

Sniffing: A master clock for orofacial rhythms?

David Kleinfeld

16 June 2015

KITP - Deconstructing the sense of smell



Team Neurophysics

(<http://neurophysics.ucsd.edu/>)

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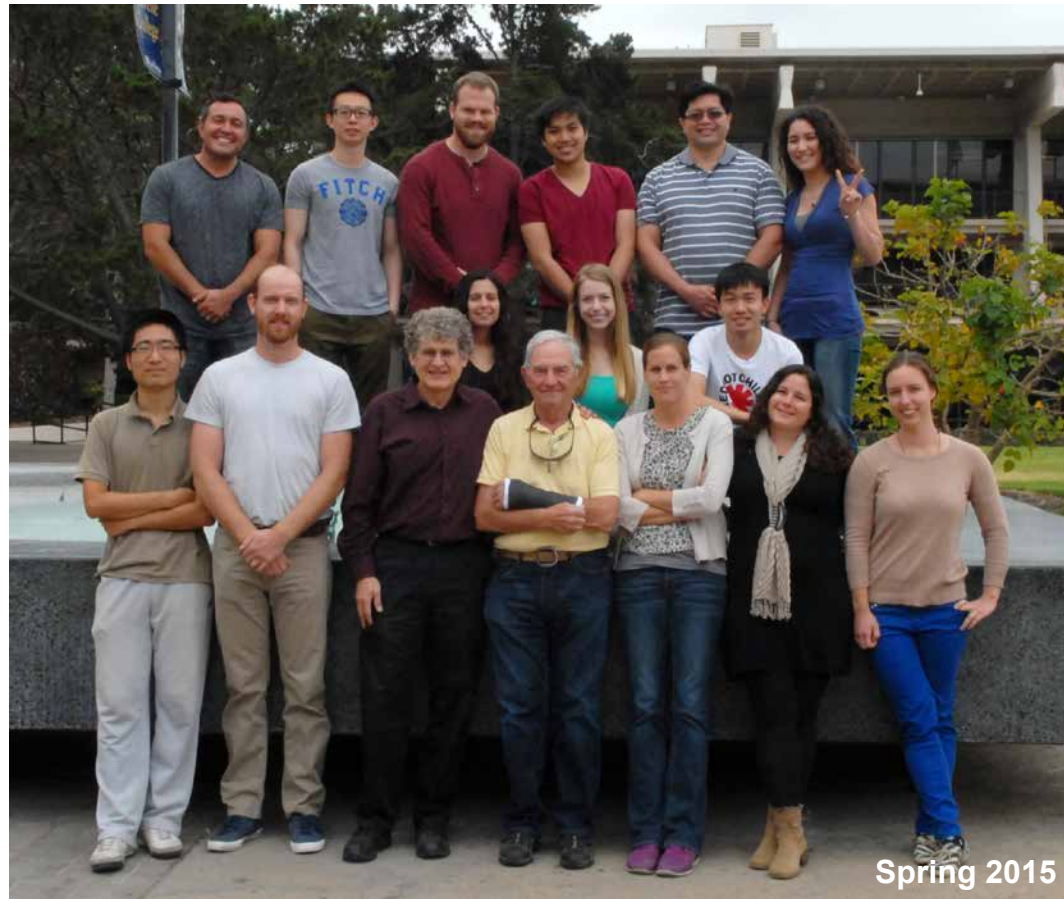
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 D. W. Matthews
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 P. S. Tsai

Postdocs

K. F. Ahrens
 P. Blinder
 P. J. Drew
 M. S. Fee
 E. Grannon
 R. Liu
 C. Matéo
 L. Mellander
 C. Ruehlmann
 C. B. Schaffer
 A. Y. Shih
 R. A. Stepnoski
 S. Venkatachalam

Project scientists

P. M. Knutsen
 A. Muller
 Q.-T. Nguyen
 J. C. Prechtl
 P. S. Tsai
 R. Wessel



Senior collaborators

E. Ahissar
 K. Akassoglou
 M. Anderson
 D. K. Berg
 G. E. Blonder
 P. D. Brodfueher
 T. H. Bulloch
 G. Cauwenberghs
 H. J. Chiel
 L. B. Cohen
 K. R. Delaney
 W. Denk
M. Deschênes
 A. Devor
 M. E. Diamond
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 Y. Freund
 B. Friedman
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 A. Gelperin
 E. Golanov
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 O. Griesbeck
 A. Groisman
 S. Haidarliu
 F. Han
 F. Helmchen
 P. E. Hockberger

T. E. Hughes
 A. I. Ifarraguerri
 S. Iyengar
 Y. Jin
 R. S. Johnson
 Z. Kam
 H. J. Karten
 J. P. Kaufhold
 W. B. Kristan
 H. Levine
 V. Lev-Ram
 A. Linninger
 P. D. Lyden
 P. P. Mitra
 A. L. Obaid
 B. Pesaran
 R. C. Reid
 B. M. Salzberg
 R. M. Shapley
 B. I. Shraiman
 P. A. Slesinger
 H. Sompolinsky
 J. A. Squier
 H. Suhl
 K. Svoboda
 D. W. Tank
 P. W. Taylor
 R. Y. Tsien
F. Wang
 J. Waters
 B. A. Williams
 R. Yuste
 H. P. Zeigler

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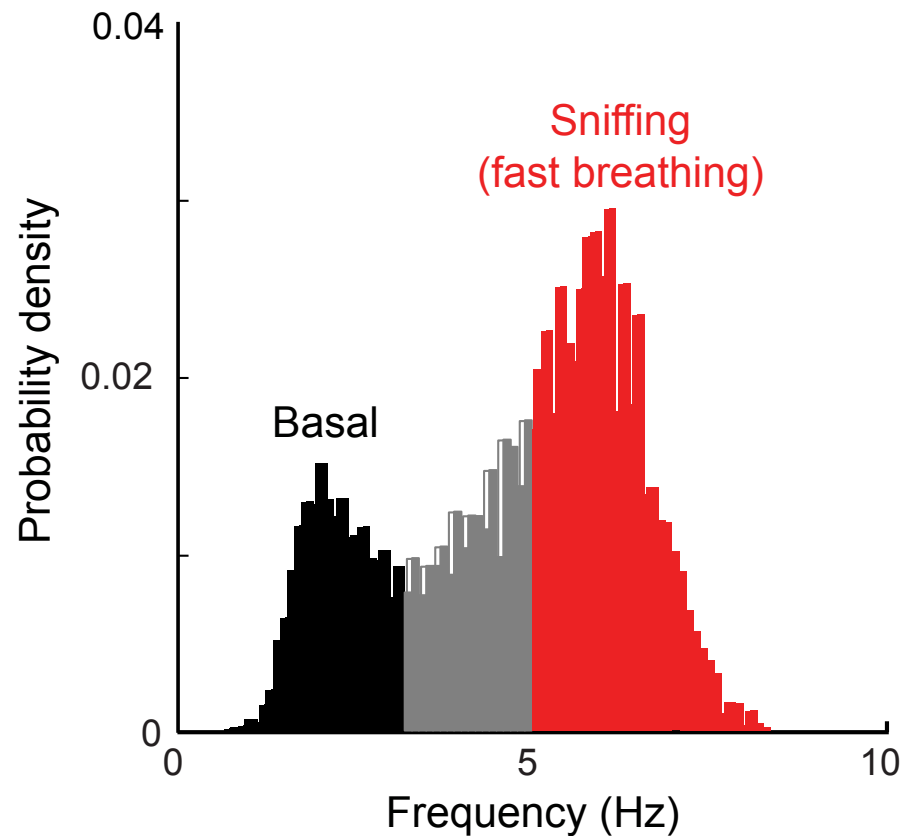
BEBRF, HFSP, NIH (Director's Pioneer Award, NCRR,
 NIA / CNCRS, NIBIB / BRP, NIDA, NIDA / CEBRA, NIDCD,
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Sniffing: A master clock for orofacial rhythms?

- **Coordination of orofacial actions during exploration**
- **Brainstem circuits for control of rapid vibrissa motion**
- **Circuitry for coordination of *all* orofacial motor actions**

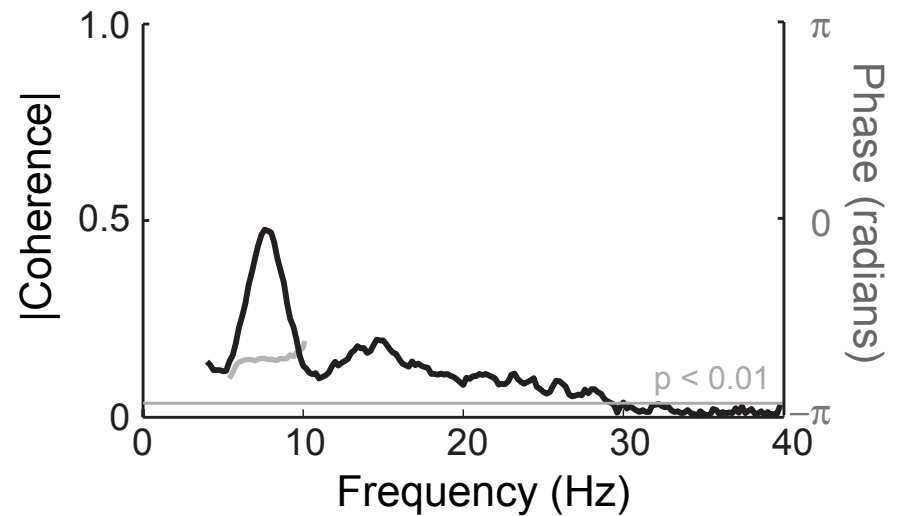
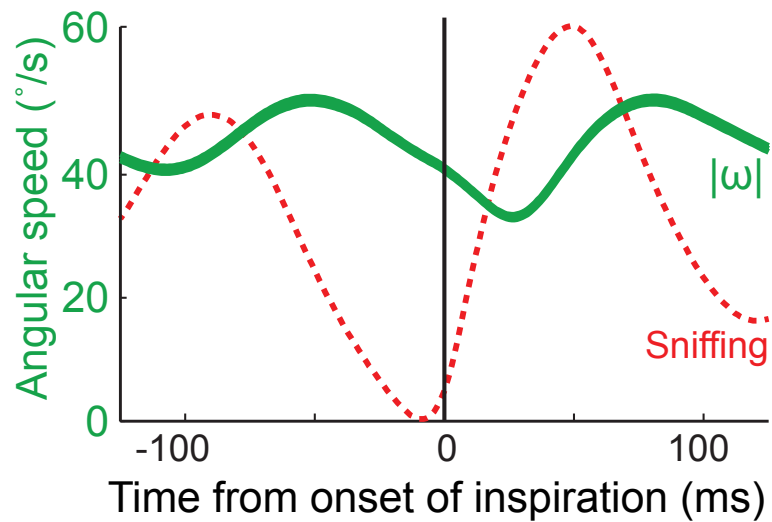
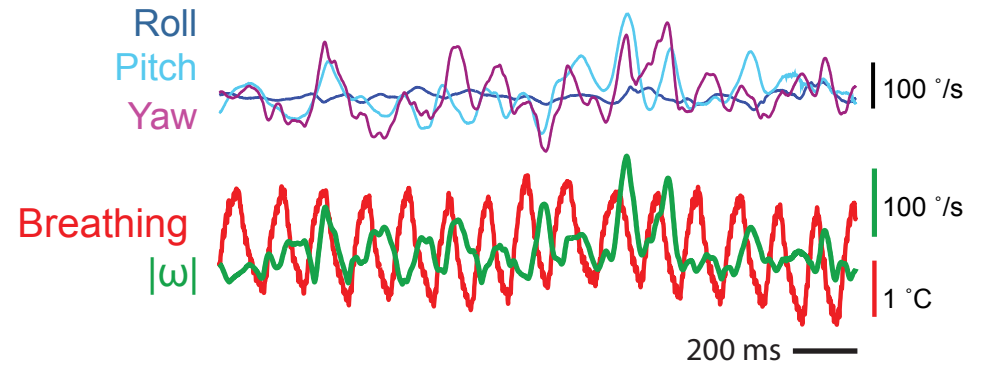
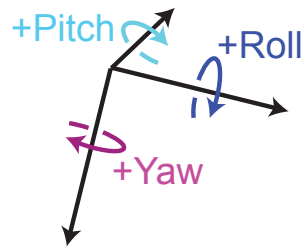
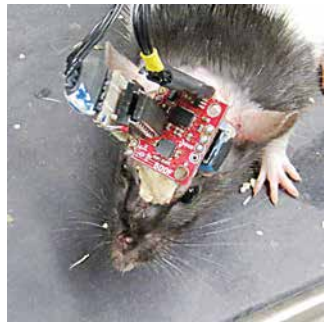


Following Welker's behavioral study (1964), what orofacial actions are linked to sniffing?



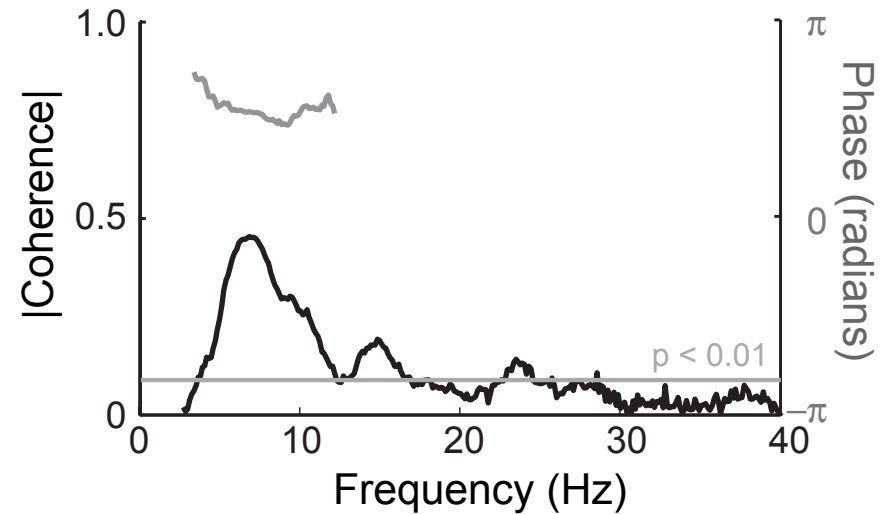
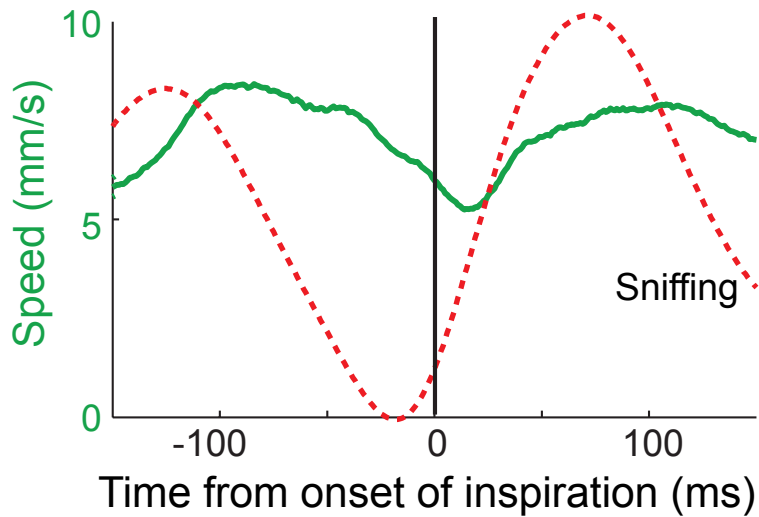
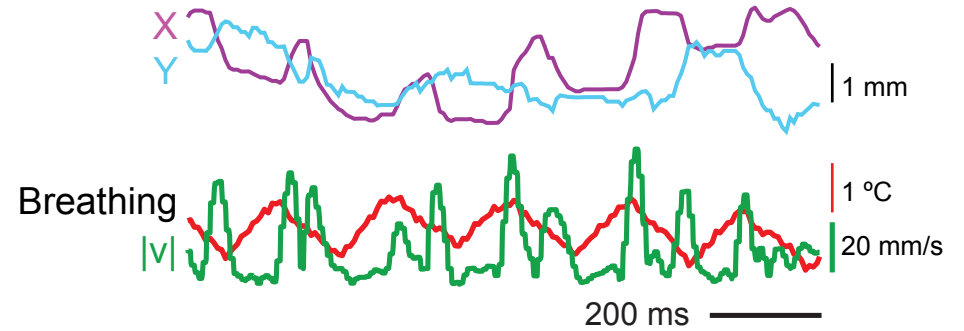
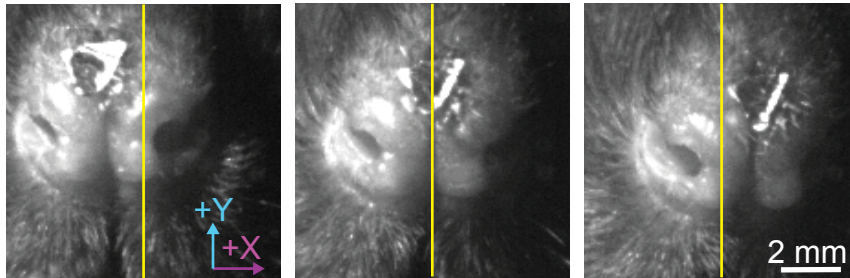


