

Coupled Oscillations in Nervous Systems

Theoretical Overview

Experimental Evidence for Weak Coupling Between Oscillators

Direct Measurement of Phase-sensitivity Function, $Z(\psi)$

Behavior of Pairs and Networks of Inhibitory Neurons

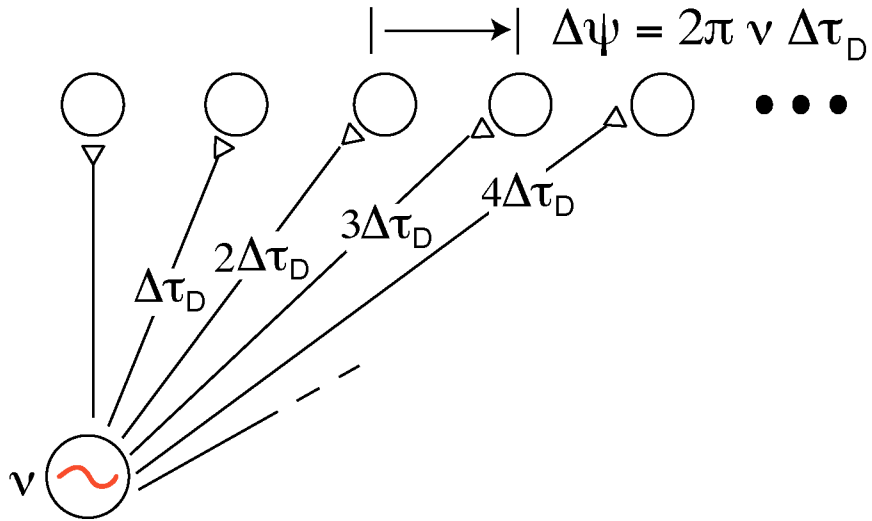
Electrical Waves During "Normal" Function

Linear Waves in an Invertebrate Central Olfactory Organ
(Consequence of an intrinsic frequency gradient)

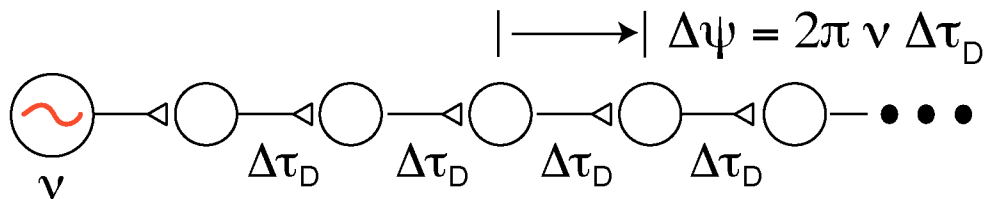
Linear and Rotating Waves in Lower Vertebrate Visual System
(Linear part consistent with biased connectivity)

Insights into Cortical Function from Nonlinear Spectral Mixing
(Problem of Combining Proprioceptive, or Reference Signals, with Contact Signals)

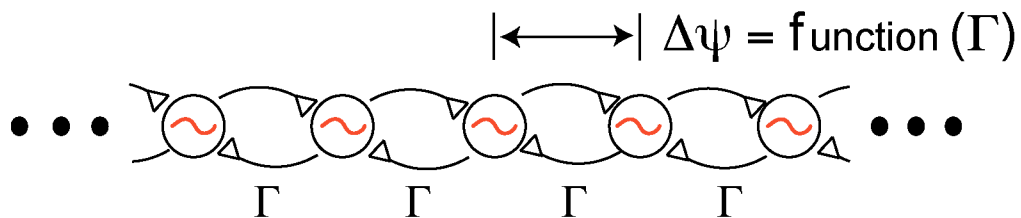
Delayed Excitations from a Single Oscillator



Propagating Pulses in an Excitable Network



Phase-Locked, Weakly Coupled Oscillators



Summary of Experimental Evidence for Traveling Waves in Cortex of Awake Animals

System	Frequency (in Hz)	'Band'	Interstimulus activity	Stimulus activity	Phase gradient across area (in radians)
Molluscan olfactory procerebral lobe (Delaney et al. 1994)	1	-	Wave	-	$\approx \pi$
			-	Synchrony	-
Turtle olfactory cortex (Lam et al. 2000)	12	-	-	Wave	$\sim 3\pi/2$
Rabbit olfactory cortex (Freeman 1978)	50	γ	-	Wave	$\sim \pi/2$
Turtle visual cortex (Prechtl et al. 1997)	3	-	Wave	Wave	$\approx \pi/2$
	20	γ	-	Wave	$\approx \pi$ (plane) 2π (rotating)
Cat visuomotor cortex (Roelfsema et al. 1997)	10	α	Wave	-	$\approx \pi/2$
	20 - 40	γ	-	Synchrony	-
Dog cortex (Lopes da Silva & Storm van Leeuwen 1978)	8 - 12	α	Wave	-	$\approx \pi/2$
Human thalamus/cortex (Ribary et al. 1991)	40	γ	Wave	Wave	$\sim \pi$

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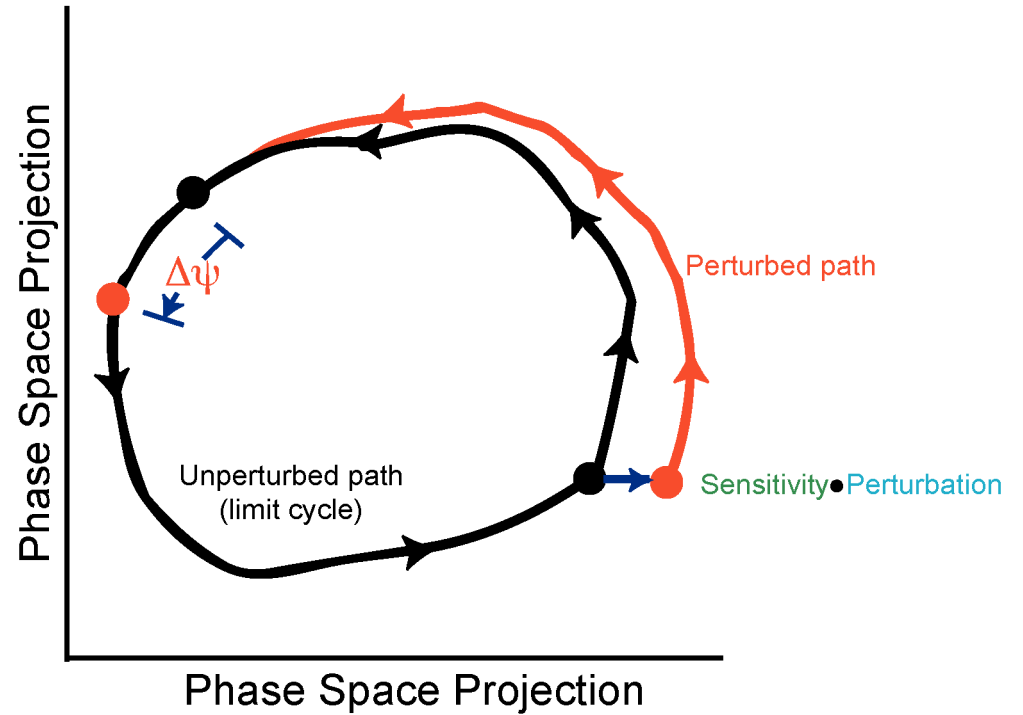
Insights into Cortical Function from Nonlinear Spectral Mixing
(Prospects for mapping spatial *as well as* temporal dynamics)

Transformation of a Dynamic System (N-dim) into a "Phase" System (1-dim)

Closed Orbits

Conditions (met only approximately in practice): Weak Perturbations
Infinite Relaxation Time

Perturbation → Phase Shift ($\Delta\psi$)



$$\frac{d\psi_i(t)}{dt} = \omega + \sum_{\text{neighbors, } j} \Gamma(\psi_i - \psi_j)$$

$$\Gamma(\psi_i - \psi_j) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{Z}(\psi_i + \theta) \cdot \mathbf{P}(\psi_i + \theta, \psi_j + \theta)$$

Sensitivity $\propto \left(\frac{\partial \psi_i}{\partial V}, \dots \right)$

The Phase Sensitivity Function

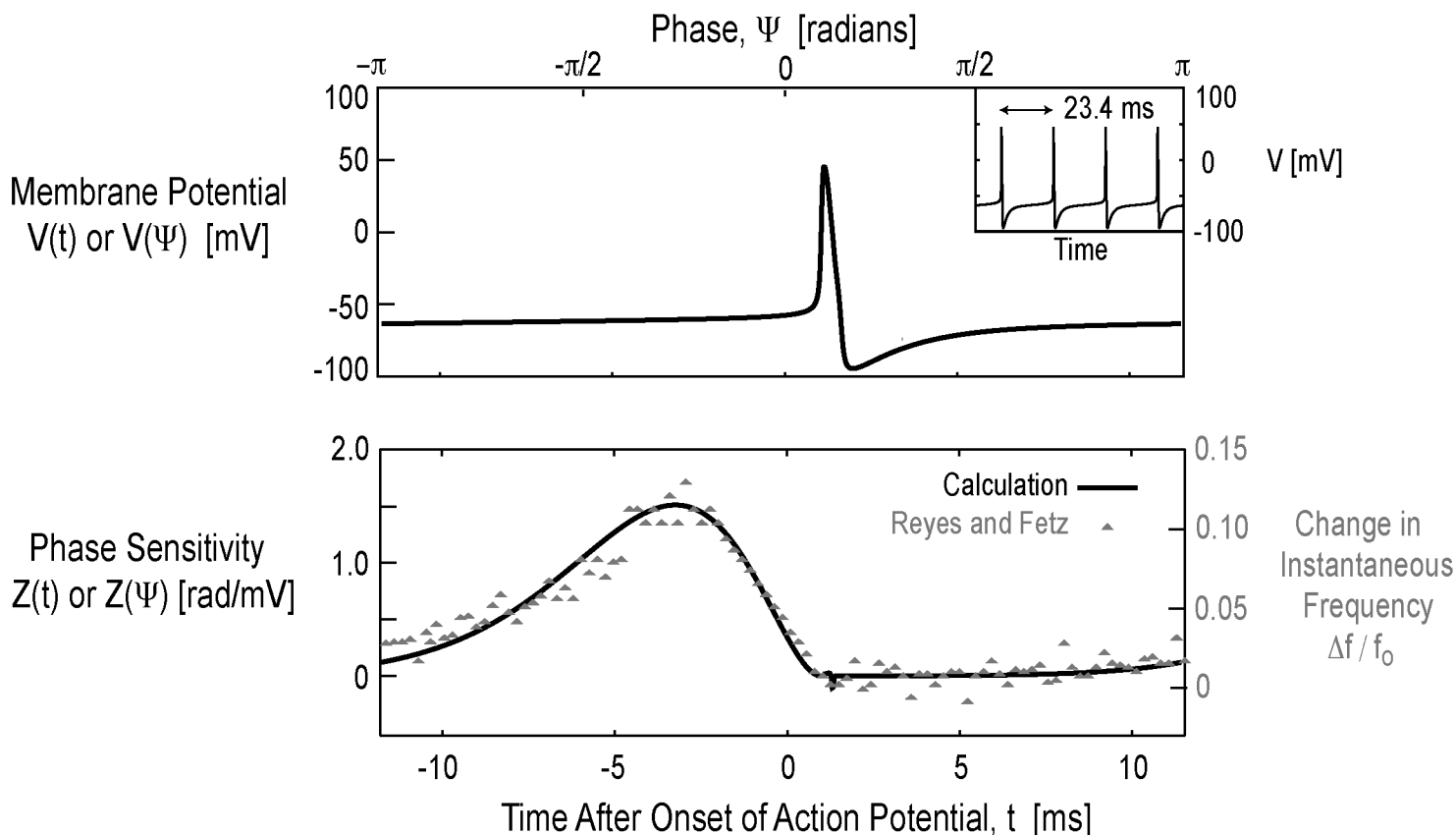
Calculation (Ermentrout & Kleinfeld 2000) vs. Experimental Data (Reyes & Fetz 1993)

Real system: $\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \dots ; \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \dots ; \text{etcetera}$

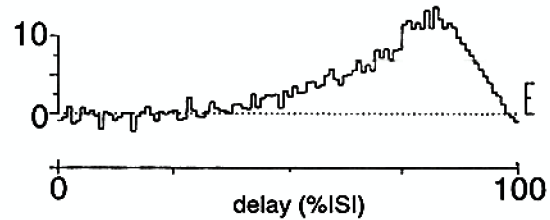
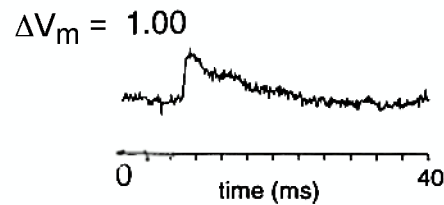
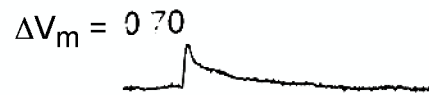
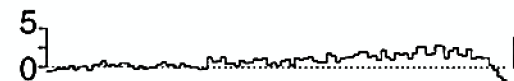
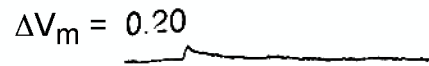
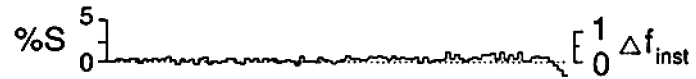
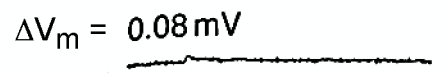
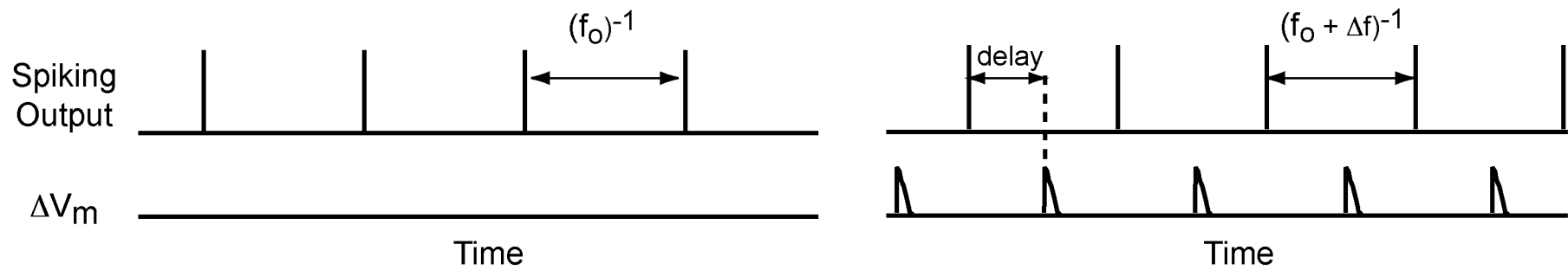
Phase reduction: $\frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial t} = \omega + \Gamma(\Psi_i - \Psi_j)$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{Z}(\Psi_i - \theta) \cdot \mathbf{P}(\Psi_i - \theta; \Psi_j - \theta)$$

For perturbation solely in V: $\mathbf{Z}(\Psi) = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial V} \approx \frac{2\pi}{f_0} \frac{\Delta f}{\Delta V}$



Experiment of Reyes and Fetz (J. Neurophysiol. 1993)



0 time (ms) 40

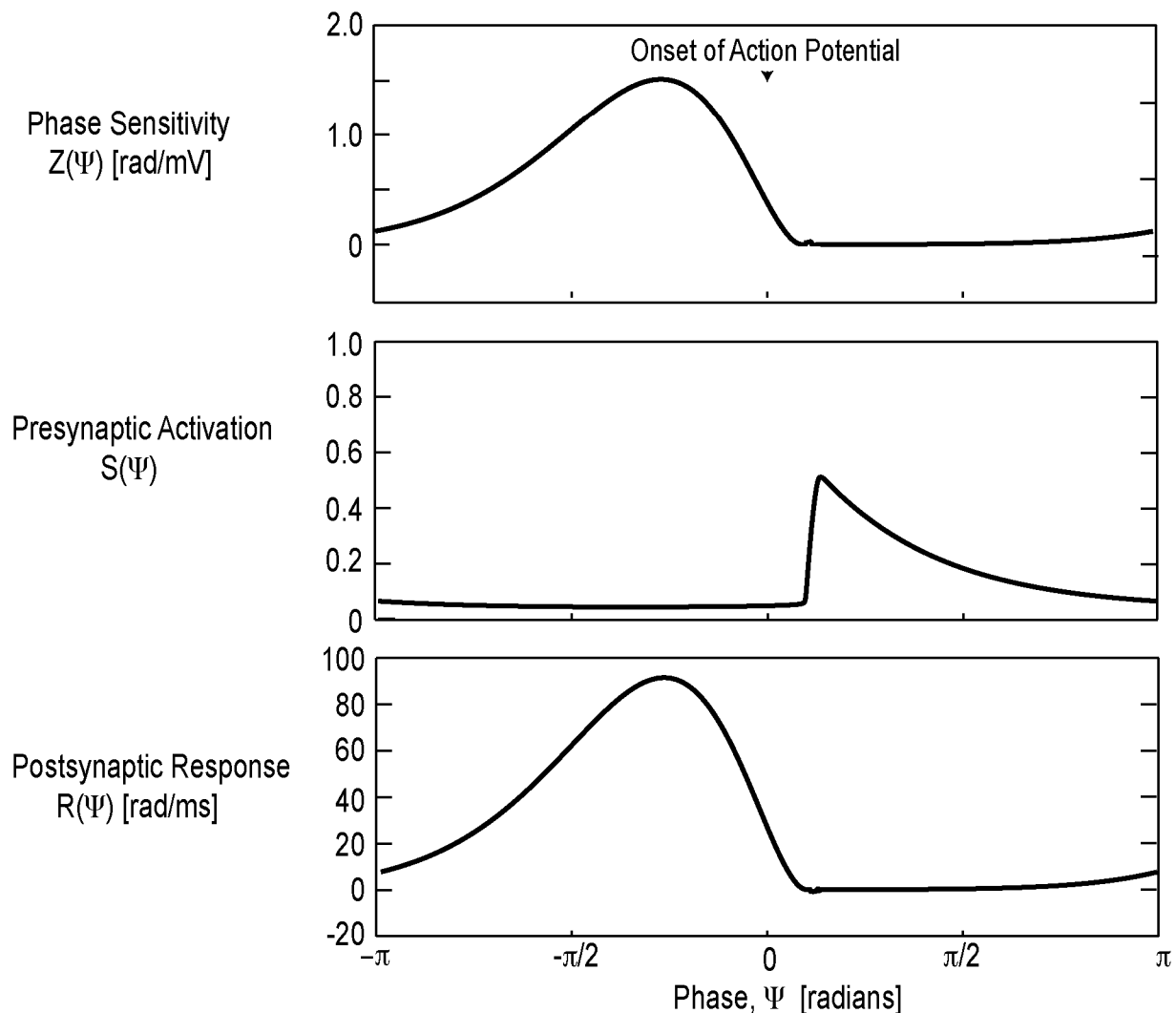
0 delay (%ISI) 100

Pairwise Interaction between Neuronal Oscillators, $\Gamma(\psi_i - \psi_j)$
 is the Correlation of Presynaptic Activation with Postsynaptic Response

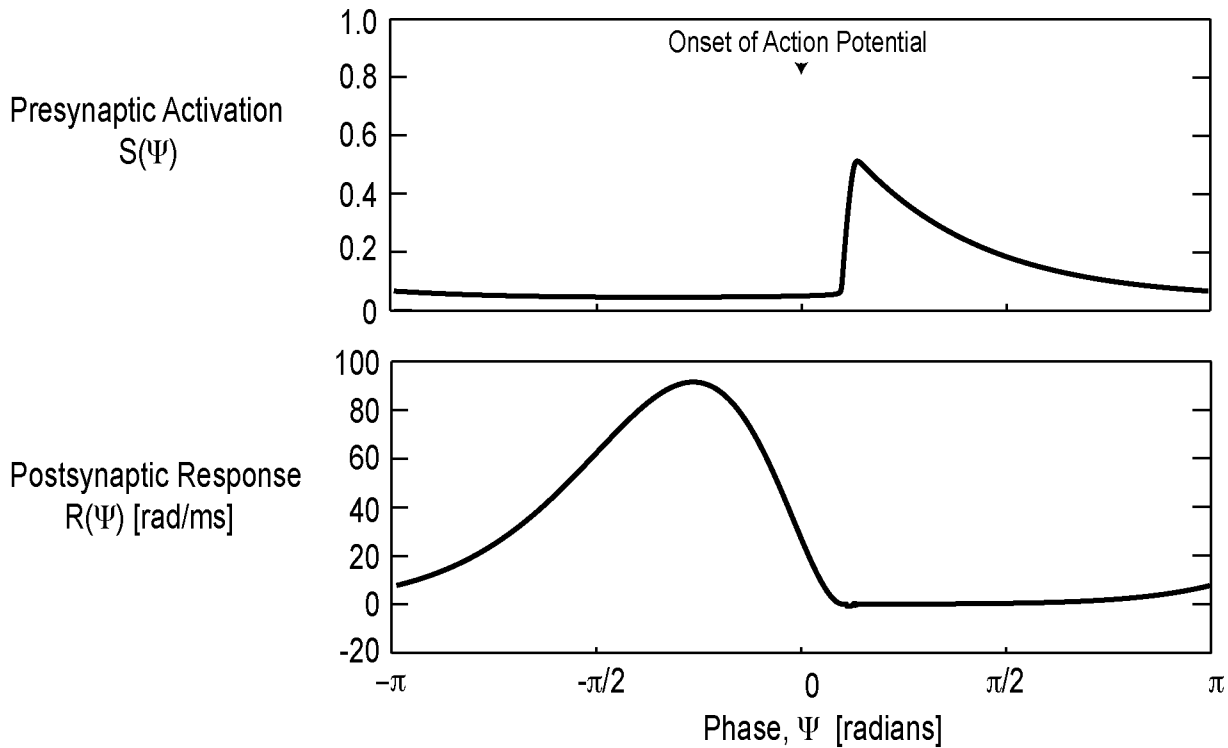
$$\Gamma(\Psi_i - \Psi_j) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{Z}(\Psi_i + \theta) \mathbf{P}(\Psi_i + \theta; \Psi_j + \theta)$$

$$= \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \frac{g_{\text{synapse}}}{C_m} \mathbf{Z}(\Psi_i + \theta) [E_{\text{synapse}} - \mathbf{V}(\Psi_i + \theta)] \mathbf{S}(\Psi_j + \theta)$$

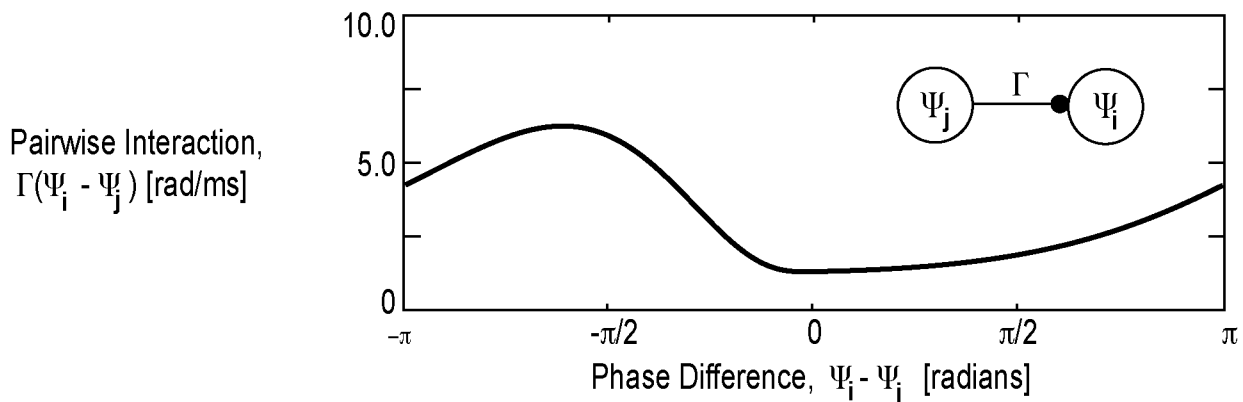
$$= \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{R}(\Psi_i + \theta) \mathbf{S}(\Psi_j + \theta)$$



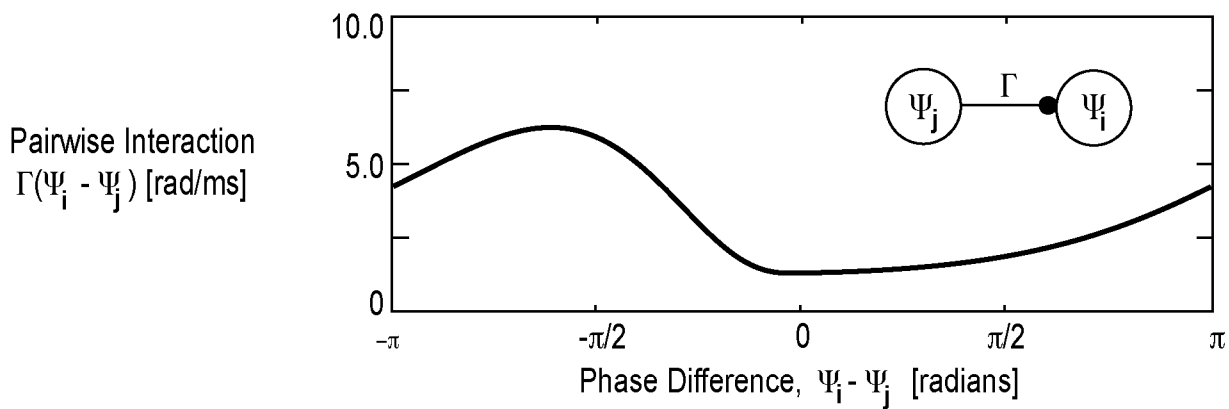
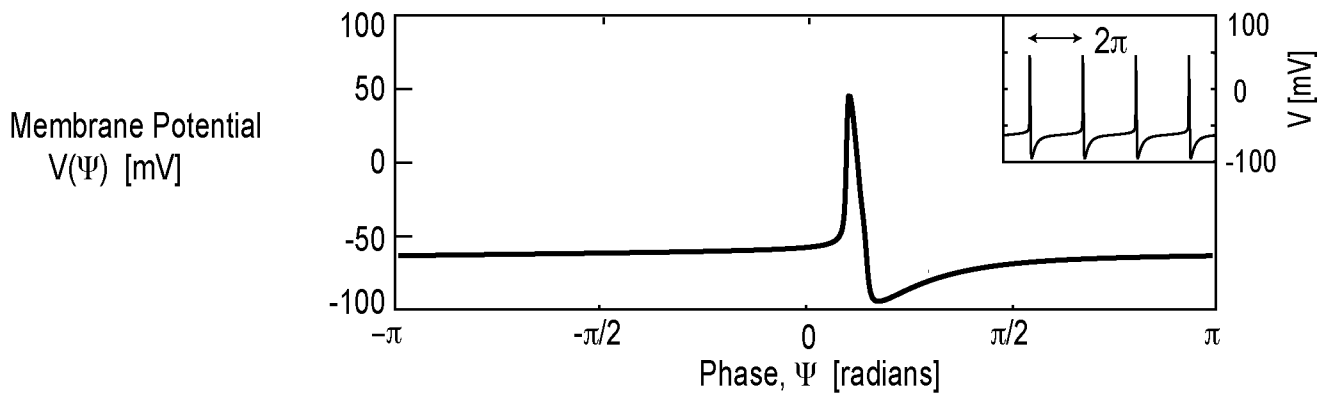
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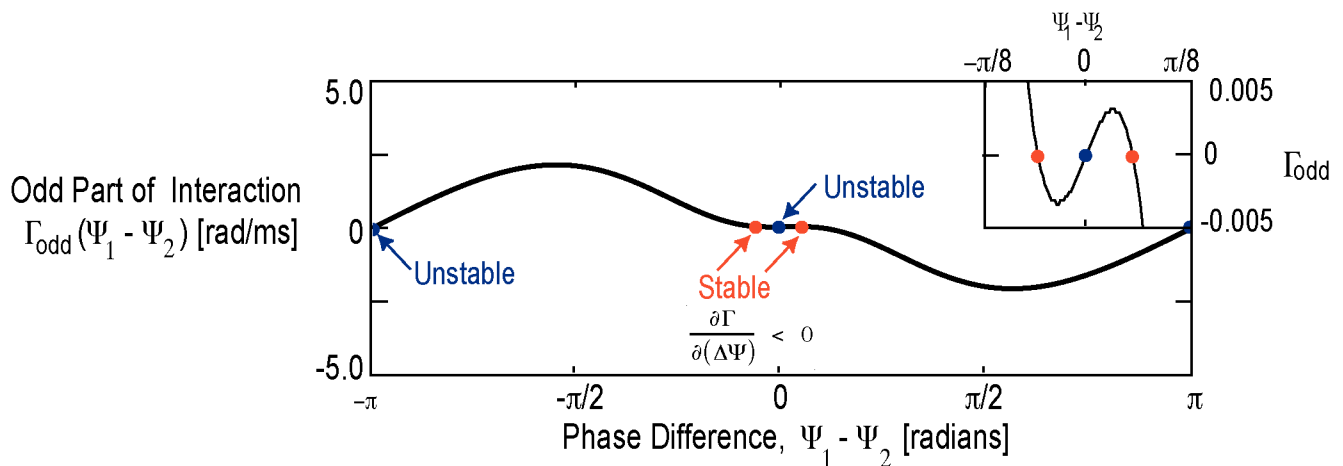
$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\Psi_i - \Psi_j) &= \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{R}(\Psi_i + \theta) \mathbf{S}(\Psi_j + \theta) \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \mathbf{R}(\theta) \mathbf{S}\left[\theta - \underbrace{(\Psi_i - \Psi_j)}_{\text{Phase difference}}\right] \end{aligned}$$



Nature of the Pairwise Interaction is Revealed by the Phase Shifts Between Two Reciprocally Connected Neuronal Oscillators



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial t} &= \omega + \Gamma(\Psi_i - \Psi_j) \\ \frac{\partial \Psi_j}{\partial t} &= \omega + \Gamma(\Psi_j - \Psi_i) \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial(\Psi_i - \Psi_j)}{\partial t} = \Gamma(\Psi_i - \Psi_j) - \Gamma(\Psi_j - \Psi_i)$$



Two Neuronal Oscillators with Synaptic Coupling

Minimal Model for Insight into Network Behavior

(Hansel, Mato & Meunier 1993, 1995; von der Vreeswijk, Abbott & Ermentrout 1994)

Simpliest phase sensitivity function: $Z(\psi) = \sin(\psi)$ with $\psi = \omega t \text{ modulo}(2\pi)$

Perturbation given by: $P(\psi) = \frac{g}{\tau} \frac{\psi}{\omega\tau} e^{-\psi/\omega\tau}$

Asymmetric part of the interaction controls $\Delta\psi \equiv \psi - \psi'$

$$\Gamma(\Delta\psi) - \Gamma(-\Delta\psi) = \frac{\epsilon}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta \vec{Z}(\psi + \theta) \cdot \vec{P}(\psi' + \theta) \propto g \frac{(\omega\tau)^2 - 1}{[1 + (\omega\tau)^2]^2} \sin(\Delta\psi)$$

