



Perception for Grasping and Manipulation

Arbib MA, Overton KJ, Lawton DT. 1984. Perceptual systems for robots. *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* 9.

Early 1980s at UMass Amherst:
Laboratory for Perceptual Robotics:
Salisbury hand, visual input, tactile sensors.

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Control Architecture for the Belgrade/USC Hand

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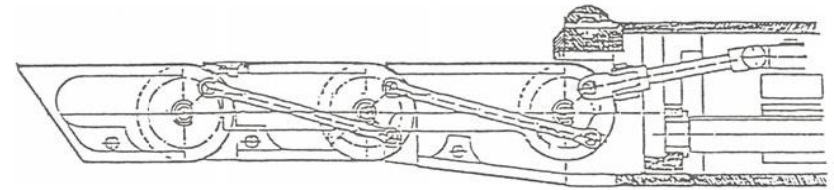
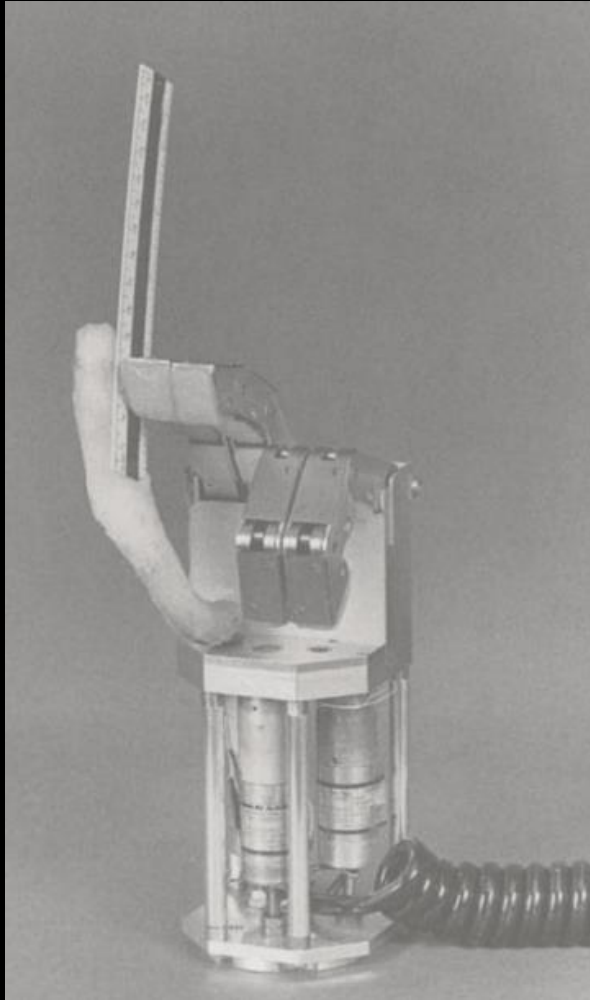


Figure 7.3: Schematic diagram of finger-side view.

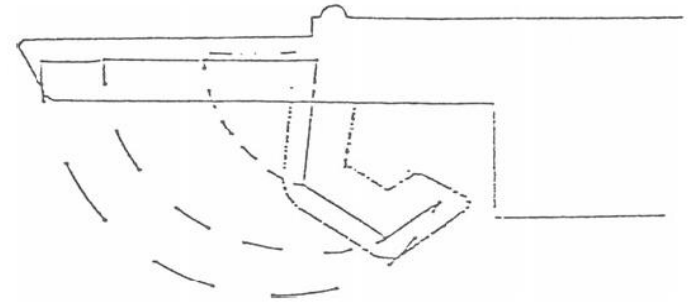
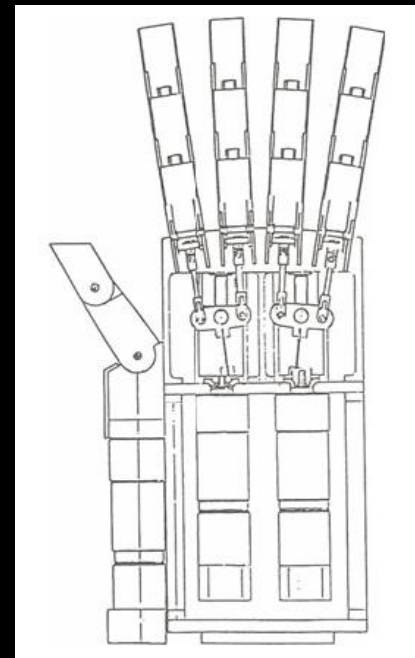


Figure 7.4: Finger motion during flexing (©IEEE, Rao *et al* 1988).





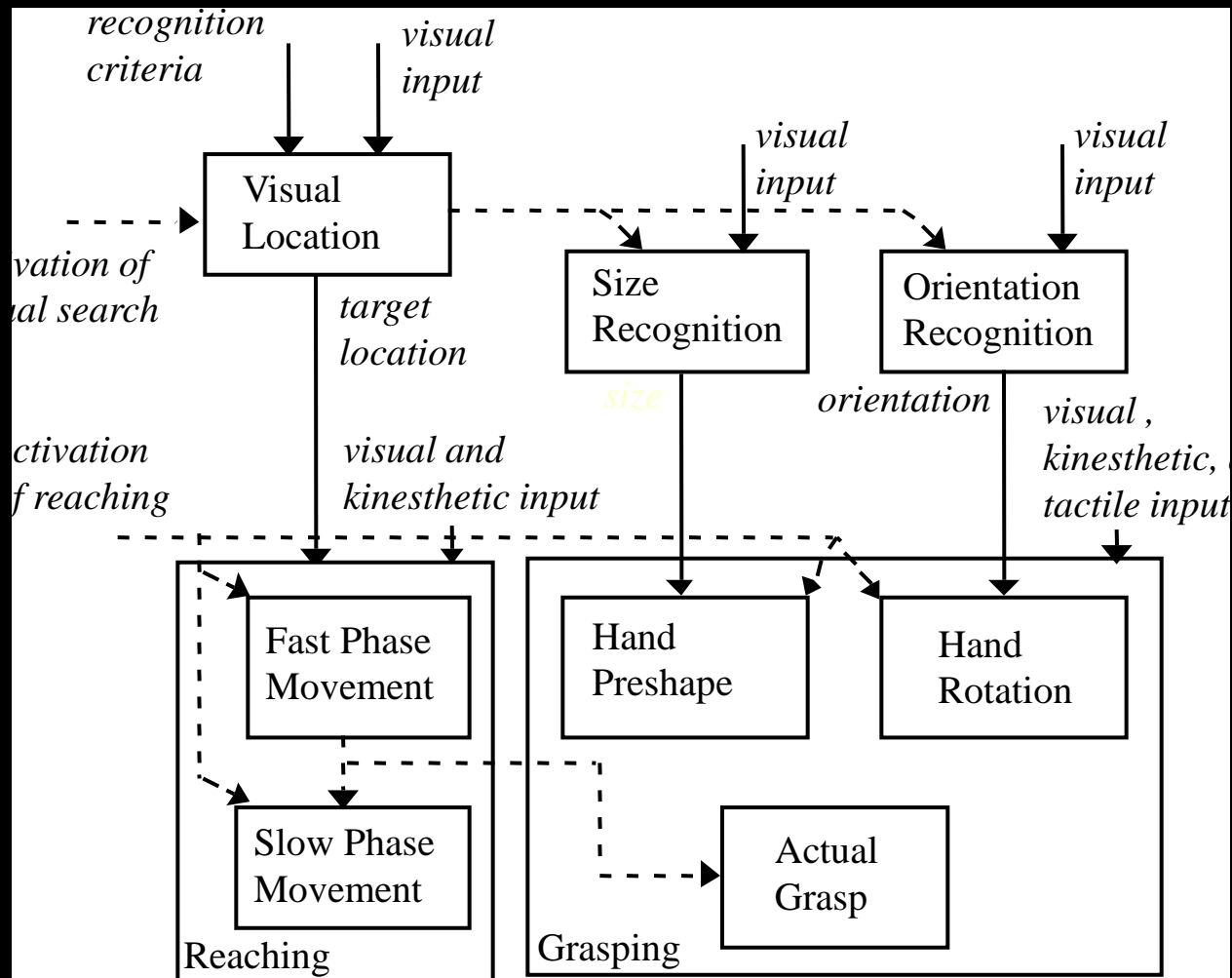
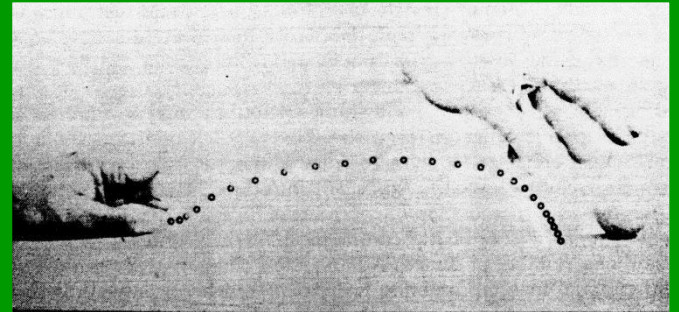
Part I