Coordination of head bobbing with sniffing



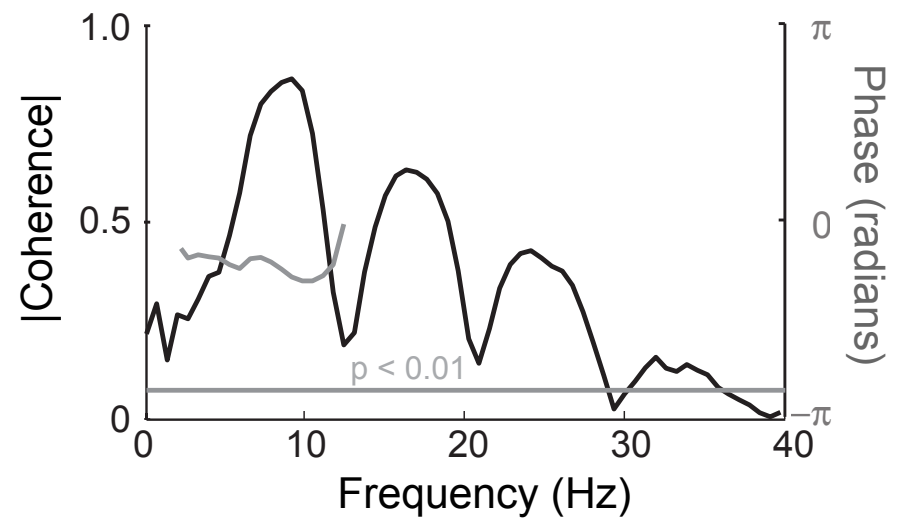
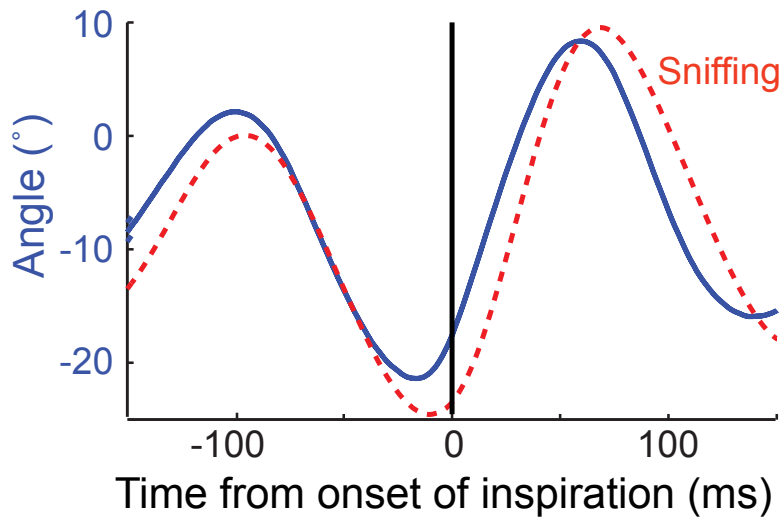
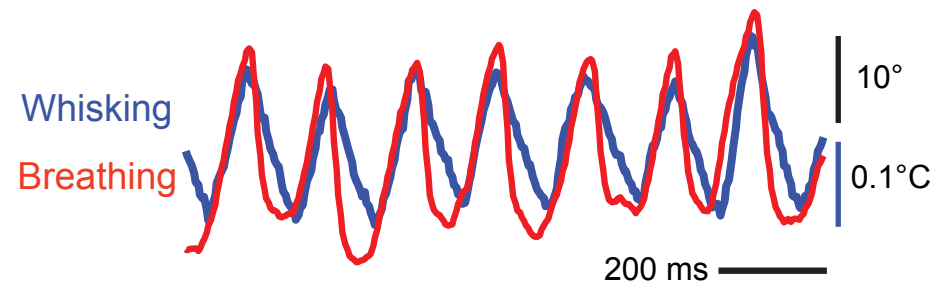
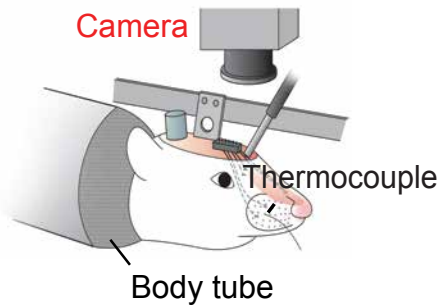
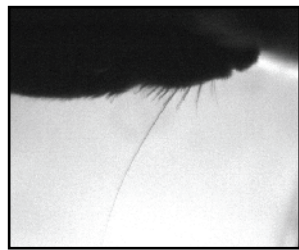


Coordination of nose wiggling with sniffing

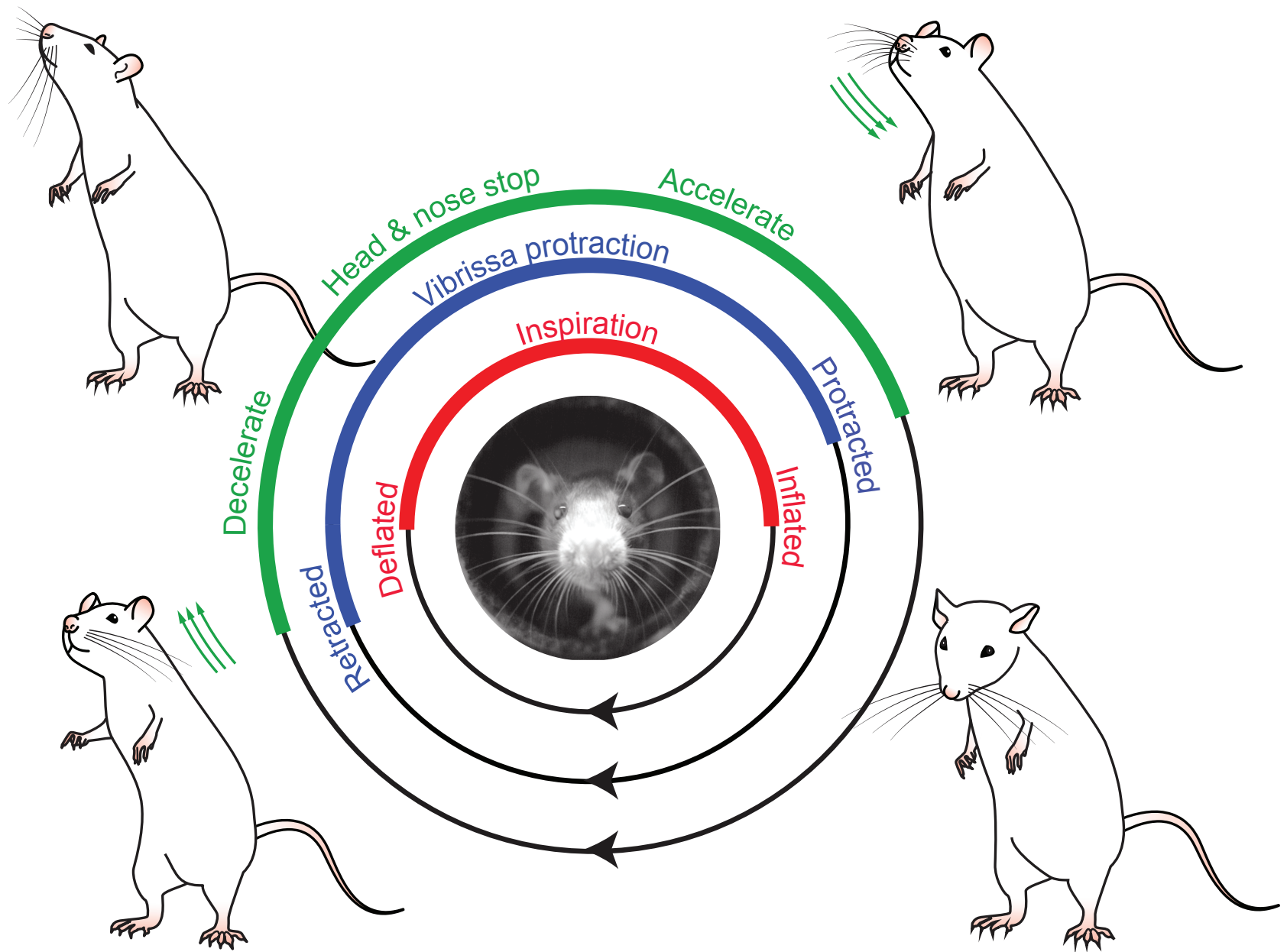




Coordination of whisking with sniffing



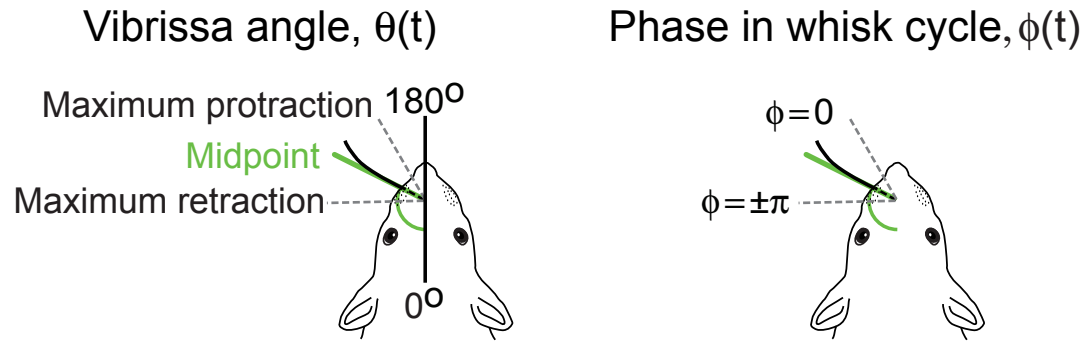
The cycle of exploratory orofacial actions linked to sniffing



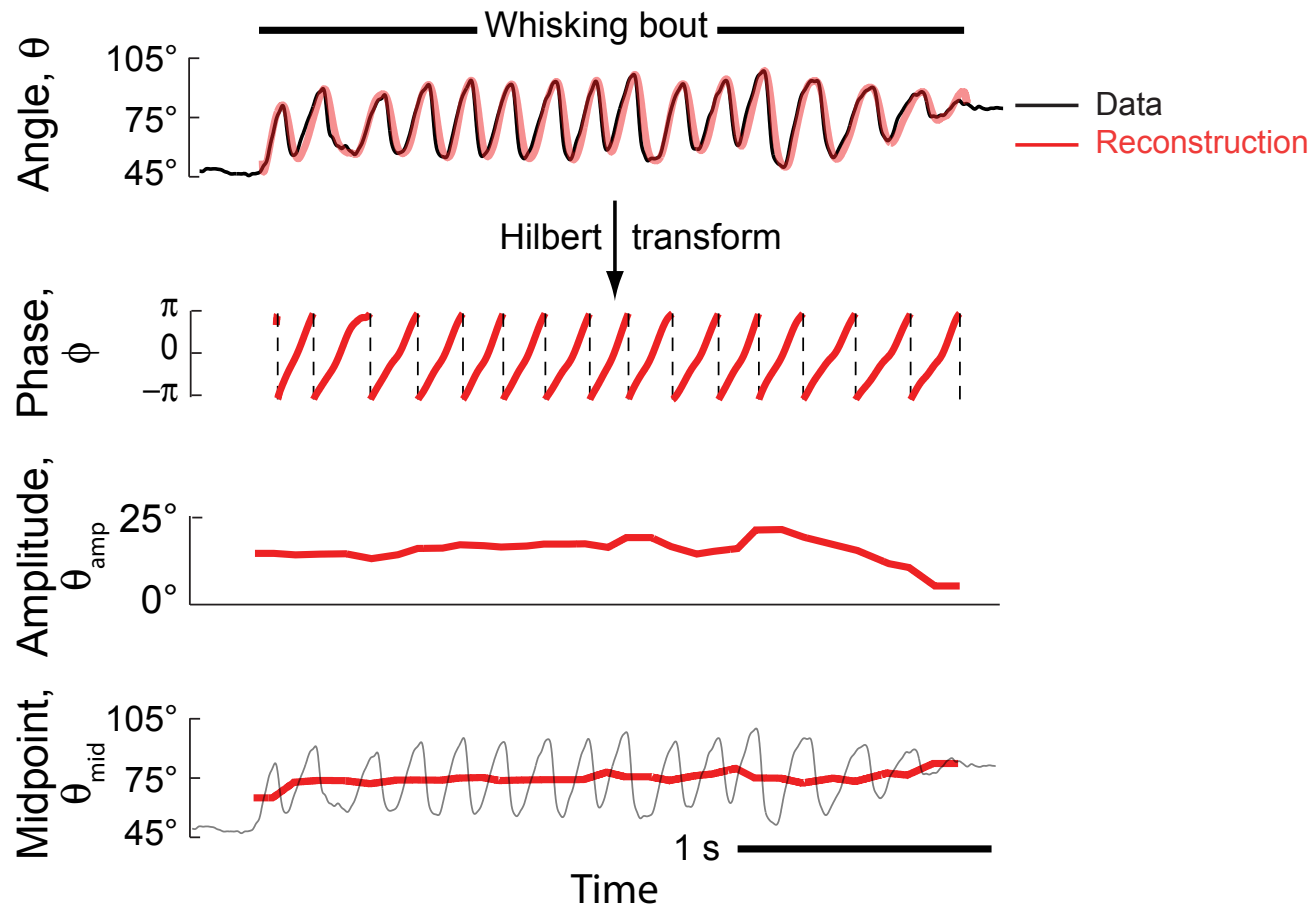
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Angular versus phase coordinates for whisking



Decomposition of the whisking signal into phase, amplitude and midpoint



Lesson

Whisking is generated by a control signal of the form

$$\theta(t) = \theta_{\text{amplitude}}(t) \cdot \cos \phi(t) + \theta_{\text{midpoint}}(t)$$

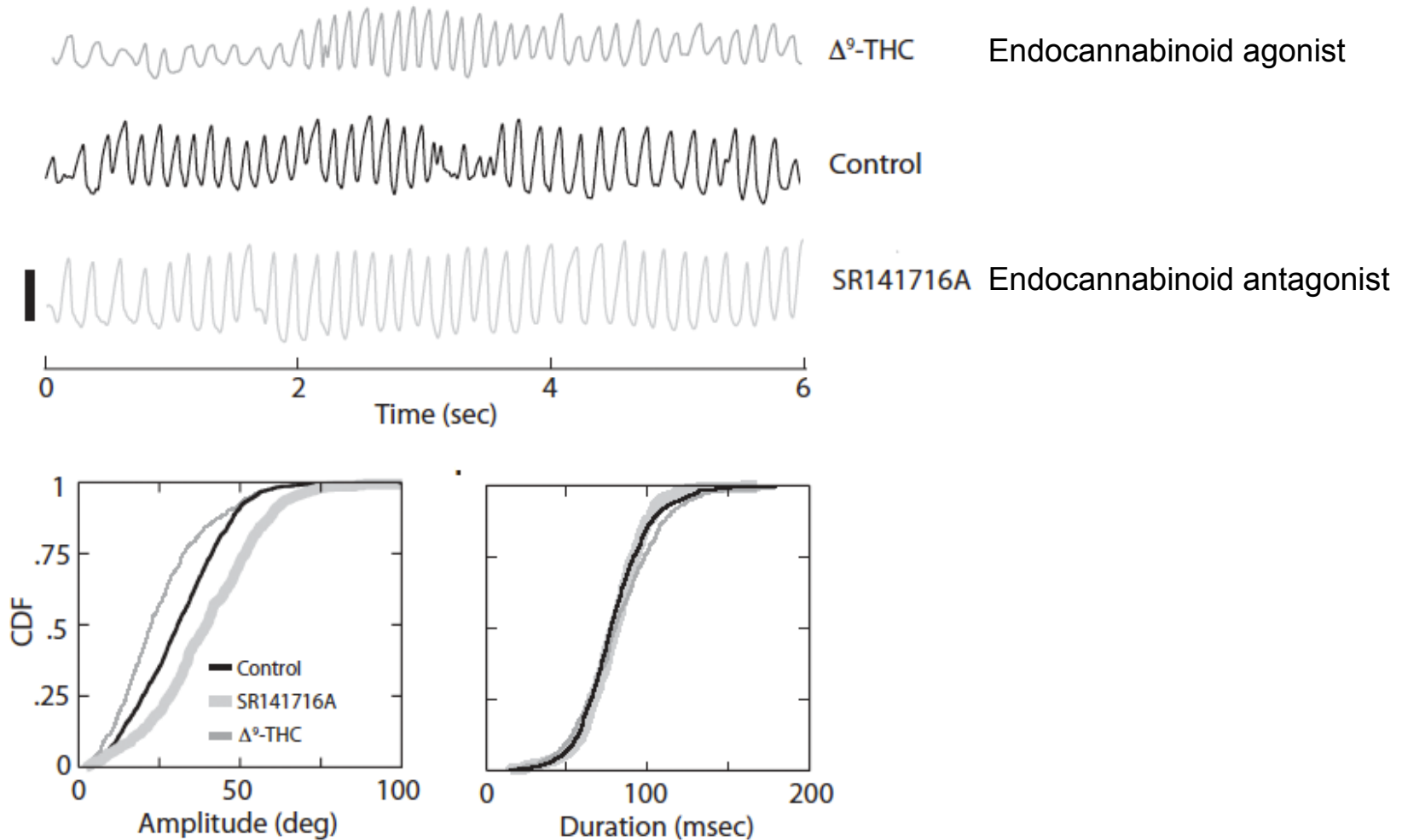
↑ ↑ ↑
slow fast slow

with $d\phi(t)/dt = 2\pi f_{\text{whisk}}$ for rhythmic whisking

Question

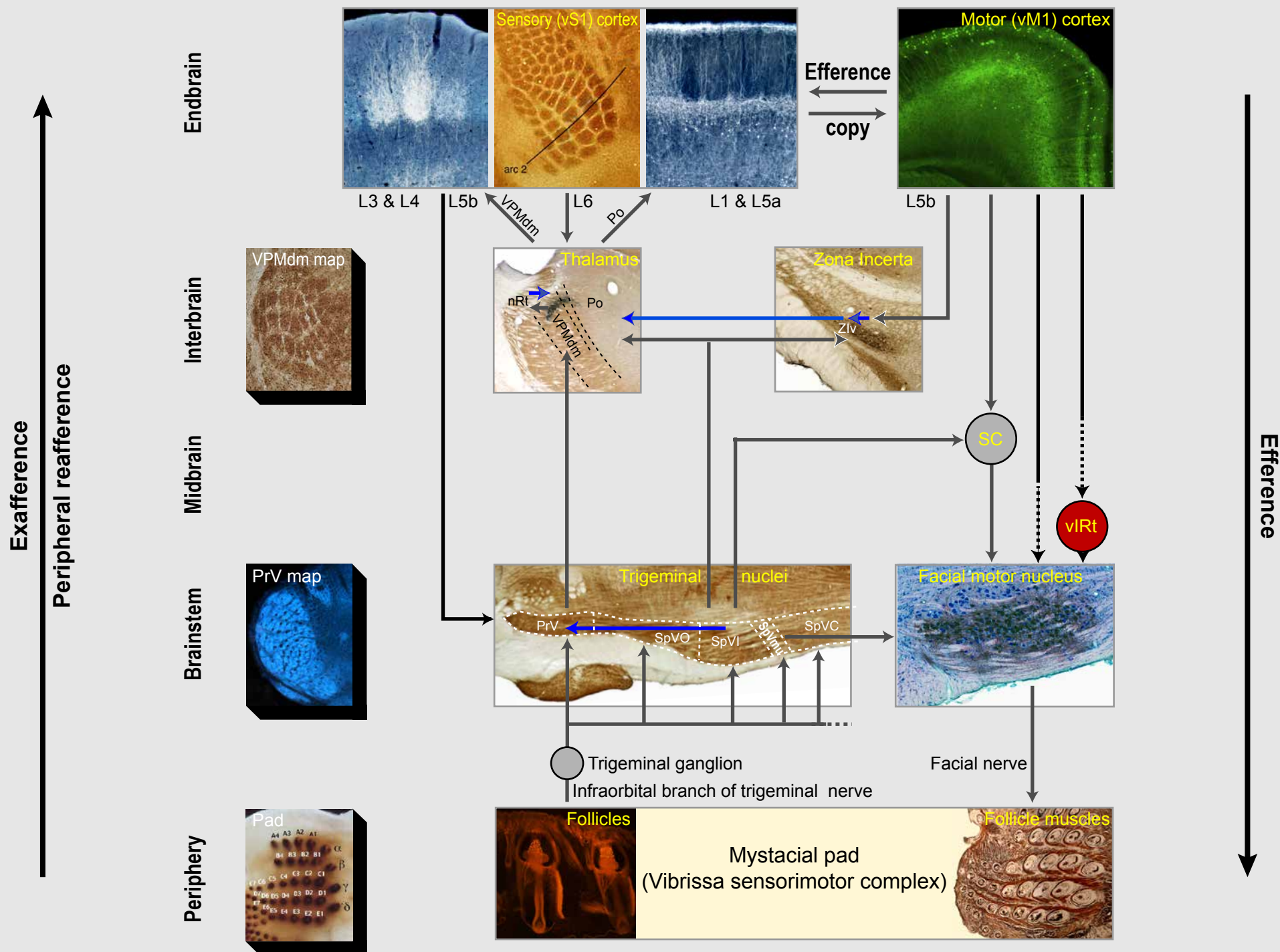
Where, if anywhere, is the locus for generation of the fast signal?

