Sainsbury Wellcome Centre

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Cerebellar learning

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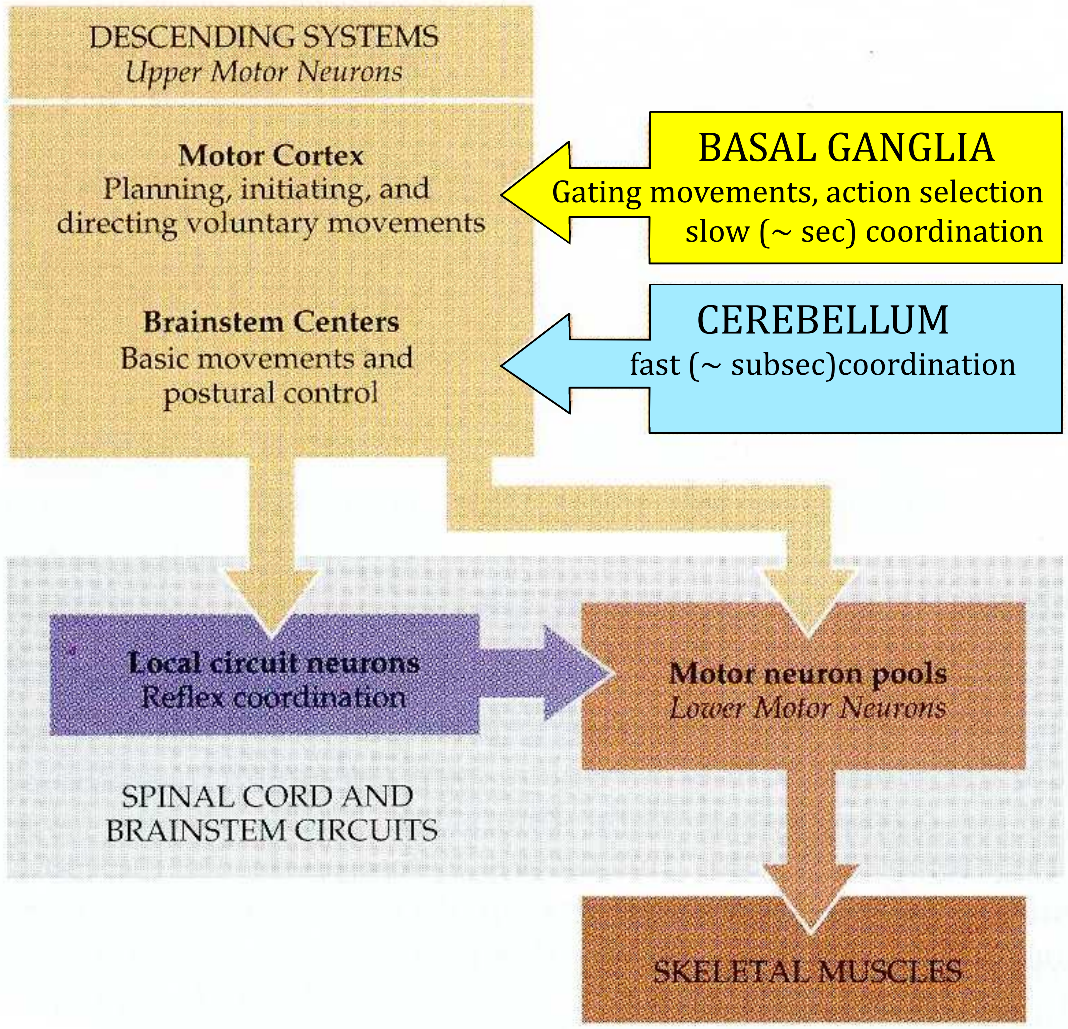
- Brief overview of cerebellum
- Behavioural aspects of cerebellar associative learning
- A circuit mechanism and theoretical model
- Cellular mechanisms

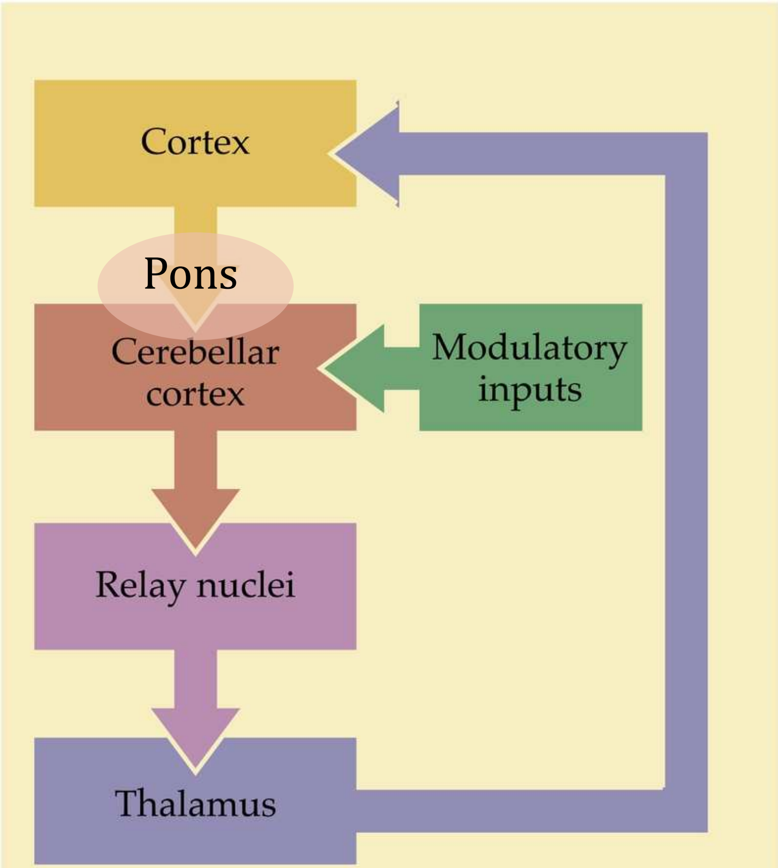
A simplified view of motor system output

The cerebellum functions as a rapid, corrective feedback loop, smoothing and coordinating movements.



from Fig. 15-1, Purves

Fast feedback loops for coordinating movement



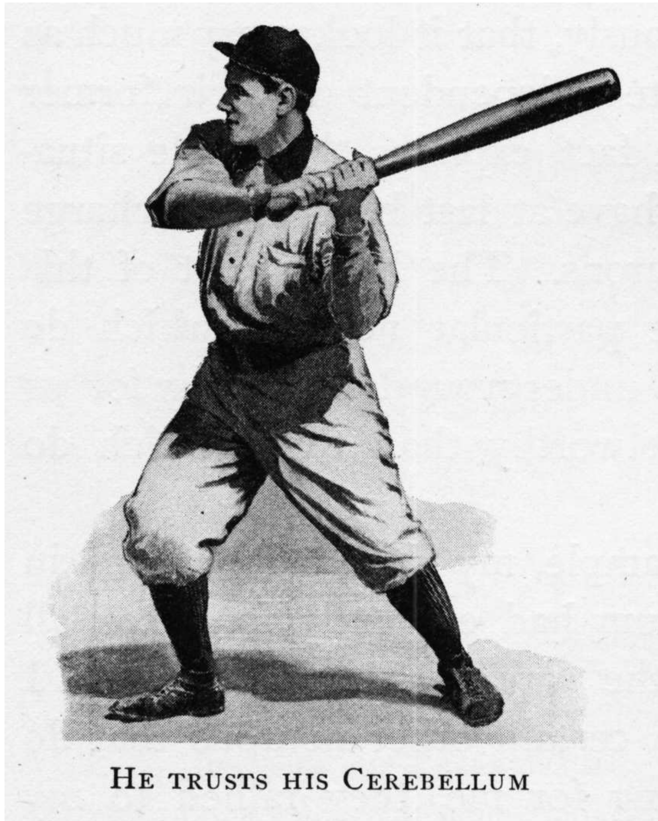
Purves, 18-7

Cerebellar lesions cause:
nystagmus
ataxia
dysdiadochokinesia
dysmetria
intention tremor

also, deficits in
motor learning

What kinds of information does the cerebellum receive?

- somatosensory
- visual
- auditory
- vestibular
- proprioceptive
- *efferent copy*



From *Control of Body and Mind*,
Gulick Hygiene Series, 1908

Movement is fast & nerves are slow
coordination requires *prediction*

conduction velocity of most nerve fibers is ~10 m/s

some humans run at ~ 10 m/s

Usain Bolt, 100 m WR: 9.58 s

To adapt quickly, control systems must anticipate

i.e. a 'forward model'

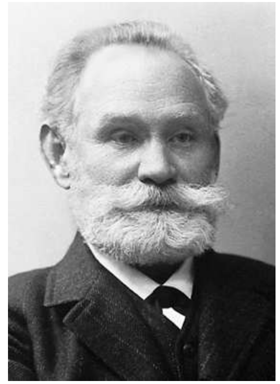
Ohyama et al., 2003

Behavioural aspects of cerebellar associative learning

Classical or Pavlovian conditioning

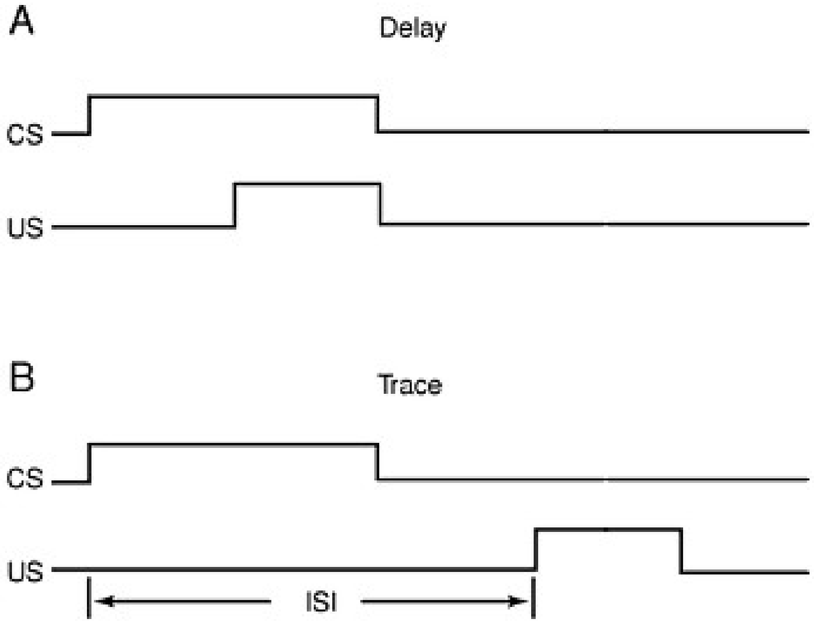
A form of associative learning in which a conditioned stimulus (CS) is linked to an unconditioned stimulus/response (US/UR).

