

Memory:

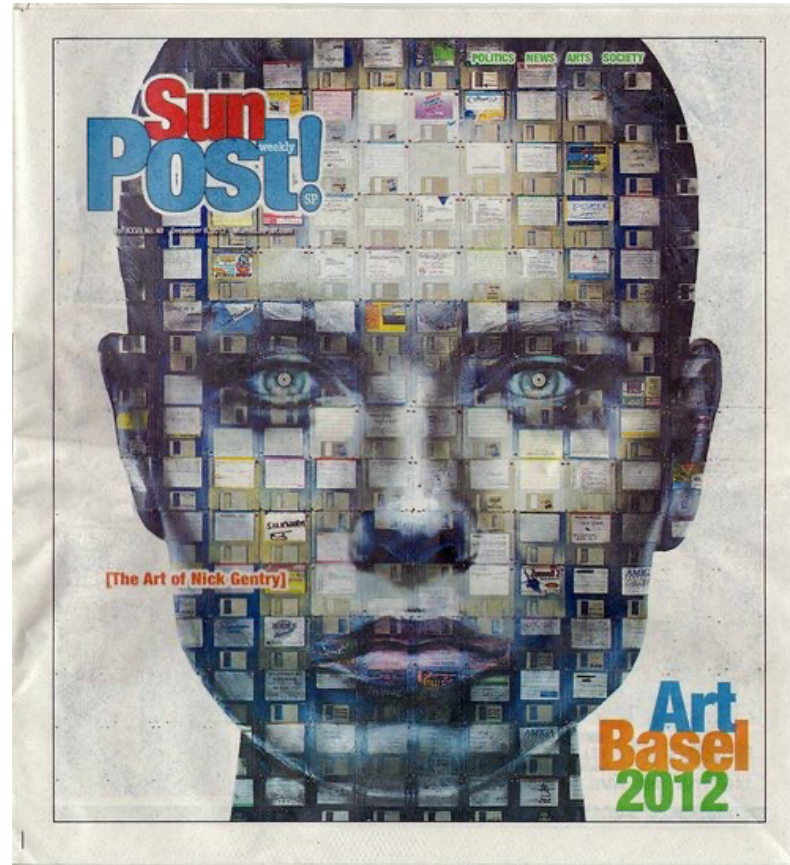
Physiology, Pathophysiology

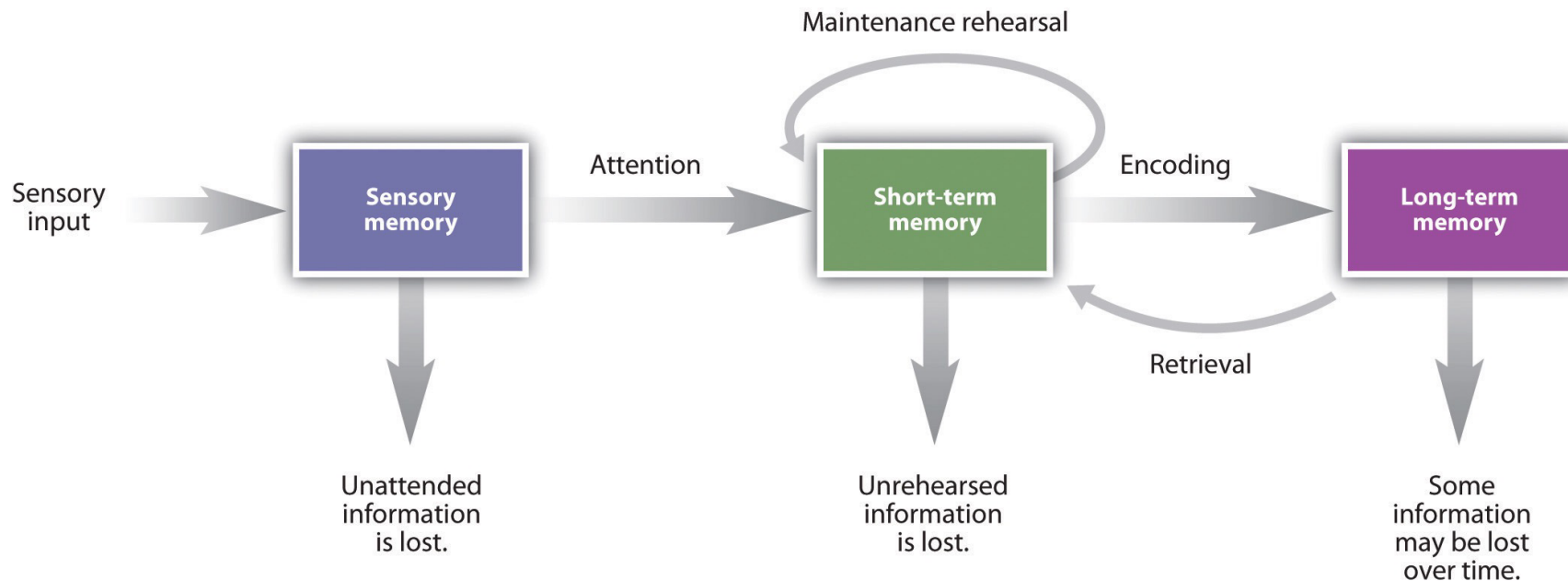
(NX-423)

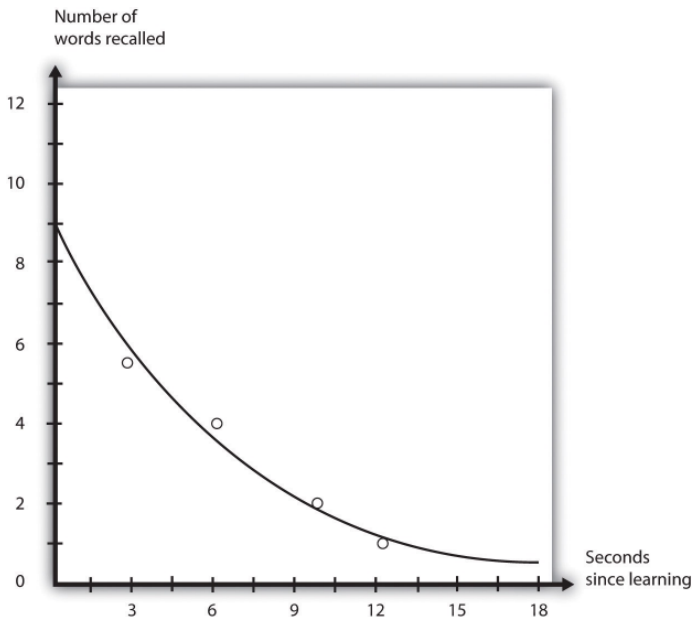
Prof. Dr. med. Friedhelm Hummel

Defitech Chair for Clinical Neuroengineering,
Neuro-X Institute (INX) & Brain Mind Institute (BMI)
Ecole Fédérale Polytechnique de Lausanne (EPFL)

Department of Clinical Neuroscience, University Hospital of Geneva







Peterson and Peterson (1959)

- Allows small amounts of information for a limited time
 - “seven plus or minus two” pieces of information magic number in STM (Miller 1956)
- Fast decay of information in STM (<30-60 sec, Peterson and Peterson (1959); Baddeley, Vallar, & Shallice, 1990)
- Keep (more) information and longer in STM by
 - Chunking of information (797140515 vs 79 714 05 15)
 - Rehearsal

Long-term memory (LTM)

Memory storage that can hold information for days, months, and years.

Capacity of LTM is large, and there is no known limit to what we can remember (Wang et al., 2003).

How perceptions become LTM

Encoding is the process by which we place the things that we experience into memory

Retrieval refers to the process of reactivating information that has been stored in memory.

Storage of information in LTM

- ❖ Strengthening connections of neurons that represent the memory
- ❖ If pathways in these neural networks are frequently and repeatedly fired, the synapses become more efficient, and these changes create memory.
- ❖ Underlying mechanisms long term potentiation (LTP) and Long-term depression (LTD)
- ❖ Summarized as consolidation

Long-term potentiation (LTP)

Long-term increase in the excitability of a neuron caused by repeated high-frequency activity of input.

Associative long-term potentiation

LTP in which concurrent stimulation of weak and strong synapses to a given neuron strengthens the weak ones.

Knowledge, experience, relationship are represented in neuronal networks in the brain

Memory is the reactivation of a specific group of neurons, formed from persistent changes in the strength of connections between neurons'

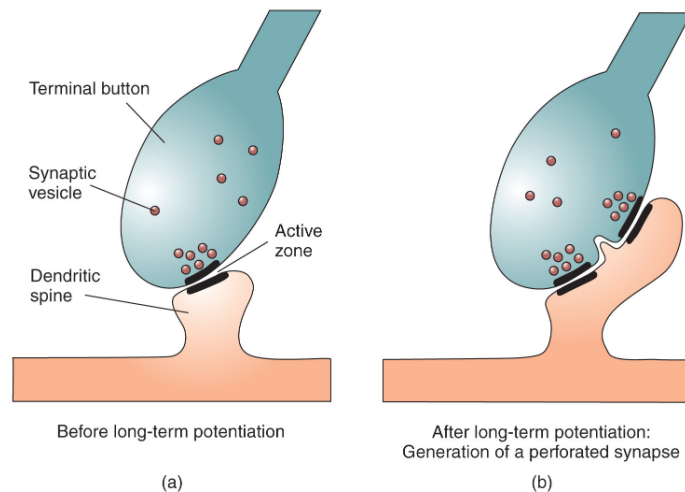
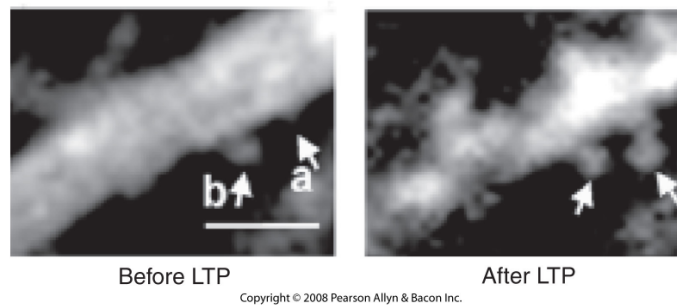
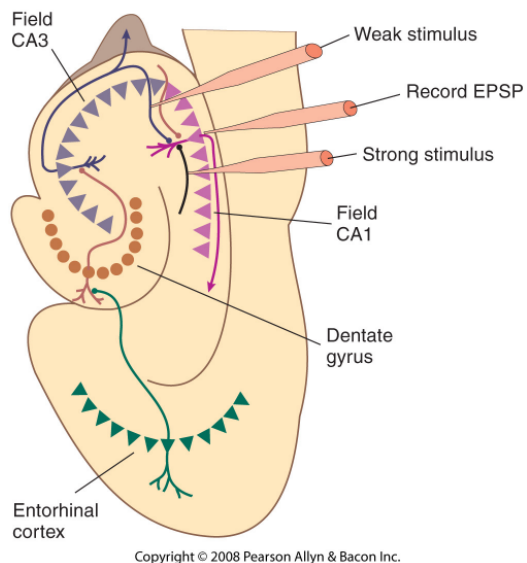
The answer is synaptic plasticity. This term describes the persistent changes in the strength of connections – called synapses – between brain cells.

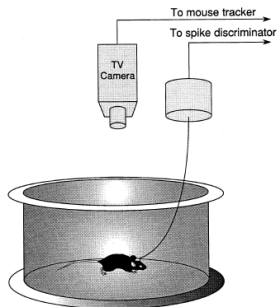
These connections can be made stronger or weaker depending on when and how often they have been activated in the past.

Active connections tend to get stronger, whereas those that aren't used get weaker and can eventually disappear entirely.

A connection between two neurons becomes stronger when neuron A consistently activates neuron B, making it fire an action potential (spike), and the connection gets weaker if neuron A consistently fails to make neuron B fire a spike.

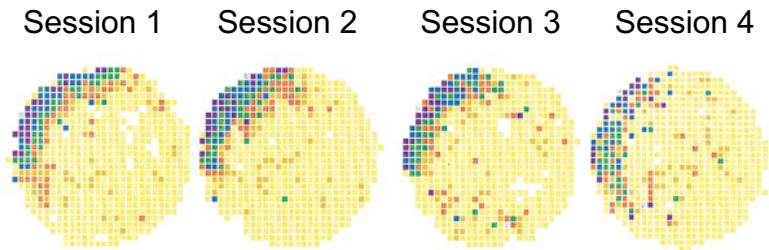
Lasting increases and decreases in synaptic strength are called long-term potentiation (LTP) and long-term depression (LTD).