Pharmacological decoupling of the control for whisking amplitude and frequency (Pietr, Knutsen, Shore, Ahissar & Vogel 2010)

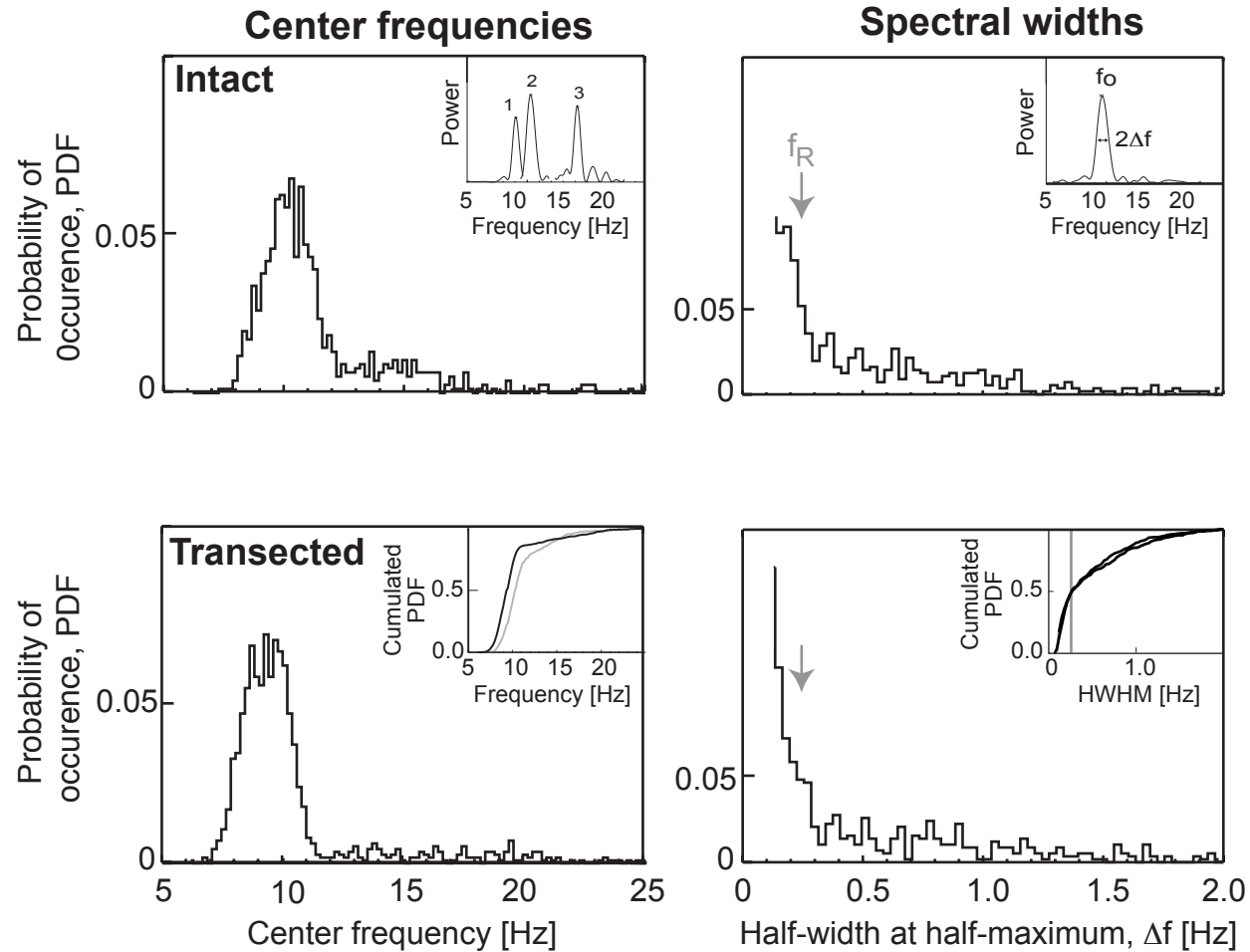


Suggests selected control of fast versus slow whisking parameters

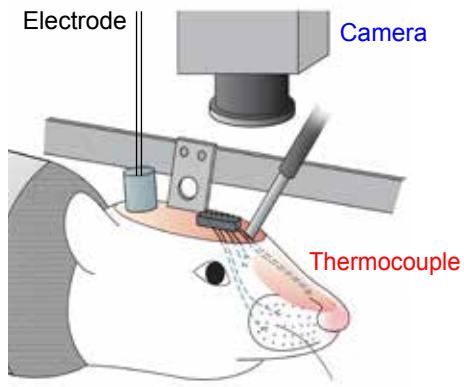
Signal flow and computing in sensorimotor loops of the vibrissa system



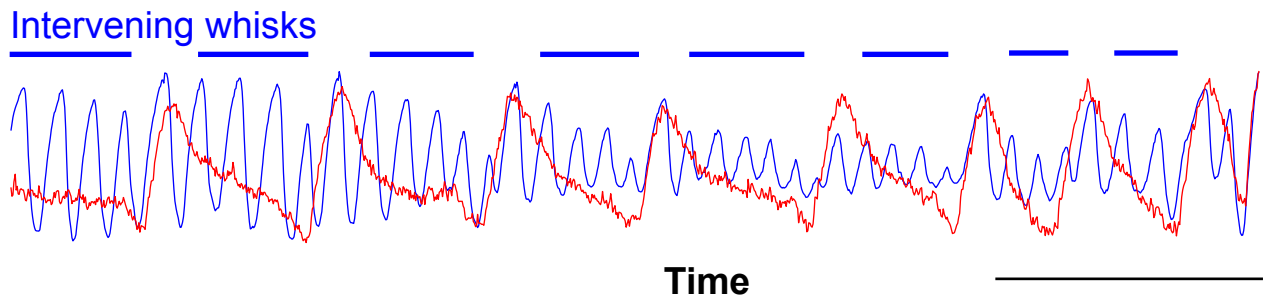
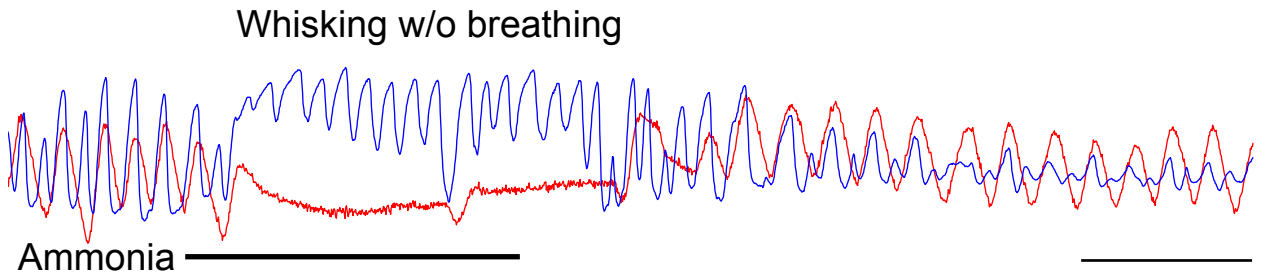
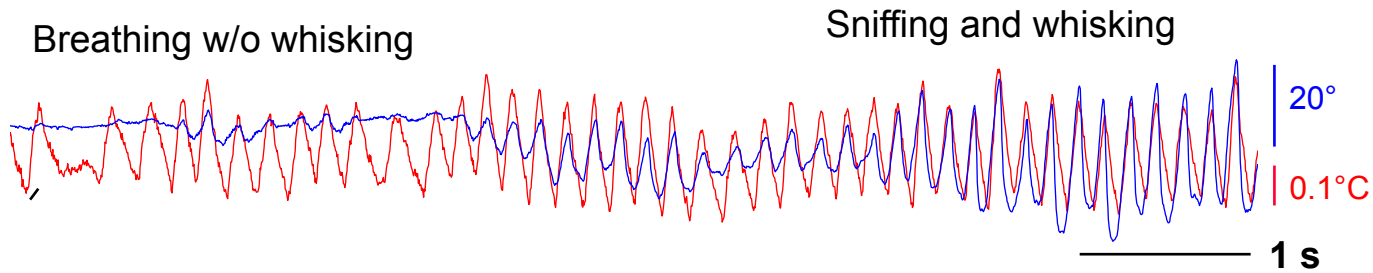
Whisking occurs without sensory feedback



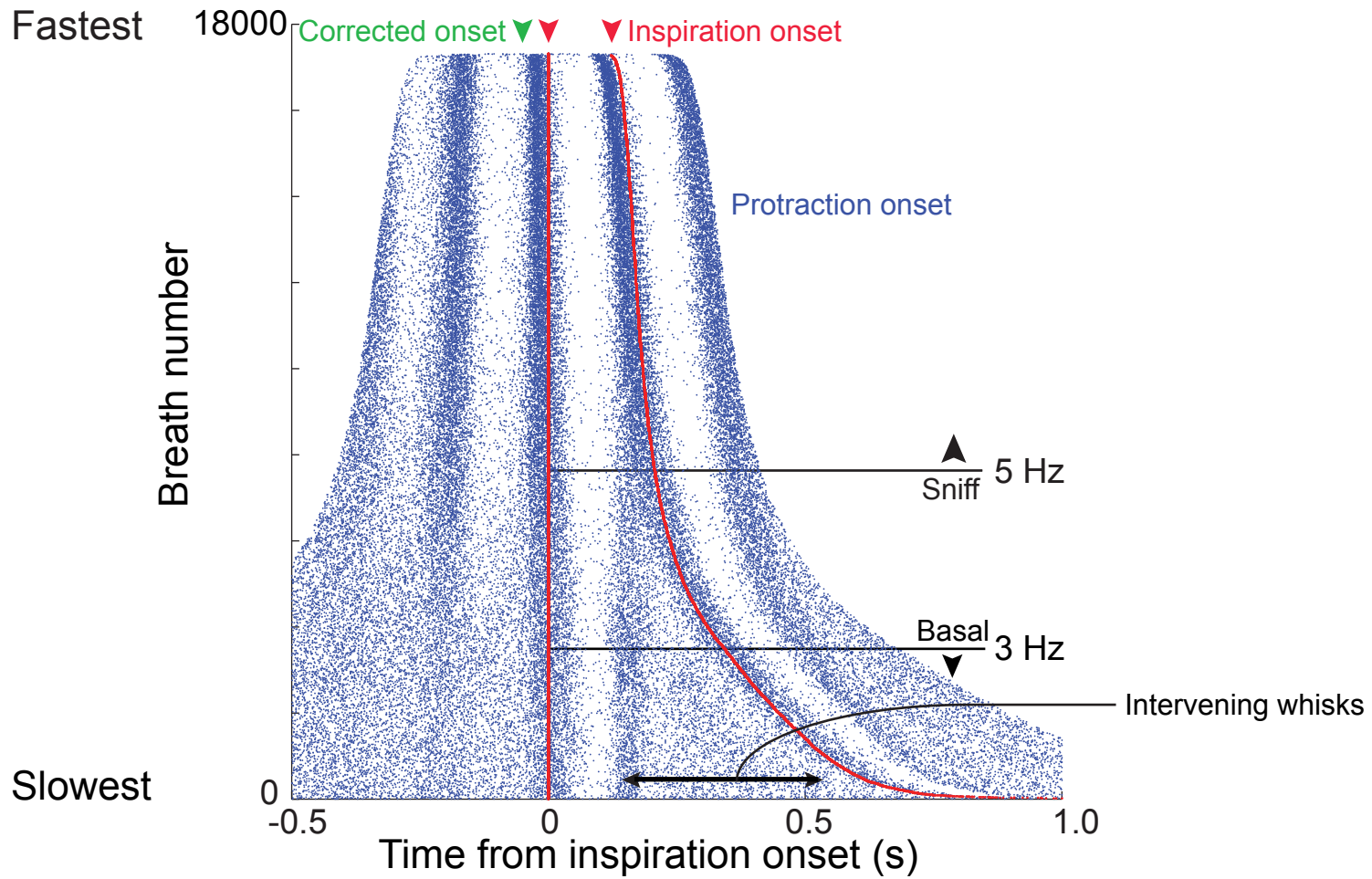
Implies presence of a CPG



Phase resetting of rhythmic **whisking** by **breathing** (sniffing & basal respiration)



Respiration resets whisking oscillations



Breathing CPG
(preBötzinger)



Reset
pulse

Whisking CPG

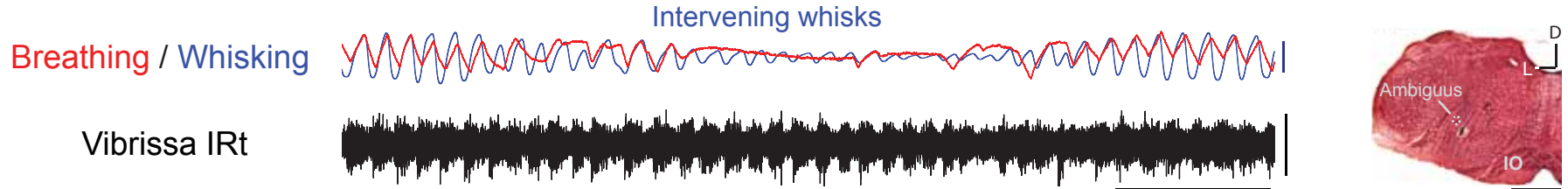
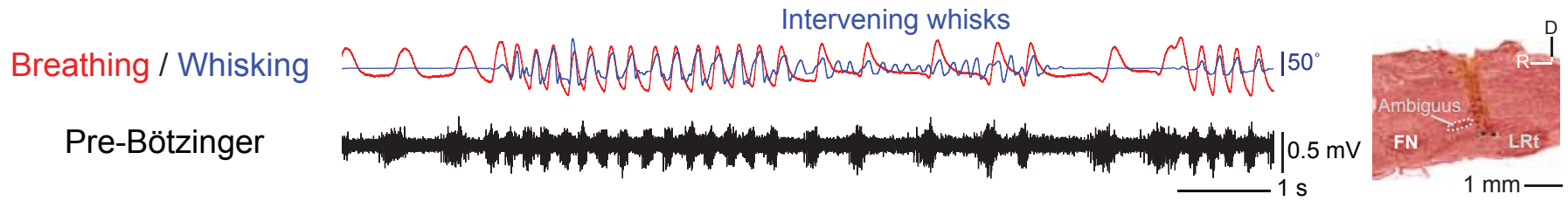


Intrinsic muscles
for whisking

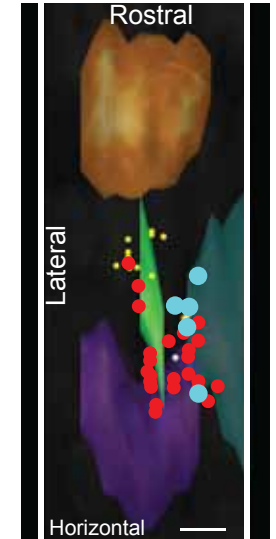
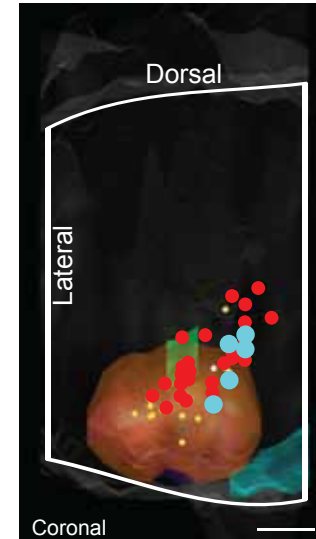
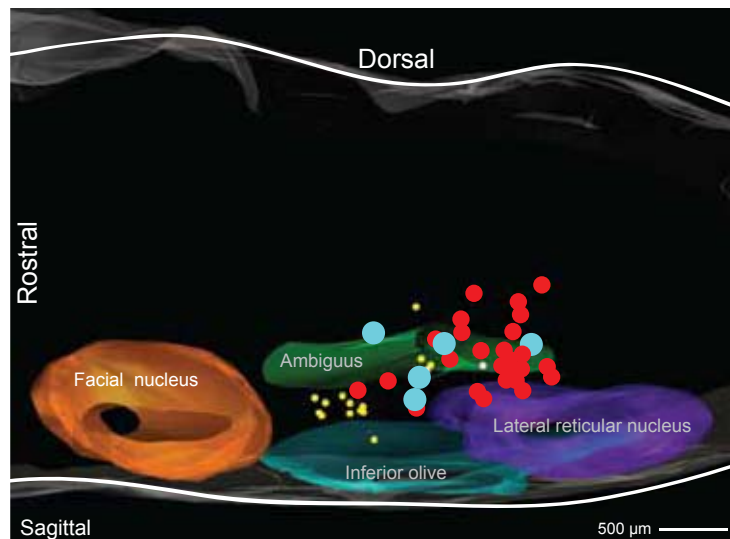
Lesson

PreBötzinger respiratory complex is involved in protraction phase of whisking pattern generation

Units in the intermediate reticular formation (IRt) that report inspiration versus protraction



- Inspiratory / protraction
- Whisking



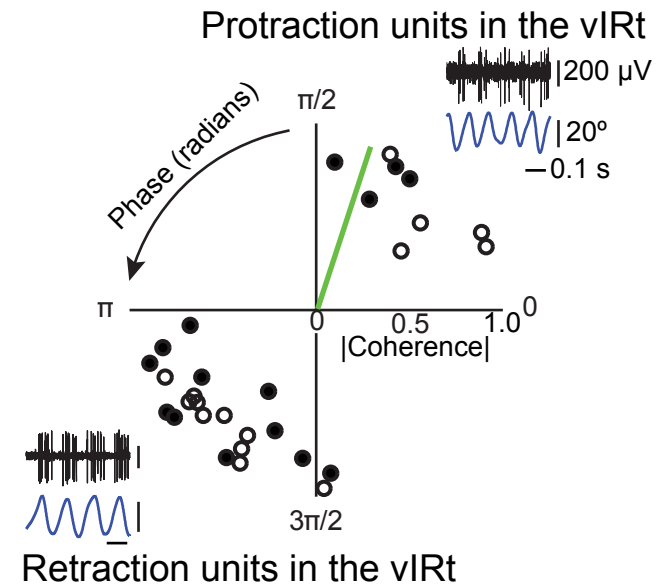
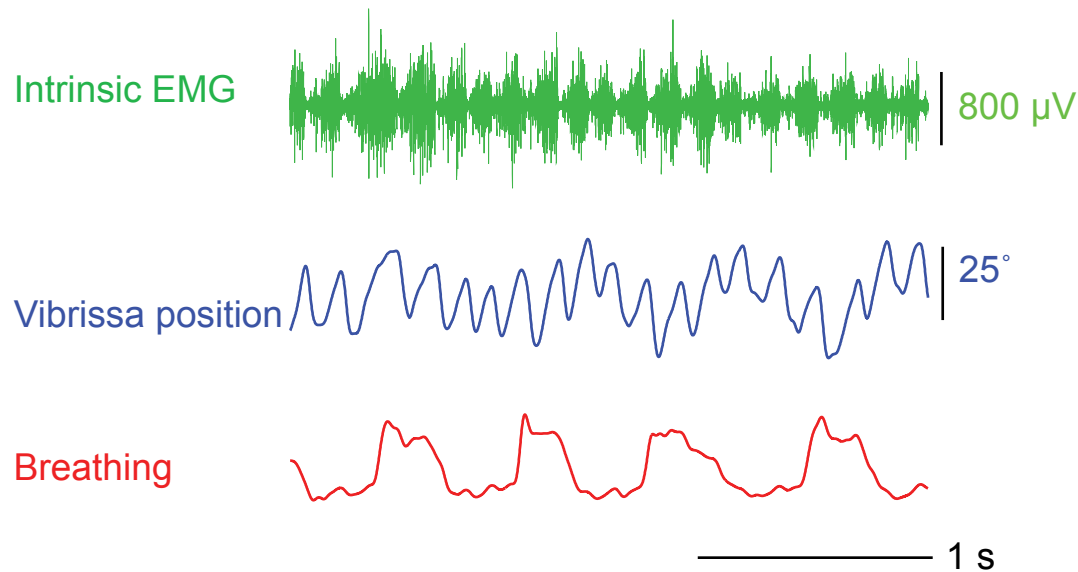
Lesson

**A newly recognized zone of neurons in the IRt formation
code rhythmic motion of the vibrissa**

Question

Are these units sufficient to drive rhythmic motion?

