



中国科学院
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



INSTITUTE OF NEUROSCIENCE

中国科学院神经科学研究所

电生理技术

徐春

中科院神经科学所

- Why electrophysiology?
- The history and basics of electrophysiology
- Methods in electrophysiology
- Future of electrophysiology

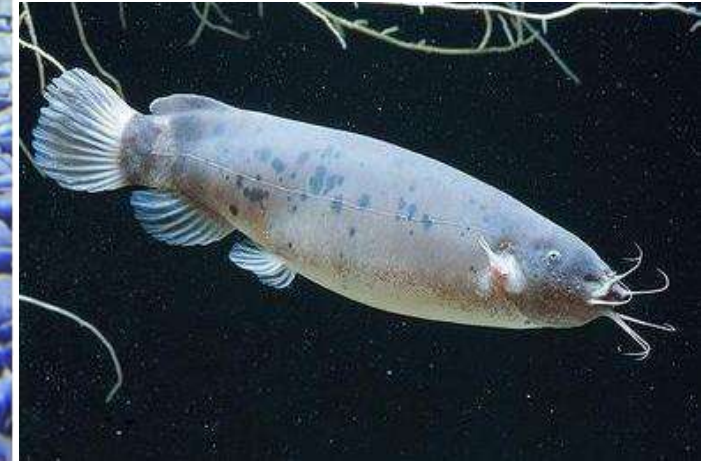


Electricity and human civilization



带电鱼：电鳗、电鲶、电鲀

- 电鳗放电电压可达700 ~ 800伏，电鲶放电电压可达300 ~ 500伏。





Electrical signals for sensation



Electrical signals for locomotion



Electrical signals for all kinds of behavior



Why electrical signals

- ...



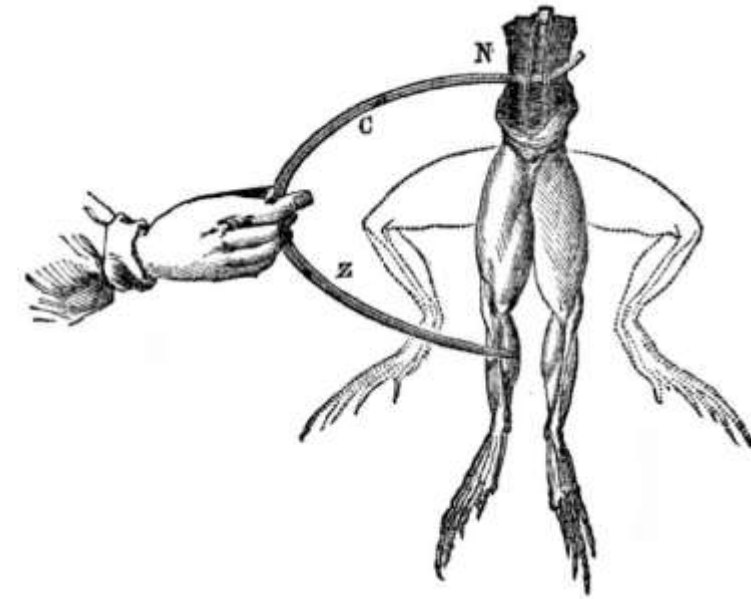
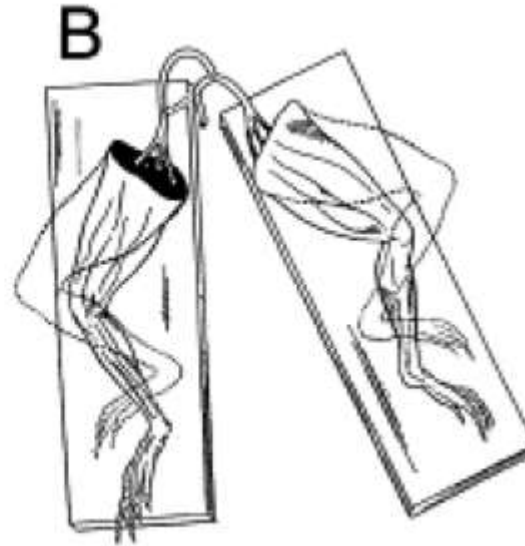
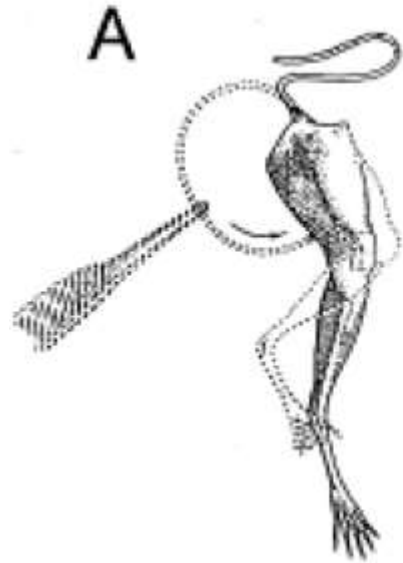
- Why electrophysiology?
- The history and basics of electrophysiology
- Methods in electrophysiology?
- Future of electrophysiology



The muscle contraction is evoked by electrical signals!



Luigi Galvani
1786



Galvani's experiment demonstrating muscle contraction without using dissimilar substances (metal and tissue). (A) When the surface of section of the nerve touches the muscle, the leg contracts. (B) When the surface of section of the right sciatic nerve touches the intact surface of the left sciatic nerve, both legs contract

The muscle contraction is evoked by electrical signals!

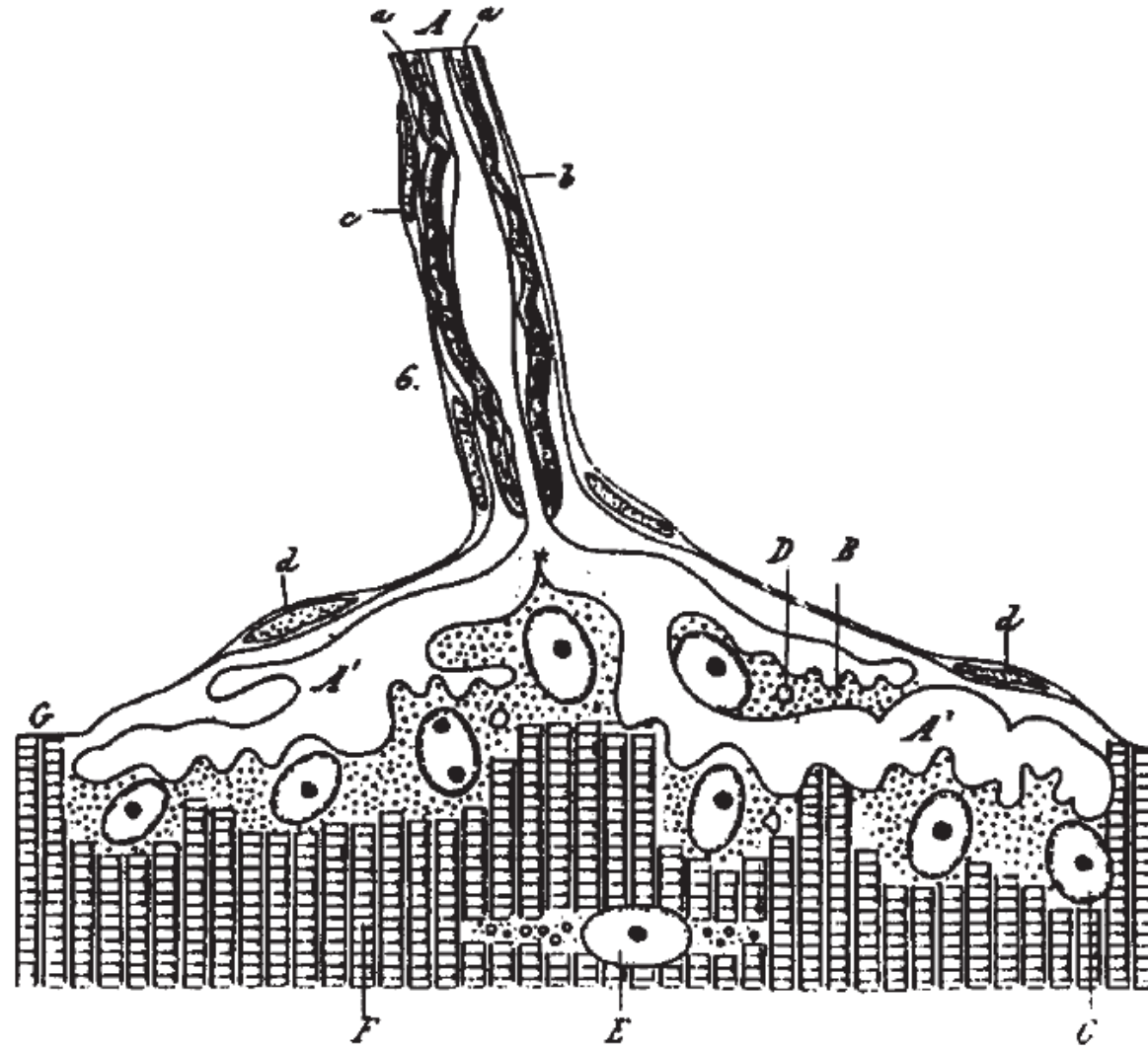
Smith College | Neurophysiology



Squid Giant Axon and neural muscle junction (NMJ)



神经肌肉接头利用生物电完成运动



- Still, how is the electrical signals generated and propagated?



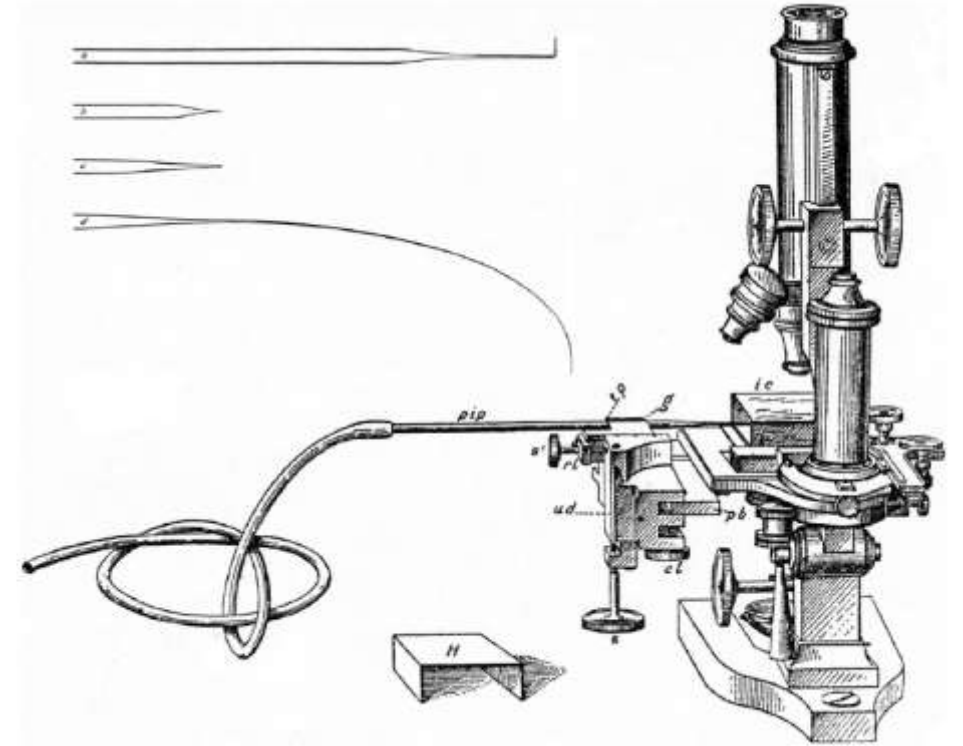
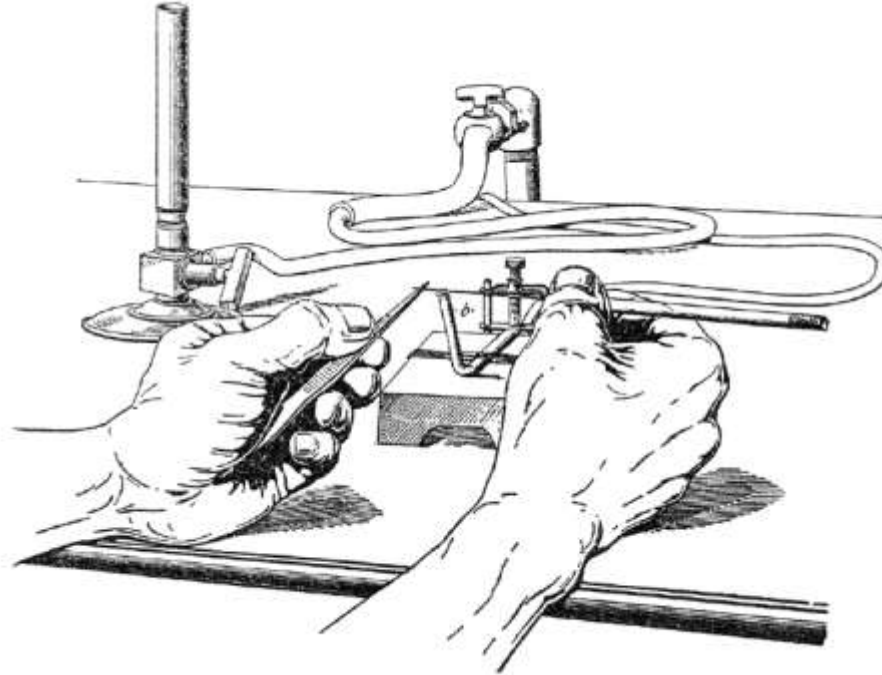
- How to record the electrical signals intracellularly?



Invention of the glass micropipette electrode



Marshall Albert Barber
(circa 1911).



The glass micropipette electrode for intracellular recording

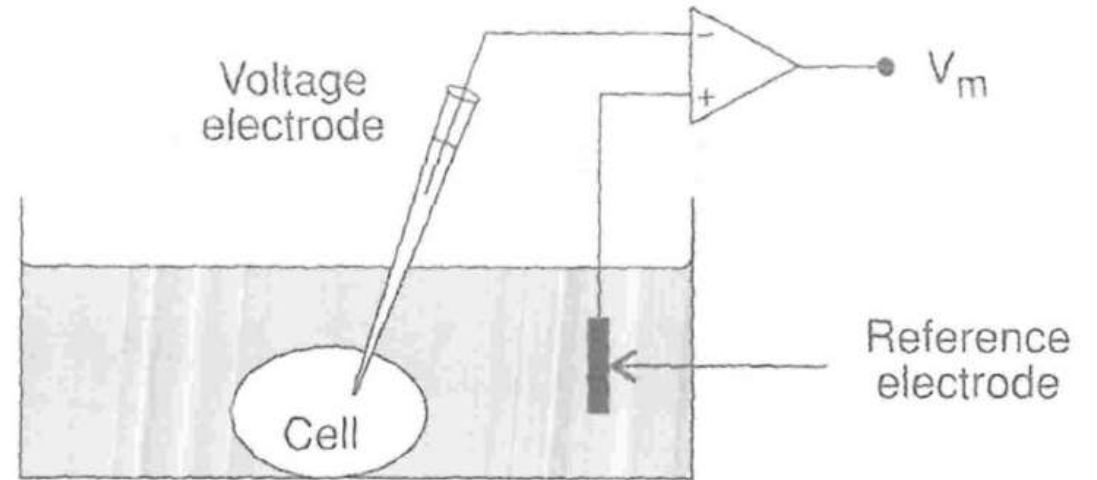
Milestone in Physiology JGP 100th Anniversary



Gilbert Ning Ling



Ralph Gerard



It would be difficult to exaggerate the important role that the capillary microelectrode has played in Neurophysiology in the thirty years since its development.

Ketty, Seymour S. (1982).

- Ling, Gilbert; Gerard, R. W. (December 1949). *Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology* 34 (3): 383–396.
Ling, G.; Gerard, R. W. (December 1949). *Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology* 34 (3): 397–405.
Ling, G.; Woodbury, J. W. (December 1949). *Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology* 34 (3): 407–412.
Ling, G.; Gerard, R. W. (December 1949). *Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology* 34 (3): 413–438.

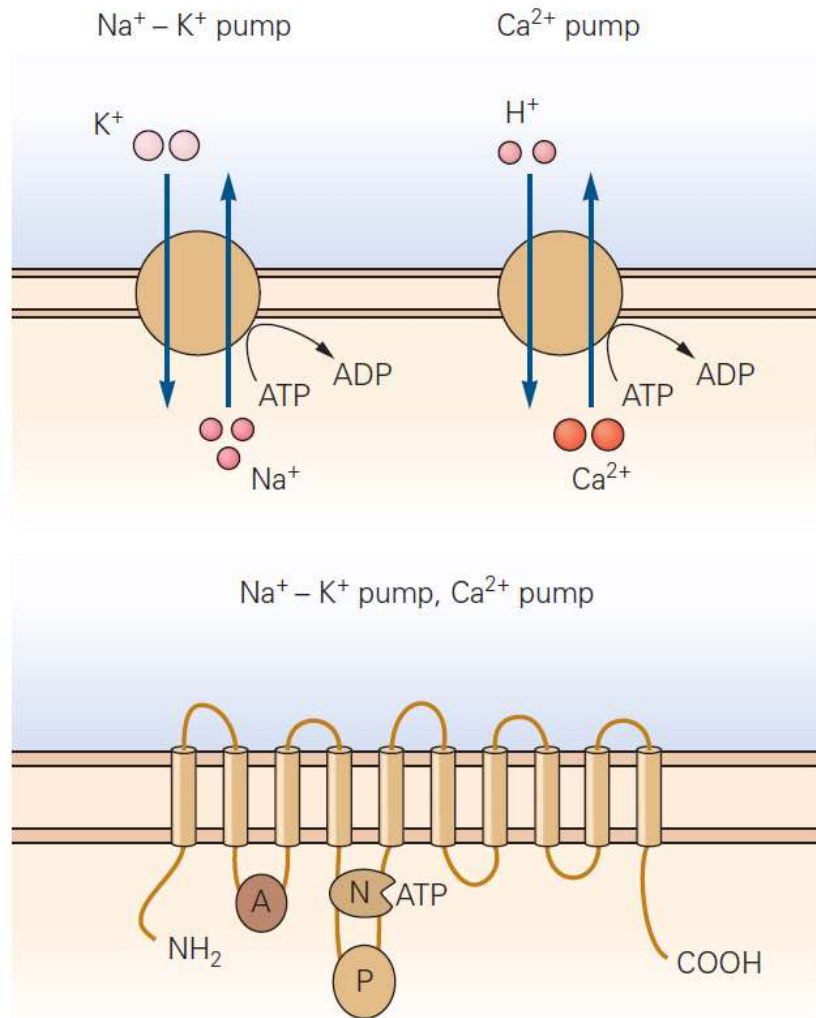


Intracellular Recording from Crayfish Muscle Cells

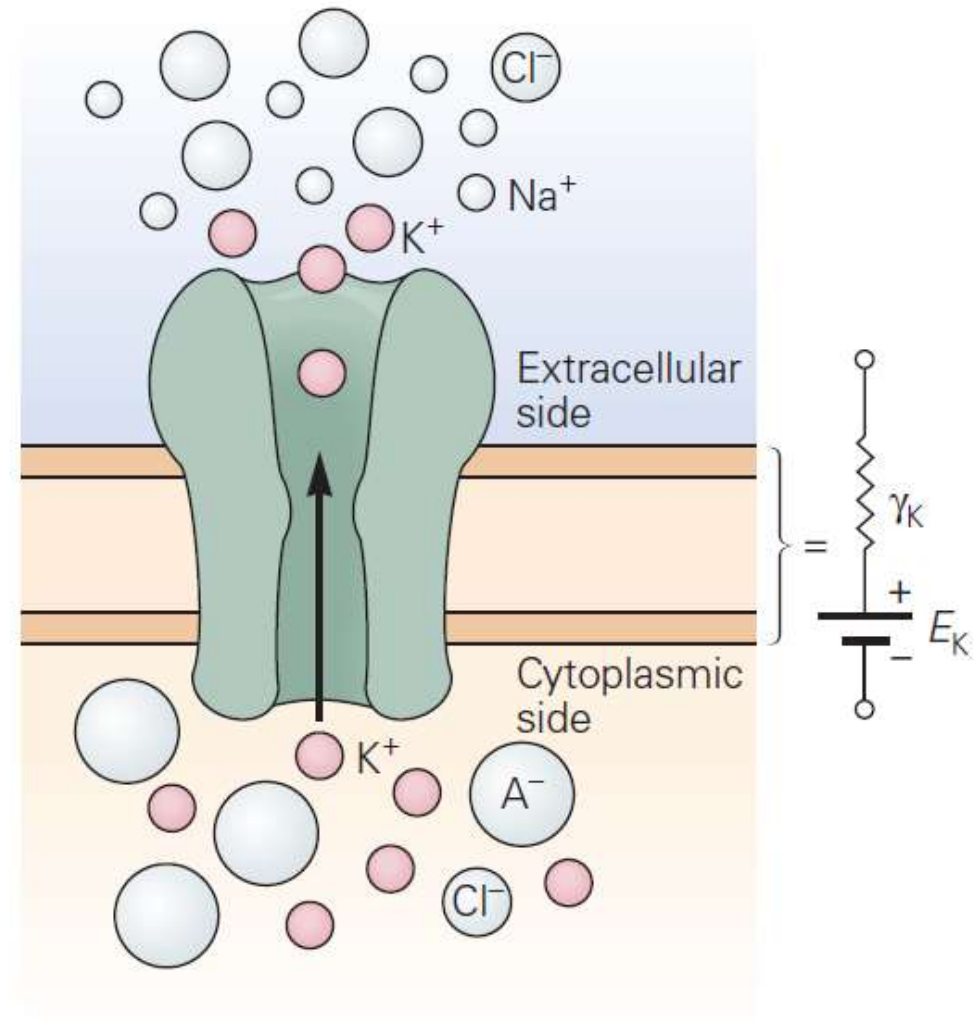


生物电的基础：细胞内外的离子流动

Ion pumps



Voltage-gated ion channels



生物电的基础：细胞内外的电势差

$$V_m = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{P_K [K^+]_o + P_{Na} [Na^+]_o + P_{Cl} [Cl^-]_i}{P_K [K^+]_i + P_{Na} [Na^+]_i + P_{Cl} [Cl^-]_o}.$$

Here, $V_m = E_m$ at resting membrane potential

- E_m = the membrane potential (in volts, equivalent to joules per coulomb)
- P_{ion} = the selectivity for that ion (in meters per second)
- $[ion]_{out}$ = the extracellular concentration of that ion (in moles per cubic meter, to match the other SI units)
- $[ion]_{in}$ = the intracellular concentration of that ion (in moles per cubic meter)
- R = the ideal gas constant (joules per kelvin per mole)
- T = the temperature in kelvins
- F = Faraday's constant (coulombs per mole)

Goldman Equation

$$V_m \cong \frac{RT}{F} \ln \frac{[K^+]_o}{[K^+]_i}$$

Here, $V_m = E_m$ at the reversal potential

At room temperature (25 °C), RT/F may be treated as a constant and replaced by 25.693 mV for cells.



Driving force

$$i_K = (\gamma_K \times V_m) - (\gamma_K \times E_K) = \gamma_K \times (V_m - E_K).$$

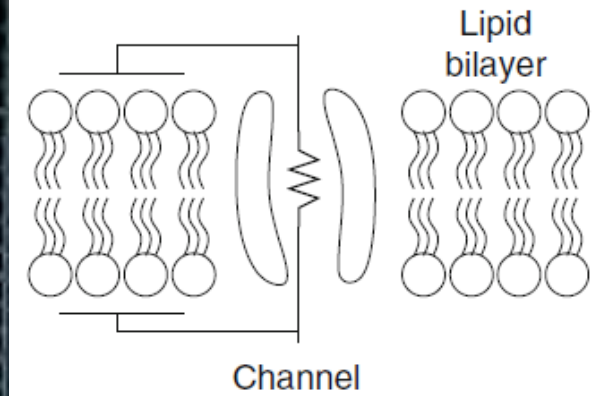
Driving force = Conductance multiplied by Reversal potential

Cell & Ion

- Muscle contraction by electrical signals
- Ion channels (voltage-gated, ligand-gated)
- **Goldman Equation** for membrane potential
- Resting membrane potential
- Reversal potential (E_{REV})
- Driving force for channels/ion



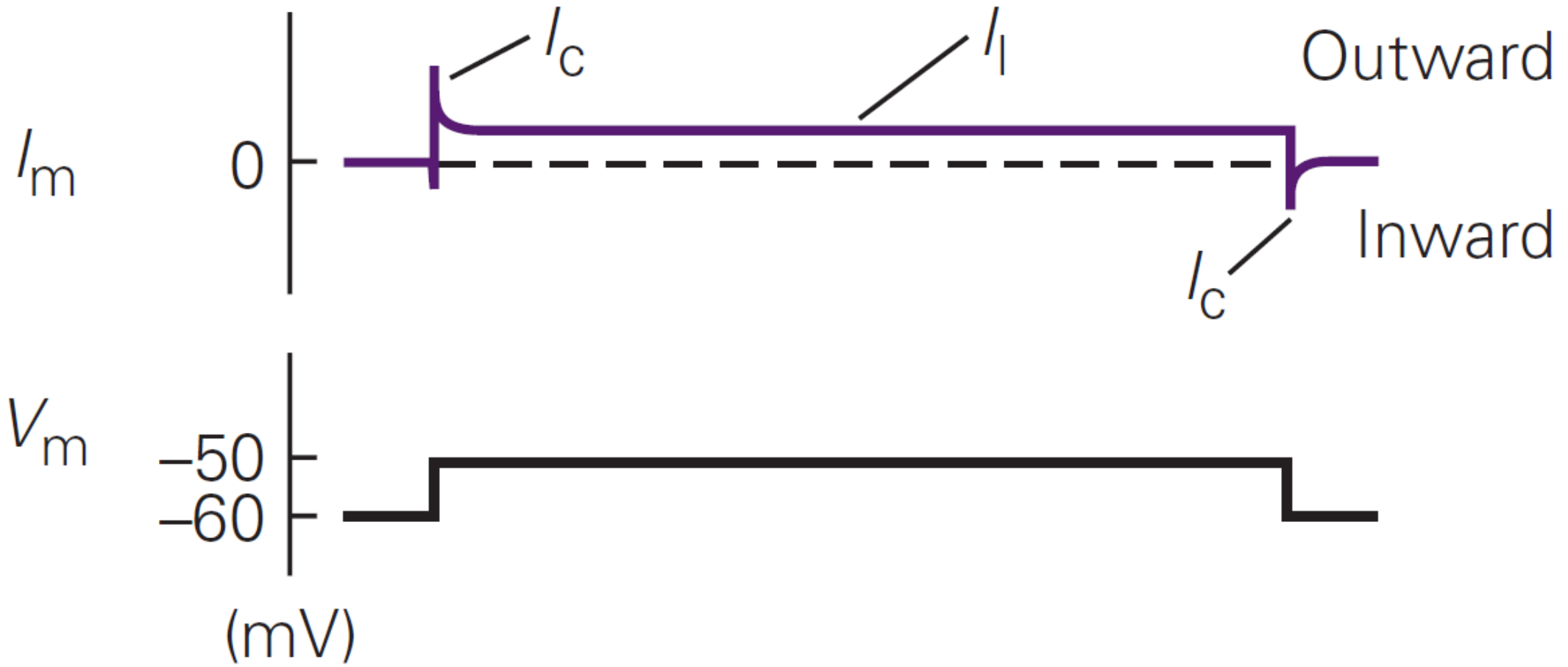
细胞膜的电学特性



**Membrane
Conductance**

**Ion channels
Receptors**

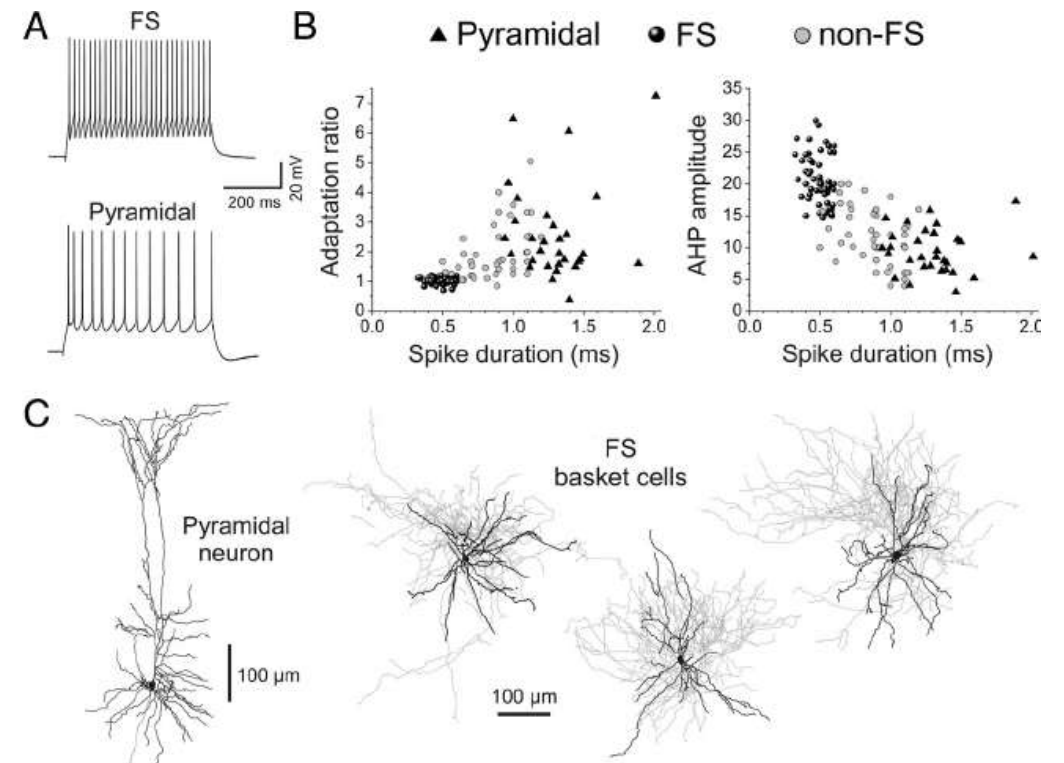
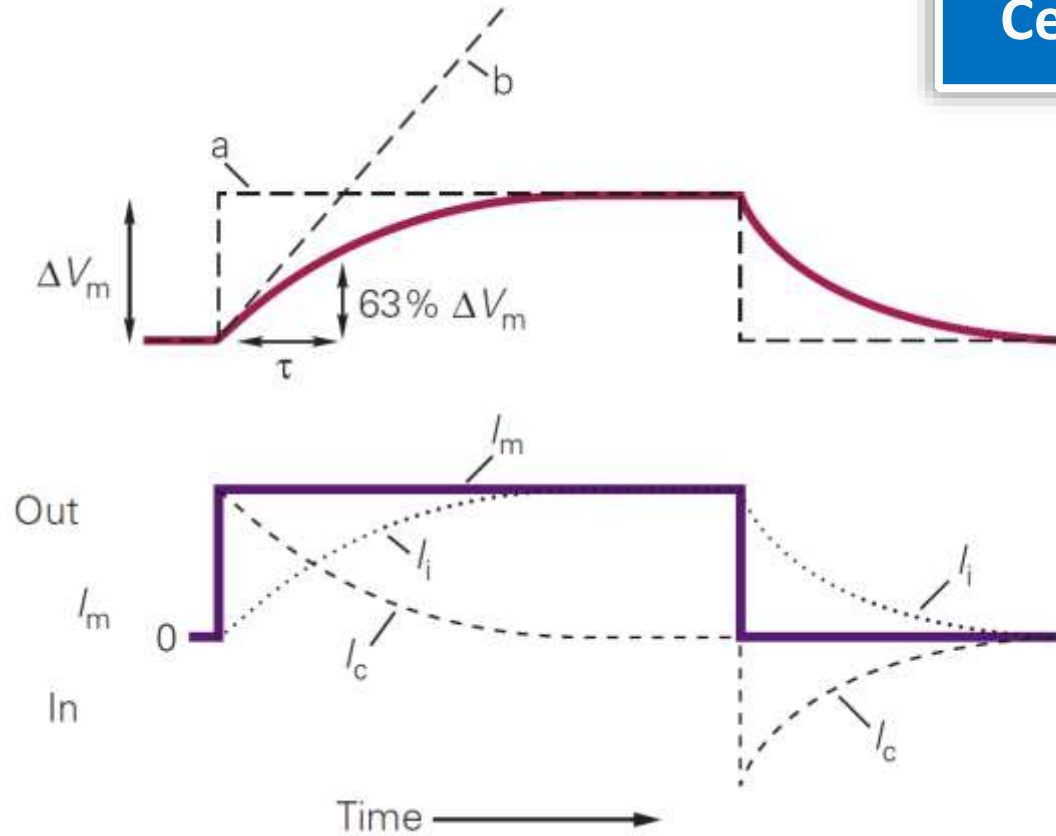
细胞膜的电学特性



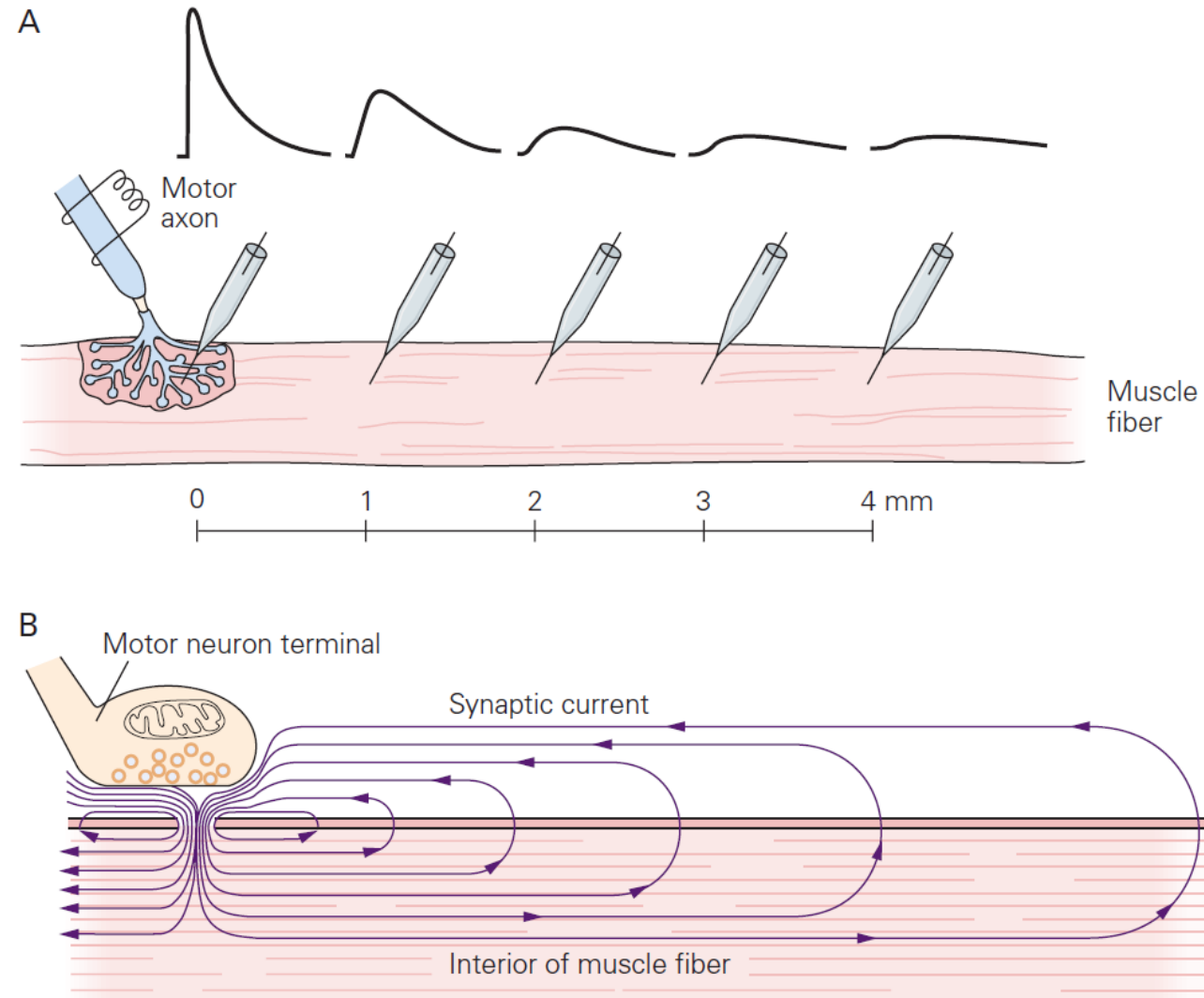
细胞膜的电学特性

Cell type

- Membrane conductance (intrinsic properties)
- Ion channel types
- Ion channel distribution
- Cell morphology



The end-plate potential (EP) passively propagates



Still, how is the electrical signals generated and propagated?

