

SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE 1989 ABSTRACT FORM

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SMALLEST RECOMMENDED TYPE SIZE: 10 POINT

SAMPLE:
1989 Annual Meeting
Phoenix, Arizona
October 29–November 3

DEADLINE FOR POSTMARKING:
MAY 1, 1989

Presentation Preference

Check one: poster slide

Themes and Topics

See list of themes and topics. Indicate below a first and second choice appropriate for programming and publishing your paper.

1st theme title: MOT. SYST. AND SENS. MOT. INT. theme letter: G

1st topic title: CEREBELLUM topic number: 88

2nd theme title: MOT. SYST. AND SENS. MOT. INT. theme letter: G

2nd topic title: CIRCUITRY AND PATTERN GEN. topic number: 94

FRACTAL GEOMETRY OF PURKINJE NEURONS: RELATIONSHIPS AMONG METRICAL AND NON-METRICAL NEURAL GEOMETRIES. A.J. Pellionisz (Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics; New York University Medical Center, New York, NY, 10016).

In one decade since inception of a geometrical approach to brain theory, an alternative was established to the untenable dogma that Euclidean geometry (with a Kronecker delta as the metric tensor) is sufficient to account for structure-functional features of the CNS. In time, implications of multidimensional geometrical concepts and formalisms will be absorbed, intrinsic coordinate systems will be experimentally measured and thus features of neural geometries that are spun over such frames will be established (e.g. spacetime geometry of sensorimotor transformations). Sensorimotor system neuroscience may lead this progress since metrical properties of skeletomuscular systems and their governing neural nets can be measured and multidimensional computational properties are to be used in neurocomputing, rehabilitation medicine and (neuro)robotics. Also, representation of distances (and judgements and decisions based on them) in functional spaces with metric tensors that are characteristic to non-Euclidean spaces may become a conceptual and formal basis in cognitive science (theory of association of generalized vectors).

Raising sights above Euclidean spaces it is apparent that metrical properties of (quasi)linear, derivable multidimensional manifolds (e.g. those governing gaze) are by the simplest features of neural geometry. It is known that if neural systems revert to nonlinear non-metrical domain, strange attractors emerge, revealing chaotic geometry. It is postulated here that beneath a chaotic geometry (e.g. of EEG) and the functional "smooth" metrical spaces it may relate to, a third kind of neural "microstructure" exists: The growth of cellular (neural) elements reveals a fractal geometry that is a direct manifestation of the process based on repeated access to the genetic code during growth.

The presentation demonstrates the fractal growth of dendritic trees of Purkinje cells displaying self-similarity of micro- and macro-features of the arbor, showing that the bifurcation-rule of branching expresses a fractal dimension, and revealing codes responsible for generating normal or pathological arbors. Relation of growth- and functional model of neurons and neural nets is discussed; since fractal, metrical and chaotic neural geometries of the micro-, medium- and macro-domains of the CNS are interdependent (just as relativistic-, Newtonian- and quantum-mechanics apply together to the external world).

Special Requests (e.g., projection requirements)

I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW A MOVIE OF FRACTAL GROWTH: SLIDE PRESENTATION, PLEASE.

Include nonrefundable ABSTRACT HANDLING FEE of \$25 payable to the Society for Neuroscience. DRAWN ON A U.S. BANK IN U.S. DOLLARS ONLY.

KEY WORDS: (see instructions pg. 4)

1. FRACTAL
2. GROWTH
3. CEREBELLUM
4. PURKINJE CELL

Signature of Society for Neuroscience member required below. No member may sign more than one abstract.

The signing member certifies that any work with human or animal subjects related in this abstract complies with the guiding principles for experimental procedures endorsed by the Society.

A.J. Pellionisz A.J. PELLIONISZ 212 340-5422

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Raising sights above Euclidean spaces it is apparent that metrical properties of (quasi)linear, derivable multidimensional manifolds (e.g. those governing gaze) are but the simplest features of neural geometry. It is known that if neural systems revert to a nonlinear non-metrical domain, strange attractors emerge, revealing chaotic geometry. It is postulated here that beneath a chaotic geometry (e.g. of EEG) and the functional "smooth" metrical spaces it may relapse to, a third kind of neural "microstructure" exists: *The growth of cellular (neural) elements reveals a fractal geometry* that is a direct manifestation of the process based on repeated access to the genetic code during growth.

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