

# Novel data processing techniques for high-performance brain-computer interface

Ph.D. Defense

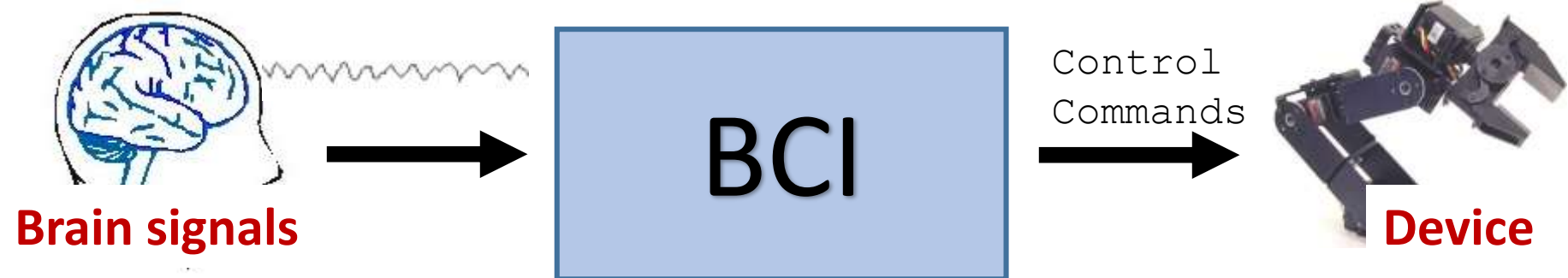
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Biomedical Engineering

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

# What is a **brain-computer interface (BCI)**?

- BCI is a direct communication pathway between human brain and a computer device.
  - Reads signals from the brain
  - Decodes brain signals into intentions
  - Commands an output device

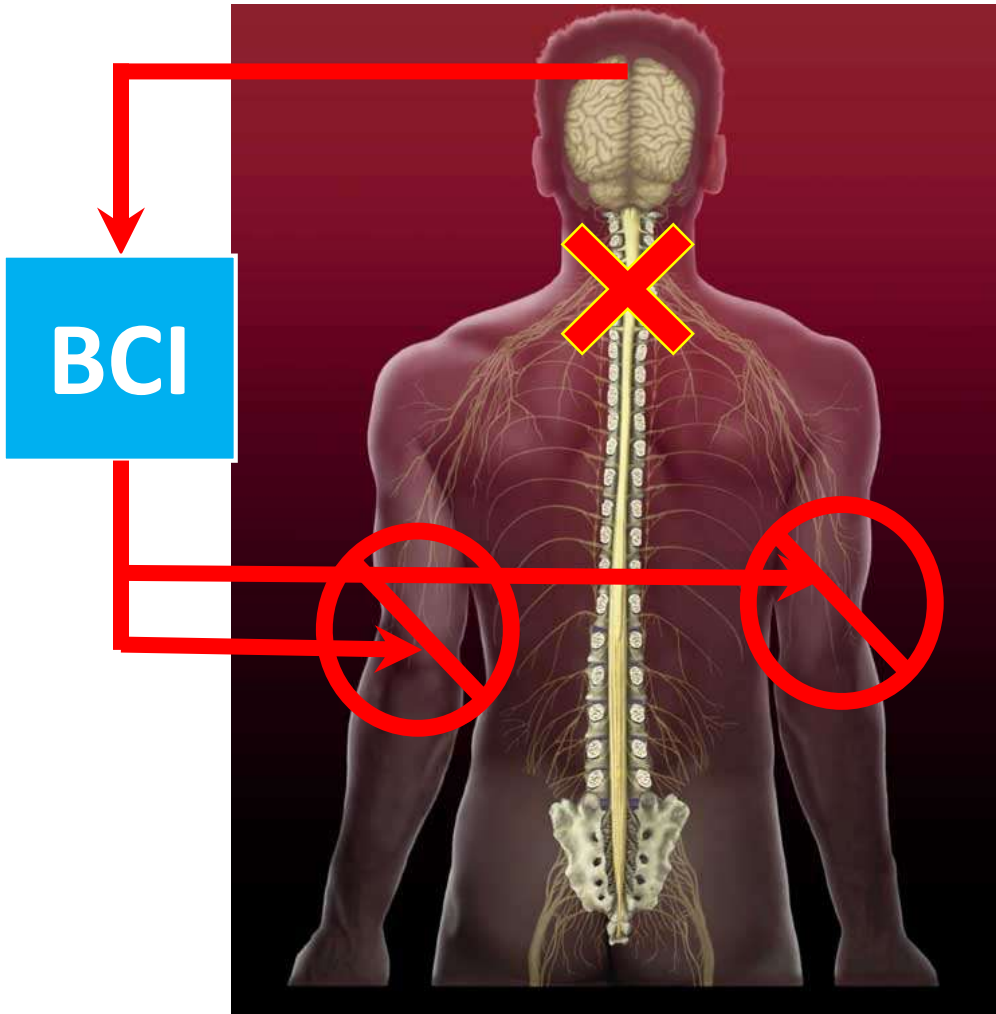


# Overview of this presentation

1. Introduction and background
2. High-performance EEG-based BCI applications
  1. BCI Spelling device
  2. BCI Gait project
3. Conclusions and future works

# Introduction & background

# What BCI can do



Normal people can control their muscles by sending control signals down the spinal cord.

People with injuries to their brain or spinal cord may lose control of their own limbs and body.

A BCI can bypass the damaged nerves and directly control the limbs via a prosthesis or exoskeleton.

# Communicate

## Typing words



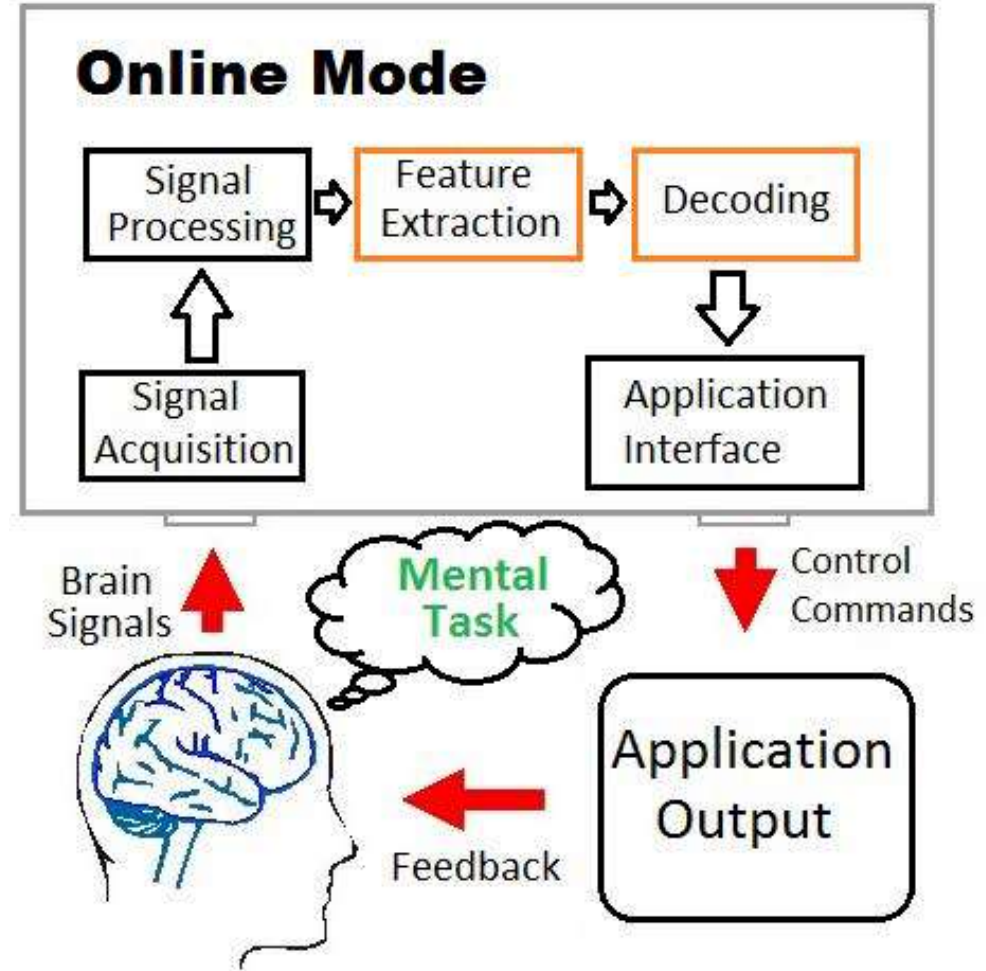
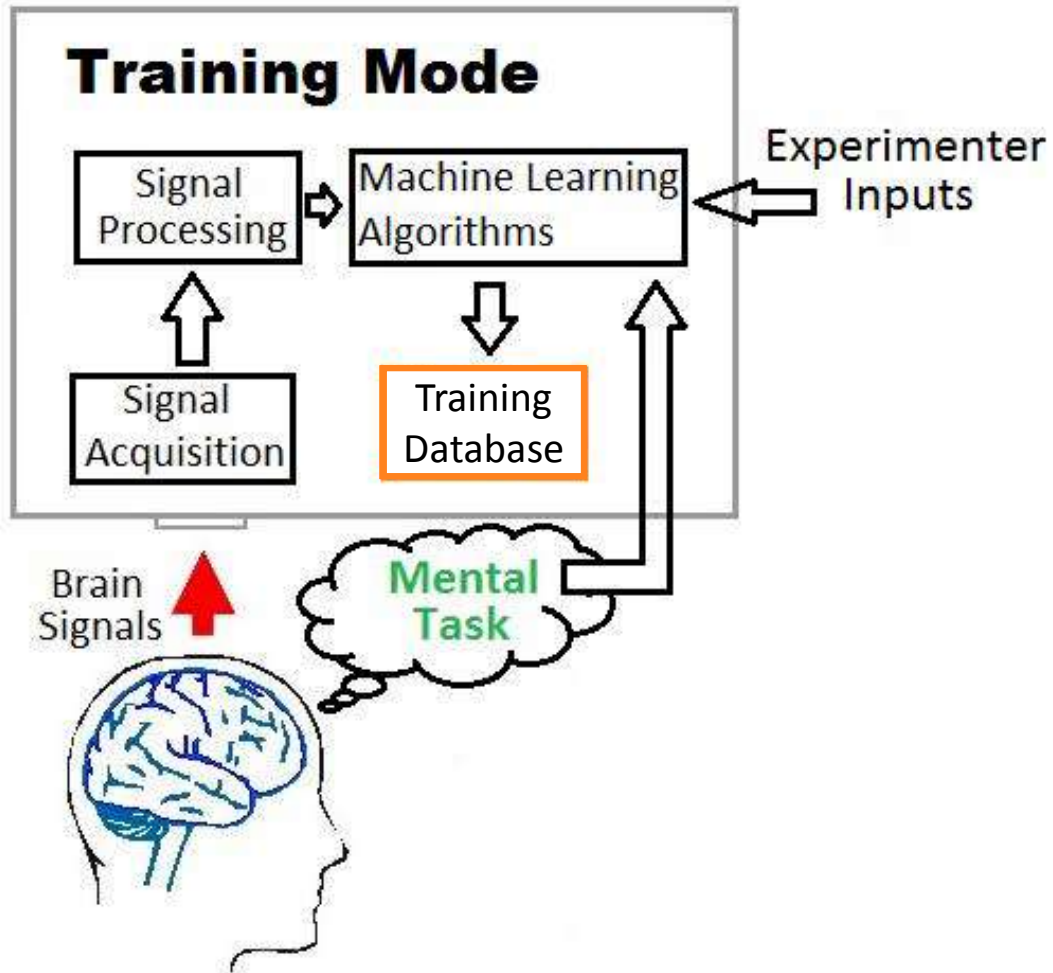
# Motivation

- Spinal cord injury 350,000 (US), 25,000 new cases / year.\*
  - Healthcare: \$40.5 billion p.a.
  - Society: \$306 billion p.a.
- Wheelchair dependence leads to:
  - Cardiovascular diseases
  - Diabetes
  - Osteoporosis
  - Muscular atrophy
  - Pressure ulcers
- Stroke >7 million (US), 800,000 new cases / year.\*\*
  - Healthcare: \$30 billion p.a.
- BCIs can potentially help them reduce reliance on caregivers, reduce medical costs

\*National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center (NSCIS). Spinal cord injury facts and figures at a glance, 2013.

\*\*Rogers et al, American Heart Association.

# How BCI works

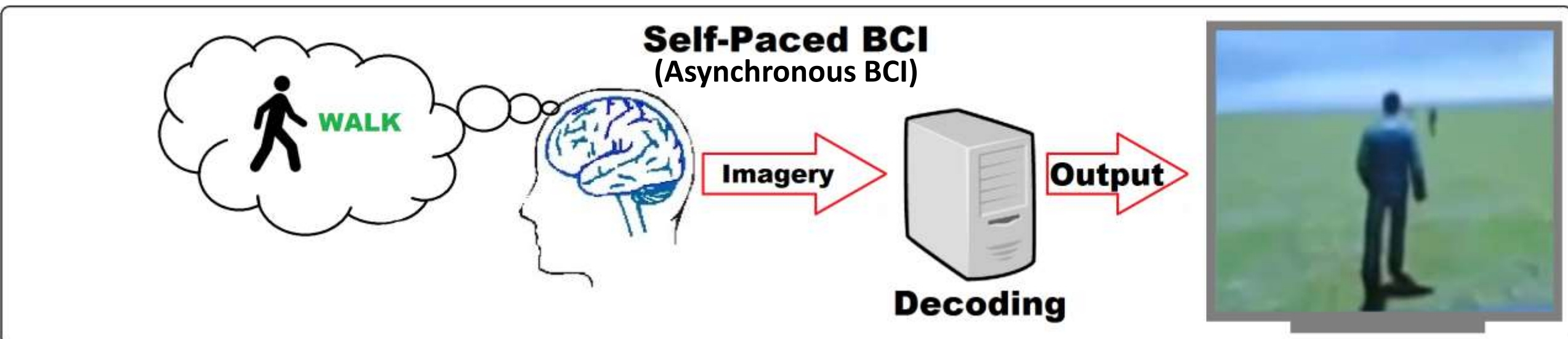
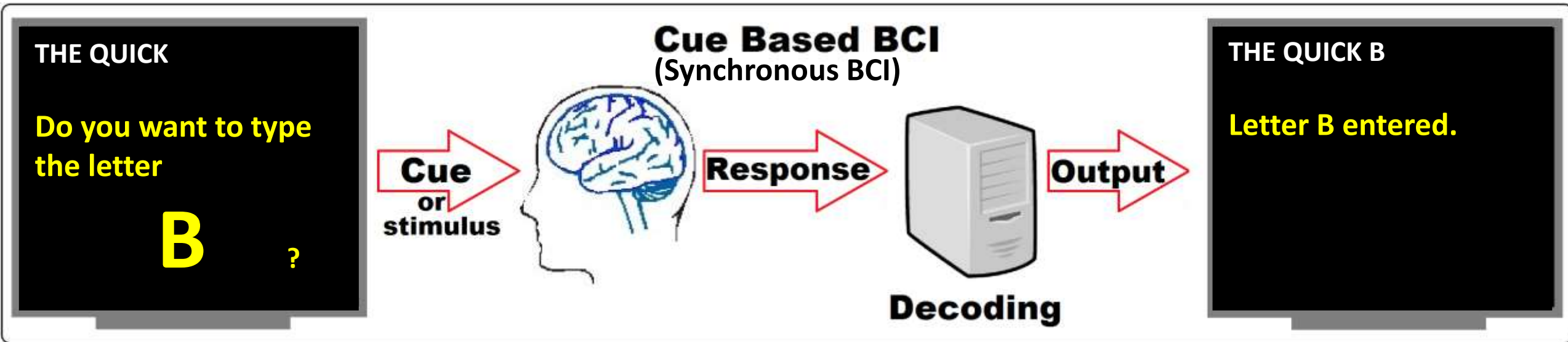




# Training paradigms

- User-training:
  - Users are asked to learn how to change the amplitudes of their brain wave rhythms
  - 2-3 weeks, if not months training required
  - Usually not intuitive
- Computer-training:
  - Users are asked to perform intuitive **mental imagery** or **attempted movement**
  - Short training time (10-20 minutes) required

# Control paradigms

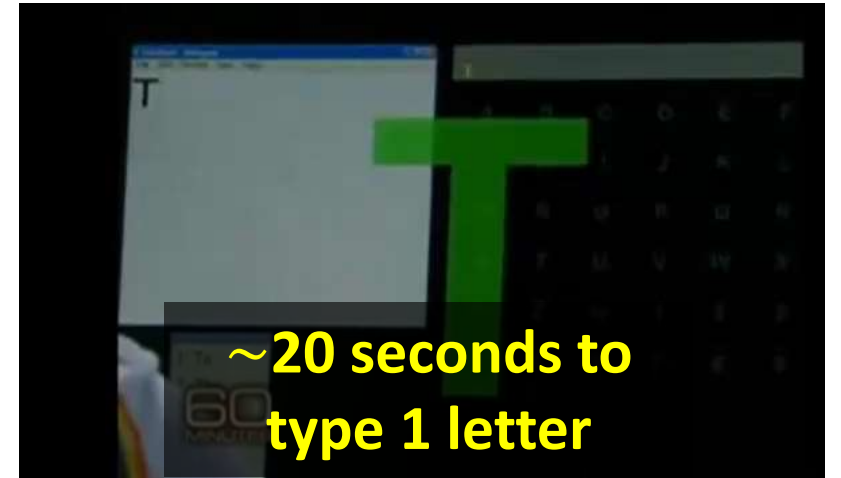


# Limitations of non-invasive EEG-based BCIs

1. Slow speed (< 1 bit/s)
2. Unintuitive operation (e.g. imagine foot and tongue movements to operate hand prosthesis)
3. Extensive training procedure (e.g. months)
4. Sensitive to artifacts

Potential solutions: Novel signal processing and pattern recognition techniques can

1. Improve BCI speed (> 3 bits/s)
2. Provide intuitive operation
3. Shorten the training time (15 minutes)

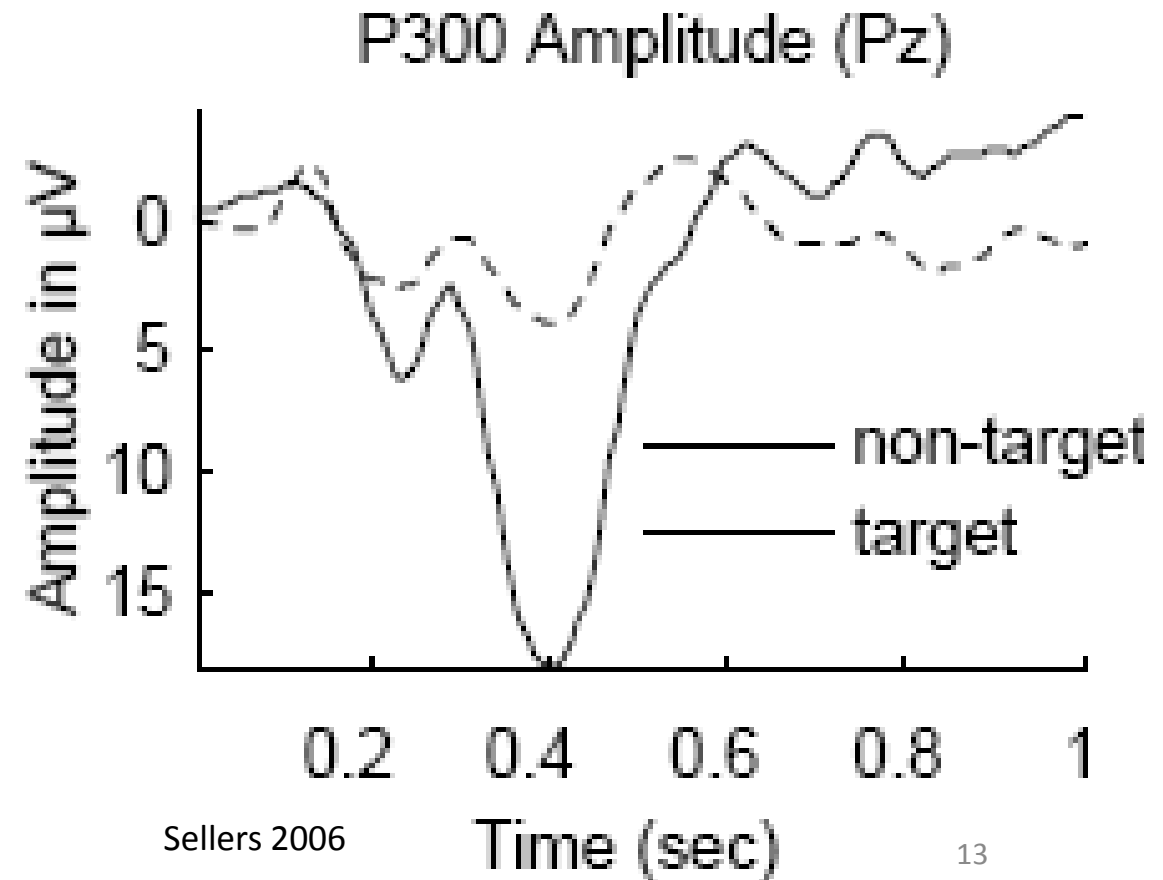


# BCI Speller

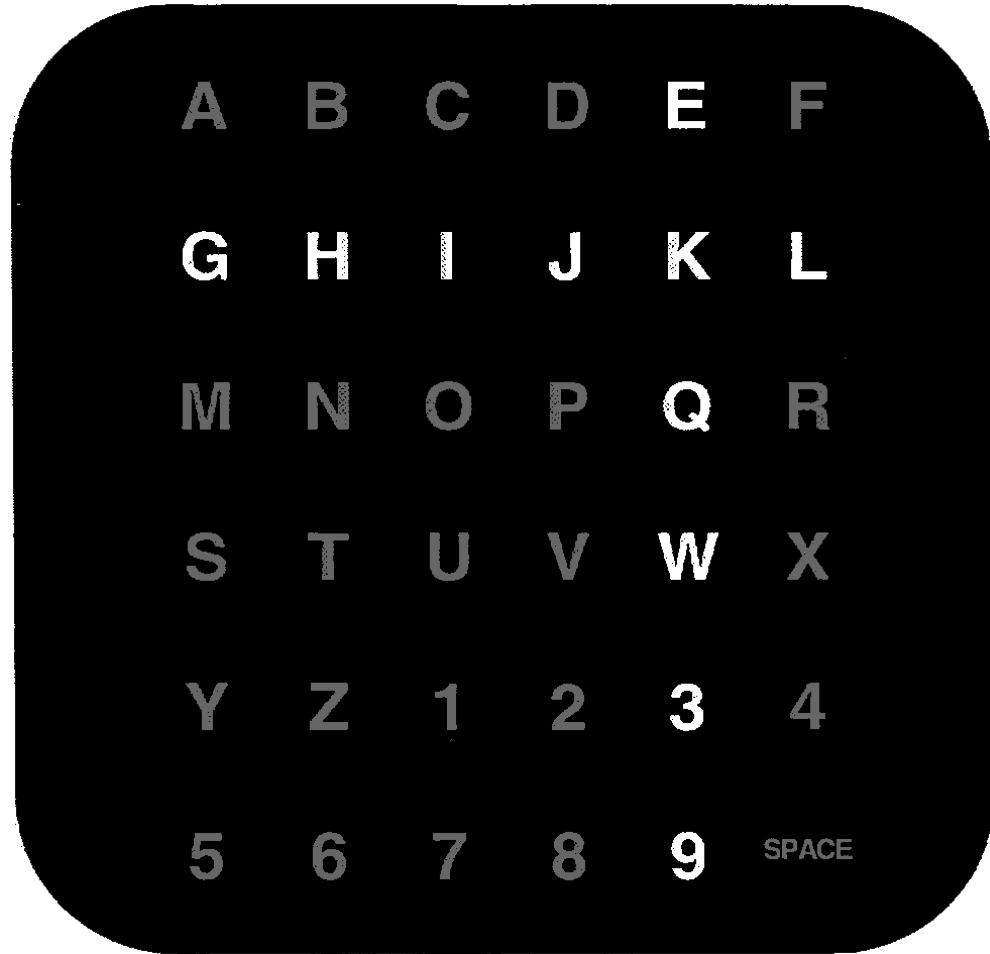
# P300 Speller

- Farwell and Donchin (1988)
- Based on the visual **oddball** event-related potential (ERP) paradigm.
- Oddball = Rare and wanted object.
- ERP is an EEG response to a stimulus.
  - Weak and difficult to discern on a single-trial basis
  - Obtained by averaging many identical trials
- P300 wave

