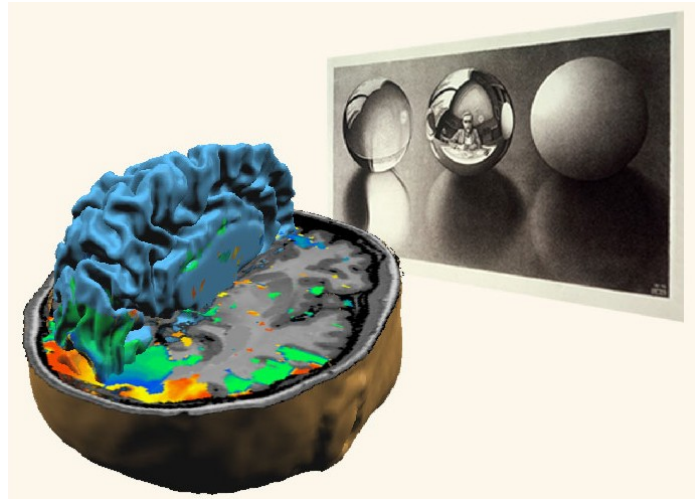


# Control of synaptic plasticity in deep cortical networks



**NETHERLANDS  
INSTITUTE  
FOR NEUROSCIENCE**  
Master the mind

Pieter R. Roelfsema

Dept. Vision & Cognition, Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience (KNAW)



























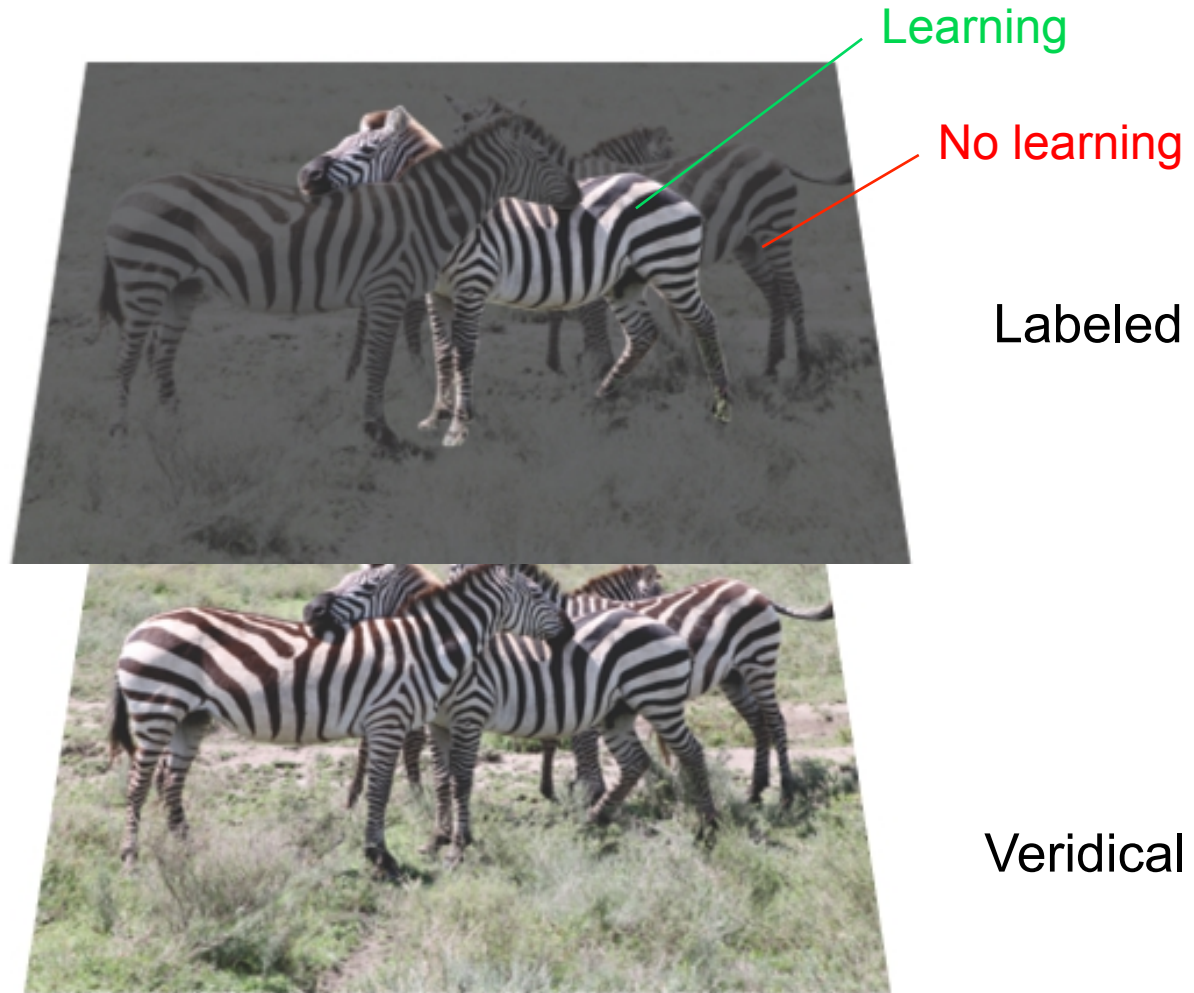






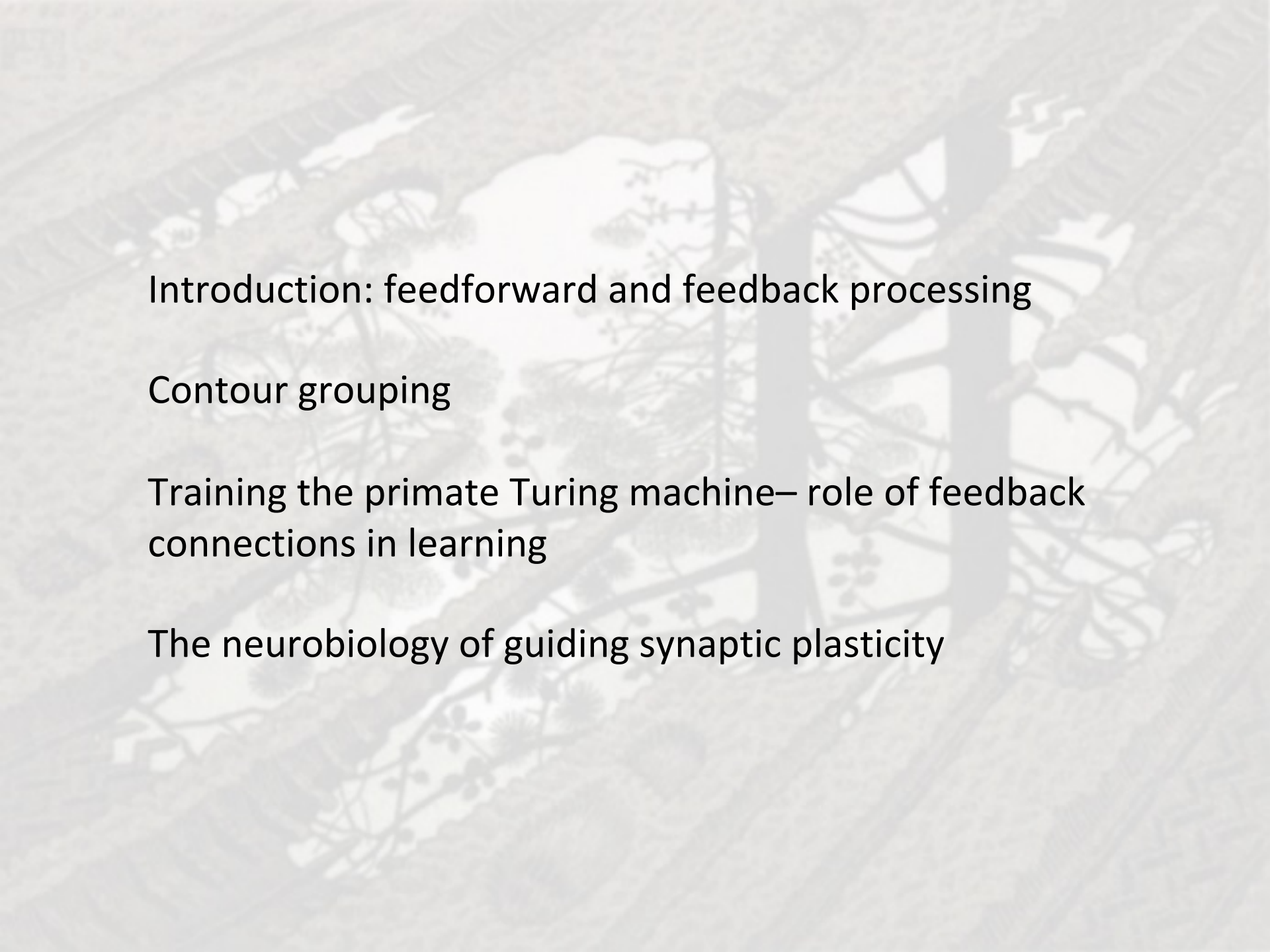


# Incremental grouping theory



Roelfsema, Annu Rev Neurosci, 2006; Roelfsema & Houtkamp, Attent Percept Psychophy 2011





Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping

Training the primate Turing machine– role of feedback connections in learning

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity





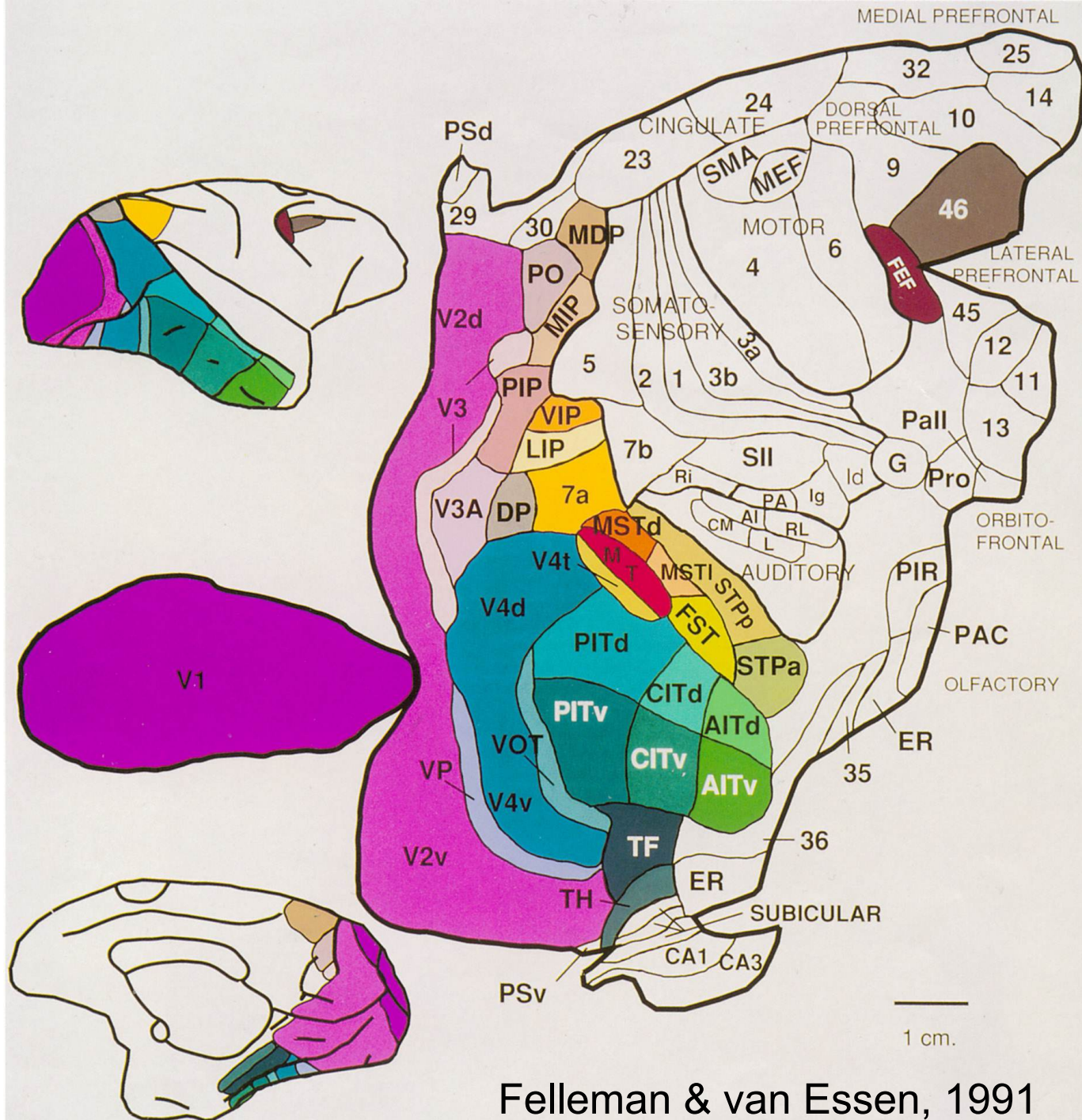
## Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

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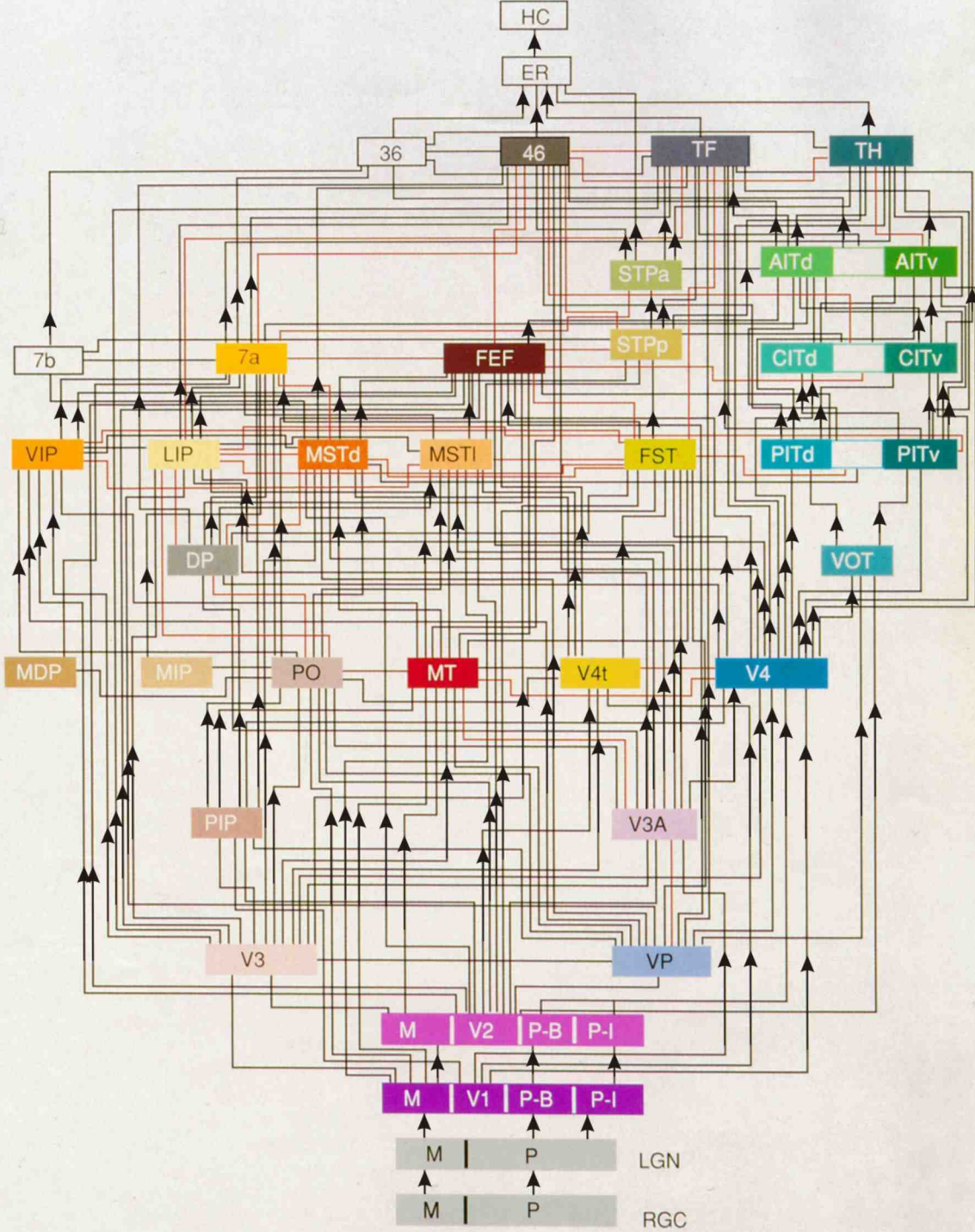




Felleman & van Essen, 1991

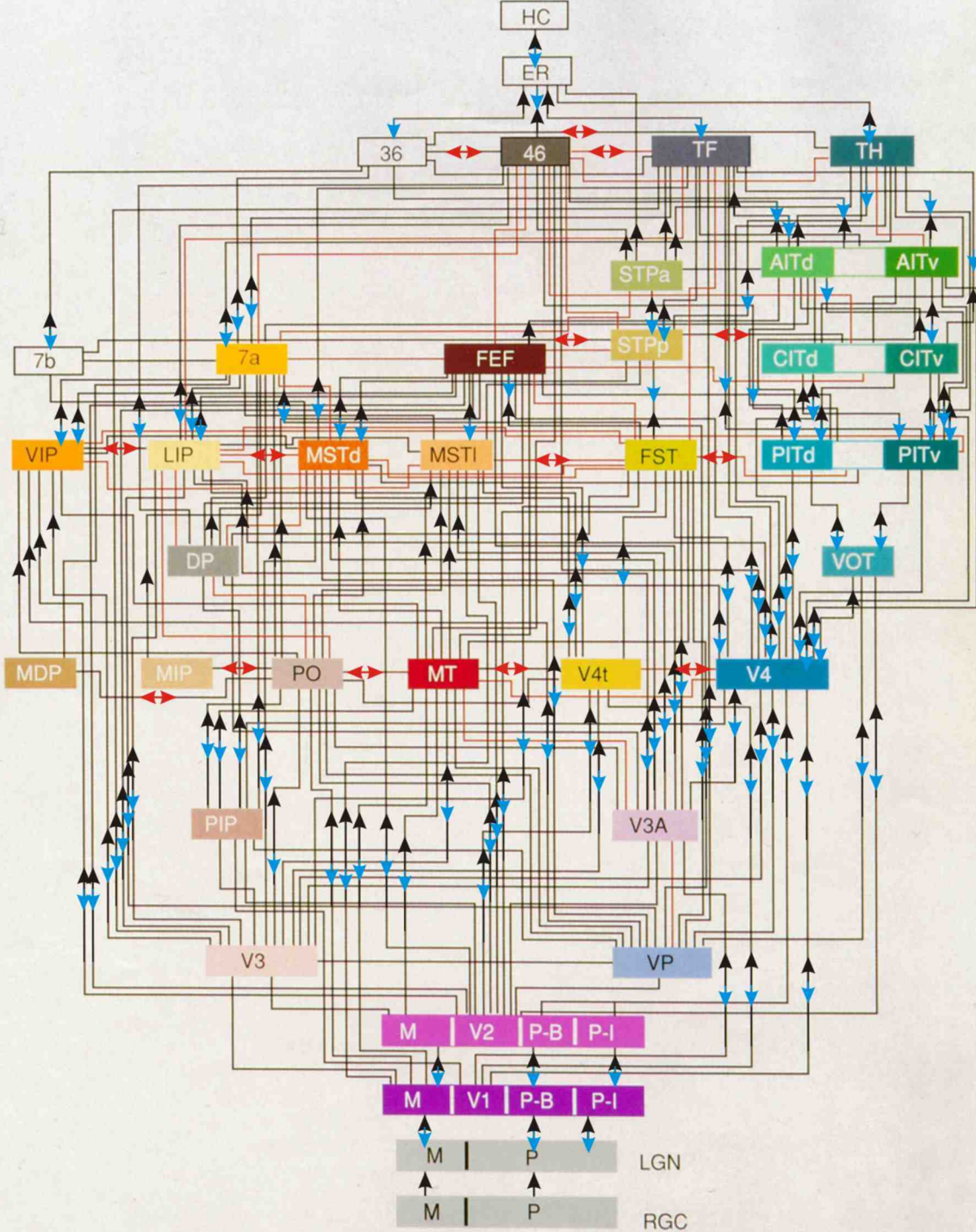


# Feedforward

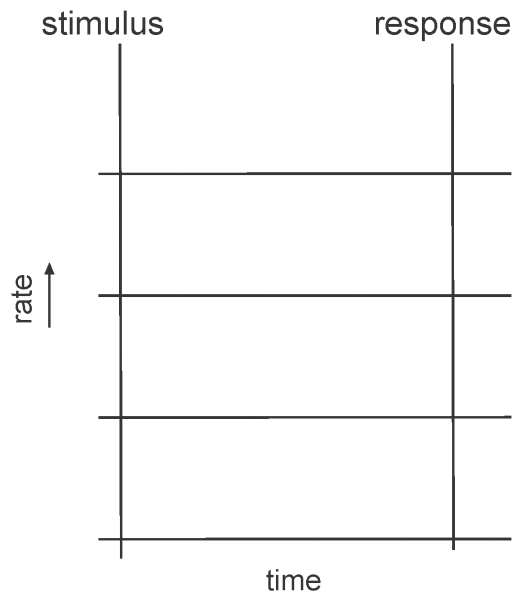
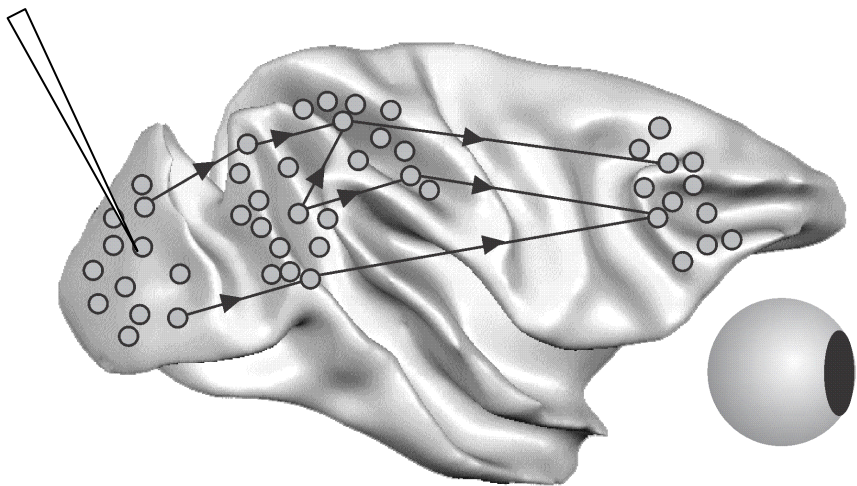


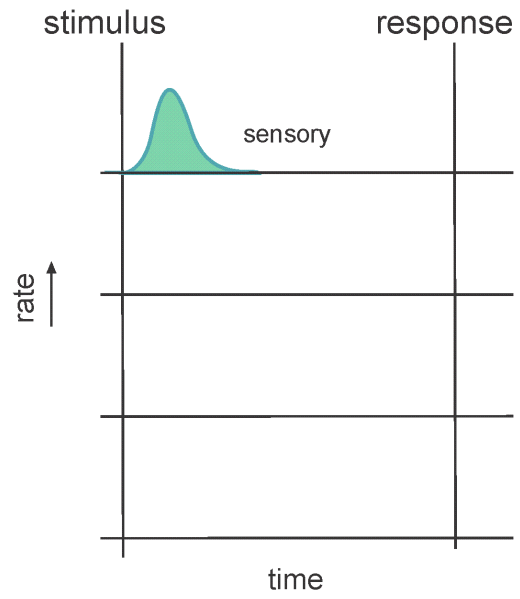
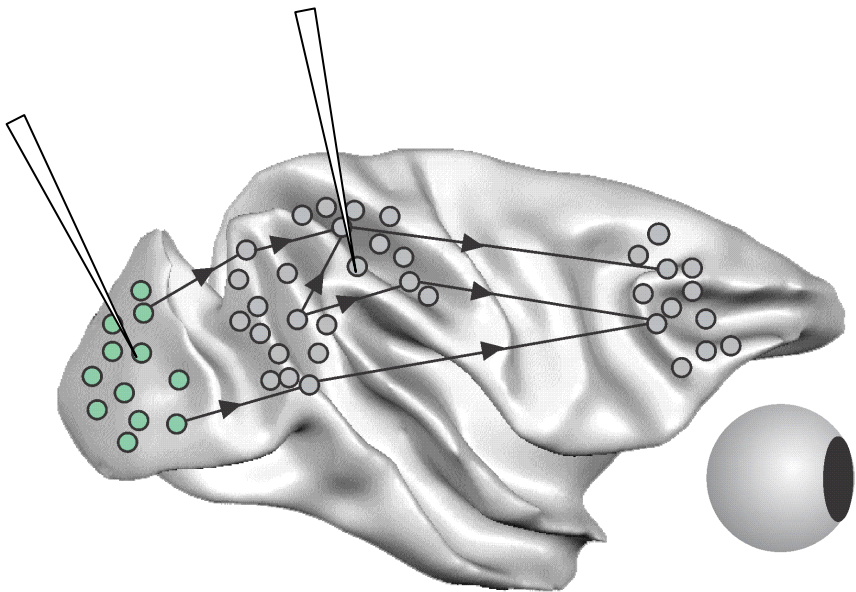


# Recurrent Attention

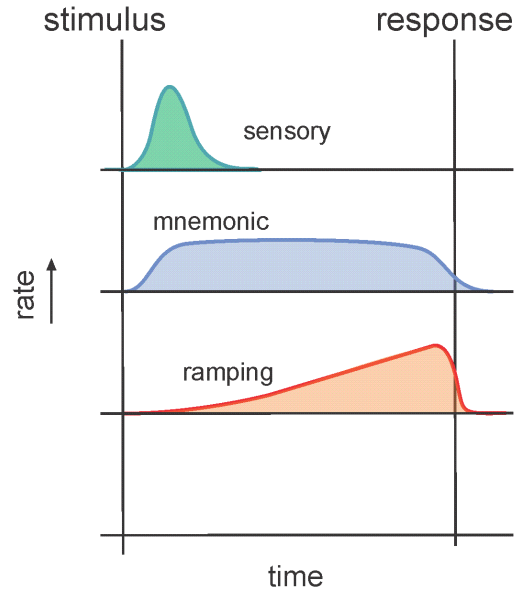
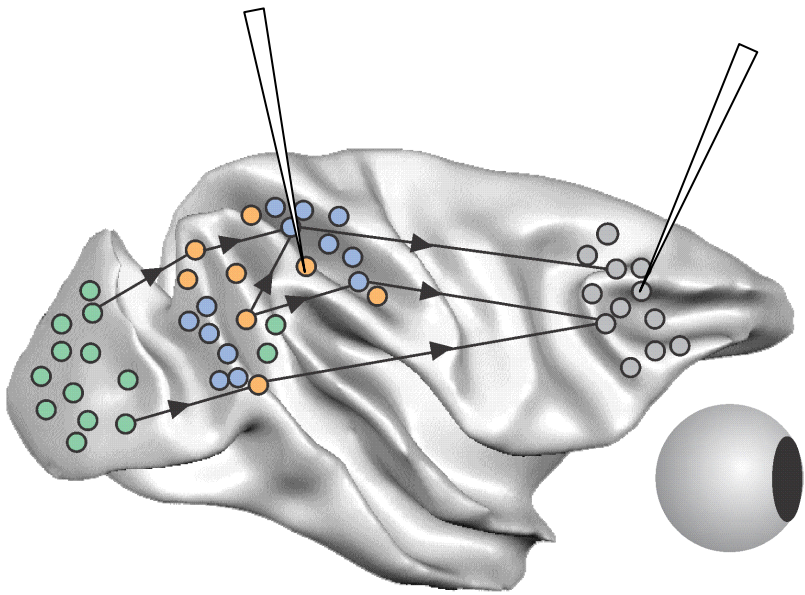


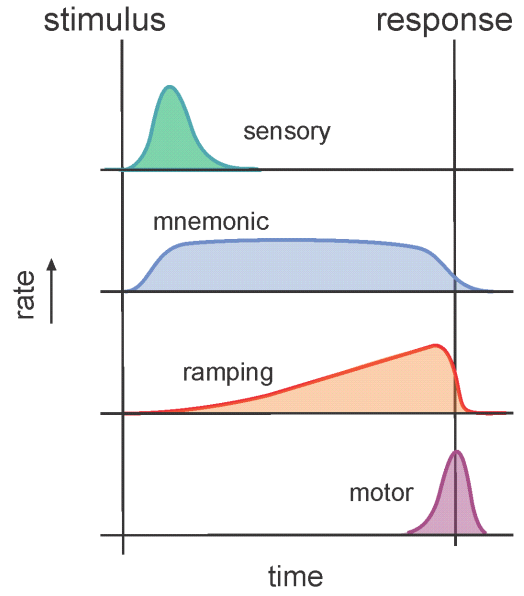
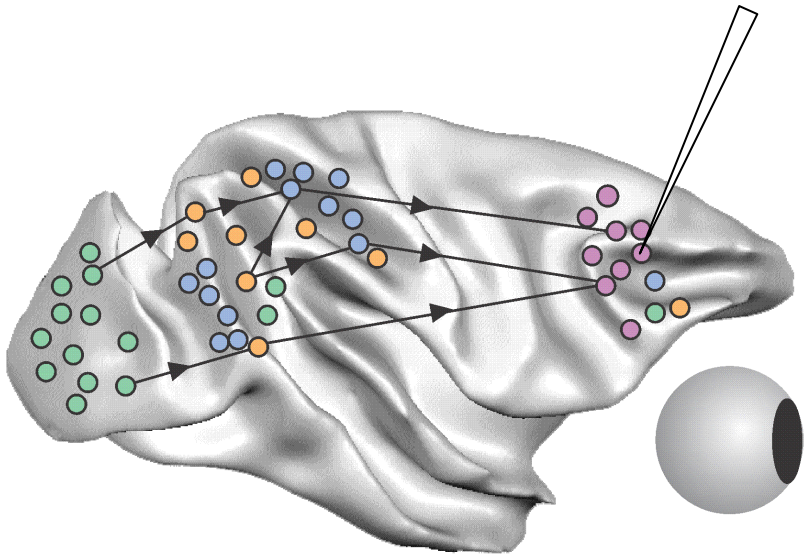






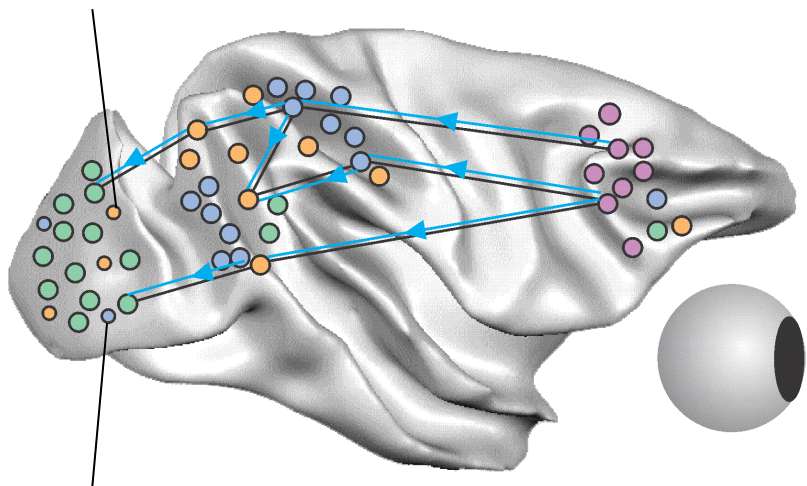




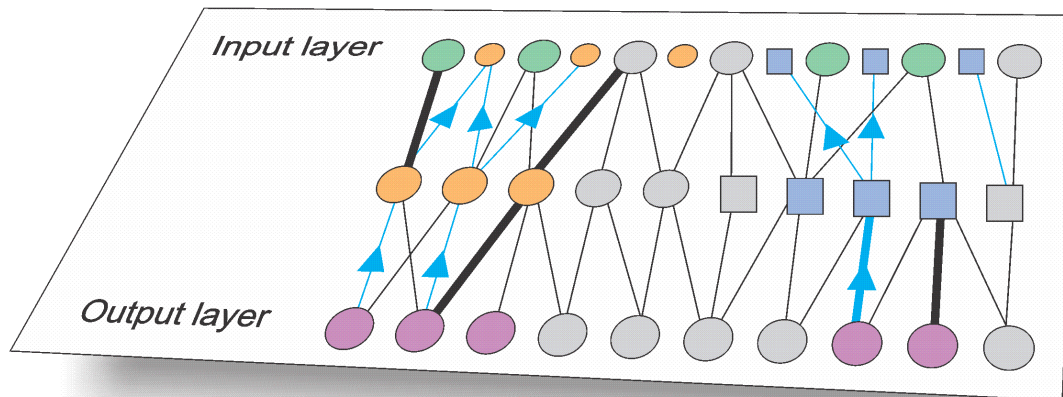
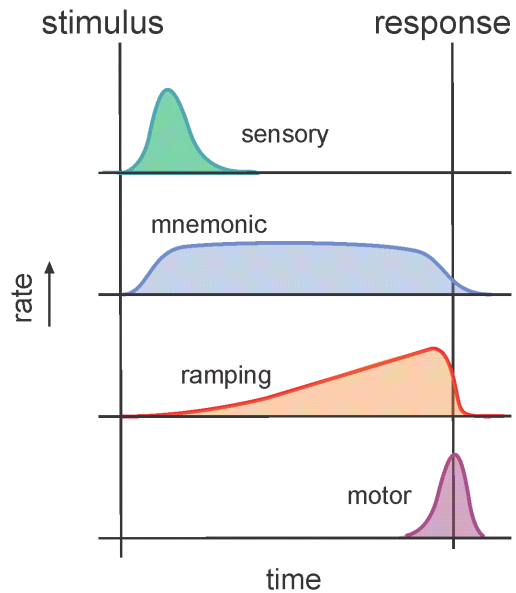




