

# Towards a dynamical pattern recognition model of gamma activity in auditory cortex

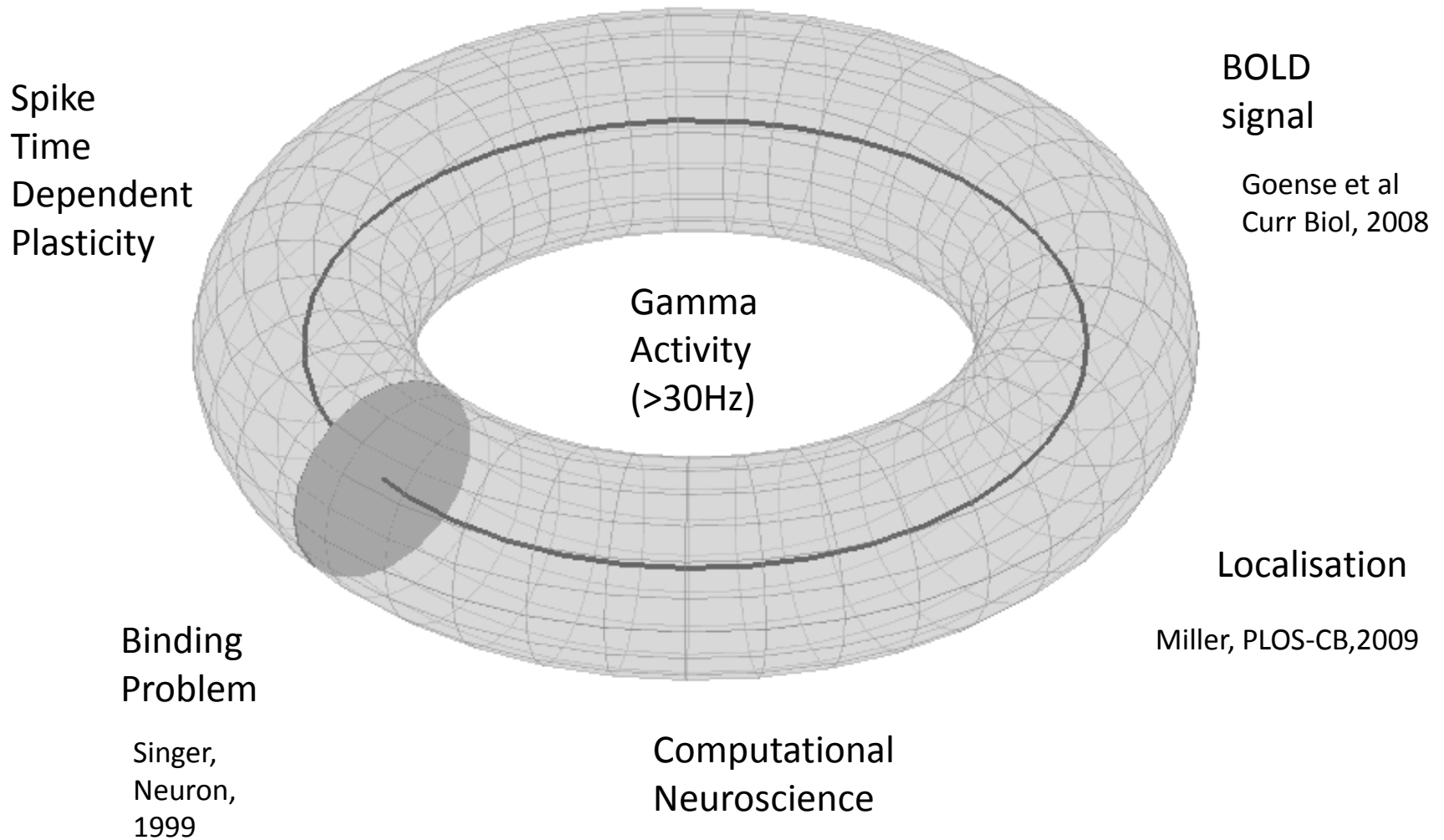
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2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Neural Field Theory,  
Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics,  
University of Reading, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012

# GAMMA ACTIVITY

Imaging Neuroscience



# Overview

Neural network model of spatio-temporal pattern recognition in the brain (Hopfield & Brody, PNAS, 2001). Applied to speech recognition.

Algorithmic Level: Recognition based on pattern of Occurrence Times (OTs) of level-crossings of power in different frequency bands.

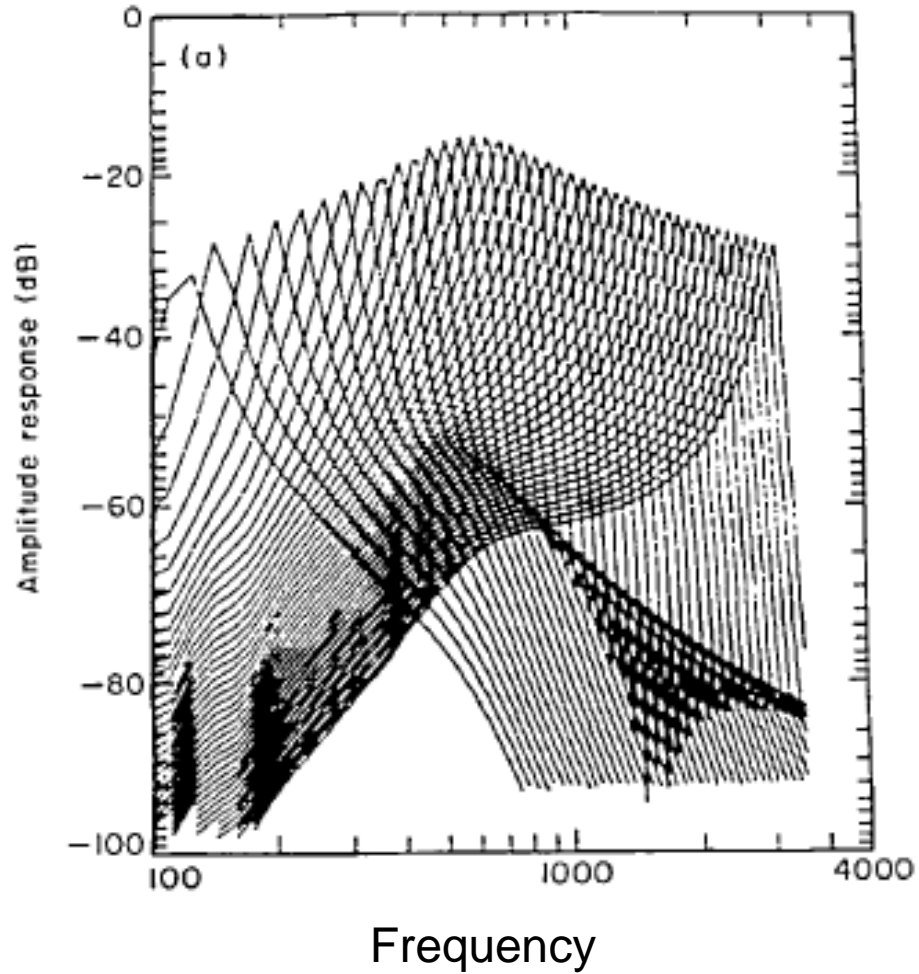
Implementation Level: Transient synchronization mechanism signalling recognition with a gamma burst (more details later !)