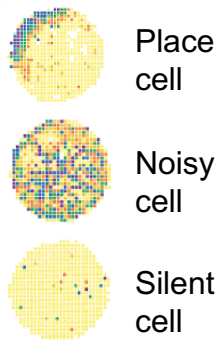
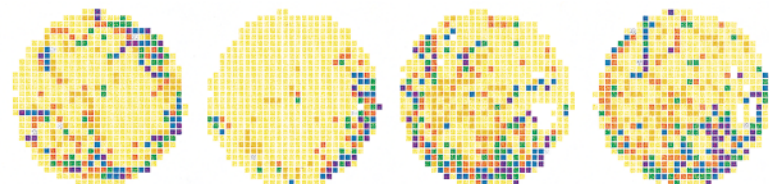


Place cell stability

Wild-type mice



Transgenic mice
(CaMKII mutation –
deficit in LTP
induction)





Reward



Punishment

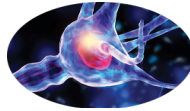


Motivation



Emotional value

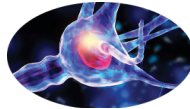
Neuron 1



Reward



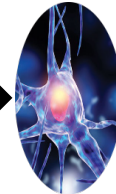
Neuron 1



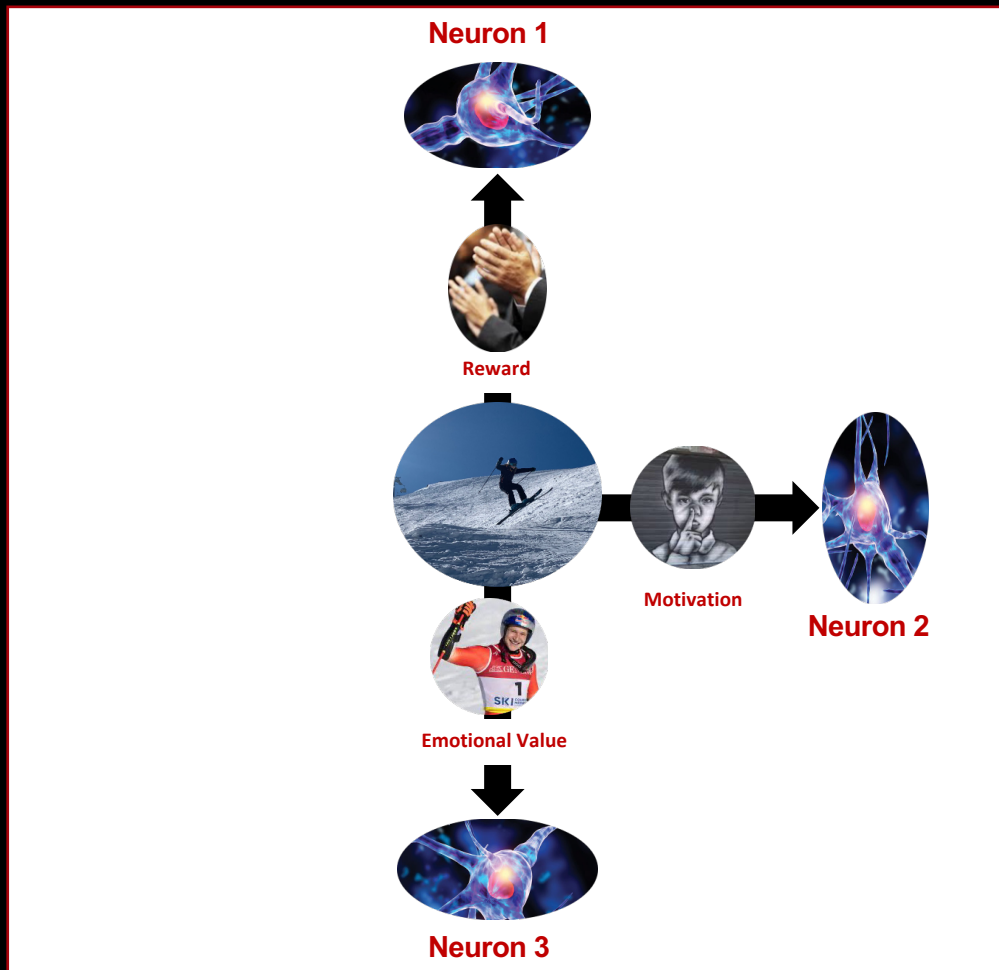
Reward

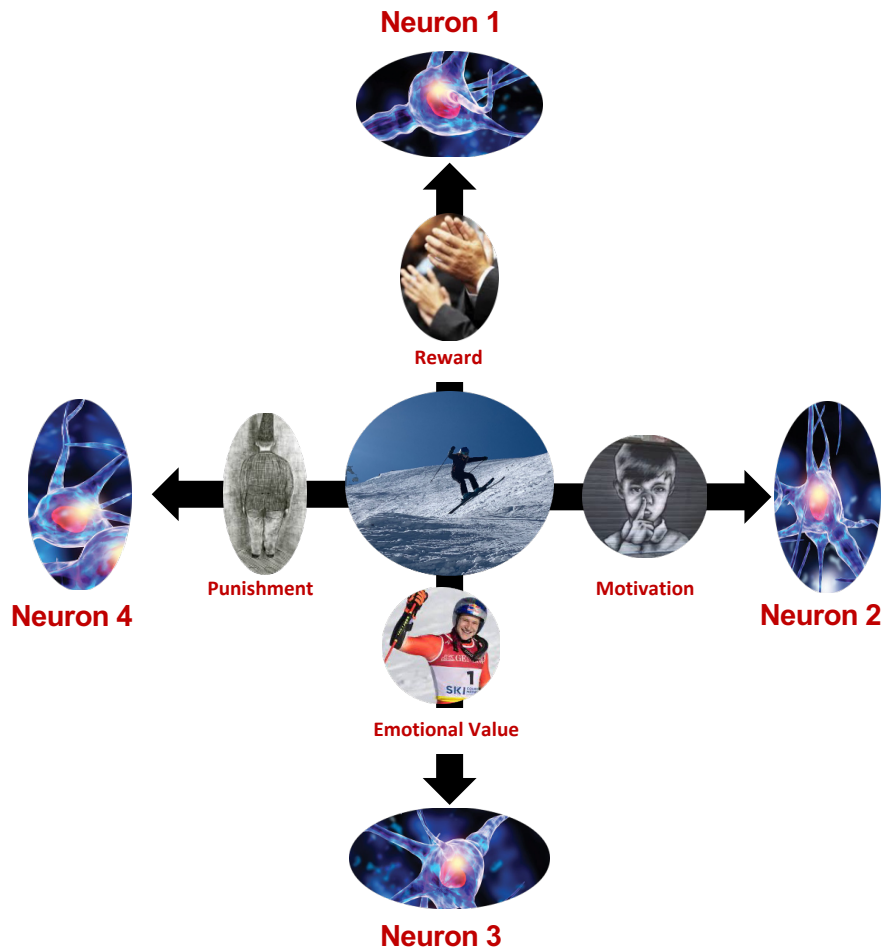


Motivation

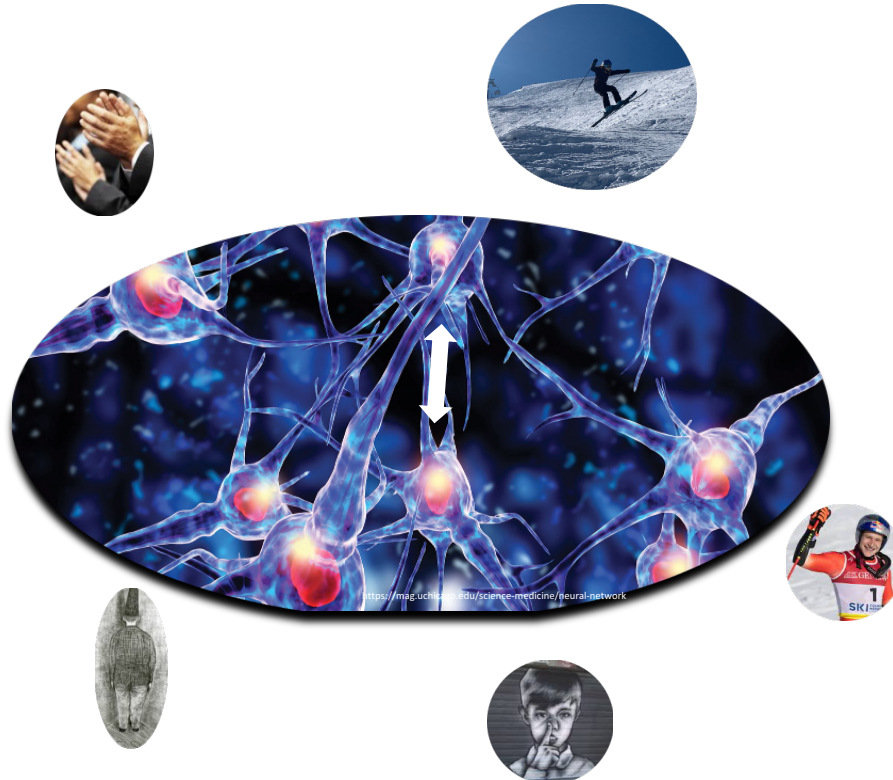


Neuron 2

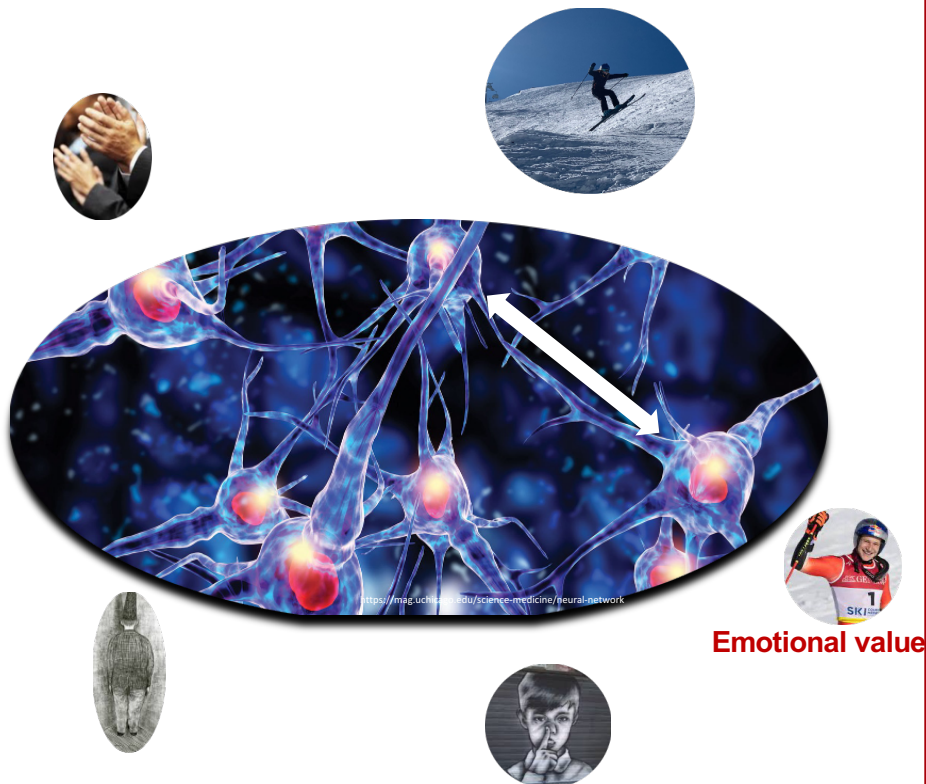


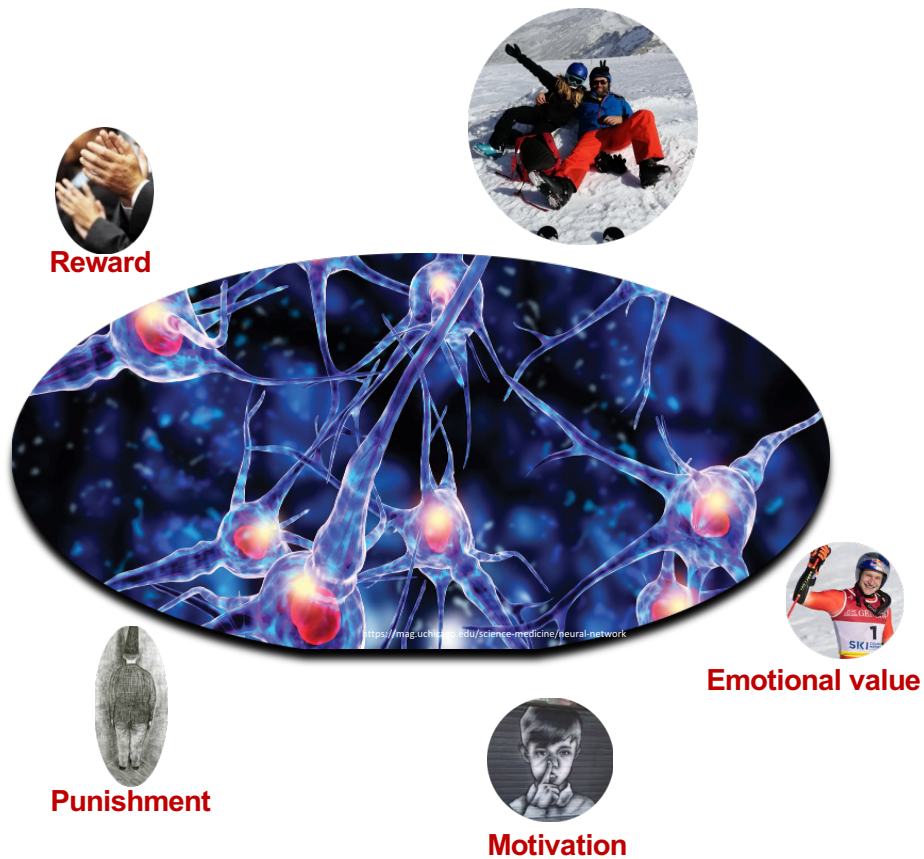