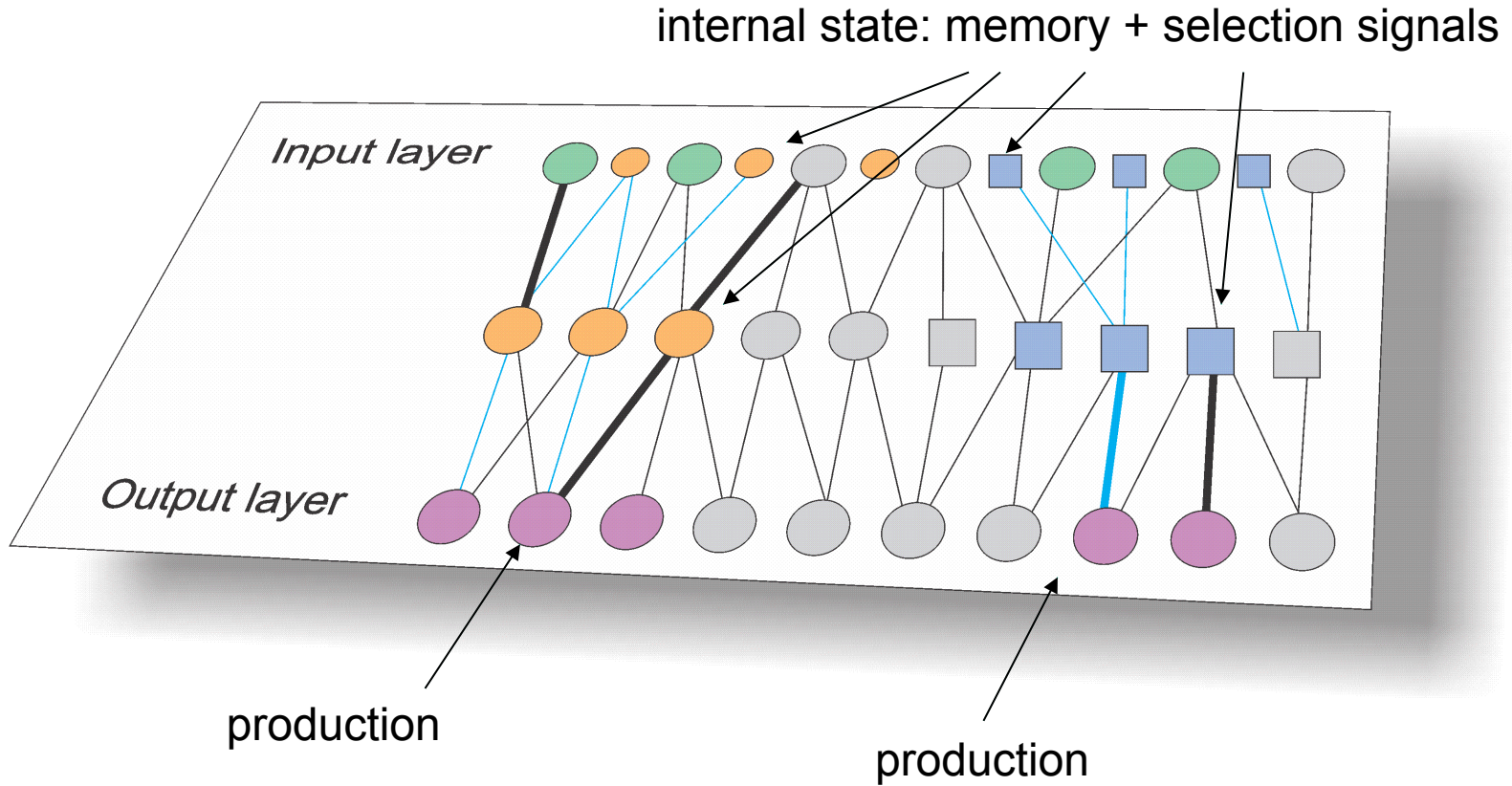
Selection signals (attention)



Working memory



# Primate Turing Machine







## Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity



Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

**Contour grouping**

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

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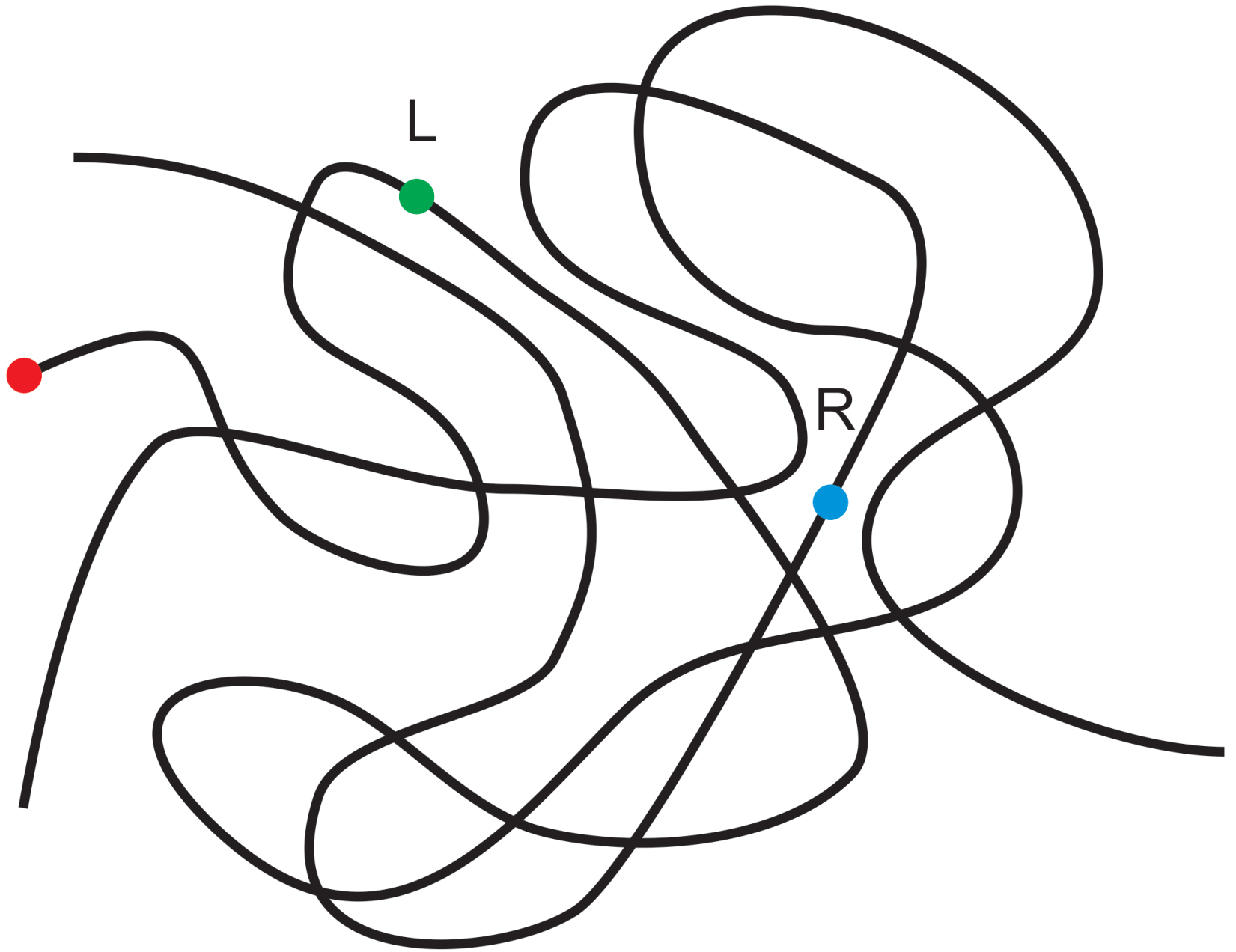


L



R



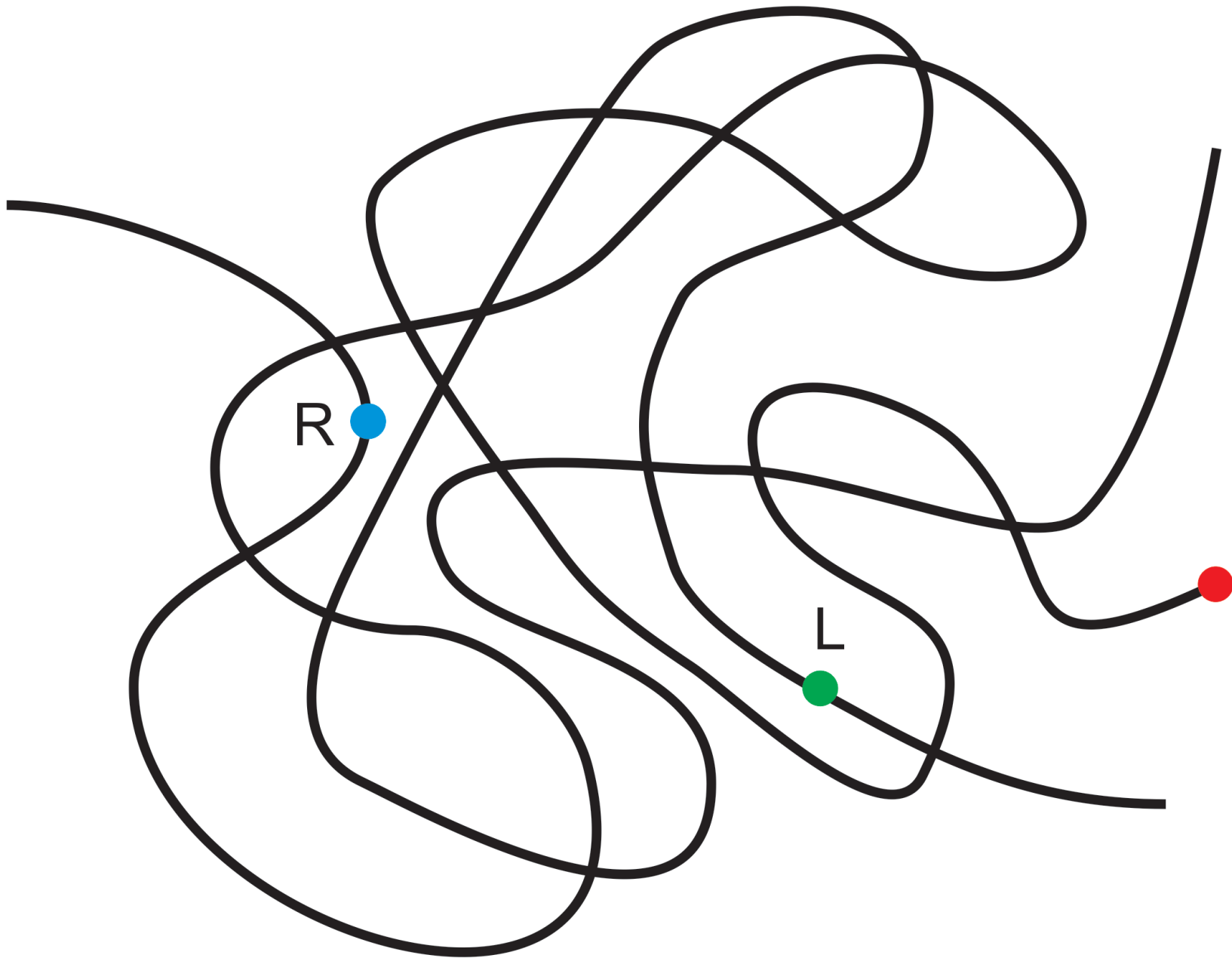




R ●

L ●





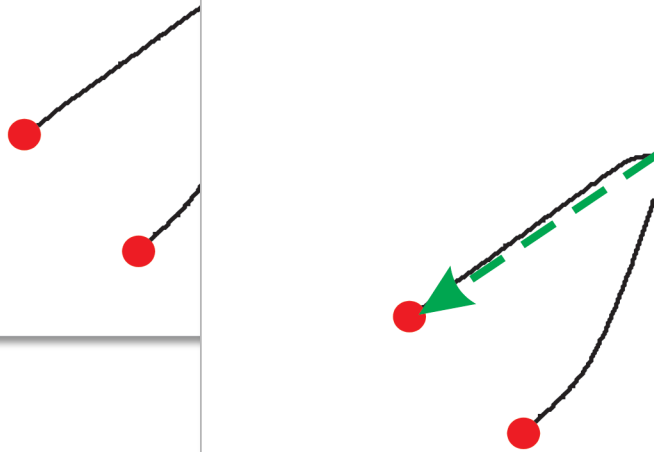


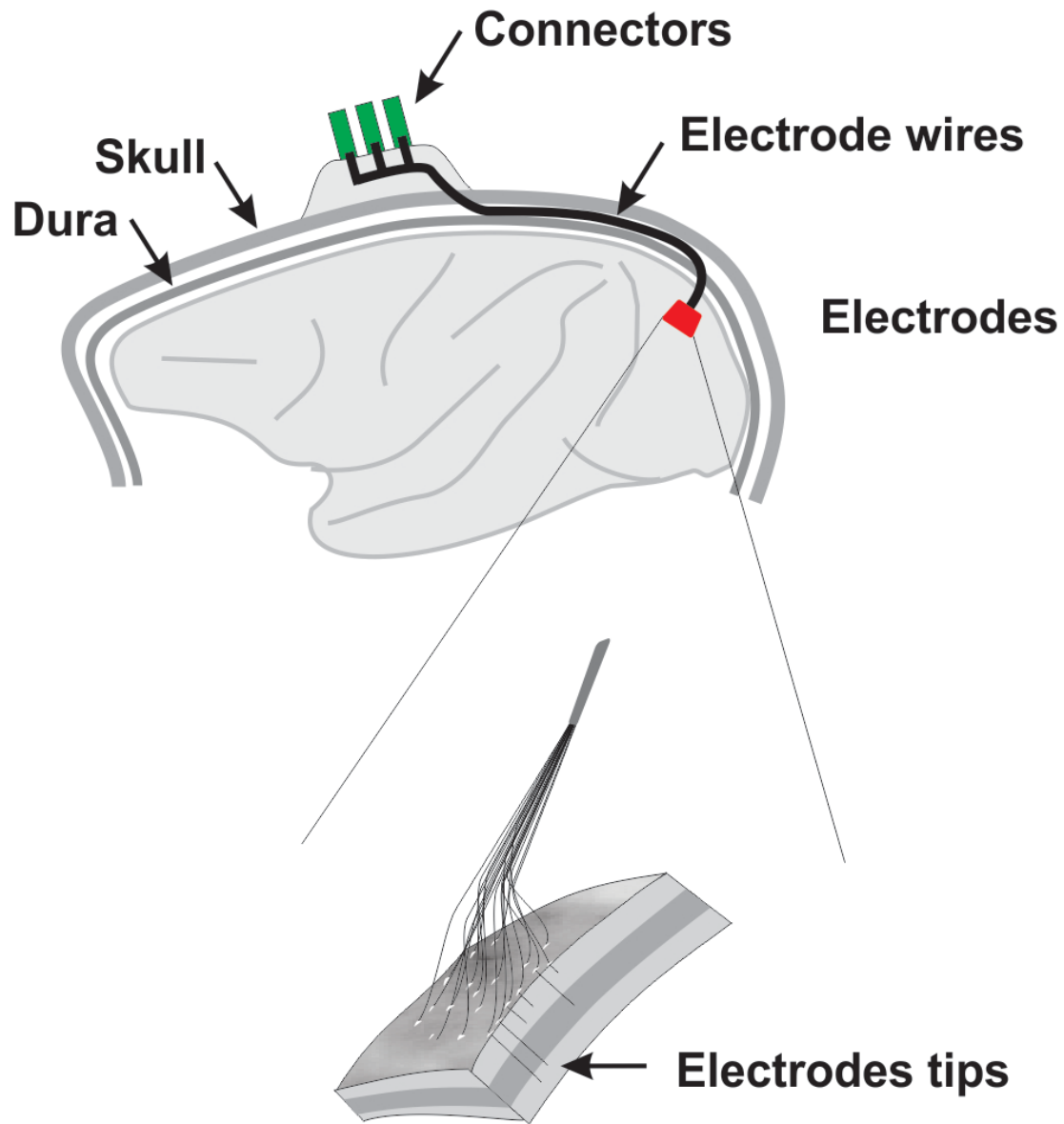
# The task: a saccade to a target connected to the fixation point

Fixation (300 ms)

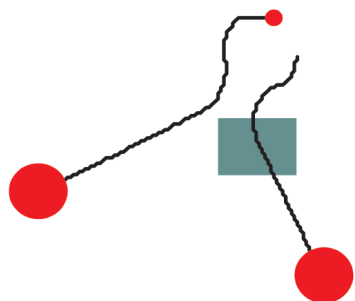
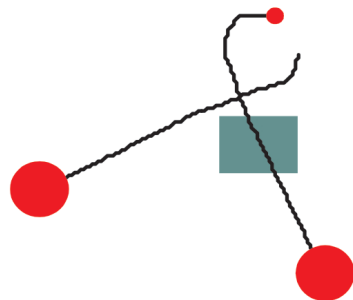
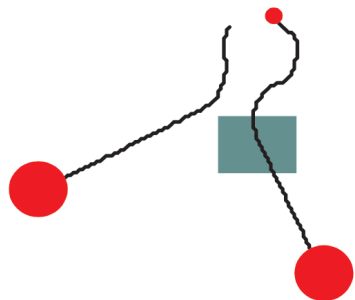
Stimulus (600 ms)

Saccade

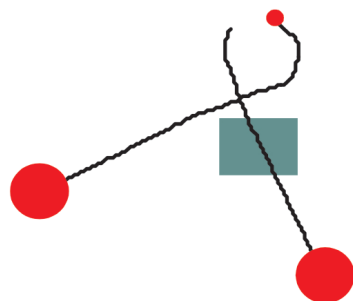




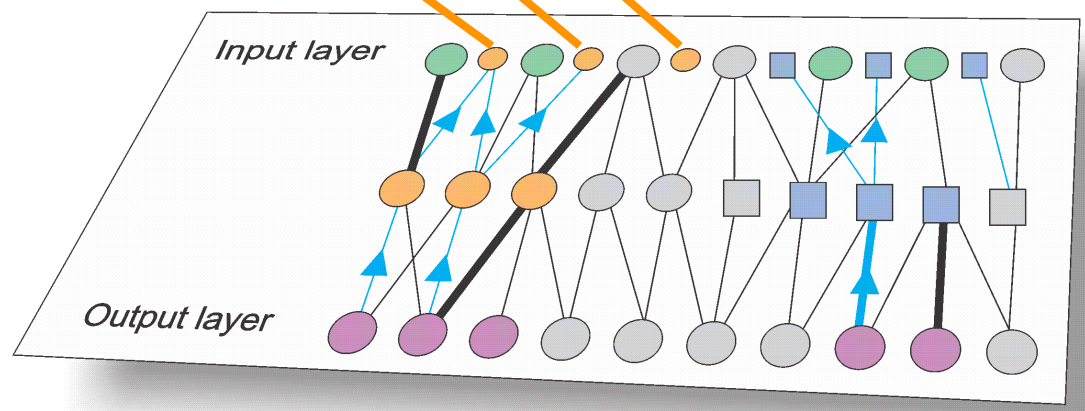
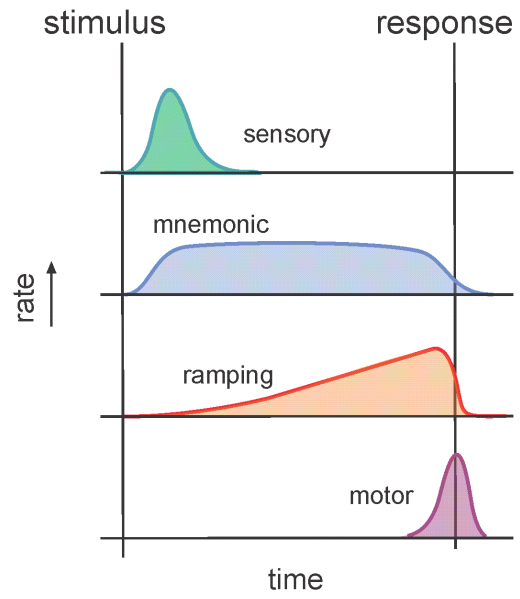
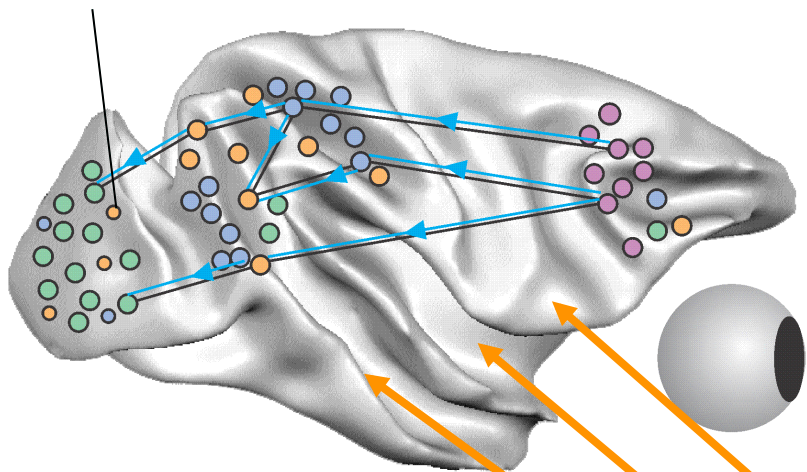




1 deg

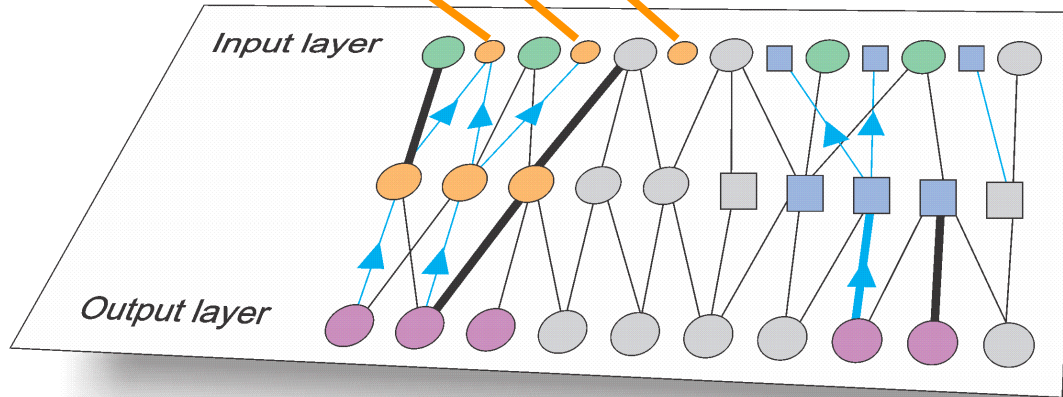
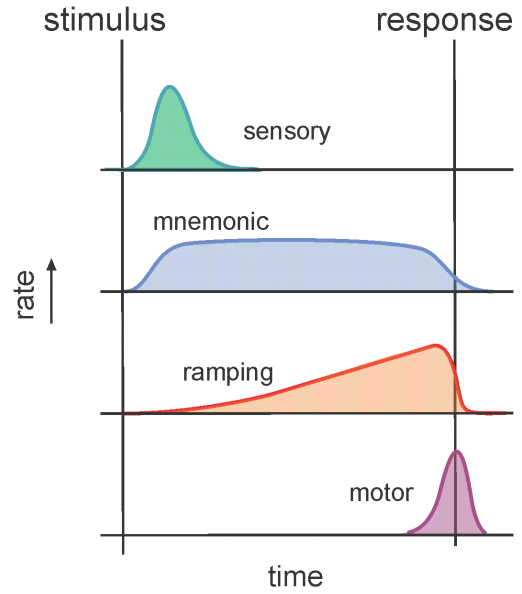
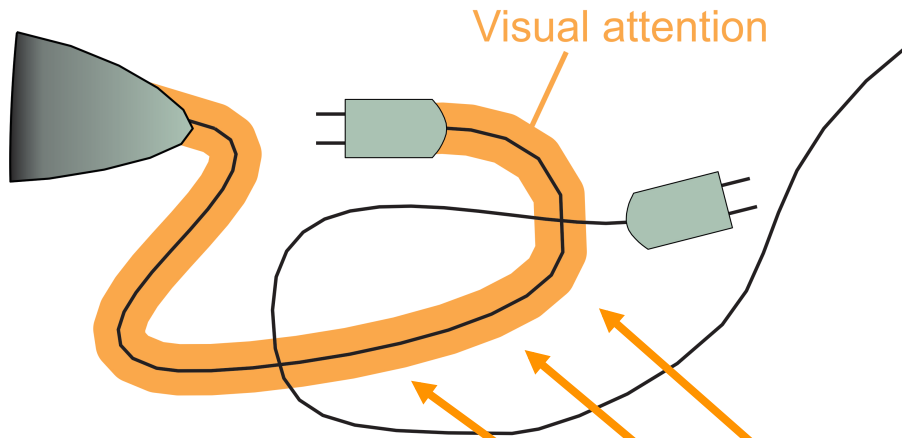


# Selection signals (attention)





# Primate Turing Machine





Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

**Contour grouping**

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity



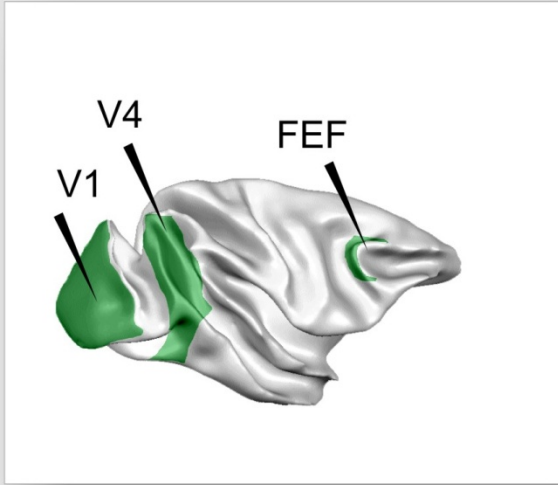
Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: **higher areas**

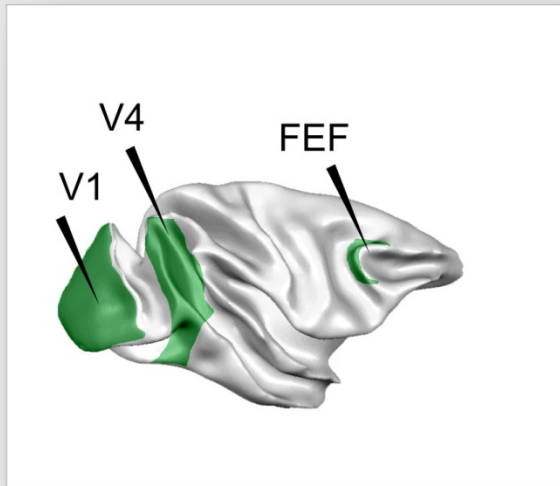
Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity

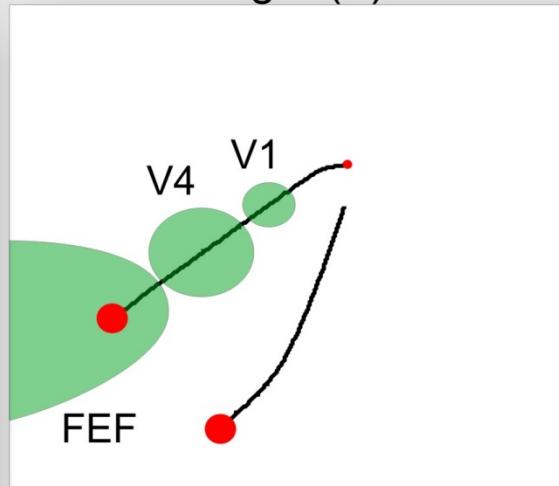




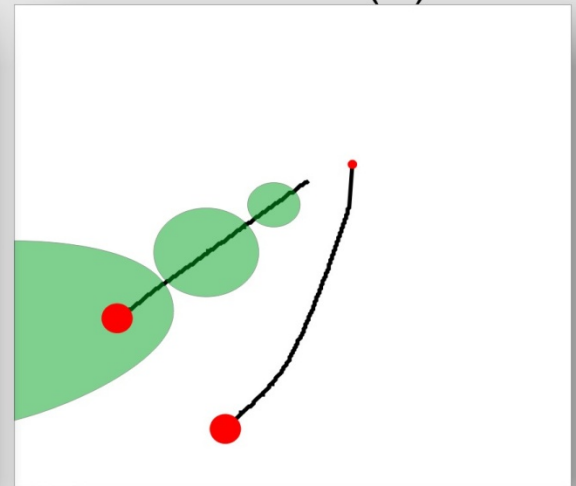
Pooresmaeili, Poort & Roelfsema, *PNAS* 2014

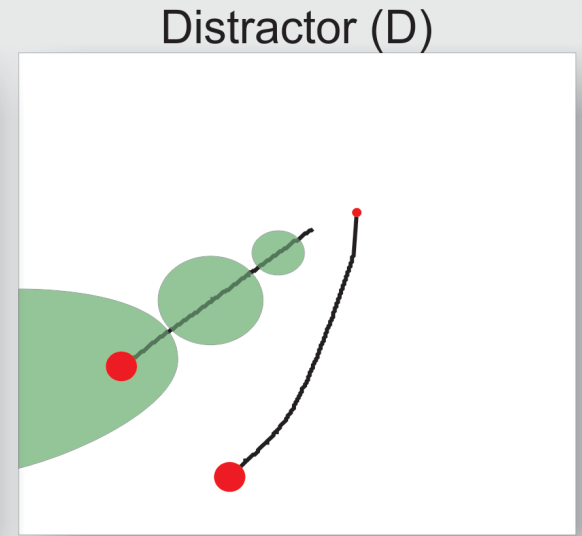
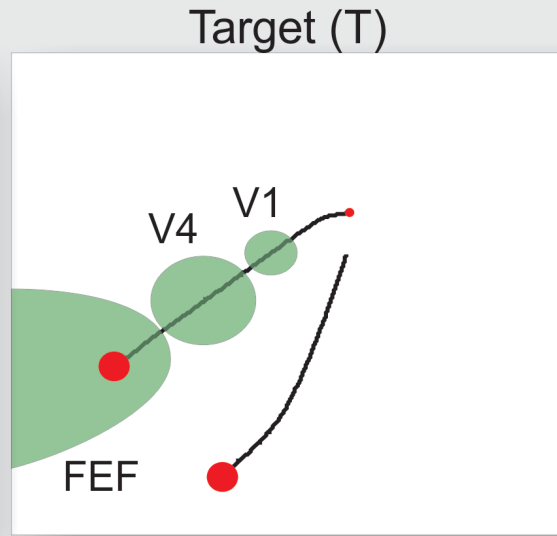
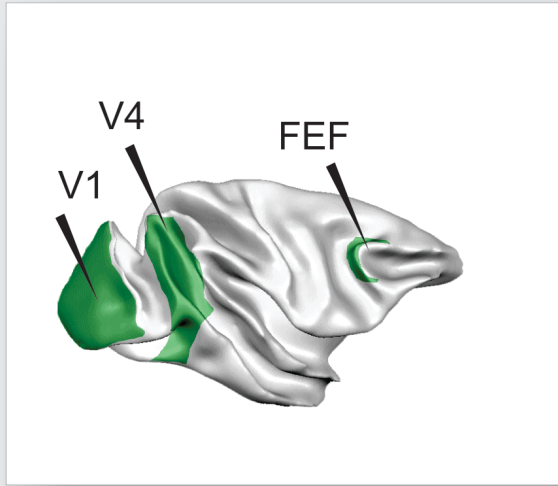


