

CSRI SUMMER LIGHTNING TALKS

Dragonfly-Inspired Interception

Frances Chance
June 16, 2020

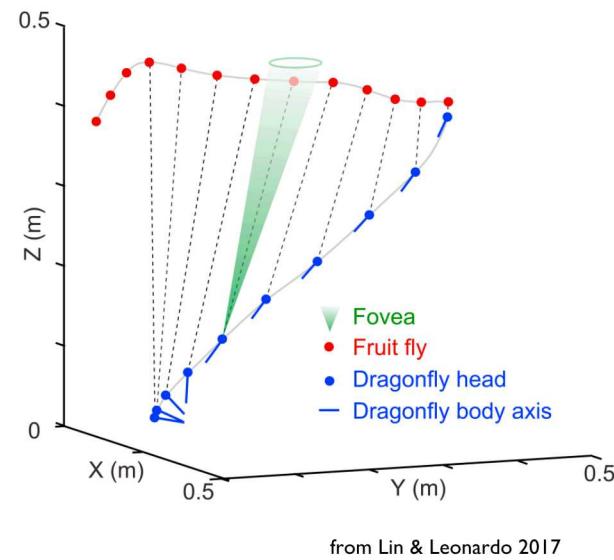


Why dragonflies?



Good at hunting (90-95% capture rate)

When hunting, dragonflies use interception strategies similar to modern defense systems



The underlying neural circuitry is relatively simple

Dragonflies are fast

Why dragonflies?

Time scales of dragonfly interception computation

Latency to react to prey maneuver: 50 ms

Time scales of a neurobiological system

Synaptic transmission: 1-5 ms

Neuronal integration: 10-50 ms

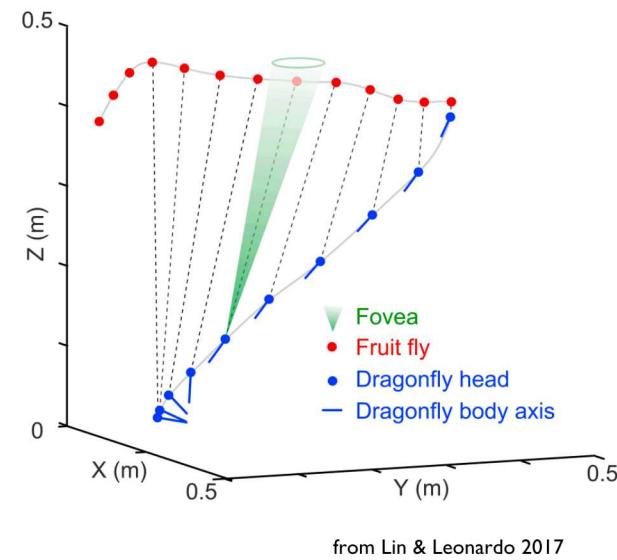
Muscle contraction: 5 ms to produce force

Why dragonflies?



Good at it (90-95% capture rate)

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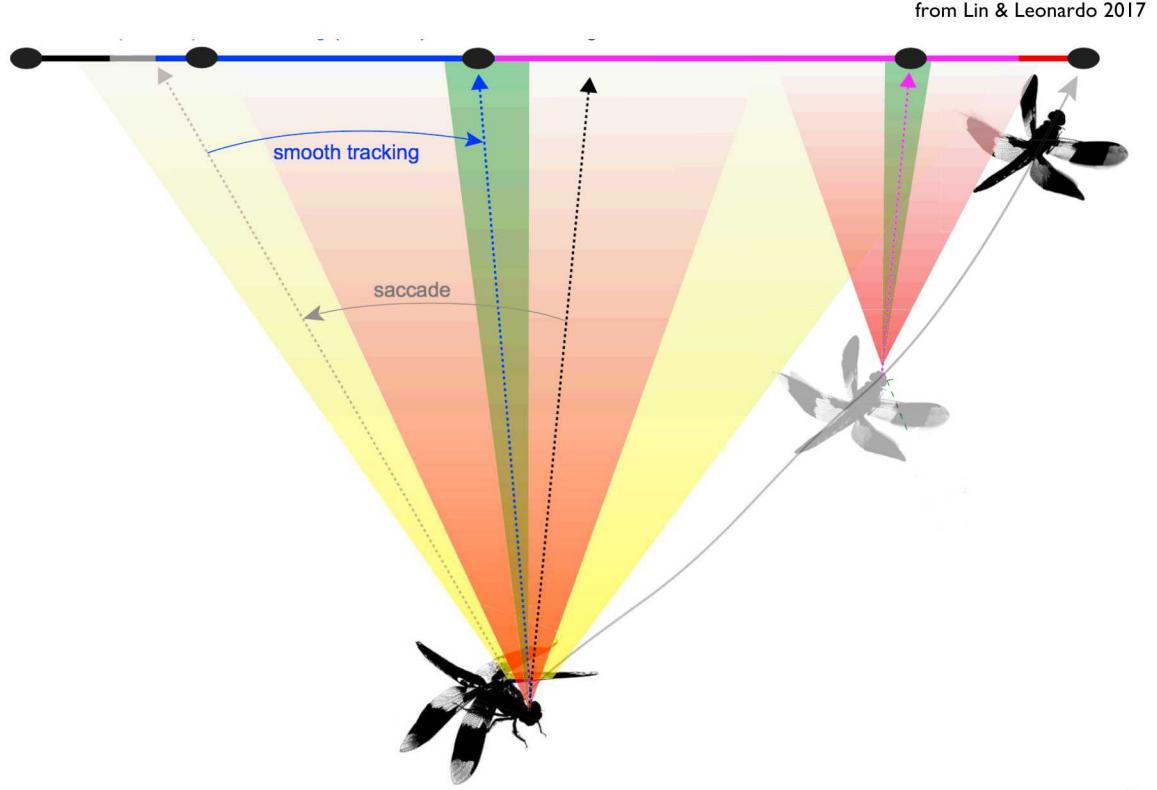


The underlying neural circuitry is relatively simple

Dragonflies are really fast

Can we learn from them to compute things faster?

