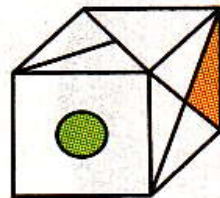
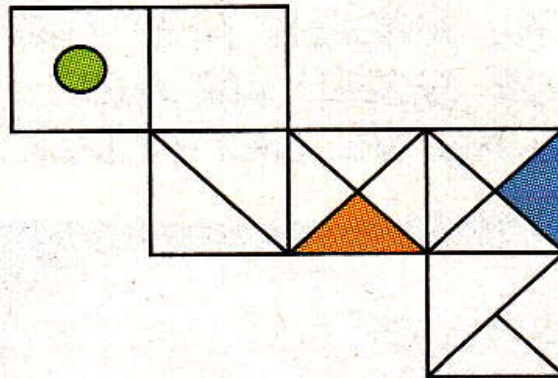
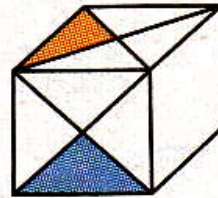


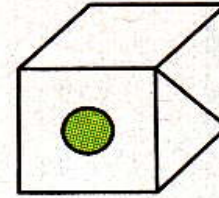
Which of the six boxes below cannot be made from this unfolded box?
(There may be more than one.)



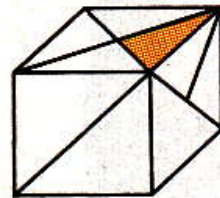
A



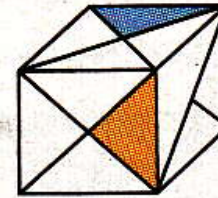
B



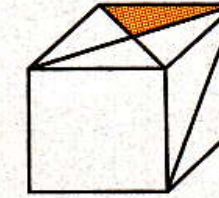
C



D



E



F



BIOPHYSICS @ YORK

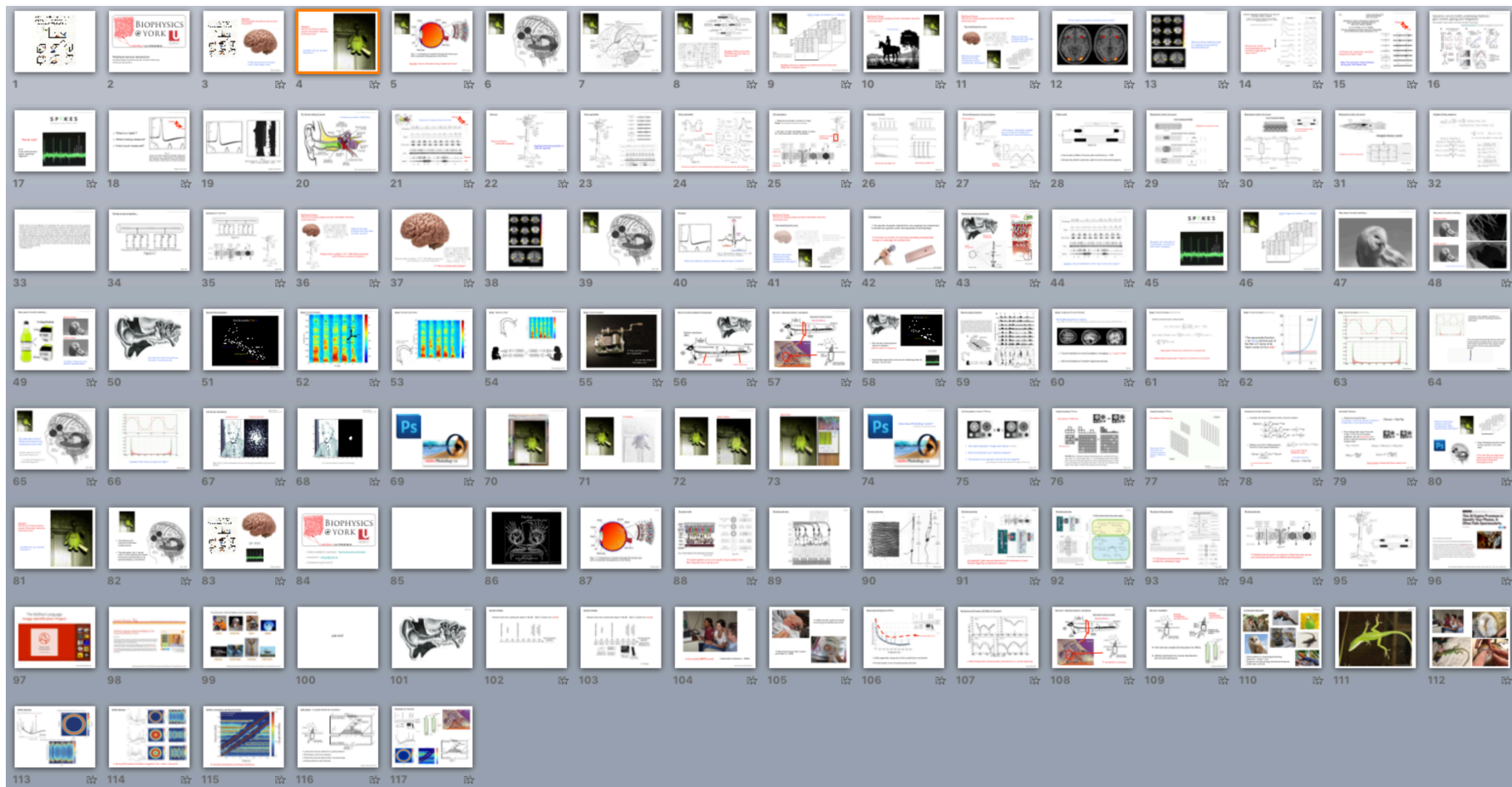


redefine THE POSSIBLE.

Peripheral sensory transduction

Christopher Bergevin (York University, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy)

CVR Summer School (2017)



Questions/Themes to examine & discuss

- How is “information” encoded heading in towards the brain?
- What is “brain activity”?
- How does the central nervous system “convey” information?
- How is information “transformed”?
- Biomechanics of the ear
- Fourier transforms & convolutions (Aside: How does Photoshop work?)
- Phototransduction

Pop Quiz #1



How many neurons are there in the human brain? Synapses?

Pop Quiz #2



Is this “image” a bitmap or vector-based?

Pop Quiz #3

$$\frac{1}{2\pi a(r_o + r_i)} \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial z^2} = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + G_K(V_m, t) (V_m - V_K) \\ + G_{Na}(V_m, t) (V_m - V_{Na}) + G_L(V_m - V_L)$$

$$G_K(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_K n^4(V_m, t)$$

$$G_{Na}(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_{Na} m^3(V_m, t) h(V_m, t)$$

$$n(V_m, t) + \tau_n(V_m) \frac{dn(V_m, t)}{dt} = n_\infty(V_m)$$

$$m(V_m, t) + \tau_m(V_m) \frac{dm(V_m, t)}{dt} = m_\infty(V_m)$$

$$h(V_m, t) + \tau_h(V_m) \frac{dh(V_m, t)}{dt} = h_\infty(V_m)$$

$$\tau_x \frac{dx}{dt} + x = x_\infty \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha_x(1 - x) - \beta_x x$$

$$x_\infty = \alpha_x / (\alpha_x + \beta_x) \text{ and } \tau_x = 1 / (\alpha_x + \beta_x)$$

$$\alpha_m = \frac{-0.1(V_m + 35)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 35)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_m = 4e^{-(V_m + 60)/18},$$

$$\alpha_h = 0.07e^{-0.05(V_m + 60)},$$

$$\beta_h = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-0.1(V_m + 30)}},$$

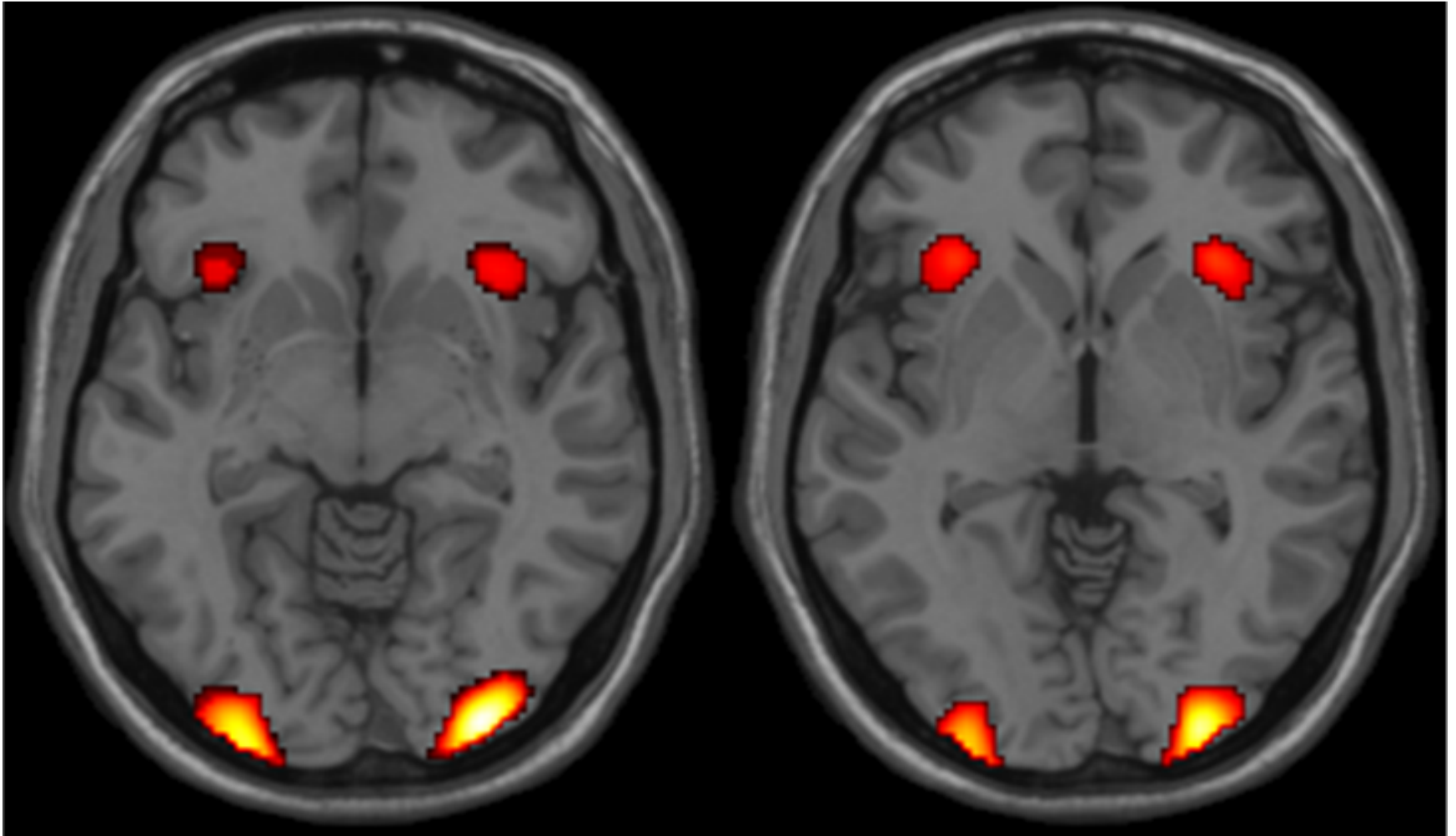
$$\alpha_n = \frac{-0.01(V_m + 50)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 50)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_n = 0.125e^{-0.0125(V_m + 60)},$$

What do these equations represent?

Pop Quiz #4

What precisely is being shown here?



- How is “information” encoded heading in towards the brain?
- What is “brain activity”?
- How does the central nervous system “convey” information?
- How is information “transformed”?
- Biomechanics of the ear
- Fourier transforms & convolutions
- Phototransduction

Pop Quiz #1



How many neurons are there in the human brain? Synapses?

Human brain contains $\sim 10^{11}$ (100 billion) neurons!
(with 100 trillion+ connections inbetween)

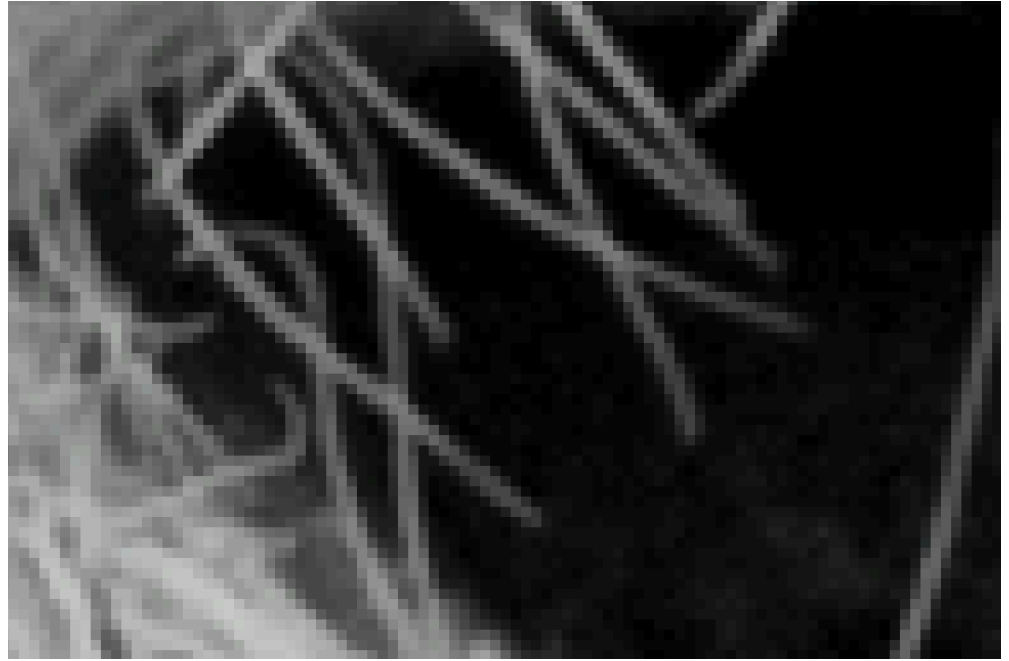
Pop Quiz



Is this “image” a bitmap or vector-based?

Many ways to “encode” something....

Bitmap version

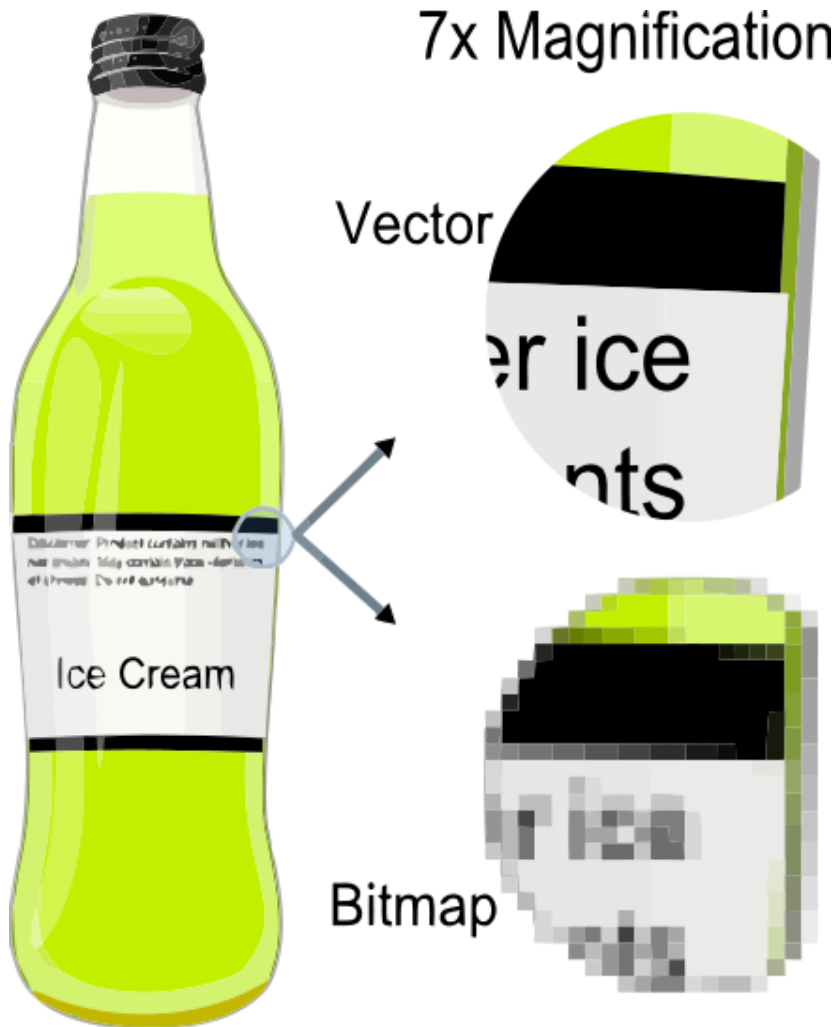


Vector version



zoom-in about corner of eye

Many ways to “encode” something....



Bitmap version



Vector version



→ “Same” image, two very different representations

Pop Quiz

$$\frac{1}{2\pi a(r_o + r_i)} \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial z^2} = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + G_K(V_m, t) (V_m - V_K) \\ + G_{Na}(V_m, t) (V_m - V_{Na}) + G_L(V_m - V_L)$$

$$G_K(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_K n^4(V_m, t)$$

$$G_{Na}(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_{Na} m^3(V_m, t) h(V_m, t)$$

$$n(V_m, t) + \tau_n(V_m) \frac{dn(V_m, t)}{dt} = n_\infty(V_m)$$

$$m(V_m, t) + \tau_m(V_m) \frac{dm(V_m, t)}{dt} = m_\infty(V_m)$$

$$h(V_m, t) + \tau_h(V_m) \frac{dh(V_m, t)}{dt} = h_\infty(V_m)$$

$$\tau_x \frac{dx}{dt} + x = x_\infty \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha_x(1 - x) - \beta_x x$$

$$x_\infty = \alpha_x / (\alpha_x + \beta_x) \text{ and } \tau_x = 1 / (\alpha_x + \beta_x)$$

$$\alpha_m = \frac{-0.1(V_m + 35)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 35)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_m = 4e^{-(V_m + 60)/18},$$

$$\alpha_h = 0.07e^{-0.05(V_m + 60)},$$

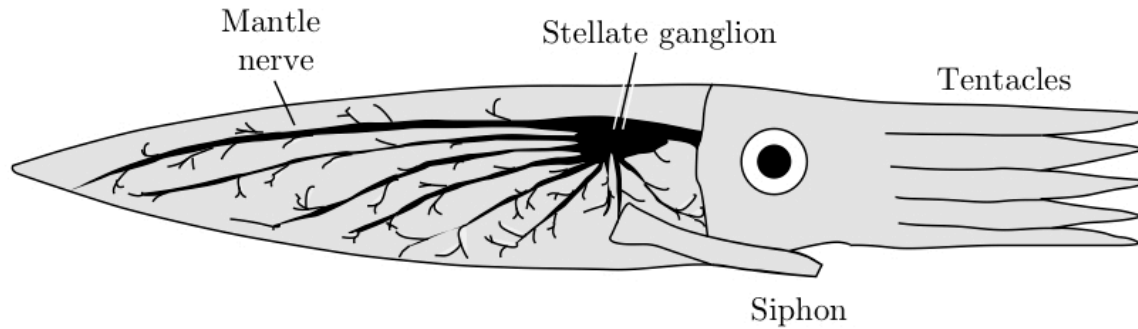
$$\beta_h = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-0.1(V_m + 30)}},$$

$$\alpha_n = \frac{-0.01(V_m + 50)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 50)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_n = 0.125e^{-0.0125(V_m + 60)},$$

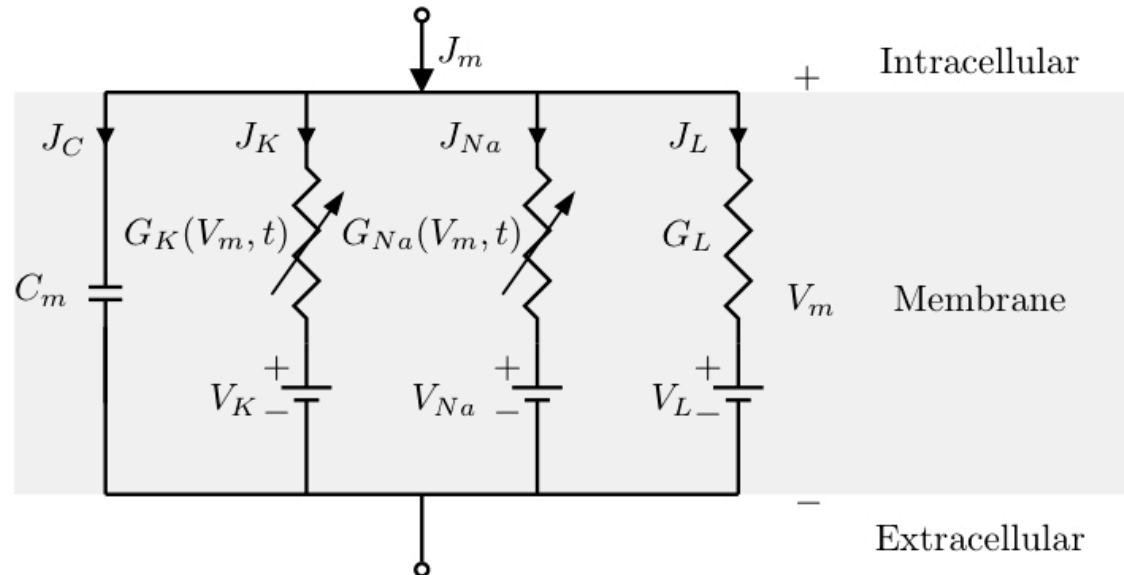
What do these equations represent?

Biophysical model of a neuron



Hodgkin Huxley model

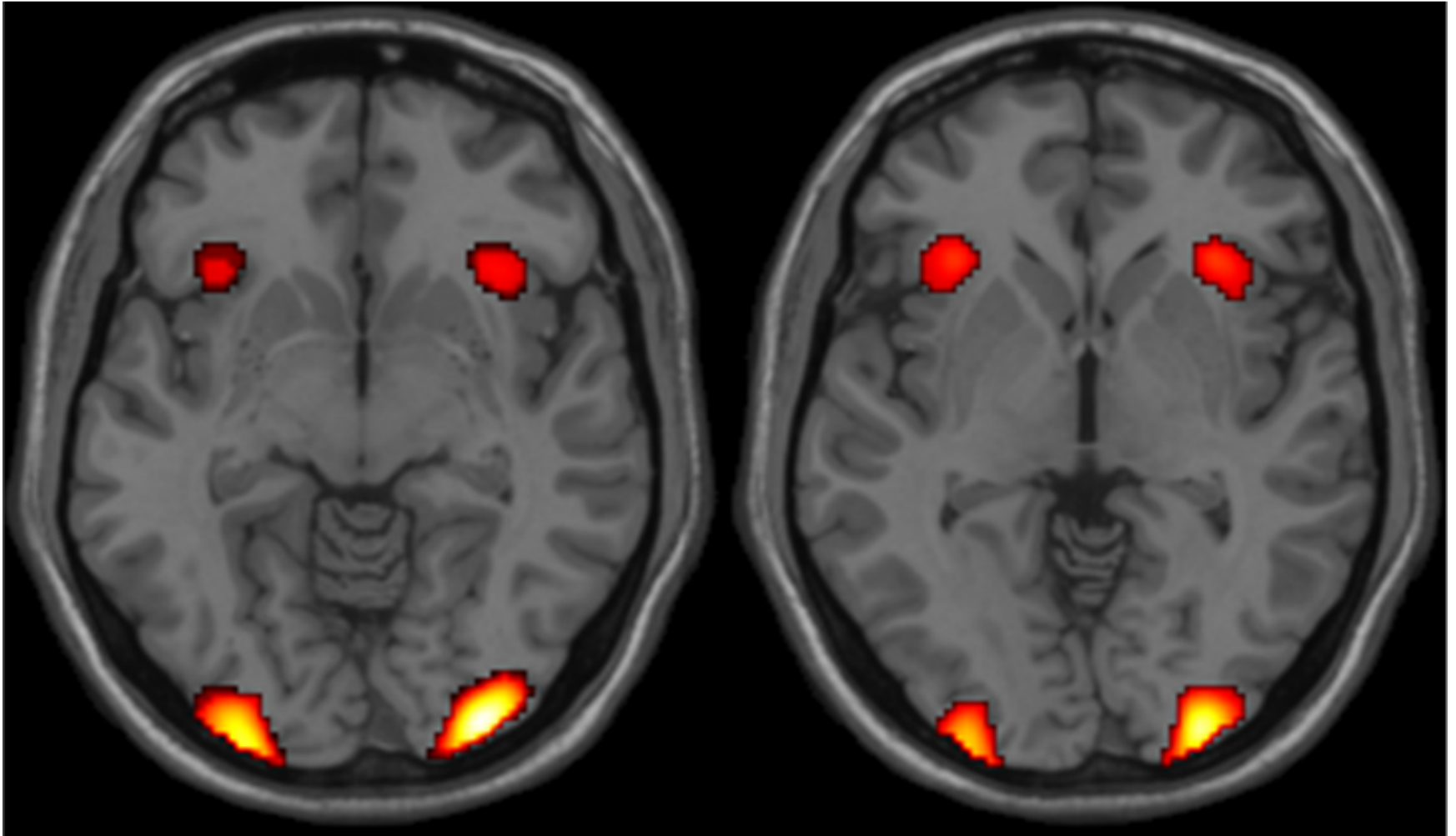
Variable Na⁺ and K⁺ conductances



Pop Quiz

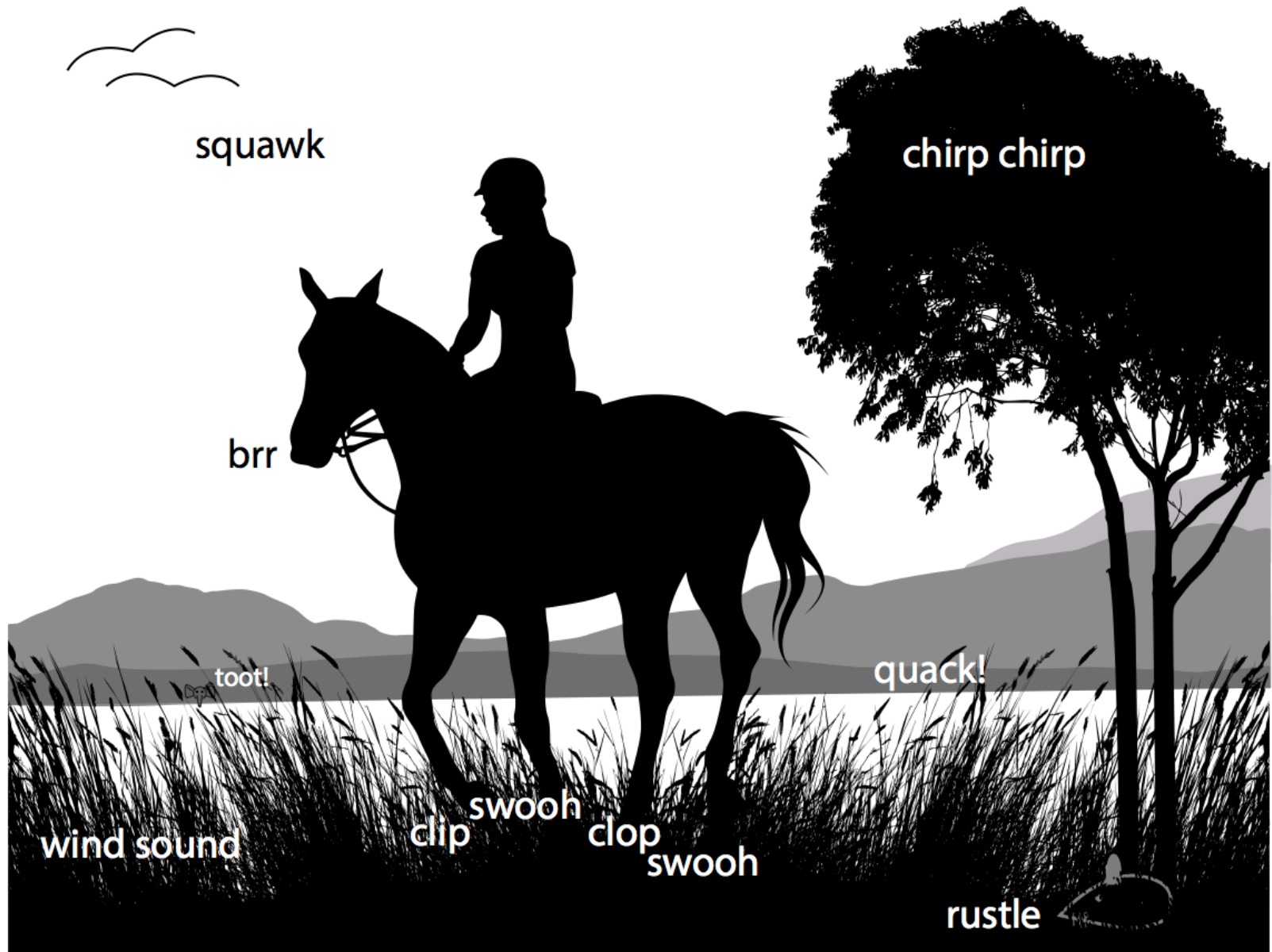
What precisely is being shown here?

- NMR → MRI
- “fMRI” re BOLD



Big Picture Theme

How do our sensory systems encode “information” about the world around us?



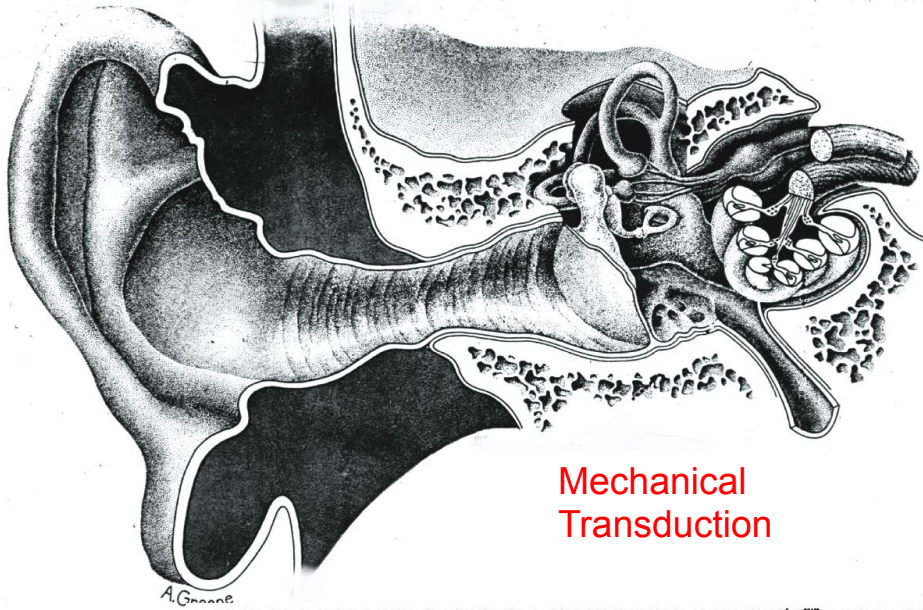
Transduction

1. the transfer of genetic material from one organism (as a bacterium) to another by a genetic vector and especially a bacteriophage

2. the action or process of converting something and especially energy or a message into another form

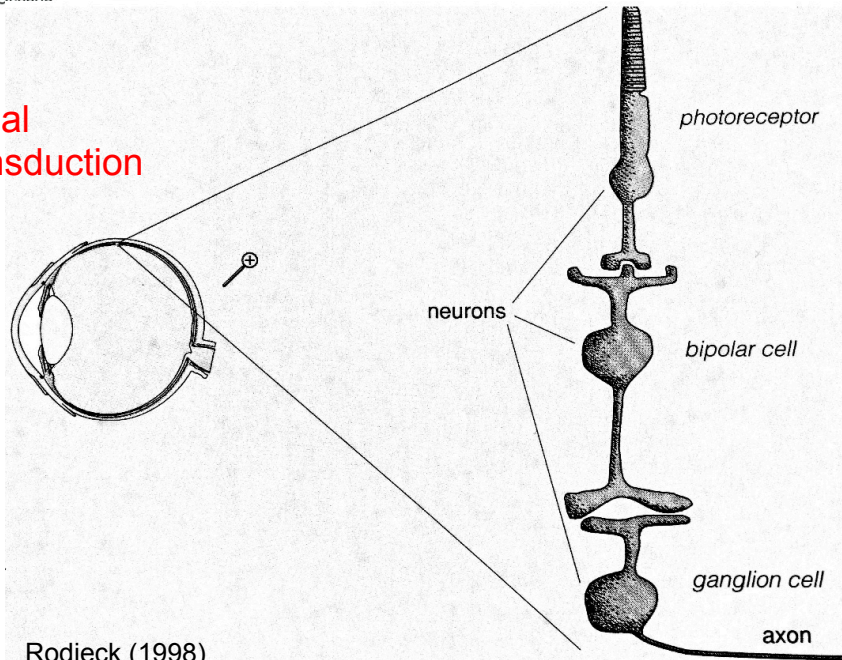


Peripheral sensory transduction



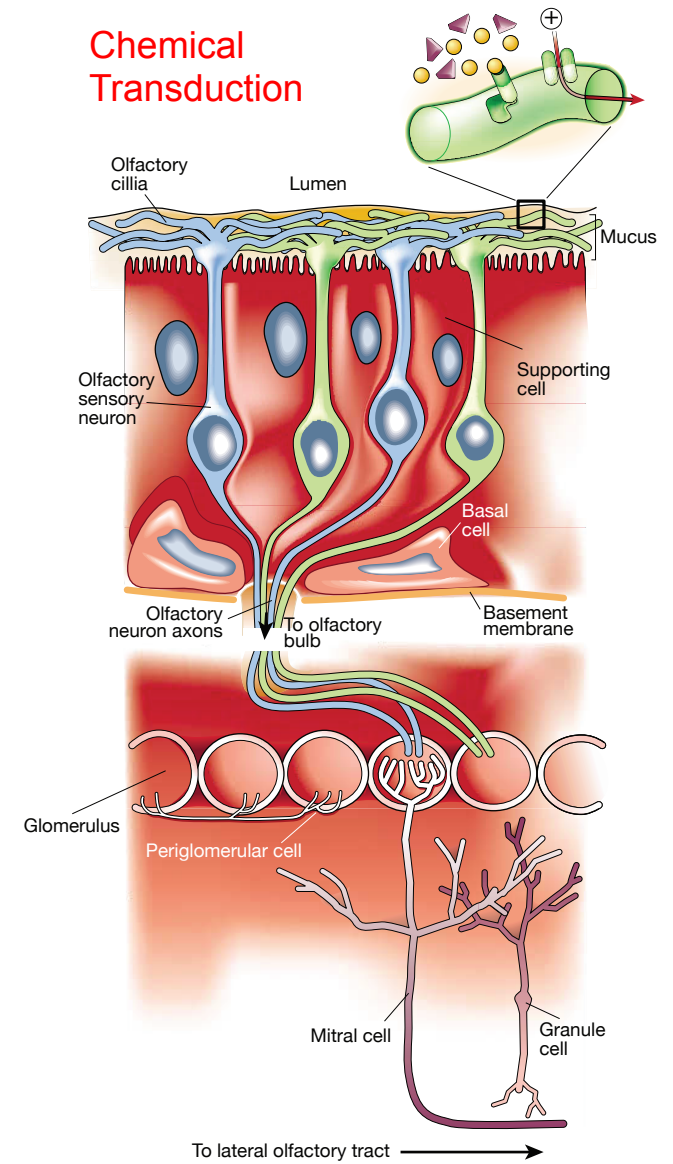
Mechanical Transduction

Visual Transduction



Rodieck (1998)

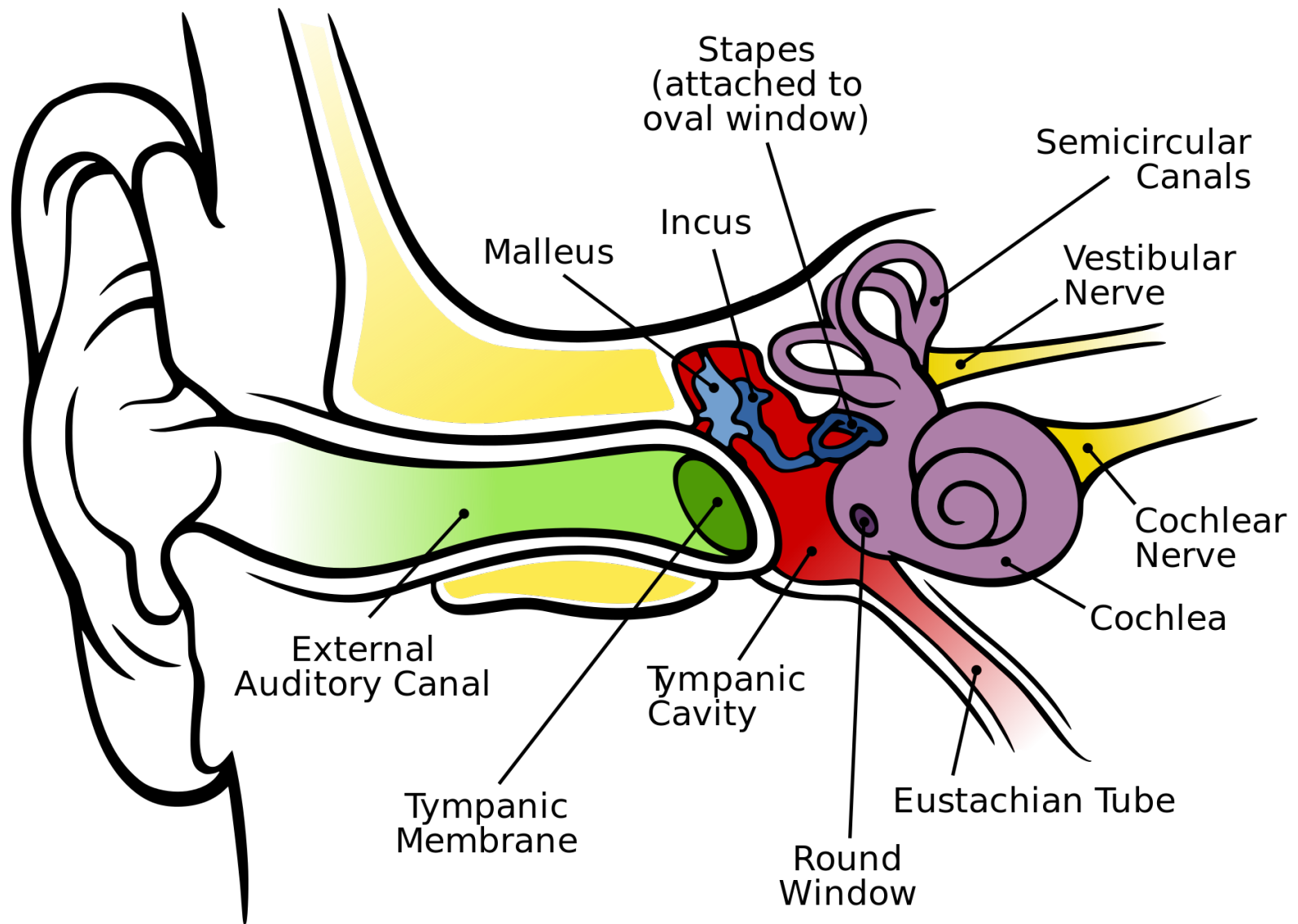
Chemical Transduction



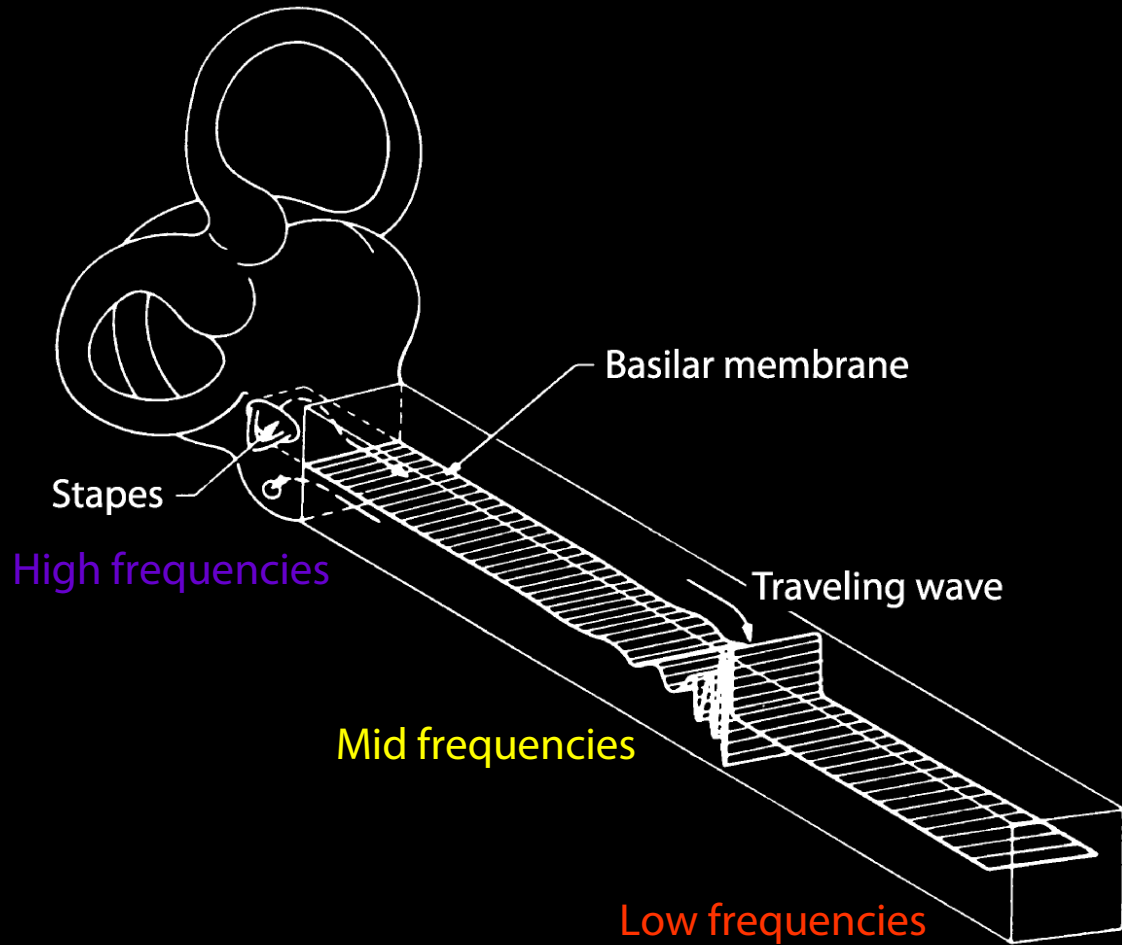
Firestein (2001)