## Electroencephalography (EEG)



# P300 Speller

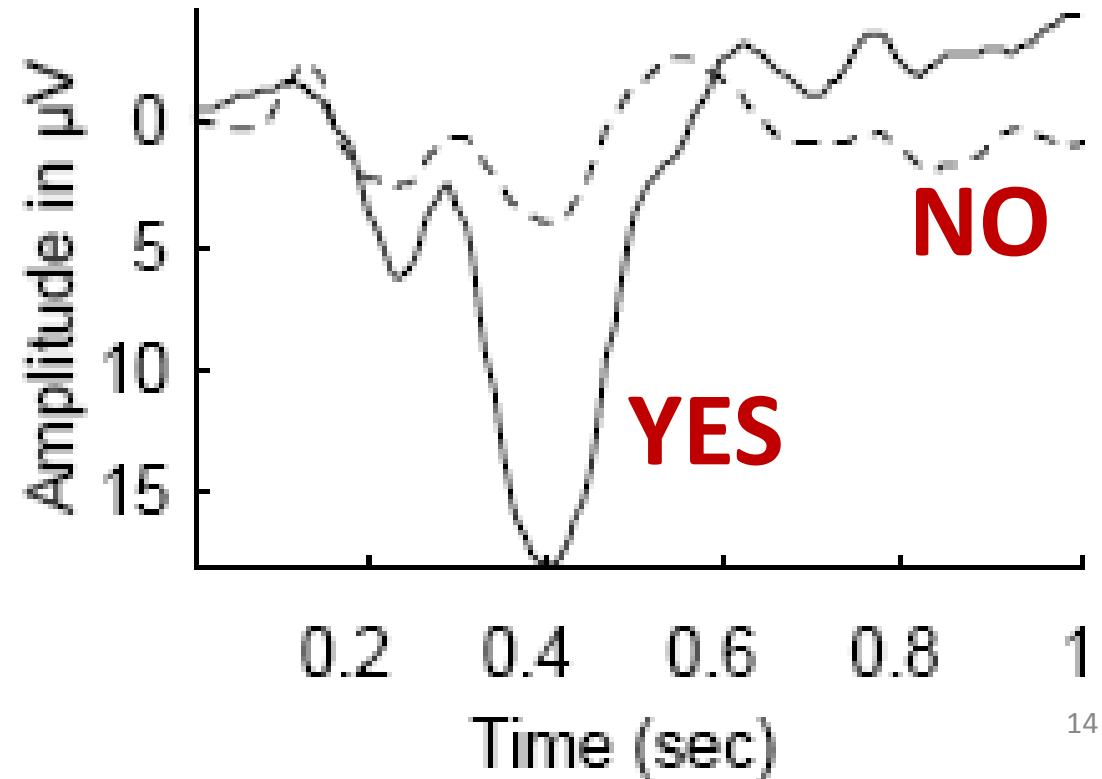


Rows and Columns paradigm in Farwell & Donchin (1988), Sellers (2000), etc.

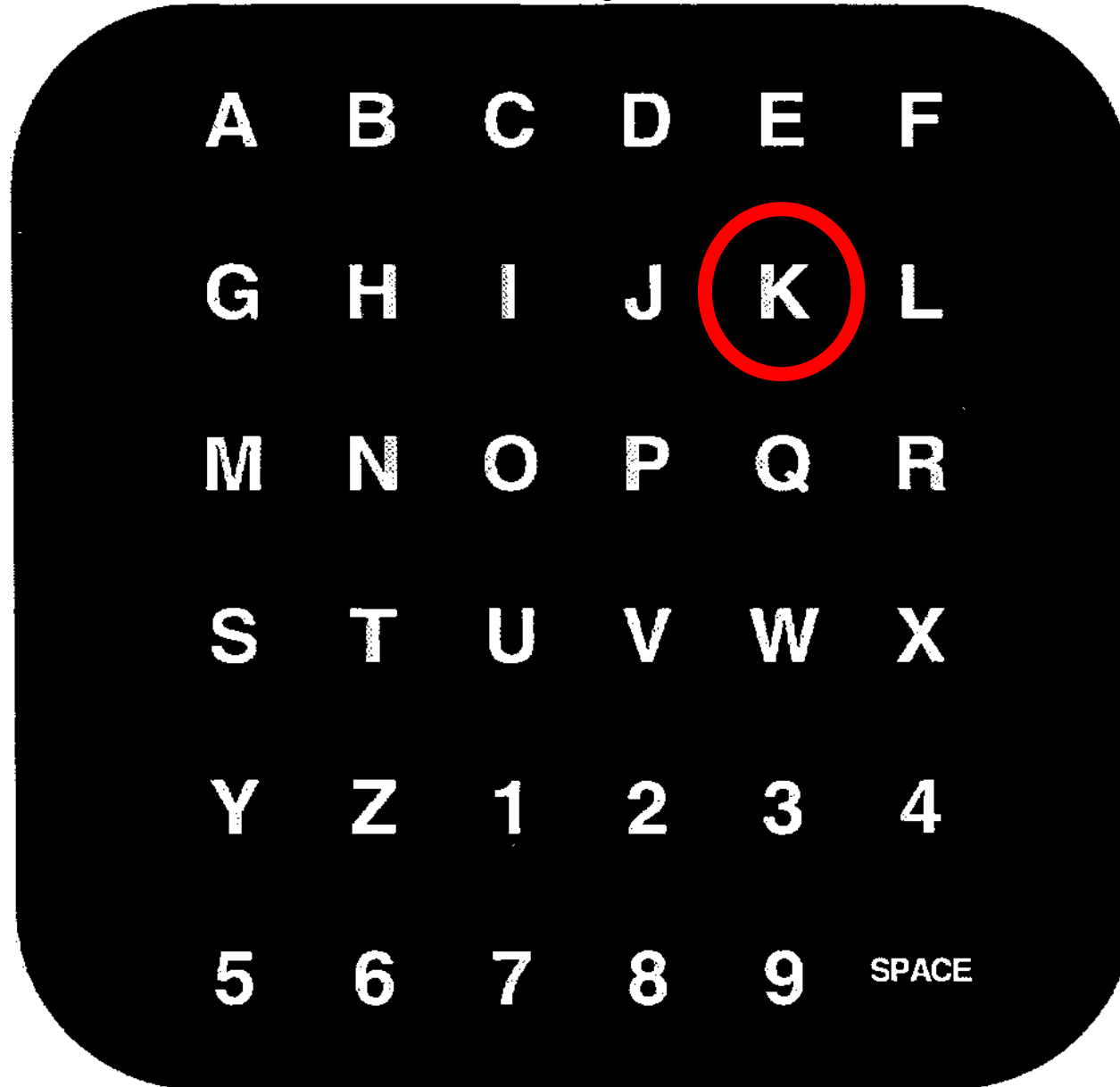
Essentially, the computer “probes” the human brain with this question:

**Is the letter you want in this group?**

The only signals the brain can respond are:

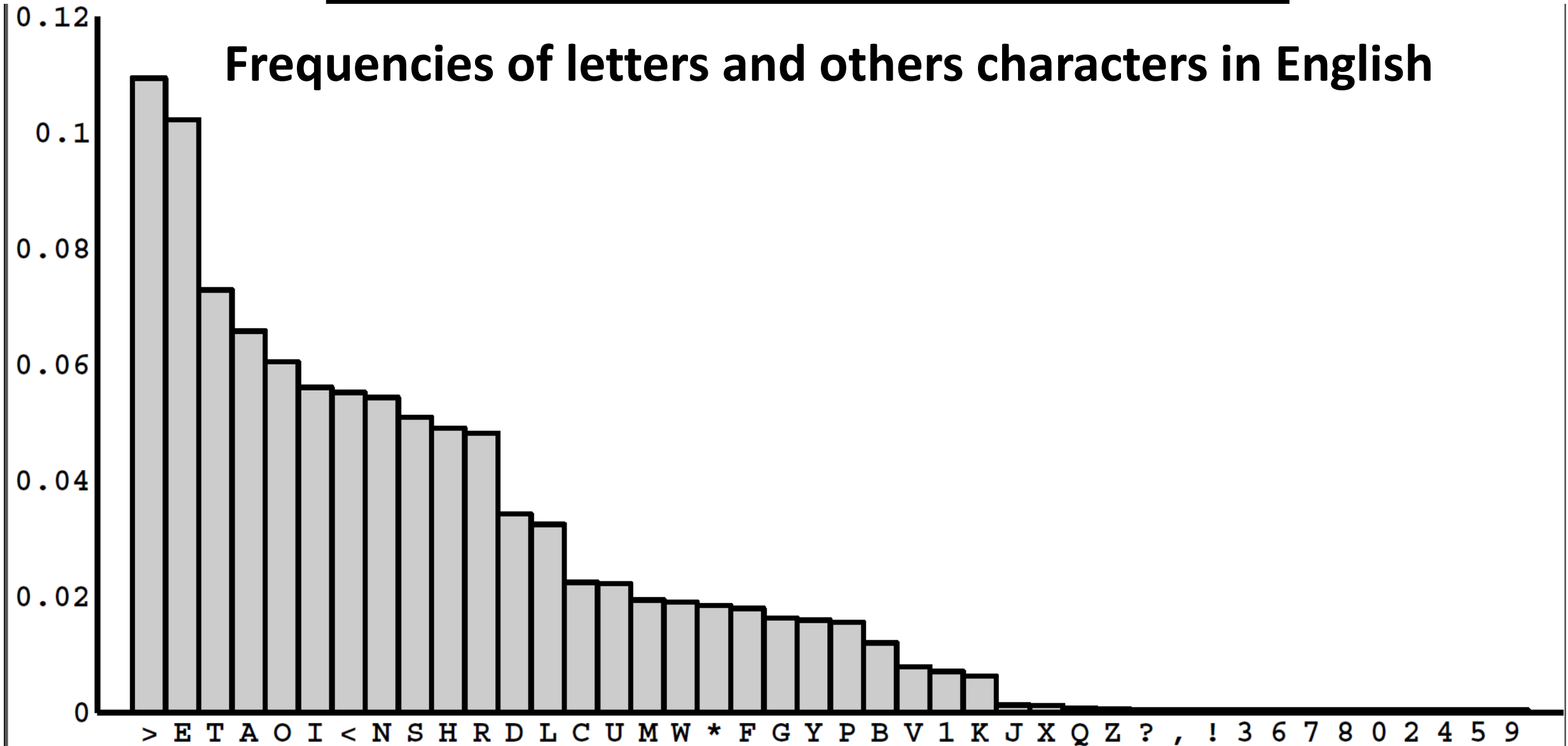


# P300 Speller



# P300 Speller

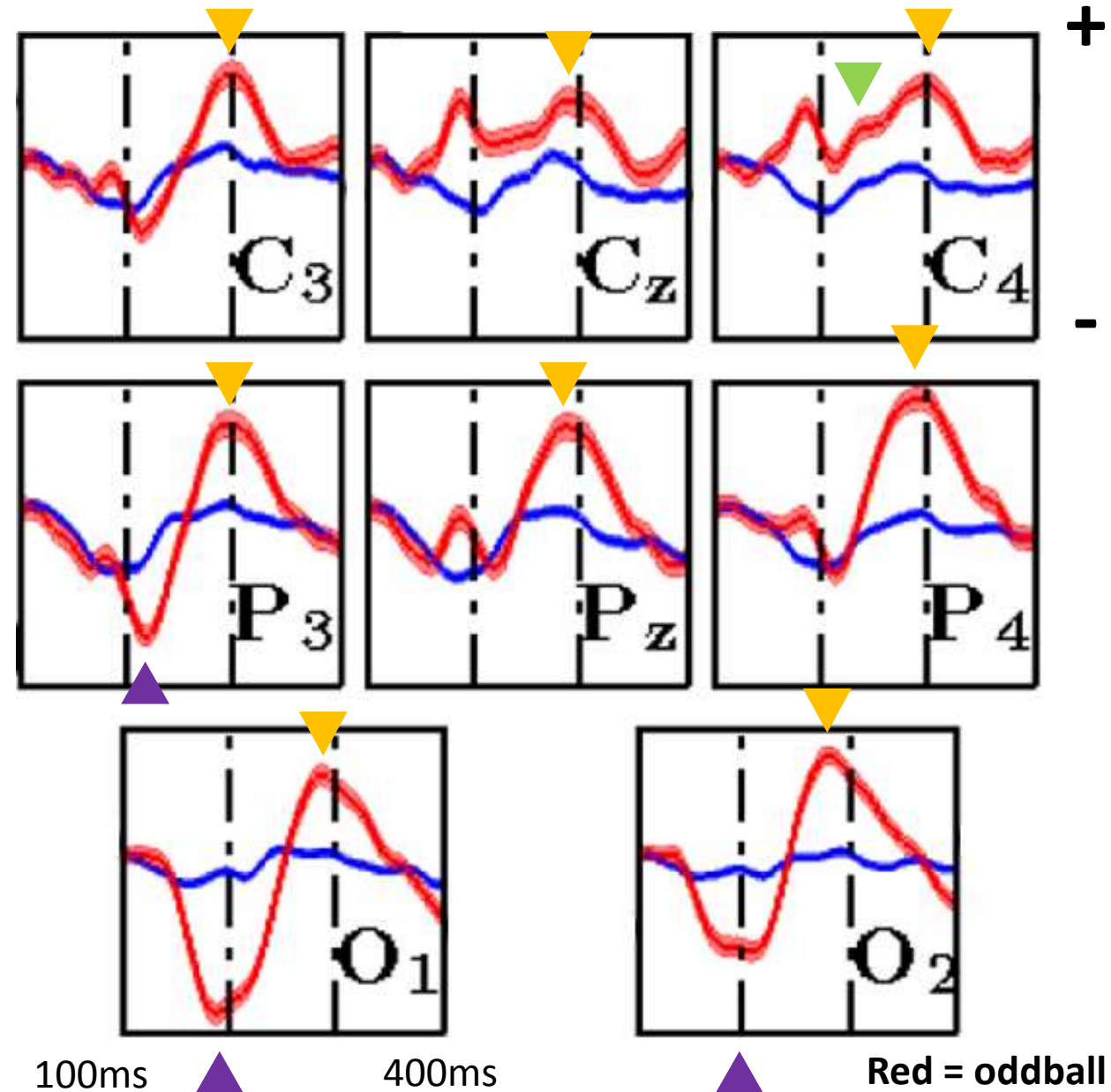
Frequencies of letters and others characters in English





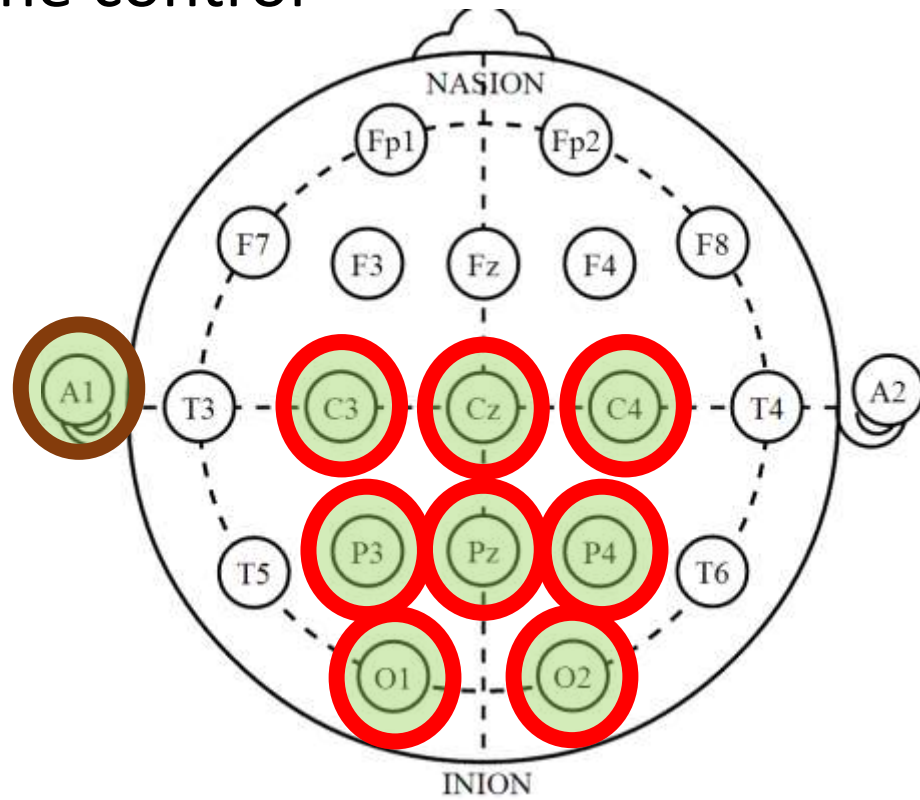
# Our BCI Speller

- Uses a combination of attention (P3a), oddball (P300/P3b), and visual search (N200/N2c) signals
- Does not expect any particular waveforms, completely data-driven
- Makes a decision based on only one trial of data



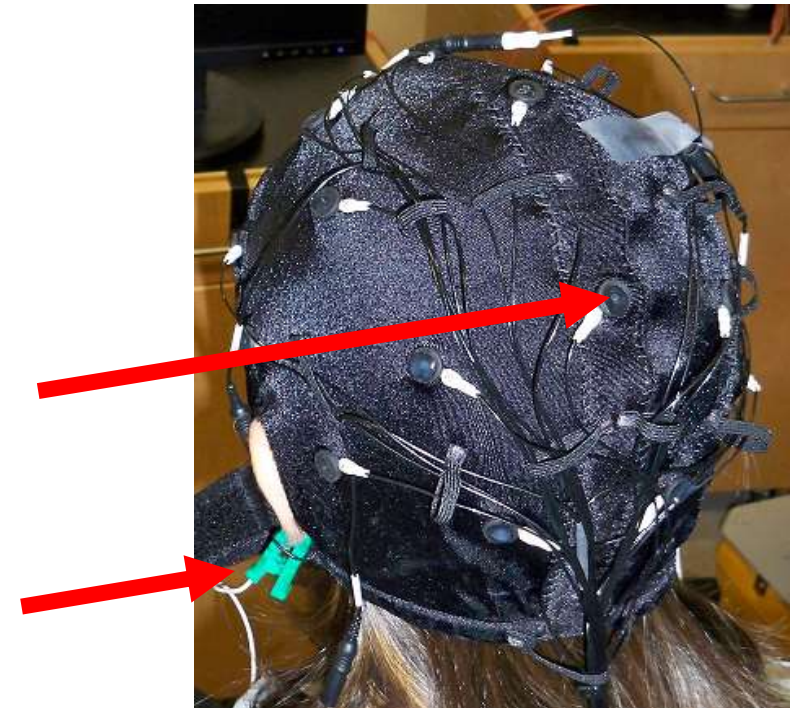
# Experiment setup

1. Human subject
2. EEG cap, 8 chan. (~10 minutes)
3. Training procedure (6-7 minutes)
4. Computer builds a classifier
5. Online control



# Equipment

- **EEG cap:** NeuroScan Quik-Cap with Ag/AgCl electrodes (Compumedics USA, Charlotte, NC)
- **EEG reference:** Ear clip with Ag/AgCl electrode (Compumedics USA)



# MP150 DAQ

EEG amplifiers: EEG100C (Biopac Systems, Goleta, CA)

EEG data acquisition device (DAQ): MP150 (Biopac Systems)



