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GABA in locus coeruleus in REMS regulation

**Presentation for
J. Sleep Dis. Therapy**

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**SLEEP AND WAKING ARE INSTINCT
BEHAVIORS AND THEY REPRESENT
STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS**

**SLEEP IS A REVERSIBLE STATE
WHERE CONSCIOUSNESS REMAINS
IN A SUBDUED STATE**



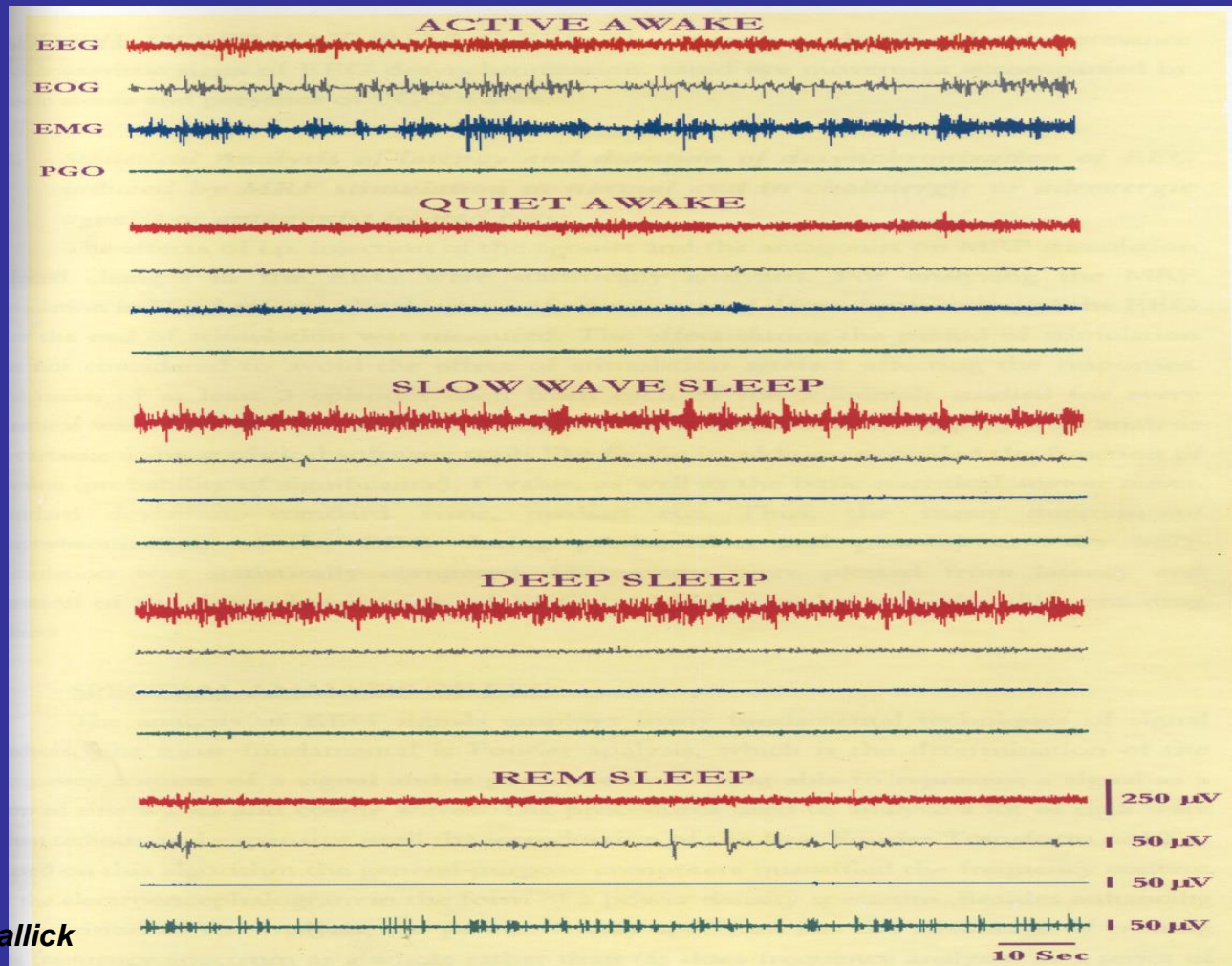
**BASED ON EEG AND EMG
SLEEP-WAKING WAS
OBJECTIVELY CLASSIFIED INTO
AWAKE AND SLEEP**

**ADDITIONAL PARAMETER,
CLASSICALLY AT LEAST EOG,
HELPED IDENTIFICATION OF
REM SLEEP (REMS)**

(PGO AND HIPPOCAMPAL WAVES ALSO HAVE BEEN USED)



SLEEP-WAKING STAGES IN CAT





SLEEP-WAKING STAGES IN RAT

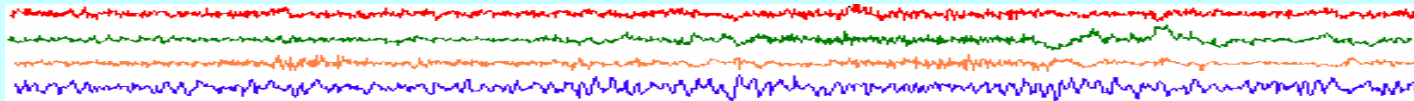
EEG

EOG

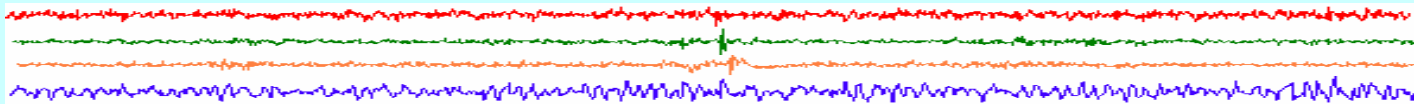
EMG

Hipp

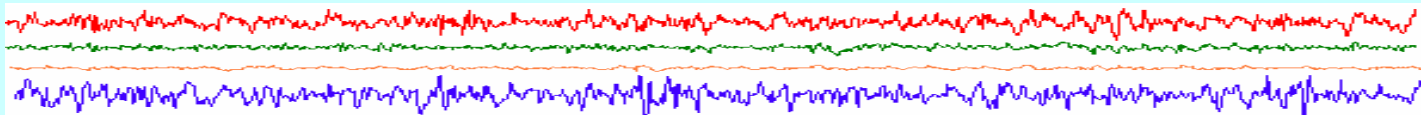
Active Wakefulness



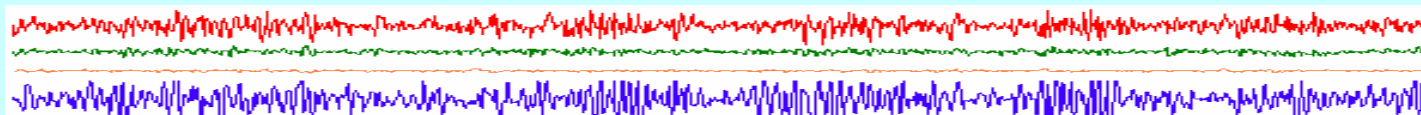
Quiet Wakefulness



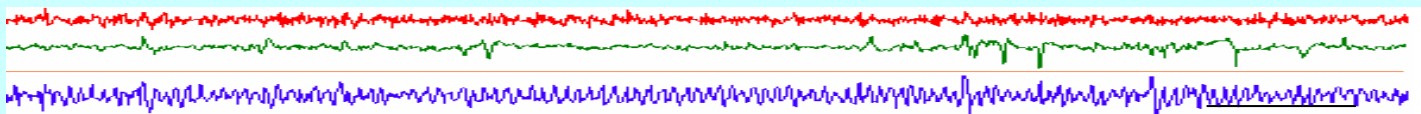
Slow Wave Sleep 1



Slow Wave Sleep 2



REM Sleep



100μV

25μV

50μV

50μV



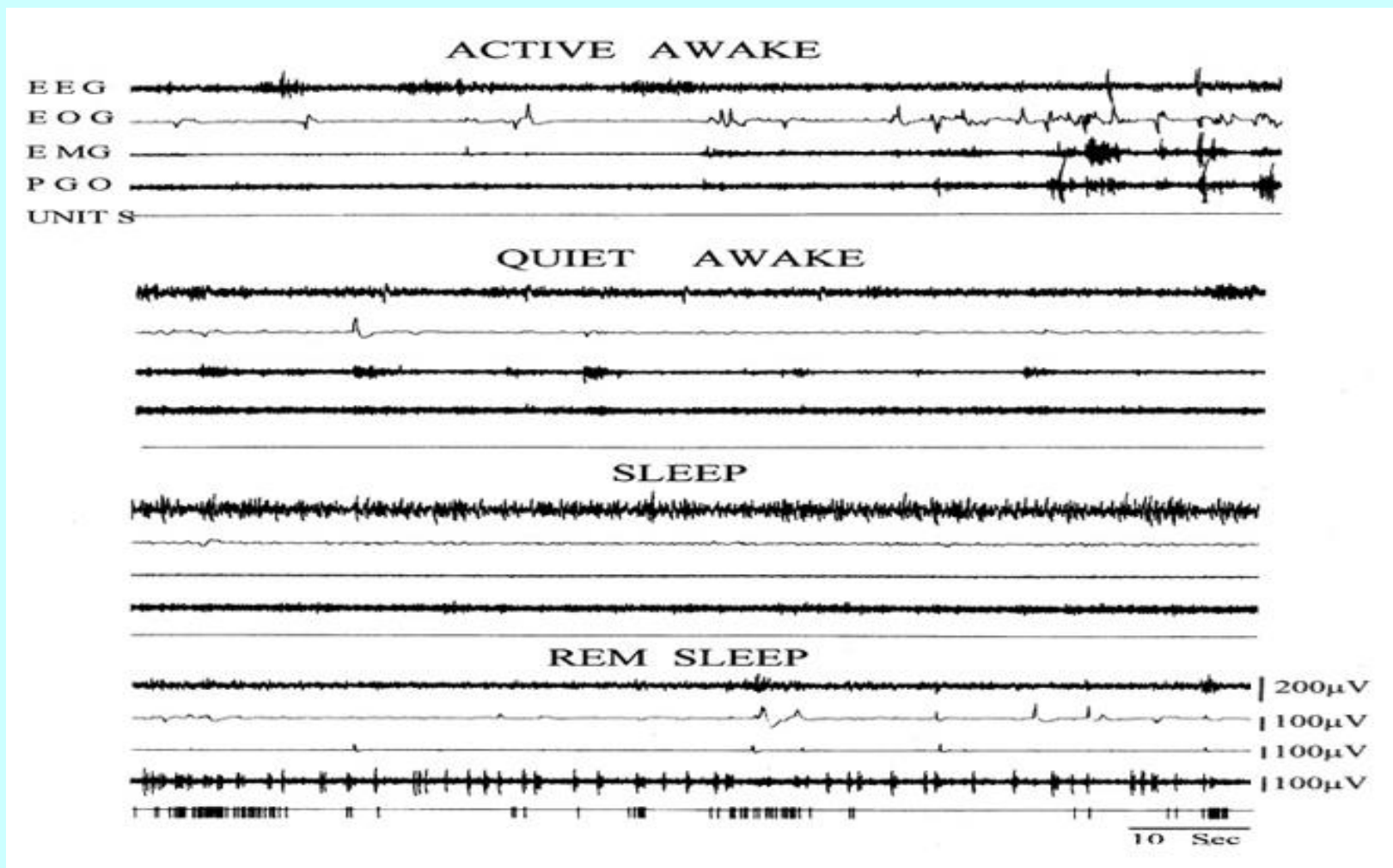
HOW IS REM SLEEP (REMS) REGULATED BY THE BRAIN? *(Neural Regulation of REMS)*

Depending on the firing rate of neurons during REMS, in the brain there are

- *REM-ON neurons (those increasing firing)*
and
- *REM-OFF neurons (those decreasing firing/silent)*

