



 Johns Hopkins University
Science of Learning Institute's

Belgian Beer Event!

Scientists sharing their work on the science of learning.

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Neural Systems of Human Working Memory Representations and Cognitive Control

Susan Courtney

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

Why Is Thinking Hard?

Jonathan Flombaum

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

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Sensitivity to Prediction Error During Learning

Reza Shadmehr

Department of Biomedical Engineering

and Neuroscience

School of Medicine

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A Rat Learns to Imagine

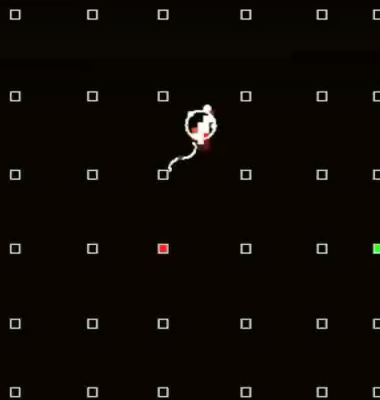
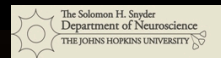
David Foster
Department of Neuroscience
School of Medicine

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How the hippocampus plans routes

9.12.13

Brad Pfeiffer and David Foster, Johns Hopkins Neuroscience



Time (seconds): 1464.2

During movement, current location is represented

6

How the hippocampus plans routes

9.12.13

Brad Pfeiffer and David Foster, Johns Hopkins Neuroscience

The Solomon H. Snyder
Department of Neuroscience
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

BSi

Time (seconds): 1519.9

During pause, plans are made then followed

7

How the hippocampus plans routes

9.12.13

Brad Pfeiffer and David Foster, Johns Hopkins Neuroscience

The Solomon H. Snyder
Department of Neuroscience
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

BSi

Time (seconds): 1584.8

Continually planning and doing

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tDCS in PPA: Preliminary Results & Challenges

Kyrana Tsapkini
Department of Neurology
School of Medicine

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Effects of tDCS in primary progressive aphasia (PPA)

PI: Kyrana Tsapkini

Co-Investigators: Argye Hillis, Brenda Rapp, Peter Barker, Richard Edden,
John Desmond, Martin Lindquist, Constantine Frangakis

- PPA: a devastating neurodegenerative syndrome affecting people 50-60 yrs old, primarily their language abilities.
- tDCS: a novel non-invasive technique of neuromodulation supposedly altering the synaptic potential.

Questions addressed:

- Does tDCS plus language therapy (spelling) induce more improvement than language therapy alone (sham)? Do effects generalize in untrained items?
- Do behavioral effects correlate with concentrations of GABA, a neurotransmitter particularly important for learning, at the site of stimulation?
- Are intervention gains sustainable over time and do improvements generalize to other language and cognitive tasks?

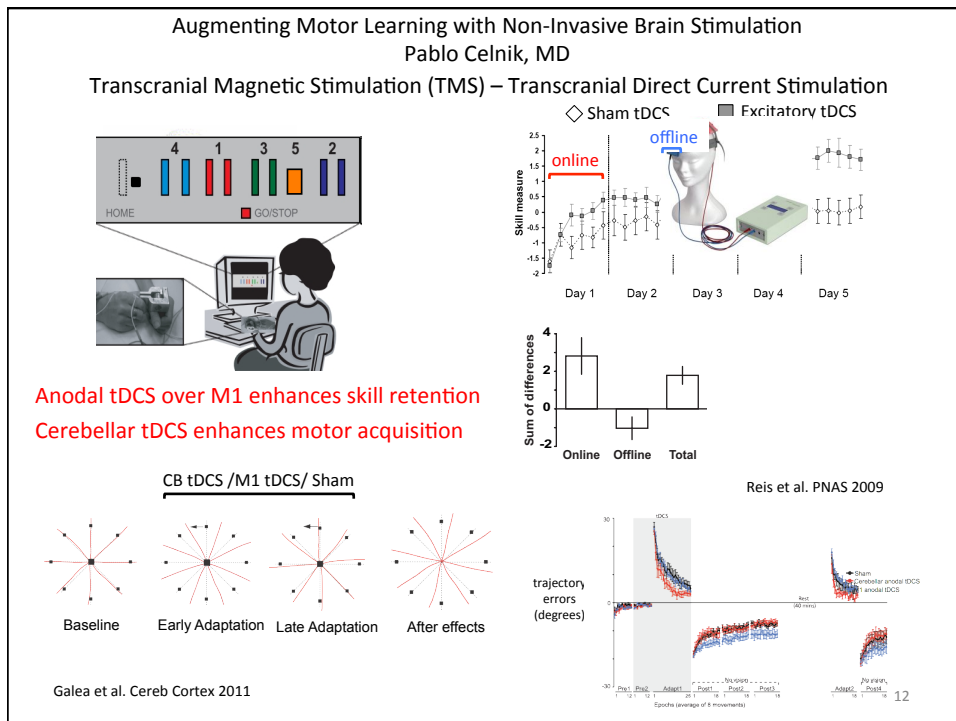
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Using Brain Stimulation to Understand and Augment Motor Learning