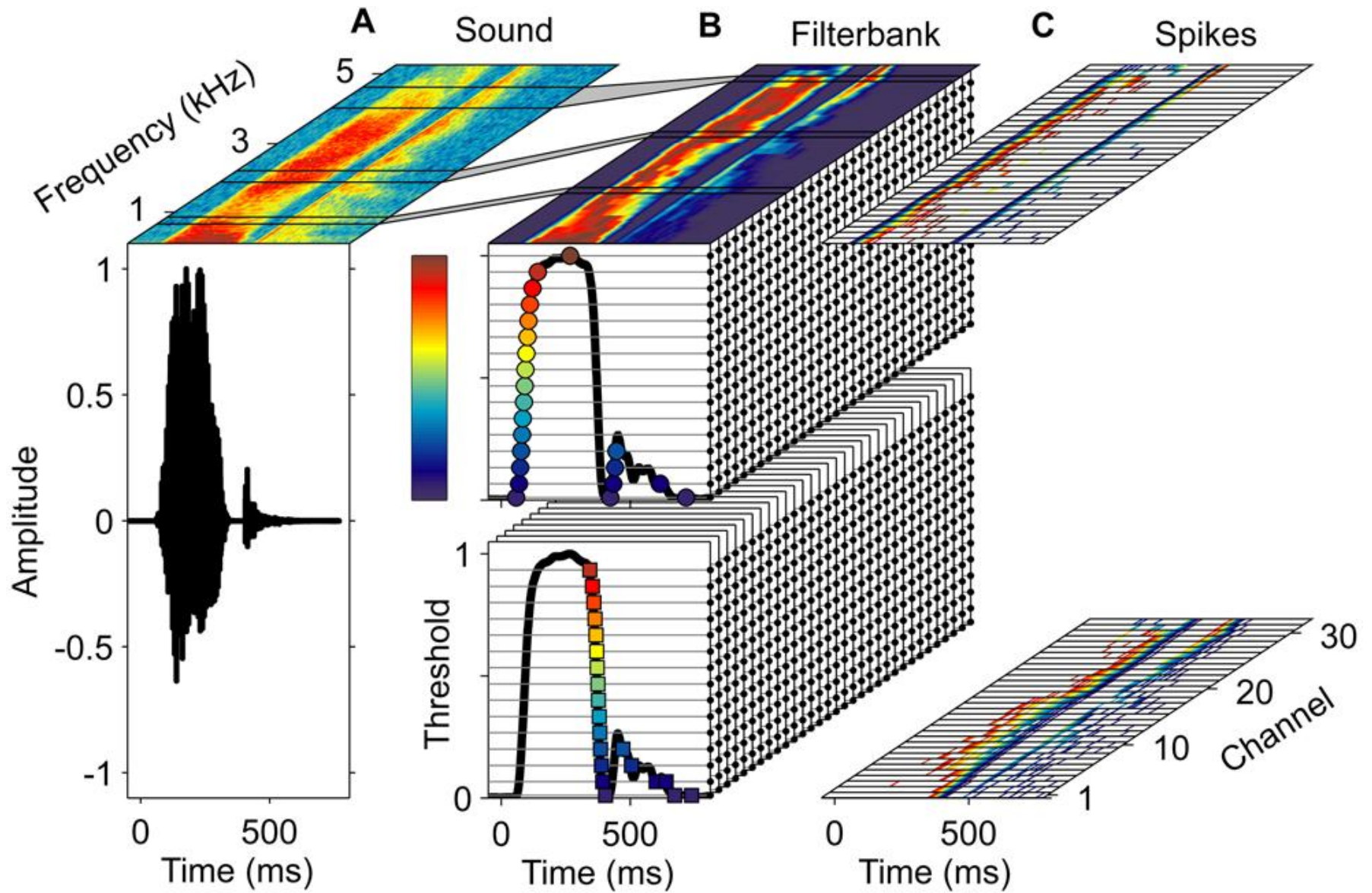
Idea: Use dynamical process as both a computational model and forward model of neuroimaging data.

# Algorithmic Level

- Bandpass filtering
- Onset/offset or 'level-crossing' detectors
- Pattern recognition based on Occurrence Times (OTs)

# Bandpass filters

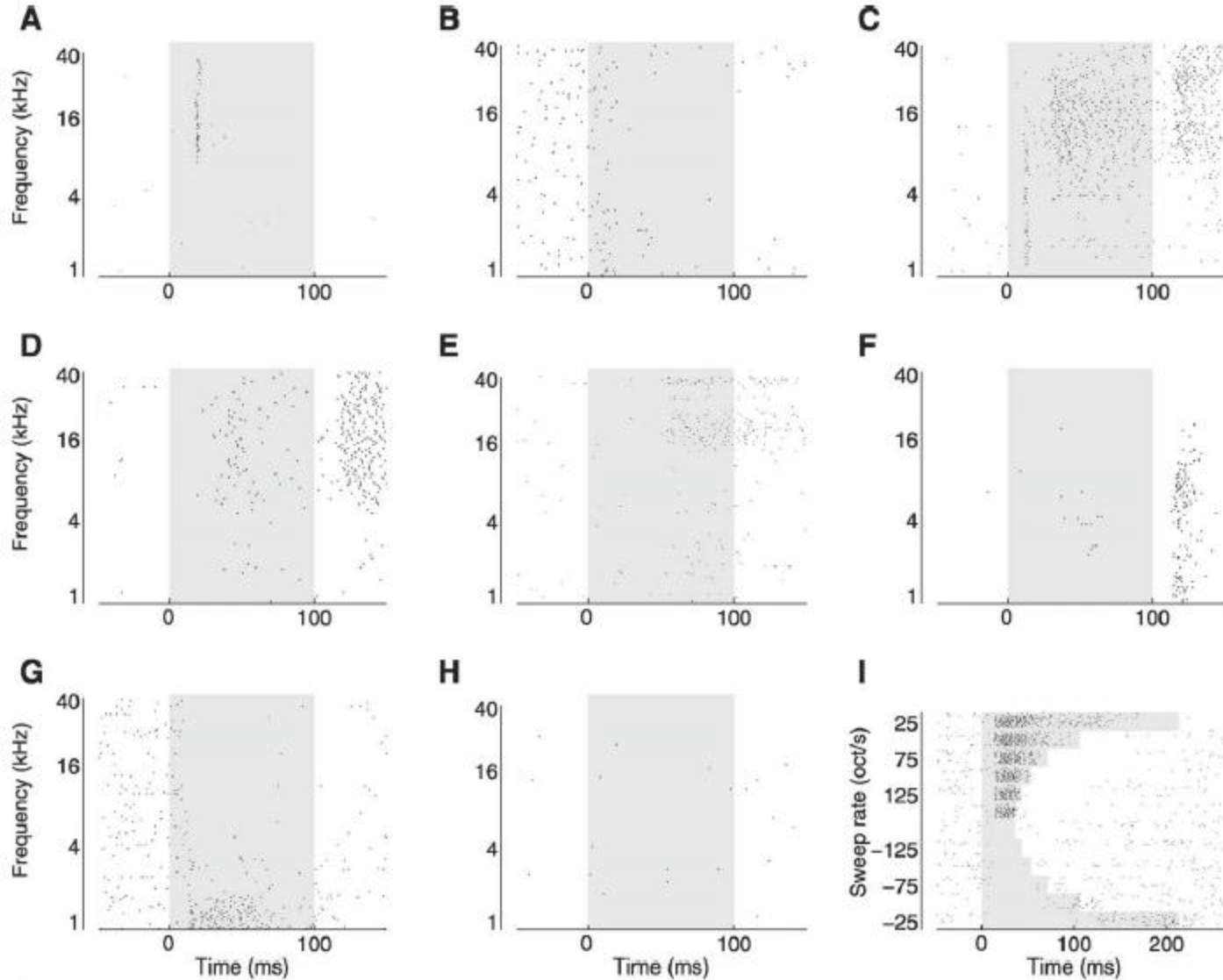




LEVEL CROSSINGS

From Gutig and Sompolinsky (PLOS-Biology,09)

# Onset Cells, Offset Cells, etc.



Cell attached recordings from A1 in rat

Hromadka et al, PLOS B, 2008

# Recognising Patterns

Fukushima, Rolls etc.

