



**WORKSHOP**

**NEURAL HORIZONS:  
FUTURE PANORAMA WITHIN BRAIN-MACHINE  
INTERFACES**

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**Gardanne, France**



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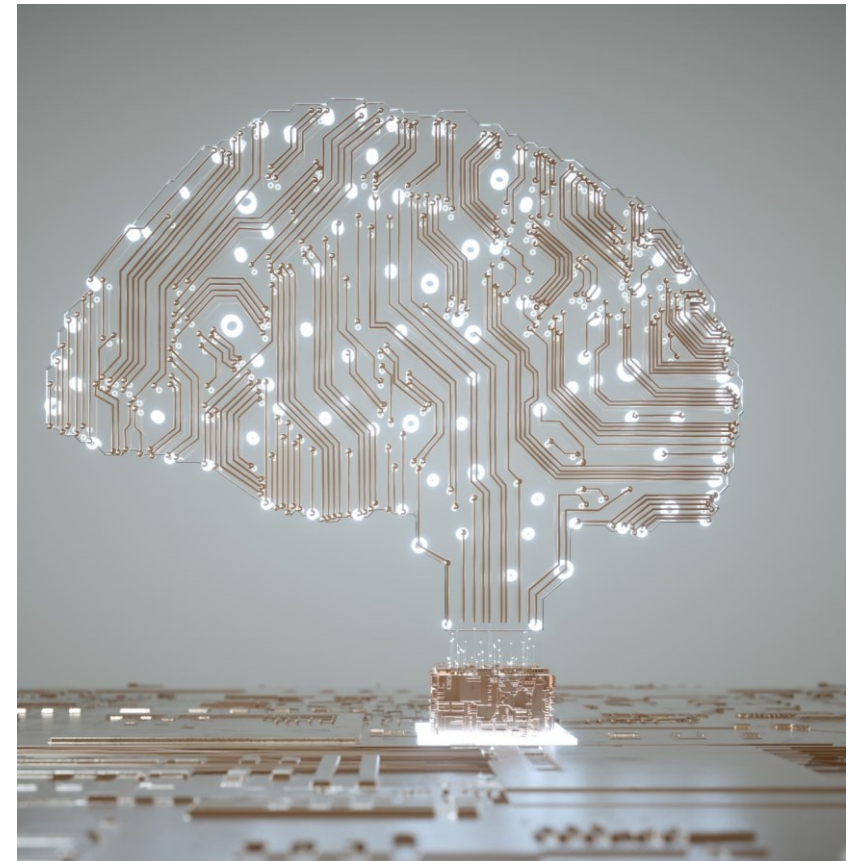
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# Outline

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- Brain-Machine Interface (BMI) and latest advancements
- Wireless BMI development in B-Cratos
- High-Rate Battery free Communication System
- Wireless Powering and Telemetry & Telecommand signalling
- Implementation and measurement Results
- Conclusion



# Brain-Machine Interface

## Functionality

- Establish **direct communication** between the brain and external devices
- **Translate neural activity** into actionable commands



## Significance of BMI

### Medical Applications

- Restoring lost functionalities
- Assisting individuals with severe disabilities

### Cognitive Enhancement

- Improving memory and learning capabilities
- Potential applications in education and training

## Fields of Application

### Healthcare

- Neurorehabilitation
- Assistive technologies for disabled individuals

### Prosthetics and Robotics

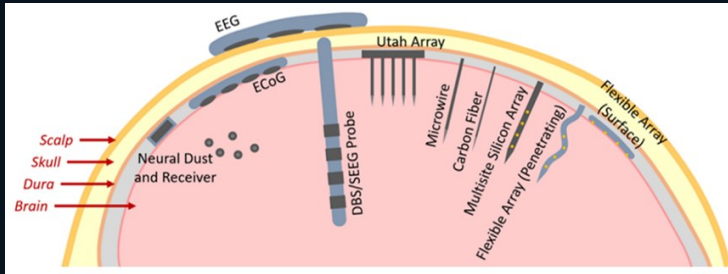
- Controlling artificial limbs
- Enhancing mobility for amputees

### Research and Experimental Psychology

- Advancing our understanding of the brain

## Future Prospects

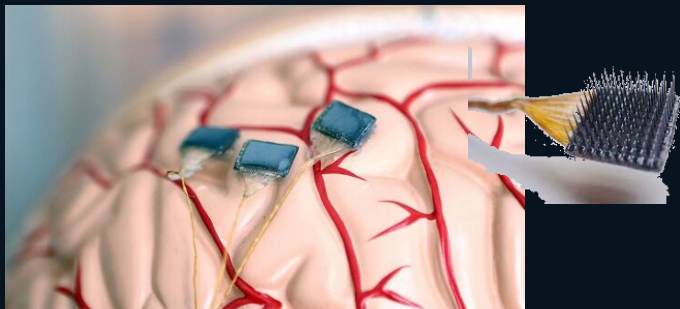
- Expanding applications in various **industries**
- Potential for mainstream adoption and **integration into everyday life**
- Ongoing research and development in BMI technology



Different types of neural electrodes



Utah Electrode Array- Blackrock Neurotech



# Brain-Machine Interface (BMI): Latest Advances

## Signal Acquisition

- **Invasive:** Records brain activity via ultra-thin electrodes *for high precision.*
- **Partially Invasive:** ECoG sensors on the brain's surface balance accuracy and safety.
- **Non-Invasive:** EEG headsets detect brain signals without surgery.