Pablo Celnik

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
School of Medicine

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Automated Skill Assessment for Individualized Training in Robotic Surgery

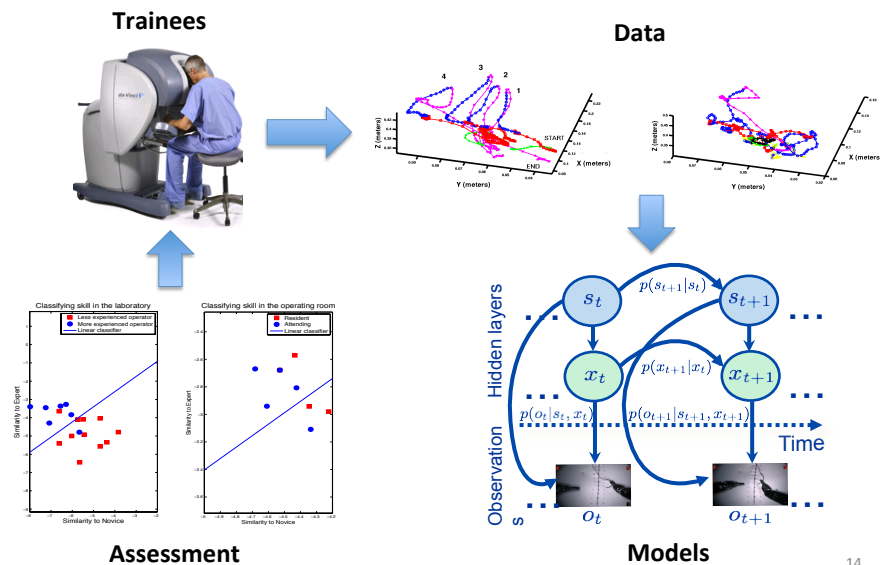
Greg Hager

Department of Computer Science
Whiting School of Engineering

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Automated Skill Assessment for Individualized Training in Robotic Surgery

Greg Hager (CS), Gyusung Lee (Surgery)



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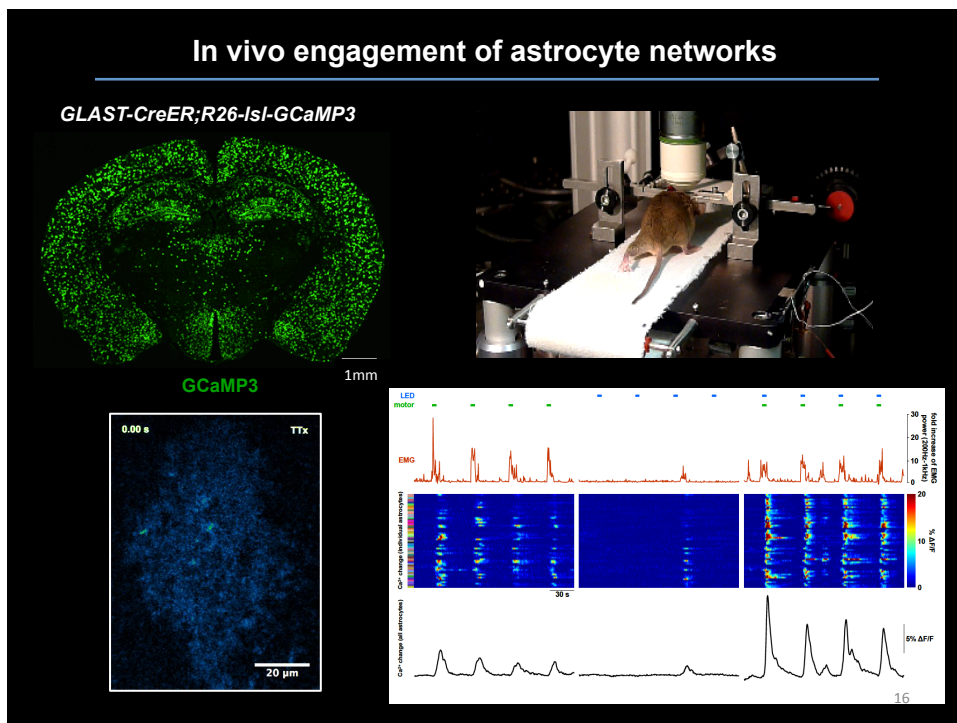
In vivo Engagement of Astrocyte Networks

