

Neural drive to the deltoid segments

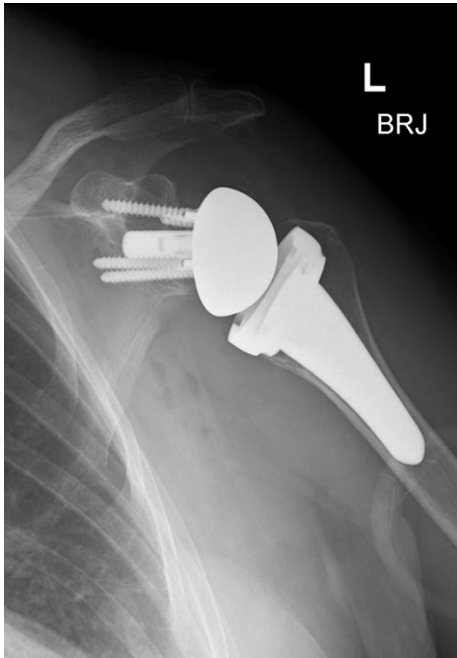
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Background

Total reverse shoulder replacement

Good deltoid function is critical¹

Functional outcomes are variable

Possibly due to inefficient strategy or
co-activation of deltoid parts²⁻⁷

¹ Grammont P et al Rhumatologie. 1987

² Walker et al J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2014

³ Pegreffi et al Musculoskeletal Surg. 2017

⁴ Rienmüller et al J of Clin Medicine. 2020

⁵ Li et al J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2020

⁶ Smith et al J of Orthopaedics. 2020

⁷ Pelletier-Roy et al J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2021

Disclosures

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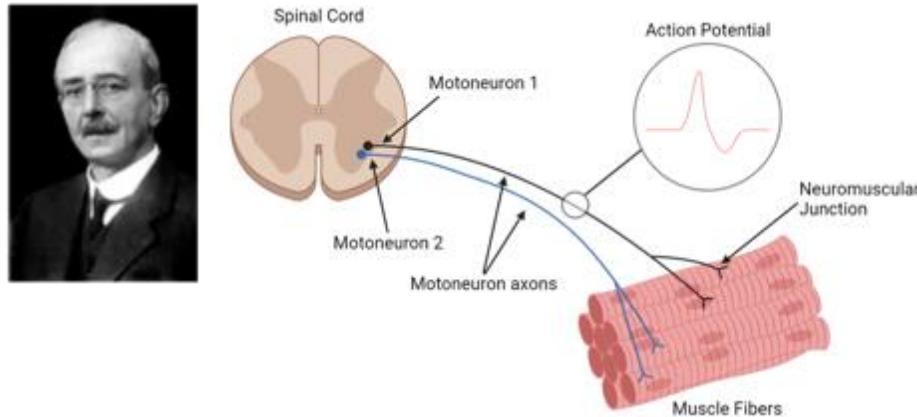
The remaining authors and the research foundations with which they are affiliated did not receive any financial payments or other benefits from any commercial entity related to the subject of this article.

Background

To understand the neuromechanics of deltoid function we need to change the level at which we observe activity: from whole muscle to motoneuron

Motor neurons are the final common path

Sherrington (1906)



Has been assessed in other joints

Correlated nature of motor units

Knee¹ – **high** = common drive VL & VM

Ankle^{2,3} – **low** = no common drive GM & GL

Shoulder of Rhesus Macaque

Deltoid drive highly task dependent⁴

Remains unknown in humans

AIM:

To determine the common drive within and between deltoid heads during isometric force match tasks performed in different directions in individuals with normal shoulder function