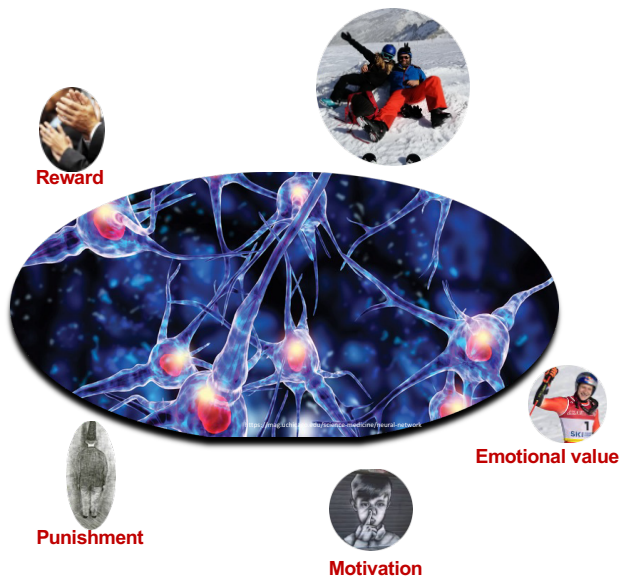




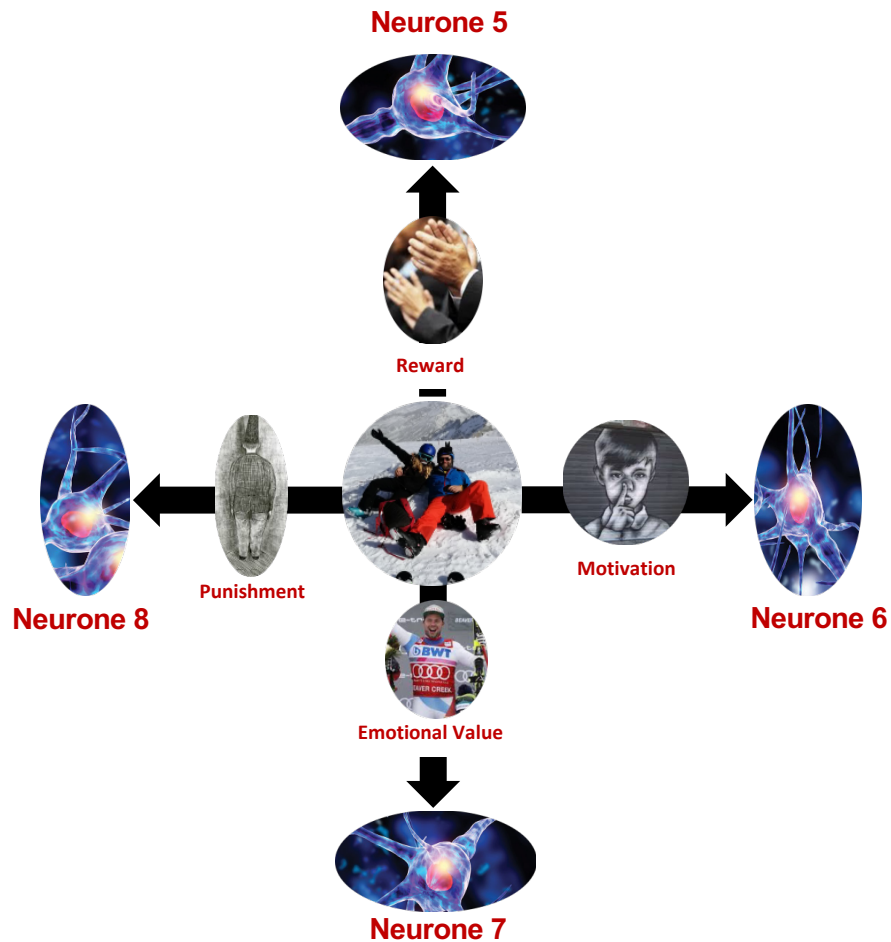
Motivation





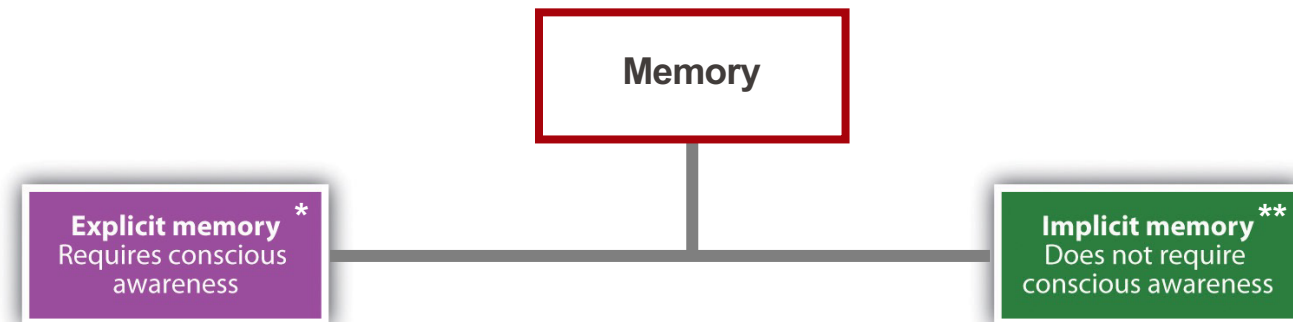


VS.



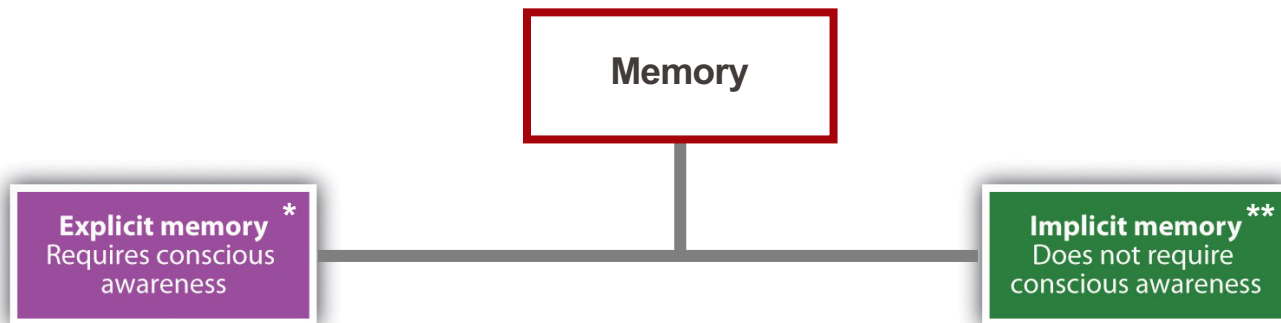
<https://youtu.be/vcLNNntt6Ts>

This animation by Graduate students Julia Hill and Natalia Rozas De O'Laughlin of the Neuroscience Graduate Program at McGovern Medical School at UTHealth explains the concept of synaptic plasticity. It placed third in the 2011 Inaugural Society for Neuroscience Brain Awareness Video Contest.



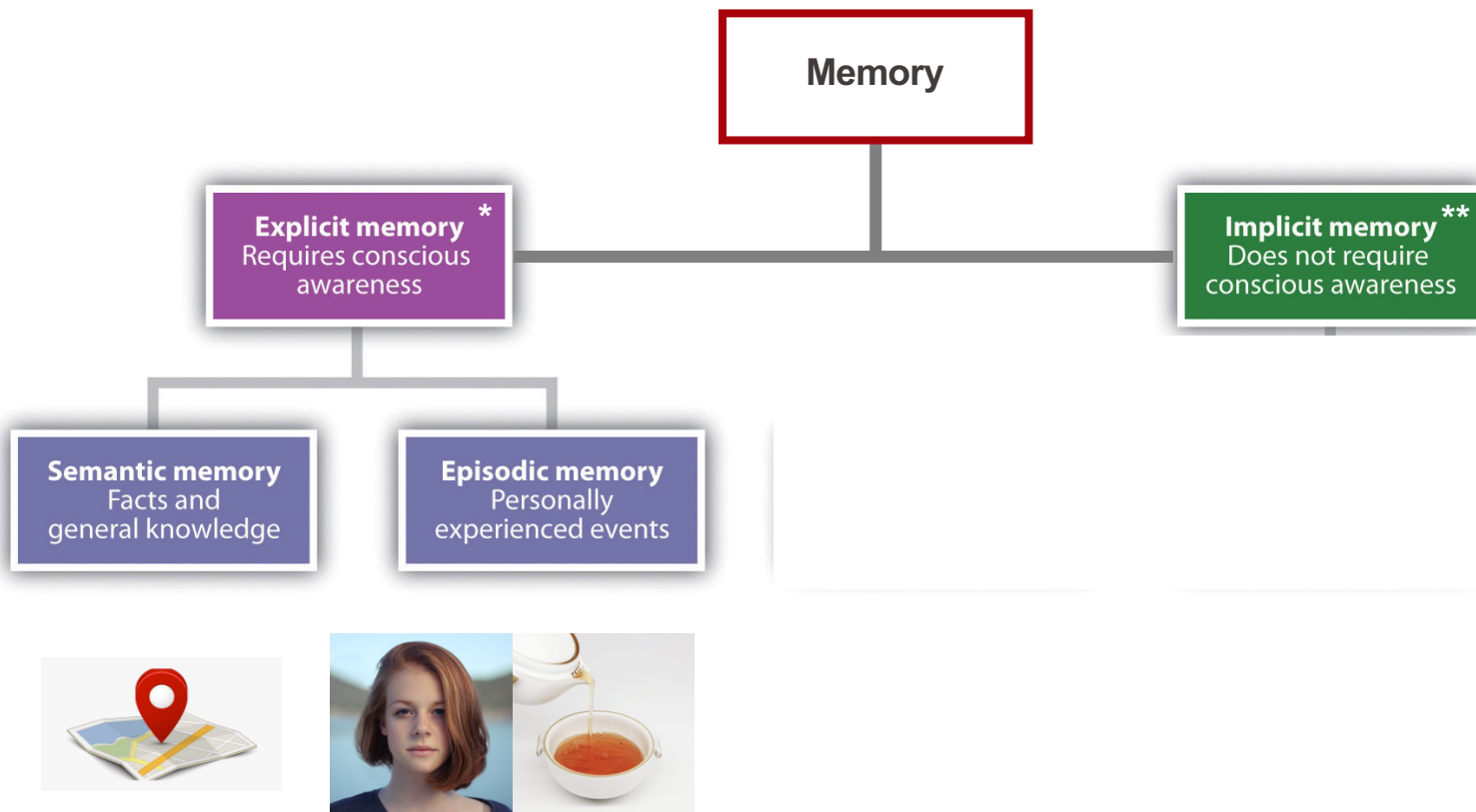
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** Non- Declarative