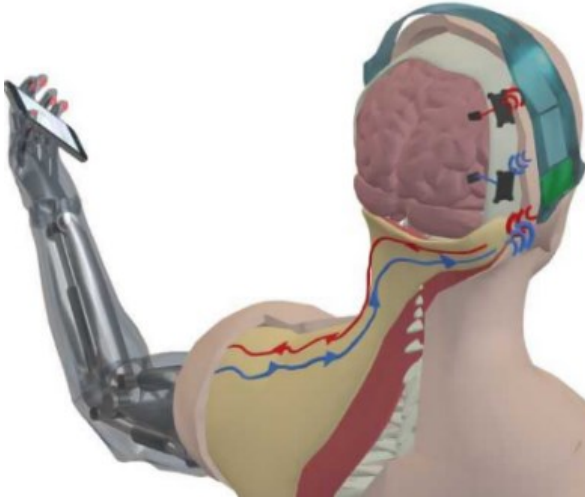
## Signal Processing

- **Preprocessing:** AI filters noise to enhance signal clarity.
- **Feature Extraction:** Machine learning deciphers thought patterns.
- **Classification:** AI translates signals into commands for external devices.

## Output Application

- **Device Control:** Patients use Synchron's BMI to control *smart devices* via thought.
- **Sensory Feedback:** Research is advancing *bidirectional* BMI communication.

# Wireless BMI System in B-CRATOS



## High data rate brain readout

- Near-zero power high data rate backscatter communication 32-64 Mbps

## Wireless powering of the Brain implant

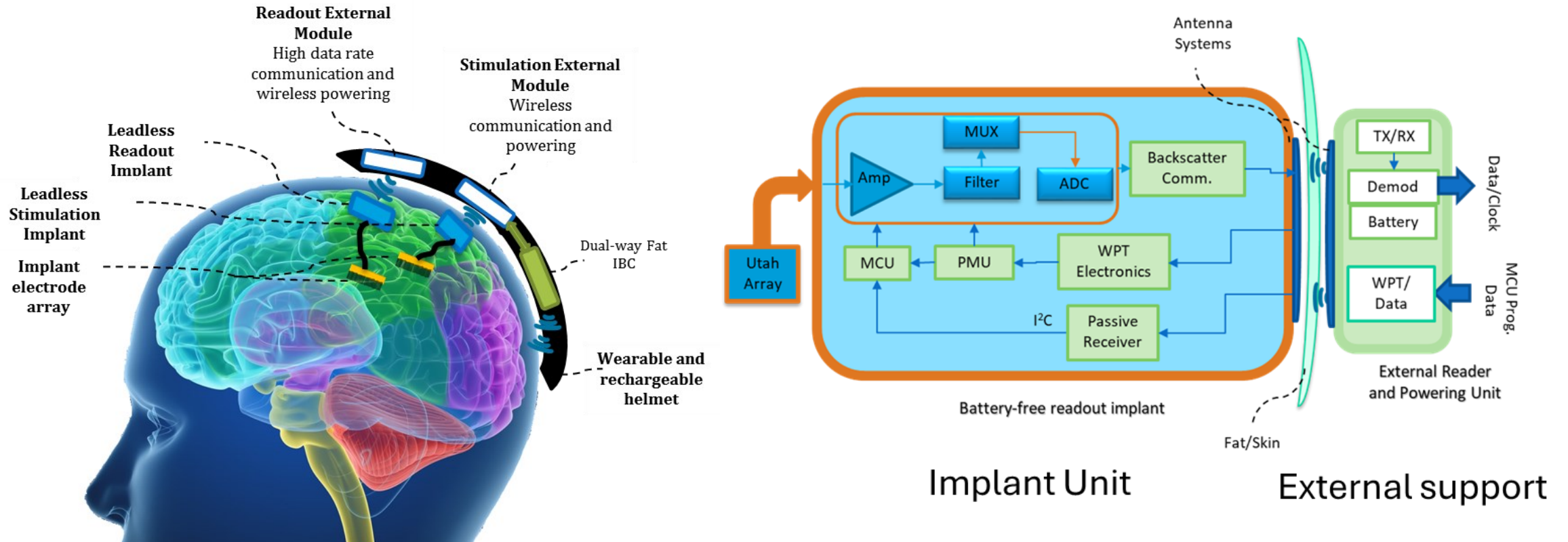
- Supply power to the BMI ASIC, 25-50mw
- Supply power for the communication unit
- Supply power for Telemetry and telecommand

## Wireless telemetry and tele-command

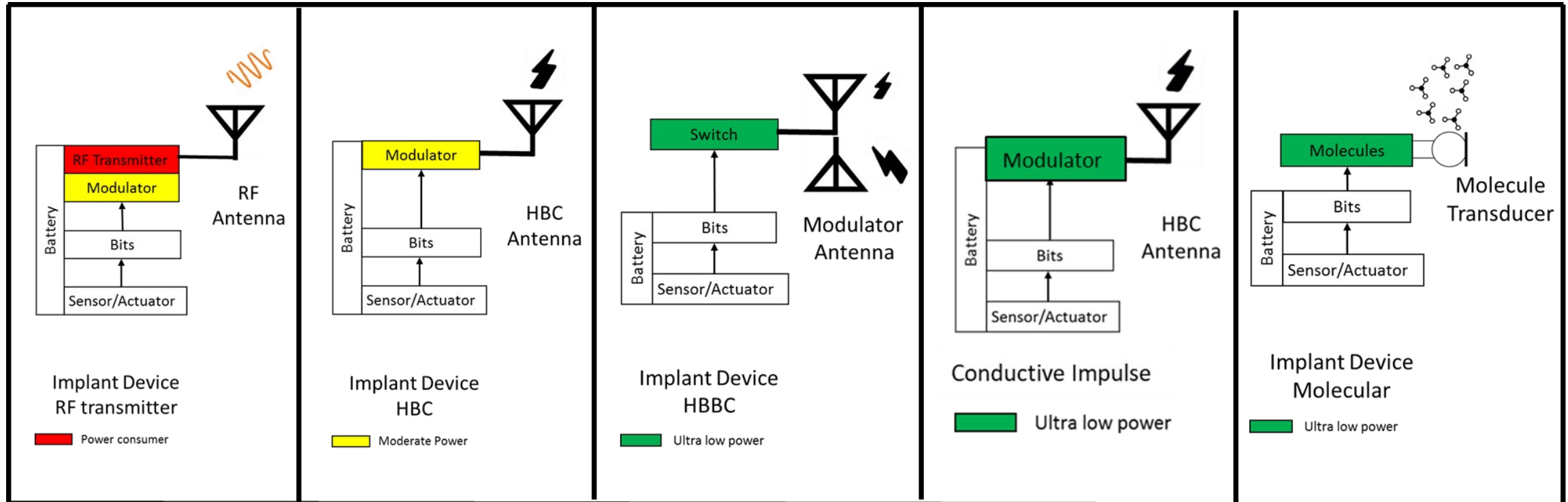
- Communicate brain stimulation data to the implant
- Read implant health status (voltage, temperature, charge status, etc)