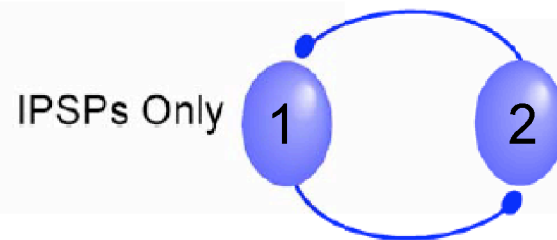
Stability (with our sign convention) requires $\frac{\partial [\Gamma(\Delta\psi) - \Gamma(-\Delta\psi)]}{\Delta\psi} < 0$

For inhibition ($g < 0$), synchrony ($\psi' = \psi$) is stable for $\tau > \frac{1}{\omega}$

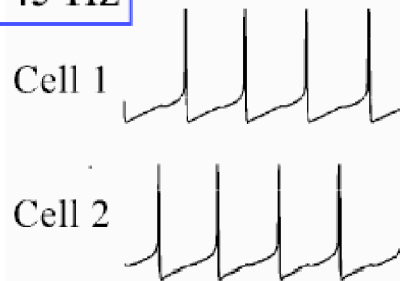
Theory Meets Experiment

Pair-wise Reciprocal Inhibition among FS Interneurons in Neocortical Slice Firing Switches from Antisynchrony to Synchrony near 80 Hz (data from Barry Connors Laboratory)

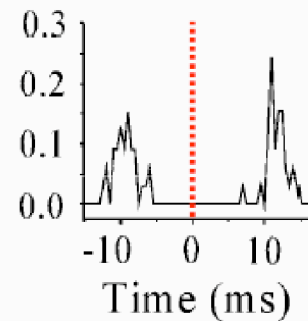
$$\Gamma(\Delta\psi) - \Gamma(-\Delta\psi) = g \frac{(\omega\tau)^2 - 1}{[1 + (\omega\tau)^2]^2} \sin(\Delta\psi)$$



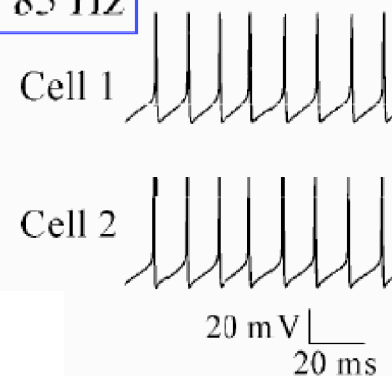
45 Hz



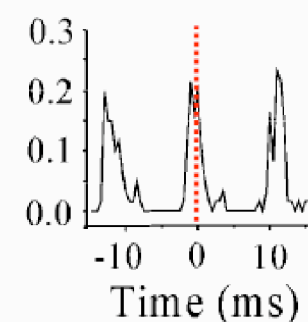
Cross-correlation



85 Hz

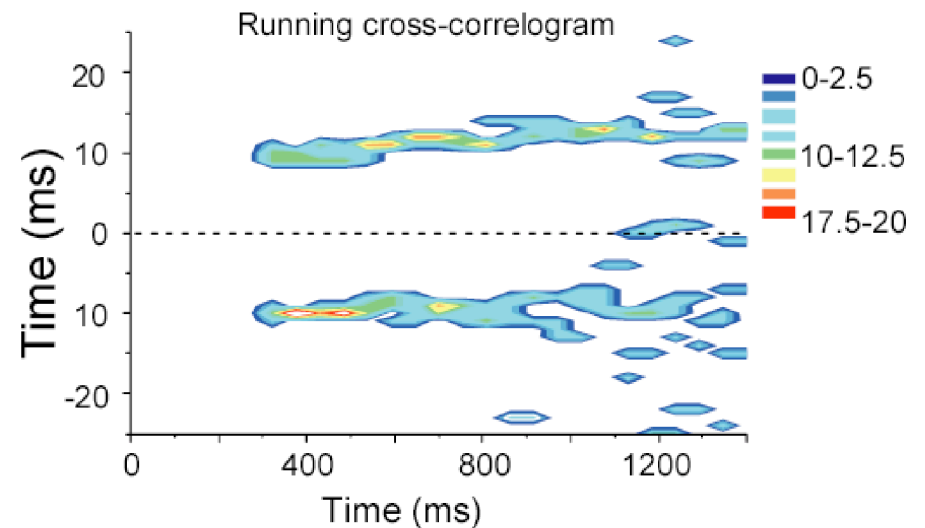
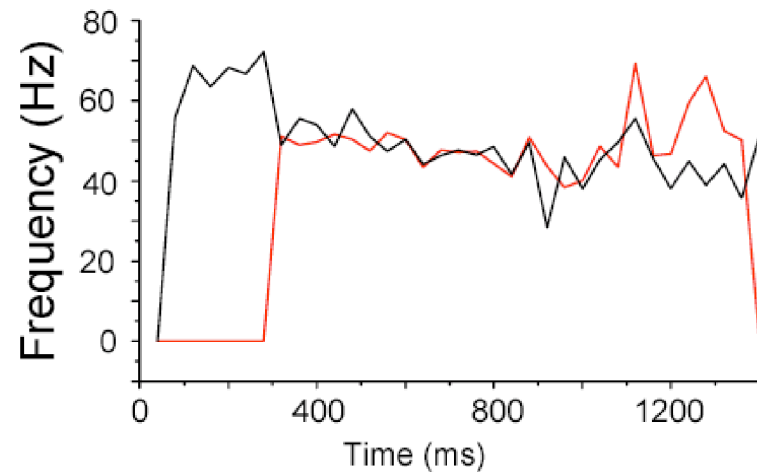
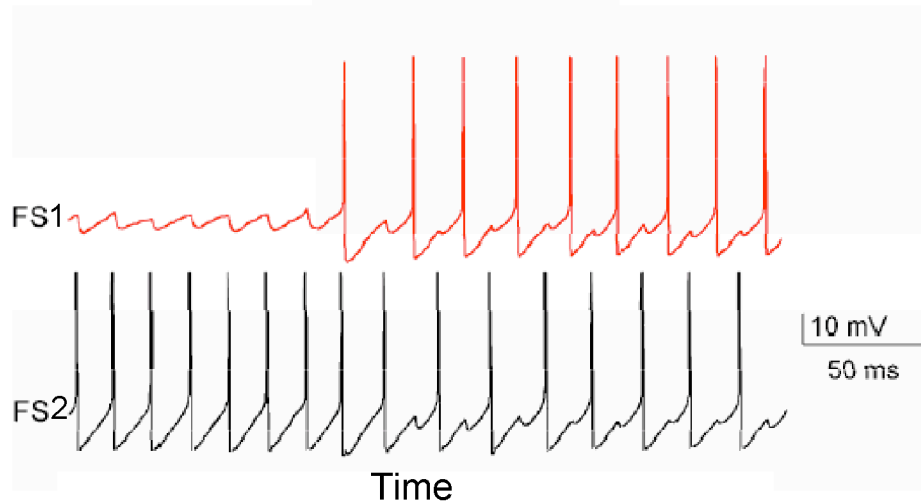
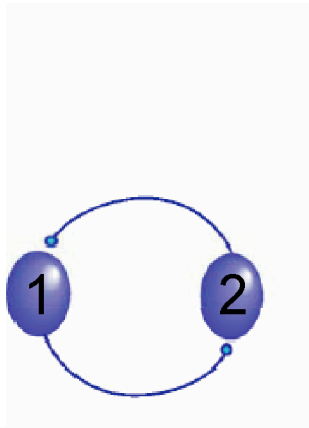


Cross-correlation



Theory Meets Experiment

Pair-wise Reciprocal Inhibition among FS Interneurons
in Neocortical Slice Fire in Antisynchrony near 50 Hz (γ band)
(data from Barry Connors Laboratory)

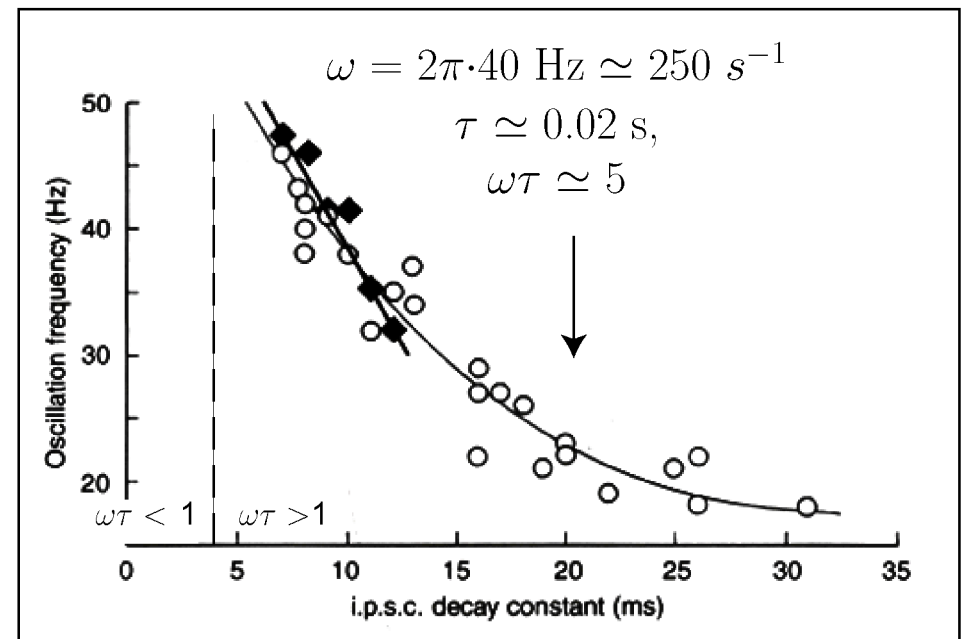
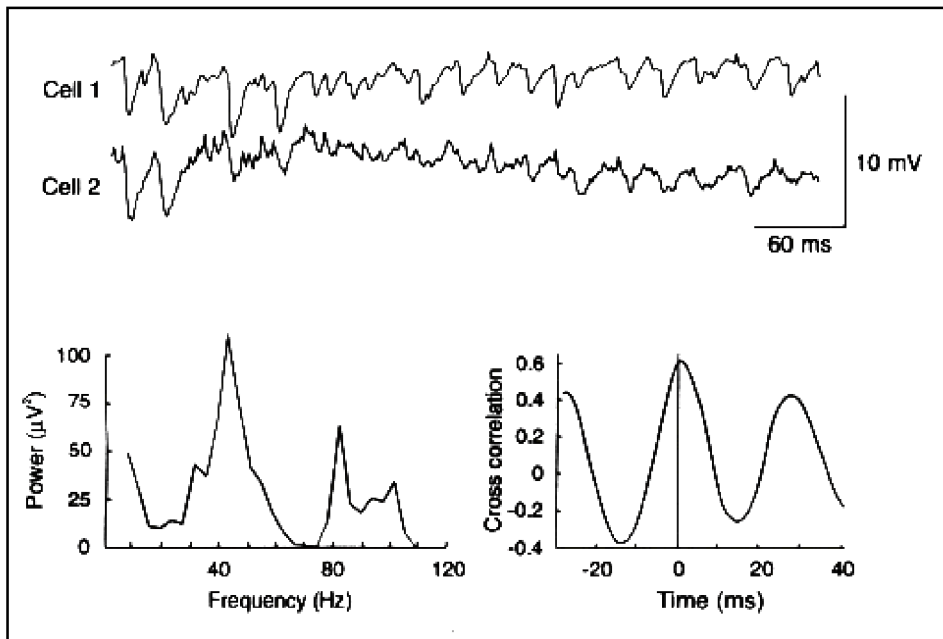
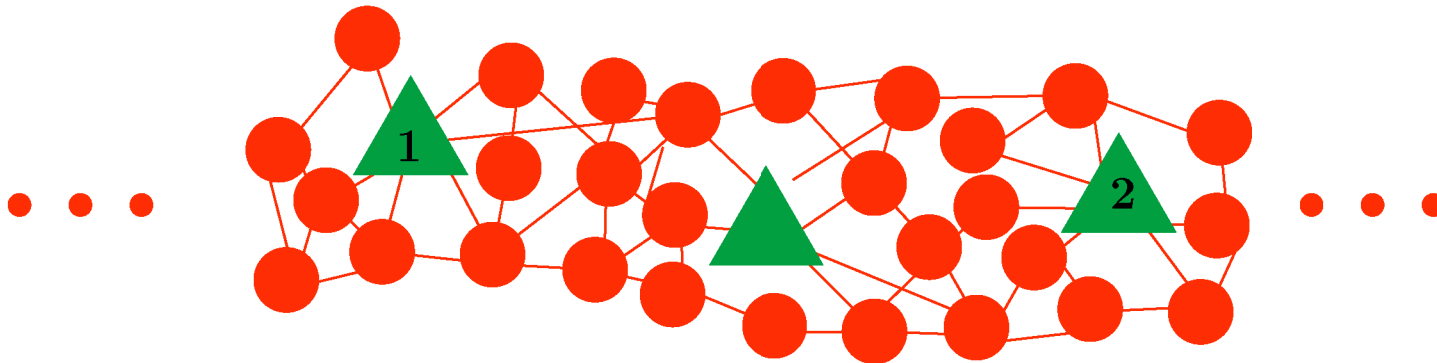


Theory Meets Experiment

Synchronized Oscillations in Interneuron ($g < 0$) Networks

(Whittington, Traub and Jeffreys 1995)

$$\Gamma(\Delta\psi) - \Gamma(-\Delta\psi) = g \frac{(\omega\tau)^2 - 1}{[1 + (\omega\tau)^2]^2} \sin(\Delta\psi)$$



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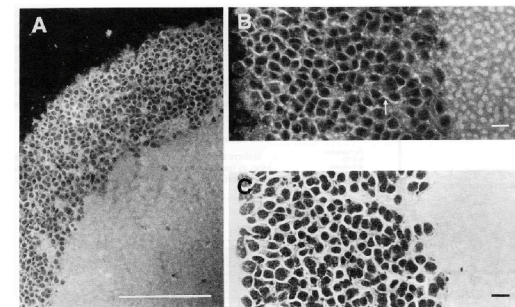
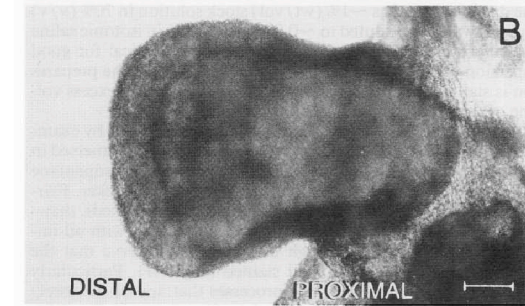
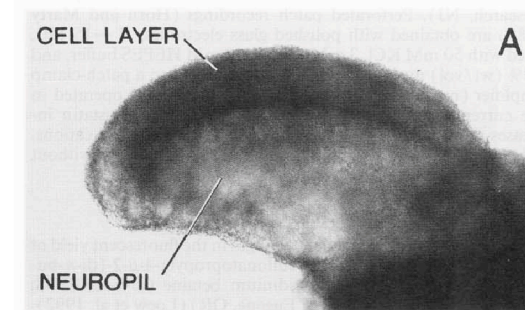
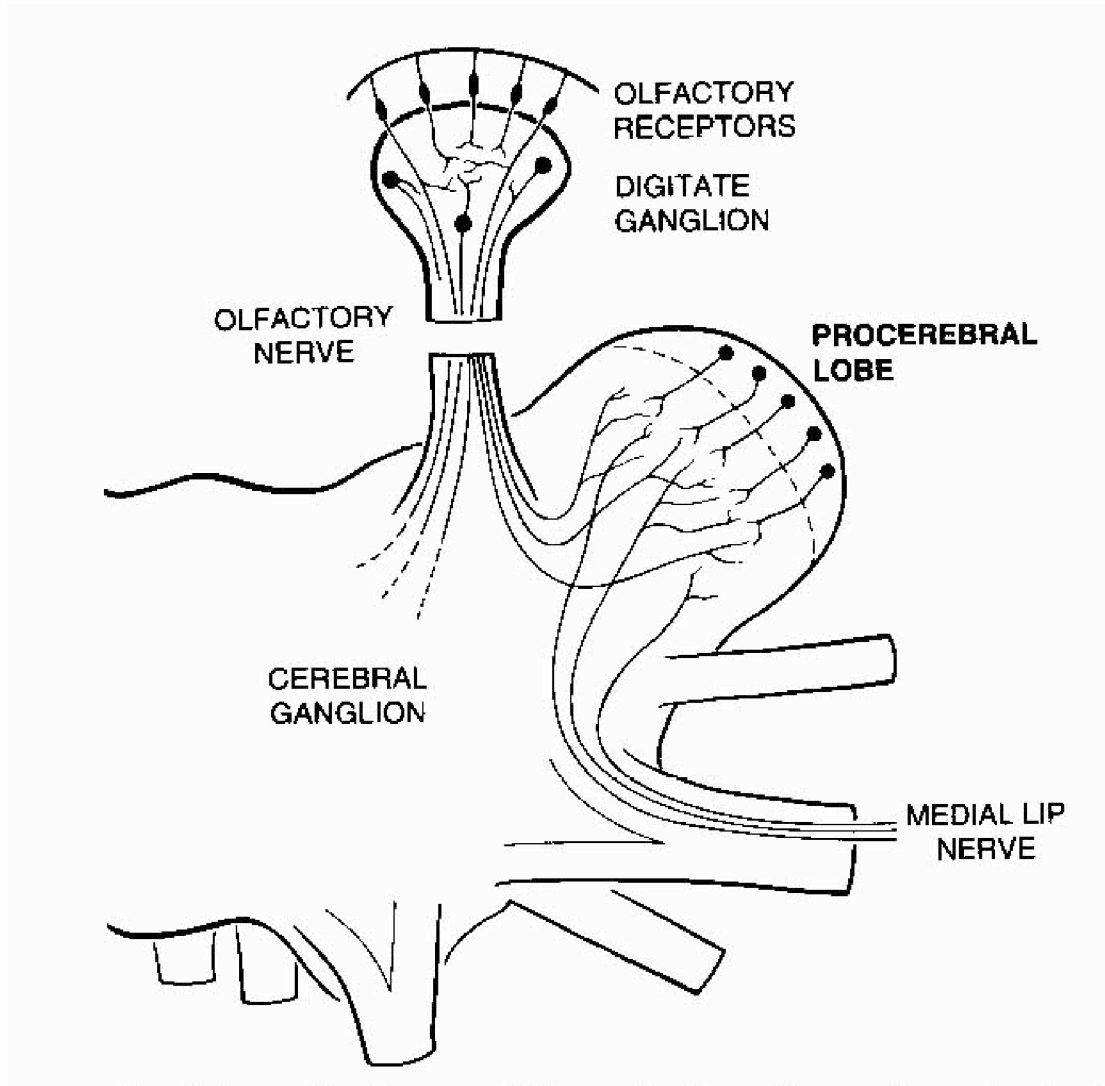
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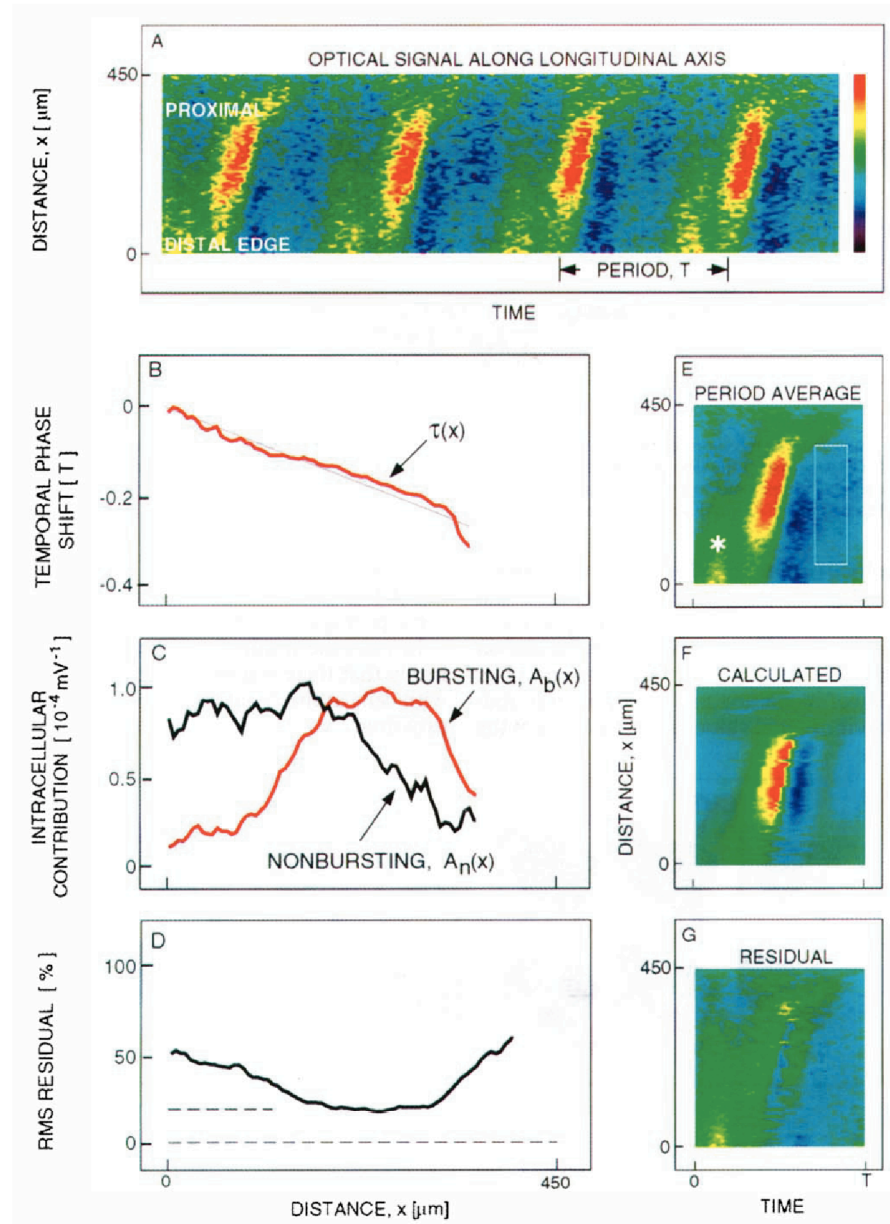
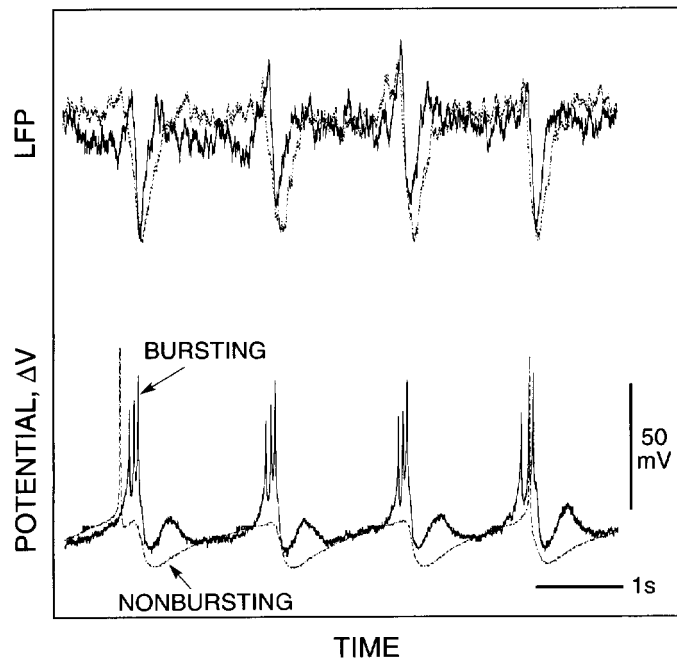
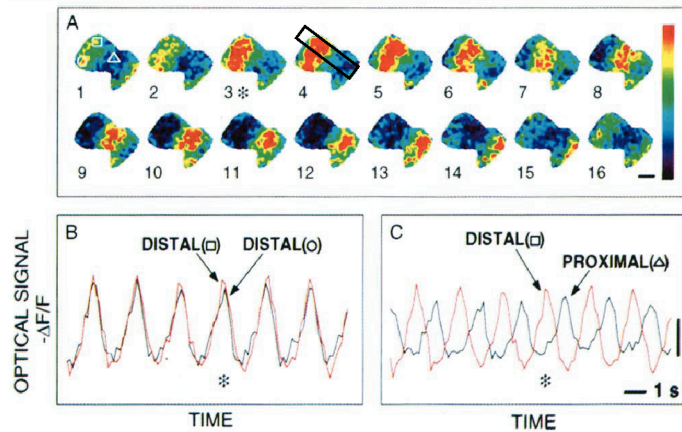
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Central Olfactory Organ in the Terrestrial Mollusk Limax



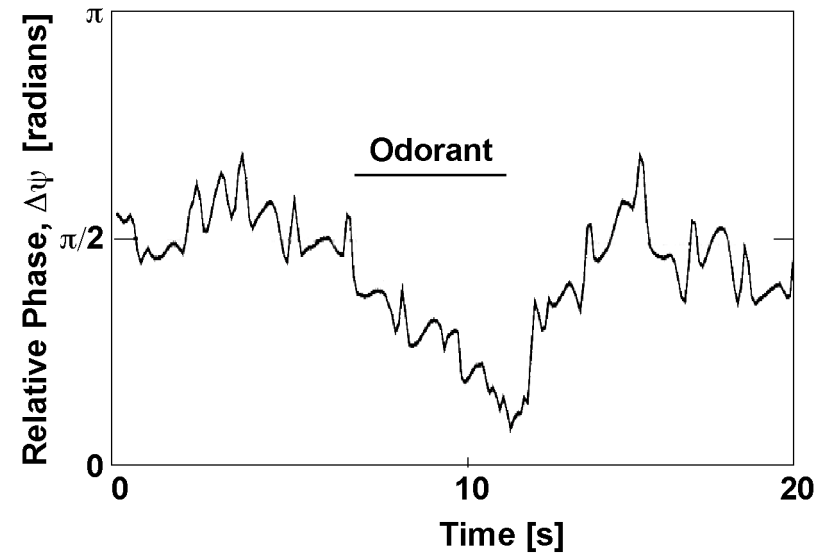
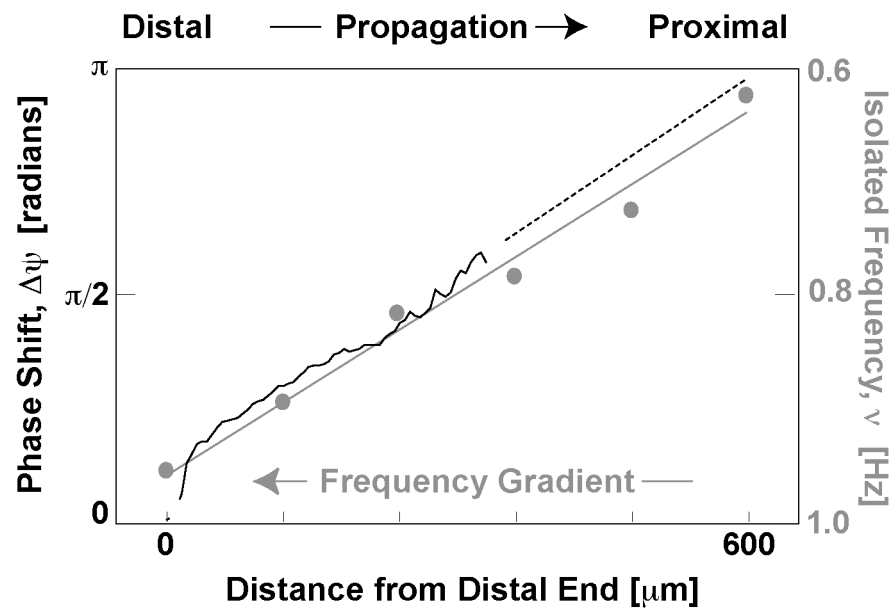
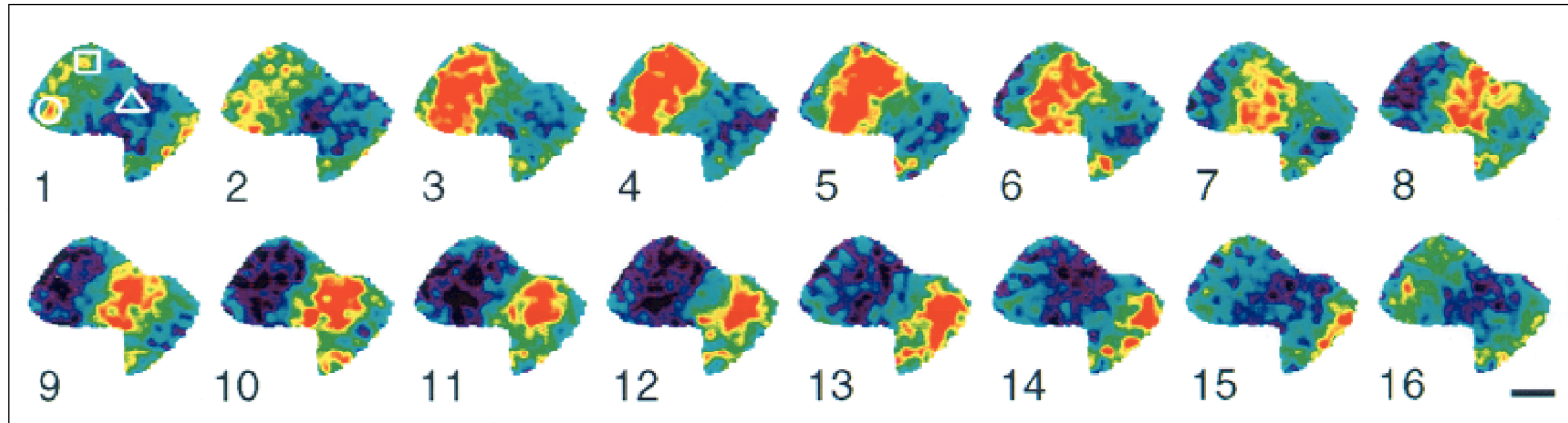
Decomposition of Optical Signal into Underlying Intracellular Potentials

$$-\Delta F(x,t)/F(x) = A_B(x) V_B[t+\tau(x)] + A_{NB}(x) V_{NB}[t+\tau(x)]$$



Electrical Wave Propagation in the Central Olfactory Organ of Limax

(Delaney et al 1994; Kleinfeld et al 1994; Ermentrout et al 1996)



Coupling of Two Oscillators with Different Intrinsic Frequencies

We take $\Gamma(\psi - \psi') \equiv -\Gamma_0 \sin(\psi - \psi')$

Then

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = \Gamma_0 \sin(\psi' - \psi) + \omega$$
$$\frac{d\psi'}{dt} = \Gamma_0 \sin(\psi - \psi') + \omega'$$

Lock, i.e., $\frac{d\psi}{dt} = \frac{d\psi'}{dt}$ so long as $\Gamma_0 \sin(\psi' - \psi) - \Gamma_0 \sin(\psi - \psi') = \omega - \omega'$

or

$$\frac{2\Gamma_0}{|\omega' - \omega|} > 1$$

The phase shift is $\Delta\psi \equiv \psi - \psi' = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{\omega' - \omega}{2\Gamma_0} \right)$

Wave Model for Limax

(Ermentrout, Flores & Gelperin 1998; Ermentrout, Wang, Flores & Gelperin 2001)

Chain of Oscillators with $\delta\omega \propto x$

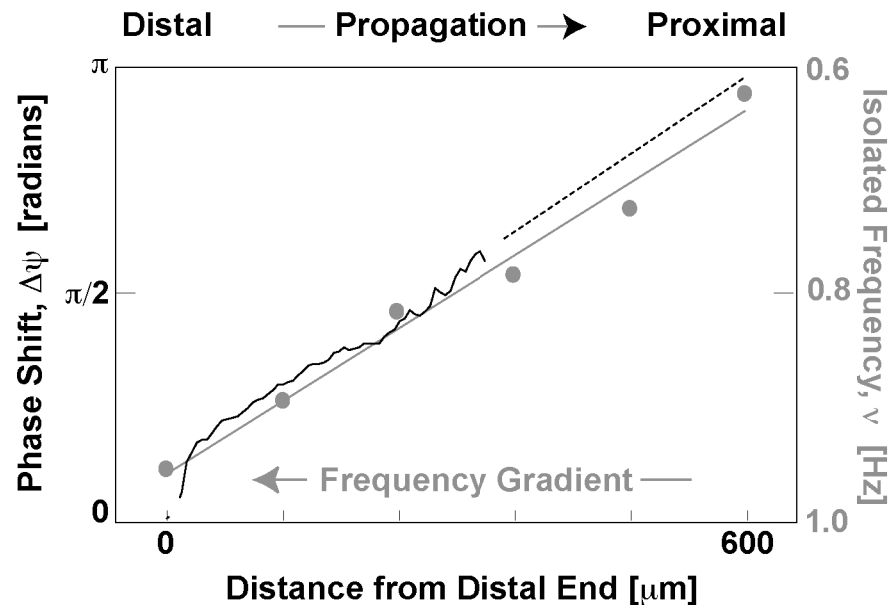
$$\frac{d\psi_x}{dt} = (\omega + \delta\omega_x) + \sum_{x \neq x'} \Gamma(\psi_x - \psi_{x'})$$

$\delta\omega_x \propto x$

Single frequency

When the network locks:

Gradient of phase shifts with $\frac{\psi_x}{dx} \propto \text{constant}$.



