Automating Multi-probe Electrophysiology Insertions for Simultaneous Multi-region Recordings

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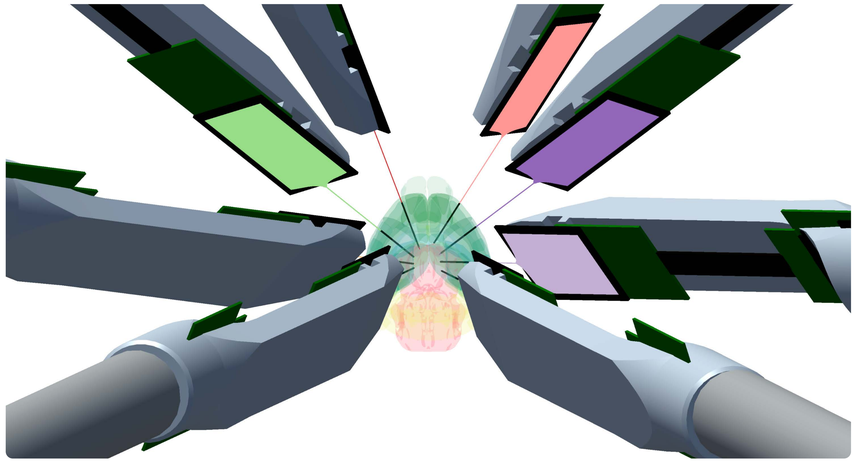
VIRTUAL BRAIN LAB

Plan an experiment in Pinpoint, let automation handle the rest!



Stringer *et al.* (2019) *Science*

Ephys Link

SocketIO Server
Platform agnostic communication system.

Unified Coordinate System
Consistent axis information across platforms.

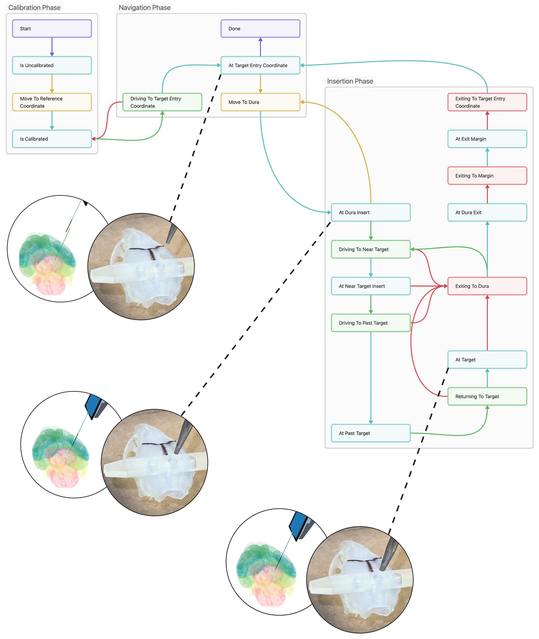
Safety Checks
Attach kill switches and prevent accidental motion.

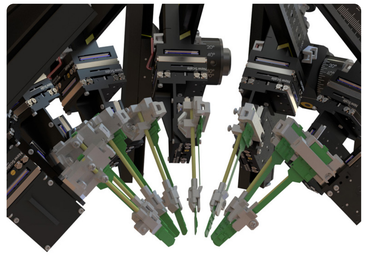
Unified API
Single API to communicate with various manipulator platforms.

Remote Control
Run experiments from any device, anywhere.

Open Source
Publicly maintained and extendable to new platforms.

Pinpoint Automation

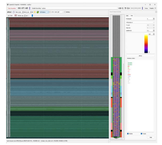




New Scale Linear Micro Stages

Sensapex uMp Micromanipulators

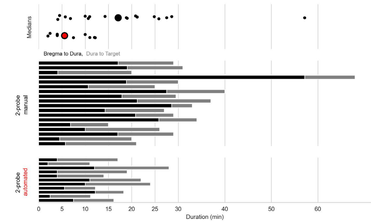
Data Acquisition



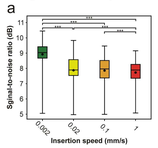
Pinpoint can connect to data acquisition software such as OpenEphys and SpikeGLX to let you view anatomical information about your electrodes alongside live electrophysiology.

Why Automation

Efficiency
Speed up complex multi-probe insertions by running movements and insertions in parallel.

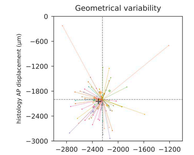


Enforce Best Practices
Maintain insertion speeds to achieve higher data yield.



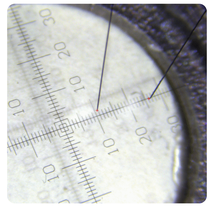
Fiáth, R., Mátyás, A.L, Mátyás, F. *et al.* (2019) *Sci Rep*

Reproducibility
Computers can re-run experiments with sub-micron precision.



International Brain Laboratory (2022). *bioRxiv*

Where we are going



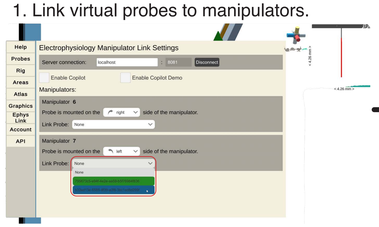
https://github.com/AllenNeuralDynamics/parallax

Automatic Calibration and Probe Tracking
Hands-free electrophysiology experiments via Parallax, a photogrammetry-assisted probe targeting software from the Allen Institute for Neural Dynamics.

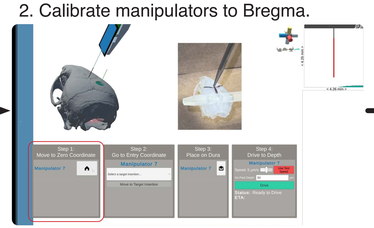
Outreach
We want to help you get Pinpoint and automation in your lab. We also want to support the manipulators you use. Scan the QR code to get in touch!

Run an Automated Insertion

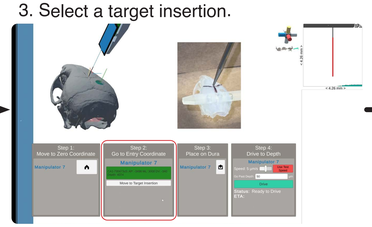
1. Link virtual probes to manipulators.



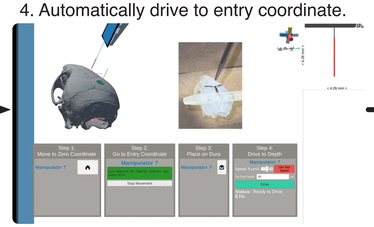
2. Calibrate manipulators to Bregma.



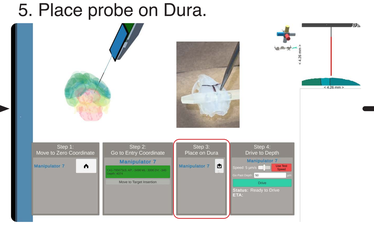
3. Select a target insertion.



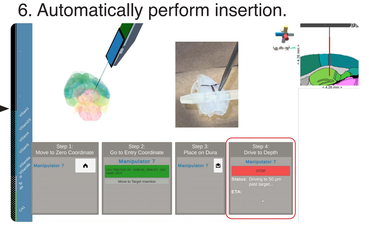
4. Automatically drive to entry coordinate.



5. Place probe on Dura.



6. Automatically perform insertion.



Pinpoint and Ephys Link are developed and maintained by KJY and DB. NS provided project support and guidance. Sensapex and New Scale provided manipulator support. Poster designed with support from D. Ahmed and S. Delehanty.

Washington Research Foundation
National Institutes of Health
The BRAIN Initiative
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