

# Sensorimotor control via counterfactual errors

Paul Verschure



## Living Machines

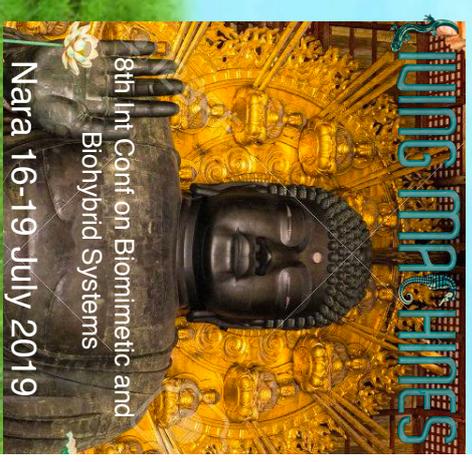
Catalan Institute for Bioengineering of Catalunya  
Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology  
Catalan Institute of Advanced Studies (ICREA)

[futurememoryfoundation.com](http://futurememoryfoundation.com)

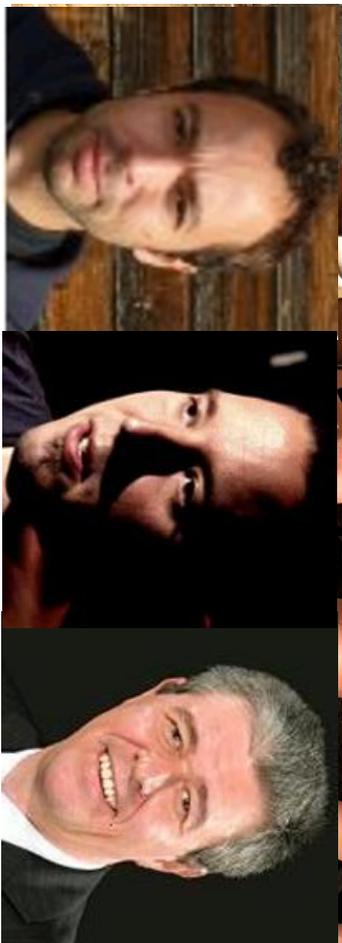
[specs-lab.com](http://specs-lab.com)  
[eodyne.com](http://eodyne.com)



Barcelona Institute of  
Science and Technology



8th Int Conf on Biomimetic and  
Biohybrid Systems  
Nara 16-19 July 2019



**SPEECH**  
 Synthetic, Perceptive, Emotive and Cognitive Systems group

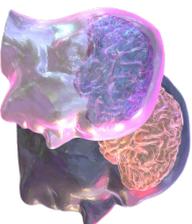
**Karl Friston**



**HORIZON 2020**

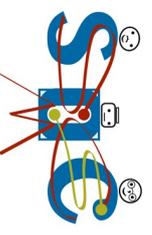


European Research Council  
 Established by the European Commission



VirtualBrainCloud

**anito**  
 ADVANCED TOOLS FOR FIGHTING  
 ONLINE ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING



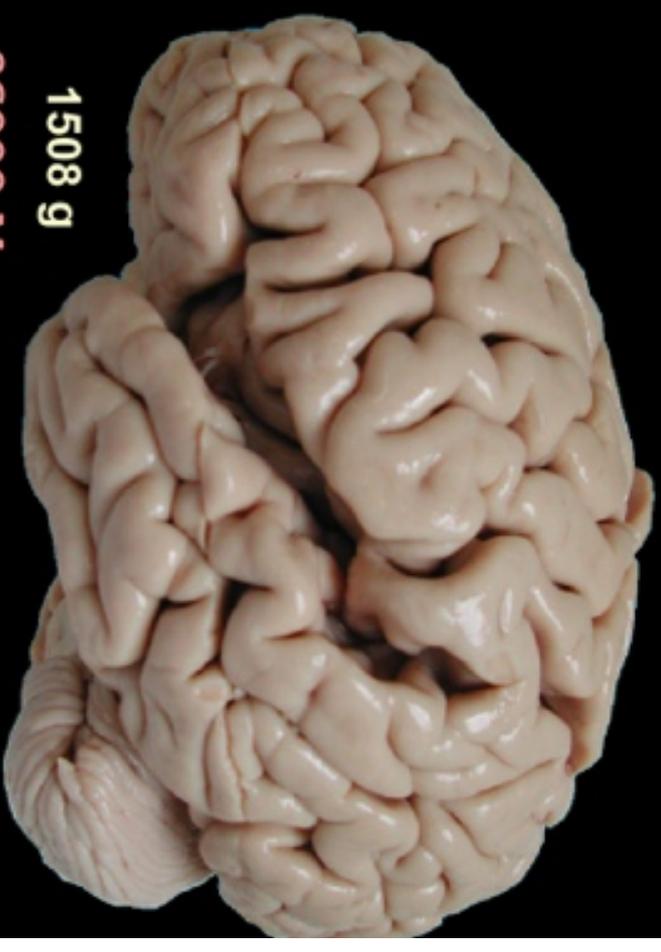
**RobotRecycler**

**SANAR**



www.theoi.com

psyche



1508 g

860000 M

flesh

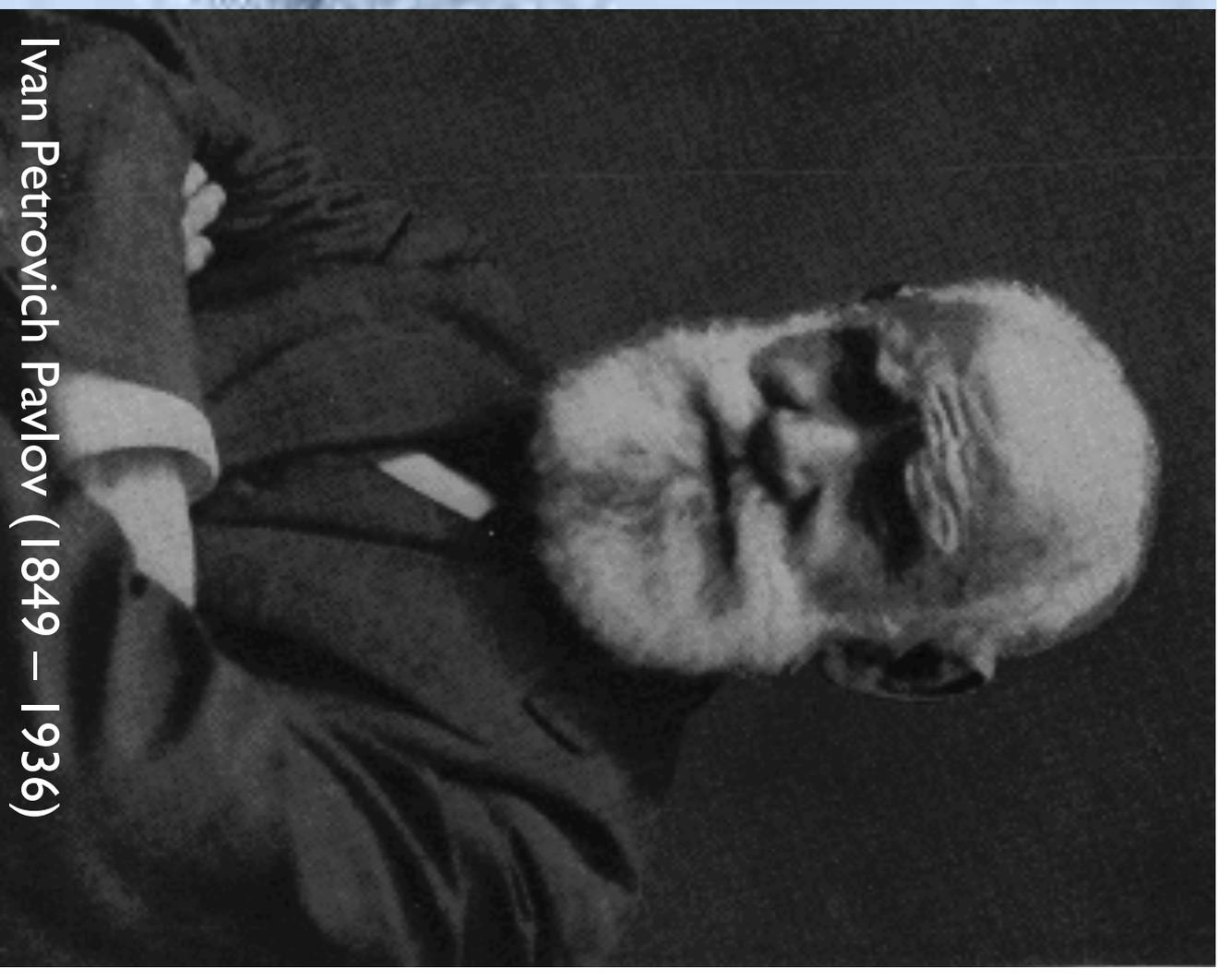


“The brain maintains  
the equilibrium between  
the organism and its environment”

**action**



Claude Bernard (1813-1878)

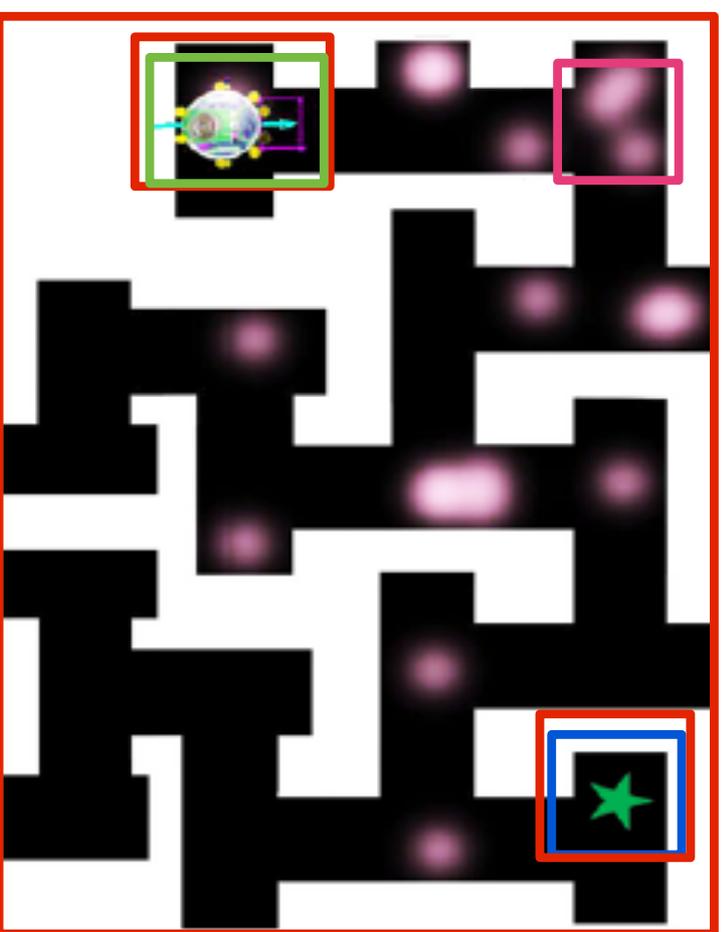
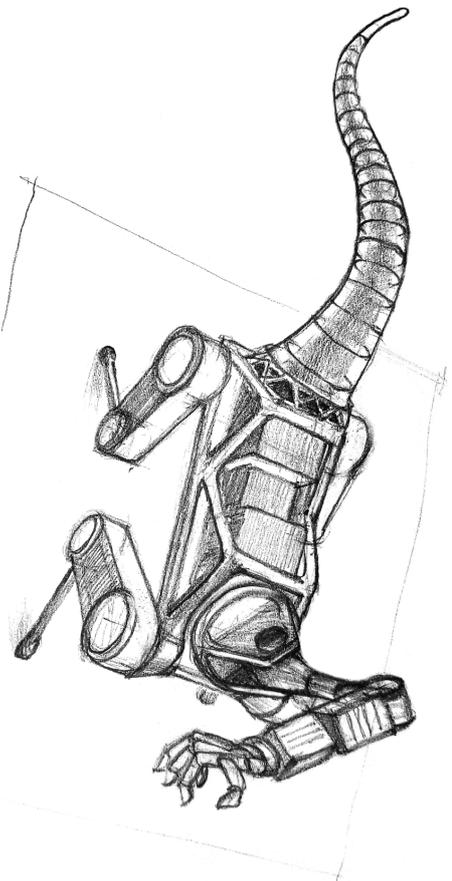


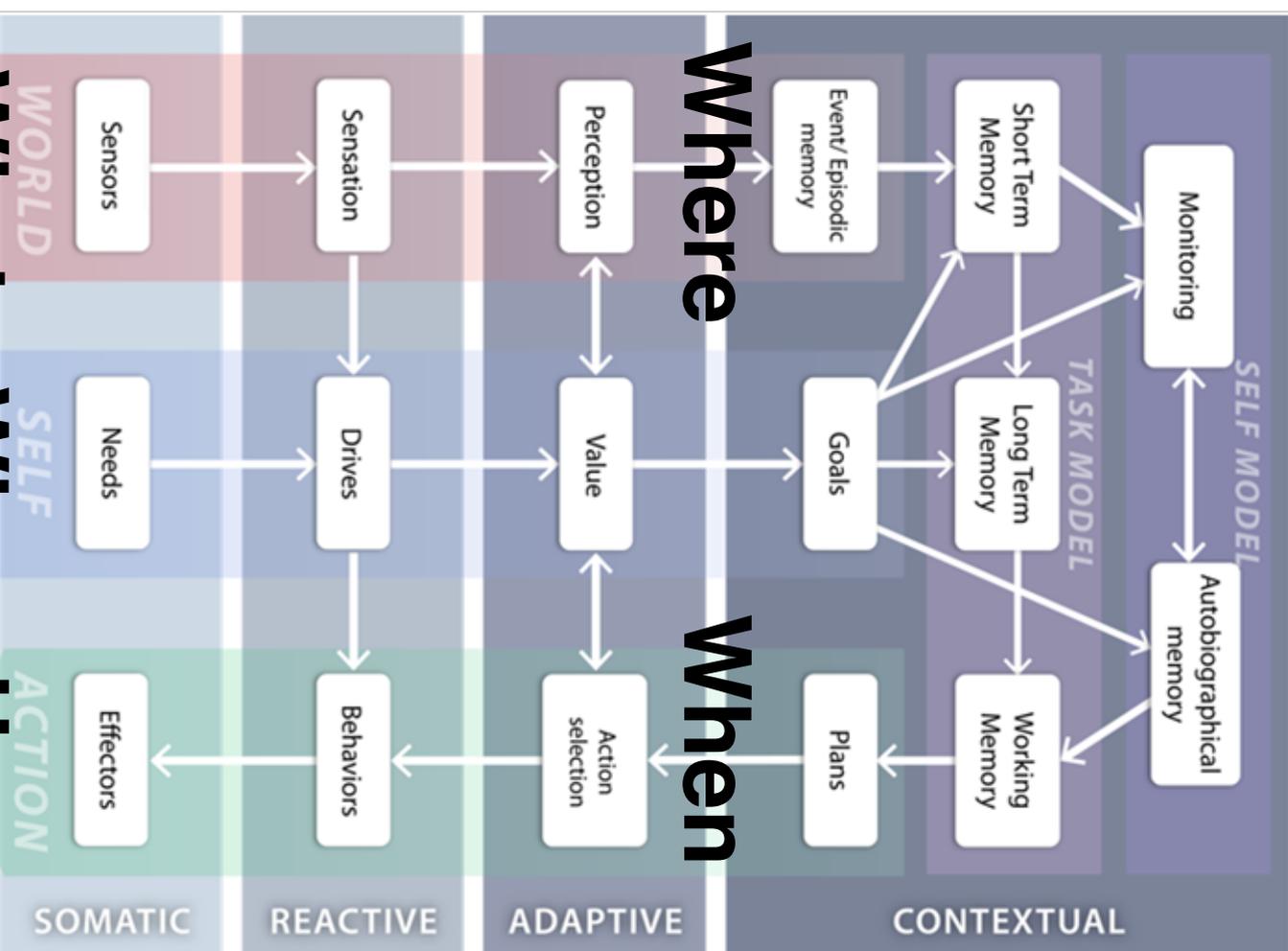
Ivan Petrovich Pavlov (1849 – 1936)

# Acting = solving the **H4W** problem

- **Why:** goal
- **What:** objects
- **Where:** space
- **When:** time

→ Act (**How**)

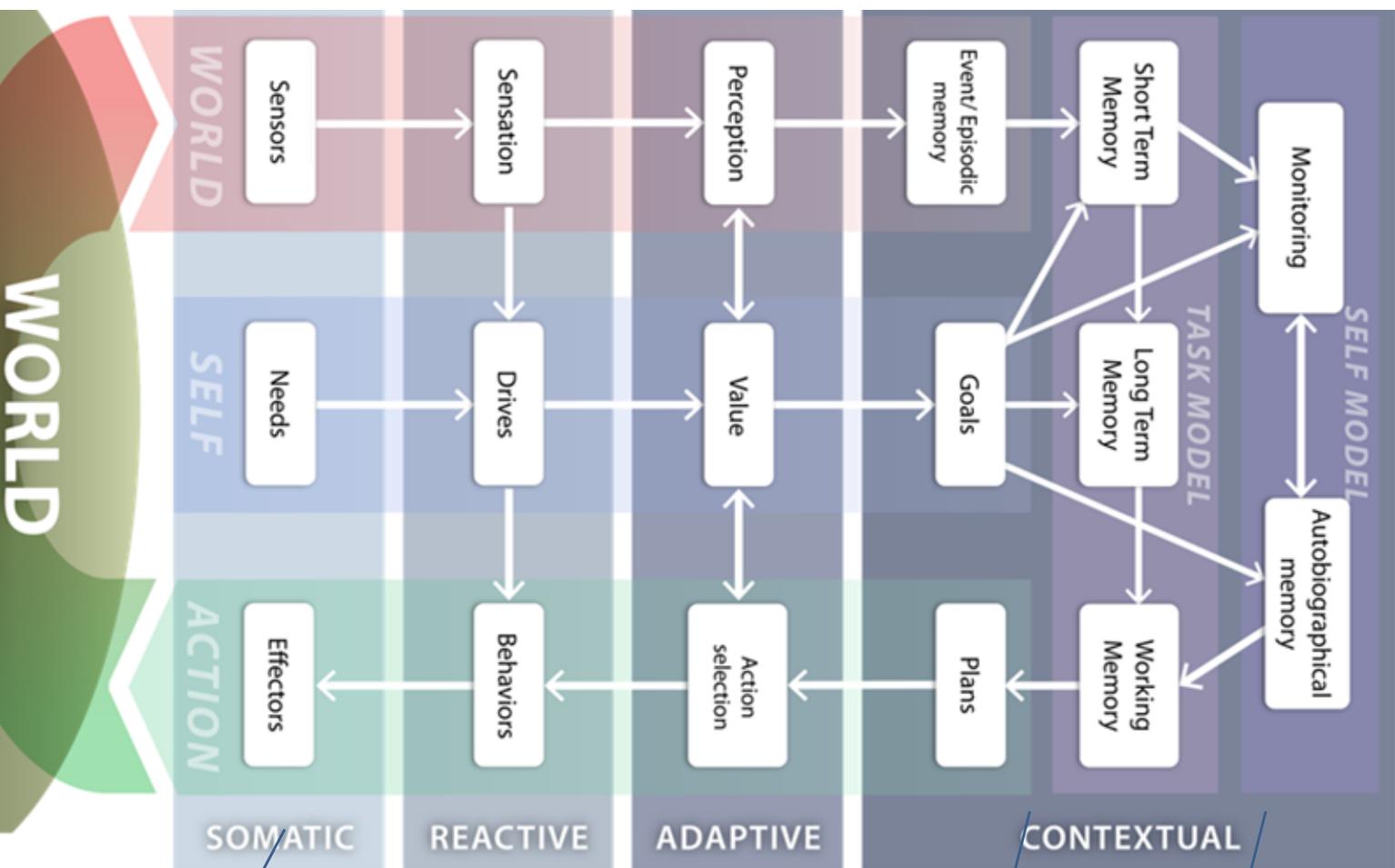




**What Why How**

**WORLD**

# Distributed Adaptive Control



autonoetic memory, **consciousness**

**goal-oriented policies** from sequence learning on state-affect-action triads (model based RL)

**state space** acquisition of agent-environment interaction from dynamics of the reactive level and action shaping (deep learning & model free RL)

**reactive** interaction with the environment through **drive regulation, homeostasis, allostasis**

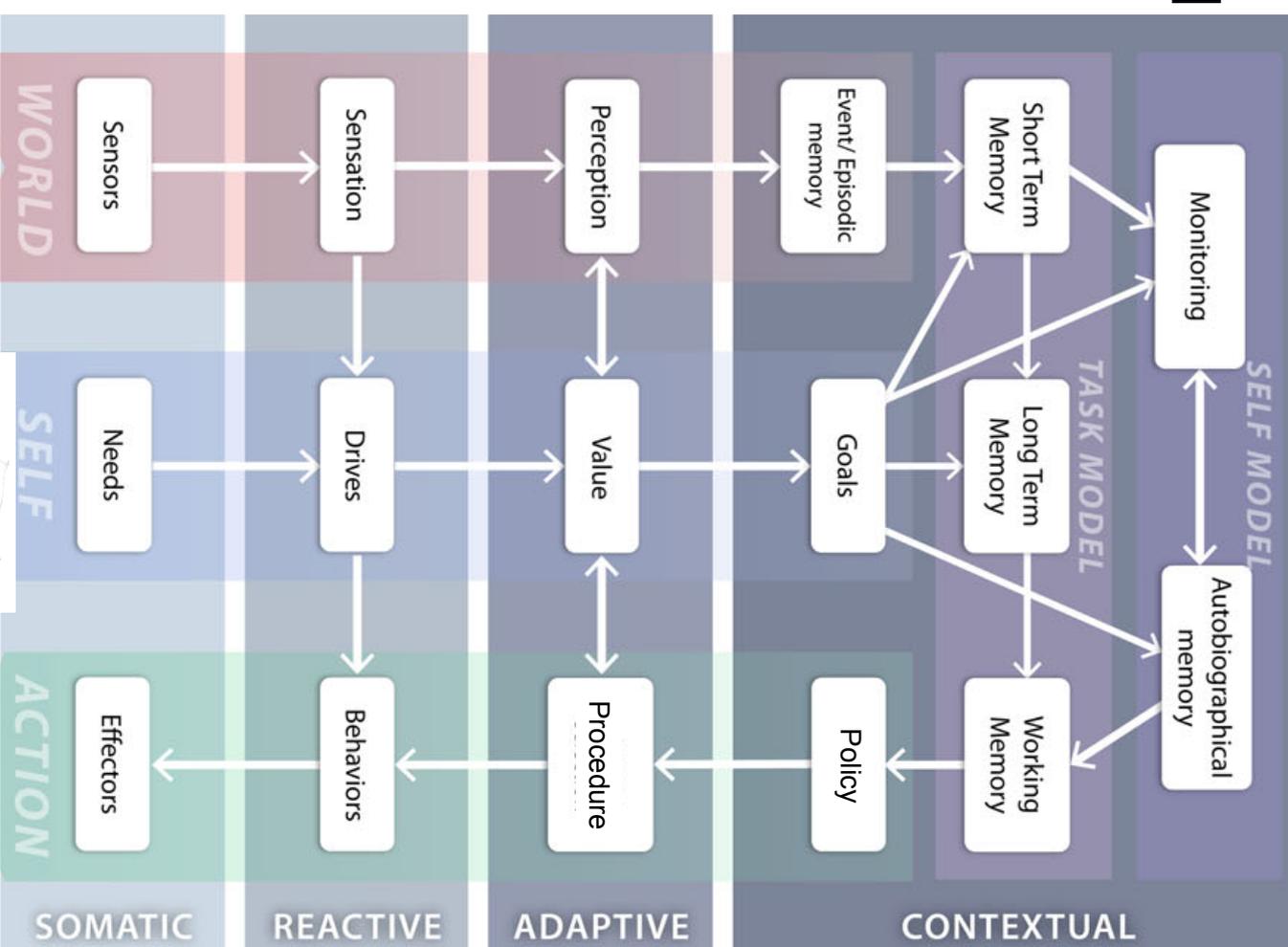
the **physical agent** with sensors, effectors, intrinsic dynamics and needs

Sequential  
Acquired

Flexible

**Virtualisation**

Distributed Adaptive Control



Rigid

Speed

**Prior**

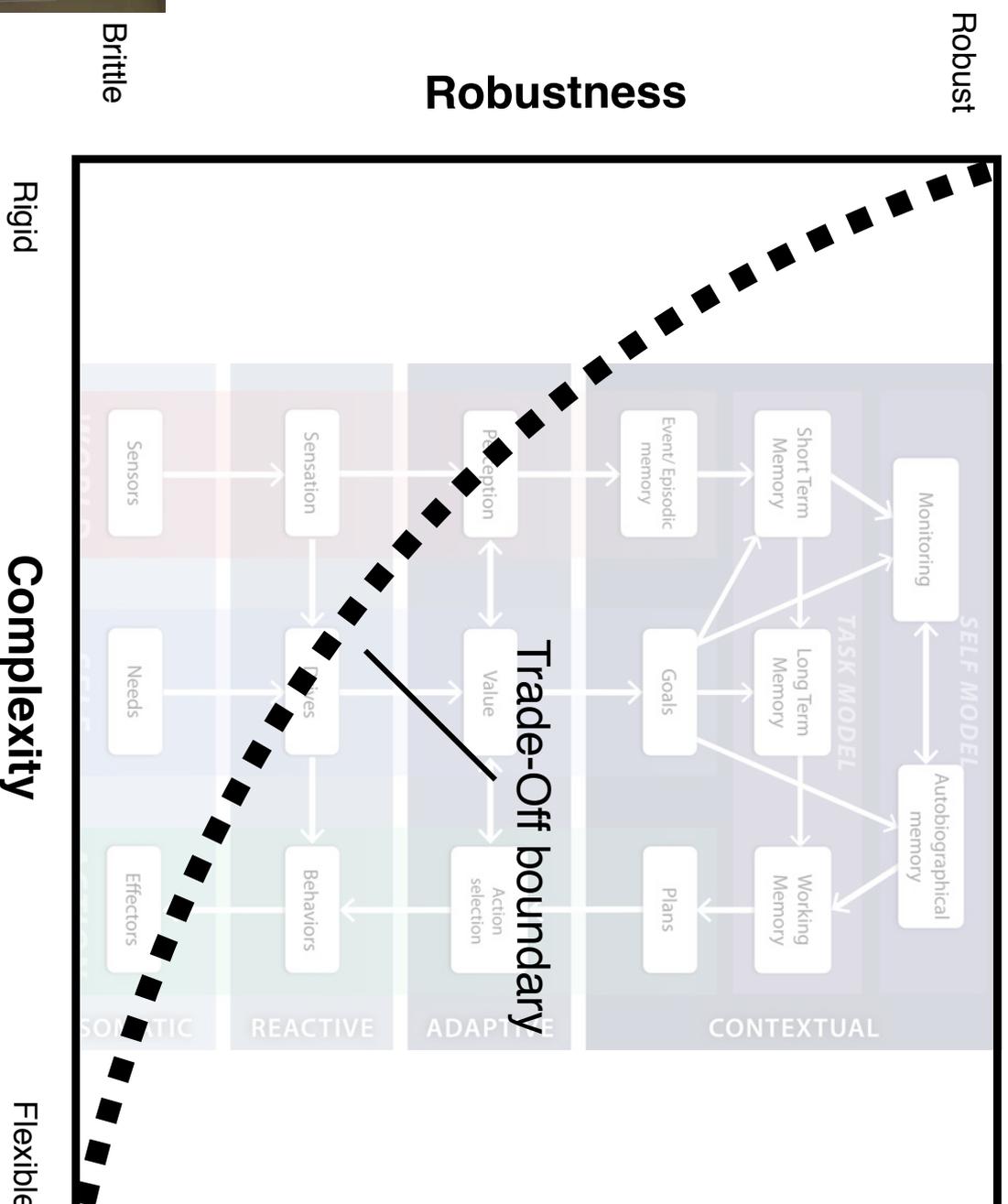
Parallel

Verschure et al 1993 Rob Aut Sys; 2003 Cog Sci.; 2003 Nature; 2012 Biol. Insp. Cog. Arch.;

2013 IEEE Expert; 2014; 2016 Phil. Tr. Roy. Soc. B

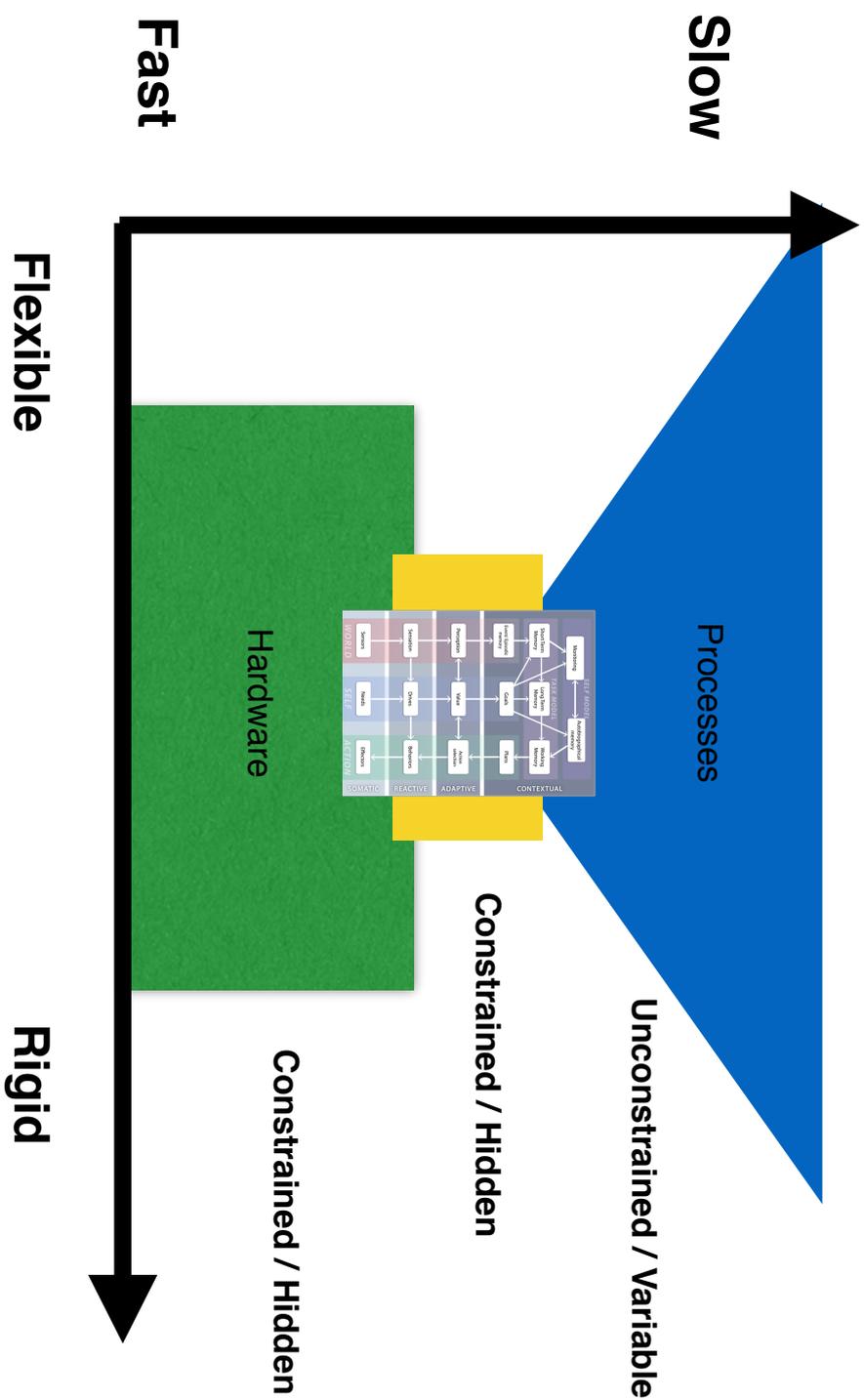


# Architectures optimise trade-offs

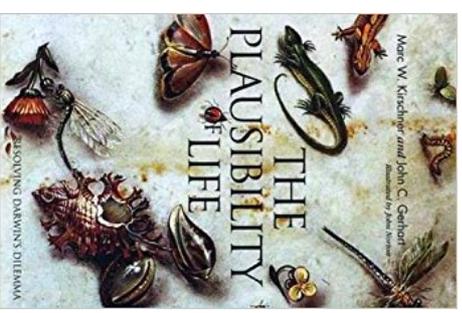


John Doyle  
Doyle & Cseste 2011 PNAS

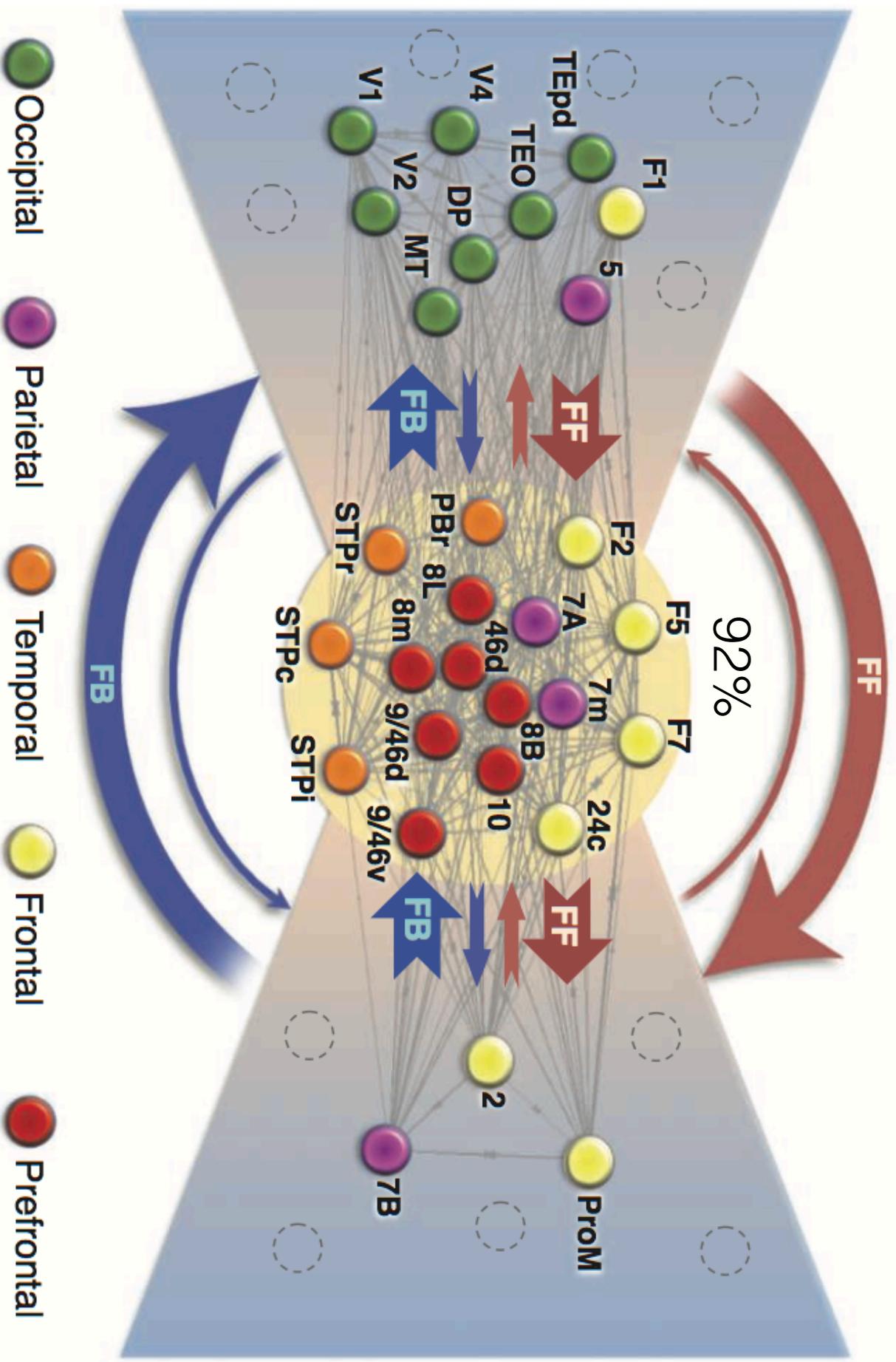
# Architectures provide Constraints that Deconstrain

