

Main Tasks

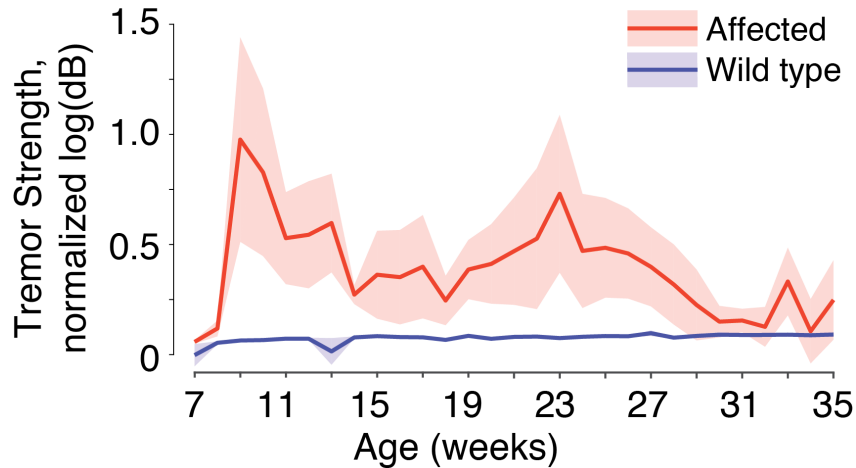
1. Rat Colony Maintenance
2. Motor Analysis
3. Standard Electrode DCS Optimization
4. New Electrodes for Improved DCS
5. Electrophysiological Recording
6. Papers
7. Grants

Colony Maintenance

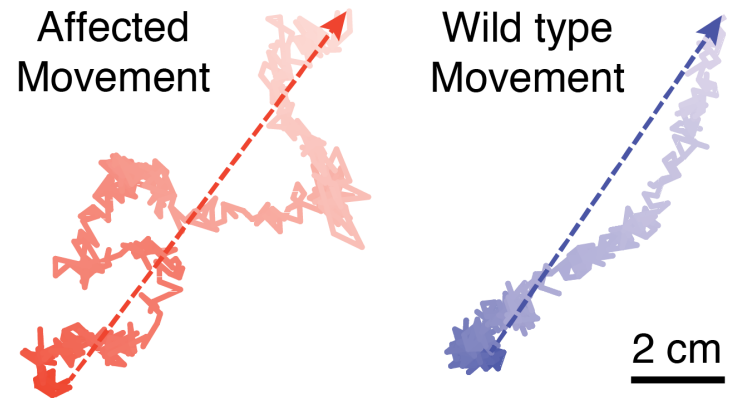
- Previous set of litters sequenced. SLC9A6 still holds up: males with deletion and females with two deletions are all affected by now; no other rats affected.
- New breeding pairs designed; will be set up tomorrow.
- Keeping cage count as minimal as possible, but it will grow with experiments and breeding.