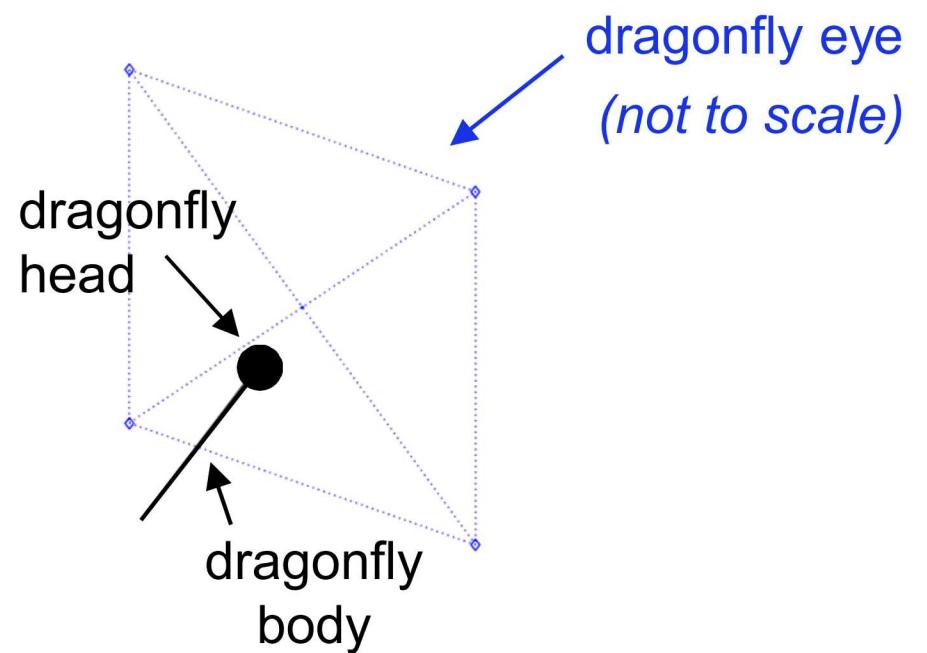
The dragonfly model



We know dragonflies keep the prey-image on a specific location on the eye...

Does dragonfly interception equal holding target-image on a fixation spot?

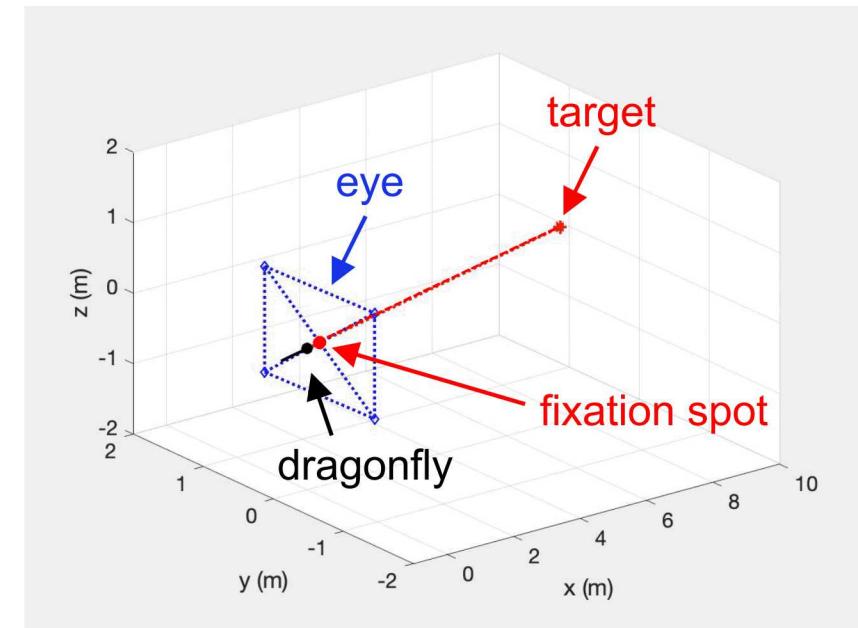
The dragonfly model



The dragonfly model



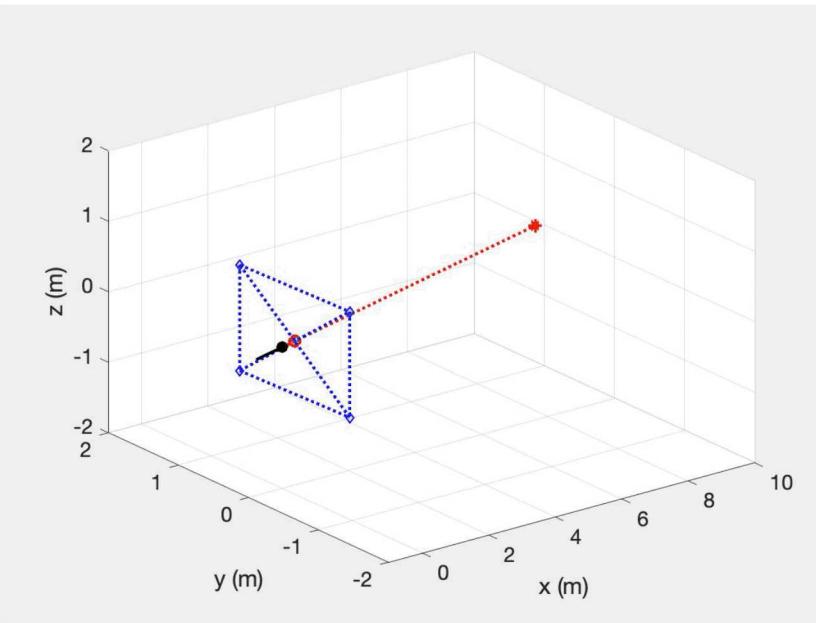
Model dragonfly turns to keep prey-image at fixation spot



