



Basics of signal processing (5)

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Dept. of Computer, Control and Management Engineering
(DIAG, Via Ariosto)

Material for this section of the course

- Matlab notebooks available here:
 - <https://drive.matlab.com/sharing/d5ad1819-5e50-442a-81fc-6017505d91f3>
 - NEng_1920_04_Filt.mlx (cont'd)



Brain-Computer Interfaces

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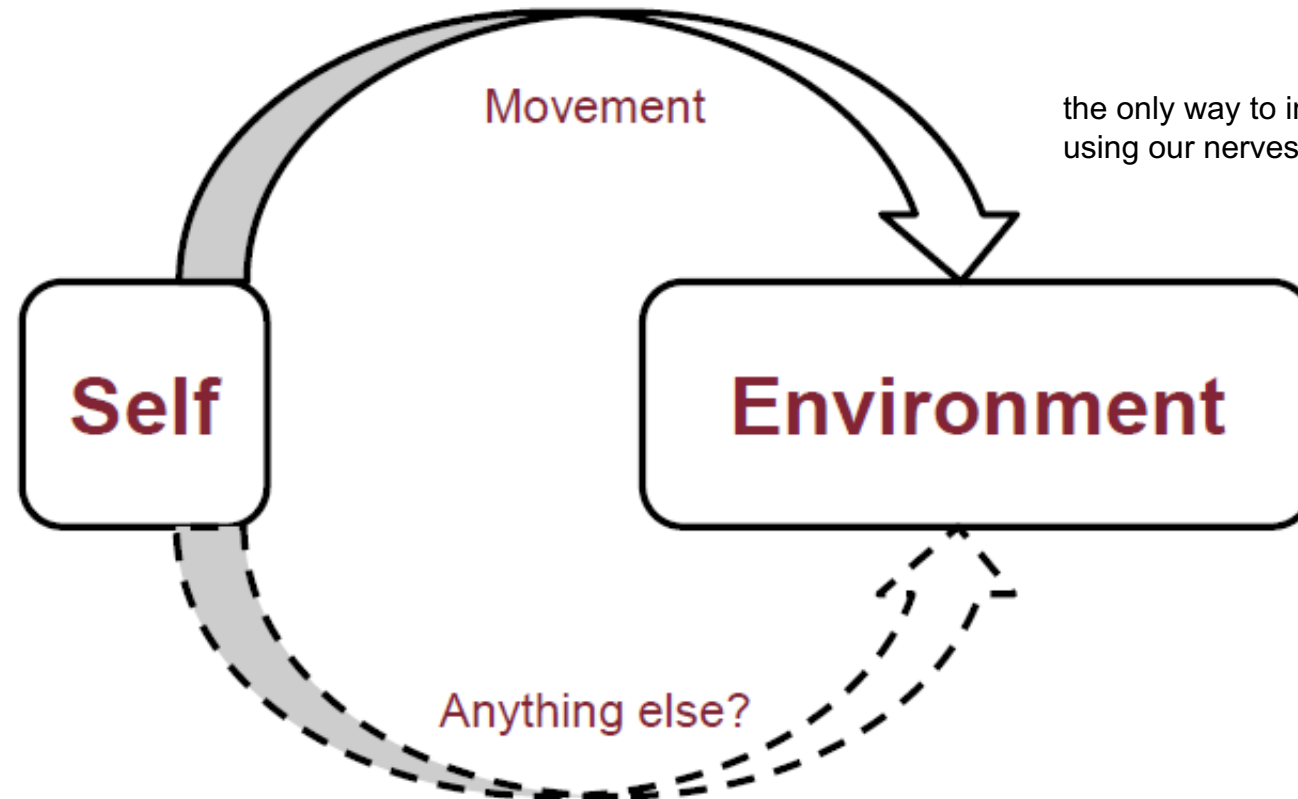
Dept. of Computer, Control and Management Engineering
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Material for this section of the course

- References:
 - Wolpaw J and Wolpaw E (eds.), Brain-Computer Interfaces
ch. 1,6, 12, 13

Natural interaction with the environment

how human or animals interact with the environment



the only way to interact with the environment is by using our nerves to muscles

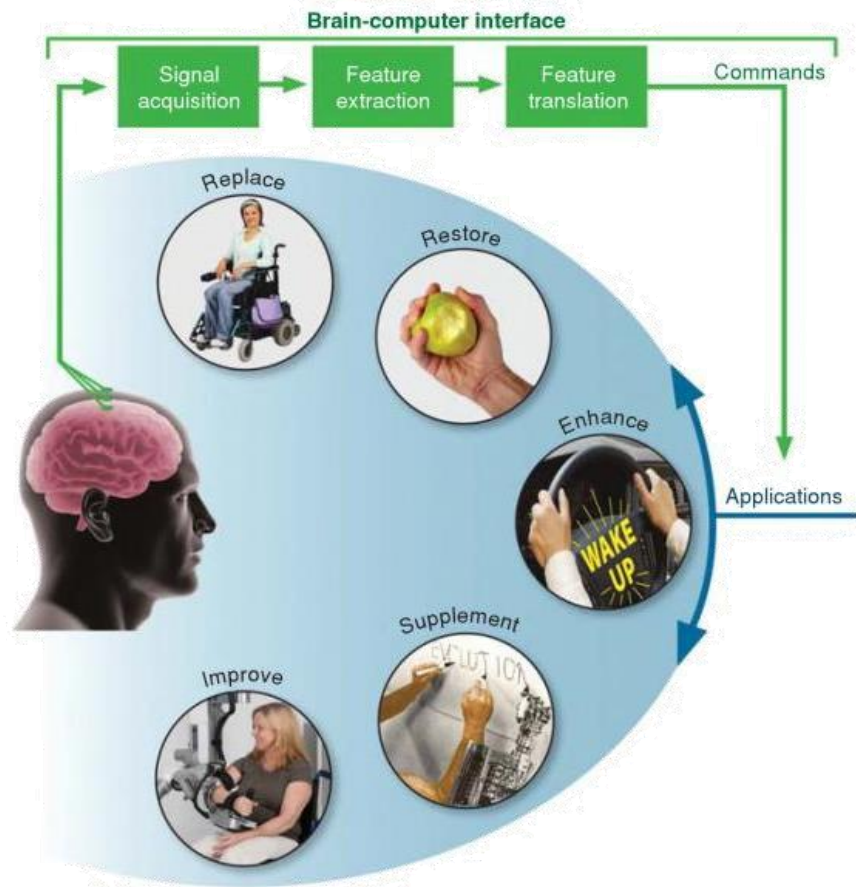
Natural and BCI outputs

really it includes also the spinal cord, but we intend the brain

Control Nervous System: allows any animal to interact with the environment

- The **natural** CNS function is to produce muscular and hormonal outputs that act on the outside world or the body.
- BCIs require the CNS to produce entirely new, **artificial** kinds of outputs, far from its natural function.

