



Examining the dizzy patient: NEW TECHNOLOGY is helpful but a BEDSIDE EXAM based on ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY is still the best way to the CORRECT DIAGNOSIS



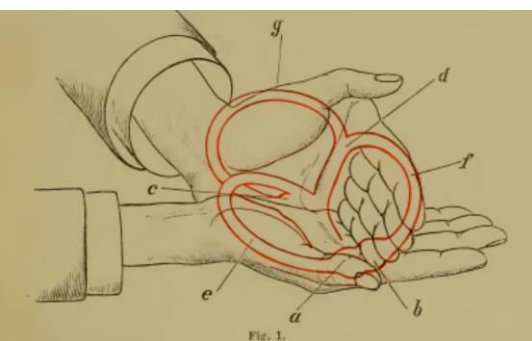
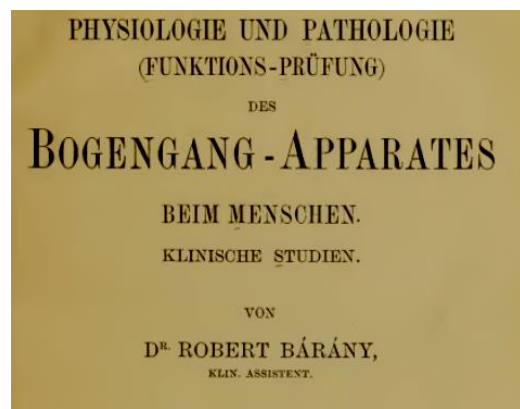
1965



1992

OVERALL PLAN FOR MY TALKS

- **THIS IS A SPECIALIST'S COURSE:** Expect to use your brains and be challenged.
- **EMPHASIZE FUNDAMENTAL PHYSIOLOGY AND ANATOMY**, with applications to the symptoms and signs found in dizzy patients.
- **The vestibular system is complicated. KEY CONCEPTS** will be repeated several times in my talks to aid understanding and memory.
- **MY ROADMAP** will take us through
 - What can new technology reliably tell us in the context of the bedside exam.
 - Nystagmus and other oscillations.
 - How to use eye movements to arrive to the correct diagnosis.



TAKE AWAY MESSAGE for the vestibular clinician

- In the past 25 years there have been sophisticated, quantitative and helpful technological advances in testing the dizzy patient

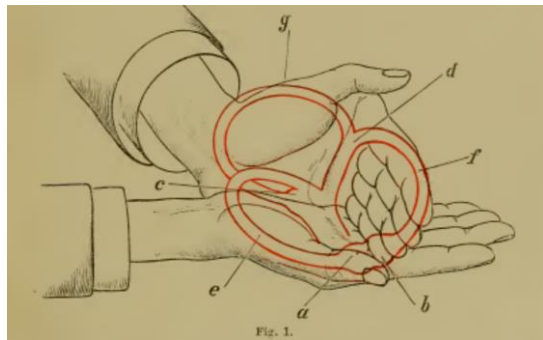
Video Head Impulse Test (VHIT)

Quantitative Dynamic Visual Acuity (DVA) testing

**Vestibular-Evoked Myogenic Potentials
(cervical and ocular VEMPs)**

High-resolution MRI and CT

Novel rotational testing paradigms (e.g., off-vertical-axis rotation (OVAR), eccentric rotation, tilt suppression)



TAKE AWAY MESSAGE for the vestibular clinician

But the KEY to successful diagnosis STILL requires



Focused HISTORY taking

Careful BEDSIDE CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Use of ANATOMICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES developed by the European masters of the 19th century

Alexander

Breuer

Hőgyes

Ewald

Bárány

Purkyně

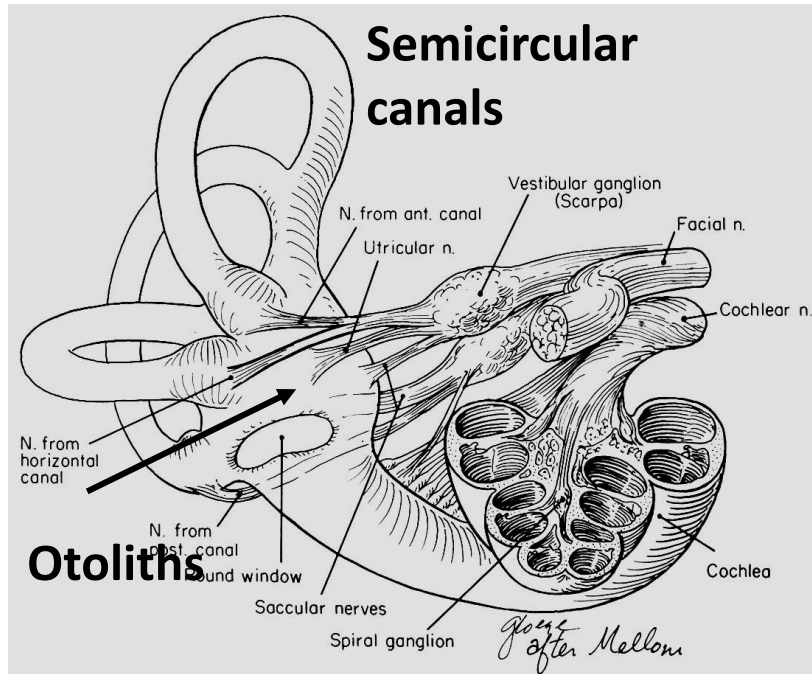
Flourens

Bechterev

Mach

STILL IMPORTANT:

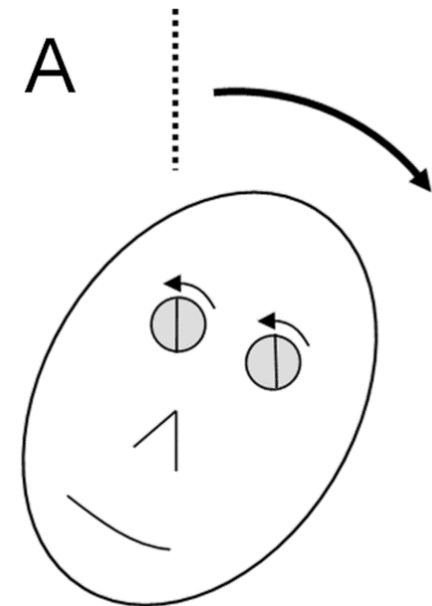
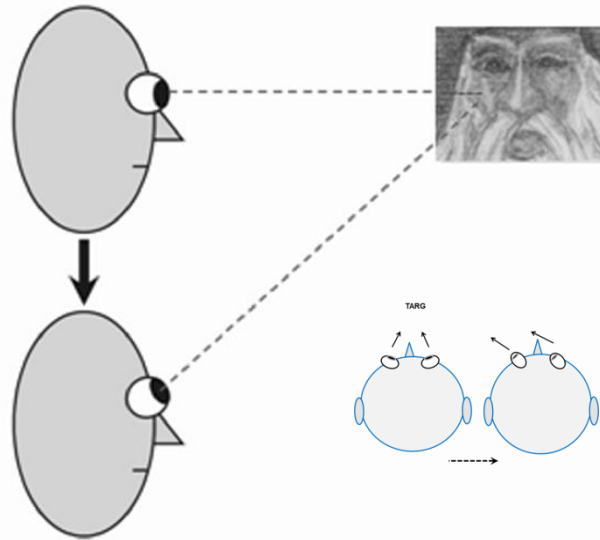
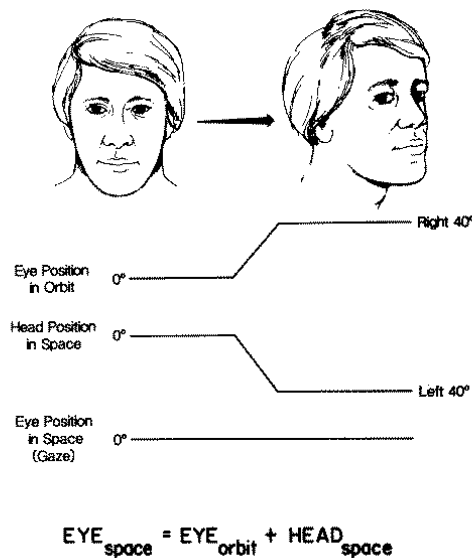
Basic Principles of Vestibular Physiology



- Two types of acceleration sensors
 - Angular (semicircular canals)
 - Linear (otoliths)
- Two reflexes: vestibulo-ocular reflexes (VOR) and vestibulo-spinal reflexes (VSR)
 - Canal-mediated (*rotational VOR*)
 - Otolith-mediated (*translational VOR, ocular counterroll*)
- Functions:
 - Assure *clear vision* during head rotation and translation.
 - Maintain *upright posture* during standing and walking.
 - Help the brain create a conscious *perception* of the position and movement of the body in the environment.

Three Vestibulo-Ocular Reflexes

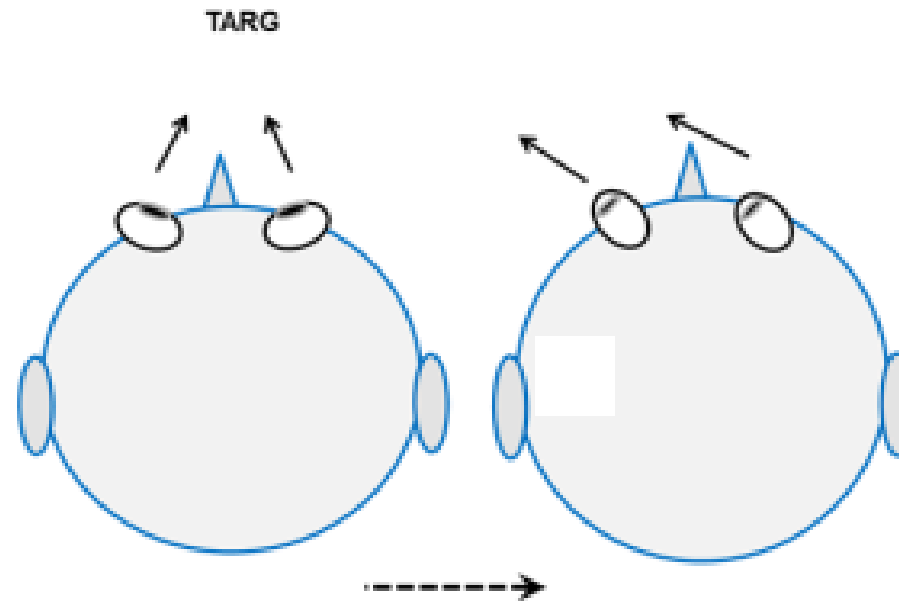
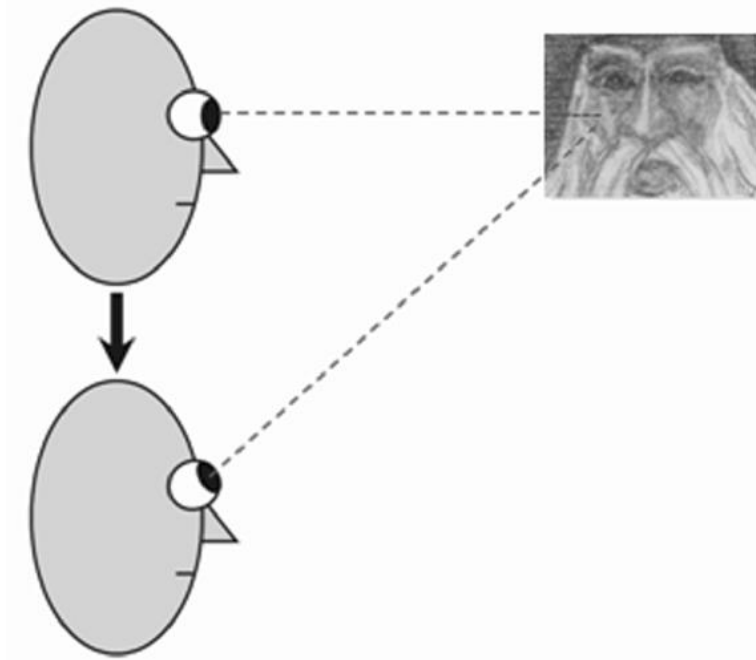
- Angular acceleration (canal-mediated, inertial forces)
 - **(rotational) R-VOR**
- Linear acceleration (otolith-mediated, inertial or gravitational forces)
 - **(translational) T-VOR**
 - **(static head tilt) ocular counterroll (OCR)**



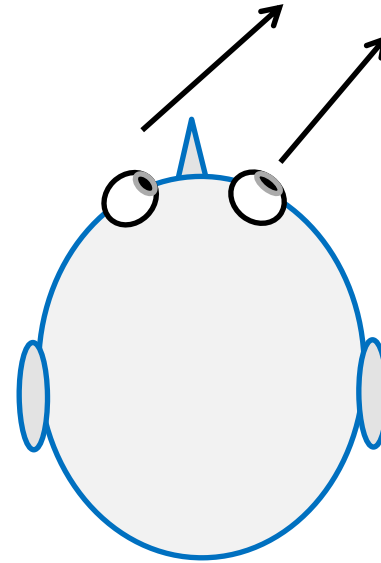
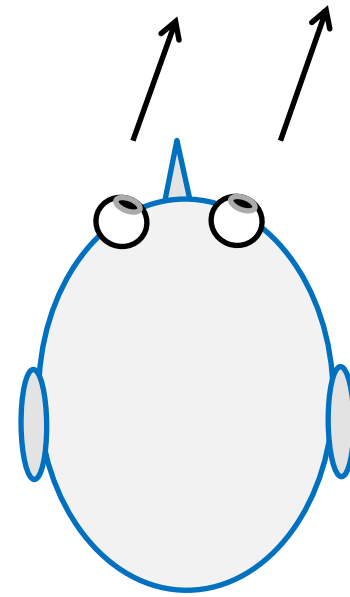
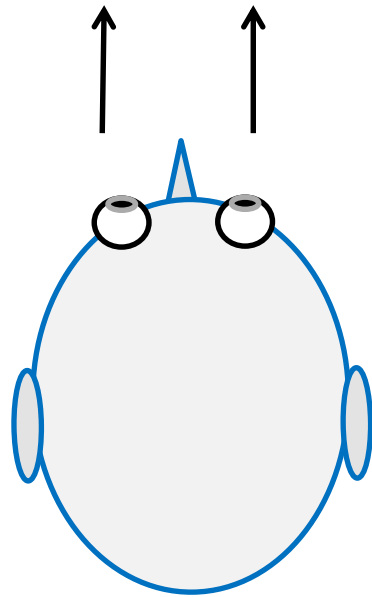
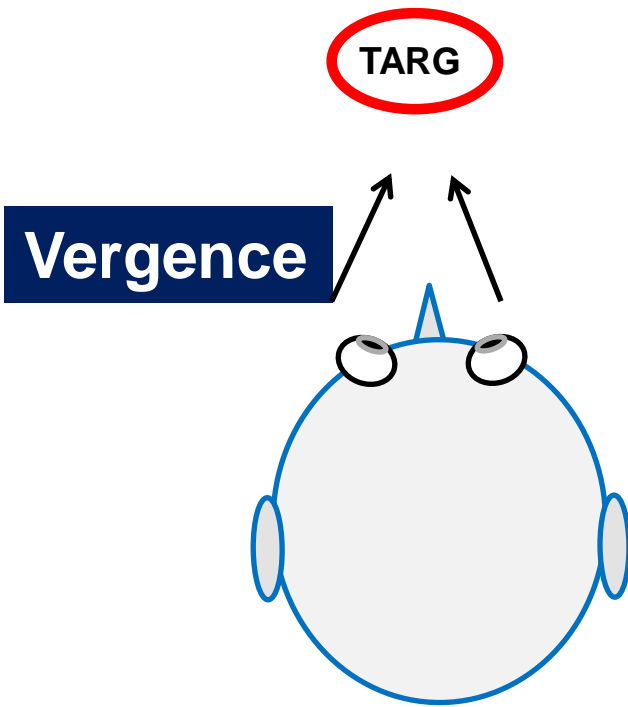
**Sometime forgotten: the ROTATIONAL VOR and the
TRANSLATIONAL VOR subserve different visual
requirements**

The pattern of response by the translational VOR is driven by the need for stabilization of images on the FOVEA of both eyes.

Where you are looking and how close the target is determine the pattern of motion of both eyes.



LOOKING AT
A NEAR
STRAIGHT
AHEAD
TARGET while
translating
forward

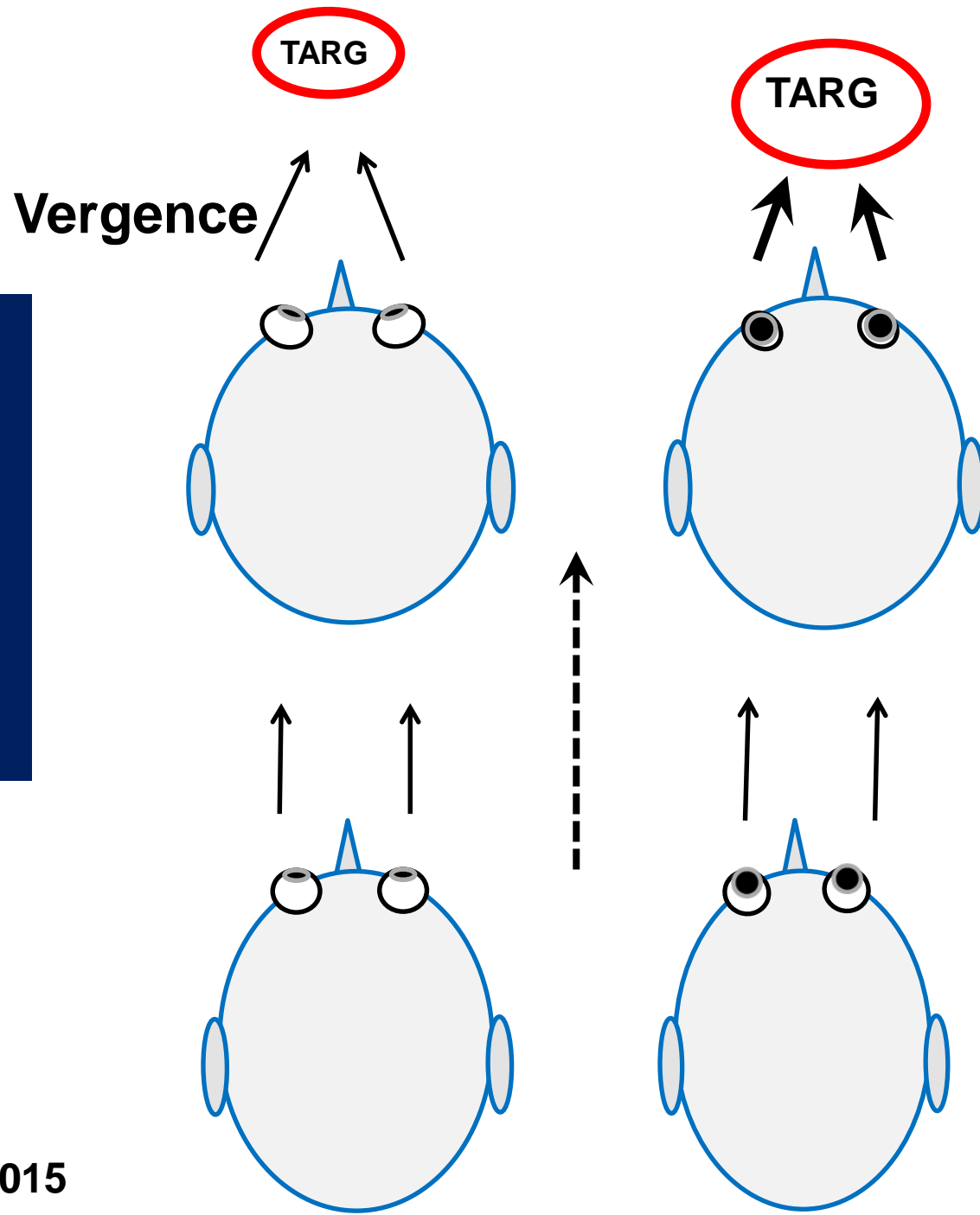


TARG

LOOKING TO THE
SIDE AT A NEAR
TARGET while
translating forward

Horizontal
compensatory eye
movements

LOOKING AT A
NEAR
STRAIGHT
AHEAD
TARGET while
translating
forward



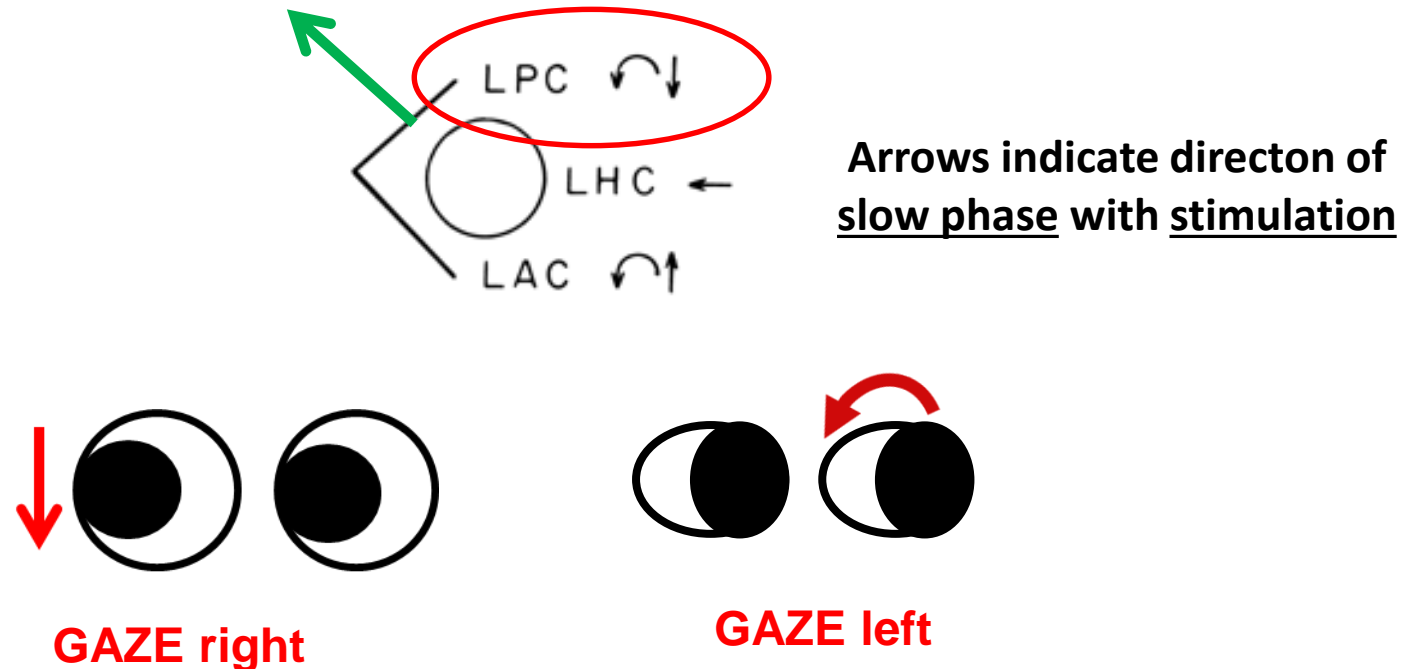
LOOKING UP AT A
NEAR TARGET
while translating
forward

WHY IMPORTANT? In
pathology, when a
spontaneous nystagmus
shows MARKED changes
with convergence or
eccentric gaze we must
think **CENTRAL**
(brainstem-cerebellum)
and probably otolith-
ocular reflex disorder

The pattern of response by the rotational VOR is driven by the need for stabilization of images on the entire retina.