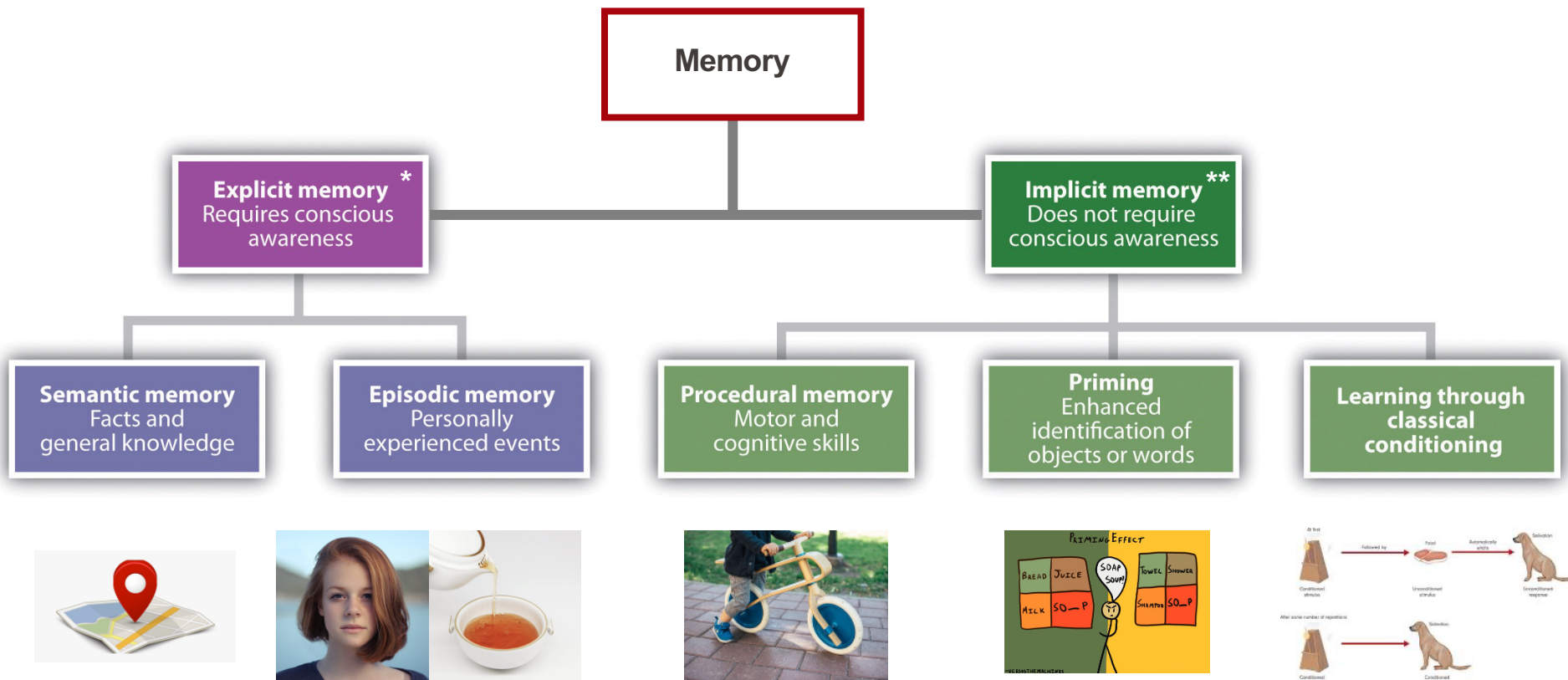
Recall is Voluntary, Conscious, Verbal (or demonstrable)
Also called **Declarative** memory
Recall or recognition

Involuntary and Unconscious
Require participants to complete a task
Also called **Non-declarative** memory



* Declarative

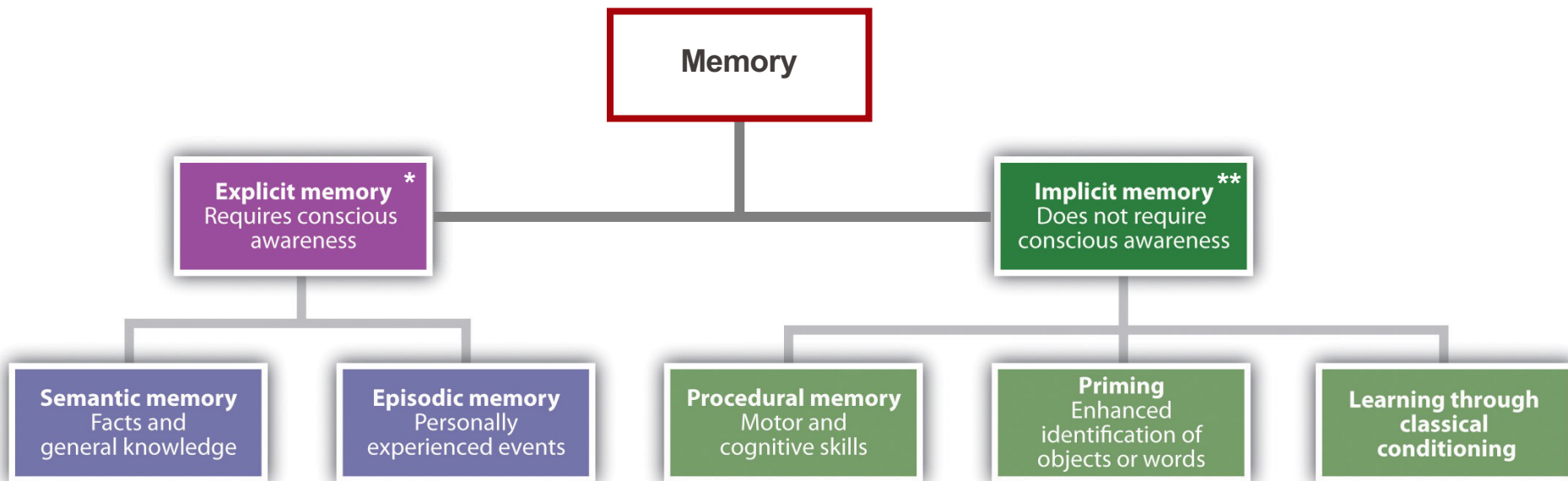
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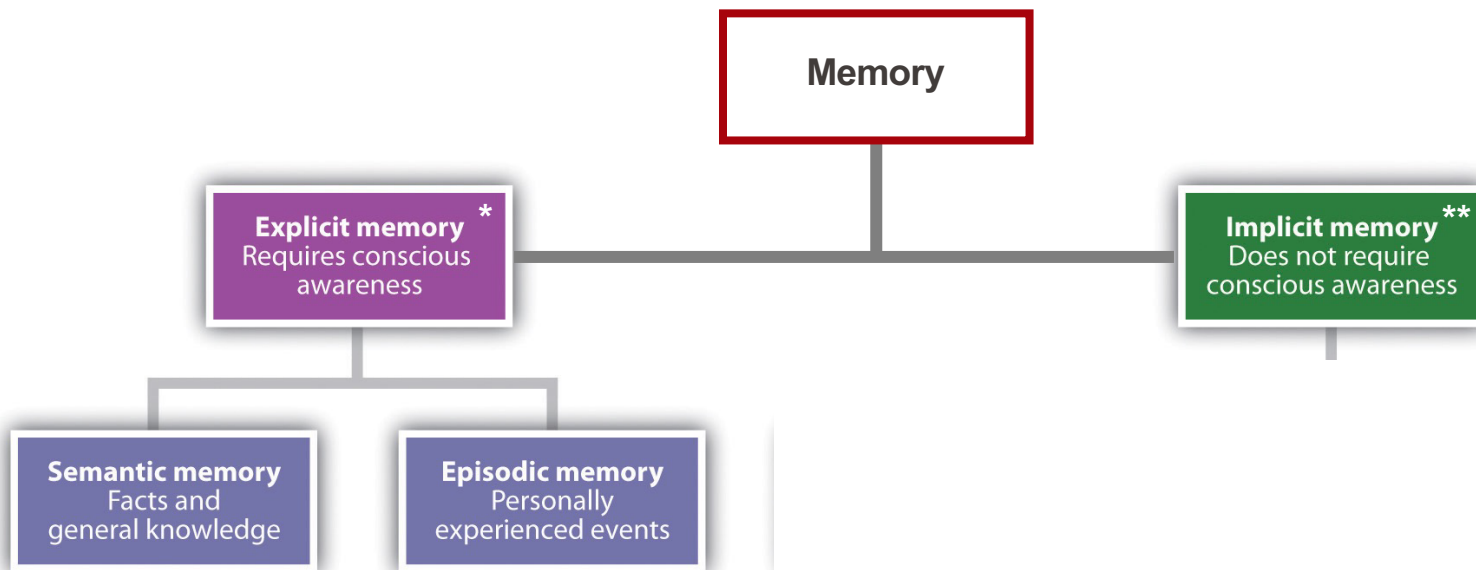
Adapted from Stangor and Walinga,
Introduction in Psychology, 2014



Brain Correlates?

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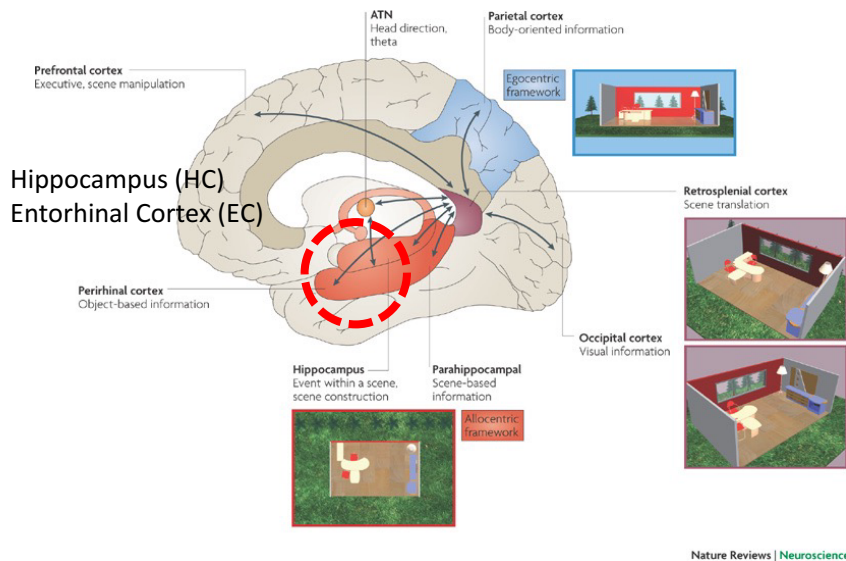
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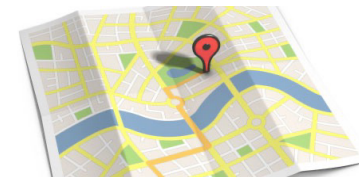
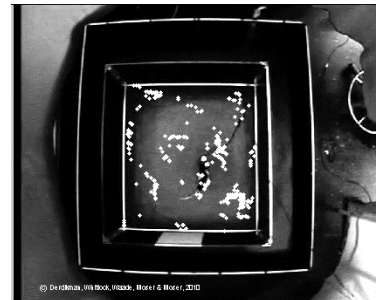
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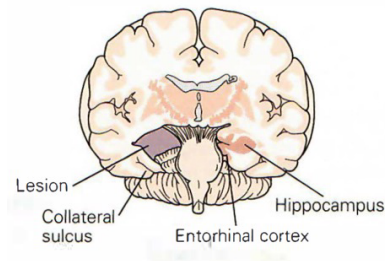
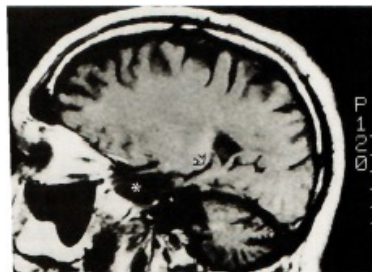
- Grid cells in Entorhinal cortex (EC)



- allocentric spatial representation in the brain
- Spatial navigation
- Memory
- Alzheimer's disease (AD) /MCI

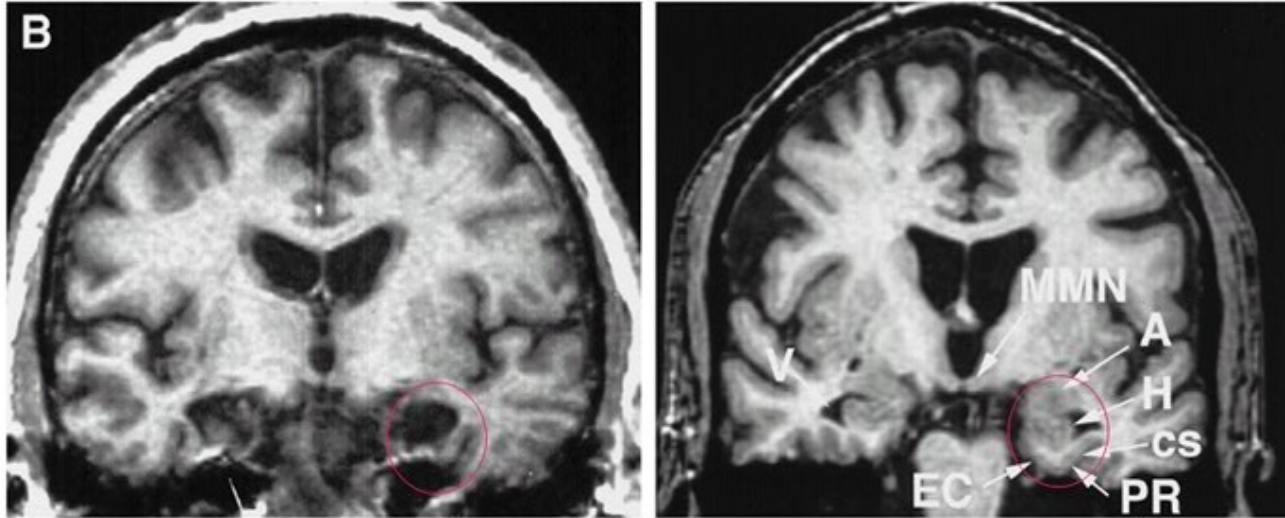


Lesion studies - topographic localization



- Patient H.M. (bilateral removal of portions of the temporal lobe, to treat therapy-resistant epilepsy)
- Deficit in transferring short-term in long term memory, but normal IQ and vocabulary
- *“For several years H.M. saw Milner on an almost monthly basis, yet each time she entered the room H.M. reacted as though he had never seen her before. H.M. had similarly profound difficulty with spatial orientation, It took him about a year to learn his way around a new house.”*

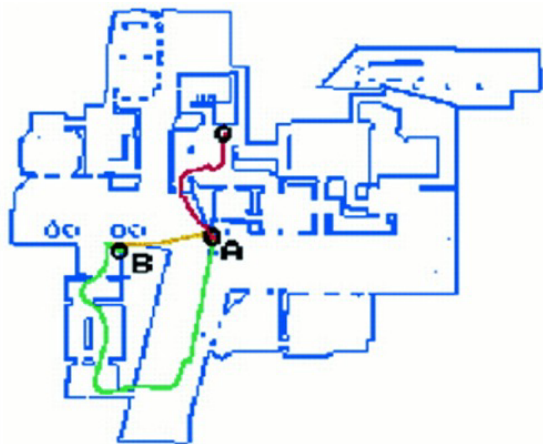
Patient HM



Brain scans of H.M. (left), and a normal individual (right).
(Copyright © 1997 by Suzanne Corkin, used with permission of The Wylie Agency LLC.)