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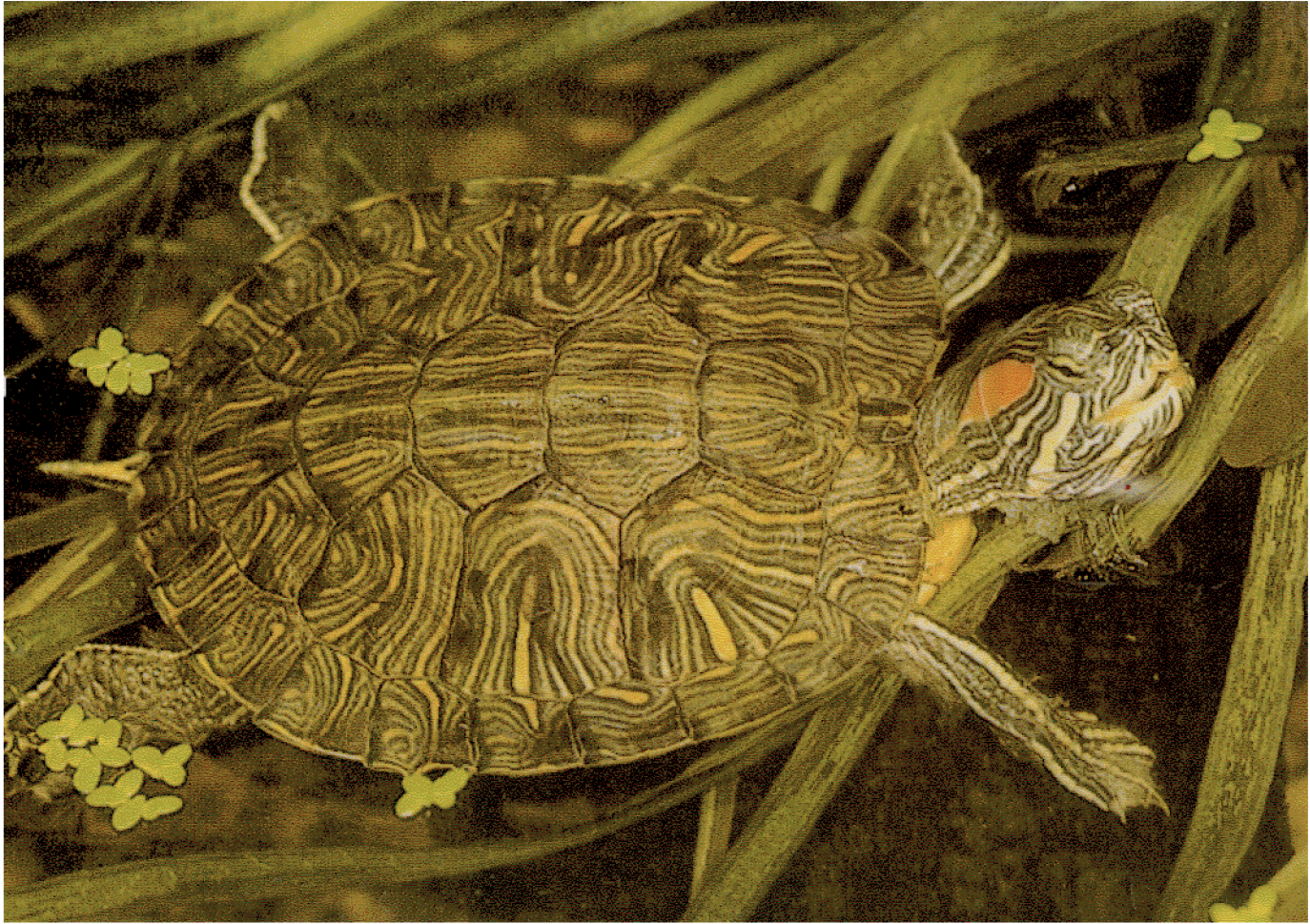
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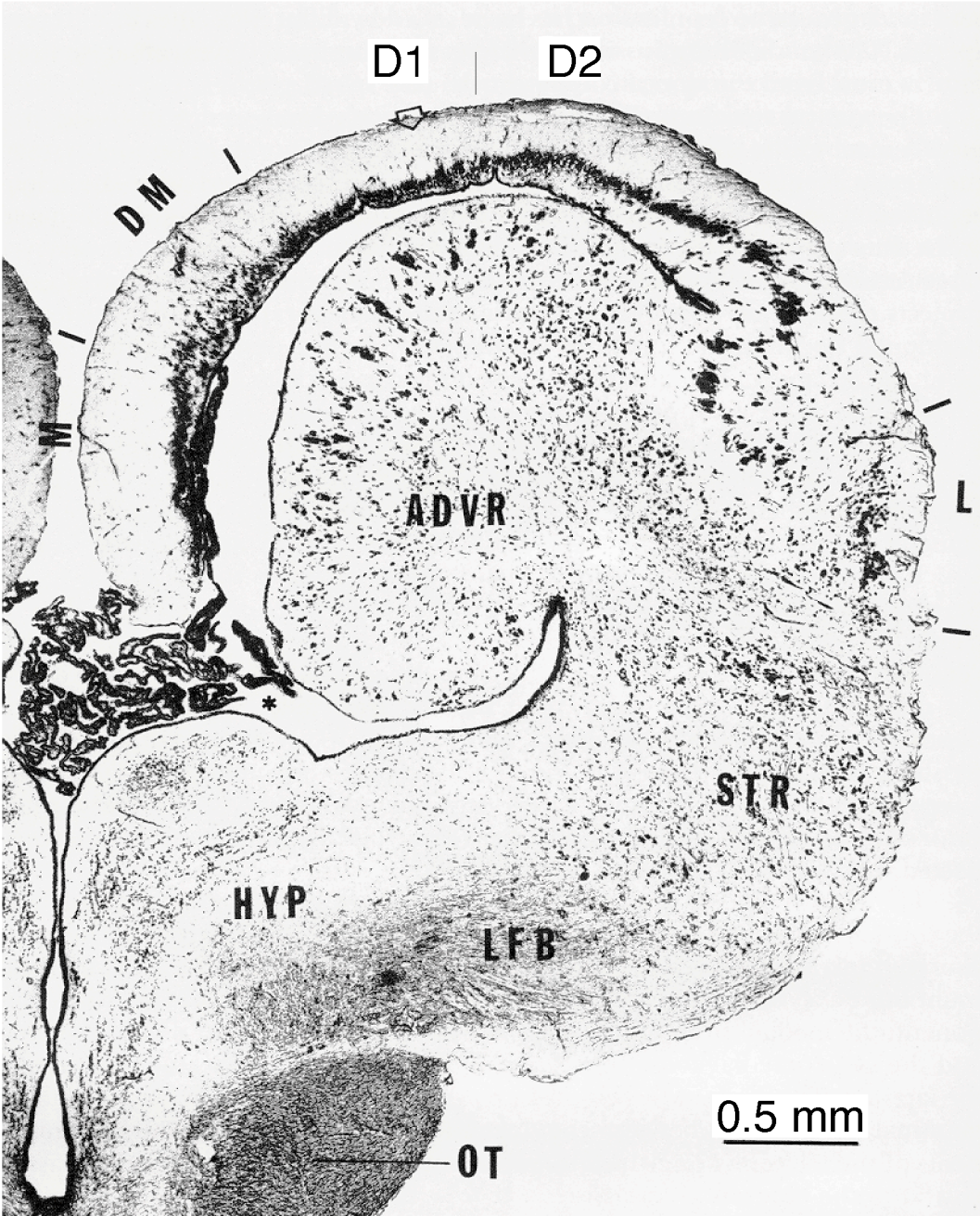
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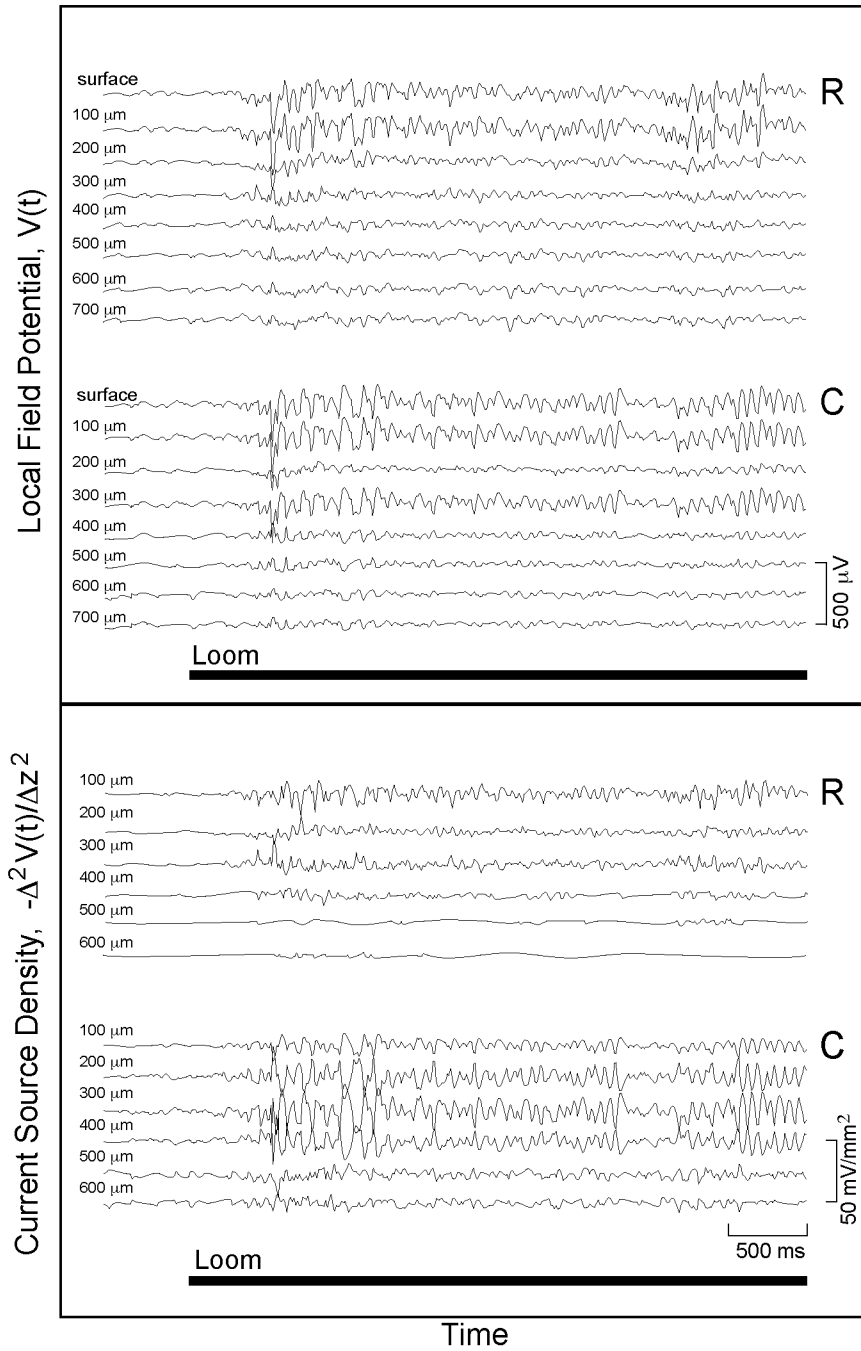
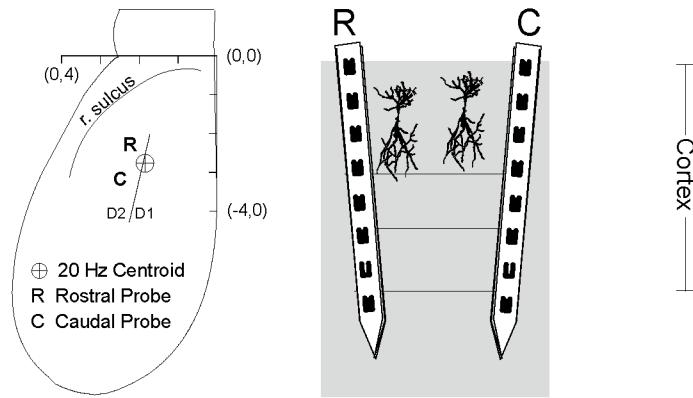
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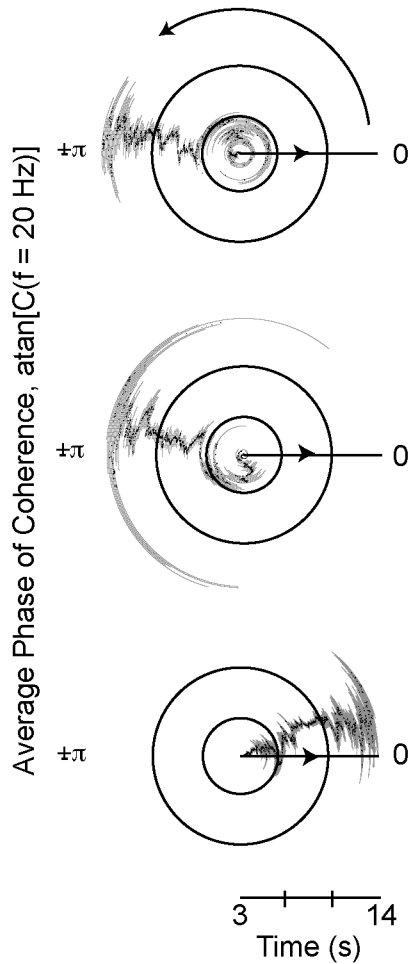
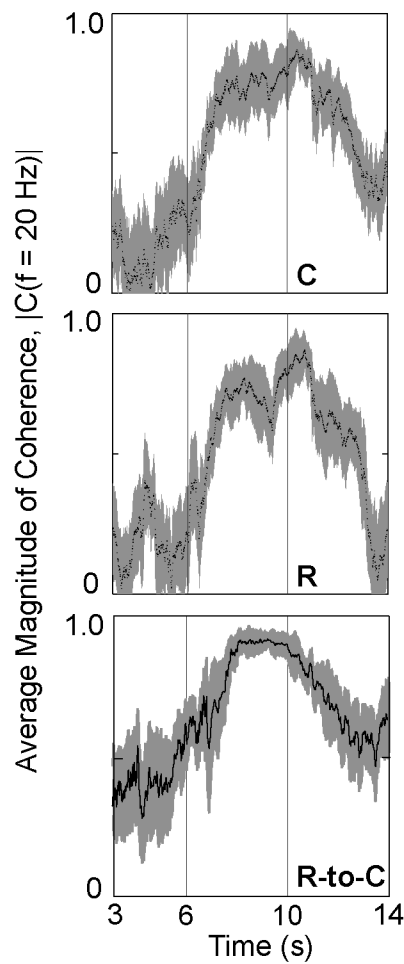
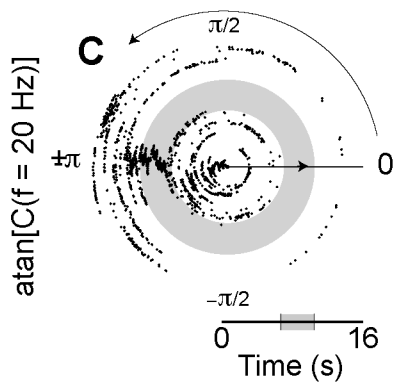
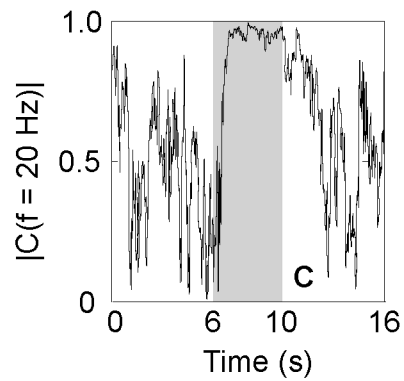
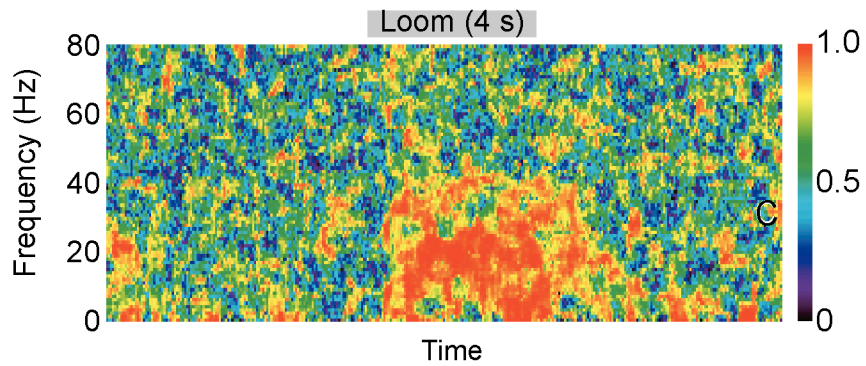


Transverse Nissl section through cerebral hemisphere of *Pseudemys scripta elegans*

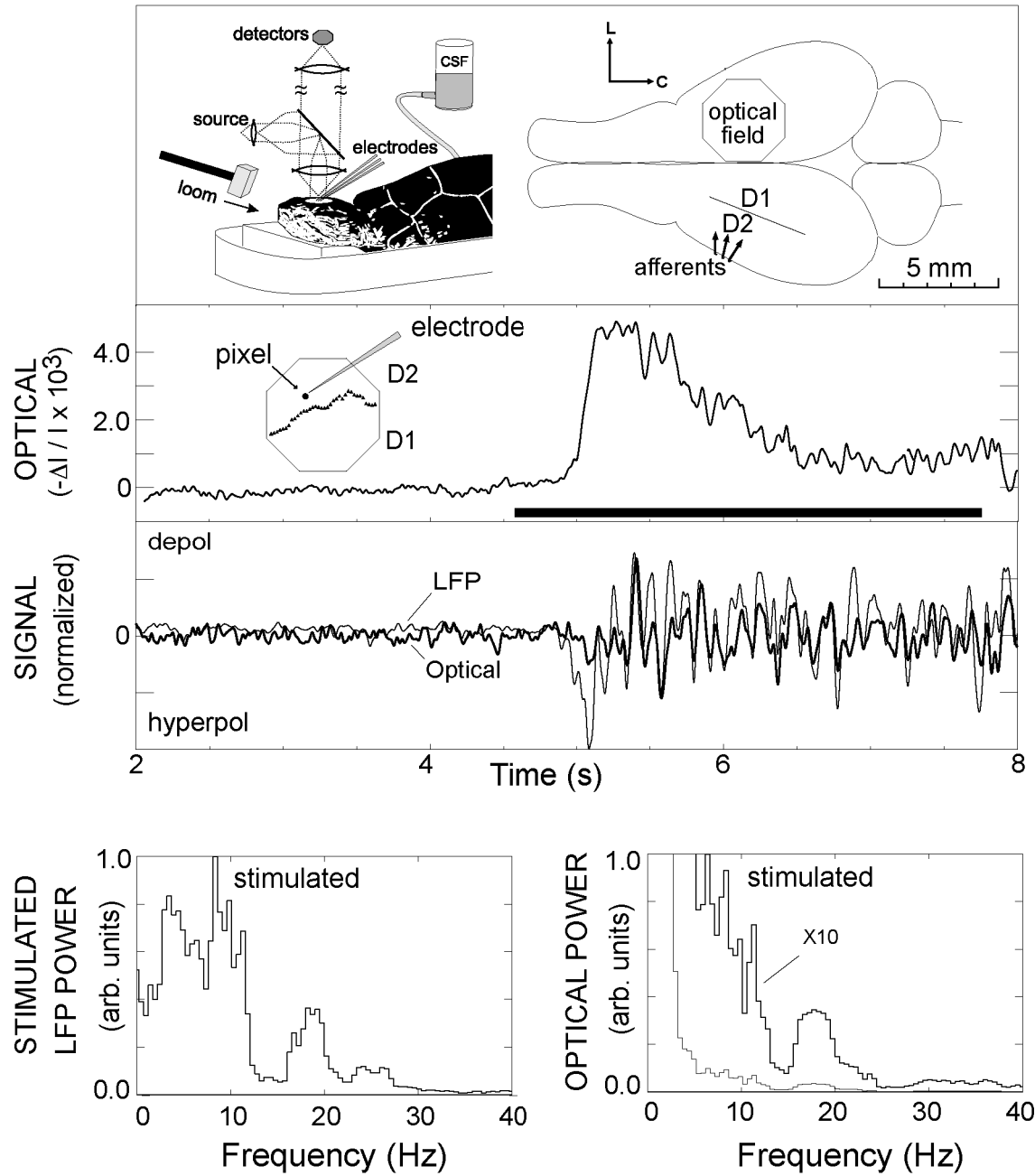
- from P. S. Ulinski

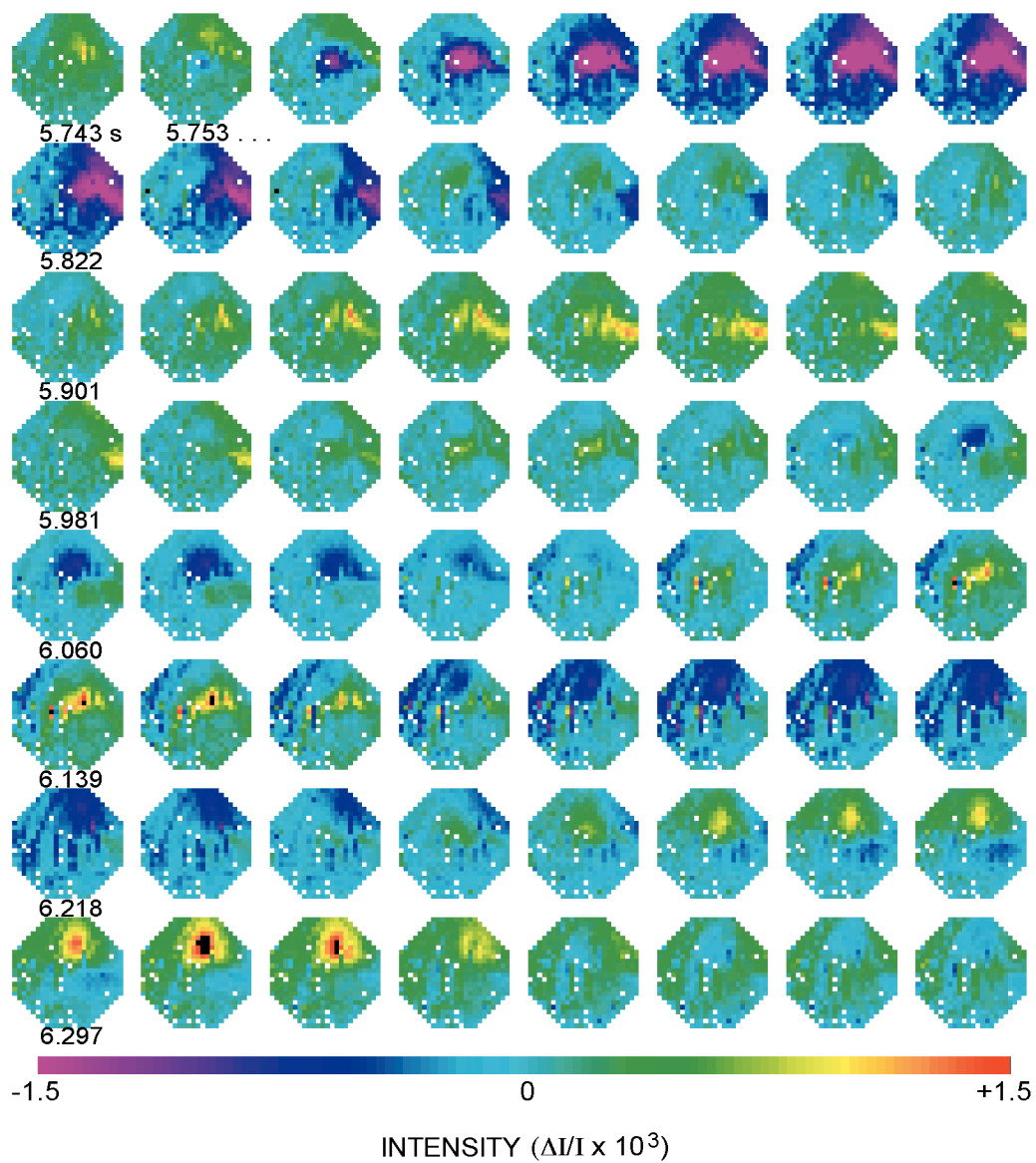
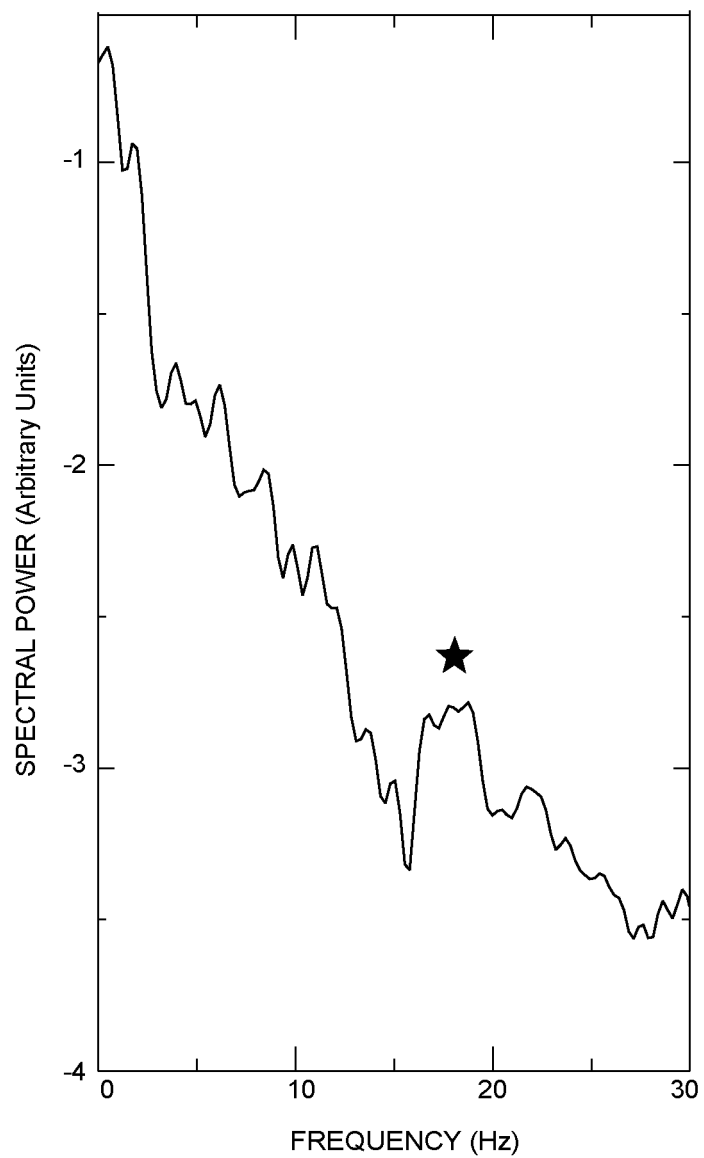




