternative current "waves" can be symmetrical or asymmetrical

"Russian", "NMES", "FES", and "TENS" are clinical examples of alternating current forms of stimulation



© F.A. Davis Company 2006 www.fadavis.com



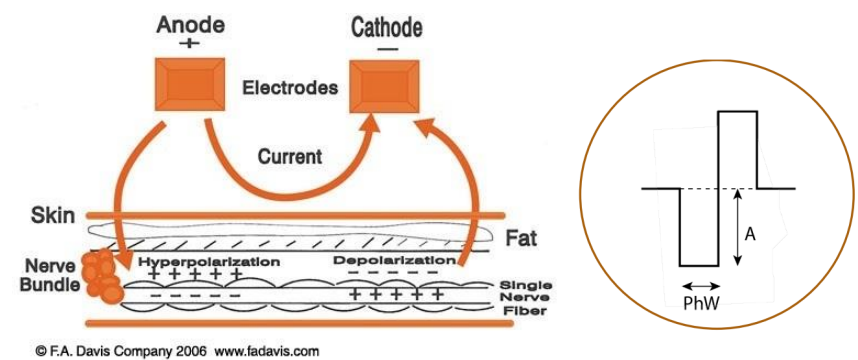
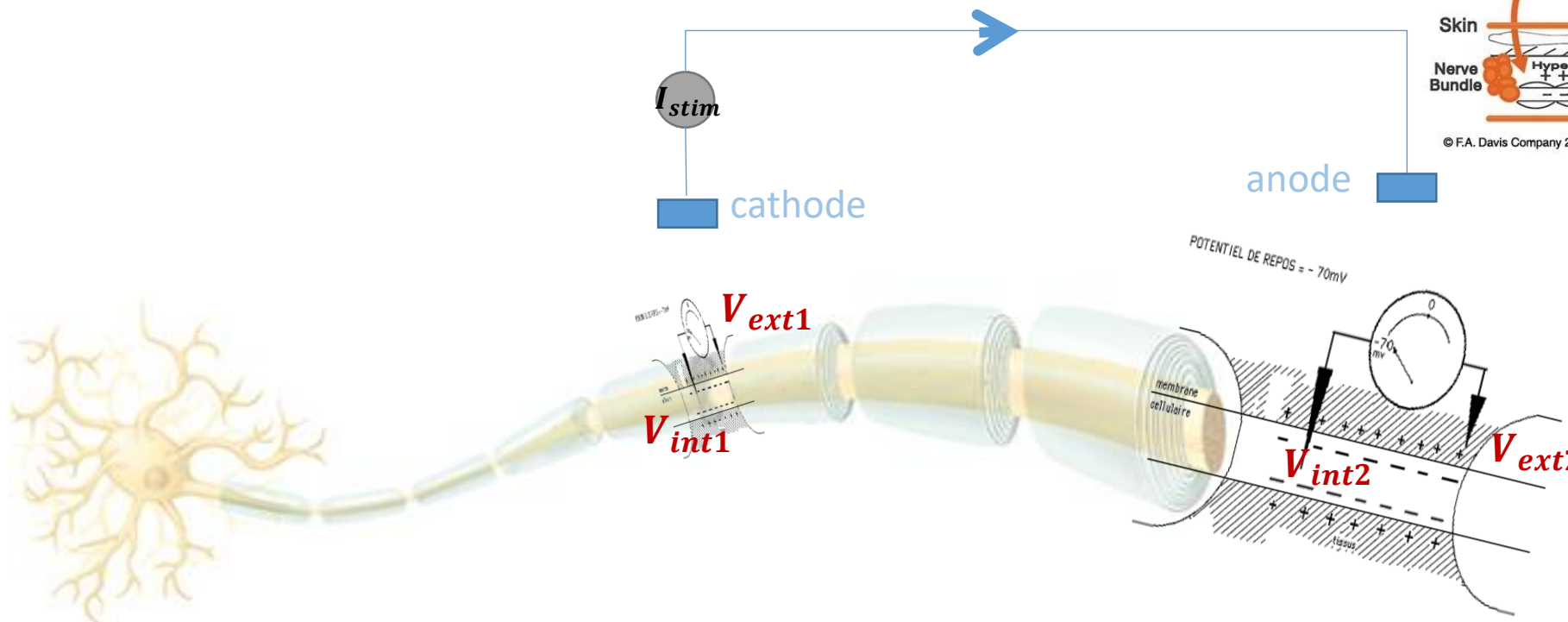
Most modern stimulators use

- Current controlled stimulation
- Biphasic charge balanced pulses

A	Current amplitude
PhW	Phasewidth
F	Frequency

D - Principle of Electrical Stimulation

Alternating Current (AC) – Biphasic



Most modern stimulators use

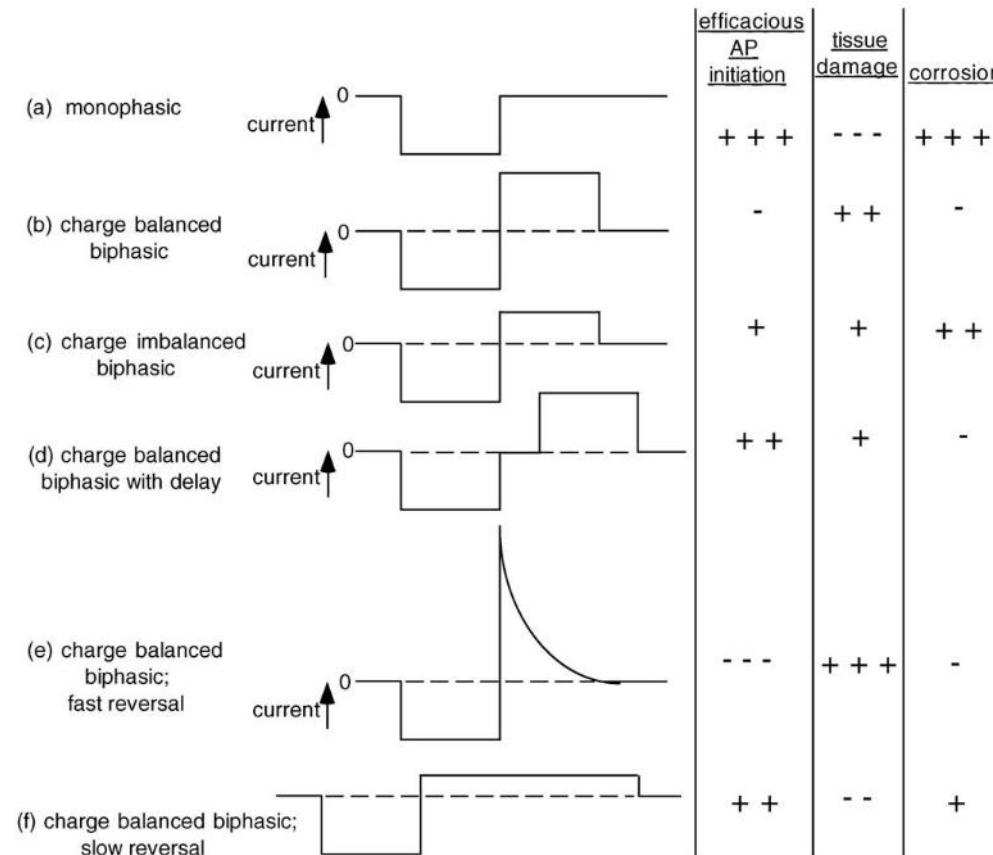
- Current controlled stimulation
- Biphasic charge balanced pulses

- A Current amplitude
- PhW Phasewidth
- F Frequency

D - Principle of Electrical Stimulation

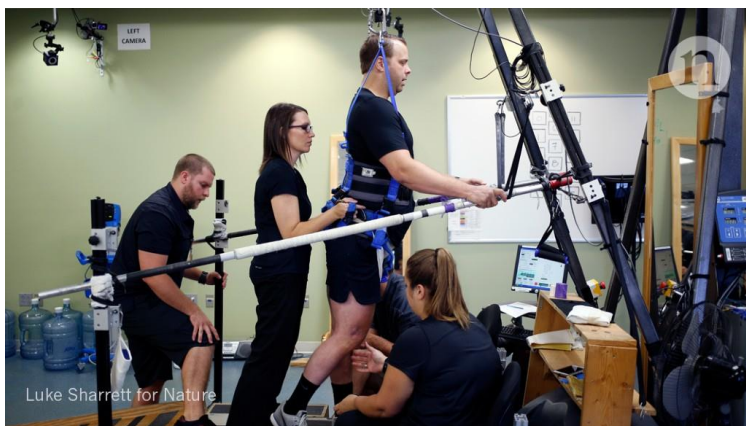
Direct Current (DC) VS Alternating Current (AC)

Efficiency
VS
Tissue damage
VS
Corrosion



From Merrill et al., Journal of Neuroscience Methods. 2004.

Implants designed to restore sensorimotor functions



Introduction – Neuroprotheses?

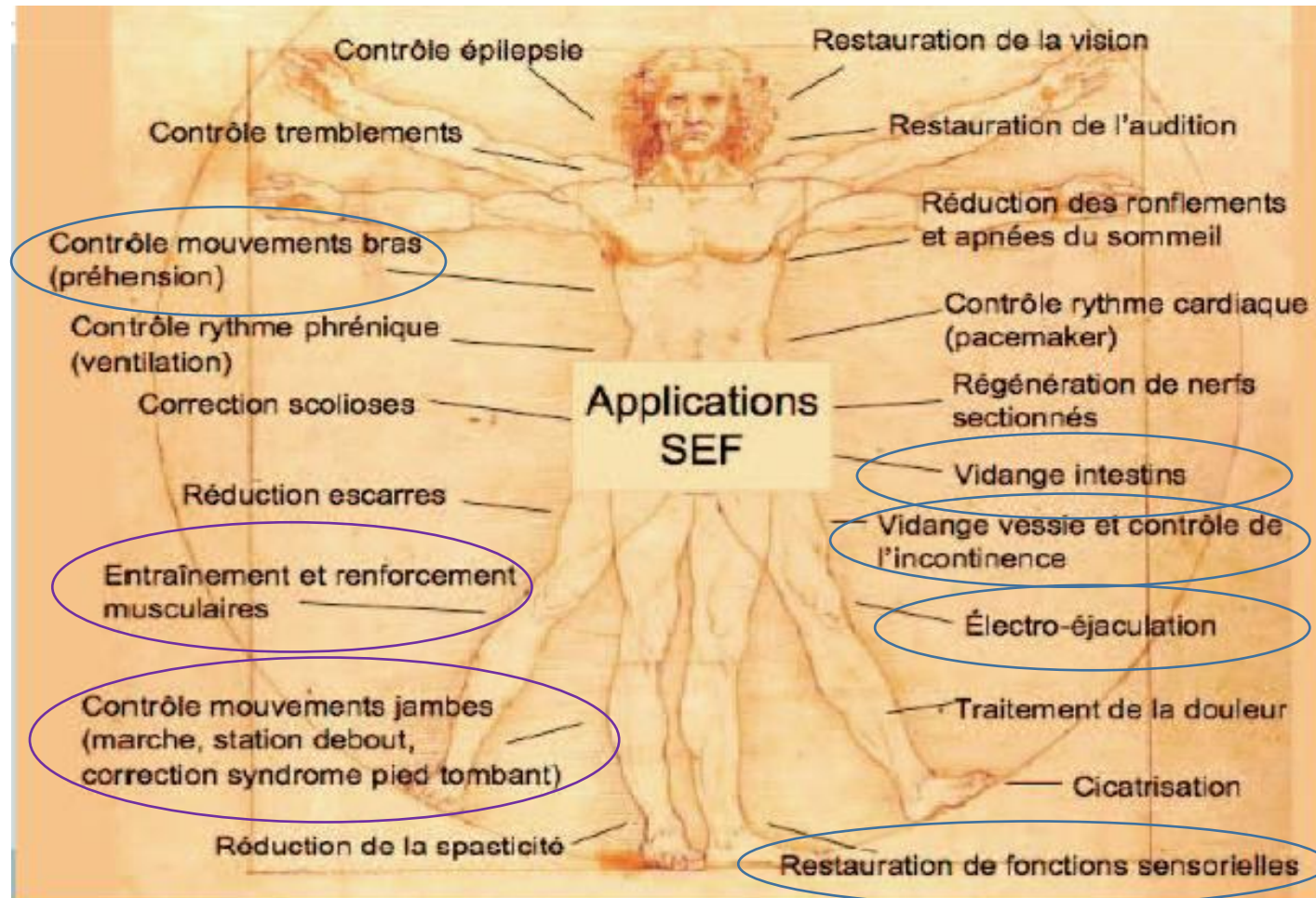
➡ Application domains

Marketed technologies

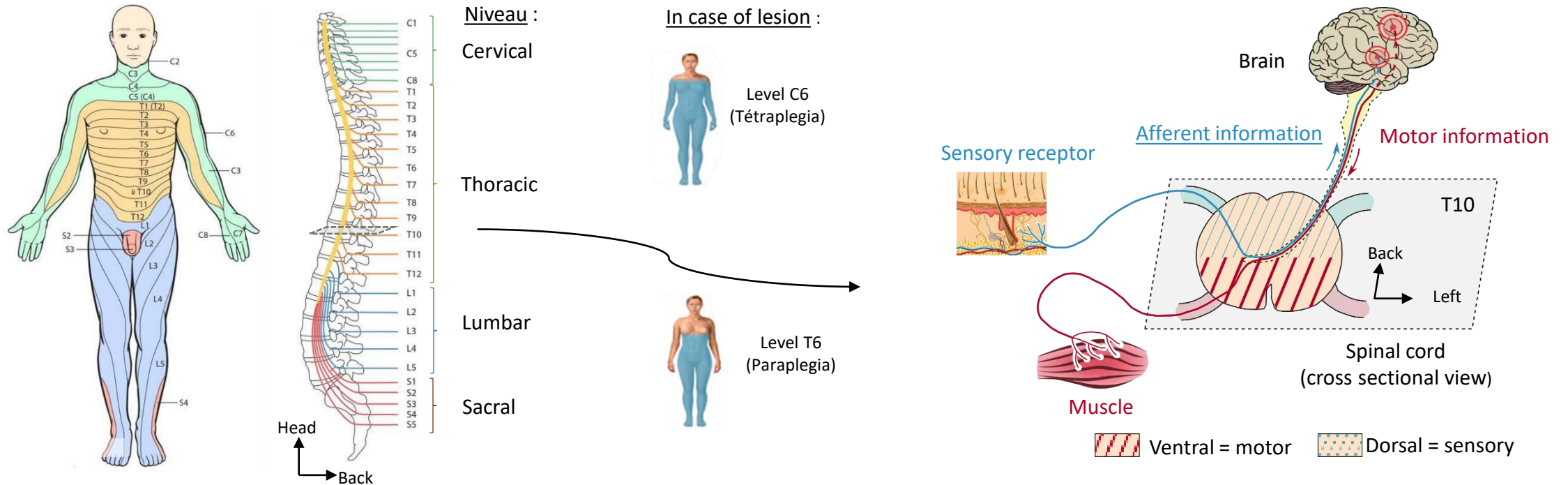
Research perspectives

Beyond stimulation...

Areas of application



In a context of spinal cord injuries (SCI)



Implants designed to restore sensorimotor functions



Introduction – Neuroprotheses?

Application domains

Marketed technologies

➡ Research perspectives

Beyond stimulation...

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Target <-> Selectivity

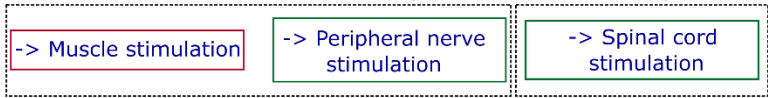
Periphery:

Spinal cord injury

Muscle paralysis due to damages of the neural tissue

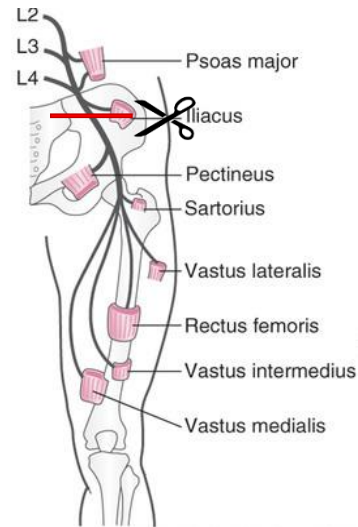
Strategy #1:
Direct action
on the effector

Strategy #2:
Overcoming motor
control failure

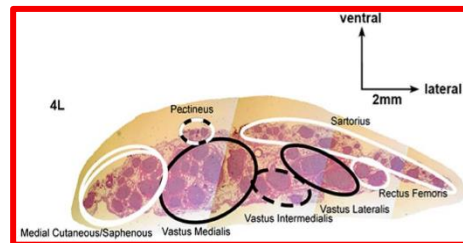
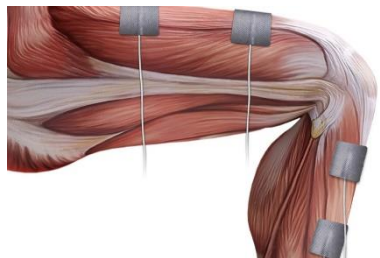


Expertise of CAMIN team

New axis of research

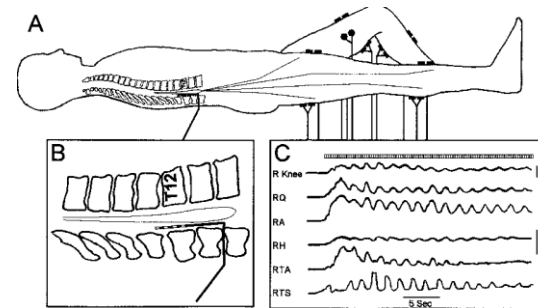


[1]



Central Nervous System:

[2]



Strategy #2:
Spinal cord
stimulation
-> Direct action on
the motor command

Complexity:
1) Less Biomechanical issues
-> Intraspinal networks promoting selectivity
2) Many Biomedical challenges
- Identifying neural networks
- Improving stimulation selectivity

Neuroscience + Automatic control
+ Computational model + signal processing

PNS - Promising but selectivity issues

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Cuff Electrodes in a context of SCI

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

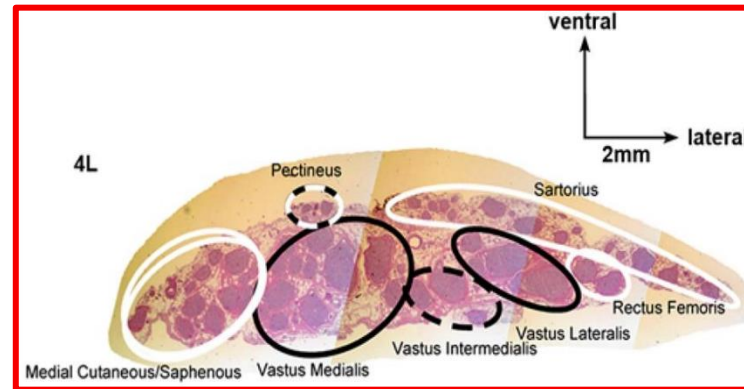
Ability to activate specific fibres within the nerve to target specific functions

Spatial selectivity

Selectivity to direction of propagation

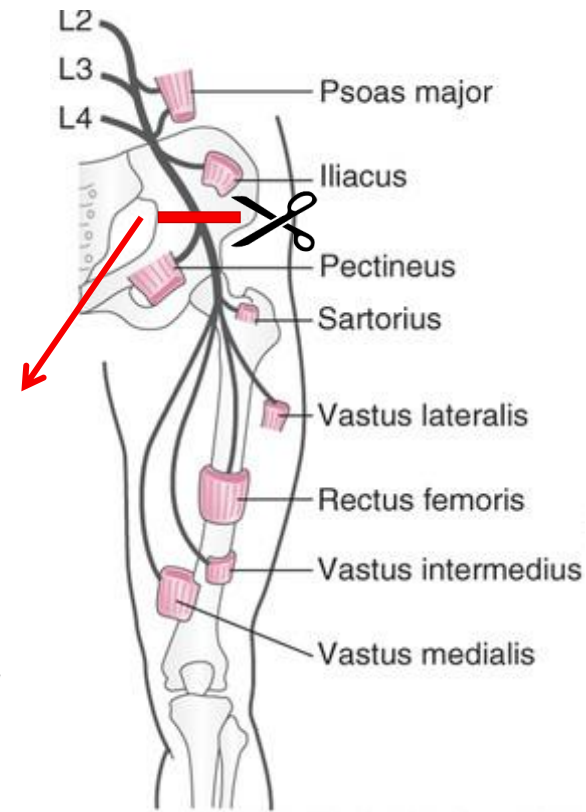
Selectivity to fibre diameter

=> Avoid activating undesirable afferent or efferent functions



Femoral nerve cross-section.

Gustafson, Kenneth J., et al. "Fascicular anatomy of human femoral nerve: implications for neural prostheses using nerve cuff electrodes." *Journal of rehabilitation research and development* 46.7 (2009): 973.