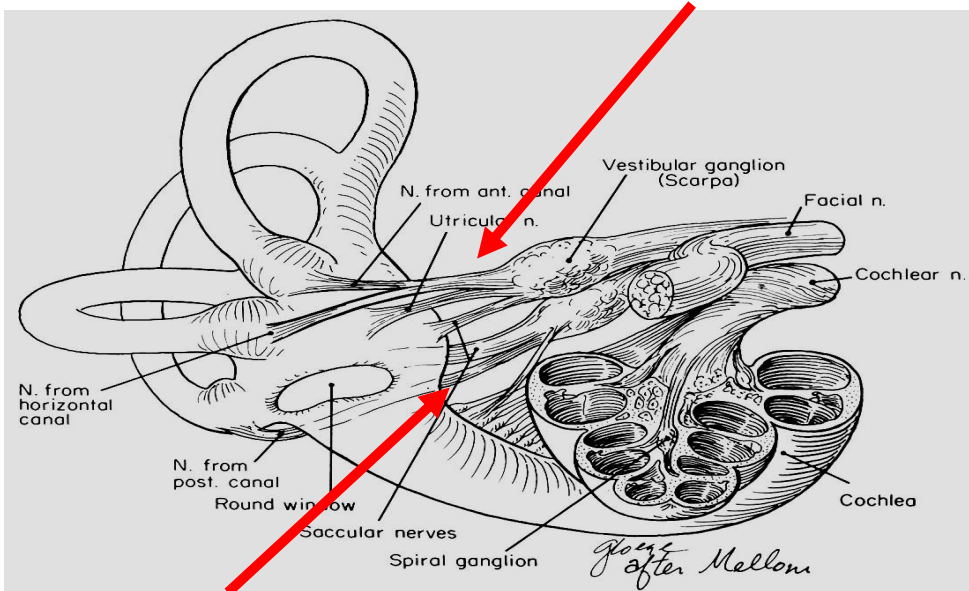
The eyes must rotate in a plane parallel to the semicircular canal(s) being stimulated (Ewald's 1st Law), e.g., BPPV

Note how the **eye** rotates around an **axis** orthogonal to the plane of the canal being stimulated



Nerve Supply of the labyrinth

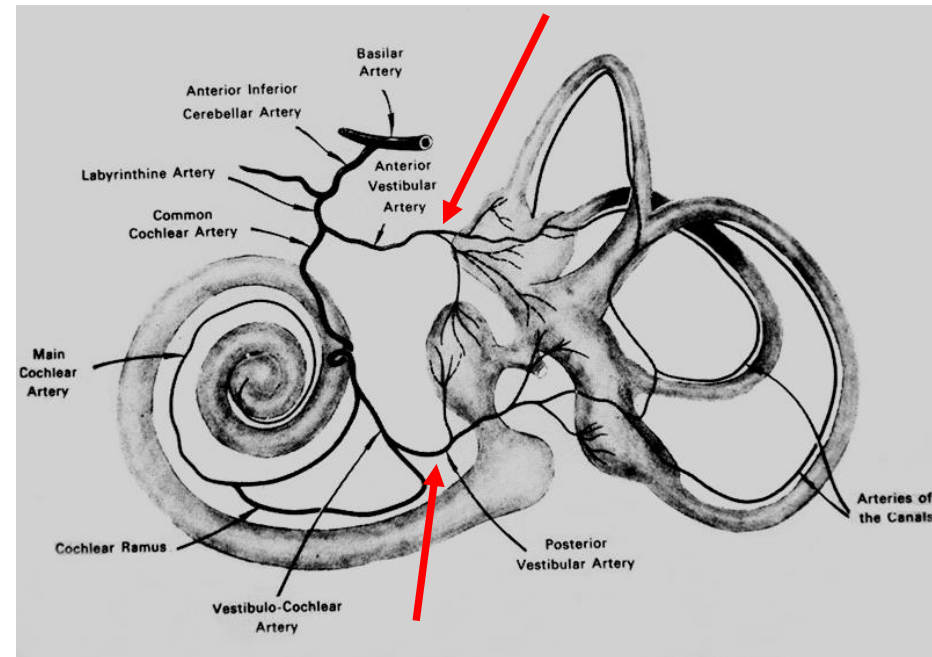
Superior Division: A-SCC, L-SCC, Utricle



**Inferior Division:
P-SCC, Saccule**

Vascular Supply of the labyrinth

**Anterior vestibular a.
A-SCC, L-SCC, Utricle**



**Posterior vestibular a.
P-SCC, Saccule**

Anatomical Principles: Innervation and Blood Supply of the Labyrinth: *Clinical points*

- *Superior division of the vestibular nerve is most susceptible to damage* (long course, focal constriction).
- Utricle (and anterior and lateral SCC) likely to be affected and posterior SCC (and saccule) likely to be spared
- Making BPPV a not uncommon sequela of vestibular neuritis.

Anatomical Principles: Innervation and Blood Supply of the Labyrinth: *Clinical points*

- Anterior vestibular artery is an end artery (hence most susceptible to ischemia).
- Thus, *acute isolated vertigo* from posterior circulation hypoperfusion is not uncommon, albeit unusual to recur *over the long term* without other signs or symptoms.

Anatomical Principles: Innervation and Blood

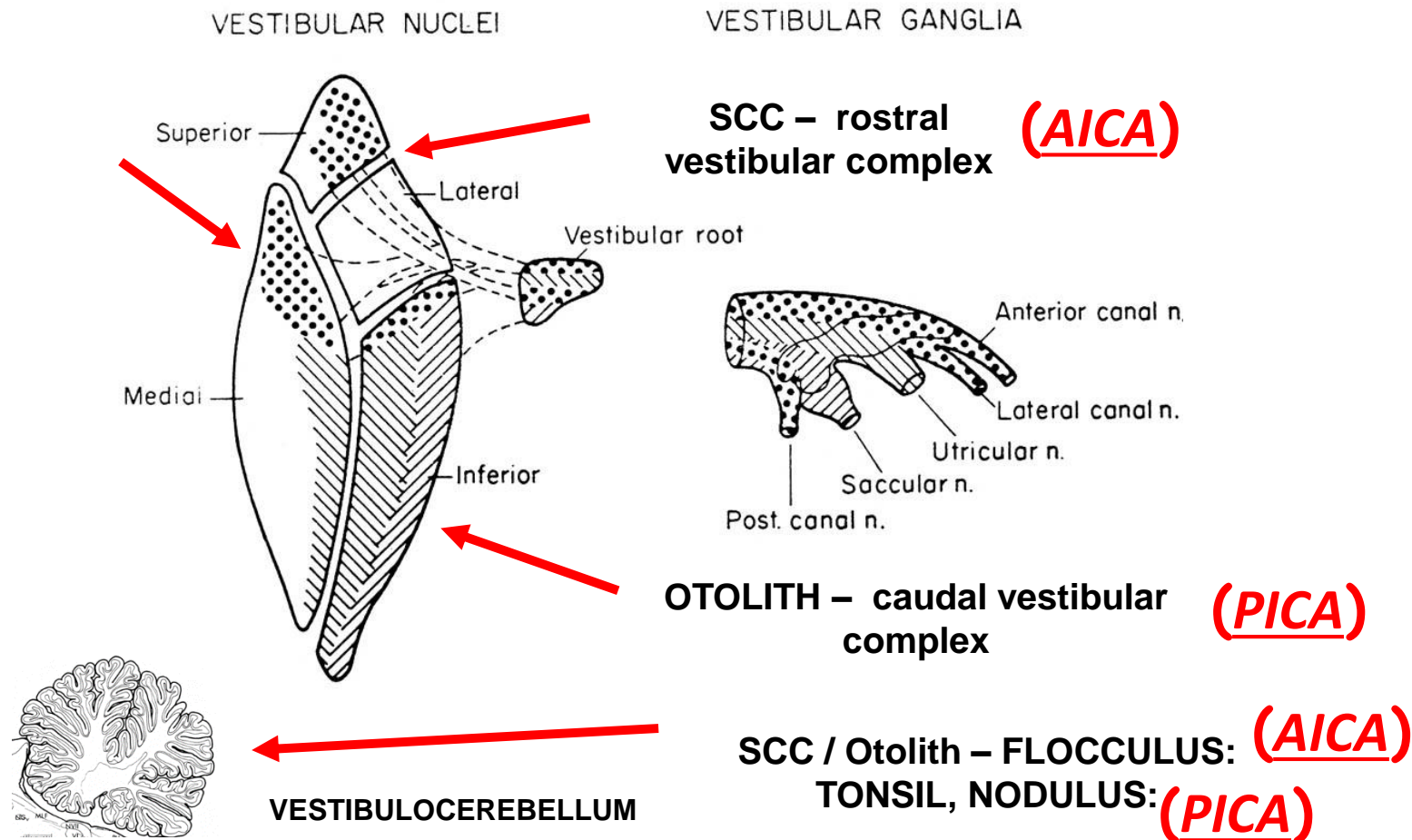
Supply of the Labyrinth: *Clinical points*

- Cochlear branch of the common cochlear -- posterior vestibular artery supplies the basal turn of the cochlea (high frequencies).
- Hence partial hearing loss from ischemic (and inflammatory) processes on the vestibular nerve is usually high-frequency
- With Ménière's disease (endolymphatic hydrops and its mimics) the hearing loss is usually low-frequency (apex of the cochlea).

MORE KEY ANATOMY:

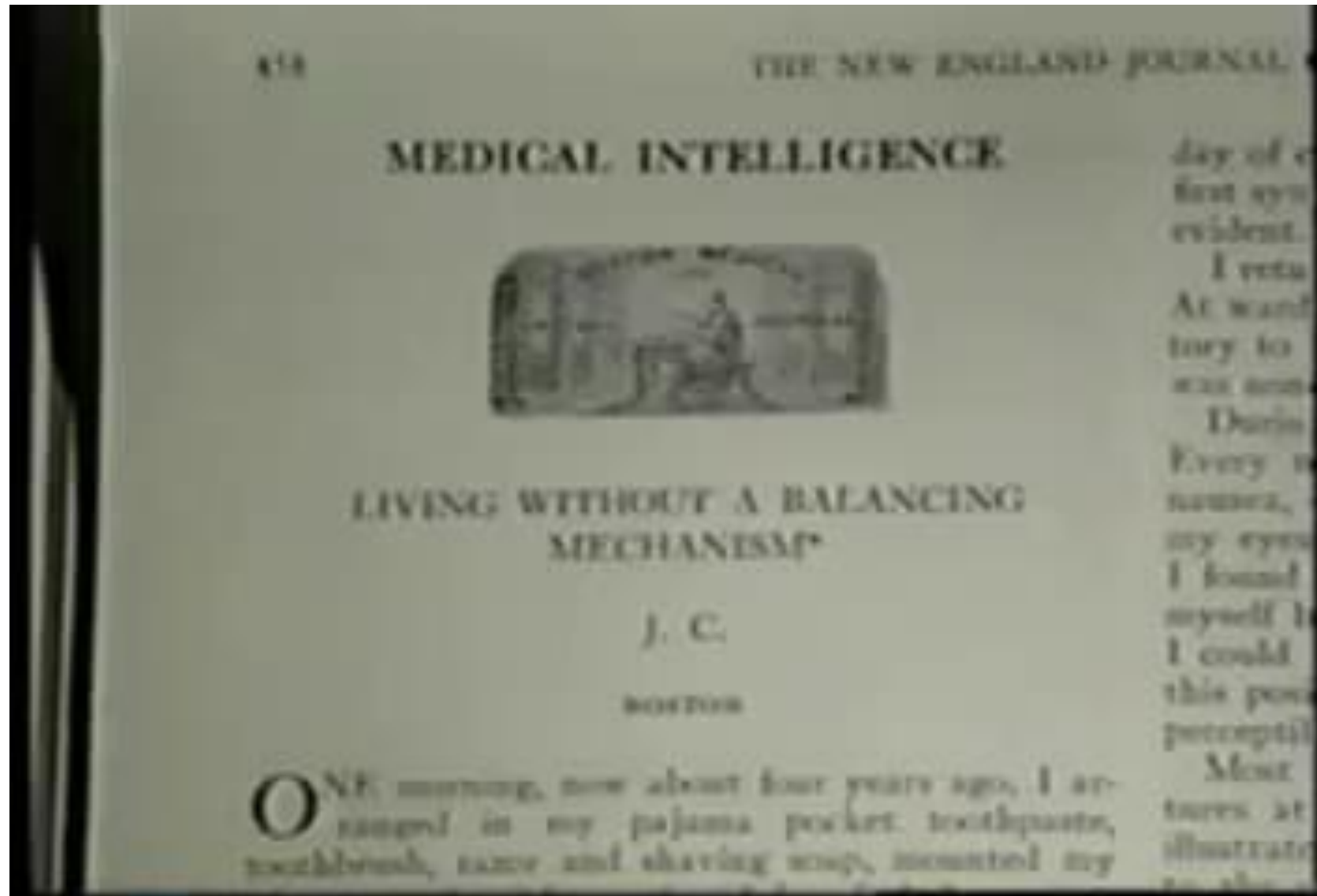


- 1) Canal and Otolith projections are segregated in the lower brainstem
- 2) Patterns of blood supply to the *central* labyrinthine projections



AICA, anterior inferior cerebellar artery
PICA, posterior inferior cerebellar artery

Oscillopsia with bilateral vestibular loss



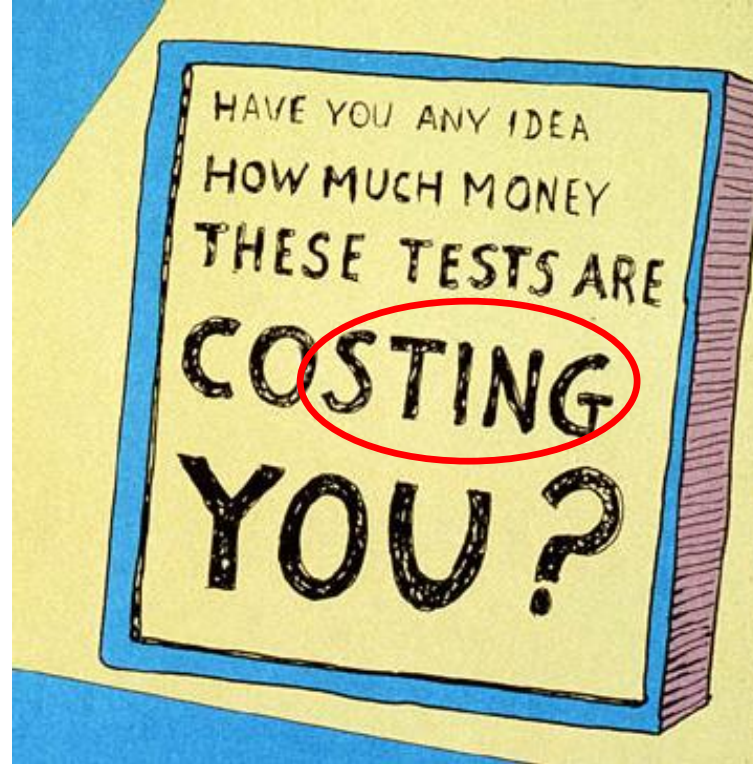
ASK about oscillopsia during head movement

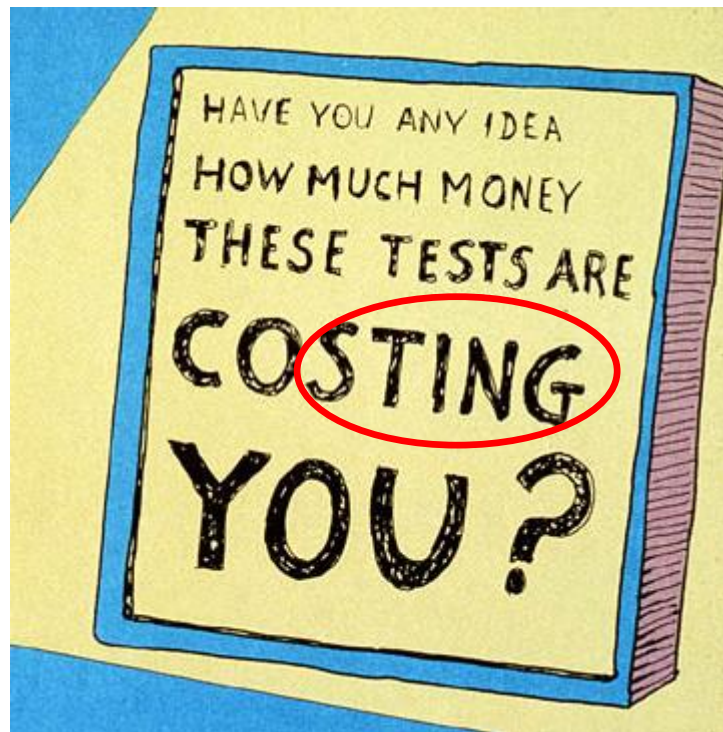
MEASURE Dynamic Visual Acuity (DVA)

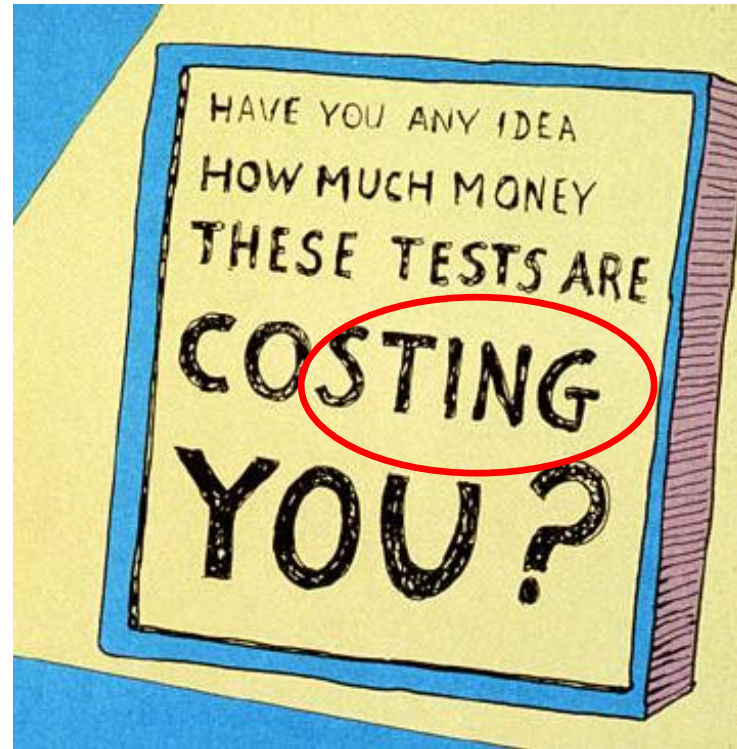


Dynamic Visual Acuity (DVA) during head shaking (normal subjects lose one or no lines)









Dynamic Visual Acuity (DVA) during head shaking



Normal subjects lose one or no lines

Patients with bilateral loss lose up to 5 lines horizontally and vertically, but less so with roll (torsion)

CLINICAL POINTS

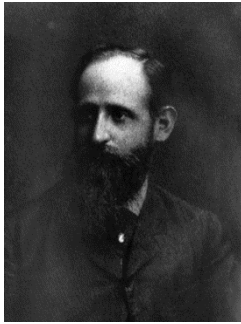
- Patients who lose same amount of DVA in 'roll' as in horizontal or vertical may be malingering!
- At the bedside, there may be a marked loss of DVA when the bedside head impulse test appears NORMAL (e.g., chronic, bilateral vestibular loss in which corrective saccades are hard to see (covert (embedded during head movement, predictive))).
- With unilateral loss, DVA will be most affected horizontally and asymmetrically, more so when rotating toward the affected side.



Ewald



Flourens



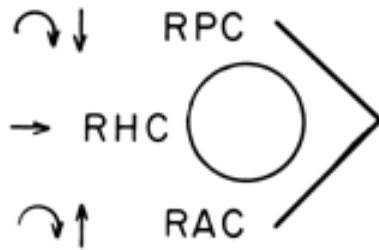
Breuer

KEY PHYSIOLOGY from three 19th Century Giants



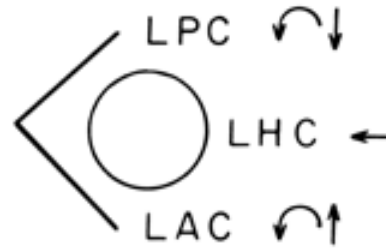
What happens when you stimulate one semicircular canal?

YOU GET NYSTAGMUS: A slow phase, which is the compensatory response to labyrinthine stimulation, and a quick phase, which is the resetting movement.

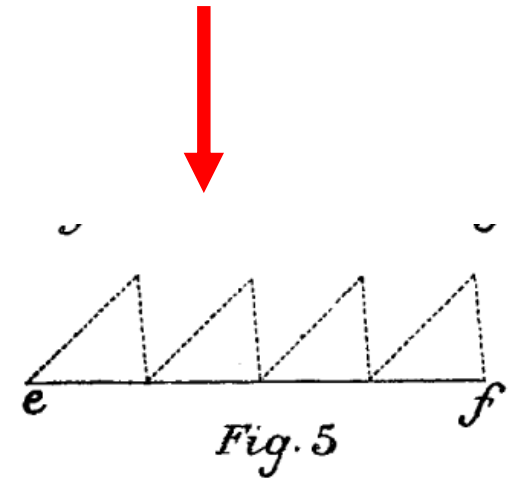


OCCIPUT

BROW



Arrows indicate direction of slow phase with stimulation



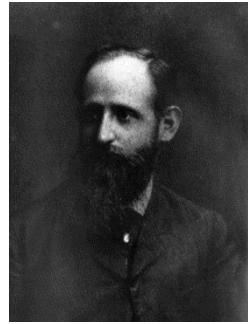
Crum Brown 1878



Ewald



Flourens

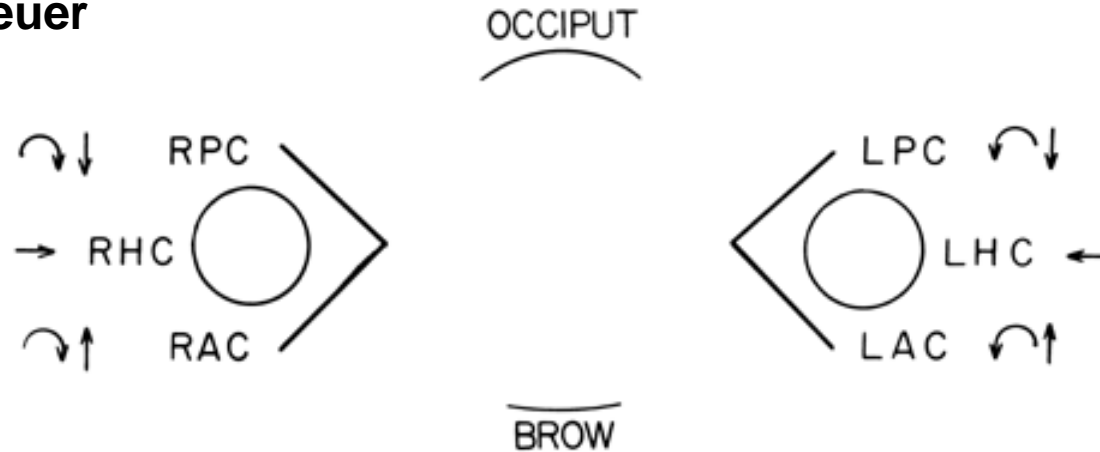


Breuer

KEY PHYSIOLOGY from three 19th Century Giants



What happens when you stimulate a single semicircular canal?



Arrows indicate direction of slow phase with stimulation

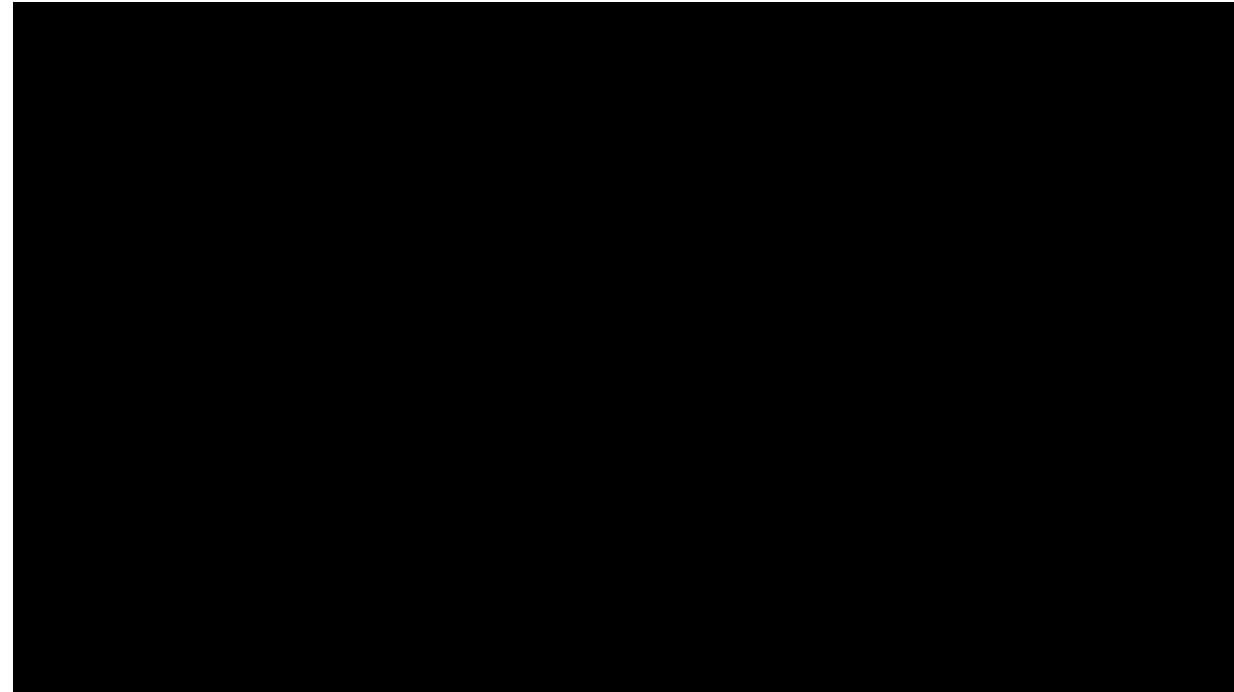
Ewald's First Law: Eyes (head) rotate in a plane parallel to that of head (detected by the SCC in that plane) and so stabilizes gaze (eye-in-space) around all three axes of head rotation.