Squid Giant Axon Recording



All or none.
Threshold.

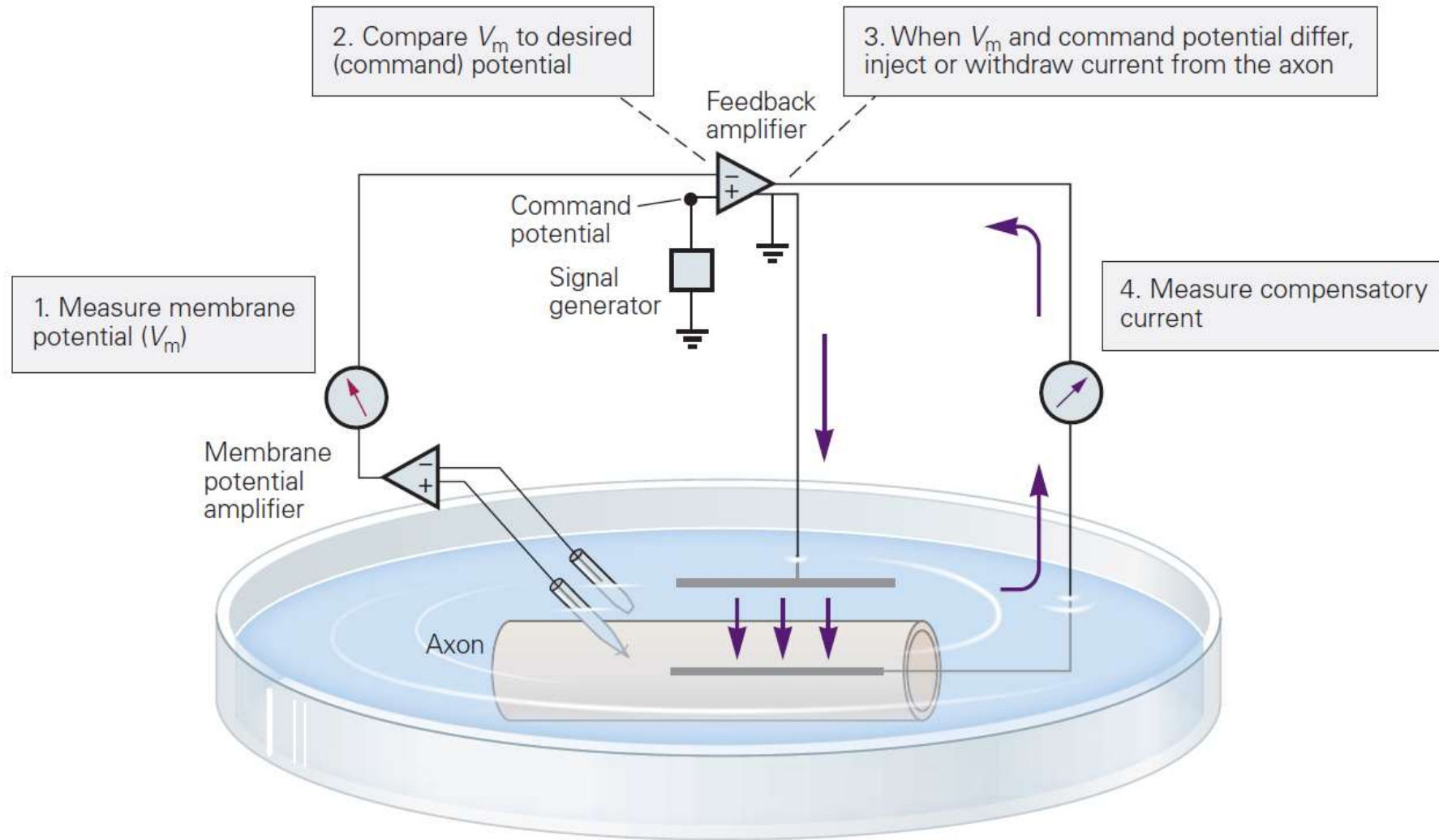
Largest axon
Fastest travel

Simultaneously

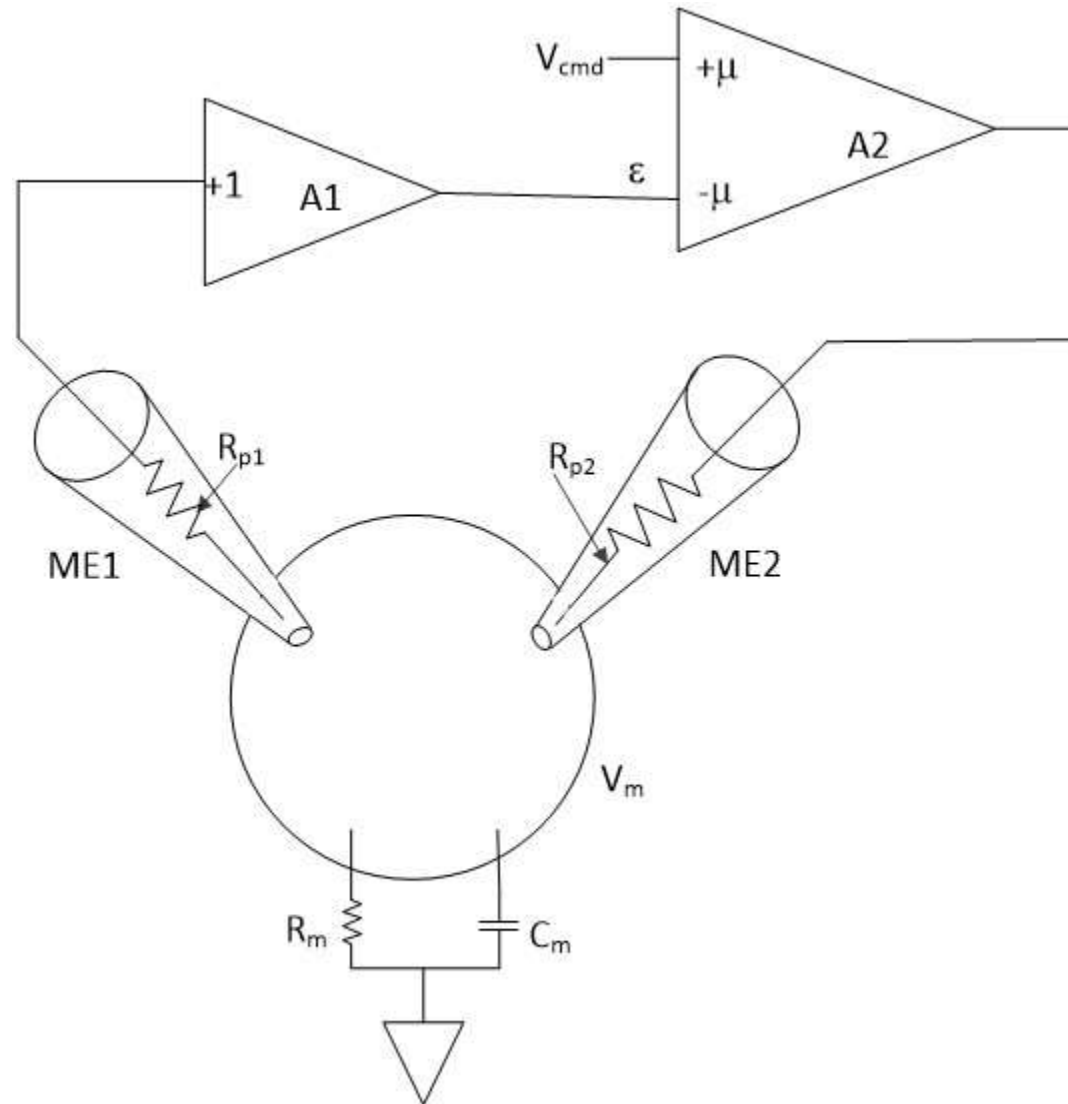
Since the axon is controlling the muscle contraction, shall we record from them?



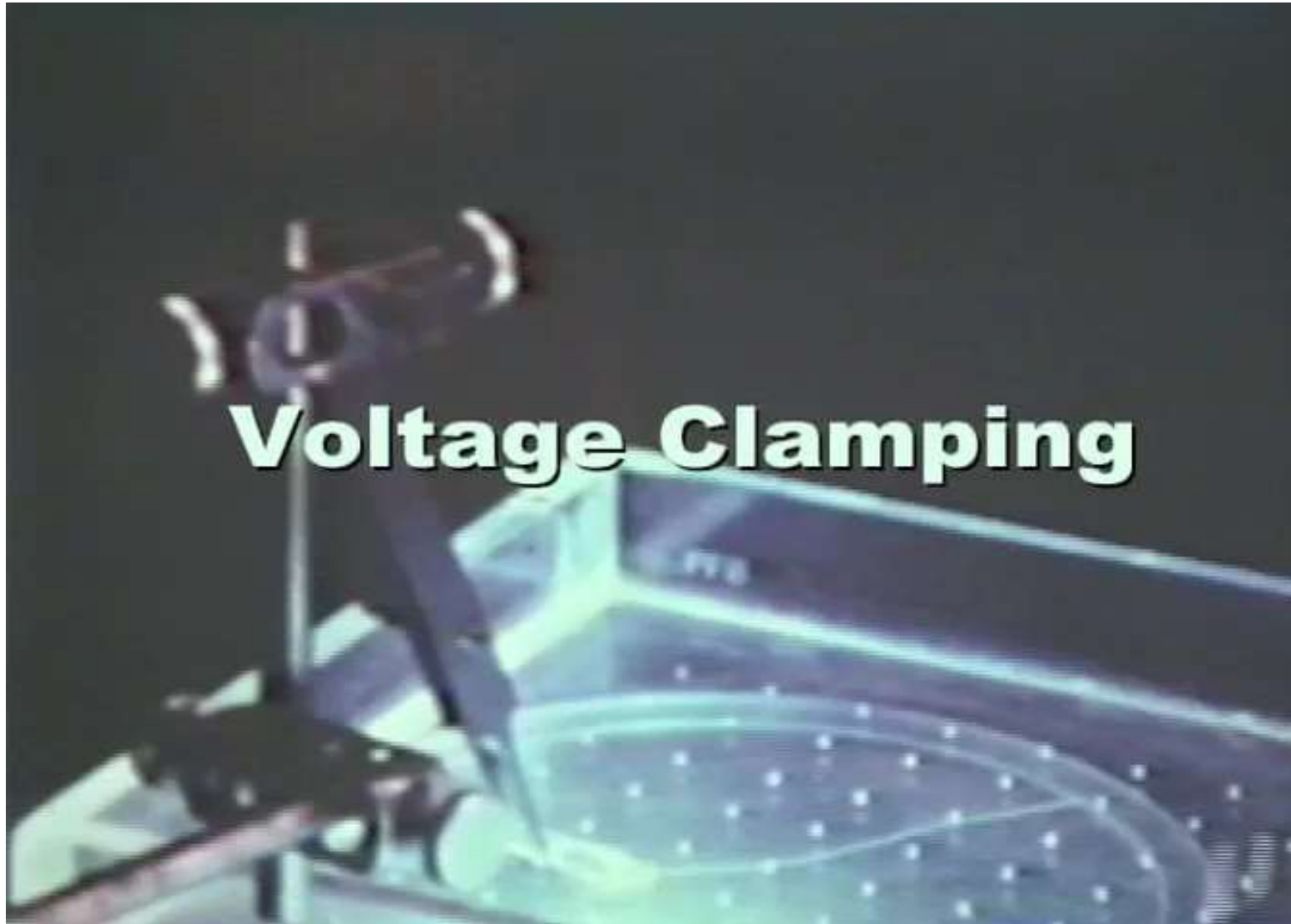
Voltage clamp recording



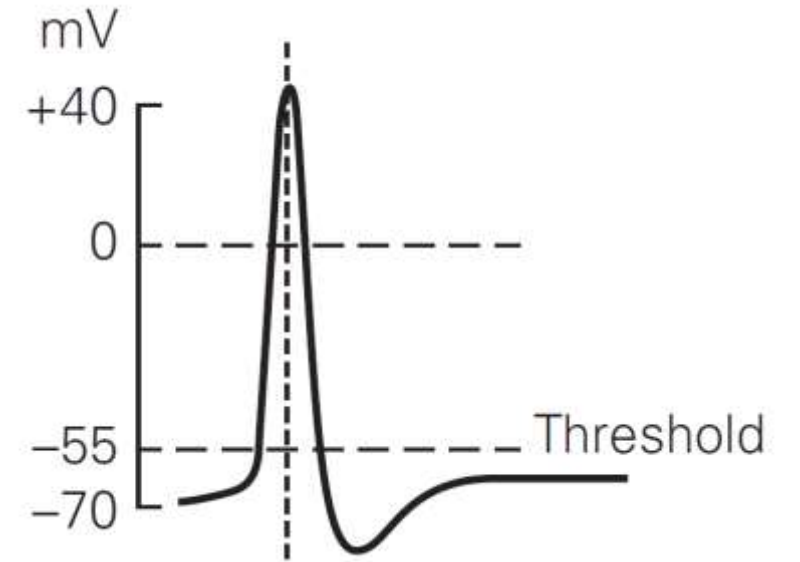
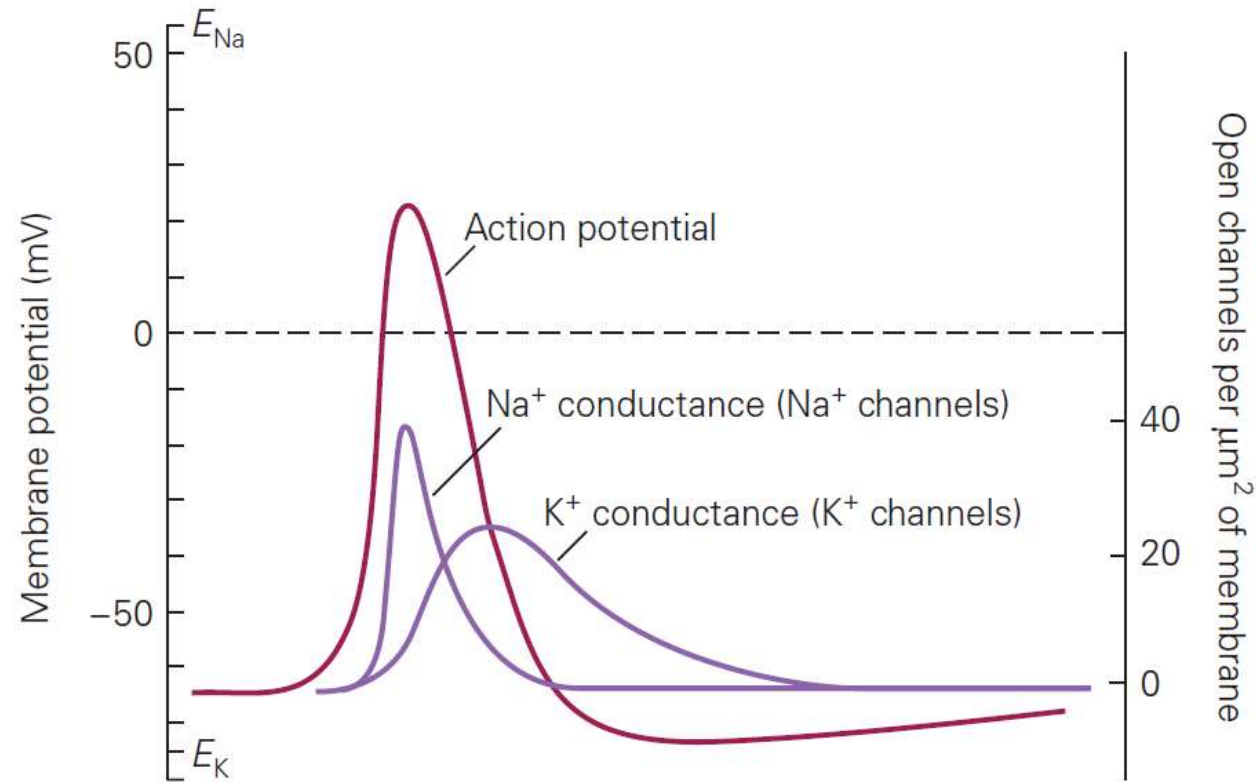
Voltage clamp recording



Voltage clamp recording



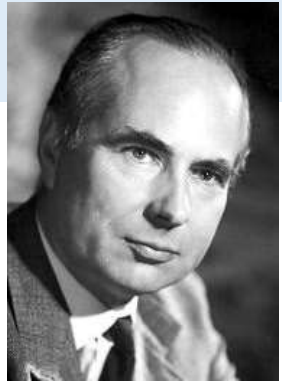
Waveform for action potential



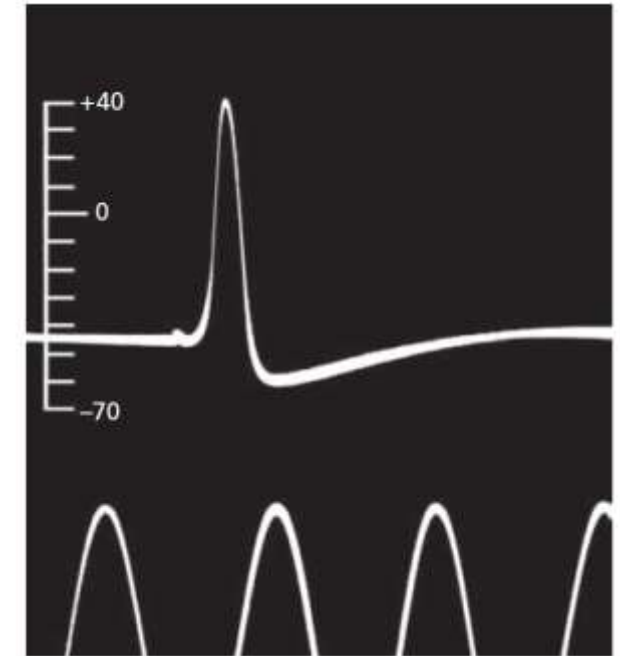
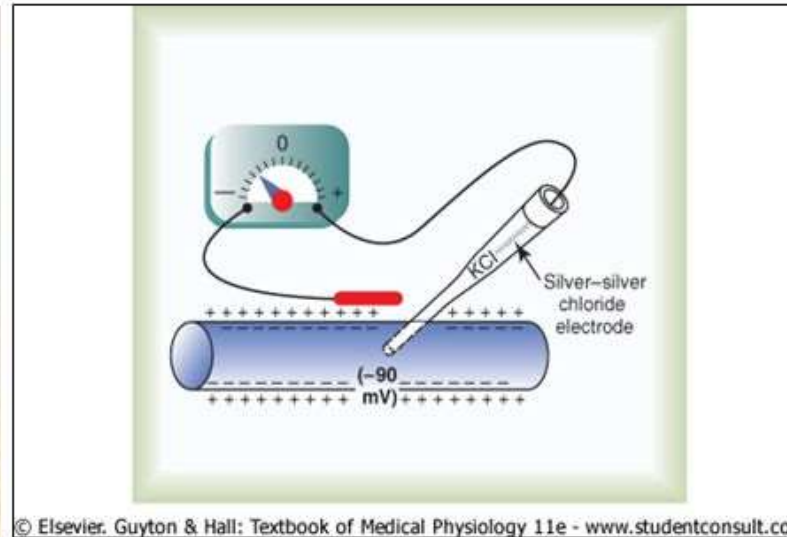
Squid Giant Axon in electrophysiology

Hodgkin-Huxley Expts, 1952

Squid Giant Axon



Alan Hodgkin Andrew Huxley



Few neurons, large diameter

Large enough to insert microelectrodes

Stimulating microelectrodes (inject current) to disturb cell with electrical stimuli

Recording microelectrodes (see current changes in cell and record them)

1940s

<http://www.science.smith.edu/departments/NeuroSci/courses/bio330/squid.html>



Refractory period of action potentials



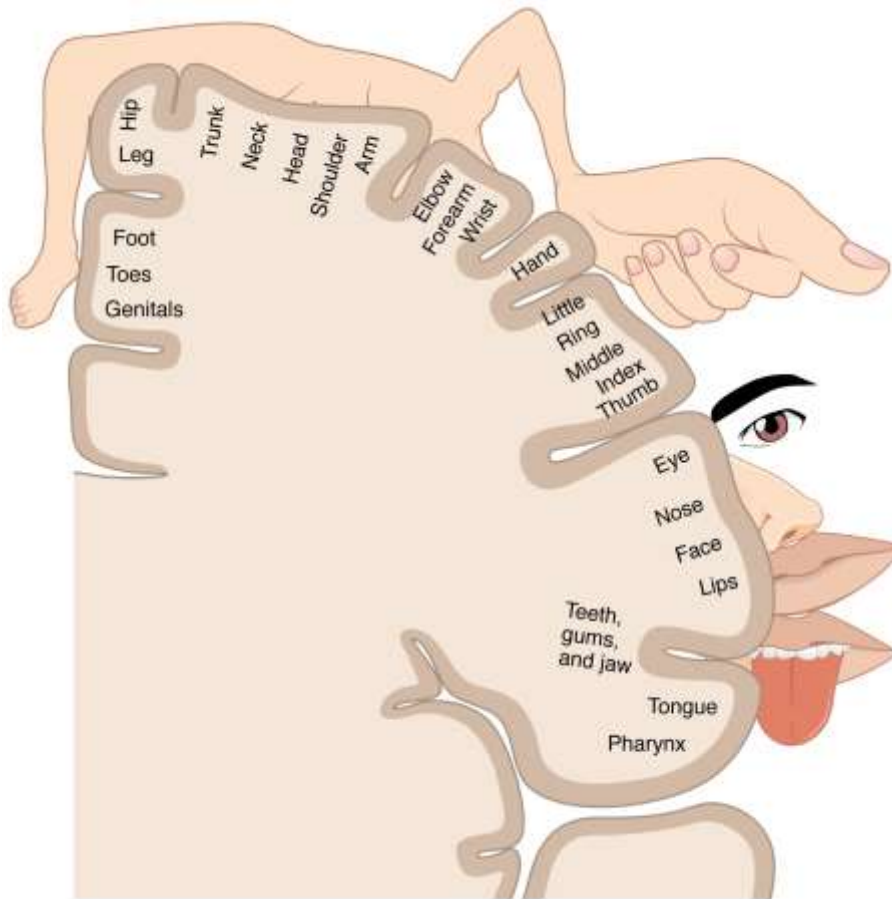
Touch is transmitted by electrical signals!

Cortical homunculus ("cortex man")



Wilder Penfield

Touch feeling is evoked by electrical signals!

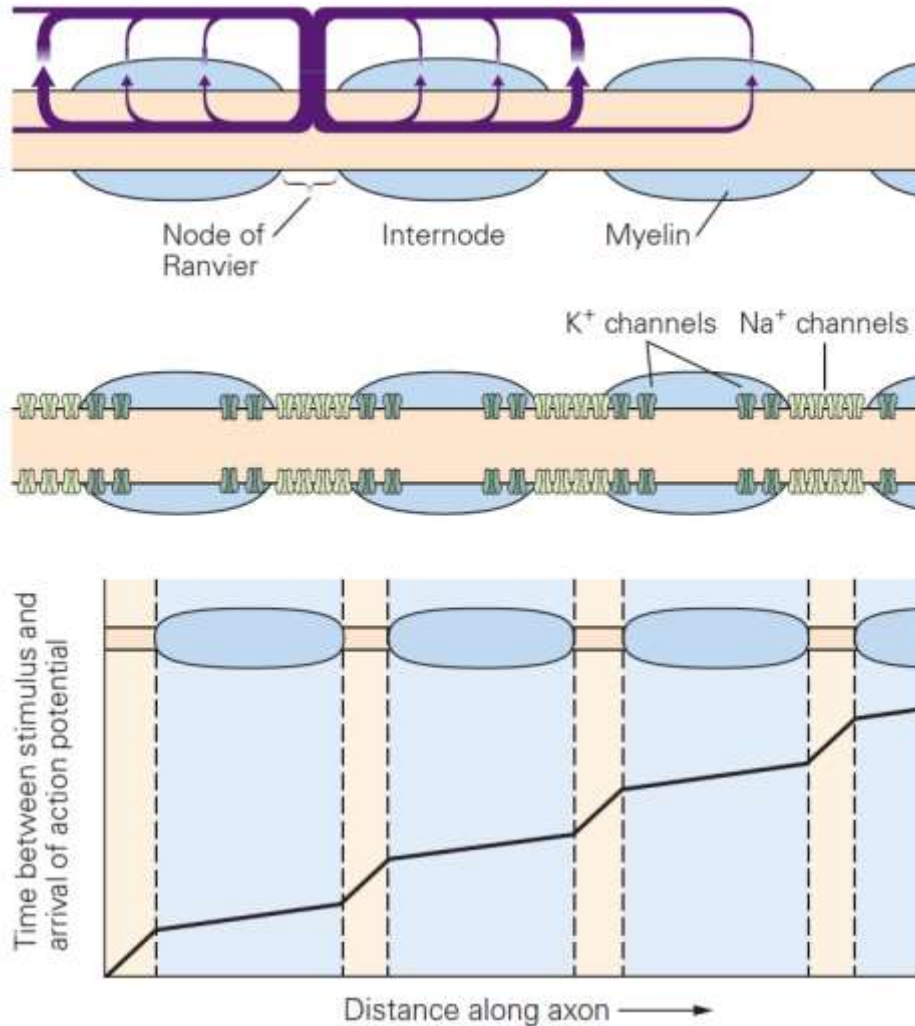


Penfield, 1930s



Action potentials are regenerated at the nodes of Ranvier

A Normal axon



Action Potential

- End-plate potential
- Voltage clamp
- Action potential
- All-or-none
- Threshold
- Na⁺ conductance
- Kinetics
- Waveform
- Refractory period
- Nodes of Ranvier

Keywords

Cell & Ion

- Muscle contraction by electrical signals
- Ion channels (voltage-gated, ligand-gated)
- **Goldman Equation** for membrane potential
- Resting membrane potential
- Reversal potential (E_{REV})
- Driving force for channels/ion

Action Potential

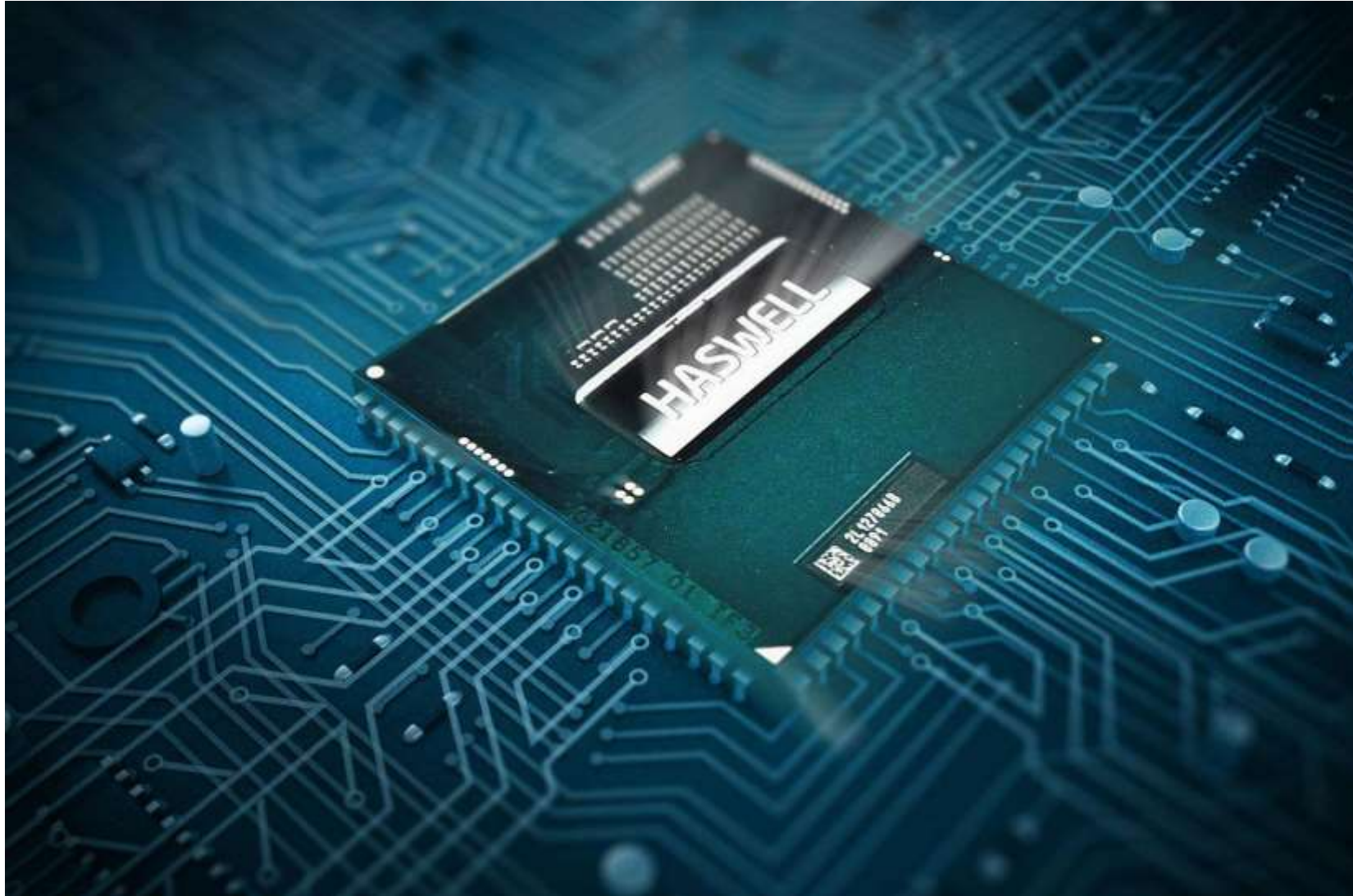
- End-plate potential
- Voltage clamp
- Action potential
- All-or-none
- Threshold
- Na^+ conductance
- Kinetics
- Waveform
- Refractory period
- Nodes of Ranvier

Cell type

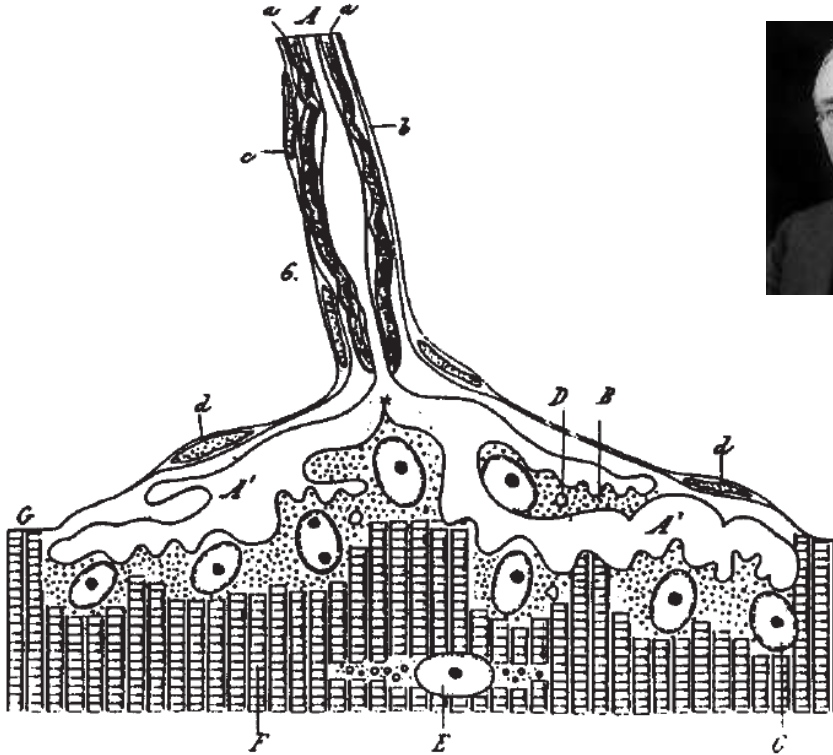
- Membrane conductance (intrinsic properties)
- Ion channel types
- Ion channel distribution
- Cell morphology



基因 – 分子 – 神经元 – 神经环路 – 行为



The term **Synapse** by Sherrington in 1897



‘So far as our present knowledge goes, we are led to think that the tip of a twig of the arborescence is not continuous with but merely in contact with the substance of the dendrite or cell body on which it impinges. Such a special connection of one nerve cell with another might be called a **synapse**.’

Schematic summary view of the mammalian neuromuscular junction.

