cogniLink: A Non-Invasive Brain-Computer Interface That Enables Seamless Execution of Commands Through Thought Recognition

Project cogniLink

Abstract

Although great strides have been achieved in making computers more accessible, its indisputable that there remains huge prospects for improvement. Given that technology is designed for the masses, it offers every individual a platform to do what is needed; this includes, but isnt limited to, support for individuals with motor, dexterity, and/or speech impairments. In this proposal, we will discuss cogniLink, a tool that assists developers in making computers more accessible for persons with afflictions. cogniLink is a brain-computer interface that allows the user to trigger the execution of a command simply by thinking of the trigger. A training data set is to be collected from n-users in order to train n-models using an ElectroEncephaloGram (EEG). Each model is programmed to recognize one or more trigger thoughts. The same model interacts with a stack of software which allows it to map positive outputs from the model and transform it into an actionable command. For the purpose of demonstration, the model will be trained to recognize commands from one user which will be mapped to a virtualHID in such a way that allows the user to play Super Mario Bros. After an extensive process of training n-models, a universal model (UM) will be trained using data from the aforementioned n-models in order to have a simpler training process for new users. cogniLink will allow disabled people to execute commands in a very seamless and orderly fashion, thus making computers more accessible to persons with digital input impairments. Two of cogniLinks long term goals are to allow an amputee to be able to effortlessly be able to control a wheelchair in real time, and for someone suffering from Locked-In Syndrome to be able to interact with the world around them with ease.

1 Implementation

1.1 Project work plan

Work package description

| Work package number | WP1 | Starting week 1 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Work package title | Virtual HID, Data Collection, and M | IL Code |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

- 1. To develop a Virtual Human Interface Device;
- 2. To develop an API that gathers raw data from the Cyton board and feeds it to a CSV file;
- 3. To write code needed to efficiently store and manage datasets;
- 4. To write code needed to start training Model 1 on Command A.

Description of work

Task T1.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T1.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T1.3: Task3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

- D1.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)
- D1.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. (W12)
- D1.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP2 | Starting week 2 |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Work package title | Model 1 Command A | |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 3 | |

Objectives

- 1. To collect training, validation, and test datasets for Model 1 Command A;
- 2. Training Model 1 using aforementioned data;
- 3. Testing/Patching Model 1.

Description of work

Description of work carried out in WP, broken down into tasks, and with role of partners list. Use the \wptask command.

Task T2.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T2.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T2.3: Task 3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

- D2.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)
- D2.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. (W12)
- D2.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP3 | Starting week 1 |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Work package title | Model 1 n Commands | |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

- 1. Link the output from the Model to the virtual HID created in WP1;
- 2. Map trigger thoughts to button presses;
- 3. Play a game of 1P Super Mario Bros.

Description of work

Description of work carried out in WP, broken down into tasks, and with role of partners list. Use the \wptask command.

Task T3.1: Test (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T3.2: Integrate (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in T3.1.

Task T3.3: Apply (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

Role of partners

Participant short name will lead Task T3.2. **georgio** will..

- D3.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)
- D3.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. (W12)
- D3.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP4 | Starting week 1 |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Work package title | Model 2 n Commands | |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

- 1. Replicate all steps in WP2 and WP3 so that we get a Model 2 for a different individual trained on n the same n Commands as Model 1;
- 2. Play a game of 2P Super Mario Bros.

Description of work

Task T4.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T4.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T4.3: Task3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

- D4.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)
- D4.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. (W12)
- D4.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP5 | Starting week 1 |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Work package title | Optimizations | |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

1. Optimizing the code in such a way that a trigger thought is recognized in realtime.

Description of work

Task T5.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T5.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T5.3: Task3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

- **D5.1** Report on the definition of the model specifications. **(W36)**
- **D5.2** Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. **(W12)**
- D5.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP6 | Starting week 1 |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Work package title | Real Life Application | |
| Participant number | 2 | |
| Short name | georgio | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

- 1. Implement cogniLink to work on a controller of a wheelchair;
- 2. Implement cogniLink to identify a thought and provide a way to communicate for a person suffering from Locked-In Syndrome.

Description of work

Task T6.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T6.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T6.3: Task3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

Deliverables

D6.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)

D6.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. **(W12)**

D6.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

| Work package number | WP7 | Starting week | 1 |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---|
| Work package title | Universal Model, n Commands | | |
| Participant number | 2 | | |
| Short name | georgio | | |
| Person-weeks | 12 | | |

Objectives

This work package has the following objectives:

- 1. To develop a Virtual Human Interface Device;
- 2. To develop an API that gathers raw data from the Cyton board and feeds it to a CSV file;
- 3. To write code needed to efficiently store and manage datasets;
- 4. To write code needed to start training Model 1 on Command A.

Description of work

Task T7.1: Task1 (W1-W12)

Here we will test the WP Task code.

Task T7.2: Task2 (W6-W9)

In this task UZH will integrate the work done in ??.

Task T7.3: Task3 (W9-W12)

Here all the WP participants will apply the results to...

