

# The anatomical basis of desire and addiction

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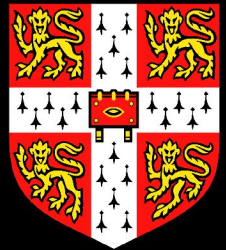
Department of Experimental Psychology

University of Cambridge, UK

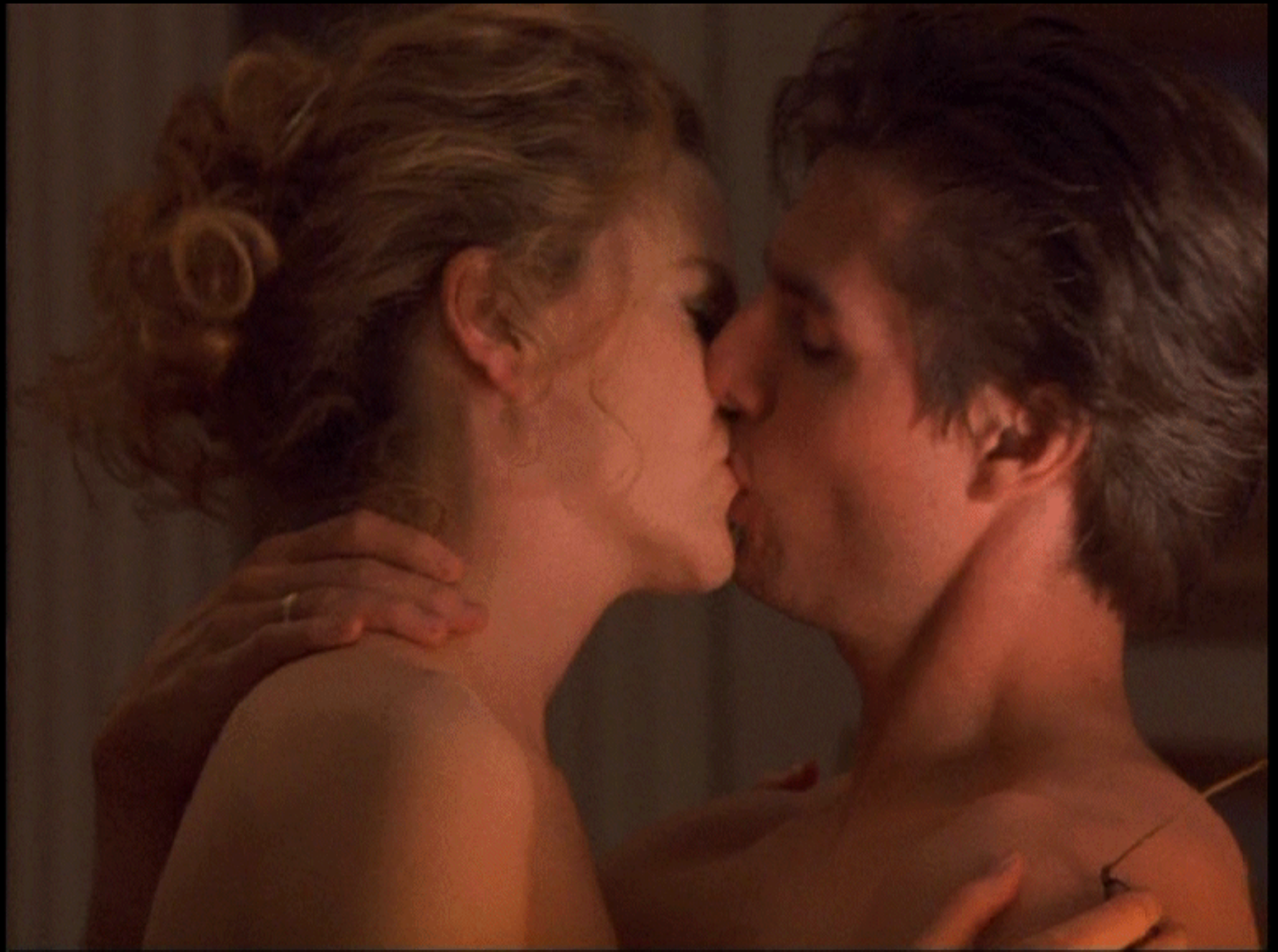
*Friday 14 February 2003, 2–2.30pm*

*British Neuropsychiatry Association Annual Meeting*

*Institute of Child Health, London*







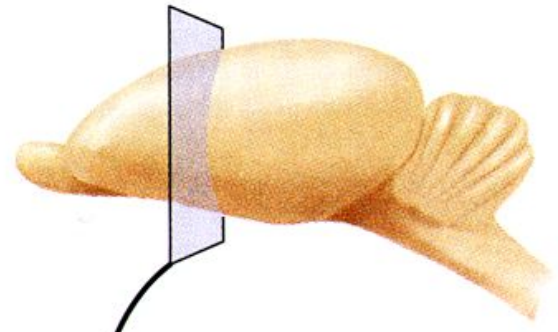
*Kubrick (1999): 'Eyes Wide Shut'*



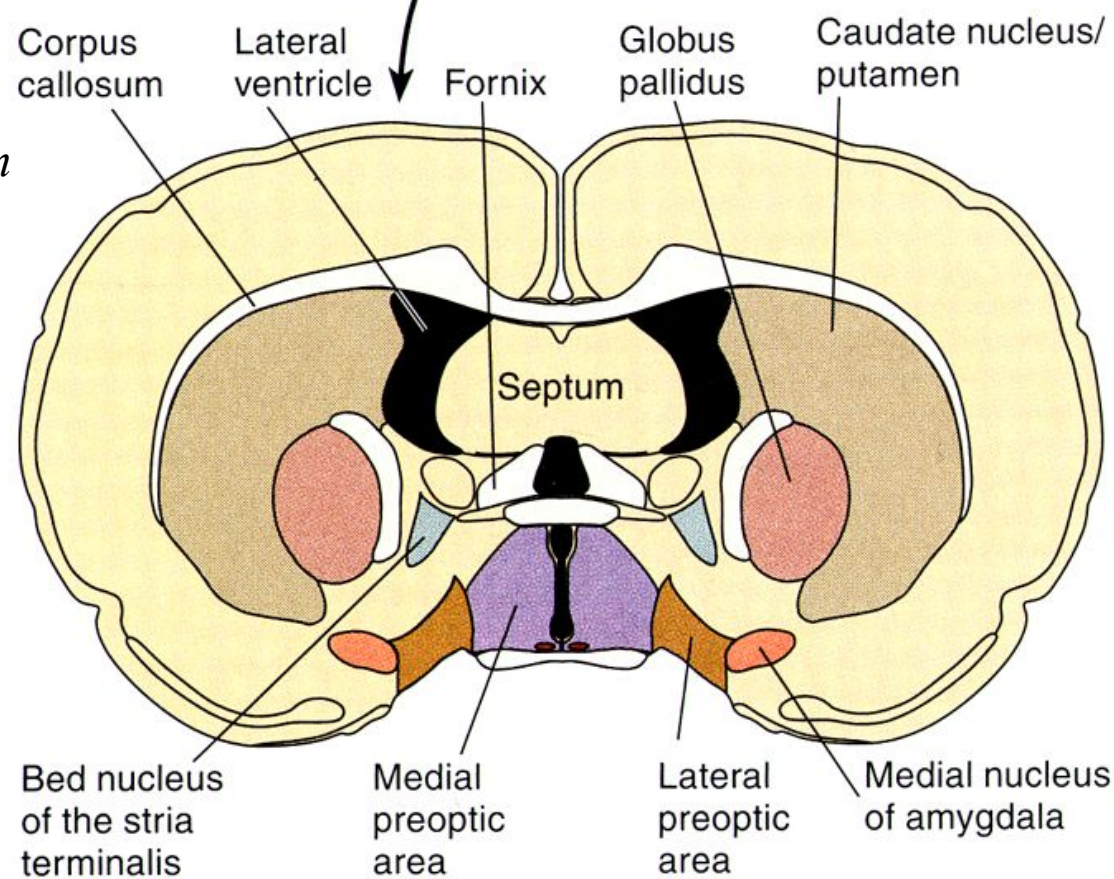
*Demme (2001): 'Blow'*



# Hypothalamic preoptic area and (part of) the amygdala

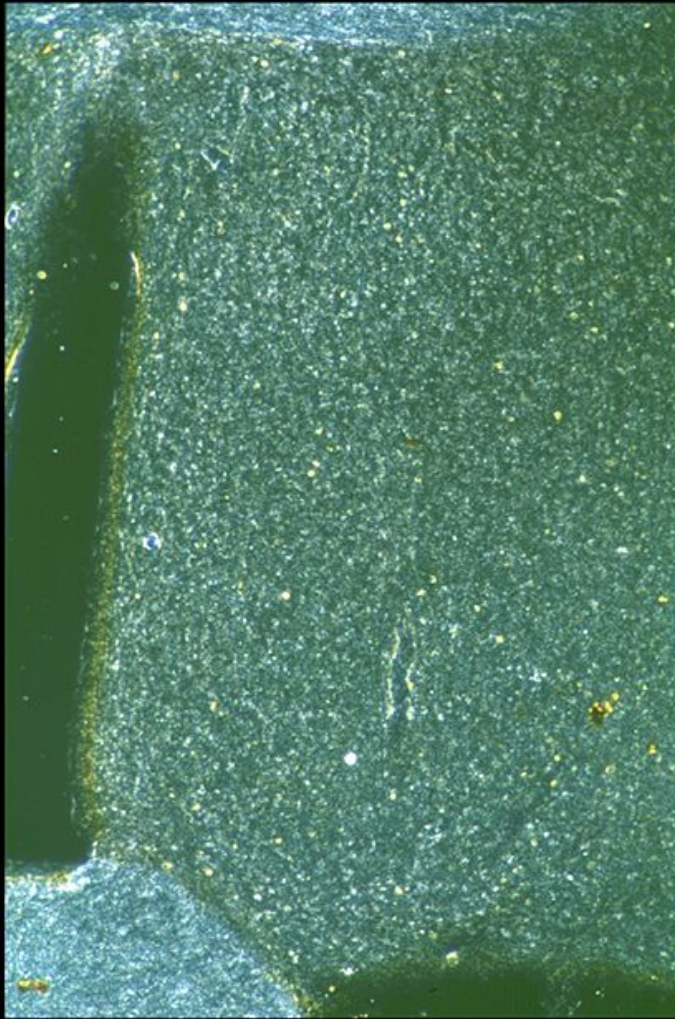


*Coronal section of rat brain*

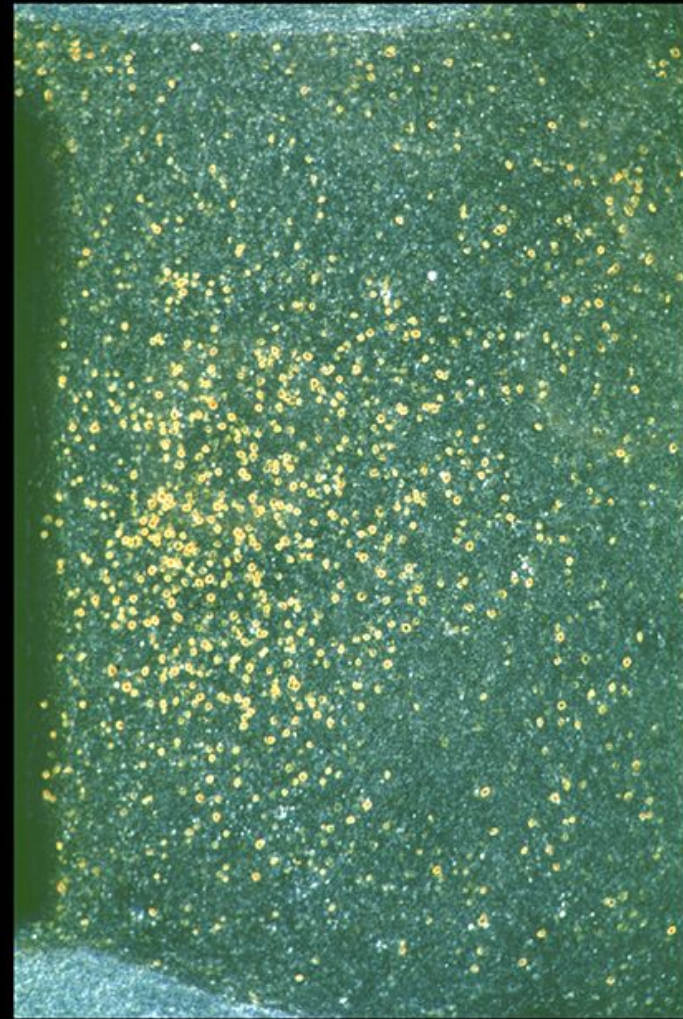


# Induction of c-fos expression in the medial preoptic area by sexual behaviour in male rats

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*control*