Muscular distribution of the femoral nerve

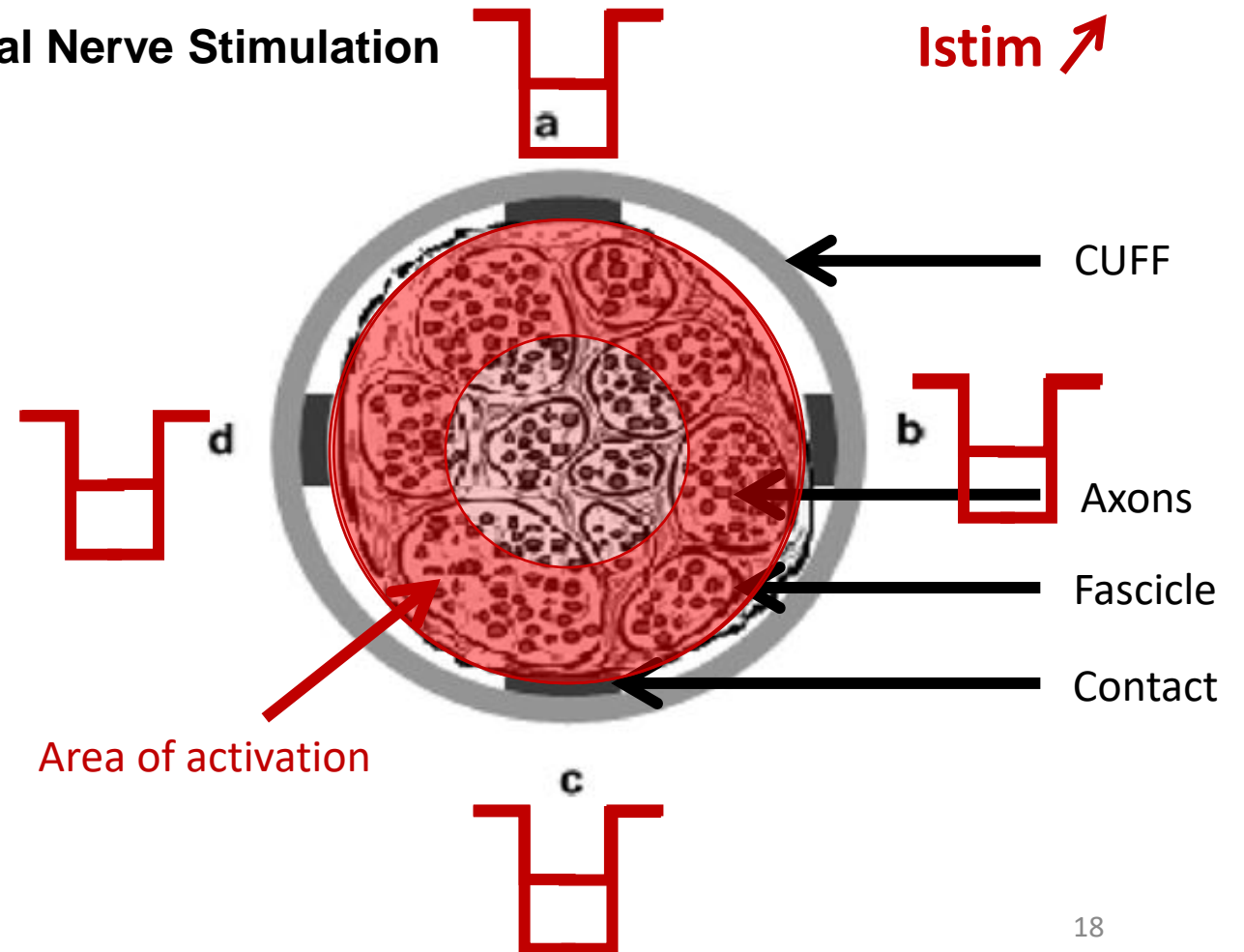
Moore& Roy, Rapid Review Gross and Development Anatomy © Elsevier

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Spatial selectivity -> Case of a cuff electrode

Ring configuration

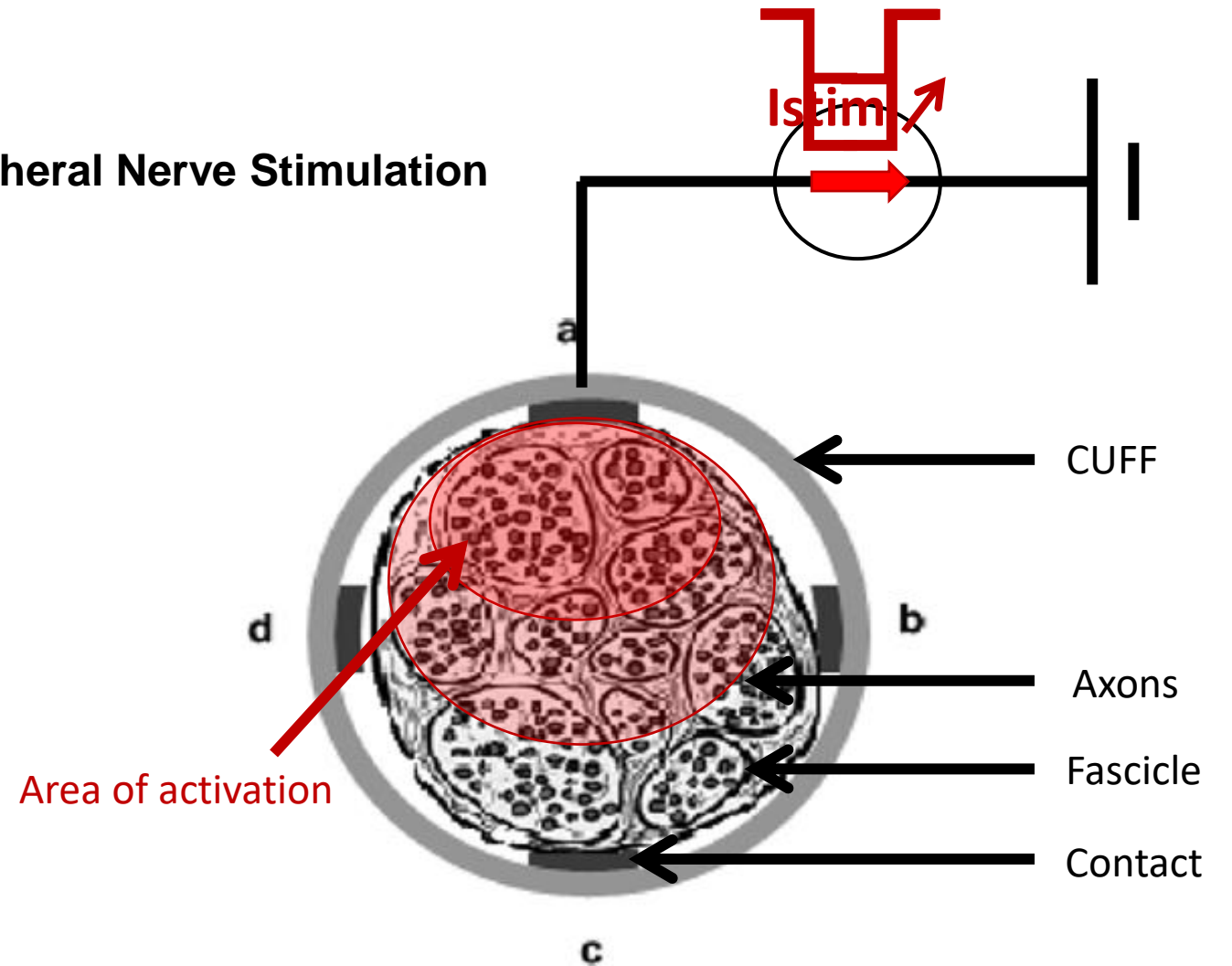


Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Spatial selectivity

Single Cathode configuration

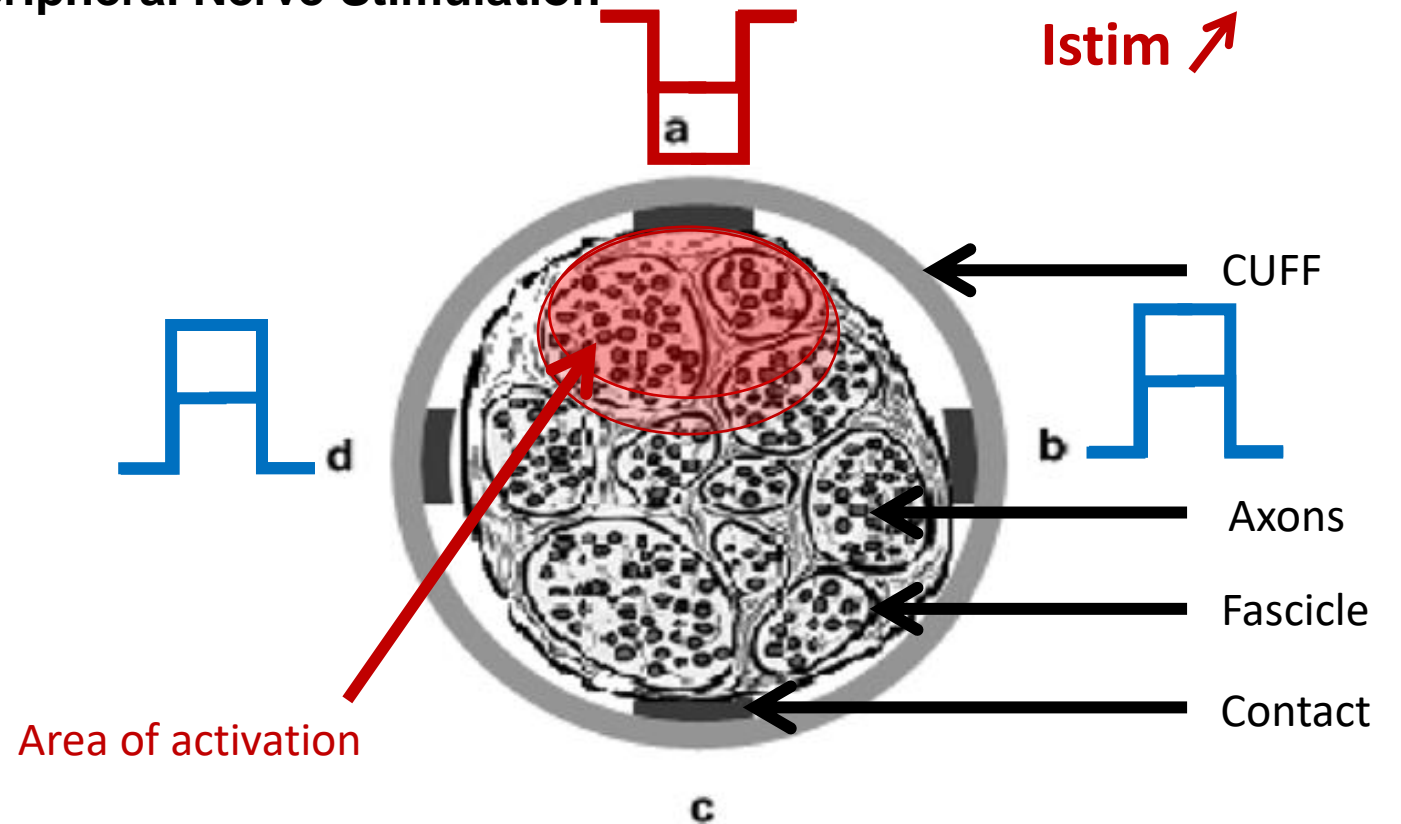


Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Spatial selectivity

Tripolar Transverse configuration

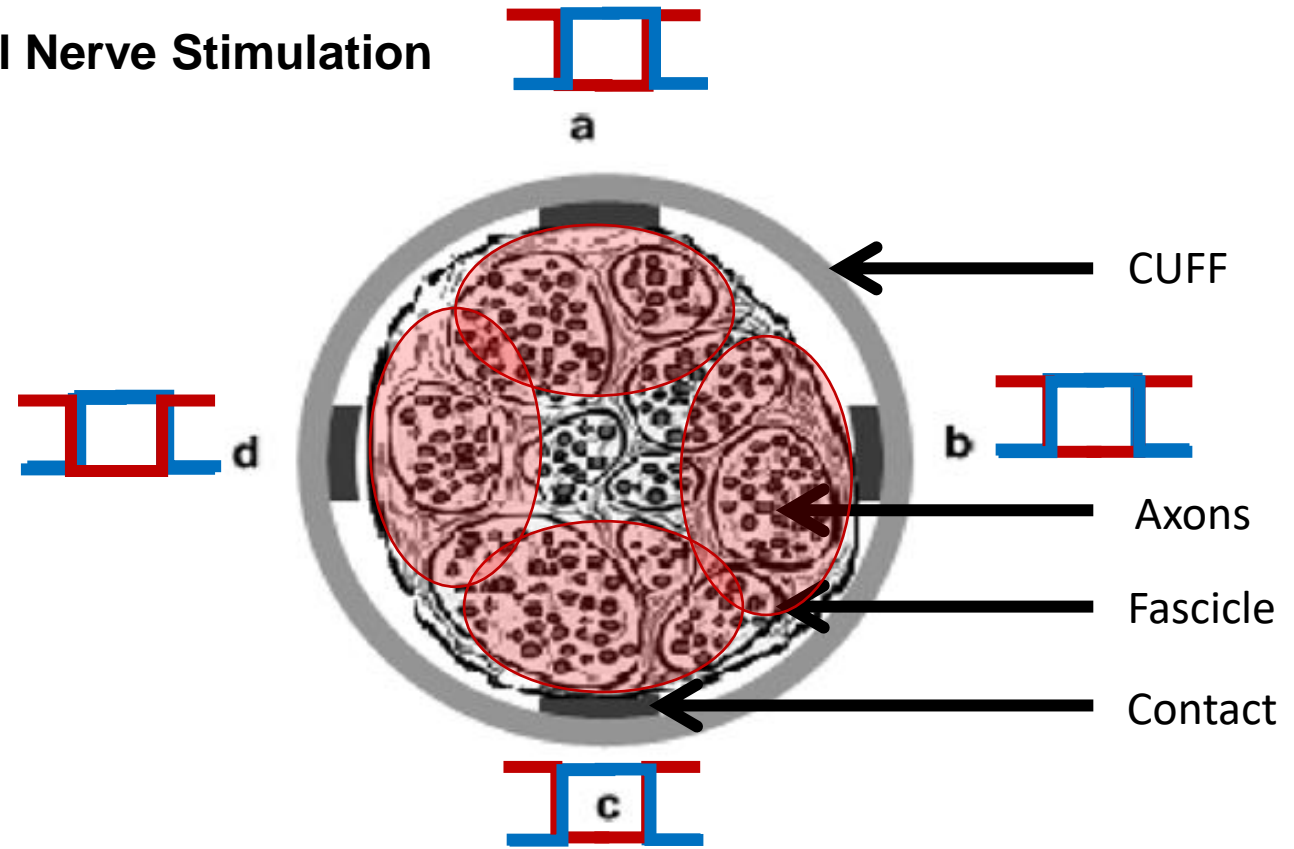


Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Spatial selectivity

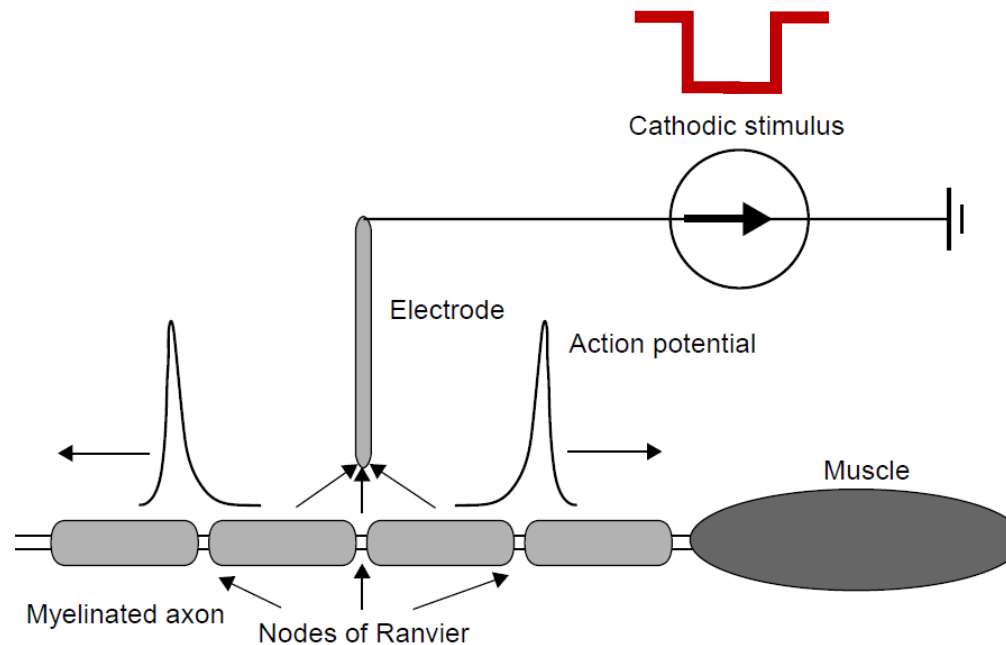
Tripolar Transverse configuration



Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Selectivity to direction of propagation

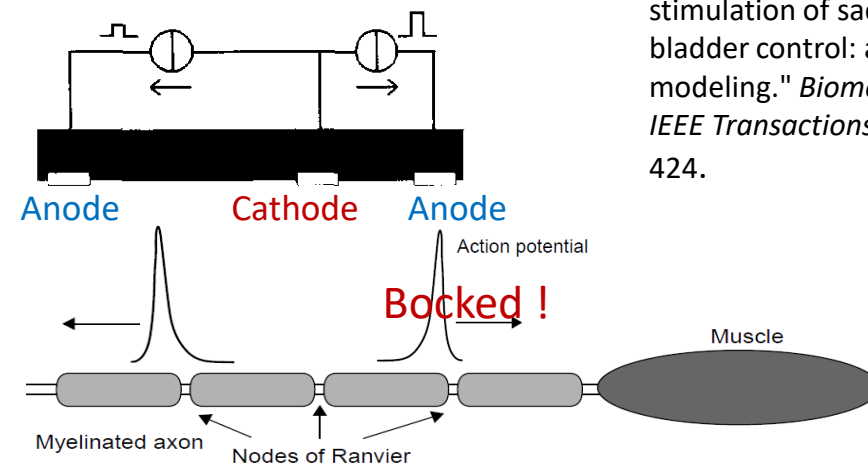
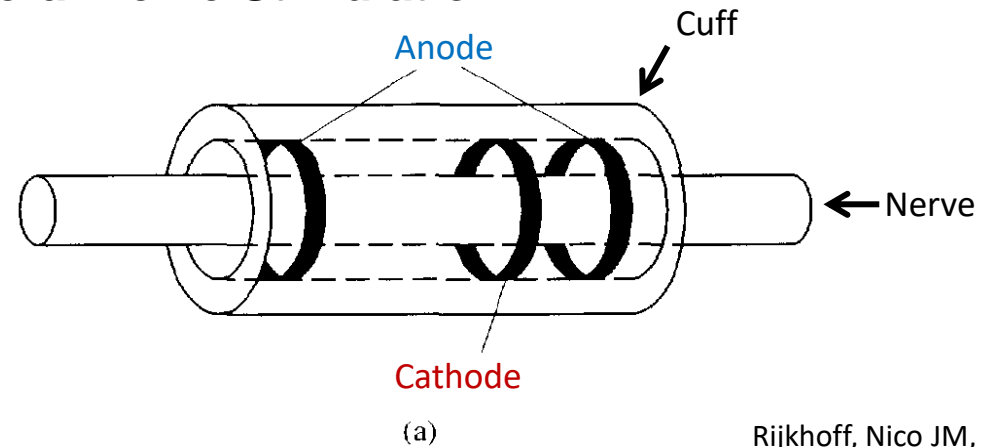
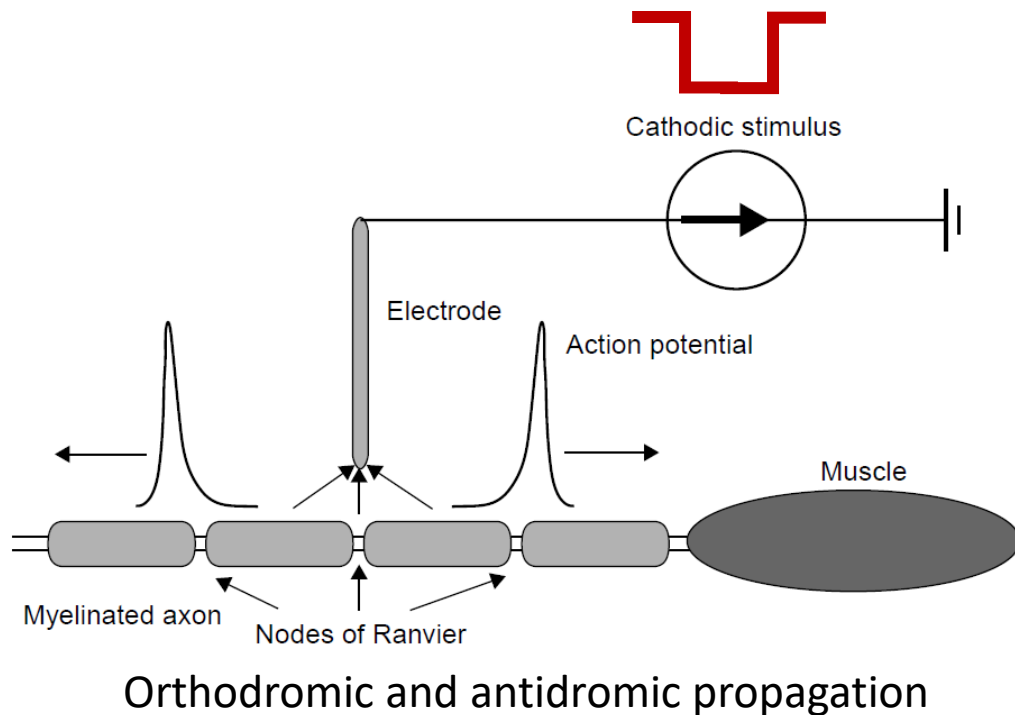


Orthodromic and antidromic propagation

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Selectivity to direction of propagation



Rijkhoff, Nico JM, et al. "Selective stimulation of sacral nerve roots for bladder control: a study by computer modeling." *Biomedical Engineering, IEEE Transactions on* 41.5 (1994): 413-424.

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Selectivity to fibre diameter

Properties of motor units

Muscle Fibers			
Twitch properties	Slow	Fast	
Metabolic properties	Oxidative	Oxidative/ glycolytic	Glycolytic
Name based on twitch and metabolic properties	SO	FOG	FG
Other nomenclature	ST, Type I	FTa, FTA, Type IIA	FTb, FTB, Type IIB
Motor Neurons			
Neuron type	α_2	α_1	α_1
Neuron size	Small	Large	Large
Conduction velocity	Slow	Fast	Fast
Recruitment threshold	Low	High	High

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Approach developed in the team – Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

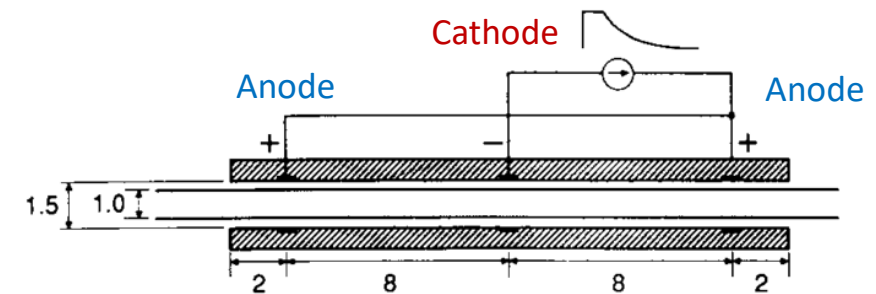
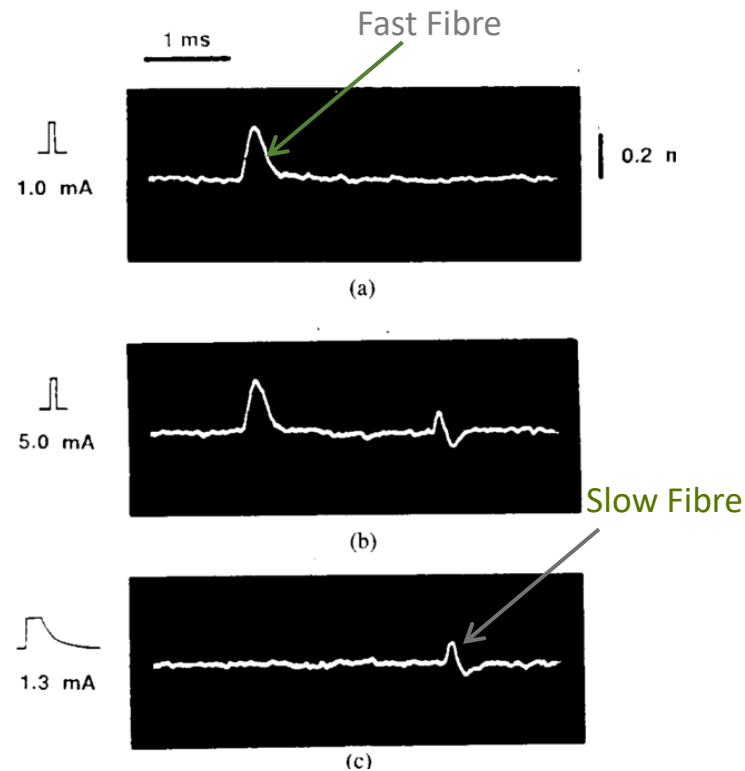
Selectivity to fibre diameter

Action potentials of two fibres: fast (120 m/s) and slow (40 m/s).

1mA rectangular pulse: activation of the fast fibre

5mA rectangular pulse: activation of both fibres

Quasitrapezoidal pulse: activation of the slow fibre



Longitudinal section of the CUFF electrode, longitudinal tripolar configuration

Fang, Z. P., & Mortimer, J. T. (1991). Selective activation of small motor axons by quasitrapezoidal current pulses. *Biomedical Engineering, IEEE Transactions on*, 38(2), 168-174.