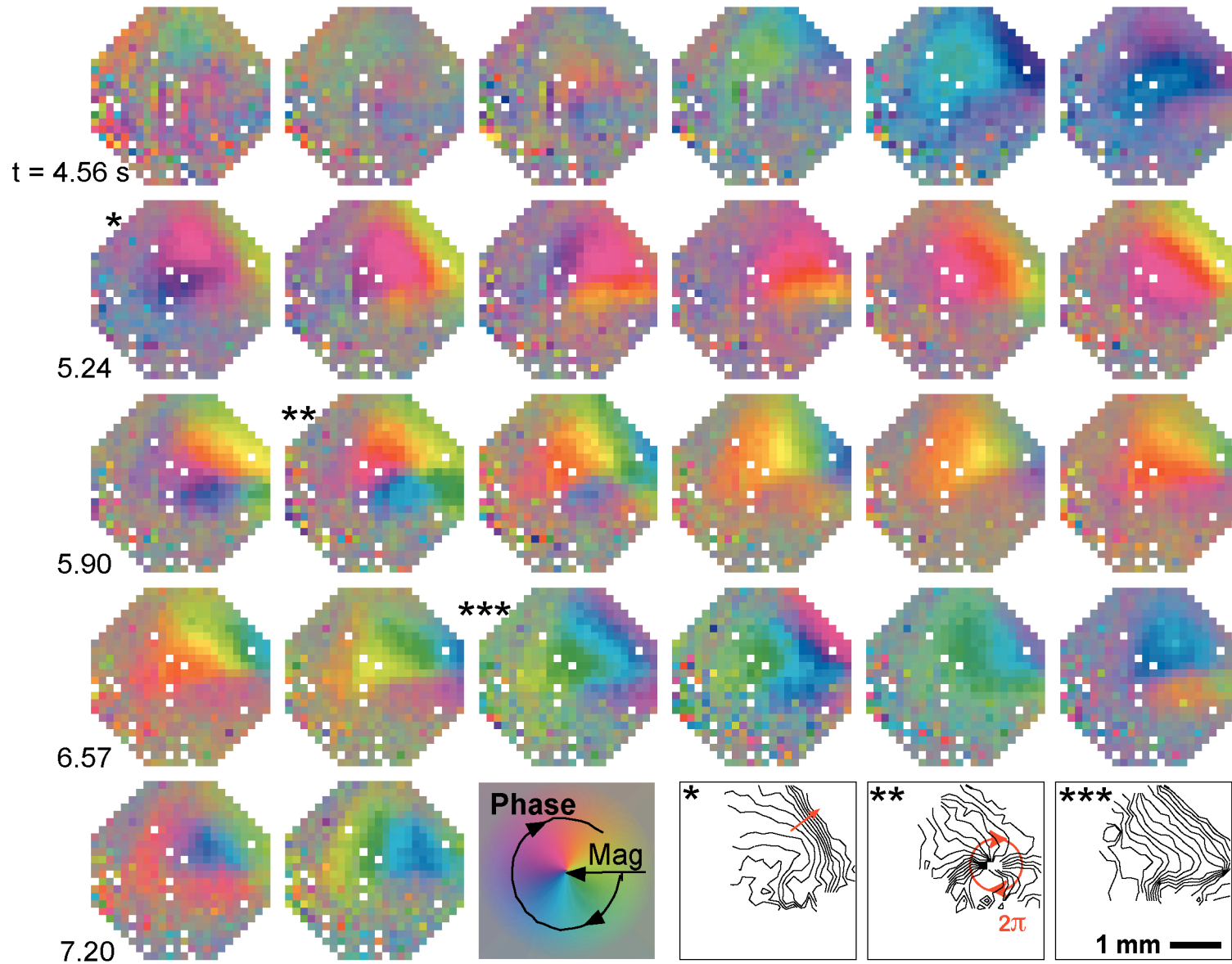


Voltage Sensitive Dye Imaging of Turtle Visual Cortex

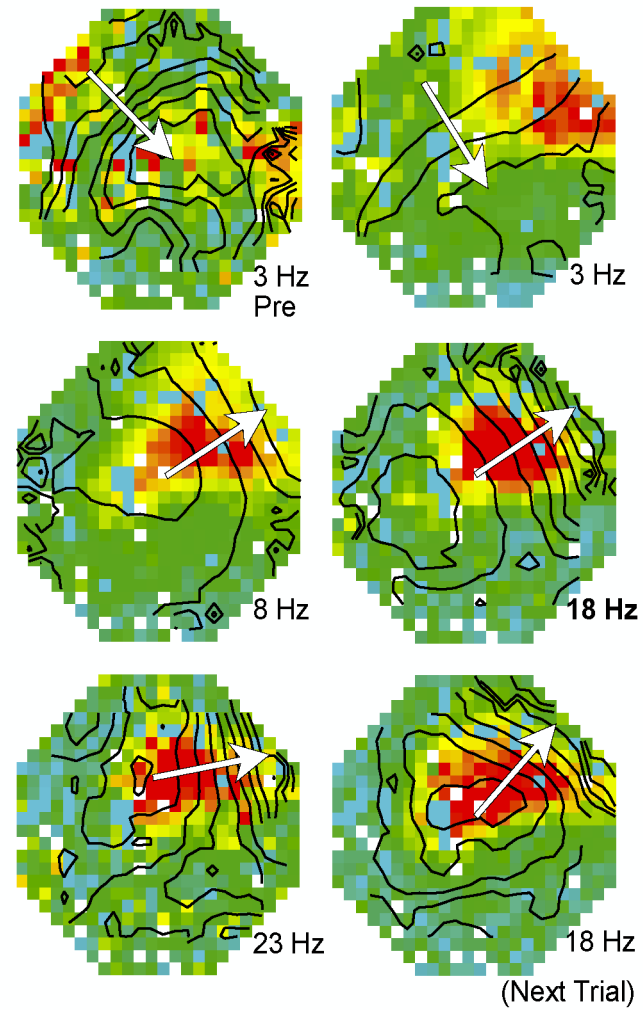
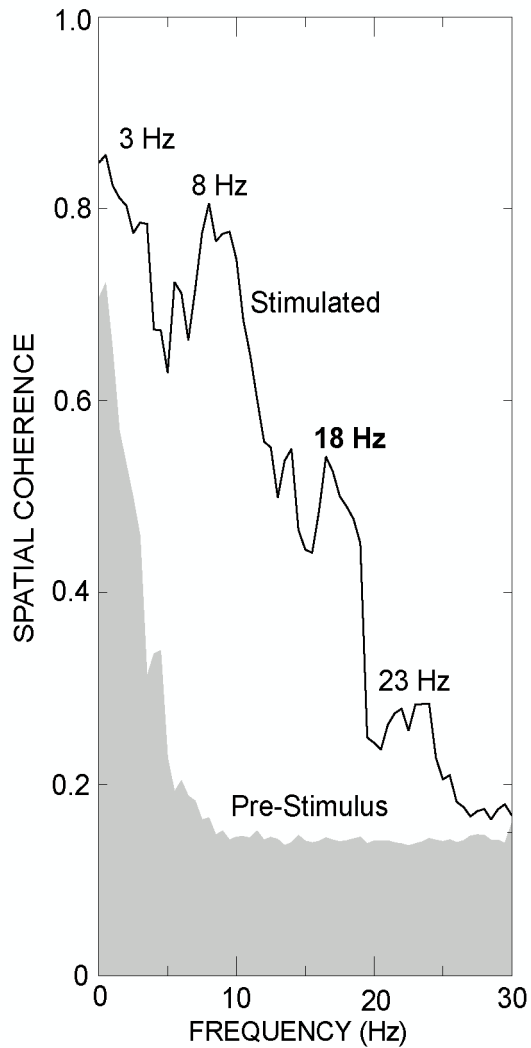


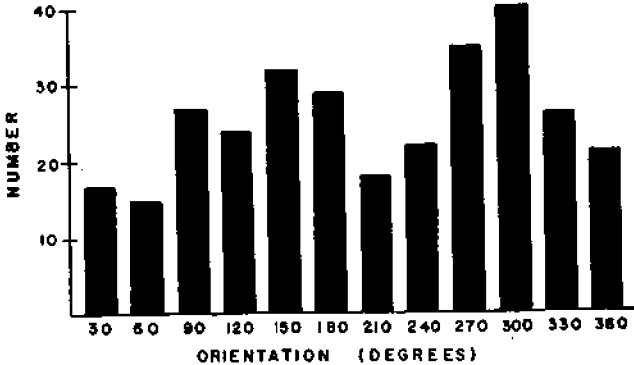
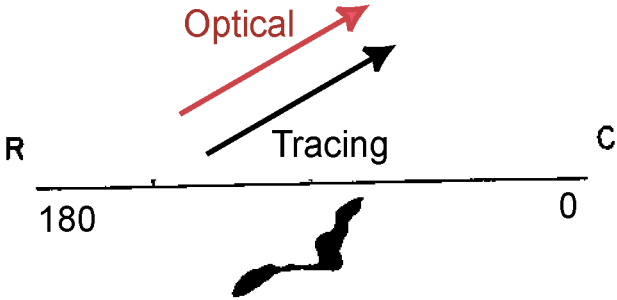
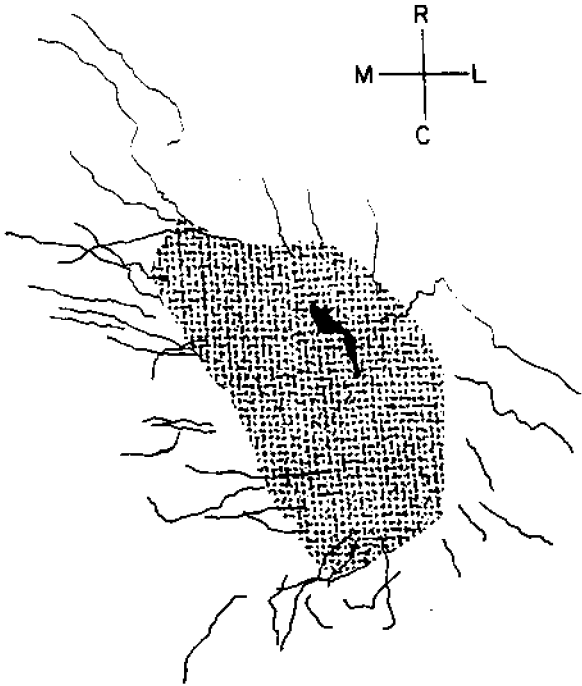
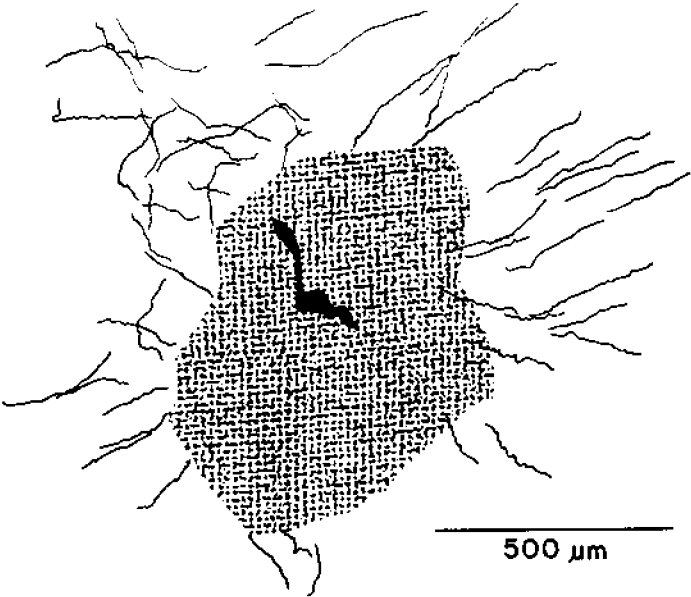


Demodulated Response at 18 Hz Versus Time (Magnitude and Phase Plots)

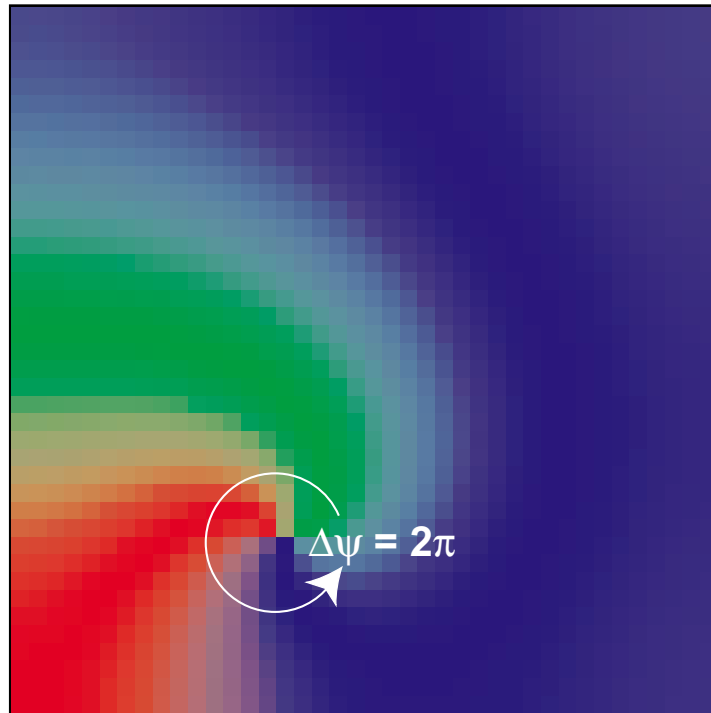


Dominant Spatial Modes are Revealed from a Spectral Decomposition (SVD) in Position (\mathbf{x}) and Frequency (f)

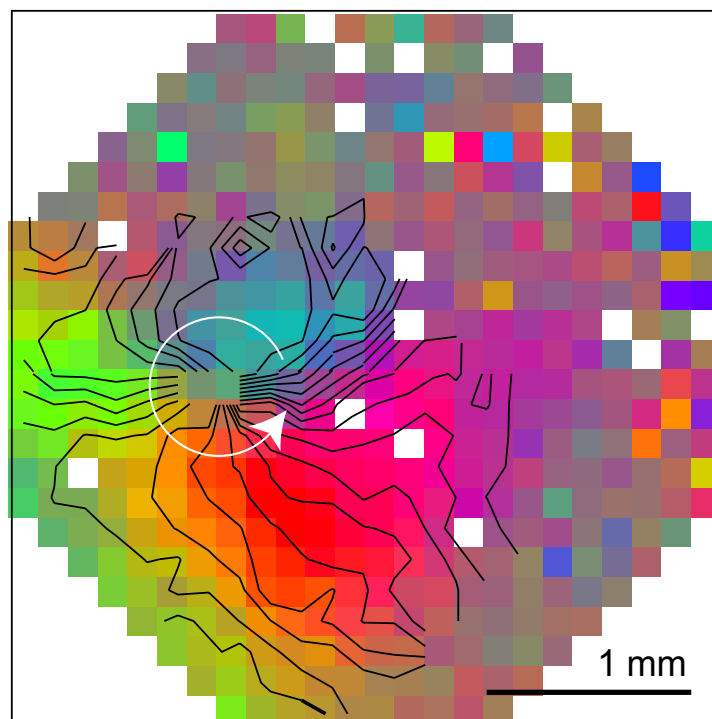




Isotropic Model



Data from Turtle Visual Cortex



Coupled Oscillations in Nervous Systems

Theoretical Overview

Experimental Evidence for Weak Coupling Between Oscillators

Direct Measurement of Phase-sensitivity Function, $Z(\psi)$

Behavior of Pairs and Networks of Inhibitory Neurons

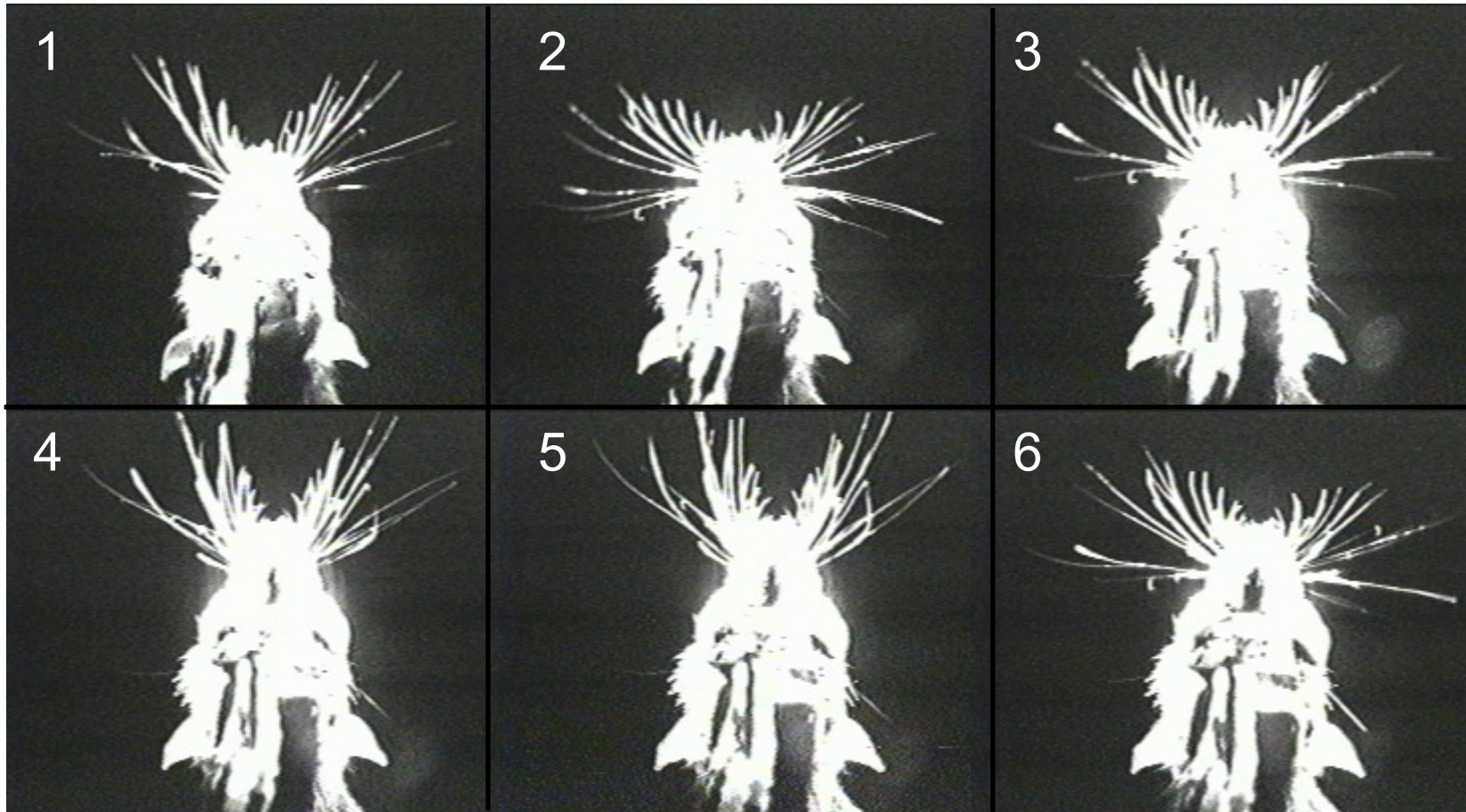
Electrical Waves During "Normal" Function

Linear Waves in an Invertebrate Central Olfactory Organ
(Consequence of an intrinsic frequency gradient)

Linear and Rotating Waves in Lower Vertebrate Visual System
(Linear part consistent with biased connectivity)

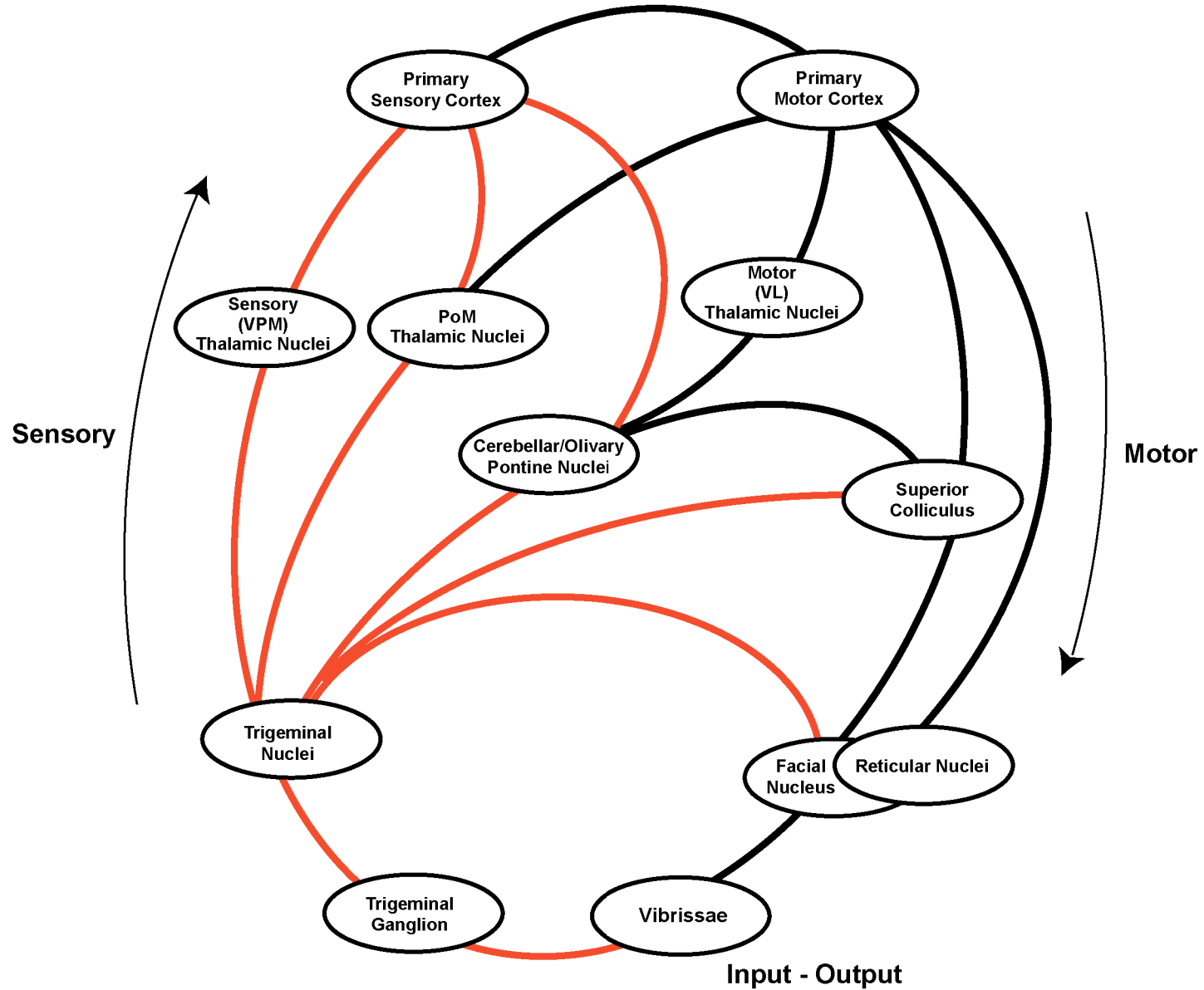
Insights into Cortical Function from Nonlinear Spectral Mixing
(Problem of Combining Proprioceptive, or Reference Signals, with Contact Signals)

Active Sensation by Rat: Loop Dynamics in Vibrissa Sensorimotor Control

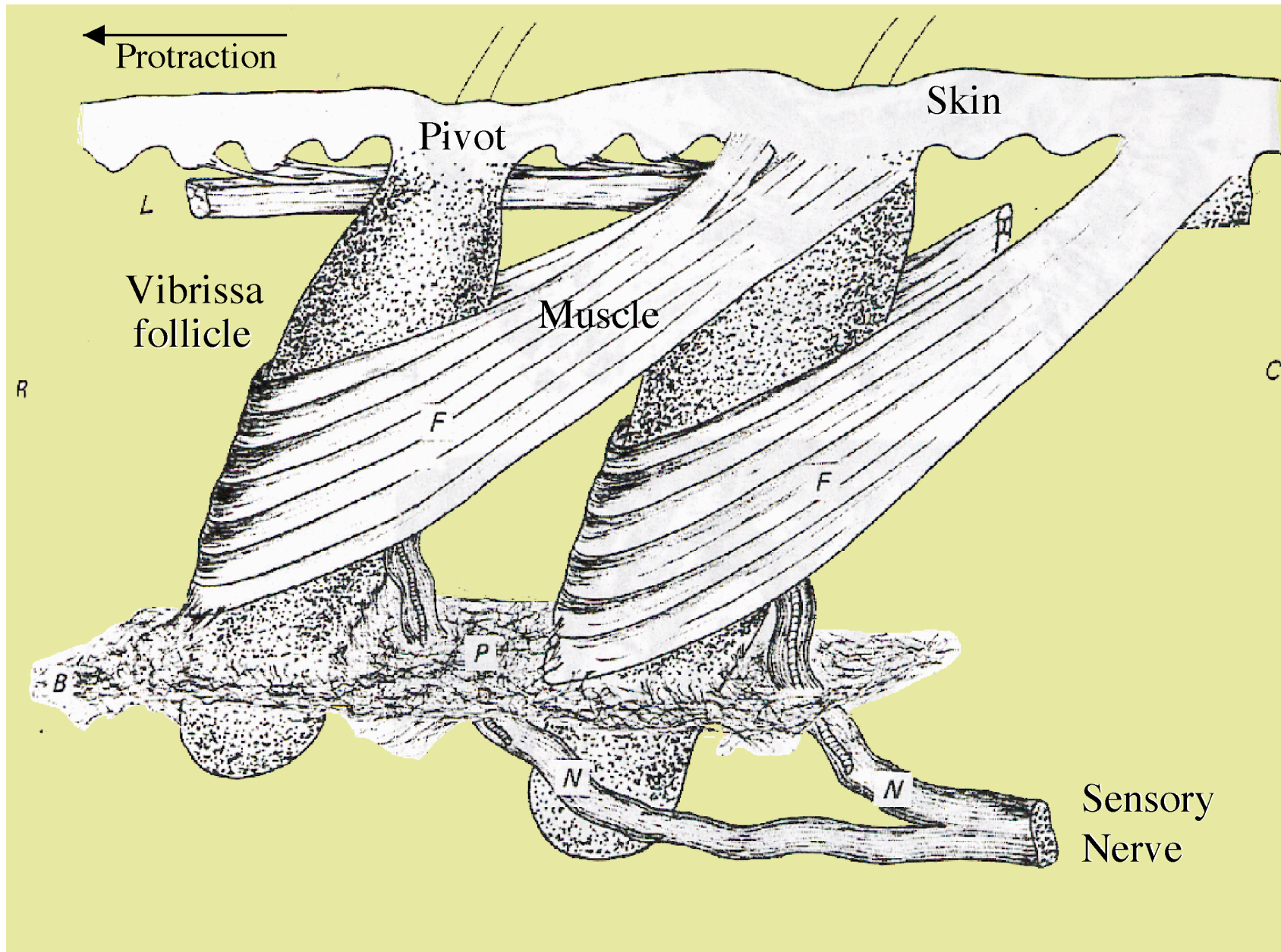


Free Ranging Rat (Blindfolded) that is Whisking in Air in Search of a Food Tube
Consecutive Video Rate Fields (60 Hz acquisition)

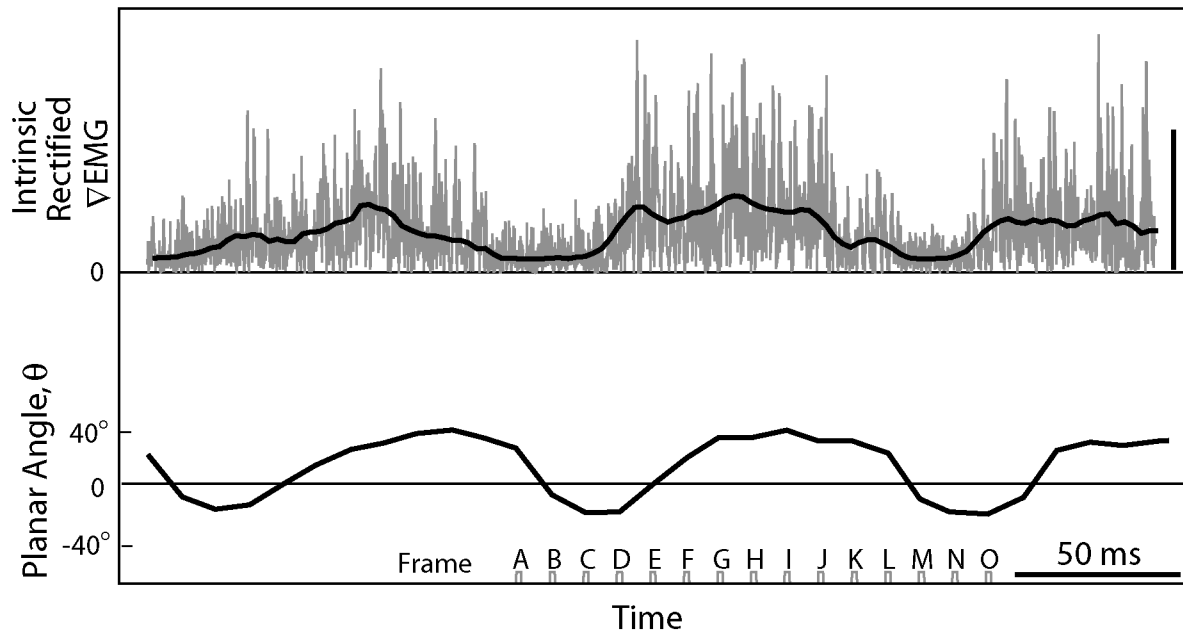
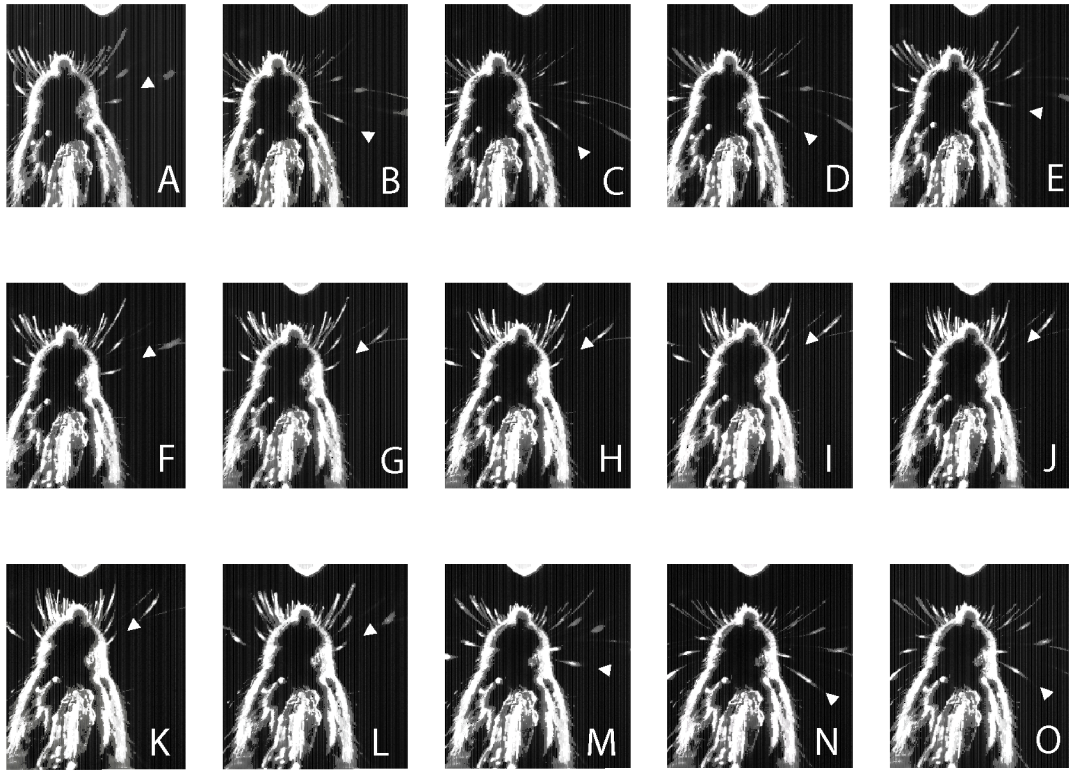
The Vibrissa Sensorimotor System is Comprised of Nested Loops