What a Brain-Computer Interface is



A BCI is a system that measures CNS **activity** and converts it to **artificial** output that replaces, restores, enhances, supplements, or improves **natural** CNS output and thereby changes the ongoing interactions between the CNS and its external or internal environment

Wolpaw and Wolpaw, 2012

Replace:
BCIs to improve communication
and control

Non-invasive (P300-based) BCIs for communication and environmental control: Assistive BCIs



IOP Publishing
J. Neural Eng. 8 (2011) 025028 (9pp)

JOURNAL OF NEURAL ENGINEERING
doi:10.1088/1741-2560/8/2/025028

Workload measurement in a communication application operated through a P300-based brain-computer interface

A Riccio^{1,2,8}, F Leotta^{1,3}, L Bianchi^{1,4}, F Aloise¹, C Zickler⁵, E-J Hoogerwerf⁶, A Kübler^{3,7}, D Mattia¹ and F Cincotti¹

frontiers in
HUMAN NEUROSCIENCE

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE
published: 12 November 2013
doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2013.00732

Attention and P300-based BCI performance in people with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Angela Riccio^{1,2,*}, Luca Simone^{2,3}, Francesca Schettini^{1,4}, Alessia Pizzimenti^{5,6}, Maurizio Inghilleri⁵, Marta Olivetti Belardinelli^{2,7}, Donatella Mattia¹ and Febo Cincotti^{1,4}



Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

journal homepage: www.archives-pmr.org
Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 2015;96(3 Suppl. 1):548-53

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Assistive Device With Conventional, Alternative, and Brain-Computer Interface Inputs to Enhance Interaction With the Environment for People With Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Feasibility and Usability Study

Francesca Schettini, PhD,^{a,b,*} Angela Riccio, PhD,^{a,c,*} Luca Simone, PhD,^{a,d} Giulia Liberati, PhD,^{a,e} Mario Caruso, MS,^b Vittorio Frasca, MD,^f Barbara Calabrese, PhD,^g Massimo Mecella, PhD,^b Alessia Pizzimenti, MSc,^h Maurizio Inghilleri, MD, PhD,^f Donatella Mattia, MD, PhD,^a Febo Cincotti, PhD^{a,b}

Assistive Technology Service at FSL – BCIs at work...



The screenshot shows the website of Santa Lucia Neuroscienze e Riabilitazione. The header includes the logo and navigation links: Dove Siamo, Numeri Utili, Ufficio Stampa, and social media icons. The main menu lists Fondazione, Servizi Sanitari, Ricerca, Formazione, and Sport. A sidebar on the left contains links: Cerca un Medico, Prenota Visite ed Esami, Cancella una Prenotazione, Richiedi un Ricovero, and Richiedi una Cartella Clinica. The main content area features a large image of a person using a tablet with a virtual keyboard. Below the image, the title "SARA-t: Servizio di Ausilioteca per la Riabilitazione Assistita con Tecnologia" is displayed. Underneath the title are tabs for Descrizione Servizio, Come Accedere, Equipe, Tariffe, and Informazioni. The text describes the service as a specialized team for using assistive technologies to improve communication and interaction for people with disabilities. It mentions a multidisciplinary team of specialists, bioengineers, and occupational therapists. The bottom of the page features the SARA-t logo and the text "Servizio Ausilioteca per la Riabilitazione Assistita con Tecnologia".

SARA-t: Servizio di Ausilioteca per la Riabilitazione Assistita con Tecnologia

Descrizione Servizio | Come Accedere | Equipe | Tariffe | Informazioni

Potenziamento della Comunicazione e dell'Interazione con l'Ambiente

SARA-t è il Servizio specializzato della Fondazione Santa Lucia per l'utilizzo di tecnologie che aumentano le possibilità di comunicazione e interazione con l'ambiente da parte della persona disabile. È composto da un'équipe multidisciplinare di medici specialisti, bioingegneri, terapisti della neuropsicomotricità e terapisti occupazionali esperti di Comunicazione Aumentativa Alternativa (CAA).

Tecnologie e Obiettivi di SARA-t

Nell'ambito della terapia occupazionale, che aiuta la persona disabile a recuperare capacità di azione in molteplici ambiti della vita quotidiana, SARA-t è focalizzato su strumenti ad alto contenuto tecnologico. Mira con essi a potenziare le facoltà della persona disabile nei seguenti ambiti:



This is a smaller version of the SARA-t service page from the Santa Lucia website. It includes the same header, navigation, and main content as the larger screenshot, but with a different layout and a smaller image of the person using the tablet.

SARA-t: Servizio di Ausilioteca per la Riabilitazione Assistita con Tecnologia

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Potenziamento della Comunicazione e dell'Interazione con l'Ambiente

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Tecnologie e Obiettivi di SARA-t

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- Brain-Computer Interface as an alternative channel to access Assistive Technologies for communication disorders is **not currently available** in the AT-centers portfolio.
- A step forward such availability would consist in BCIs **integration with existing AT inputs** thus, resulting in a personalized hybrid BCI-based communication device.
- To generate **profiles of patients** that would potentially use the BCI as an additional/alternative channel for AT-access.



Restore: BCIs to improve recovery from brain injuries

another approach is to reinforce the Natural NN that control the movement of our arm by performing motor imagery

when we can't move a part of the body, but the part is present, the problem is the brain

The promise of BCIs in neurorehabilitation medicine –

Rehabilitative BCIs

Neurorehabilitation

- Extensive task-oriented training program
- Feedback on (overt) performance
- Adherence to intervention
- Retraining brain areas associated to function
- Enhance neuroplasticity

BCI technology

- Can directly measure signals from (damaged) cortical areas and translate them into close-to normal motor outputs providing online feedback on performance
- BCI –based training can thus, promote re-training of brain activity and induce adaptive plasticity

**Brain-computer interface
boosts motor imagery practice
during stroke recovery**



FONDAZIONE
SANTA LUCIA
IRCCS

Pichiorri, F., Morone, G., Petti, M., Toppi, J., Pisotta, I., Molinari, M., Paolucci, S., Inghilleri, M., Astolfi, L., Cincotti, F., Mattia, D., 2015. *Ann. Neurol.* 77, 851–865.