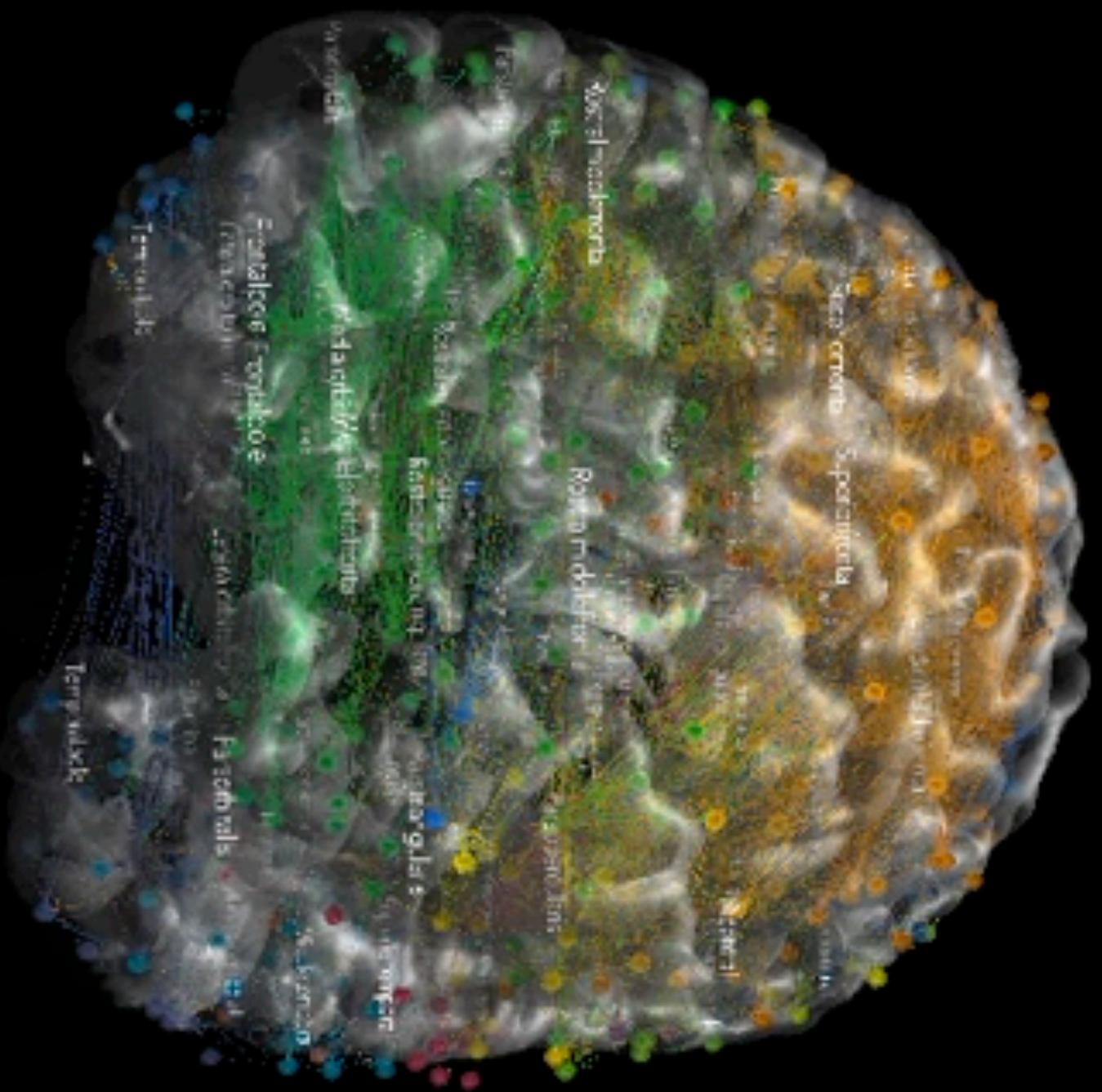


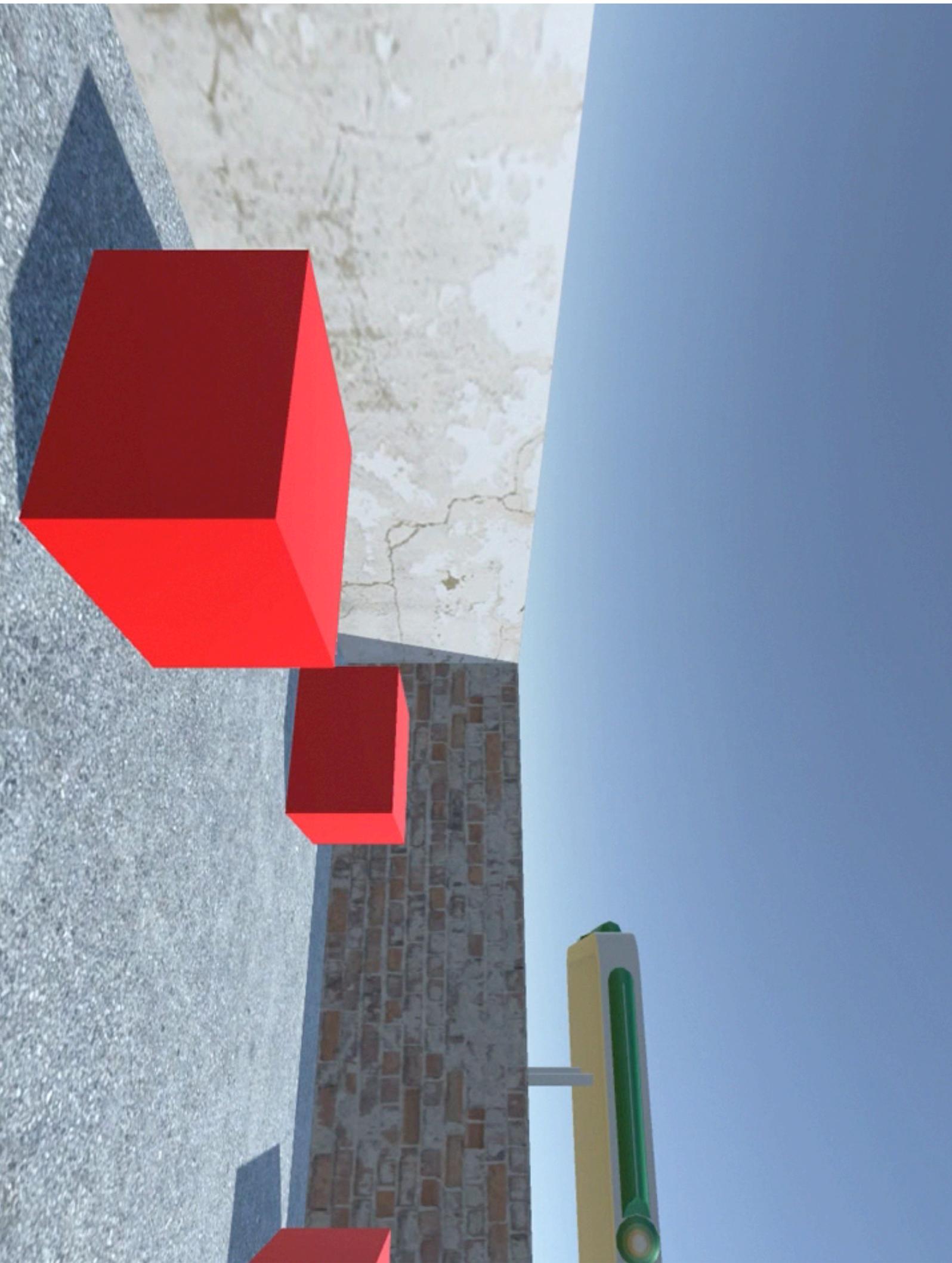
Bowtie architectures



# Neocortical Bowtie architecture

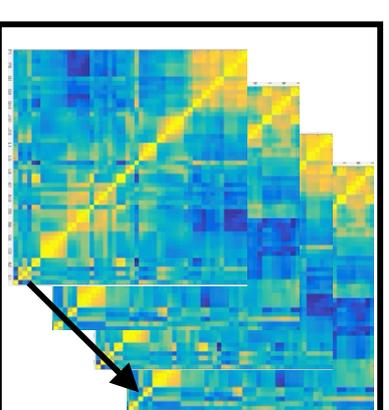
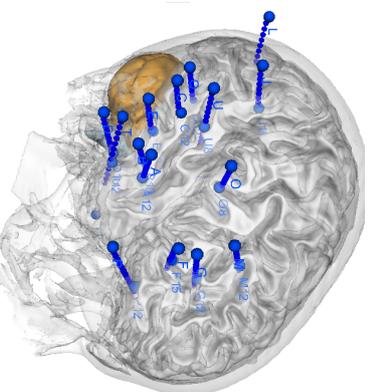
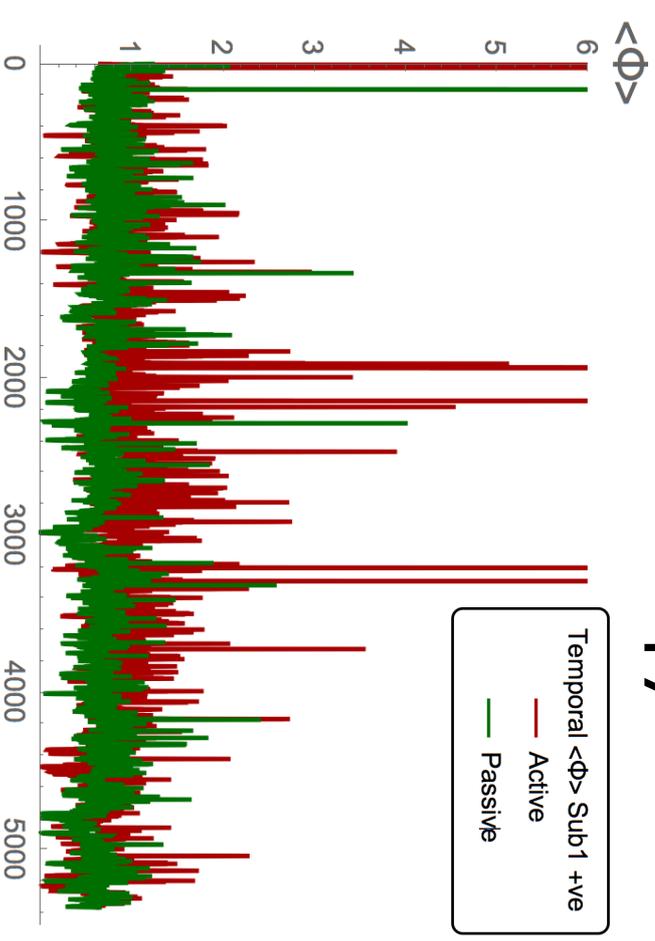
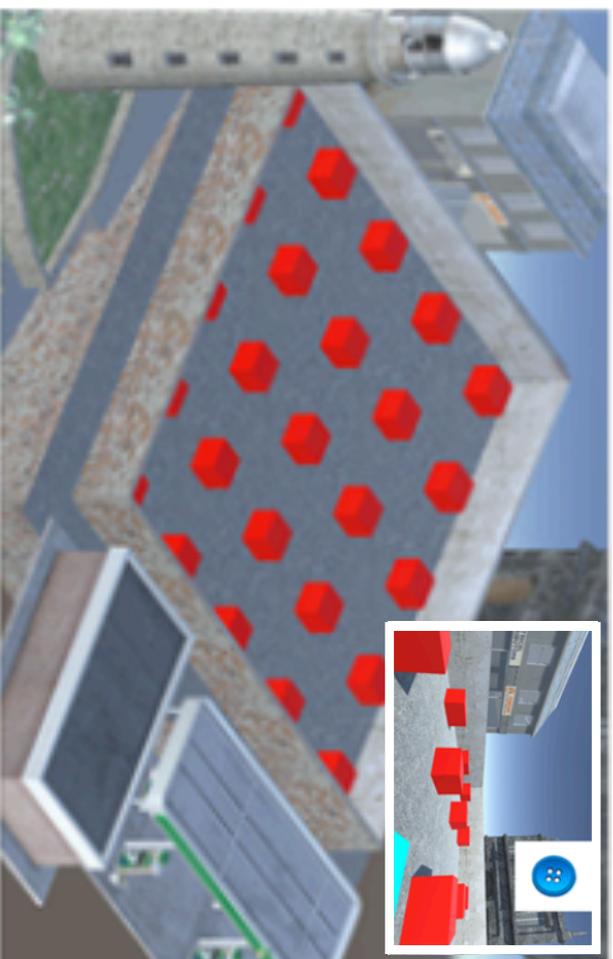






# The architecture of the human brain is highly dynamic

## Integrated Information: Conditional Entropy



500 msec



# Let's Play

a companion emerges from an integrated layered cognitive architecture

Stephane Lallée, Vicky Youloussi  
Ugo Pattacini, Syre Wierenga  
and Paul Verschure

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specs.upl.f.edu  
etaa.upl.edu

Submission for HRI-2014

Lallée et al 2014 HRI; 2015 Paladyn J Beh Rob



# A Day in the Life of Ada

Eng et al 2003 IROS.

- chemosearch
- landmark recognition
- path integration

## Foraging

IPCCS

Mathews et al (2009) IROS

## Grid cell &

## Place cell generation

Guanella et al (2006; 2007) ICANN; J. Integ. Neurosci.  
Reno Costa et al (2010;2013) Neuron, PLoS Comp Biol

- IROS 2013 -

Speed generalization capabilities  
of a cerebellar model  
on a rapid navigation task

Ivan Herreros, Giovanni Maffei, Santiago Brandi, Martí Sanchez-Frila  
and Paul F.M.J. Verschure

IPCCS

IPCCS

\*iCrea

Herreros et al 2012 Neur. Netw.

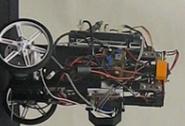
SPECS Technology Department, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Carrer de Roc Boronal 138, 08018 Barcelona, Spain.  
IKER4 Institut Català de Recerca i Estudis Avançats, Pasceig Lluís Companys 23, 08010 Barcelona



Sanchez et al (2010/2011) IROS

**Reactive control:**  
PID feedback controller rejects the disturbance  
within a wide time window

6 sec ( $\pm$  35 cm range)



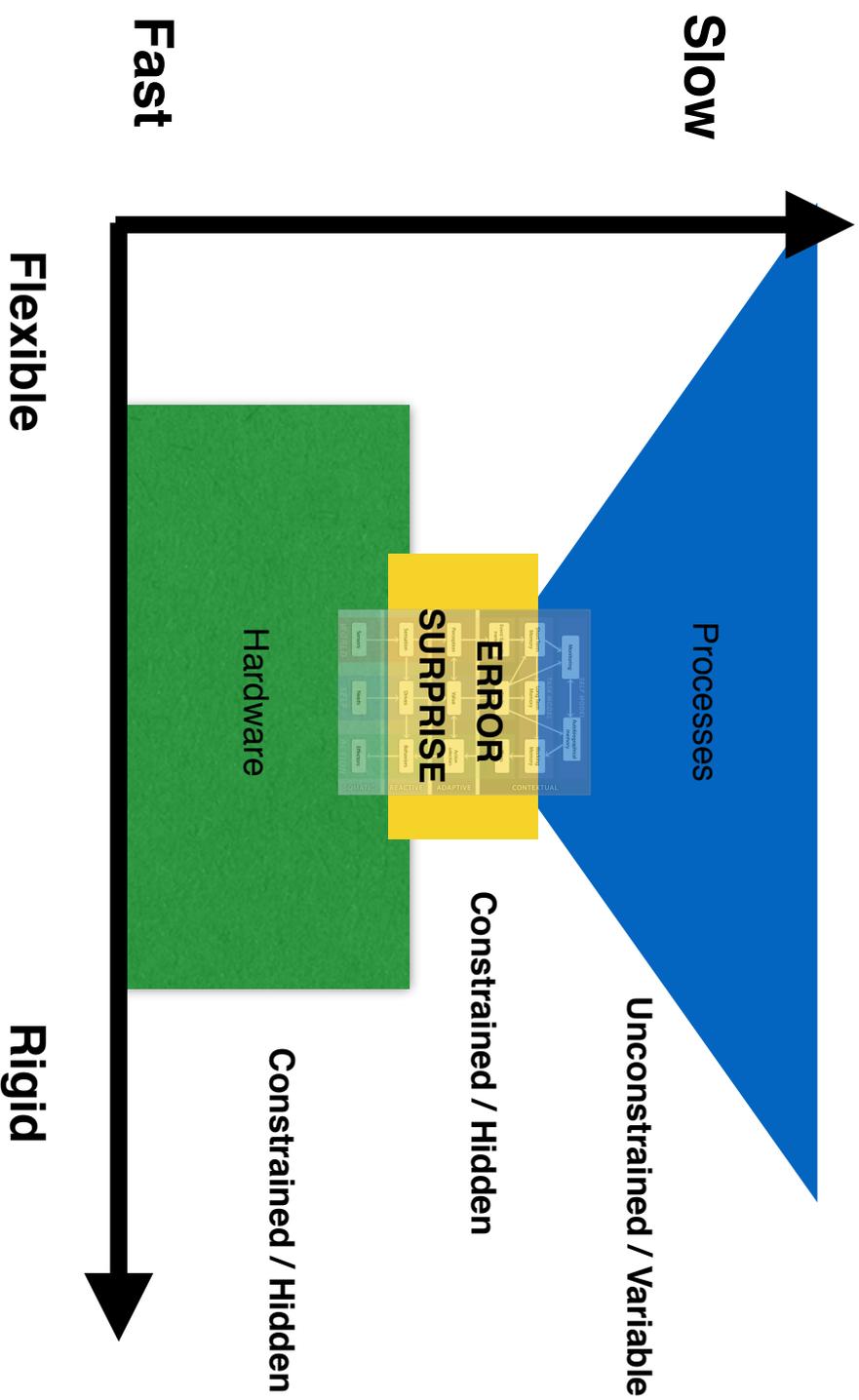
Maffei et al (2017) PTRS B

NAIVE AGENT: random choice  
Maffei et al (2015) Neur Netw

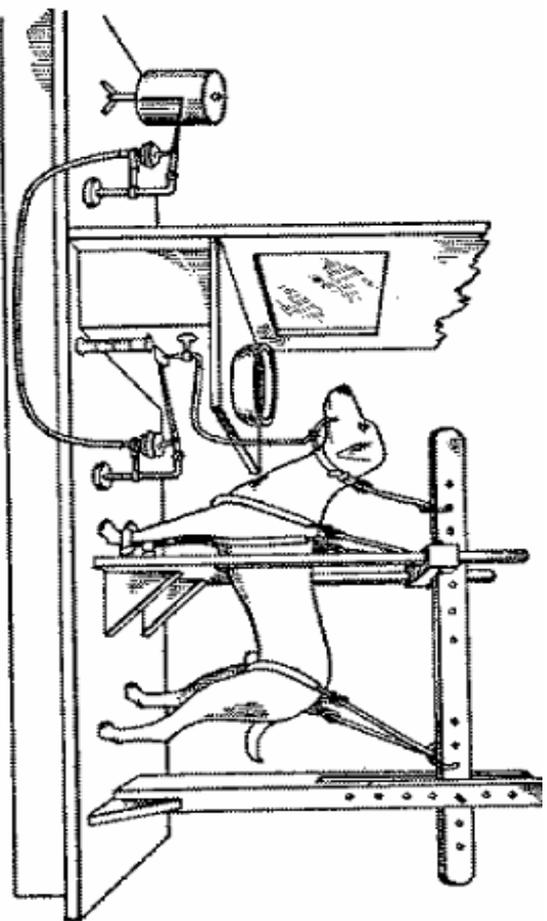


Verschure et al (1996) RAS

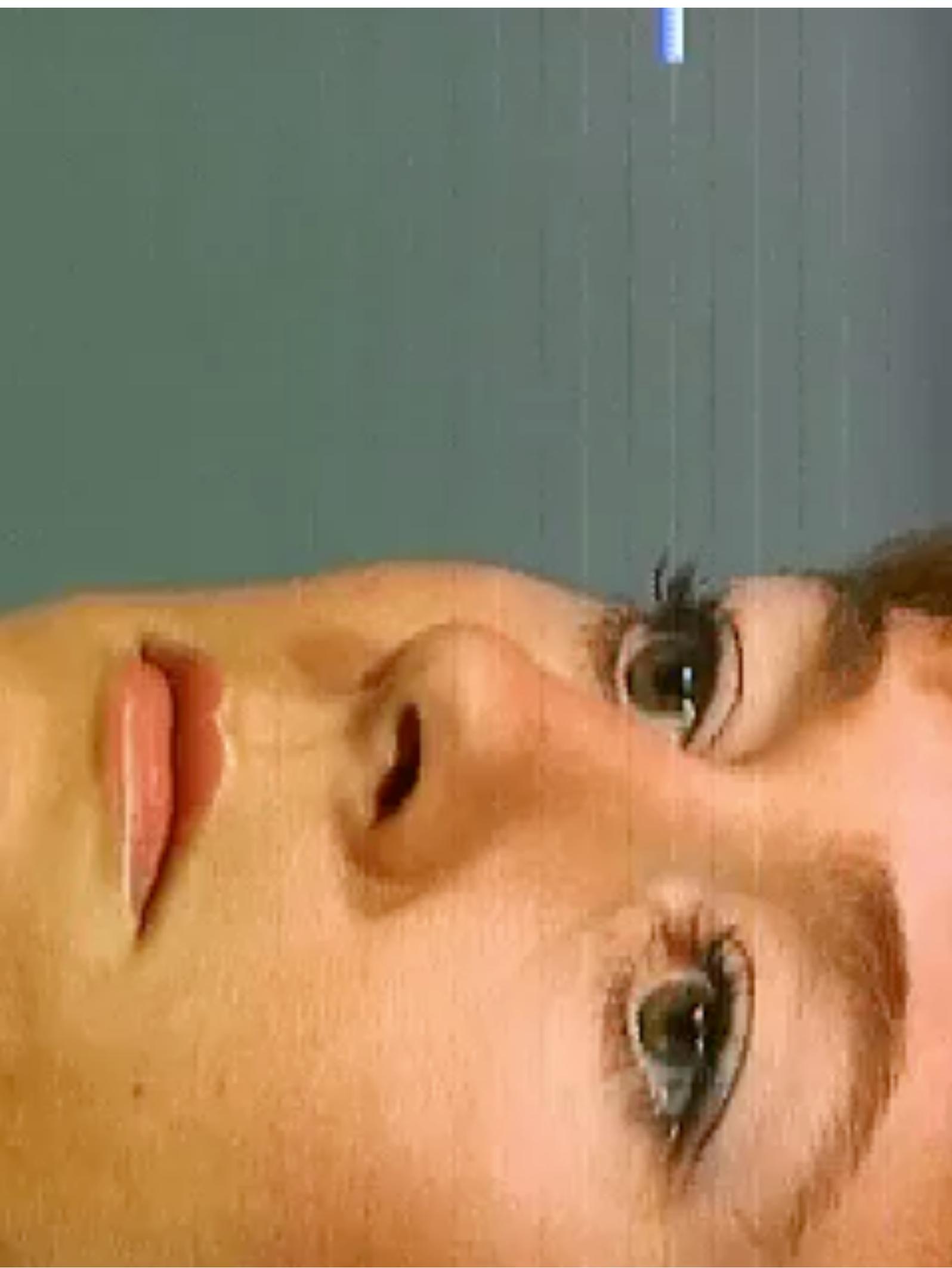
# Constraint: Error processing



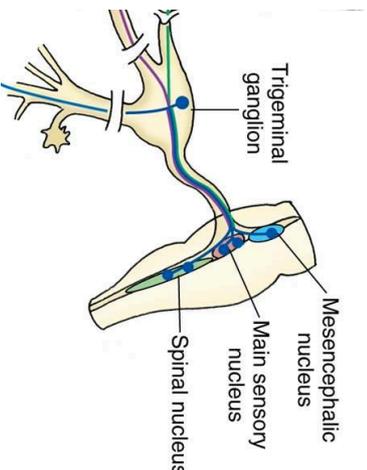
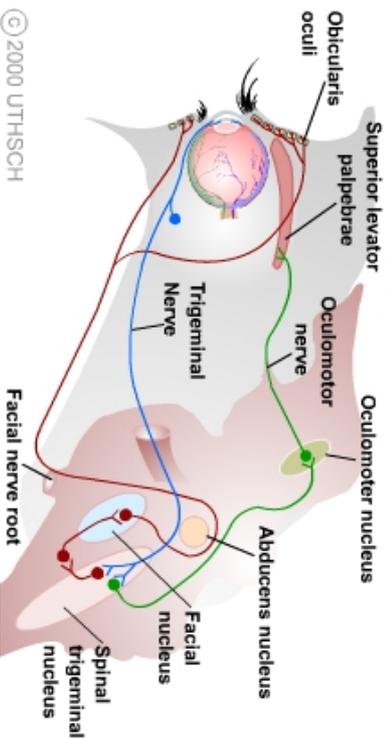
# Classical/ Pavlovian Conditioning



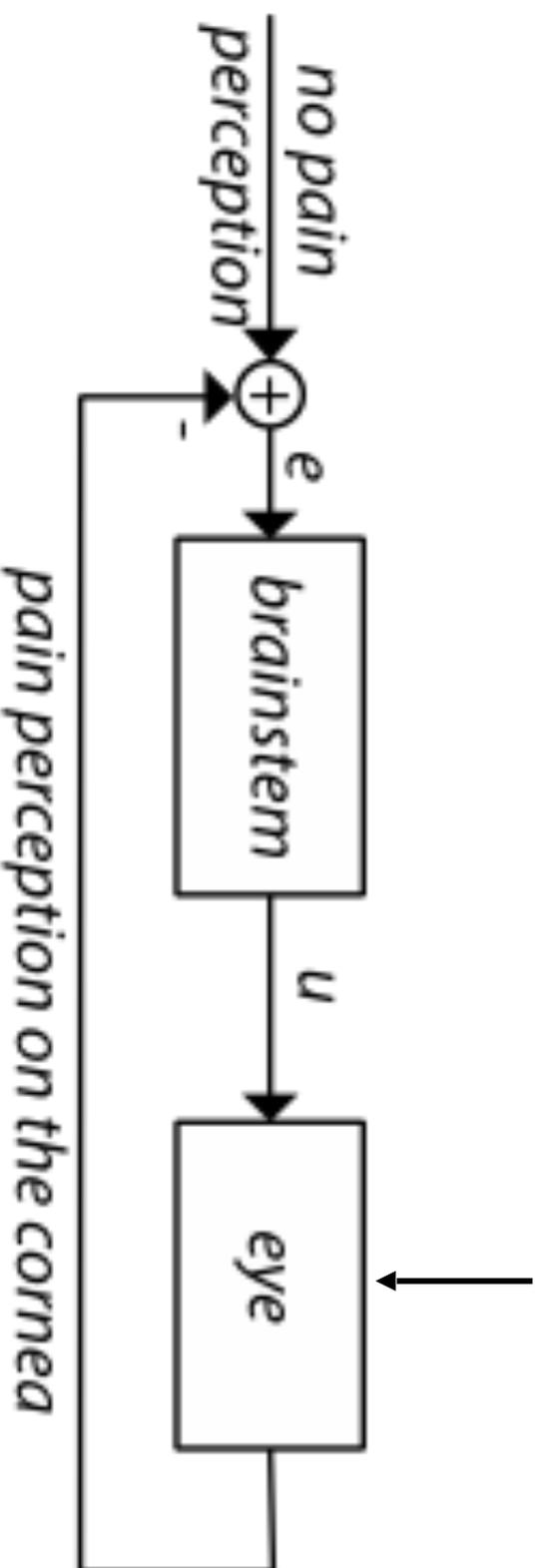
Ivan Petrovich Pavlov (1849 – 1936)



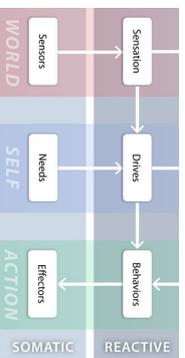
# Reactive layer: Feedback control in the brainstem



airpuff



© 2000 UTHSCH  
Kuypers 1981

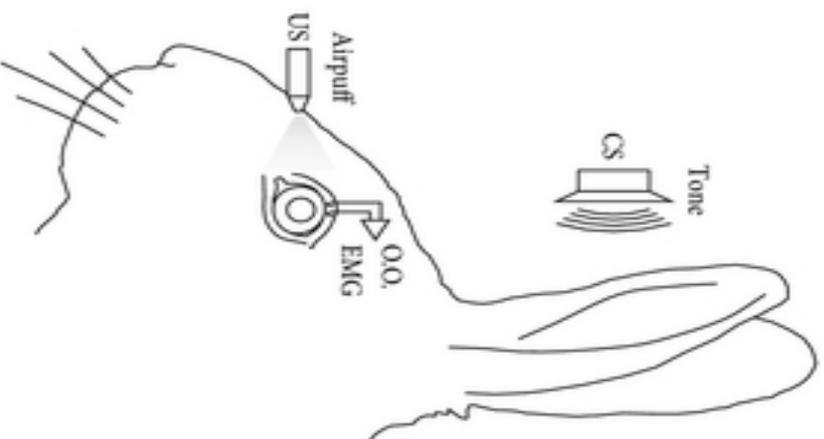


# Classical Eyeblink Conditioning

CS



US



(a)

Delay paradigm

Tone (600 Hz)