Ewald's Second Law: The lateral SCC are stimulated better by *ampullopetal* (excitation) than by *ampullofugal* (inhibition) fluid flow.

Ewald's Third Law: The vertical SCC are stimulated better by *ampullofugal* (excitation) than by *ampullopetal* (inhibition) fluid flow.

****The excitatory direction of a canal is always when you turn or tilt your head toward that side.**

Vestibular reflexes must stabilize the eyes (and the head) in the environment despite motion of the body so we can SEE when moving

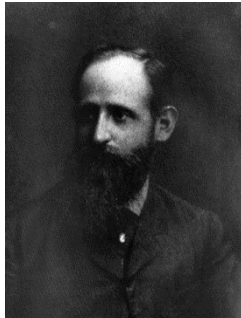




Ewald



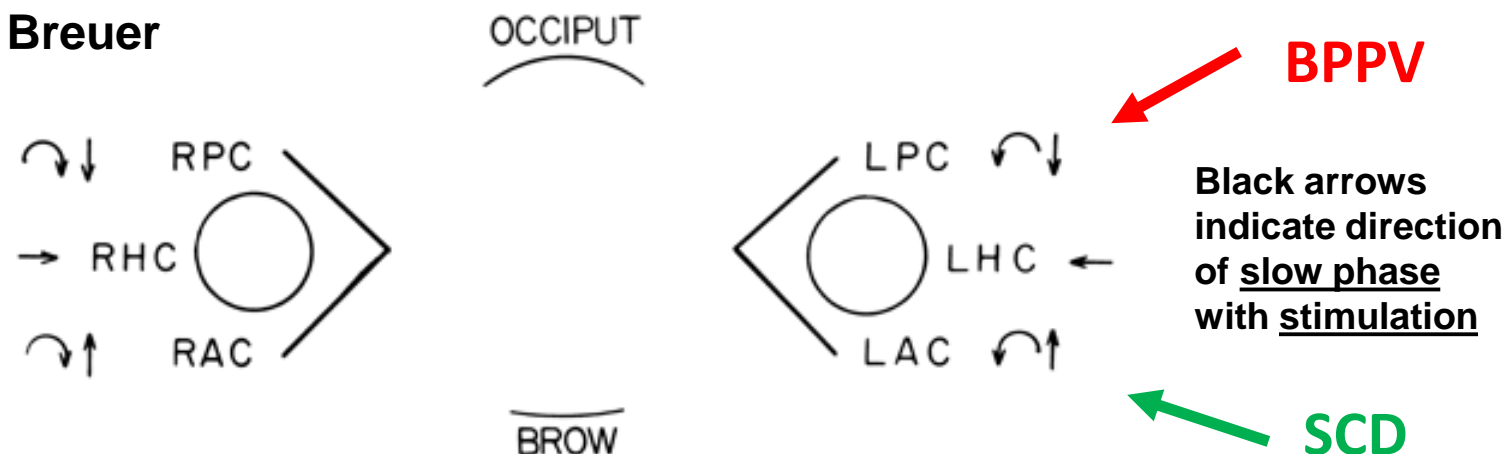
Flourens



Breuer

KEY PHYSIOLOGY from three 19th Century Giants

What does this scheme tell the clinician?



- Mixed vertical-torsional nystagmus usually is peripheral as it can come from stimulation of a single vertical SCC: BPPV (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo, Upbeat) and SCD (superior canal dehiscence, Downbeat).

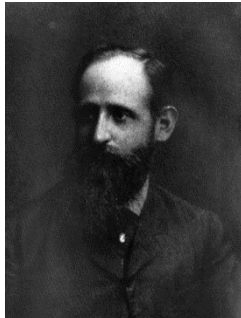
The nystagmus typically varies with horizontal eye position from being more torsional to being more vertical, so the globe continues to rotate in the plane of the specific vertical canal. (Ewald's 1st)



Ewald



Flourens

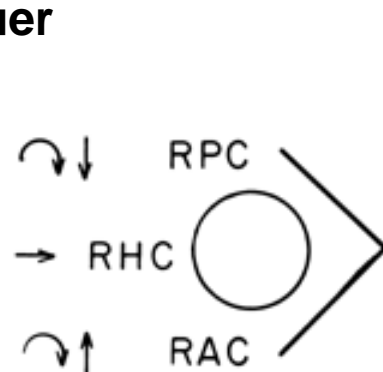


Breuer

KEY PHYSIOLOGY from three 19th Century Giants

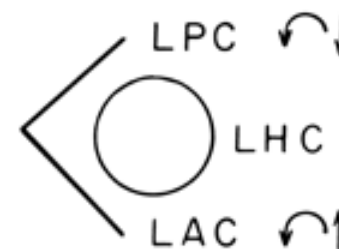


What does this scheme tell the clinician?



OCCIPUT

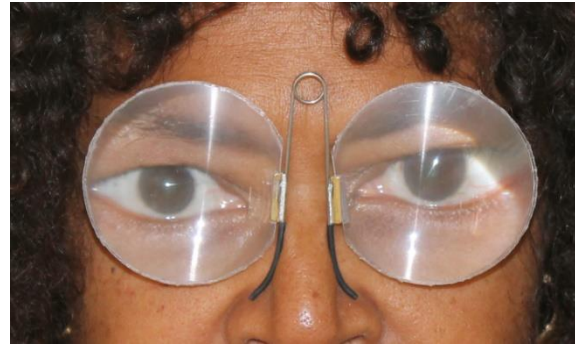
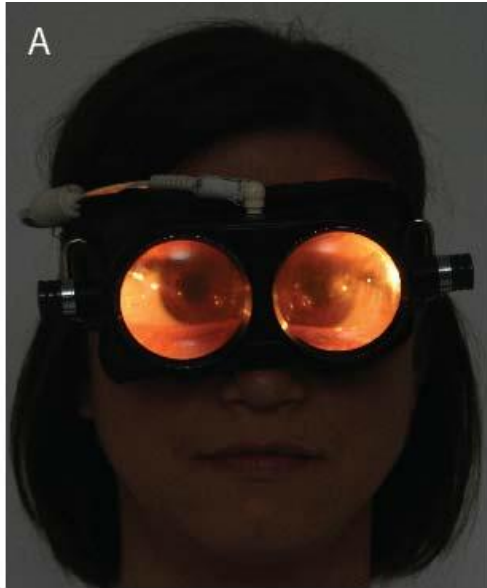
BROW



Arrows indicate
direction of slow
phase with
stimulation

- Pure vertical and pure torsional nystagmus are central signs
- Mixed horizontal-torsional nystagmus is a peripheral sign
- Mixed vertical-torsional nystagmus comes from stimulation of a single vertical SCC and is usually a peripheral sign

Look for nystagmus: with and without fixation (clinical dictum: fixation suppression of vestibular nystagmus is impaired in central lesions)

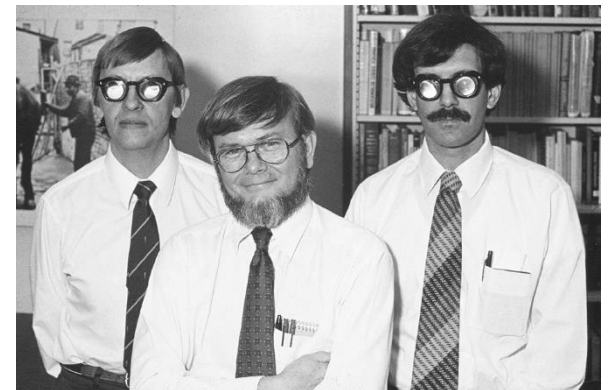


Strupp, Neurology, 2014

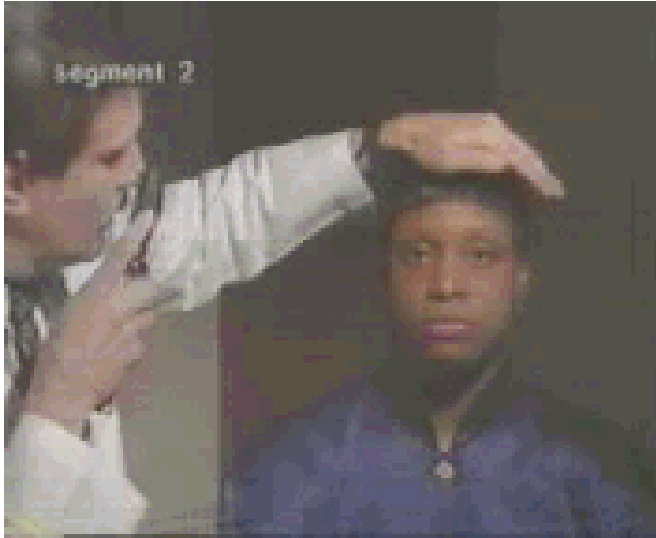


Frenzel goggles, ebay

**Frenzel Lenses (*best used*
with room lights off) to
remove fixation**

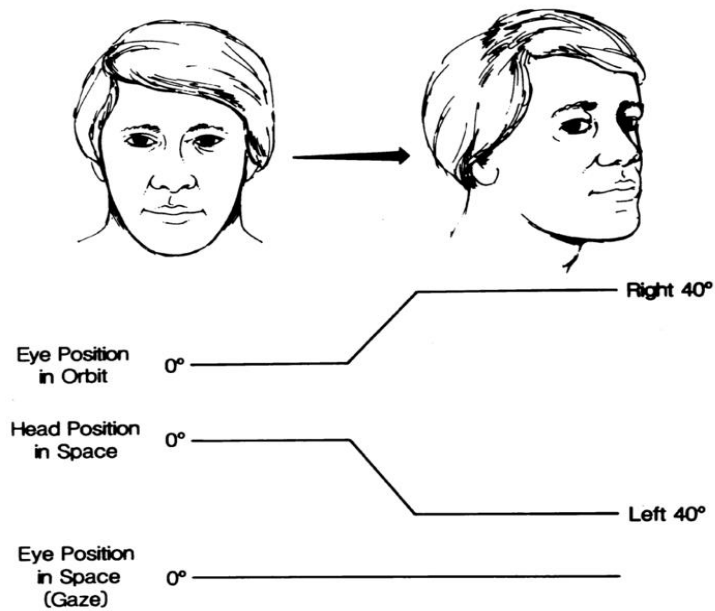


Ophthalmoscope and spontaneous nystagmus



Bedside testing

(rotational) R-VOR



The Head Impulse Test (HIT)

Head impulse testing (HIT) of the vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR)

LOOK FOR THE CORRECTIVE SACCAD



TECHNICAL POINTS

- Abrupt, brief duration, high acceleration
- Small excursion
- BEGIN from center and stop at eccentric to prevent anticipation from obscuring the deficit
- If gaze-evoked nystagmus BEGIN from eccentric and stop at center (to prevent nystagmus from obscuring the deficit)

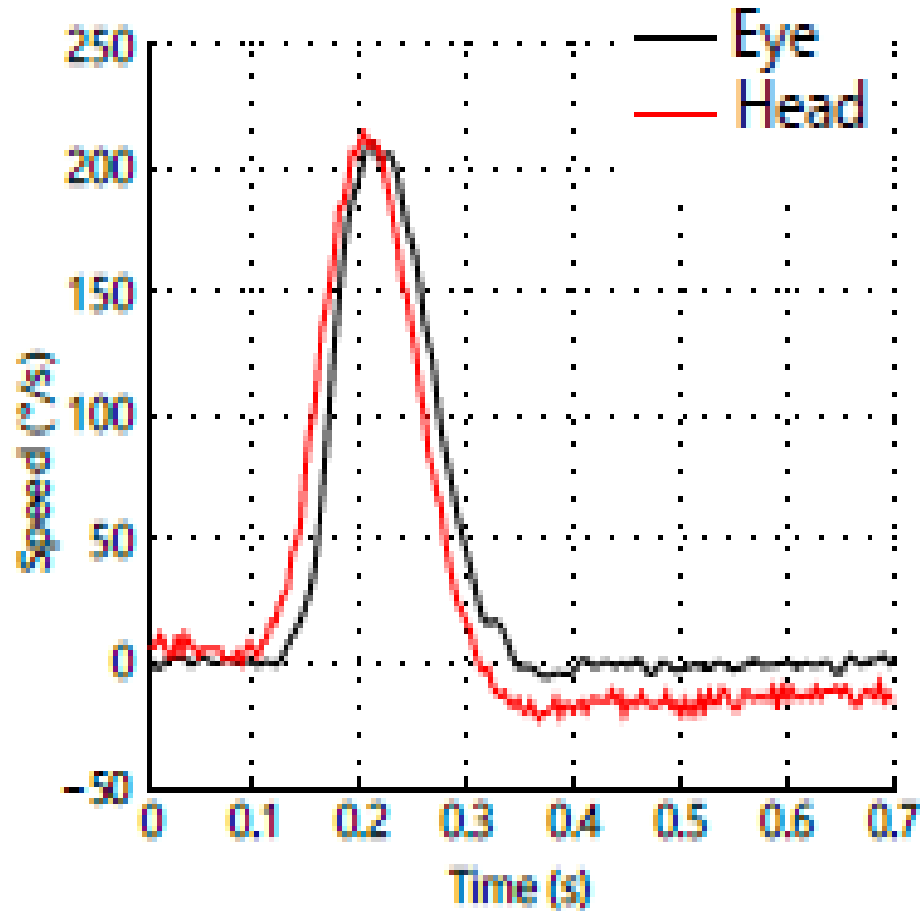
Testing of the VOR: Head Impulse Test (HIT) in a unilateral peripheral labyrinthine lesion



Catch-up saccade during brief, high-acceleration, head rotation (left-sided loss)

Head-impulse sign in unilateral labyrinthine loss (rotating toward the side of the lesion)

HEAD IMPULSE TEST (HIT)



Normal HIT

Measure HEAD VELOCITY
And EYE VELOCITY

Note: EYE speed is inverted
so it can be compared with
the speed of the **HEAD**.

The Ratio of Eye to Head
(GAIN) should be ONE

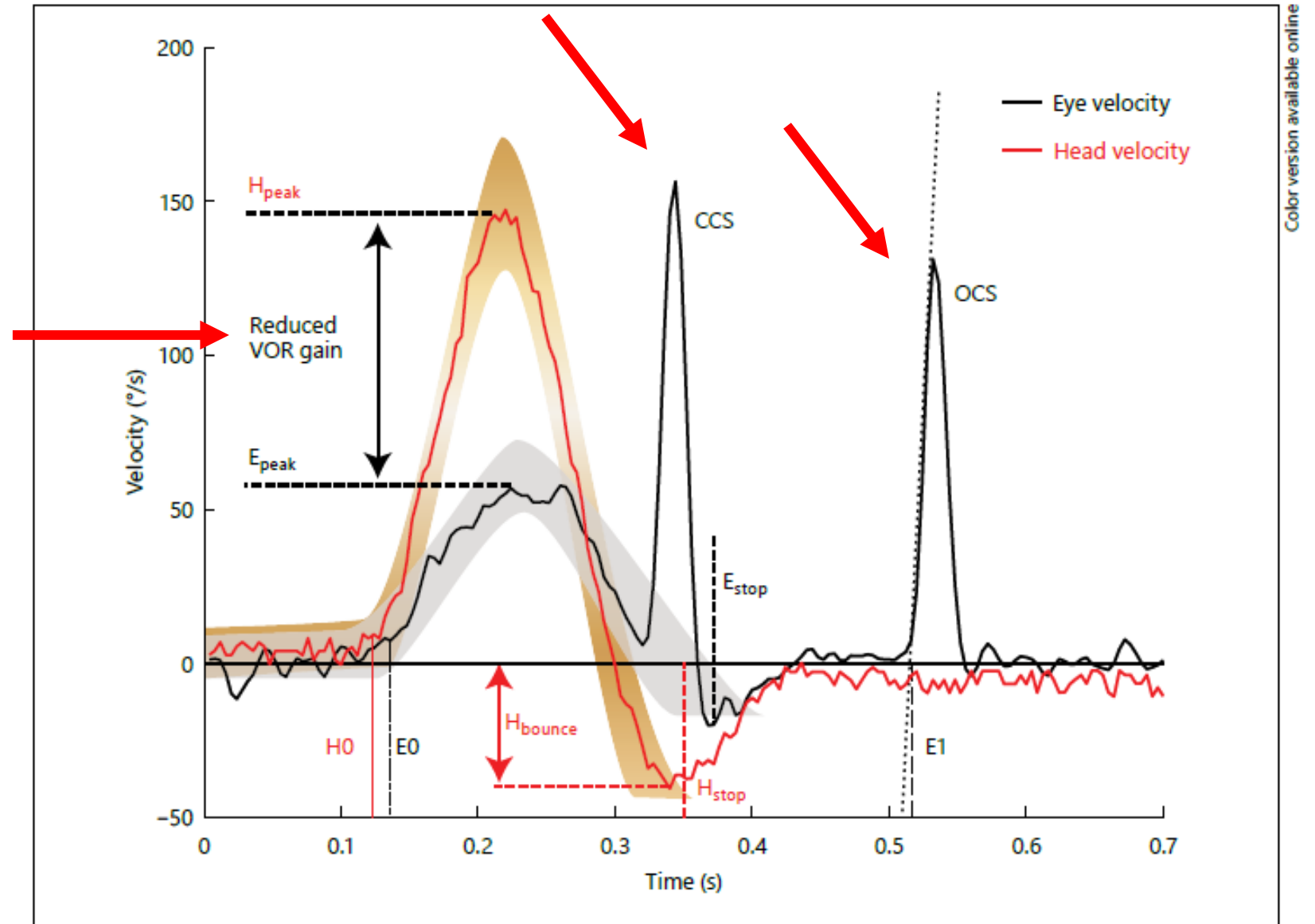
The ideal recorded response when one labyrinth is not working

REDUCED slow-phase VOR gain (EYE/HEAD)

CCS, COVERT corrective saccade

OCS, OVERT corrective saccade

Mantokoudis, 2016



Bilateral head-impulse sign in bilateral labyrinthine loss



NEVER SWIM AT NIGHT!

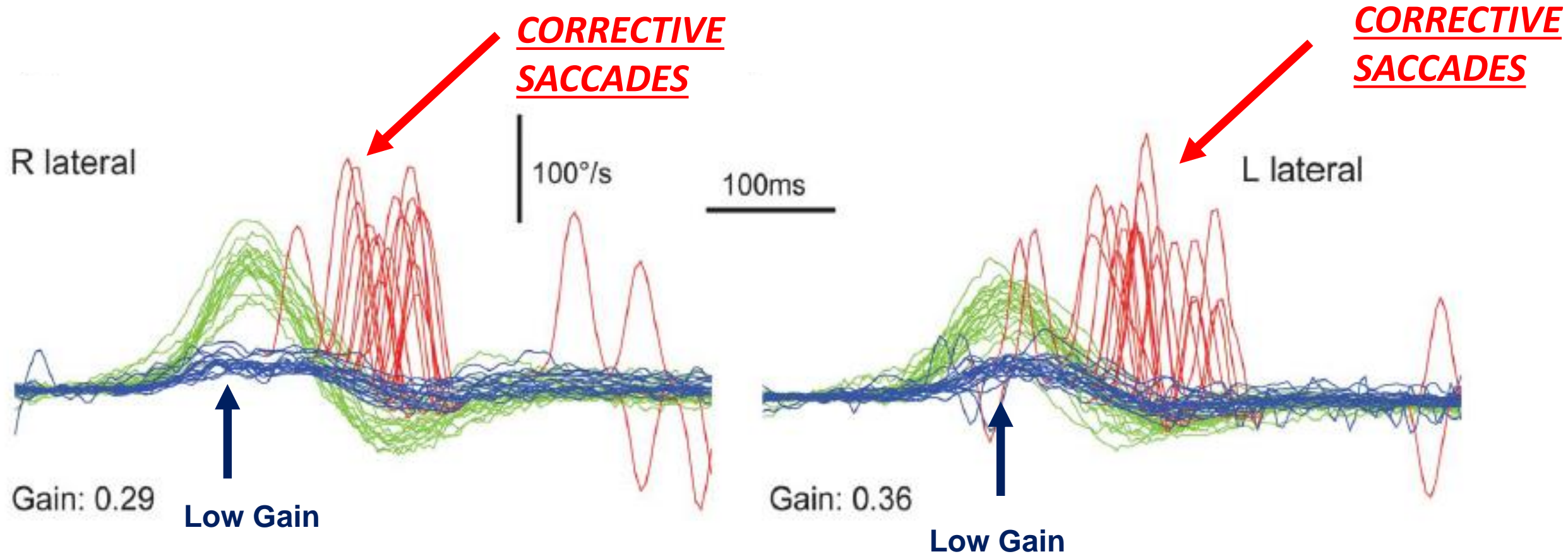
**We have a powerful
dorsal light reflex**



**The brain always thinks
that the sun is above us**

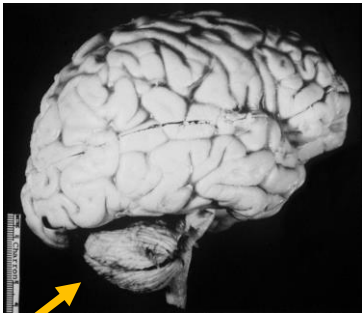
Remember: Patients who lose vestibular function bilaterally do NOT have vertigo since there is no tone imbalance or nystagmus. E.g., ototoxicity of antibiotics, autoimmune disorders, syphilis, sarcoidosis, etc

BILATERAL LOSS OF PERIPHERAL LABYRINTHINE FUNCTION



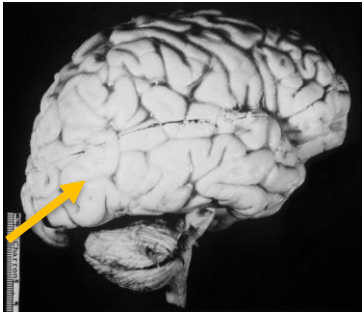
Abnormal VOR in cerebellar disease: Abnormal direction

What is
wrong with
this VOR
response?



What is wrong with this VOR response?

(Note: Patient is fixating straight ahead)



Abnormal VOR in cerebellar disease: Increased gain



Corrective saccades IN THE DIRECTION of head rotation (opposite the slow phase) during fixation of a stationary target indicate a HYPERACTIVE VOR

Corrective saccades OPPOSITE THE DIRECTION of head rotation (same as slow phase) during attempted fixation of a target indicate a HYPOACTIVE VOR

WHAT ABOUT AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY: VIDEO oculography (VOG)

VIDEO GOGGLES are easy to use and comfortable and give you an immediate, automatically-calculated measures of spontaneous nystagmus and VOR gain (eye movement/head movement), without operator intervention

BUT CAN I BELIEVE THE RESULTS??? TWO CASES OF BPPV: ONE FALSE NEGATIVE AND THE OTHER FALSE POSITIVE

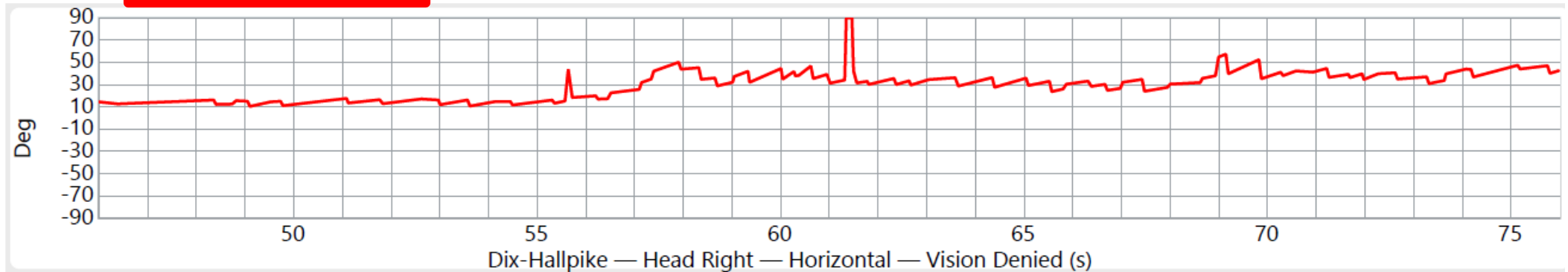


An elderly women comes to the Emergency Department with dizziness and imbalance when standing up for a day's duration. BPPV??

Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM

Test Operator: Default Administrator

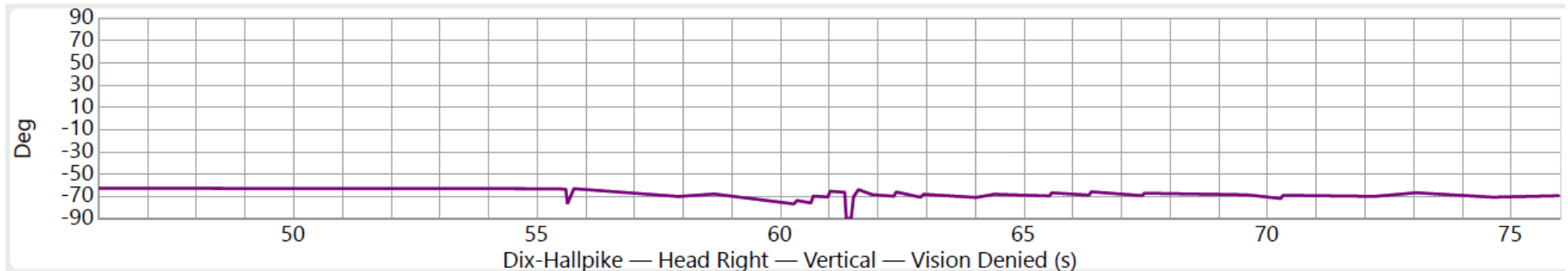
SPV Peak Horizontal: 9 °/s at 61.5 s



Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM

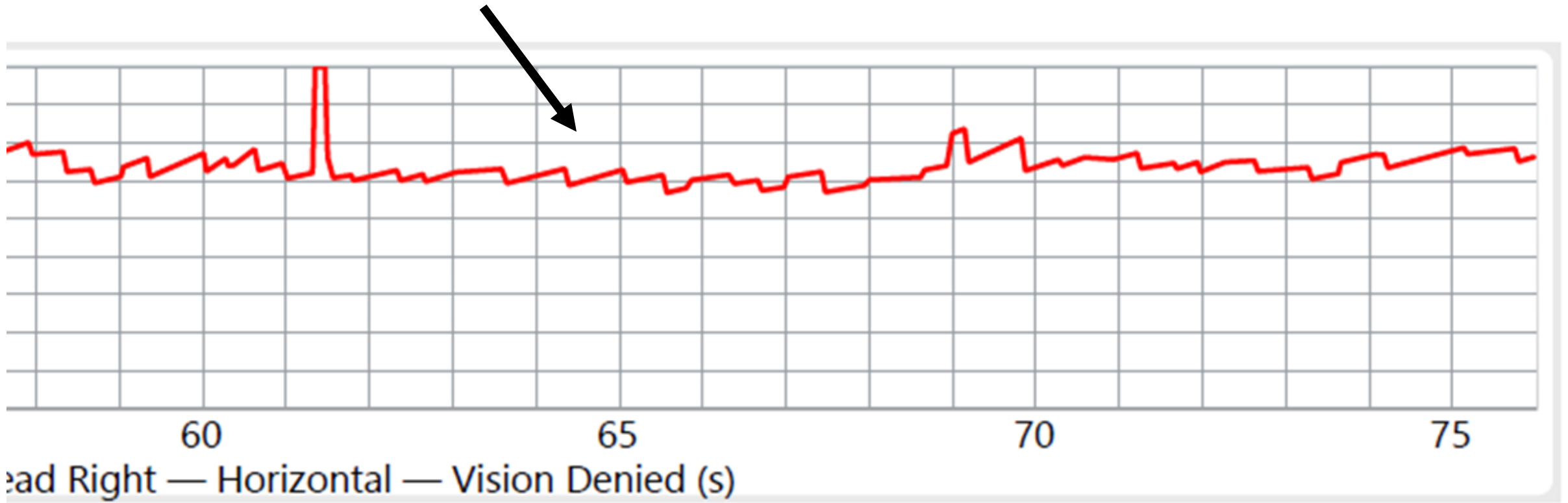
Test Operator: Default Administrator

SPV Peak Vertical: 0 °/s at 0.0 s

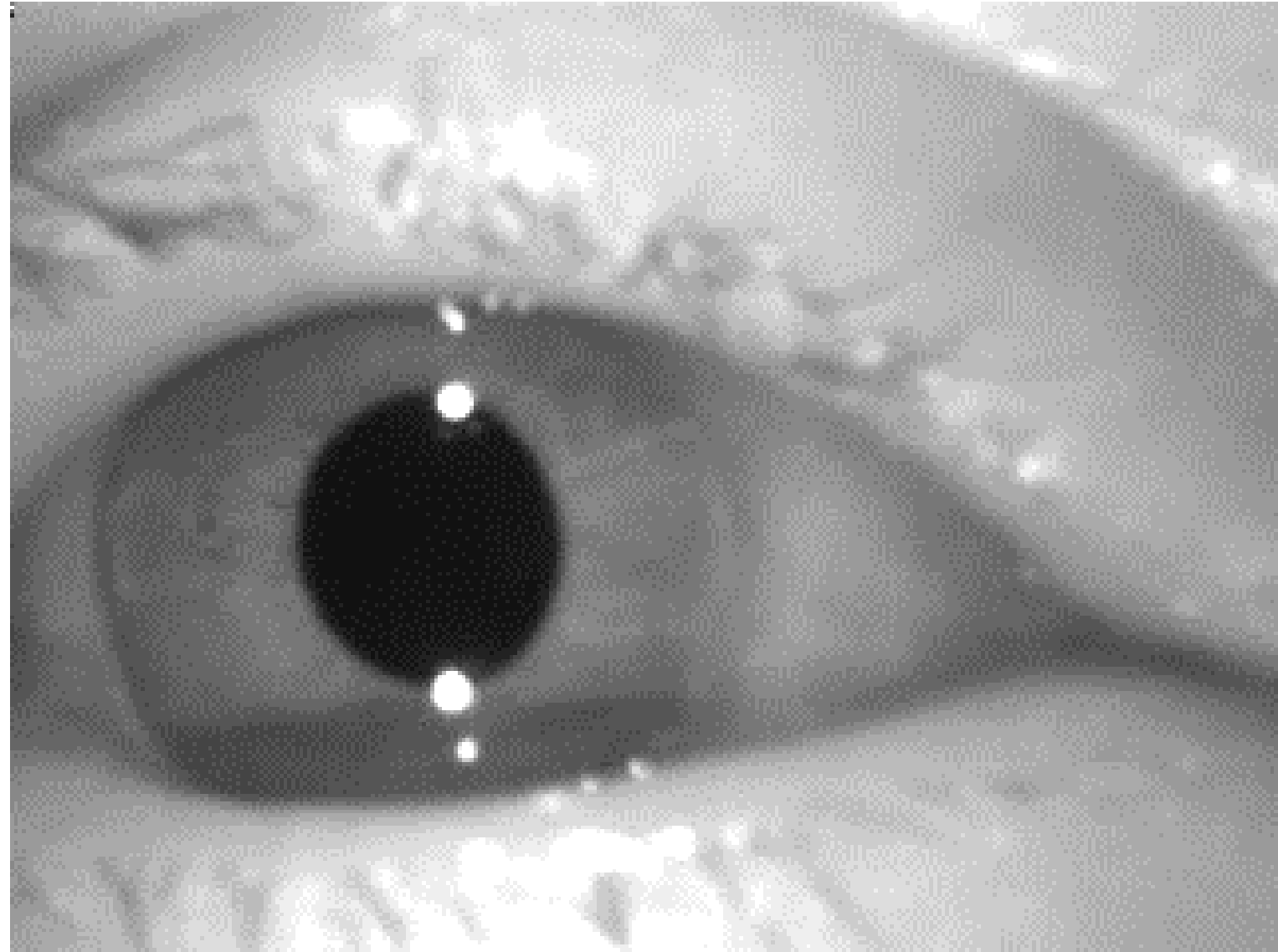
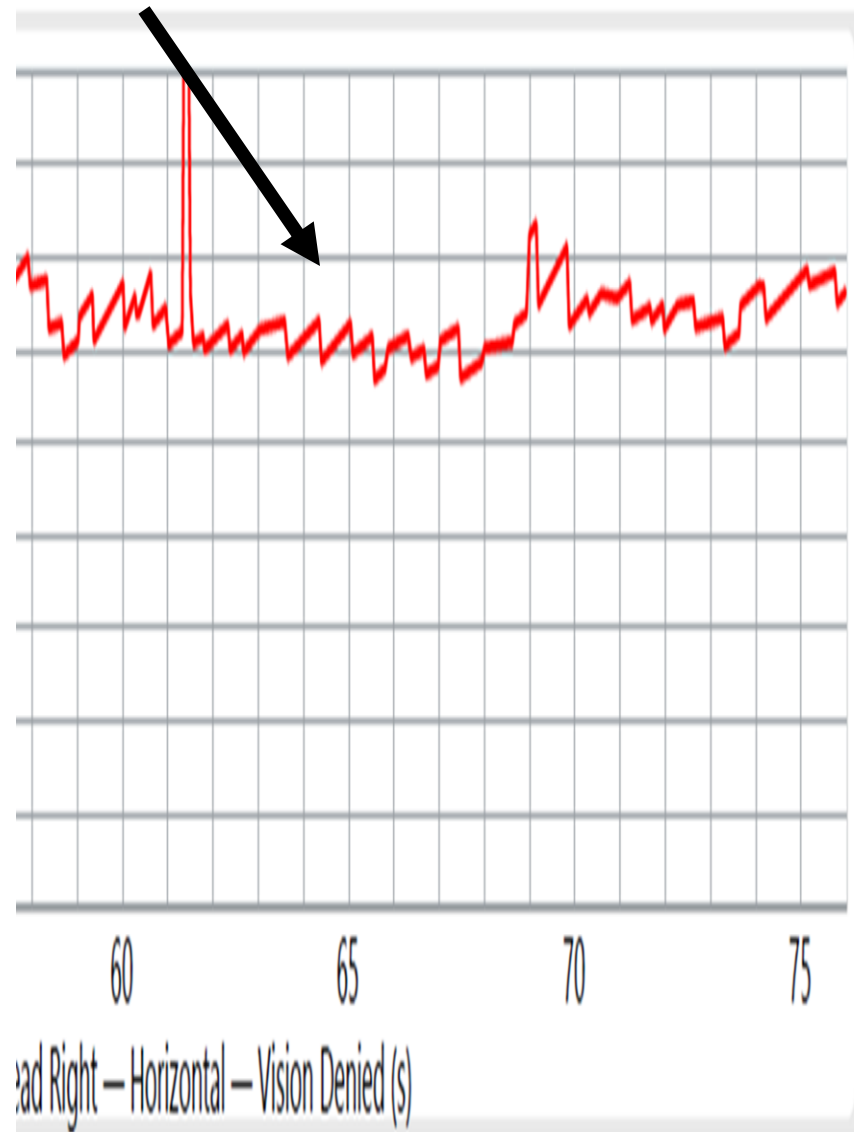


Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM
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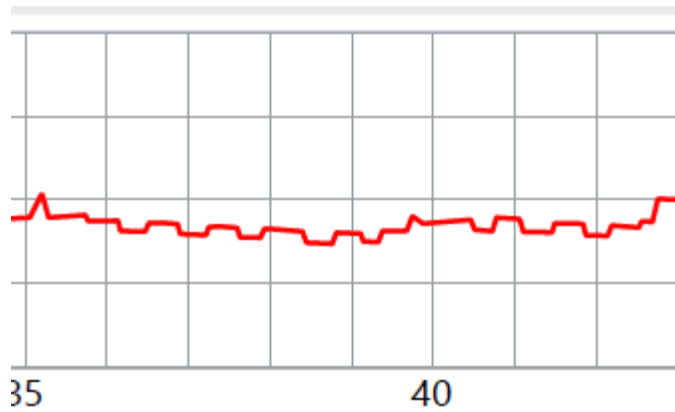
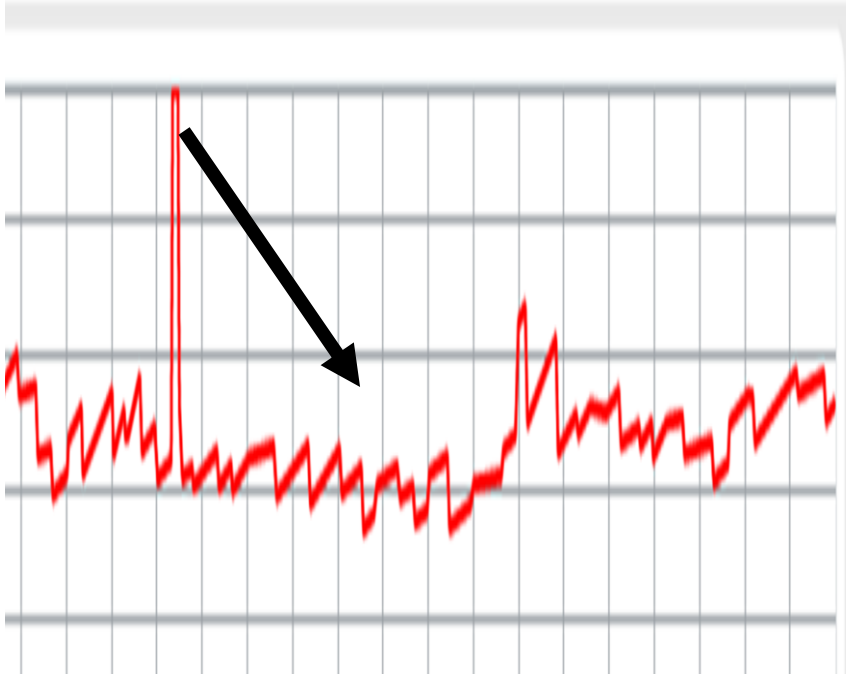
HORIZONTAL NYSTAGMUS (9 deg/sec) WITH Dix-Hallpike MANEUVER



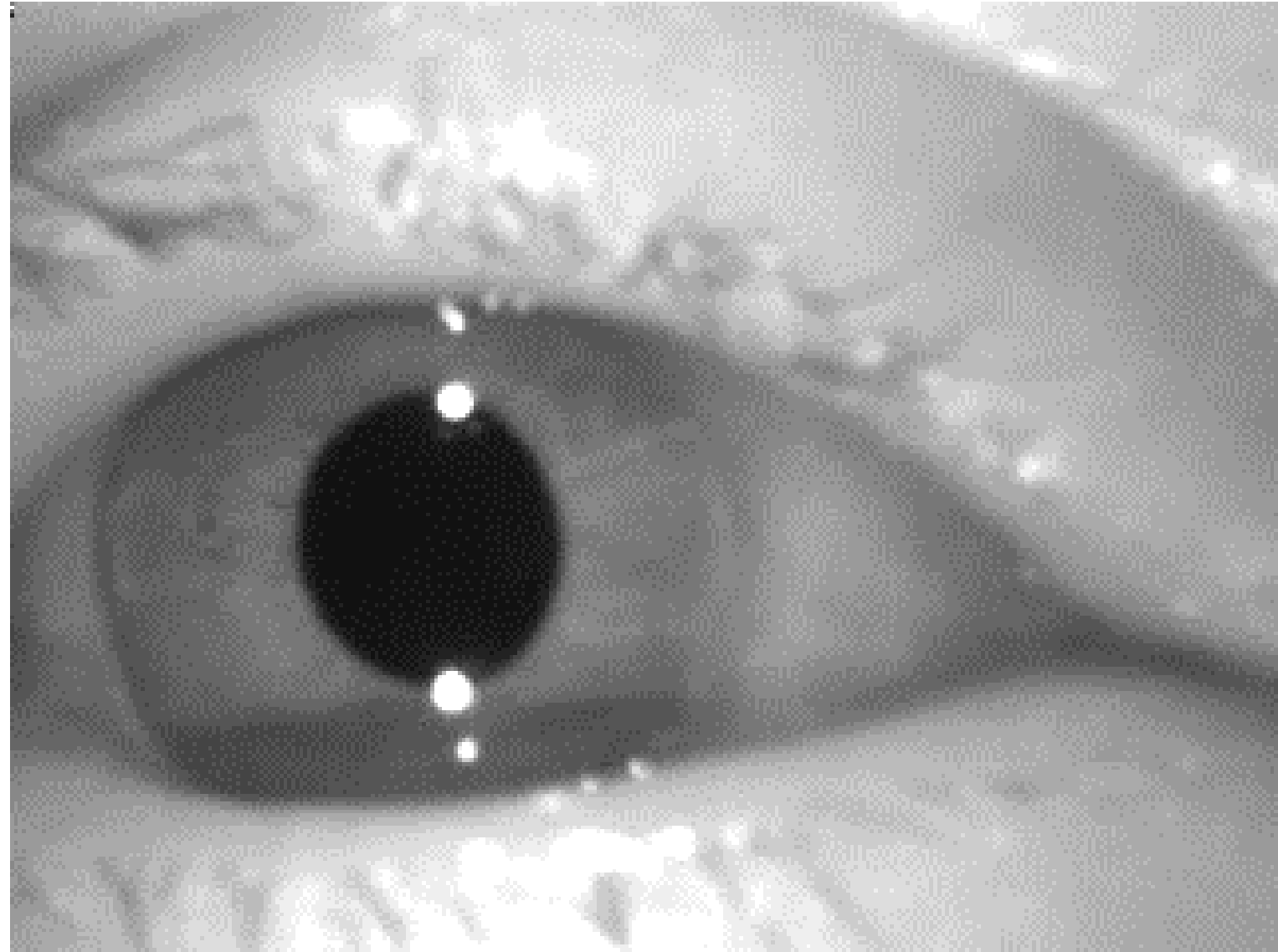
WHERE IS THE NYSTAGMUS?



WHERE IS THE NYSTAGMUS?

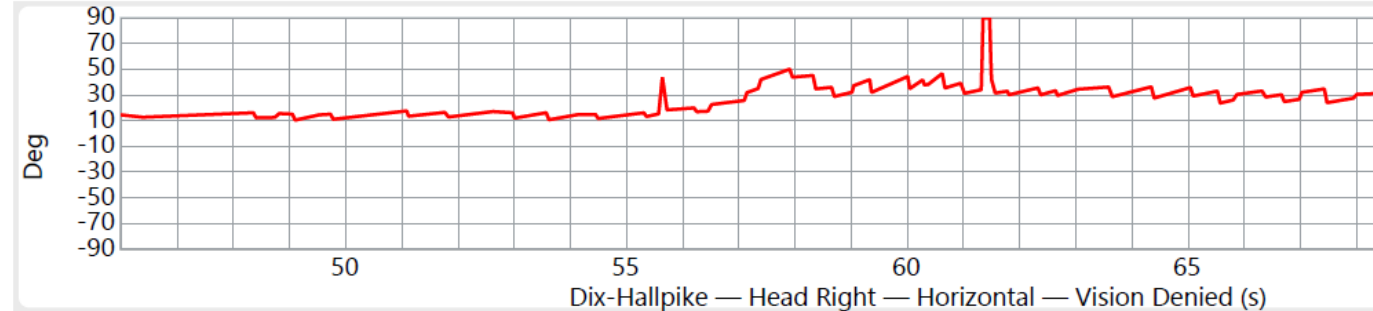


Square Wave Jerks may confuse the nystagmus algorithm??

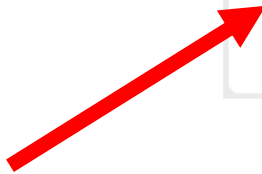
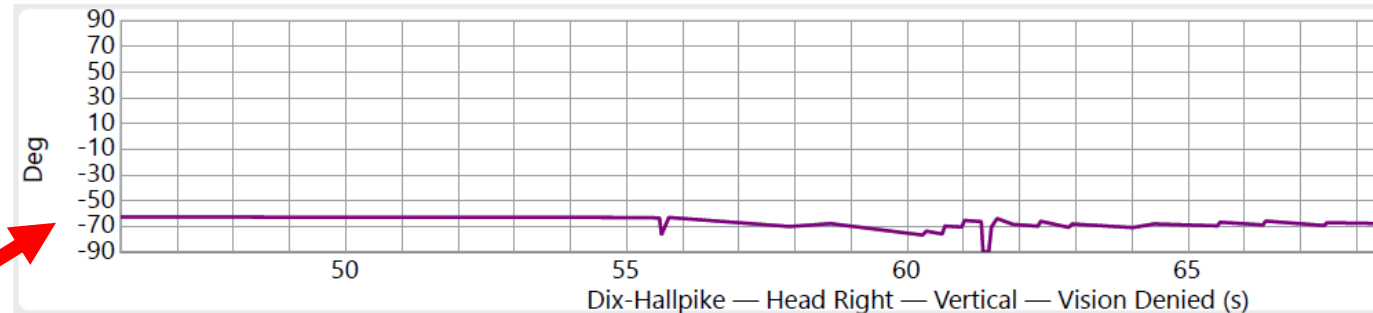


Which is right? The VOG record or the Video

Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Horizontal: 9 °/s at 61.5 s



Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Vertical: 0 °/s at 0.0 s



- **62 y.o. male patient who presents to the emergency department today with vertigo.**

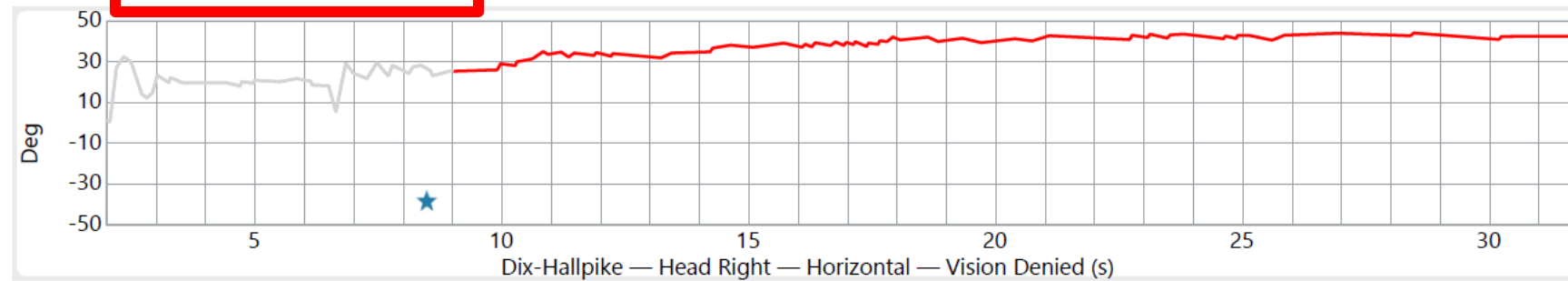
Patient states that he woke up from sleep this morning, and felt like the room was spinning around him. Patient states that this was exacerbated when he tried to stand up, he felt like his balance was off, and like he was going to fall over. He states that that was more like a sharp headache.