# Wireless System Design Overview



# Wireless Comm. Technologies for Implants





# High-rate Data Wireless Backscatter for BMI

## Method:

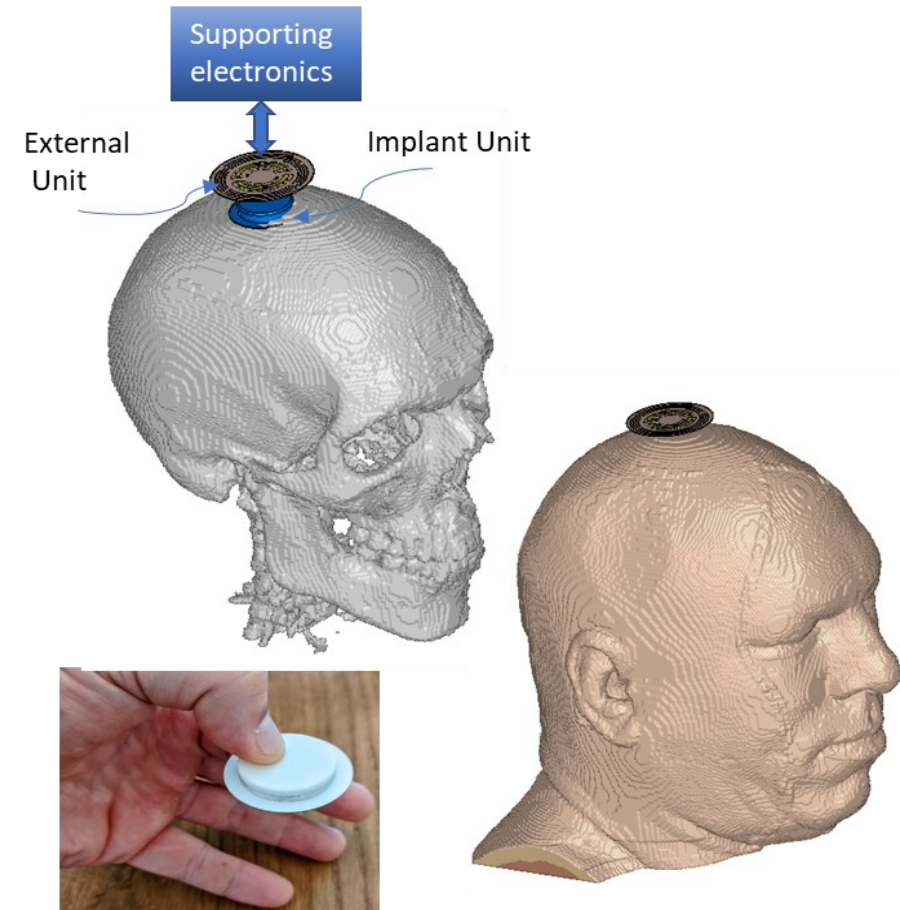
Radar technique for remote data sensing (RF backscatter)

## Features:

- Passive communication unit
- RF emission (tone signal)
- High-rate support (up to 64 Mbps)
- Simple implant electronics (an RF switch)
- Energy saving (50-100 mW)
- Reduced thermal effects (Safety)
- Space saving (Minimal electronics)
- Battery-free communication
- Data security

## Drawbacks:

- Complex reader system
- Susceptible to in-band RF interference
- Strong EMC/ EMI considerations
- Requires RF authorization for Medtech
- System Reliability