Bandpass  
filtering  
at multiple  
spatial scales

Level  
detection

Spatial  
configuration  
of Features

Bandpass  
filtering  
at multiple  
temporal scales

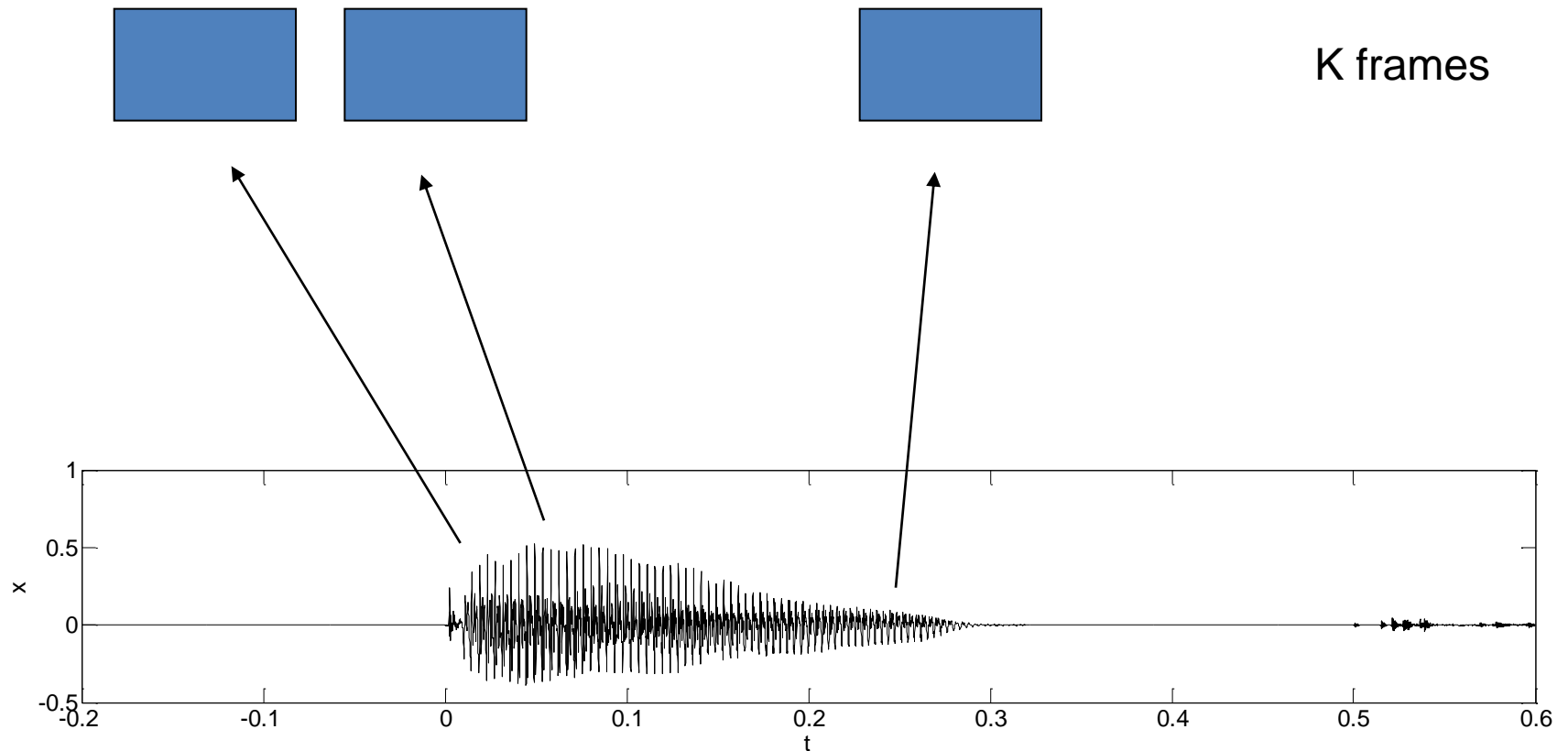
Level  
detection

Temporal  
configuration  
of Features



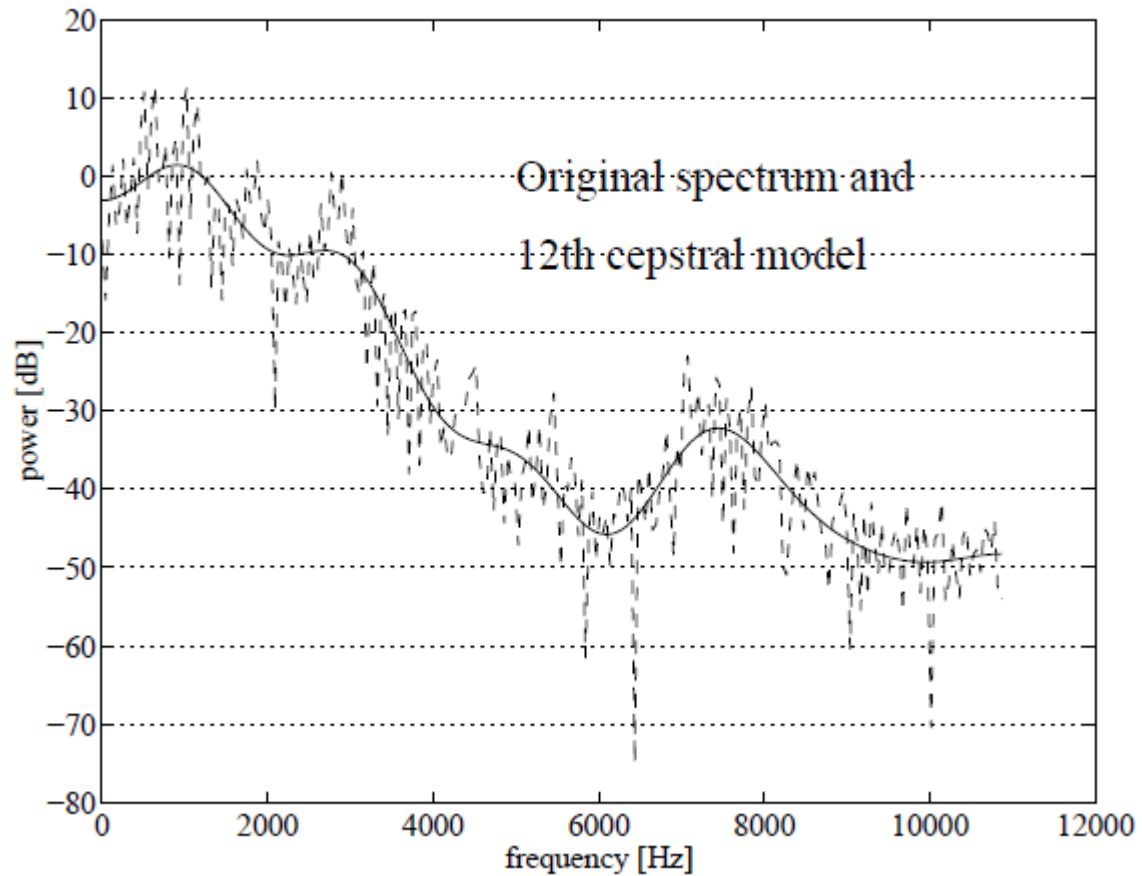
# Standard Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)

- Bandpass filters (Mel Frequency scale)
- DCT of log spectrogram keeping subset of coefficients
- Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC)





# Get Cepstral Coefficients for each frame



# Classification

Use MFCC features in a nearest-neighbour classifier.

Use OT features in a nearest-neighbour classifier

With same classifier ('back-end') we can see what are the best features.

# Speech Database

Subset of T146 database (spoken digits 0 to 9)

5 female speakers

10 repetitions of each digit

Algorithms trained on 5 reps from all speakers (a total of 250 utterances)

Algorithms tested on remaining 5 reps in different additive noise environments (250 different utterances)

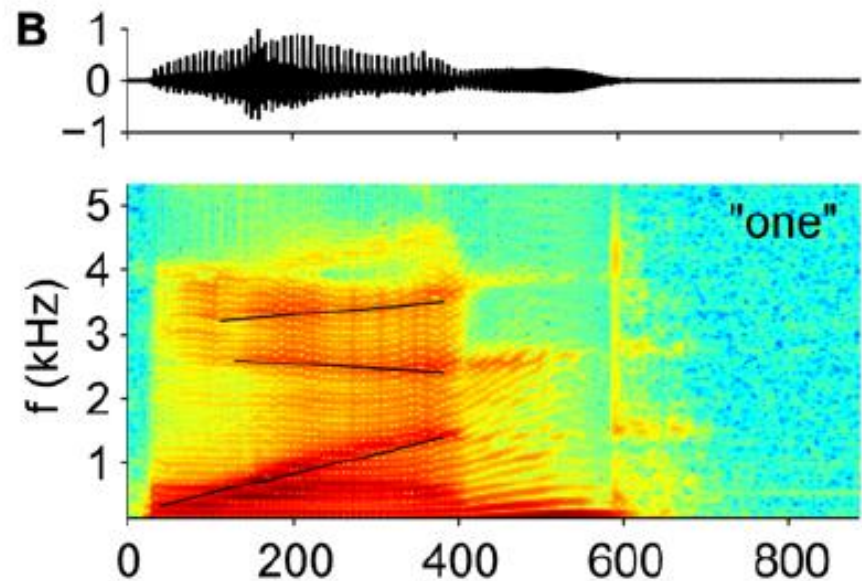
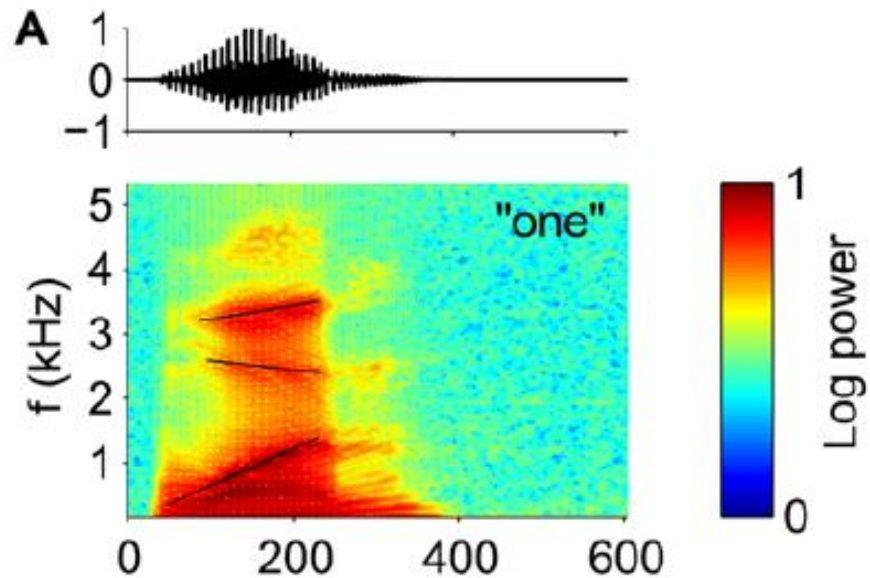




