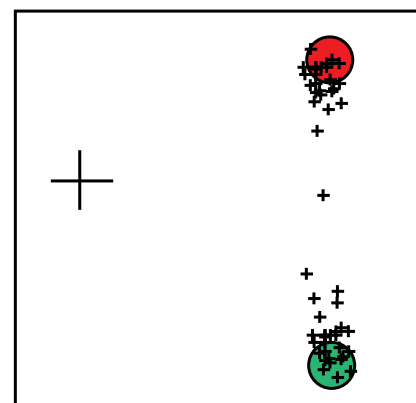
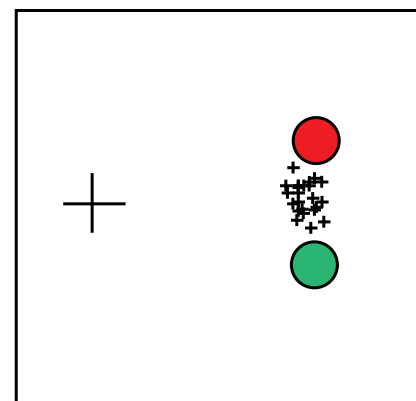


Dynamic Field Theory: Memory

Gregor Schöner

gregor.schoener@ini.rub.de

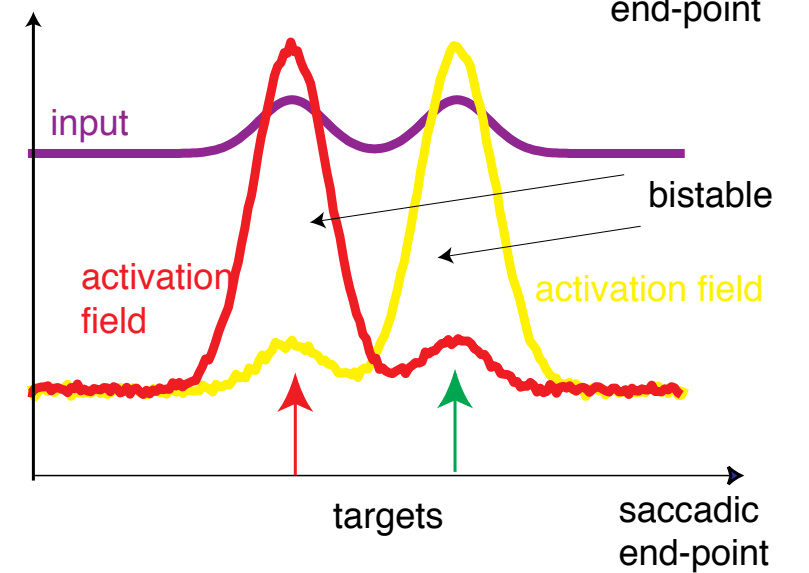
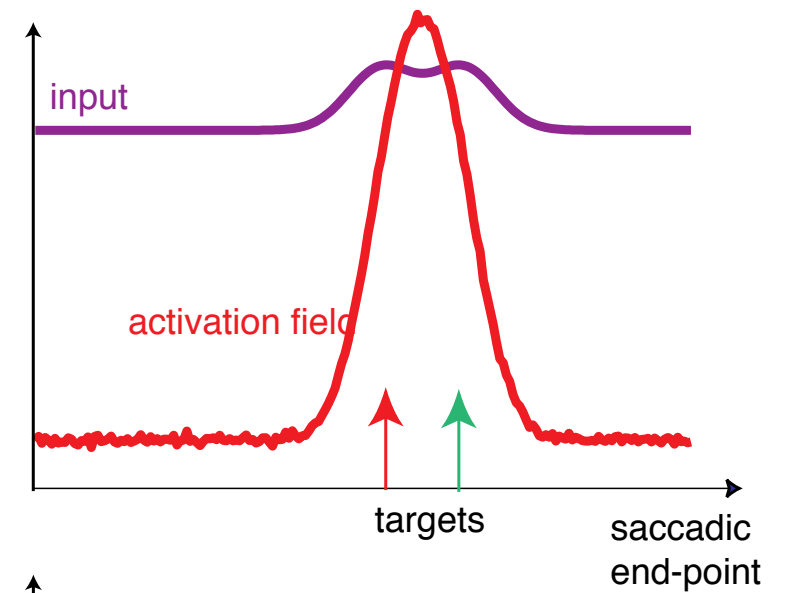
Recall from last lecture ...



initial
fixation

visual
targets

[after: Ottes et al., Vis. Res. 25:825 (85)]



[after Kopecz, Schöner: Biol Cybern 73:49 (95)]

reaction time (RT) paradigm

imperative
signal=
go signal

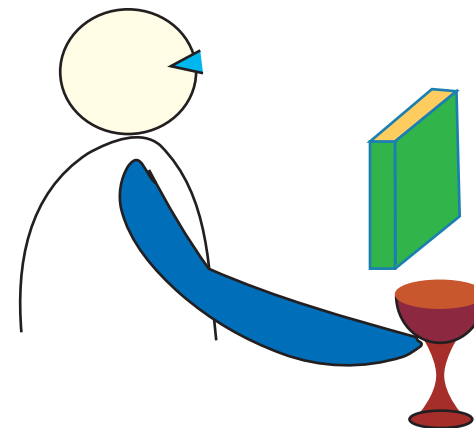
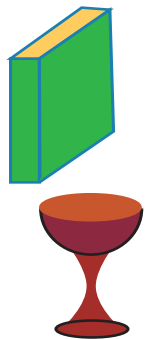
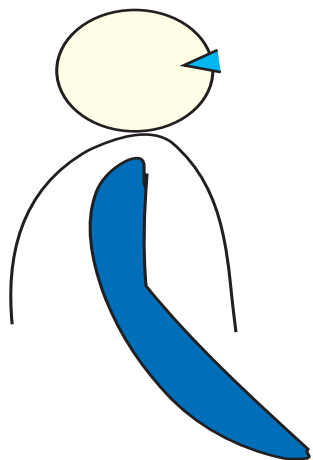
response

task set

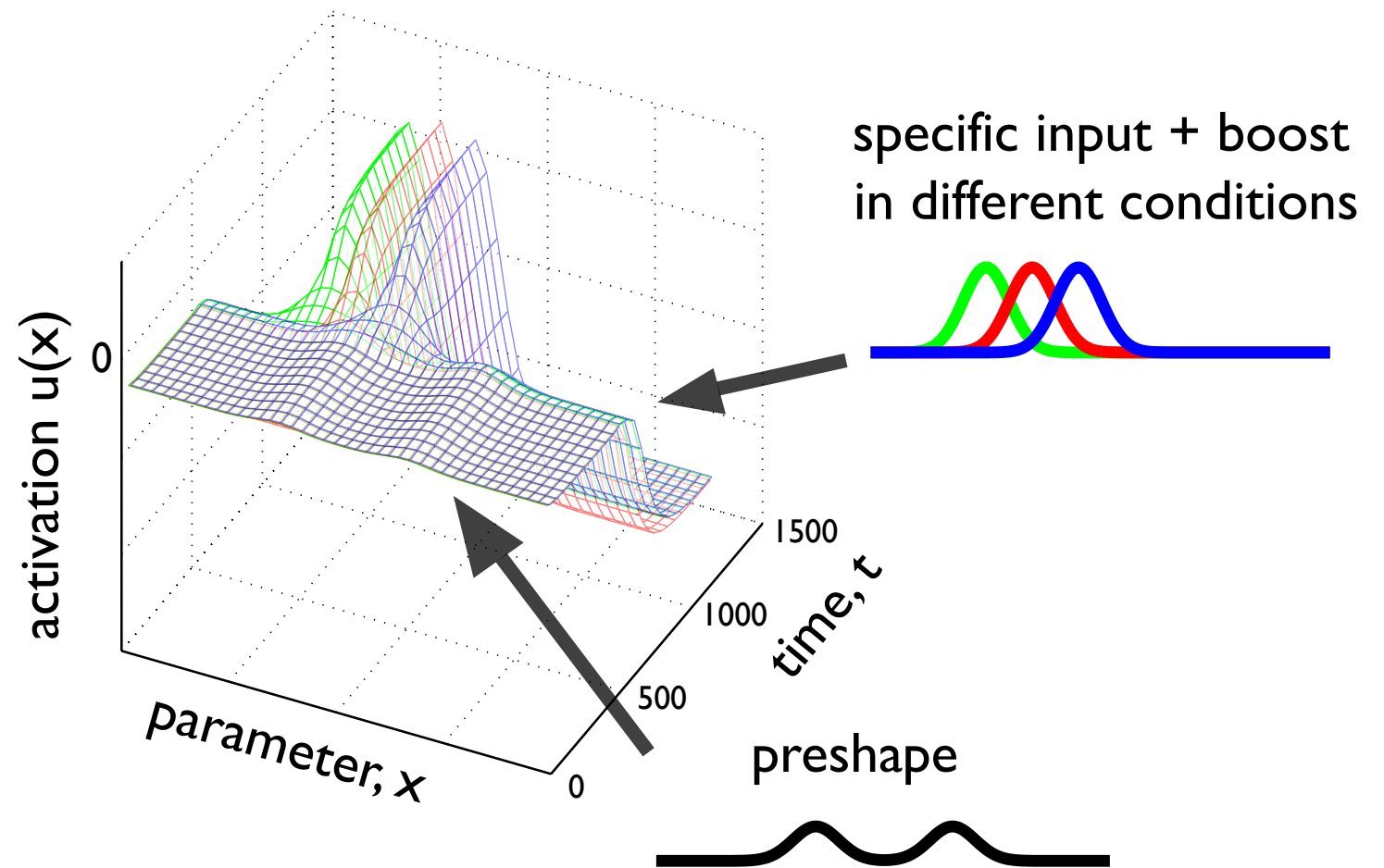
time



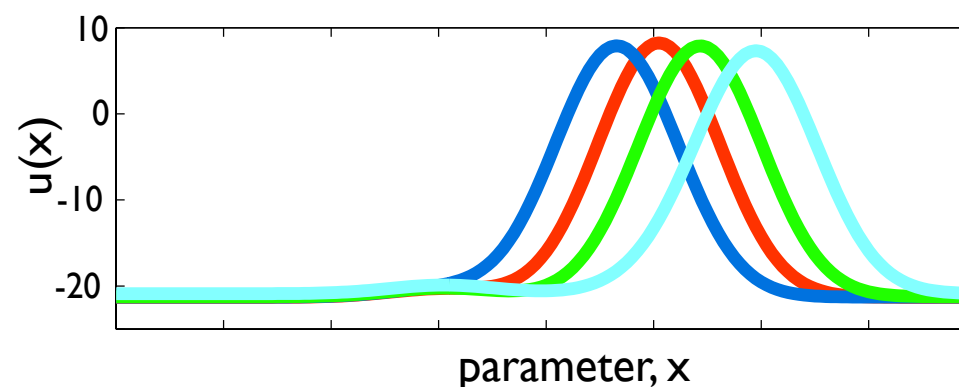
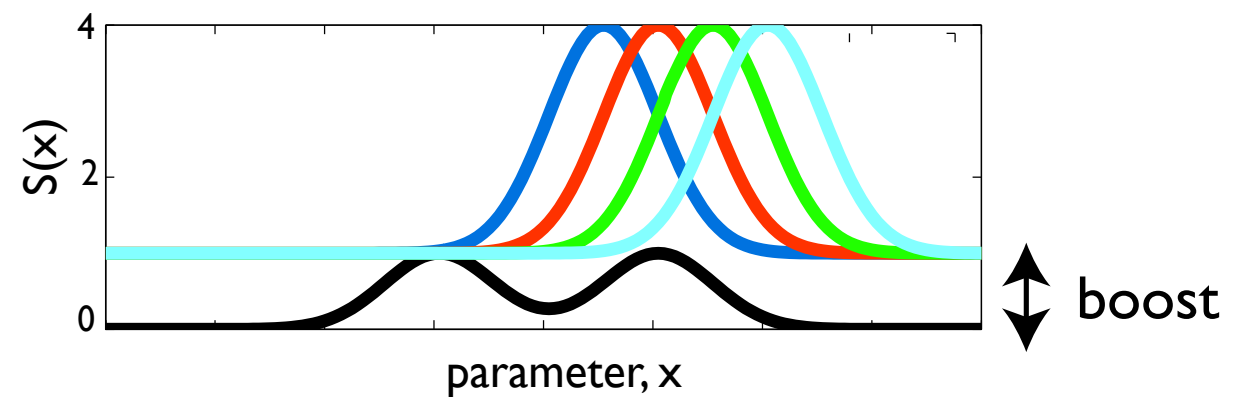
RT



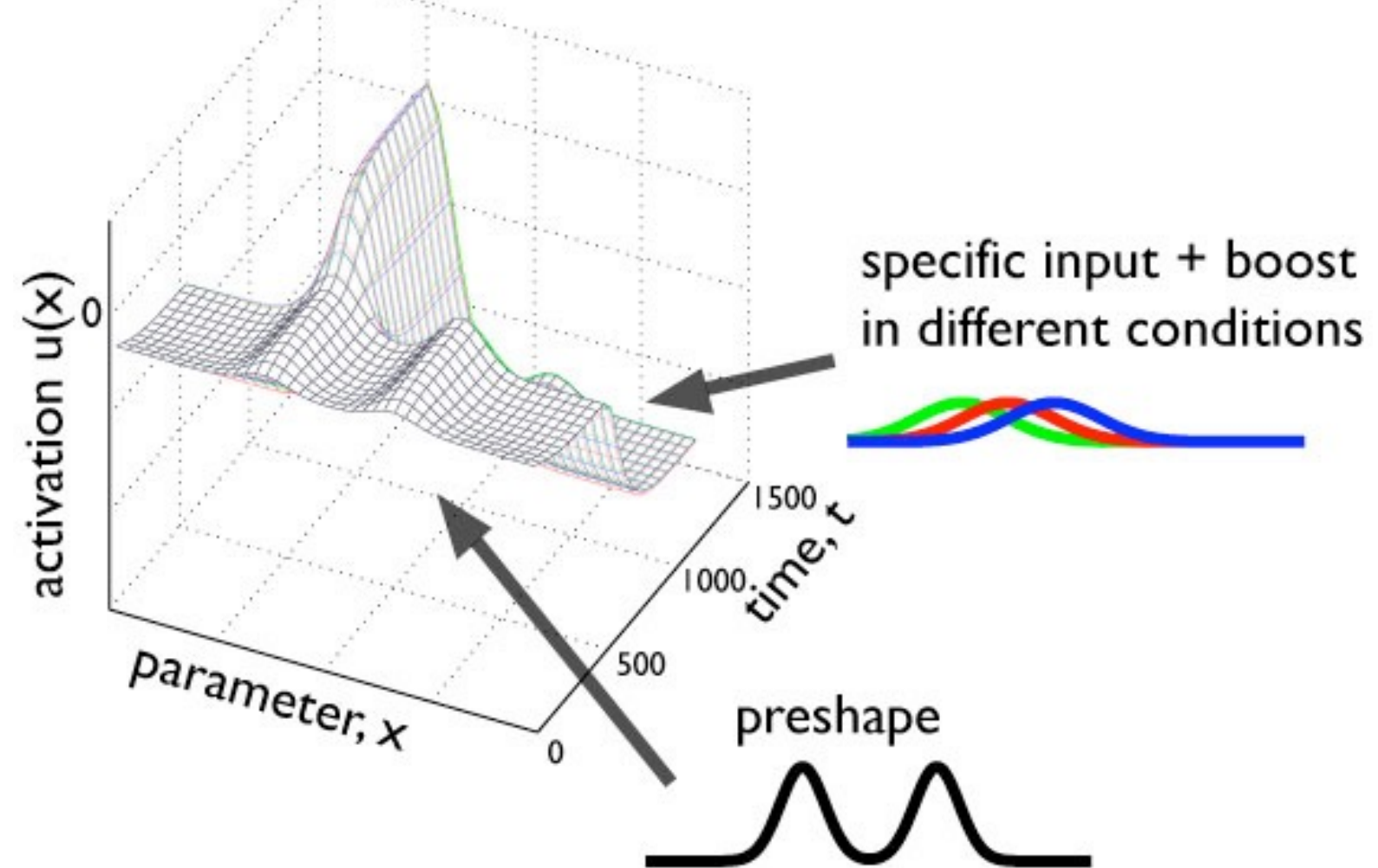
weak preshape in selection



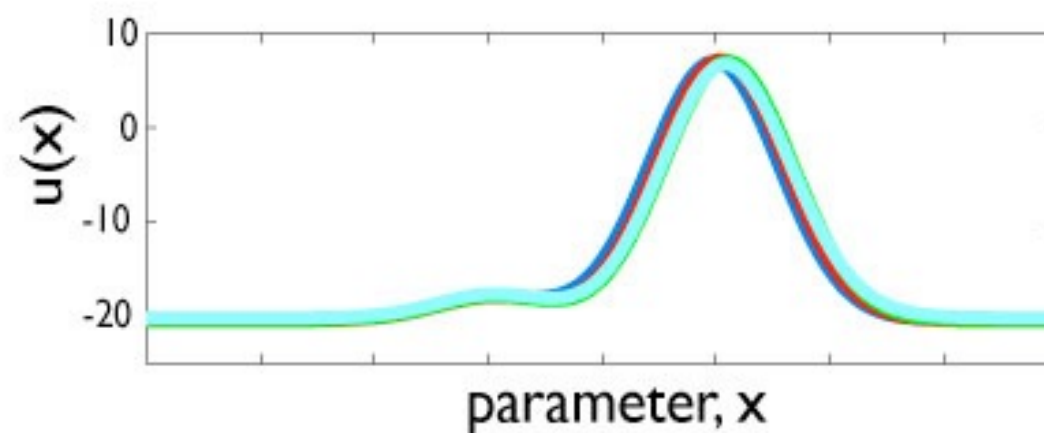
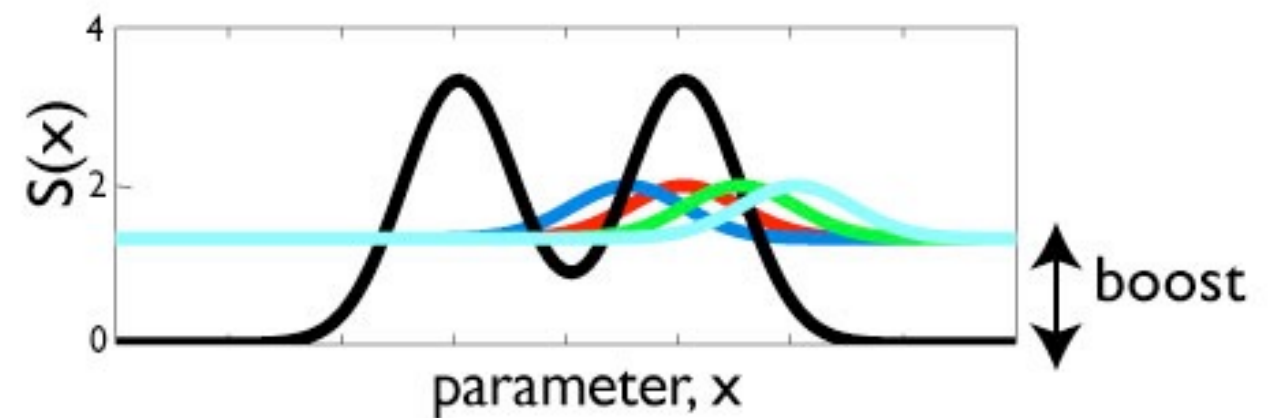
- specific (imperative) input dominates and drives detection instability



this supports
categorical
behavior



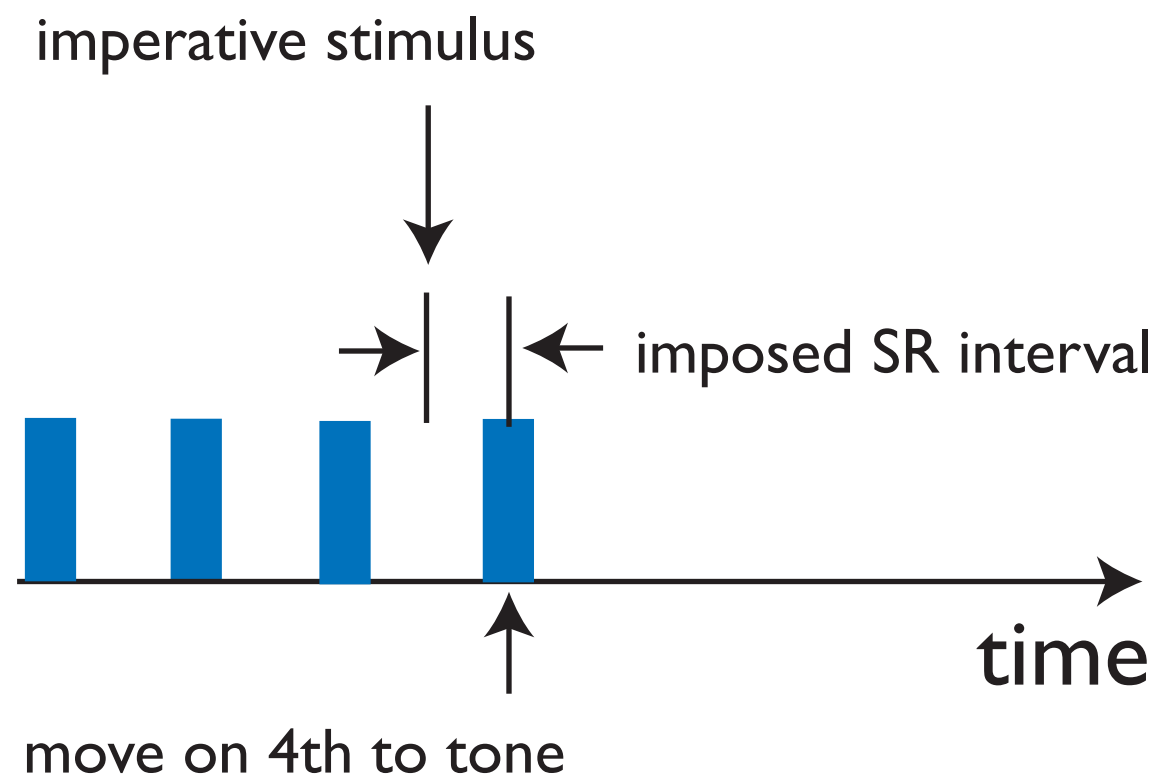
■ when preshape
dominates



[Wilimzig, Schöner, 2006]