VOG Record of Dix-Hallpike maneuver states RB nystagmus > DB nystagmus, with maximum about the same time

Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 12/14/2018 12:21:44 PM

Test Operator: Default Administrator

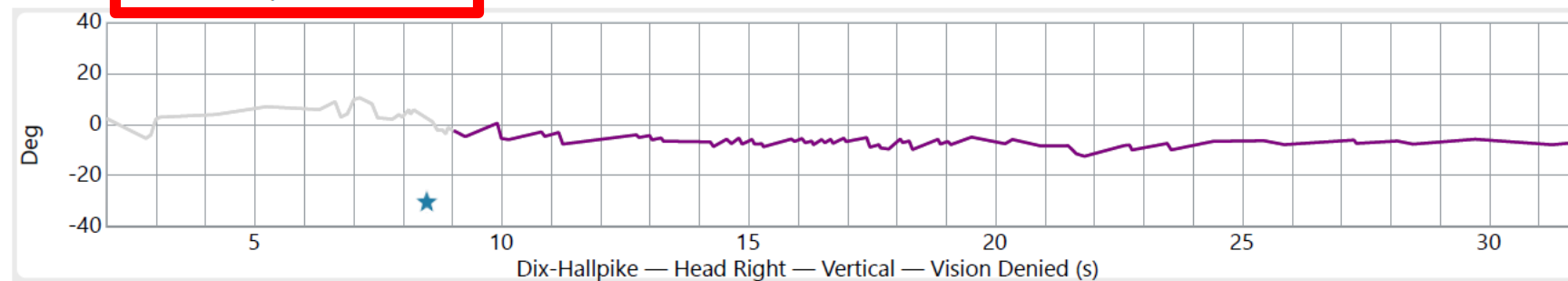
SPV Peak Horizontal: -10 °/s at 16.5 s

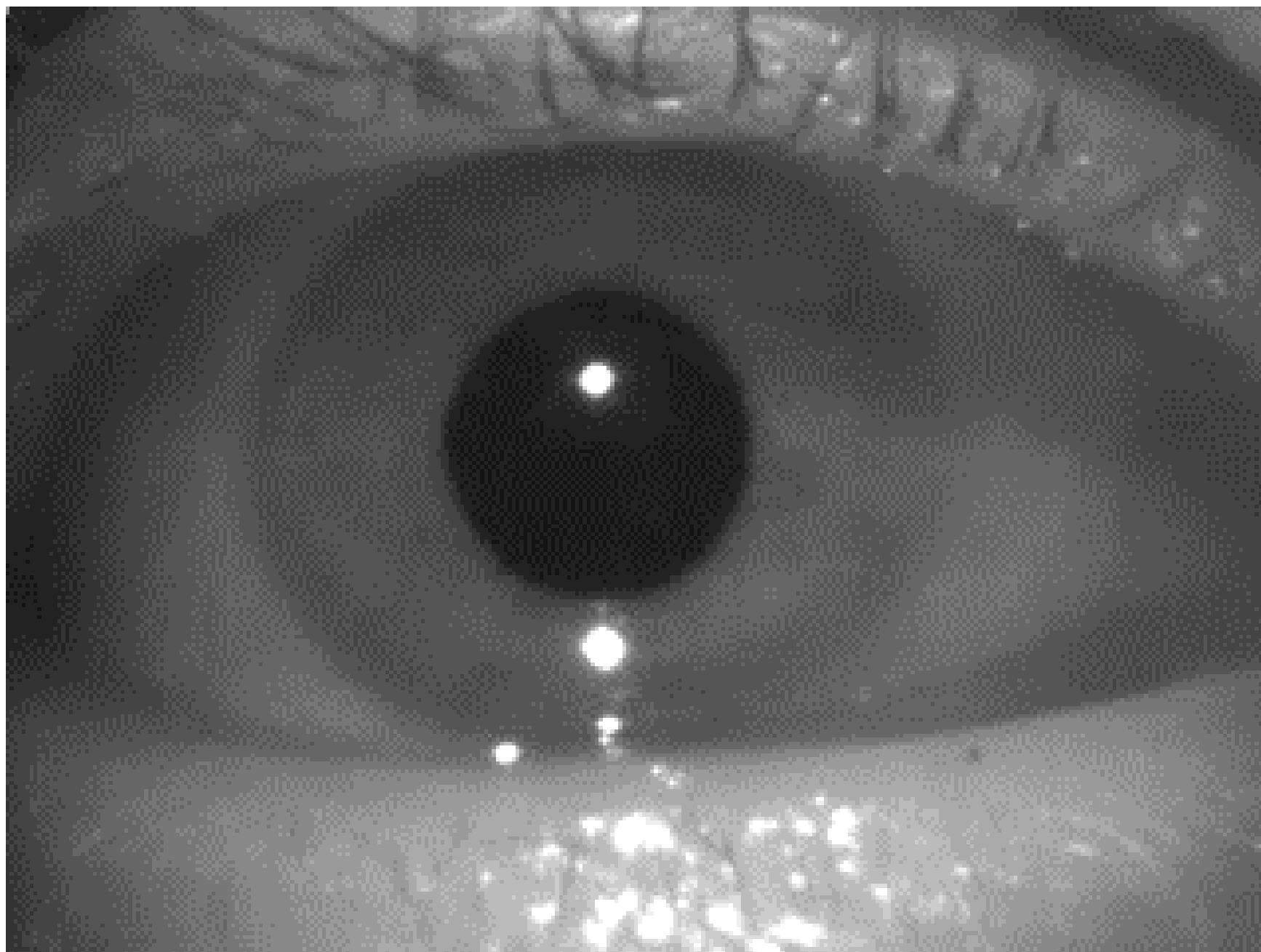


Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 12/14/2018 12:21:44 PM

Test Operator: Default Administrator

SPV Peak Vertical: 7 °/s at 17.5 s



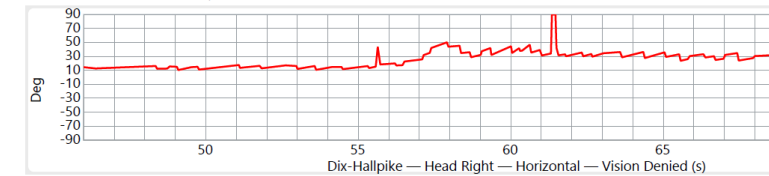


What is the takeaway message?

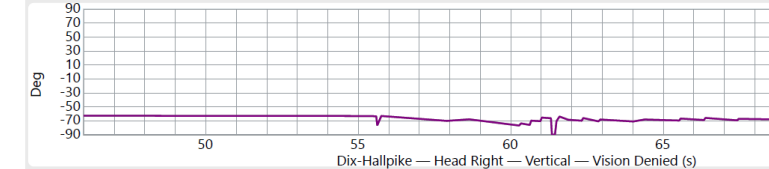
- Trust your eyes
- Trust your brain
- Computers and algorithms are subject to human error

MISLEADING NYSTAGMUS REPORTS

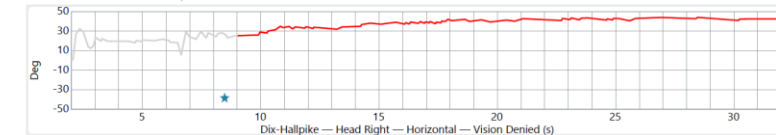
Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Horizontal: 9 °/s at 61.5 s



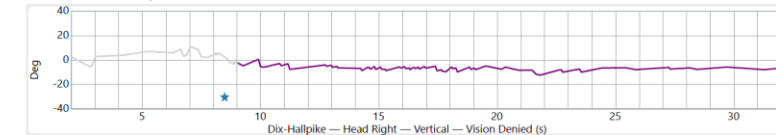
Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 9/5/2018 2:57:31 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Vertical: 0 °/s at 0.0 s



Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 12/14/2018 12:21:44 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Horizontal: -10 °/s at 16.5 s



Dix-Hallpike — Head Right Test: 12/14/2018 12:21:44 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator
SPV Peak Vertical: 7 °/s at 17.5 s



THE CORE ISSUES

AGAIN: Do I believe my own eyes and the interpretation of my brain, or do I believe the eyes and brains and numbers of the VOG machine?



**The answer to this riddle is both and neither,
and sometimes the truth can only be
revealed using BOTH**

NOTHING WRONG WITH MAKING A MEASUREMENT!

Quantitative measures of VOR performance require a quantifying technique.

VOG goggles to measure VOR slow-phase gain.

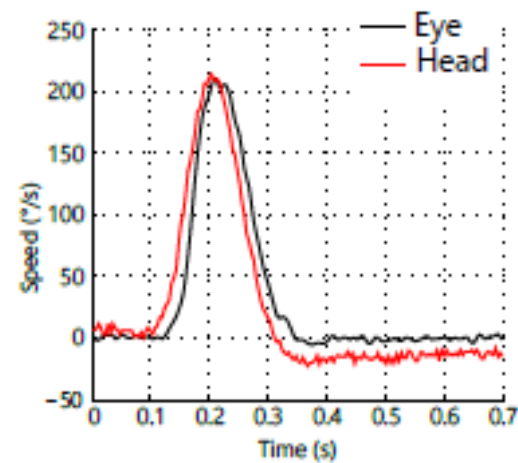
Quantitative DVA (dynamic visual acuity) to measure overall VOR function.

Corrective saccades, indicating an abnormal VOR, can often be seen clinically

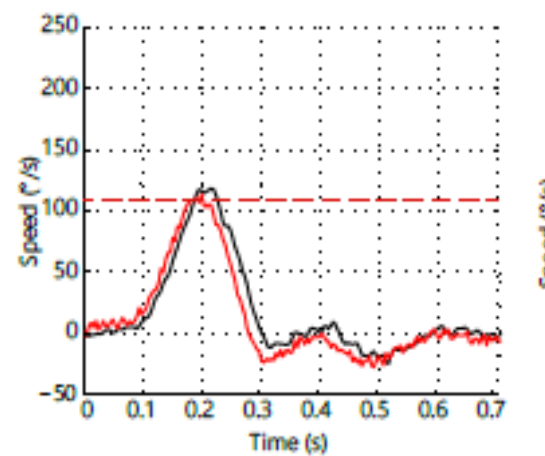
IF OVERT (after the head movement), they are usually seen and are the signature of an abnormal VOR

IF COVERT (during the head movement), they may only be revealed by VOG, especially in a well-compensated patient .

**RELIABLE
CORRECTIVE
SACCADE RESPONSES**

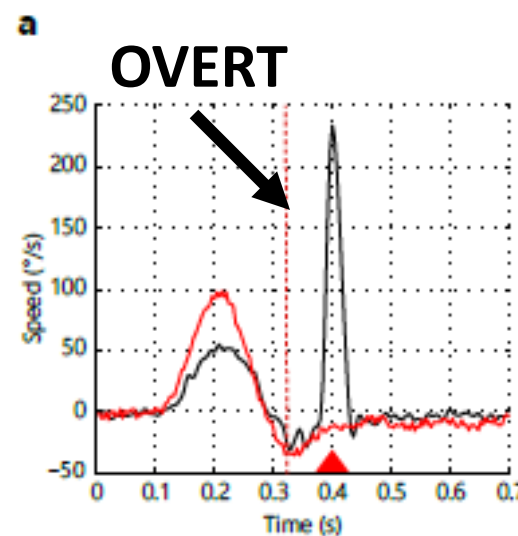


Normal HIT

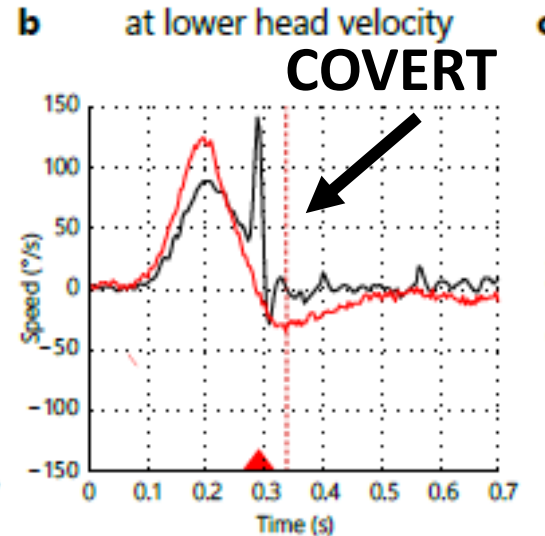


Normal HIT

at lower head velocity



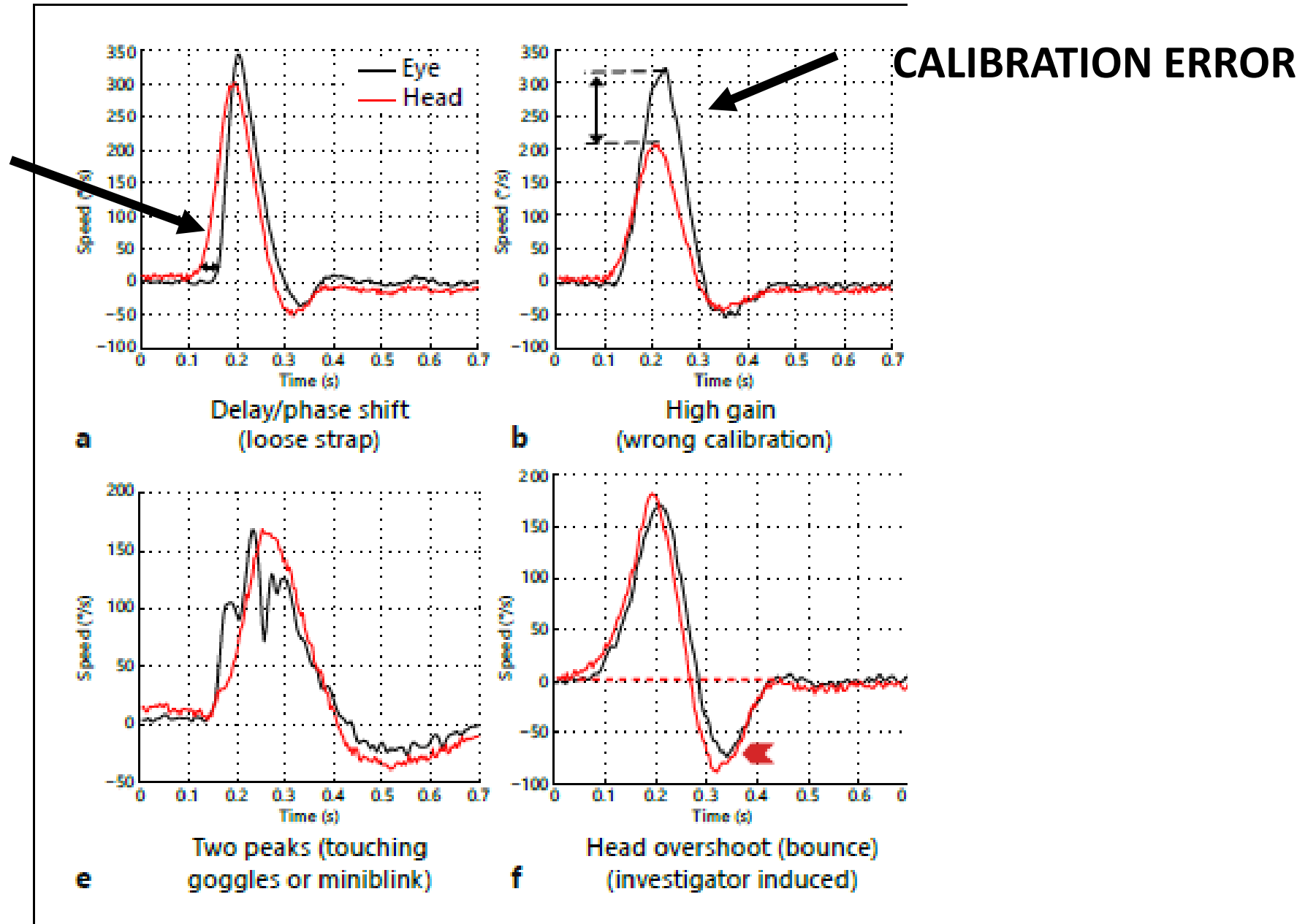
Abnormal HIT
overt saccade



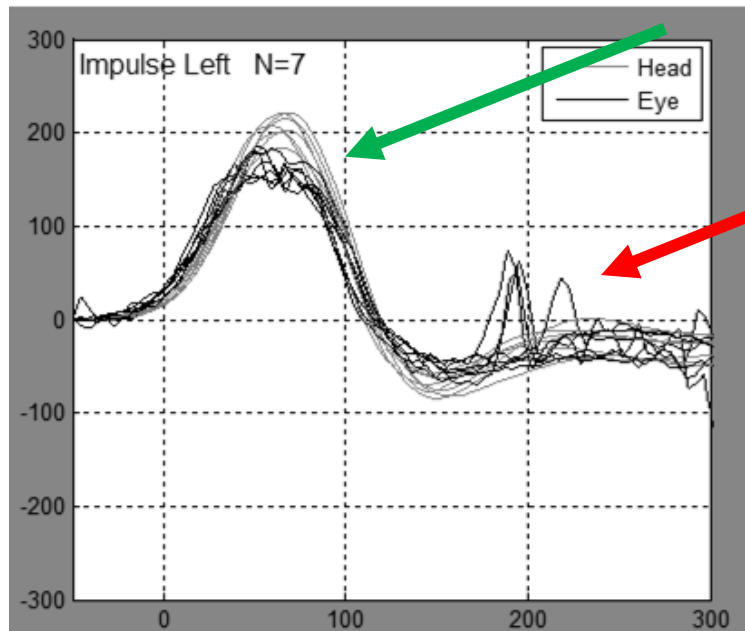
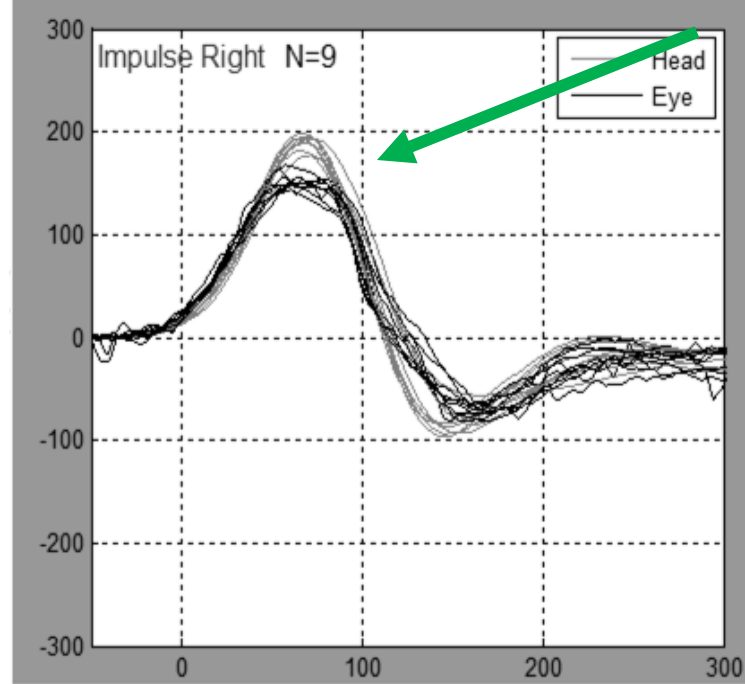
Abnormal HIT
covert saccade

DELAY
GOGGLE SLIP

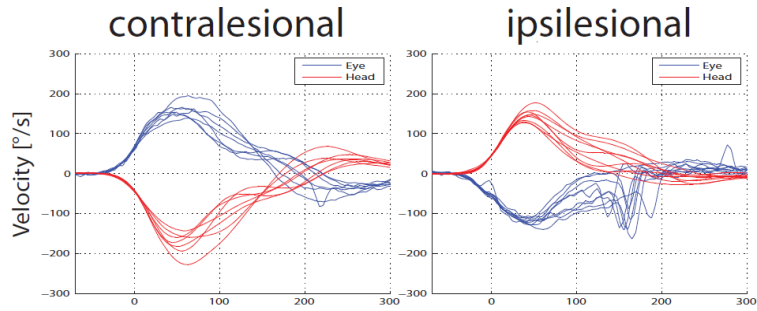
ARTIFACTS



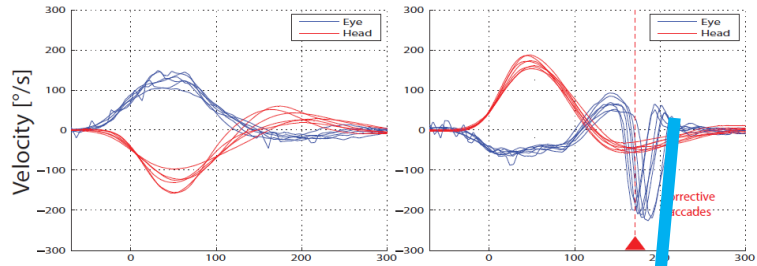
GAIN MAY LOOK
THE SAME BUT
**SMALL CORRECTIVE
SACCADES** ARE THE
CLUE TO
HYPOFUNCTION



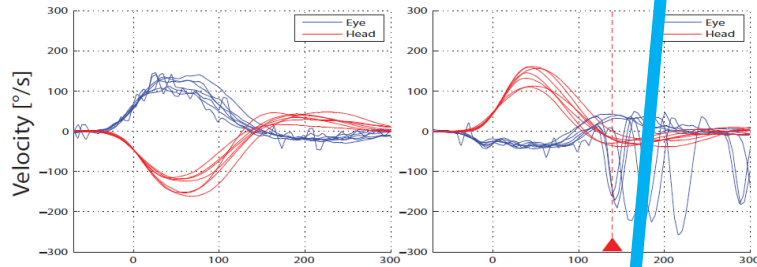
Preop



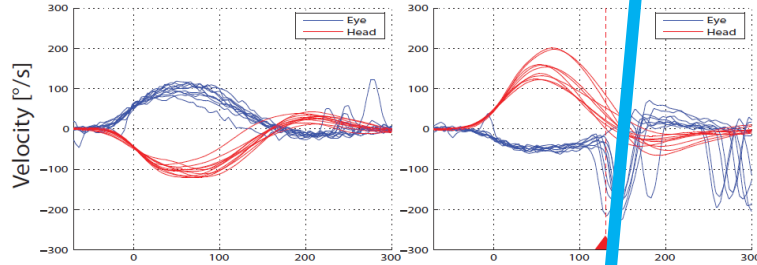
POD 2



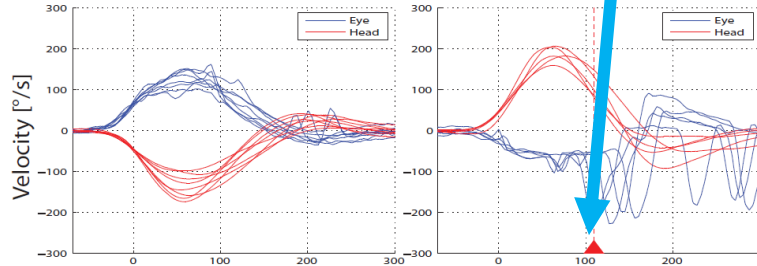
POD 3



POD 4



POD 5



**THINGS ONLY THE
MACHINE CAN TELL US**

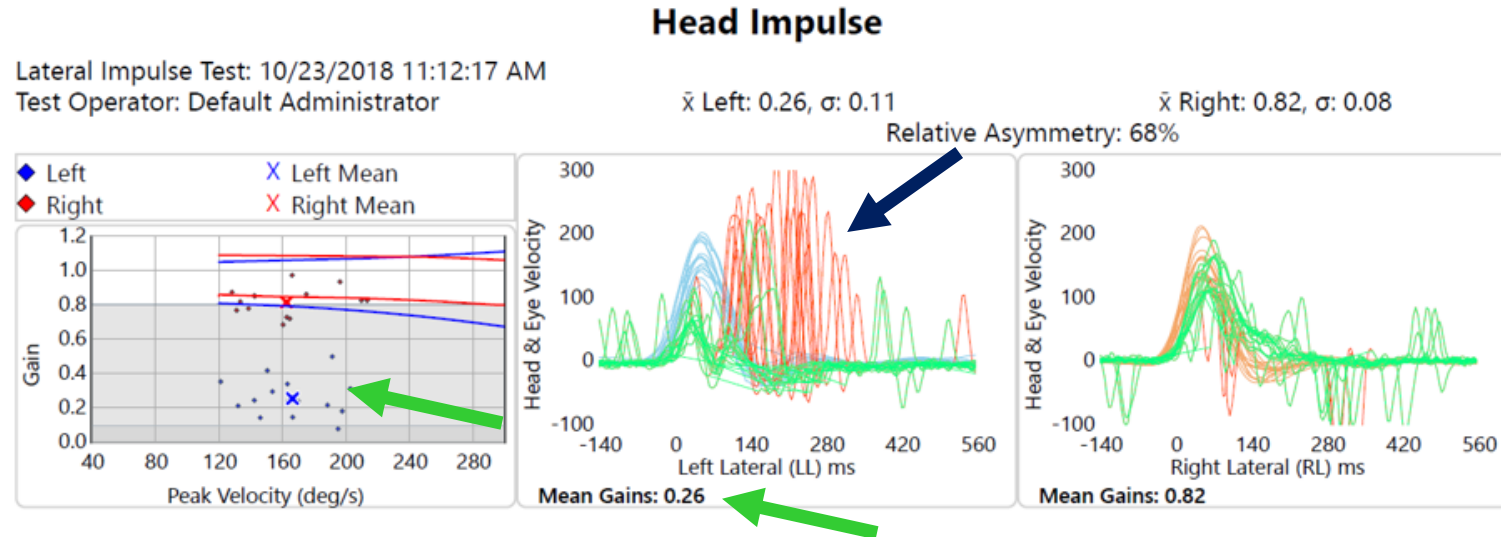
**Quantification of changes
in corrective saccade
performance as a
measure of adaptation**