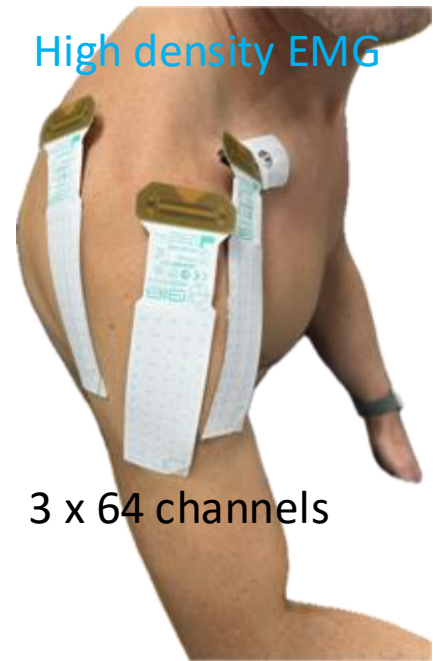
¹ Avrillon et al J Appl Physiol. 2021

² Hamard et al J Appl Physiol. 2023

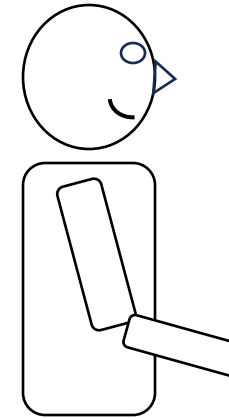
³ Hug et al J Appl Physiol. 2021

⁴ Marshall et al Nat Neurosci. 2022

Methods: experimental setup



Force direction



Abduction



Posterior
abduction

Anterior
abduction

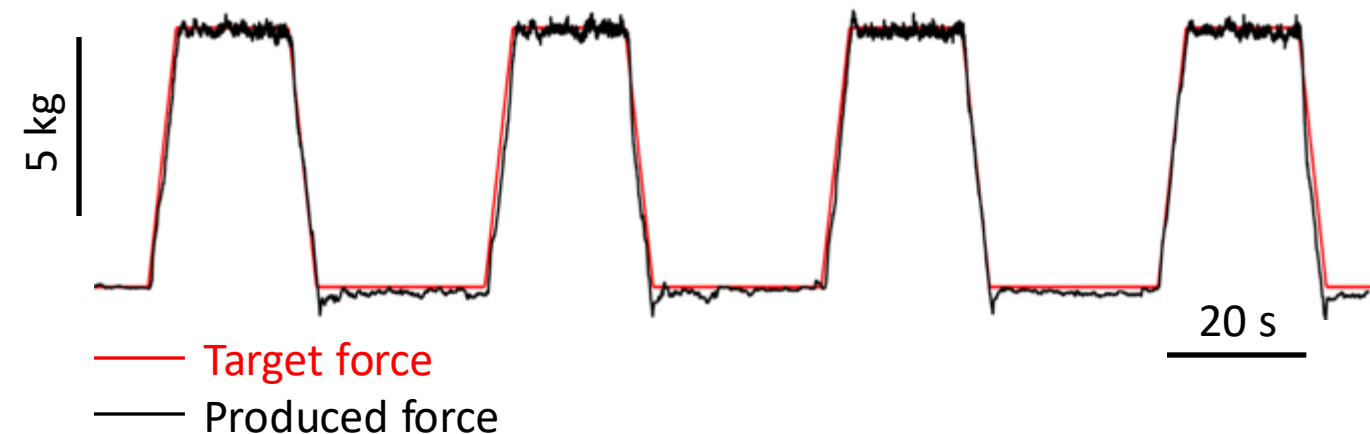
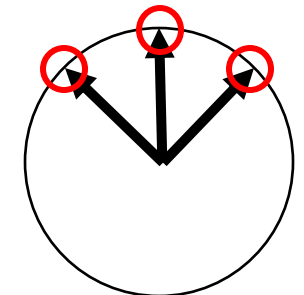
Participants

N = 14 (1 female, 13 male)

