

# VISUAL RECOGNITION



# Reminders & Announcements

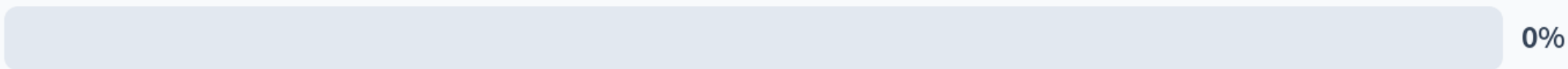
- How I “curve”...
  - Exams only (not course grade)
  - Add enough points to have a median of 80
  - If median is 80 or above, I do nothing
- Lots of extra credit opportunities!
  - SONA: <https://canvas.cornell.edu/courses/74259/pages/sona-study-advertisements>
- Tzu-Yen’s guest lecture on spatial cognition will be 3/6

Do you want to visit the MRI facilities on campus? This would be another extra credit opportunity, and not during class.

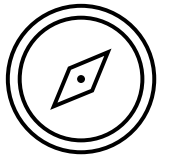
Yes



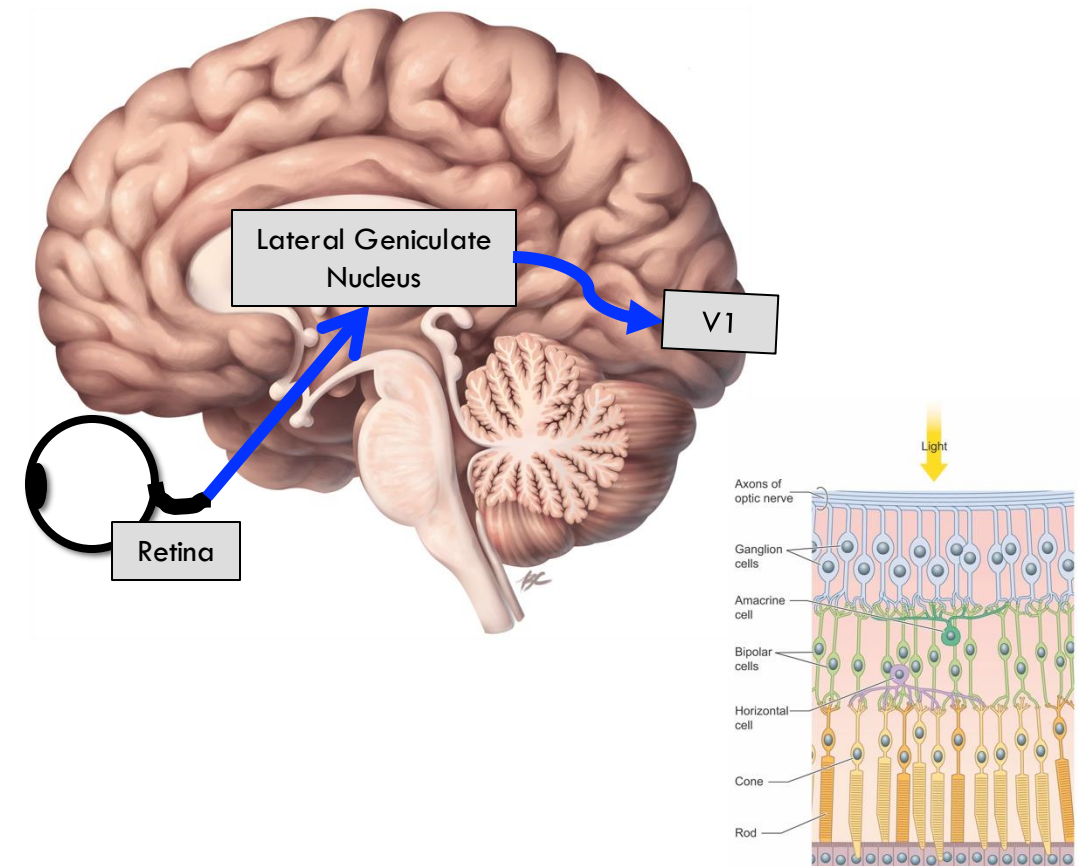
No



# How does perception work?

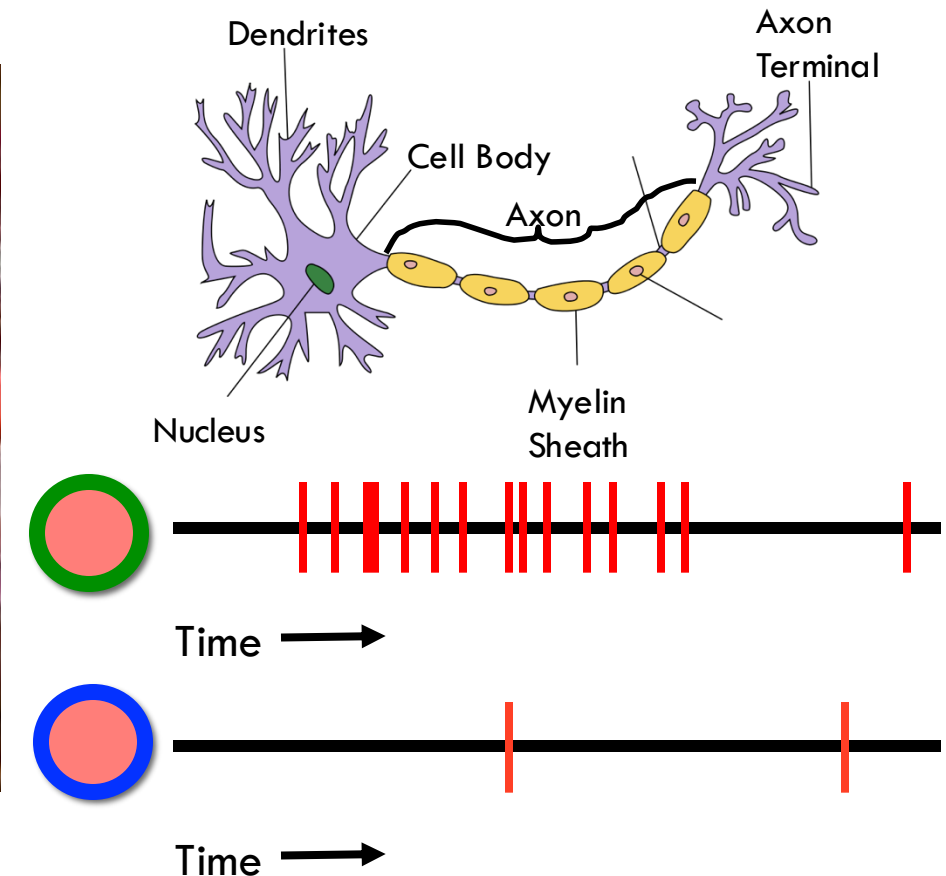


- How does the brain process visual information?
- The geniculostriate pathway
  - Retina to primary visual cortex
  - Segregation of information
  - Early feature extraction
  - Organization
- The tectopulvinar pathway (later)
  - Retina to pulvinar (in thalamus)
  - Orienting



