



*1st Invitational Workshop on*  
**Body Area Network Technology and Applications**  
Future Directions, Technologies, Standards and Applications  
June 19-20, 2011  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

# *Connecting the Inside and Outside Worlds: Wideband Communication Across the Skin*



***Maysam Ghovanloo, Ph.D.***

***GT-Bionics Lab***

***School of Electrical and Computer Engineering***

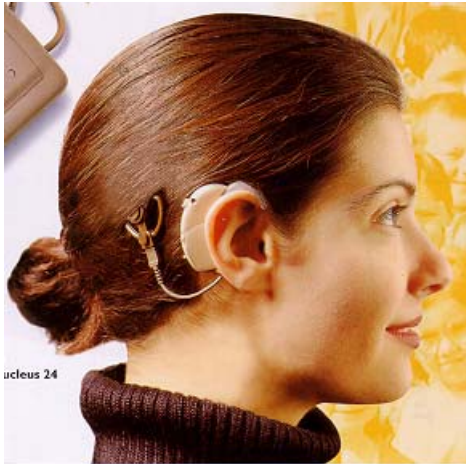


# Questions

- ➔ A) Important and growth areas in the fields of body area networks and in general signal processing for biomedical engineering?
- B) How these areas could drive communications, signal processing and networking research?
- C) Your views on global standards and their status and impact
- ➔ D) Challenging research problems and possible solutions

**Implantable microelectronic devices that need wideband communication channels with outside of the human body**

# Auditory and Visual Prostheses



Cochlear Corporation



## ■ Auditory Prosthesis:

- 10% of the world population experience a limited quality of life because of hearing impairment.

- USA statistics:

Profoundly deaf: 0.4 million

Hearing Impaired: 20 million

## ■ Visual Prosthesis:

- World statistics:

Profoundly Blind: 45 million

Visually Impaired: 180 million

- USA statistics:

Profoundly Blind: 1.3 million

Visually Impaired: 10 million

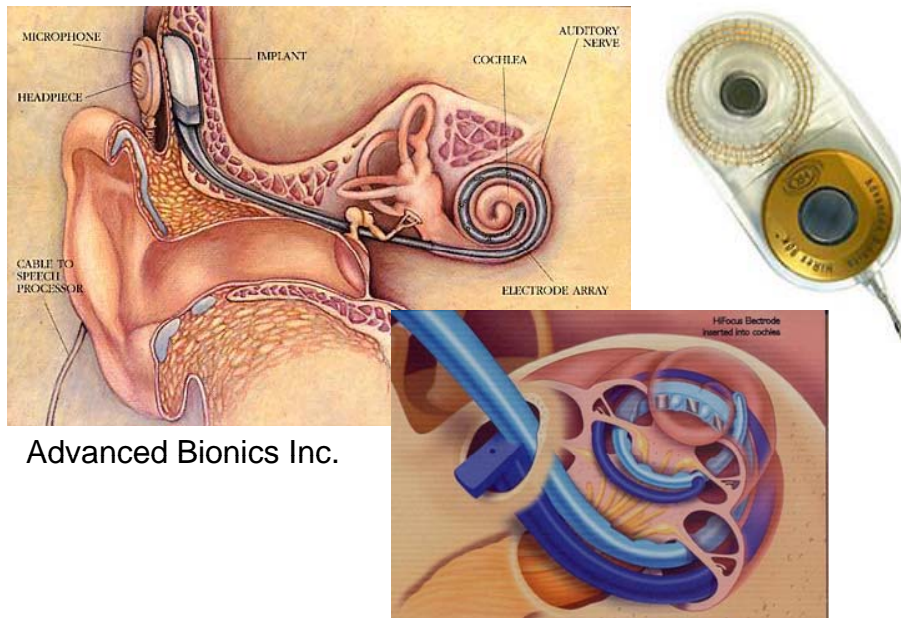
Dobelle  
Institute



2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sight



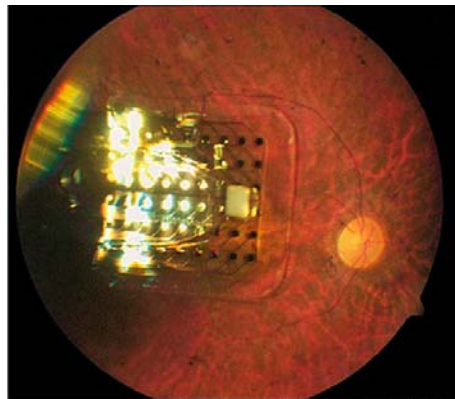
# Cochlear and Retinal Implants



Advanced Bionics Inc.



- Commercially available since early 80's.
- About 200,000 children and adults use cochlear implants.
- 30,000 auditory nerves.
- A minimum of 6 ~ 8 stimulating sites needed to converse on the phone.



2nd Sight

Photograph by Second Sight Medical Products

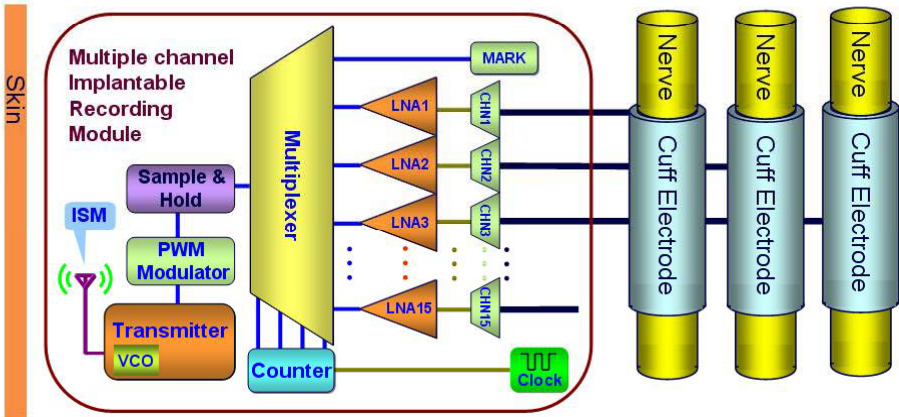
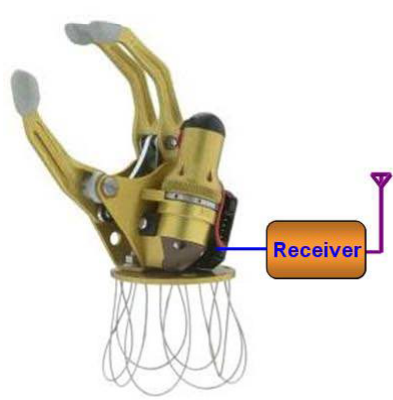