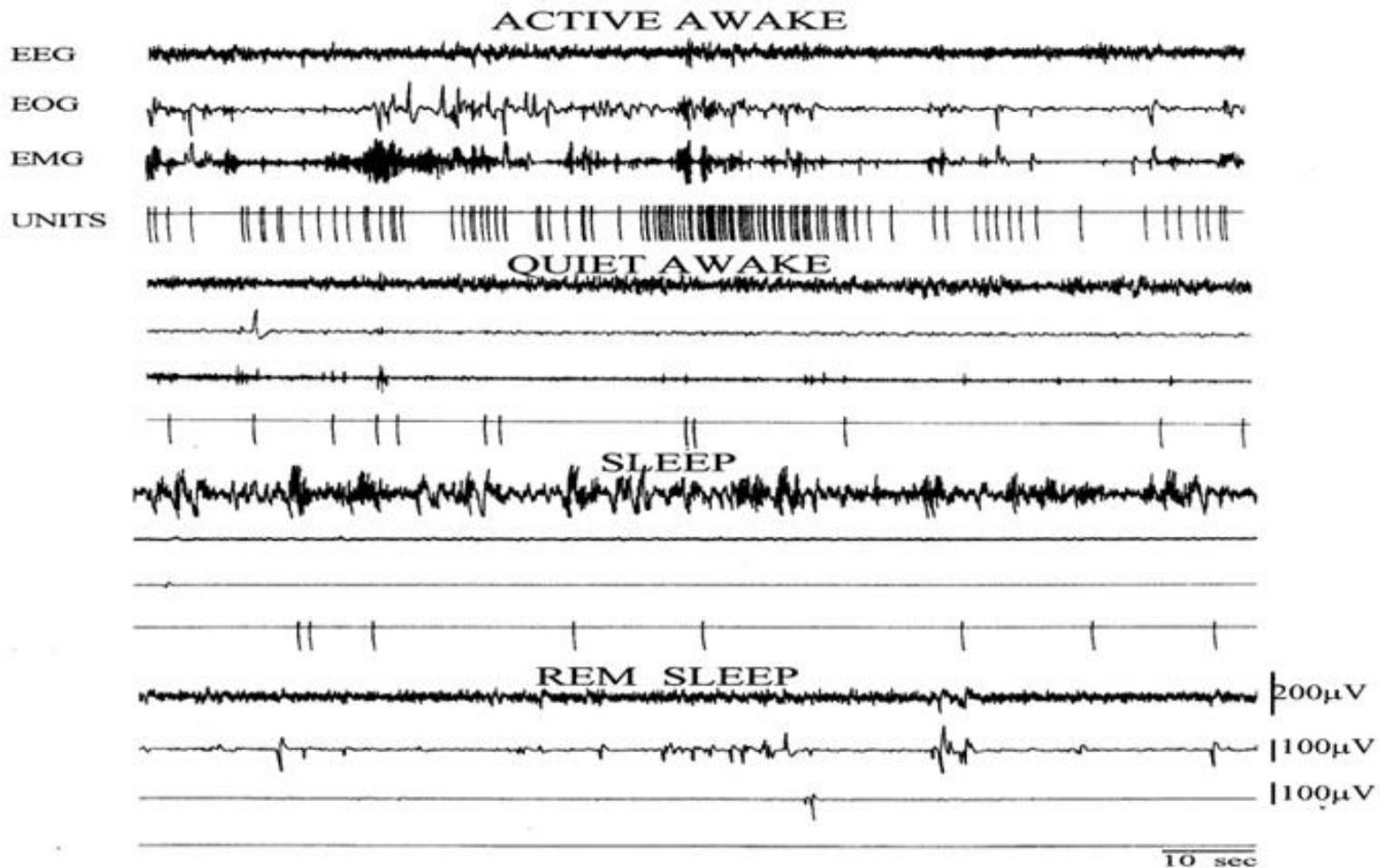


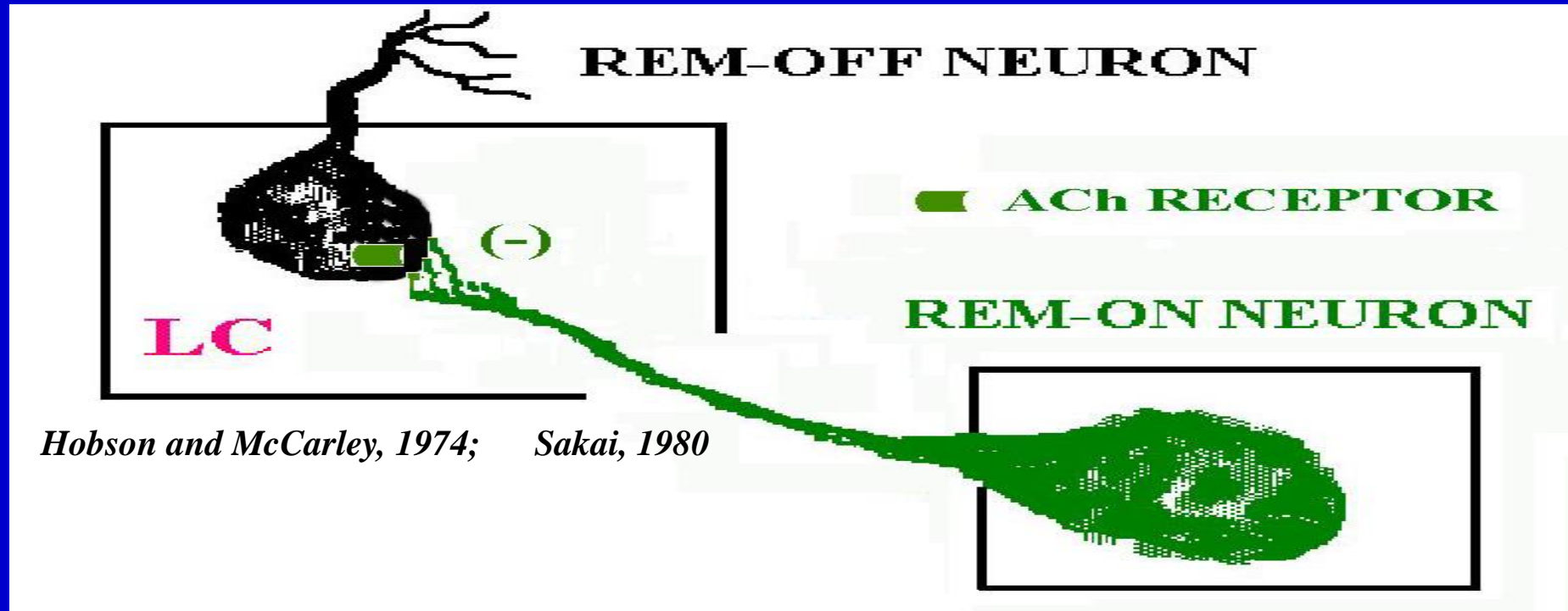
REM-ON NEURON





REM-OFF NEURON





Based on recording of REM-ON and REM-OFF neuronal activities from isolated, independent studies it was proposed that for REMS

- i) activity of REM-ON neurons inhibit REM-OFF neurons;
- ii) acetylcholine from REM-ON neurons inhibit the Noradrenergic (NA-ergic) REM-OFF neurons

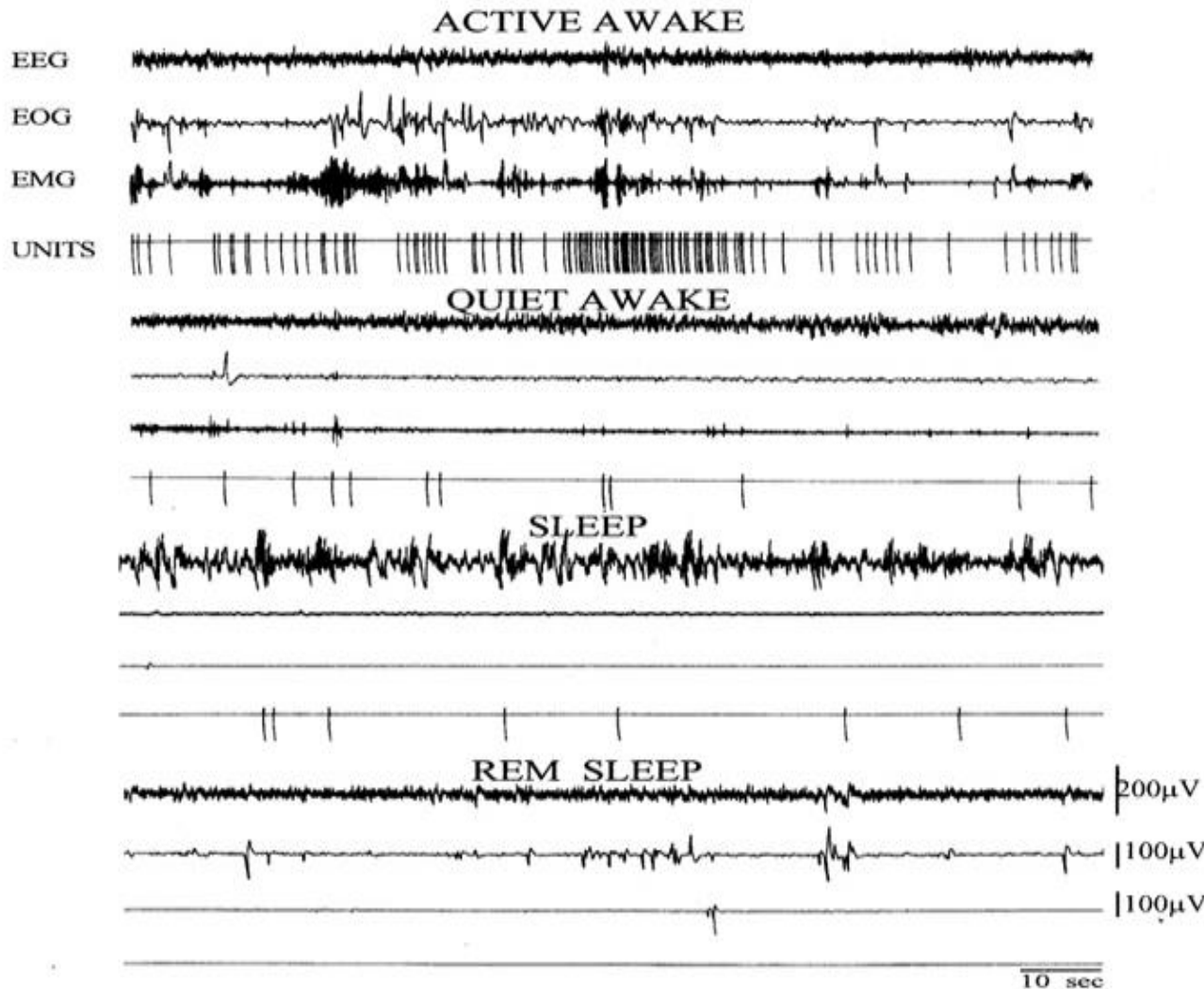


QUESTIONS WE RAISED/ASKED

- **Is cessation of NA-ergic REM-OFF neuronal activities in locus coeruleus (LC) a pre-requisite/pre-condition for REMS generation or it is an associated phenomenon**
- **Activation of REM-OFF neurons in LC should not allow REMS to happen**
- **Does acetylcholine inhibit the REM-OFF neurons**



