

Sleep as a Network State (Part I)

Robert Joseph Thomas, M.D.

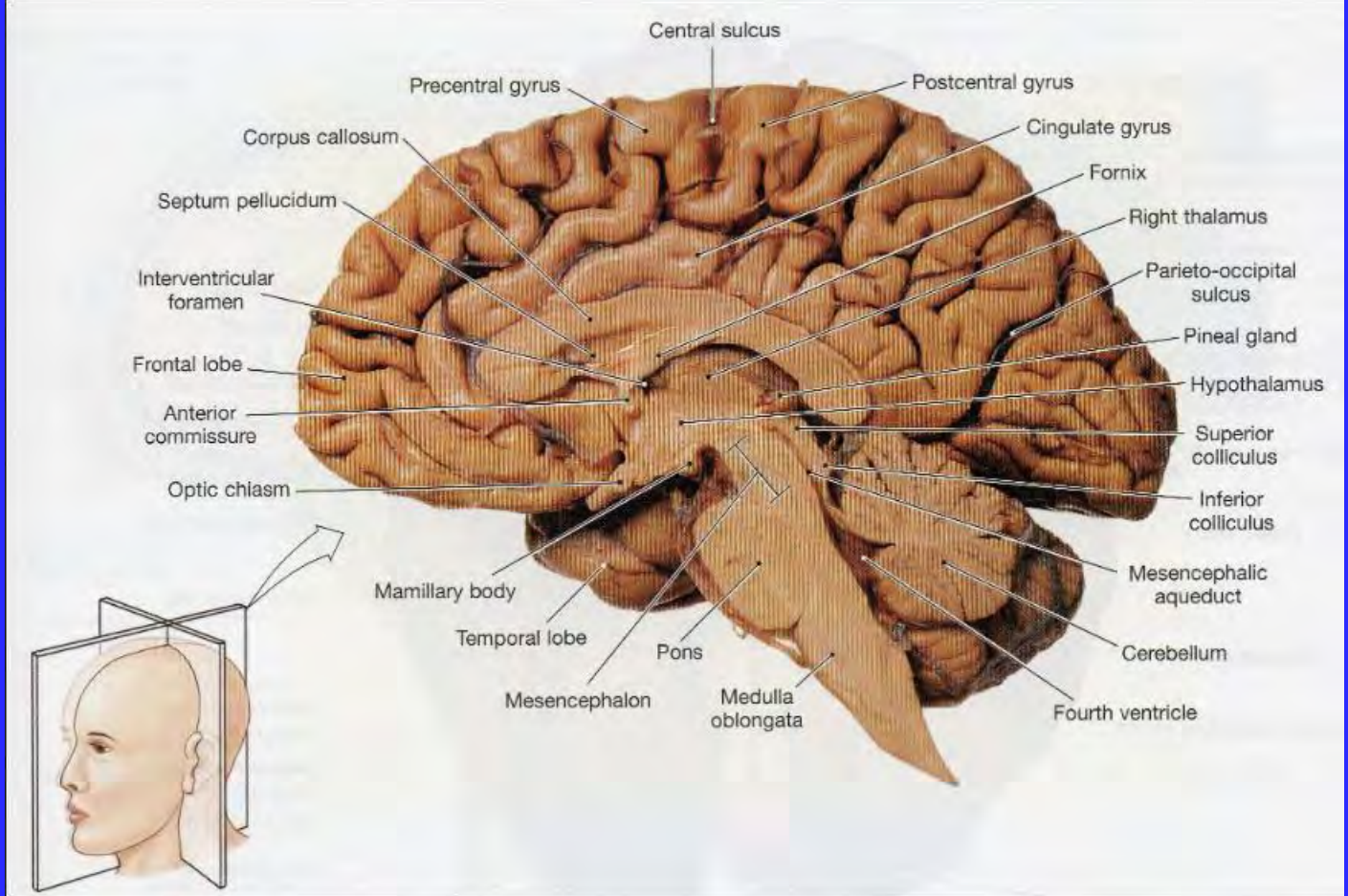
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston,
MA, USA

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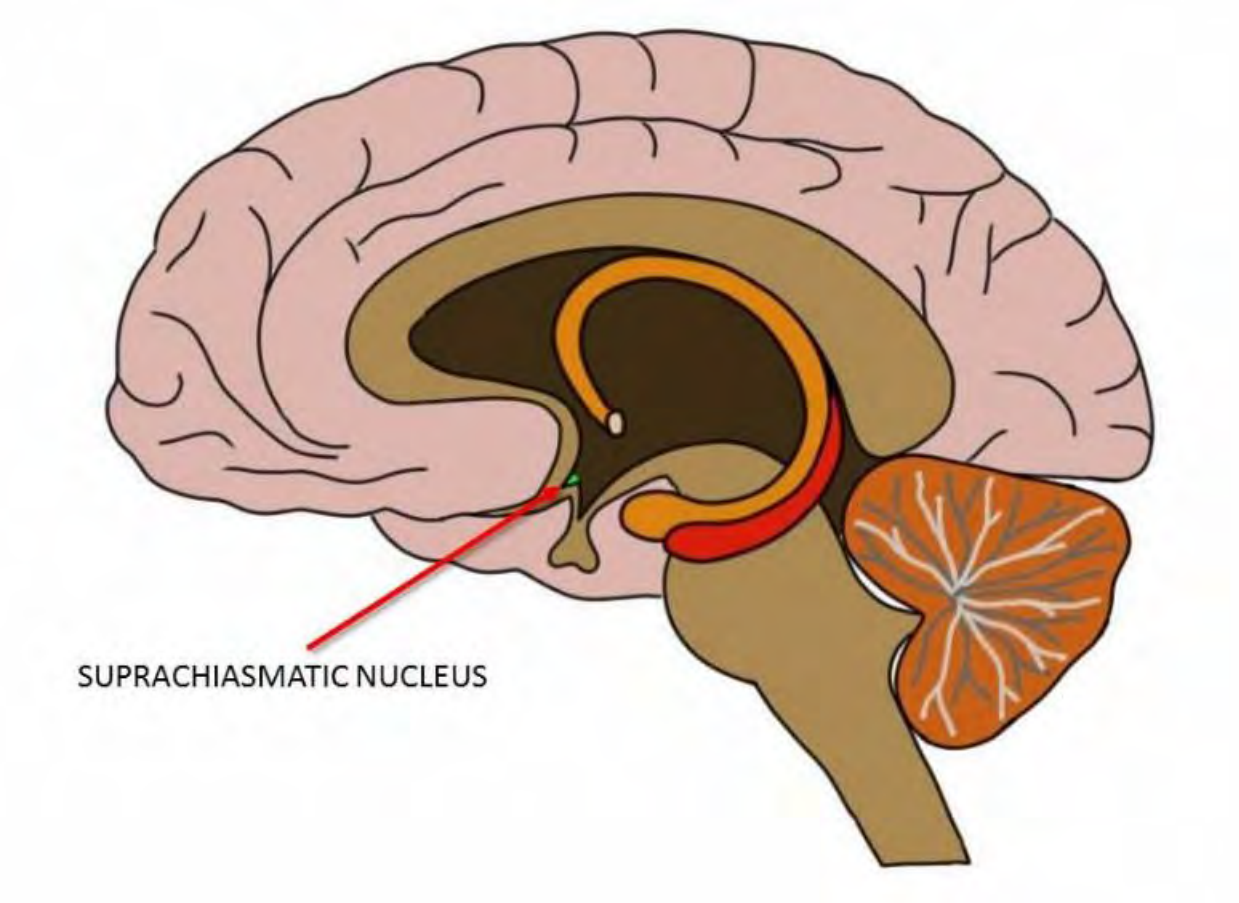
Type of Potential Conflict	Details of Potential Conflict
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Financial support	
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1. Thomas RJ, Mietus JE, Peng CK, Goldberger AL. An electrocardiogram-based technique to assess cardiopulmonary coupling during sleep. *Sleep*. 2005;28:1151-61.

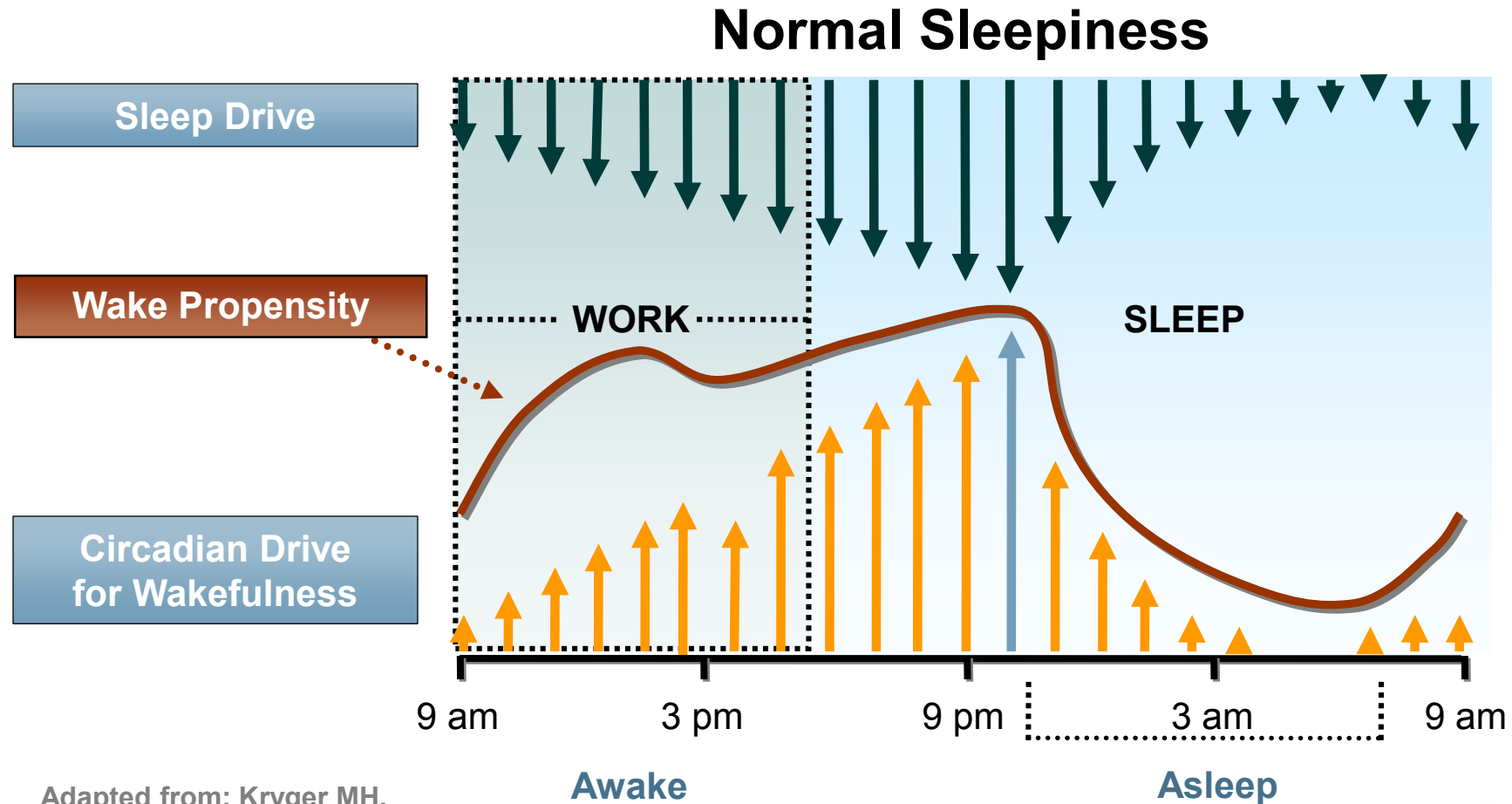




fineart
america



Physiologic Determinants of Sleepiness



Adapted from: Kryger MH,
et al. Principles and
Practices of Sleep Medicine.
2000.

Multi-system effects of sleep

Multi-system effects of sleep

- Brain “housekeeping”
 - Attention, executive function, memory, affective regulation
- Cardiovascular and autonomic resetting
- Metabolic regulation
 - Appetite regulation
- Inflammation control
 - Neuroendocrine and neuroimmune modulation
- Motor / musculoskeletal rest
 - Intuitive

Cortical sleep

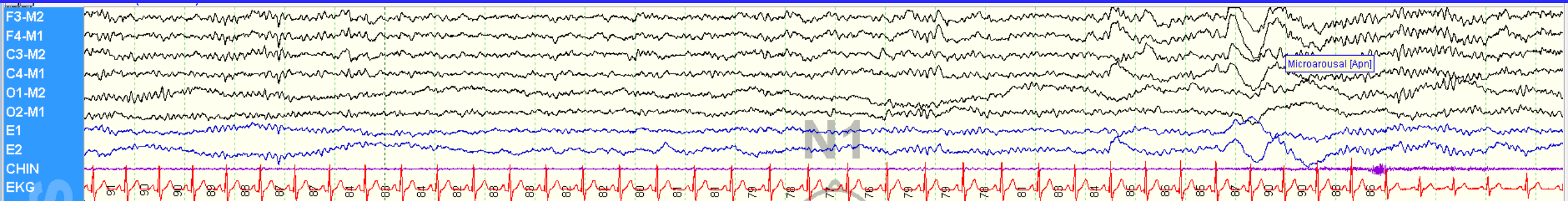
- Highly local process
 - Slow waves, UP/DOWN states, traveling waves
- Use-dependent features
- Complex network dynamics
 - Ocean waves
- Complex synaptic dynamics
 - Worm-like
 - Synaptic homeostasis model

Measurement of sleep

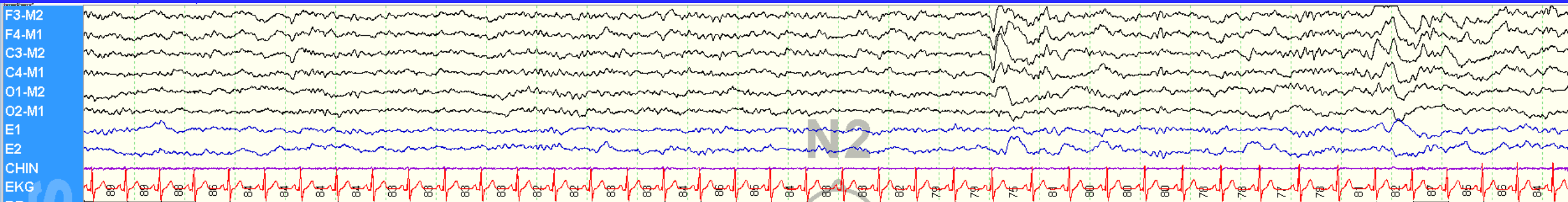
- Classic EEG based
- Dense array EEG
- Respiratory
- Autonomic
- Movement
- Blood biomarkers
- Gene expression / transcriptome



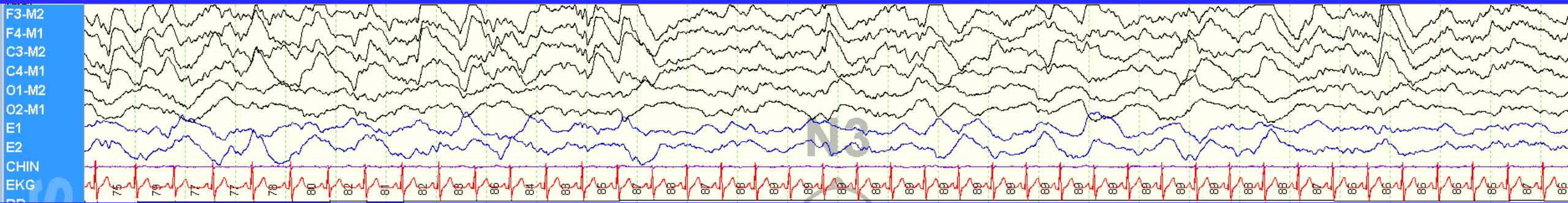
N1



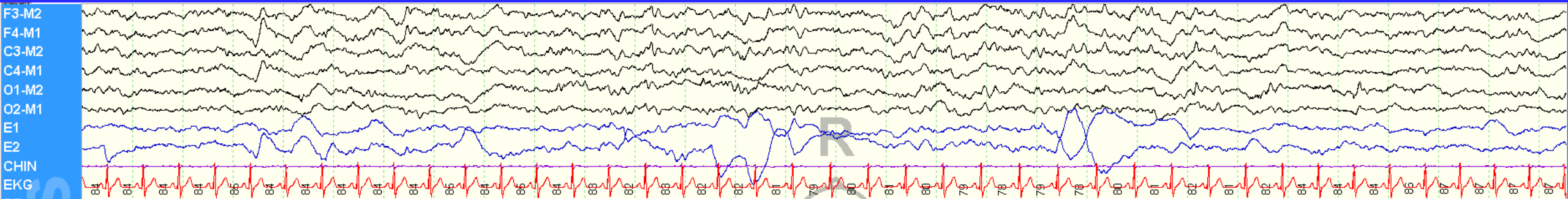
N2



N3

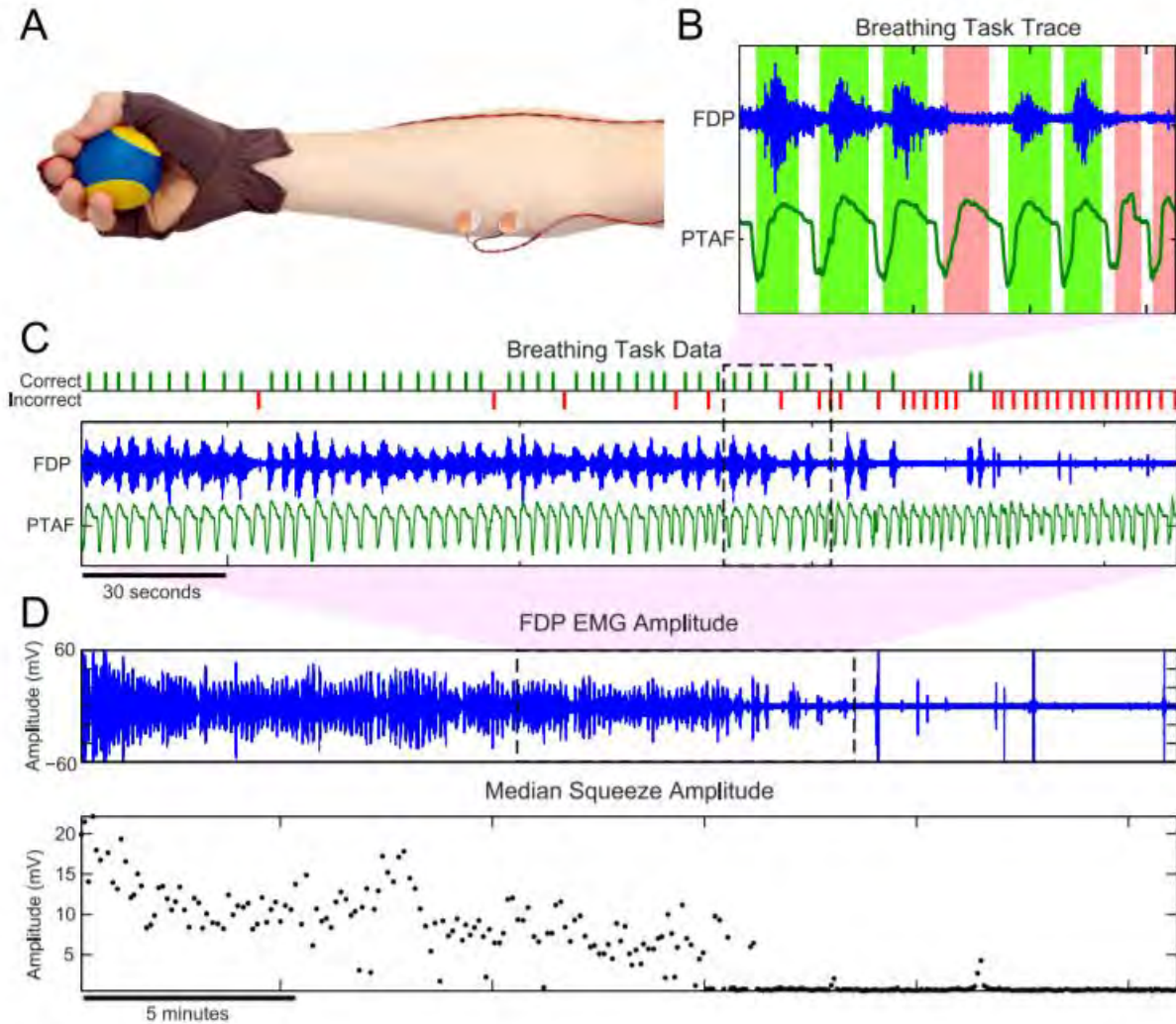


REM

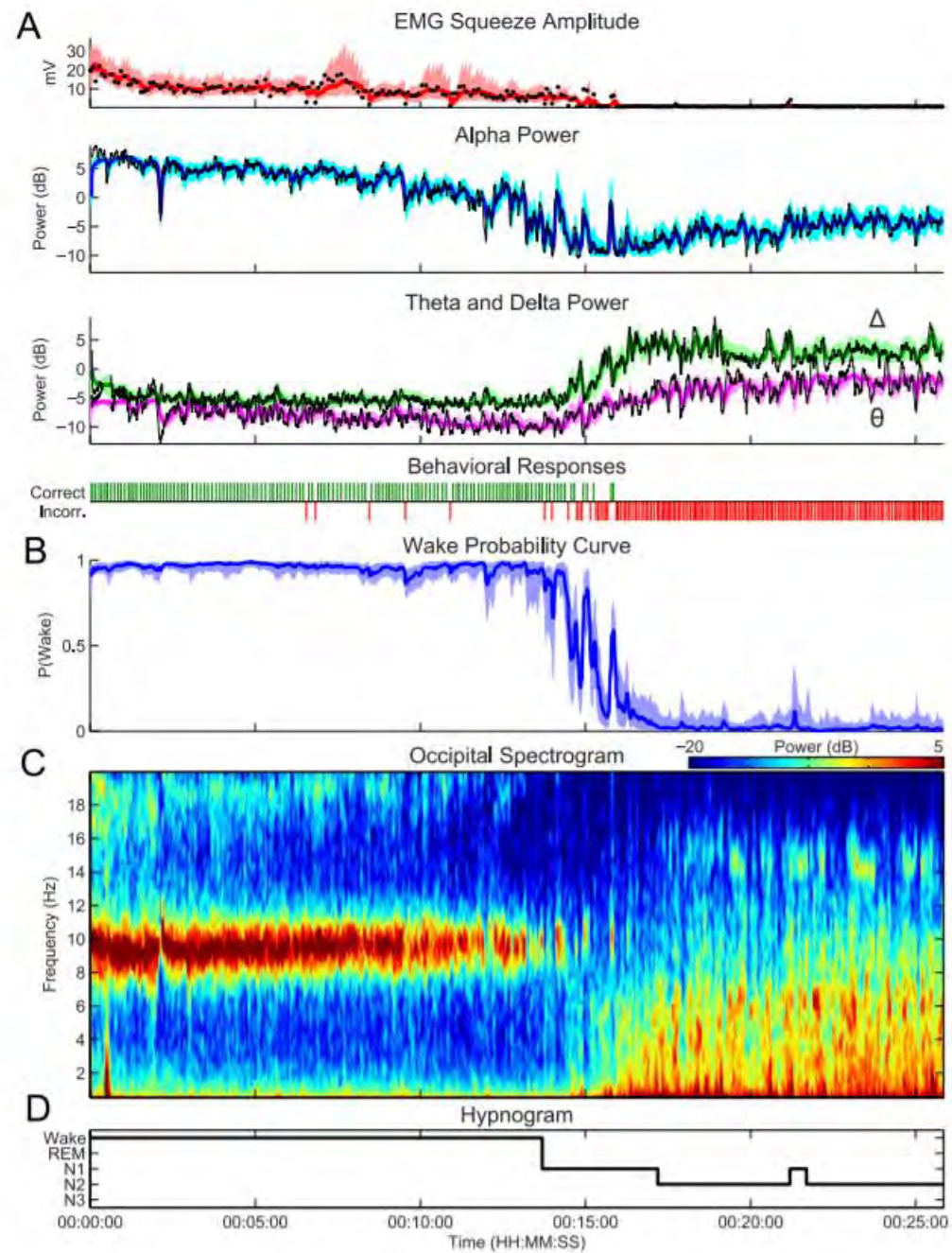


Sleep Onset

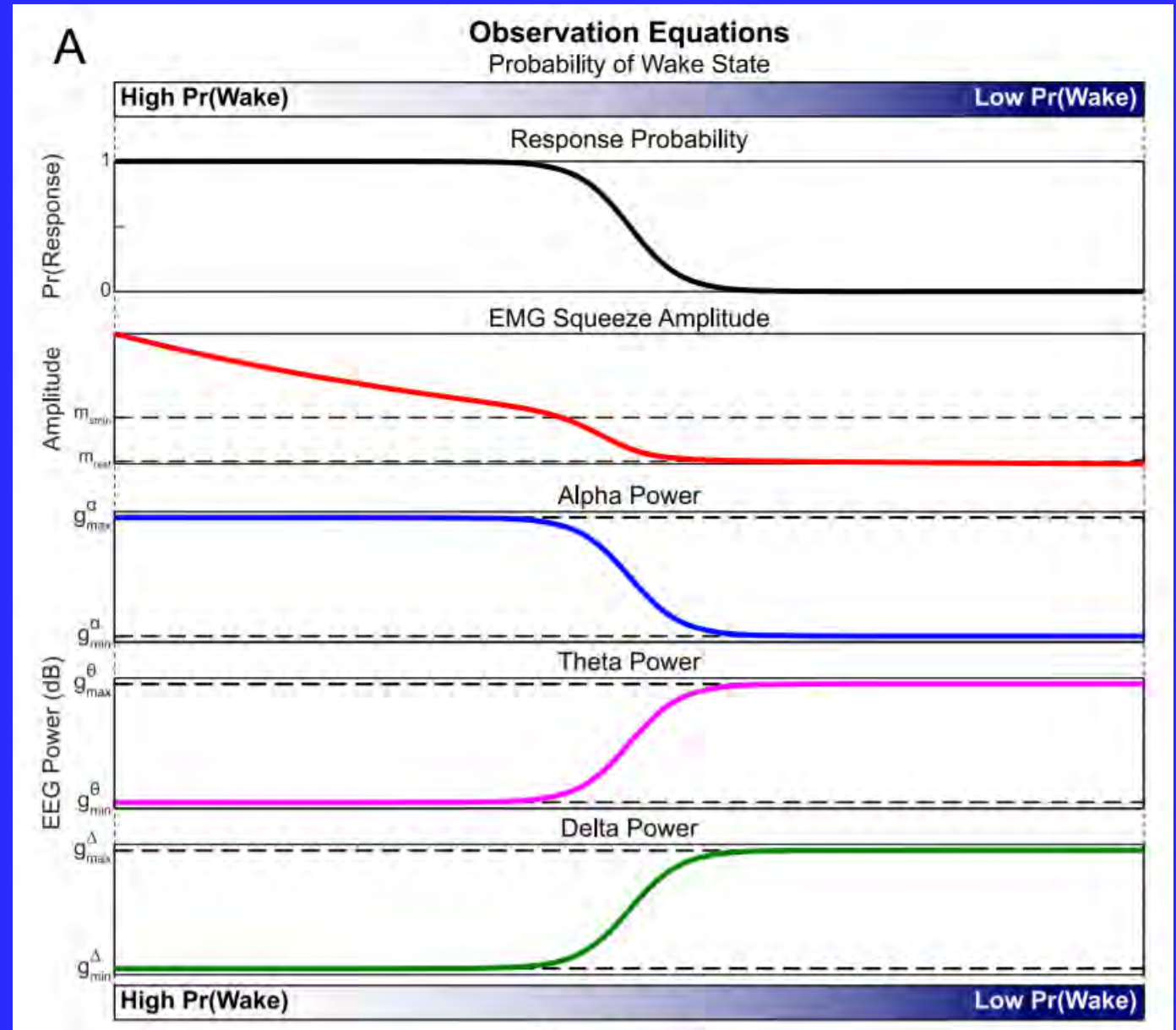
Tracking the Sleep Onset Process



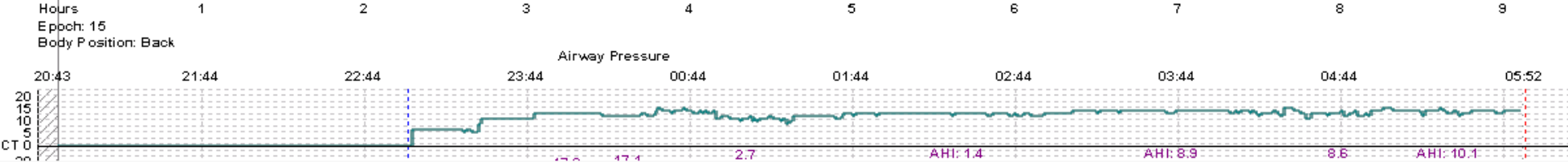
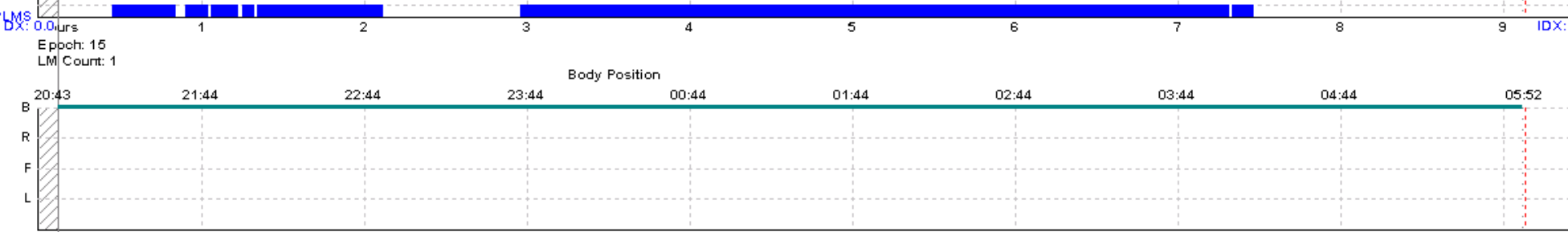
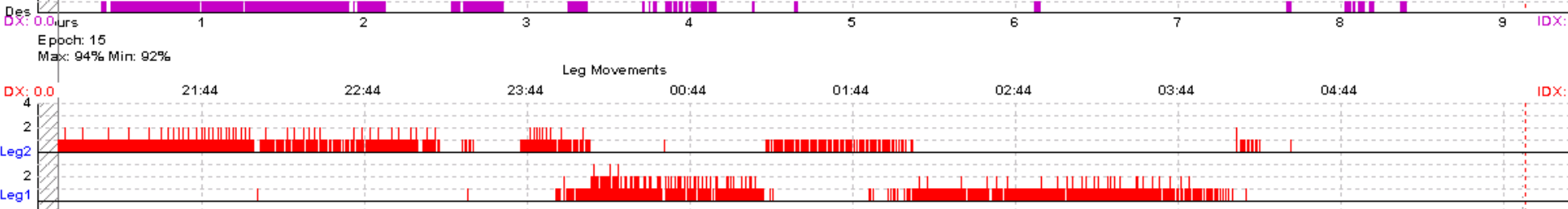
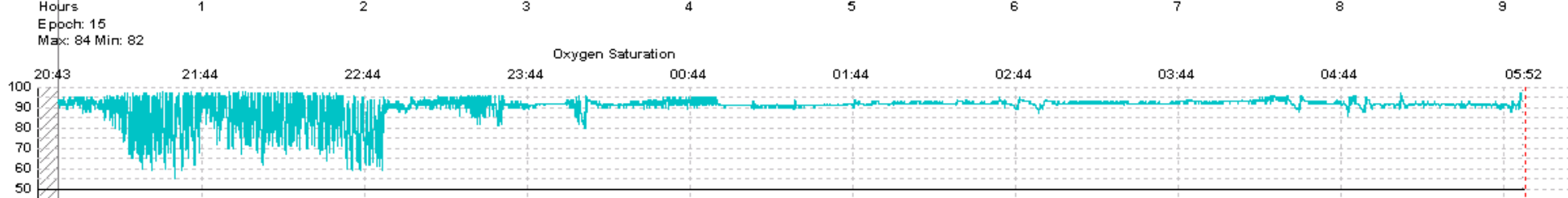
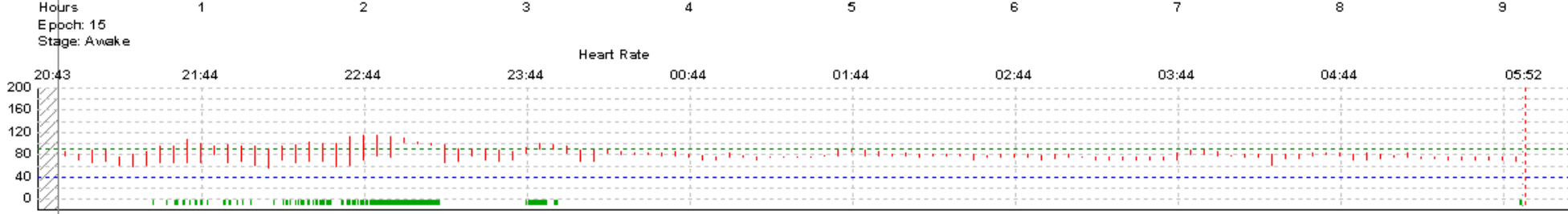
Sleep Onset