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

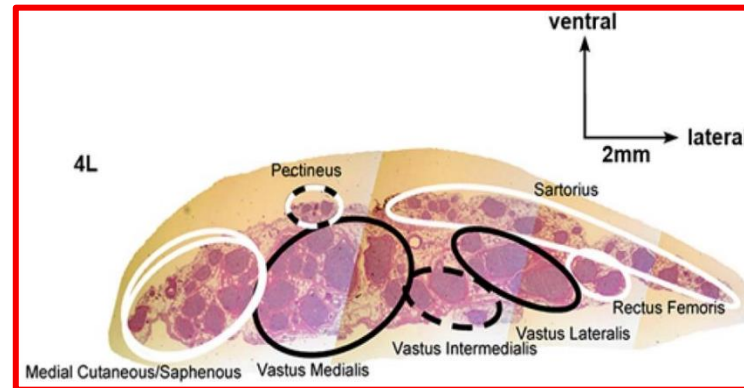
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Spatial selectivity

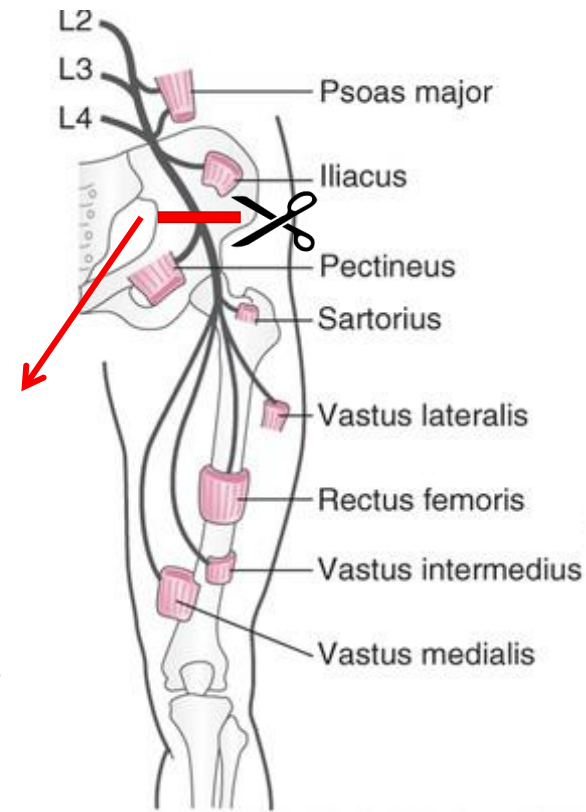
Selectivity to direction of propagation

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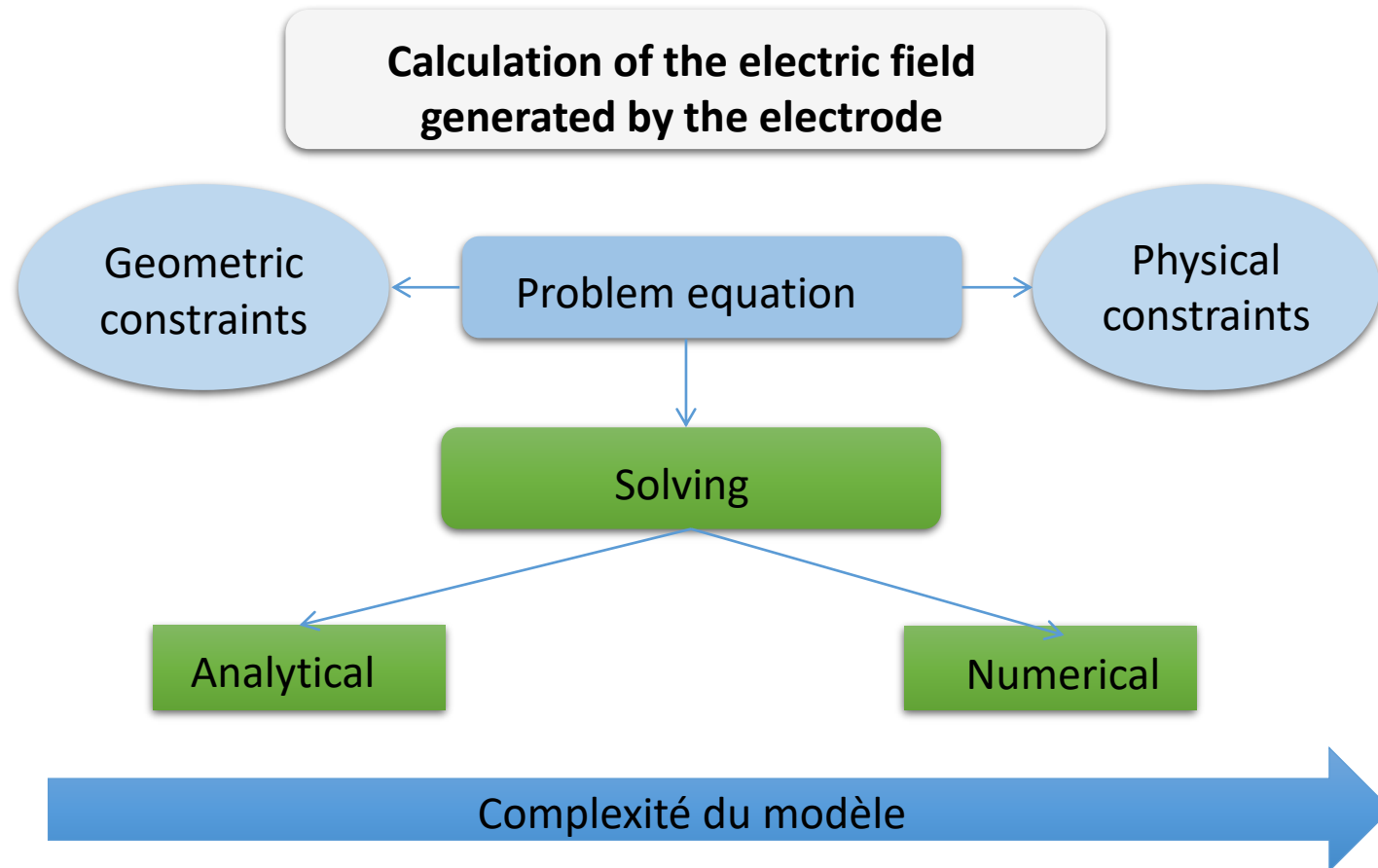


Muscular distribution of the femoral nerve
Moore& Roy, Rapid Review Gross and
Developpement Anatomy © Elsevier 26

=> How can we improve the selectivity of Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

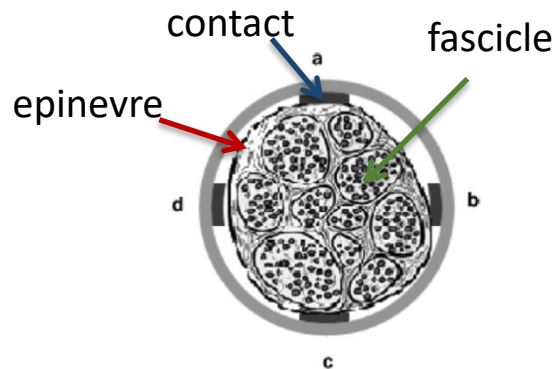
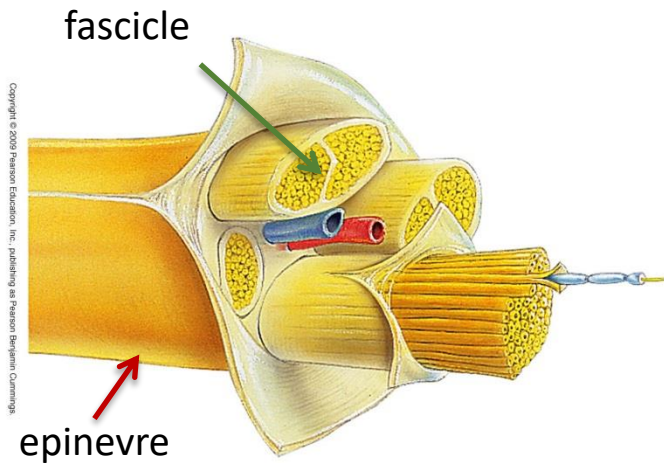
Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling



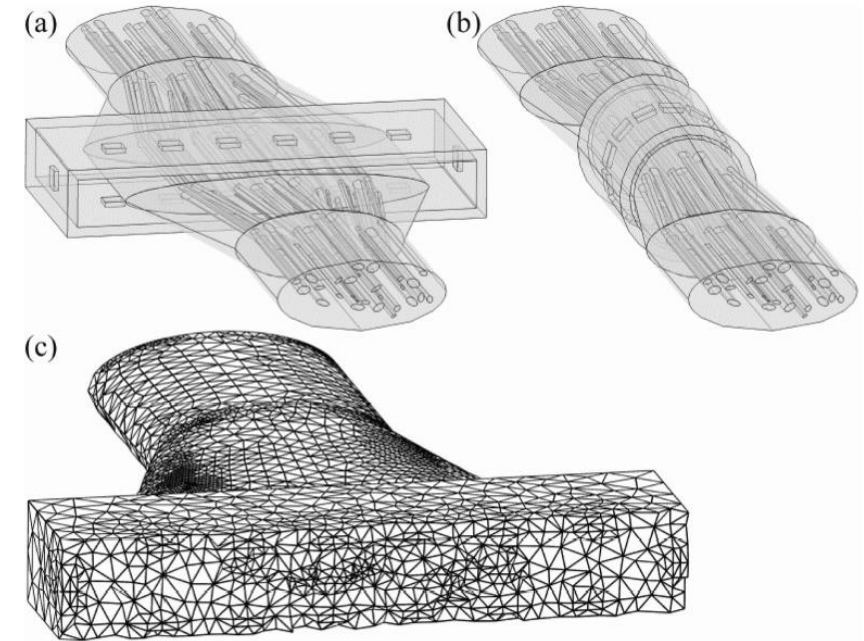
Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling

Geometrical constraints



Nerve and electrode to be modelled

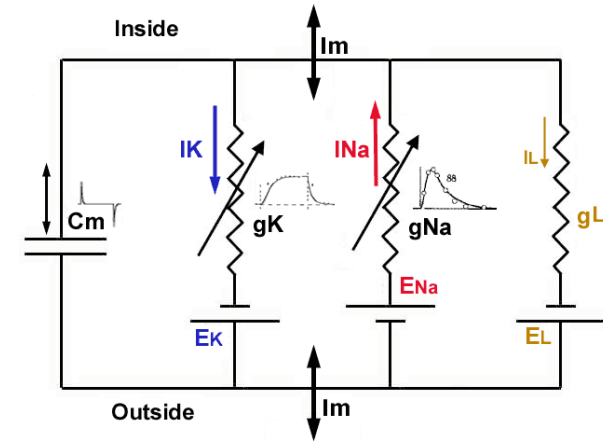


Finite element model of the surrounding tissues

Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling

Physical constraints – Example: Hodgkin Huxley



$$C \frac{dv}{dt} = I - g_{Na} m^3 h (V - V_{Na}) - g_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L)$$

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = a_m(V)(1 - m) - b_m(V)m$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = a_h(V)(1 - h) - b_h(V)h$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = a_n(V)(1 - n) - b_n(V)n$$

$$a_m(V) = .1(V + 40)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 40)/10))$$

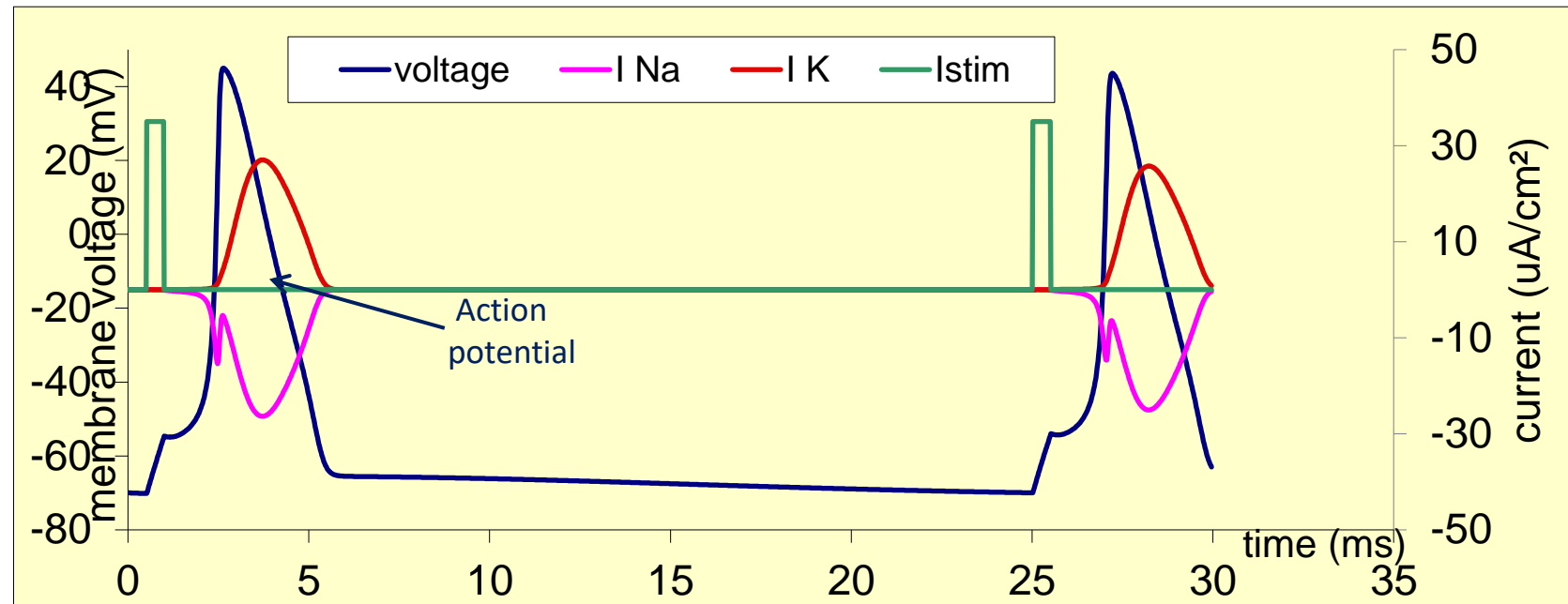
$$b_m(V) = 4 \exp(-(V + 65)/18)$$

$$a_h(V) = .07 \exp(-(V + 65)/20)$$

$$b_h(V) = 1/(1 + \exp(-(V + 35)/10))$$

$$a_n(V) = .01(V + 55)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 55)/10))$$

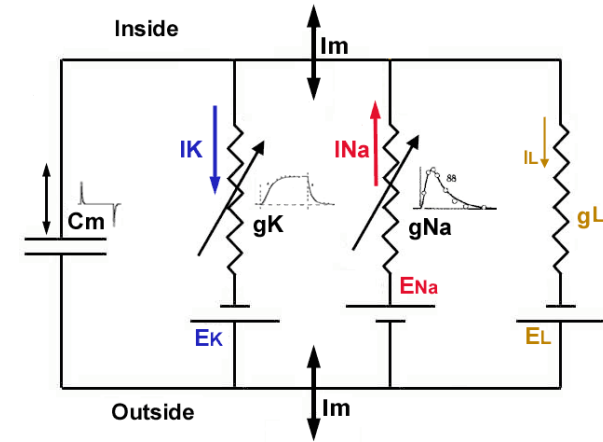
$$b_n(V) = .125 \exp(-(V + 65)/80)$$



Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling

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$$C \frac{dv}{dt} = I - g_{Na} m^3 h (V - V_{Na}) - g_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L)$$

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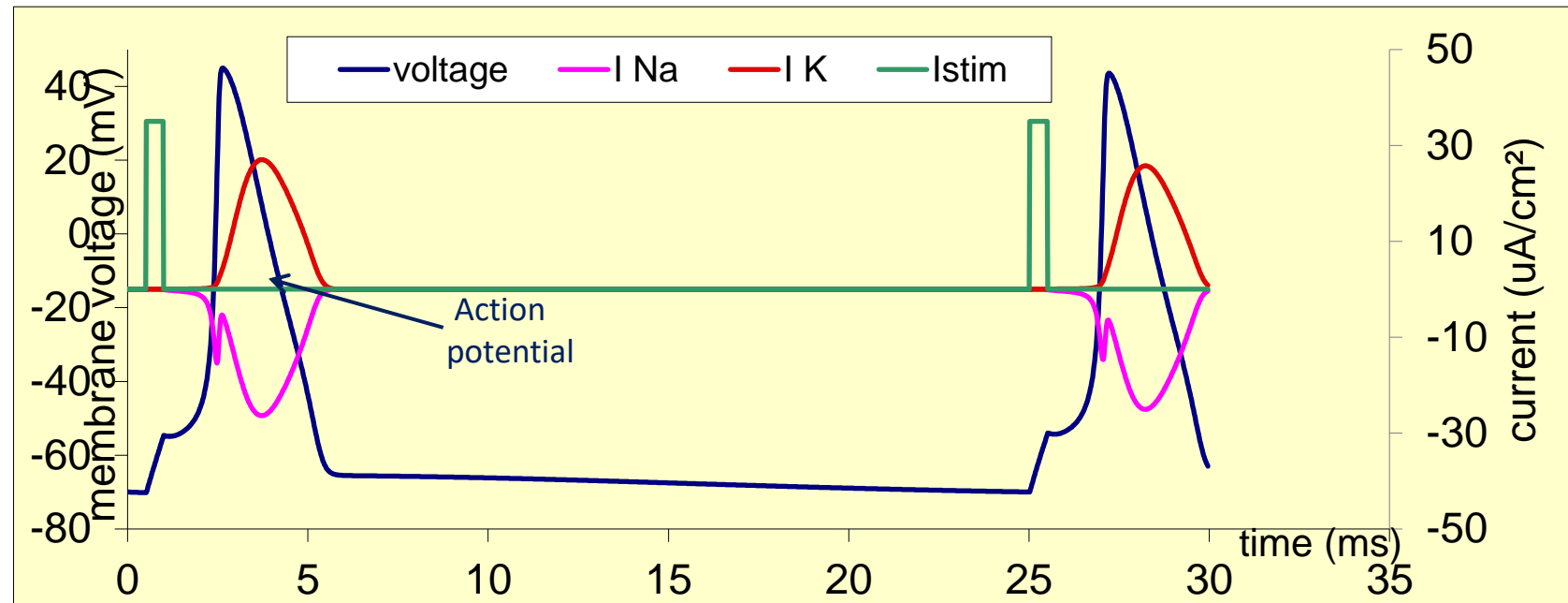
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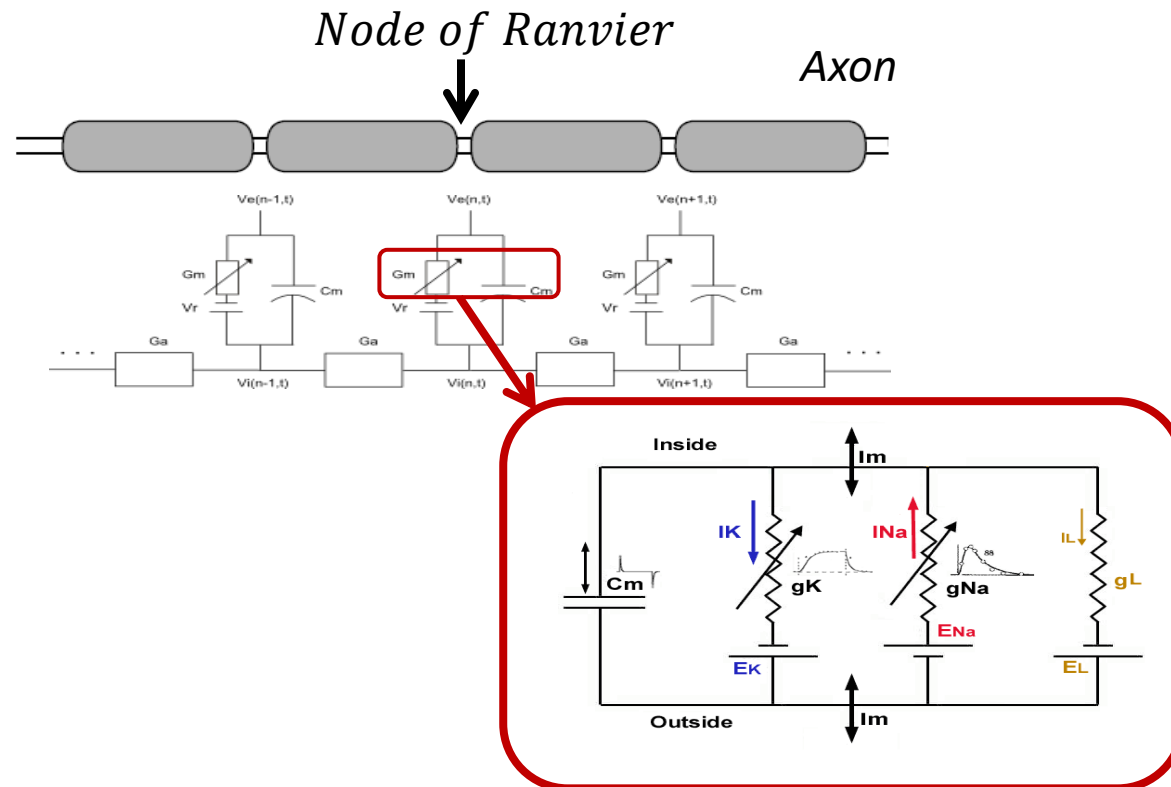
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Electrical Stimulation and SCI

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling

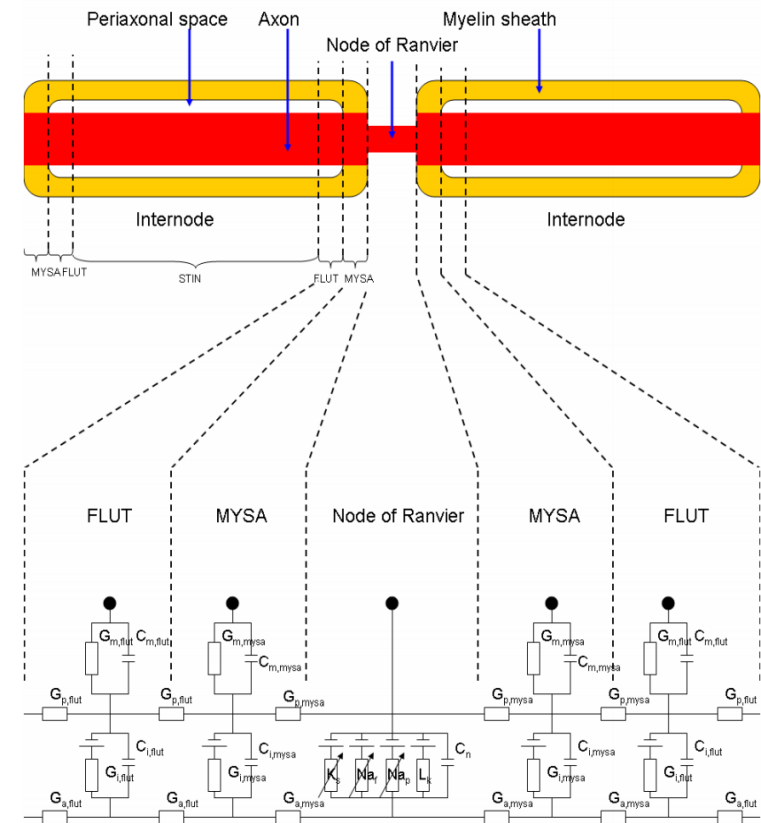
Physical constraints – Example: Hodgkin Huxley