Boston Retinal Implant

- Currently under development. First chronic human trial in 2002.
- 1.2 Million optic nerves.
- A minimum of 800 ~ 1000 sites needed to read large fonts.



# Effective Control of Prosthetic Devices



C-Leg (Otto Bock)



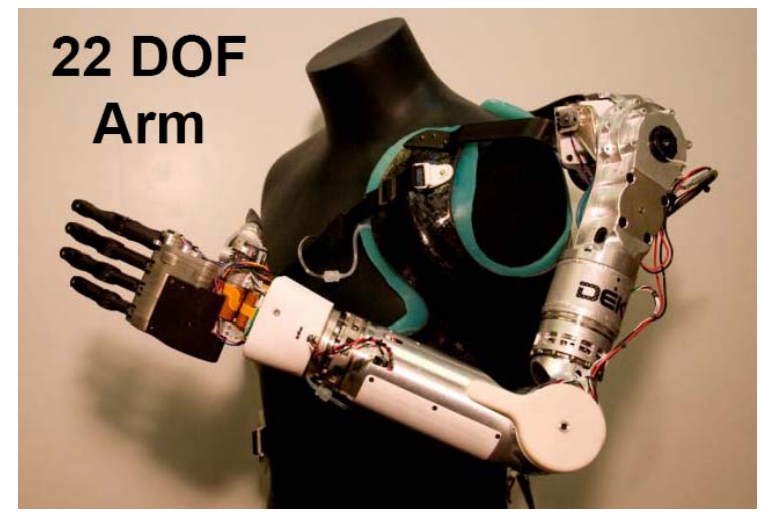
Bion (Advanced Bionics)

## Bottleneck:

How to effectively control sophisticated prosthetic devices in real time?

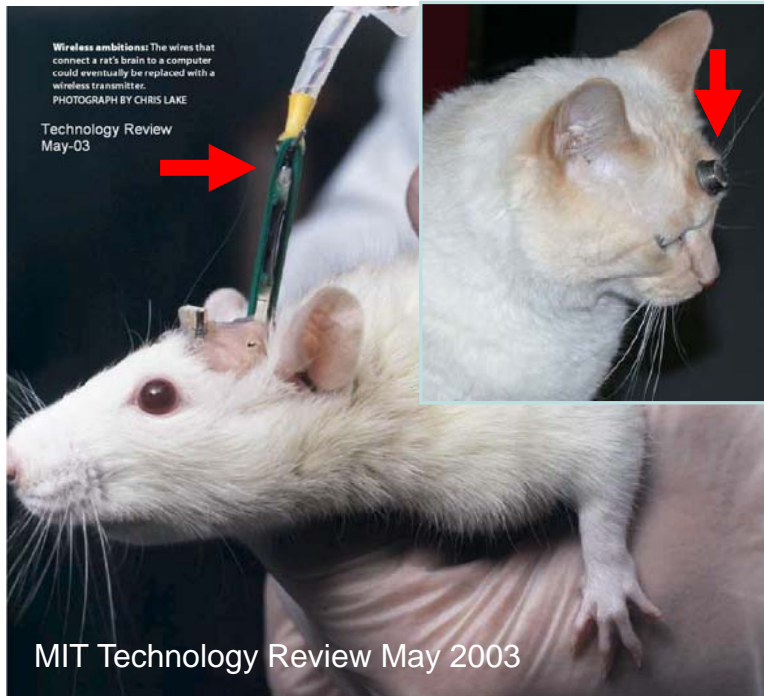
## Solution:

Direct interface with the nervous system



DEKA Arm (DARPA – J. Judy)

# Multichannel Wireless Neural Interfacing



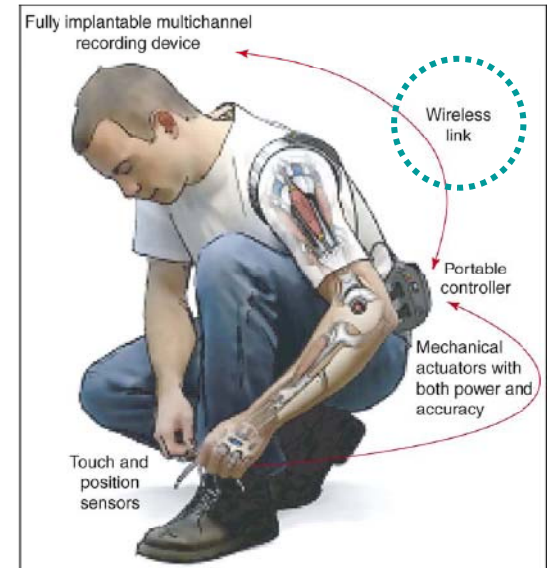
## In animal experiments:

1. Improve SNR
2. Reduce motion artifacts
3. Eliminate the tethering effect, which can bias the animal behavior



## In human applications:

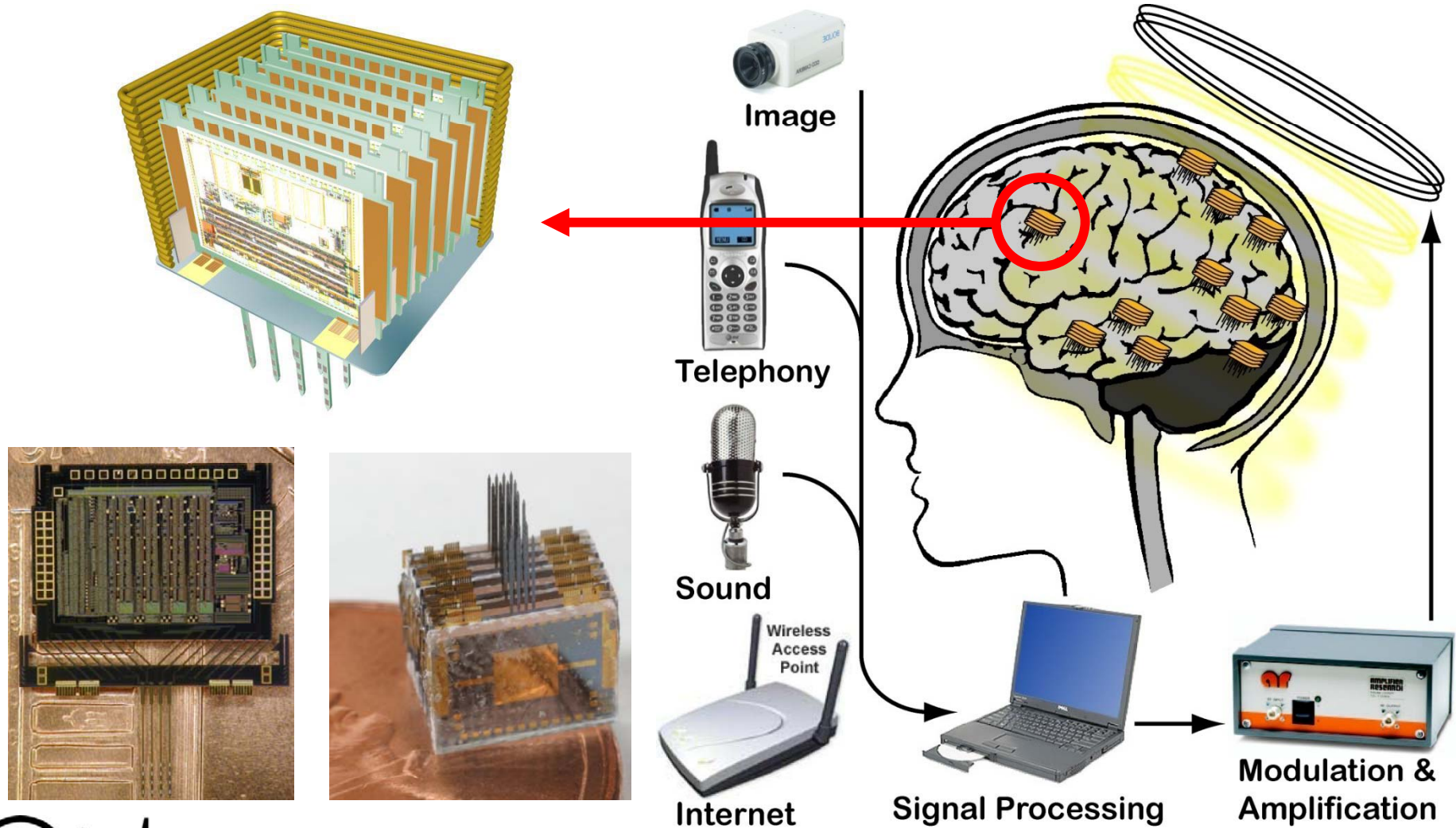
1. Reduce the risk of infection
2. Reduce the risk of damage
3. Improve user's comfort level
4. Increase mobility
5. More aesthetically acceptable



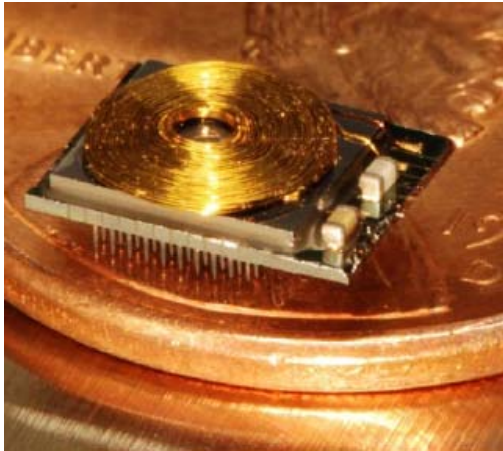
Lebedev and Nicolelis,  
Trends in Neuroscience 2006



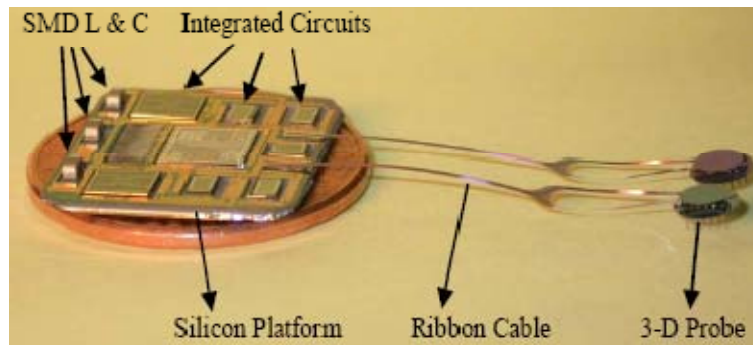
# A Distributed Network of Wireless Implants for the Central Nervous System



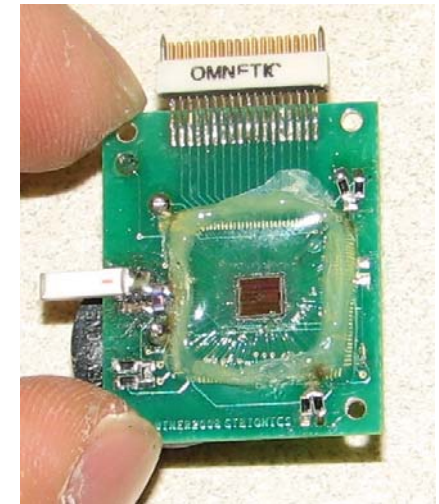
# State-of-the-Art in Wireless Neural Recording