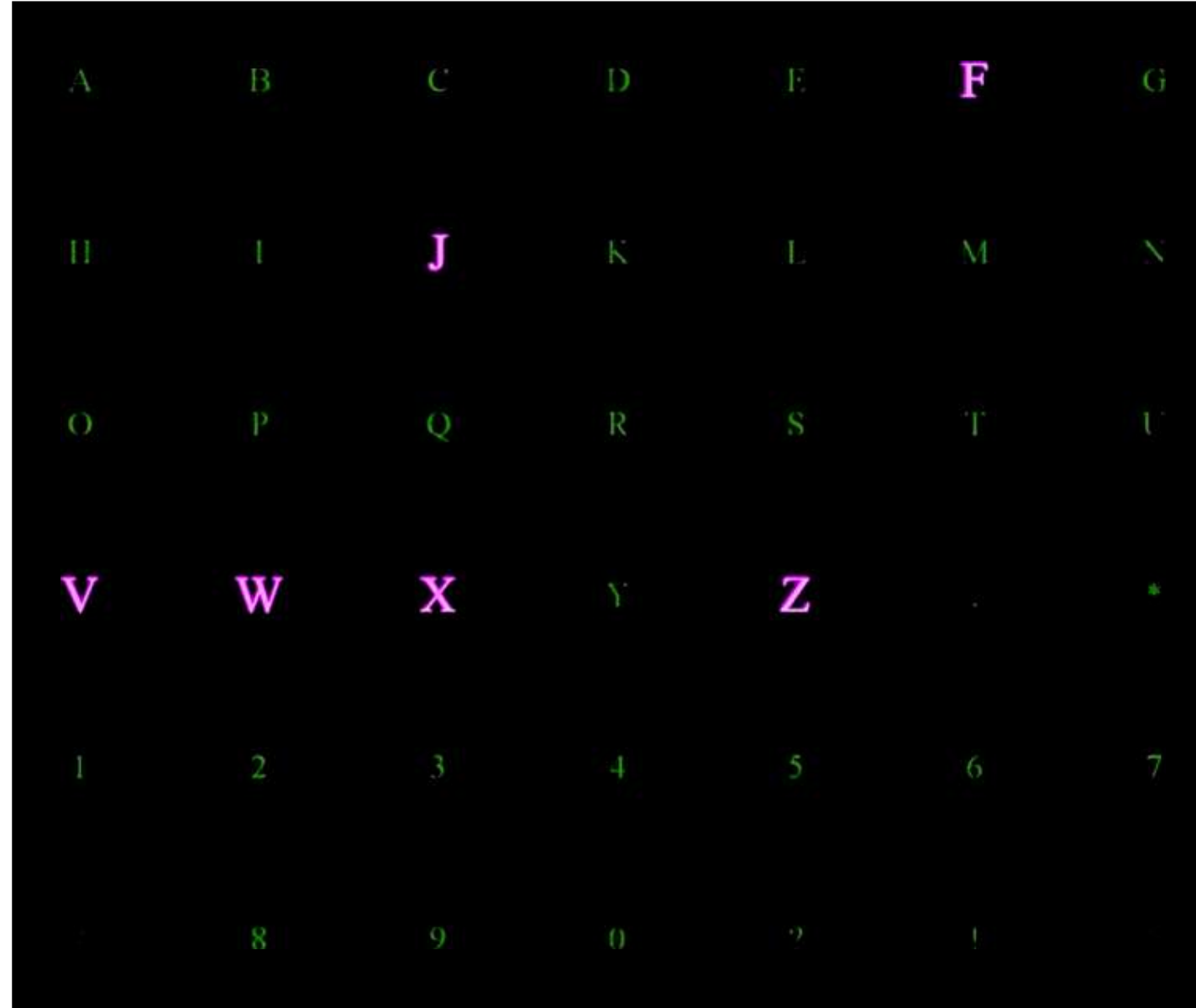
MP150

UIM100C

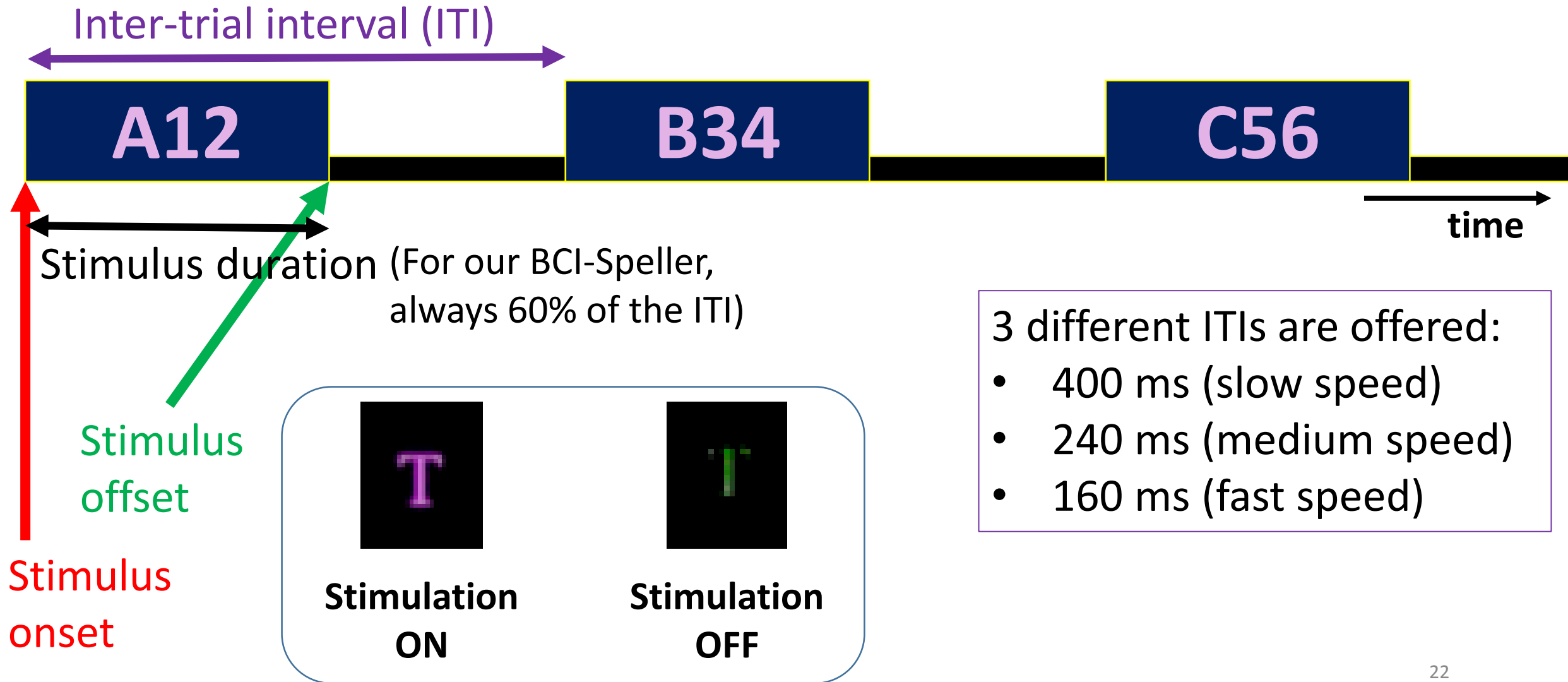
EEG100C amplifier modules

# Training procedure

- Comprises 10 mini-sessions
- In each 30-s mini-session, subject is asked to pay attention to one character from the following  
**A G < > Y D V O \* K**
- This character is called the “oddball” or the “target”
- 8-10 s pause between mini-sessions
- Hence 6-7-minute training time

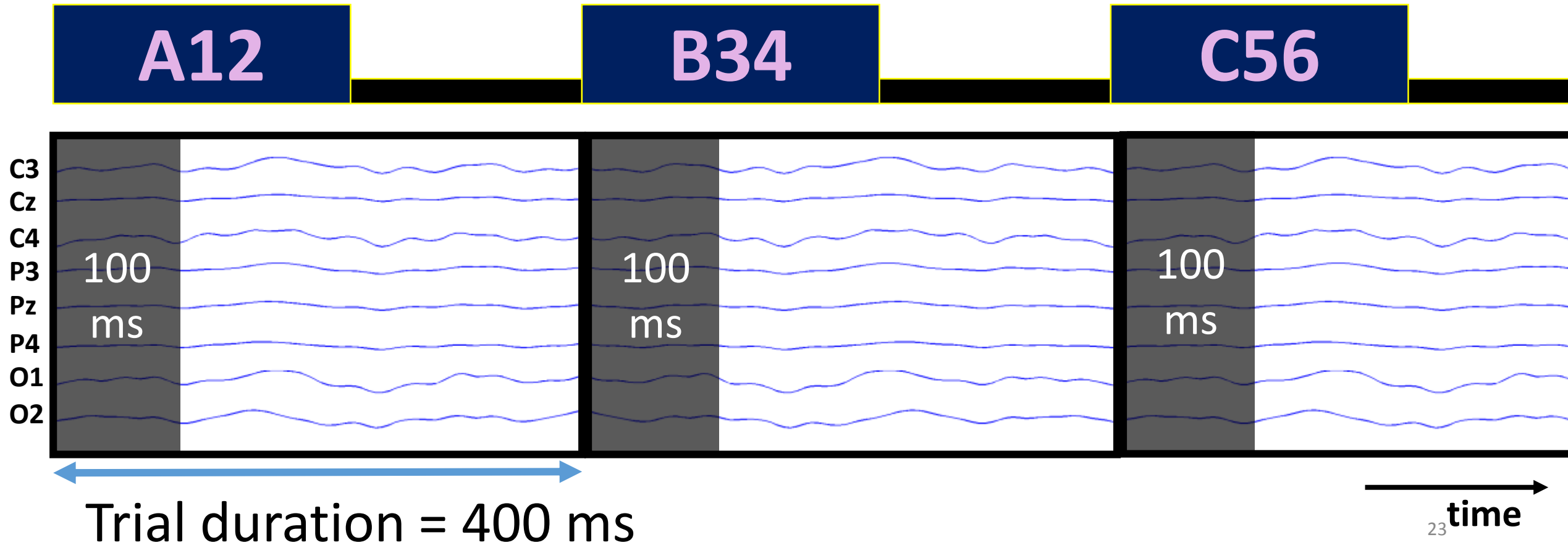


# Timing terminology for stimulations



# Training procedure – data acquisition

- EEG sampled at 200 Hz from 8 channels
- 400 ms post-stimulus acquired as one ‘trial’. 400 ms = 80 samples
- First 100 ms discarded (visual transmission delay)



# Slow speed

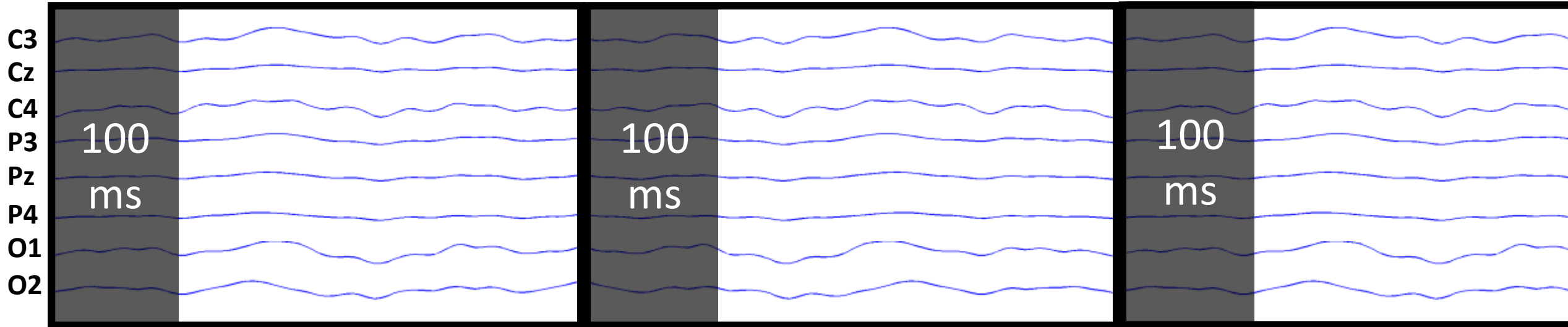
400 ms

Inter-trial interval (ITI)

A12

B34

C56



Trial duration = 400 ms

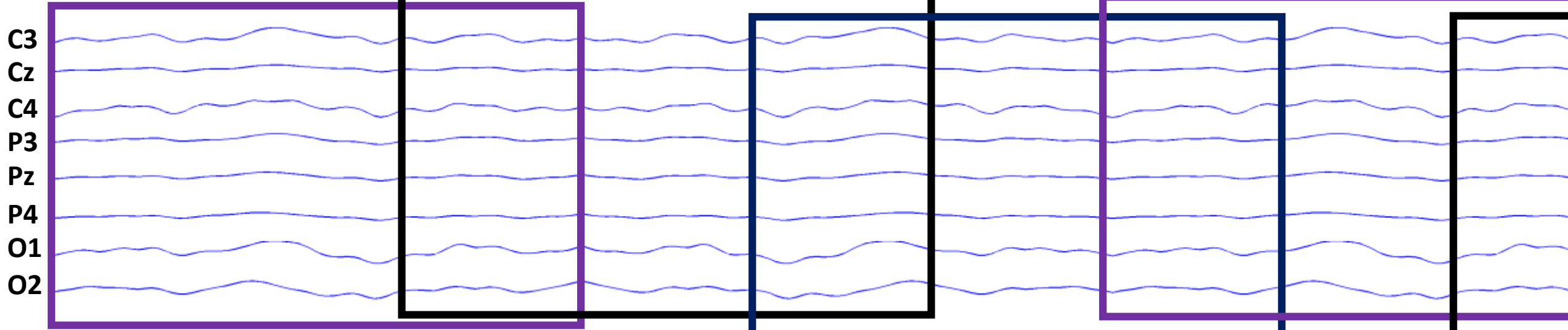


# Medium/fast speed

240 ms (medium speed)  
160 ms (fast speed)

Trial duration remains the same.  
Trials overlap

Inter-trial interval (ITI)

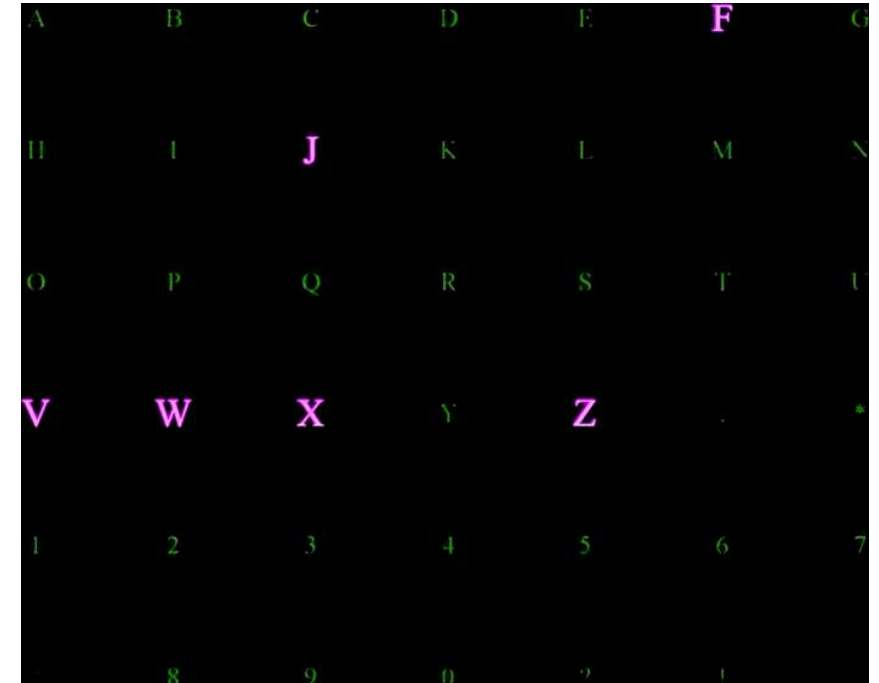
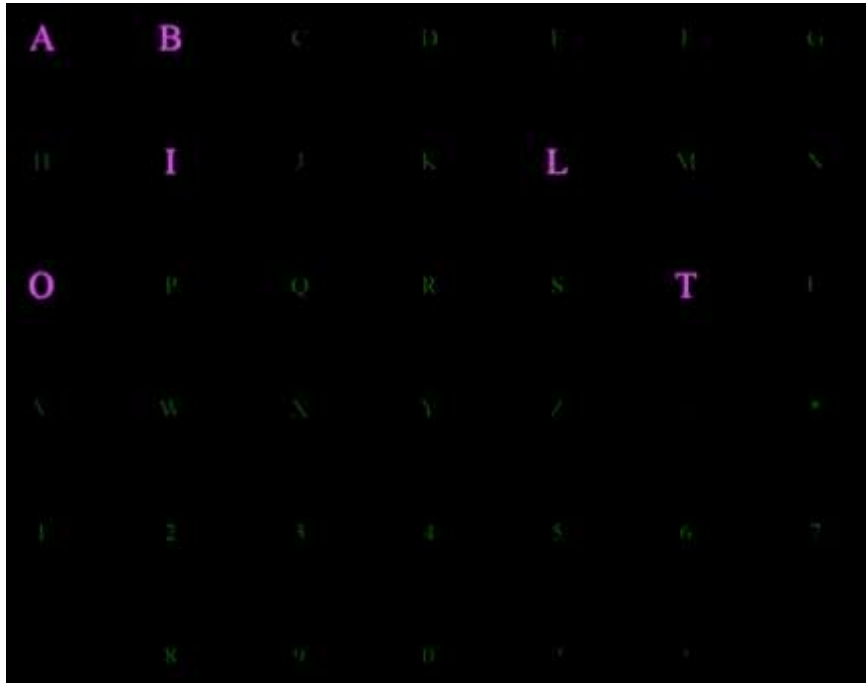


Trial duration = 400 ms

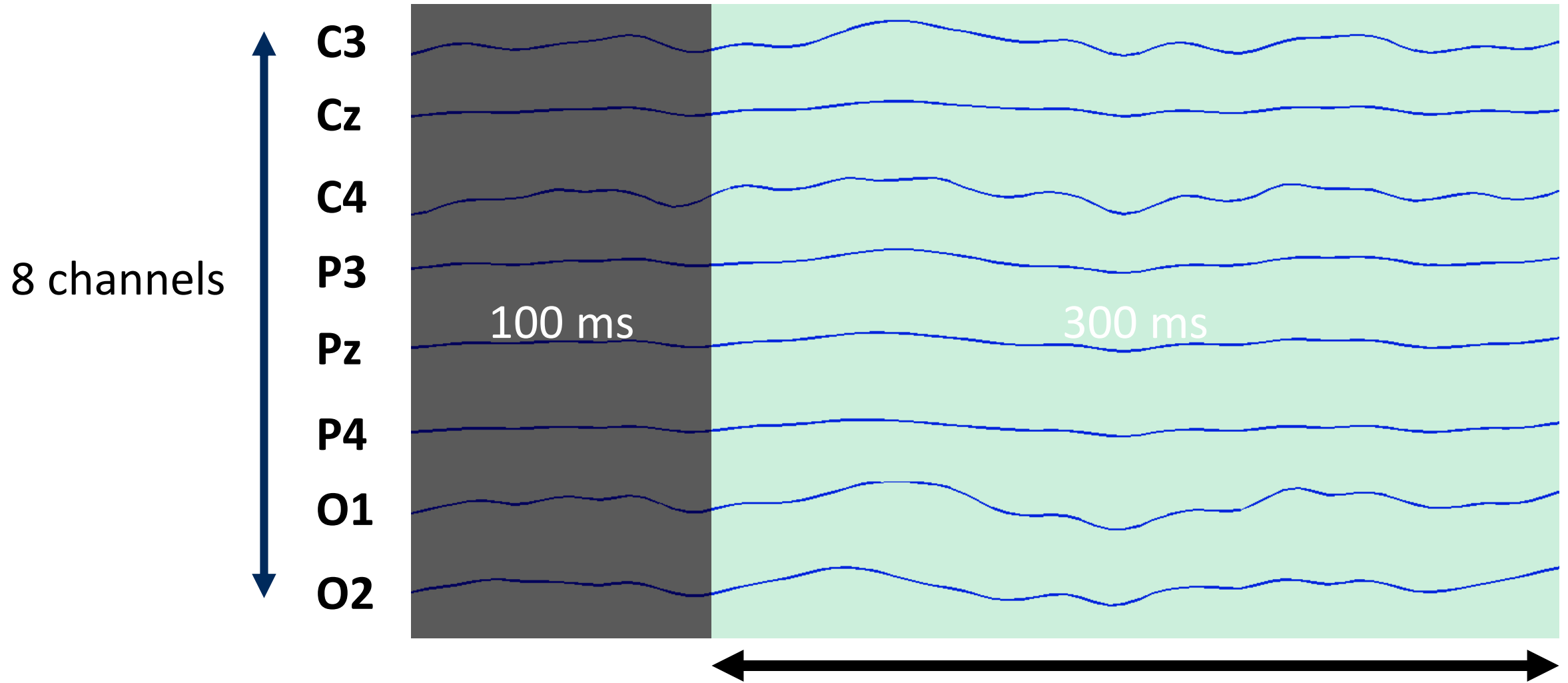
time →

# Training procedure – data labeling

- A group of letters can either contain or not contain the oddball.
- Trials recorded when the oddball is present is labeled **ODD**, and **EVEN** otherwise. ODD and EVEN are **classes**.



# Data dimension

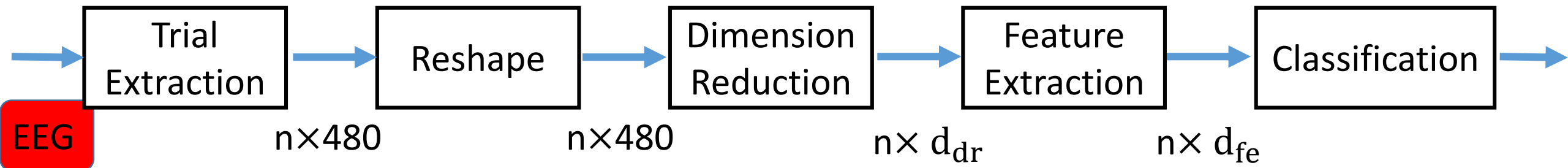


**This is 1 trial of EEG data.** 300 ms (60 samples)

# Feature extraction and classification

## Motivation

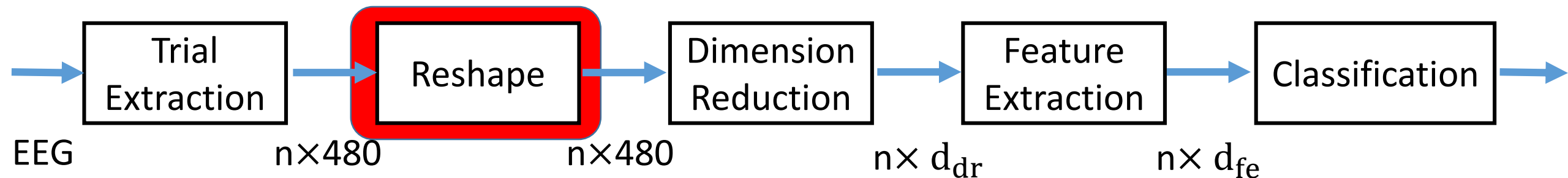
1. There are many redundant and irrelevant data in EEG.
2. We only need a subset of **features** from the EEG that can tell us whether or not oddball is presented to the subject.
3. Feature extraction is to extract only the relevant subset of EEG data that help us with the task of discriminating between **ODD** and **EVEN** classes.