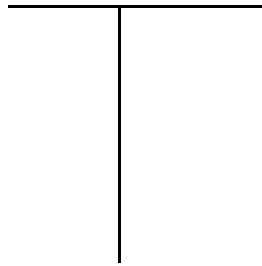
*sexual activity*

## Second-order schedules (e.g. of sexual reinforcement)

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*For example,*

***FI 15 min : (FR10:S)***



*(Fixed ratio 10)*

*Every 10 responses earns one **stimulus***

*(Fixed interval 15 minutes)*

*The first time the subject*

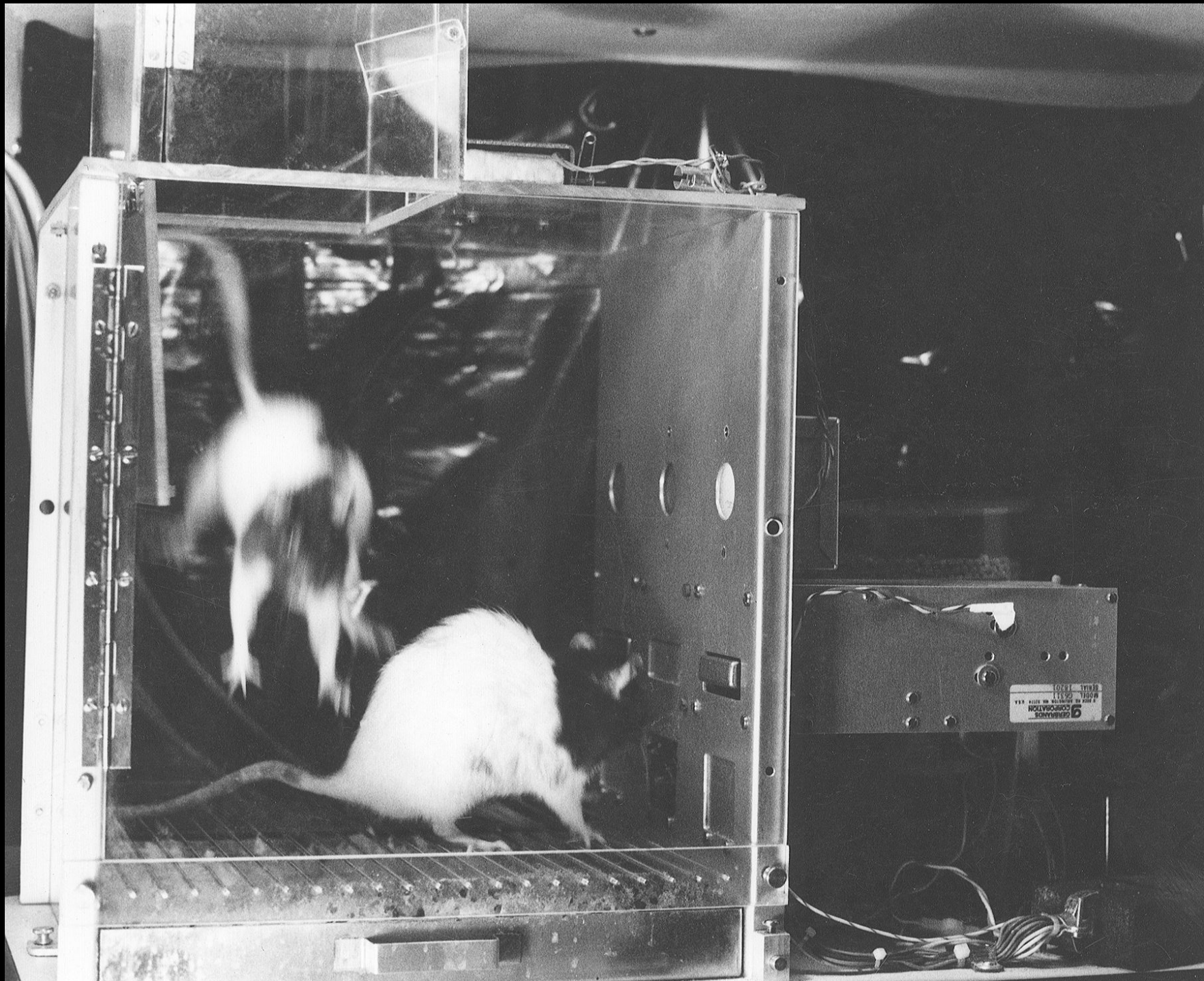
*earns a stimulus after 15 minutes*

*have elapsed, it also earns **primary reinforcement***







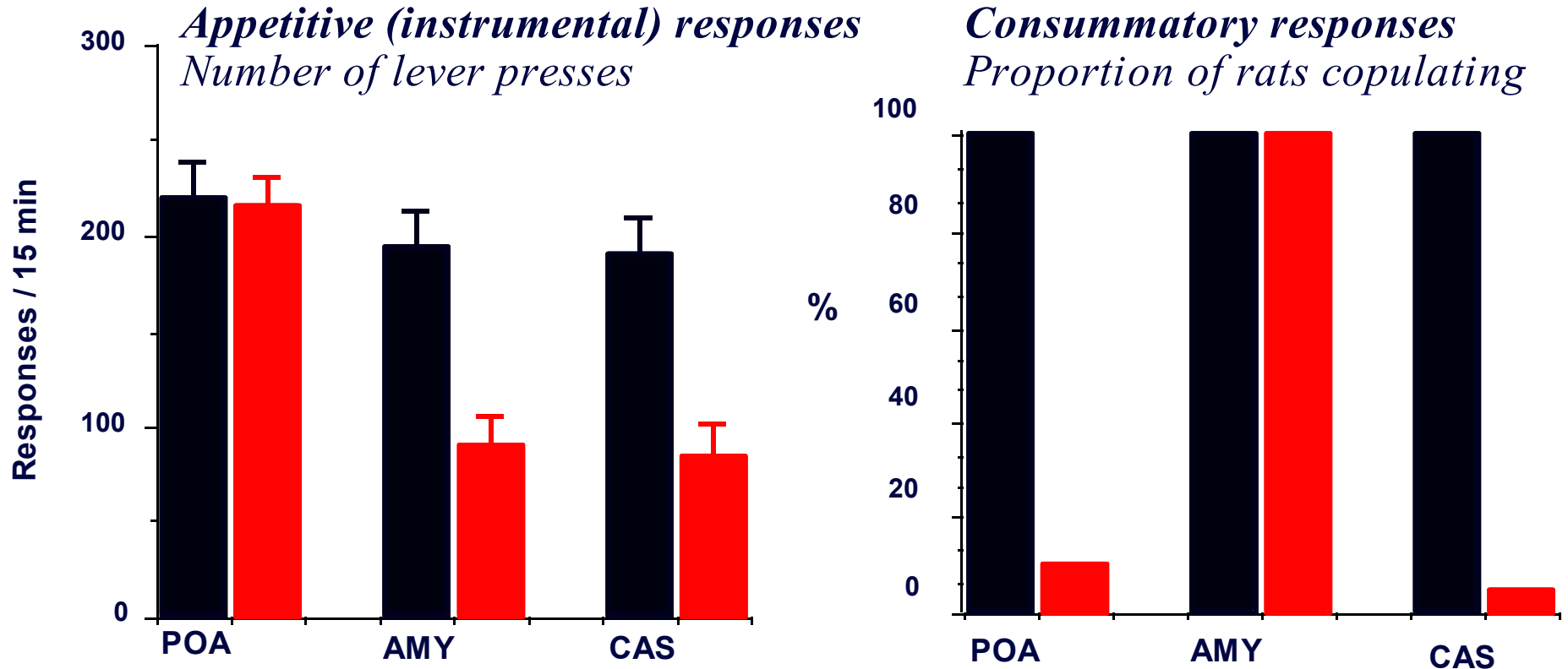


# Double dissociation of appetitive / consummatory behaviour

## *Effects of*

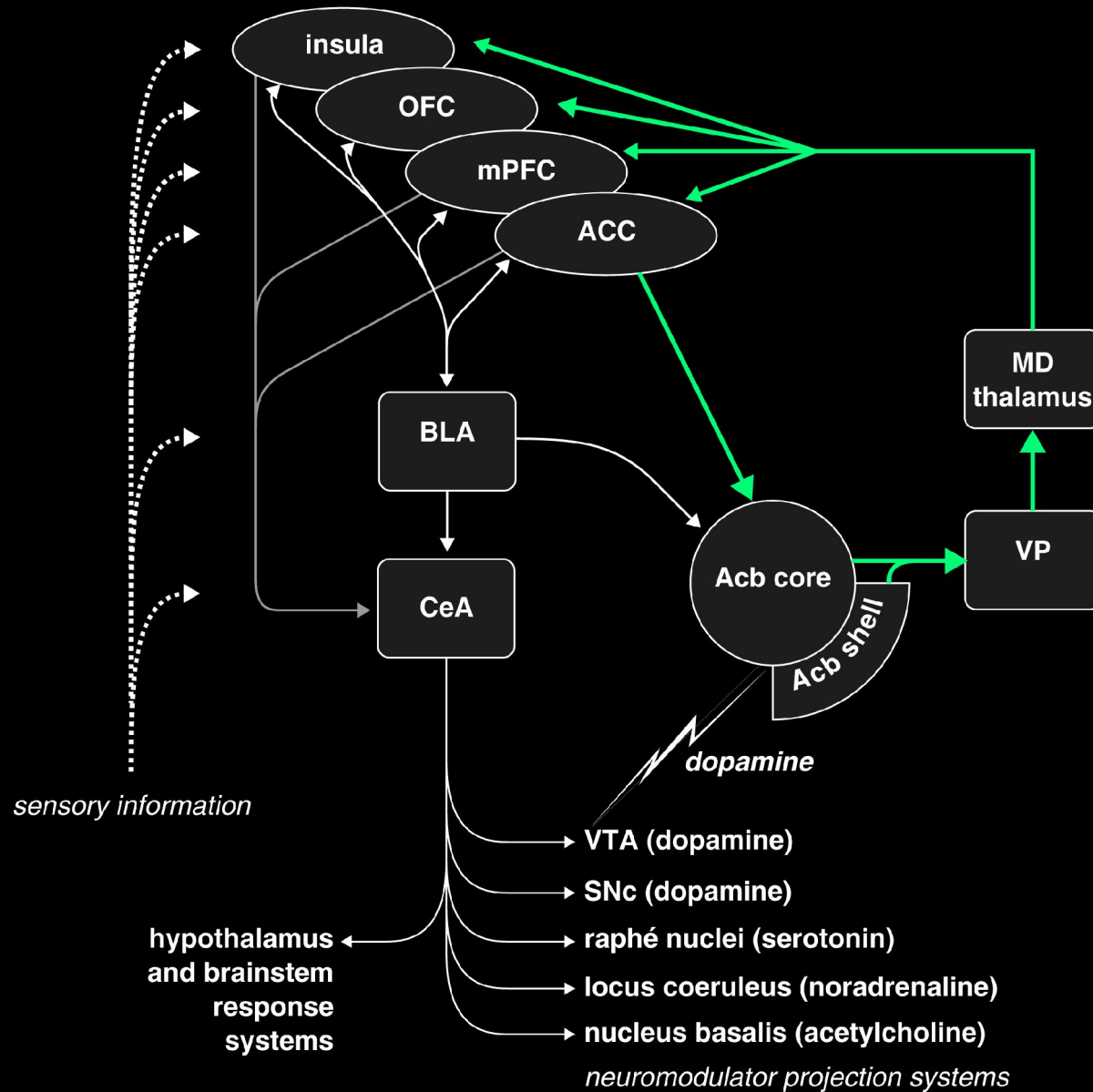
- *basolateral amygdala (AMY) lesions*
- *medial preoptic area (POA) hypothalamic lesions*
- *castration (CAS)*

