

# Expanding the Neuroethical Ethos



## Social Justice and Neuroethics at the Rehab Neural Engineering Labs

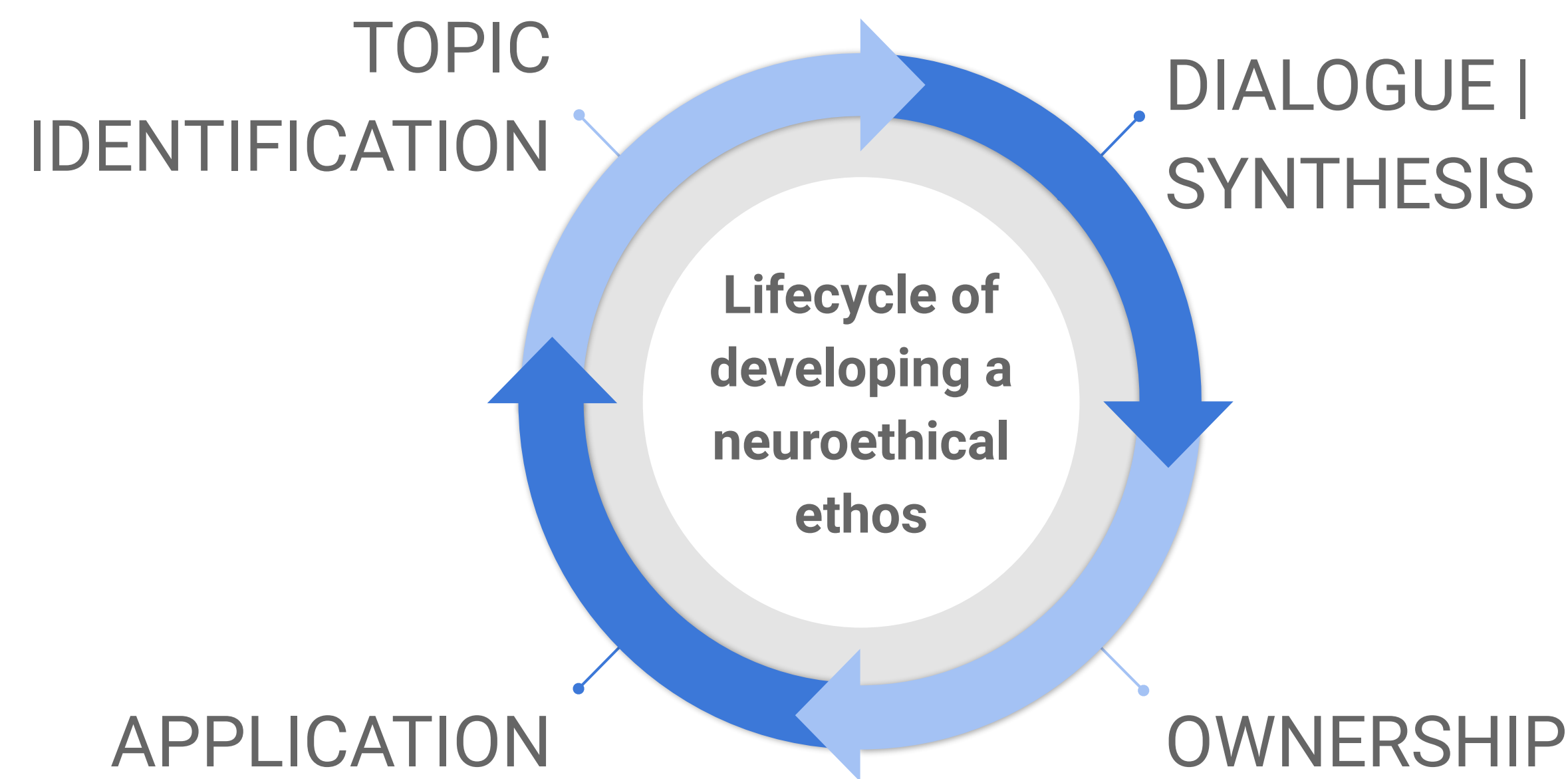
• Juhi Farooqui<sup>1,3</sup> • Sarah Dawod<sup>2</sup> • Josep-Maria Balaguer Serra<sup>2,3</sup> • Devapratim Sarma, PhD<sup>1,3</sup> •  
<sup>1</sup>Carnegie Mellon University, <sup>2</sup>University of Pittsburgh, <sup>3</sup>Rehab Neural Engineering Labs



### Social Justice – Why Now?

- Social inequities in sharp relief due to COVID-19
  - Disability rights
  - Socioeconomic class
  - Race
- Widespread awareness of racial injustice (particularly in academia)

### The Neuroethical Ethos



### Participant Engagement

- Increased awareness of social justice intersections with neuroscience research
- Interest in/ ideas for further exploring intersections (studies, surveys, further discussions)

### Social Justice Meets Neuroethics

#### DISPARITY

What is disparity?

#### TRUST

How does race impact trust in medicine and research?

#### ACCESS

How can neurotechnology development stay accessible and responsive to disabled communities?

“ I feel like I have a big responsibility in making sure whatever biases I have do not impact how I interact with a participant... ”

“ Conducting some research about the needs/desires [of disabled users] when it comes to neural technology would be good... ”

“ We should create an environment that encourages the participants to speak up... ”

“ In order to increase trust more broadly (since most of our participants are people who seek regular medical care), we need to think about ways to better engage the larger community... ”