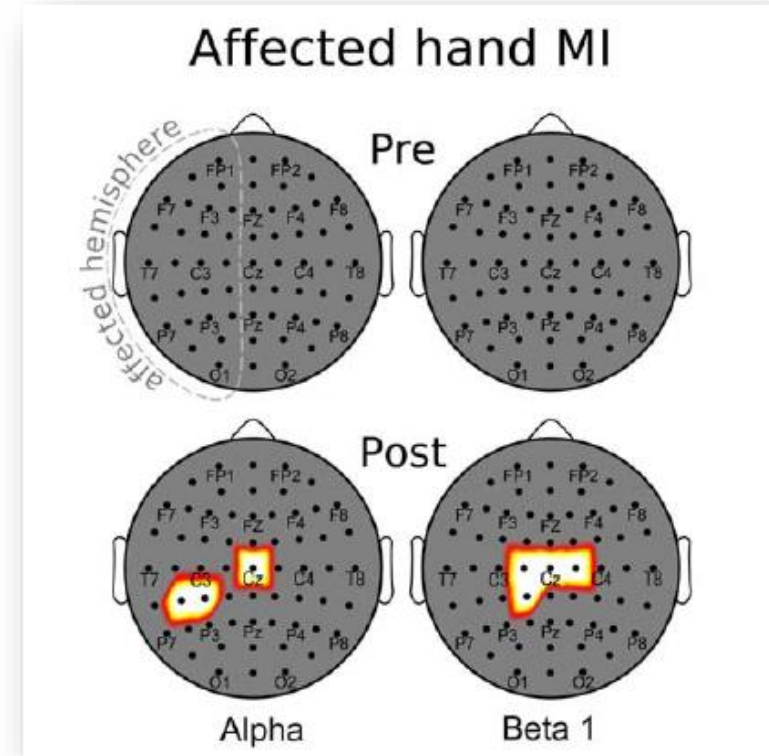
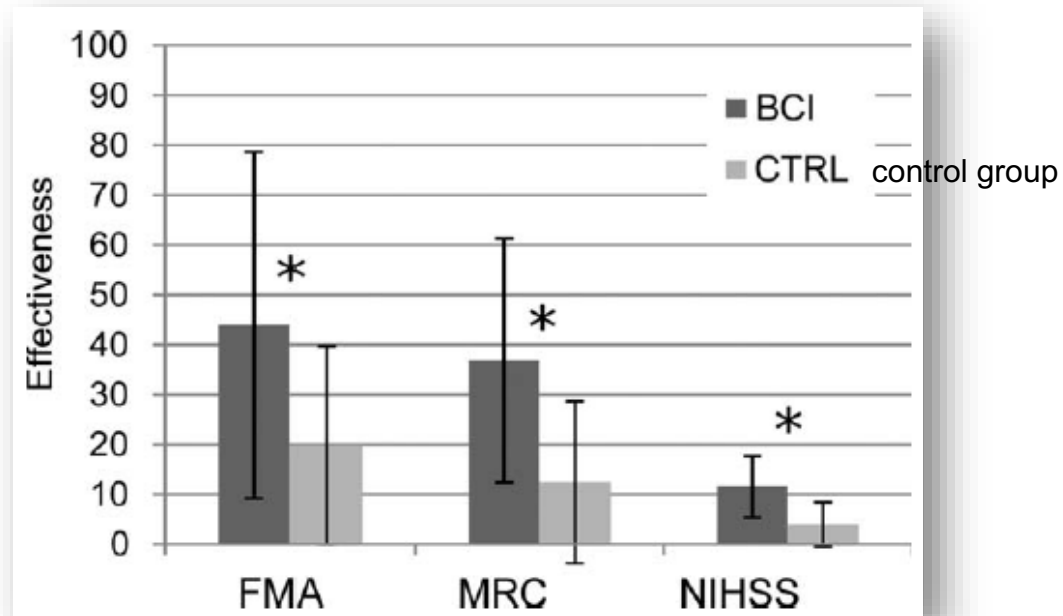
BCI based training to practice MI



BCI prototype installed in a rehabilitative setting

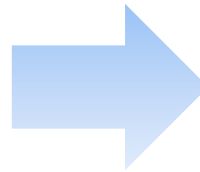
- Training
 - 1 month, 3 sessions per week training of MI-BCI
 - 1 month, 3 sessions/week training MI (no BCI)
- BCI Control features
 - affected hemisphere central, centro-parietal electrodes
 - Sensorimotor relevant frequency oscillations