# Feature extraction and classification

## Preparing data

1. Each trial of data ( $8 \text{ ch} \times 60 \text{ sp}$ ) is reshaped into a vector ( $1 \times 480$ ).
2. Trial vectors from each class form two matrices:
  1. Oddball matrix ( $n_o \times 480$ ) containing only oddball trials
  2. Evenball matrix ( $n_e \times 480$ ) containing only evenball trials
3. Feed both matrices into dimension reduction and then feature extraction algorithms



# Dimension reduction Motivation

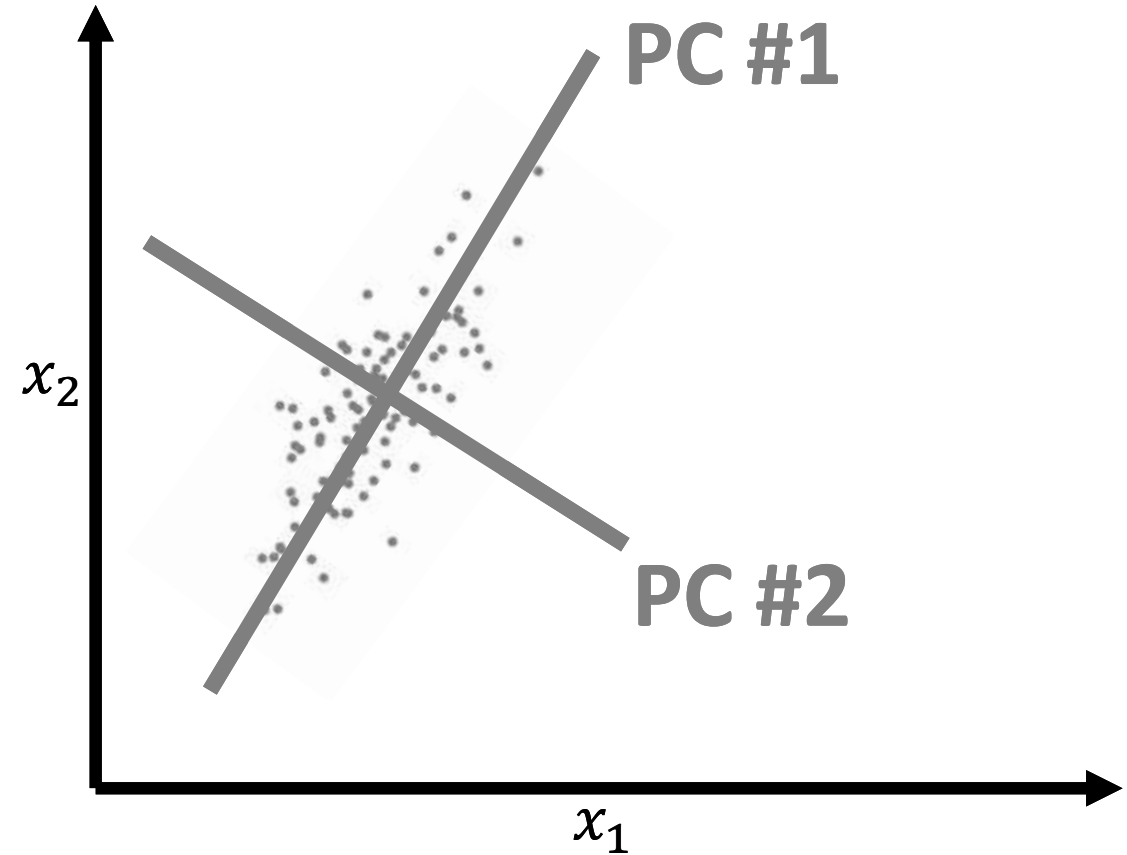
1. Many linear discriminant feature extraction techniques do not work well with **small-sample-size problems** (more dimensions than samples).
2. Even at fast speed, we only get 267 oddball samples, but we have 480 dimensions.
3. A more general, systematic way to reduce the dimension is required.

PCA  
CPCA



# Principal Component Analysis (PCA) Overview

- PCA is a procedure that transforms data into linearly uncorrelated components (principal components), sorted by variances in descending order
- Similar to:
  - Singular value decomposition of the data
  - Eigenvalue decomposition of the covariance
- You can only have up to  **$n-1$**  or  **$d$**  principal components, whichever is smaller
  - $n$  = number of trials
  - $d$  = number of original dimensions



# Dimension reduction (DR) by PCA Algorithm (SVD method)

$\mathbf{X}$  is data.  $E[\mathbf{X}] = 0$ .

1. Calculate SVD:  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U} \Sigma \mathbf{V}^T$ .  $\mathbf{U}$  is  $(n \times n)$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$  is  $(n \times d)$ ,  $\mathbf{V}$  is  $(d \times d)$

## 2. PCA:

- Retain only the  $n-1$  highest singular values. Call this  $\sigma'$ .
- Square and scale the singular values.  $s = (\sigma')^2 / (n - 1)$ , i.e. **latents**  
Retained vectors in  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{PC coefficients}$ .

## 3. Dimension reduction:

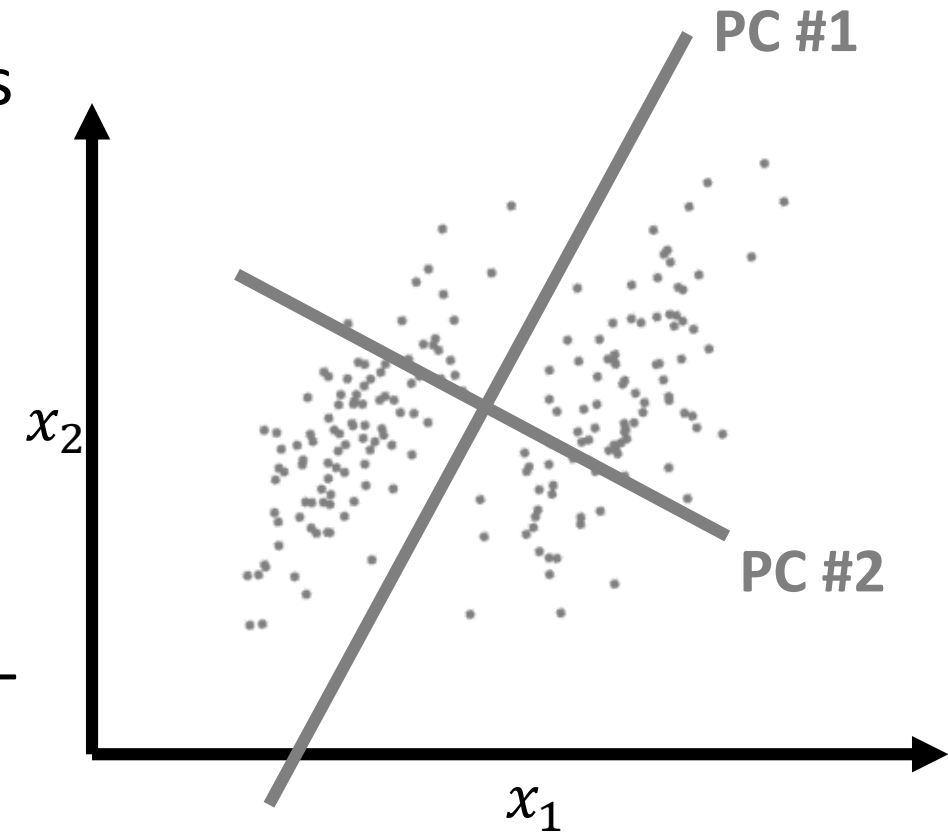
- Retain only latent values above the mean
- Retained vectors =  $\Phi$ , the retained PC coefficients

If we multiply  $\mathbf{X}$  by  $\Phi$ , we reduce the dimension of  $\mathbf{X}$ .



# Dimension reduction by Classwise PCA (CPCA) Motivation

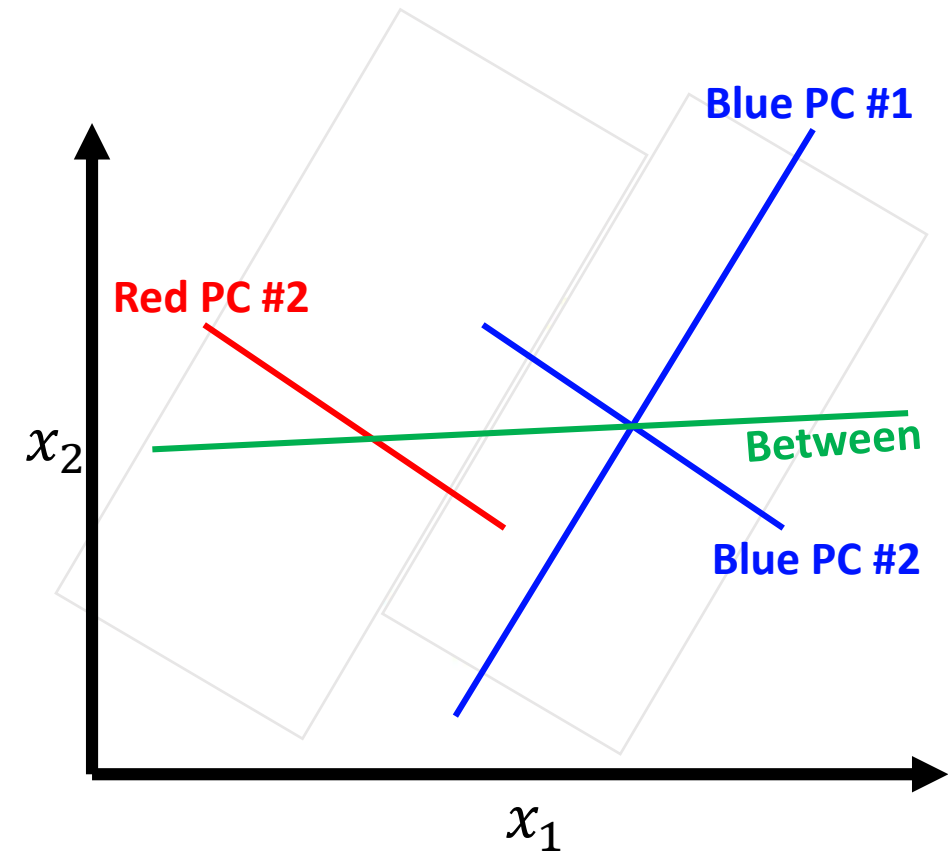
1. Ordinary PCA does not consider labels. It does not know whether data is for oddball.
2. Ordinary PCA may fail to separate data into the correct labels due to variances.
3. Problem can be alleviated by adding between-class information and treat each class separately



Ref: Das K, Nenadic Z (2009). An efficient discriminant-based solution for small sample size problem.

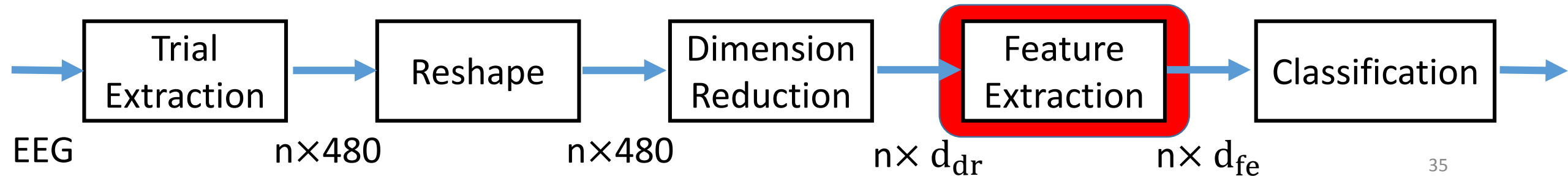
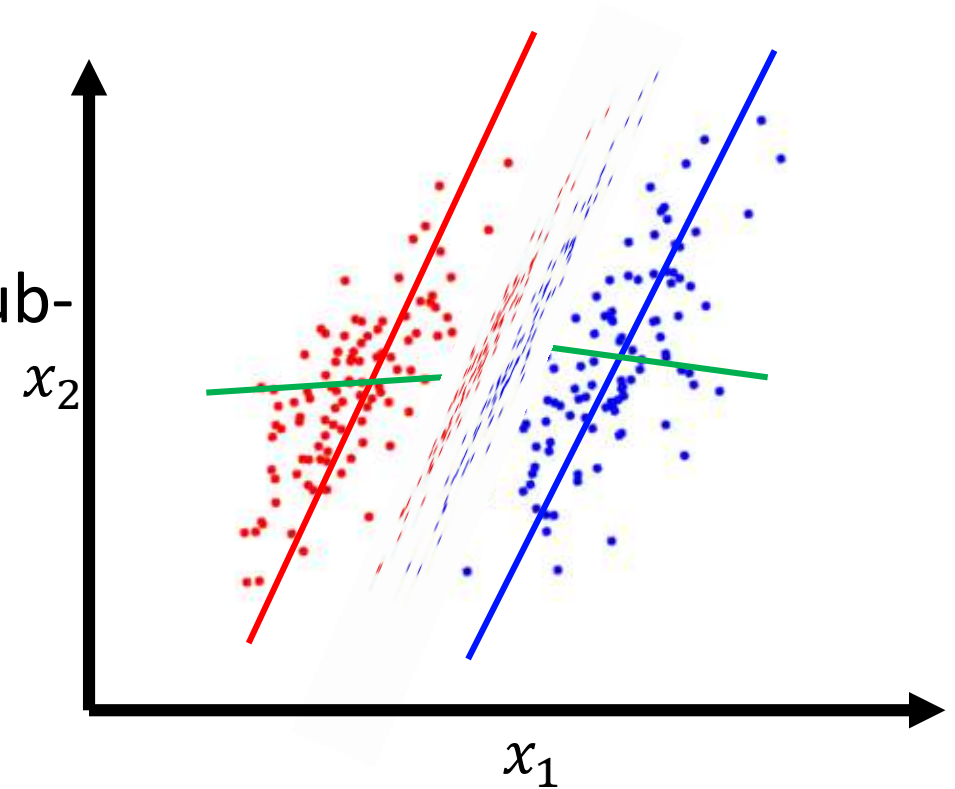
# Dimension reduction (DR) by CPCA Algorithm

1. Perform PCA + DR on **each class**
  - Red cloud  $\rightarrow$  Red PC
  - Blue cloud  $\rightarrow$  Blue PC
2. Between-class PC coefficient (green line)
3. Each class has its own PC #1s and the green line
4. Orthonormalize separately:
  - Red and green lines
  - Blue and green lines
5. Result: Classwise PC coefficients
  - Red + green lines = PC coeff. for red subspace
  - Blue + green lines = PC coeff. for blue subspace



# Feature extraction Motivation

- CPCA retains 20-40 dimensions.
- Covariance estimates.
- Picking 1-3 highest latents (from CPCA) may be sub-optimal
- Need an algorithm that is specifically designed to separate classes
- Easier to visualize the data in 1-3 dimensions
- LDA and AIDA



# Linear discriminant analysis (LDA) Algorithm

Assume Gaussian distribution for class data, maximize the ratio of between-class covariance to within-class covariance.

1. Calculate within-class covariance of class data  $X_C$ . ( $X_C$  is already reduced by CPCA.)

$$\Sigma_w = \sum_C P_C X_C X_C^T$$

$P_C$  is the prior probability of C.  
 $P_C = n_C/n$

2. Calculate between-class covariances

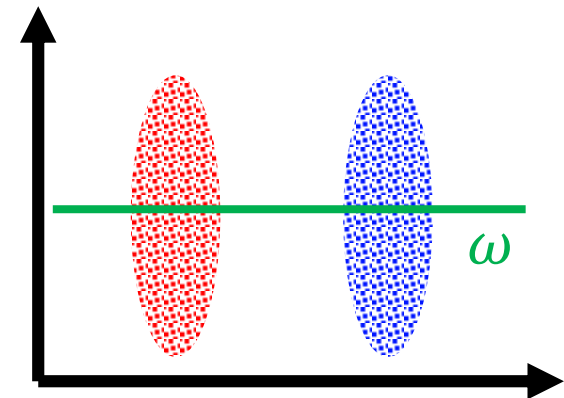
$$\Sigma_b = \sum_C P_C (\mu_C - \mu)(\mu_C - \mu)^T$$

3. Find the matrix  $\omega$  in  $\operatorname{argmax}_{\omega} \frac{\omega^T \Sigma_b \omega}{\omega^T \Sigma_w \omega}$  by Generalized EVD:

$$(\Sigma_w^{-1} \Sigma_b) \omega = \Lambda \omega$$

4. The normalized matrix  $\|\omega\|$  is the **LDA coefficient**

- Note: The dimension of  $\omega$  must be less than number of classes



# Approximate information discriminant analysis (AIDA) Algorithm

Based on mutual information between data and class variable.

1. Whitening transform:

$$\begin{aligned}W &= (\Sigma_w)^{-1/2} \\S &= W(\Sigma_w + \Sigma_b)W \\S_C &= W X_C X_C^T W\end{aligned}$$

$W$  = Whitening operator  
 $\Sigma_w$  = Within class covariance  
 $\Sigma_b$  = Between-class covariance  
 $P_C$  = Prior probability

2. Approximate  $\mu$  measure:

$$Z = \log S - \sum_C P_C \log S_C$$

$S$  = Whitened total covariance  
 $S_C$  = Whitened class covariance

3. Solve the EVD with only the  $m$  largest eigenvalues ( $m$  = output dimension)

$$Zv = \lambda v$$

4. The **AIDA coefficient** is:

$$\|v^T W\|^T$$

Ref: Das K, Nenadic Z (2008). Approximate information discriminant analysis: A computationally simple heteroscedastic feature extraction technique  
Nenadic Z (2007). Information discriminant analysis: feature extraction with an information-theoretic objective

# Classification by Bayes rule Formula

Data are reduced to **features** of 1-3 dimensions and can be classified:

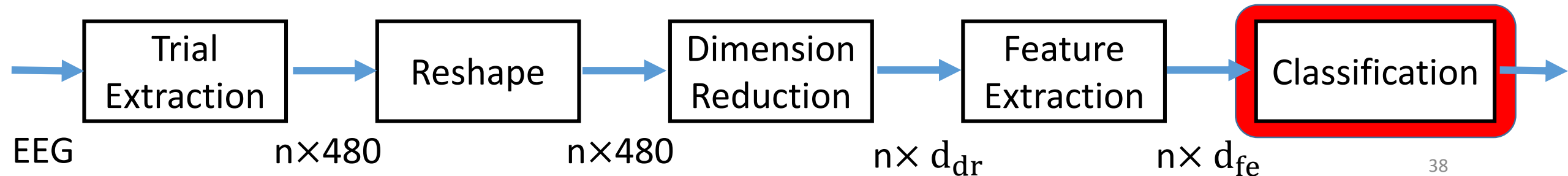
$$f_C = X \Phi_C T_{DA}$$

The posterior probability of class C given data feature f is:

$$P(C|f) = \frac{p(f|C) P_C}{p(f)}$$

- $p(f) = \sum_C p(f|C)P_C$  is the total probability of f
- $P_C$  is the prior prob. of C
- $p(f|C)$  is the **likelihood** of f given C.

**In BCI Speller,  $P_C = (\frac{1}{7}, \frac{6}{7})$**

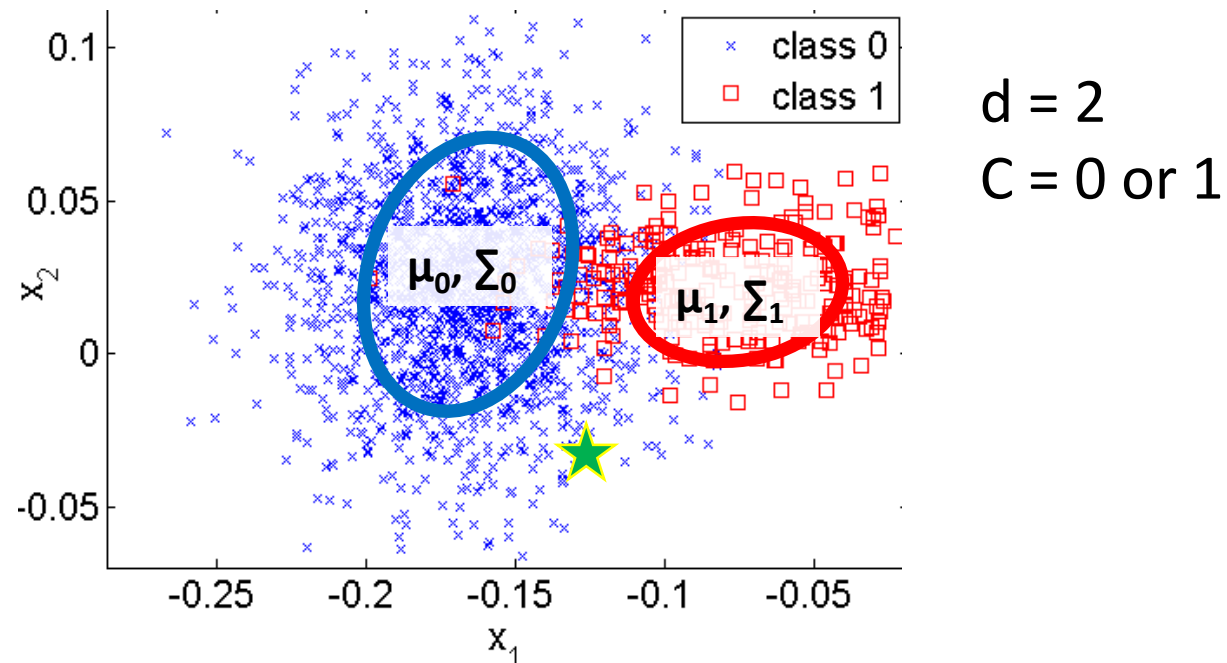


# Classification by Bayes rule

## Likelihood function

We use Gaussian (normal) distribution for the likelihood. It is essentially the Mahalanobis distance between  $f$  and  $\mu_C$ .

$$p(f|C) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^d |\Sigma_\star|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(f - \mu_C)\Sigma_\star^{-1}(f - \mu_C)^T\right)$$



# Classification by Bayes rule

## Quadratic and linear classifiers

Note the variance  $\Sigma_{\star}$  in the likelihood function can either be the class covariance or the total covariance.