Perceptual and Motor Schemas

Affordances and Effectivities

Coordinated control program for reaching and grasping

Jeannerod and
Biguer 1979



**Perceptual
schemas**

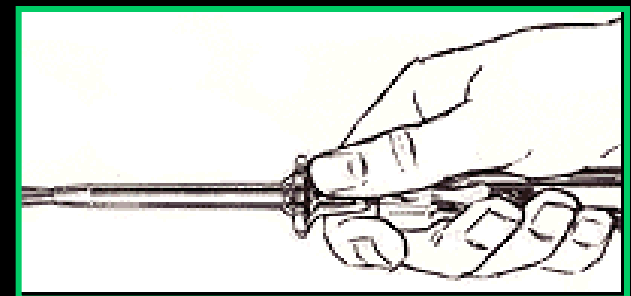
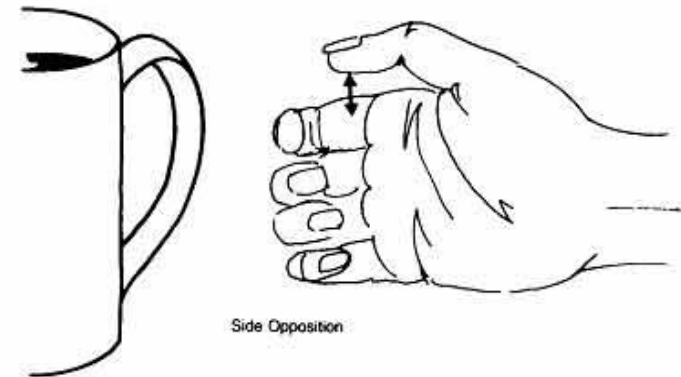
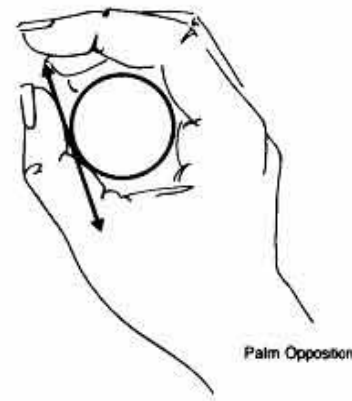
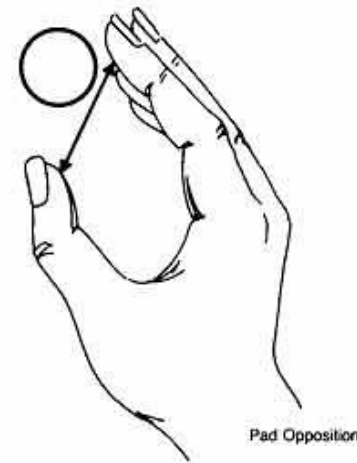
Arbib 1981

**Motor
schemas**

Grasping & Opposition Spaces

Iberall, Bingham and Arbib 1986:
An object may have different
representations for different
tasks

- Opposition axes may be set for
- * different parts of the object
 - * setting goals for preshaping and moving the hand
 - * and for manipulation



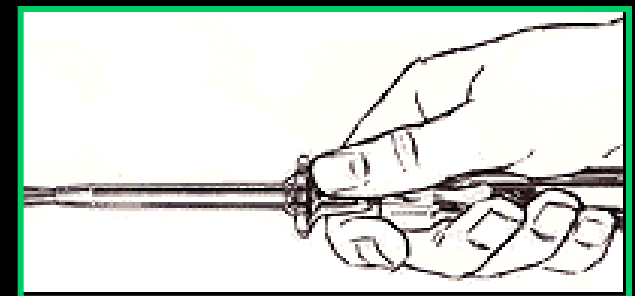
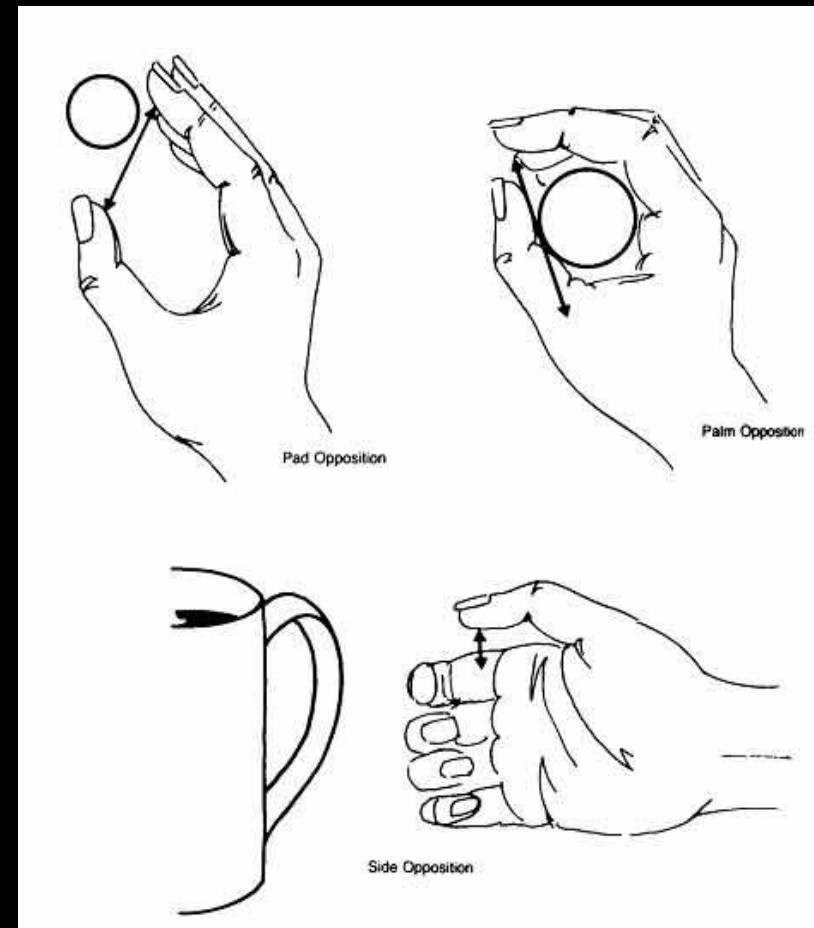
A Compound Grasp

Another Vocabulary

Deploying the terminology of J.J. Gibson and his followers:

- * Perceptual schemas **identify affordances relevant to the current task**
- * Motor schemas **deploy effectivities to exploit affordances**

A coordinated control program integrates and schedules these but not only these schemas



A Compound Grasp

A Formal Model of Computation for Sensory-Based Robotics

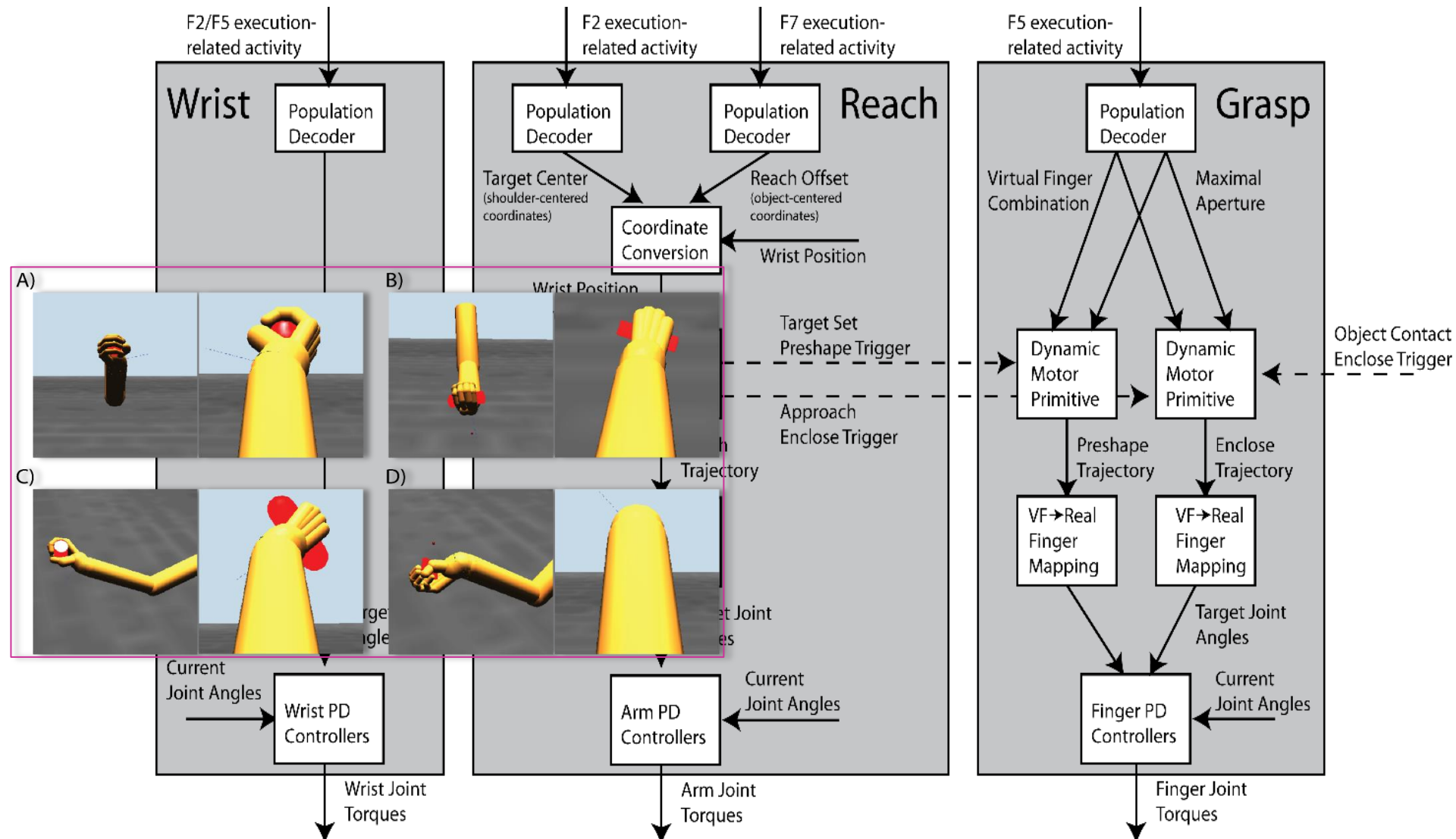
DAMIAN M. LYONS, MEMBER, IEEE, AND MICHAEL A. ARBIB

1989

RS (Robot Schemas) is a model of distributed computation embodying our nested network approach to robot programming. This paper introduces the *RS* model and shows how it can be used to represent robot programs in an efficient and concise manner.