Previous Motor Data

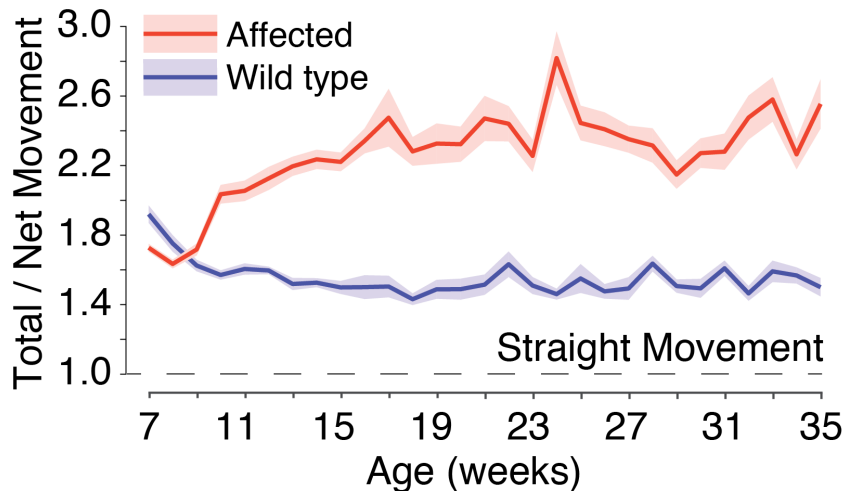
Tremor Strength vs. Age



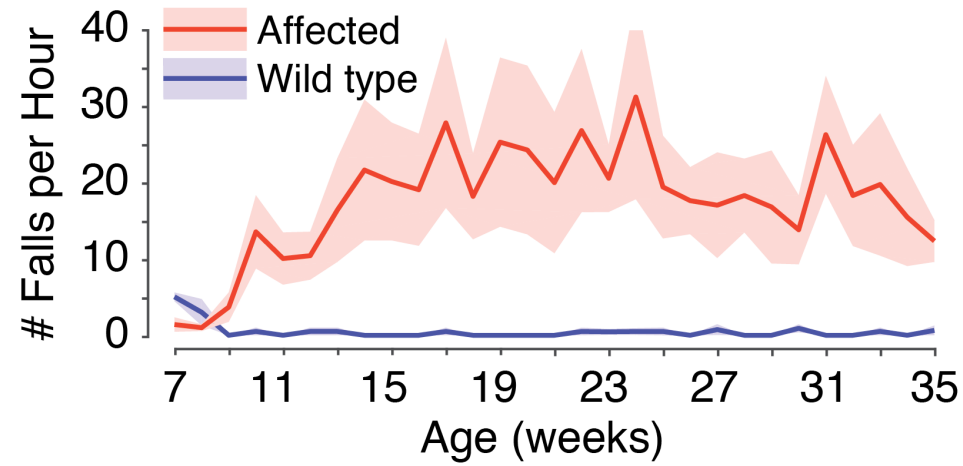
Example Rat Movement Over One Second



Incoordination of Rapid Movements vs. Age

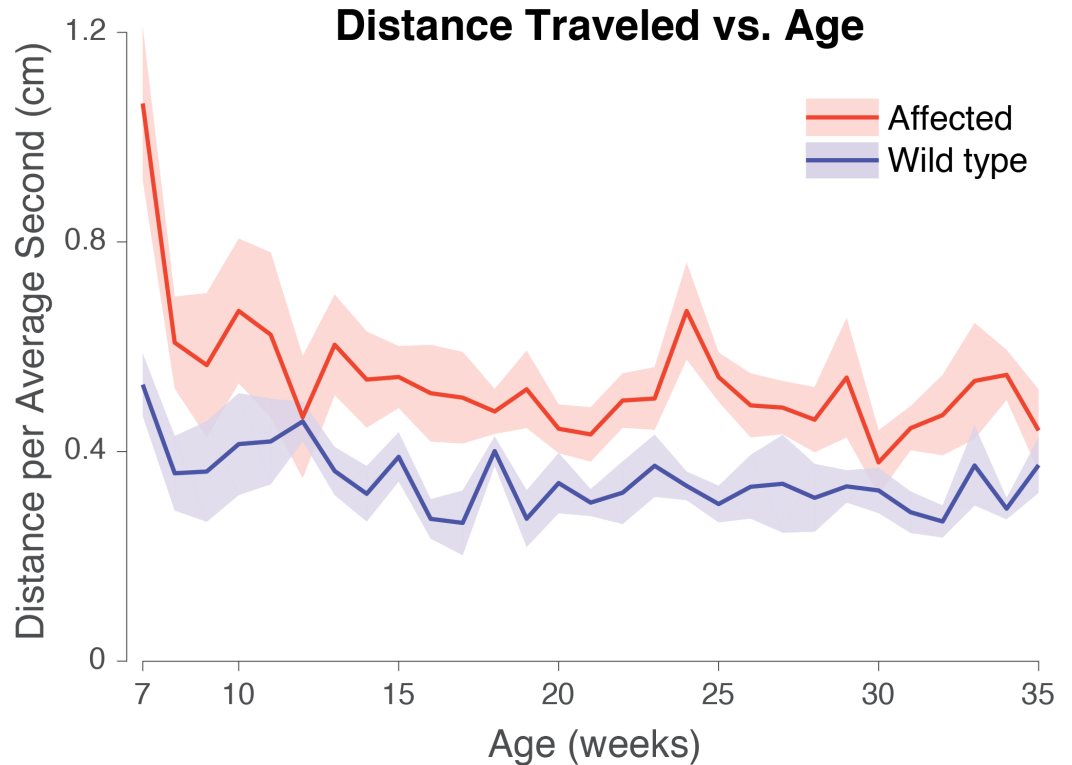


Fall Rate vs. Age



Motor Analysis

- New need: distance traveled, accounting for system noise and tremor/incoordination.
 - Achievable through combination of custom filters, low-pass filters, running averages, and down-sampling.
- Motivation is multifaceted:
 - Order of presentation matters.
 - Falls vs time is incomplete story.

