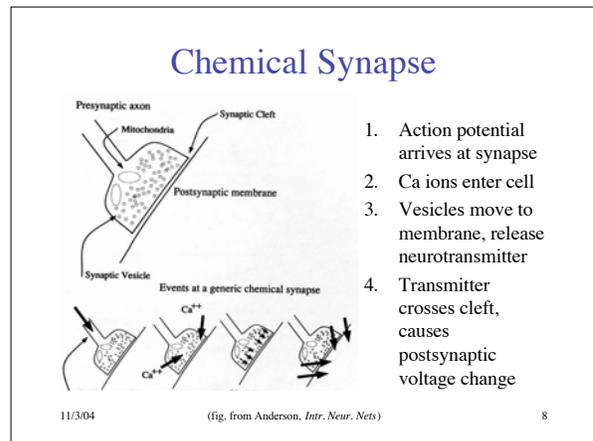
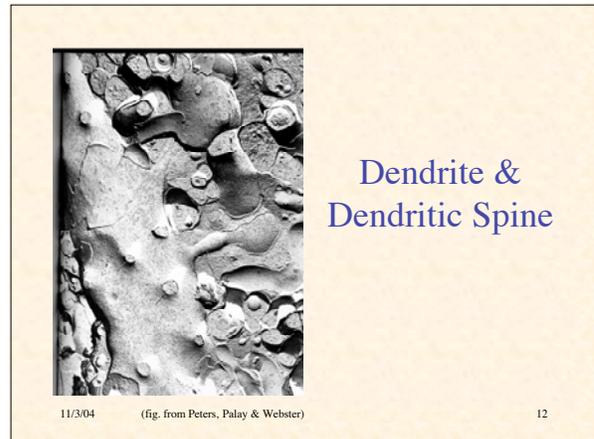
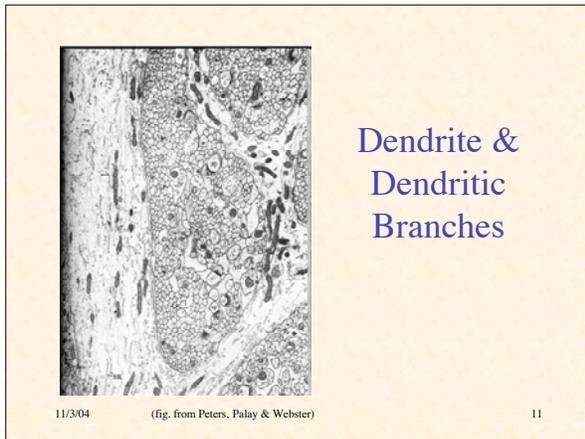
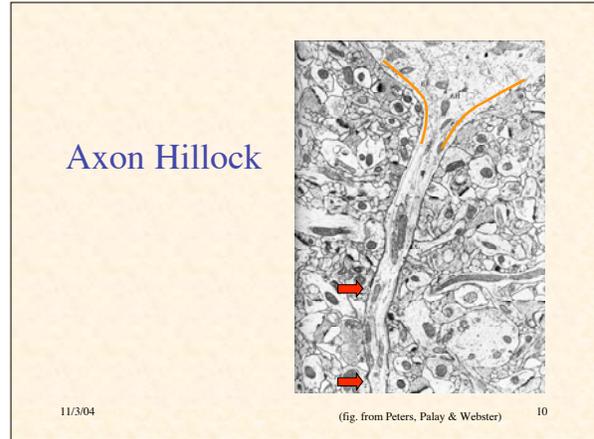
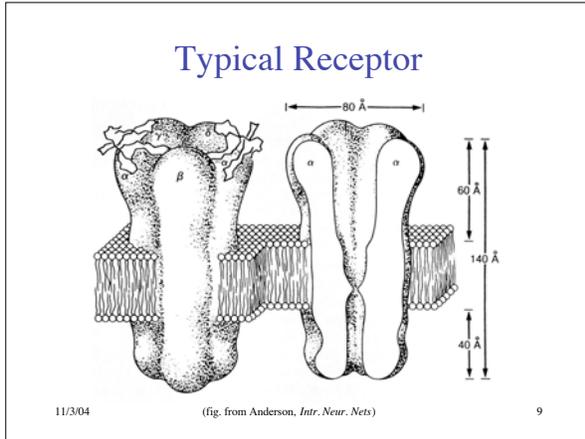