System integration

# Antenna System Design Considerations

Implant  
Antenna

Reader  
Antenna

WPT/ NFC  
System

EMC/EMI

SAR

Integration

# Small Antennas for BMI Wireless Backscatter



Small Antenna matching



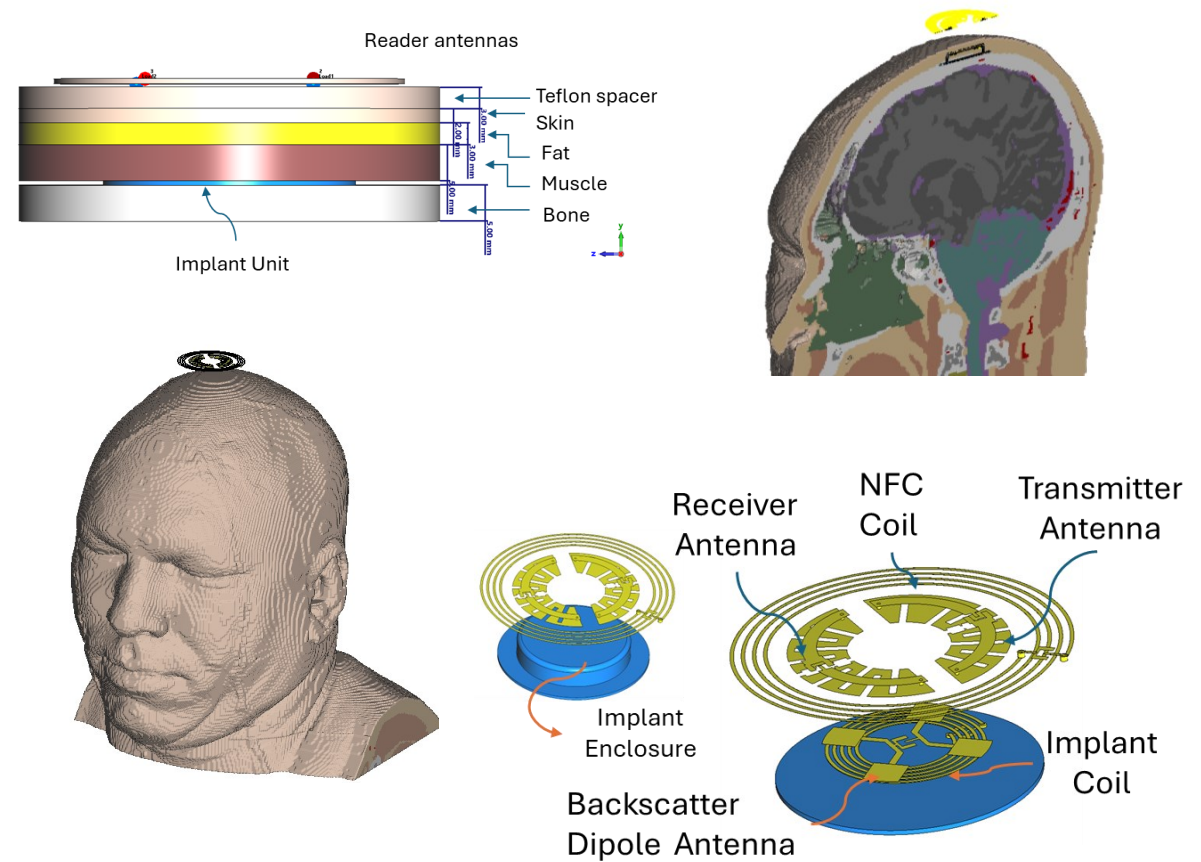
High-Q for eff. But bandwidth limit



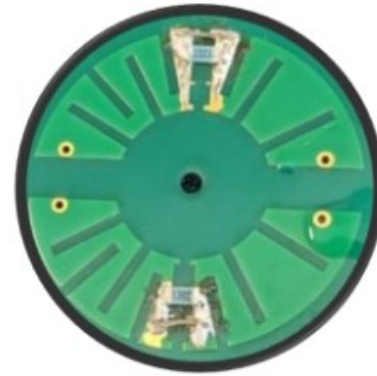
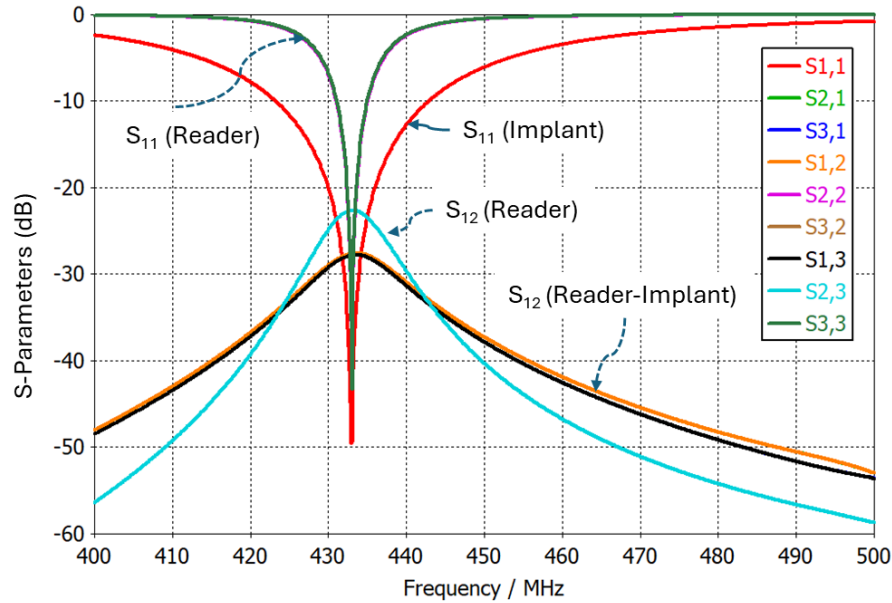
Antenna RCS adjustment