Dwight Bergles

Department of Neuroscience

School of Medicine

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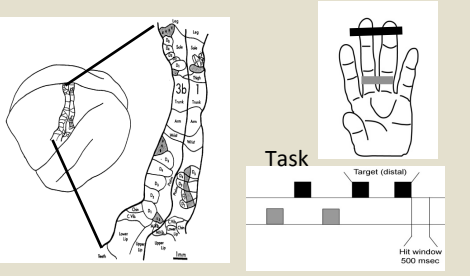


Plasticity and Learning in Somatosensory Cortex

Steven Hsiao
 Department of Neuroscience
 School of Medicine

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Attention and Learning

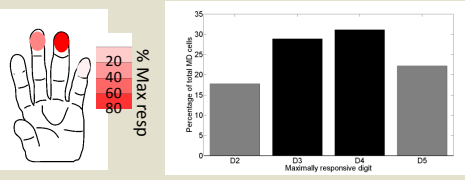


Task

Target (distal)

Hit window 500 msec

Cells with Multidigit Receptive fields emerge on trained digits.

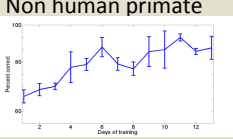


Digit	Percentage of total MD cells
D2	~18%
D3	~28%
D4	~30%
D5	~22%

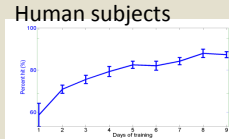
Maximally responsive digit

Learning is rapid in both humans and non-human primates

Non human primate



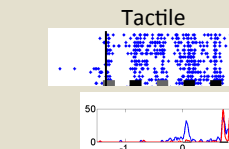
Human subjects



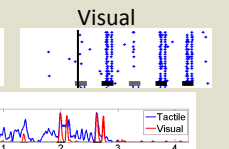
Natalie Trzcinski

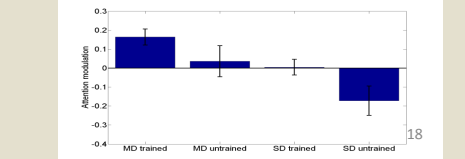
Attention targets trained digits

Tactile



Visual





Condition	Attention modulation
MD trained	~0.18
MD untrained	~0.05
SD trained	~0.02
SD untrained	~-0.15

Defining The Genetic Basis For Individual Differences In Learning

Mengnan Tian

Department of Neuroscience
School of Medicine

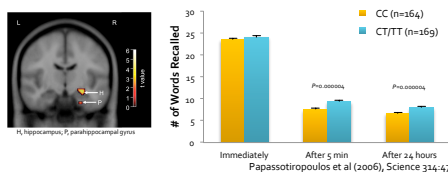
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Defining The Genetic Basis For Individual Differences In Learning Mengnan Tian

www.sciencemag.org SCIENCE VOL 314 20 OCTOBER 2006

Common *Kibra* Alleles Are Associated with Human Memory Performance

Andreas Papassotriopoulos,^{1,3,†} Dietrich A. Stephan,^{2,†} Matthew J. Huettelman,³ Frederic J. Hoeft,^{1,‡} David W. Craig,³ John W. Pearson,³ Kim-Dung Huh,^{1,‡} Fabienne Brunner,² Jason Corneveaux,² David Osborne,⁴ M. Axel Wollmer,² Amanda Aerni,¹ Daniel Coluccia,² Jürgen Hänggi,² Christian R. A. Mondadori,² Andreas Buchmann,¹ Eric M. Reiman,^{5,6} Richard J. Caselli,⁷ Katharina Henke,⁸ Dominique J.-F. de Quervain^{1,2}