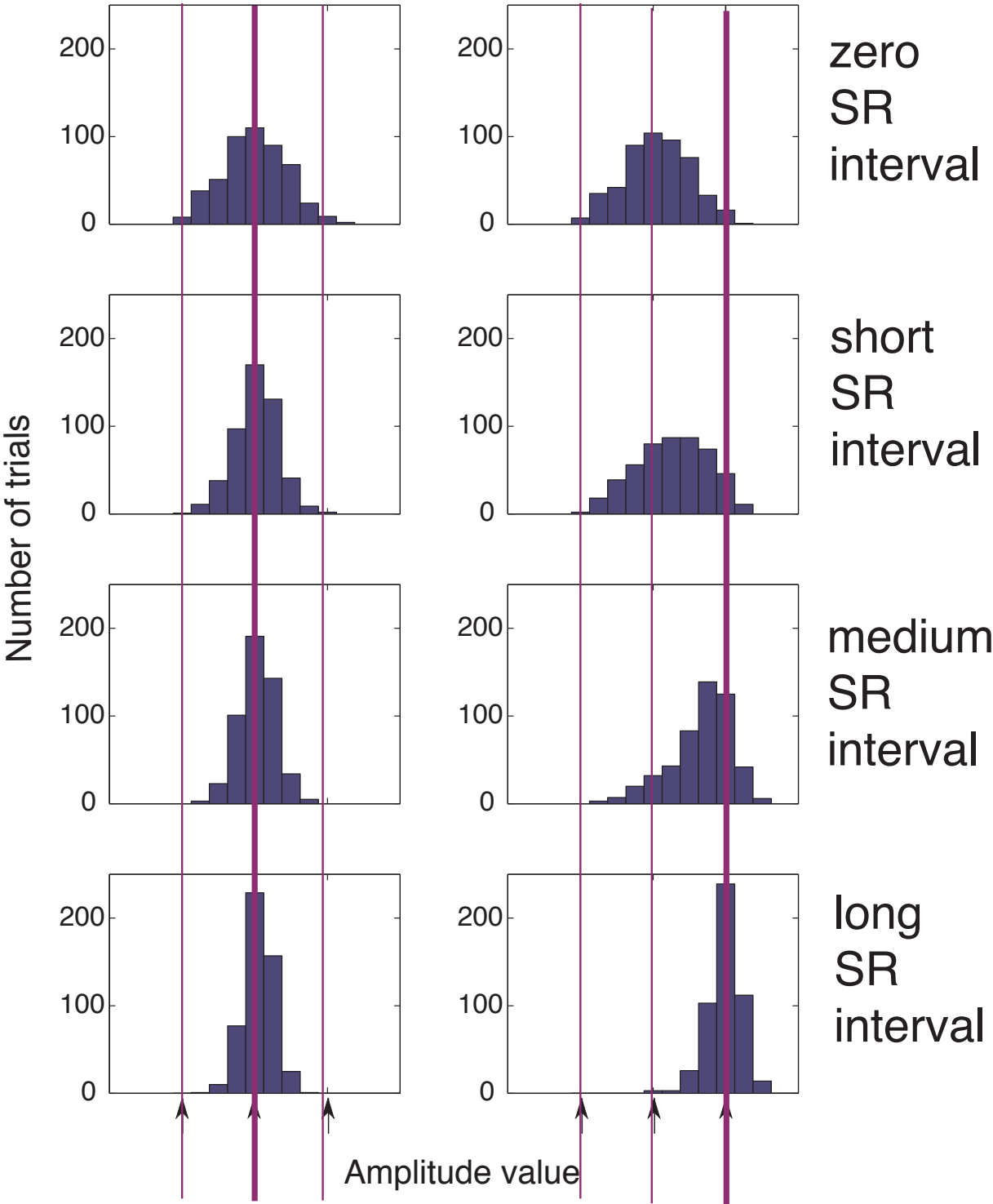
Behavioral evidence for the graded and continuous evolution of decision

timed movement
initiation paradigm

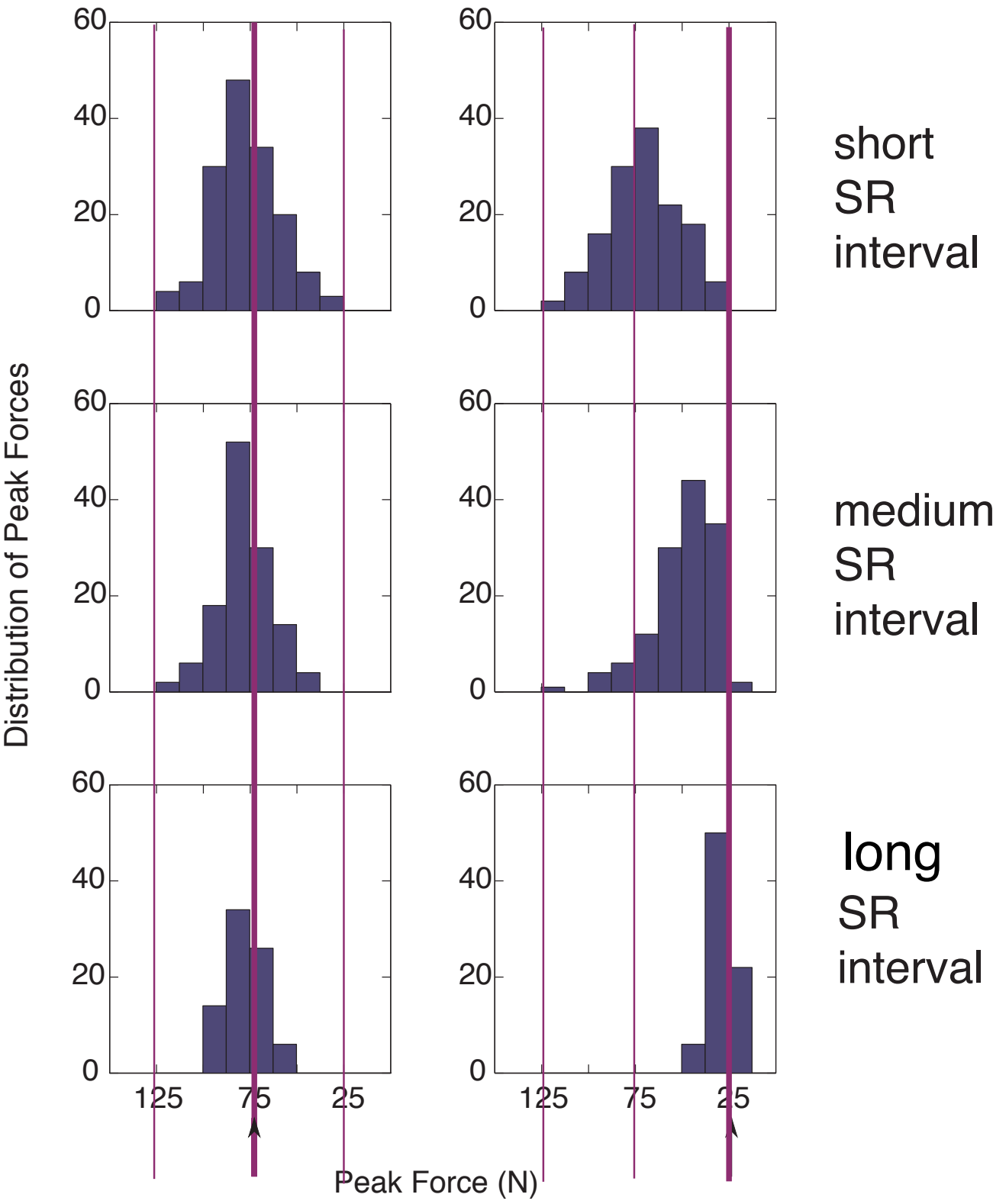


[Ghez and colleagues, 1988 to 1990's]

theoretical account for Henig et al.

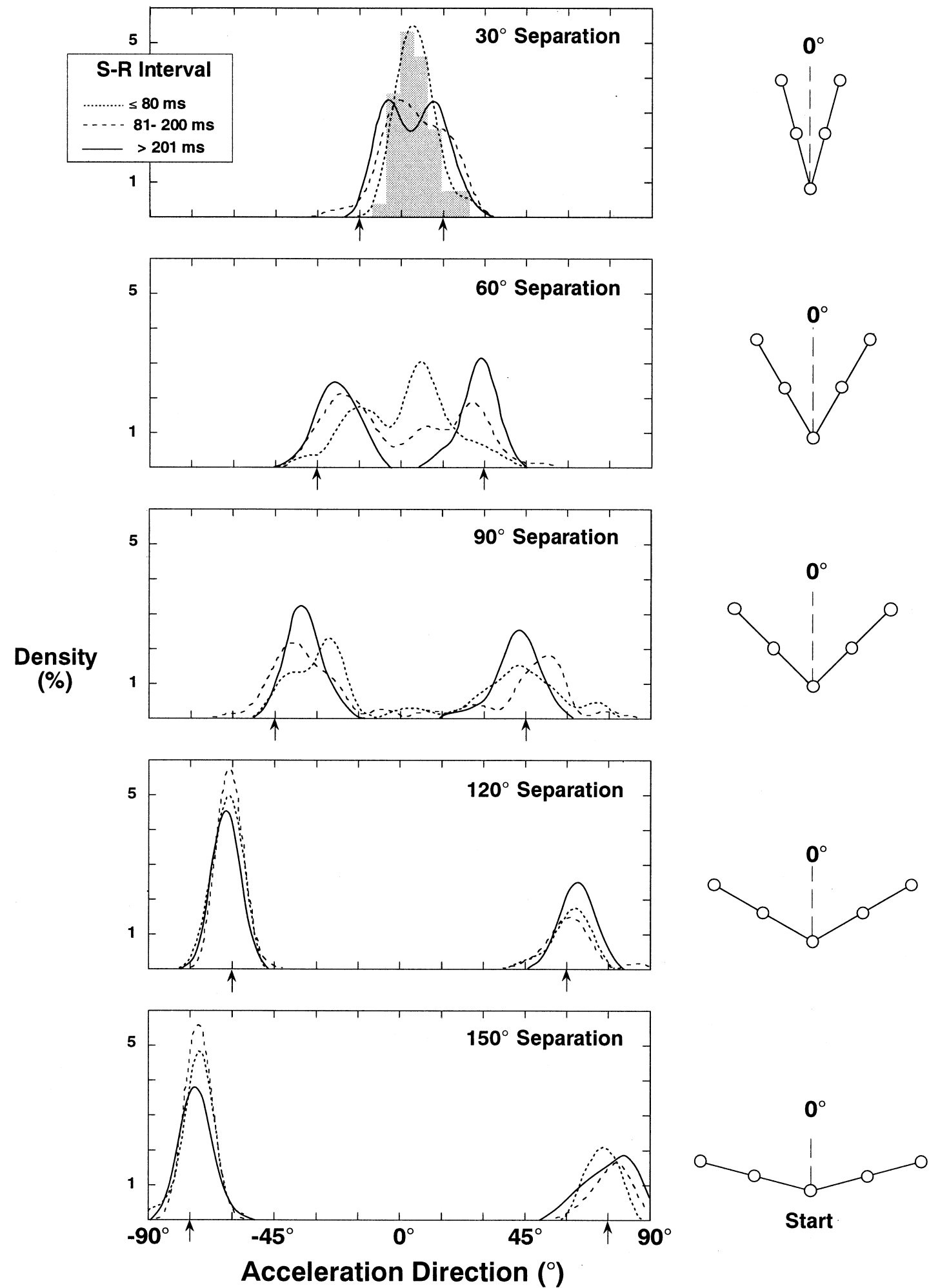


Experimental results of Henig et al

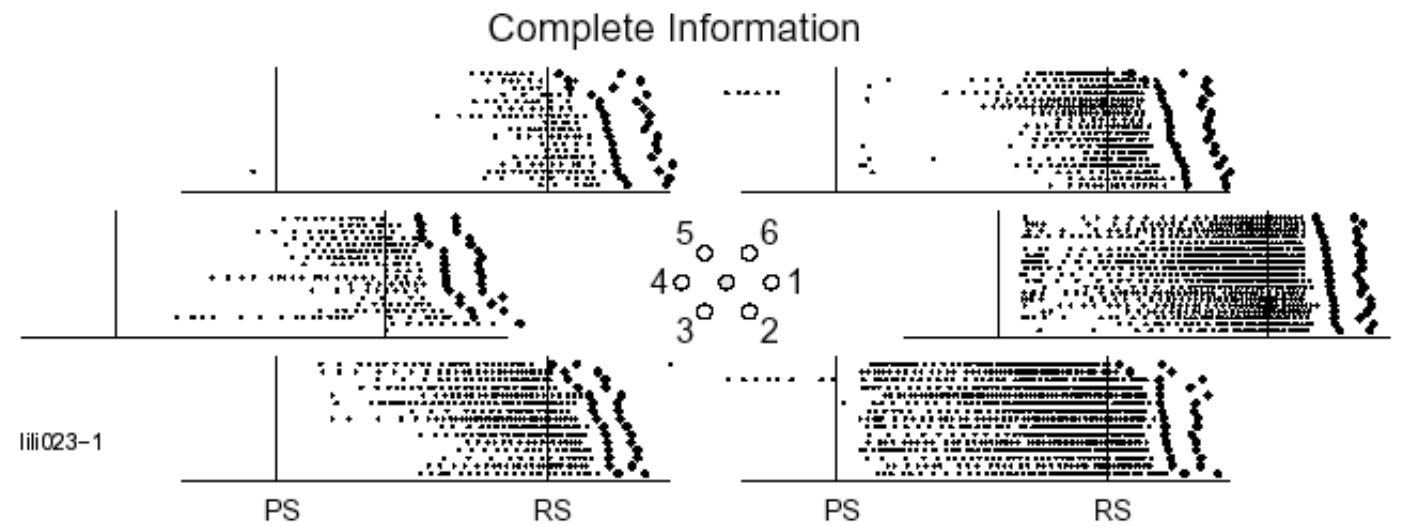
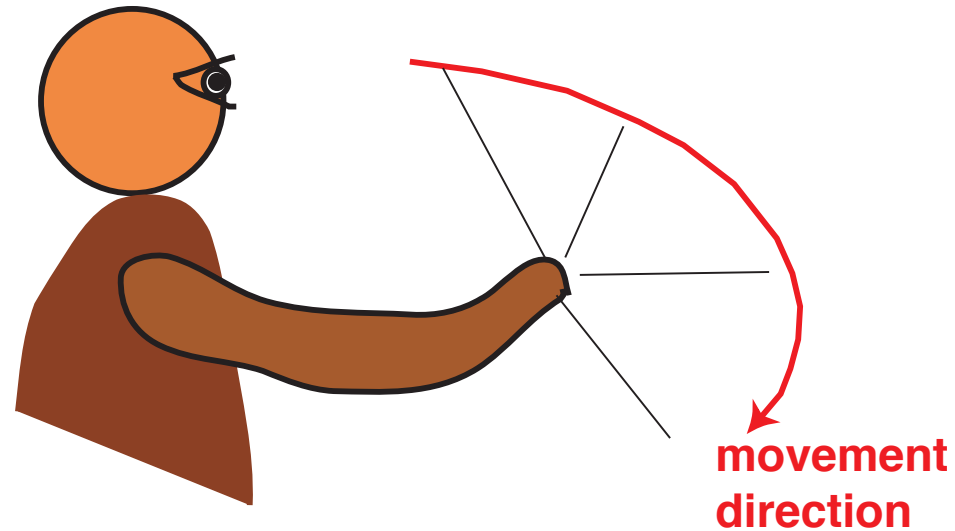


■ infer width of
preshape peaks
in field

[Ghez et al 1997]

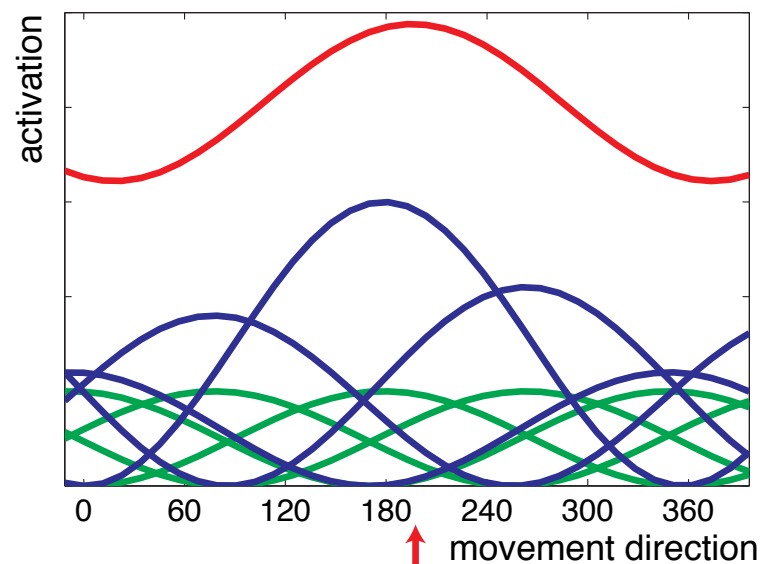


Neural evidence for preshape



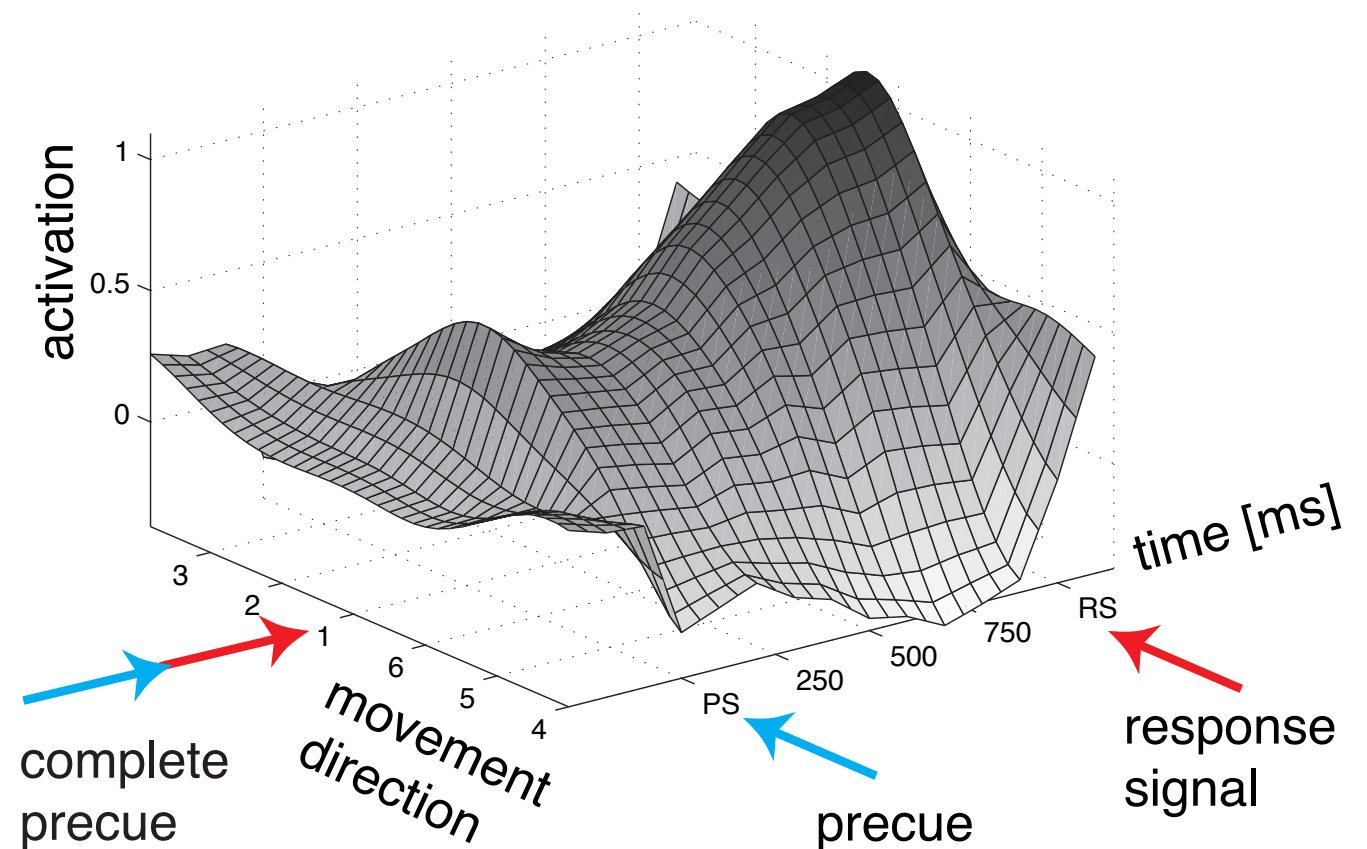
Distribution of population activation =

$$\sum_{\text{neurons}} \text{tuning curve} * \text{current firing rate}$$



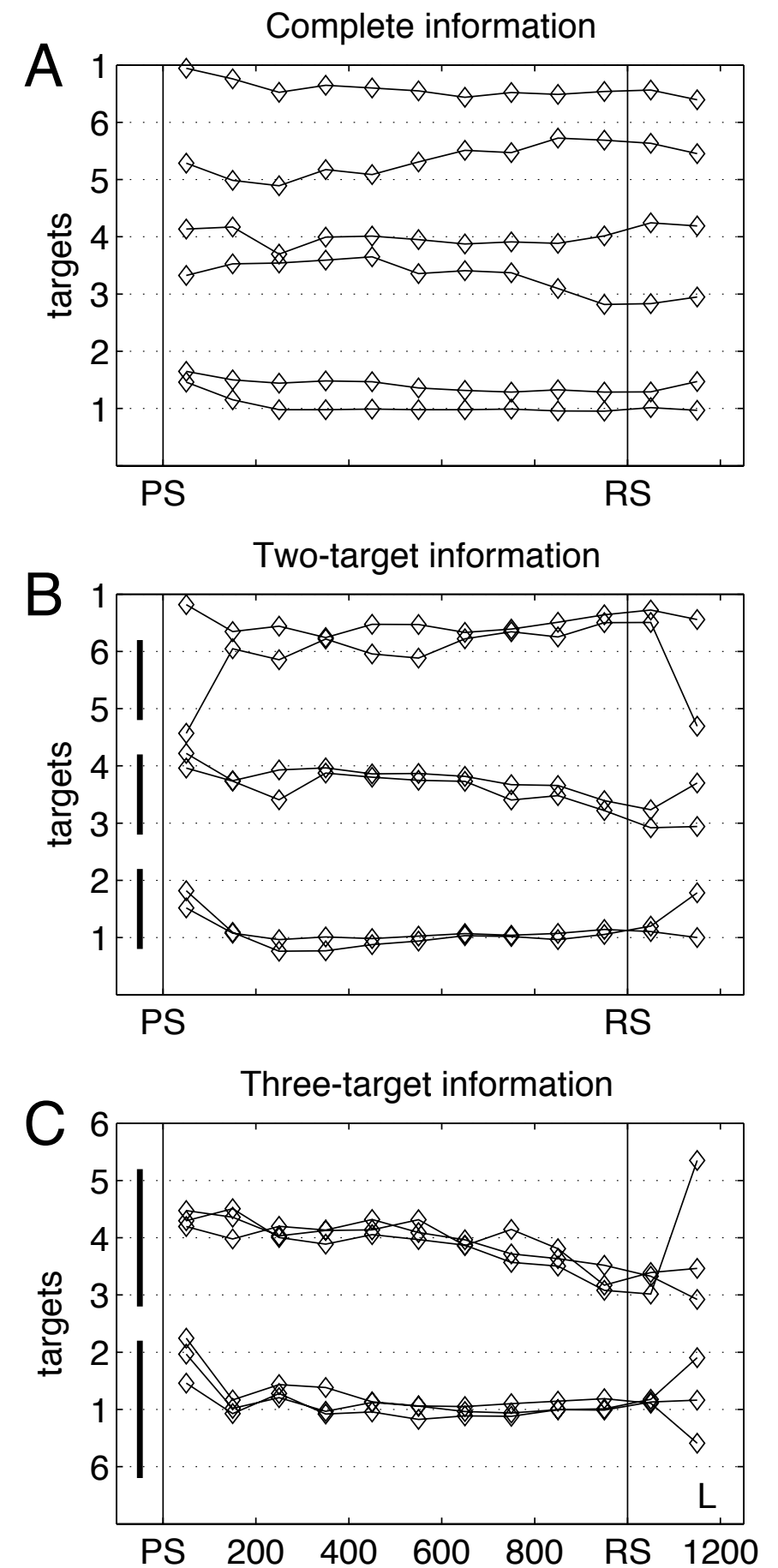
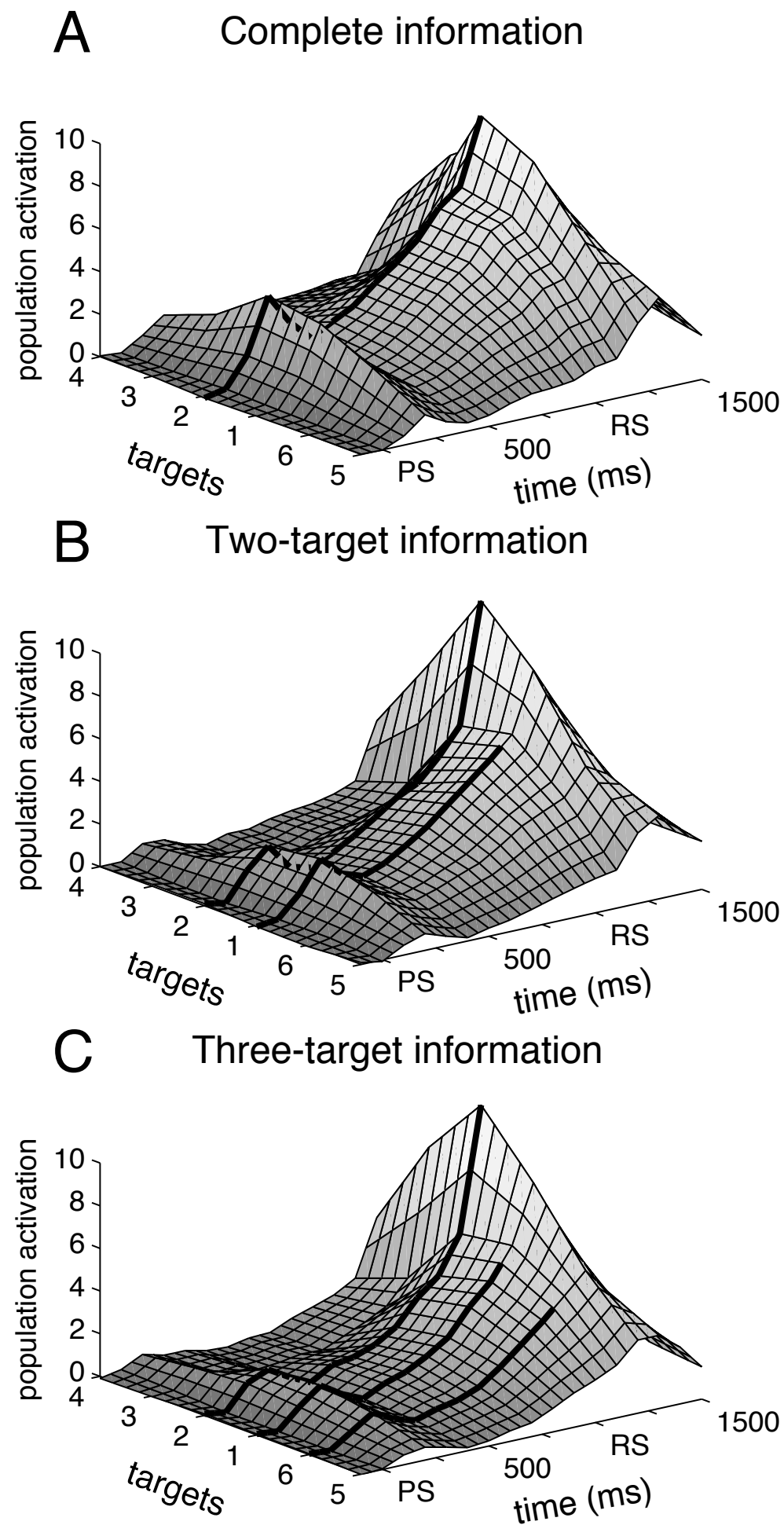
movement direction required in this trial

[after Bastian, Riehle, Schöner, submitted]