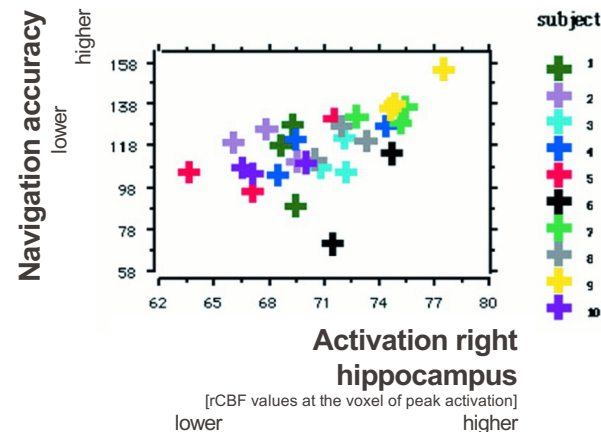
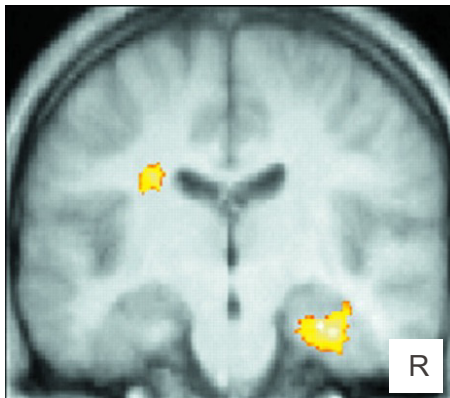
Role of the right hippocampus for spatial navigation

Successful navigation
vs.
control
(following a trail of arrows)

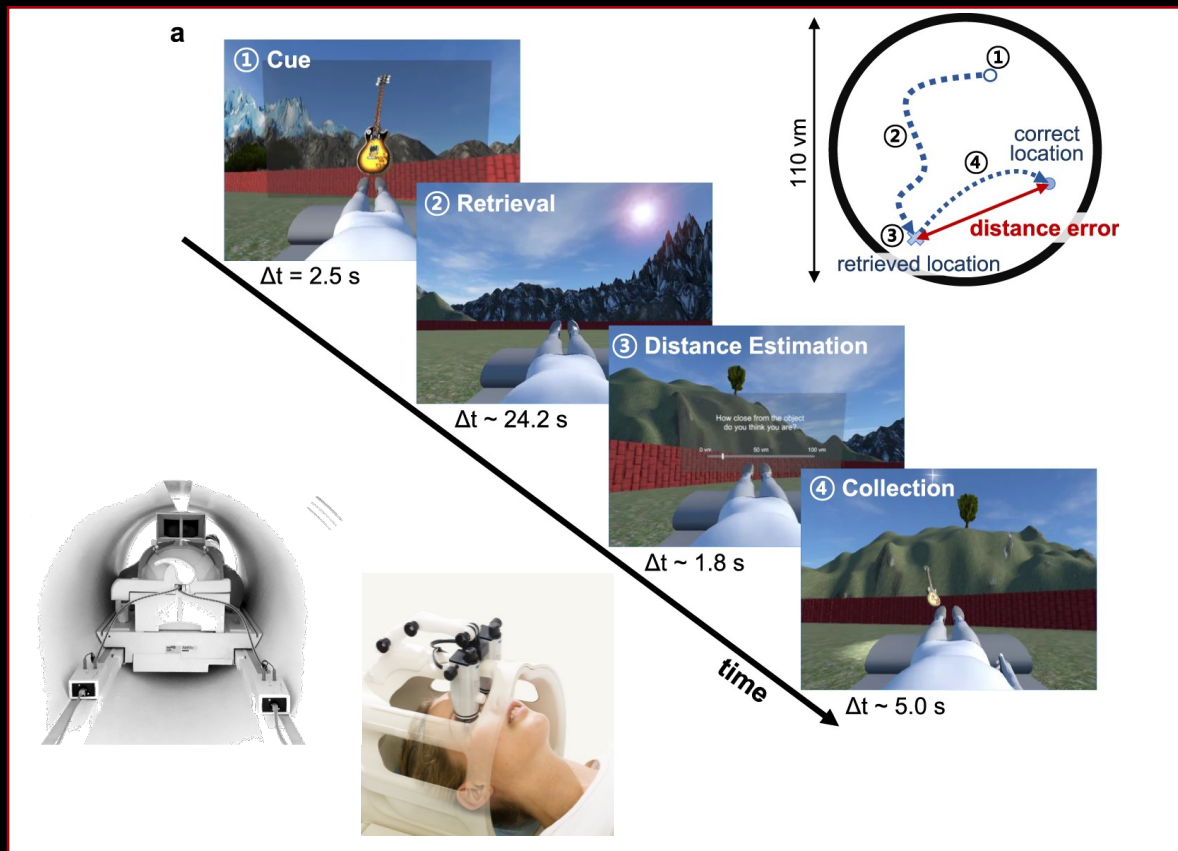


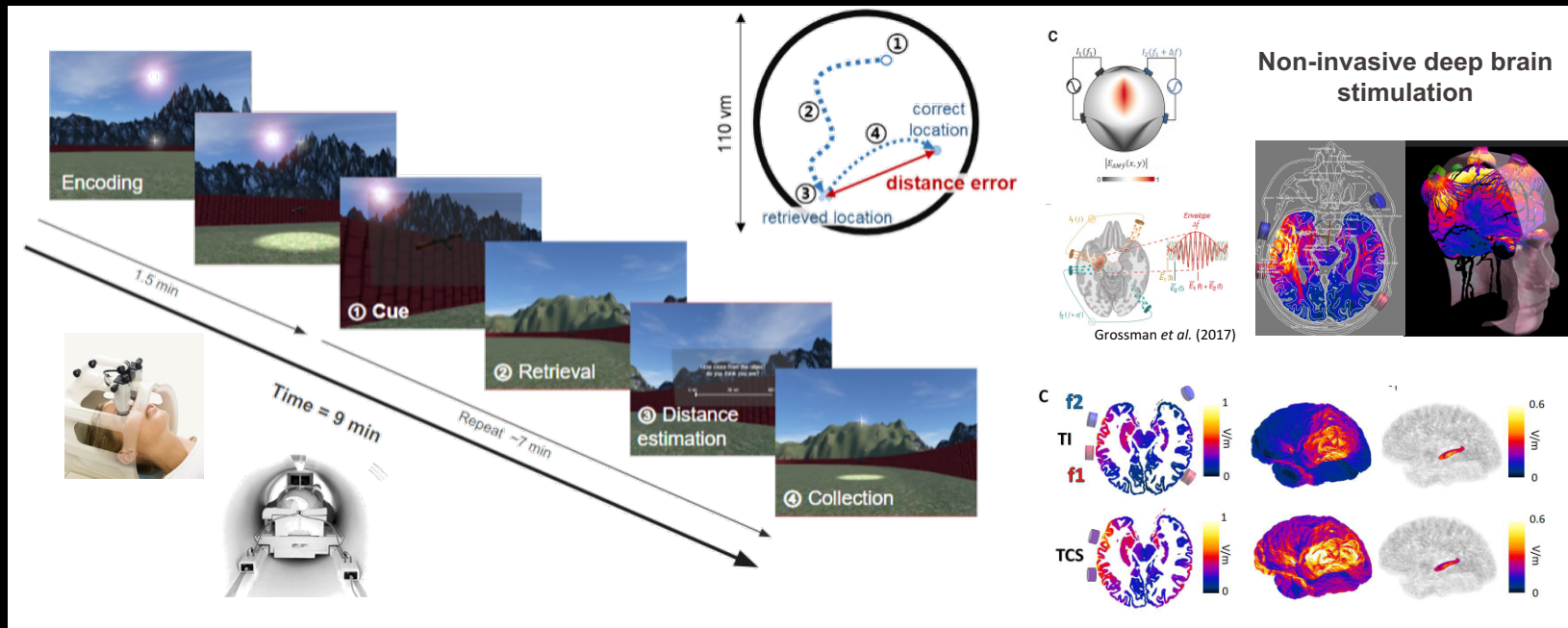
Navigation through a virtual town

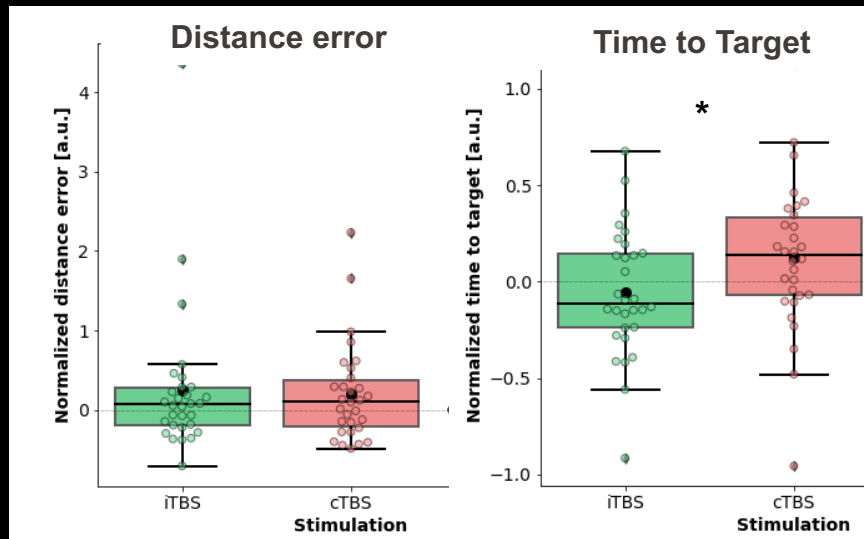
Yellow = accurate trajectory
Green = inaccurate but successful
Red = inaccurate "lost" trajectory



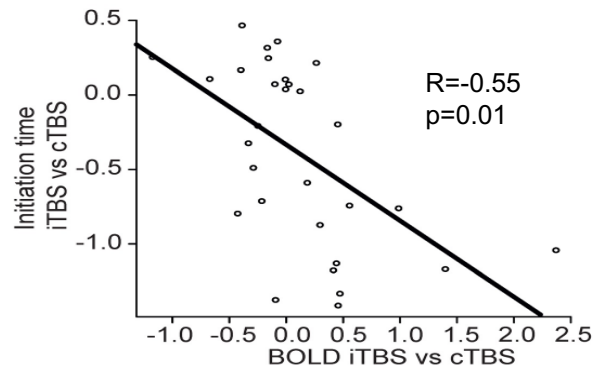
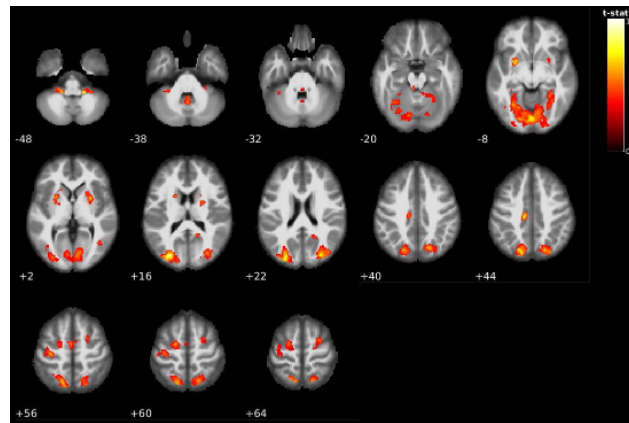
$$r = 0.56, p < 0.002$$