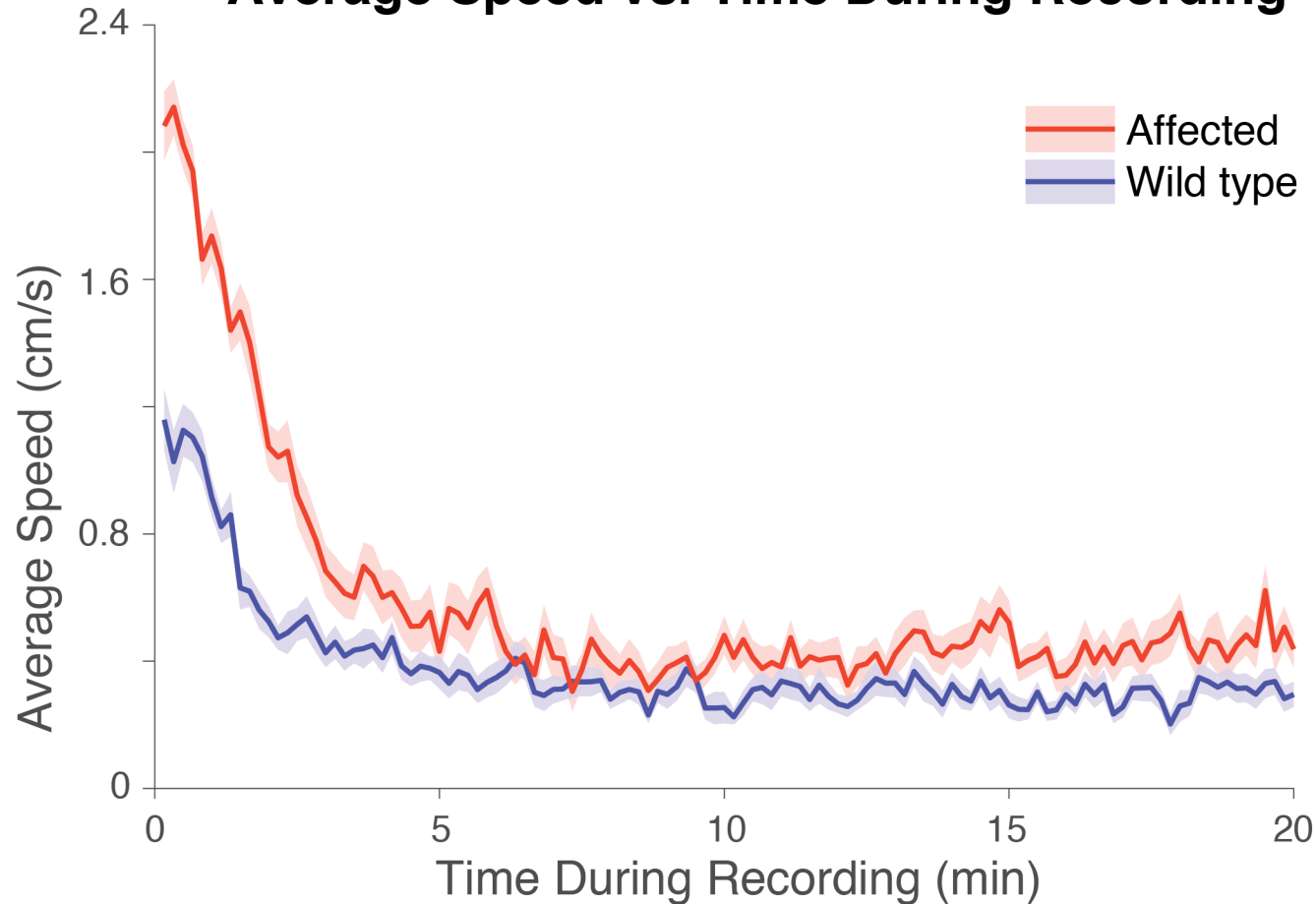


Shakers explore more than wild type counterparts!

Taking the analysis further...

Average Speed vs. Time During Recording

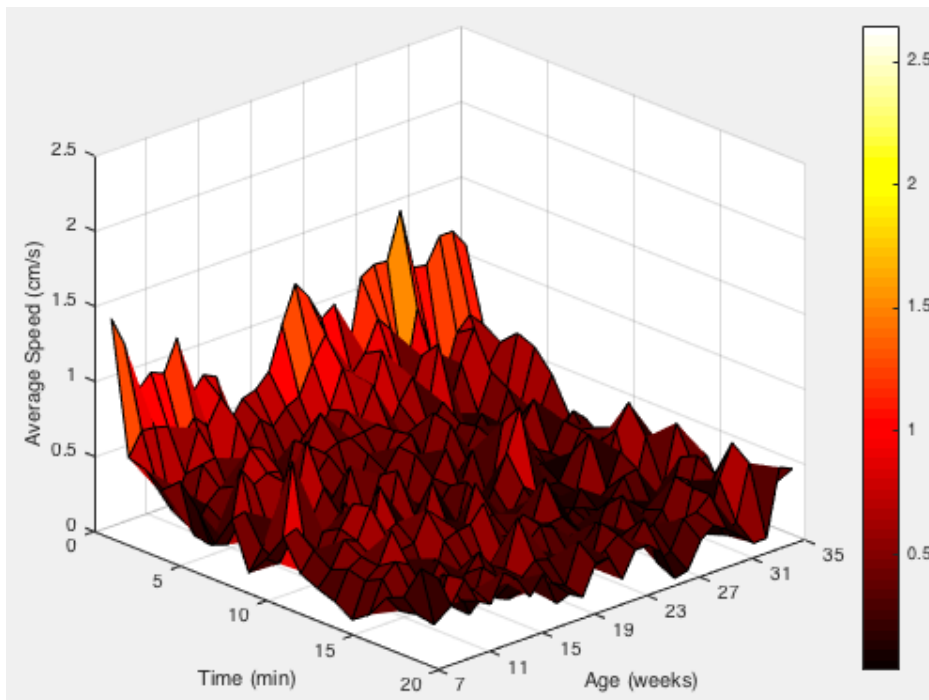