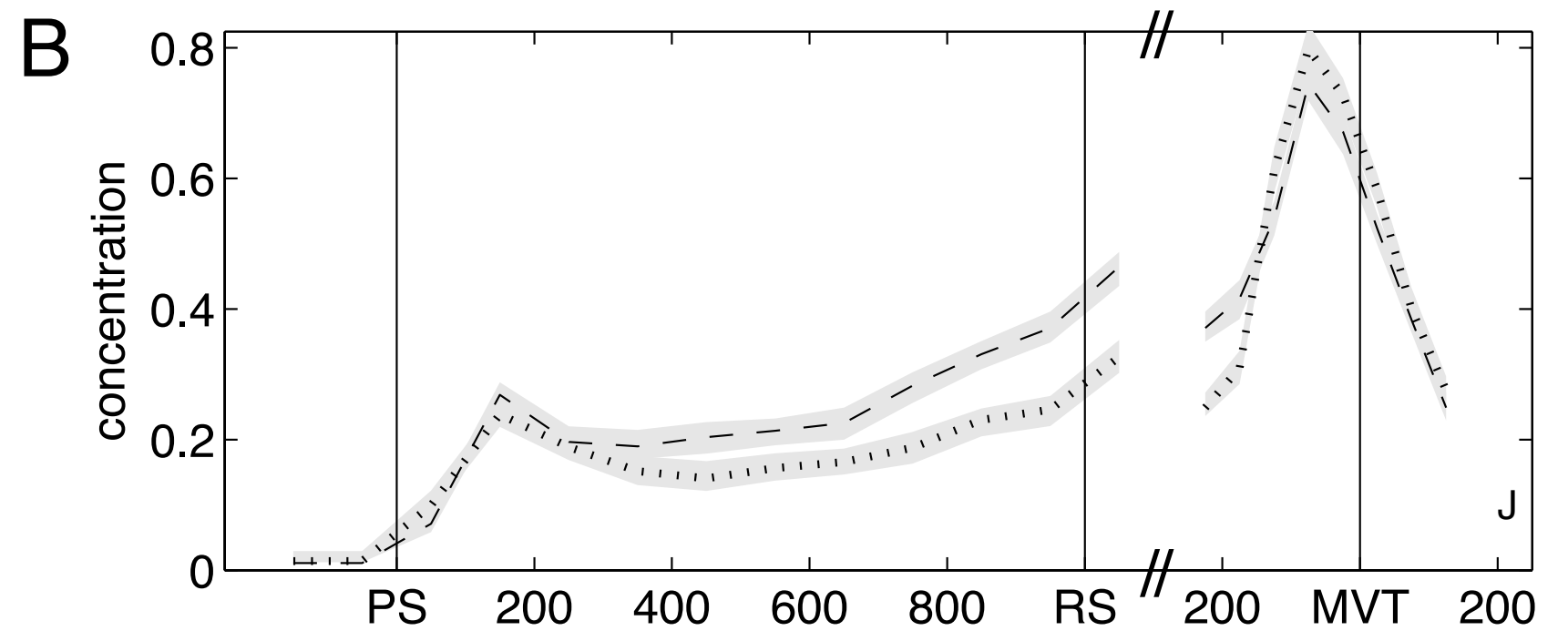
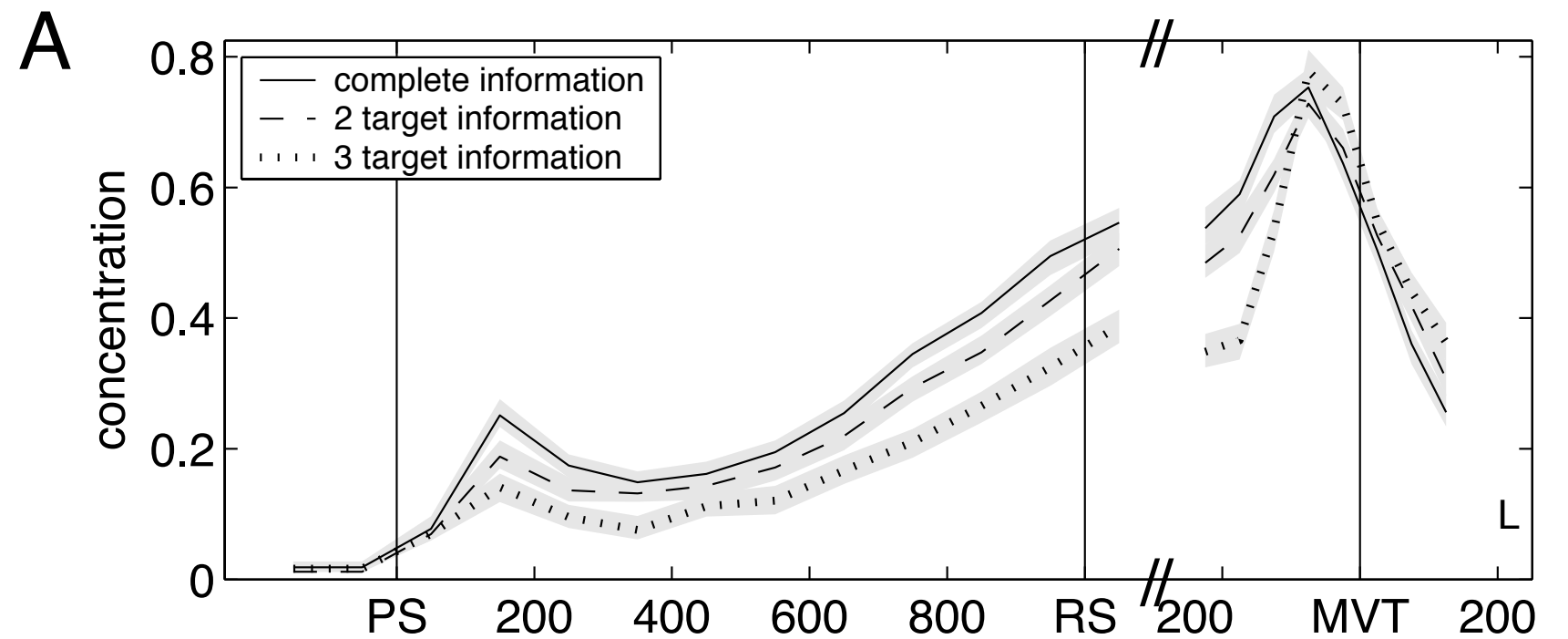
[Bastian, Riehle, Schöner: Europ J Neurosci 18: 2047 (2003)]

■ DPA reflects
prior
information



[Bastian, Schöner, Riehle 2003]

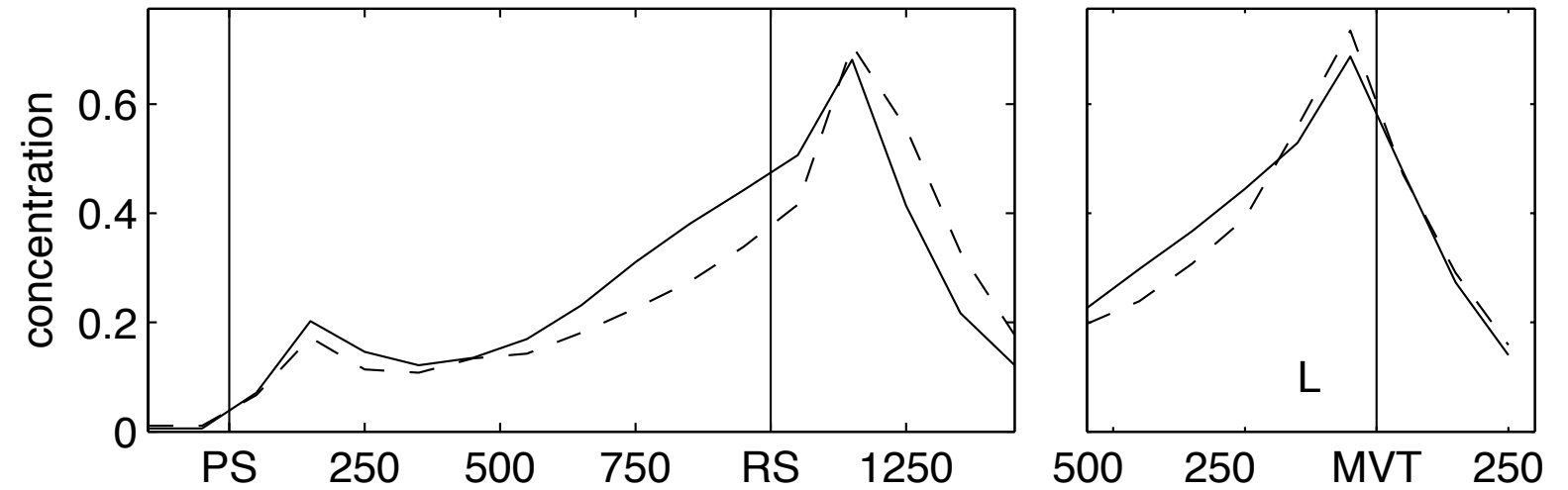
■ DPA reflects prior information



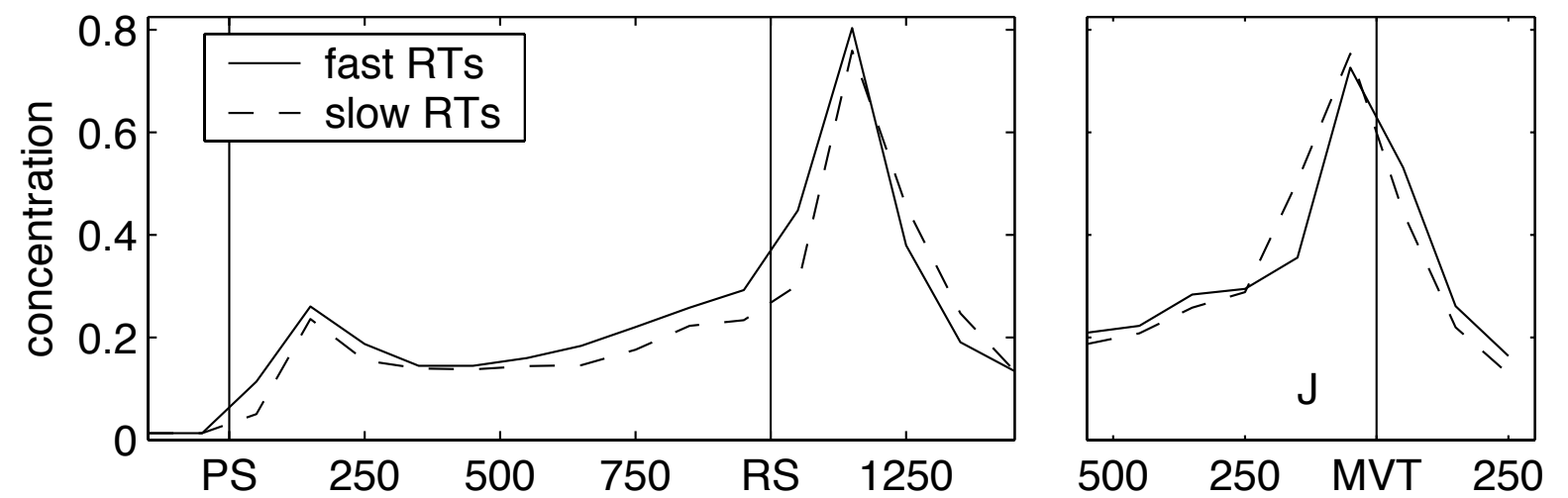
[Bastian, Schöner, Riehle 2003]

■ preshape correlates
with RT

A



B



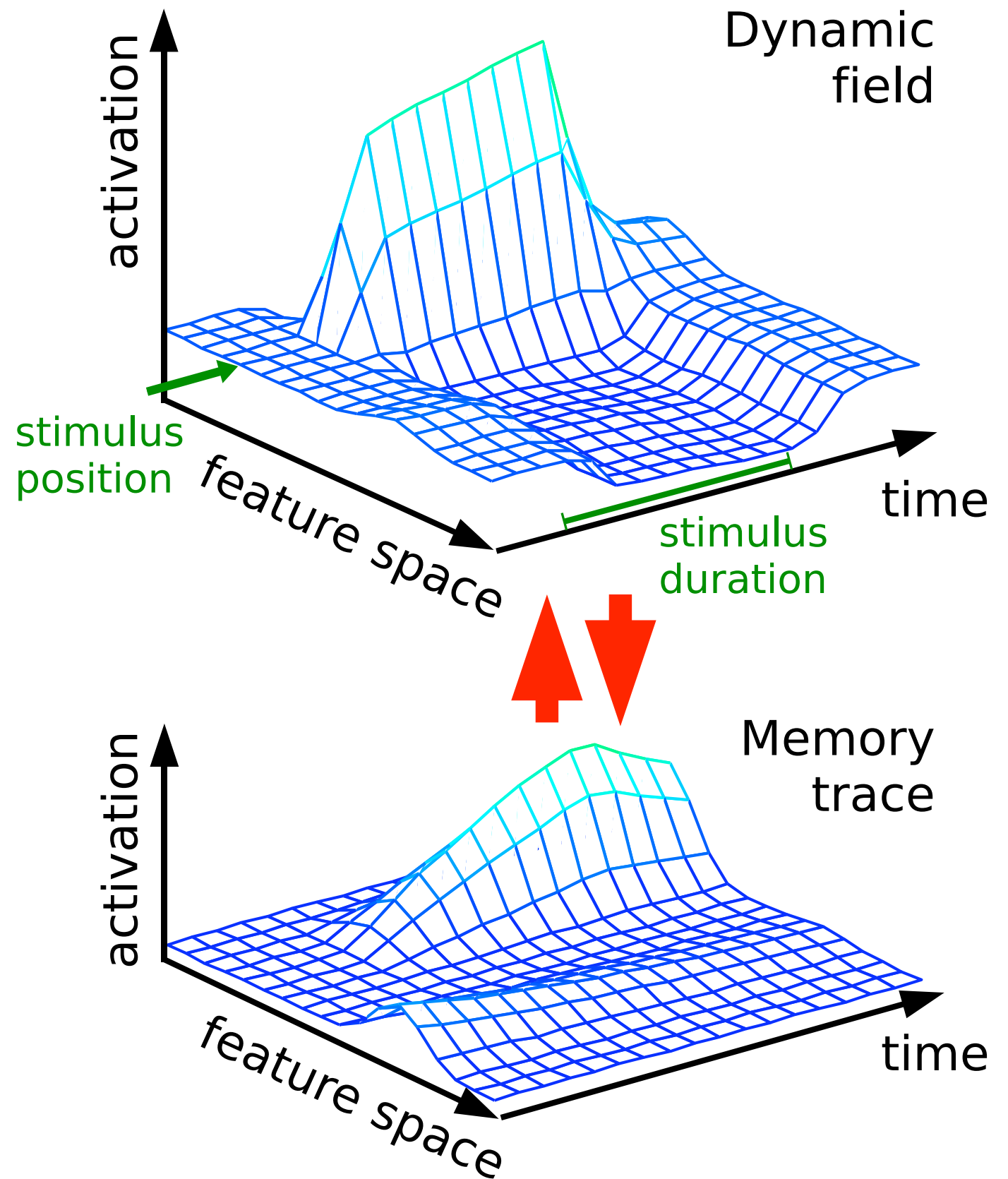
[Bastian, Schöner, Riehle 2003]

Pre-shape and memory trace

- how does pre-structuring of representations arise?
- in some cases, from the perceptual layout, the environment...
- but in other cases, from experience.... memory trace

the memory trace

- inhomogeneities from simplest from the memory trace
- ~ habit formation (?) William James: habit formation as the simplest form of learning
- habituation: the memory trace for inhibition..



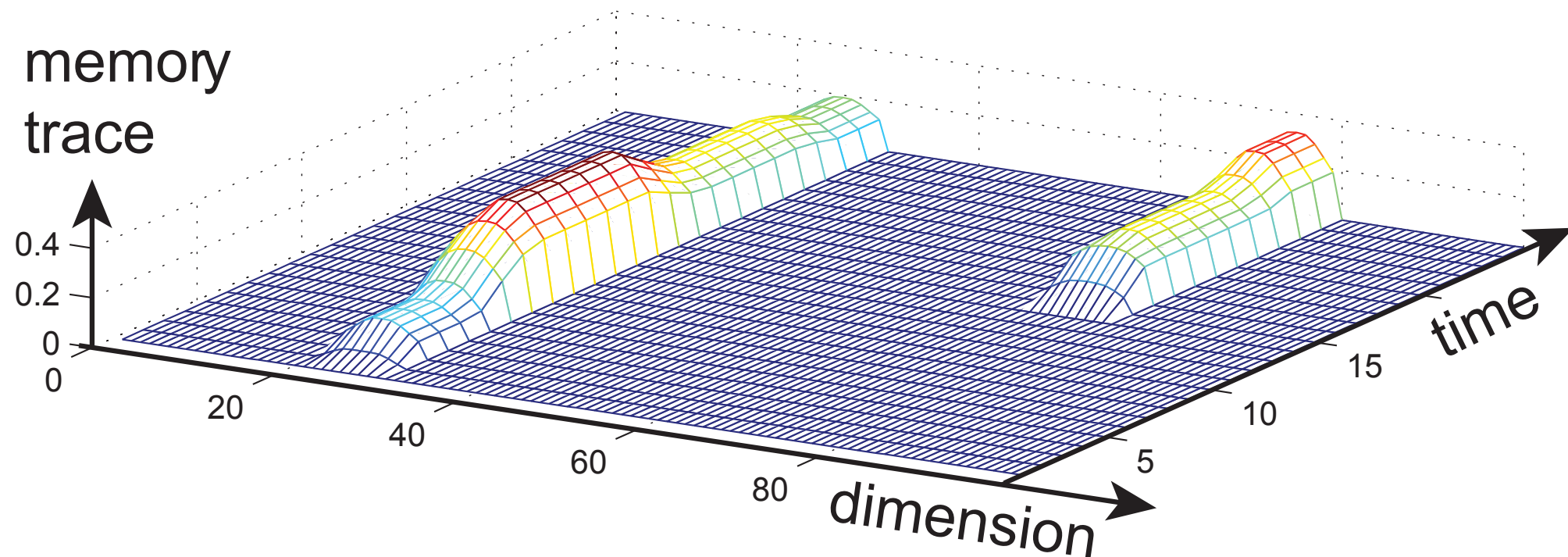
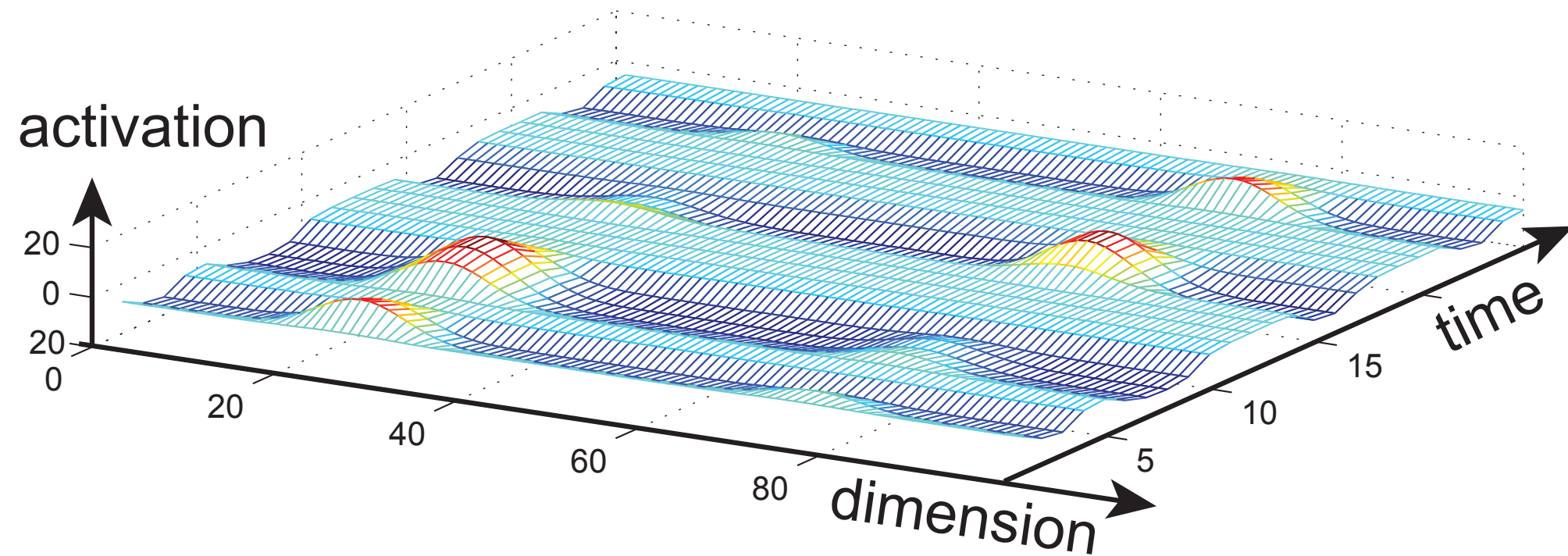
mathematics of the memory trace

$$\tau \dot{u}(x, t) = -u(x, t) + h + S(x, t) + u_{\text{mem}}(x, t) + \int dx' w(x - x') \sigma(u(x'))$$

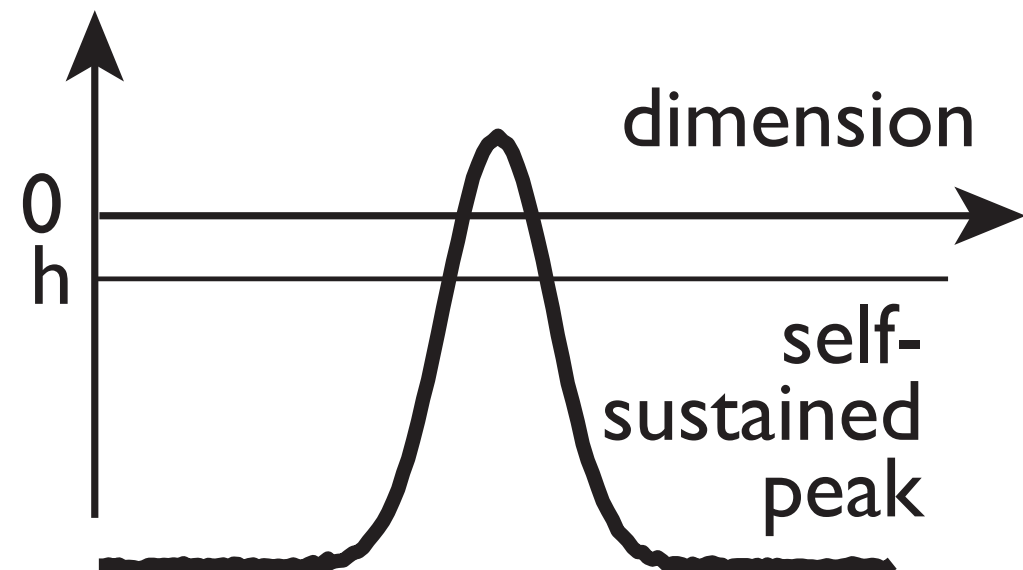
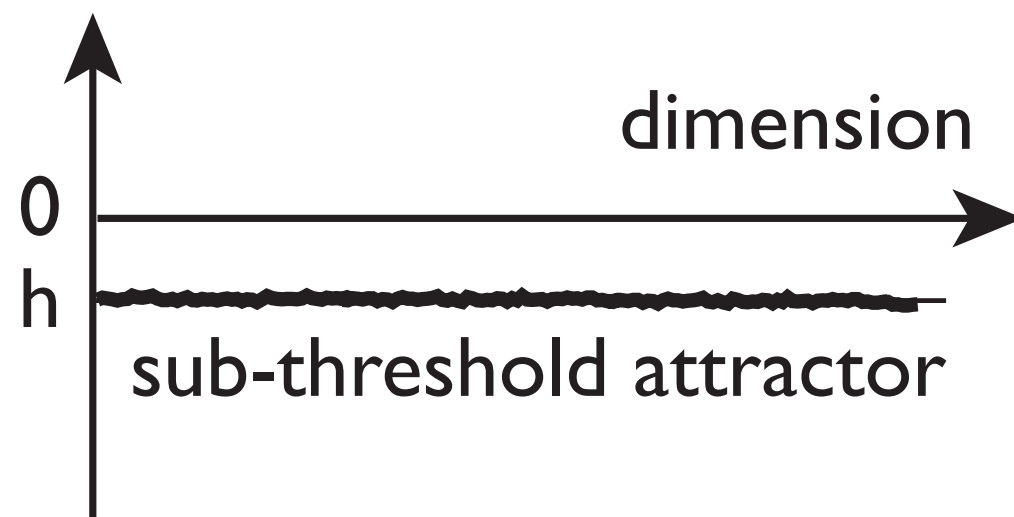
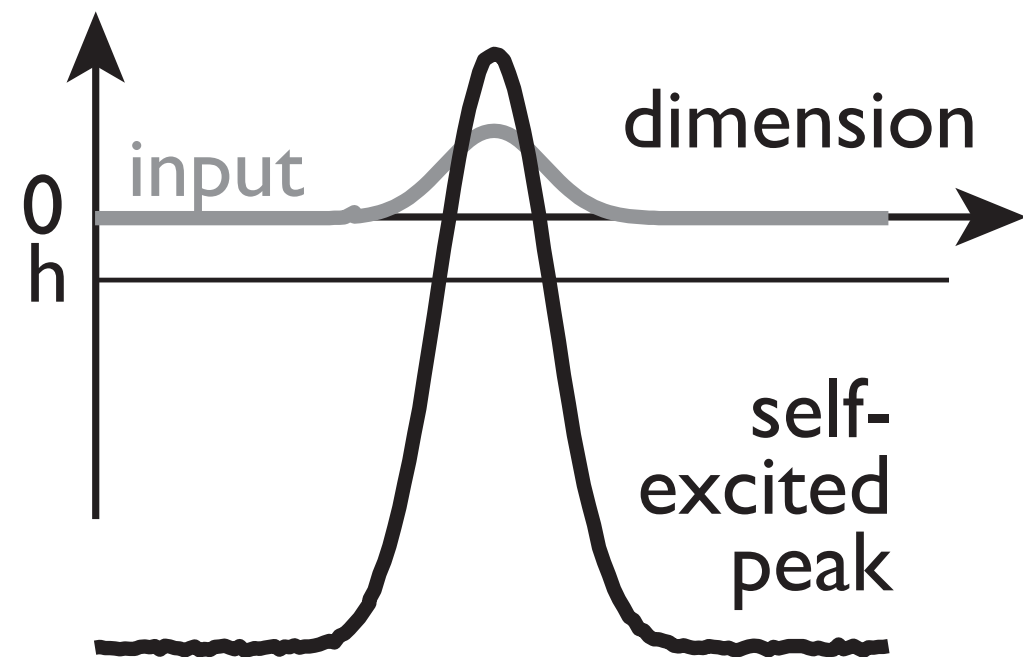
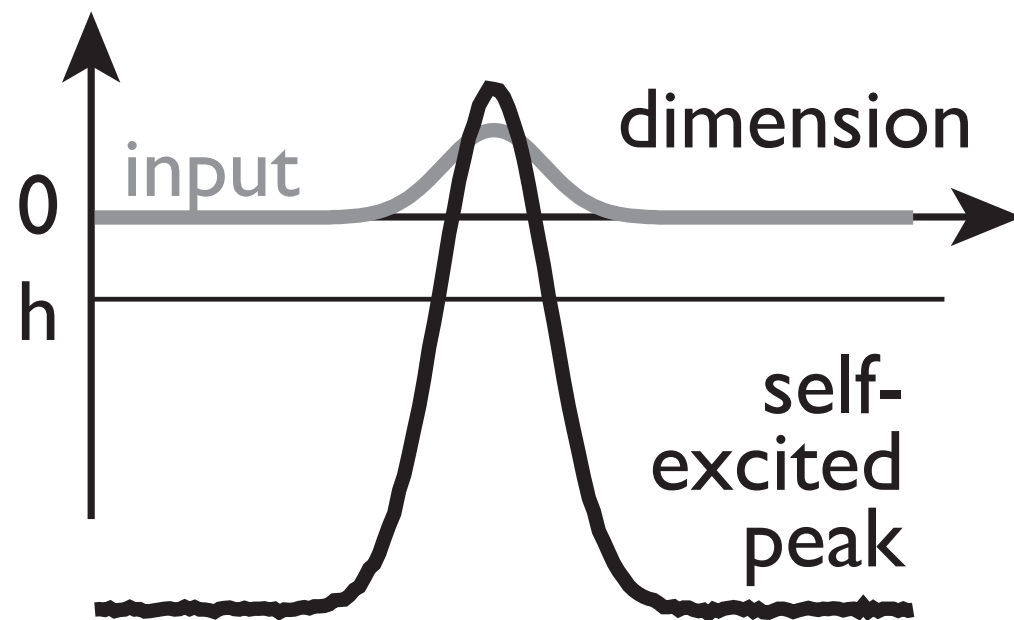
$$\tau_{\text{mem}} \dot{u}_{\text{mem}}(x, t) = -u_{\text{mem}}(x, t) + \int dx' w_{\text{mem}}(x - x') \sigma(u(x', t))$$