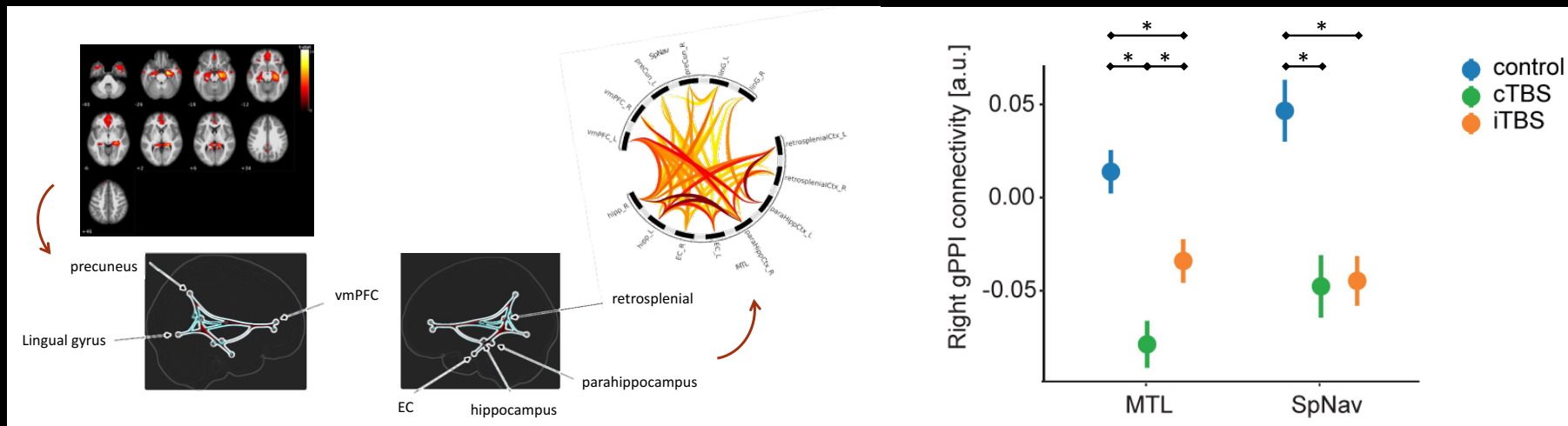




The bigger the hippocampal activity during iTBS vs cTBS the faster subjects retrieve the information about where to go

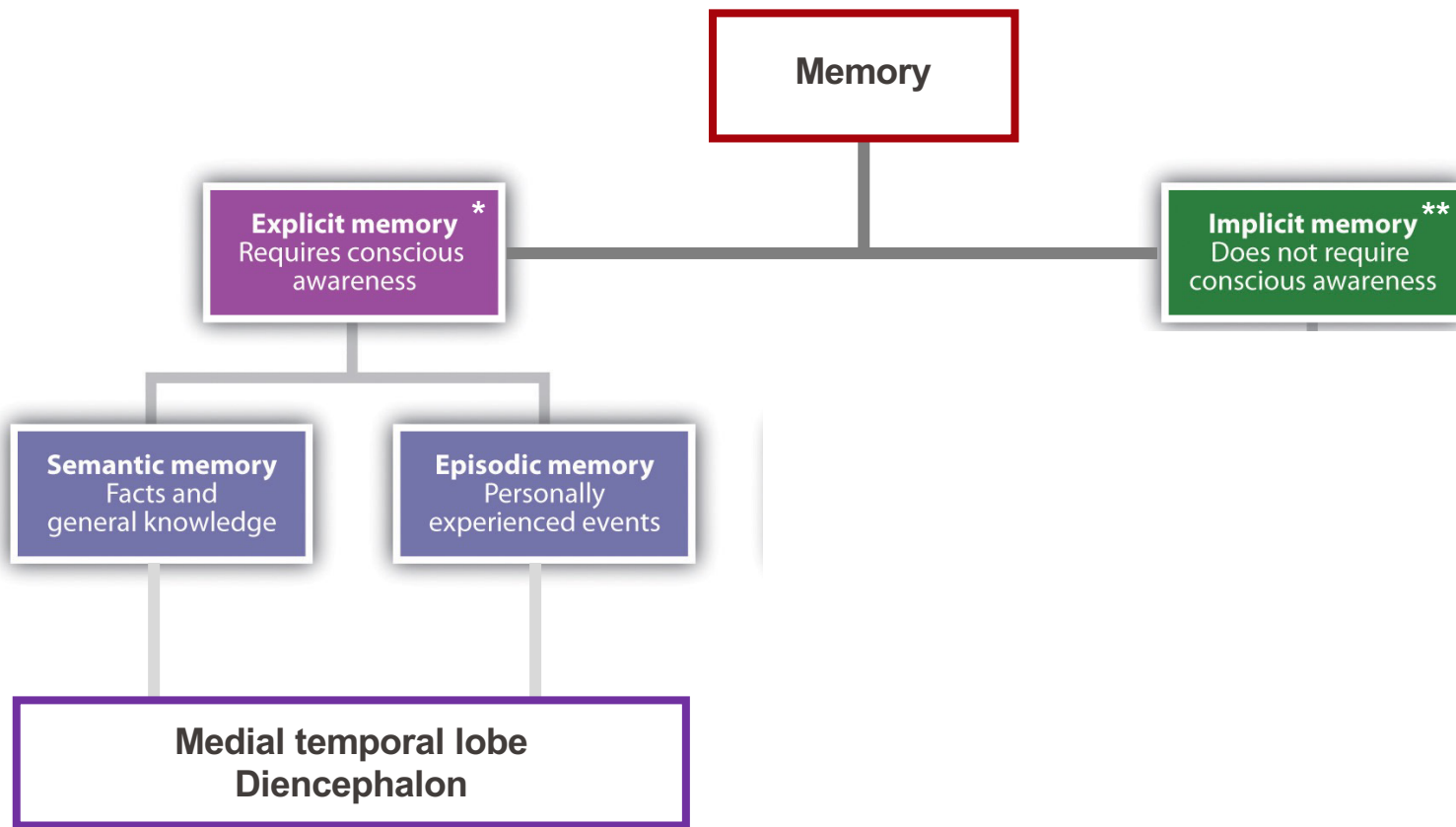


generalized Psychophysiological Interaction (gPPI)



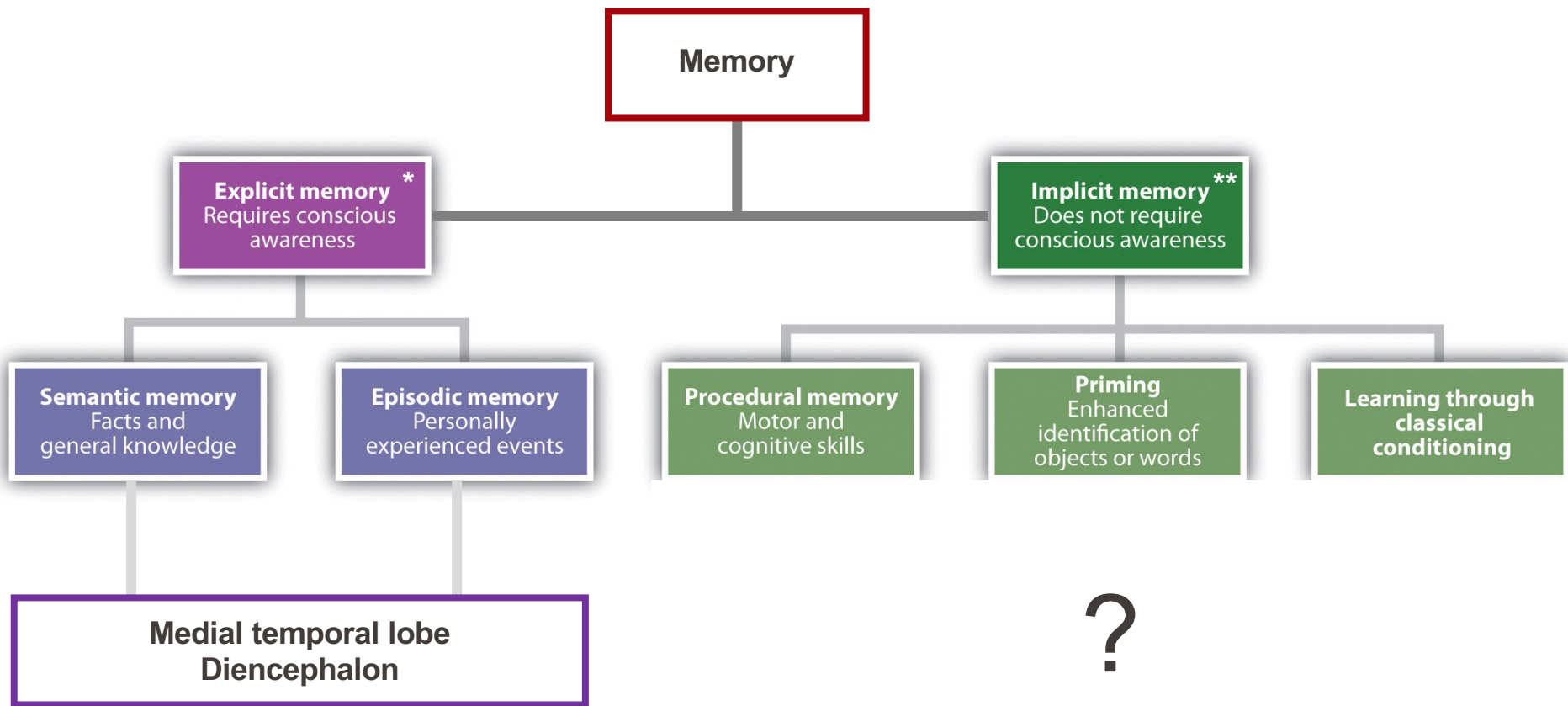
General effect of theta bursts on hippocampal connectivity

Focal effect of **iTBS** versus cTBS within the **right hippocampal connectivity** within the right **MTL**



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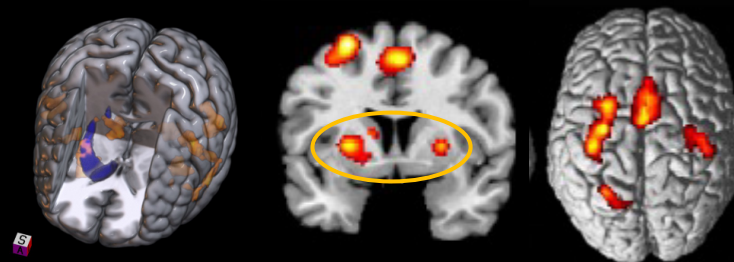
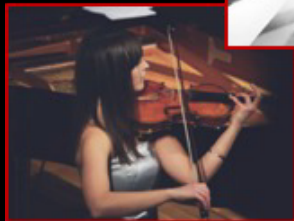
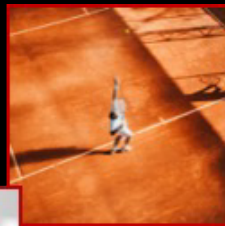
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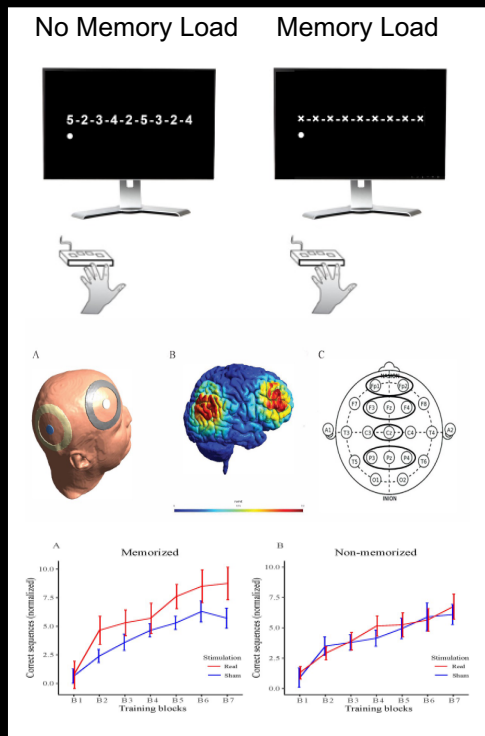
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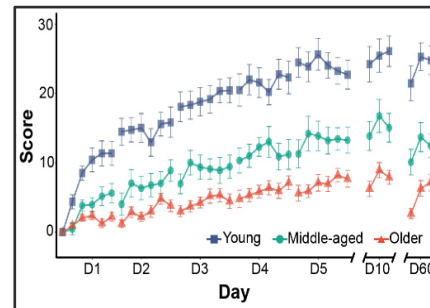