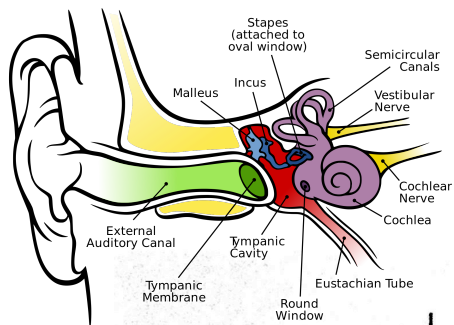
Ex. Neural coding of sound

Cochlear nerve contains ~30000 fibers



An Acoustic Prism

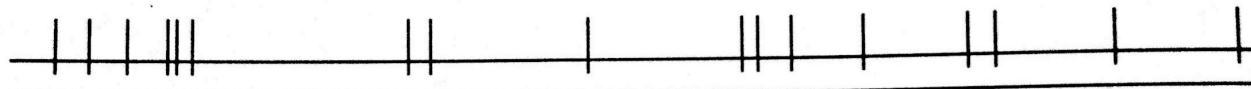




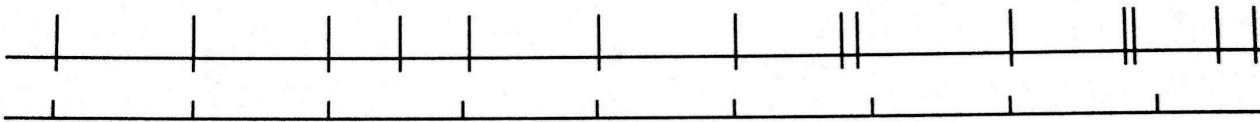
Response of a single cochlear nerve fiber

Voltage ↑
Time →

No stimulus



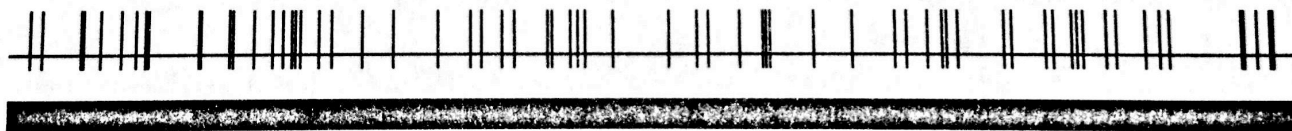
Clicks



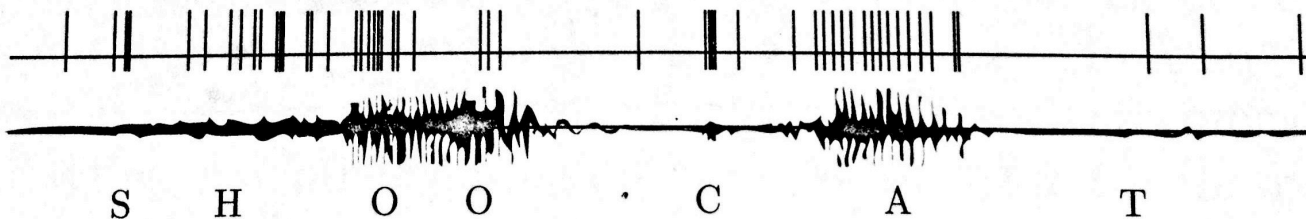
Tone bursts



Tone

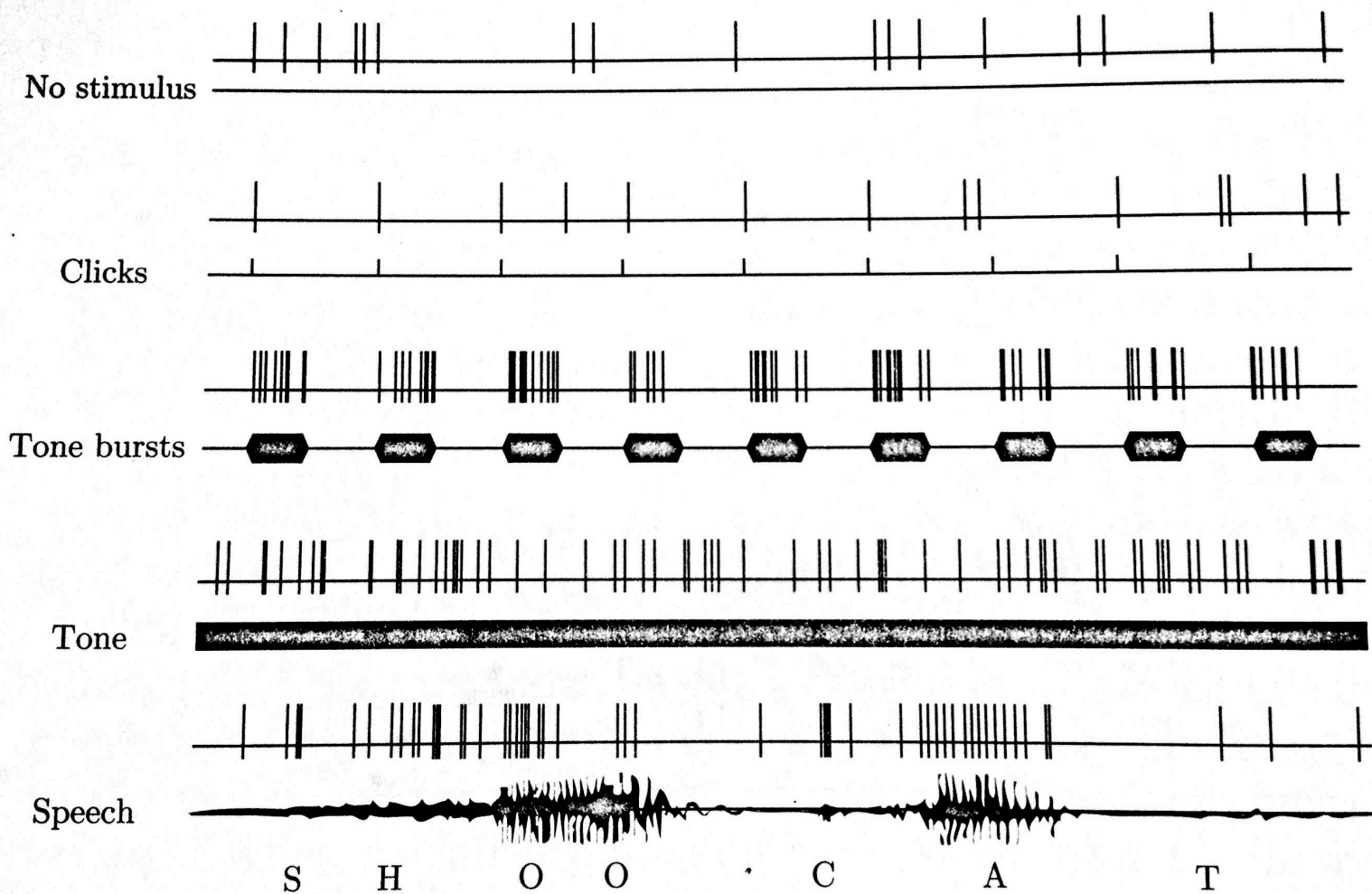


Speech



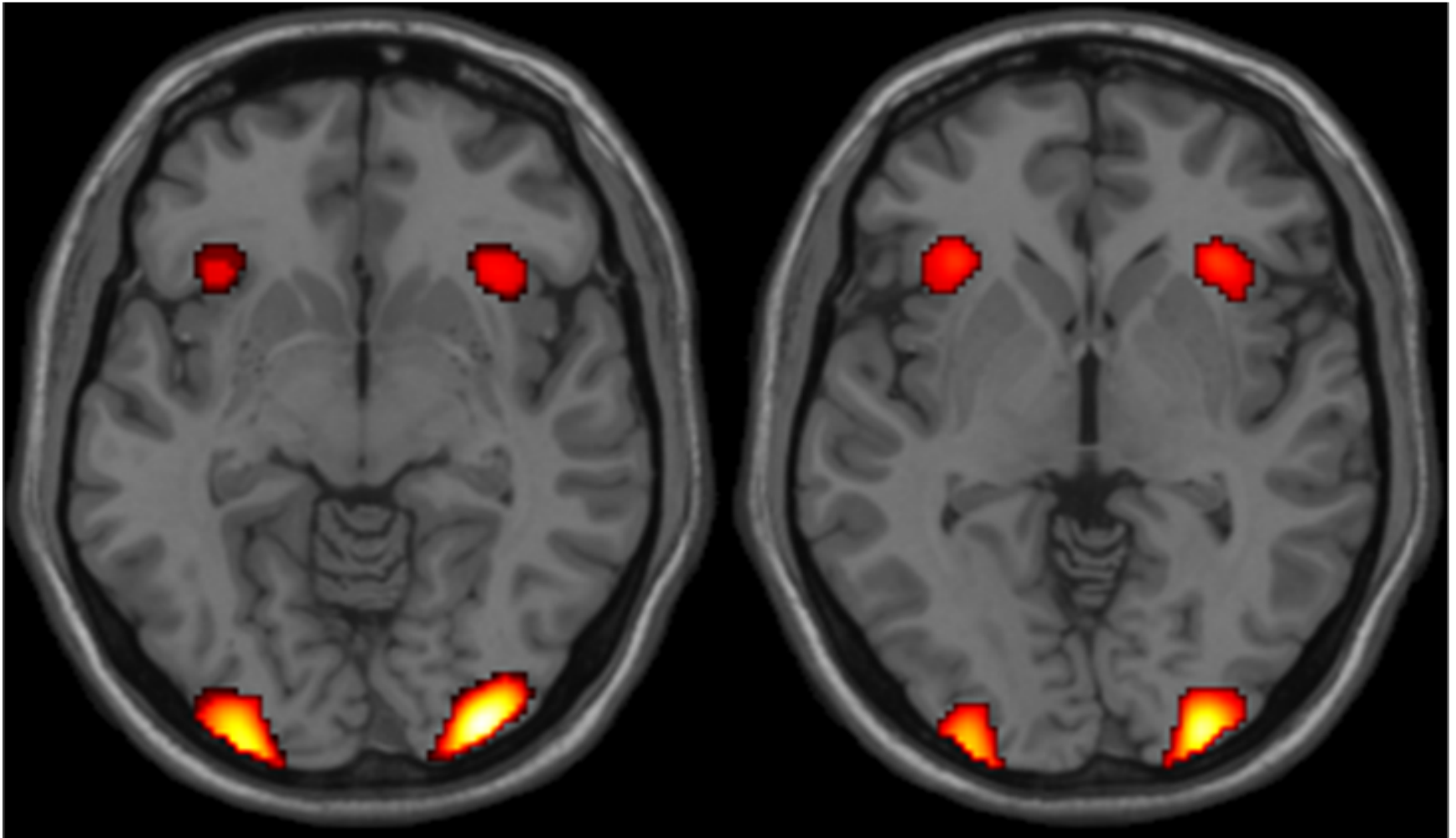
Neuron

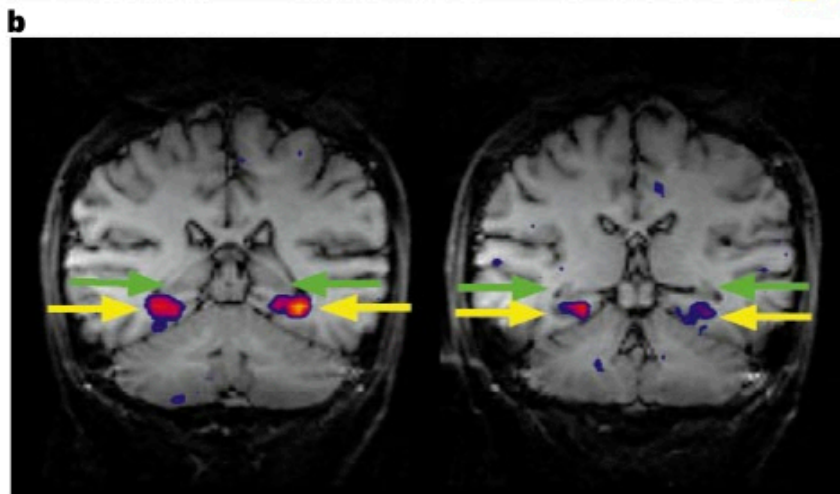
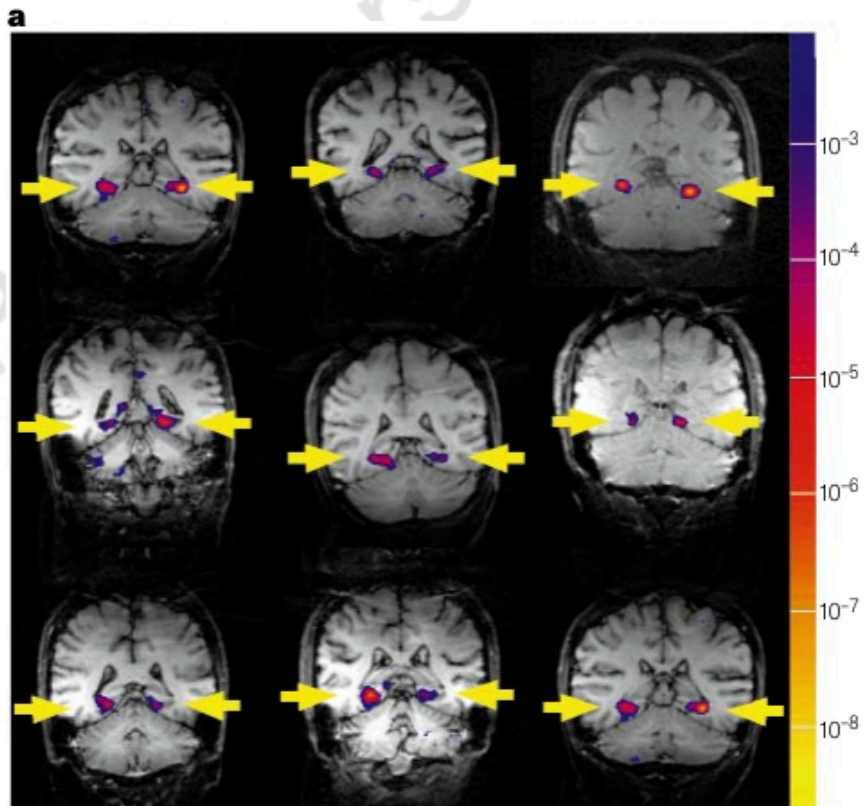
Mic



Question: How similar/different is the “input” versus the “output”?

→ How might you go about measuring “brain activity”?





What are these methods used to “measure neural activity” actually telling us?

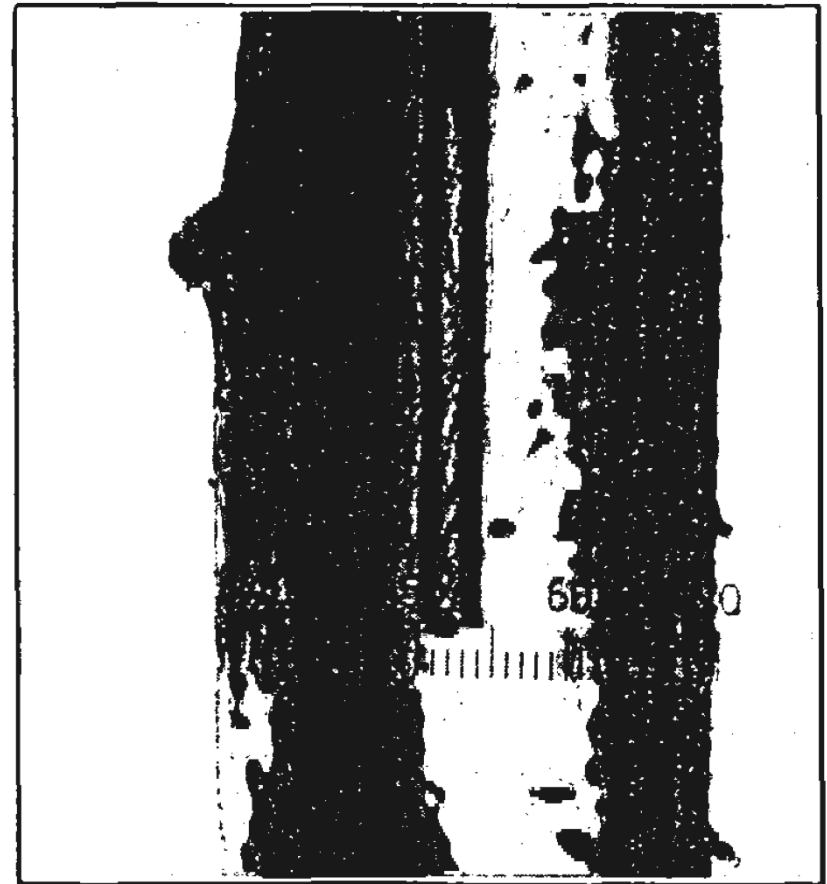
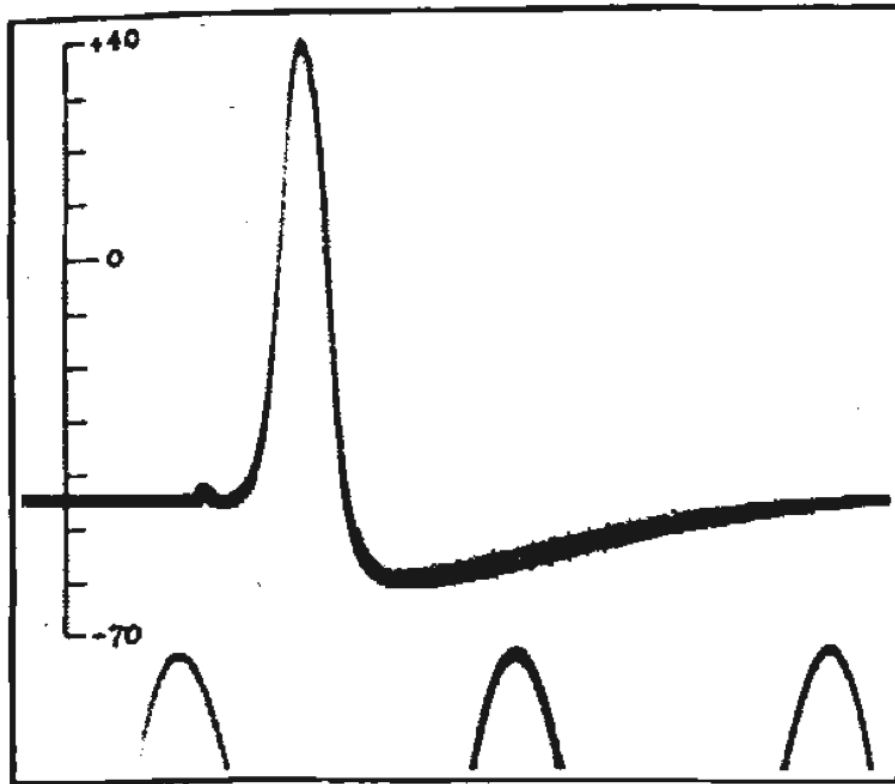


Fig. 1.
PHOTOMICROGRAPH OF ELECTRODE INSIDE GIANT
AXON. 1 SCALE DIVISION = 33 μ .

Pop Quiz

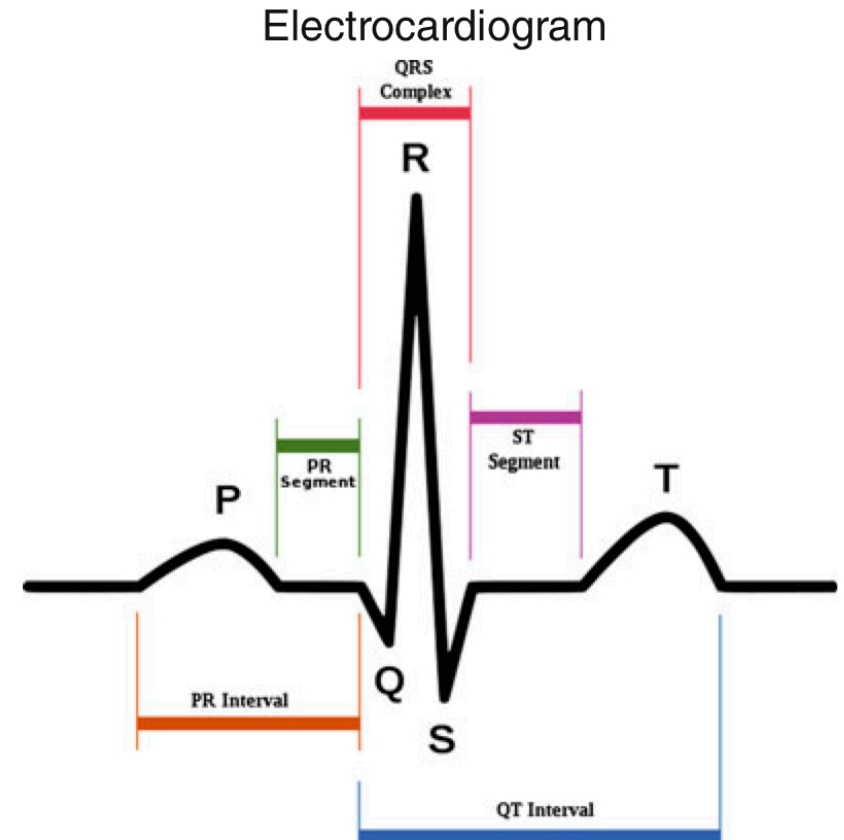
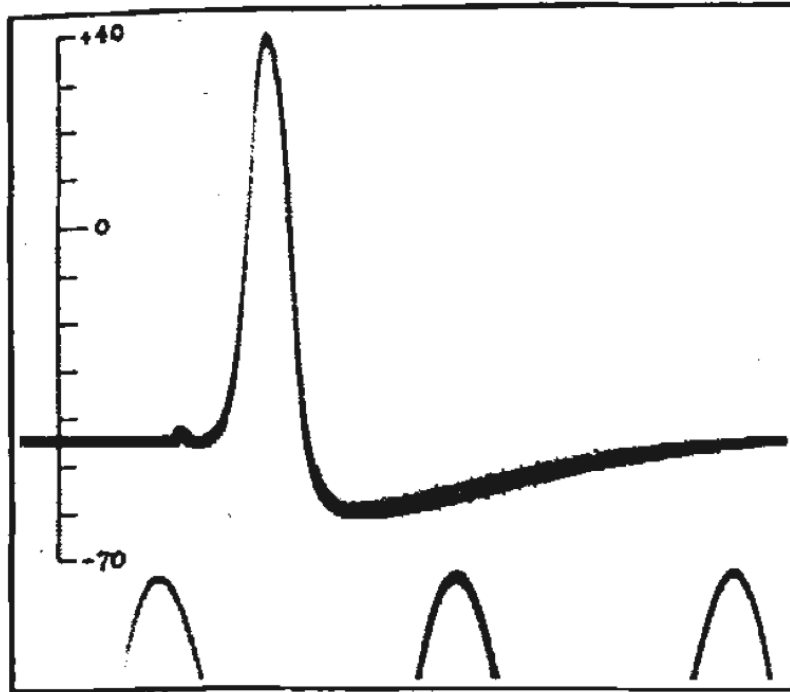
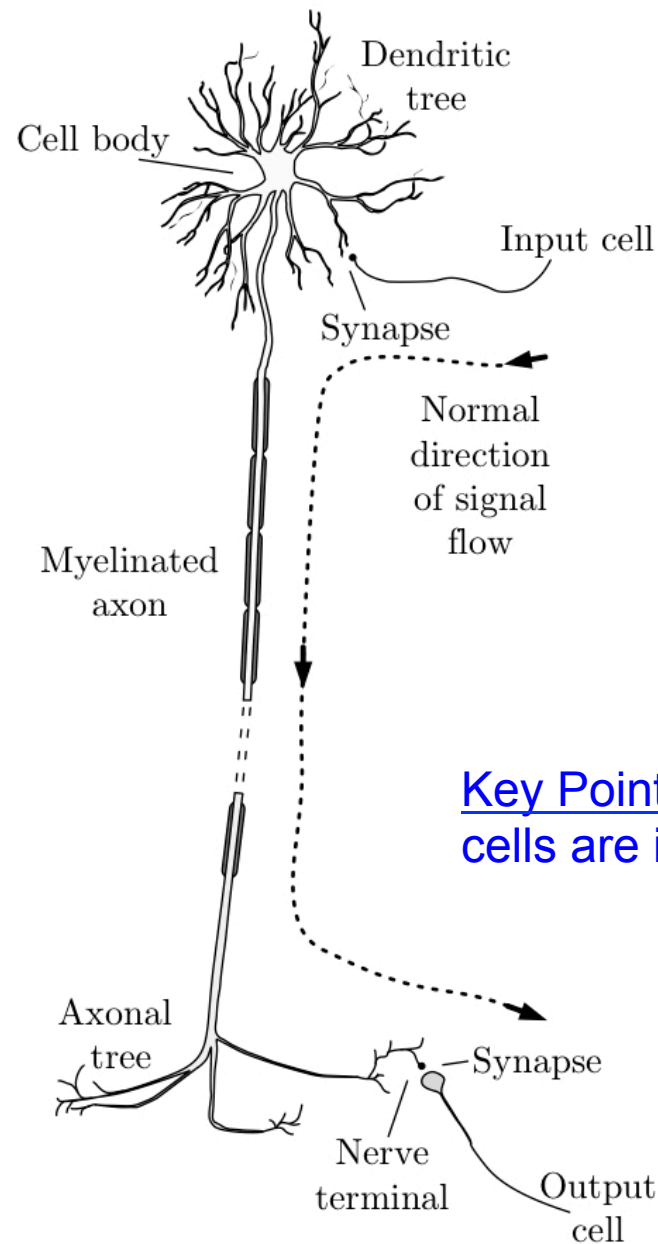


Fig. 1.2 Electrocardiogram depicting *P* wave, *QRS* complex, and *T* wave. (Source Wikipedia)

What is the difference between these two different types of “spikes”?

Neurons

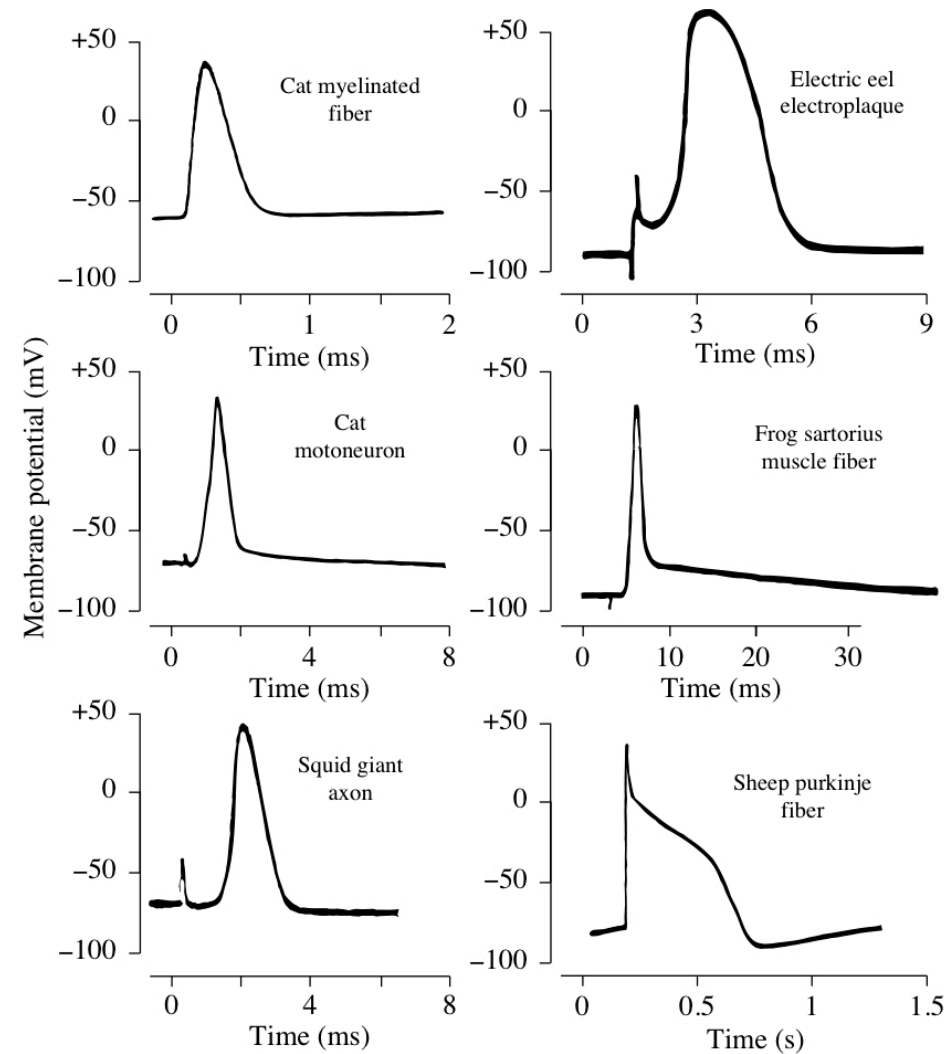
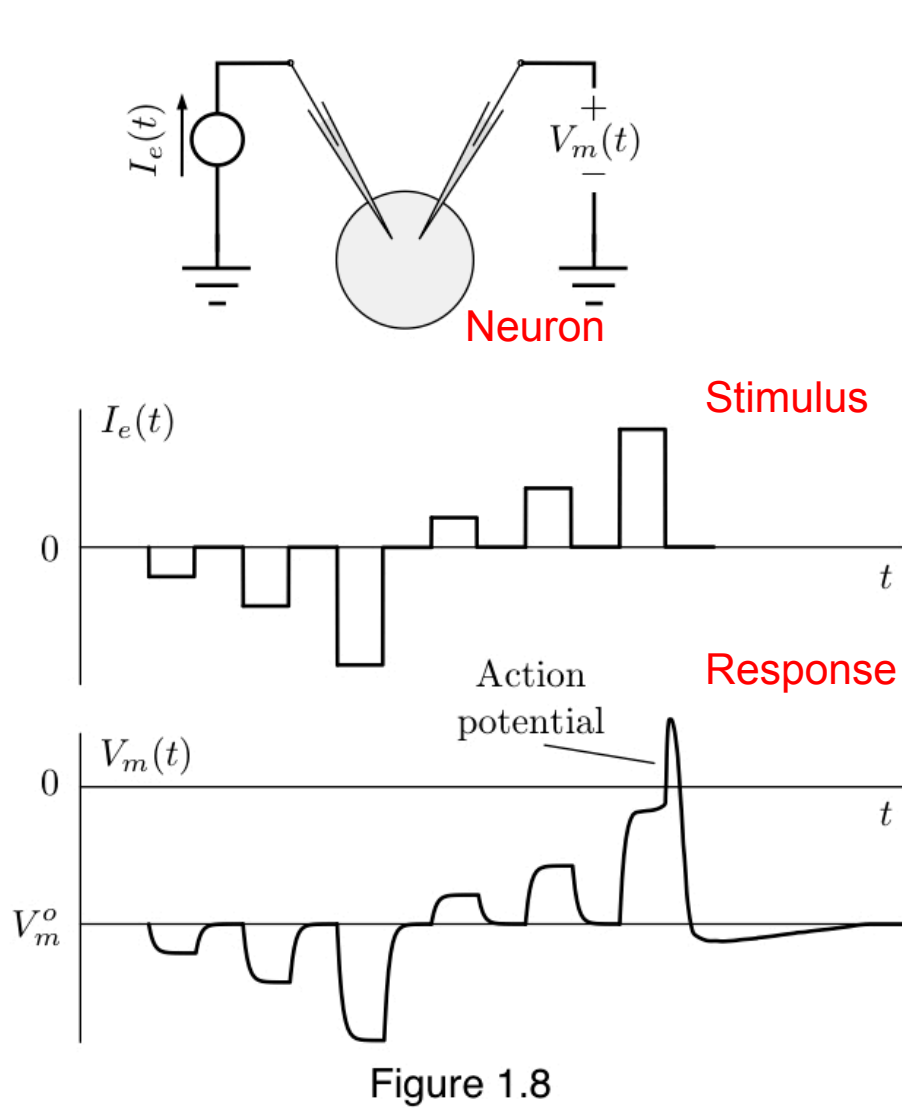
Neurons (“fibers”)
= Information highway



Key Point: Electrical properties of cells are important

Figure 1.22

Action potentials

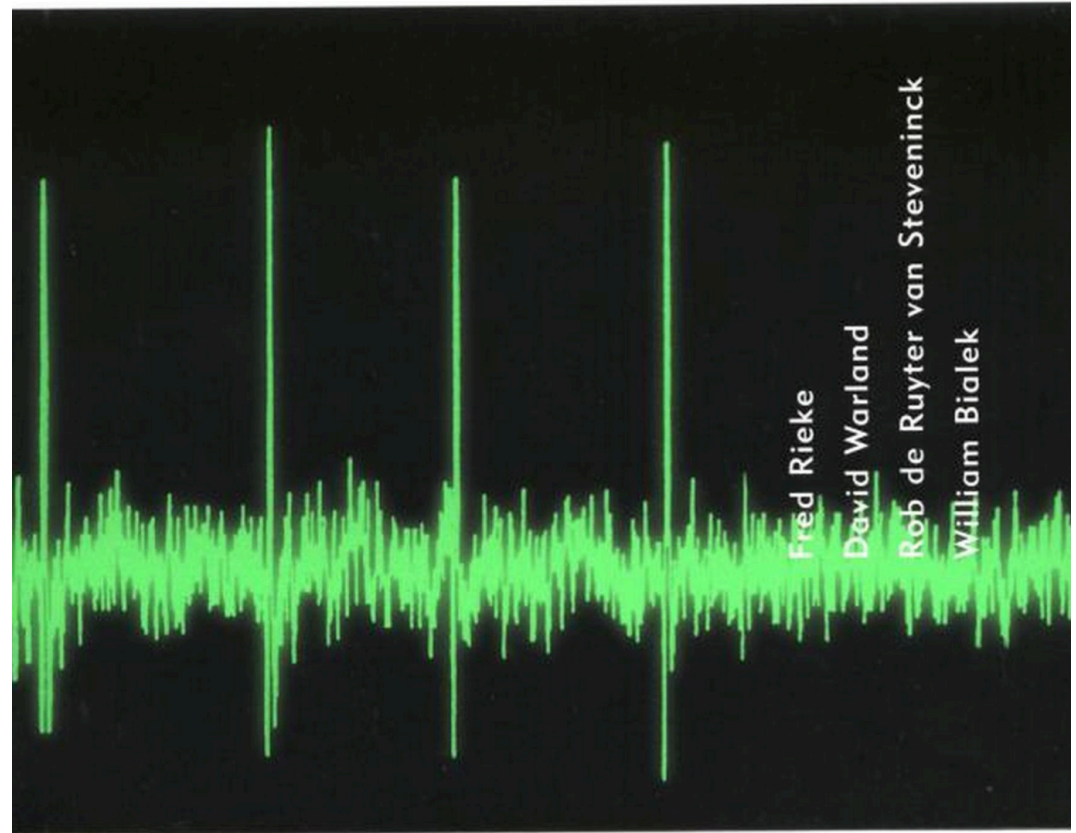


→ Neurons send info via electrical pulses (spikes) occurring **across** the cell membrane

SPIKES

EXPLORING THE NEURAL CODE

Somehow, the information is
“transformed”, encoded into
some other “language”....