Electrical Stimulation and SCI

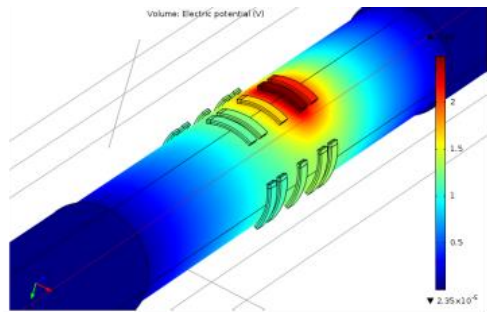
Peripheral Nerve Stimulation and modelling

Physical constraints – Example: MRG



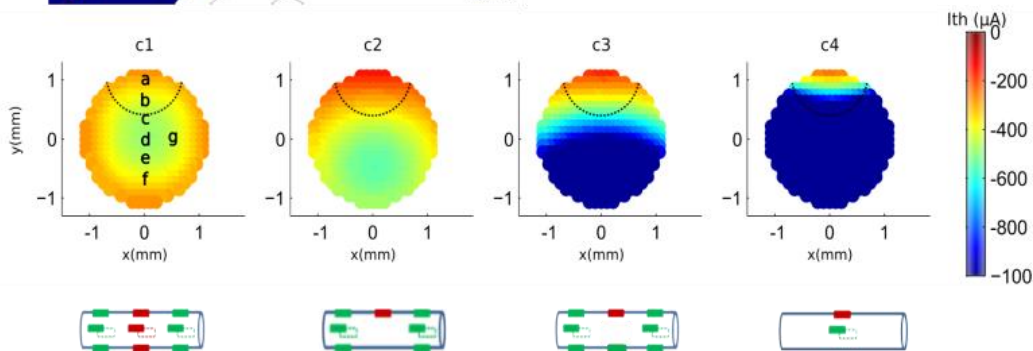
Multi-contact cuff electrode

→ A technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness



Multicontact electrode adjustment by simulation

- 3D spatial distribution of stimulation currents
- Model-based presets for clinical application



Guiho et al, NER 2015

Toward complex multipolar selective neural stimulation*

Thomas Guiho¹, Olivier Rossel¹, Guillaume Souquet², Hernández Alfredo³, Laure Laporte⁴
Christine Azevedo - Coste¹ *IEEE, member*, David Andreu¹, David Guiraud¹ *IEEE, member, EMBS*

Dali et al, JNE 2018

J. Neural Eng. 15 (2018) 046018 (19pp)

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-2552/aabeb9>

Model based optimal multipolar stimulation without *a priori* knowledge of nerve structure: application to vagus nerve stimulation

Mélissa Dali^{1,7}, Olivier Rossel^{1,7}, David Andreu¹, Laure Laporte², Alfredo Hernández³, Jérémy Laforet⁴, Elói Marjón⁵, Albert Hagège⁶, Maureen Clerc⁶, Christine Henry² and David Guiraud¹

Multi-contact cuff electrode

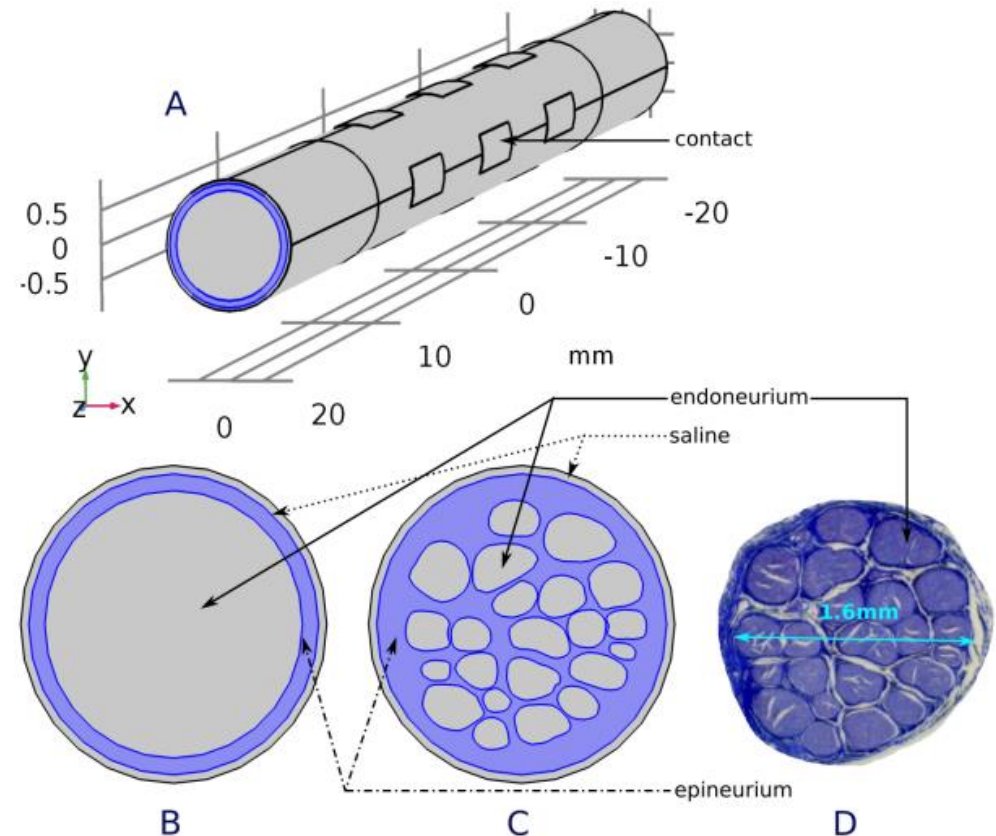
→ A technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness

Parametric Identification and validation

Example:
Fascicles

– interindividual variability and No prior knowledge –

Impact of fasciculariaation - cross-section study (x and y)



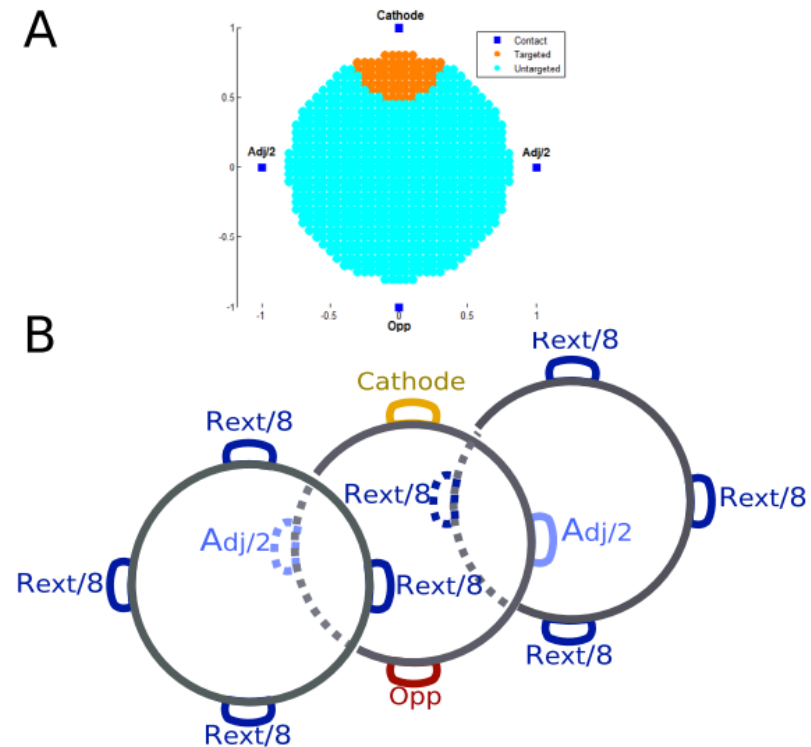
Multi-contact cuff electrode

→ A technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness

Parametric Identification and validation

Example:

Electrode design
distribution of contacts along the x, y and z axes

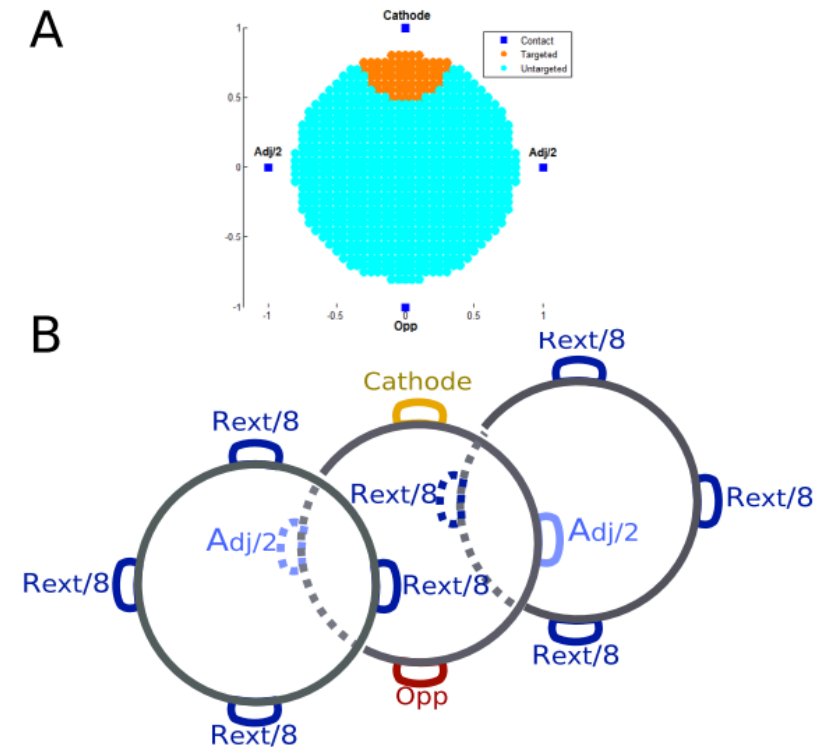


Multi-contact cuff electrode

→ A technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness

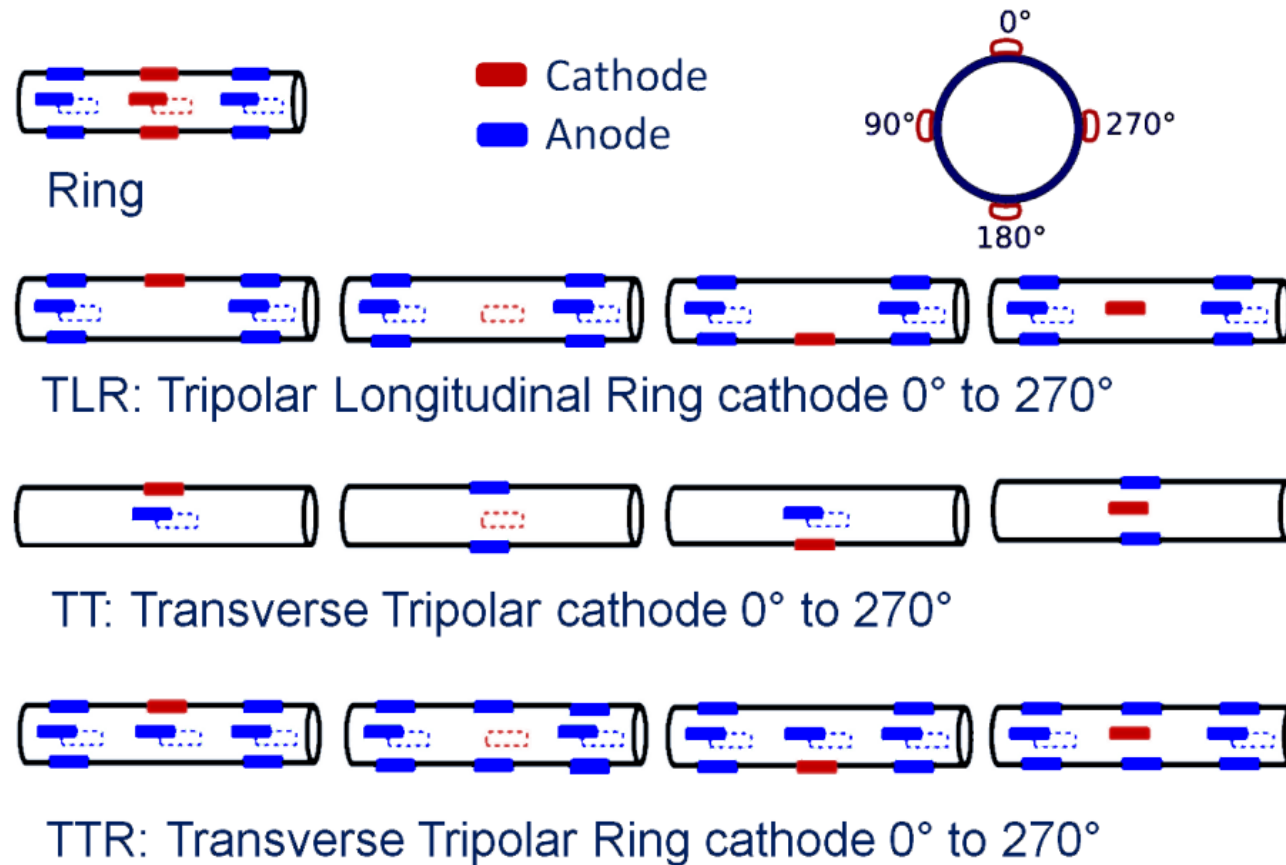
Interest of the Model:

- > Testing a large number of configurations in silico
 - > Reduce the field of possibilities
- > Compliance with the 3R for the use of animals in research



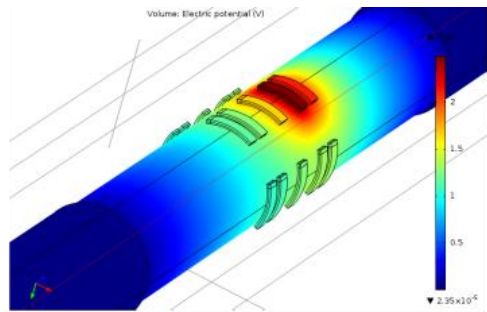
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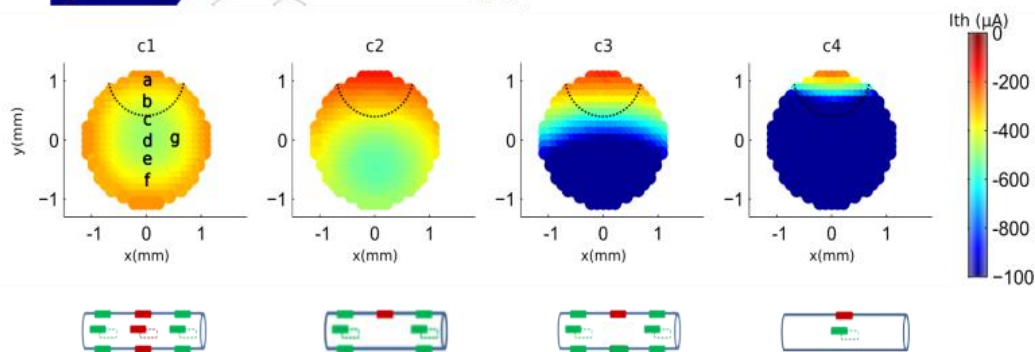
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Assessment of the approach

-> Selective configuration -> Animal experiments

Dali et al, PlosOne 2019

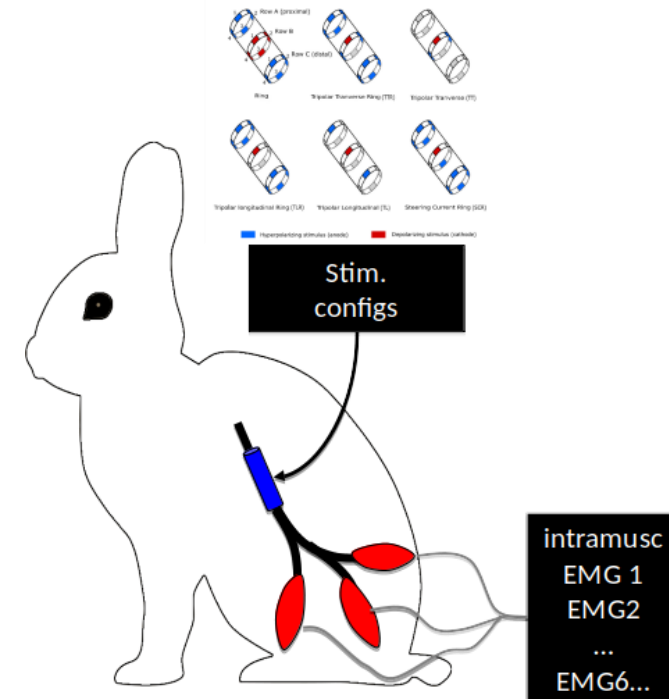


PUBLISH ABOUT

Relevance of selective neural stimulation with a multicontact cuff electrode using multicriteria analysis

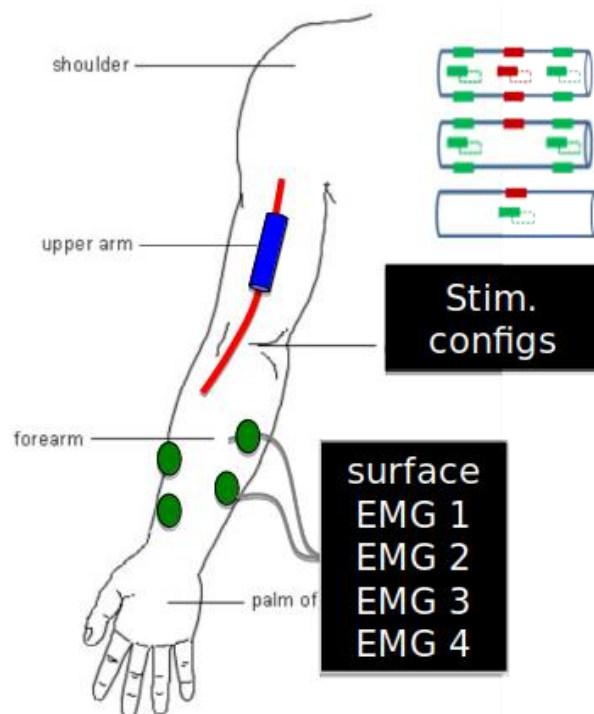
Mélissa Dali, Lucie William, Wafa Tigra, Hubert Taillades, Olivier Rossel, Christine Azevedo, David Guiraud

Published: July 2, 2019 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0219079>



Assessment of the approach

-> Selective configuration -> Animal experiments



Tigra et al, JNER 2020

ClinicalTrials NCT03721861

BMC Part of Springer Nature

Journal of NeuroEngineering and Rehabilitation

Research | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 19 May 2020](#)

Selective neural electrical stimulation restores hand and forearm movements in individuals with complete tetraplegia

[Wafa Tigra](#), [Mélissa Dali](#), [Lucie William](#), [Charles Fattal](#), [Anthony Gélis](#), [Jean-Louis Divoux](#), [Bertrand Coulet](#), [Jacques Teissier](#), [David Guiraud](#) & [Christine Azevedo Coste](#)

Journal of NeuroEngineering and Rehabilitation 17, Article number: 66 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

Agilis project: Offering an implanted solution for upper limb restoration using electrical stimulation



Constraints :

- As less invasive as possible (surgical procedure)
- As efficient as possible (precision of gestures)
- Lessons from FreeHand

Context:

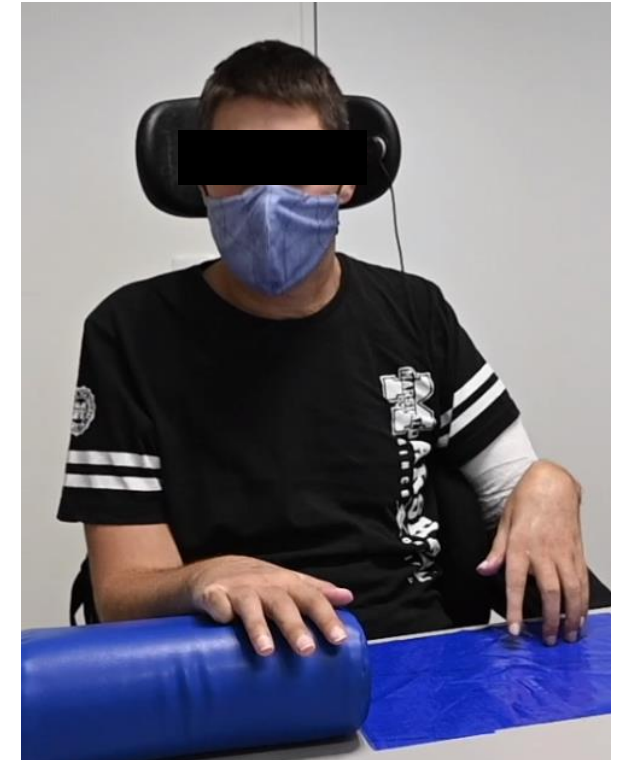
Tétraplegia: Complete lesion of the spinal cord at cervical level, resulting in paralysis of all four limbs.