*Natural speech contains a four-fold variation in the speed at which words are spoken (Miller et al, Phonetica,84)*

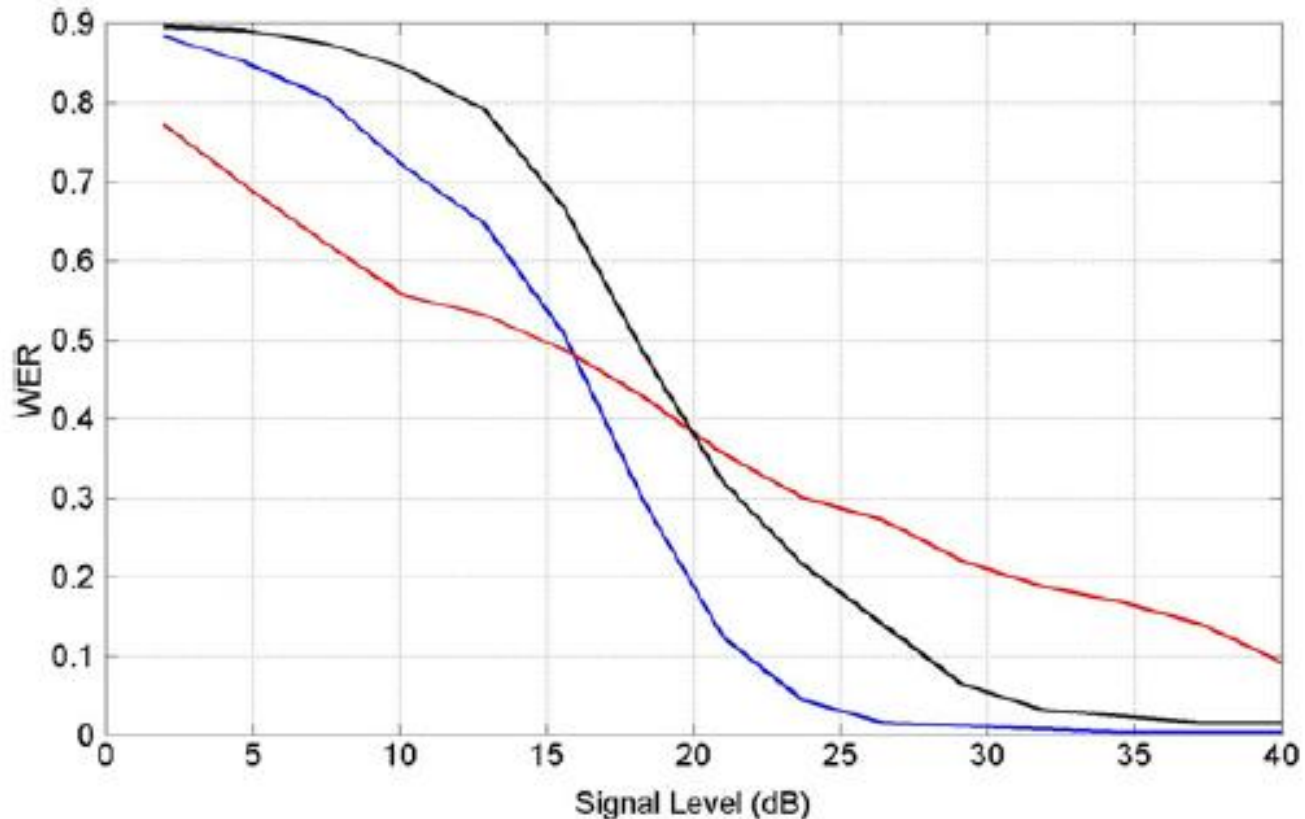
*Readily handled by linear scaling of OTs.*

*Time-Warp Invariance.*



From Gutig and Sompolinsky (PLOS-B,09)

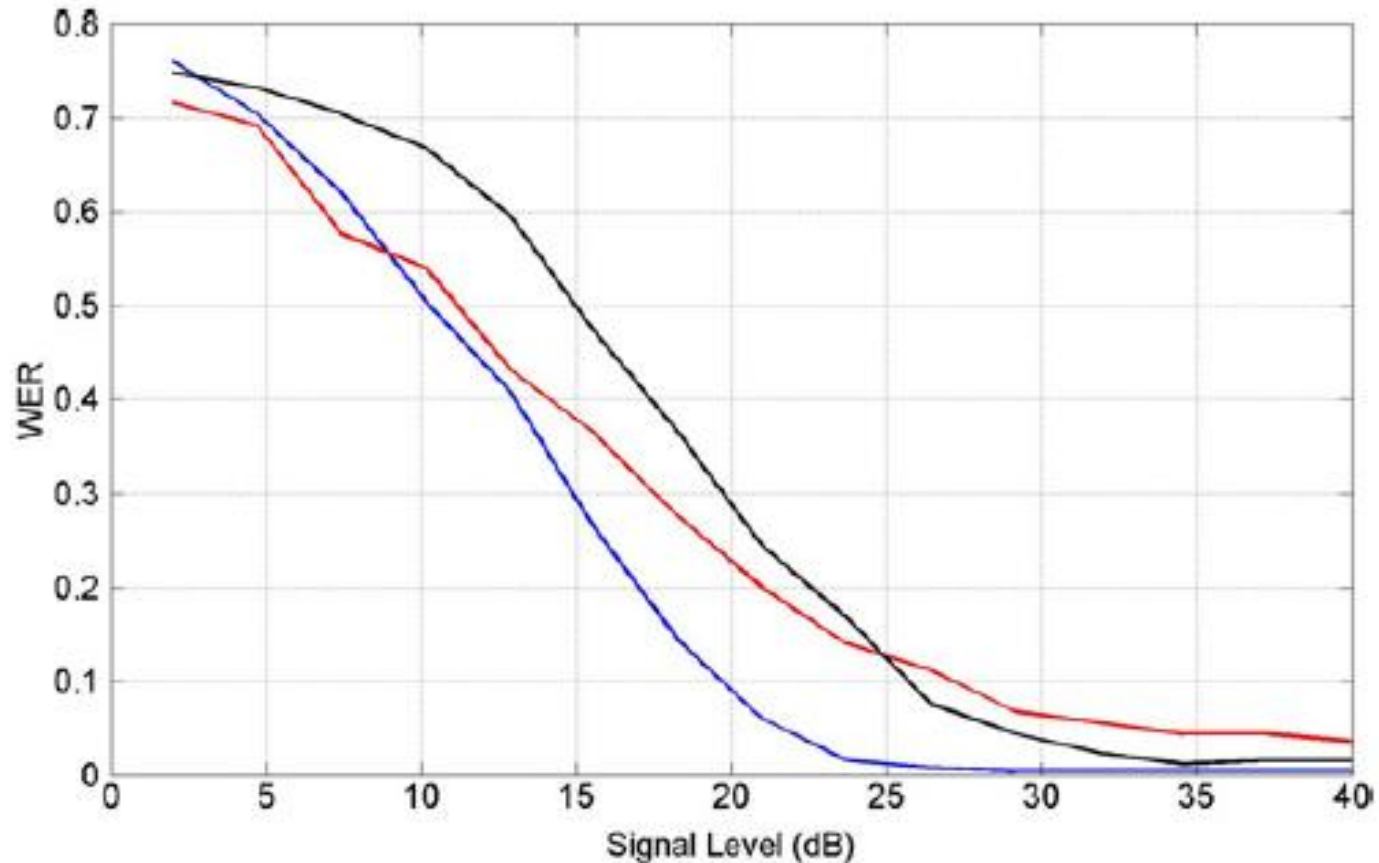
# ASR in White Noise



**Fig. 6.** Speech recognition in additive white noise. We plot Word Error Rate (WER) against signal level for optimized speech recognition systems using Occurrence Time (OT) features (red curve), Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC) (blue curve) and MFCC coefficients but with the number of features matched to that of the OT system (black curve). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this



# ASR in Speech Babble 🗣️



**Fig. 7.** Speech recognition in additive speech babble. We plot Word Error Rate (WER) against signal level for optimized speech recognition systems using Occurrence Time (OT) features (red curve), Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC) (blue curve) and MFCC coefficients but with the number of features matched to that of the OT system (black curve). (For interpretation of the references to colour