Kainic acid activates the vIRt, which drives facial motoneurons



Whisking CPG
(vIRt)



Intrinsic muscles
for whisking

Lesson

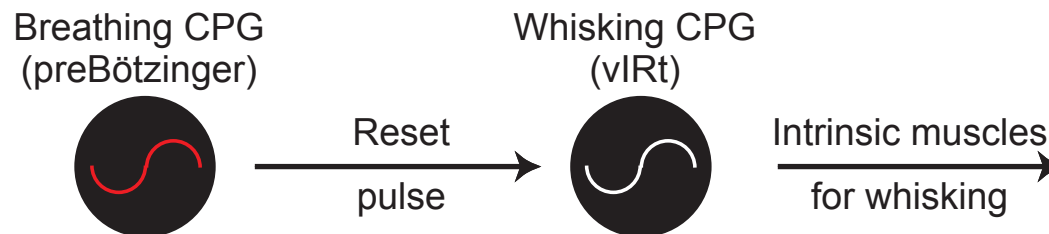
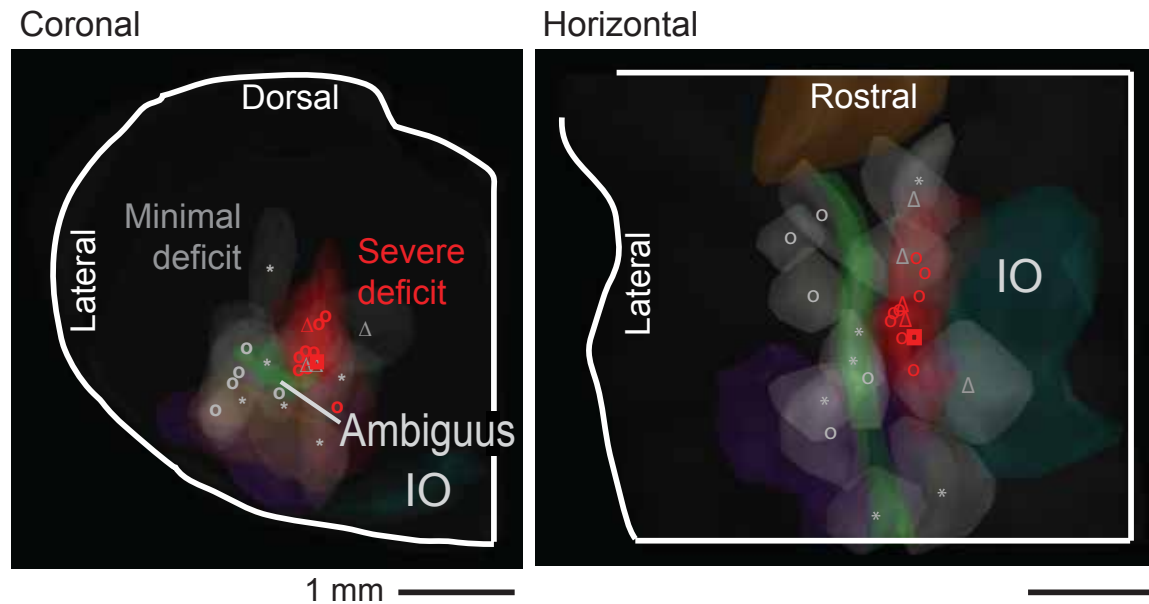
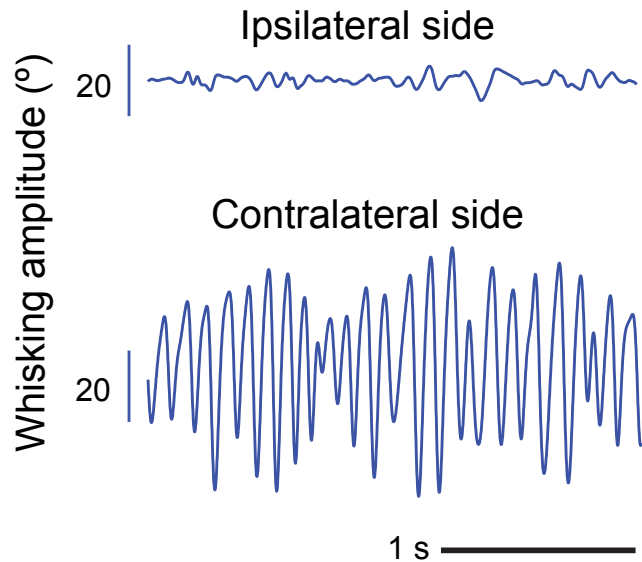
A newly recognized zone of neurons in the IRt formation can drive rhythmic motion of the vibrissa

Question

Are these units necessary to drive rhythmic motion?

Lesion of the vIRt blocks exploratory whisking

- Electrolytic
- △ Sindbis virus
- Ibotenic acid



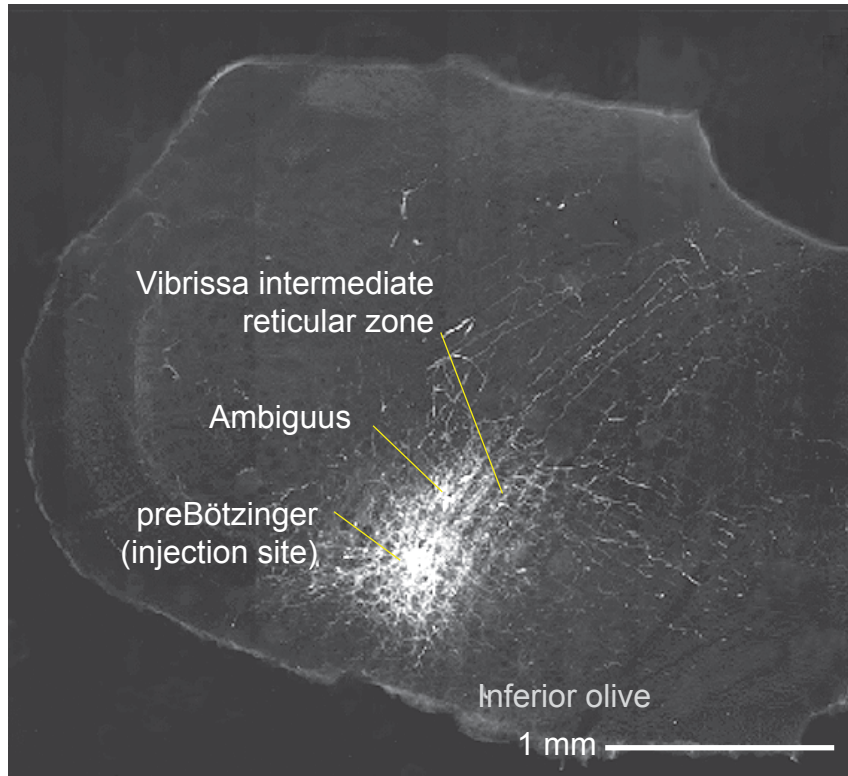
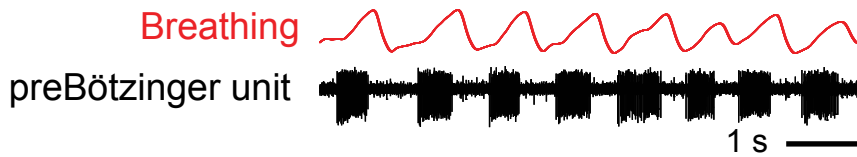
Lesson

Units in the vIRt are necessary for rhythmic motion of the vibrissae

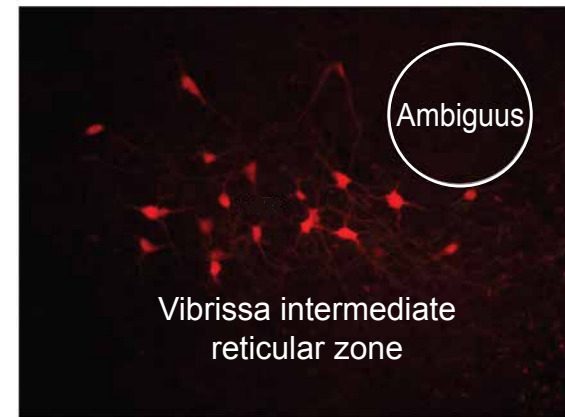
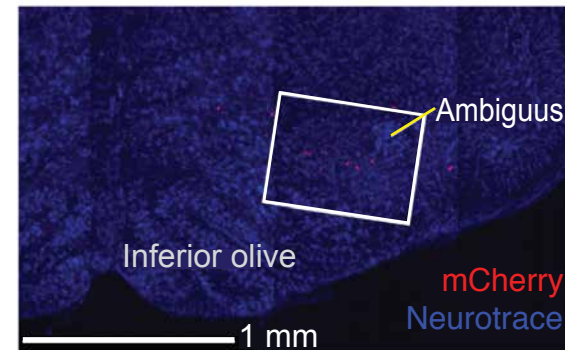
Question

Can we identify the monosynaptic connections of a minimal breathing and whisking circuit?

PreBötzingers project to the vibrissa zone of the IRT while facial motoneurons receive premotor input from the vIRT



Disynaptic retrograde labeling:
 ΔG -rabies injected into vibrissa
muscles of ChAT-RG mice



Breathing CPG
(preBötzinger)



Whisking CPG
(vIRT)



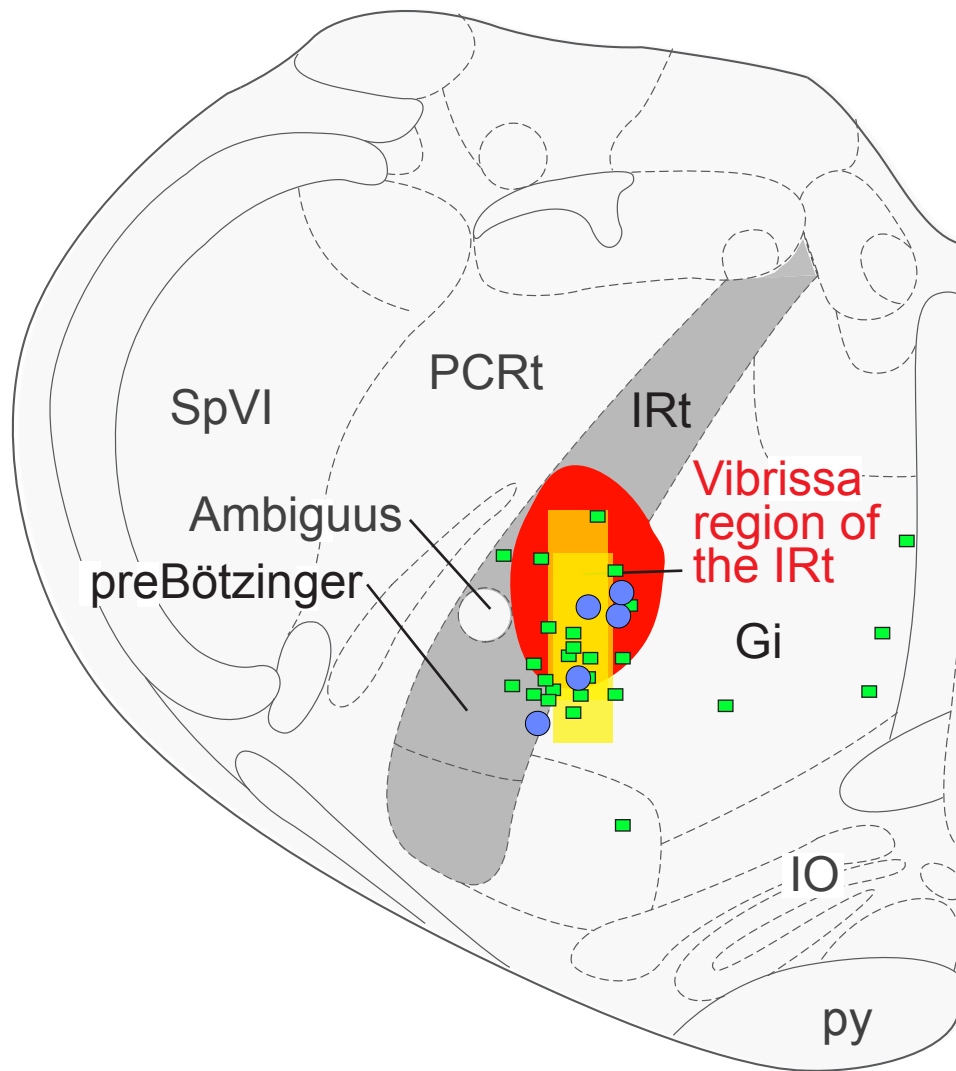
Facial motor
nucleus



Vibrissa
muscles

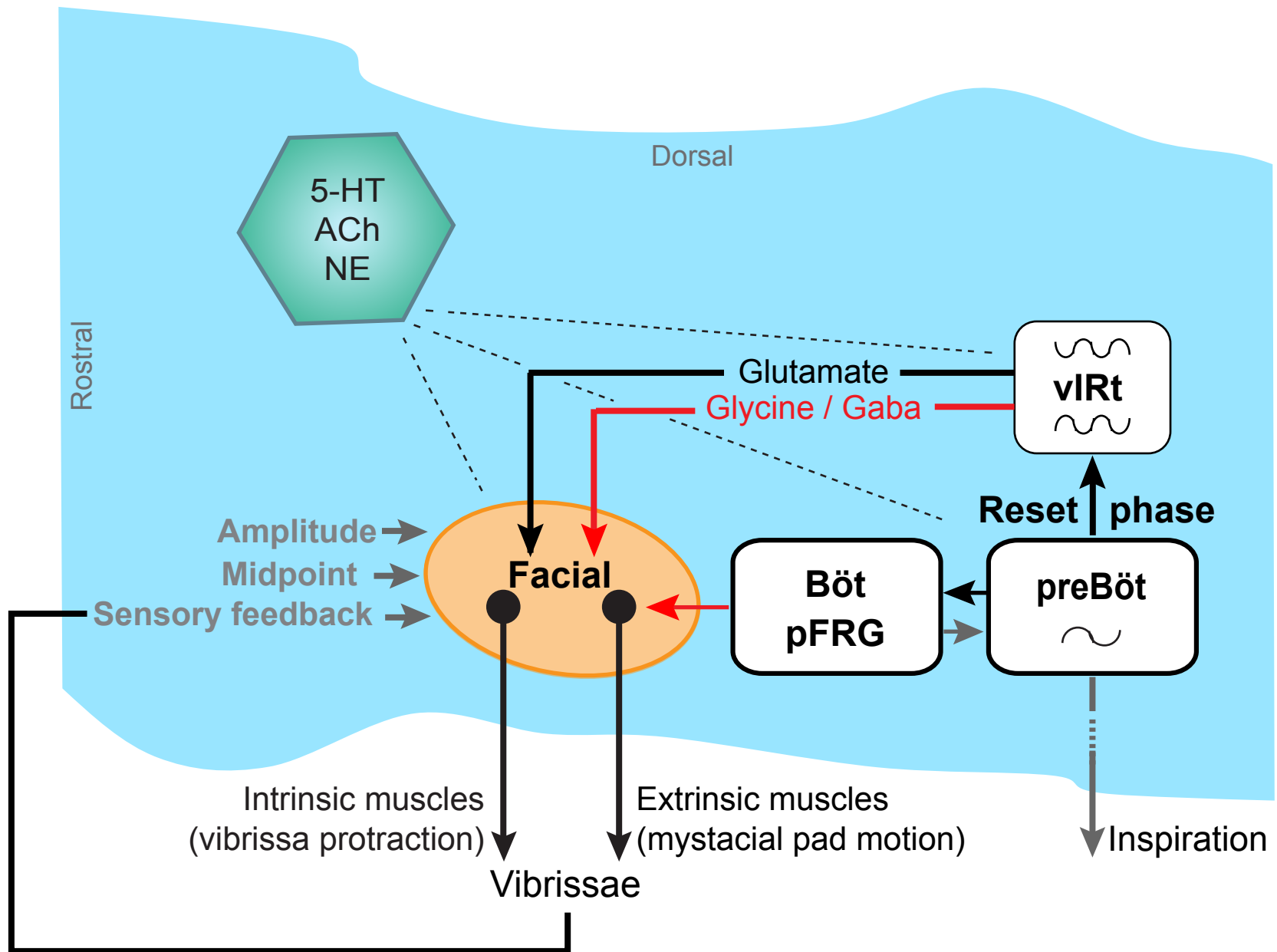


Compendium of evidence for a vibrissa pattern generator region within the intermediate reticular formation (vIRt)



- Premotor to facial nucleus
- Effective whisking lesion
- Rhythmic whisking units
- Kainic acid induced whisking units