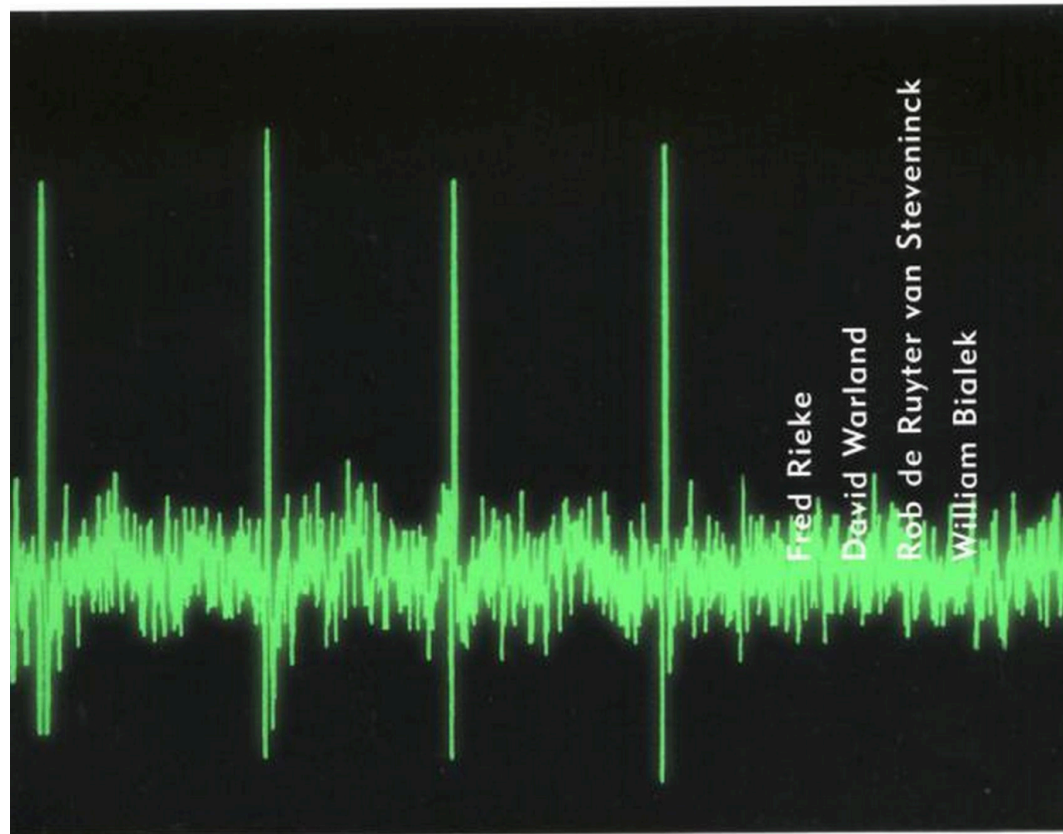
SPIKES

EXPLORING THE NEURAL CODE

“Neural code”

Aside

Is our central nervous system essentially “digitized”?



Cell membrane

- Membrane primarily consists of a “lipid bilayer” (to separate inside from outside)
- All sorts of “stuff” embedded inside, to allow for “communication” across membrane

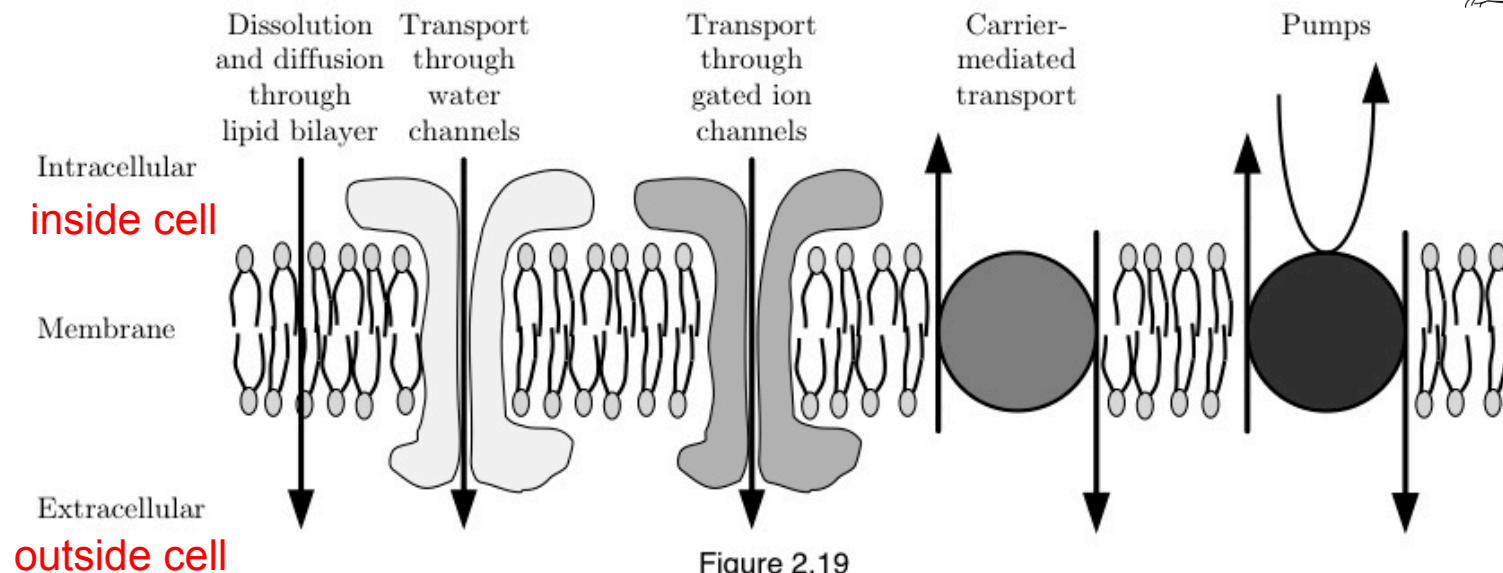


Figure 2.19

zoom in on cell membrane

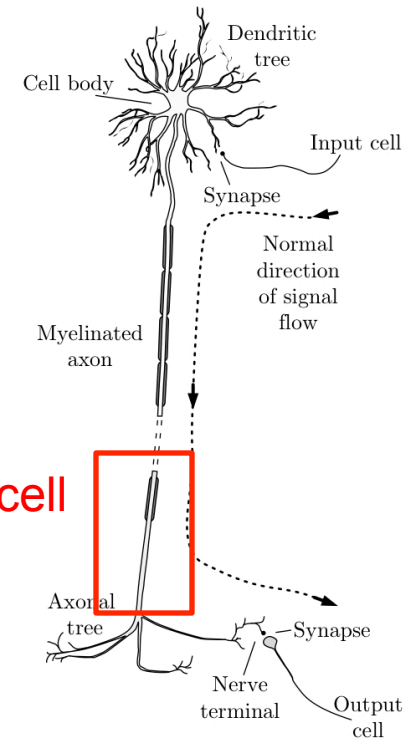
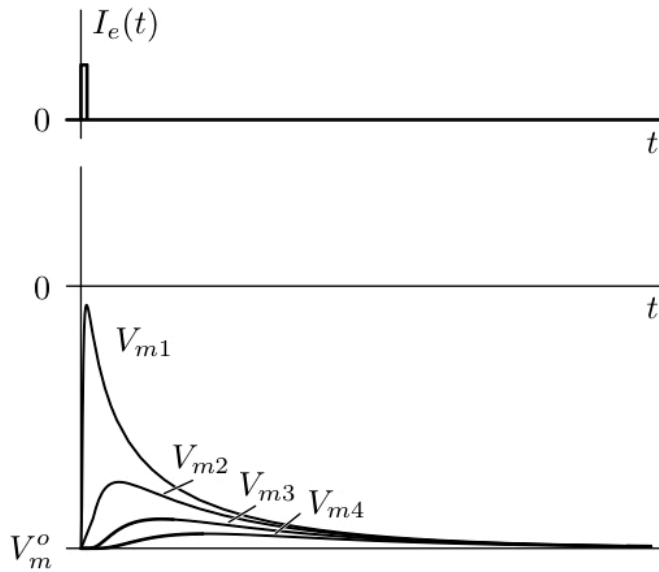
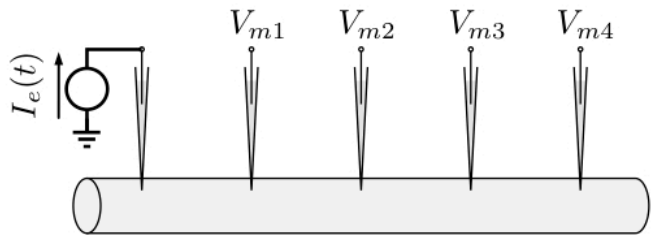


Figure 1.22

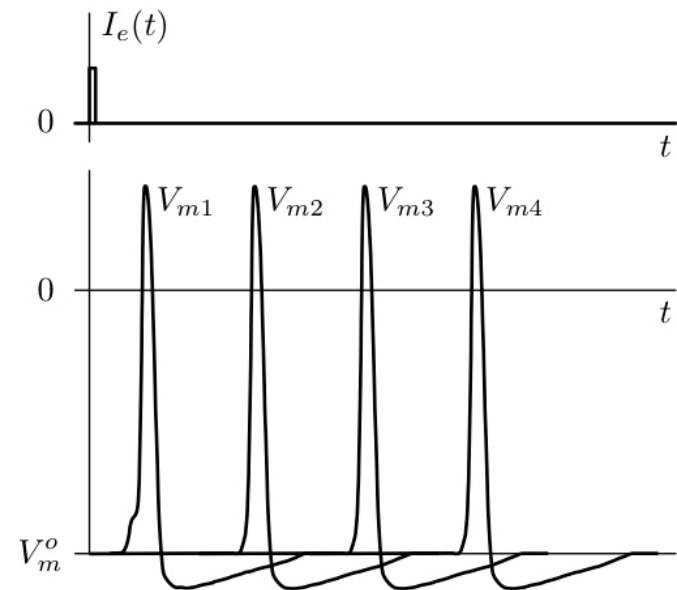
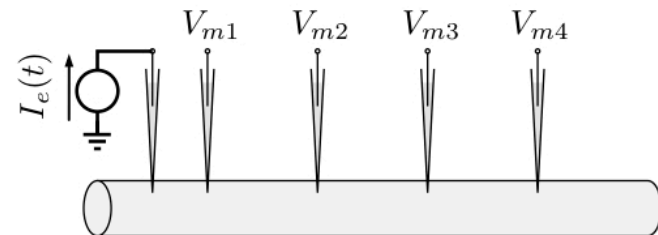
Electrical excitability

Decremental conduction



electrically inexcitable cell

Decrement-free conduction



electrically excitable cell

Cable model

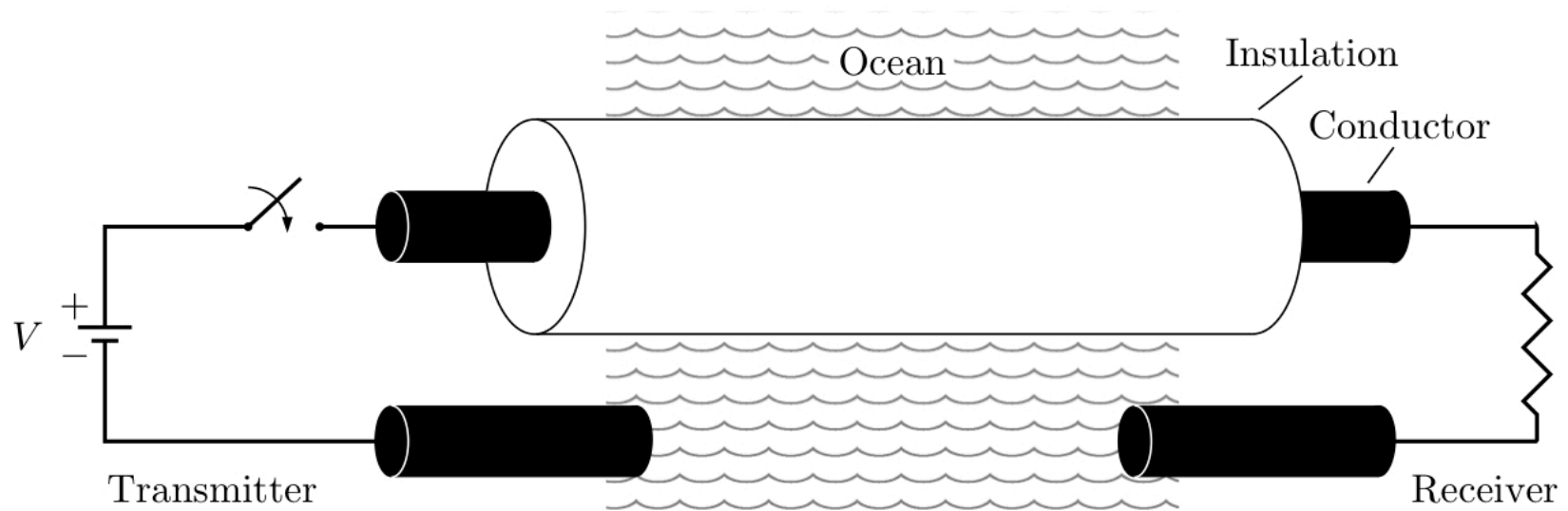
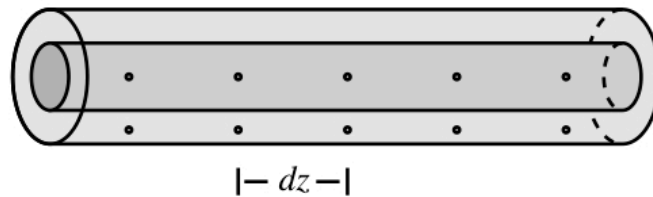


Figure 3.8

- First solved by William Thomson (aka Lord Kelvin) in ~1855
- Motivated by Atlantic submarine cable for intercontinental telegraphy

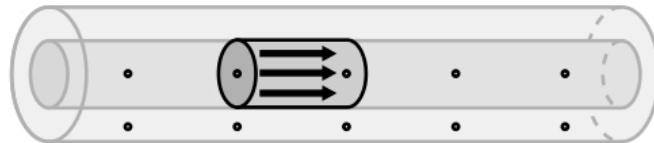
Biophysical model of a neuron

Core Conductor Model



→ Model via an electric circuit

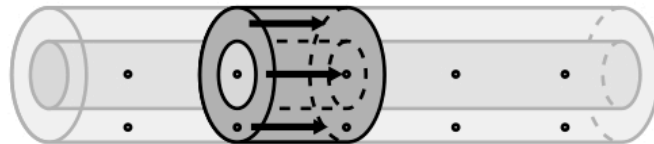
Current through inner conductor



A circuit diagram of a resistor, represented by a zigzag line. It is connected to a voltage source (represented by a battery symbol) and a ground symbol. The equation $R_i = r_i dz$ is written below the circuit.

$$R_i = r_i dz$$

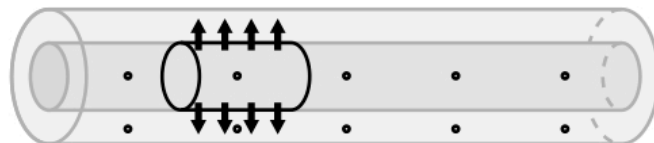
Current through outer conductor



A circuit diagram of a resistor, represented by a zigzag line. It is connected to a voltage source (represented by a battery symbol) and a ground symbol. The equation $R_o = r_o dz$ is written below the circuit.

$$R_o = r_o dz$$

Current through membrane



A circuit diagram of a capacitor, represented by two parallel lines. It is connected to a voltage source (represented by a battery symbol) and a ground symbol. The equation $I_m = k_m dz$ is written below the circuit.

$$I_m = k_m dz$$

Biophysical model of a neuron

Core Conductor Model

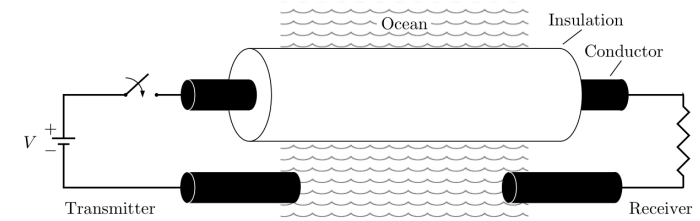
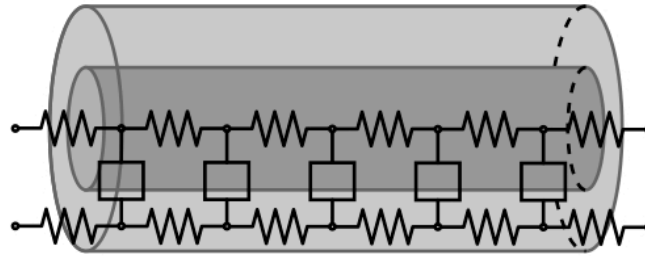


Figure 3.8

→ Cells behave like a leaky submarine cable!

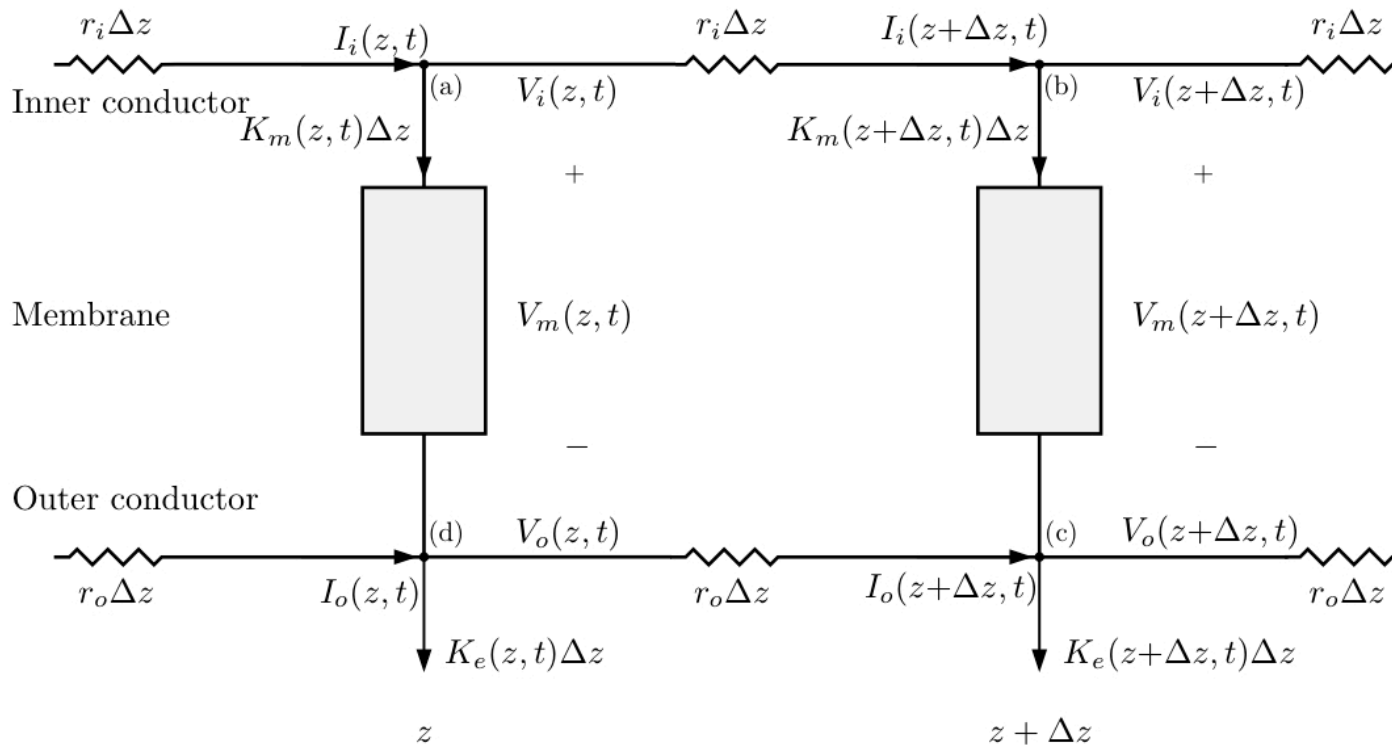
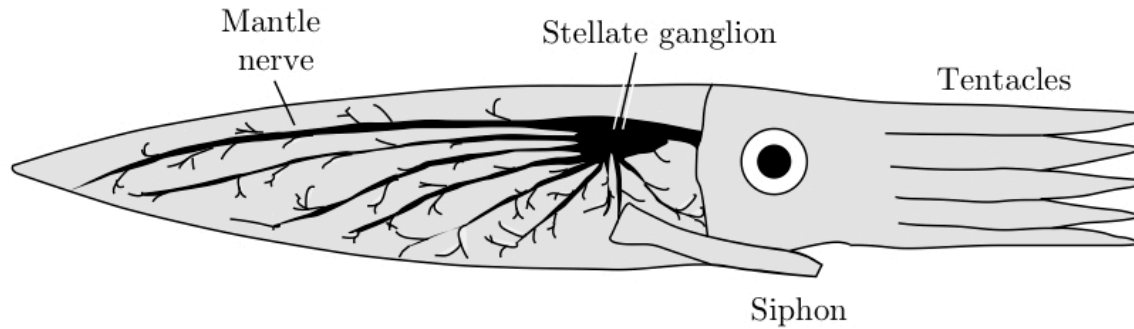


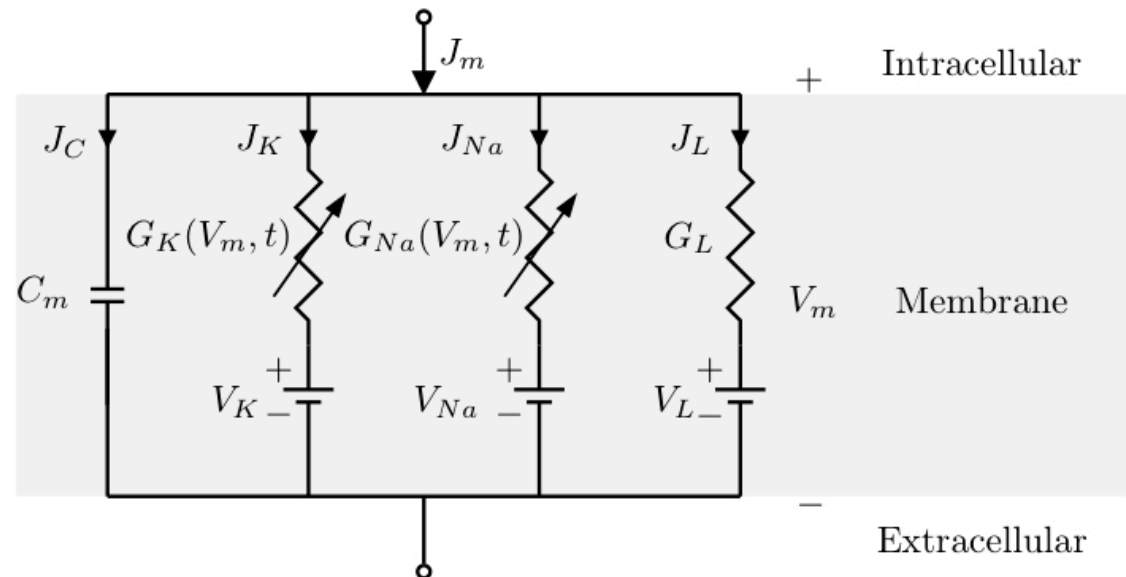
Figure 2.7

Biophysical model of a neuron



Hodgkin Huxley model

Variable Na⁺ and K⁺ conductances



Hodgkin-Huxley equations

$$\frac{1}{2\pi a(r_o + r_i)} \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial z^2} = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + G_K(V_m, t) (V_m - V_K) \\ + G_{Na}(V_m, t) (V_m - V_{Na}) + G_L(V_m - V_L)$$

$$G_K(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_K n^4(V_m, t)$$

$$G_{Na}(V_m, t) = \bar{G}_{Na} m^3(V_m, t) h(V_m, t)$$

$$n(V_m, t) + \tau_n(V_m) \frac{dn(V_m, t)}{dt} = n_\infty(V_m)$$

$$m(V_m, t) + \tau_m(V_m) \frac{dm(V_m, t)}{dt} = m_\infty(V_m)$$

$$h(V_m, t) + \tau_h(V_m) \frac{dh(V_m, t)}{dt} = h_\infty(V_m)$$

$$\tau_x \frac{dx}{dt} + x = x_\infty \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha_x(1 - x) - \beta_x x$$

$$x_\infty = \alpha_x / (\alpha_x + \beta_x) \text{ and } \tau_x = 1 / (\alpha_x + \beta_x)$$

$$\alpha_m = \frac{-0.1(V_m + 35)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 35)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_m = 4e^{-(V_m + 60)/18},$$

$$\alpha_h = 0.07e^{-0.05(V_m + 60)},$$

$$\beta_h = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-0.1(V_m + 30)}},$$

$$\alpha_n = \frac{-0.01(V_m + 50)}{e^{-0.1(V_m + 50)} - 1},$$

$$\beta_n = 0.125e^{-0.0125(V_m + 60)},$$

Finally there was the difficulty of computing the action potentials from the equations which we had developed. We had settled all the equations and constants by March 1951 and hoped to get these solved on the Cambridge University computer. However, before anything could be done we learnt that the computer would be off the air for 6 months or so while it underwent a major modification. Andrew Huxley got us out of that difficulty by solving the differential equations numerically using a hand-operated Brunsviga. The propagated action potential took about three weeks to complete and must have been an enormous labour for Andrew. But it was exciting to see it come out with the right shape and velocity and we began to feel that we had not wasted the many months that we had spent in analysing records.

—Hodgkin, 1977

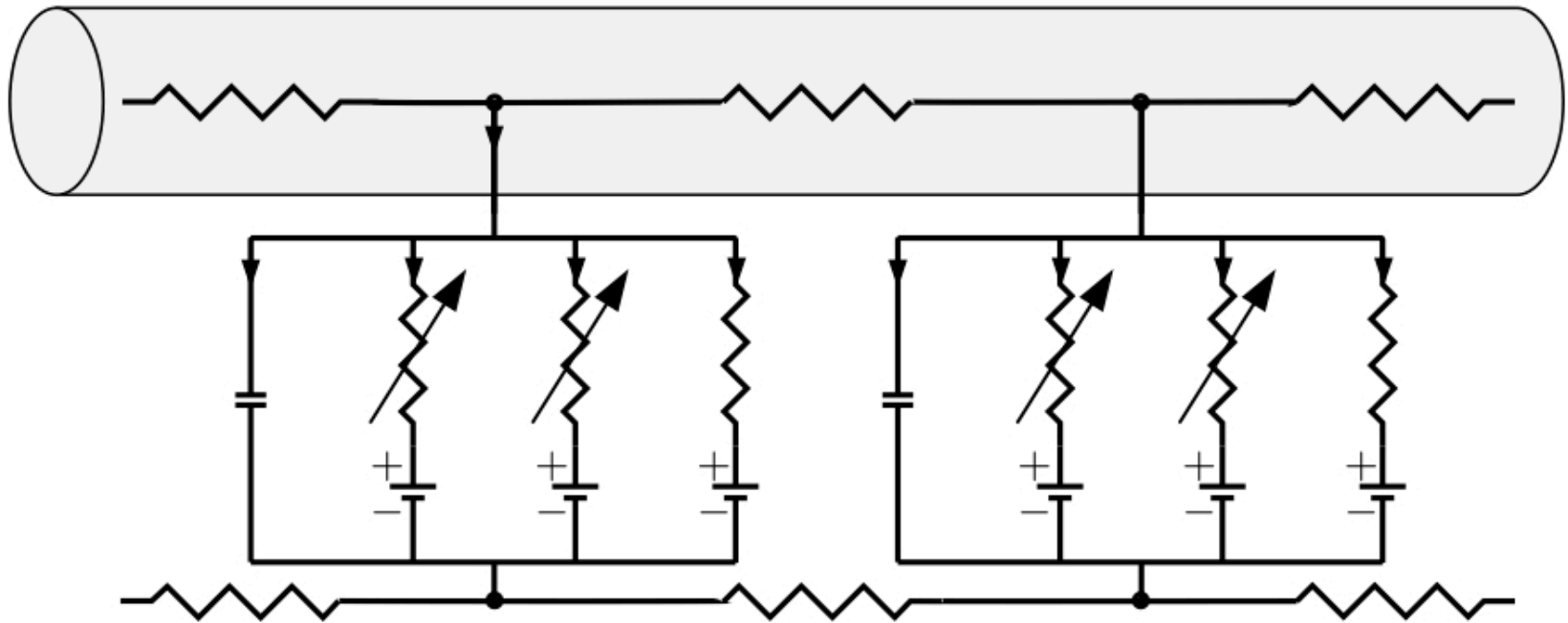
Putting the pieces together....

Figure 4.7

Summary (re neurons)

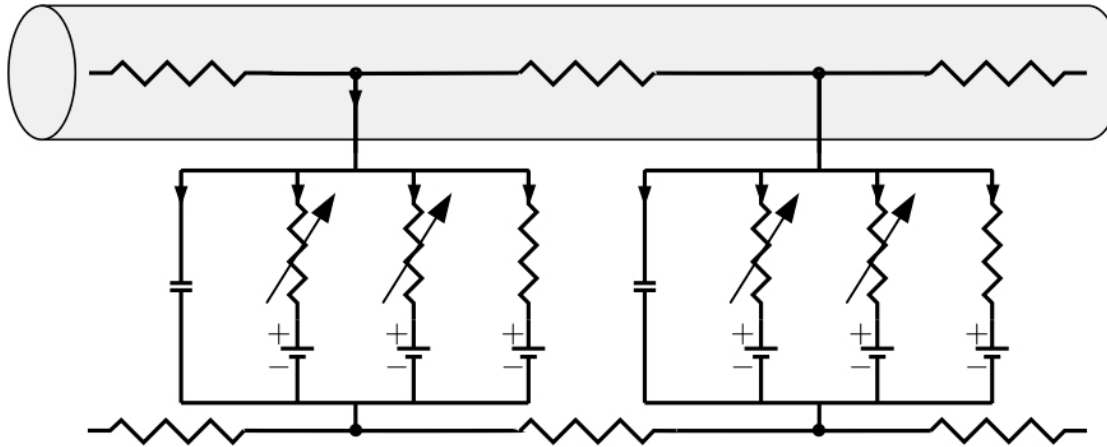


Figure 4.7

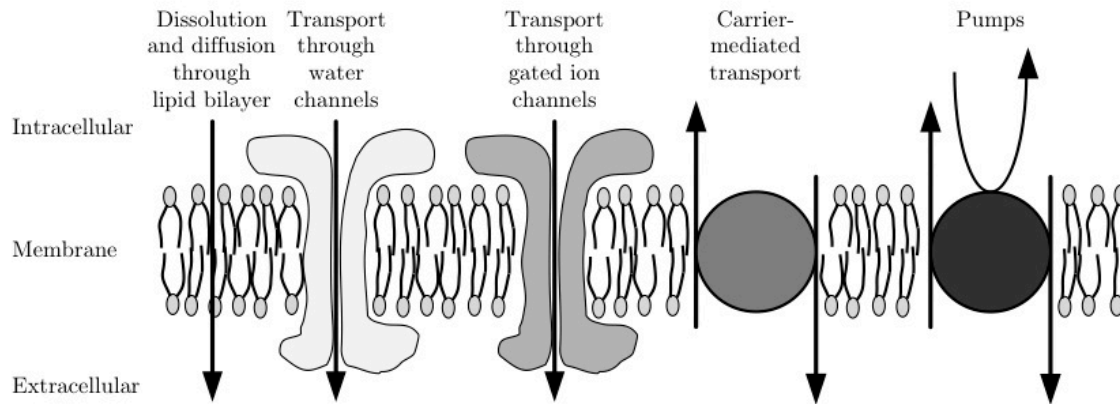


Figure 2.19

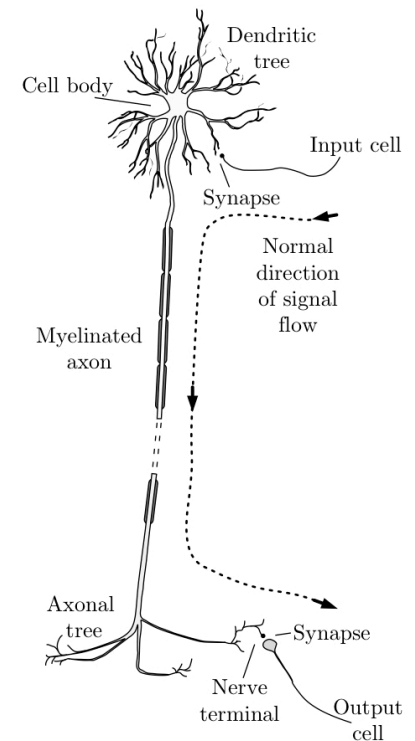
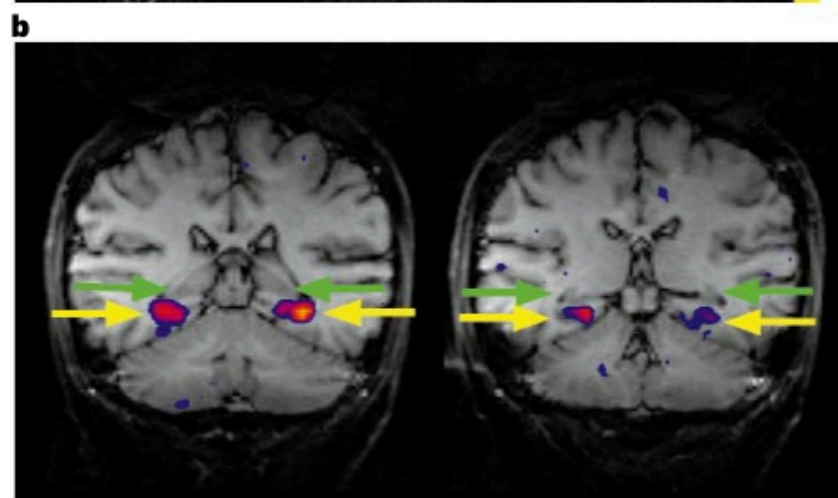
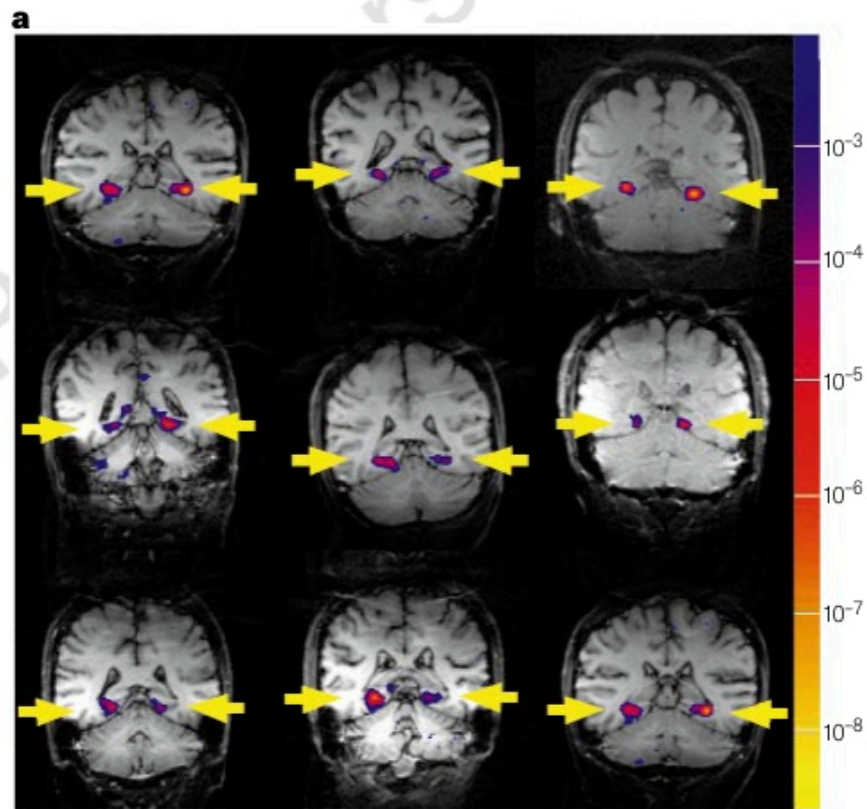


Figure 1.22



Human brain contains $\sim 10^{11}$ (100 billion) neurons!
(with 100 trillion+ connections inbetween)



Epstein & Kanwisher (1998)

Question:

How do our sensory systems encode “information” about the world around us?

Electrical Responses in Sensory Systems

Photoreceptors

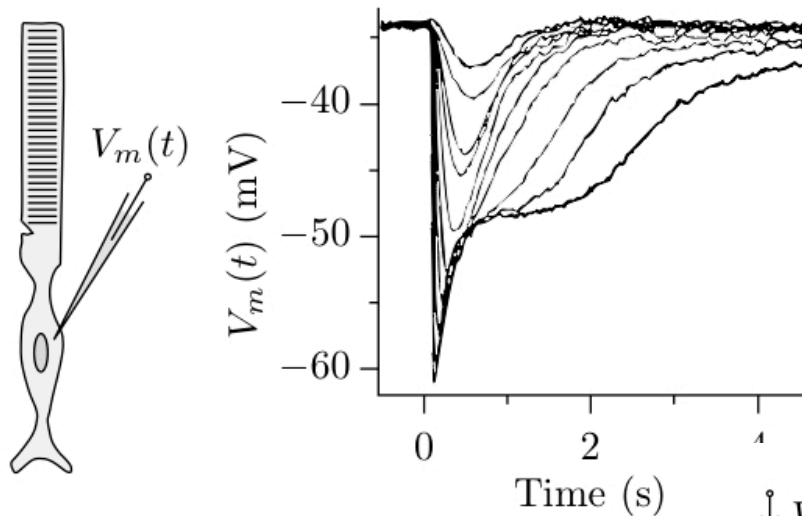
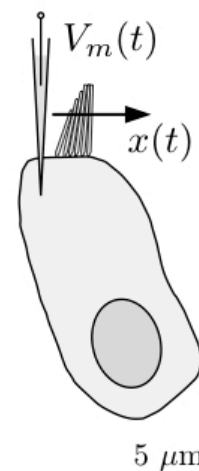


Figure 1.3

→ Not always “electrically excitable” per se, but role as “transducers” critically tied to electrical responses



Auditory
Hair Cells

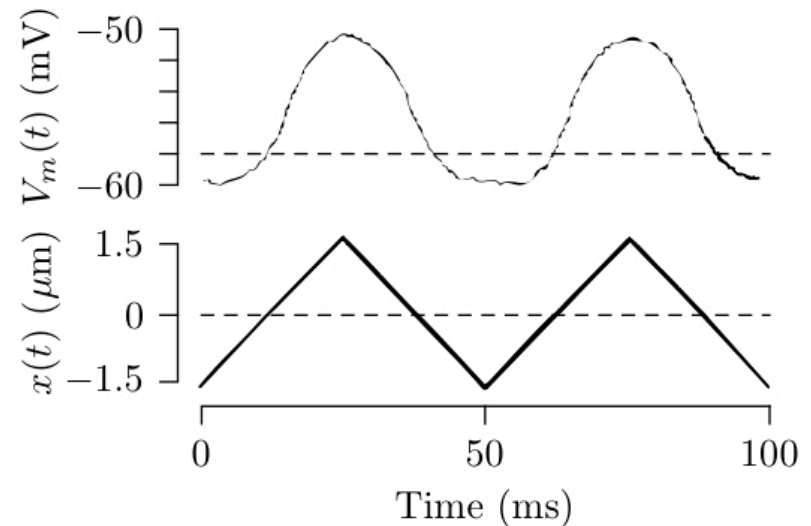


Figure 1.5

Consider how you “process”
this picture....