BCI based training to practice MI – Results



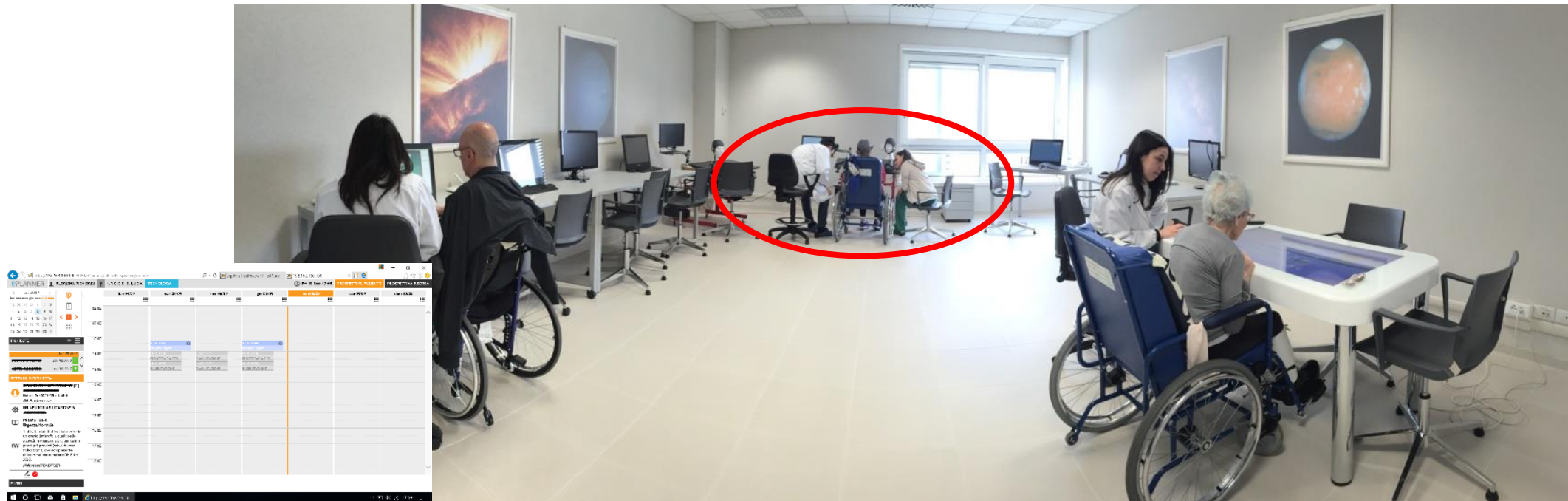
Translational step: The Promotær

An all-in-one BCI-supported Motor Imagery training station, installed in the rehabilitation ward at Fondazione Santa Lucia



Training with the Promotoer

- 100 patients recruited (avg of 15 sessions per patients)
- Ischemic/Haemorrhagic Stroke (subacute and chronic); paresis/plegia of the upper limb due to a unilateral acquired brain lesion; Spinal Cord Injury (SCI, bilateral MI training)
- BCI training is performed in the context of the rehabilitation program of each patient
- Daily interaction with the clinical team



Training with the Promotær - outlook

- Include hybrid (i.e. muscular) control features
- Implementing large clinical trial in rehabilitation ward(s):
 - To evaluate long term effect
 - To define best candidate
 - To isolate new control features (brain-network derived)
- Evaluating effects on conditions other than stroke (eg. SCI) and on relevant clinical aspects other than motor function alone (eg: pain, spasticity)

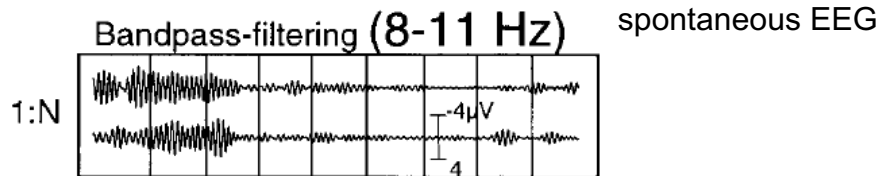
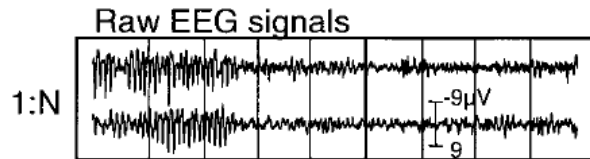


EEG features for BCI

Neuroelectrical features for BCIs

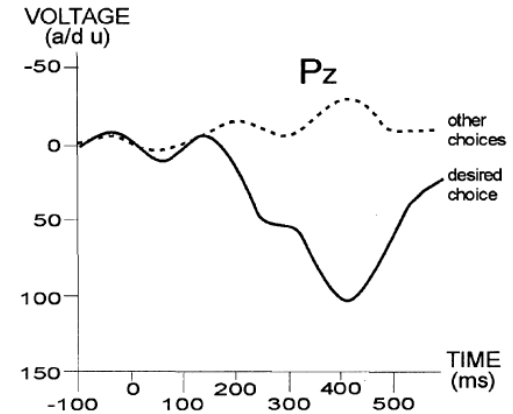
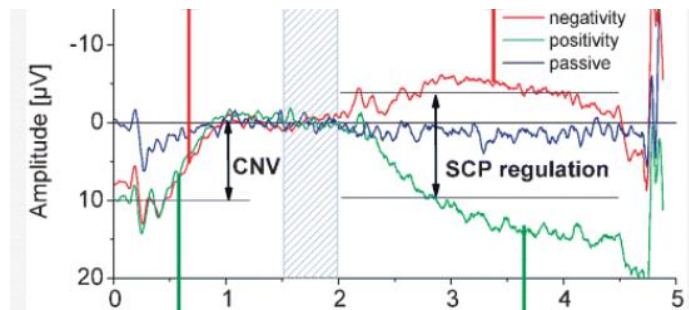
4 types of features of the EEG