Sleep Onset



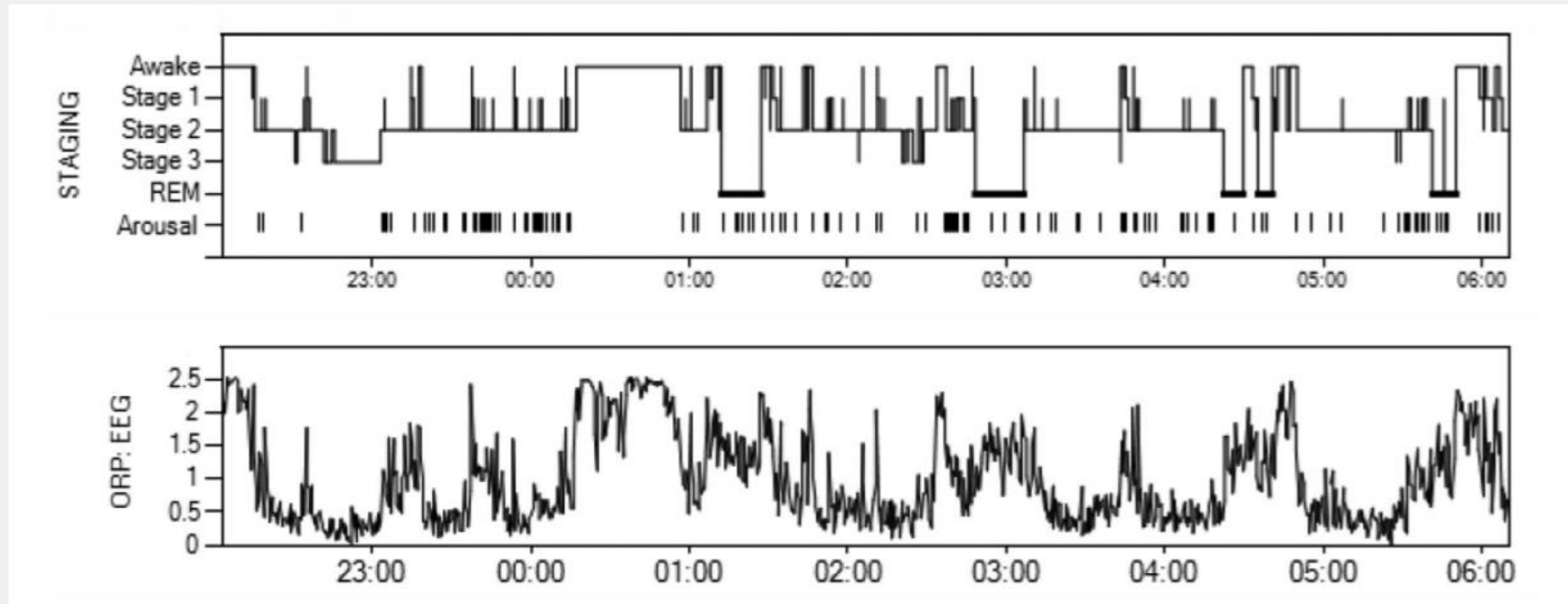
Classic Split Night



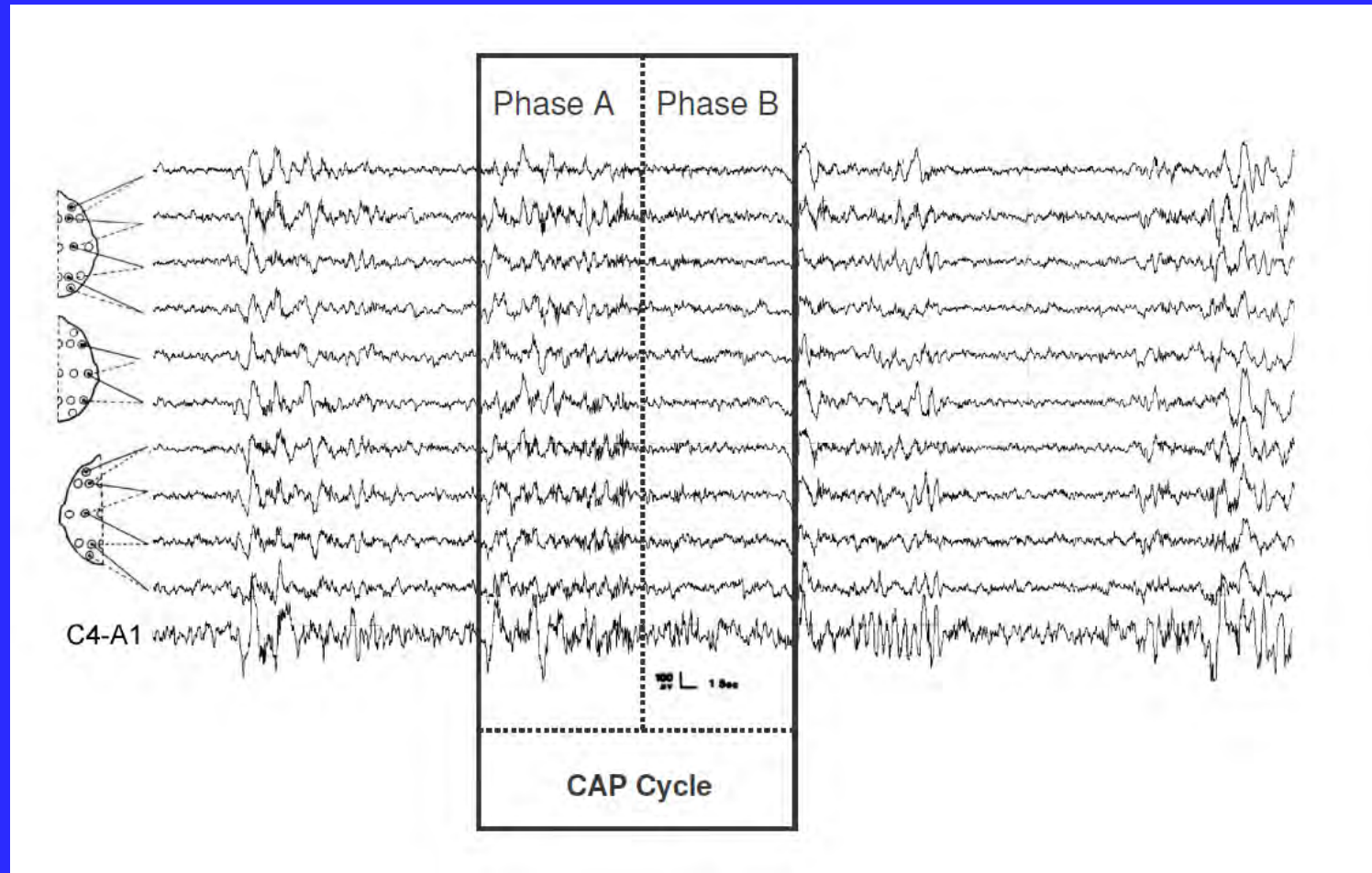
Macro-frag



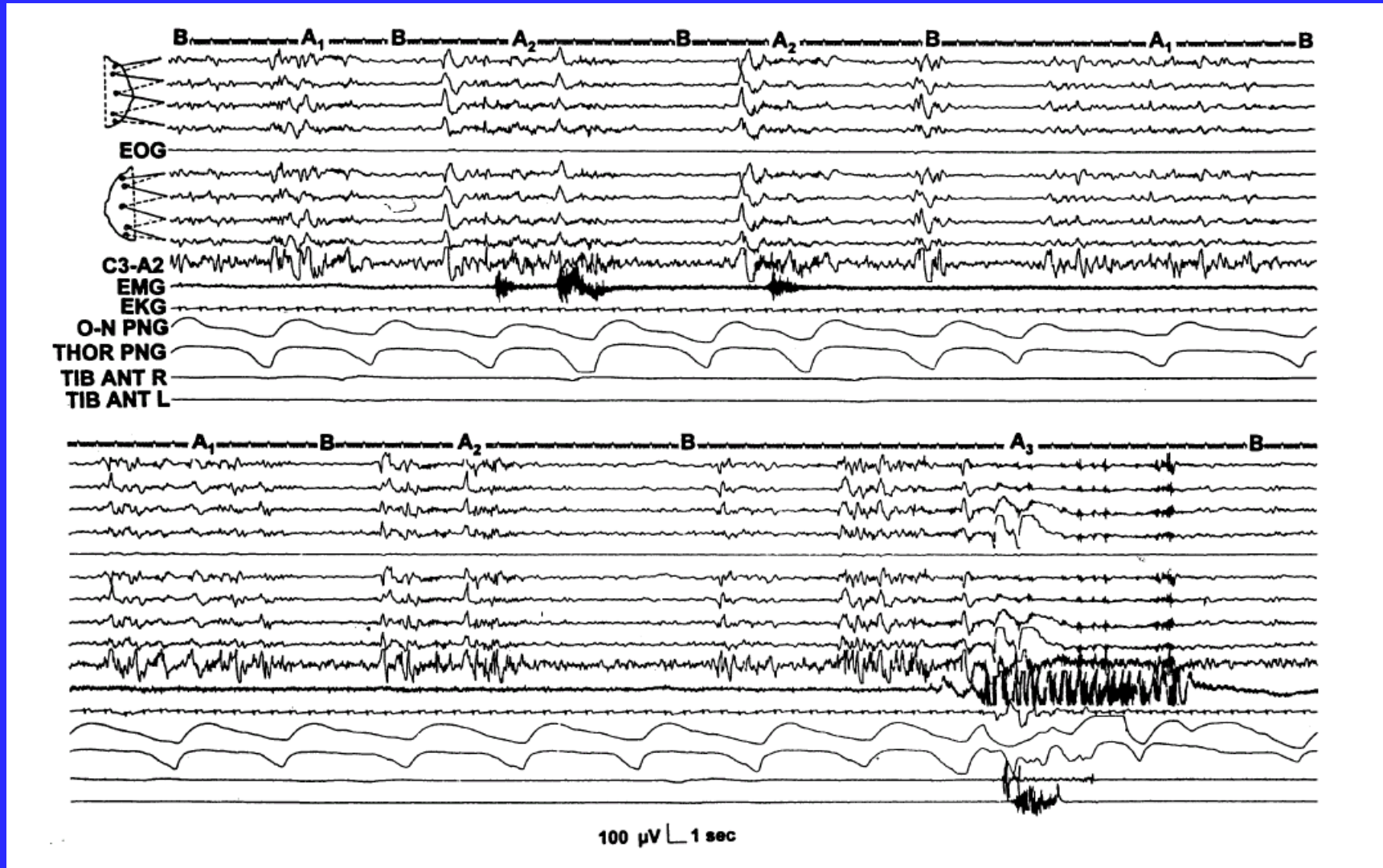
Standard signal, novel analysis (ORP)



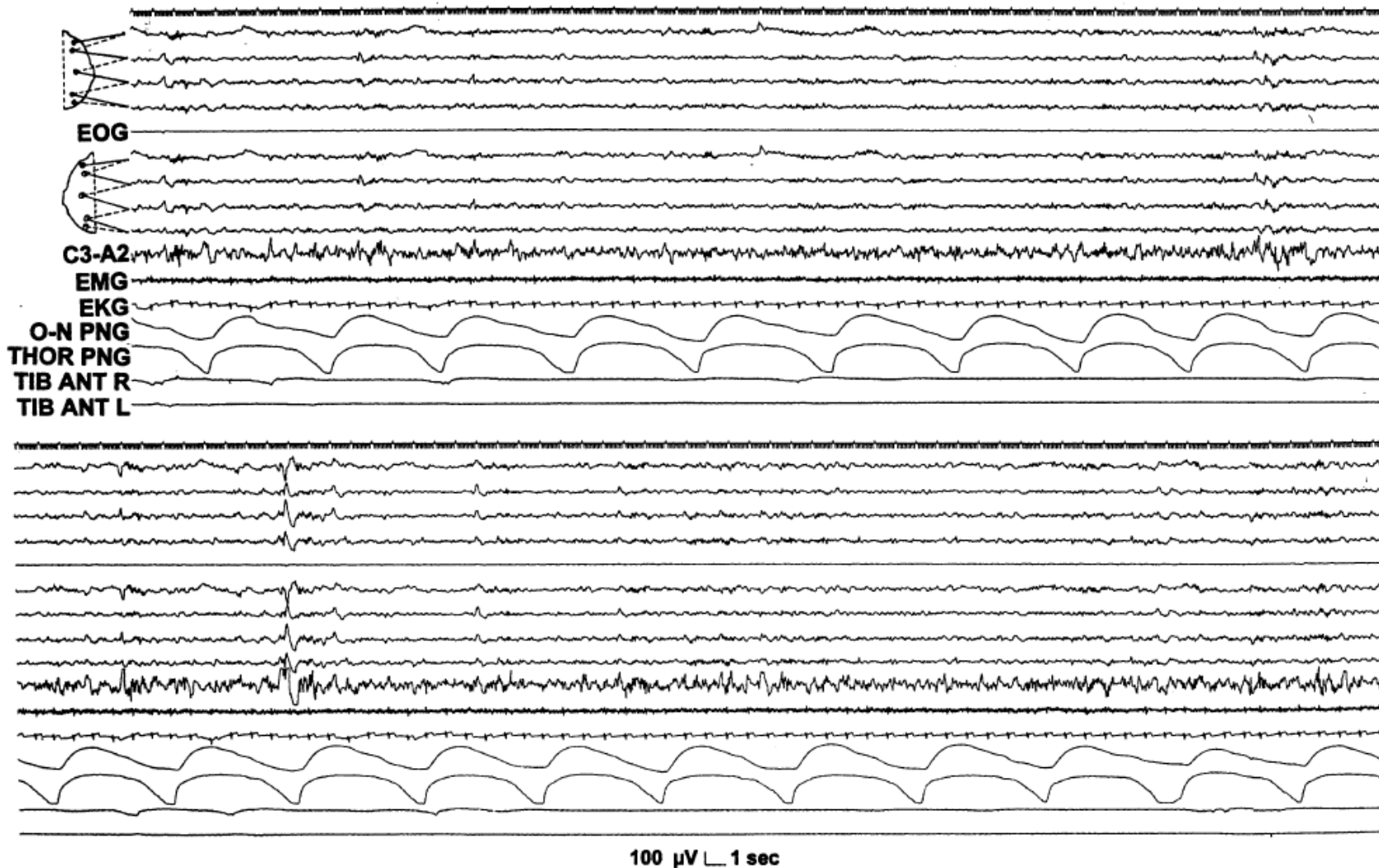
Cyclic Alternating Pattern (CAP)



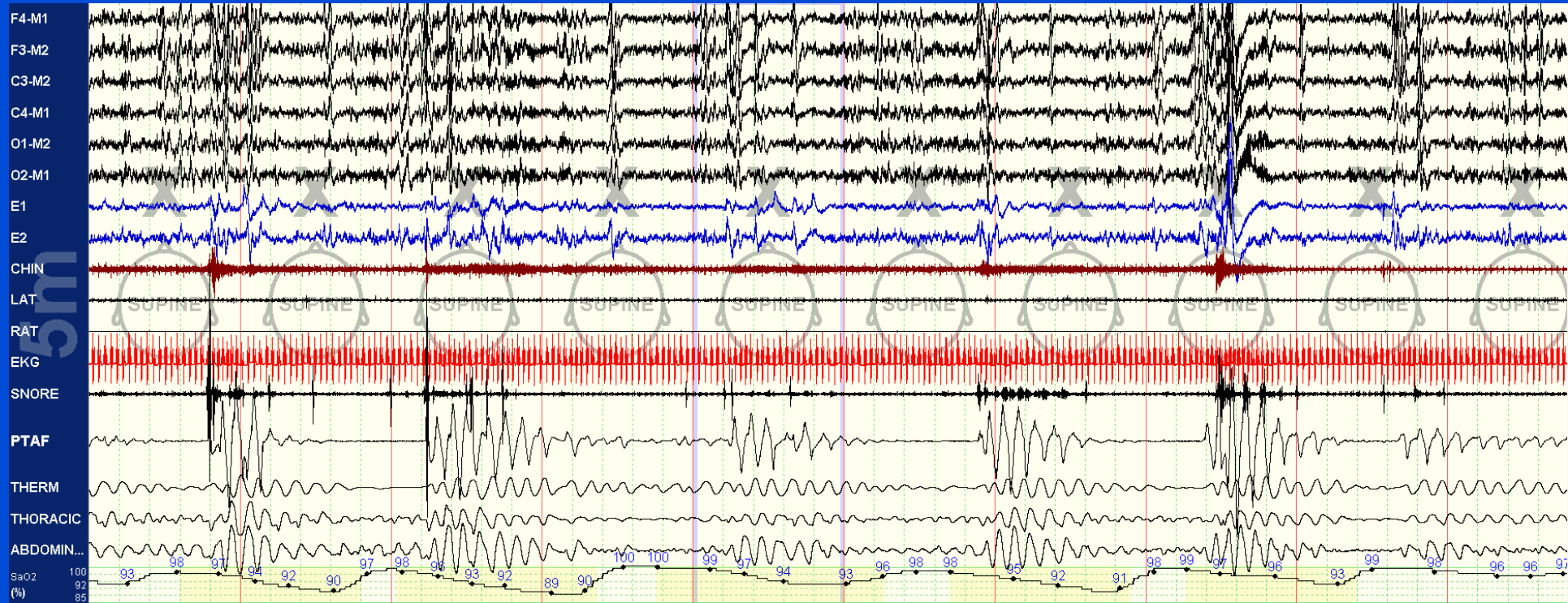
A period of CAP which can go on for tens of minutes, markedly amplified in disease



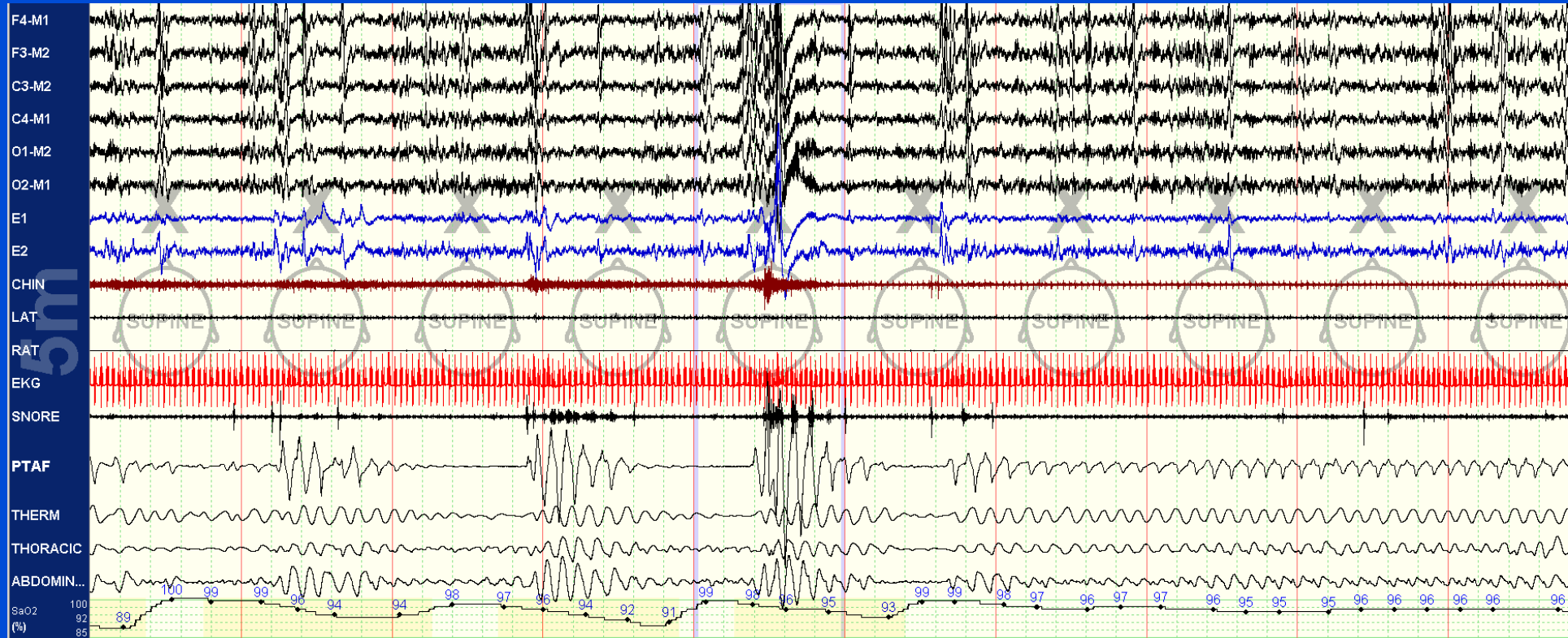
A period of EEG quiescence, which can go on for tens of minutes



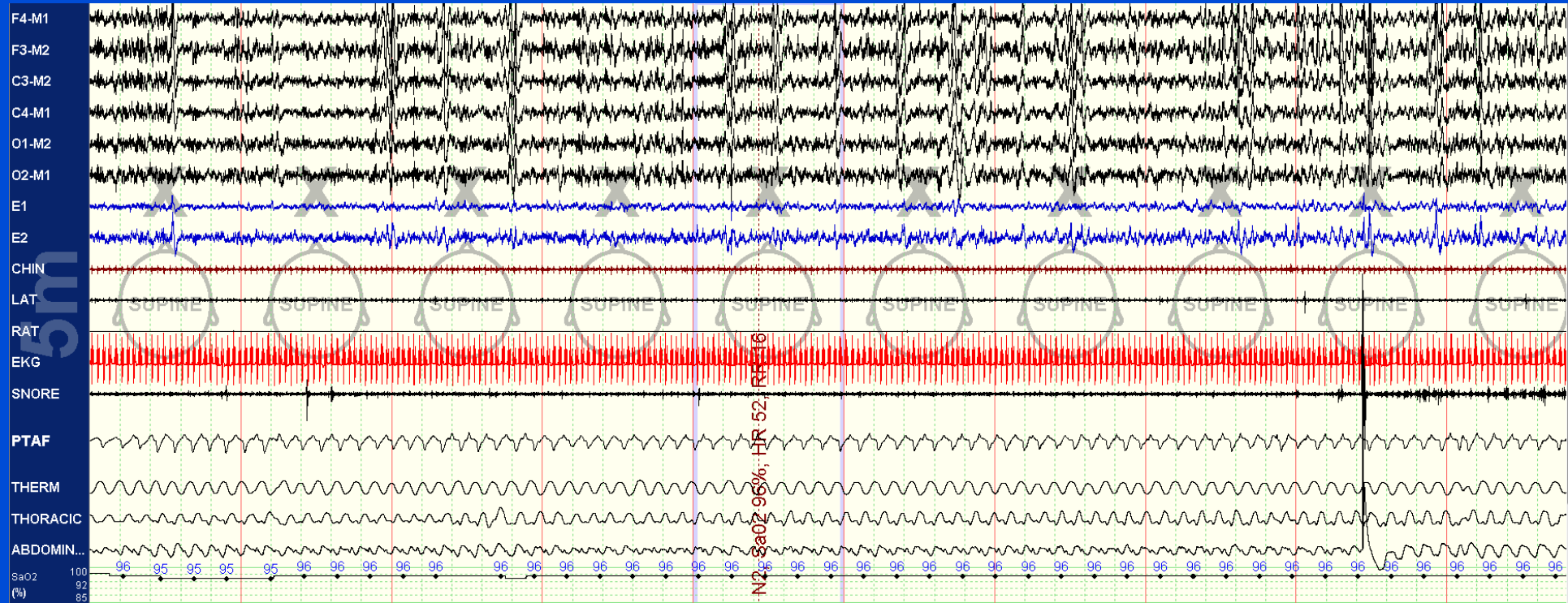
Unstable NREM



Transition to Unstable



Stable NREM



Motivation

- Time to “RIP” the “gold standard” scoring guidelines?
- Scoring is biologically obsolete (if obsolescence is the gap between what is known and what is done)
- A network approach is one of several parallel methods which could be usefully implemented to enhance sophistication of sleep medicine and sleep science
- We see “network” but do not “think network” –
 - Tidal volume increases with arousals
 - Blood pressure surge with PLMs
 - Blood pressure non-sipping in insomnia
 - Large scale multi-physiology synchronized transients in sleep apnea

Overview

- Introductory concepts, sleep networks, breakdown syndromes
- < 1 Hz slow oscillation
- Thalamocortical networks
- Central autonomic network
- Cyclic alternating pattern and related concepts
- Stabilizing networks to target sleep disorders

Sleep is a unique network state

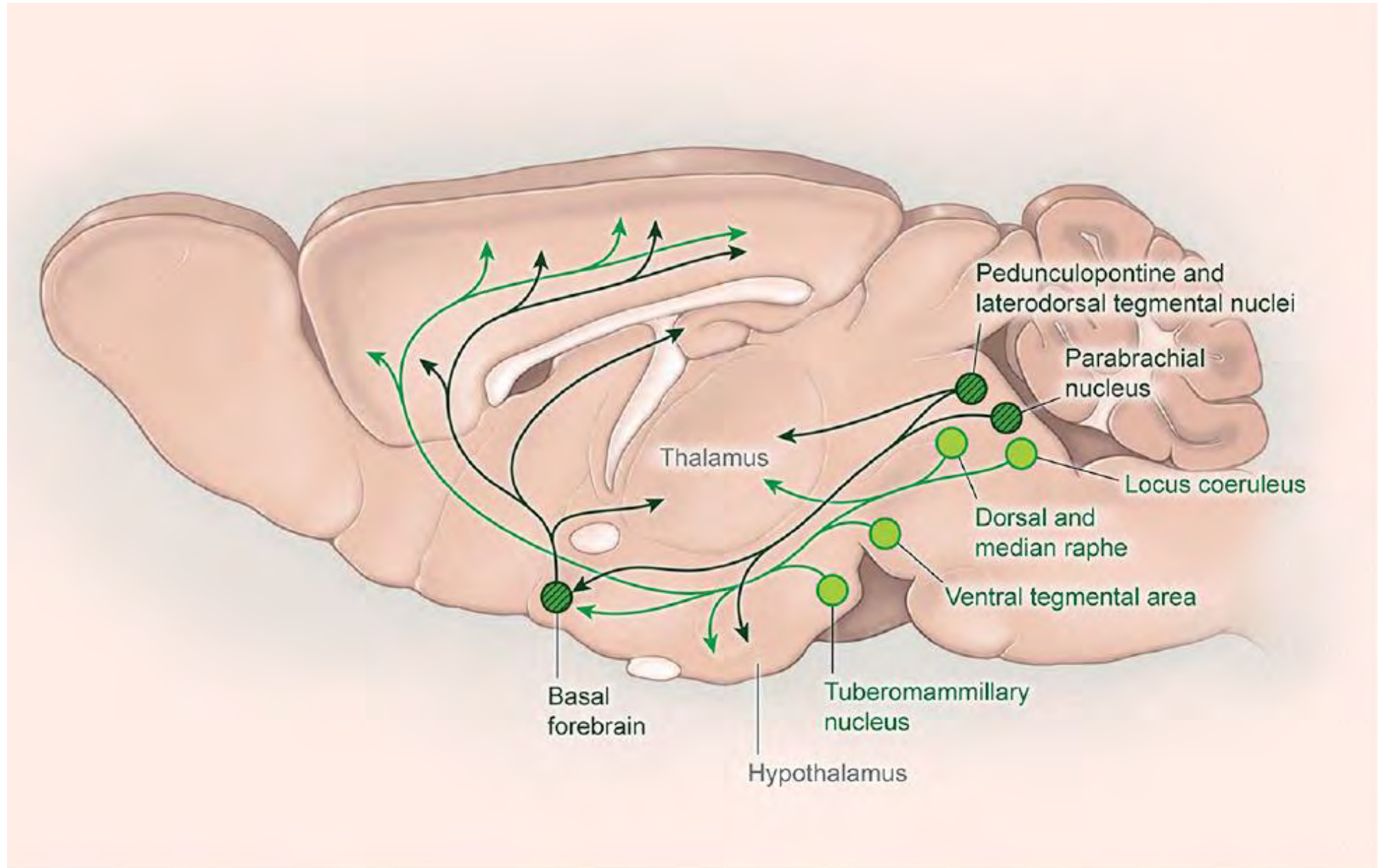
- Vastly disparate networks with vastly disparate functions
- Network activity may be intrinsic to a subsystem, integrated, or communicative (e.g., slow oscillation, spindles, long range integration from cortex to brainstem)
- Minimal overlap of fundamental oscillatory outputs
 - Spindles, heart rate, slow oscillation, cyclic alternating pattern
- Components dispersed in space
- Necessity to travel in time
- Individual sleep sub-systems have different driving mechanisms
 - Sleep homeostatic drive for slow wave power
 - Hypoxia or hypercarbia for respiration