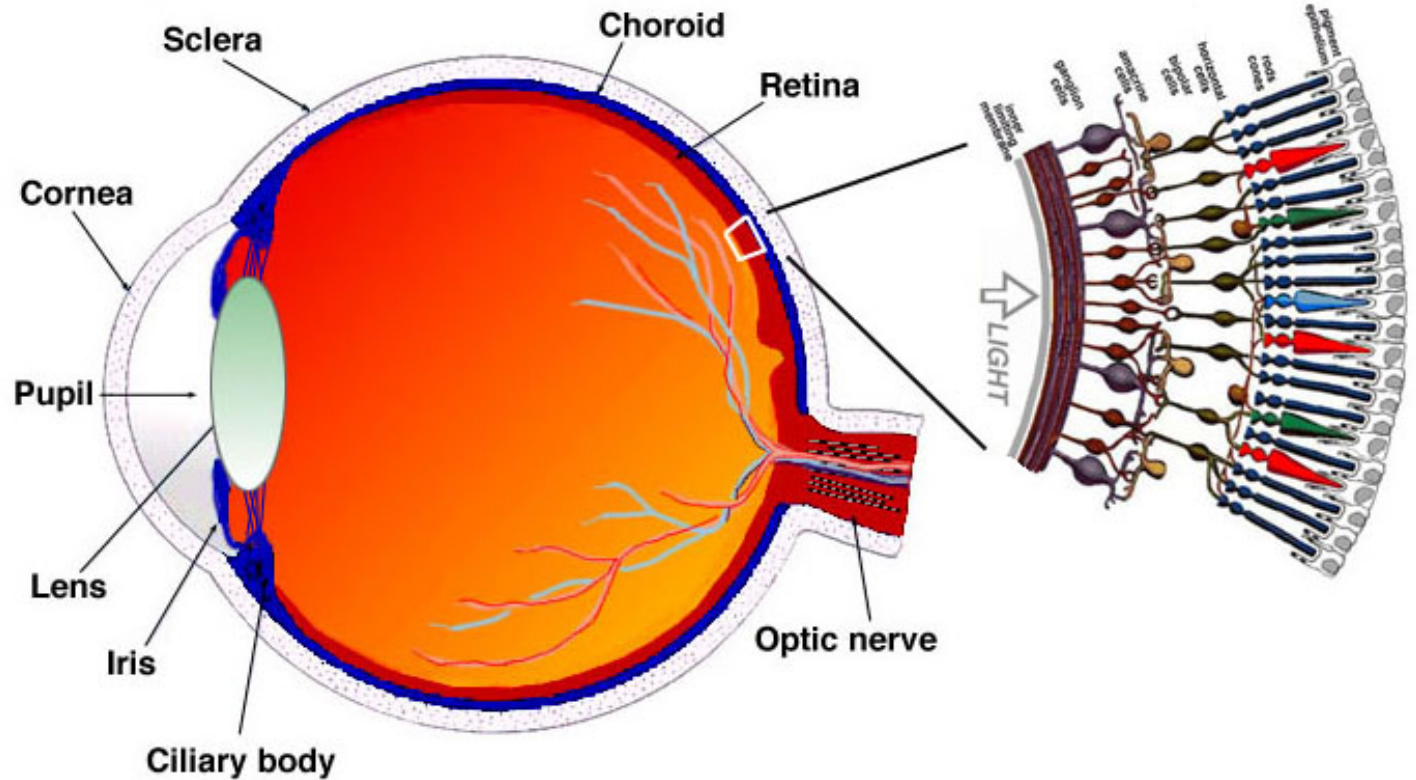
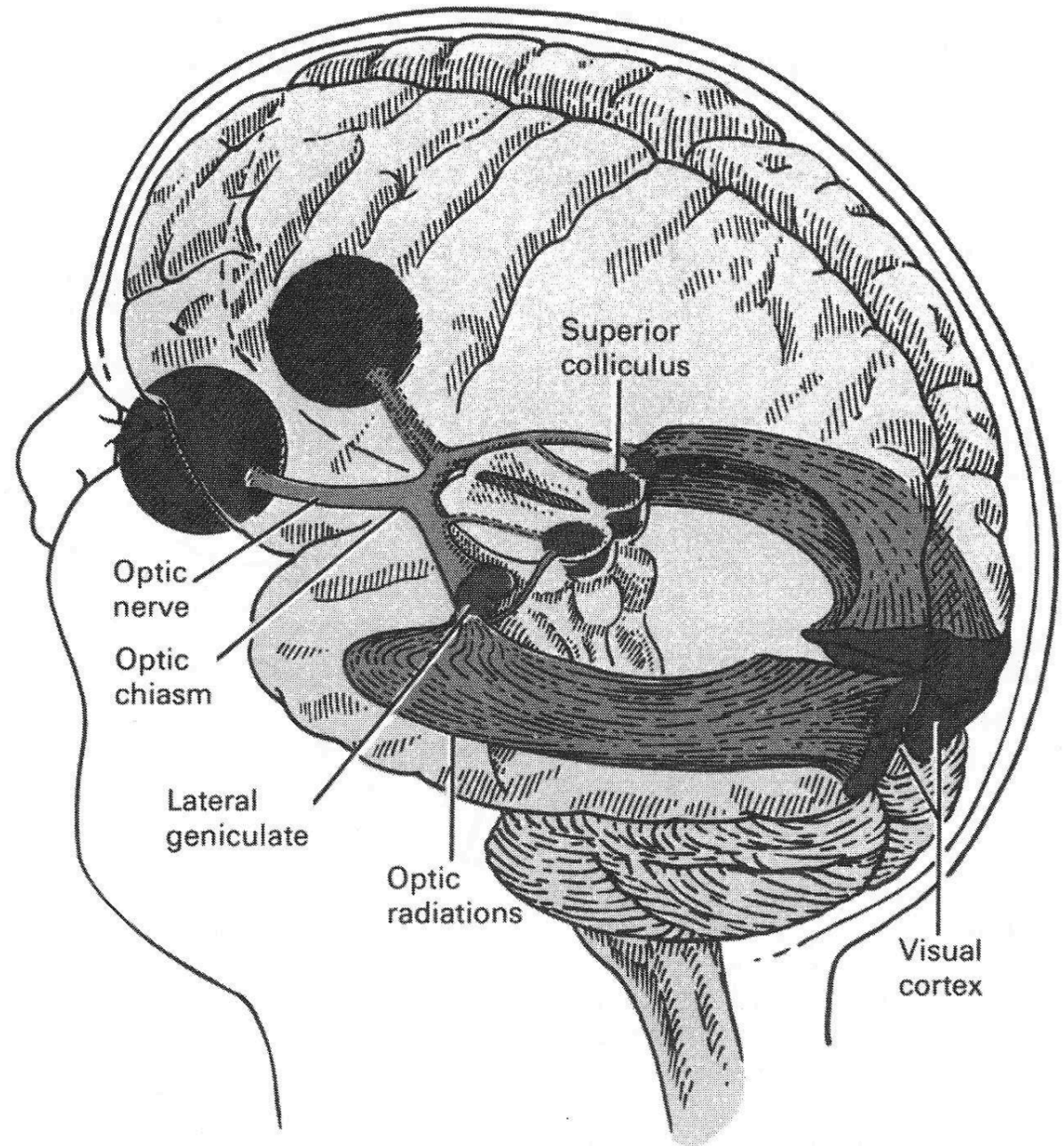
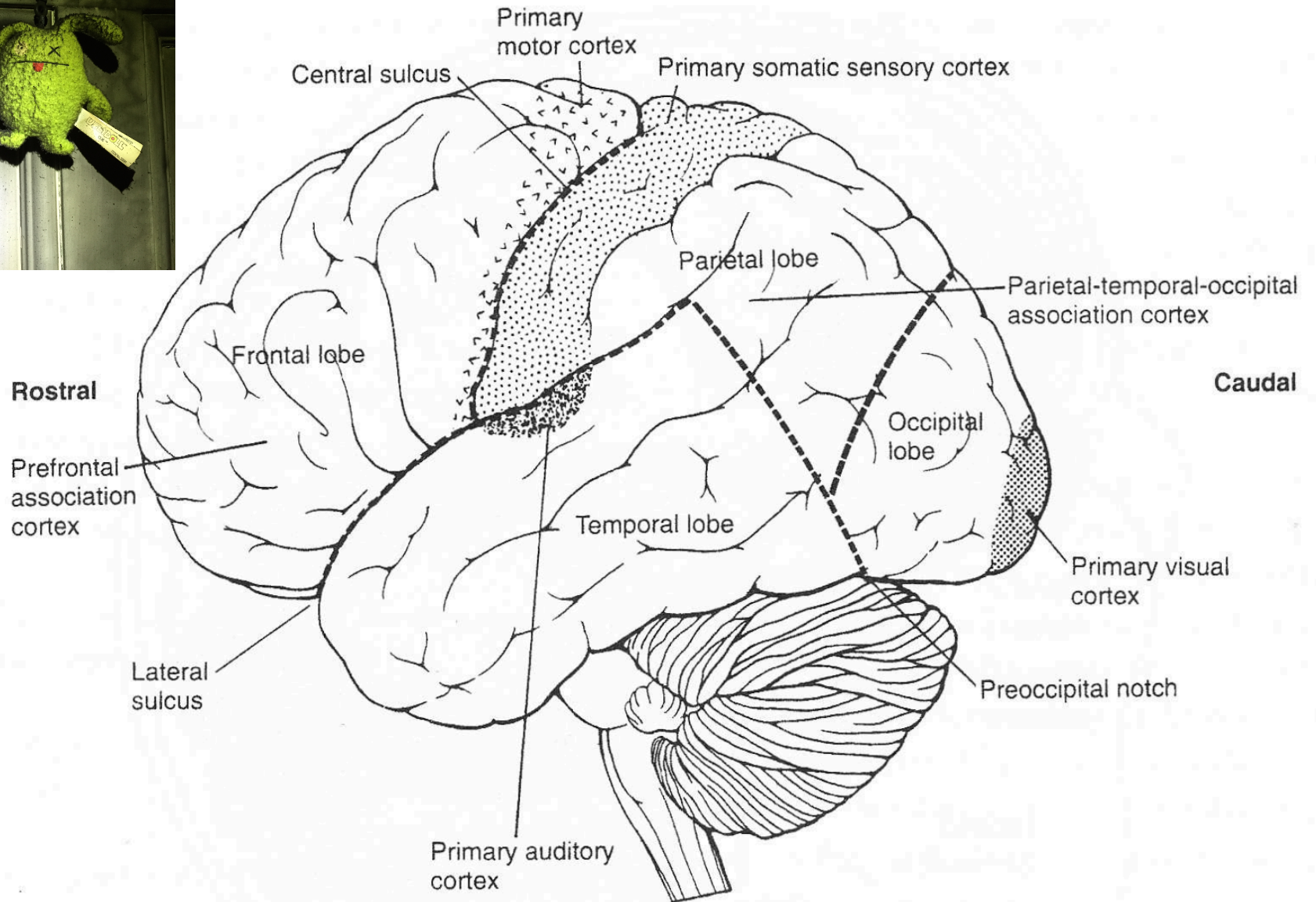


Fig. 1.1. A drawing of a section through the human eye with a schematic enlargement of the retina.

Question: How is information being “transduced” here?





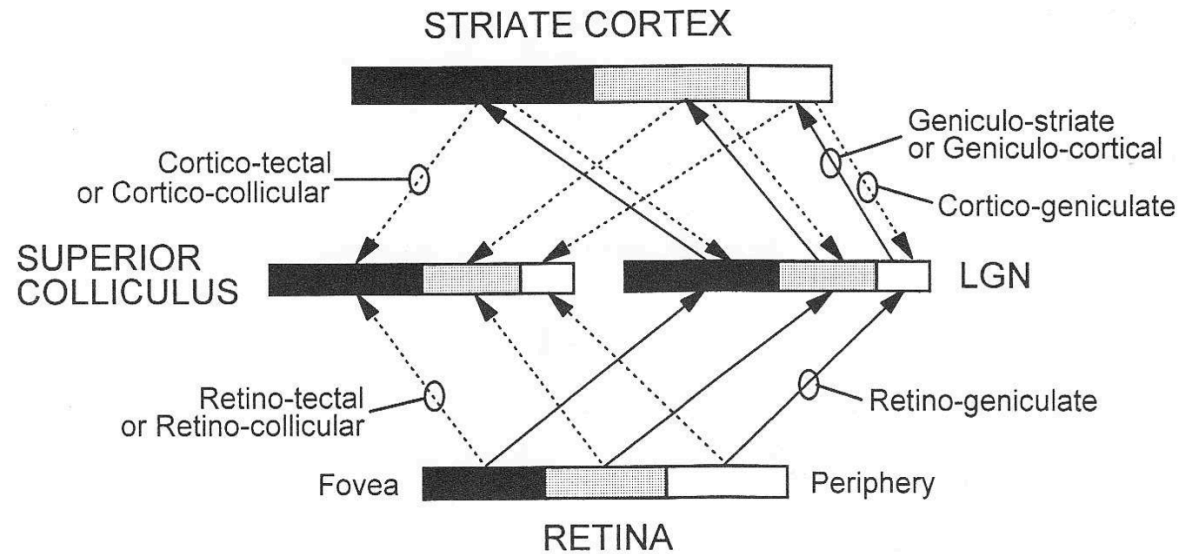
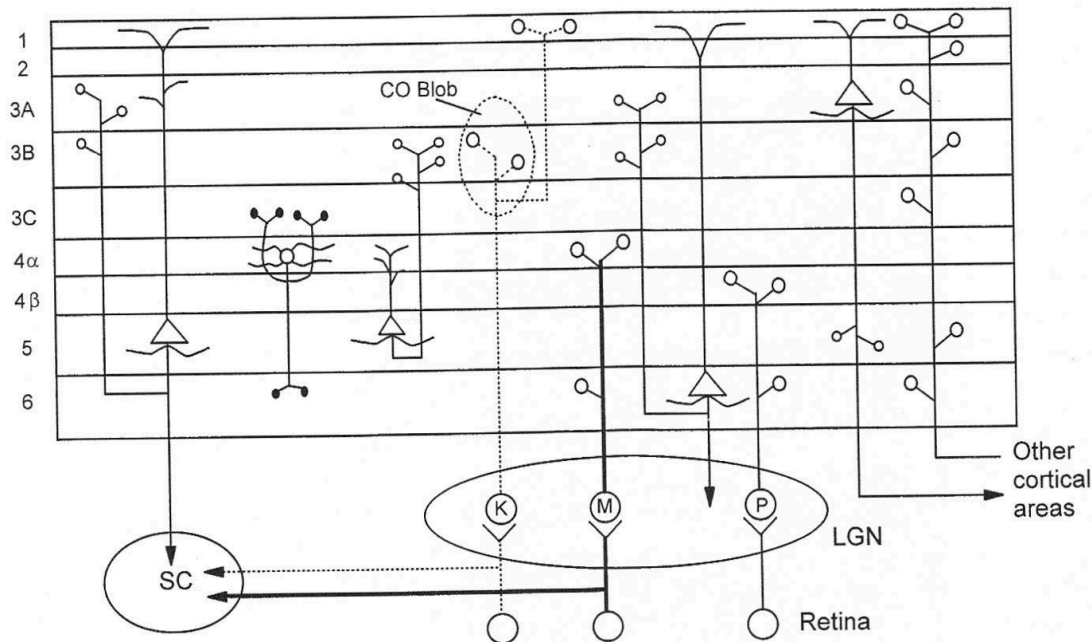


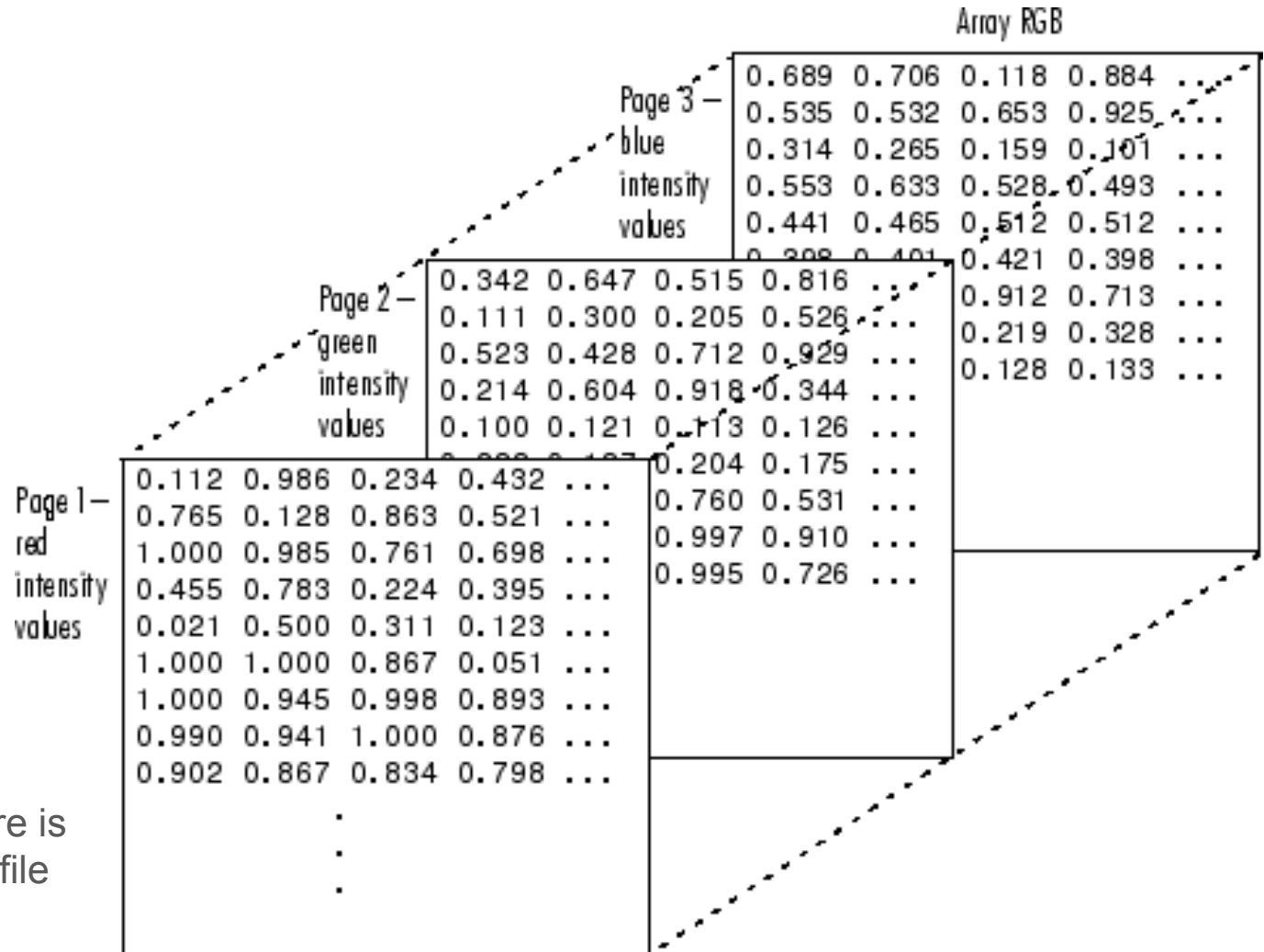
Figure 4.9. Schematic representation of the retino-geniculo-striate and retino-tectal projections and the return projections from the visual cortex.



Question: What are the basic building blocks that make up these “circuits”?



Aside: Images as numbers (i.e., a “bitmap”)



Note

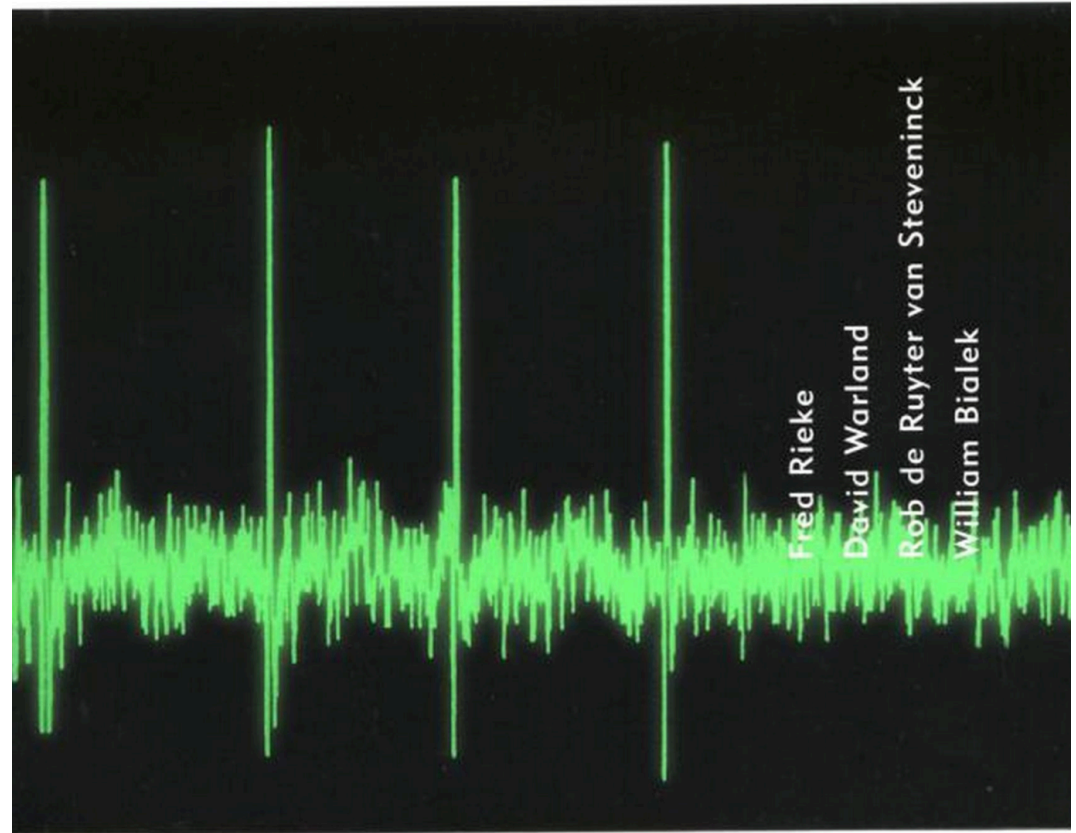
Even this basic picture is too simple for a jpeg file

Question: Does your eye/nervous system process and store this image like a computer does?

S P I K E S

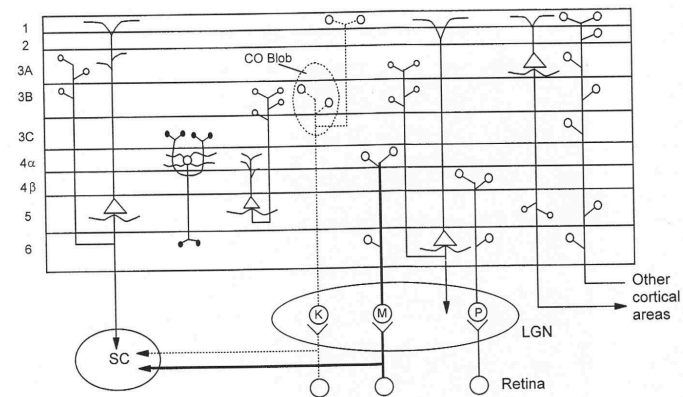
EXPLORING THE NEURAL CODE

Somehow, the information is
“transformed”, encoded into
some other “language”....





Human brain contains $\sim 10^{11}$ (100 billion) neurons
(with 100 trillion+ connections inbetween)



→ This is a pretty hard problem!

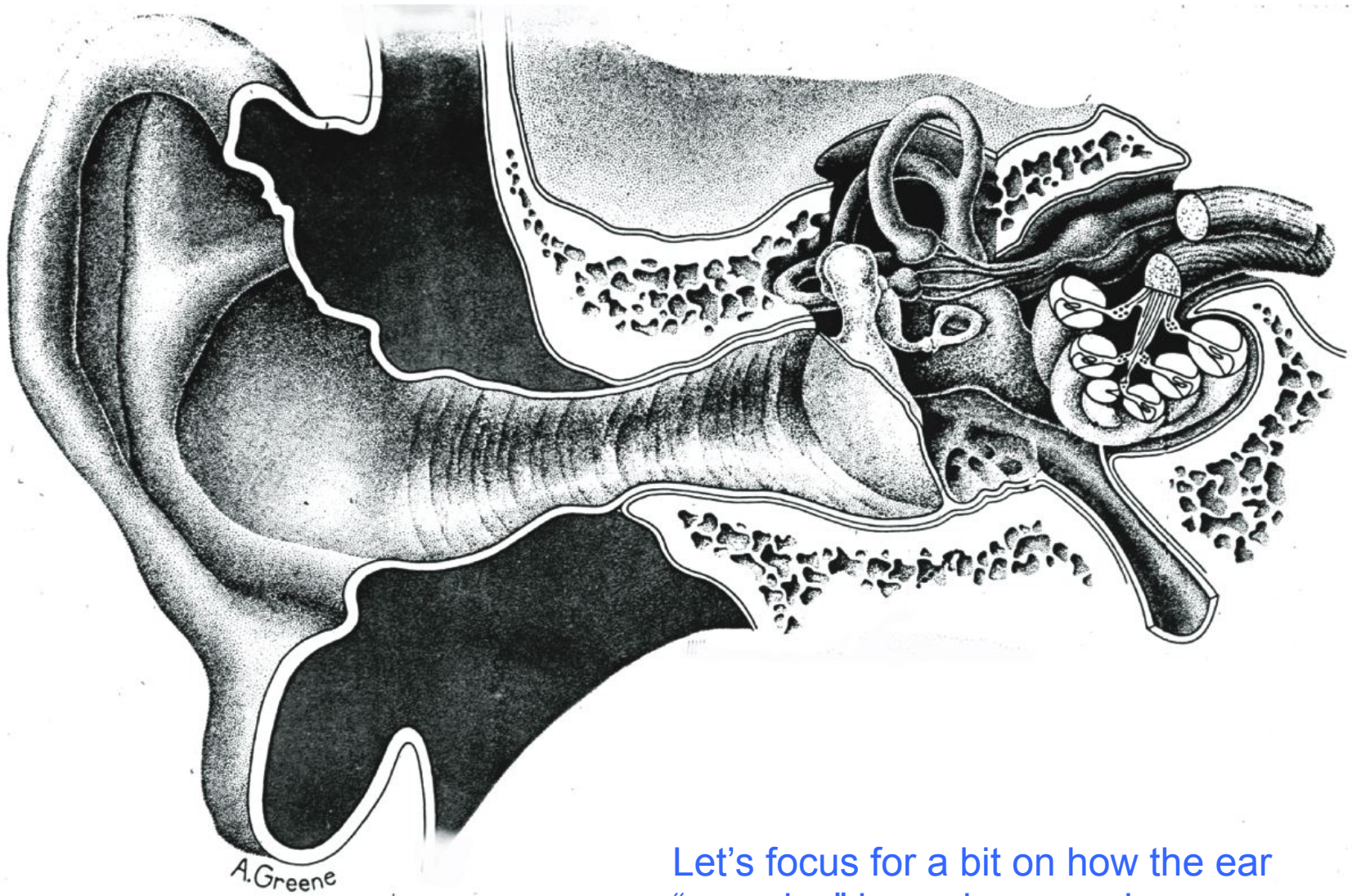


BIPHYSICS @ YORK



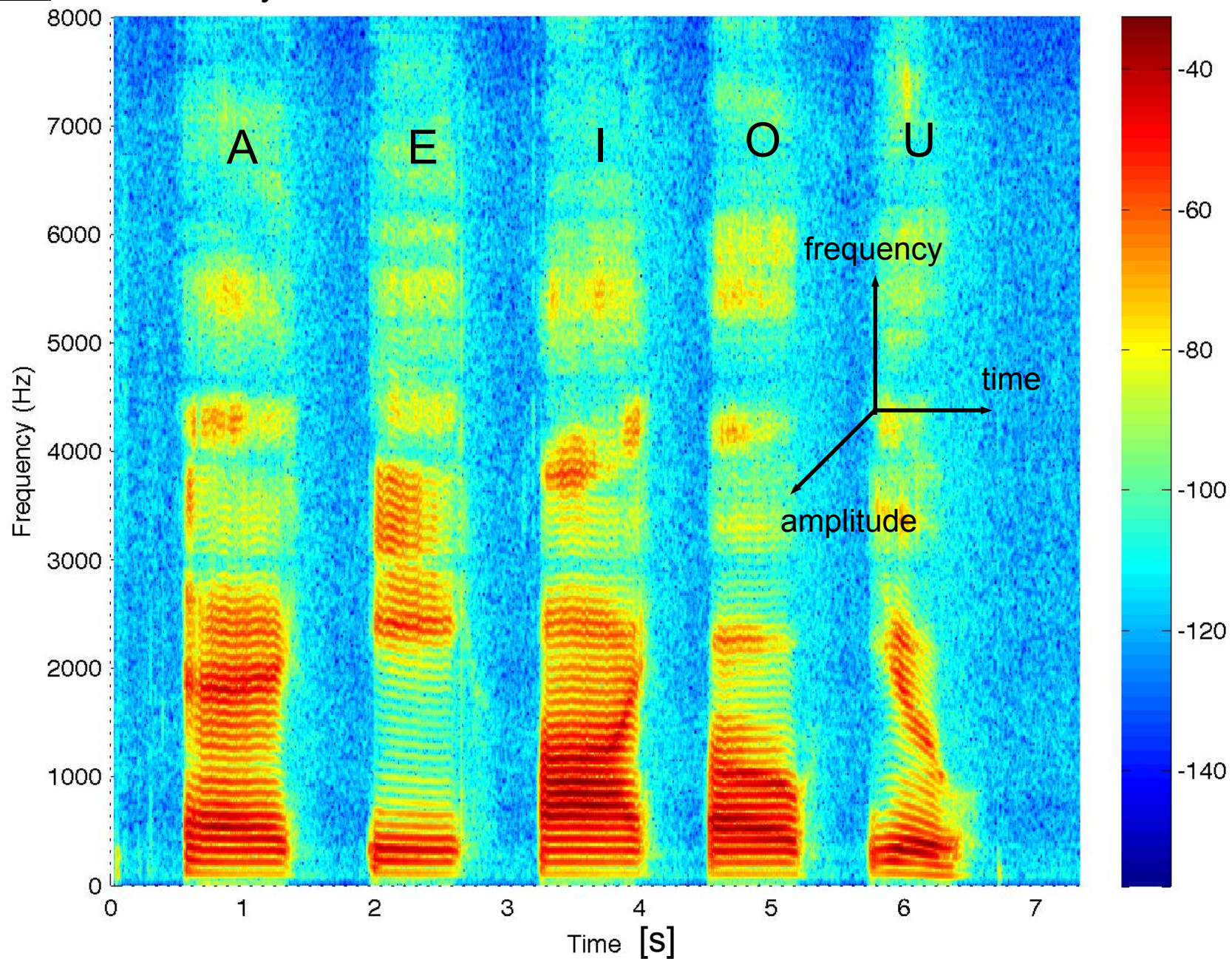
redefine THE POSSIBLE.

- Slides available for download: <http://www.yorku.ca/cberge/>
- Questions? cberge@yorku.ca
- Interested in grad school?



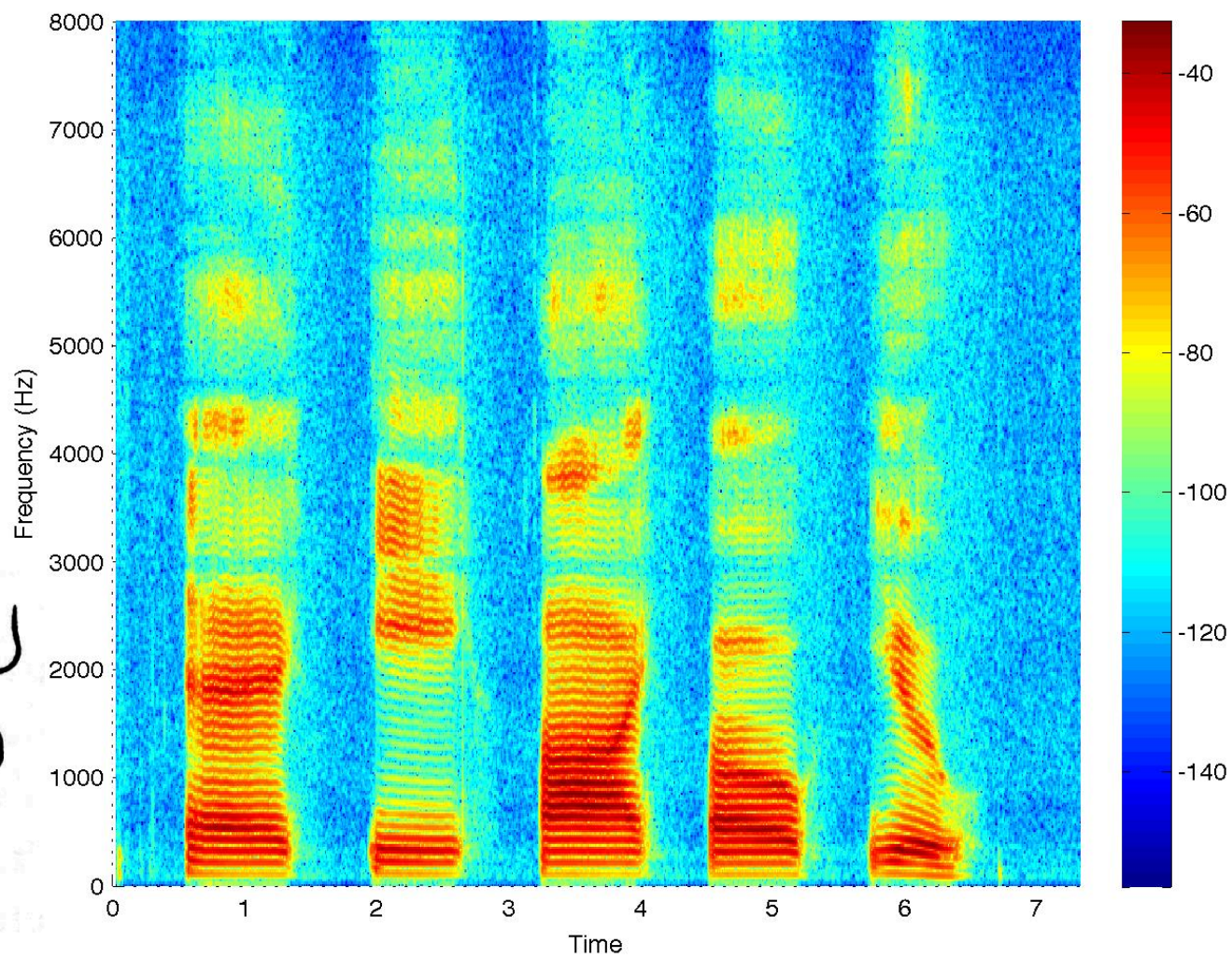
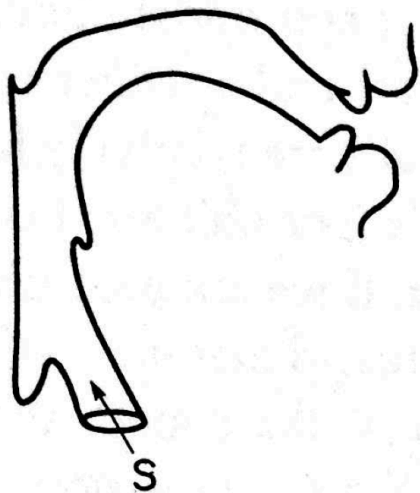
Let's focus for a bit on how the ear
“encodes” incoming sounds

Aside: Fourier analysis

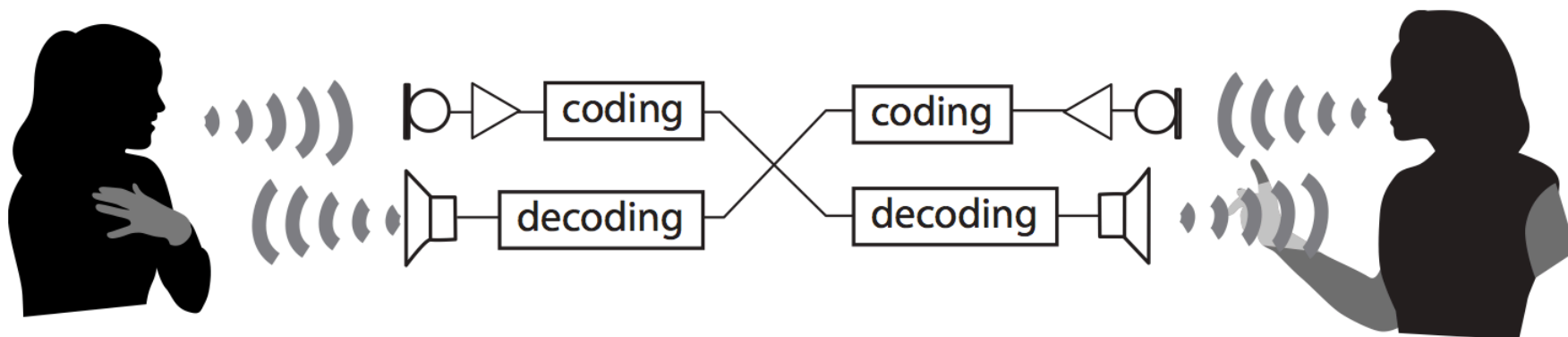
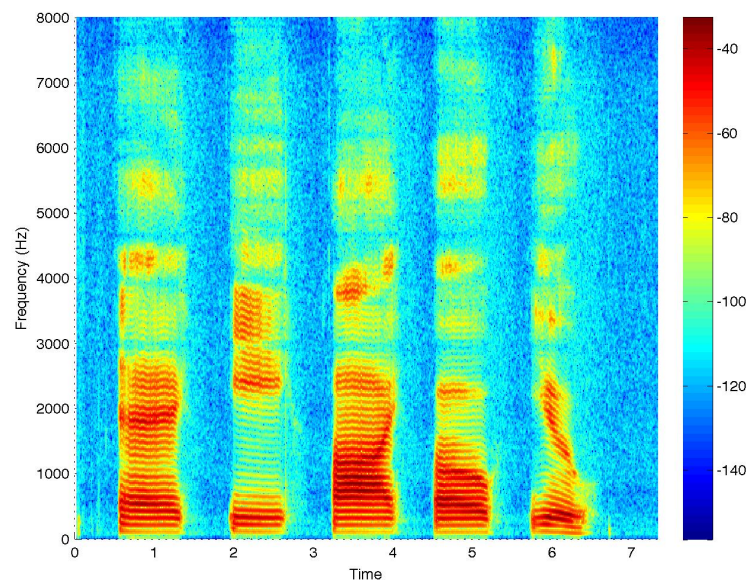
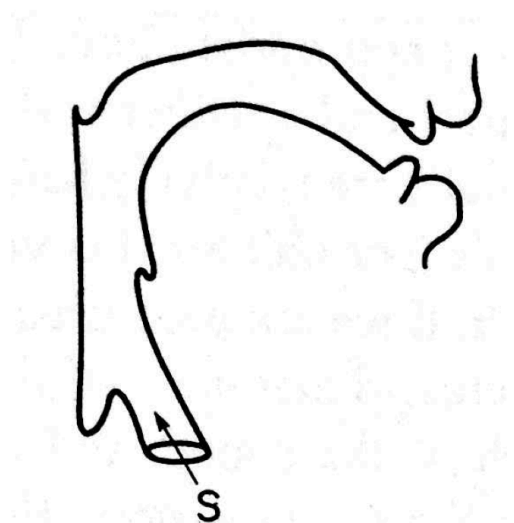