**Corrective saccades occur
earlier and earlier and
become covert over the
first five post-op days**

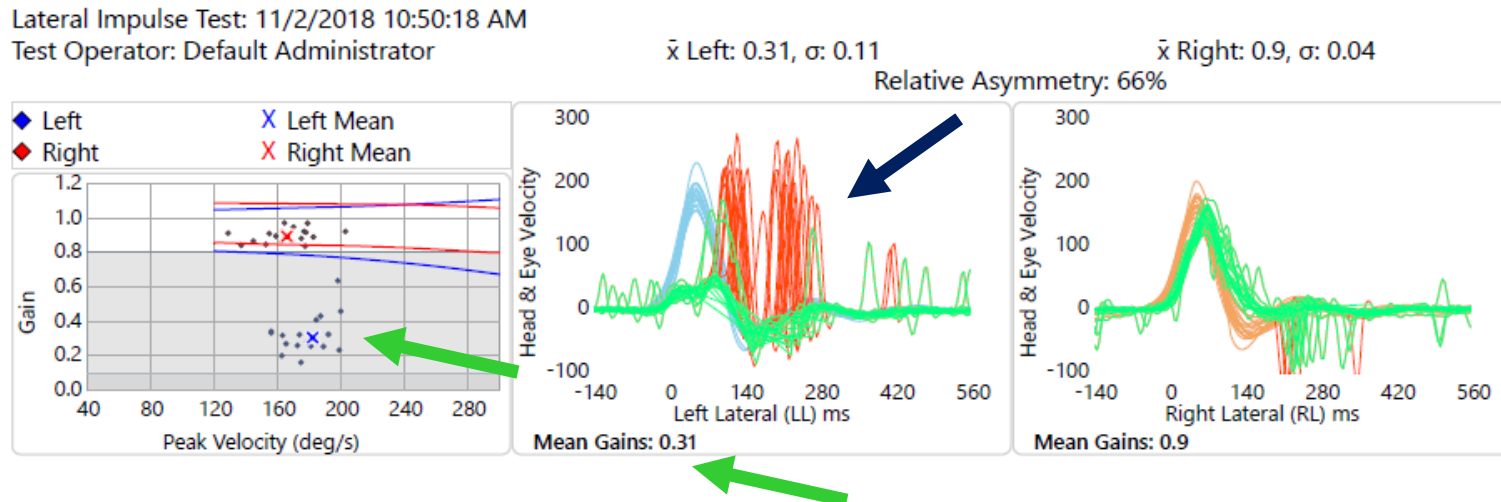
Mantokoudis, 2016

ADAPTATION TO A UNILATERAL VOR DEFICIT: Early and late VHIT with vestibular neuritis

48 hours



10 days

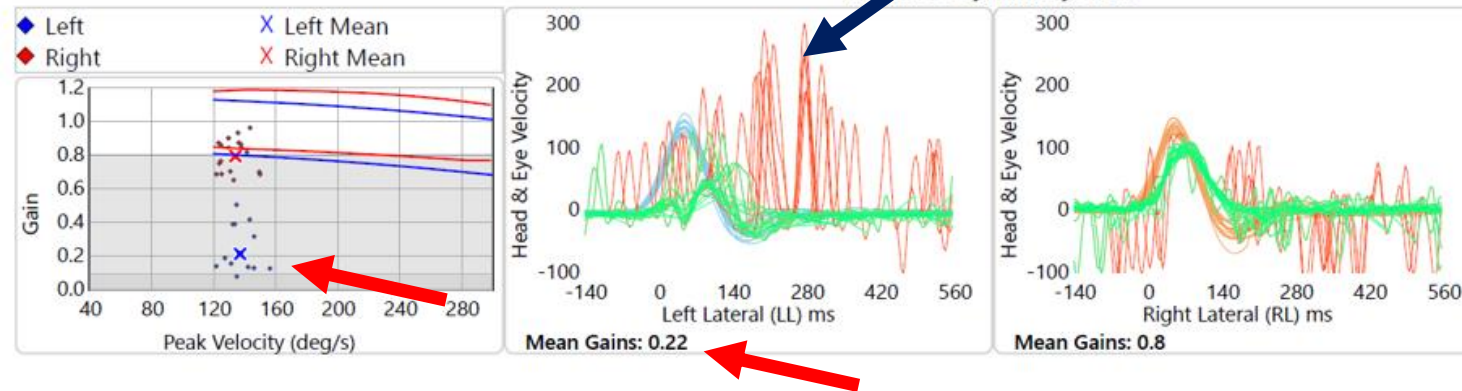


Clustering and tightening of the distributions of covert and of overt saccades with only small change in the **slow-phase VOR gain**

ADAPTATION TO A UNILATERAL VOR DEFICIT: Early and late VHIT with vestibular neuritis

24 hours

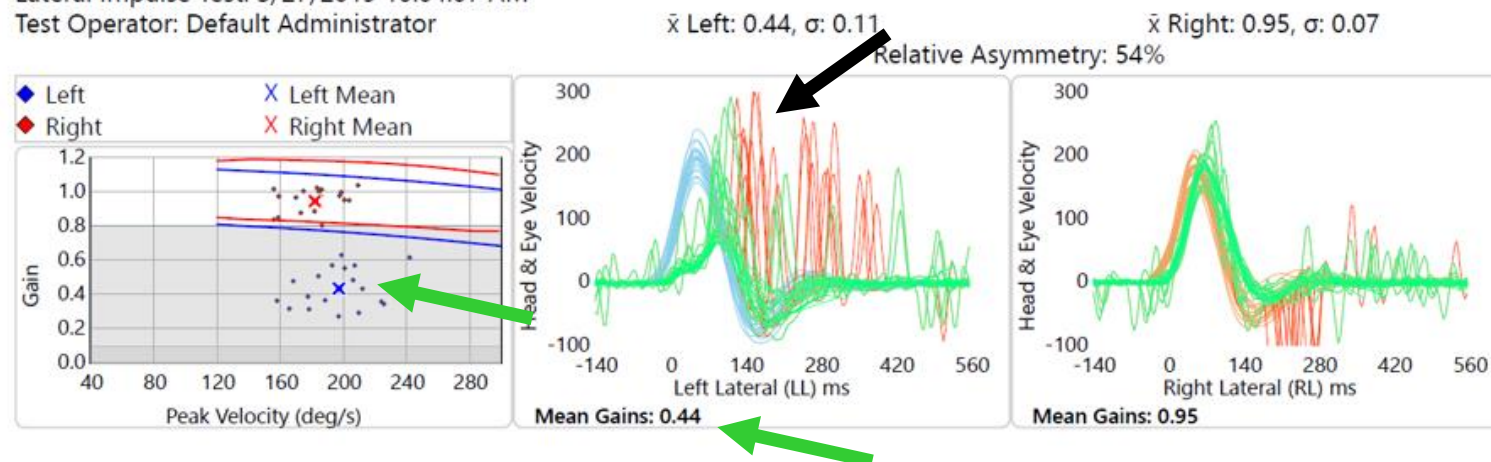
Lateral Impulse Test: 3/13/2019 2:40:15 PM
Test Operator: Default Administrator



Corrective
saccades
occurring earlier
(covert) with
doubling of the
slow-phase VOR
gain

15 DAYS

Lateral Impulse Test: 3/27/2019 10:04:07 AM
Test Operator: Default Administrator



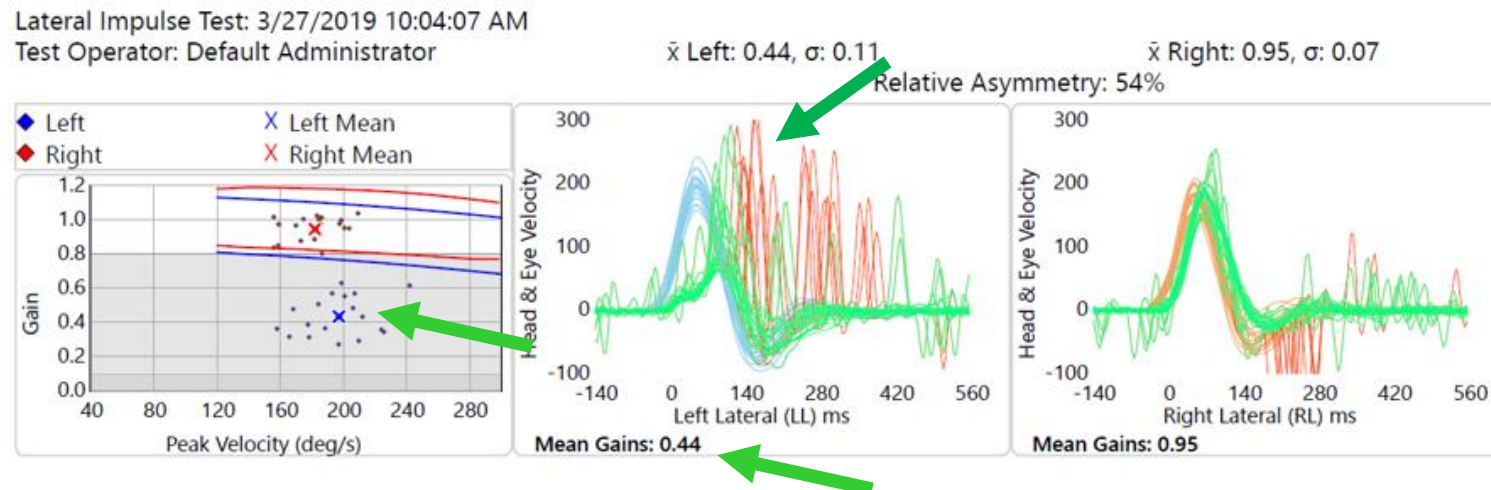
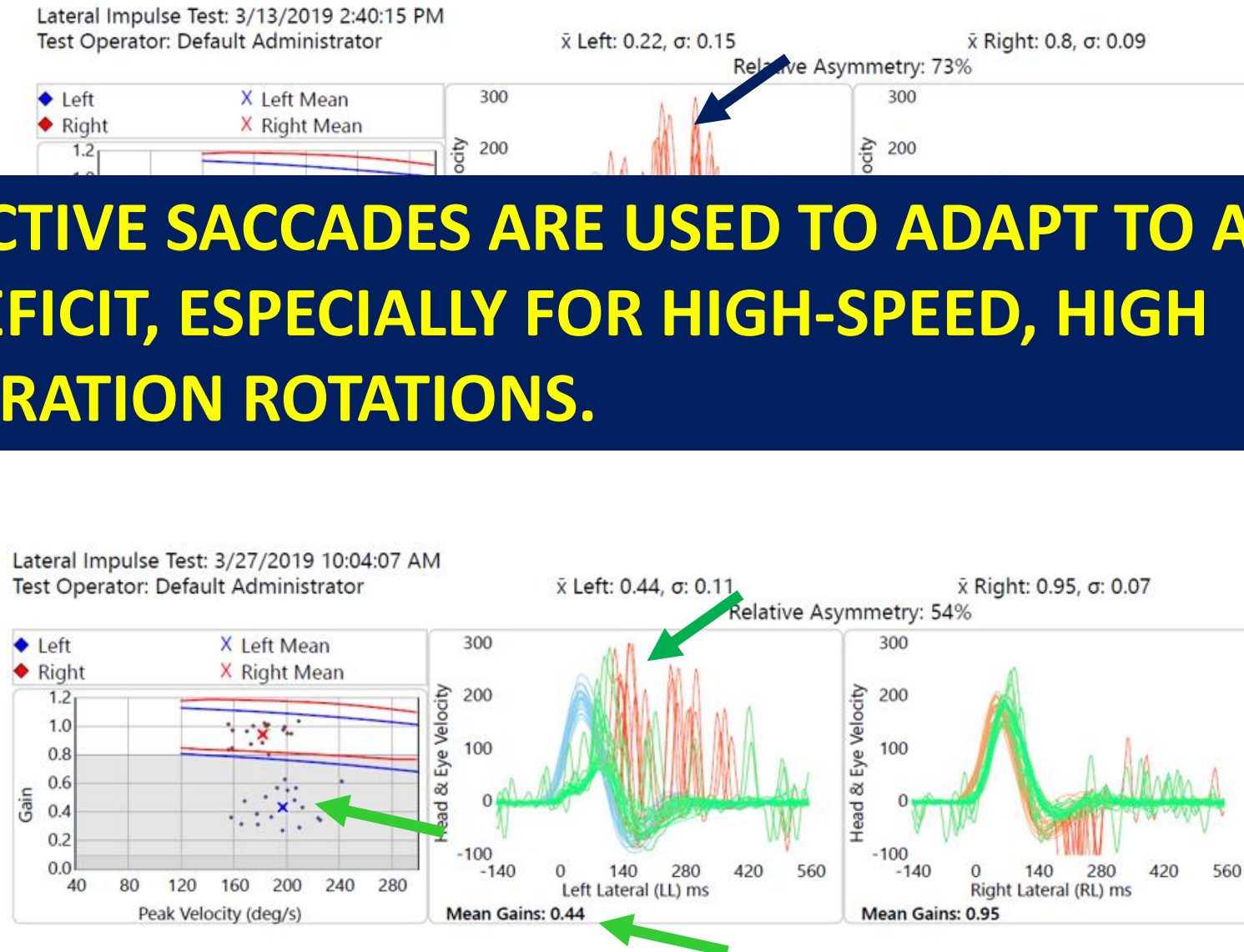
ADAPTATION TO A UNILATERAL VOR DEFICIT: Early and late VHIT with vestibular neuritis

24 h

CORRECTIVE SACCADAES ARE USED TO ADAPT TO A VOR DEFICIT, ESPECIALLY FOR HIGH-SPEED, HIGH ACCELERATION ROTATIONS.

Corrective saccades occurring earlier (covert) with doubling of the **slow-phase VOR gain**

15 DAYS



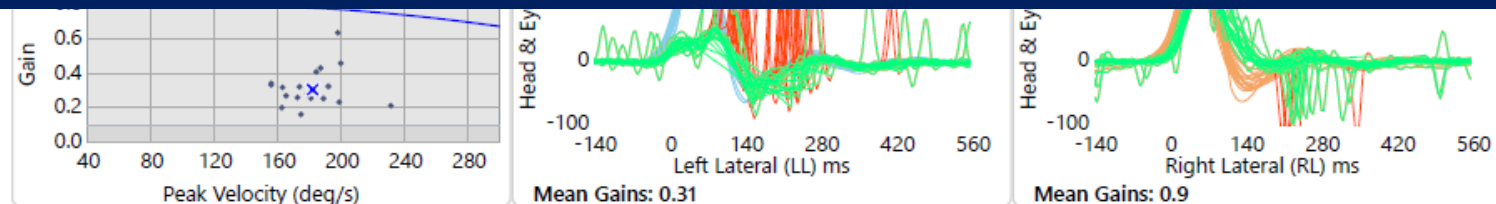
DOES THE VHIT GIVE US THE ANSWER ABOUT COMPENSATION?

Knowing WHEN a saccade occurs is NOT ENOUGH.

To WHERE the saccade takes the fovea is the vital question.

Is the position of the image of interest on the fovea?

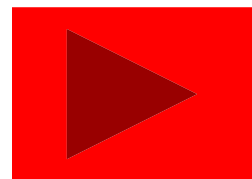
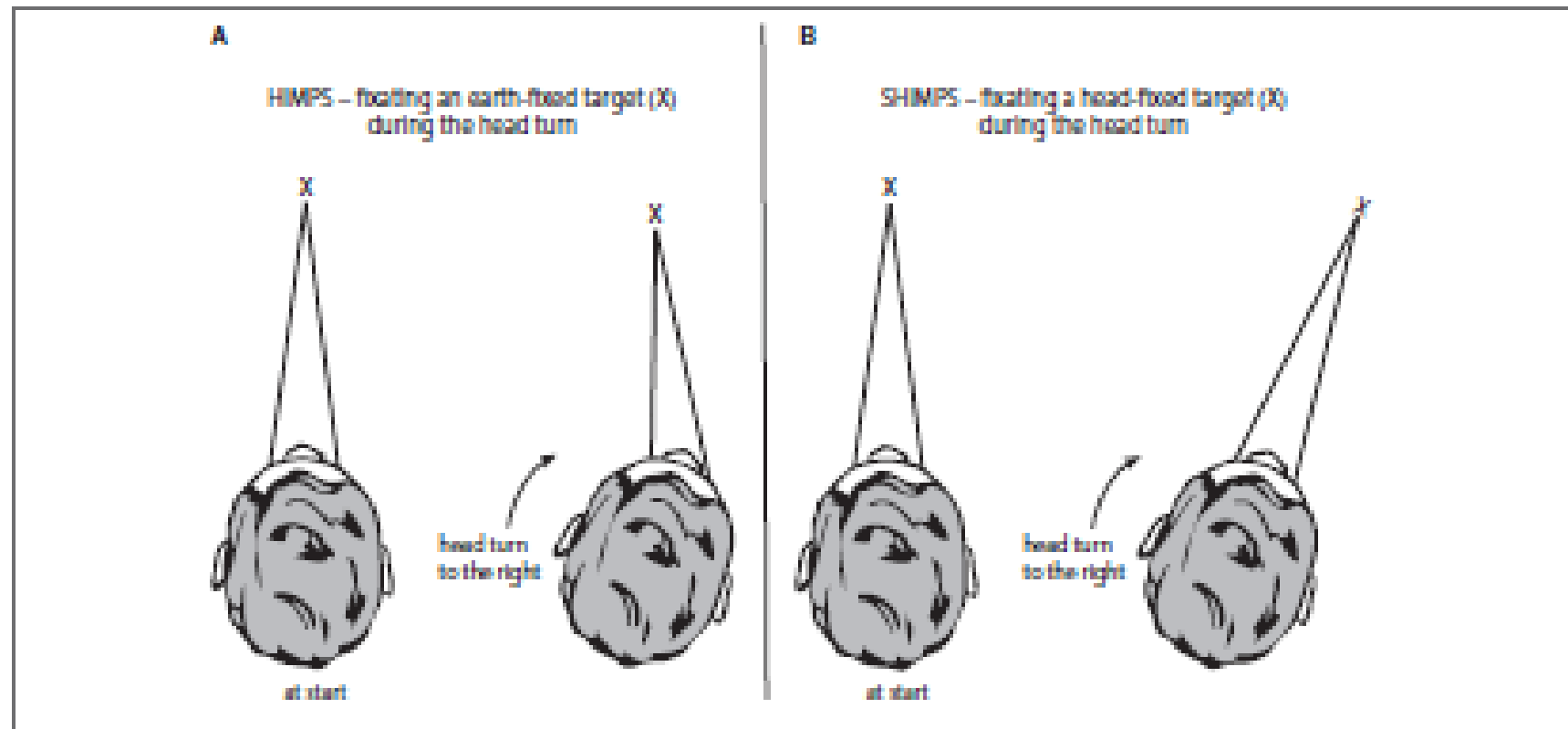
This is not revealed by current VOG recording algorithms.



THE LATEST: **HIMP** (head impulse) and **SHMP** (suppression head impulse)

HIMP uses a wall-FIXED target stationary in front of the patient to induce a normal VOR response

SHMP uses a head-FIXED laser target that moves with the head to induce a suppression VOR response



Normal Participant

HIMP

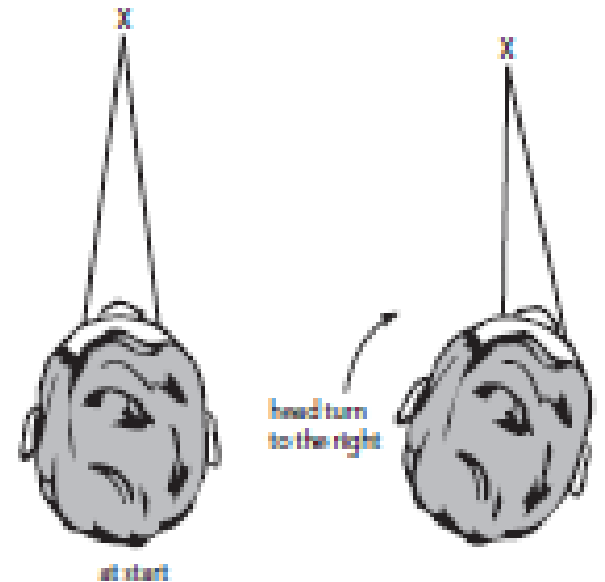
Conventional Head Impulse
Paradigm

Earth-Fixed Target

Neurology

A

HIMPS – fixating an earth-fixed target (X)
during the head turn



Normal Participant

SHIMP

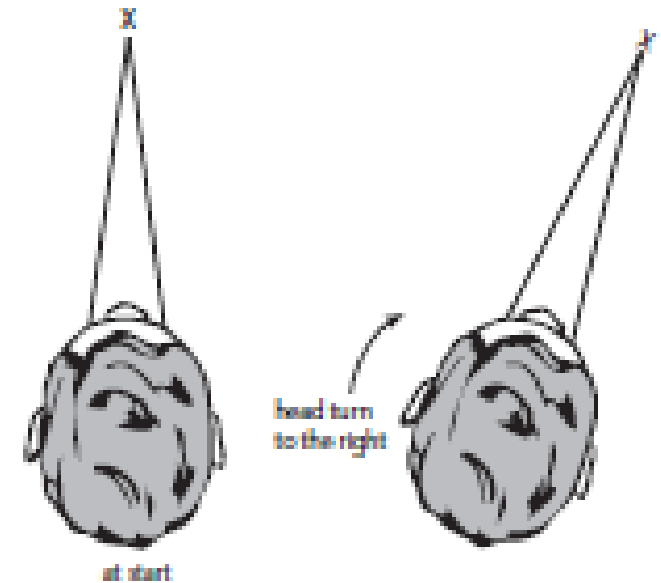
Suppression Head Impulse
Paradigm

Head-Fixed Laser Target

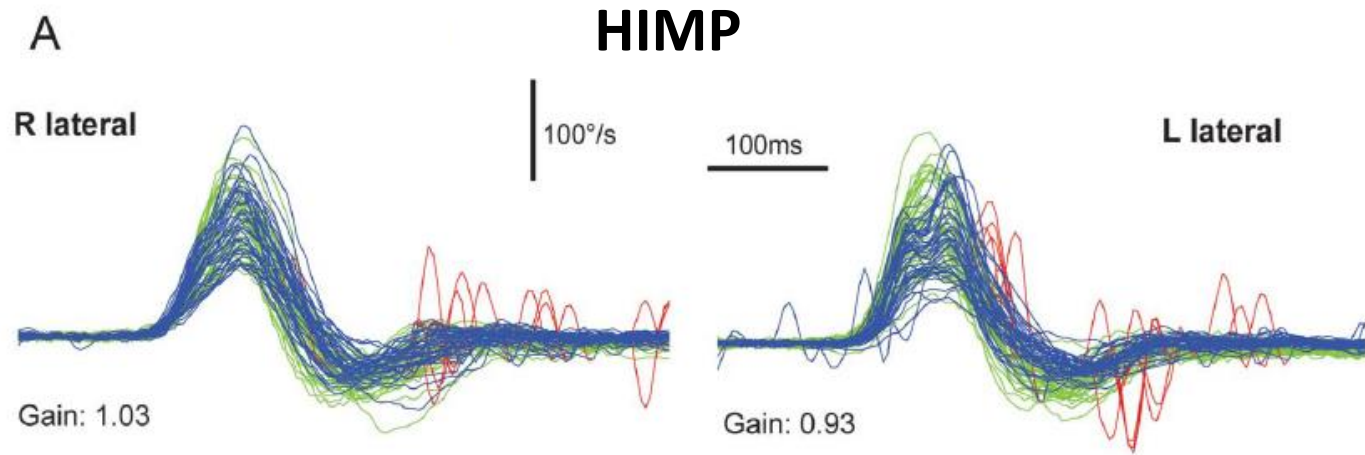
Neurology

B

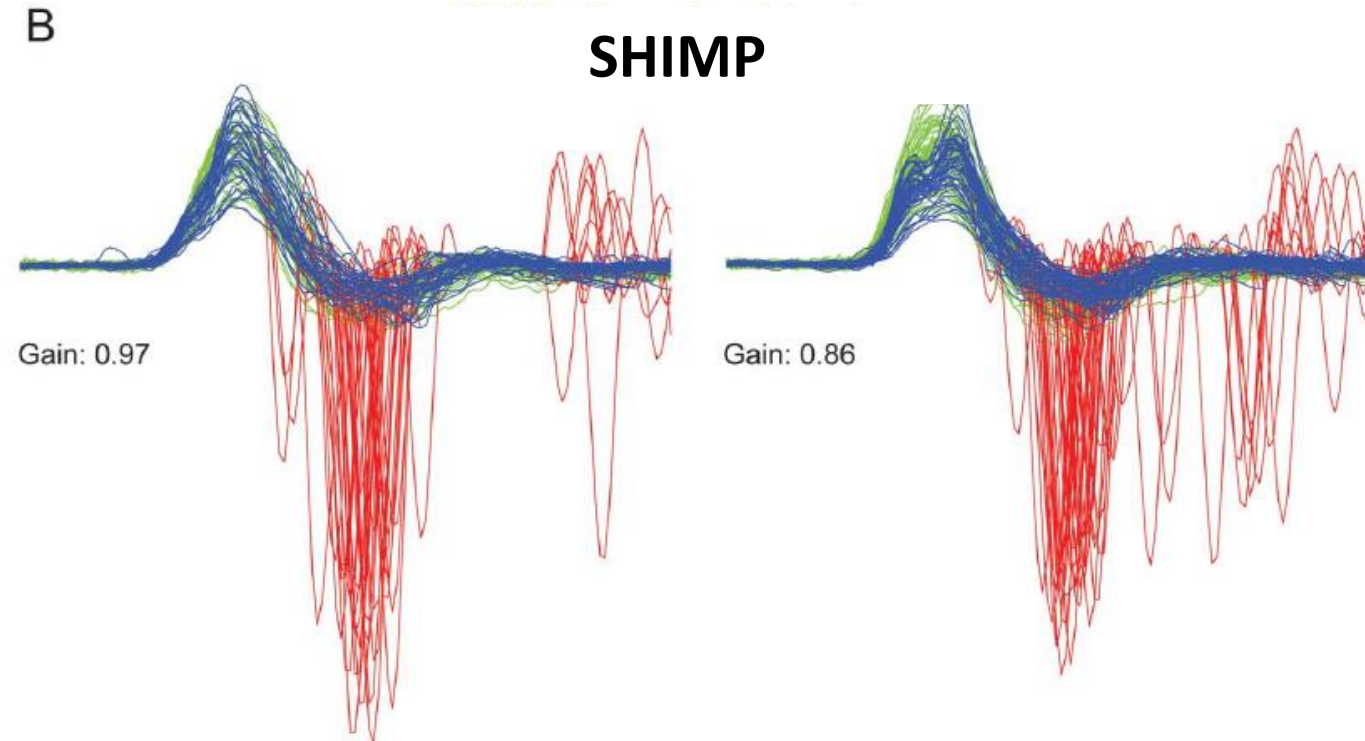
SHIMPS – fixating a head-fixed target (X)
during the head turn