Sleep Networks

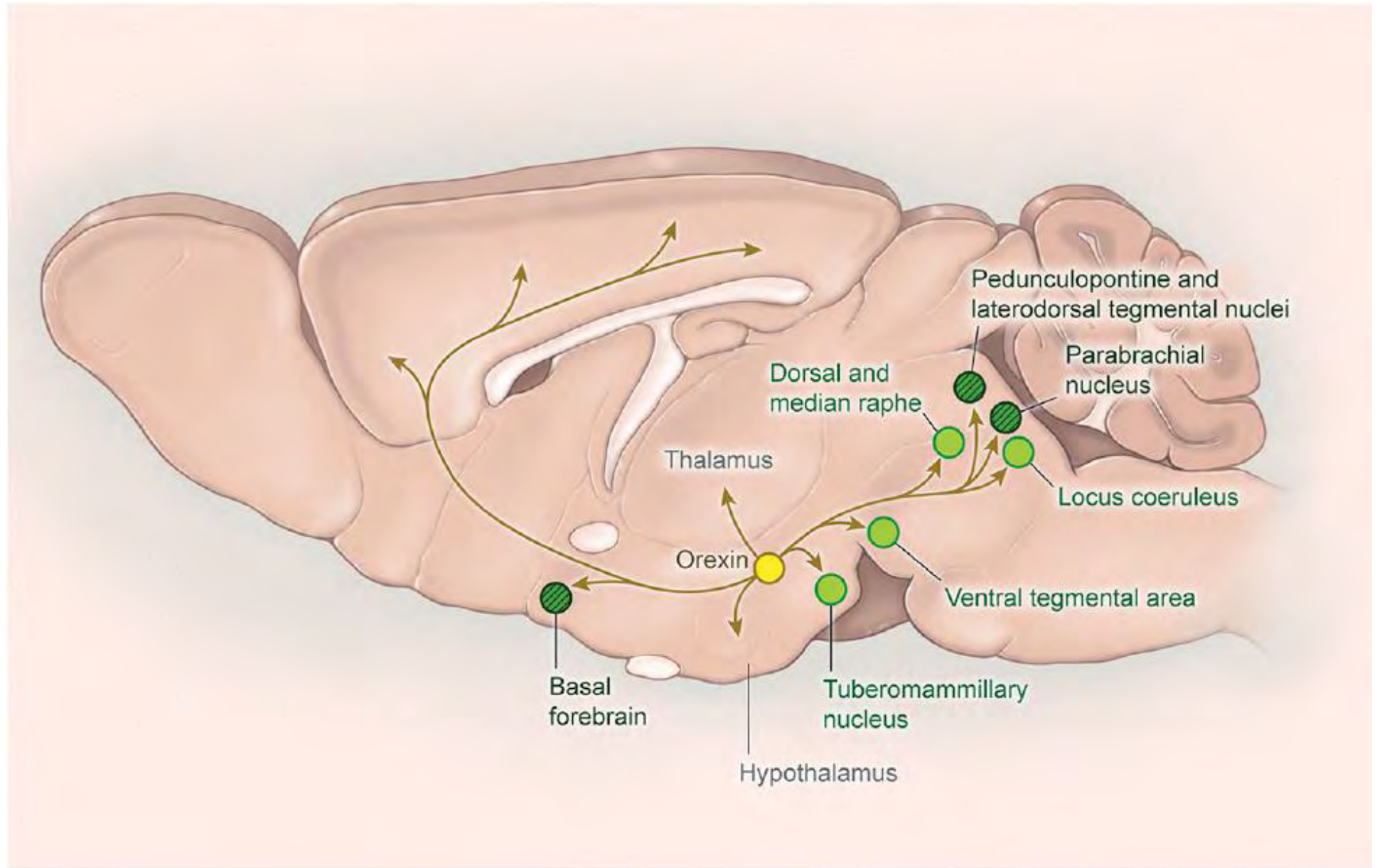
- Cortical
- Thalamocortical
- Intra-thalamic
- Brainstem
- Chemoreflex
- Baroreflex
- Central autonomic network
- REM-NREM
- Wake to sleep transition
- Arousal
- Respiratory generative
- Respiratory control
 - Rhythm
 - Airway
- Motor control
 - Periodic
 - Aperiodic
- Cardio-autonomic

Wake

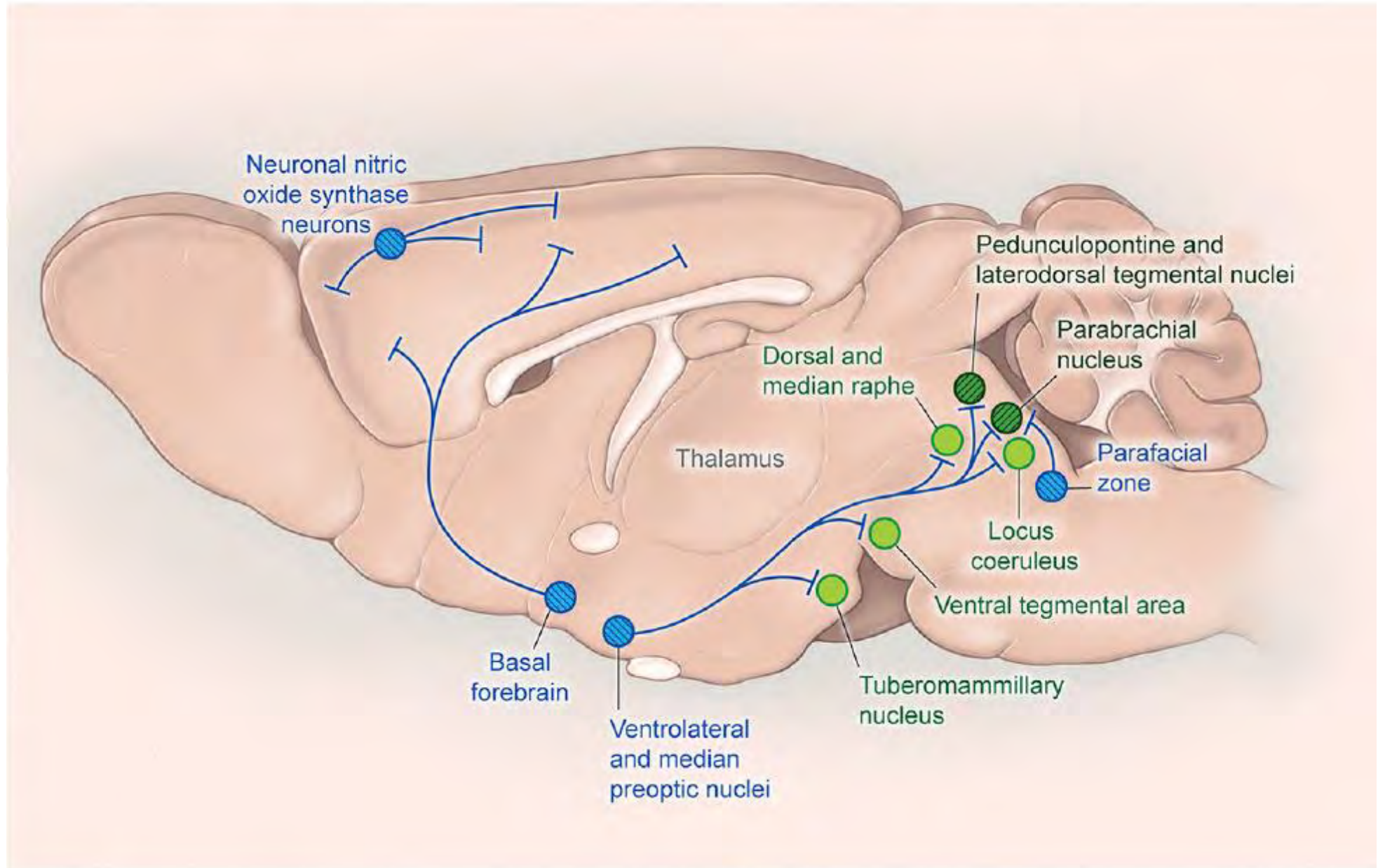
Neuron
201722;93:
747-765.



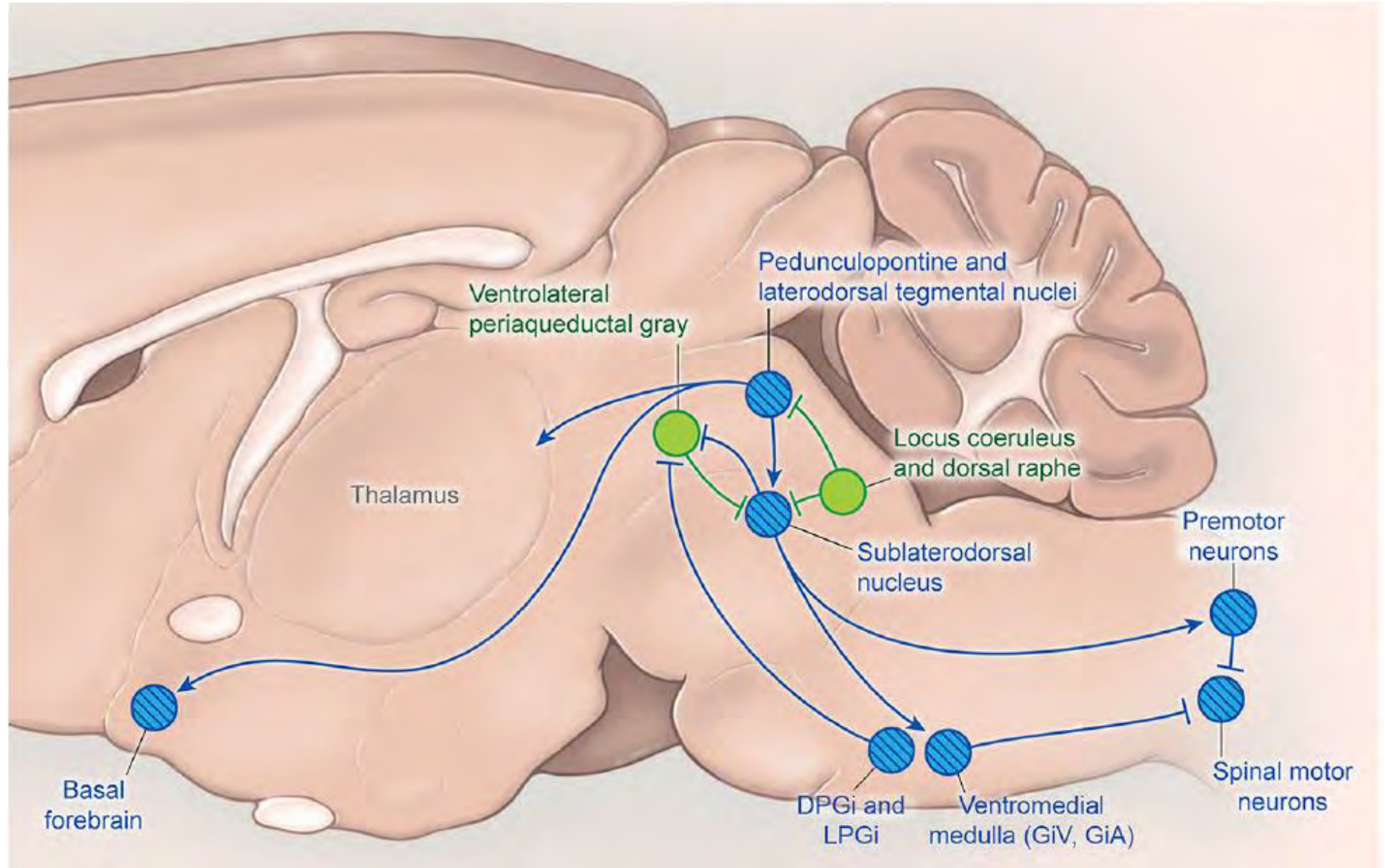
Orexin



NREM



REM

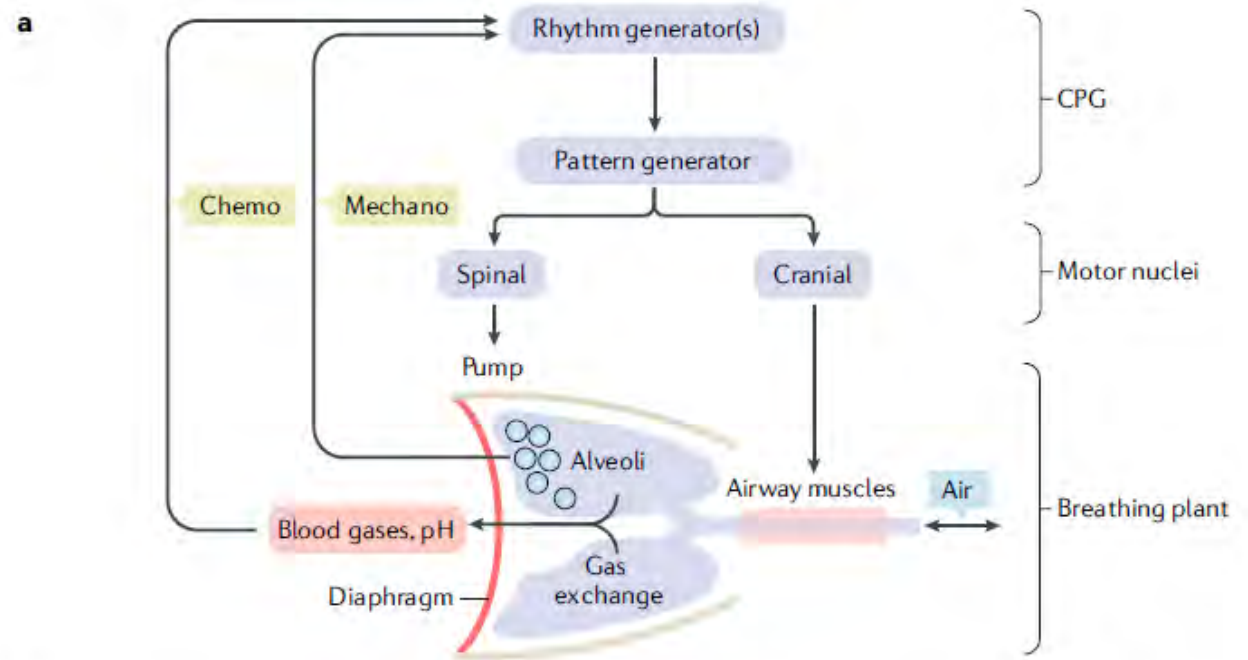


The central autonomic network

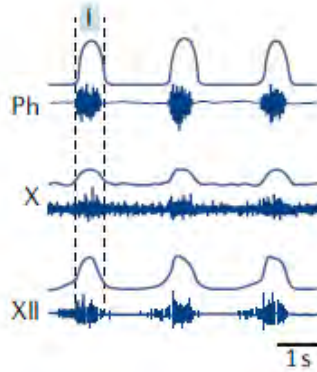
- An integral component of an internal regulation system through which the brain controls visceromotor, neuroendocrine, pain, and behavioral responses essential for survival
- Anterior cingulate, insular cortex, amygdala, hypothalamus, periaqueductal gray matter, parabrachial complex, nucleus of the tractus solitarius, and ventrolateral medulla
- Multiple inputs including nucleus of the tractus solitarius and humoral inputs relayed through the circumventricular organs
- Insular cortex and amygdala mediate high-order autonomic control
- The paraventricular nucleus control specific subsets of preganglionic sympathetic and parasympathetic neurons.

Respiratory Network

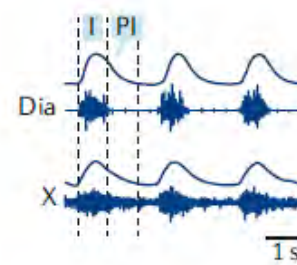
Nat Rev Neurosci 2018;
19:351-367



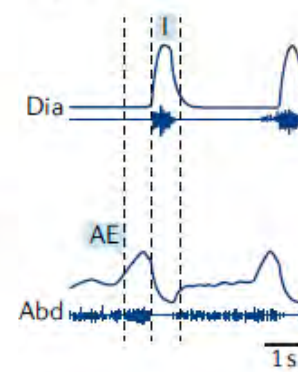
b
Inspiration only



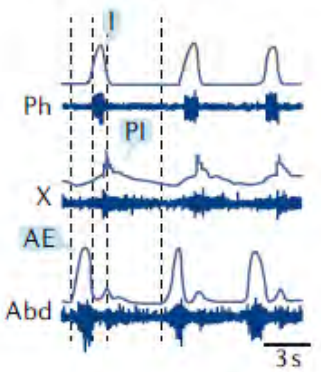
c
+ Postinspiration



d
Inspiration + active expiration

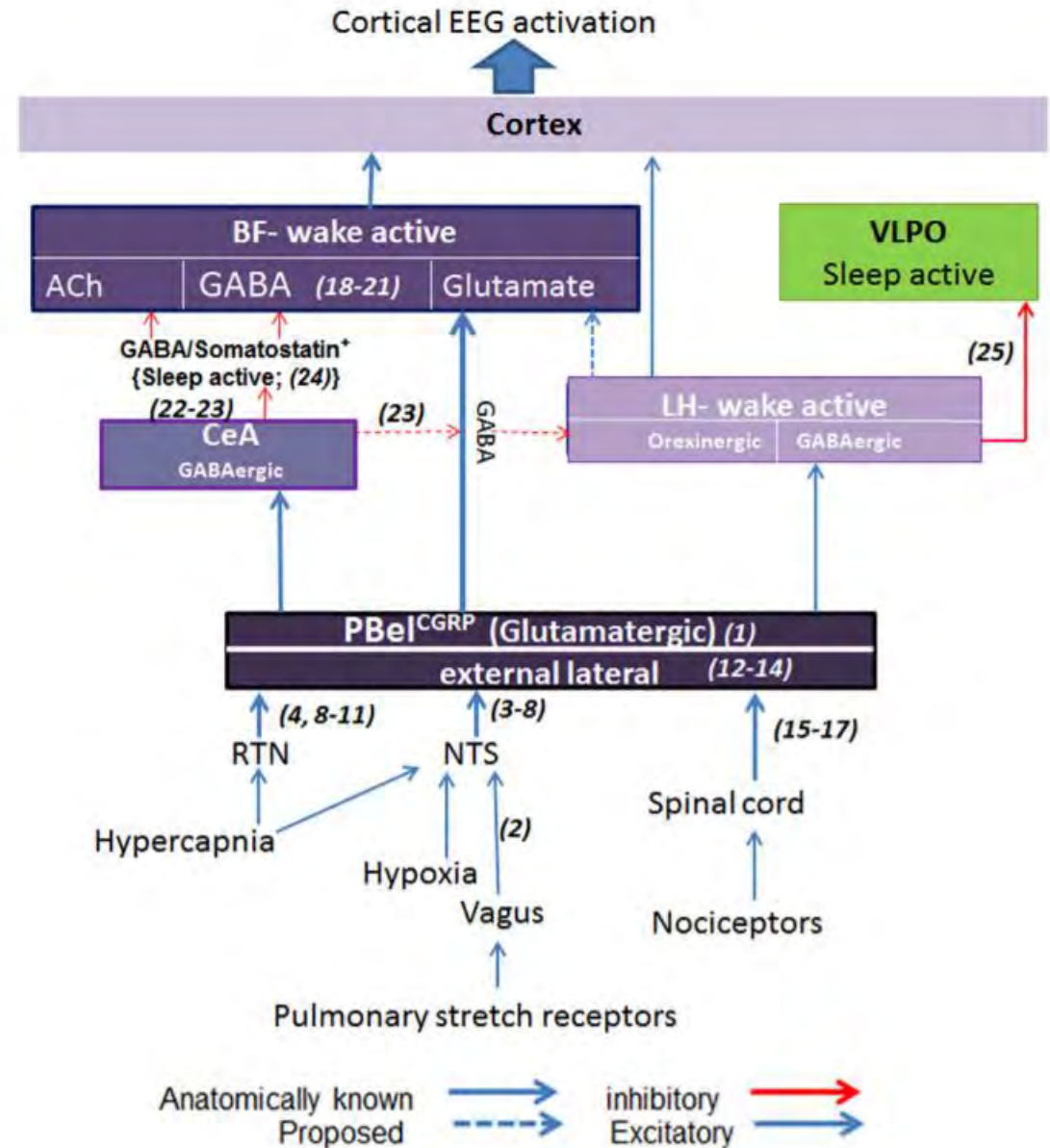


e
+ Postinspiration + active expiration



Hypercapnia

A Genetically Defined Circuit
for Arousal from Sleep during
Hypercapnia. Neuron
2017;96:1153-1167



Respiratory network dysfunction

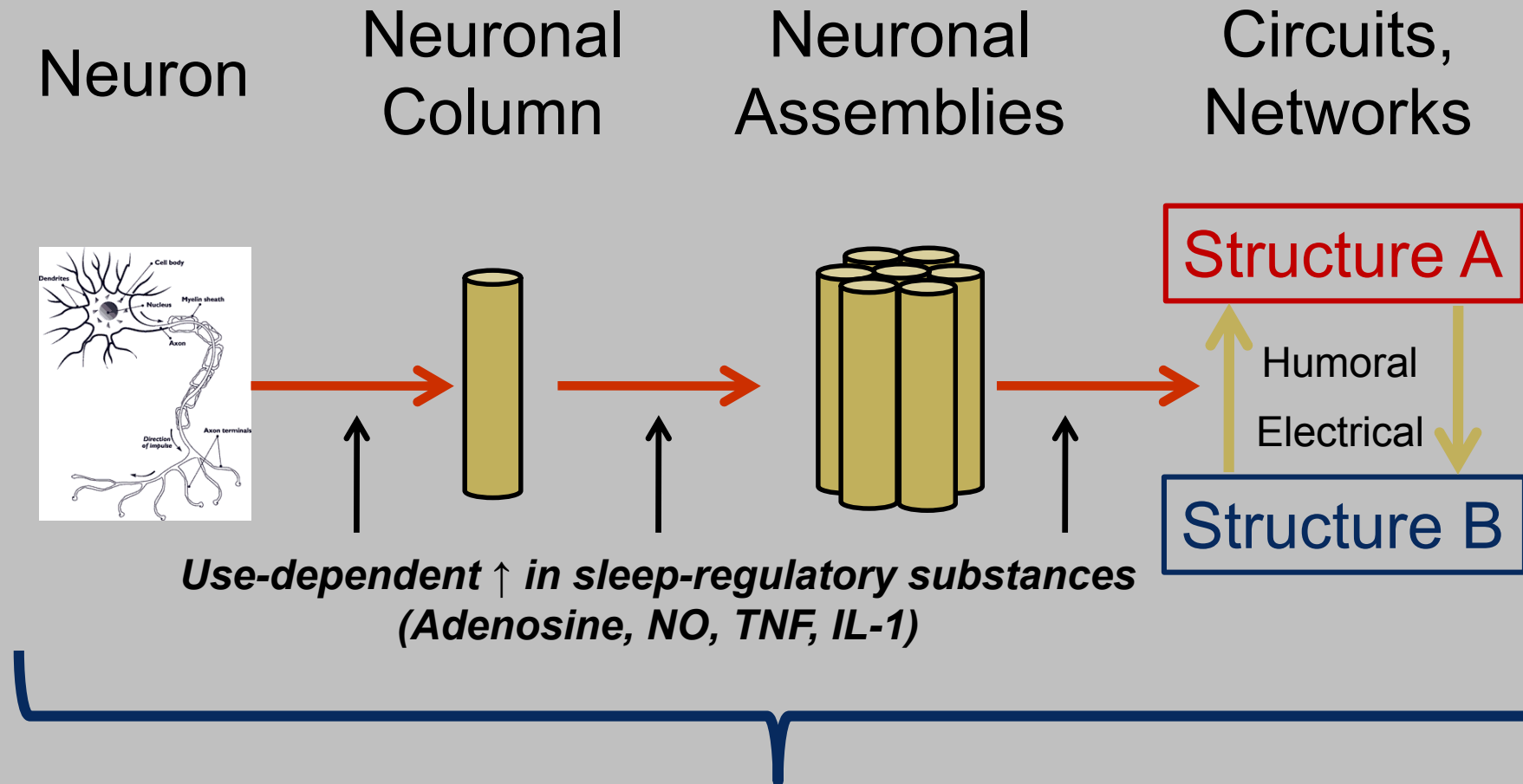
- Respiratory generative (examples)
 - Central congenital hypoventilation
 - Acquired hypoventilation
 - High spinal cord injury, syringomyelia
 - Motor neuron disease
- Respiratory control
 - Upper airway: negative pressure reflex (anesthesia)
 - High loop gain sleep apnea
- Cardiorespiratory interactions
 - Sinus arrhythmia
 - Cardiorespiratory synchronization
 - Respiratory-triggered arrhythmia

Thalamocortical network

- No need to spend much time on this for a sleep medicine audience
- Thalamocortical cell conductance (including hyperpolarization activated spike), reticular thalamic nucleus, spindles, 1-4Hz delta
- Spindles could be analogous to a 5G cell network
- The SO synchronizes and aggregates spindles, which are hyperlocal
- Spindles carry or enable information transfer but may also be a biological glue
- Certainly benzodiazepines increase spindling and increase network cohesion
- However, increased spindling is not necessary to increase cohesion

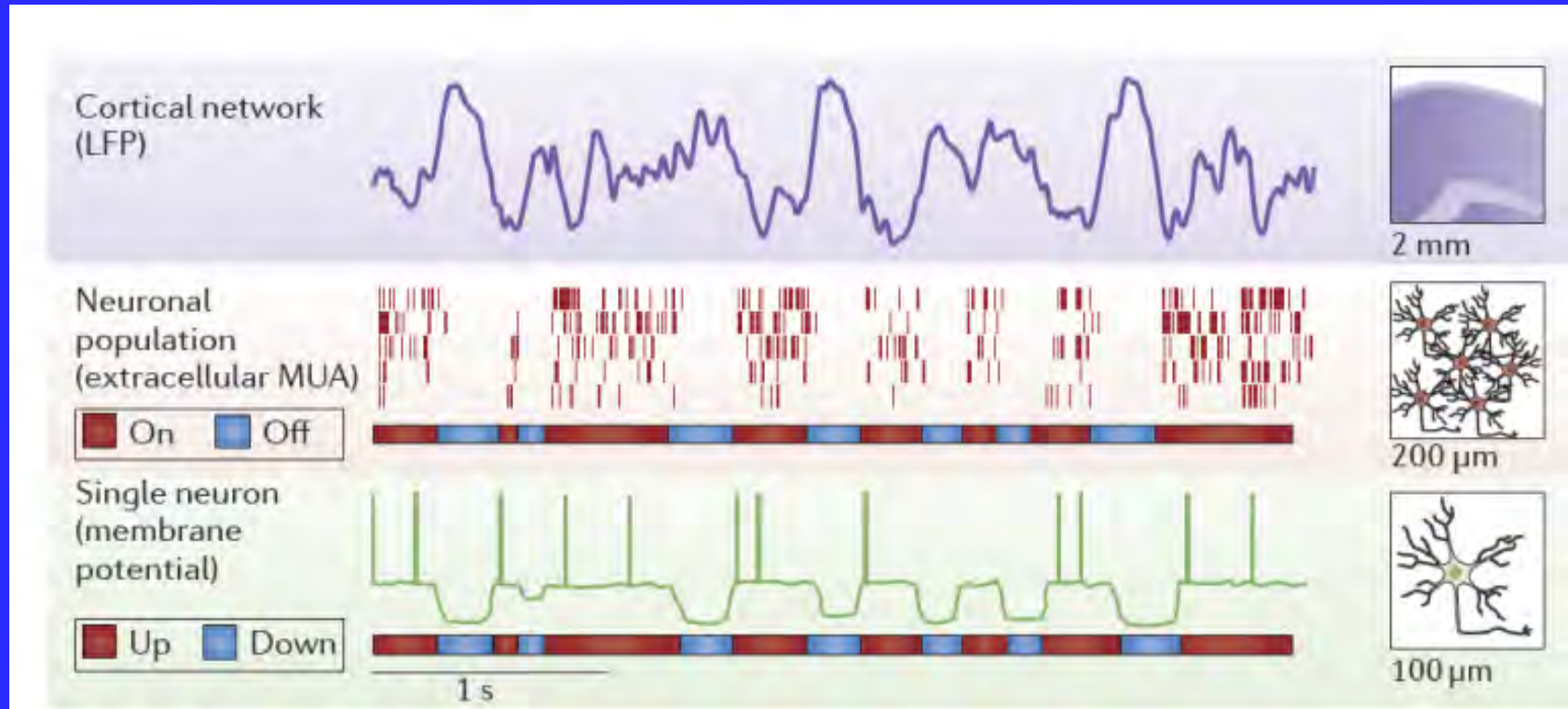
Lets talk about the cortical network

“Local sleep” and systemic sleep

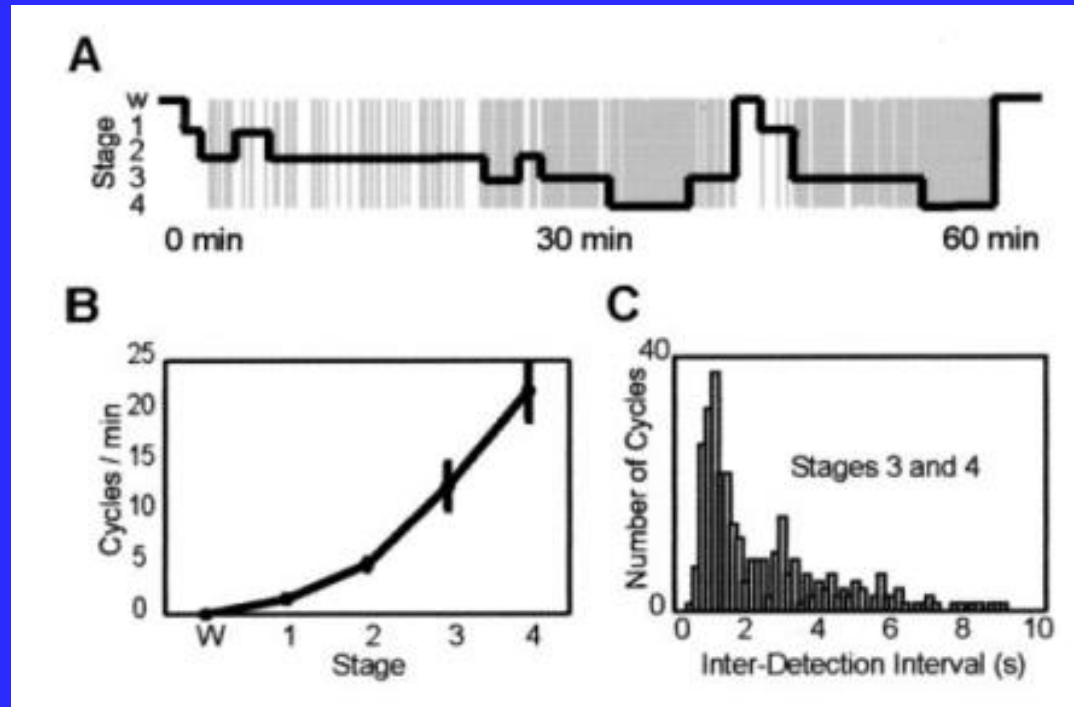


Sleep as an “emergent process”