Target (T)

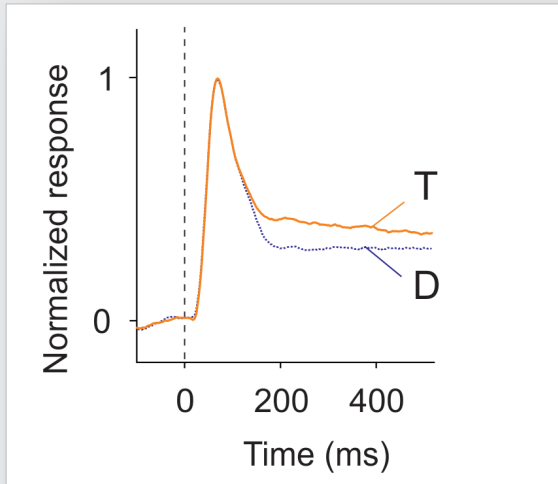


Distractor (D)

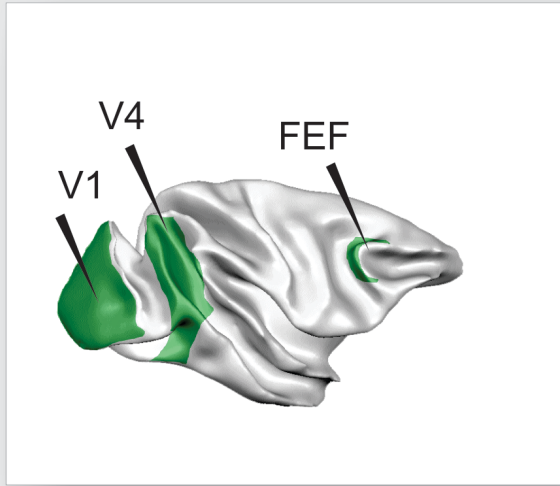




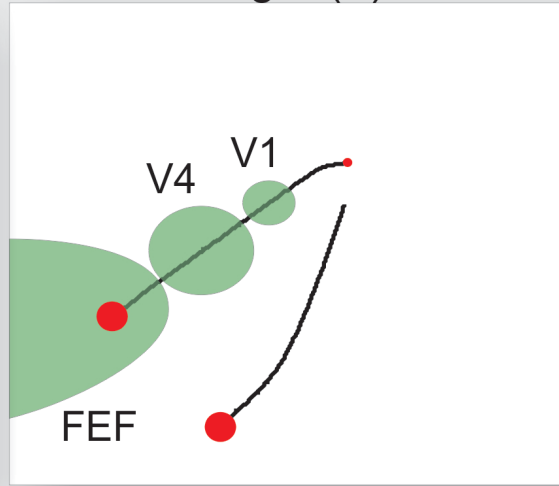
### Area V1



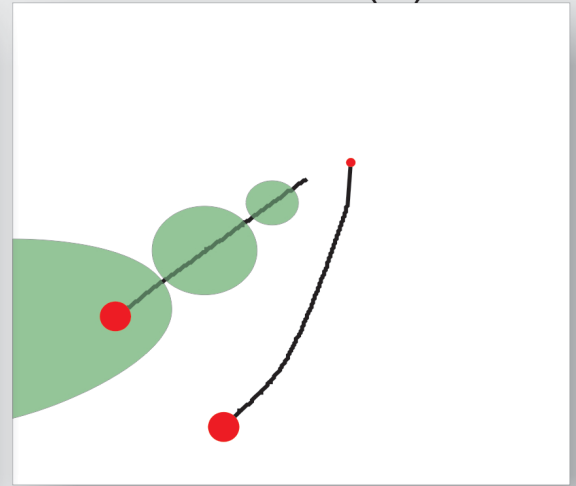




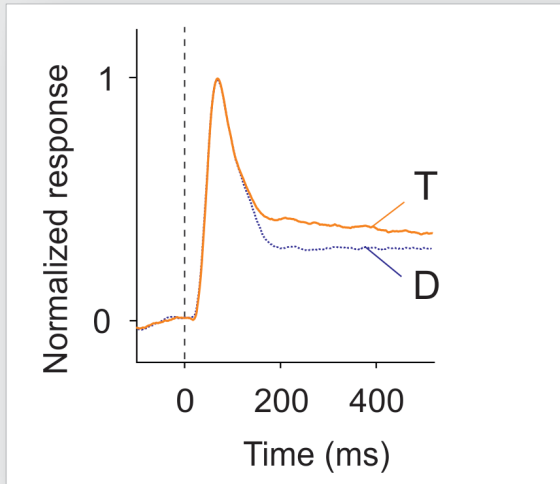
Target (T)



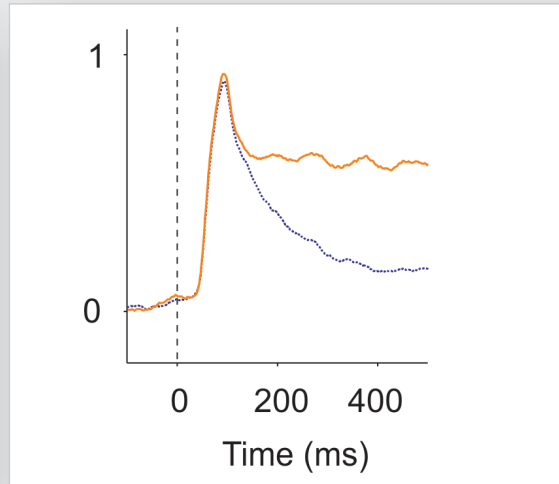
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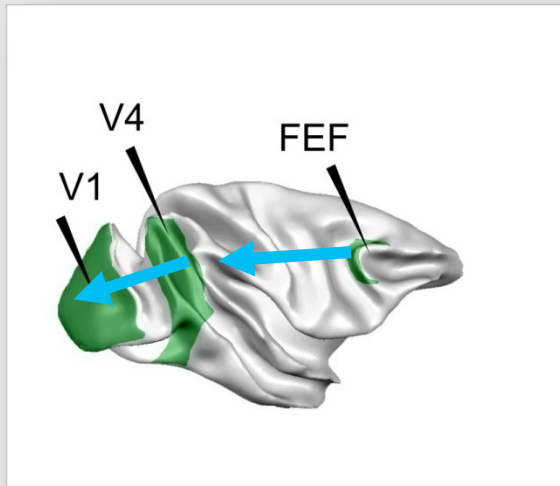


Area V1

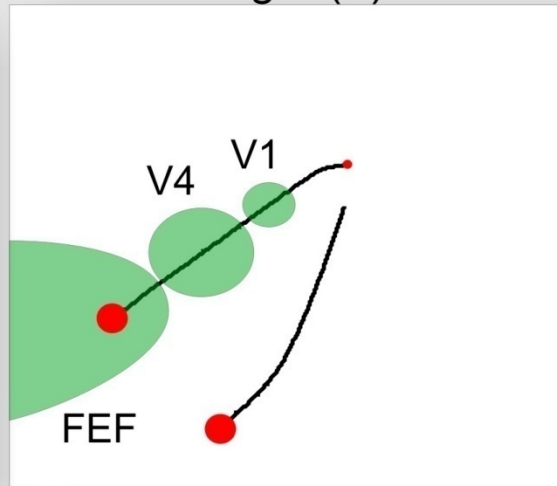


Area V4

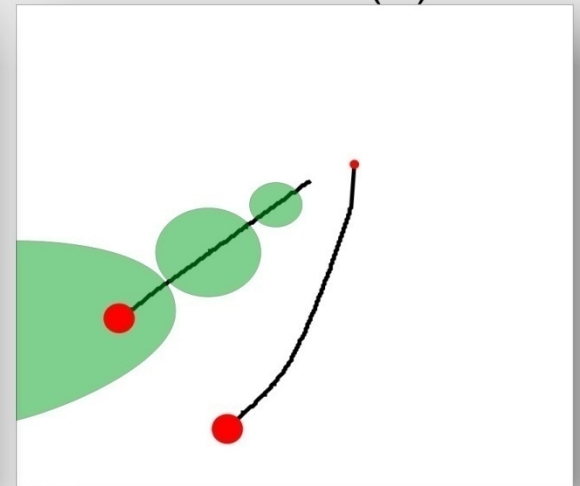




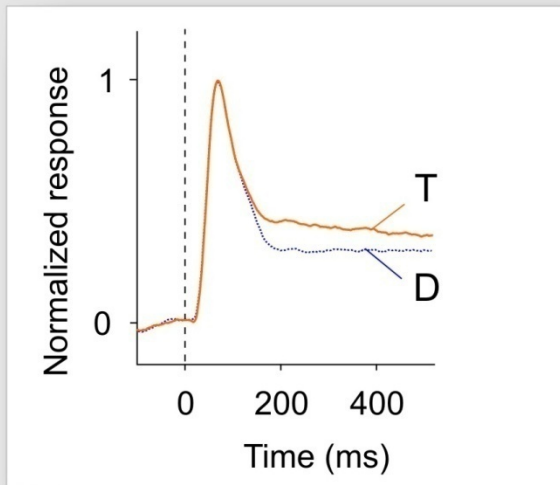
Target (T)



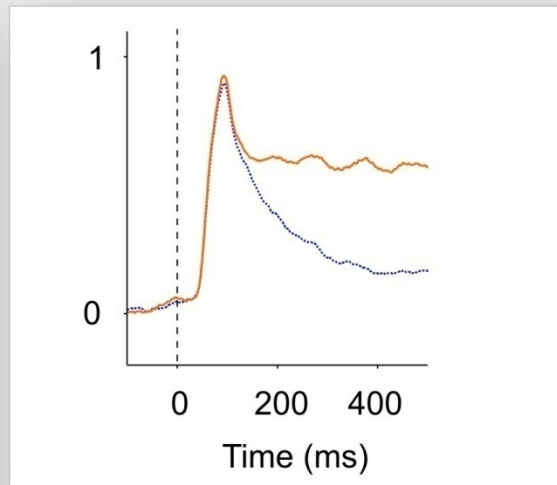
Distractor (D)



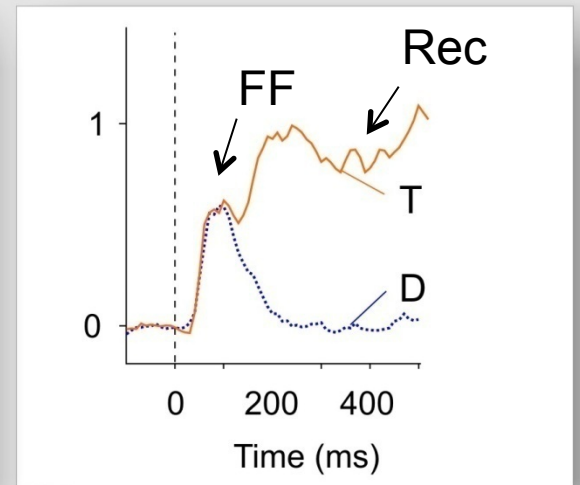
Area V1



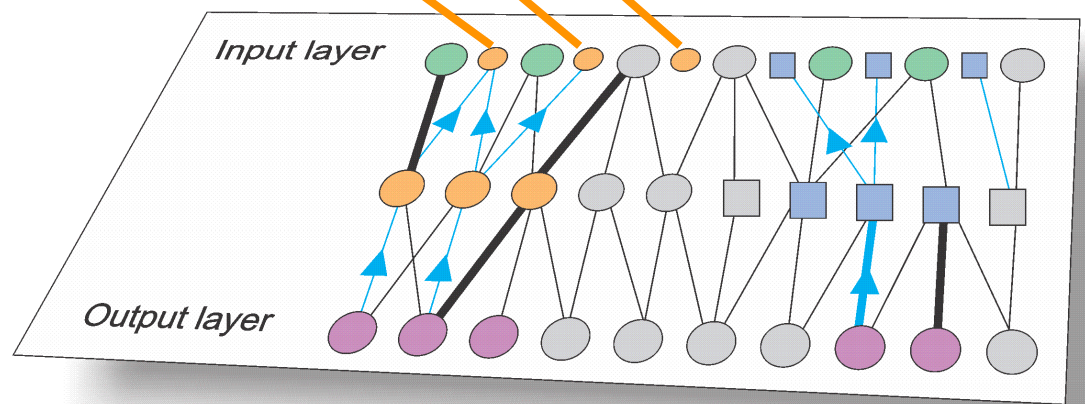
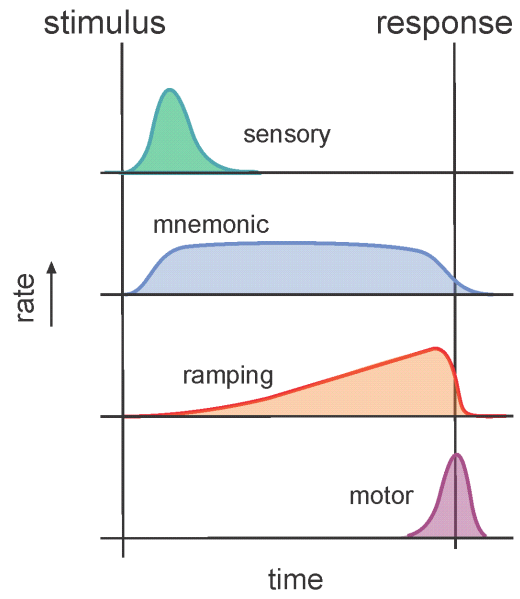
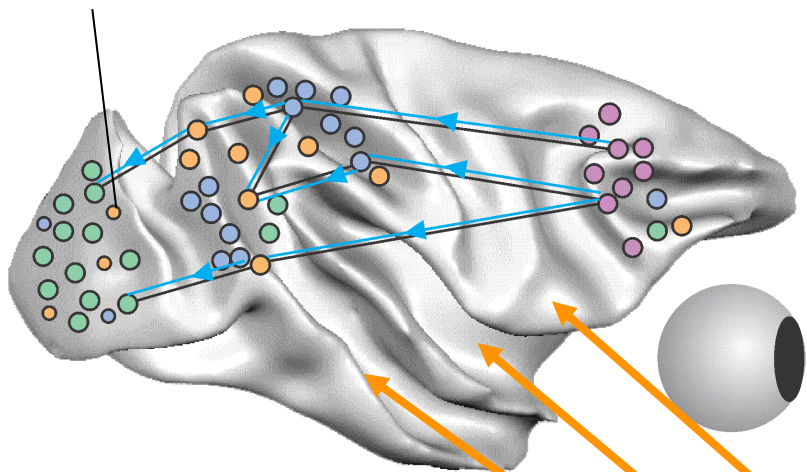
Area V4



Area FEF



# Selection signals (attention)







Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: **higher areas**

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

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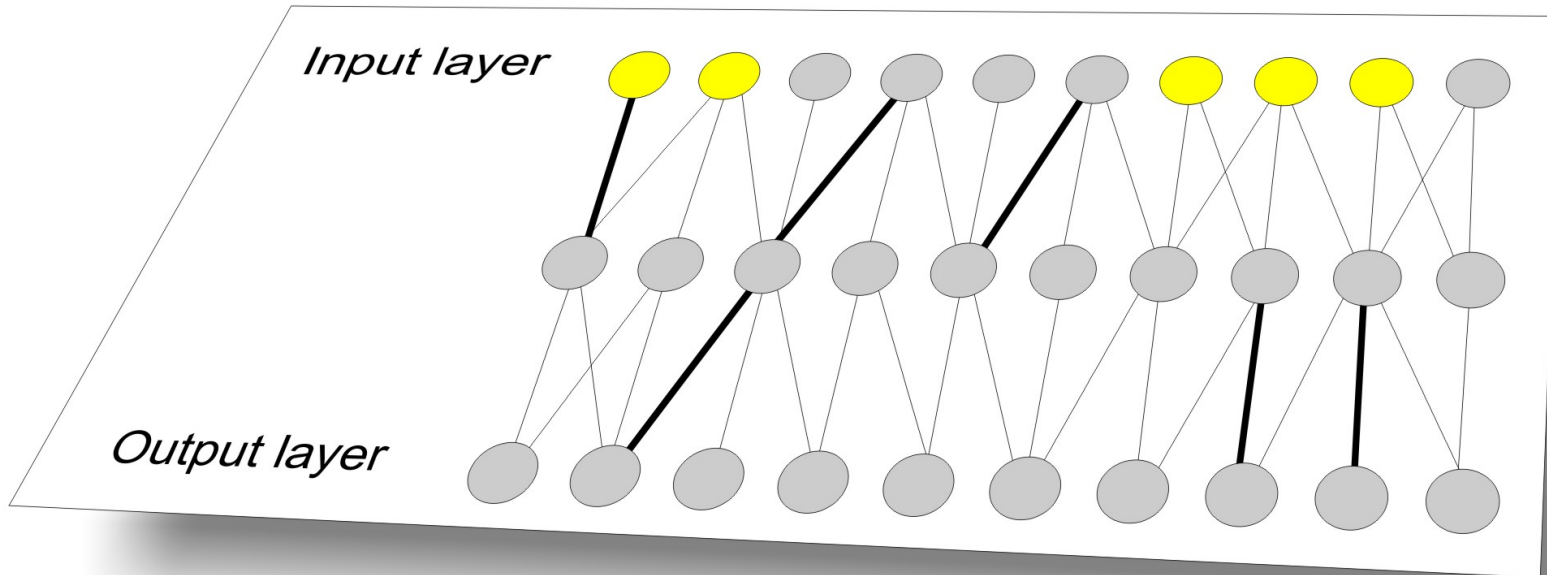
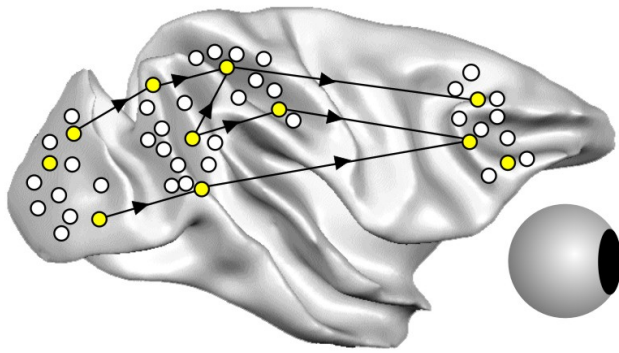


Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: higher areas

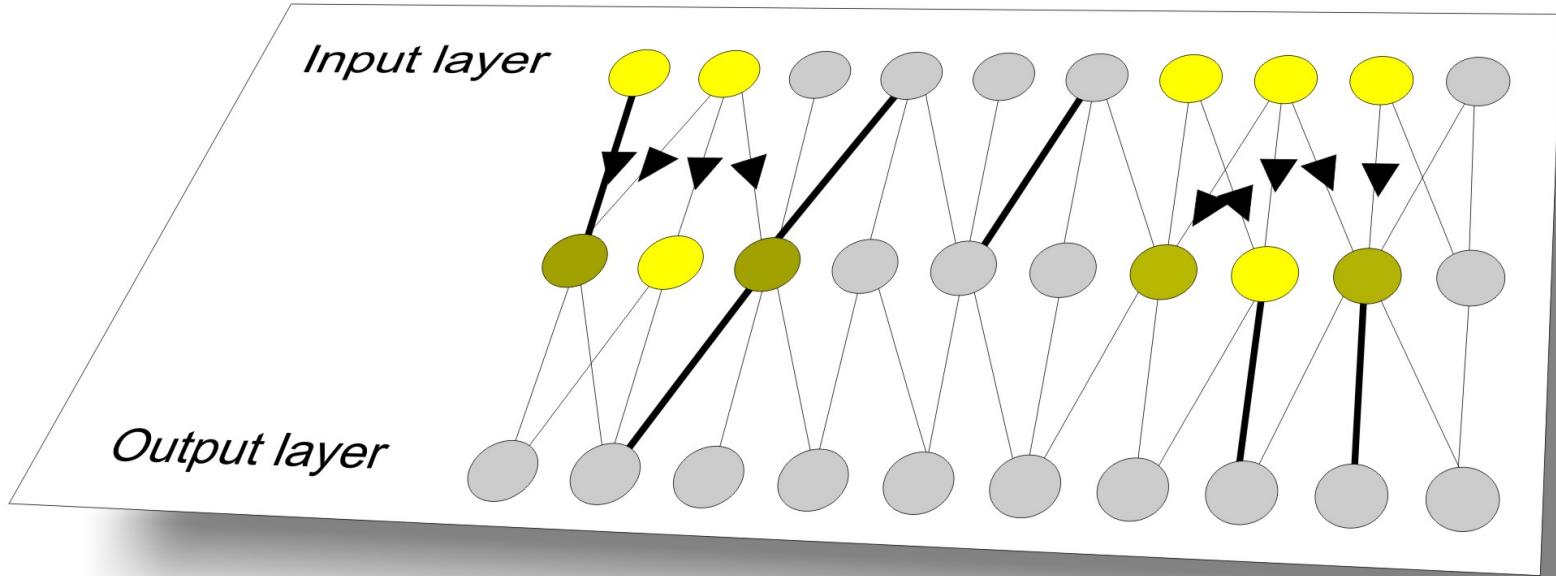
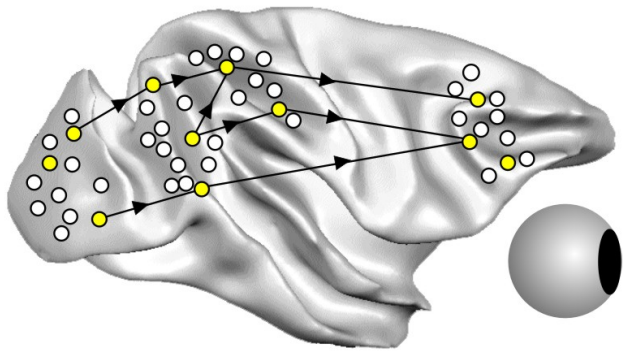
**Training the primate Turing machine– role of feedback connections in learning**

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity

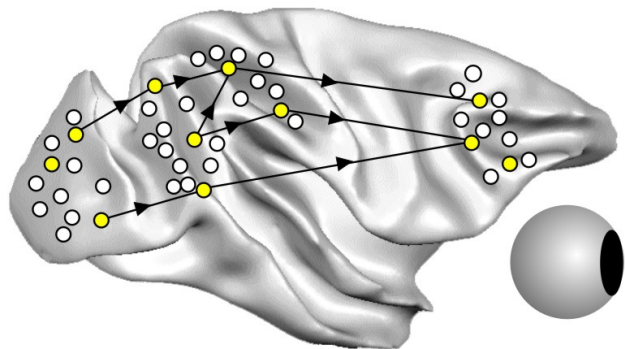


Action values (e.g. in striatum)

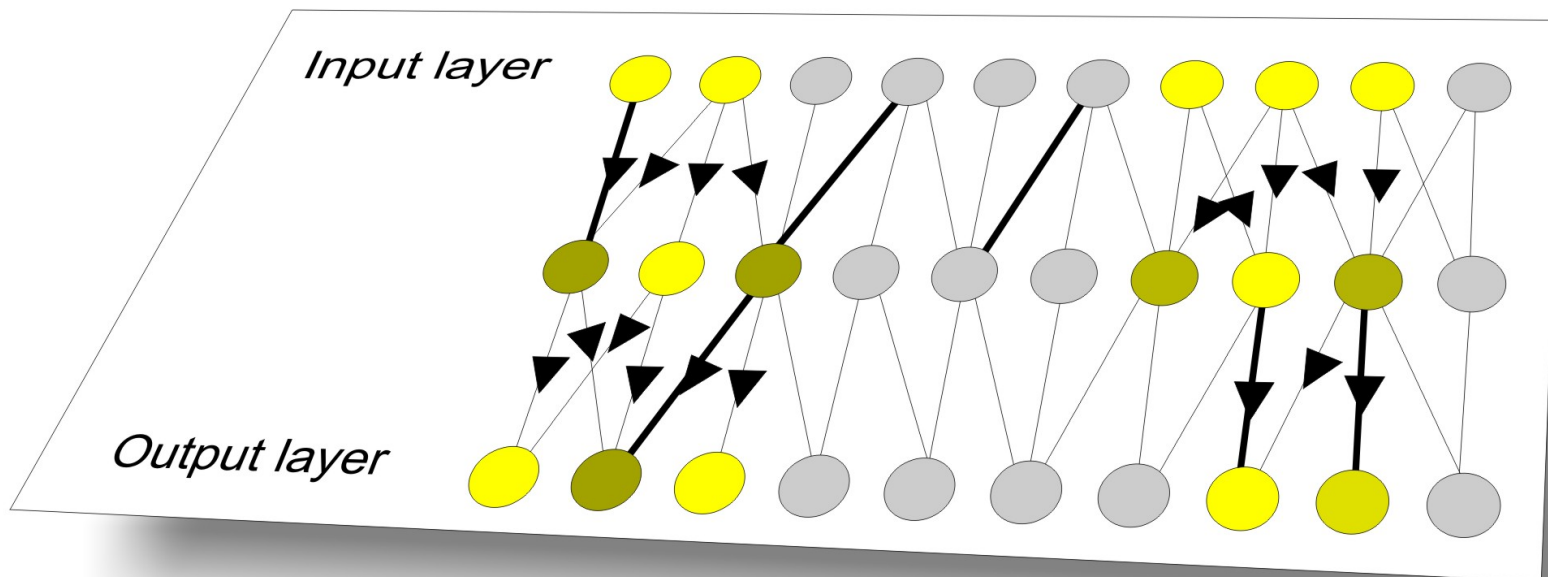
(Samejima, Science 2005)

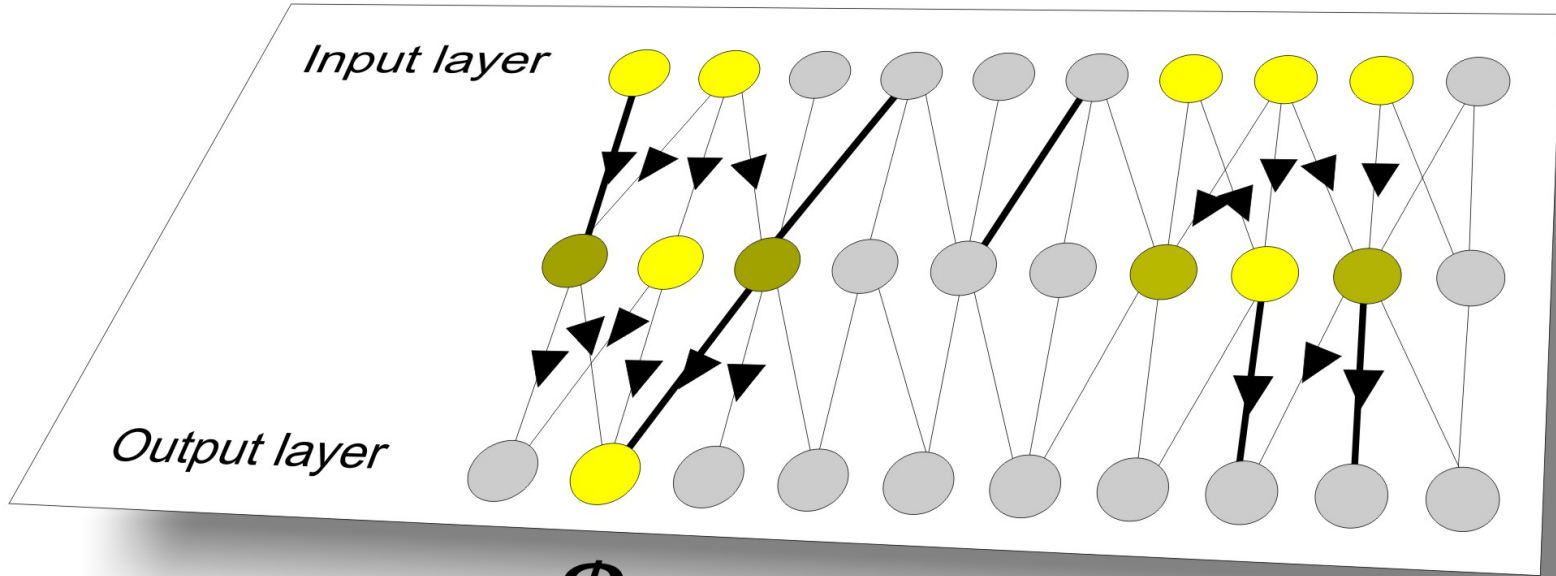
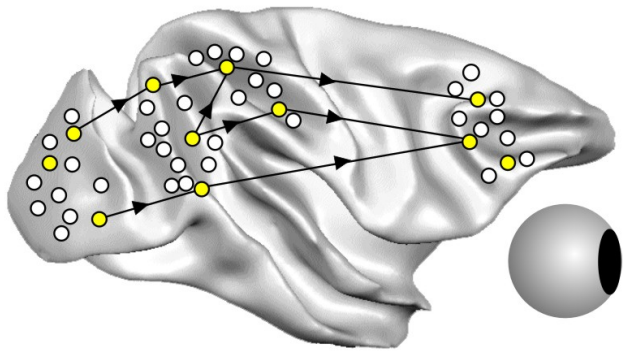




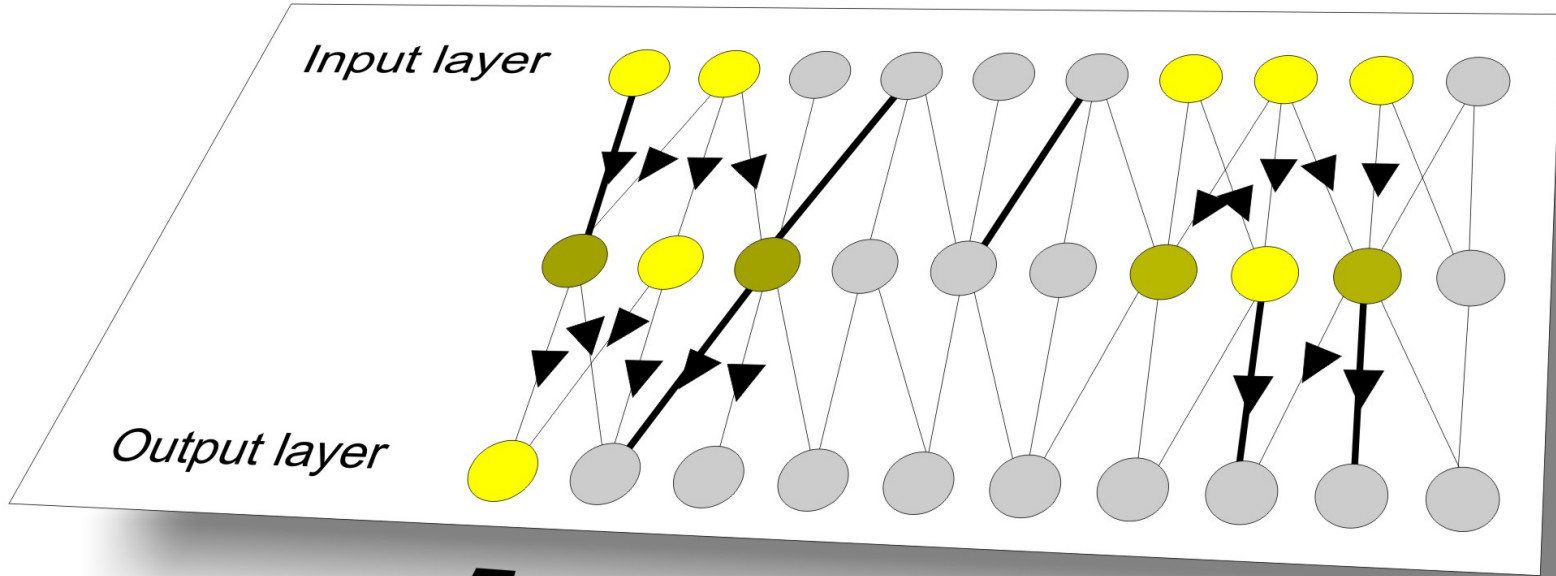
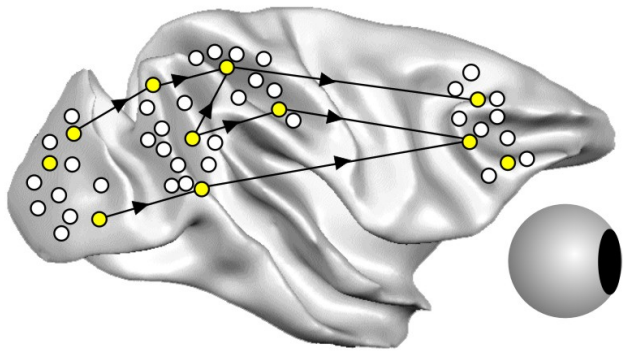