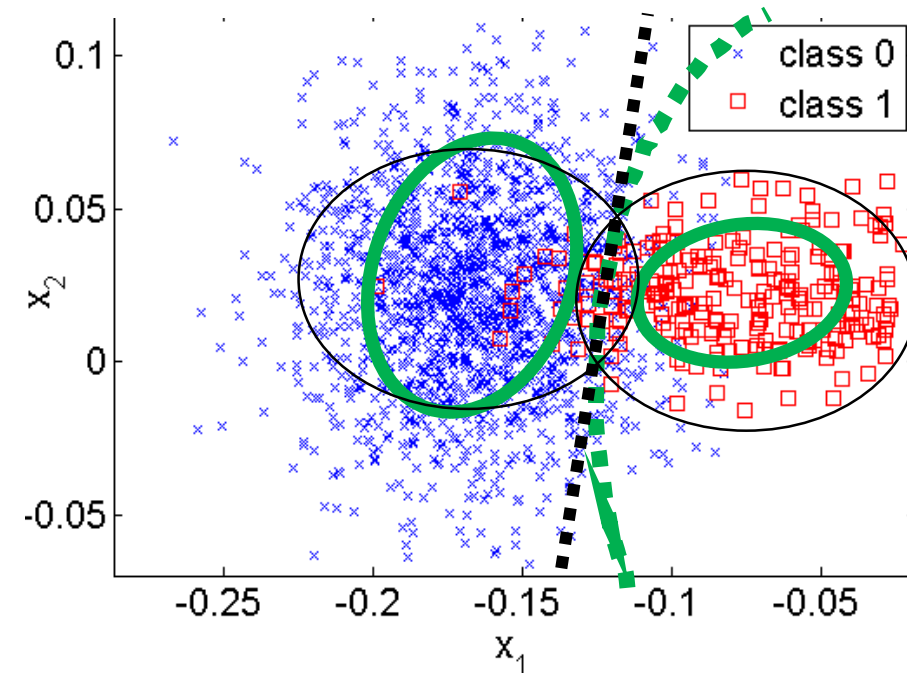
- For quadratic classifier,

$$\Sigma_{\star} = \Sigma_C$$

- For linear classifier,

$$\Sigma_{\star} = \sum_C P_C X_C X_C^T$$

- Quadratic is more specific to each class (since classes have different covariances)
- Linear is more robust (more trials to estimate covariance)

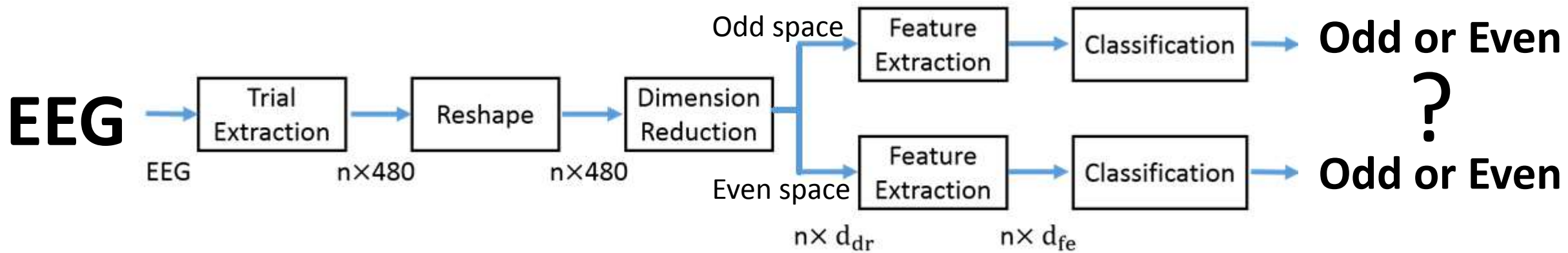




# Classification

## Classwise decision rule

- We get the posterior probabilities for each class, e.g.  $P(\text{Oddball} | f)$  and  $P(\text{Evenball} | f)$  from Bayes rule, **from each class subspace**.
  - Remember there are as many  $\Phi_C$  as there are classes, and each forms a subspace.
  - We need a way to make it compatible with ordinary Bayes classifier.



# Classification

## Classwise decision rule

The class with the highest posterior, anywhere, wins.

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Odd}|f, s_o) &= 0.1, & P(\text{Even}|f, s_o) &= 0.9 \\ P(\text{Odd}|f, s_e) &= 0.6, & P(\text{Even}|f, s_e) &= 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

$s_o$  = oddball subspace  
 $s_e$  = evenball subspace

“Even” class wins

To consolidate the posteriors, normalize highest posterior from each class:

$$P(\text{Odd}|f) = \frac{0.6}{1.5} = 0.4, \quad P(\text{Even}|f) = \frac{0.9}{1.5} = 0.6$$

# Classification

## Classwise decision rule

With the posterior probabilities calculated, we can decide on the class label of the EEG data:

$$\text{EEG trial is } \begin{cases} \text{Oddball} : P(\text{Odd}|\mathbf{f}) > P(\text{Even}|\mathbf{f}) \\ \text{Evenball} : \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

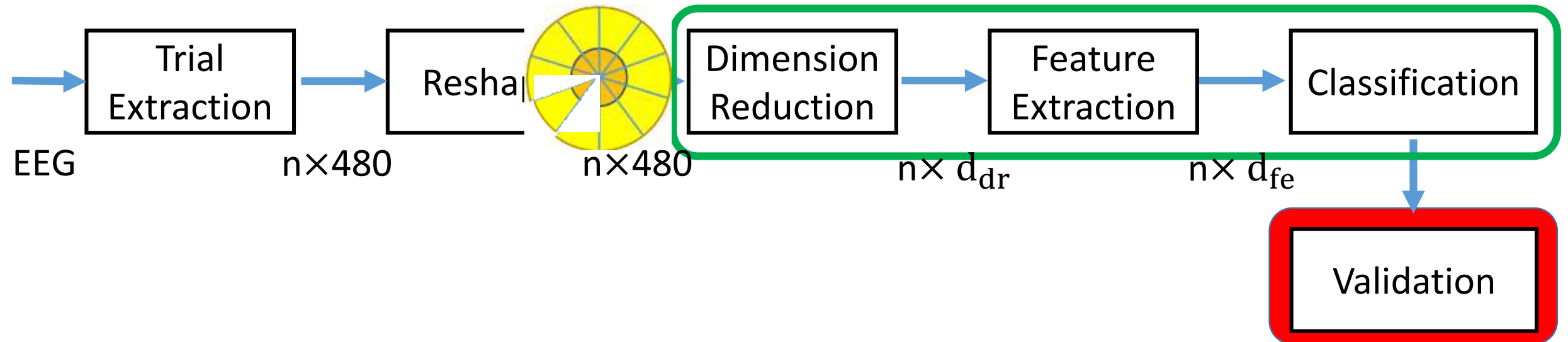
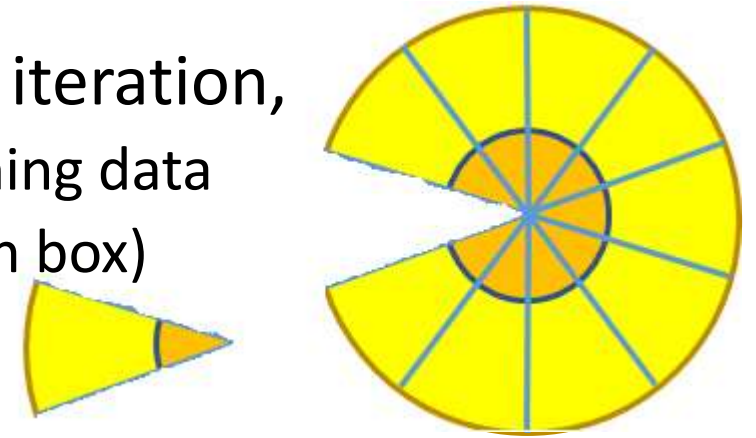
*Maximum a posteriori (MAP) rule*

### Recap:

1. One trial of data  $\mathbf{X} = (8 \text{ channels} \times 60 \text{ sample points})$ .
2. Feature extracted per class subspace:  $\mathbf{f}_c = \mathbf{X}\Phi_c\mathbf{T}_{DA}$
3. Posterior probabilities from classwise classification:  $P(C|\mathbf{f})$
4. Decision from posteriors is made

# Cross-validation (CV)

- Cross-validation is a technique to estimate the performance of the classifier on new data, without obtaining new data.
- We use stratified 10-fold cross-validation. In each CV iteration,
  1. 10% of trials from each class are removed from the training data
  2. The remaining 90% are used to build the classifier (green box)
  3. The classifier decodes those 10% trials into class labels
  4. The numbers of times it gets correct/wrong are tallied



# Cross-validation output

- The output of a cross-validation run is a confusion matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} P(C_1|C_1) & \cdots & P(C_m|C_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P(C_1|C_m) & \cdots & P(C_m|C_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $m$  is the total number of unique classes, and  $P(C_x|C_y)$  is read as “probability of decoding a new trial from Class  $Y$  as Class  $X$ ”.

- Diagonal terms are the probabilities of correct decoding
- The total probability of correct decoding is the sum of the diagonal weighted by priors:

$$P_{\text{correct}} = \sum_i P_{C_i} P(C_i|C_i)$$

# BCI-Speller experiment

Six subjects (2F, 22-56 y.o.) participated over 3 days. Each day consisted of training and online procedures for all 3 speeds (slow, medium, fast)

Table 5.1: Demographic data of the study participants.

Subject	Gender	Age	Prior BCI experience	Native English speaker
A	F	23	3 hours	Yes
B	M	40	10 hours	No
C	M	29	1 hour	Yes
D	M	22	Naïve	Yes
E	M	24	Naïve	Yes
F	F	56	10 hours	Yes

# BCI-Speller experiment training procedure results

1. Training performance (cross-validation) ranged ~90-97% (chance level = 85.7%)
2. Online task: They were then asked to *correctly* copy-spell:  
**THE QUICK BROWN FOX  
JUMPS OVER THE LAZY  
DOG\***  
over 1-3 online sessions per speed on each day.

Average  $\pm$  s.d.

Best

Subject	Interface speed (ITI, ms)		
	400	240	160
A	95.7 $\pm$ 1.5%	94.1 $\pm$ 1.1%	93.4 $\pm$ 1.6%
	97.0%	94.9%	94.4%
B	95.2 $\pm$ 1.9%	93.9 $\pm$ 2.5%	94.3 $\pm$ 2.9%
	97.4%	96.2%	96.6%
C	93.9 $\pm$ 2.5%	93.7 $\pm$ 2.8%	93.5 $\pm$ 1.9%
	96.6%	96.9%	95.5%
D	91.2 $\pm$ 0.8%	90.5 $\pm$ 0.2%	91.1 $\pm$ 1.0%
	92.1%	90.7%	92.2%
E	91.2 $\pm$ 1.5%	92.8 $\pm$ 2.2%	90.5 $\pm$ 2.3%
	92.3%	95.1%	92.4%
F	94.2 $\pm$ 0.9%	93.3 $\pm$ 0.9%	93.8 $\pm$ 0.3%
	95.3%	94.2%	94.0%

\* marks personal best and \*\* overall best<sup>47</sup>.

A B C D E F G

THE

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 ? ! >

**Video slowed  
down to  
0.25x**



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 ? ! >

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Video slowed  
down to  
0.25x

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>

**Video slowed  
down to  
0.25x**



# Information transfer rate

## Information transfer rate

$$ITR = \frac{N_c}{T} \log_2 |A|$$

- $|A| = 42$  (number of different characters that can be chosen)
- $N_c$  = number of characters correctly entered (44 for the quick brown fox...)
- $T$  = time taken (seconds)

Useful when comparing between different speller designs (more/less characters on screen).

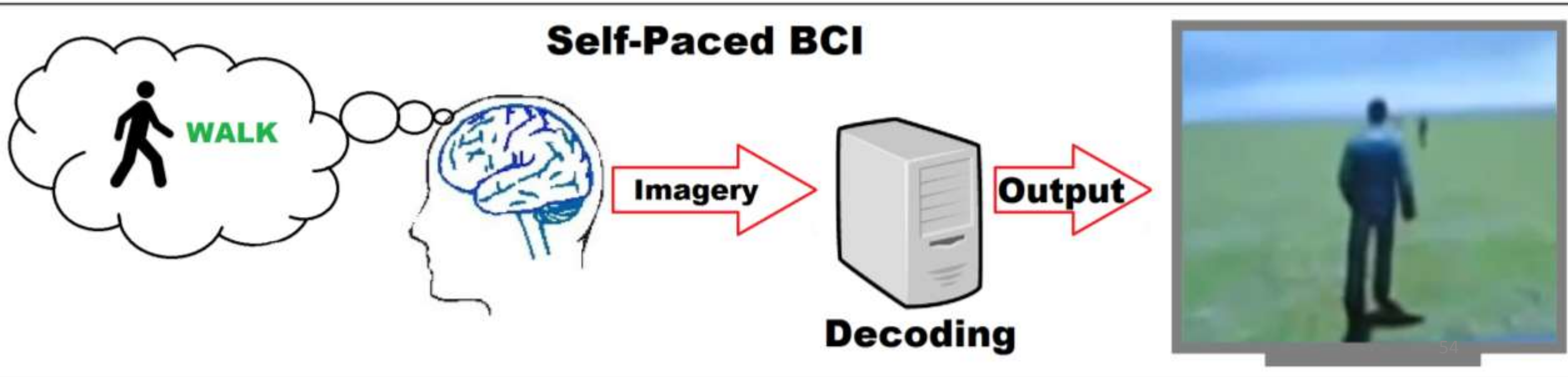
Note that  $T$  excludes the 3-s pause times.

Input design	ITR range (bit/s)
Our BCI Speller (4.7 s/char – 10.7 s/char)	<b>1.77 – 3.04</b> (4 – 7 wpm)
Other BCI spellers	0.22 – 1.03 (0.5 – 3 wpm)
Typing by hand	9.01 – 12.9 (23 – 33 wpm)

# BCI Gait

# BCI Gait

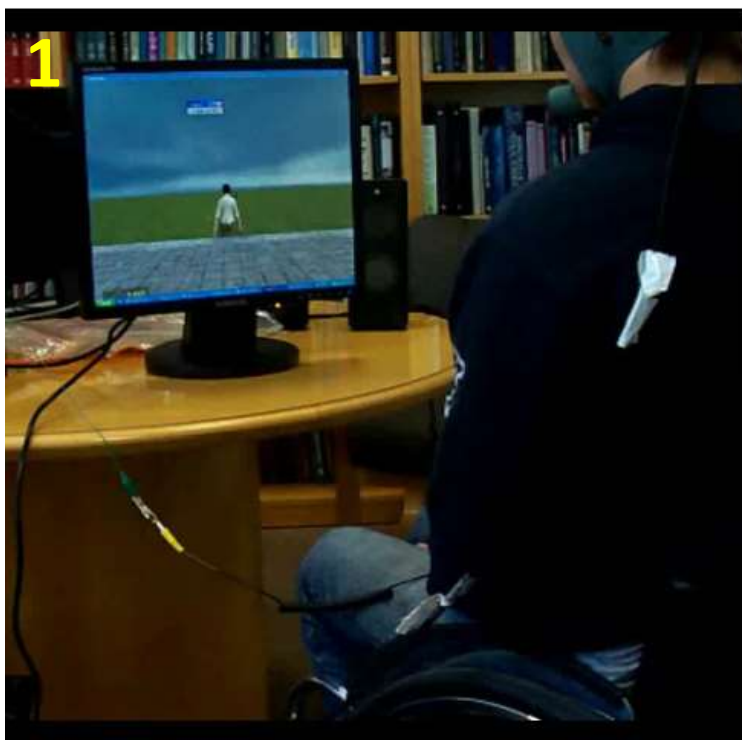
- BCI-Gait uses the changes in the sensorimotor rhythms (SMR) on the motor areas of the brain to control a walking device
- **Self-paced** – Instead of stimulus-response, the user changes their own brain signals at their own pace to control the BCI in real time
- Idling and walking kinesthetic motor imageries (KMI) – intuitive control strategy



# BCI Gait

Three stages of implementation

1. **BCI-Avatar:** Control a virtual reality walking simulation
2. **BCI-RoGO:** Control a robotic gait orthosis over a treadmill
3. **BCI-Parastep:** Control a functional electrical stimulation (FES)-based walking prosthesis



# BCI Gait experiment protocols

## BCI-Avatar

1. Training procedure
2. Build classifier
3. Calibration
4. Online control of an avatar in a video game

## BCI-RoGO

1. Training procedure
2. Build classifier
3. Calibration
4. Online control of a robotic gait orthosis

## BCI-Parastep

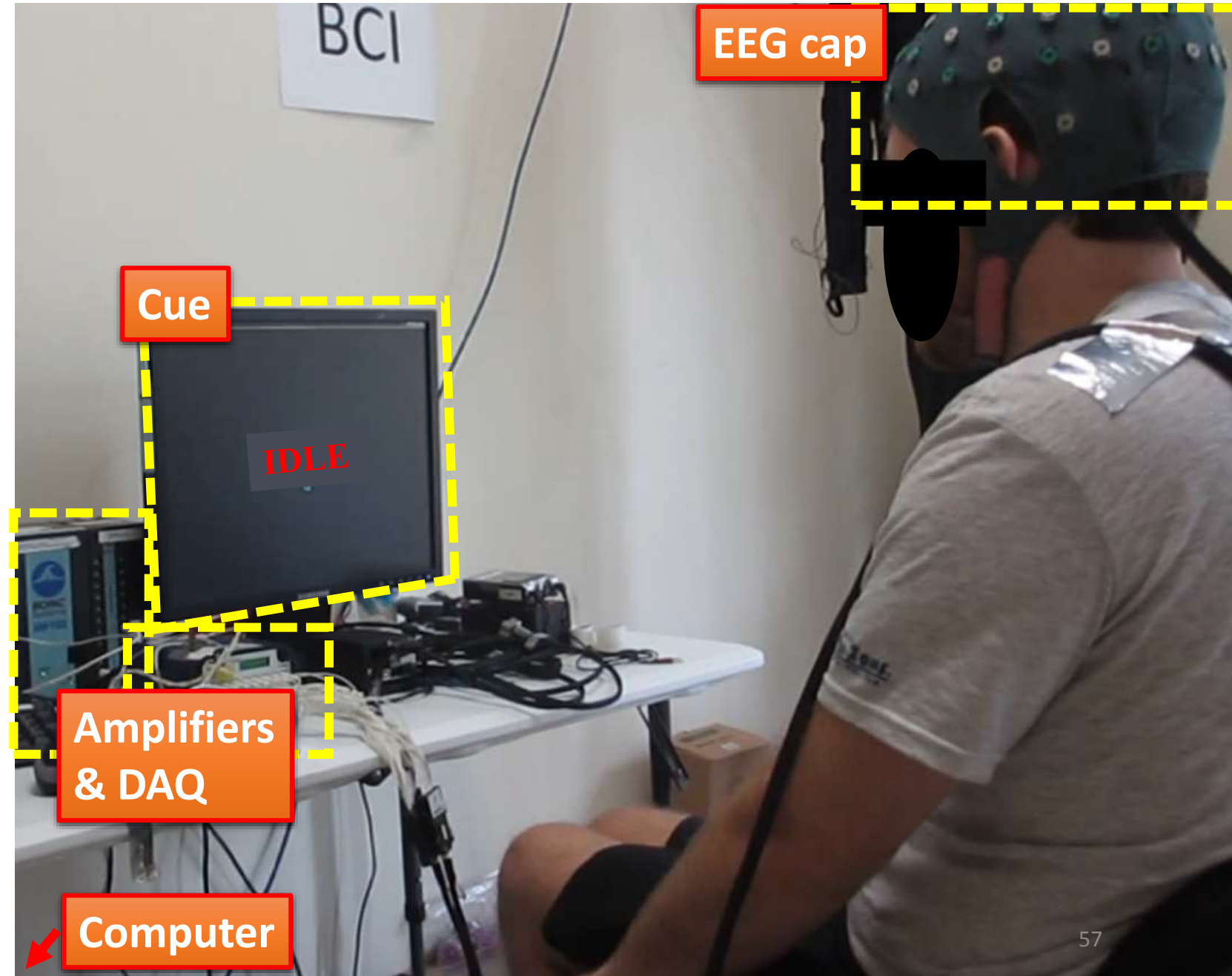
1. Training procedure
2. Build classifier
3. Calibration
4. Online control of a FES-based walking prosthesis



# Training procedure – protocol

10 x

1. Cue `Walk' (30 s)  
Kinesthetic motor imagery (KMI) of walking
  2. Cue `Idle' (30 s)  
Imagine idling
- (total 10 minutes)



# Subject demographics (BCI-Avatar only)

Table 6.1: List of participants with demographic data and prior BCI experience relevant to the task. SCI status scored according to American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) Impairment Scale.