# Receptive Fields (RF)

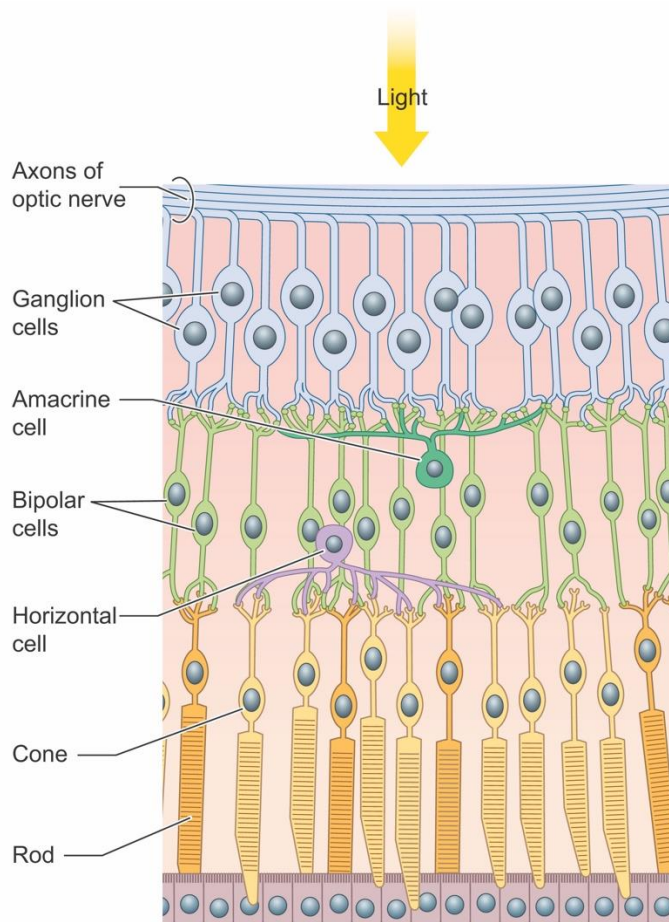
- The part of the visual field that is coded by a neuron
- Tuned to specific types of info (e.g., longer wave lengths)





# Early Visual Feature Detection

- Retinal ganglion cells code contrast

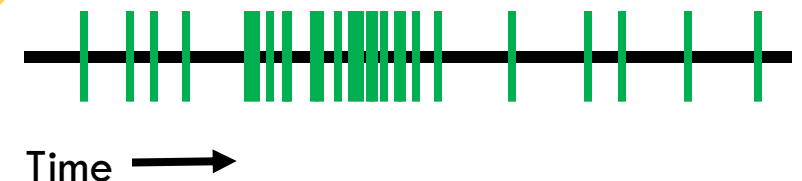
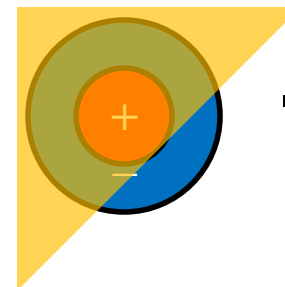
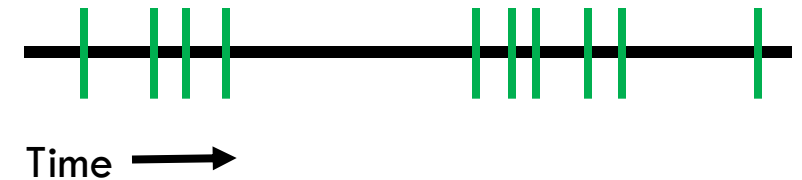
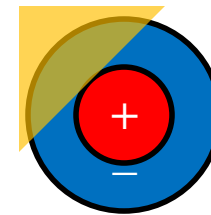
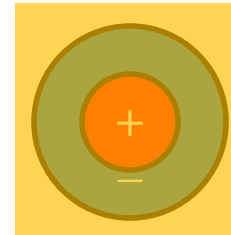


Uniform  
Net = 0

Surround Only  
Net = -

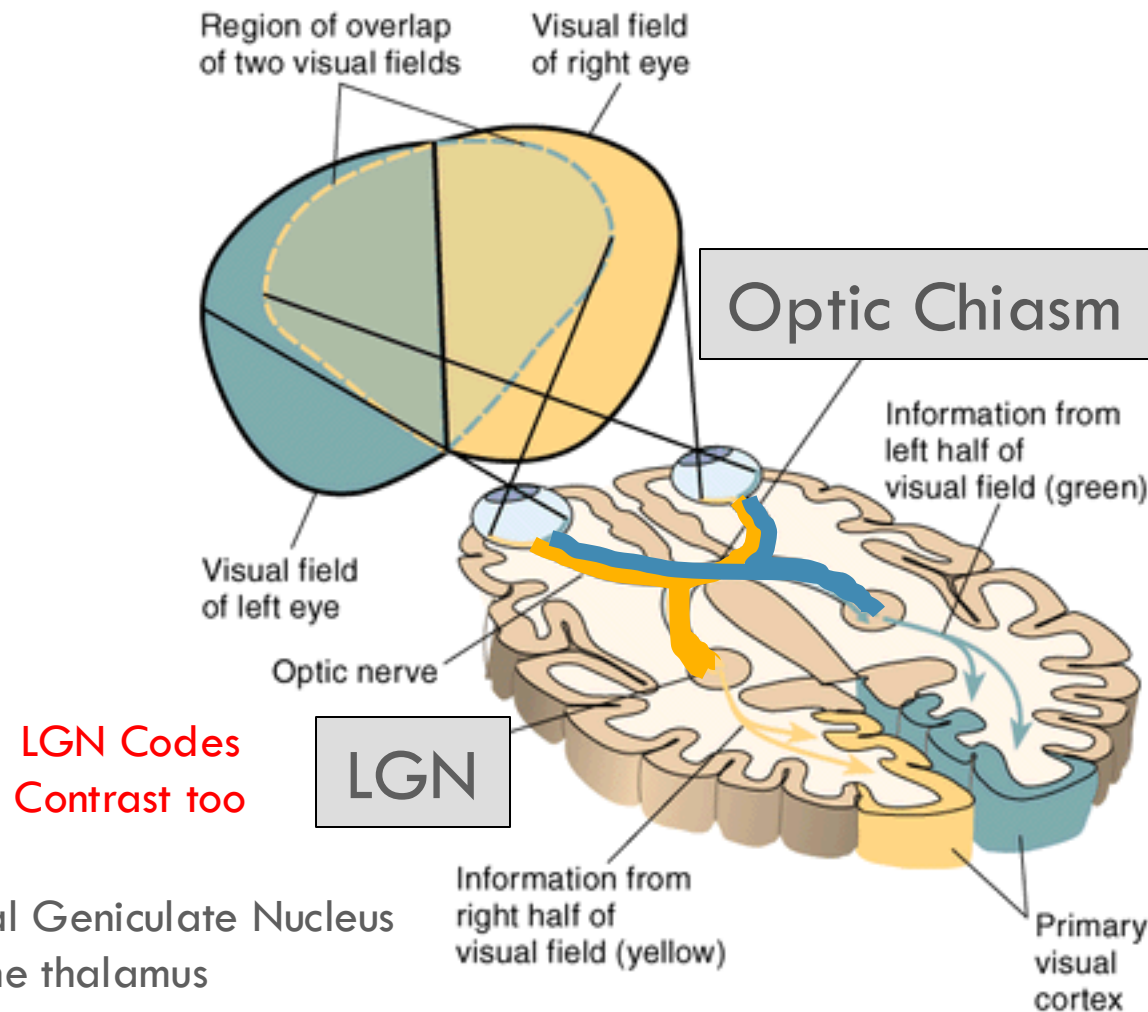
Center+Some Surround  
Net = +

Center-Surround  
(On-Center)