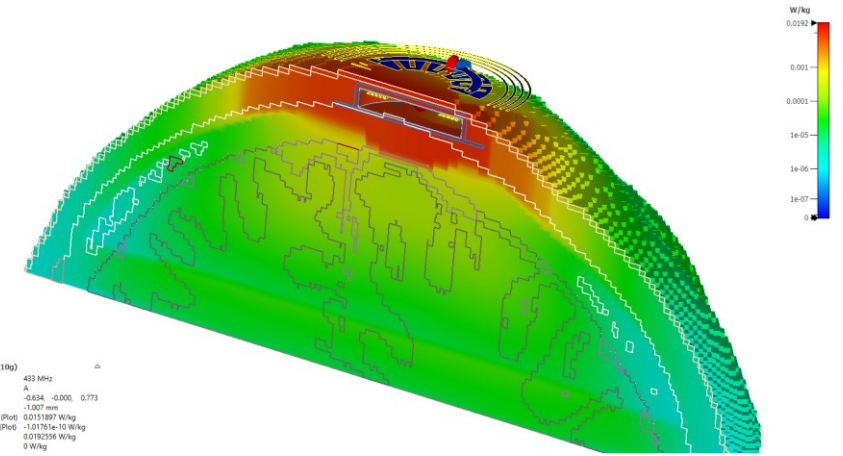
Antenna virtual size development



# Backscatter: Implant and Reader Antennas

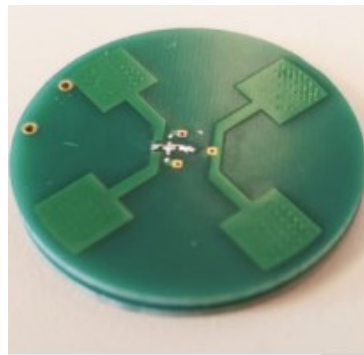


Meander loaded loop  
Dual Port Reader Antenna



SAR (f=433) [2] (10g)  
Frequency 433 MHz  
Cross section A  
Cutplane normal -0.654 -0.000 0.773  
Cutplane position -1.007 mm  
Maximum on Plane (10g) 0.0191897 W/kg  
Minimum on Plane (10g) -0.01761e-10 W/kg  
Maximum (Solver) 0.0192358 W/kg  
Minimum (Solver) 0 W/kg

Induced SAR reader antenna



Patch loaded cross dipole  
Implant Antenna

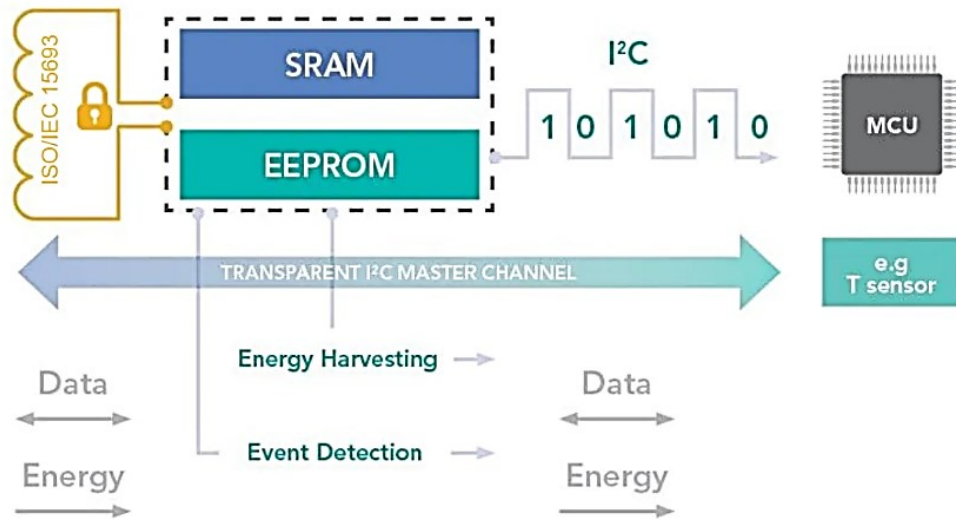
**Reader-head gap: 3 mm**  
**Reader implant range: 15 mm**

| SAR (10g) [W/Kg], Pin: 1W |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Multi layer Tissue        | 2.7  |
| Heterogeneous model       | 1.66 |

# Wireless Power Transfer

- **Extend the power transfer distance**
  - Frequency selection
  - Coil size and structure
  - Resonance coupling
- **Improve the power capacity and transfer**
  - Q-factor adjustment
  - Electronic circuits and adaptive matching
  - Feedback control
- **Improve the misalignment tolerances**
  - Array coil structure
  - Metasurface coil structure
- **Safety Considerations**
  - Thermal effects
  - Electromagnetic compatibility

# NFC Wireless Power and T&TC



- **Standard NFC two way data connectivity**

- Data rate: max 420 kbps
- ISO15693
- Latency: below: 15 msec
- Frequency: 13.56 MHz

- **Magnetic induction technique for WPT**

- Resonance coupling
- Dual coil energy transfer

# NFC Wireless Power and T&TC

## Communication Protocol:

- Standard NFC interface: ISO15693
- Reader at 13.56 MHz

## Magnetic coils:

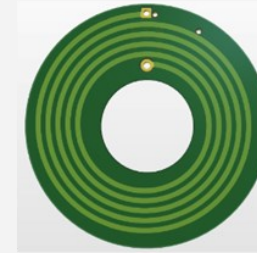
- Resonance coupling

## Powering protocol:

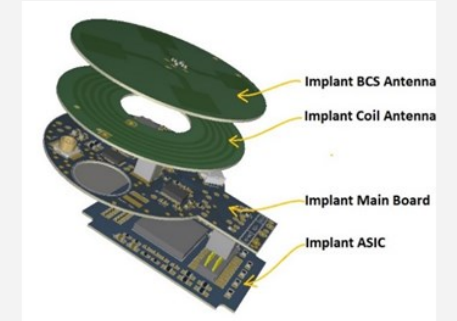
- Continuous

## Technical Specifications:

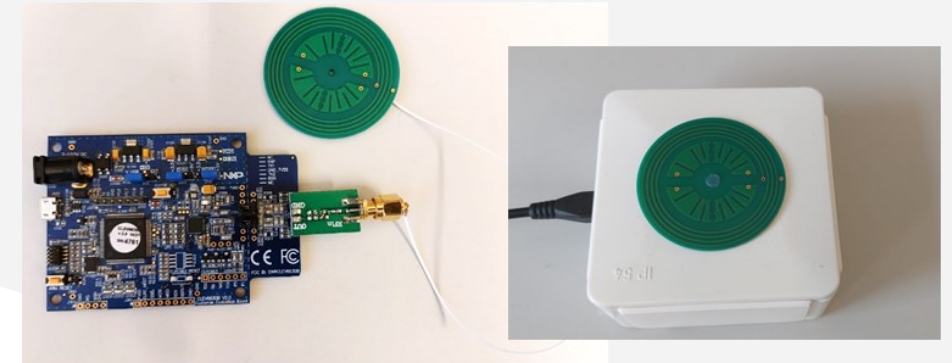
- **Applied power:** Max 1 W, Typ. 250 mW
- **Interface** for power: USB control
- **Data interface:** UART
- **Communication:** Two-way (420kbps)
- **SAR:** SAR (10g) < 0.2 W/ Kg at 500 mW power
- **Range:** 3-5 cm
- **Latency:** 15 msec
- **Received power:**
  - Single coil: 25 mW
  - Dual channel dual coil: 40 mW