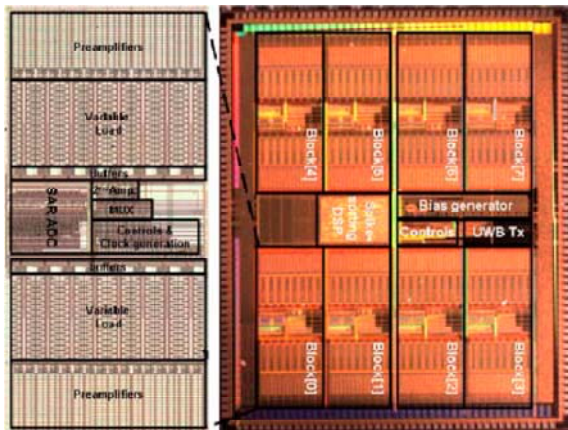
Harrison et al. (Utah)  
100-ch spike + 1-ch Digital



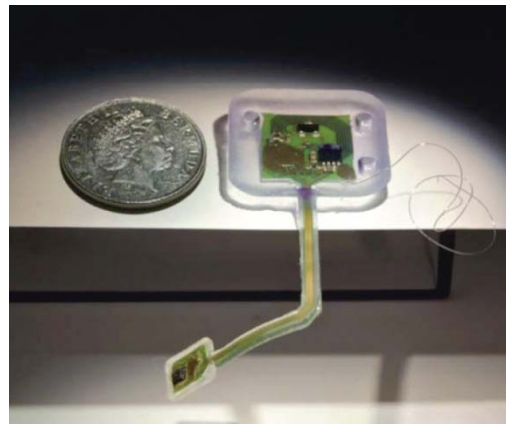
Wise et al. (Michigan)  
64-ch spike + 2-ch Digital



Ghovanloo et al. (GT)  
32-ch PWM / TDM



Liu et al. (U.C. Santa Cruz)  
128-ch Digital



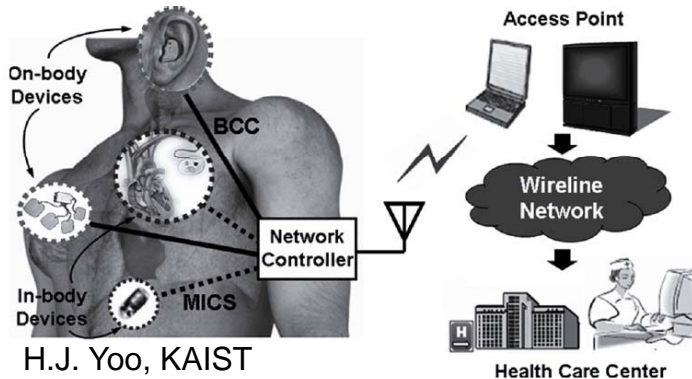
Nurmikko et al. (Brown)  
16-ch Optical / Digital



Morizio et al. (TBSI, Duke)  
15-ch Analog / TDM



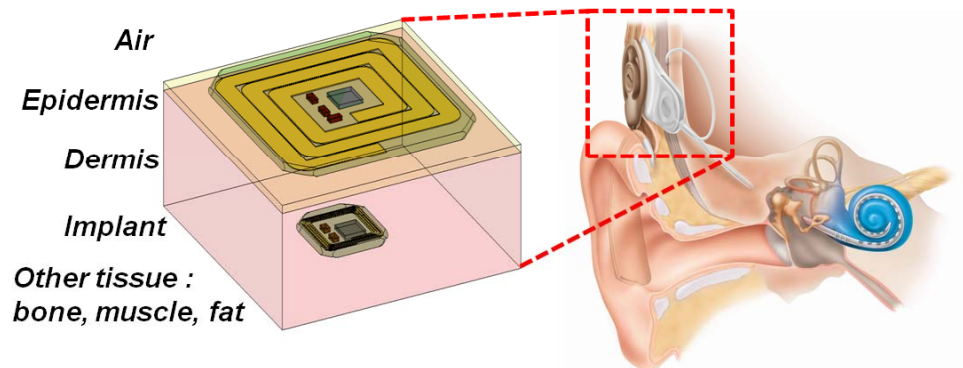
# Wireless Transcutaneous Power and Bi-Directional Data Transmission