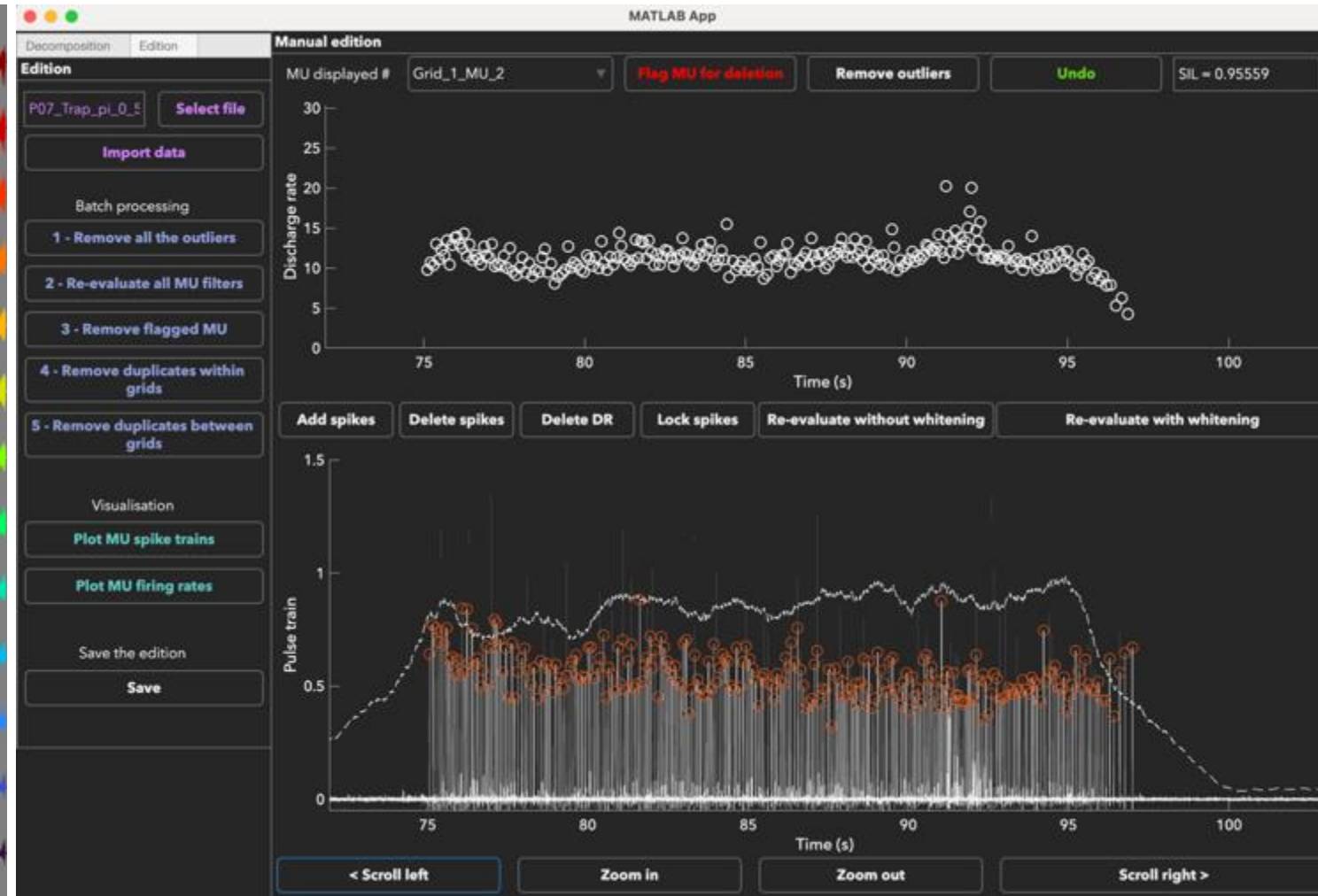
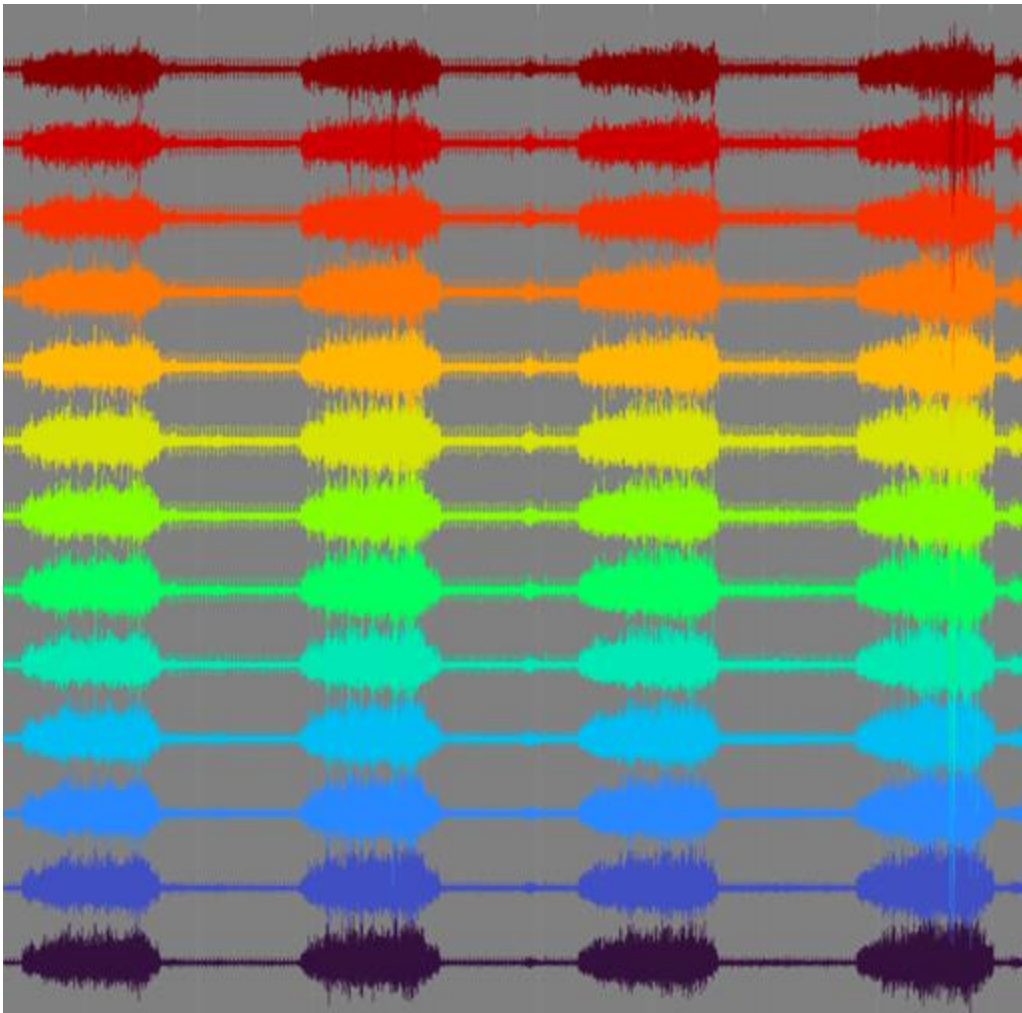
Mean (SD)
Age: 28 (9) years
Height: 1.76 (0.10) m
Mass: 72 (14) kg

Challenging to get motor
units from n = 3 (excluded
from analysis)