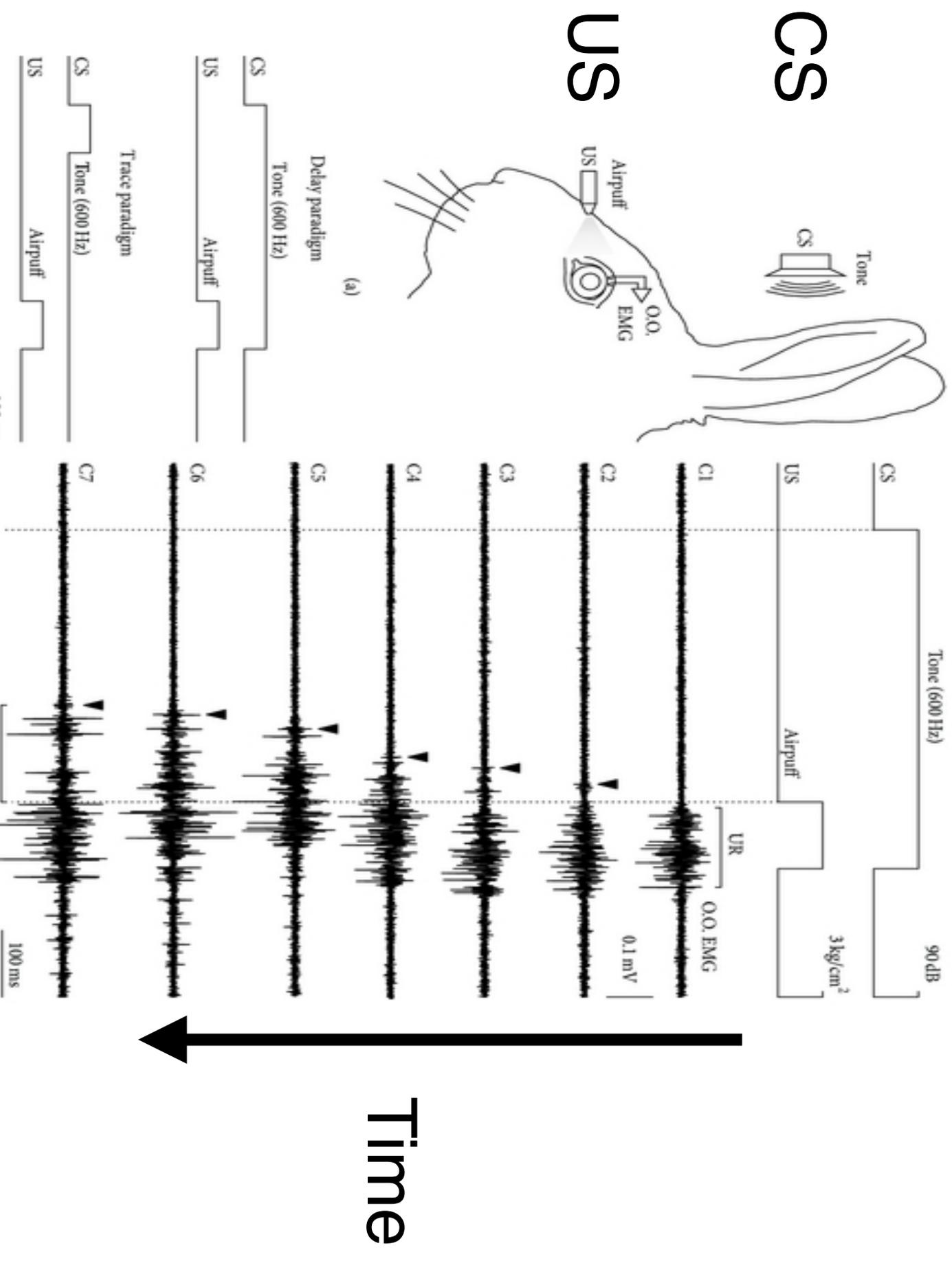


Trace paradigm

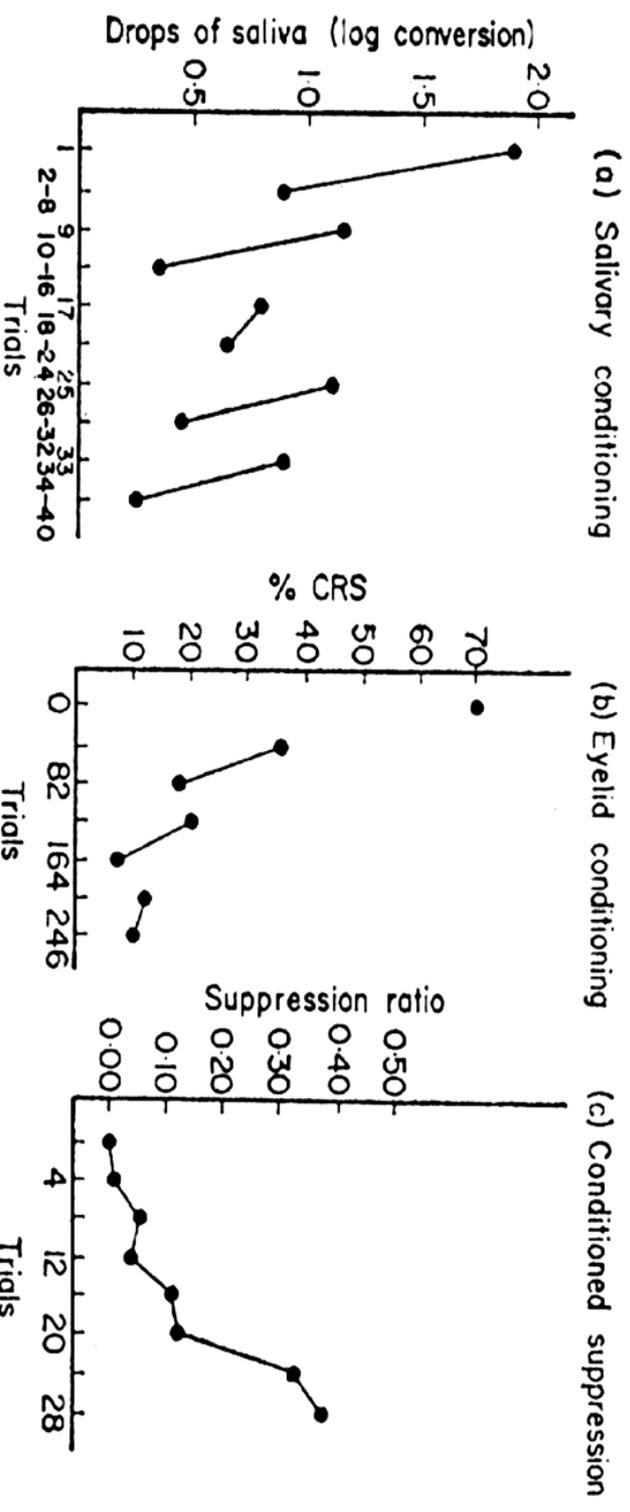
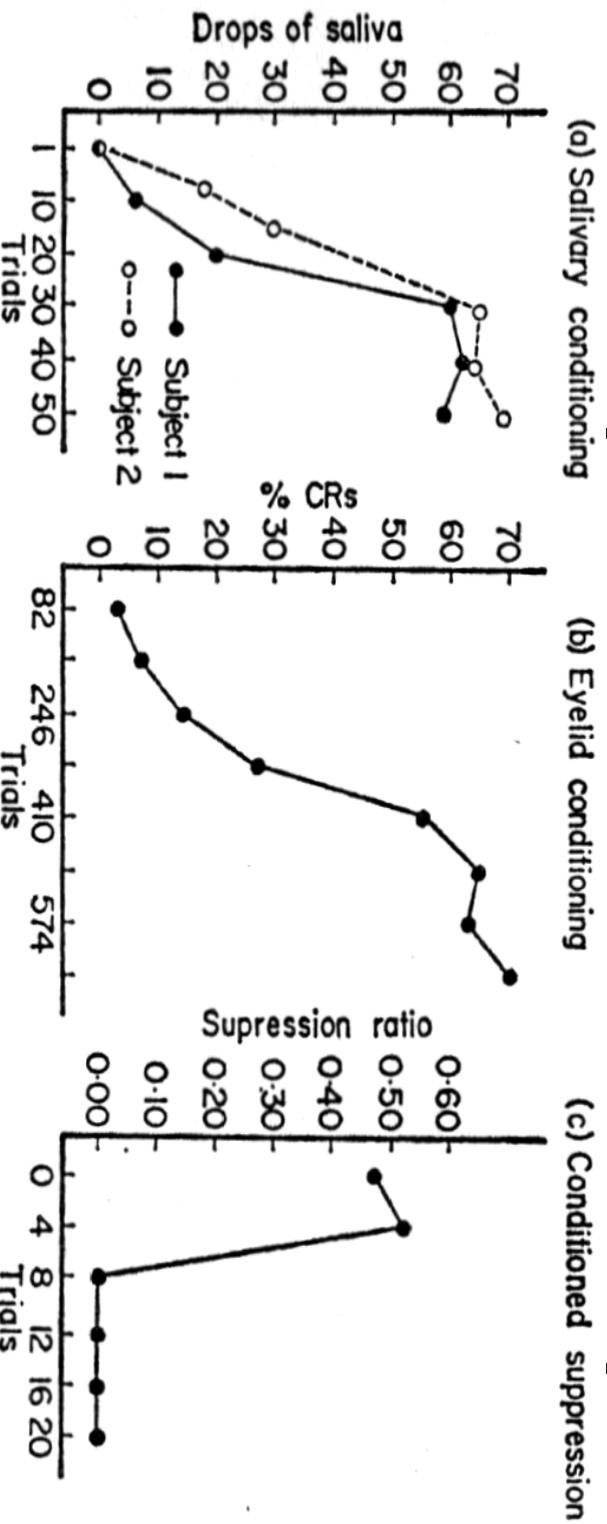
Tone (600 Hz)



# Classical Eyeblink Conditioning

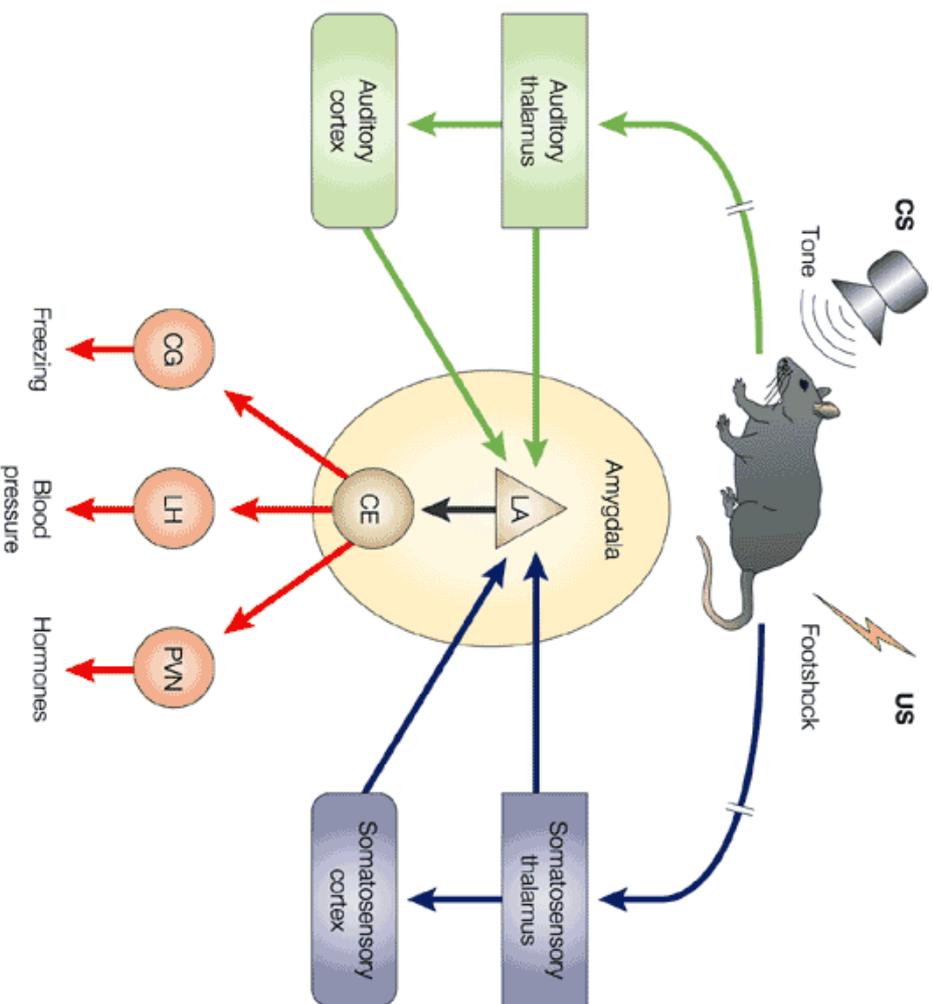


# Specific Non-specific

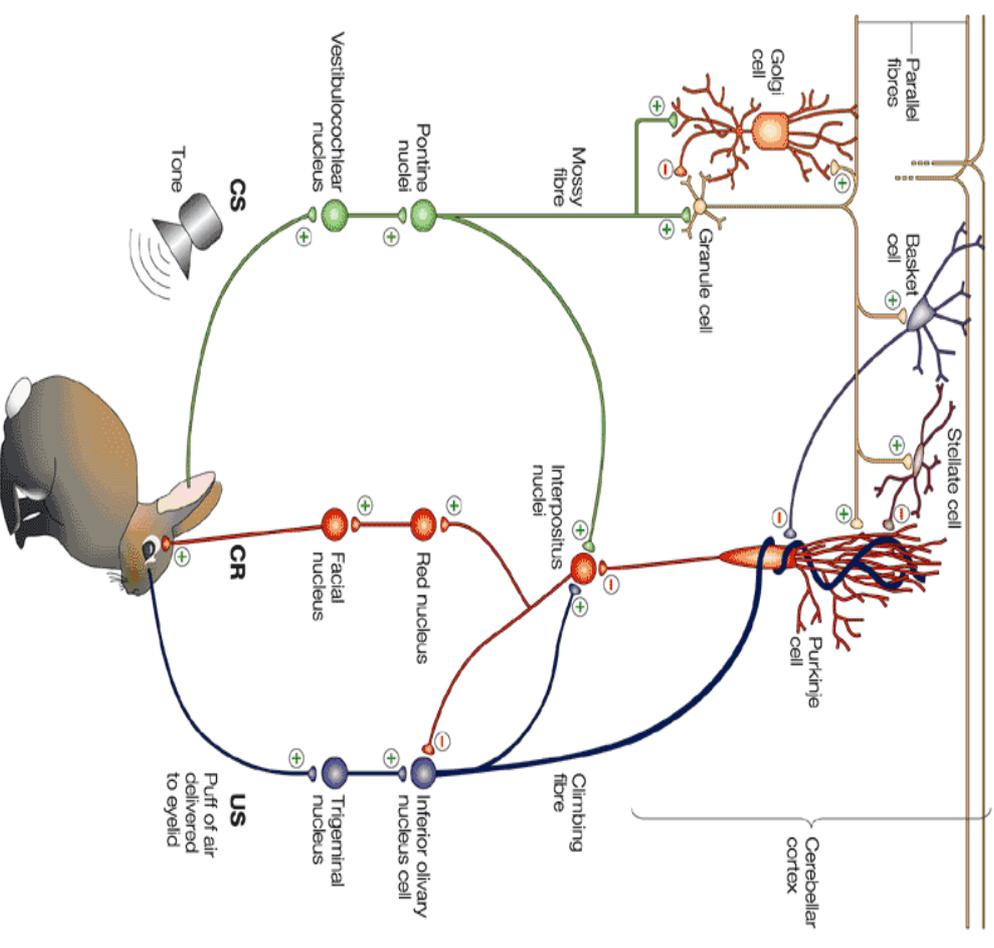


# Konorski: 2 learning systems

# Non-specific

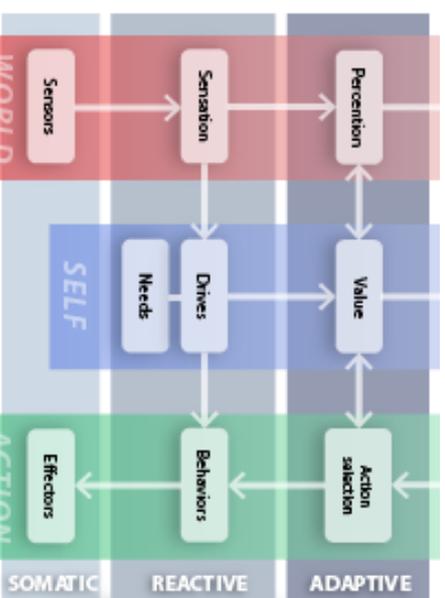


# Specific



# 2 Phase model optimization objective:

## Correlation, Perceptual and Behavioral prediction



correlation

$$e = V^T u$$

$$J_C(W) = E[\text{trace}(ye^T) | W]$$

$$WW^T = I$$

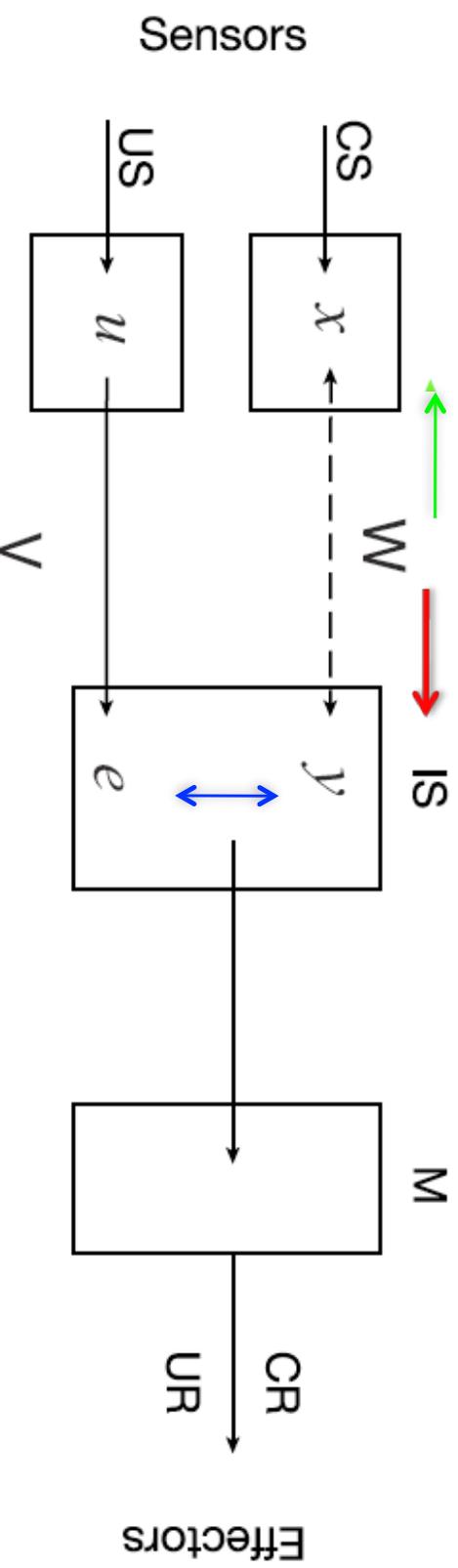
$$y = W^T x$$

perceptual prediction

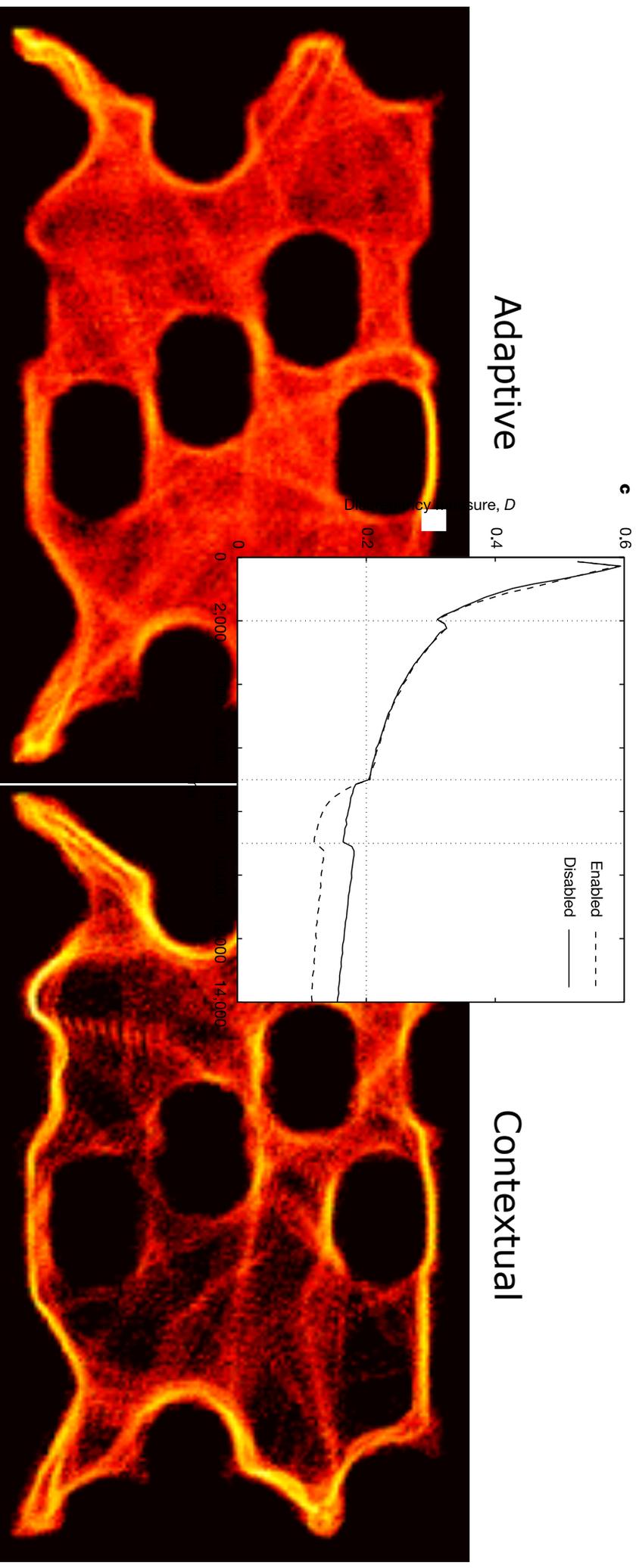
$$J_P(W) = E[||x - WW^T x||^2 | W]$$

behavioral prediction

$$J_B(W) = E[||e - W^T x||^2 | W]$$



# Behavioral feedback, effective environments and perceptual learning



Simulation:  $10^6$  timesteps

$$H = - \sum_{a \in E} p(a) \log_2 p(a) \text{ with } \sum_{a \in E} p(a) = 1$$

HB = 15.1

Behavioral Entropy

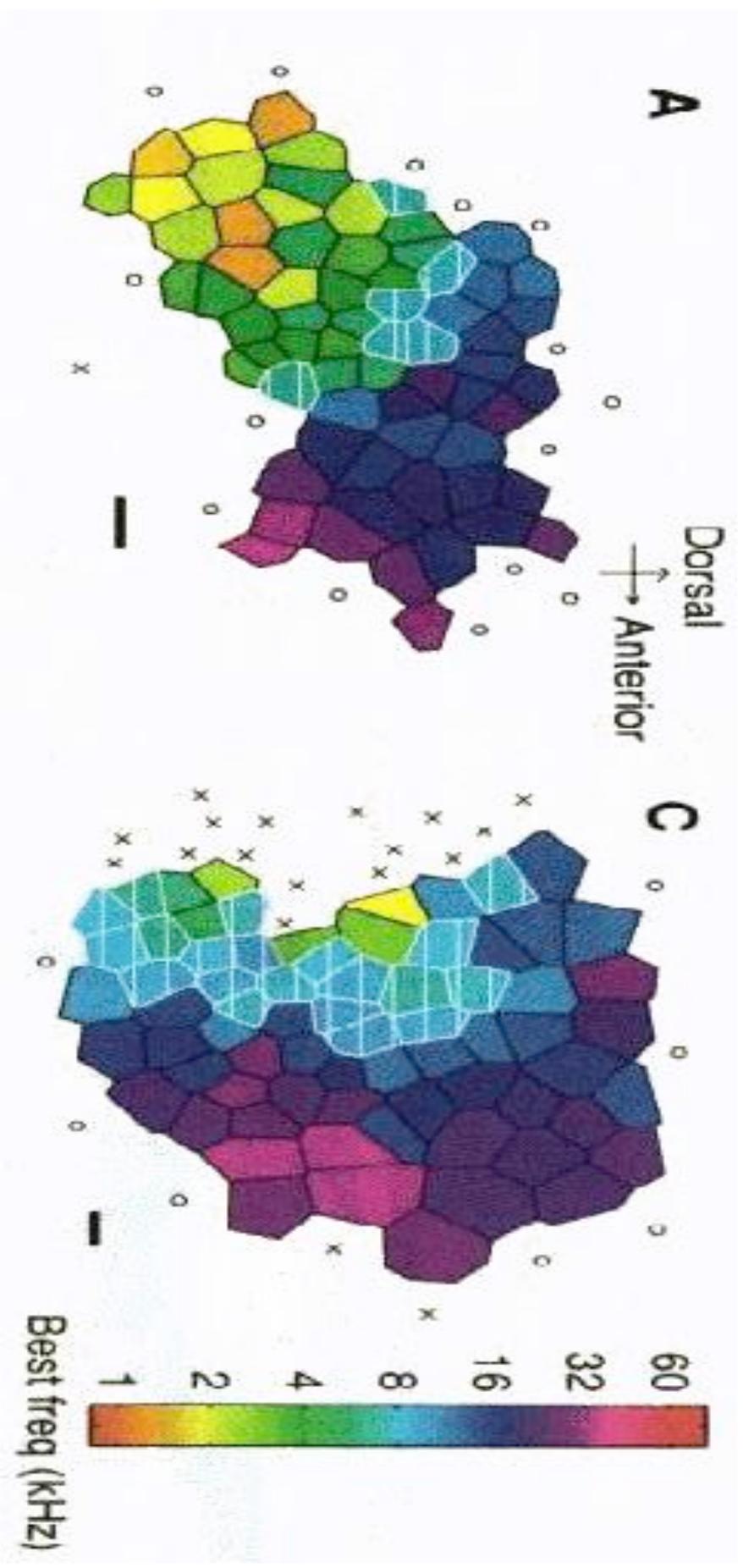
HB = 14.2

HS = 7.95

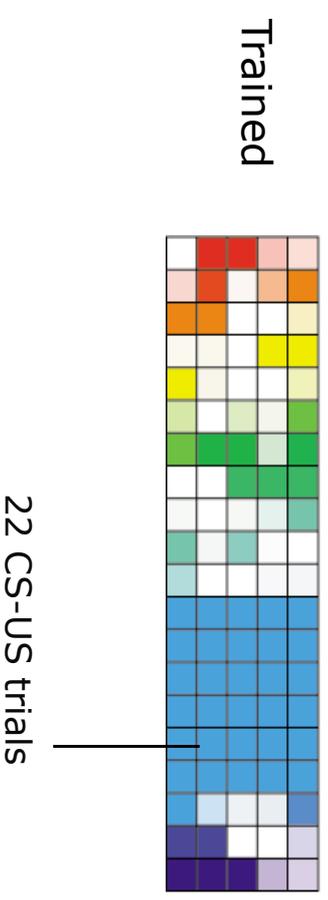
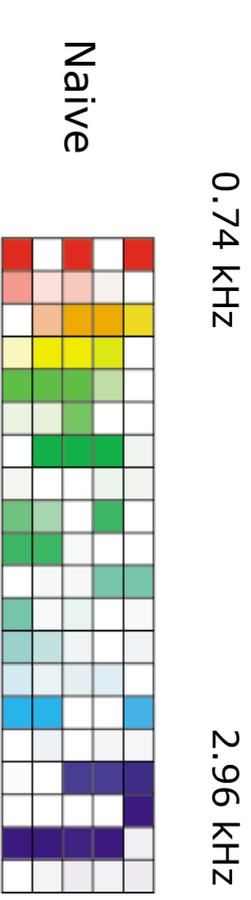
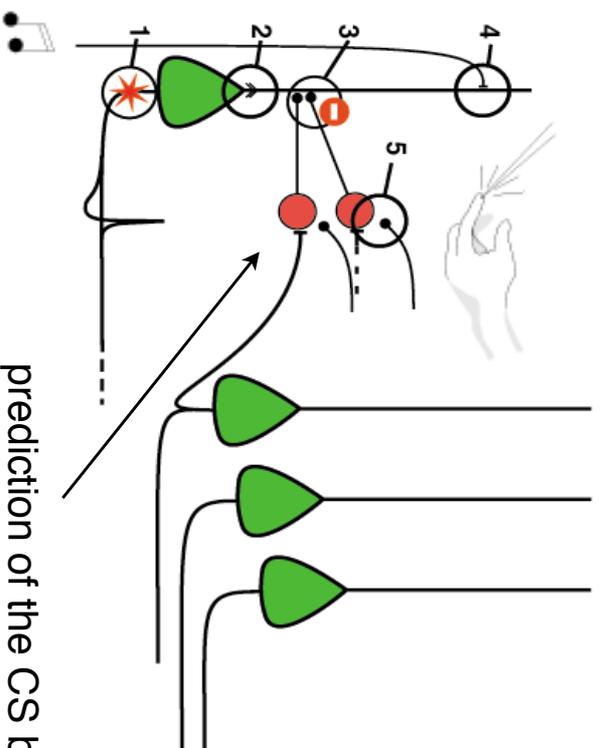
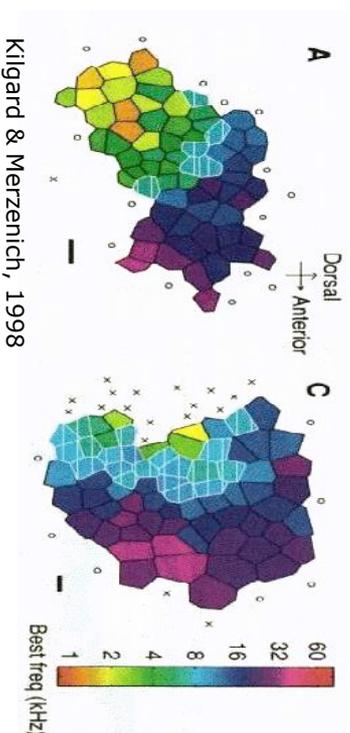
Sensor Sampling Entropy

HS = 6.8

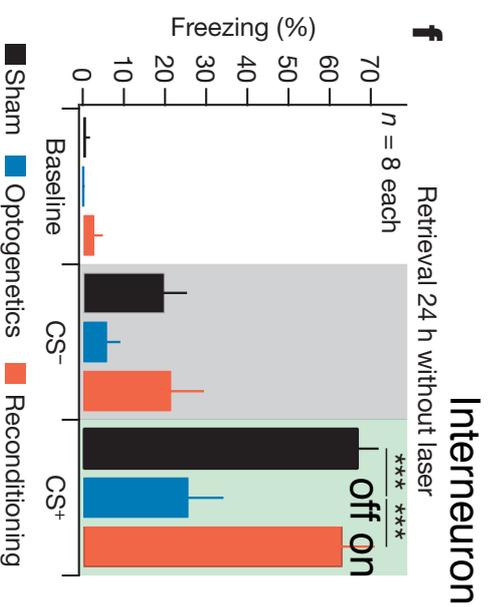
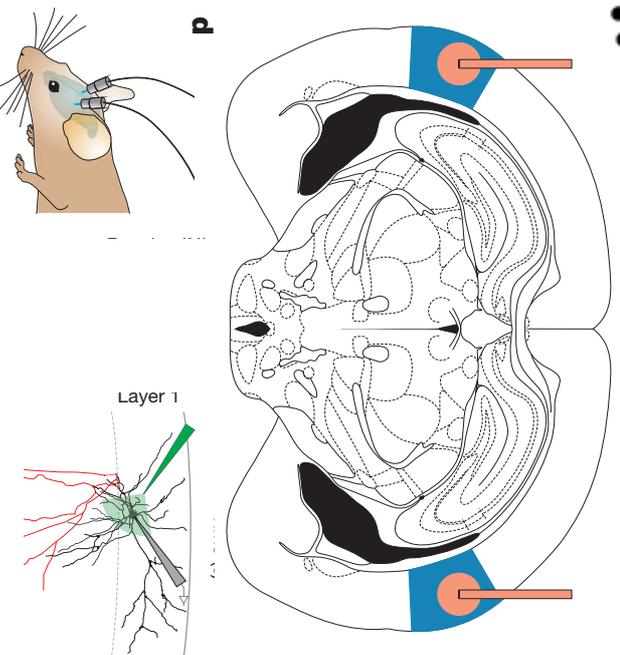
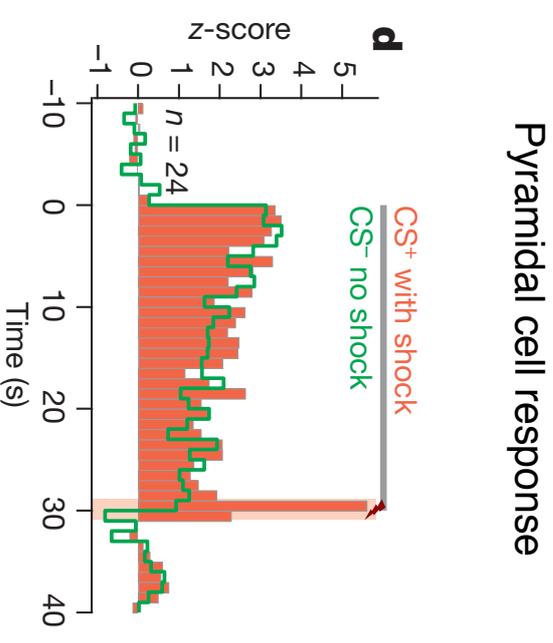
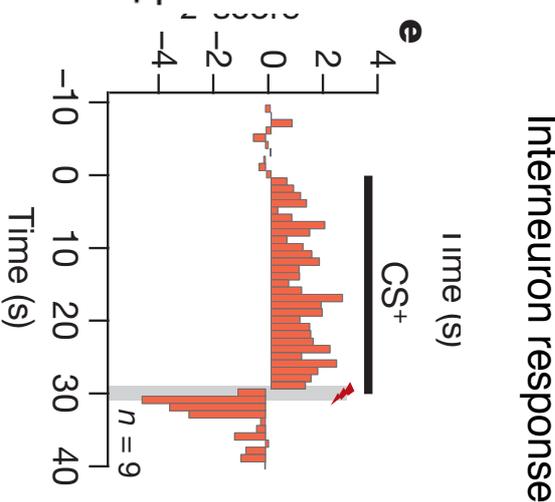
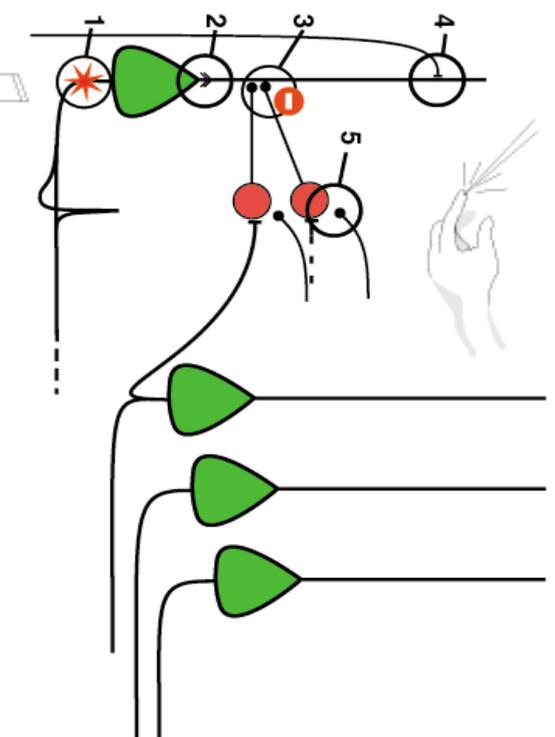
# Non-specific: CS Identification