*on appetitive and consummatory sexual responses in male rats.*



*Everitt & Stacey (1987); Everitt, Cador & Robbins (1989)*

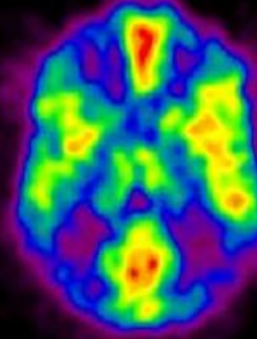
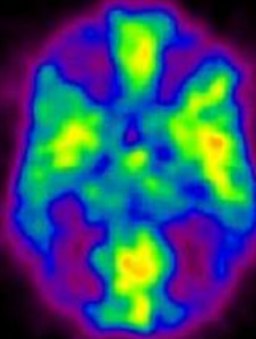
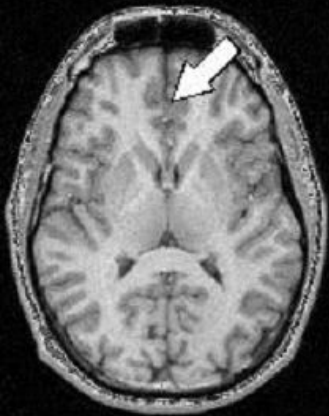
# The 'limbic' corticostriatal circuit



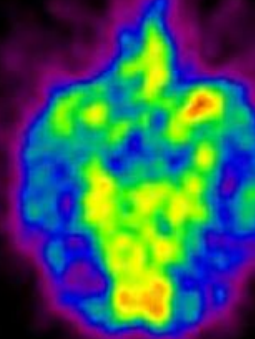
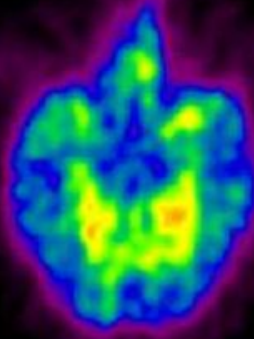
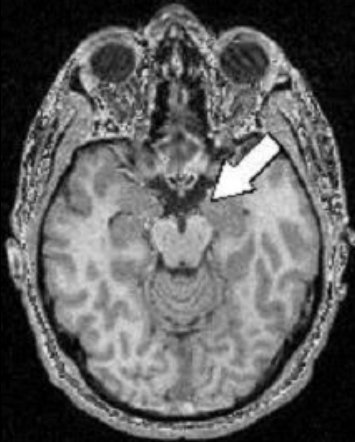
# Sexual stimuli activate nodes of this limbic circuit

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## Anterior Cingulate



## Amygdala



Nature Video

Sexual Video

# Conditioning and addiction

*Environmental stimuli (cues and contexts) may become associated with the effects of drugs such as cocaine through Pavlovian conditioning. They become conditioned stimuli (CSs).*

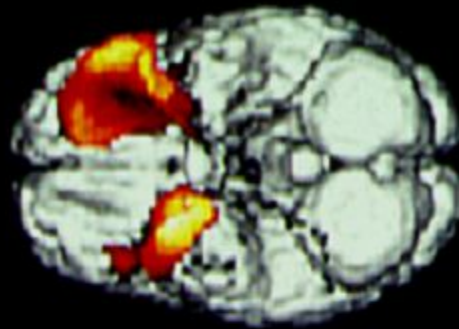
*They may motivate an addict to seek out drugs — cue-induced (conditioned) craving.*



Above photos (and others in following articles) courtesy of Inspector Richard Groves, Community Involvement and Crime Prevention Branch, New Scotland Yard.

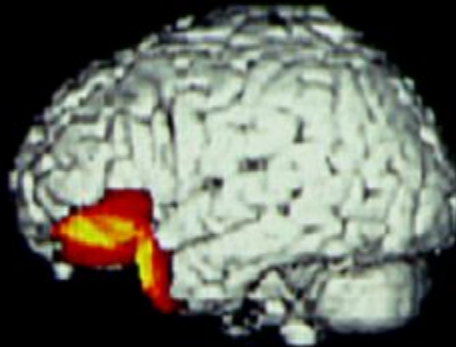
# Cue-induced cocaine craving activates limbic structures

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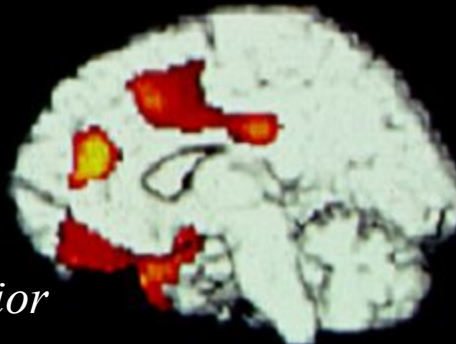


*medial temporal lobe  
— amygdala*

*Subjects watching a  
cocaine video;  
activations  
correlated with  
subjective reports of  
craving*



*orbital prefrontal cortex*



*anterior cingulate cortex*

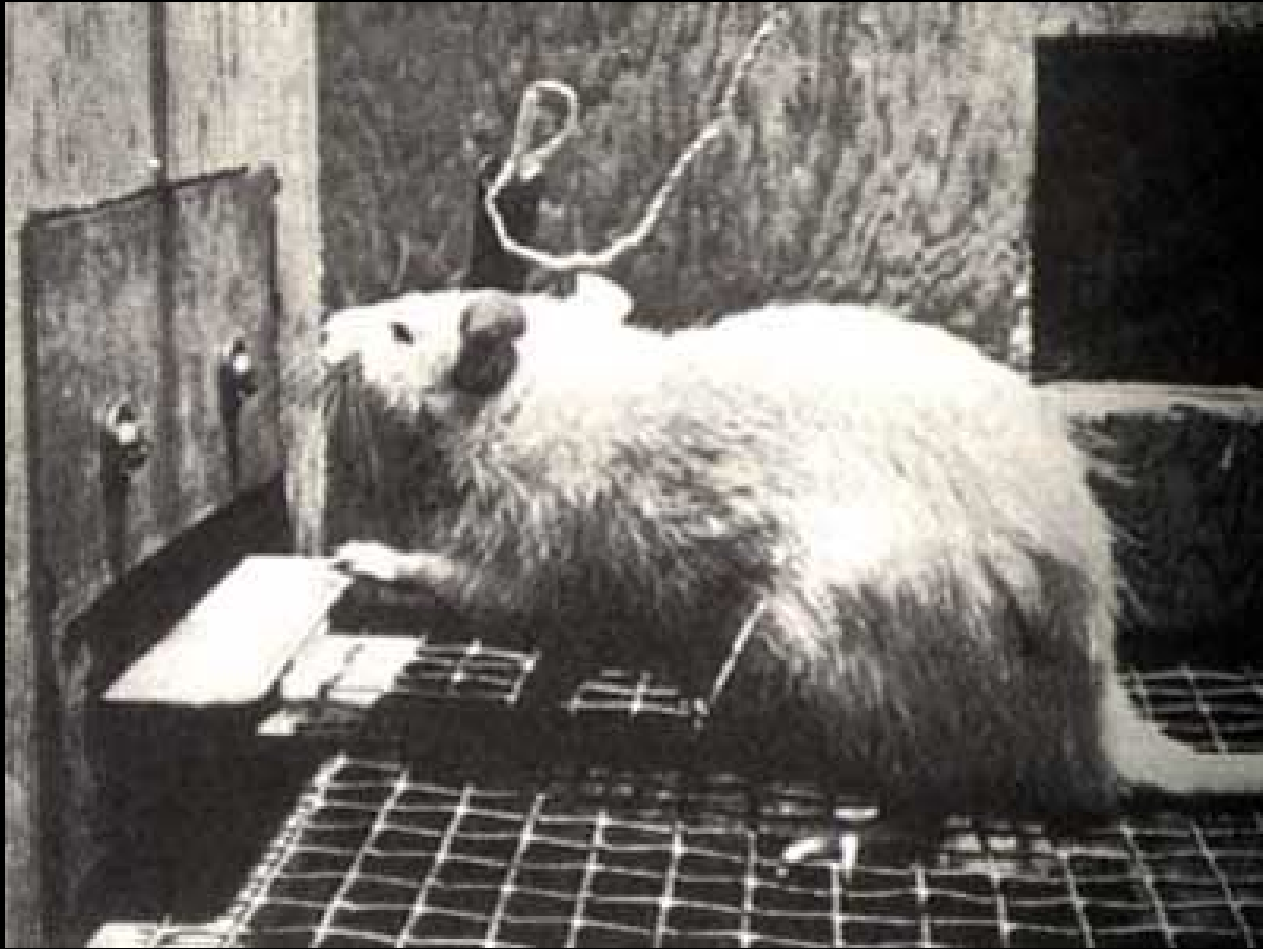
*anterior*

*posterior*



# Electrical intracranial self-stimulation (ICSS)

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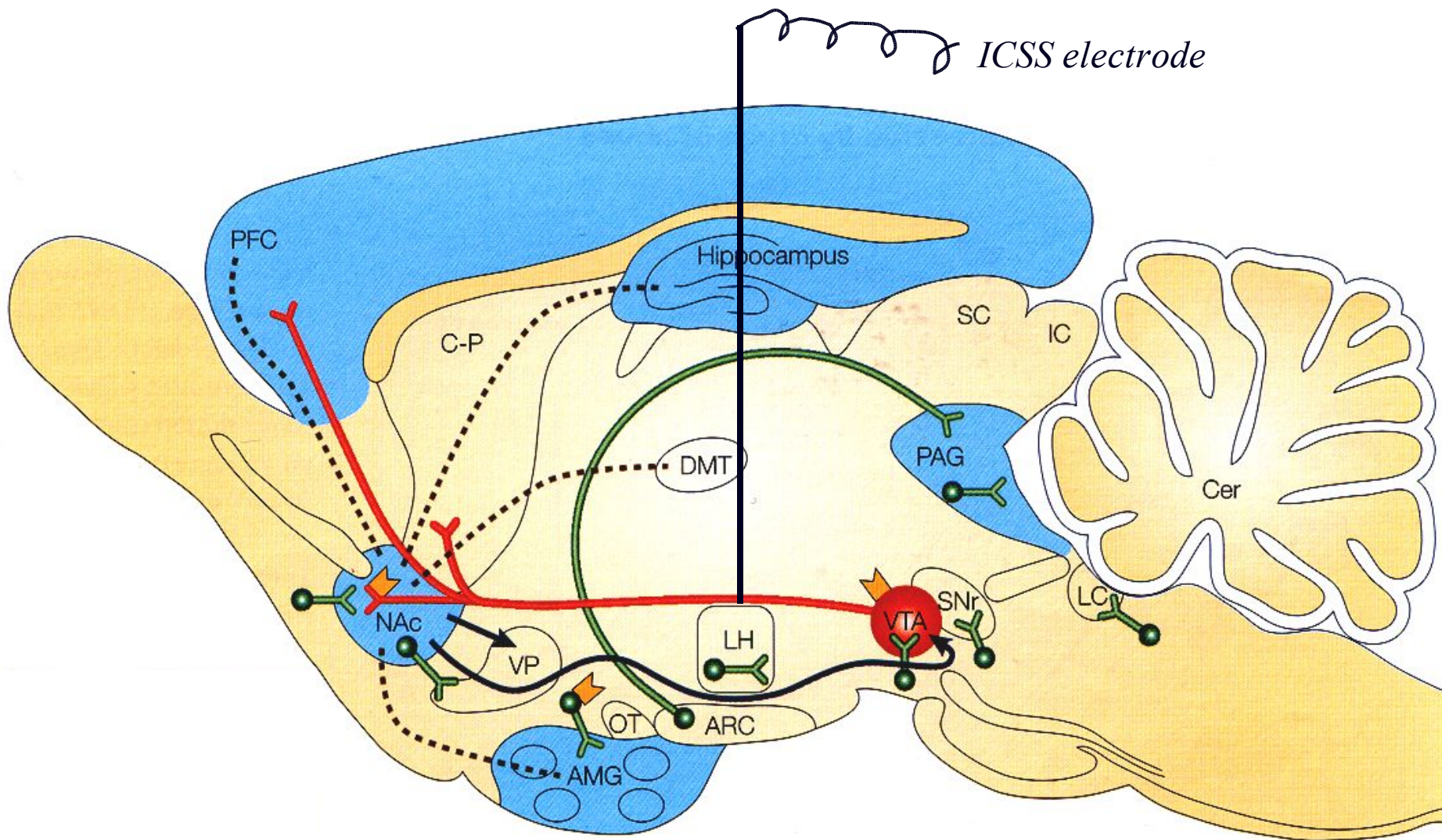
*The mind is its own place, and in itself, can make  
heaven of Hell, and a hell of Heaven.*