¹Hippocampus, ²parahippocampal gyrus

Papassotriopoulos et al (2006), Science 314:475



Neurobiology of Aging 31 (2010) 901–909

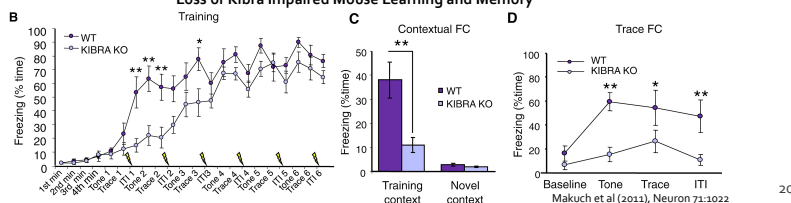
NEUROBIOLOGY OF AGING
www.elsevier.com/locate/ynbaging

Evidence for an association between *KIBRA* and late-onset Alzheimer's disease

- *KIBRA* was significantly over-expressed in AD-affected hippocampal, posterior cingulate and temporal cortex regions.
- T carrier had higher glucose metabolism than did carriers in posterior cingulate and precuneus brain regions.
- Non-carriers of the *KIBRA* rs17070145 T-allele had increased risk of late-onset AD in association studies.

Corneveaux et al (2010), Neurobiology of Aging 31:901

Loss of *Kibra* Impaired Mouse Learning and Memory



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Virtues of Wonder: A Seedbed for Discovery and Healing

Gail Geller

Department of Medicine and
Berman Institute of Bioethics
School of Medicine

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Virtues of Wonder: A Seedbed for Discovery and Healing

"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and all science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder..., is as good as dead; his eyes are closed."
Albert Einstein

Provisional conception of 'wonder'

An experience of:

- surprise at the unexpected
- attraction to the unknown, and
- an awakening of the imagination in the face of what might be

Inter-divisional, multi-disciplinary project team

Co-PI: Gail Geller, ScD, MHS	BI, SOM
Co-PI: Maria Merritt, PhD	BI, BSPH
Charles Limb, MD, PhD	SOM, SOE, Peabody
Barbara Landau, PhD	KSAS, Provost's Off.
Elaine Hansen, PhD	CTY
Susan Magsamen	BSi
Amy Shelton, PhD	CTY, SOE

Orienting Concept

- The "capacity for wonder" underlies several virtues of character - *humility, creativity, curiosity, gratitude, respect, and compassion* – that are integral to discovery and healing.

Statement of Problem

- These virtues tend to be extinguished rather than nurtured by the culture and worldview of many educational institutions at every level.

Goals

- to advance our understanding (through rigorous, transdisciplinary conceptual and empirical analysis) of the "capacity for wonder" and its relationship to the specific virtues of character.
- to infuse teaching and learning with wonder so as to cultivate these virtues in the leaders of tomorrow.

