### ADVANCING HUMAN-MACHINE INTERFACE SYSTEMS THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



AUTHOR: SAMUEL GEORGE-WHITE SUPERVISORS: ANIL BHARATH, DARIO FARINA



### IMPERIAL

### AUGMENTING HUMAN MOTOR CAPACITIES



### A TAXONOMY OF MOVEMENT AUGMENTATION

Power augmentation to increase the exertable forces or movement speed



**Degrees-of-freedom augmentation** increases the number of DoFs enabling users to perform more complex tasks than with the naural DoFs alone



Workstation augmentation to extend the spacial reach of natural limbs





**Precision augmentation** increases the control precision and task performance

### APPLICATIONS

- Medical Interventions
- Use of computers/mobile devices
- Paralysed patients with residual movement abilities
- Day-to-day activities e.g. playing an instrument















### BIONIC HANDS AND ARMS IN PRINCIPLE CAN BE STRONGER, FASTER AND CAN SENSE WITH HIGHER ACCURACY THAN BIOLOGICAL ONES



**Open Bionics Hero Arm** 

### THE GAP BETWEEN AUTONOMOUS ROBOTS AND HUMAN-INTERFACED ROBOTS



# CREATING AN INTERFACE AND REPLACING THE BIOLOGICAL HAND





## BIOLOGICALLY INSPIRED ARTIFICIAL CLASSIFIER NETWORK



### **Muscle Units**



## METHODOLOGY: DATA COLLECTION

- Overview: The study examined neural input modulations during movement cancellation using a "GO/NO-GO" task.
- Participants: 12 male subjects (ages 21-38); ethical approval and consent obtained.
- Setup: EEG (31 electrodes) and high-density EMG (64 channels) recorded from the tibialis anterior muscle. Participants performed isometric ankle dorsiflexion at 10% MVC.
- Task: In "GO" trials, a ballistic contraction was performed. In "NO-GO" trials, force was maintained at 10% MVC. Each block had 35 trials, with fixed timing for auditory cues.

Zicher, B., et al. (2024). Journal of Neural Engineering, 21(056039). https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-2552/ad8835



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### GO/NO-GO EXPERIMENT PARADIGM

Dynamic EMG Visualization with GO/NO-GO Segments Highlighted



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### FUNCTIONAL STATES





# METHODOLOGY: DATA PREPROCESSING

### Segment data

Select NO-GO regions Extract Baseline, Preparation and Cancellation windows

Shape: Participant, Class, no. of trials, samples, channels (7, 3, X, 2048, 64)

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> Channel Reduction through PCA

Shape: (7, 3, X, 2048, 16)

### PRINCIPAL COMPONENT ANALYSIS



### 16 PCA Components of EMG Data

0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8
		Time (s)		

### METHODOLOGY: DATA PREPROCESSING

### Segment data

Select NO-GO regions Extract Baseline, Preparation and Cancellation windows

Shape: Participant, Class, no. of trials, samples, channels (7, 3, X, 2048, 64)

Filtering and Normalisation

Bandpass filtering (13-30Hz)

Downsample to 512Hz

Amplitude and Z-score normalization

> Shape: (7, 3, X, 512, 16).

### **Channel Reduction** through PCA

Shape: (7, 3, X, 2048, 16)

Data augmentation

Jittering and slight augmentations to frequency range of randomly selected trials

> Shape: (7, 3, X, 512, 16)





### FILTERING AND NORMALISATION

- Amplitude normalisation per trial
- Z-score normalizsation
- Data augmentation (jittering, slight augmentations to frequency filtering)



### 16 PCA Components of EMG Data



### METHODOLOGY: DATA PREPROCESSING

### Segment data

Select NO-GO regions Extract Baseline, Preparation and Cancellation windows

Shape: Class, no. of trials, samples, channels (7, 3, X, 2048, 64)

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> Shape: (7, 3, X, 512, 16).