Planar implant coil



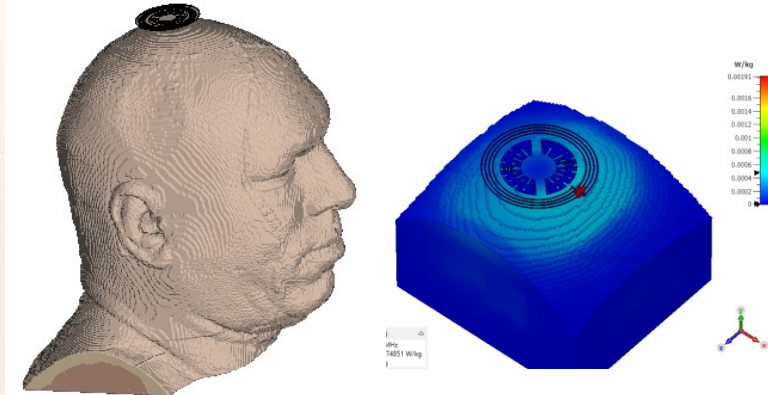
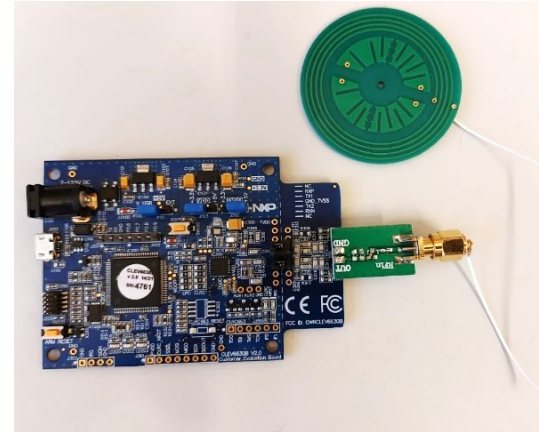
Implant integrated model



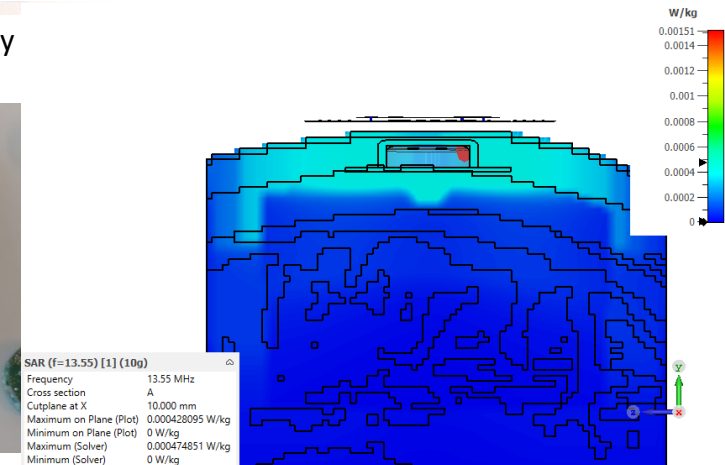
External NFC interrogator

# External Unit

- NFC reader: Modified Evaluation board
- Powering: Magnetic antennas (coils)
- Powering protocol: Continuous
- USB control interface for power
- UART for data interface
- Embedded software for Two-way connection
- Applied power: Max 1 W, Typ. 250 mW
- Battery powered
- SAR (10g) < 0.2 W/ Kg at 500 mW power

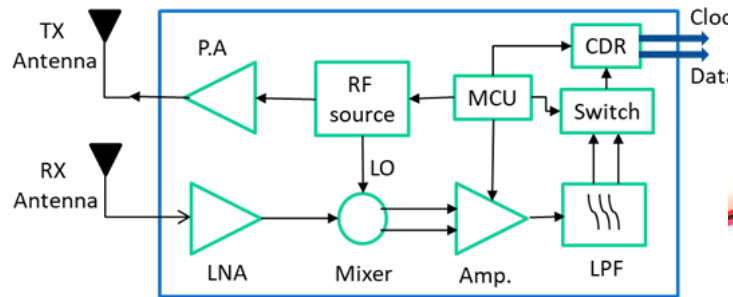
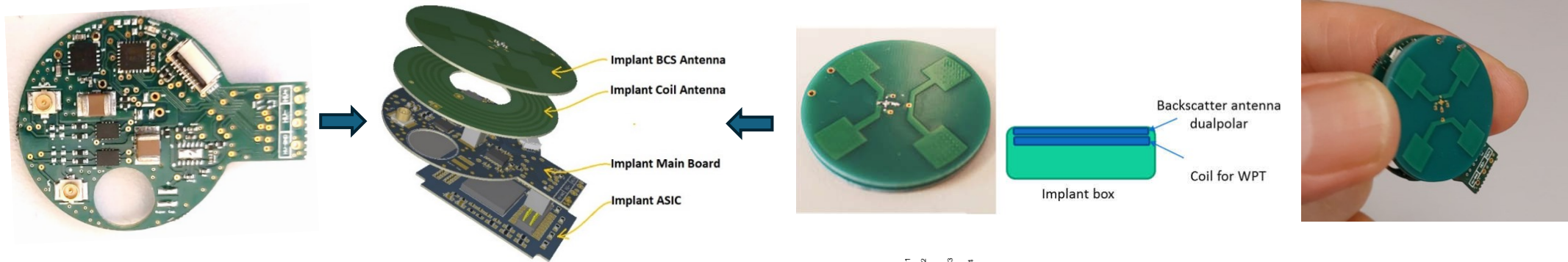