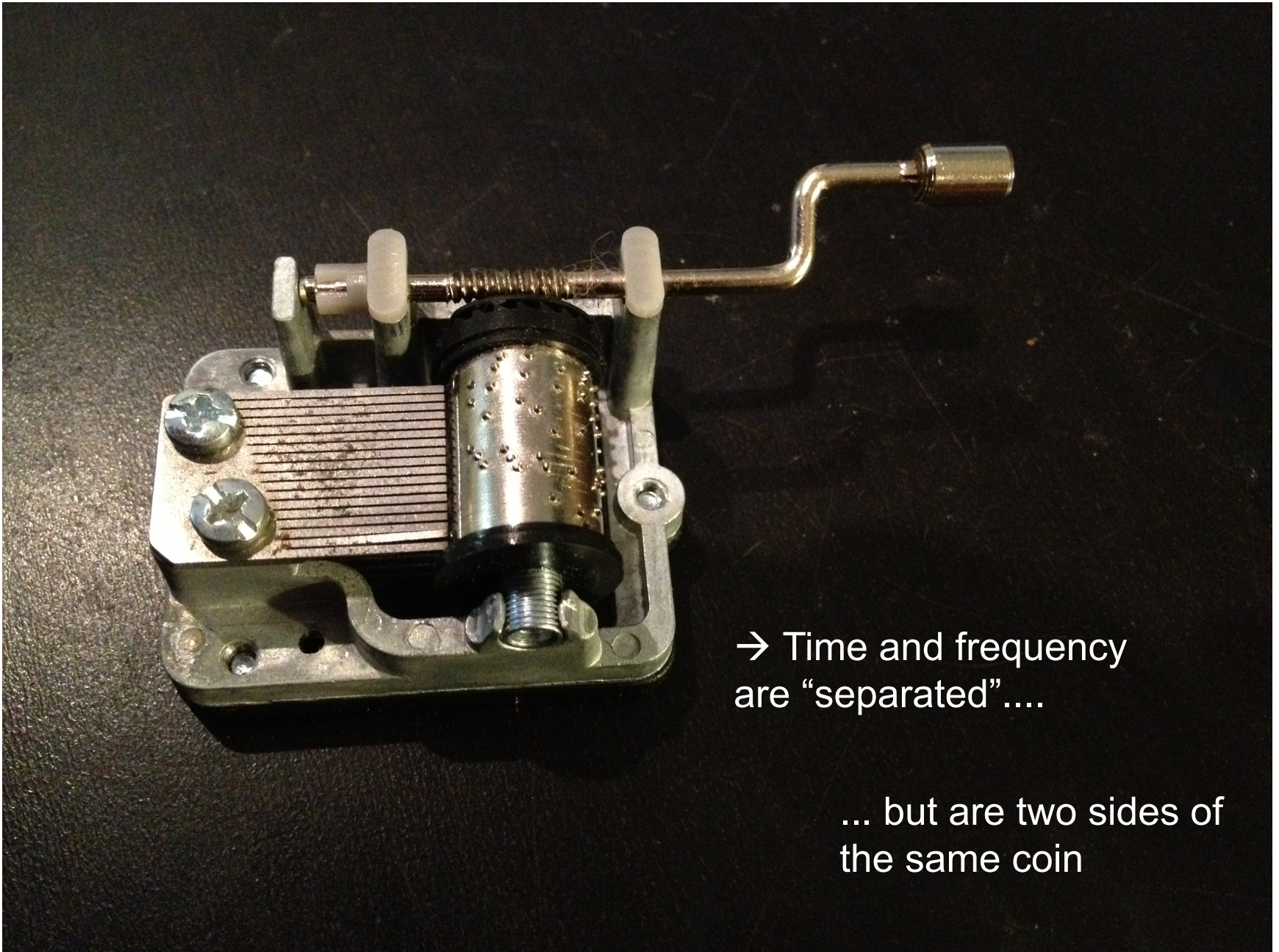
Aside: Acoustic phonetics

Human vocal tract cross-section



Aside: “Speech chain”

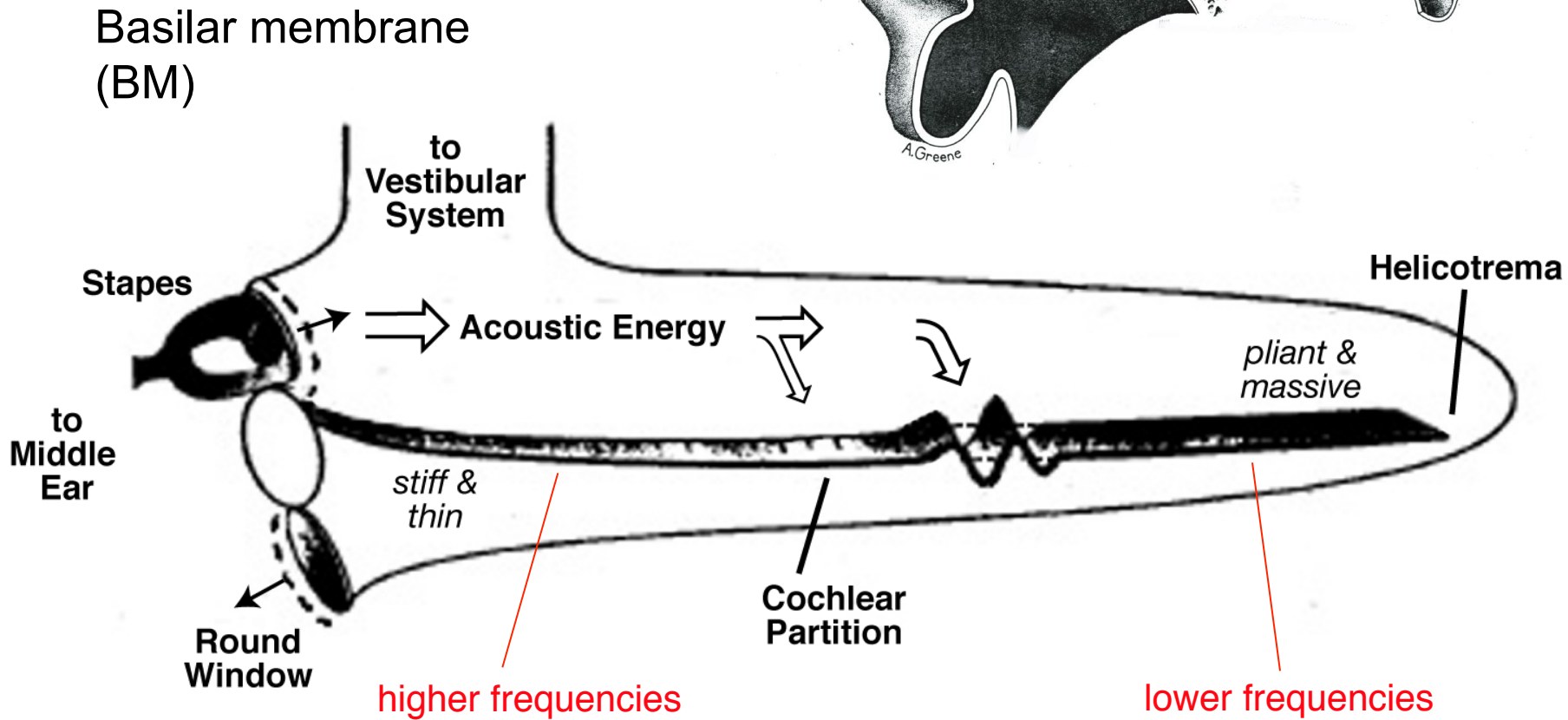
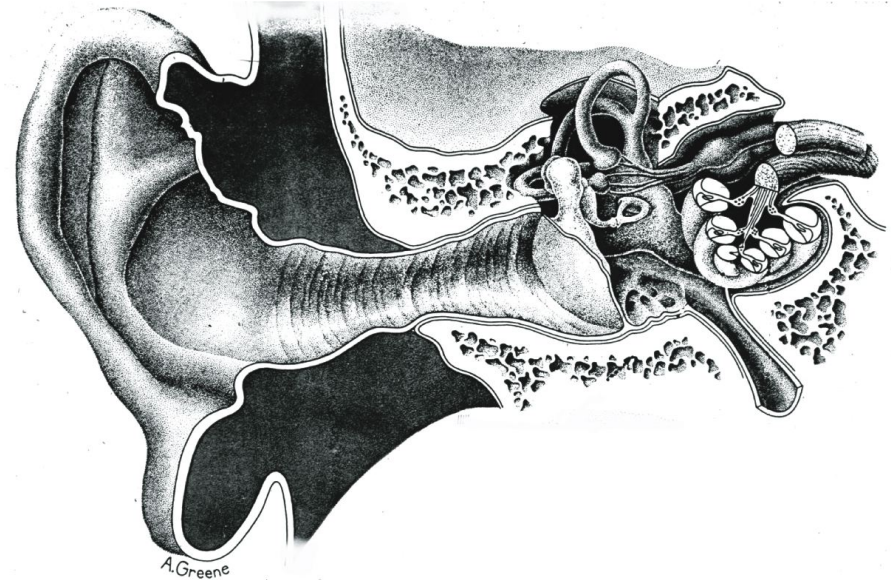




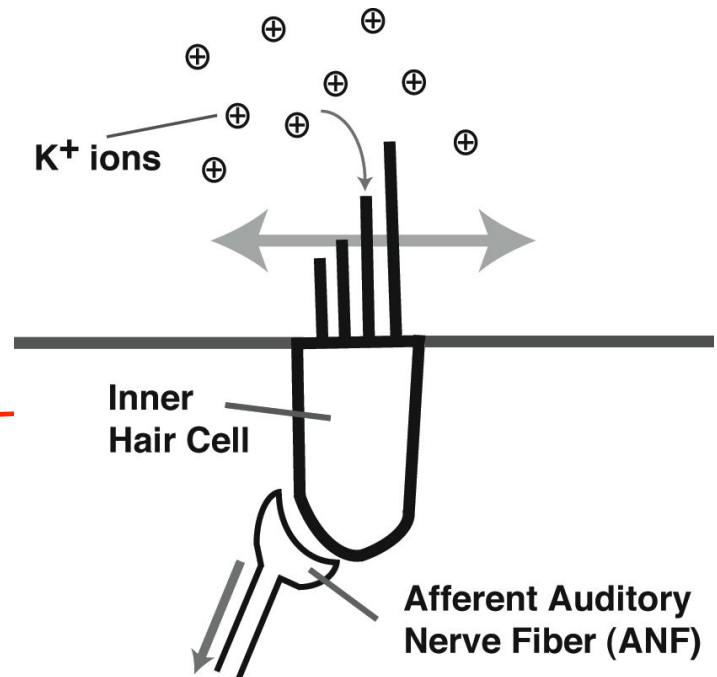
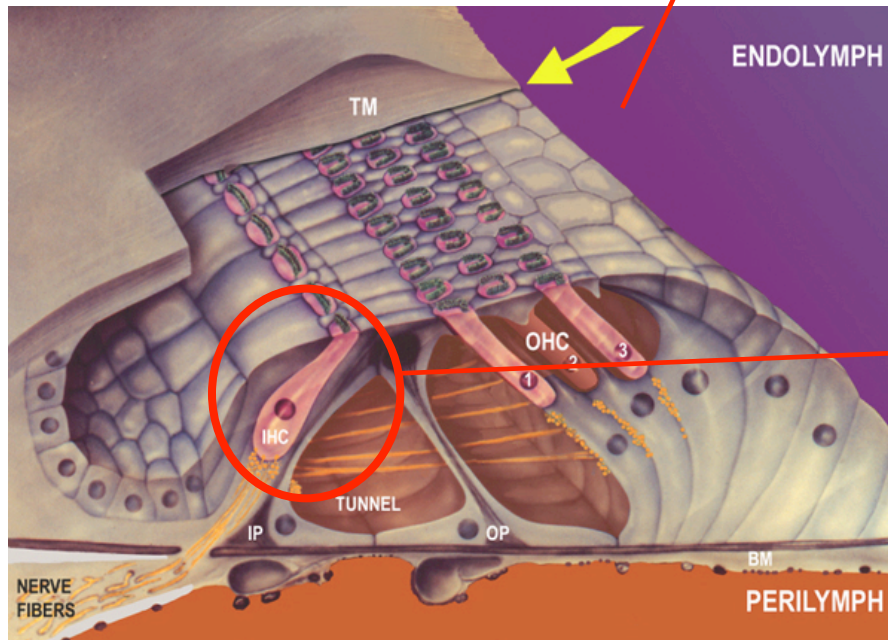
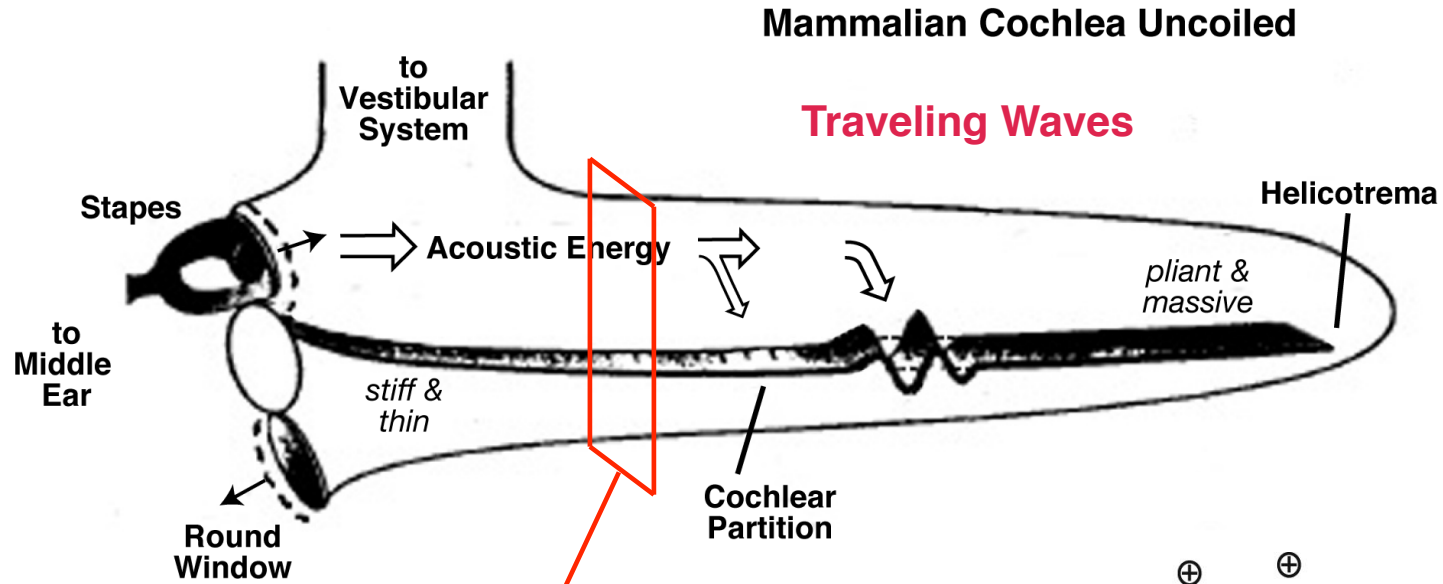
→ Time and frequency
are “separated”....

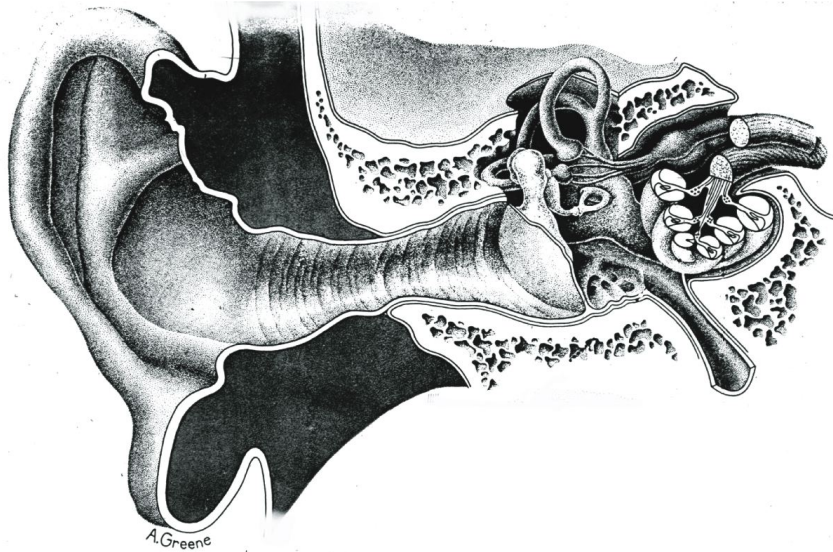
... but are two sides of
the same coin

Ear is a Fourier analyzer (*Tonotopicity*)

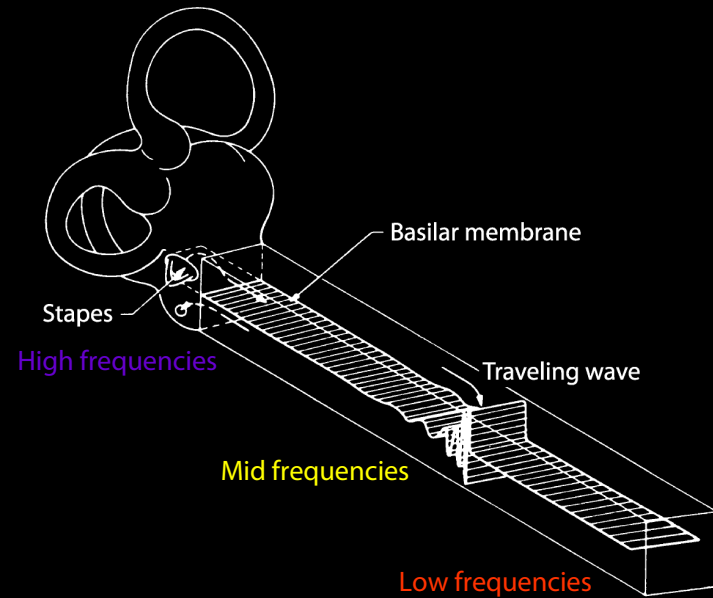


Hair cell = 'Mechano-electro' transducer





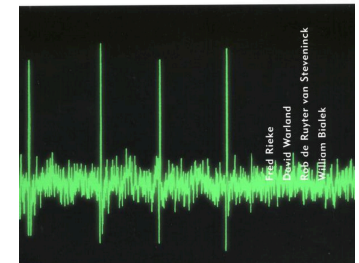
An Acoustic Prism



- Ear acts as a hydrodynamic spectrum analyzer
(spatial location \leftrightarrow frequency)

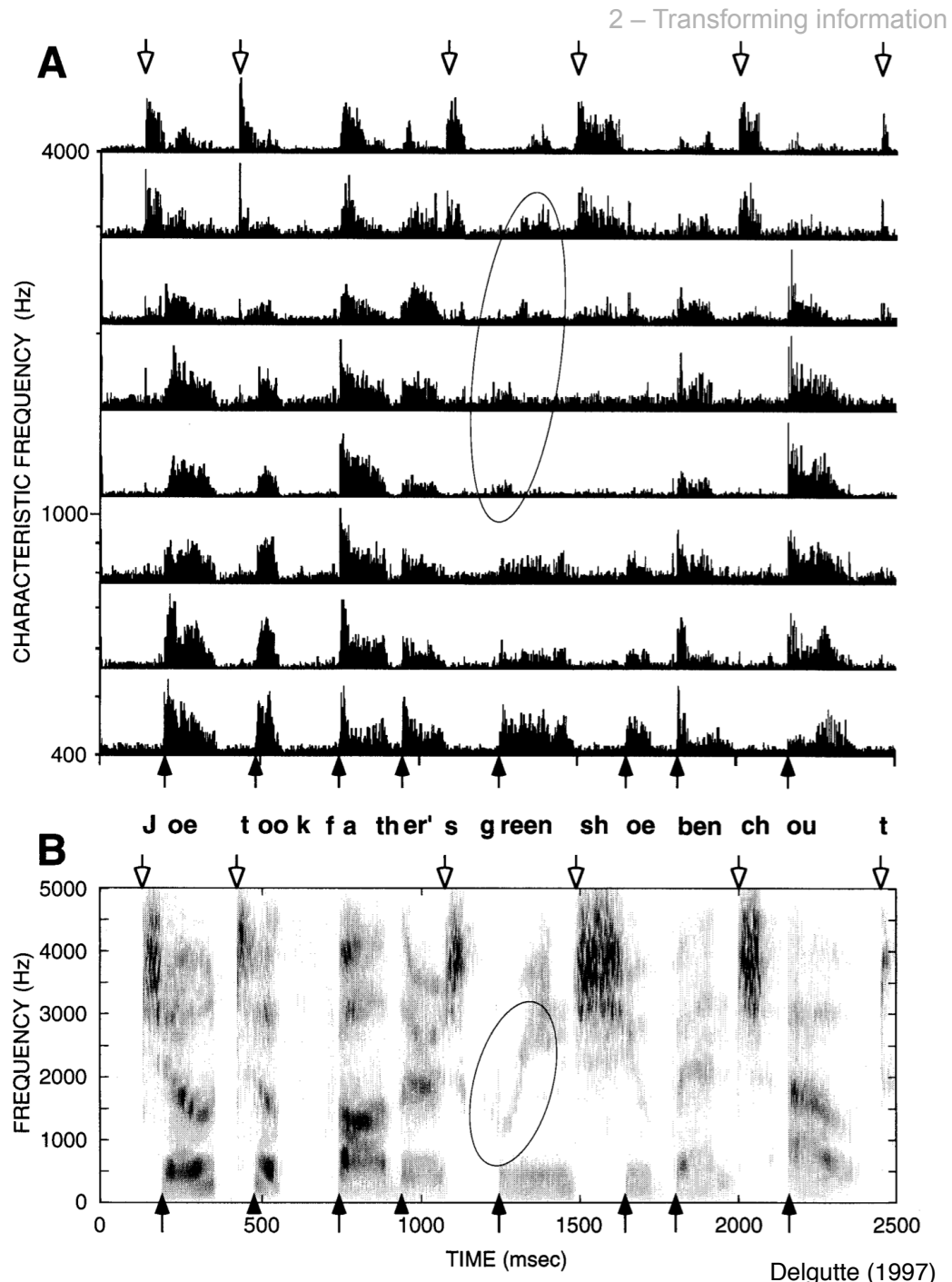
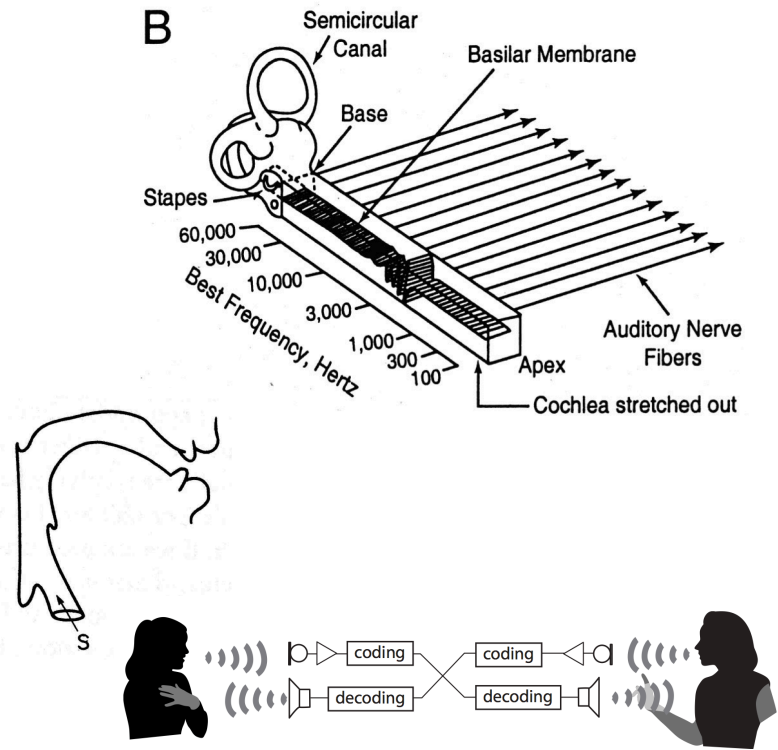
- Spectral decomposition serves as an underlying basis for auditory “neural code”

S P I K E S
EXPLORING THE NEURAL CODE



Neural coding of speech

Fig. 1. Neurogram and spectrogram for a speech utterance produced by a female speaker. **A.** Neurogram display of the activity of the cat auditory nerve in response to the utterance. Each trace represents the average post-stimulus-time histogram for 2-7 auditory-nerve fibers whose CFs are located in a 1/2 octave band centered at the vertical ordinate. All histograms were computed with a bin width of 1 msec, and have been normalized to the same maximum in order to emphasize temporal patterns. The stimulus level was such that the most intense vowels were at 50 dB SPL. **B.** Broadband spectrogram of the utterance. Filled arrows point to rapid increases in amplitude in the low frequencies (and their neural correlates on top), while open arrows point to rapid increases in amplitude in the high frequencies. The ovals show the second-formant movement in "green" and its neural correlate.



Aside: Imaging & Fourier Analysis

Medical/Biological/Neural Imaging

(e.g., MRI, CT, OCT, x-ray crystallography, spectroscopy, microscopy, interferometry,)



- Fourier transform is a key foundation in imaging (e.g., “k-space” in MRI)
- Also the backbone of modern signal processing

Aside: Fourier analysis (REVISITED)

Intuitive connection back to Taylor series:

$$y(x_1 + \Delta x) \approx y(x_1) + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n!} \left. \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} \right|_{x_1} (\Delta x)^n. \quad (\text{D.2})$$

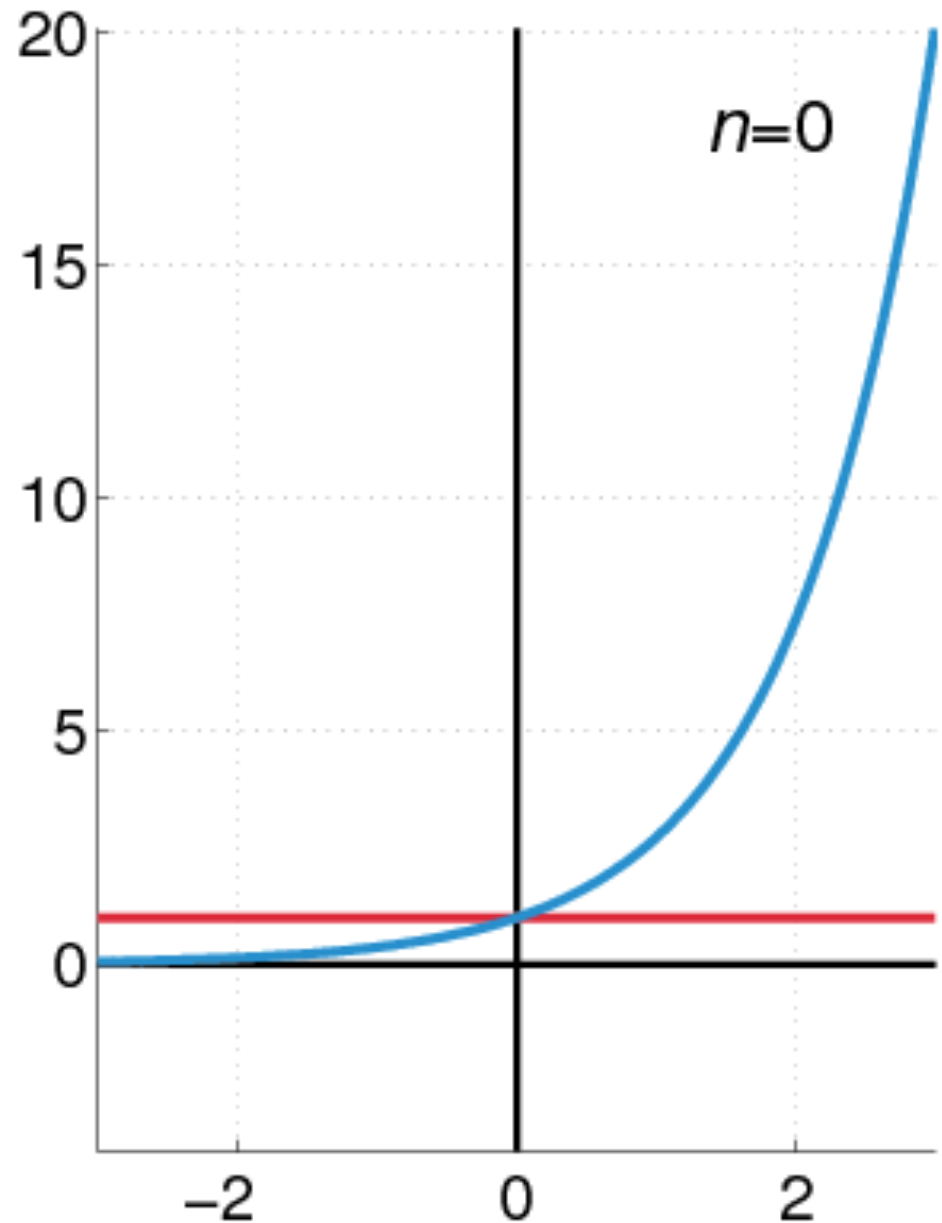
$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(x_o) + f'(x_o)(x - x_o) + \frac{f''(x_o)}{2!}(x - x_o)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_o)}{n!}(x - x_o)^n + \cdots \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(x_o)}{n!} (x - x_o)^n \end{aligned}$$

Taylor series → Expand as a (infinite) sum of polynomials

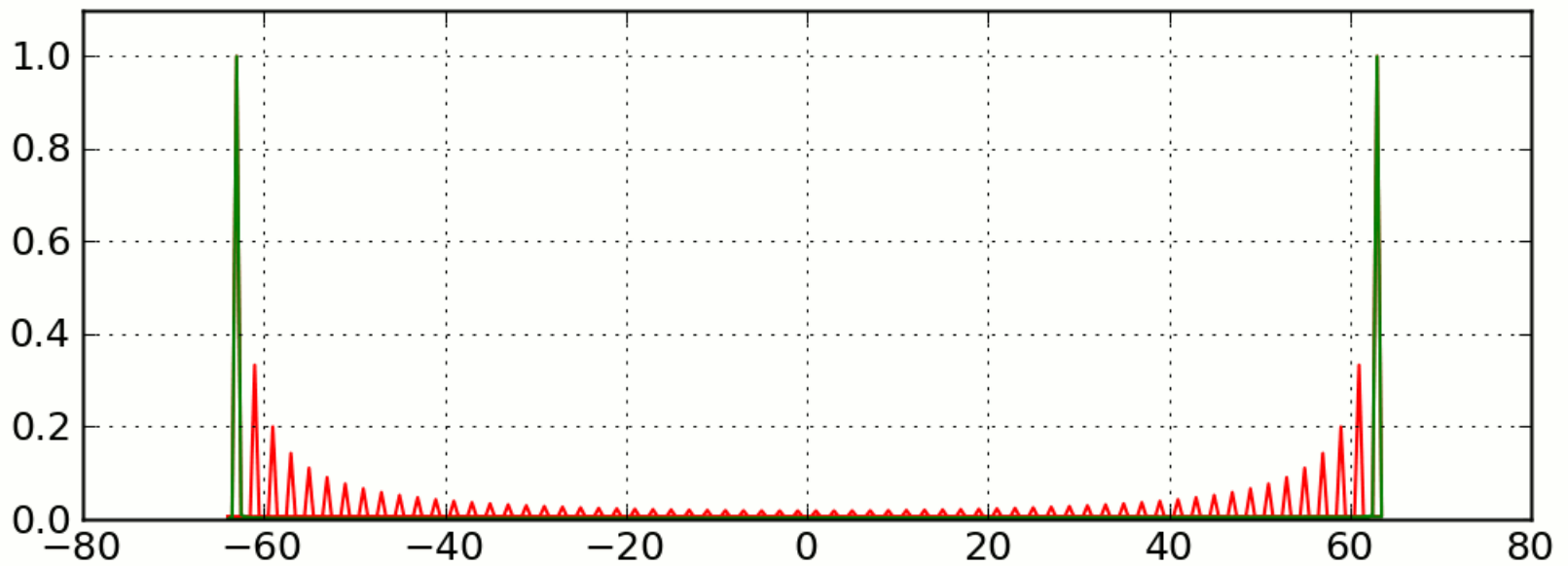
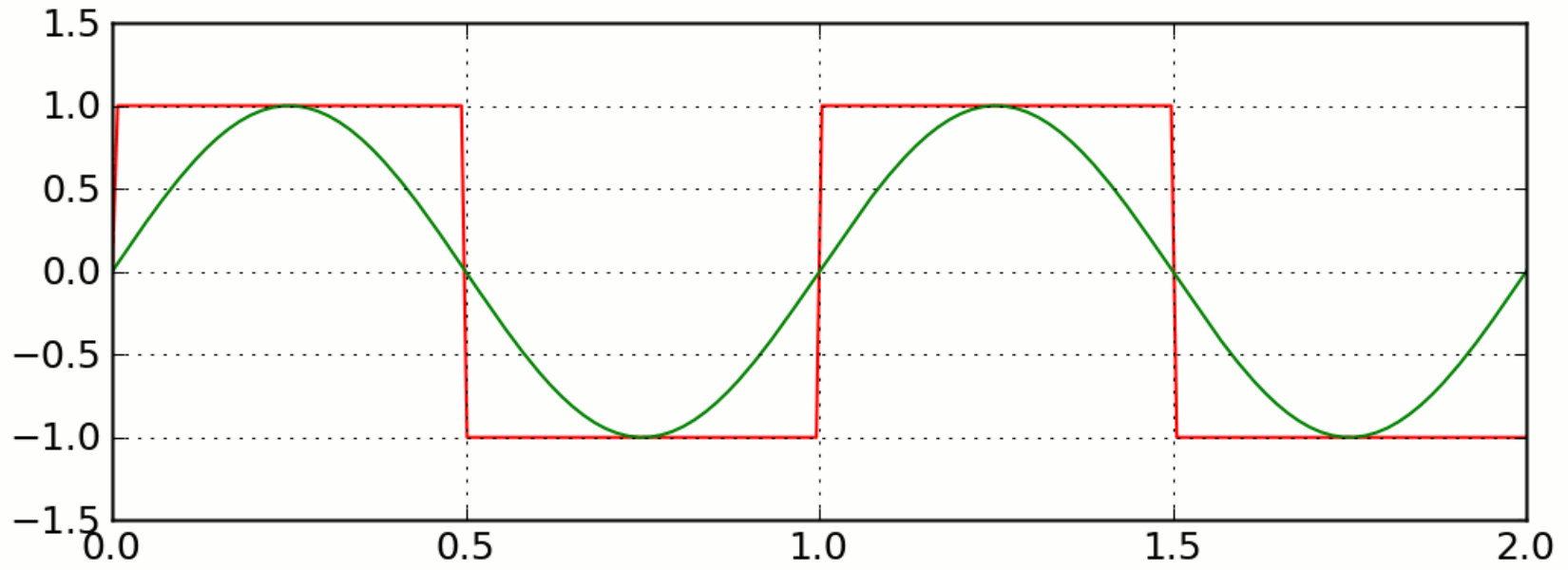
Different Idea: Fourier series → Expand as a (infinite) sum of sinusoids

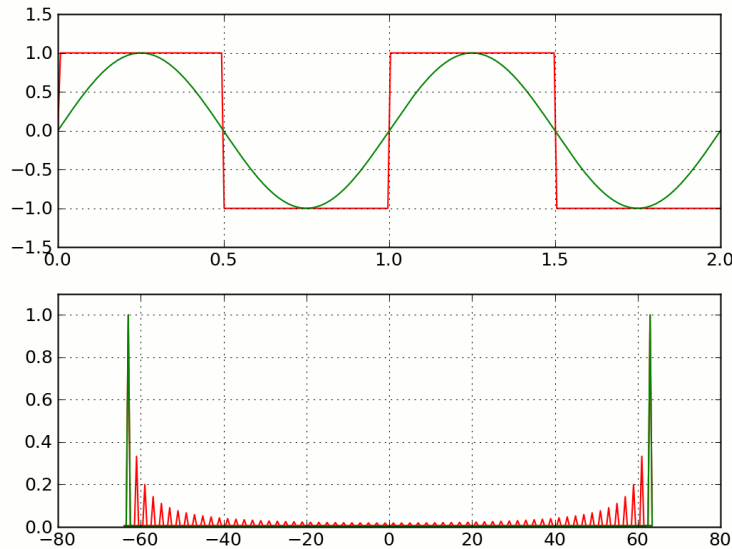
Aside: Fourier analysis (REVISITED)

“The exponential function e^x (in blue), and the sum of the first $n+1$ terms of its Taylor series at 0 (in red).”



Aside: Fourier analysis (REVISITED)





“Animation of the additive synthesis of a square wave with an increasing number of harmonics.”

“The six arrows represent the first six terms of the Fourier series of a square wave. The two circles at the bottom represent the exact square wave (blue) and its Fourier-series approximation (purple).”