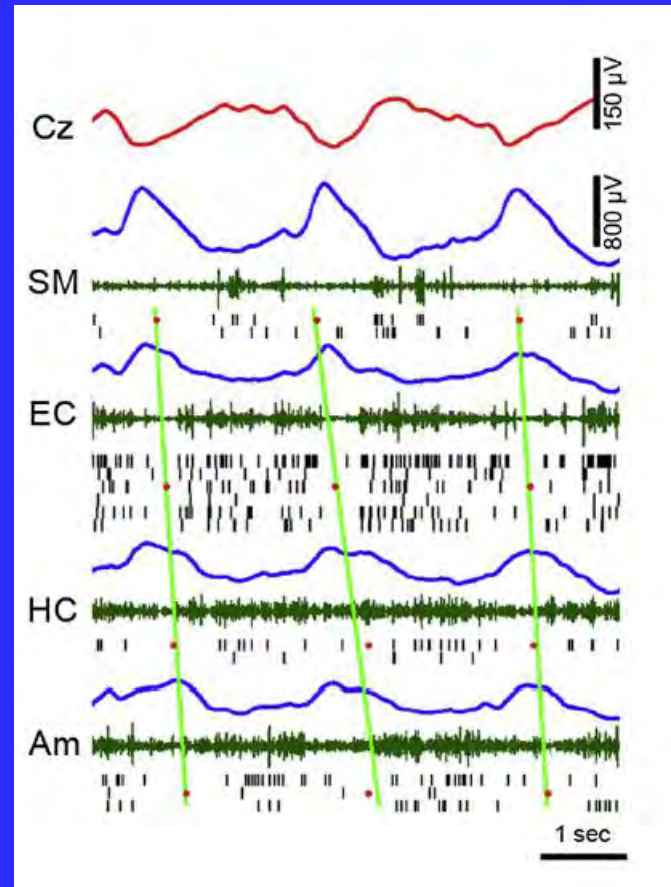
The “up” and “down” (on/off) states of the cerebral cortex. It permeates the whole brain.



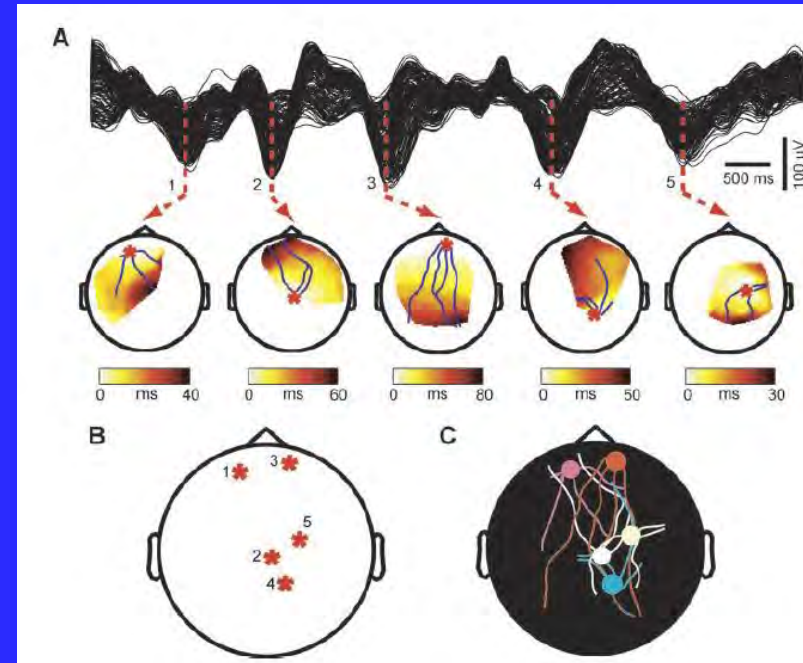
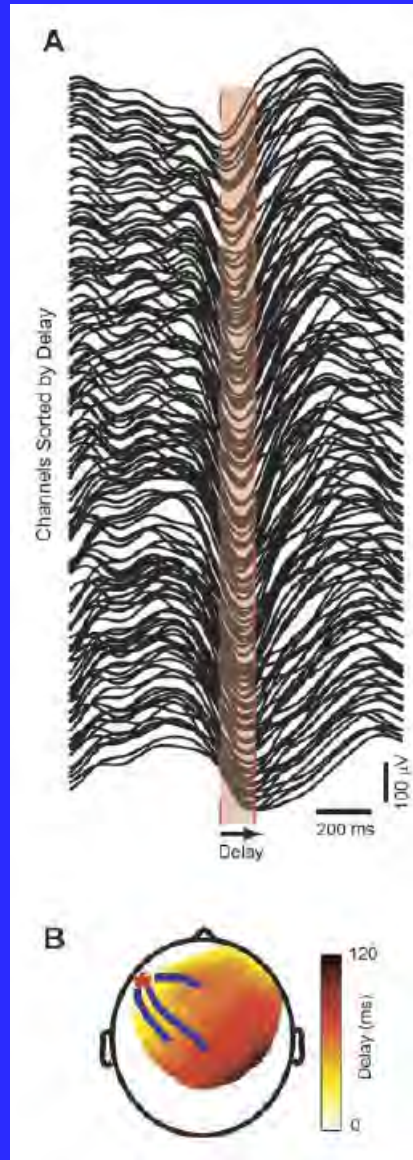
The Slow Oscillation (SO) builds in frequency and spatial extent as sleep starts and deepens. Below-high within individual stability.

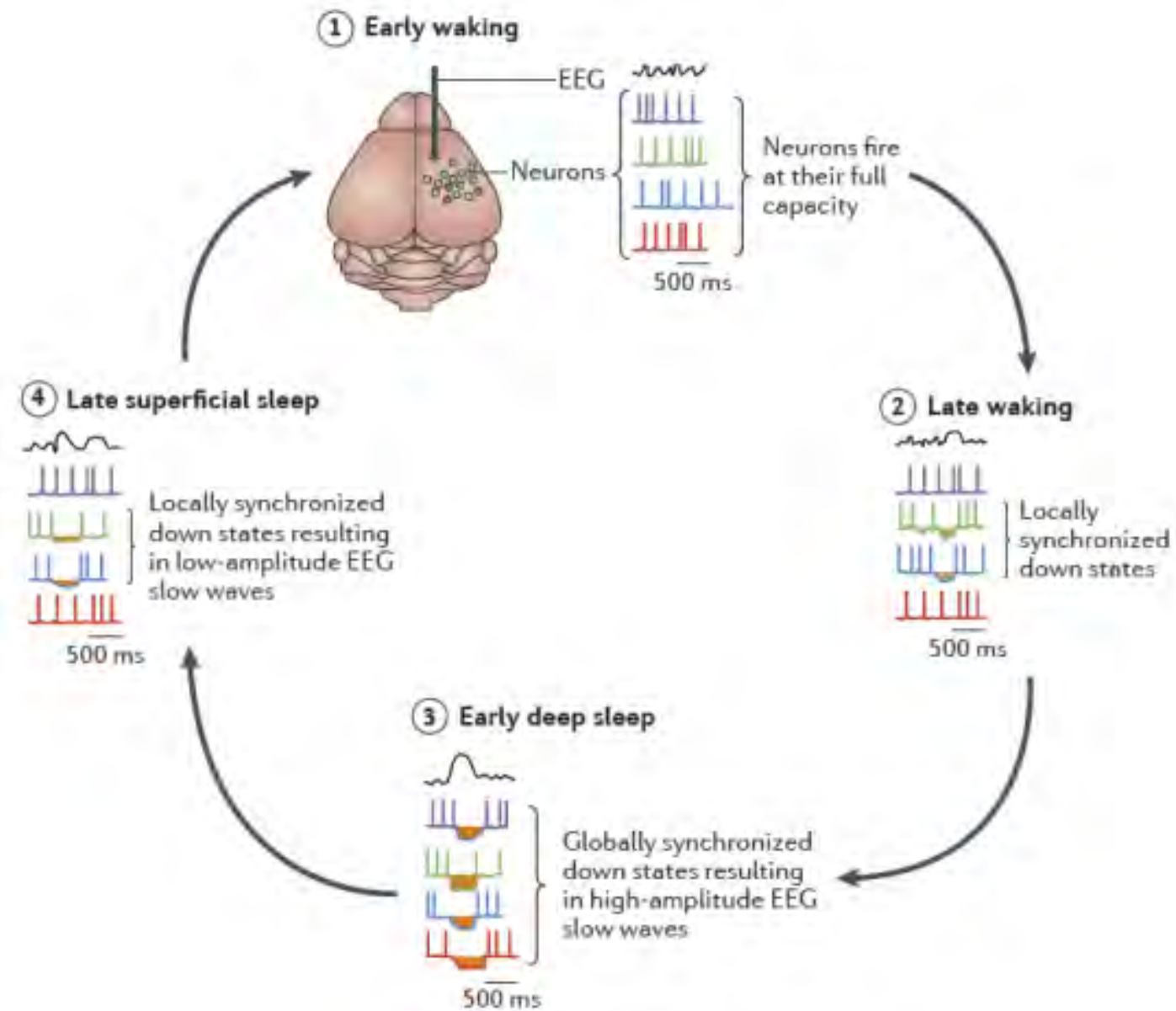


SO travels



More SO traveling wave characteristic





RLS/PLMS network

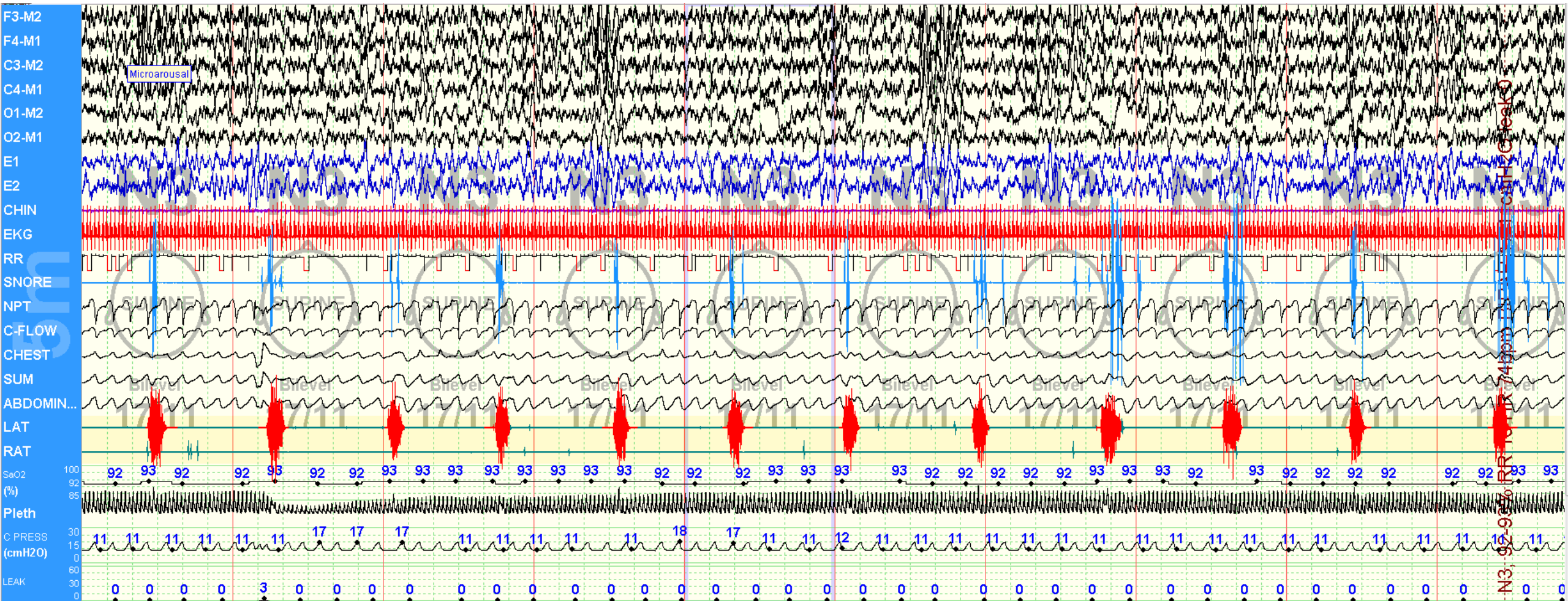
- Through targeted ablation in rats, a potential role for corticospinal, cerebellorubro-spinal, and hypothalamic A11 dopaminergic systems in the development of RLS-like movements during sleep. Targeted lesions in select basal ganglia structures revealed a major role for nigrostriatal dopamine, the striatum, and the external globus pallidus (GPe) in regulating RLS-like movements, in particular pallidocortical projections from the GPe to the motor cortex. Lesions of the corticospinal tract at the C1 level, the motor cortex and somatosensory cortex all induced excessive periodic motor activation in NREM sleep.

Guo CN, Yang WJ, Zhan SQ, Yang XF, Chen MC, Fuller PM, Lu J. Targeted disruption of supraspinal motor circuitry reveals a distributed network underlying Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS)-like movements in the rat. *Sci Rep* 2017;7:9905.

RLS/PLMS network

- Tightly linked to autonomic activation
- Can occur with or without cortical arousal, but degree of arousal correlates with degree of blood pressure surge
- Increasing evidence of adverse cardiovascular outcomes in RLS
- PLMS is often severe in heart failure and renal failure patients - likely contributes to pathological nocturnal hemodynamics

PLMS



Consequences of the time of night distribution of the SO glue

- First half of the night is less vulnerable to sleep disruption
- Arousability of sleep increases as the night progresses
- Successful insomnia treatment likely improves effective SO glue
- Critical points of weakness occur regularly across the night
- SO breaks down with poor cortical health, or excessive subcortical drivers, or perhaps inadequate subcortical NREM driving
- Genetic factors associated with sleep resilience likely impact SO
- Insomnia pharmacotherapy is from one view illogical
 - Greatest help needed when SO is weakest (second half of night)

Central autonomic network

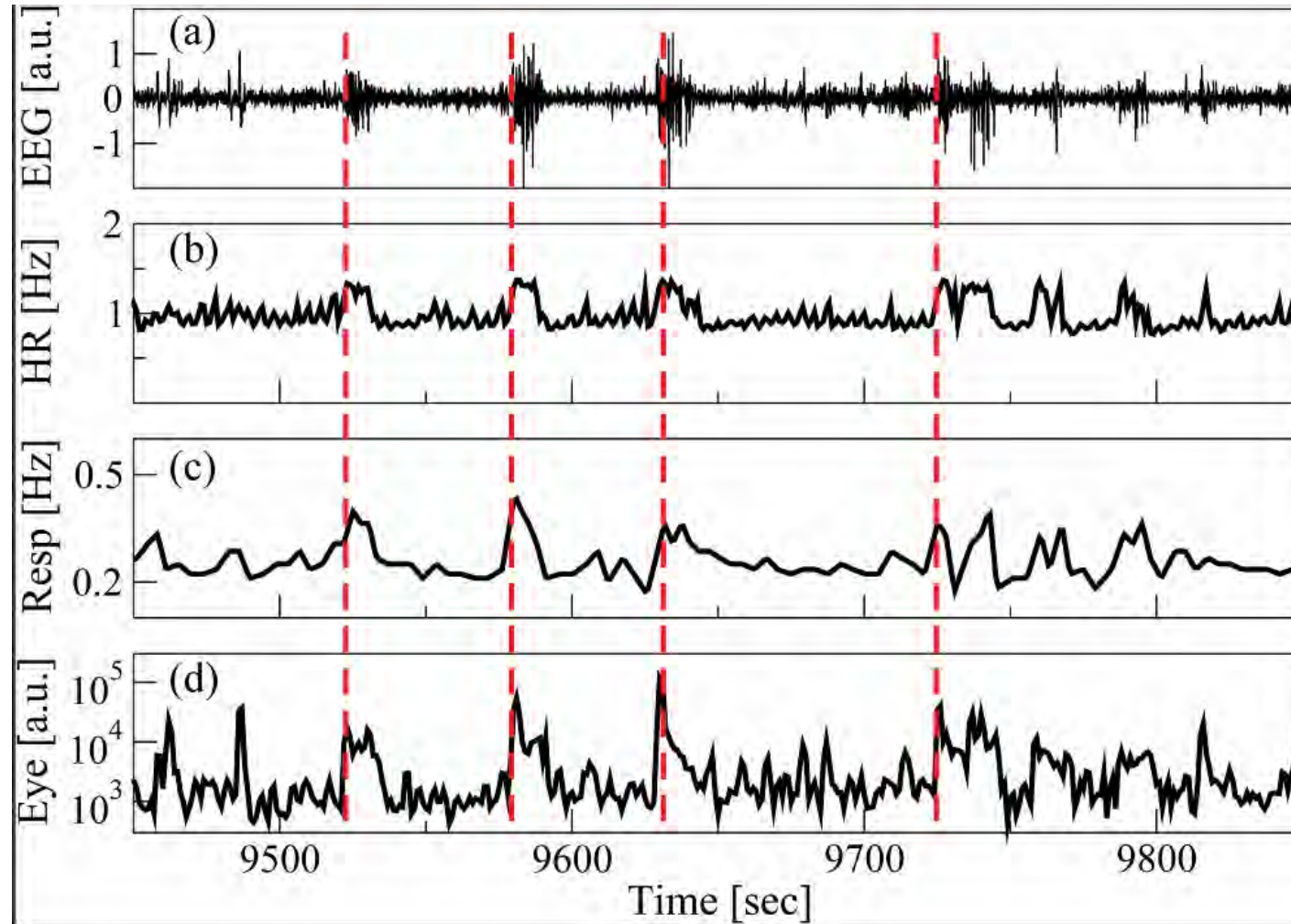
- Components include insular cortex, ventromedial prefrontal cortex and anterior cingulate (Cortical control of the autonomic nervous system. Exp Physiol 2014;99:326-331)
- Tight functional links to amygdala, hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus, parabrachial nucleus
- Reliably activated by pain, visceral input
- Activation associated with muscle sympathetic nerve activity

**How can we measure the network
health of sleep?**

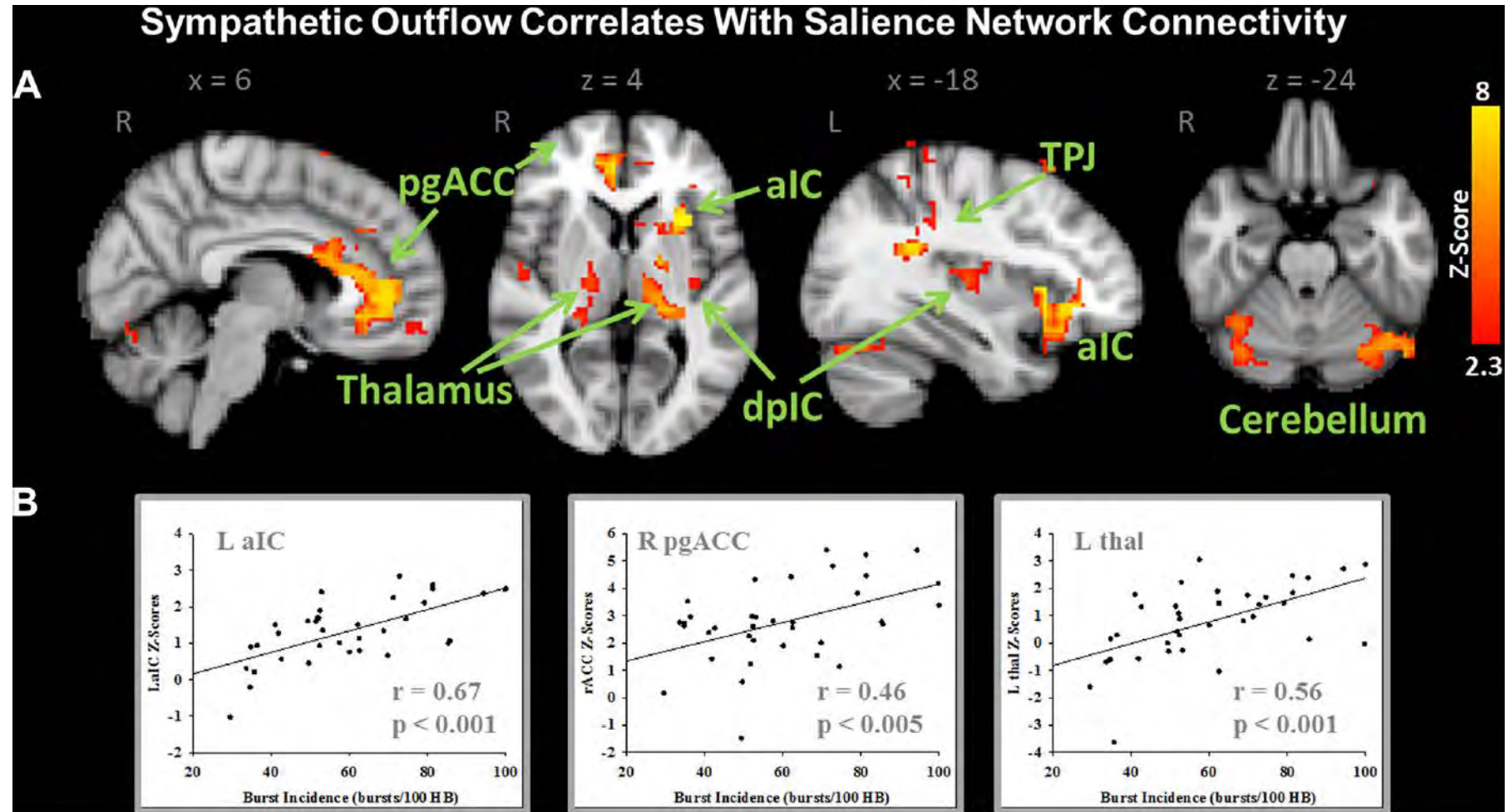
Technologies and approaches to measure sleep networks

- Classic polysomnography scoring does not directly estimate integrated network health though signals can be analyzed
- Functional MRI
- High density EEG polysomnography
- Depth recordings + ECG, hemodynamics, respiration
- Analysis of coupled oscillations
- Time delay stability

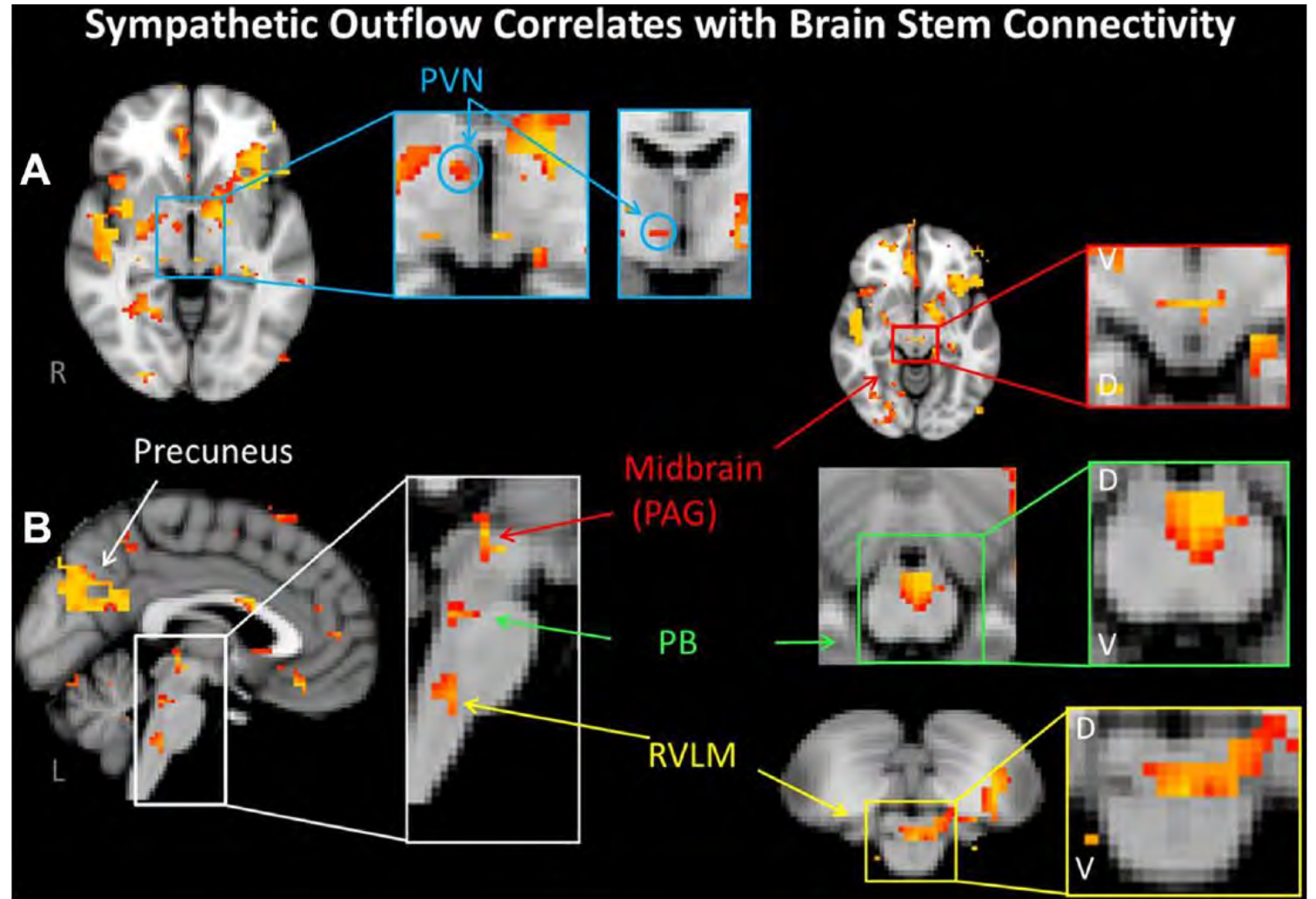
Time delay stability



Functional MRI estimation of brain networks



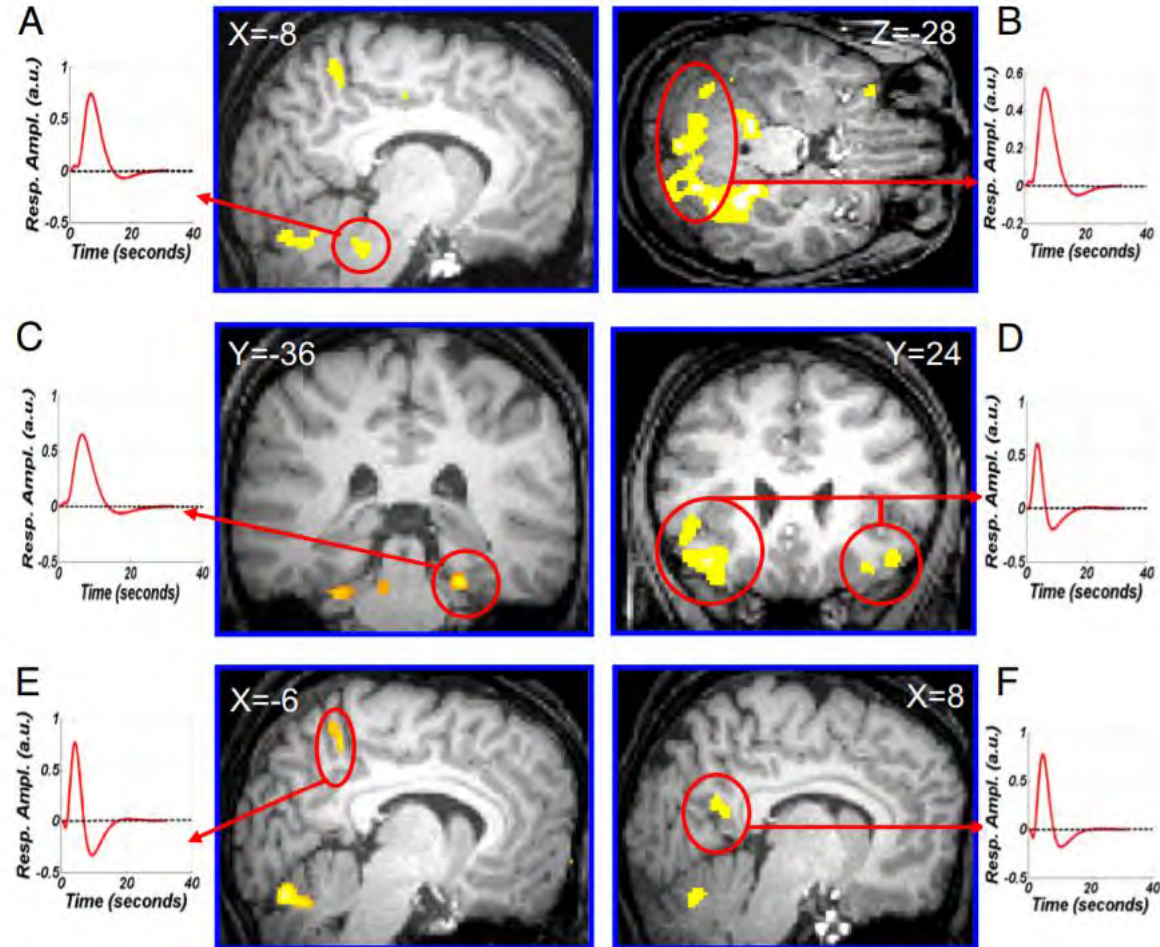
Functional MRI estimation of brain networks



fMRI of SO and delta waves (PNAS 15160–15165, September 30, 2008, vol. 105)