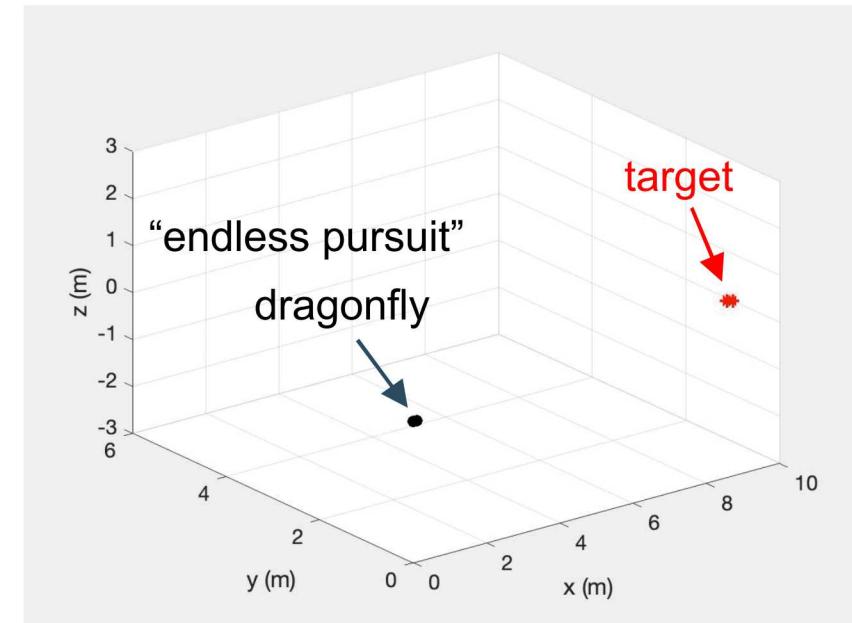
dragonfly-centered reference frame

The dragonfly model

Model dragonfly turns to keep prey-image at eye-center



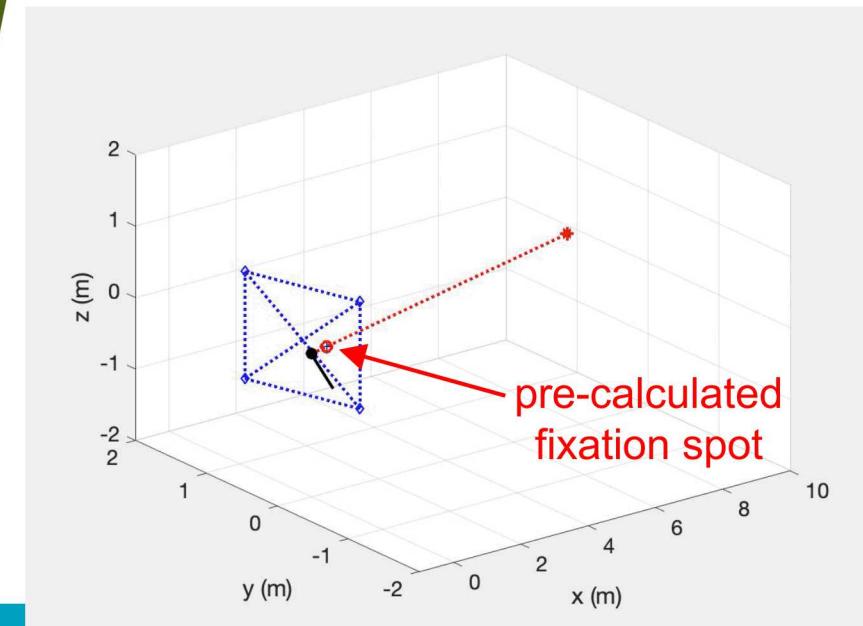
dragonfly-centered reference frame



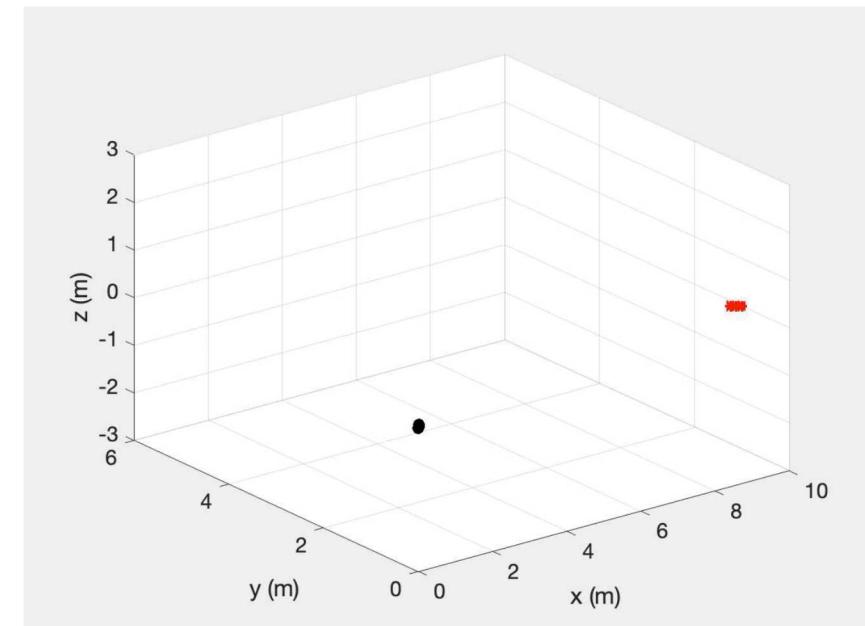
physical-space reference frame

The dragonfly model