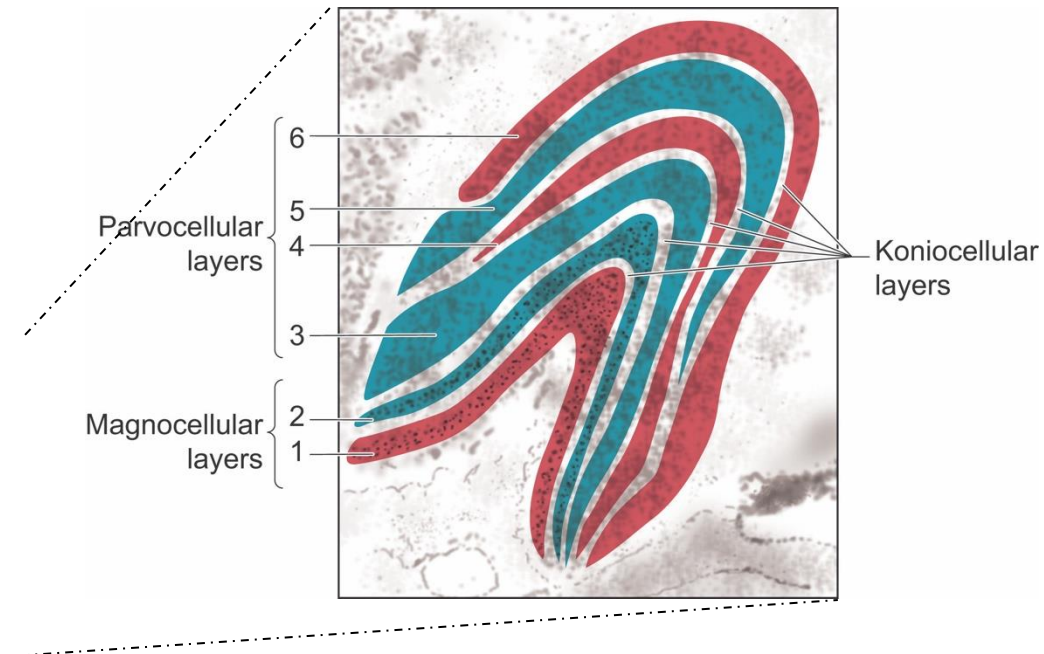


# Early visual pathway

## • Geniculostriate Pathway



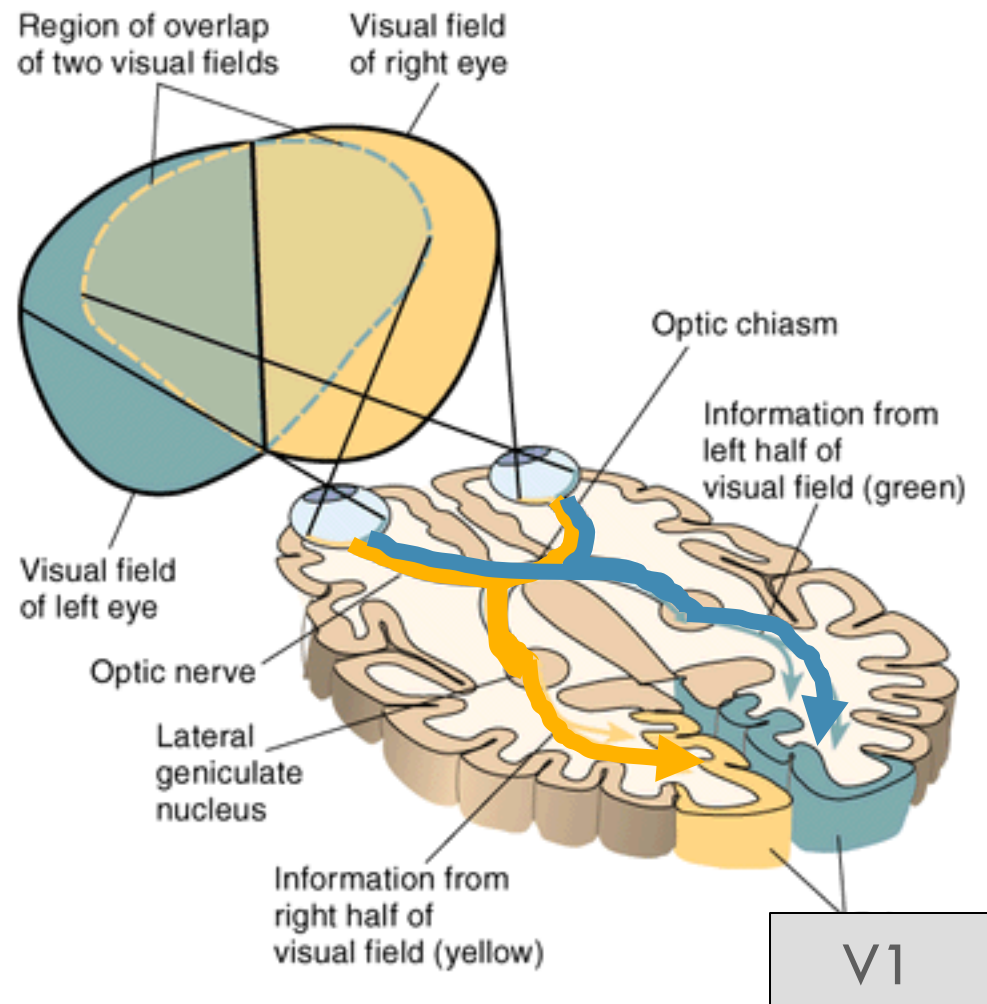
LGN = Lateral Geniculate Nucleus  
In the thalamus