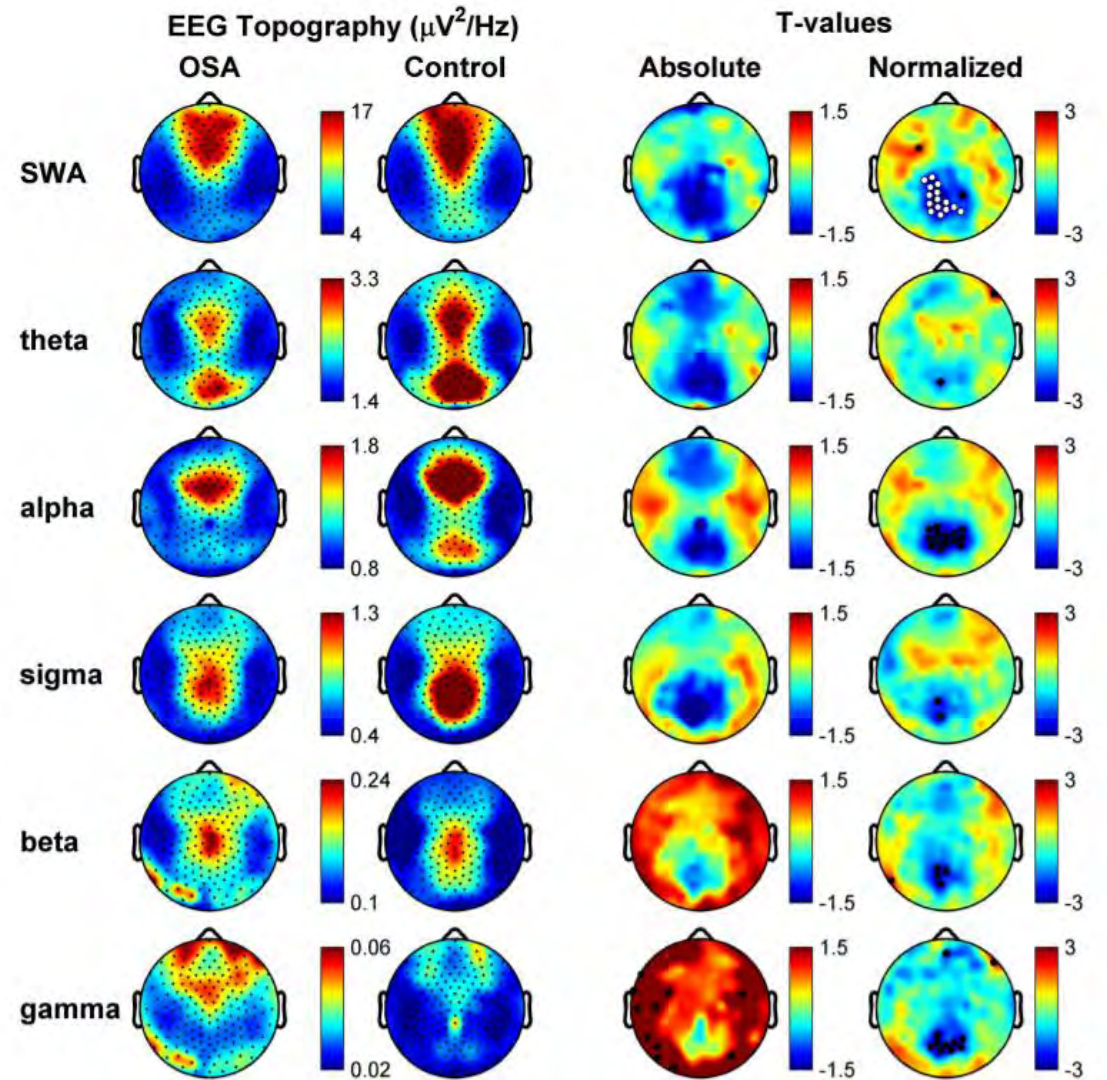
- Using simultaneous EEG and event-related functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), the transient changes in brain activity consistently associated with slow waves ($>140 \mu\text{V}$) and delta waves ($75\text{--}140 \mu\text{V}$) during SWS in 14 non-sleep-deprived normal human volunteers
- Significant increases in activity were associated with these waves in several cortical areas, including the inferior frontal, medial prefrontal, precuneus, and posterior cingulate areas. Compared with baseline activity, slow waves are associated with significant activity in the parahippocampal gyrus, cerebellum, and brainstem, whereas delta waves are related to frontal responses

fMRI of SO and delta waves (PNAS 15160–15165, September 30, 2008, vol. 105)



High density EEG polysomnography

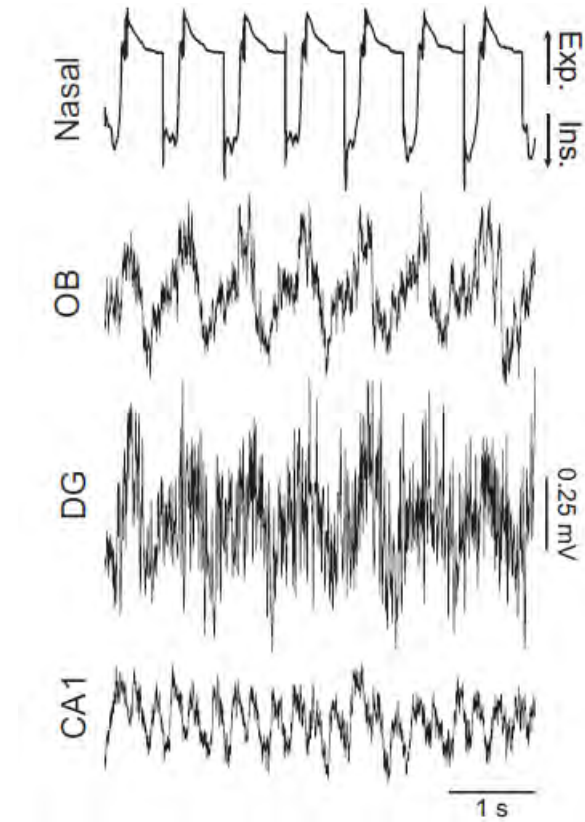
Regional Reductions in Sleep Electroencephalography Power in Obstructive Sleep Apnea: A High-Density EEG Study.
SLEEP 2014; 37: 399–407.



**End of Part I, Part
II starts**

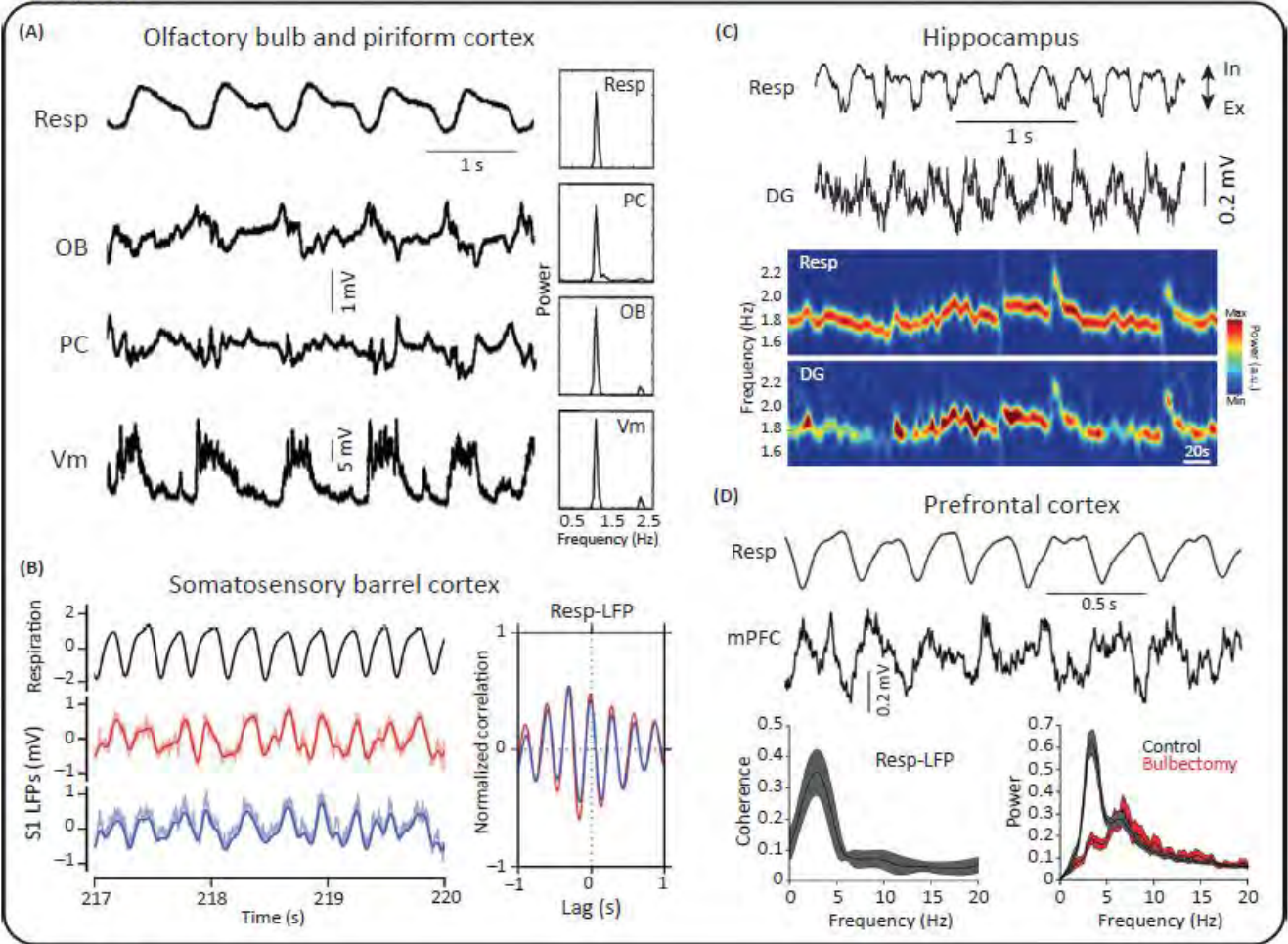
Respiration is deeply encoded in the brain network

- A Respiration-Coupled Rhythm in the Rat Hippocampus Independent of Theta and Slow Oscillations. Lockmann ALV, et al. J Neurosci 2016;36:5338 –5352.

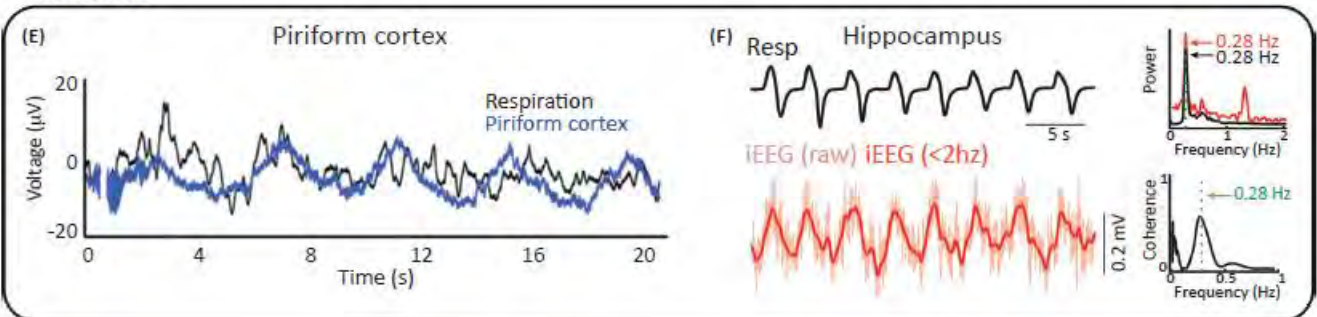


Respiration-Entrained Brain Rhythms Are Global but Often Overlooked.
Trend Neurosci 2018;41:186-197.

Rodents



Humans



What can Network Physiology do for sleep science and sleep medicine

- What is this sleep glue that hold disparate oscillators in synchrony? We have a “binding problem” in sleep. How does this inform consciousness?
- What is the minimum unit of sleep to perform function? That is, is there a universal law of tolerance to sleep fragmentation/arousals?
- Why are certain individuals with incredibly fragmented sleep asymptomatic, and vice versa?
- Can the “disruption grade” of pathology be quantified?
- Is a “network map” of sleep useful in clinical practice?

Syndromes of sleep pathology

- Insomnia
- Hypersomnia
- Excessive daytime sleepiness
- Parasomnia
- Restless legs/movements
- Circadian rhythm disorders

Large scale network influences and breakdowns

- **Binding mechanisms**
 - Slow oscillation
 - Cyclic alternating pattern
 - PGO waves
- **Breakdown etiologies**
 - Congestive heart failure
 - Atrial fibrillation
 - Severe traumatic brain injury
 - Treatment-resistant depression
 - Mania
 - Neurodegeneration

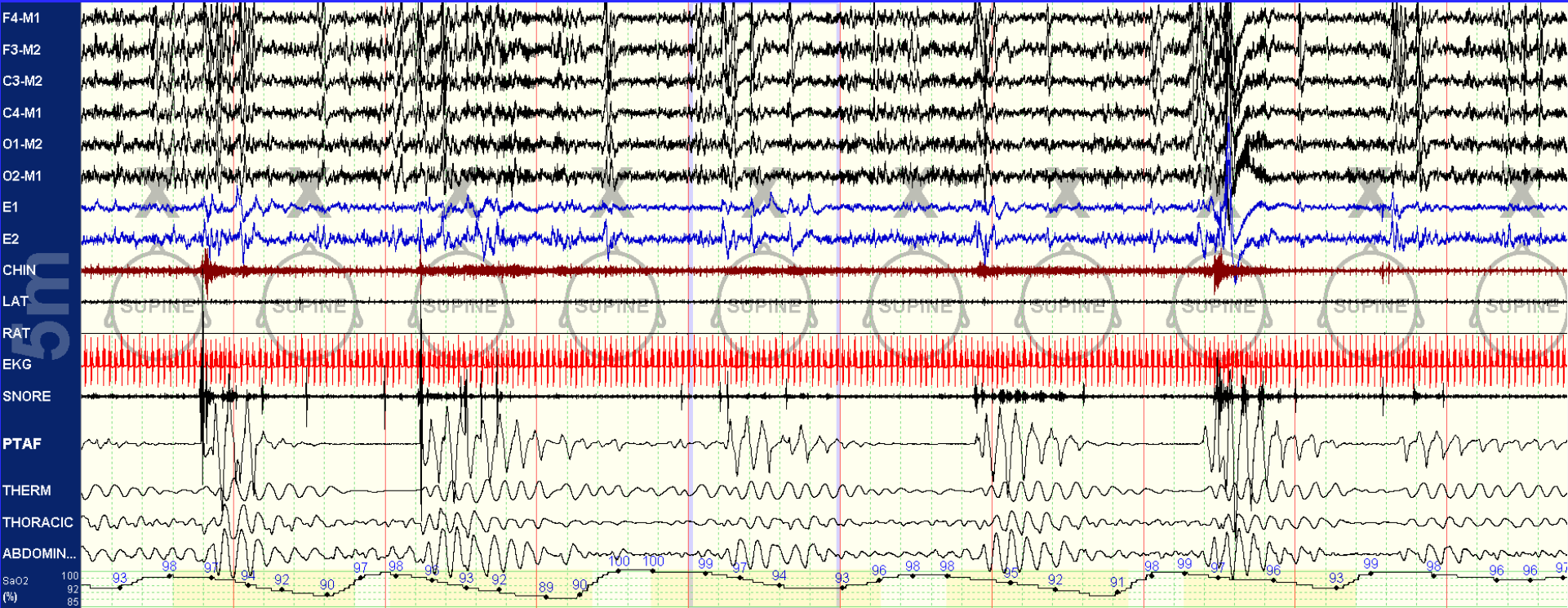
Network breakdown

- **Cortical**
 - Normally highly resilient and redundant (e.g. stroke)
 - Traumatic brain injury
 - Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease
 - Epilepsy
- **Thalamocortical network**
 - Prion disease
 - Tumor
 - Stroke (including paramedian)
- **Sleep-wake transition network**
 - Insomnia (various driver mechanisms, including circadian)
 - Amygdala-based syndromes: anxiety, fear, PTSD
 - Pain, stress

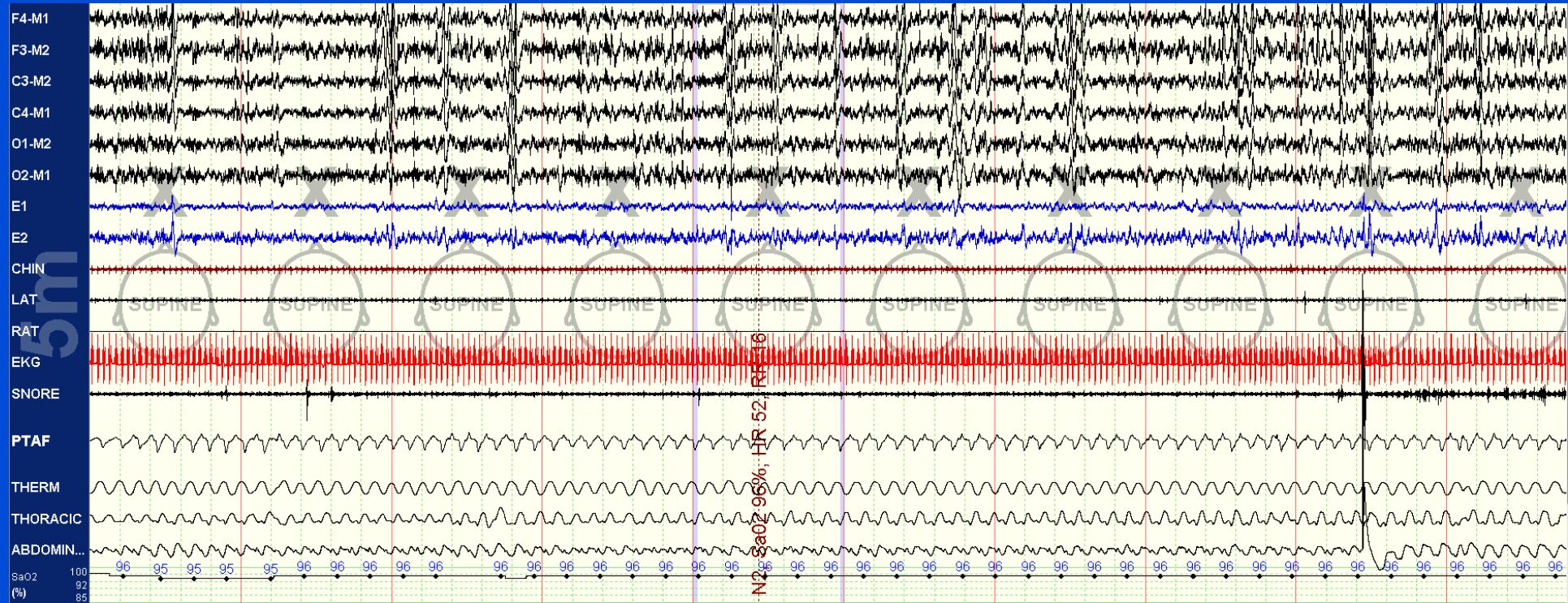
Network breakdown

- **REM sleep network**
 - RBD, PTSD, nightmares
- **NREM sleep network**
 - Sleepwalking, insomnia, depression
- **Arousal network**
 - **Unstable**
 - Bipolar, Kleine-Levin syndrome
 - **Hypoactive**
 - Coma, Persistent vegetative state, minimally conscious state
 - Anesthesia (all anesthetic agents are not equal, e.g., ketamine-xylazine results in greater glymphatic flow than isoflurane)
 - **Hyperactive**
 - Extrinsic: pain, abnormal respiration
 - Intrinsic: PTSD, stress

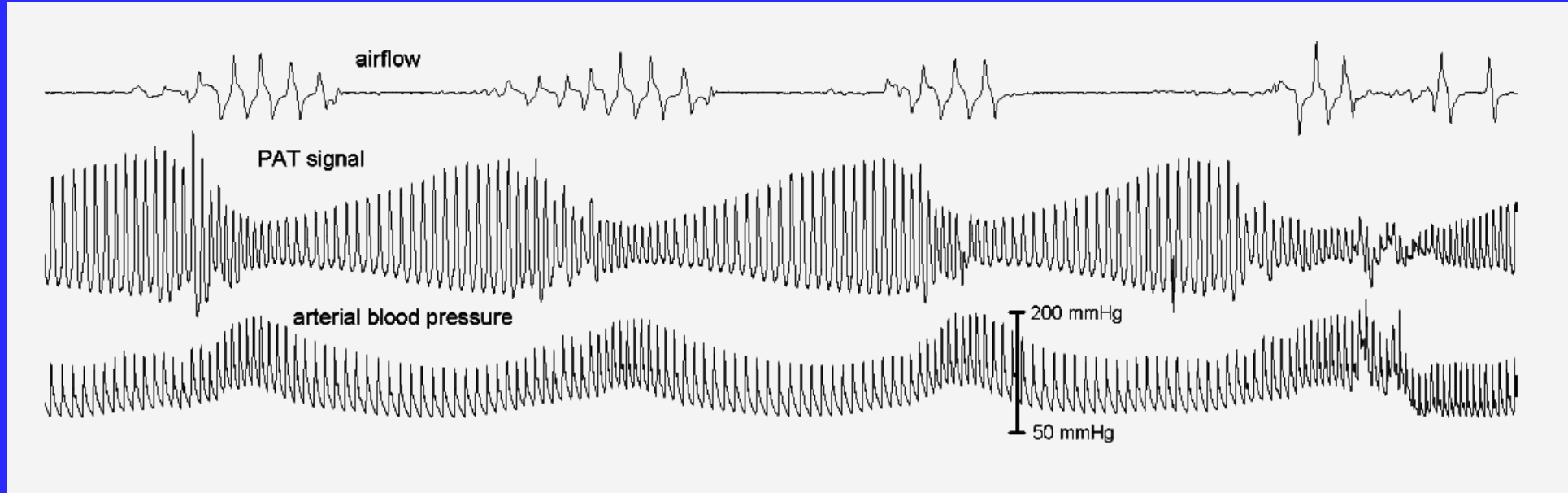
Coupled network oscillations



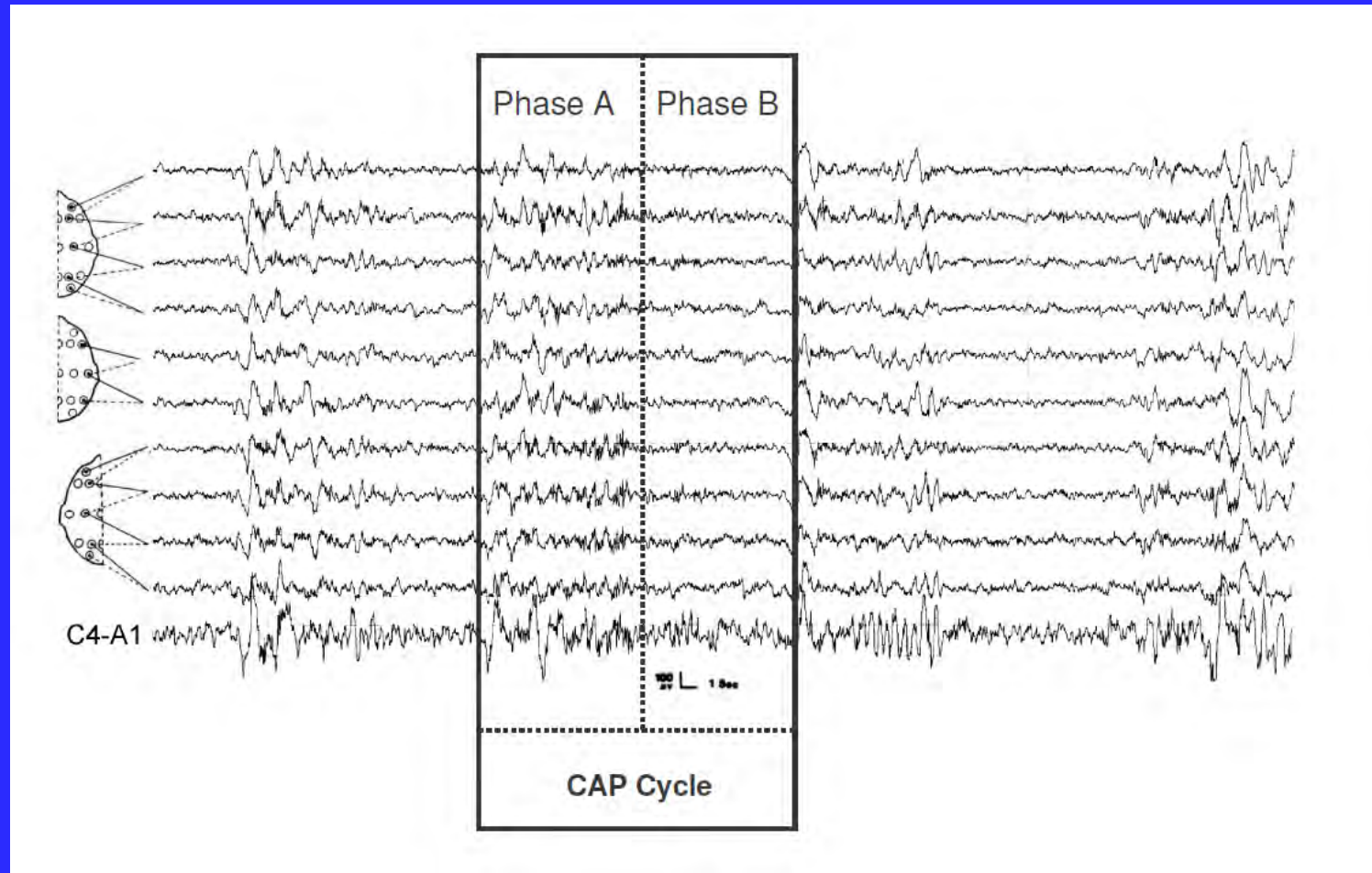
Stable NREM



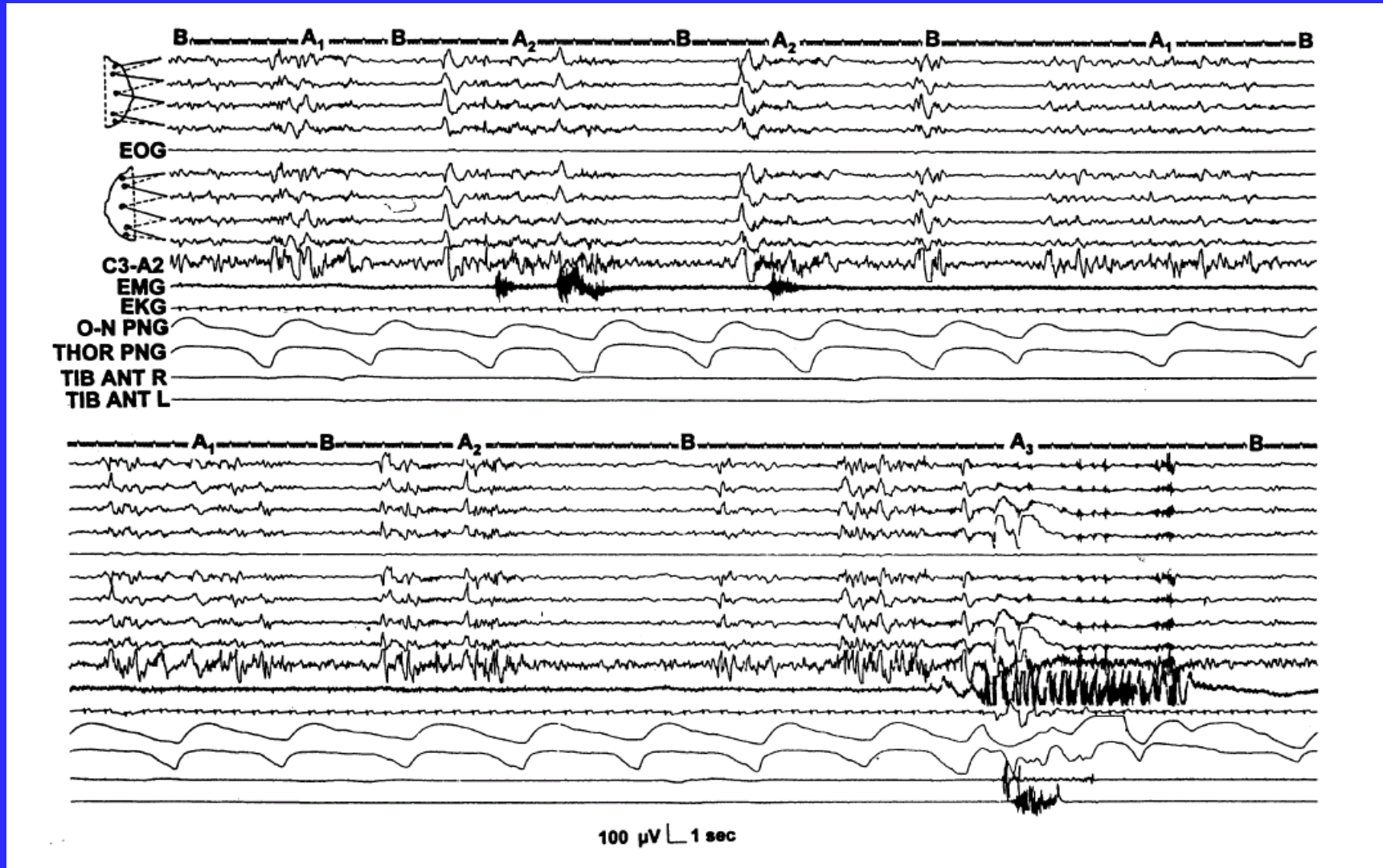
Multiple coupled sleep subsystems – respiration, autonomic drive, blood pressure