# Non-specific: CS Identification



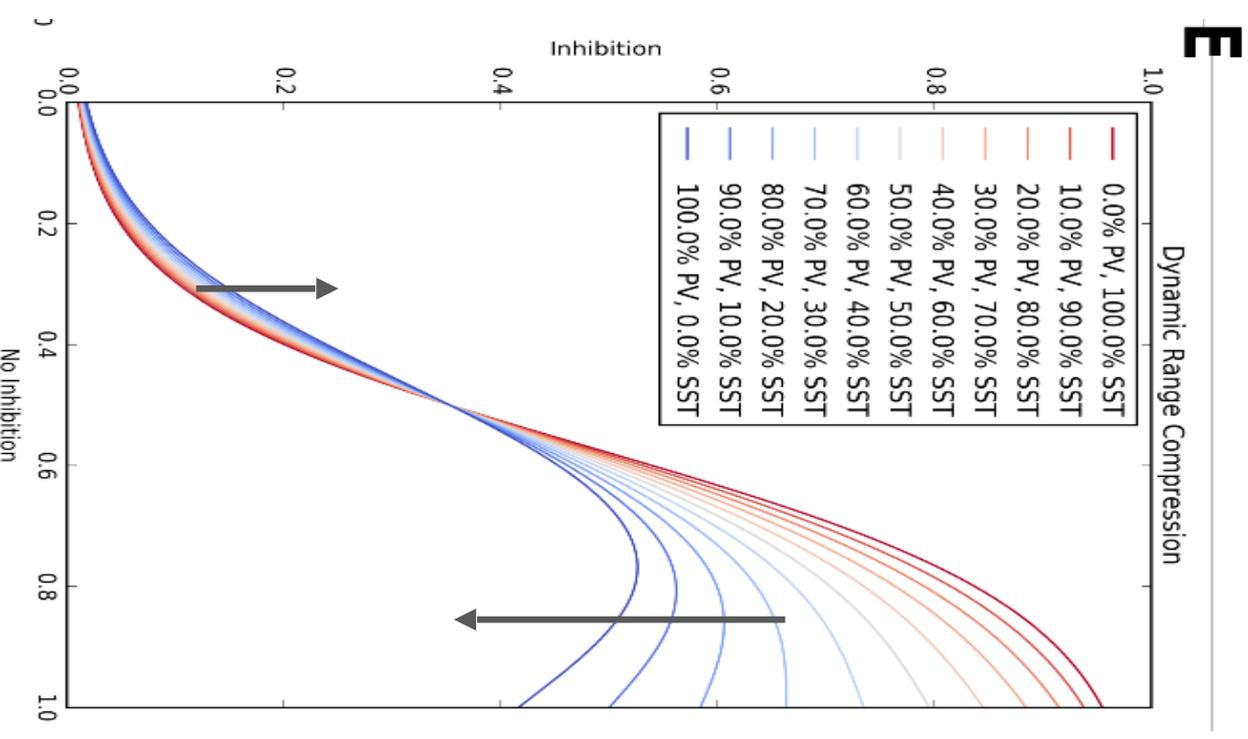
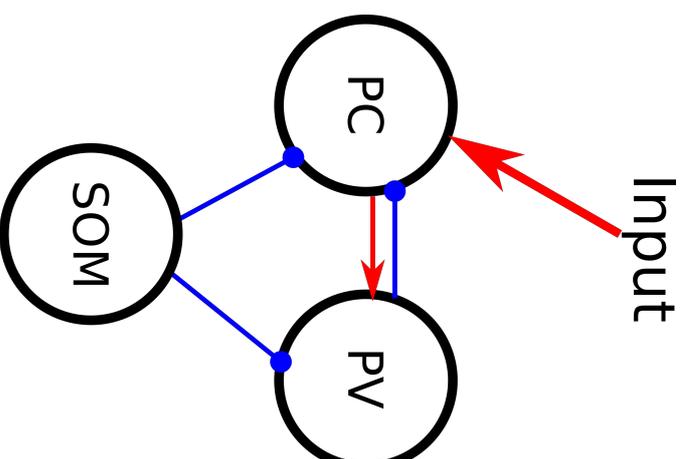
# Empirical evidence: Interneurons modulate learning in auditory



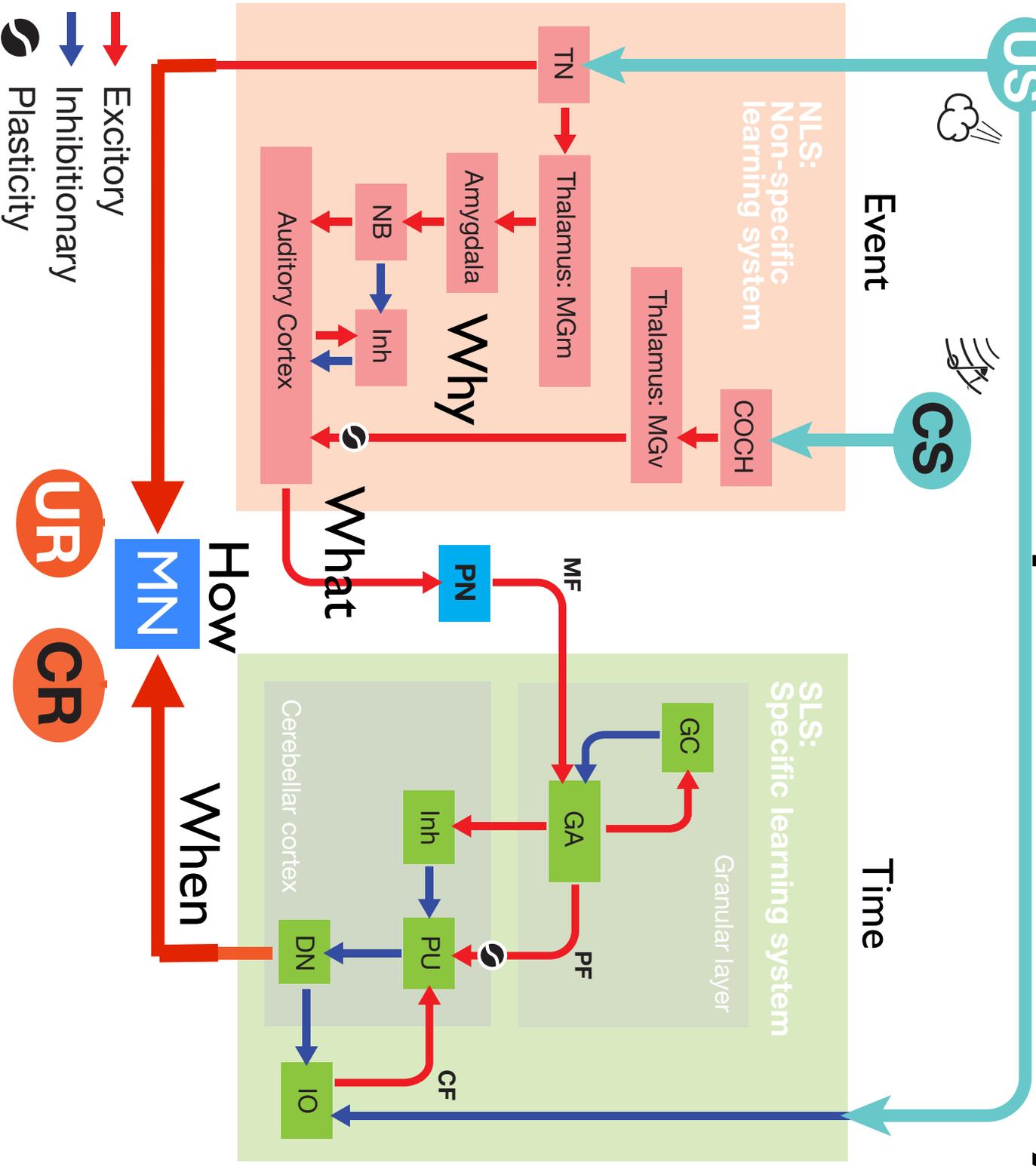
# Cholinergic Modulation of Dynamic Range Compression

Gain control of one signal excitatory unit with and without the effects of inhibition. Color modulates balance in inhibitory activity for different inh. Populations

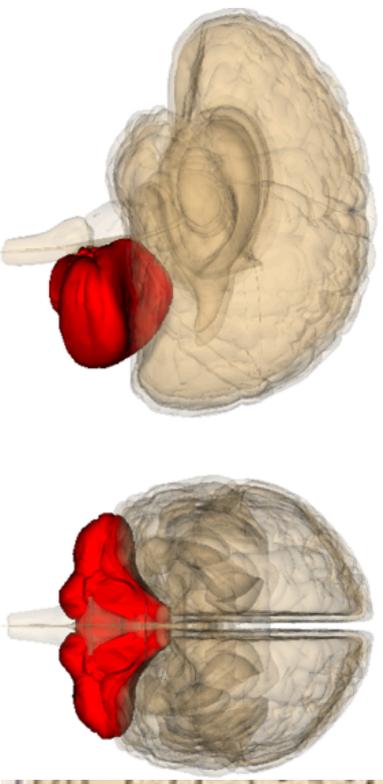
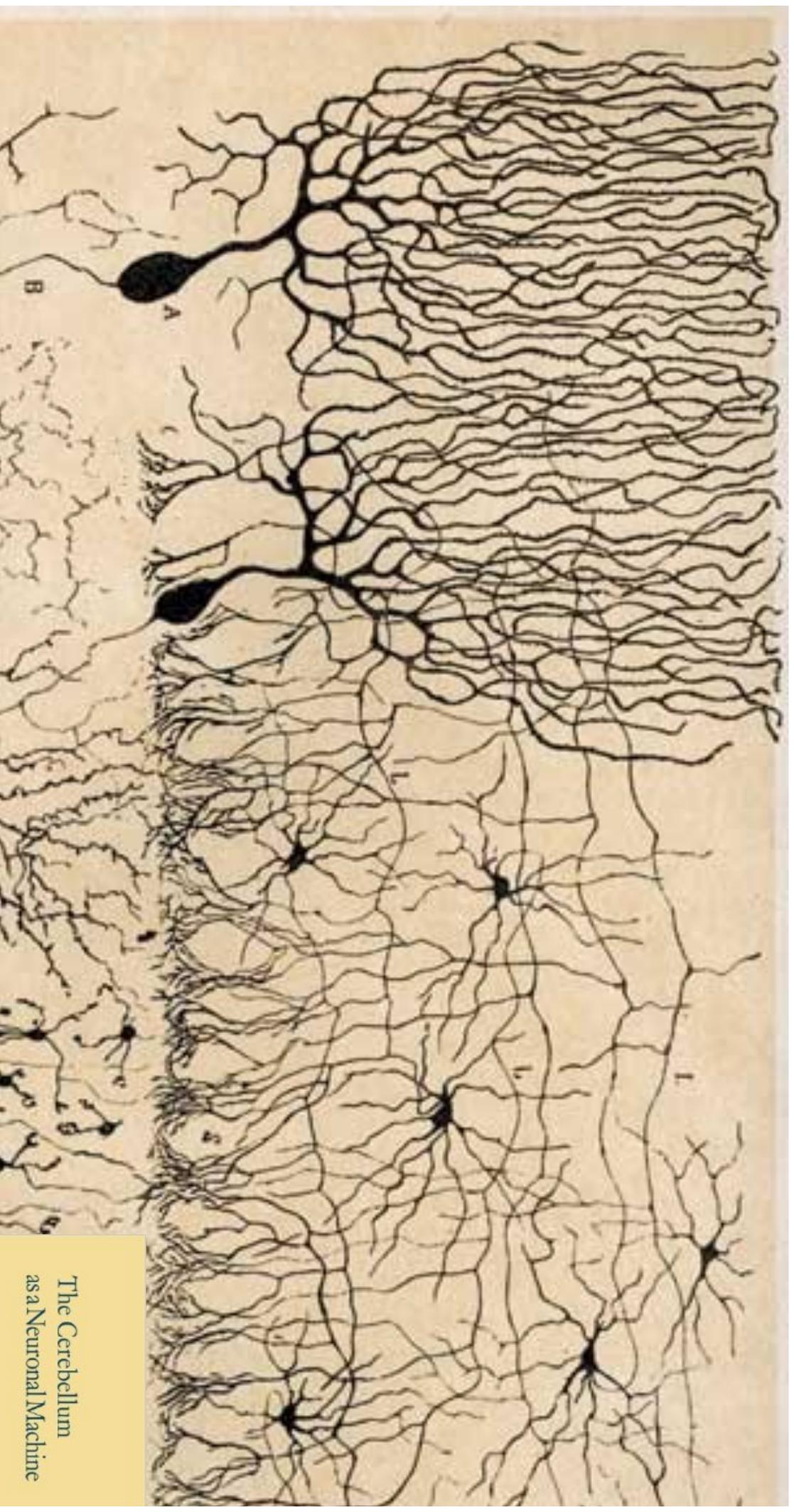
**ACh could foster sensory exploration (global disinhibition + stronger local inhibition)**



# Konorski's 2-phase theory



# Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum



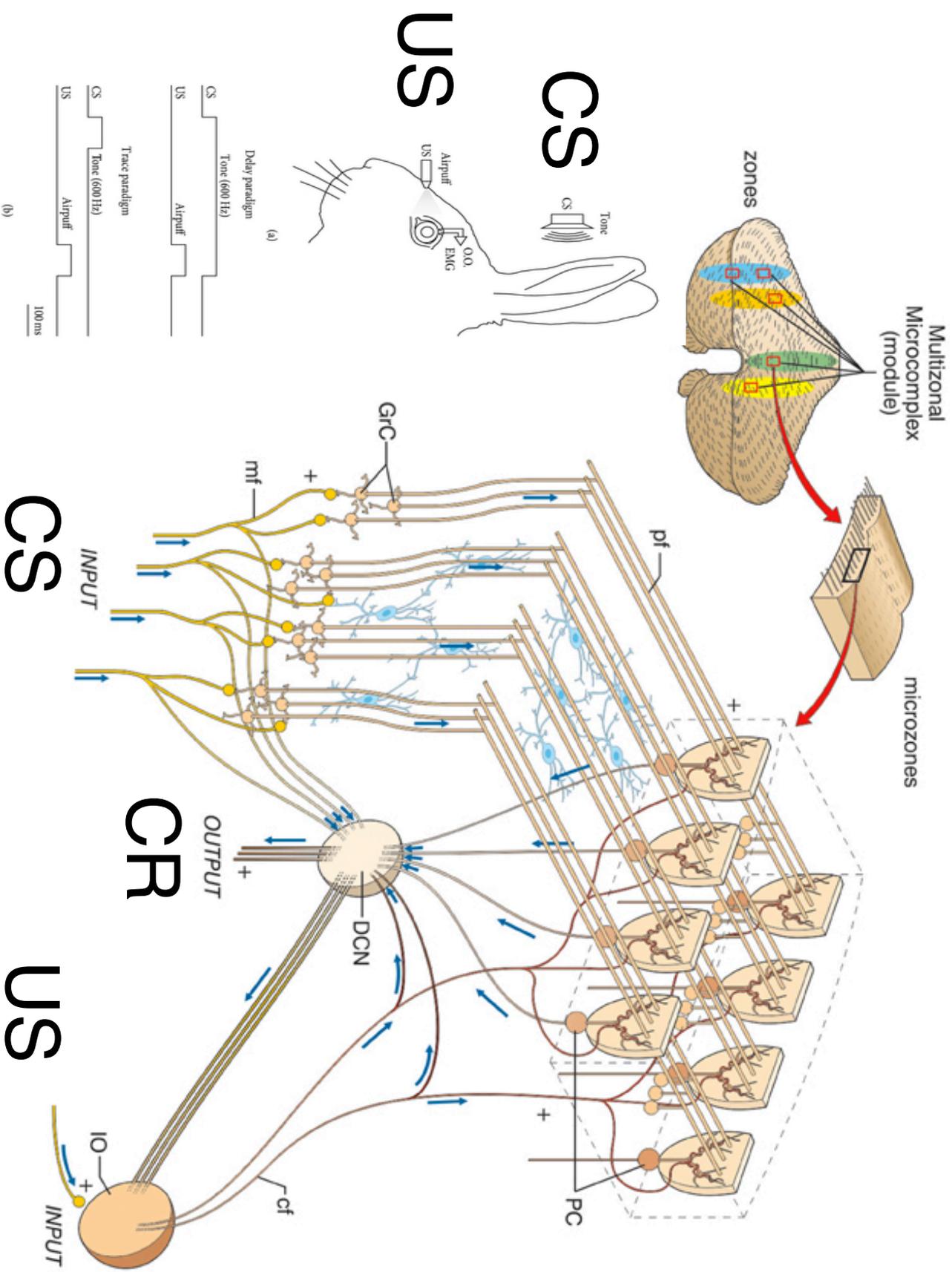
The Cerebellum  
as a Neuronal Machine

John C. Eccles  
Masao Ito  
János Szerényi

Springer Science+Business Media, LLC

# Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum

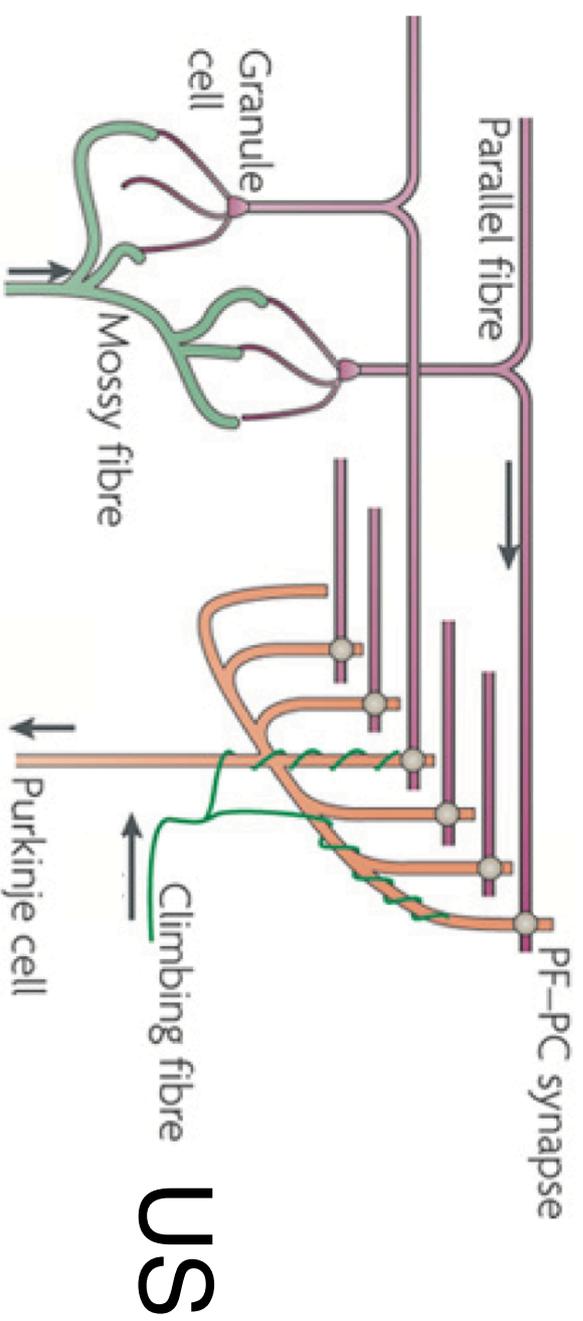
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## Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum

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The cerebellum associates predictive signals with adaptive motor responses

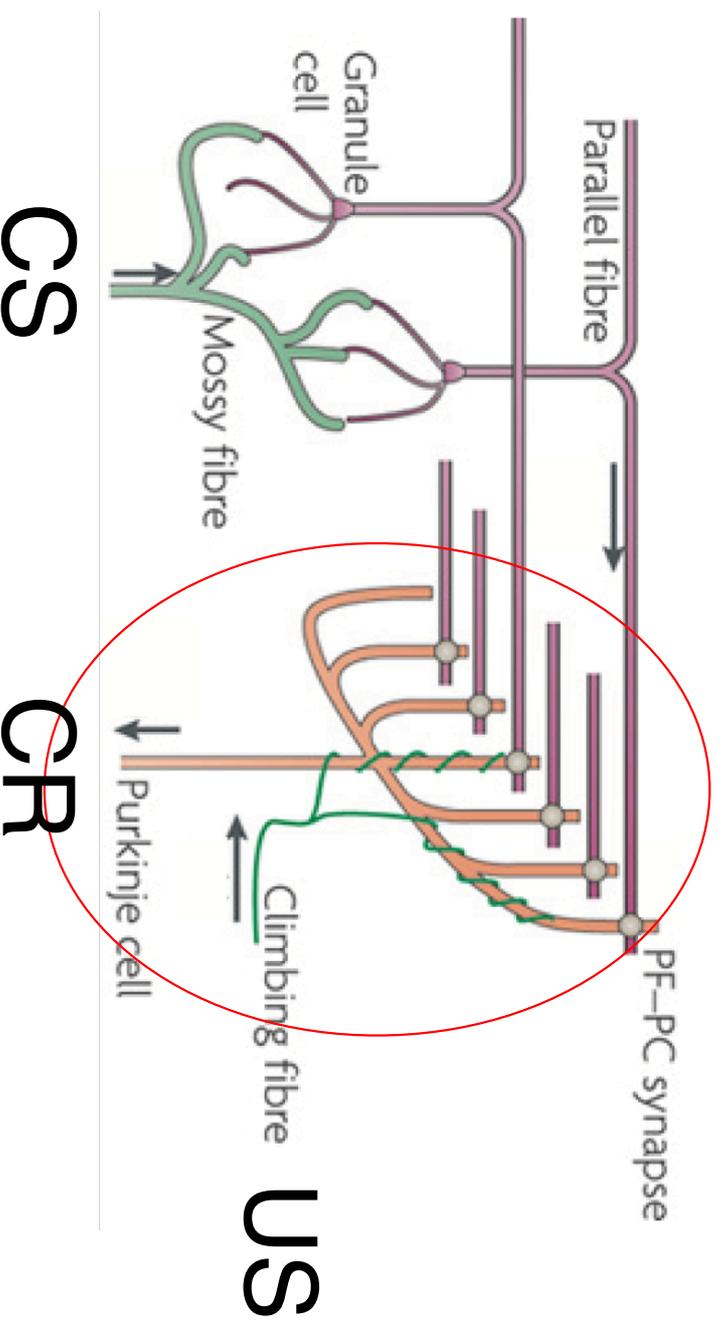


## Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum

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The cerebellum associates predictive signals (CS) with adaptive motor responses (CR)

- Anticipatory action: Purkinje Cell – Deep Cerebellar Nucleus

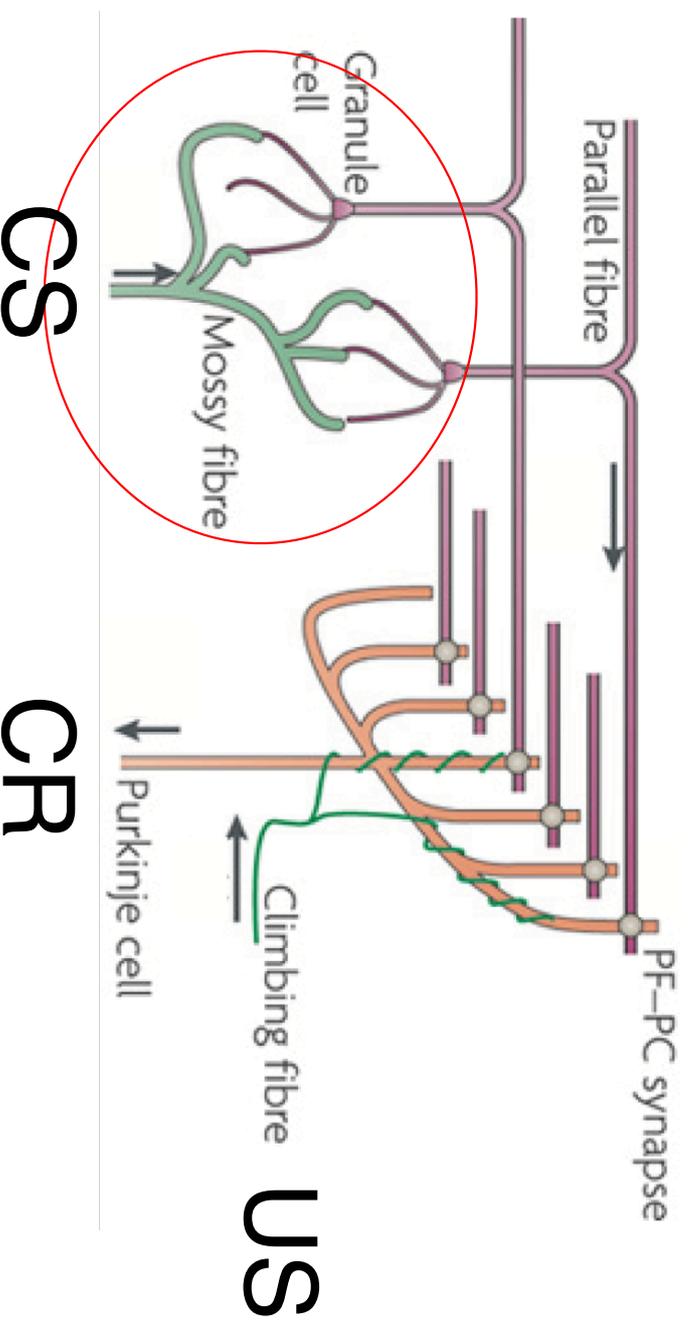


## Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum

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The cerebellum associates predictive signals (CS) with adaptive motor responses (CR)

- Anticipatory action: Purkinje Cell – Deep Cerebellar Nucleus
- Predictive signal: Mossy fibers – Granule Cells



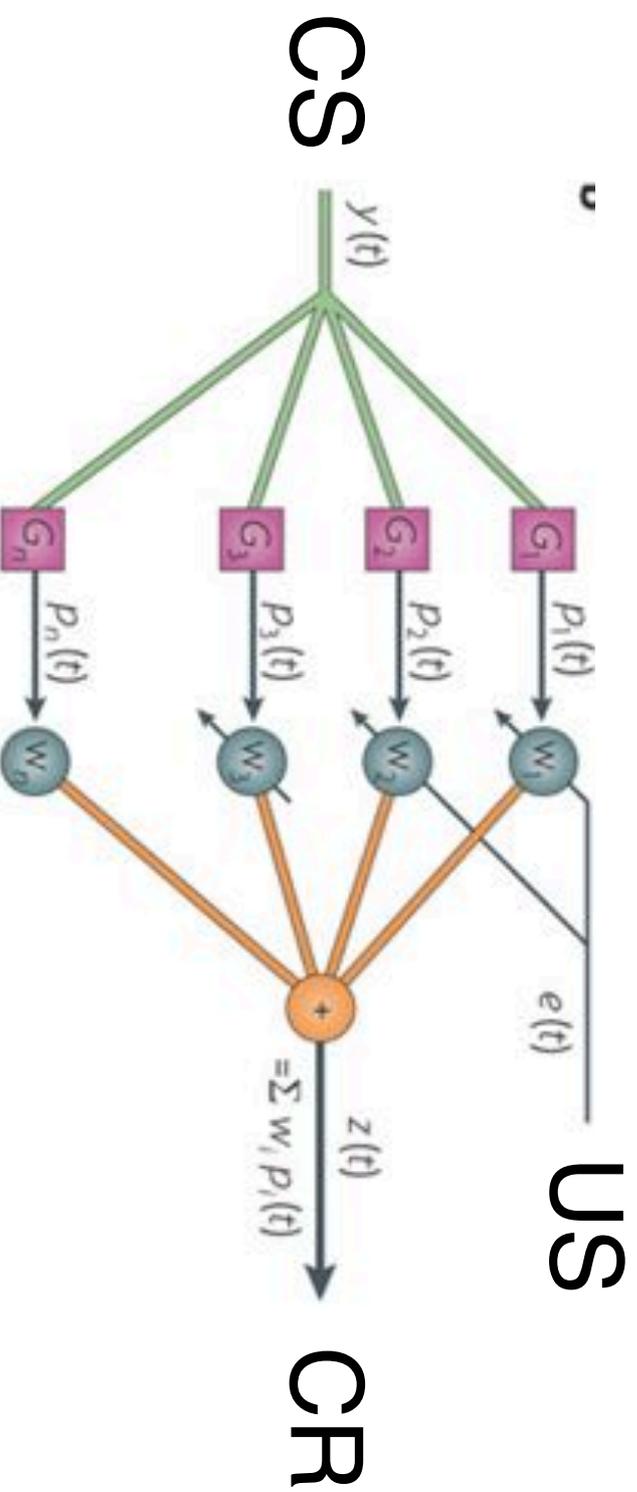


## Learning anticipatory actions in the cerebellum

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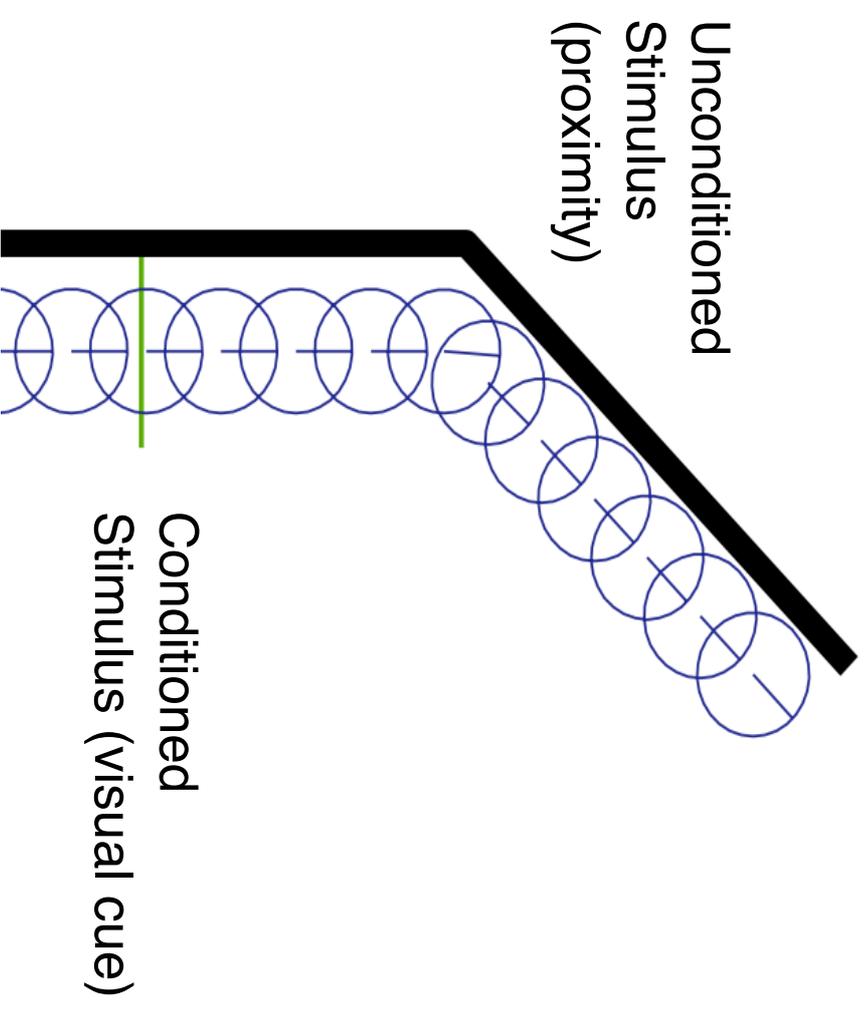
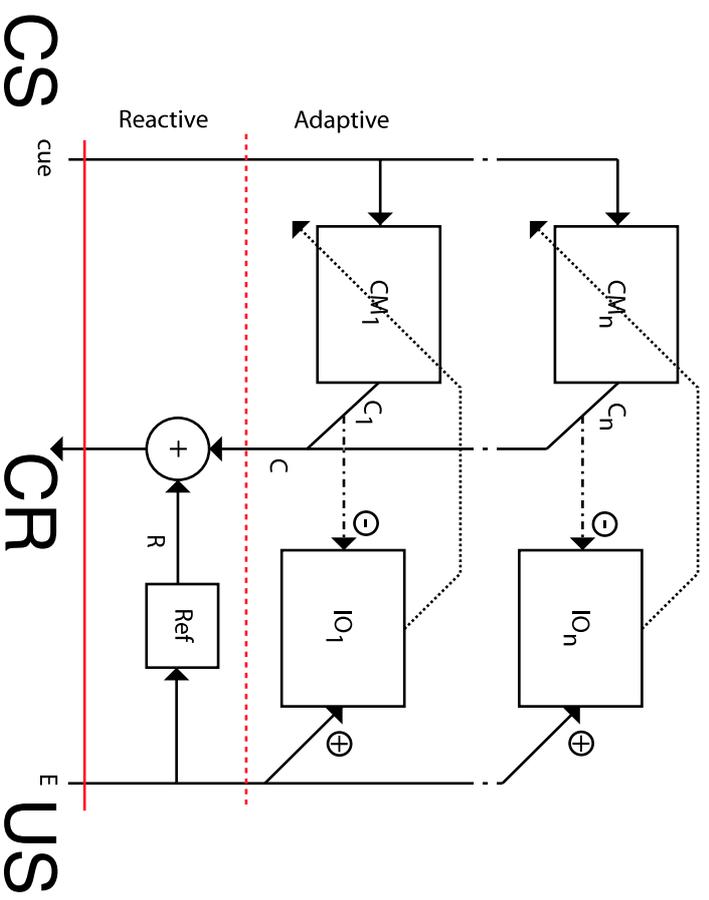
The cerebellum associates predictive signals (CS) with adaptive motor responses (CR)

- Anticipatory action: Purkinje Cell – Deep Cerebellar Nucleus
- Predictive signal: Mossy fibers – Granule Cells
- Teaching signal: Climbing fibers



# Anticipatory actions in robots

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- IROS 2013 -

# Speed generalization capabilities of a cerebellar model on a rapid navigation task

Ivan Herreros, Giovanni Maffei, Santiago Brandi, Marti Sanchez-Fibla  
and Paul F.M.J. Verschure

**SPECS**  
Systems, Perception, Execution and Cognitive Systems group



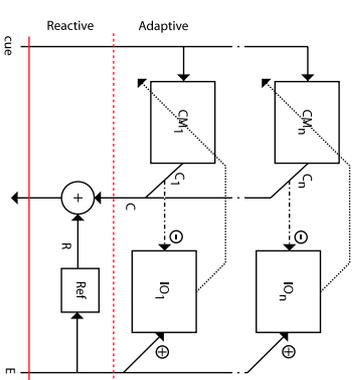
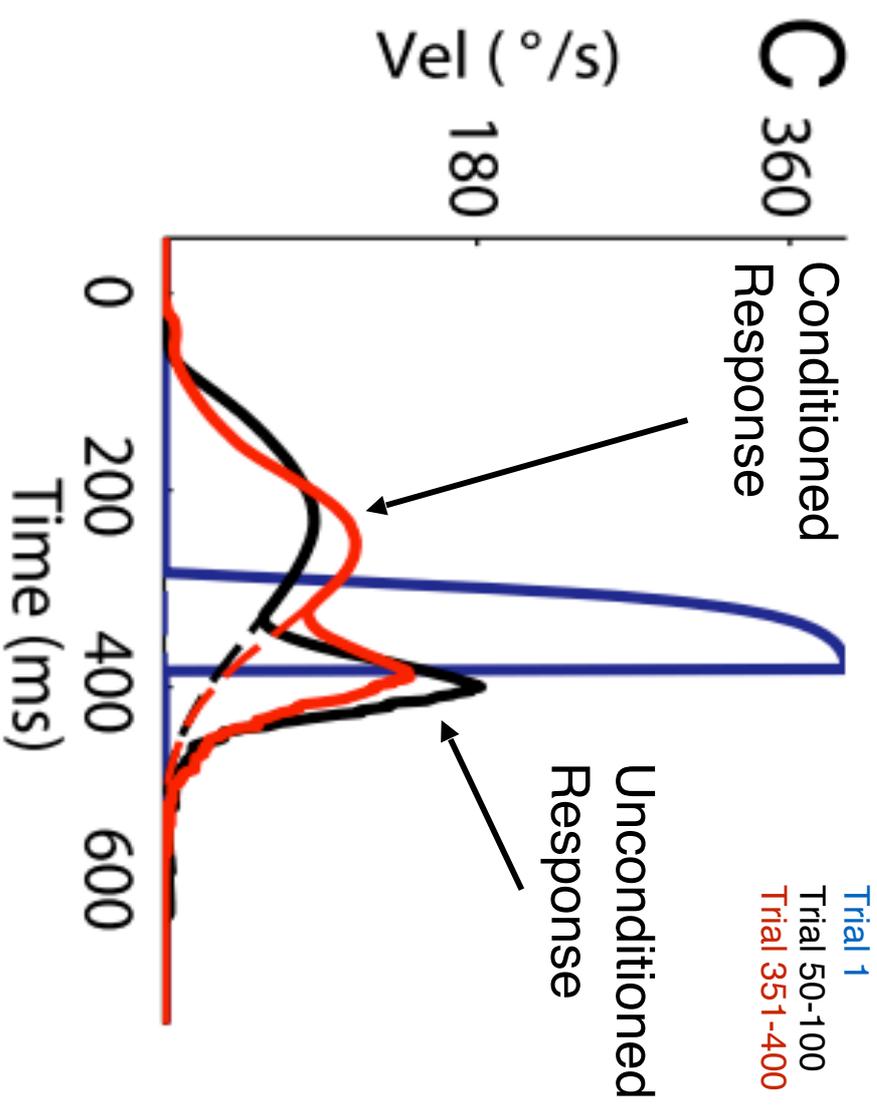
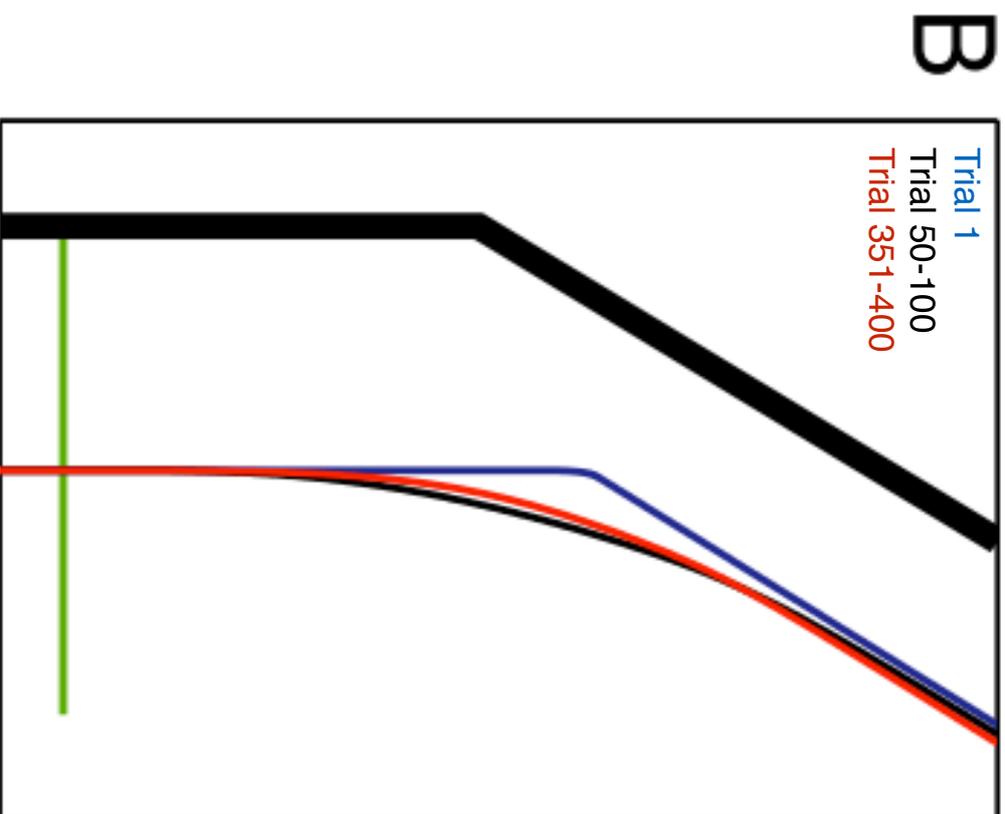
SPECS, Technology Department, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Carrer de Roc Boronat 138, 08018 Barcelona, Spain.

