

2018 Kobe University - University of Grenoble-Alpes
Bilateral Workshop on CPS and IoT

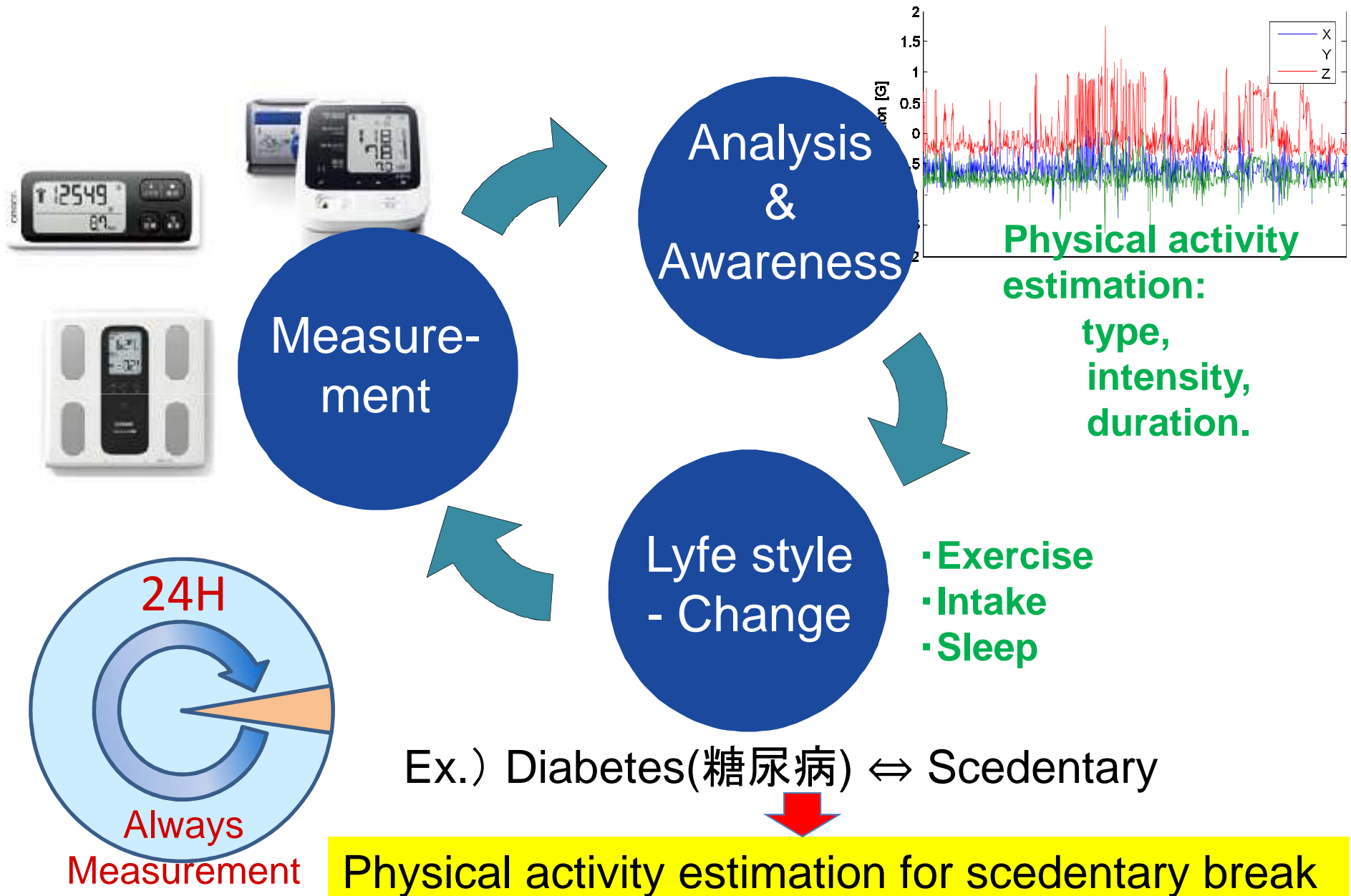


A Low Power Sensing Technology

**- A Wearable Biomedical Sensing System
with Normally-off Computing Architecture -**

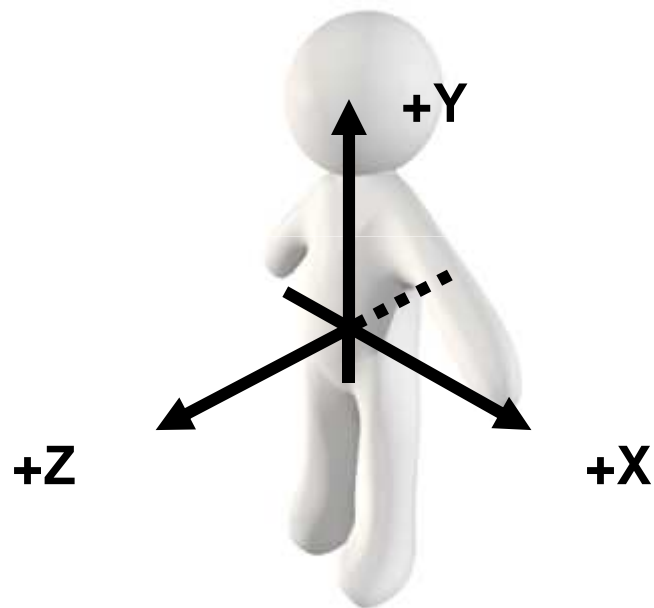
February 26, 2018
Masahiko Yoshimoto
Kobe University

Suppression of lifestyle disease



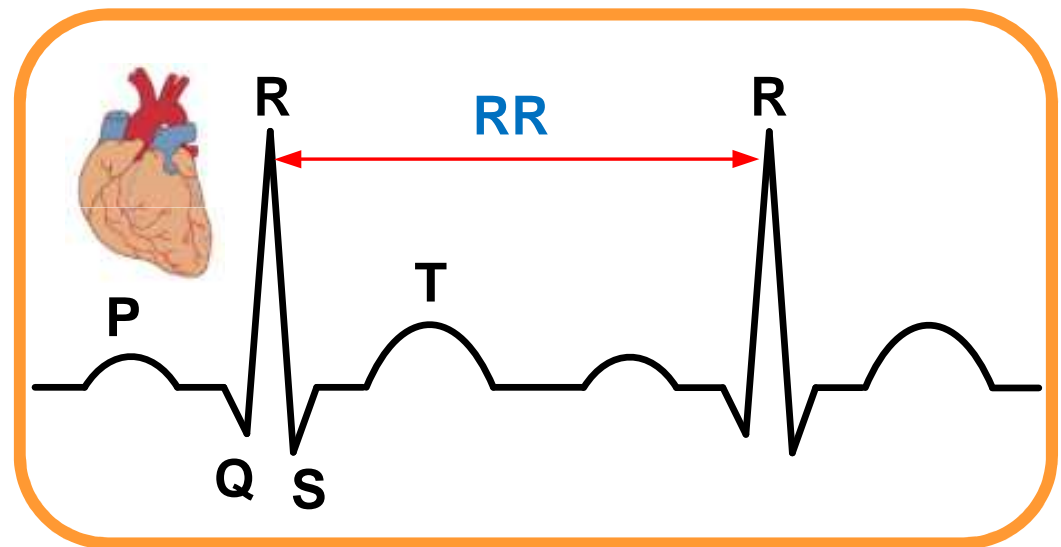
Biomedical data for physical activity estimation

• **Triaxial Acceleration**



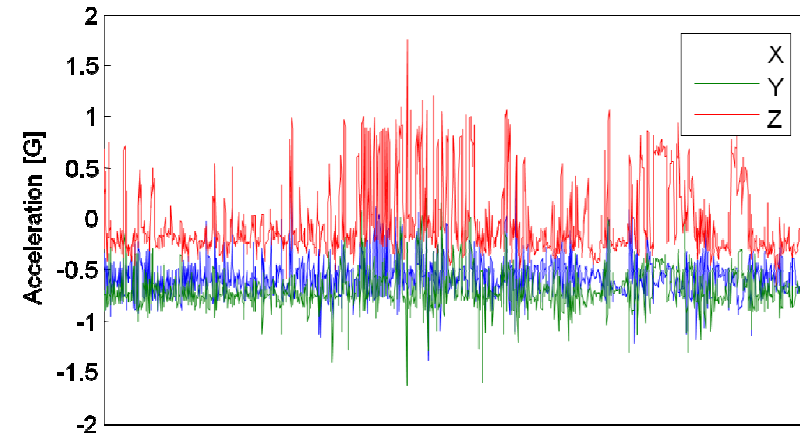
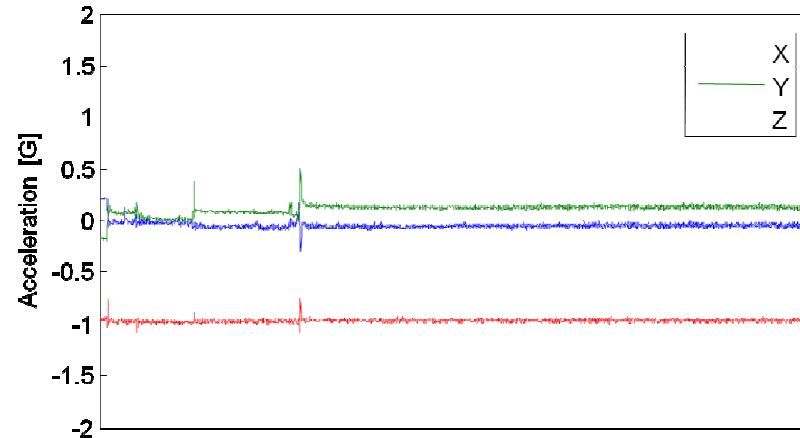
• **Instantaneous Heart Rate (IHR)**

$$= 60 / (\text{latest } RR[s]) \text{ [bpm]}$$



Energy expenditure is estimated by the above two kind of biosensing data.