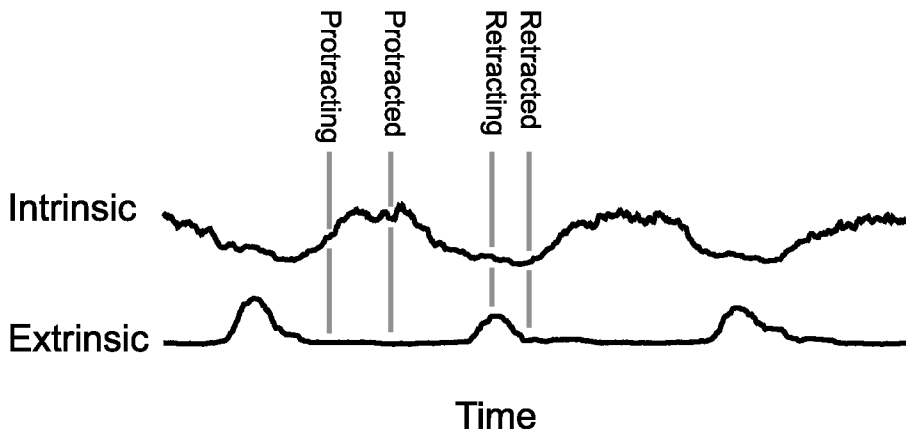
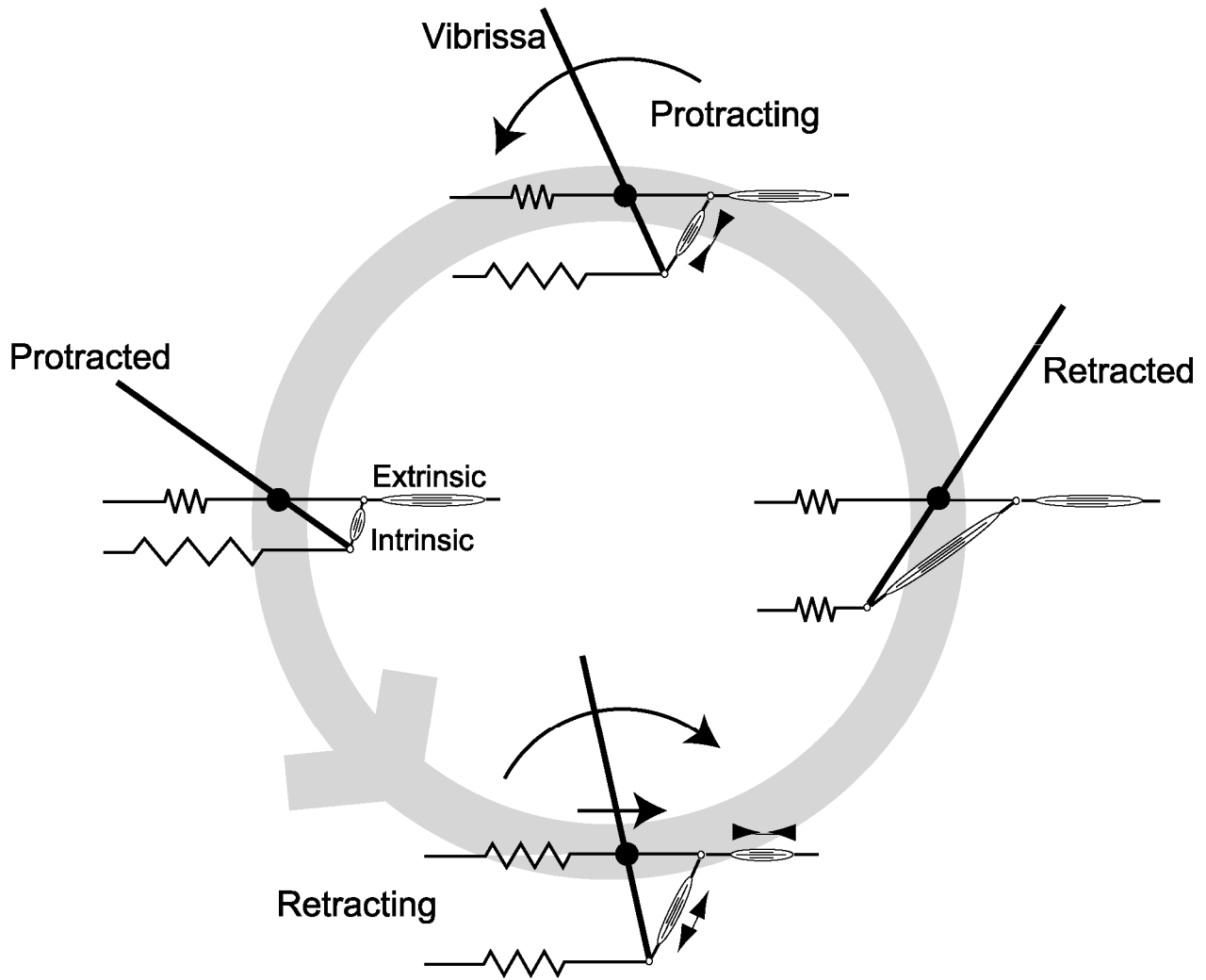
Intrinsic Muscles Pull the Follicles Backward to Propel Vibrissae Forward



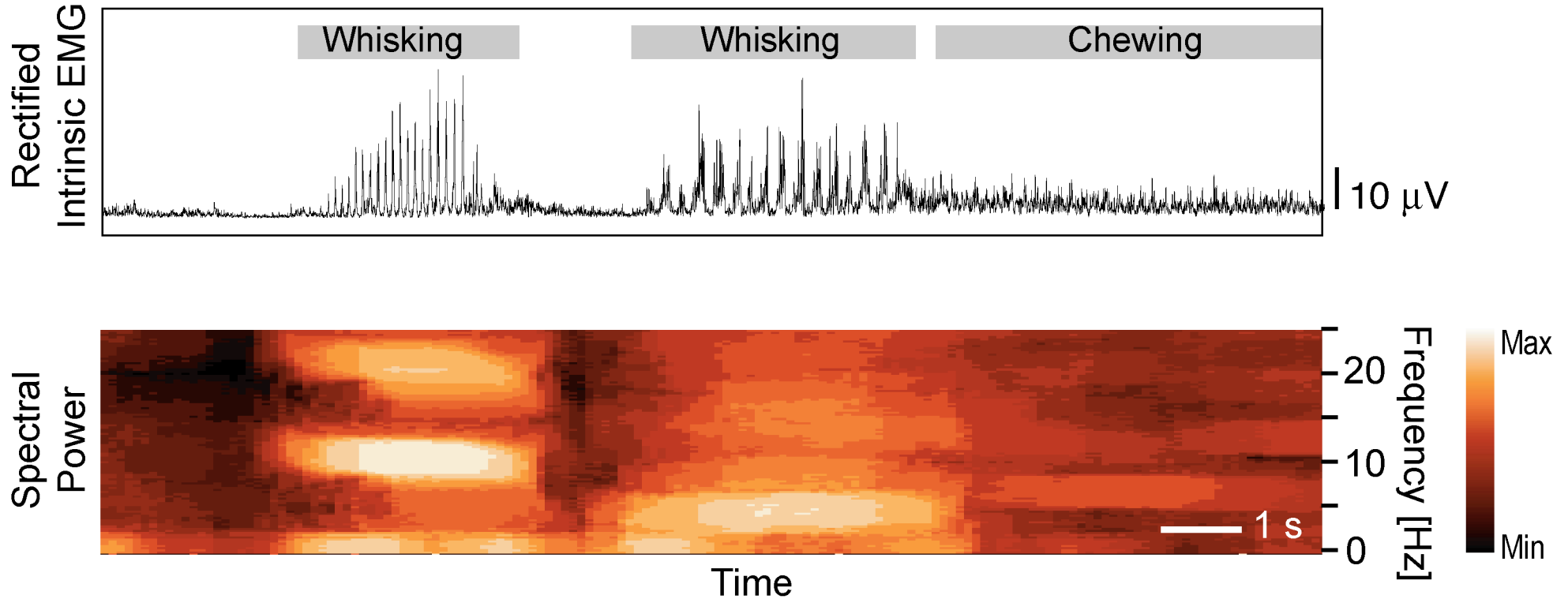
5 to 15 Hz Exploratory Whisking by Rat



The Rodent Whisk Cycle

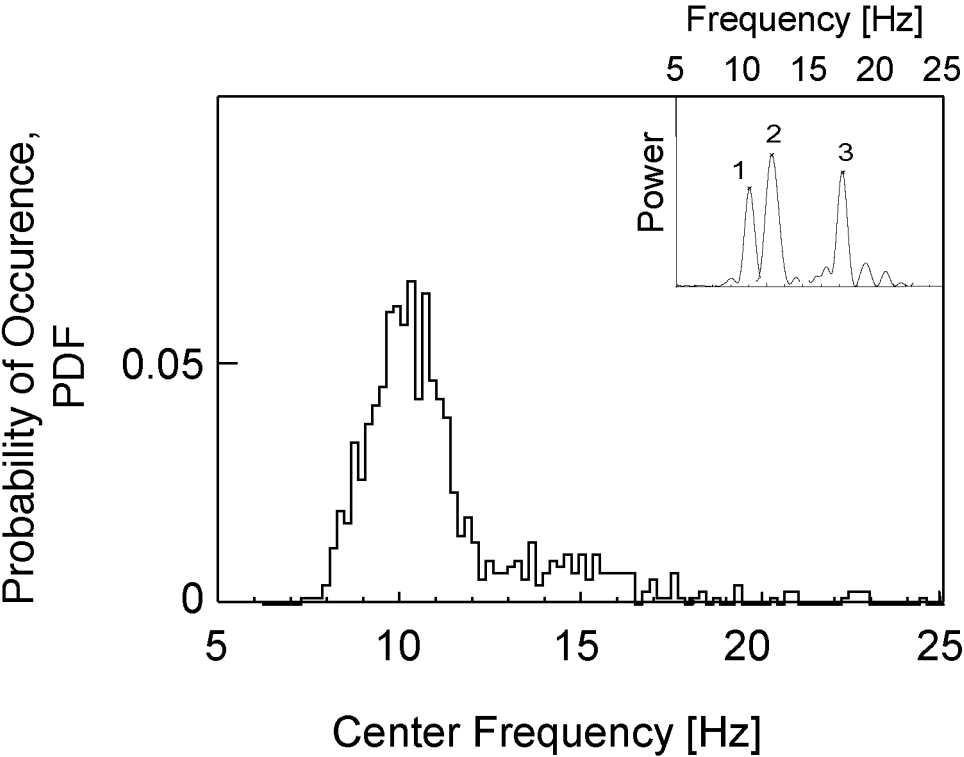


The Frequency of Whisking is Constant within an Epoch but Broadly Distributed from Epoch to Epoch

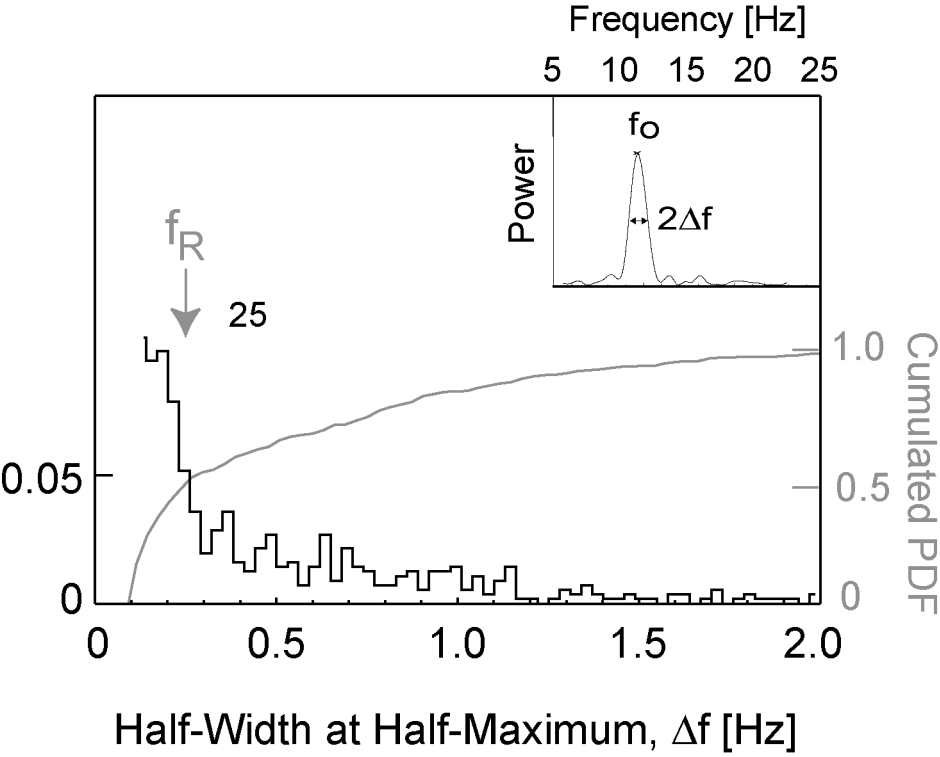


The Distribution of Spectral Parameters for Free Whisking

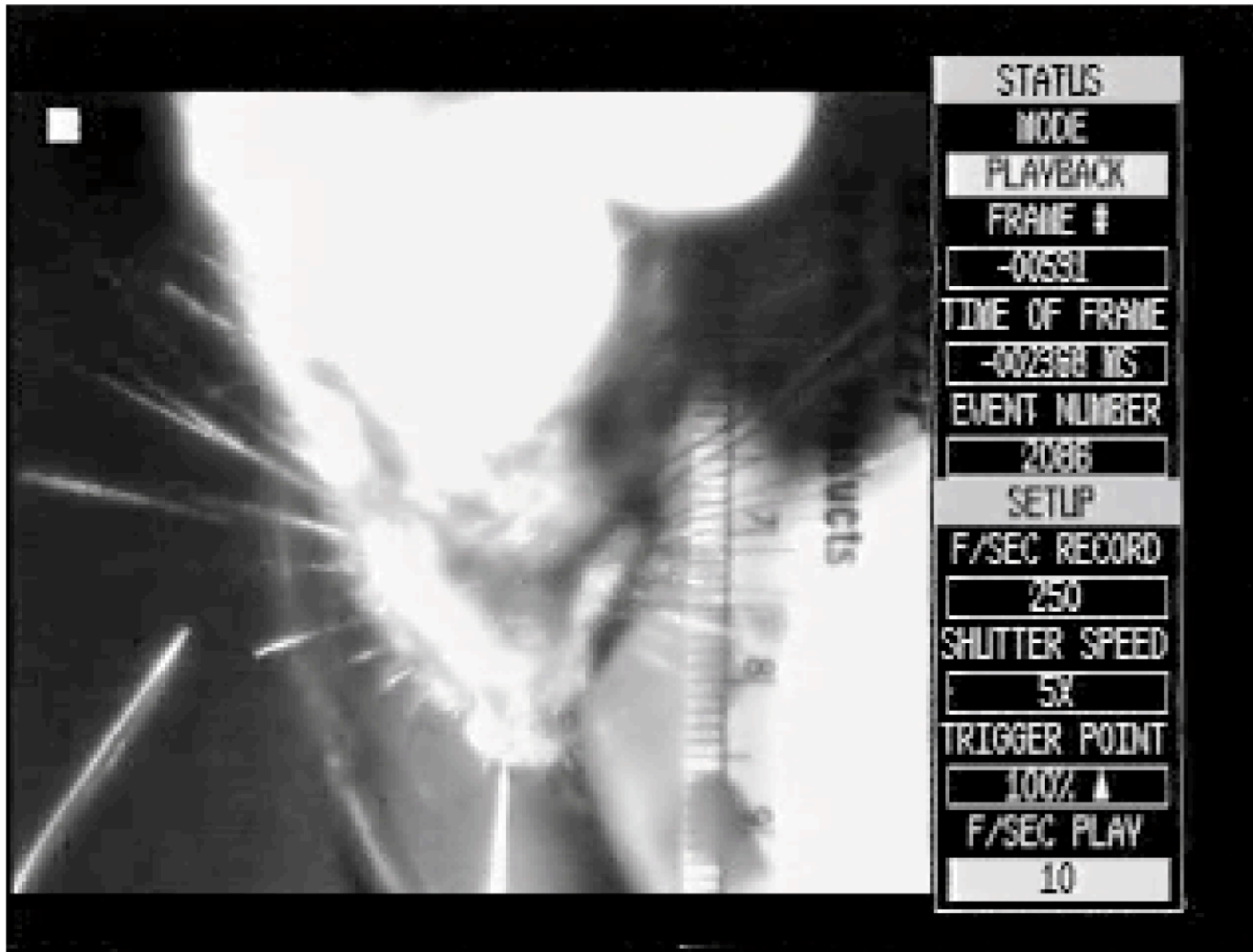
Distribution of Center Frequencies



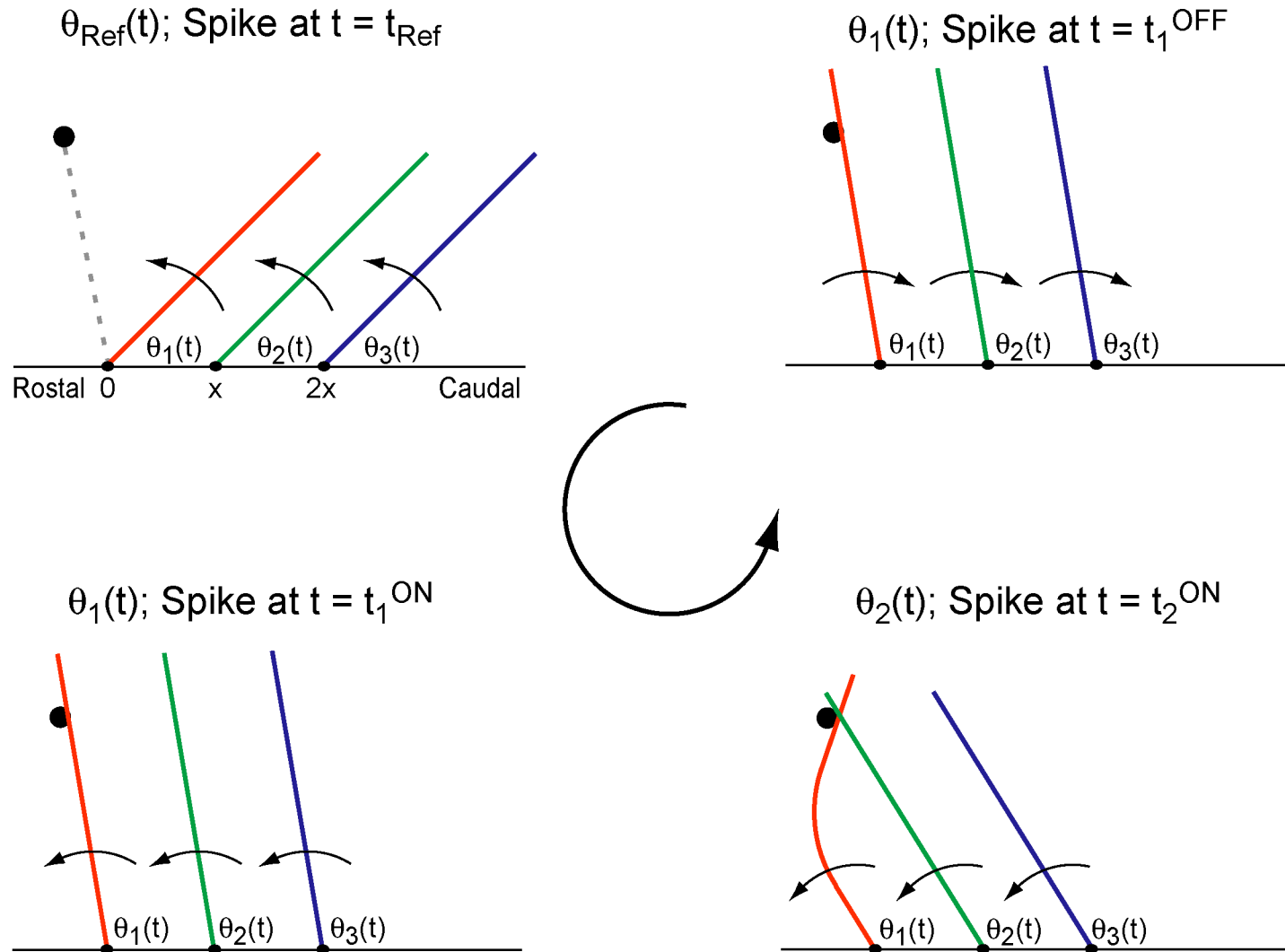
Distribution of Spectral Widths



Rats Can Detect Contact with a Single Vibrissa (Hutson and Masterton, 1986)

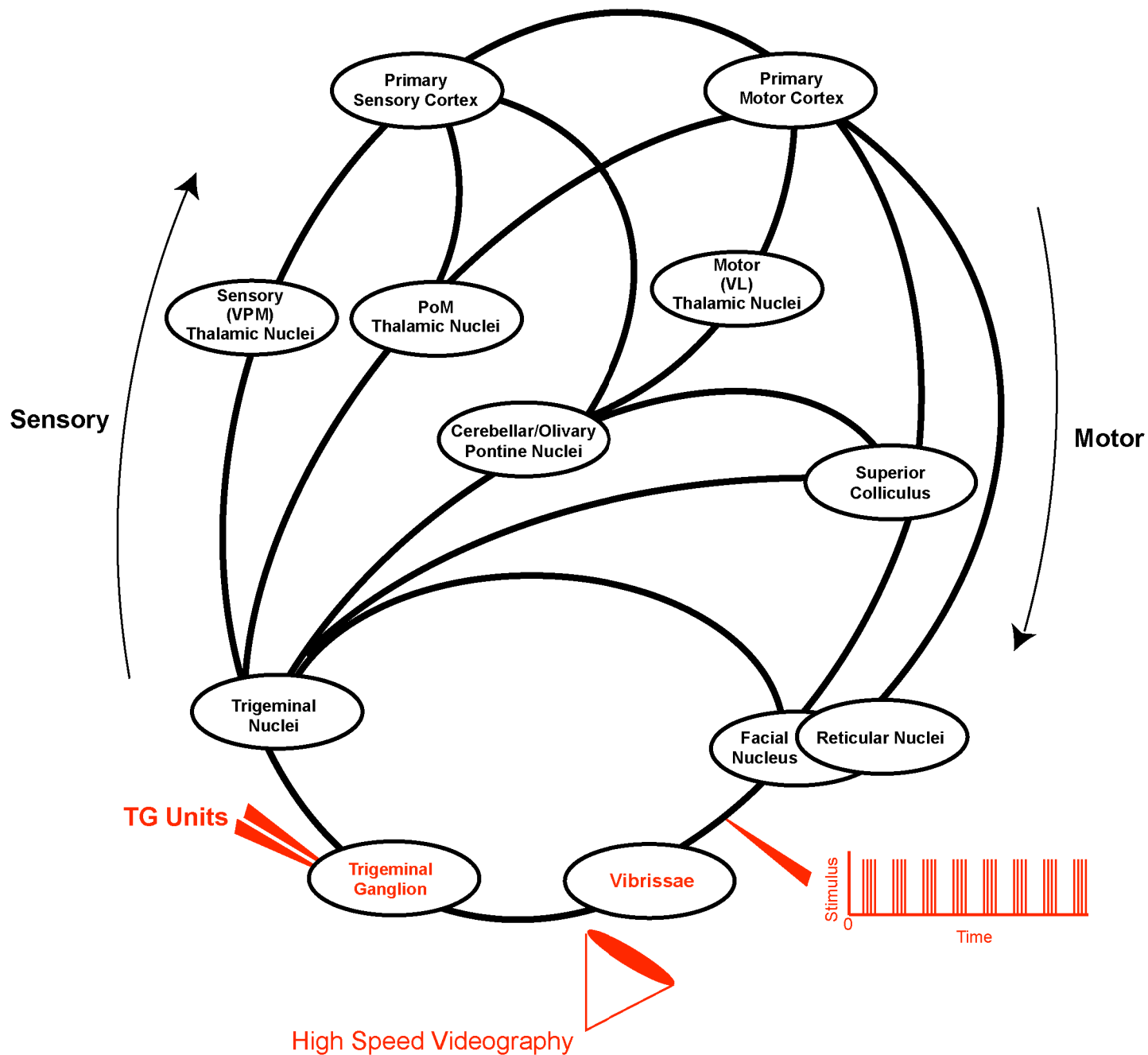


Hypothetical Reference and Contact (ON and OFF) Signals Associated with Vibrissa Movement and Object Contact

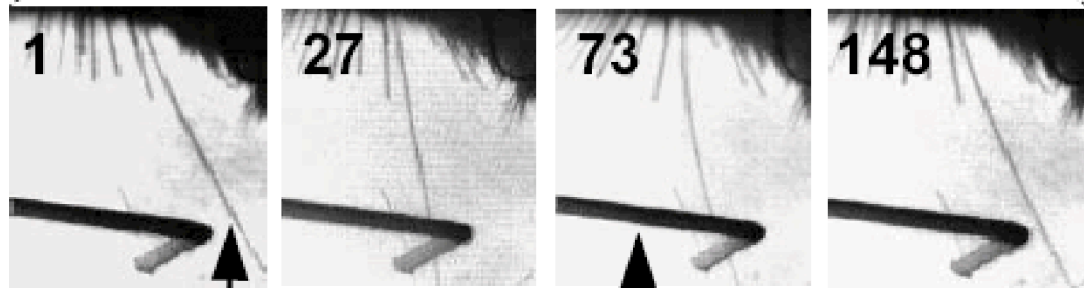
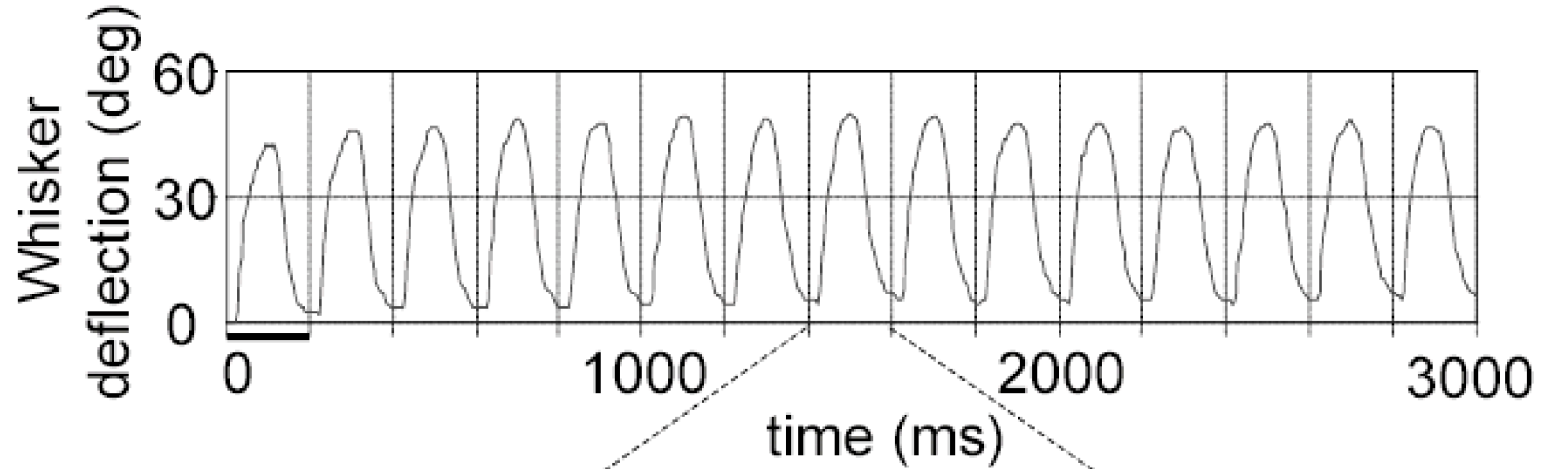
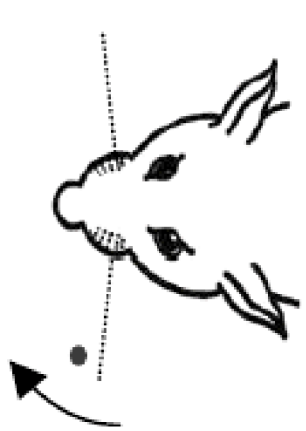


Object Localization Requires 1 + D Signals, e.g., Reference Plus ON for Angular (1-D) Localization

Relation of Spiking in TG to Vibrissa Motion during Synthetic Whisking



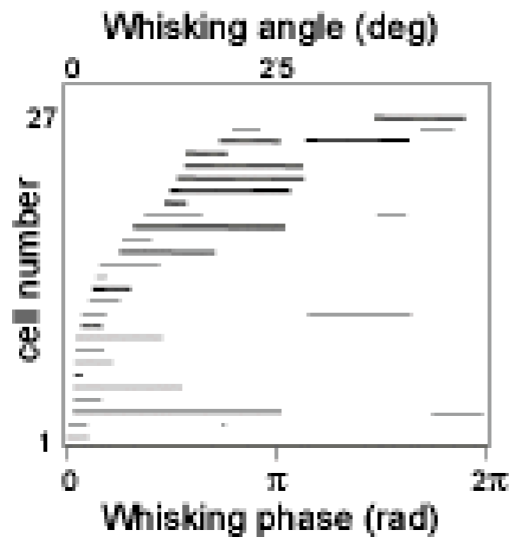
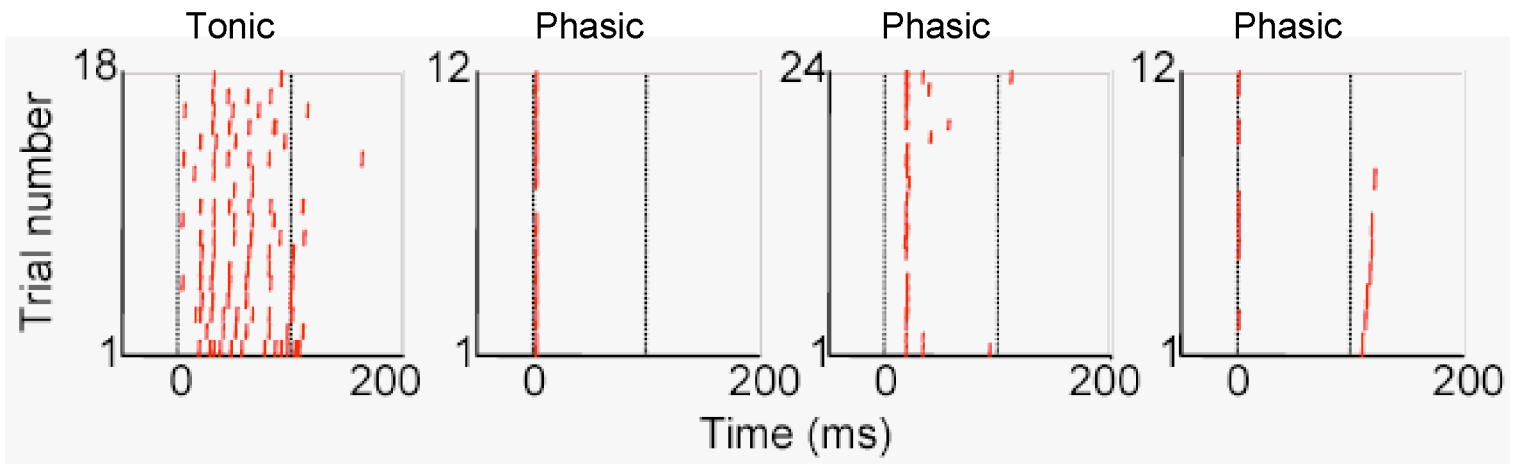
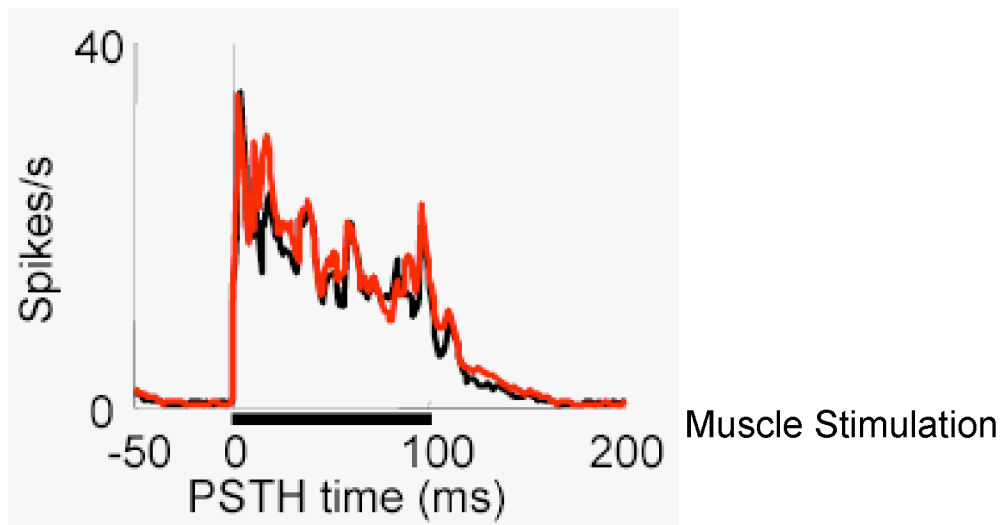
Synthetic Whisking in the Anesthetized Rat by Stimulating the Facial Motor Nerve (after Zucker & Welker, 1969, Brown & Waite, 1974)