Integrated Learning of Grasps and Affordances: The ILGA Model

James Bonaiuto, Michael A. Arbib

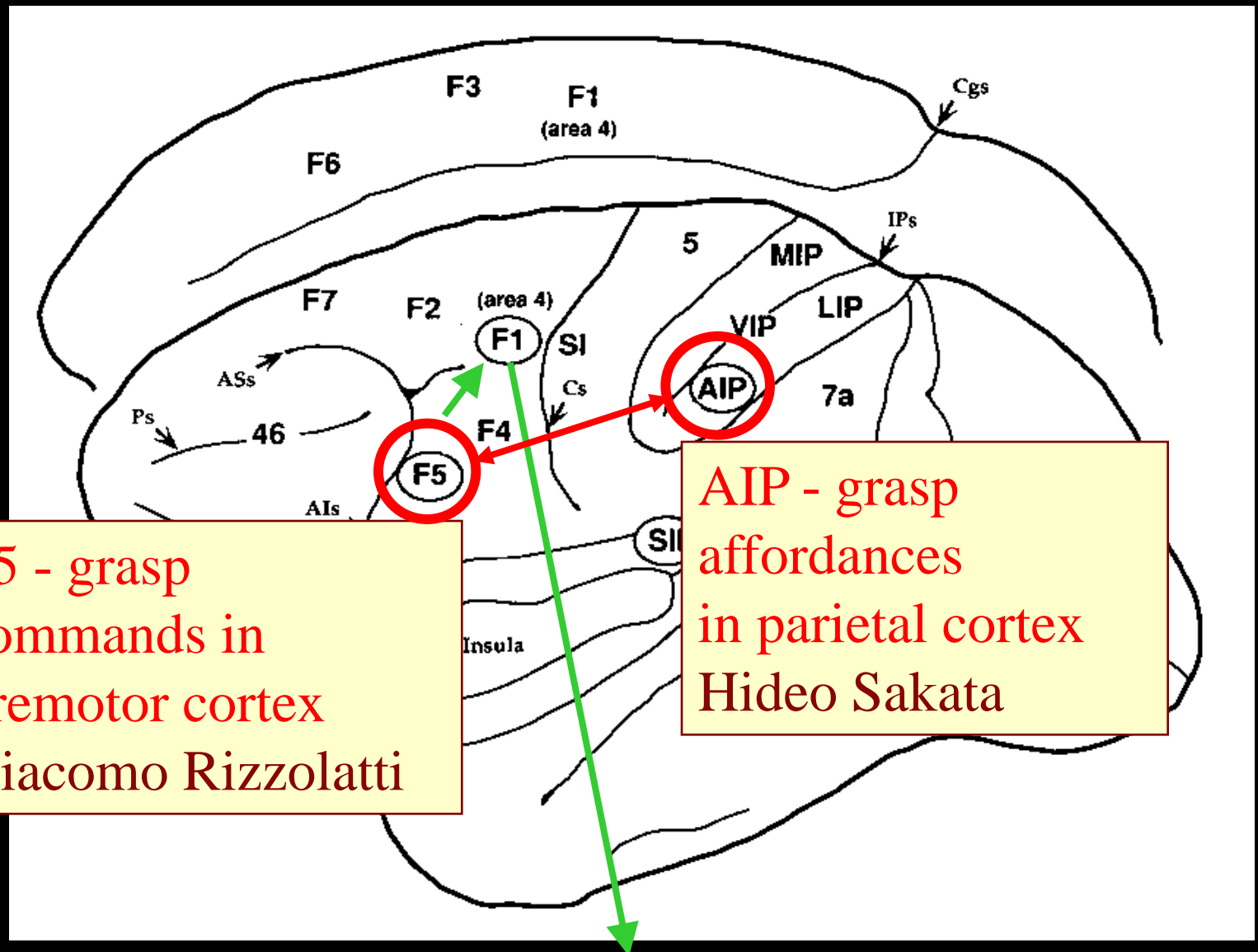




Part II

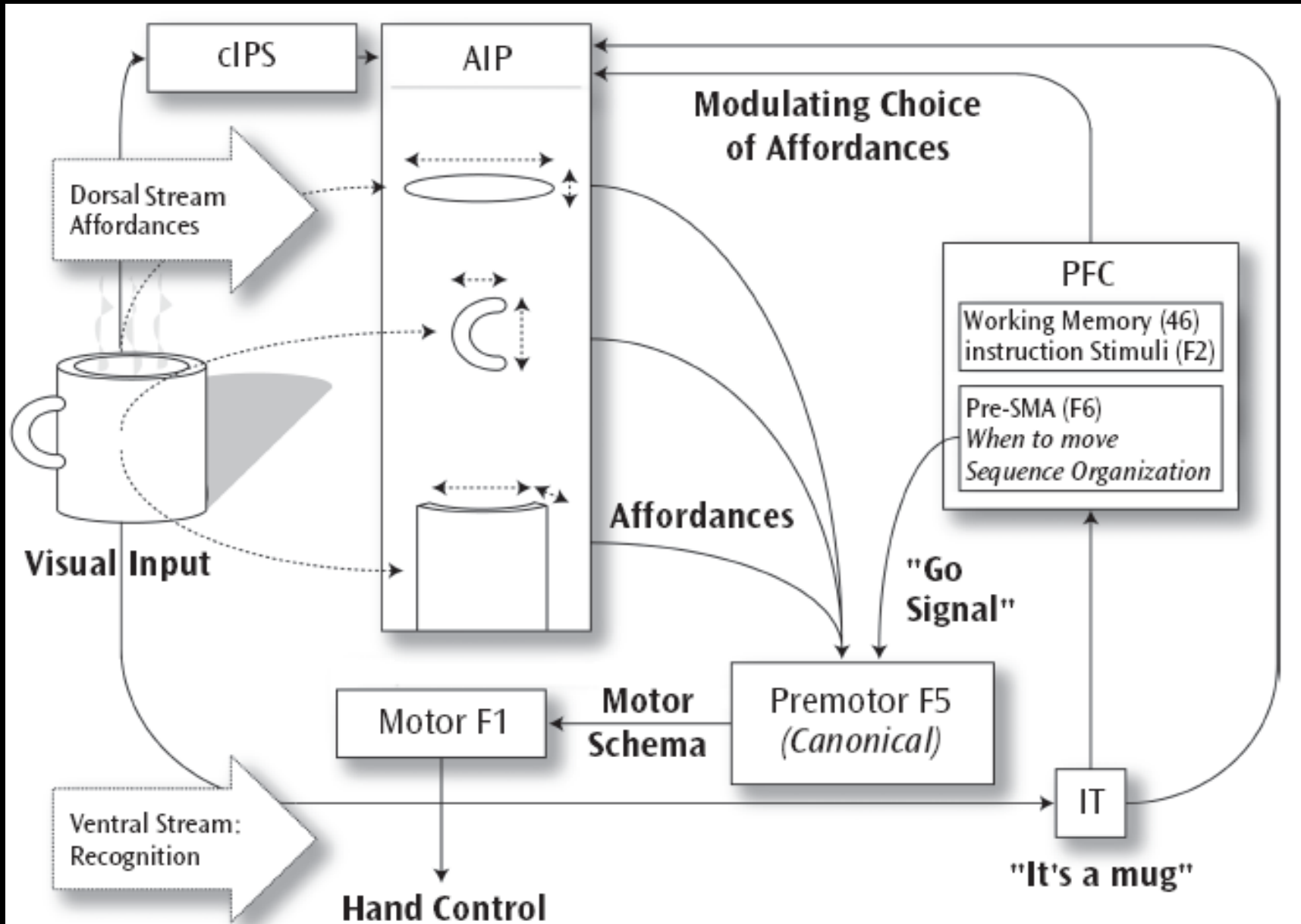
Basic Parieto-Frontal Interactions for Visually Directed Hand Movements

Introducing AIP and F5 (Grasping) in Monkey



The FARS (Fagg-Arbib-Rizzolatti-Sakata) Model

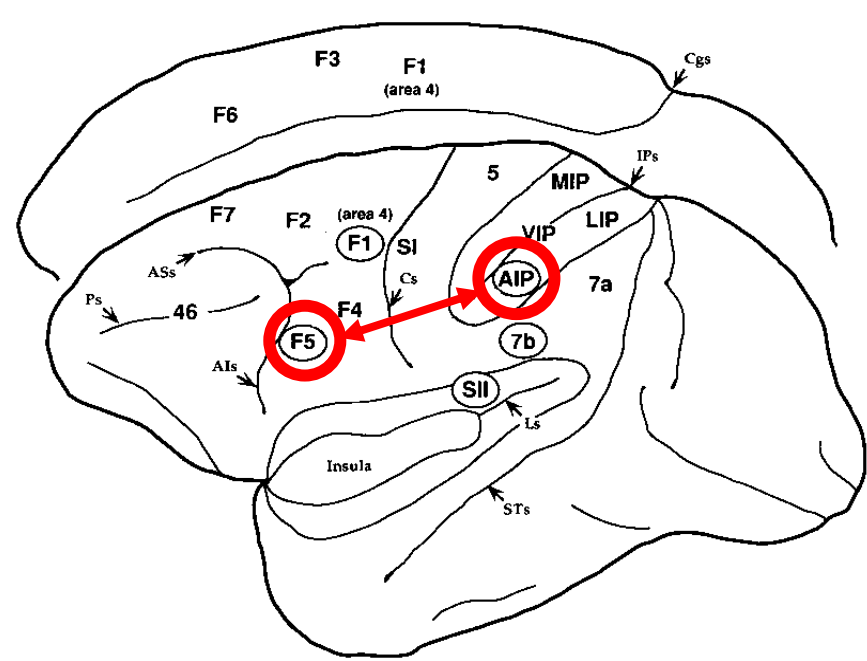
A Focus on “How” and “What”



Mirror Neurons: Learning from the Macaque

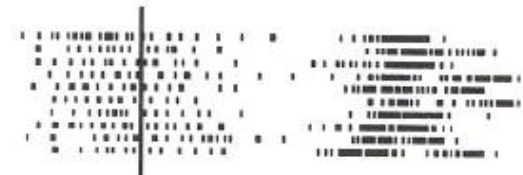
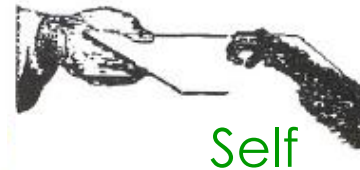
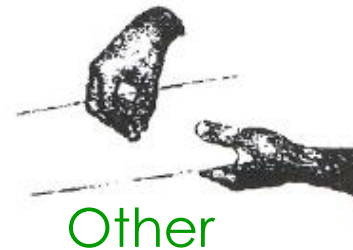