Ex) Triaxial acceleration measurement



3-axis
Acceleration



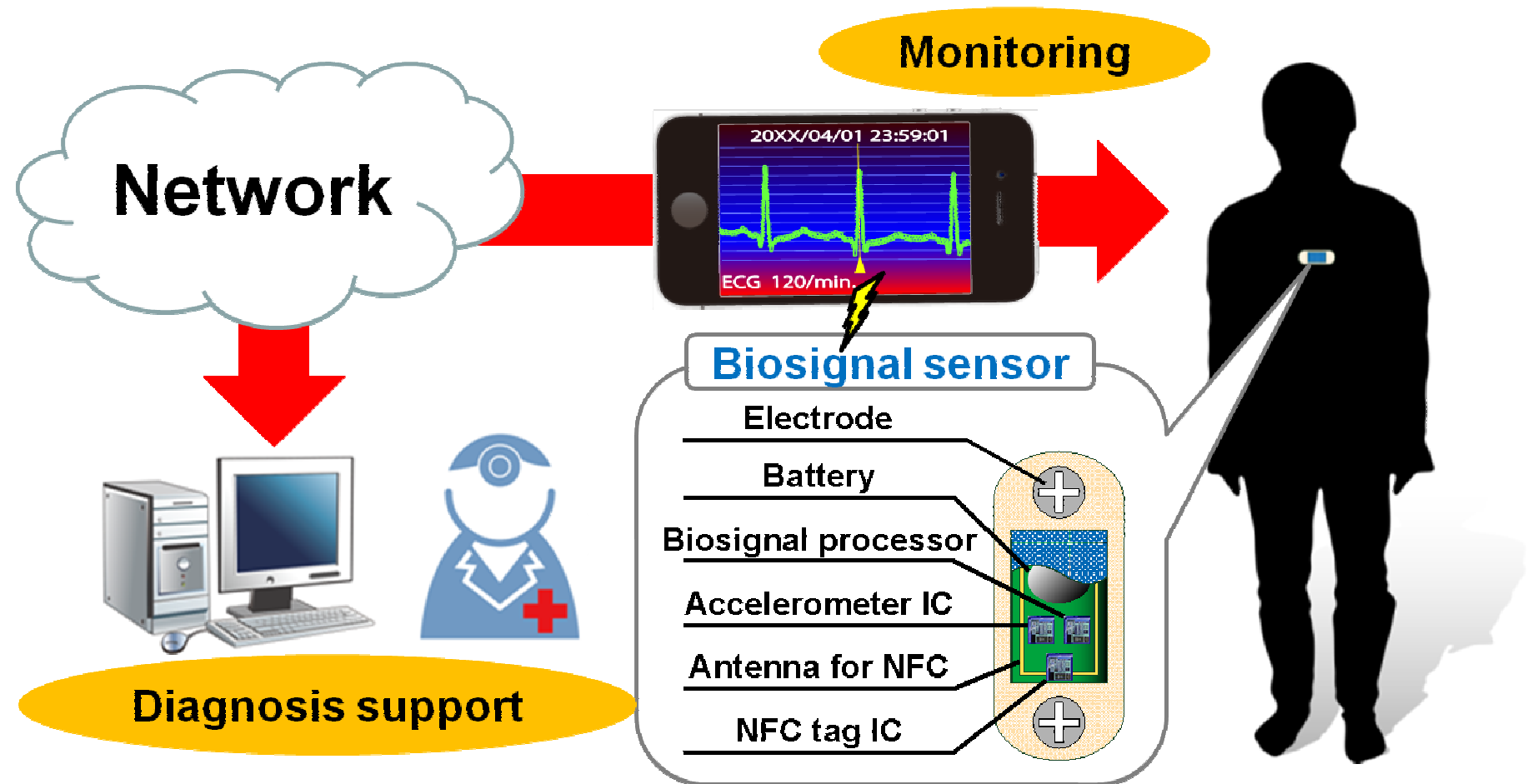
Activity
Estimation



Energy
Expenditure



Development of wearable bio-medical sensor



- **Requirements**

→ **Low power, Small size and Light weight**

Design issues

- Ultra low power consumption for longer life operation with tiny battery.
- Noise tolerant IHR(Instantaneous Heart Rate) Monitoring at short distance electrode condition to realize wearable small size sensor.

Design Features

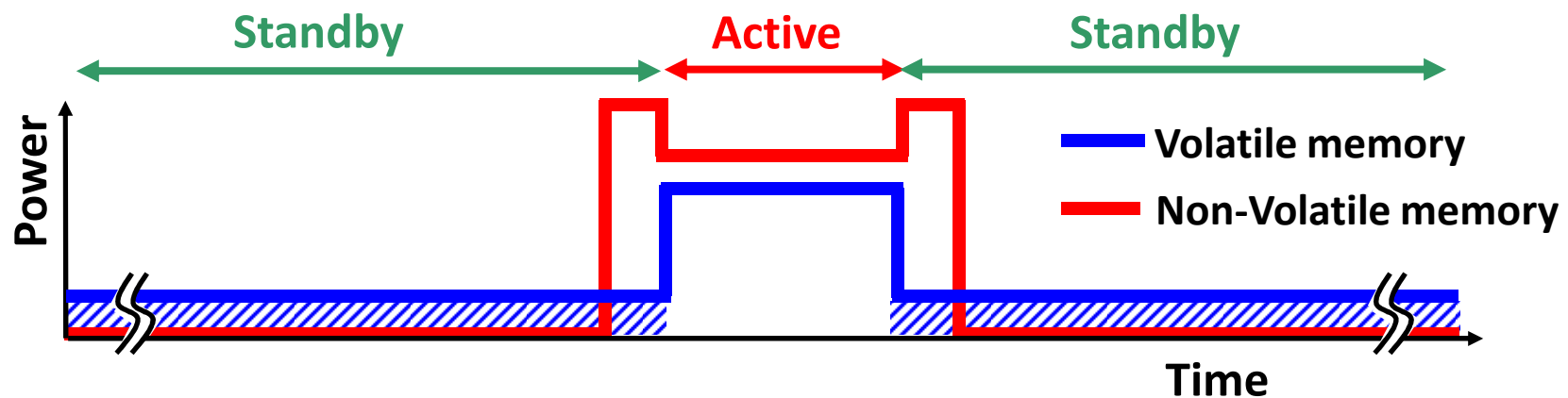
- Non-volatile memory and Non-volatile MCU(Micro-Control Unit) for normally-off computing
- Algorithm of noise-tolerant IHR(Instantaneous Heart Rate) extraction

Normally-off computing

	Frequency component
ECG	0.1 - 150Hz
EEG	0.5 - 60Hz
VEP	0.5 - 60Hz
EMG	few kHz

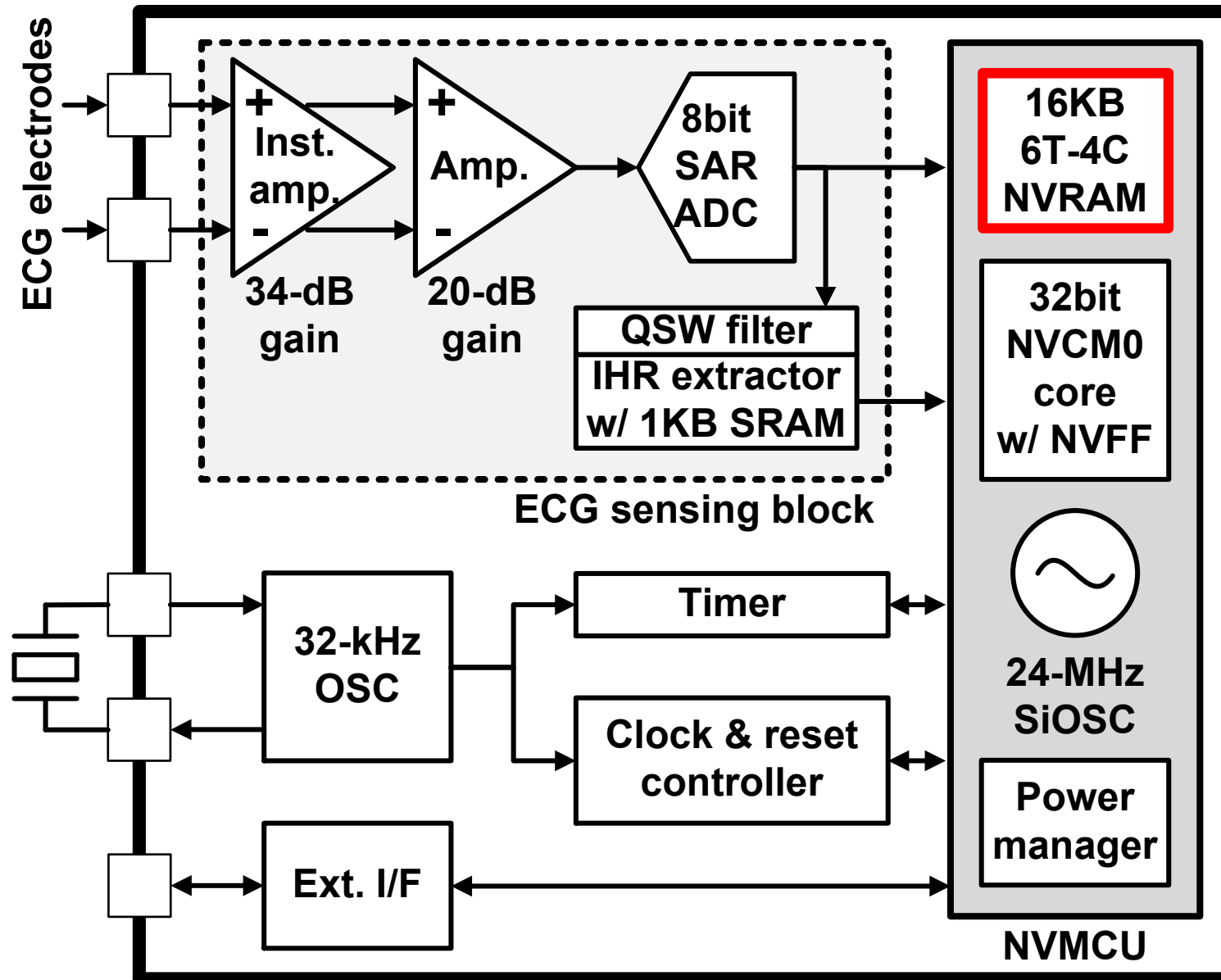
< Operational clock
✓ CPU
✓ MPU
etc...