“ideal” interception



dragonfly-centered reference frame

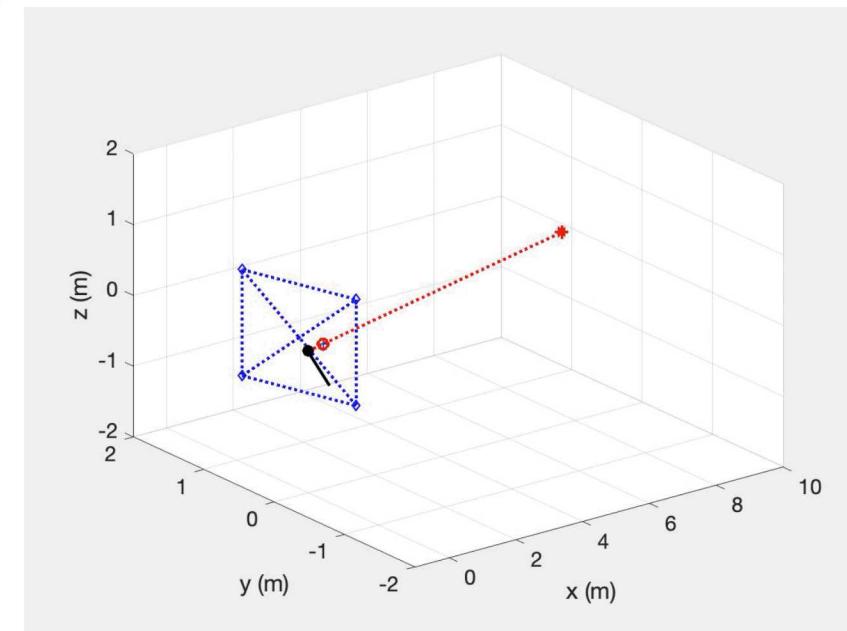


physical-space reference frame

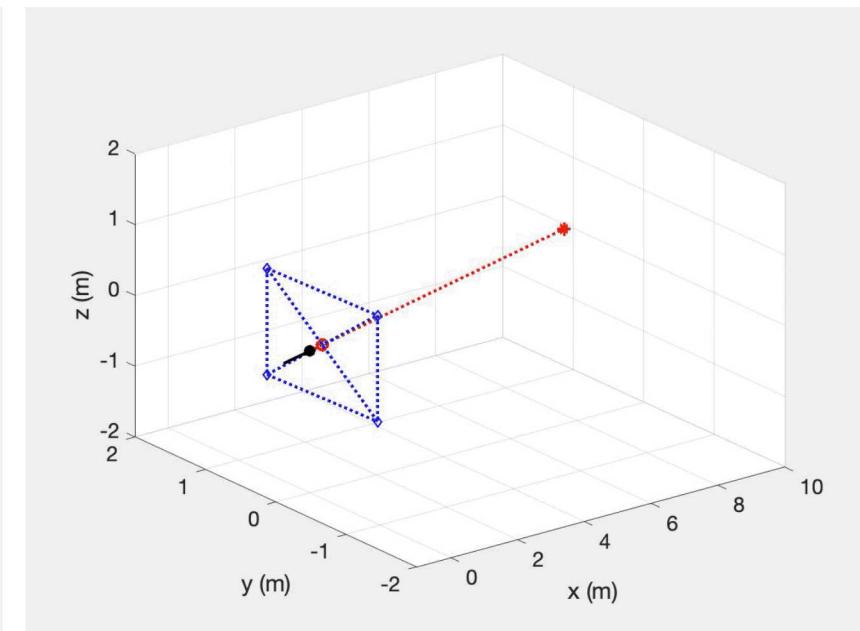
The dragonfly “knows” when it is not on the ideal interception trajectory

The dragonfly model

How could the model dragonfly know?