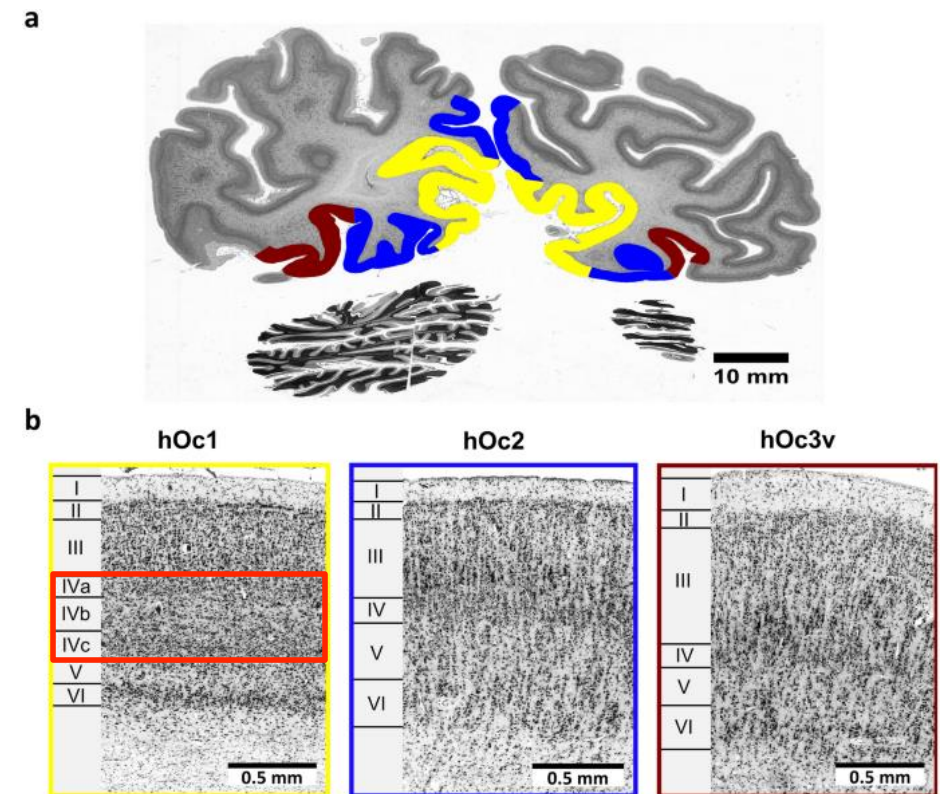
- Each eye goes to a different layer
- Magno- and Parvo- are separate
- Each layer is *retinotopic map*

# Early visual pathway

## • Geniculostriate Pathway



<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-78638-y>



Striate Cortex

aka:

V1

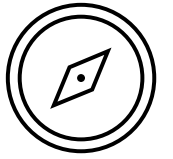
Primary Visual Cortex

BA 17

What does V1  
do?



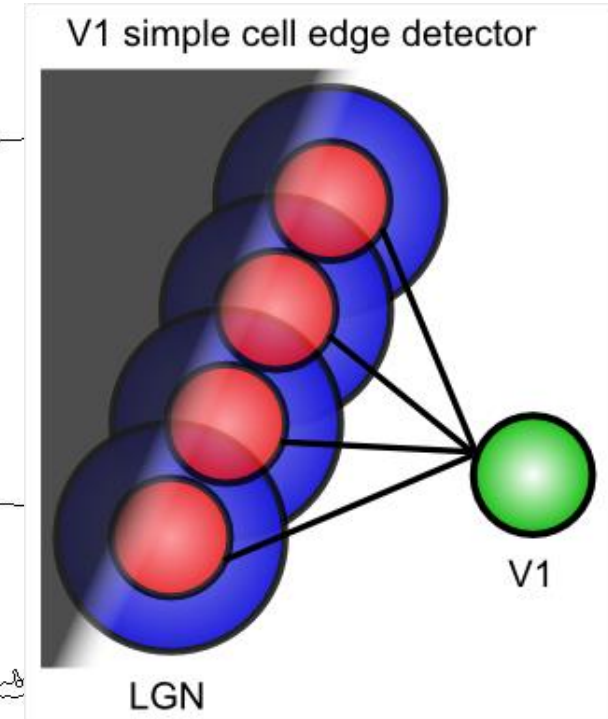
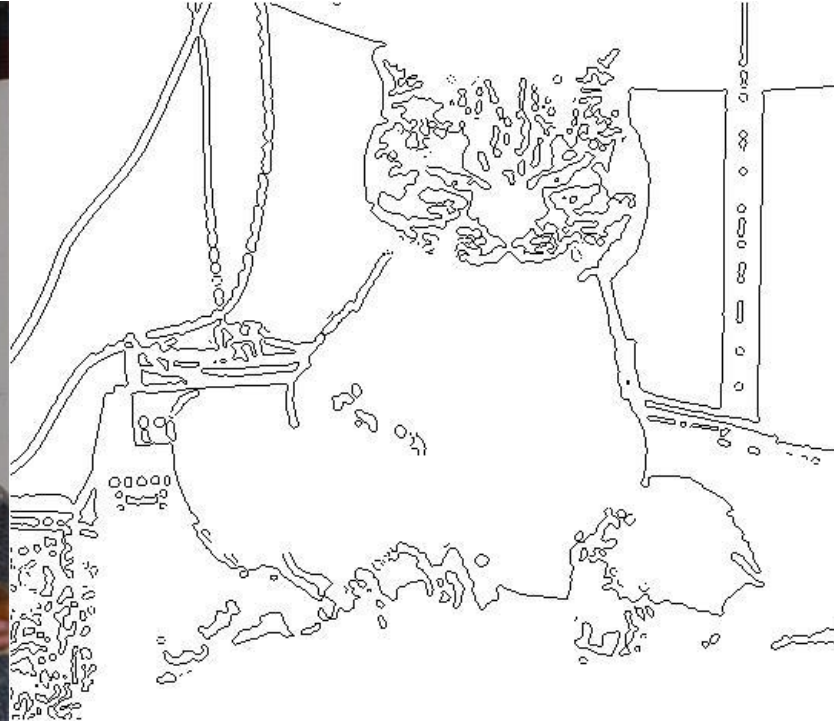
# Primary Visual Cortex (V1)



- What features does it pull out? How?
- How is it organized?

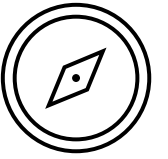
# Simple Cell

# Primary Visual Cortex (V1)



- Edge identified by combining contrast info from LGN
- Simple cells in V1 sensitive to location and orientation of edge
- Complex cells sensitive to direction of motion