- Extremely Low frequency range of Bital signal
- → Standby power reduction is effective



Non-volatile FeRAM was employed to suppress standby leak.

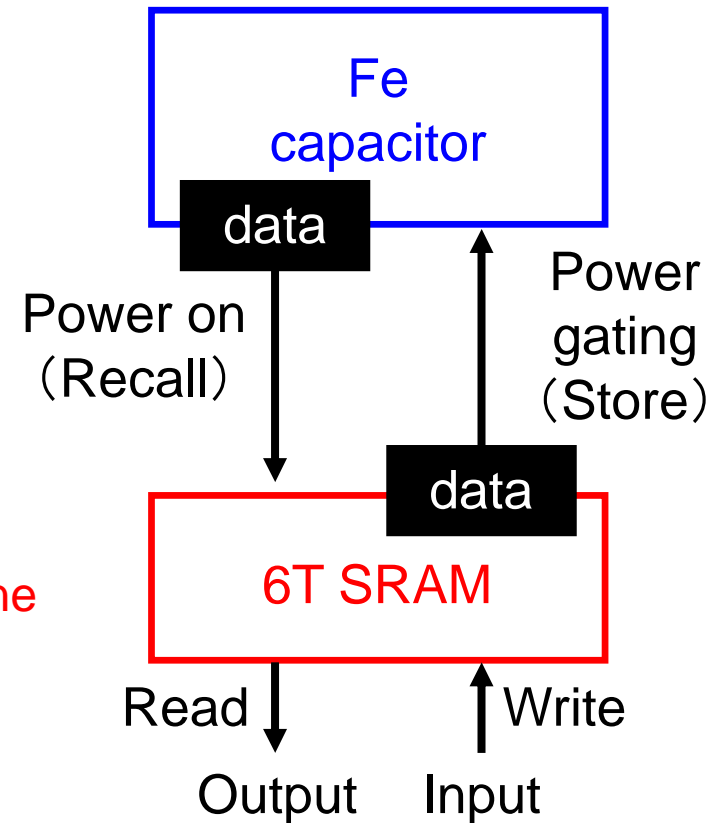
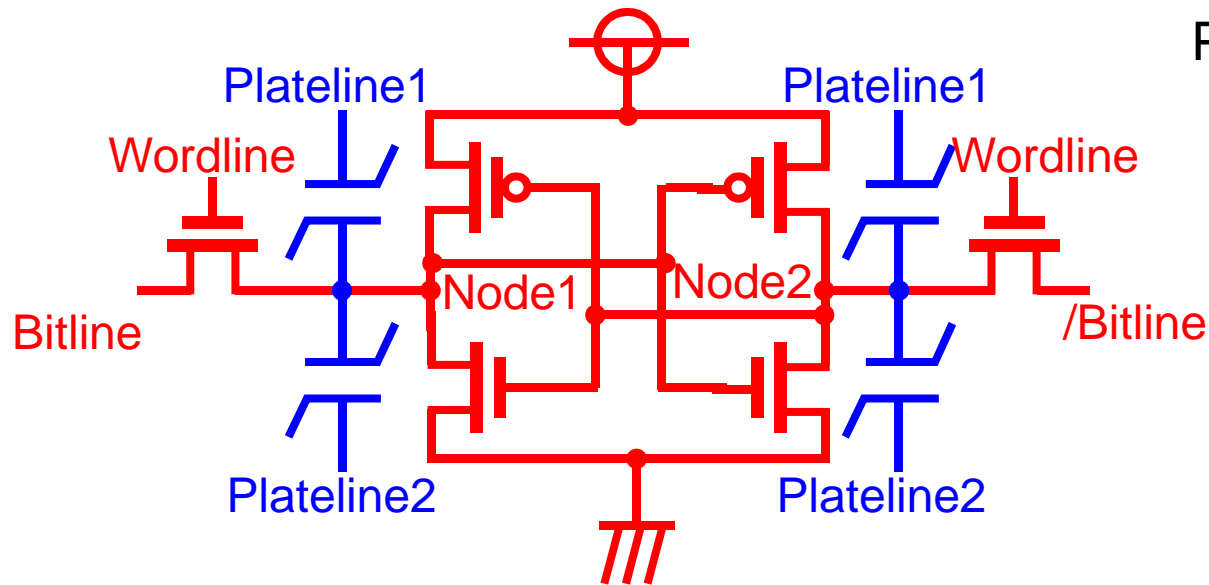
VLSI block diagram of bio-medical sensor



6T-4C non-volatile memory

6T-4C shadow memory

6T SRAM + Fe capacitor
= 6T-4C shadow memory

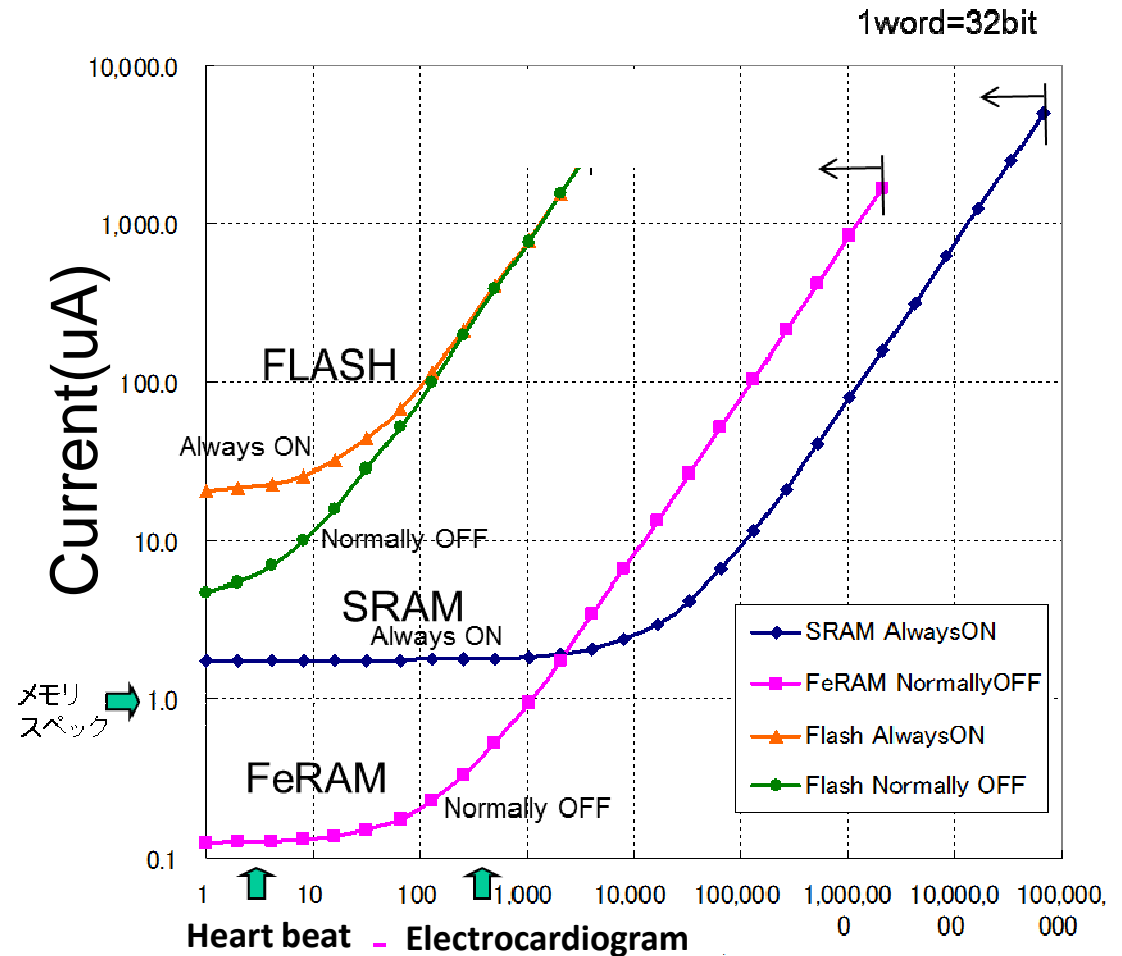
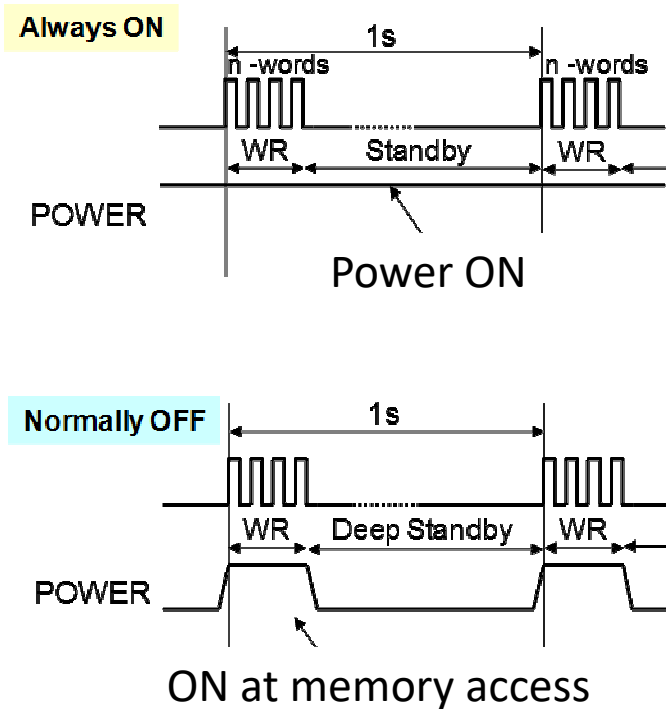