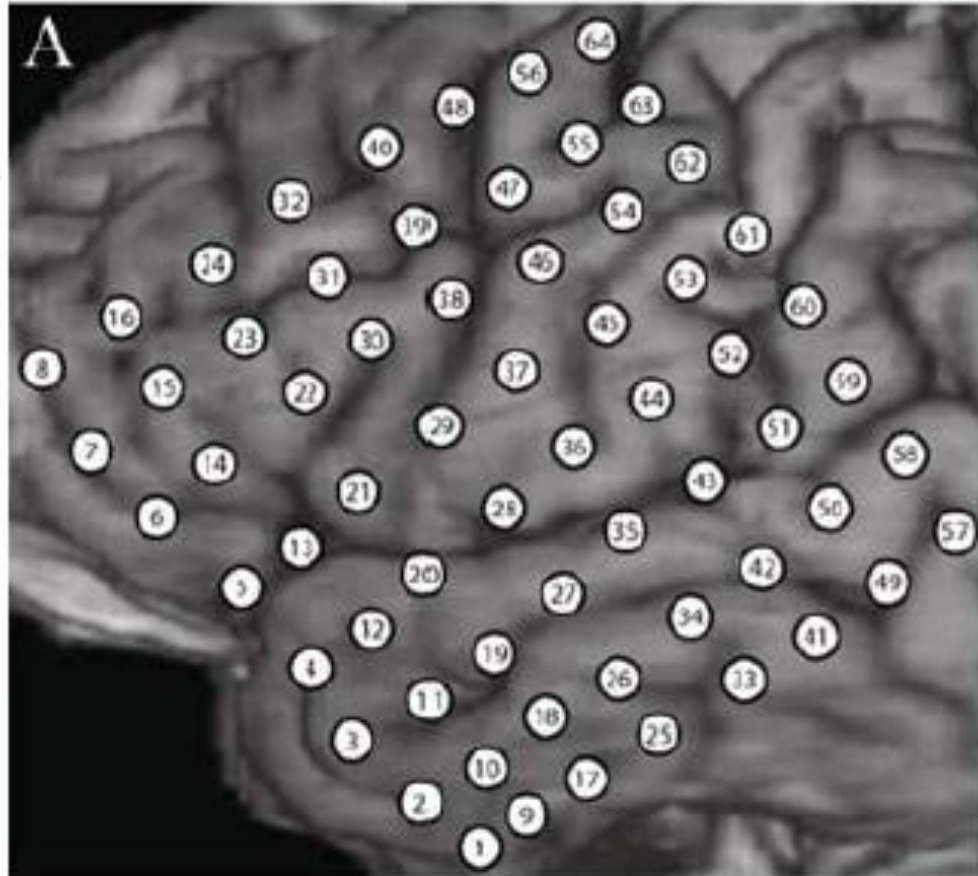
# Interim Summary

- OTs are as good as MFCCs in high noise environments.
- But, MFCC-kNNs can be much improved. The standard is an MFCC-HMM.
- However, OT-kNNs can also be much improved. Gutig and Sompolinsky (PLOS-Biology, 2009) show an OT-Tempotron has performance equal to MFCC-HMM on full TI46 database.

# ECOG recordings over fronto-temporal cortex

Electrodes are  
4mm diameter.  
Centres are  
10mm apart.

Later work:  
Smaller electrodes,  
4mm apart.

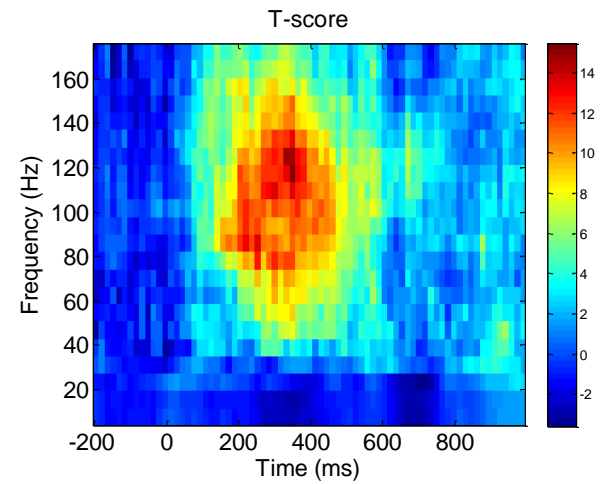
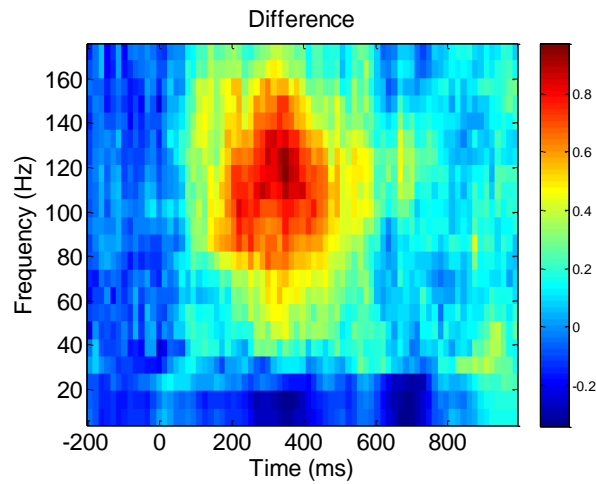
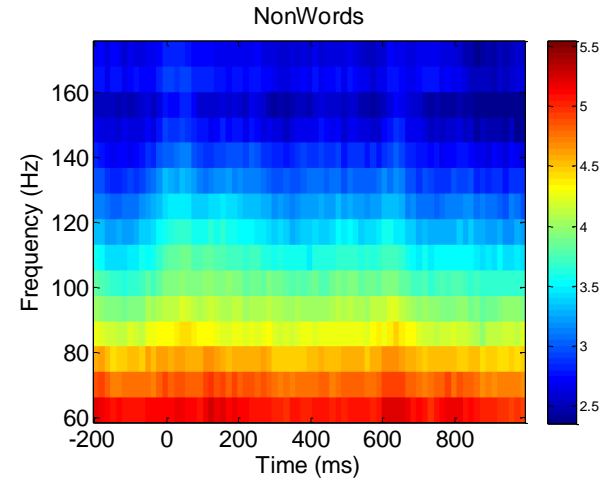
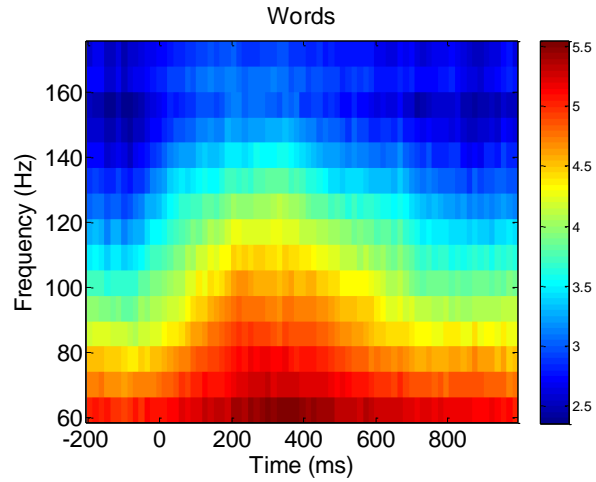


Canolty et al. Front. Neuro, 2007

# Subject listened to words and “nonwords”

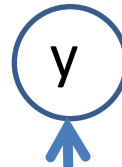
- Task: press button if word is a persons name (this data not analysed)
- Each nonword was created by taking a word, computing the spectrogram and removing ripple sound components corresponding to formants. The spectrogram was then inverse transformed (Singh and Theunissen, 2003)
- Each nonword matched one of the words in duration, intensity, power spectrum, and temporal modulation.