- D7.1 Report on the definition of the model specifications. (W36)
- D7.2 Report on Feasibility study for the model implementation. (W12)
- D7.3 Prototype of model implementation. (W24)

List of work packages

Table 1.1b: List of work packages

| Work package number | Work package title | Lead partic- ipant no. | Lead partici- pant name | Person- weeks | Start week | End week |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| WP1 | Virtual HID, Data Collection, and ML Code | | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| WP2 | Model 1 Command A | 2 | georgio | 3 | 2 | 36 |
| WP3 | Model 1 n Commands | 2 | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| WP4 | Model 2 n Commands | 2 | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| WP5 | Optimizations | 2 | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| WP6 | Real Life Application | 2 | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| WP7 | Universal Model, n Com- | 2 | georgio | 12 | 1 | 36 |
| | mands | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | 75 | | |

List of deliverables

1

Table 1.1c: Deliverable list

| Delive- | Deliverable name | WP | Lead par- | Na- | Disse- | Delivery |
|------------------------|---|-----|-----------|-----|--------|----------|
| rable | | no. | ticipant | tu- | mina- | date |
| num- | | | name | re | tion | (proj. |
| ber | | | | | Level | week) |
| D1.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP1 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D2.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP2 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D3.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP3 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D4.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP4 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D5.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP5 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D6.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP6 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D7.2 | Report on Feasibility study for the model | WP7 | georgio | R | PU | 12 |
| | implementation. | | | | | |
| D1.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP1 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| D2.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP2 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| D3.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP3 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| D4.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP4 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| Continued on next page | | | | | | |

¹If your action taking part in the Pilot on Open Research Data, you must include a data management plan as a distinct deliverable within the first 6 weeks of the project. This deliverable will evolve during the lifetime of the project in order to present the status of the project's reflections on data management. A template for such a plan is available on the Participant Portal (Guide on Data Management).

| D5.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP5 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
|------|---|-----|---------|---|----|----|
| D6.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP6 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| D7.3 | Prototype of model implementation. | WP7 | georgio | R | PU | 24 |
| D1.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP1 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D2.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP2 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D3.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP3 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D4.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP4 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D5.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP5 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D6.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP6 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |
| D7.1 | Report on the definition of the model spec- | WP7 | georgio | R | PU | 36 |
| | ifications. | | | | | |

1.2 Management and risk assessment

List of milestones

Table 1.2a: List of milestones

| Milestone | Milestone name | Related | Estimated | Means of verifica- |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| number | | WPs | date | tion |
| W1 | Completed simulator development | 1 | 24 | Software released and validated |
| W2 | Final demonstration | WP ?? | 36 | Application of results |

Critical risks for implementation

Table 1.2b: Critical risks for implementation

| Description of Risk | WPs involved | Proposed risk-mitigation measures |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| The dedicated chip sent to fabrication is | WP ?? | Resort to Software simulations |
| not functional. | | |

Table 1.4a: Summary of staff effort

| Partic. no. | Partic. sho | rt WP1 | WP2 | WP3 | WP4 | WP5 | WP6 | WP7 | Total person |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| | name | | | | | | | | weeks |
| 1 | UoC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | georgio | 12 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 75 |
| 3 | UoP3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 12 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 75 |

1.3 Consortium as a whole

1.4 Resources to be committed

Summary of staff efforts

Other direct cost items (travel, equipment, other goods and services, large research infrastructure)

| Participant no. 1 (UoC) | Cost | Justification | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | (EUR) | | | | | |
| Travel | 2500 | 3 pairwise meetings for 2 people, 2 conferences for 3 peo- | | | | |
| | | ple, 3 internal project meetings for 3 people | | | | |
| Equipment | 3000 | CAD workstation for chip design | | | | |
| Other goods and services | 60000 | Fabrication of 2 VLSI chips | | | | |
| Total | 65500 | | | | | |
| Participant no. 2 (georgio) | Cost | Justification | | | | |
| | (EUR) | | | | | |
| Other goods and services | 40000 | Fabrication of prototype PCBs | | | | |
| Total | 40000 | | | | | |
| Participant no. 1 (UoC) | Cost | Justification | | | | |
| | (EUR) | | | | | |
| Large research infrastructu | re 400000 | Synchrotron | | | | |
| Participant no. 3 (UoP3) | Cost | Justification | | | | |
| | (EUR) | | | | | |
| Large research infrastructur | re 400000 | Synchrotron | | | | |

2 Ethics and Security

- 2.1 Ethics
- 2.2 Security

2

²Article 37.1 of the Model Grant Agreement: Before disclosing results of activities raising security issues to a third party (including affiliated entities), a beneficiary must inform the coordinator – which must request written approval from the Commission/Agency. Article 37.2: Activities related to "classified deliverables" must comply with the "security requirements" until they are declassified. Action tasks related to classified deliverables may not be subcontracted without prior explicit written approval from the Commission/Agency. The beneficiaries must inform the coordinator – which must immediately inform the Commission/Agency – of any changes in the security context and –if necessary – request for Annex 1 to be amended (see Article 55).