# Primary Visual Cortex (V1)

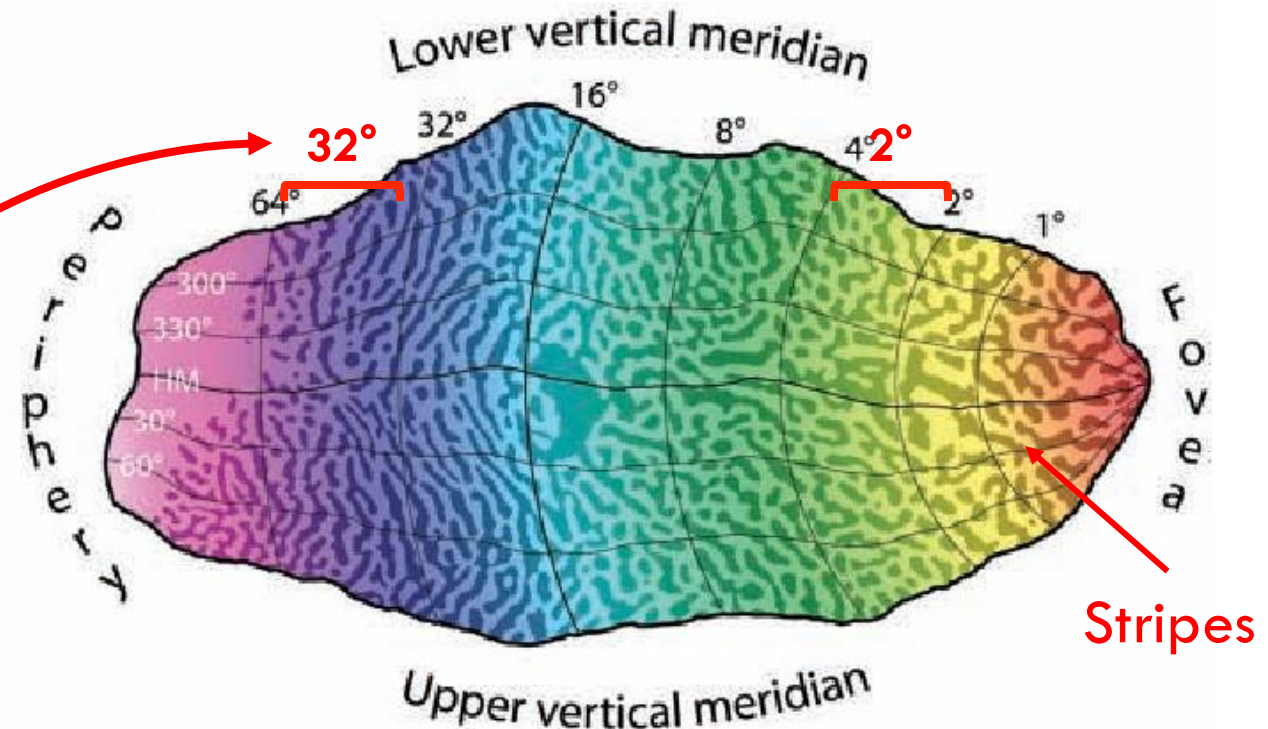
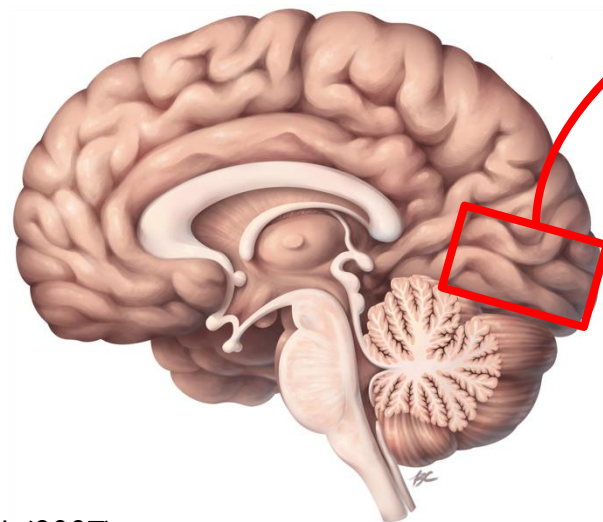
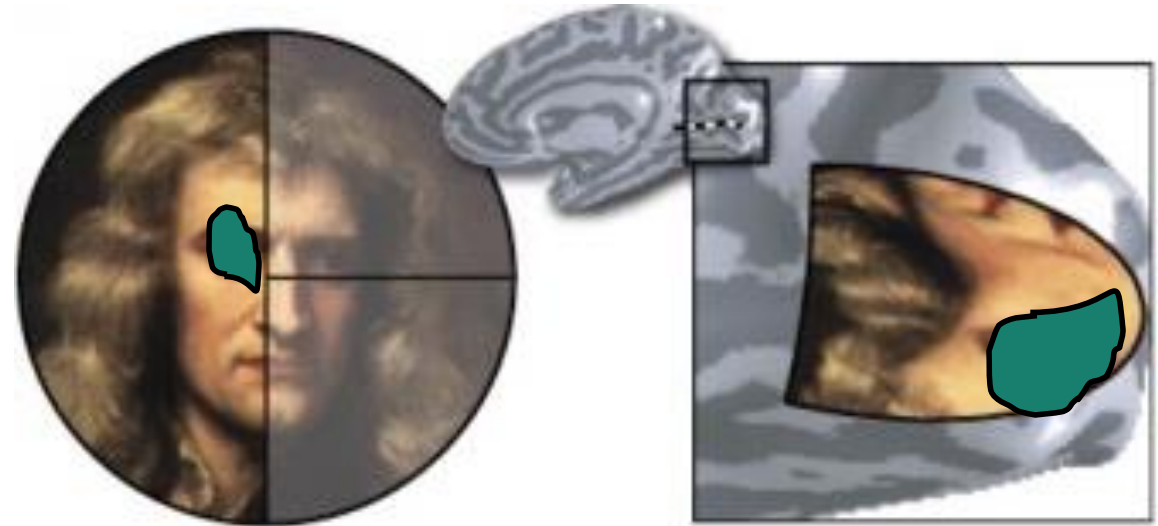


- What features does it pull out? How?
  - Edges, Orientation, Motion
- How is it organized?



# Visual Map in V1

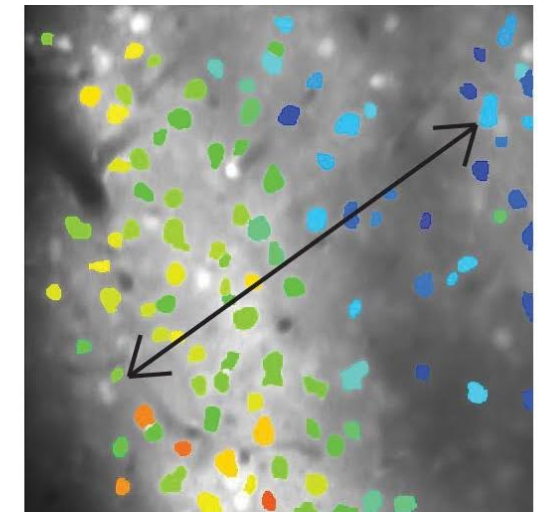
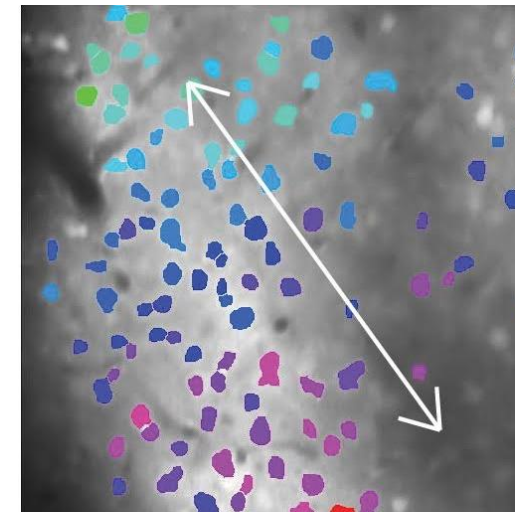
- The V1 retinotopic map
  - Medial occipital (calcarine sulcus)
  - Upside down and contralateral
  - Over-representation of fovea
  - Cortical magnification
  - Ocular dominance columns
  - Scotoma