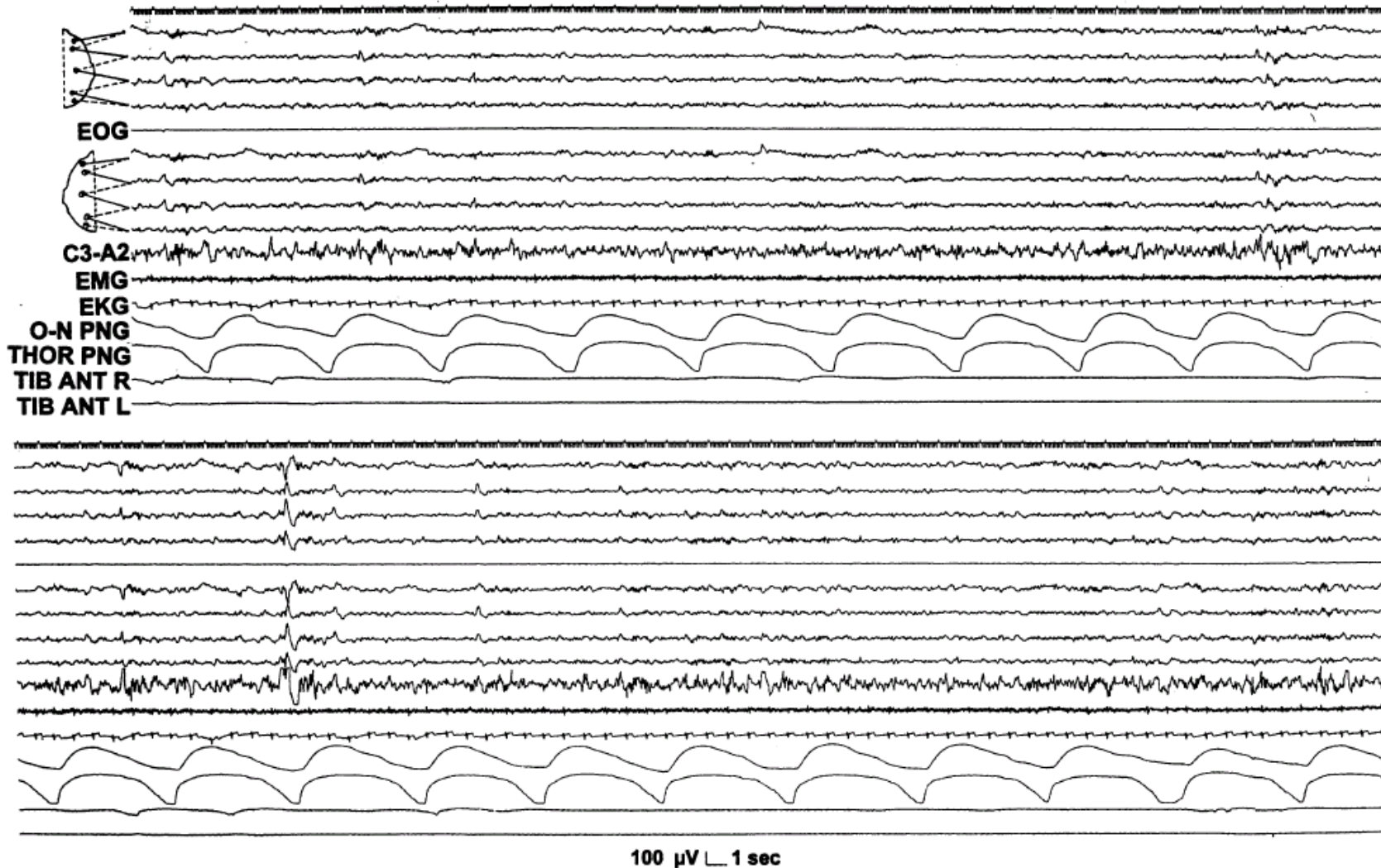
Cyclic Alternating Pattern (CAP)



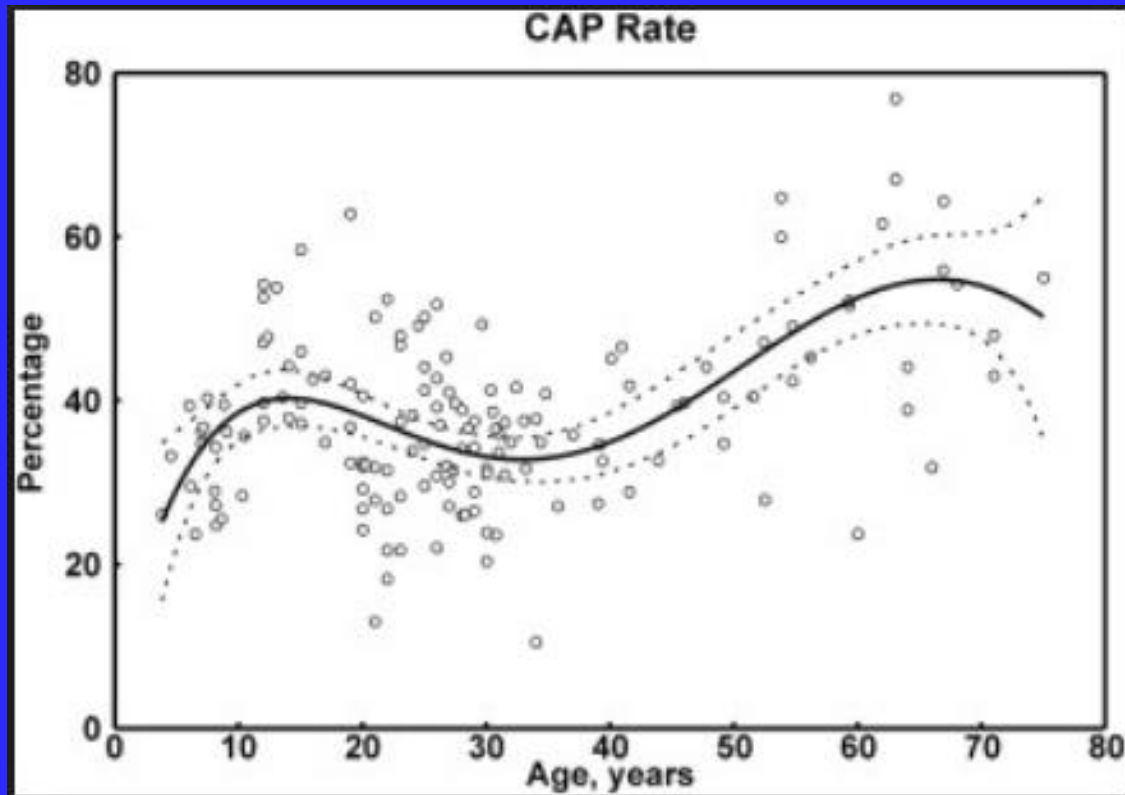
A period of CAP which can go on for tens of minutes, markedly amplified in disease



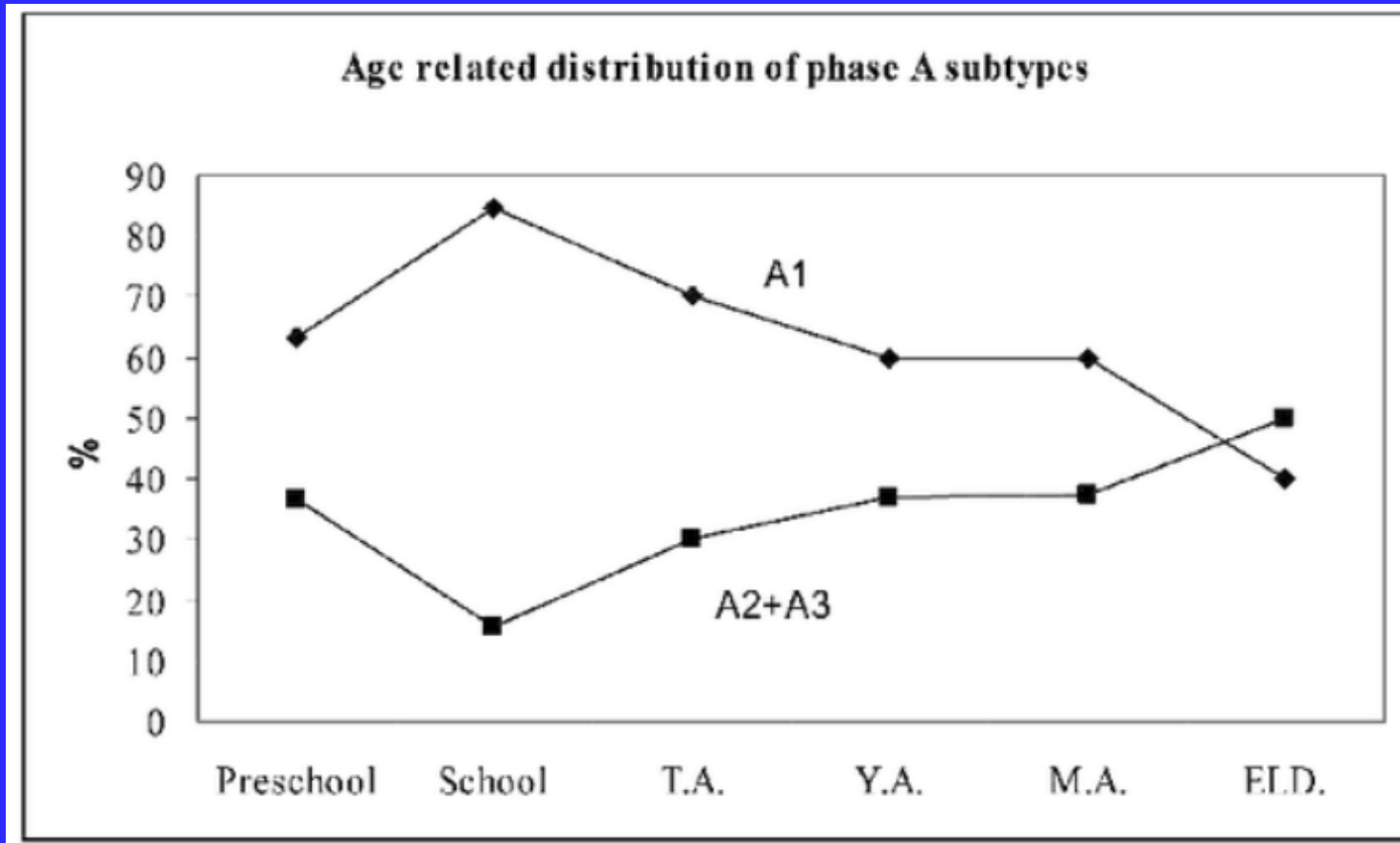
A period of EEG quiescence, which can go on for tens of minutes