**\*icrea**  
Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats

ICREA, Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats, Passeig Lluís Companys 23, 08010 Barcelona

# Anticipatory actions in robots

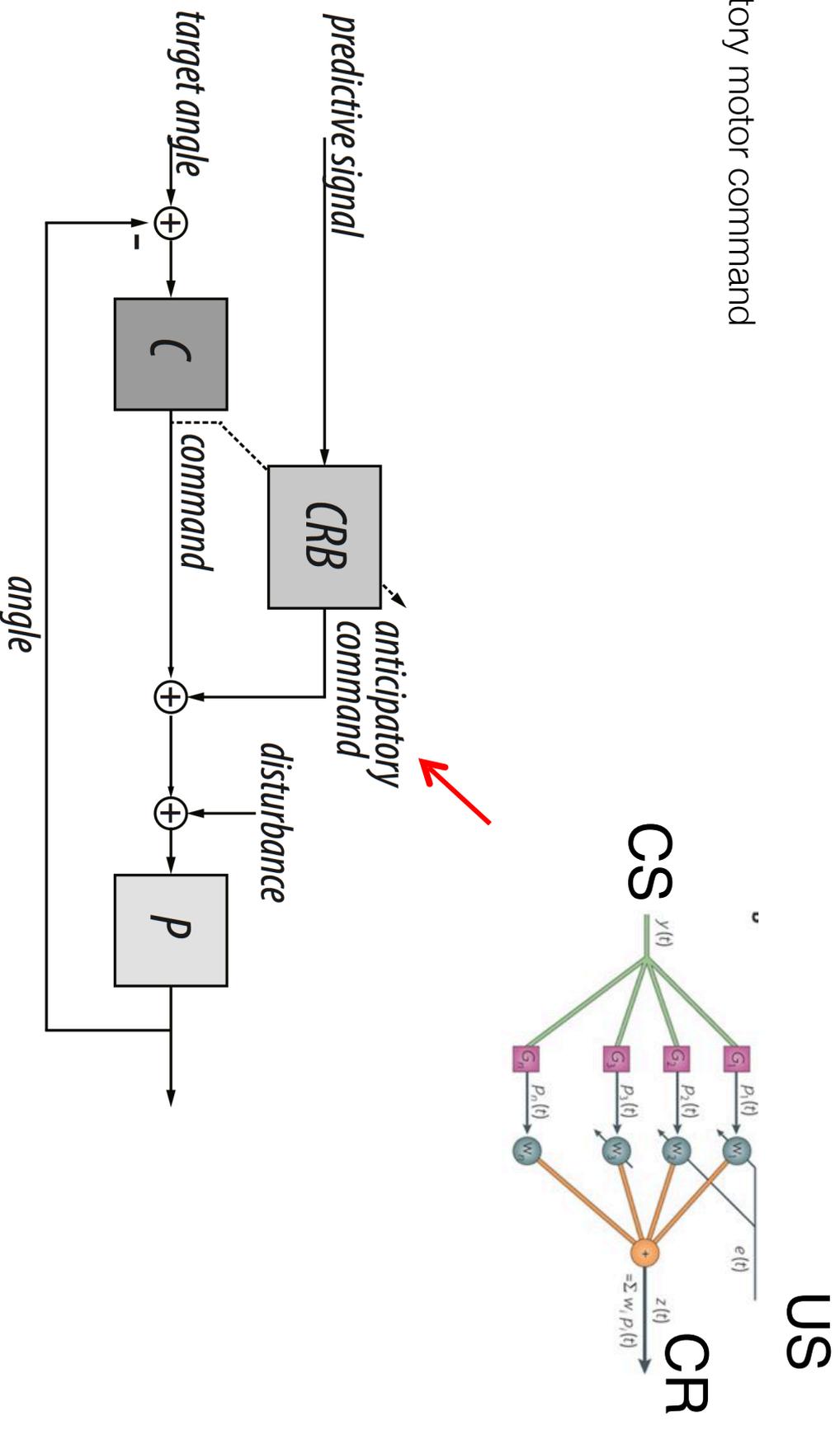
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# Cerebellum as a inverse model (Kawato, 1987)

Advancing a corrective action to achieve a desired state of the body

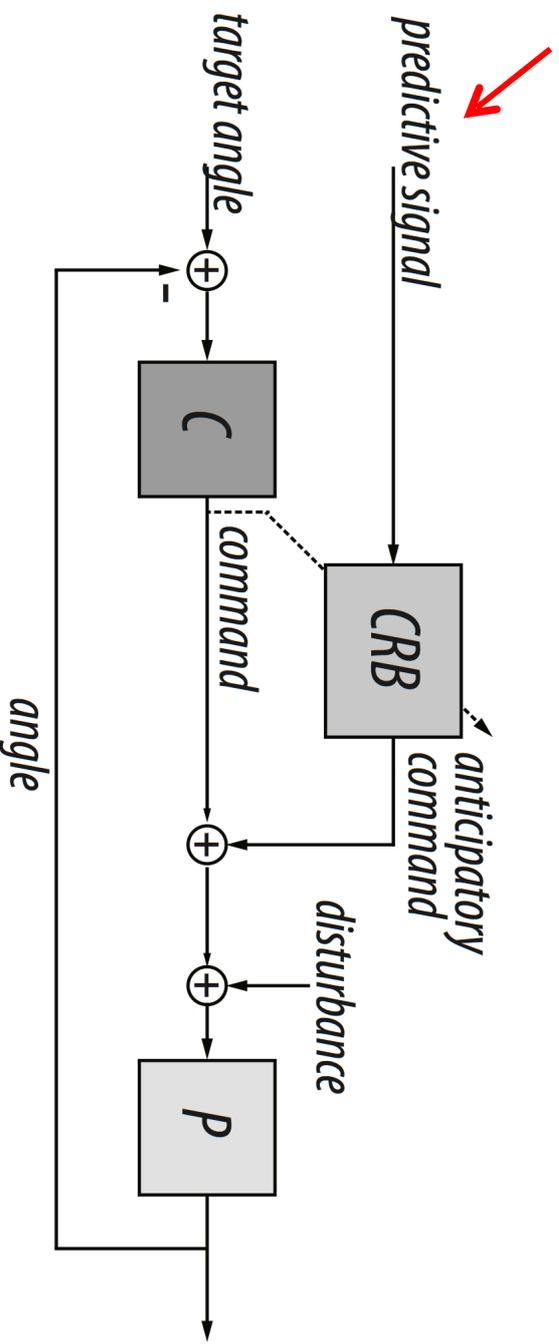
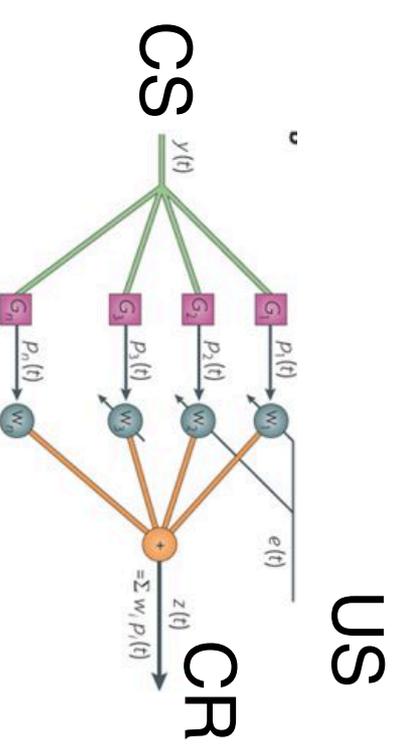
- Anticipatory motor command



# Cerebellum as a inverse model (Kawato, 1987)

Advancing a corrective action to achieve a desired state of the body

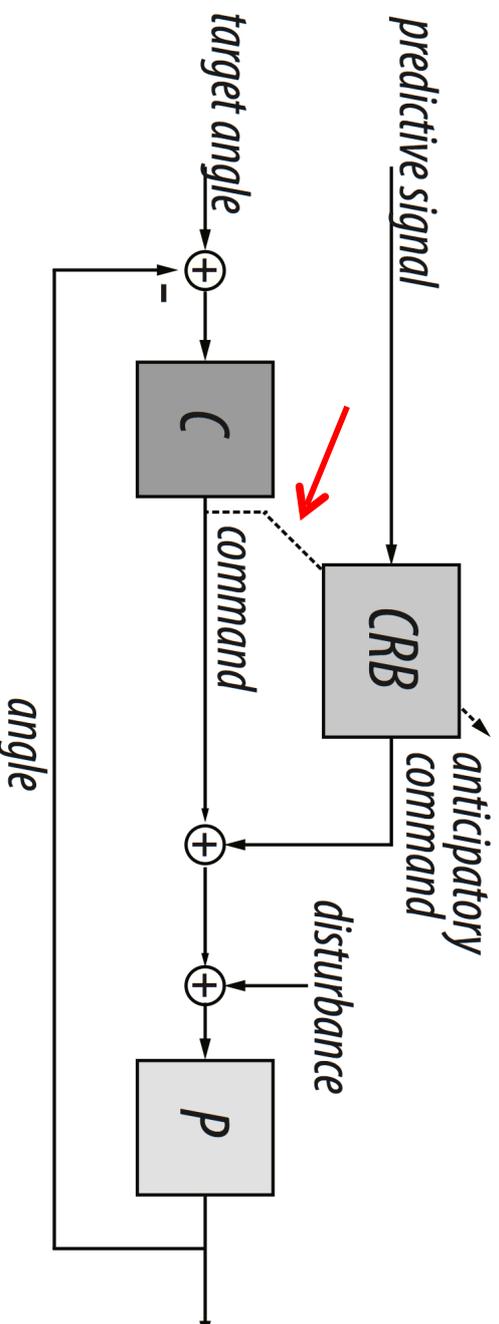
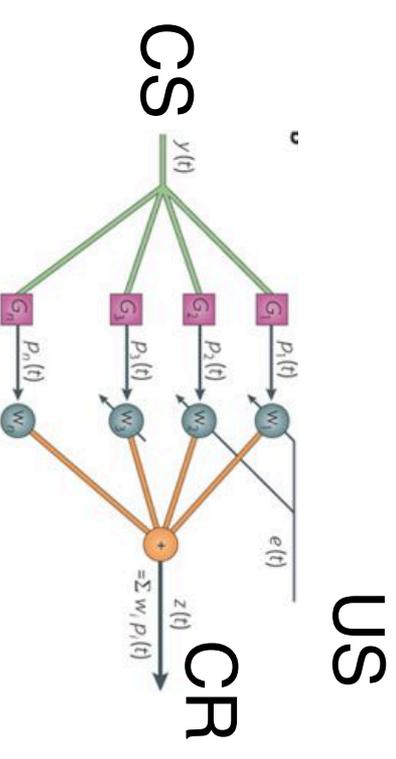
- Anticipatory motor command
- Trigger: predictive signal



# Cerebellum as a inverse model (Kawato, 1987)

Advancing a corrective action to achieve a desired state of the body

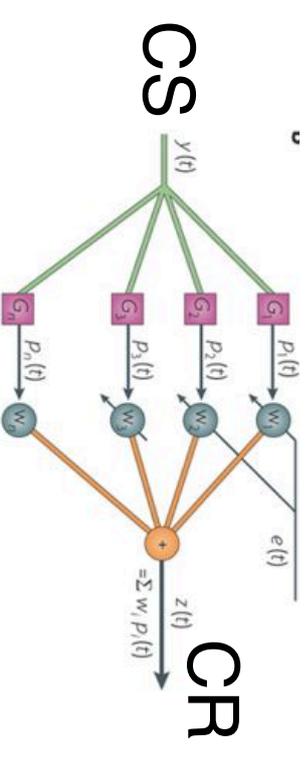
- Anticipatory motor command
- Trigger: predictive signal
- Teaching signal: output of the feedback controller



# Cerebellum as a inverse model (Kawato, 1987)

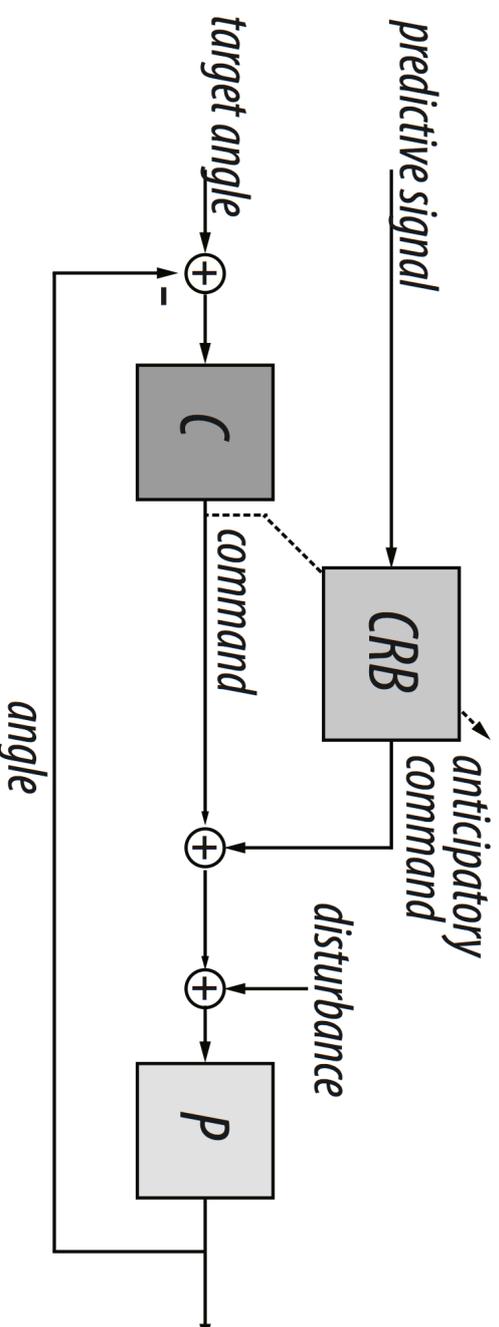
Advancing a corrective action to achieve a desired state of the body

US



## Feedback Error Learning (FEL)

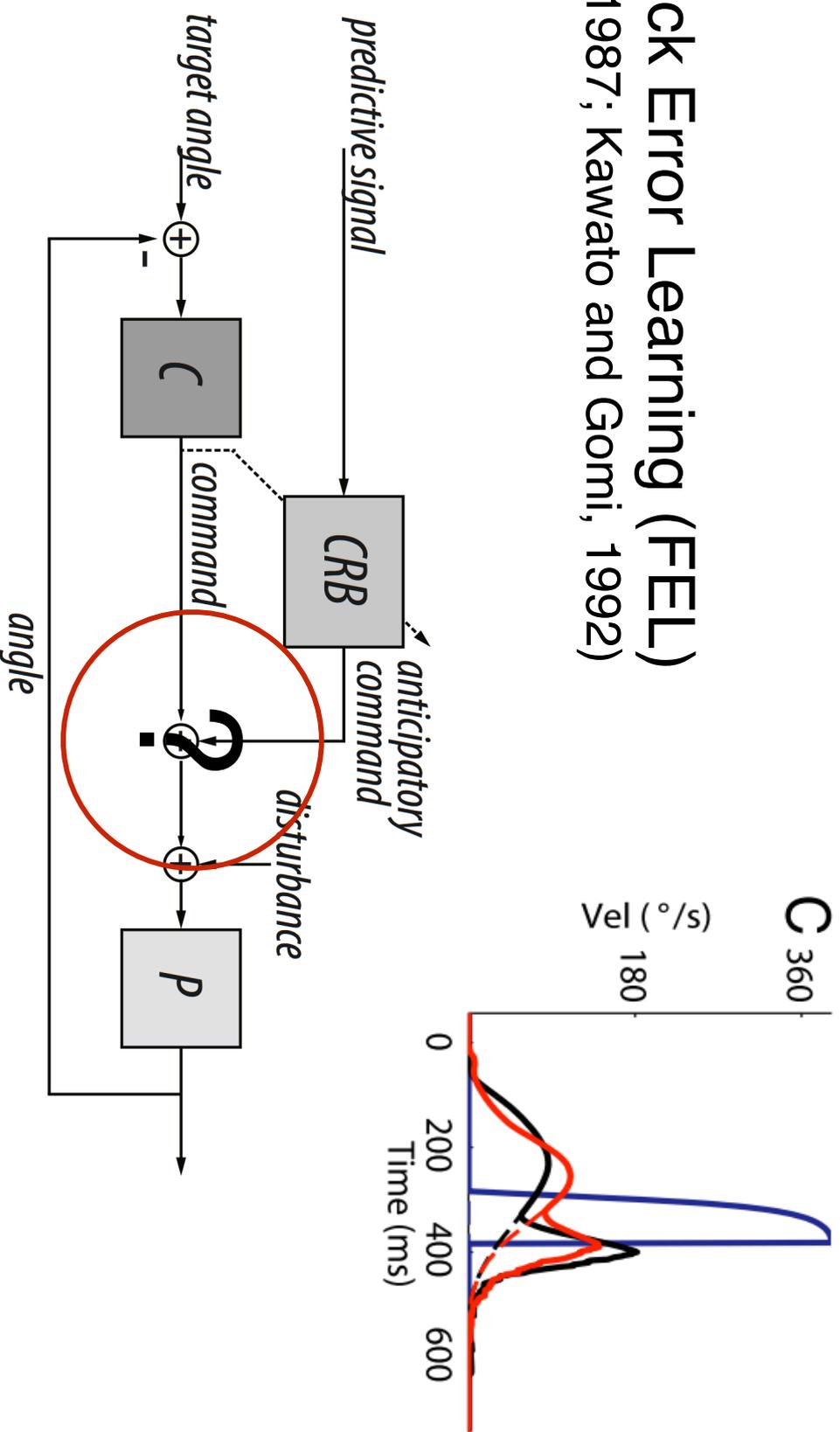
(Kawato, 1987; Kawato and Gomi, 1992)



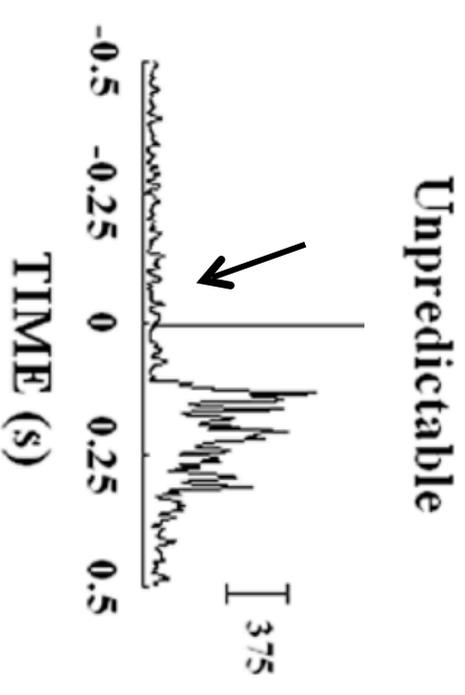
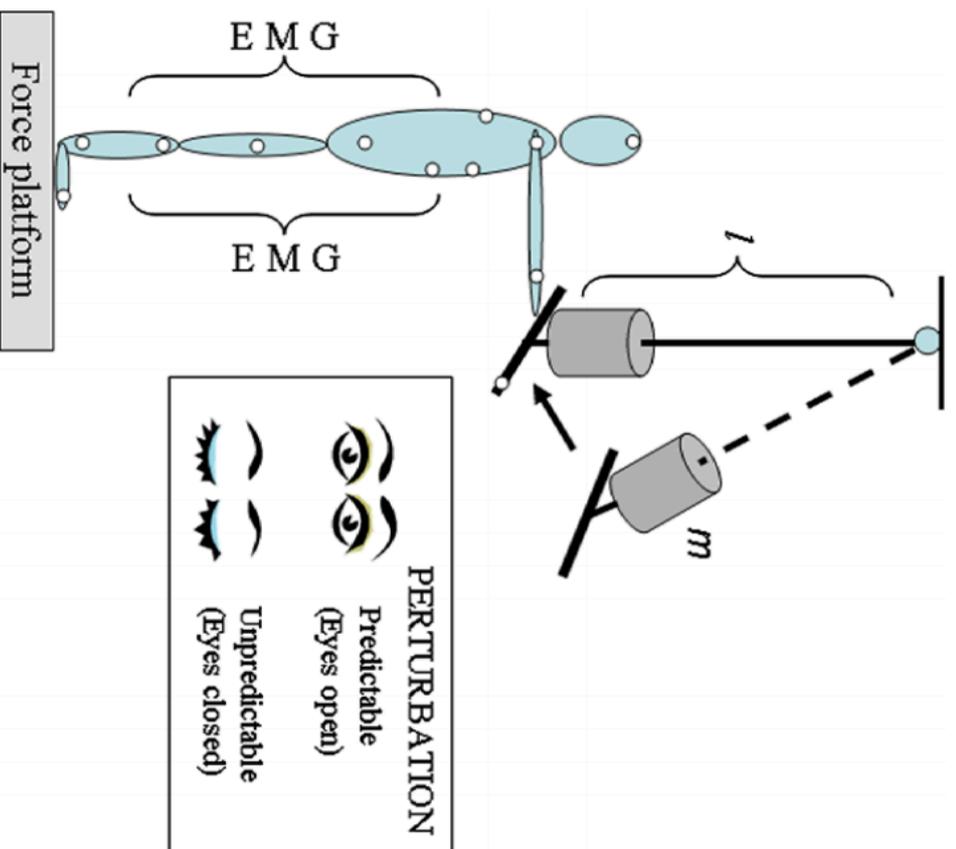
Advancing a corrective action to achieve a desired state of the body

## Feedback Error Learning (FEL)

(Kawato, 1987; Kawato and Gomi, 1992)

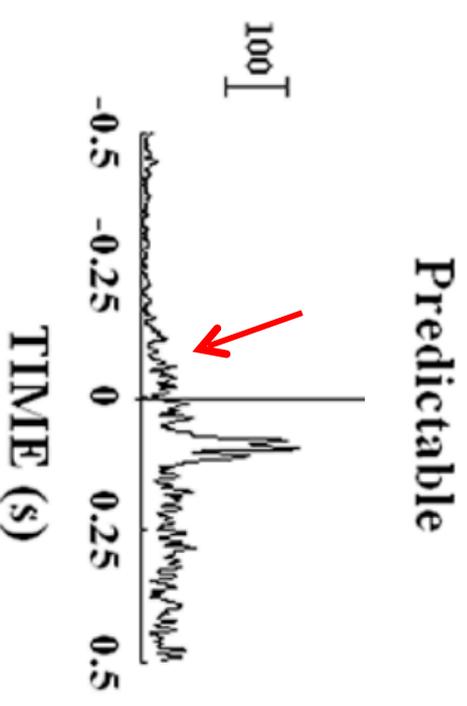
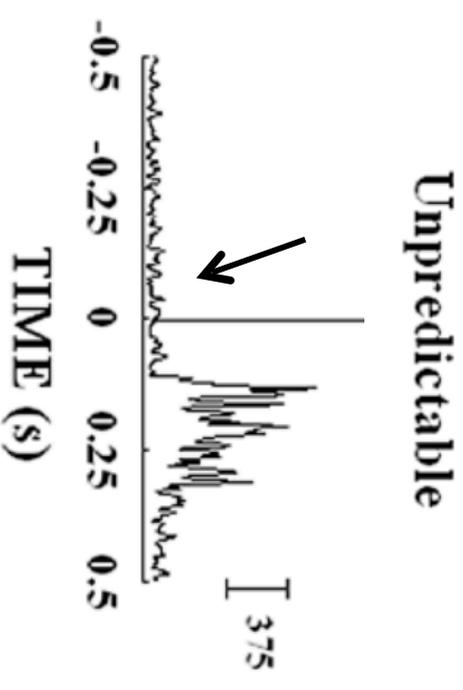
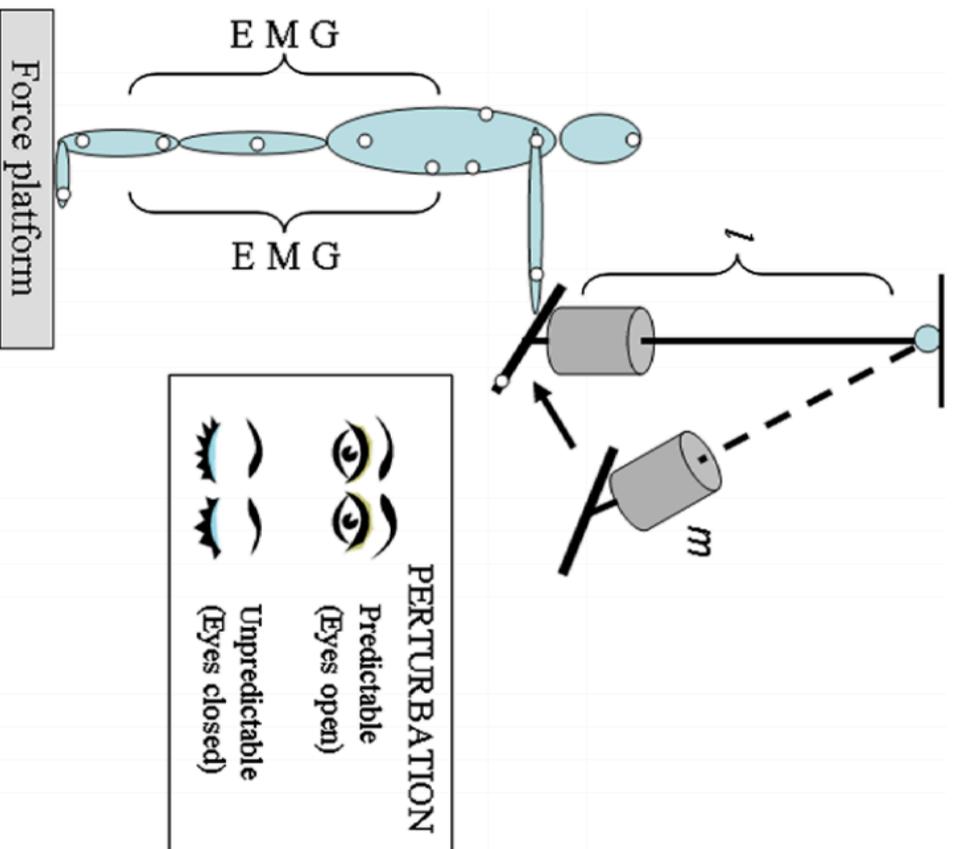


# Anticipatory postural adjustments



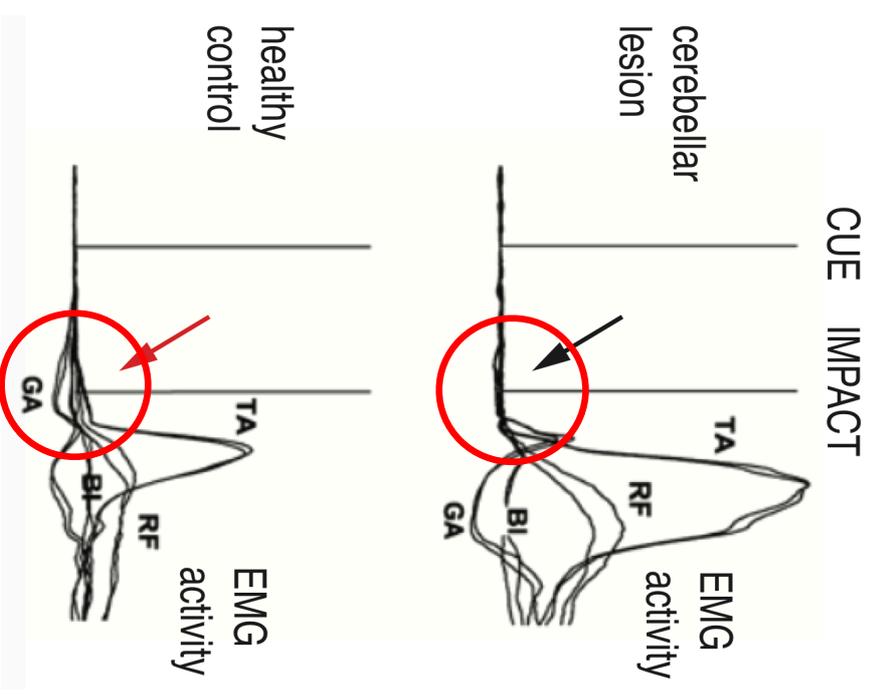
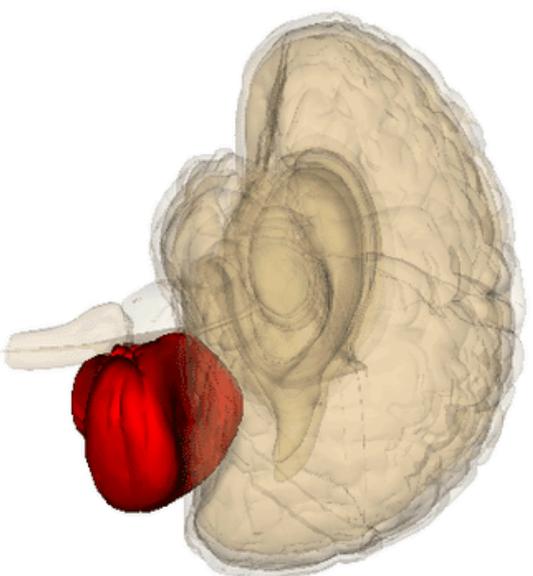
# Anticipatory postural adjustments

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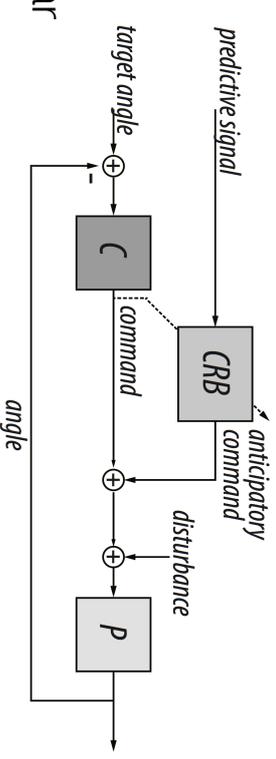
Anticipatory postural adjustments depend on the cerebellum (Massion, 1994)

- Cerebellar ataxic subjects do not display APAs
- Muscle activity follows the displacement even if predictable