Active: 6T SRAM

Sleep: Nonvolatile memory

Normally-off computing with Non-volatile memory

Operating condition



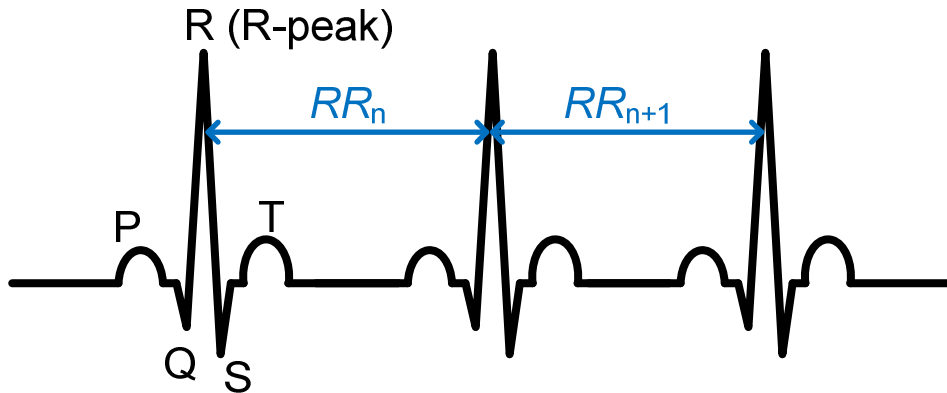
FeRAM has the lowest leak-power feature for bio-medical sensing.

N-words access per second

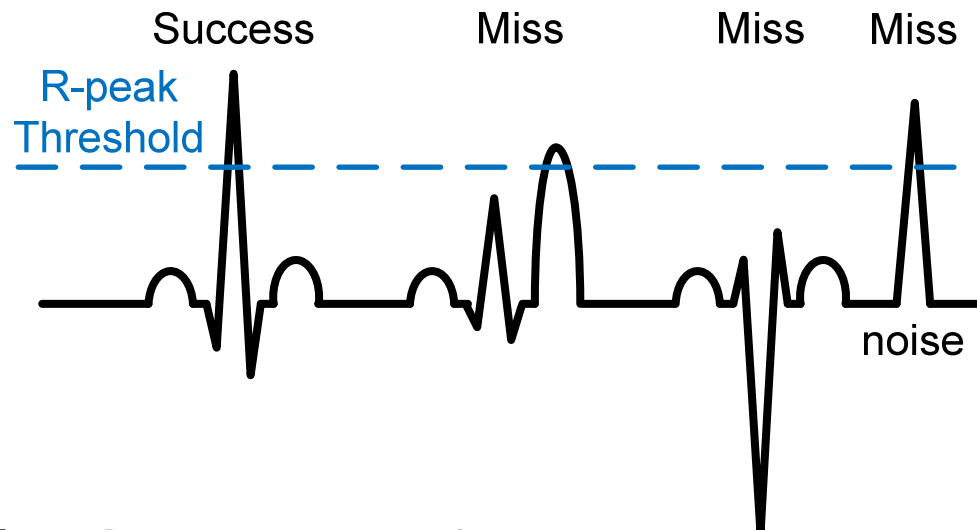
Design features

- Non-volatile memory and Non-volatile MCU(Micro-Control Unit) for normally-off computing
- Algorithm of noise-tolerant IHR(Instantaneous Heart Rate) extraction

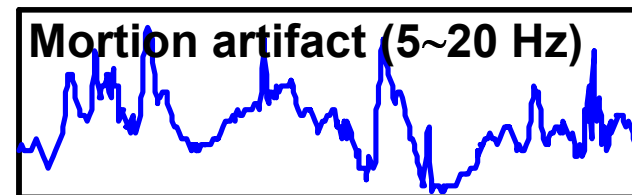
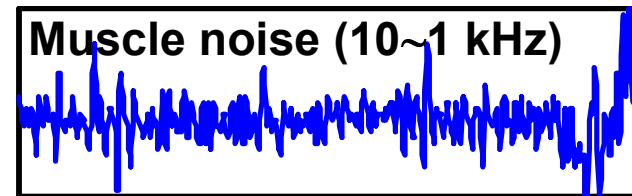
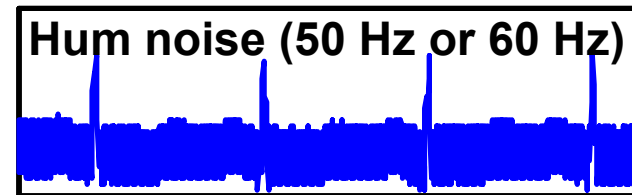
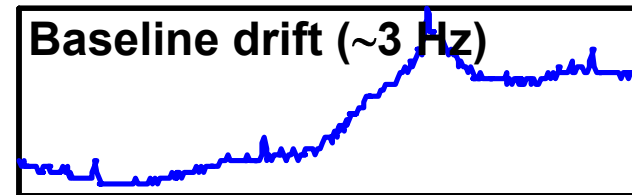
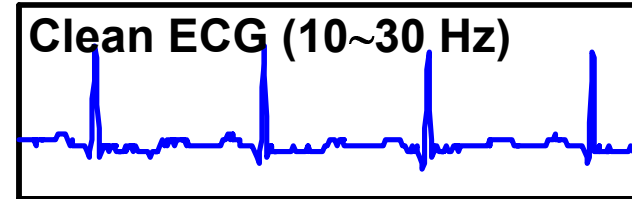
Various noises in ECG wave