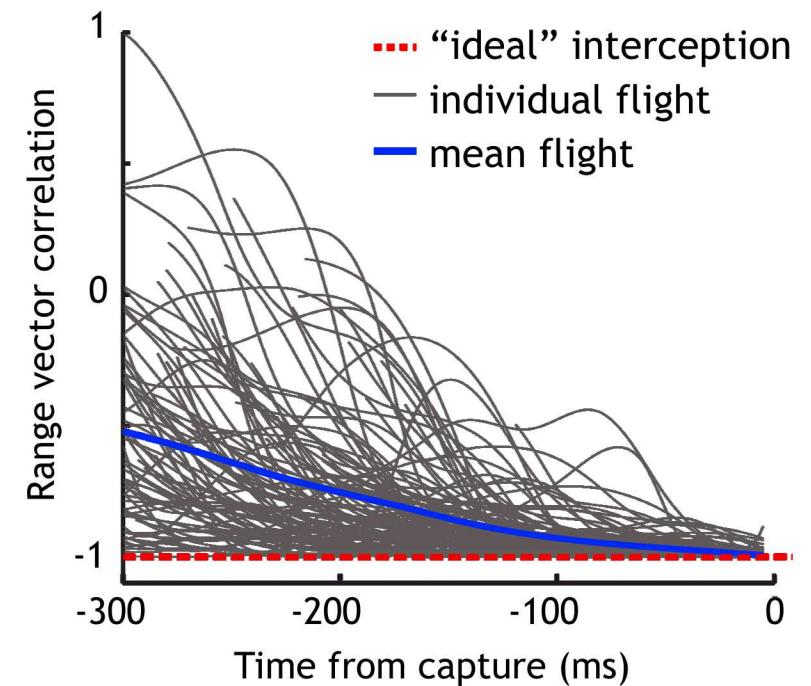
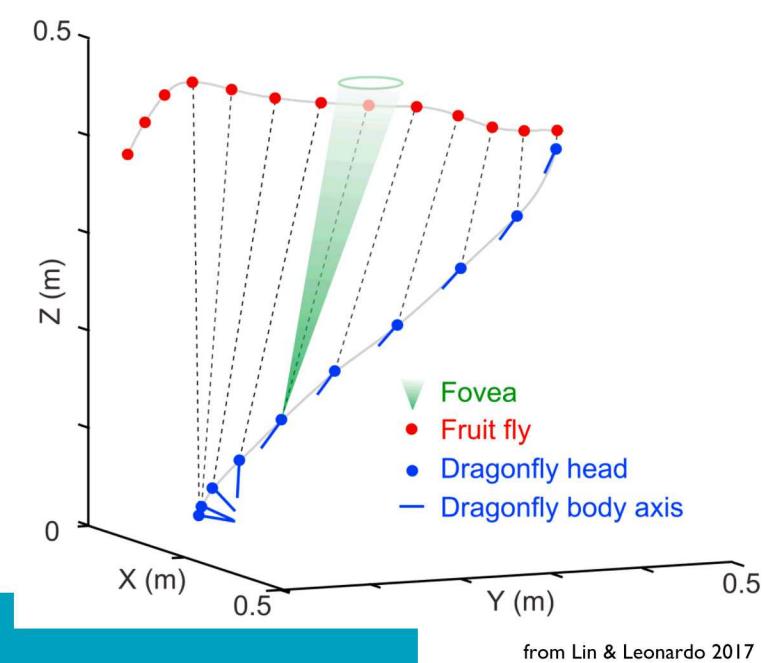


fixed fixation spot
(option trajectory)



fixation spot at eye-center

Back to the dragonfly...

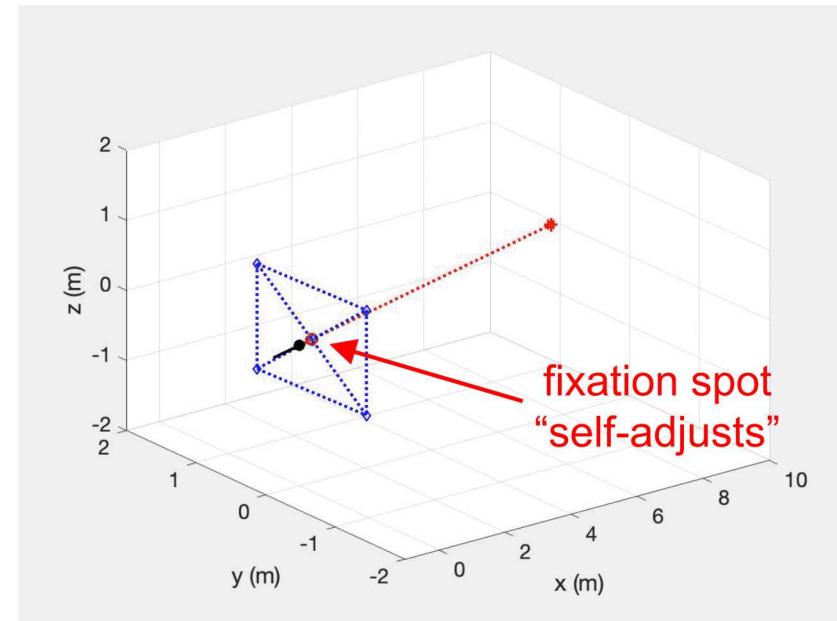


from Mischiati et al 2015

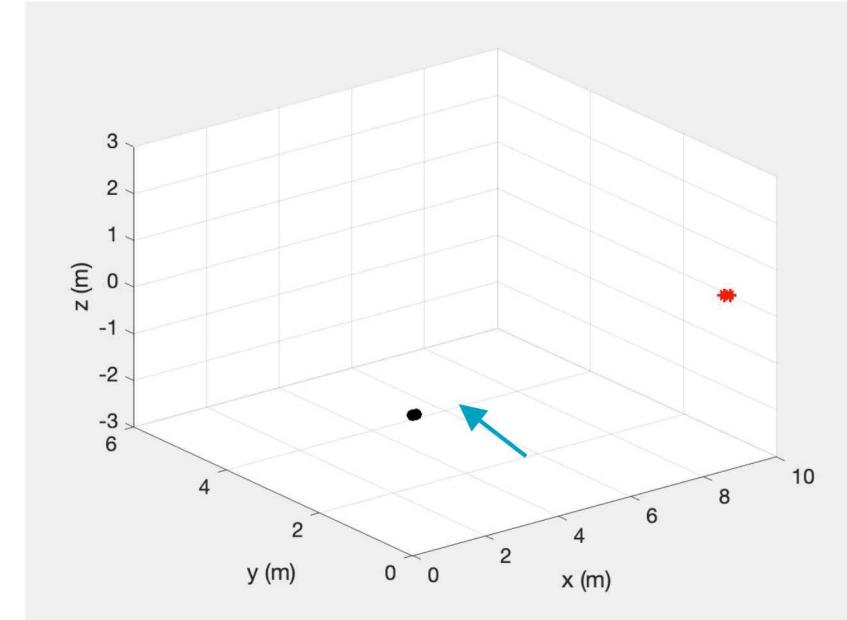
The dragonfly model (with error correction)