Simultaneous WPT and low rate connectivity

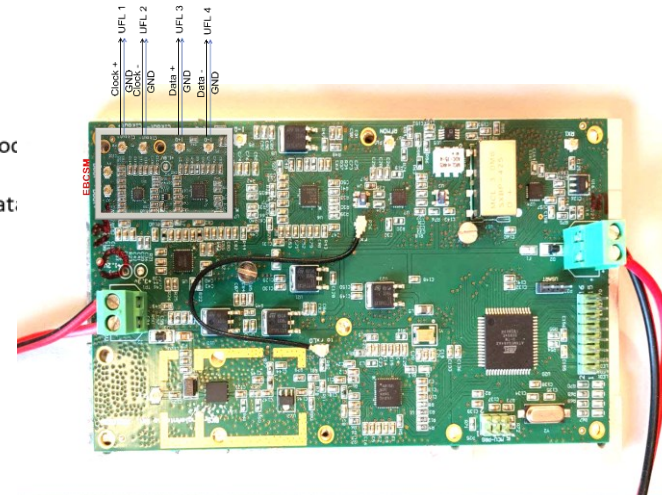




# System Integration



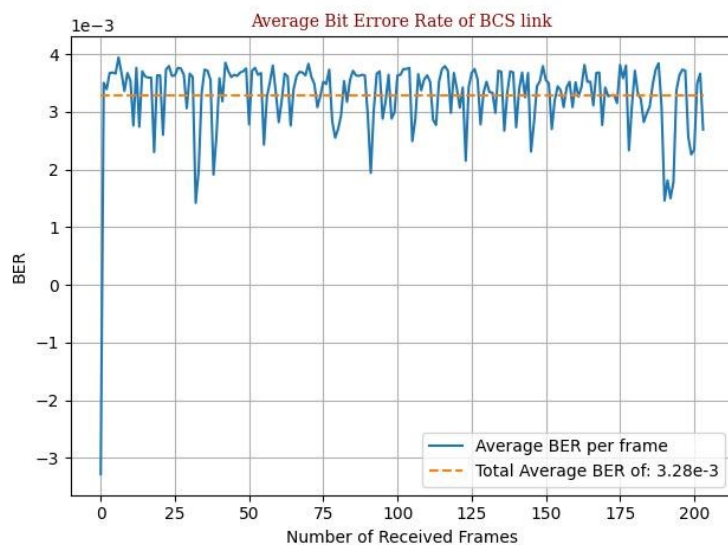
Reader system with Zero-IF



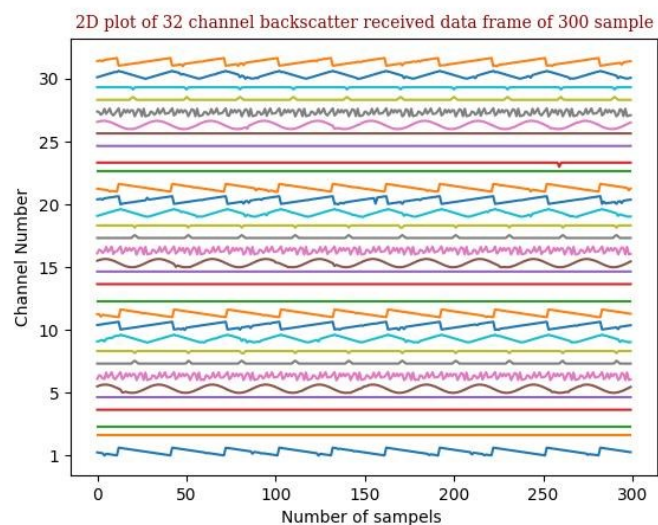
Manufactured reader system at 434 MHz and tunable bandwidth to support up to 32 Mbps.

## RF Backscatter Reader System

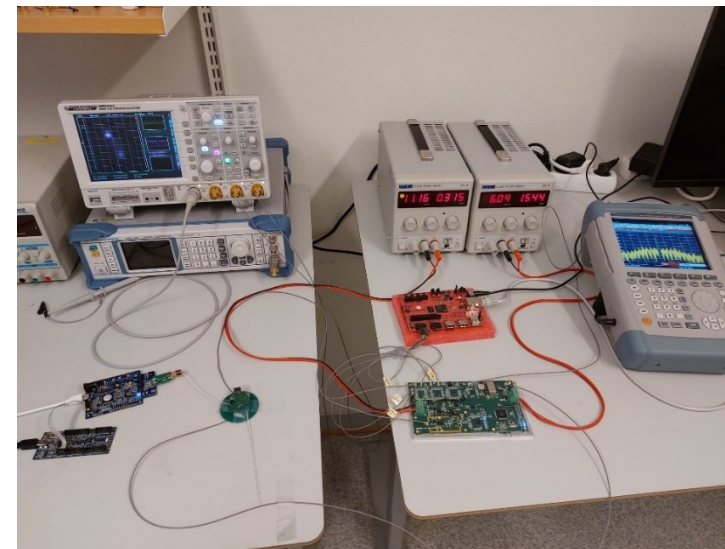
- Backscatter link test and results(on air)
  - Data rate of 16-32 Mbps