*Olds & Milner (1954)*

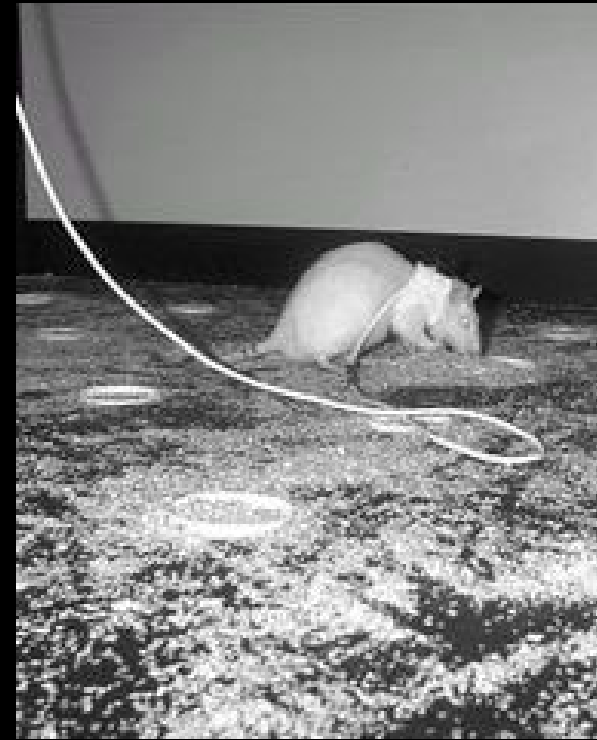
*(Satan, in John Milton's Paradise Lost, book 1, ll. 254–5)*

# The mesolimbic dopamine system and ICSS — a ‘reinforcement pathway’ (though *not* necessarily a ‘pleasure system’)

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# Remote-controlled rats and a cocaine sniffer rat



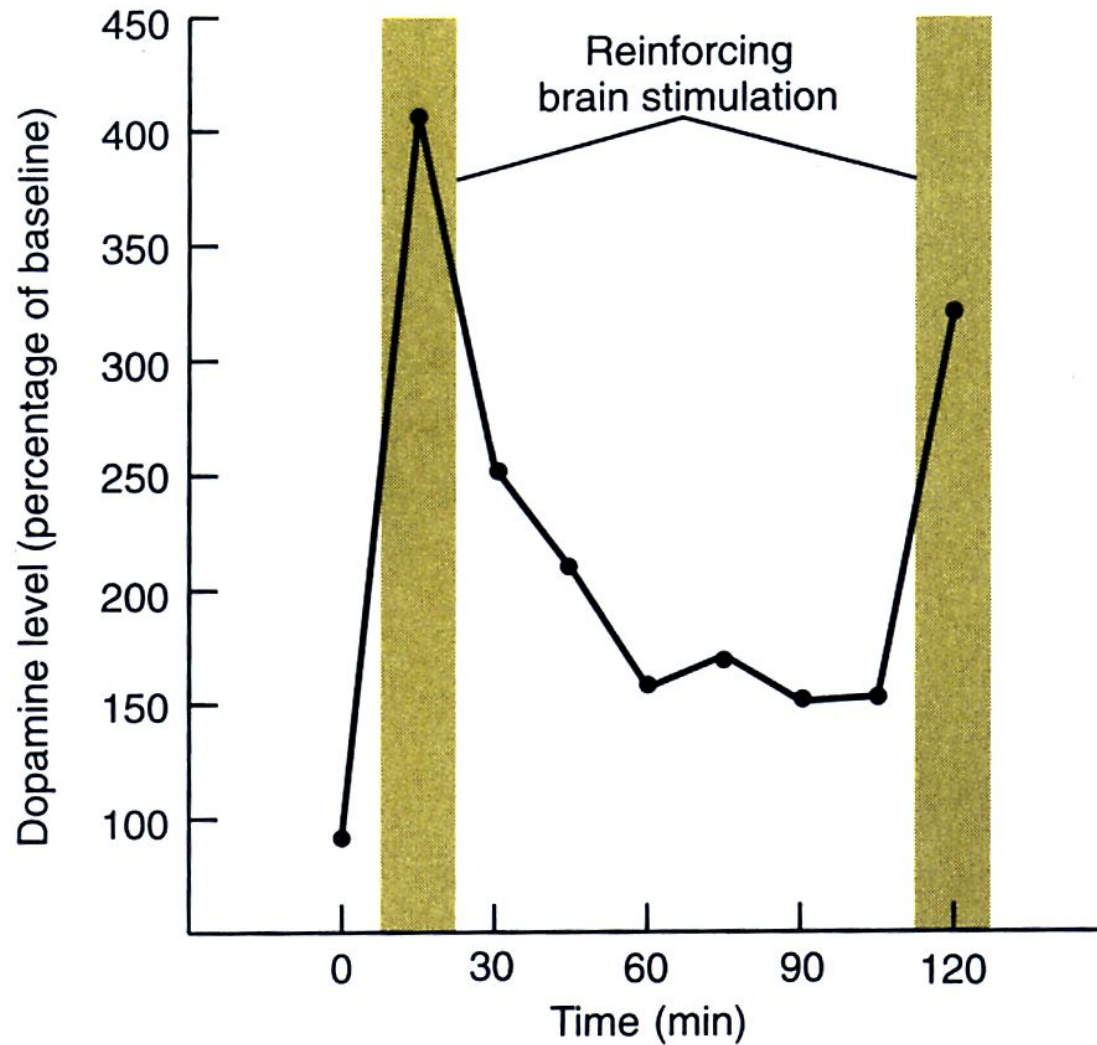
Otto *et al.* (2002). *Appl. Animal Behav. Sc.* 77: 217



Talwar *et al.* (2002). *Nature* 417: 37

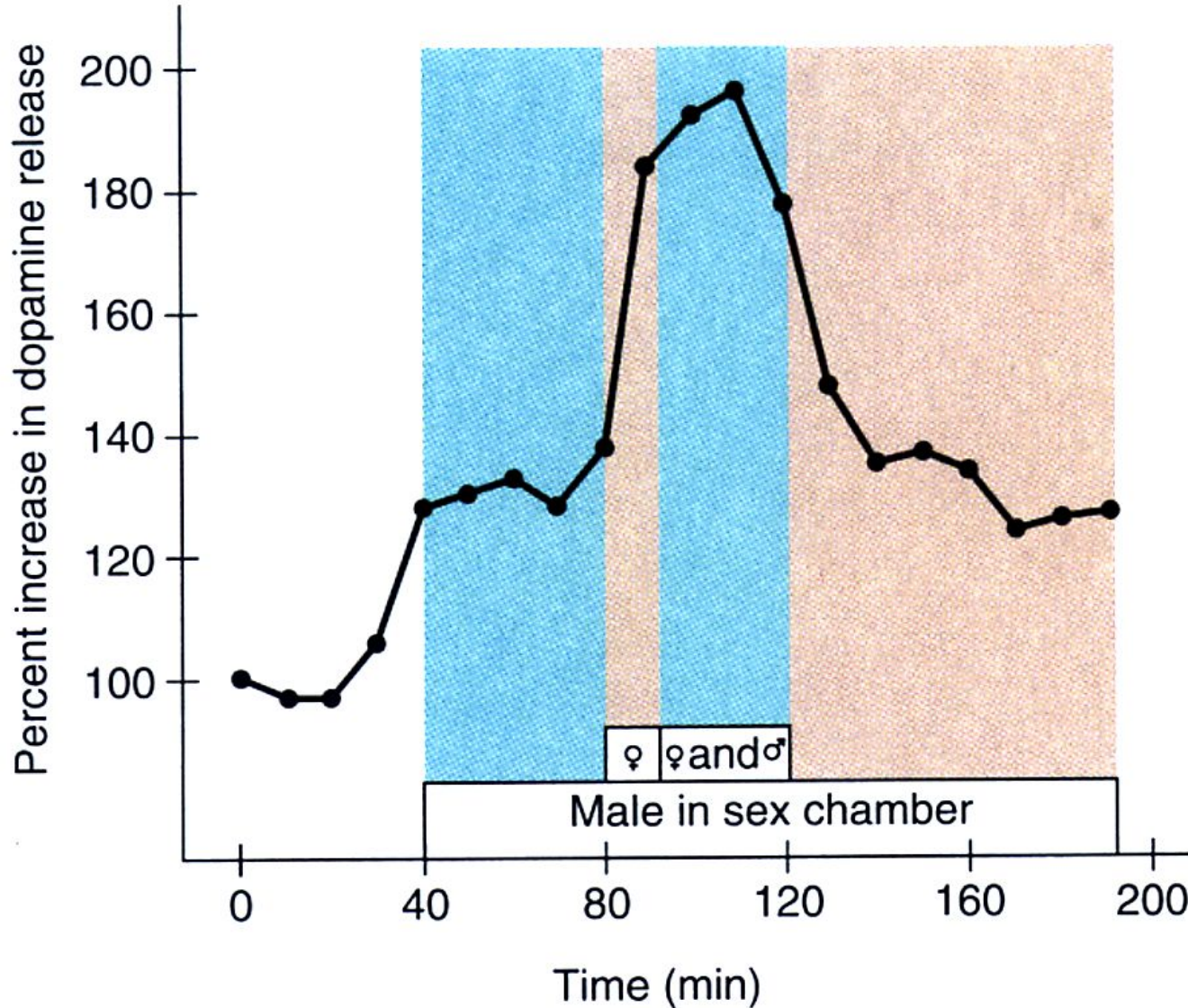
# Dopamine release in the nucleus accumbens during ICSS

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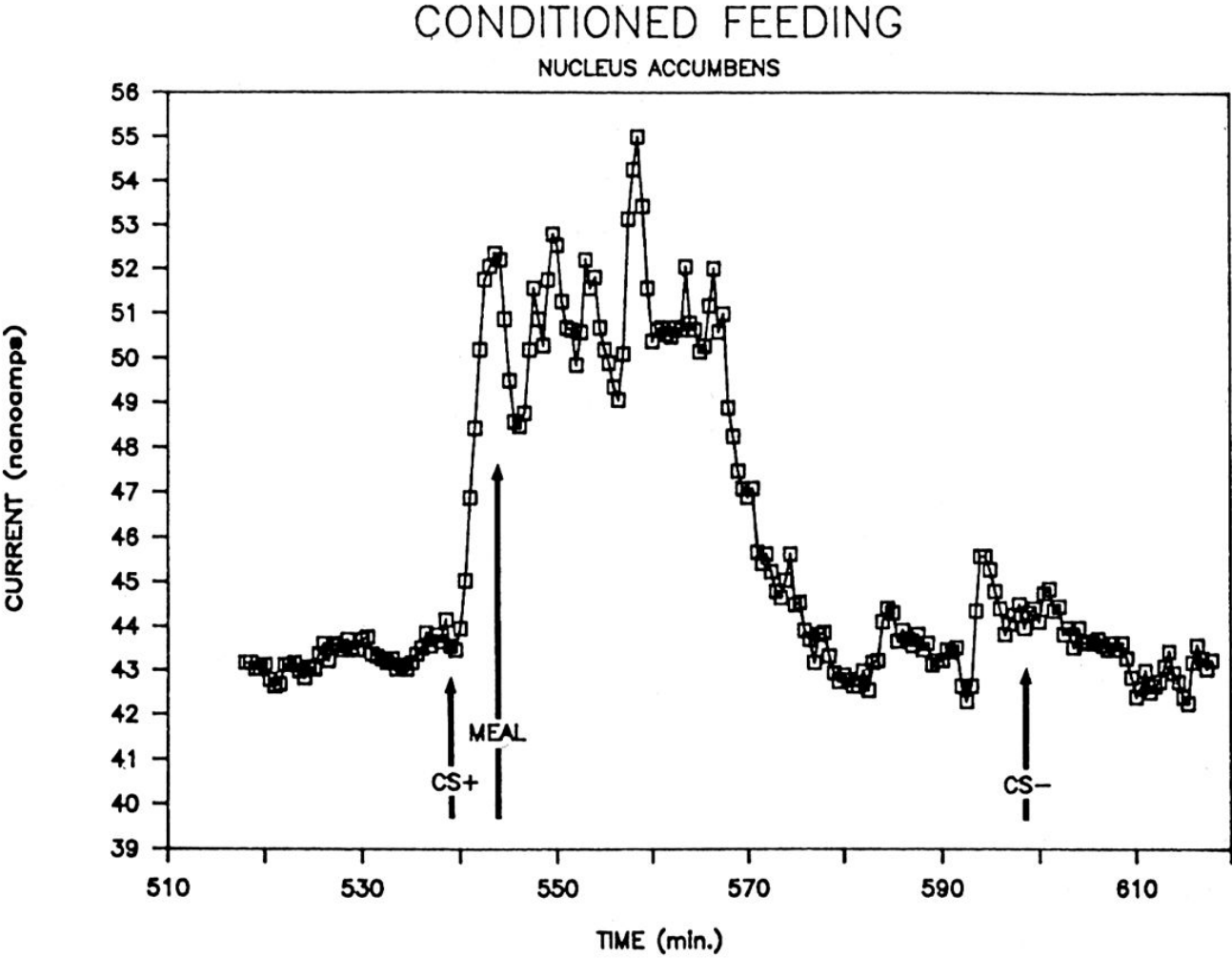


