Developing tDCS as a therapeutic tool

# Translational Neural Engineering: Hypothesis-based Devices Design

Marom Bikson The City College of New York of CUNY



#### Disclosure

The City University of New York: Patents on brain stimulation. Soterix Medical: Produces tDCS and High-Definition tDCS. Grants, assigned inventions, and/or serves SAB for SafeToddles, Boston Scientific, GlaxoSmithKline, Biovisics, Mecta, Lumenis, Halo Neuroscience, Google-X, i-Lumen, Humm, Allergan (Abbvie), Apple

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Slides and References @MaromBikson

### Scientific Hypothesis

Cellular / behavioral mechanism



Reducing human suffering





Design as a continuum. Multidisciplinary. Primary outcome is reduced suffering (commercialization is means to end).

## Model driven design

- Part of equipment design, personalized software
- Supports translation from pre-clinical models
- Supports trial design
- Supports regulatory







**Case study of process** 

## HD-tDCS

Non-invasive brain stimulation

## Patient LB

30 months old 2 seizures per minute





2009

March 30, 2015. Contact with clinical team at Herzog Medical Center, Israel.

March 20, 2016. First Treatment



- Epilepsy: Seizures of hyper-active neurons
- Treatments decrease excitability
- More electrical stimulation increase activity
- Direct Current Stimulation can decrease activity: control seizures





1995-2000 Pre-clinical experiments: **Direct Current Stimulation on epilepsy animal models** 





Stimulation on epilepsy animal models



Stimulation on epilepsy animal models

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE IEEE, VOL. 89, NO. 7, JULY 2001

### Suppression and Control of Epileptiform Activity by Electrical Stimulation: A Review

DOMINIQUE M. DURAND, MEMBER, IEEE, AND MAROM BIKSON



**Dominique M. Durand** (Member, IEEE) was born in Monbazillac, France, in 1951. He received the Eng. degree from Ecole Nationale Superieure d'Electronique, Hydrolique, Informatique et Automatique de Toulouse, France, in 1973, the M.S. degree in Biomedical Engineering from Case Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, in 1974, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from the Institute of Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto, Canada, in 1982.



**Marom Bikson** was born in Tel-Aviv, Israel, in 1975. He received the B.S. degree in biomedical engineering from Johns Hopkins University, and the Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Case Western Reserve University in 2001.

He worked at Sontra Medical, Cambridge, MA. He is currently a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Neurophysiology, Division of Neuroscience, University of Birmingham, U.K. His research interests include nonsynaptic interactions in the CNS and the effects of

## HD-tDCS

Non-invasive brain stimulation



Solid biomedical science + engineering. No translation.

1995-2000 Pre-clinical experiments: **Direct Current Stimulation on epilepsy animal models** 



1995-2000



1995-2000

## J Physiol 557.1 (2004) pp 175–190 Effects of uniform extracellular DC electric fields on excitability in rat hippocampal slices *in vitro*

Marom Bikson<sup>1</sup>, Masashi Inoue<sup>2</sup>, Hiroki Akiyama<sup>2</sup>, Jackie K. Deans<sup>1</sup>, John E. Fox<sup>1</sup>, Hiroyoshi Miyakawa<sup>2</sup> and John G. R. Jefferys<sup>1</sup>

- Established that low-intensity direct current modulate only already *active* synaptic processing (human application use "functional targeting")
- Soma, dendrite, or axon compartments targeted (all field directions potent)

HD-tDCS Non-invasive brain stimulation



1995-2000

2004 + Mechanisms of Direct Current Stimulation



#### Brain Stimulation (2009) 2, 201 7

Gyri-precise head model of transcranial direct current stimulation: Improved spatial focality using a ring electrode versus conventional rectangular pad

## HD-tDCS Non-invasive brain

stimulation



1995-2000



1995-2000



1995-2000

Brain Stimulation (2009) 2, 201 7

Gyri-precise head model of transcranial direct current stimulation: Improved spatial focality using a ring electrode versus conventional rectangular pad

Abhishek Datta, MS, Varun Bansal, BS, Julian Diaz, BS, Jinal Patel, MS, Davide Reato, MS, Marom Bikson, PhD

Since 2009 cited >1100 times. At time was criticized.

- 1. Seems to refute common understanding of tDCS
- 2. No possible to pass DC through small electrodes
- 3. Just a model.



Non-invasive brain stimulation



1995-2000

#### Journal of Neuroscience Methods 190 (2010) 188-197

Electrodes for high-definition transcutaneous DC stimulation for applications in drug delivery and electrotherapy, including tDCS

Preet Minhas<sup>1</sup>, Varun Bansal<sup>1</sup>, Jinal Patel<sup>1</sup>, Johnson S. Ho, Julian Diaz, Abhishek Datta, Marom Bikson\*



**HD-tDCS** 



## HD-tDCS Non-invasive brain stimulation



3. Just a model.











#### NeuroImage 74 (2013) 266-275

Physiological and modeling evidence for focal transcranial electrical brain stimulation







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## Medical Device Design

## Scientific Hypothesis

Cellular / behavioral mechanism New Treatment Reducing human suffering







Home-based tDCS Remote-supervised tDCS

WiPOX: Wireless hand-help intraoperative sensor (non-commercial)

Toddler-Cane Wearable white cane Non-profit (Safe Toddles)

## **Scientific Hypothesis**

Safe mobility = health development of visually impaired toddlers

## **New Treatment**

Toddler Cane: Hands-free, wearable, 2-step warning









HOME GIVE A CANE WAITING LIST OBTAIN A CANE VIDEOS ABOUT EVENTS

## **Scientific Hypothesis**

Local tissue oxygen saturation determines viability after surgery

## **New Treatment**

Intraoperative rapidresponse pen-tip sensor of tissue viability





- Surgical "tool"
- Rapid-prototype solution sterility
- Positive clinical trial.

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