Dragonfly maneuvers provide “error” signal

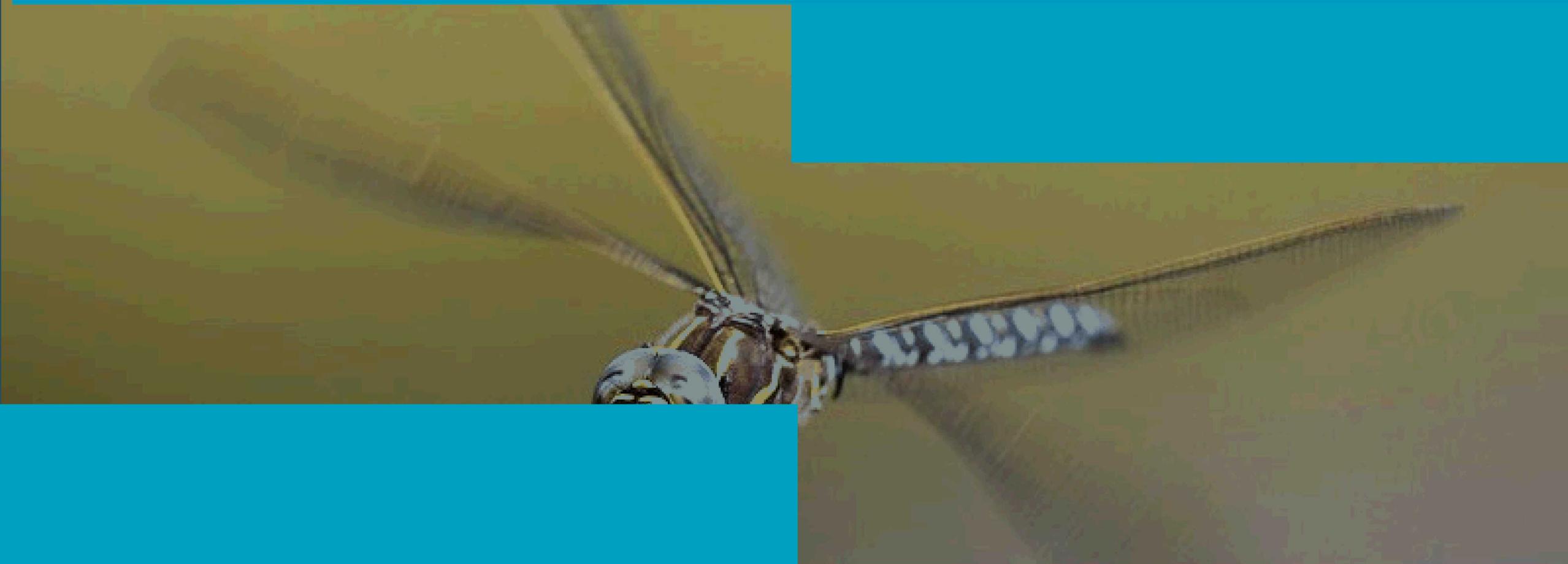
(initial condition: fixation spot at eye-center with dragonfly flying straight at target)