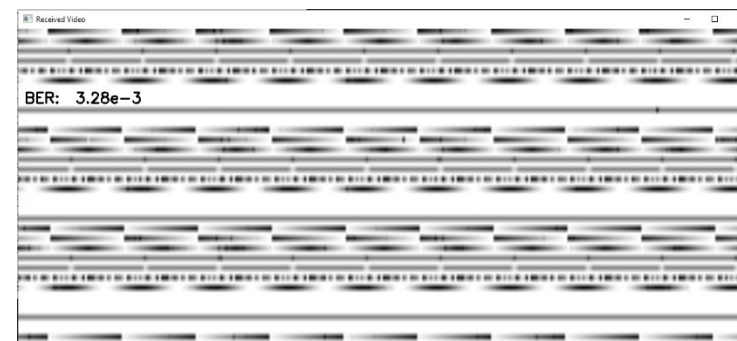
BER performance



Received data pattern



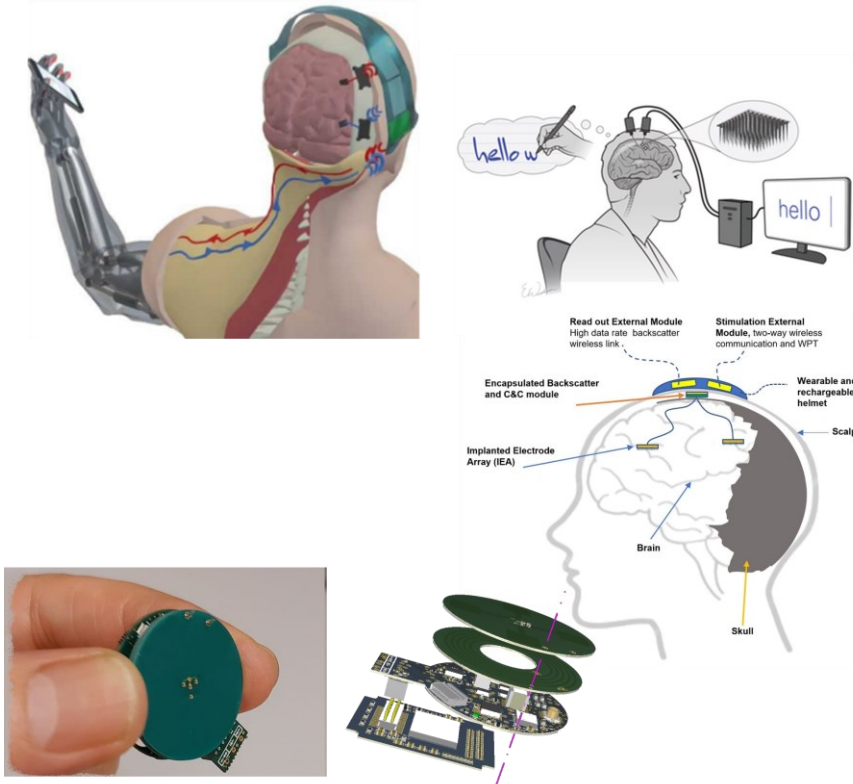
Test setup



Visual data inspection

# B-CRATOS Wireless Lab Model Experiment

- Up to 420 Kbps Two-Way wireless communication link
- Near to zero Power consumption
- More than 35 mw power generation
- High data rate real-time neural readout (30-60 Mbps)



System verification for prosthetic arm control

# Animal Implant Testing

## Implant & Antenna Placement

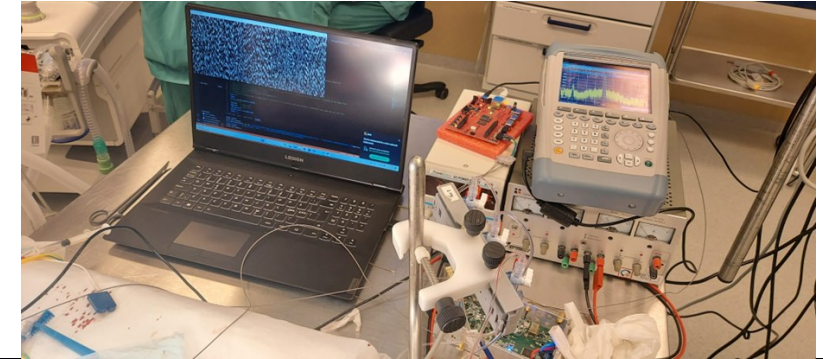
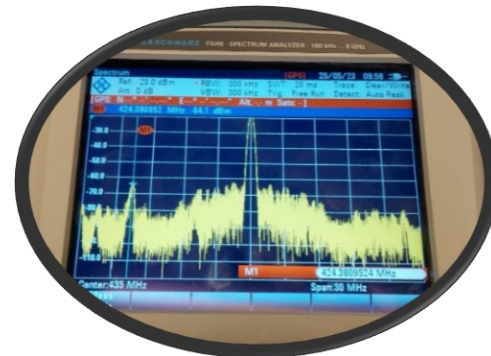
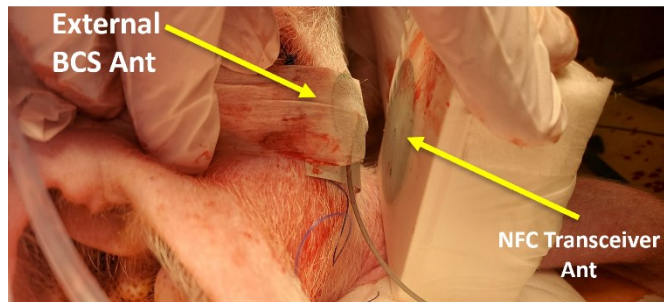
- **Location:** Implant integrated under skin in the head
- **Backscatter Antenna:** 1 cm distance to implant (tested on pig with thick skin)
- **WPT External Antenna:** Placed 3 cm away

## Test Environment & Conditions

- **Test at:** OUS OR Room in a hospital
- **Backscatter Speed:** 10 Mbps (limited due to interference)

## Data Handling

- **Dummy Data:** Successfully transmitted and received signal





**Thanks for  
Your Attention**

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