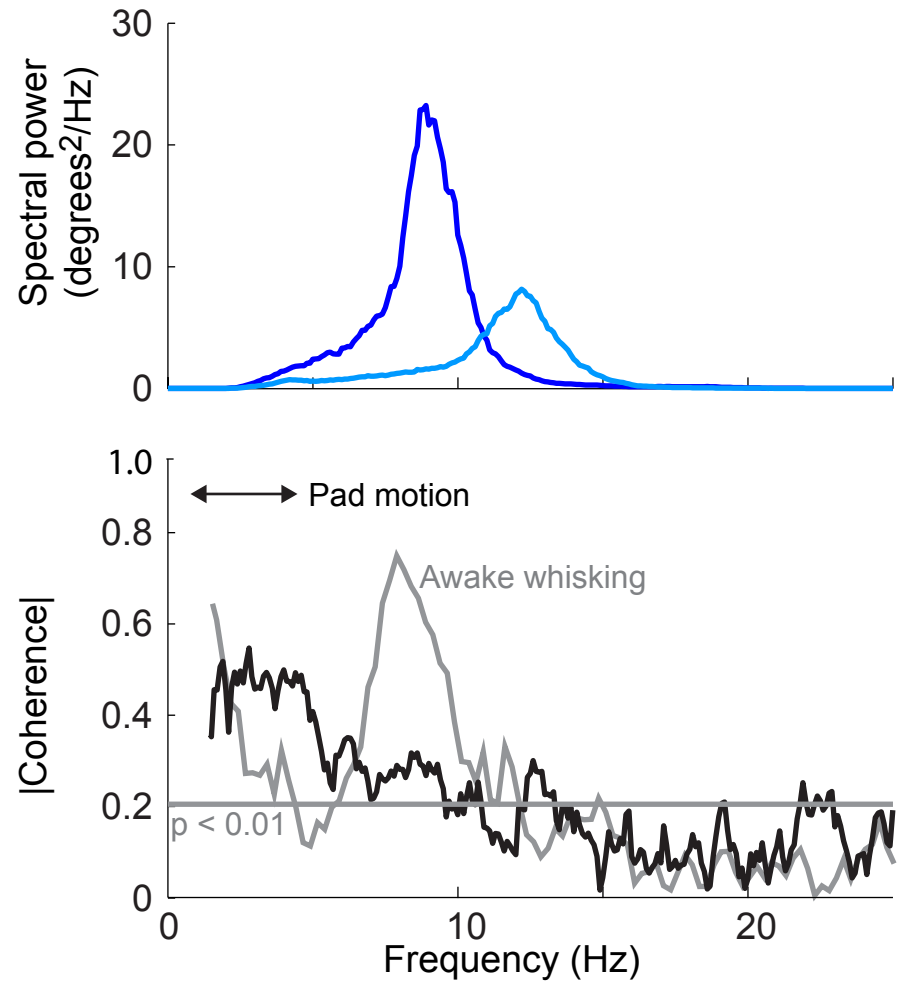
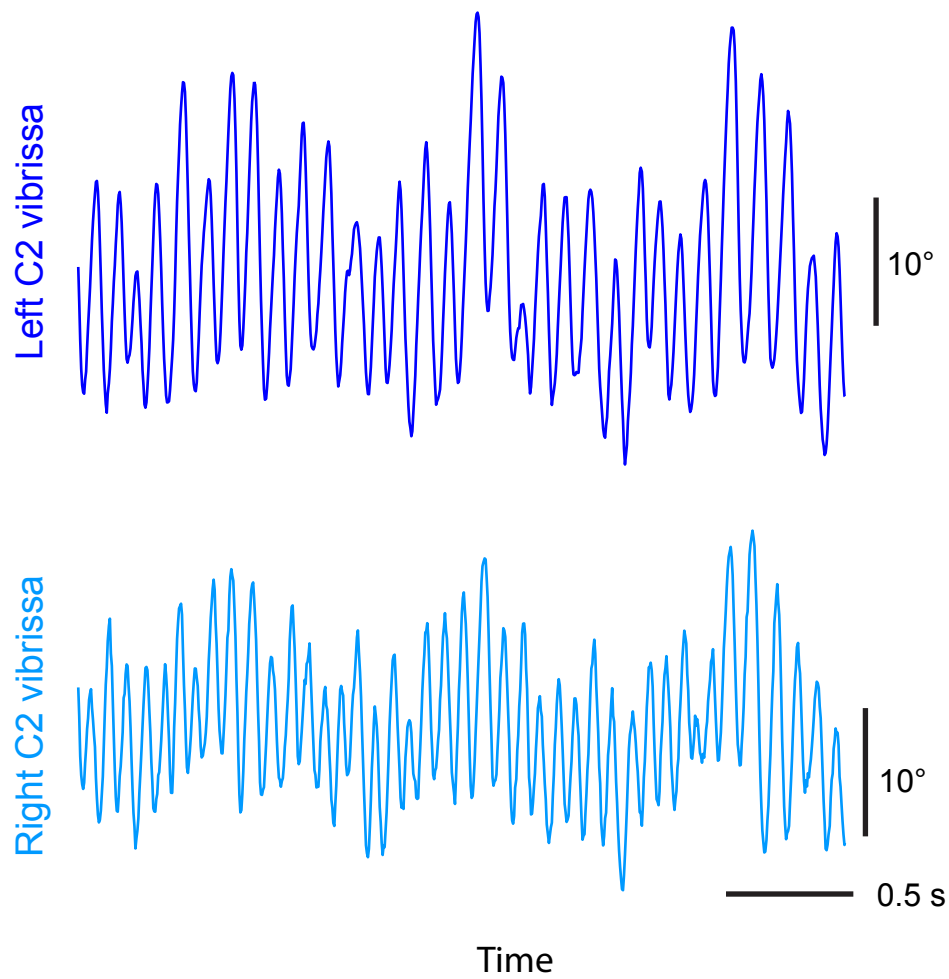
Model of the brainstem rhythmic generator for whisking



Moore*, Deschenes*, Furuta, Huber, Smear, Demers & Kleinfeld (Nature 2013)

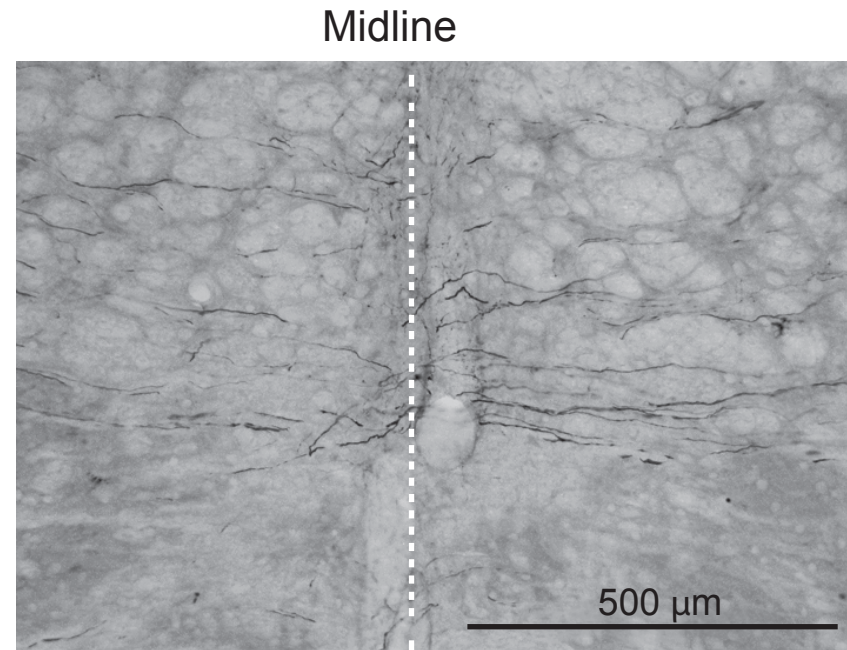
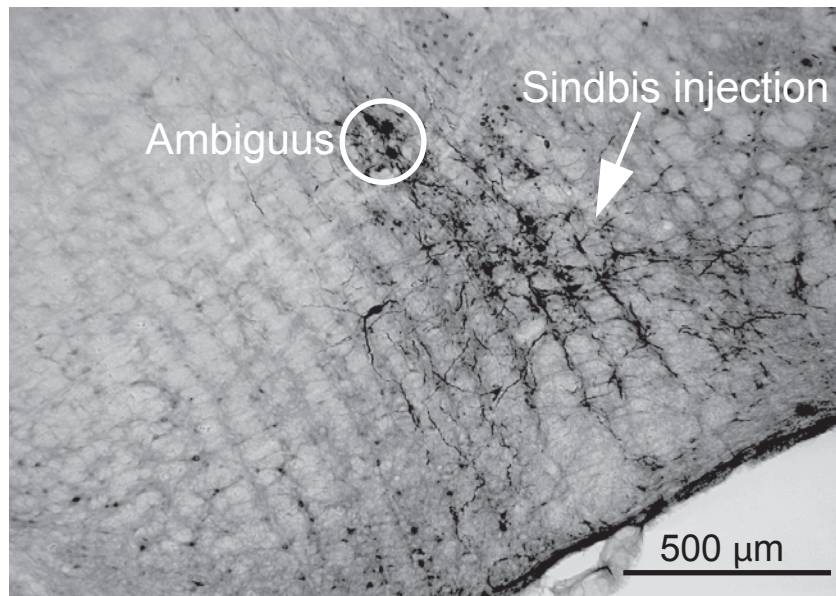
Matthews, Deschênes, Furuta, Moore, Wang, Karten* & Kleinfeld* (Journal of Comparative Neurology 2015)

Kainic acid induced whisking is asynchronous

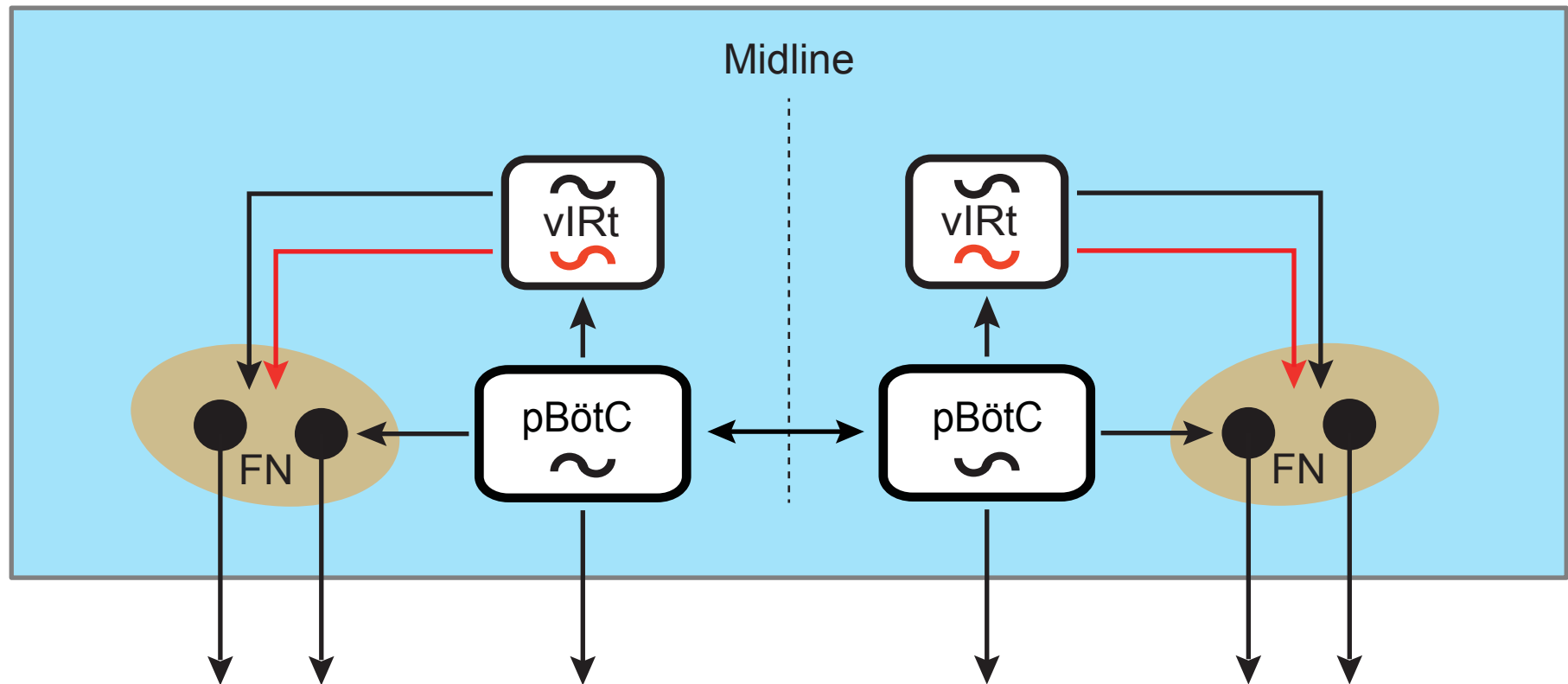


Respiratory premotor neurons (preBötzingers) in opposite hemispheres are connected by commissural projections

(Koizumi, Koshiya, Chia, Cao, Nugent, Zhang & Smith, J Neurosci 2013)



Synchronization of bilateral rhythmic whisking is mediated by the preBötzinger interhemispheric connections