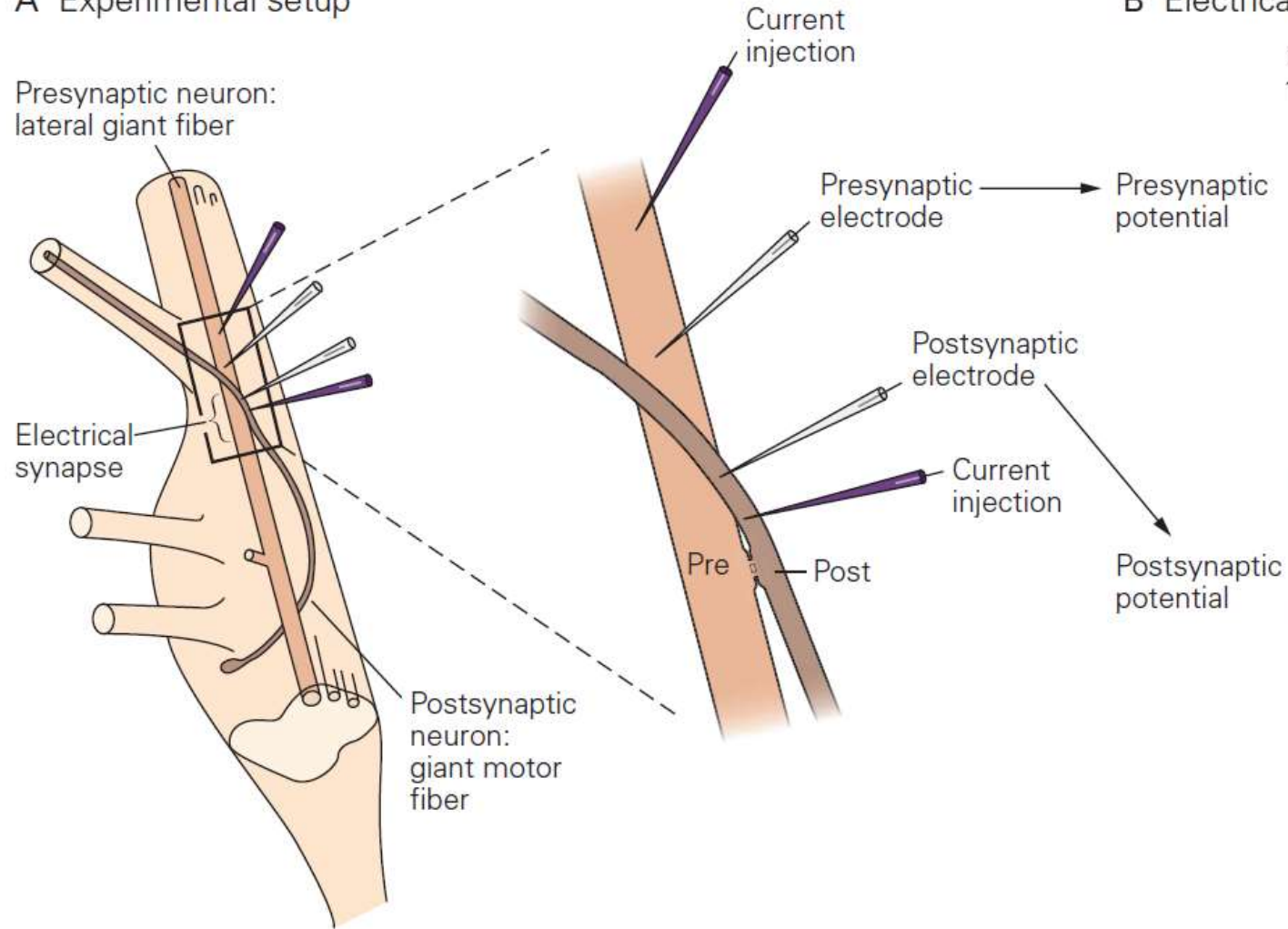
Sherrington, C.S. (1897) in Textbook of Physiology (Foster, M., ed.), p. 60

While **Ramón y Cajal** was laying the anatomical basis for modern neuroscience, **Sherrington**’s work was laying the basis for the physiological principles

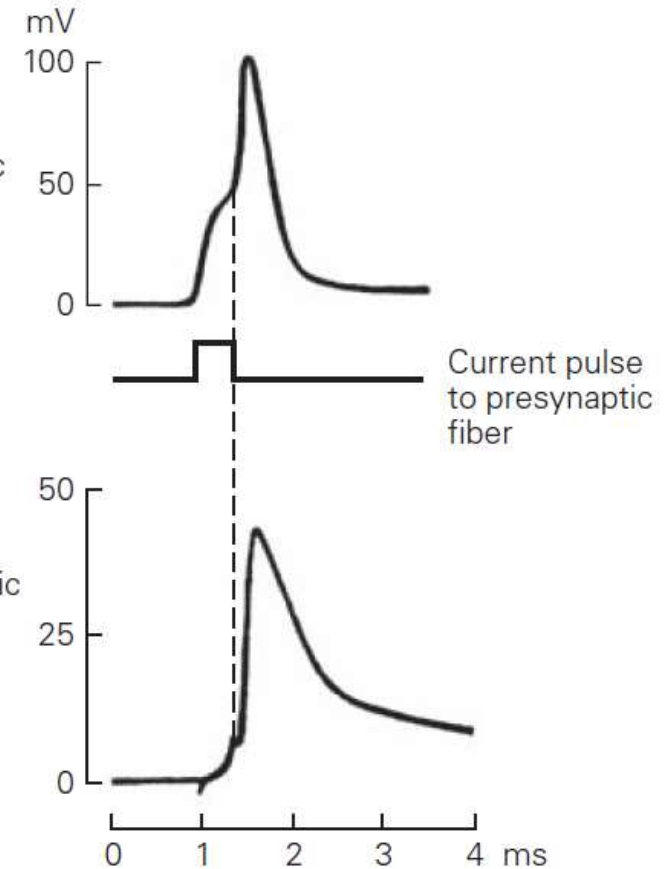


Electrical synaptic transmission

A Experimental setup



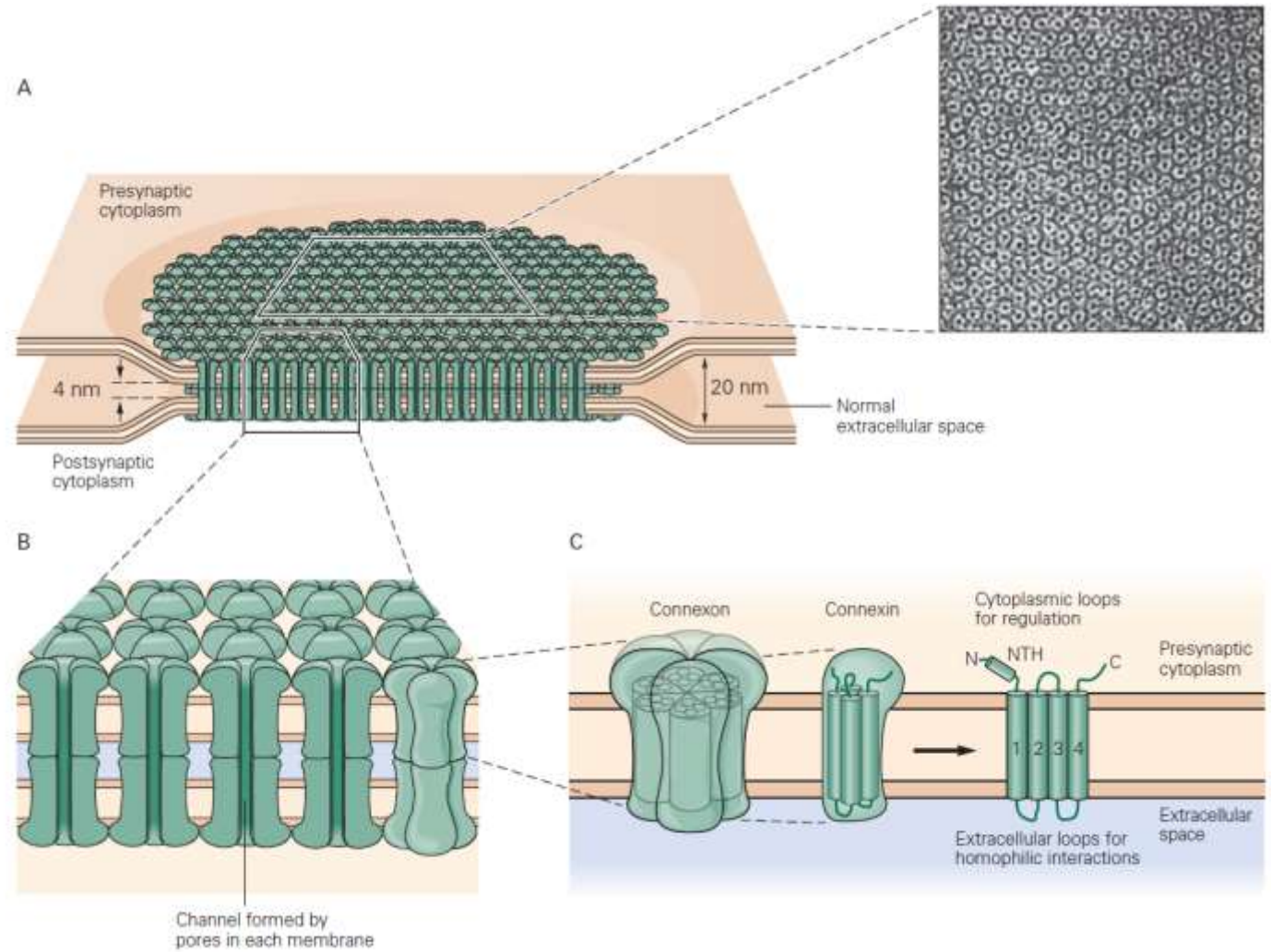
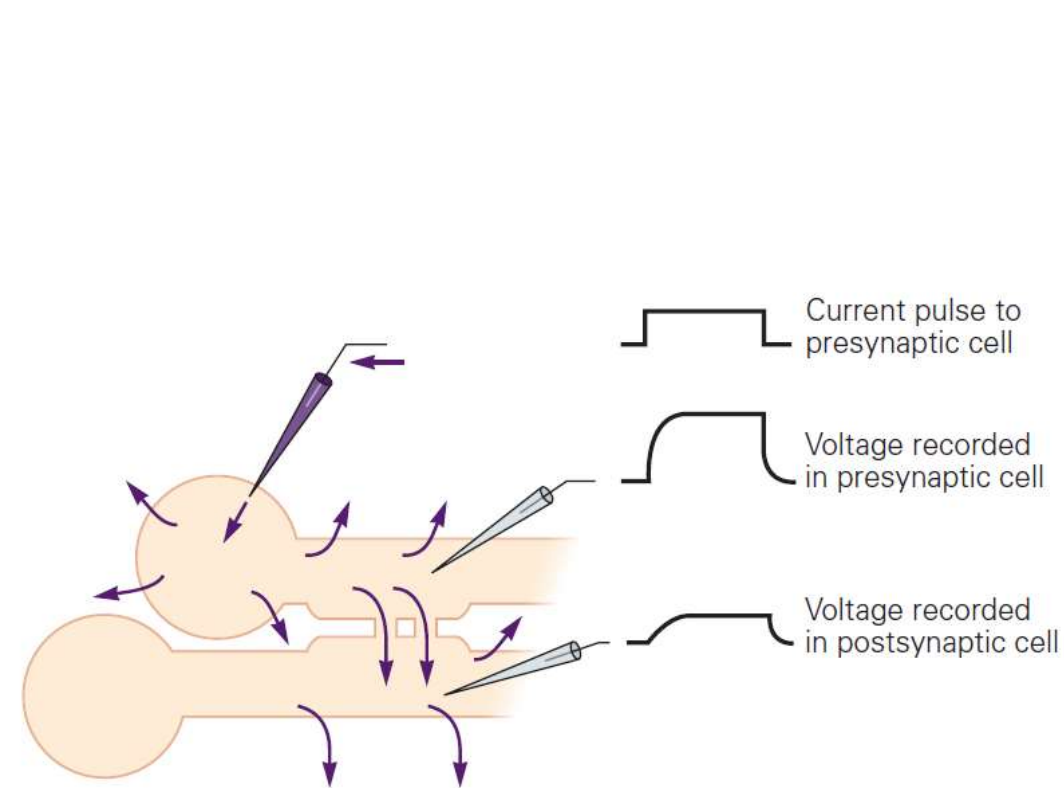
B Electrical synaptic transmission



Furshpan and Potter 1957 and 1959



Electrical synaptic transmission



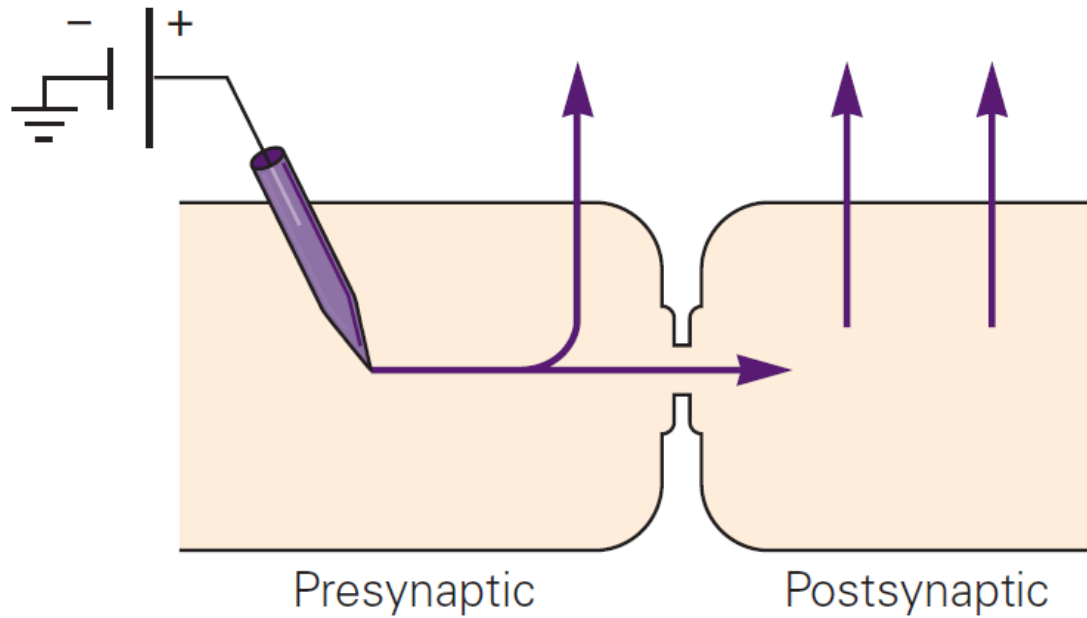
Makowski et al. 1977

Unwin and Zampighi 1980



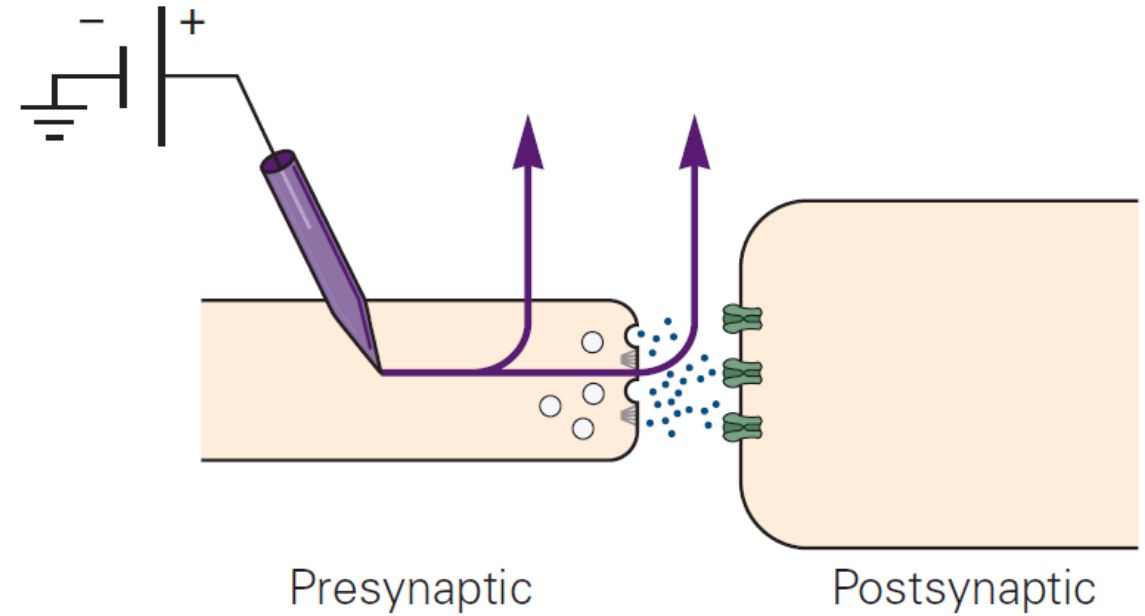
Neurons communicate through **Synapses**

A Current pathways at electrical synapses



John Eccles

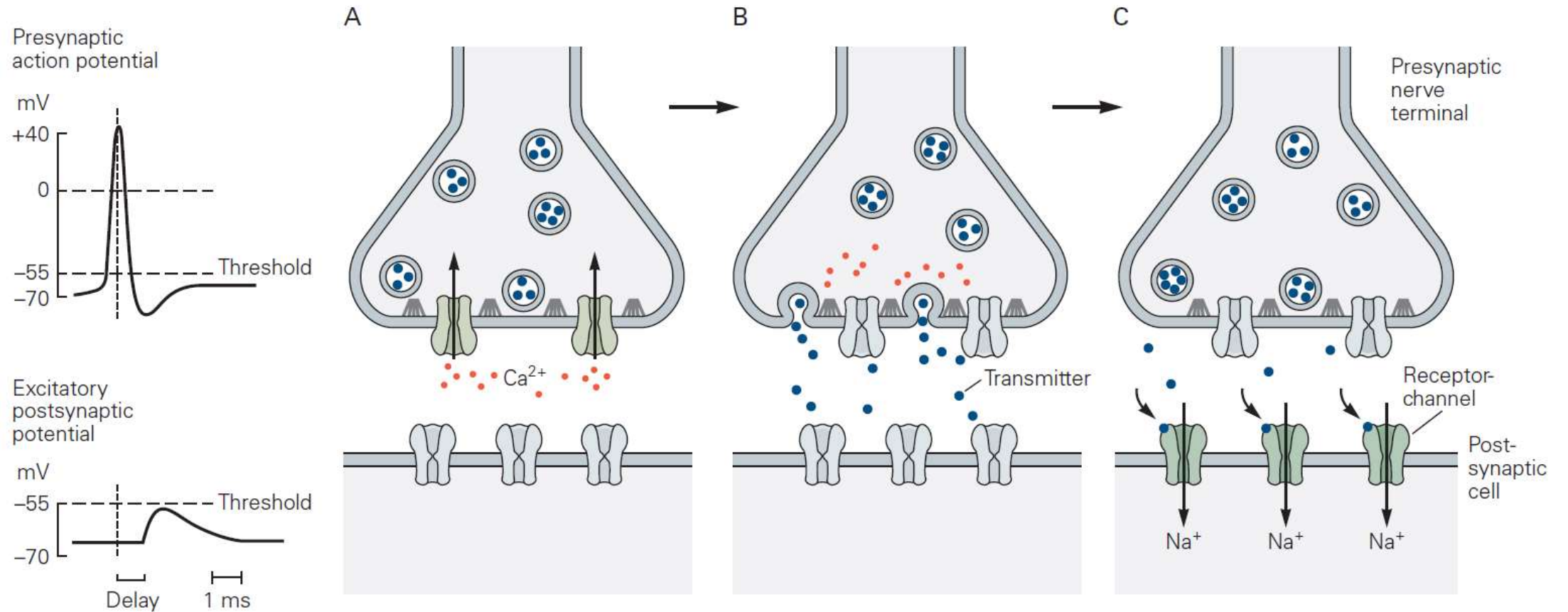
B Current pathways at chemical synapses



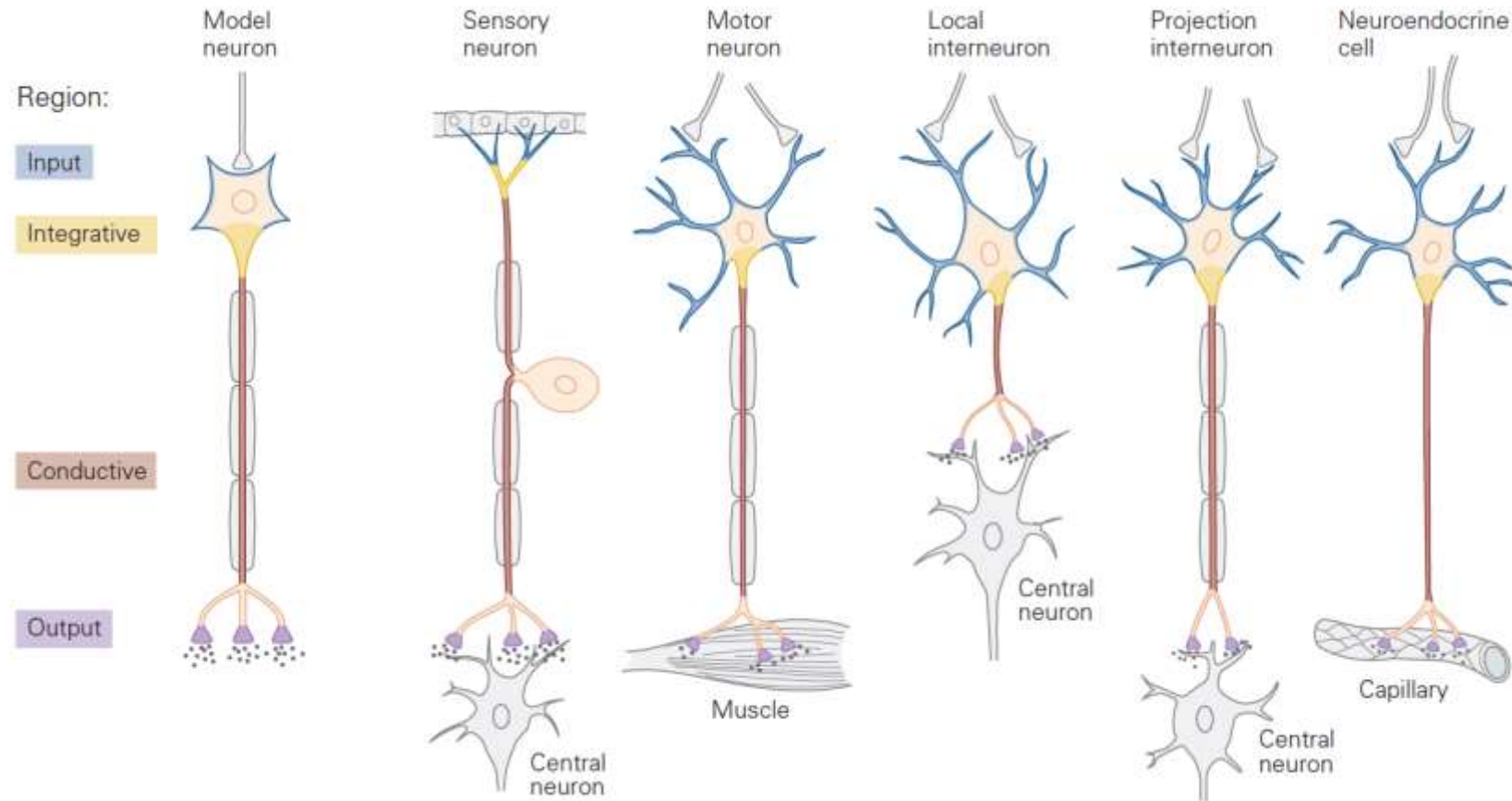
Dale and others



Synaptic transmission at chemical synapses



Four regions of a model neuron



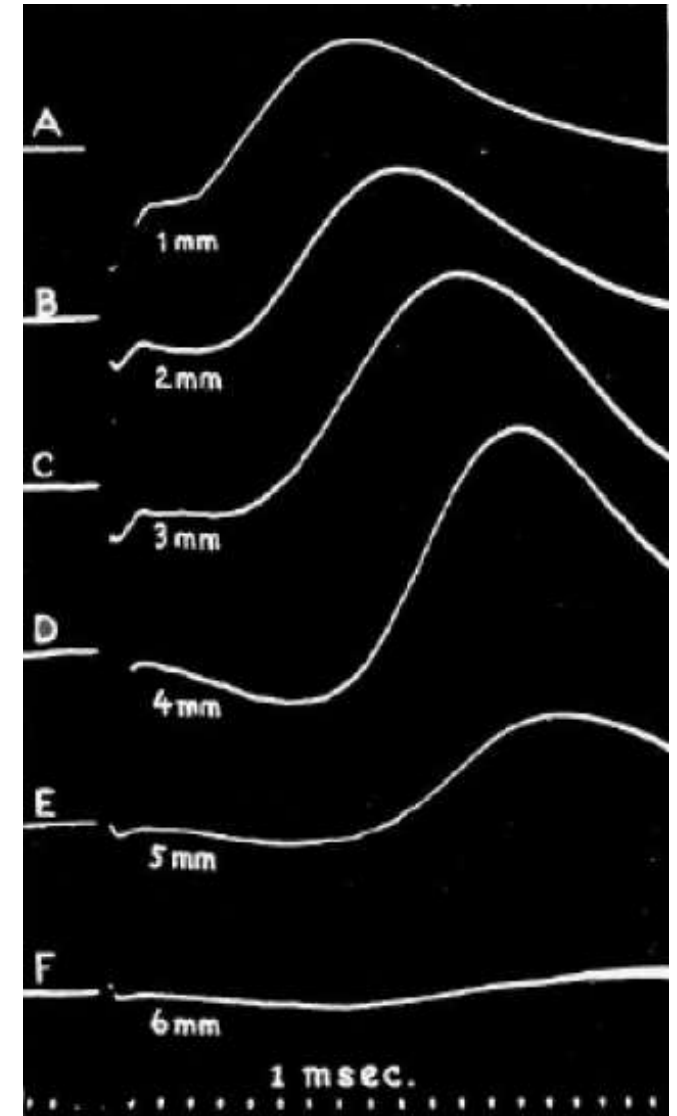
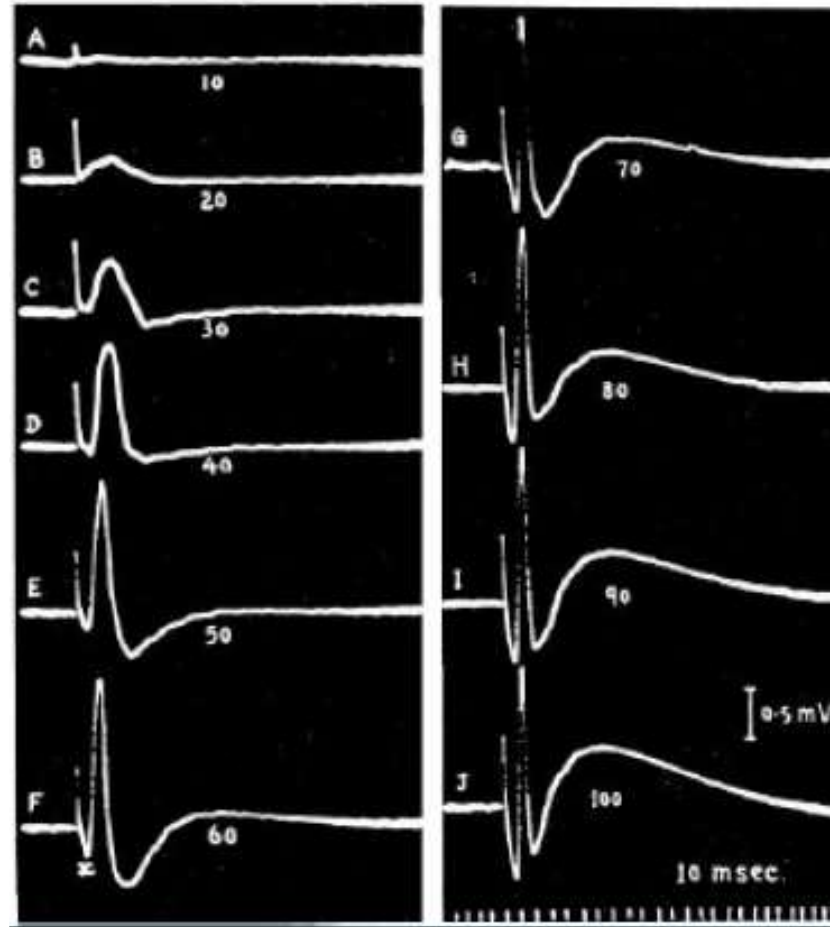
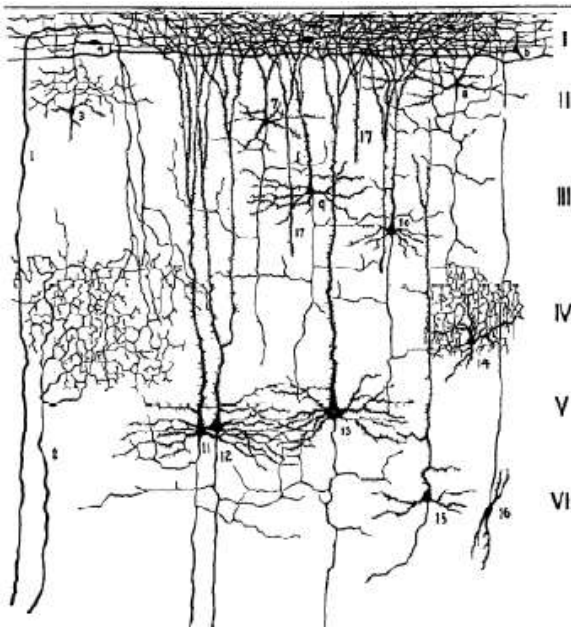
Question: how much sense could electrical signals make regarding information coding and integration?



Synaptic Potential will be Propagated and computed along Dendrites



张香桐树突研究的先驱之一
中国神经科学奠基人之一
岳阳路320号 脑所所长



Cheng, HT. (1951) Dendritic potential of cortical neurons produced by direct electrical stimulation of the cerebral cortex. J Neurophysiol. 1951 Jan;14(1):1-21.



Synaptic Potential will be Propagated and computed along Dendrites



张香桐树突研究的先驱之一
中国神经科学奠基人之一
岳阳路320号 脑所所长

Dear Chang,

I have just finished reading 'The Repetitive Discharges of Reverberating Cortico-Thalamic Circuits.'

I thank you for sending me your work. Without hesitation, I can readily say that your article is a masterpiece. Your deep and systematic analysis of the experimental data and your observations are of a great importance. Moreover, I must congratulate you for the clarity of your presentation and your impartial view of the state of previous works. Your article set a good example to us all.

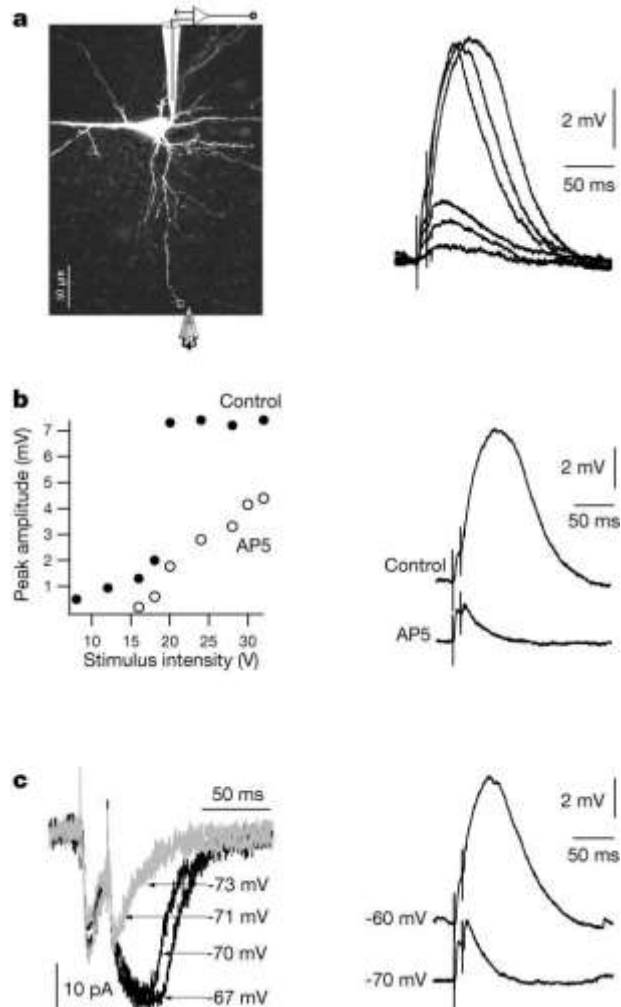
I thank you for giving me the opportunity of reading it. As your elder, I am happy to say that you are one of the key figure of contemporary physiology. I wish you many other successes.