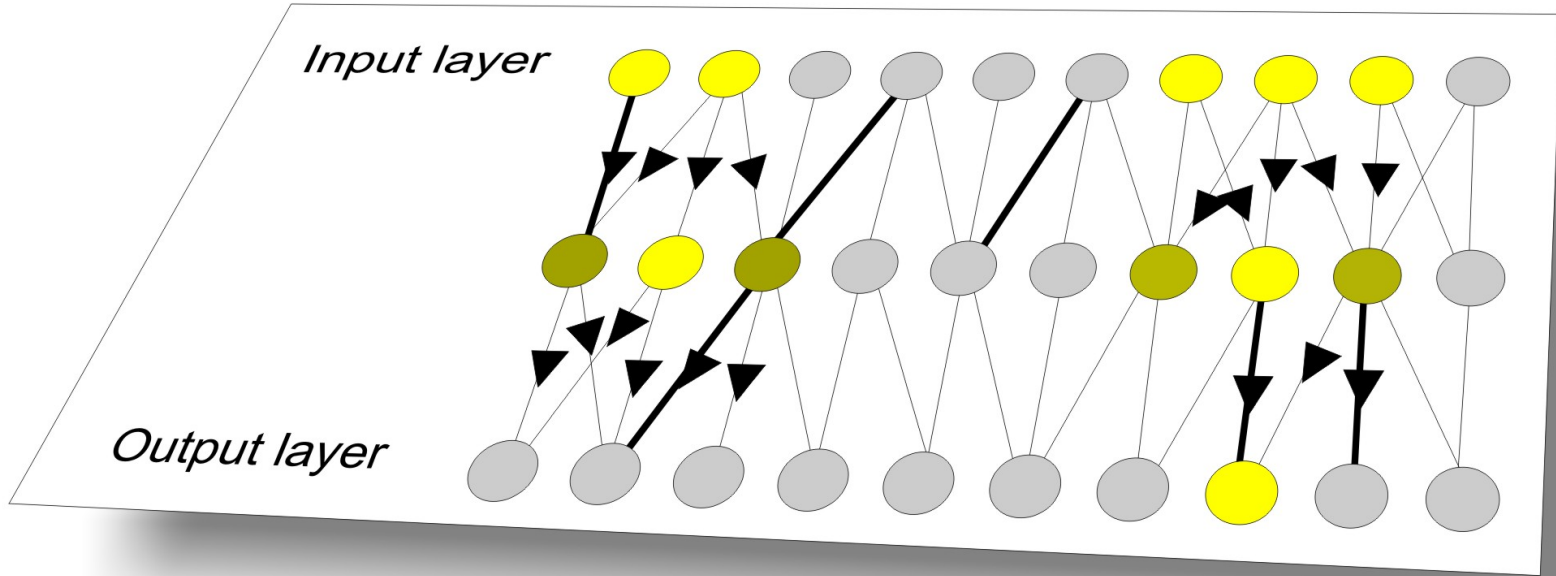
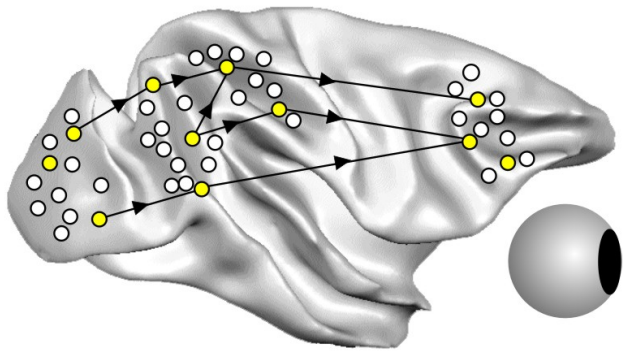
# Stochastic action selection





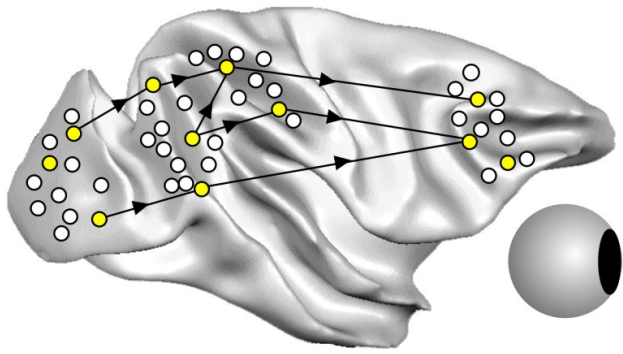
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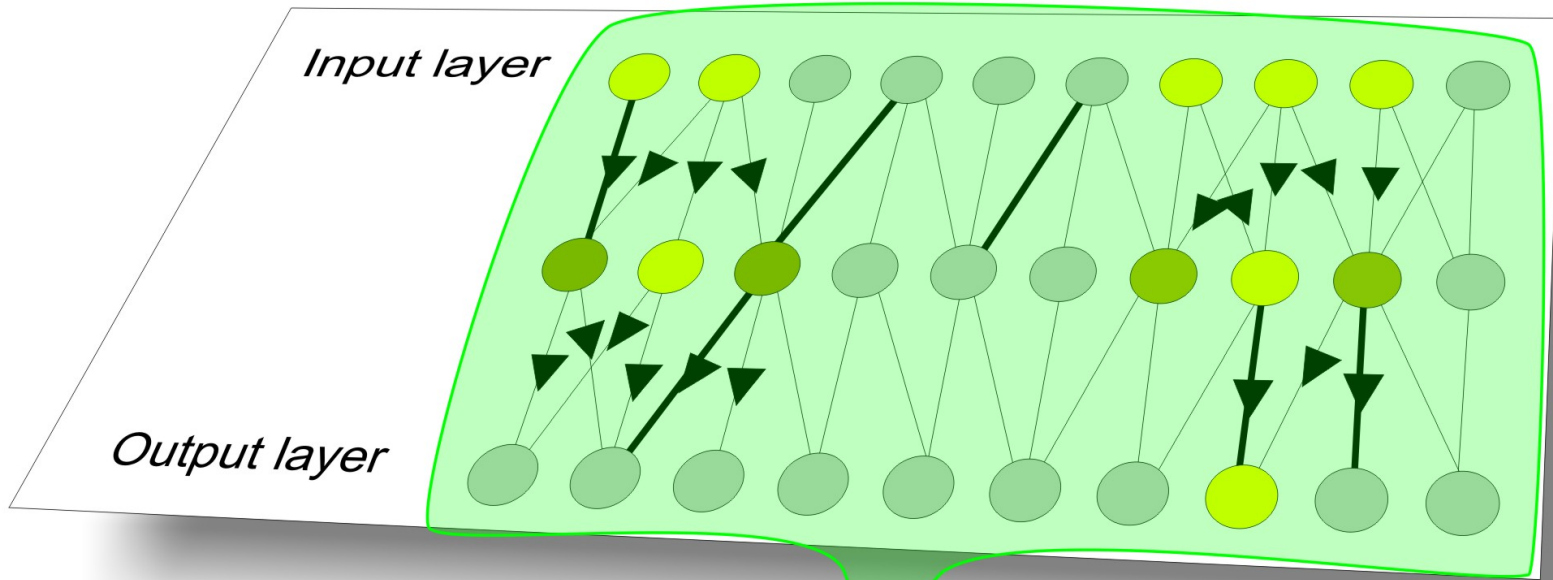


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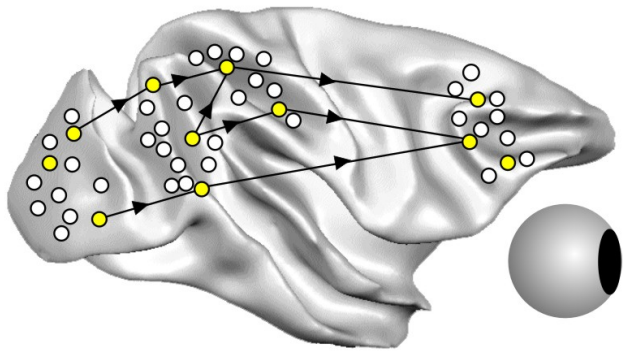




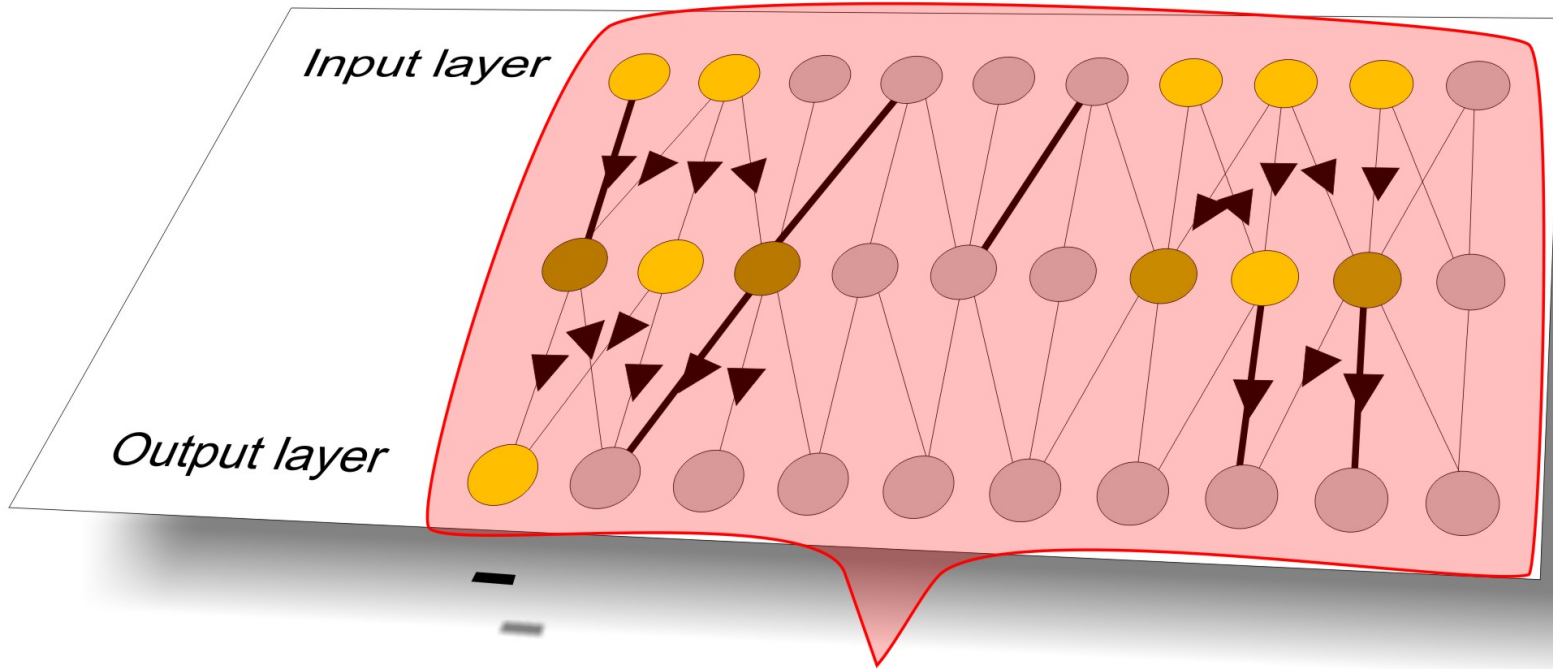
Neuromodulator, e.g. DA  
(Schultz, 2002 Neuron)

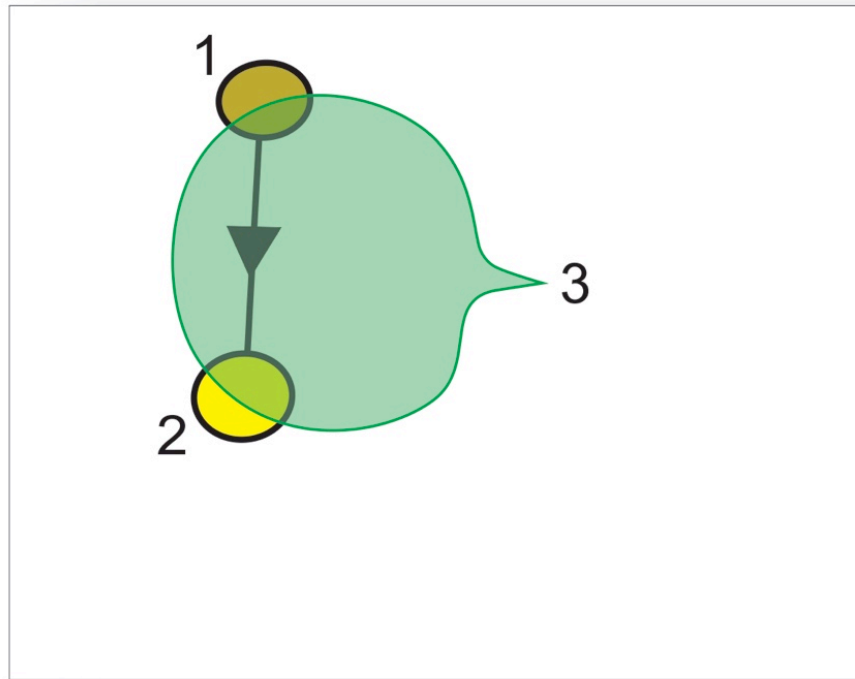


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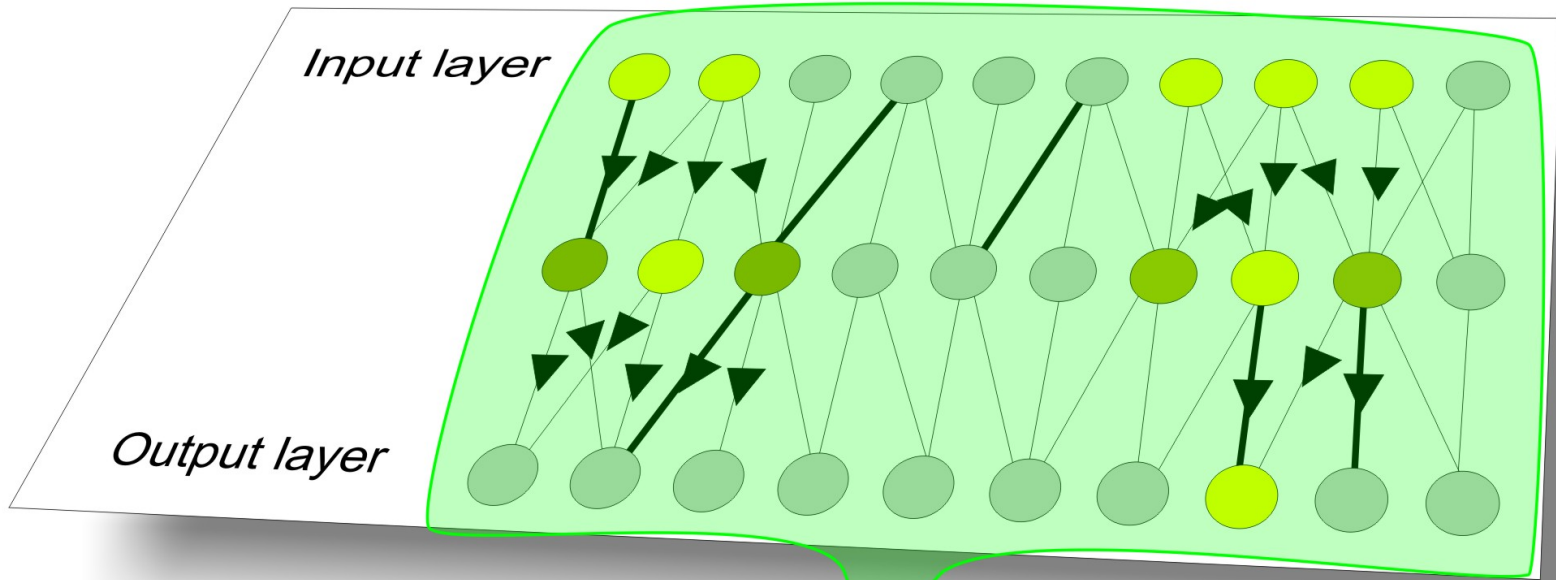
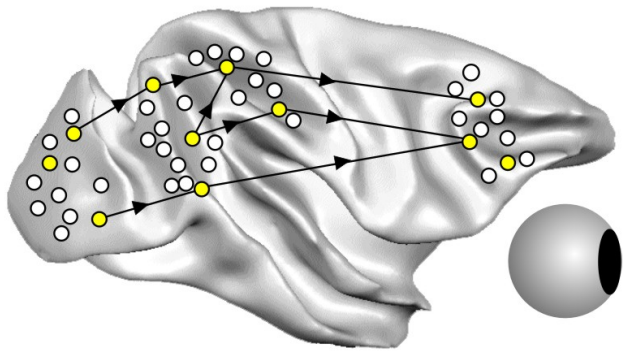


Neuromodulator, e.g. DA  
(Schultz, 2002 Neuron)



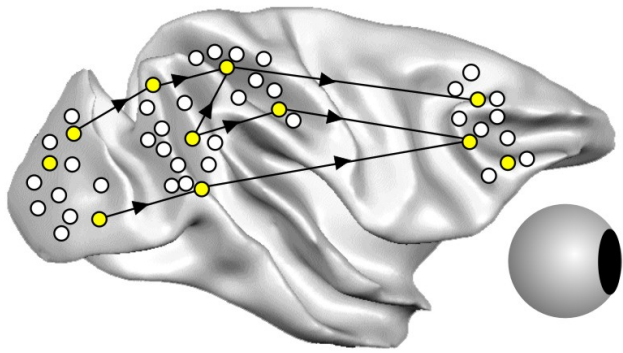


Factor 3: Global neuromodulator - better or worse than expected

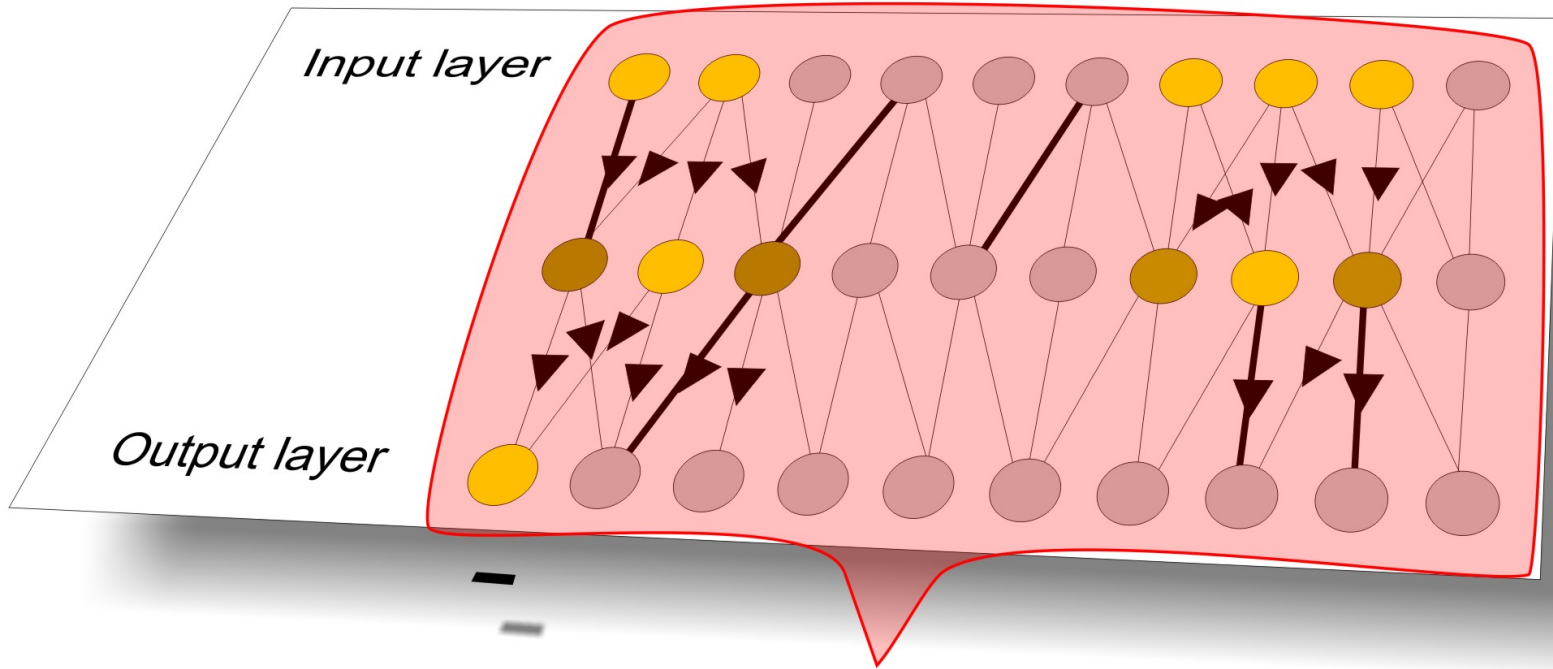


\$\$\$  
\$\$\$





Something is missing..





Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: layers and higher areas

**Training the primate Turing machine– role of feedback connections in learning**

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity

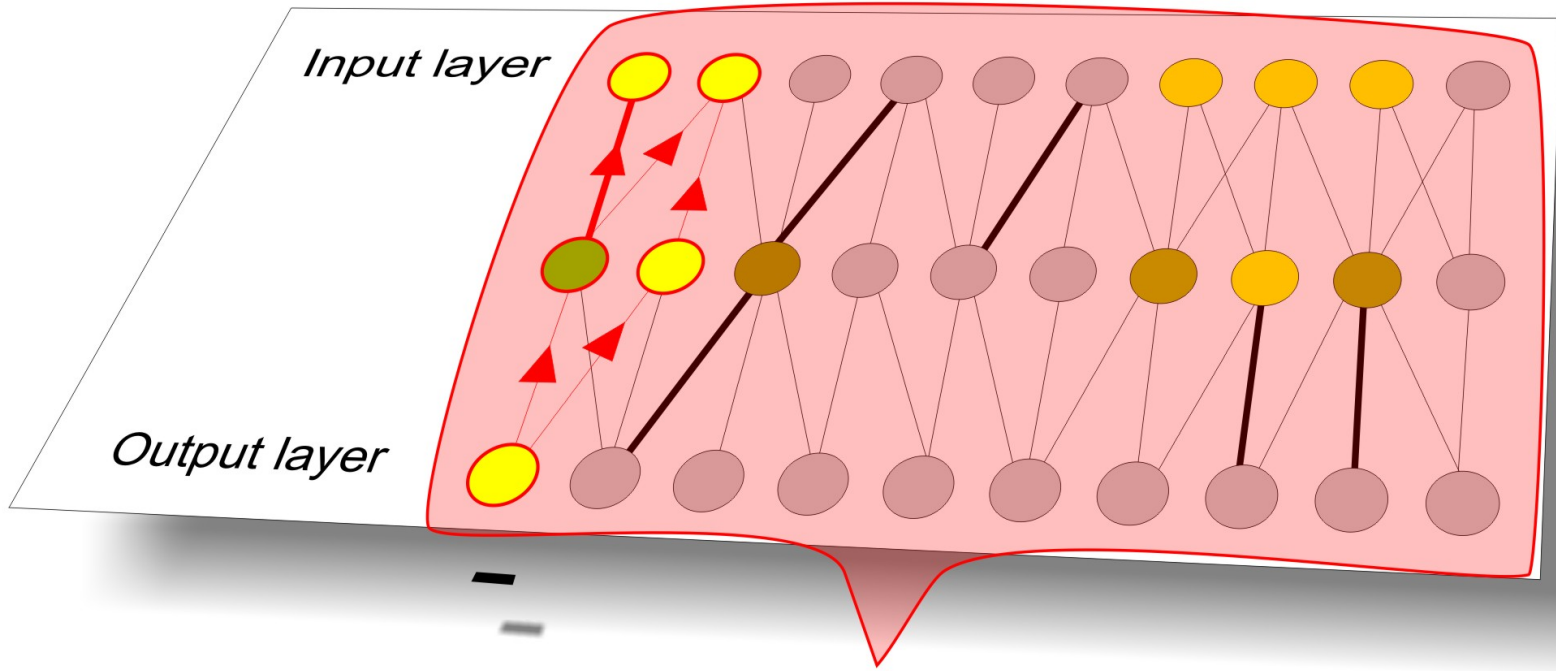
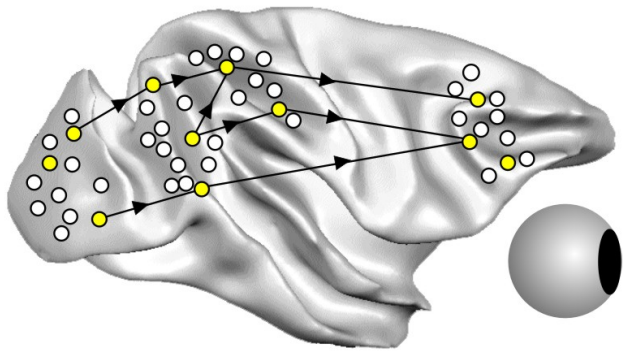


Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

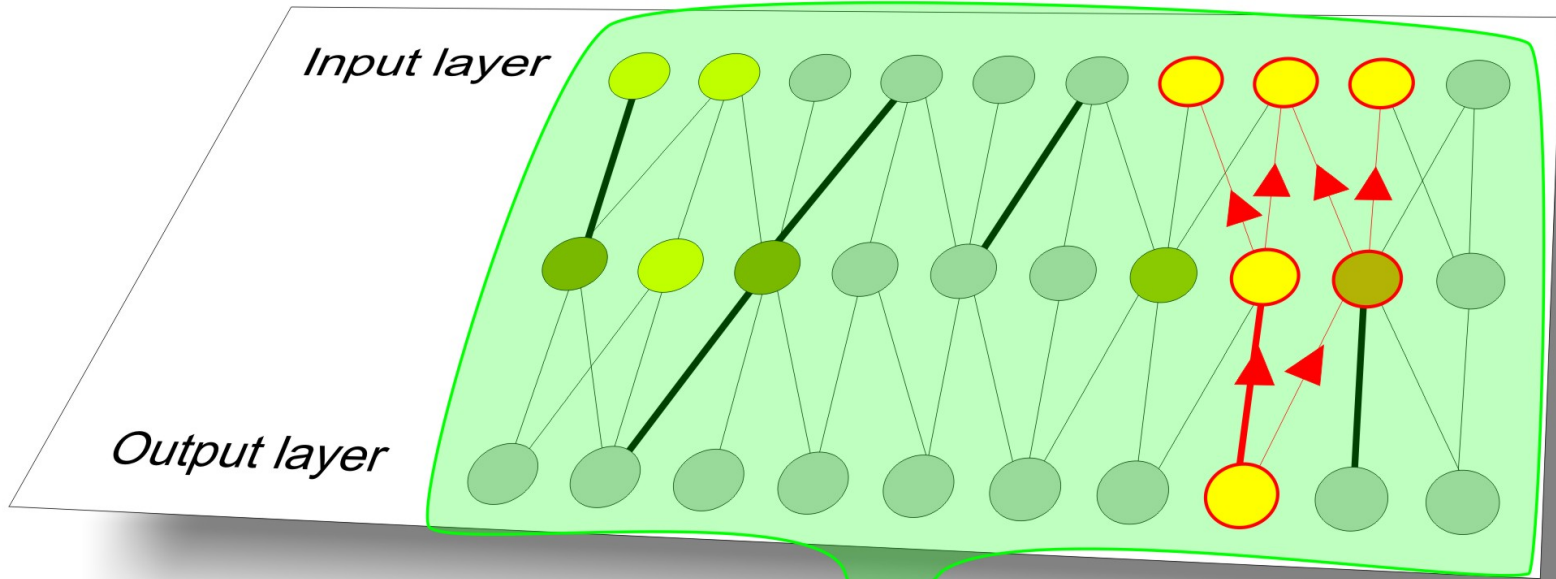
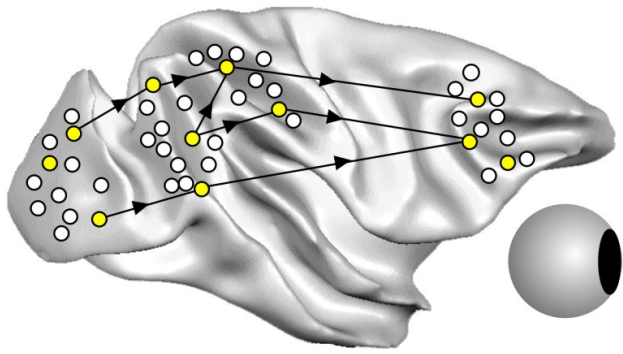
Contour grouping: layers and higher areas

Training the primate Turing machine– **role of feedback connections** in learning

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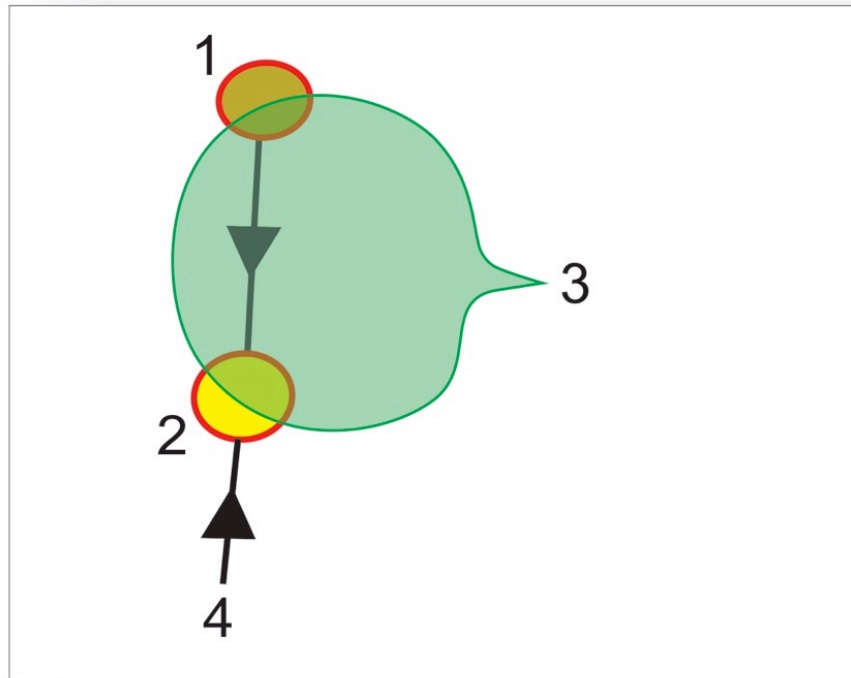


*Input layer*

*Output layer*

\$\$\$

# AGREL = attention-gated reinforcement learning

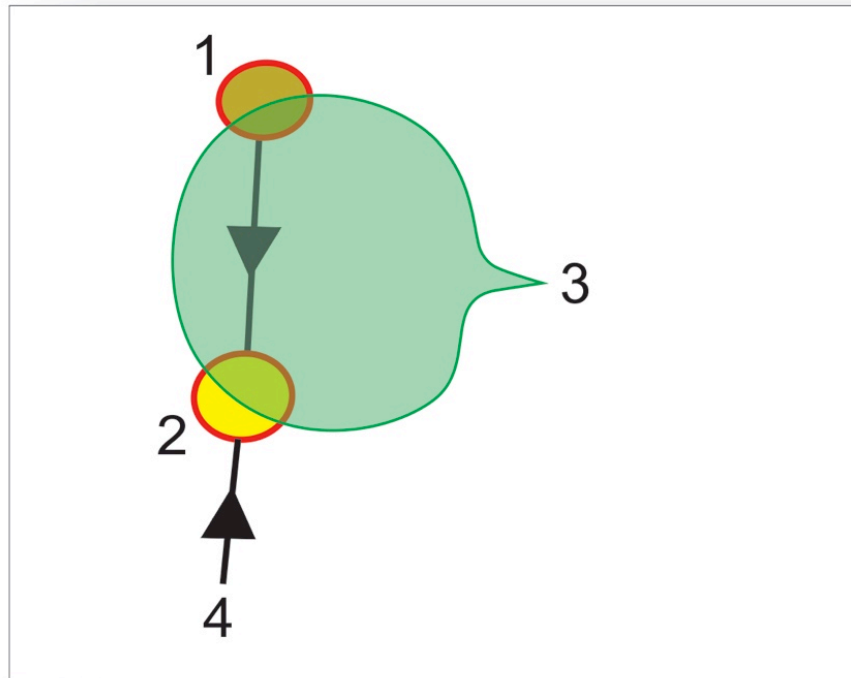


Factor 3: Global neuromodulator - better or worse than expected

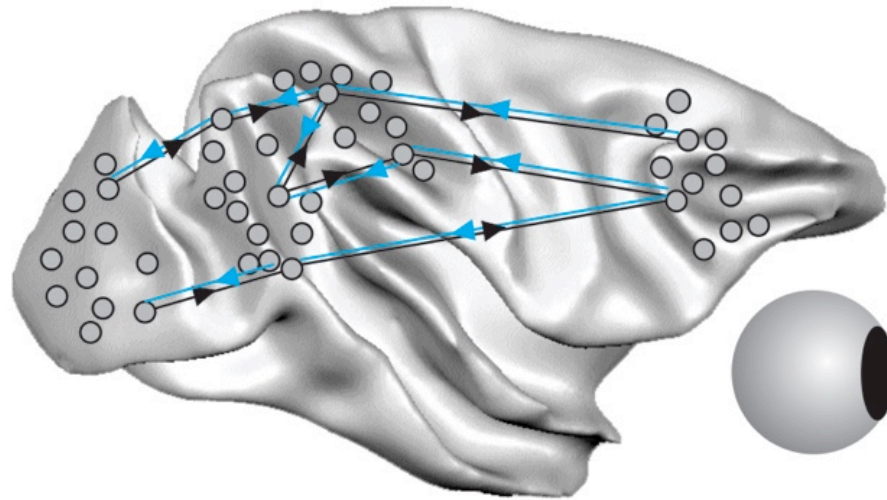
Factor 4: Feedback – “attentional” signal from response selection stage