### **Channel Reduction** through PCA

Shape: (7, 3, X, 2048, 16)

### Beta Power

Compute Beta Power across channels

Smooth beta power curves

Shape: (7, 3, X, 512, 1)

### Data augmentation

Jittering and slight augmentations to frequency range of randomly selected trials

Shape: (7, 3, X, 512, 16)

# METHODOLOGY: CLASSIFIER NETWORK







# INITIAL RESULTS: ACCURACY



2-Class Average Accuracy: 72.4% 3-Class Average Accuracy: 49.6%

## INITIAL RESULTS: LOSS



2-Class Average Loss: 0.532 3-Class Average Loss: 0.900

### ANALYSIS: GRADCAM

**Gradient-weighted Class Activation Mapping (GradCAM)** is a visualization technique used to understand and interpret the decisions made by convolutional neural networks (CNNs).

GradCAM highlights the regions in the input data that are most influential in predicting a particular class, providing insights into the model's decision-making process.

GradCAM works by computing the **gradient** of the predicted class score with respect to the activations of a convolutional layer. These gradients are then weighted by the average gradient across the spatial dimensions.



### ANALYSIS: GRADCAM

### Gradient Heatmap Visualization



# CURRENT ADJUSMENTS

### Leverage Temporal Context

- Use the fact that the preparation class is always followed by cancellation.
- Explore merging "Preparation" and "Cancellation" classes into a single class.
- Perform comparisons:
- Cancellation vs Baseline
- Baseline vs Preparation + Cancellation
- Introduce a sliding window approach to capture dynamic changes.

### **Alternative Input Configurations**

- Use all 64 channels directly as classifier input (bypass PCA).
- Calculate the mean of the square of the 64 channels as input instead of all individual channels.
- Evaluate classifier performance with and without PCA applied to the full set of 64 channels.
- Try calculating PCA across all trials collectively instead of per trial.

### **Ablation Studies**

- Conduct stepwise ablations of preprocessing steps (e.g., filtering, normalization).
- Measure and compare classifier performance after removing or modifying specific steps.
- Present findings in a key or matrix format for clarity.

### **Alternative Techniques**

• Apply KL Transform or Maximum Relevance Minimum Redundancy (mRMR) to evaluate feature selection efficacy.

• Compare results of KL Transform and mRMR techniques against PCA.



# CLASSIFIER NETWORK: KEY CLASSES

Key	Label	Description
0	Baseline	Baseline - Baseline also included to est
1	Flexion	Flexion - Flexion r
2	Extension	Extension - Extens
3	Flexion Before Error	Flexion before err - is introduced
4	Extension Before Error	Extension before er error is introduced
5	Movement After Error	Movement After E ror is detected whe to execute move
6	Squeezed Without Error	Squeezed Without ticipant squeezed take/without an er
7	Movement After Squeezing Extension	Movement After So ticipant resuming squeezed
8	Movement After Squeezing Flexion	Movement After So pant resuming flexi

e run without errors was tablish a control dataset. un without errors sion run without errors Flexion run up until error rr - Extension run up until rror - Movement after erere subject is preparing ment (squeeze the ball) Error - run where parthe ball without mis-TOT queezing Extension - parextension run after ball

queezing Flexion - particiion run after ball squeezed

## ANALYSIS: SLIDING WINDOW

**Temporal Analysis** with Sliding Window - Overview







### Class Key

- baseline
- extension
- flexionBeforeError
- extensionBeforeError
- movementAfterError
- squeezedWithoutWrror
- movementAfterSqueezingExt
- movementAfterSqueezingFlex

### **Class Predictions with Event Markers**

## ANALYSIS: SLIDING WINDOW

**Temporal Analysis** with Sliding Window -**Detailed view** 





Our preliminary results have successfully demonstrated the feasibility of decoding central nervous system (CNS) activity using non-invasive electromyography (EMG) recordings.



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The findings from this study have significant implications for various fields, including rehabilitation, prosthetics, and the broader field of neurotechnology, offering new insights into neural control mechanisms and paving the way for innovative human-machine interfaces (HMIs).

I will focus on refining the AI model to enhance its accuracy and robustness. To build on our current results, I will devise specific experiments aimed at exploiting the full potential of EMGbased CNS decoding for HMI advancements in Real Time scenarios.

# THANK YOU

QUESTIONS