M1, PMd, PMv, SMA, Basal ganglia, Cerebellum, FPN

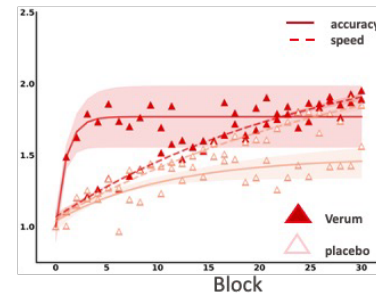
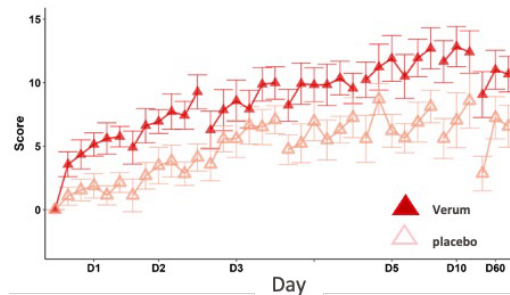
(for review Dyon *et al.* 2009; Diedrichsen & Kornysheva 2015; Krakauer *et al.* 2019)

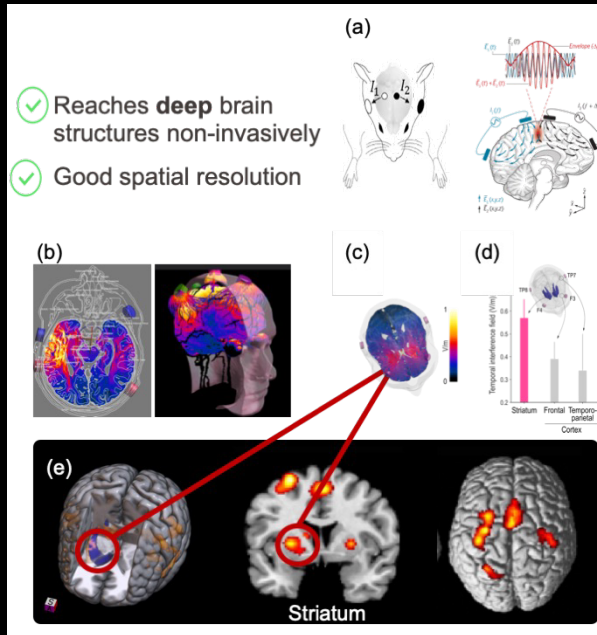


Motor sequence learning

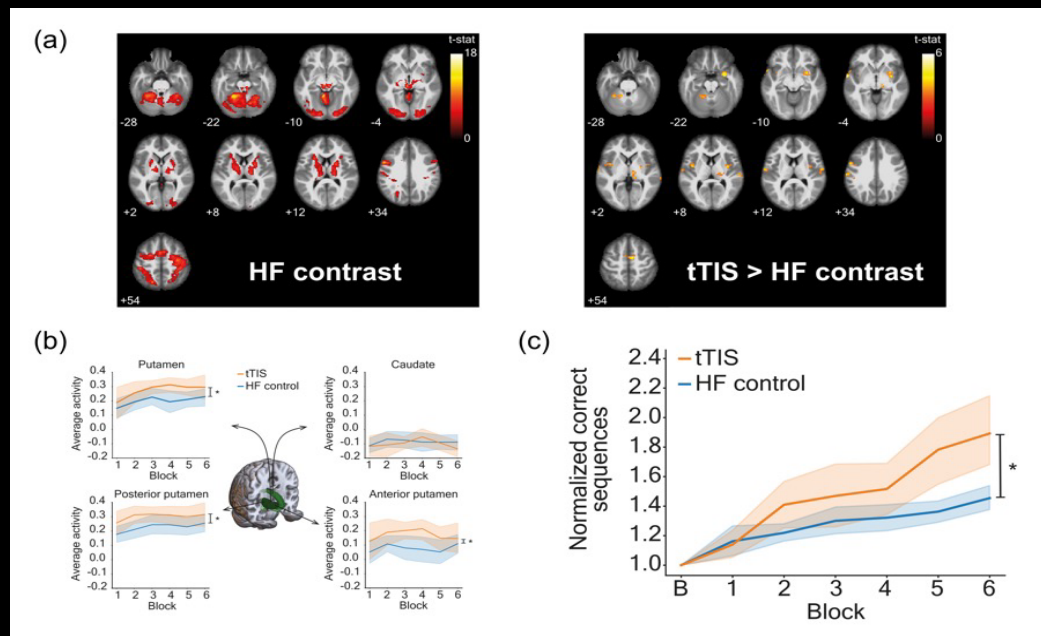
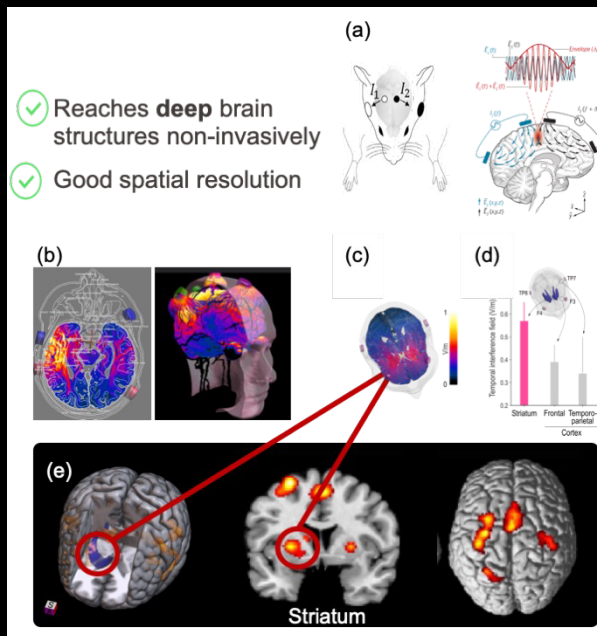


Motor cortex modulation





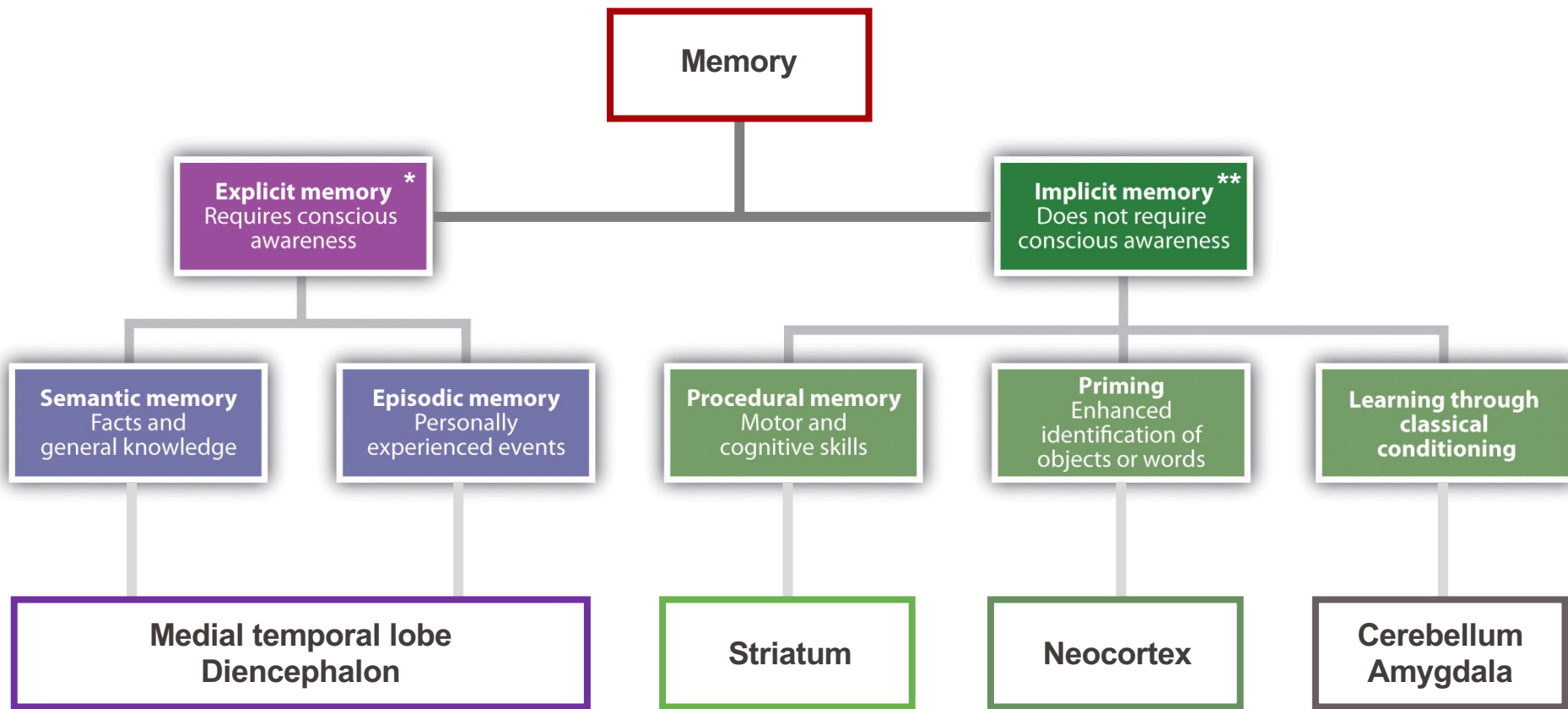
Causal link between human **striatum** and procedural learning and memory?



Wessel, Beanato et al. Nature Neuroscience 2023

Causal link between human **striatum** and procedural learning and memory

(Please see also e.g., Kandel et al. McGraw-Hill 6th Ed, 2021; Squire et al. 2004; Krakauer et al. 2019)

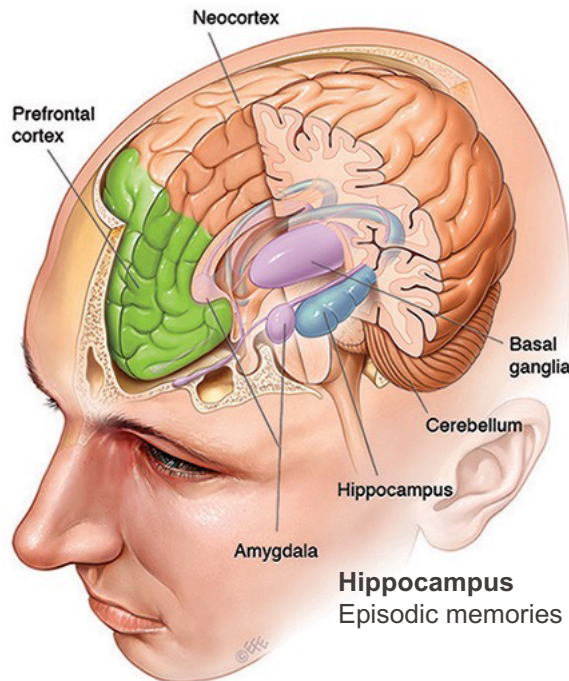


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** Non- Declarative

Neocortex

Involved in higher cognitive functions (sensory perception, motor commands, spatial reasoning, language...). Transfer, consolidation processes in interaction with the hippocampus

**Basal ganglia**

Involved in multiple cognitive processes such as emotion, reward processing, habit formation, procedural (motor) learning and memory.

Cerebellum

Involved in motor control and procedural (motor learning and memory processes).

Hippocampus

Episodic memories are formed and stored for later access

Amygdala

Emotional aspects of memory (fear, joy, shame, love). Particularly important strong emotional memories difficult to forget (e.g., PTSD).

Prefrontal cortex

Involved in many complex cognitive functions.

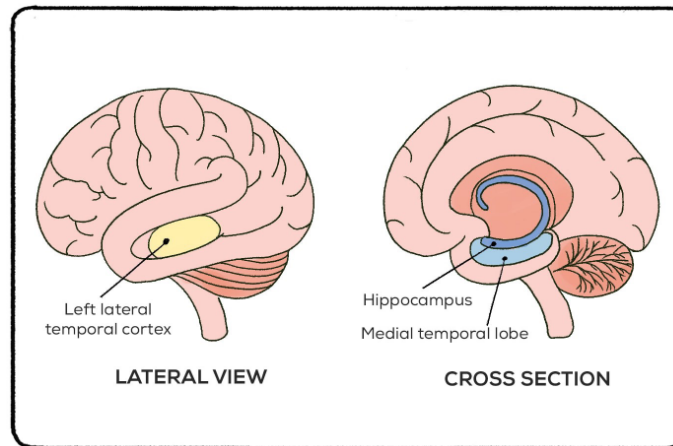
Short-term/working memory (left more verbal WM, right more spatial WM).