Yours
Lorente de No

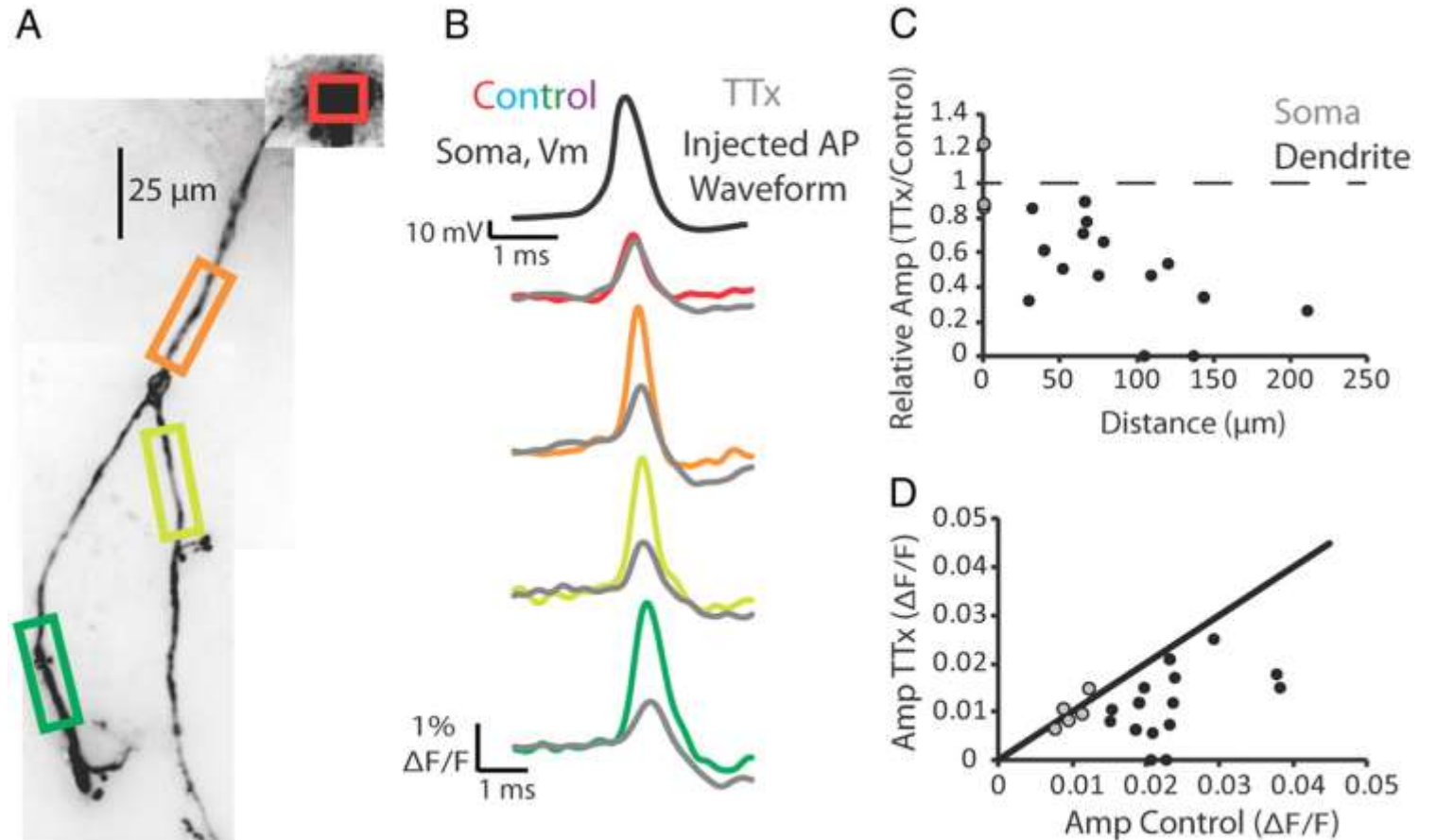


Active conductance at dendrites

NMDA spikes



Dendritic action potential



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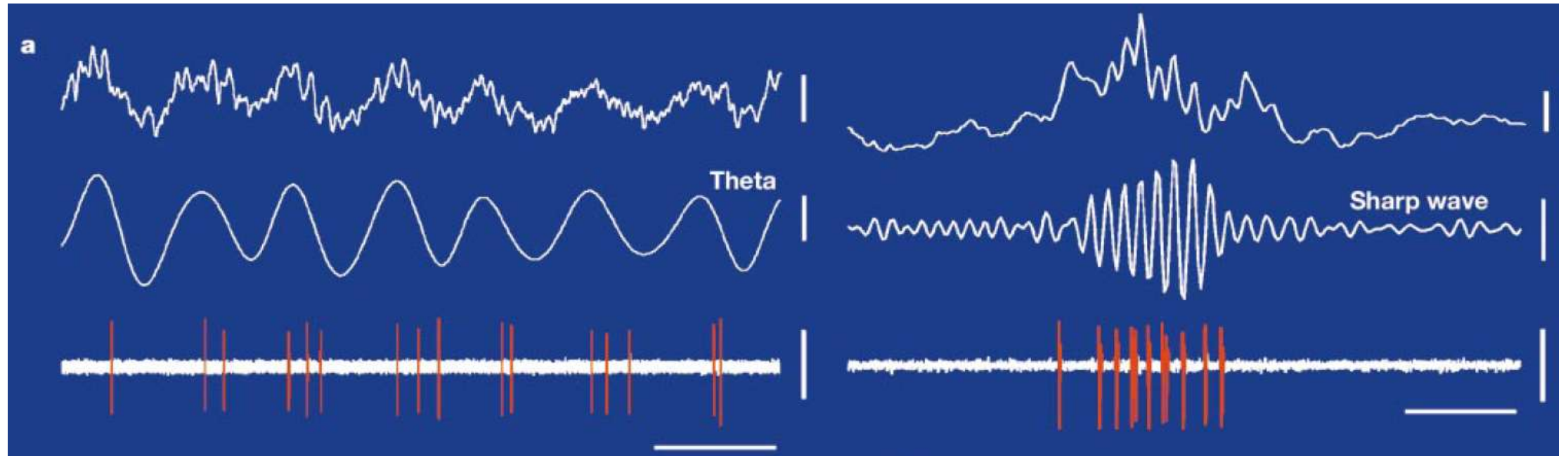
01

Extracellular recording

- Metal electrode
 - Local field potential
 - Single units: single/multiple channels
- Glass capillaries
 - Juxtacellular recording
 - Extracellular recording
 - Cell-attached recording
 - Loose-patch recording



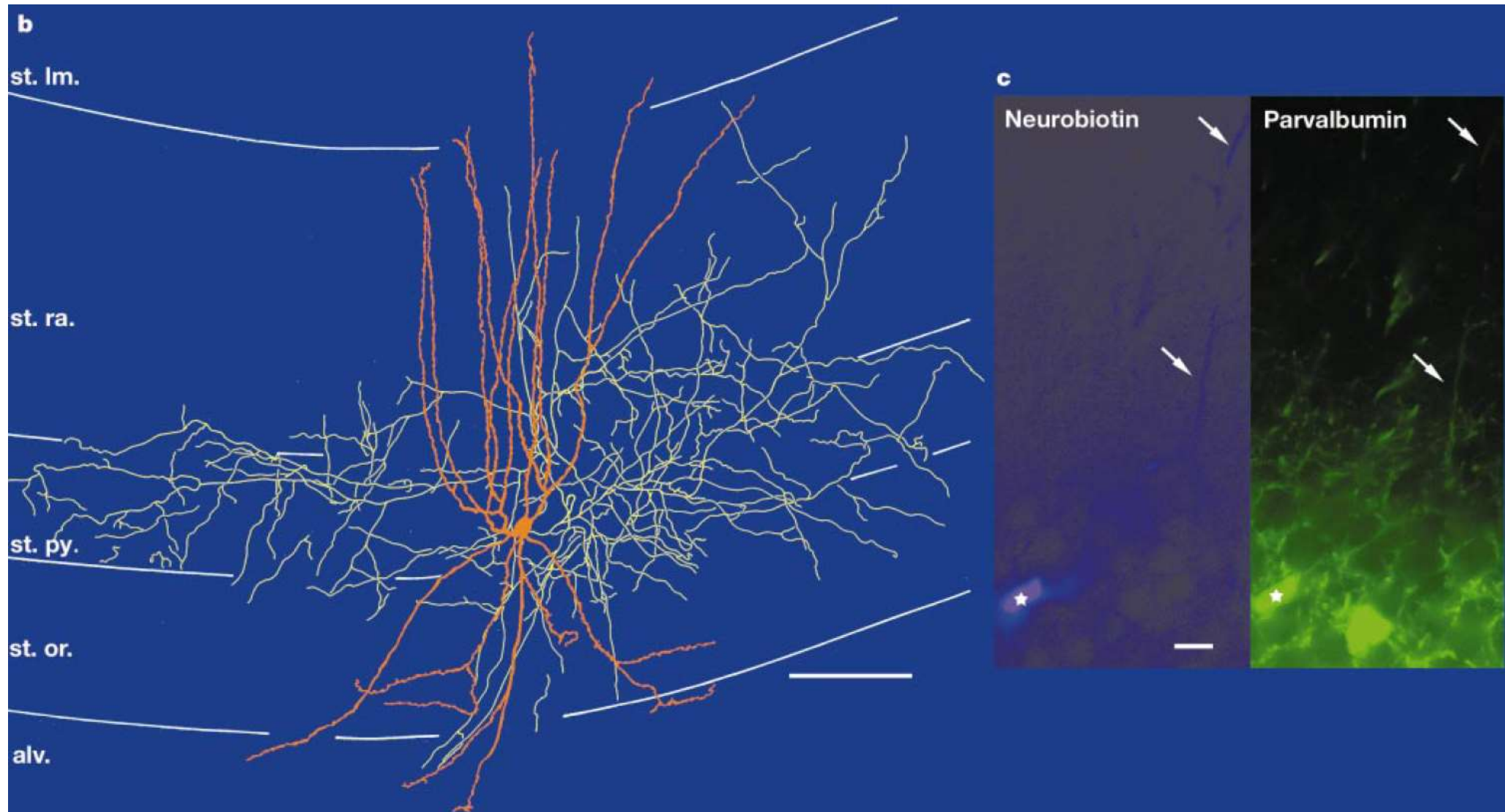
Juxtacellular recording



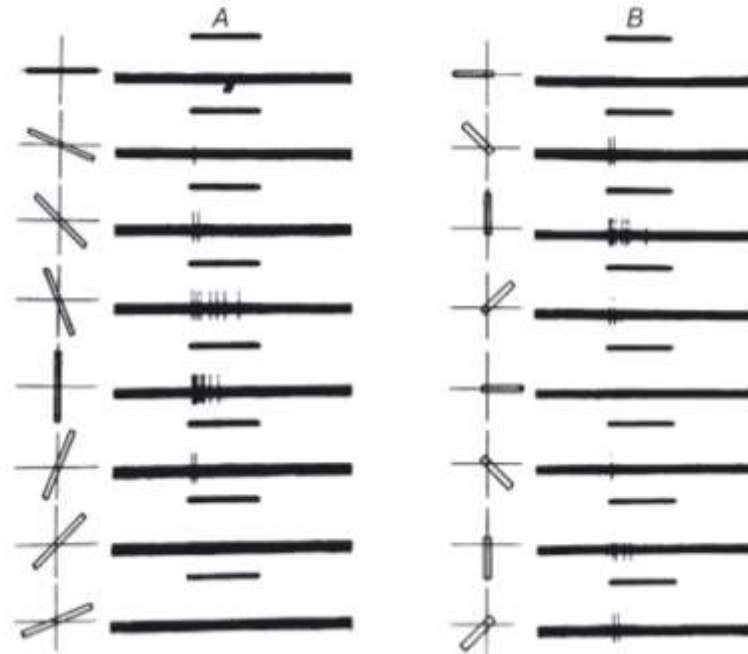
NATURE | VOL 421 | 20 FEBRUARY 2003



Juxtacellular recording



Feature Selectivity & Activity dependency of Visual Pathway



1. D. H. Hubel, T. N. Wiesel, Receptive fields of single neurones in the cat's striate cortex. The Journal of physiology 148, 574 (Oct, 1959).
2. D. H. Hubel, T. N. Wiesel, Receptive fields, binocular interaction and functional architecture in the cat's visual cortex. The Journal of physiology 160, 106 (Jan, 1962).
3. T. N. Wiesel, D. H. Hubel, Effects of Visual Deprivation on Morphology and Physiology of Cells in the Cats Lateral Geniculate Body. Journal of neurophysiology 26, 978 (Nov, 1963).
4. T. N. Wiesel, D. H. Hubel, Single-Cell Responses in Striate Cortex of Kittens Deprived of Vision in One Eye. Journal of neurophysiology 26, 1003 (Nov, 1963).



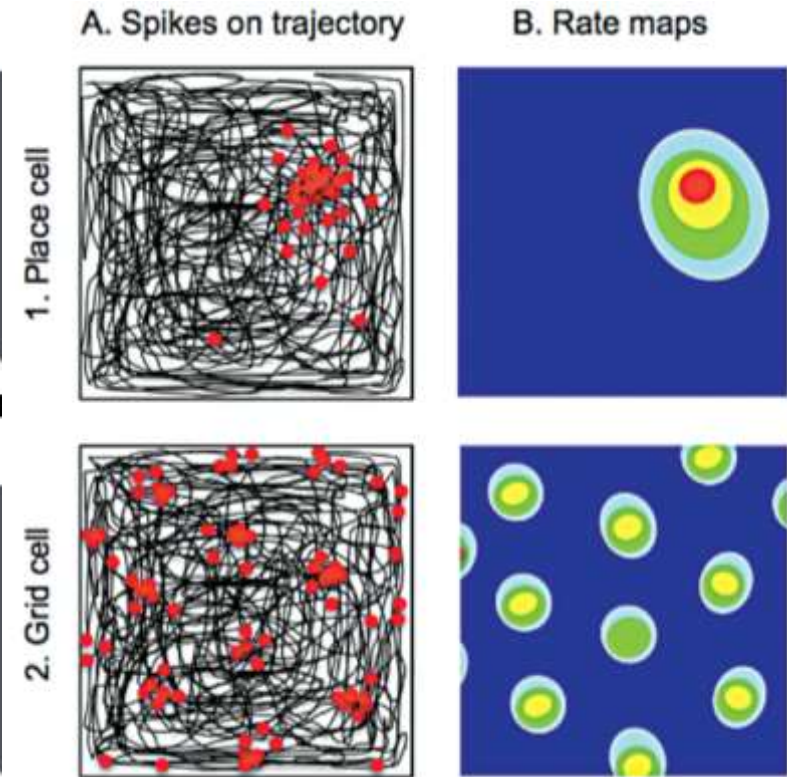
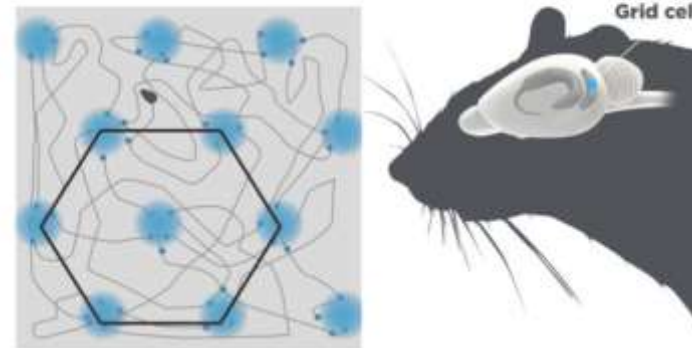
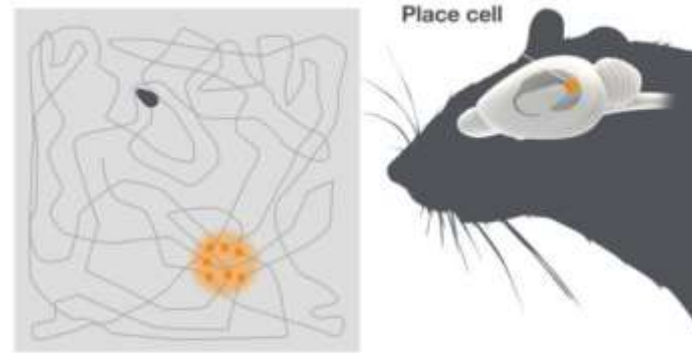
The historical moments for electrophysiology and vision research



Place Cell and Grid Cell

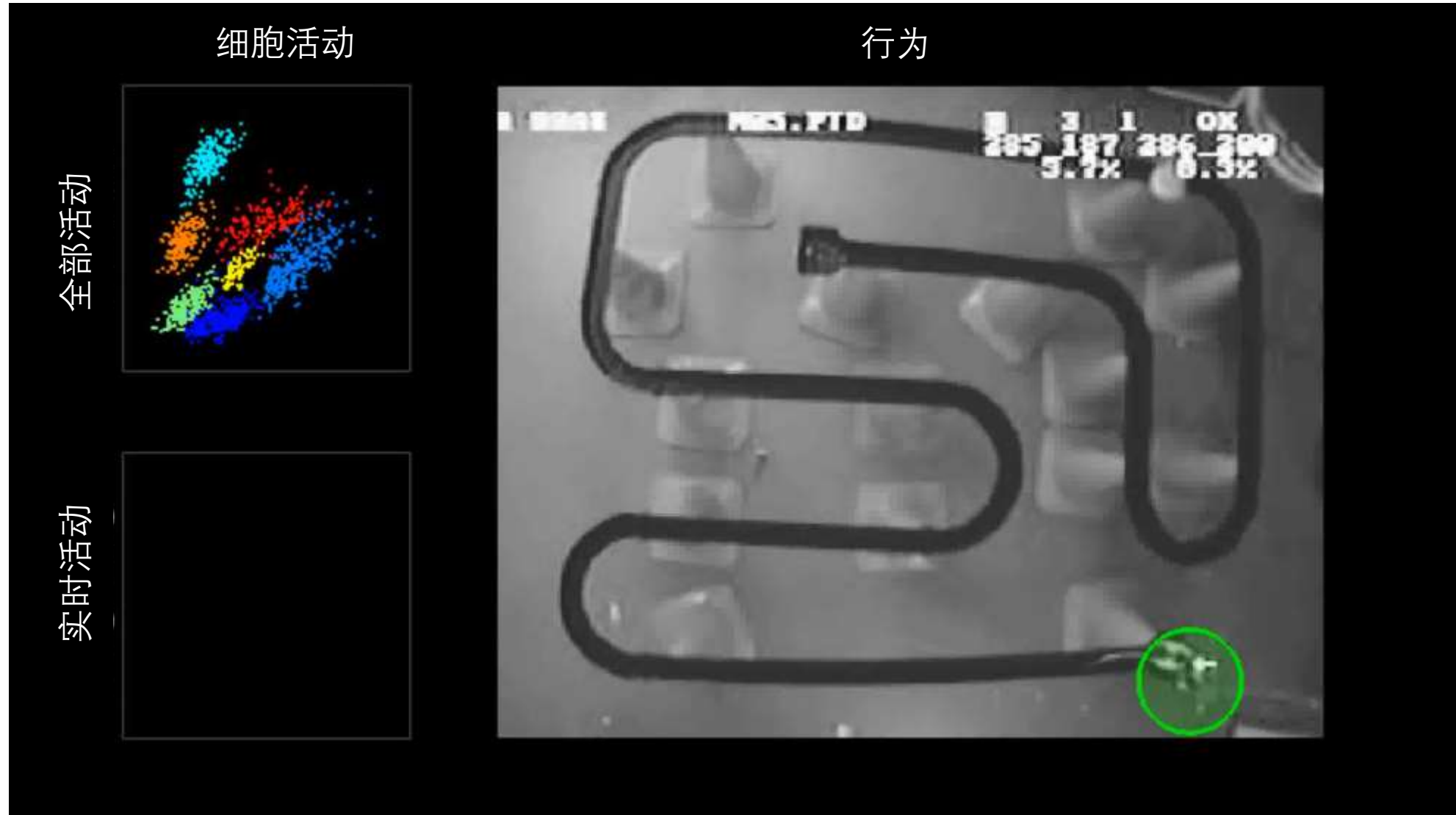


Nobel Prize 2014

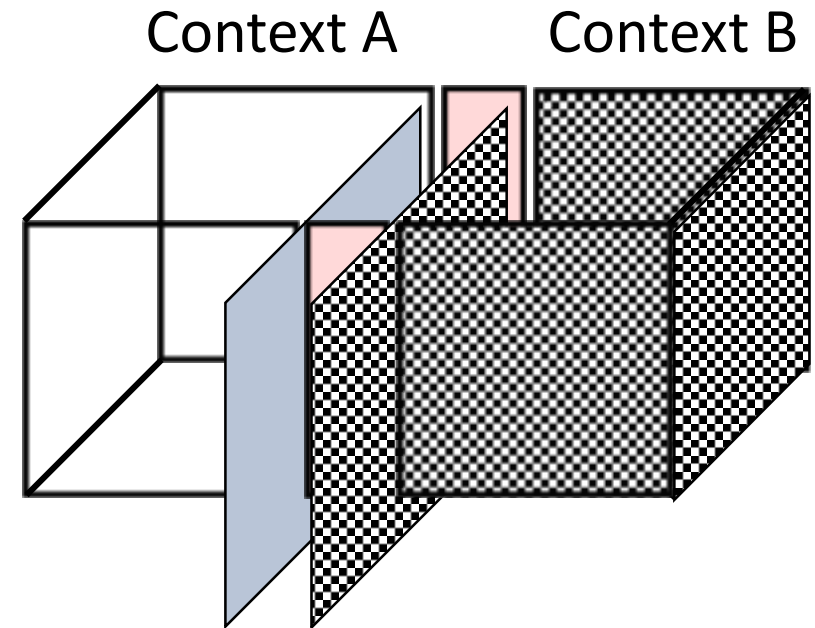
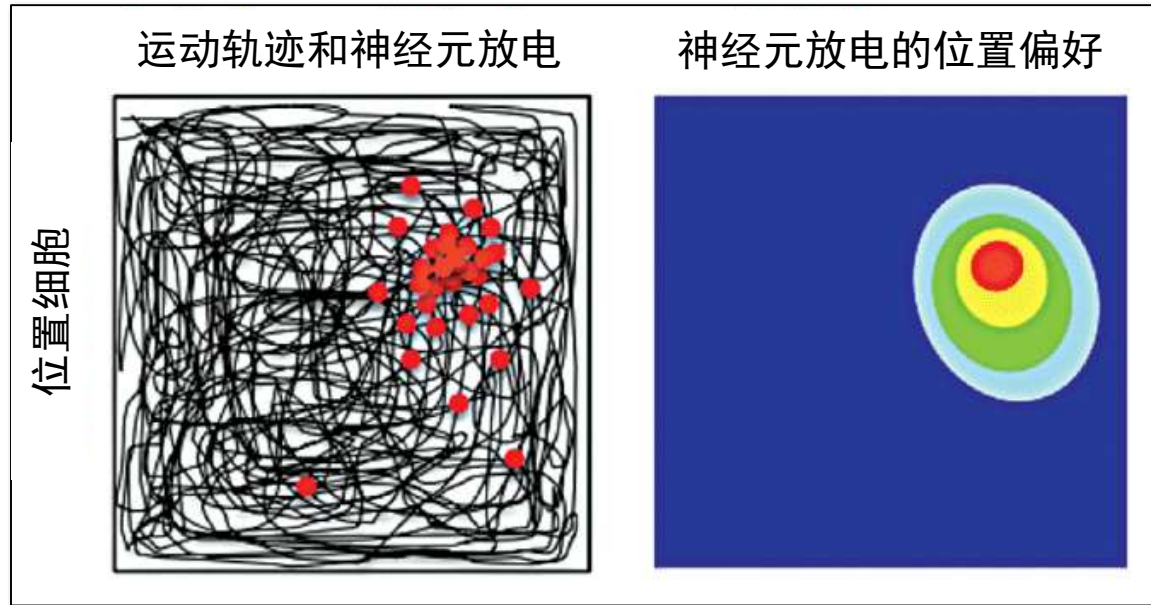


- O'Keefe j, D. J. (1971). "The hippocampus as a spatial map. Preliminary evidence from unit activity in the freely-moving rat". *Brain Research* **34** (1): 171–175.
- Hafting, T.; Fyhn, M.; Molden, S.; Moser, M. -B.; Moser, E. I. (2005). "Microstructure of a spatial map in the entorhinal cortex". *Nature* **436** (7052): 801–806.
- Jacobs, J.; Weidemann, C. T.; Miller, J. F.; Solway, A.; Burke, J. F.; Wei, X. X.; Suthana, N.; Sperling, M. R.; Sharan, A. D.; Fried, I.; Kahana, M. J. (2013). "Direct recordings of grid-like neuronal activity in human spatial navigation". *Nature Neuroscience*

位置细胞



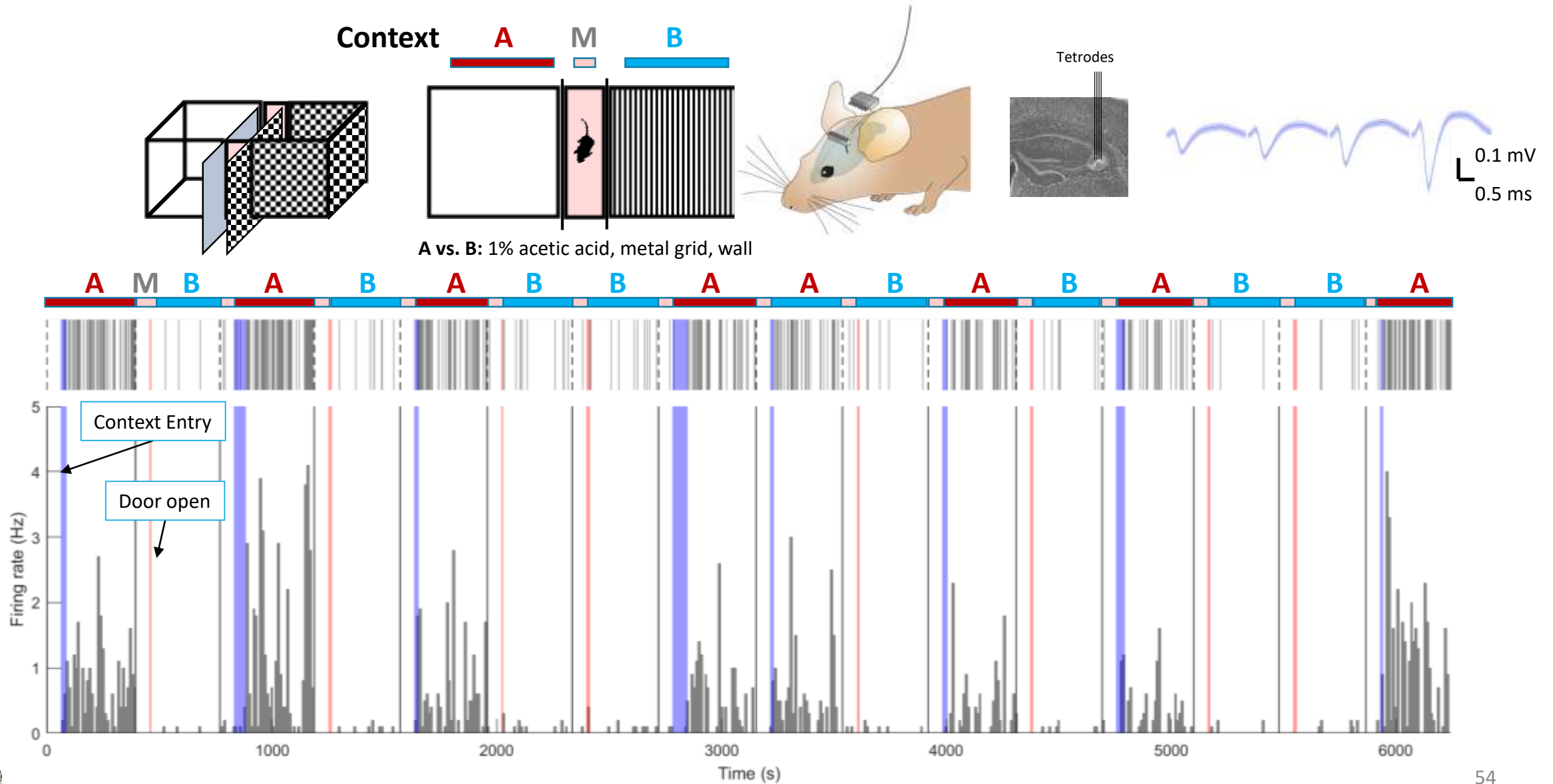
Context recognition (Where am I)



Project 1: The neural correlates of context and place fields in hippocampus

Single-unit recording in dorsal CA3 *in vivo* in distinct contexts

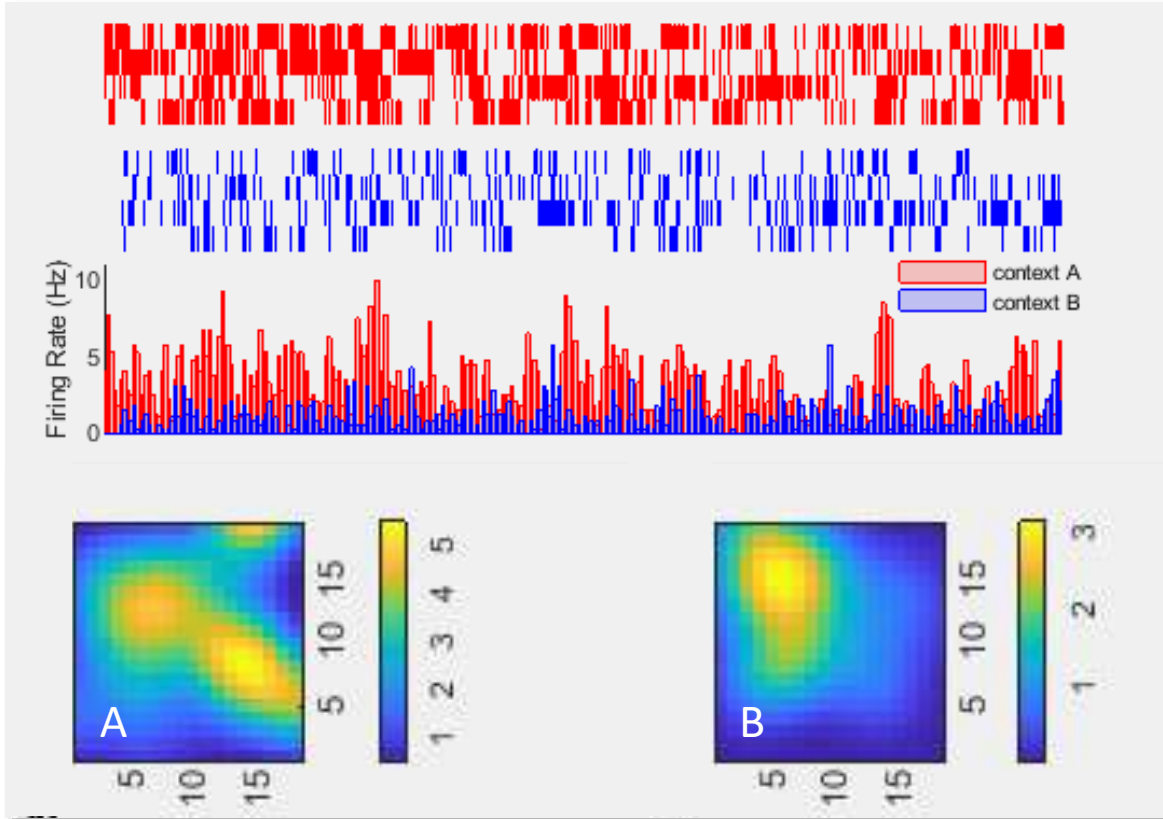
Qiu Shou



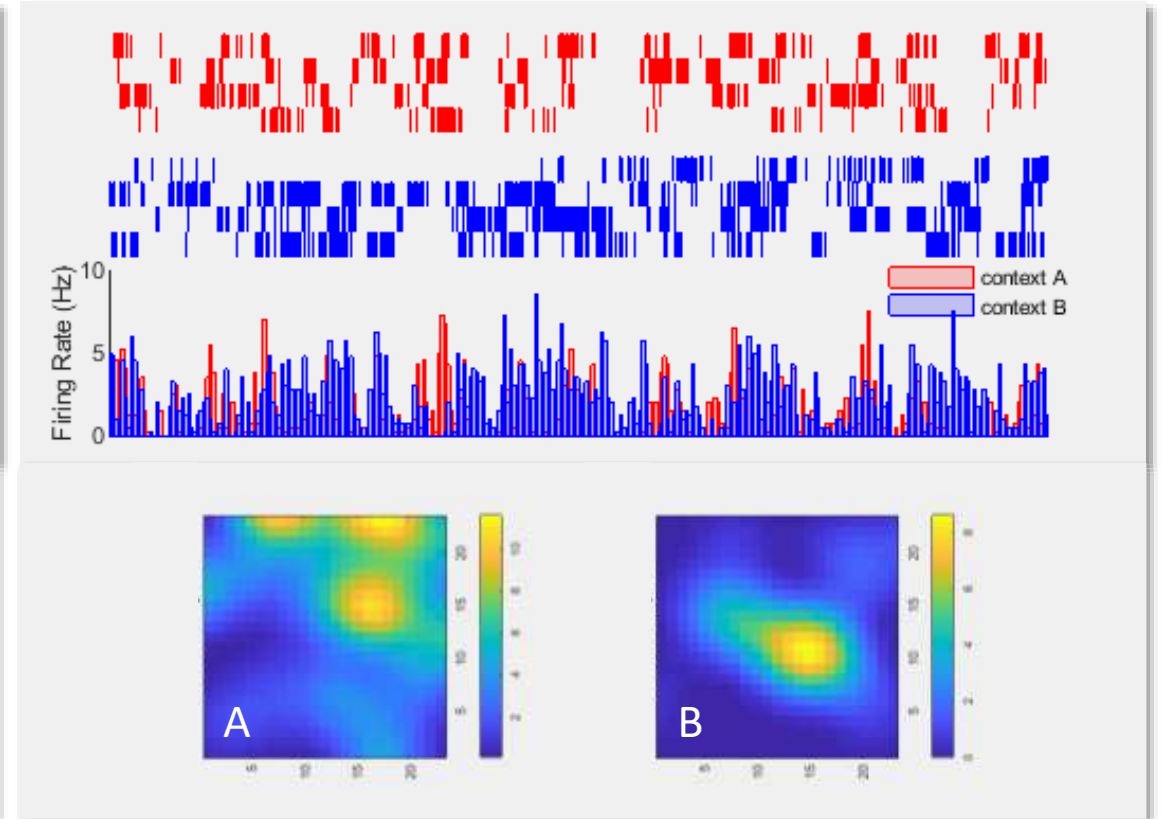
Context-modulated neurons show place fields

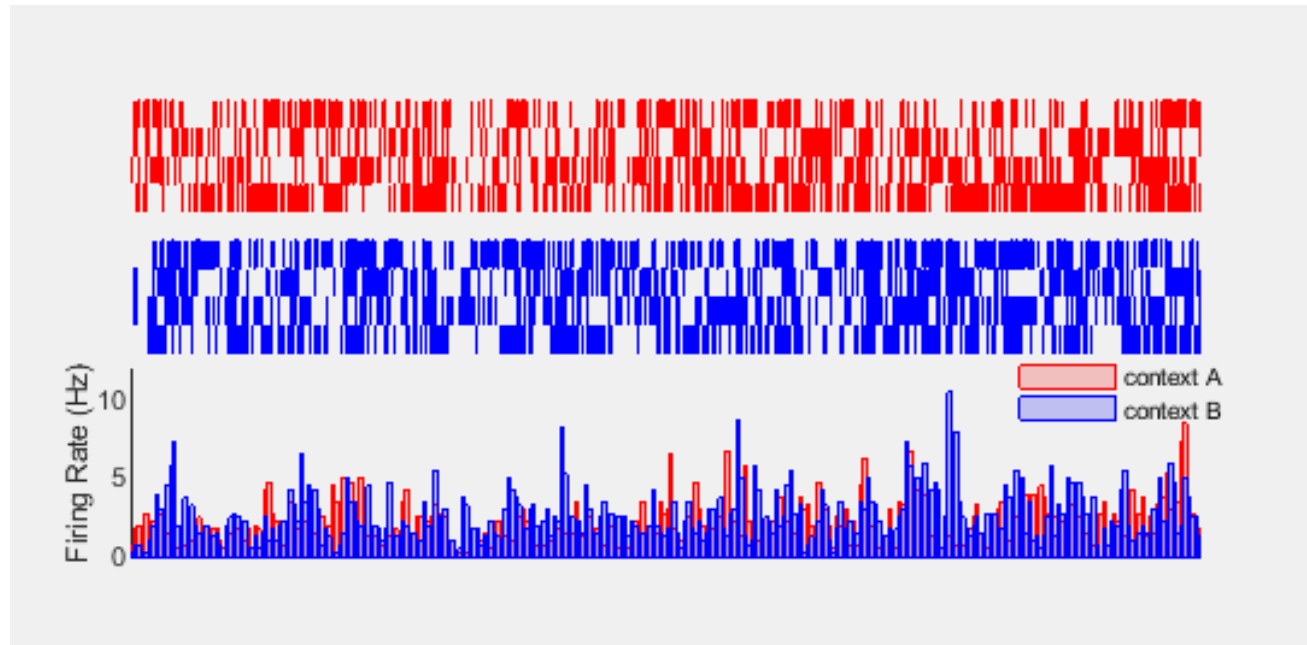
Qixin Yang

Context A – preferring unit



Context B – preferring unit





- Context cell and place cell are dissociable.
- How about head-direction cells and other types of cells?
- How are different functions represented in the CA3?
- We are using improved paradigm to address these questions.