Whisker

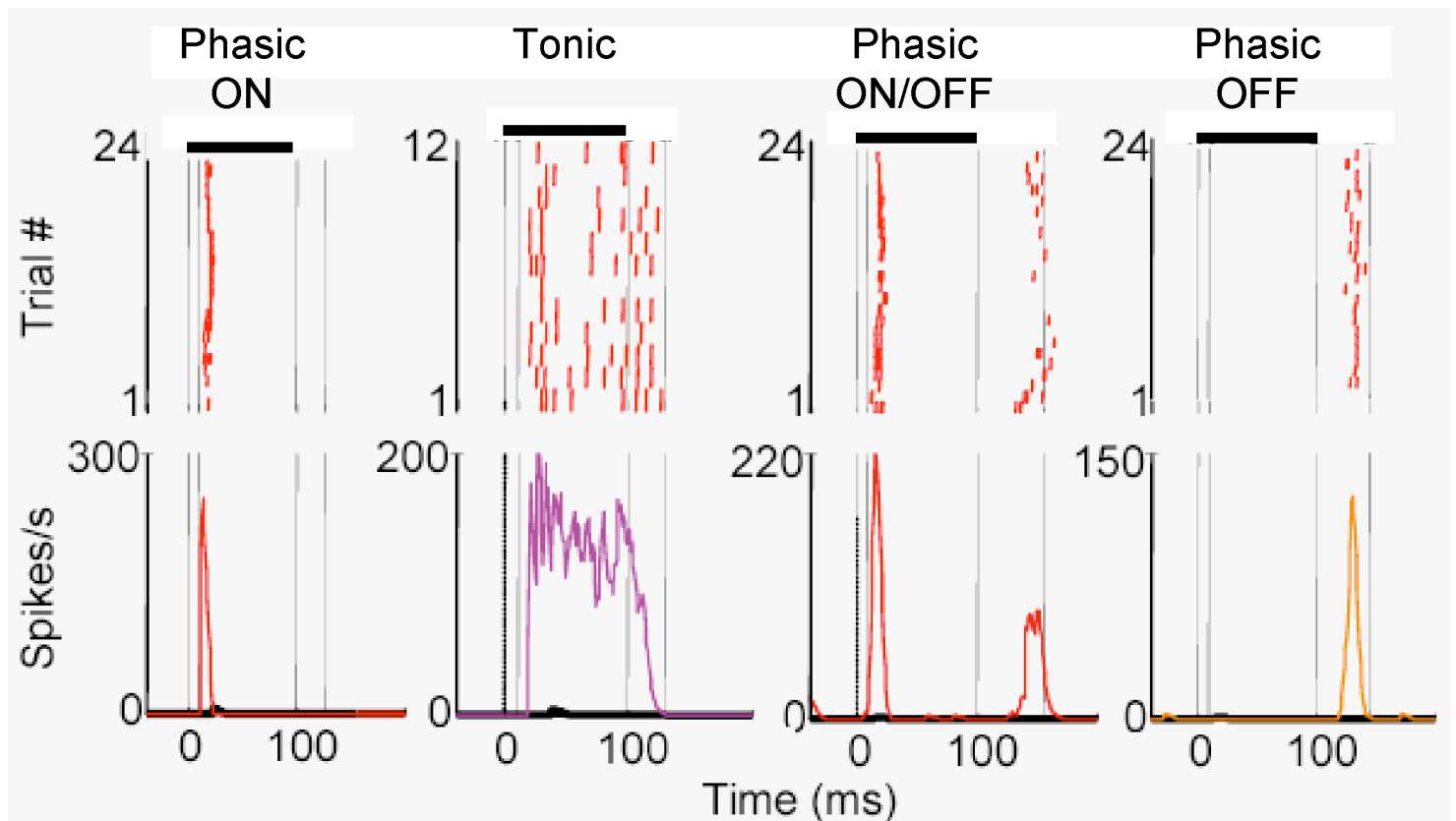
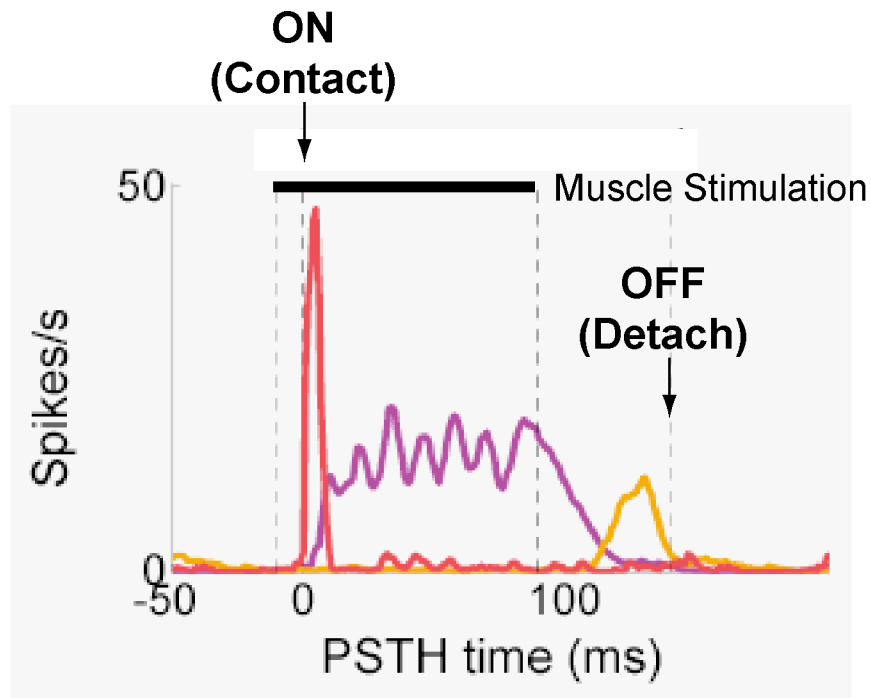
Object

Sensory Neurons in the Trigeminal Ganglion that Respond to Vibrissa Position (Reference Cells)

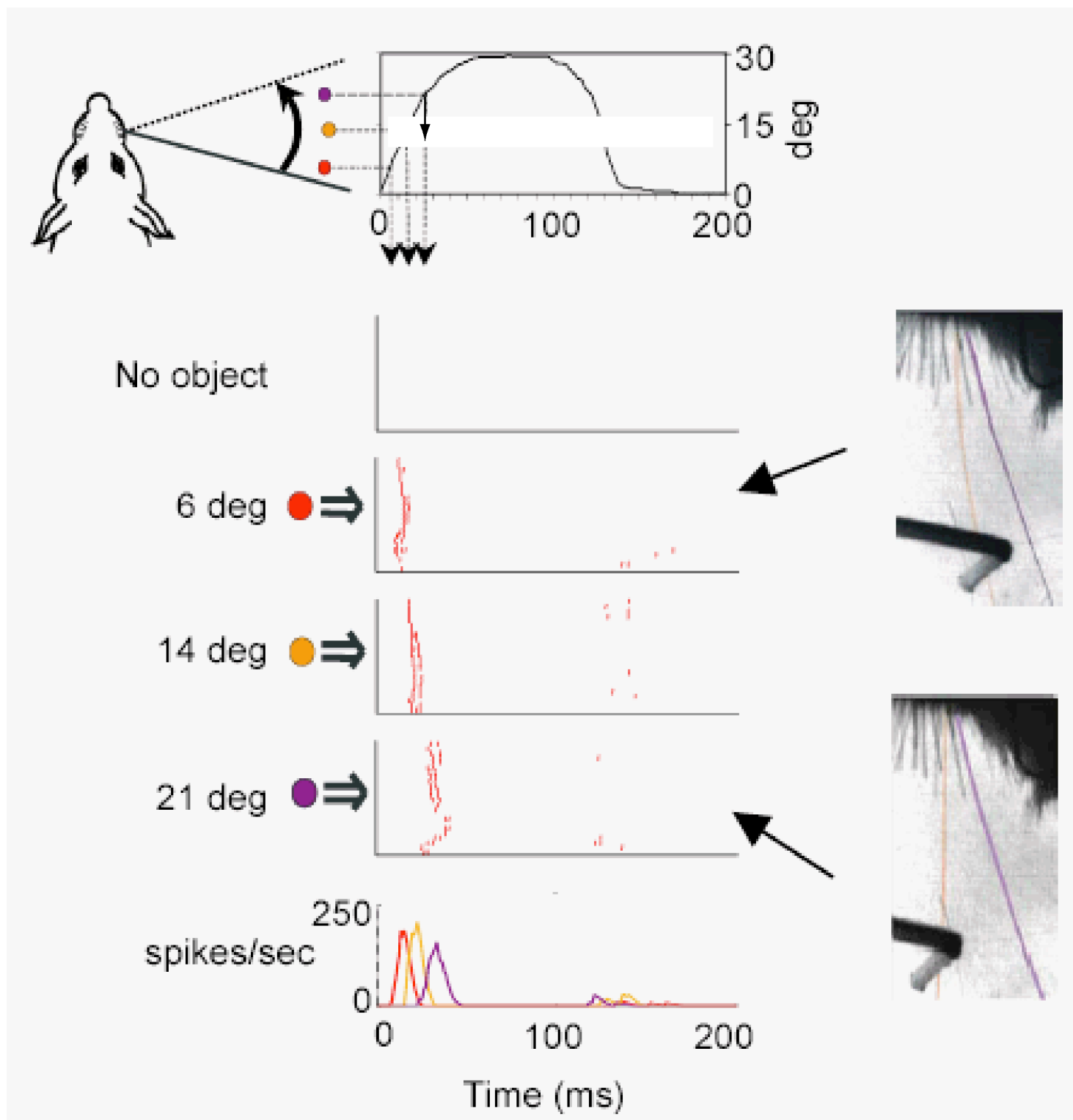


Szwed, Bagdasarian and Ahissar (submitted)

Sensory Neurons in the Trigeminal Ganglion that Respond to Vibrissa Contact

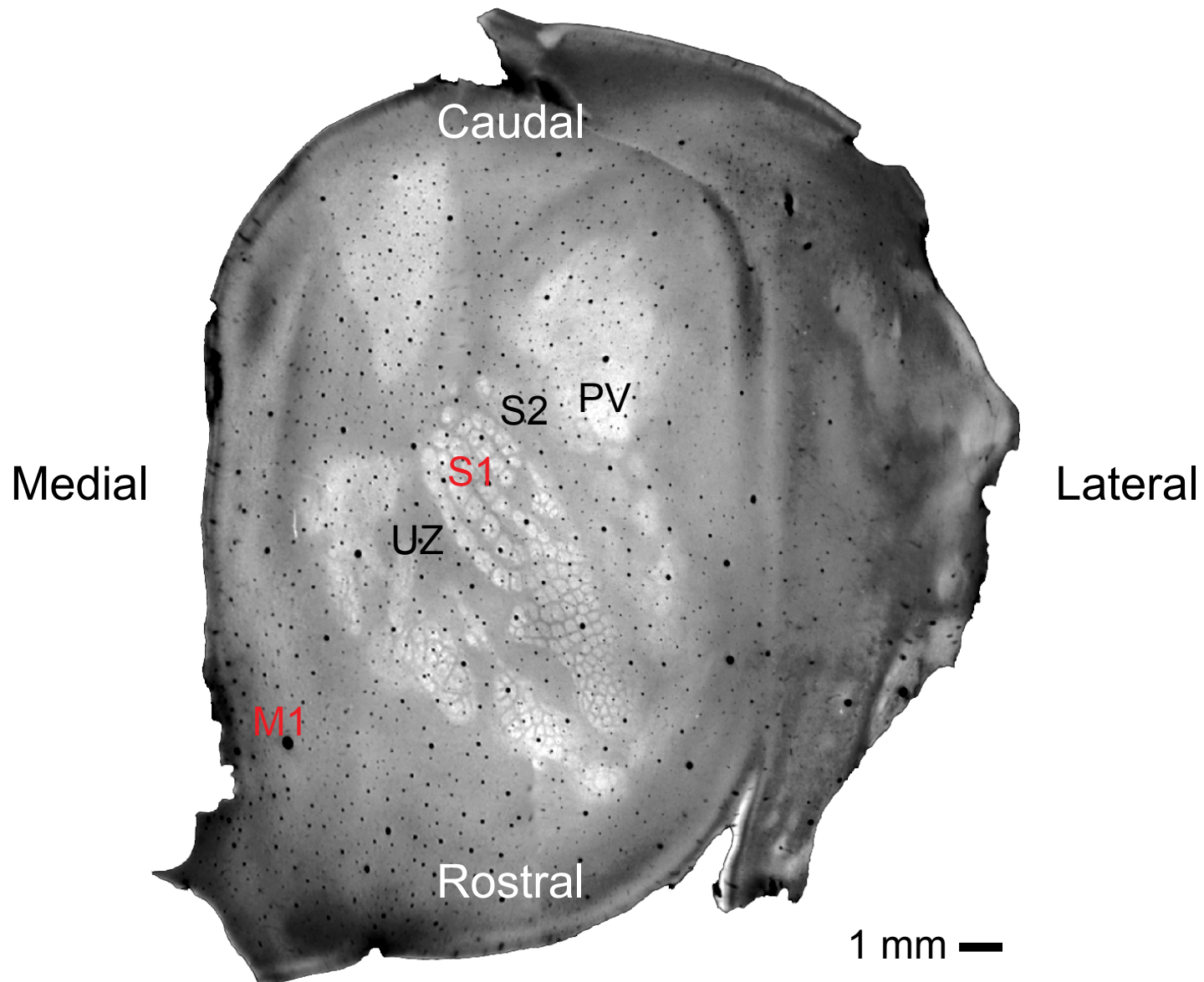


Phasic-ON Neuron in the Trigeminal Ganglion



Neocortical Parcellation in Rat

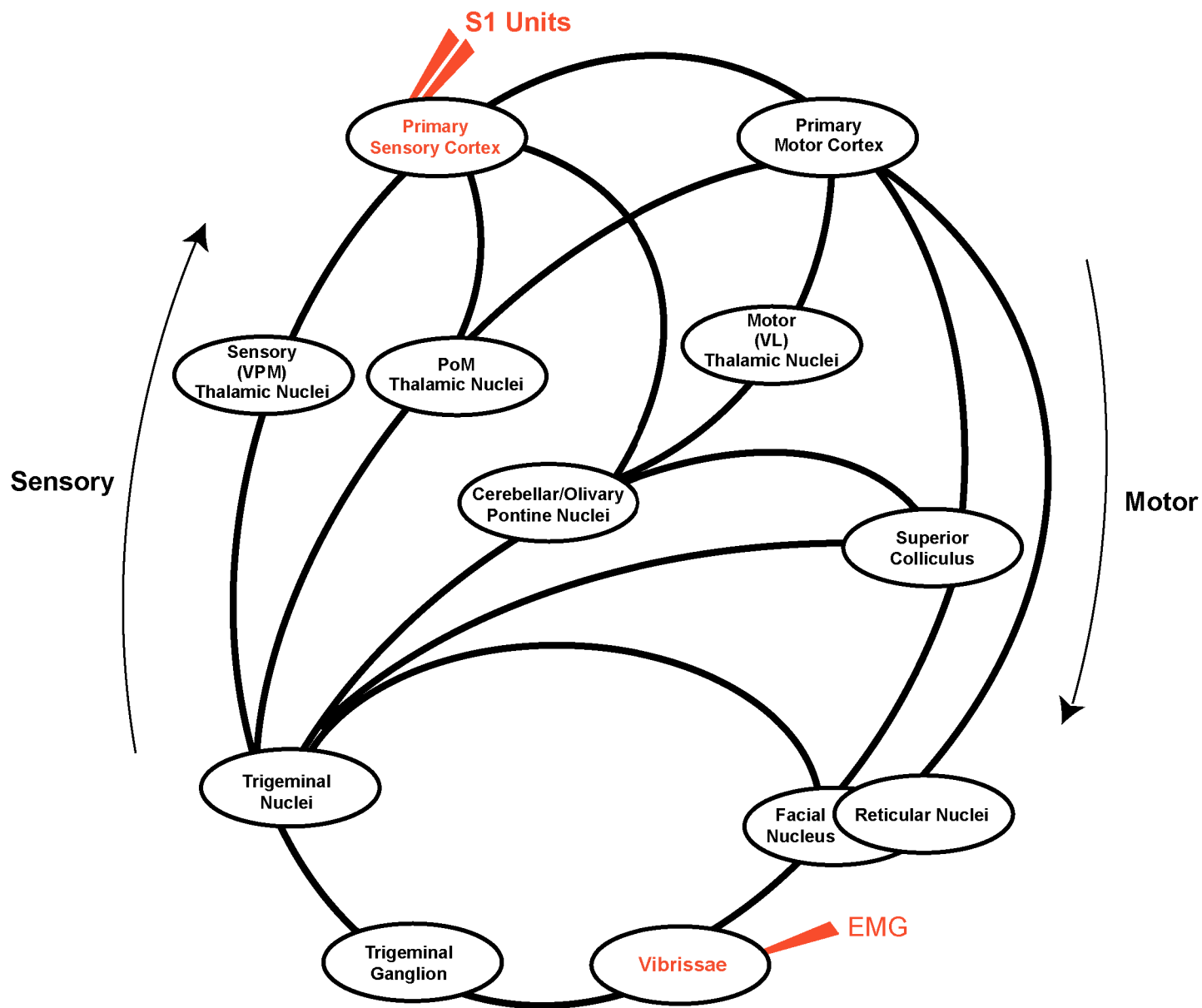
Flattened hemisphere with cytochrome c oxidase stain



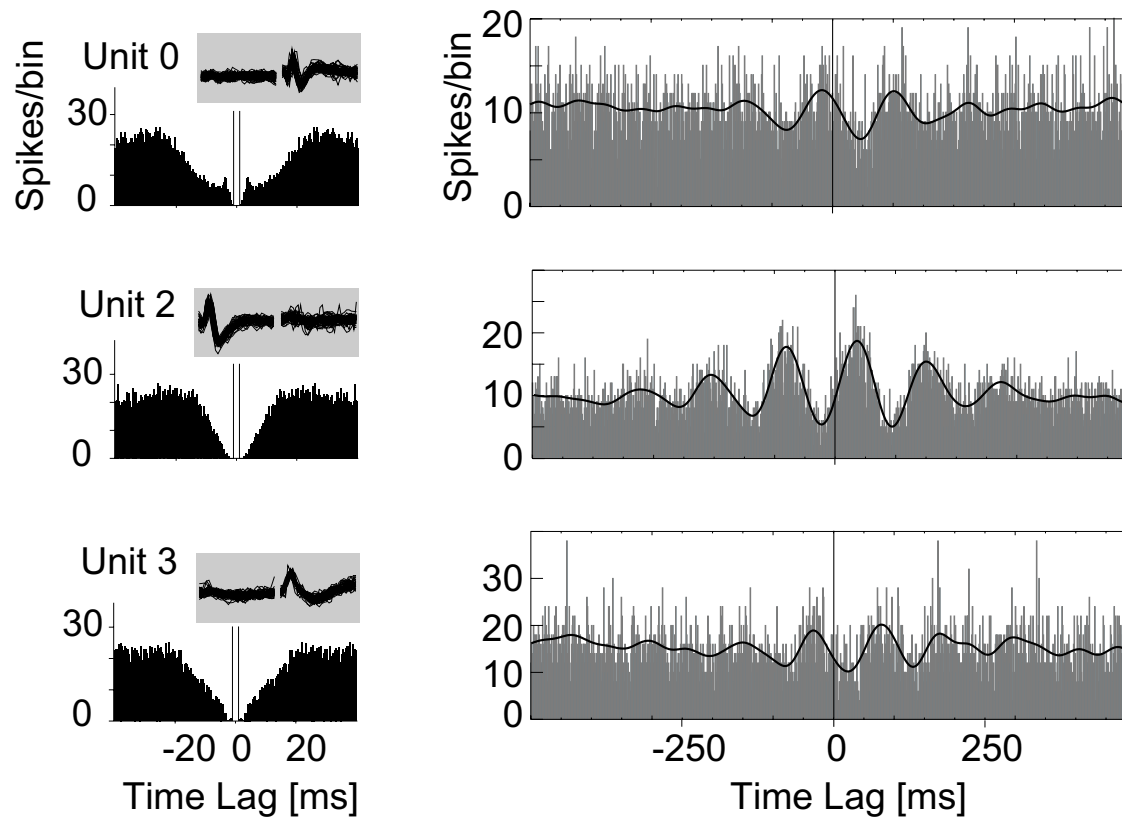
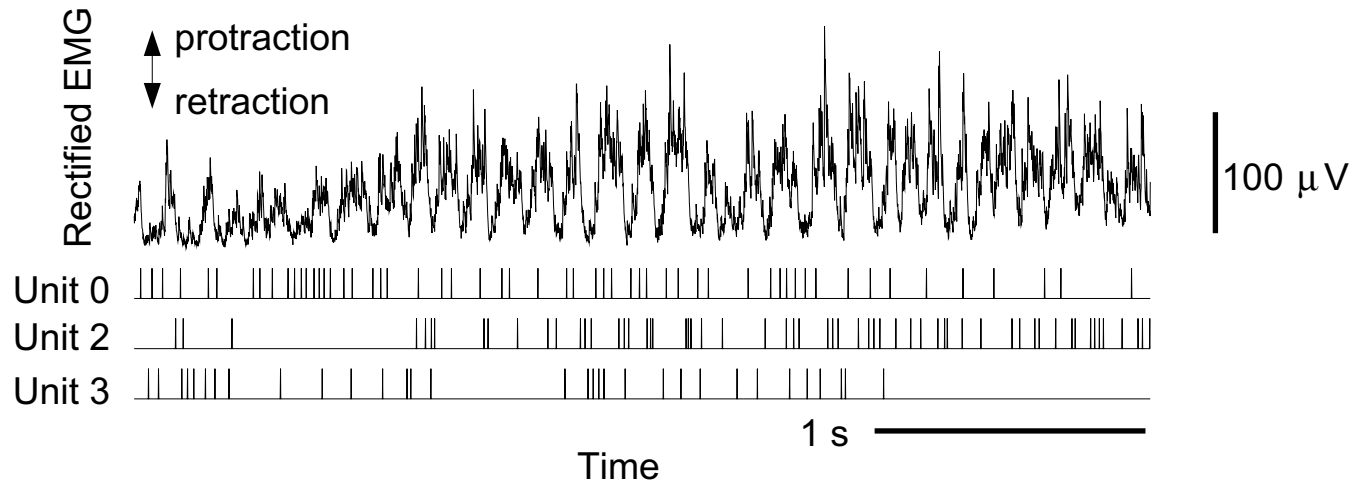
1 mm —

Figure courtesy of Ford Ebner Laboratory
(Assignments after Fabri and Burton 1991)

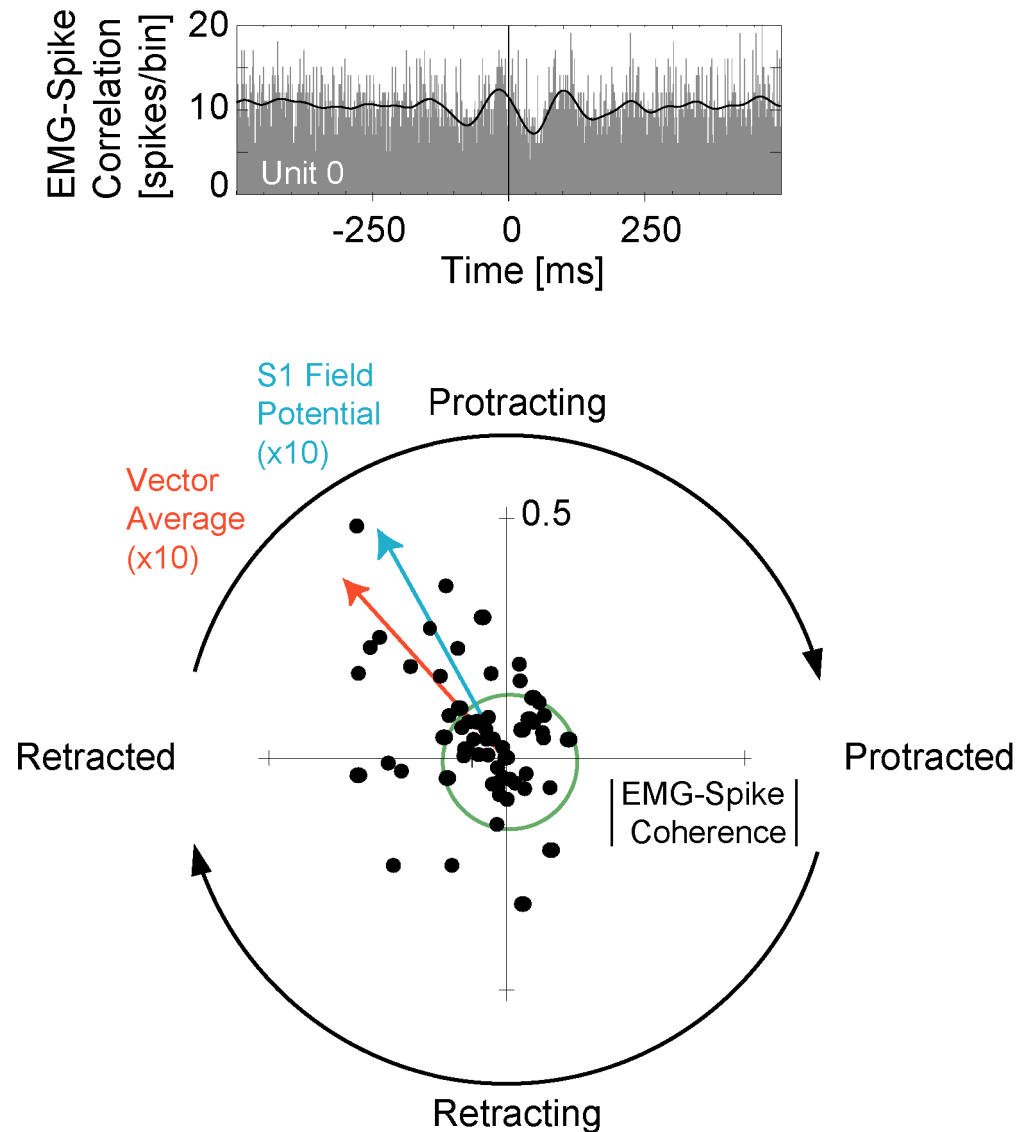
Relation of Spiking in S1 Cortex to EMG Activity during Free Whisking in Air



Simultaneous Recording of EMG and Single Units in S1 Cortex

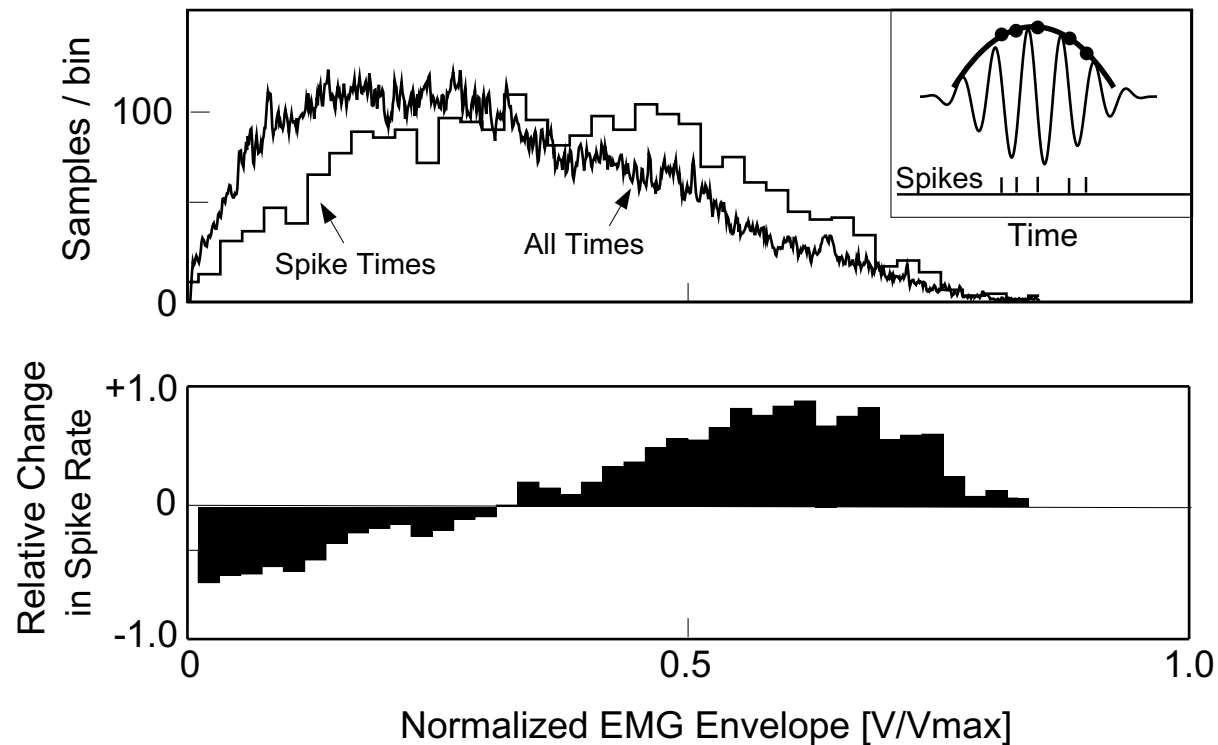


Single Unit as well as Field Potential Activity in Vibrissa S1 Cortex Codes the Phase of Vibrissa Position During Free Whisking



"Unbiased" Population Average: 0.05 Spikes per Whisk (Modulation Level is 0.1 Spikes per Whisk)