(a) ECG waveform example

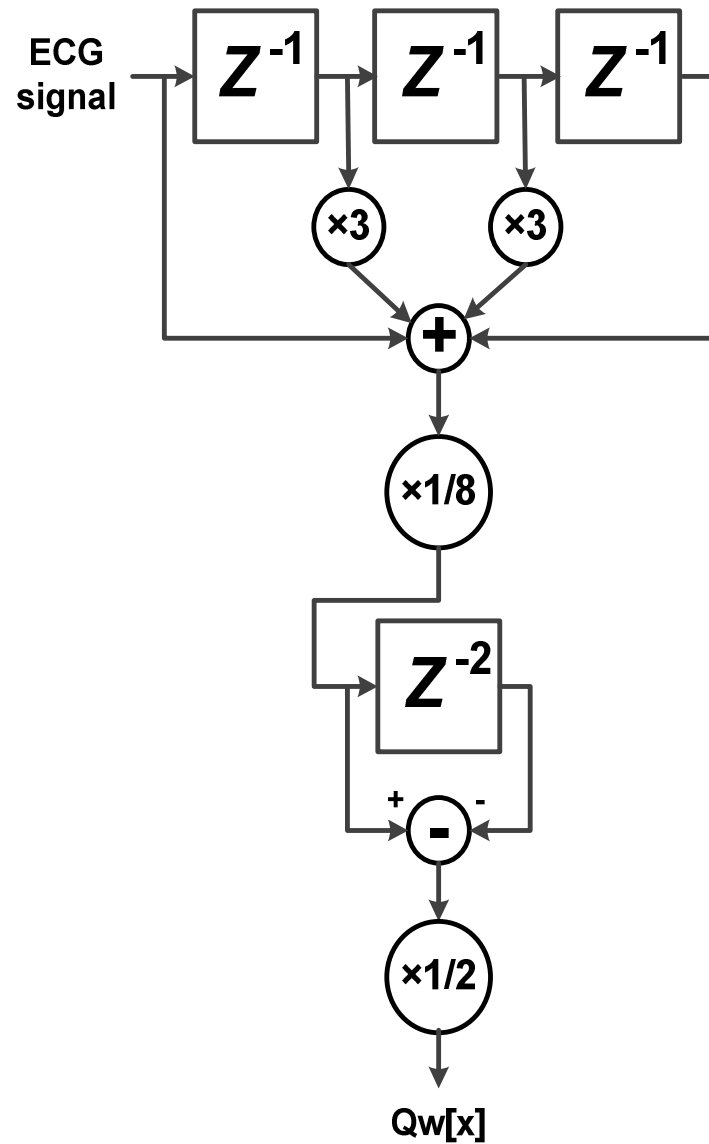


(b) Noise problem of threshold approach

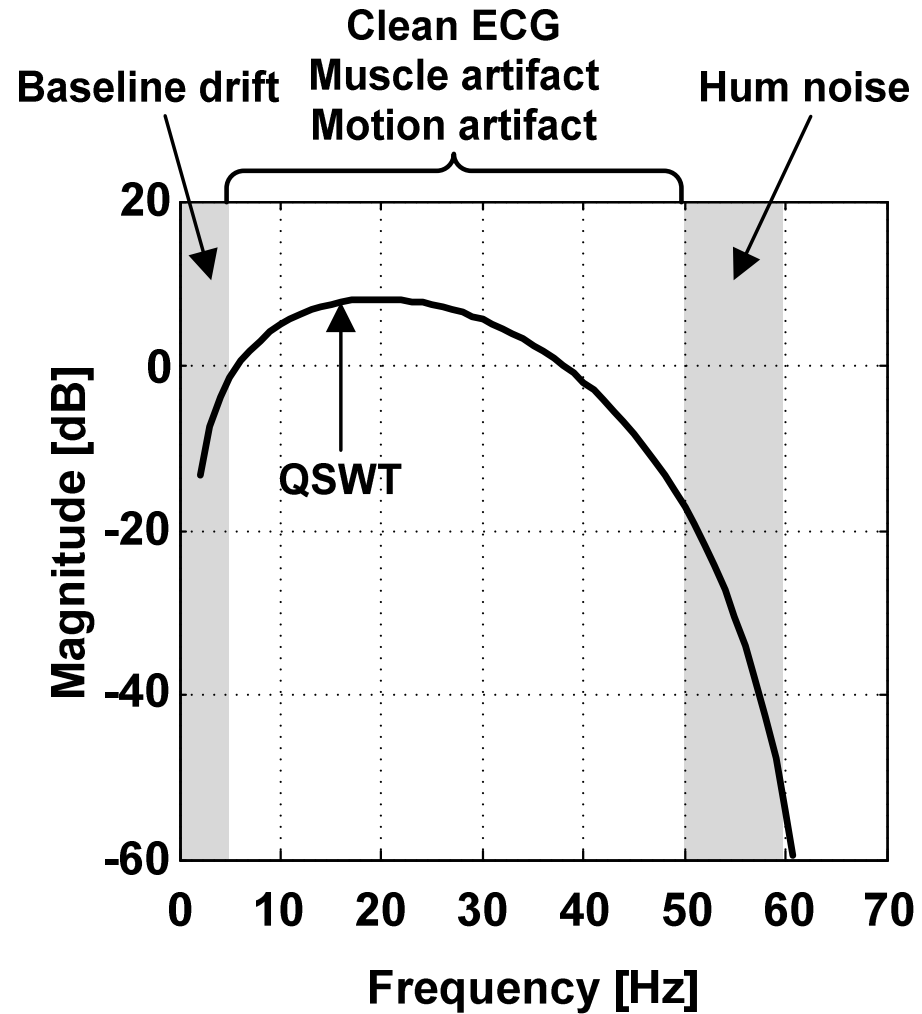


(c) Various noises

QSWT filter for noise suppression

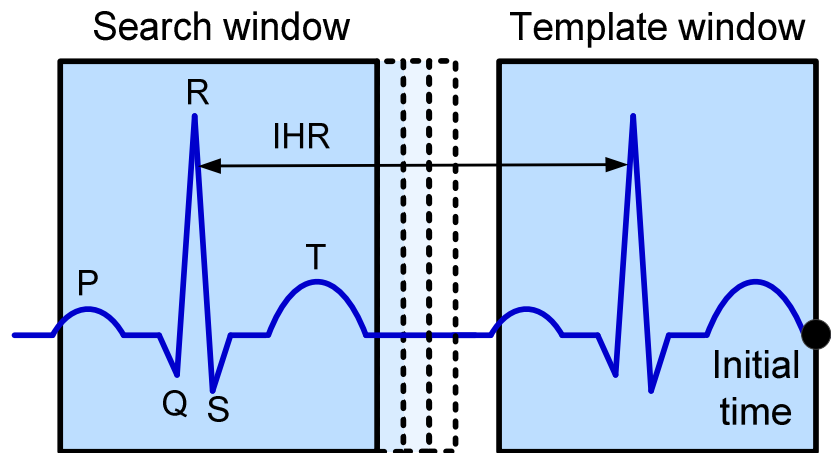


(a) Block diagram

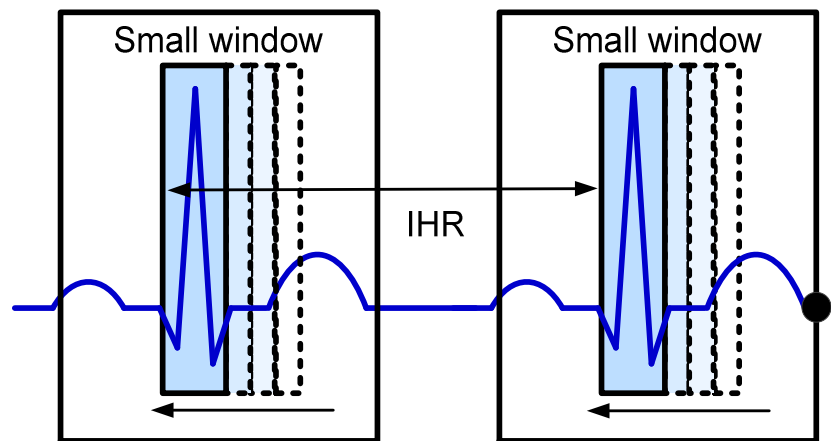


(b) Frequency characteristics

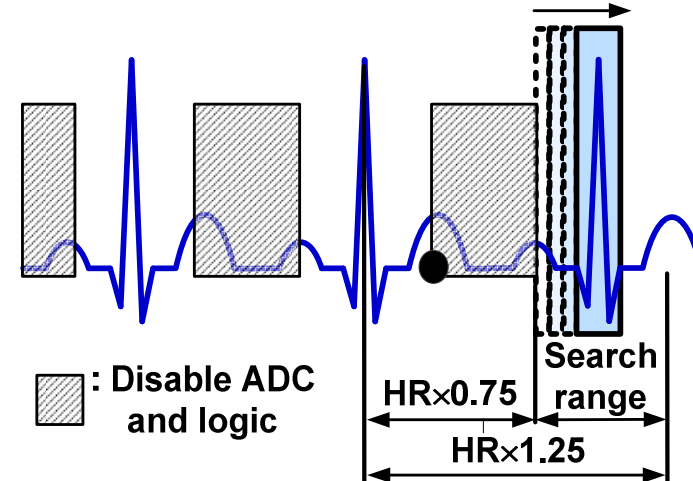
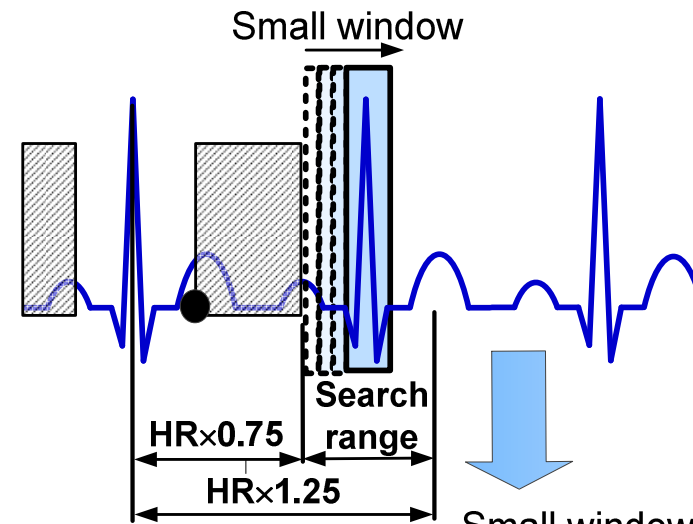
Algorithm of noise torelant IHR extraction