Body Channel Communication (BCC)  
30-70 MHz



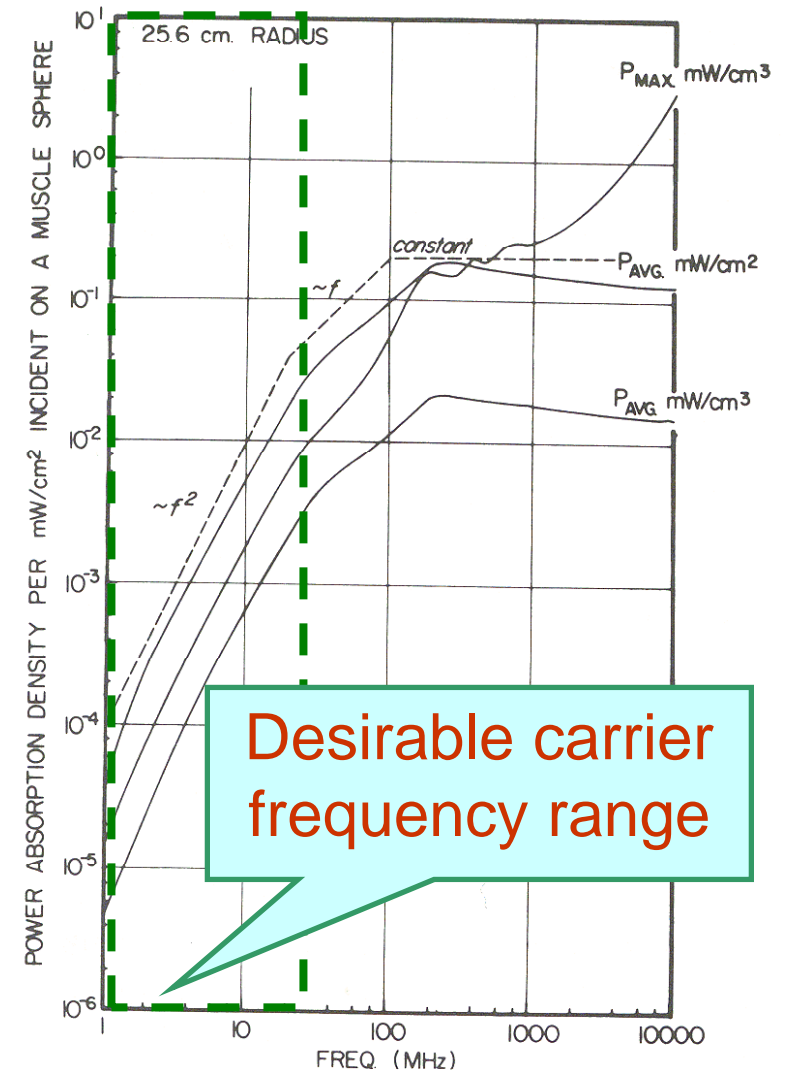
Medical Implant  
Communication Service  
(MICS) 402-405 MHz



- Battery powered devices:
  - Small number of sites
  - Ultra low power and low data rates
  - Autonomous (after initial adjustments)
- Inductively powered devices:
  - High current (Neuromuscular stimulators)
  - High stimulus rate (Cochlear implants)
  - Large number of sites (Visual prostheses)
- All implants need wireless data.

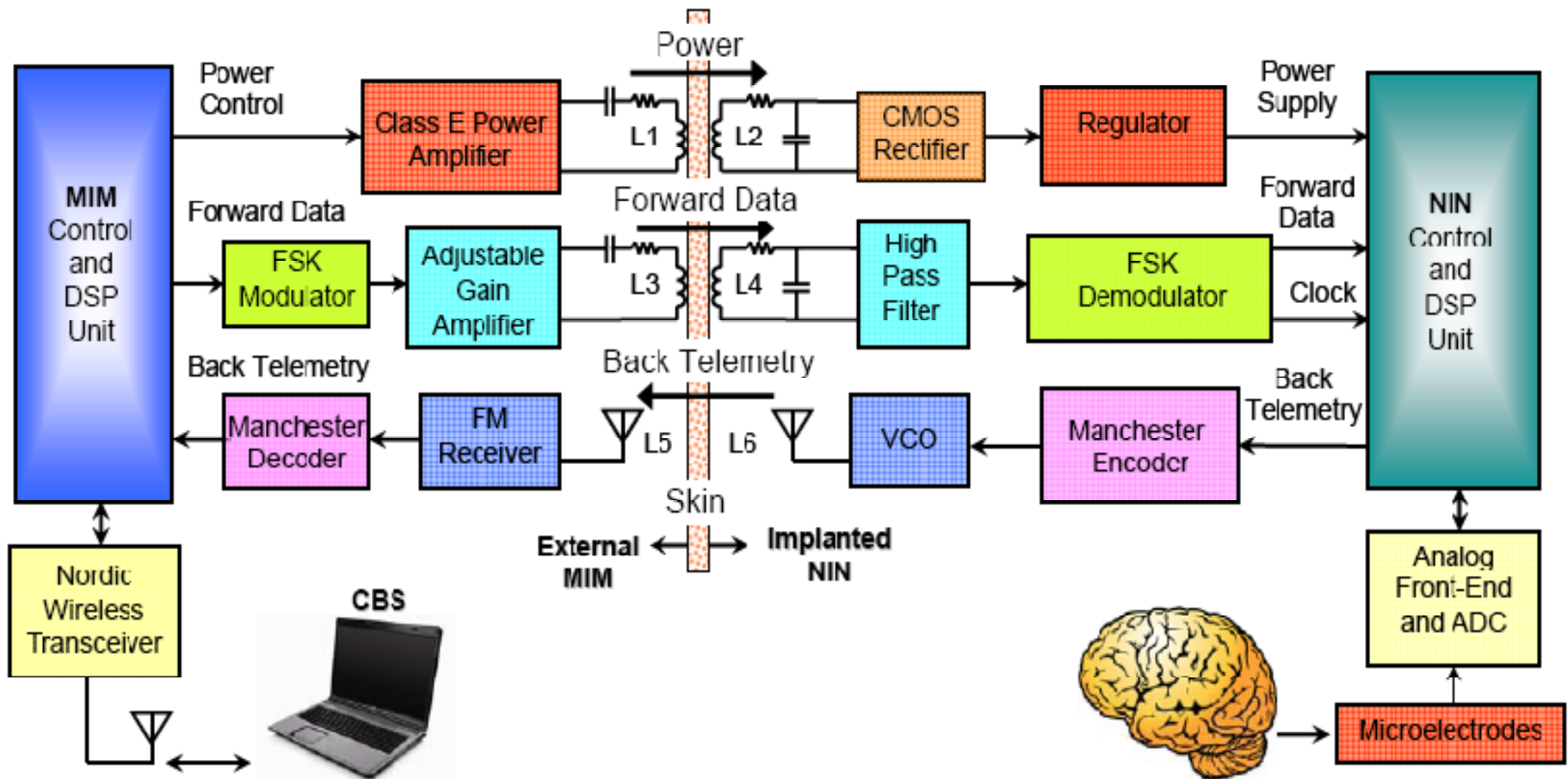
# Efficient Power: Carrier Frequency as Low as Possible