High-throughput output recording on the chip (MEA)



MaxOne

High-resolution live cell imaging platform

- Label-free detection of sub-cellular and network activity
- Selective electrical stimulation
- Comprehensive data analysis tools

maxwell
BIOSYSTEMS



High-throughput output recording on the chip (MEA)



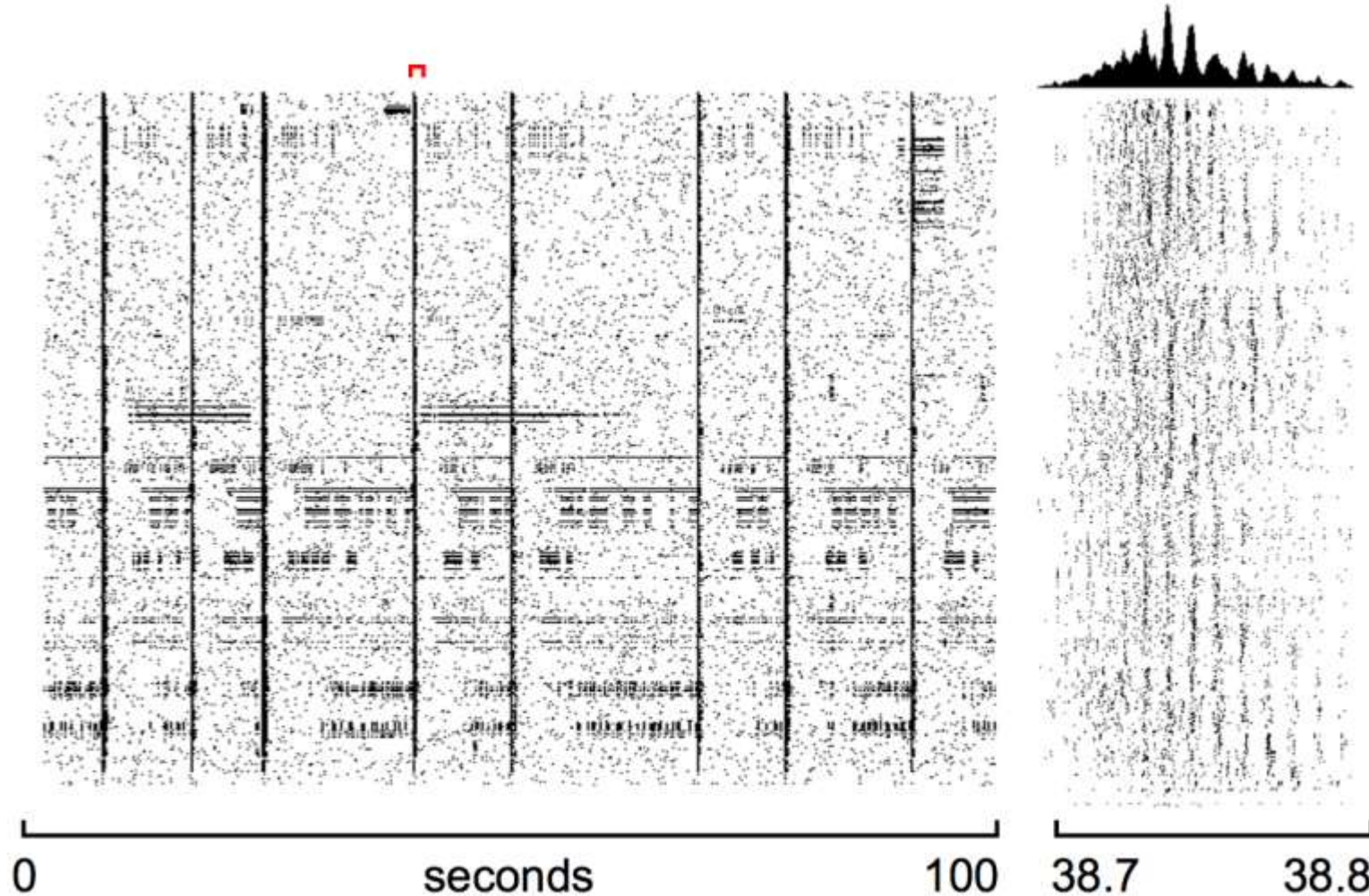
Key Features per Well

- 26,400 electrodes (9.3×5.45 sq- μm , 17.5 μm pitch)
- 1024 low-noise readout channels
- 32 stimulation channels
- Large sensor area (3.85×2.10 sq-mm)
- Switch-matrix technology for flexible array reconfiguration
- Non-invasive, label-free
- High-resolution activity map
- Axonal action potential propagation tracking

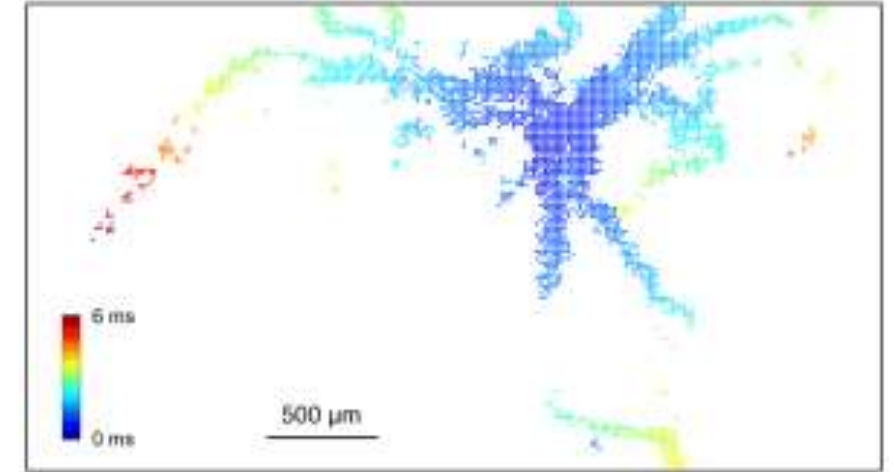
maxwell
BIOSYSTEMS



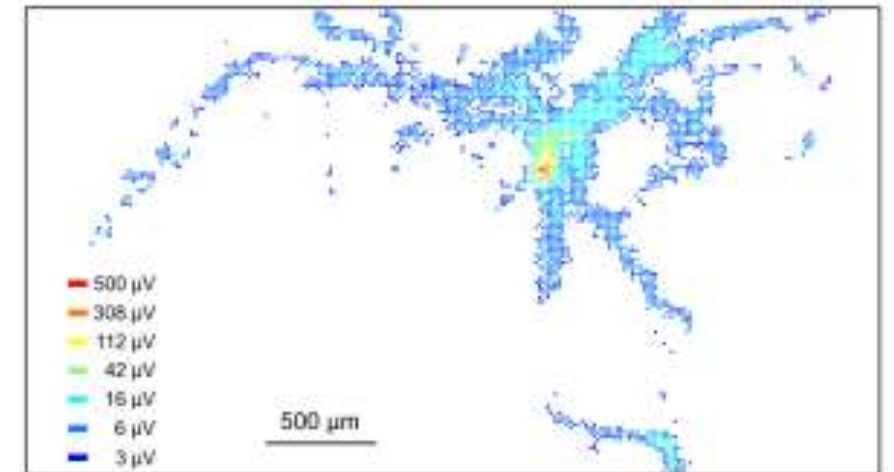
Cells growing on the chip (MEA)



Raster plot



Delay map

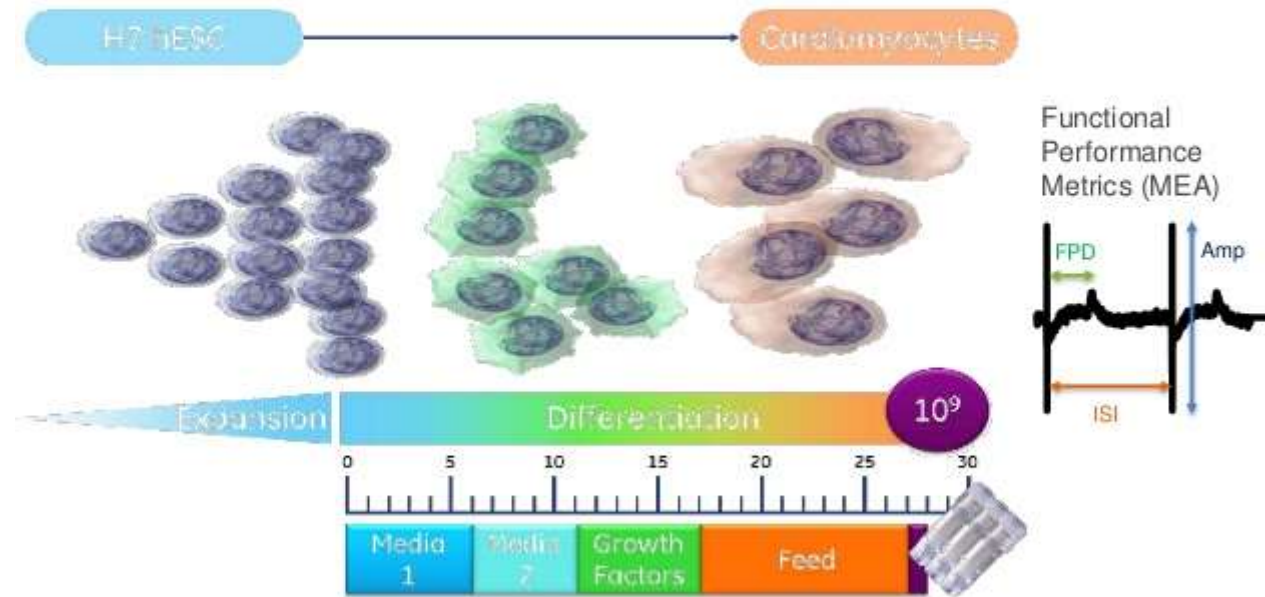


Amplitude map

Good for slice recording, retina recording

MEA application in non-neuron cells

Stem cell derived human heart cells Industrial production of cardiomyocytes (Cytiva™ Plus)



businessreview webinar | 19 March 2014

5



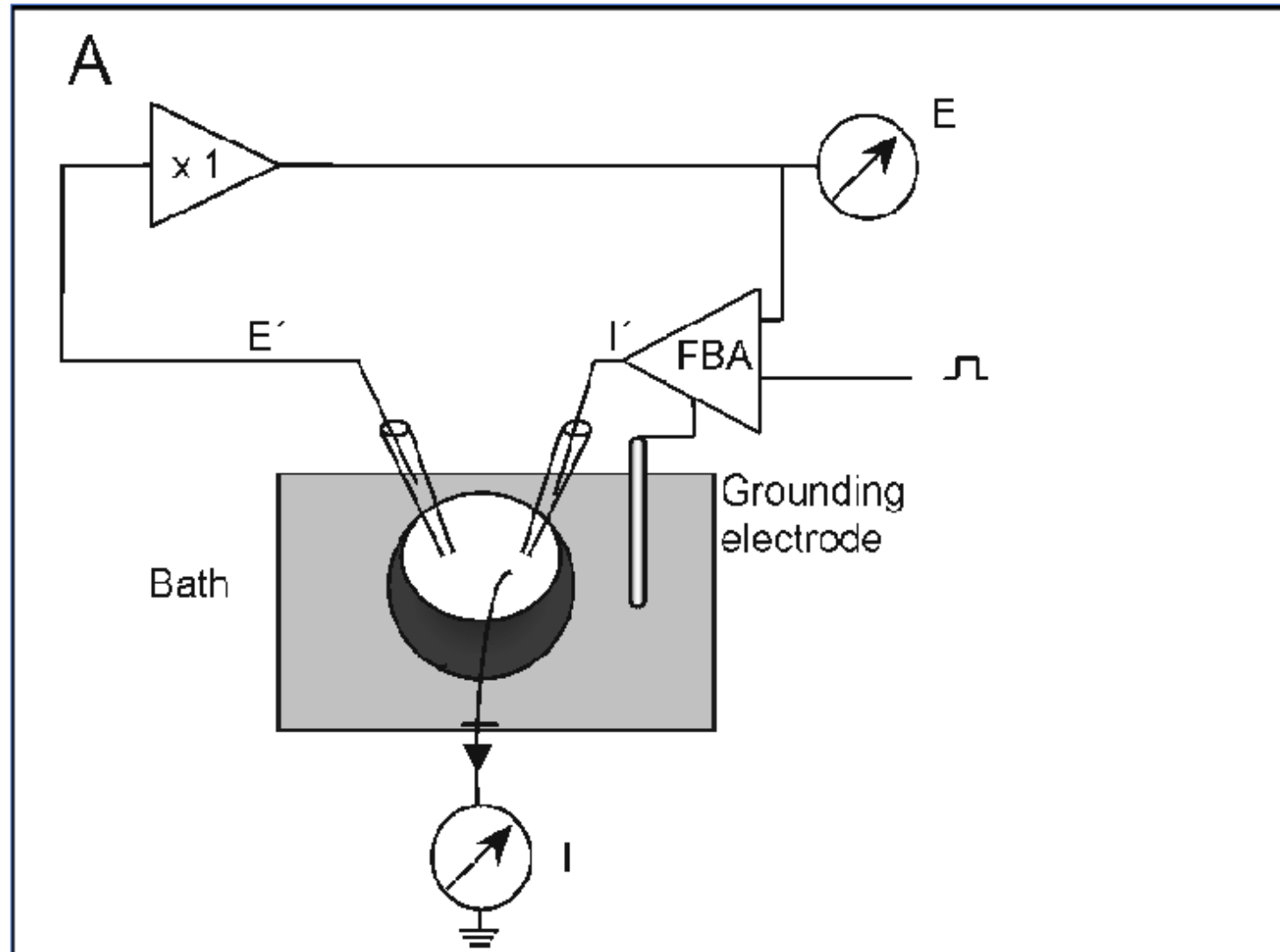


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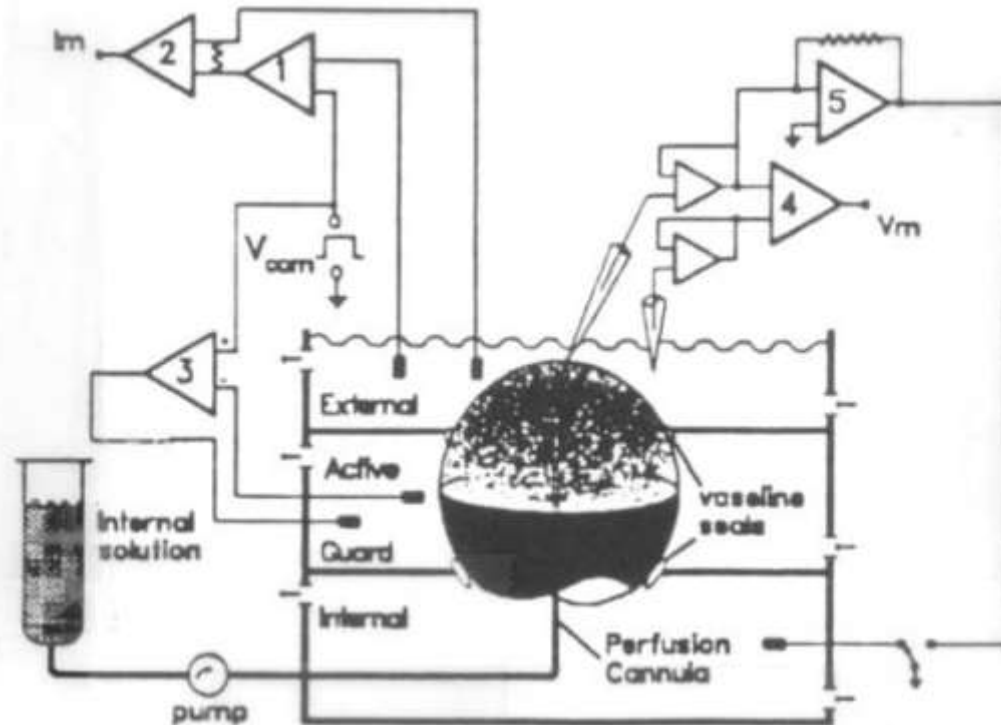
Intracellular recording

- Whole-cell recording
- Single-channel recording
- Sharpe electrodes

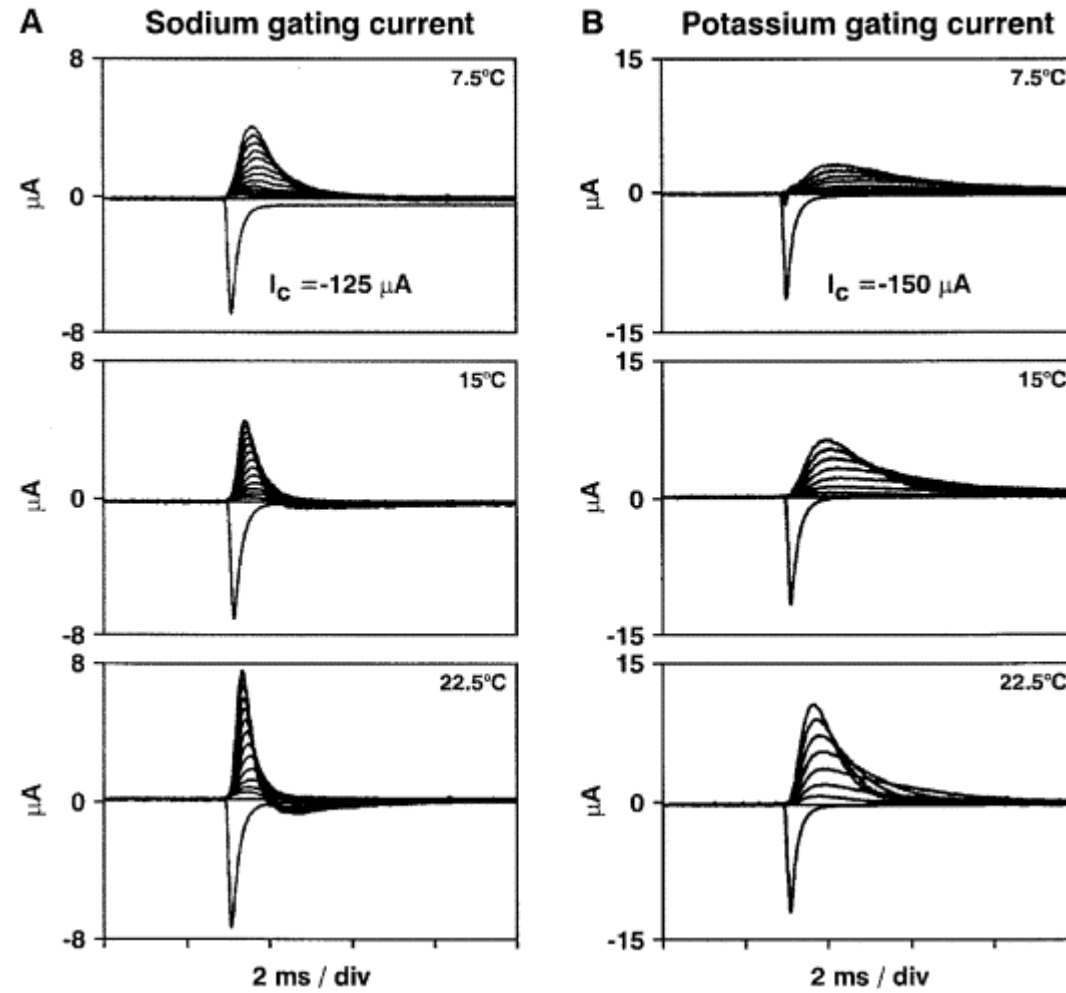
传统研究方式双极电极记录 oocyte recording



Cut-open oocyte recording

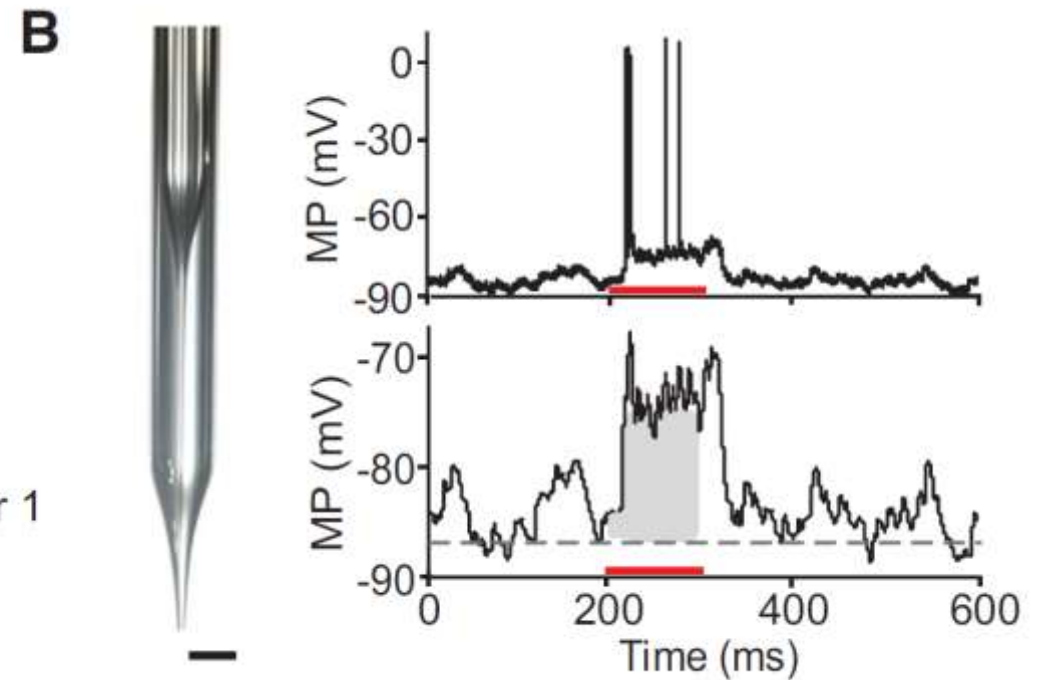
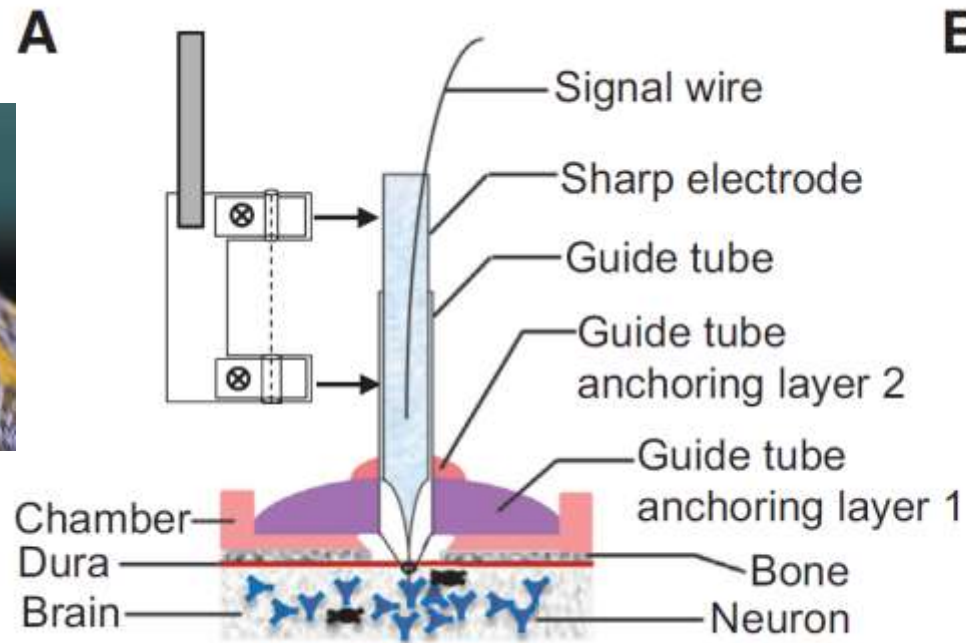


Gating currents by channel opening



Intracellular recording in primates

marmoset



Gao et al., 2016, Neuron 91, 905–919



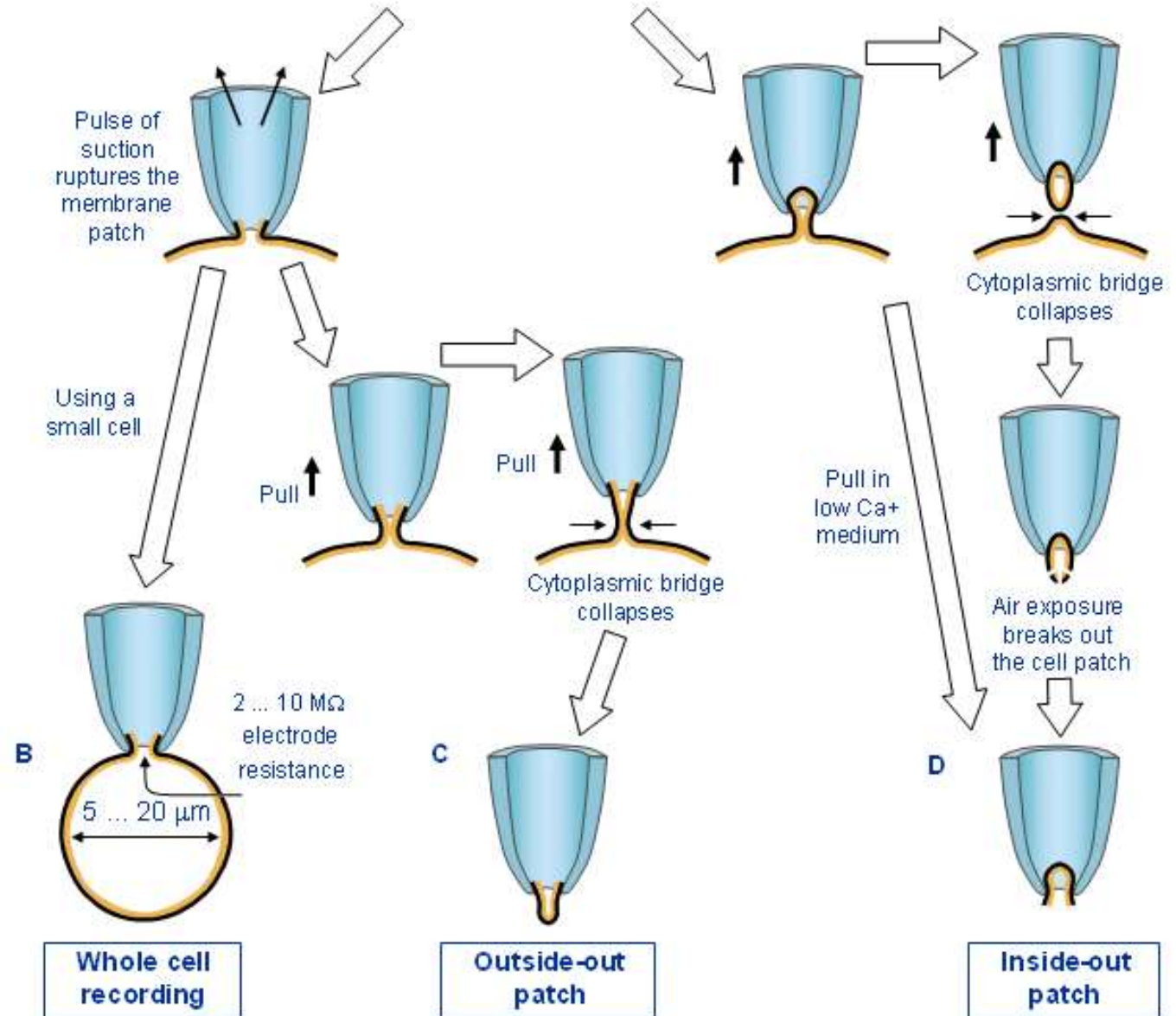
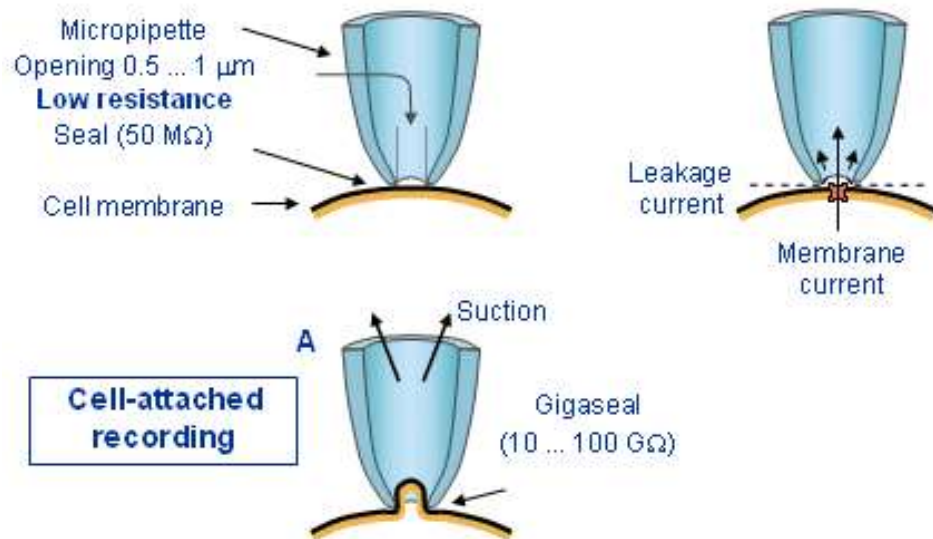
The revolutionary breakthrough – patch clamp technique



Bert Sakmann



Erwin Neher 1991 诺贝尔奖



The revolutionary breakthrough – patch clamp technique

The Patch Clamp Method

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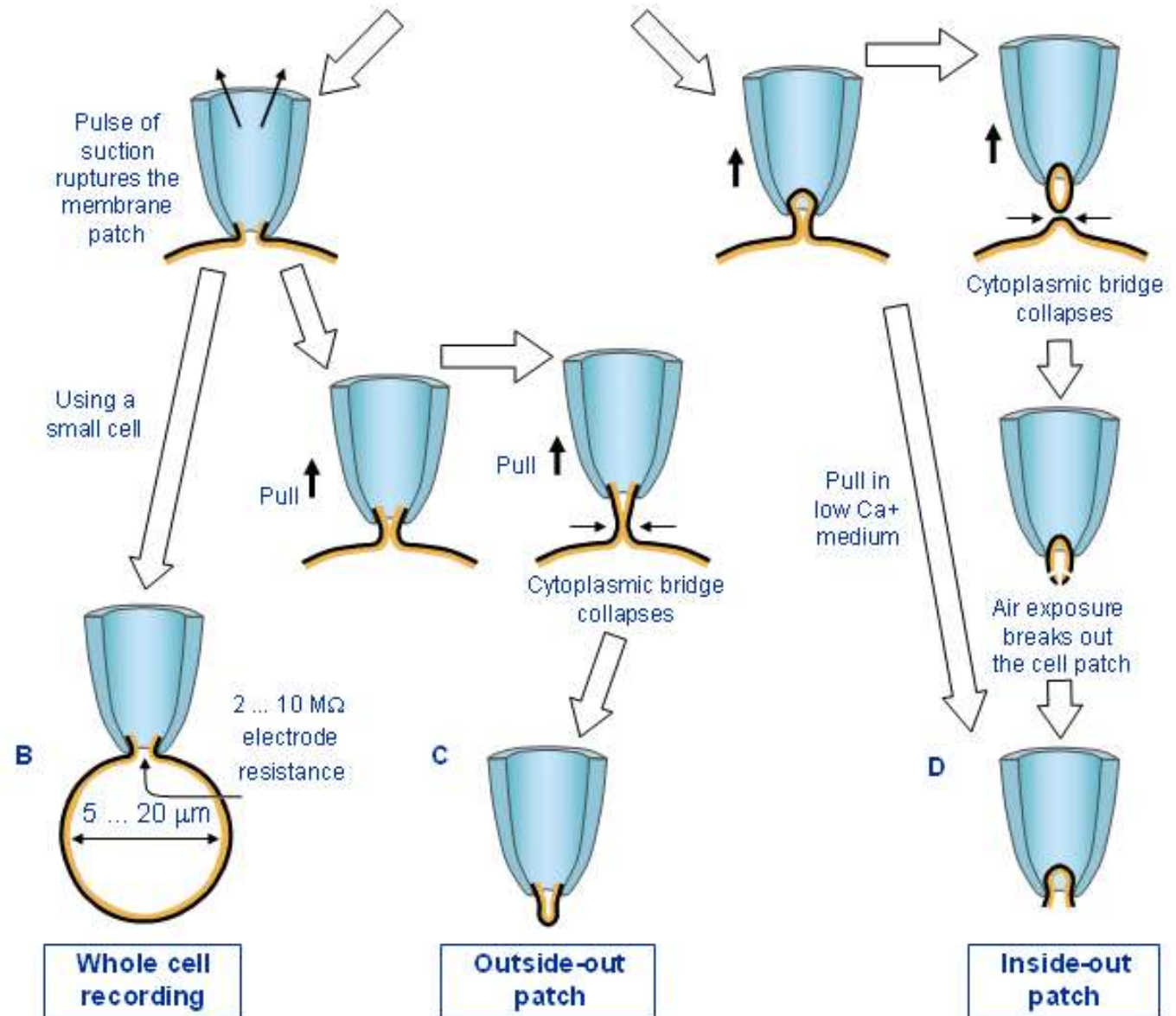
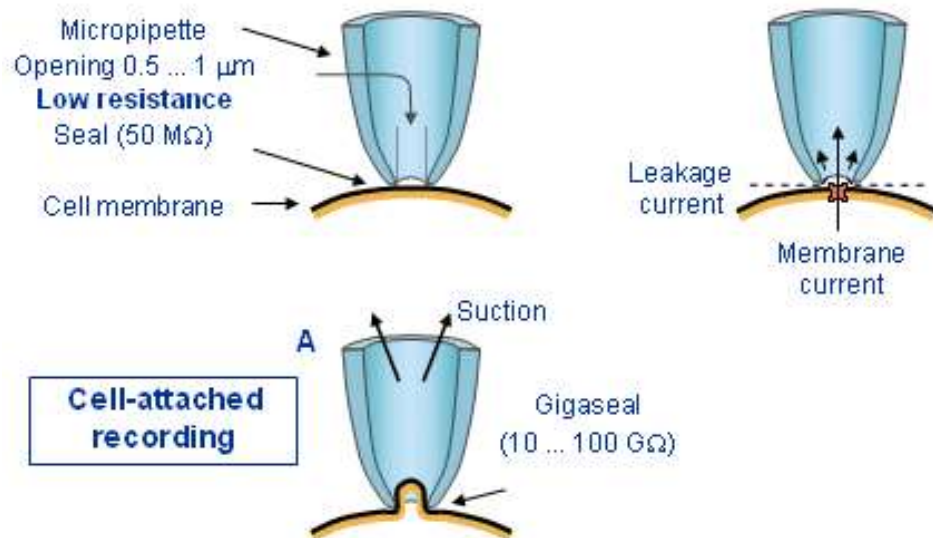
The revolutionary breakthrough – patch clamp technique