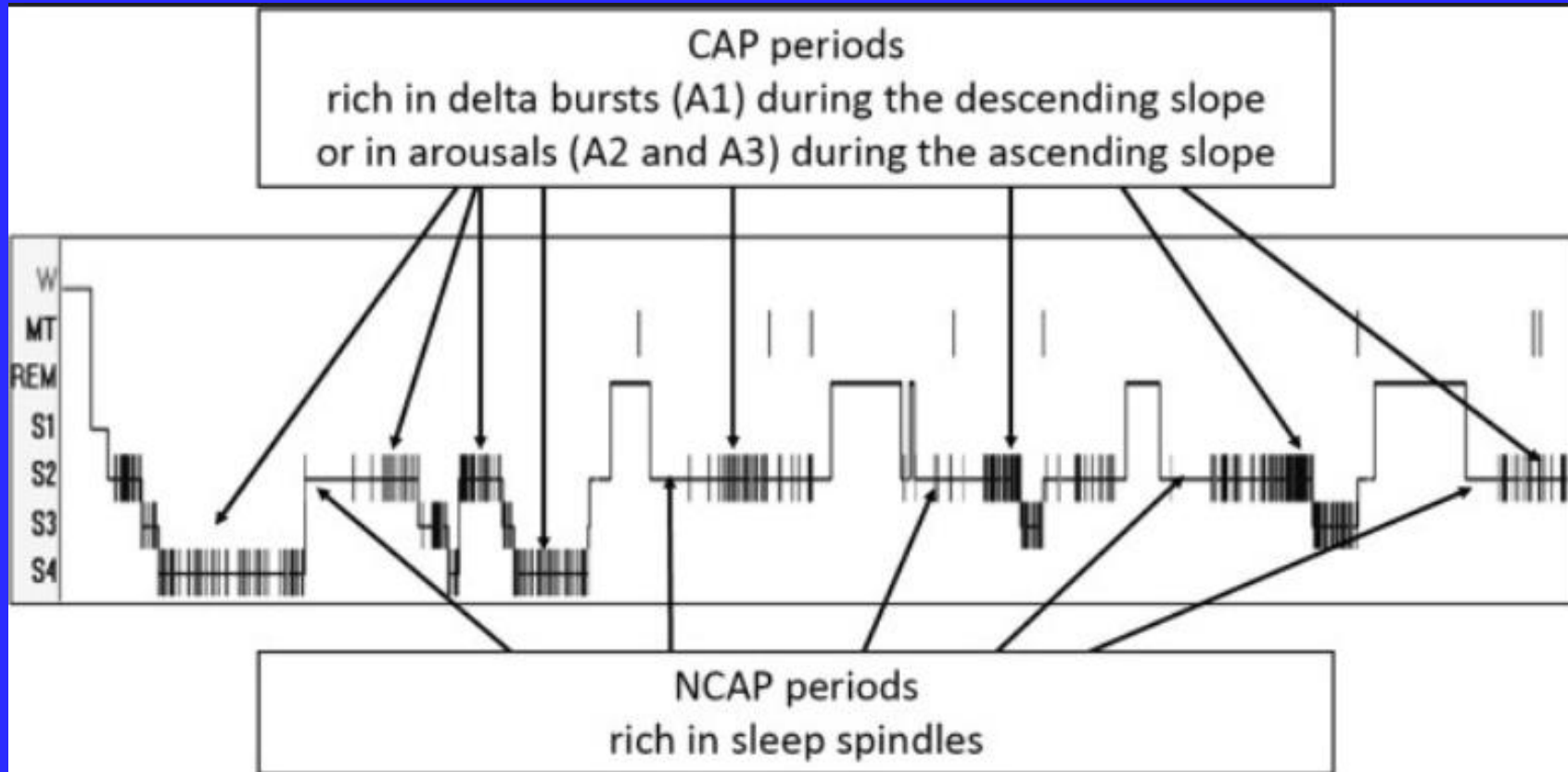
CAP and age



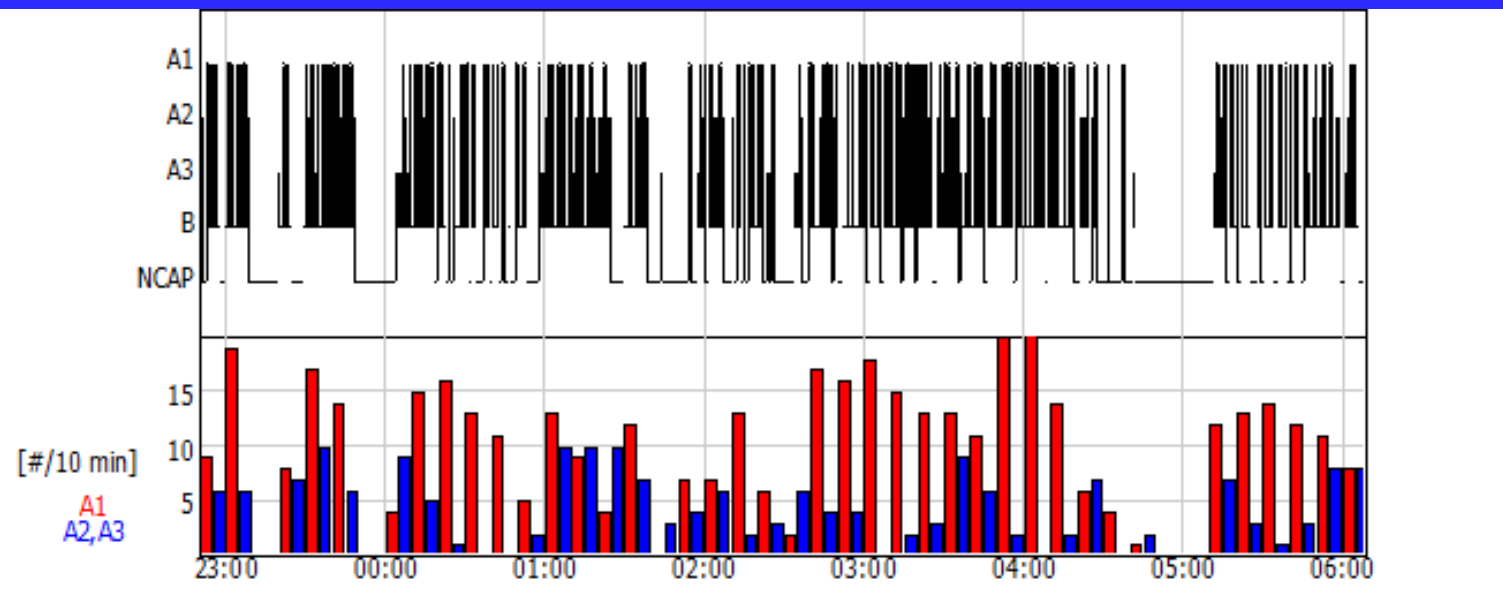
CAP subtypes and age



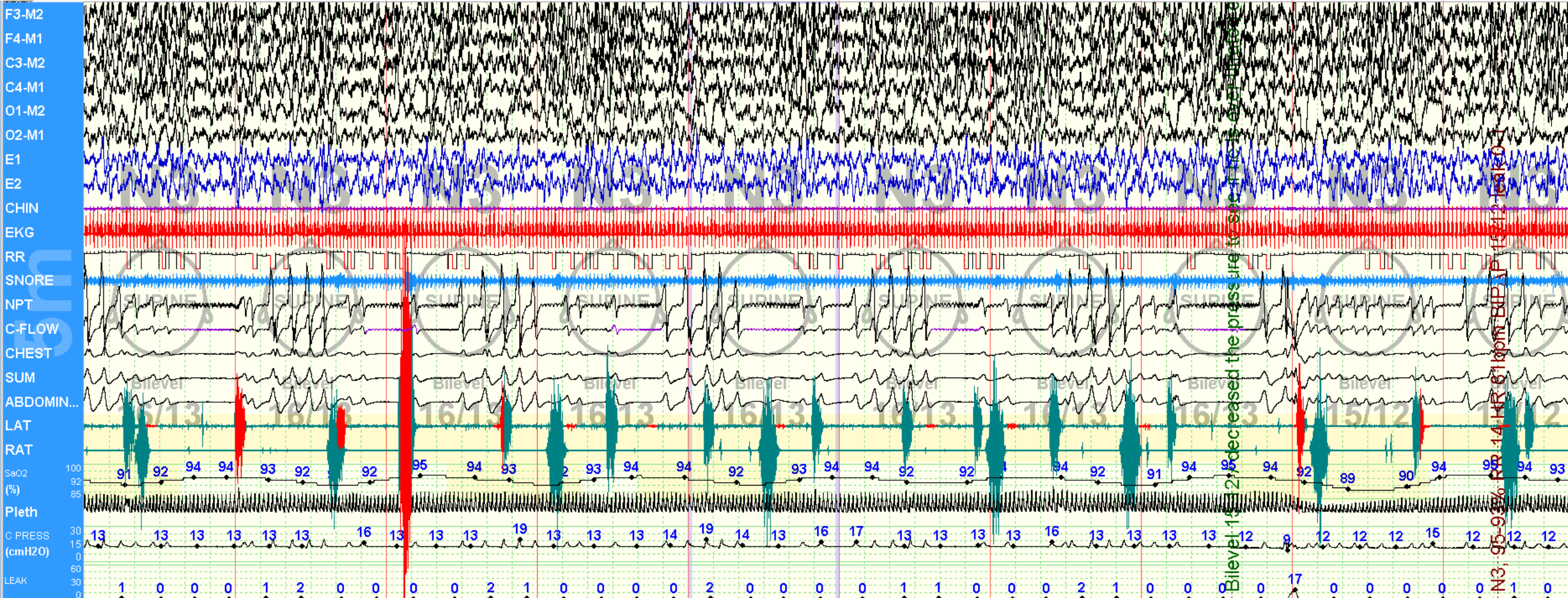
Capnogram

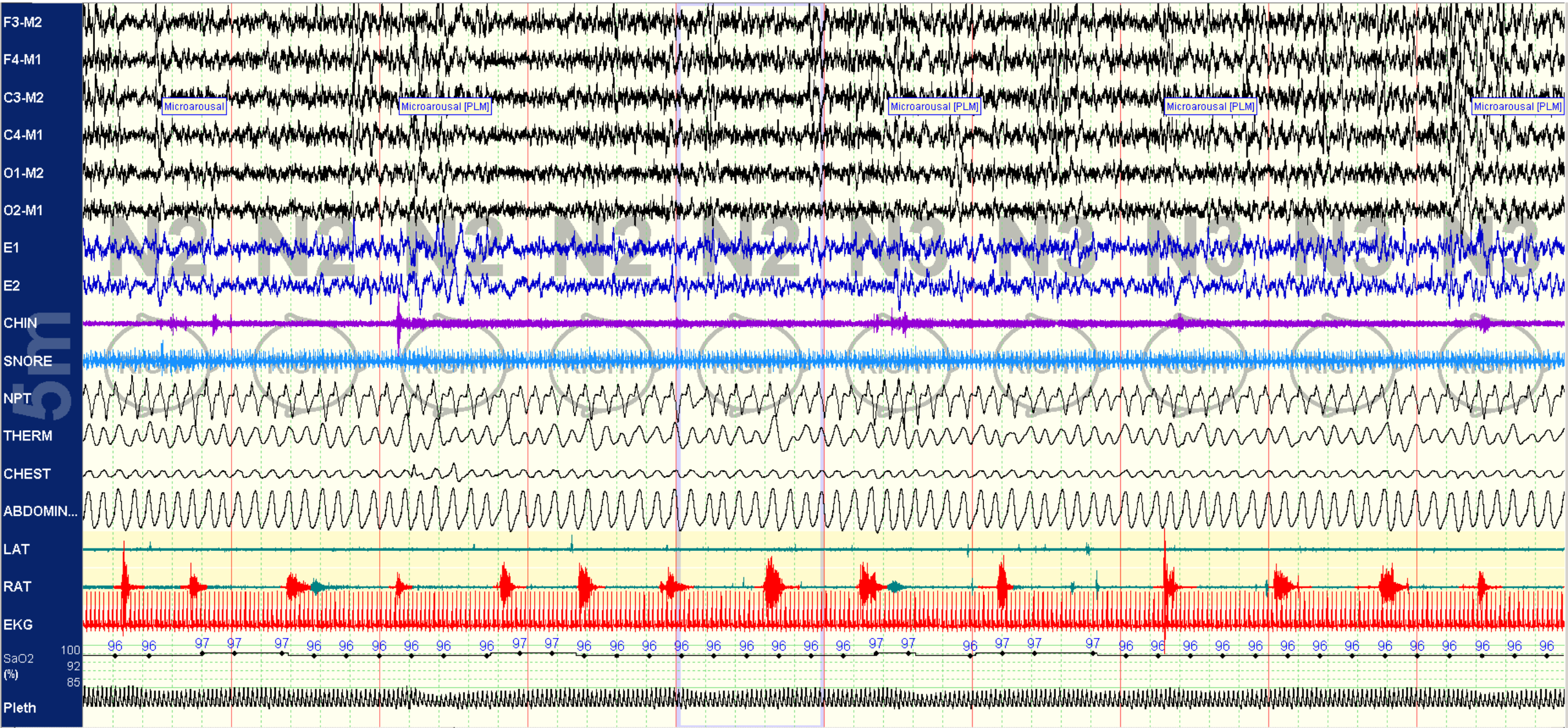


CAP induced by PLMS

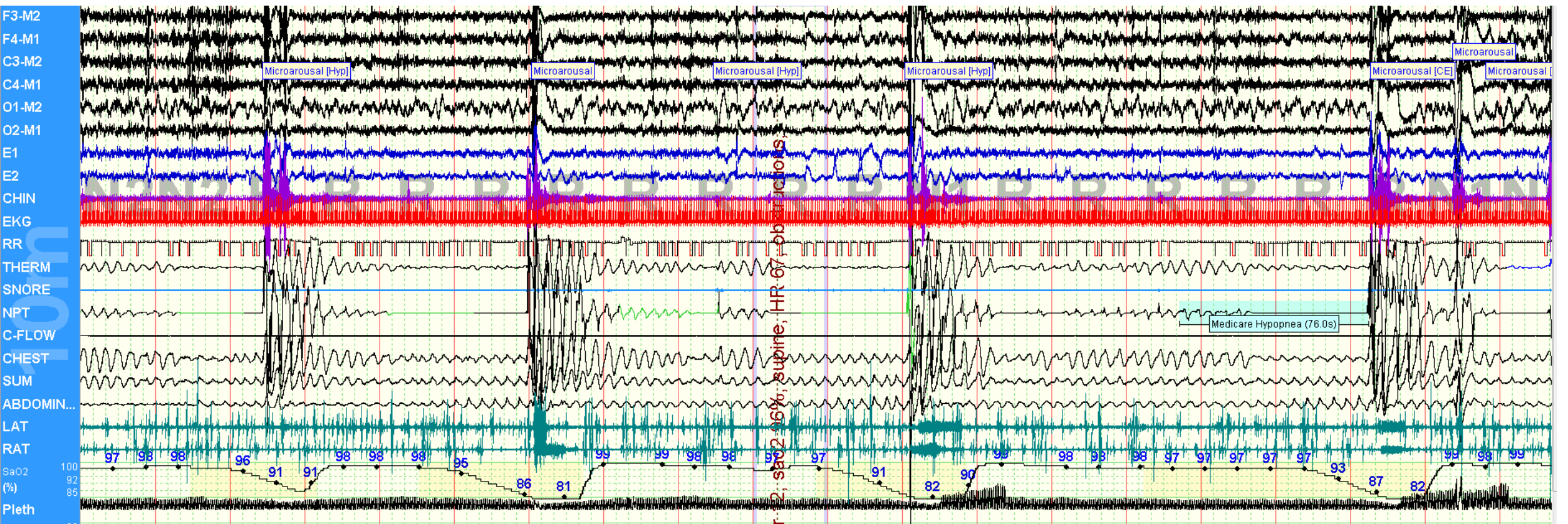


Alternating PLMS

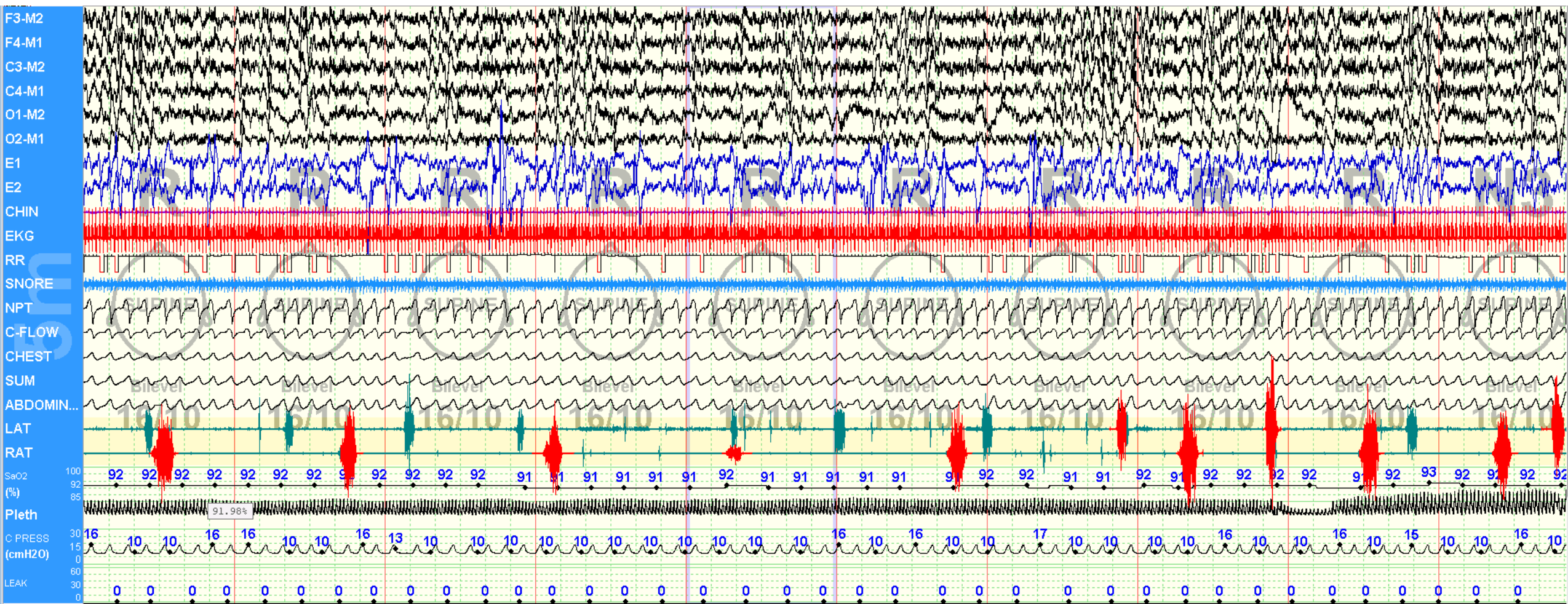




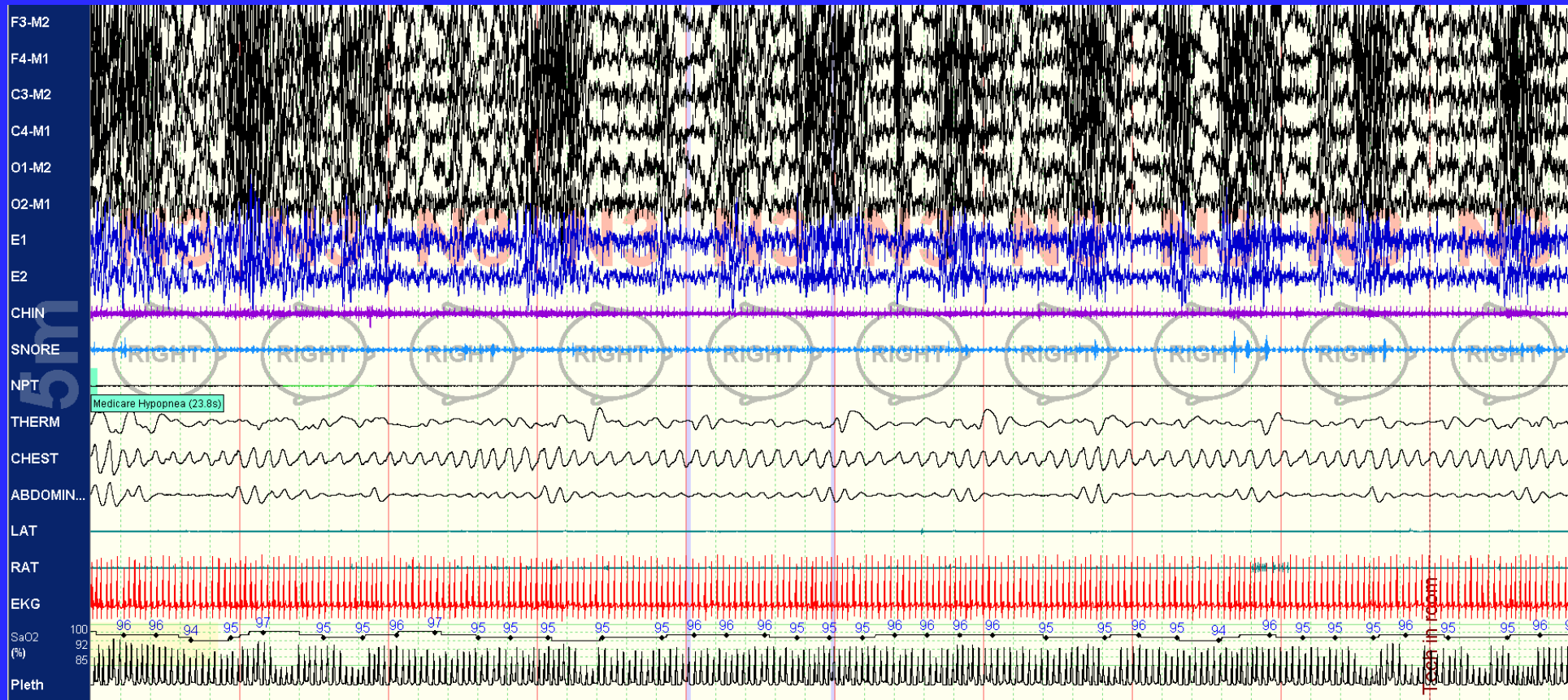
REM with respiratory events



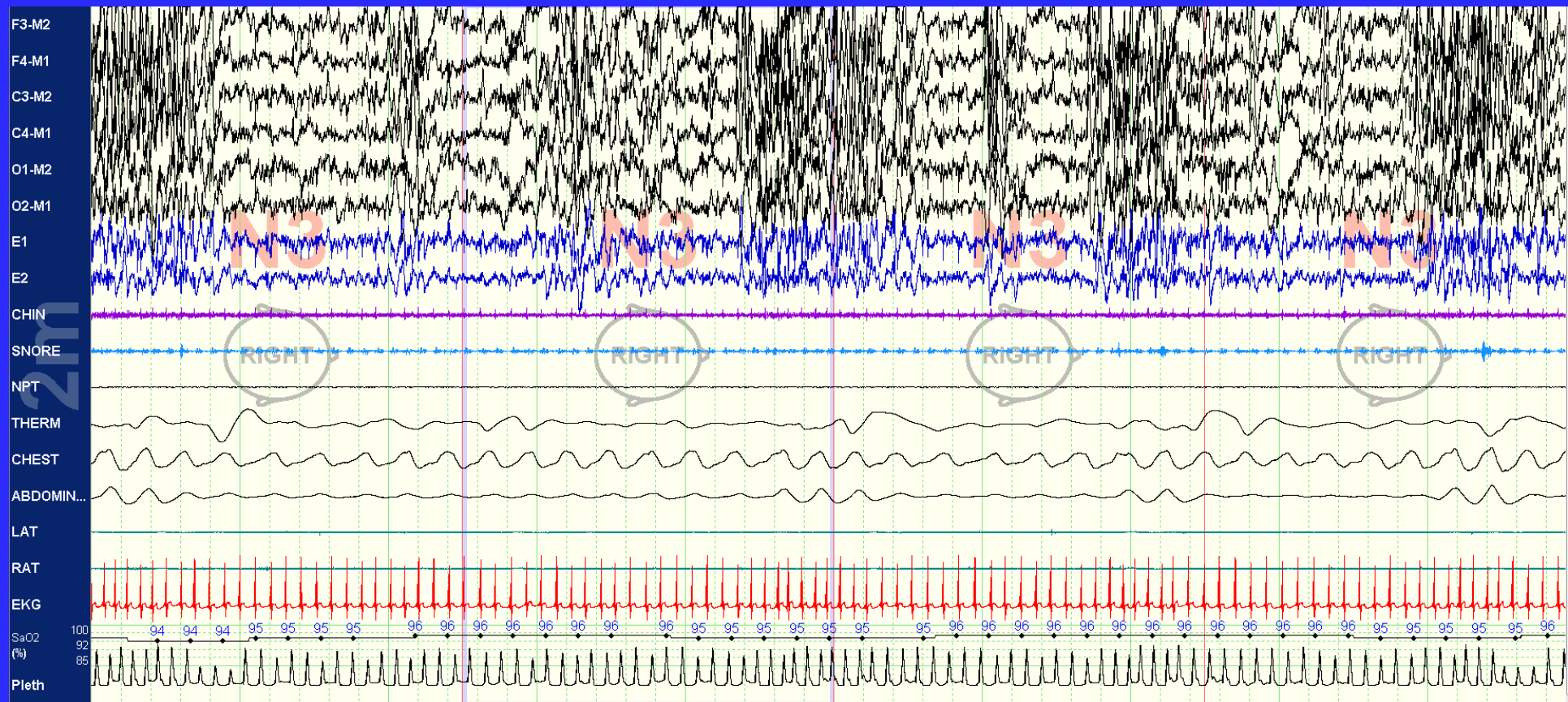
PLMS REM sleep



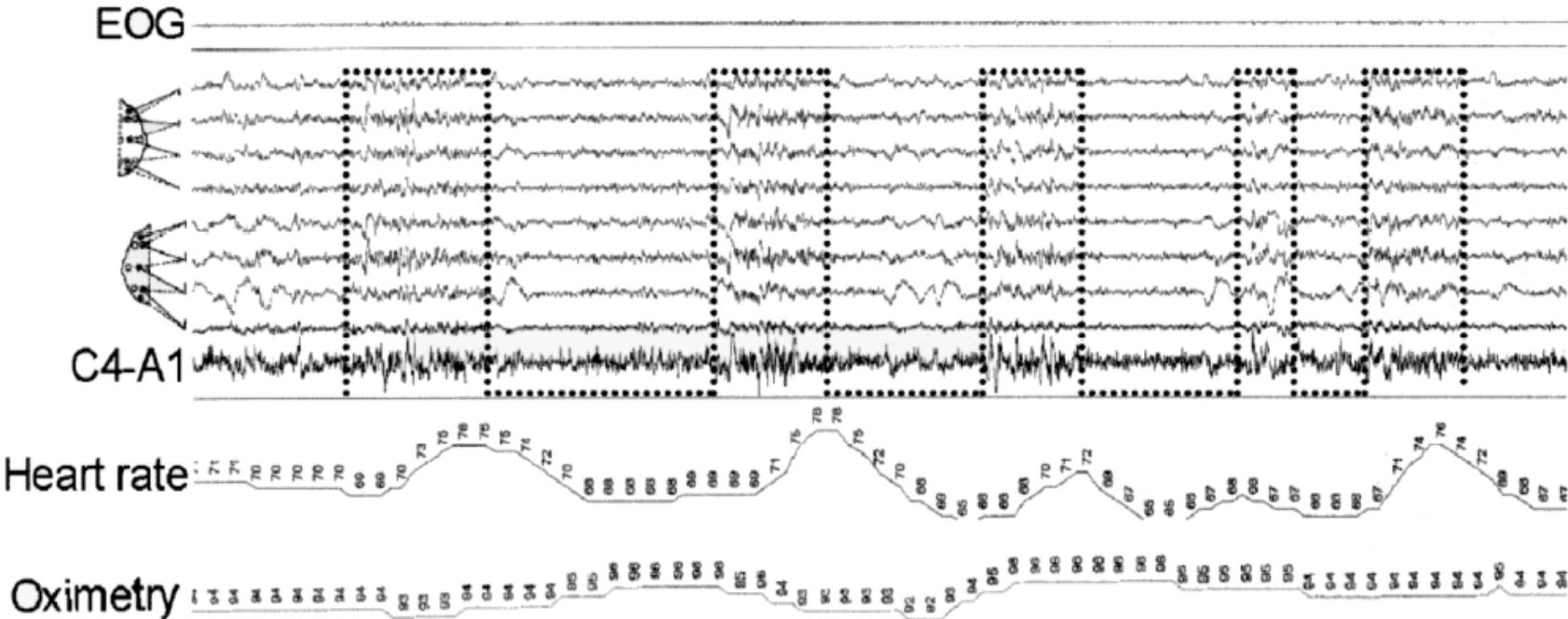
N3 CAP (5-minute)



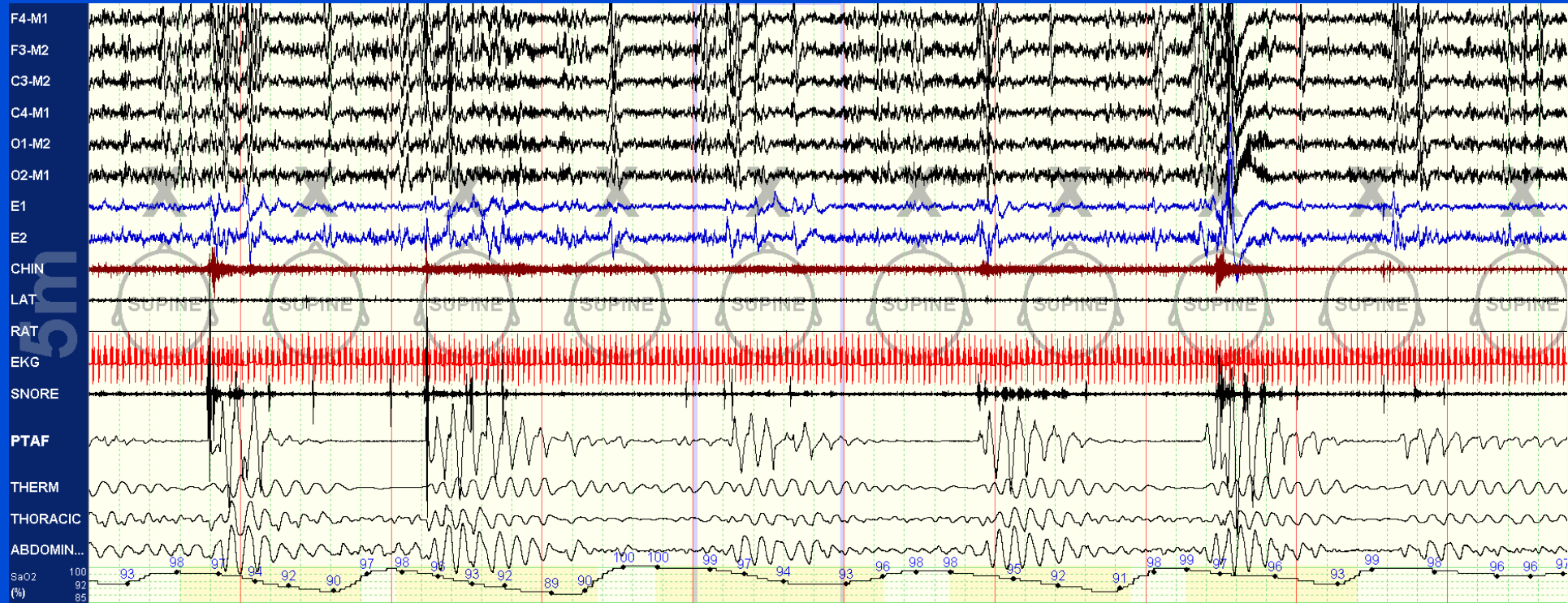
N2 CAP (2-minute)



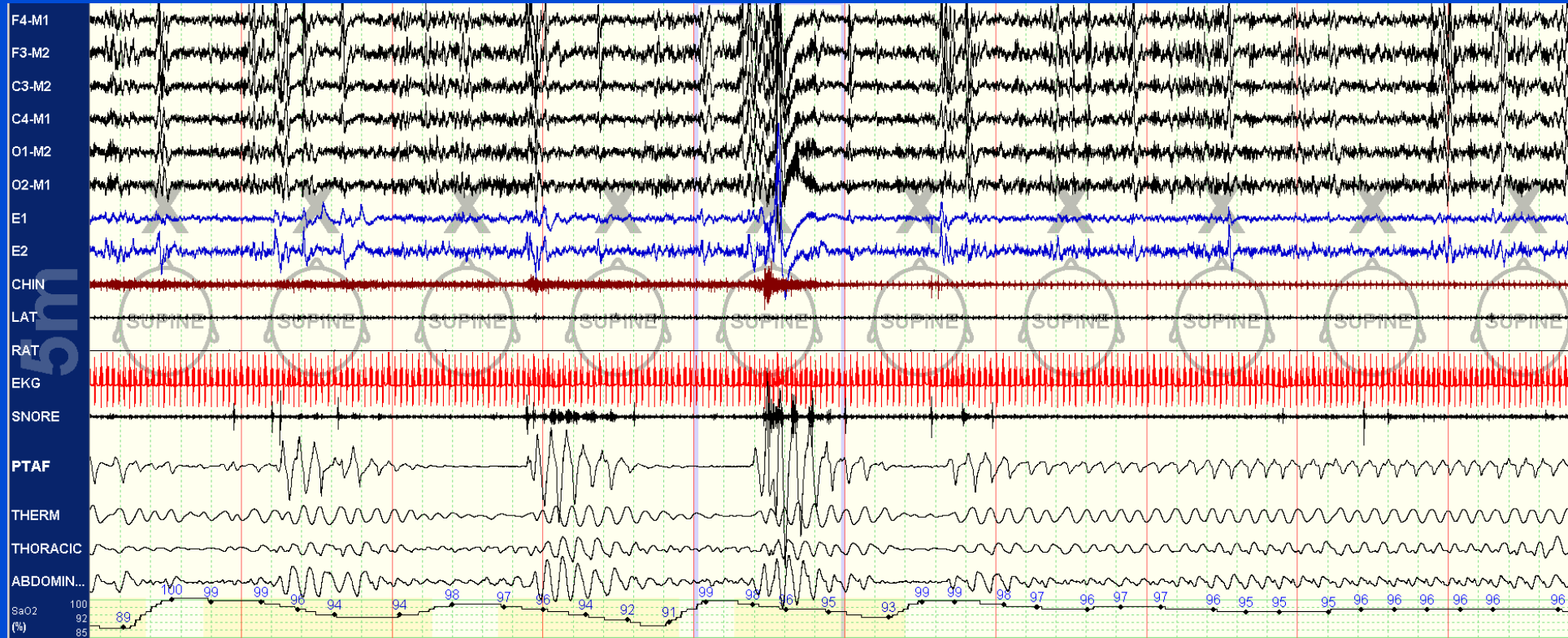
EEG and ECG and linked



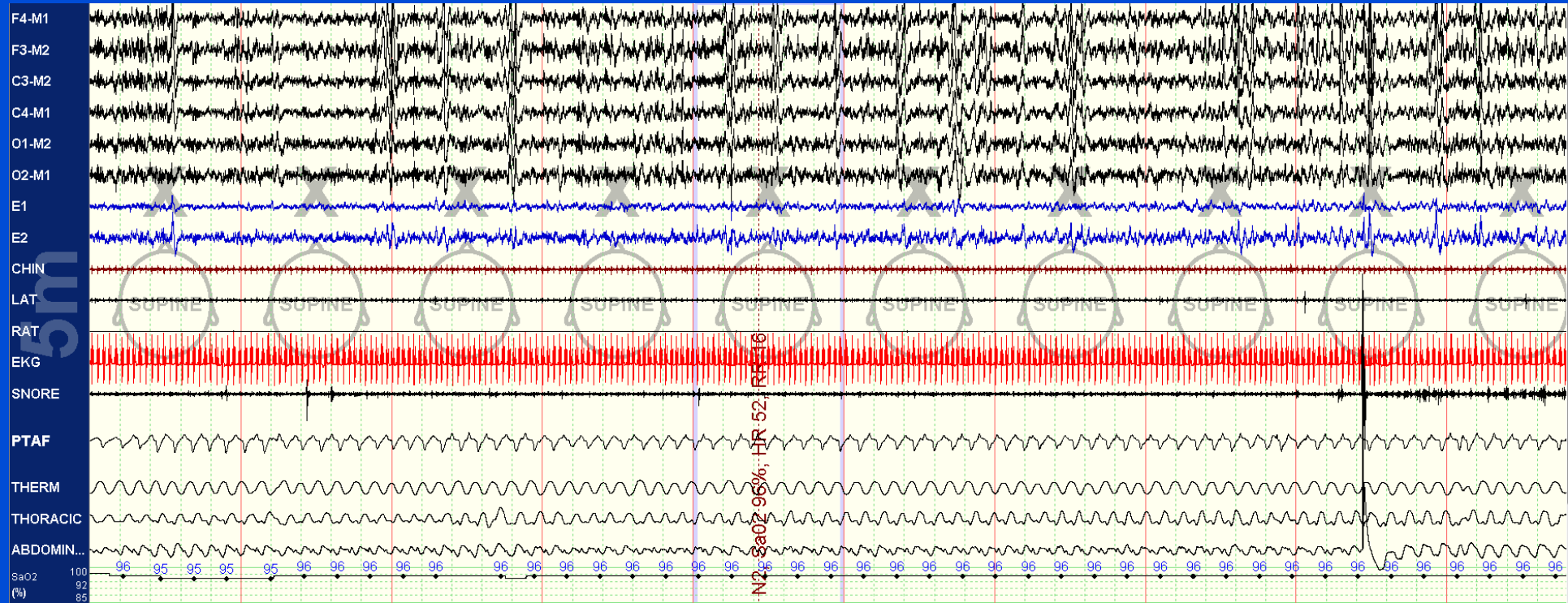
Unstable NREM

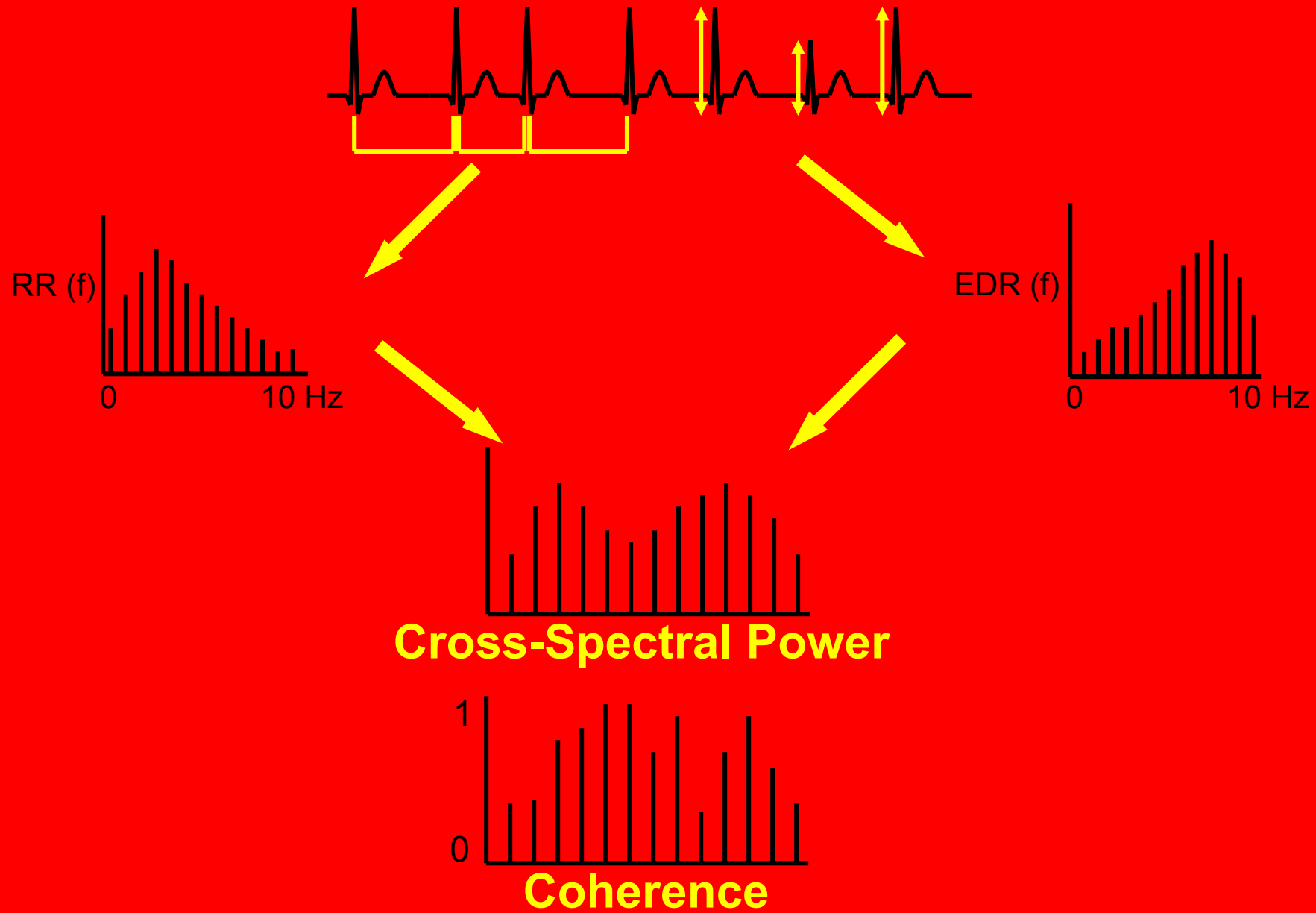


Transition to Unstable



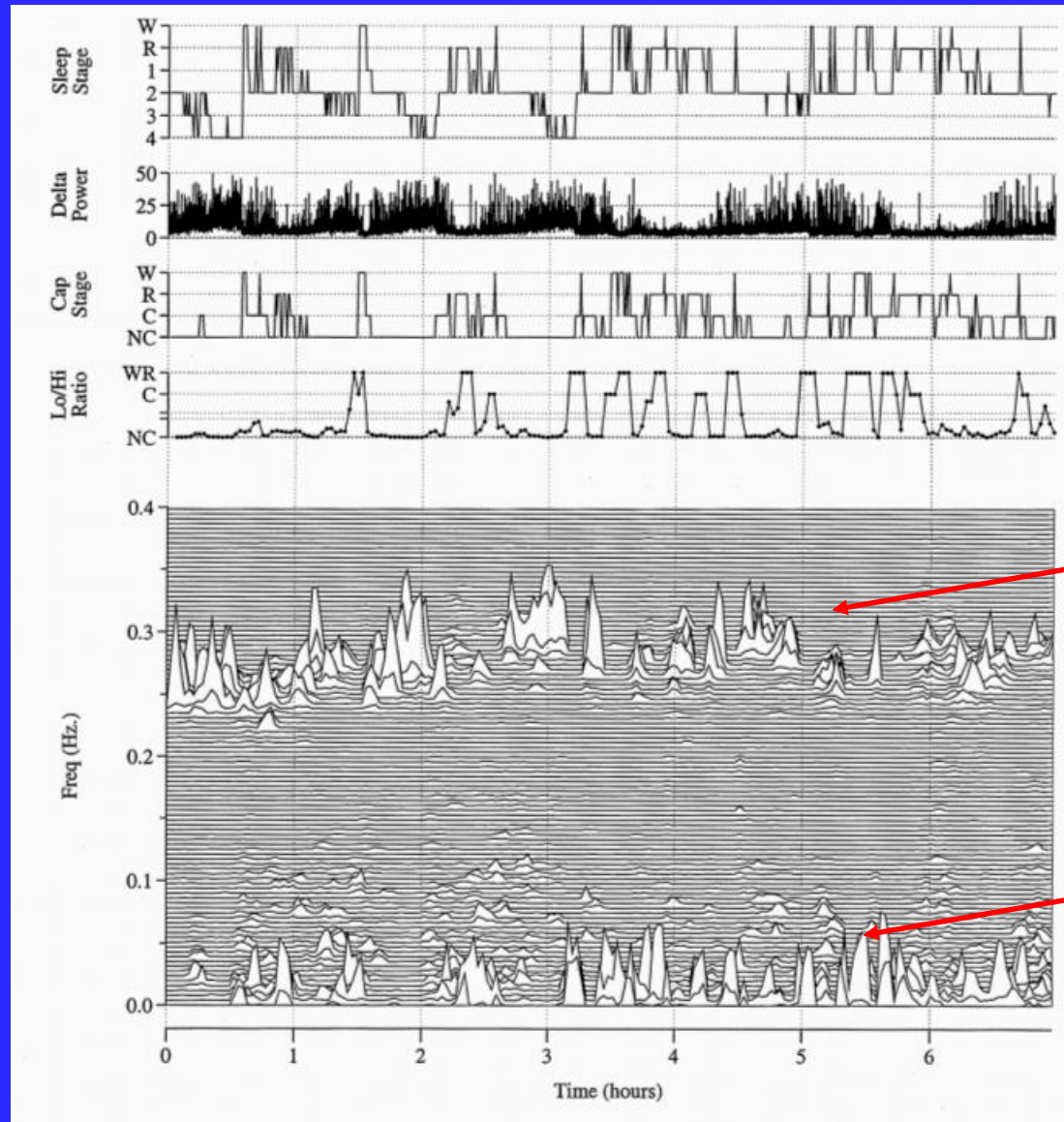
Stable NREM





$$\text{Cardiopulmonary Coupling} = [\text{Cross-Spectral Power}]^2 \times [\text{Coherence}]$$