	Subject	Gender	Age	BCI experience	SCI status
<b>Able-Bodied</b>	A1	M	40	~1 hr	–
	A2	M	29	~1 hr	–
	A3	F	23	~1 hr	–
	A4	F	57	0 hr	–
	A5	F	24	0 hr	–
	A6	M	21	0 hr	–
	A7	M	25	0 hr	–
	A8	M	32	0 hr	–
<b>Paraplegia, tetraplegia</b>	S1	F	27	0 hr	T8 ASIA B, 11 yr post injury
	S2	M	34	0 hr	T11, ASIA A, 8 yr. post injury
	S3	M	46	0 hr	T1, ASIA B, 4 yr. post injury
	S4	M	43	0 hr	C5, Syringomyelia, 14 yr. post onset
	S5	M	59	0 hr	T1, ASIA B, 2 yr. post injury
	S6	M	21	0 hr	T11, ASIA B, 1 yr. post injury

# Equipment

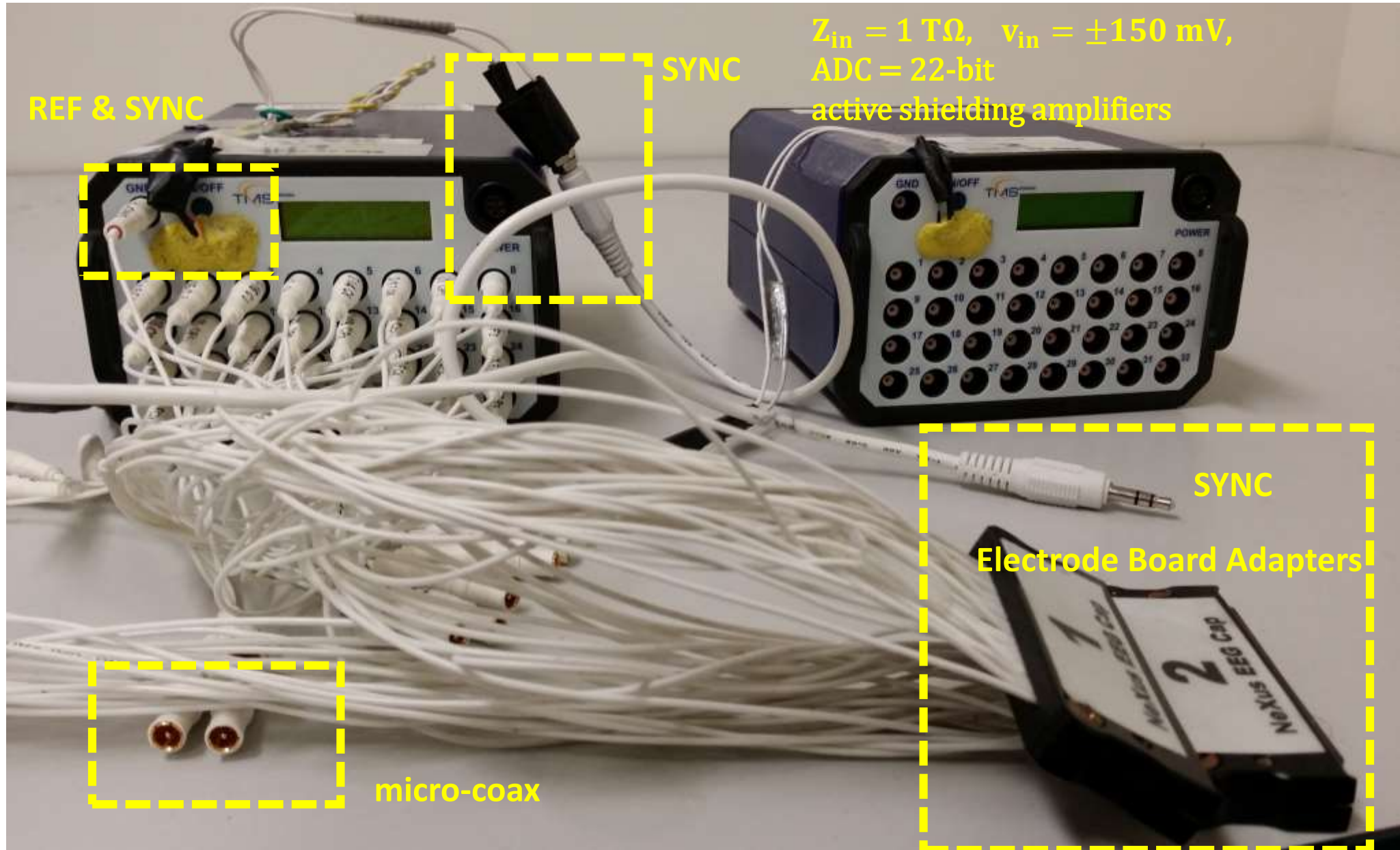
- **EEG cap:** NeXus EEG Cap  
(Medi Factory, Heerlen, The Netherlands)
- **EEG reference:** Between AFz and FPz electrodes
- **EEG amplifiers:** NeXus-32  
(MindMedia, Roermond-Herlen, The Netherlands)
- **EEG data acquisition device (DAQ):** Same as EEG amplifiers
- **DAQ to receive cue signal:** MP150  
(Biopac Systems)

**EEG: Sampled at 256 Hz**

**Cue: Sampled at 2000 Hz**



# NeXus EEG amplifiers and DAQ



# Timing and synchronization

## Problem:

EEG and textual cues are not recorded together.

EEG amps have no aux ports.

How to label *Idle vs. Walk* segments on EEG?

## Solution:

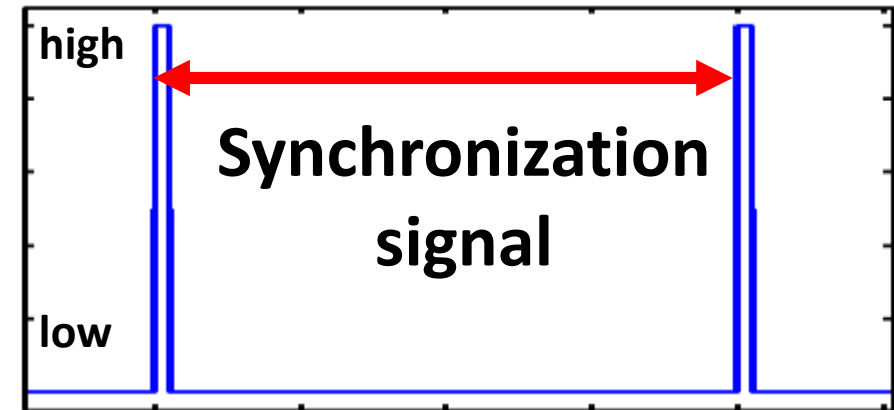
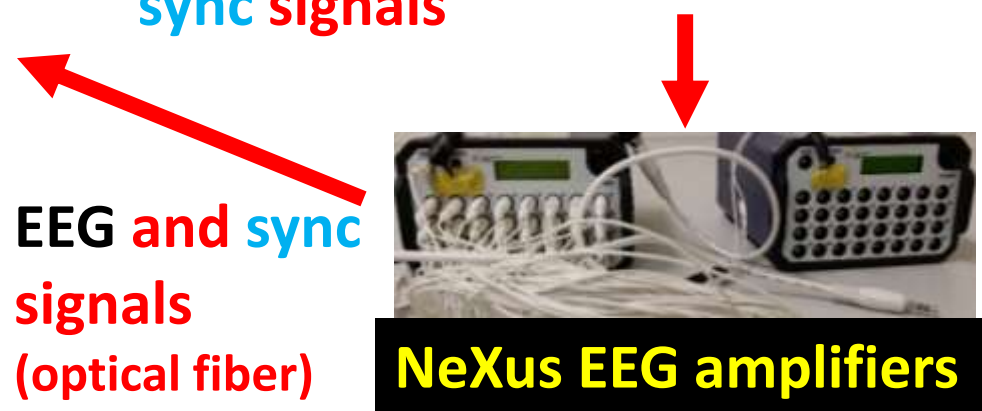
1. A **timing signal** from the computer  
Walk cue = Audio tone  
Idle cue = No audio
2. A **synchronization signal** between NeXus EEG and MP150

# Timing and synchronization

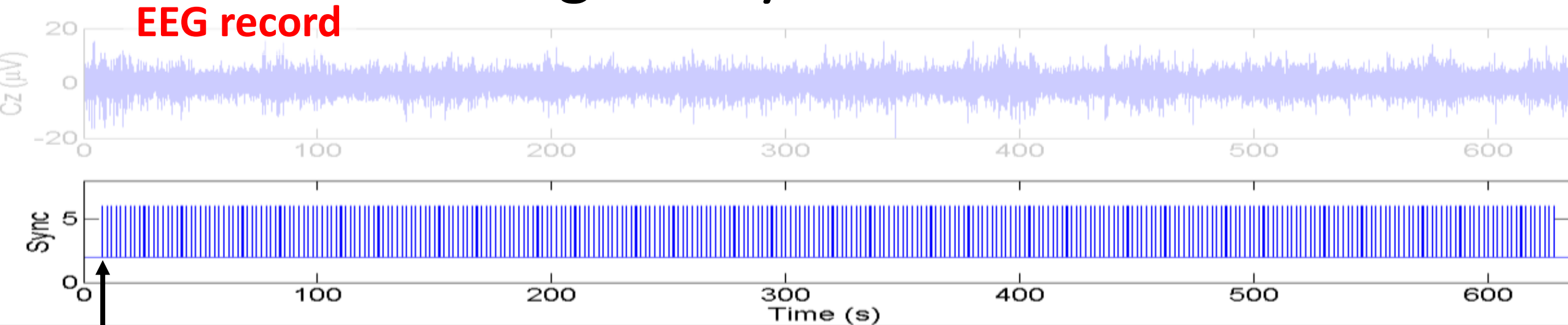
## Problem:

EEG and textual cues are not recorded together.

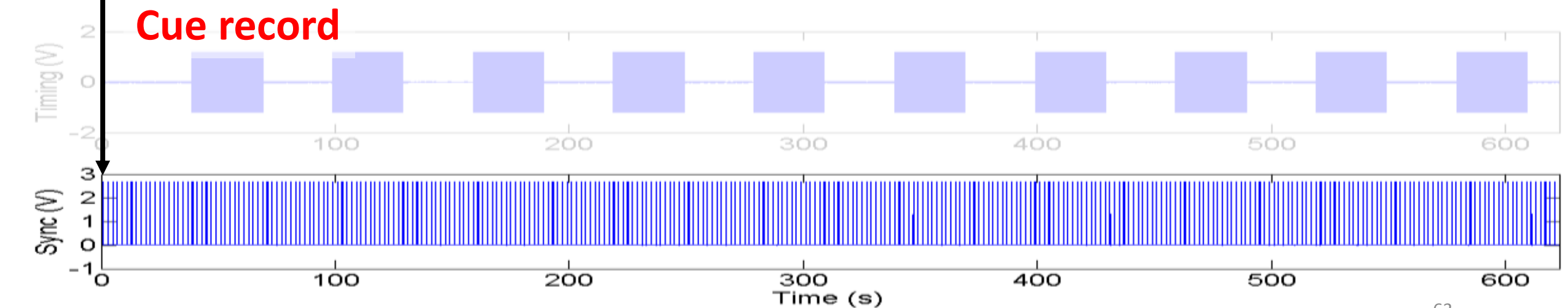
How to label *Idle vs. Walk* segments on EEG?



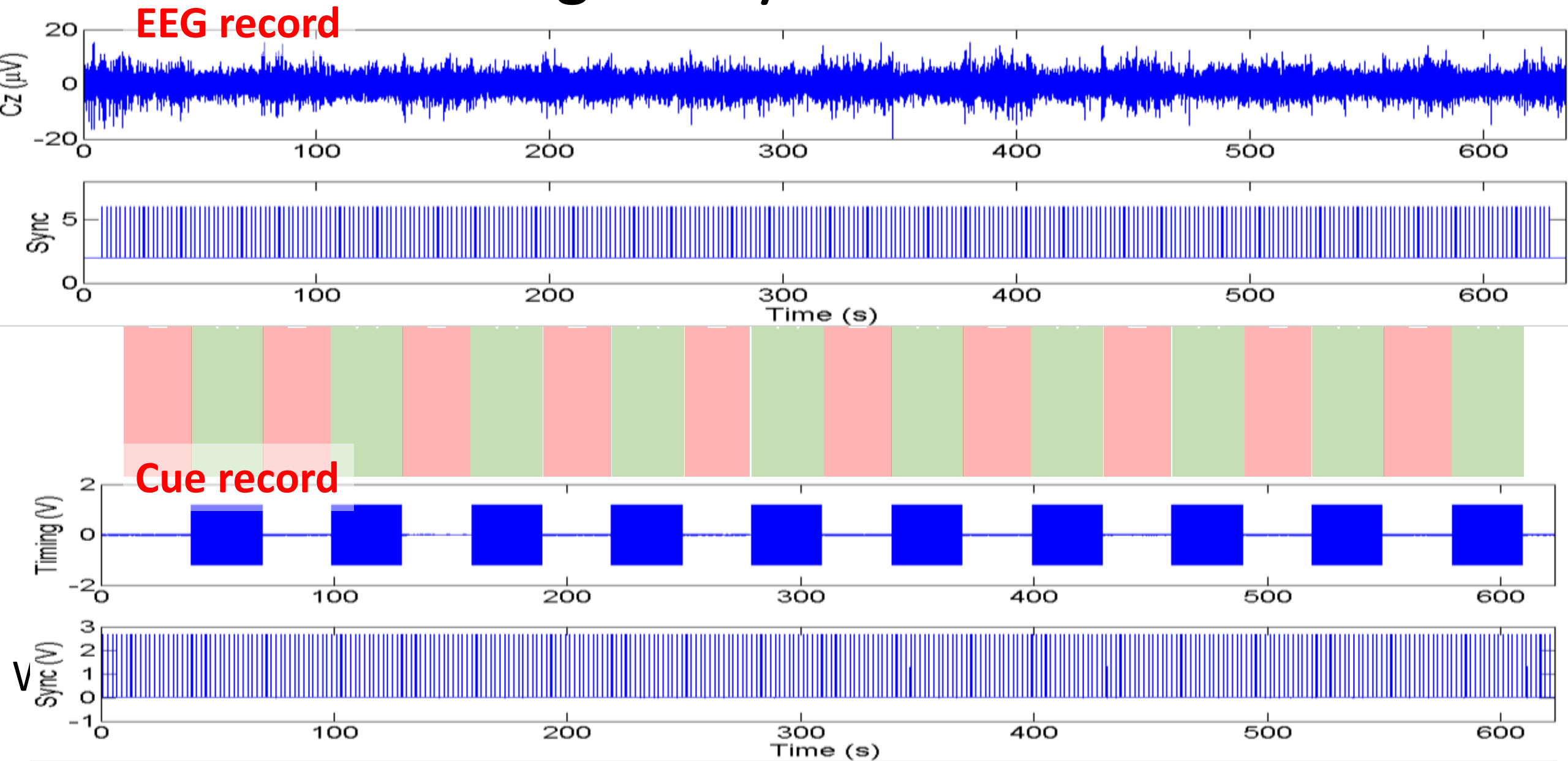
# Timing and synchronization



The first square pulses are aligned on both records

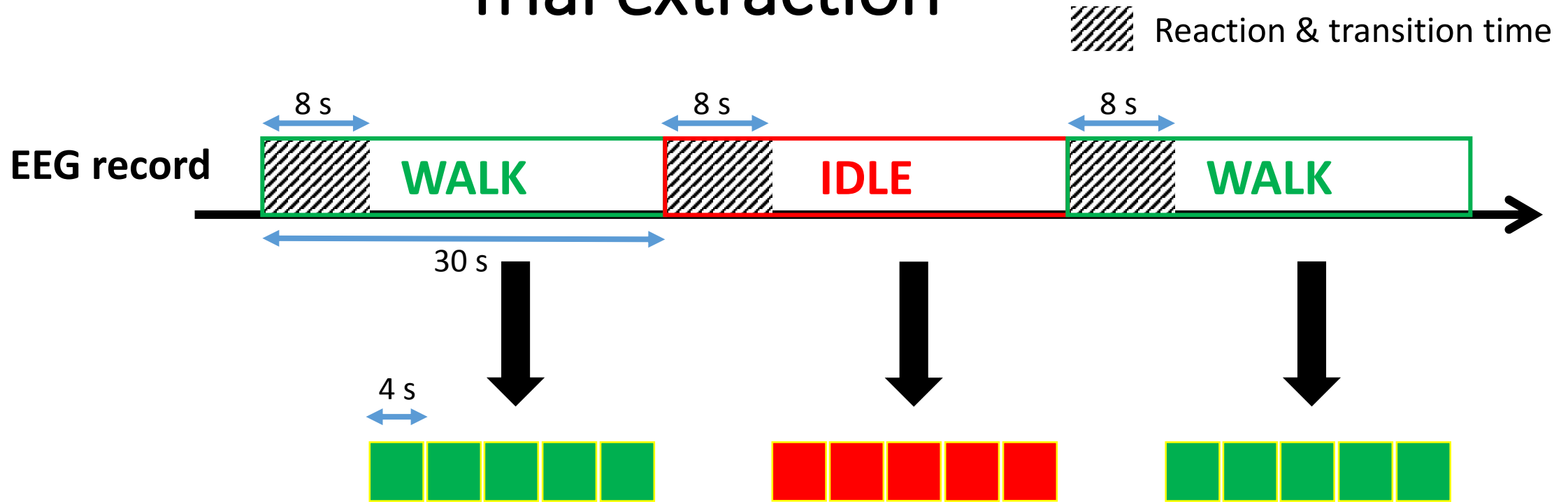


# Timing and synchronization



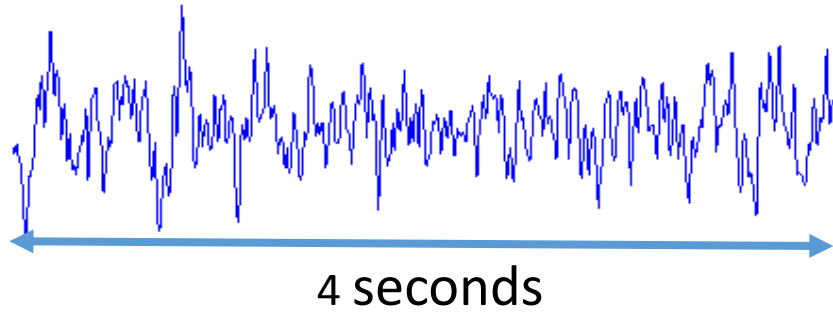


# Trial extraction

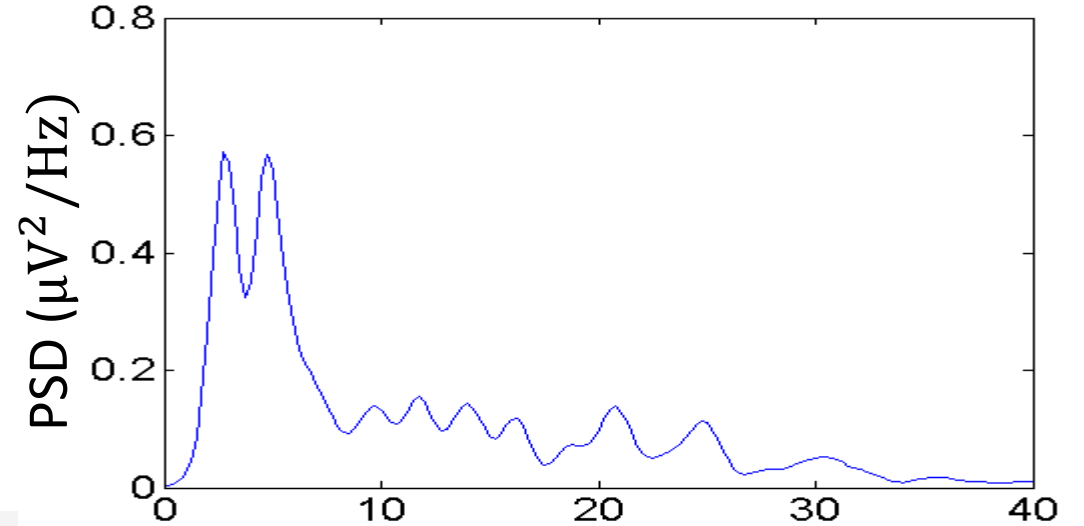


1. EEG record is divided into 30-s Idle and 30-s Walk segments
2. The first 8 s in each segment are discarded
3. Remaining segments are further split into five 4-s small segments
4. A total of 50 Idle trials and 50 Walk trials are extracted