Synapses

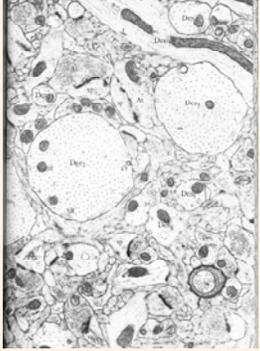
video by Hybrid Medical Animation

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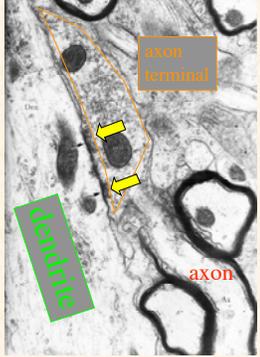
Neuropil



11/3/04 (fig. from Peters, Palay & Webster) 13

This electron micrograph shows a dense field of neuropil. Numerous small, clear synaptic vesicles are visible, some clustered near larger, electron-dense structures. The overall texture is granular and complex, representing the intricate circuitry of the brain's gray matter.

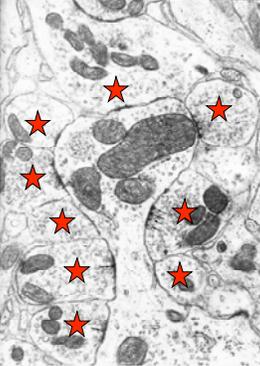
Myelinated Axon Making Synapse on Dendrite



11/3/04 (fig. from Peters, Palay & Webster) 14

This micrograph illustrates a myelinated axon (labeled 'axon' in red) forming a synapse with a dendrite (labeled 'dendrite' in green). The axon terminal is highlighted with a yellow box and labeled 'axon terminal'. Yellow arrows point to the synaptic junction between the axon terminal and the dendrite. The myelin sheath is clearly visible surrounding the axon.

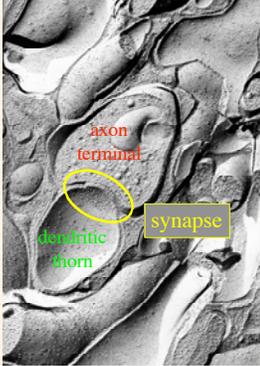
Various Synapses



11/3/04 (fig. from Peters, Palay & Webster) 15

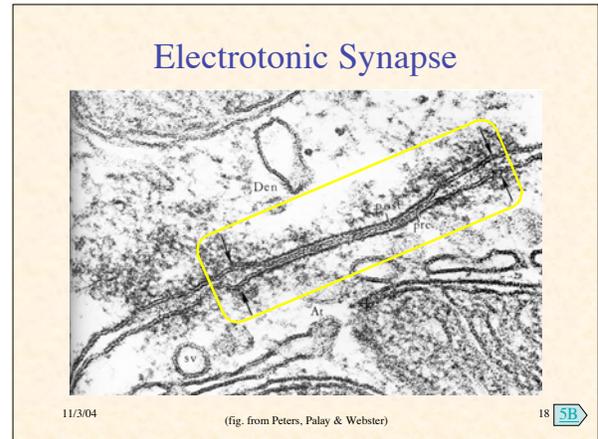
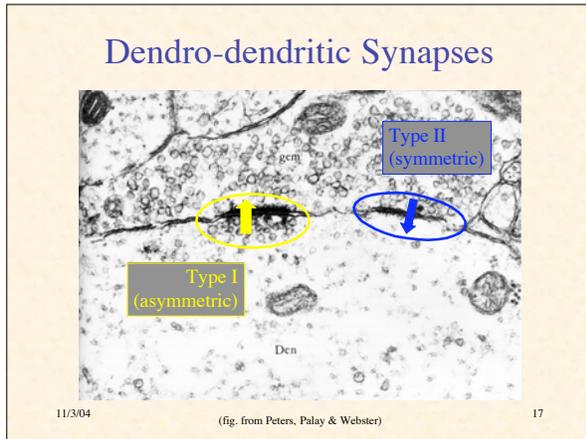
This micrograph displays several different types of synapses, each marked with a red star. The synapses vary in size and the appearance of the synaptic vesicles, illustrating the diversity of neural connections in the neuropil.