Feedback on screen

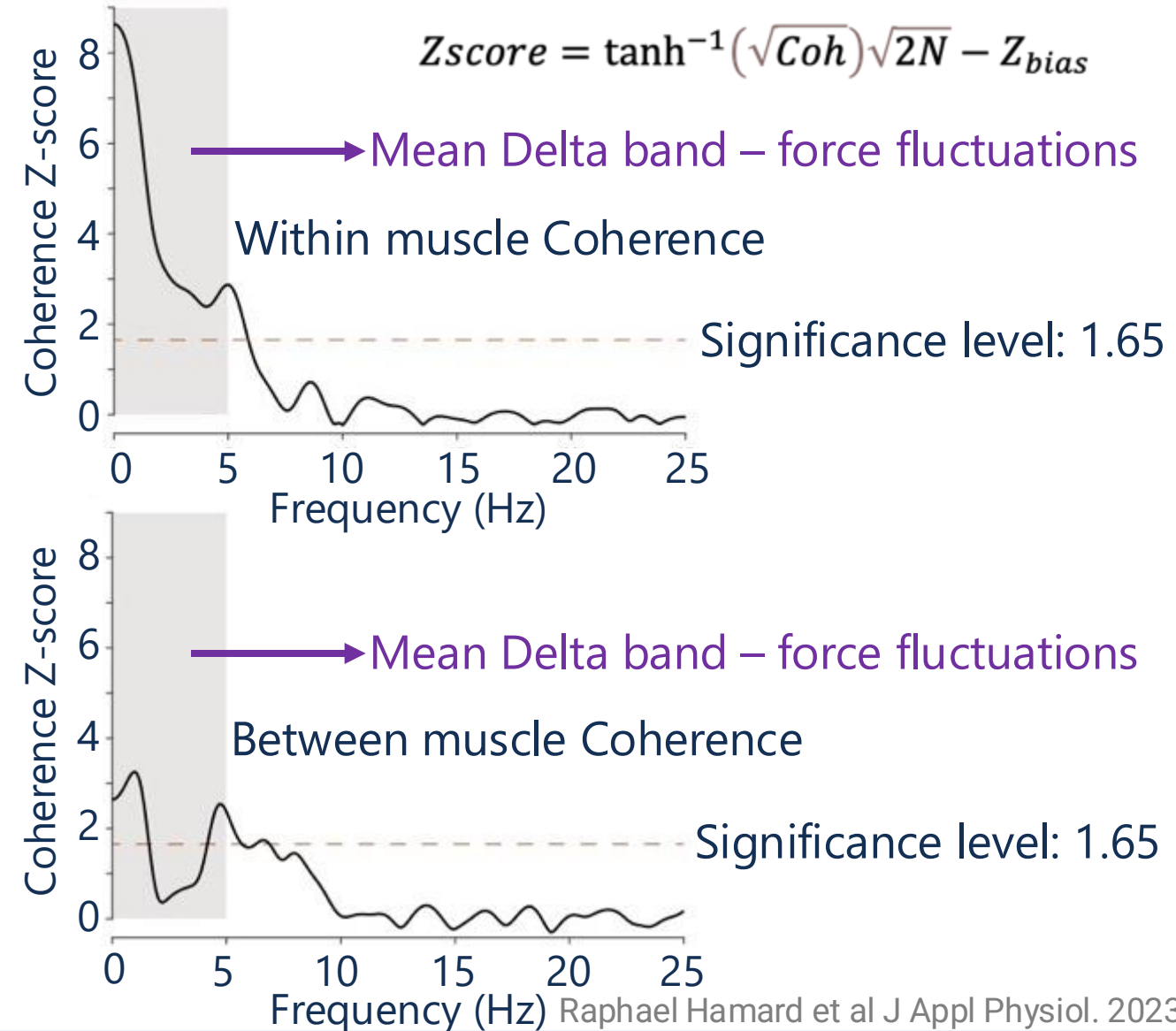
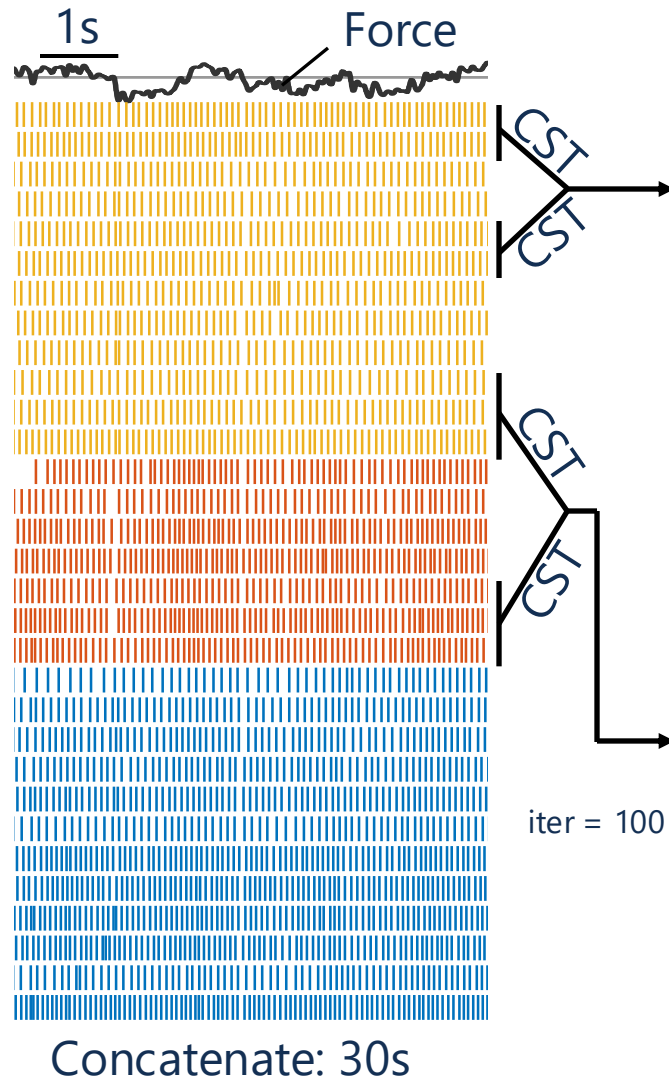
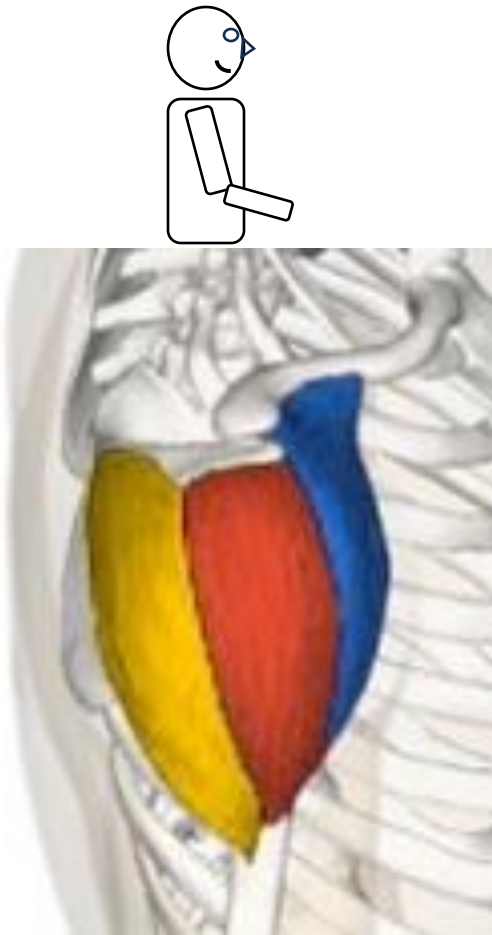