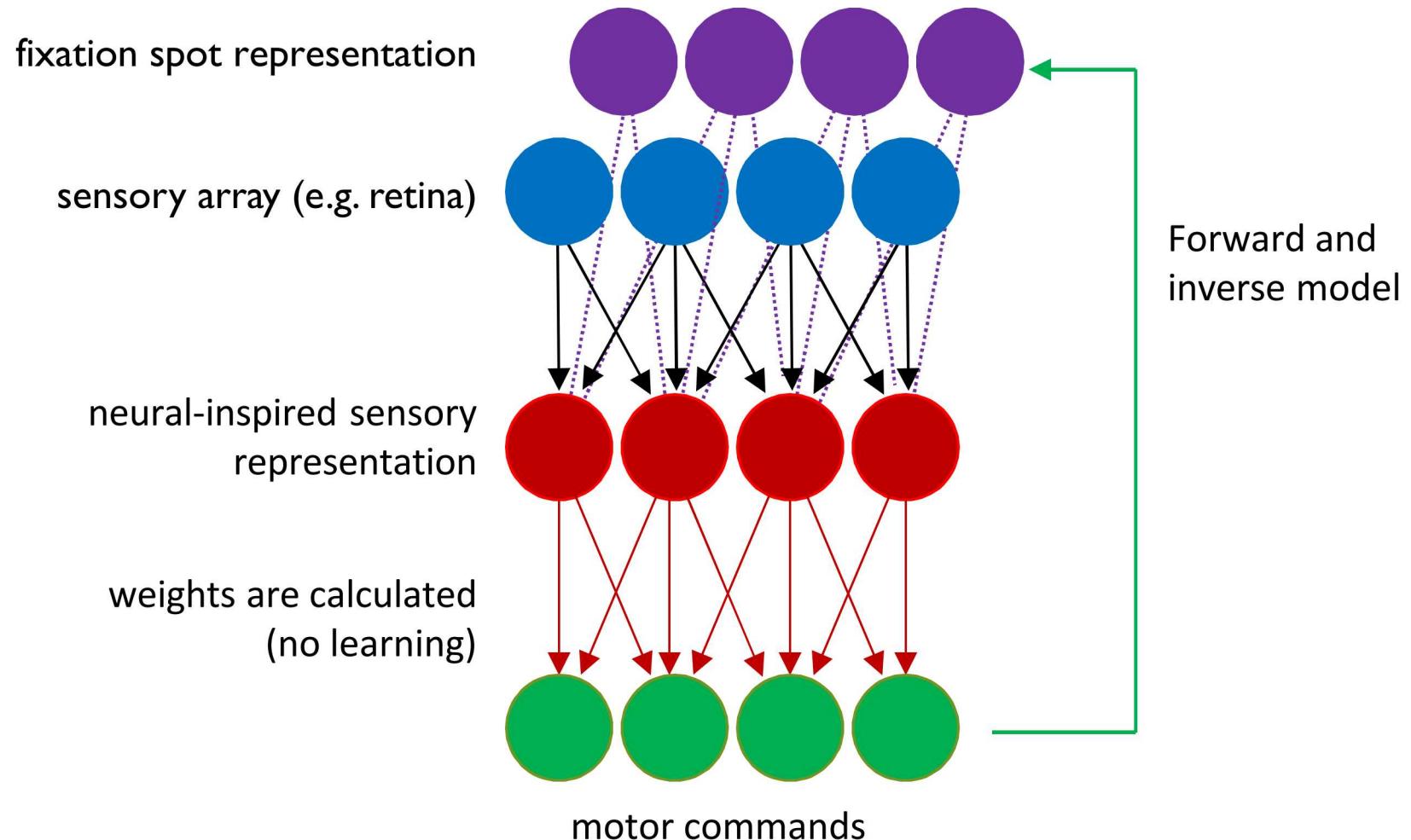
dragonfly-centered reference frame



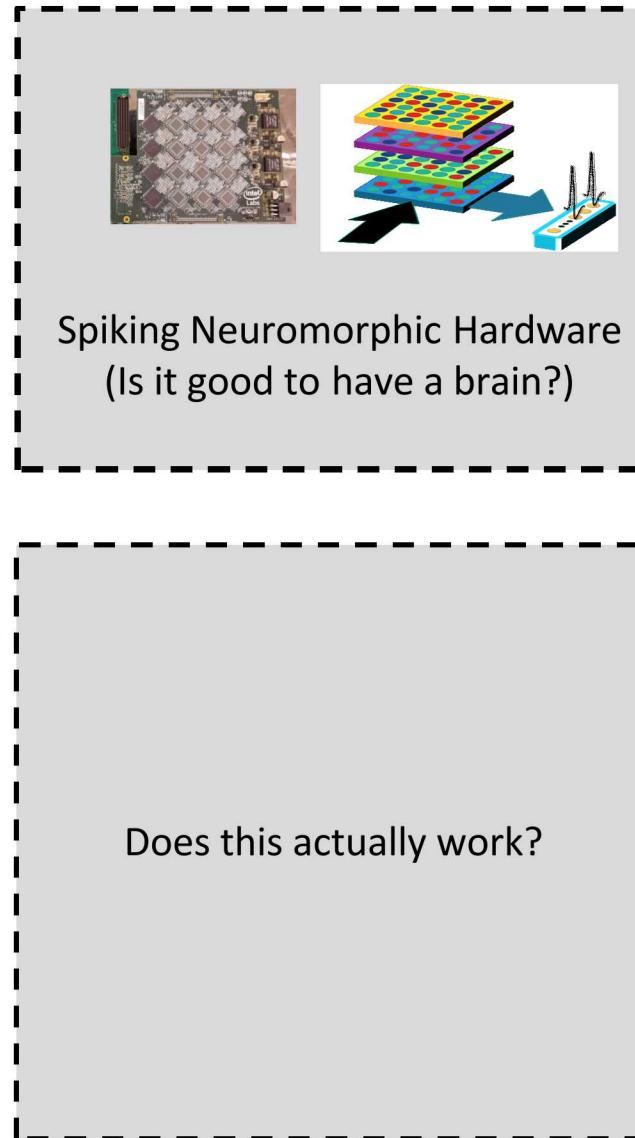
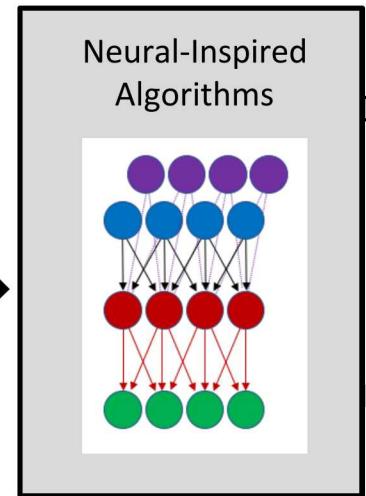
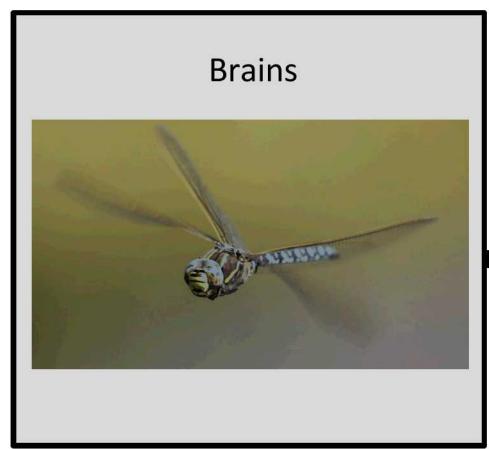
Yes! Holding target-image on a fixation spot is a
viable path to robust interception.