Excitatory Synapse Between Axon Terminal and Dendritic Thorn



11/3/04 (fig. from Peters, Palay & Webster) 16

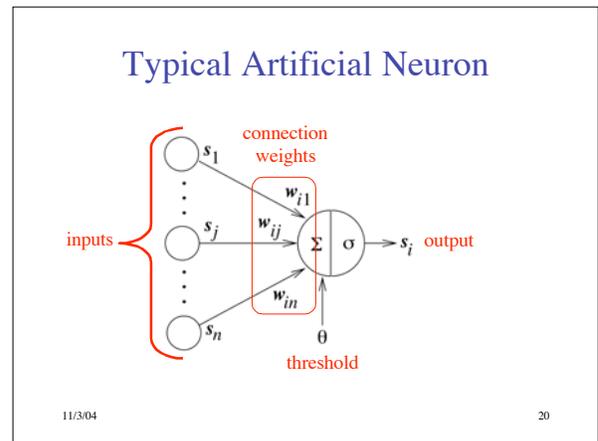
This micrograph shows an excitatory synapse between an axon terminal (labeled 'axon terminal' in red) and a dendritic thorn (labeled 'dendritic thorn' in green). The synapse is highlighted with a yellow box and labeled 'synapse'. The dendritic thorn is a specialized projection of a dendrite that forms a close apposition with the axon terminal.

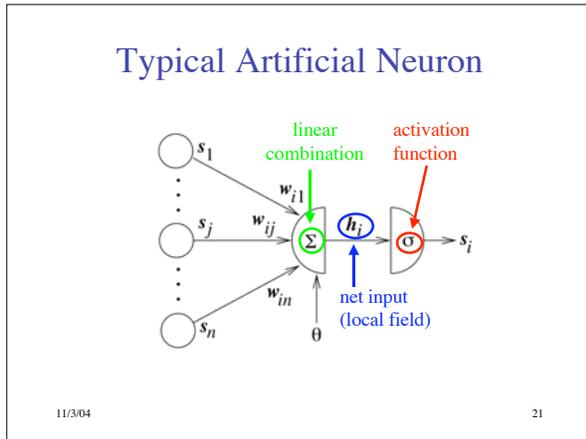


Artificial Neural Networks

(in particular, the Hopfield Network)

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Equations

Net input:
$$h_i = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij} s_j \right) - \theta$$

$$\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{s} - \theta$$

New neural state:
$$s'_i = \sigma(h_i)$$

$$\mathbf{s}' = \sigma(\mathbf{h})$$

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- ### Hopfield Network
- Symmetric weights: $w_{ij} = w_{ji}$
 - No self-action: $w_{ii} = 0$
 - Zero threshold: $\theta = 0$
 - Bipolar states: $s_i \in \{-1, +1\}$
 - Discontinuous bipolar activation function:
- $$\sigma(h) = \text{sgn}(h) = \begin{cases} -1, & h < 0 \\ +1, & h > 0 \end{cases}$$
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- ### What to do about $h = 0$?
- There are several options:
 - $\sigma(0) = +1$
 - $\sigma(0) = -1$
 - $\sigma(0) = -1$ or $+1$ with equal probability
 - $h_i = 0 \Rightarrow$ no state change ($s'_i = s_i$)
 - Not much difference, but be consistent
 - Last option is slightly preferable, since symmetric
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