Methods: extraction of motor units (blind source decomposition)



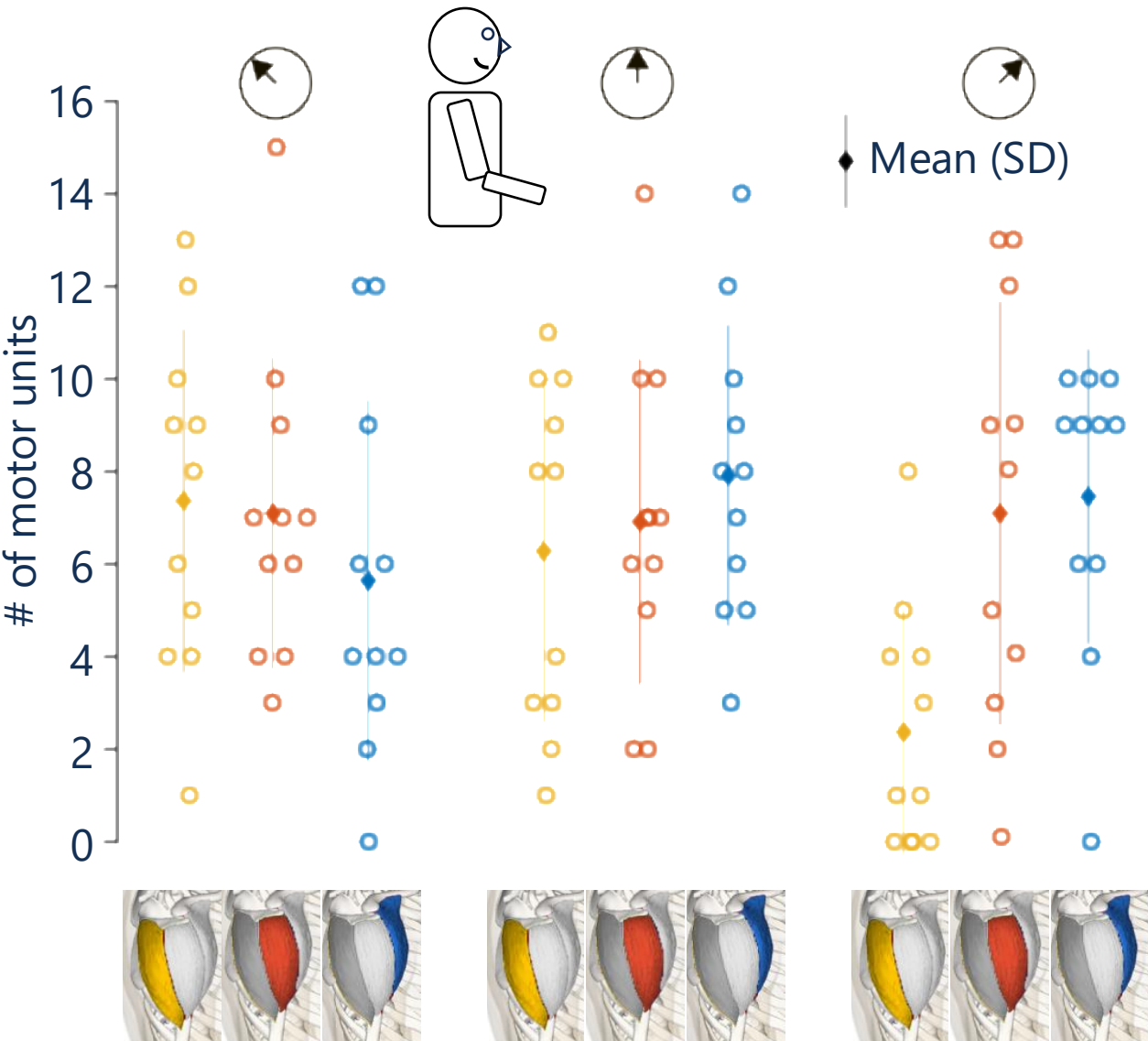
<https://github.com/simonavrillon/MUedit>