- Clearly, repeated presentation reduces exploration.
- But, how does time point in recording influence exploration?



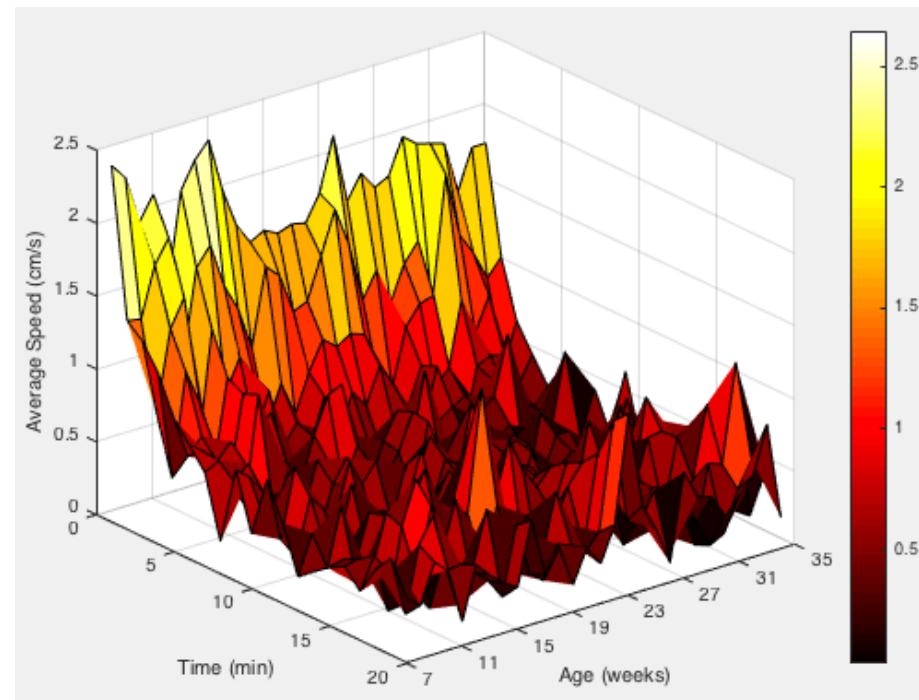
Even when losing interest, shakers explore more than wild types!