Rizzolatti, Fadiga, Gallese, and Fogassi, 1995

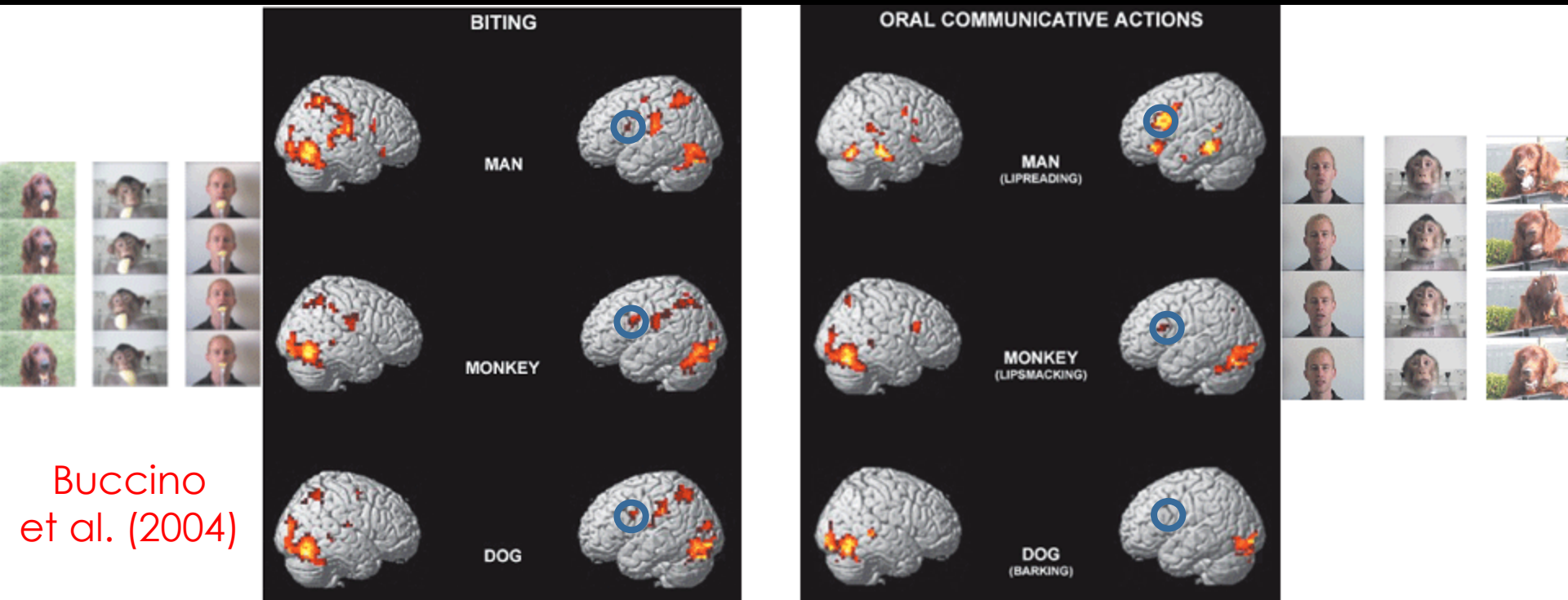


This example: a precision pinch

A **mirror neuron** is active for **execution** of a limited set of actions & **observation** of a congruent set of actions



Recognition of oro-facial actions by humans

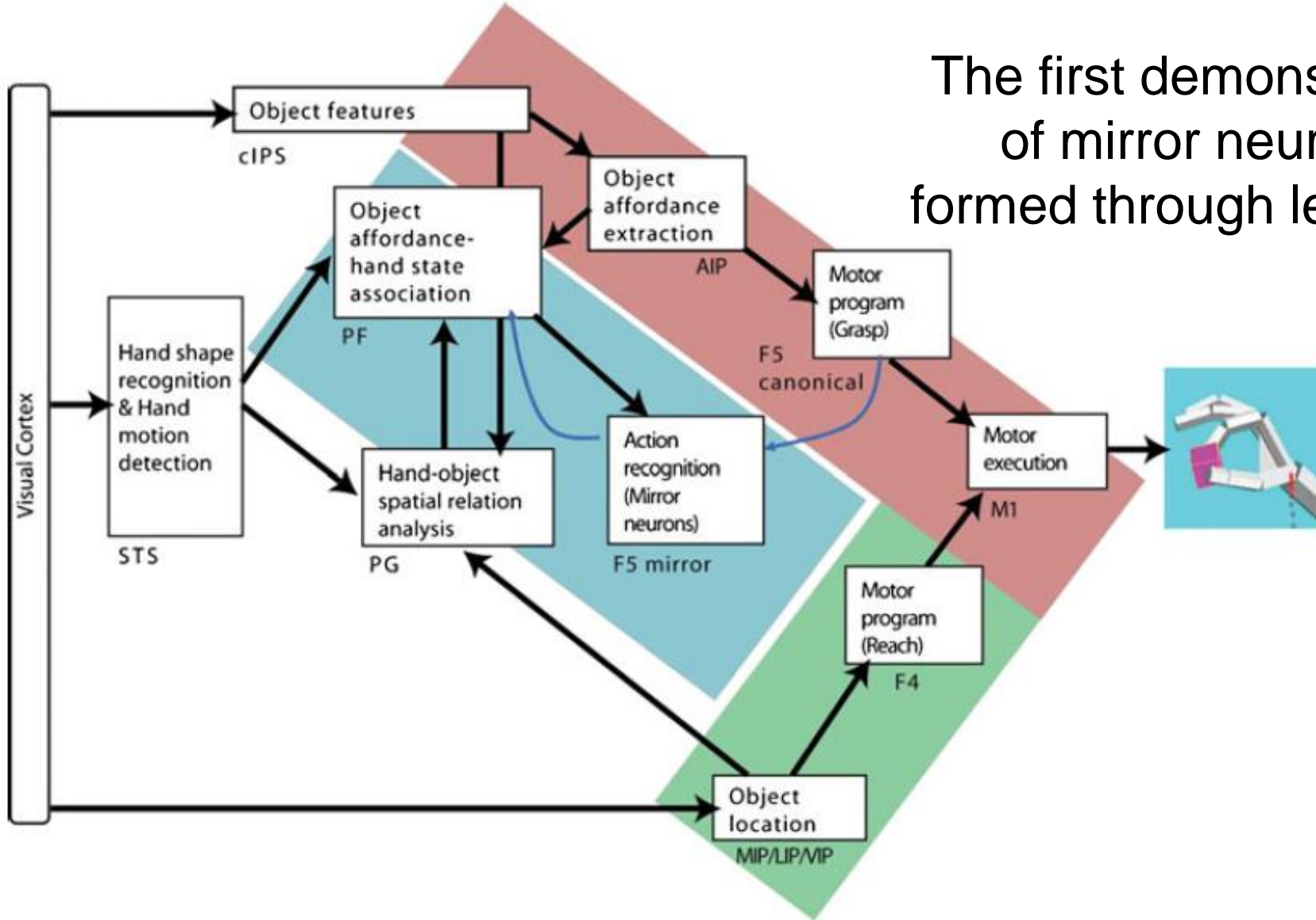


Actions belonging to the observer's motor repertoire are mapped on the observer's motor system.

My Addendum: *All* actions can be recognized by other routes, whether or not in cooperation with mirror systems