After learning the CS elicits a conditioned response (CR) when delivered by itself.



Ivan Pavlov
Nobel Prize, 1904

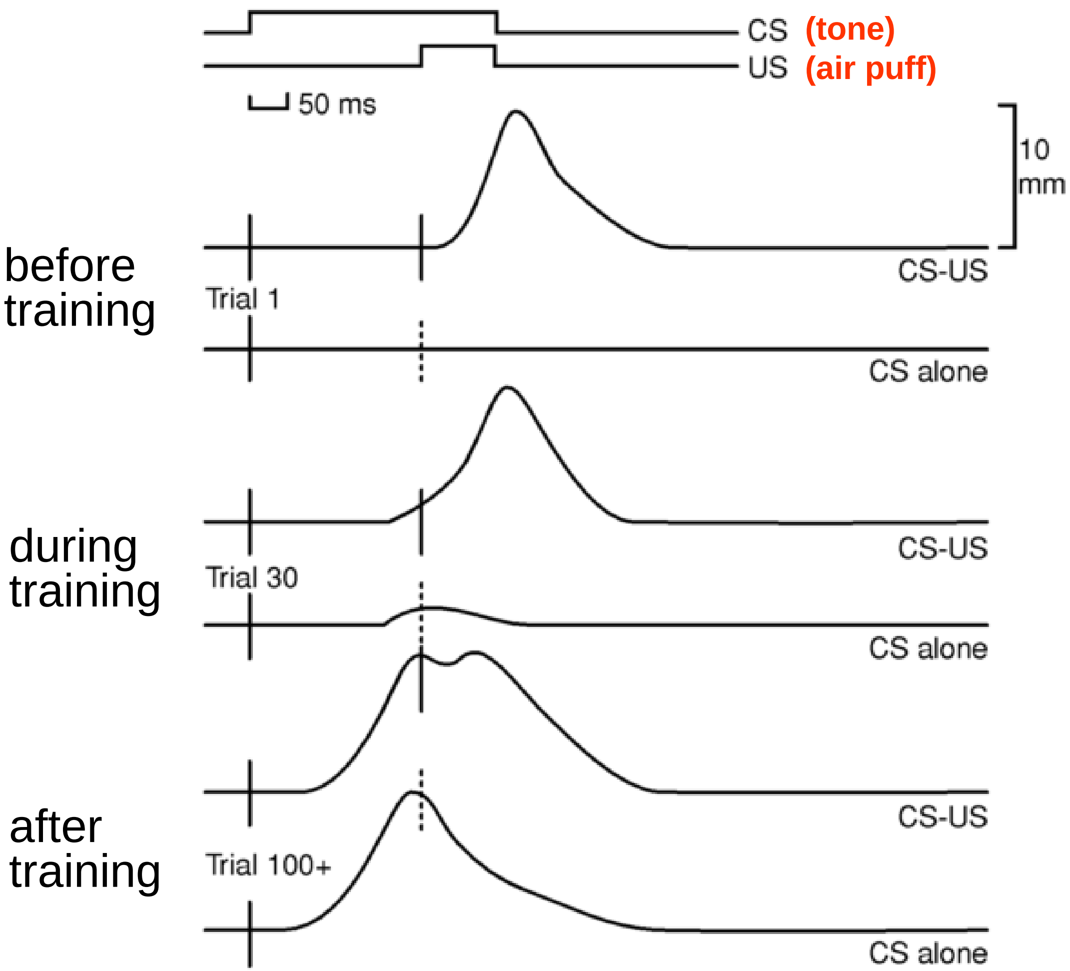
Paradigms for classical conditioning:



Cerebellar lesions disrupt delay conditioning

Both cerebellar and hippocampal lesions disrupt trace conditioning

Eyelid movements during a classical conditioning experiment



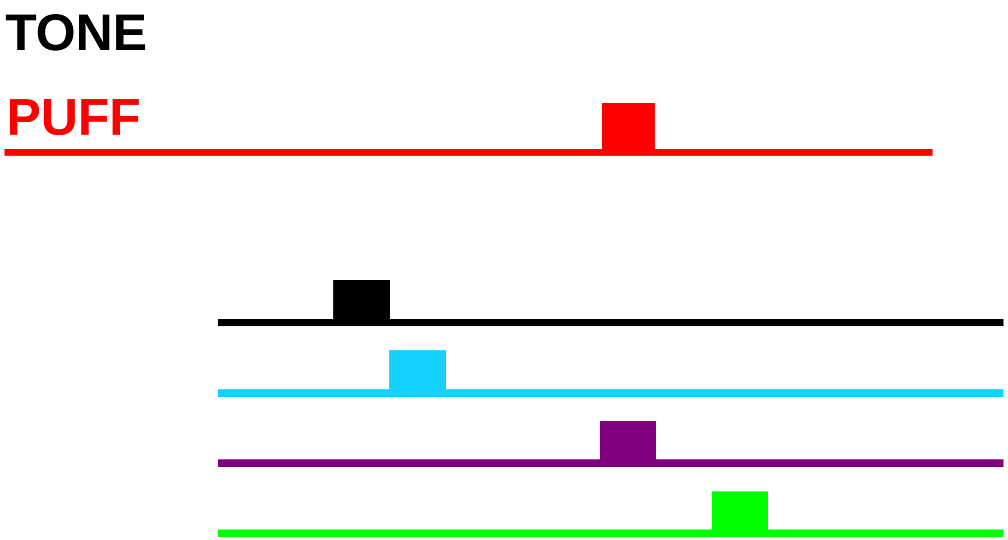
Zigmond et al., 1999

Mouse eyeblink data

Heiney et al, *J. Neurosci.*, 2014

Timing of learned responses dictated by CS-US timing during training

eyelid response

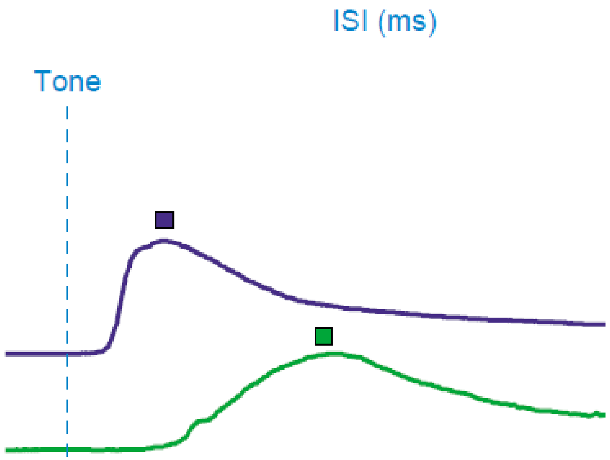


differently timed
puffs during
training

responses after
training

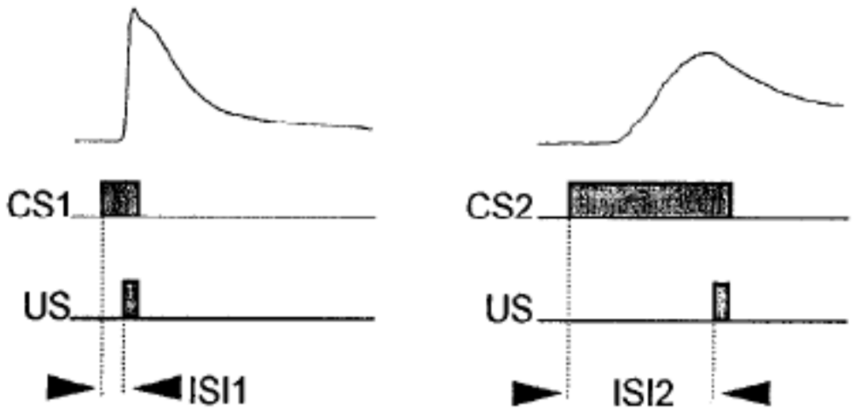
from Mauk et al.,1998

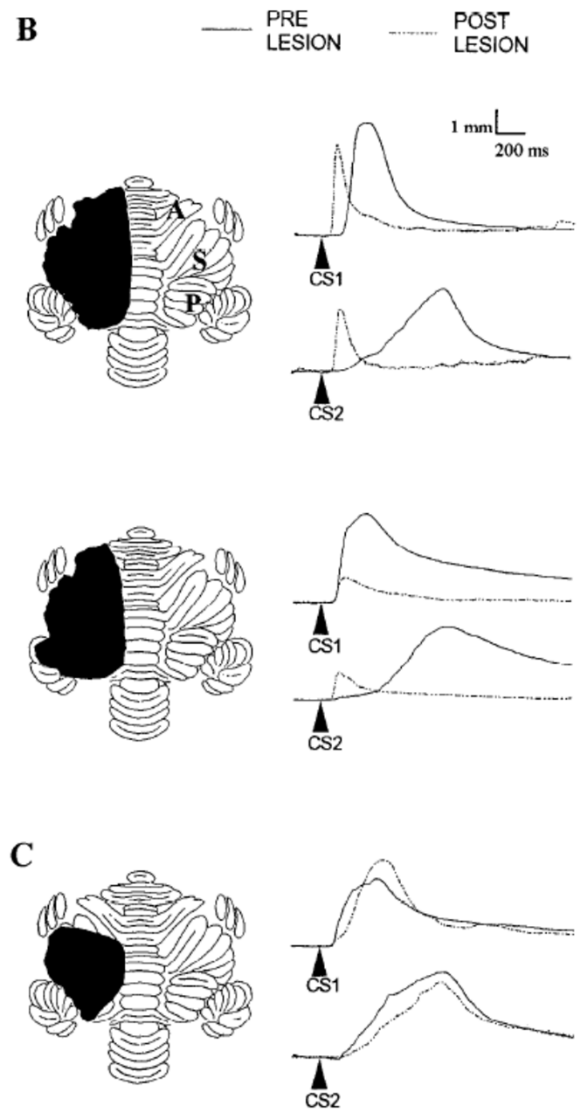
Learning is robust for CS-US intervals of 100 ms to 1 second



Ohyama and Mauk 2003

Lesions of cortex alter but do not block memories





Perrett et al., *J. Neurosci.* 13:1708, 1993

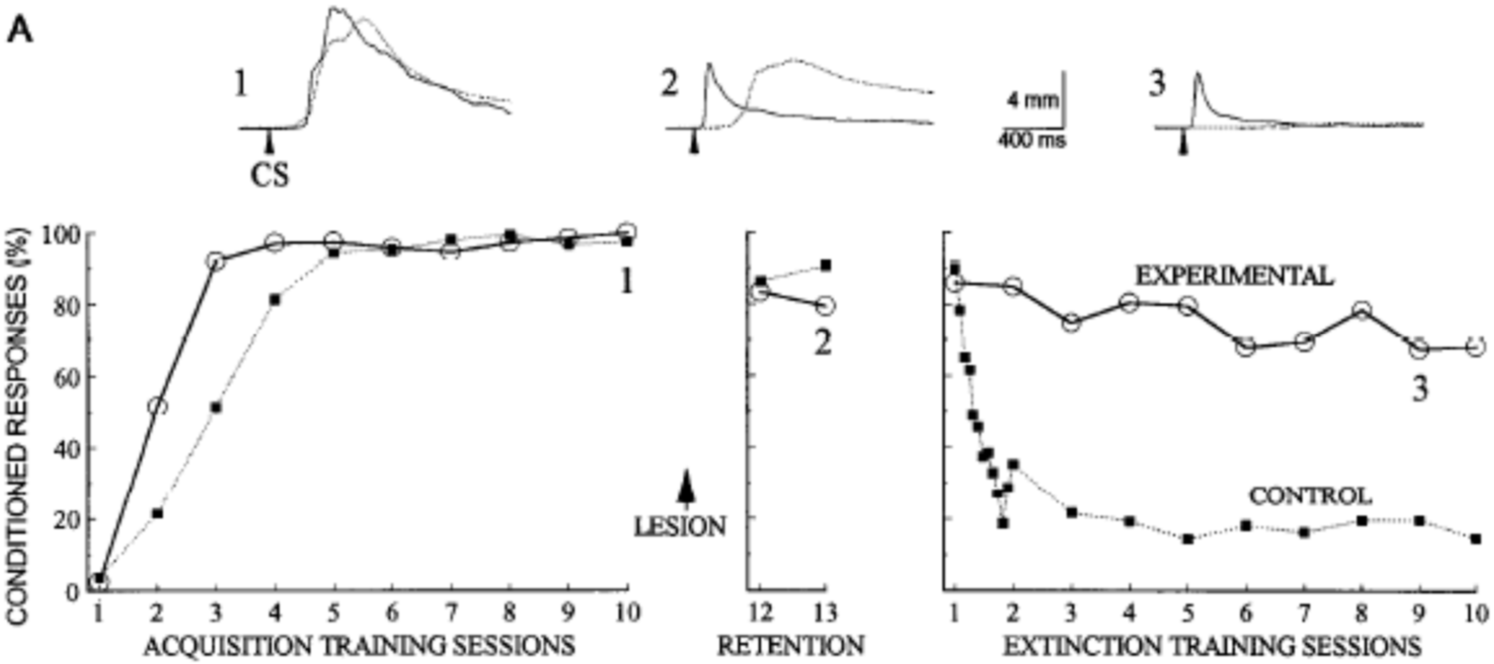
Lesions and pharmacological inactivation of cerebellar cortex cause improperly timed learned responses after eyeblink conditioning.

Lesions of cerebellar cortex (anterior lobe)

$GABA_A$ receptor antagonist (picrotoxin) injected into interpositus nucleus

Mauk et al.,1998

Extinction requires the cortex



Perrett and Mauk, *J Neurosci.* 15:2074, 1995

Cellular anatomy of cerebellum

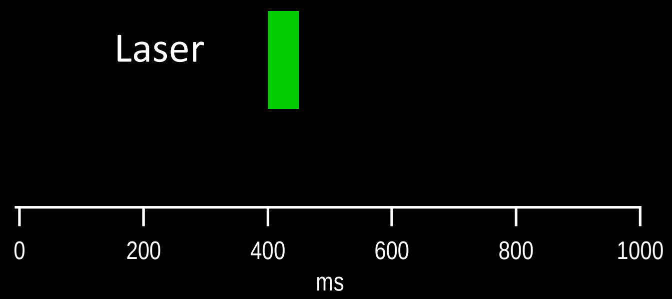
Fig. 20-10, Nolte

How does Purkinje neuron firing affect movement?

Purkinje neurons are inhibitory, thus when they slow or stop firing their targets are excited

Rapid, short latency arm movements triggered by brief PN inhibition

- Archearhodopsin (inhibitory opsin) expressed in PNs
- Optic fiber delivering 532nm laser light to forelimb region of cerebellar cortex



Lee, & Mathews et al, *Neuron*, 2015

Circuit hypotheses for cerebellar associative learning

Two inputs to cerebellar cortex transmit distinct types of information

Mossy Fiber (MF) – Parallel Fiber (PF) system

the "sensorimotor context"

Climbing Fiber (CF) –

the instructive signal, unexpected events relevant to movement

Some numbers: mossy fibers and climbing fibers

A mossy fiber excites
~30 granule cells.

A granule cell is excited by
4-6 mossy fibers.

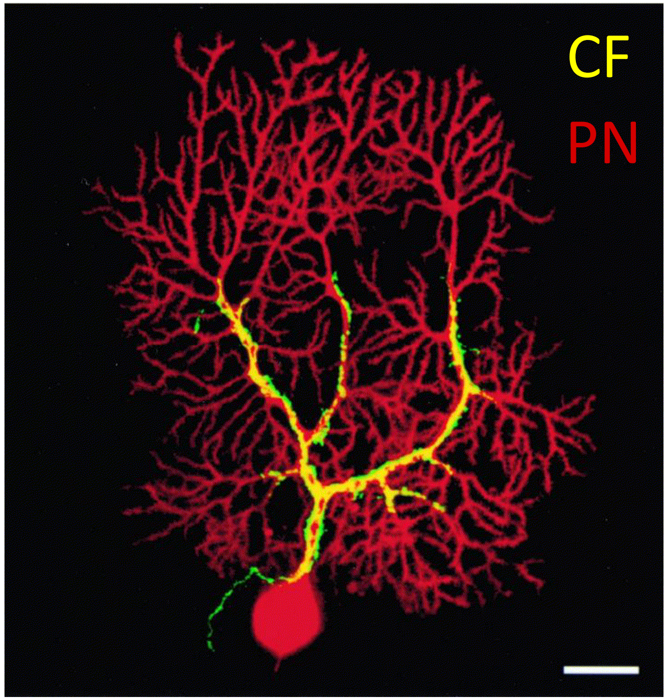
A parallel fiber excites ~300 PNs.

A PN is excited by ~100,000
parallel fibers.