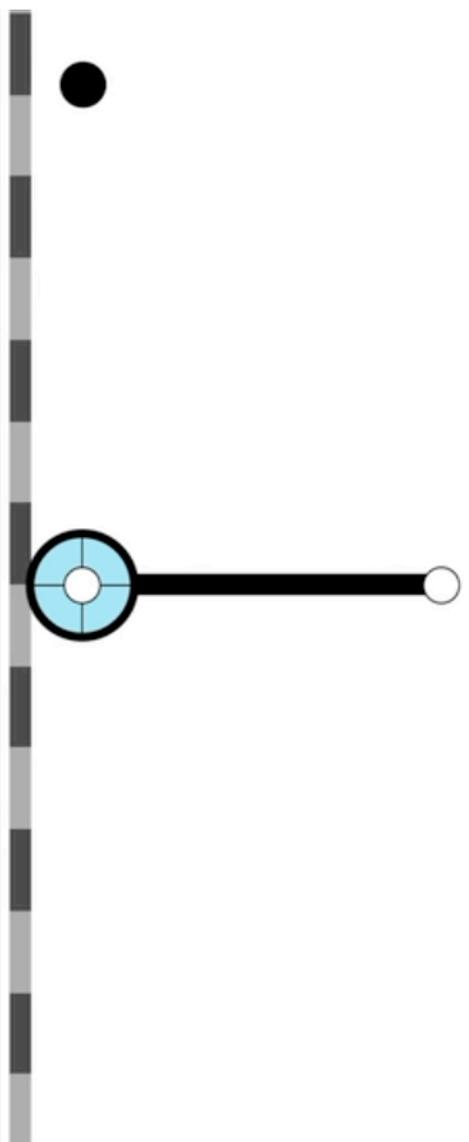
## Anticipatory postural control in a mobile robot

- An agent has to minimize the effect of a predictable disturbar
- Disturbance provokes a vestibular error: angle
- Disturbance is preceded by distal cue (vision) and proximal cue (proprioception)



time from impact:  
-0.7 S

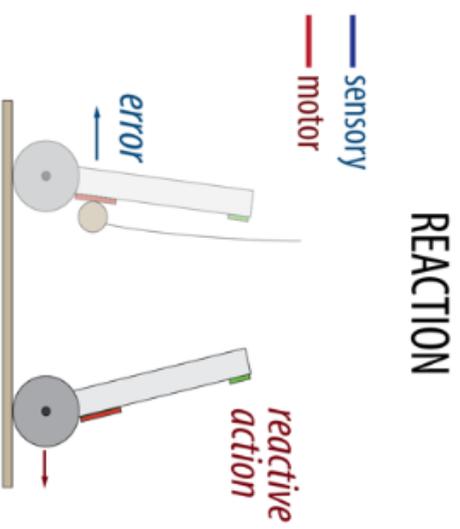
cue:  
imp:



Three phases of postural control (Latash, 2008)

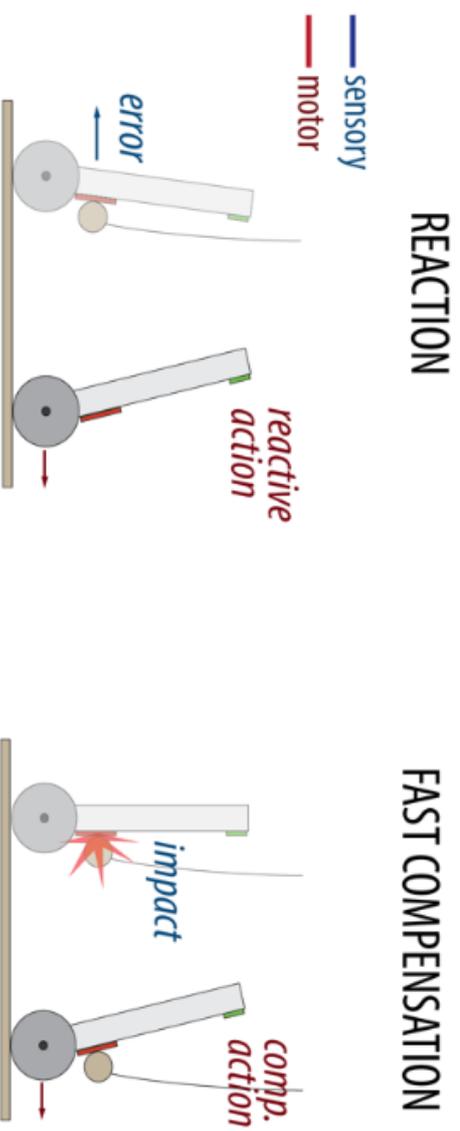
Three phases of postural control (Latash, 2008)

- Reaction: corrective action triggered by vestibular error



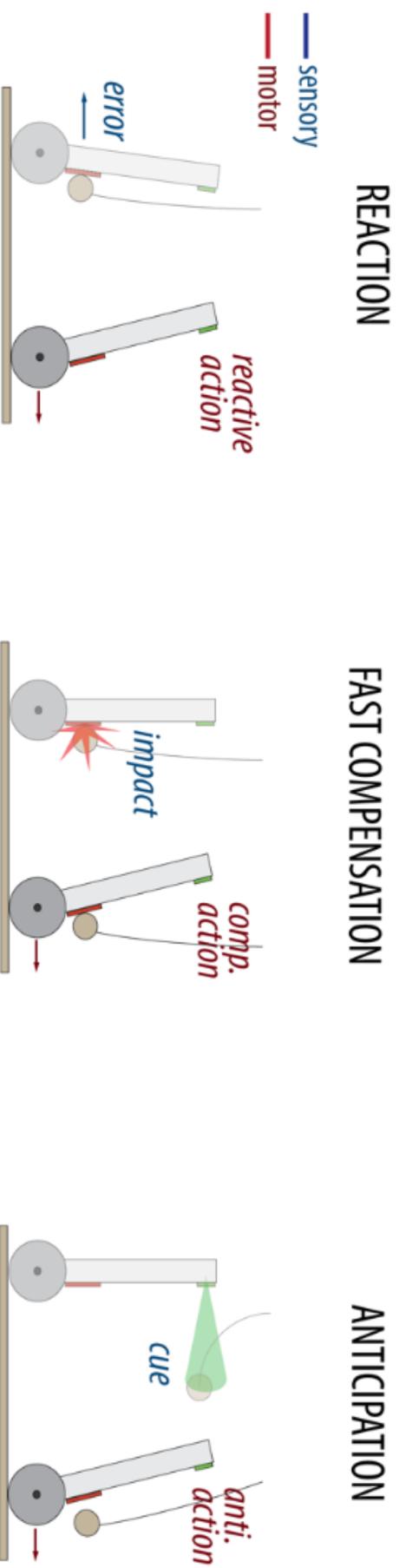
Three phases of postural control (Latash, 2008)

- Reaction: corrective action triggered by vestibular error
- Fast compensation: corrective action triggered by the impact

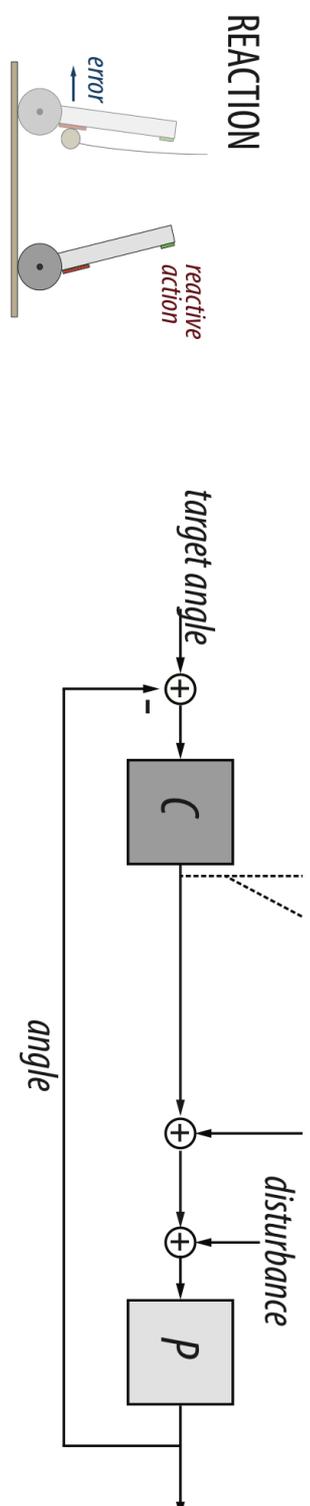


Three phases of postural control (Latash, 2008)

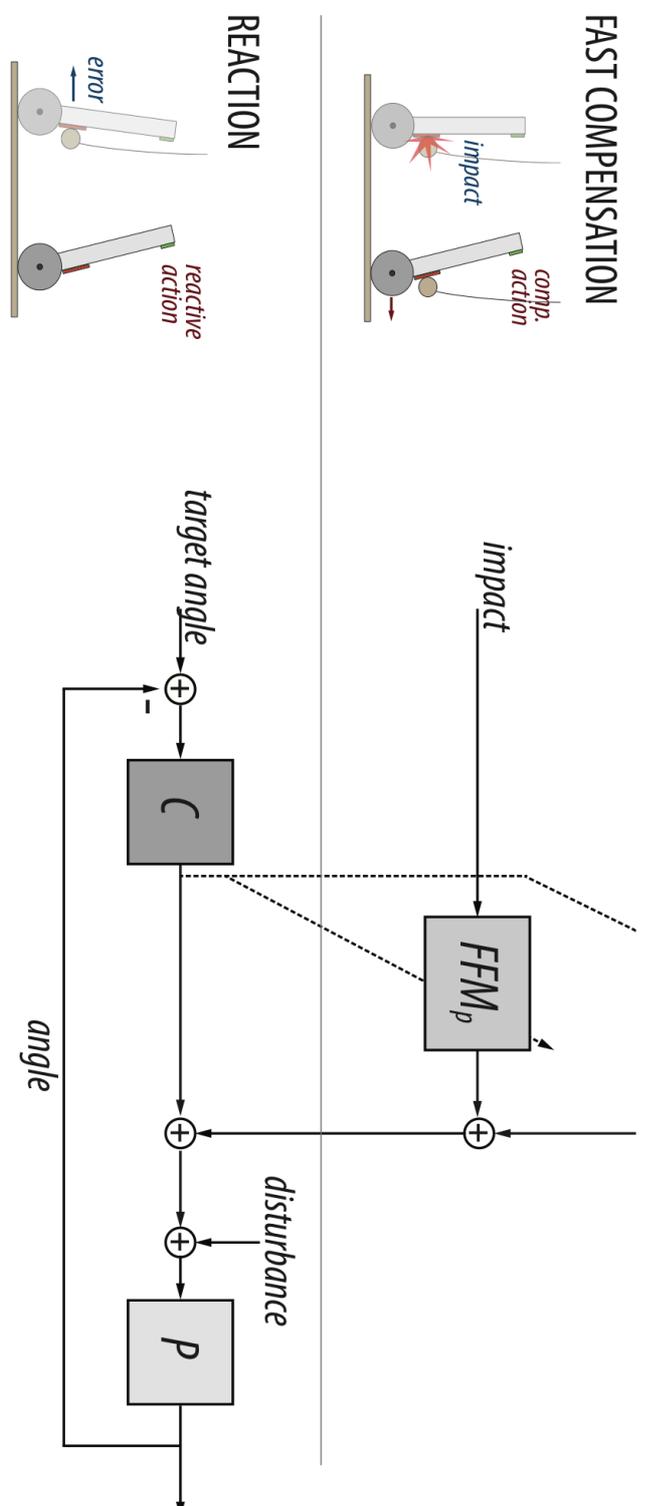
- Reaction: corrective action triggered by vestibular error
- Fast compensation: corrective action triggered by the impact
- Anticipation: corrective action triggered by the cue



Postural control architecture based on Feedback Error Learning (Kawato, 1987)

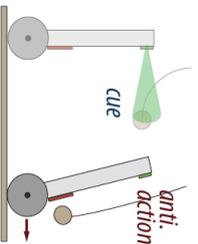


Postural control architecture based on Feedback Error Learning (Kawato, 1987)

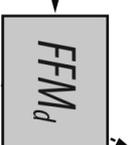


Postural control architecture based on Feedback Error Learning (Kawato, 1987)

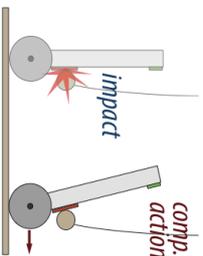
## ANTICIPATION



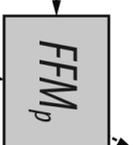
distal cue



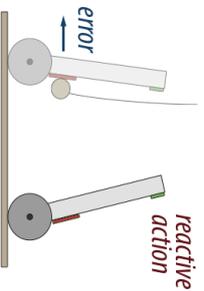
## FAST COMPENSATION



impact



## REACTION

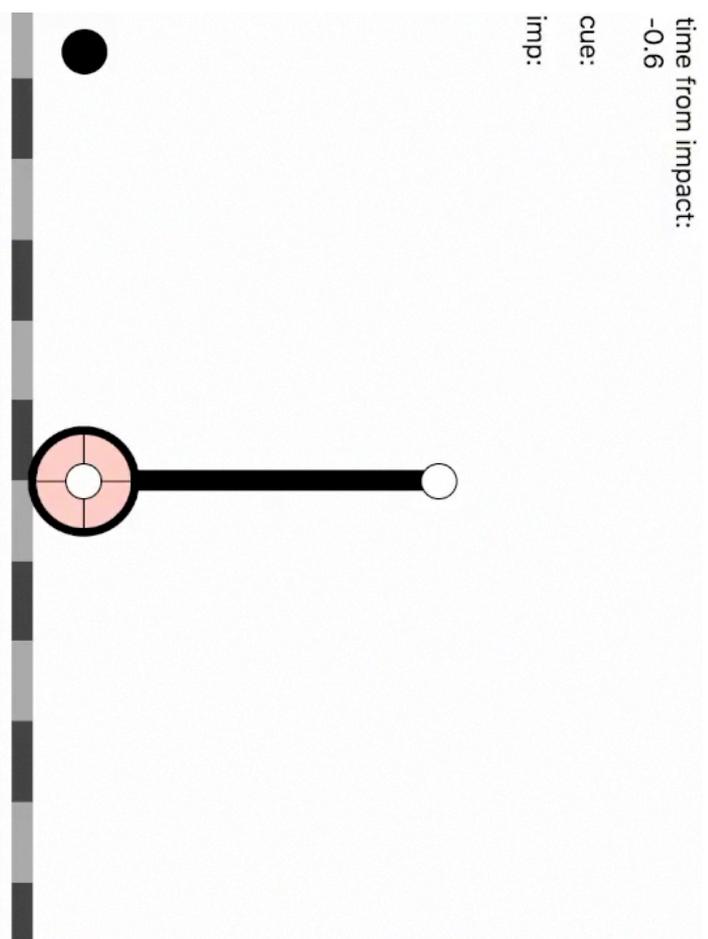


target angle



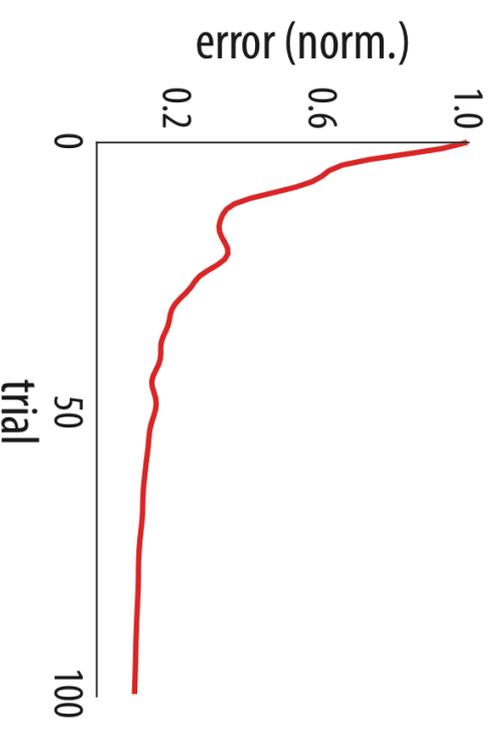
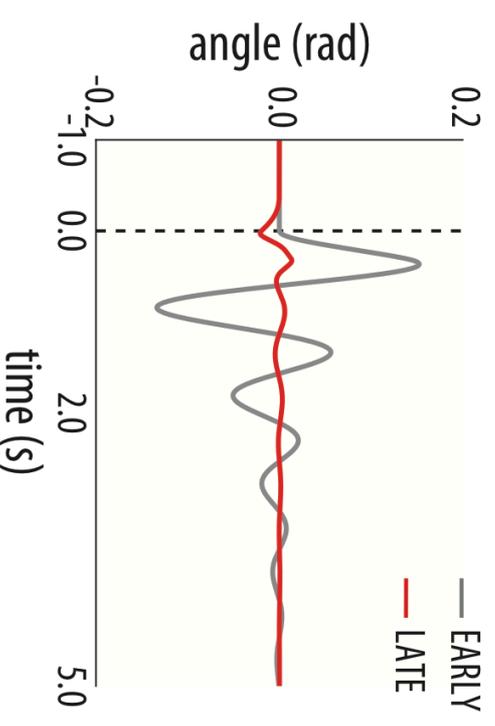
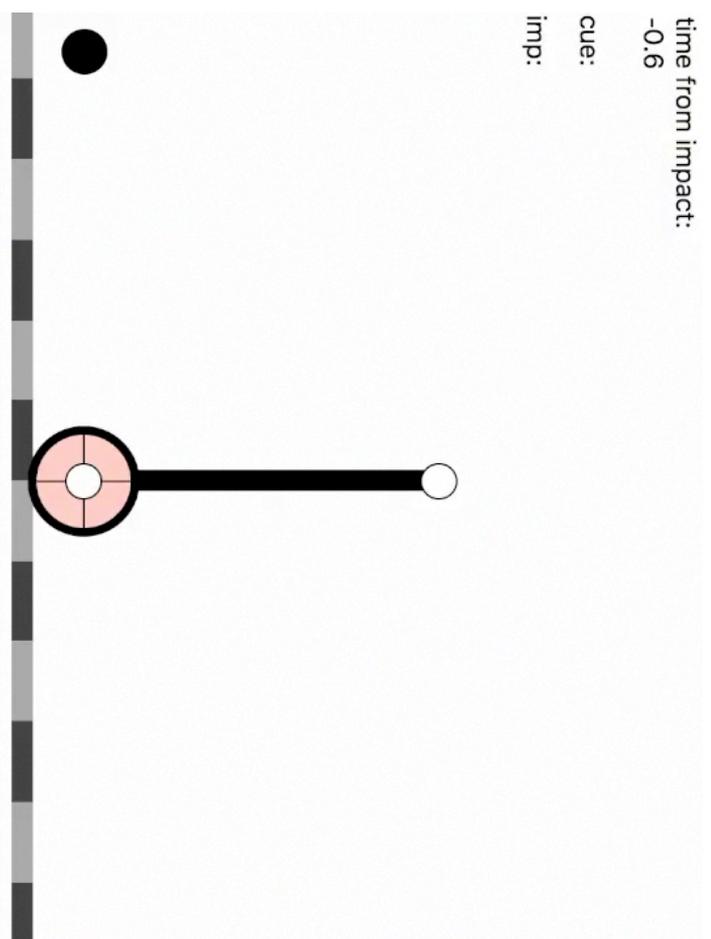
Fast compensatory and anticipatory responses minimize postural error

- In early trials action follows the displacement
- In late trials action precedes the displacement



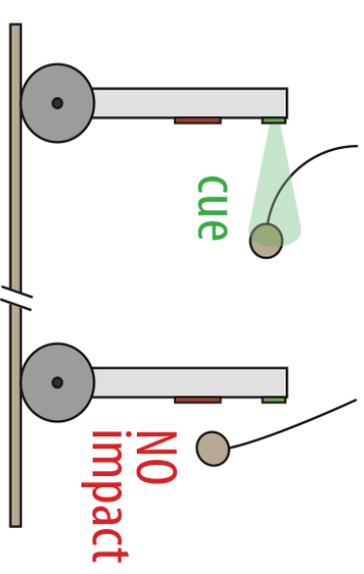
Fast compensatory and anticipatory responses minimize postural error

- In early trials action follows the displacement
- In late trials action precedes the displacement



Catch trials induce prediction errors:

- Predictive cue is presented
- No disturbance is delivered

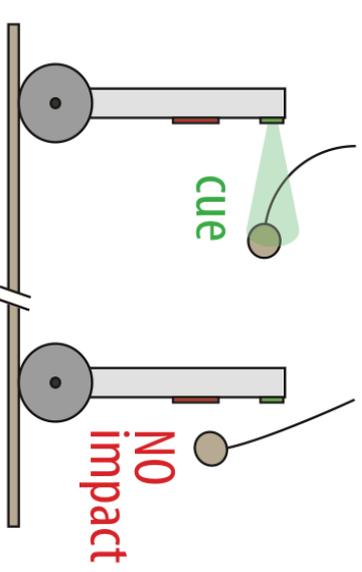


Catch trials induce prediction errors:

- Predictive cue is presented
- No disturbance is delivered

FEL fails to correct for prediction errors

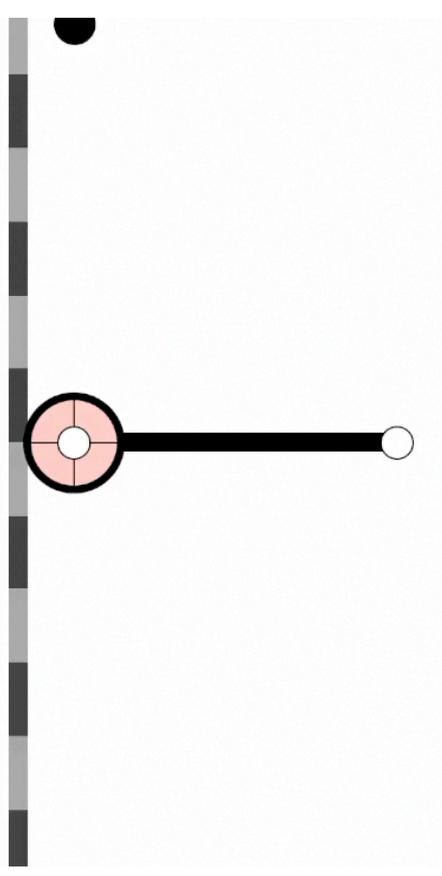
- Anticipatory actions cannot be retracted
- Self-induced instability
- Lack of robustness



time from impact:  
-0.65

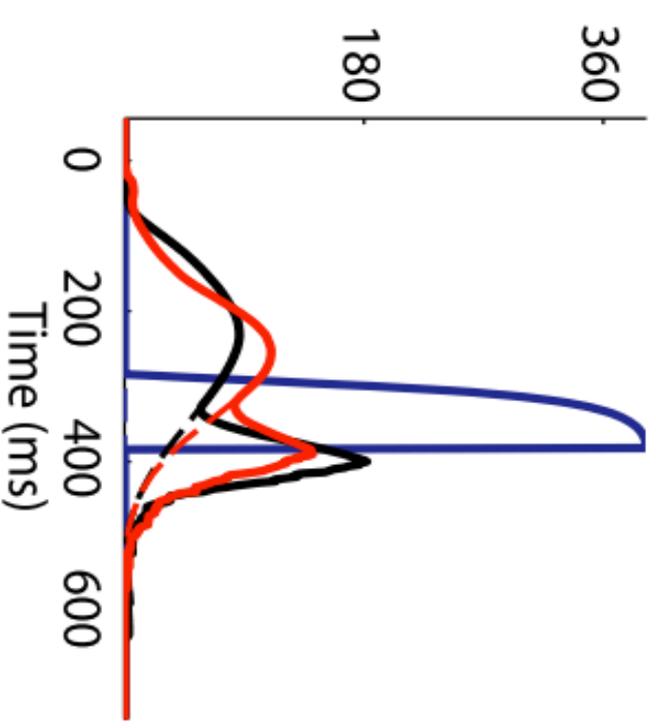
cue:

imp:



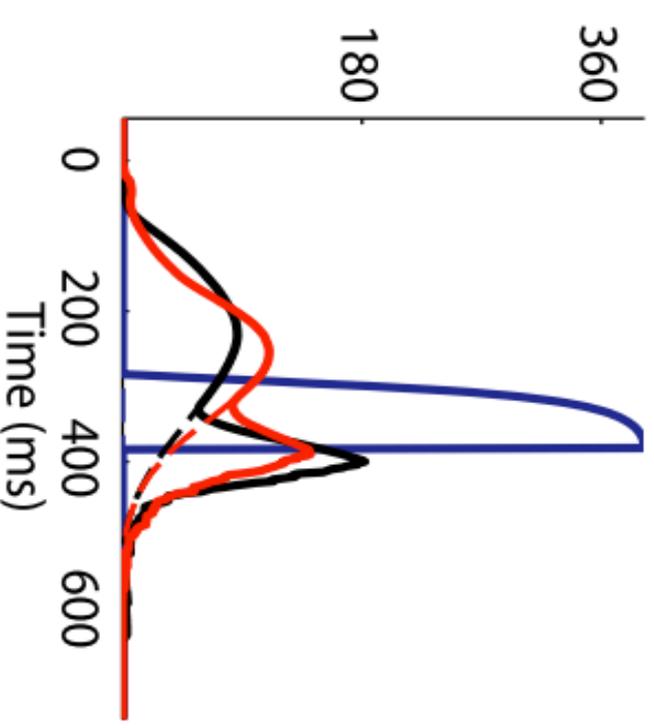
How could the brain control anticipatory actions that are robust to uncertainty?

Anticipatory behavior as a cascade of sensory predictions

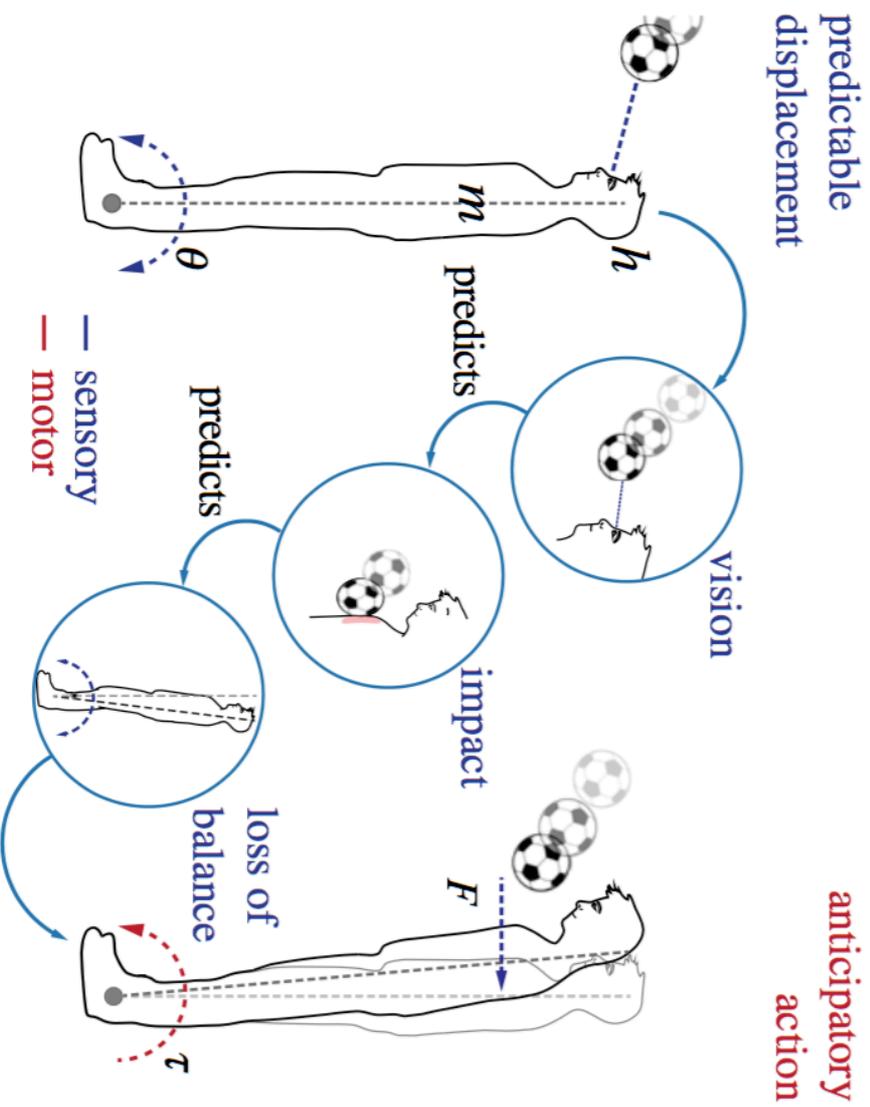


## Anticipatory behavior as a cascade of sensory predictions

- Cerebellum could advance predictions of future perceptual events (Roth, 2013)
- Sensory predictions could follow a hierarchical scheme (Apps & Garwicz, 2005)
- Predicted events could drive the motor system anticipatorily (Friston, 2011)

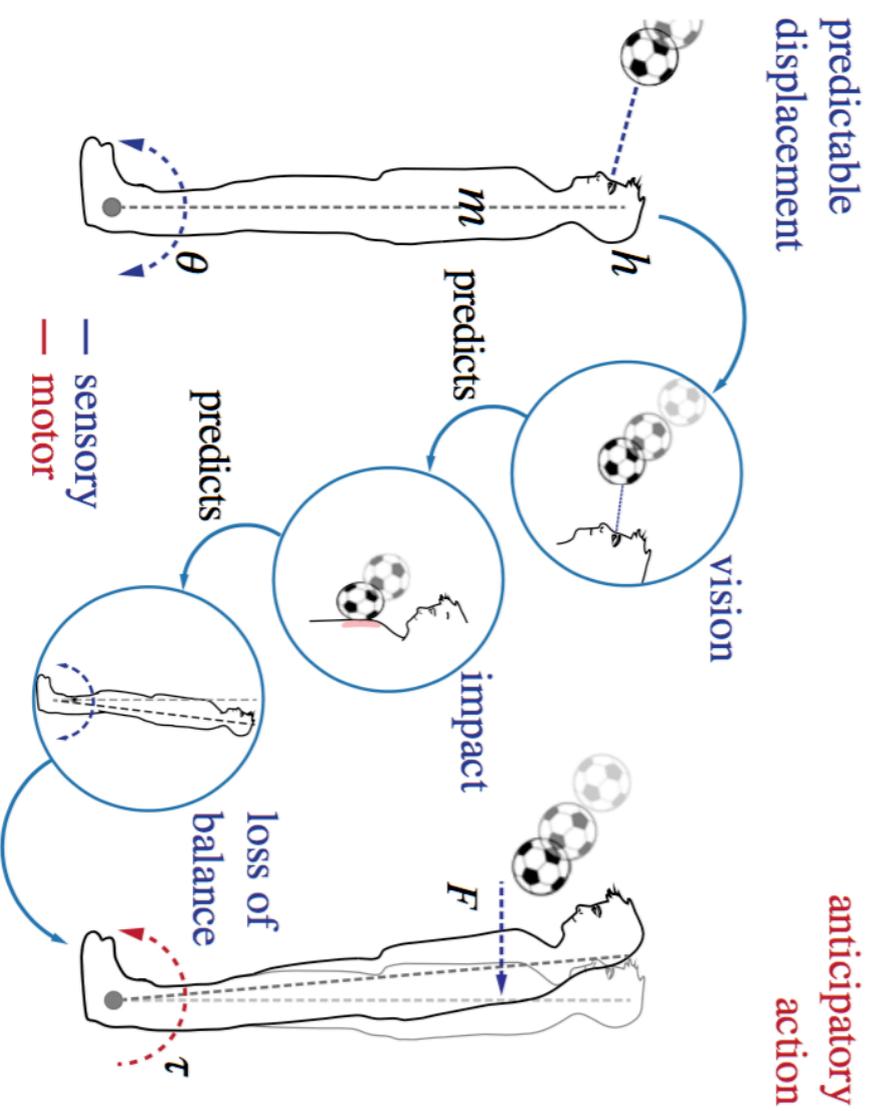


Anticipatory behavior as a cascade of sensory predictions



## Hierarchical sensory predictive control (HSPC)

(Maffei, Herreros et al., 2017, Phil Roy Soc B)



Herreros et al., NIPS 2016

Maffei, Herreros et al., 2017

# Motor anticipation (FEL) vs Sensory prediction (HSPC)

Q2

Reaction

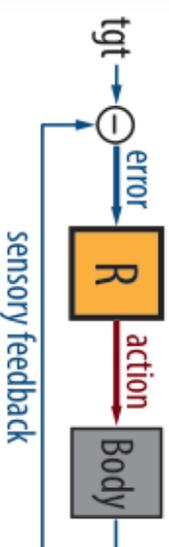
MOTOR ANTICIPATION (FEL)

Corrective action driven by sensory feedback



SENSORY PREDICTION (HSPC)

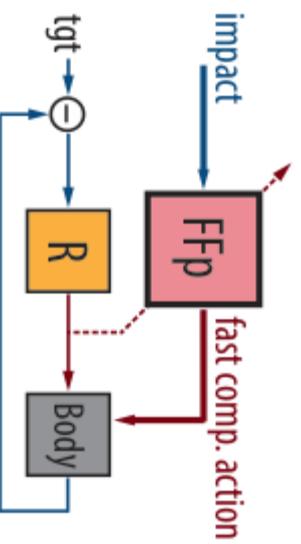
Corrective action driven by sensory feedback



## Fast compensation

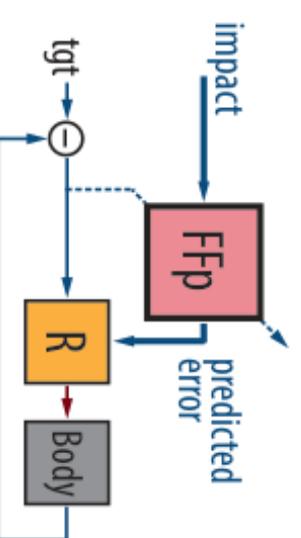
### MOTOR ANTICIPATION (FEL)

Motor command triggered by the impact



### SENSORY PREDICTION (HSPC)

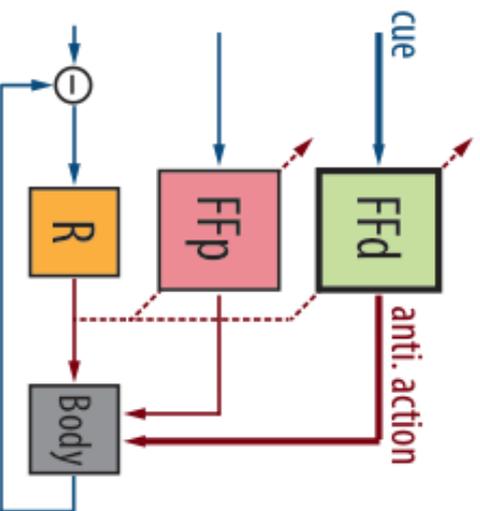
Predicted error triggered by the impact



Anticipation

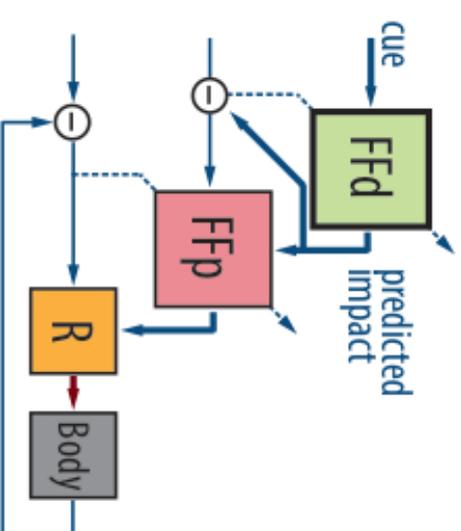
MOTOR ANTICIPATION (FEL)

Motor command triggered by the cue



SENSORY PREDICTION (HSPC)

Predicted impact triggered by the cue



Comparing the acquisition of APAs  
in FEL and HSPC

Learning

- Regular trial: disturbance is preceded by distal and proximal cues

Setup

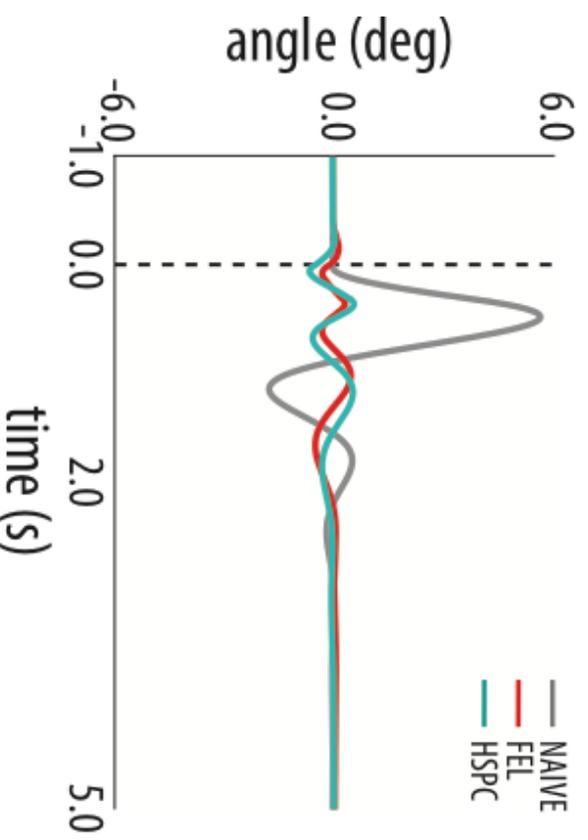
Comparing the acquisition of APAs in FEL and HSPC

Learning

- Regular trial: disturbance is preceded by distal and proximal cues

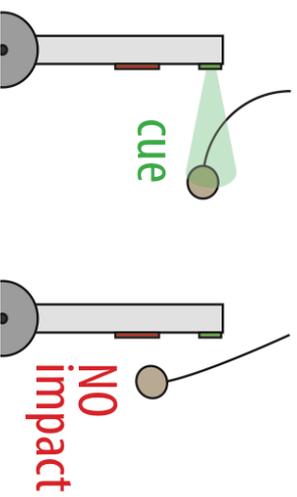
Setup

FEL and HSPC behave equally



## Comparing FEL and HSPC during catch trials

- Catch trials: cue is presented but disturbance is NOT delivered



### 2.2

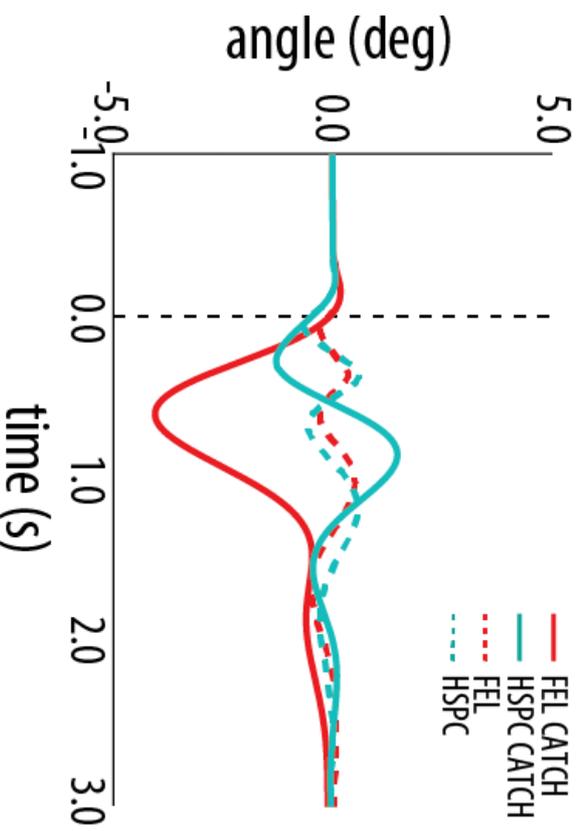
#### Catch trial, HSPC vs. FEL

In the trained robot, the omitted impact is rapidly corrected by HSPC but introduces a greater disturbance in FEL.