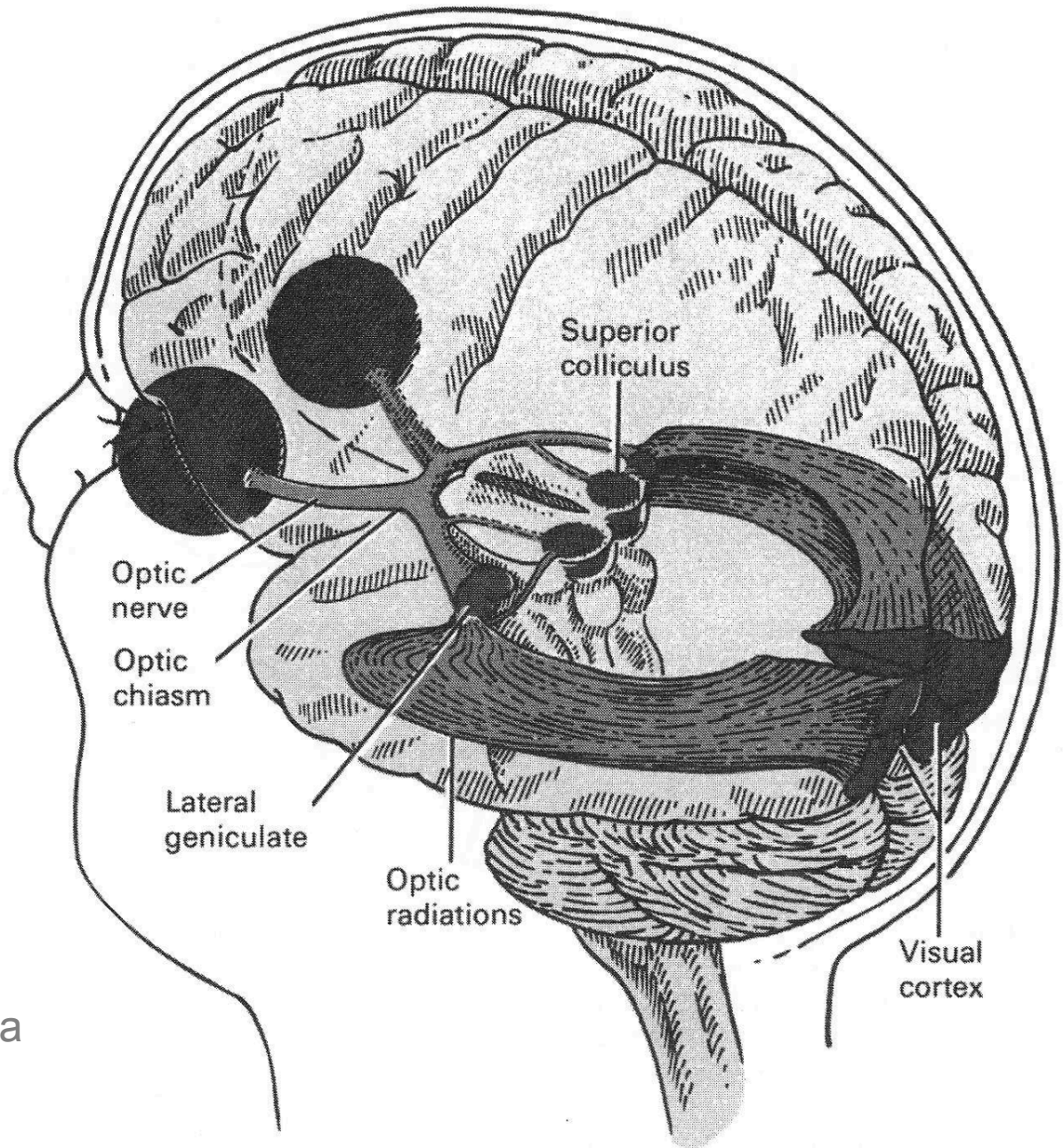


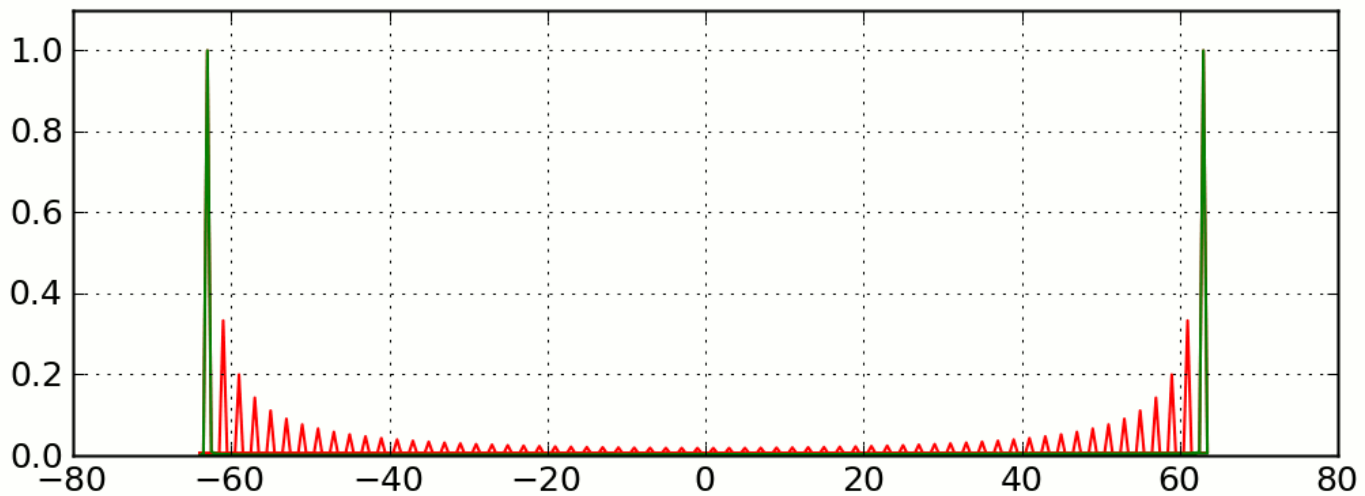
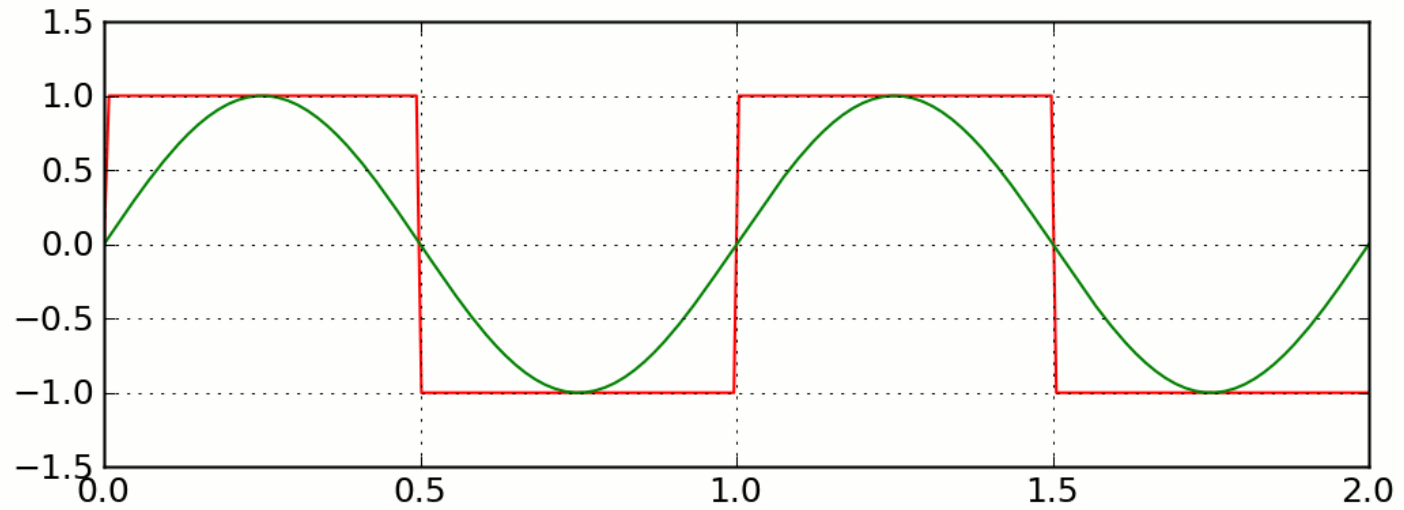


But what about vision?
What is the basis for the
underlying neural code?

Harder questions I don't
know the answers to....

... but spectral analysis is a
useful starting point!

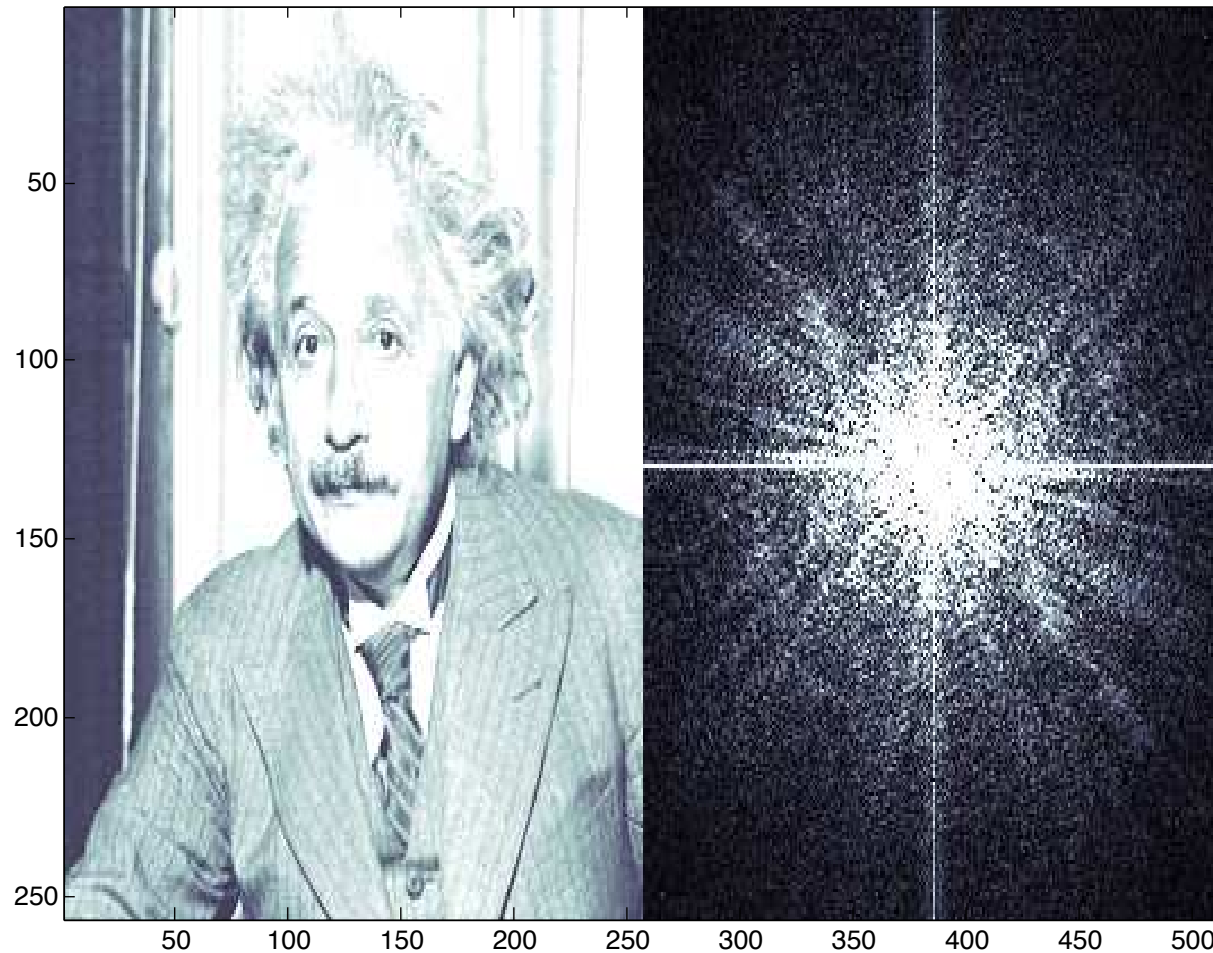




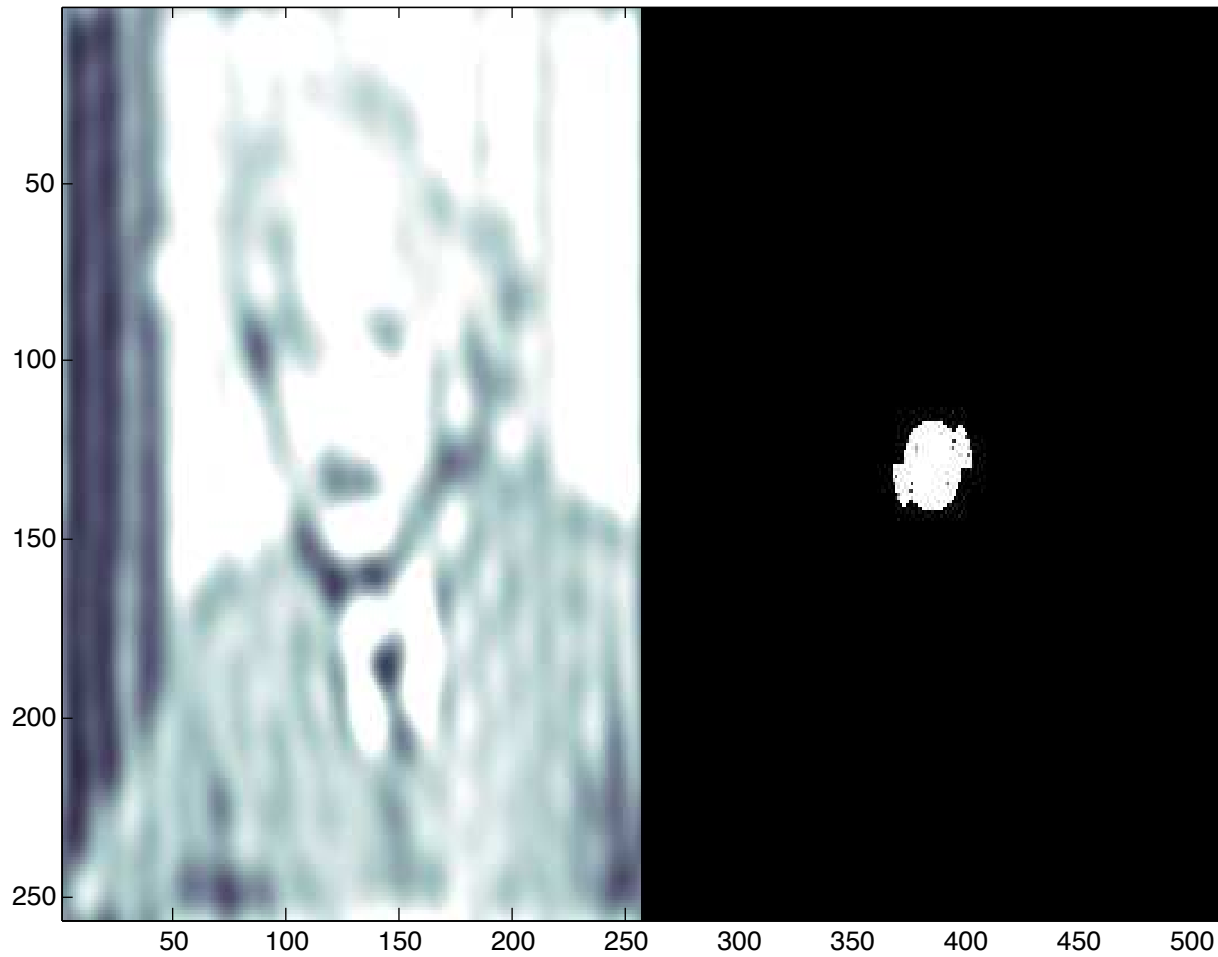
Consider: What makes an edge and “edge”?

'Spatial domain'

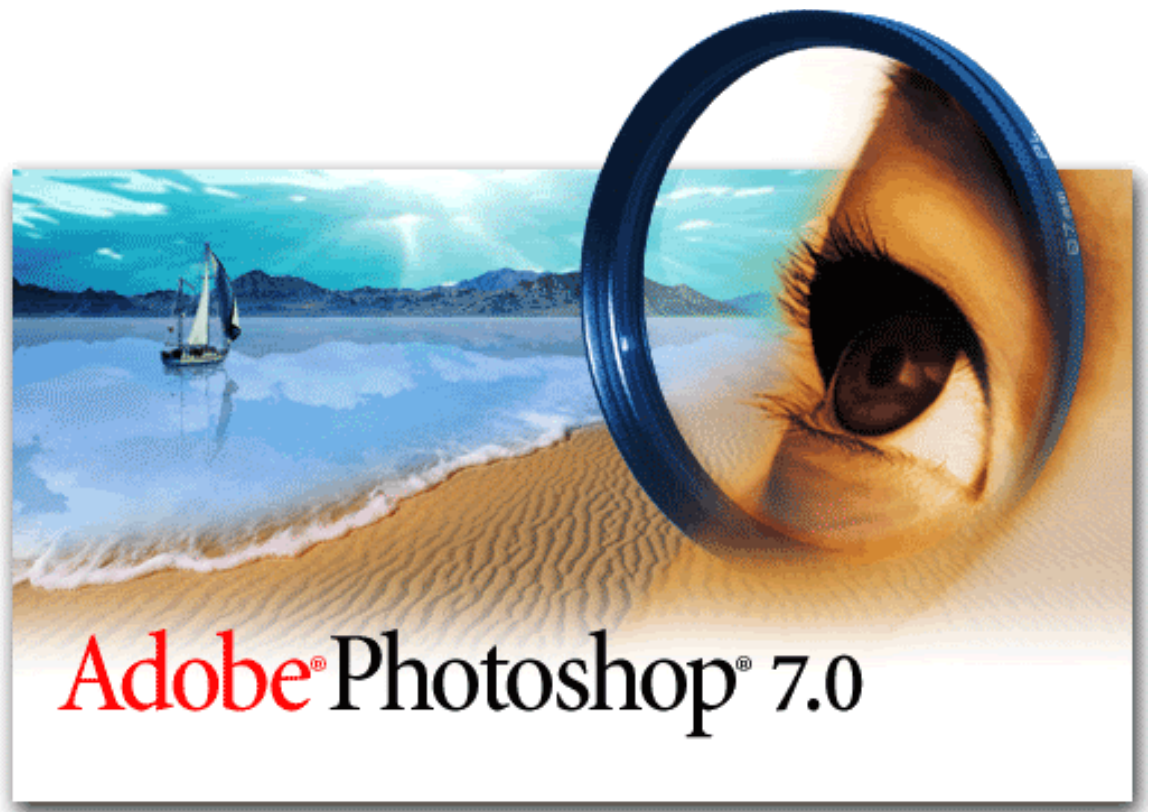
'Frequency domain'



Note: Only $\frac{1}{2}$ of the information is shown on the right (amplitude only; phase not shown)



→ 'Low-pass filtered' version of the image





Find Edges

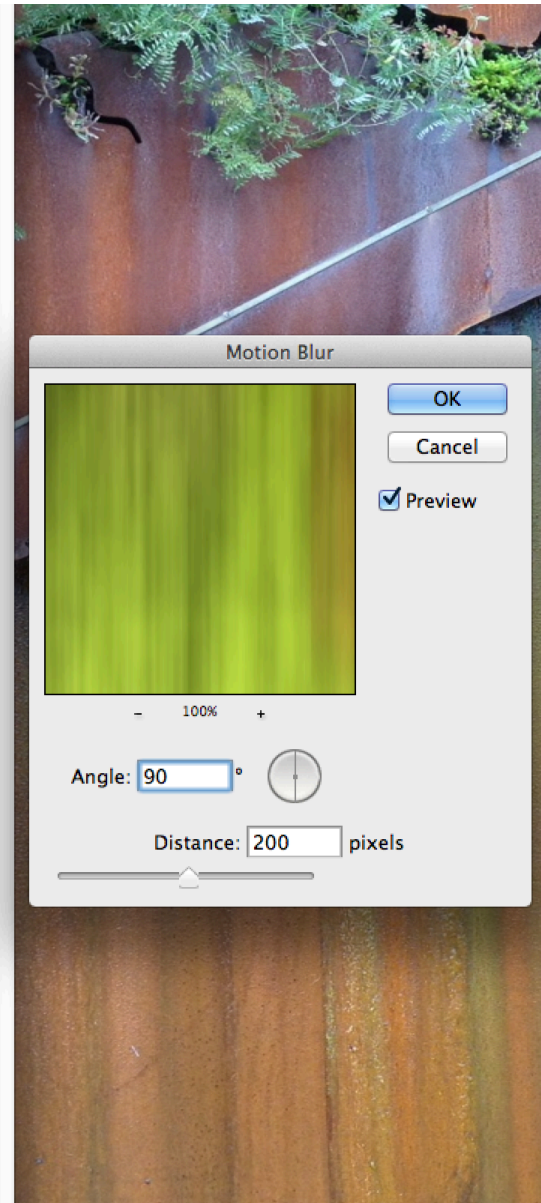




Stained Glass

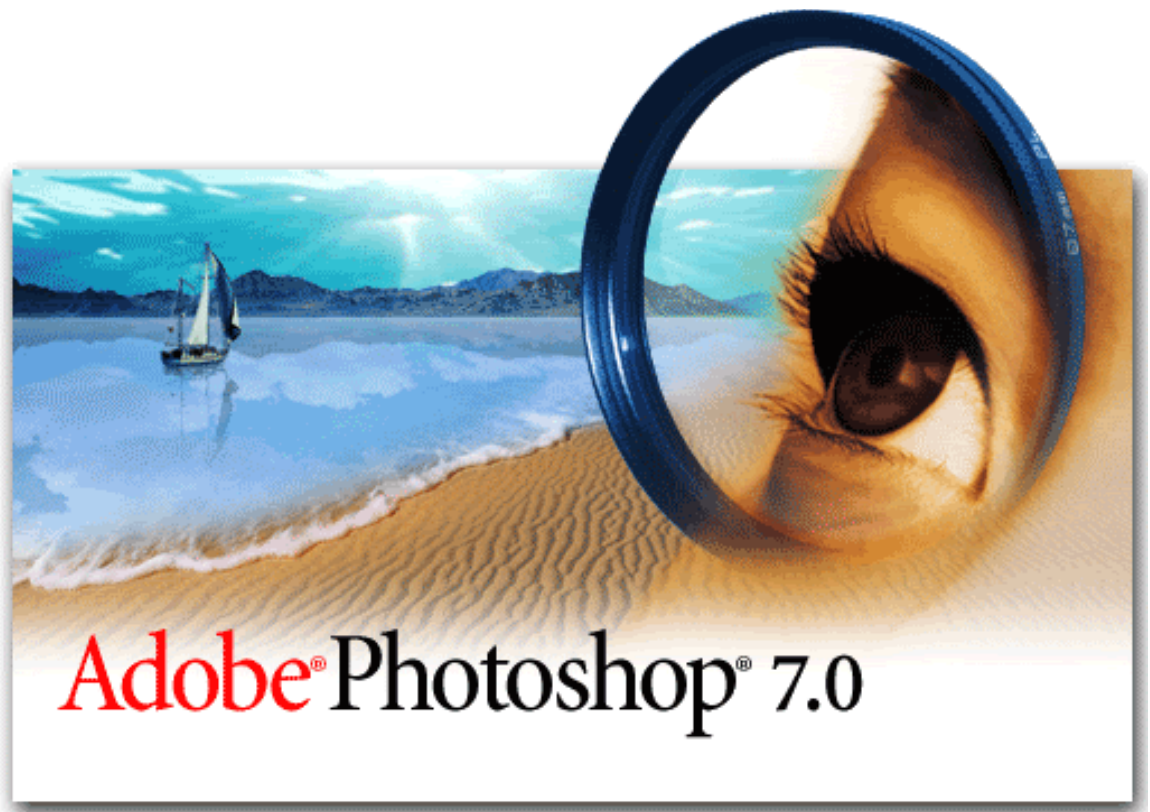


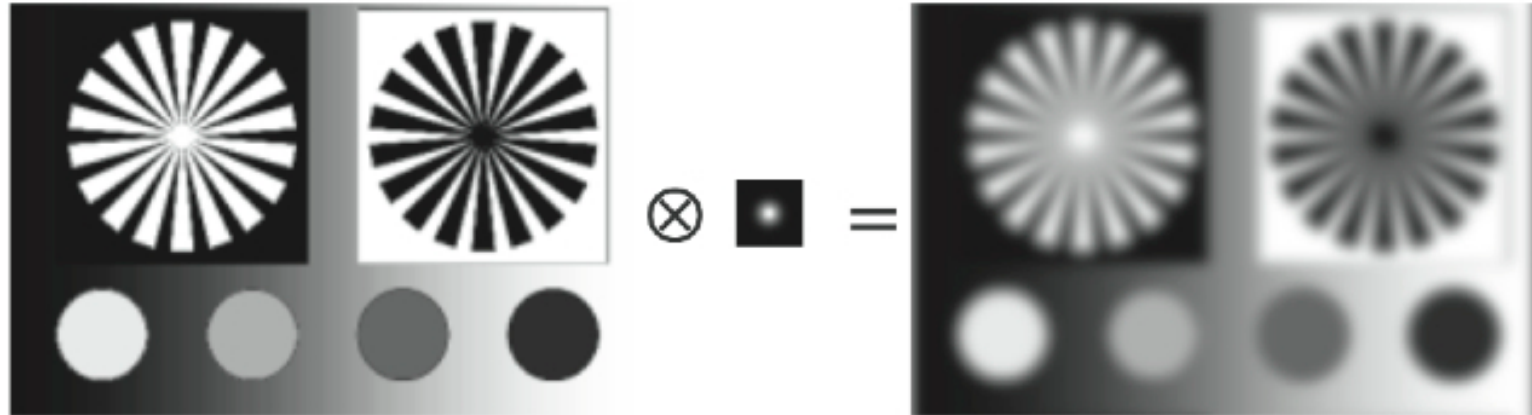
Motion Blur





How does Photoshop “work”?
(at least in very basic terms)





- Two basic ingredient: “image” and “kernel” (or filter)
- Kernel is tied back to an “impulse response”
- Convolution is an operation that ties the two together
(surprisingly universal consideration throughout science)

Convolution \rightarrow Blurring

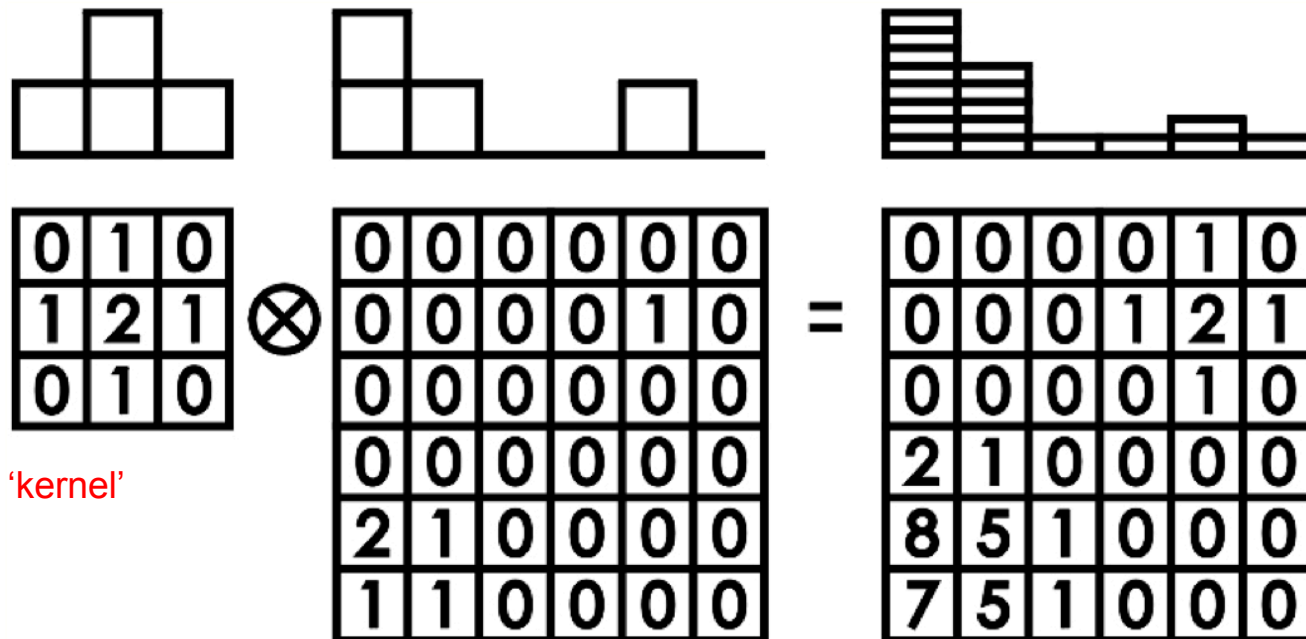
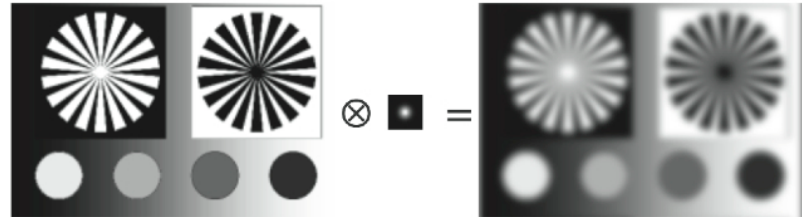
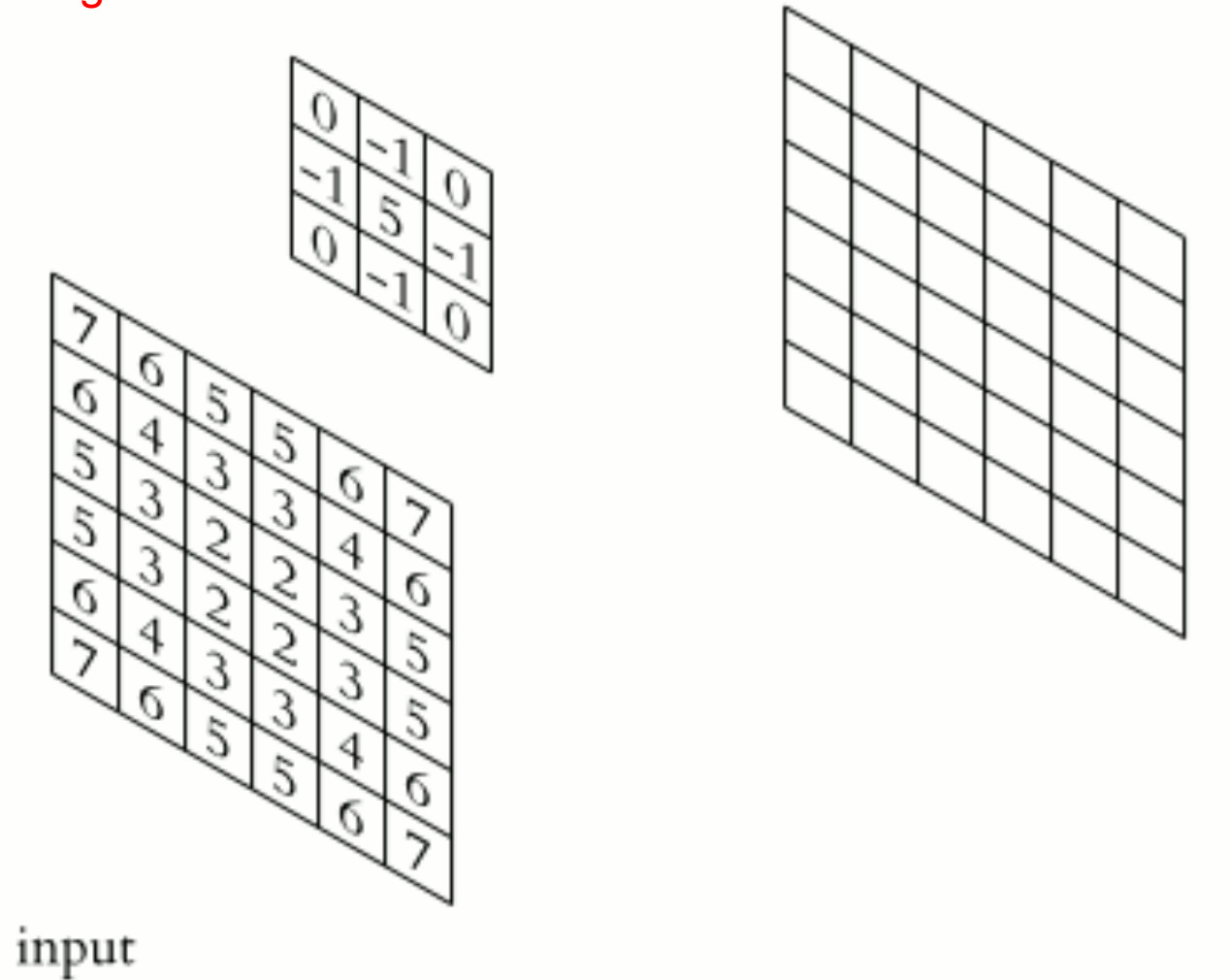


FIGURE 25.2. Schematic diagram demonstrating the convolution (\otimes) operation with a 6×6 pixel object and a 3×3 pixel blurring kernel. The profiles above show the maximum projection of the two-dimensional grids as would be seen looking across the planes from above. Note how the contrast of the peaks in the image is reduced and smeared across the image.

Convolution → Sharpening

Basic idea is that a convolution is a numerical operation between image and kernel



Connection to Fourier Transforms

- Consider the Fourier transform of the (1-D) convolution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [p \otimes q] e^{-i\omega t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(\tau) q(t - \tau) d\tau \right] e^{-i\omega t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(\tau) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} q(t - \tau) e^{-i\omega t} dt \right] d\tau.\end{aligned}$$

- Making use of the 'shifting property', the term in the square brackets is:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} q(t - \tau) e^{-i\omega t} dt = e^{-i\omega\tau} Q(\omega)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} Q(\omega) d\tau \\ &= P(\omega) Q(\omega),\end{aligned}$$

$Q(\omega)$ is the Fourier transform of $q(t)$

Convolution theorem

$$\mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] = \mathcal{F}[p] \mathcal{F}[q]$$

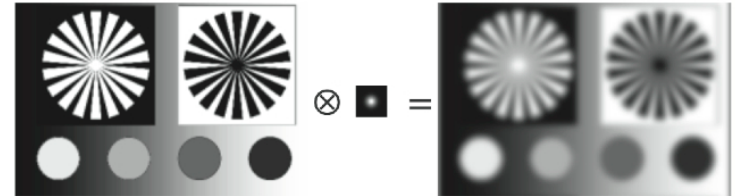
$P(\omega)$ is the Fourier transform of $p(t)$

Convolution Theorem

- Simple but powerful idea:
Convolution in the time domain is simply a multiplication in the spectral domain

$$\mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] = \mathcal{F}[p] \mathcal{F}[q]$$

- Door swings both ways: From the output, if we know the impulse response, we can *deconvolve* (i.e., divide in spectral domain) to get the original input!



$$V_{out} = V_{in} \otimes r;$$

$$\mathcal{F}[V_{out}] = \mathcal{F}[V_{in} \otimes r] = \mathcal{F}[V_{in}] \mathcal{F}[r]$$

$$\mathcal{F}[V_{in}] = \frac{\mathcal{F}[V_{out}]}{\mathcal{F}[r]}$$

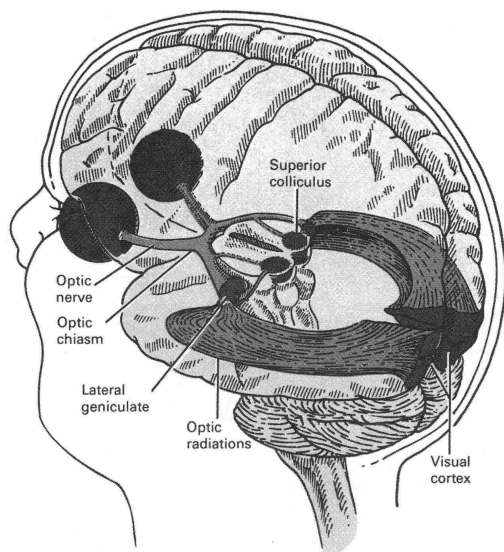
$$V_{in}(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[\frac{\mathcal{F}[V_{out}]}{\mathcal{F}[r]} \right]$$

Short version: Numerically this is easy to do!

What are some basic
(signal processing)
considerations about
“transforming” information?



Array RGB															
Page 1— red intensity values	0.112	0.986	0.234	0.432	...	0.204	0.175	...	0.689	0.706	0.118	0.884	...	0.535	0.532
	0.765	0.128	0.863	0.521	...	0.760	0.531	...	0.535	0.532	0.653	0.925	...	0.314	0.265
	1.000	0.985	0.761	0.698	...	0.997	0.910	...	0.314	0.265	0.159	0.301	...	0.553	0.633
	0.455	0.783	0.224	0.395	...	0.995	0.726	...	0.553	0.633	0.528	0.493	...	0.441	0.465
	0.021	0.500	0.311	0.123	...				0.441	0.465	0.512	0.512	...	0.204	0.175
Page 2— green intensity values	1.000	1.000	0.867	0.051	...				0.342	0.647	0.515	0.816	...	0.111	0.300
	1.000	0.945	0.998	0.893	...				0.111	0.300	0.205	0.529	...	0.523	0.428
	0.990	0.941	1.000	0.876	...				0.523	0.428	0.712	0.929	...	0.214	0.604
	0.902	0.867	0.834	0.798	...				0.214	0.604	0.918	0.344	...	0.100	0.121
									0.100	0.121	0.113	0.126	...		
Page 3— blue intensity values															



➤ Does Photoshop and the visual system operate in the same way?

→ No. But there are likely basic
“signal processing” facets (e.g.,
spectral decomposition)
universally at work

Question:

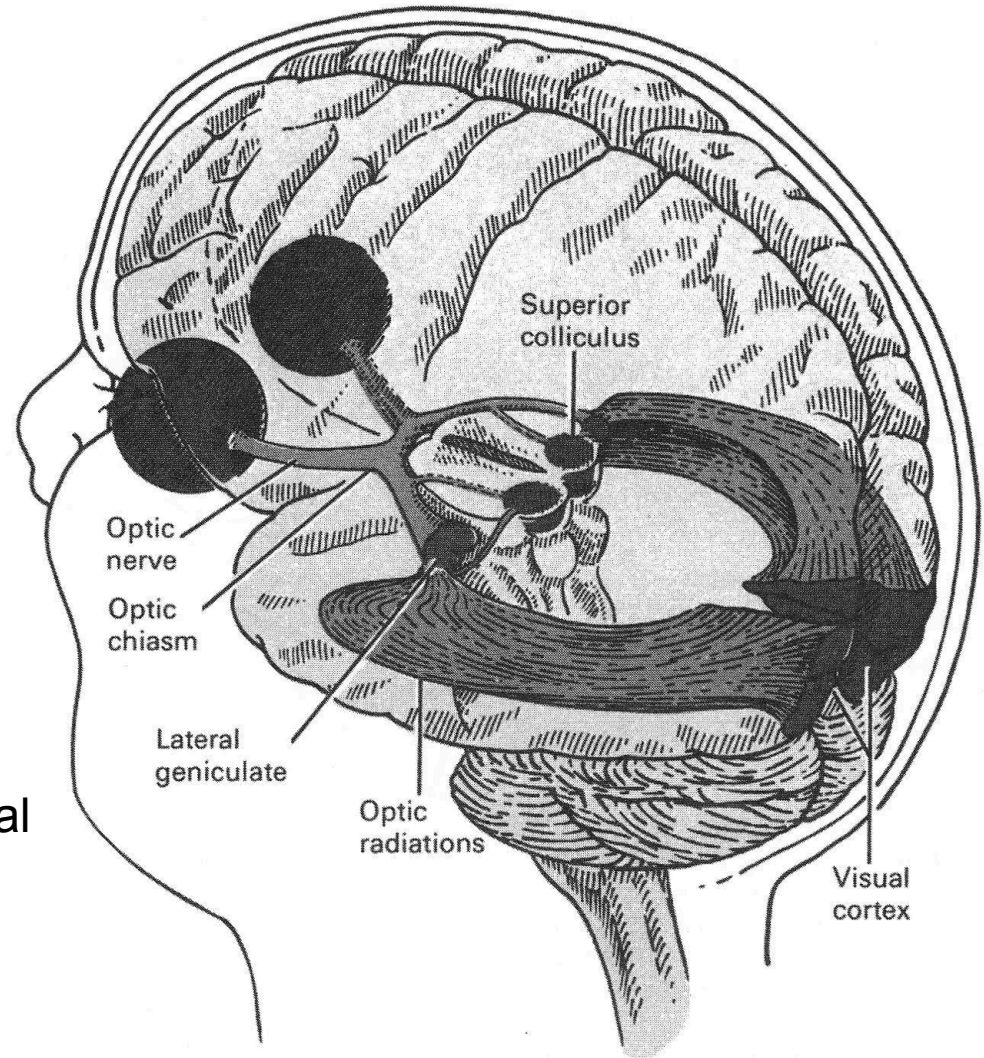
How do our sensory systems
encode “information” about the
world around us?

Consider how you “process”
this picture....

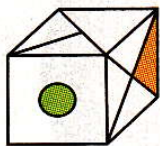
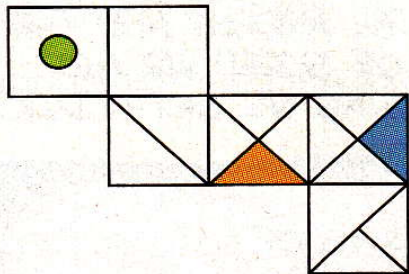




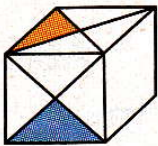
- Transducers and neurons as the basic building blocks
- Transformation into a “neural code” involves abstract-ish signal processing considerations (e.g., spectral analysis, convolution)



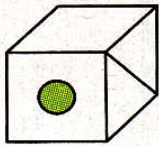
Which of the six boxes below cannot be made from this unfolded box?
(There may be more than one.)