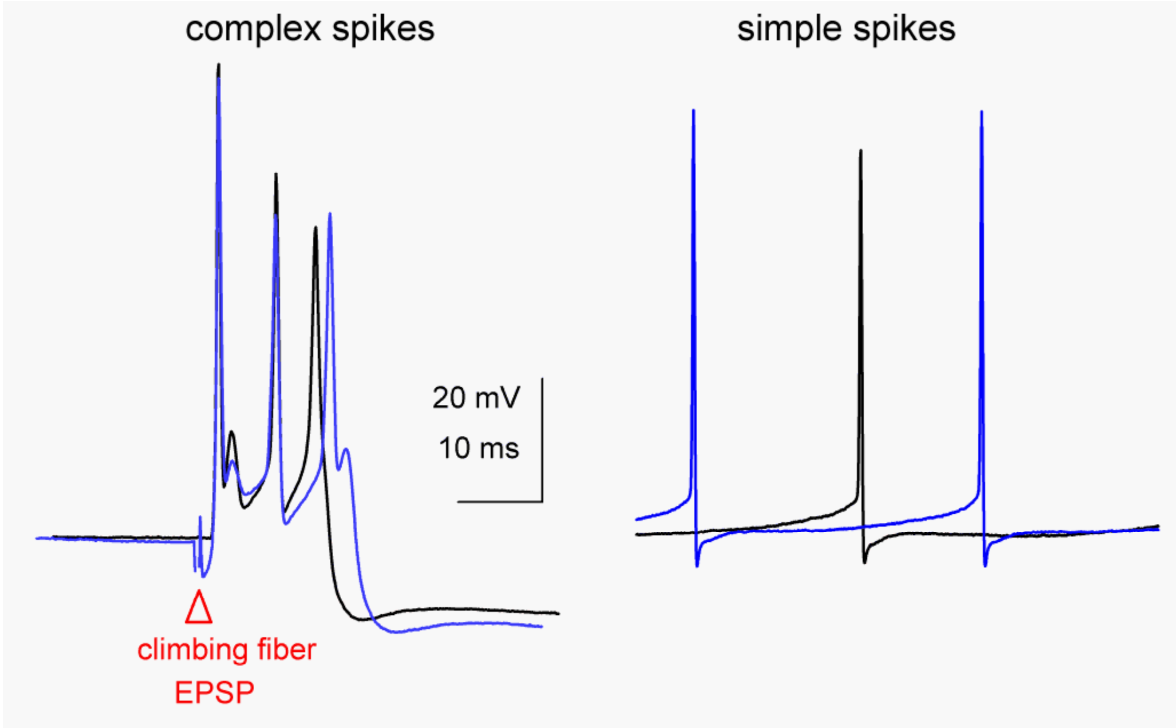
A climbing fiber excites ~10 PNs.

A PN is excited by 1 climbing fiber.

CFs generate a unique, cell-wide signal

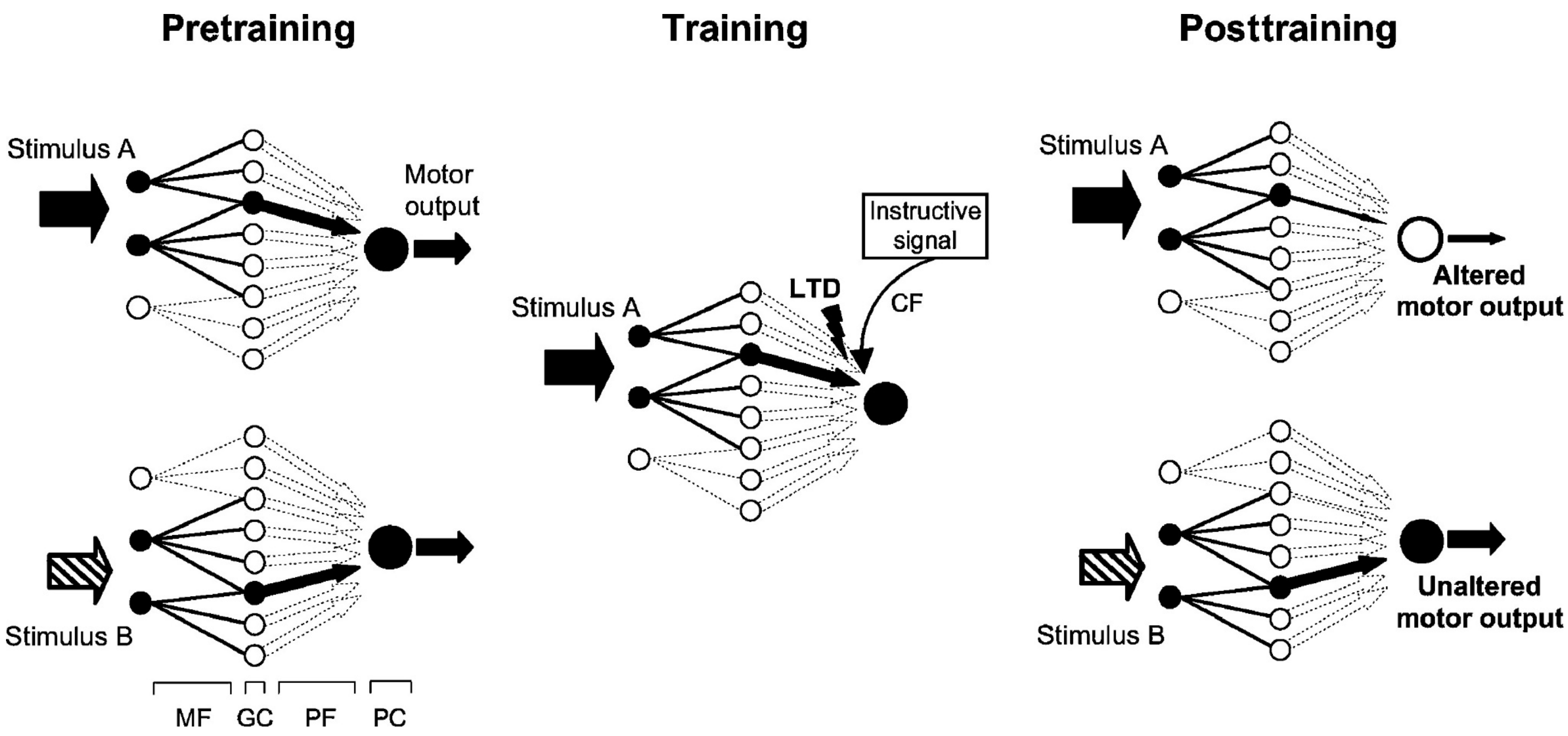


Kreitzer et al, 2000



- Simple spikes are typical action potentials.
- Complex spikes occur in response to climbing fiber excitation.

The Marr/Ito/Albus model

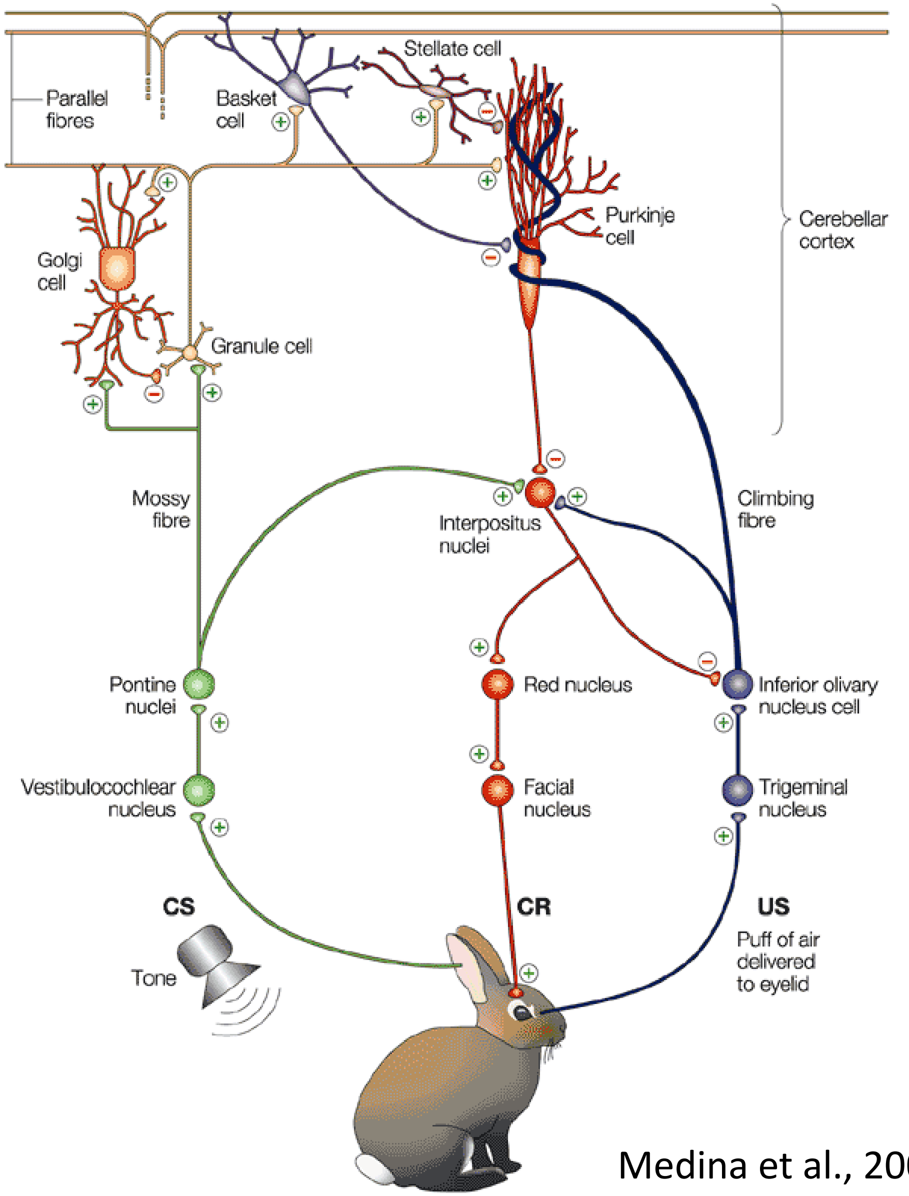


David Marr, 1970

from Boyden et al., 2004

for more on ‘expansion recoding’ see Kennedy et al., *Nat. Neurosci.*, 2014

Eyeblink conditioning circuitry



Medina et al., 2002

Evidence for the anatomical substrates of CS and US

- Lesions of the mossy fibers prevent learning (McCormick & Thompson, ‘84)
- Stimulation of the mossy fibers (pons) can substitute for the CS (Steinmetz et al, ‘89)
- Lesions of the olive (climbing fibers) prevent learning
- Stimulation of olive can substitute for the US (Mauk et al, ‘86)
- Inactivation of the climbing fibers extinguishes learning