ERD-ERS



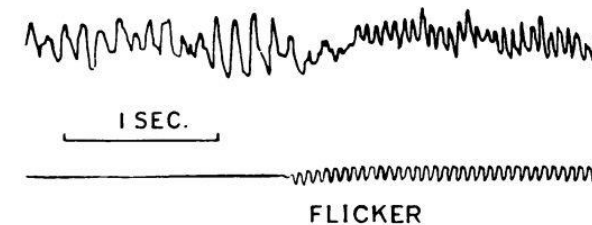
Rhythms

Slow Cortical Potentials



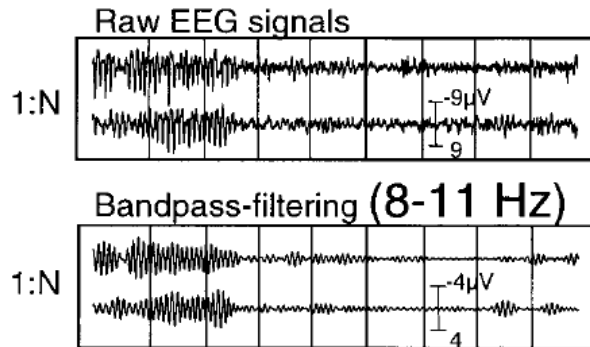
Evoked potentials

Evoked Potential
Steady-state EPs



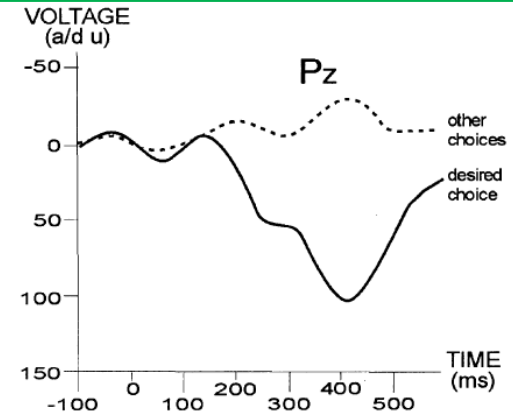
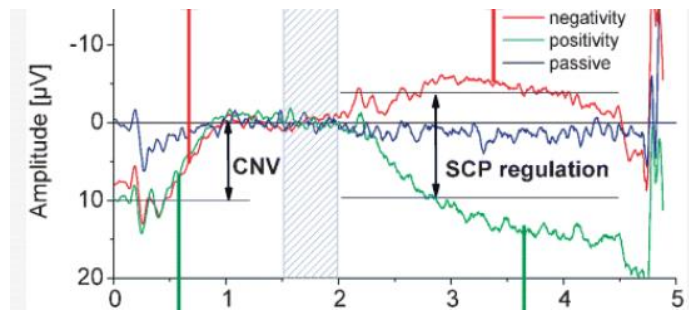
ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPH FROM THE OCCIPITAL REGION, SHOWING THE CHANGE FROM THE α RHYTHM TO THE FLICKER RHYTHM WHEN THE EYES ARE OPENED AND THE SUBJECT LOOKS AT A SCREEN LIT BY A FLICKERING LIGHT. THE RATE OF FLICKER (17 A SECOND) IS SHOWN BY THE PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELL RECORD BELOW.

Neuroelectrical features for BCIs



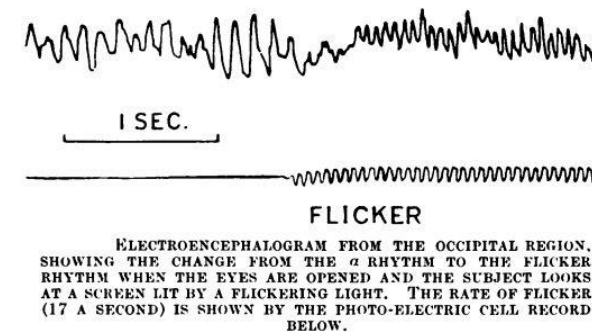
Rhythms

Slow Cortical Potentials



Evoked potentials

Steady-state EPs



P300 Potential

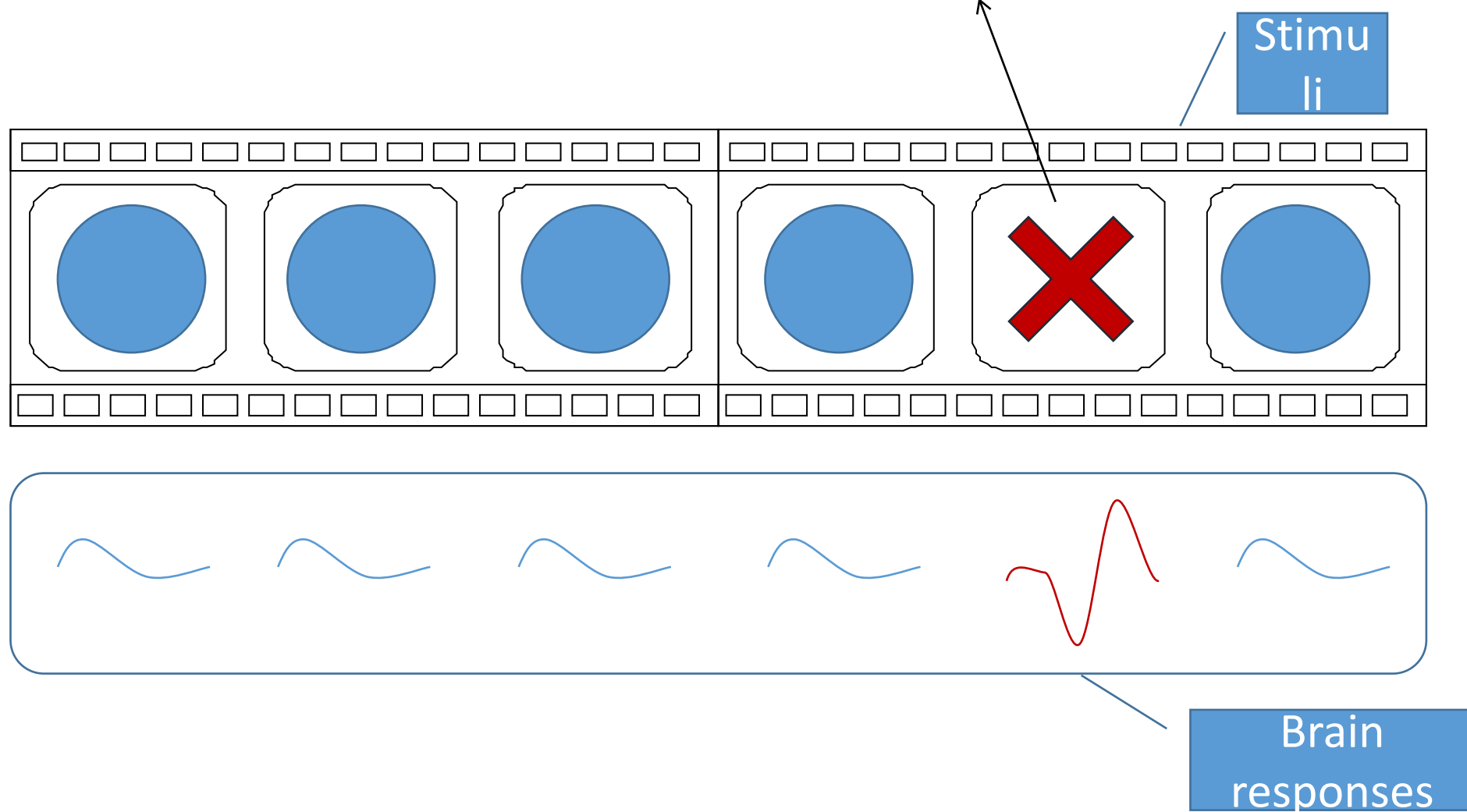
positive deflection around 300 millisec

- The P300 is an endogenous event-related potential (ERP) component in the EEG and occurs in the context of the “oddball paradigm”
- It follows unpredicted sensory stimuli or stimuli that provide salient (relevant) information
- Requires averaging to improve signal to noise ratio

From Sellers & Donchin 2006, clinph

Oddball stimulus

in this case the brain, not only responds because it has seen a stimulus, but it responds in a specific way because I deliver aware stimulus