MNS Model of Learning in the Mirror Neuron System

The first demonstration
of mirror neurons as
formed through learning

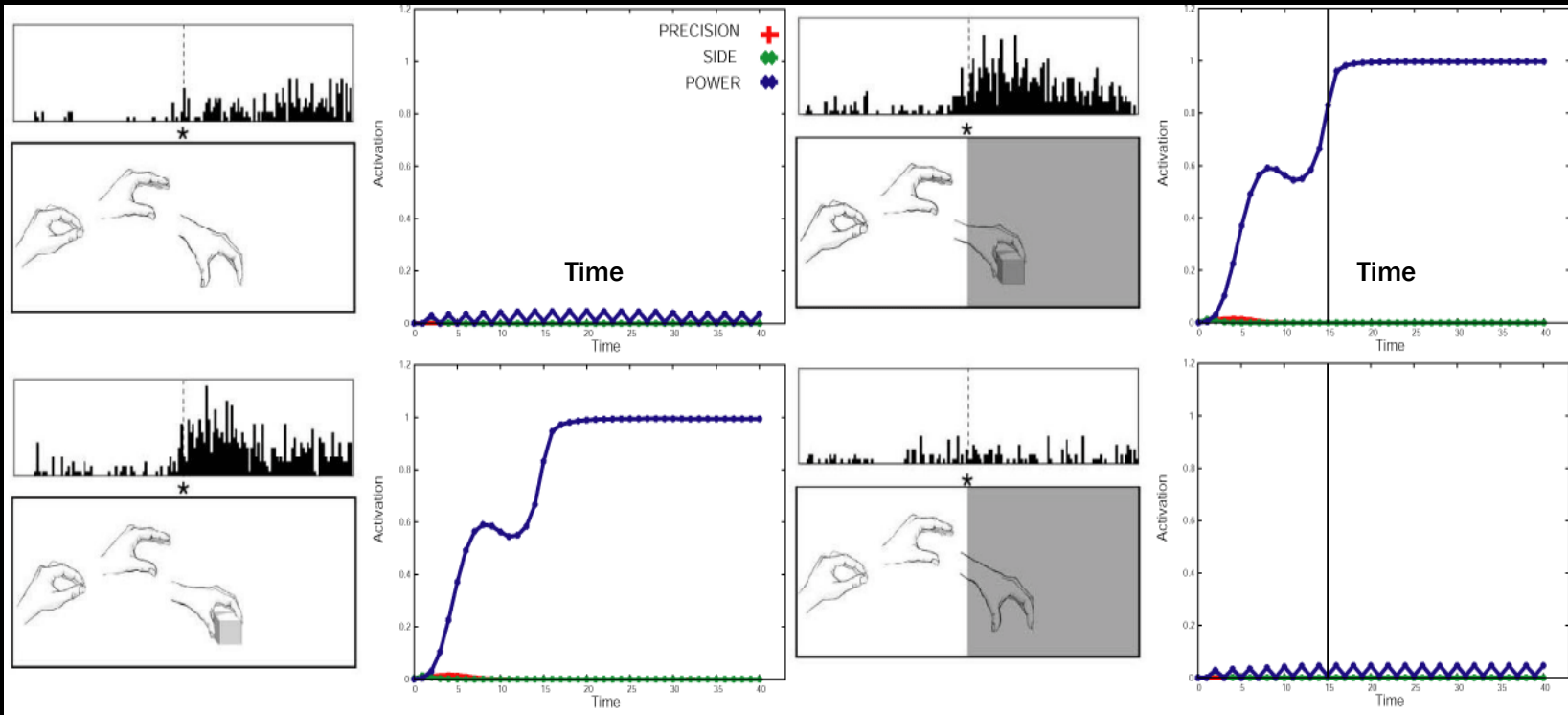


Original Model: Oztop & Arbib, *Biological Cybernetics*, 2002

MNS2 extends MNS: Again, much more than just Mirror Neurons

Examples: (1) Bringing in audition

(2) Partially Hidden Grasps: Data from Umiltà et al., 2001



Fully Visible

Partially Hidden

Working memory and dynamic remapping of hand working memory allows
hidden grasps to be recognized

No response if object is not visible and not in working memory



What are Mirror Neurons For?: New Dimensions of Perception

The usual story: Recognizing the actions of others supports

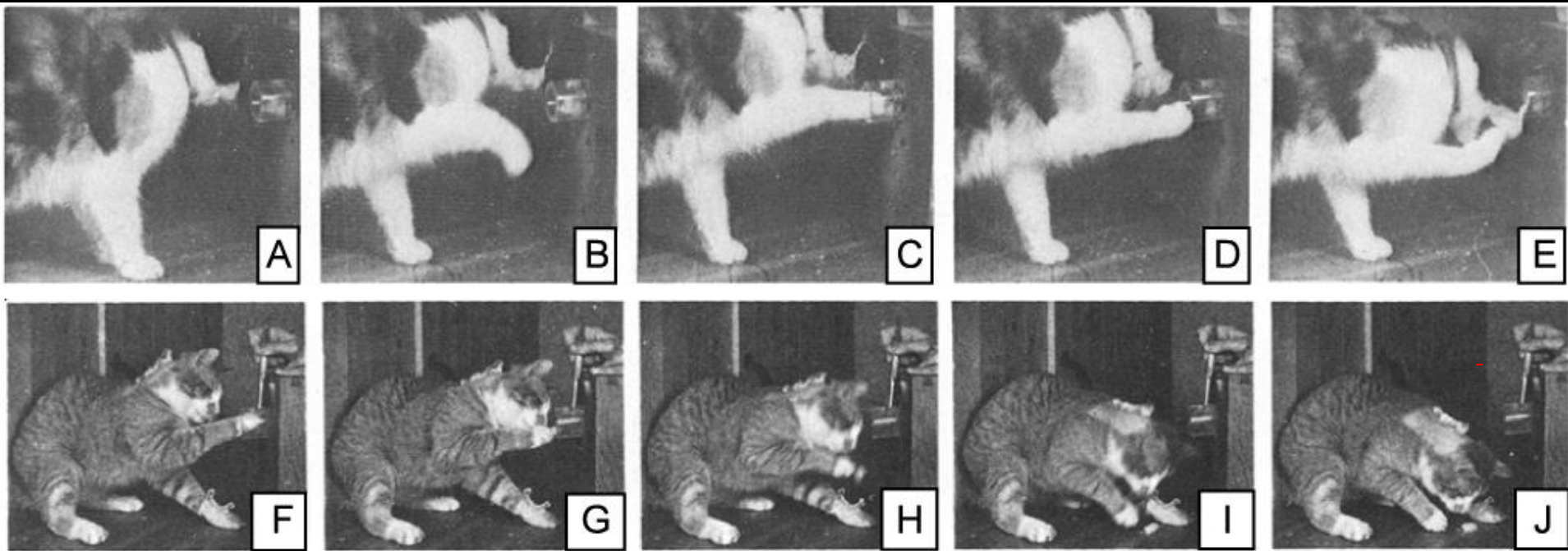
1) cooperation and competition between individuals

2) Imitation

✱ Caveat: Monkeys have little if any capacity for imitation as compared to apes. So imitation involves further mechanisms than mirror neurons *simpliciter*

A complementary (and perhaps evolutionarily prior) function implicates mirror neurons in observing one's own actions

Alstermark's Cat – Flexible Action Patterns and their Rapid Reorganization



From Alstermark et al. (1981)



Three Key Ideas

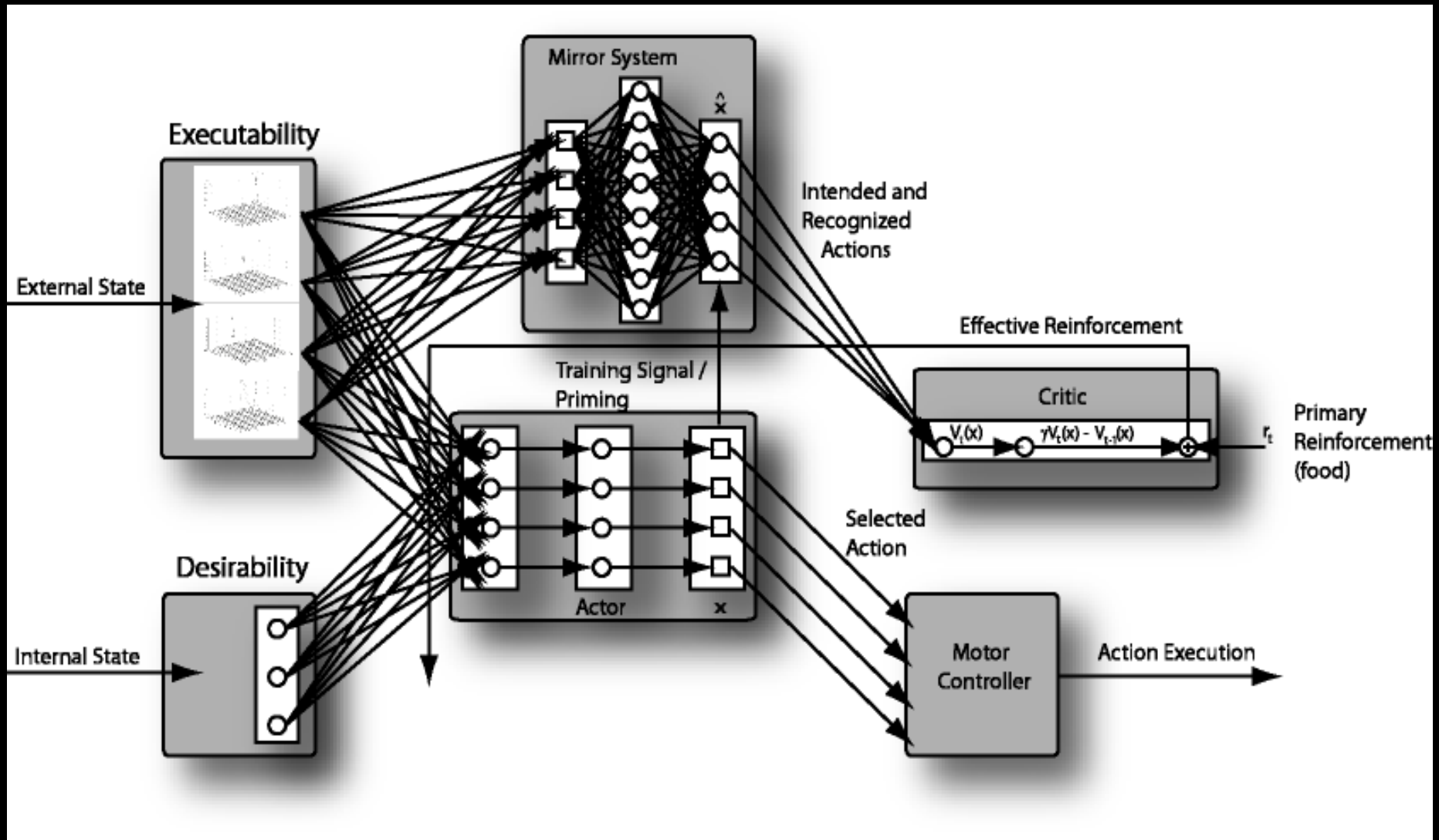
Motor schema activation determined by

- * **Desirability** – Dynamically updated via reinforcement learning
- * **Executability** – Determined by affordances and probability of action's success

A New Role for Mirror Neurons: What Did I Just Do?