Methods: extraction of motor units (blind source decomposition)

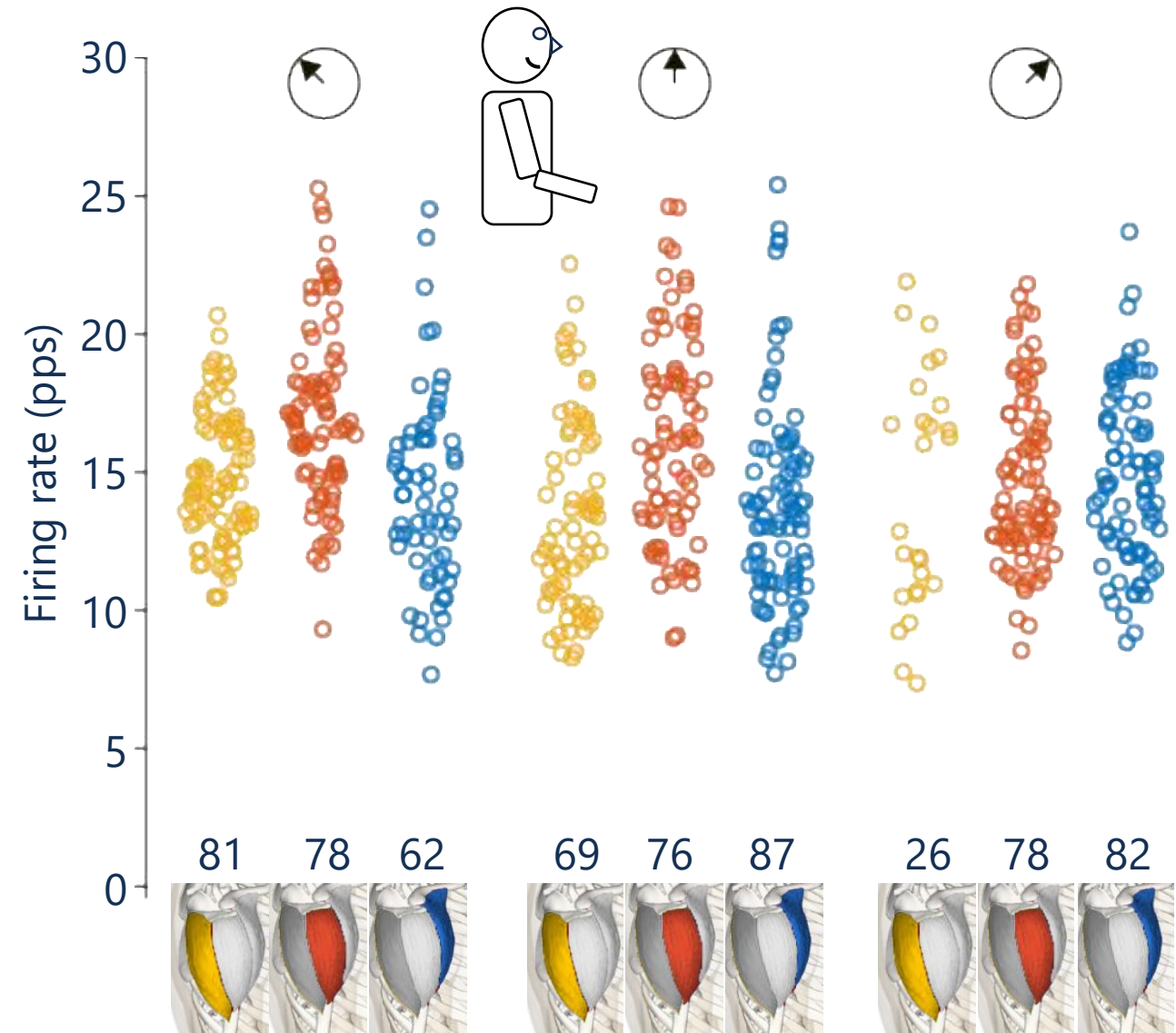


Raphael Hamard et al J Appl Physiol. 2023

