

Introduction - Child's garden of learning

Change in behavior or behavioral propensity induced by experience

Continuum with development - critical periods (vision, language, neuron and synapse elimination in motor neuron, motor system)

Categories of learning

I. Non-associative

Habituation
Sensitization

II. Associative

A. Procedural

1. Classical - Pavlovian - (like with the dog)

Pretest: (US → R)
(CS - / → R)

Train: CS + US

Test: CS → R

Reinforcement - (Biologically relevant stimulus)
2° order conditioning

2. Operant conditioning

Closed loop from environment
Positive feedback

Thorndike Skinner - bar pressing

3. Higher order learning - insight learning, etc.

B. Declarative learning

(H.M. - fact vs. skill, knowing that vs. knowing how)

There are animal models of declarative memory:

1. Monkeys - Mishkin - Delayed non-match to sample
2. Mice -
 - a. Morris - Water maze
 - b. Context-dependent fear conditioning

Simplified circuit

Pavlov's dog + Hebbian synapse

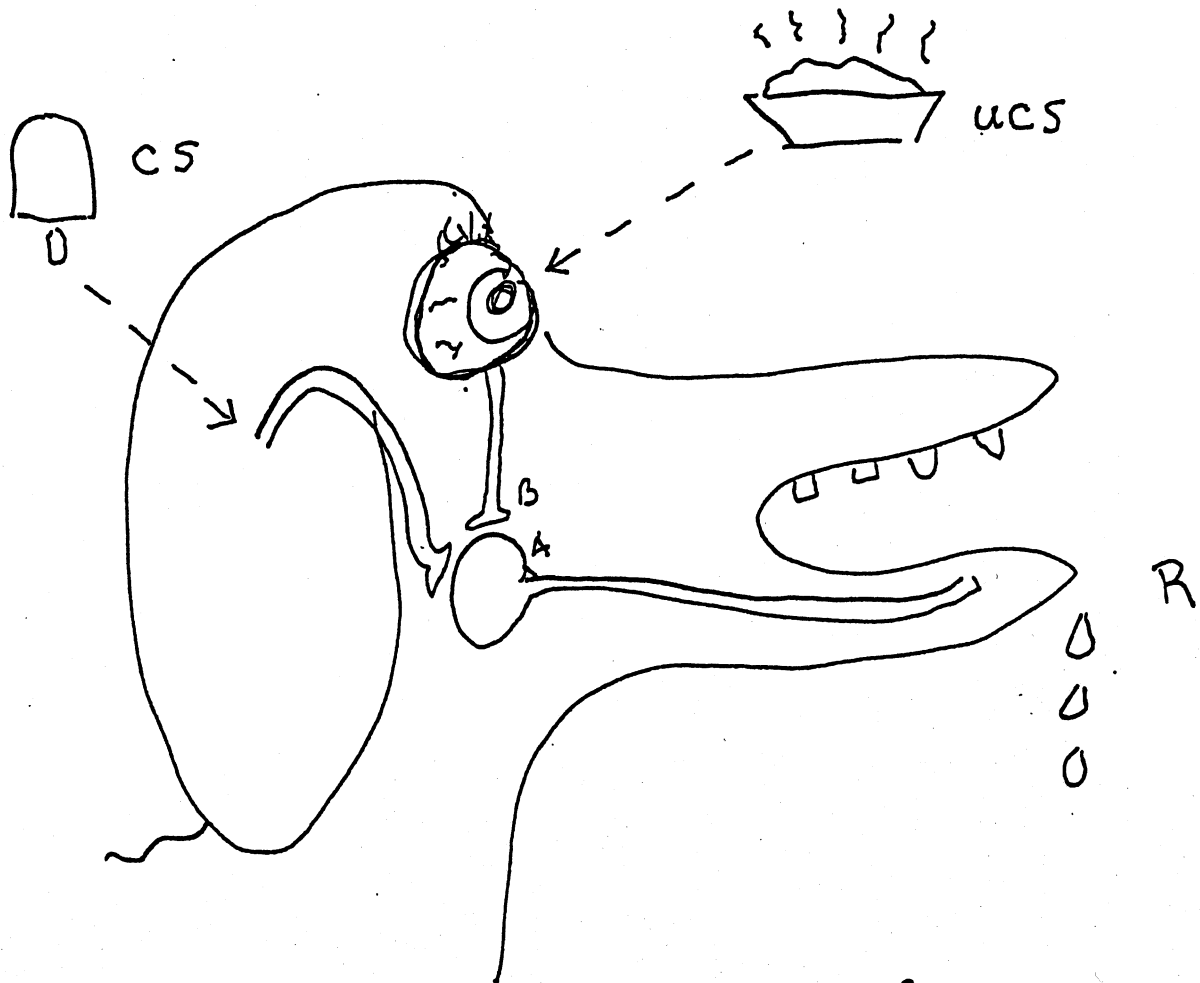
Eye (US → mouth)

BA - functional synapse all the time

CA

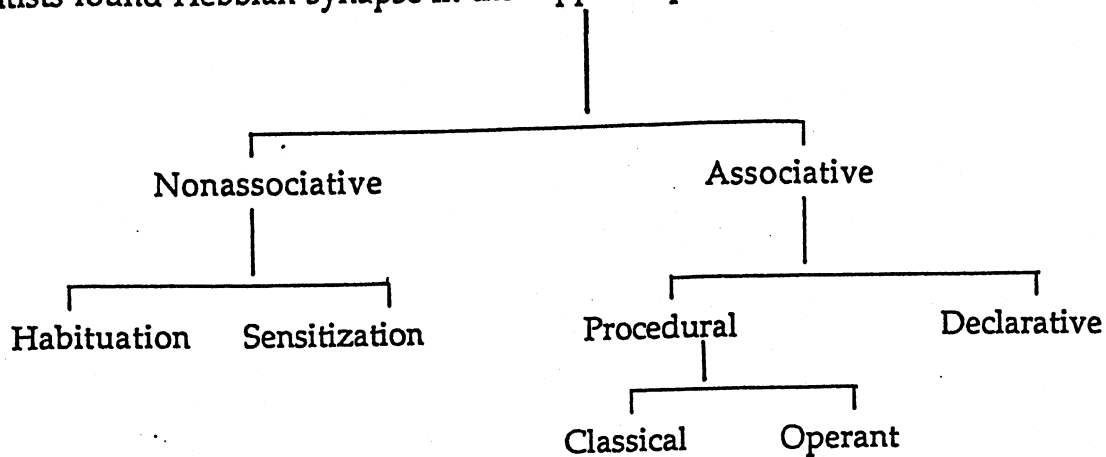
Ear (CS → mouth)

Hebbian synapse - CA gets stronger if presynaptic input C fires when postsynaptic cell A fires



≡ 2 nonlinear molecules

Scientists found Hebbian synapse in the hippocampus



HM - Declarative memory requires hippocampus and temporal lobes.
Procedural memory does not.

C. Kinetic issues in learning

1. Order dependence
CS and then UCS
Lack of backwards conditioning
2. Garcia - toxophobic conditioning
Long-delay learning
(trace conditioning)
3. Declarative learning - not necessarily order dependent
NMDA receptor - probably not order dependent

D. Kinetic issues in memory

STM --> --> LTM

Three operational definitions of LTM

1. Memory over a day
2. Consolidated memory

ECS - resistant
Concussion resistant
Anesthesia resistant (ARM)

3. Protein synthesis-dependent memory (VLTM)
Fly mutants and ARM