Bert Sakmann



Erwin Neher 1991 诺贝尔奖

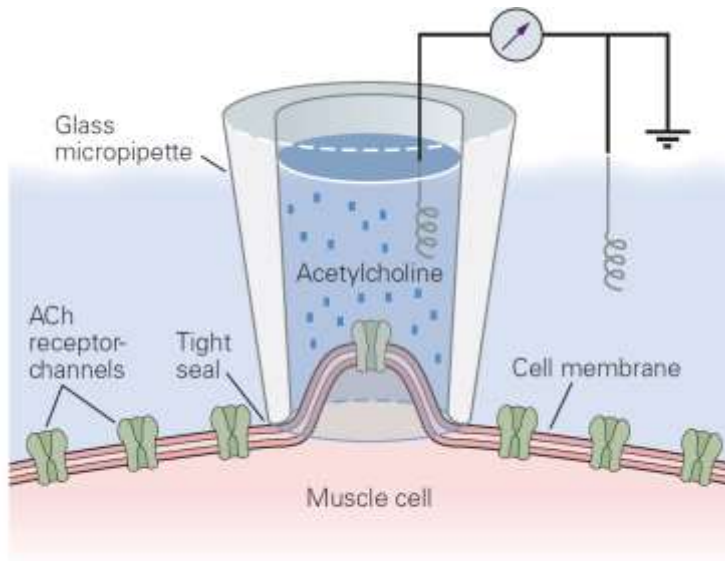


Electrophysiology Development

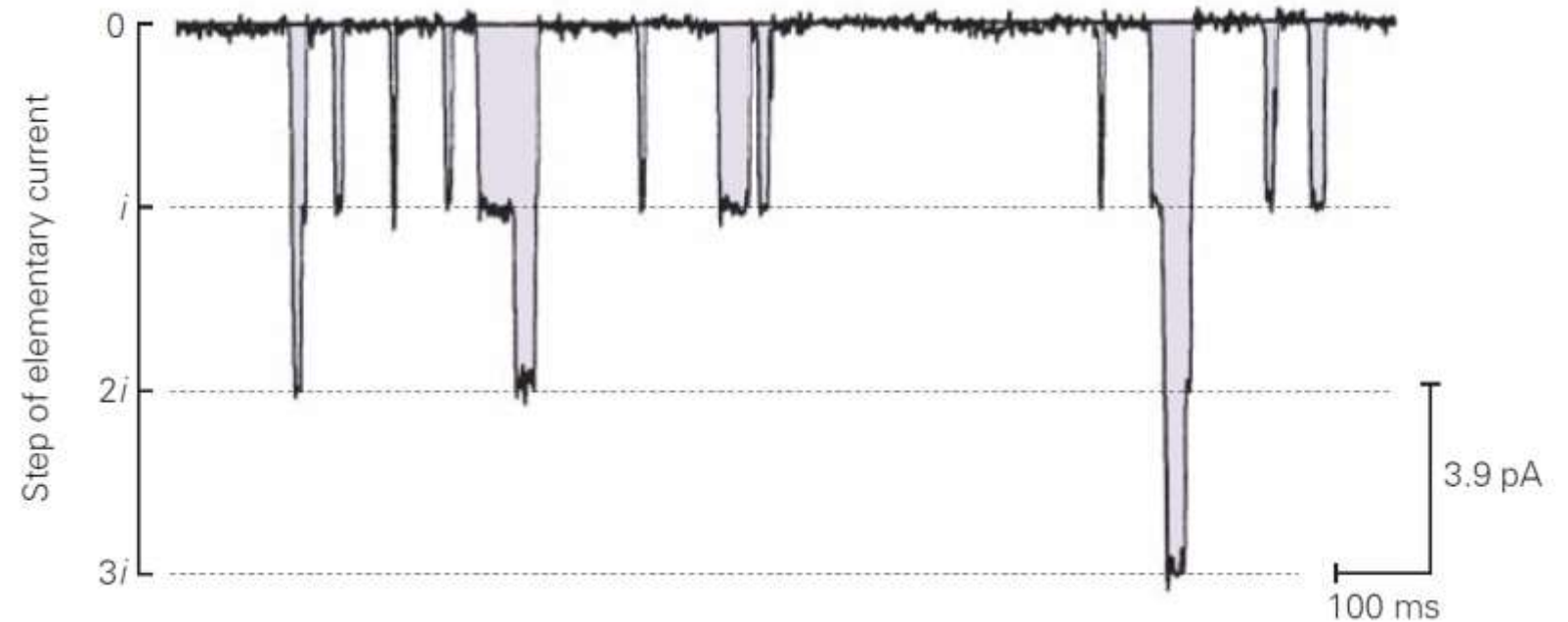
- Extracellular recording
 - Metal electrode
 - LFP / Oscillations
- Intracellular recording
 - Patch-clamp recording
 - Voltage clamp: excitatory post-synaptic current (EPSC)
 - Current clamp: excitatory post-synaptic potential (EPSP)
 - Inside-out
 - Outside-out
 - Whole-cell
 - Dendritic recording
 - Axon recording
 - Capacitance recording



Single-channel recording

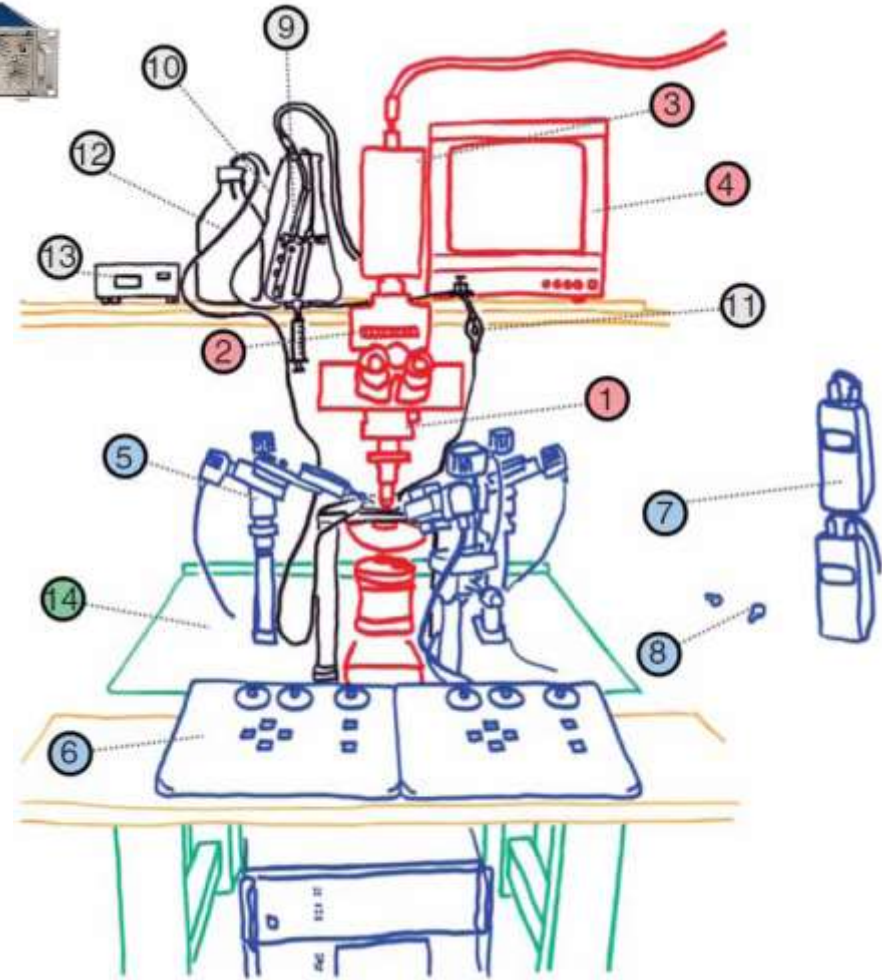
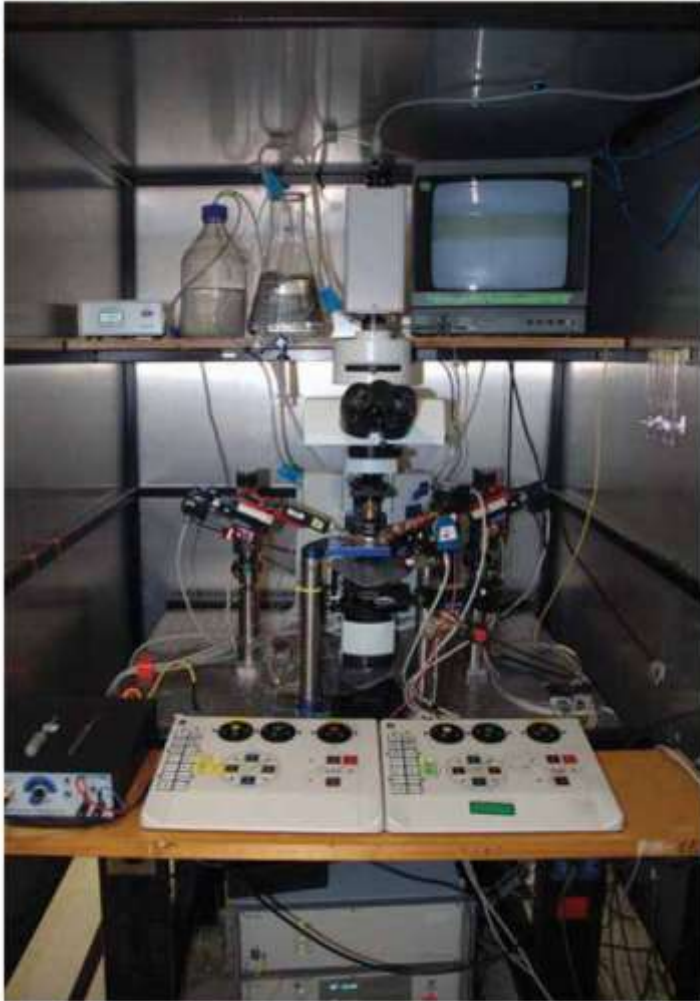


C Total ionic current in a patch of membrane



Neher, E. and B. Sakmann (1976). "Single-channel currents recorded from membrane of denervated frog muscle fibres." *Nature* **260(5554): 799-802.**

A patch-clamp rig



Patch-clamp in acute brain slice

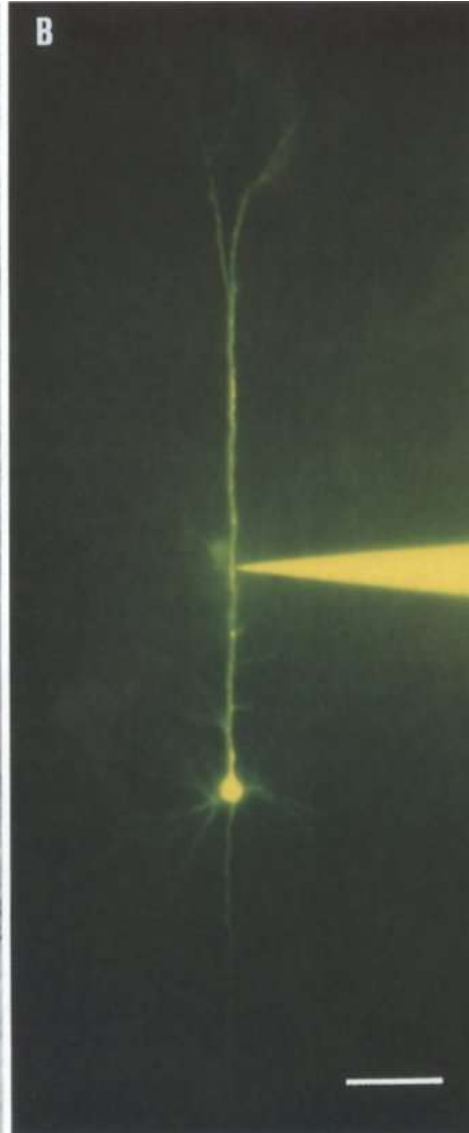
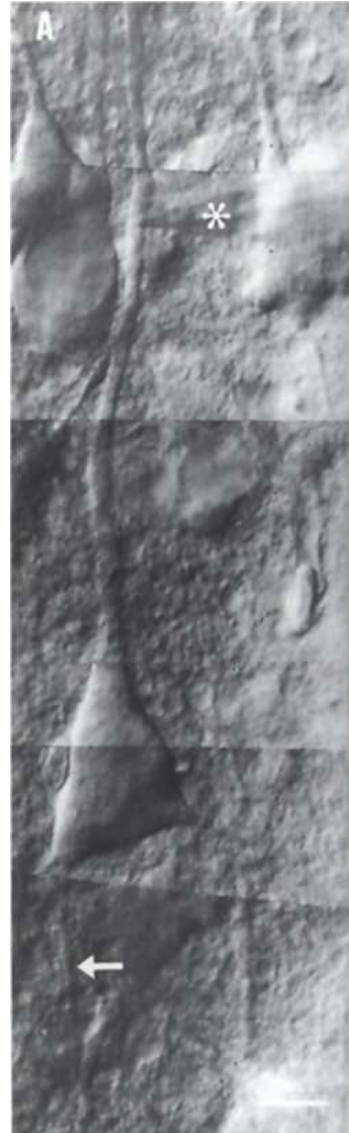
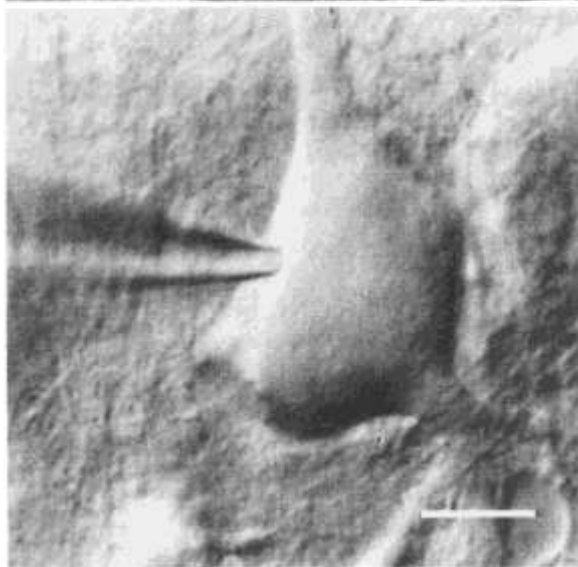
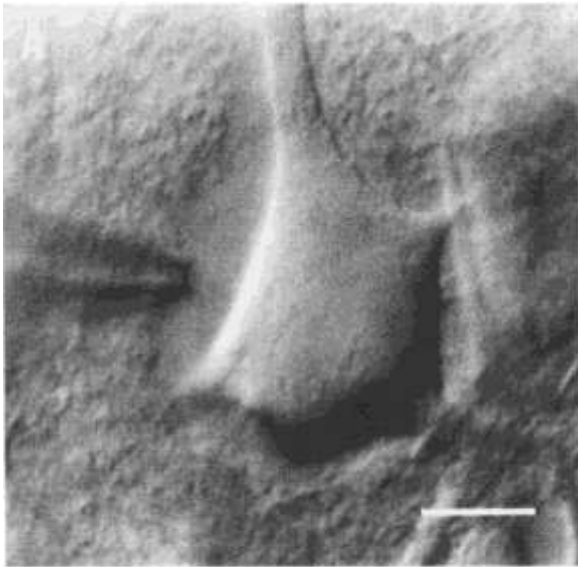


2.5 Whole-cell recordings

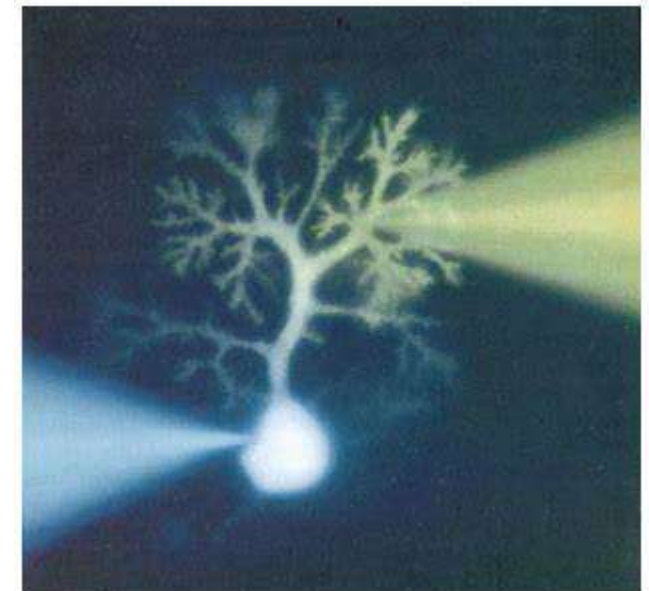
Cellular Mechanisms of Brain Function

Prof. Carl Petersen

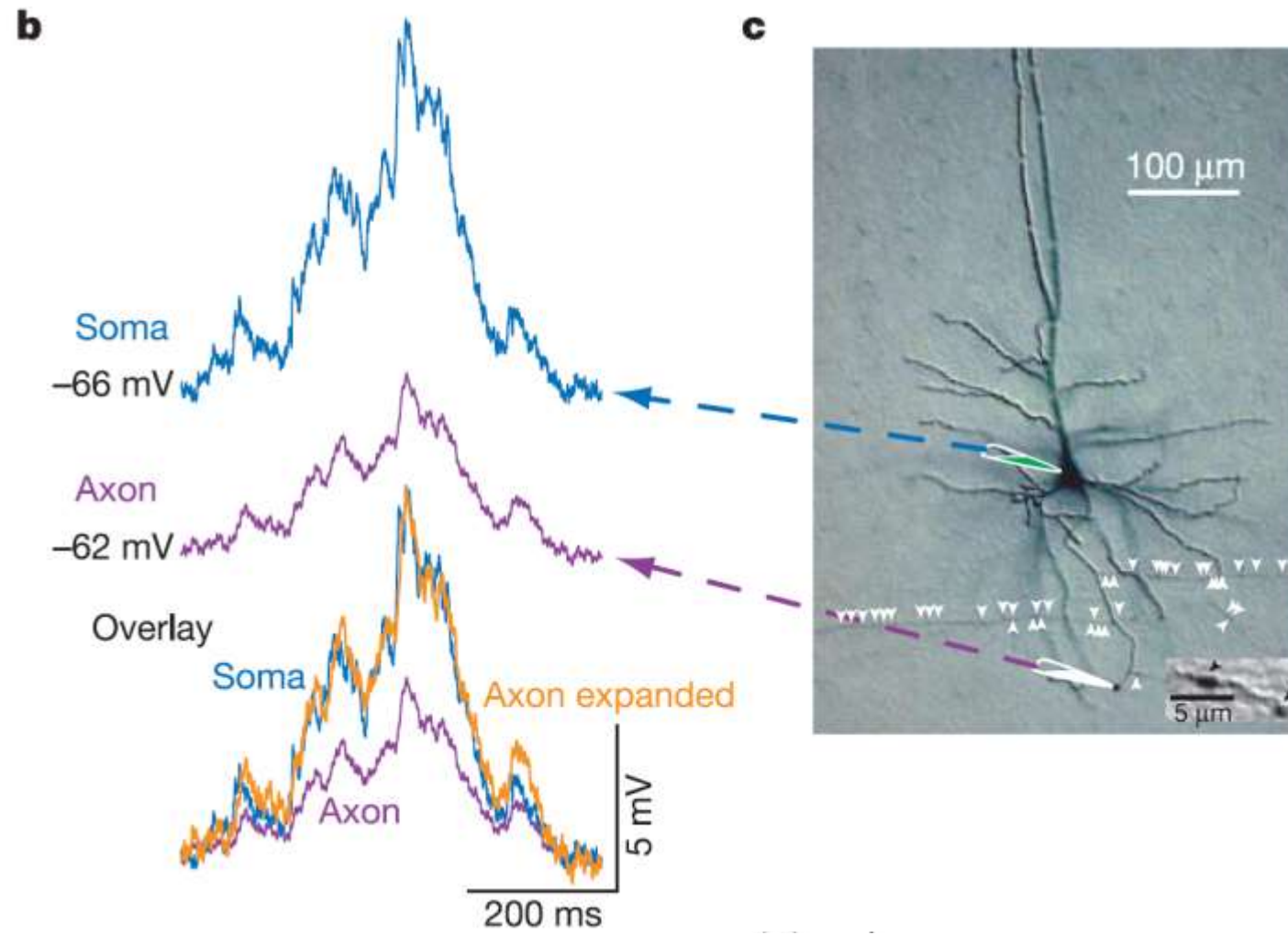
Dendritic recording



Greg J Stuart

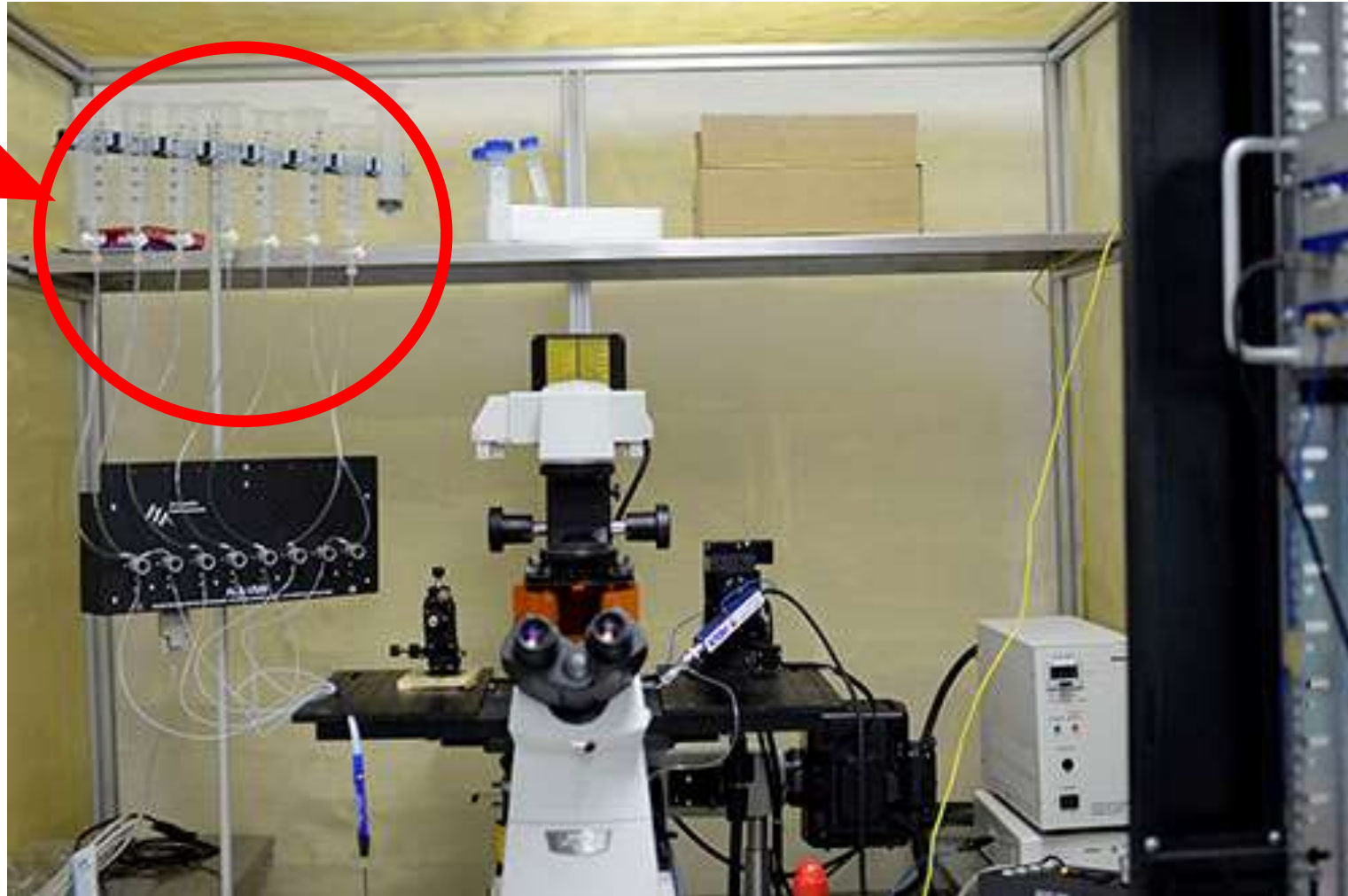
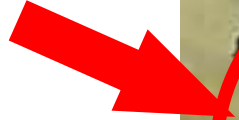


Axon recording

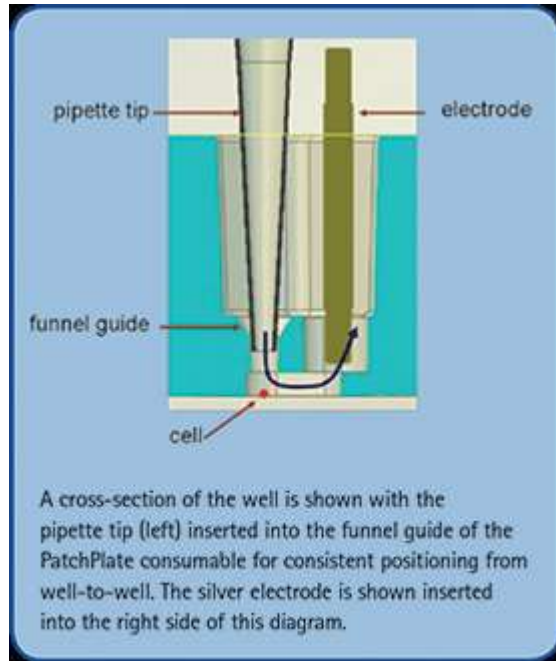


PATCH CLAMP在药物筛选中应用

快速给药系统



High-throughput output automatic patch clamp in industry



● Flip - Tip 翻转技术

将一定密度的细胞悬液灌注在玻璃电极中，下降到电极尖端的单个细胞通过在电极外施加负压与玻璃电极尖端形成稳定的高阻封接，系统自动判断封接形成是否良好并自动打破露在玻璃微电极尖端外的细胞膜形成全细胞模式。它的显著特点是仍然采用玻璃毛坯作为电极。

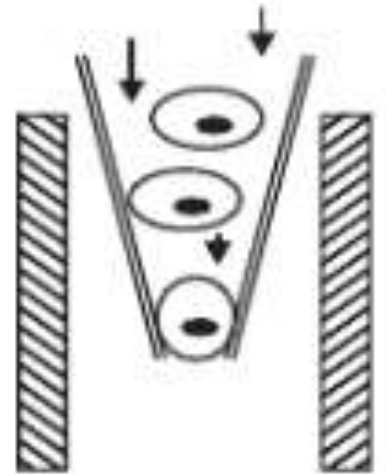


Figure 2. Flow-through Design of the IonWorks Barracuda Consumable Well

High-throughput output automatic patch clamp in industry

● 芯片技术

采用平面电极。平面电极的设计原理来自于传统膜片钳系统的玻璃微电极。在传统的膜片钳实验中，实验人员使用尖端直径 $1\sim 2\mu\text{M}$ 的玻璃微电极接触细胞表面，与细胞形成紧密封接，再打破细胞膜，形成全细胞记录模式。如果将电极尖端旋转（如下图），使其与细胞接触的部位移至细胞底部，并将电极后端无限拉伸，就形成了平面电极。平面电极技术摒弃了玻璃微电极，以电极芯片上直径 $1\sim 2\mu\text{M}$ 的小孔来代替玻璃微电极的尖端，从而使同时平行记录多个细胞得以实现。实验中，一定密度的细胞悬液灌注在芯片上面，随机下降到芯片上约 $1\sim 2\text{m}$

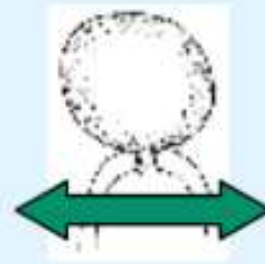
的孔上并在自动负压的吸引下形成高阻封接，打破孔下面的细胞膜形成全细胞记录模式。美国 MolecDwices (Axon) 公司的 Xp700 系统，采用 Seal Chip 平面电极芯片，是这一技术的代表，其通量最高为 16，即一次可同时记录 6 个细胞，成为高通量全自动膜片钳技术的典范，离子通道药物研发的革命性工具。



■ 传统膜片钳微电极



■ 旋转

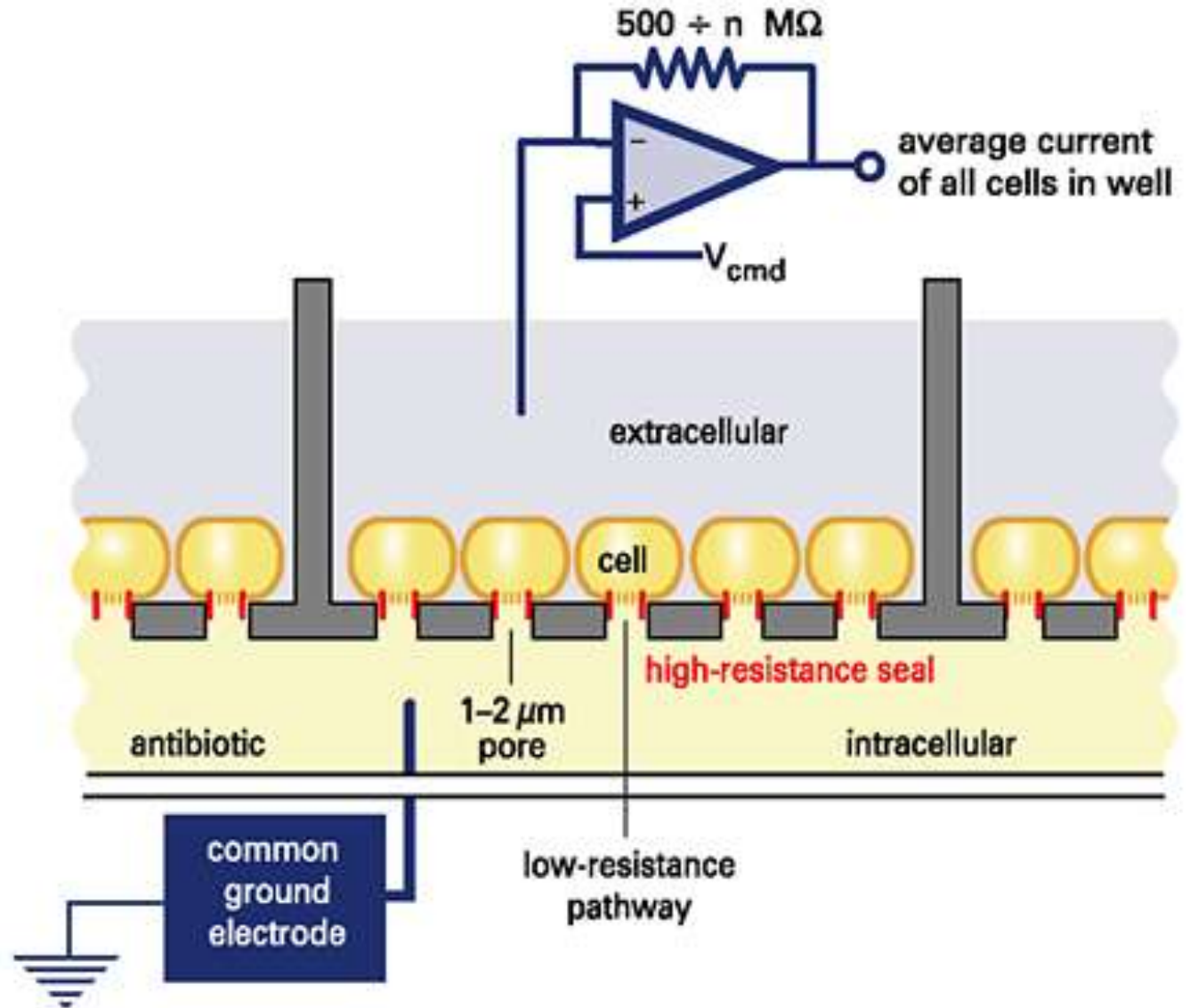


■ 拉伸



■ 平面电极

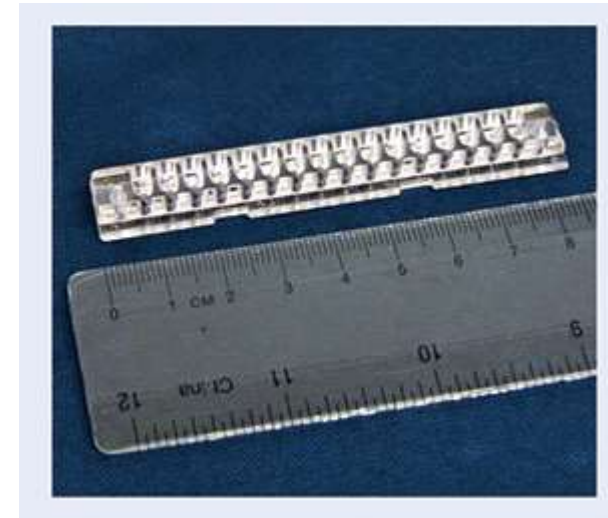
High-throughput output automatic patch clamp in industry