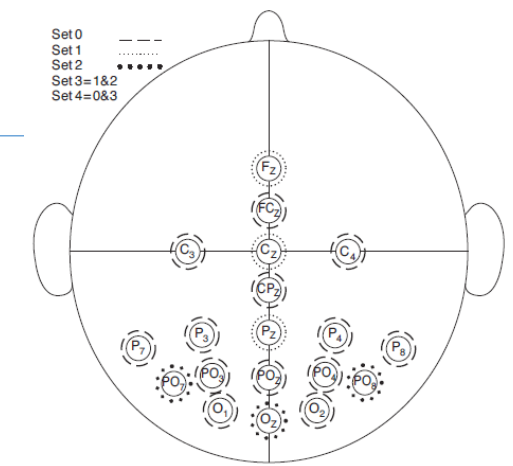
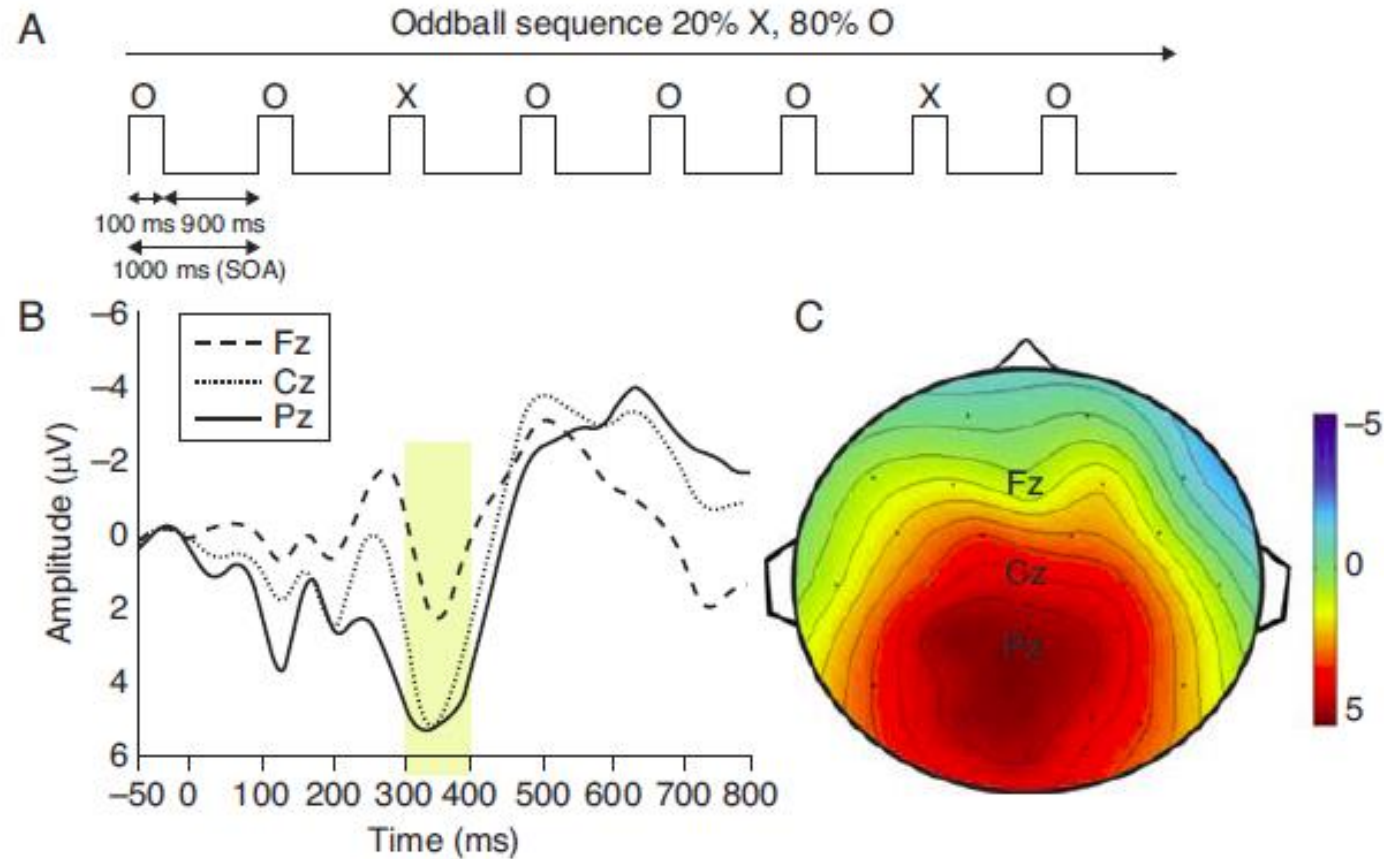
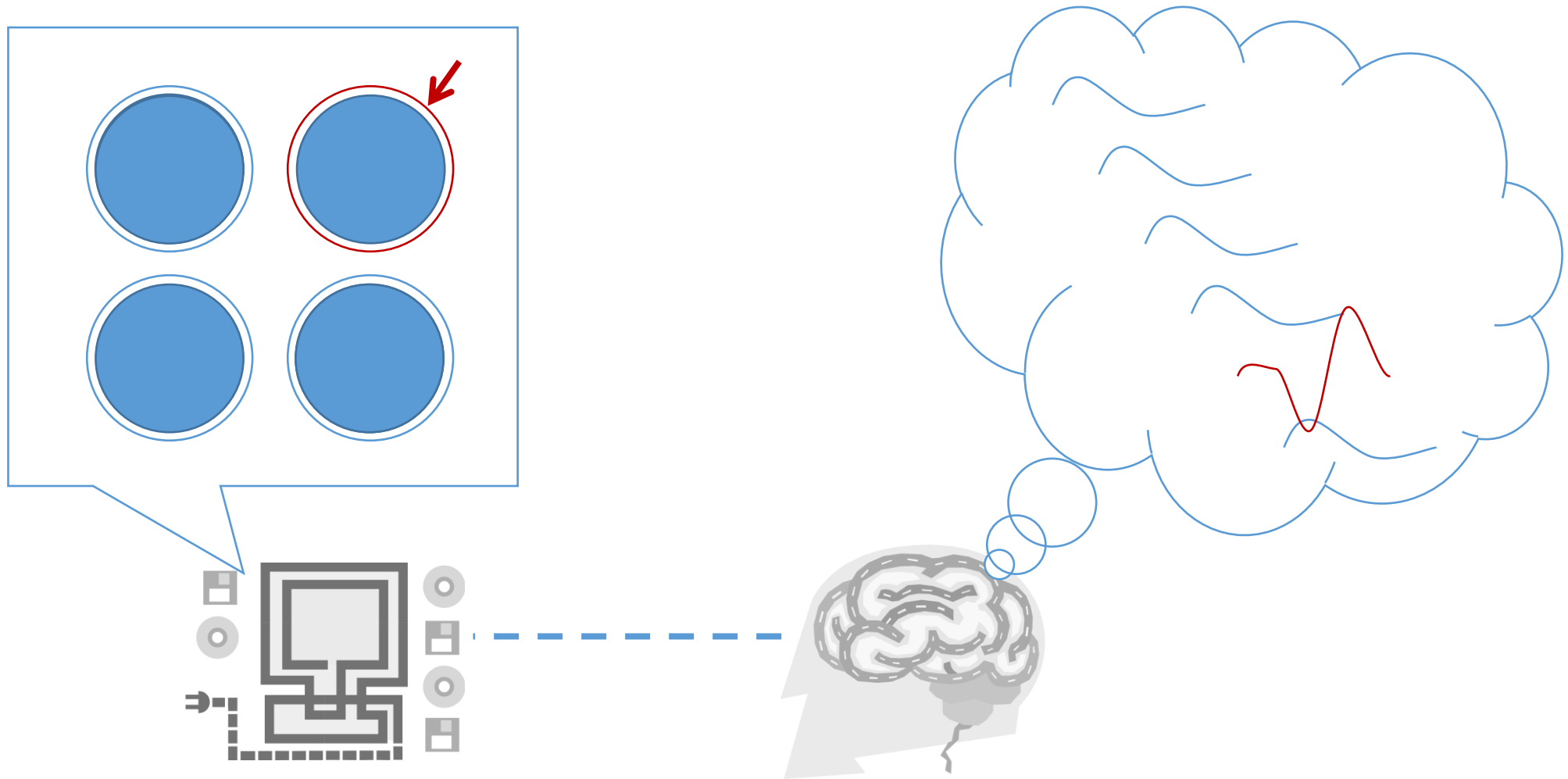