Clinical Case



accomplished musicologist, keyboardist, conductor, music producer, and professional tenor (Westminster Cathedral)

- Brain infection (herpes encephalitis)
- Affecting especially the parts of his brain concerned with memory (hippocampus bilaterally erased)
- Memory span of only seconds
- Anterograde amnesia and retrograde amnesia
- '30 seconds clive'
- 'feeling/love' for wife and musical expertise remained



‘...His ability to **perceive** what he saw and heard was **unimpaired**. But he did **not** seem to be able to **retain** any impression of anything for more than **a blink**. Indeed, if he did **blink**, his eyelids parted to reveal a **new scene**. The view before the blink was utterly forgotten. Each blink, each glance away and back, brought him an entirely new view. I tried to imagine how it was for him. . . . Something akin to a film with bad continuity, the glass half empty, then full, the cigarette suddenly longer, the actor’s hair now tousled, now smooth. But this was real life, a room changing in ways that were physically impossible...’

‘...It was as if **every waking moment** was the **first** waking moment. Clive was under the constant impression that he had just emerged from unconsciousness because he had no evidence in his own mind of ever being awake before. . . .

“I haven’t heard anything, seen anything, touched anything, smelled anything,” he would say. “It’s like being dead.” ...’

(Deborah Clive's wife; 2005, “Forever Today”)

‘...holding something in the palm of one hand, and repeatedly covering and uncovering it with the other hand as if he were a magician practising a disappearing trick. He was holding a chocolate. He could feel the chocolate unmoving in his left palm, and yet every time he lifted his hand he told me it revealed a brand new chocolate.

“Look!” he said. *“It’s new!”* He couldn’t take his eyes off it.

“It’s the same chocolate,” I said gently.

“No . . . look! It’s changed. It wasn’t like that before . . .” He covered and uncovered the chocolate every couple of seconds, lifting and looking.

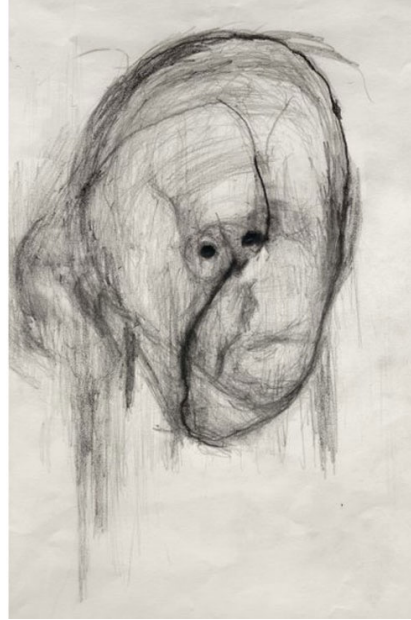
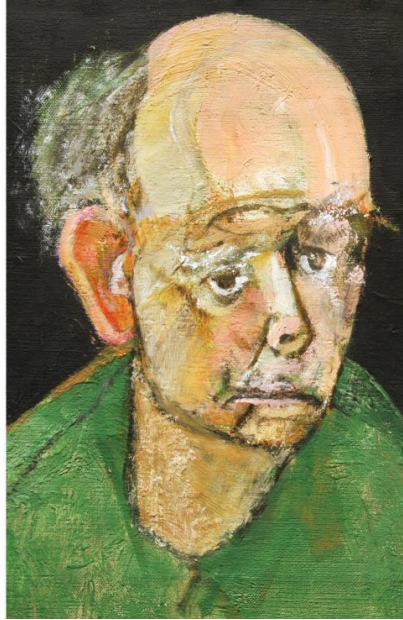
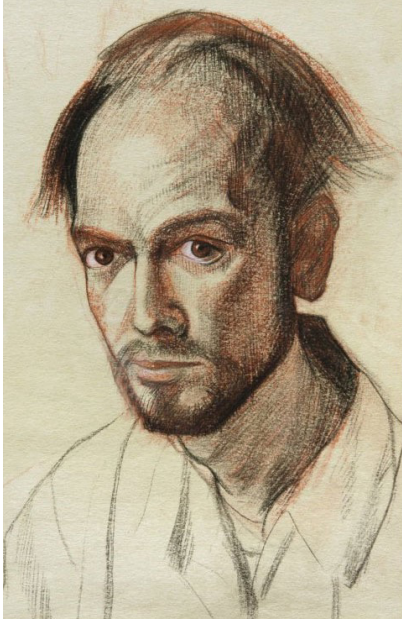
“Look! It’s different again! How do they do it?”

‘...The only times of feeling alive were when Deborah visited him. But the moment she left, he was desperate once again, and by the time she got home, ten or fifteen minutes later, she would find repeated messages from him on her answering machine: *“Please come and see me, darling—it’s been ages since I’ve seen you. Please fly here at the speed of light.”*

(Deborah Clive’s wife; 2005, “Forever Today”)

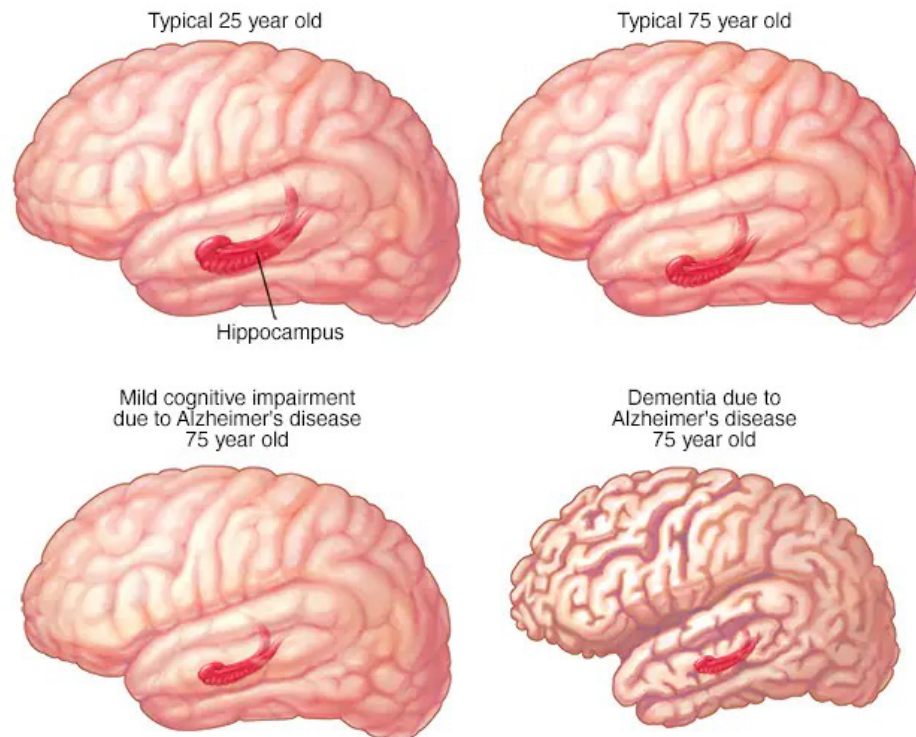
- ❖ **Memory** refers to the ability to **store** and **retrieve** information over time.
- ❖ **Explicit** memory refers to experiences that can be **intentionally** and **consciously** remembered, and
- ❖ it is measured using **recall**, **recognition**, and **relearning**.
- ❖ **Explicit** memory includes **episodic** and **semantic** memories.
- ❖ **Implicit** memory refers to the influence of **experience** on behaviour, even if **not aware** of those influences.
- ❖ The three types of implicit memory are **procedural memory**, **classical conditioning**, and **priming**.
- ❖ Information processing begins in **sensory** memory, moves to **short-term** memory, and eventually moves to **long-term** memory.
- ❖ The **capacity** of long-term memory is **large**, and there is no known limit to what we can remember.
- ❖ **Defined brain** regions involved in specific aspects of memory
- ❖ **LTP/LTD** one of the core underlying mechanism

Questions?



<https://www.boredpanda.com>

Healthy Aging vs. Minimal cognitive impairment vs. Dementia



Dementia

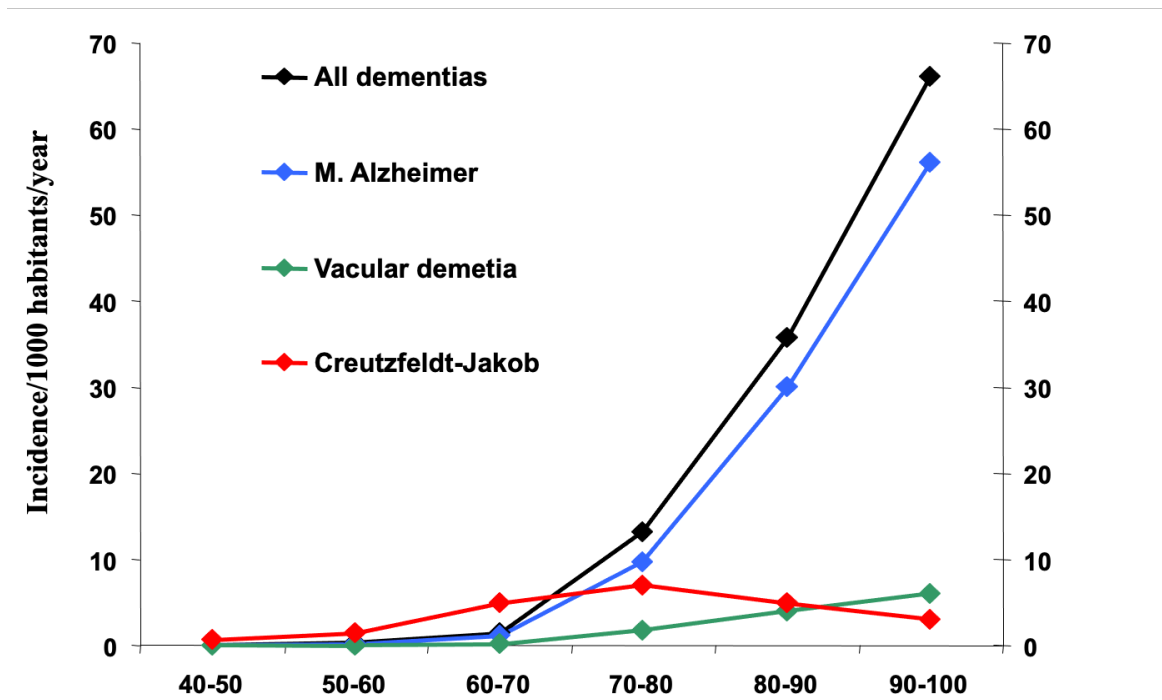
- Umbrella term for symptoms complex (memory, perception, behaviour, language, and personality)
- Different underlying pathologies (not a single disease)
- Brain areas degenerate progressively



@AlzDisInt
Alzheimer's Disease International

Dementia is not a part of normal ageing.
Talk to a doctor or contact the
Alzheimer association in your country.



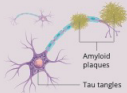





Understanding Different Types of Dementia

As we age, it's normal to lose some neurons in the brain. People living with dementia, however, experience far greater loss. Many neurons stop working, lose connections with other brain cells, and eventually die. At first, symptoms can be mild, but they get worse over time. Read on to learn more about four different types of dementia.



TYPES OF DEMENTIA

| Alzheimer's Disease | Frontotemporal Dementia | Lewy Body Dementia | Vascular Dementia |
|---|--|---|--|
| What Is Happening in the Brain? | | | |
| Abnormal deposits of proteins form amyloid plaques and tau tangles throughout the brain.  | Abnormal amounts or forms of tau and TDP-43 proteins accumulate inside neurons in the frontal and temporal lobes.  | Abnormal deposits of the alpha-synuclein protein, called "Lewy bodies," affect the brain's chemical messengers.  | Conditions, such as blood clots, disrupt blood flow in the brain.  |

**These changes are just one piece of a complex puzzle that scientists are studying to understand the underlying causes of these forms of dementia and others.*

Symptoms

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Mild <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wandering and getting lost Repeating questions Moderate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problems recognizing friends and family Impulsive behavior Severe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot communicate | Behavioral and Emotional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty planning and organizing Impulsive behaviors Emotional flatness or excessive emotions Movement Problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaky hands Problems with balance and walking Language Problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty making or understanding speech <p><small>There are several types of frontotemporal disorders, and symptoms can vary by type.</small></p> | Cognitive Decline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inability to concentrate, pay attention, or stay alert Disorganized or illogical ideas Movement Problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muscle rigidity Loss of coordination Reduced facial expression Sleep Disorders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insomnia Excessive daytime sleepiness Visual Hallucinations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forgetting current or past events Misplacing items Trouble following instructions or learning new information Hallucinations or delusions Poor judgment |
|--|--|---|---|

Typical Age of Diagnosis

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|---------|
| Mid 60s and above, with some cases in mid-30s to 60s | Between 45 and 64 | 50 or older | Over 65 |
|--|-------------------|-------------|---------|

Diagnosis

Symptoms can be similar among different types of dementia, and some people have more than one form of dementia, which can make an accurate diagnosis difficult. Symptoms can also vary from person to person. Doctors may ask for a medical history, complete a physical exam, and order neurological and laboratory tests to help diagnose dementia.

Treatment

There is currently no cure for these types of dementia, but some treatments are available. Speak with your doctor to find out what might work best for you.

More Details week 3!