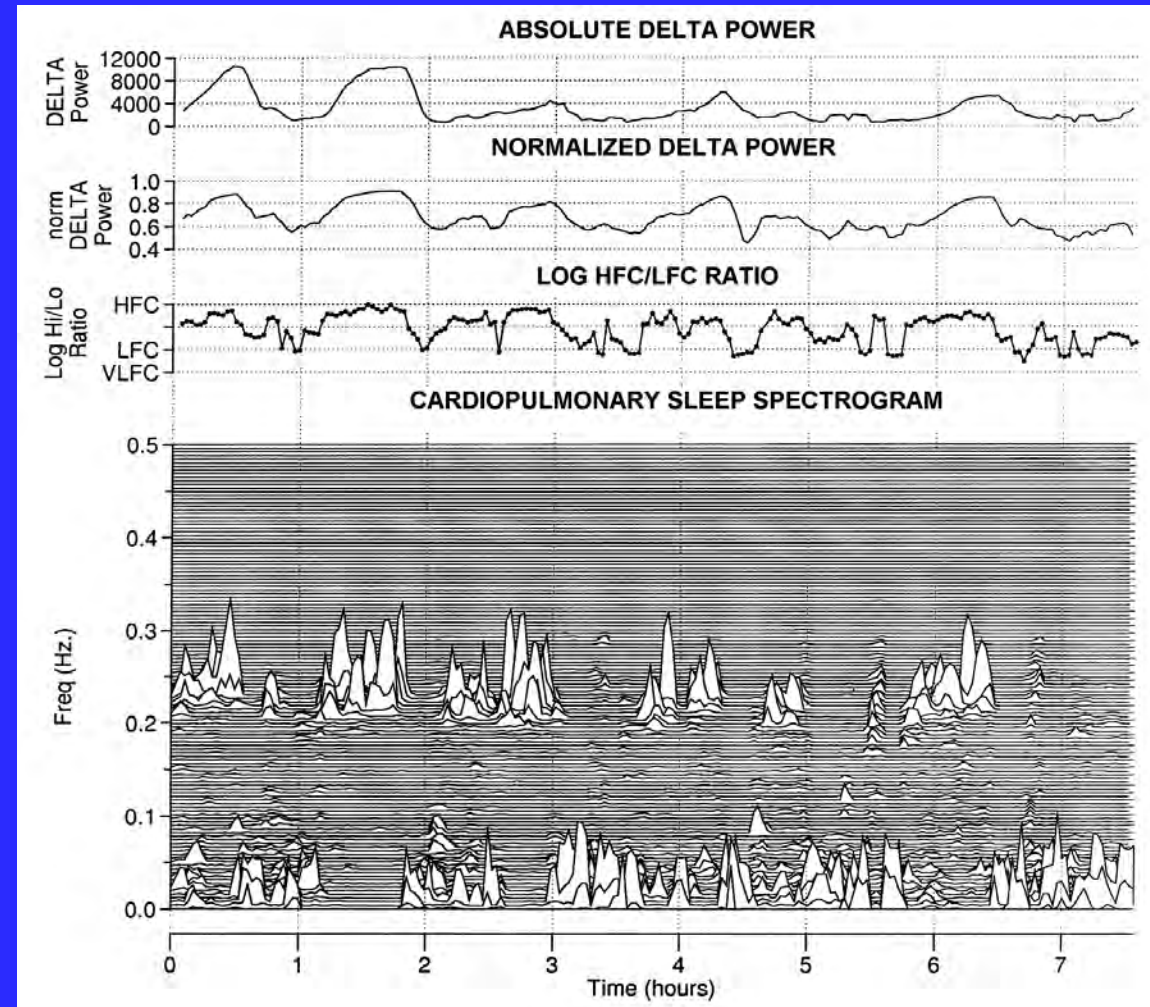
Sleep spectrogram in health



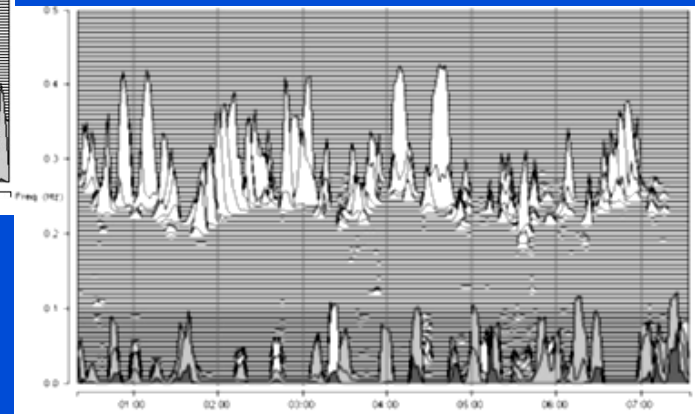
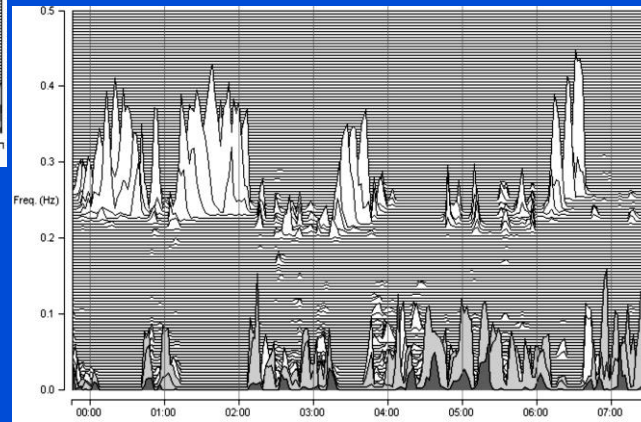
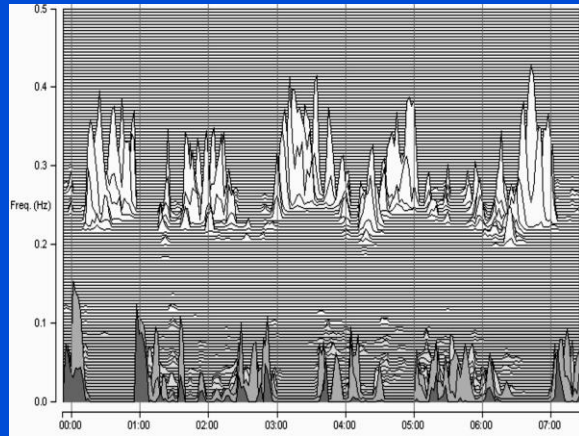
High-frequency coupling

Low-frequency coupling

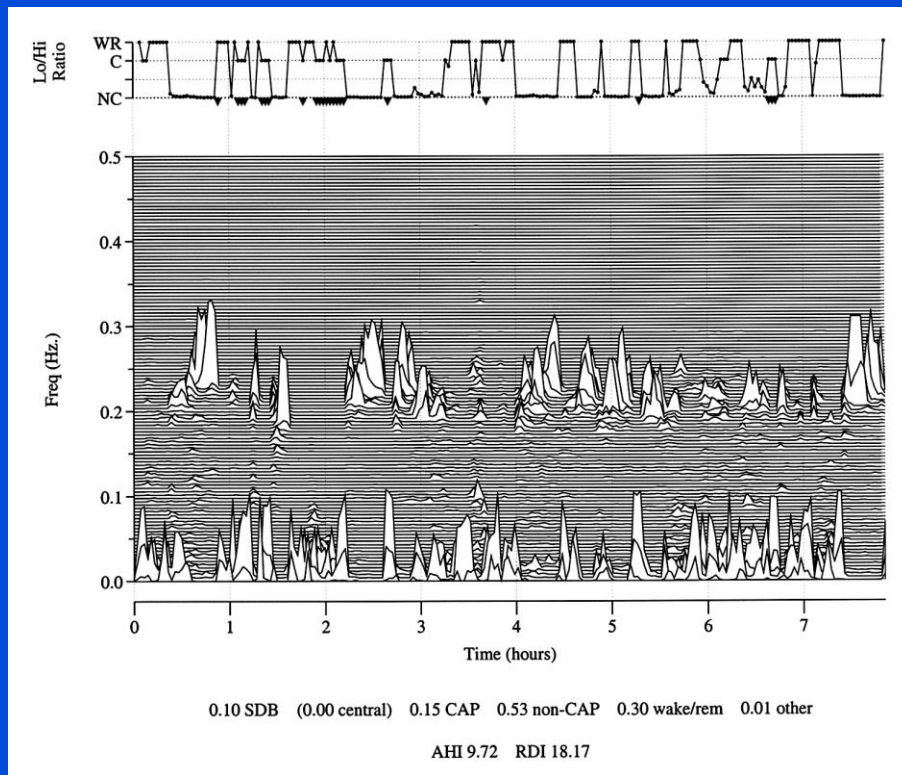
Slow wave power and ECG-spectrogram



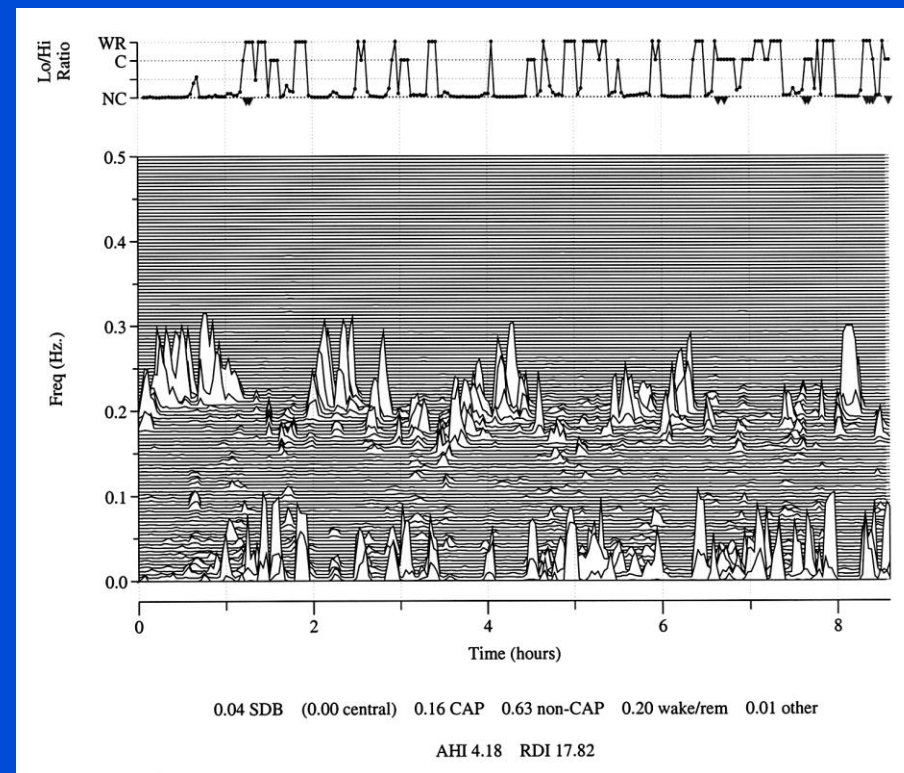
Night-to-night stability



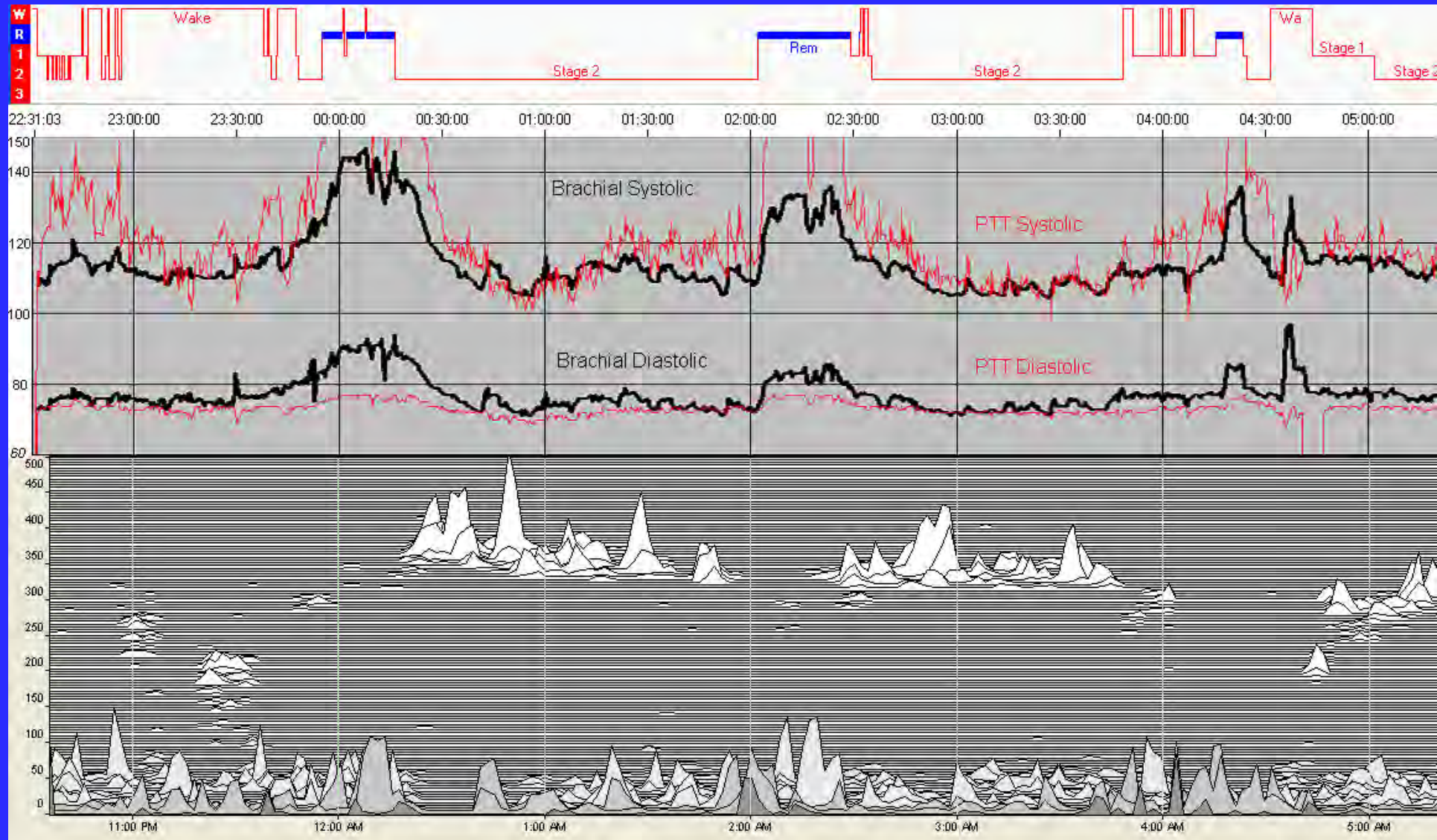
Rested -
human



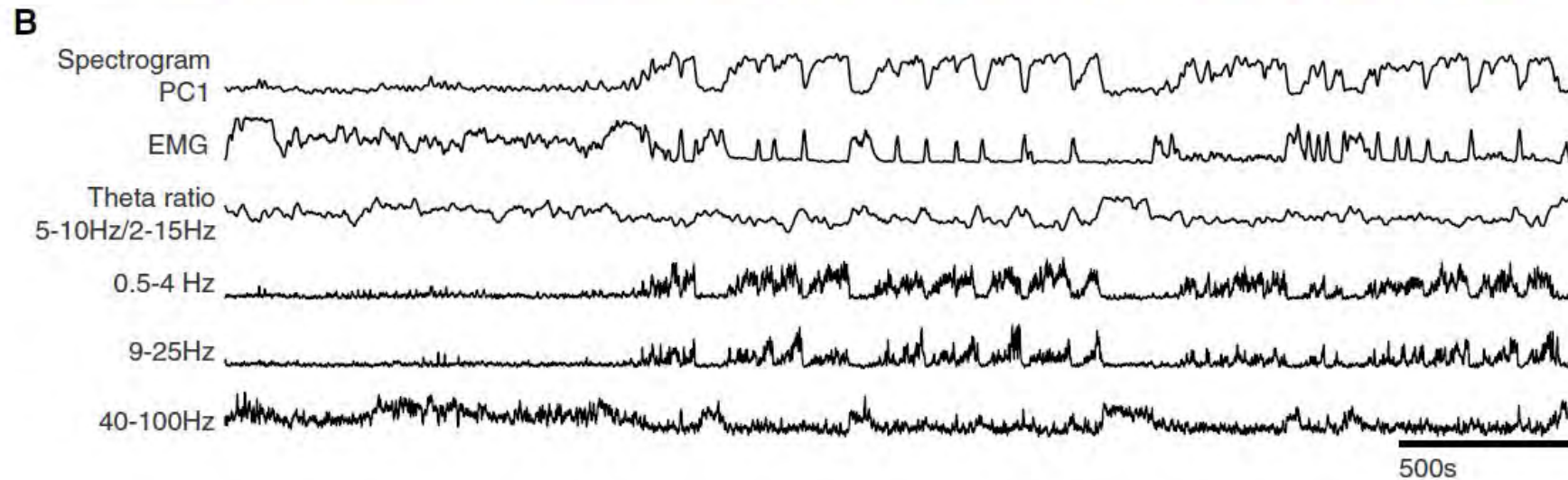
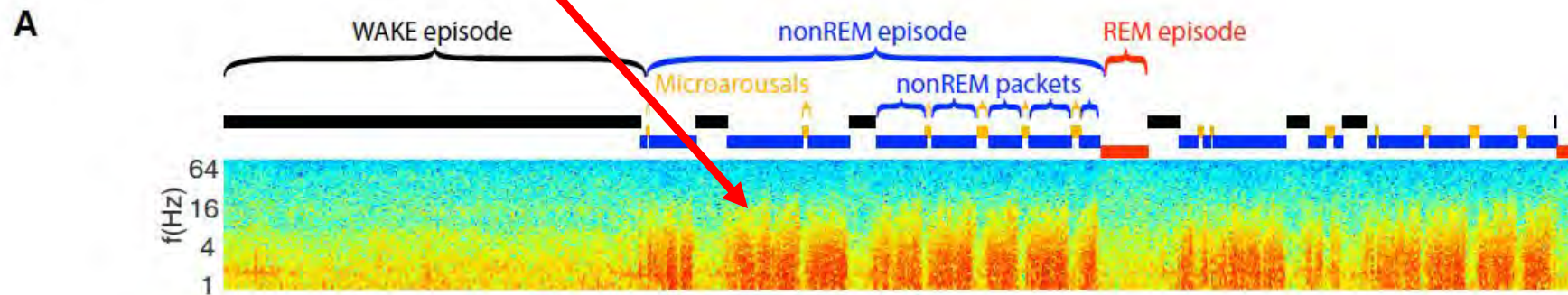
Sleep deprivation recovery
– increased HFC all across
the night



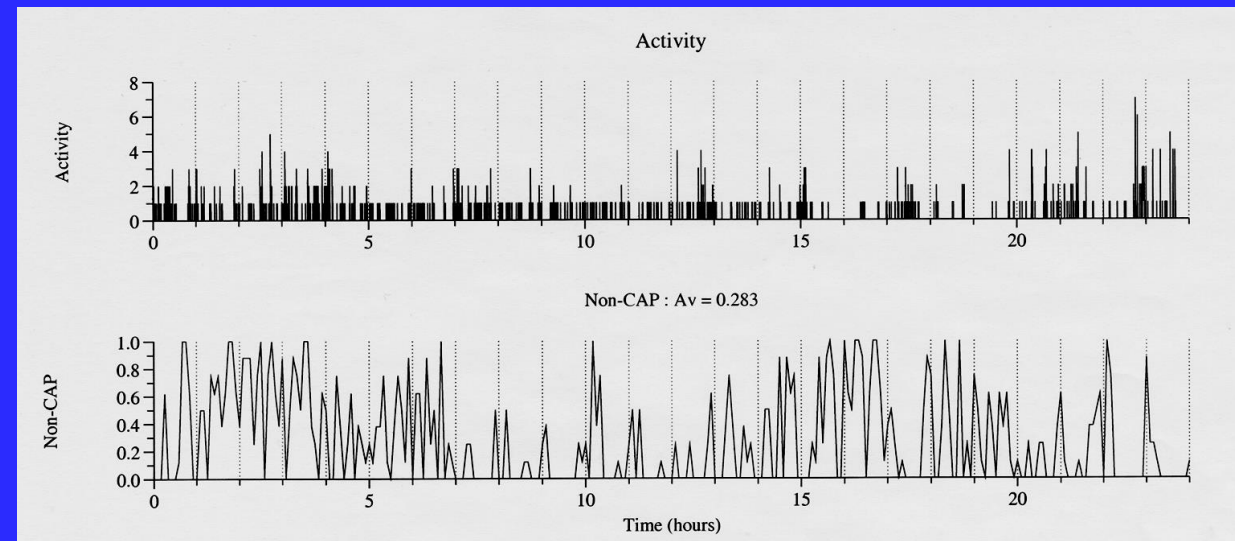
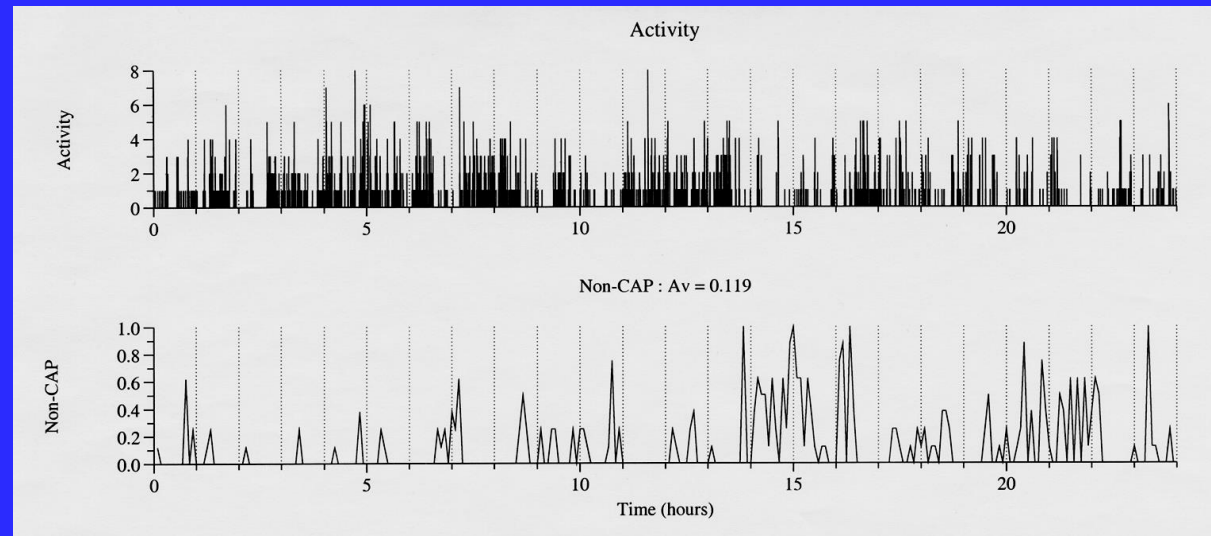
Blood pressure "dips" only during the periods of high frequency coupling



Direct recording from the cortex of rodents show that NREM occurs in “packets”

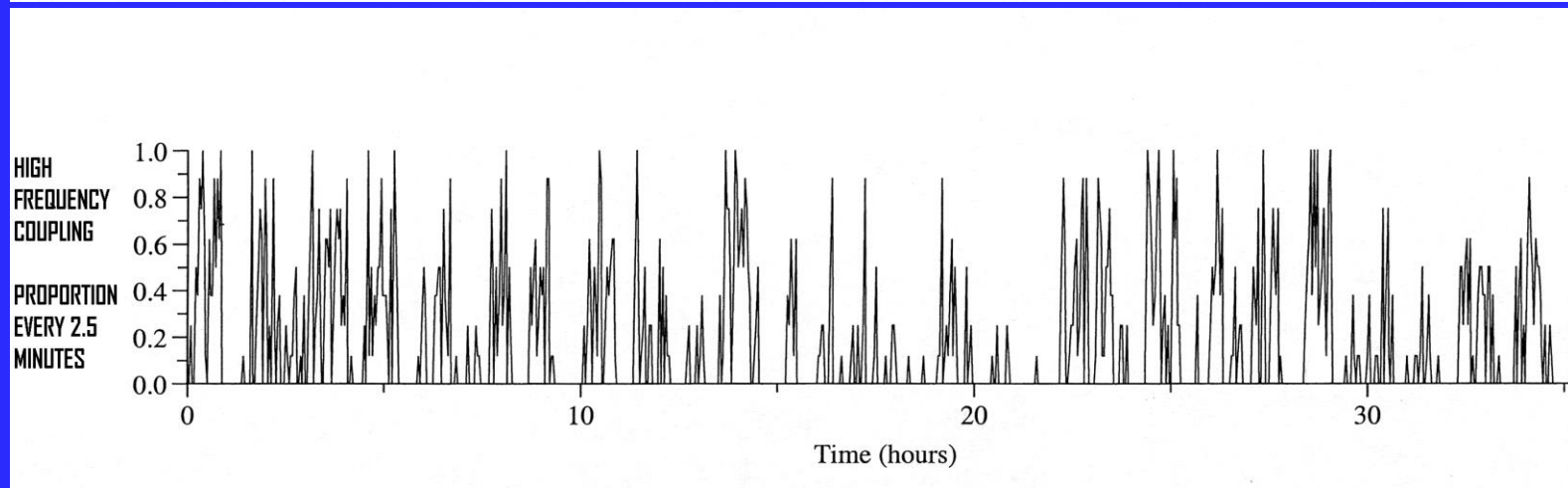
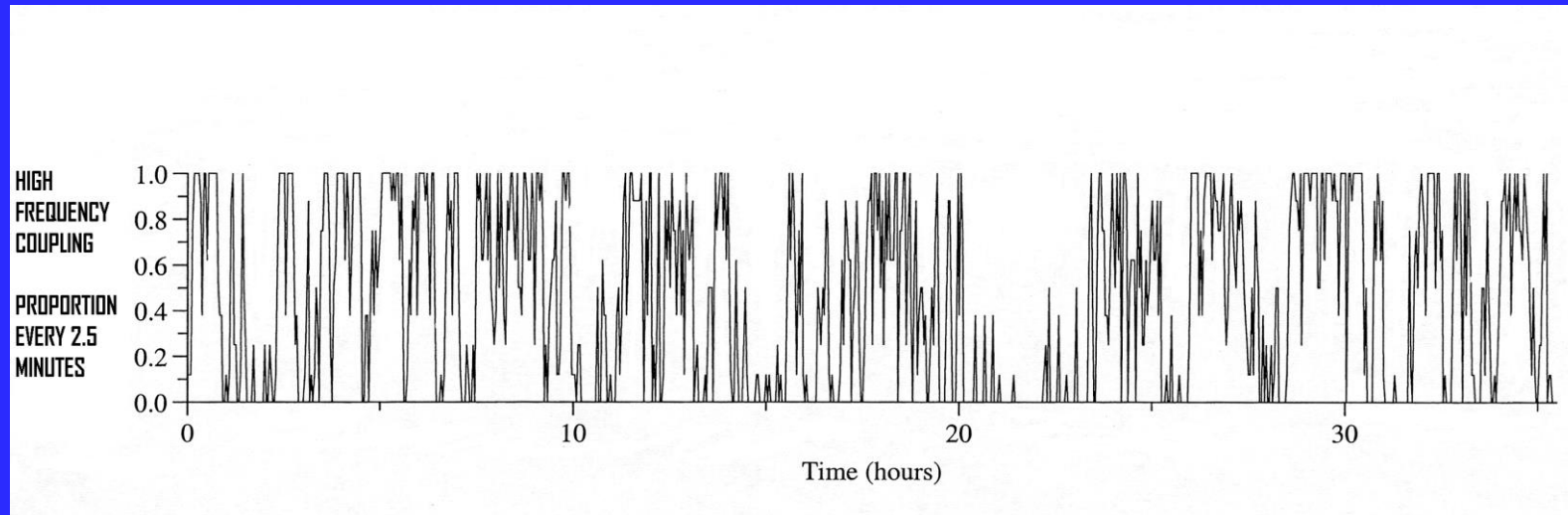


Benzodiazepines decrease slow wave but increases integrated stability (rat data)

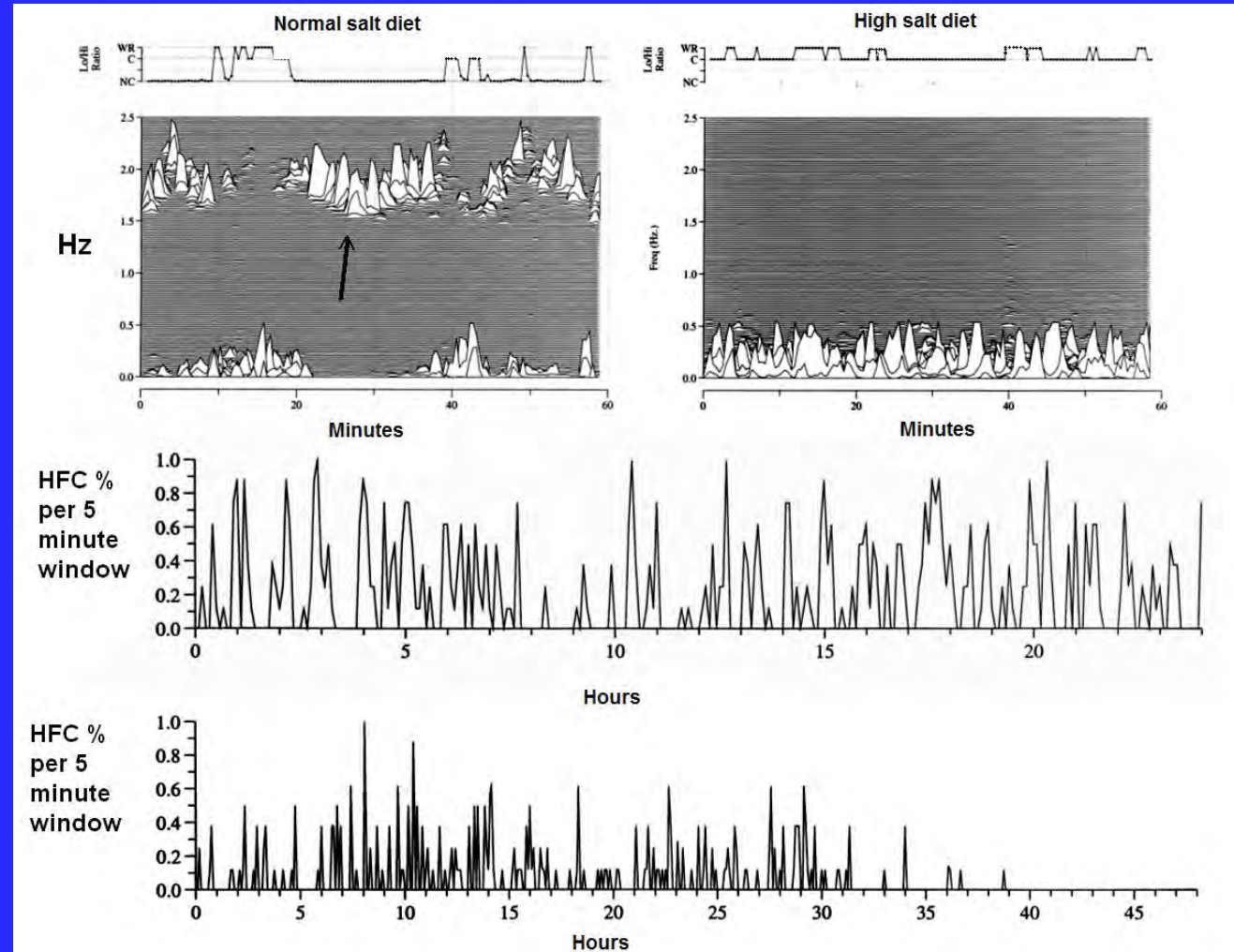


Lorazepam 0.9
mg/Kg/day

Sleep fragmentation in Alzheimer's disease (transgenic mouse)



Sleep network fragmentation in heart failure



A speculative word on idiopathic hypersomnia

- **Relevant to all hypersomnias with substantial sleep inertia**
- **A network transition disorder**
- **Pathological persistence of sleep network = long sleep**
- **Pathological inability to switch off for wake network = sleep inertia**
- **Mixed sleep-wake network persistence = fog**
- **Stimulants do not work well due to persistent activation of components of the NREM sleep network**

Stabilizing networks to target sleep disorders

- **Sleep restriction - redistribution of homeostatic sleep drive, improved network continuity, interactions, connectivity, increased TDS**
- **Sodium oxybate – improve network cohesion and sharpen state boundaries**
- **Acetazolamide – stabilize respiratory control network**
- **Benzodiazepines – stabilize integrated sleep network**
- **Stimulants – stabilize wake network and sleep-wake boundaries**
- **RBD circuit – REM behavior disorder**
- **Closed loop stimulation approach to enhance slow waves in NREM sleep**

In summary

- **Sleep is a unique networked state**
- **Multi-physiology**
- **Four dimensions**
- **Dynamic, morphing**
- **Phase transitions**
- **Predictable changes in disease**
- **Predictable effects of therapy**
- **Network analysis is severely underused in sleep research and non-existent in sleep practice**