- memory trace only evolves while activation is excited
- potentially different growth and decay rates

memory trace reflects history of decisions formation



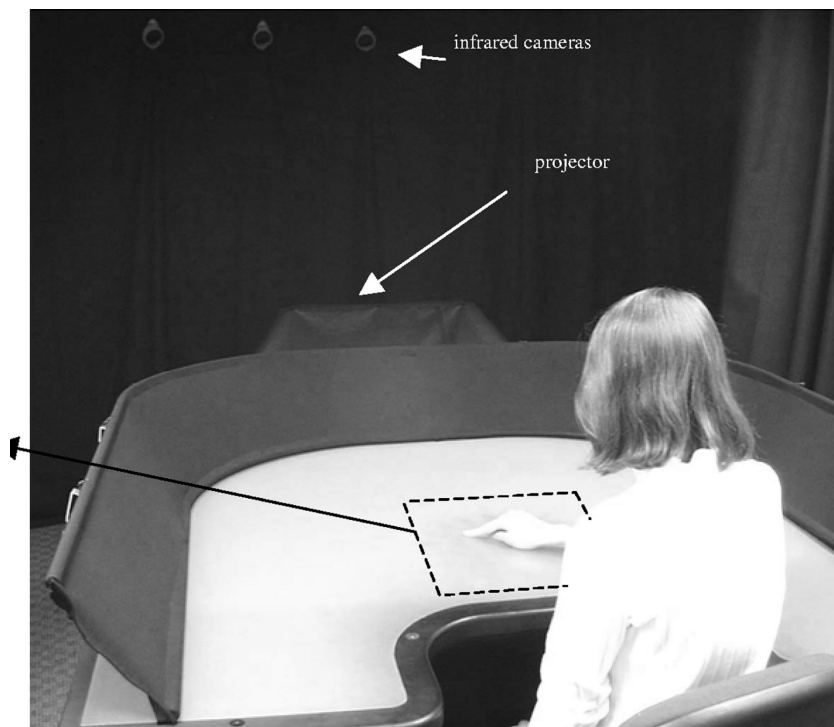
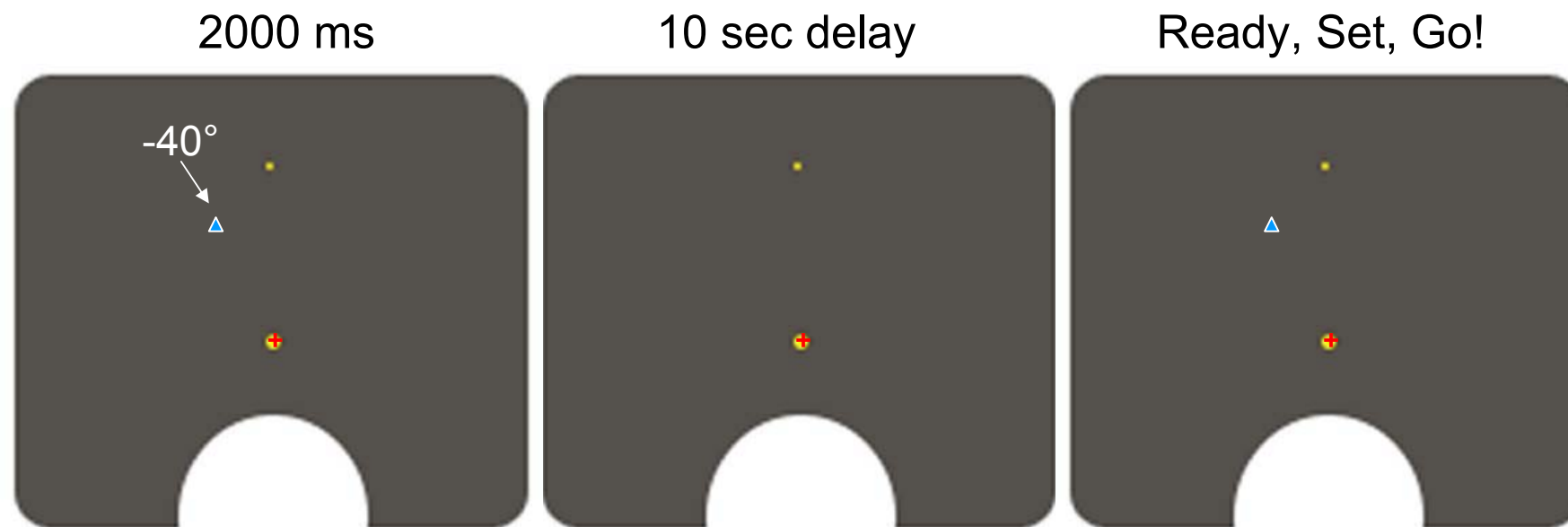
(Working) memory instability



Working memory as sustained peaks

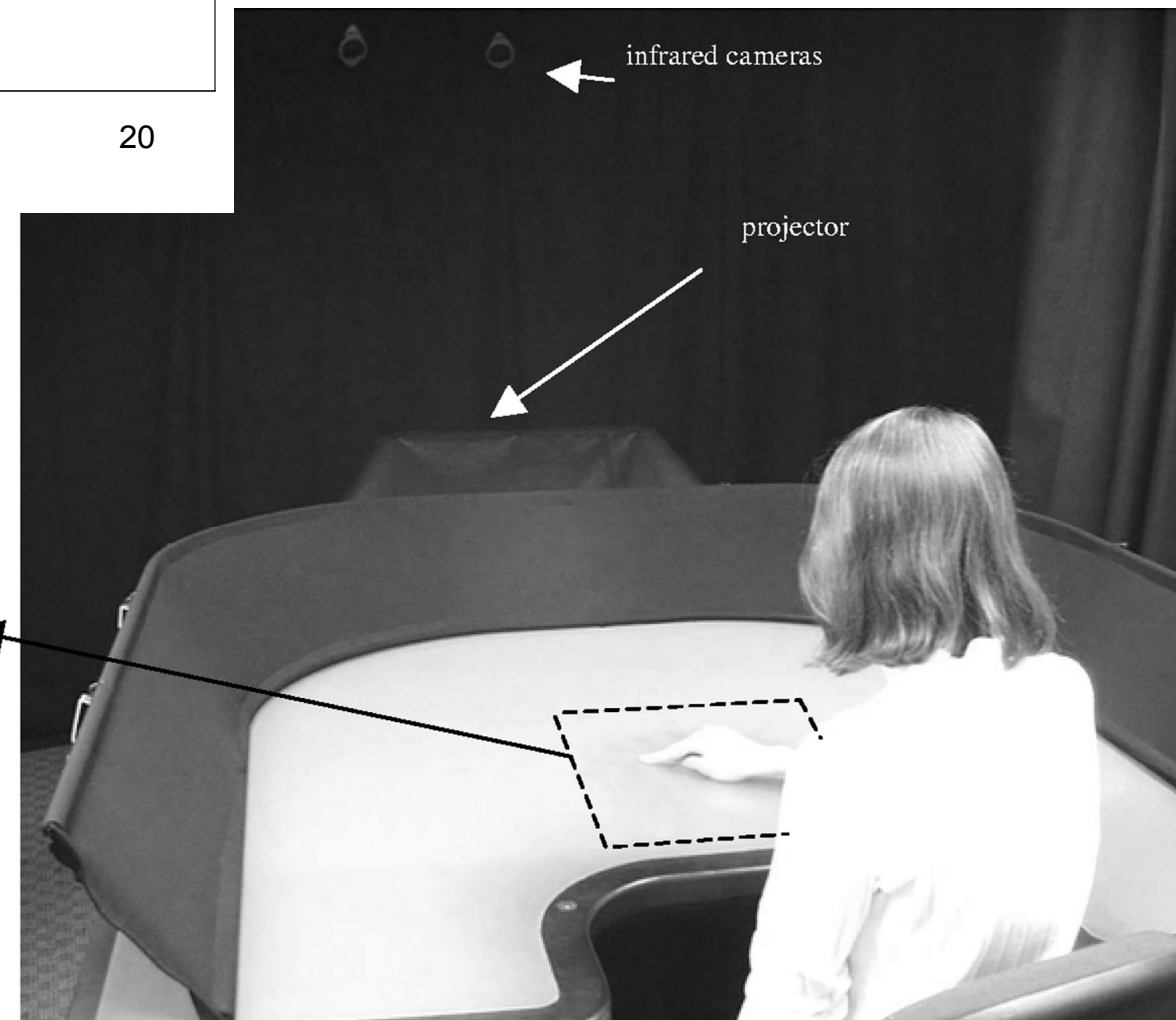
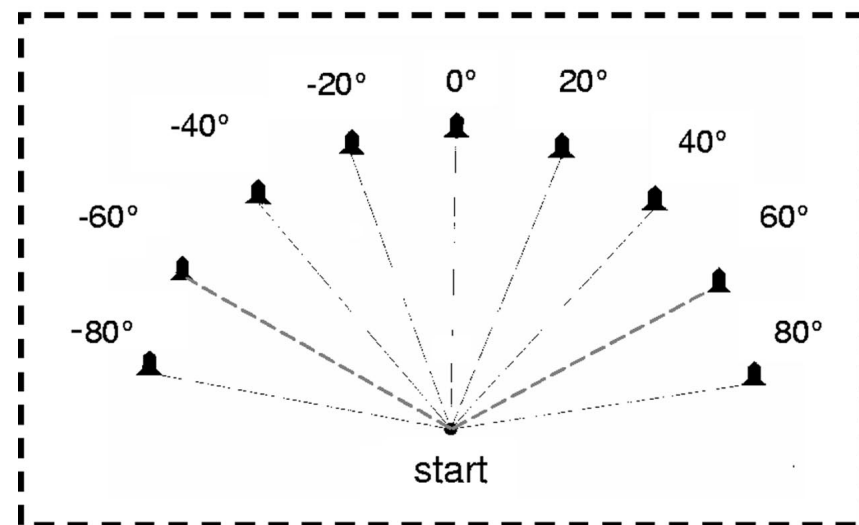
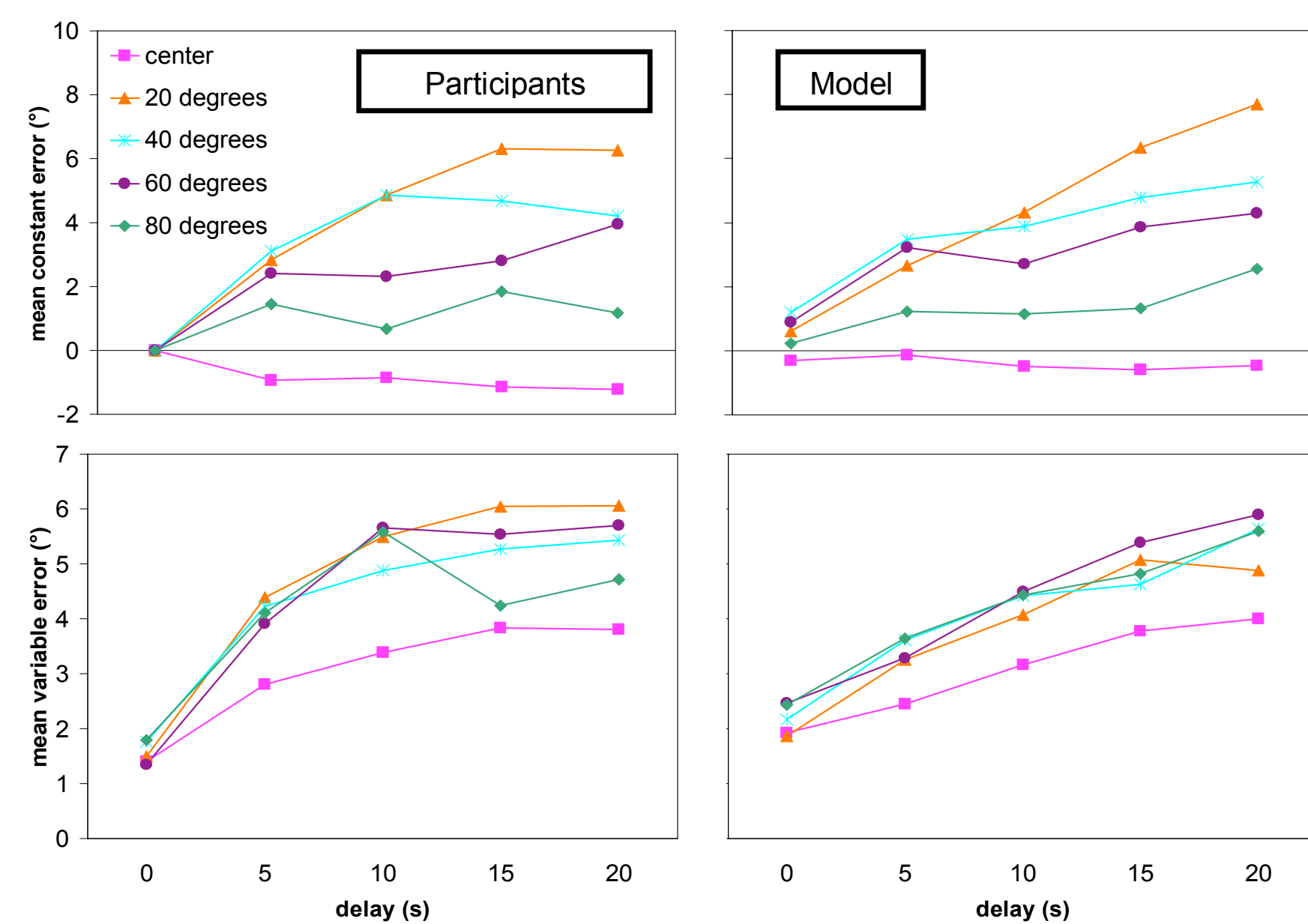
- WMM is marginally stable state: it is not asymptotically stable against drift within the low-dimensional space
- => empirically real.. ?

“space ship” task probing spatial working memory



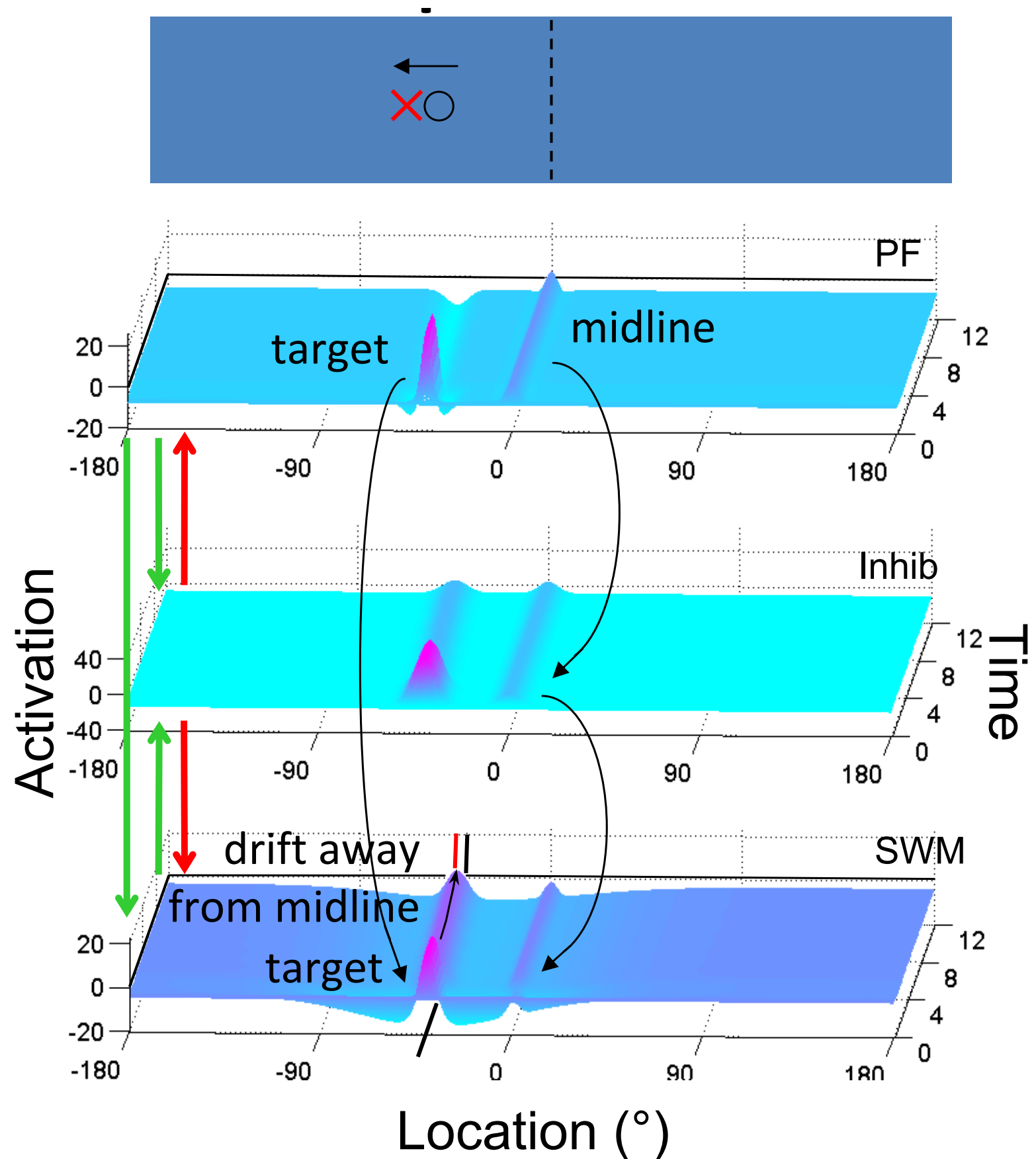
[Schutte, Spencer, JEP:HPP 2009]

repulsion from mid-line



[Spencer,
Schöner,
2006]

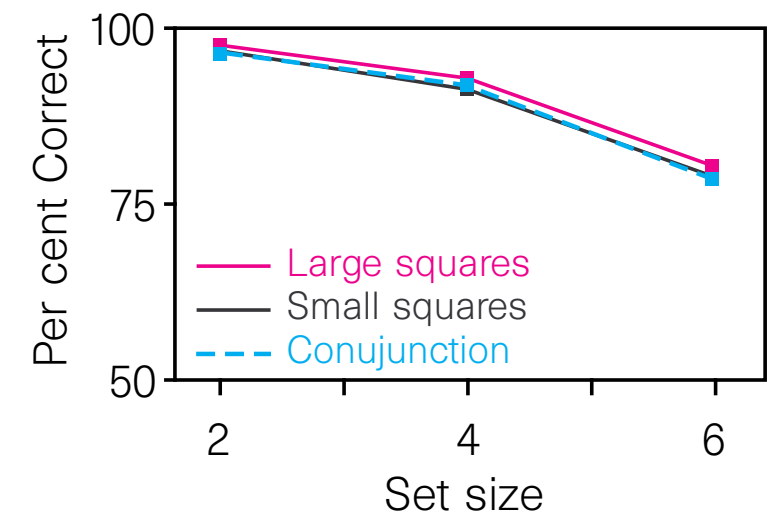
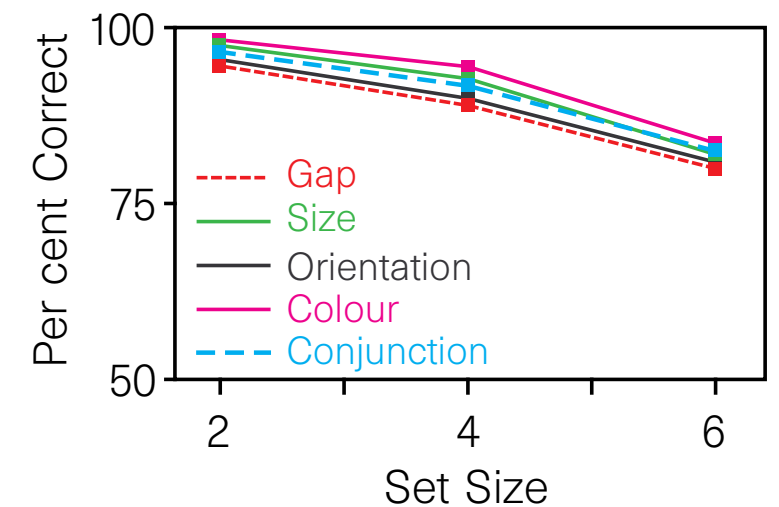
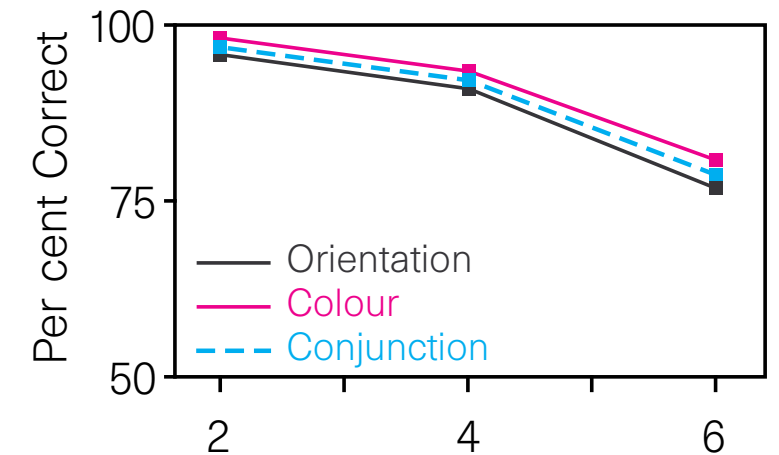
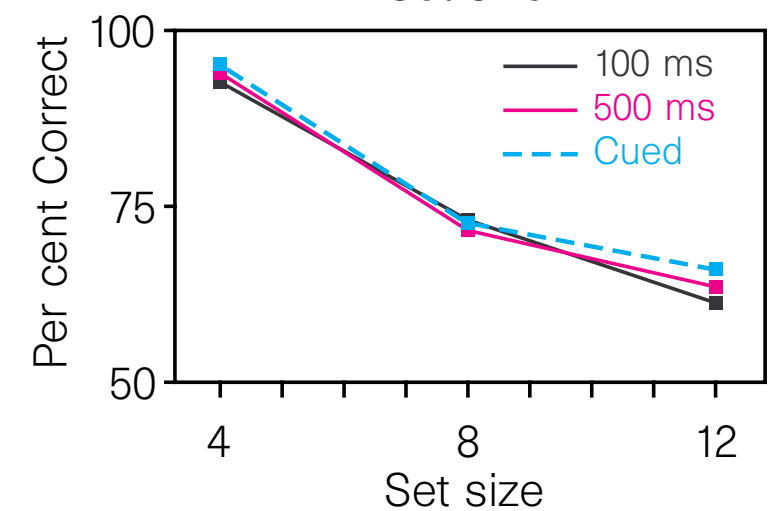
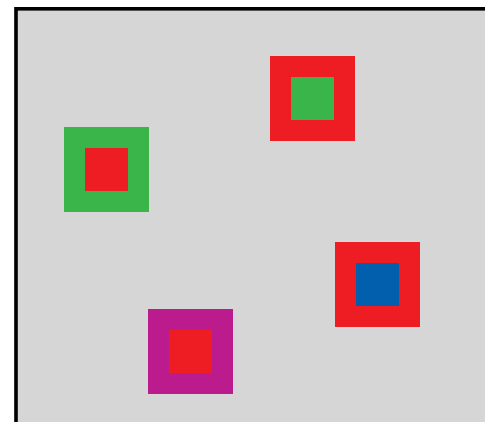
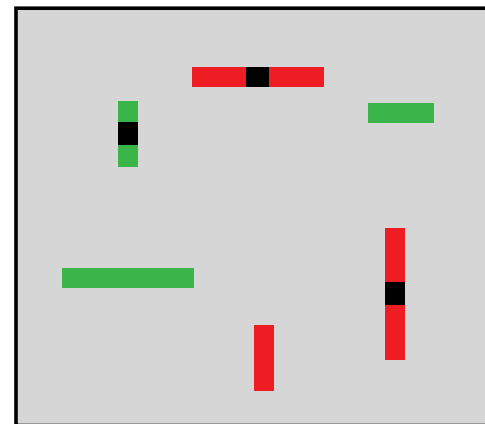
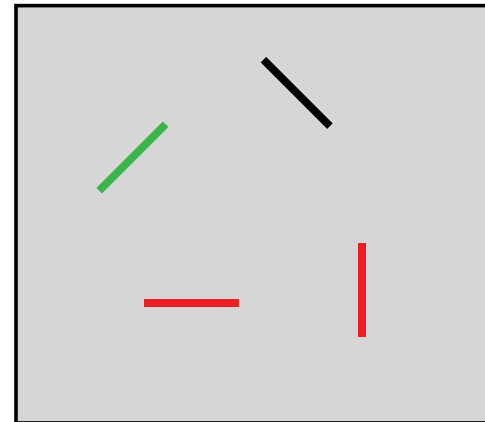
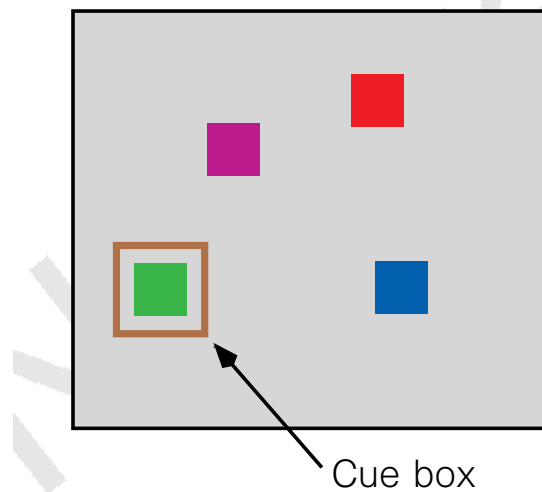
- DFT account of repulsion: inhibitory interaction with peak representing landmark



visual working memory

- has limited capacity
- based on the number of objects...
- about 4
- probed by change detection, free recall