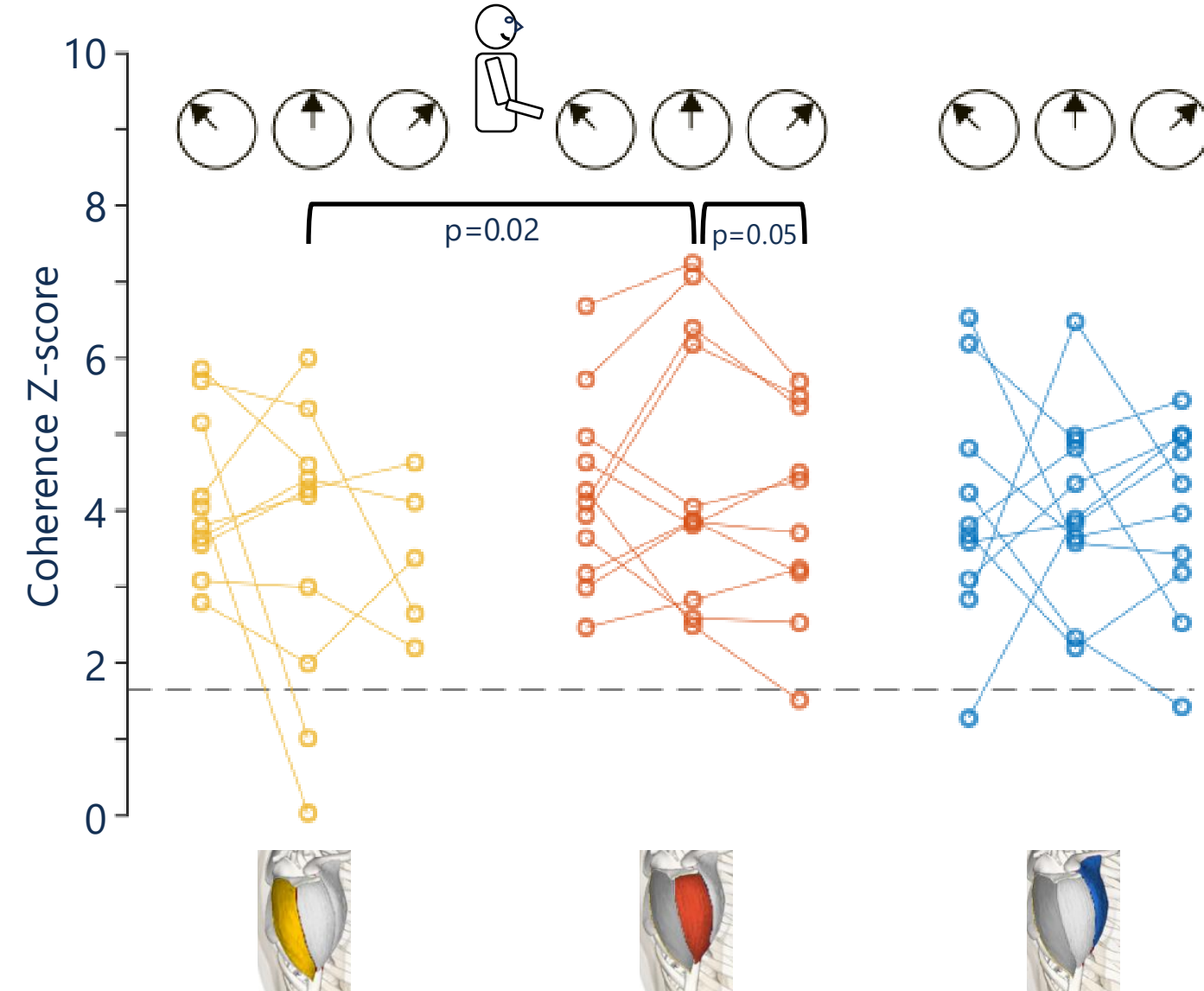
Results: # of motor units



Mean firing rate (pps)



Results: Within muscle coherence (correlation in freq domain)