How does the overall trend stack across both of these?

Wild Type

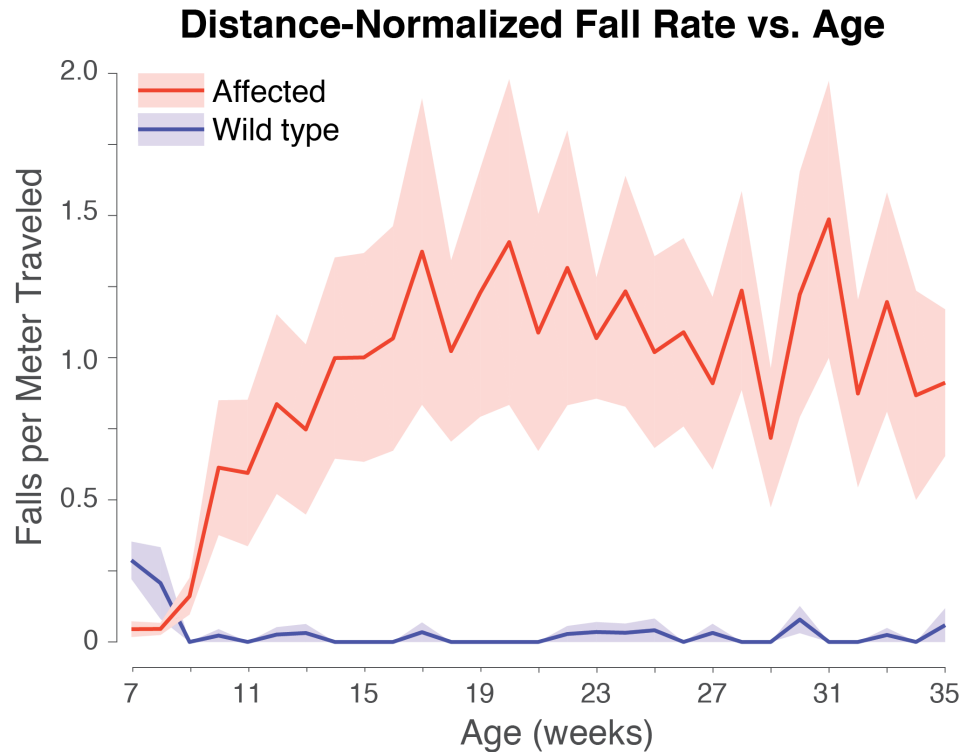
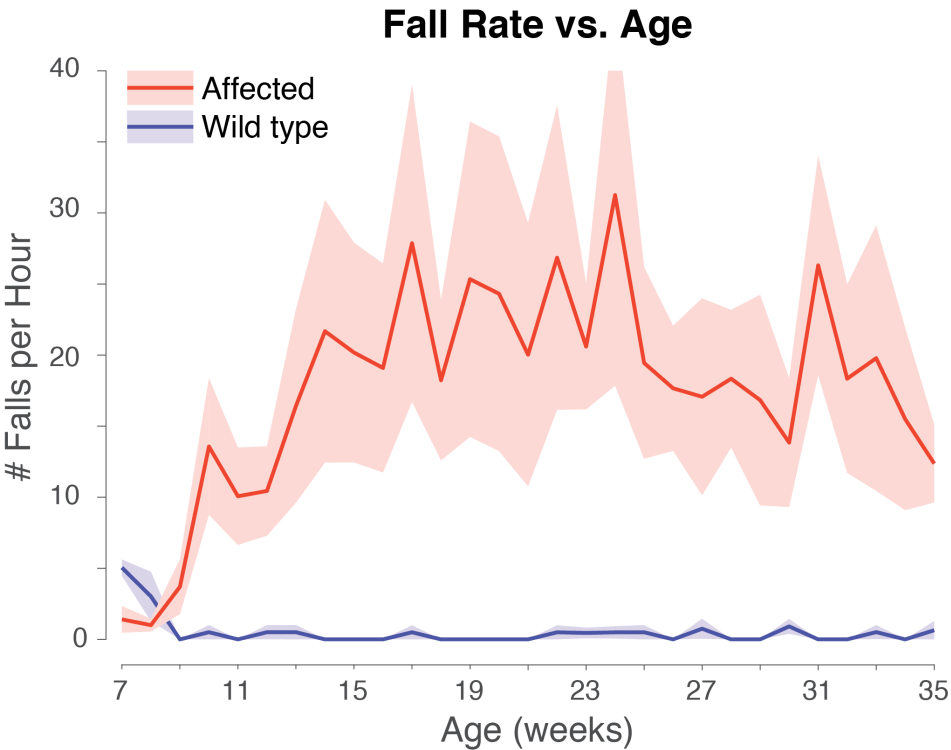