[Luck, Vogel, 1997]

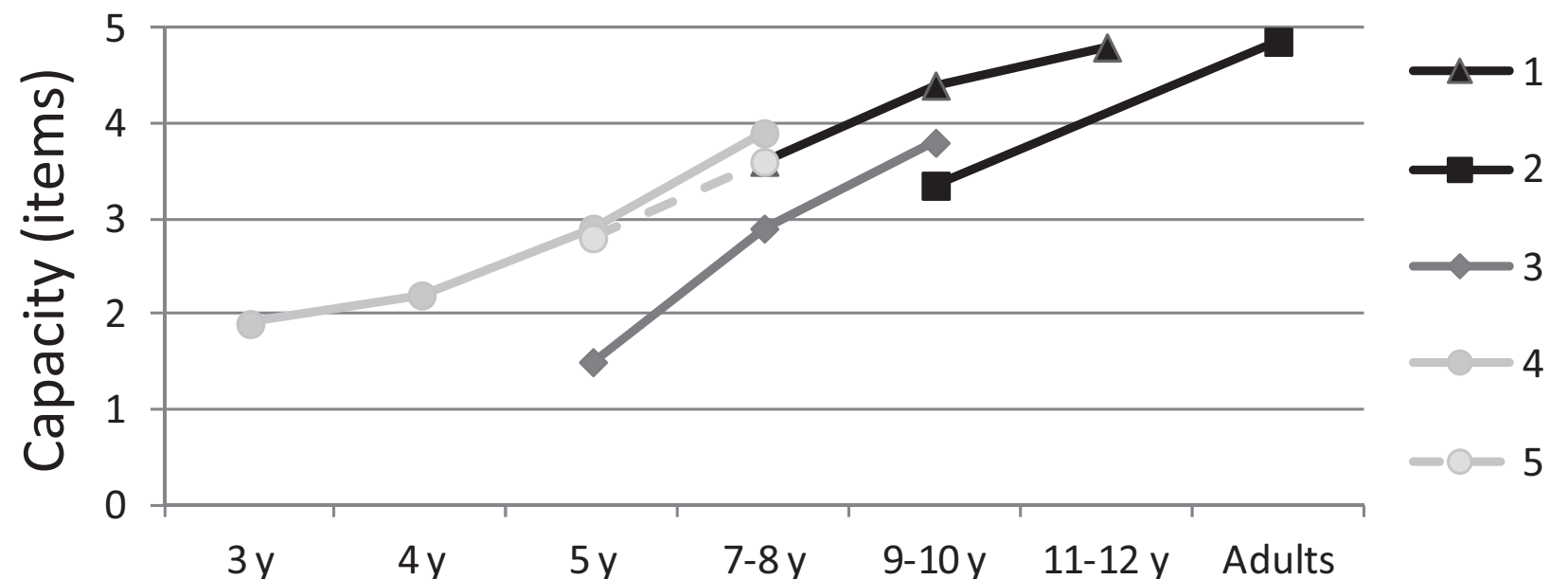


DFT account of WM capacity

- fundamentally caused by accumulation of inhibitory interaction across peaks
- => generic to DFT

WM capacity depends on interaction

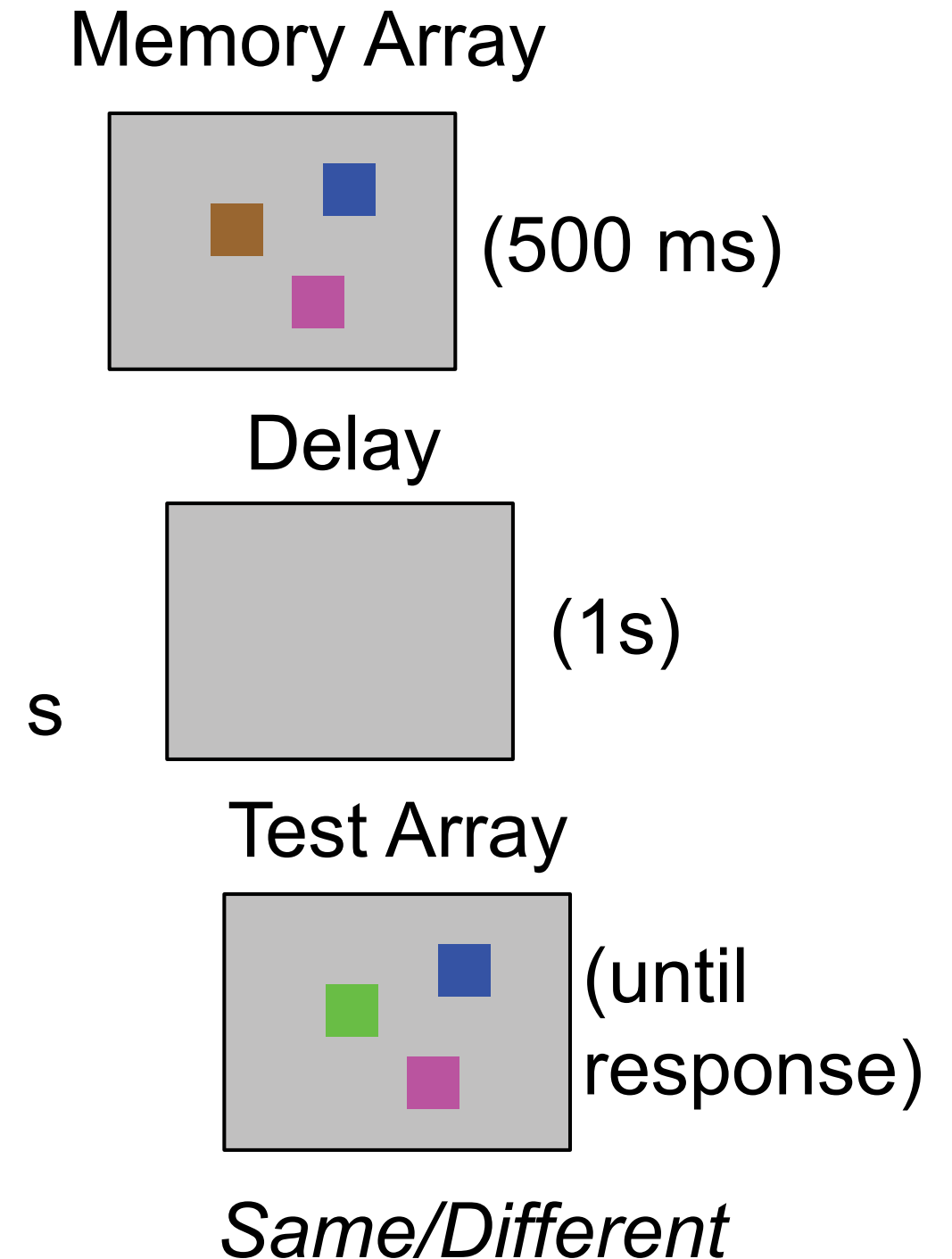
- capacity increases across development
- consistent with “spatial precision hypothesis”...
interaction becomes more excitatory/local over development



[Simmering 2010]

Change detection

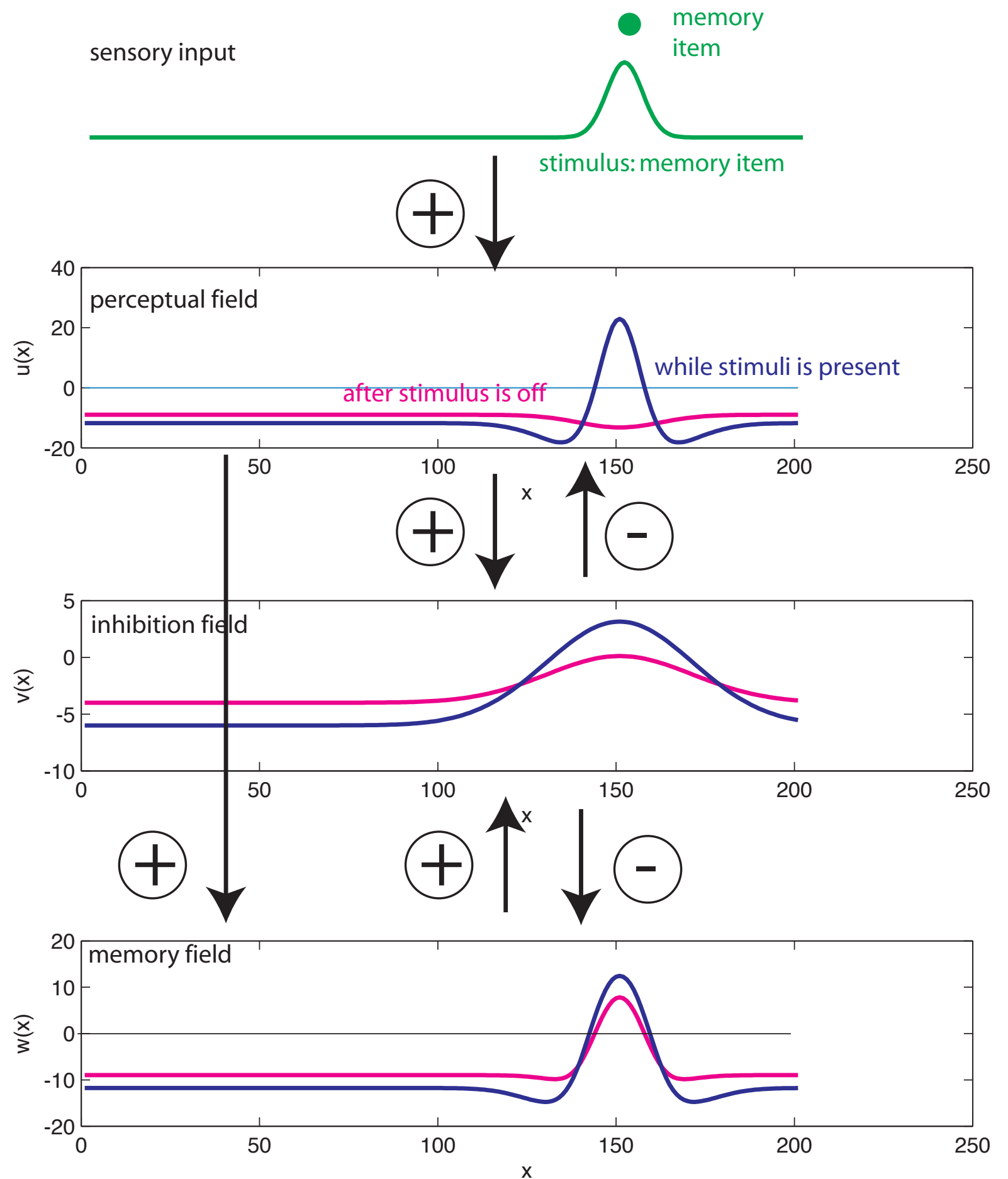
- the standard probe of working memory



DFT account for change detection

- separation between perceptual and memory function

3 layer model



3 layer model

$$\begin{aligned}\tau \dot{u}(x, t) &= -u(x, t) + h_u + S(x, t) + \int dx' c_{uu}(x - x') \sigma(u(x', t)) \\ &\quad - \int dx' c_{uv}(x - x') \sigma(v(x', t)) + \int dx' c_{uw}(x - x') \sigma(w(x', t)) \\ \tau \dot{v}(x, t) &= -v(x, t) + h_v \\ &\quad + \int dx' c_{vu}(x - x') \sigma(u(x', t)) + \int dx' c_{vw}(x - x') \sigma(w(x', t)) \\ \tau \dot{w}(x, t) &= -w(x, t) + h_w + \int dx' c_{ww}(x - x') \sigma(w(x', t)) \\ &\quad - \int dx' c_{wv}(x - x') \sigma(v(x', t)) + \int dx' c_{wu}(x - x') \sigma(u(x', t))\end{aligned}$$

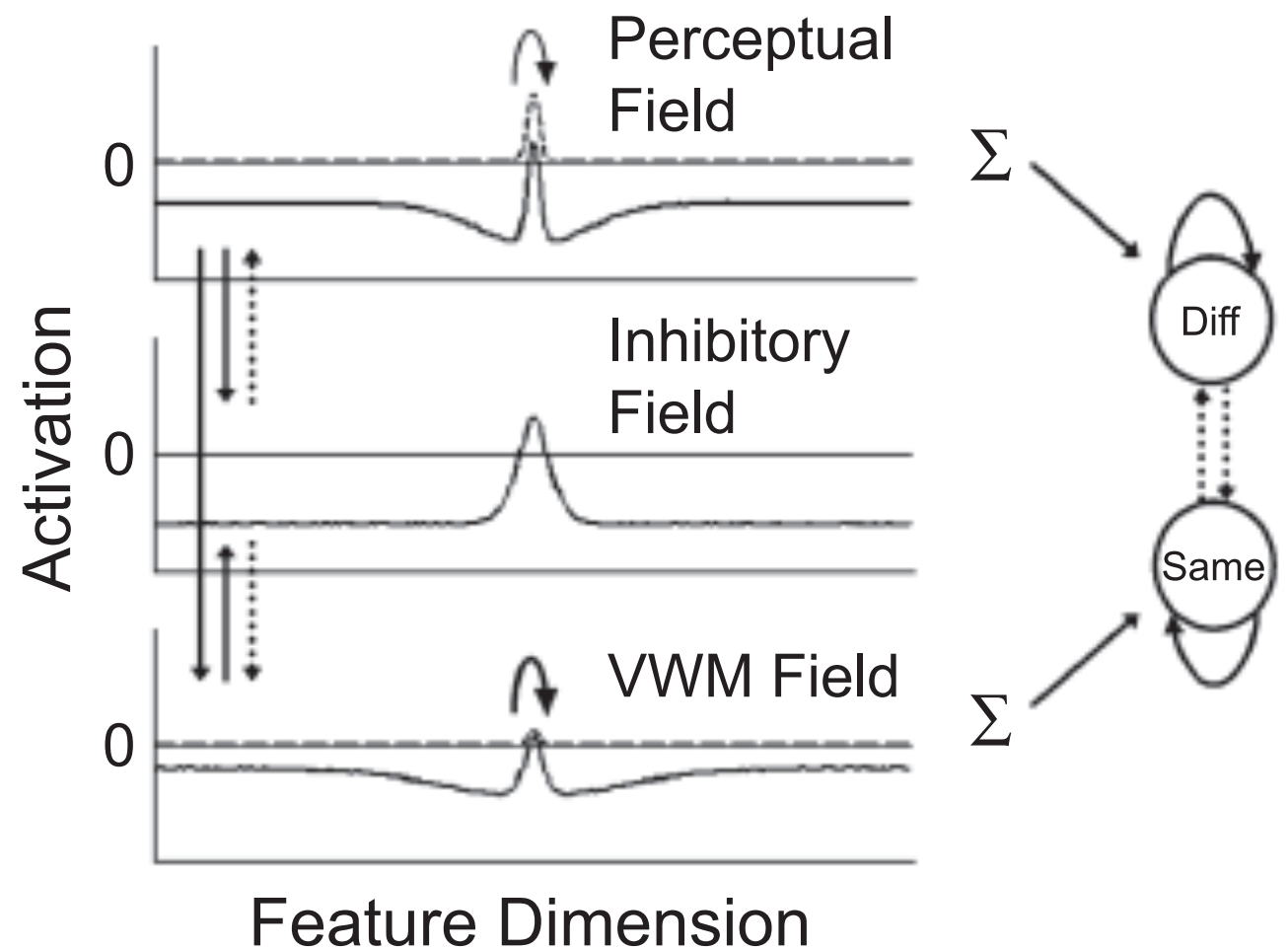
=> simulations

DFT account for change detection

- => account for how working memories arise from percepts, how percepts may detect change and update memories...

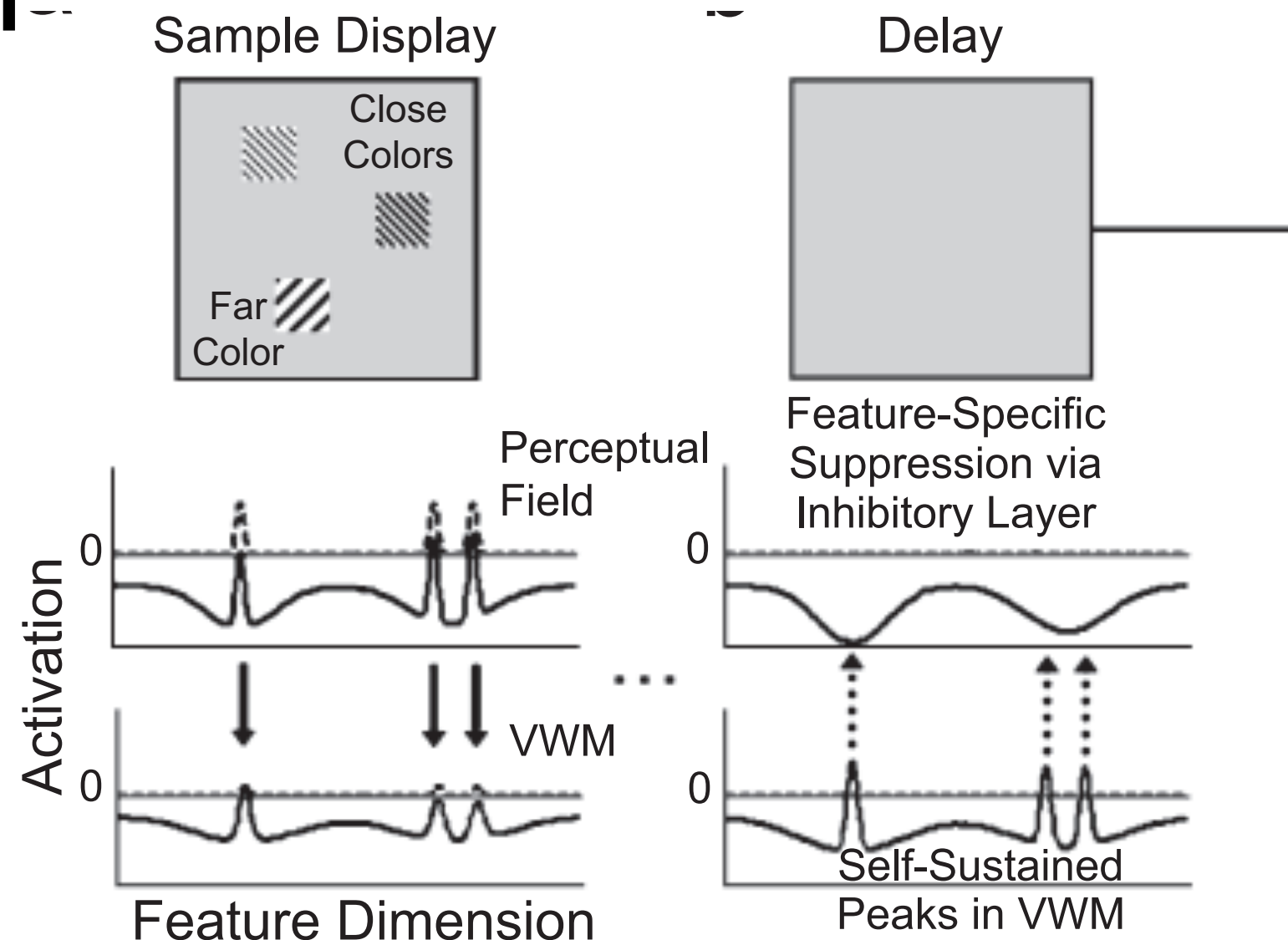
DFT account for change detection

- generate the categorical “answer” by two competing nodes
- based on the “hidden” go-signal in the task