These effects depend on NMDA receptors (Self et al., PNAS, 2012)

# AGREL = attention-gated reinforcement learning

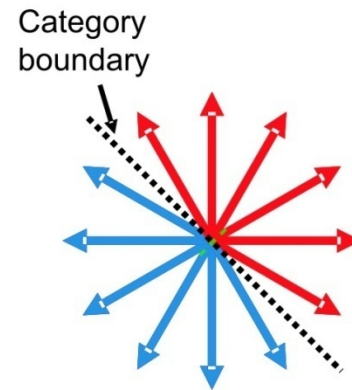
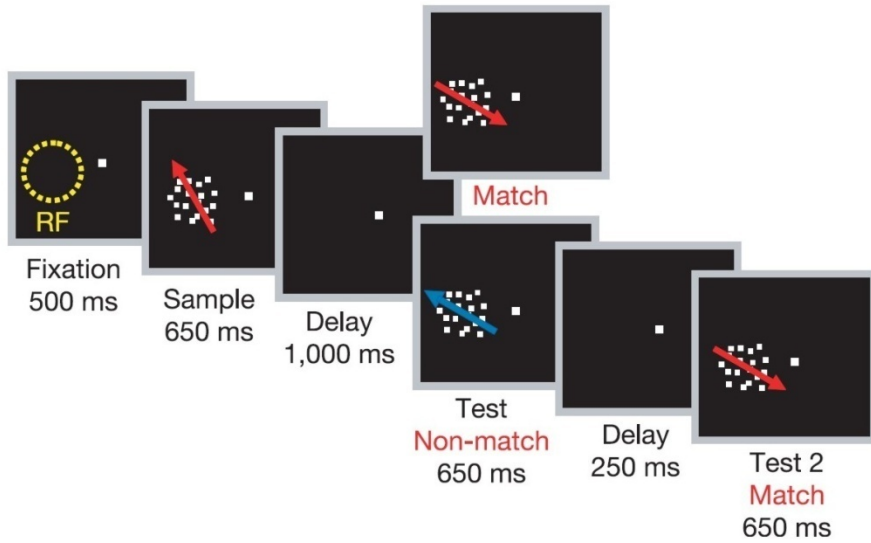


On average the same synaptic modifications as BP (Roelfsema & van Ooyen, 2005, *Neural Comp.*; review by Roelfsema, van Ooyen and Watanabe, 2010, *TiCS*)

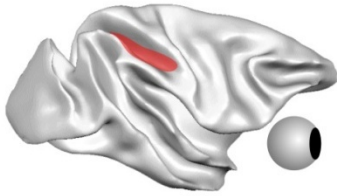


←  
Gate plasticity

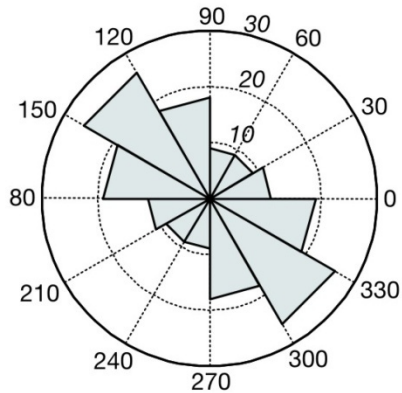
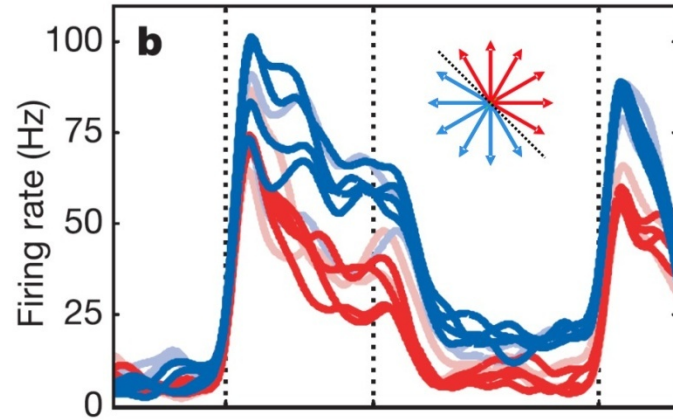




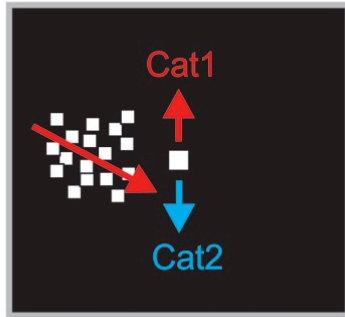
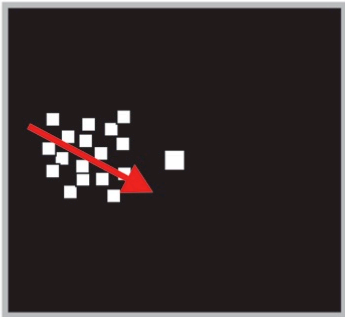
Freedman & Assad, 2006, *Nature*