Complex spikes indicate errors or unexpected events

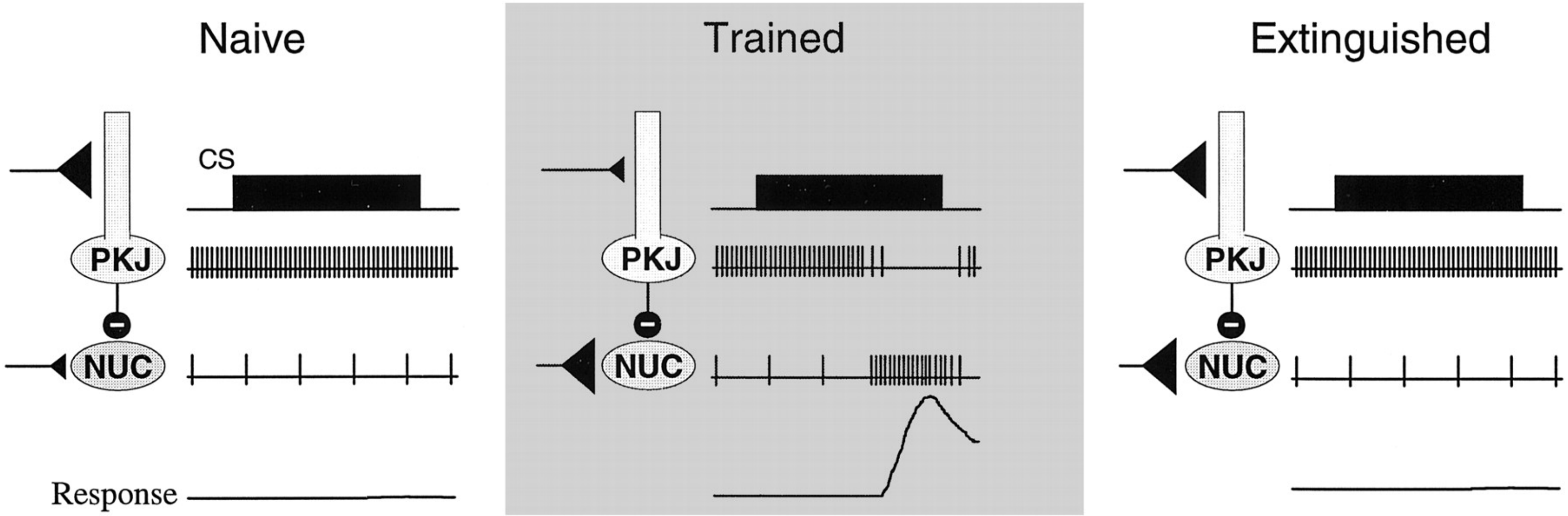
- Baseline rate of complex spikes ~ 1 / s
- Rate of complex spikes increases with errors in a novel task
- Complex spikes to unexpected events
- Rate of complex spikes decreases after learning corrects errors in performance

Ohmae & Medina, *Nat. Neurosci.,* 2015

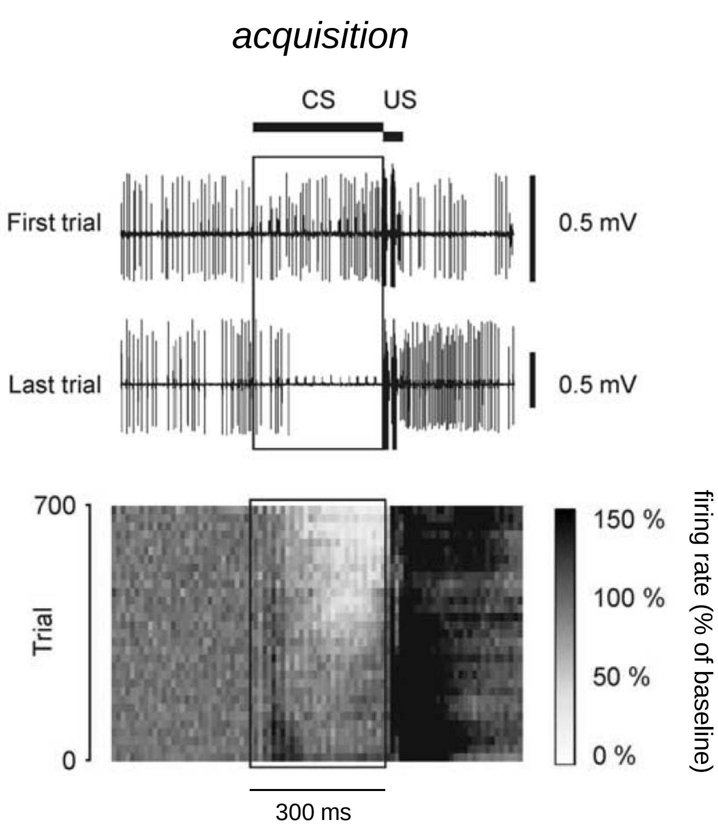
Complex spikes to unexpected events habituate
unless they are predictive

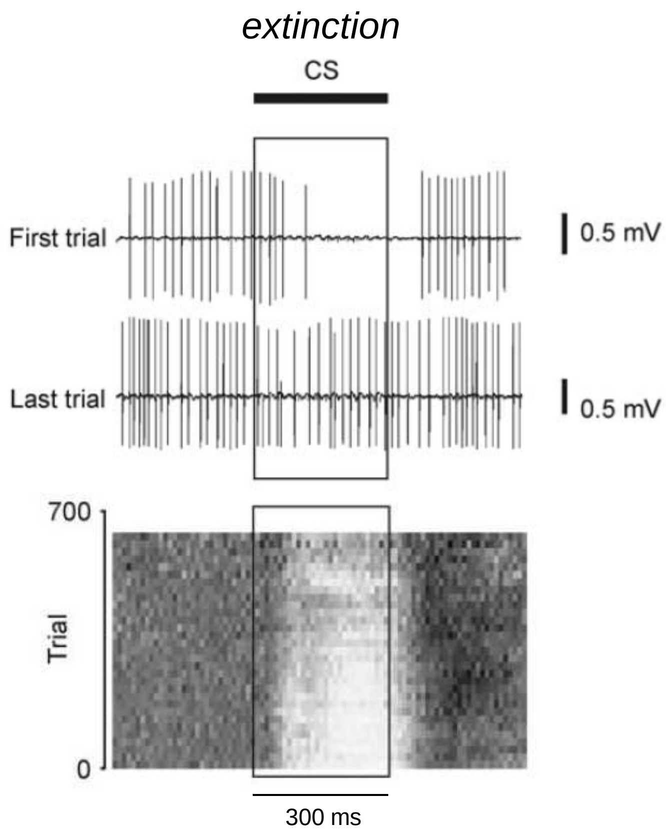
Ohmae & Medina, *Nat. Neurosci.,* 2015

What does the CF ‘teach’ the Purkinje neuron?

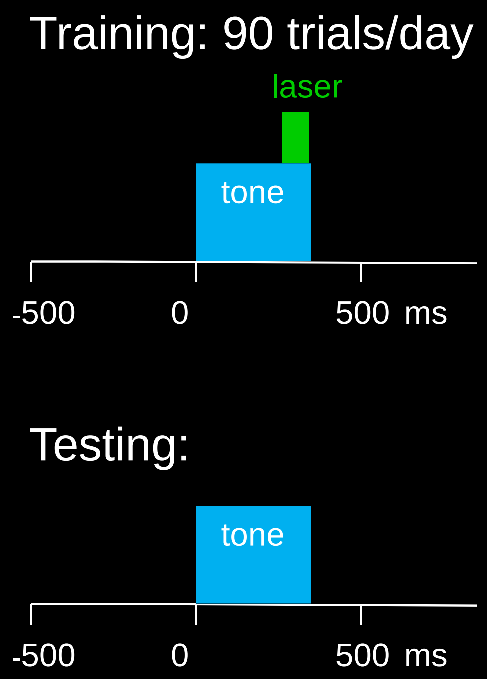


Garcia, Steele, and Mauk, *J. Neurosci.* 19:10940, 1999


acquisition
CS
US
First trial
0.5 mV
Last trial
0.5 mV
700
Trial
0
150 %
100 %
50 %
0 %
firing rate (% of baseline)
300 ms


extinction
CS
First trial
0.5 mV
Last trial
0.5 mV
700
Trial
0
300 ms

Pairing PC excitation with a tone leads to robust learned movements



Chr2 training, individual mice

0.5 m/s

Acquisition

Extinction

Reacquisition

A. Reeves, unpublished

Which pathways carry the information critical for learning?