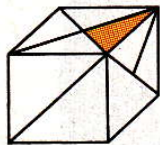
A



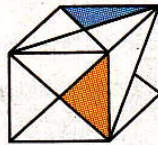
B



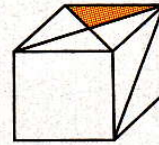
C



D



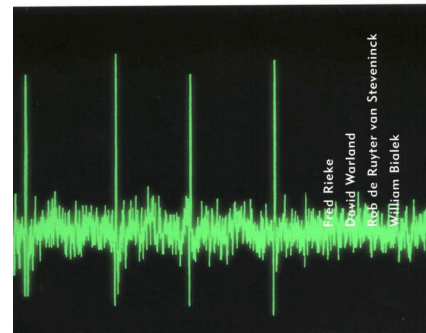
E



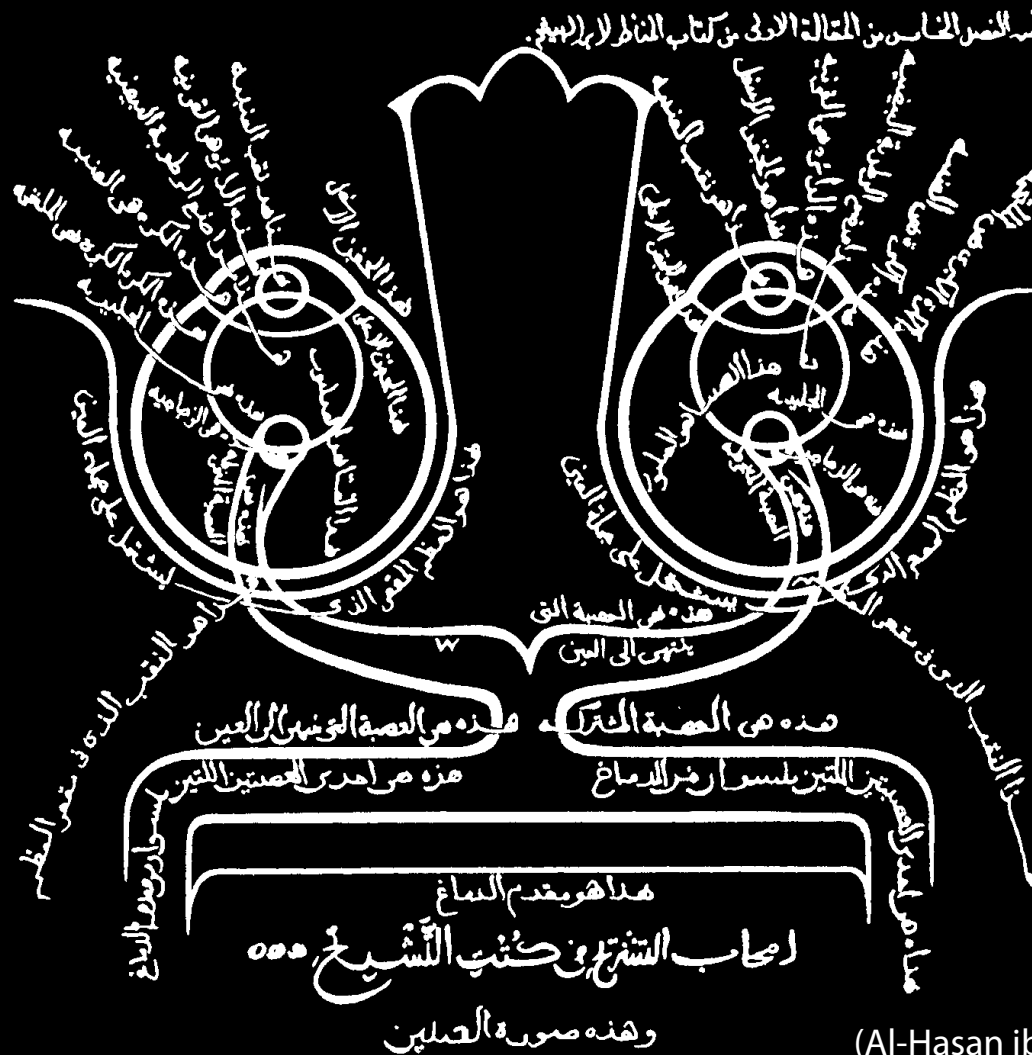
F



S P I K E S
EXPLORING THE NEURAL CODE



The Eye



(Al-Hasan ibn al-Haitham 1083)

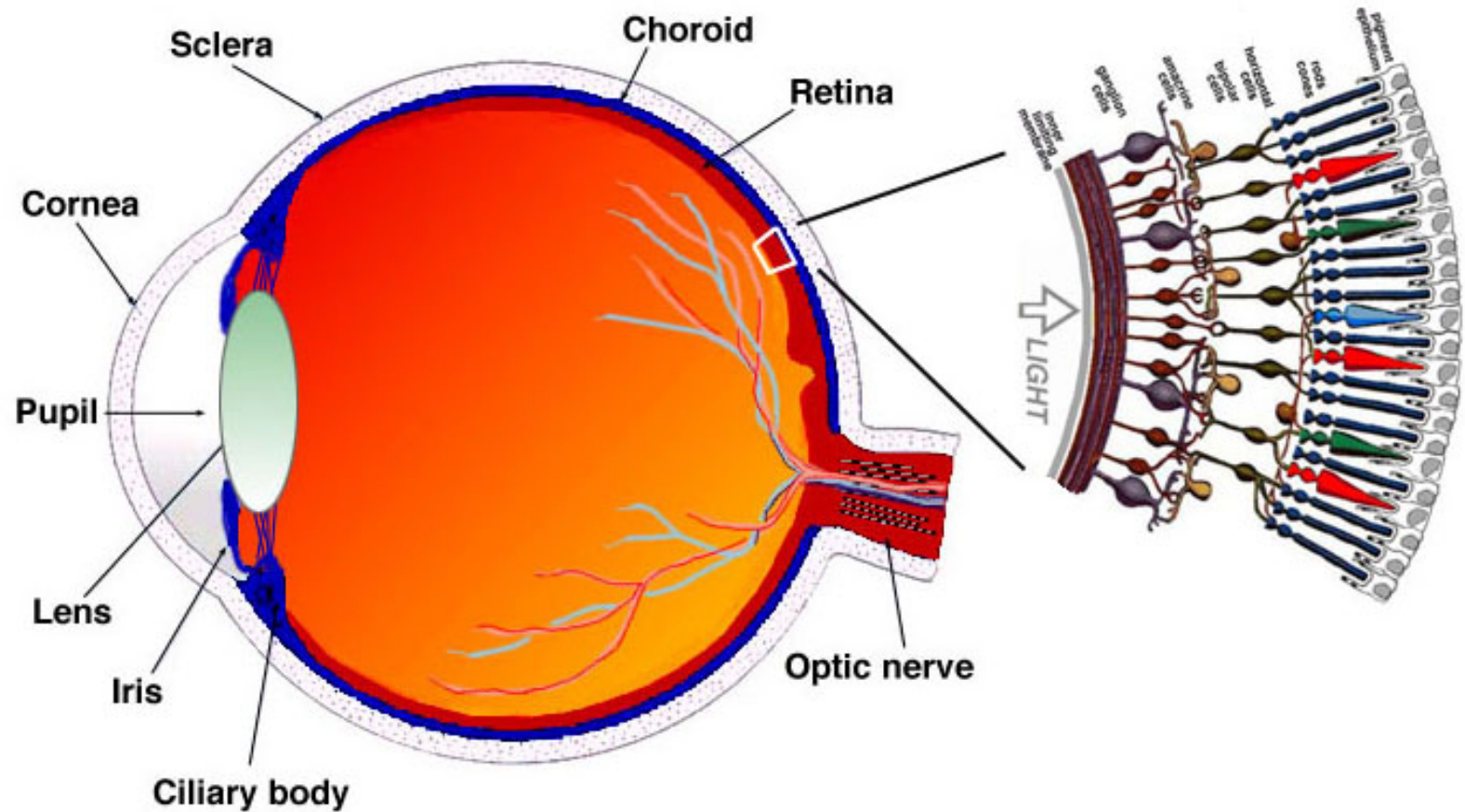


Fig. 1.1. A drawing of a section through the human eye with a schematic enlargement of the retina.

Receptive field

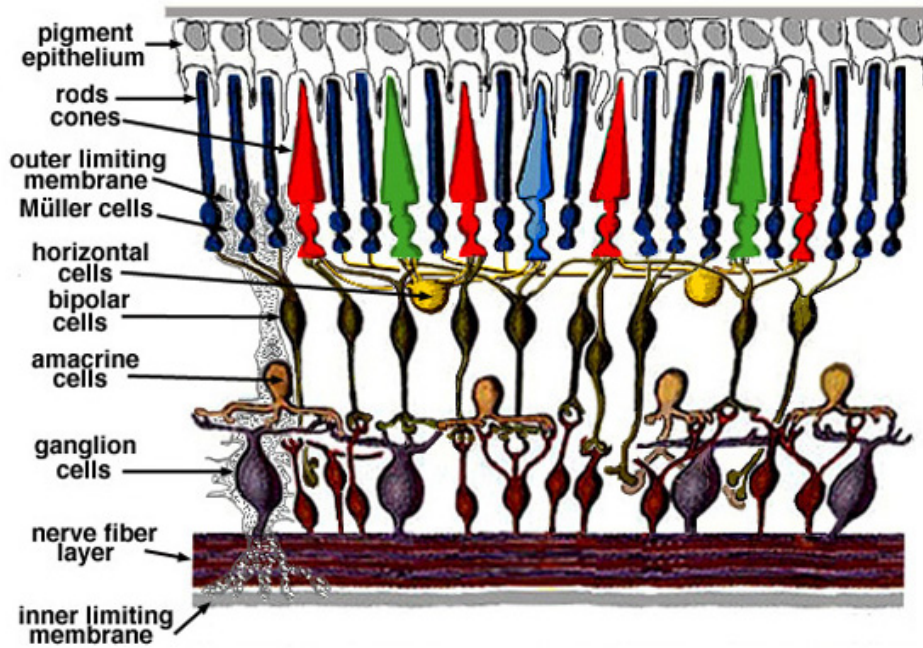


Fig. 2. Simple diagram of the organization of the retina.

WebVision (Utah)

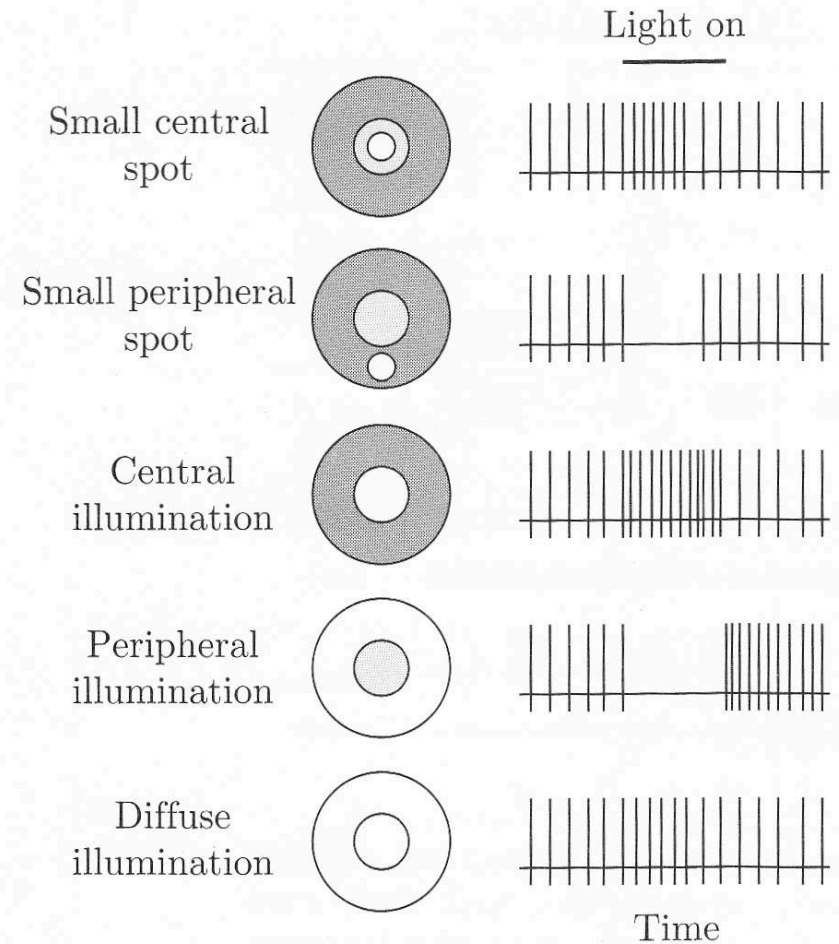
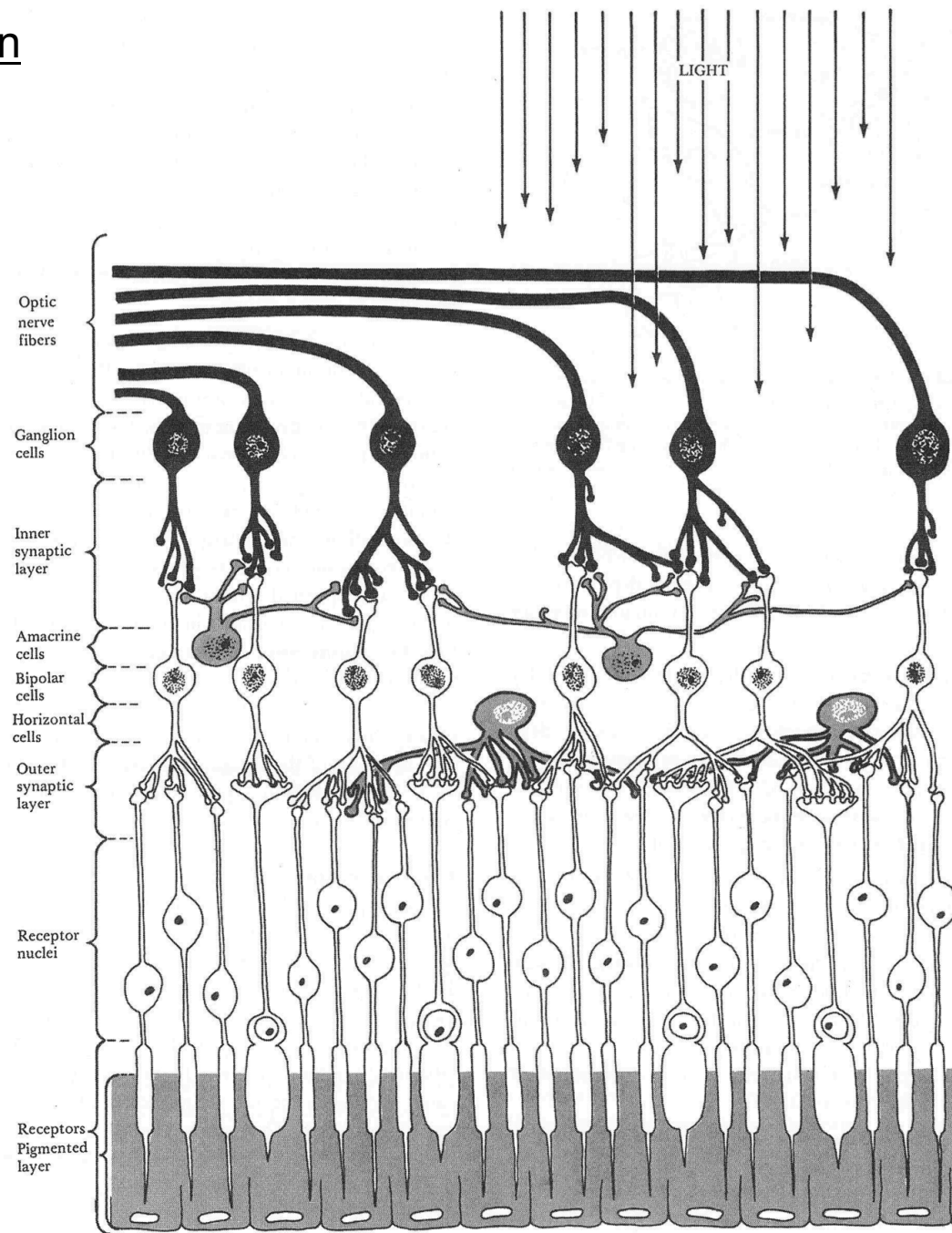


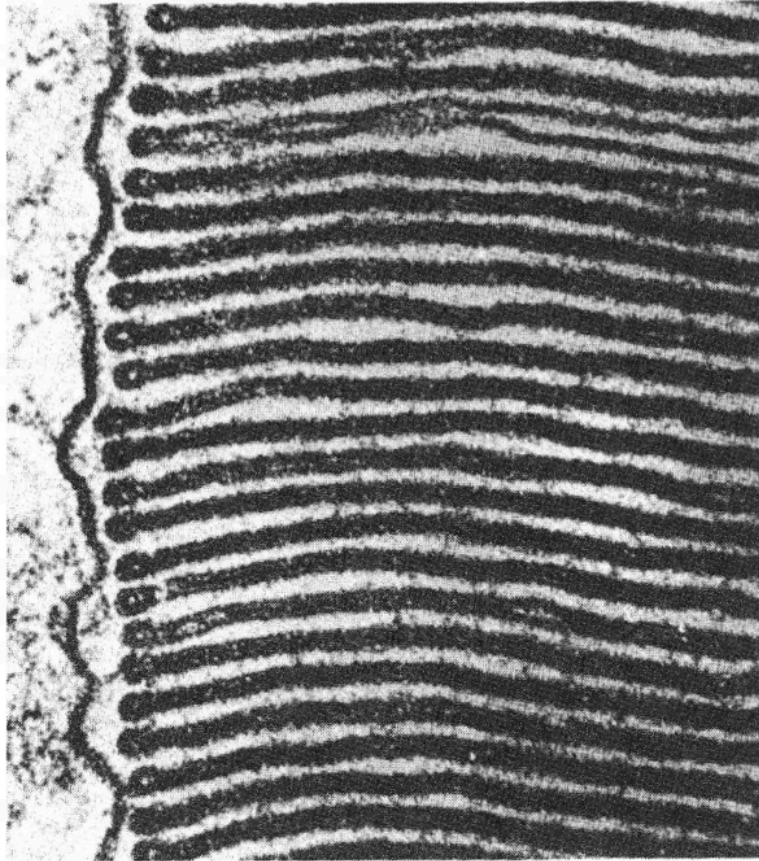
Fig. 1.26

→ Incident pattern on an *area* causes unique optical nerve fiber firing rate from a given *point*

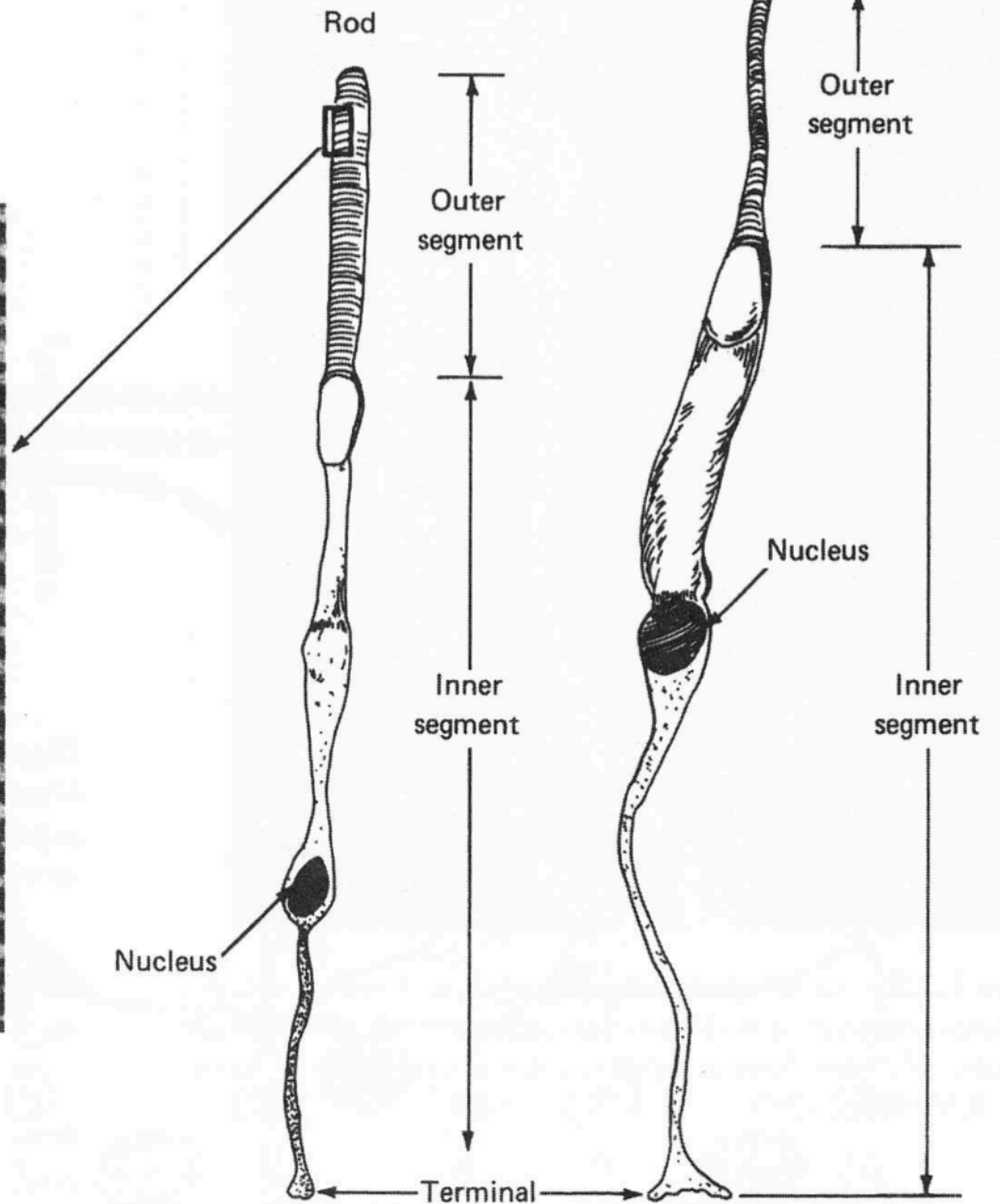
Phototransduction



Phototransduction



A



B

Phototransduction

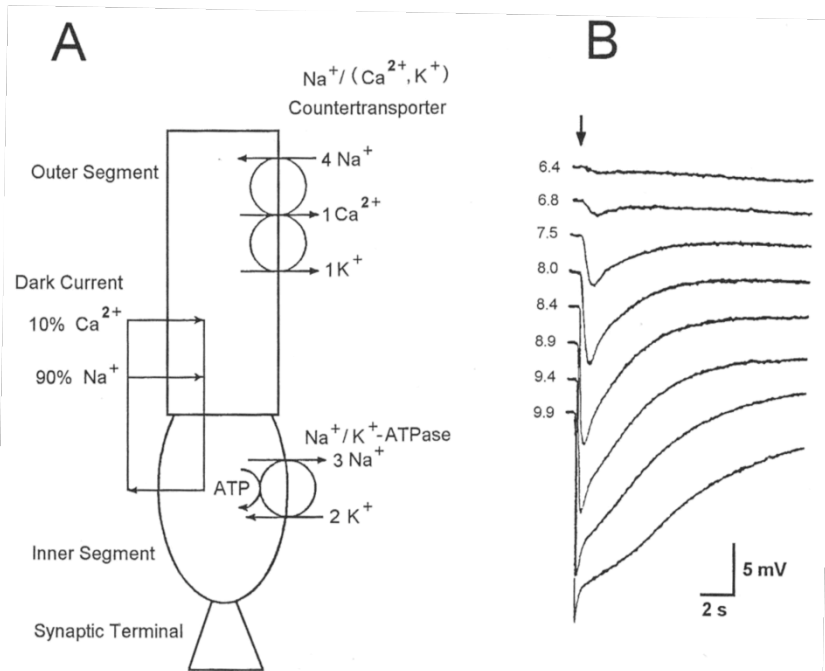
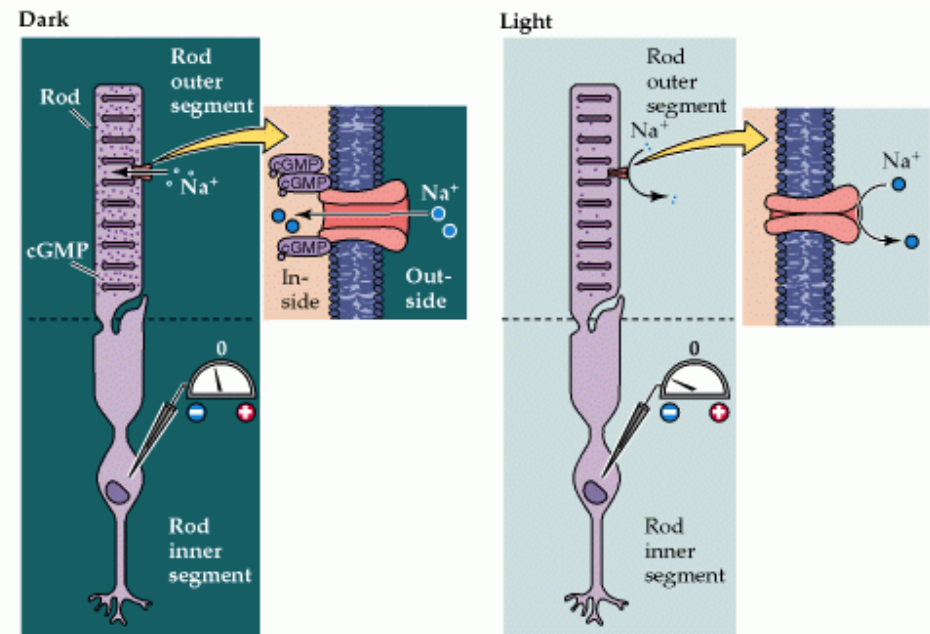
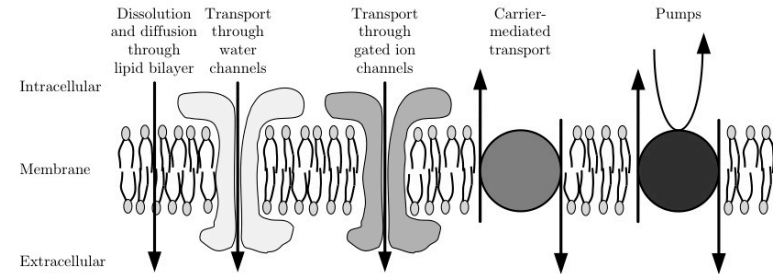


Figure 5.3. (A) Diagram of rod photoreceptor showing dark-current path and ion transporters and pumps. (Reprinted from G. L. Fain and H. R. Matthews: Calcium and the mechanism of light adaptation in vertebrate photoreceptors. *Trends in Neurosciences* 13:378–84, 1990, with permission of Elsevier Trends Journals.) (B) Intracellular recordings from a toad rod showing hyperpolarizing responses to a light flash (arrow). Numbers to left show stimulus intensity in units of log quanta per square millimeter per flash. (Reprinted from G. L. Fain, G. H. Gold, and J. E. Dowling: Receptor coupling in the toad retina. *Cold Spring Harbor Symposium on Quantitative Biology* 40:547–61, 1975, with permission of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.)

McIlwain (1996)



<http://openwetware.org/wiki/BIO254:Phototransduction>

In a nutshell: Light causes channels in cell membrane to close, thereby triggering an electrical response

Phototransduction

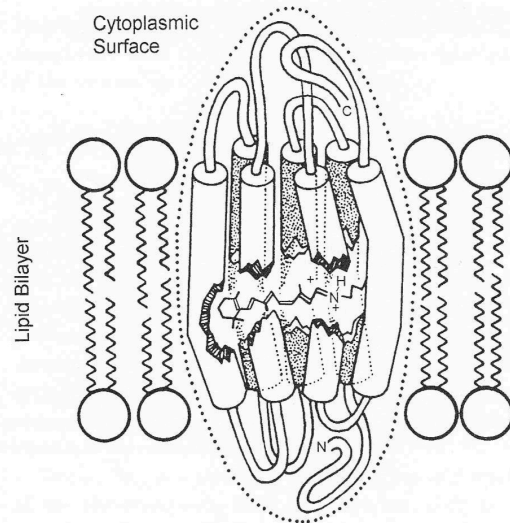
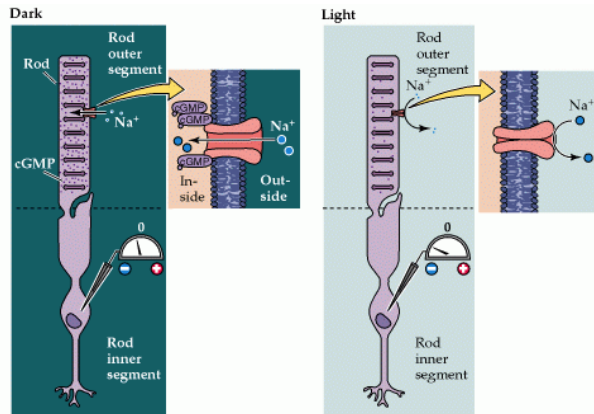
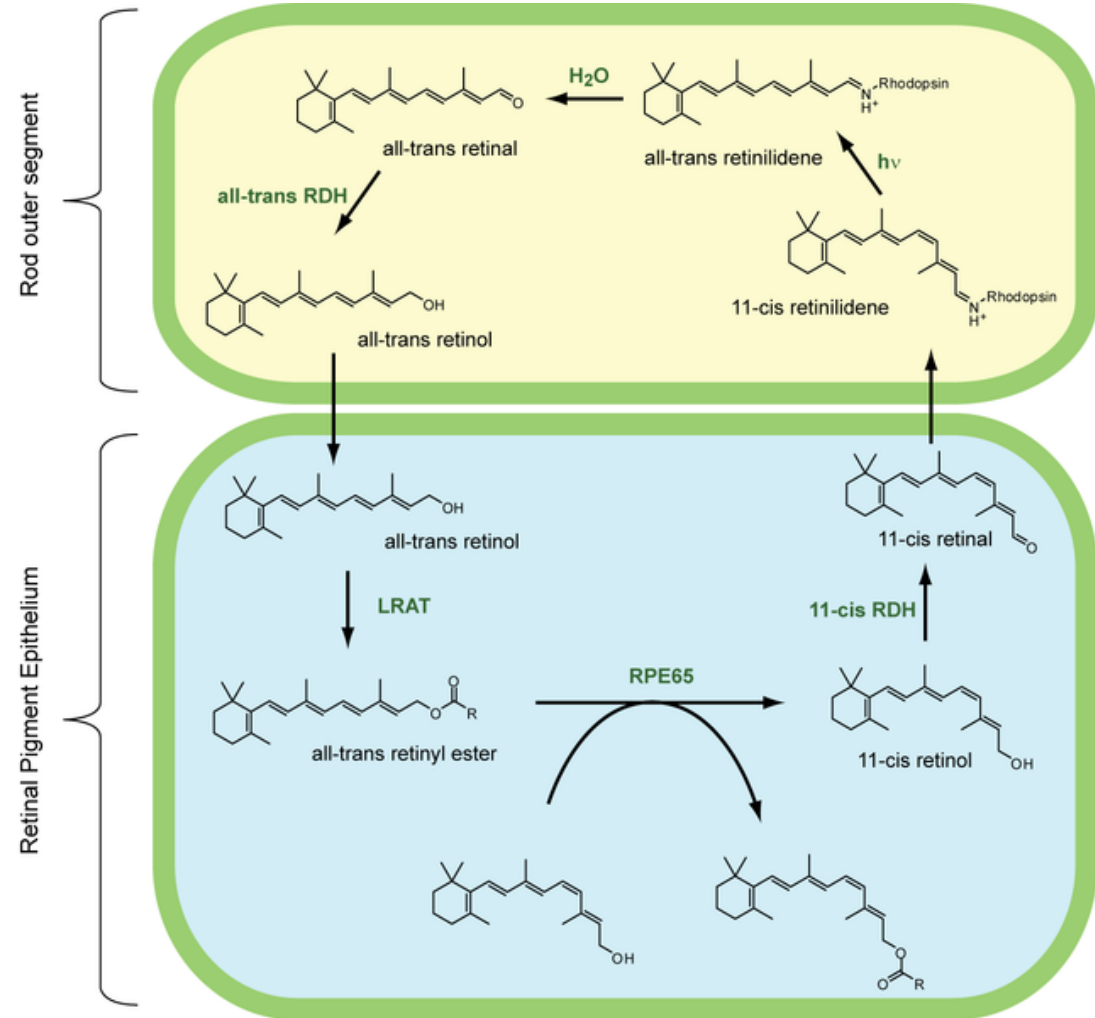


Figure 5.5. Diagram of a photopigment complex composed of a molecule of retinaldehyde nestled within the seven membrane-spanning elements of the opsin. The photopigment is an integral part of the cell membrane and is surrounded by the lipid bilayer. (Adapted from E. A. Dratz and P. A. Hargrave: The structure of rhodopsin and the rod outer segment disk membrane. *Trends in Biochemical Sciences* 8:128–31, 1983, with permission of Elsevier Trends Journals.)

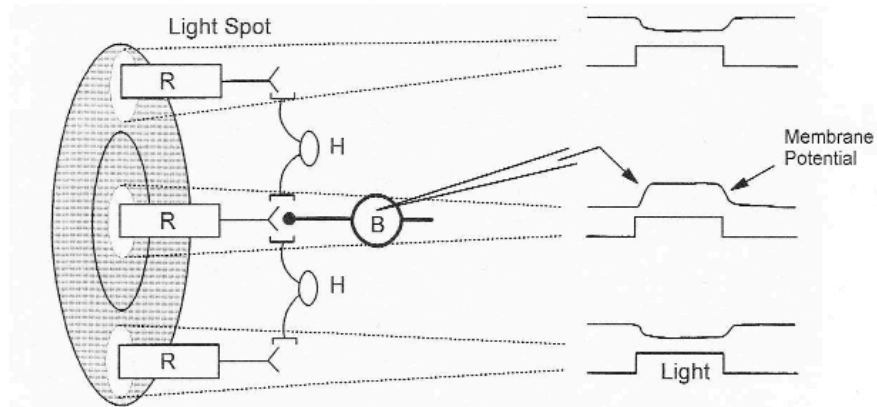
McIlwain (1996)

→ Biochemical/molecular basis...



e.g., G-coupled proteins

Receptive field generation



Receptive Field

Figure 6.4. Receptive field of an on-center bipolar cell. B, bipolar cell; H, horizontal cell; R, receptor. Small light spots projected on the retina cause depolarization when they illuminate receptors contacting the bipolar cell directly. Horizontal cells appear to mediate the hyperpolarizing effects of surround stimulation.

McIlwain (1996)

→ Cell-based electrodynamic circuits creates the underlying “logic”

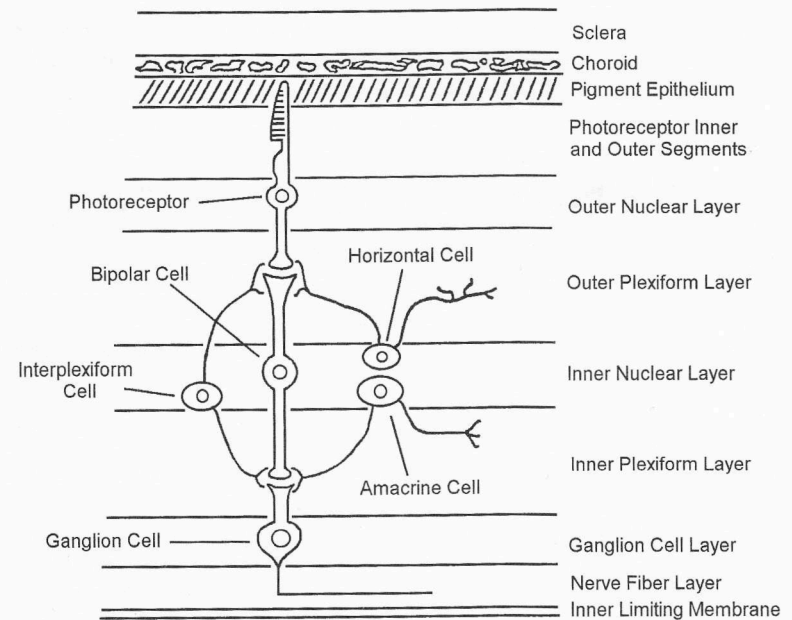
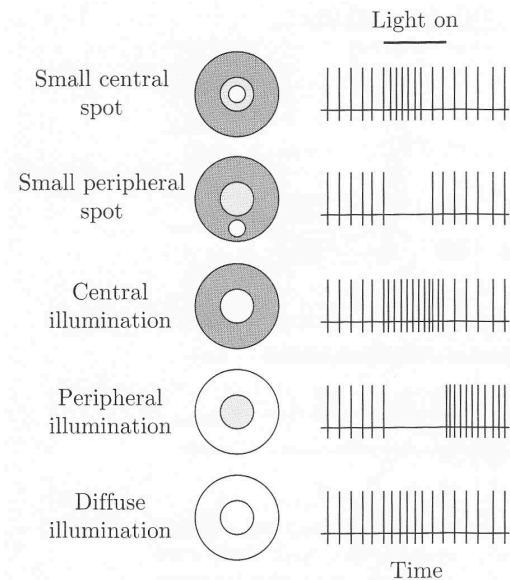


Figure 6.1. Diagram of the retinal layers showing the laminar locations of the principal types of cells. This diagram follows the anatomic convention of orienting the retina with the vitreous side down.