# ECOG recordings over STS



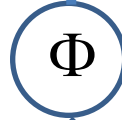
**Transient  
Synchronisations**

Local  
Field

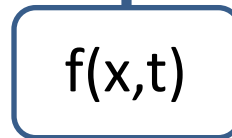


Weakly-coupled  
Oscillators

Pattern  
Recognition

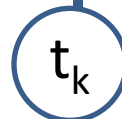


Input-dependent  
Frequencies

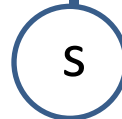


Onset, offset  
and peak response  
times

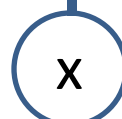
Feature  
Extraction



Bandpass  
Filters



Auditory  
Input Pattern



# Weakly Coupled Oscillator Model

Input-pattern  
dependent  
frequencies

Phase  
Interaction  
Function

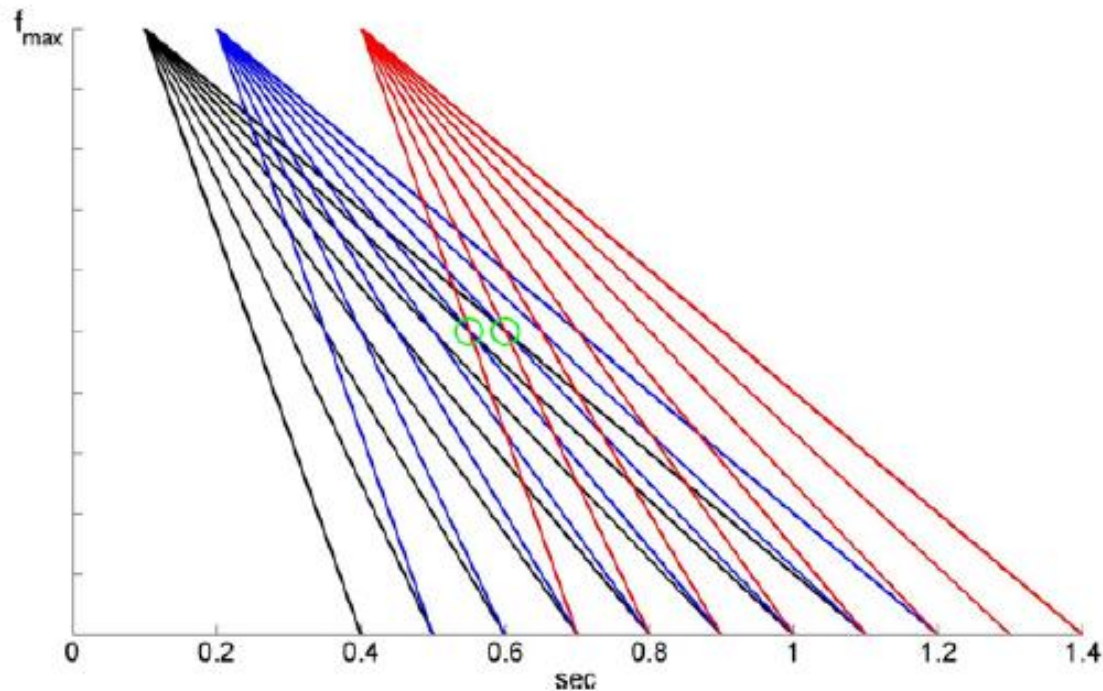
$$\dot{\phi}_i(t) = f_i(x, t) - \sum_j w_{ij} h[\phi_j(t) - \phi_i(t)] + z_i(t)$$

LFP  $y(t) = \sum_j \cos \phi_j(t)$

Lateral  
Connectivity:  
*Uniform (A)*

Hopfield and Brody (PNAS, 2001) used Integrate and Fire Cells

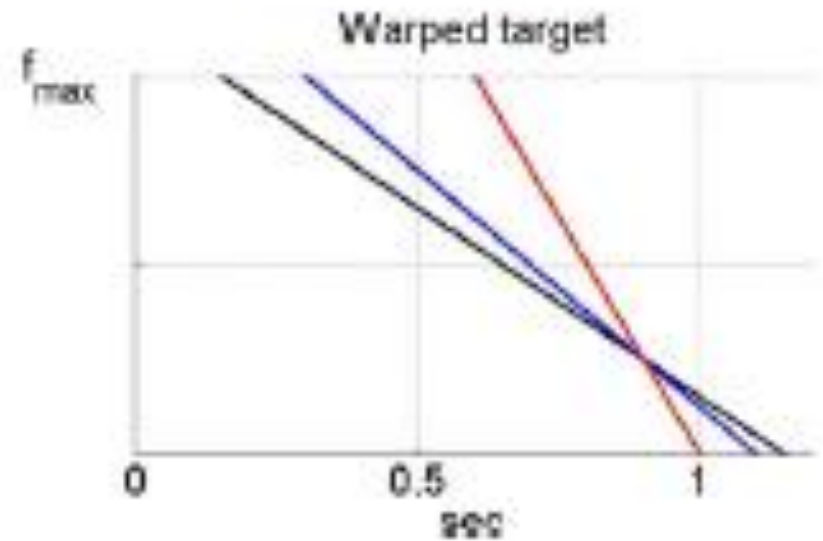
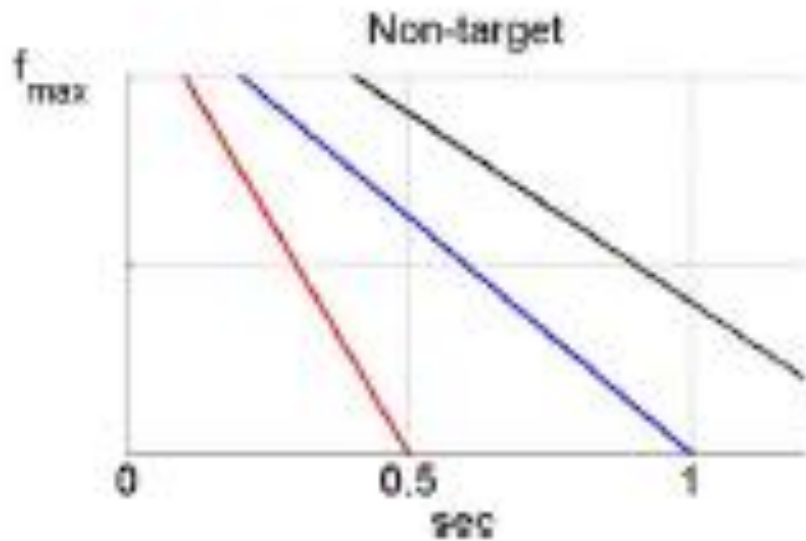
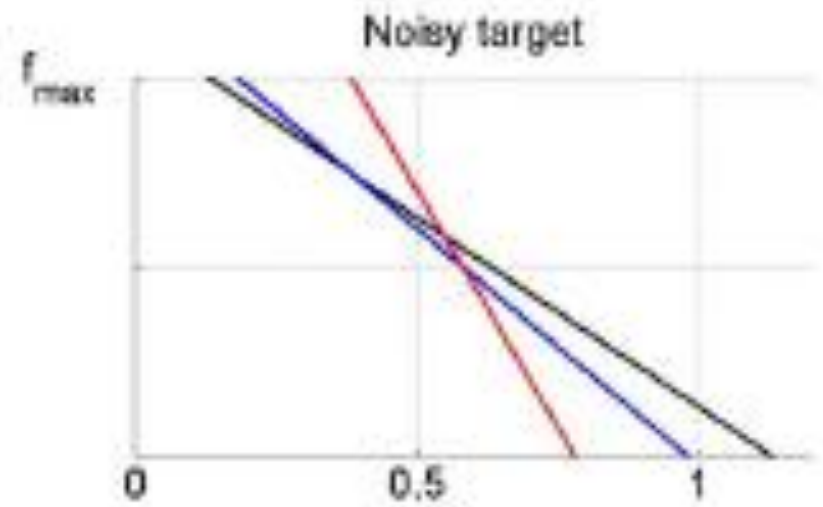
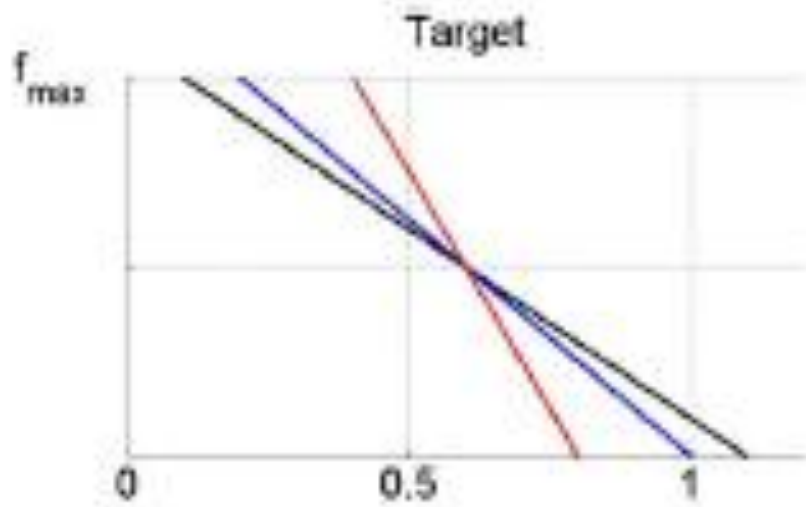
# Frequency Adaptation and Plasticity