Mauk, 1997

Similarities between classical eyeblink conditioning (*EC*) and plasticity of the vestibulo-ocular reflex (*VOR)*

Mauk, 1997

PNs in flocculus are directionally tuned to smooth pursuit eye movements

Yang & Lisberger, *Nature* 2014

Smooth pursuit learning task

Medina & Lisberger, *Nat. Neurosci.* 2008

Smooth pursuit learning task

- task shows single trial learning
- complex spikes predict learning on a trial by trial basis

Medina & Lisberger, *Nat. Neurosci.* 2008

Complex spike signals predict single trial learning

Yang & Lisberger, *Nature* 2014

Reciprocal disynaptic connections between motor areas of cerebellum and neocortex

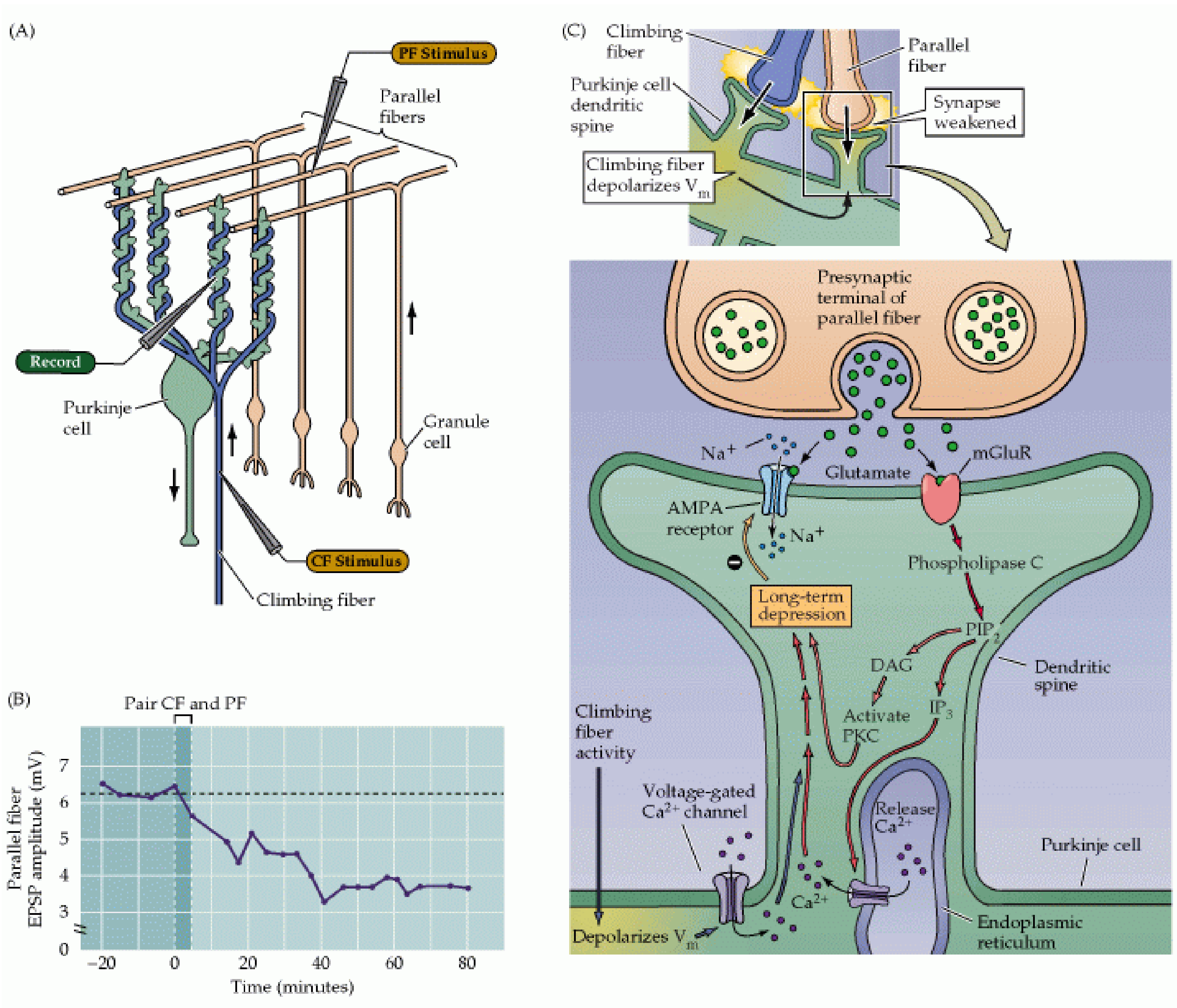
Buckner, *Neuron* 80:807-815, 2013

Reciprocal connections between cerebellum and <u>all</u> of neocortex

Buckner, *Neuron* 80:807-815, 2013; see also work by Strick and colleagues, and Schmahmann on cerebellar cognitive syndrome & “*dysmetria of thought*”

Cellular mechanisms of cerebellar LTD

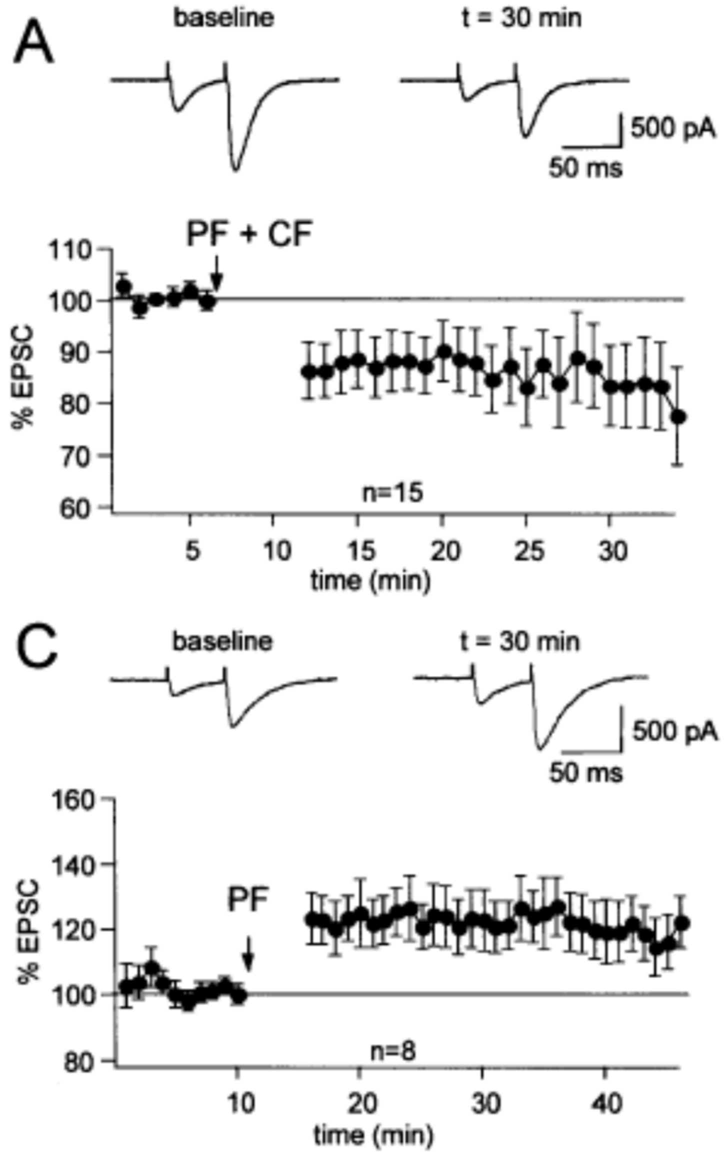
Long term depression (LTD) of PF synapses