- Carrier frequency should be below the coil self resonance frequency.
- More power loss in the power transmission and conditioning circuitry at higher frequencies.
- $1 \text{ MHz} < \text{Carrier Frequency} < 20 \text{ MHz}$   
Average density of electromagnetic power absorption in tissue increases as  $f^2$ .
- Tissue is more transparent to EM field at lower frequencies.
- Carrier Frequency  $\uparrow \Rightarrow$  Penetration Depth  $\downarrow$



J. C. Lin, A. W. Guy, and C. C. Johnson  
IEEE Trans. Microwave Theor. Tech. 21, 1973

# Wireless Link with Multiple Carriers



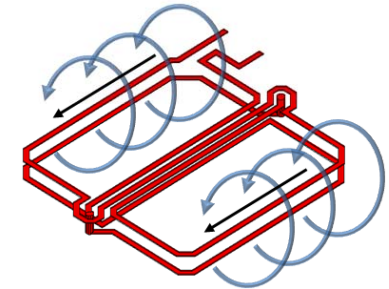
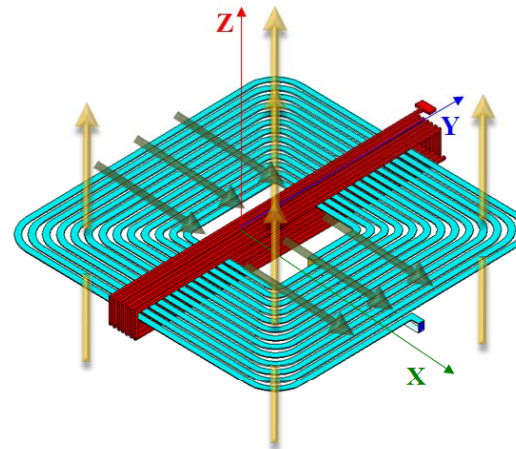
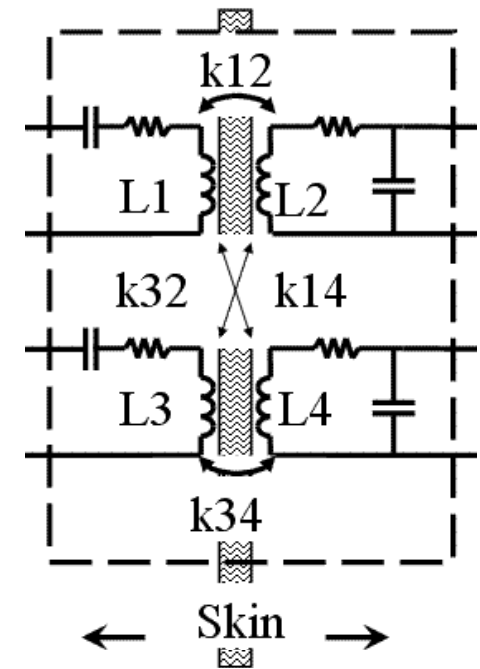
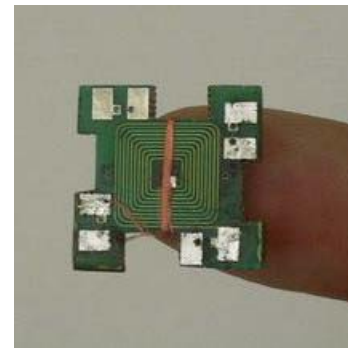
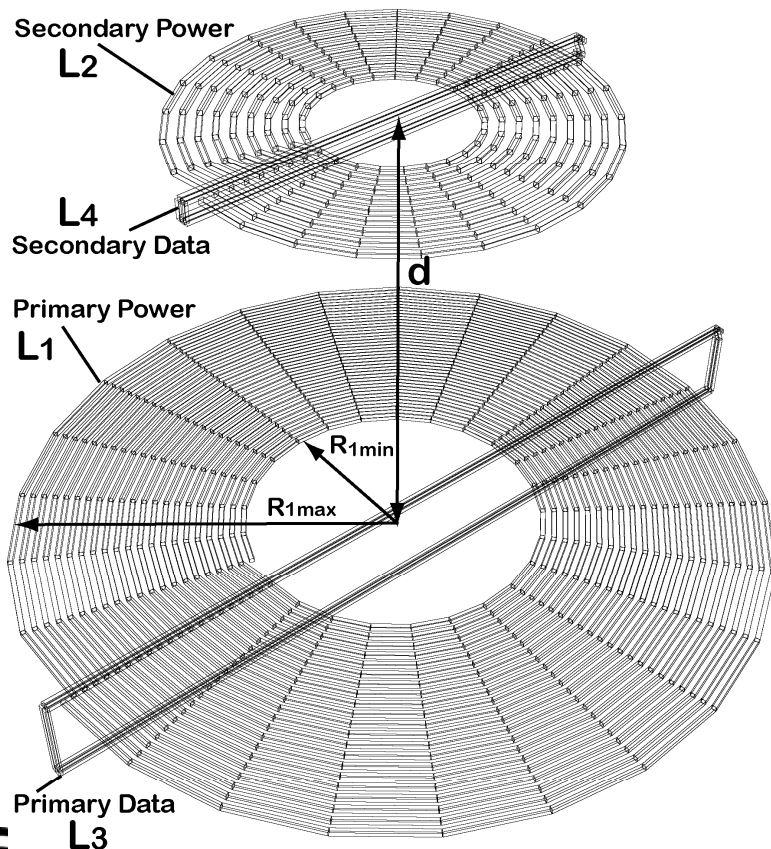
- Low frequency for power transmission (1~10 MHz)
- Medium frequency for forward data transmission (50~100 MHz)
- High frequency for back telemetry (1~4 GHz)



