NeuroNat Ascreening tool for monitoring nervous system health

Andrej Andonovski • Daiana Spataru • Mae Dawson • Zachary Szentimrey



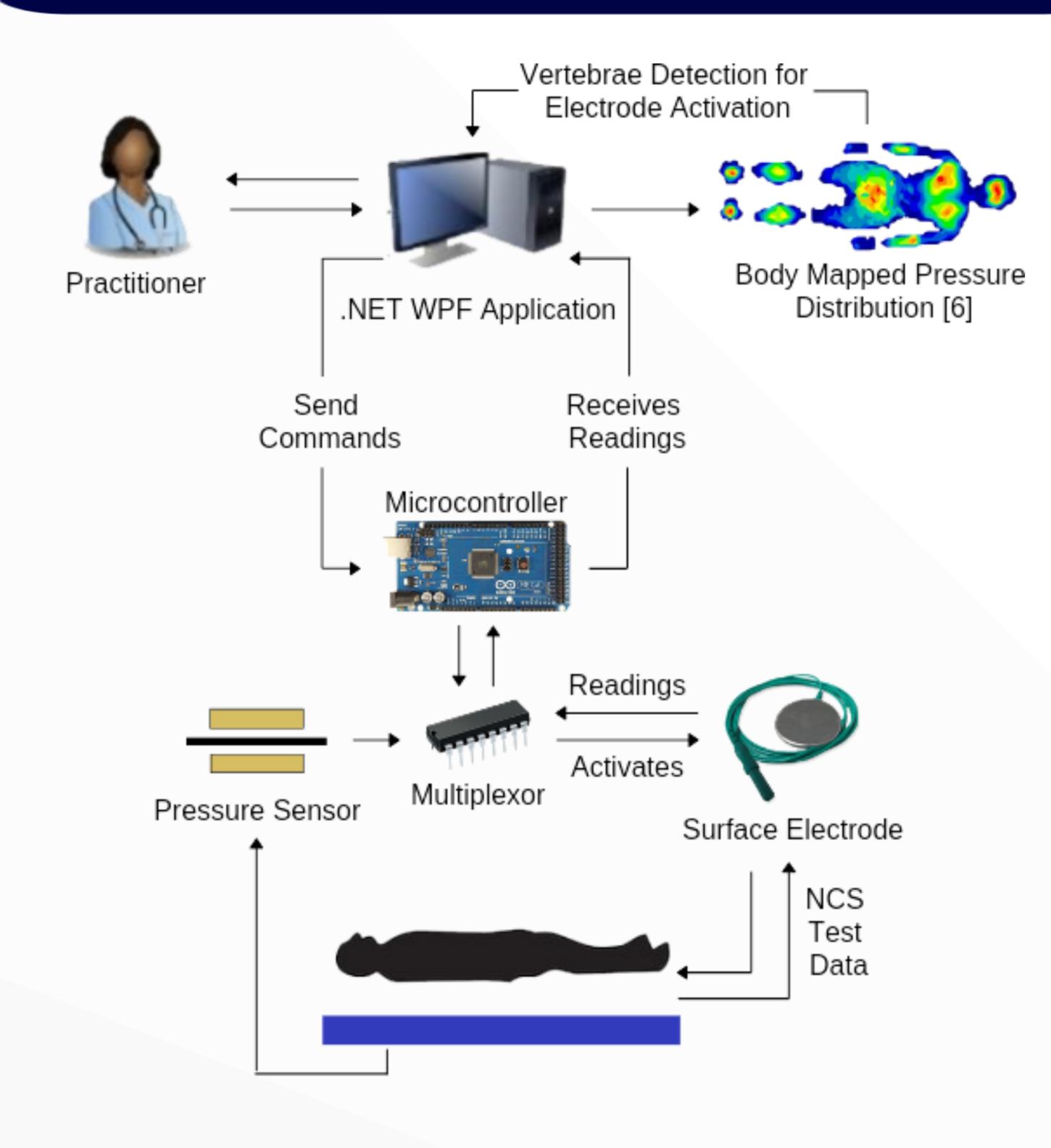
BACKGROUND

- The spinal cord contains spinal nerves that communicate with the brain to make up the central nervous system [1].
- Nerve conduction studies (NCS) can determine the health of a patient's nervous system by measuring nerve transmission velocity.
- Velostat is an electrically conductive piezoresistive material [2].
- Pressure mapping systems determine distribution of contact pressure.