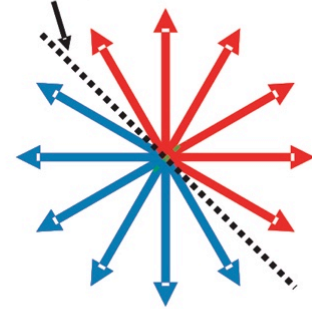
LIP

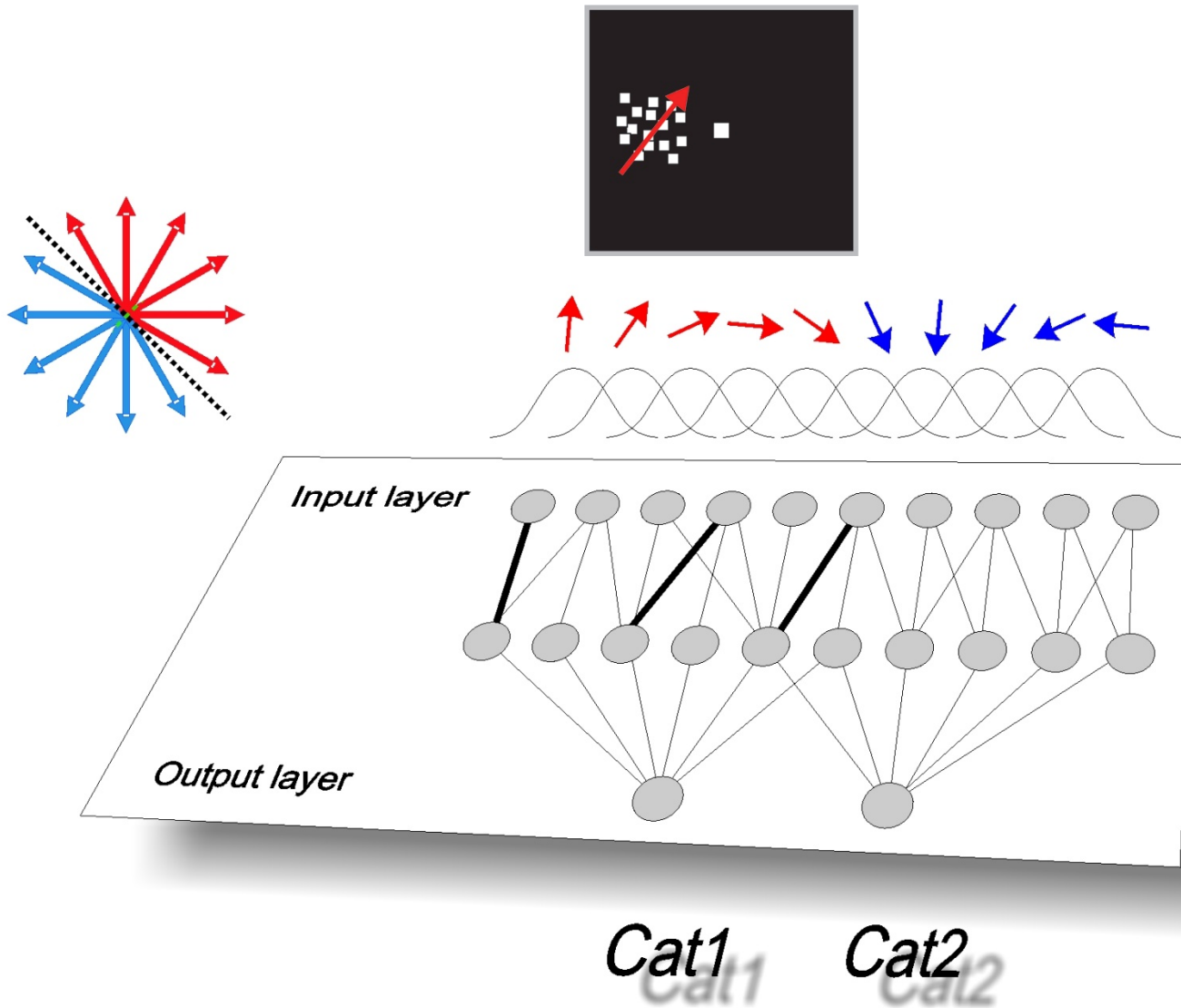


Freedman & Assad, 2006, *Nature*

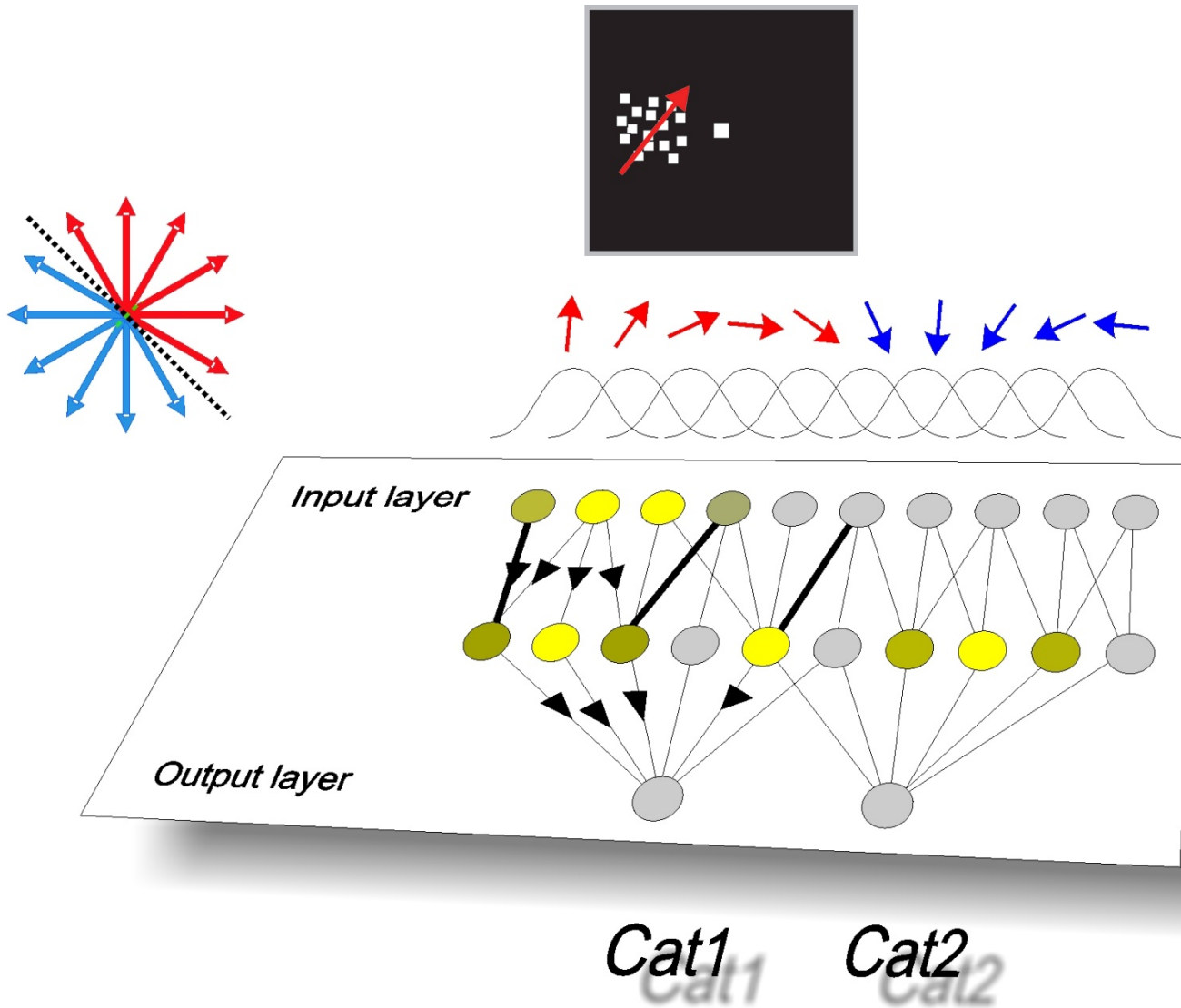


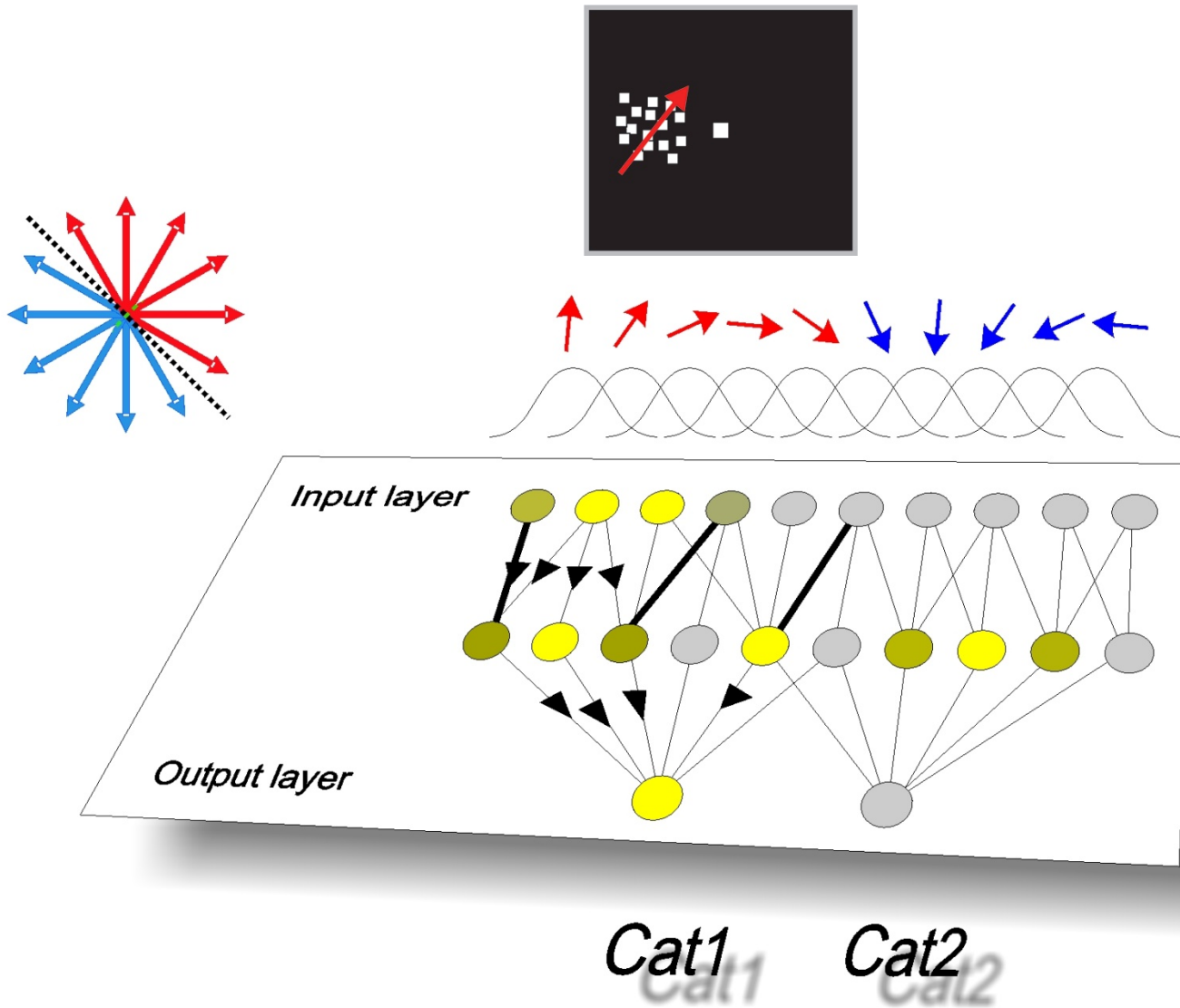
Category  
boundary

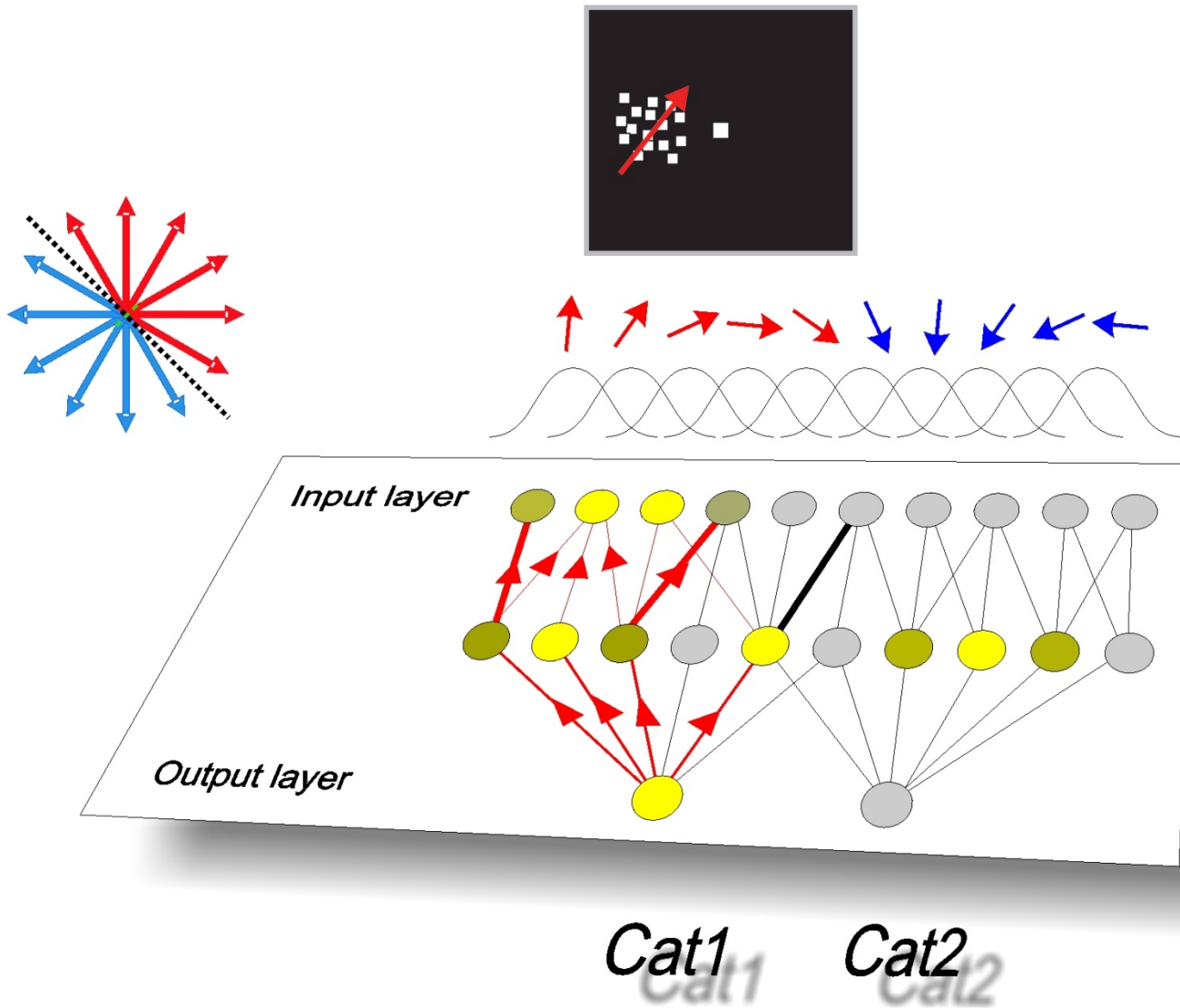


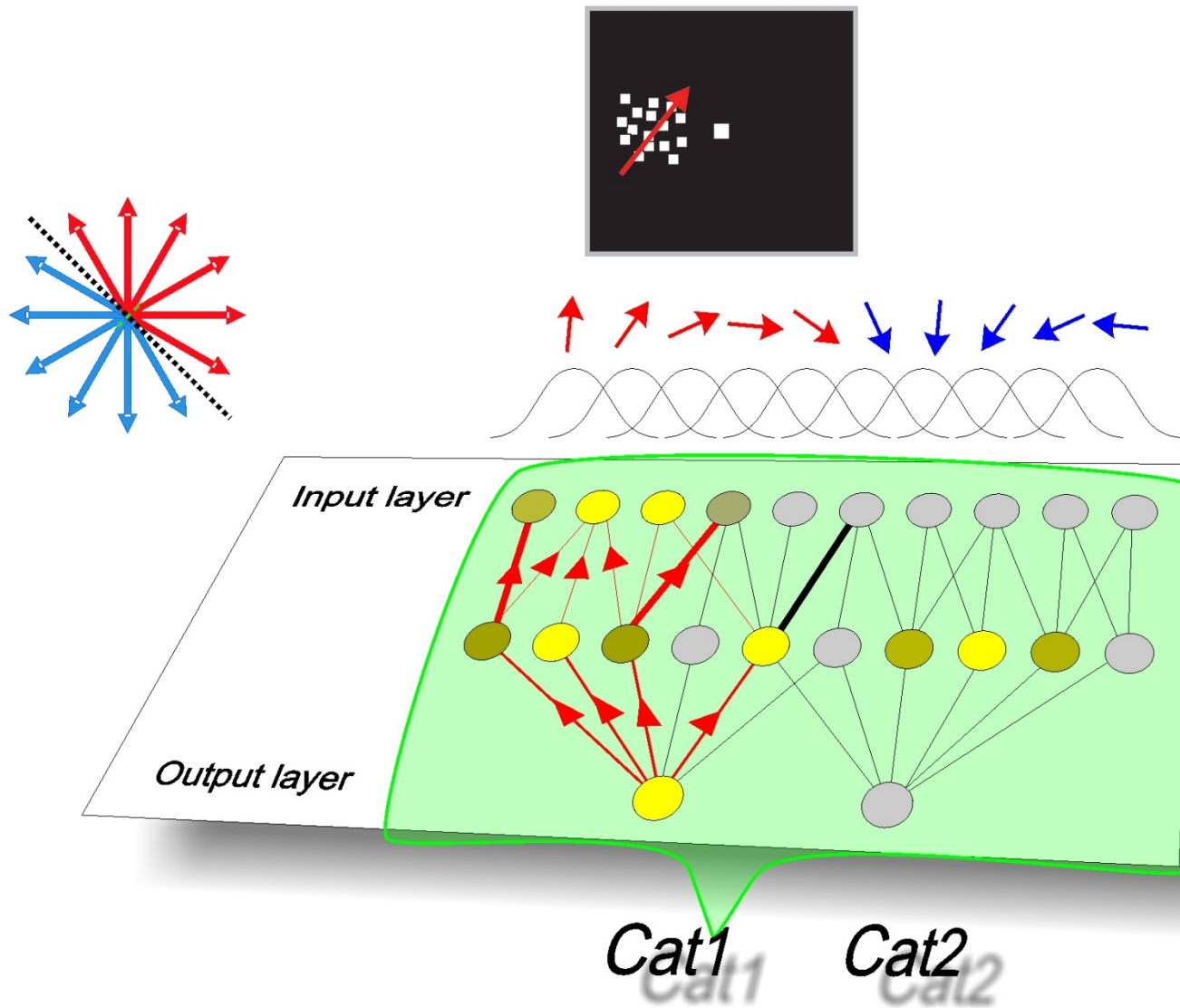




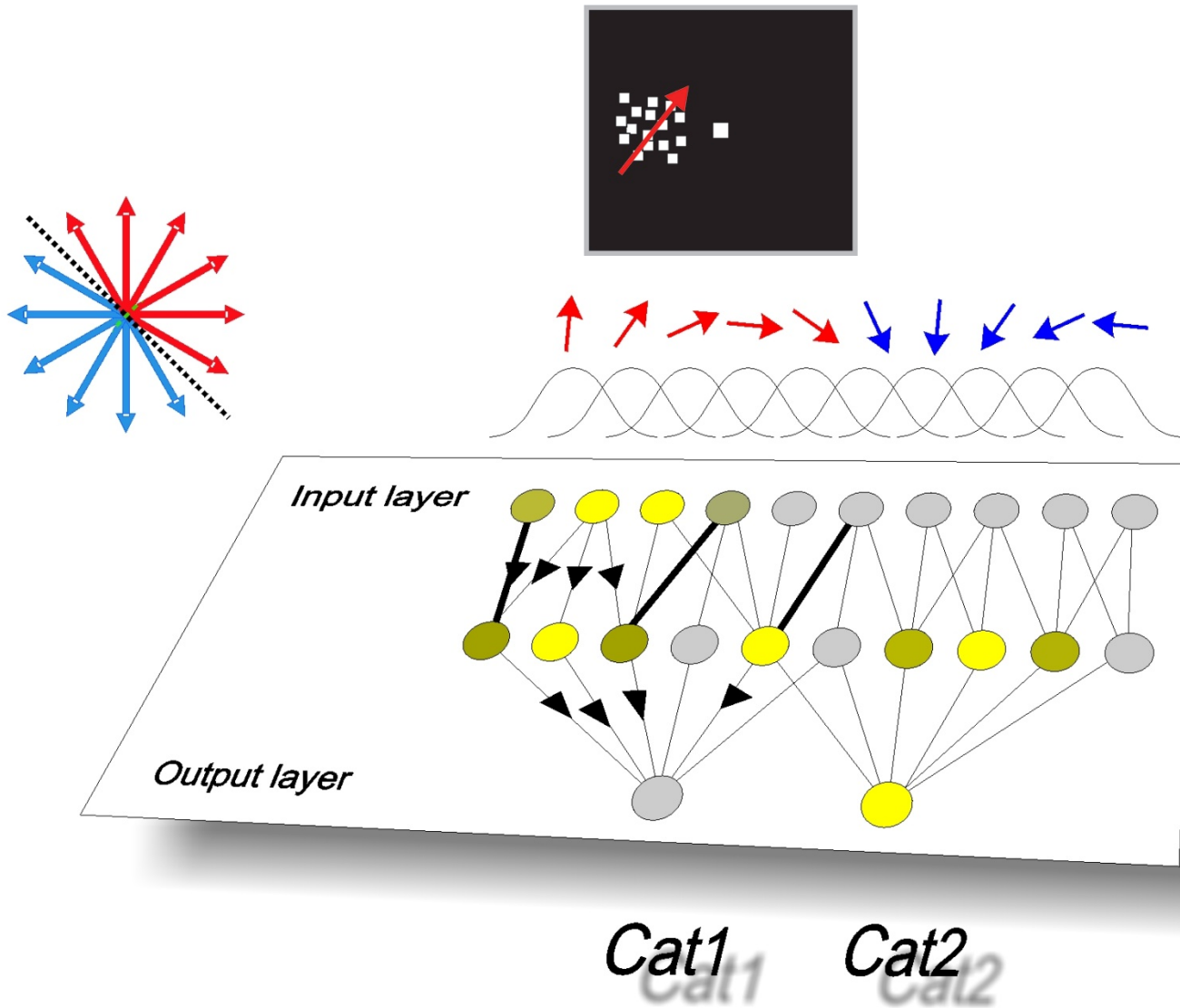


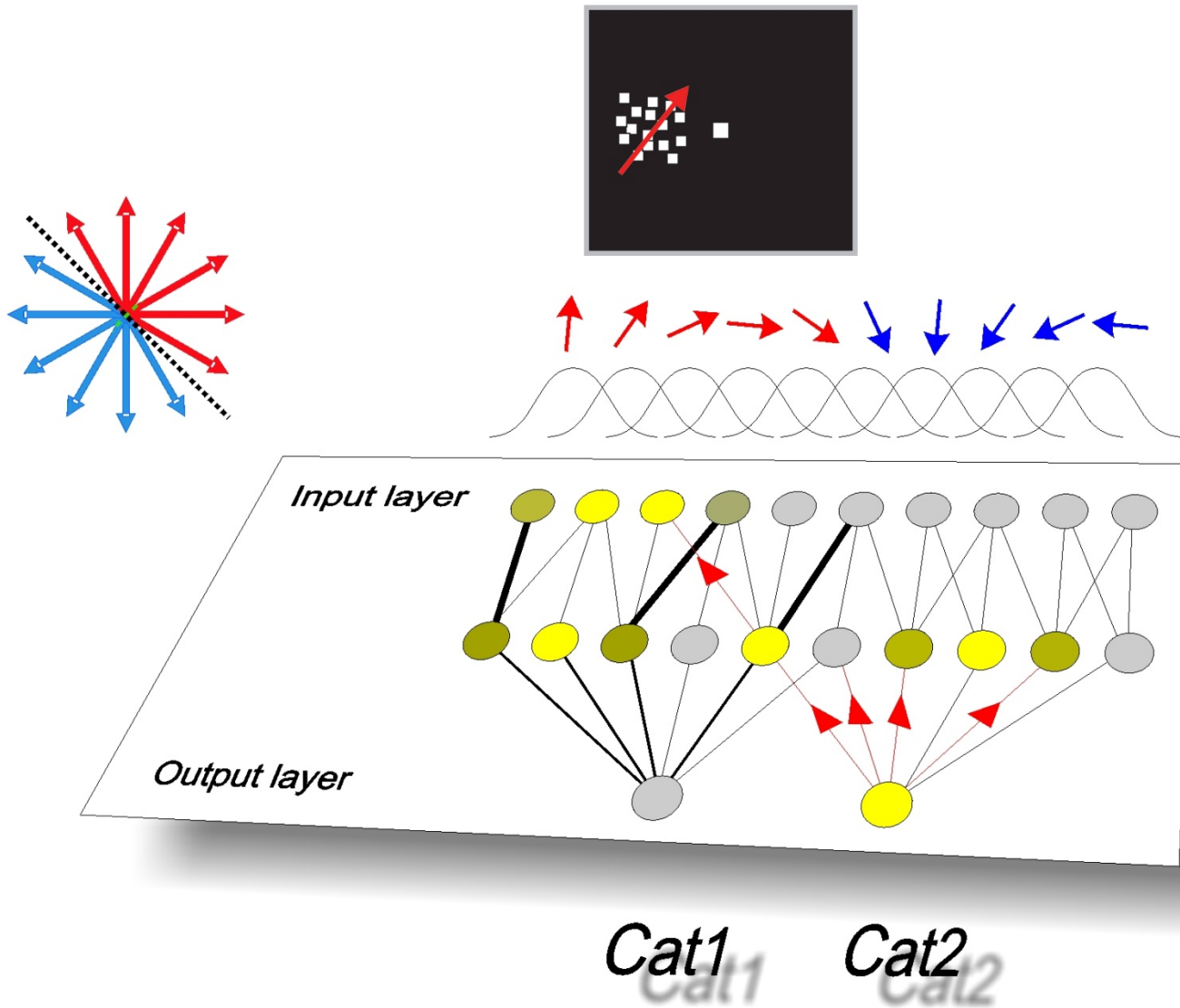


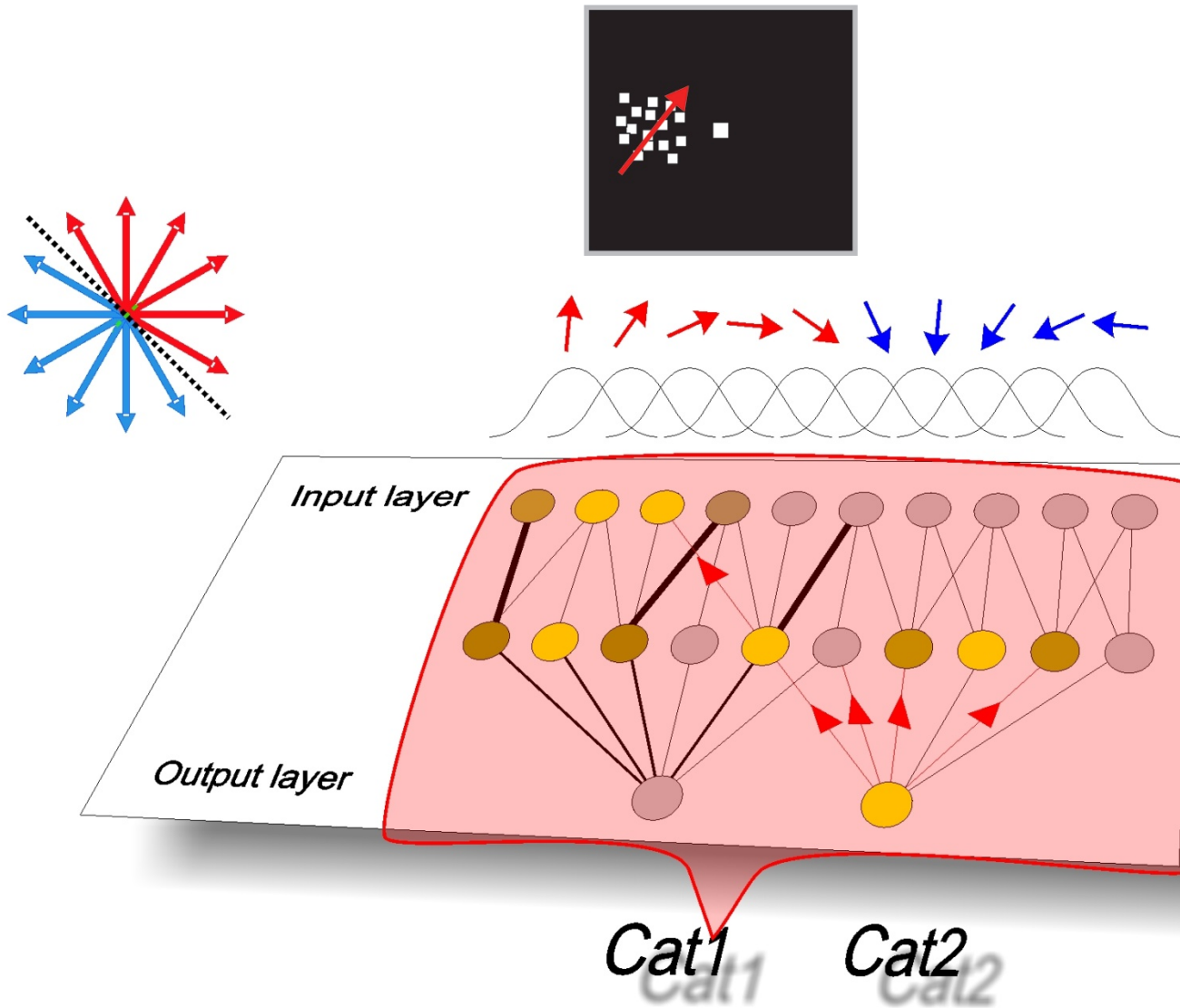


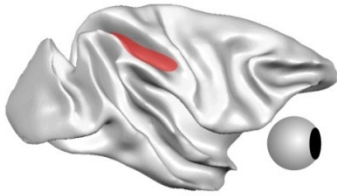




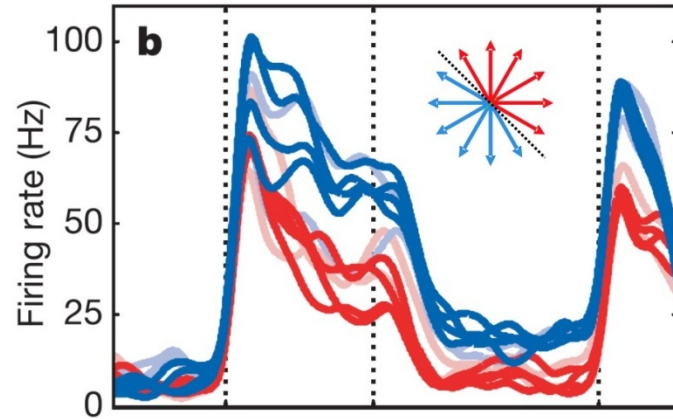




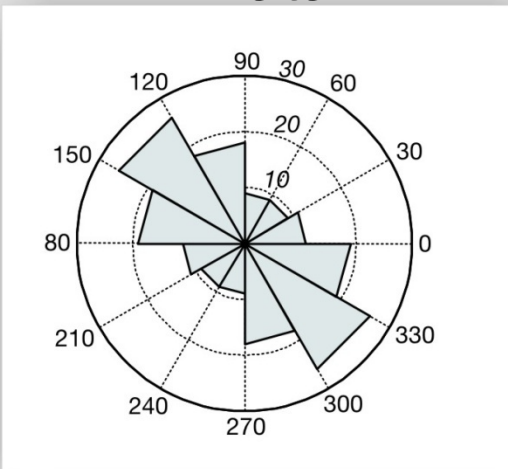




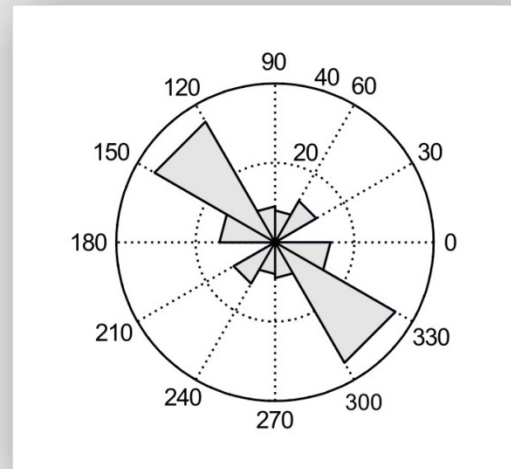
LIP



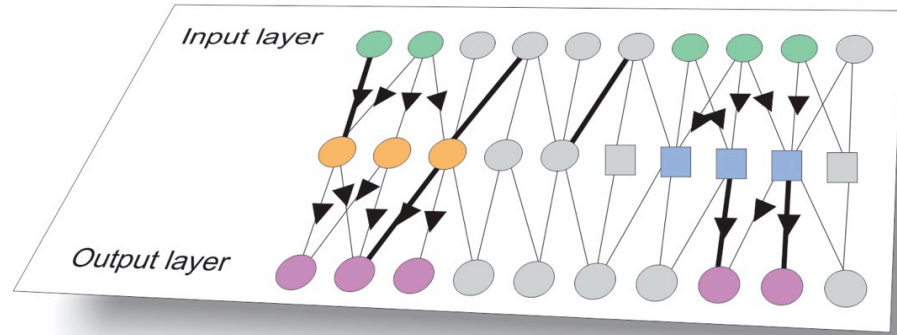
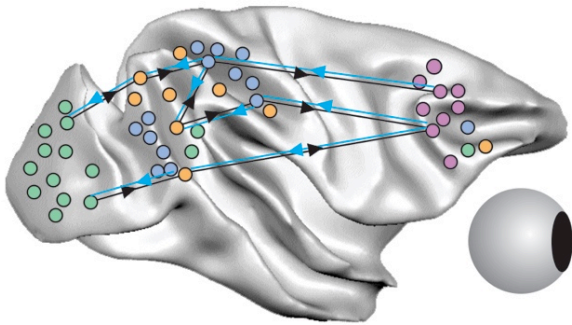
Data



Model



Freedman & Assad, 2006, *Nature*

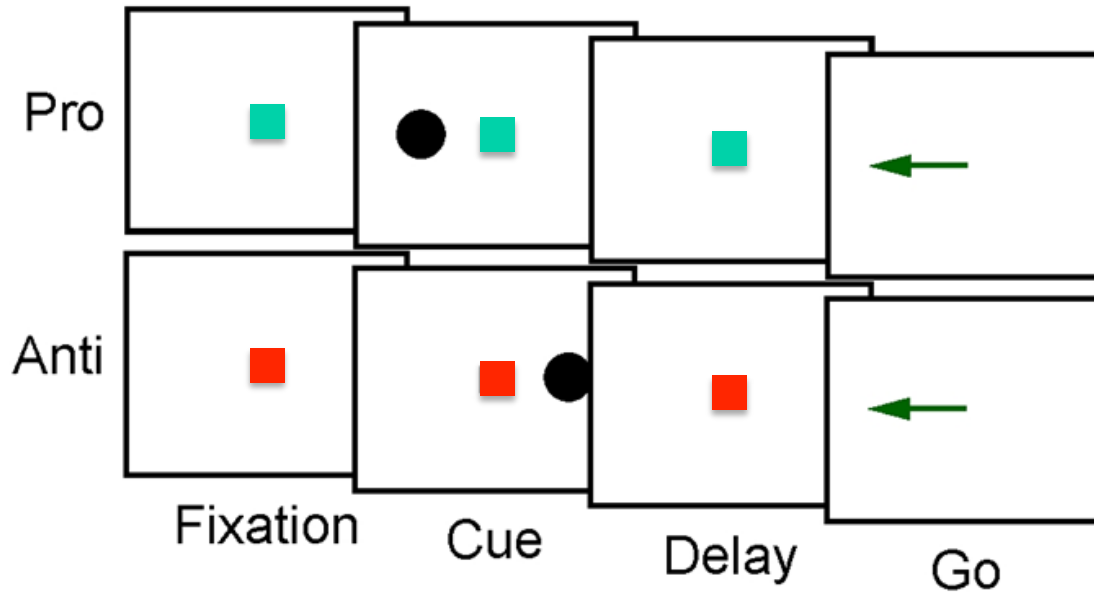


Neurons in the association layer become tuned to:

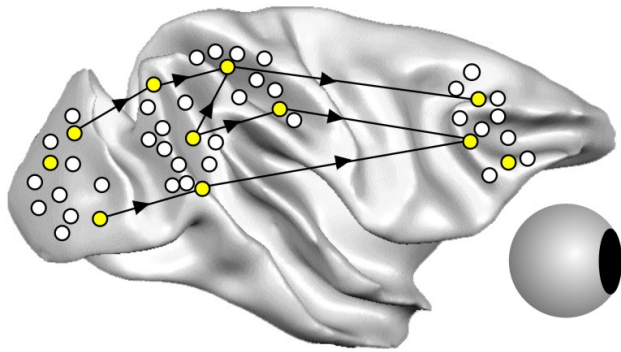
- The features that are important for the stimulus-response mapping
- The boundaries between categories



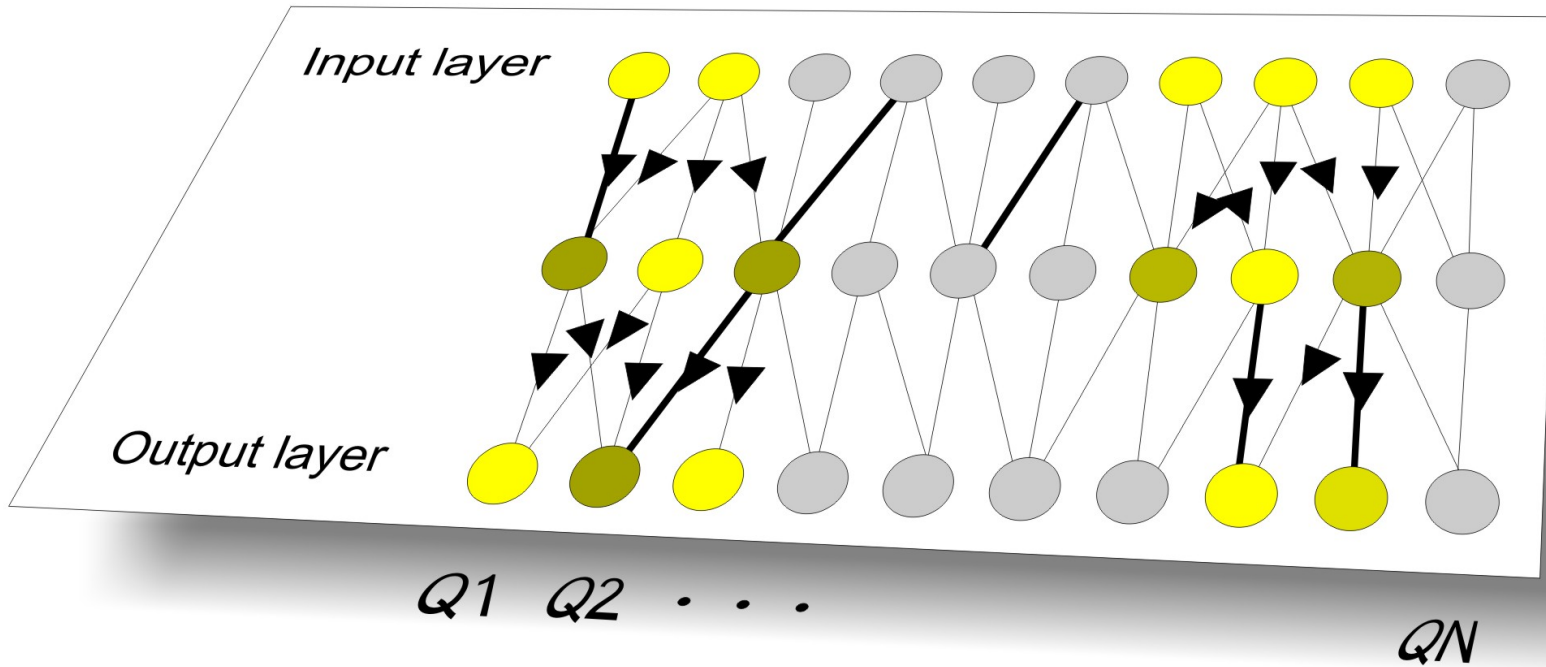
## Delayed saccade-antisaccade task

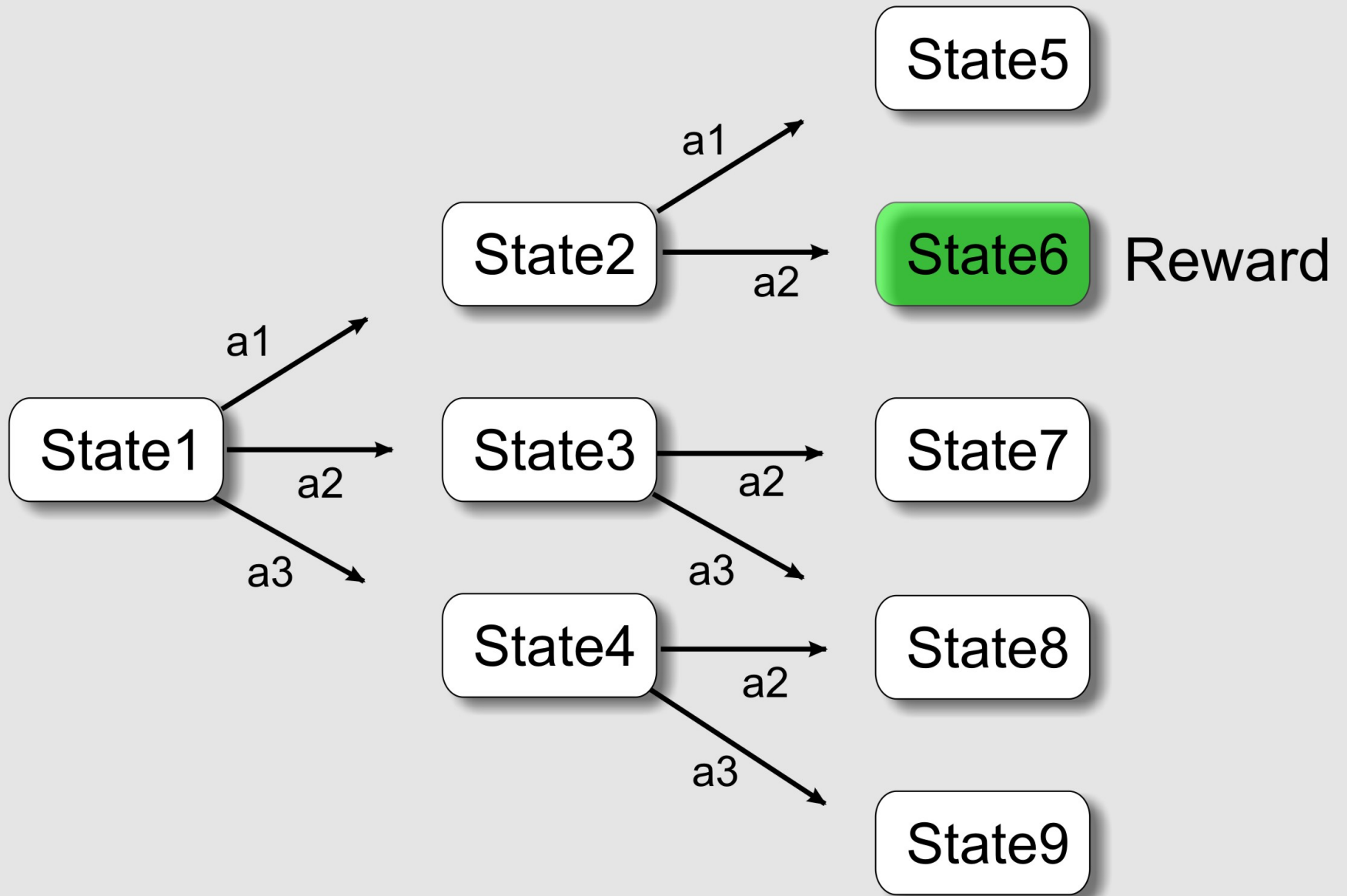


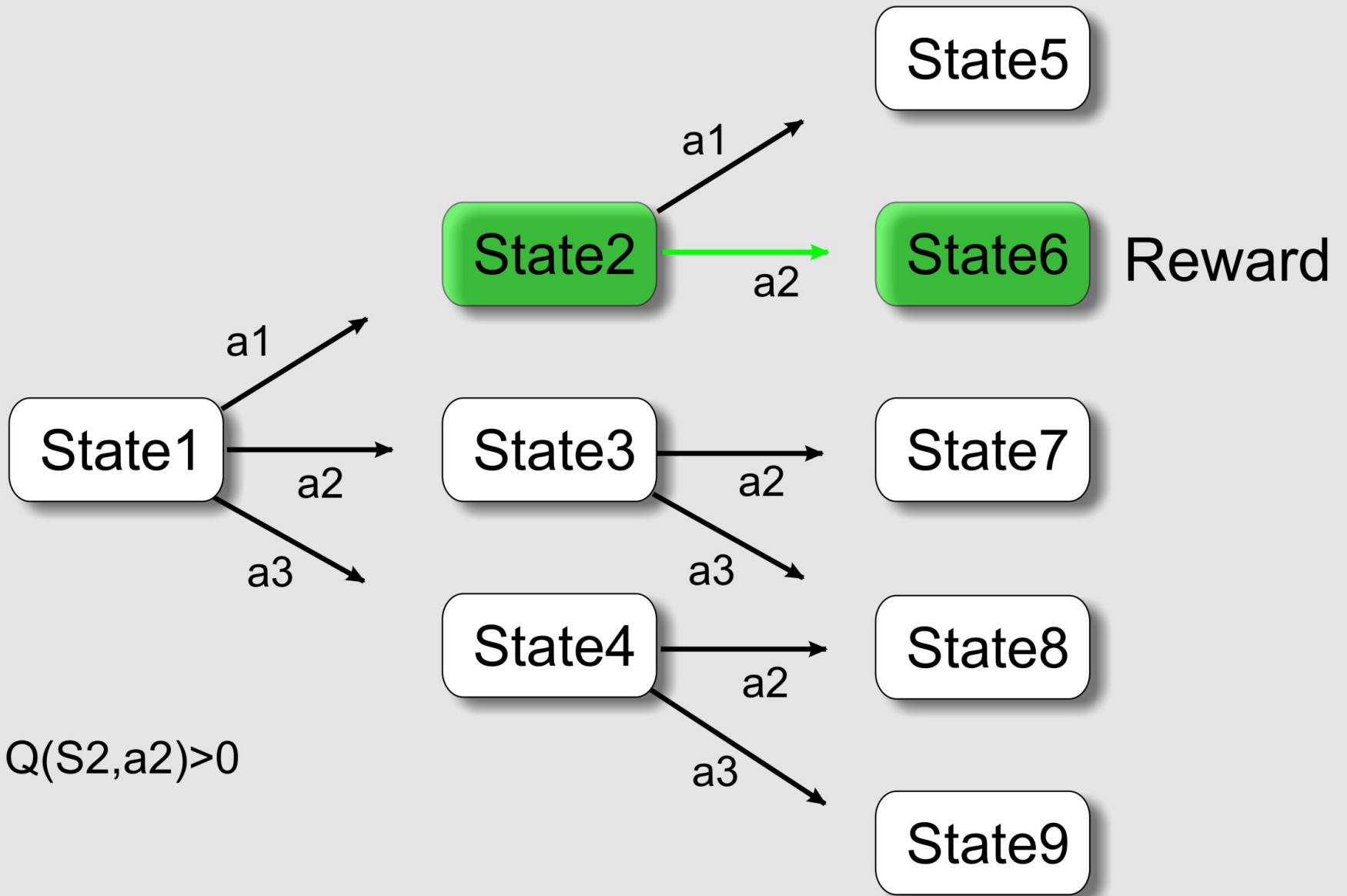
e.g. Gottlieb & Goldberg *Nature Neurosci* (1999)

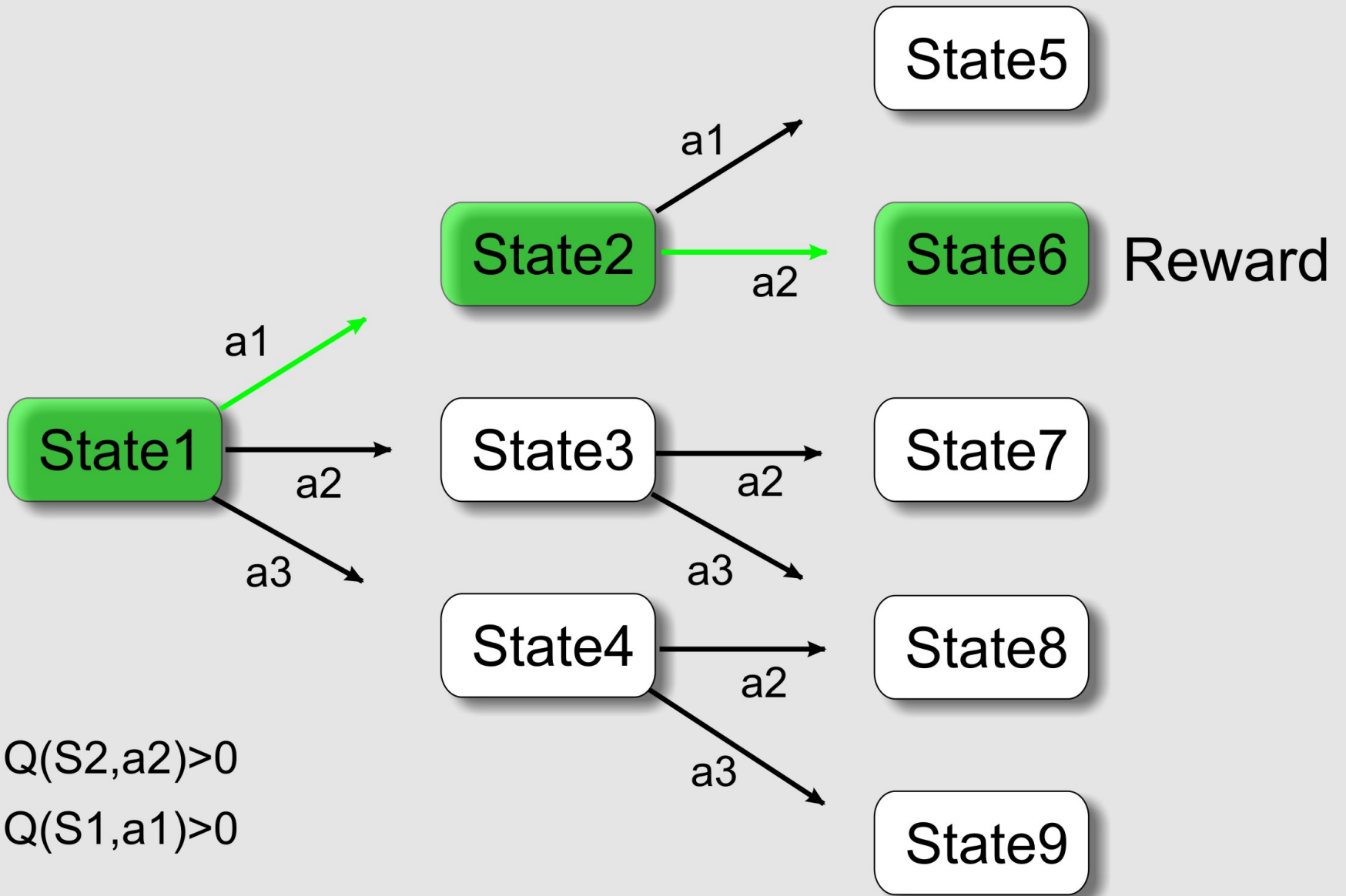


We will now use the network to compute all  $Q_s$  (i.e. action values) for the current sensory stimulus

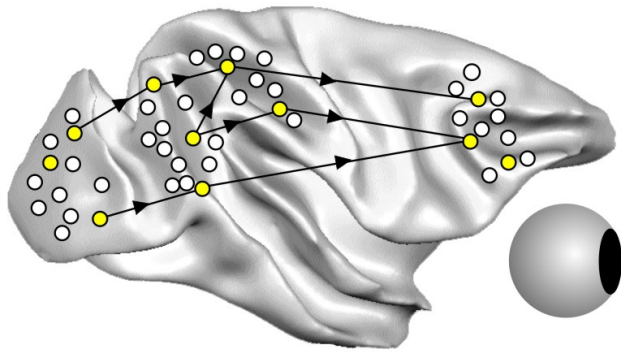




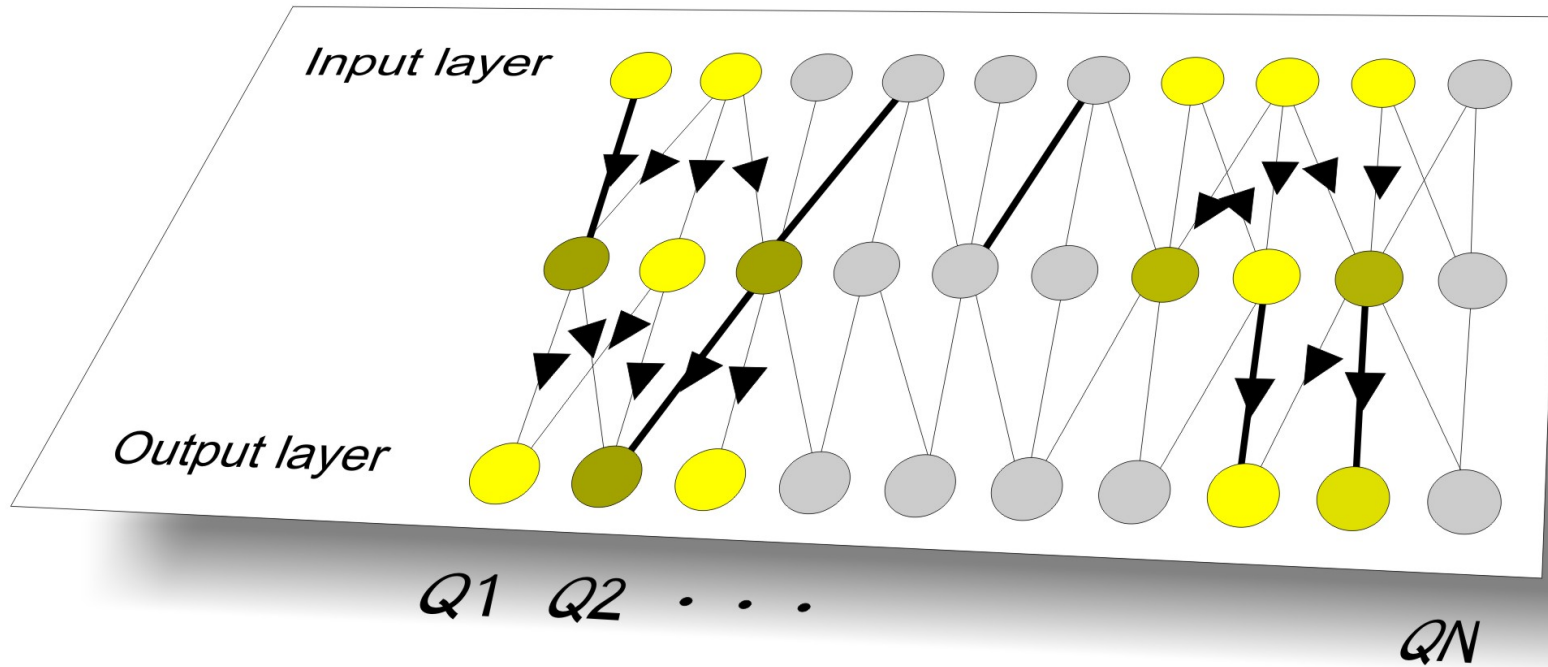




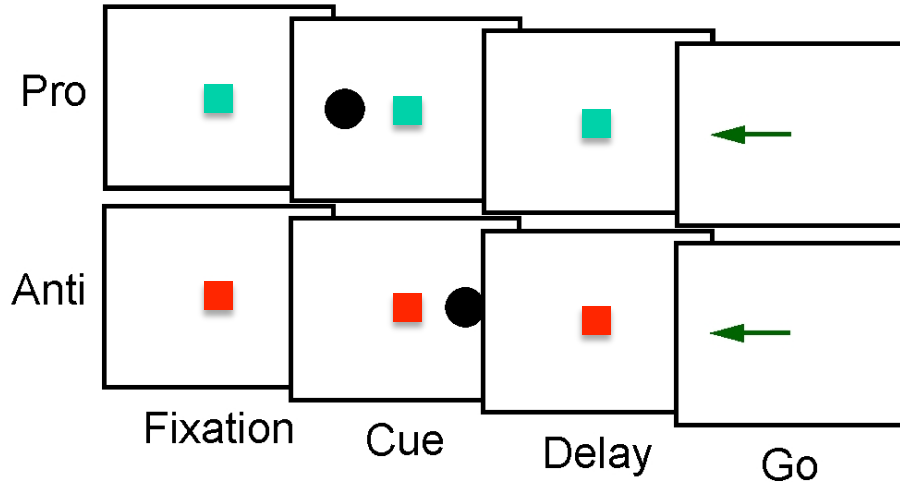




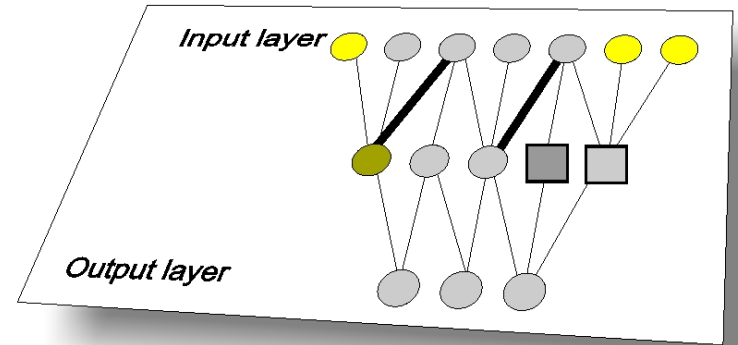
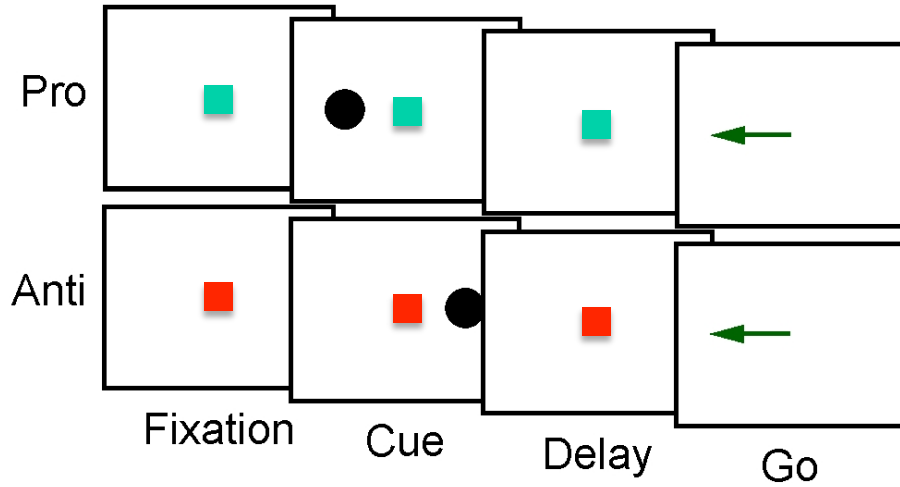
We will now use the network to compute all  $Q_s$  (i.e. action values) for the current sensory stimulus