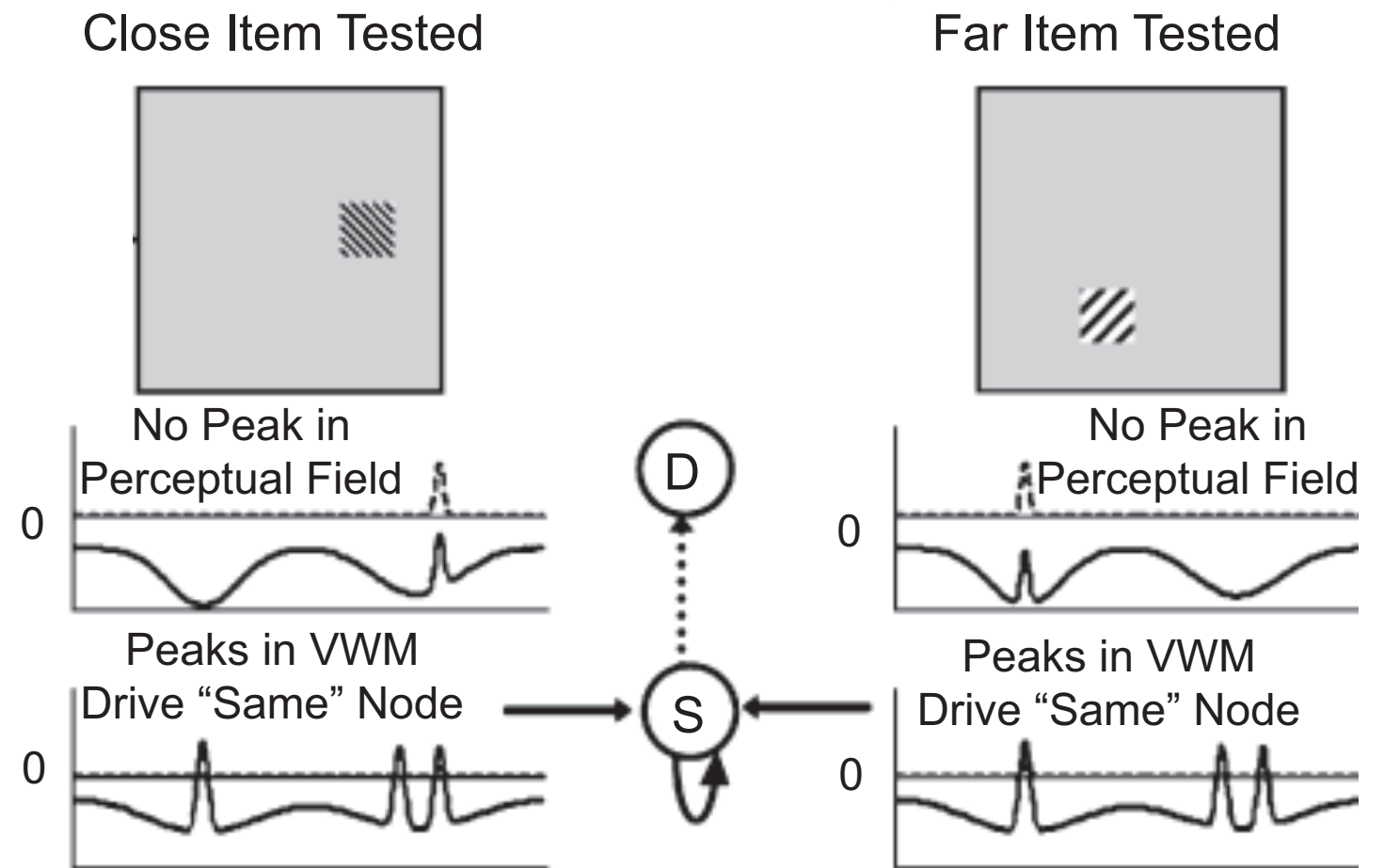
DFT account for change detection

- I) working memory is created



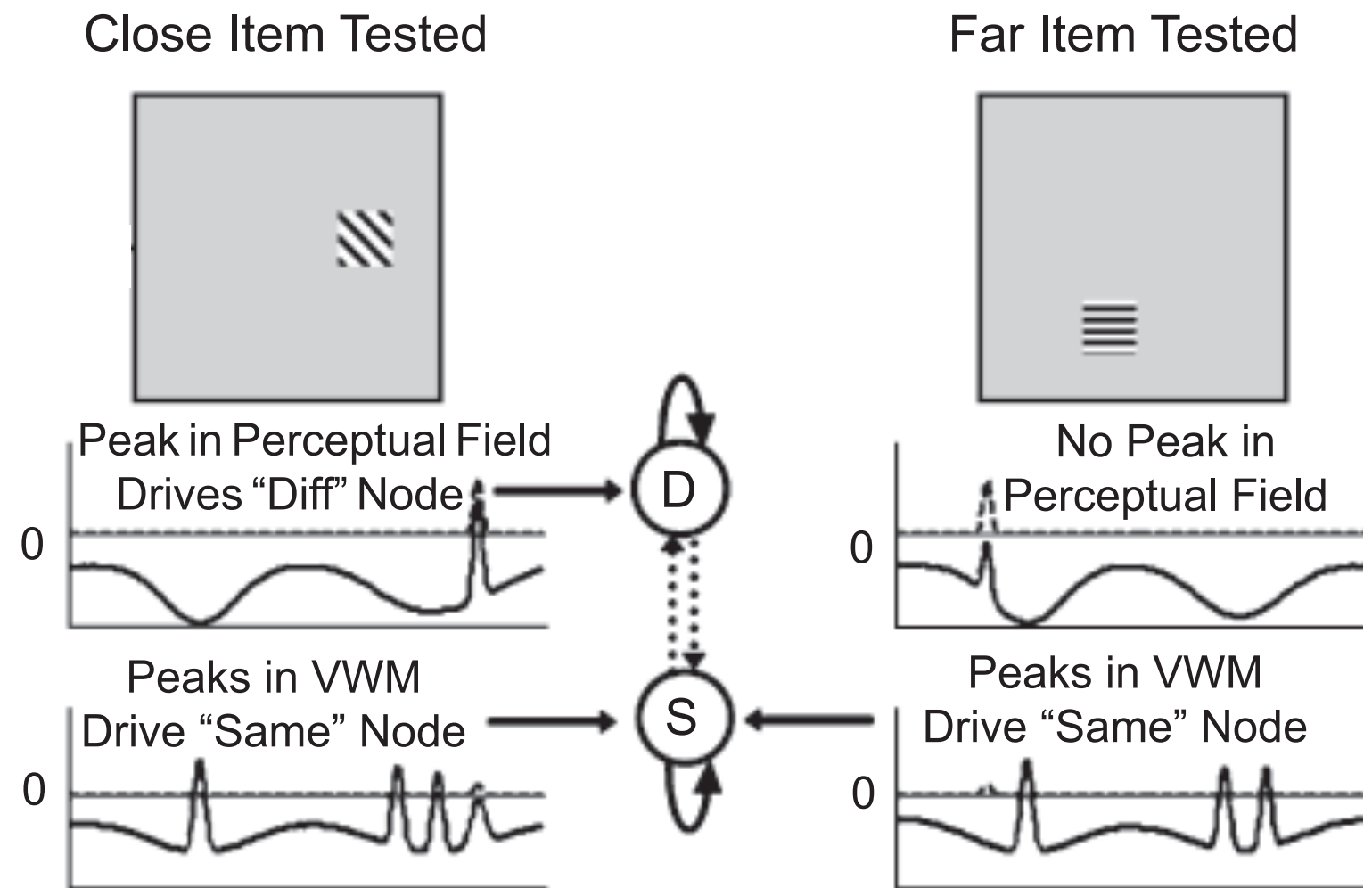
DFT account for change detection

■ 2) change detection in “same” trial



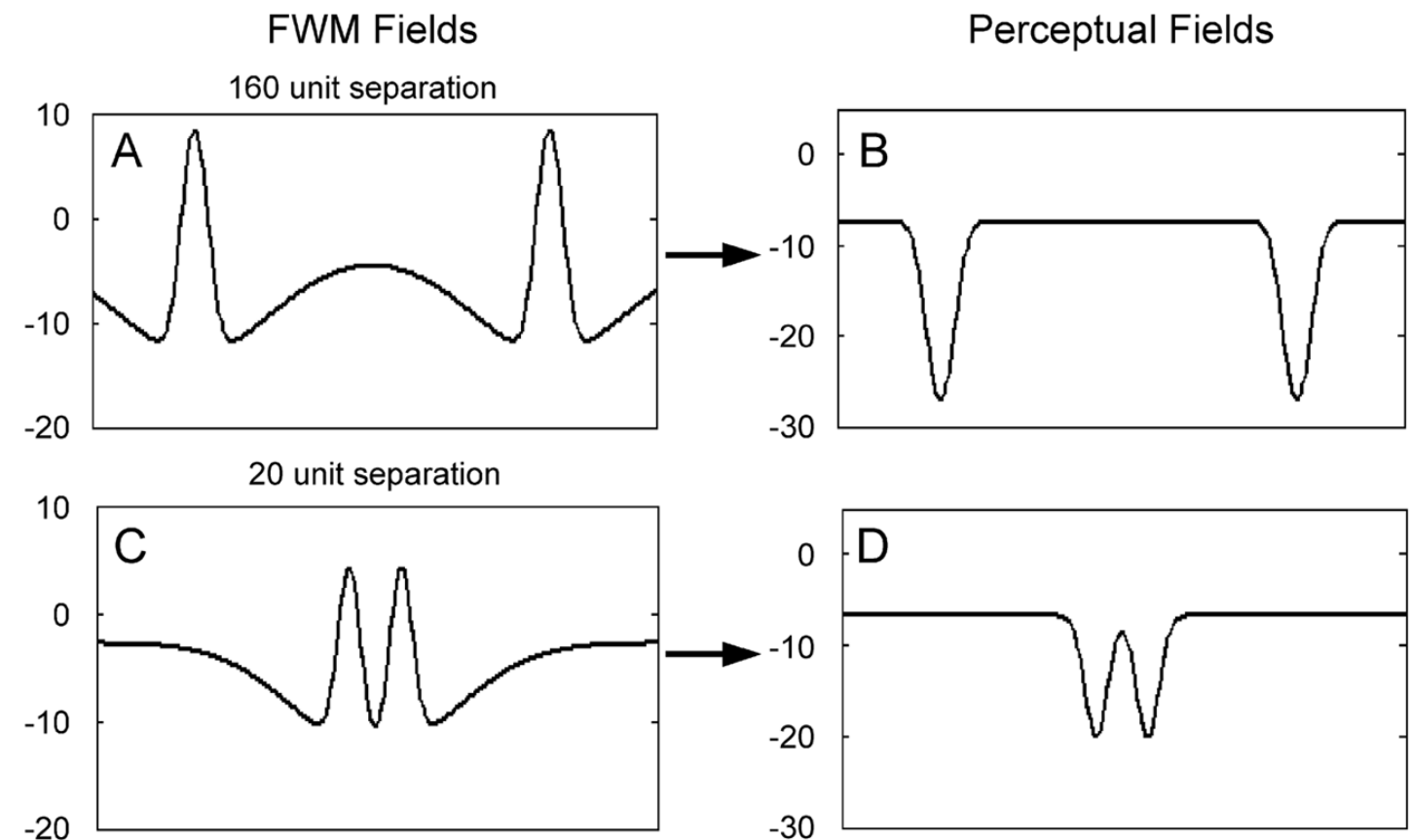
DFT account for change detection

■ 2) change detection in “different” trial



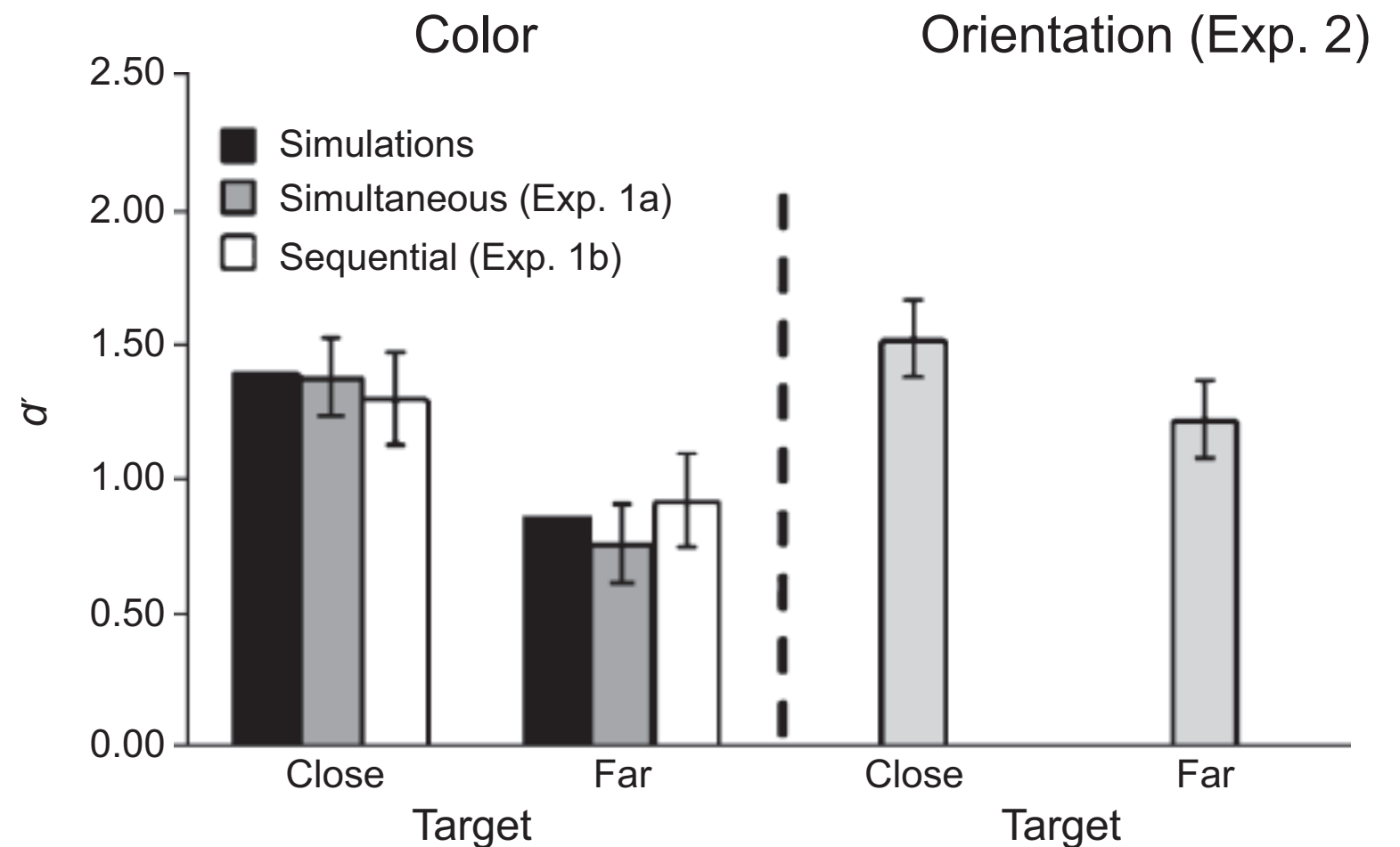
DFT account for change detection

- predict better change detection when items are metrically closer !

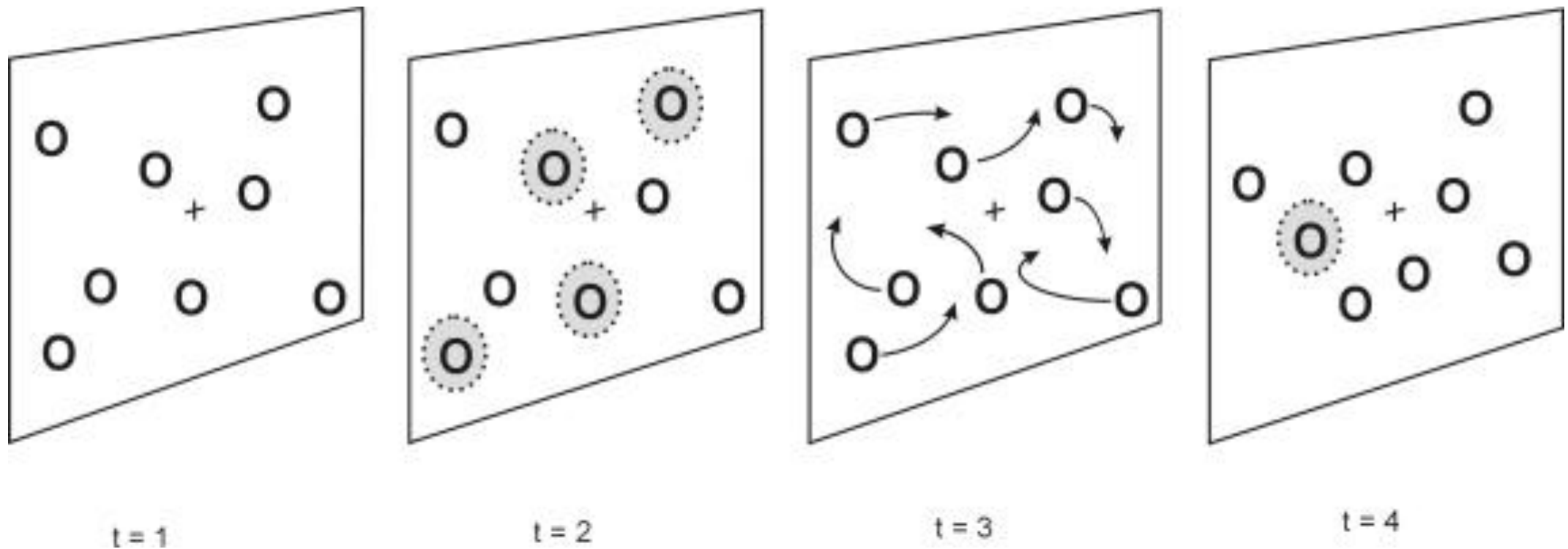


DFT account for change detection

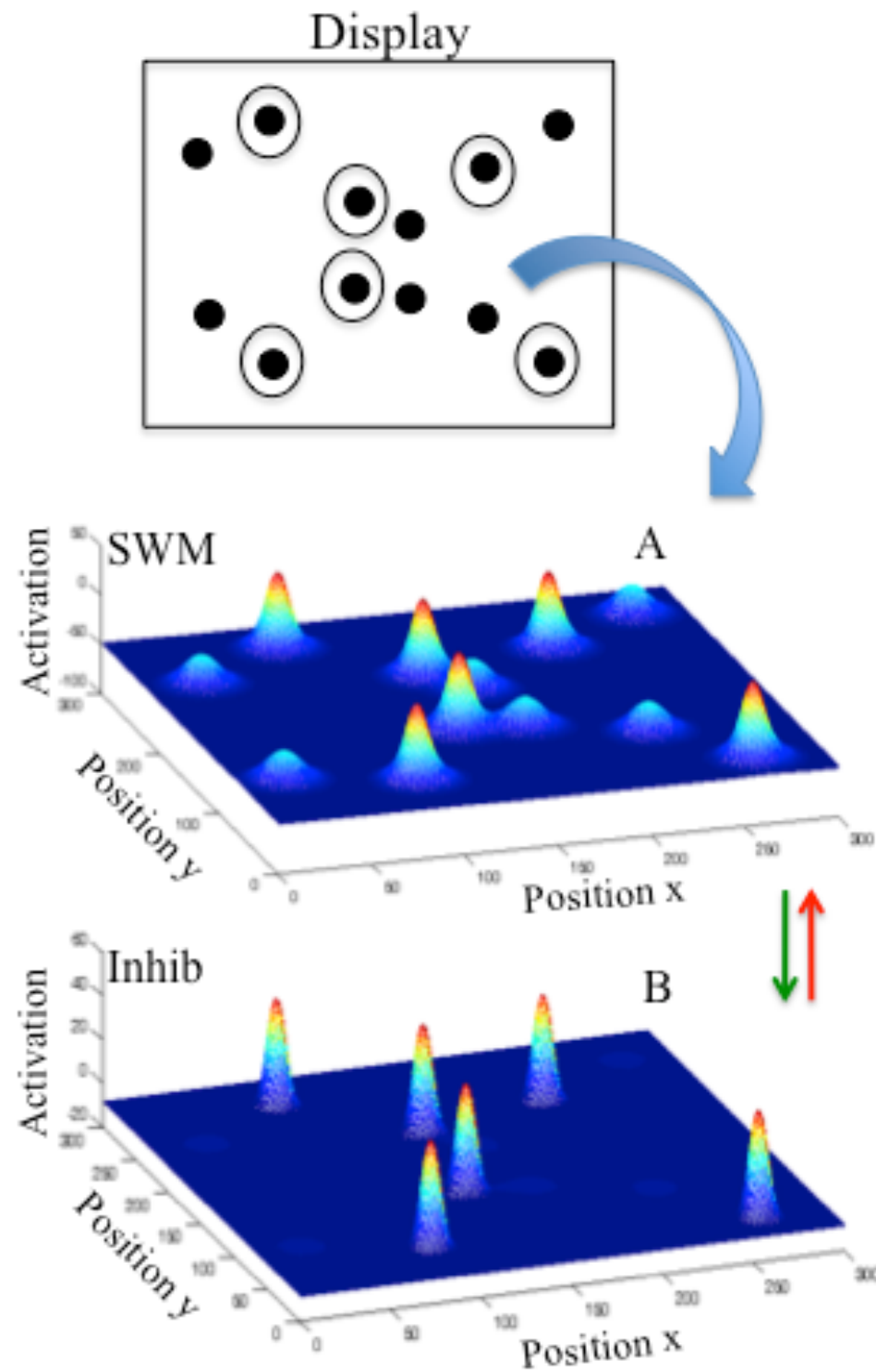
■ predict better change detection when items are metrically closer !



Multi-object tracking

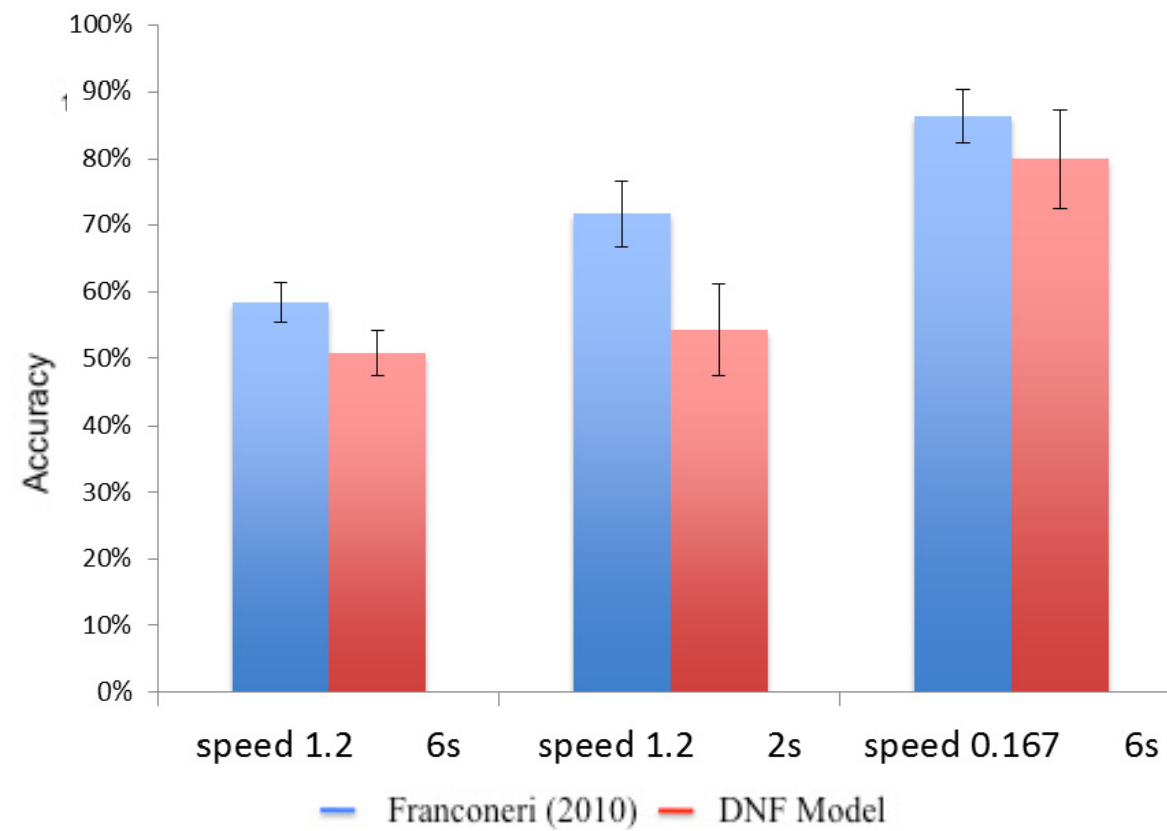


Multi-object tracking



[Spencer et al]

Multi-object tracking

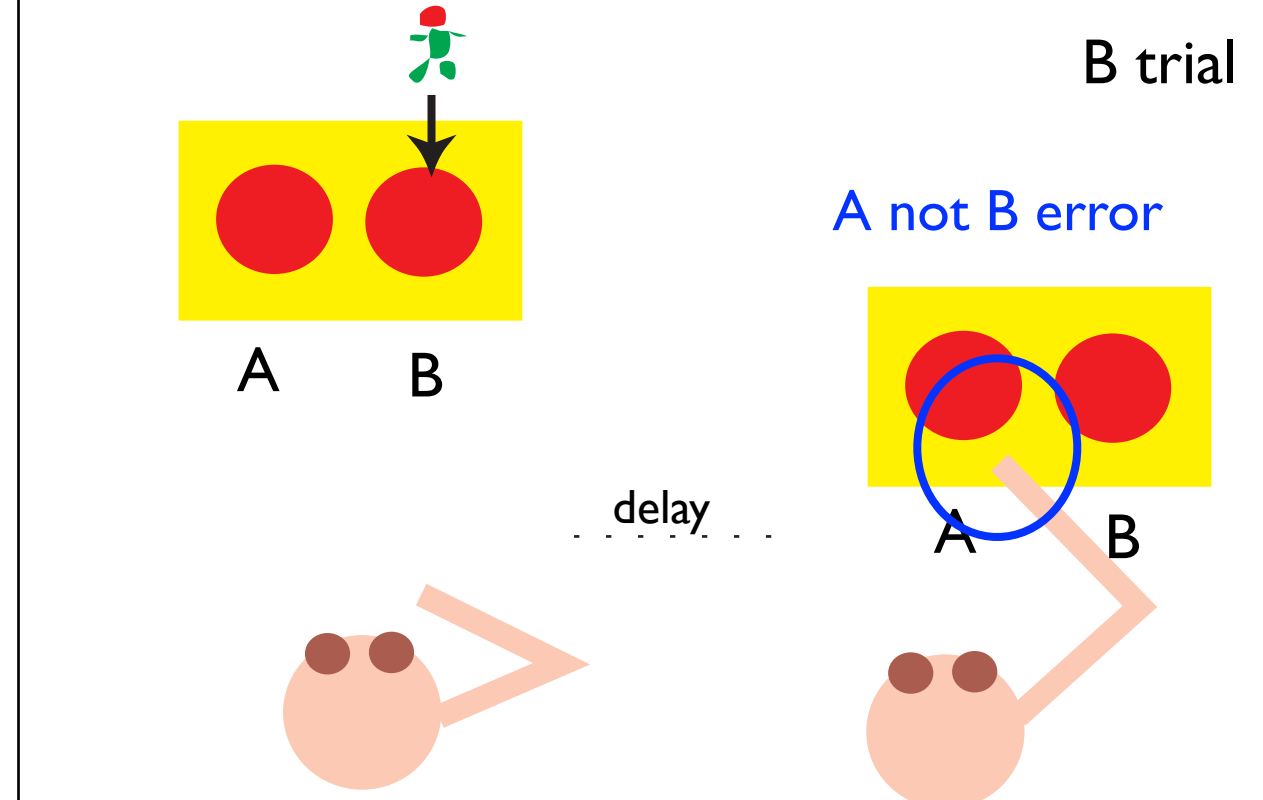
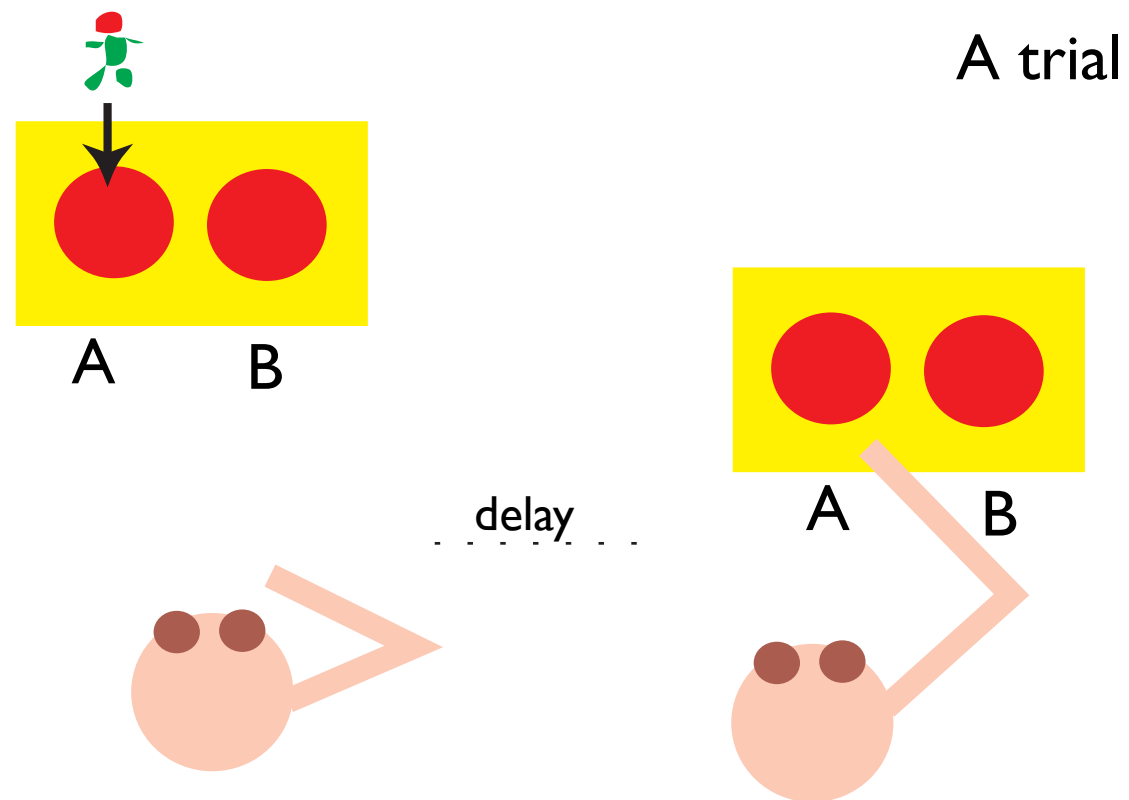


[Spencer et al]

Combining working memory and the memory trace

- in a case study that invokes all dynamic instabilities of DFT as well...