Aim: Restore wrist and finger movement

- Grip objects independently
- Improved quality of life

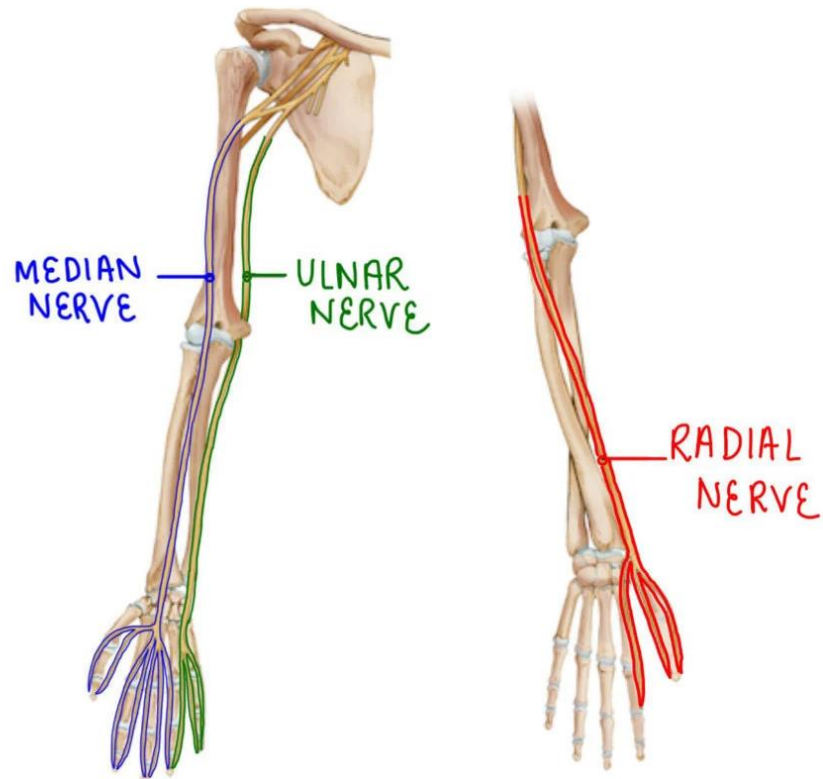
Collaboration with start-up Neurinnov







-> Development and marketing of an active implantable medical device: Neuroprosthesis



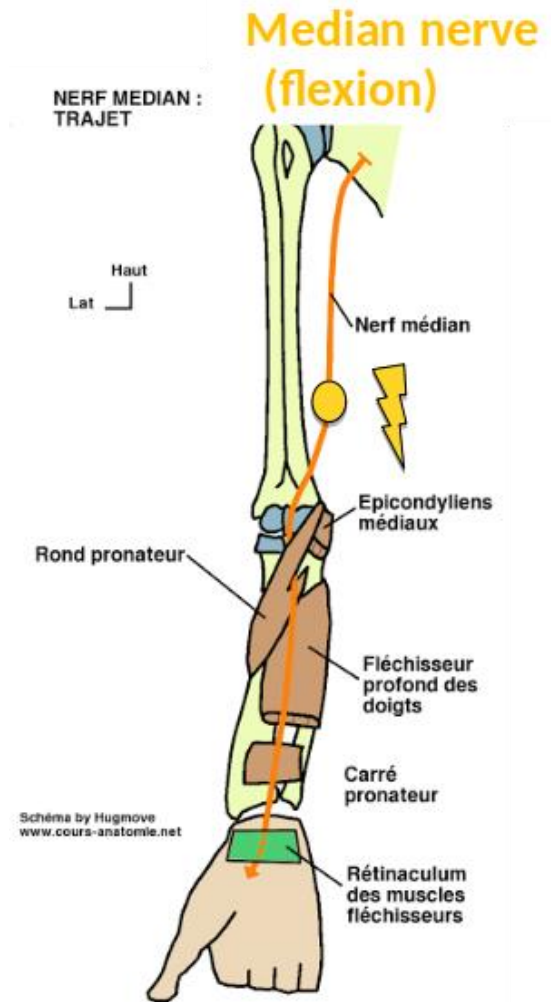
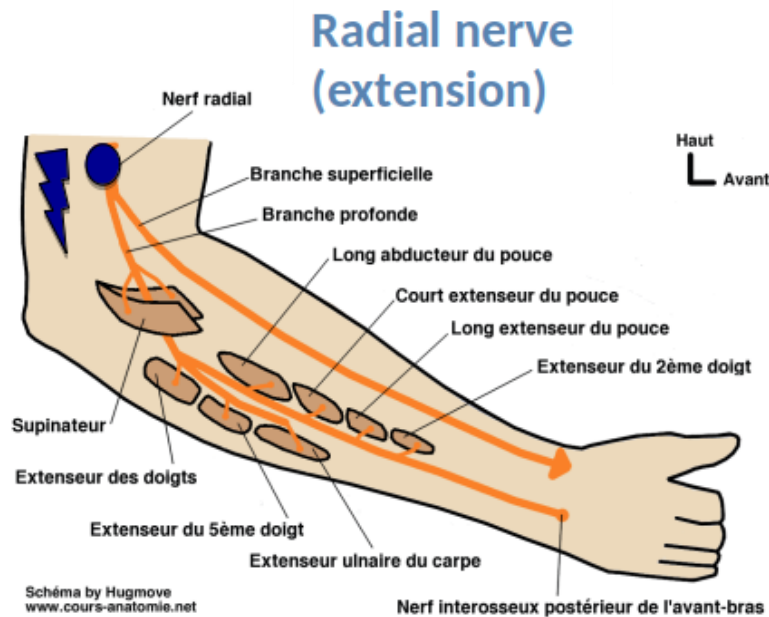
C4 AIS A spinal-cord injured patient

Neurophysiology of the upper limb - In (very) brief

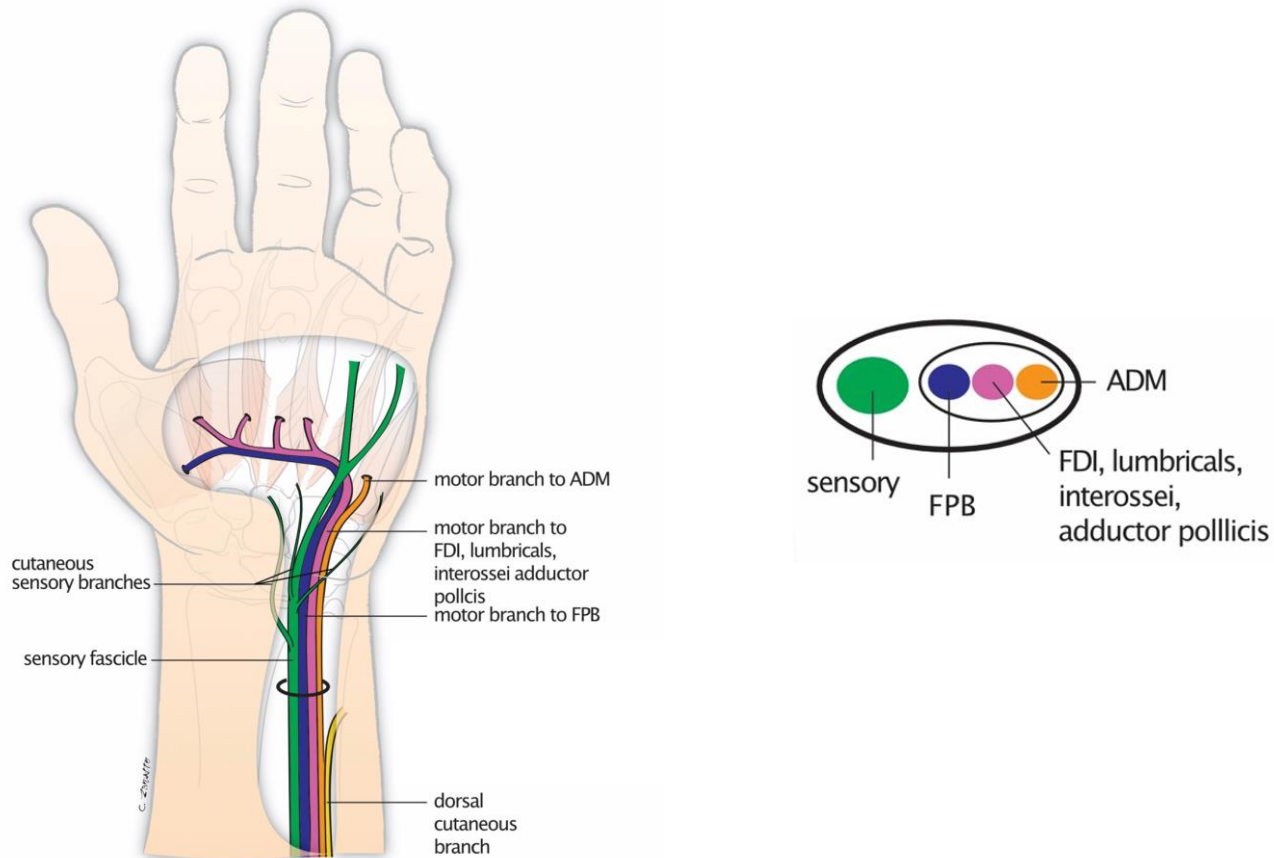


<u>Sensation</u>		<u>Motor Function</u>	
<p><u>Radial Nerve</u></p> <p>Palpate webbing space between thumb and index finger, including dorsal surface of hand</p>		<p><u>Radial Nerve</u></p> <p>The ability to extend wrist and fingers at the knuckle joint</p> <p>If cast is over hand only assess extension of fingers</p>	
<p><u>Median Nerve</u></p> <p>Palpate webbing space between thumb and index finger, including palmar surface of hand</p>		<p><u>Median Nerve</u></p> <p>The ability to bring thumb and little finger together so they are touching</p>	
<p><u>Ulna Nerve</u></p> <p>Palpate between little finger and distal ring finger on palmar and dorsal surface of hand</p>		<p><u>Ulna Nerve</u></p> <p>The ability to abduct all fingers</p>	

Neurophysiology of the upper limb - In (very) brief



Neurophysiology of the upper limb - In (very) brief



Characteristic:

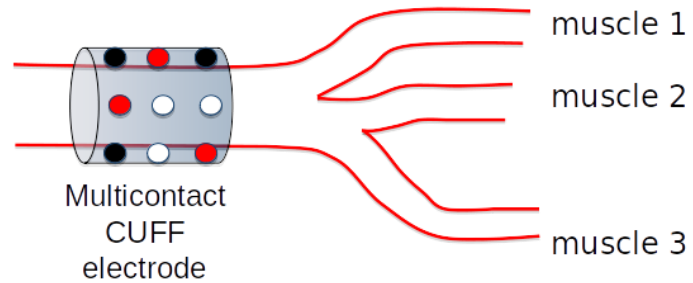
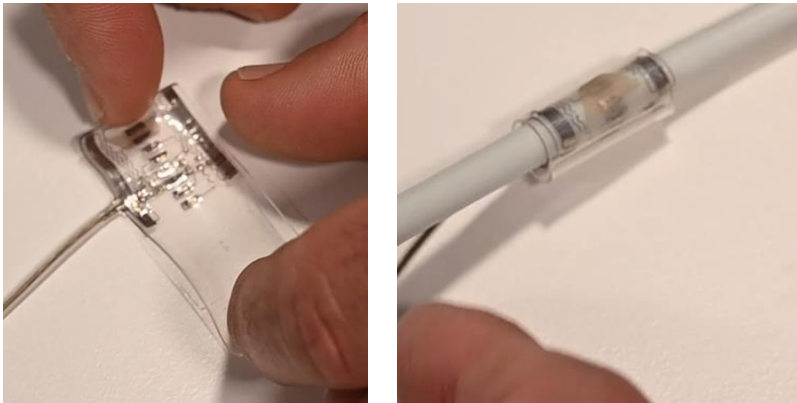
- Topological and functional organisation of nerve fibres

Consequence:

- Possibility of reducing the number of electrodes...
- While retaining motor selectivity

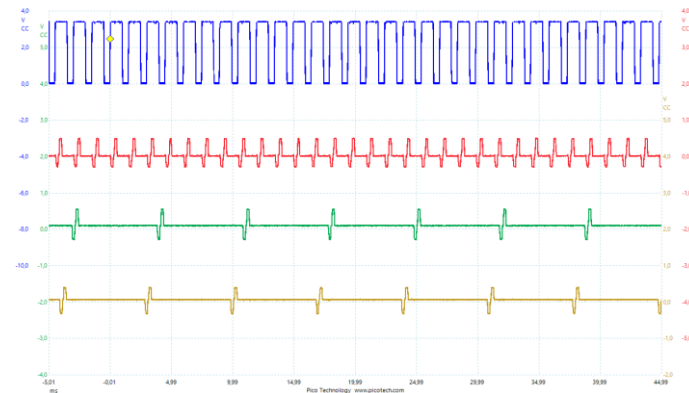
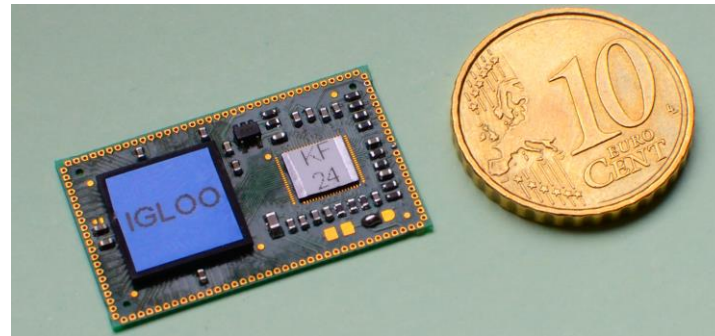
Multicontact cuff electrode

→ A technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness

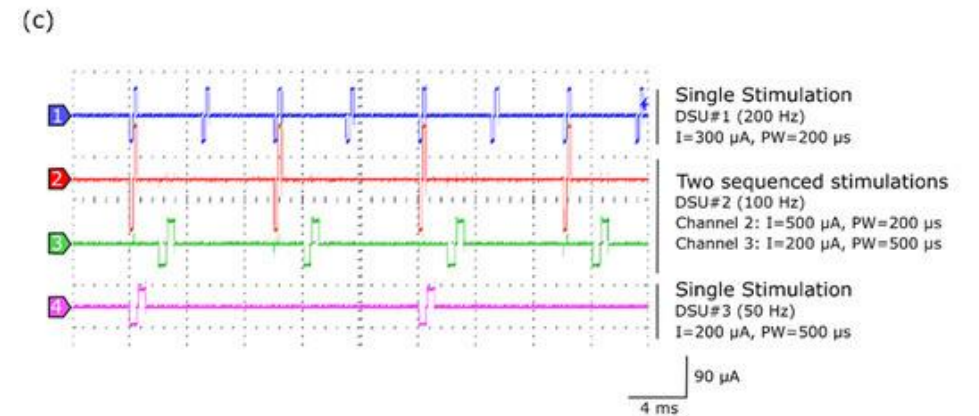
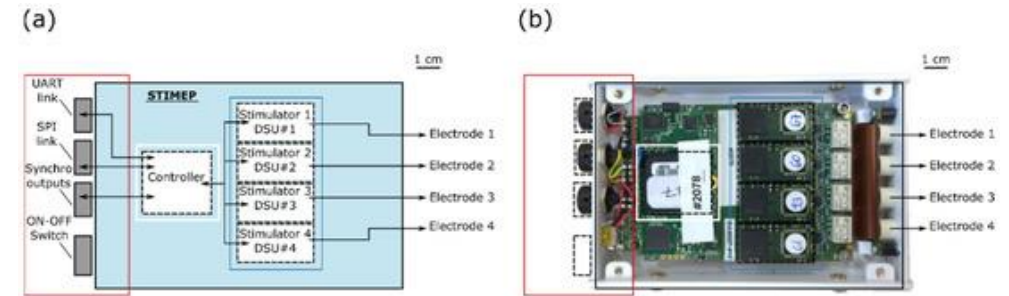


Selective stimulation approach

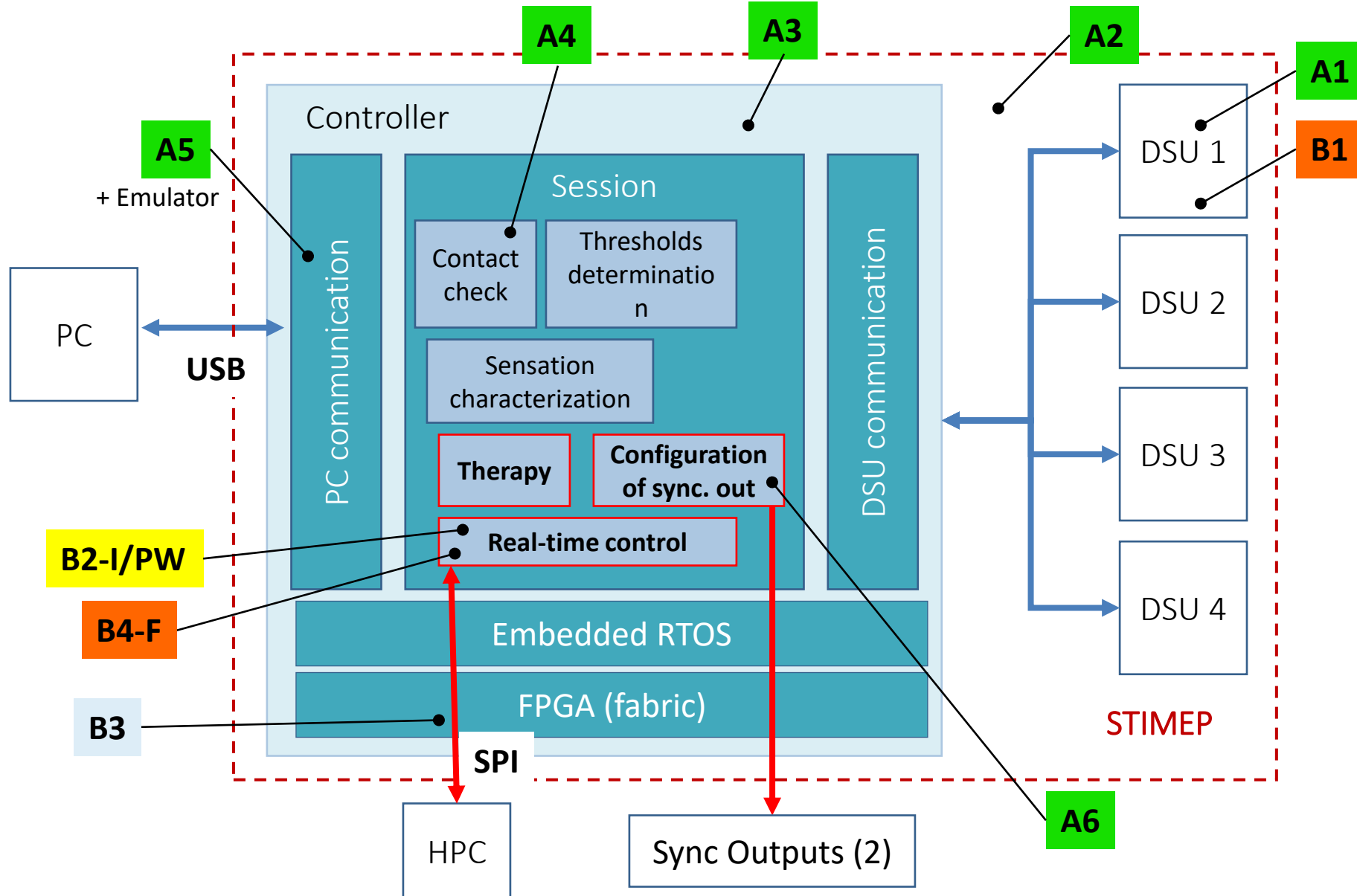
→ Multicontact cuff electrode and stimulation device



Based on Andreu, Guiraud and Souquet, JNE 2009

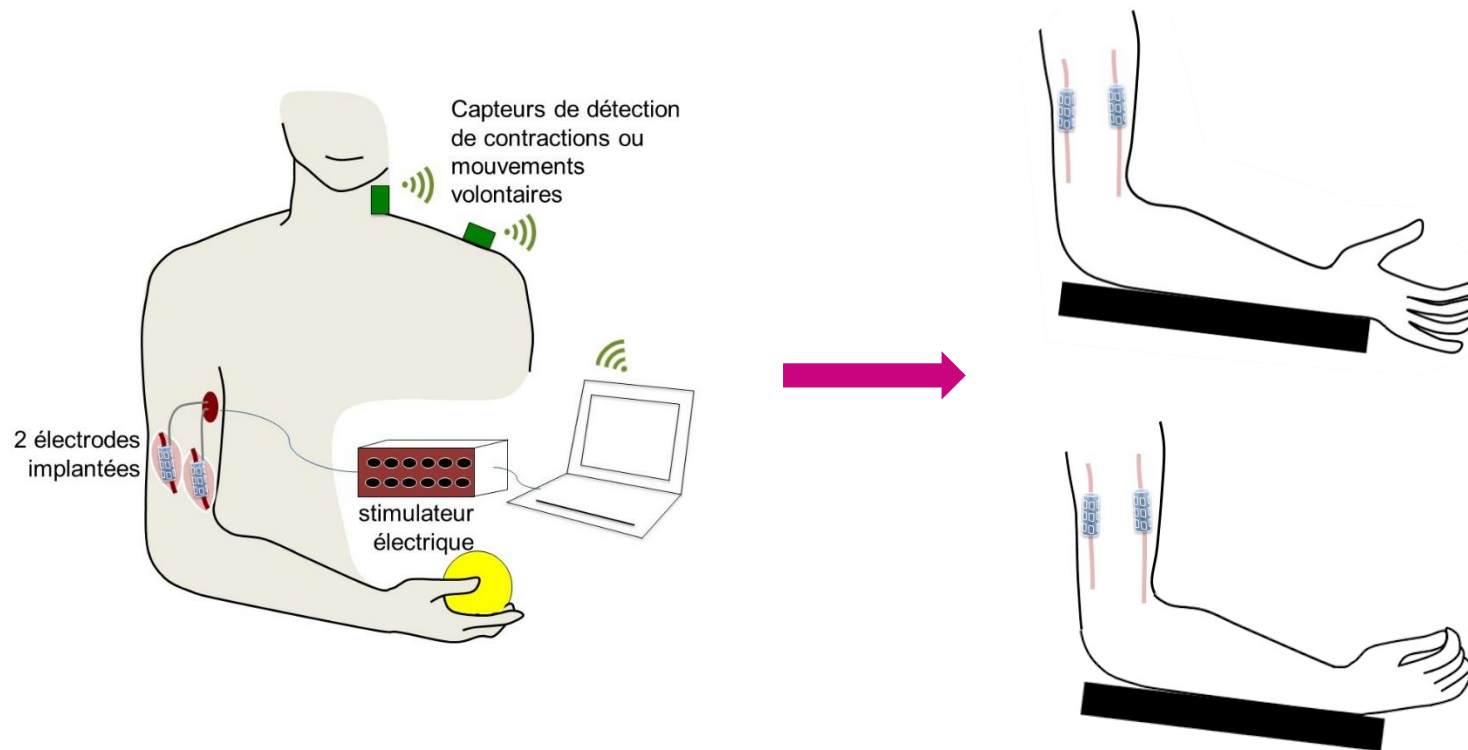


STIMEP software – Architecture & Activities



Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

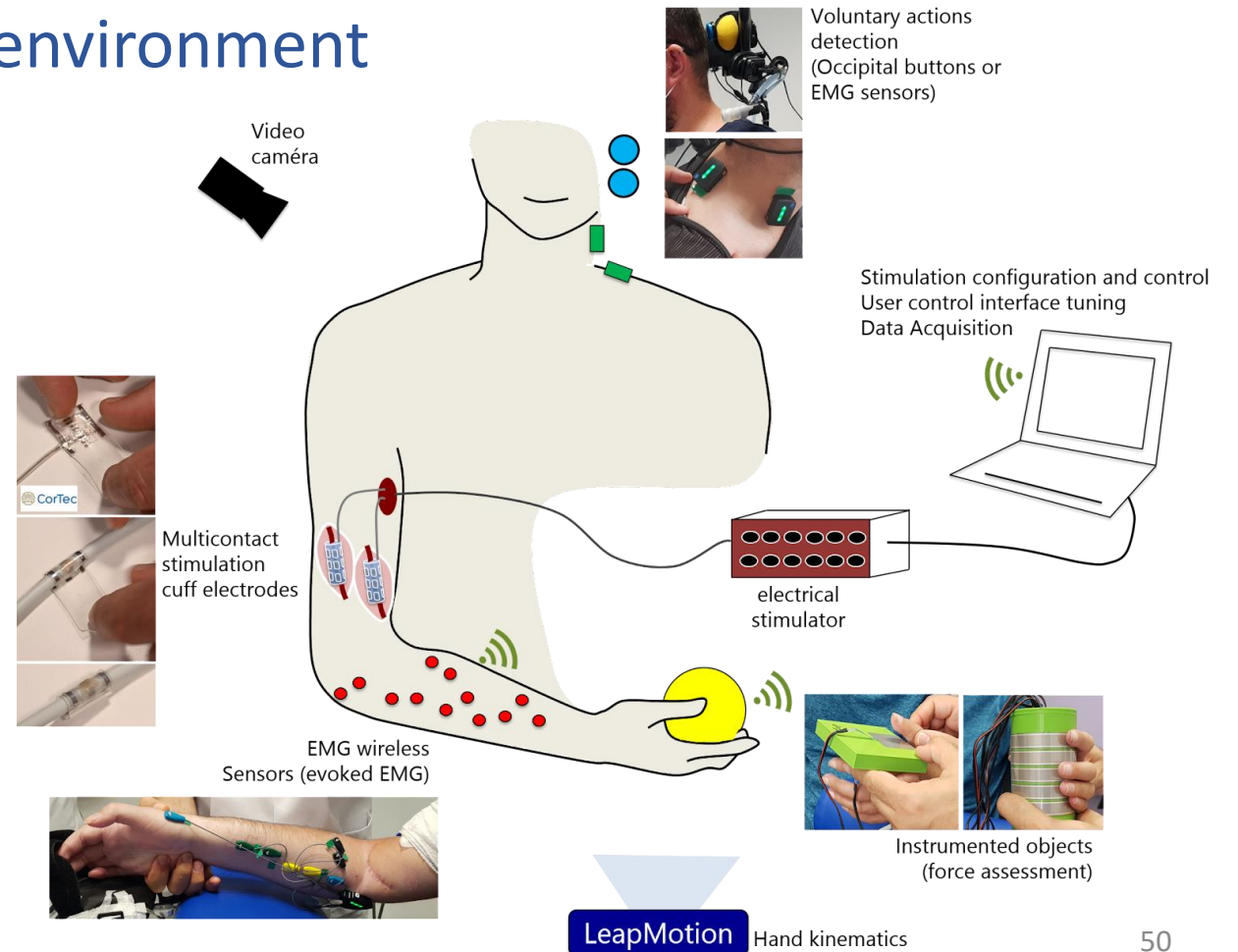
Schematic operation of the system



- The patient controls the stimulator using residual movements
- Restoration of hand opening and grasping of objects
- 4 Patients

Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment



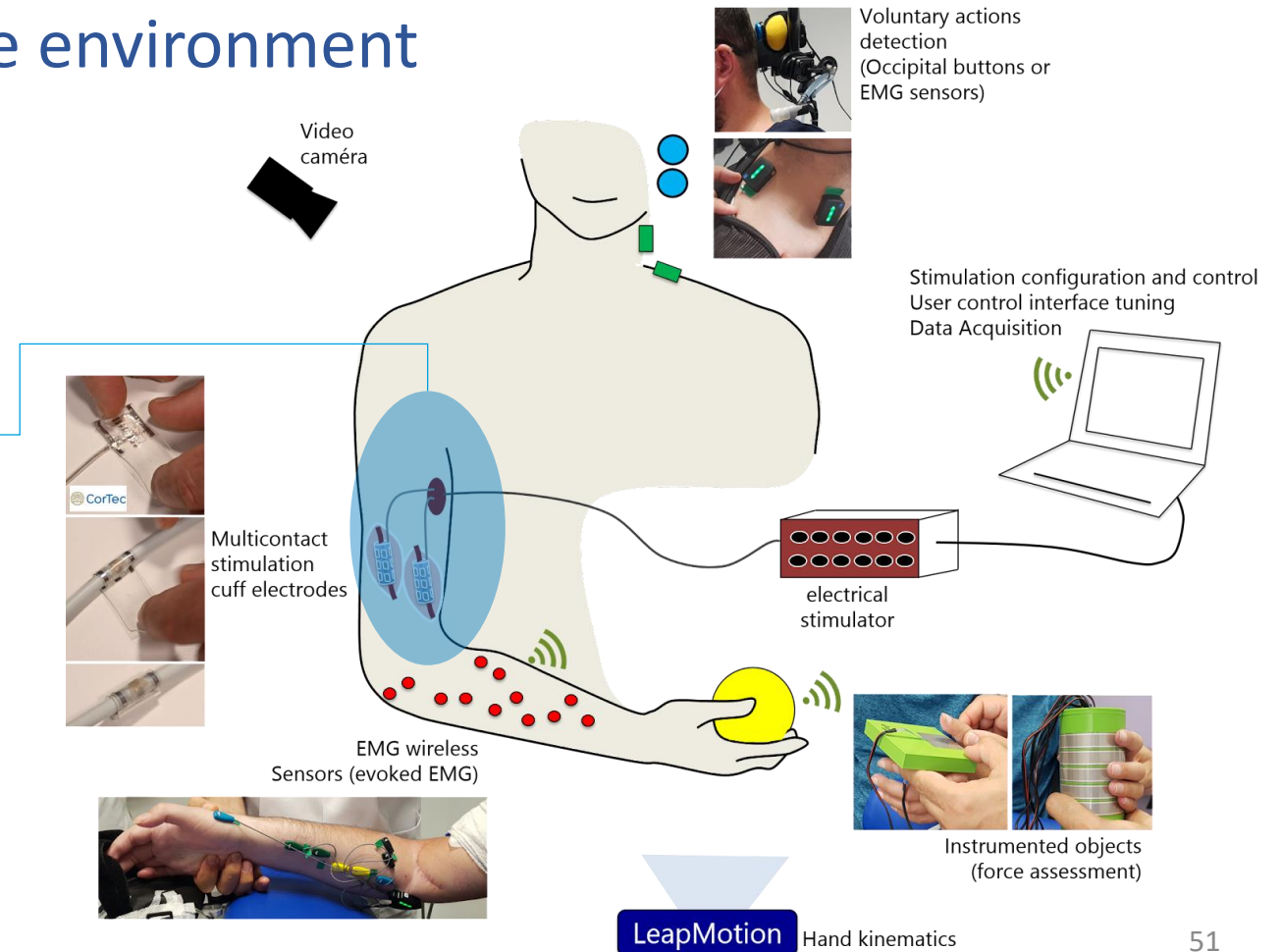
Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment

The investigated solution:

Implanted multi-contact electrodes
(30 days)

Agilis 2020 (2 nerves)

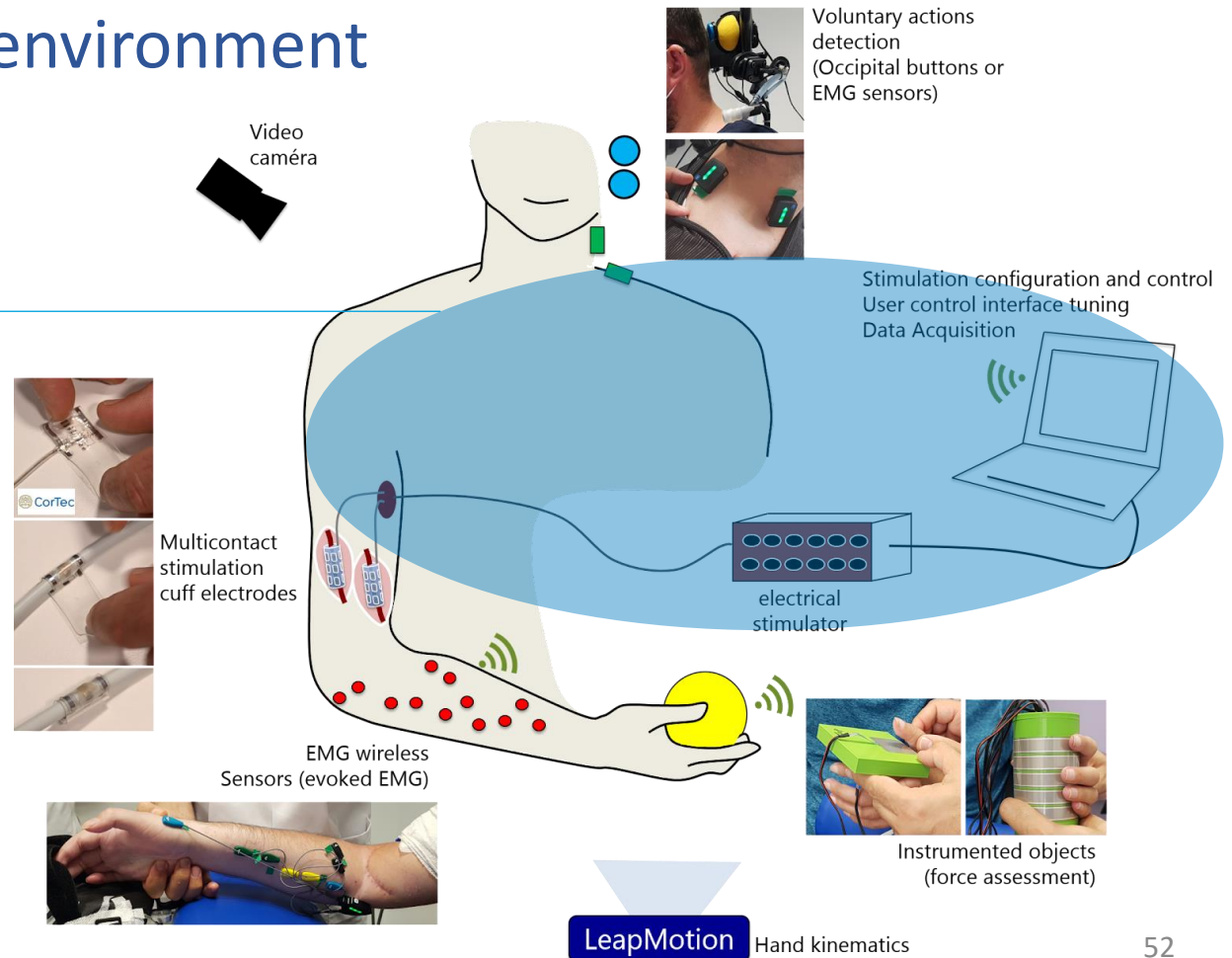


Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment

Stimulator connected to electrodes and control devices

Stimulation device (Neurinnov)

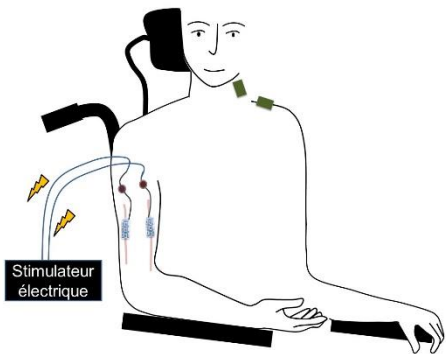


Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

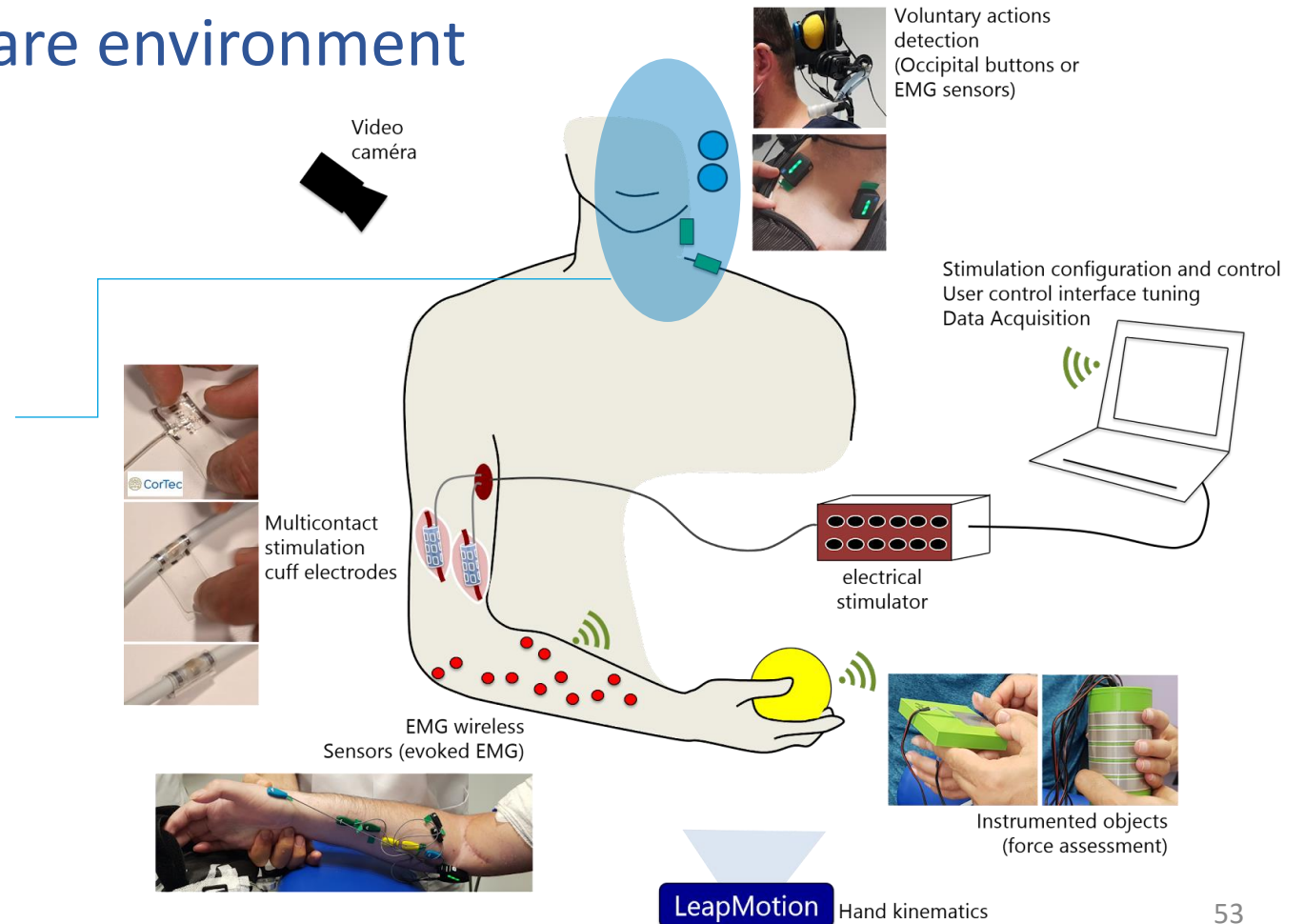
A complex sensor and software environment

Controlled by the patient :

- Detection of voluntary contractions using EMGs
- Voice command



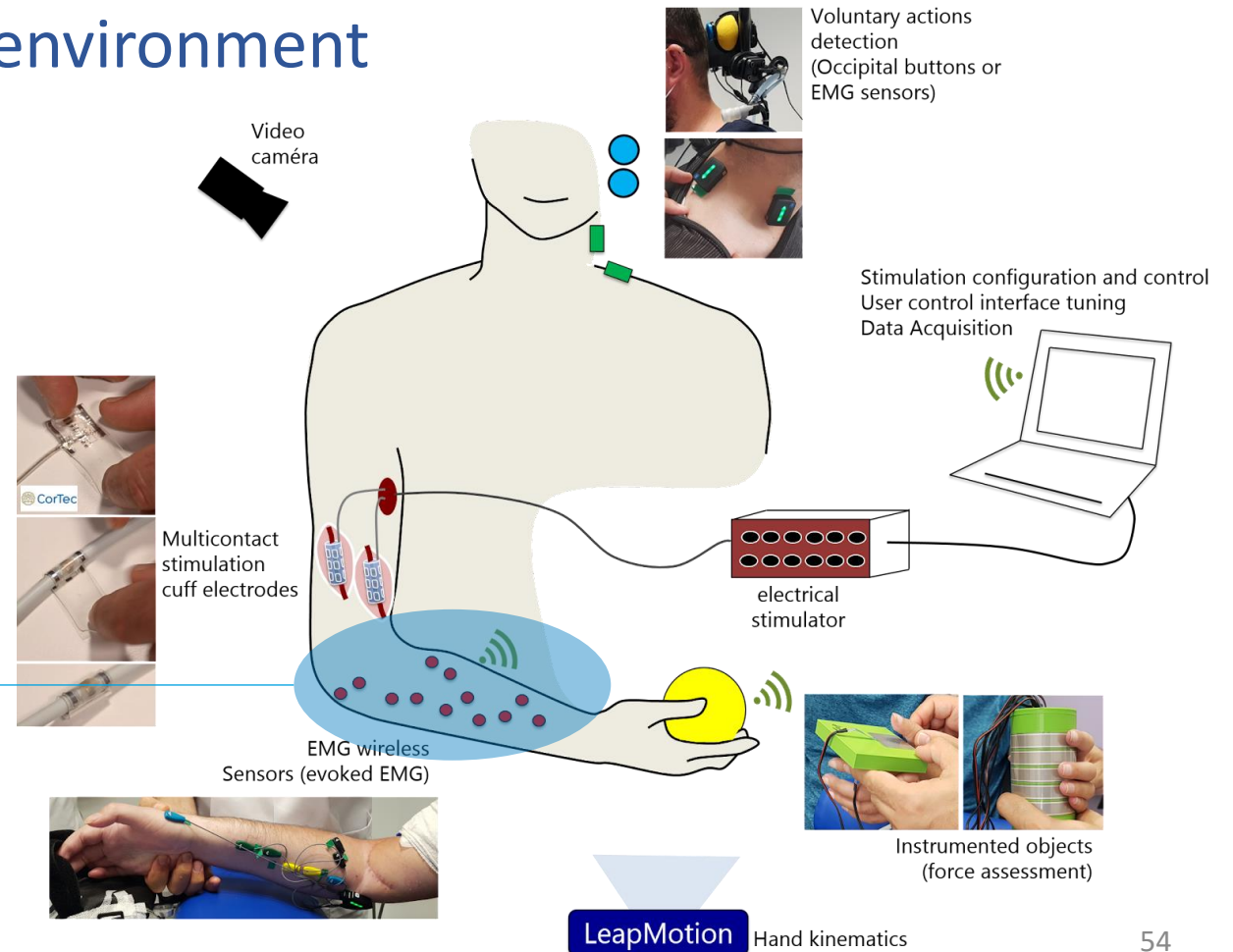
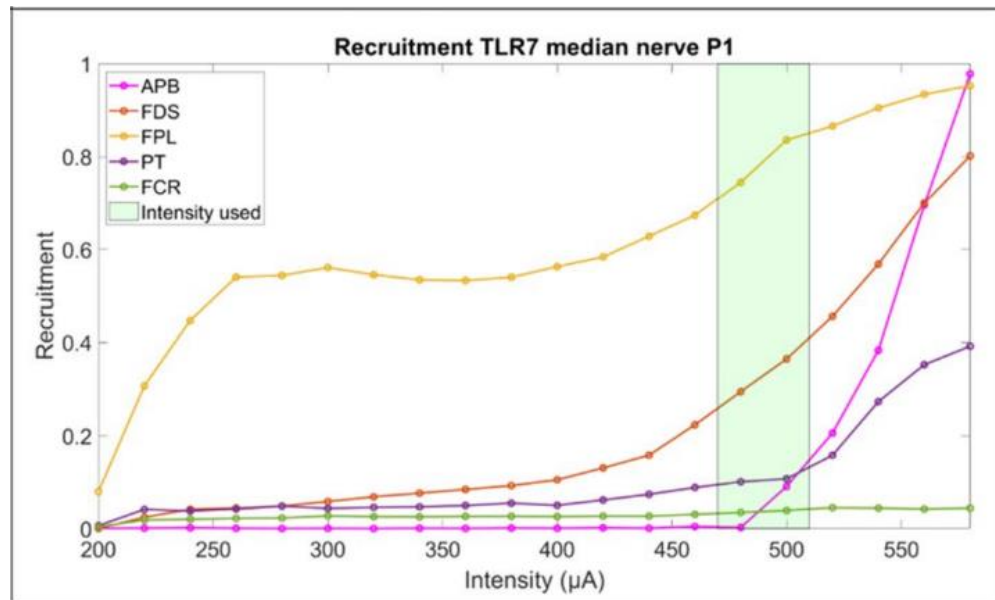
Agilis 2020 (2 nerves)



Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment

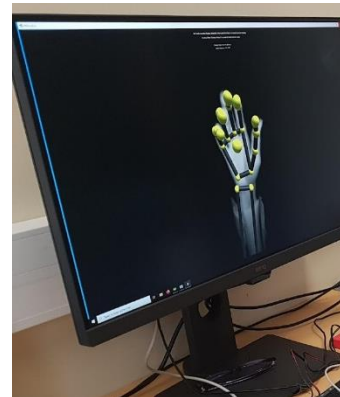
EMGs to analyse muscle responses :



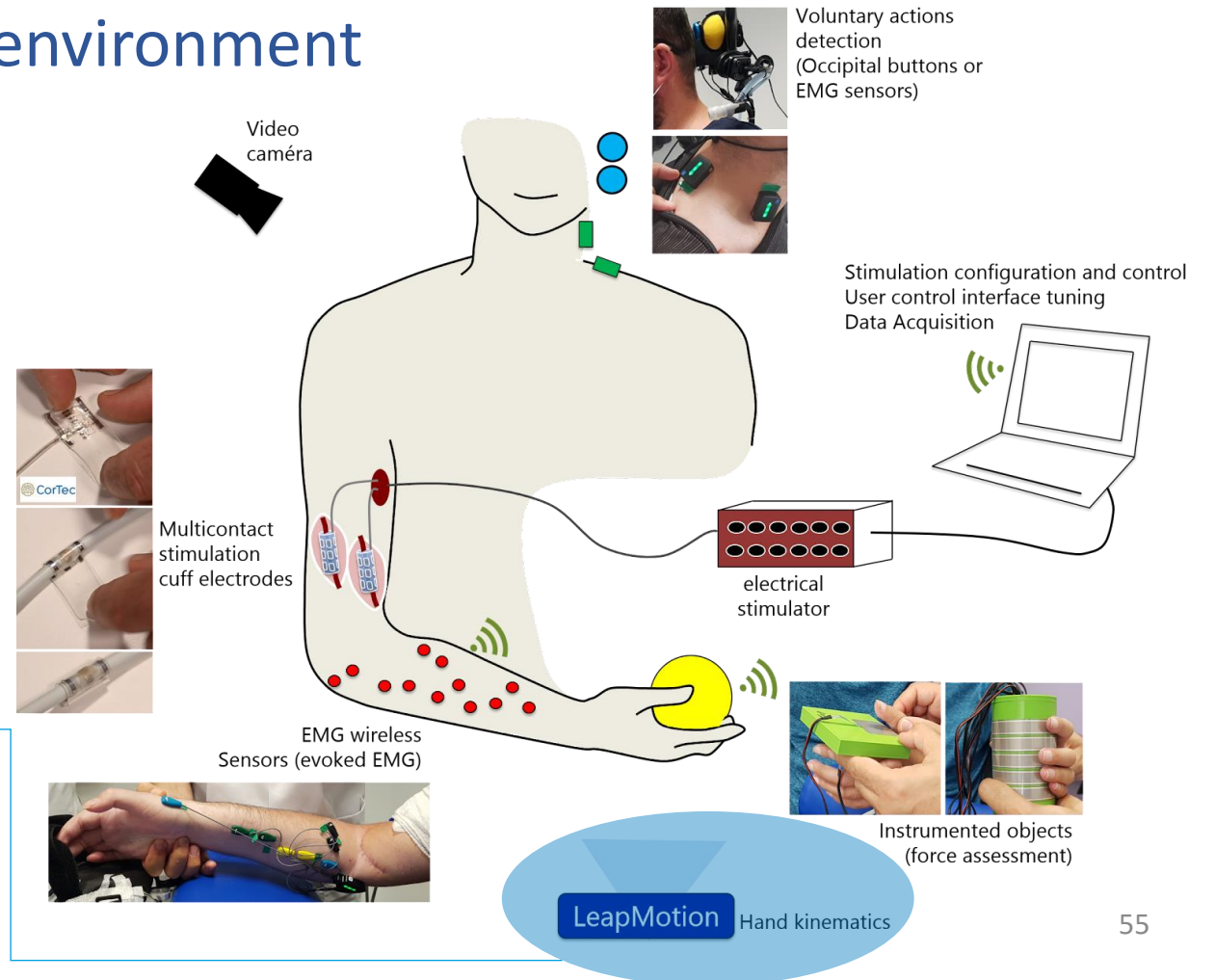
Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment

Motion capture :
Kinematics and dynamics



Agilis 2022 (3 nerves)