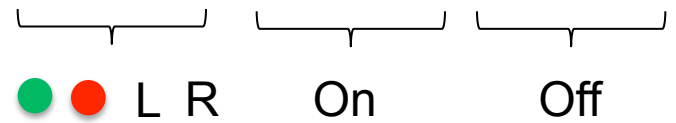
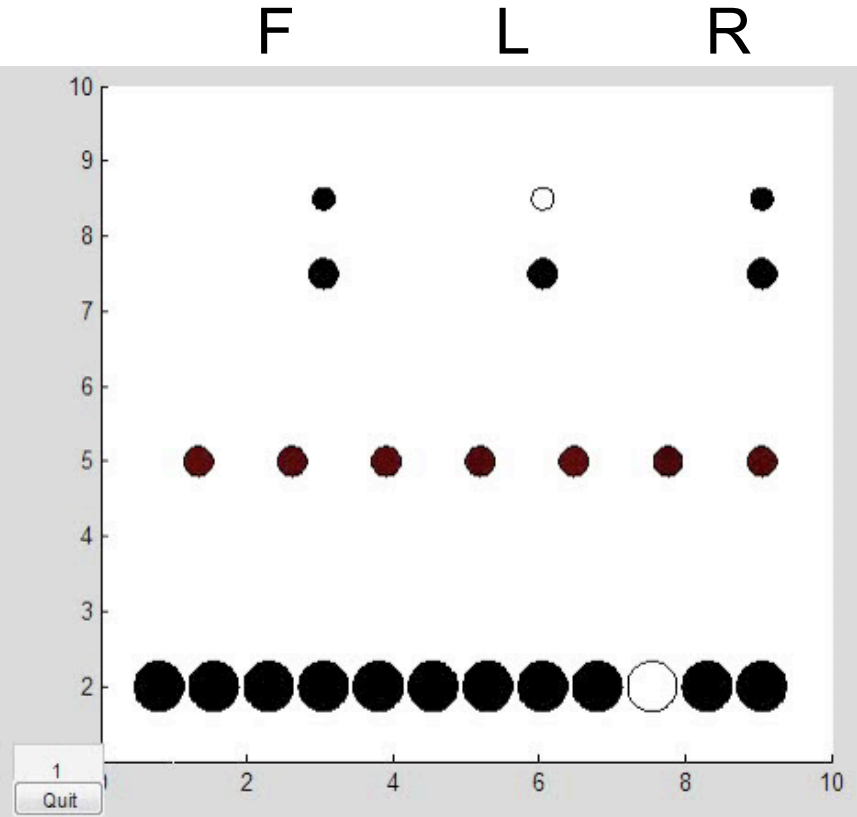
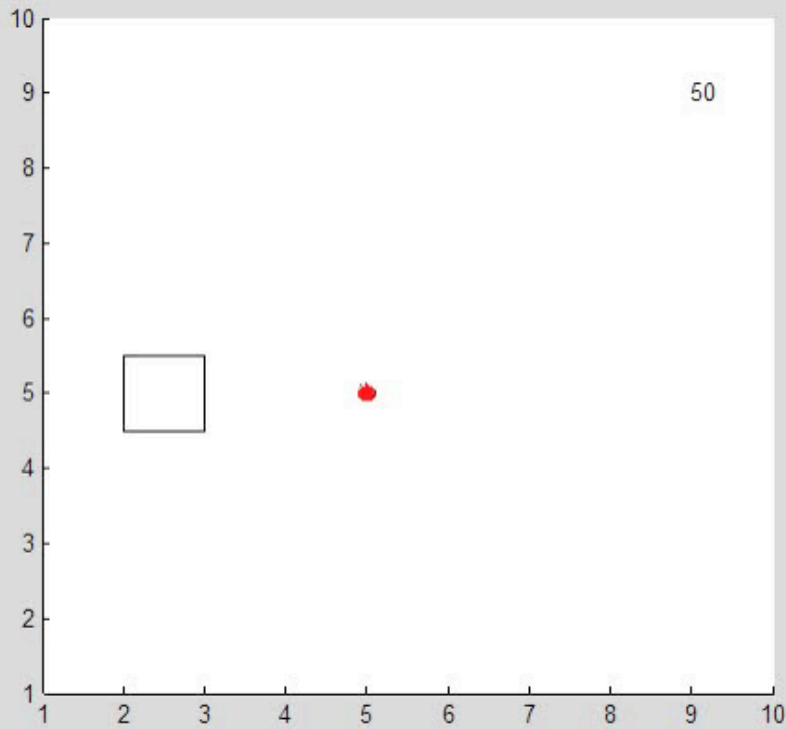
# Saccade/anti-saccade task



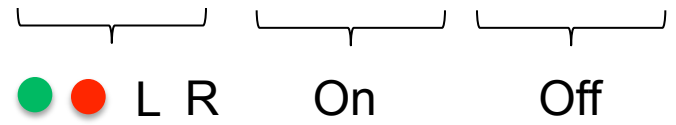
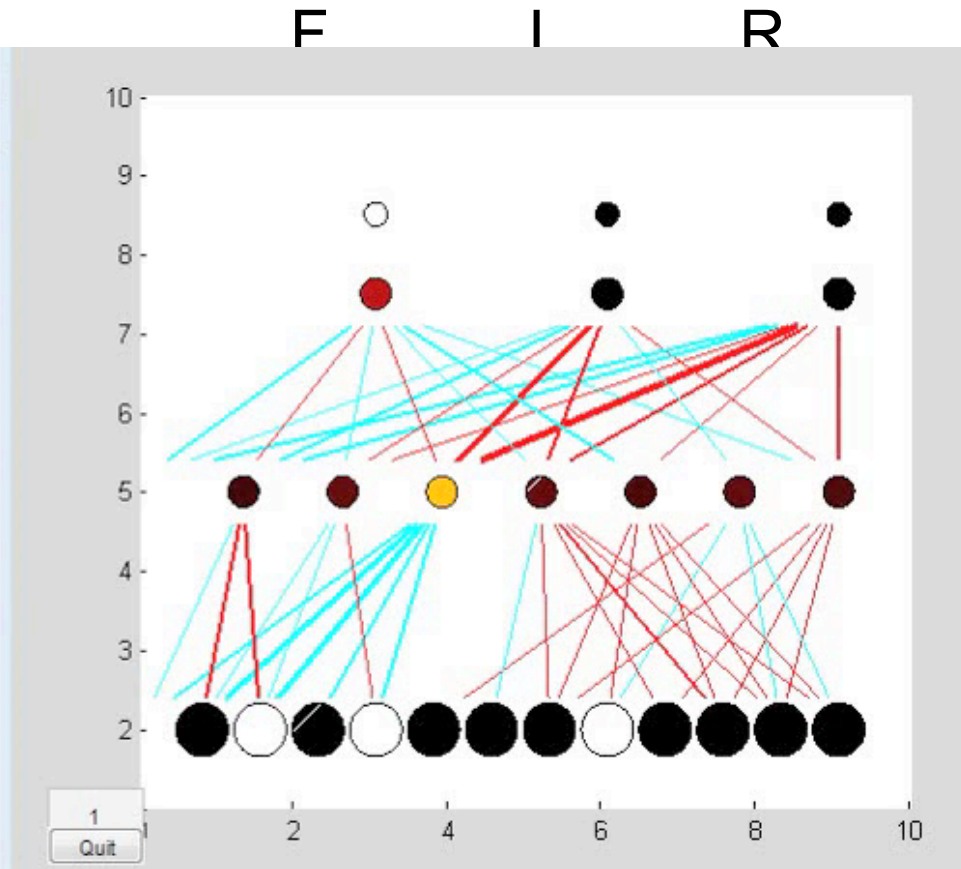
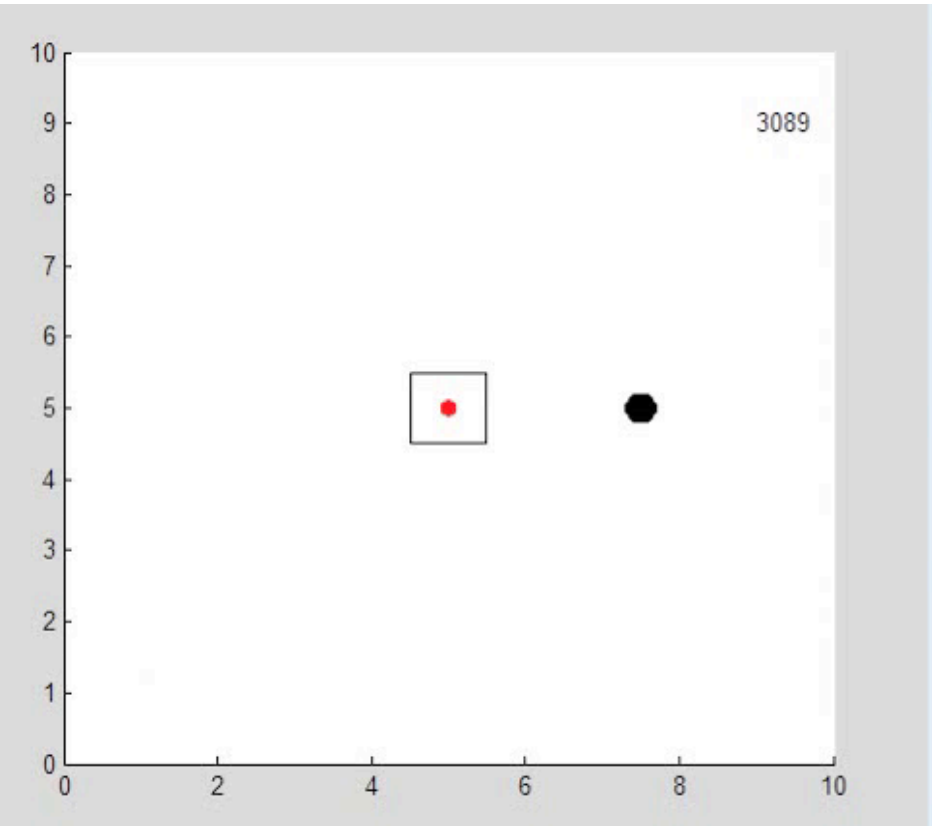
# Saccade/anti-saccade task



# Trials 50-57

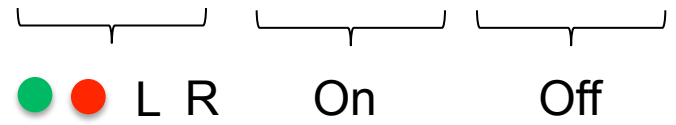
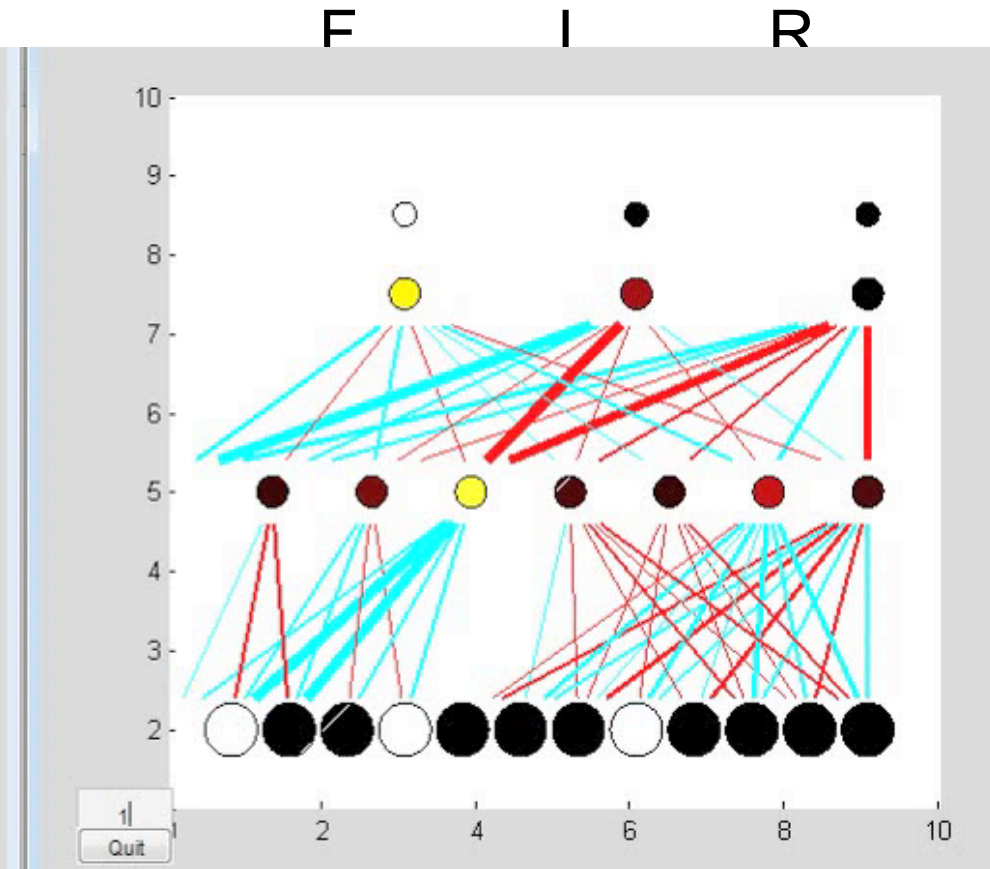
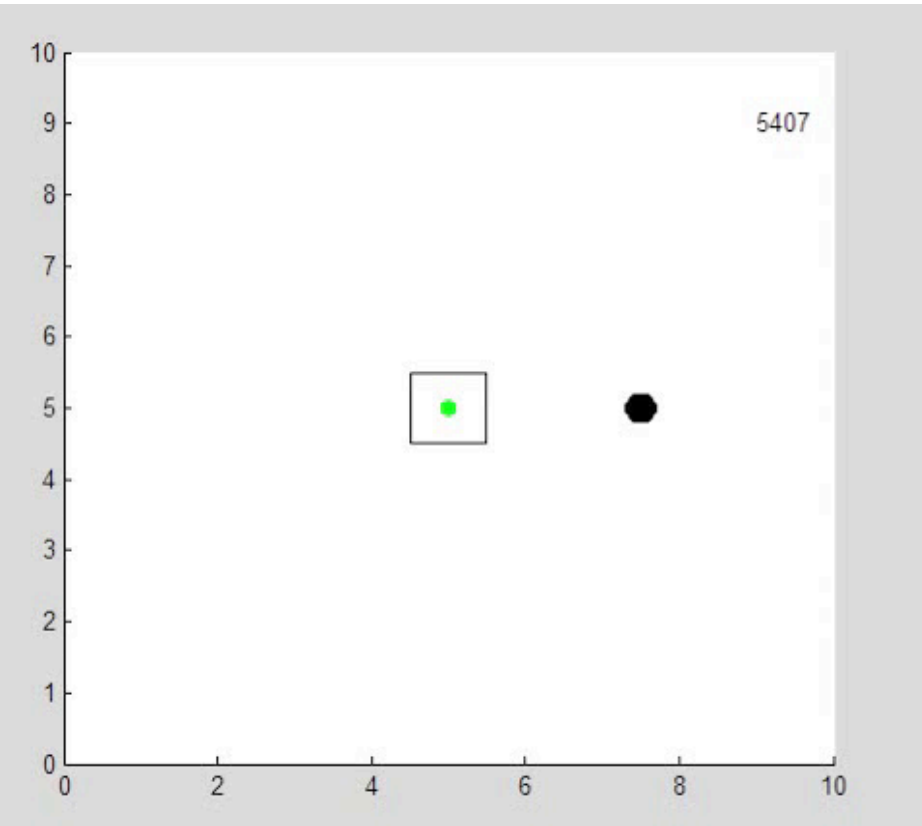


# Trials 3089-3097

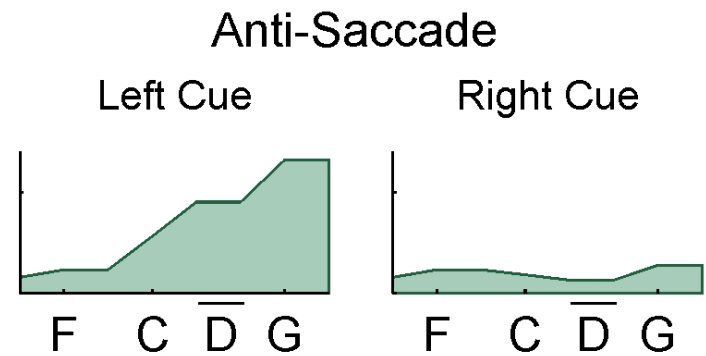
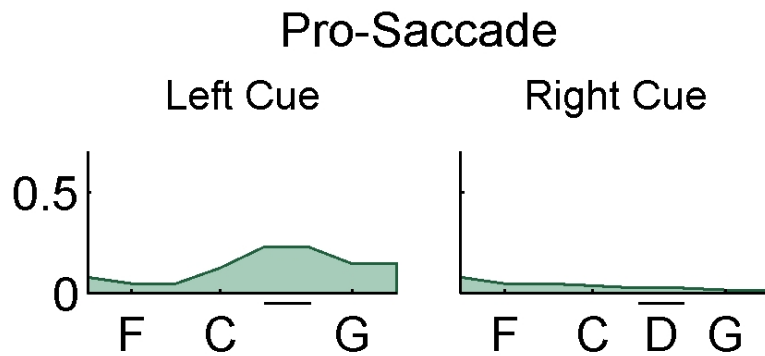
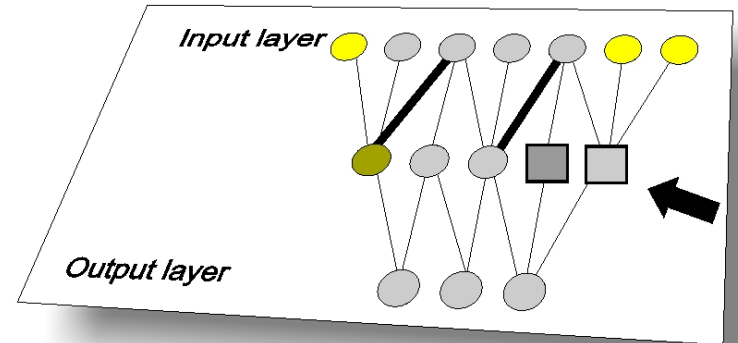
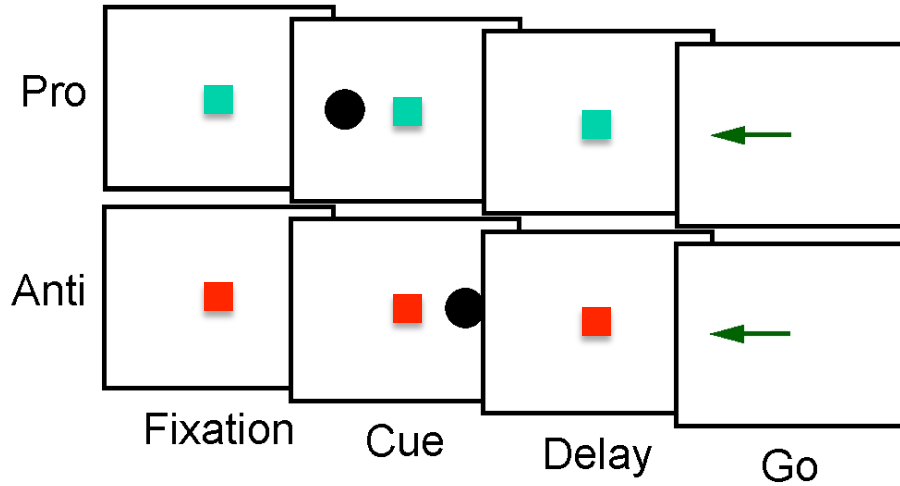




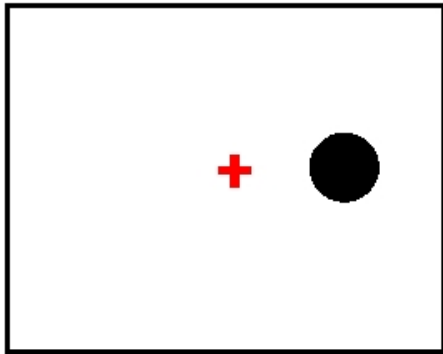
# Trials 5407-5417



# Saccade/anti-saccade task



Saccade/  
Anti-saccade





Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: layers and higher areas

Training the primate Turing machine– **role of feedback connections** in learning

The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity



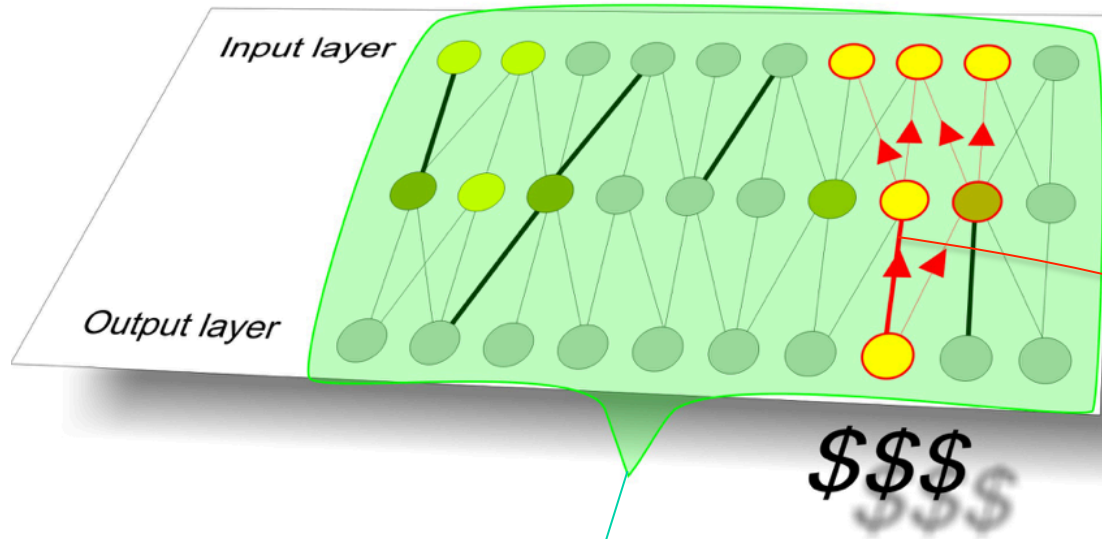
Introduction: feedforward and feedback processing

Contour grouping: layers and higher areas

Training the primate Turing machine— role of feedback connections in learning

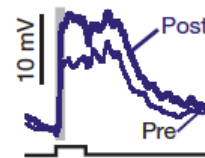
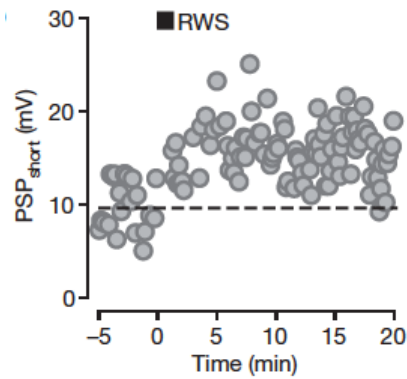
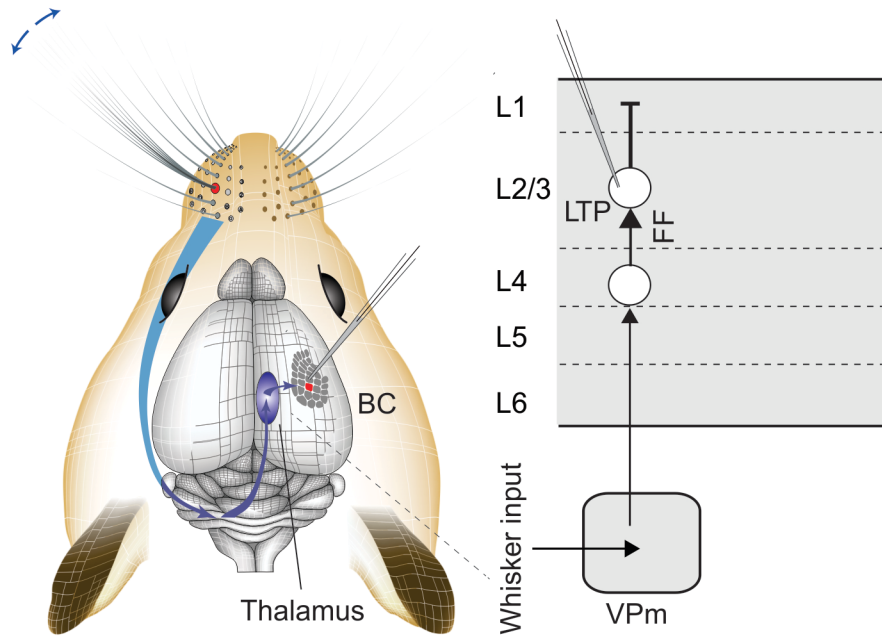
**The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity**

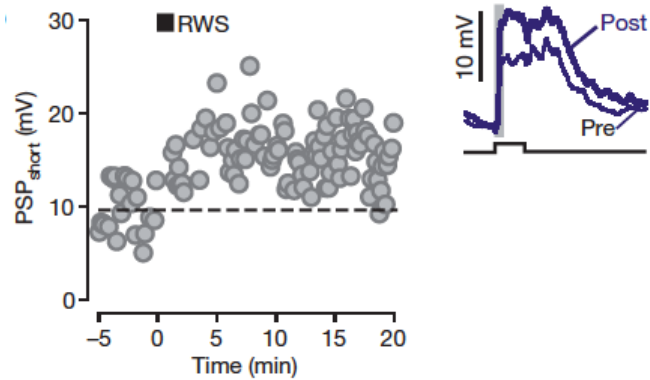
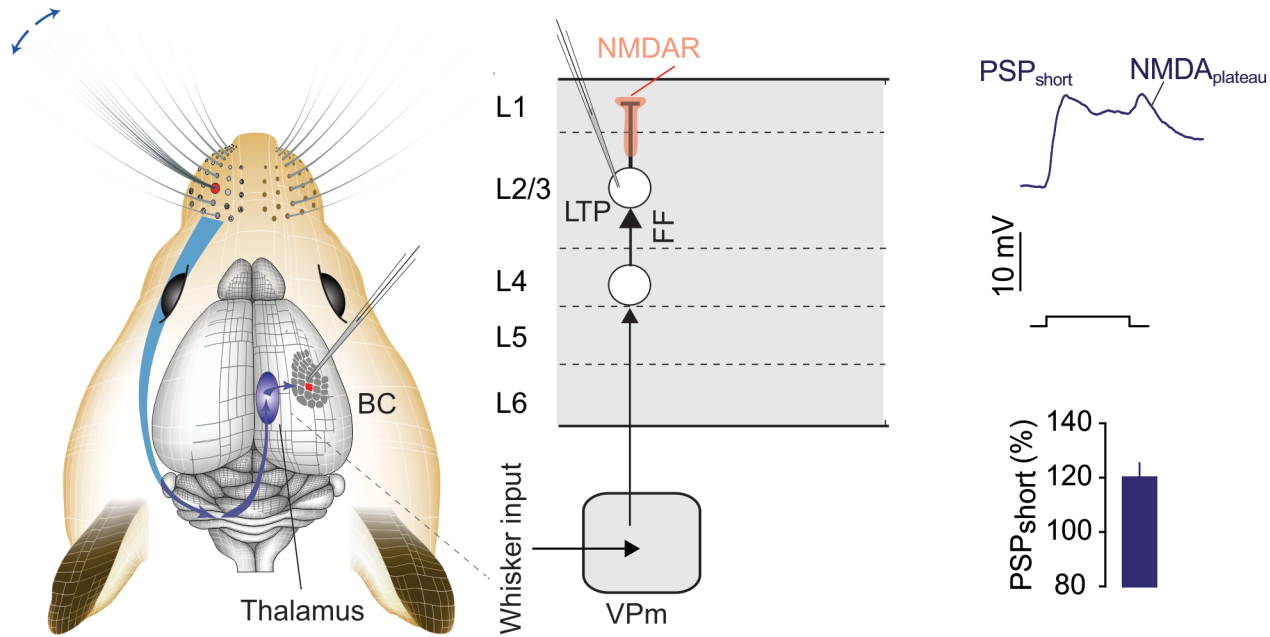


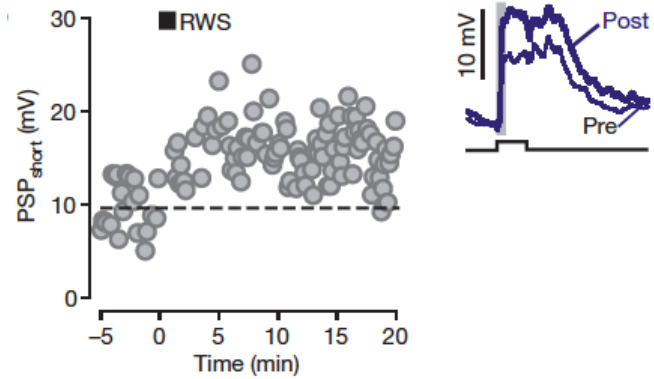
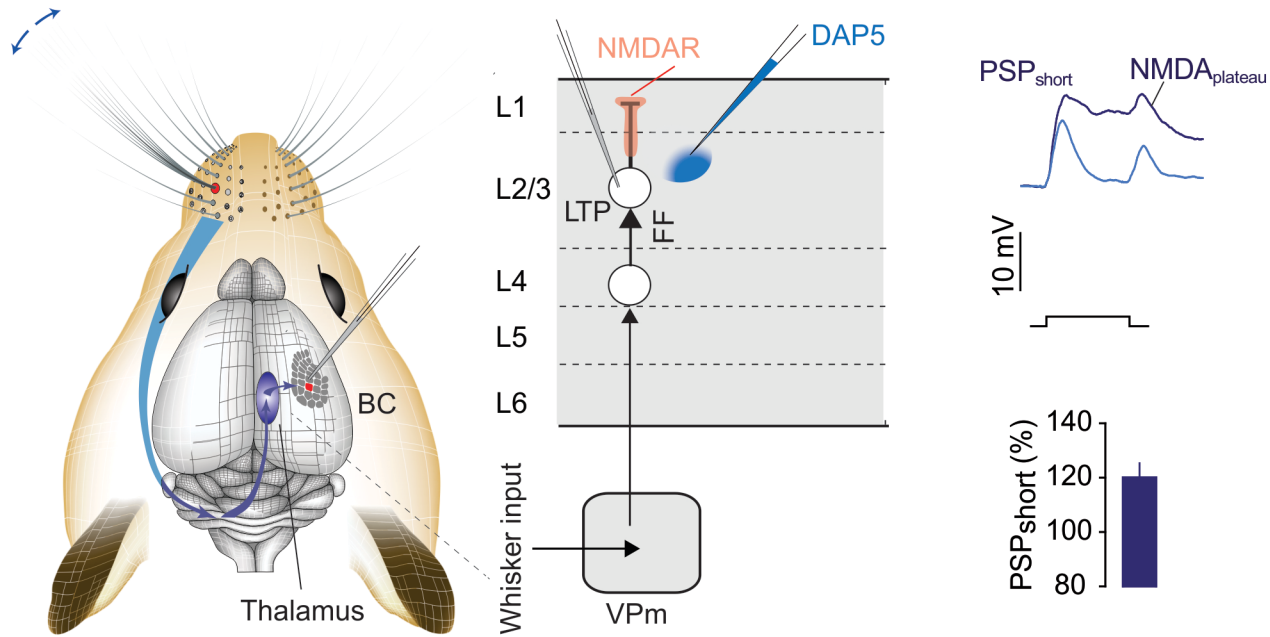


What is needed:

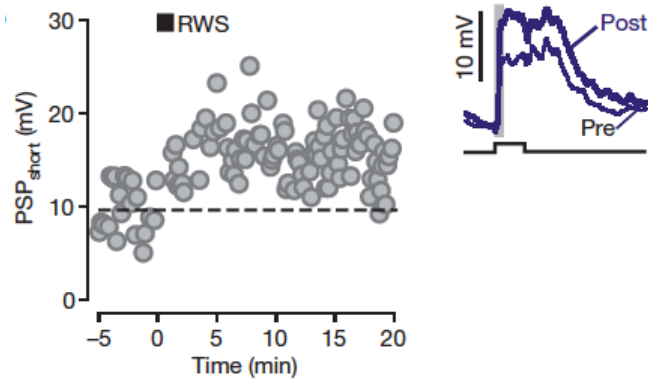
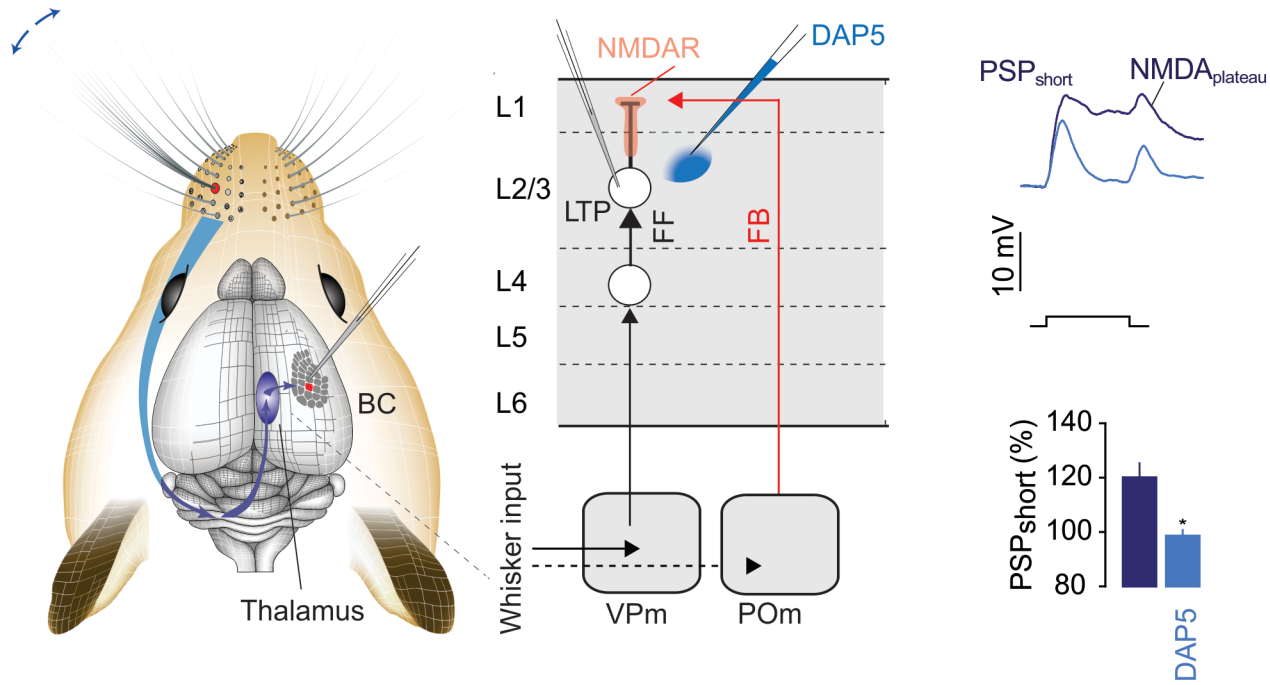
- 1) Gating of plasticity by neuromodulators that code for the reward prediction error, e.g. DA (Bao et al., 2001; Yagishita et al., 2014) or ACh (Kilgard & Merzenich, 1998)
- 2) Gating of plasticity by feedback connections that can inform about the selected action (Gambino et al., 2014).