Piaget's A not B paradigm: "out-of-sight -- out of mind"

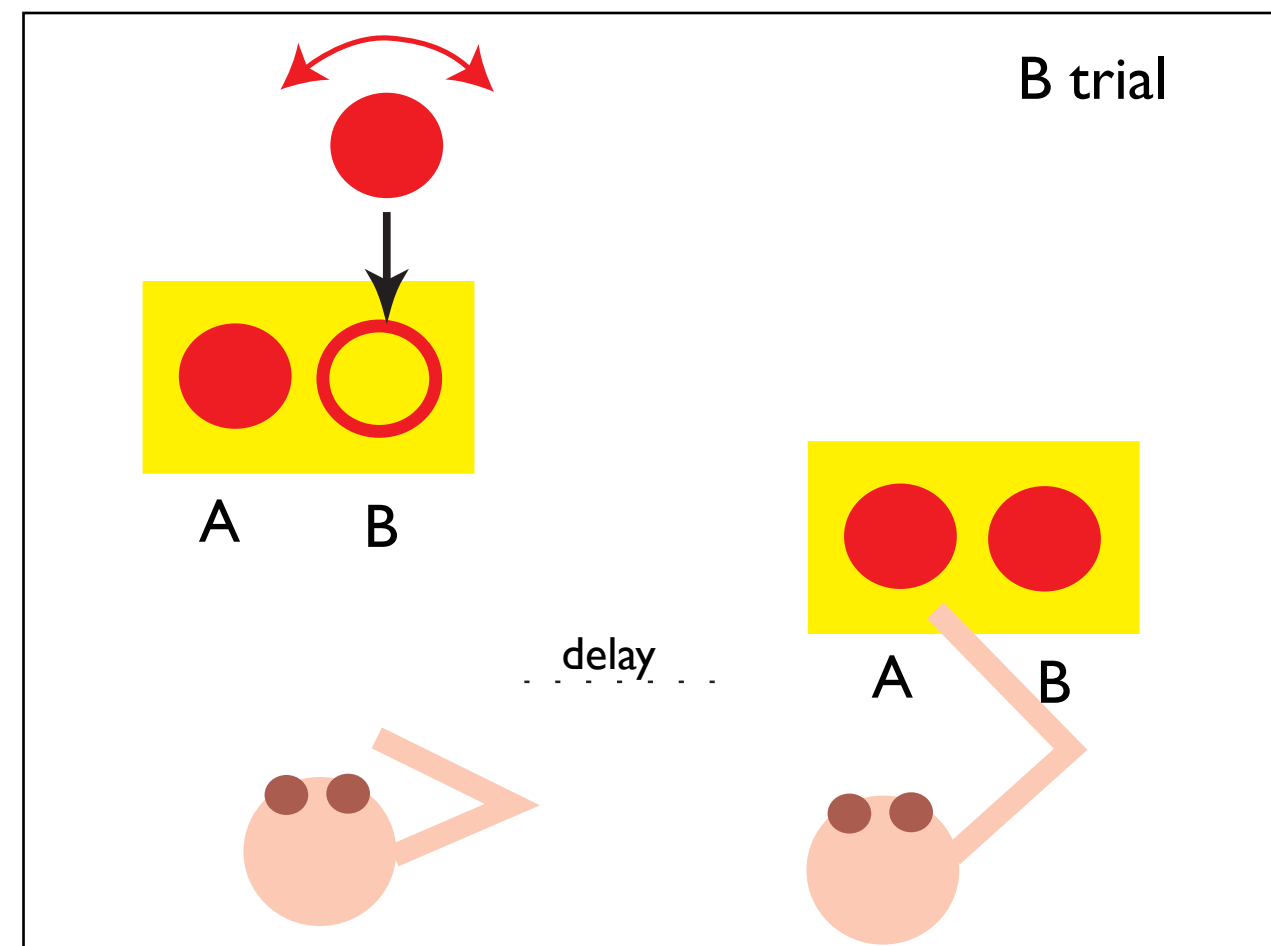
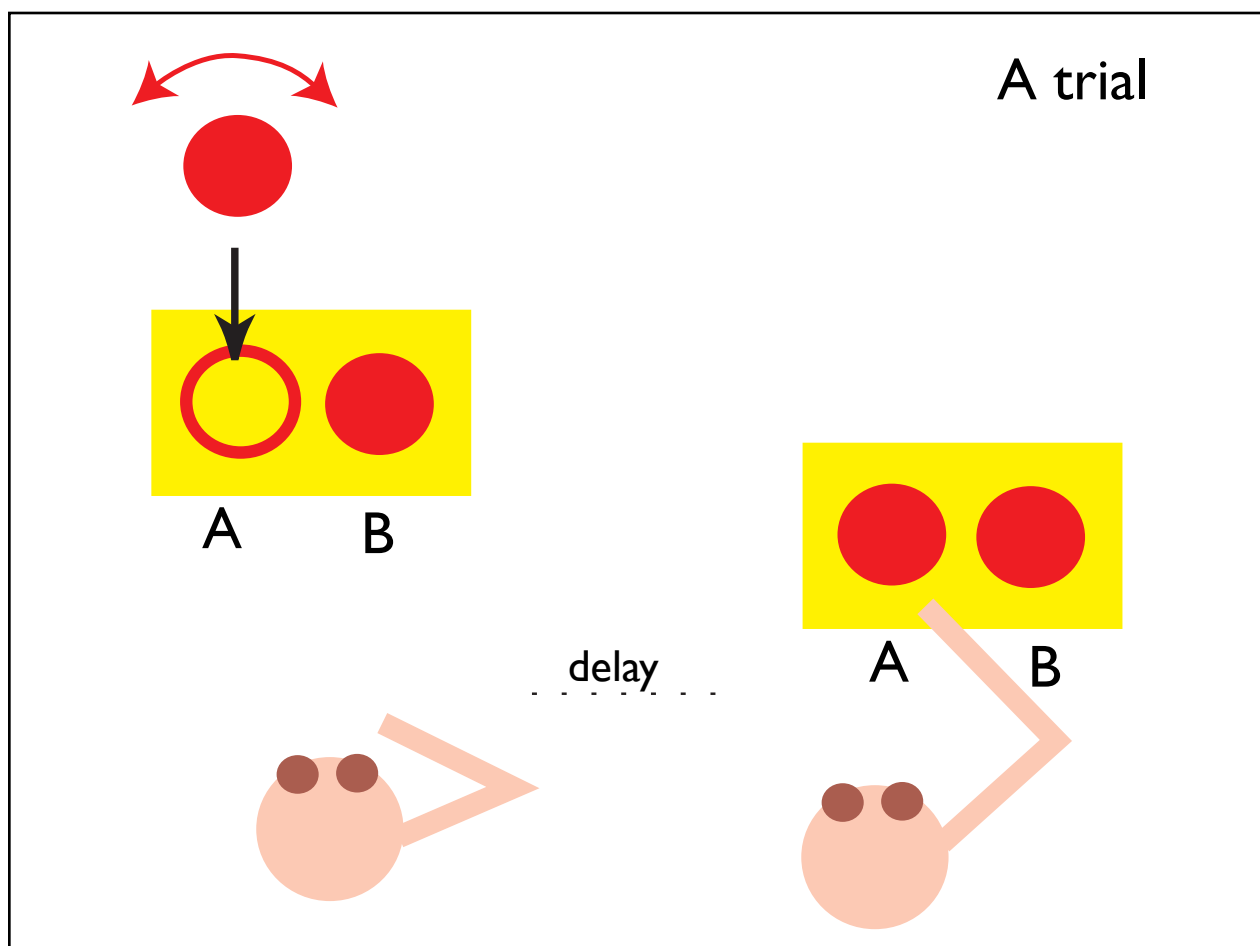


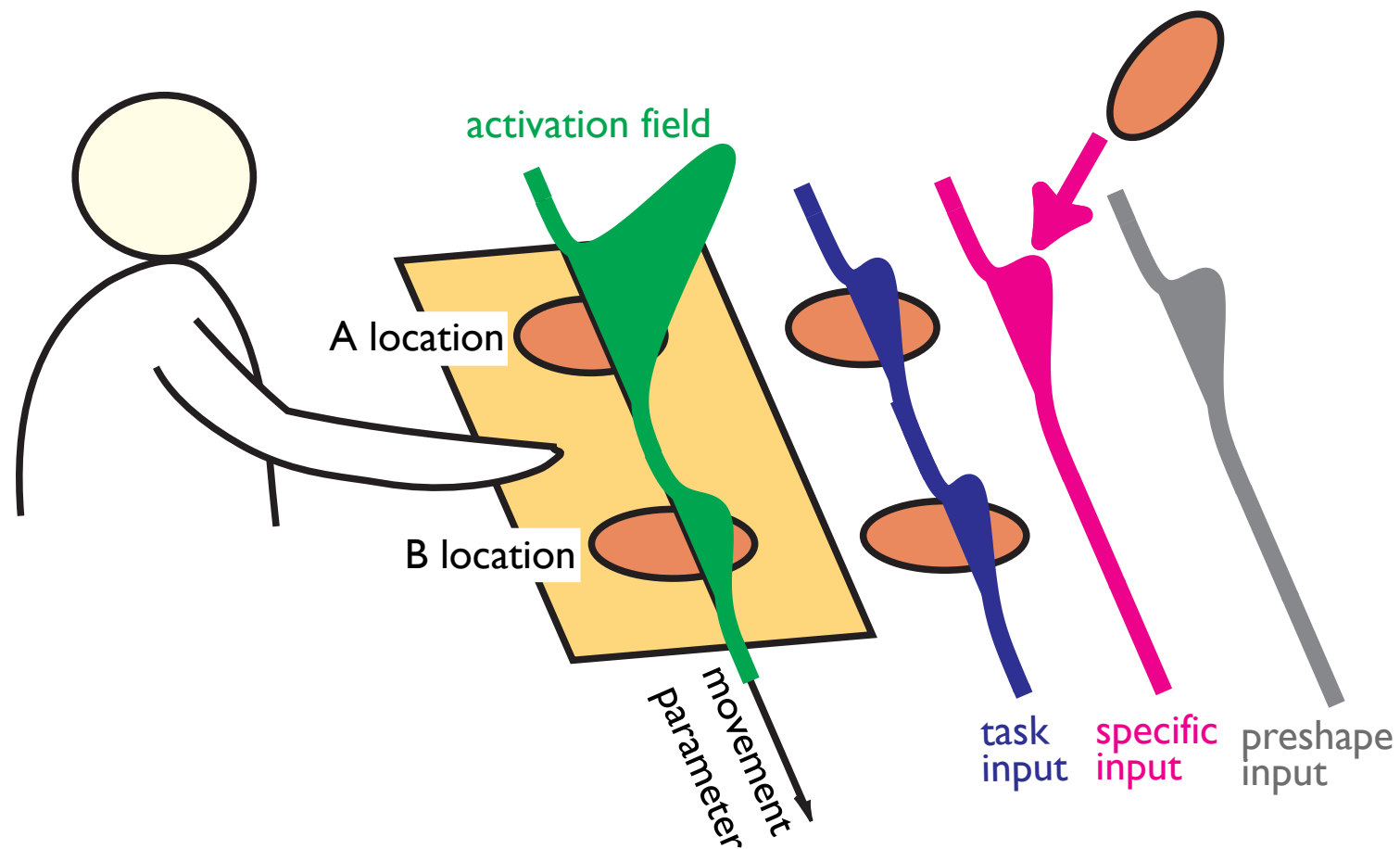
Toyleless variant of A not B task



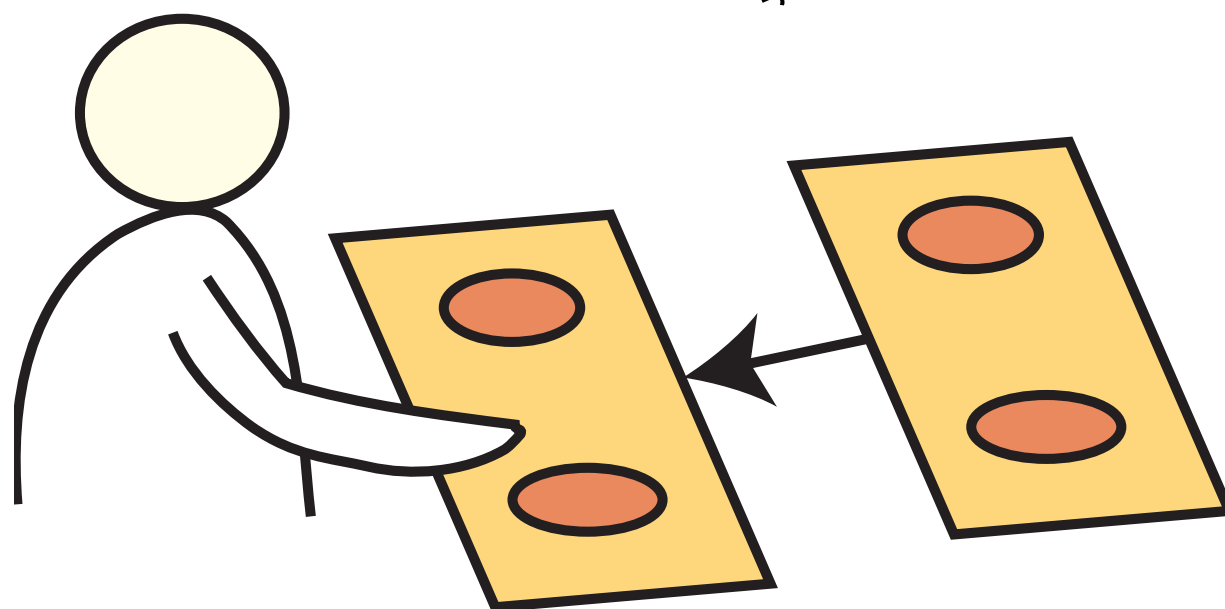
[Smith, Thelen et al.: Psychological Review (1999)]

Toyleless variant of A not B task reveals that A not B is essentially a decision task!





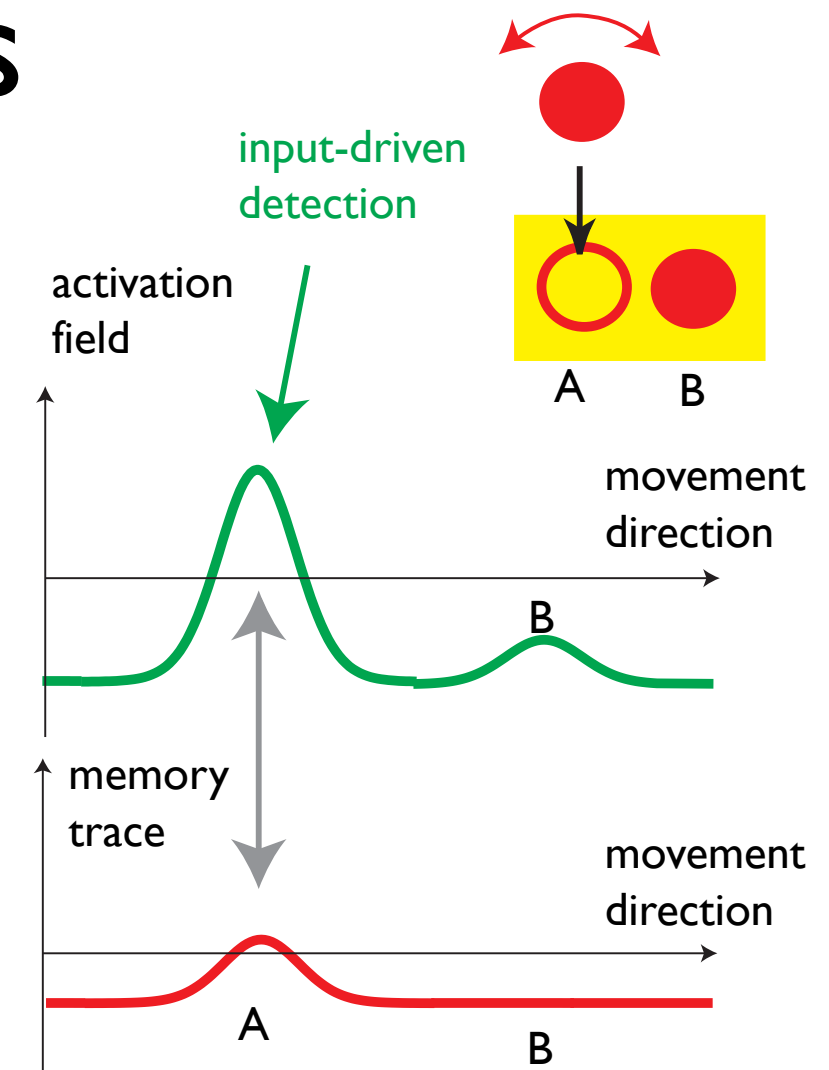
[Thelen, et al., BBS (2001)]



[Dineva, Schöner, Dev. Science 2007]

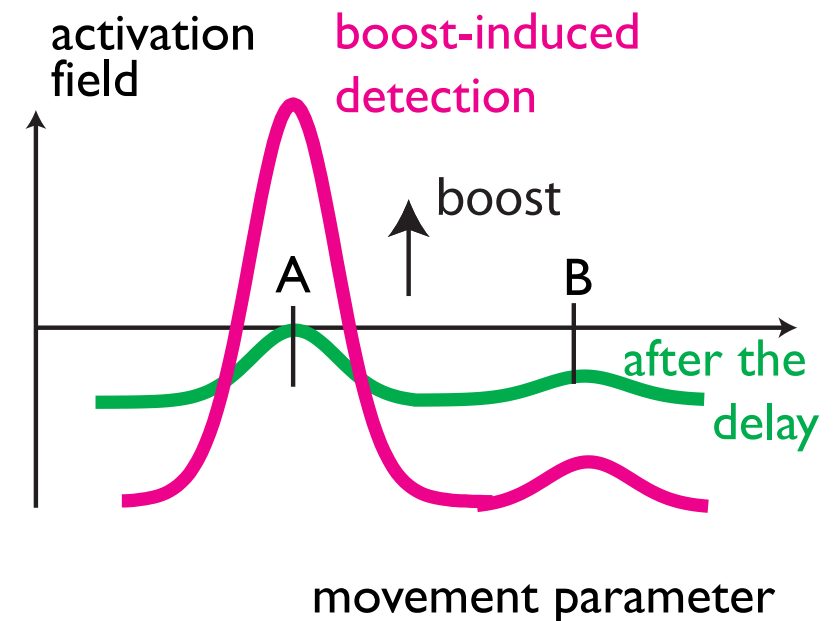
Instabilities

- detection: forming and initiating a movement goal
- selection: making sensori-motor decisions
- (learning: memory trace)
- boost-driven detection: initiating the action
- memory instability: old infants sustain during the delay, young infants do not



Instabilities

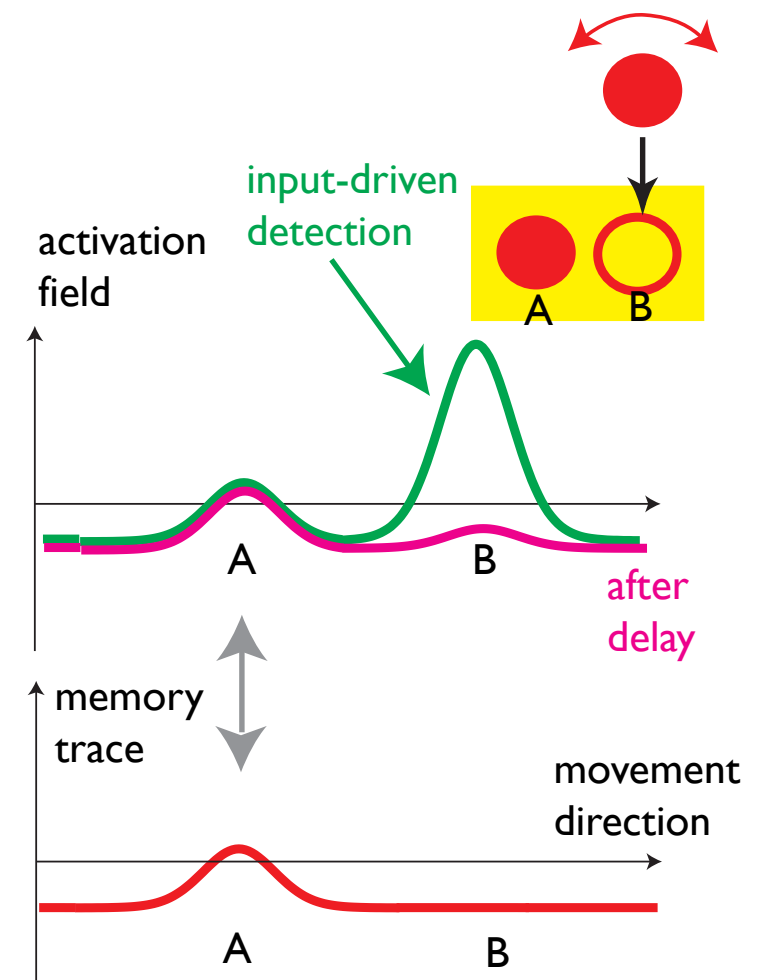
- detection: forming and initiating a movement goal
- selection: making sensori-motor decisions
- (learning: memory trace)
- boost-driven detection: initiating the action
- memory instability: old infants sustain during the delay, young infants do not



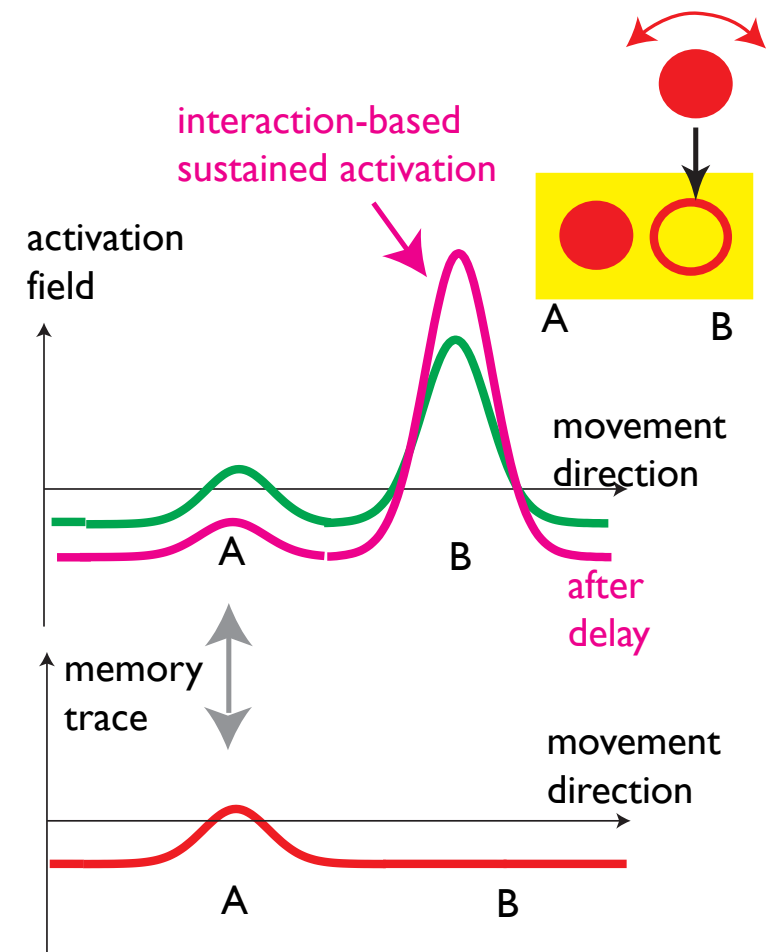
Instabilities

- detection: forming and initiating a movement goal
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- (learning: memory trace)
- boost-driven detection: initiating the action
- memory instability: old infants sustain during the delay, young infants do not