# Dopamine release in the nucleus accumbens of a male rat during sexual behaviour — and in anticipation of sex

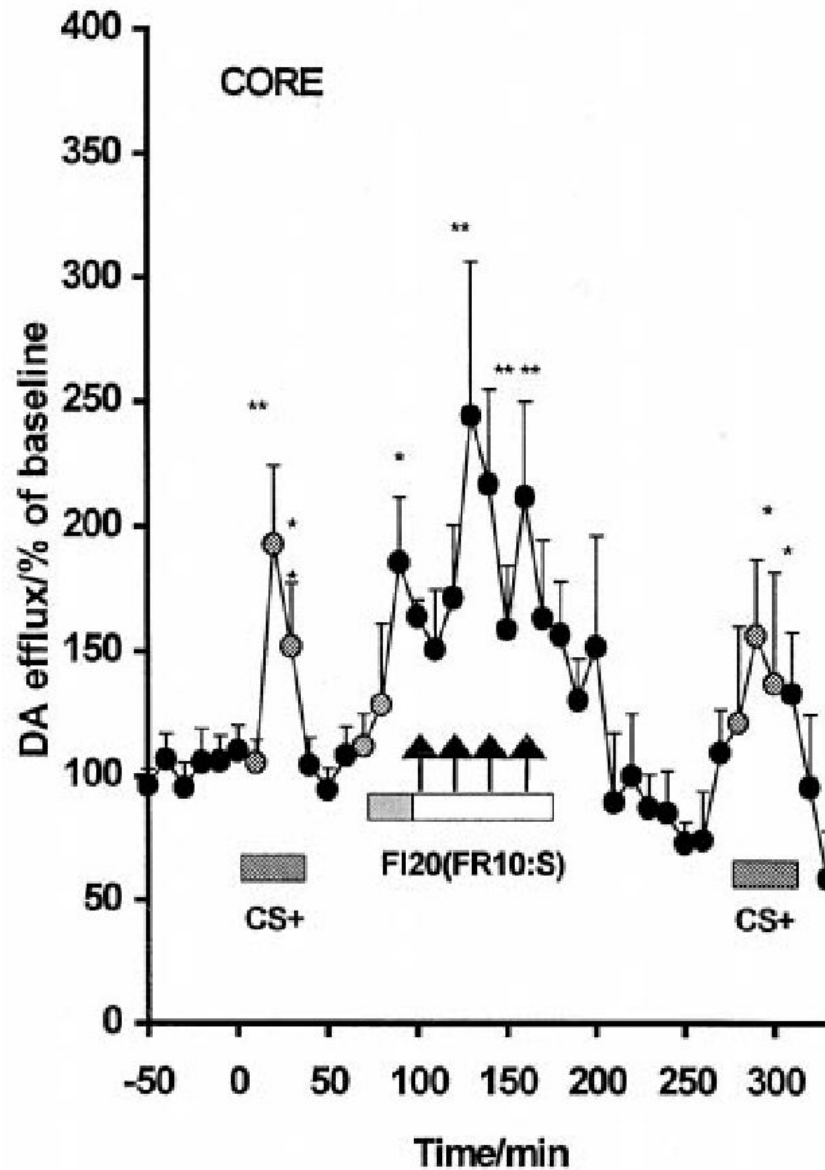
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# Dopamine release in the nucleus accumbens during ingestion of a preferred food — and in response to a CS for food



# Dopamine release in the nucleus accumbens during IV cocaine self-administration — and to a CS for cocaine



# Learning theory and neurobiology

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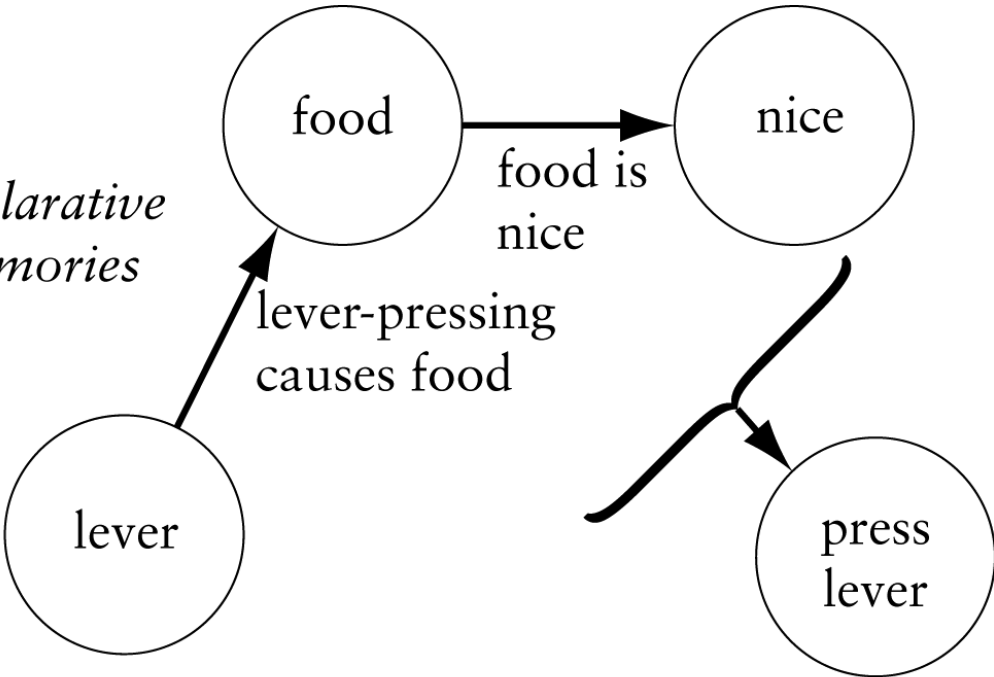
- Animals form multiple psychological representations during Pavlovian and instrumental conditioning.
- For example, an animal learning to respond for a reward encodes
  - the instrumental (action–outcome) contingency;
  - the value of the outcome as an instrumental goal;
  - the (dissociable) ‘affective’ value of the outcome;
  - direct stimulus–response ‘habits’;
- ... and is influenced by Pavlovian processes including conditioned reinforcement and Pavlovian–instrumental transfer.
- The neural basis of some of these processes is starting to be understood.



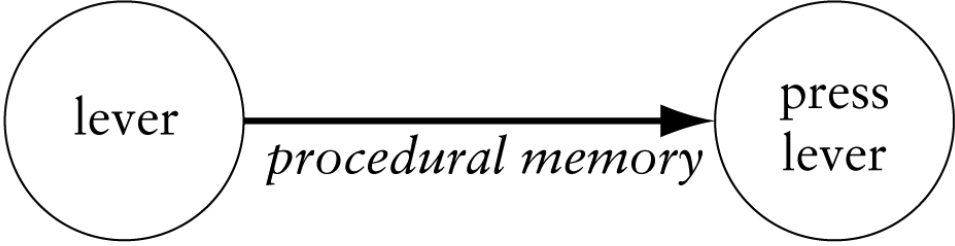
# Animals work for reinforcement for several reasons, including...

*goal-directed action*

*declarative memories*



*stimulus-response habit*

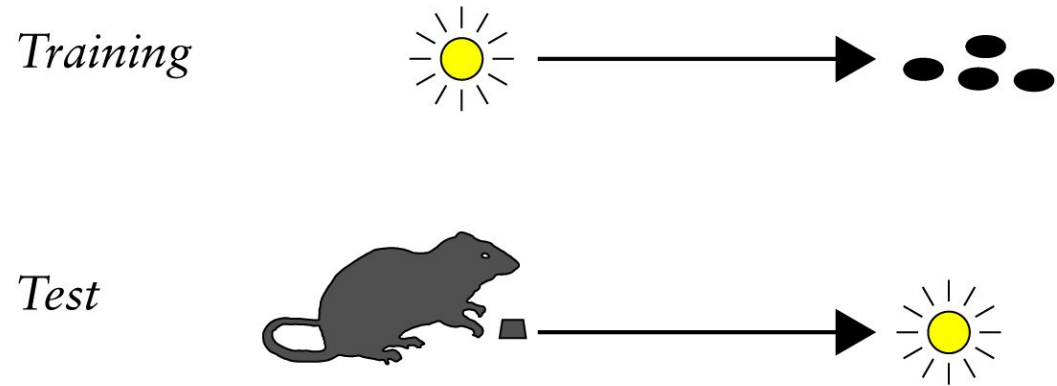


after Dickinson (1980)

... but cues paired with reinforcement can also motivate

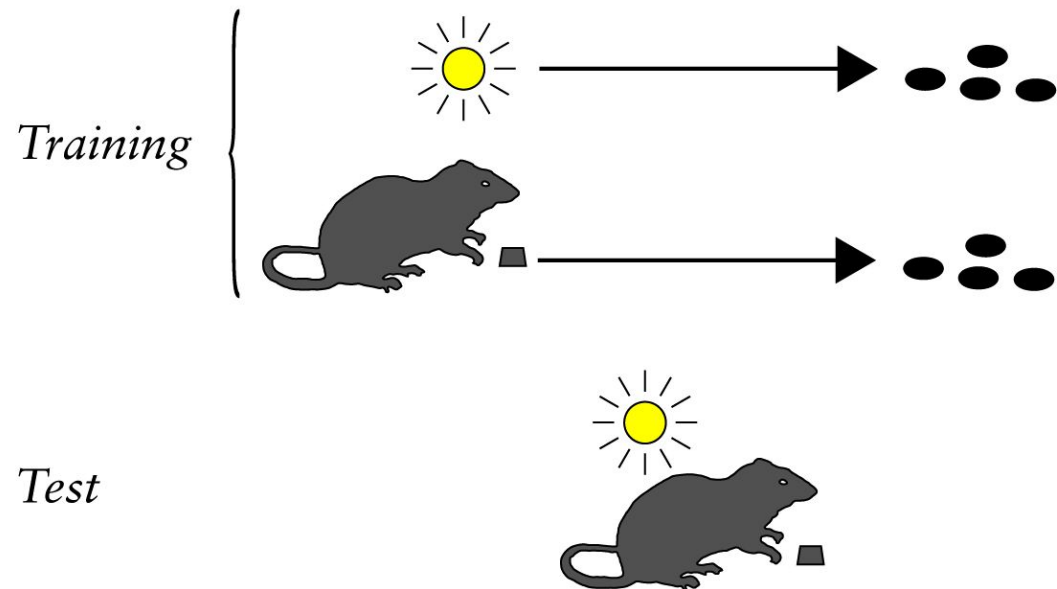
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*Conditioned reinforcement*