## Comparing FEL and HSPC during catch trials

- Catch trials: cue is presented but disturbance is NOT delivered

### HSPC outperforms FEL



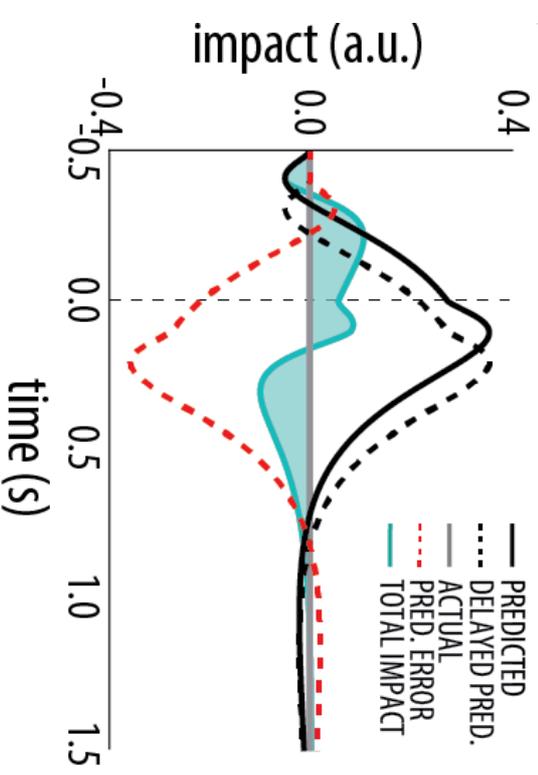
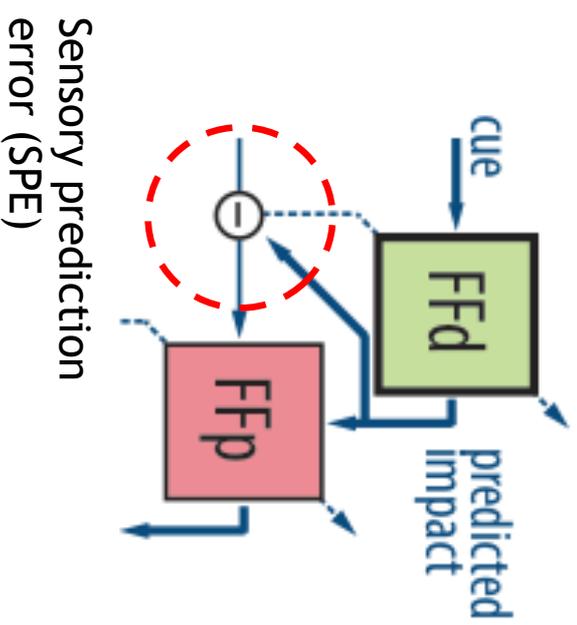
## 2.2

### Catch trial, HSPC vs. FEL

In the trained robot, the omitted impact is rapidly corrected by HSPC but introduces a greater disturbance in FEL.

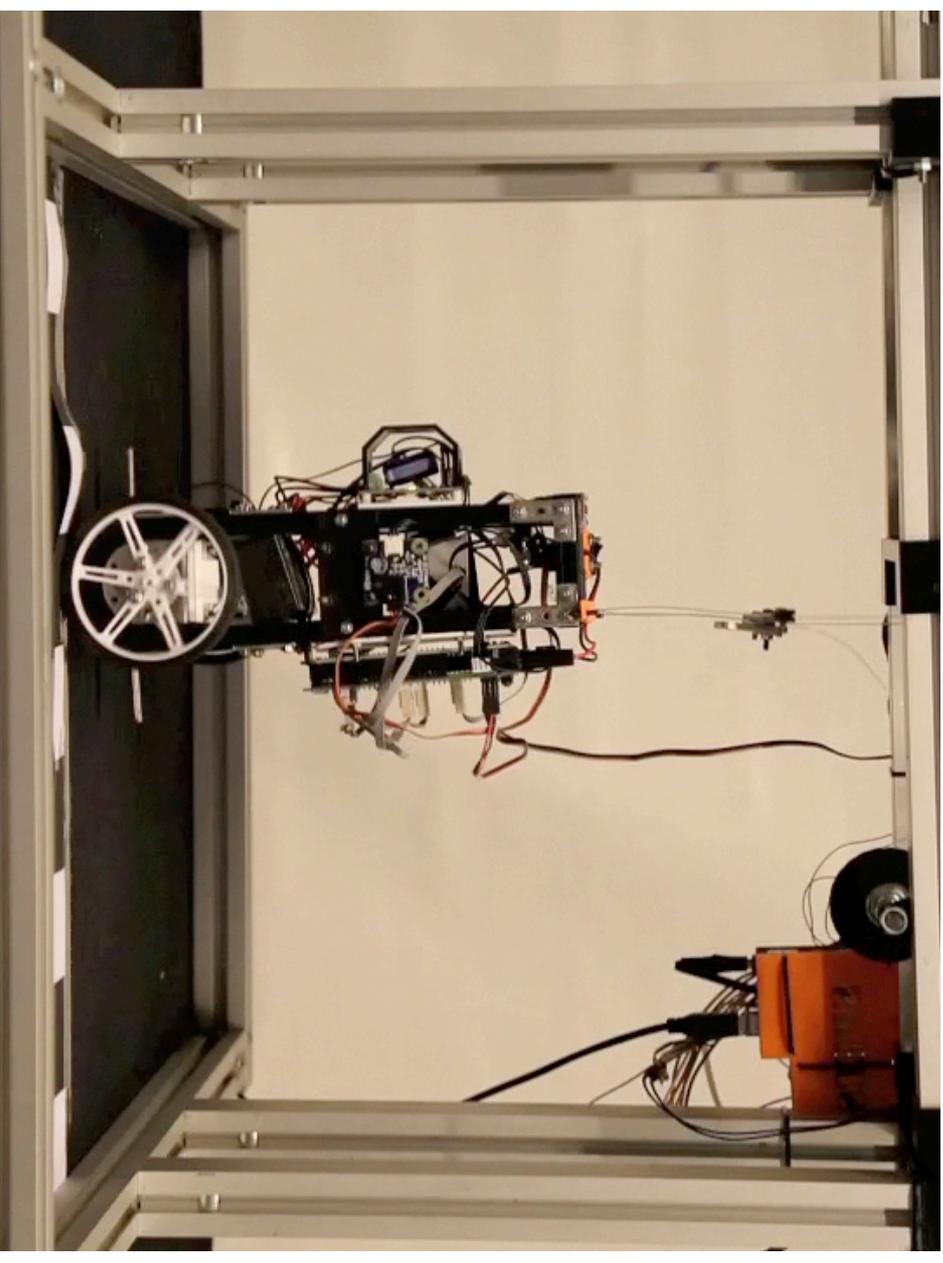
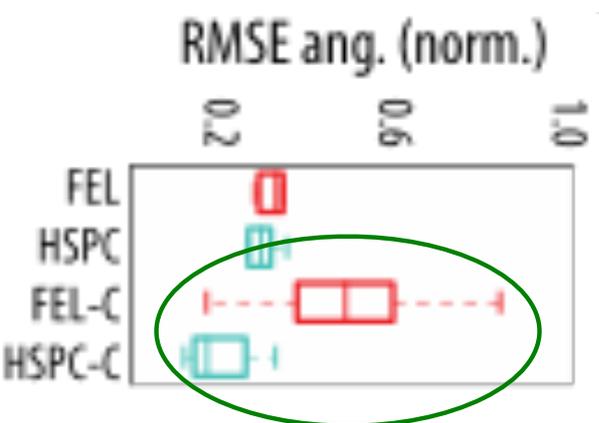
A sensory prediction can be rapidly retracted

- SPEs drive perceptual learning
- SPEs correct for errors in real time

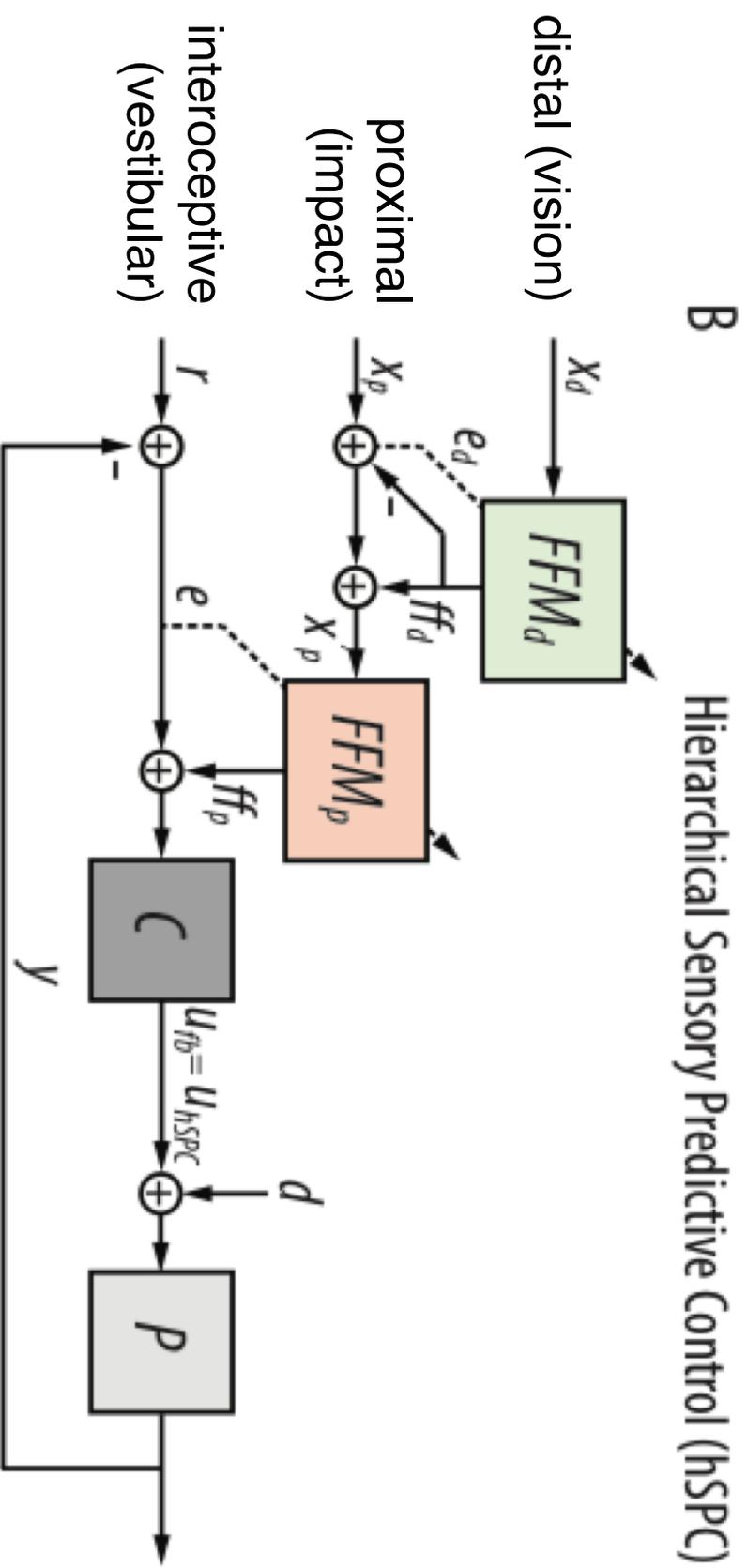


Comparing acquisition and catch trials in a balancing robot

HSPC outperforms FEL during catch trials

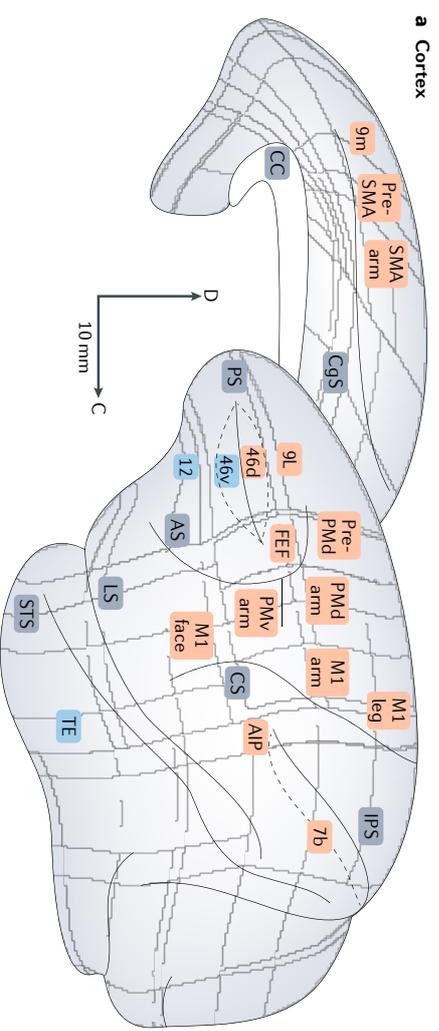


# Hierarchical Sensory Predictive Control

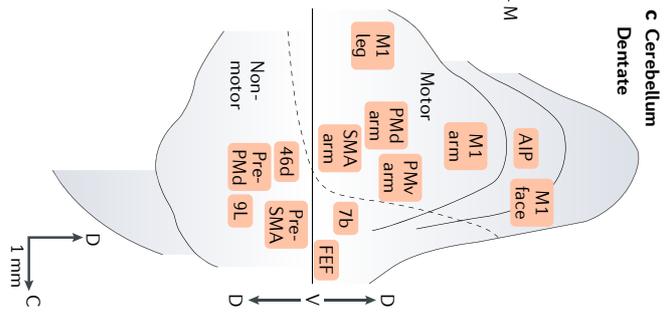
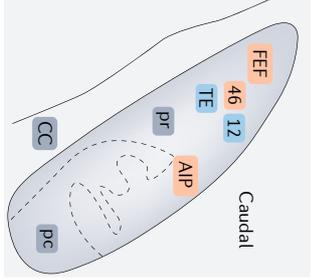
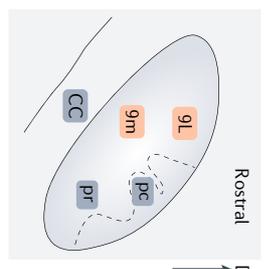
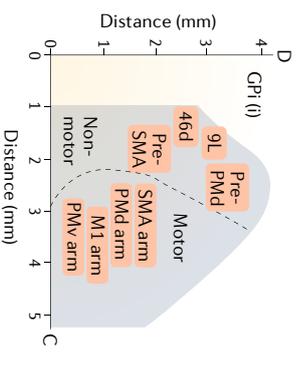
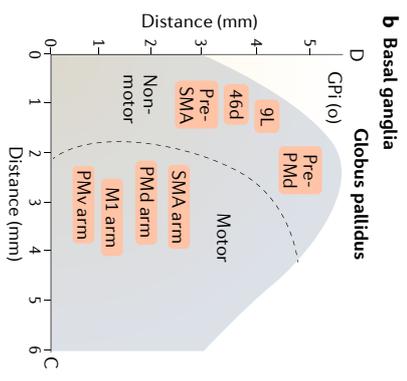


**Where are the forward models stored?**

# Interfacing procedural and executive control

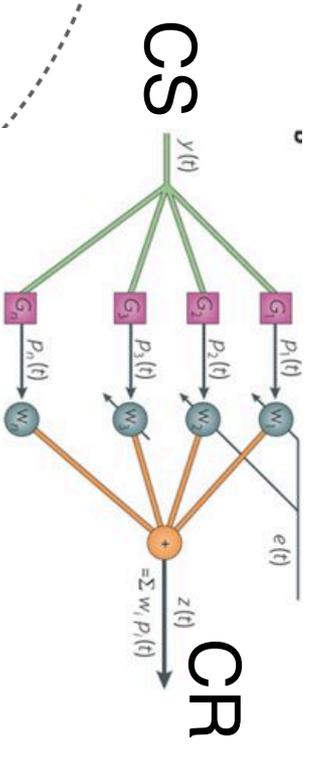


CRX targets of BG & CRBLM  
 CRX targets of BG

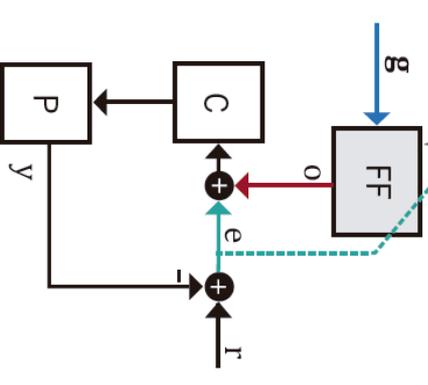
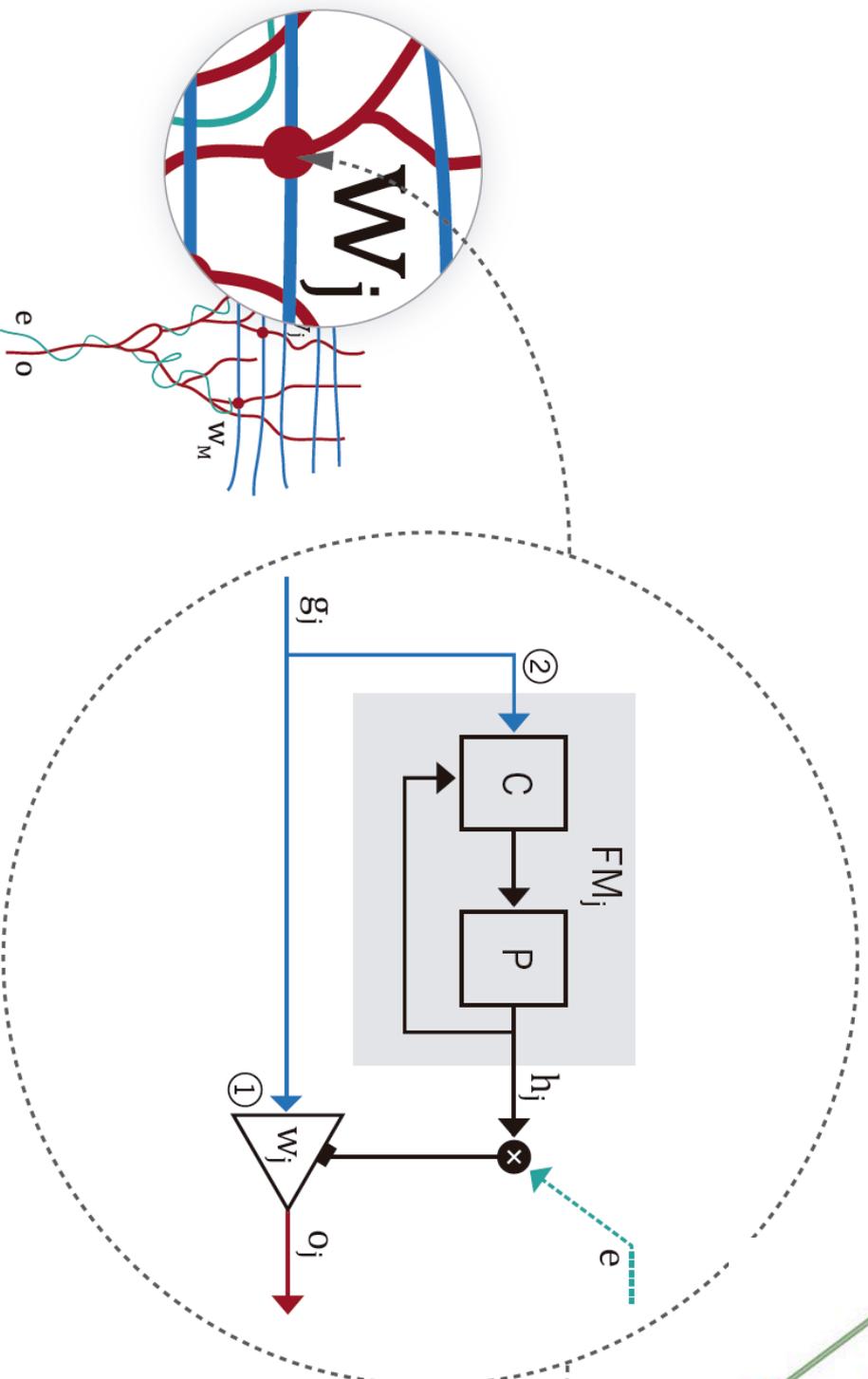


# Hierarchical Sensory Predictive Control

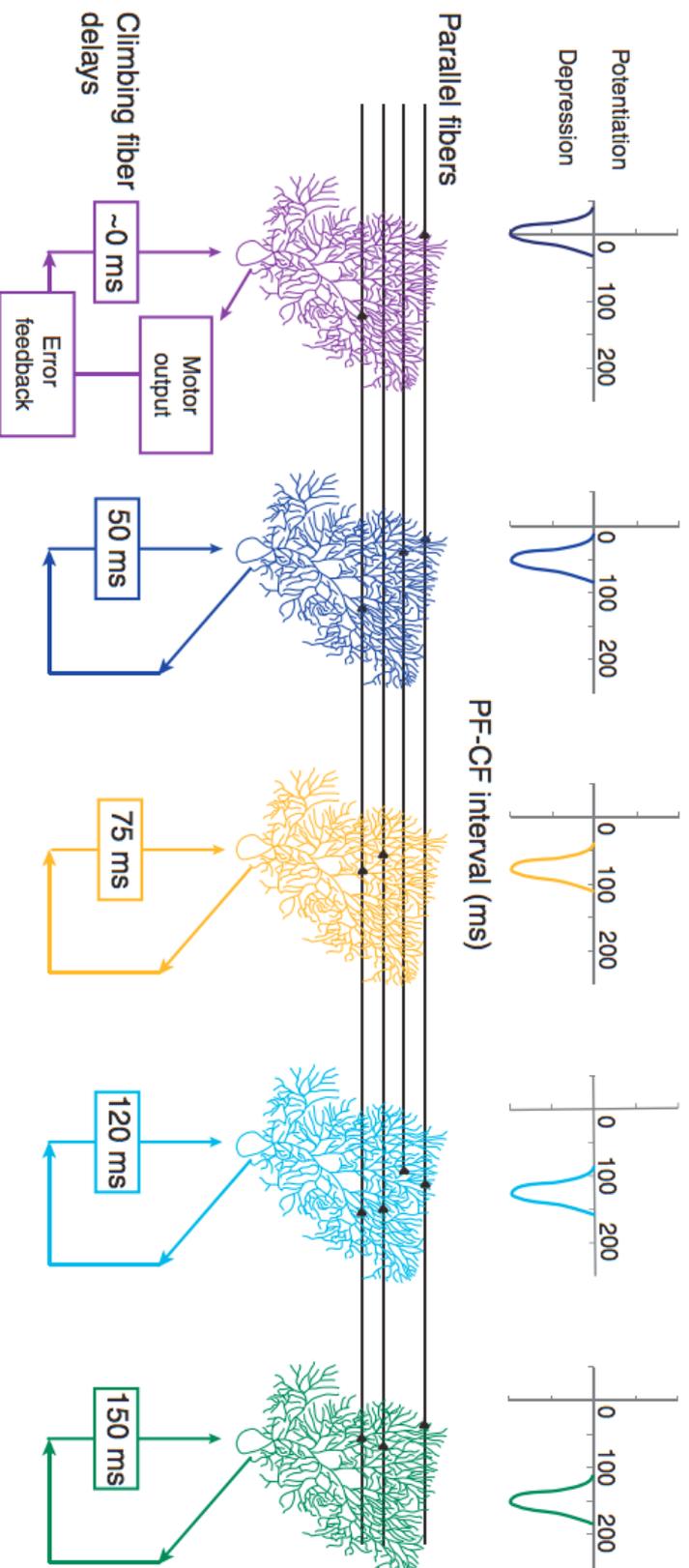
US



COUNTERFACTUAL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

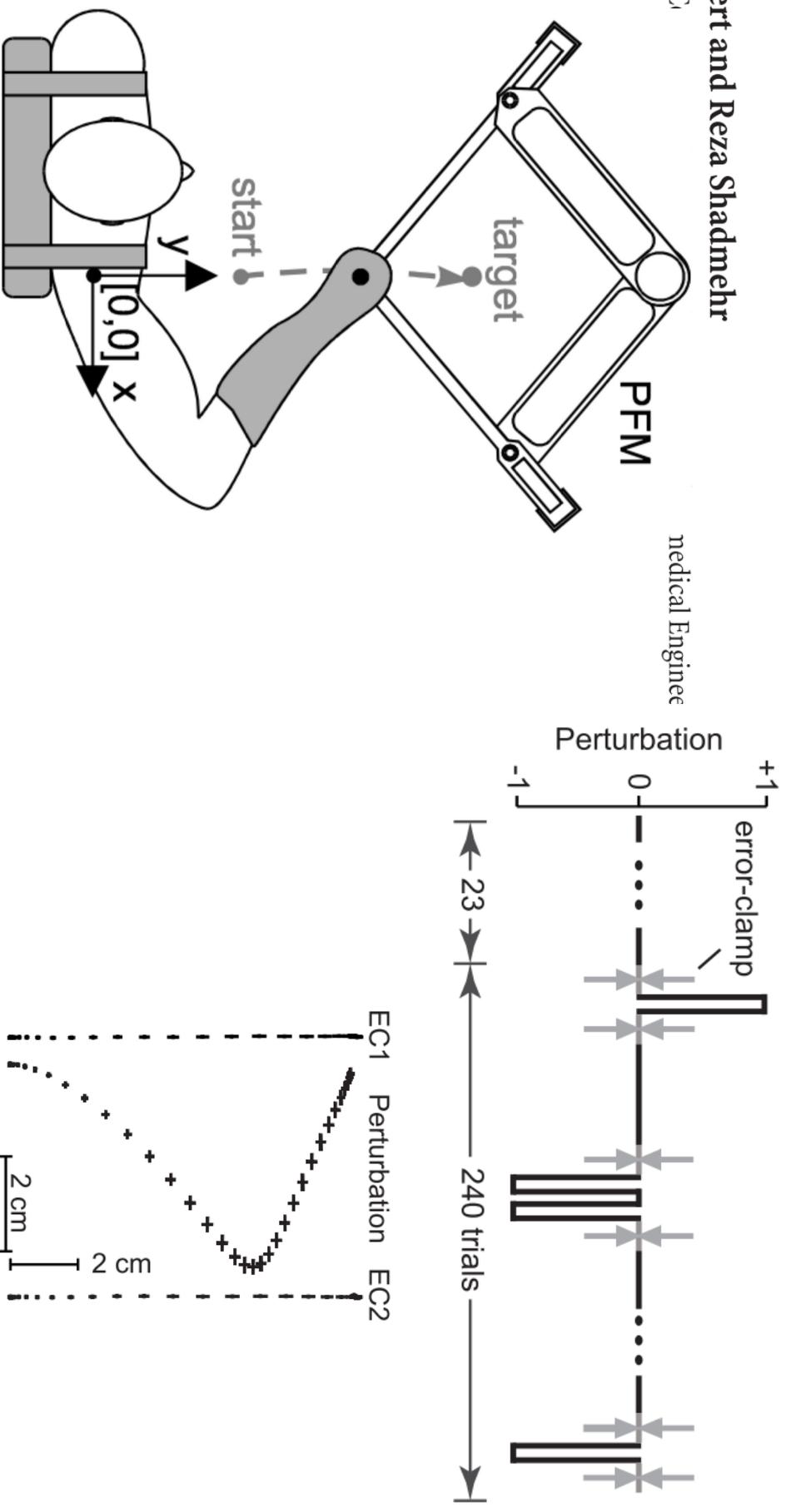


# PF-Pu synapses have intrinsic time constants tuned to specific peripheral targets



# The Neural Feedback Response to Error As a Teaching Signal for the Motor Learning System

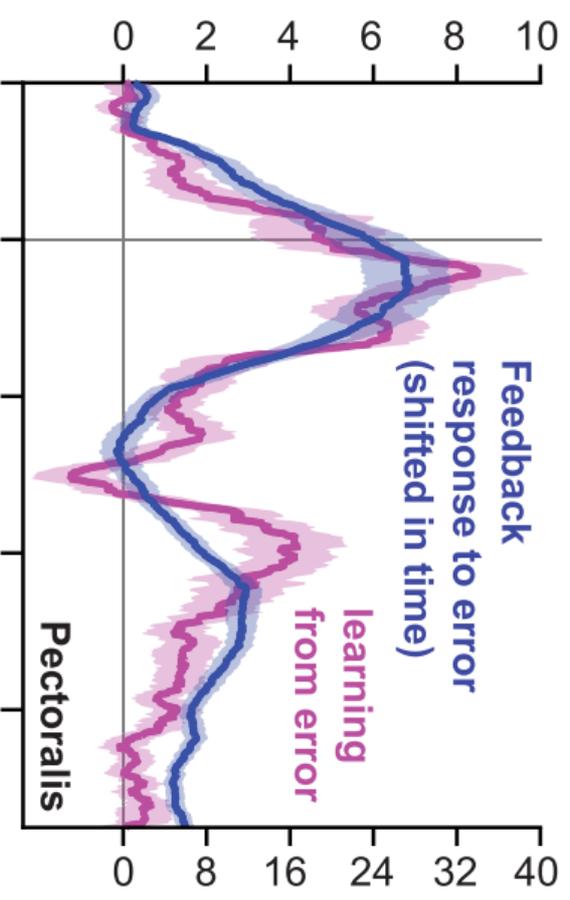
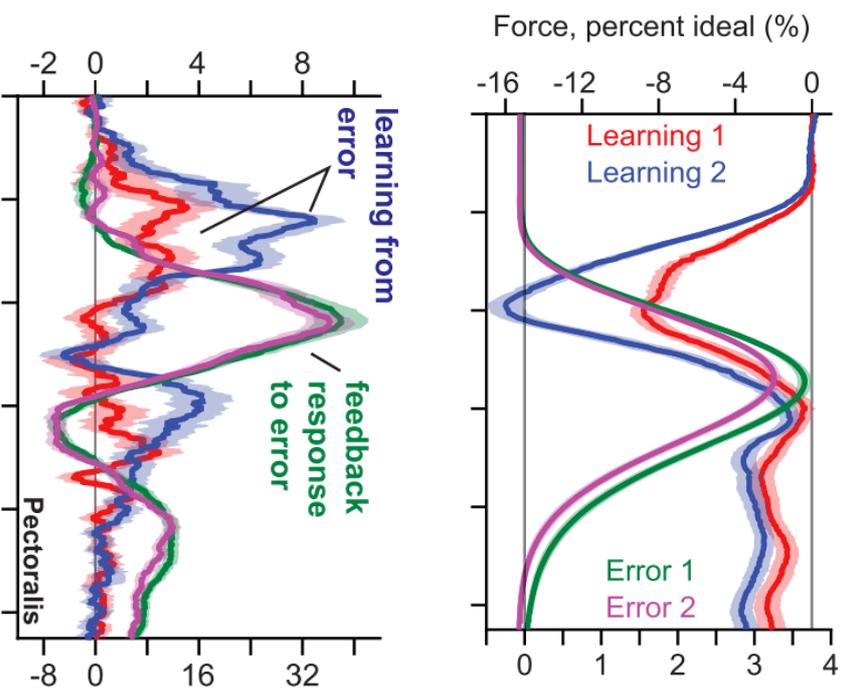
Scott T. Albert and Reza Shadmehr  
 Laboratory for C