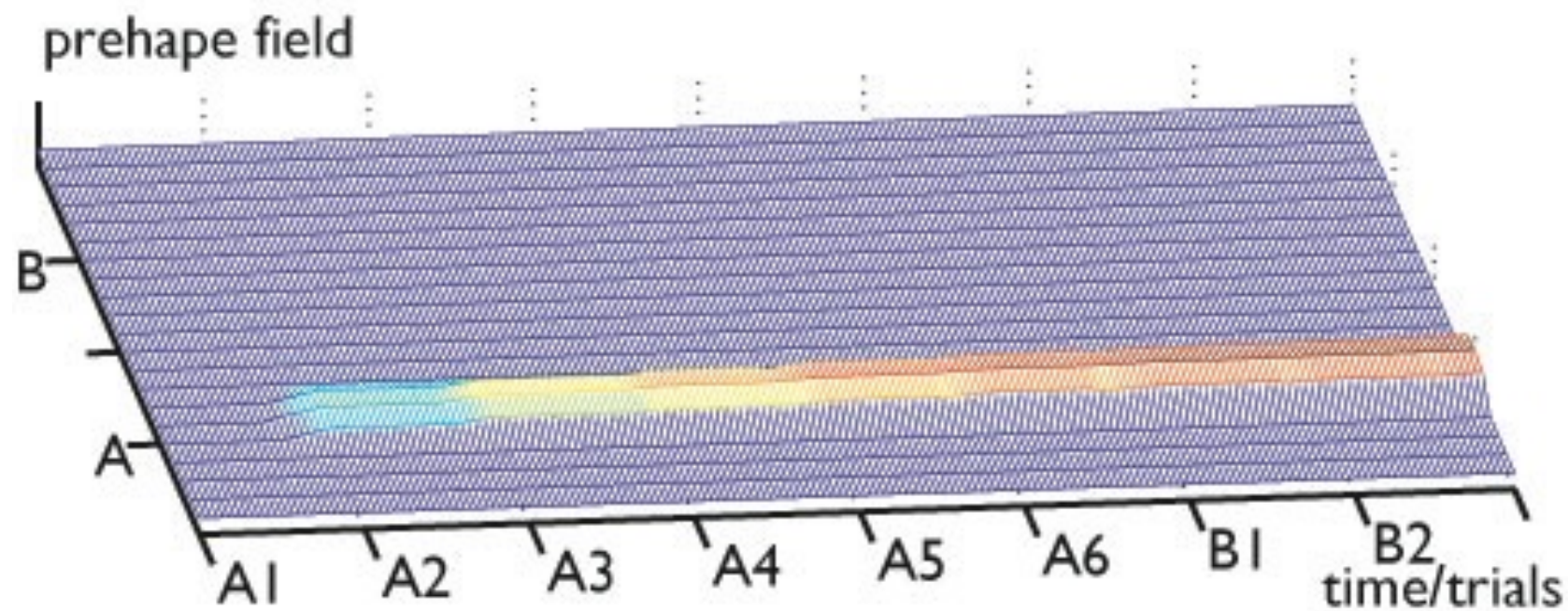
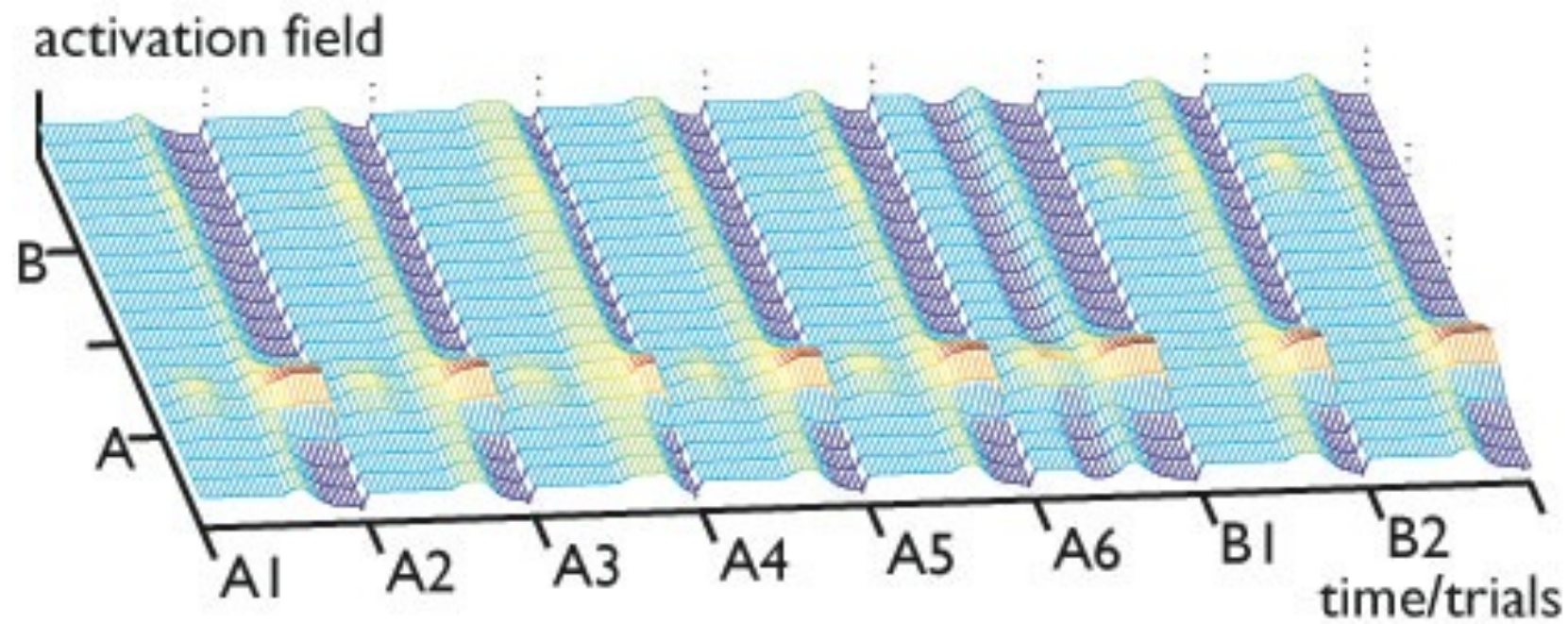
young



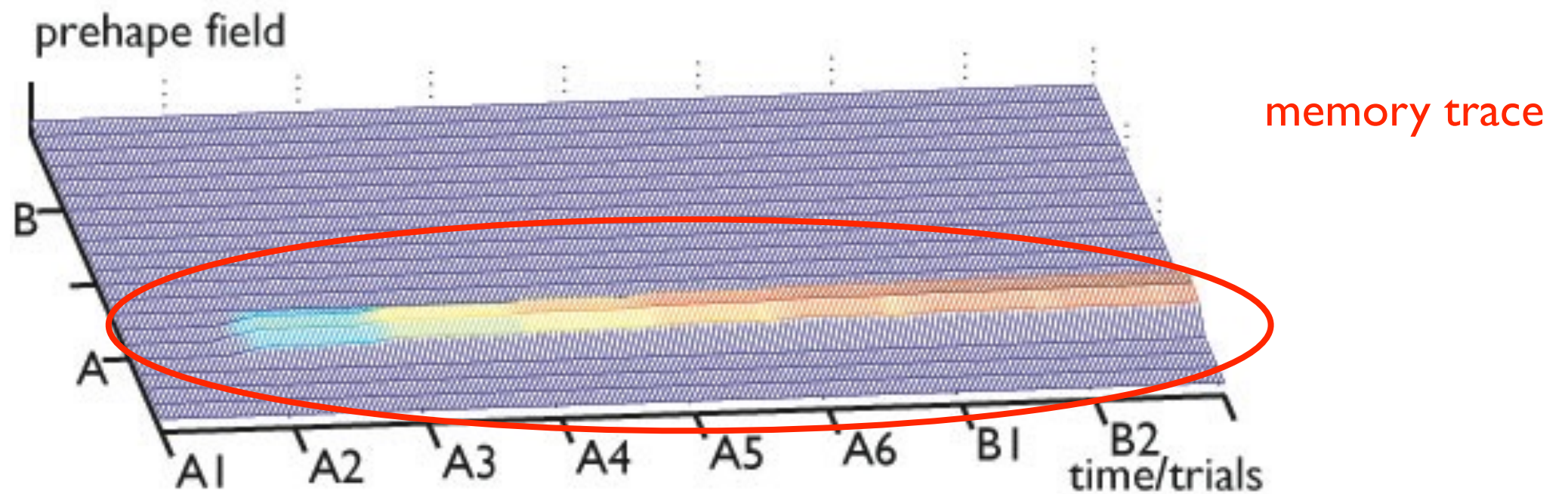
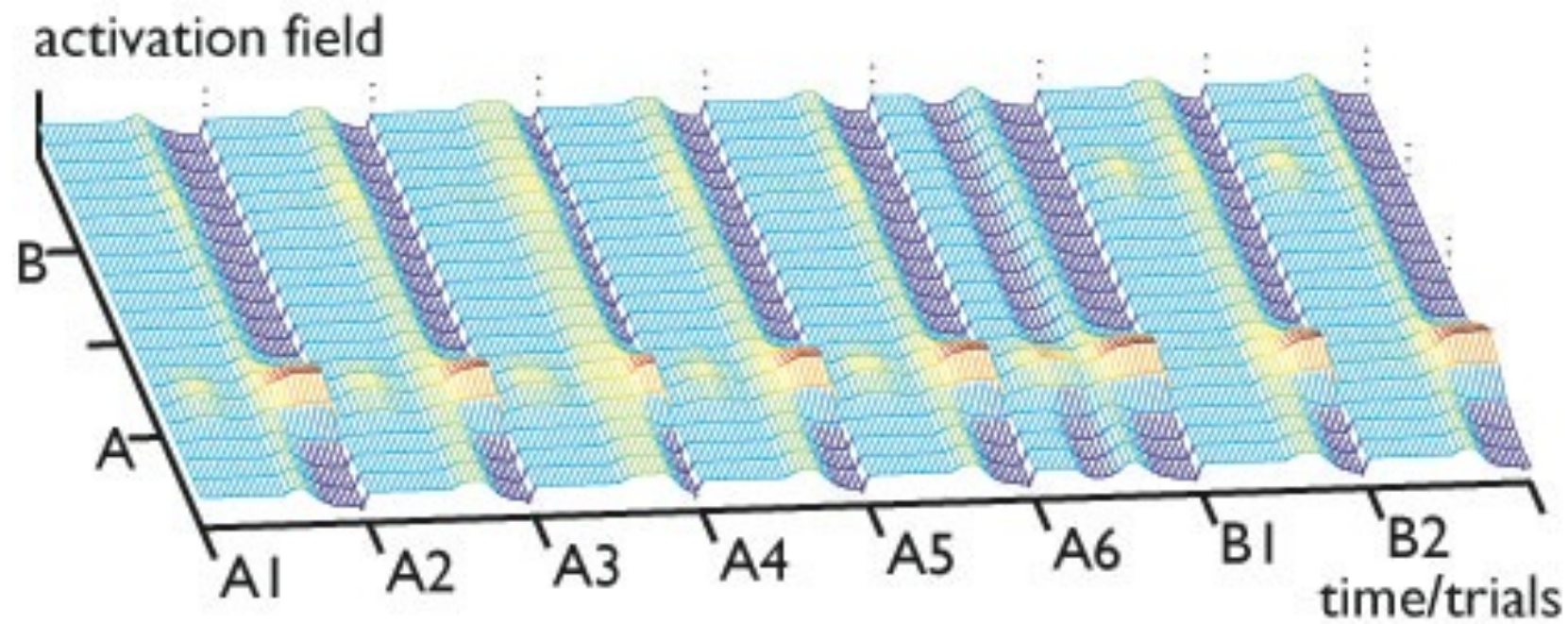
old



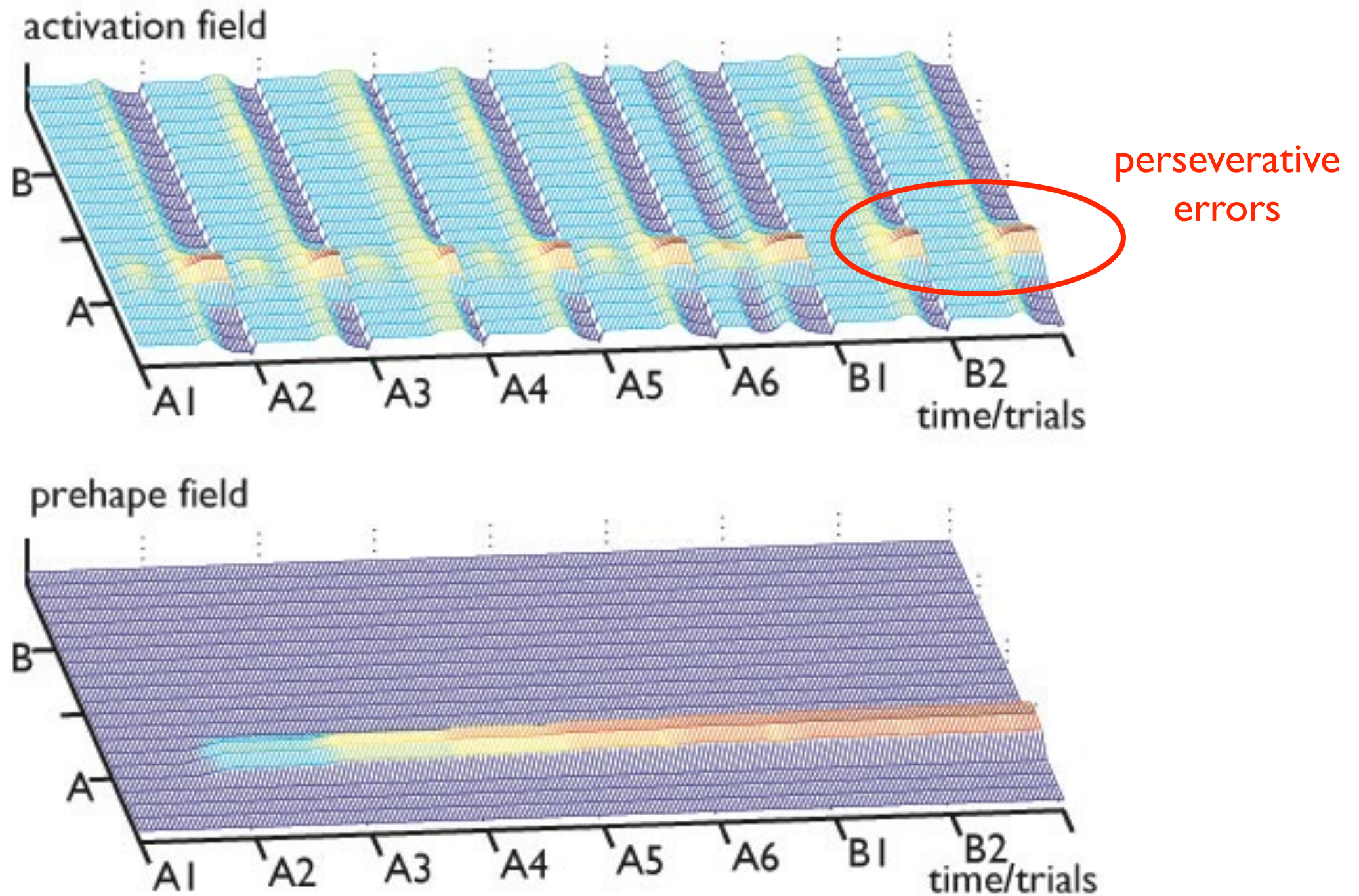
DFT of infant perseverative reaching



DFT of infant perseverative reaching

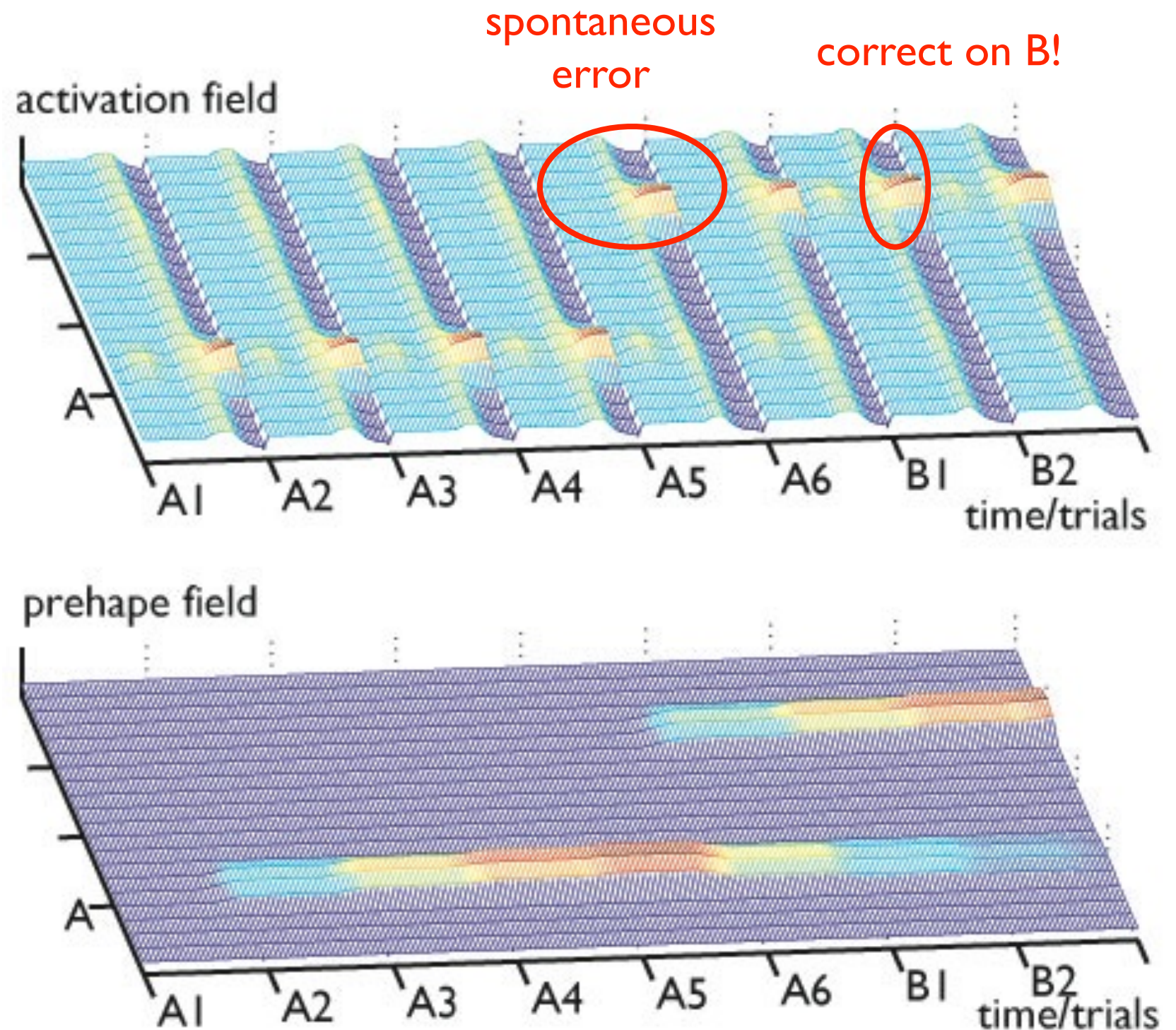


DFT of infant perseverative reaching



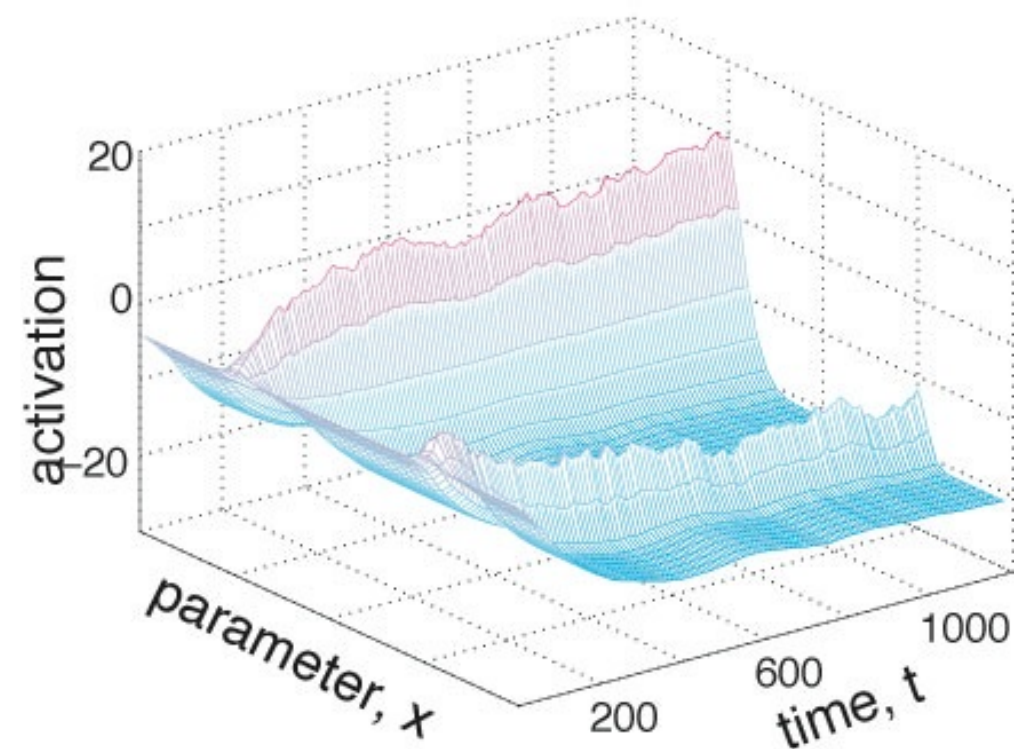
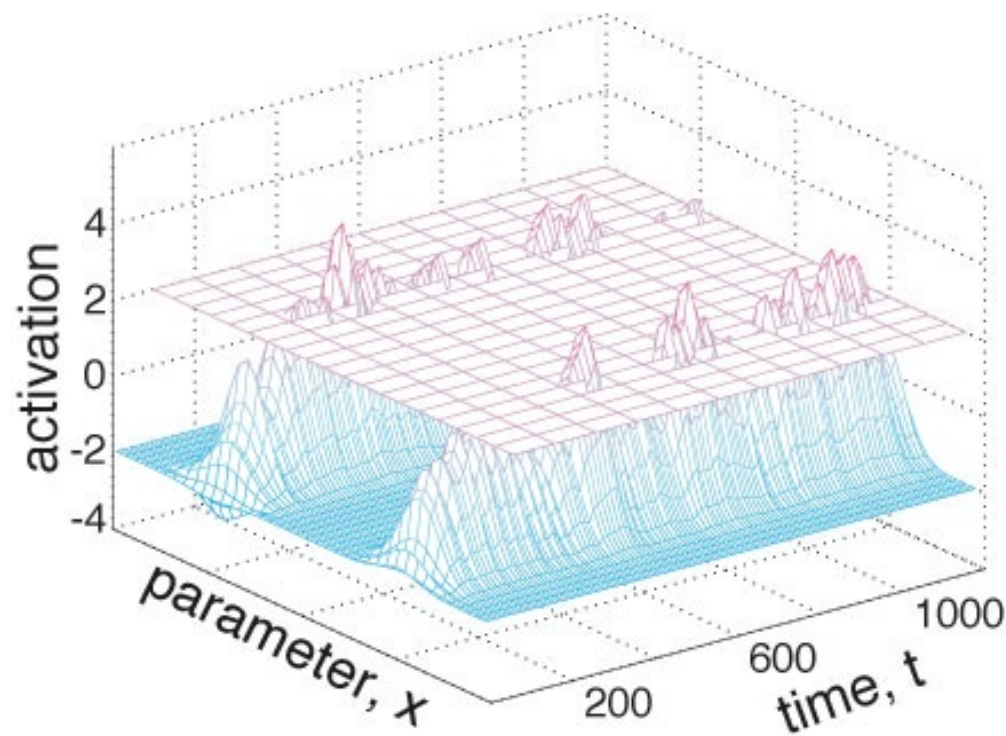
DFT of infant perseverative reaching

- in spontaneous errors, activation arises at B on an A trial
- which leads to correct reaching on B trial
- because reaches to B on A trials leave memory trace at B



=> DFT is a neural process model

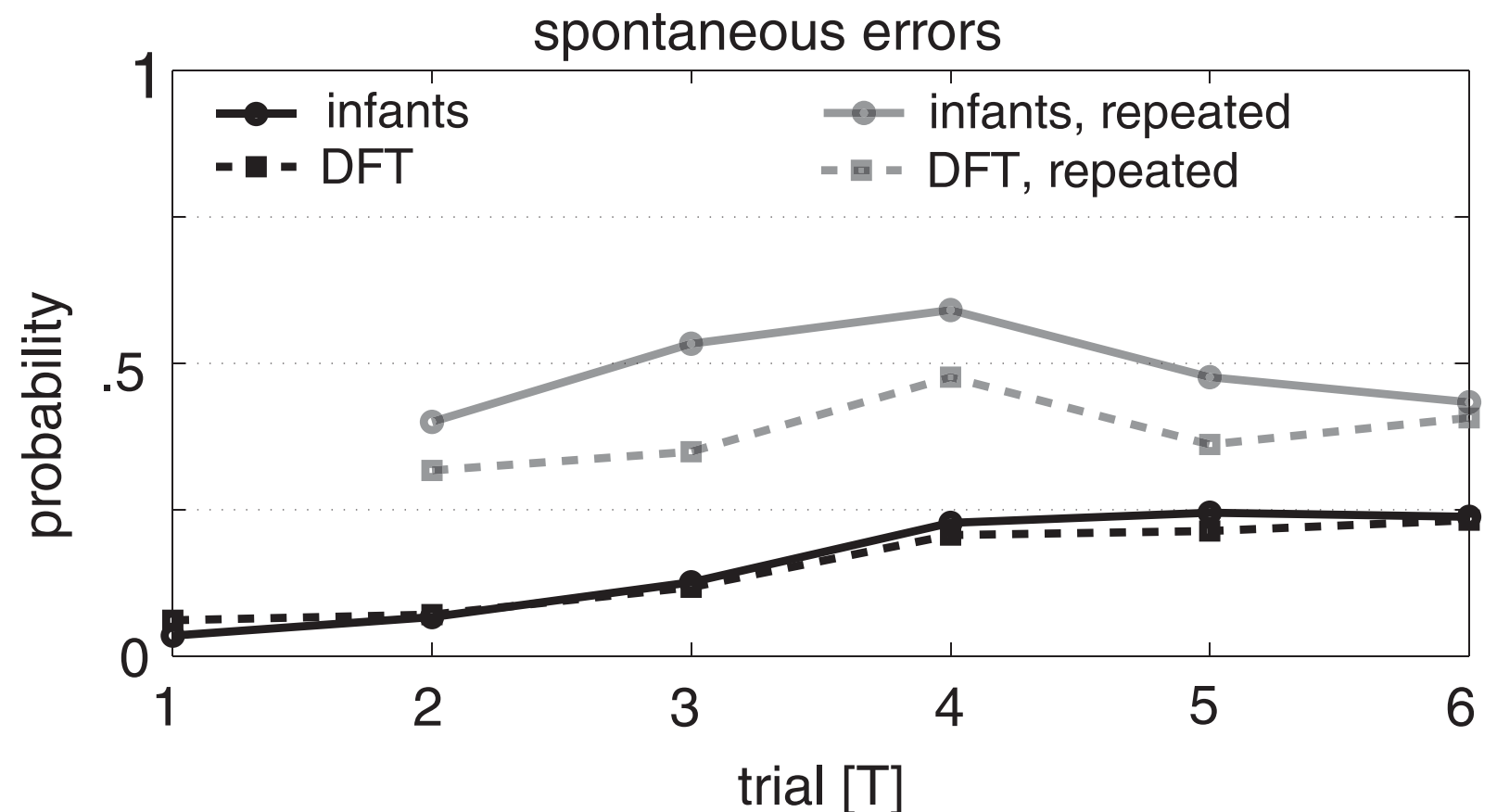
- that makes the decisions in each individual trial, by amplifying small differences into a macroscopic stable state
- and that's how decisions leave traces, have consequences



[Wilimzig, Schöner, 2006]

Decisions have consequences

- a spontaneous error doubles probability to make the spontaneous error again



[Dineva, Schöner: Connection Science 2018]

Conclusions

- action, perception, and embodied cognition takes place in continuous spaces. peaks = units of representation are attractors of the neural dynamics
- neural fields link neural representations to these continua
- stable activation peaks are the units of neural representation
- peaks arise and disappear through instabilities through which elementary cognitive functions (e.g. detection, selection, memory) emerge