REM-OFF NEURON



HYPOTHESIS

Singh & Mallick, Neurosci. Res., 1996

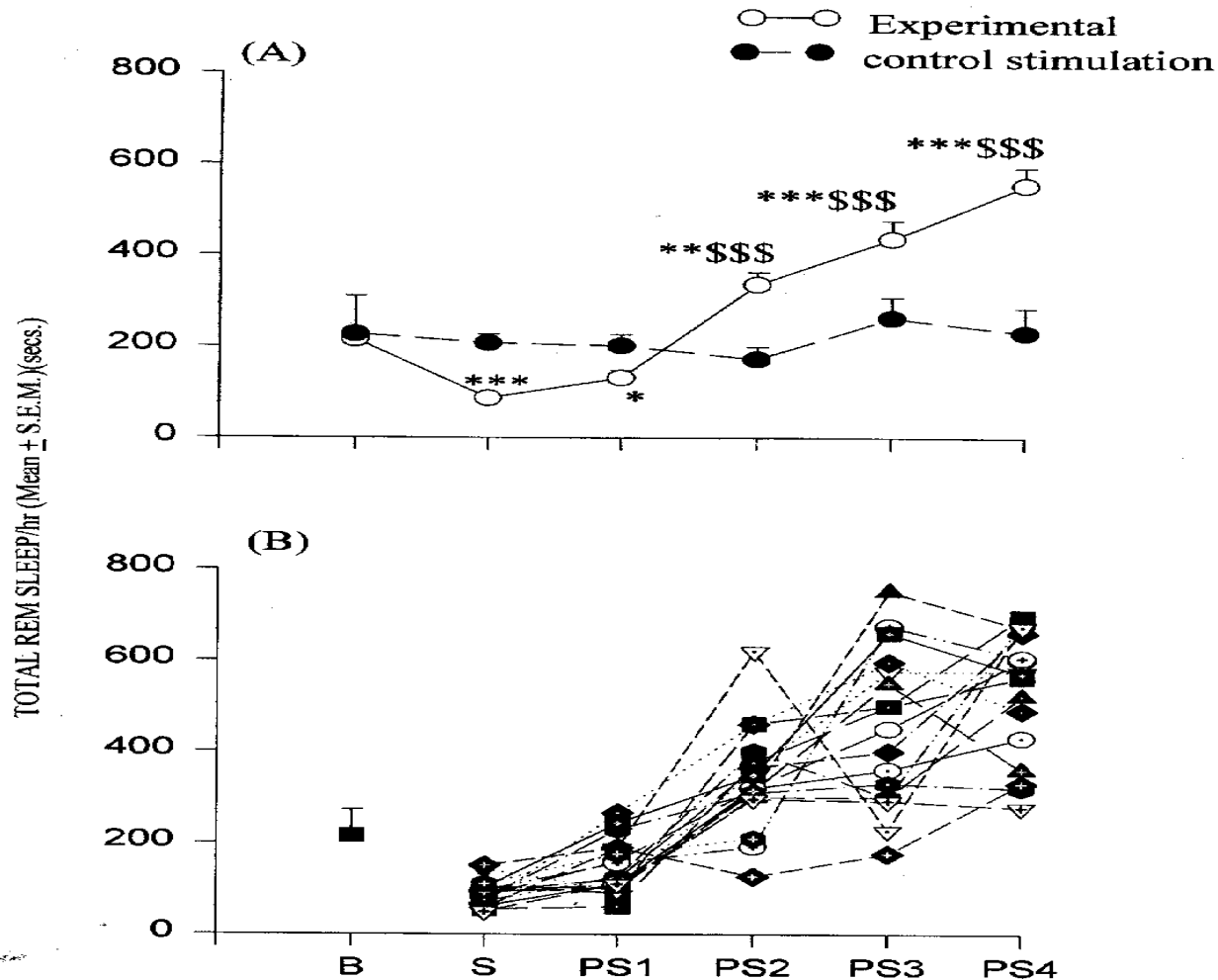
**IF LC REM-OFF NEURONS
MUST STOP FIRING FOR
GENERATION OF REMS**

**THEIR ACTIVATION IN AN
ATTEMPT NOT TO ALLOW
THEM TO CEASE FIRING**

**WOULD CAUSE REMS LOSS
OR
AT LEAST WOULD
SIGNIFICANTLY
REDUCE REMS**



Mild sustained stimulation of LC reduced REMS



**Cessation of
activities of LC-
NA-ergic
REM-OFF
neurons is a pre-
requisite for the
generation of
REMS**

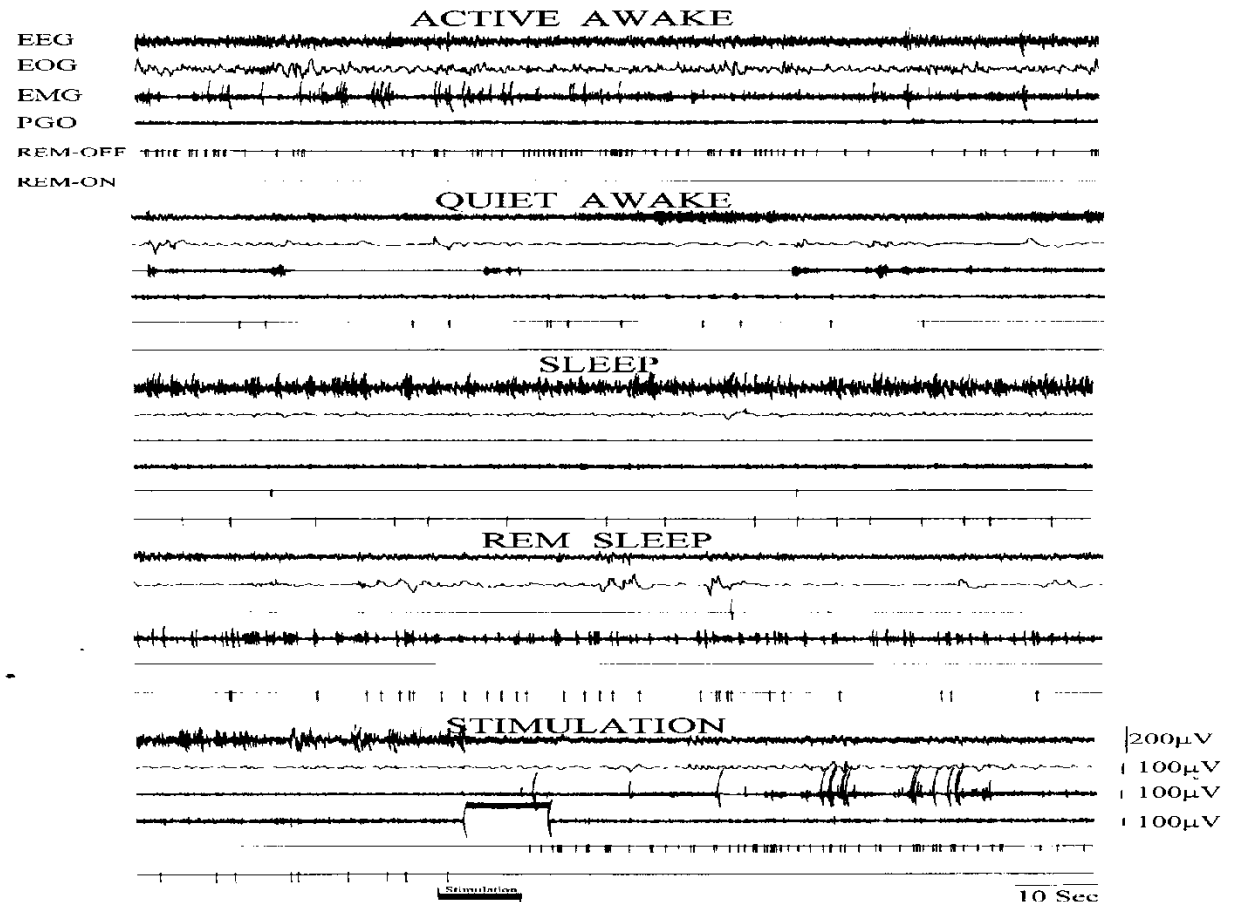
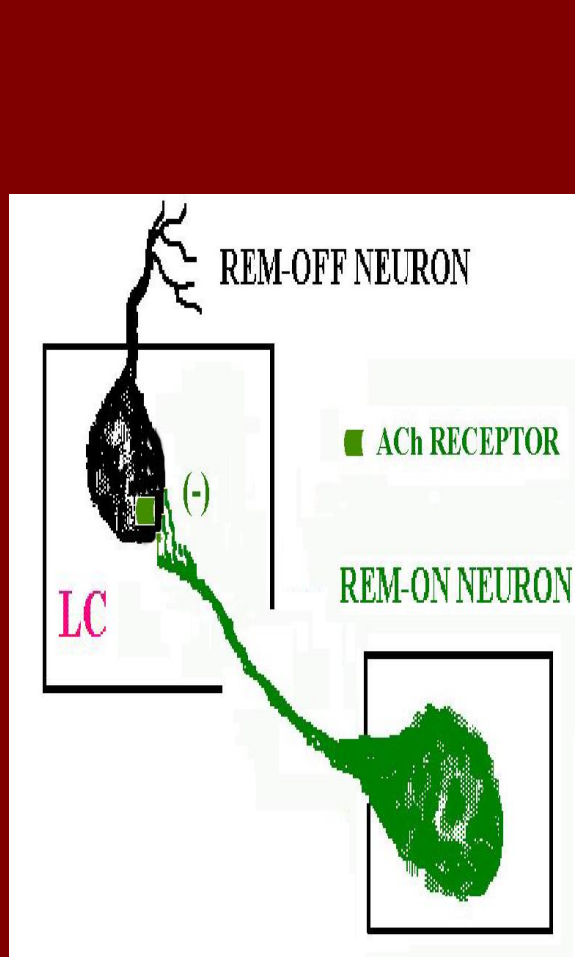


Previously, activities of REM-ON and REM-OFF neurons were recorded independently in separate animals, in isolated experiments on different days.

For confirmation and to understand their temporal correlation, we recorded in freely moving normally behaving, surgically prepared chronic animals, both REM-OFF and REM-ON neuronal activities simultaneously along with electrophysiological (EEG, EMG, EOG, PGO) waking-sleep-REMS patterns

