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BACKGROUND METHODS

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Bimodal EEG-fMRI Neurofeedback for Stroke Rehabilitation

Giulia Lioi*1, Mathis Fleury1, Simon Buter2, Anatole Lécuyer1, Christian Barillot1 and Isabelle Bonan2
1 Teams Visages and Hybrid, Univ Rennes, Inria, CNRS, IRISA 2 Service MPR, CHU Pontchaillou, Rennes

BACKGROUND

Neurofeedback (NF) has potential to be applied for stroke rehabilitation [1],[2] however the effectiveness of NF for stroke has not been thoroughly assessed yet.

Bimodal EEG-MRI NF [3],[4] is a promising technique to achieve a more efficient and specific self-regulation, which may be crucial for clinical application.

AIMS

Within the project HEMISFER (Hybrid Eeg-Mri and Simultaneous neuro-Feedback for brain Rehabilitation), the aims of this preliminary study are to:

- Test the feasibility of applying bimodal EEG-MRI NF for stroke rehabilitation in two chronic patients affected by left hemiplegia (subcortical lesion).
- Identify problematics and guidelines in view of a clinical study on stroke patients.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Figure 3a. Lesion and cortico-spinal tract (CST) of patient 1 (Right ischemic stroke). The CST was estimated from tractography of diffusion weighted images [5].

Figure 5. Average BOLD activations maps over the two NF sessions for patient 1 (left) and 2 (right) (TASK>REST, k > 10 voxels).

Figure 6. BOLD signal regulation as a function of the selected ROI. The bar plots represent BOLD activity in the selected ROI with respect to background (mean+std across blocks) during rest and NF. Relative statistics are showed (Wilcoxon tests, * p<0.05, ** p<0.01)

CURRENT AND FUTURE WORKS

- Improve performances and simplify the workflow of the bimodal NF platform.
- Clinical study on Stroke patients to test the efficacy of multisession bimodal NF for rehabilitation.

REFERENCES


*contact: giulia.lioi@inria.fr