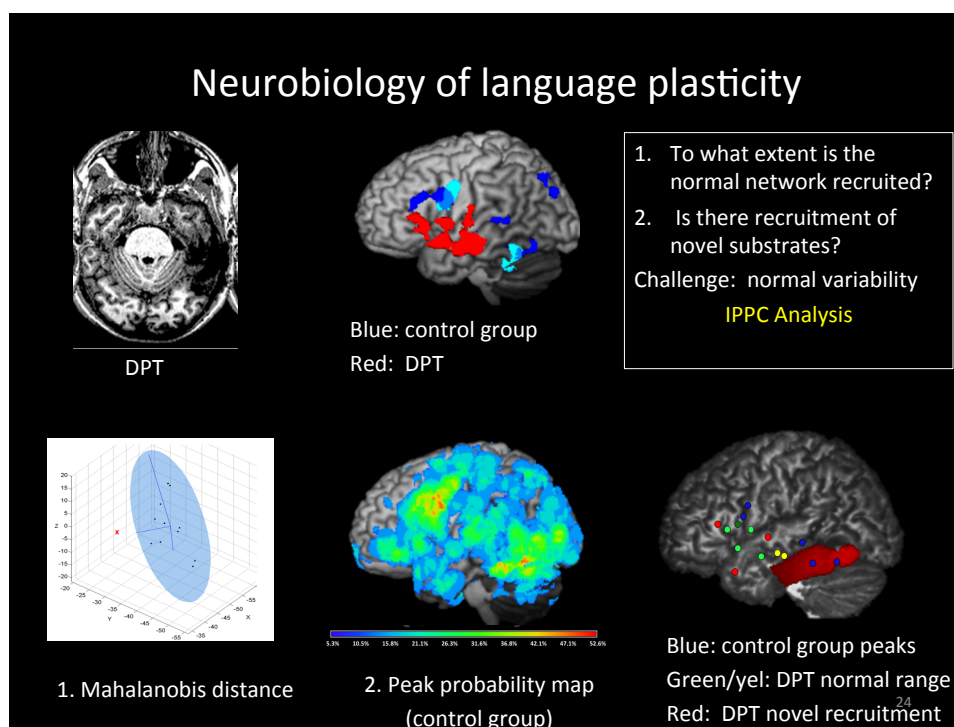


Neurobiology of language plasticity

Brenda Rapp

Department of Cognitive Science
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

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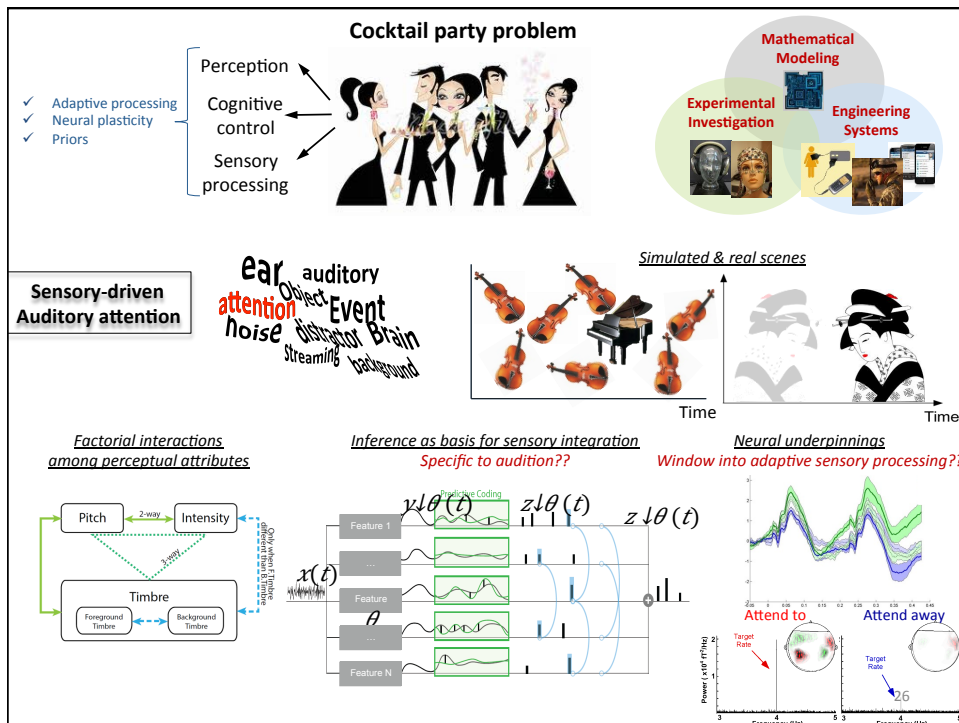
The Cocktail Party Problem

Mounya Elhilali

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Whiting School of Engineering