(a) Coarse QRS search



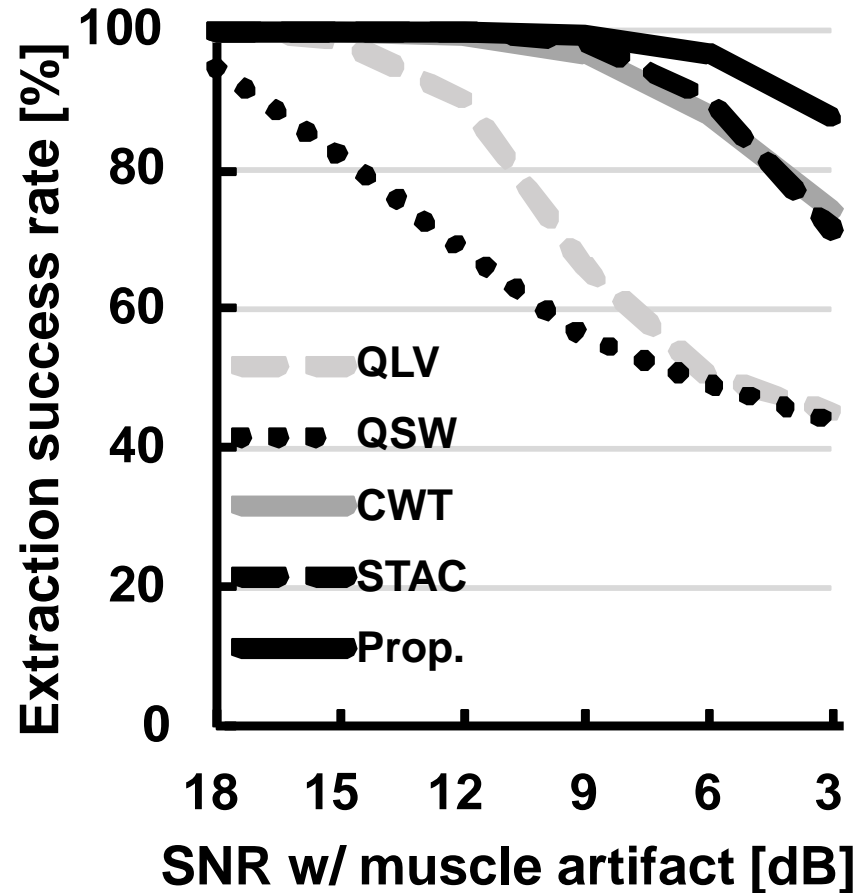
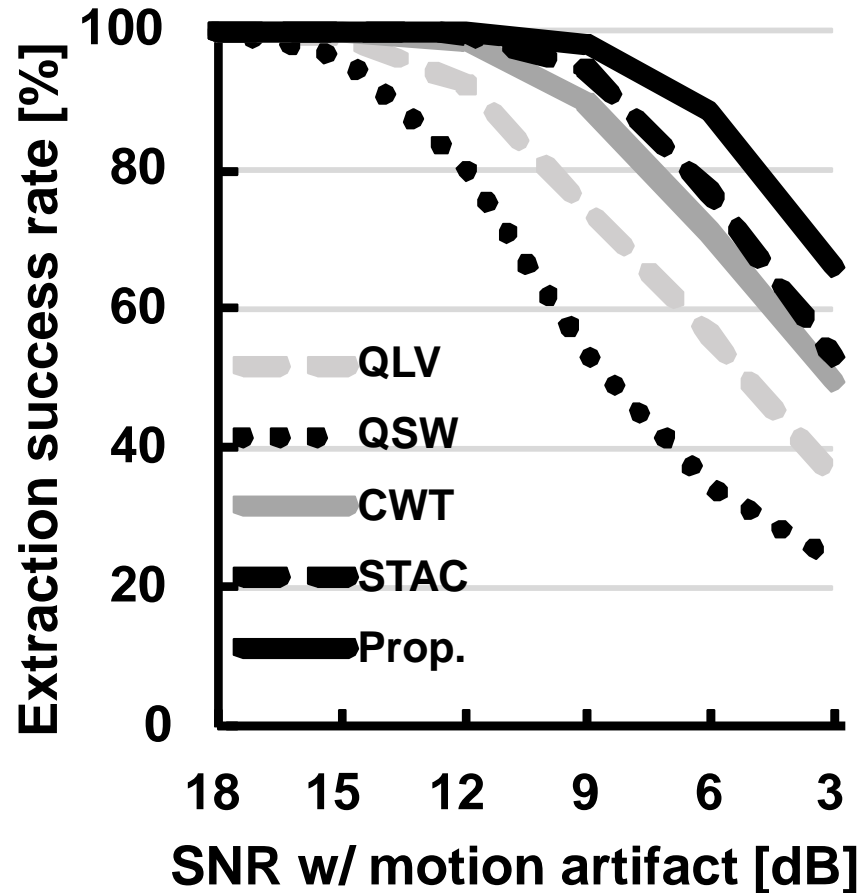
(b) Fine QRS search



(c) Template matching

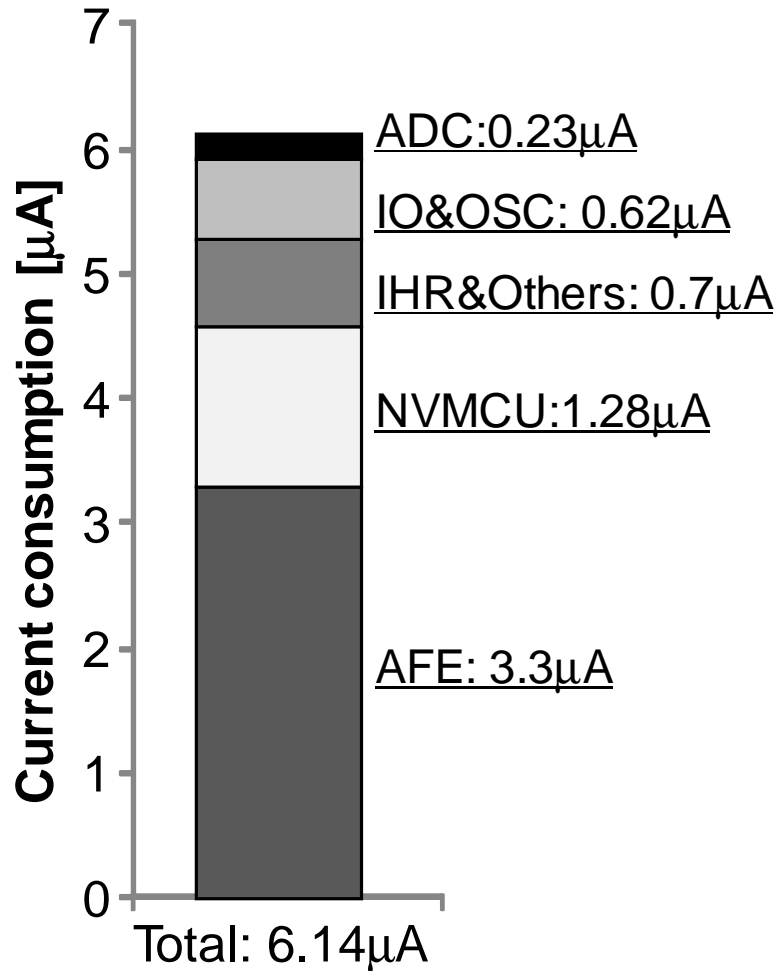
Coarse-fine QRS template generation and template matching with QRS prediction.

Success rate evaluation of IHR extractor

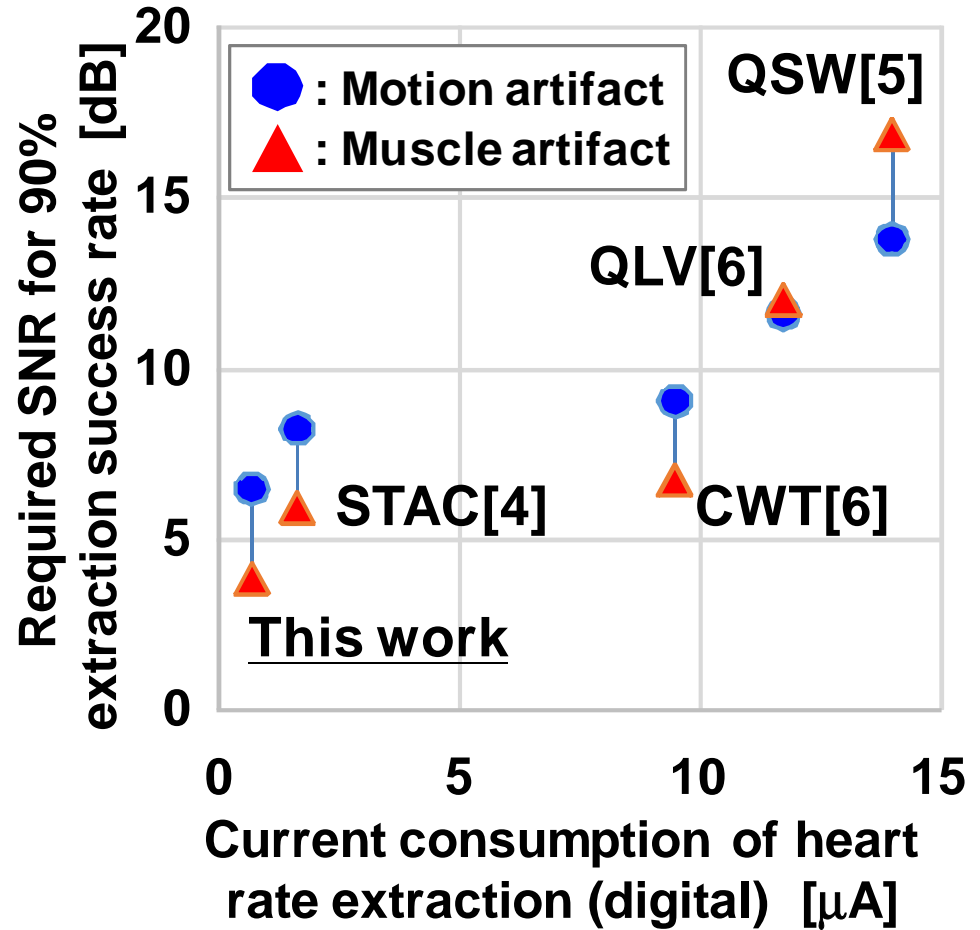


The IHR extractor can also suppress motion artifact and muscle artifacts.