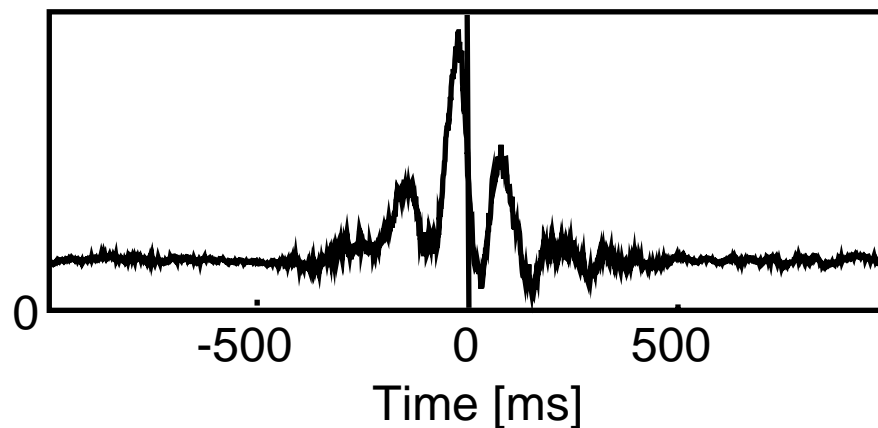
Single Unit Activity in Vibrissa S1 Cortex Codes the Amplitude of Vibrissa Position During Free Whisking



The Output of Units in S1 Cortex Can Be Used to Predict the Position of the Vibrissae (Mystatial EMG) on a Single-Trial Basis

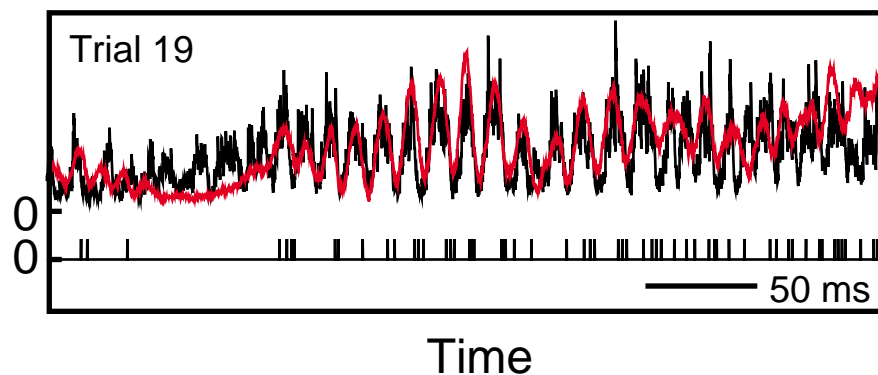


Trial Averaged Transfer Function, $K(t)$



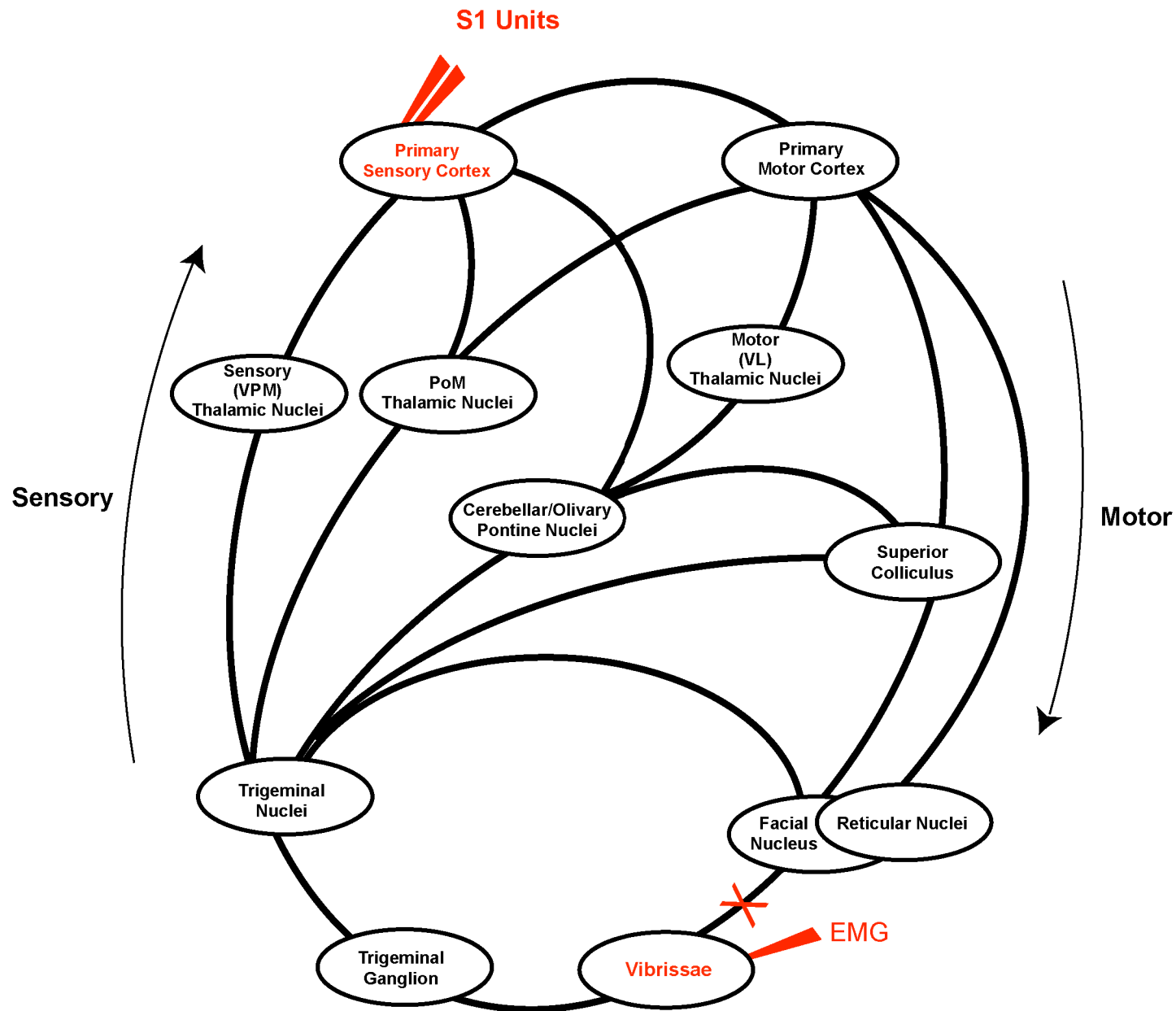
Measured EMG, $E_{\text{meas}}(t)$

Measured Spike Train, $S_{\text{meas}}(t)$



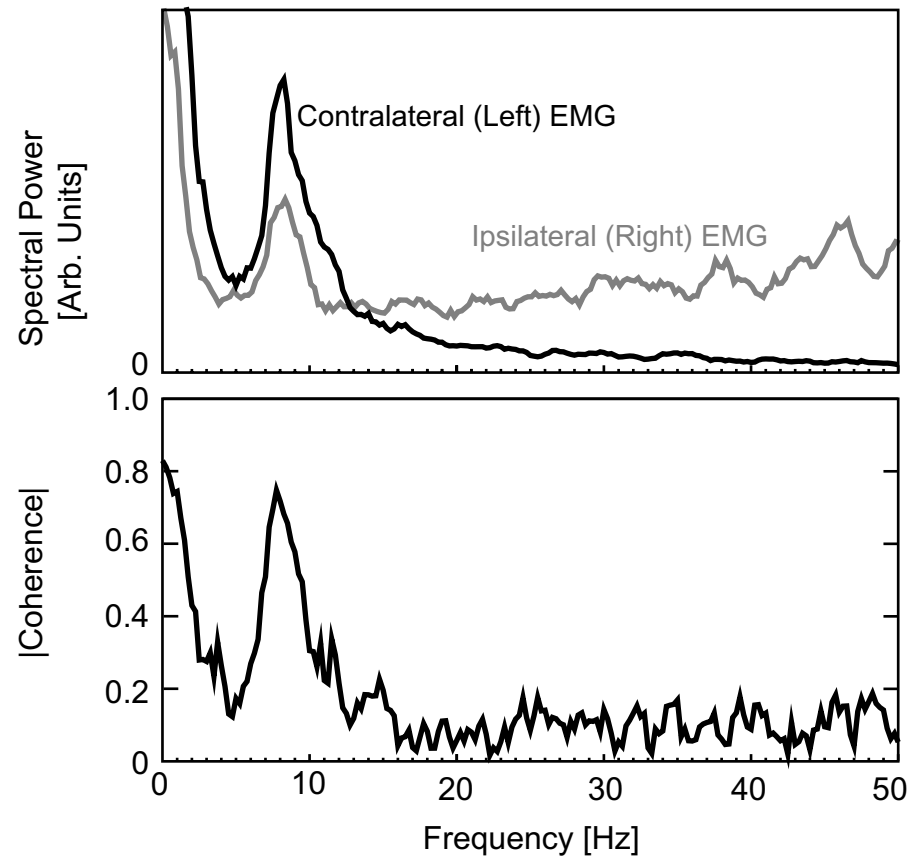
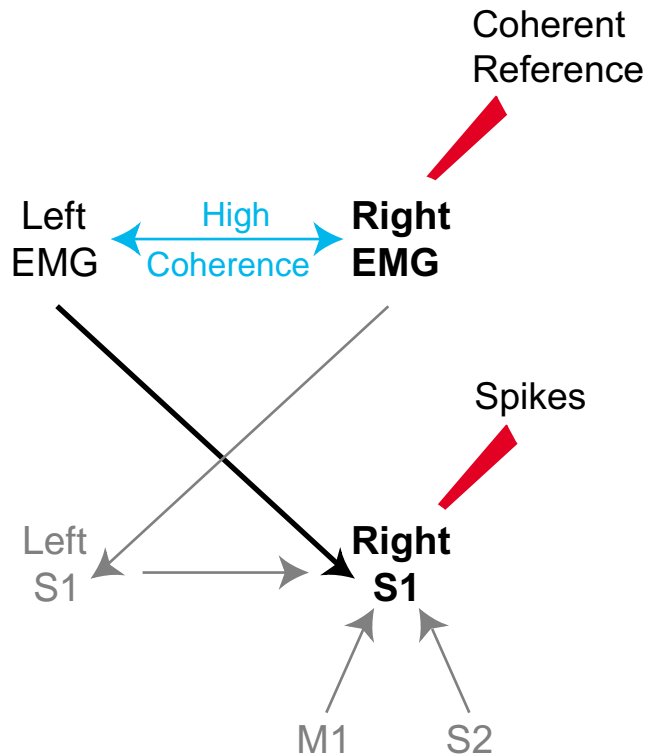
$$\text{Predicted EMG, } E_{\text{pre}}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t dt' K(t-t') S_{\text{meas}}(t')$$

Is the Origin of the Reference Signals in S1 Cortex Peripheral (Reafferrence) or Central (Efferent Copies)?

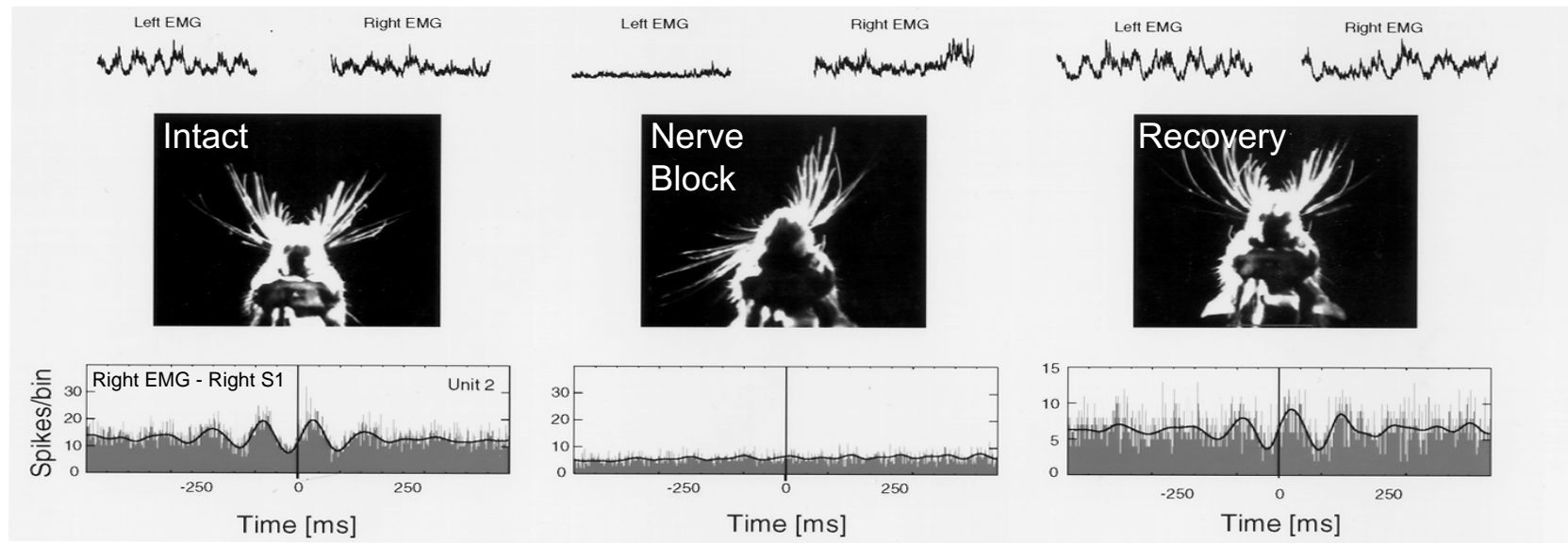


Facial Nerve Block to Determine if the Free Whisking Response in S1 Cortex Results Peripheral Reafference versus Efferents Copy

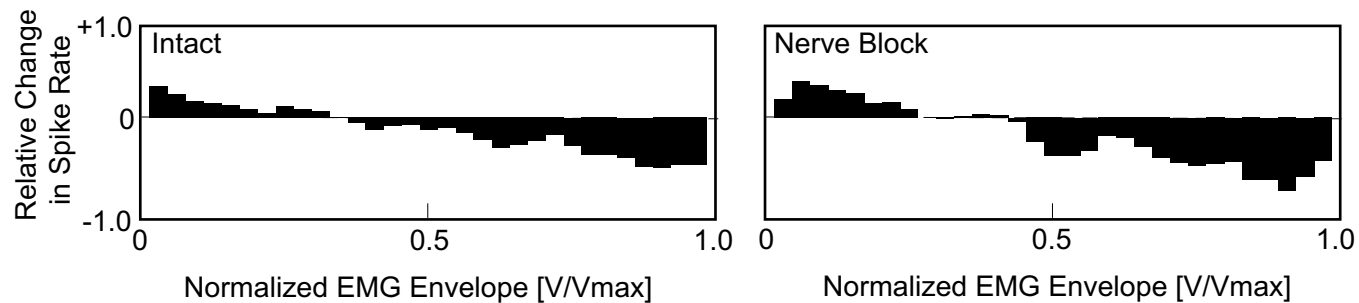
Key: The Ipsilateral EMG Provides a Coherent Reference



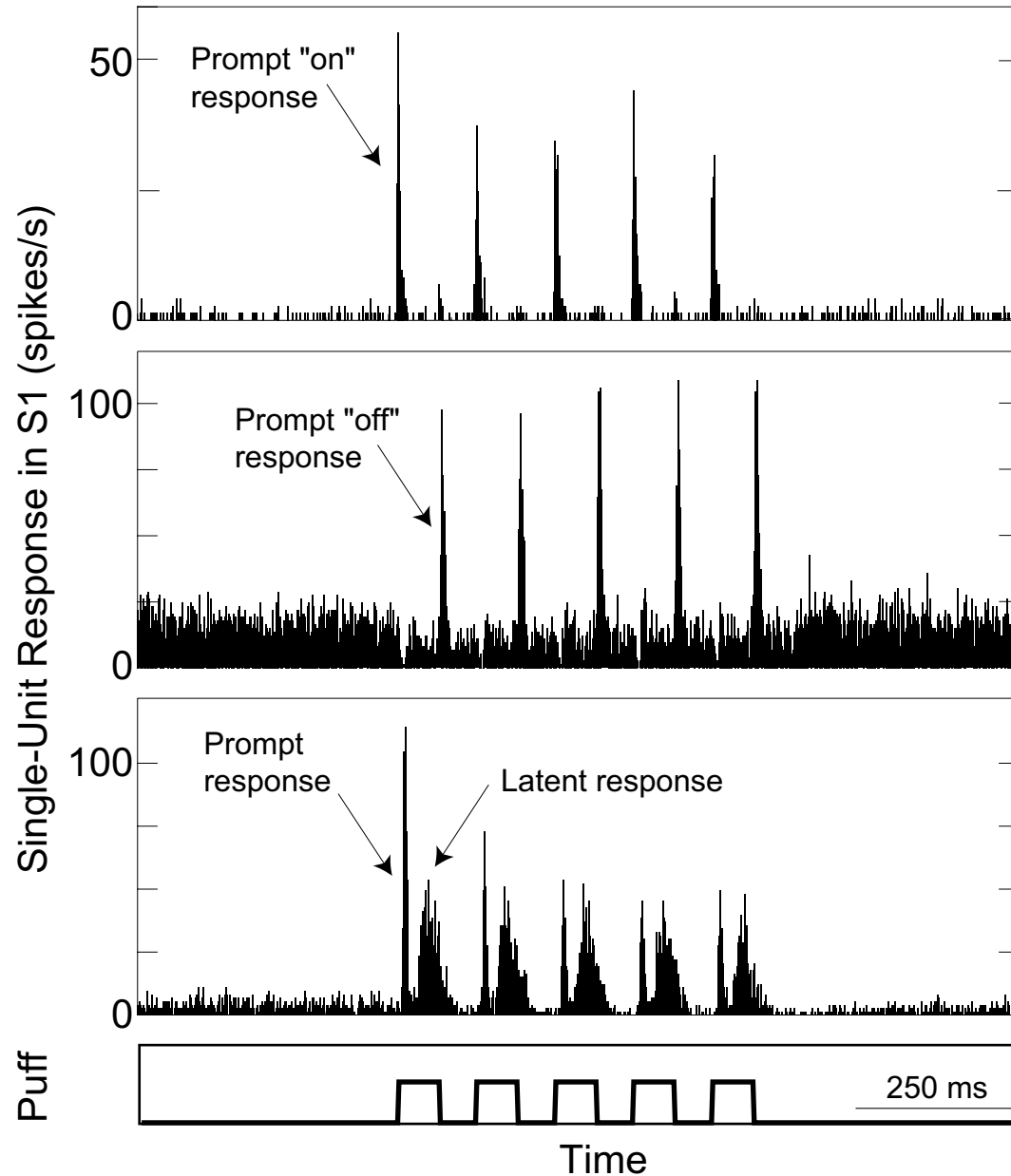
Phasic Coherence between Vibrissa Position and Spiking in S1 Cortex Depends on Peripheral Reafference - Not an Efferents (Central) Copy



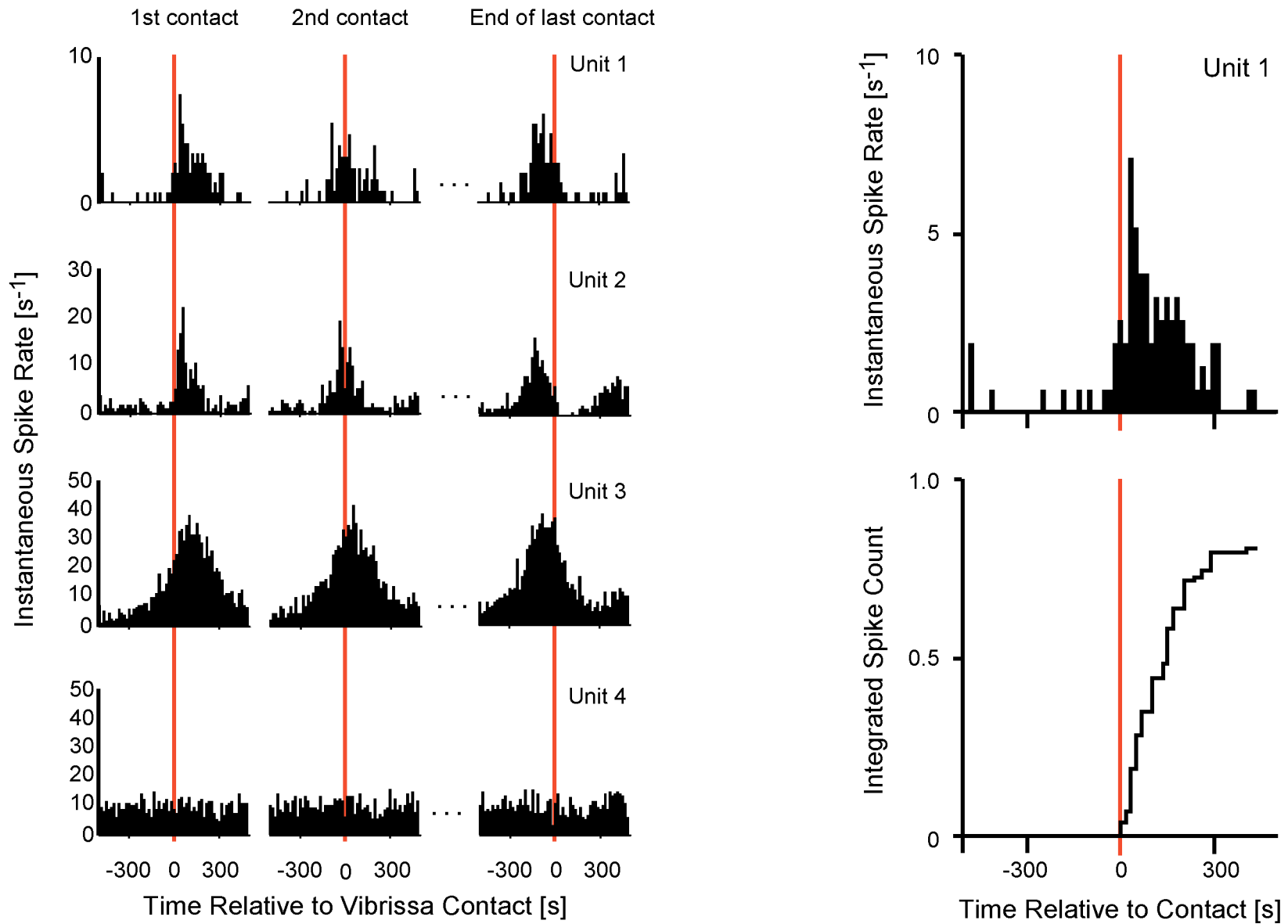
In Contrast, Coherence between the Slowly Varying Envelope of Vibrissa Position and Spiking in S1 Cortex Depends on an Efferents (Central) Copy



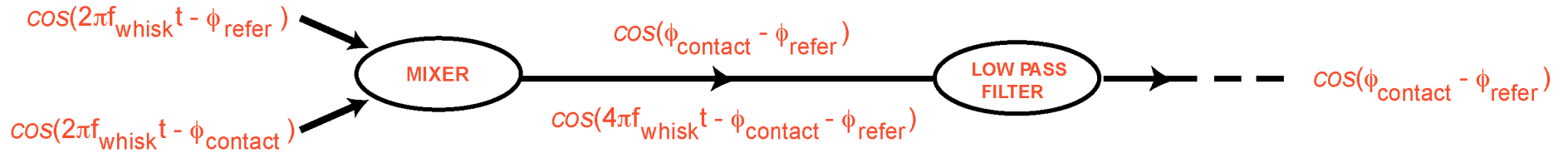
Stimulation of Vibrissae with the Facial Nerve Blocked Does Not Inpede the Sensory Response in S1 Cortex



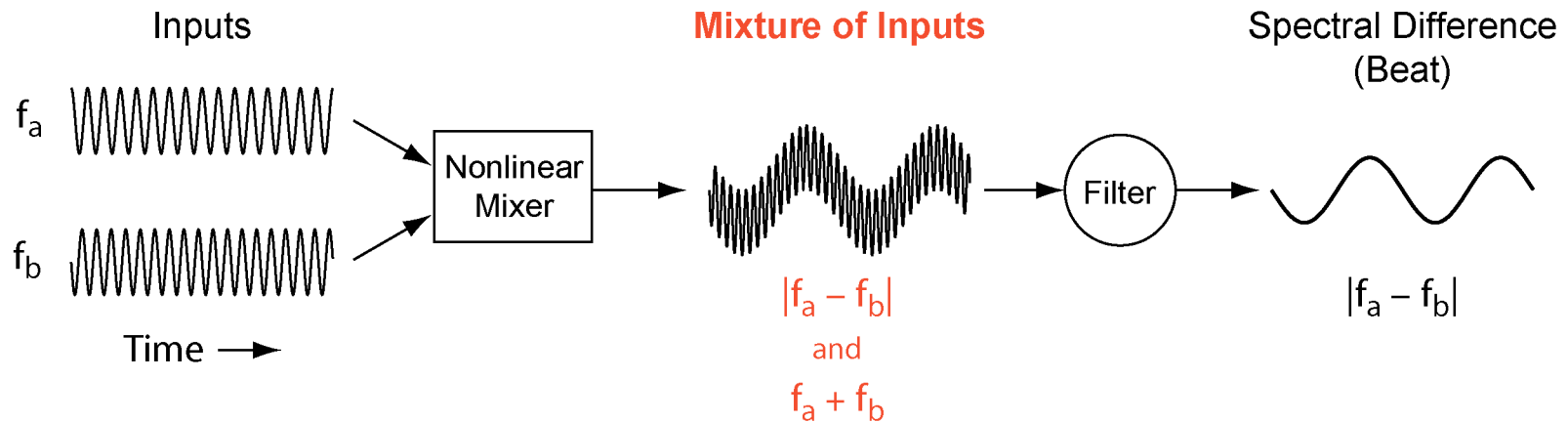
Single Unit Response in S1 Cortex during Discrimination Task



Nonlinear Mixer - Essential Ingredient for Phase Sensitive Detection

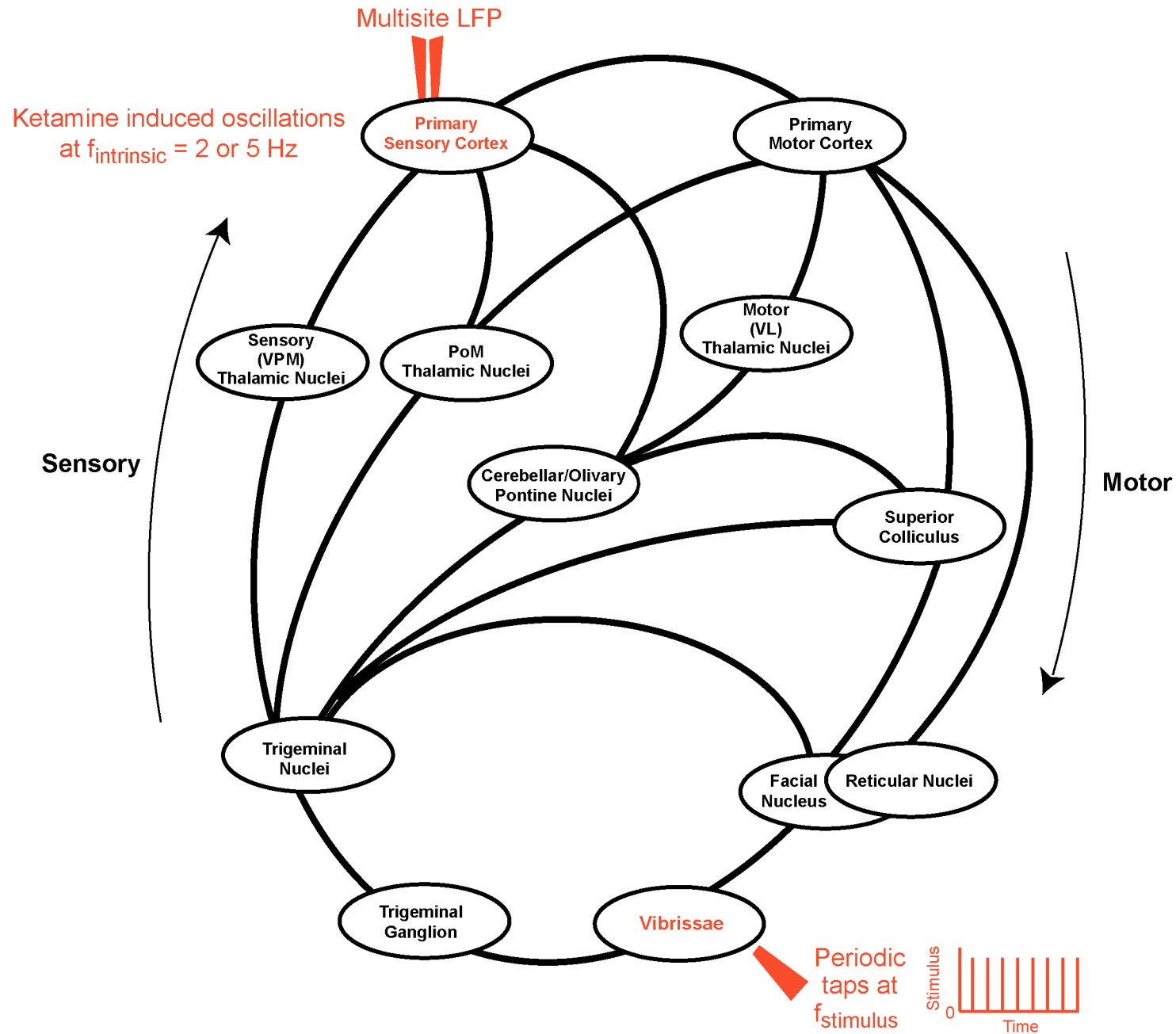


Nonlinear Mixer - Experimental Signature

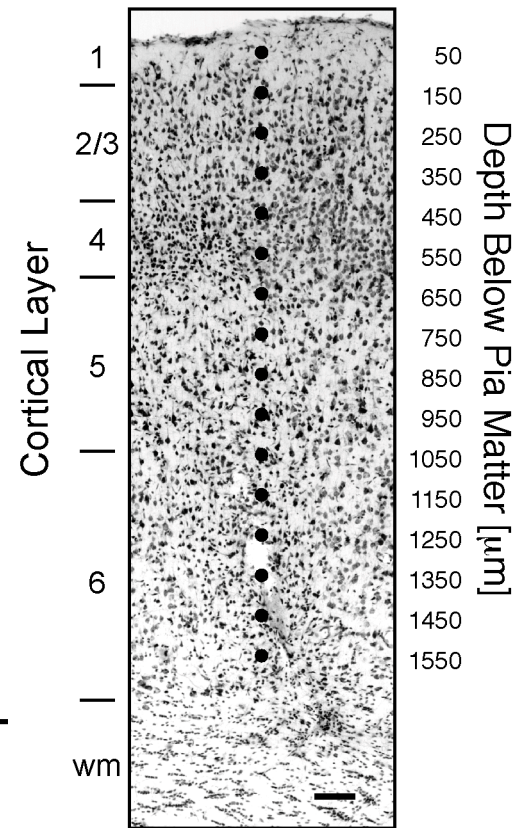
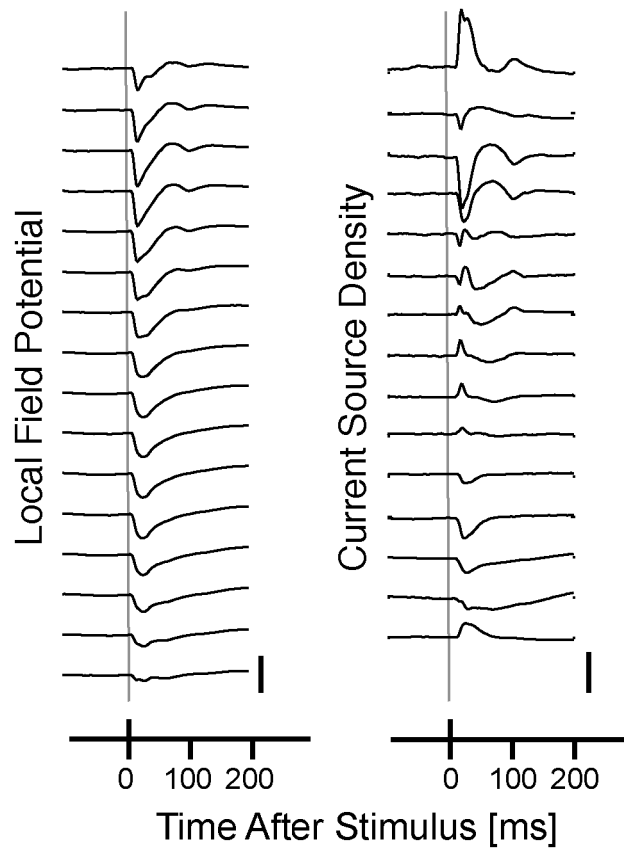
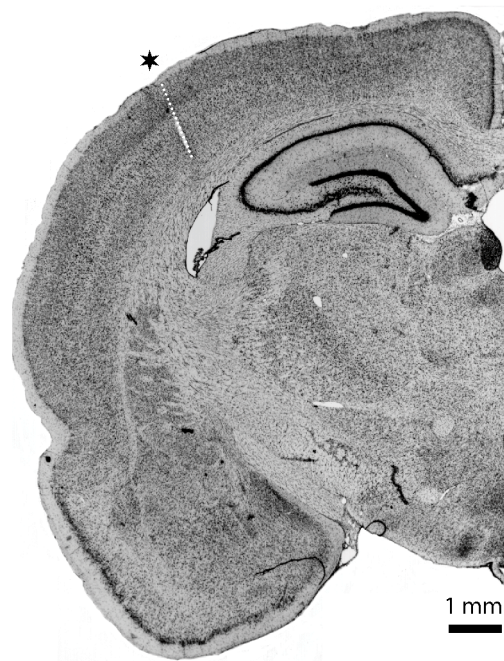