AMPA receptors are removed at PF synapses

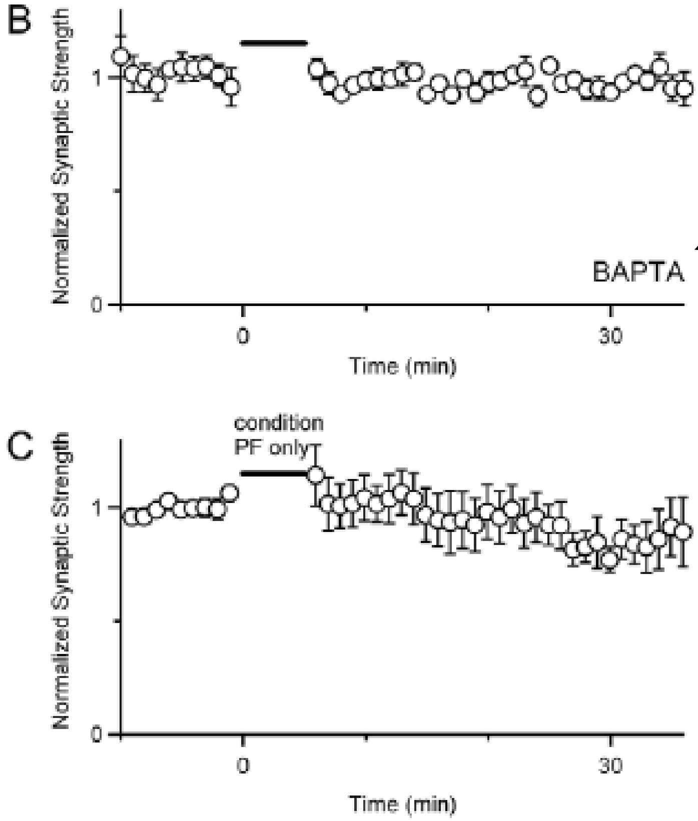
Fig.24-13, Purves

The direction of plasticity is determined by the whether CF is stimulated



Coesmans et al., *Neuron* 44:691, 2004

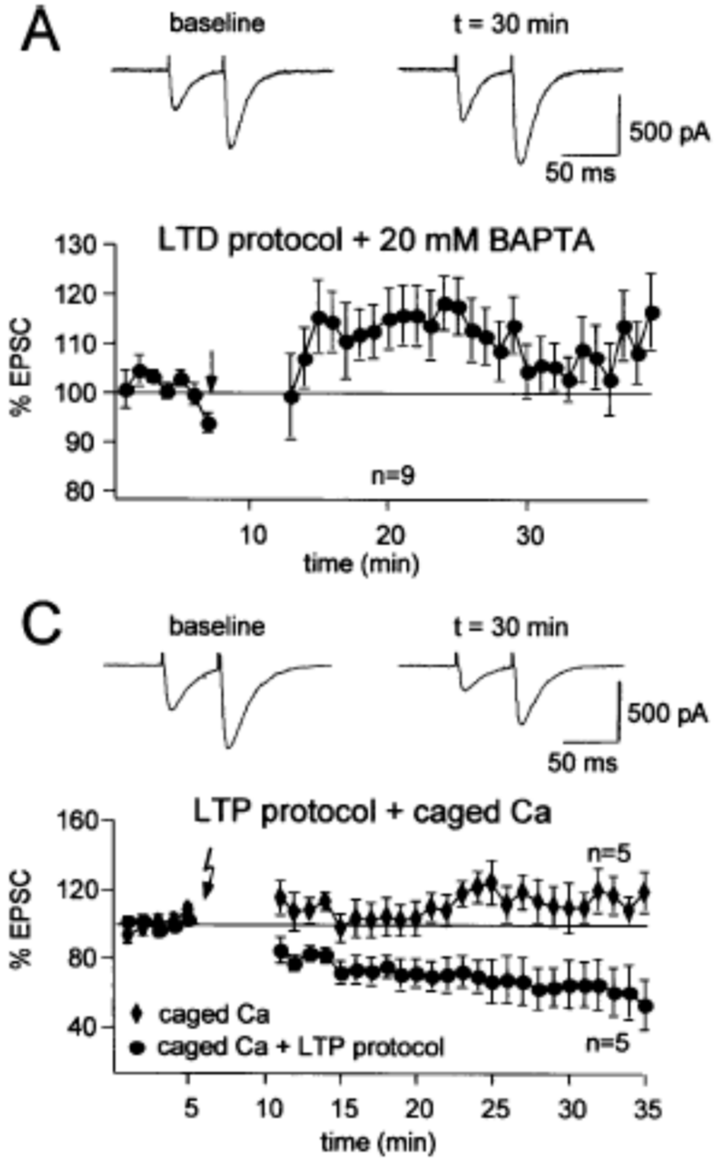
LTD is synapse specific & requires an rise in $[Ca^{2+}]_i$



intracellular
[Ca] buffer

Safo and Regehr, *Neuron* 48:647, 2005

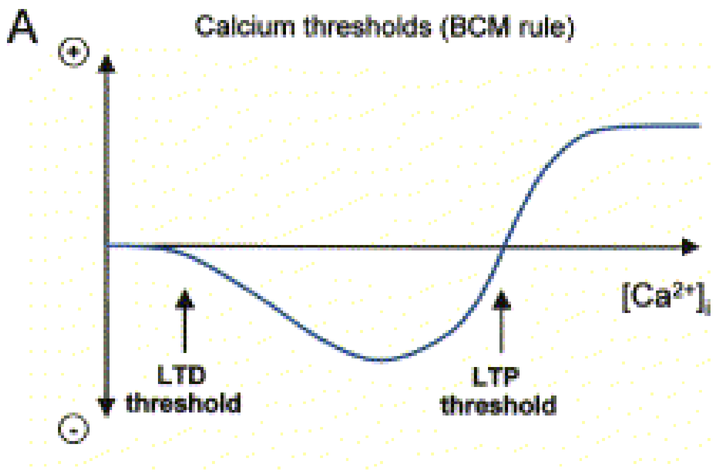
The direction of plasticity is determined by the amount of calcium



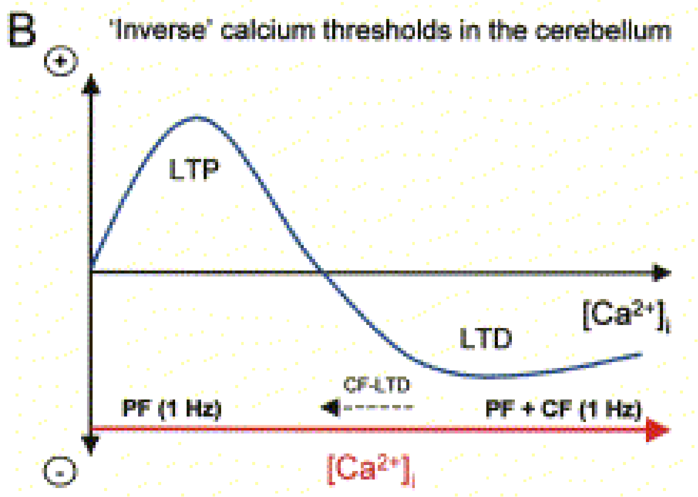
Coesmans et al., *Neuron* 44:691, 2004

An inverse $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ dependence in cerebellum?