- * An observation/execution matching (mirror) system may contribute to rapid reorganization of motor programs in the face of disruption when a known schema can be recognized as “filling the gap” for disrupted schemas
by updating executability and observability estimates

The Augmented Competitive Queuing (ACQ) system



Bonaiuto & Arbib, *Biological Cybernetics*, 2010



Part III

Evolution, All too Briefly



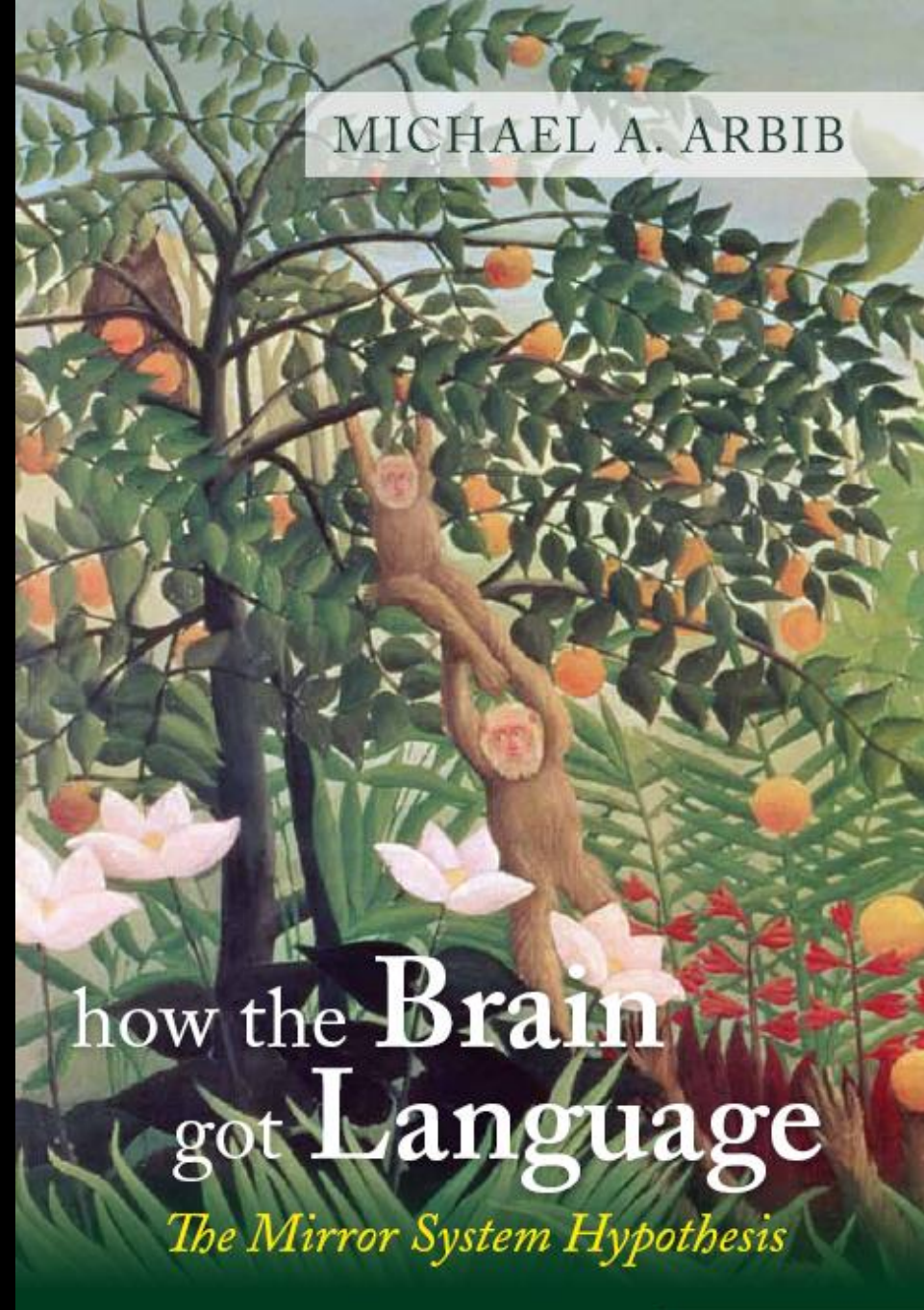


Oxford University Press, 2012
Several steps beyond
Arbib (2002, 2005)

*For 12 critiques and a Response
Language and Cognition
2013 5(2/3)*

Edited by David Kemmerer

*This work was supported in part by
National Science Foundation
Grants No. 0924674 & BCS-1343544*





A Key Hypothesis: Bringing in Complex Imitation

- i) Monkeys (and LCA-m): Little capacity for imitation
 - ii) Apes (and LCA-c): A capacity for simple imitation based more on attention to subgoals than to how movements are shaped to achieve them
 - ii) Hominid Evolution yields a complex imitation system:
The abilities to
 - * recognize another's performance as a set of familiar movements
 - * use this recognition to repeat the performance, and
- More generally: the ability to
- * recognize that another's performance combines variants
 - * approximate the performance on this basis, with increasing practice yielding increasing skill.

Note utility for language learning and use once this can be applied to words and word streams – **but it evolved (we claim) to support praxis**



The Mirror System Hypothesis (2012):

A) Evolving the Language-Ready Brain and Protolanguage

Pre-Hominid:
Grasping

A mirror system for grasping: LCA-m

A simple imitation system for grasping: LCA-c

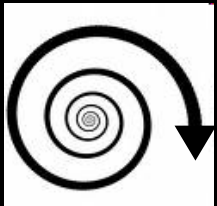
Hominid Evolution

A complex imitation system

“Naïve” Pantomime: Adapting the action repertoire to open up communication

⌘ **Protosign**: a manual-based communication system, breaking through the fixed repertoire of primate vocalizations to yield an open repertoire for semantic expression

⌘ **Protospeech and multi-modal protolanguage**: resting on the invasion of the vocal apparatus by collaterals from the protosign system





The Mirror System Hypothesis (2012):

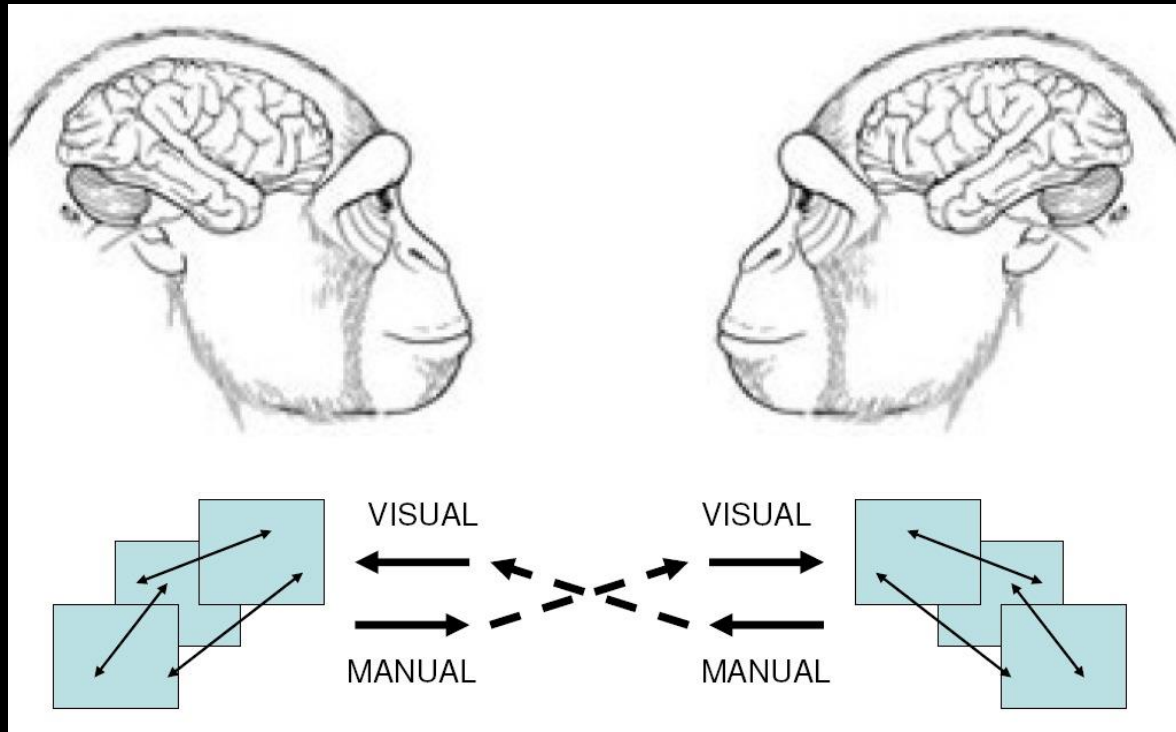
B) From Protolanguage to Language

How the Brain Got Language, Chapter 10: Once early *Homo sapiens* emerges, cultural evolution dominated biological change:

From protolanguage to language; Emergence of grammar:
Complex imitation supports co-emergence of

- * Phonology
- * Lexicon
- * Constructions

Dyadic Brain Modeling



A Hypothetical Example: Beckoning

Child has distal goal: Social bonding –
getting mother to hug him:

1) Child reaches out, grabs, and tugs on
Mother, leading Mother to move
towards Child as a response.



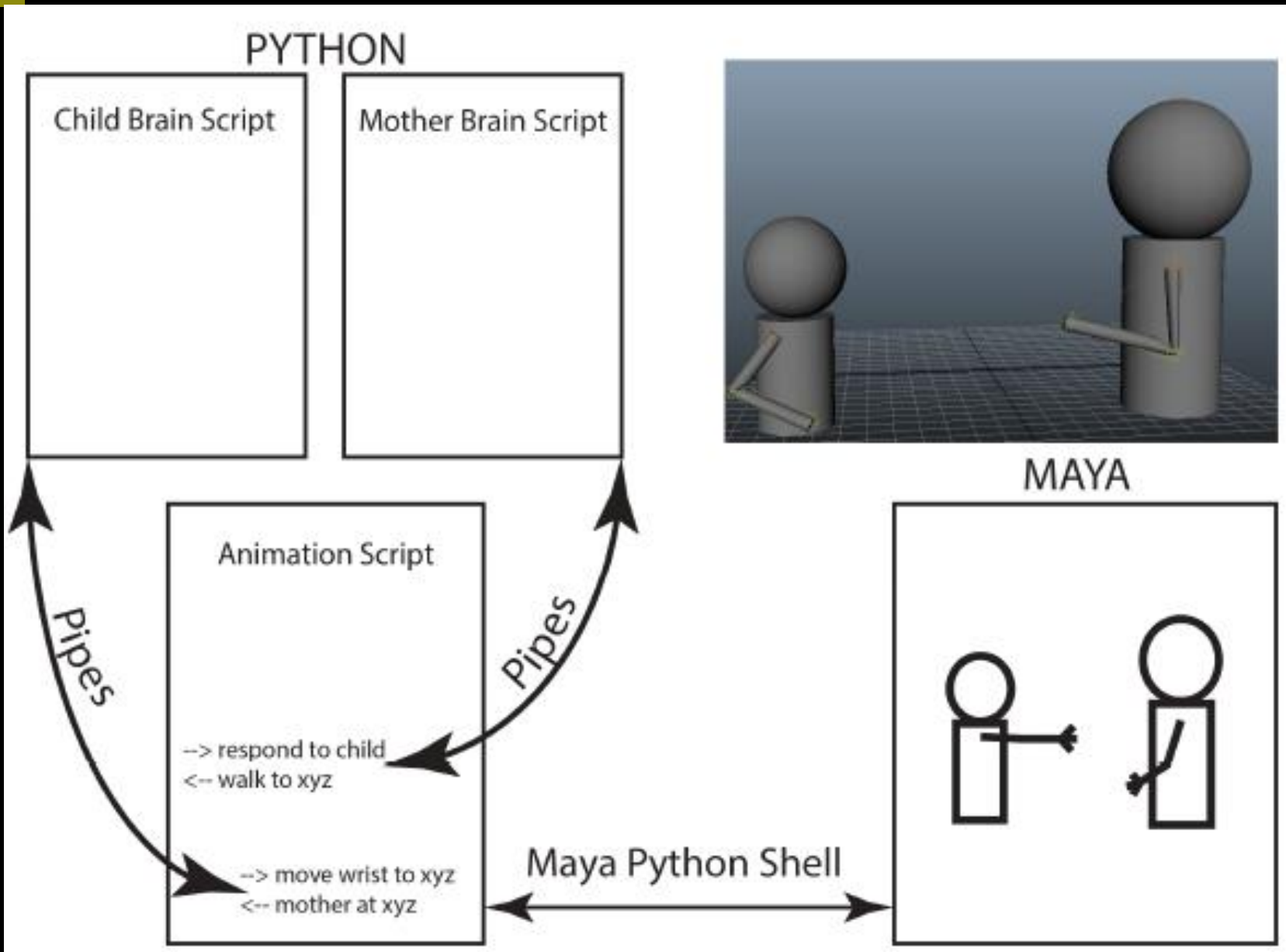
6) Child beckons Mother to move
towards her.