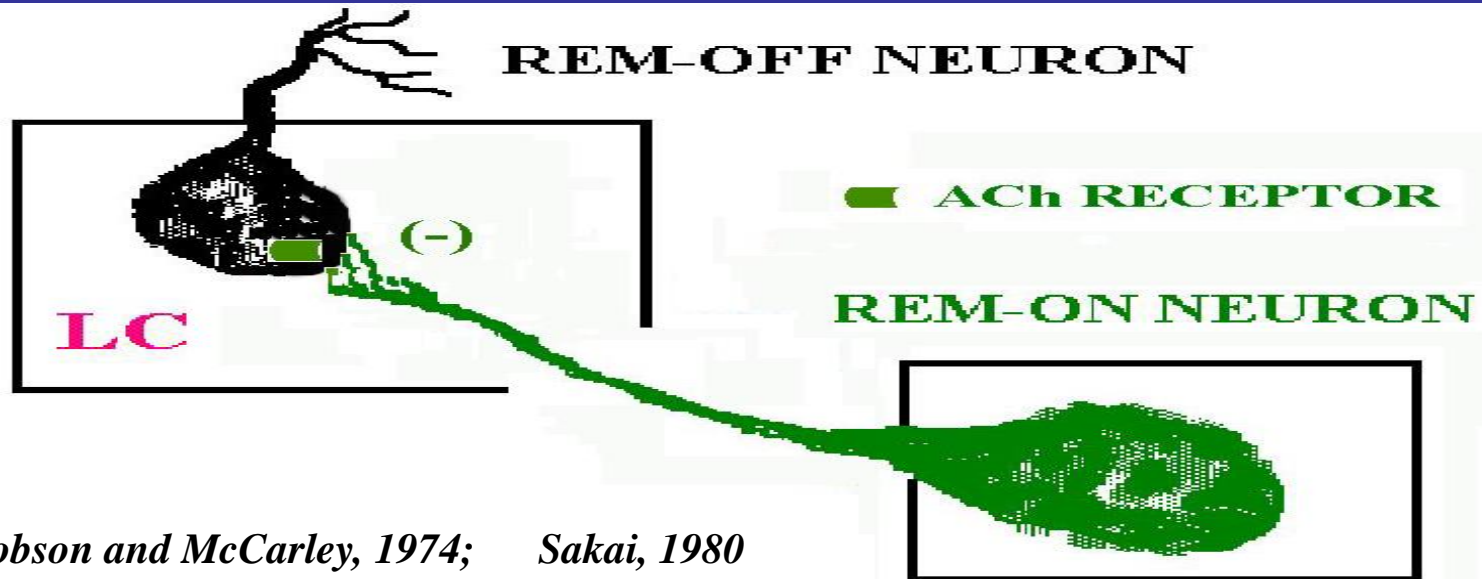


SIMULTANEOUS RECORDING OF REM-OFF AND REM-ON NEURONS



Mallick et al., Sleep Res. Online, 1998

Temporal correlation between REM-ON and REM-OFF neuronal



REM-OFF NEURONS MUST STOP FIRING FOR REMS GENERATION

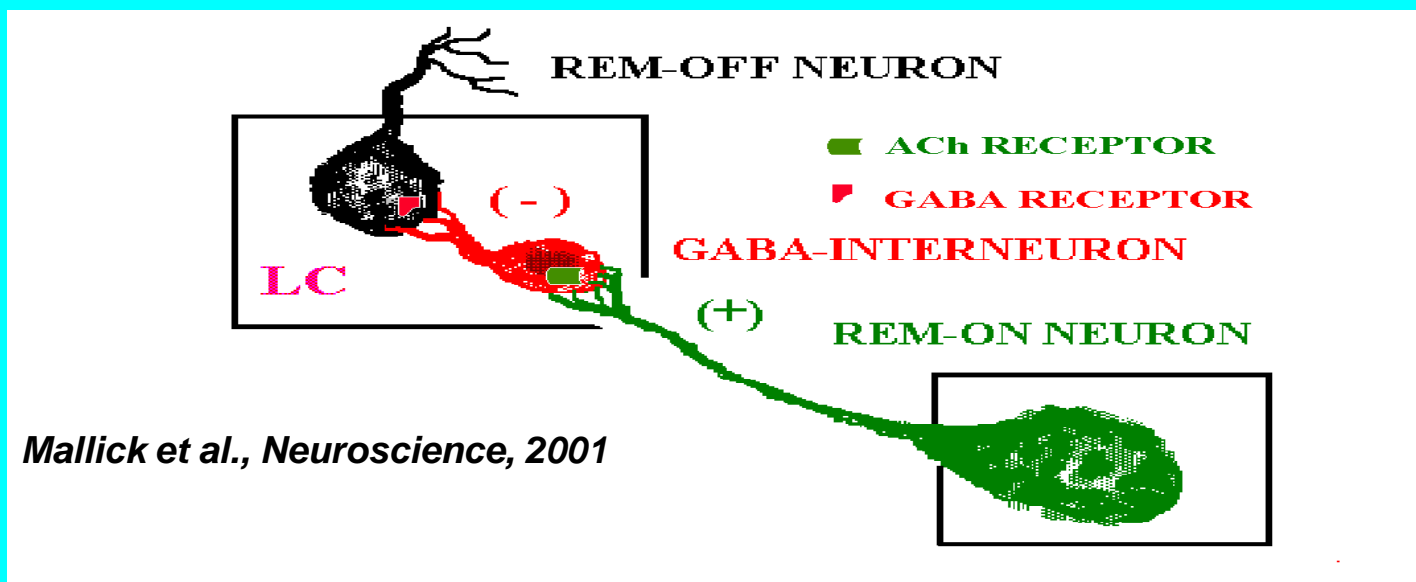
BUT HOW ?

in vitro studies showed that
Acetylcholine depolarized LC neurons
i.e. not inhibition (Egan and North, 1985)



Therefore, it was hypothesized

In LC, excitatory cholinergic input from REM-ON neurons was translated into an inhibition on REM-OFF neurons through GABA interneuron for REMS generation

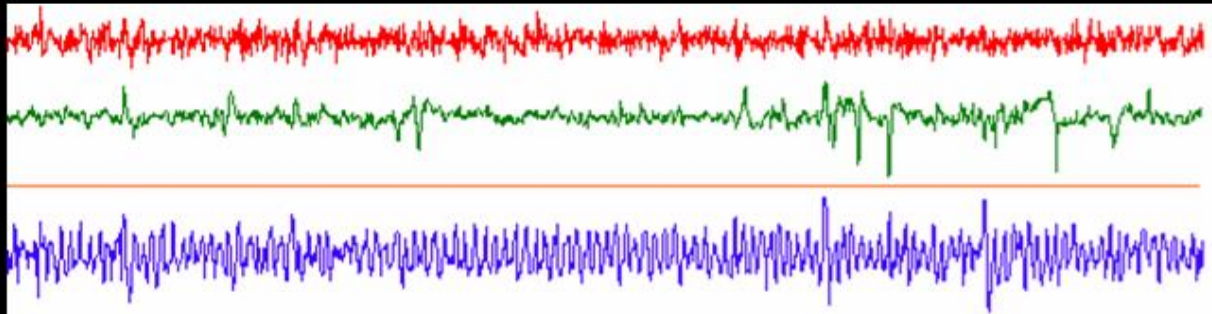
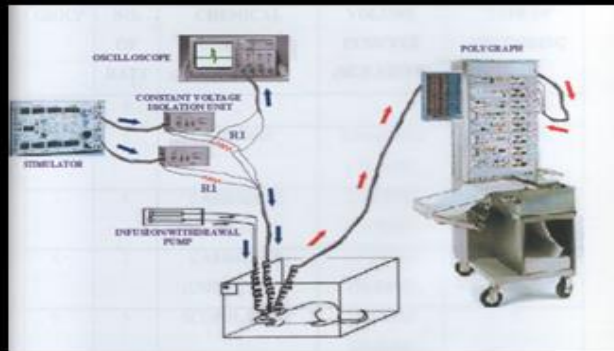
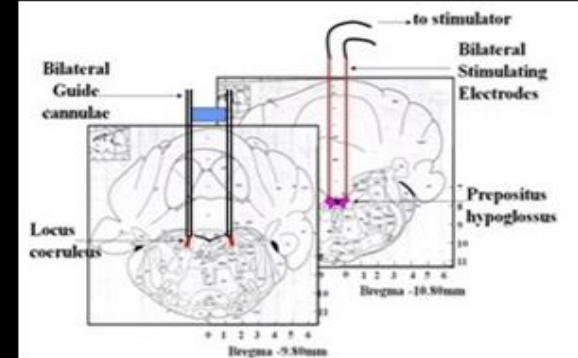
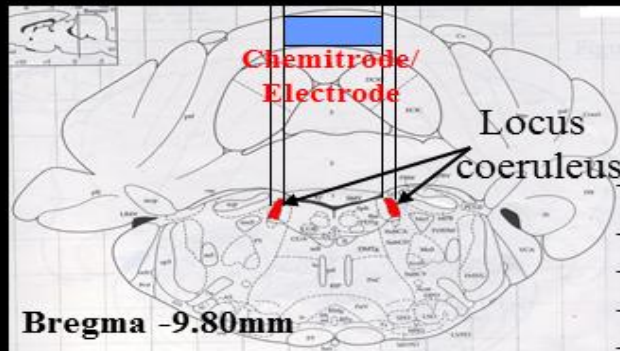
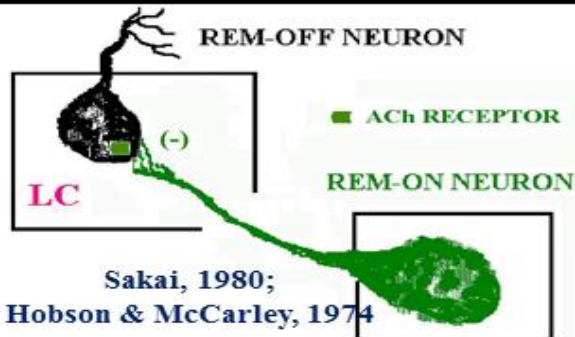


Challenge was to simultaneously gather information on Neuro-Micro-Anatomo-Pharmaco-Physiologico-Behavioral aspects

It was overcome by microinjection of agonist/antagonist of one or more types of receptors in LC in various sequence/combinations



Recording in behaving rats by modulating LC neurons electrically or chemically

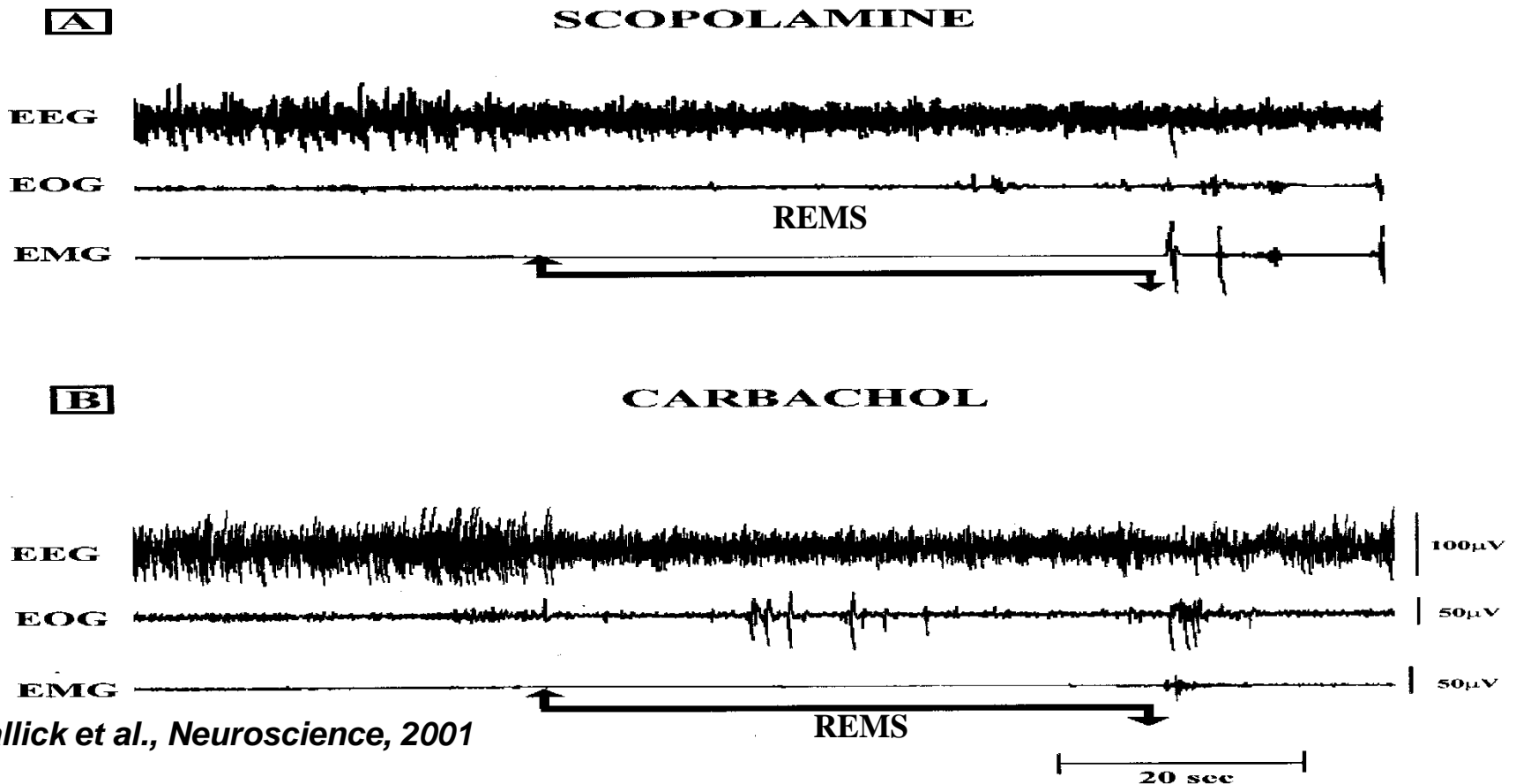


Following methods used/studies were carried out

- *Bilateral Chemitrode/Electrode implantation by Stereotaxic surgery*
- *in vivo studies in freely behaving surgically prepared chronic rats*
 - *Stimulation of LC neurons*
- *Single or combination of agonist and/or antagonist microinjection into LC with/ without simultaneous stimulation of PrH*