High-throughput output automatic patch clamp in industry



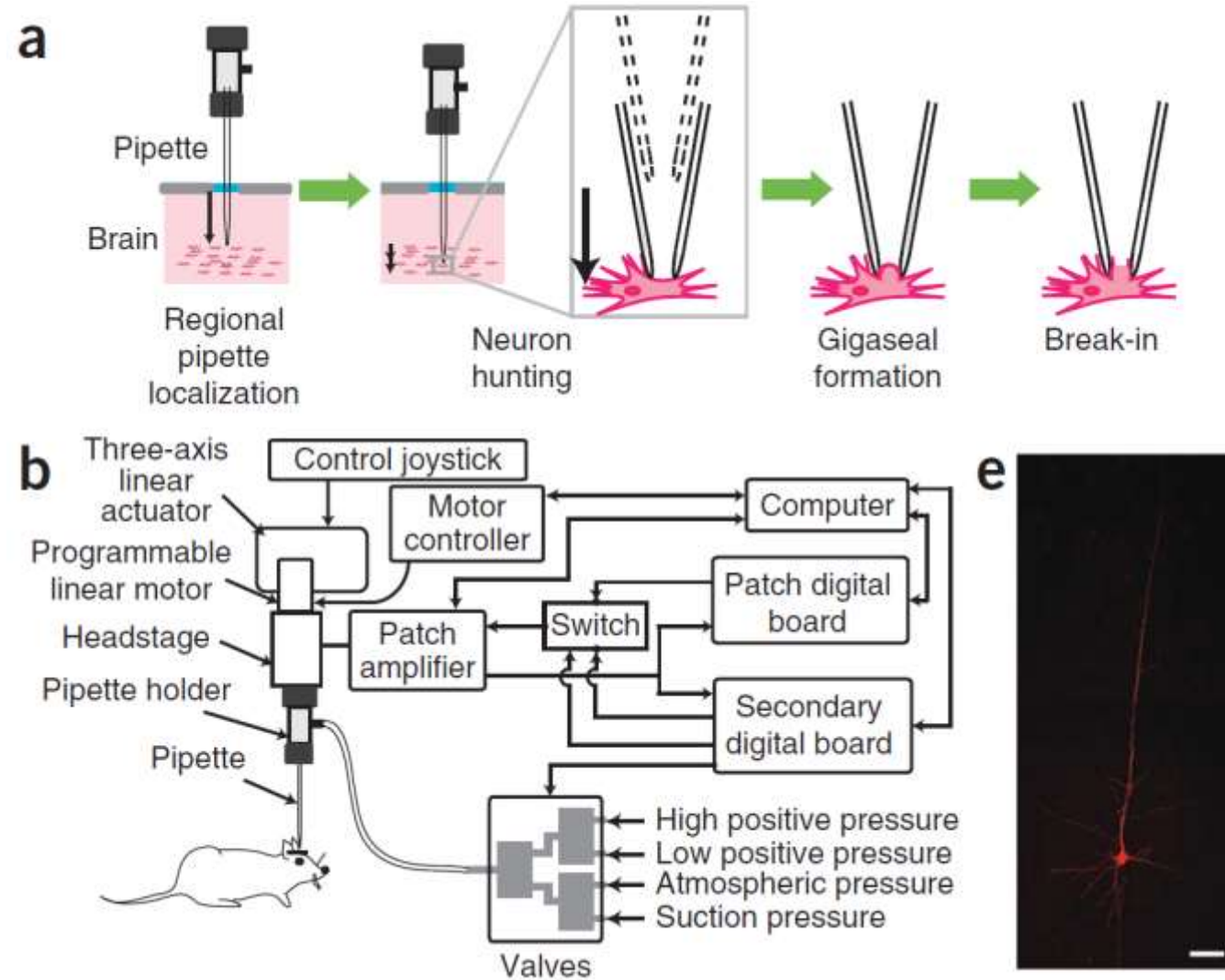
<https://www.moleculardevices.com/en/assets/app-note/dd/cns/patchxpress-7000a-system>



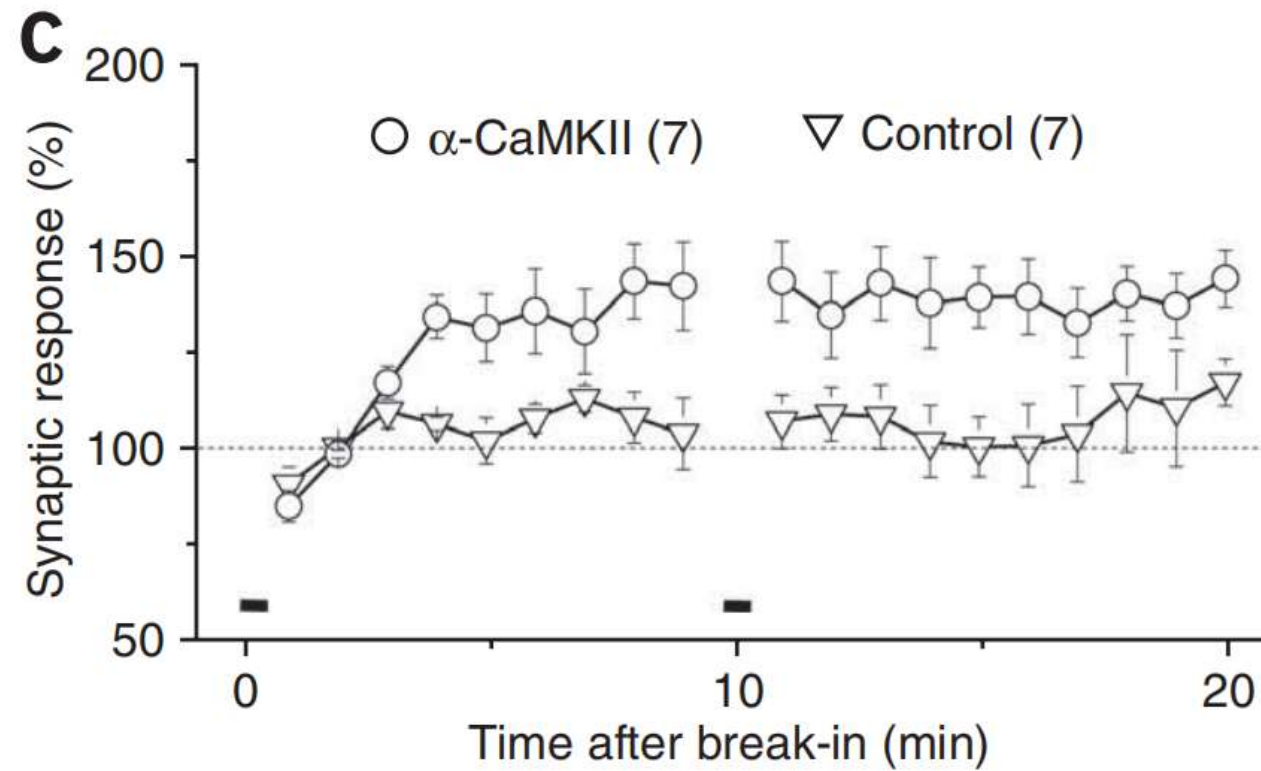
In vivo patch-clamp recording

Automated whole-cell patch-clamp electrophysiology of neurons *in vivo*

Suhasa B Kodandaramaiah^{1,2},
Giovanni Talei Franzesi¹, Brian Y Chow¹,
Edward S Boyden^{1,3} & Craig R Forest²



Whole-cell applications

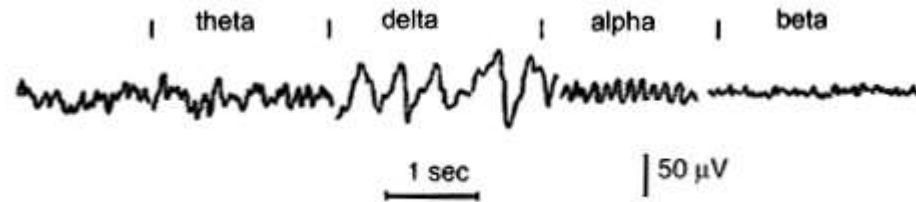


- Whole-cell load molecule
- Whole-cell imaging
- Whole-cell rabies tracing



EEG

- The electroencephalogram (EEG) is a recording of the electrical activity of the brain from the scalp.



Brain-machine interface



Electrophysiology Development

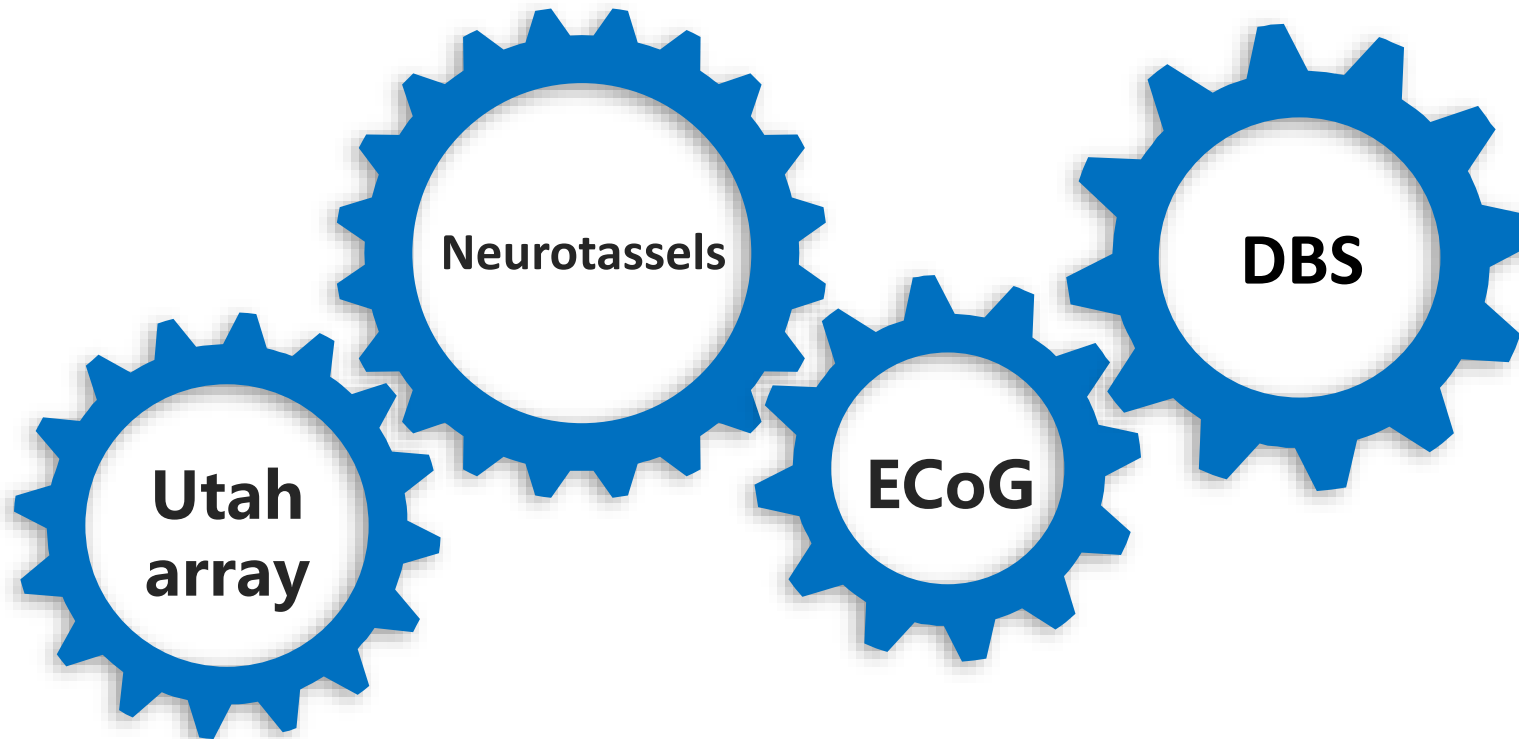
- Extracellular recording
 - Metal electrode
 - Glass micropipette
 - MEA recording
- Intracellular recording
 - Patch-clamp recording
 - Voltage clamp: excitatory post-synaptic current (EPSC)
 - Current clamp: excitatory post-synaptic potential (EPSP)
 - Inside-out
 - Outside-out
 - Whole-cell
 - Dendritic recording
 - Axon recording
 - Capacitance recording
 - Cut-open oocyte recording
 - Two-electrode recording



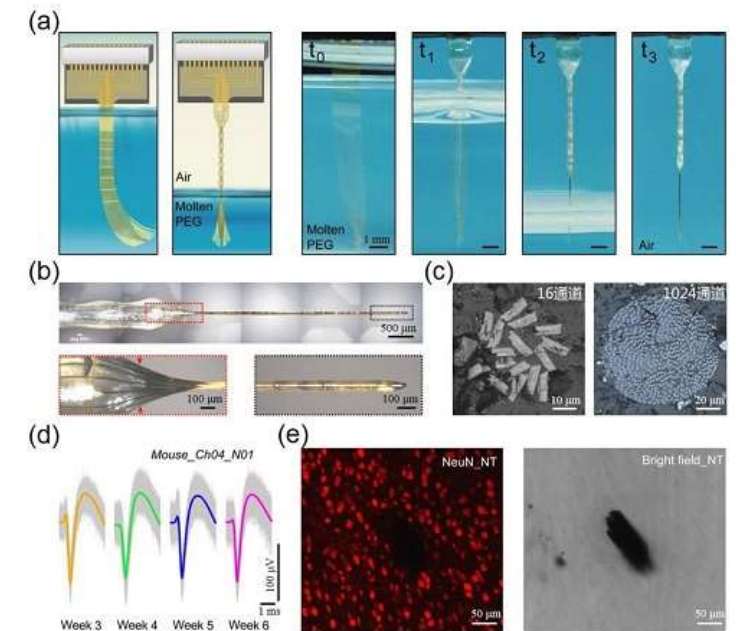
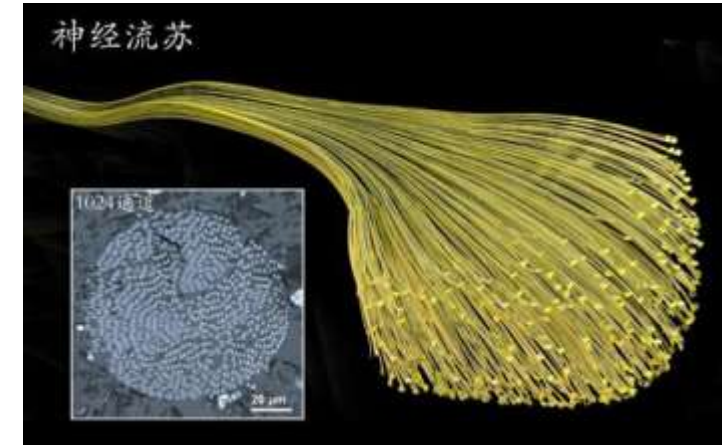


More application in the clinics and system neuroscience

Topics to add in future



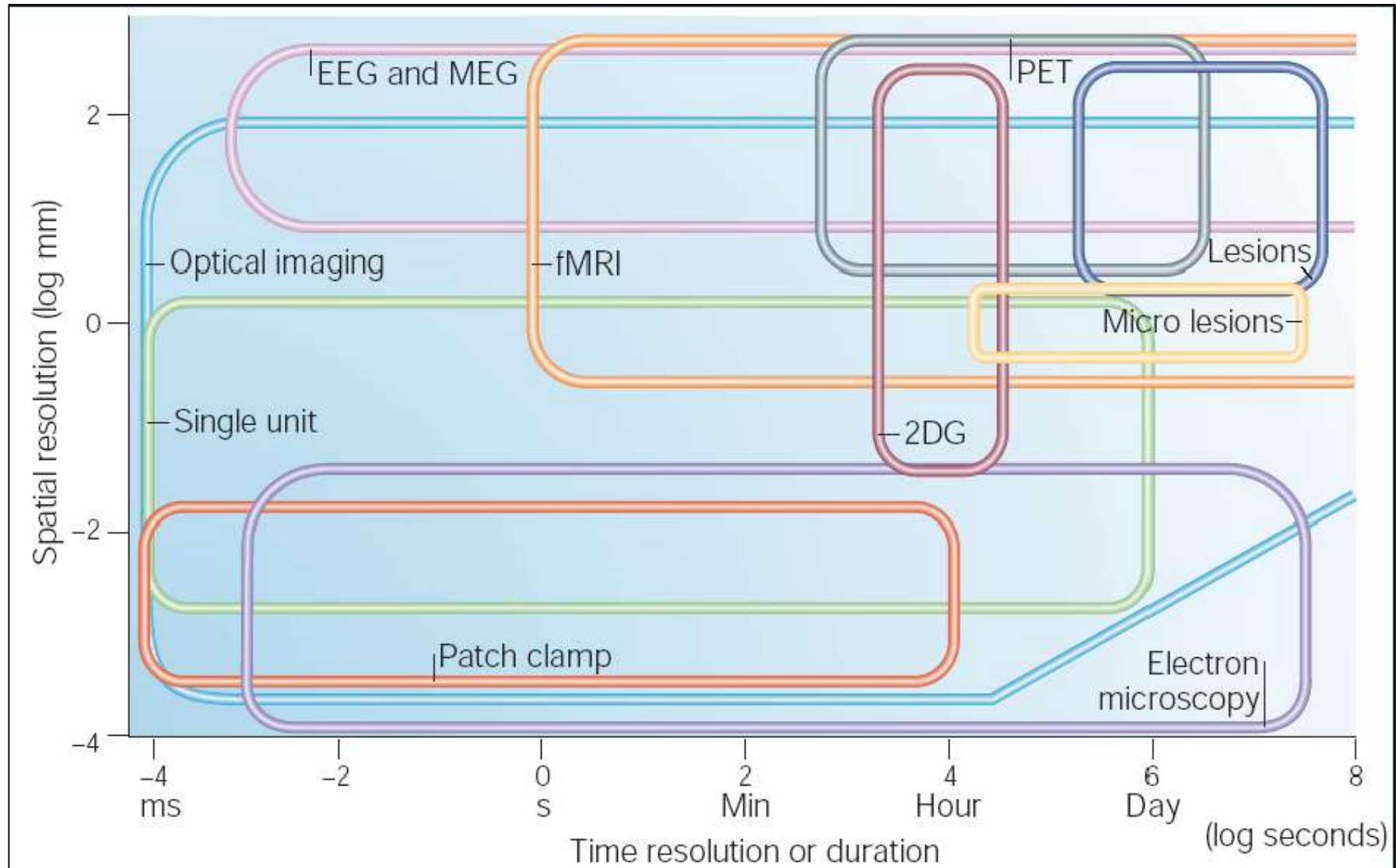
神经流苏



- Why electrophysiology?
- The history and basics of electrophysiology
- Methods in electrophysiology
- Future of electrophysiology



Tools to record biological signals



Increase Channel count

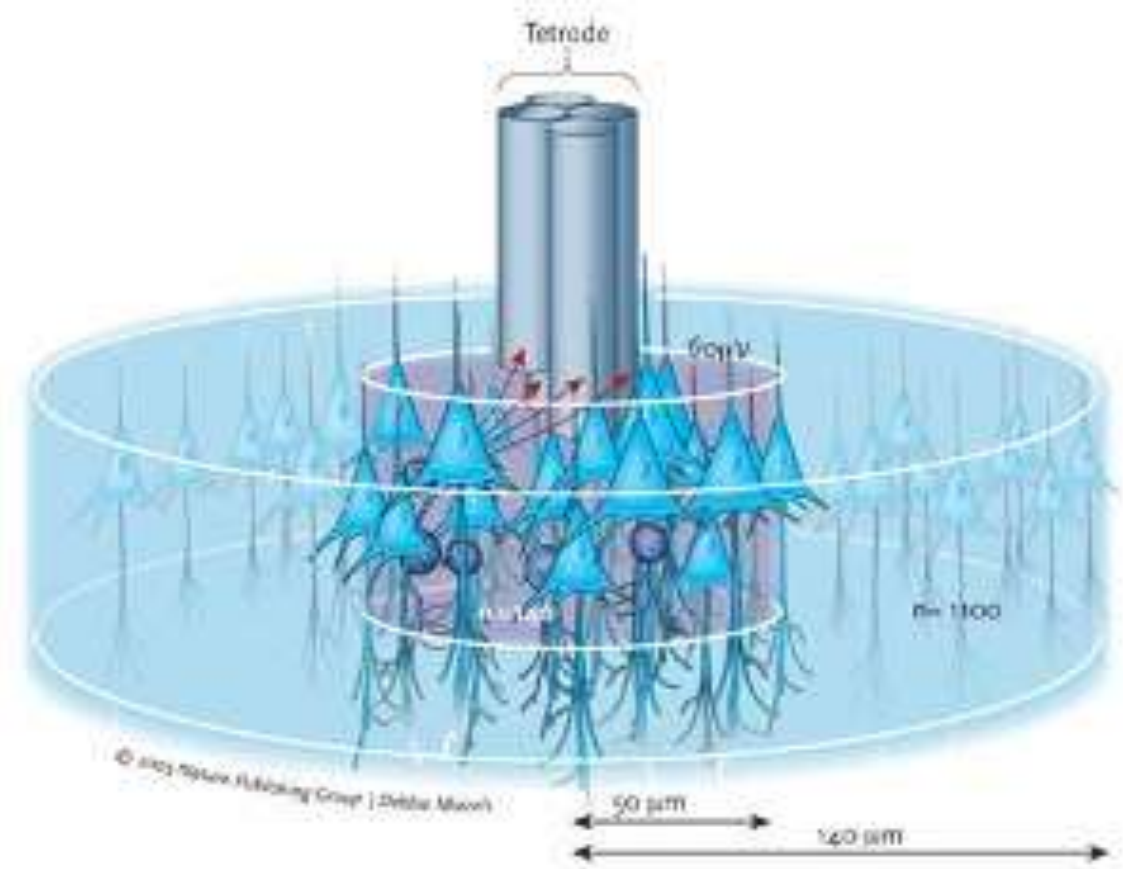
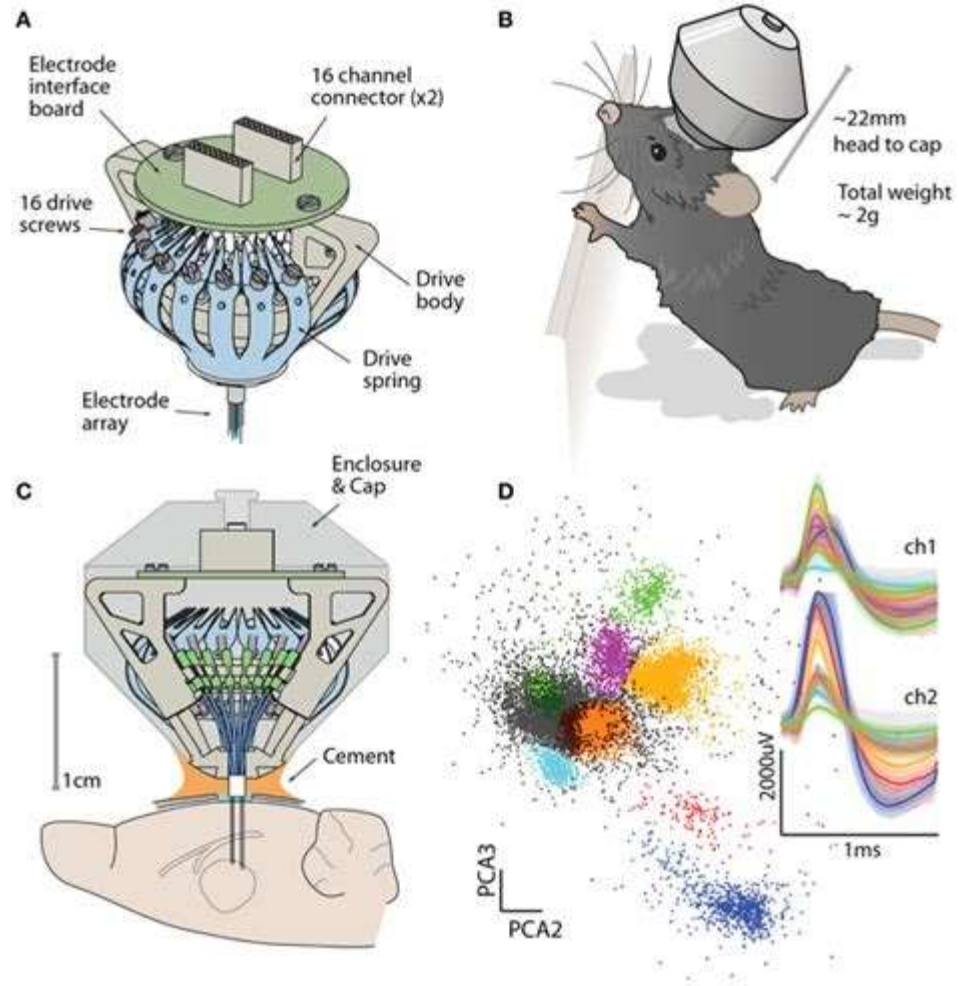
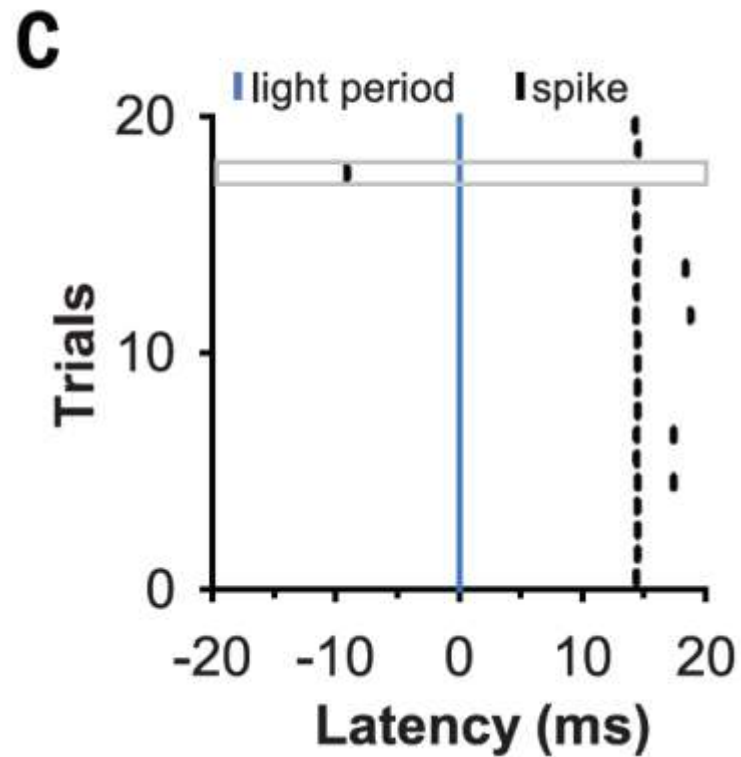
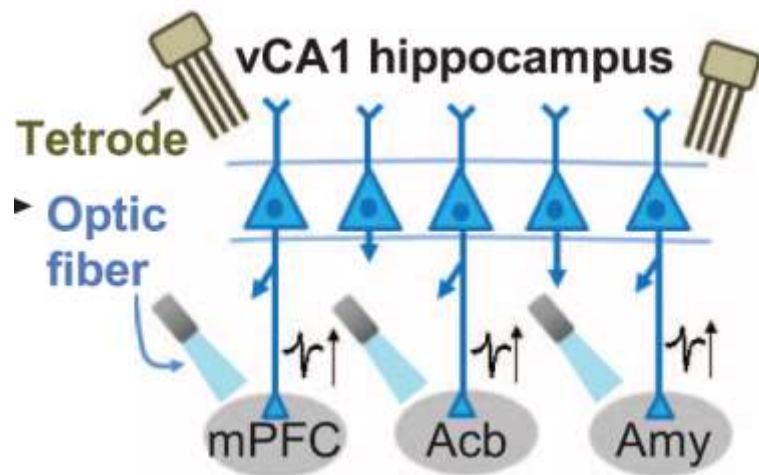
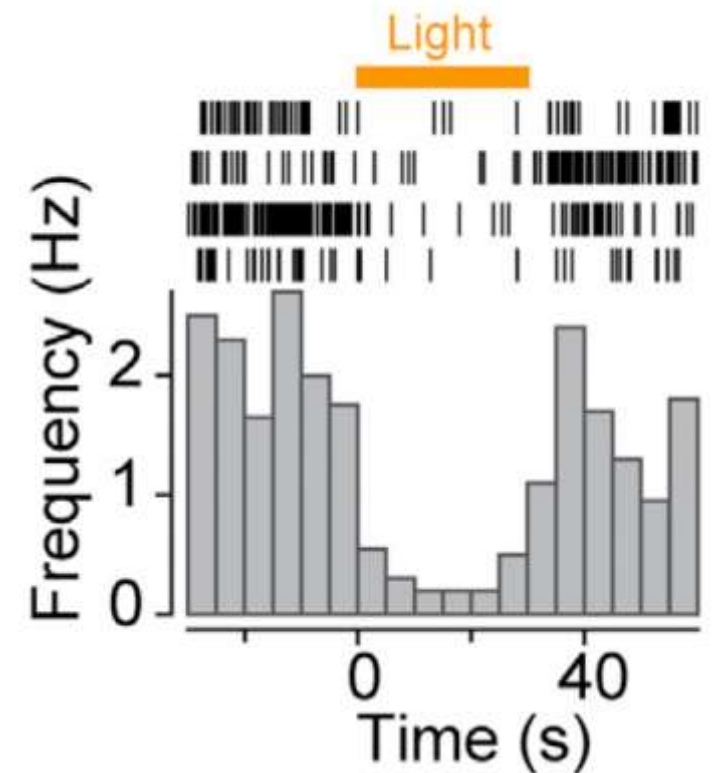