McIlwain (1996)



Weiss (1996)

Phototransduction

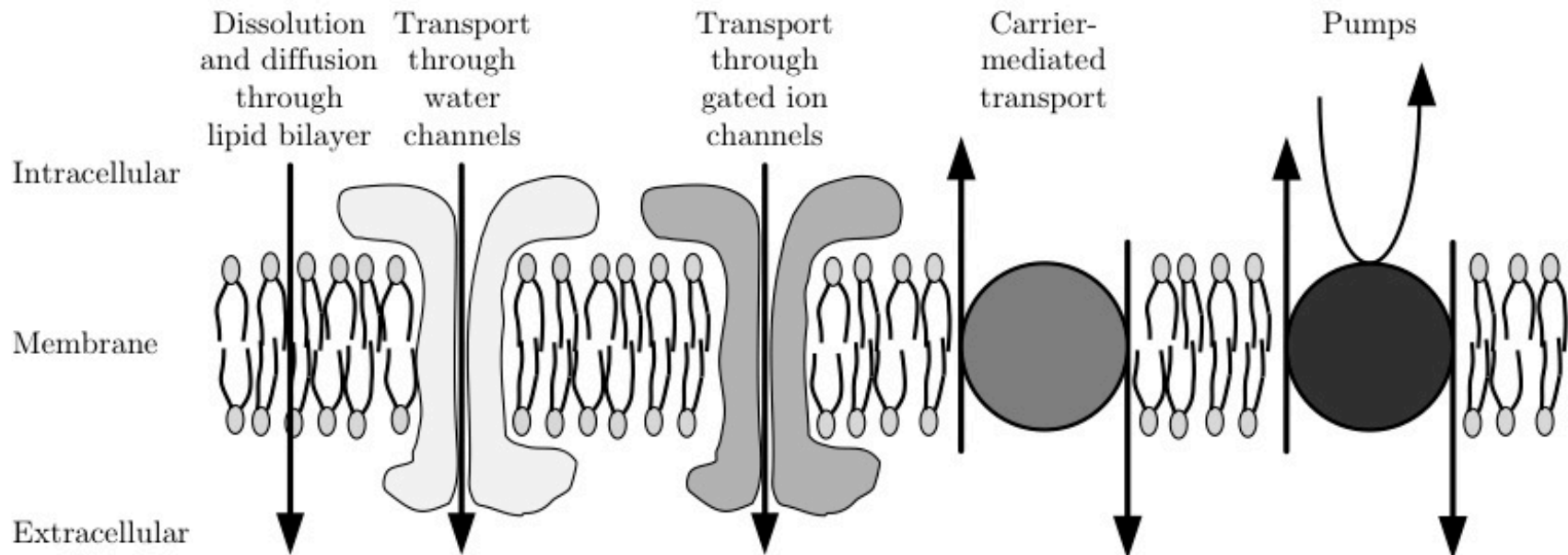


Figure 2.19

→ Relates directly back to our picture of what is/moves across cell membrane and how such affects electrodynamics

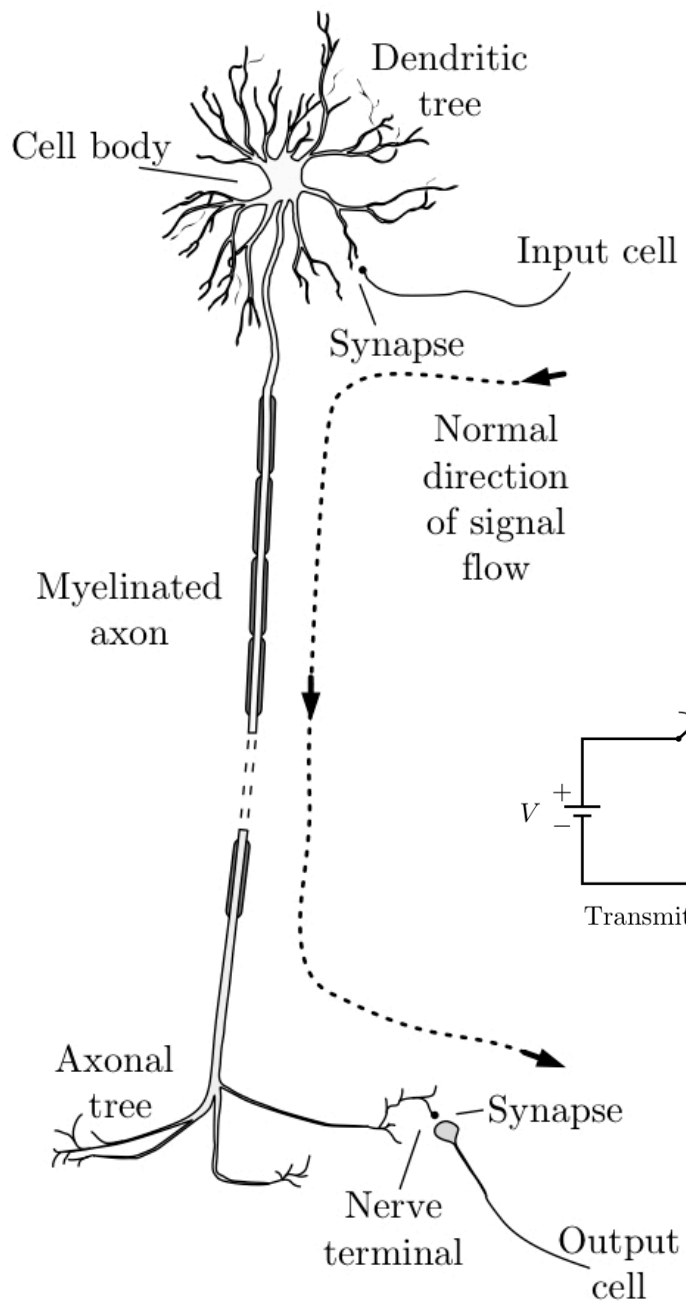


Figure 1.22

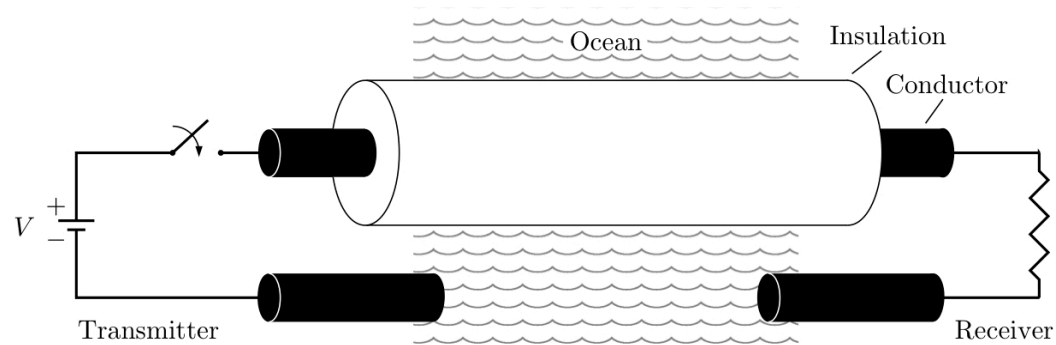


Figure 3.8



→ Ear actually **EMITS** sound!

otoacoustic emissions – OAEs

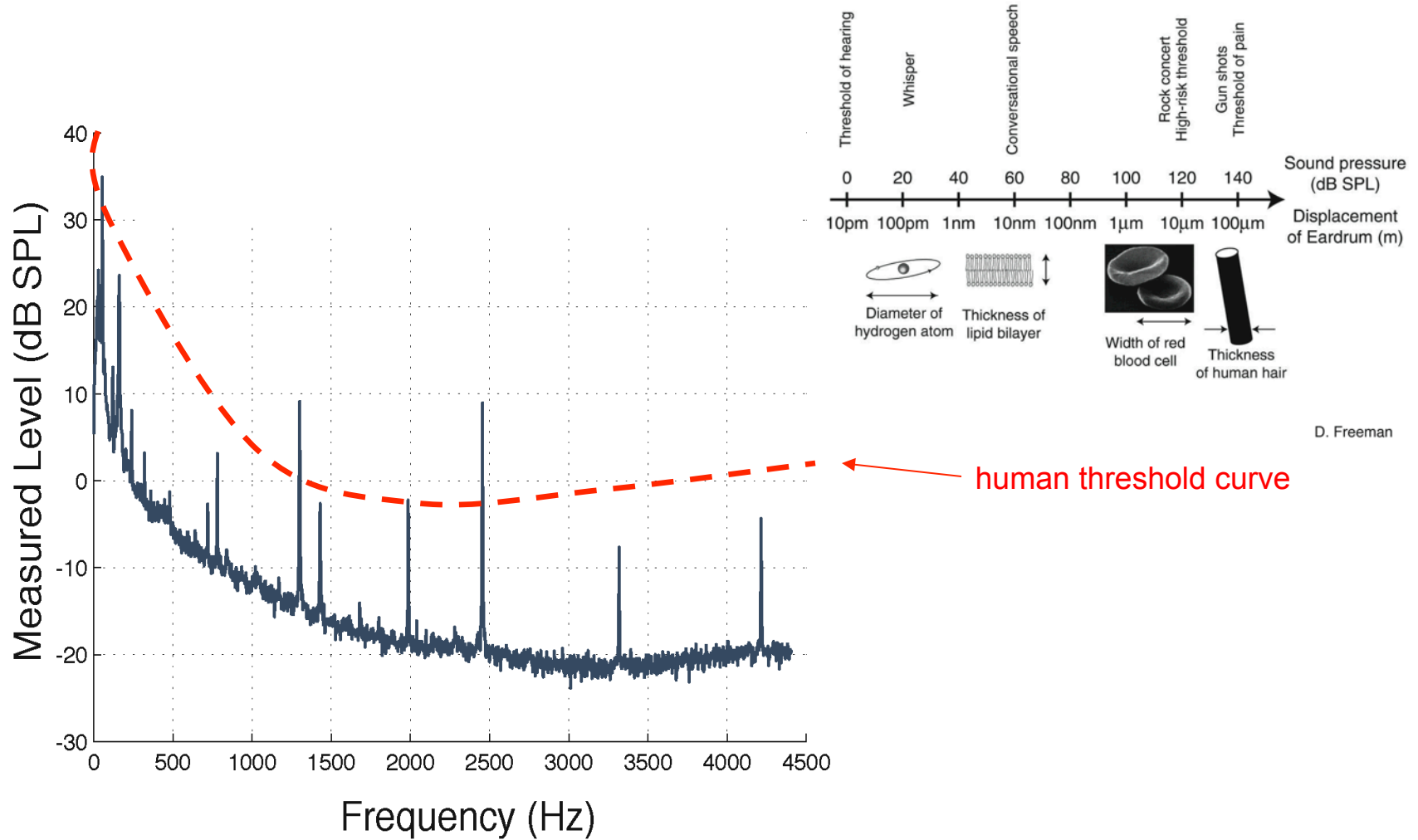


→ OAEs used for newborn hearing screening (only healthy ears emit)

→ Much faster/easier than evoked potentials (i.e., ABR)



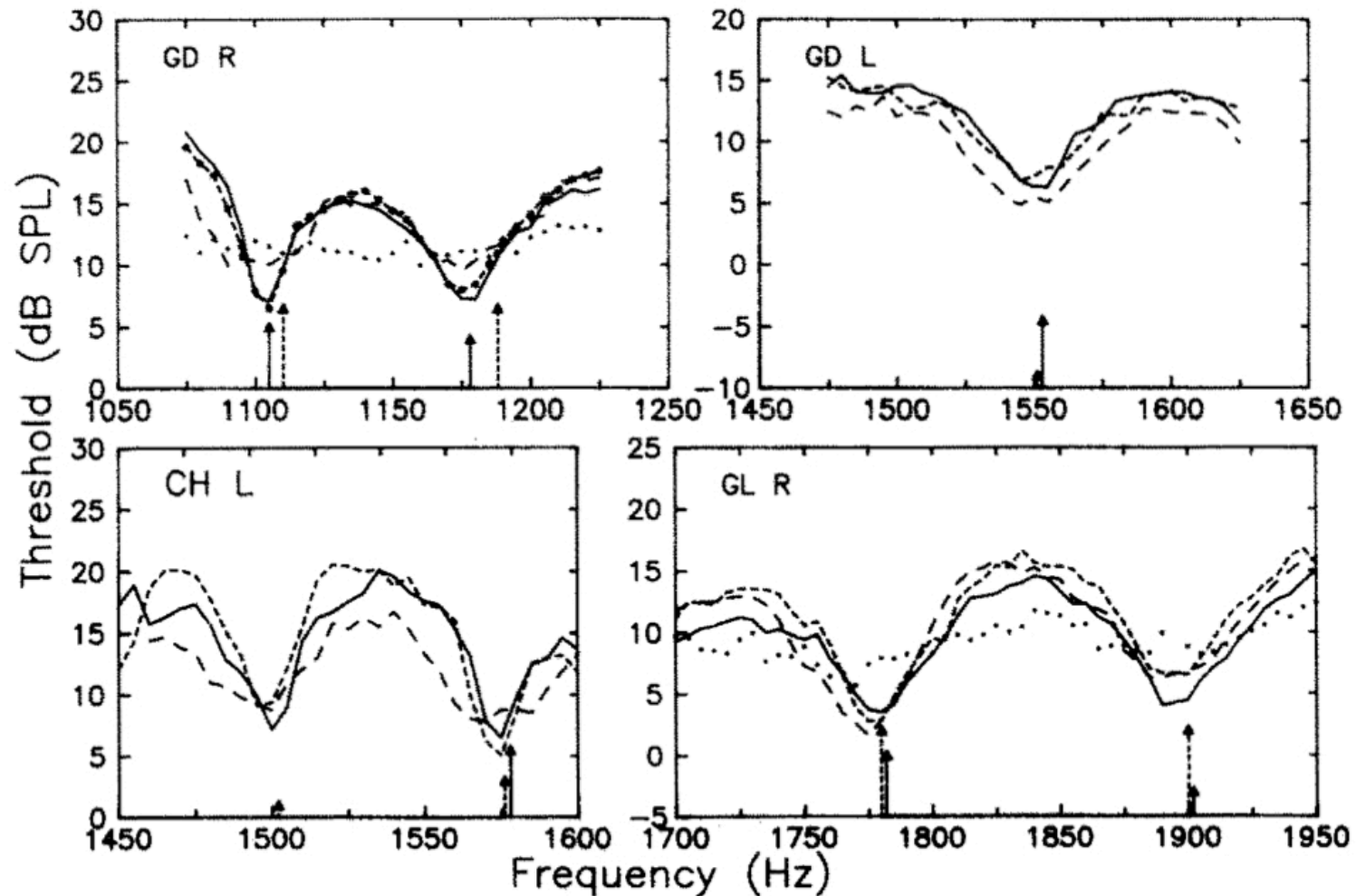
Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs)



D. Freeman

- OAEs apparently a byproduct of the *amplification* mechanism
- Provide means to non-invasively probe inner ear

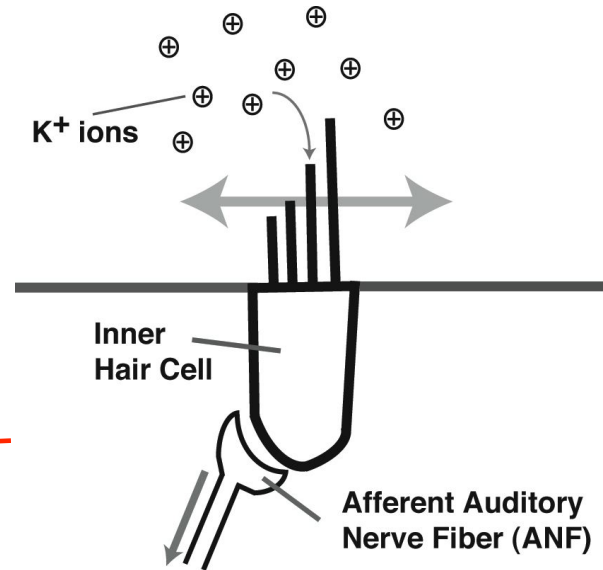
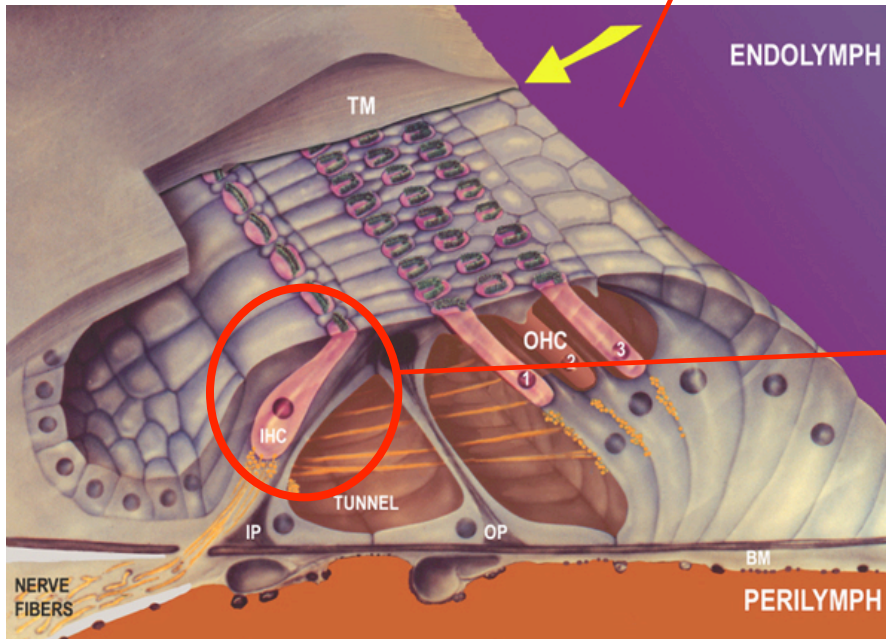
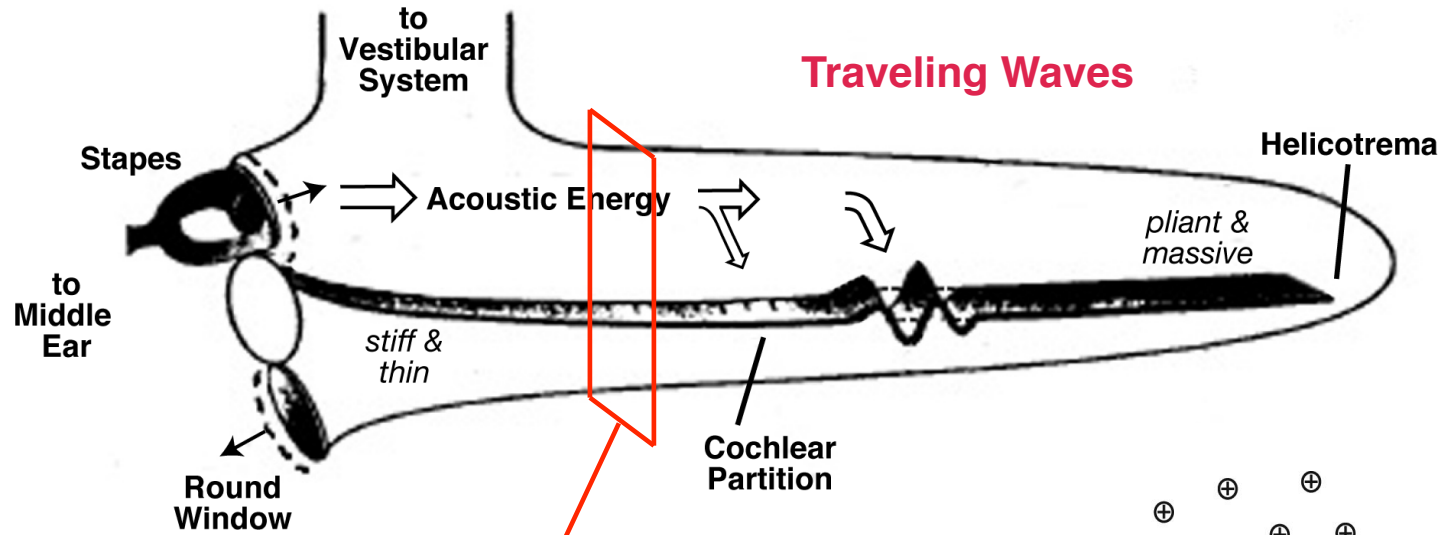
Spontaneous Emissions (SOAEs) & Threshold



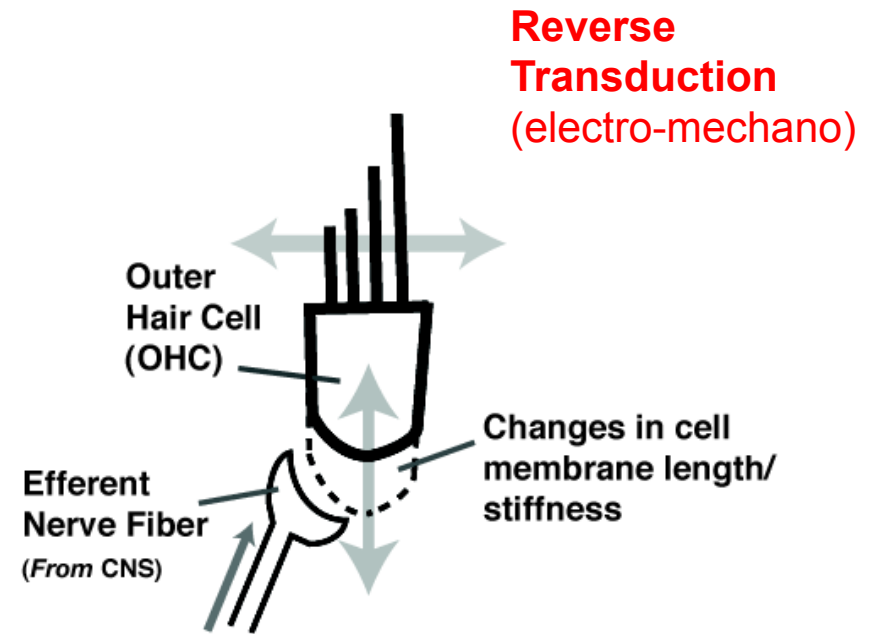
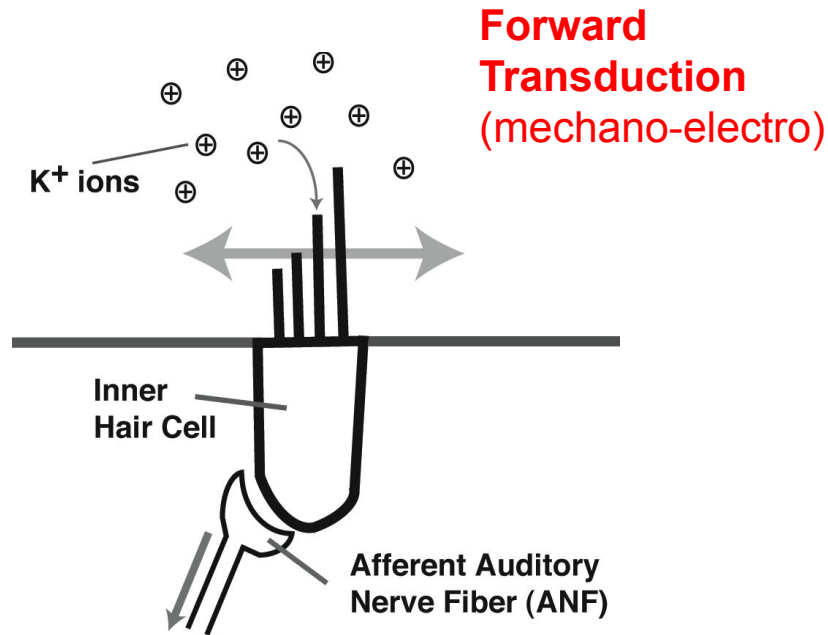
➤ OAEs directly tied to forward auditory transduction (i.e., neural responses)

Hair cell = 'Mechano-electro' transducer

Mammalian Cochlea Uncoiled

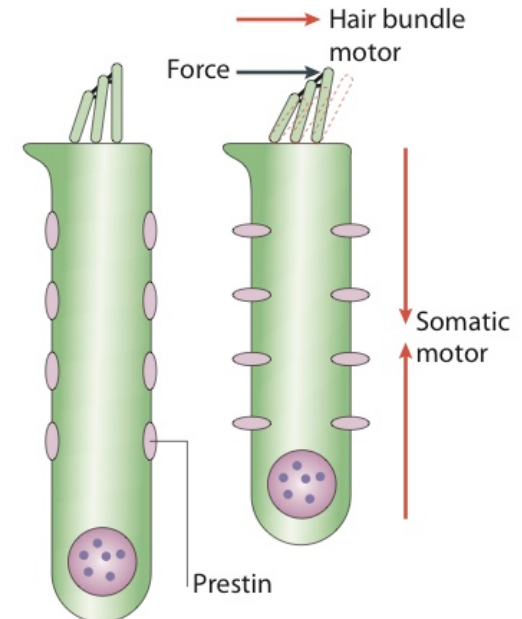


→ Transduction is nonlinear

Hair cell = amplifier?

→ Hair cells also amplify (forming basis for OAEs)

→ Motility mechanism for reverse transduction still not well understood



Comparative Approach

Hearing



- Wide variation in morphology/physiology
- Relatively 'simpler' ears
- Extensive neurophysiology, behavioral measures
- OAEs fairly universal

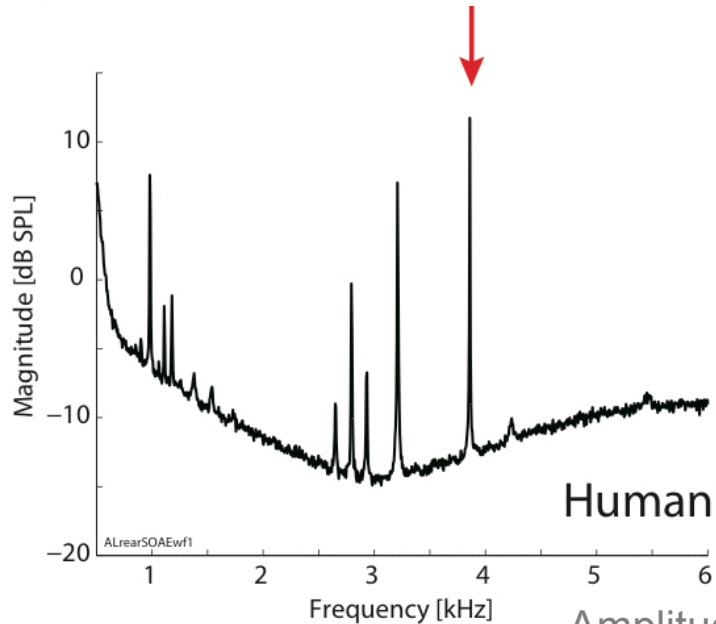


Anolis carolinensis

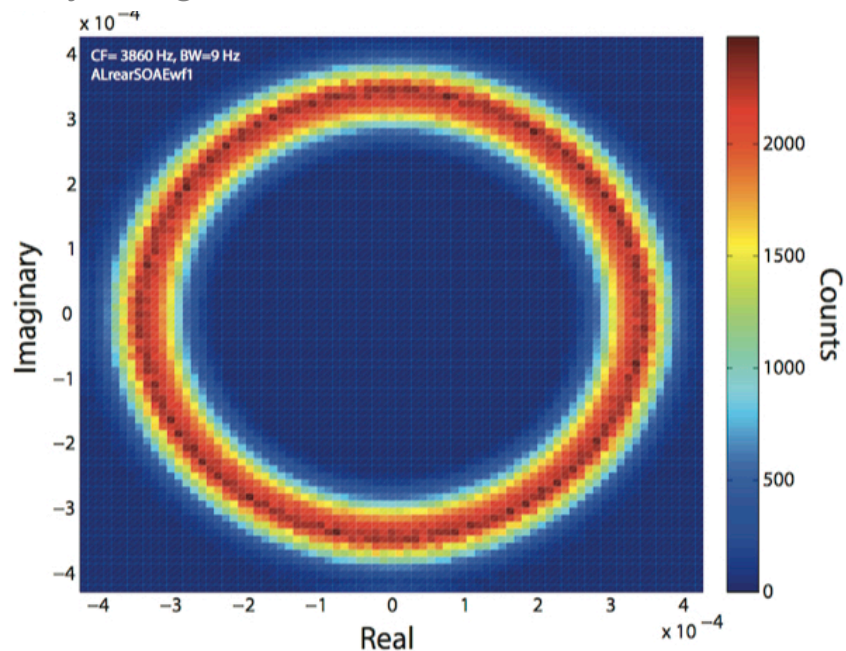


SOAE Statistics

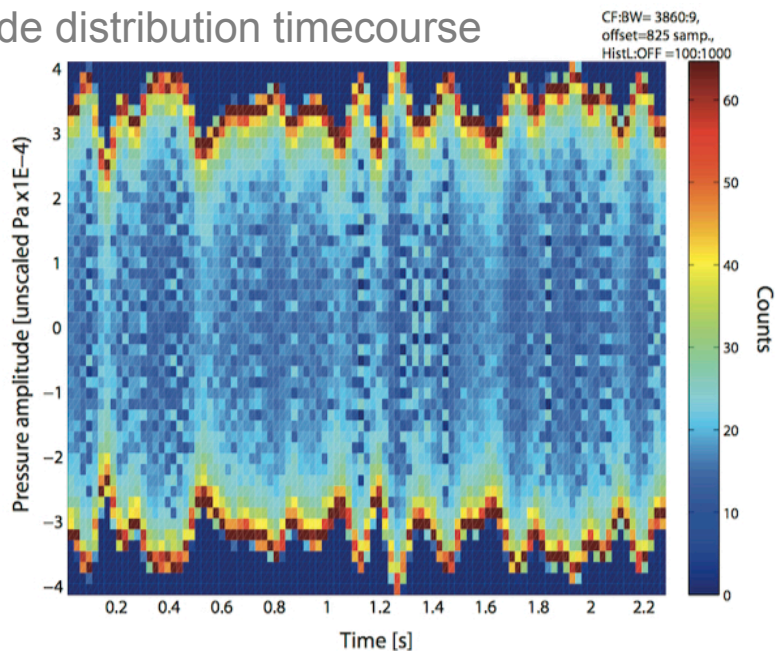
Fourier transform (spectral averaging)



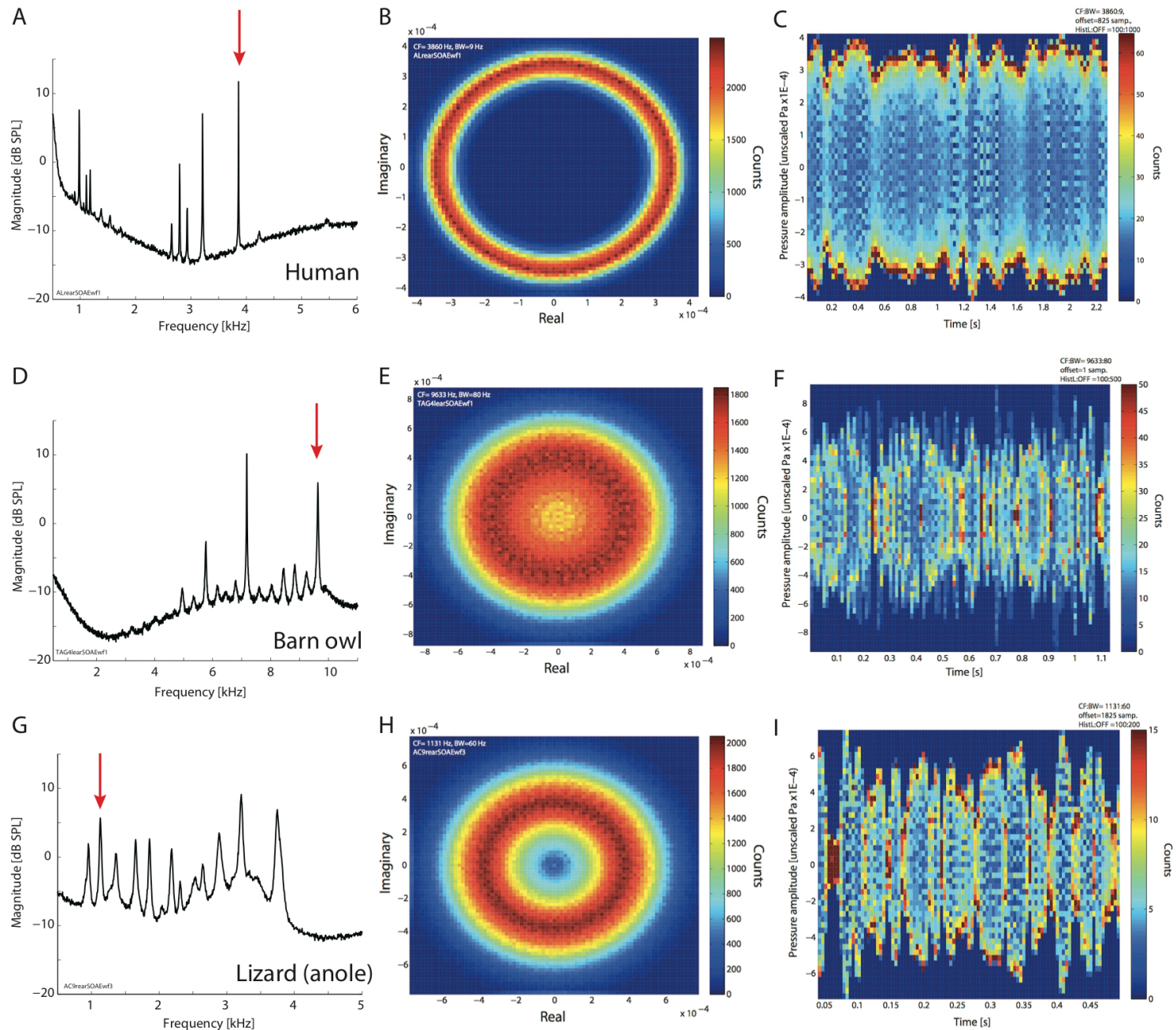
Analytic signal distribution (filtered peak)



Amplitude distribution timecourse

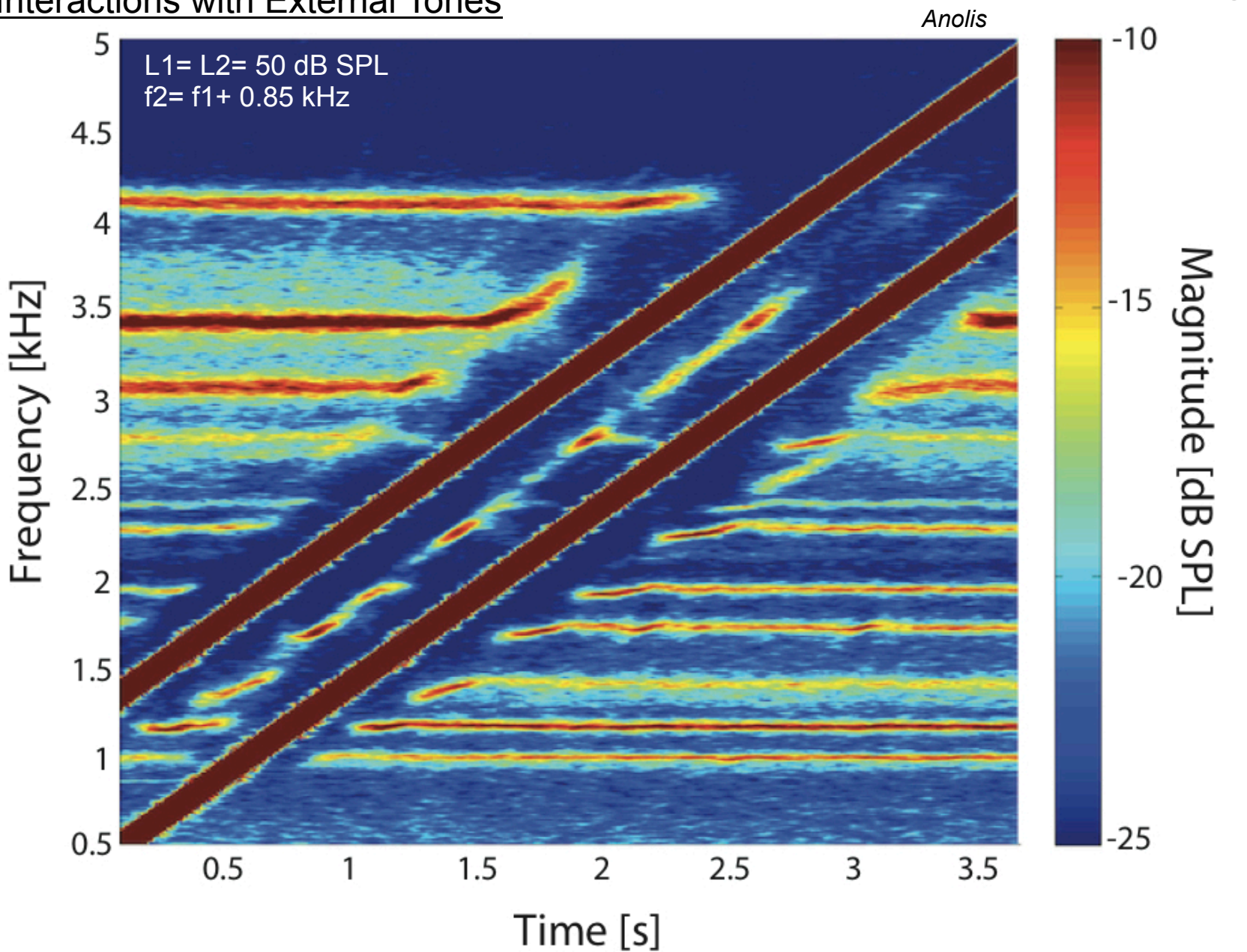


SOAE Statistics

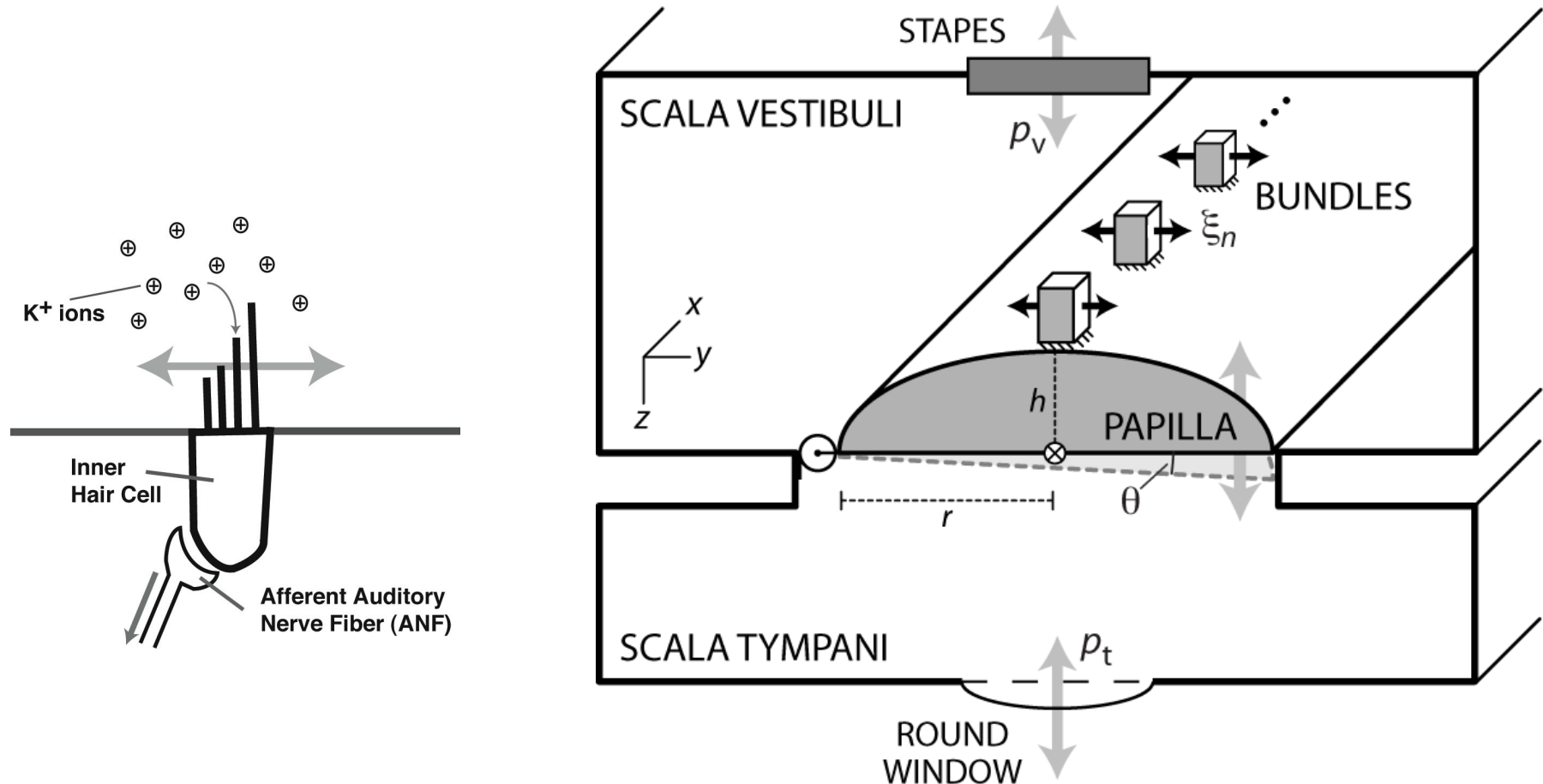


→ (Noisy) Self-sustained oscillators, suggestive of an ‘active’ mechanism

SOAEs: Interactions with External Tones

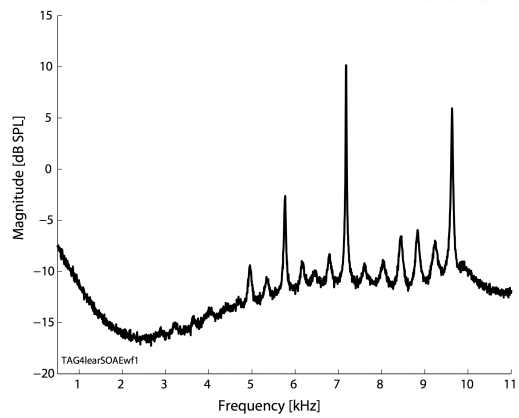
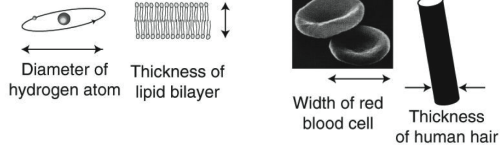
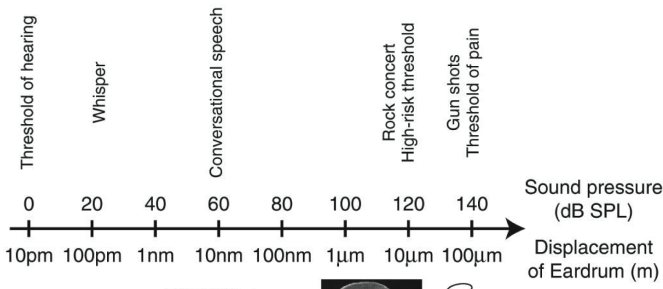


→ Complex interactions (nonlinear dynamics)



- Lizard (inner) ear as collection of coupled oscillators
- Nonlinearity: Limit-cycle oscillators
- Parameters primarily determined by neurophysiology
- Model predictions match data well

Summary (re hearing)



D. Freeman