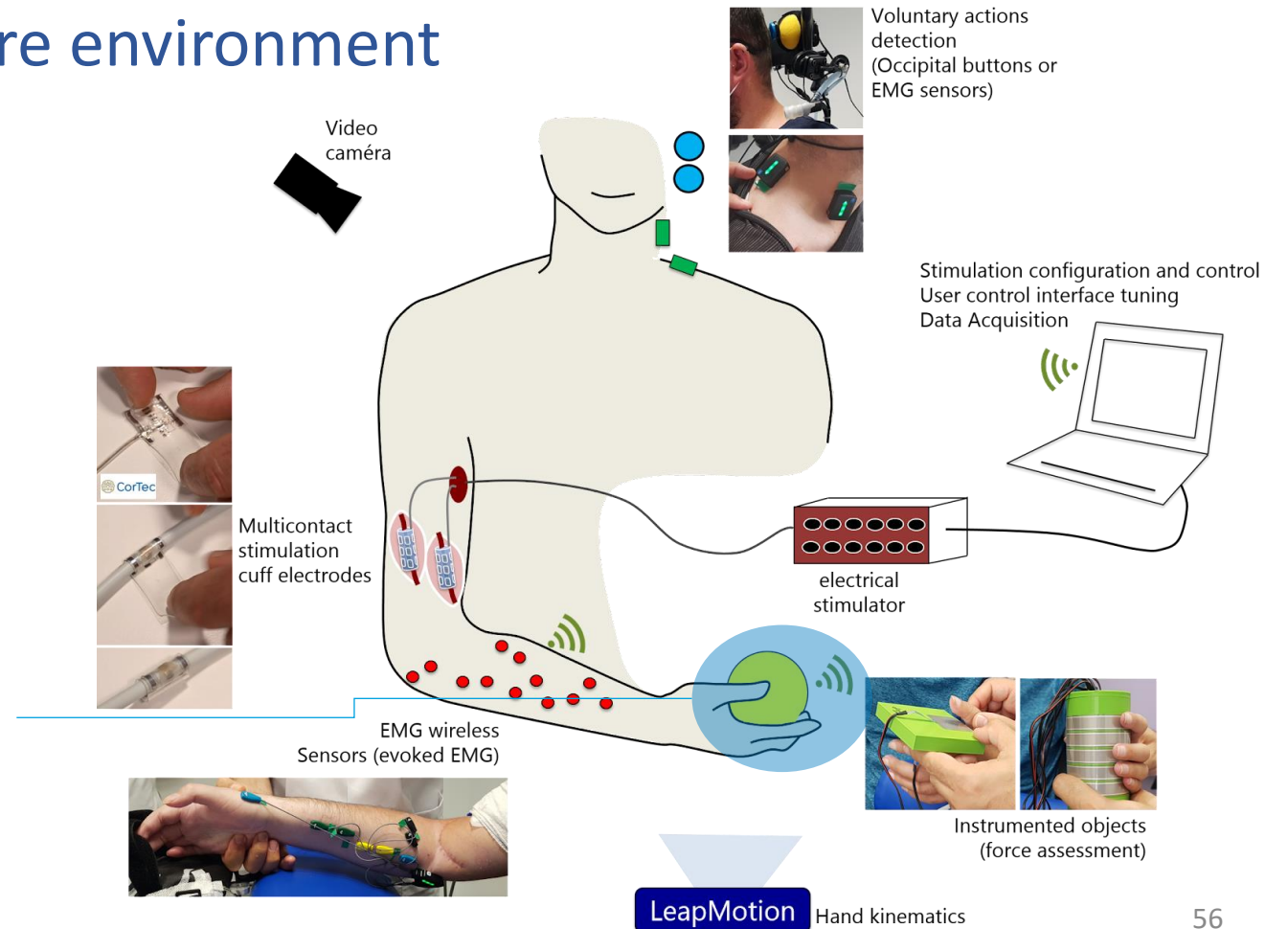


Agilis project (Phase 1 &2)

A complex sensor and software environment

Motion capture :
Gripping force

Agilis 2020 (2 nerves)



Agilis project – Phase 2

Results (2020)

Agilis project – Phase 2

Results (2023)

Agilis project – Phase 2

Results (2023)

Agilis project -> Future work

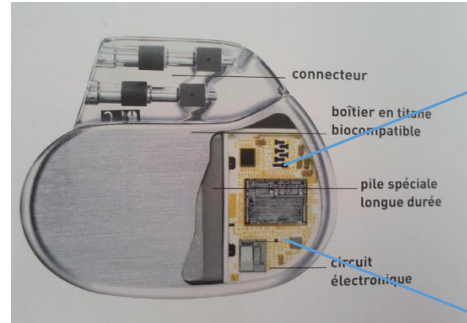
Research perspectives

- Looking for even greater selectivity (3rd nerve, advanced stimulation strategies)
- Automate stimulation according to the objects approached by the patient's hand (camera in hand)
- Automatic selection of stimulating configurations thanks to on-line biomechanical analysis of movements
- Optimum on-line control, computer vision, etc.

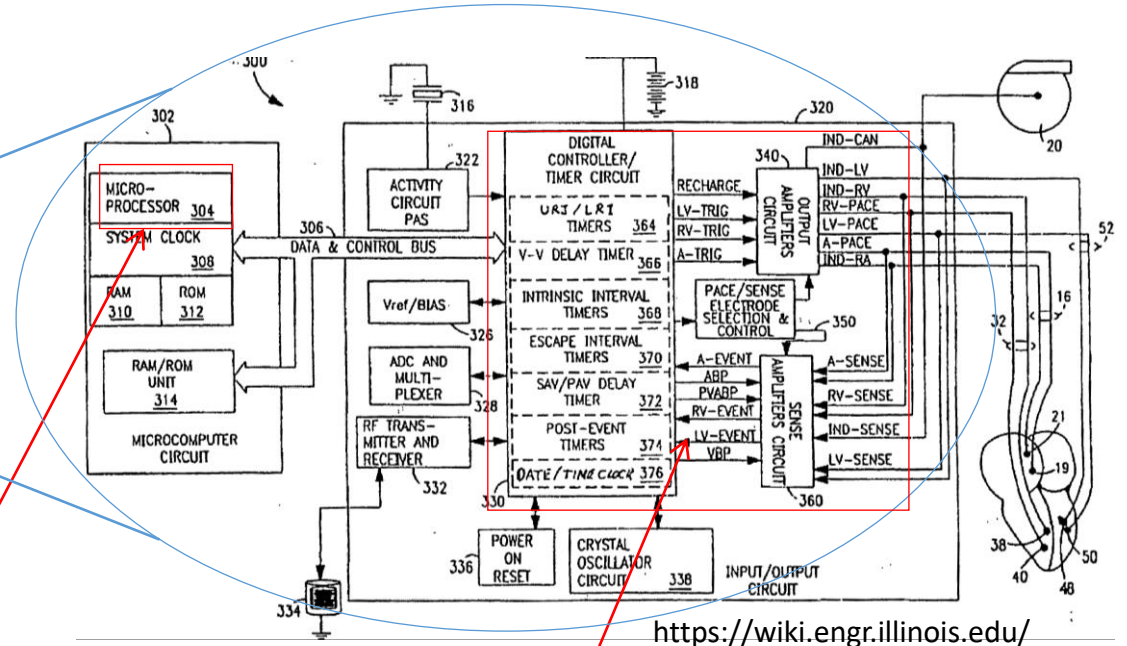
Agilis project -> Future work

Research perspectives

- Develop the implant

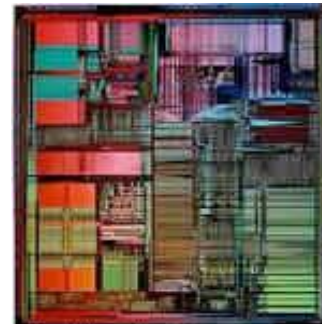


<http://pacemaker-tpe.e-monsite.com/>



<https://wiki.engr.illinois.edu/>

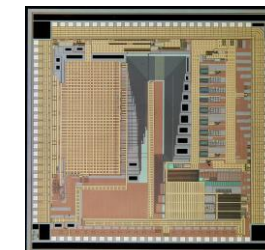
Micro-processor



Stimulation parameters



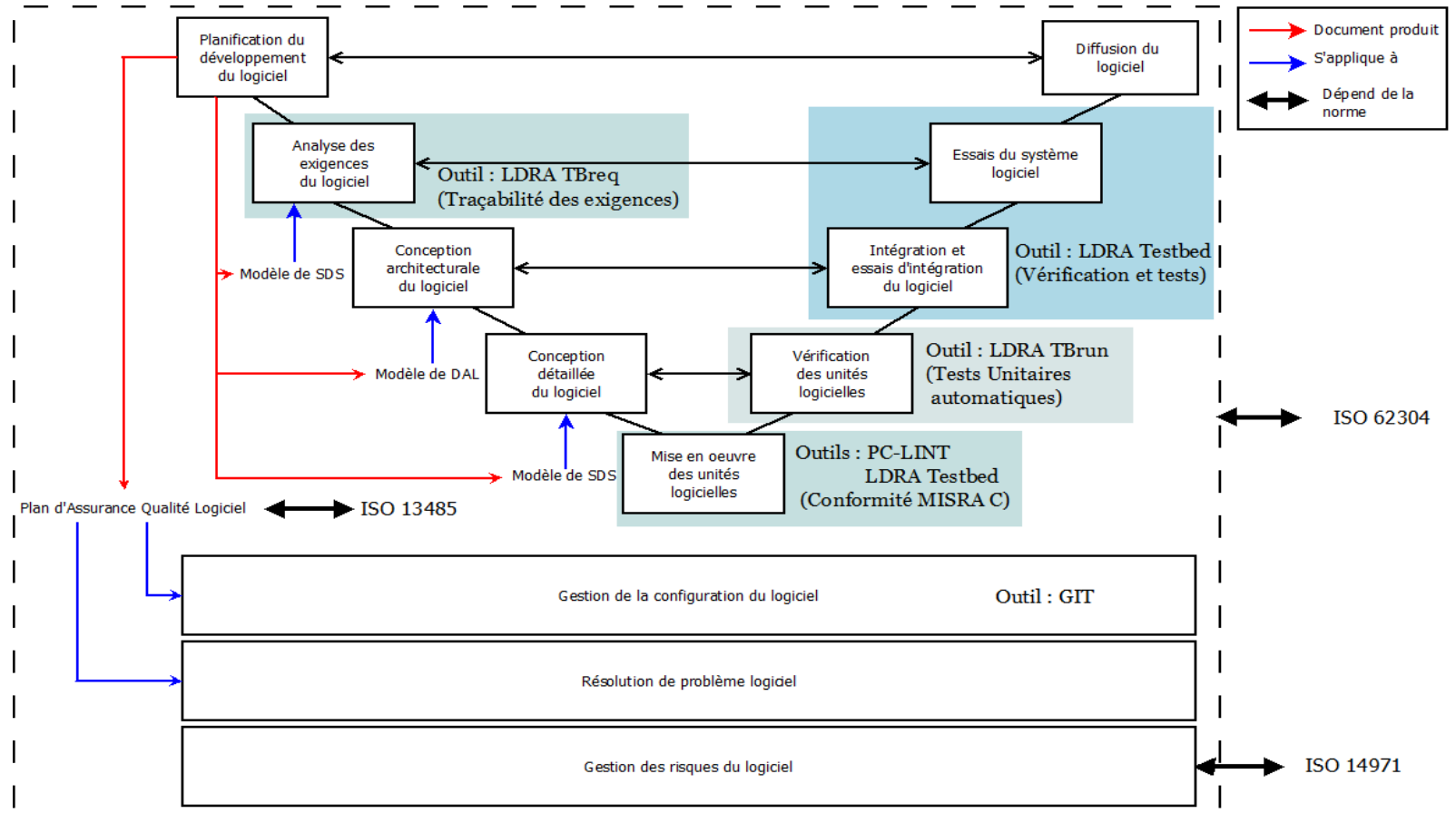
ASIC



Stim & mesure

Agilis project -> Future work

Research perspectives

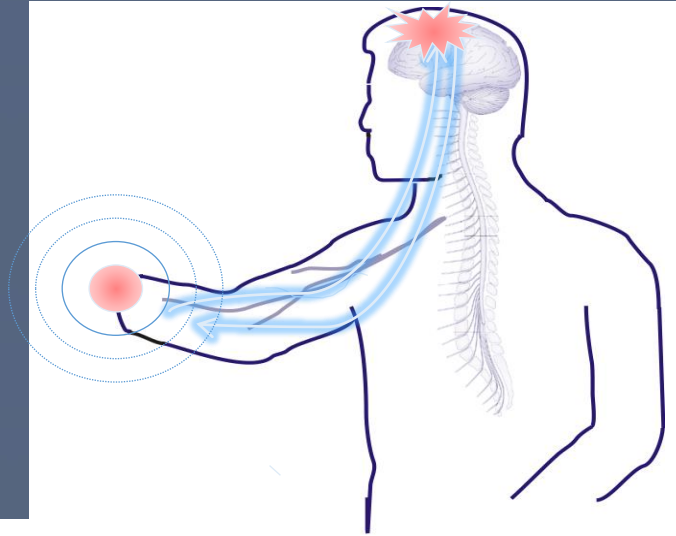


Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Intrafascicular electrodes

Intrafascicular Electrodes - Phantom limb pain management

Natural sensory feedback for phantom limb
modulation and therapy



Intrafascicular Electrodes - Phantom limb pain management

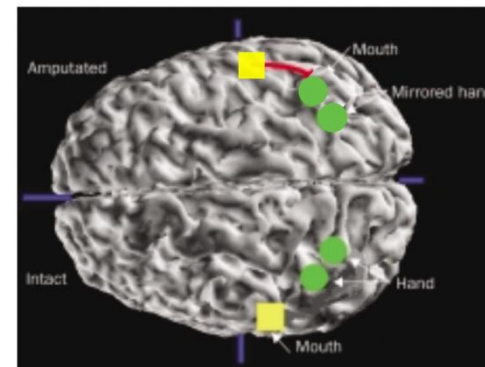
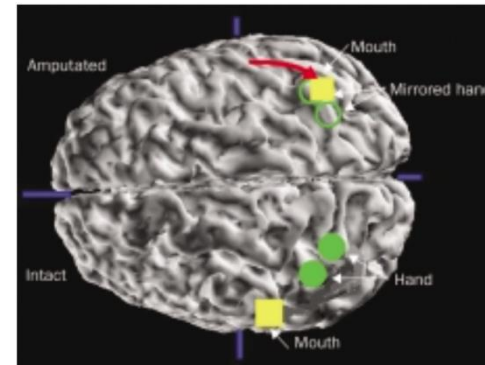
EPIONE: Sensory feedback for phantom limb modulation and therapy

Observation:

- Amputation → Reduction or loss of sensory feedback
 - Changes in cortical representation
 - Development of neuropathic pain

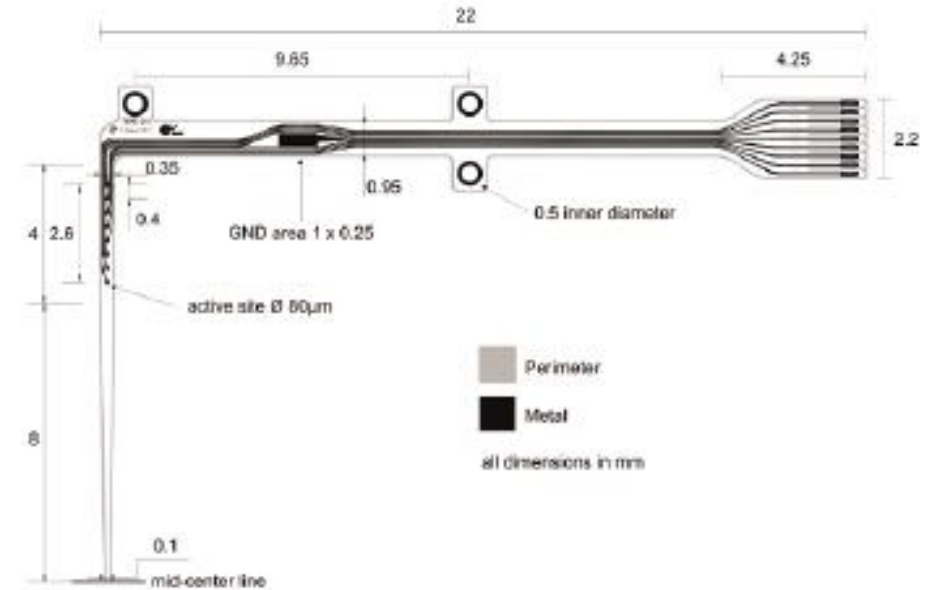
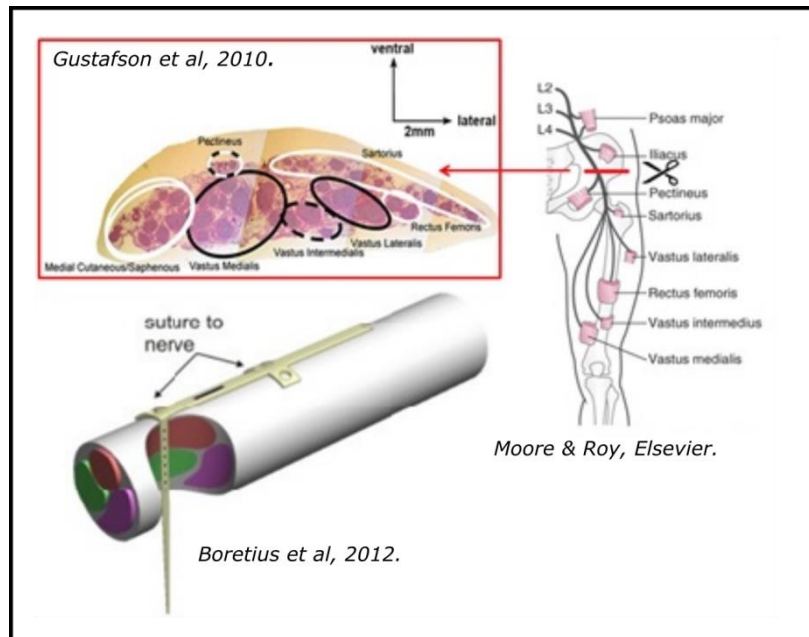
Hypothesis:

- Research project → Stimulation to replace the sensory feedback
 - Revert the cortical representation
 - Back to a normal representation
 - Phantom limb pain reduction

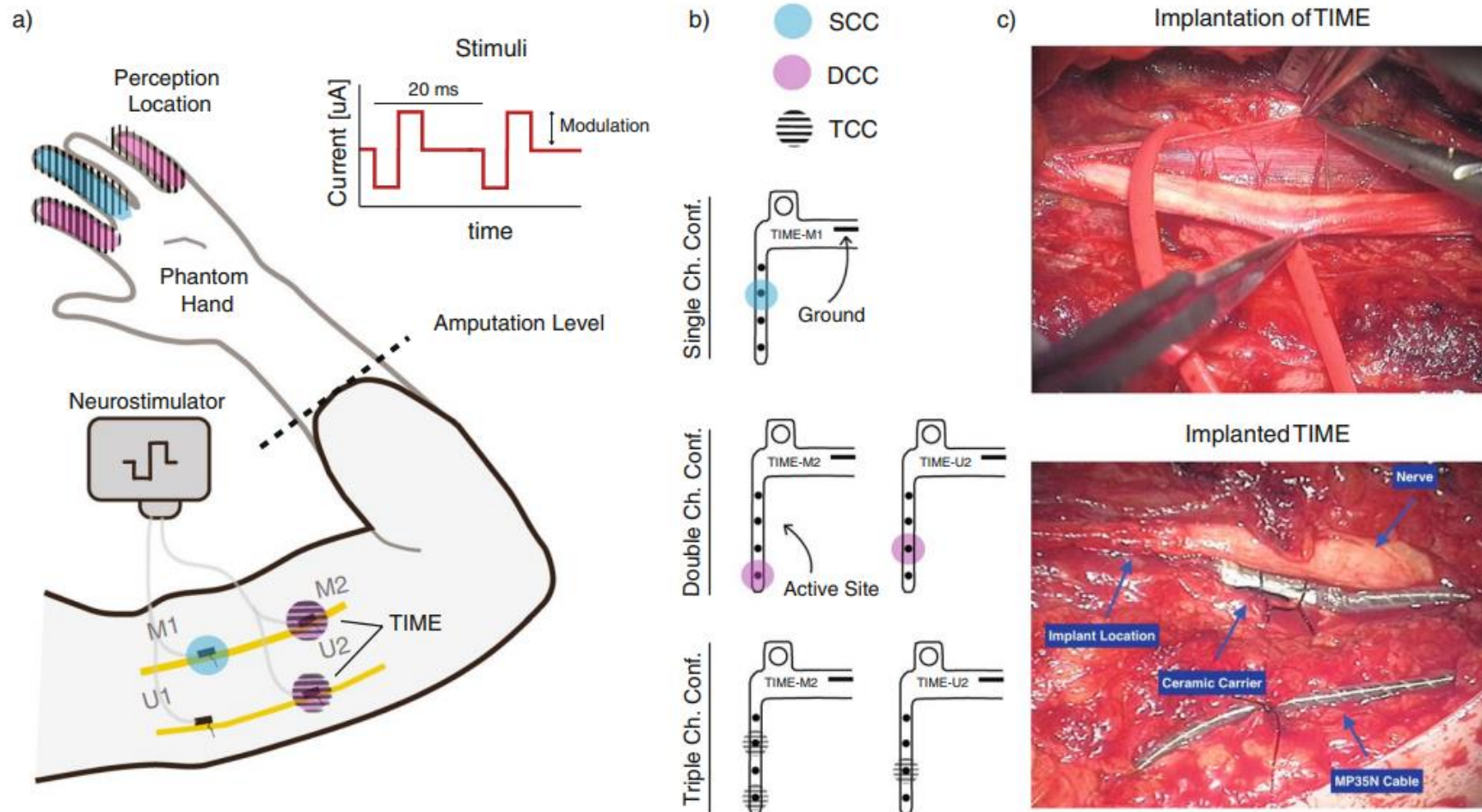


TIME electrode

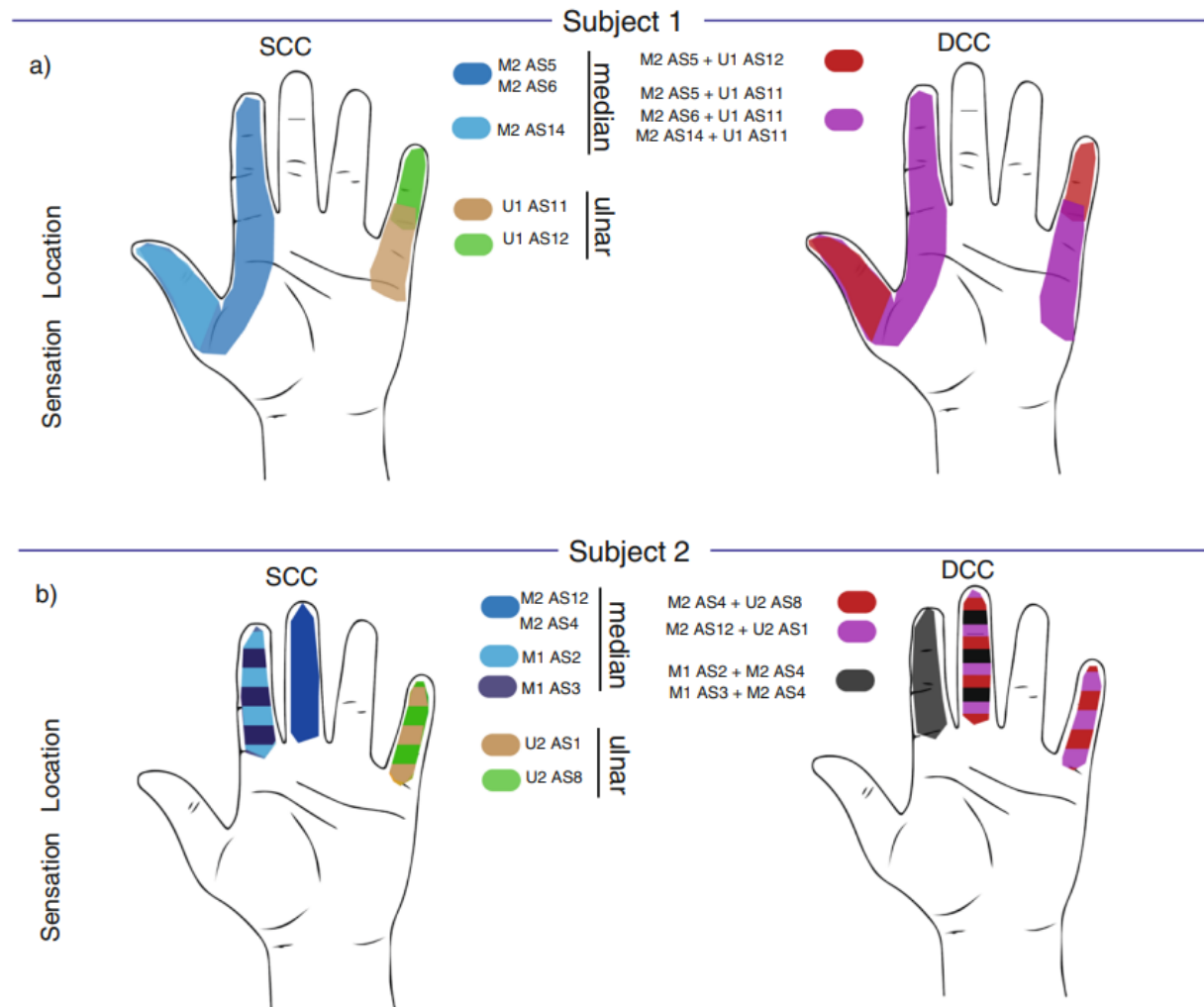
→ An other technological solution to the problems of selectivity and invasiveness