NORMAL SUBJECT



**NO CORRECTIVE
SACCADES in a
normal subject**



**CORRECTIVE
SACCADES in a
normal subject**

UNILATERAL LOSS PATIENT

NO
CORRECTIVE
SACCADES

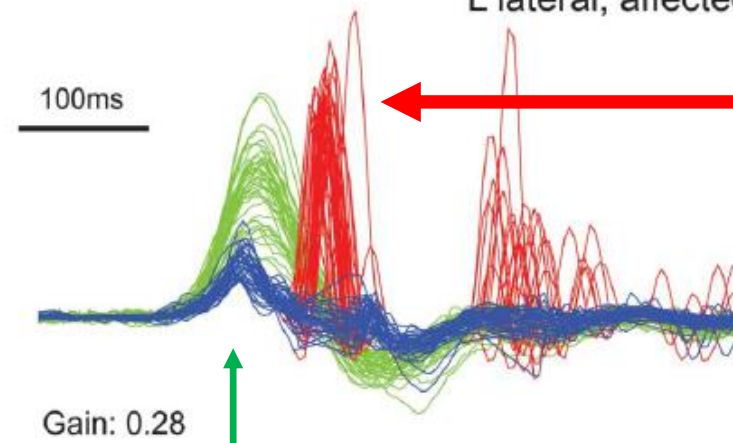
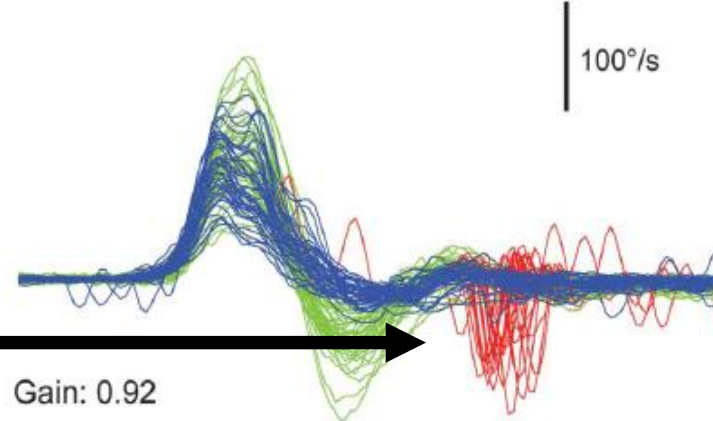
A NORMAL SIDE

R lateral, healthy

HIMP

AFFECTED SIDE

L lateral, affected

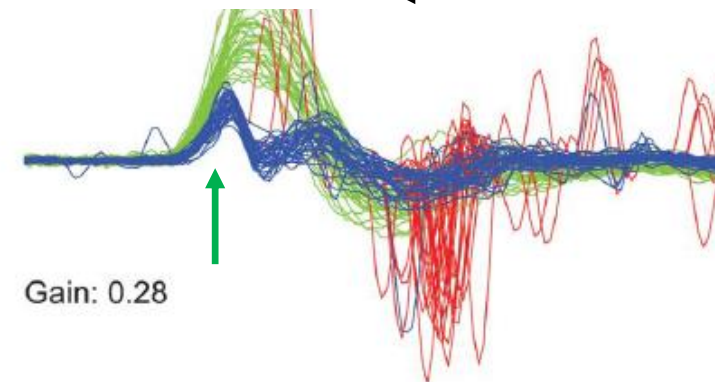
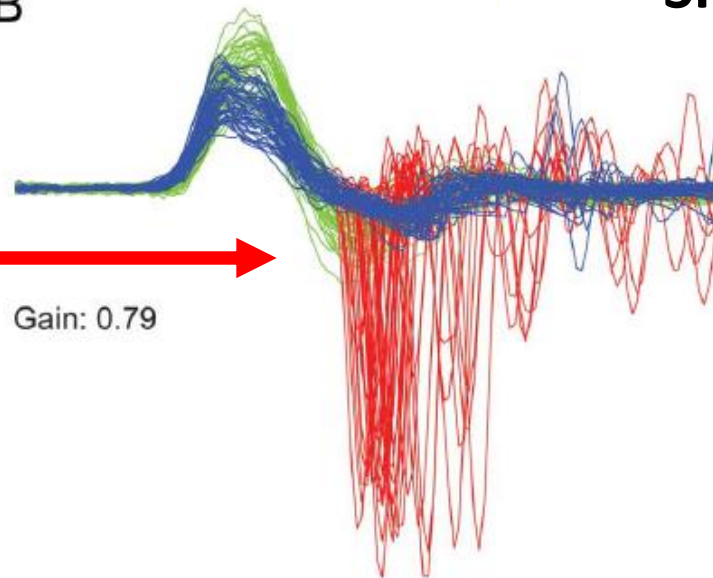


CORRECTIVE
SACCADES

B

SHIMP

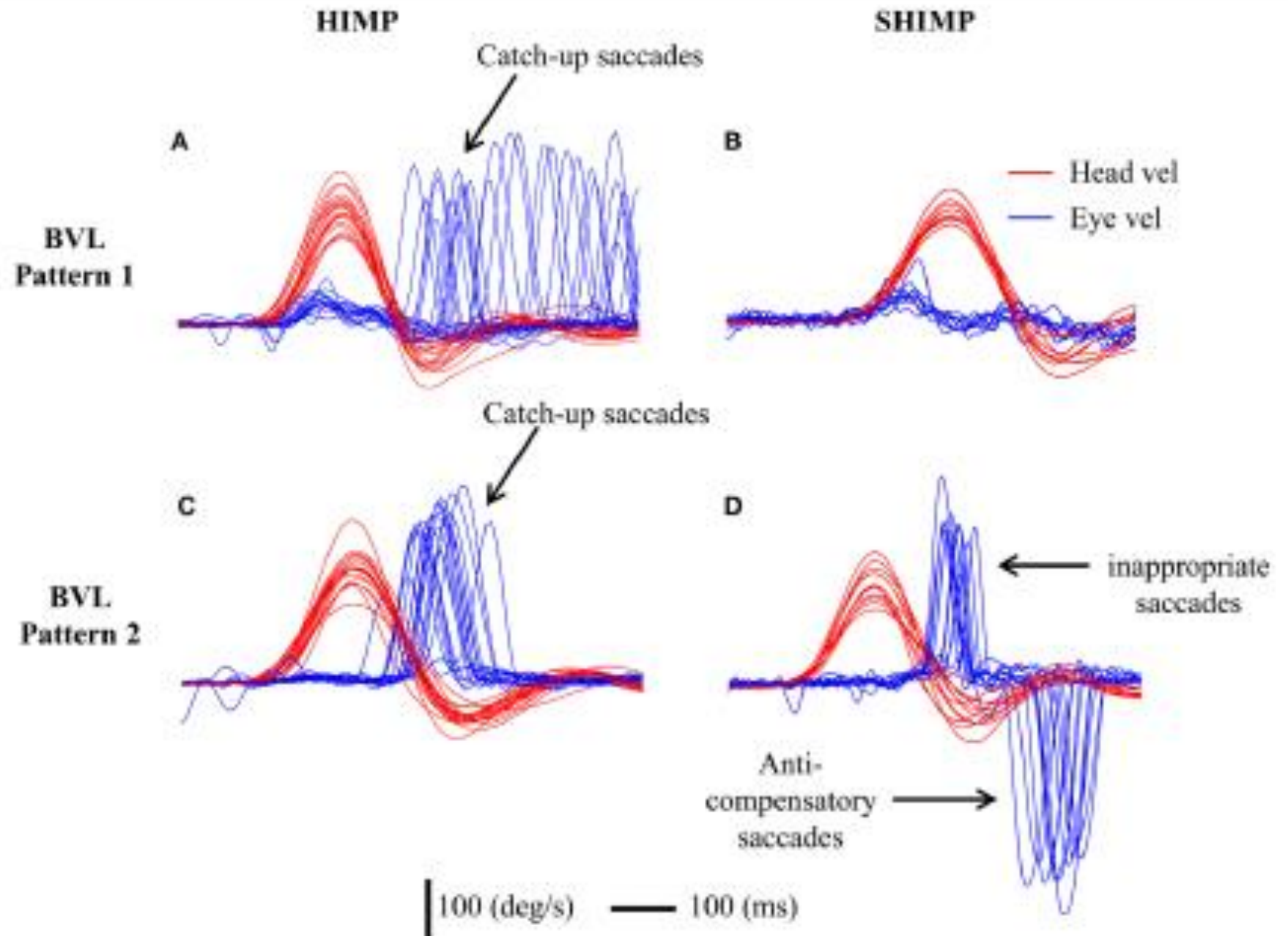
CORRECTIVE
SACCADES



NO
CORRECTIVE
SACCADES

BILATERAL LOSS PATIENTS:

PREPROGRAMMED CORRECTIVE SACCADES



WHY DO A SHIMP?

- IF there is a slow-phase deficit, it may be easier to calculate the slow-phase VOR gain with SHIMP because covert corrective saccades, seen in the HIMP, are no longer needed or present, and so do not confound the measures of the slow-phase response.
- SHIMP allows you to study predictive factors on slow-phase gain (the subject knows the target is head fixed and will need to suppress the VOR slow phase.) as well as on saccade generation
- SHIMP allows you to study corrective saccade mechanisms (and adaptation) by comparing with corrective saccades in HIMP.

MORE BEDSIDE THINKING!

Flocculus/Paraflocculus syndrome: Downbeat, gaze-evoked and rebound nystagmus in cerebellar atrophy



Cerebellar atrophy: SCA6



Flocculus/Paraflocculus syndrome

Impaired pursuit and vestibuloocular reflex (VOR) cancellation (fixation suppression)

Pursuit and VOR cancellation



Patient with cerebellar disease

Impaired pursuit

Intact VOR suppression

=

VOR

BILATERAL LOSS

Recall VOR suppression
is a pursuit function



CEREBELLAR DYSFUNCTION PLUS VOR LOSS

Impaired pursuit

Intact VOR suppression

=

VOR

BILATERAL LOSS



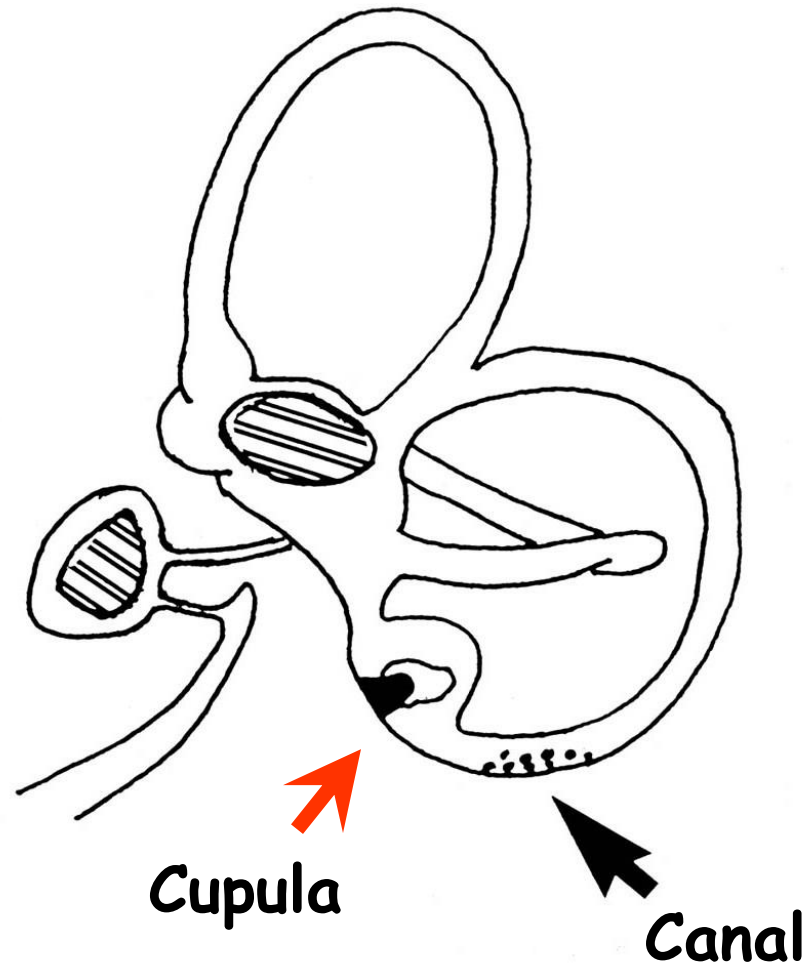
CANVAS syndrome (Cerebellar ataxia, neuropathy, vestibular areflexia syndrome), autosomal recessive

- **Recessive disorder ((chromosome 4, RFC1, DNA repair mechanism (replication factor D subunit 1)**
- **Progressive ataxia**
- **As many as 25% of LOCA (late onset cerebellar ataxia without a FH may carry this genetic defect)**
- **Profound sensory neuropathy including on face (ganglioneuropathy)**
- **Chronic cough**
- **Loss of sweating and other autonomic features**
- **Loss of bilateral vestibular function**
 - **Differential diagnosis of ataxia plus vestibular areflexia**
 - **Friederich's ataxia**
 - **SCA3**
 - **MSA**
 - **Wernicke's disease**
 - **CJD**
 - **Superficial Siderosis**
 - **CANVAS**

One more example: the clinical exam “trumps” imaging

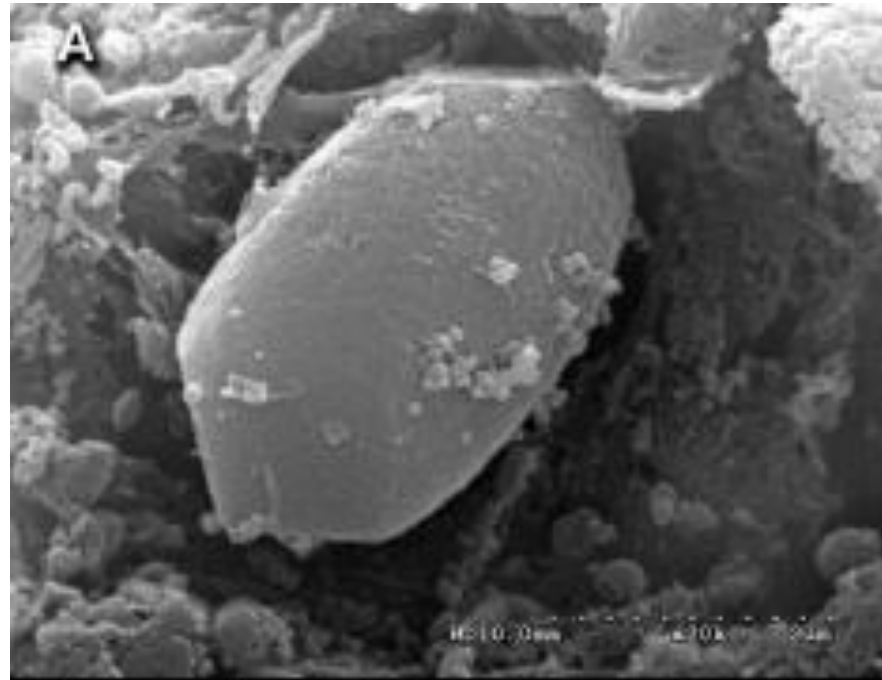
- The HINTS bedside algorithm that warns for a stroke in the patient with an acute vestibular syndrome (AVS)
 - Head impulse test **NEGATIVE** (counterintuitive)
 - Gaze-evoked nystagmus, changing direction on right vs left gaze
 - Skew deviation (vertical misalignment)
 - (HINTS PLUS: unilateral hearing symptoms, inability to walk)
- **HINTS is BETTER than an MRI at detecting a possible stroke in the first 48 hrs. Early negative MRI does not EXCLUDE a stroke in patients with positive HINTs**
- **This is even more true for a CT scan. Unless there is headache or a propensity for bleeding, CT scan is USELESS in the patient with AVS**

Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (BPPV)