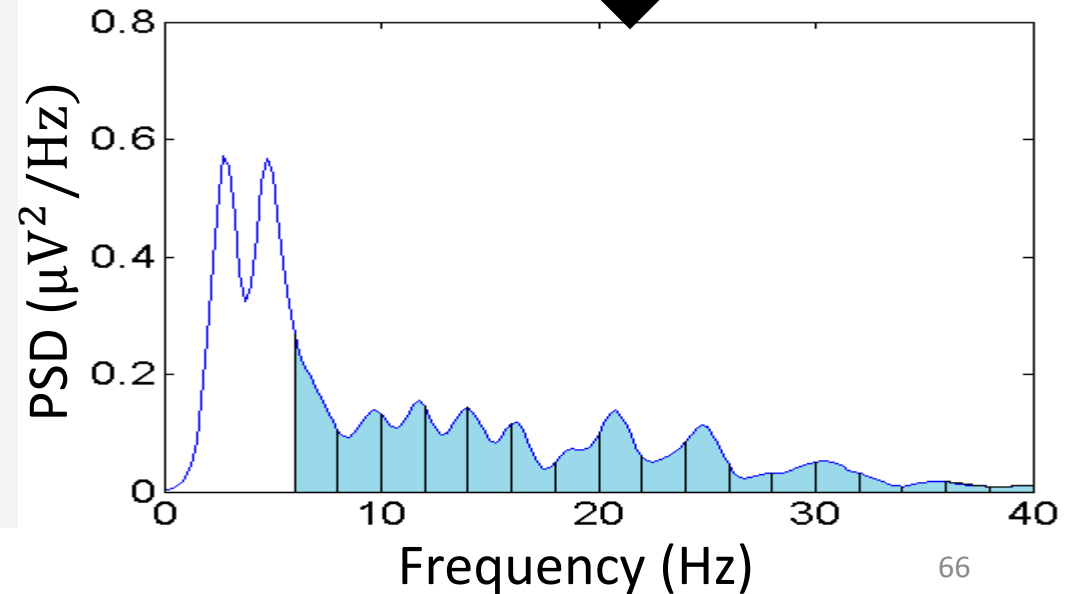
# Data processing



**FFT** →

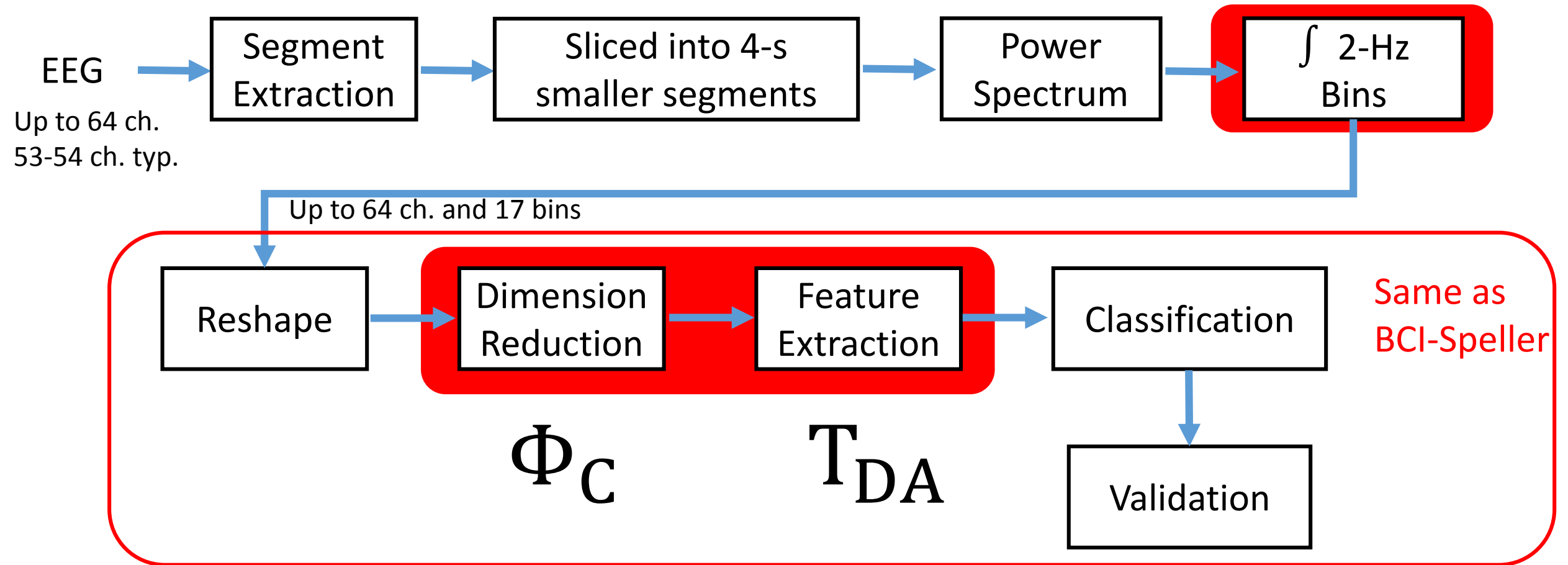


↓

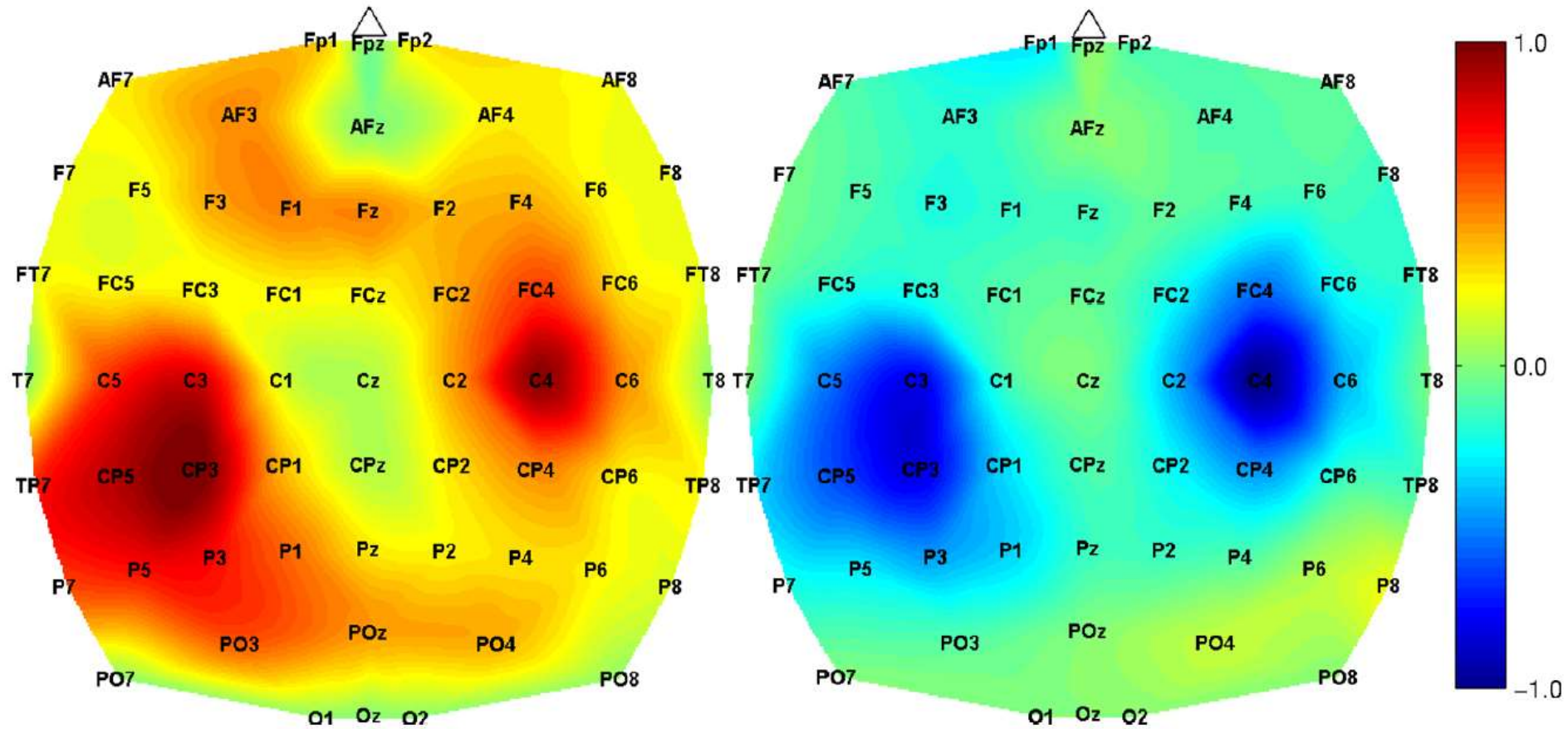


1. Each small segment is transformed to frequency domain using Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)
2. Power spectrum is integrated over 2-Hz bins, centered around 7, 9, ... 39 Hz.
3. Resulting in 17 sample points per channel.

# Feature extraction, etc.



# Feature extraction filter (AB)



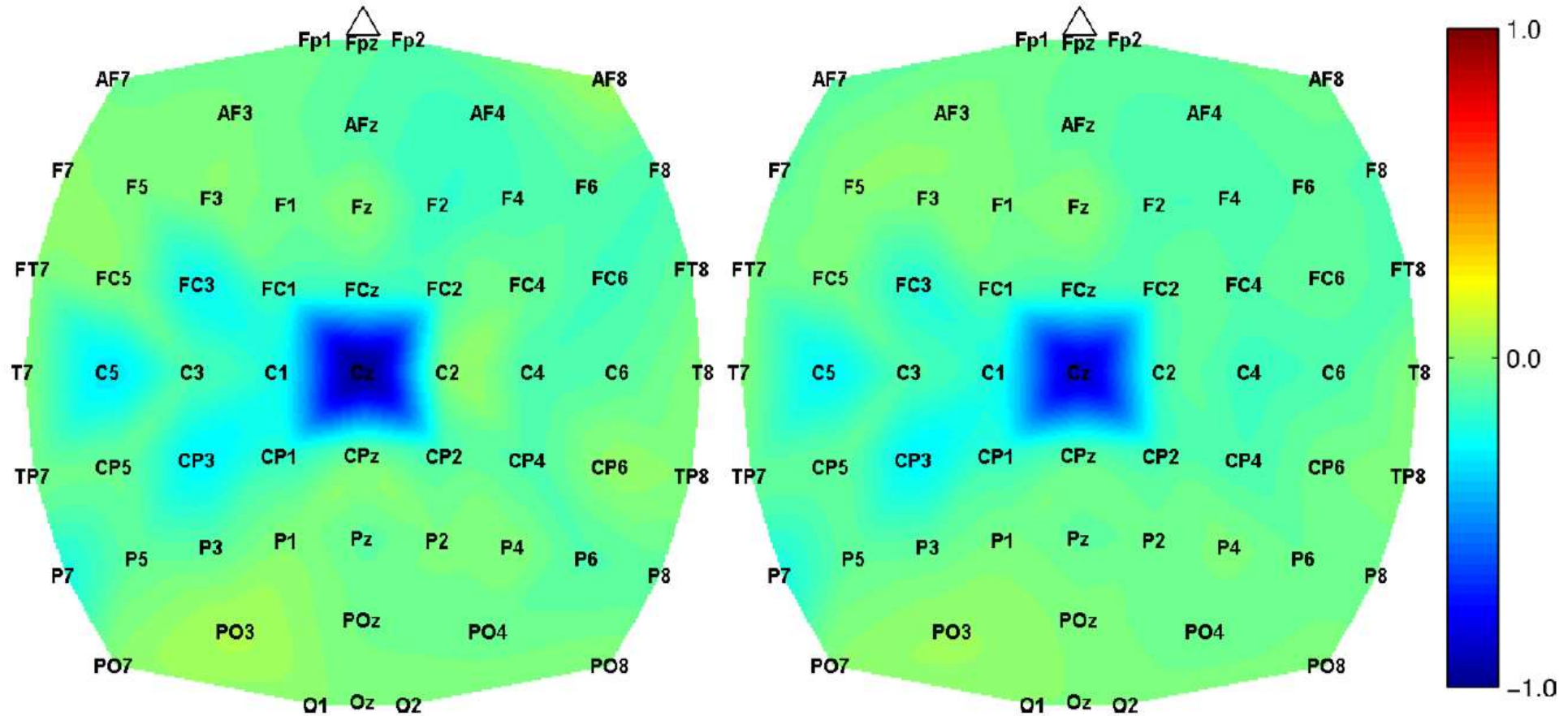
Feature extraction filter in the 12-14 Hz bin for Subject A2 (29M).

Higher magnitudes (deep blue/red) = more important.

The CPCA technique generates one filter for each class. Left: Idle subspace, Right: Walk subspace.

Training performance: 86.6% (50% chance).

# Feature extraction filter (SCI)



Feature extraction filter in the 14-16 Hz bin for Subject S1 (27F, SCI, T8, ASIA B, 11 yr post)

Training performance: 94.5%

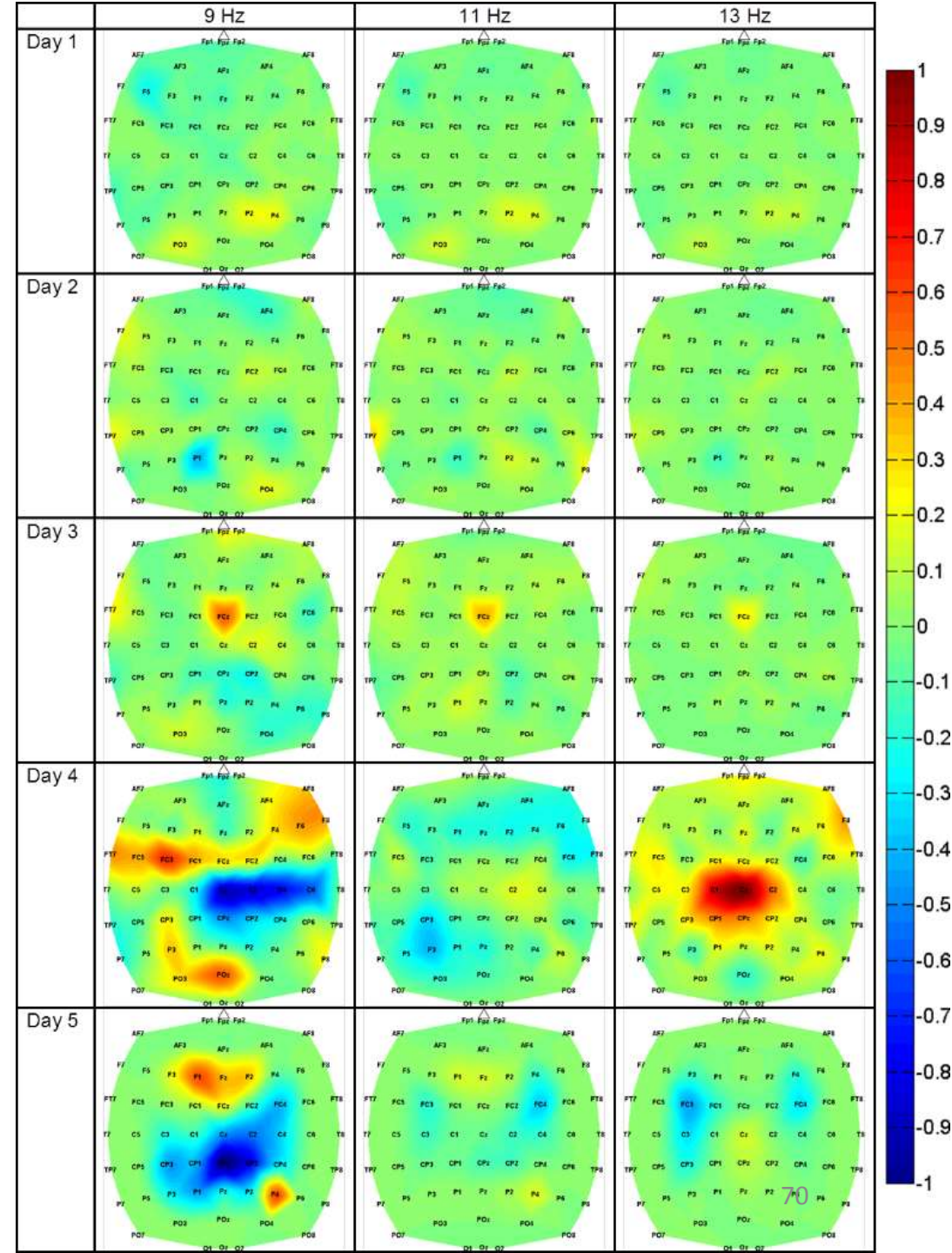
# Relearning process?

The FE filters for Subject S3 (46M, SCI, T1, ASIA B, 4 yr post) evolved over the 5 days.

- No strong features in  $\mu$  band in the first 3 days
- On the 4<sup>th</sup> day, foot and left hand representation areas “lit up”
- Training performance jumped from 62% to 92%

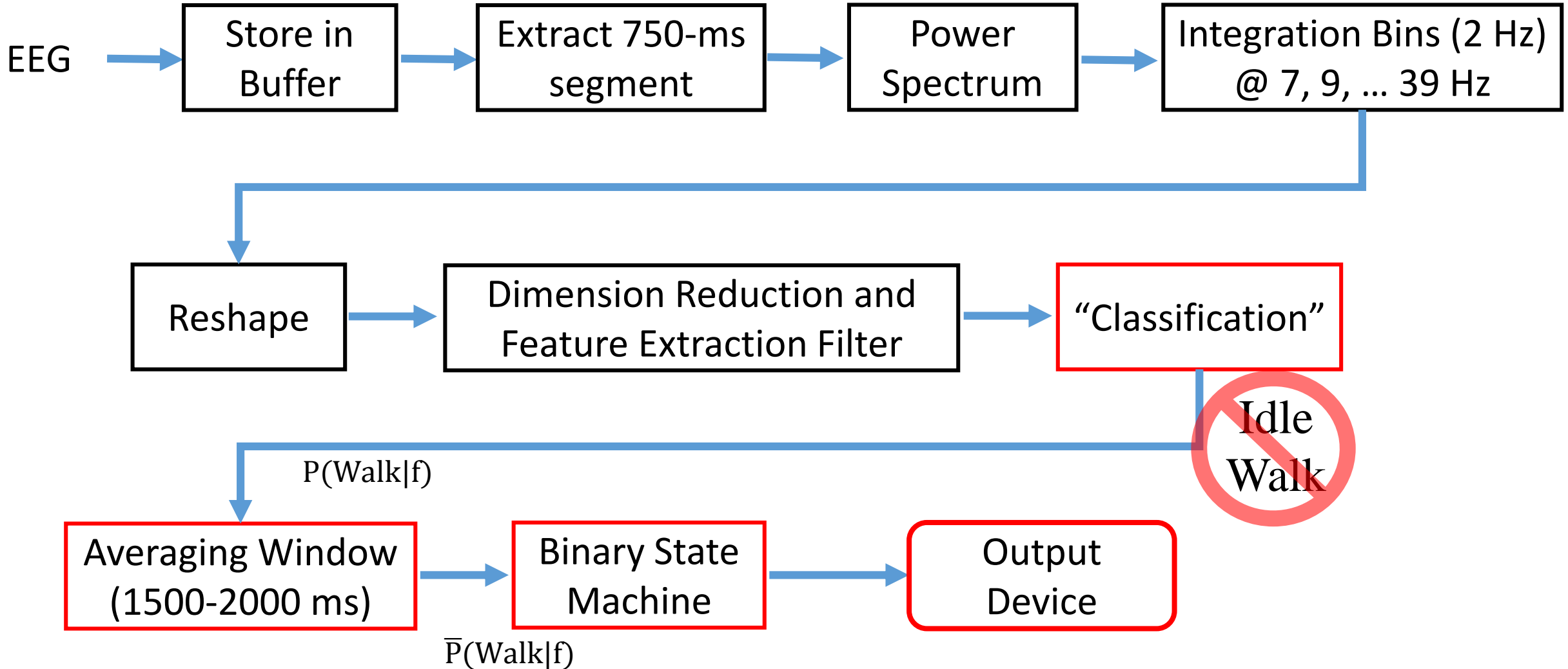
Day	$P(\text{correct}   f^*)$	p-value	RC	Freq. band
1	$62.2 \pm 1.8\%$	$6.00 \times 10^{-3}$	53	4-40 Hz
2	$62.0 \pm 1.8\%$	$1.05 \times 10^{-2}$	53	4-40 Hz
3	$60.5 \pm 2.0\%$	$1.76 \times 10^{-2}$	53	6-40 Hz
4	$91.6 \pm 1.7\%$	$1.60 \times 10^{-19}$	54	4-40 Hz
5	$82.5 \pm 1.6\%$	$6.55 \times 10^{-12}$	25 <sup>†</sup>	6-20 Hz

Avg.  $71.8 \pm 14.3\%$   $6.82 \times 10^{-3}$

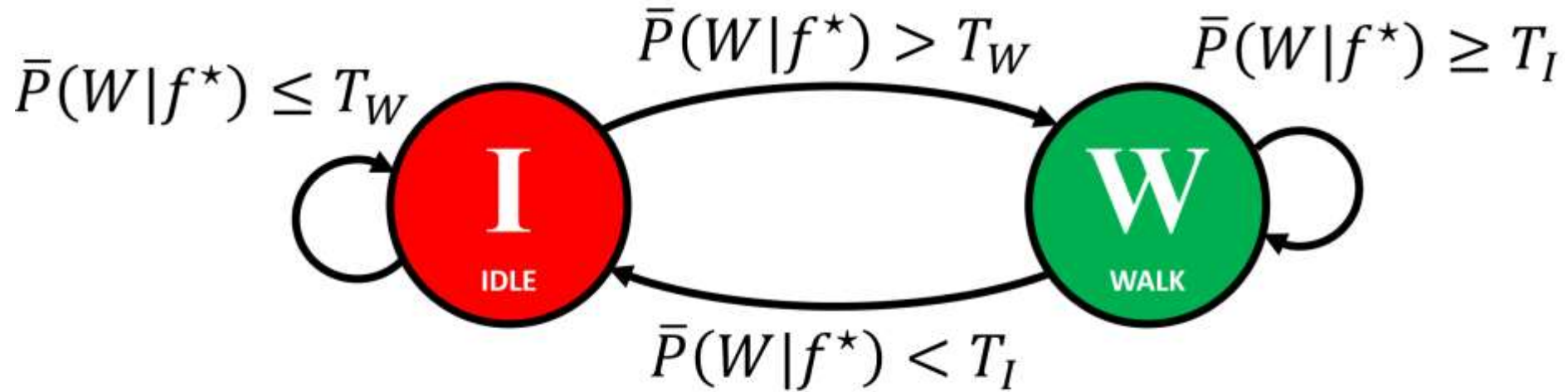


# BCI Gait: Online procedure flowchart

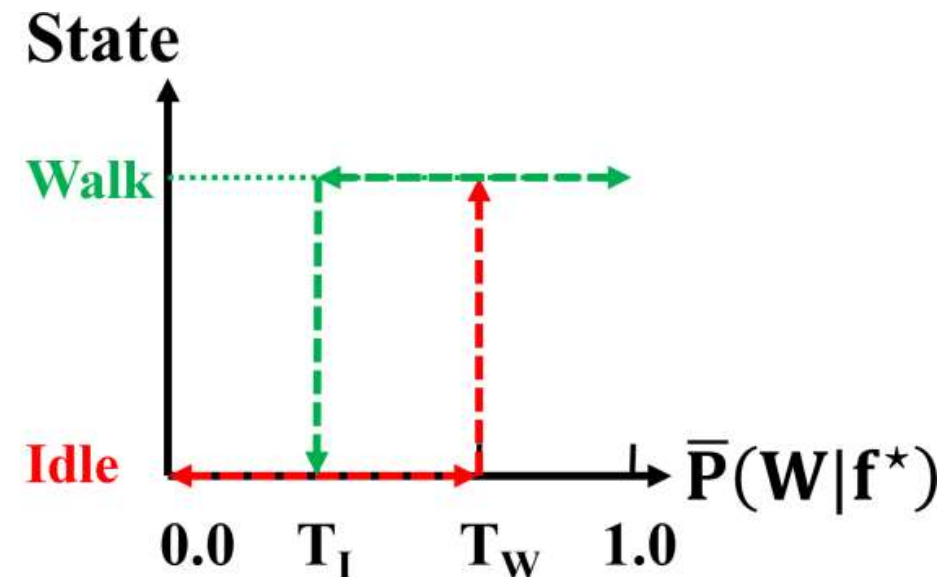
Every 500 ms, these steps are performed:



# Binary state machine



1. **Input:**  $P(W|f^*)$  averaged over 1.5-2.0 s  
**Output:** Idle or Walk, controls the output device
2. Two parameters:  
**Idle Threshold ( $T_I$ )**  
**Walk Threshold ( $T_W$ )**
3. Concentrated effort vs. maintenance of imagery