Phantom limb pain management



Phantom limb pain management



Spinal cord Stimulation

In a context of SCI

Spinal cord

Protected by the spine (*vf – la colonne vertebrale*)

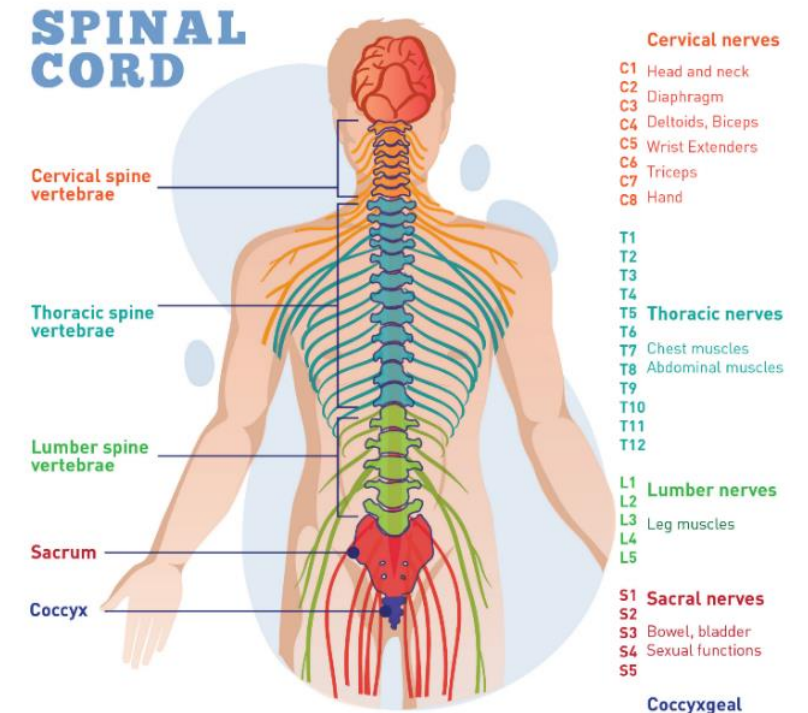
- Pre-existing neural networks
- First level of signal processing (reflexes etc.)

Its functional unit

- The spinal level (*vf – le niveau medullaire*)
 - > Dedicated to a specific territory (C4 level for example)
 - > Spreads the motor command
 - > Gathers sensitive information from the periphery

In case of spinal cord injury

- Communication breakdown between the brain and the periphery
- Motor and sensitive impairments below the lesion
- Sublesional spinal networks: Intact but loss of supraspinal driving command
 - > Spinal cord stimulation for reactivation?



Spinal cord – The spinal level

Anatomically

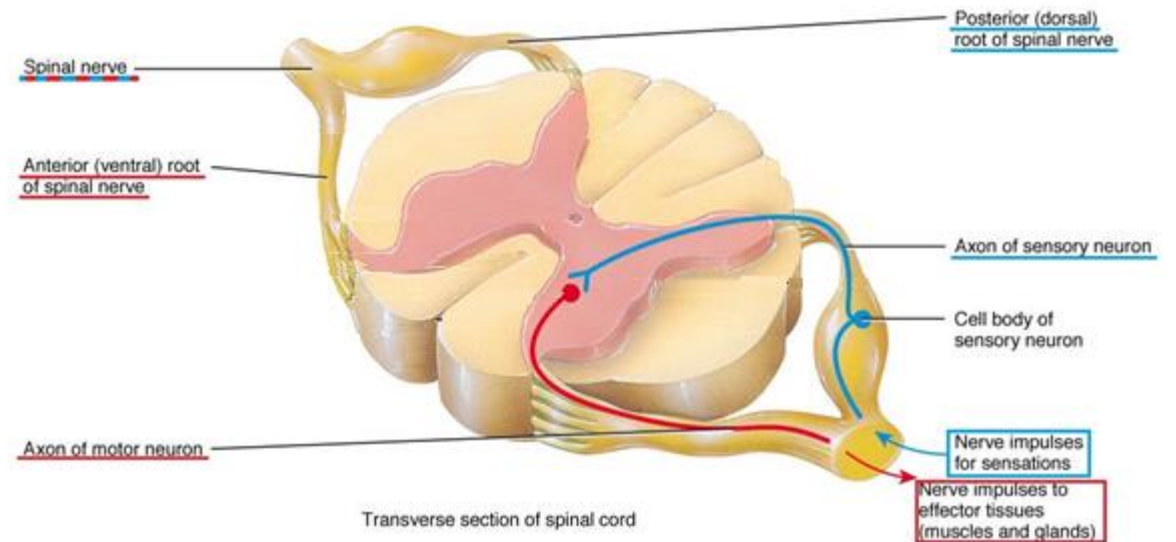
- Grey matter
 - > Cell body packed within the cord in a butterfly shape
- White matter
 - > Nervous fibres at the periphery gathered in tracts

Functionally

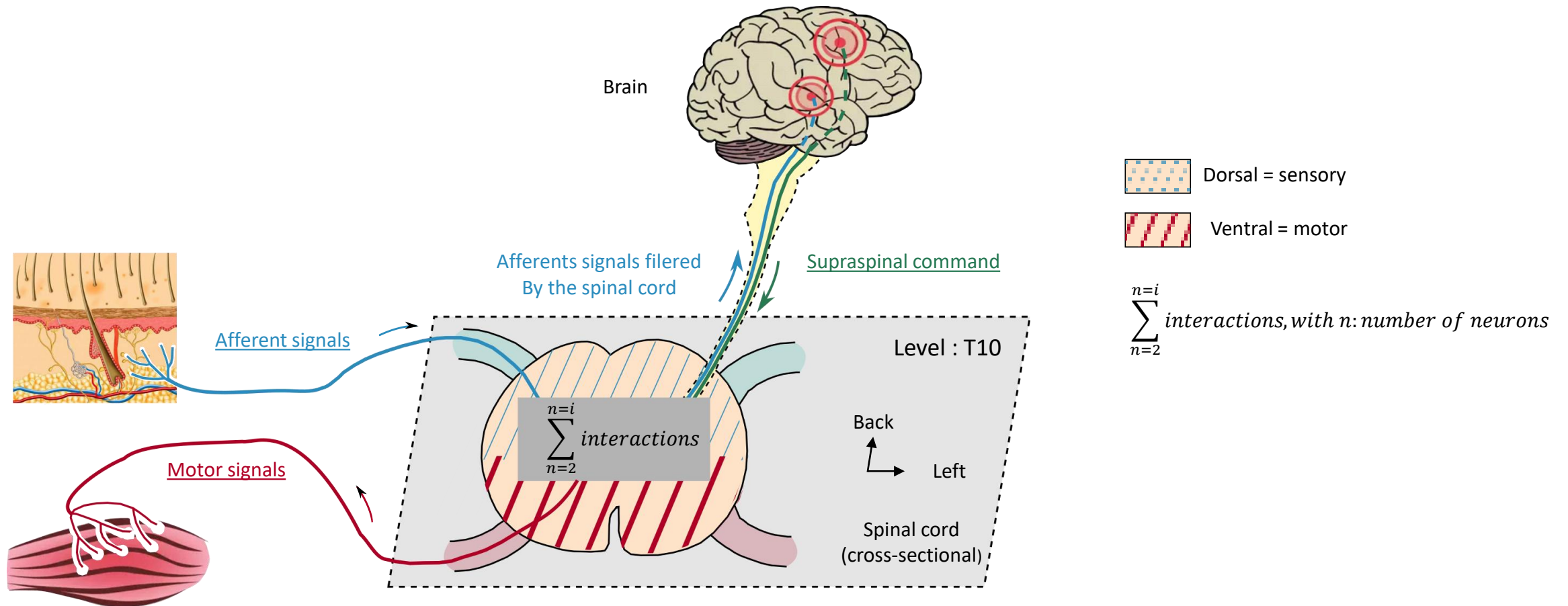
- Dorsal spinal cord and dorsal root -> exclusively sensitive
- Ventral spinal cord and ventral root -> exclusively motor
- Left side -> left part of the body / Right side -> right part

Spinal cord stimulation

- Promote spinal cord excitability by dorsal stimulation
 - > Spectacular results in the past few years in person with SCI
 - > Partial functional and volitional recovery

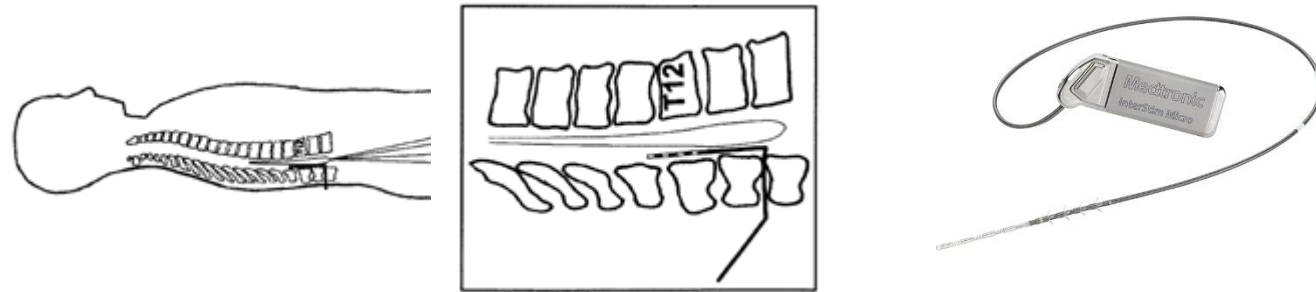


Spinal cord – Multiple interactions



Improvements of motor tasks after spinal cord injuries: SCS + Training

→ Epidural stimulation + Intense locomotor treadmill training



Recovery of Over-Ground Walking after Chronic Motor Complete Spinal Cord Injury

Claudia A. Angeli, Ph.D., Maxwell Boakye, M.D., Rebekah A. Morton, B.S., Justin Vogt, B.S., Kristin Benton, B.S., Yangshen Chen, Ph.D., Christie K. Ferreira, B.S., and Susan J. Harkema, Ph.D.
N Engl J Med 2018; 379:1244-1250 September 27, 2018

→ Transcutaneous stimulation + Training for grip strength

Gad P, Lee S, Terrafranca N, Zhong H, Turner A, Gerasimenko Y and Edgerton V R 2018 Non-invasive activation of cervical spinal networks after severe paralysis *J. Neurotrauma* 35 2145-58

Training:

--> Provide task-specific afferent feedback

Stimulation:

--> Potentiate spinal cord excitability

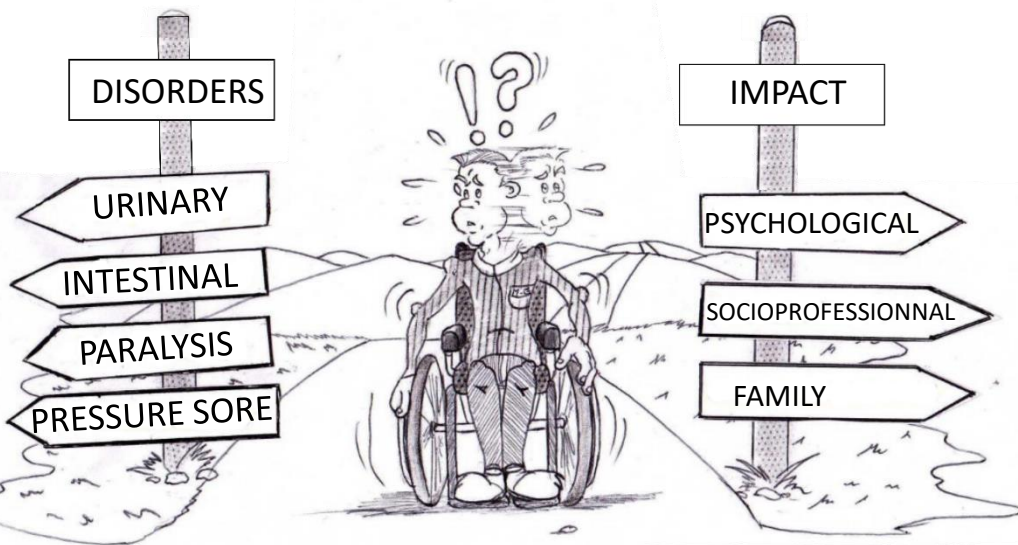
- Mechanism of action of SCS -> potentiate afferences
- Interaction SCS <-> supraspinal input -> Boost plasticity

Spinal cord stimulation

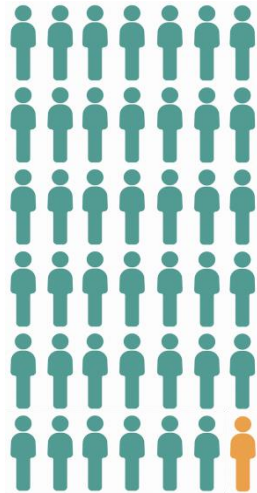
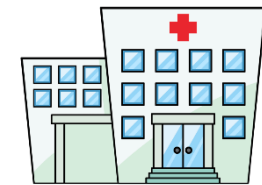
Spinal Cord Injury

In clinic : Spinal cord stimulation

Limited Approach...



*Generally beneficial
but...*



Limited... in its current form because empirical...

Spinal cord stimulation - illustration of the approach

Article

The neurons that restore walking after paralysis

1) The journal

nature

Aims & Scope

Nature is a weekly international journal publishing the finest peer-reviewed research in all fields of science and technology on the basis of its originality, importance, interdisciplinary interest, timeliness, accessibility, elegance and surprising conclusions. Nature also provides rapid, authoritative, insightful and arresting news and interpretation of topical and coming trends affecting science, scientists and the wider public.

2021 Journal Metrics

2 year Impact Factor (2021) - 69.504

5- year Impact Factor (2021) - 63.580

Immediacy index - 17.085

Eigenfactor® score - 1.11428

Article Influence Score - 25.568

2-year Median - 31

2) The authors

Claudia Kathe^{1,2,3,9}, Michael A. Skinnider^{1,4,9}, Thomas H. Hutson^{1,2,3,9}, Nicola Regazzi^{1,2,3}, Matthieu Gautier^{1,2,3}, Robin Demesmaeker^{1,2,3}, Salif Komi^{1,2,3}, Steven Ceto^{1,2,3}, Nicholas D. James^{1,2,3}, Newton Cho^{1,2,3}, Laetitia Baud^{1,2,3}, Katia Galan^{1,2,3}, Kaya J. E. Matson⁵, Andreas Rowald^{1,2,3}, Kyungjin Kim⁶, Ruijia Wang^{1,2,3,7}, Karen Minassian⁸, John O. Prior⁷, Leonie Asboth^{1,2,3}, Quentin Barraud^{1,2,3}, Stéphanie P. Lacour⁶, Ariel J. Levine⁵, Fabien Wagner^{1,2,3}, Jocelyne Bloch^{1,2,3,10}, Jordan W. Squair^{1,2,3,10} & Grégoire Courtine^{1,2,3,10}

¹Defitech Center for Interventional Neurotherapies (NeuroRestore), EPFL/CHUV/UNIL, Lausanne, Switzerland. ²NeuroX Institute and Brain Mind Institute, School of Life Sciences, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland. ³Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV) and University of Lausanne (UNIL), Lausanne, Switzerland. ⁴Michael Smith Laboratories, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. ⁵Spinal Circuits and Plasticity Unit, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Bethesda, MD, USA. ⁶Bertarelli Foundation Chair in Neuroprosthetic Technology, Laboratory for Soft Bioelectronic Interfaces, Institute of Electrical and Microengineering, Institute of Bioengineering, NeuroX Institute, EPFL, Geneva, Switzerland. ⁷Department of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV) and University of Lausanne (UNIL), Lausanne, Switzerland. ⁸Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria. ⁹These authors contributed equally: Claudia Kathe, Michael A. Skinnider, Thomas H. Hutson. ¹⁰These authors jointly supervised this work: Jocelyne Bloch, Jordan W. Squair, Grégoire Courtine. ✉e-mail: jocelyne.bloch@chuv.ch; jordan.squair@epfl.ch; gregoire.courtine@epfl.ch



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Adresse e-mail validée de epfl.ch - [Page d'accueil](#)
Neurotechnologies and Neur...



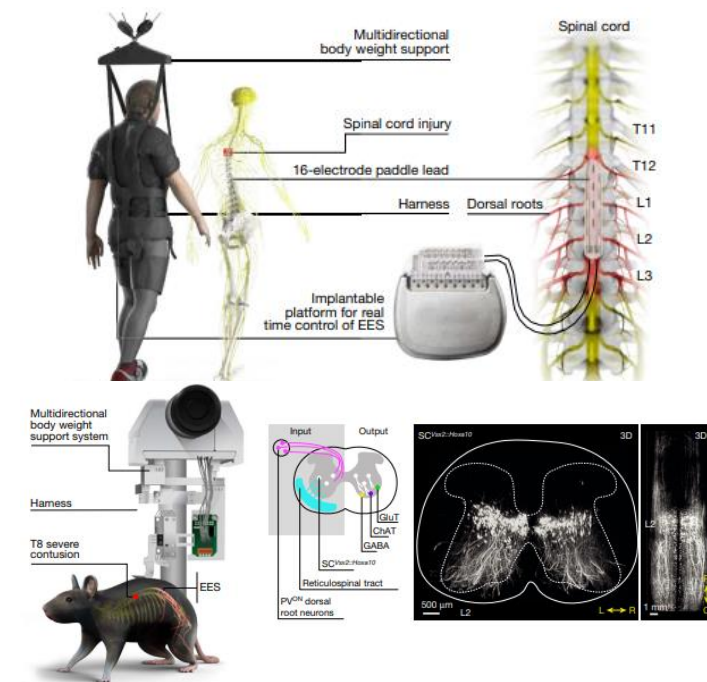
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Citations	15450	9540
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indice i10	110	106

TITRE	CITÉE PAR	ANNÉE
Electronic dura mater for long-term multimodal neural interfaces IR Minev, P Musienko, A Hirsch, Q Barraud, N Wenger, EM Moraud, ... Science 347 (6218), 159-163	856	2015
Restoring voluntary control of locomotion after paralyzing spinal cord injury R Van den Brand, J Heutschi, Q Barraud, J DiGiovanna, K Bartholdi, ... science 336 (6085), 1182-1185	821	2012
Transformation of nonfunctional spinal circuits into functional states after the loss of brain input G Courtine, Y Gerasimenko, R Van Den Brand, A Yew, P Musienko, ... Nature neuroscience 12 (10), 1333-1342	754	2009

3) The paper


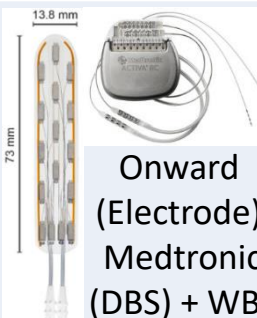
Nature | Vol 611 | 17 November 2022

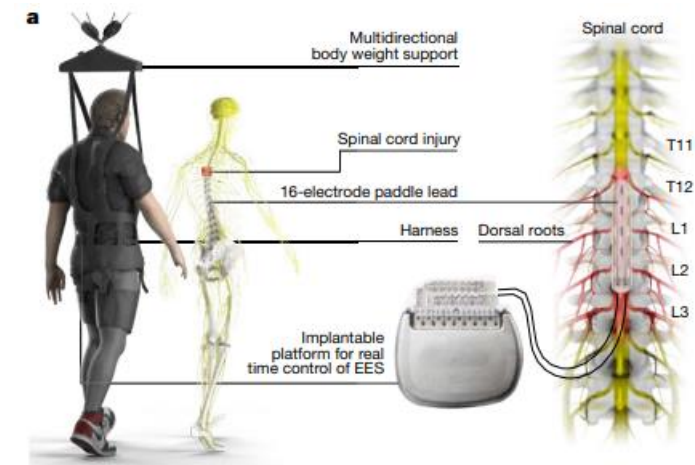
No keyword section



Spinal cord stimulation - illustration of the approach

9 Participants: 2 Groups *Clinical study (STIMO): EES Rehab protocol = Closed-loop EES + neurorehab w/ support (4 or 5/week)*

Participants	Implant	Acute phase	After 5 months of EES Rehab
Group A: N=6; Severe or complete motor paralysis but some degree of sensation in the legs	 Full Medtronic (Pain relief) + (DBS) + WB (Custom Wireless Bridge)	1) « EES immediatly enabled to improve or regain ability to walk while supported in the robotic interface » 2) « Volitional control over the amplitude of their steps w/ EES » (except 1 from Group B)	1) « Weight-bearing capacities improved considerably over time, which enabled the participants to walk outdoors with <i>EES^{ON}</i> and an assistive device for stability » 2) « Participants who exhibited residual functions before EES displayed an increase in motor scores » + « walking in absence of EES in 4 participants»
Group B: N=3; Complete sensorimotor paralysis	 Onward (Electrode) Medtronic (DBS) + WB		



Spinal cord stimulation - illustration of the approach

9 Participants: 2 Groups *Clinical study (STIMO): EES Rehab protocol = Closed-loop EES + neurorehab w/ support (4 or 5/week)*

Immediate effect – Acute phase

Biomimetic EES protocols immediately enabled all nine participants to improve or regain the ability to walk while supported in the robotic interface (Extended Data Fig. 1a). Moreover, the participants, including two with complete sensorimotor paralysis, could exert volitional control over the amplitude of their steps when EES was turned on (Extended Data Fig. 1b).

EES^{REHAB} restores walking in 9 humans
with chronic spinal cord injury

supplementary video 1

Thank you for your attention