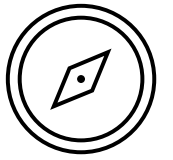
# Depth from binocular disparity



- Stereopsis
- Binocular disparity
  - Integration across the eyes







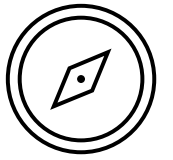
# Primary Visual Cortex (V1)

- What features does it pull out? How?
  - Edges, Orientation, Motion
  - Depth
- How is it organized?
  - Retinotopic Map
  - Ocular Dominance Columns
  - Neurons coding similar orientations are also near each other (columns)

# Take-aways (Eye to V1)

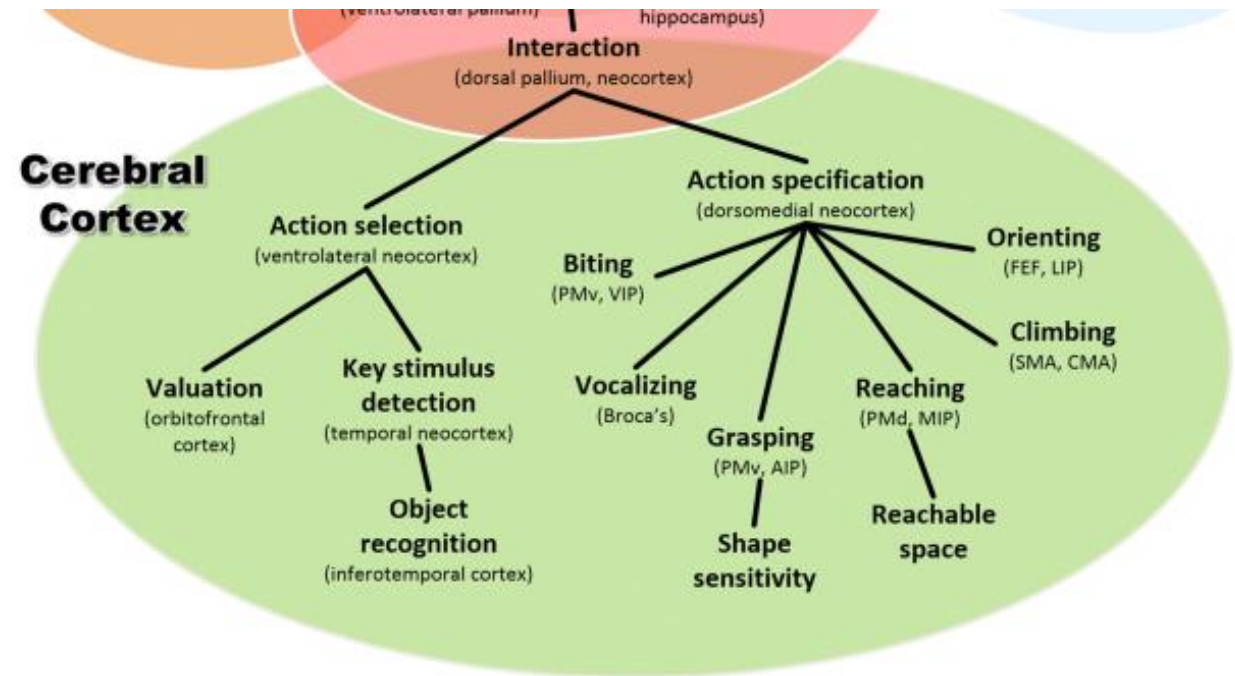
- The retina transforms light into visual information
- Visual processing pulls out information useful for cognition, behavior
  - Segregation of signals early on
  - Integration to generate more complex, abstract info
- Cells representing nearby info are physically near each other
  - Maps
  - Location, orientation, motion, depth
- V1 is important for conscious visual perception





# How does perception work?

- Challenges: Invariance, ambiguity, importance of context
- Different computations for different purposes (segregation)
  - Starting at the eye
  - Recognition and categorization
  - Action and location
- Vision involves
  - Feedforward processing
  - Feedback processing
  - Hierarchical processing
  - Experience based inference



If visual processing involves segregated functions, what are we likely to find from lesion studies?