Photo-tagging recording



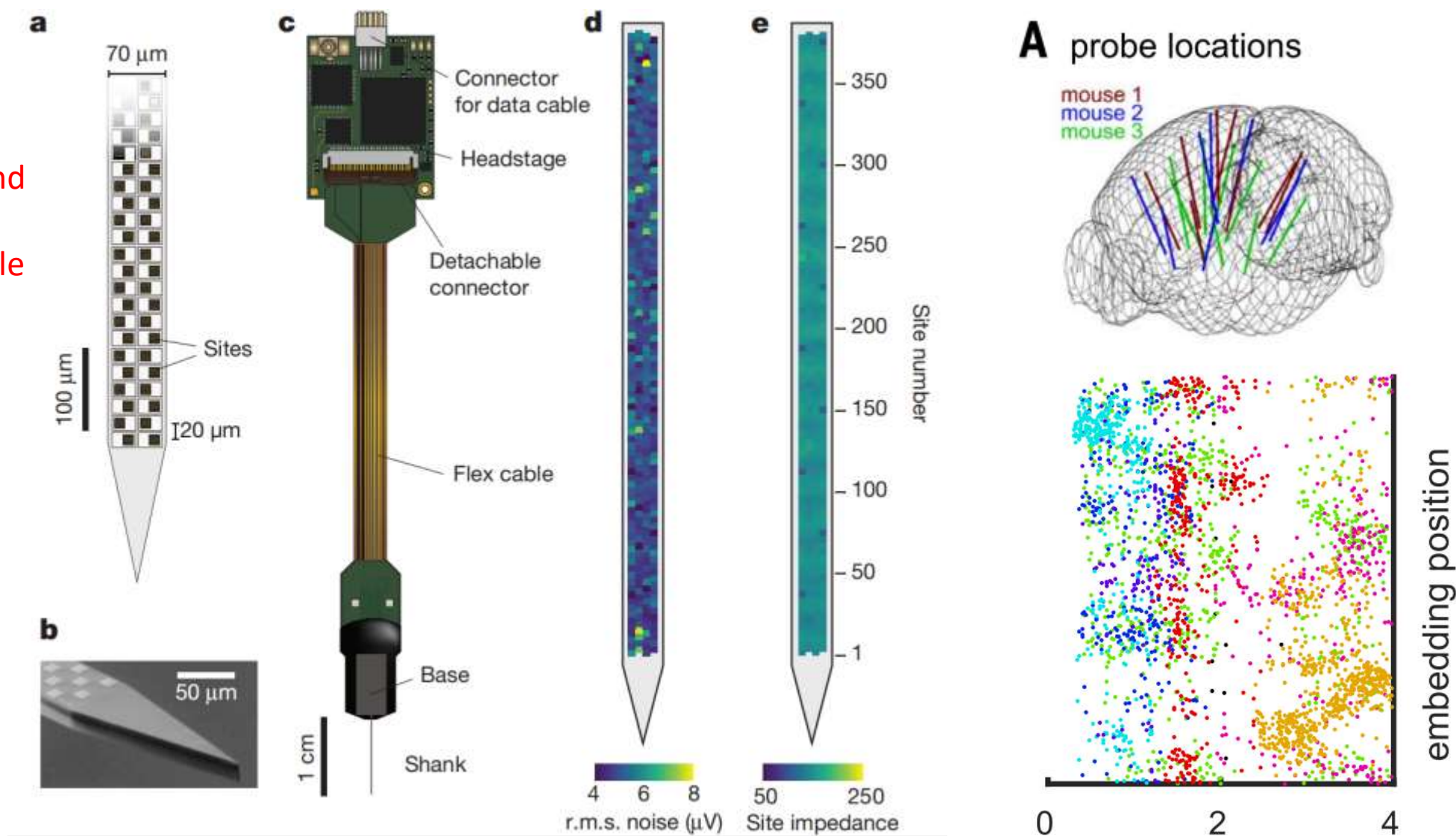
Coicchi et al., 2015



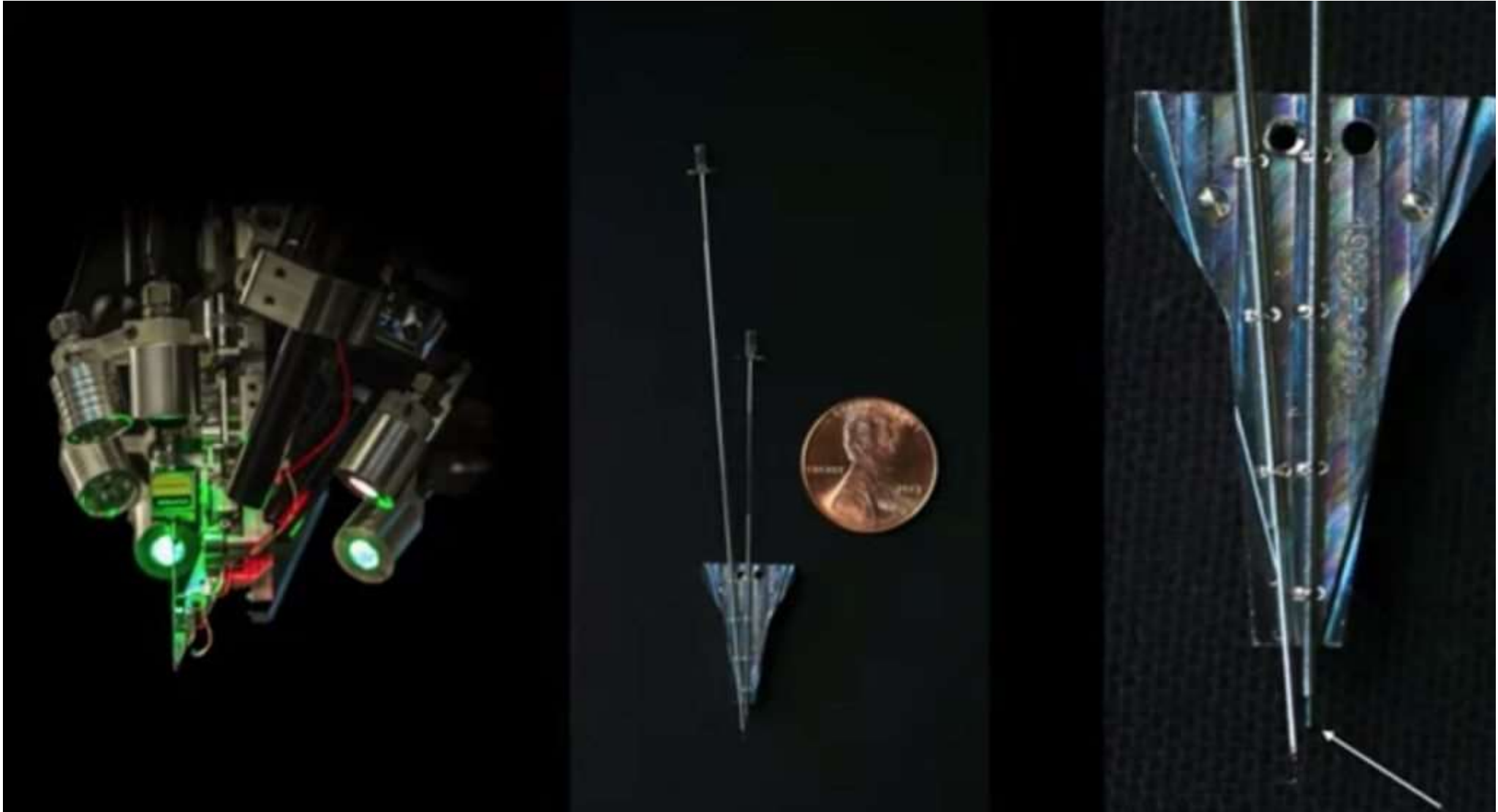
Xu et al., 2016

大范围活动记录单细胞放电活动 Neuropixel

384 dual-band
low-noise
960 selectable
10-mm long

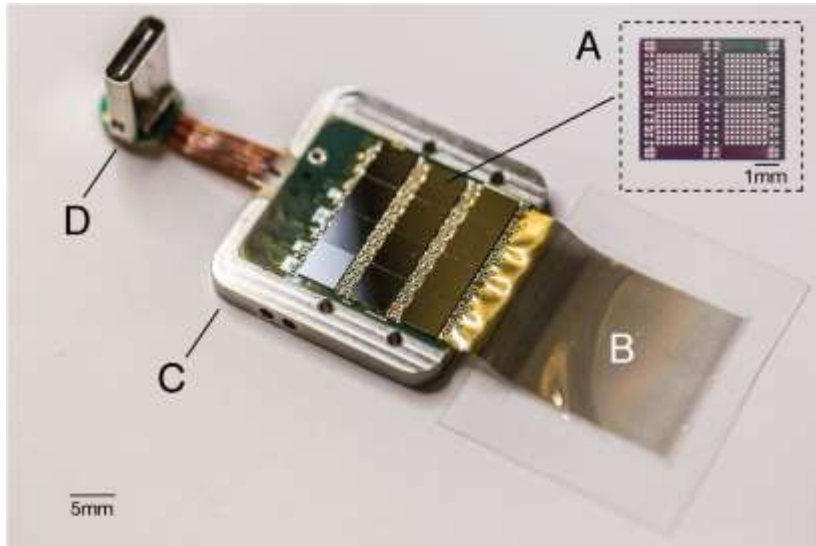


Neuralink by Elon Musk

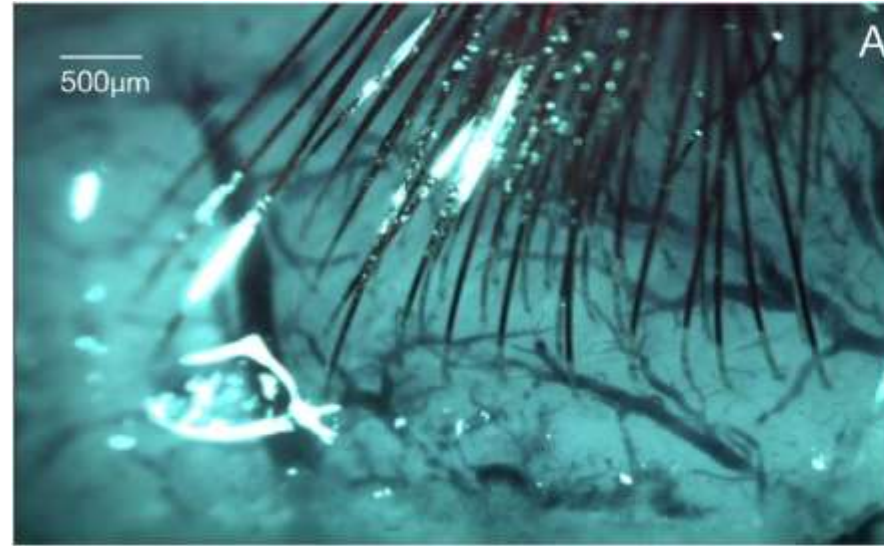


Neuralink by Elon Musk

A packaged sensor device

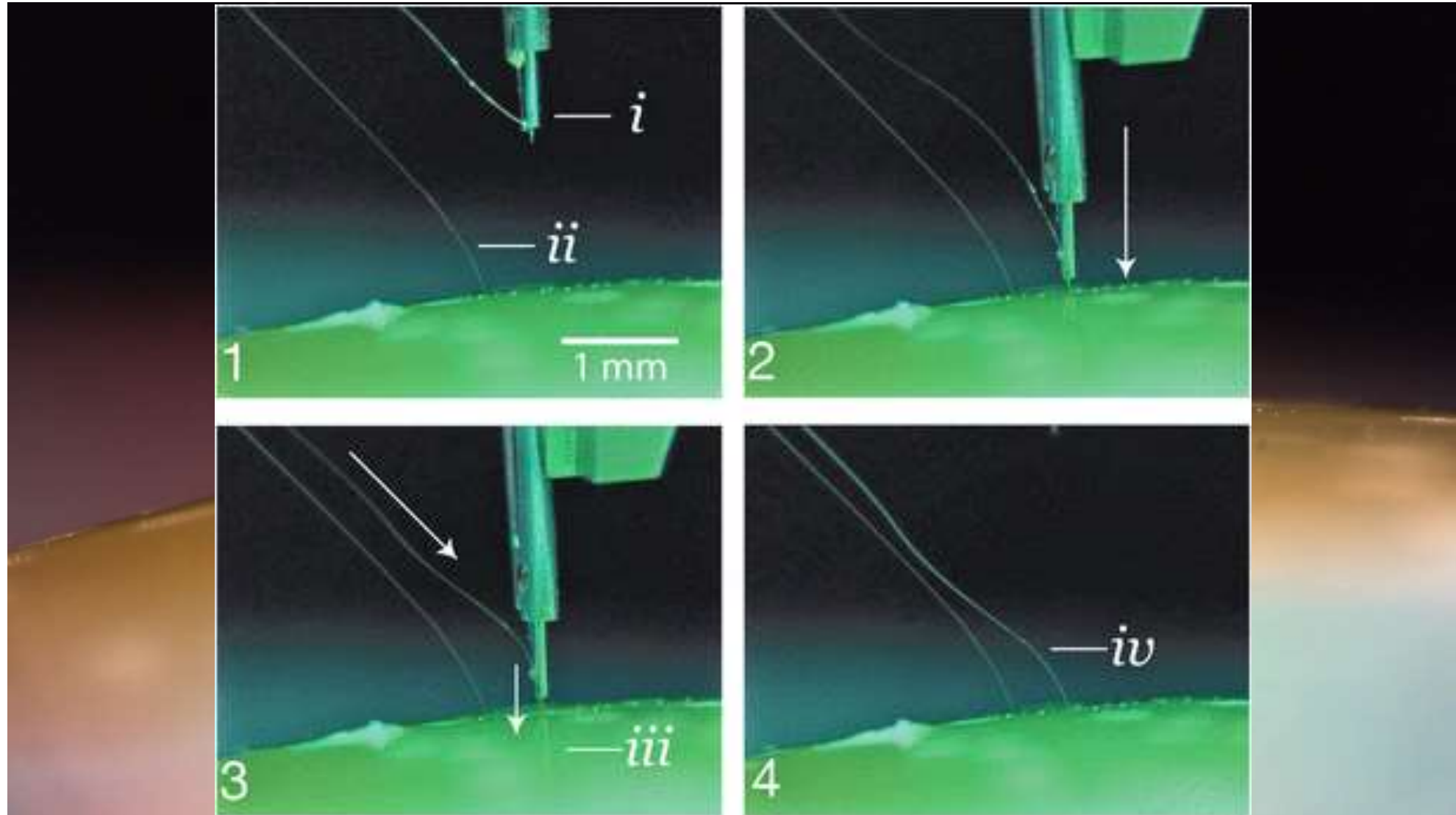


Thread implantation and packaging.



doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/703801>

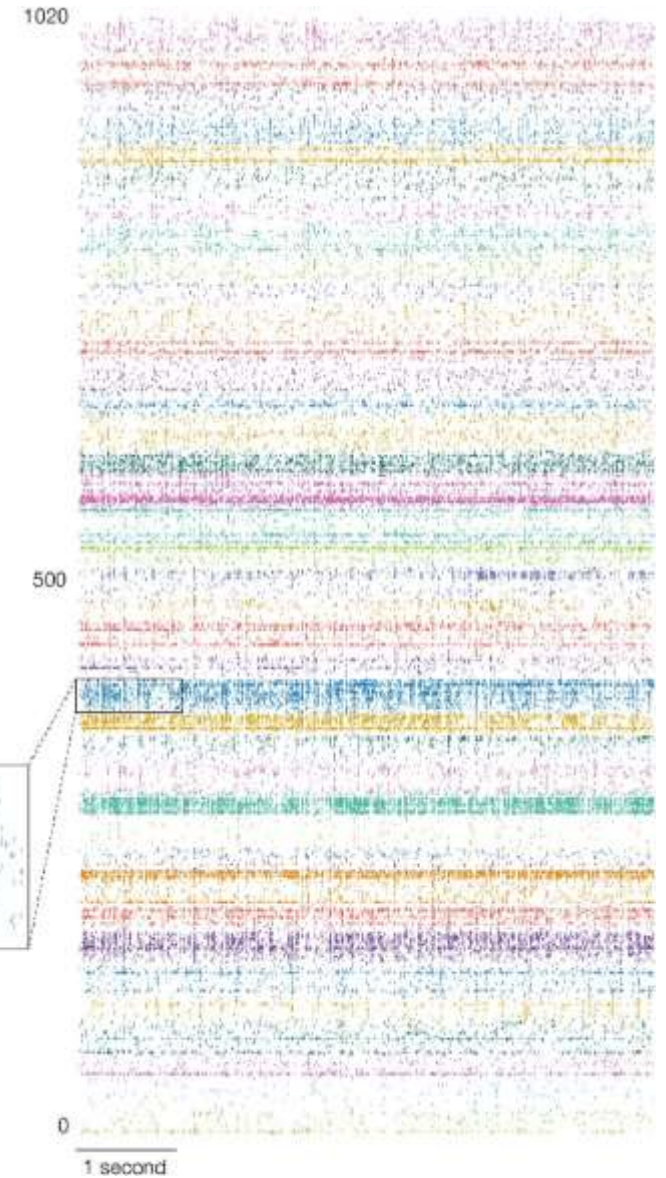
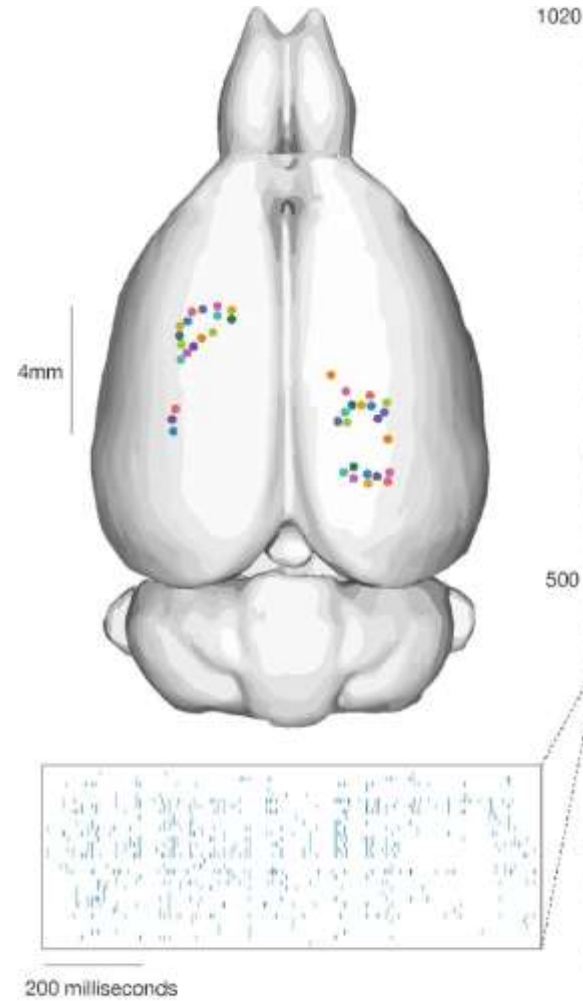
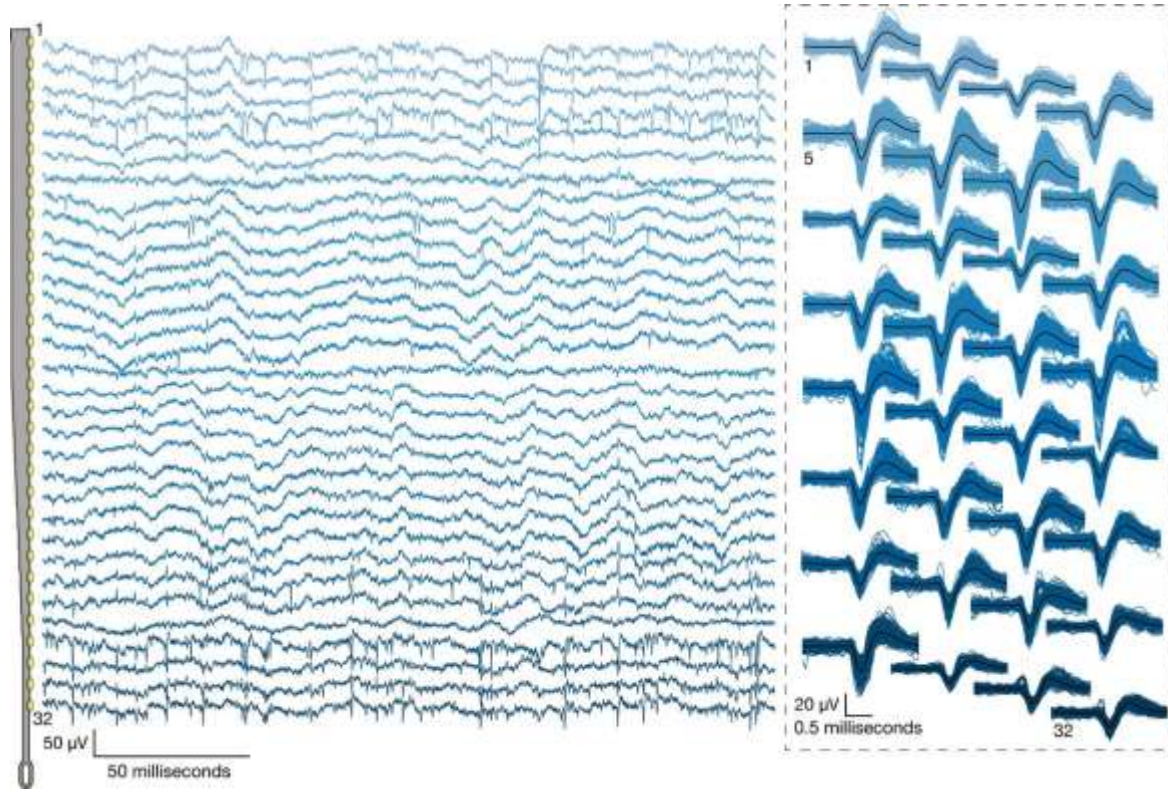
Neuralink by Elon Musk



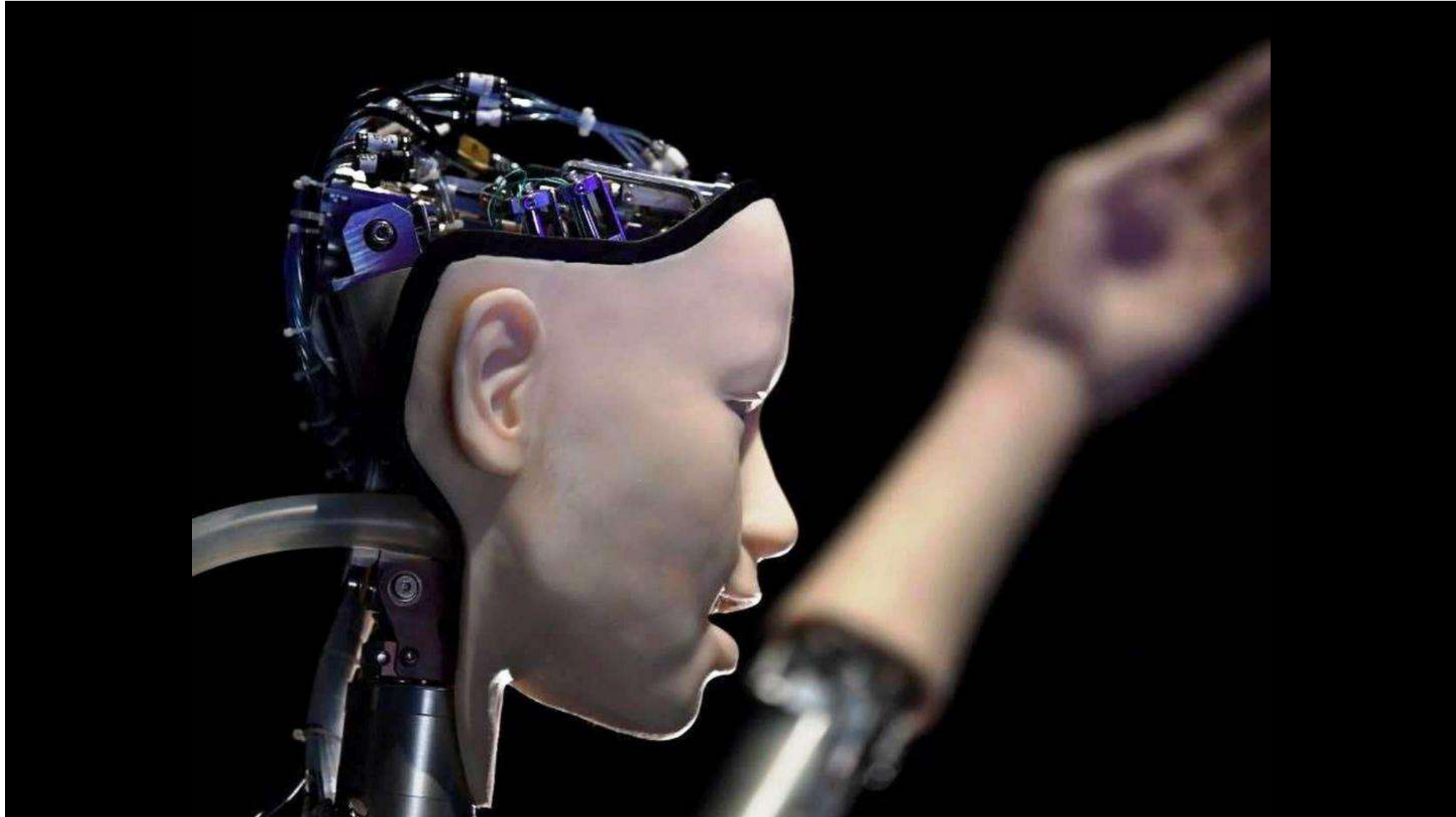
Neuralink by Elon Musk



Neuralink by Elon Musk



Introducing Neuralink



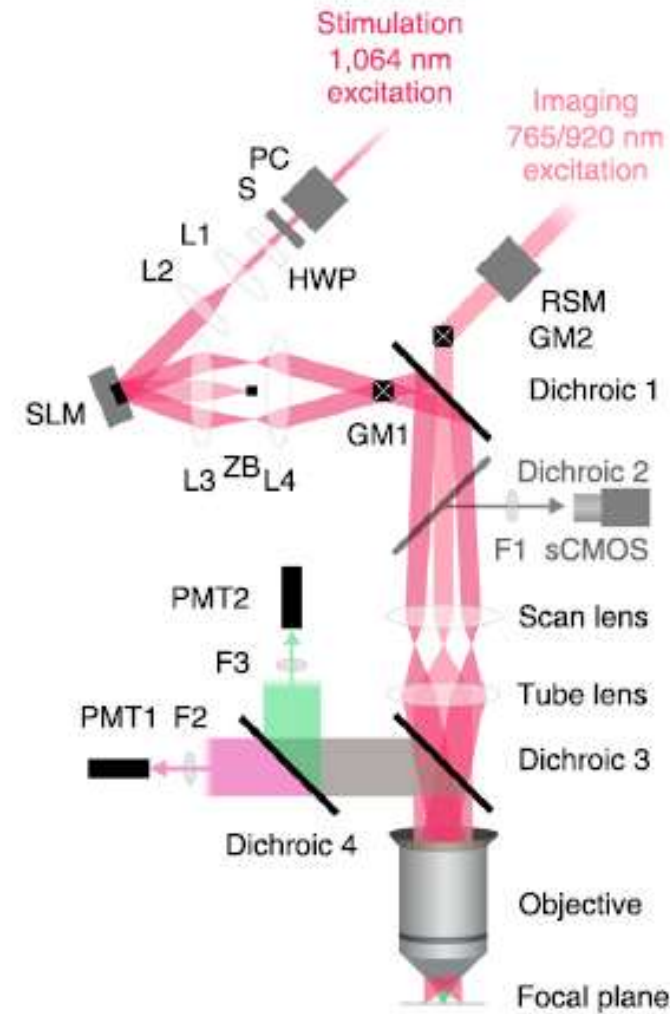
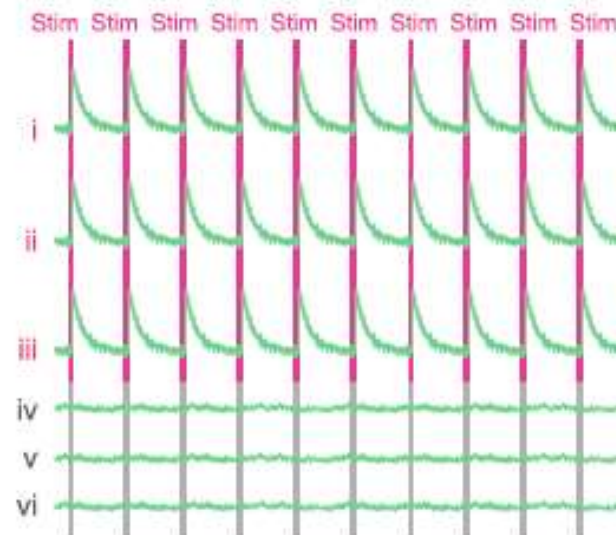
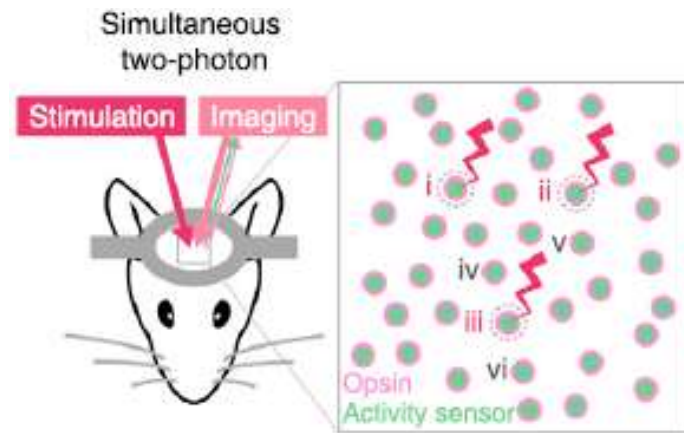
03



Beyond electrophysiology

Combined with optical imaging
in the future.

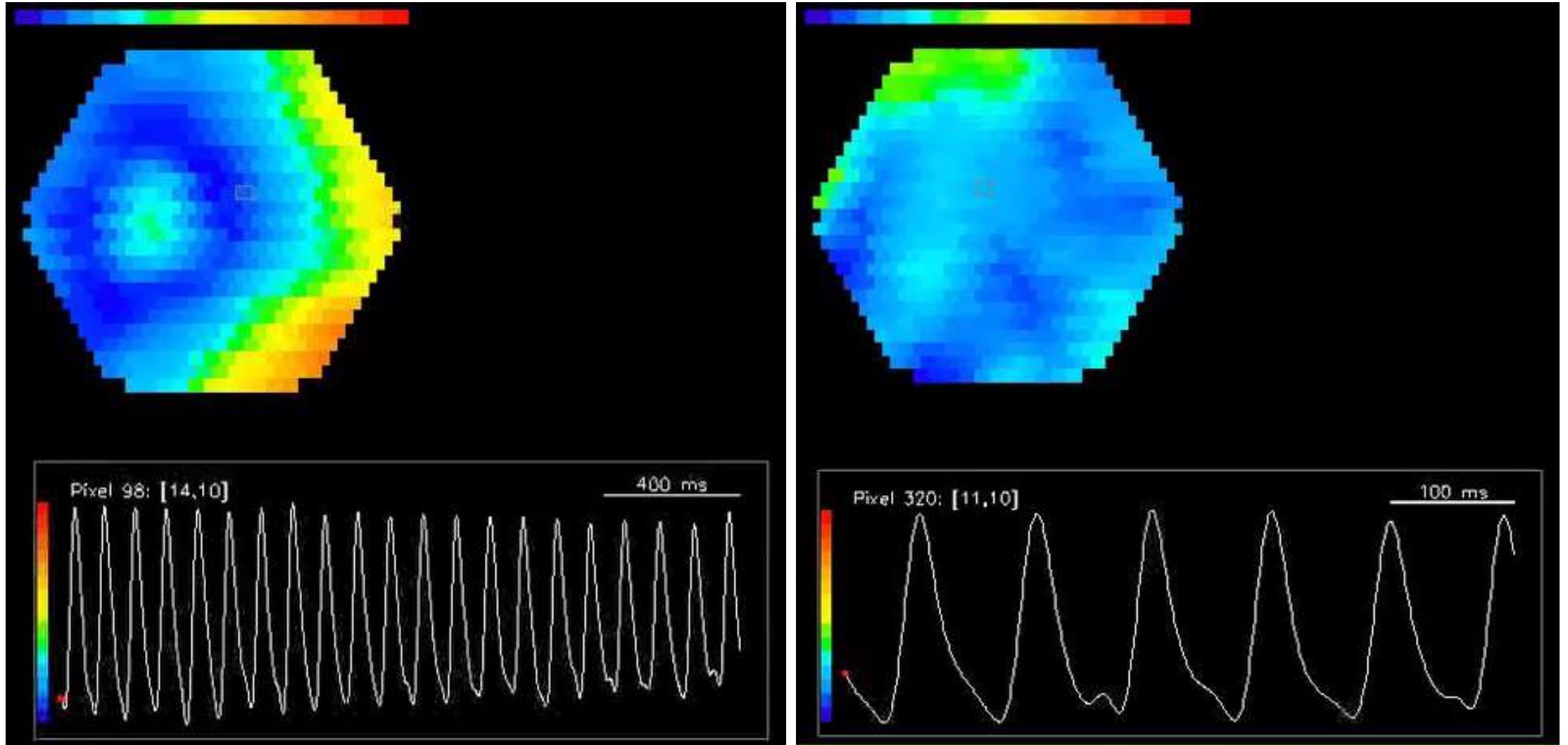
All-optical: calcium imaging + precise optogenetic



Packer et al; 2012



Voltage-sensitive dye imaging



Huang et al., 2004

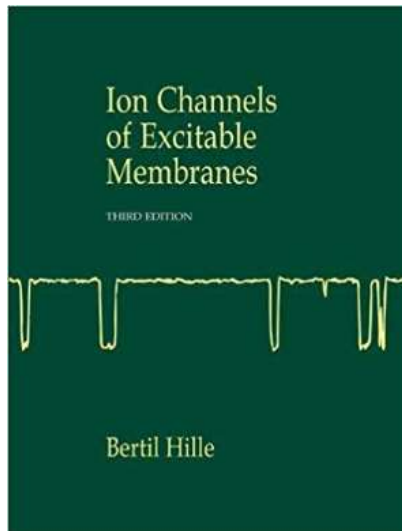
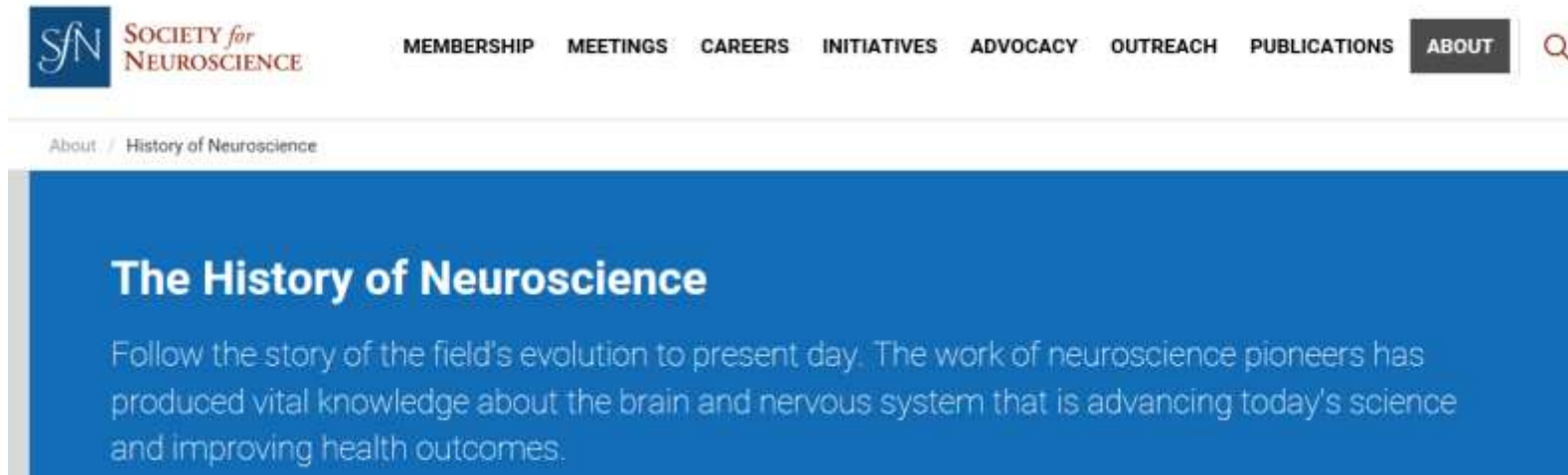
Future of electrophysiology

- Increase Channel count
- Electrode: More stable recording and tissue friendly
- Wireless
- Optical imaging
- All-optical: calcium imaging + precise optogenetic
- Voltage-sensitive dye and indicator
- Miniscope



Recommendation for further reading

- <http://www.sfn.org/about/history-of-neuroscience>



《膜片钳实验技术》

作 者： 陈军 编 著
出 版 社： 科学出版社
出版时间： 2001-10
I S B N ： 9787030088208



Reference:

Peter Somogyi
GYORGY BUZSAKI
Kenneth Harris
Axon
HEKA

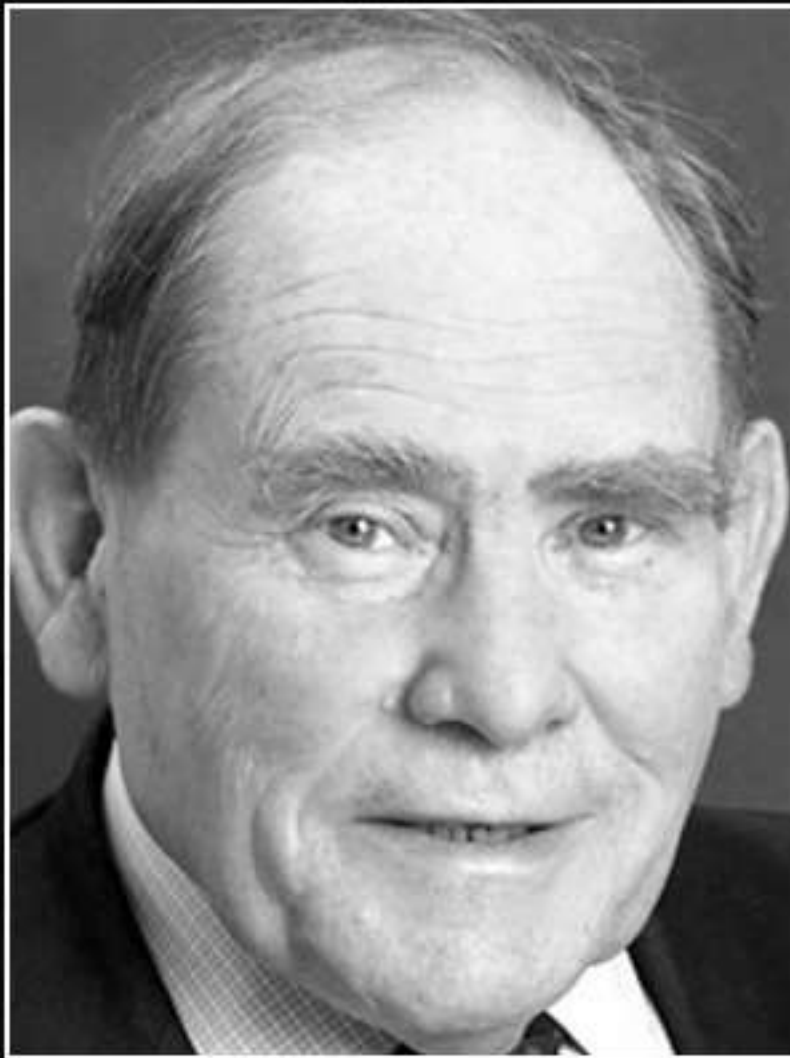


Reference for patch-clamp recording

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- 2. H. R. Brenner, B. Sakmann, Gating properties of acetylcholine receptor in newly formed neuromuscular synapses. ***Nature* 271, 366 (Jan 26, 1978).**
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- 4. B. Sakmann, G. Boheim, Alamethicin-induced single channel conductance fluctuations in biological membranes. ***Nature* 282, 336 (Nov 15, 1979).**
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- 7. F. J. Sigworth, E. Neher, Single Na⁺ channel currents observed in cultured rat muscle cells. ***Nature* 287, 447 (Oct 2, 1980).**
- 8. D. Colquhoun, E. Neher, H. Reuter, C. F. Stevens, Inward current channels activated by intracellular Ca in cultured cardiac cells. ***Nature* 294, 752 (Dec 24, 1981).**
- 9. D. Colquhoun, B. Sakmann, Fluctuations in the microsecond time range of the current through single acetylcholine receptor ion channels. ***Nature* 294, 464 (Dec 3, 1981).**
- 10. O. P. Hamill, B. Sakmann, Multiple conductance states of single acetylcholine receptor channels in embryonic muscle cells. ***Nature* 294, 462 (Dec 3, 1981).**
- 11. O. P. Hamill, A. Marty, E. Neher, B. Sakmann, F. J. Sigworth, Improved patch-clamp techniques for high-resolution current recording from cells and cell-free membrane patches. ***Pflügers Archiv : European journal of physiology* 391, 85 (Aug, 1981).**



- END -



Progress in science depends on new
techniques, new discoveries and
new ideas, probably in that order.

— *Sydney Brenner* —



chun.xu@ion.ac.cn