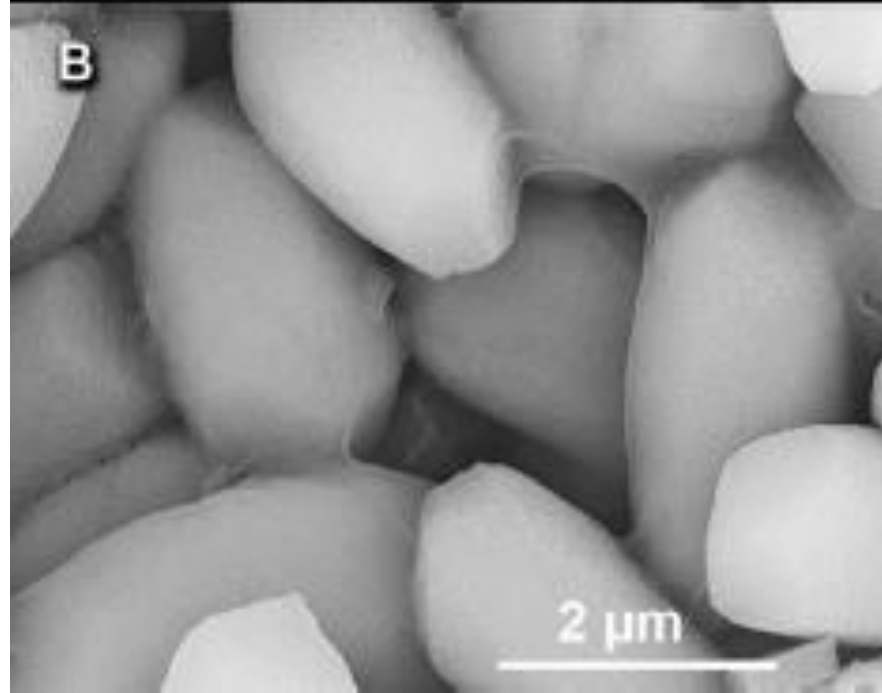


OTOCONIA

Pathological



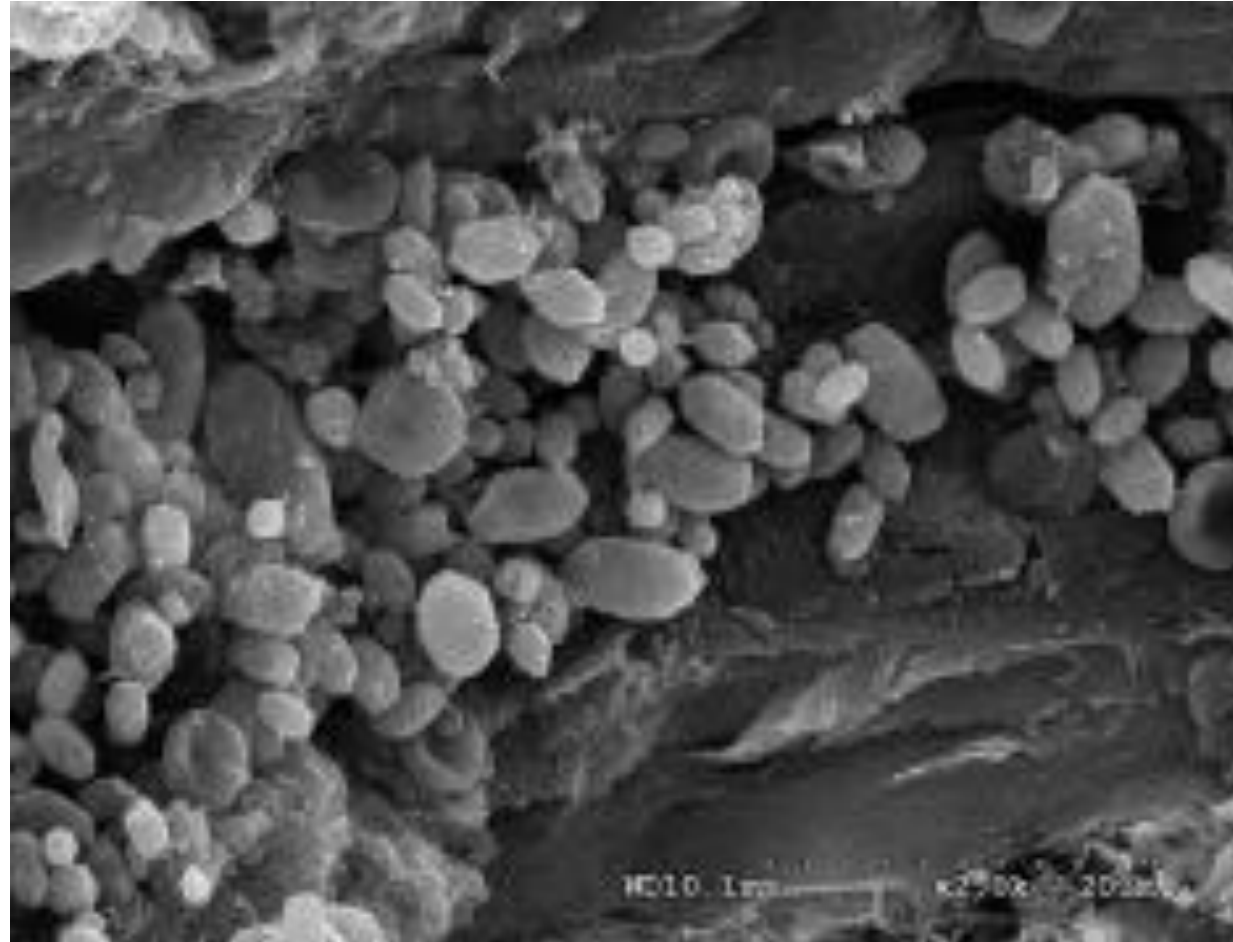
Normal



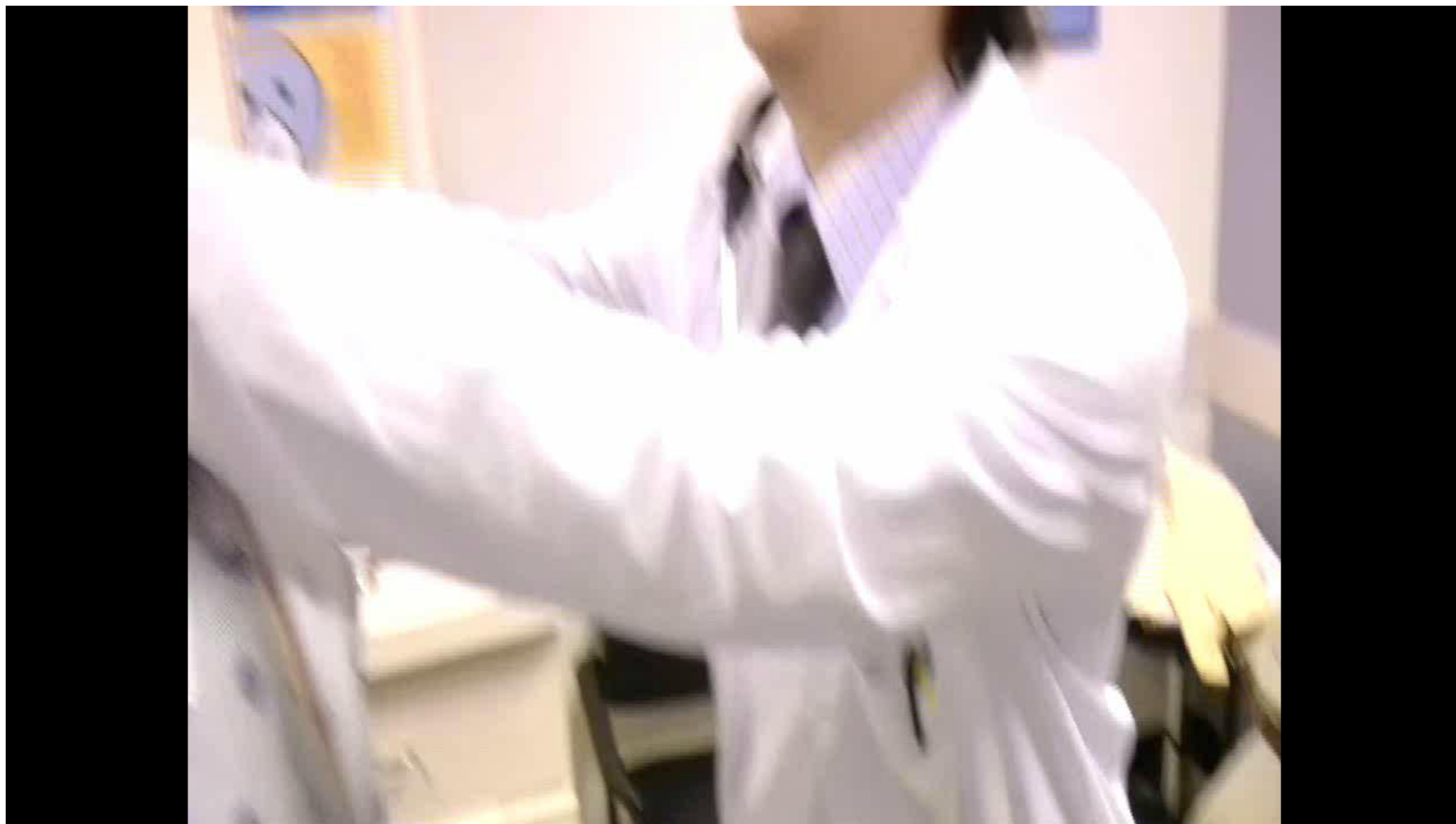
Kao, Parnes, 2017

Pathological

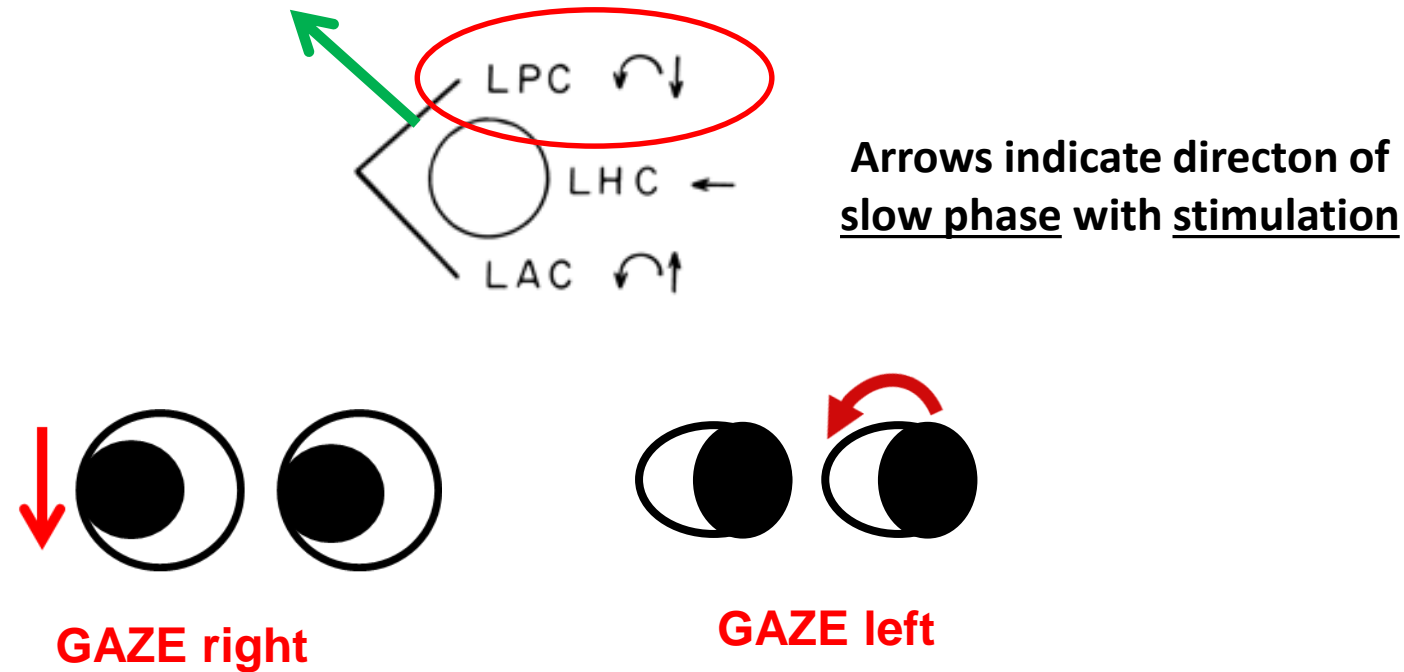
Kao, Parnes, 2017



Rolling stones (otoconia) are not always free-floating but also embedded in floating otolithic membranes creating possibilities for peculiar patterns of benign positional nystagmus and “canalolithic jam”



- Ewald's First Law: Eyes (head) rotates in a plane parallel to that of head rotation as detected by the SCC in that plane. So the VOR stabilizes gaze (eye in space) around all three axes of head rotation NO MATTER WHAT THE DIRECTION OF GAZE, i.e., HEAD-FIXED



- CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS: With **LEFT** BPPV, on gaze right the eyes move **vertically** and on gaze left **torsionally**. i.e., the globe rotates around a fixed **axis orthogonal** to the canal plane, i.e., in a **plane parallel** to the canal. Same principle applies to superior canal dehiscence(SCD)

EPLEY RX right BPPV



**Kraeling, Topics in Companion Animal Medicine,
2014**

Lateral canal bppv: apogeotropic right ear affected

NOTE the effect of CONVERGENCE



Lateral canal bppv: apogeotropic right ear affected



NOTE: In lateral canal BPPV, when the patient is lying on the side in which the nystagmus is most intense, the nystagmus will be beating toward the affected ear, i.e., geotropic, with affected ear down and apogeotropic, with affected ear up

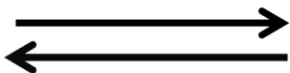
PATTERNS OF HEAD-SHAKING INDUCED NYSTAGMUS



Head-shaking induced nystagmus (HSN) in peripheral labyrinthine disease



SOMETHING 'NEW' FOR THE ACUTE VERTIGO PATIENT



Tilt suppression (Tilt supp) of a head-shaking induced nystagmus.

(Note the head is tilted just after the head shaking stops)

- Normal with peripheral lesions
- Impaired with central (nodulus) lesions



UPRIGHT



CHAIR



TILT



Normal Tilt
supp

POST-ROTATORY

60°/s (L)
0
60°/s (R)

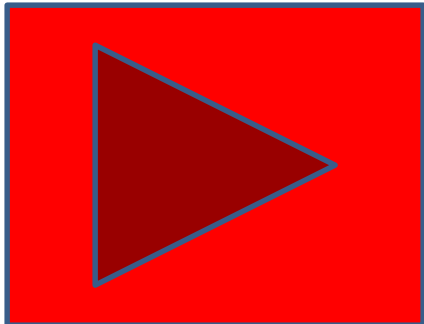
NO Tilt supp

POST-ROTATORY

60°/s (L)
0
60°/s (R)

Zuma et al.

Hyperventilation

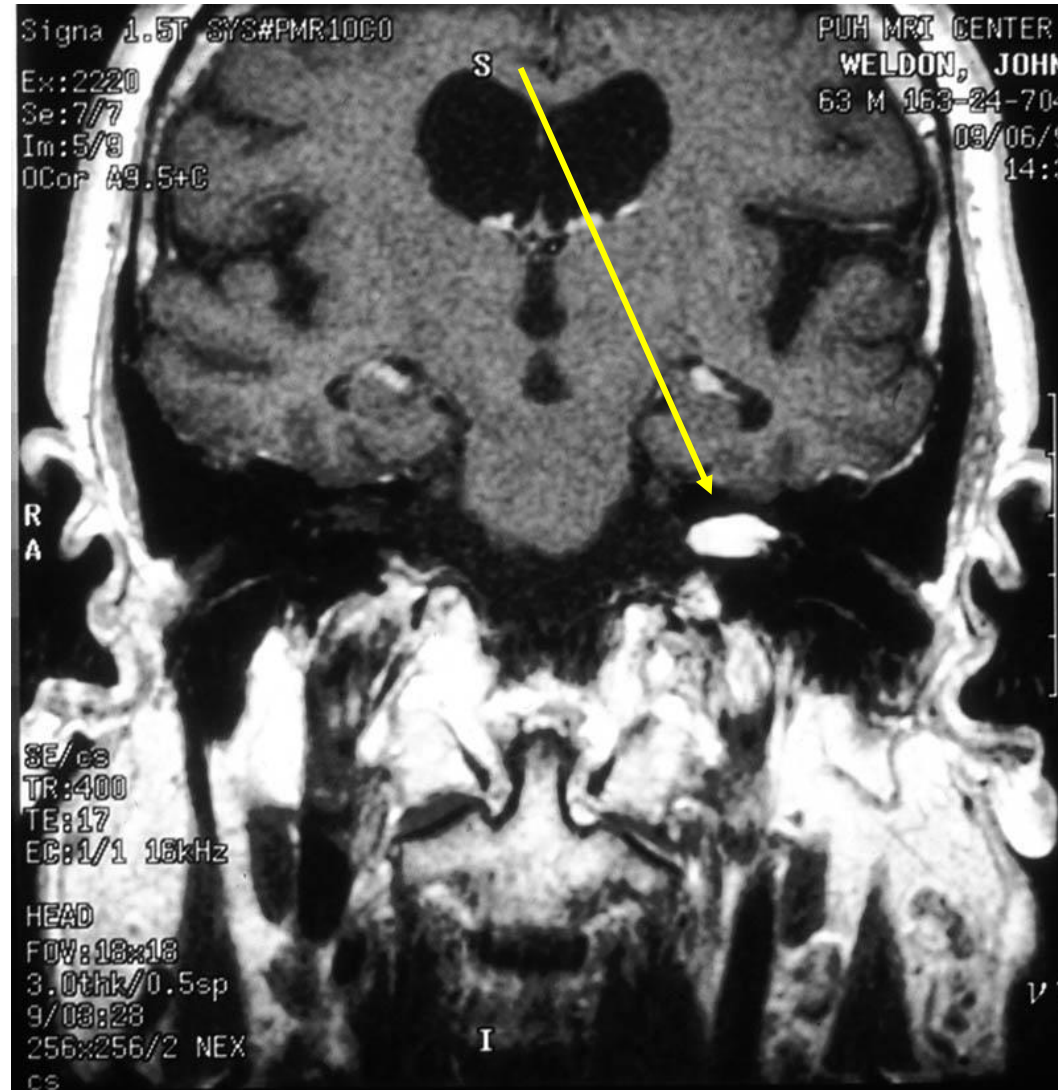


**Patient with slightly asymmetrical hearing loss and
mild imbalance**

Hyperventilation



Hyperventilation-induced nystagmus

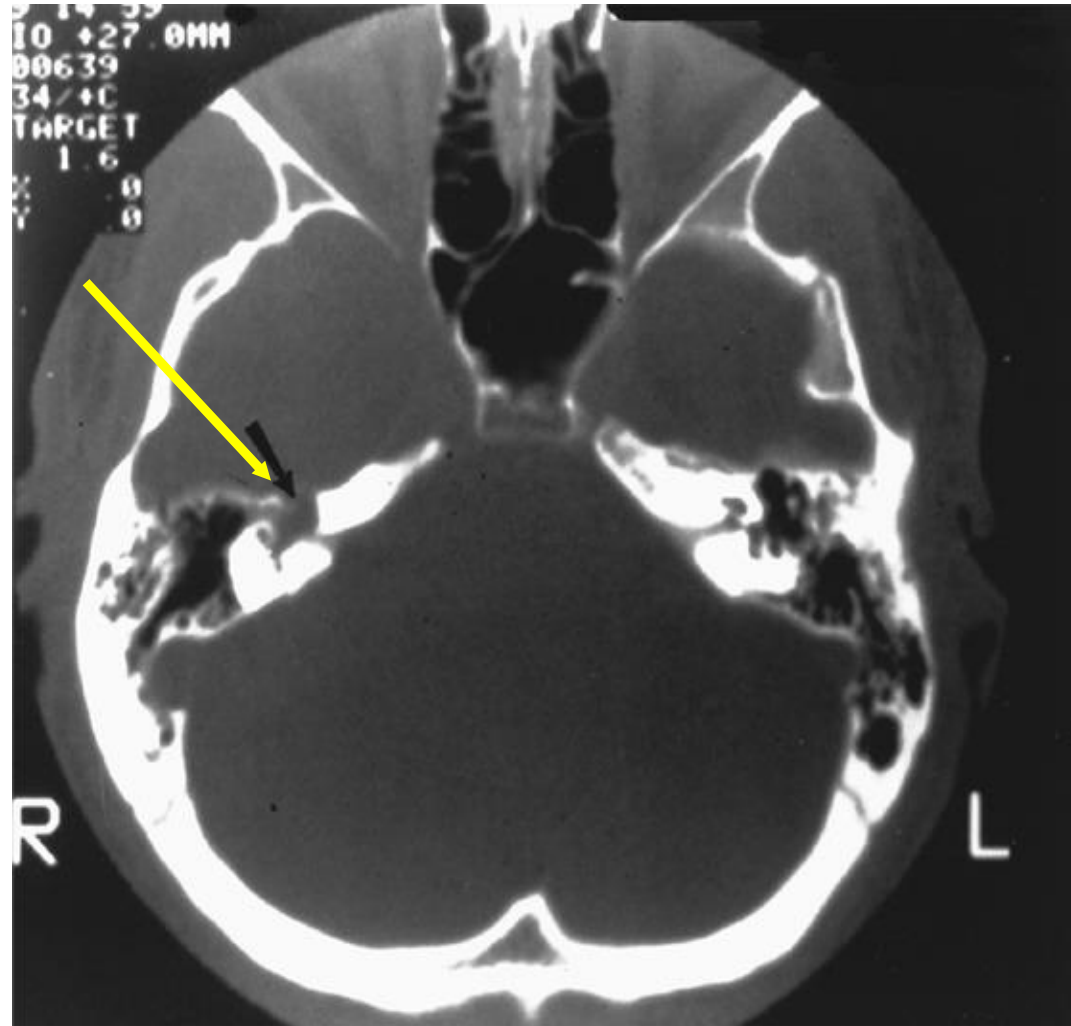


Vestibular Schwannoma

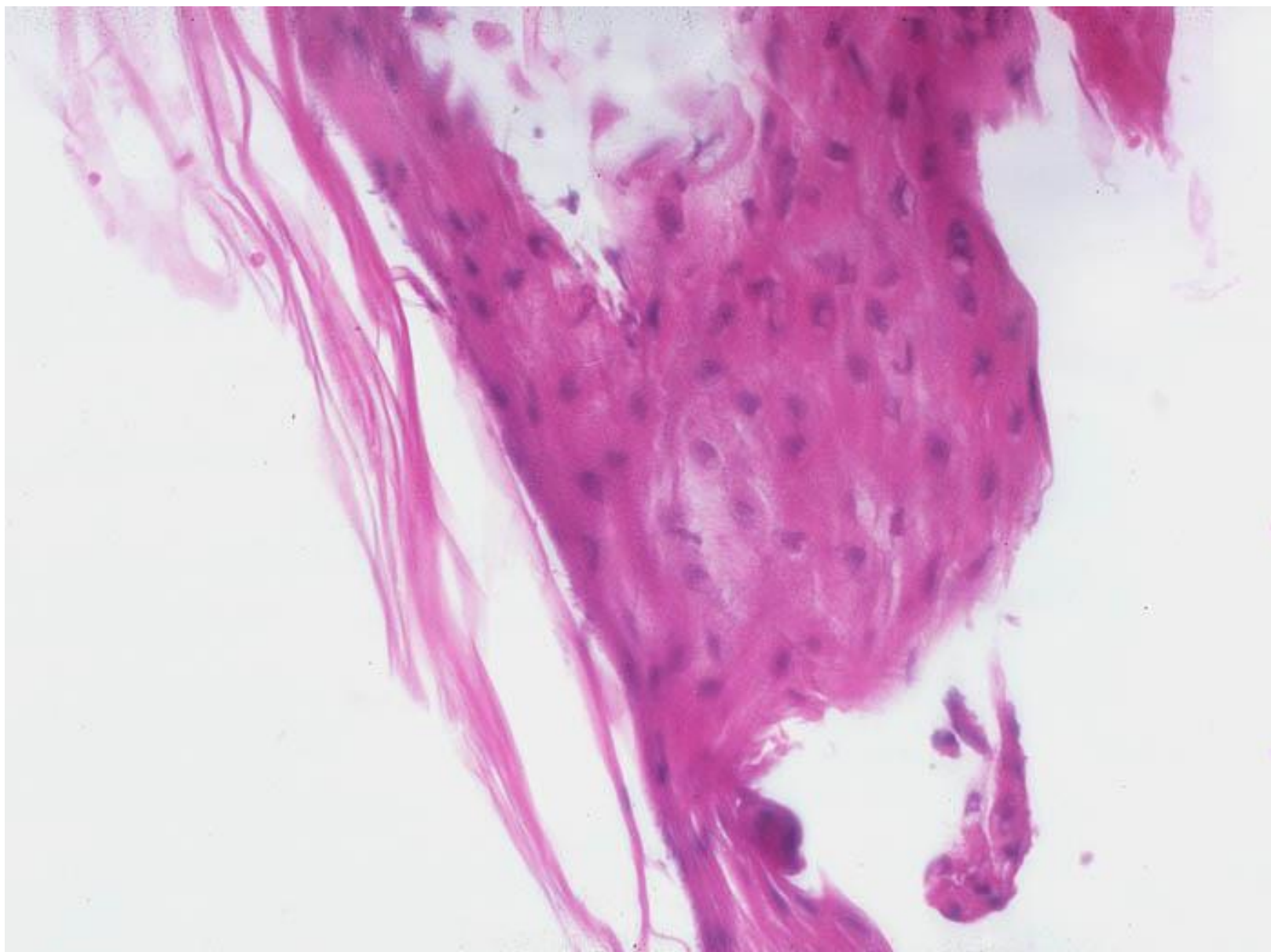
Patient with dizziness when playing lacrosse



Hyperventilation-induced nystagmus



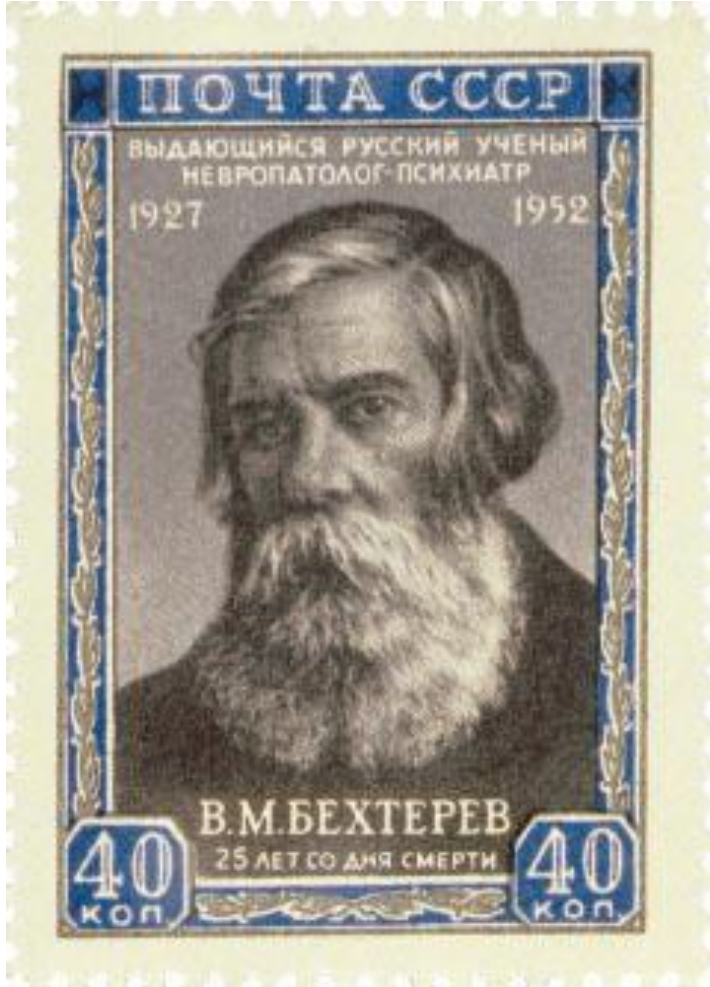
Congenital Epidermoid



RECOVERY NYSTAGMUS

- After a unilateral peripheral loss of vestibular function there is a central rebalancing to eliminate the spontaneous nystagmus.
- If peripheral function suddenly “recovers” (e.g., by improved conduction on demyelinated nerves because of pH changes due to hyperventilation), a new imbalance is created causing a recovery nystagmus with slow phases directed away from the affected ear.

Recovery nystagmus and Bechterev's phenomenon



- Loss of function in one labyrinth produces spontaneous nystagmus that slowly recovers over day
- If then, there is loss of function in the other labyrinth, again there is a transient (days) spontaneous nystagmus (slow phase toward the more recently affected labyrinth) even though caloric testing shows NO response in either ear.

EXAMPLES

- Hyperventilation induced nystagmus with a demyelinating lesion on VIII nerve
- Meniere's syndrome
- Post Labyrinthitis

THINK ADAPTATION AT THE BEDSIDE!



Bedside vestibular testing



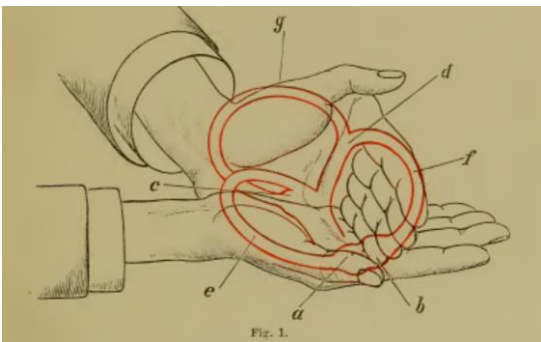
Bedside vestibular testing



Bedside vestibular testing



Kesselring



TAKE AWAY MESSAGE for the vestibular clinician

The KEY to successful diagnosis STILL requires



Focused HISTORY taking

A careful BEDSIDE CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Use of ANATOMICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES developed by the European masters of the 19th century

**Alexander
Ewald
Flourens**

**Breuer
Bárány
Bechterev**

**Hőgyes
Purkyně
Mach**

TAKE AWAY MESSAGE for the vestibular clinician

- **MUCH CAN BE LEARNED ABOUT HOW THE BRAIN WORKS**
- **AND HOW TO DIAGNOSE AND TREAT OUR PATIENTS**
- **AT THE BEDSIDE USING YOUR OWN EYES AND EARS!**