Measurement results

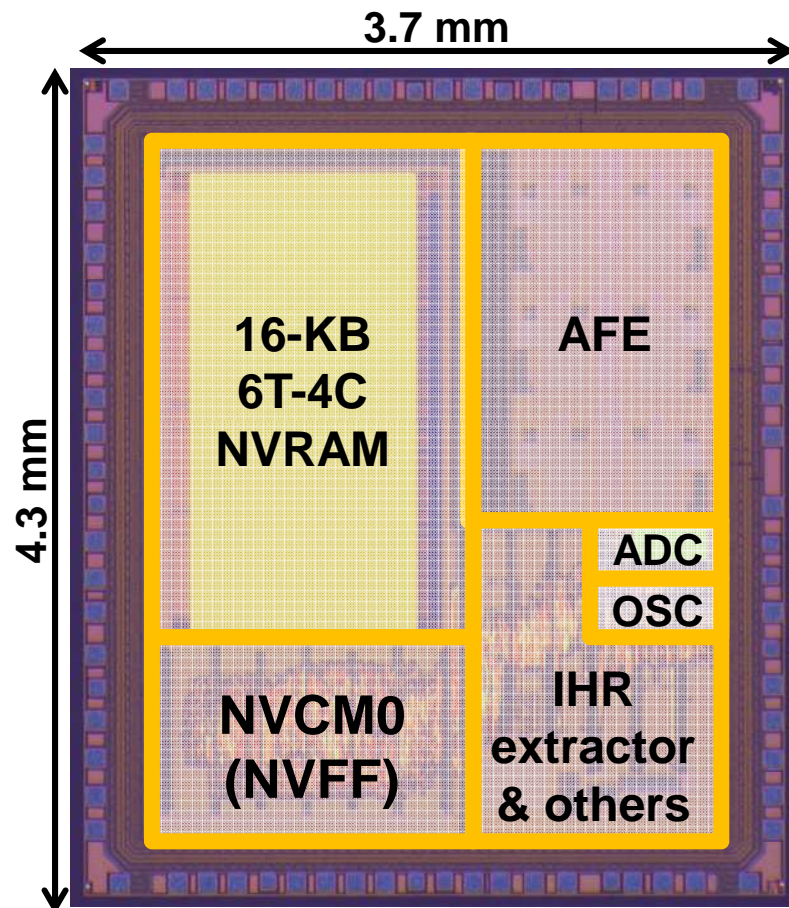


(a) Total power



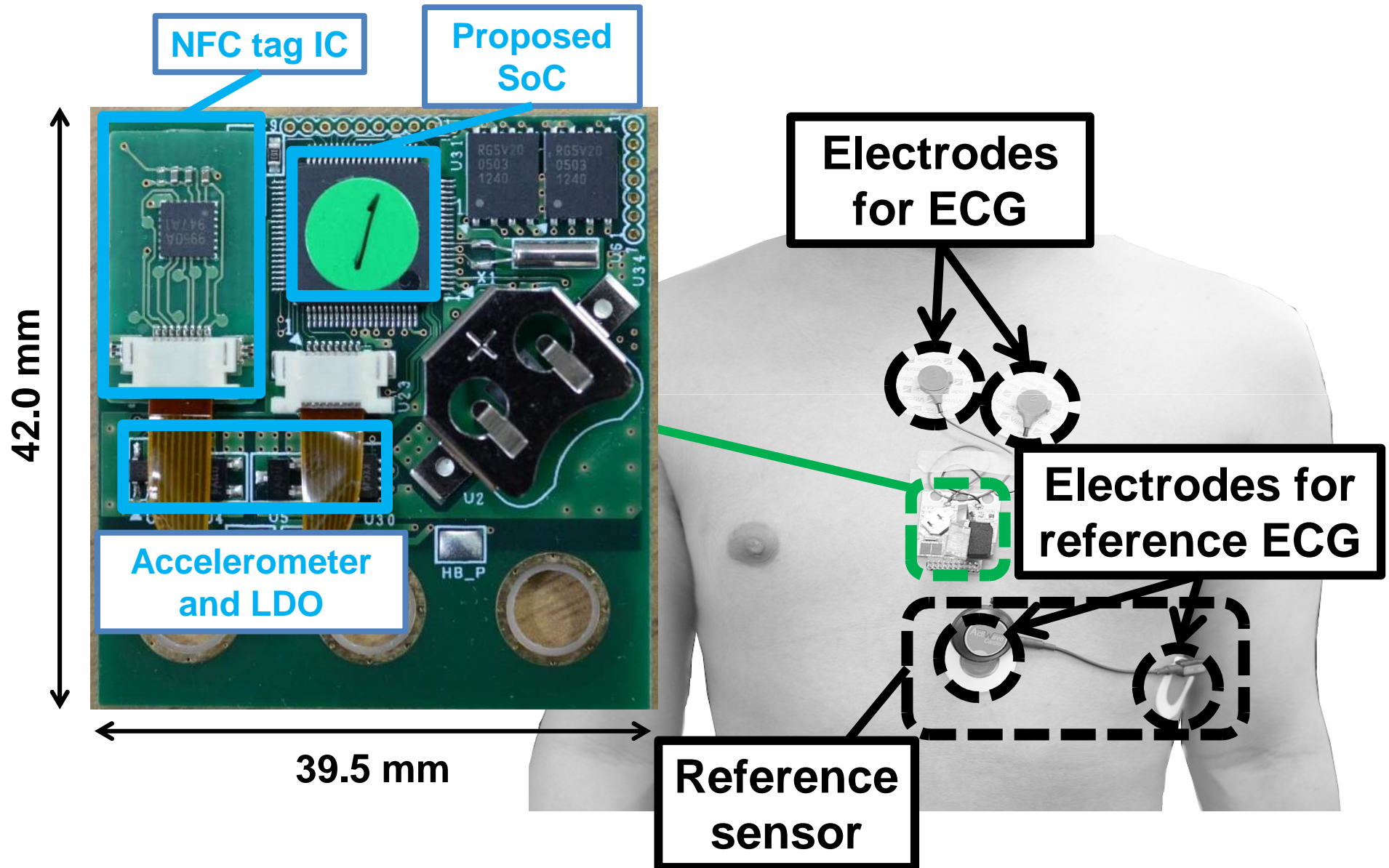
(b) IHR extractor comparison

Photo of VLSI wearable bio-medical sensor

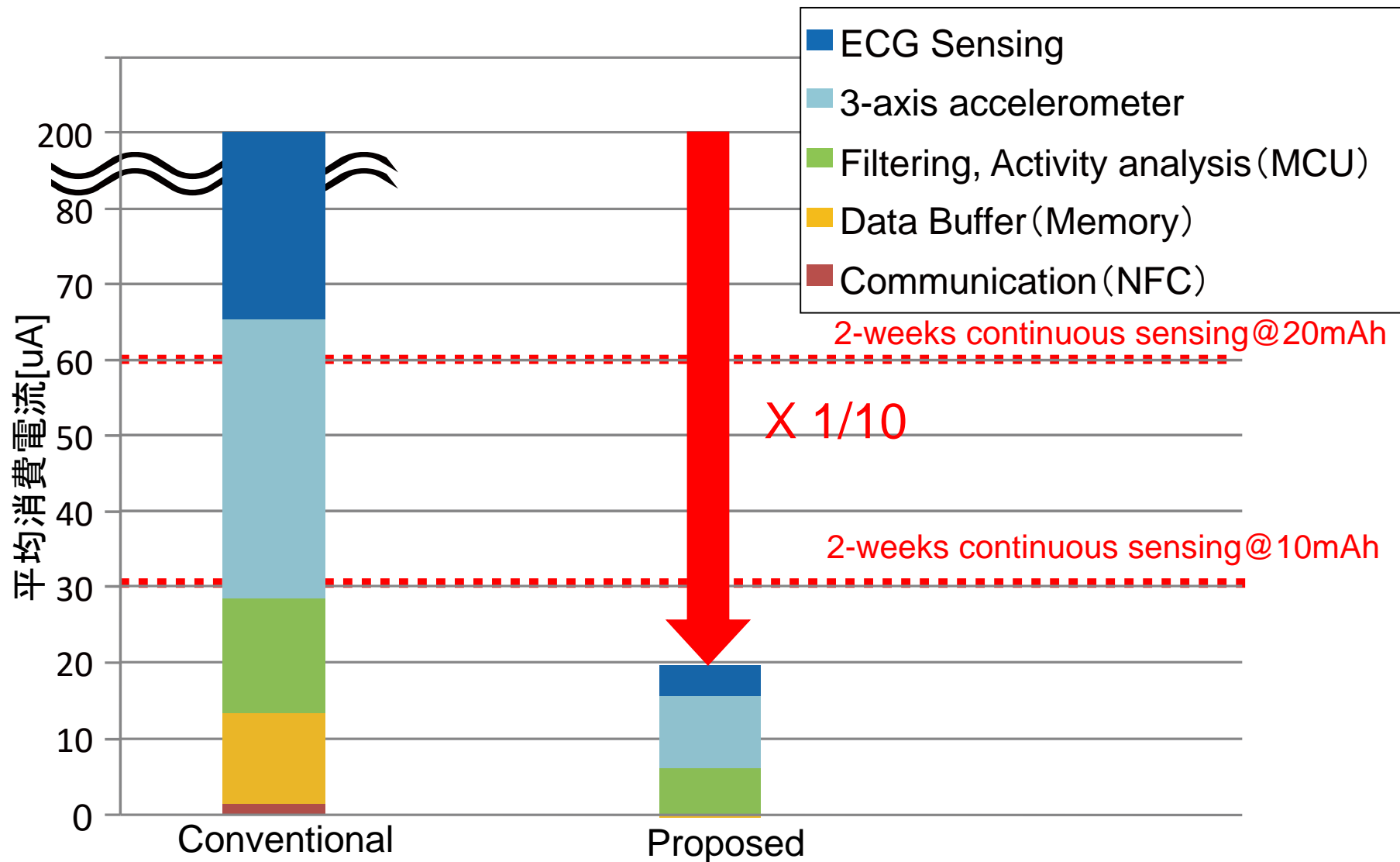


Technology	0.13 μm CMOS	
Supply voltage	1.2 V (AFE, ADC, Logic, Memory)	
	3.0 V (32.768-kHz OSC and I/O)	
Chip area	3.7 \times 4.3 mm ²	
Frequency	24 MHz (for processor)	
	32 kHz (for other blocks)	
Processor	32-bit Cortex M0 (with NVFF)	
On chip memory	16-KByte 6T-4C NVRAM	
AFE	Gain	54 dB
	Bandwidth	700 Hz
	CMRR	73 dB
ADC	Resolution	8 bit
	Current	0.23 μA @ 128 S/s, 1.0 μA @ 1 kS/s