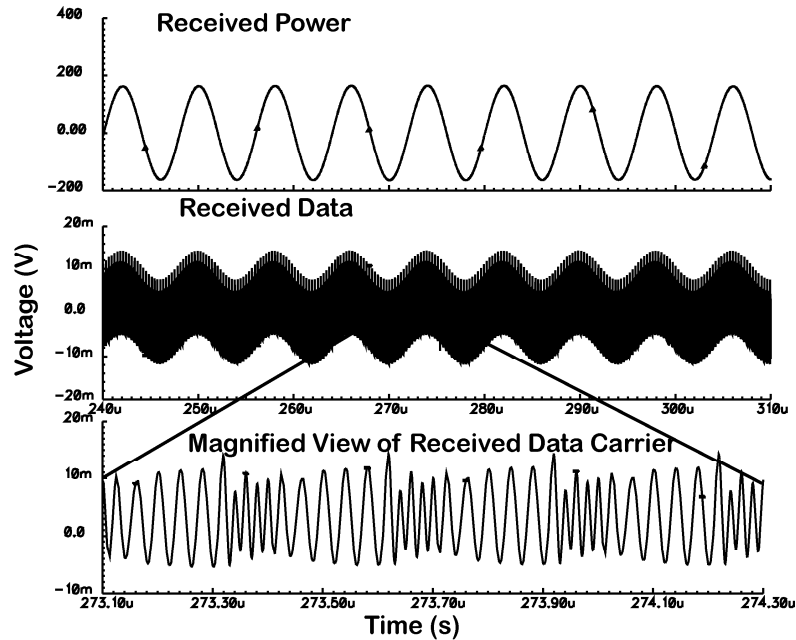
# Direct and Cross Coupling

Geometry and orientation of the power and data coils were chosen to:

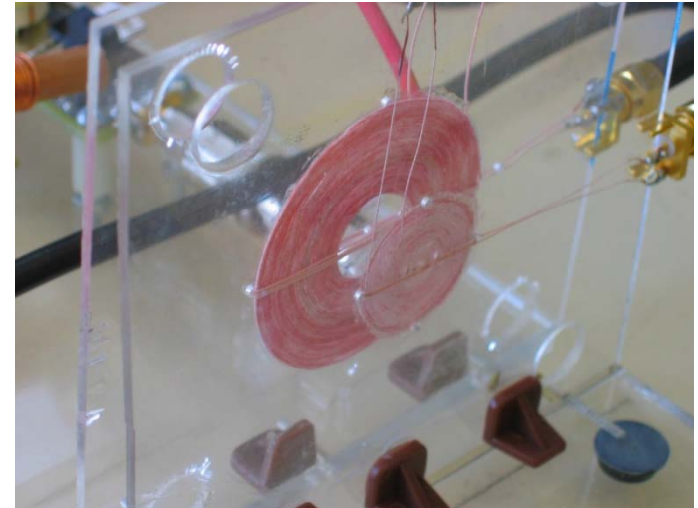
- Maximize direct coupling coefficients ( $k_{12}$ ,  $k_{34}$ )
- Minimize cross coupling coefficients ( $k_{14}$ ,  $k_{32}$ )



# Simulation and Measurement Results



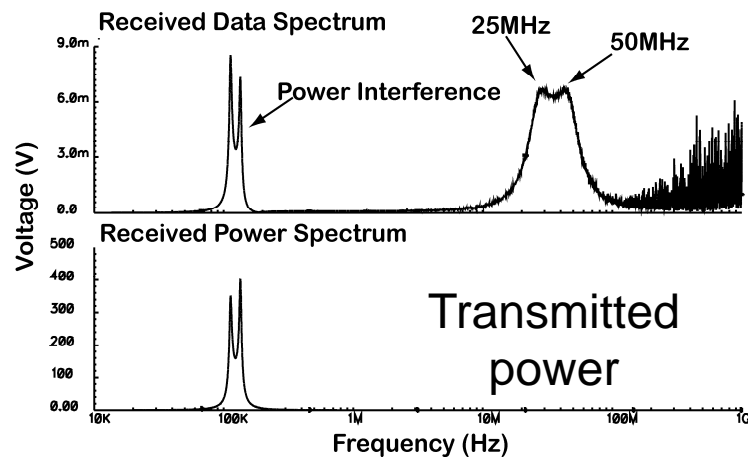
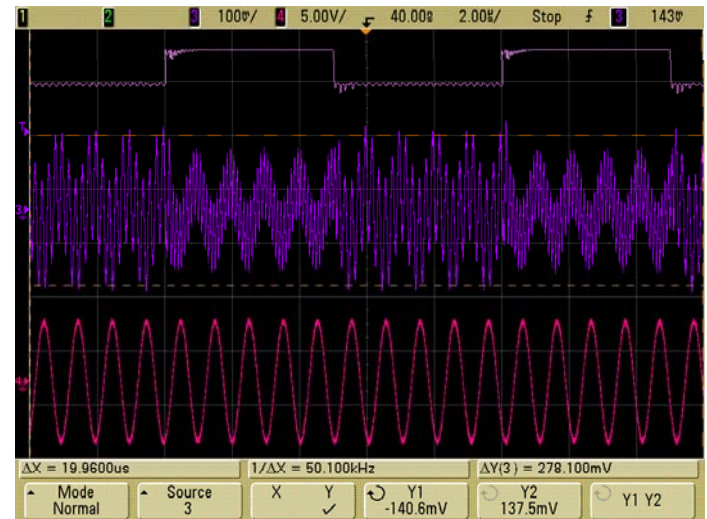
Measurement Setup →