Today: model dragonfly neural network

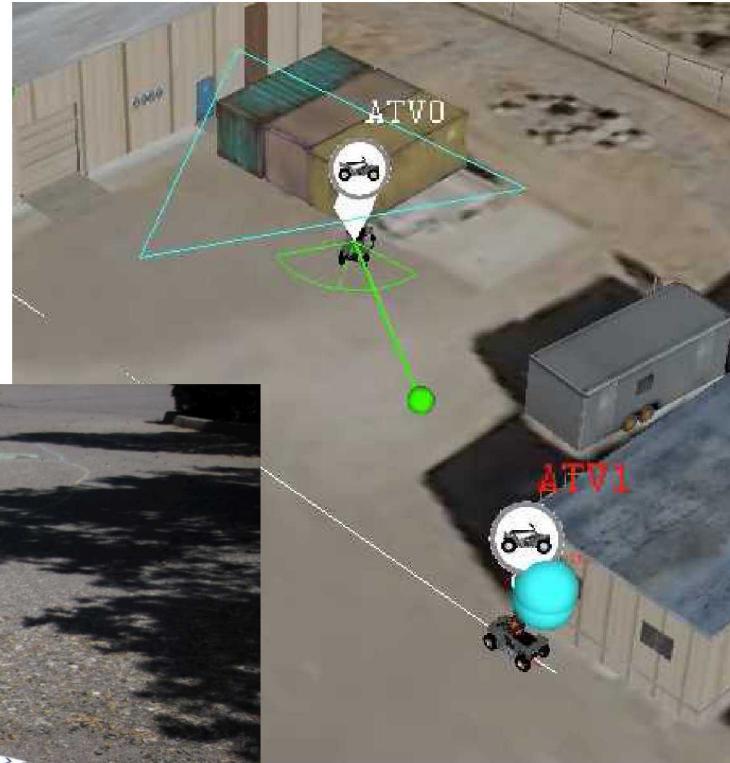


How does this fit into neural computing at Sandia?



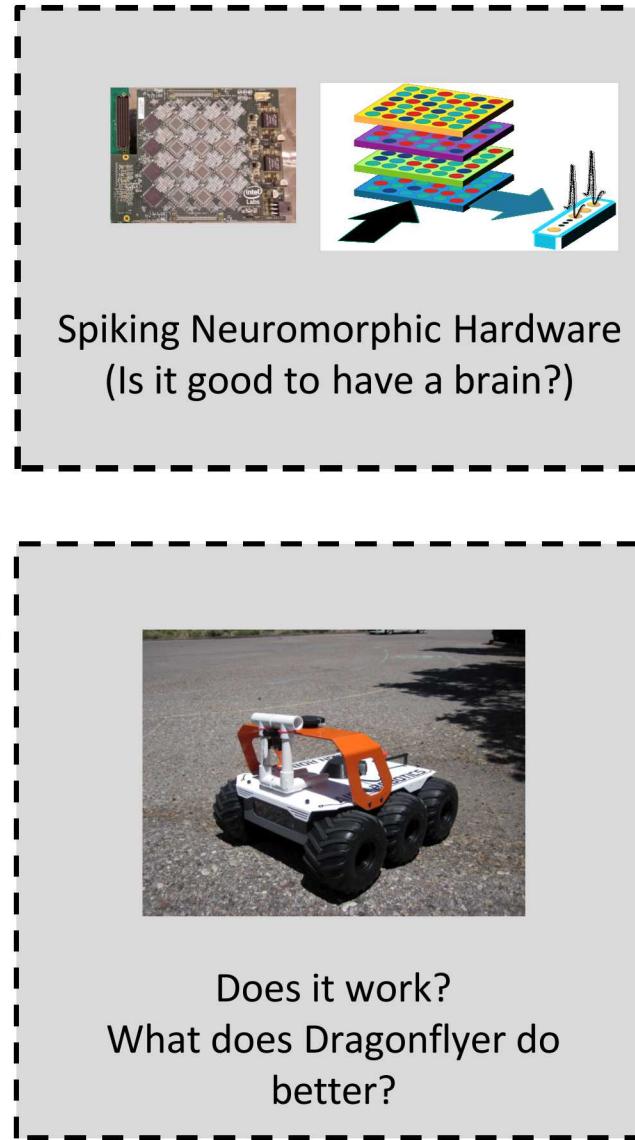
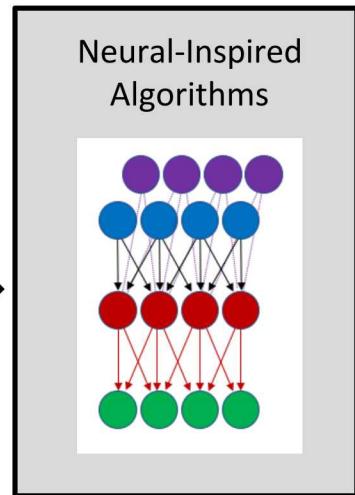
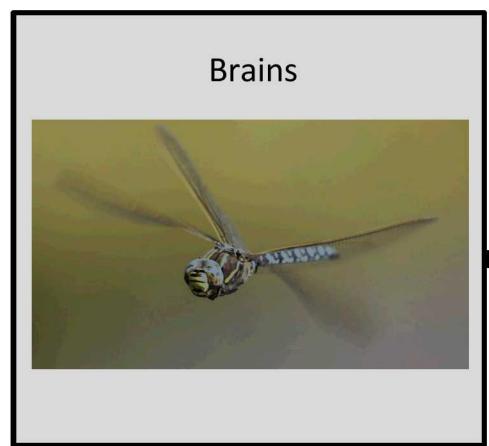
Srideep Musuvathy (1421)
Fred Rothganger (1421)
Felix Wang (1421)

Tomorrow: Dragonflyer project



Dan Small (6533)
David Novick (6533)
Nathan Fabian (6535)
Charles Little (6535)

Tomorrow: Dragonflyer project



Dragonflyer Team

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Felix Wang (1421)

Dan Small (6533)

David Novick (6533)

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Ann Speed (1421)

Greg Ten Eyck (2441)



Thank you!

Questions? fschanc@sandia.gov