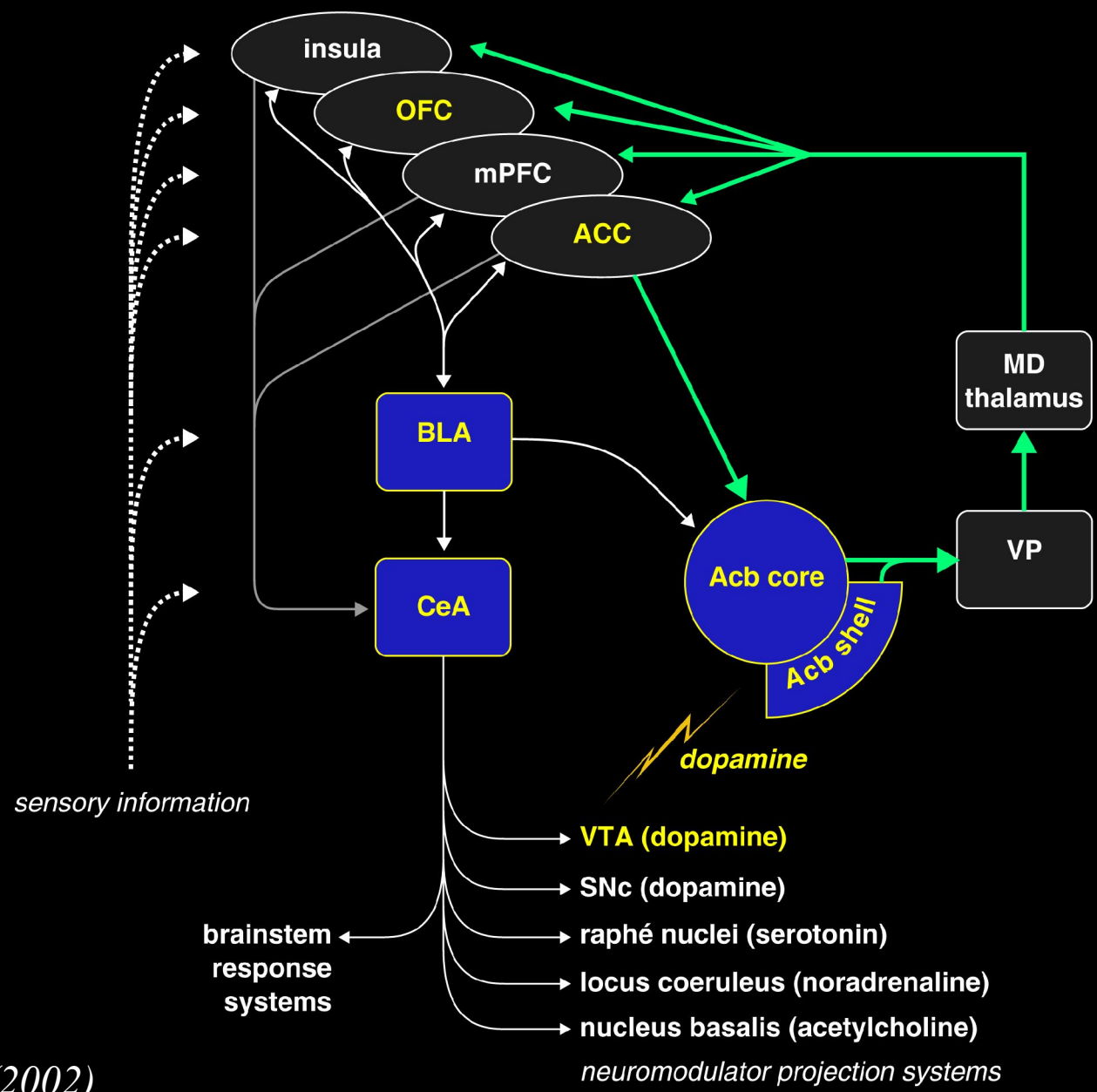


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*Pavlovian-instrumental transfer (PIT)*

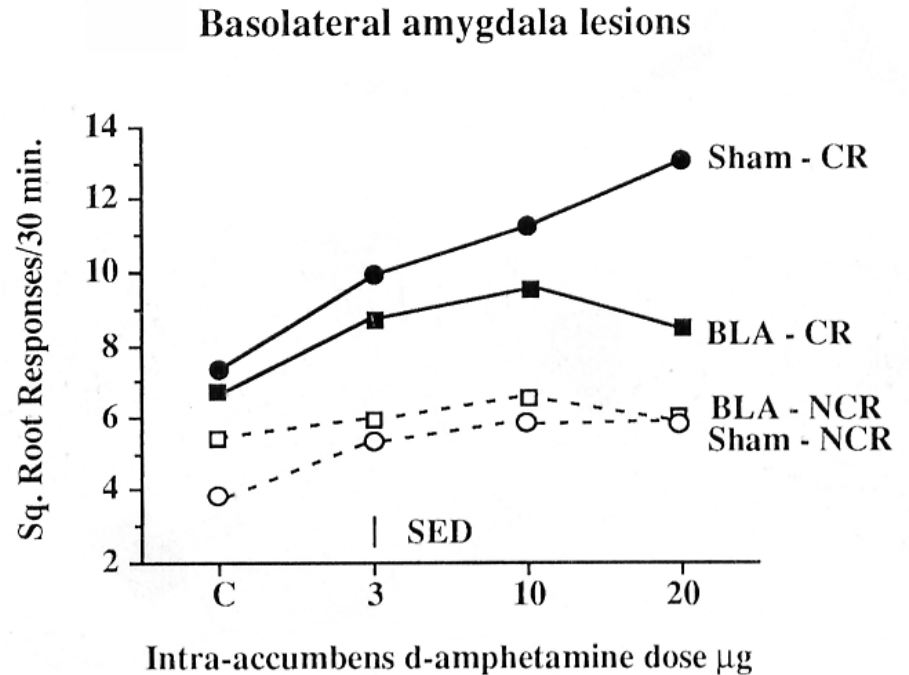
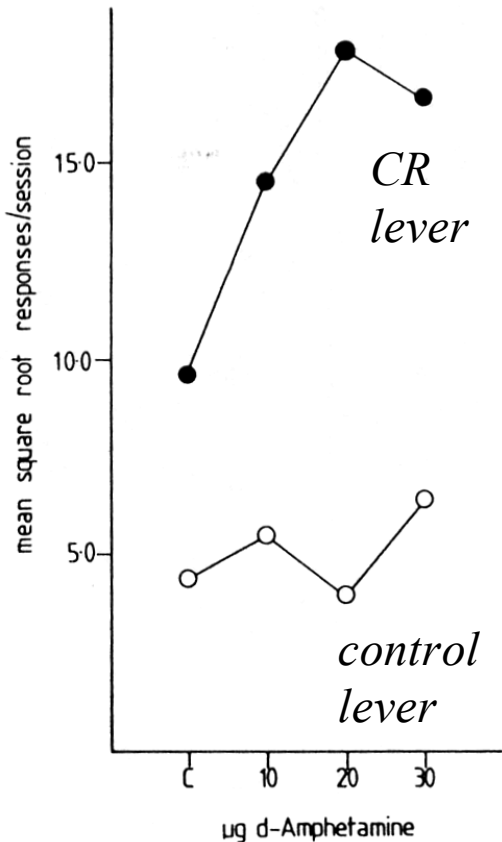


# The limbic corticostriatal circuit: conditioned motivation

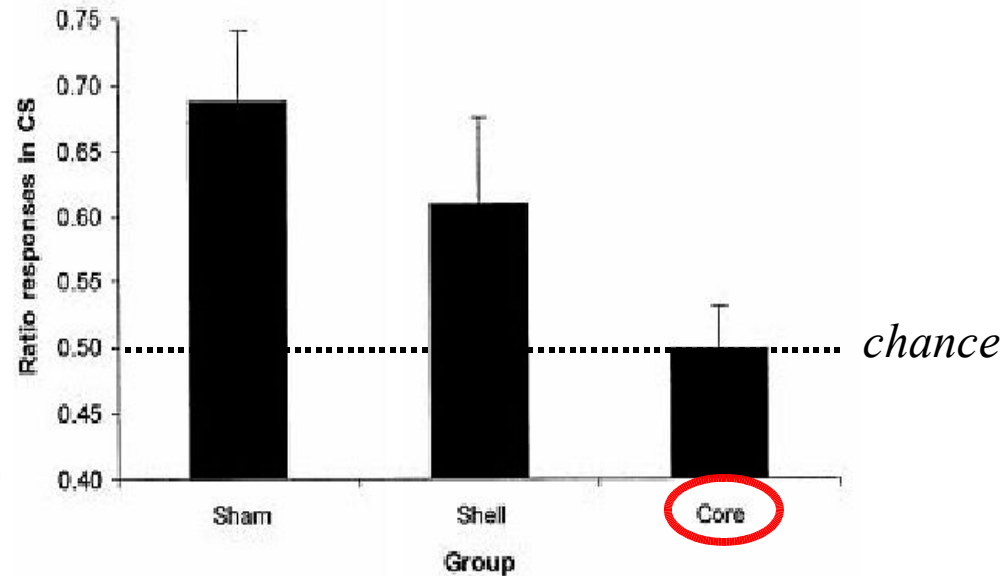
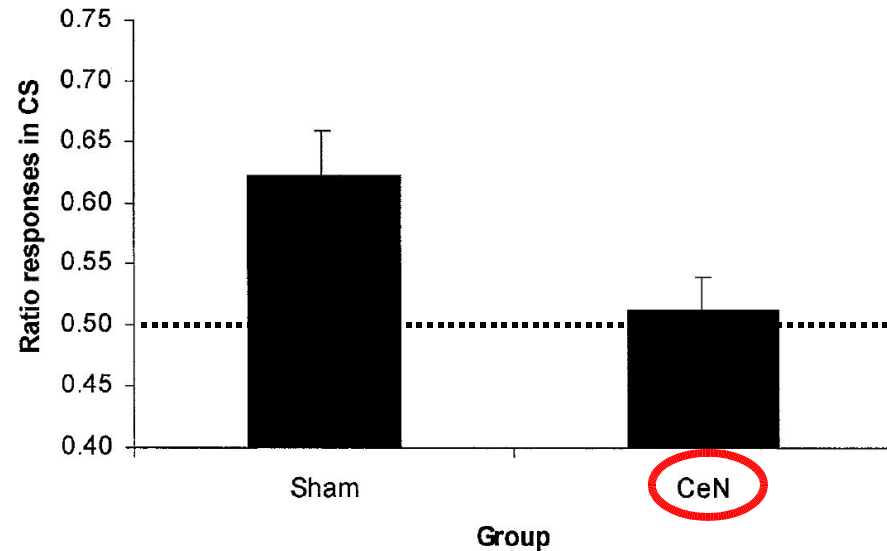
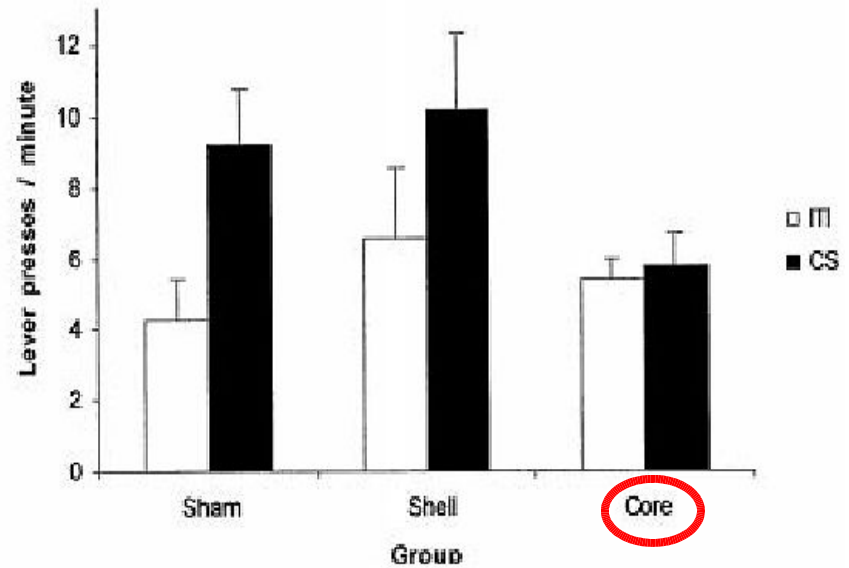


# Conditioned reinforcement depends in part upon the basolateral amygdala, and can be enhanced by intra-accumbens amphetamine