Strong common drive within muscle heads

High between subject variability

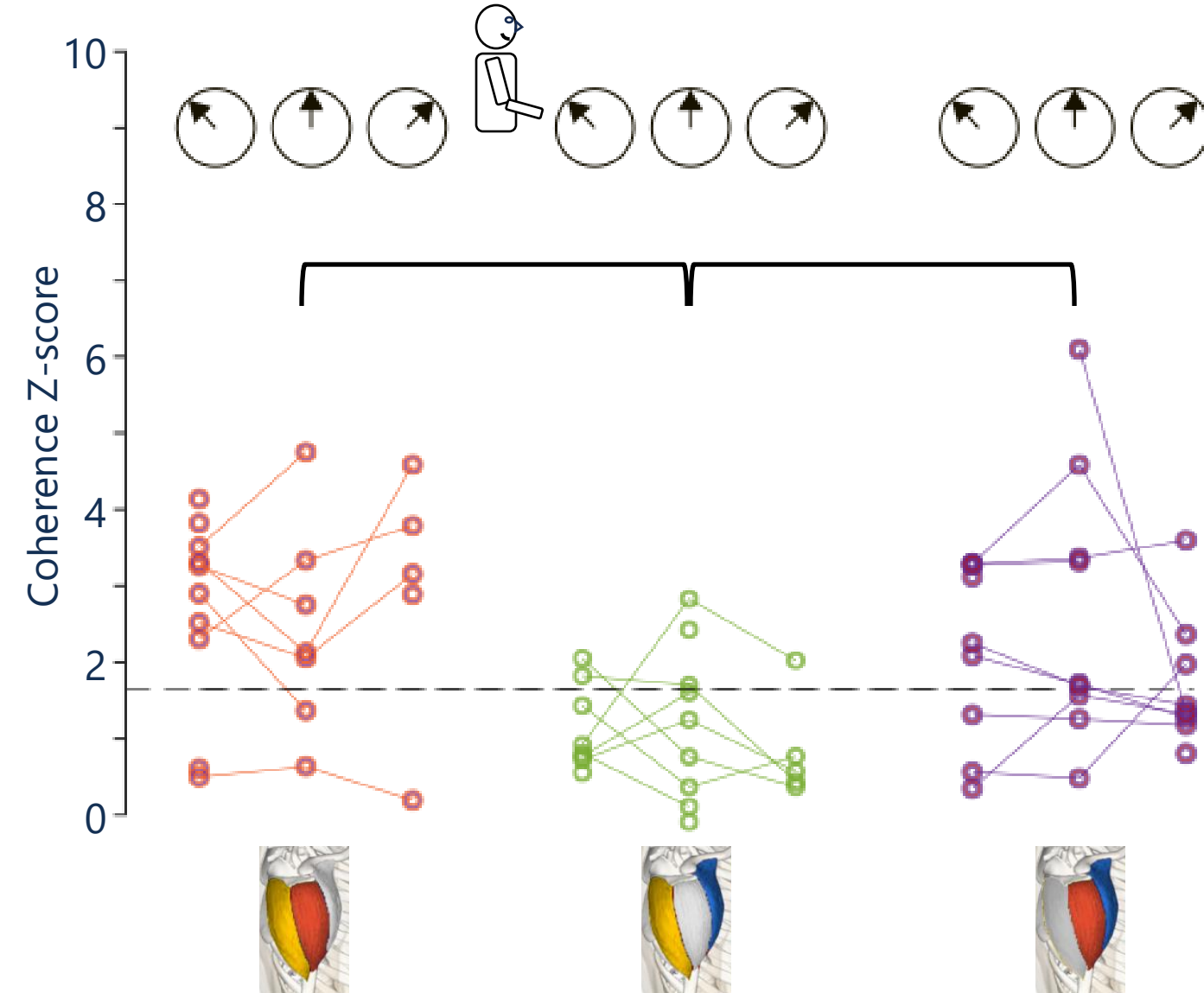
Linear mixed model: Muscle x Force direction interaction ($p=0.01$)

More common drive in the middle deltoid during abduction than anterior abduction

Task dependent flexible control; more common drive during primary task

Higher common drive in the middle deltoid than posterior deltoid in abduction

Results: between muscle coherence (correlation inf freq domain)

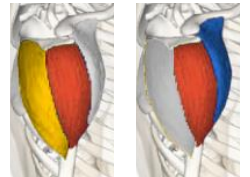


Main effect of muscle pair ($p < 0.001$)

Low common drive to
could be efficient



Some had sign common
drive between the



No main effect of Force-direction
($p = 0.45$), robust between muscle
common drive?

Conclusions

¹ Marshall et al Nat Neurosci. 2022

² Avrillon et al J Appl Physiol. 2021

Common drive within middle deltoid altered depending on force direction (in line with Marshall¹) and suggest some adaptation to task demands.

Common drive between the posterior-middle and middle-anterior could assist with force direction but did not change (on average) between force directions

We observed high between participant variation (we will re-test some participants). Individual differences were consistent between assessments for quadriceps neural strategies²

Strong common drive within deltoids heads and low common drive between posterior and anterior deltoids allow for flexible control (test other task constraints)

Next step: investigate deltoid neuromechanics pre- and post rTSA

Relationship with functional outcome

References & Project Team

- ¹ Marshall et al Nat Neurosci. 2022
- ² Avrillon et al J Appl Physiol. 2021
- Raphael Hamard et al J Appl Physiol. 2023
- ² Hamard et al J Appl Physiol. 2023
- ³ Hug et al J Appl Physiol. 2021
- ¹ Grammont P et al Rhumatologie. 1987
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- ⁷ Pelletier-Roy et al J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2021

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