Shaker



Clearly, we must normalize metrics like falls based on distance traveled.

Falls vs time and distance

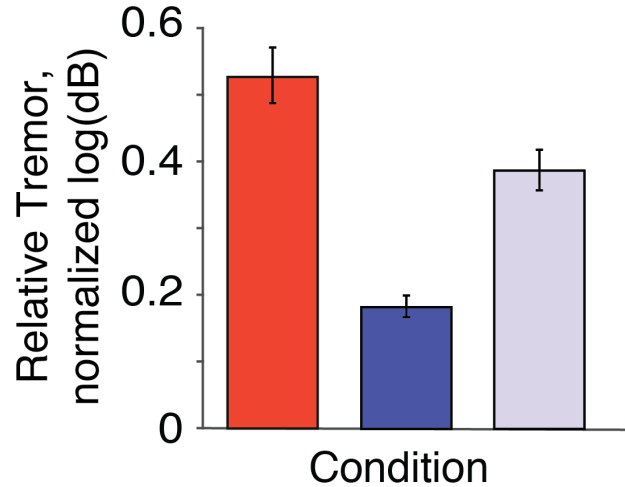


Immediate future for analyses:

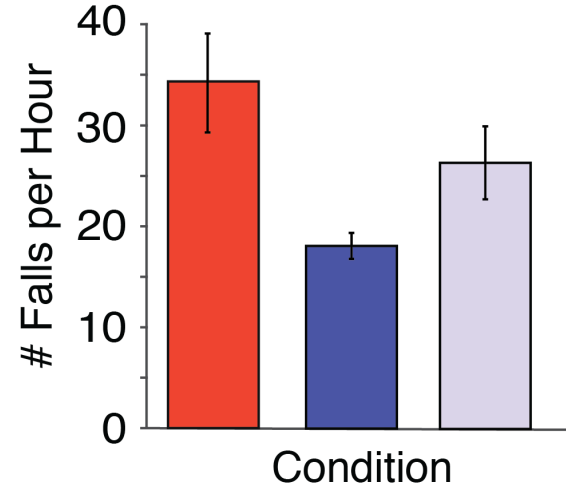
- Apply all new analyses to DCS data.