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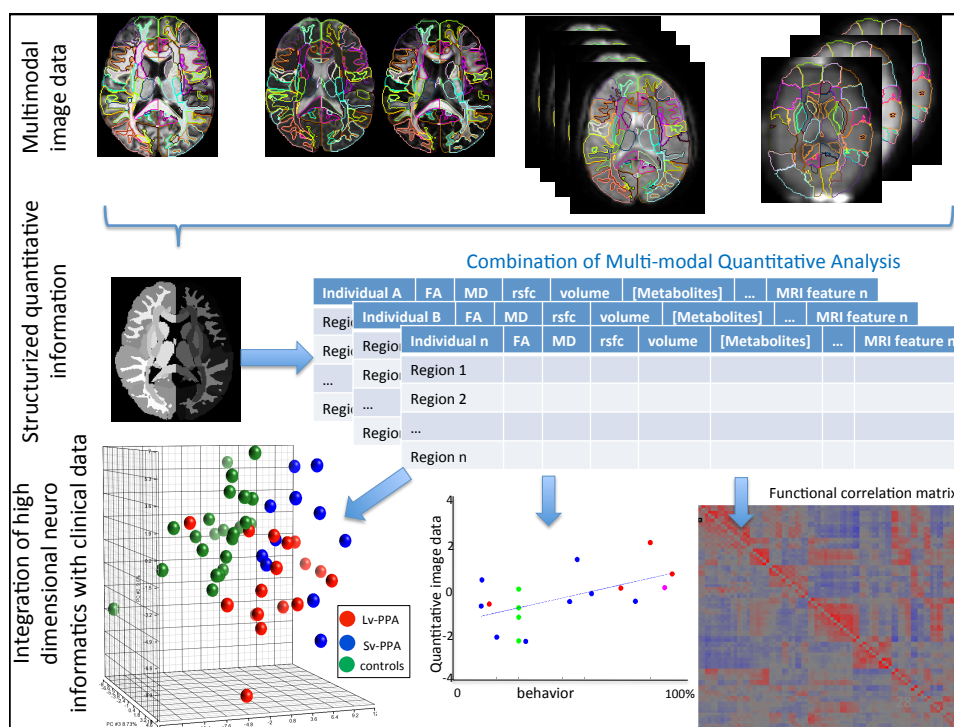


Artificial Intelligence to Simulate Radiologists' Learning and Reasoning

Andreia Faria

Department of Radiology-Magnetic Resonance
Research
School of Medicine

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Metacognitive Responses to Math Errors

Luke Rinne

Department of Educator Preparation Programs
School of Education

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Metacognitive Responses To Math Errors

Luke Rinne, JHU School of Education

$$10200 \div 7 = 1600$$

Correct or Incorrect? Are you positive?

- Is metacognition more than just computation ability?
 - Skill in assigning confidence is still developing during adolescence, well after arithmetic has been acquired.
 - Impairment with MLD, but not low-achievement in general.
- How does metacognition affect learning?
 - What happens *after* errors? Slowing? Improved accuracy?
- What are the biological bases of metacognition?
 - We know about ERN, but *cortisol* may also be important.
 - Cortisol likely aids responses to error (in ways we don't understand well yet), but is also a factor in math anxiety.