In general, input pure sinusoids with f_a and f_b and get output with sinusoids at $|nf_a \pm mf_b|$

Stimulus Induced Current Flow in S1 Vibrissa Cortex in Anesthetized Rat



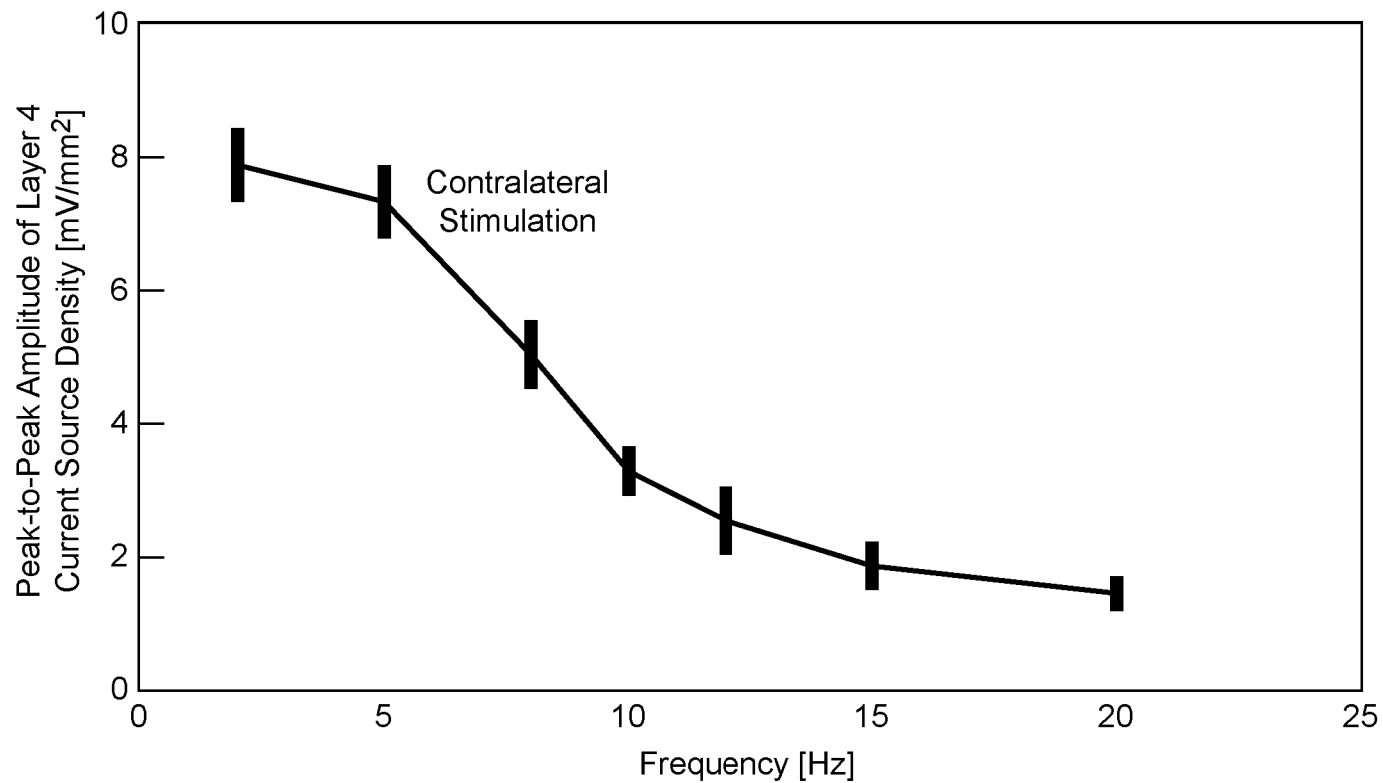
Simultaneous Multisite Measurements of Radial Current Flow (Current Source Density) in Primary Vibrissa Sensory Cortex



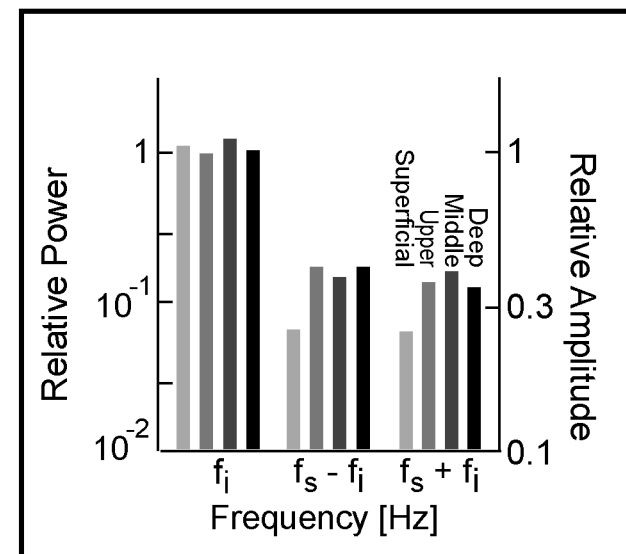
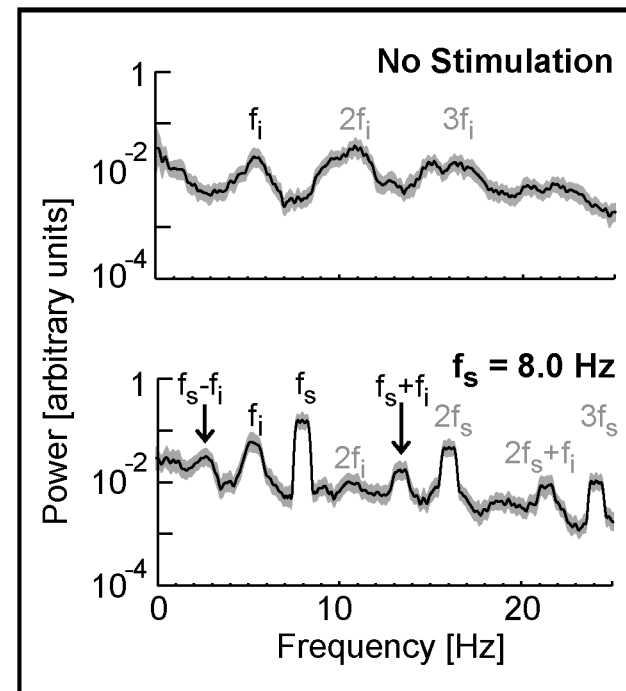
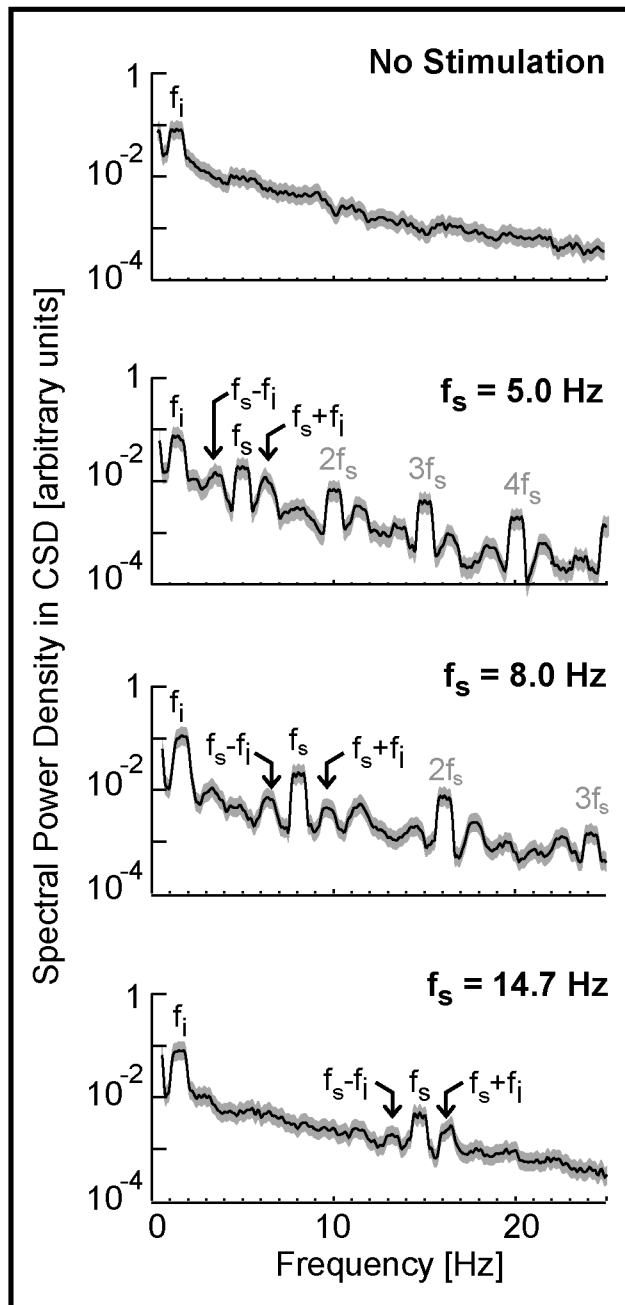
Paradigms to Detect Mixing of Two Oscillatory Signals in Cortex

1 - Intrinsic (Ketamine Induced) Rhythm Plus Contralateral Stimulation

2- Simultaneous Contralateral and Ipsilateral Stimulation



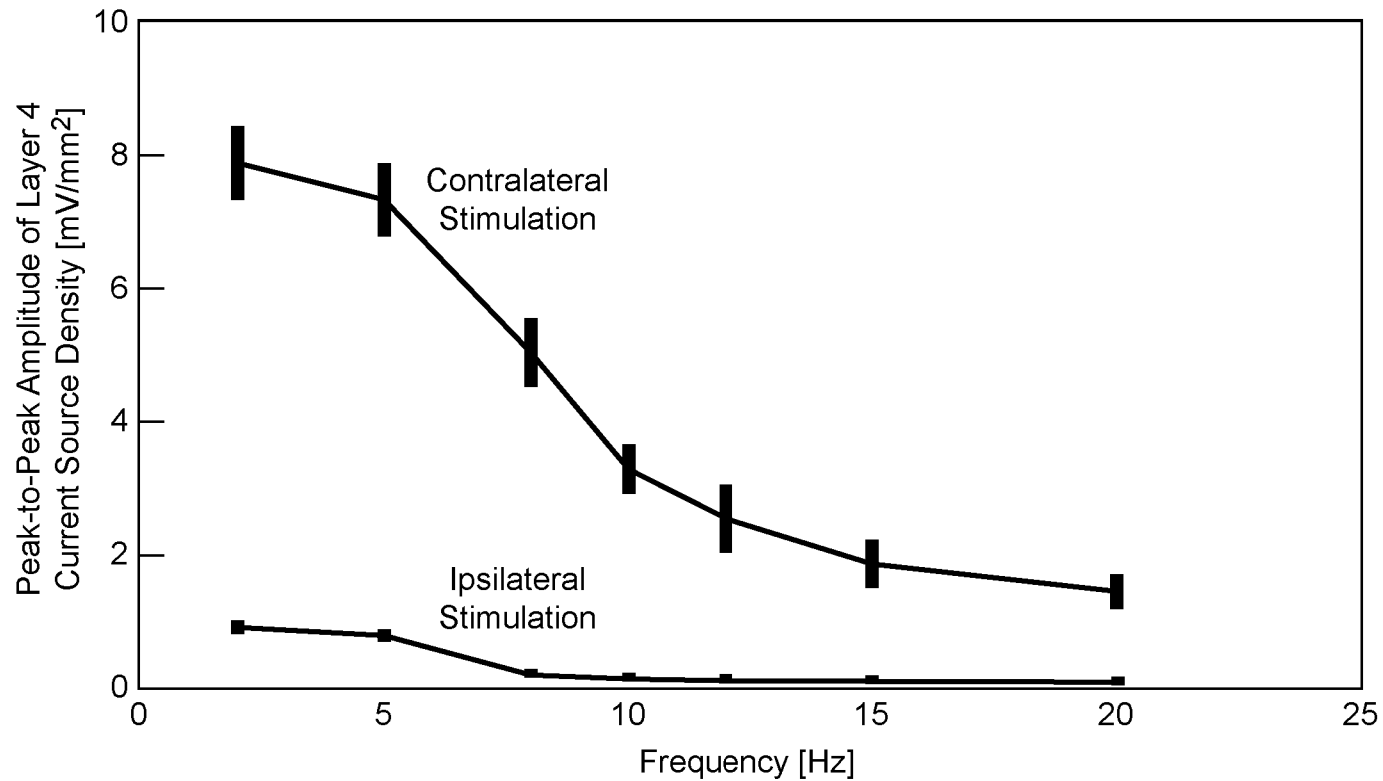
Spectral Mixing in Radial Current Flow (CSD) in S1 Vibrissa Cortex



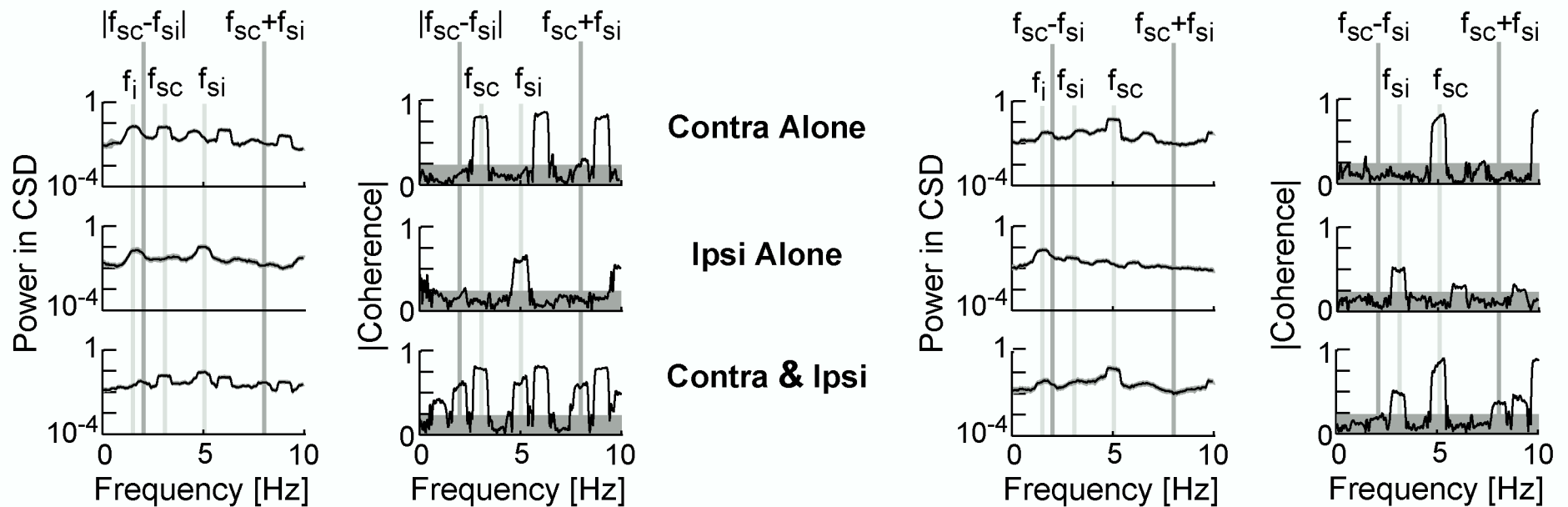
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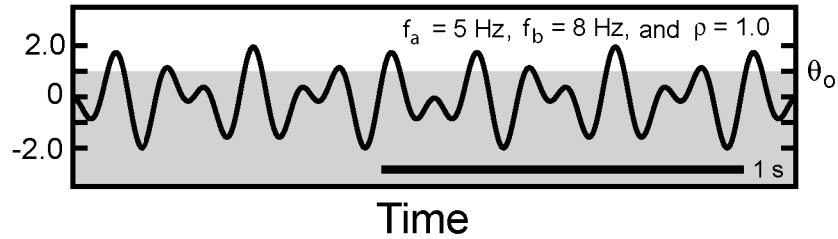


Spectral Mixing in Radial Current Flow (CSD) in S1 Vibrissa Cortex (contralateral plus ipsilateral stimulus-induced rhythm)

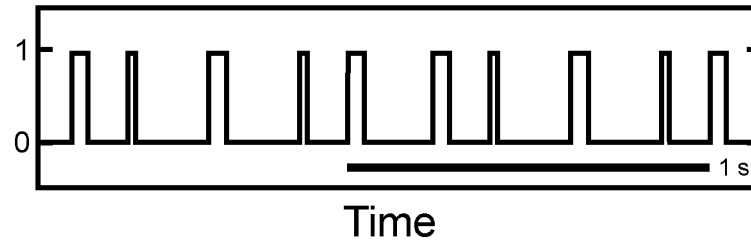


Threshold Nonlinearity as a Model for Spectral Mixing of Sinusoidal Inputs

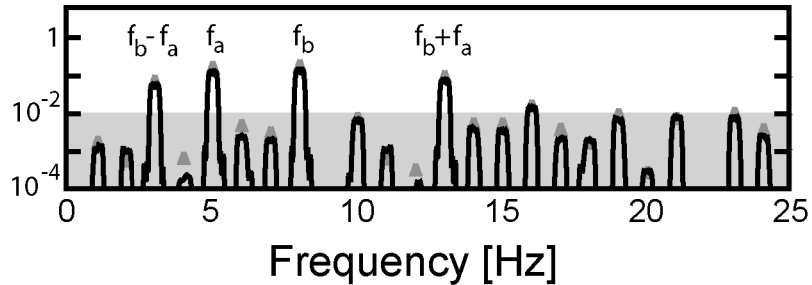
$$\text{Input} = \cos(2\pi f_a t) + \rho \cos(2\pi f_b t)$$



$$\text{Output} = H\{\text{input} - \Theta_0\}$$



Spectral Power Density [Hz⁻¹]



$$\text{Output} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(n+m)} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\Omega \frac{e^{-i\Omega\theta_0}}{\Omega} J_n(\Omega) J_m(\rho\Omega) \cdot e^{i2\pi(nf_a + mf_b)t}$$

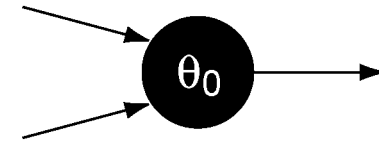
Phase
Term

Amplitude
Term

Sinusoids at
 $f = |\pm nf_a \pm mf_b|$

Neural Hardware for Arithmetic with Frequencies

Mixing ← Threshold Units



$$\text{Input} = \cos(2\pi f_a t + \psi_a) + \cos(2\pi f_b t + \psi_b)$$

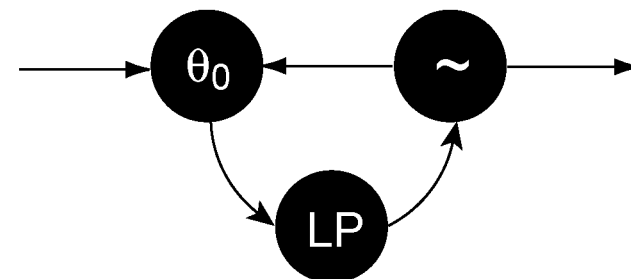
$$\text{Output} = H\{\text{Input} - \theta_0\} \propto \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i[n(\psi_a + \pi/2) + m(\psi_b + \pi/2)]} \cdot e^{i 2\pi(nf_a + mf_b)t} \cdot I_{nm}(\theta_0)$$

$$\propto 2 \cdot I_{00}(\theta_0) + \cos[2\pi f_a t + \psi_a] \cdot I_{10}(\theta_0) + \cos[2\pi f_b t + \psi_b] \cdot I_{01}(\theta_0)$$

$$- \cos[2\pi(f_a - f_b)t + \psi_a - \psi_b] \cdot I_{11}(\theta_0) - \cos[2\pi(f_a + f_b)t + \psi_a + \psi_b] \cdot I_{11}(\theta_0)$$

$$- \cos[4\pi f_a t + 2\psi_a] \cdot I_{20}(\theta_0) - \cos[2\pi f_b t + 2\psi_b] \cdot I_{02}(\theta_0) + \dots$$

Phase Shifting ← Phase-Locked Loops



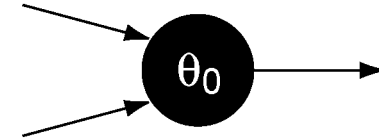
$$\text{Input} = \cos(2\pi f_a t)$$

$$\text{Output} = \cos(2\pi f_a t + \pi/2)$$

$$\propto \sin(2\pi f_a t)$$

Neural Hardware for Arithmetic with Frequencies

Mixing ← Threshold Units



$$\text{Input} = \cos(2\pi f_a t + \psi_a) + \cos(2\pi f_b t + \psi_b)$$

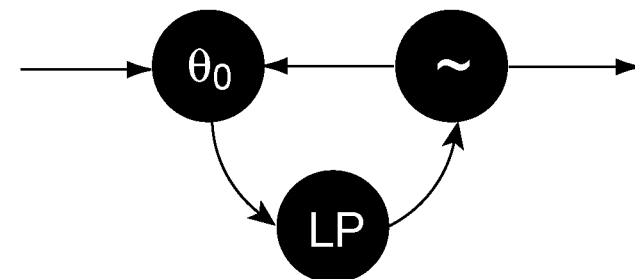
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$$\propto 2 \cdot I_{00}(\theta_0) + \cos[2\pi f_a t + \psi_a] \cdot I_{10}(\theta_0) + \cos[2\pi f_b t + \psi_b] \cdot I_{01}(\theta_0)$$

$$- \cos[2\pi(f_a - f_b)t + \psi_a - \psi_b] \cdot I_{11}(\theta_0) - \cos[2\pi(f_a + f_b)t + \psi_a + \psi_b] \cdot I_{11}(\theta_0)$$

$$- \cos[4\pi f_a t + 2\psi_a] \cdot I_{20}(\theta_0) - \cos[2\pi f_b t + 2\psi_b] \cdot I_{02}(\theta_0) + \dots$$

Phase Shifting ← Phase-Locked Loops

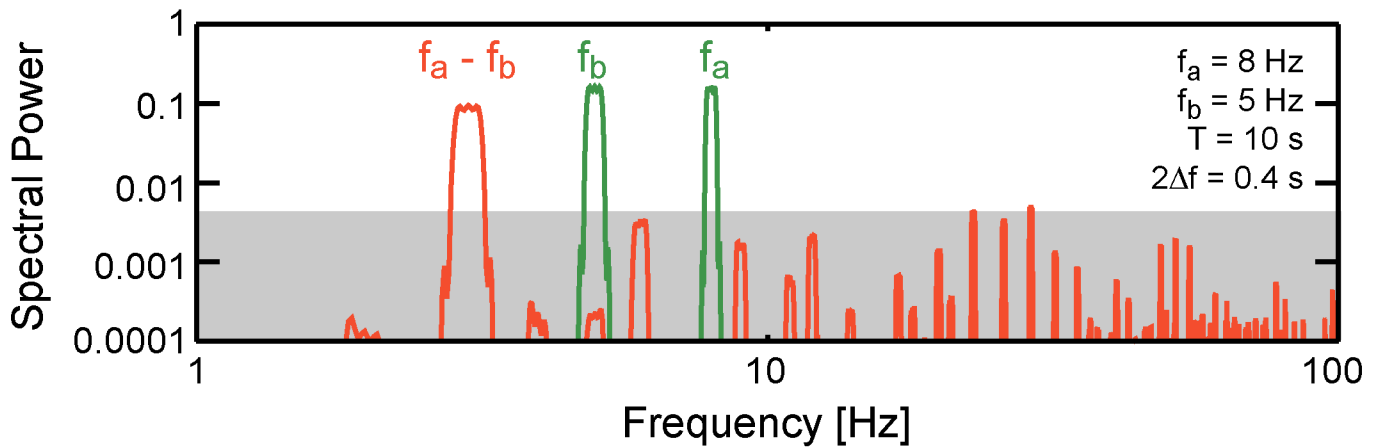
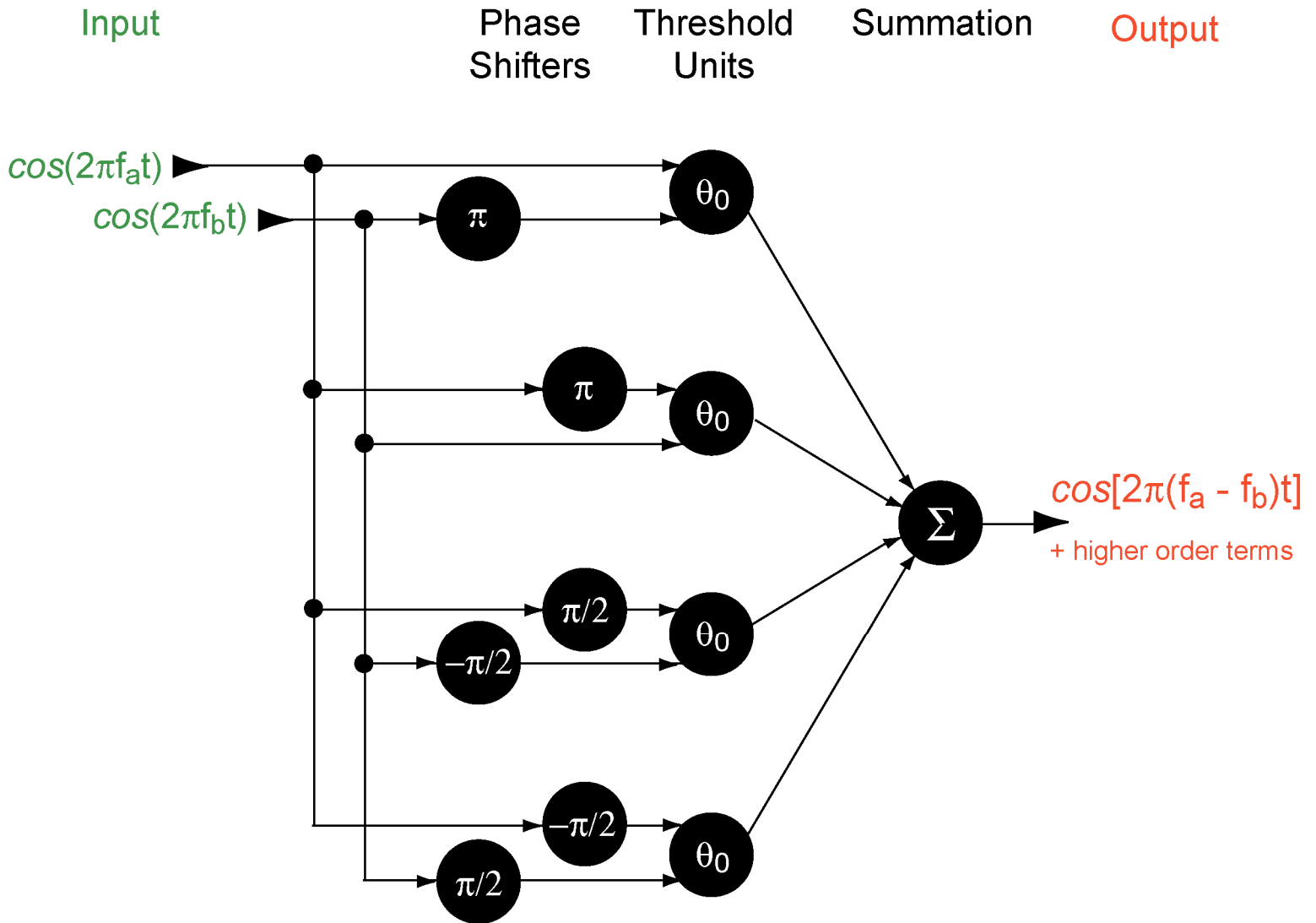


$$\text{Input} = \cos(2\pi f_a t)$$

$$\text{Output} = \cos(2\pi f_a t + \pi/2)$$

$$\propto \sin(2\pi f_a t)$$

Neural Hardware for Subtraction of Two Frequencies (15 neurons, 23 synapses)



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Direct Measurement of Phase-sensitivity Function, $Z(\psi)$

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Program in Active Sensation Kleinfeld Neurophysics Laboratory

Kurt Ahrens
Rune Berg
John Curtis
Michale Fee
Karunesh Ganguly
Samar Mehta
Lynne Merchant
Quoc Nguyen
Sean O'Connor
Suri Venkatachalam
Ralf Wessel
Diane Whitmer



Ehud Ahissar
Mathew Diamond
Ford Ebner
Beth Friedman
David Golomb
Murray Jarvis
Herbert Levine
Partha Mitra
Robert Sachdev
Harry Suhl

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NIMH - Computational Neuroscience
(past support Whitehall Foundation)