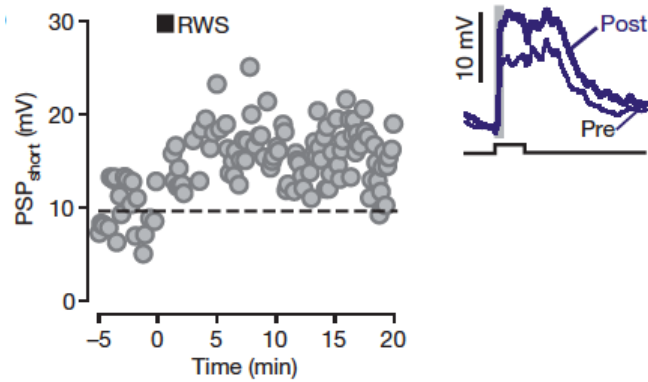
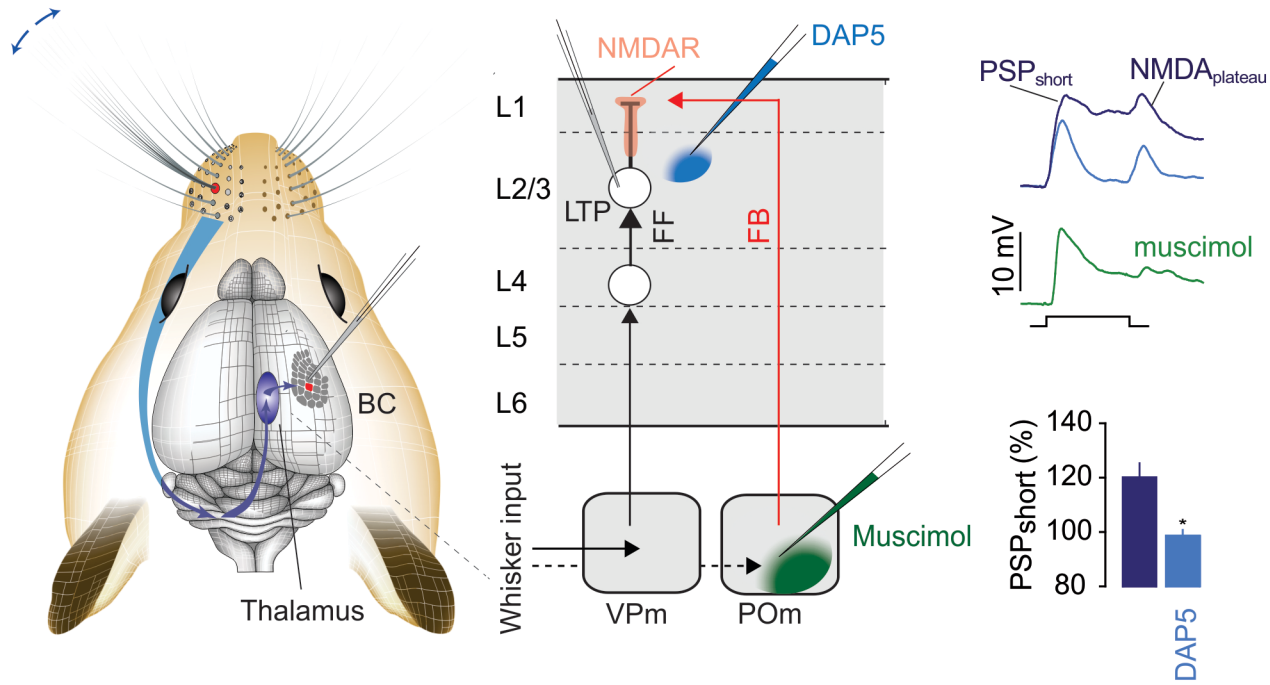


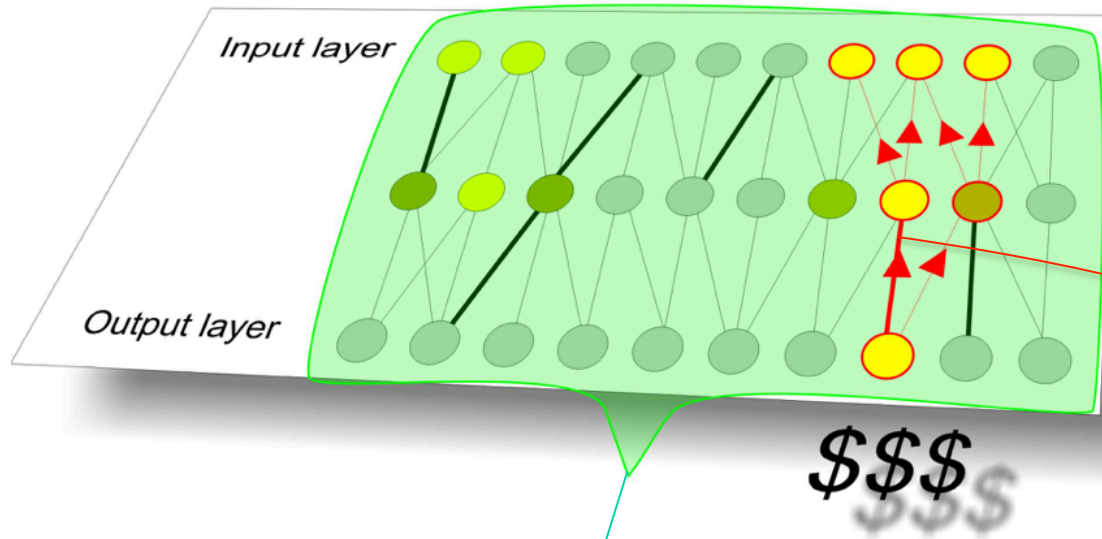


Gambino, Pages, Kehayas, Baptista, Tatti, Carleton & Holtmaat, Nature (2014)



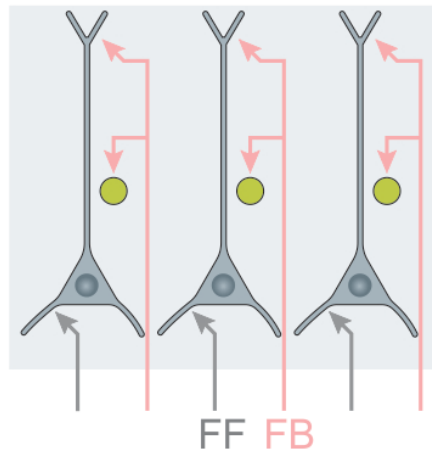
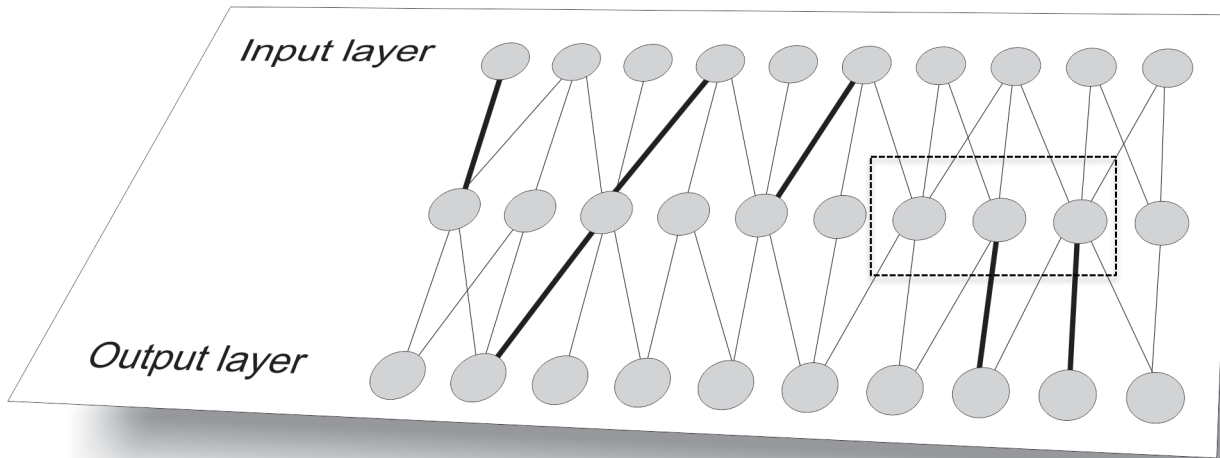


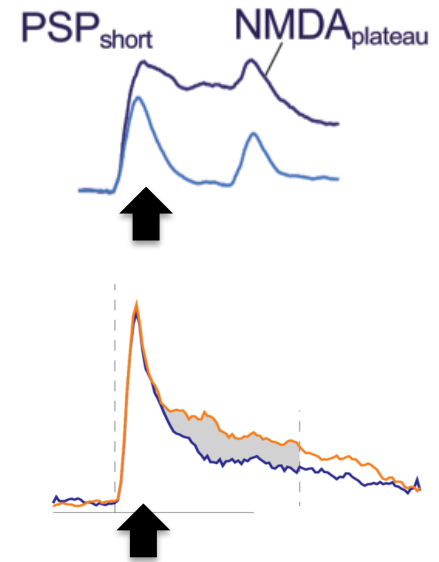
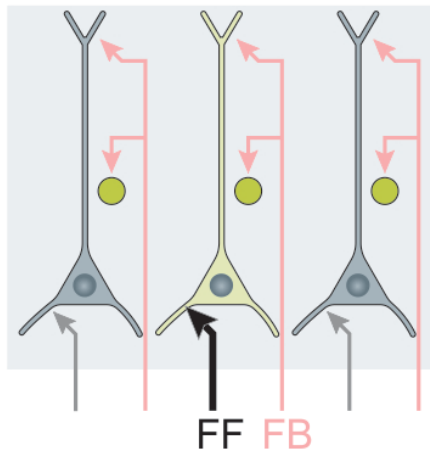
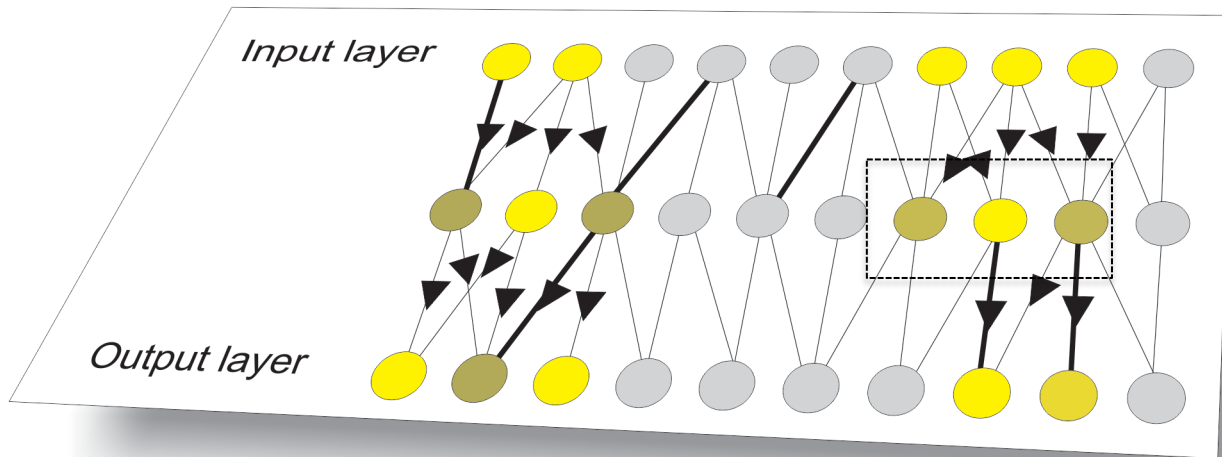


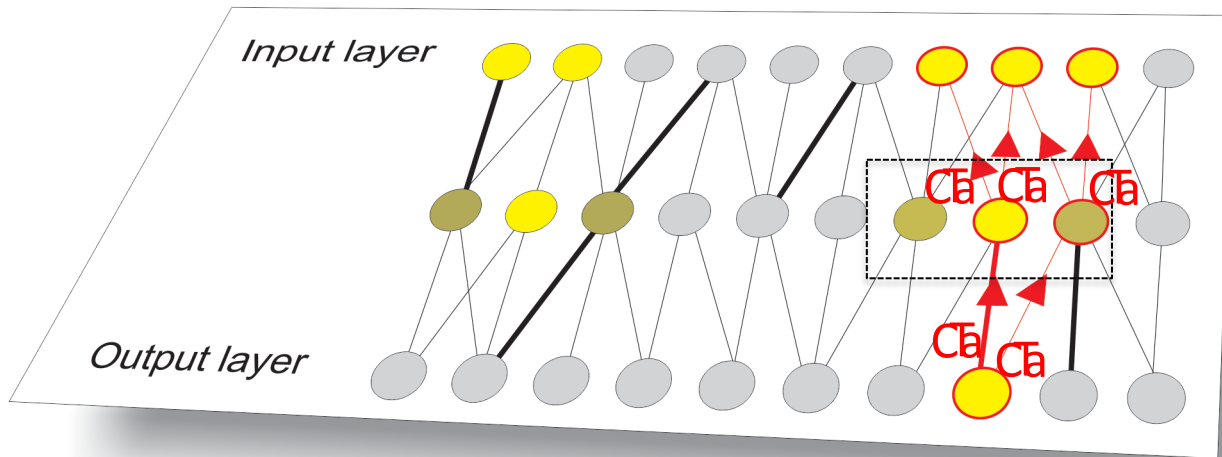


What is needed:

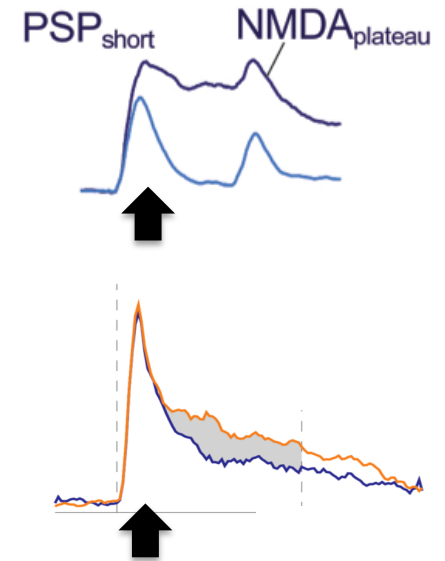
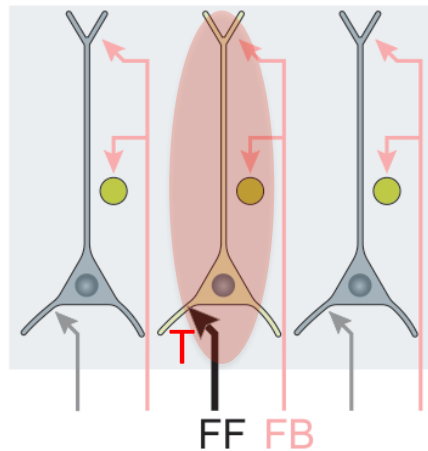
- 1) Gating of plasticity by neuromodulators that code for the reward prediction error, e.g. DA (Bao et al., 2001; Yagishita et al., 2014) or ACh (Kilgard & Merzenich, 1998)
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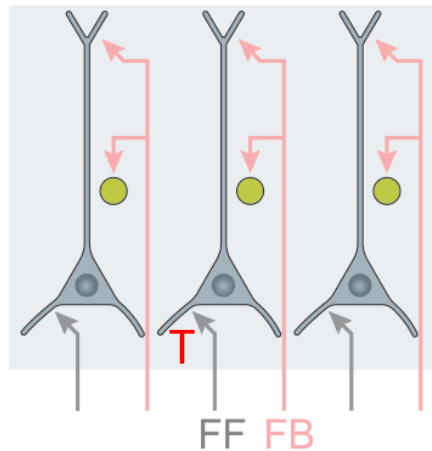
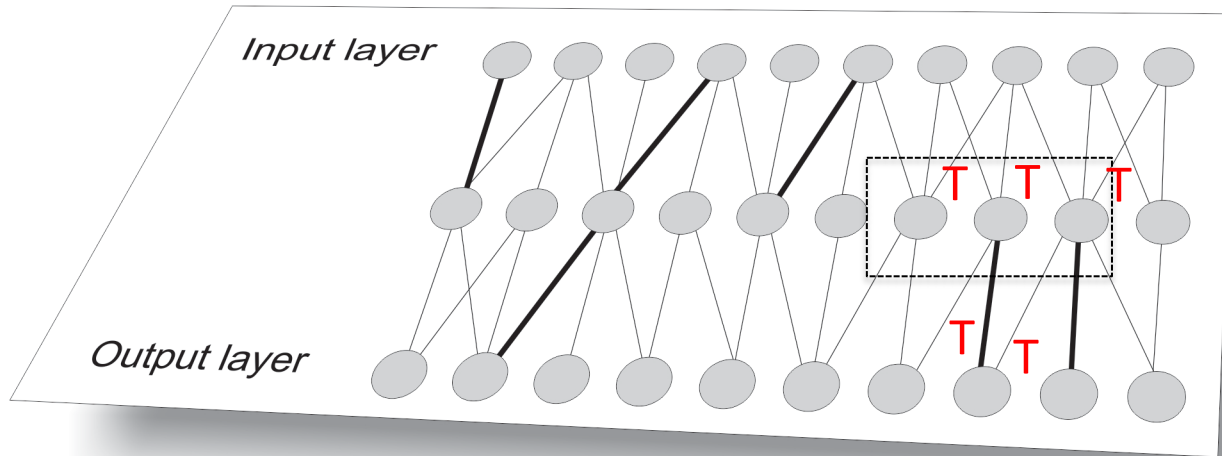


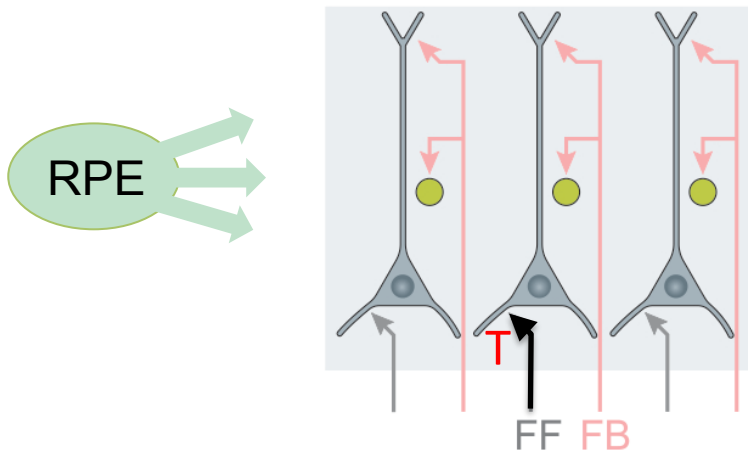
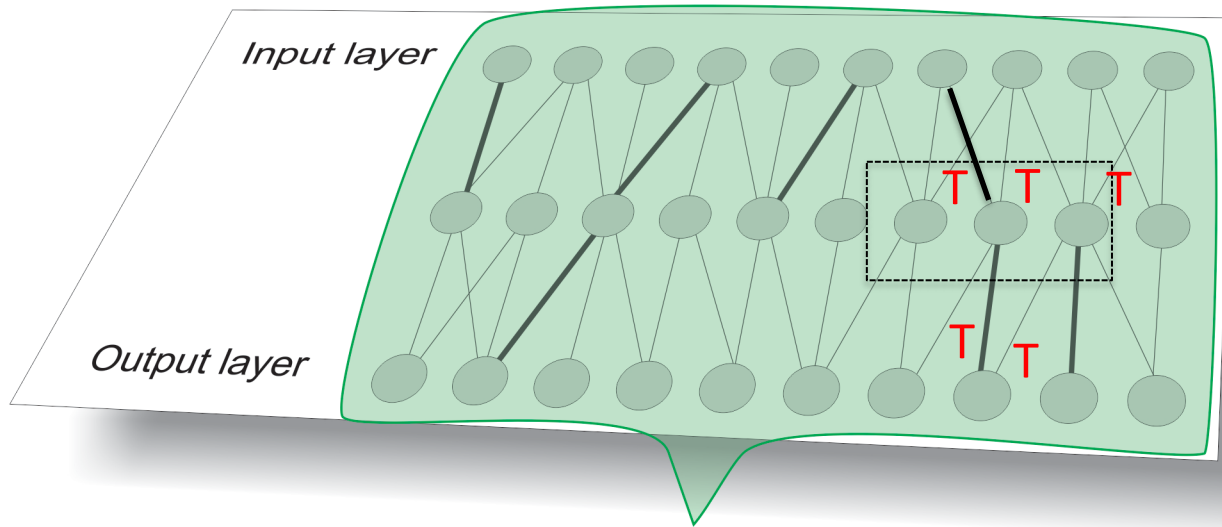


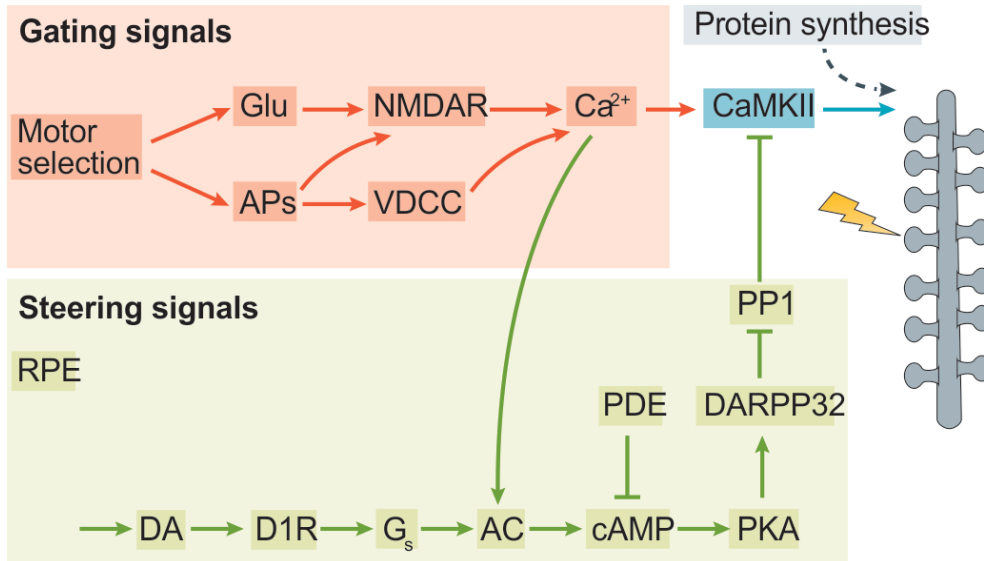
QX



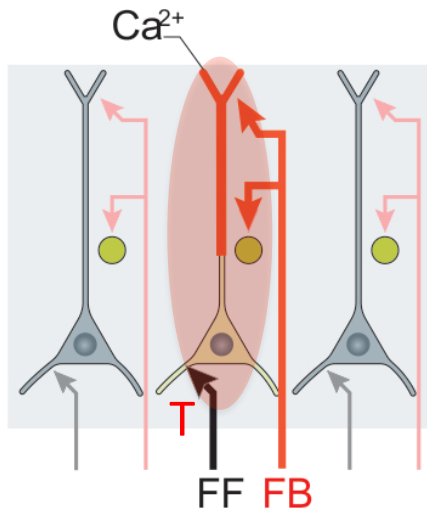




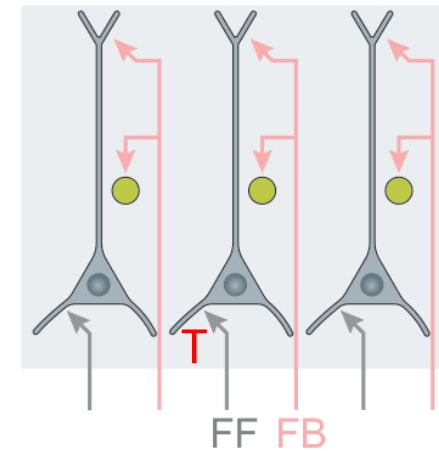




## 1. Eligibility



## 2. RPE





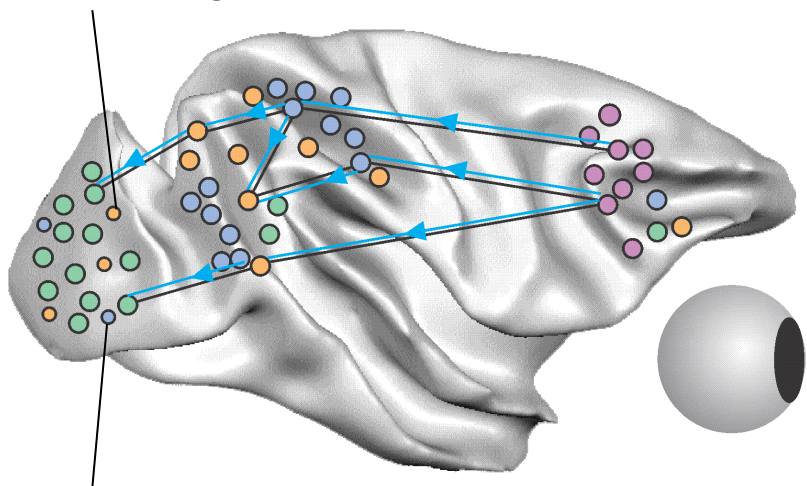
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Contour grouping: layers and higher areas

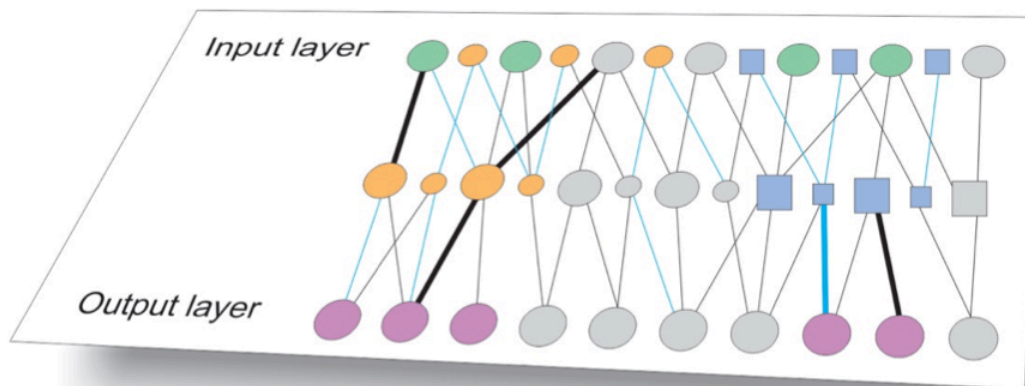
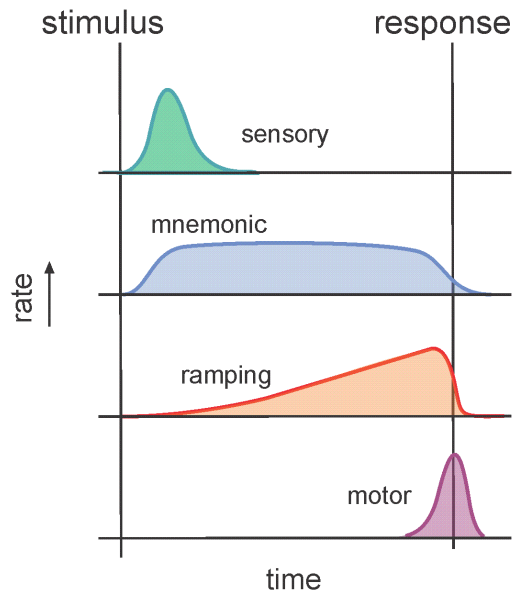
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**The neurobiology of guiding synaptic plasticity**

Selection signals (attention)



Working memory



● Recurrent activity network

● Plasticity network (credit assignment)



# Conclusions

- 1) Contour grouping is associated with the labeling of contour elements with enhanced neuronal activity
- 2) This labeling signal (selective attention) enables plasticity – making some connections sensitive to the reward prediction error
- 3) The conjoint influence of attention and reward on plasticity allows the implementation of error backpropagation in a biologically plausible manner
- 4) These considerations make deep learning (even more) relevant for understanding of learning in the brain

Victor Lamme  
Henk Spekrijse



Paul Khayat  
Arezoo Pooresmaeili  
Jasper Poort



Jaldert Rombouts  
Sander Bohte  
Florian Raudies  
Heiko Neumann (Ulm)  
Lawrence Watling  
Arjen van Ooyen



Anthony Holtmaat



Thank you