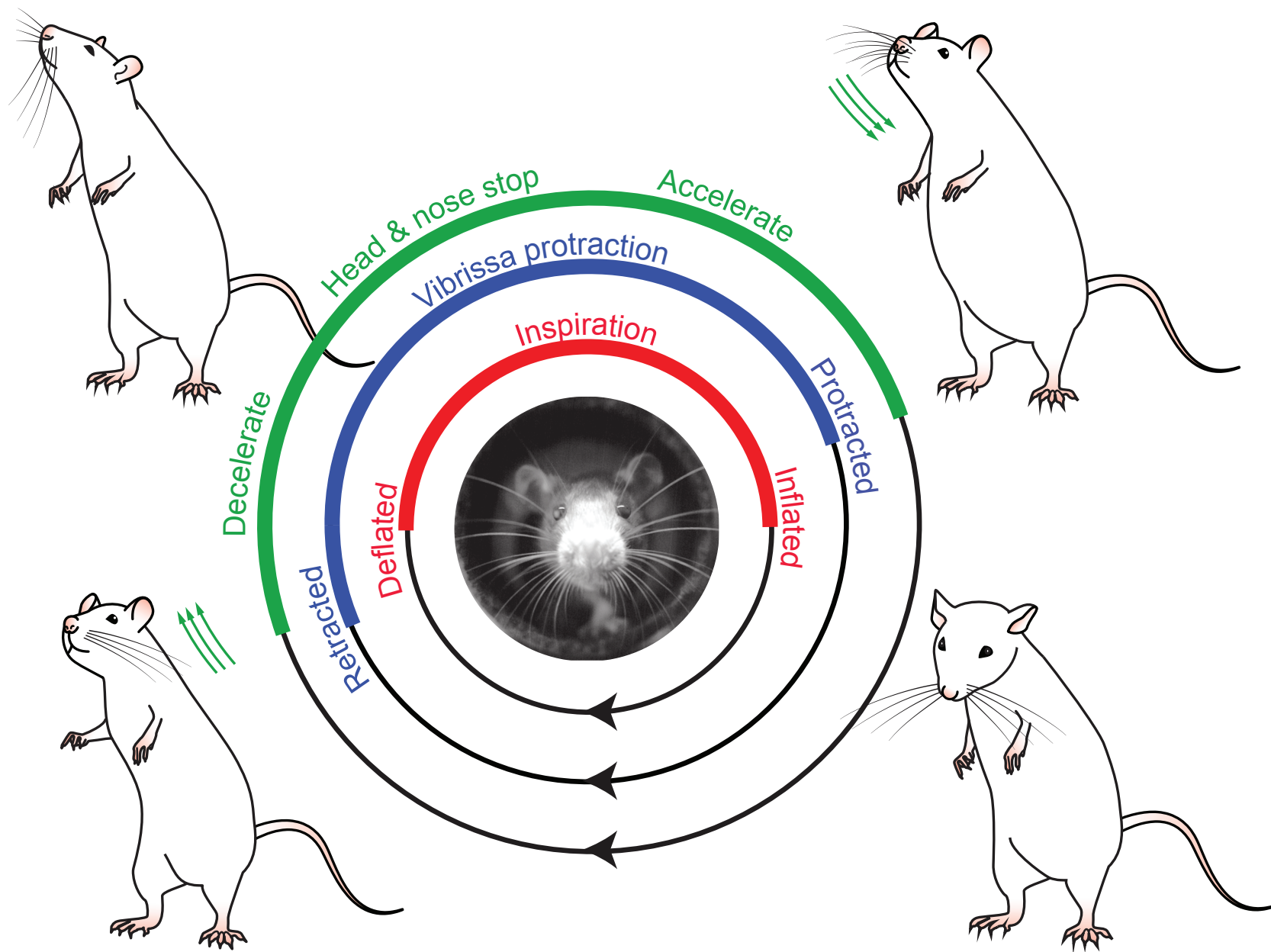
Summary lesson

Breathing coordinates rhythmic whisking

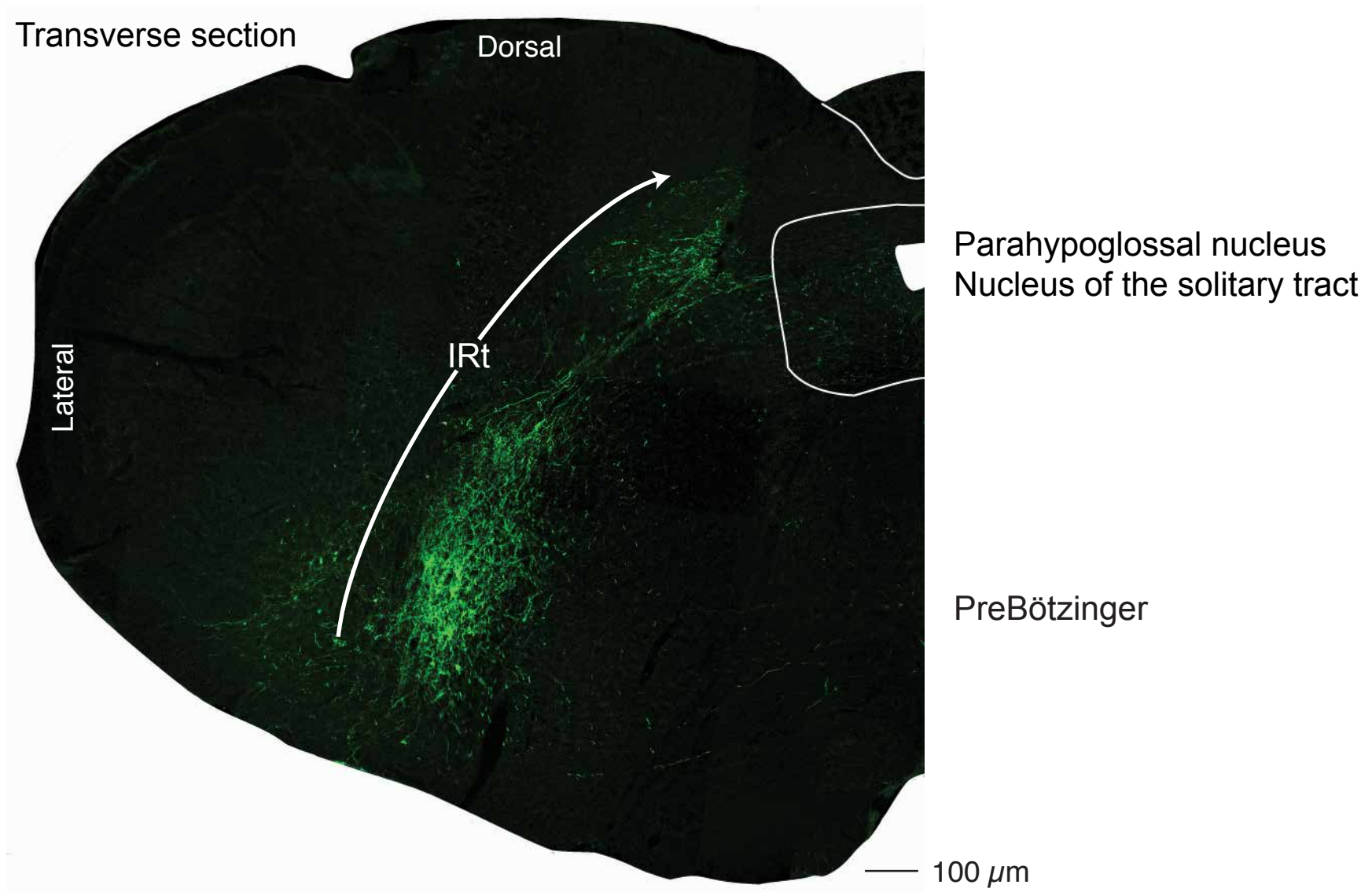
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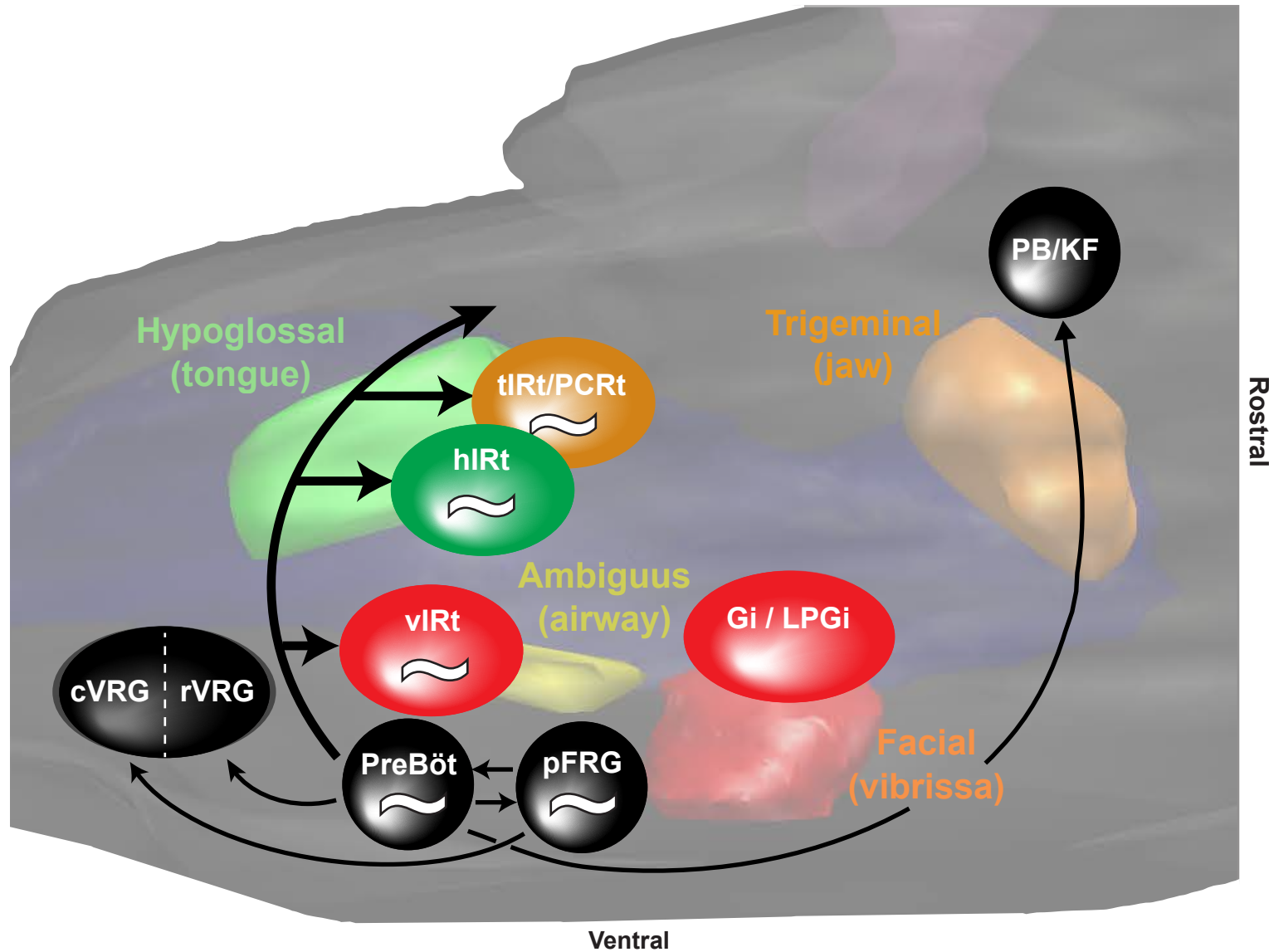
The cycle of exploratory orofacial actions linked to sniffing



Axon collaterals from the preBöttinger, the inhalation oscillator, span the full extent of the intermediate reticular zone (IRt)
(Tan, Pagliardini, Yang, Janczewski & Feldman, J Comp Neurol 2010)



Connections from preBötzinger, the inhalation CPG, to brainstem premotor nuclei involved in orofacial actions

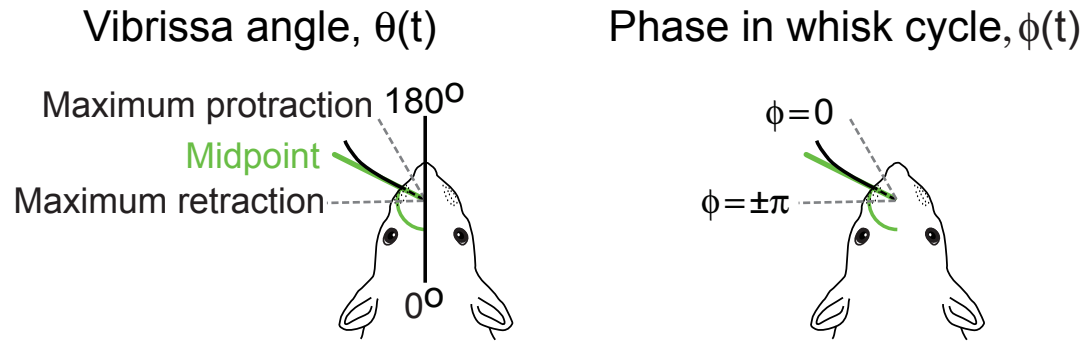


These data open up questions in both motor control and sensory coding

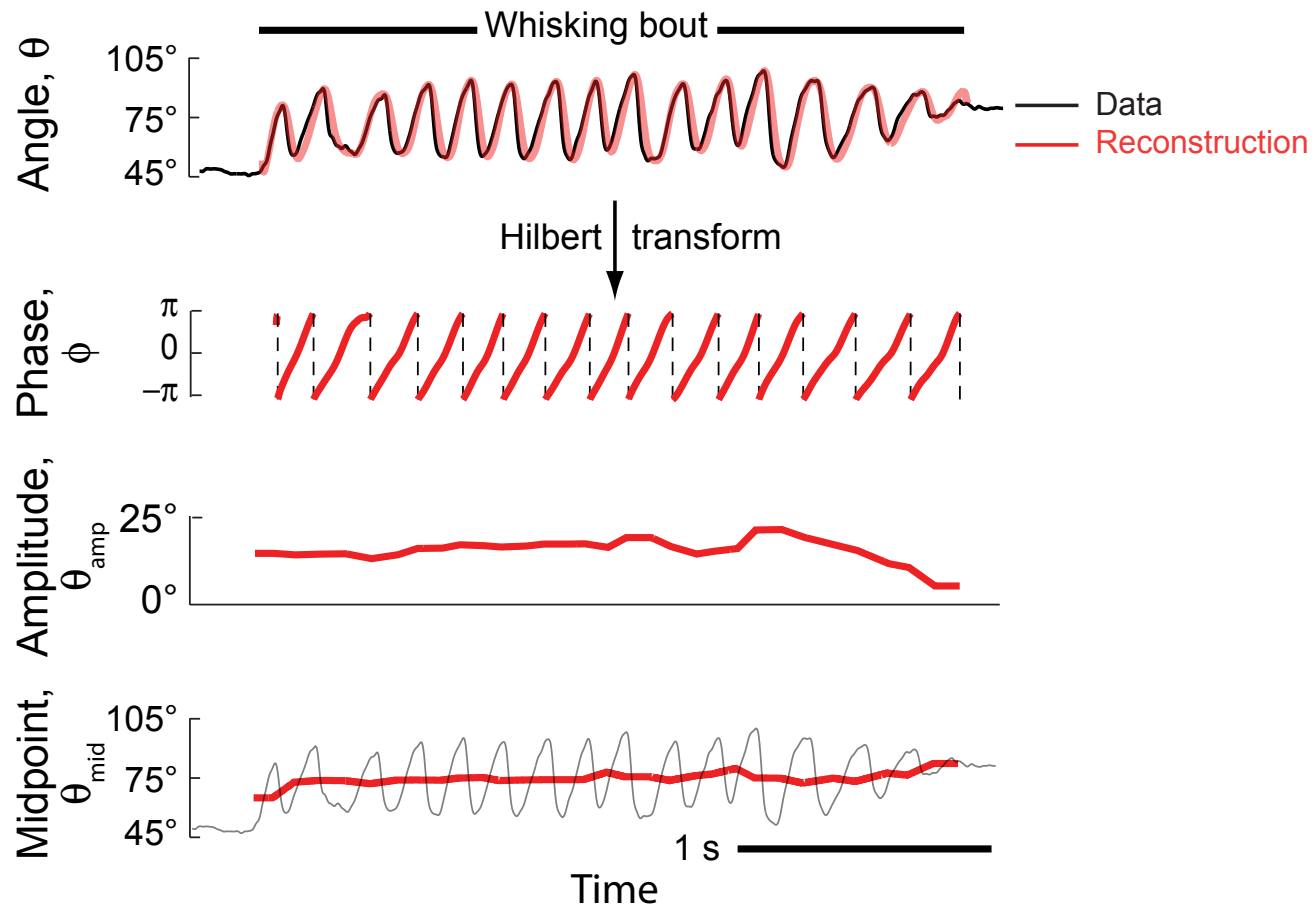
What regulates the slowly varying midpoint of whisking, where midpoint plays the role of posture in locomotion?

Does the breathing clock act as a temporal signature to bind separate sensory inputs?

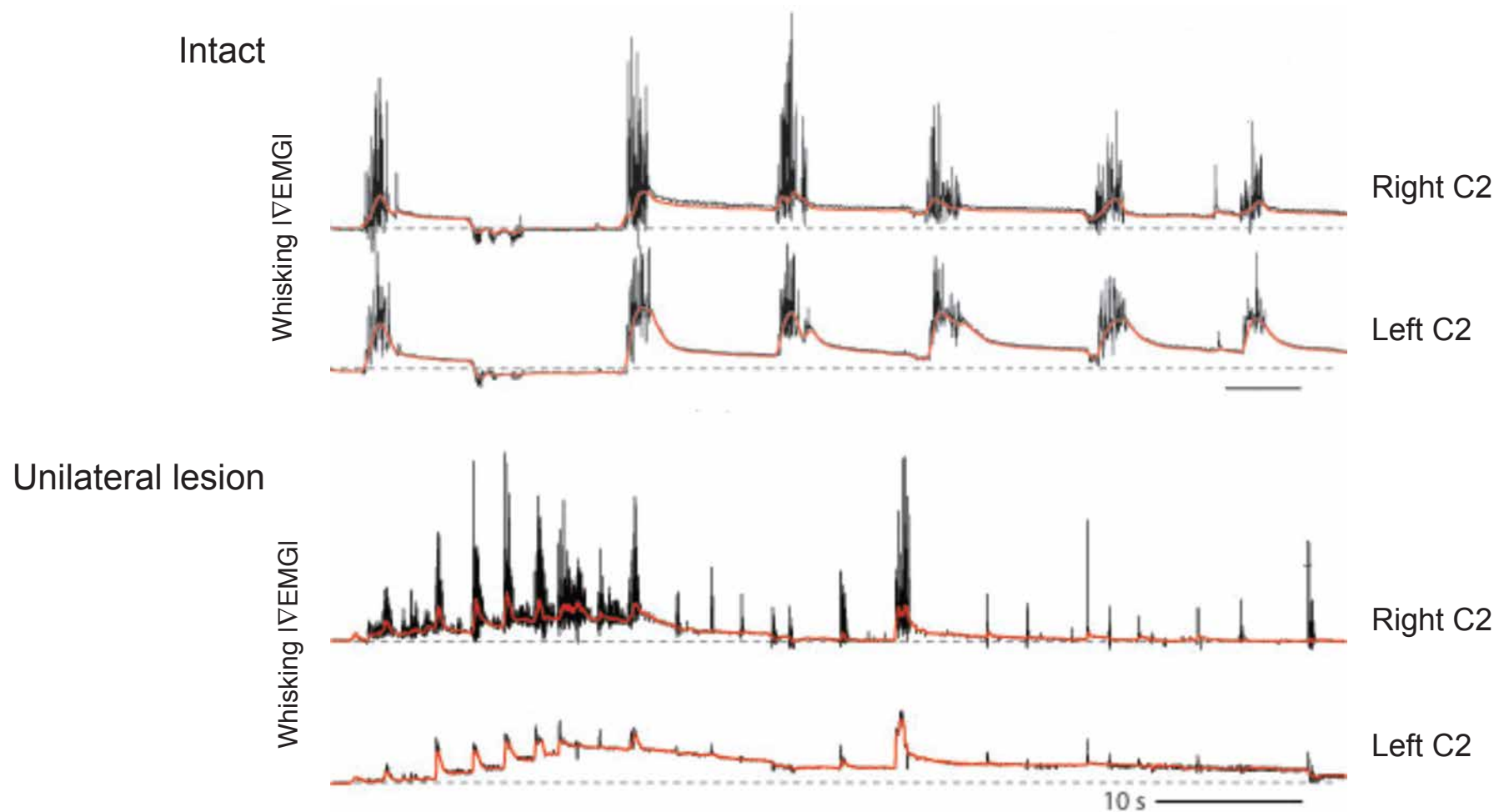
Angular versus phase coordinates for whisking



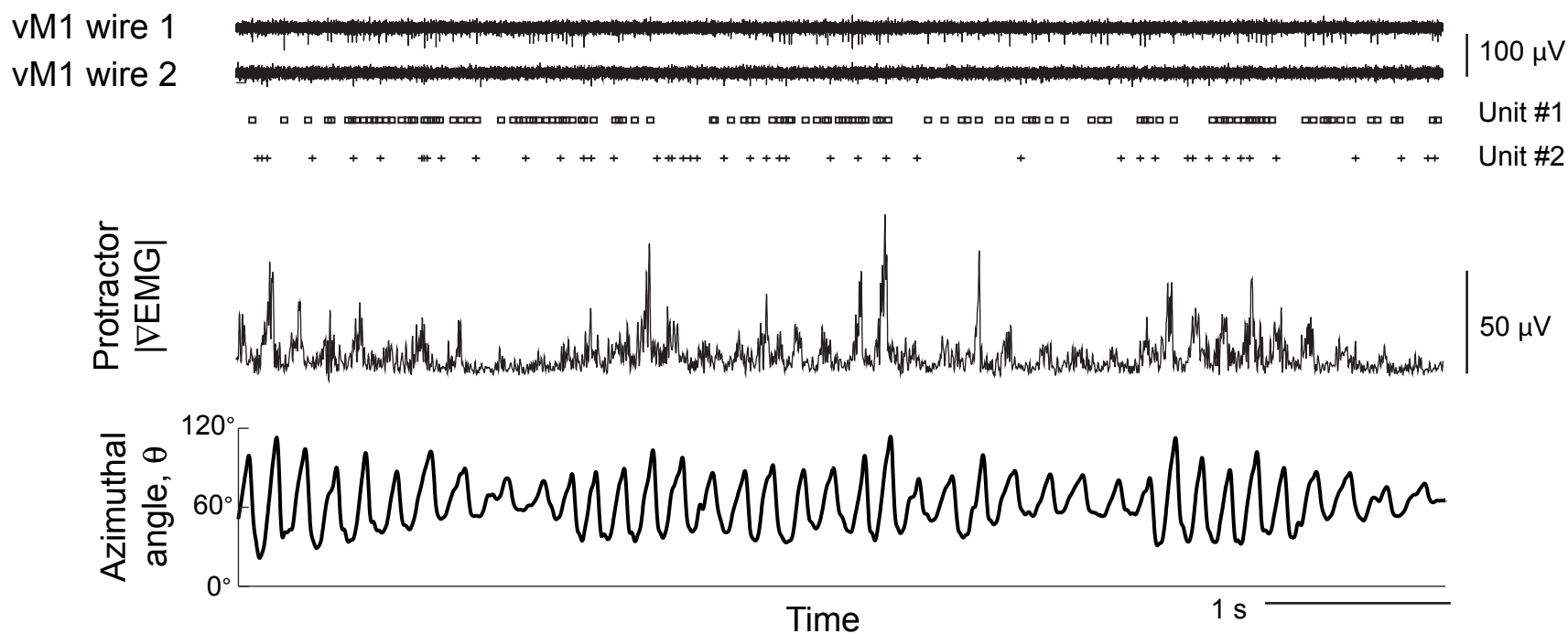
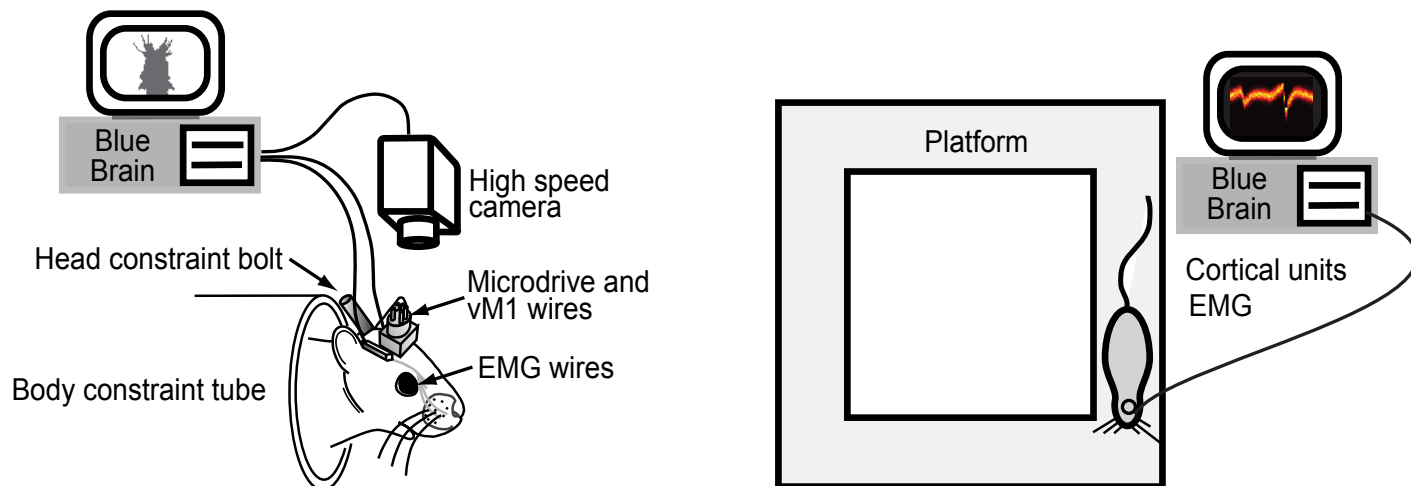
Decomposition of the whisking signal into phase, amplitude and midpoint