Schaffer-collateral synapse

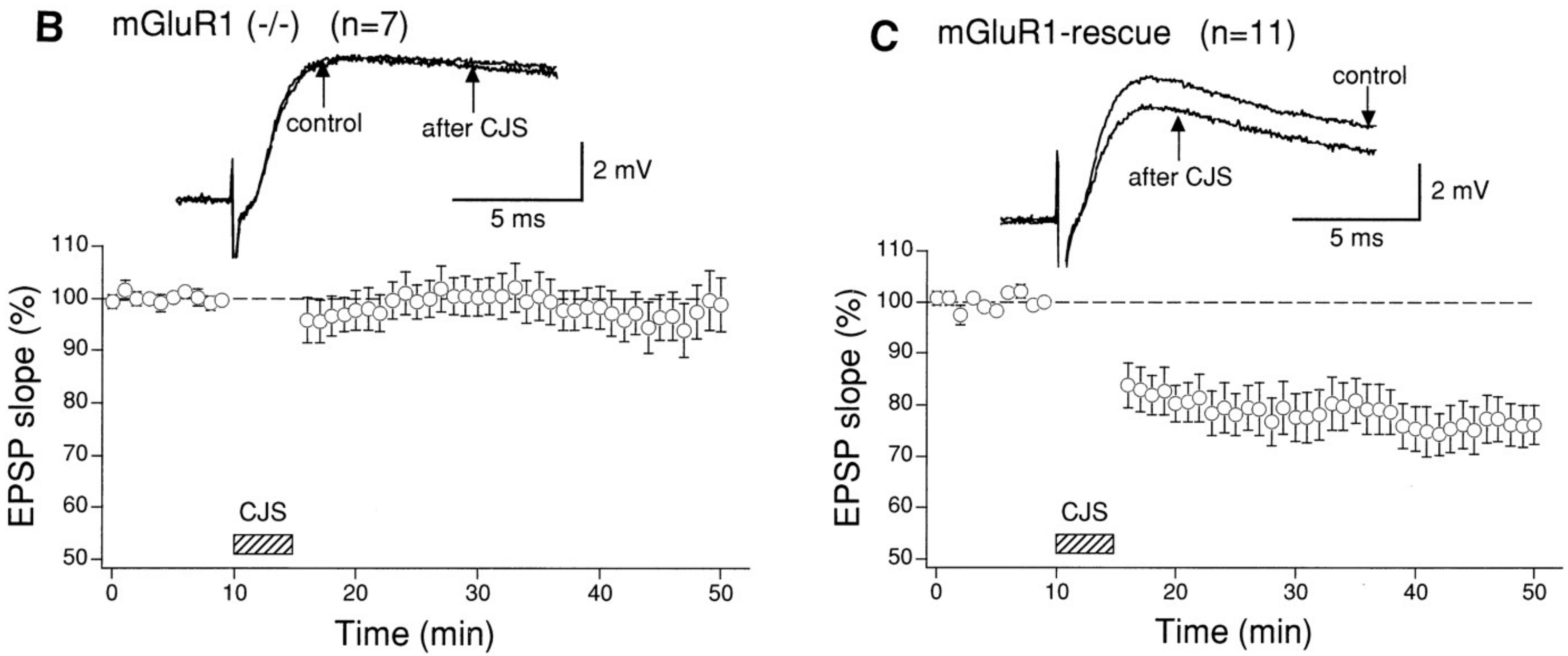


parallel fiber synapse



Coesmans et al., *Neuron* 44:691, 2004

mGluR1 function is required for LTD



Ichise et al., *Science* 288:1832, 2000

Coincidence detection mechanisms

1) PF → mGluR1α → PLCβ → DAG ↘ PKCα
CF → VGCC → $[Ca^{2+}]$↑ ↗ PKCα

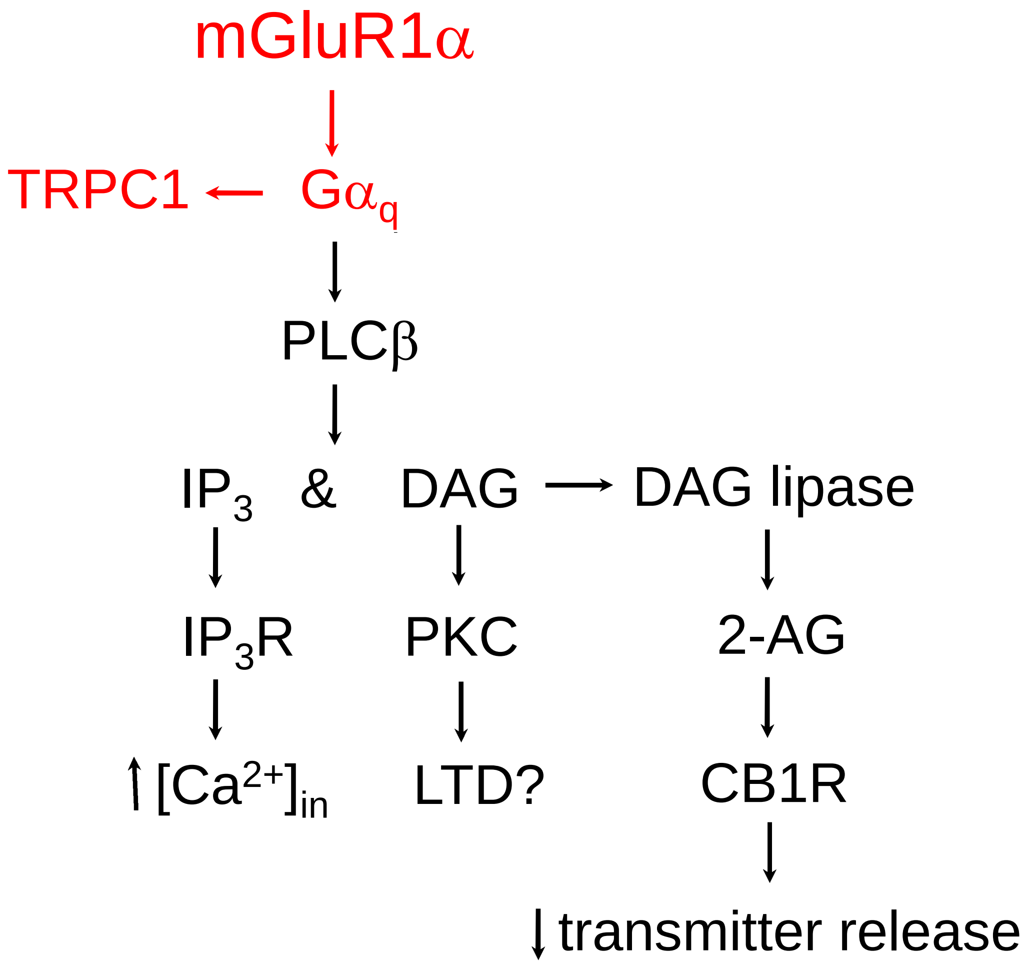
Linden & colleagues

2) PF → mGluR1α → PLCβ → IP_3 ↘ IP_3R
CF → VGCC → $[Ca^{2+}]$↑ ↗ IP_3R

Augustine, Finch, Wang

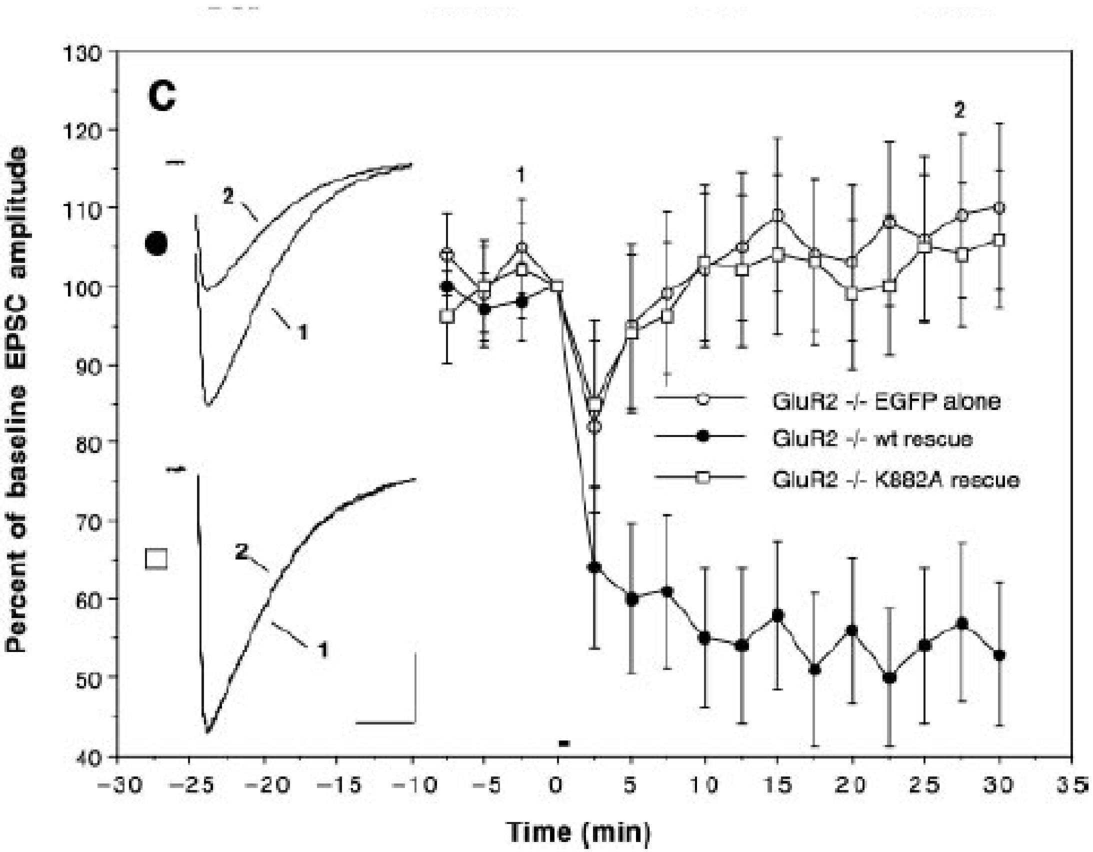
3) PF → NO → sGC → cGMP ↘ PKG?
CF → VGCC → $[Ca^{2+}]$↑ ↗ PKG?

Lev Ram, Hartell, Crepel



mGluR1α
TRPC1
Gα$_q$
PLCβ
IP$_3$ & DAG
DAG lipase
IP$_3$R
PKC
2-AG
[Ca^{2+}]$_{in}$
LTD?
CB1R
transmitter release

Endocytosis of GluR2-containing AMPARs is the basis for LTD



Chung et al., *Science* 300:1751, 2003

Summary: sites of plasticity

= associative LTP

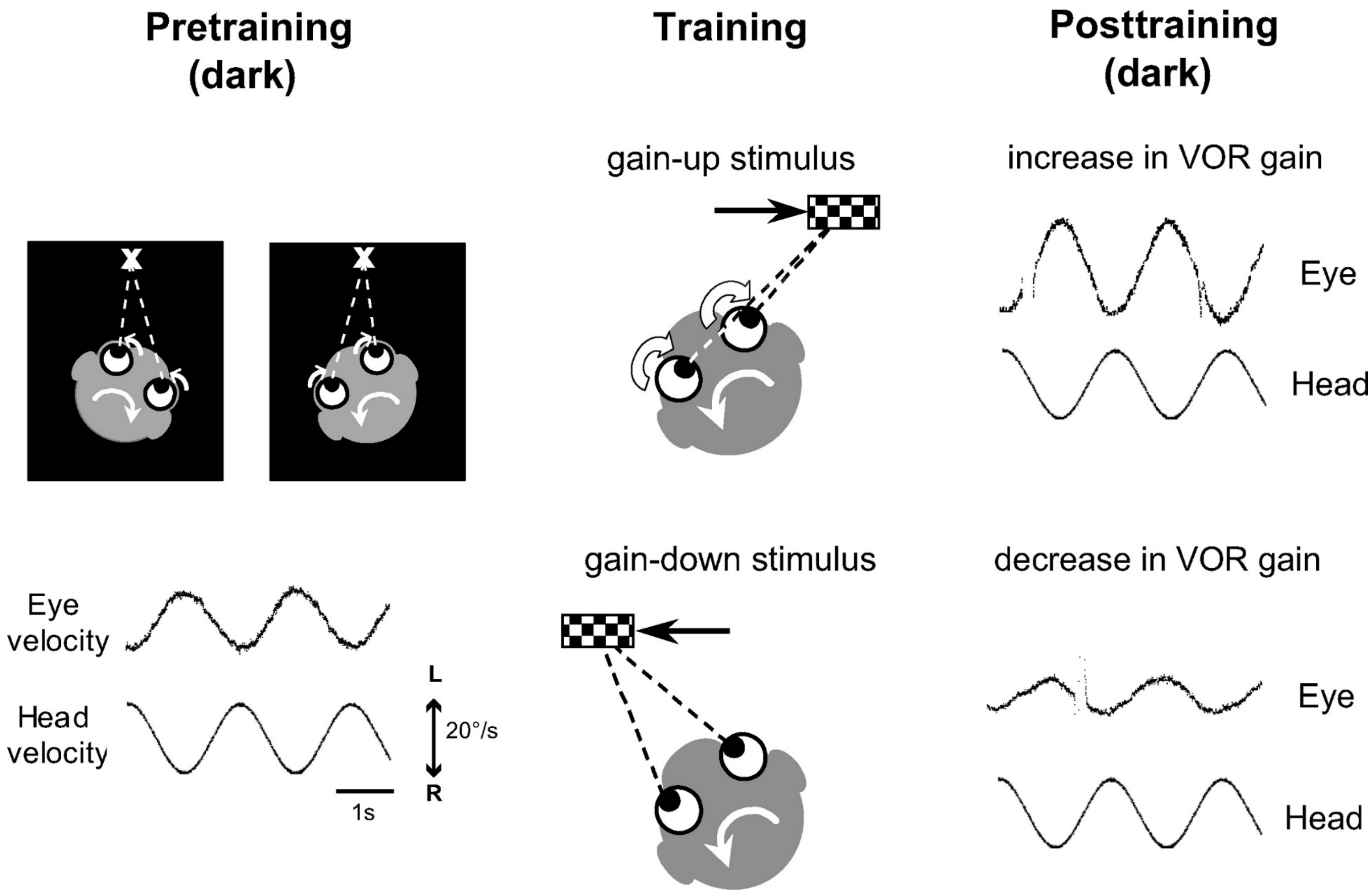
= associative LTD

Backup, extra slides

VOR plasticity can be induced by minimizing or magnifying spectacles.

From Purves et al., 1997

VOR learning



Boyden et al., 2004