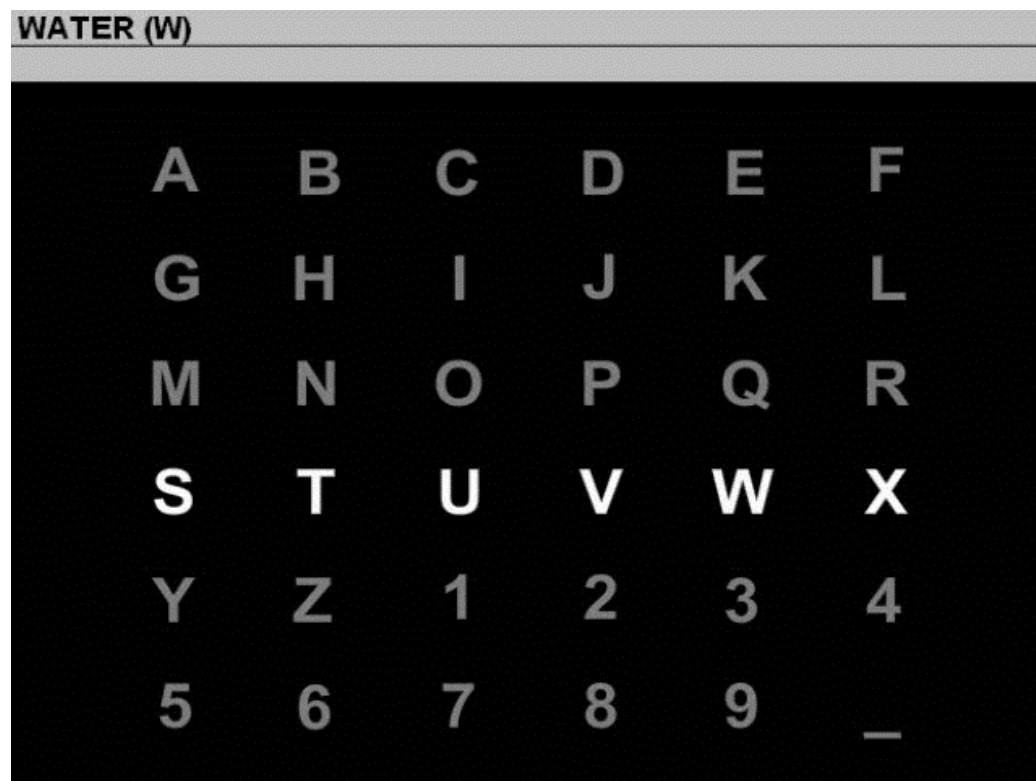
Figure 12.2 Electrode locations evaluated for use in a P300-based BCI by Krusienski et al. (2008). EEG was recorded from 64 electrodes. The sets of electrodes shown here (i.e., dashed, dotted, bold-dotted circles) were compared in regard to offline classification accuracy as described in the text.

Figure 12.1 (A). Time course of rare (i.e., oddball) (X) and common (O) stimuli in a standard oddball protocol. (B) Average oddball ERPs from a subject for electrode locations Fz, Cz, and Pz, showing a progressively larger positive deflection from frontal, to central, to posterior sites. The convention used here shows positive amplitude down and negative amplitude up. (C) Topographical distribution of the average ERP amplitude 300–400 msec after the oddball stimulus. The large positive ERP component (i.e., P300) is maximum at Pz and is widely distributed over posterior-parietal regions.