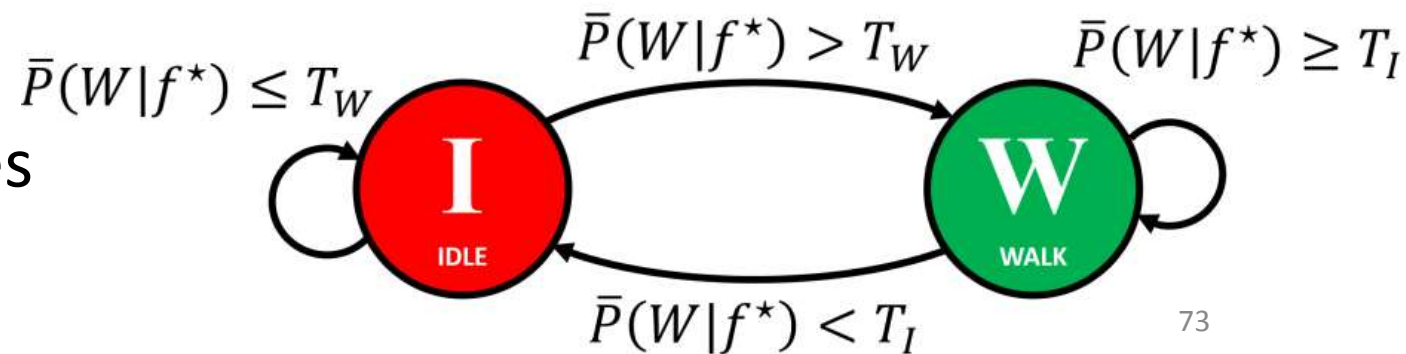


# Calibration procedure: determine $T_I$ and $T_W$

## Steps

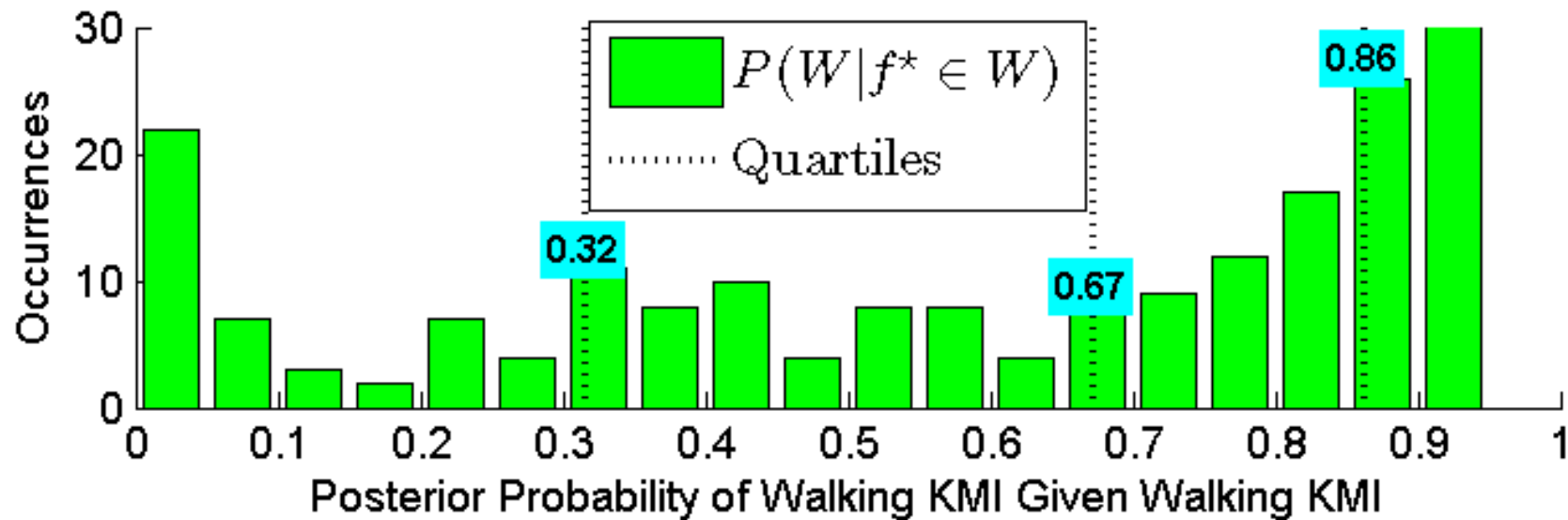
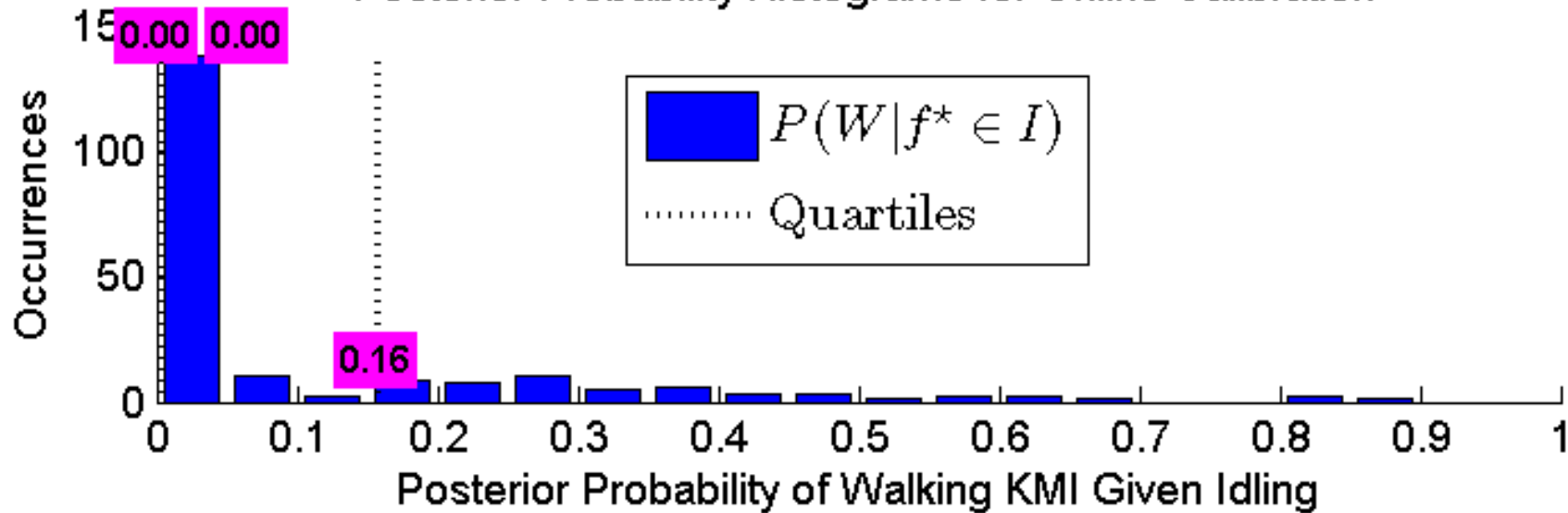
1. The BCI is put into online mode, with the following exceptions:
  - The output device is disconnected
  - The subject follows verbal cues from an experimenter
2. The experimenter instructs the subject to perform idling and walking KMI
  - The timing of each KMI is noted
3.  $\bar{P}(W|f)$  from the calibration session is split into  $\bar{P}(W|f \in I)$  (when instructed to idle) and  $\bar{P}(W|f \in W)$  (when instructed to imagine walking).
4. Histograms are plotted.

- Calibration procedure  $\sim$  4 minutes



# Calibration histograms

Posterior Probability Histograms for Online Calibration



# BCI Avatar: Online task

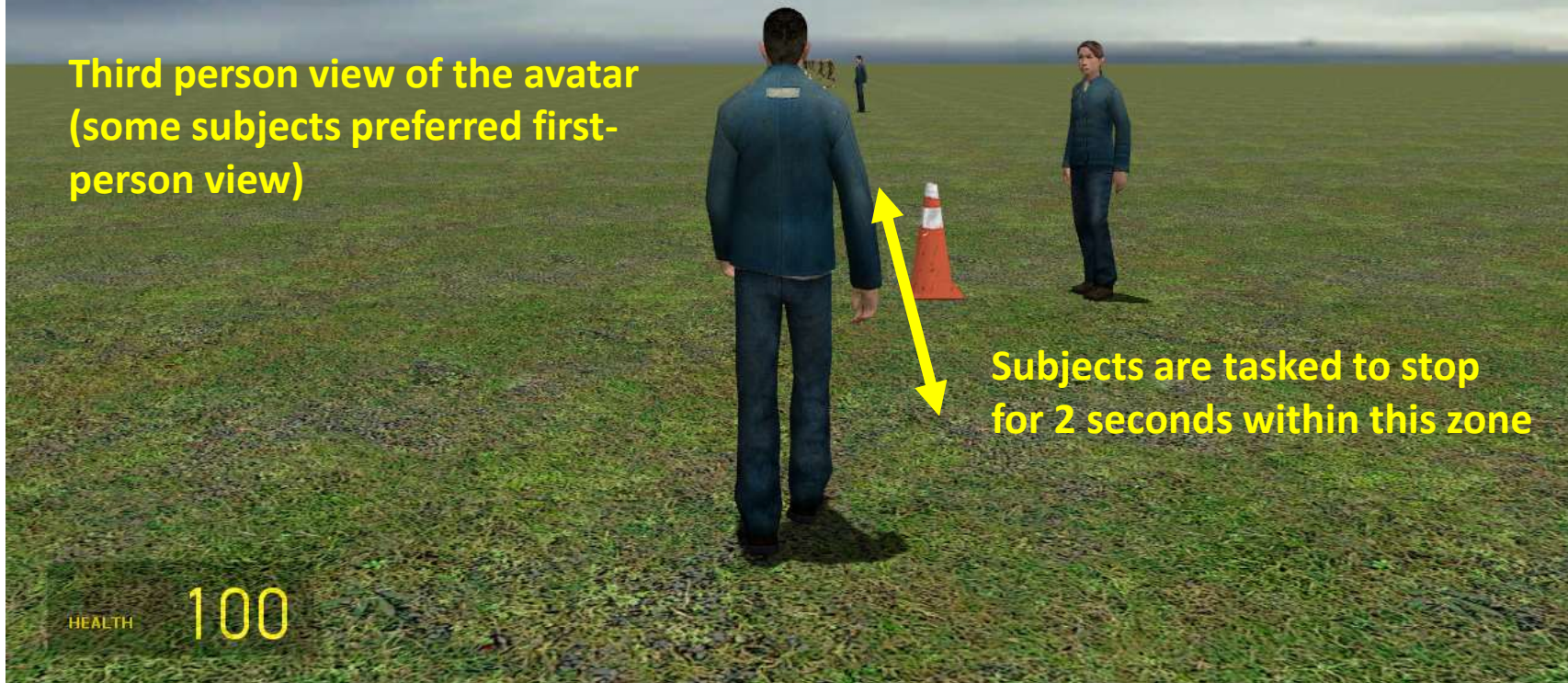
```
pos: -1172.03 -120.00 63.03  
ang: 0.00 130.00 0.00  
vel: 57.53
```

Optical character recognition to interpret the player avatar's location in the game world

Control a player's avatar

- Walk across the field as fast as possible
- Stop by 10 NPCs for 2 s each

Third person view of the avatar (some subjects preferred first-person view)



Subjects are tasked to stop for 2 seconds within this zone

HEALTH 100

# BCI Avatar: Online performance

**Subj. S1 (Mar, 2010) SCI (T8, ASIA B, 11 yr post)  
(Live demo, Reeve-Irvine Research Center)**

**Subj. S4 (Sep, 2012) Chiari malformation (C5, 14 yr post)**



**Video @ 2x speed**

© 2012 CBMSPC

# BCI RoGO: Online performance

**Video @ 4x speed**

Subject's Monitor

**IDLE**

**June, 2012  
Able-bodied  
person**

00:00:01  
Subject's Disp

**IDLE**

**July, 2013  
Person with SCI  
(T6, ASIA B)**

# Conclusions and future works

# Review of objectives

- Goal: Create high-performance BCI using novel data processing techniques
- Specifically: Apply non-linear (piecewise linear) feature extraction, classification, and validation techniques to develop BCIs

• Result:

Design goal	BCI-Speller	BCI-Gait
Short training time	Yes (6-7 min)	Yes (10-15 min)
Intuitive control	Yes	Yes
High performance	Yes (4-5 s/chr)	Yes (high correlation)
Adaptive	(not tested)	Yes (AB, paraplegia, tetraplegia)
Versatile	(not pursued)	6+ output devices

# BCI-Gait: Overground walking

- Training time:
  - 17 physiotherapy sessions
  - 7-11 BCI-Avatar training sessions
- Performance:
  - Offline: 100%
  - Online:  $\rho > 0.9$



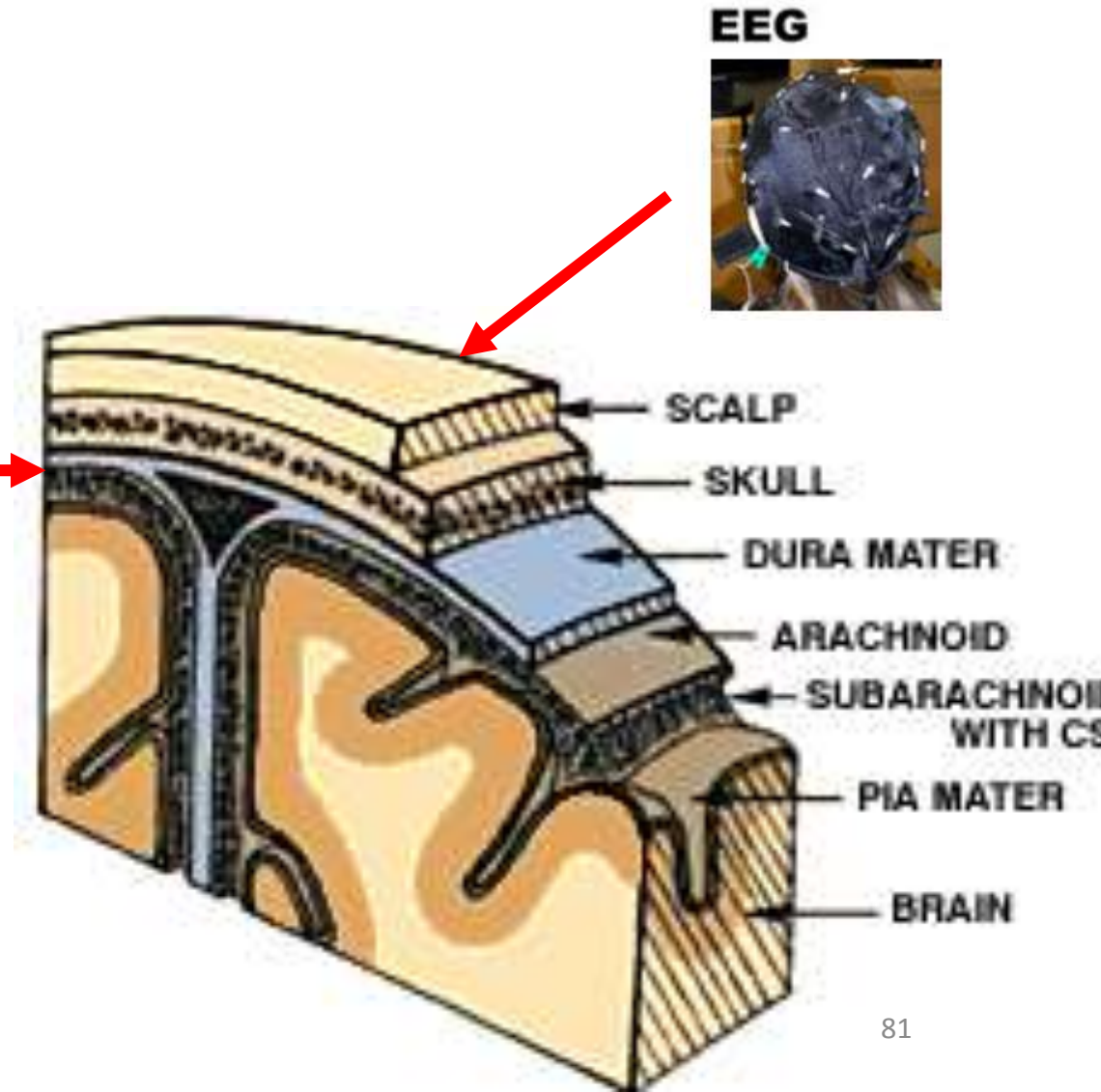
**iMove Lab**



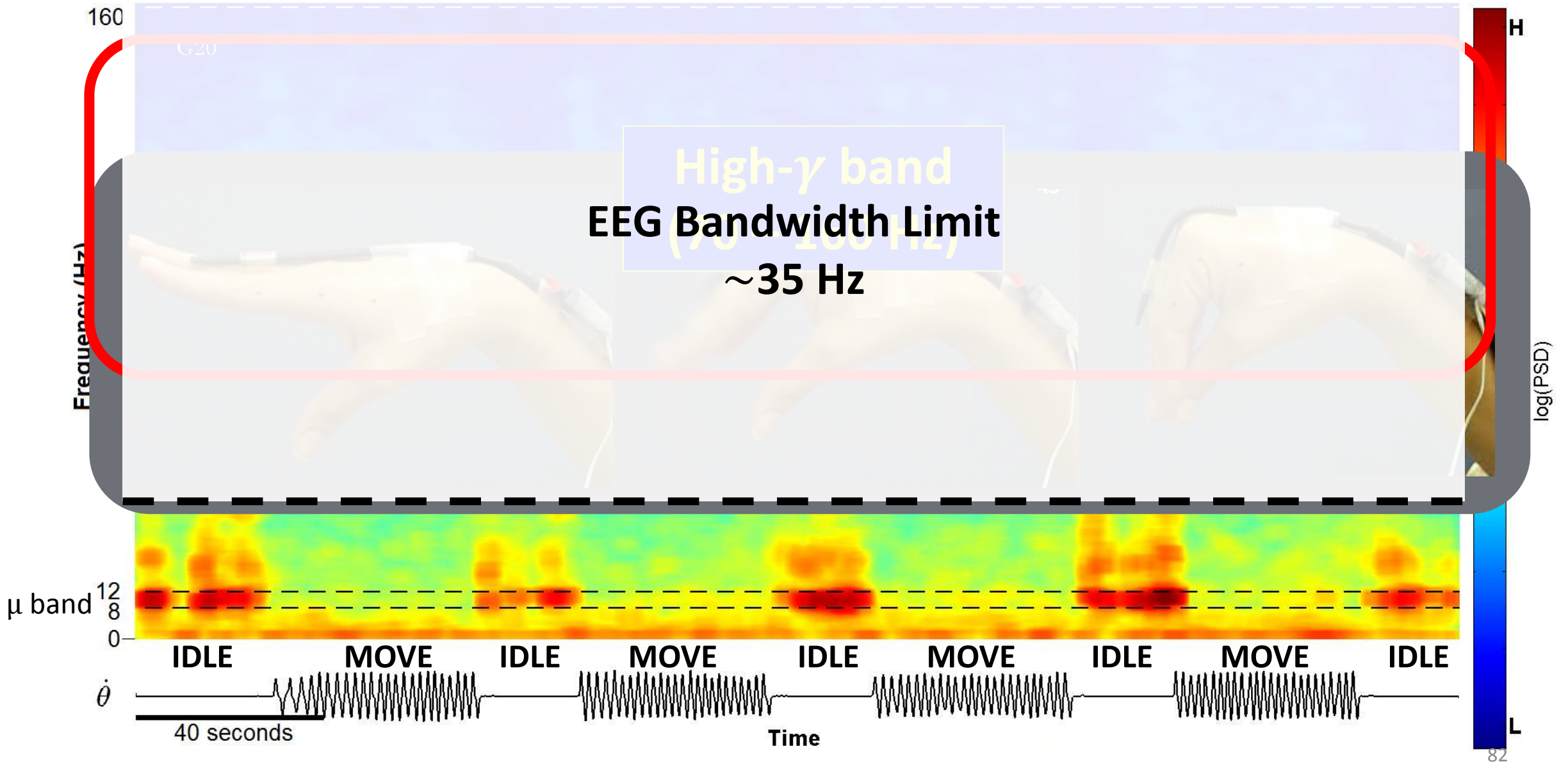
# Electrocorticography (ECoG)

- EEG based system
  - EEG cap
  - Artifacts
  - Dries up
  - Bulky equipment
  - Limited bandwidth and resolution

- ECoG
  - Record underneath the dura
  - Better spatial resolution
  - Higher bandwidth
  - Long-lasting
  - Immune to artifacts

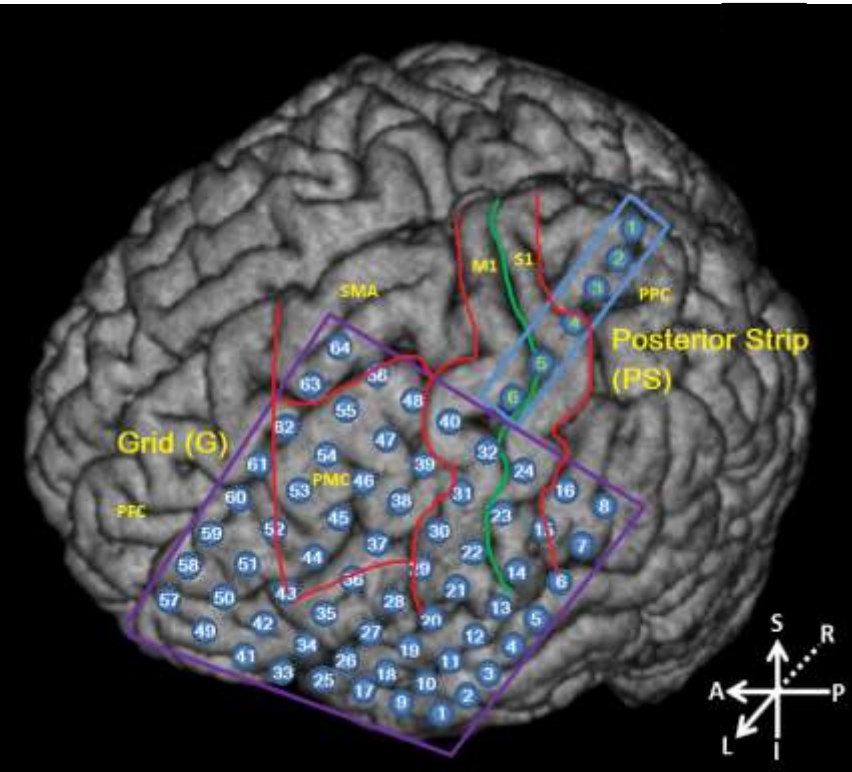


# ECoG: Better bandwidth and SNR



# ECoG robotic arm control

- State decoder using the same BCI-Gait software
- Trained in 3 minutes



# Future works

Fully-enclosed ECoG-based BCI implant

- Bio-compatible
- Long lasting
- Minimal infection risk
- Better recording resolution
- More accurate decoding

Long-term solution to restore functional independence for people with severe paralysis

# Acknowledgements



Zoran Nenadic, D.Sc.

An H. Do, M.D.

Christine E. King

Andrew Schombs

Aggie A. F. Szymanska

Colin M. McCrimmon

Everardo Camacho Jr.

## Former/rotation members

Ahmad Abiri

Sergey Osechinskiy



**RANCHO LOS AMIGOS**  
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David E. Millett, M.D.

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Charles Y. Liu, M.D.

## Neurodiagnostic Technician

Angelica Nguyen

Christel Jean

## Facilities and equipment

Long Beach Veterans Affairs

Medical Center

Robotic gait orthosis



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Luis A. Chui, M.D. (ret.)

Steven C. Cramer, M.D.

Jack J. Lin, M.D.

Mona Sazgar, M.D.

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Frank P. K. Hsu, M.D.

## Physical Therapy

Cathy C. Y. Chou

## Reeve-Irvine Research Center

Oswald Steward, Ph.D.

Kelli Sharp, D.P.T.

## Funding



**SCIRE**



**Spinal Cord  
Injury Fund**