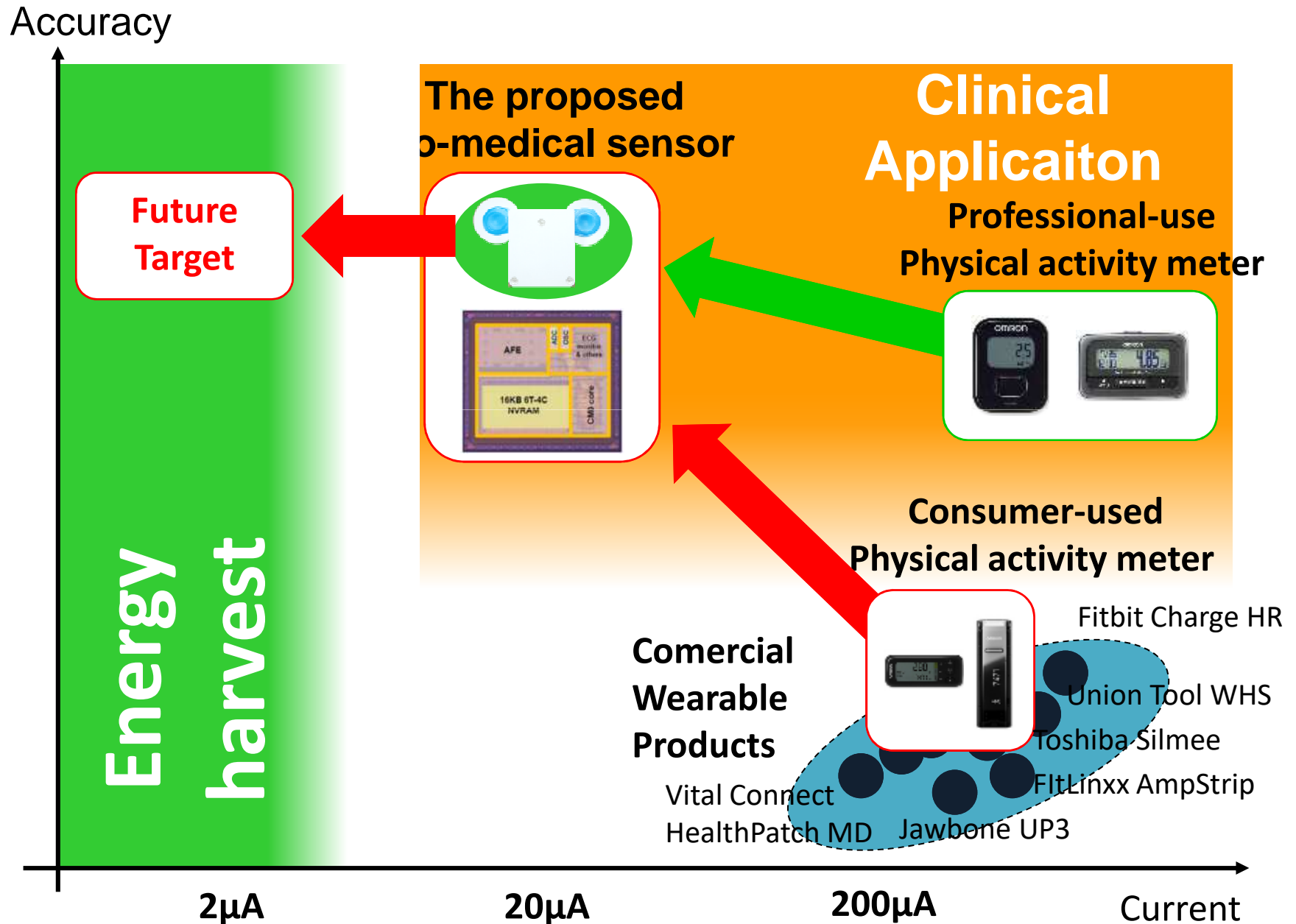
Experimental wearable bio-medical sensor



Power reduction in sensor module



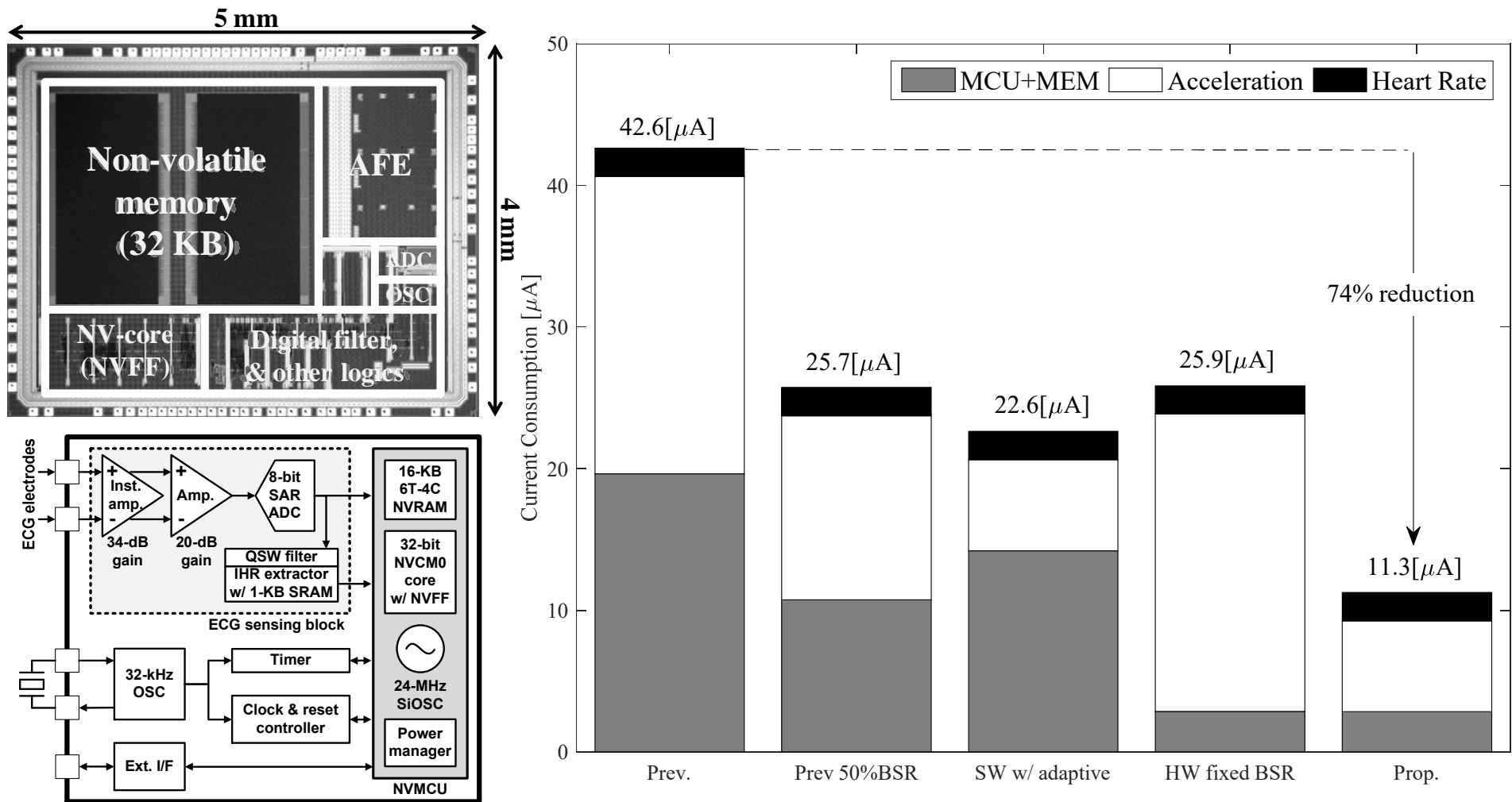
Technical position of the bio-medical sensor



Summary

- The wearable bio-medical sensor has been developed, which features heart rate monitoring and tri-axial acceleration using newly developed low power SoC.
- Non-volatile MCU for normally-off computing and noise-tolerant IHR detection algorithm have been employed for ECG-SoC design.
- The fully integrated ECG-SoC consumes $6.14\mu\text{A}$ for ECG monitoring and the sensor system dissipates $20\mu\text{A}$, allowing 2-weeks continuous sensing only using a 10-mAh thin-type lithium-ion battery.

Recent Topics: Adaptive Sampling Technique



11.3uA current consumption has been attained by variable sampling rate techniques