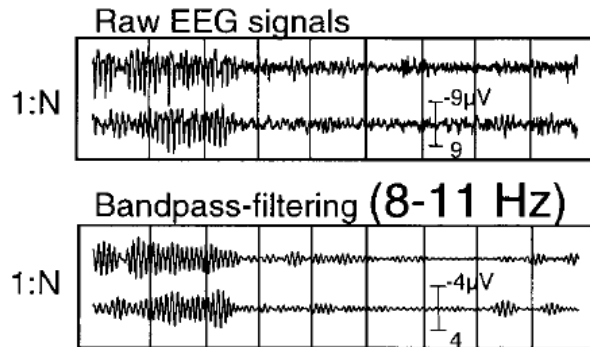
Relevant stimulus



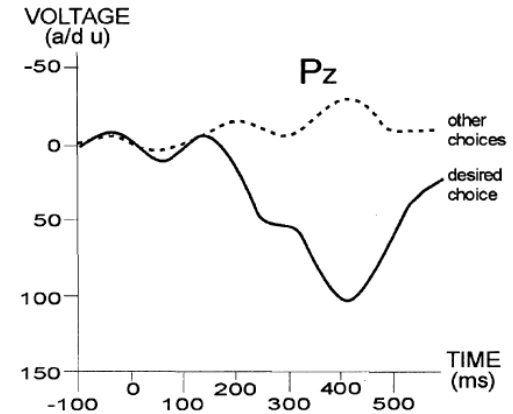
A BCI speller based on the P300 potential



Neuroelectrical features for BCIs

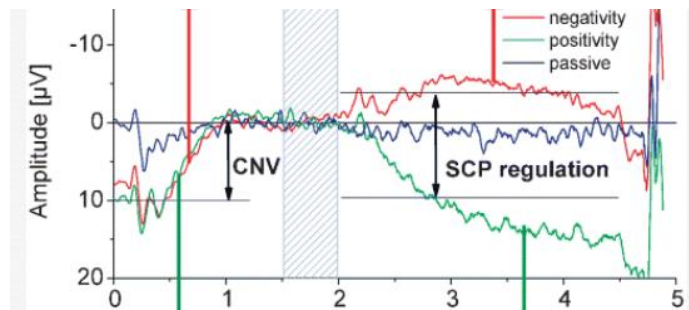


Rhythms

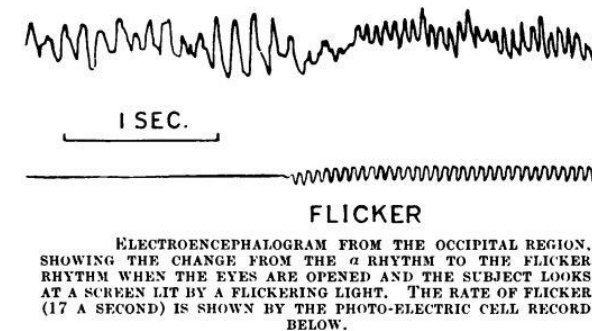


Evoked potentials

Slow Cortical Potentials



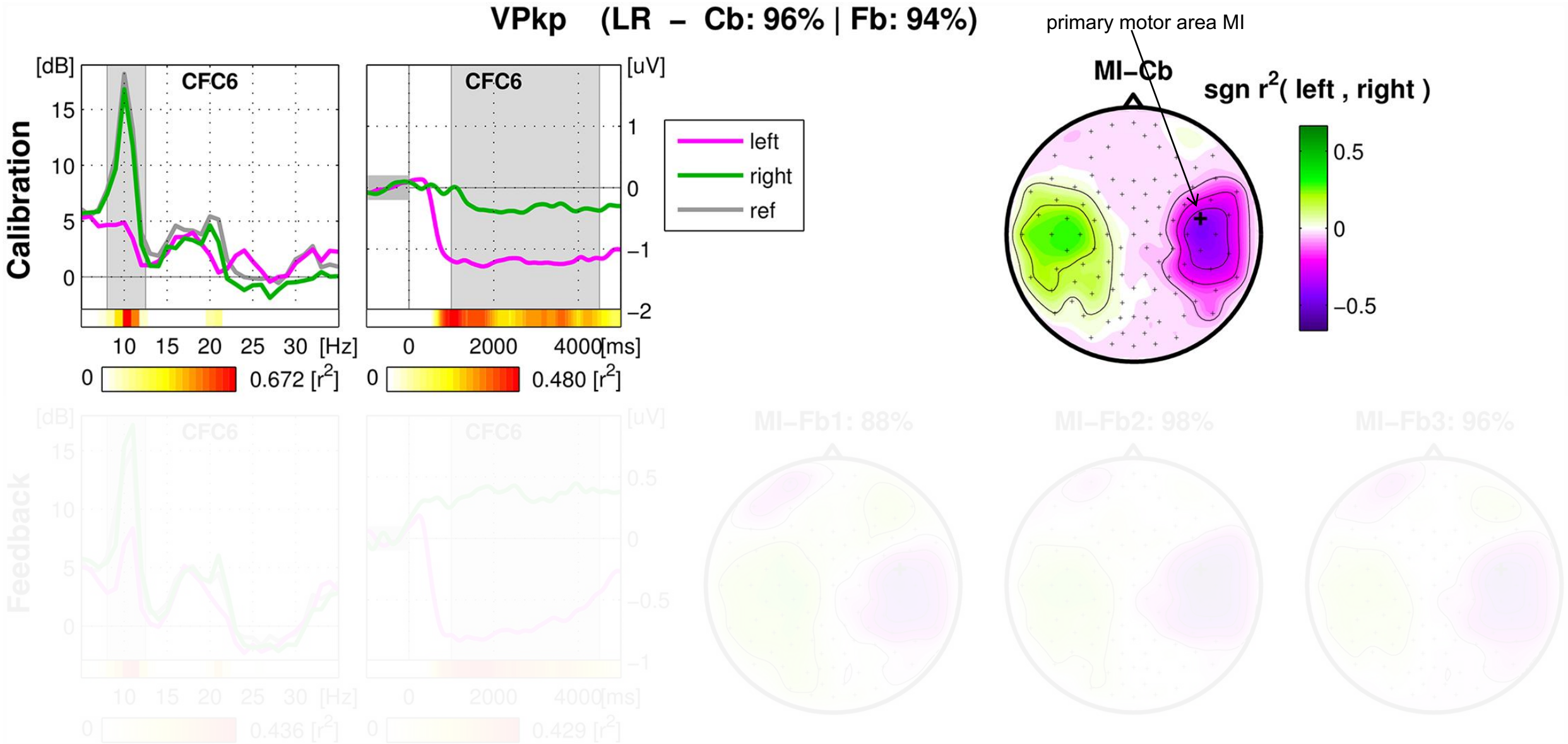
Steady-state EPs



Sensorimotor Rhythms

- SMR is an oscillatory EEG detected on the central electrode sites (over the sensorimotor cortex)
- It is associated with inhibition of motor activity
- Reacts to execution and imagination of movement
- Tonic (i.e. stationary) and phasic (i.e. time-varying) spectral modulation

the grey line and the green line are superimposed in the alpha band, while the purple line is very desynchronized in the alpha band.



BCI basato sui ritmi sensorimotorio