# The Neural Feedback Response to Error As a Teaching Signal for the Motor Learning System

Scott T. Albert and Reza Shadmehr

Laboratory for Computational Motor Control, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland 21205



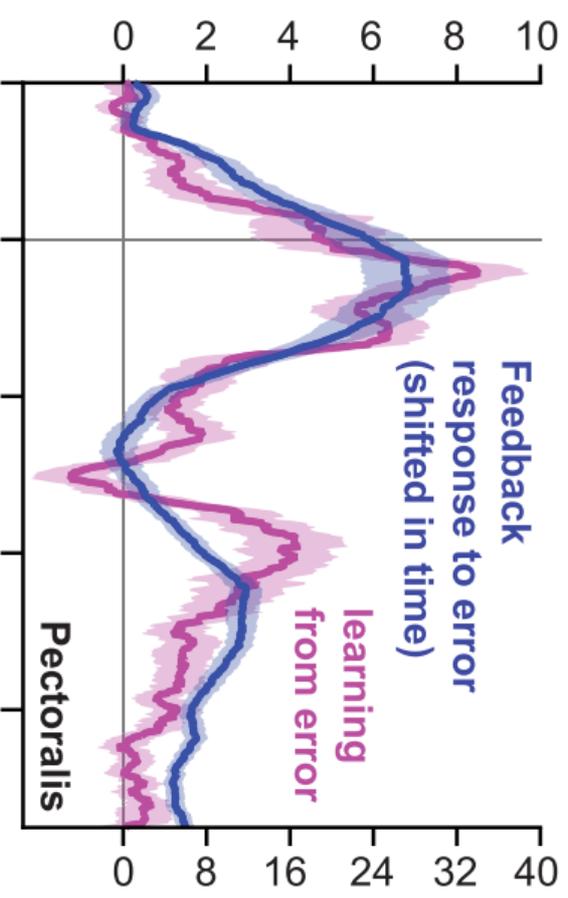
# The Neural Feedback Response to Error As a Teaching Signal for the Motor Learning System

Scott T. Albert and Reza Shadmehr

Laboratory for Computational Motor Control, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland 21205

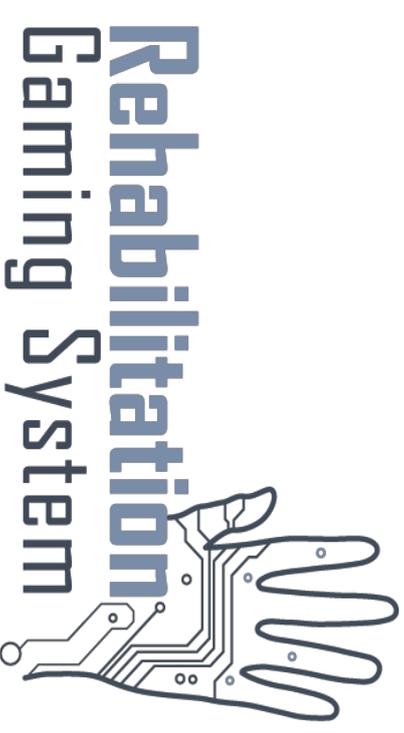
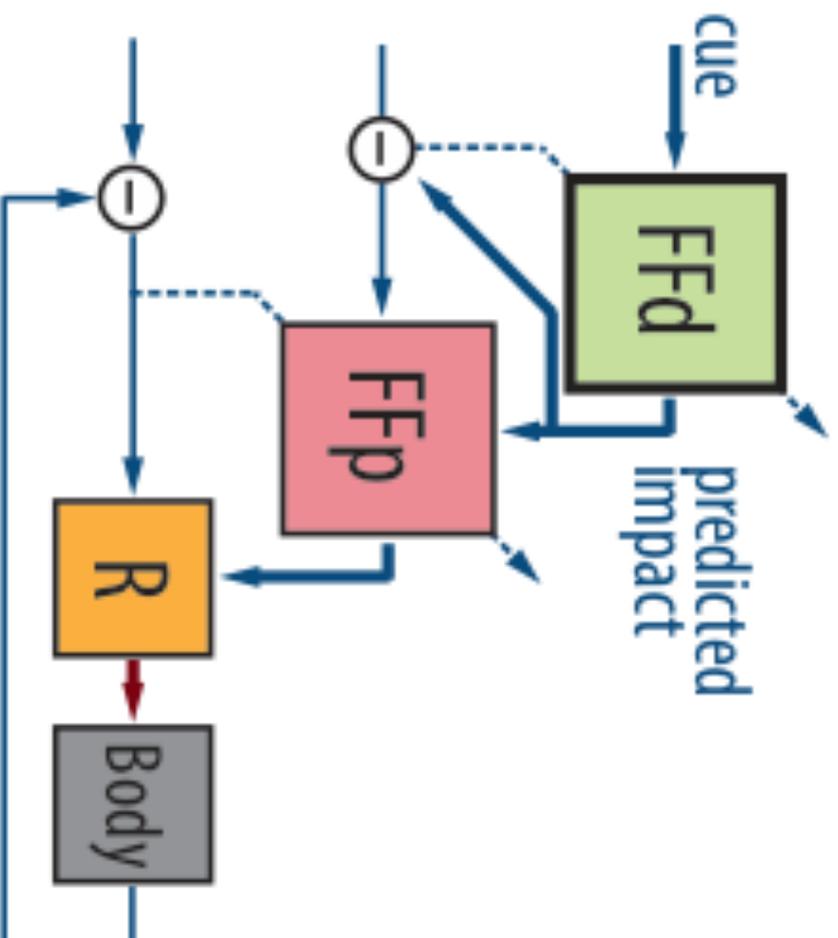
Results support the shift- and-scale learning strategy.

Can't tell whether the feedback response or the sensory error acted as the teaching signal (*despite the paper's title*)



# Exploiting counterfactual errors in the clinic

Can we overcome learned non-use through counterfactual error manipulation?

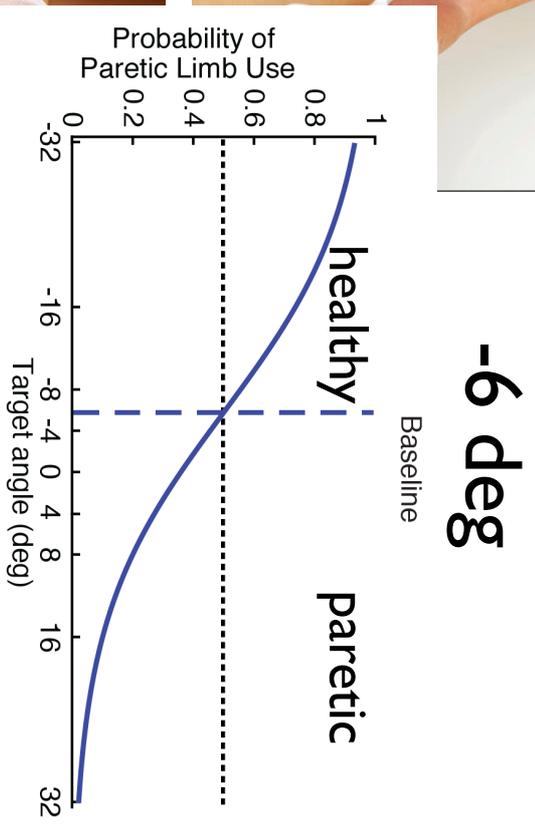


Maffei, Herreros et al., 2017

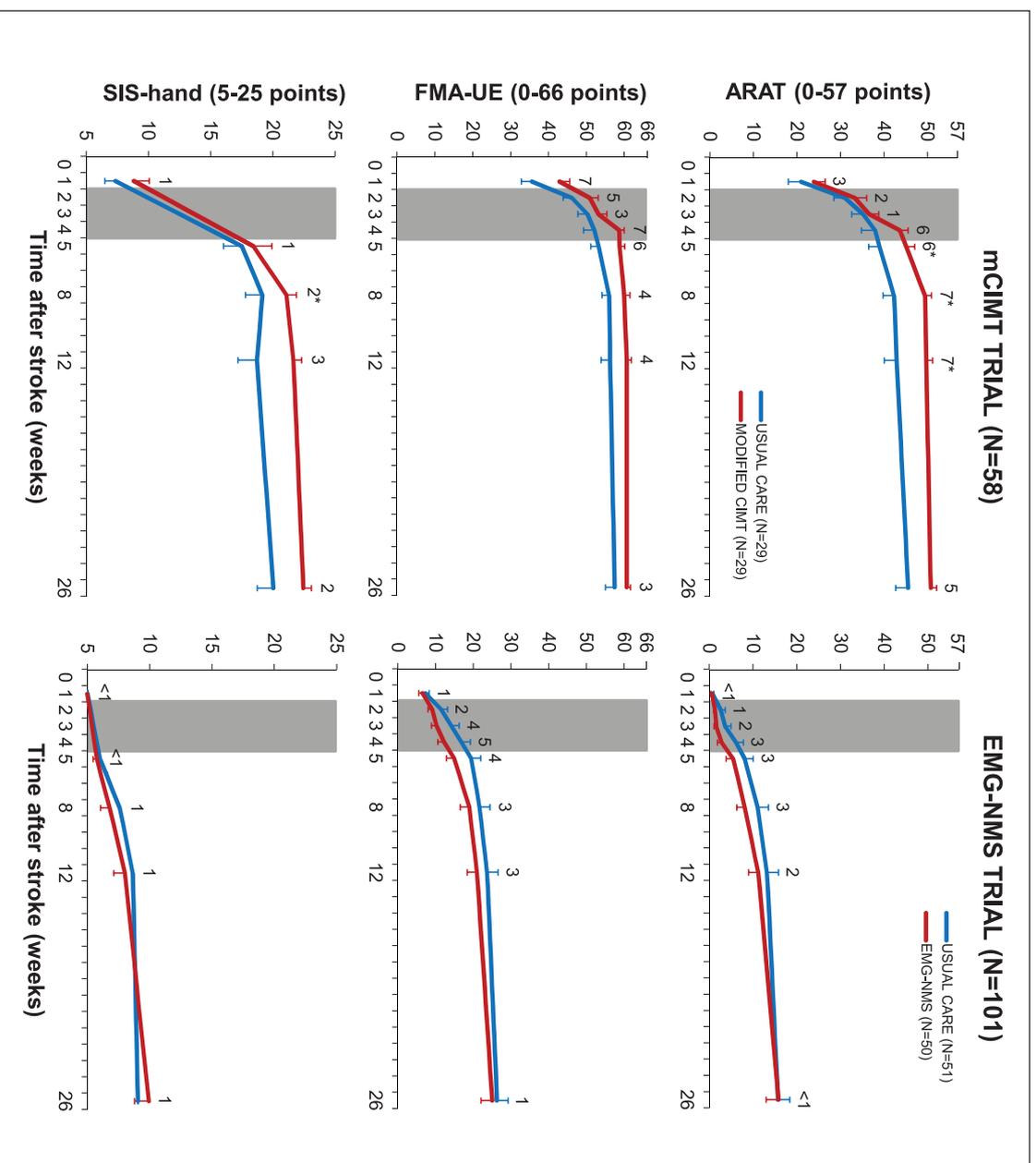
Verschure & Mintz (2000) Comp Neuro;

Herreros & Al. , Neur Net (2013)

# Acquired non-use: A RGS alternative to Constrained Induced Movement Therapy

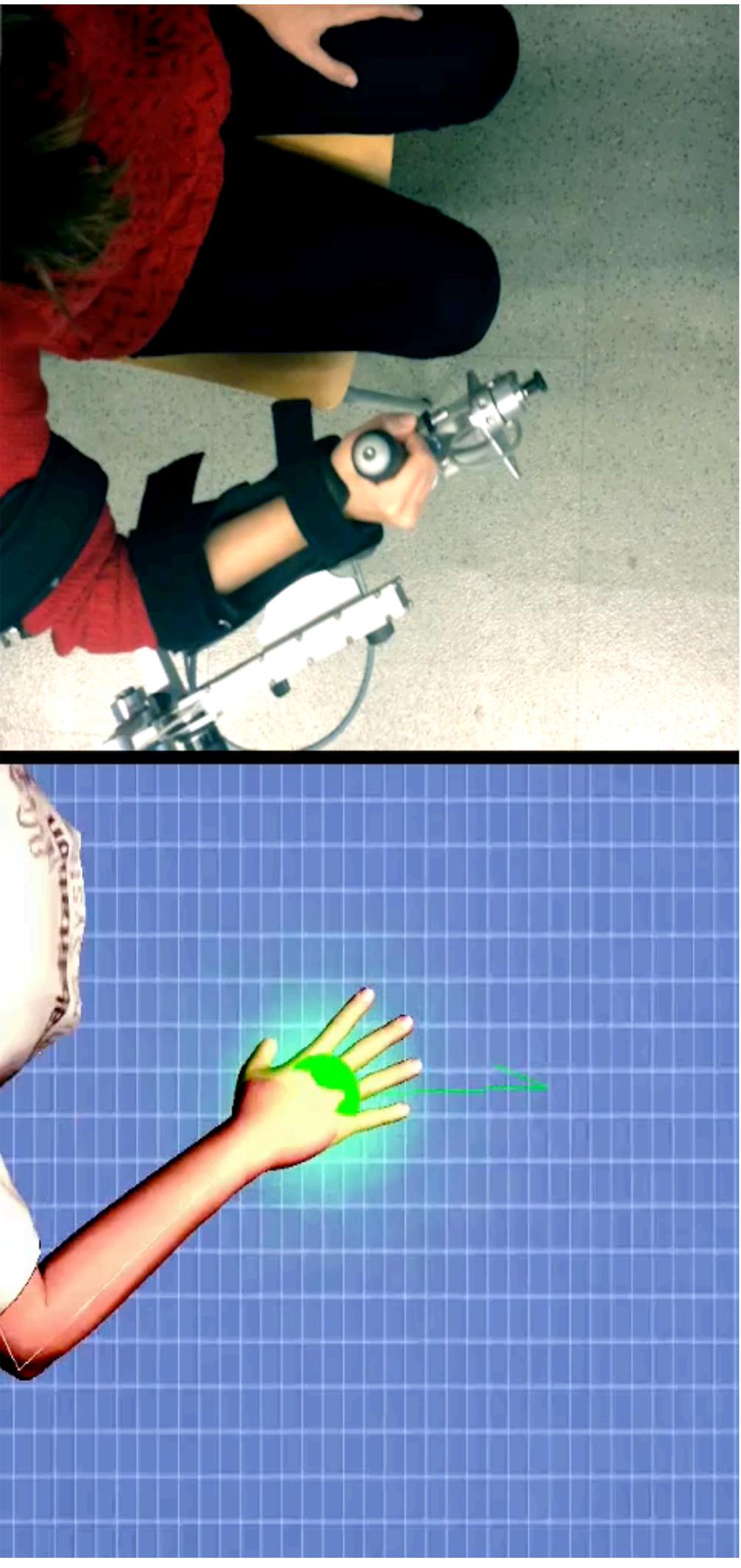


# intense CIMT vs FES (EXPLICIT)



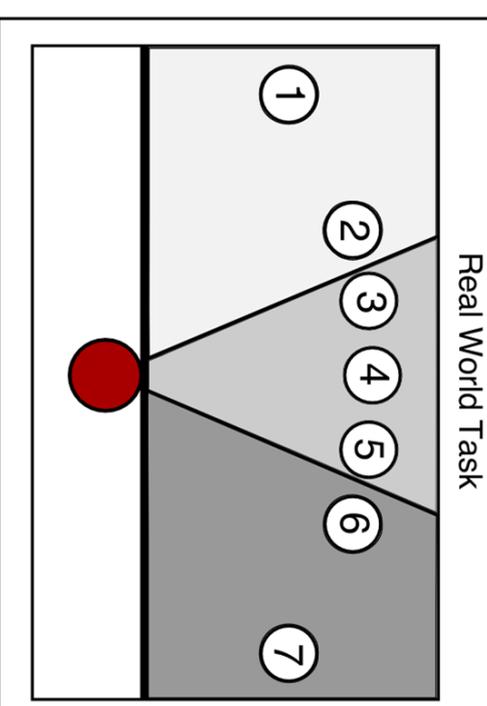
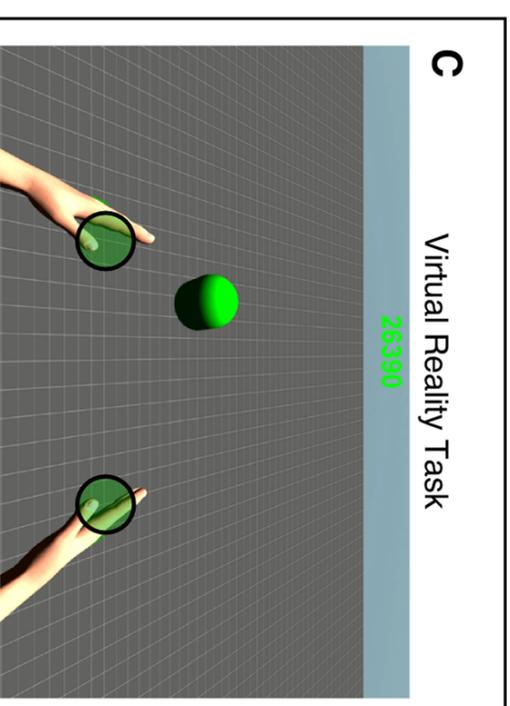
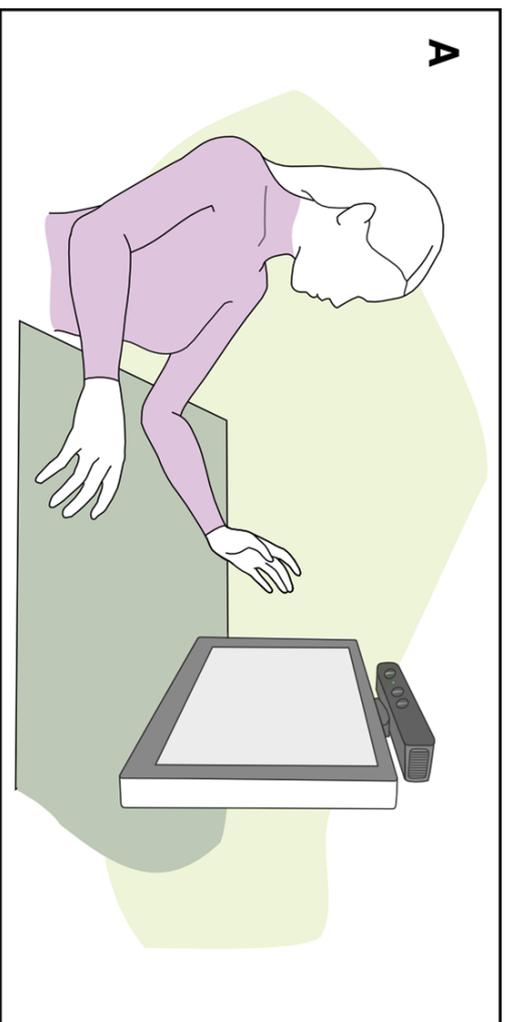
“Despite meaningful improvements in upper limb capacity, no evidence was found that the time-dependent neurological improvements early poststroke are significantly influenced by either mCIMT or EMG-NMS.”

# An alternative to CIMT



with the Rehabilitation Gaming  
System - RGS

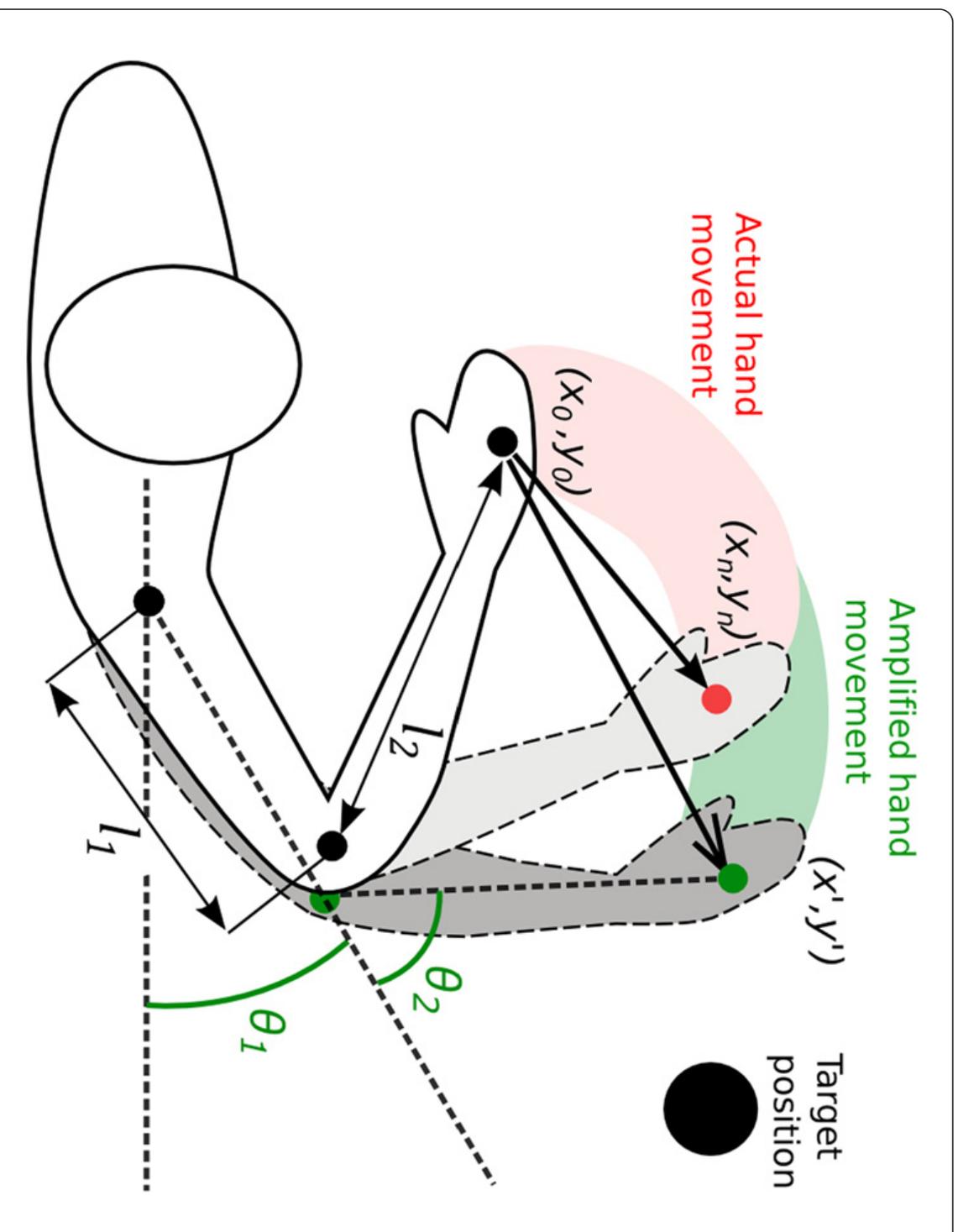
# A RGS alternative to CIMT



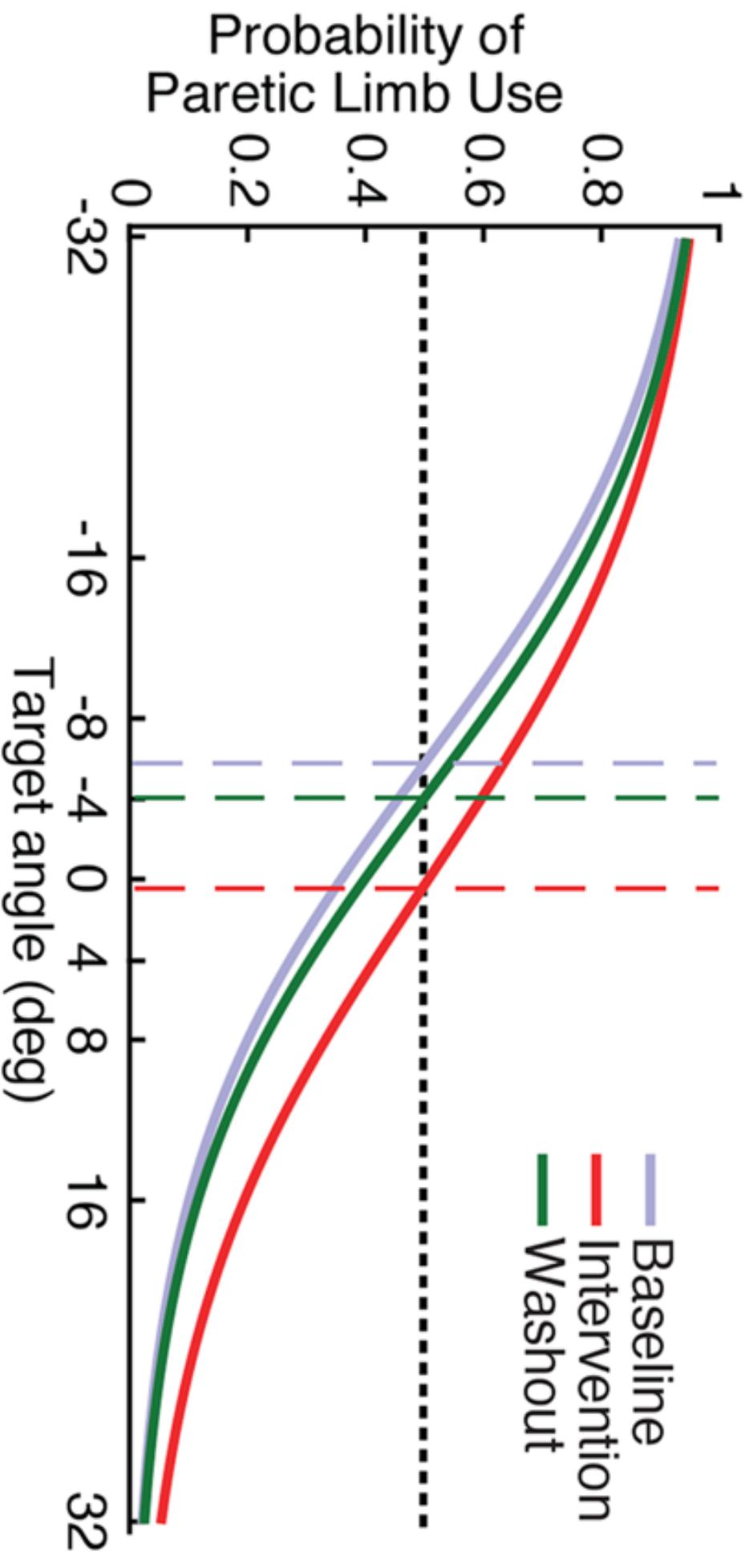
N=20 (chronic)      Paretic arm **error minimization**

Rubio et al (2015) JNER

# Intention compatible movement amplification



# A RGS alternative to CIMT

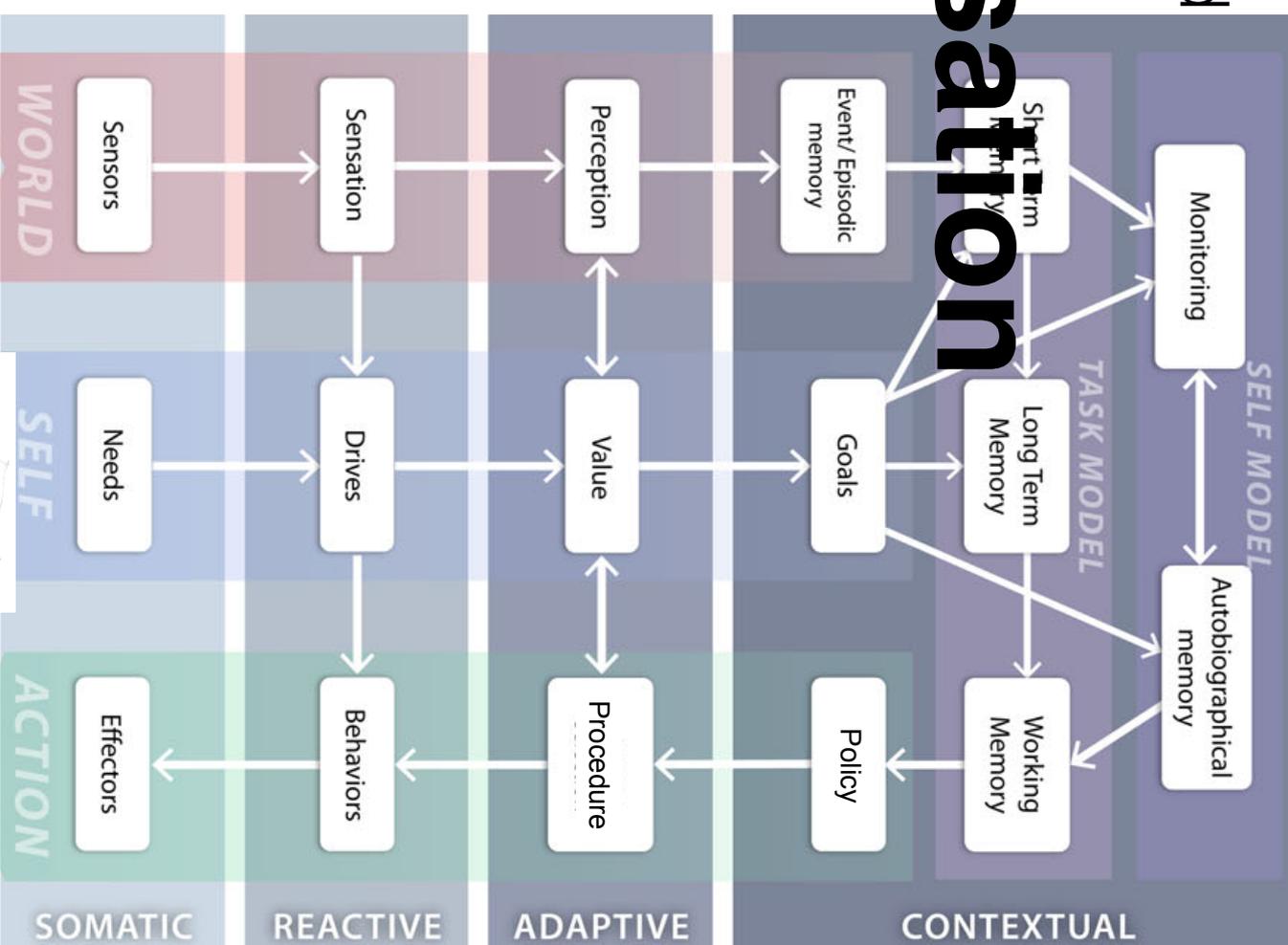


Sequential  
Acquired

Flexible

# Virtualisation

Distributed Adaptive Control



Rigid

Speed

Prior

Parallel

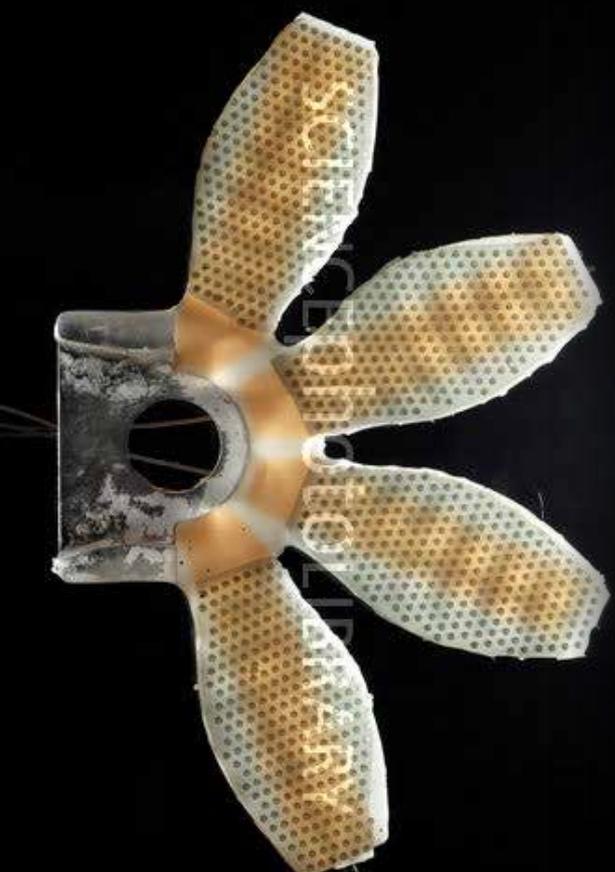
Verschure et al 1993 Rob Aut Sys; 2003 Cog Sci.; 2003 Nature; 2012 Biol. Insp. Cog. Arch.;

2013 IEEE Expert; 2014; 2016 Phil. Tr. Roy. Soc. B

OXFORD

# LIVING MACHINES

*A handbook of research in bioimetic and biohybrid systems*



EDITED BY

TONY J. PRESCOTT, NATHAN LEPORA, & PAUL F. M. J. VERSCHURE

# Conclusions/Questions

- DAC describes the brain as a multi-layered control system
- Testing DACs predictions:
  - Error/Surprise processing
- Classical conditioning, 2 Phase model
- Cerebellum: synergy between FB and FF control
- FEL vs HSPC
  - HSPC has better explanatory power and control
  - Makes sense of dense Cerebellar-Cortical interaction
- DAC-HSPC tested in acquired non-use after stroke
- The brain is not only hallucination perception but also its errors