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- There are no current recommendations for neurological health screening during physical examinations [3].
- Neurological damage and diseases impact up to one billion people worldwide [4].
- Medical errors are classified as being the third leading cause of death in the United States [5].

PROCESS WORKFLOW



FUTURE WORK

- Full scale prototype at a higher pressure sensor resolution to achieve accurate pressure mapping.
- Inclusion of active surface electrodes for NCS testing.
- Refine manufacturing techniques.

OBJECTIVES

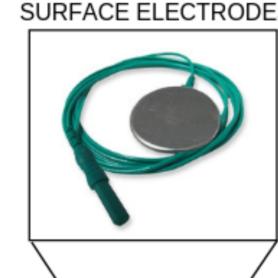
- Create an automated device that maps out a person's supine body surface and perform stimulating nerve monitoring tests.
- Develop a solution that can withstand daily wear and can be sanitized.

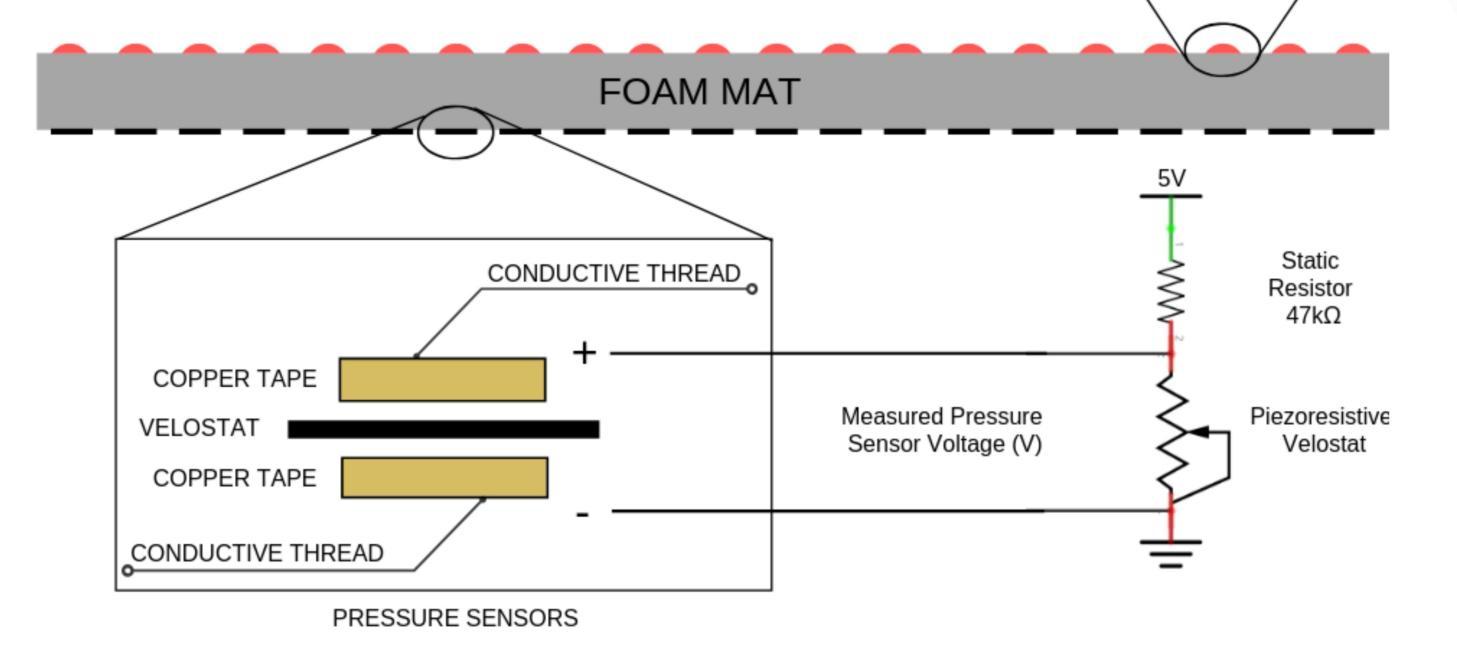
FINAL DESIGN

- Piezoresistive pressure sensors create a pressure distribution map.
- Active surface electrodes stimulate spinal nerves and perform a NCS.
- A microcontroller interfaces with pressure sensors to send data to a software application and relay data back to activate surface electrodes.

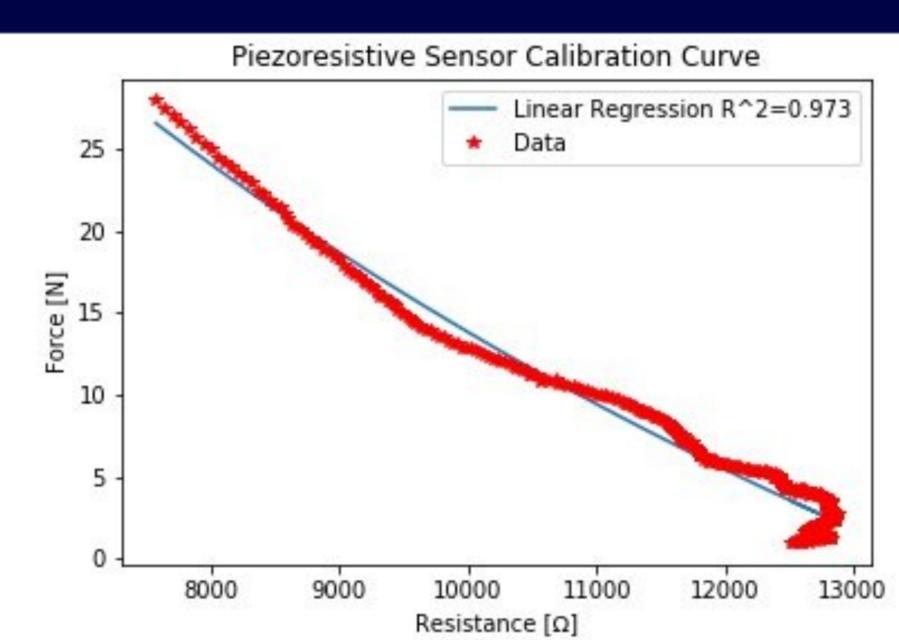
Multiplexors manage data channels within the device.