Previous DCS Data

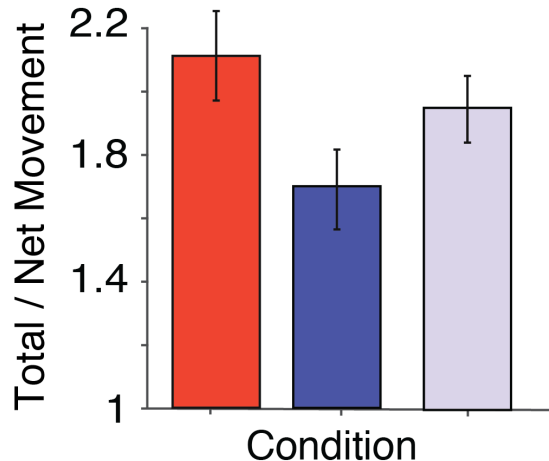
Effect of DCS on Tremor
17 weeks



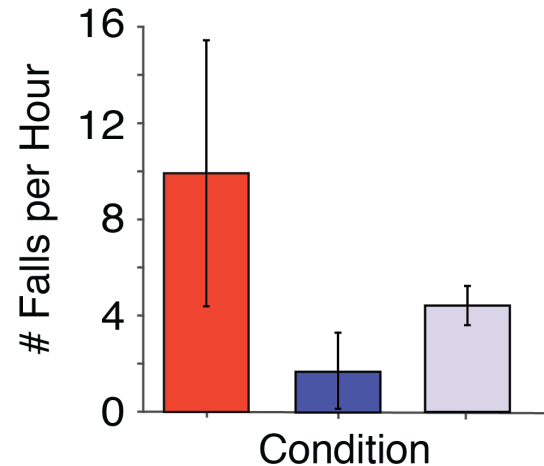
Effect of DCS on Fall Rate
17 weeks



Effect of DCS on Incoordination
31 weeks



Effect of DCS on Fall Rate
31 weeks

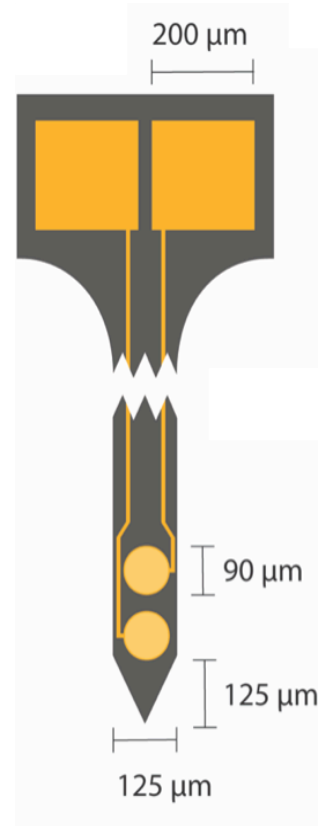


Ongoing DCS Collection

- Batch of 10 mid-symptomatic rats currently underway.
- 3 rats bilaterally implanted with 125 micron electrodes. Recordings begin next week.
- 4th implant today.
- 6 more implants in next 2 weeks.
- Testing a spectrum of frequencies to optimize treatment.

New Electrodes

- Joined Nanofab, underwent safety training
- Gave talk to Nanofab staff for design feedback.
 - Now sputtering platinum, not just gold!
- In the process of designing masks and receiving tool-specific training, which corresponds with preliminary electrode build.
- Will complete fabrication process by late-October, though further iterations (much faster 2nd time) may be necessary.
- Once electrical is complete, I will wire-bond to connectors, soak test, break test, saline test
- If all good, then implant.



In Vivo Recording

- System currently being built for mid/late October delivery
- Initial Plan: Implant relatively old rats (currently aging a small cohort) and record from dentate for proof of concept.
- Next plans:
 - Longer term ephys vs motor
 - Simultaneous stim/record to test that treatment reduces covarying metrics
 - Encode covarying metrics via stim, verify via record

Papers

- Nearly finished writing 1st paper on DCS.
- Dorval paper
- Plan to write up design, fabrication, testing, validation paper of directional rat electrode after completion this semester

Grants

- F32 assigned to F01A, to be reviewed Nov 9-10
- Will submit AAN Neuroscience Research Training “Scholarship” (\$150k over 2 years) on October 1st.