Functional connectivity

Reuse

Double Dissociation

Distributed processing

## If visual processing involves segregated functions, what are we likely to find from lesion studies?

Functional connectivity

0%

Reuse

0%

Double Dissociation

0%

Distributed processing

0%

## If visual processing involves segregated functions, what are we likely to find from lesion studies?

Functional connectivity

0%

Reuse

0%

Double Dissociation

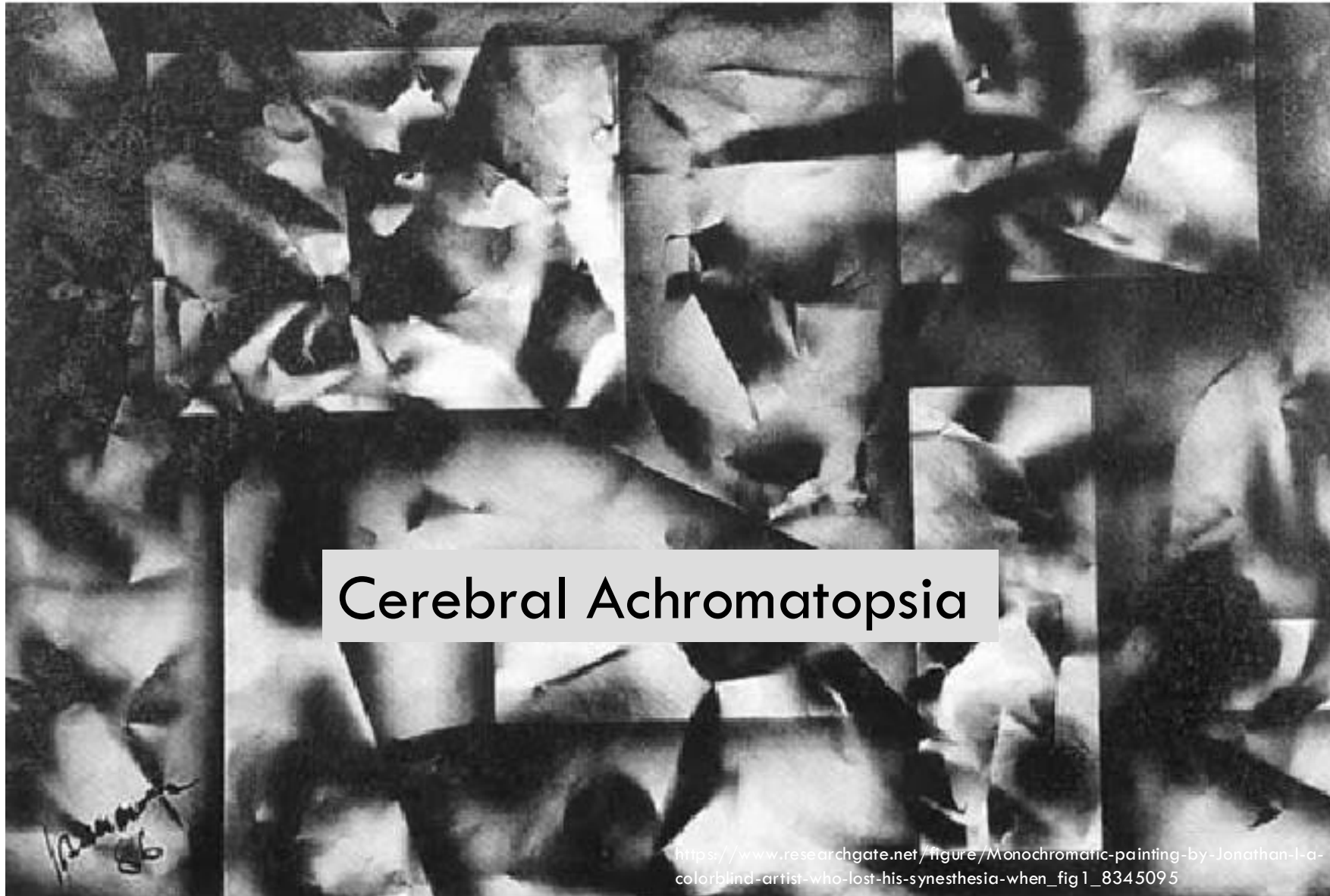
0%

Distributed processing

0%



# The Case of the Color-Blind Painter



Area V4: achromatopsia, not  
akinetopsia



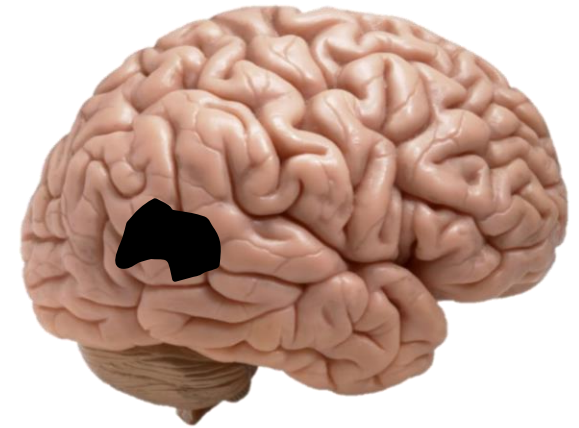


# Patient L. M.

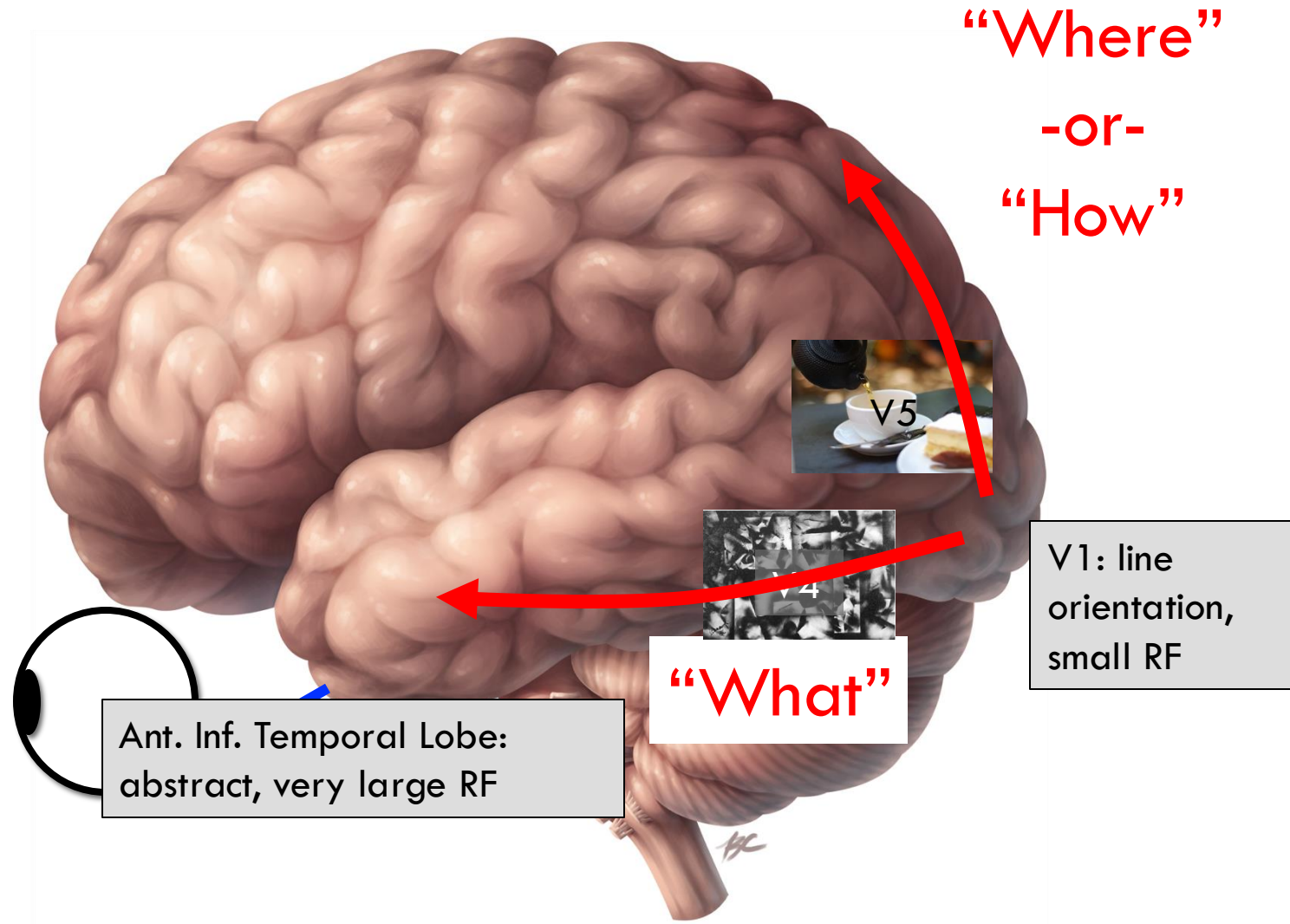
"People, dogs, and cars appear restless, are suddenly here and then there, but disappear in between. Very often I don't even know where they have left, because they move too fast, so I lose them quite often." -LM (Zihl & Heywood, 2015)

## Cerebral Akinetopsia

Area V5: akinetopsia, not achromotopsia



# Two Visual Processing Streams



# Vision for Recognition





Which of the following do you think best characterizes the deficit this man is showing?

✓ 0

Unable to perceive shape

Unable to name objects

Unable to perceive spatial configurations

Unable to perceive affordances

Which of the following do you think best characterizes the deficit this man is showing?

0

Unable to perceive shape

0%

Unable to name objects

0%

Unable to perceive spatial configurations

0%

Unable to perceive affordances

0%

Which of the following do you think best characterizes the deficit this man is showing?