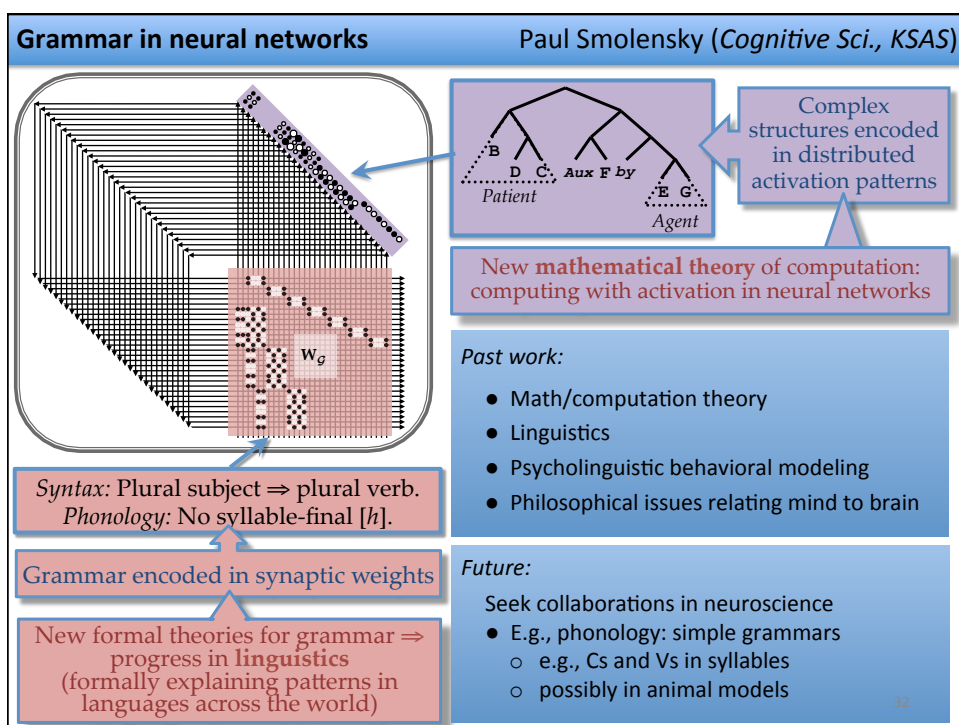
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Grammar in Neural Networks

Paul Smolensky

Department of Cognitive Science
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

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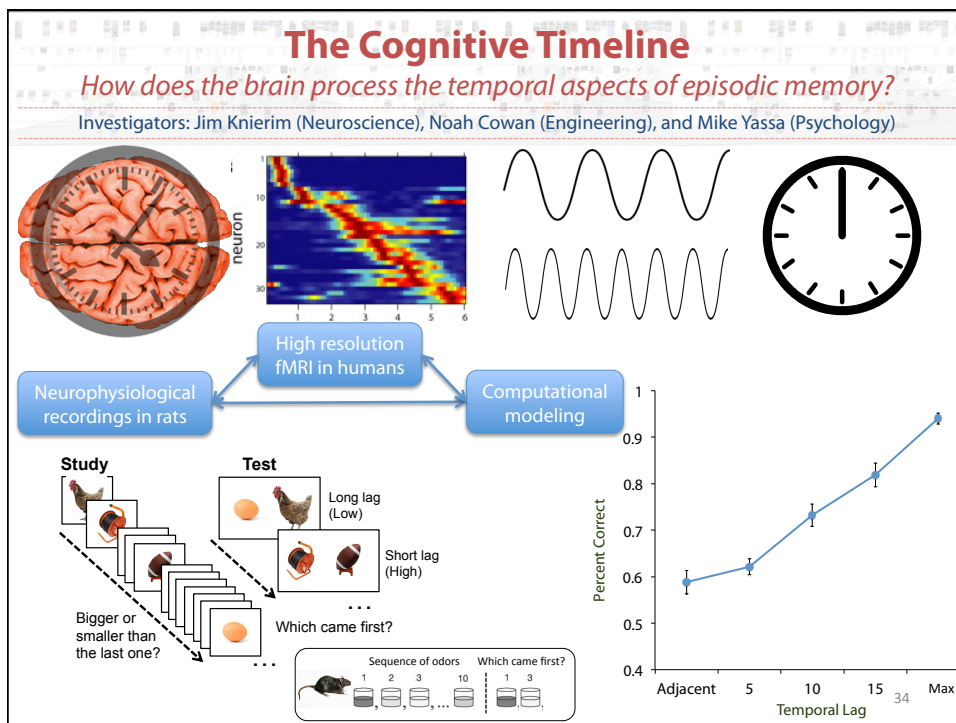


The Cognitive Timeline

Michael Yassa

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

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Reinforcement Learning, Acetylcholine, and Astrocytes

Marshall Shuler
Department of Neuroscience
School of Medicine

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The Motor-cognitive Interface, Skill and Gaming

John Krakauer
Department of Neurology
School of Medicine

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Fear Conditioning in Humans

Chang-Chia Liu

Department of Neurological Surgery
School of Medicine

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Can Brainpower Be Boosted? (Safely)

Barry Gordon

Department of Neurology and
Cognitive Science
School of Medicine

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