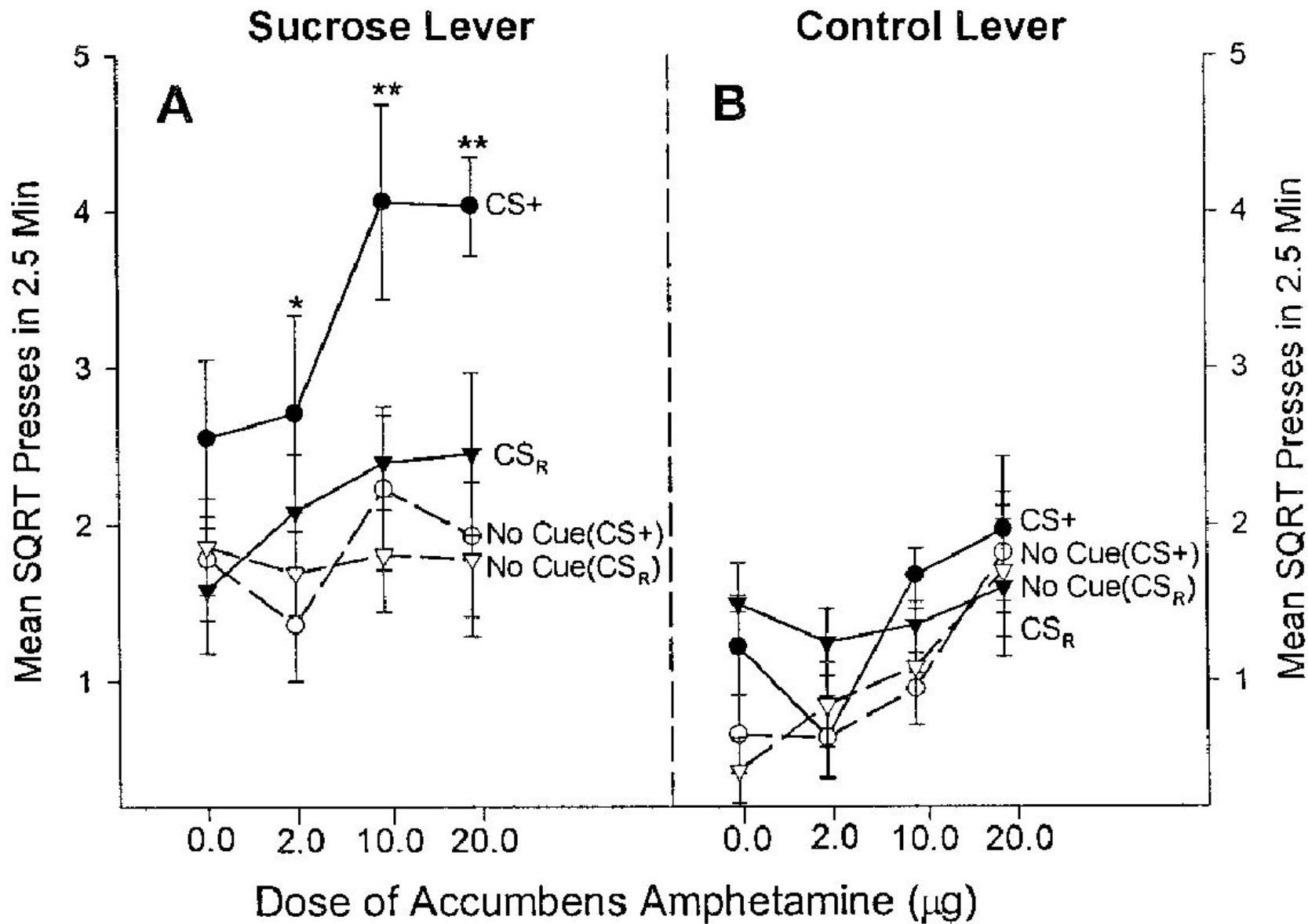
NUC. ACCUMBENS N=10



# Lesions of the nucleus accumbens core (or central nucleus of the amygdala) abolish PIT



# Intra-accumbens amphetamine enhances PIT



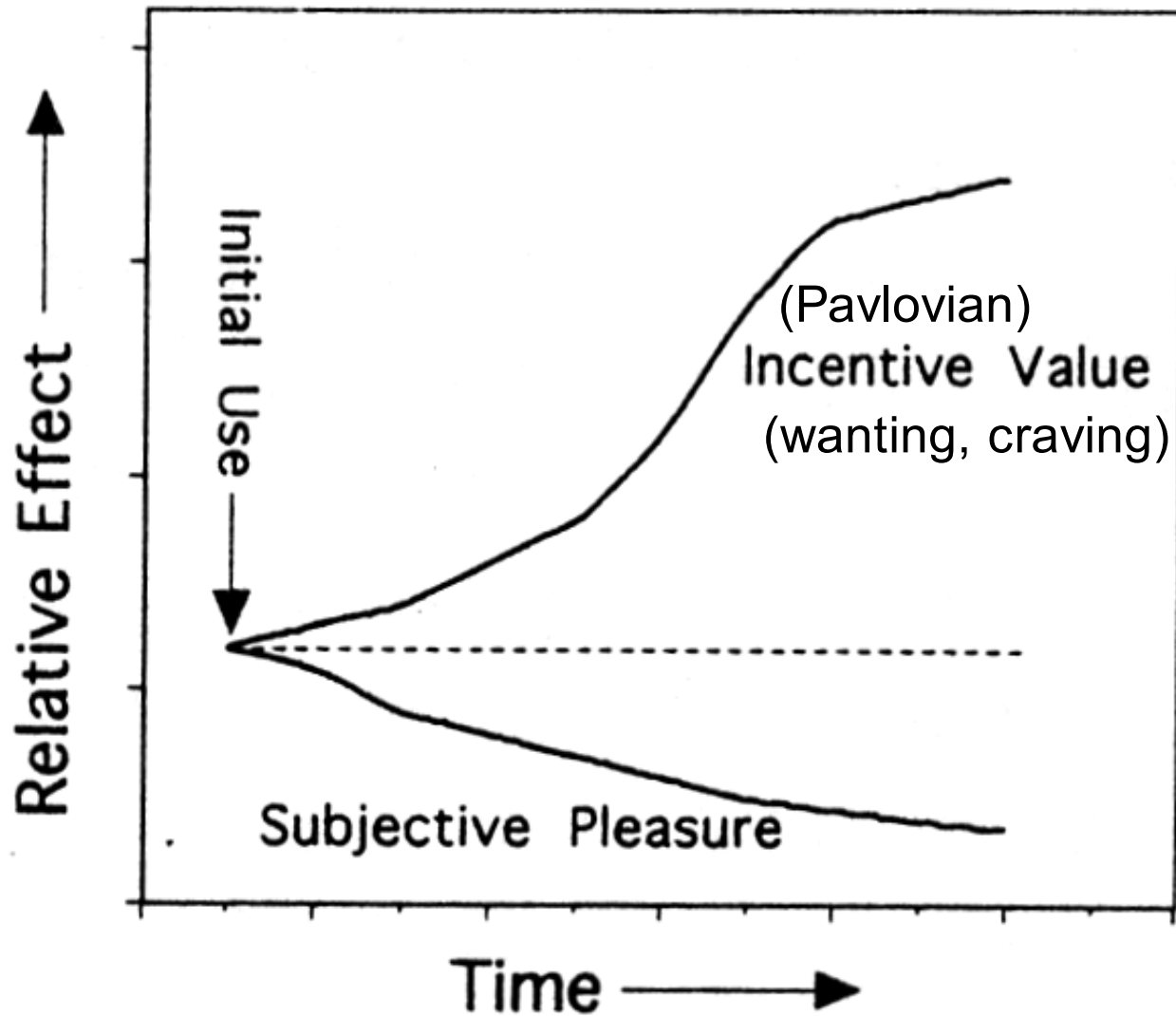
# The nucleus accumbens and dopamine in motivation

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- The nucleus accumbens, its dopamine innervation, and associated amygdaloid structures appear critical for **conditioned stimuli** to motivate behaviour.
- **Pavlovian conditioned motivation** (sometimes referred to as ‘wanting’ or ‘craving’) can be distinguished from true goal-directed actions, and from hedonic value (‘liking’).
- This system may play an important role in pathologically heightened motivation. Furthermore, many addictive drugs enhance the responsiveness of the VTA → nucleus accumbens dopamine system (**sensitization**). This is associated with increased Pavlovian conditioned motivation.
- This system is a **potential therapeutic target**.

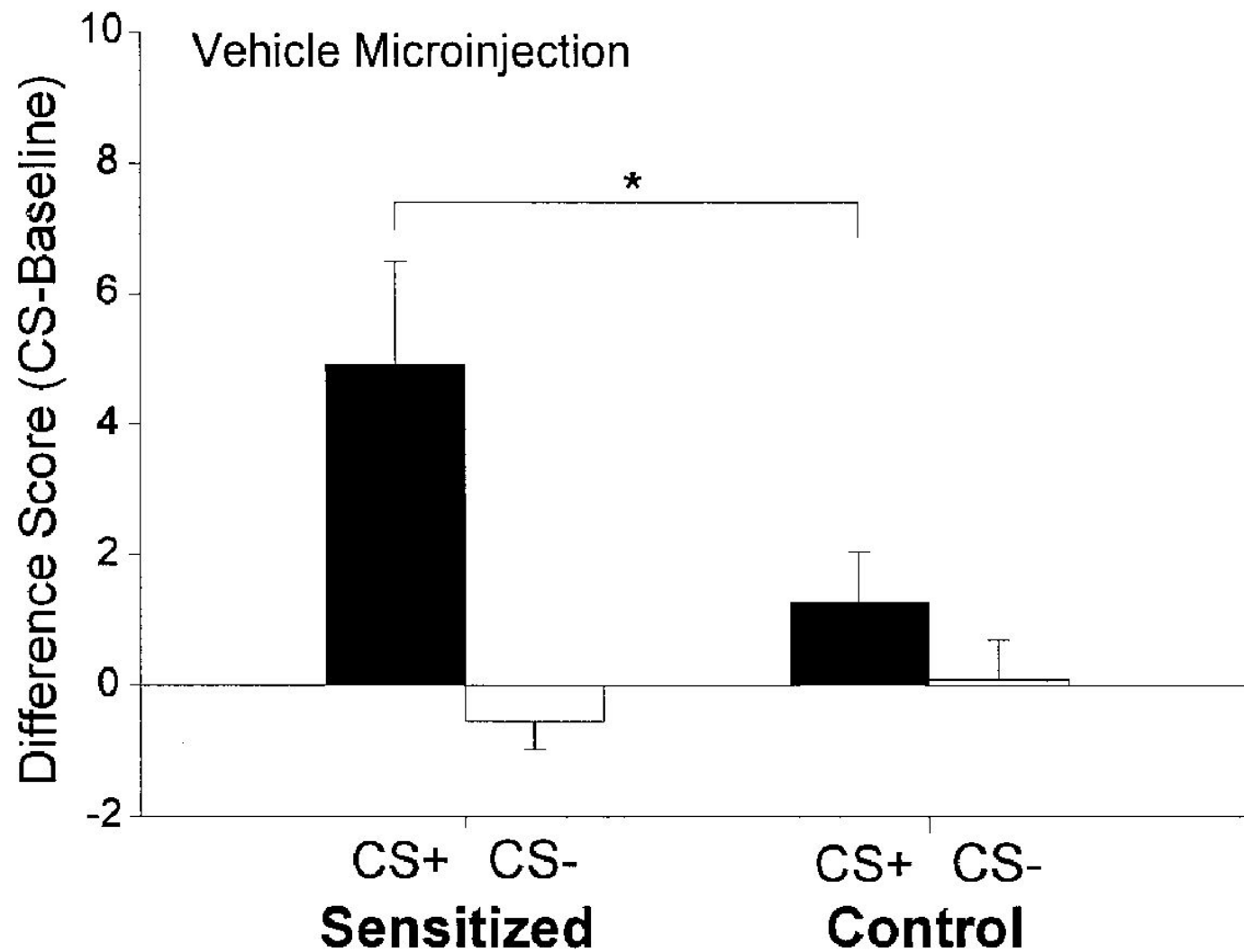
*Robinson & Berridge (1993); Cador et al. (1995); Berridge & Robinson (1998); Pilla et al. (1999); Wyvell & Berridge (2001); Cardinal et al. (2002)*

# Incentive sensitization theory of drug addiction





# Amphetamine sensitization enhances subsequent PIT

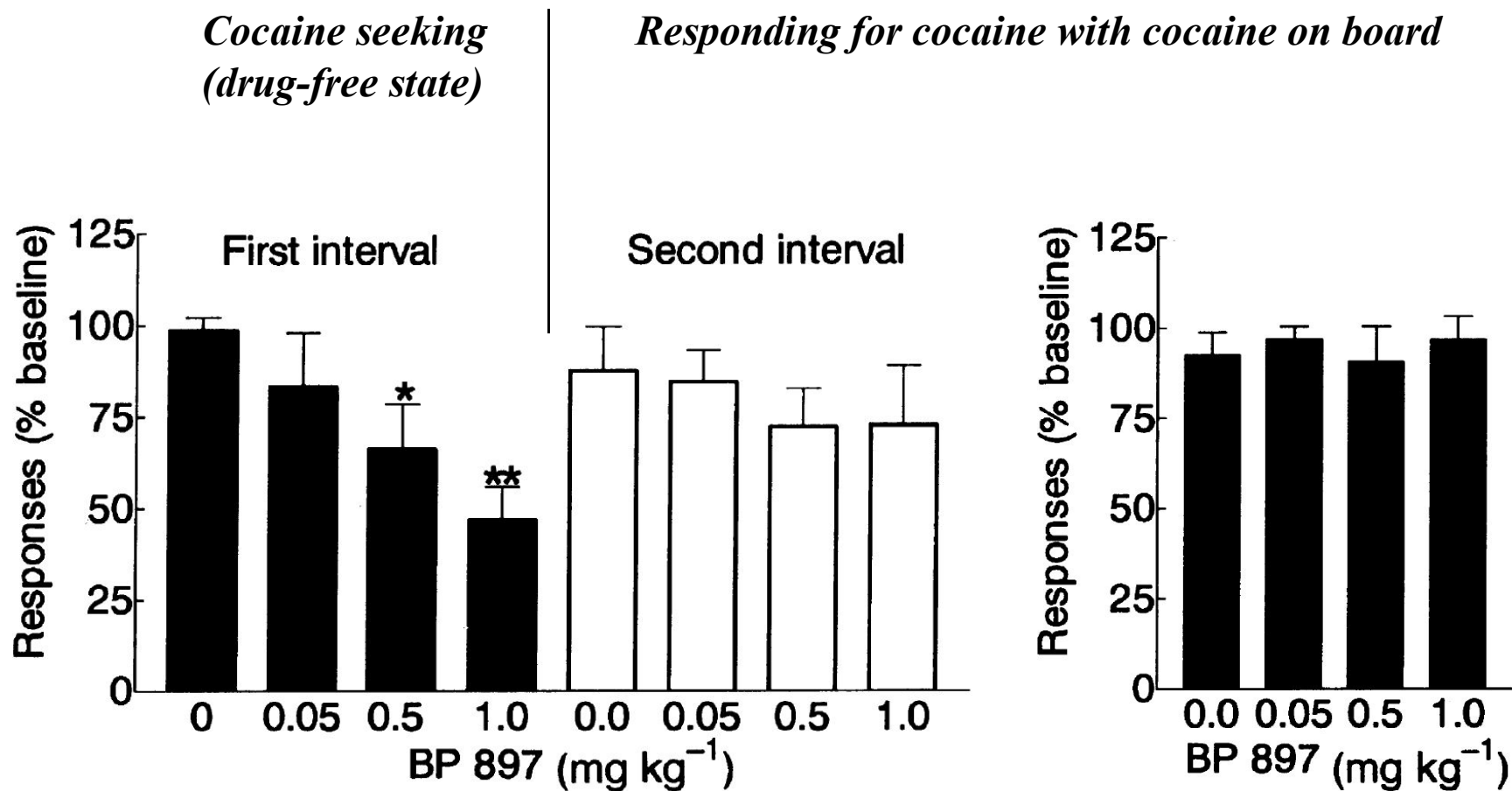


# Therapeutic potential: cocaine-seeking behaviour

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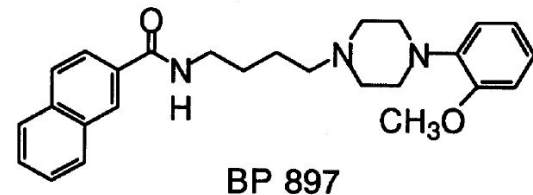


# BP897 (dopamine D3 partial agonist) reduces cocaine seeking



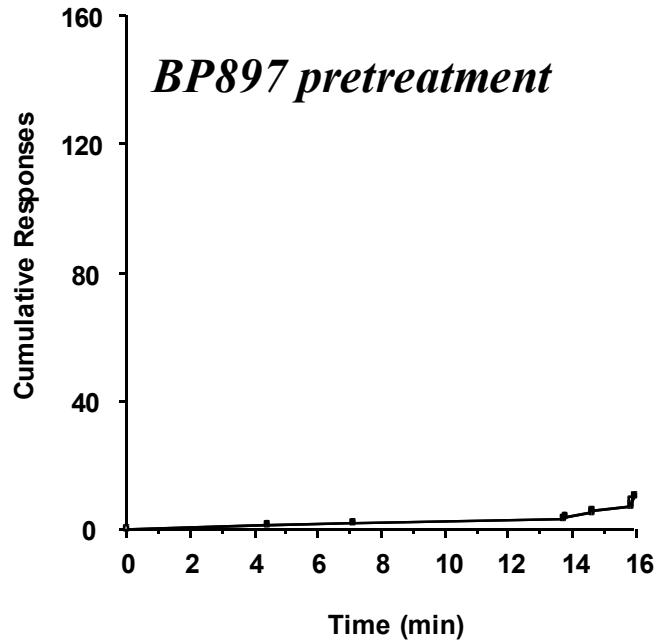
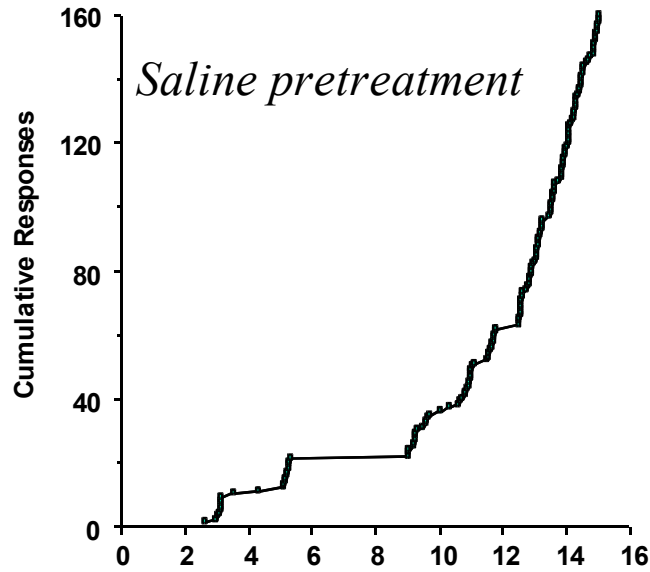
*FI 15 min (FR10:S) second-order schedule*

*FR1 schedule for cocaine*

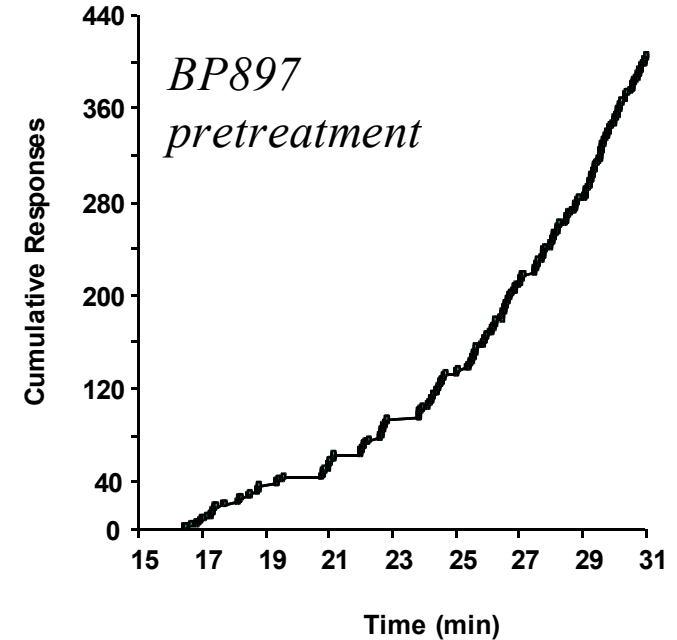
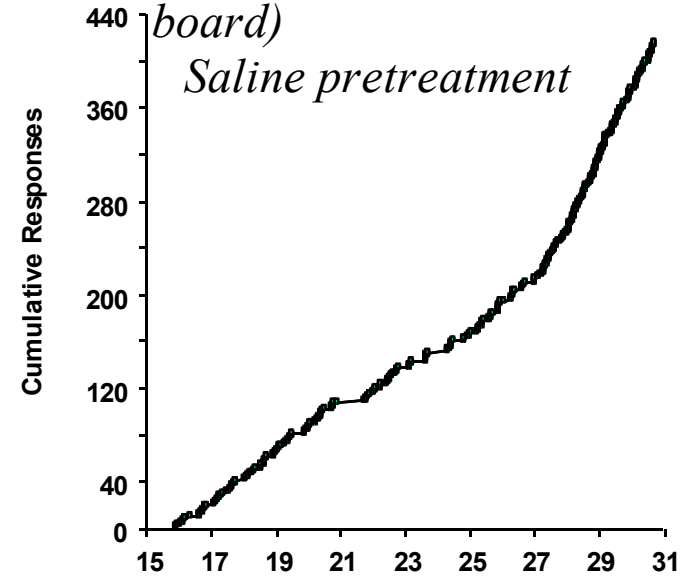


# BP897 reduces cocaine seeking in second-order schedules

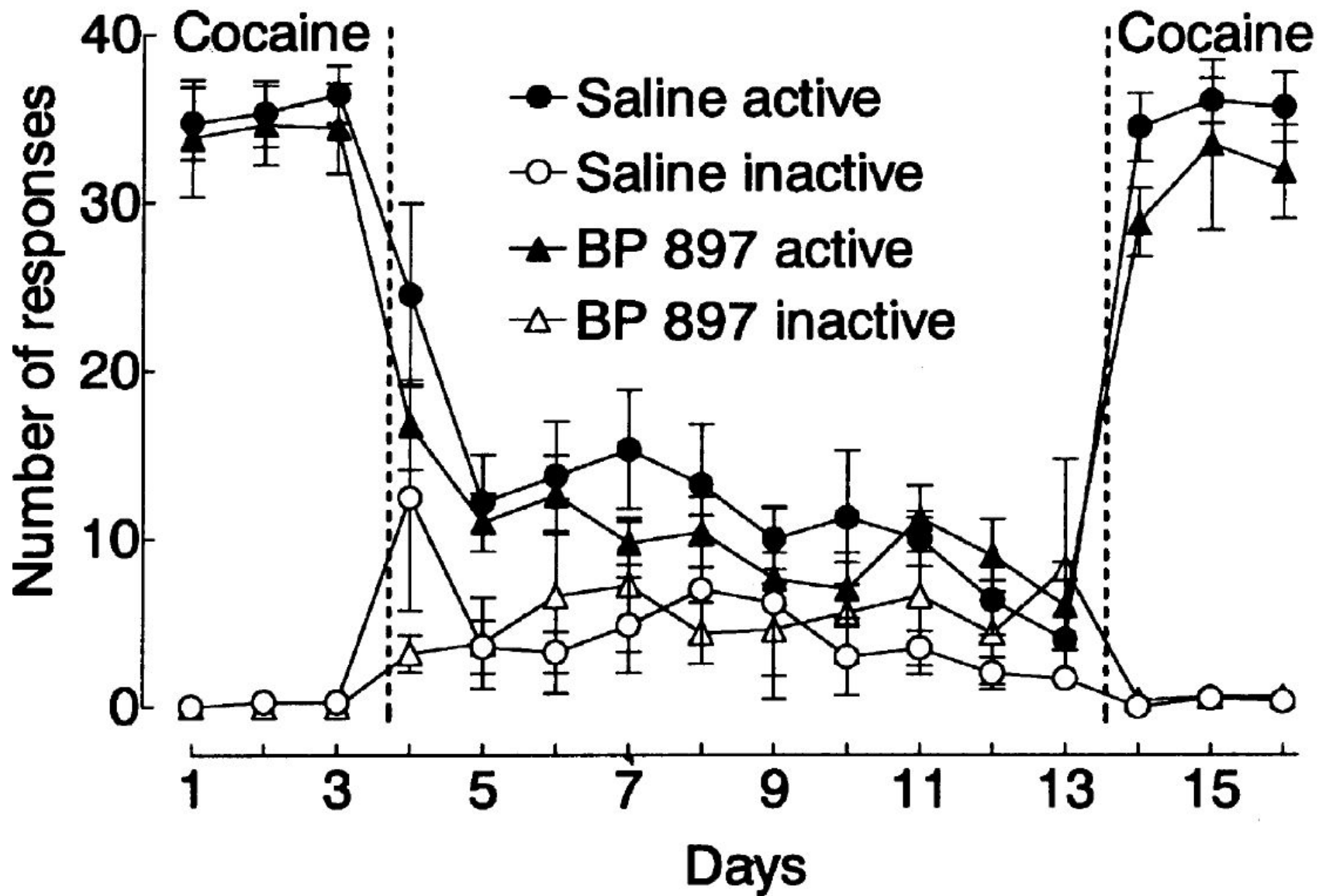
*First (drug-free) interval*



*Second interval (cocaine on board)*



# BP897 is not itself self-administered



# Summary

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- Natural reinforcers (sex, food) and artificial reinforcers (drugs of abuse, ICSS) activate **common neural sites** within the limbic system.
- Moving from correlative studies to causal experiments in animal models, it appears that the nucleus accumbens, amygdaloid structures that project to it, and their dopamine innervation mediate the ability of **conditioned stimuli** paired with reinforcement to motivate behaviour directed towards obtaining that reinforcement.
- Pavlovian conditioned motivation is an important aspect of **desire and addiction**.
- This system is a potential **therapeutic target**. Dopamine D3 receptors are selectively expressed in limbic structures; drugs acting at these receptors suppress drug-seeking in animal models and are entering human clinical trials.