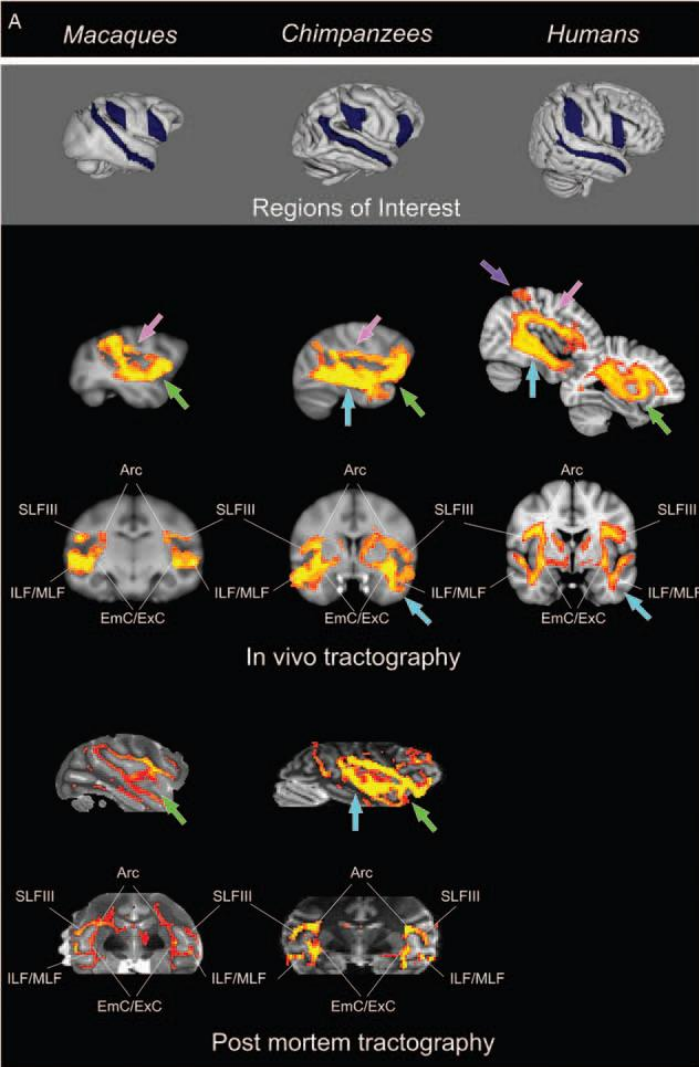


A Model: Arbib, M. A., Ghanesh, V., & Gasser, B. (2014).

Dyadic Brain Modeling, Ontogenetic Ritualization of Gesture in Apes, and
the Contributions of Primate Mirror Neuron Systems. *Phil Trans Roy Soc B*

Computational Comparative Neuroprimatology: Each Brain Script Extends the ACQ Model *in the same way*





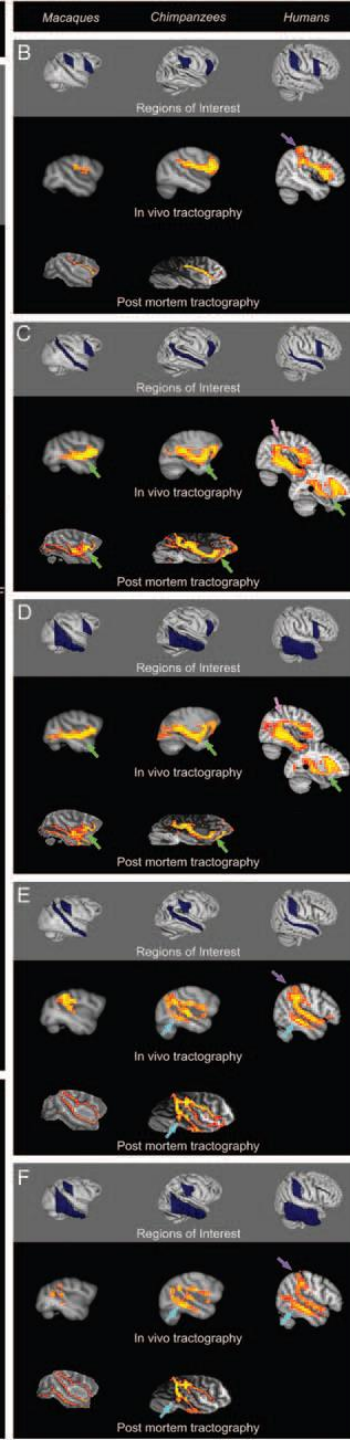
Regions of Interest

Macaques: F5c, PF/PFG, STS, and inferotemporal cortex
 Chimpanzees: FCBm (BA44), PF/PFG, STS, inferotemporal cortex
 Humans: IFGpo (BA44), SMG (BA40), STS, inferotemporal cortex

Legend

- ➡ Dorsal mirror system connections, traveling in ILF/MLF and SLFIII
- ➡ Ventral mirror system connections, traveling in EmC/ExC
- ➡ Connections with inferotemporal cortex
- ➡ Connections with superior parietal cortex

MLF: Middle longitudinal fasciculus. ILF: Inferior longitudinal fasciculus.
 SLFIII: Third branch of superior longitudinal fasciculus. EmC: Extreme capsule.
 ExC: External capsule.



Not only do hands evolve, but so too do the pathways that open up new possibilities for perception and control

Process Versus Product in Social Learning:

Comparative Diffusion Tensor Imaging of Neural Systems for Action Execution–Observation Matching in Macaques, Chimpanzees, and Humans.

Hecht, Gutman, Preuss, Sanchez, Parr, Rilling. Cereb Cortex. 2013;23:1014-24.