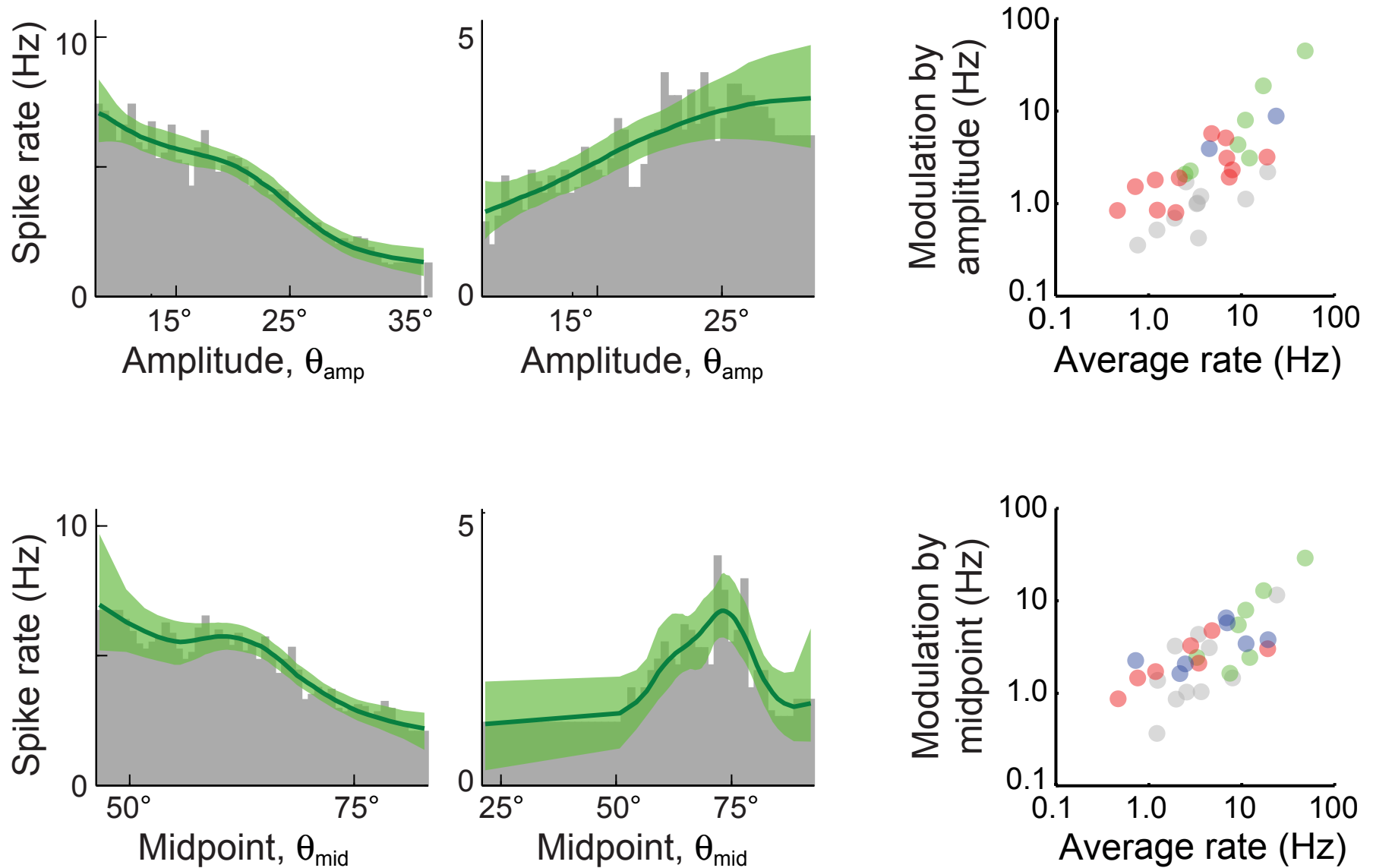
Lesion of the whisking oscillator (vIRt) does *not* effect the midpoint: Preliminary evidence for decoupled fast versus slow brainstem control



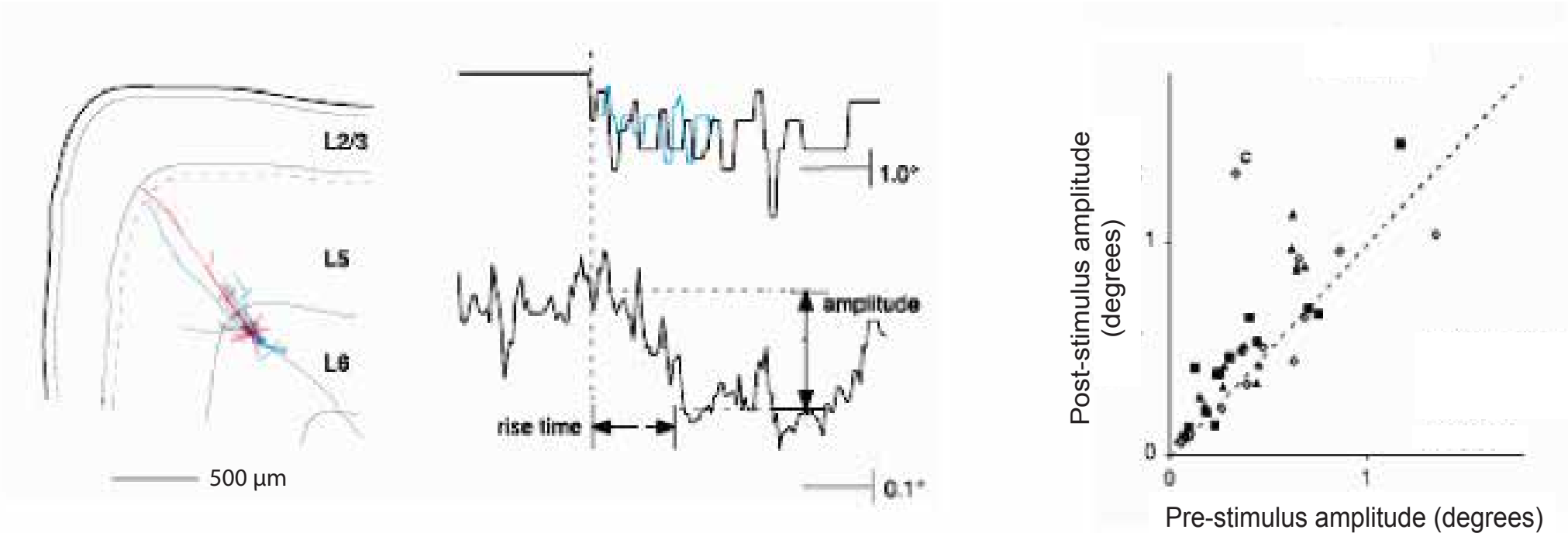
Whisking and unit activity in vibrissa primary motor (vM1) cortex



Rodent vM1 cortex reports the slowly varying amplitude and midpoint of whisking



Much previous work showed that stimulation of motor *and* sensory cortices change vibrissa position and/or activate whisking

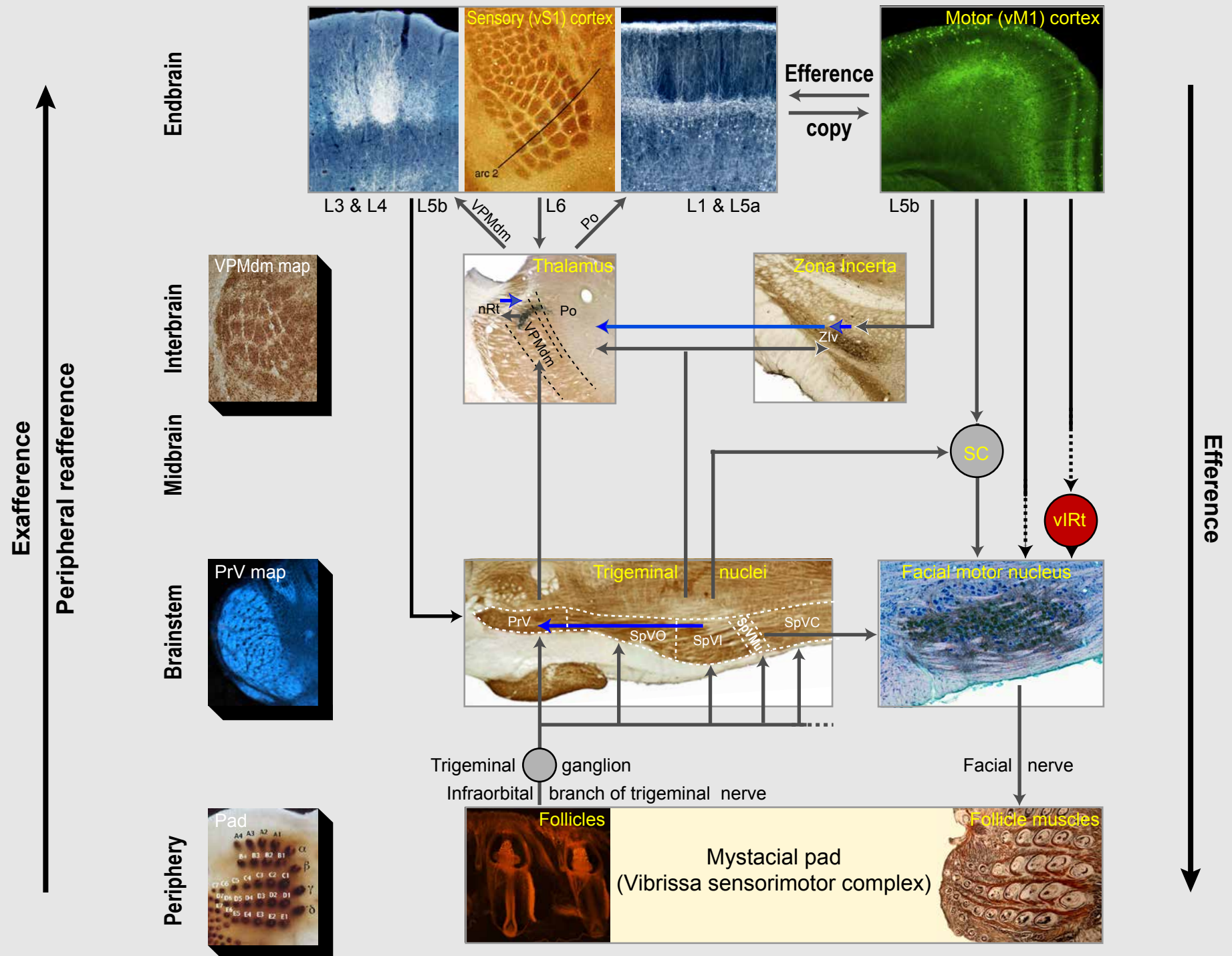


Single neuron stimulation data of Brecht, Schneider, Sakmann & Margrie (Nature 2004)

The pathways for this control are incompletely understood

Here we consider the spinal trigeminal nuclei as premotor nuclei

Signal flow and computing in sensorimotor loops of the vibrissa system



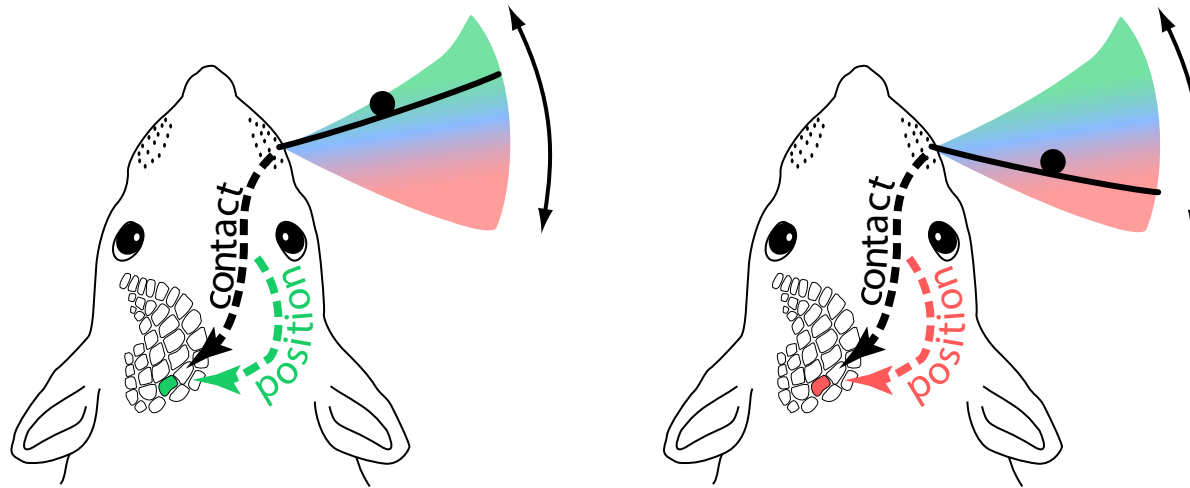
Five Slides of Unpublished Material Were Removed

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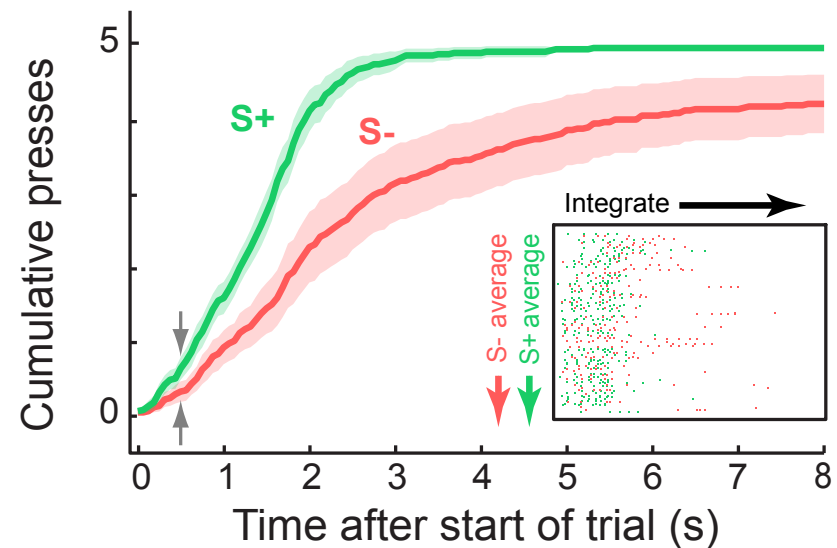
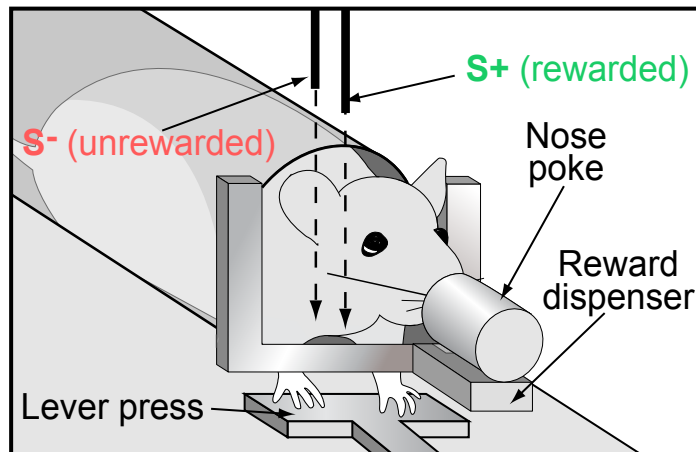
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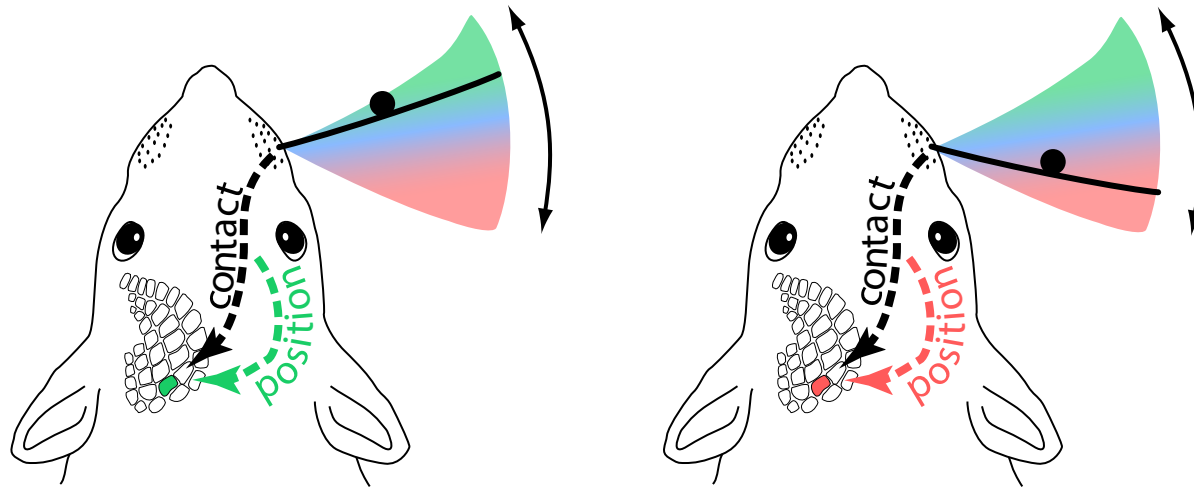
Paradigm to test if rodents code the azimuthal position of their vibrissae



Behavioral evidence that rodents know the position of their vibrissae

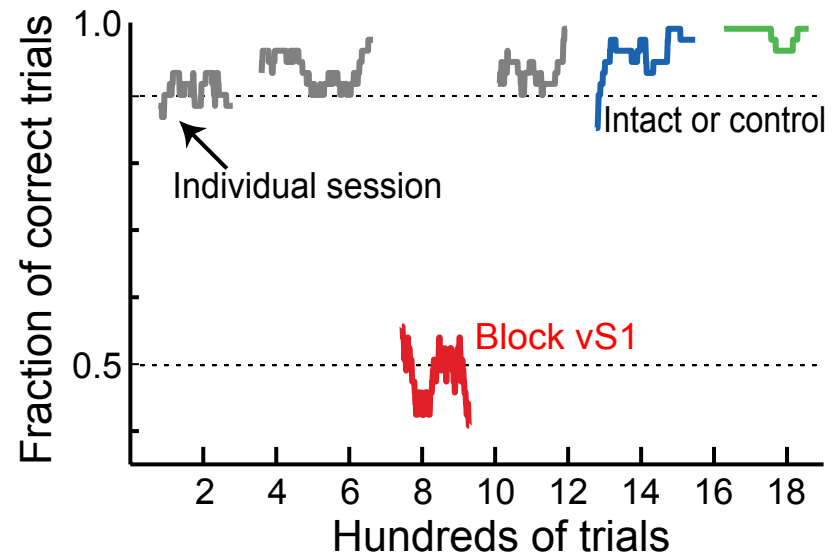
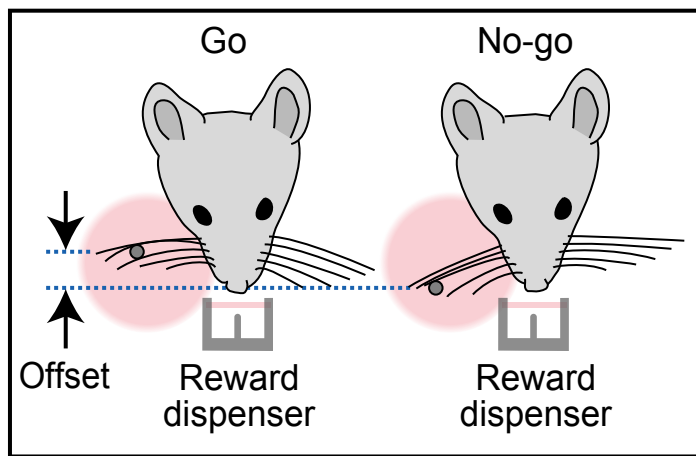


Paradigm to test if rodents code the azimuthal position of their vibrissae



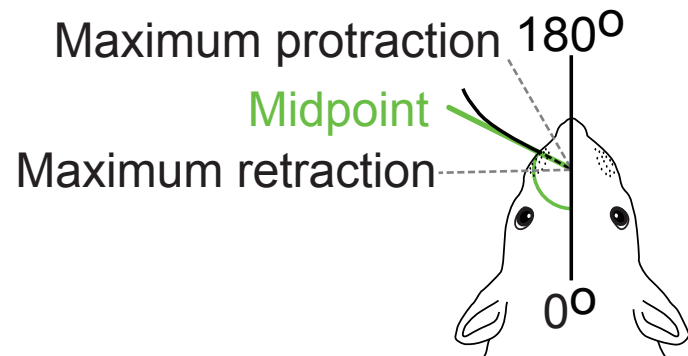
Evidence that vS1 cortex is necessary to report vibrissa position

(O'Connor, Clack, Huber, Komiyama, Myers & Svoboda, Journal of Neuroscience 2010)

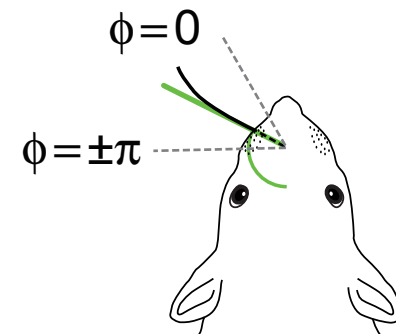


Is the vibrissa touch response conditioned solely by phase?