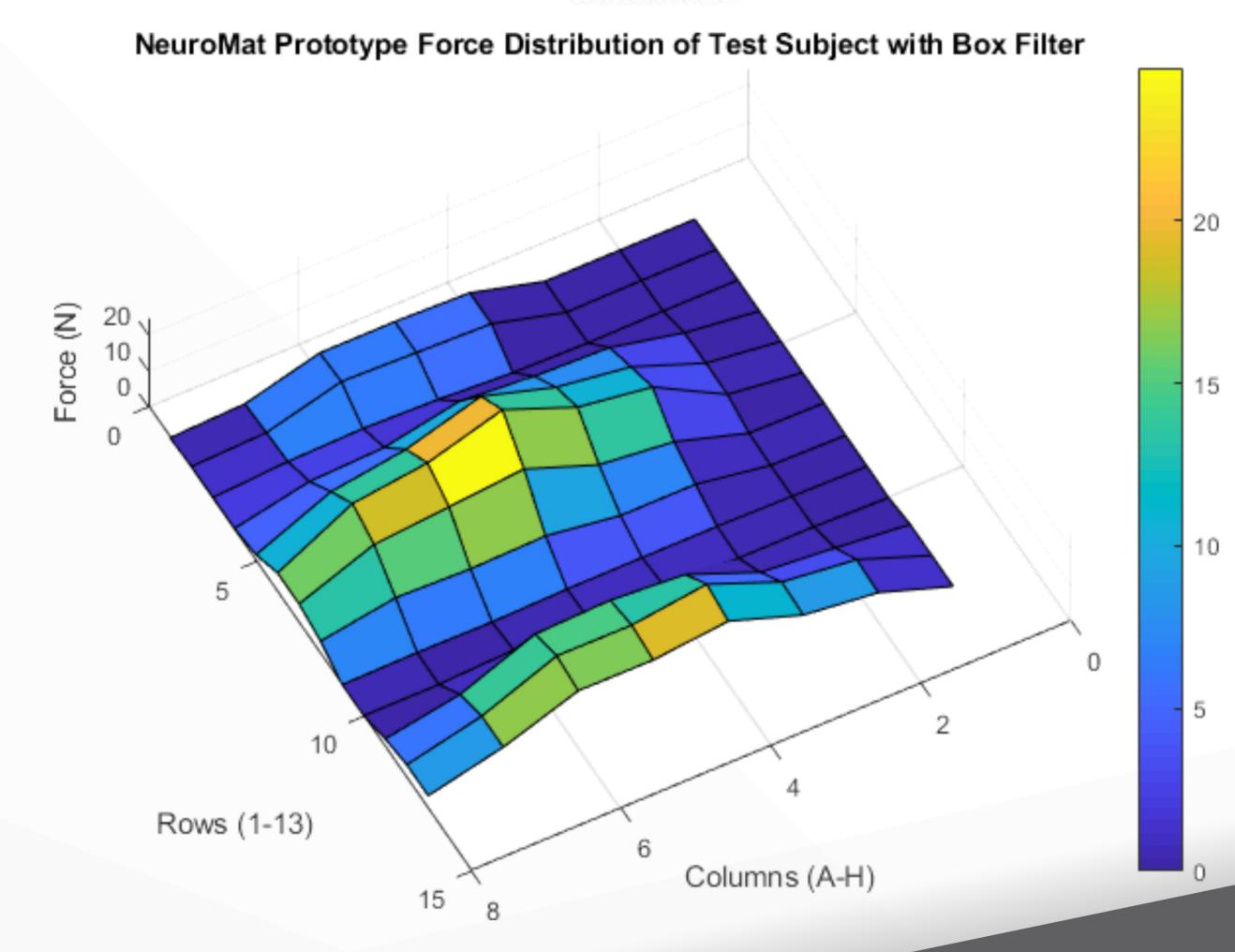
 NeuroMat patient data and NCS testing controlled through graphic user interface application.





PROTOTYPE TEST RESULTS







UNIVERSITY

&GUELPH

Advisors: Dr. Christopher Collier, Ph.D., Dr. Michele Oliver, Ph.D., P.Eng Laboratory Technicians: Hong Ma, Nick Vanstone



References [1] T. Newman, "All about the central nervous system," Medical News Today, 22 December 2017. [Online] [2] Adafruit.com.

[3] U.S. Preventive Services Taskforce, "U.S. Preventative Services Taskforce Recommendations," February 2019. [Online]. [4] J. Bertolote, "Neurological disorders affect millions globally: WHO report," 06 2005. [Online]

[5] Johns Hopkins Medicine, "Study Suggests Medical Errors Now Third Leading Cause of Death in the U.S.," Johns Hopkins Medicine, 3 May 2016. [Online]. [6] P. F. Felzenszwalb and D. P. Huttenlocher, "Pictorial Structures for Object Recognition," International Journal of Computer Vision, vol. 61, no. 6, pp. 55-79, 2004.