Part IV

Distalization of the End Effector

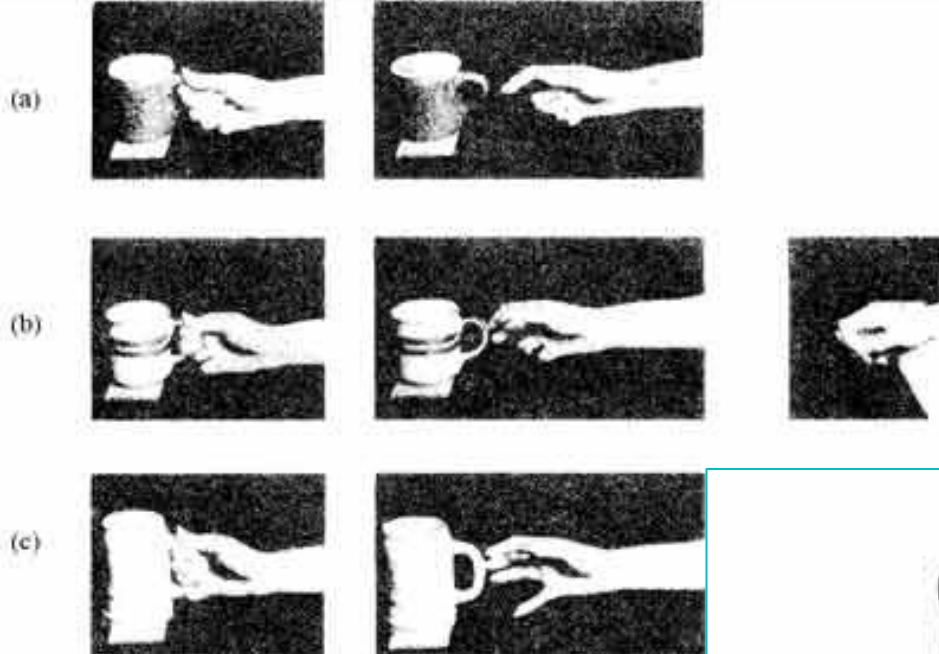


Distalizing the End-Effector

Grasping: the hand as end-effector

Manipulation: First hand then object as end-effector

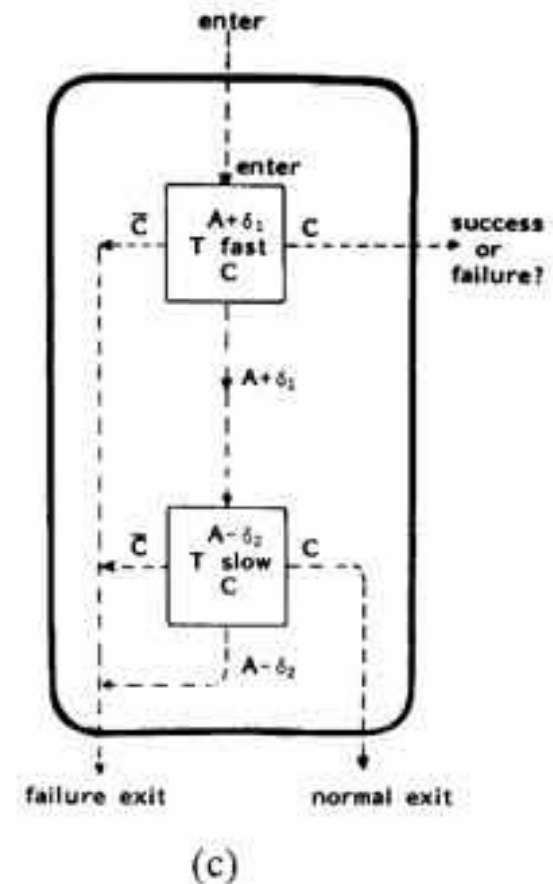
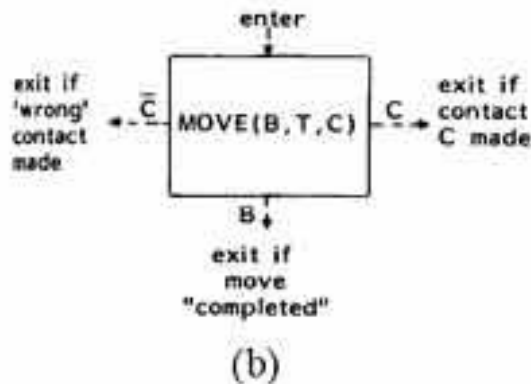
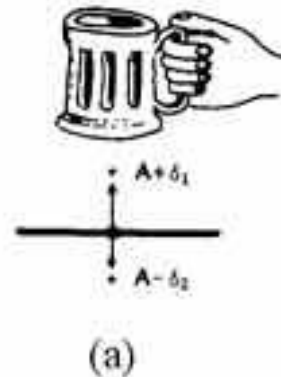
Virtual Fingers



Another two-stage action

Contrast doing this with vision and in the dark

- * Feedback &/vs feedforward
- * Bringing in hapsis and proprioception



Tool Use



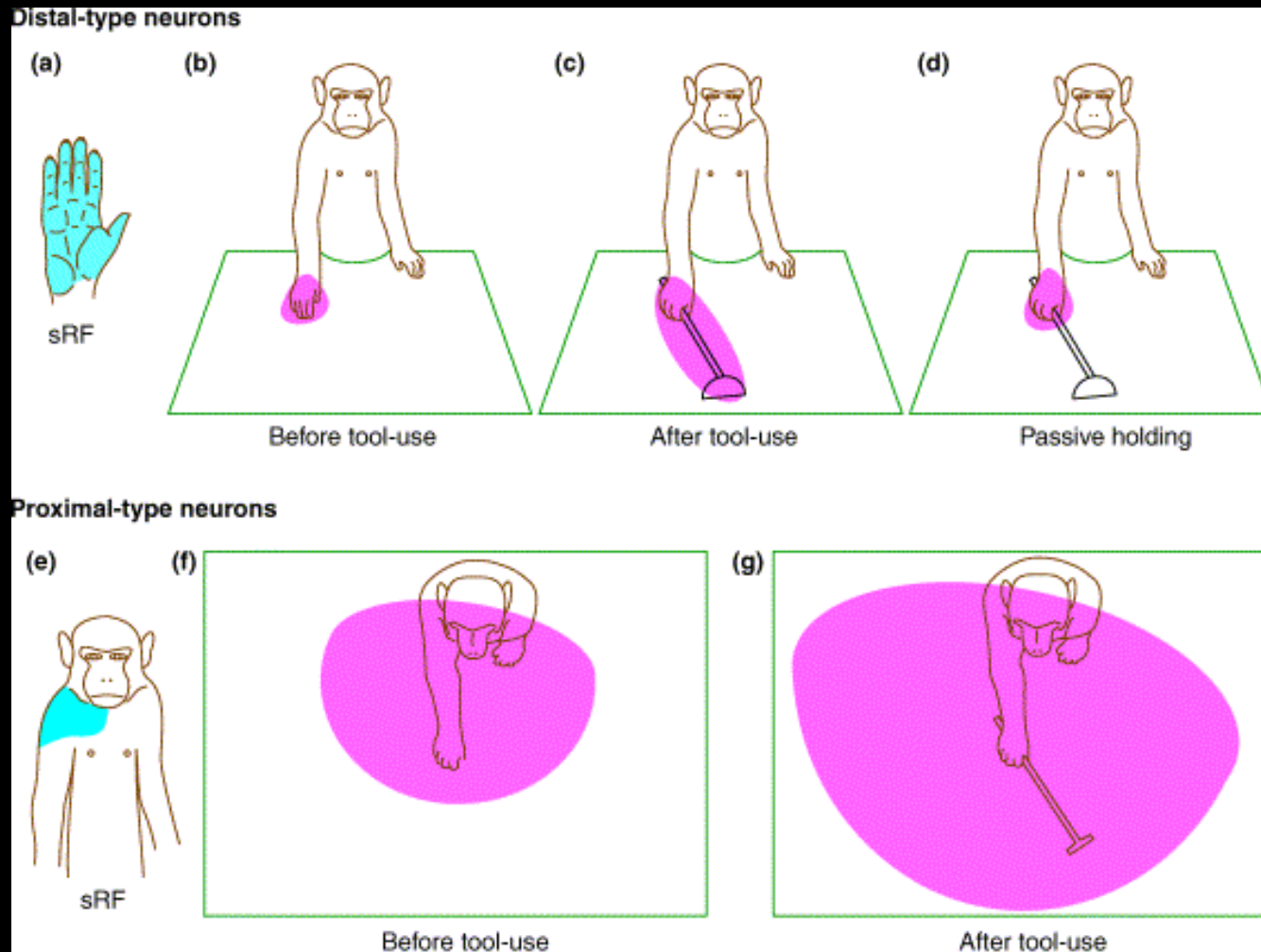
Phase 1: Grasping the Tool: The hand is the end effector: attention to the relation of hand and tool guides the action

Subsequent Phases: Using the Tool: The tool becomes the end effector: attention to the relation of the “business end” of the tool and object guides the action

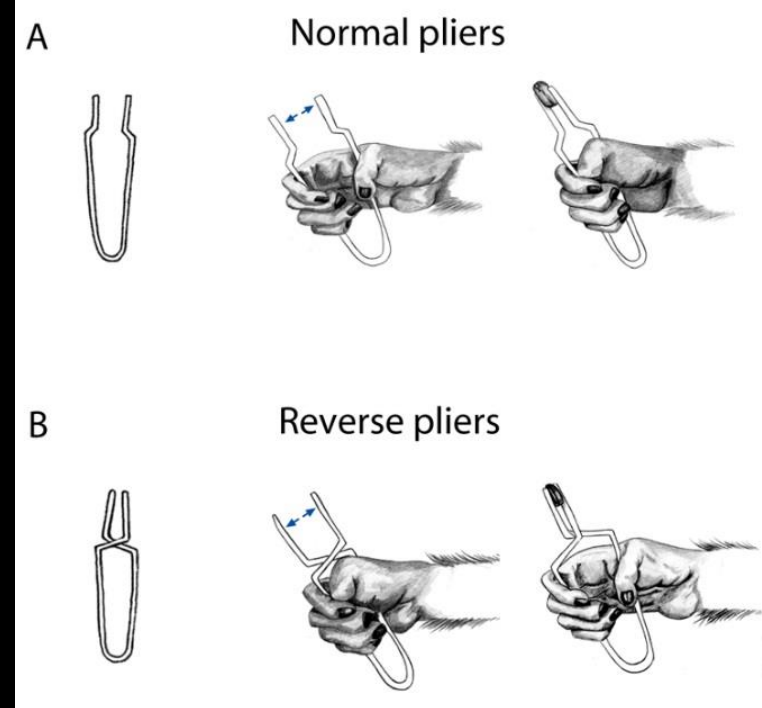
Another issue: Bimanual coordination

Case Study 1: Macaque postcentral neurons coding a body schema modified by tool use

Atsushi Iriki, Tools for the body (schema), *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 8:79-86.



Case Study 2: Neurons coding for pliers and for fingers in the monkey motor system



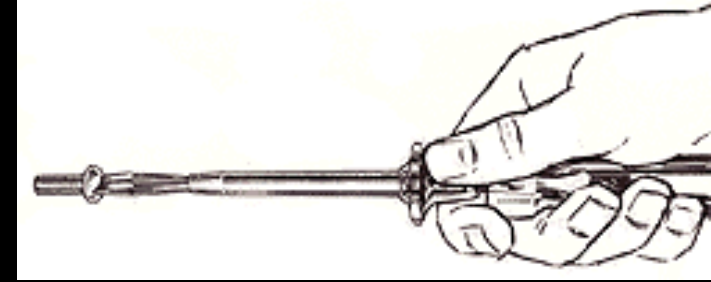
Umiltà et al. (2008) recorded F5 and F1 neuron activity in monkeys trained to grasp objects using “normal pliers” and “reverse pliers”

For the F5 neurons studied: *activity correlated with the movements of the end effector, the jaws of the pliers.*

For M1/F1 neurons: some discharged in relation to hand movements, others in relation to end effector motion



Tool Use and the extension of perception



The end effector migrates distally from the hand.

- * Yet it is still the hand that has to be controlled
 - ⌘ Visual attention is directed to the tip of the tool rather than to the hand itself
 - ⌘ Haptic feedback is still provided via the hand but its meaning (the deployed perceptual schema) depends strongly on the phase of the current task



Tool Use and the extension of perception

When Justus plays the cello:

- ⌘ Visual attention?
- ⌘ Haptic feedback
- ⌘ Other senses ...