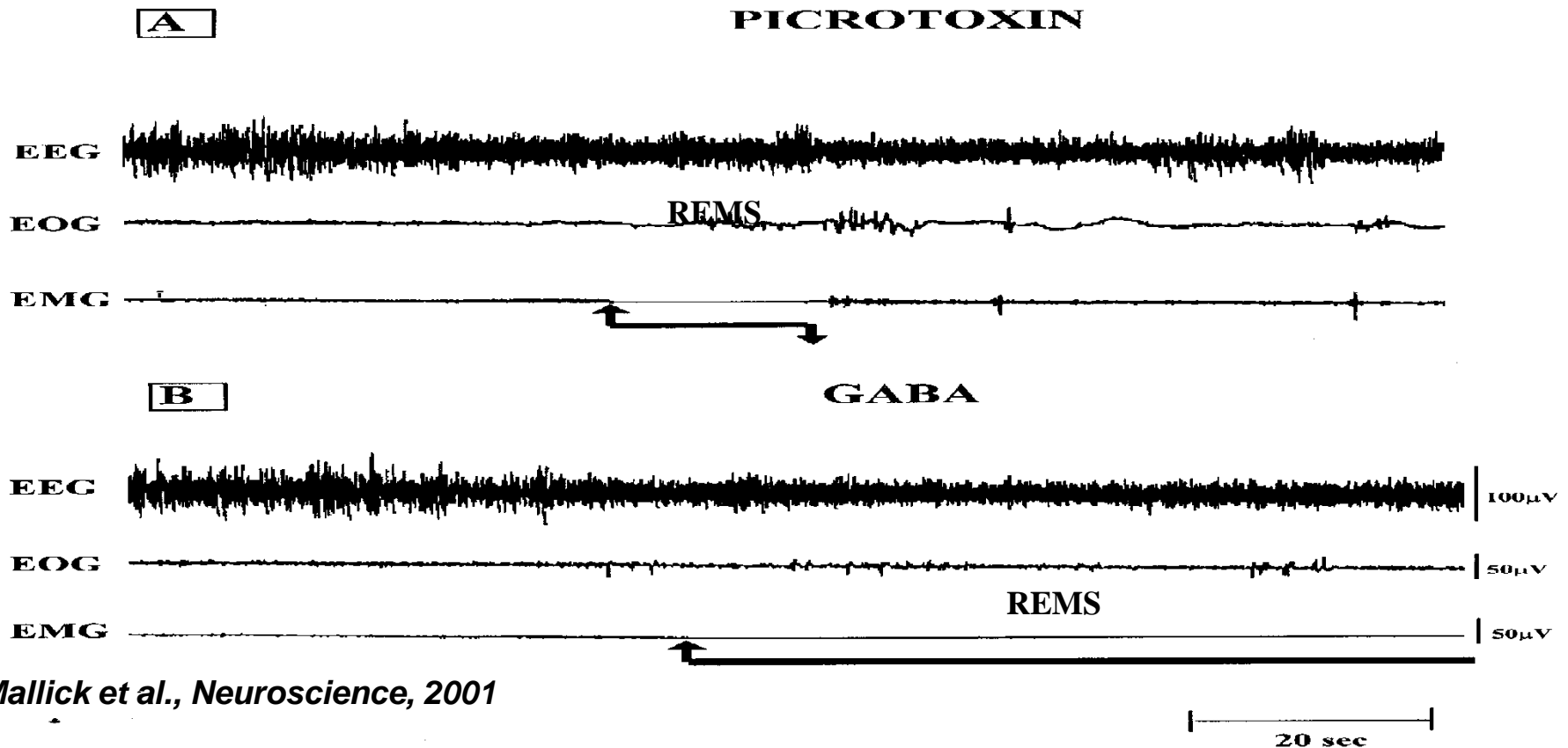
Effect of local microinjection of cholinergic antagonist (scopolamine) and agonist (carbachol) bilaterally into the LC on REMS



REMS duration per episode was not affected, however, frequency of REMS generation was increased



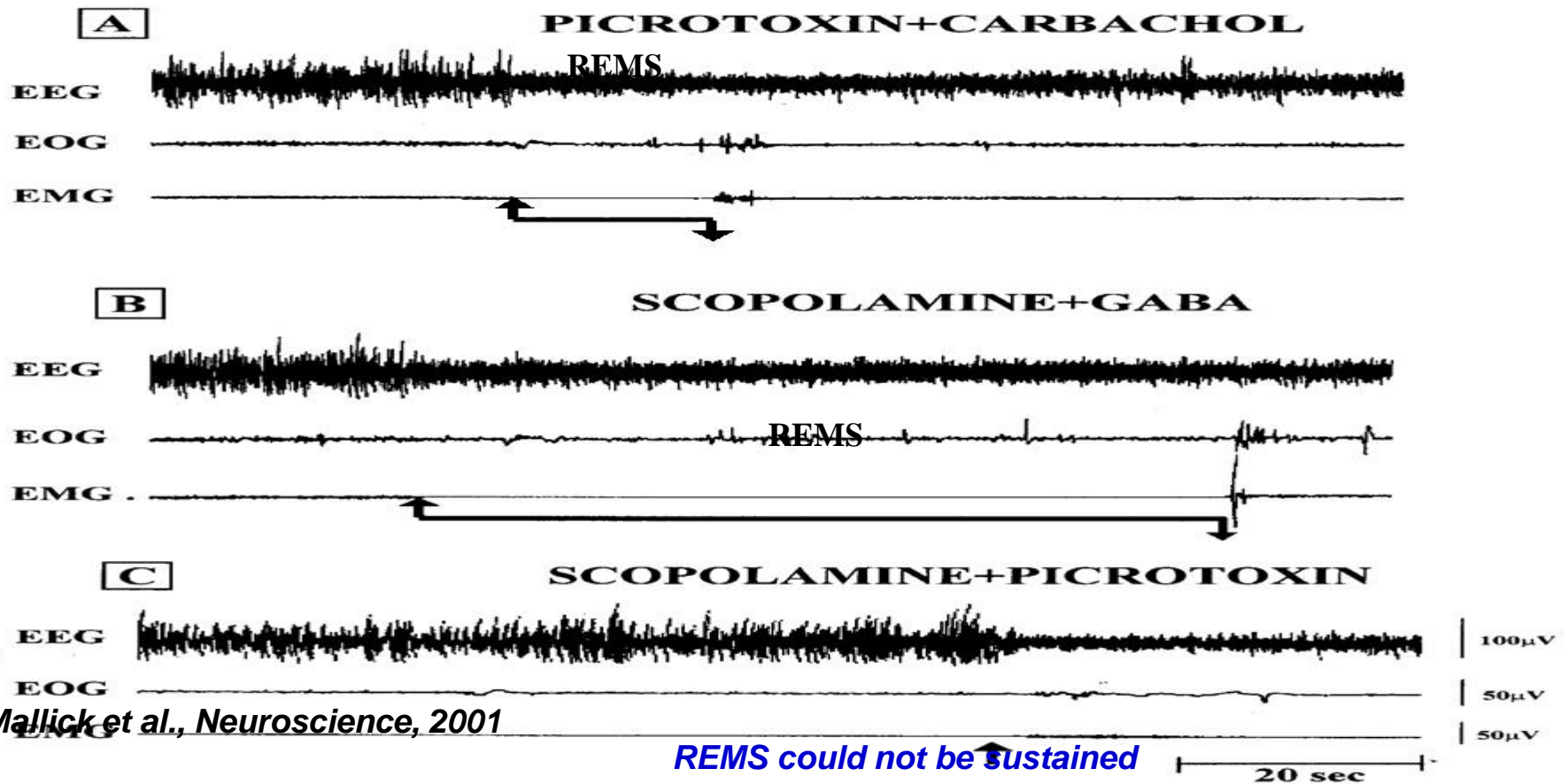
Effect of local microinjection of GABA-ergic antagonist (picrotoxin) and GABA bilaterally into the LC on REMS



REMS duration per episode was significantly affected, however, frequency of REMS generation remained unaffected

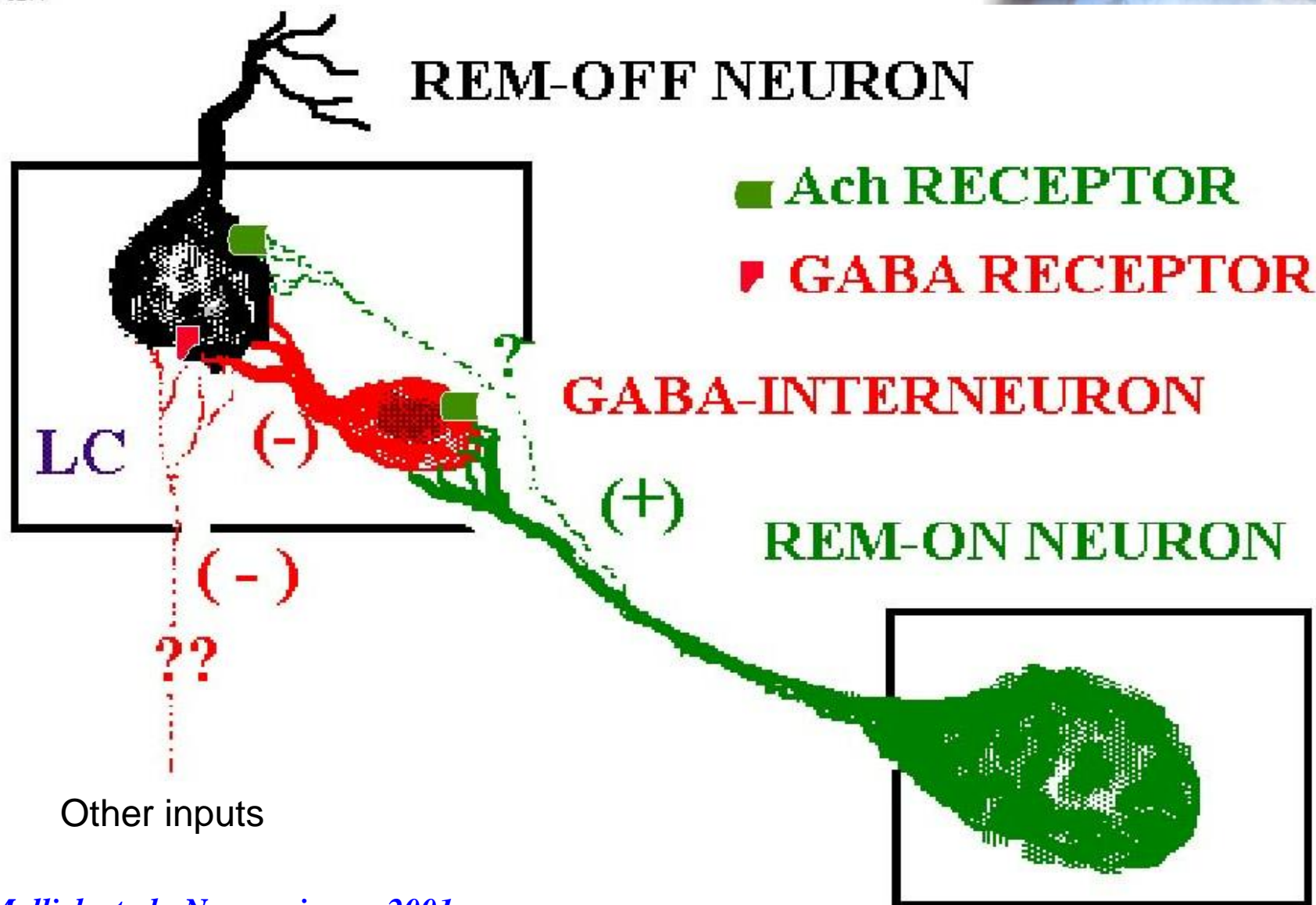


Effect of local microinjection of cholinergic and GABA-ergic antagonist/agonist in various combinations/sequences into the LC on REMS