0

Unable to perceive shape

0%

Unable to name objects

0%

Unable to perceive spatial configurations

0%

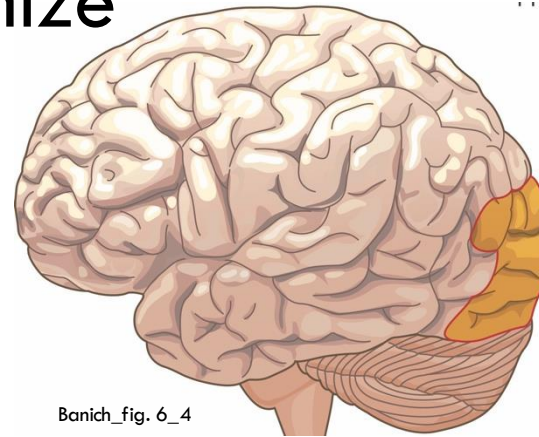
Unable to perceive affordances

0%

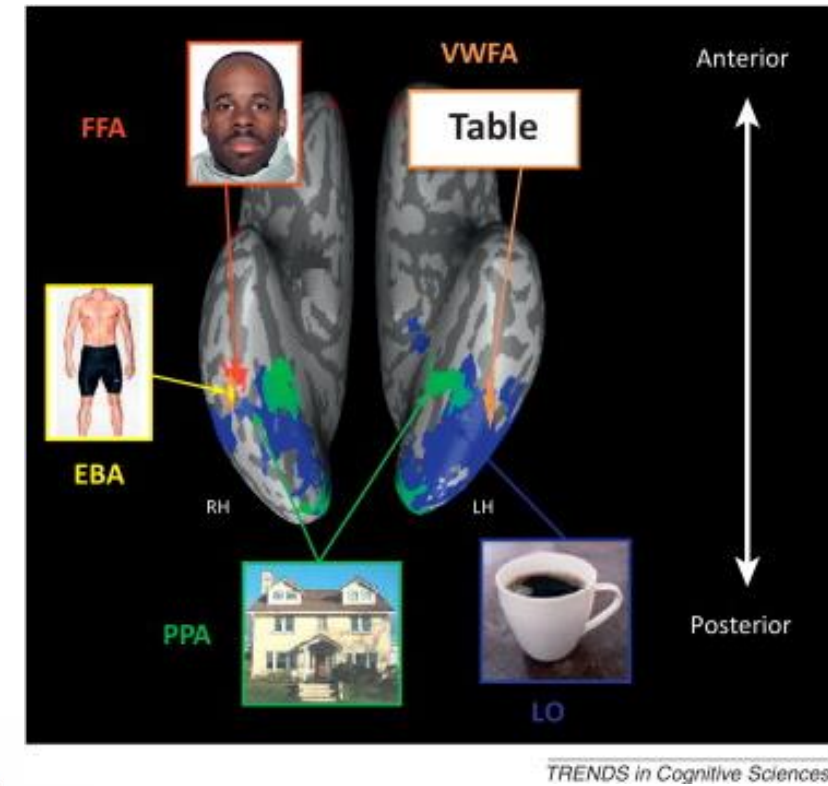
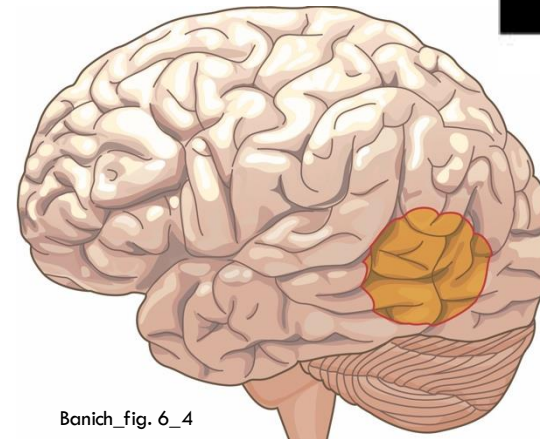
# Recognition break down patterns

- Agnosia: failure to recognize

- Apperceptive Agnosia
- Associative Agnosia
- Prosopagnosia
- Topographical disorganization

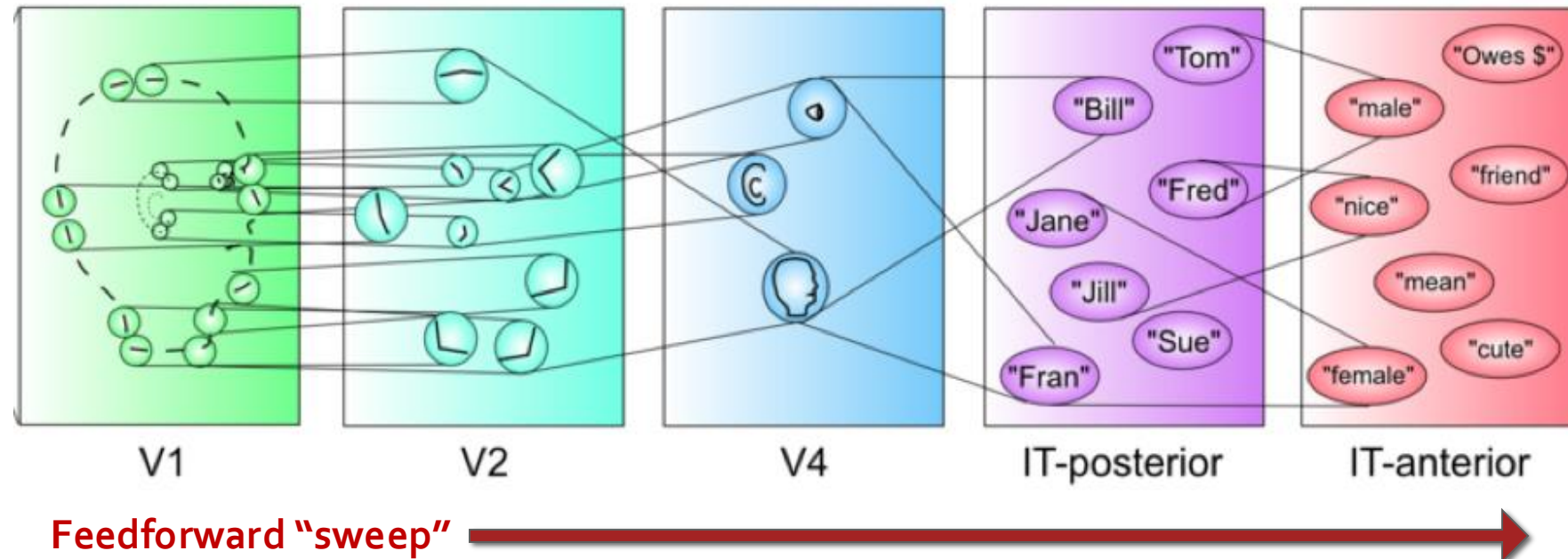


- Why does it get more specific with more anterior lesions?





# Ventral Visual Processing Stream



- Hierarchically organized
  - RFs in later areas integrate earlier RFs in maps
  - Combinations increase in complexity and abstraction
  - Contributes to invariance