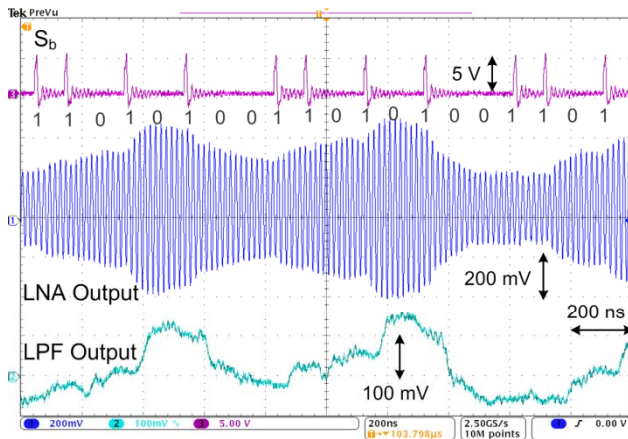
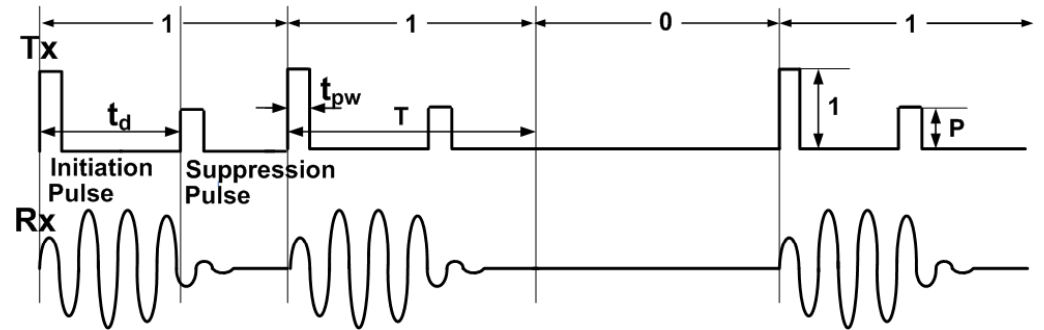
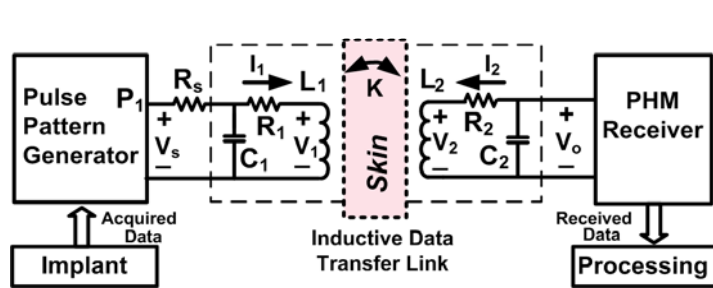
Demodulated Data →

Received Data →

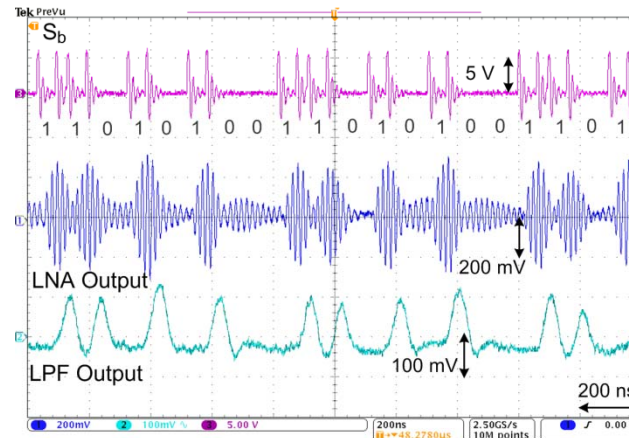
Received power →



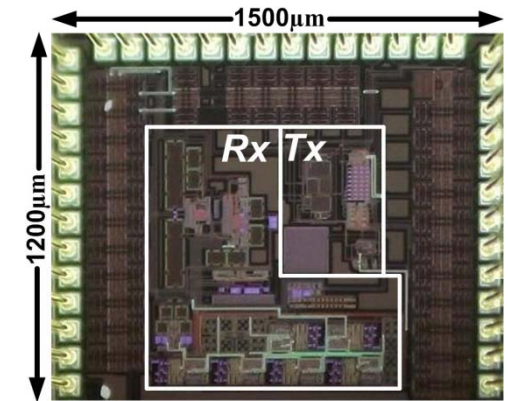
# Pulse Harmonic Modulation



Without PHM (10.2 Mbps)



With PHM (10.2 Mbps)



PHM Transceiver

A string of narrow pulses with specific amplitudes and timing is transmitted. Each pulse generates a decaying oscillation at the harmonic frequency that the receiver LC-tank is tuned at, which is then superimposed with other oscillations across the receiver at the same frequency, to minimize the ISI.



# GT- Bionics Lab Members



Xueliang Huo  
Ph.D. Student  
xhuo@gatech.edu



Uei-Ming Jow  
Ph.D. Student  
jow0209@gatech.edu



Seung Bae Lee  
Ph.D. Student  
slee87@gatech.edu



Hyung-Min Lee  
Ph.D. Student  
hyungminlee@gatech.edu



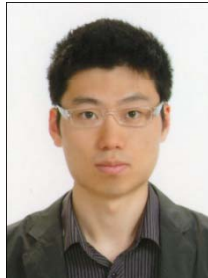
Mehdi Kiani  
Ph.D. Student  
mkiani3@gatech.edu



Jeonghee Kim  
Ph.D. Student  
jkim448@gatech.edu



Elnaz B. Sadeghian  
Ph.D. Student  
hpark90@gatech.edu



Hangu Park  
Ph.D. Student  
hpark90@gatech.edu



Sergio Carlo  
Ph.D. Student  
sergio.carlo@gatech.edu

## Undergraduate researchers:

- Mingjie Zhou
- Rui Ding
- Chukwuyem (Doyle) Emelue
- Peter McMEnamin
- Jecolia Longtchi

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- Dr. Joseph Manns, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- Dr. Elliot Roth, Rehab. Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Dr. Elizabeth Bailey, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- Dr. Karim Oweiss, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI
- Dr. Kimberly Wilson, Emory Hospital, Atlanta, GA
- Dr. Stephen Sprigle, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA