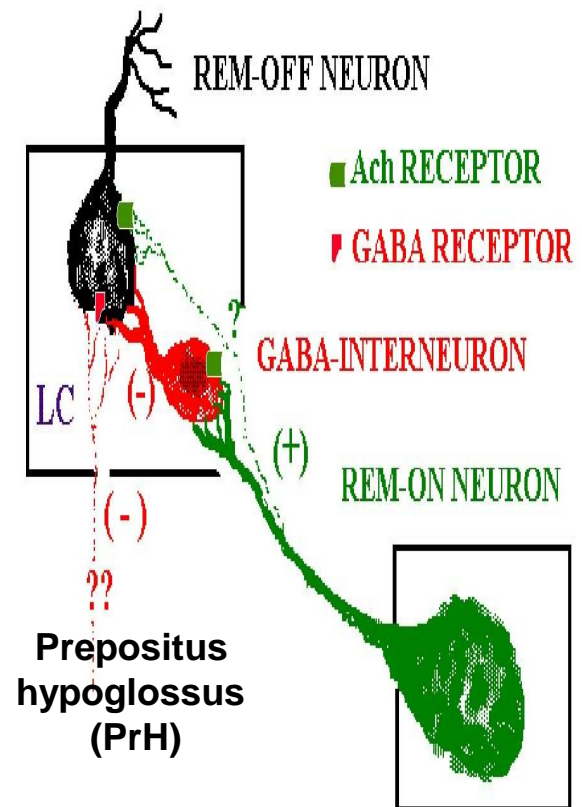
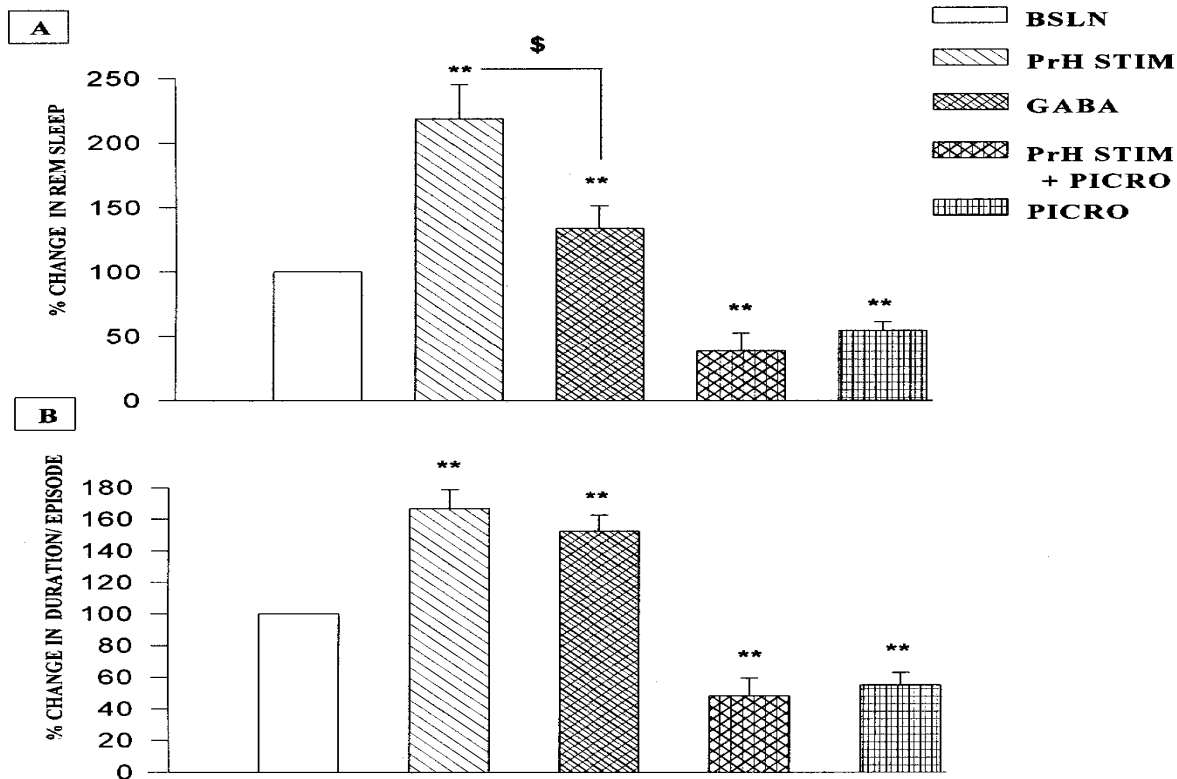
Mallick et al., Neuroscience, 2001

REMS duration per episode was reduced in (A); it was increased in (B), while in (C) REMS did not continue



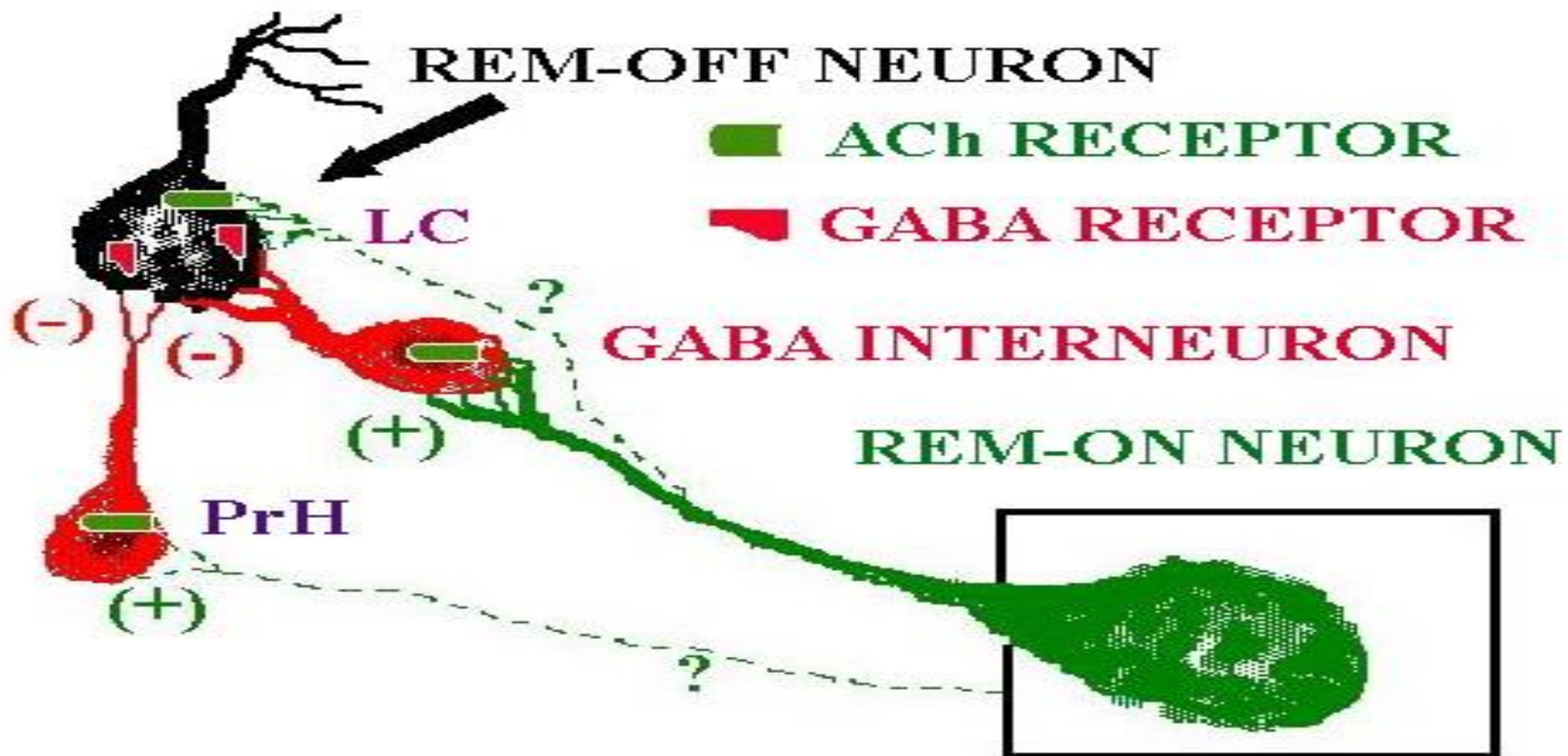


Comparison of the effect PrH Stimulation and microinjection of GABA and Picrotoxin in LC on REM Sleep



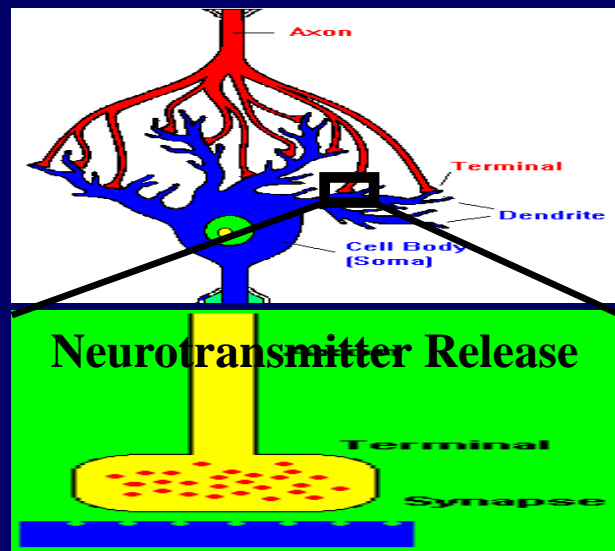
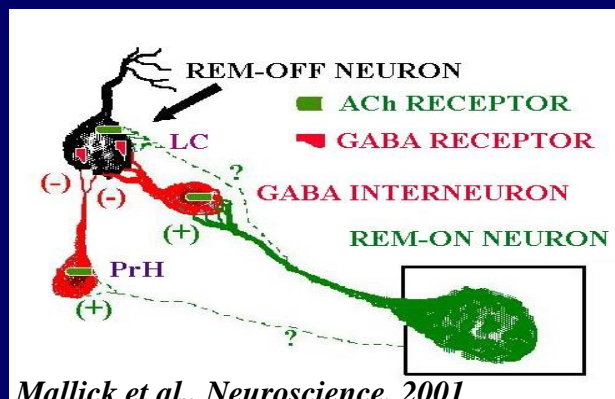


Mallick et al., Neuroscience, 2001 ; and Kaur et al., Synapse, 2001





PHYSIOLOGICAL VALIDITY?



HYPOTHESIS

IF THE PROPOSED NEURAL CONNECTIONS ARE EXPERIMENTALLY DISTURBED SO THAT THE NA-ergic LC-REM-OFF NEURONS REMAIN ACTIVE,

REMS SHOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED

AND SIMULTANEOUSLY

REMS LOSS ASSOCIATED SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE EXPRESSED/OBSERVED DUE TO ELEVATED LEVELS OF NA EVEN IN NORMAL ANIMALS (Contd...)



PHYSIOLOGICAL VALIDITY?

HYPOTHESIS

We had already shown that REMSD increased Na-K ATPase activity and it was due to elevated level of noradrenalin (NA) in the brain

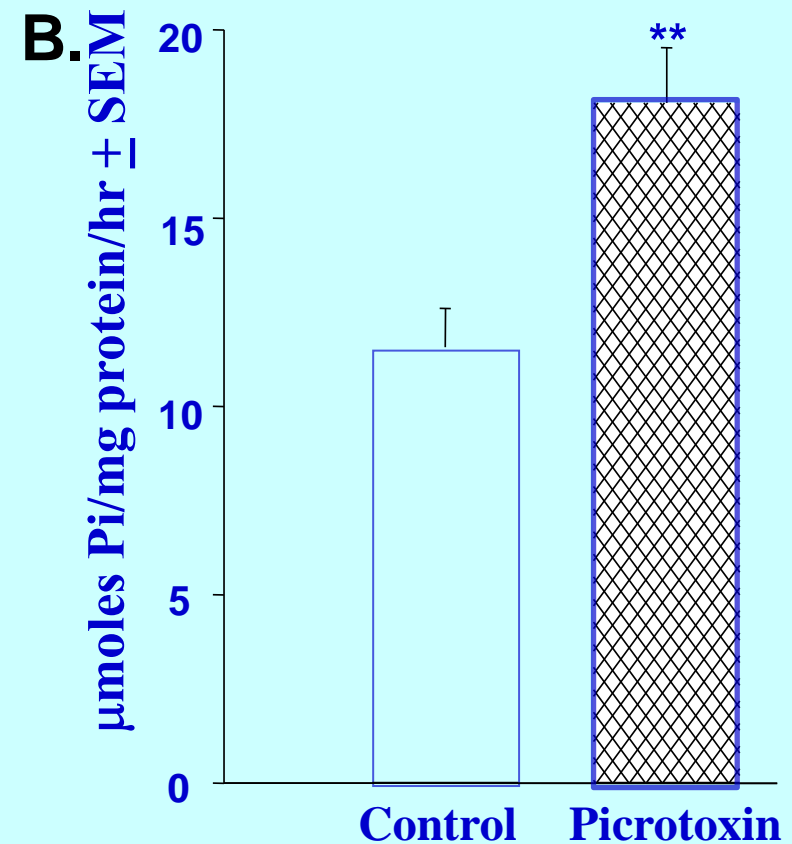
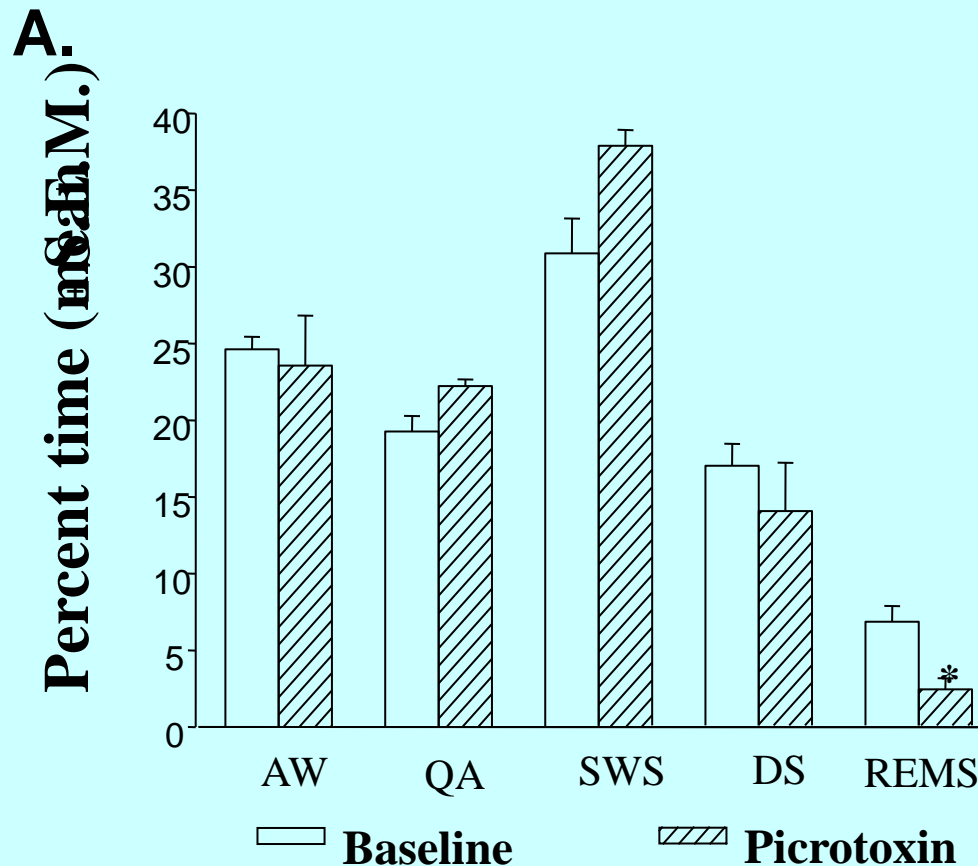
(Gulyani & Mallick, Neuroscience, 1995; Mallick et al., J. Neurochem., 2000).

Therefore, we proposed that

- i) GABA-antagonist, picrotoxin, into LC should not allow REM-OFF neurons to cease activity resulting in increased Na-K ATPase activity;**
- ii) Modulation of Na-K ATPase activity in LC should alter REM-OFF neuronal activity and REMS**



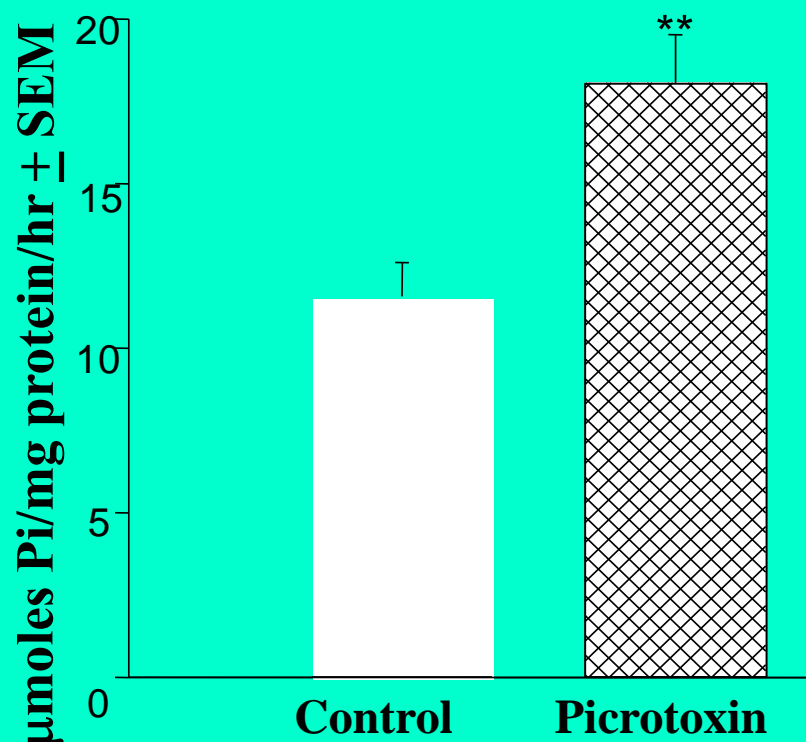
Picrotoxin (every 6h) bilaterally into the LC for 48h reduced REMS (A) and increased Na-K ATPase activity (B) significantly





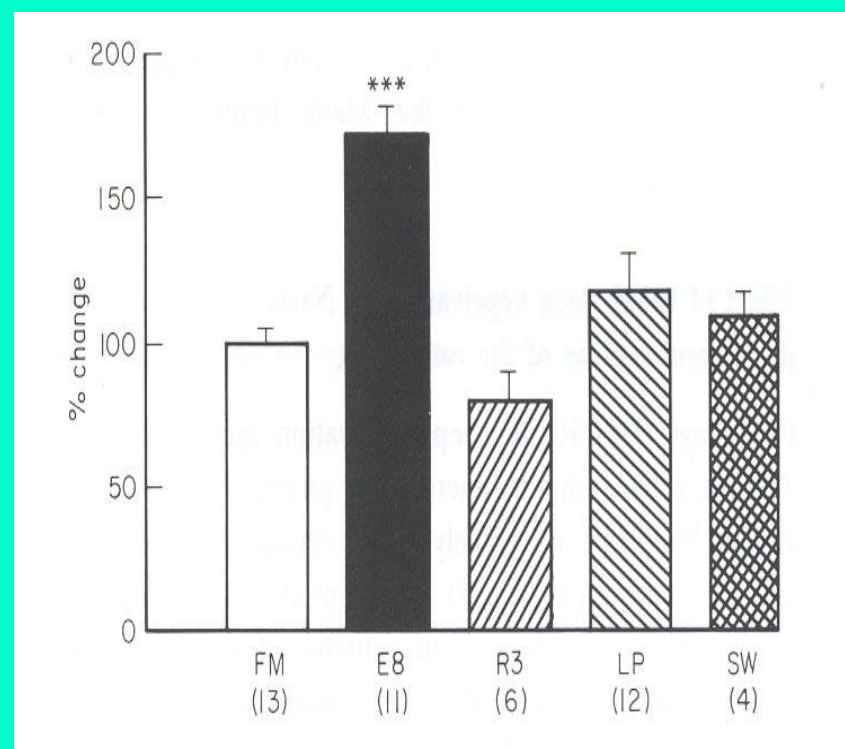
Comparison of Na-K ATPase activity in rat brain

A. Picrotoxin every 6h into LC



Kaur et al., Behav Brain Res. 2003

B. REMSD



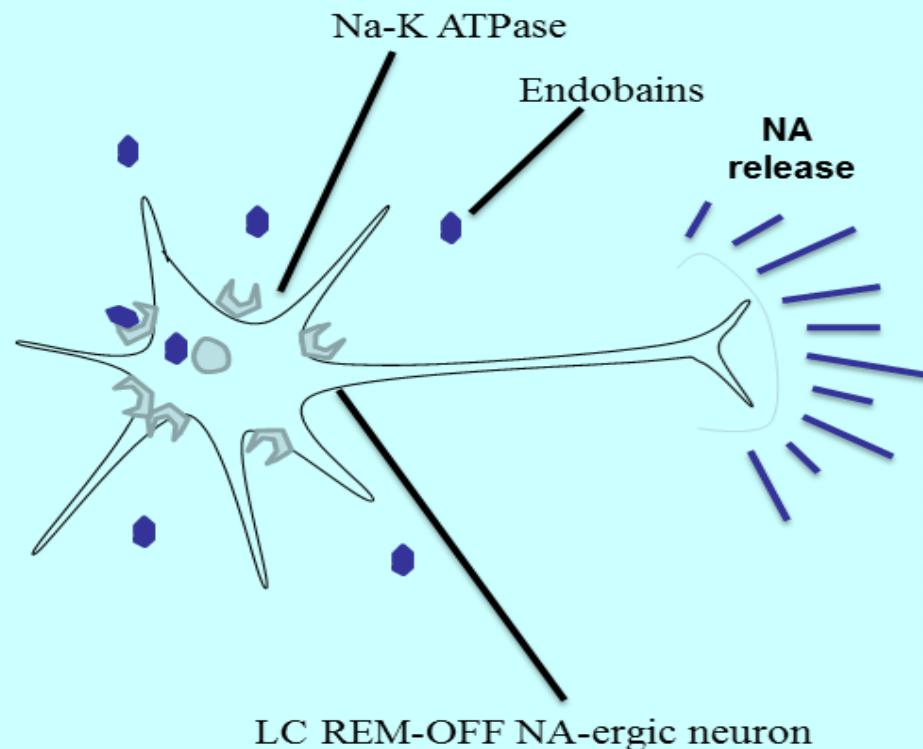
Gulyani and Mallick, J. Sleep. Res., 1993

We had confirmed that the REMS loss associated increase in Na-K ATPase activity is actually mediated by elevated level of NA (Gulyani and Mallick, 1995; Mallick et al., J. Neurochem, 2000)

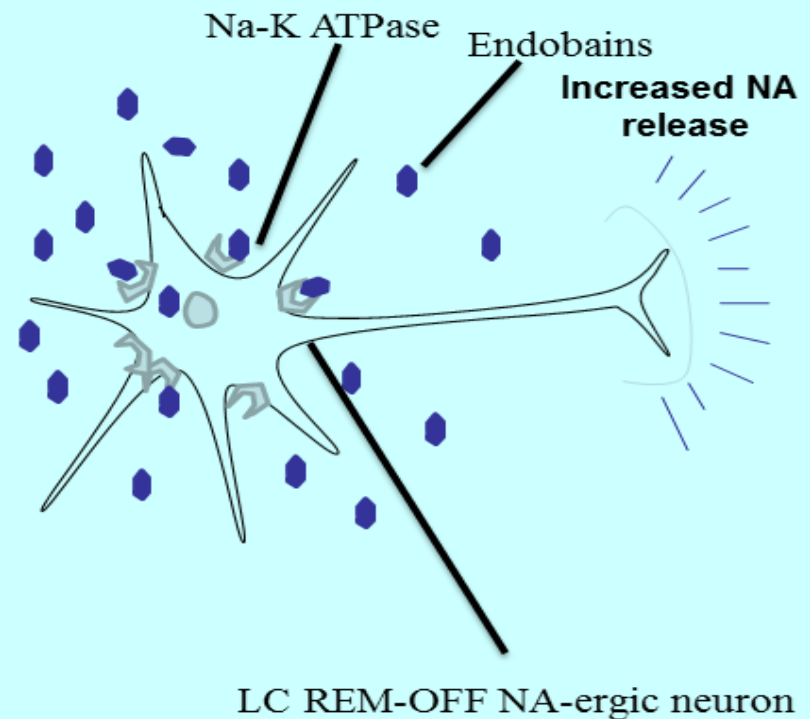


Anti-endobain-antibody into LC and simultaneous recording of waking-sleep-REMS

**Normal condition :
Endobains in optimum level**

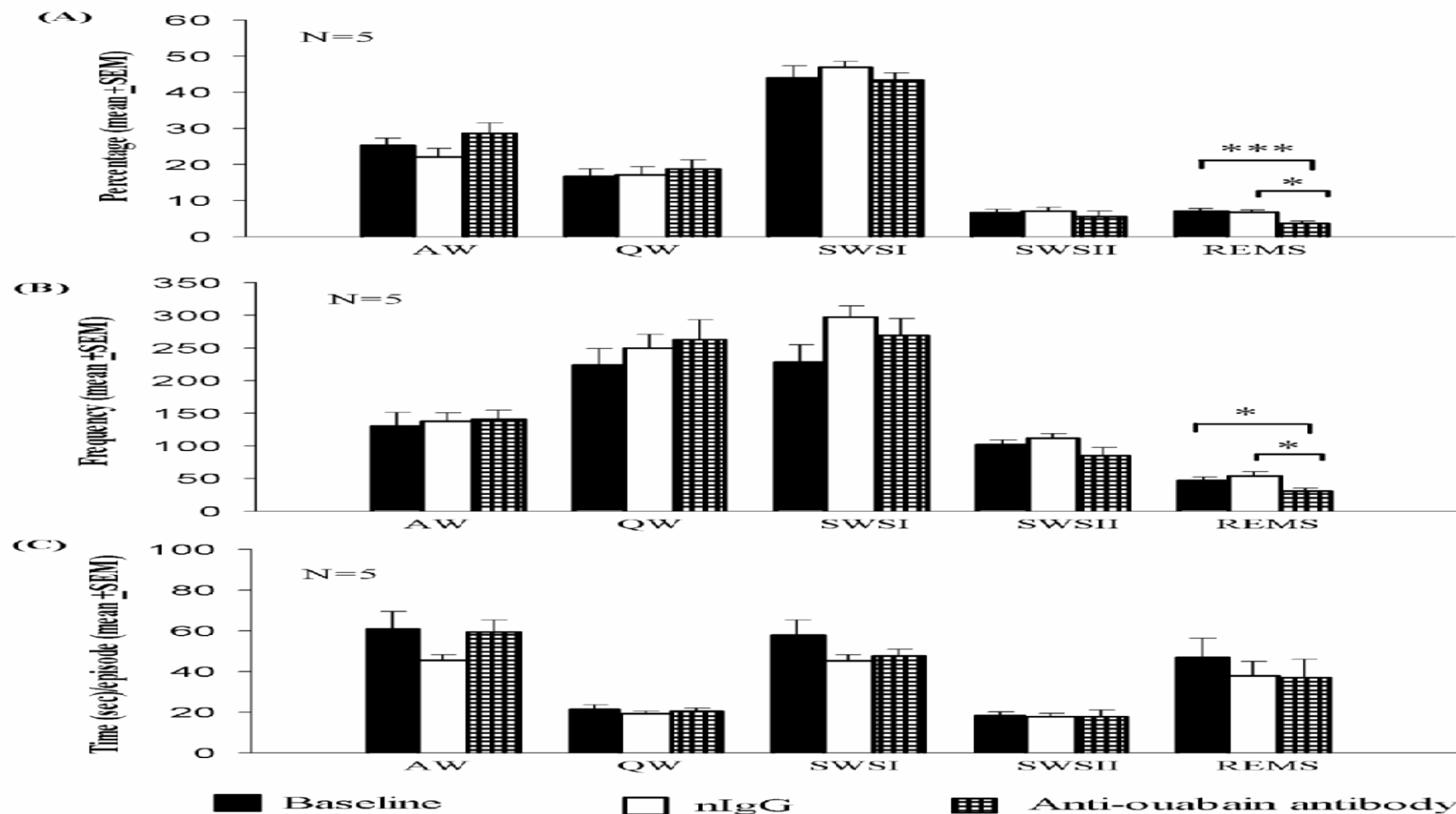


**Anti-endobain-antibody will
activate LC-REM-OFF neurons**





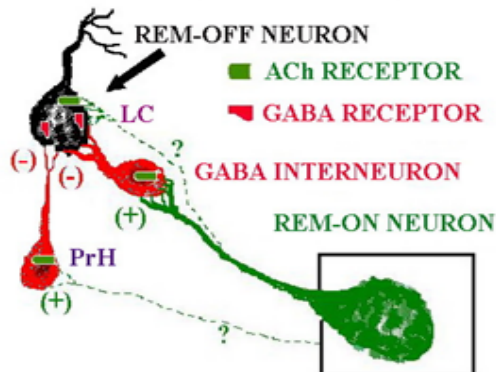
Effect of anti-ouabain antibody into LC on sleep-waking-REMS



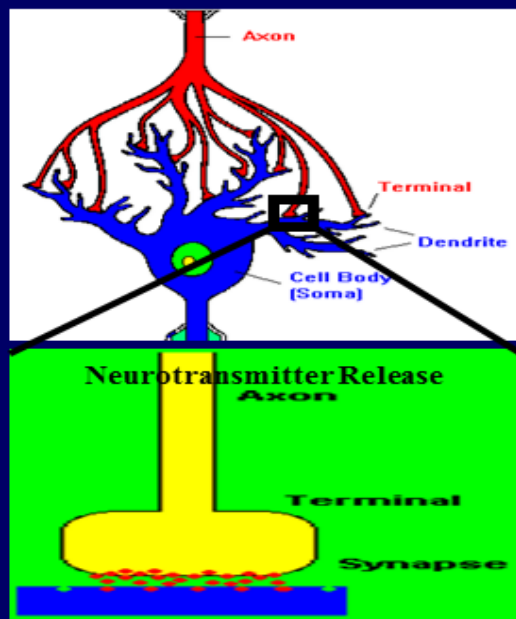


CONCLUSION: TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Mallick et al., Neuroscience, 2001



Kaur et al., Synapse, 2001

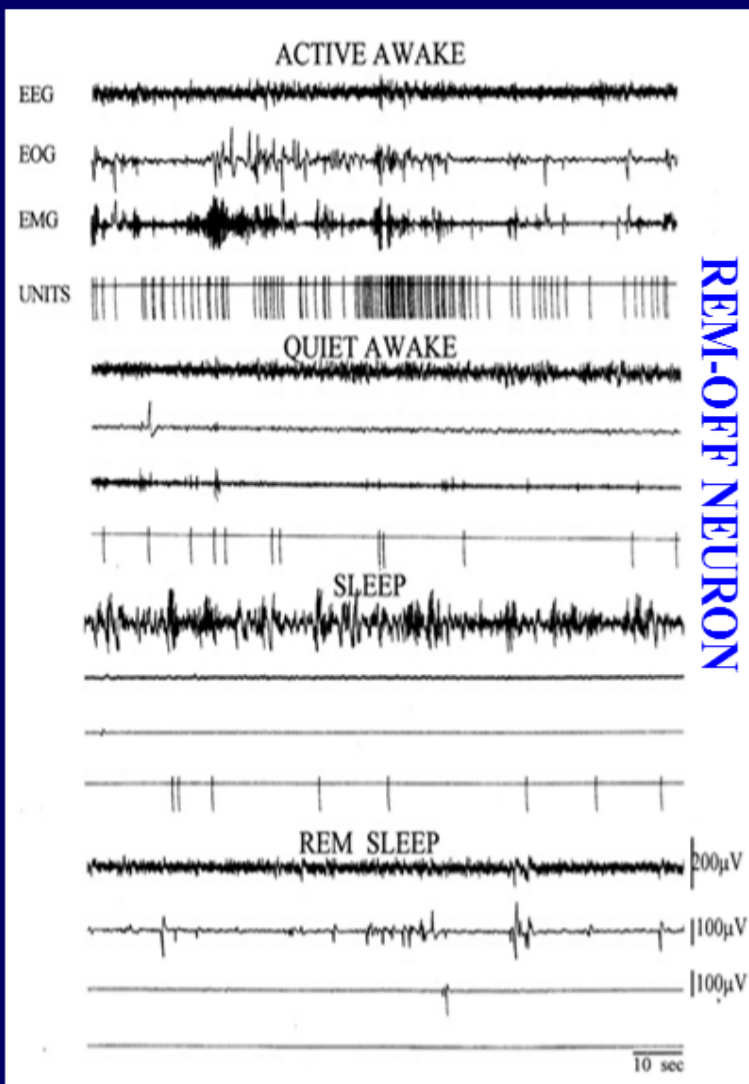


NA-ergic LC REM-OFF NEURONS ARE ACTIVE IN ALL STAGES EXCEPT DURING REMS

THEIR CESSATION BY GABA IS PRE-REQUISITE FOR REMS

NON-CESSATION/ CONTINUOUS ACTIVATION OF REM-OFF NEURONS INDUCES REMS-LOSS AND ELEVATION OF BRAIN NA LEVEL, WHICH IN TURN CAUSES REMS-LOSS ASSOCIATED SYMPTOMS

THUS, UPON REMS LOSS AT LEAST ELEVATED NA IS A PRIMARY CAUSE FOR INDUCING REMSD ASSOCIATED SYMPTOMS





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I thank all my co-workers for their contributions in the studies presented here

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J C BOSE FELLOWSHIP, JNU, UGC

Sleep disorders and therapy

Related Journals

- Alzheimer's Disease & Parkinsonism
- Brain Disorders & Therapy



Sleep disorders and therapy

Related Conferences

- Annual Summit on Sleep Disorders and Medicine August 10-12, 2015 San Francisco, USA
- 2nd International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia *September 23-25, 2014 Valencia, Spain*



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