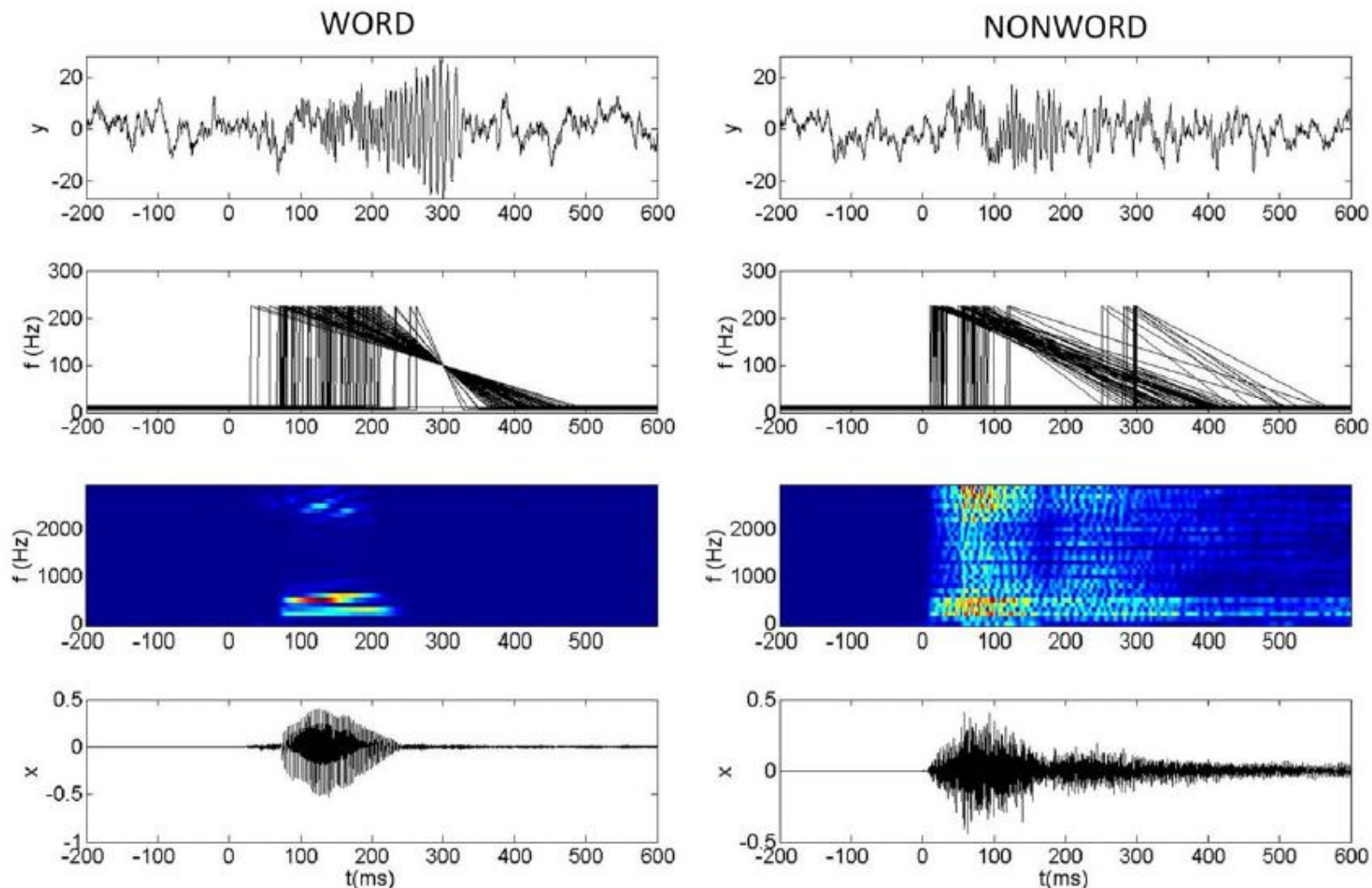


**Fig. 4.** The figure shows the detection of three different input features,  $k = 1, 2, 3$  coloured black, red and blue. The  $k$ th feature is detected at time  $t_k$ —these are the Occurrence Times (OTs). For each feature there are  $j = 1..J$  cells or circuits that initially respond at frequency  $f_{\max}$ , and then with linearly reducing frequency. The slopes of the frequency reduction are specified by the constants  $\tau_j$ . The role of synaptic plasticity is to choose the optimal  $\tau_j$  for each feature such that there will be a poststimulus timepoint,  $t_b$ , at which the frequencies become equal ( $f_b$ ). These points are indicated by the green circles. Generally, plasticity acts to select long decay constants for early features and short ones for later features. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



# Specificity and Robustness

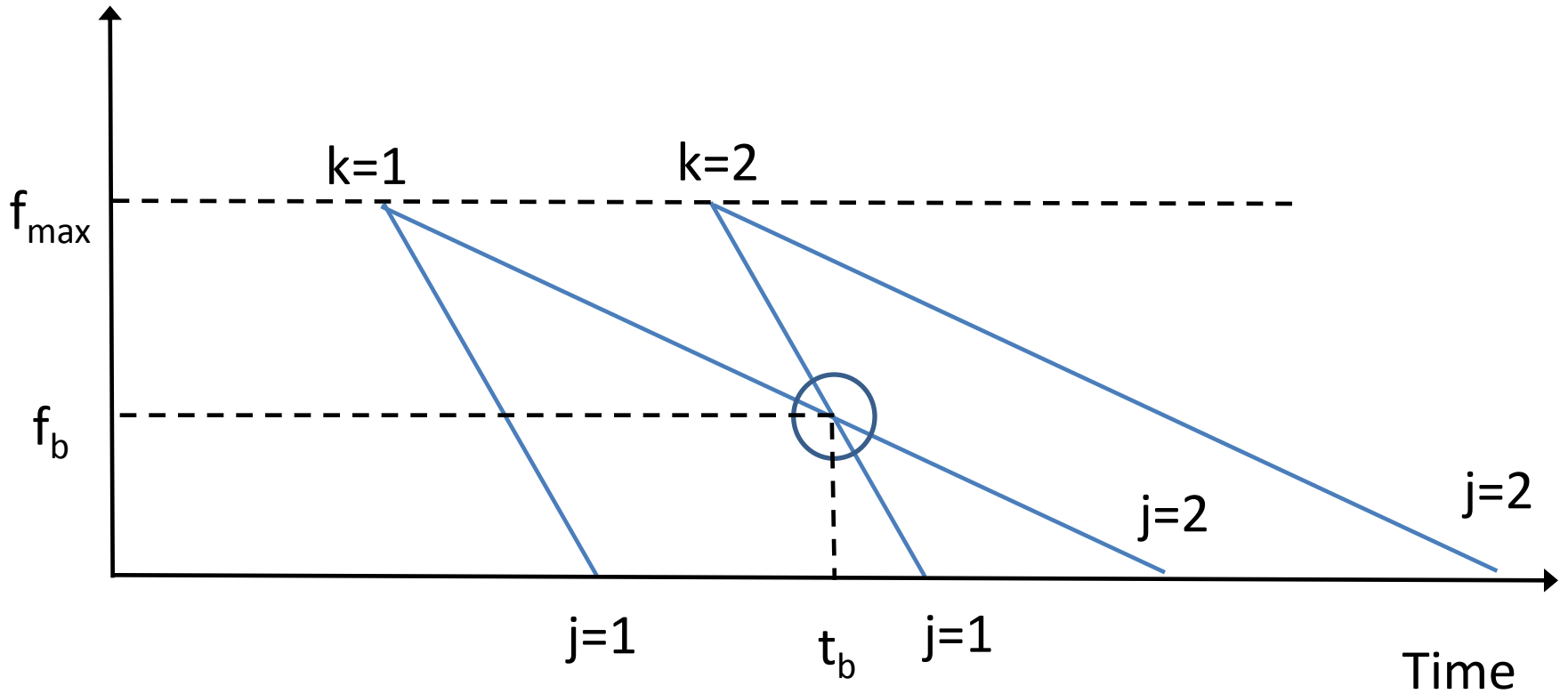




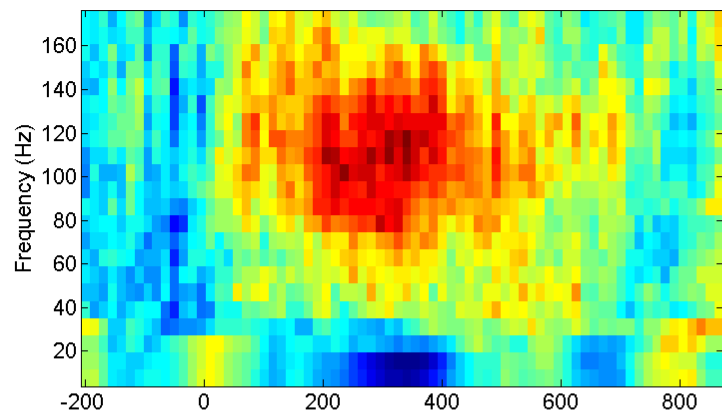
**Fig. 3.** The figure shows auditory inputs  $x(t)$  (bottom row), auditory spectrograms  $s(t)$  (third row), input frequencies to the WCO-TS network  $f_k(x, t)$  (second row), and LFP signals from the WCO-TS net (top row) for a word (left column) and nonword (right column). The times at which the frequencies ramp up to their maximal value (in the second row) are the Occurrence Times (OTs). The word is 'Hiss' and the nonword was produced using MTF filtering (see text). The adaptation constants  $\tau_j$  have been optimized such that the input frequencies become equal at  $t_b = 300$  ms for the word input. The same  $\tau_j$ 's are used to generate the input frequencies for the nonword. For the nonword input there is no time point at which all the frequencies are equal and consequently no large LFP gamma burst.

Minimal model with four parameters:  $\theta = \{A, f_{\max}, f_b, t_b\}$

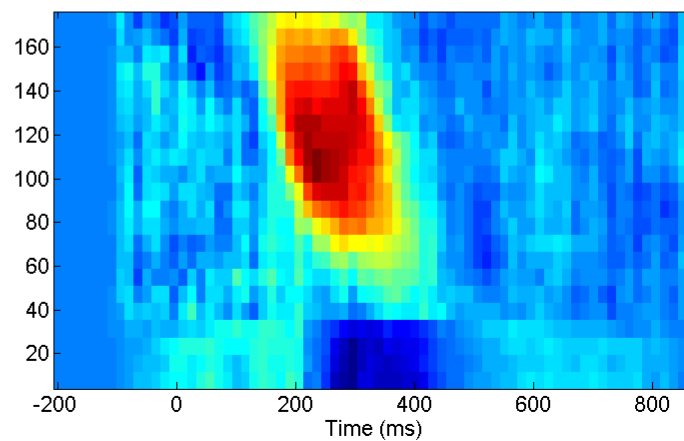
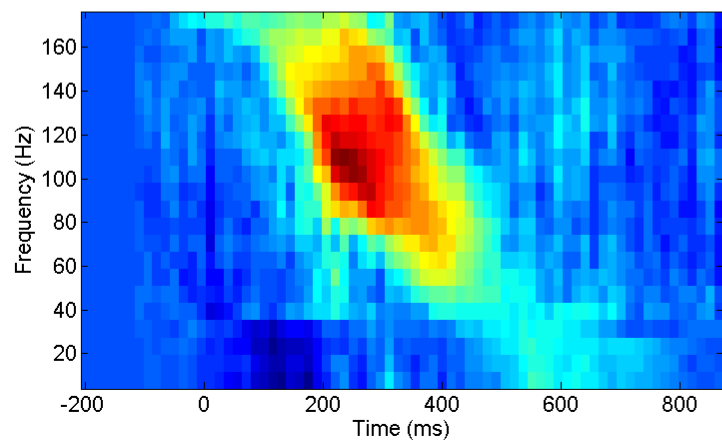
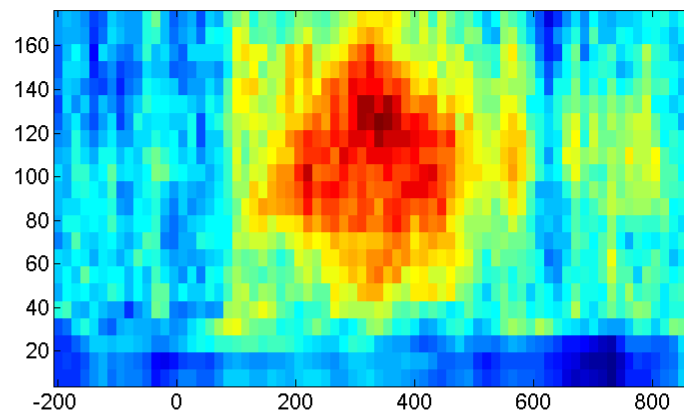
Frequency,  $f_i(x,t)$



# Training

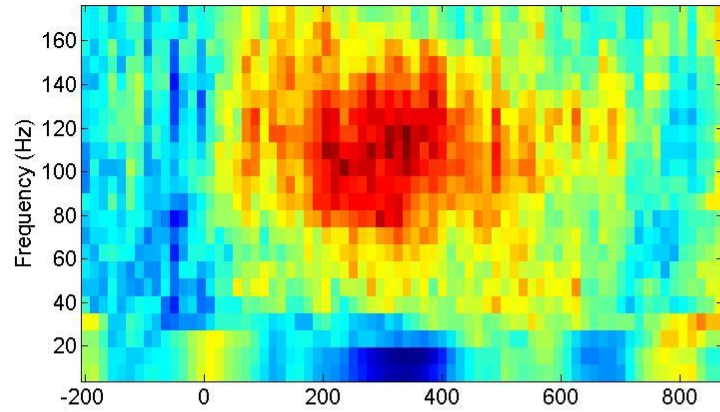


# Testing

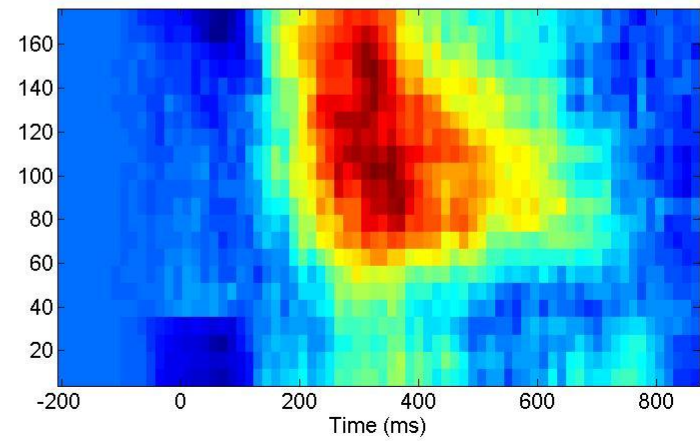
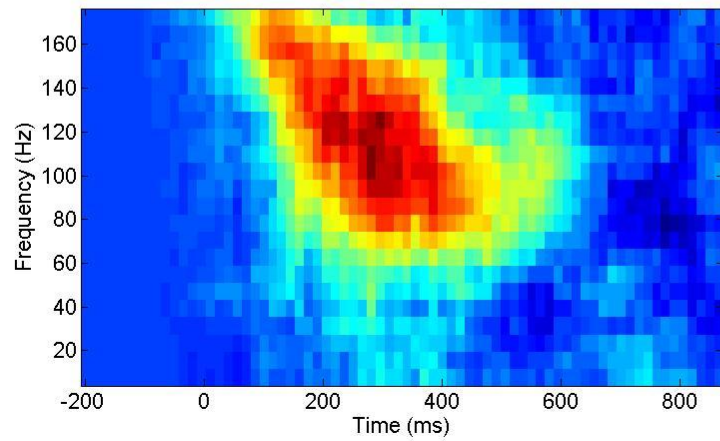
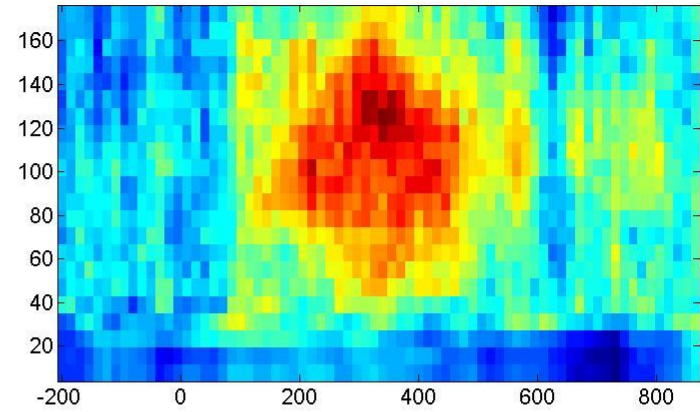


# Minimal Model

# Training



# Testing



Augmented Model (coupling  $A$  is frequency dependent)

# Summary

- Occurrence Times for Speech Recognition

Gutig & Sompolinsky (2009) PLoS Biology, 7(7):e1000141

- Forward model of neuroimaging data

Zavaglia et al. (2012) Neural Networks 28:1-14.

Transient Synchronisation of spikes (HB) or LFPs (Zavaglia) ?

Would need spike-field coherence to tell (eg Van Rullen, TiNS, 05)

- Have modelled ECOG activity at single electrode only. But word identity can be decoded from multielectrode high-res ECOG data (Pasley et al., PLoS B, 2012 )

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*Reviewer*