

PUBLIC DEFENSE
OF MASTER'S THESIS
SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL
ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

“NOVEL ELECTROCHEMICAL
METHODS FOR HUMAN
NEUROCHEMISTRY”



AMNAH ELTAHIR

HUMAN NEUROIMAGING LABORATORY -
MONTAGUE LAB, FRALIN BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT VTC

- **HOMETOWN:** Fairfax, VA
- **UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE:** Physics Virginia Tech
- **MENTOR:** Read Montague, Ph.D.
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Read Montague, Ph.D. Giti Khodaparast, Ph.D. Kenneth Kishida, Ph.D. Brooks King-Casas, Ph.D. Terry Lohrenz, Ph.D. Rosalyn Moran, Ph.D.
- **HONORS:**
 - Neuroscience Scholars Program Fellow, Society for Neuroscience (2019-2021)
 - HS&T Commercialization Fellowship, Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC (2019)
 - SPINES Scholar, Marine Biological Laboratory (2019)
 - Diversity Supplement Award, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke (2018-2020)

PRESENTATIONS

Eltahir, A., White, J., Lohrenz, T., Kishida, K., Montague, P., 2018. Modeling Multiple Analytes Using Fast Scan Cyclic Voltammetry. Computational Psychiatry Meeting, San Diego, CA. (poster)

PUBLICATIONS

Eltahir, A., White, J., Lohrenz, T., Kishida, K., Montague, P., 2020. Low Amplitude Random Burst Sensing of Neuromodulators. Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Montreal, Canada. (abstract)

CENTER FOR HUMAN
NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH



[HTTPS://FBRI.VTC.VT.EDU/RESEARCH/
RESEARCH-CENTERS/CENTER-FOR-
HUMAN-NEUROSCIENCE.HTML](https://fbri.vtc.vt.edu/research/research-centers/center-for-human-neuroscience.html)



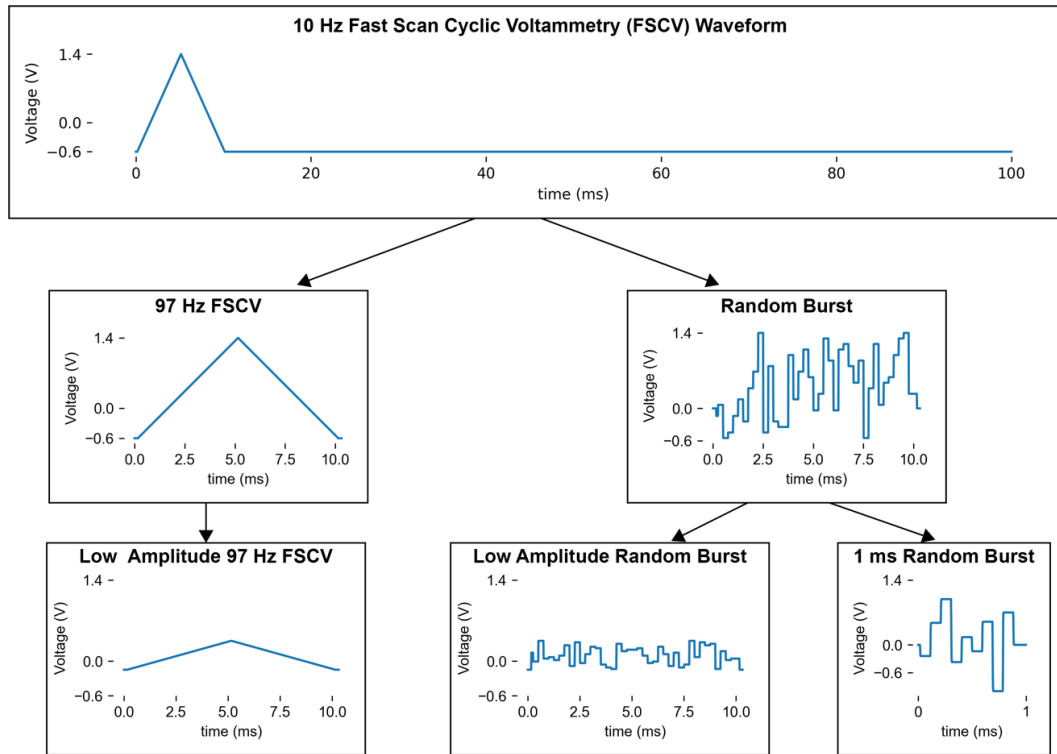
FRALIN BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT VTC
VIRGINIA TECH.



Wake Forest University

School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences

ABSTRACT



Neuroscience characterizes nervous system functions from the cellular to the systems level. A gap in available technologies has prevented neuroscientist from studying how changes in the molecular dynamics in the brain relate to psychiatric conditions. Recent efforts by the Montague Laboratory have adapted neurochemistry techniques for use in human patients. Consequently, a new “random burst sensing” approach was developed that challenged existing assumptions about electrochemistry. In this study, in-vivo experiments were conducted to push the limits of electrochemical sensing by reducing the voltage amplitude range and increasing sensing temporal resolution of electrochemical sensing beyond previously established limits. The results of this study offer novel neurochemistry approaches and act as a jumping off point for future technological developments.