Touch referenced to
vibrissa angle, $\theta(t)$



Touch referenced to phase
in whisk cycle, $\phi(t)$



versus

$$\theta(t) = \theta_{\text{amplitude}}(t) \cdot \cos \phi(t) + \theta_{\text{midpoint}}(t)$$

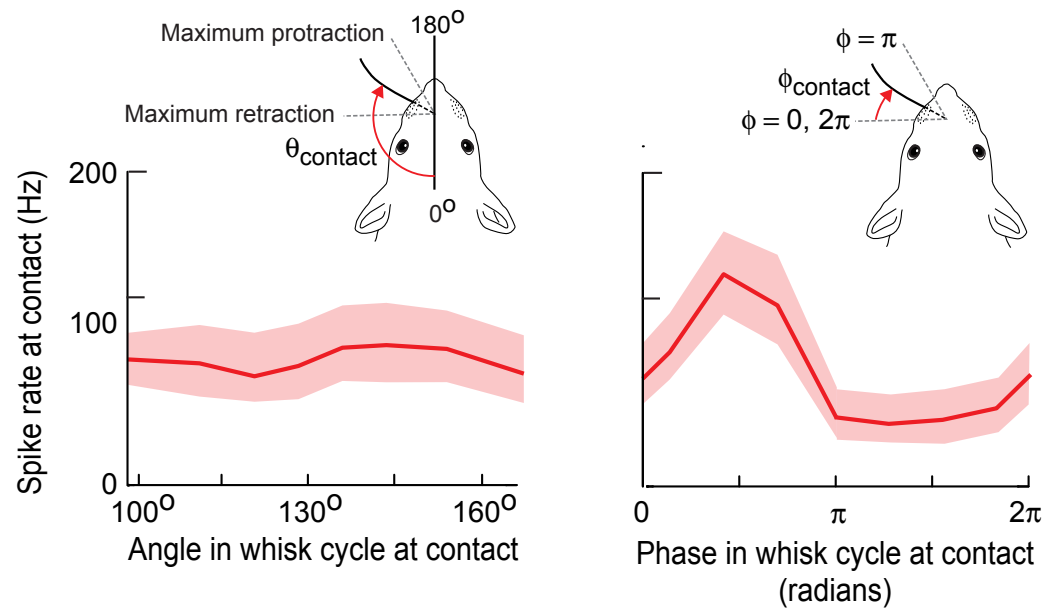
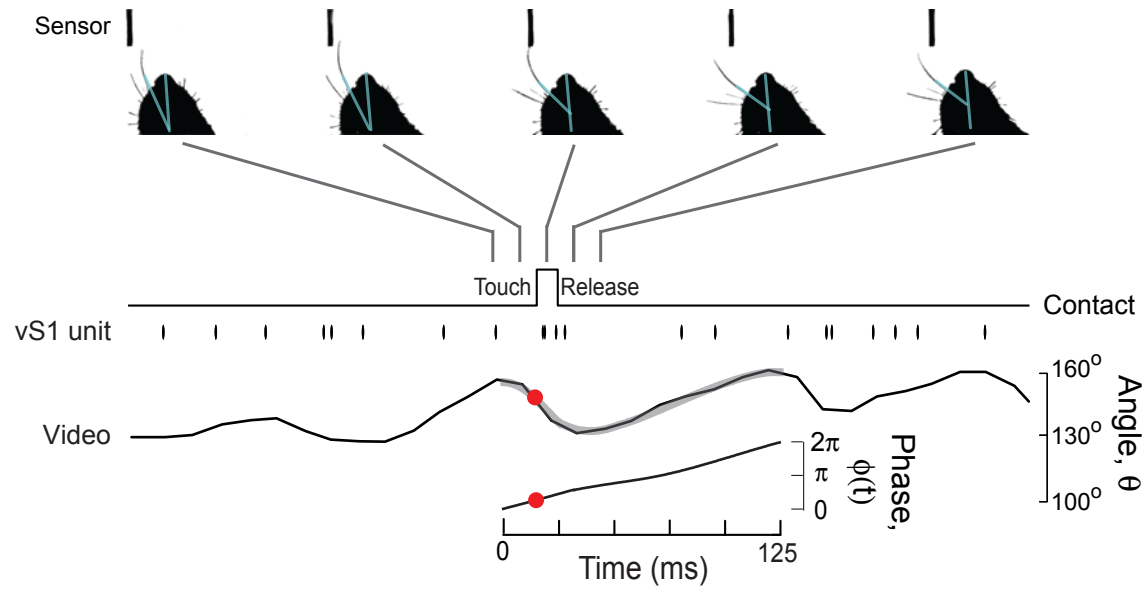
↑
slow

↑
fast

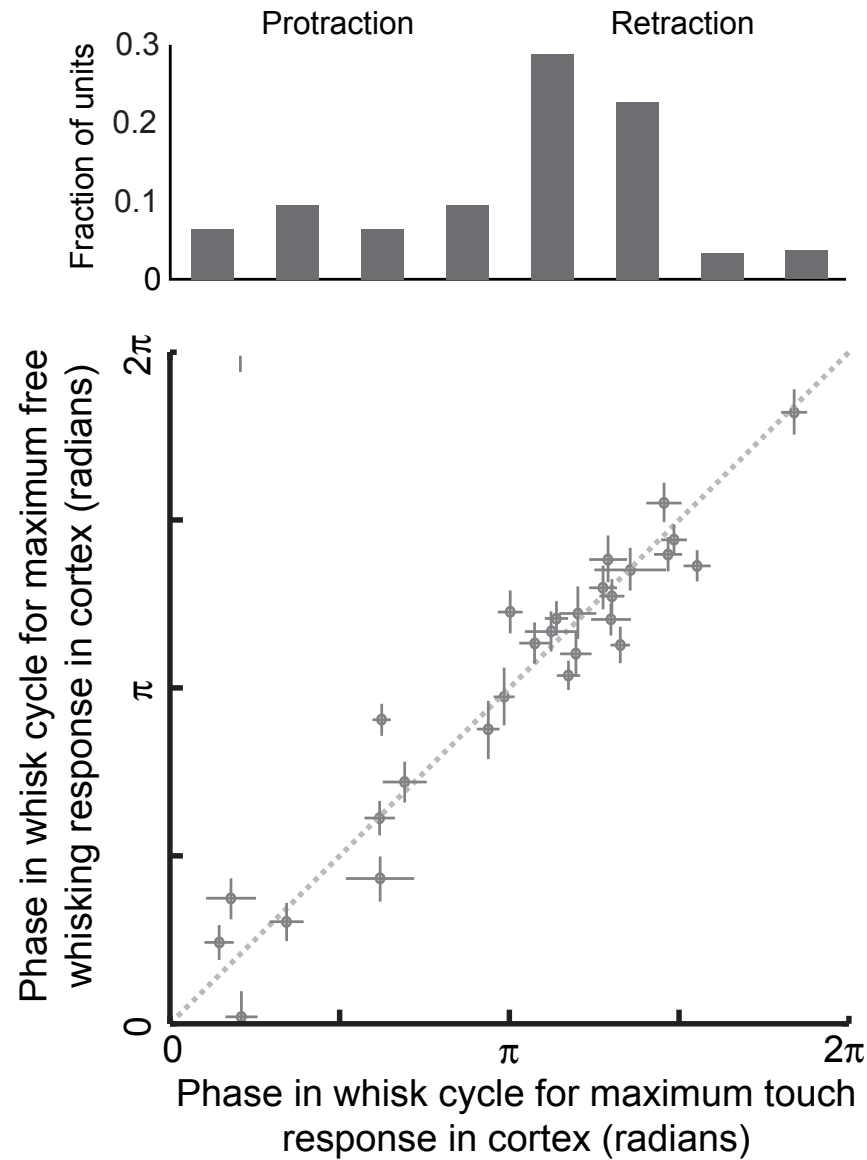
↑
slow

with $d\phi(t)/dt = 2\pi f_{\text{whisk}}$ for rhythmic whisking

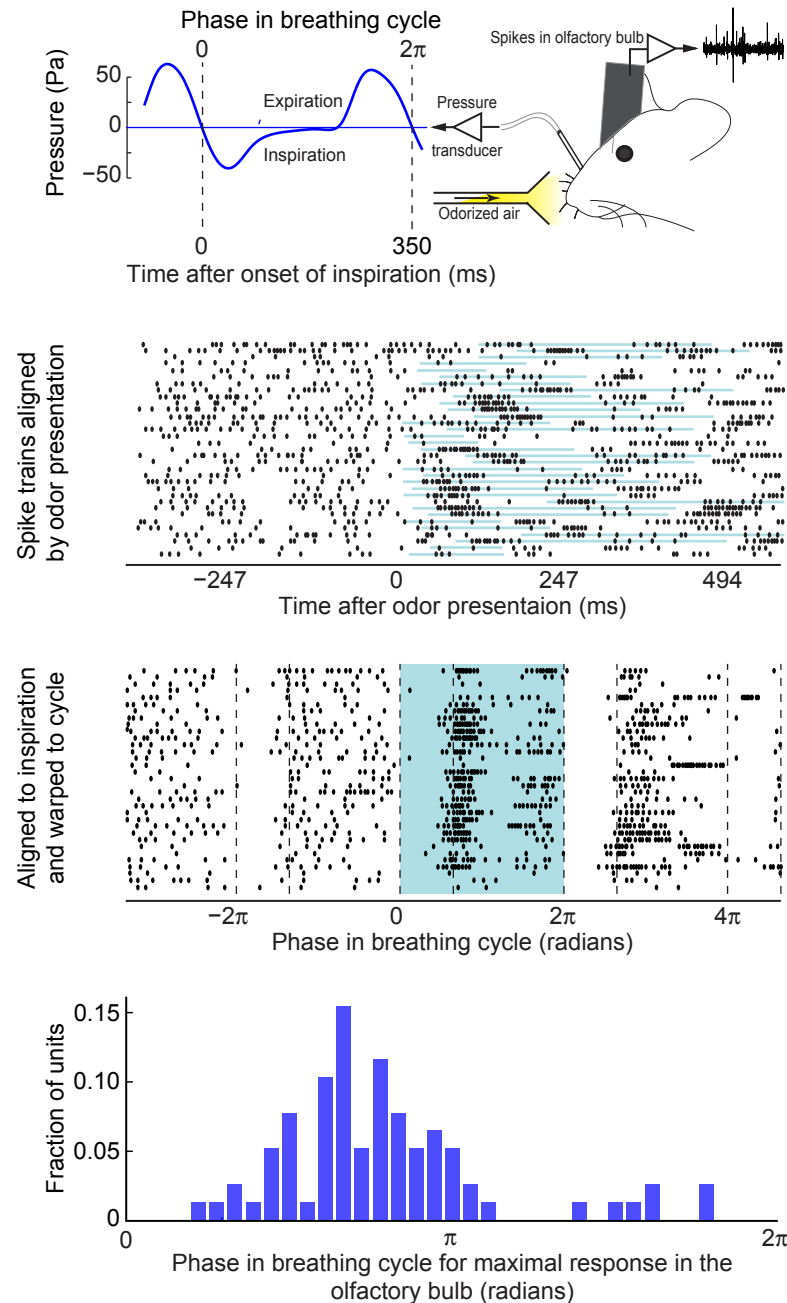
Vibrissa S1 cortex codes azimuth of vibrissa touch by phase in the whisk (= respiratory) cycle



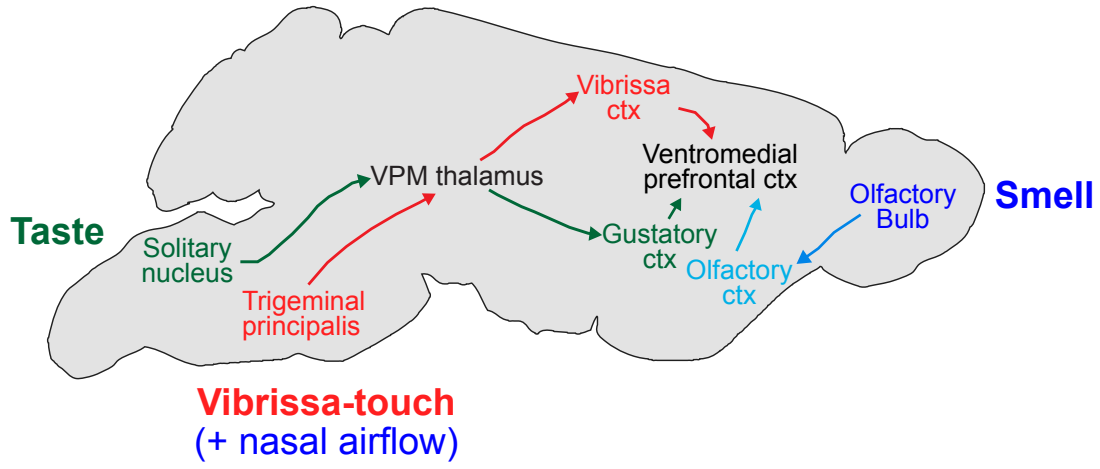
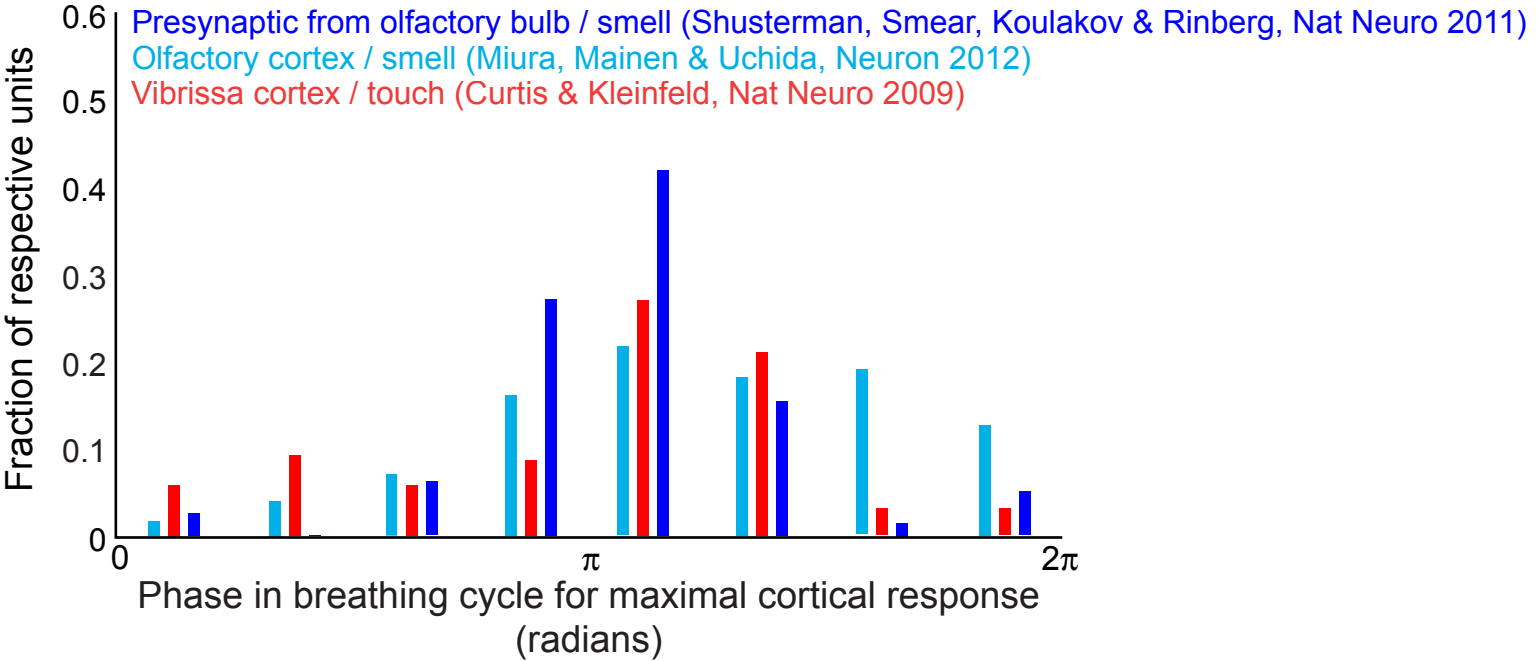
Vibrissa S1 cortex codes azimuth of vibrissa touch, as well as free whisking, by phase in the whisk (= respiratory) cycle



Olfactory bulb codes odor by phase in respiratory (= whisk) cycle (Shusterman, Smear, Koulakov & Rinberg Nature Neuroscience 2011)



Coordination of sniffing and whisking and their spiking representation in sensory cortices



Lesson

A common clock for the phase sensitivity of sniffing and whisking

Conjecture

Inhalation as the *master clock* to bind percepts based on orofacial (smell, touch, and taste) inputs

Sniffing: A master clock for orofacial rhythms?

Thank you for your attention!