

# Brain Facts: Chapter 16: Kinds of Research

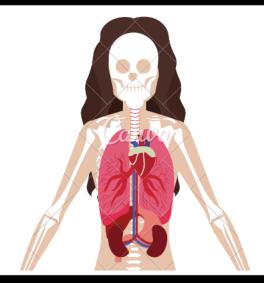


Learn Your Semantics!
Research Methods



### Anatomy

The study of bodily structure.



# Histology

The study of how cells groups into tissues.

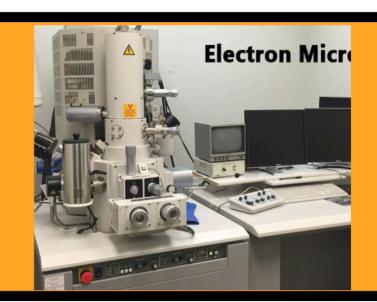


# Acetylcholine

The most common neurotransmitter.

### **Electron Microscopy**

A type of microscope that uses a beam of **electrons** to magnify slim pieces of **tissue** up to 1,000 times more!



#### Magnetic Resonance Imaging

A type of brain scan that uses heavy duty magnets and radio frequencies to image the brain on the basis of water within it's tissues.



### White Matter

Is mainly constructed of **axons** coated in **mylin** that causes it's white hue.

# **Grey Matter**

Tissue constructed of the cell bodies or soma of neurons, dendrites, and synapses.

# Electrophysiology

A research method that uses a glass **electrode** placed on a single **neuron** to measure **voltage.** Often used to learn more about **synaptic plasticity.** 

# Synaptic Plasticity

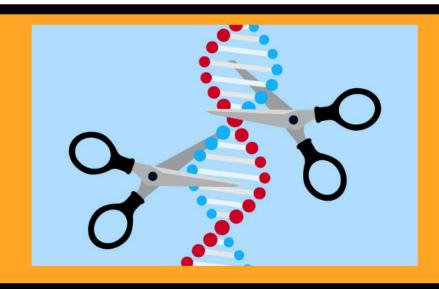
The ability of a neuronal connection to get stronger and faster as it's used more.

### Two-Photon Microscopy

A technique in which an animal is genetically modified so that some **neurons** glow. Often used to understand the mecanics of brain processes (Ex. Learning)

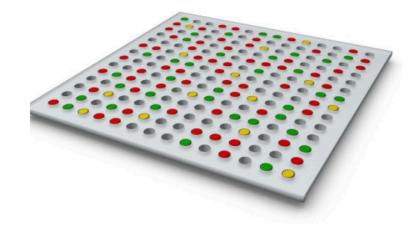
### **CRISPR**

Stands for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Shorr Palindromic Repeats. A tecnique that uses special cutting and "glueing" enzyme to insert and remove parts of DNA



### Micro-Arrays

Rows of microscopic **DNA** spots adhered to a solid service. Can be used to measure the frequencies of different **genes**.



### Mass Spectrometry

Technique in which a sample often collected by **microdialysis** is charged and then passed through an electrical field. It's behavior within that conduit deteramines it's mass. Applications in aidentification.

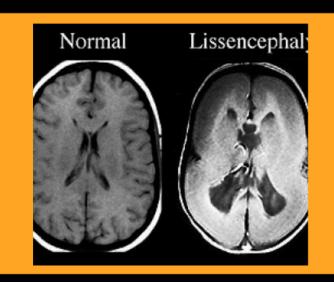
### **Epigenetic**

Relating to gene expression.



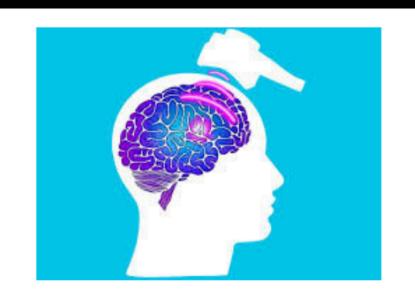
#### Lissencephaly

A condition in which the brain has no **gyri** and **sulci** and is completely smooth caused by a **mutation** in the **LIS1 gene**,



#### **TMS**

Transcranial magnetic stimulation.. A research tool that uses a magnetic field to excite or repress parts of the brain. Has applications in stress disorders, and drug resistant pain. aecrementation.



# Fragile X Syndrome

The most common permutation of **congenital intellectual disability** (in males), that is caused by two many **cytosine**, **guanine**, **guanine** repeats within the **FMR1** gene.

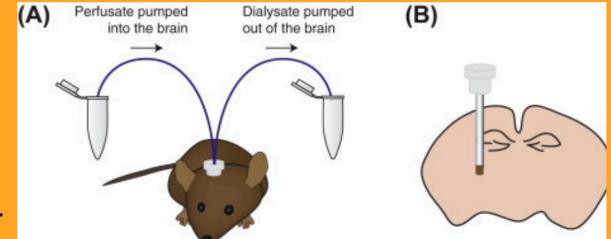
#### **EEG**

Electroencephalogram. A device that uses a series of electrodes to record electrical frequencies in the brain. Useful in seizure **locusing** and mental state recognition.



# Microdialysis

A technique in which tubes are injected into the brain to collect the liquid around neurons. This liquid can then be analyzed for certain **neurotransmitters** and other molecules.



# Pharmacology

The branch of science studying the effect of drugs on the body.



#### **Functional MRI**

A type of **MRI** that compares the volumes of oxygen-rich and oxygen-poor blood to conjecture on which brain regions are most active.

#### **MEG**

Stands for Magnetoencepahalogram. A type of helmet that measures electrical currents in the brain and approximates their magnetic fields. Can be used **anatomically** when combined with **fMRI.** 



### PET Scan

Stands for Positron Emission Tomography. A research measure in which a radiactive substance with a short **half-life** is ingested, revealing the path of blood circulation in the brain. Can be used anatomically but isn't as detailed as **MRI**.

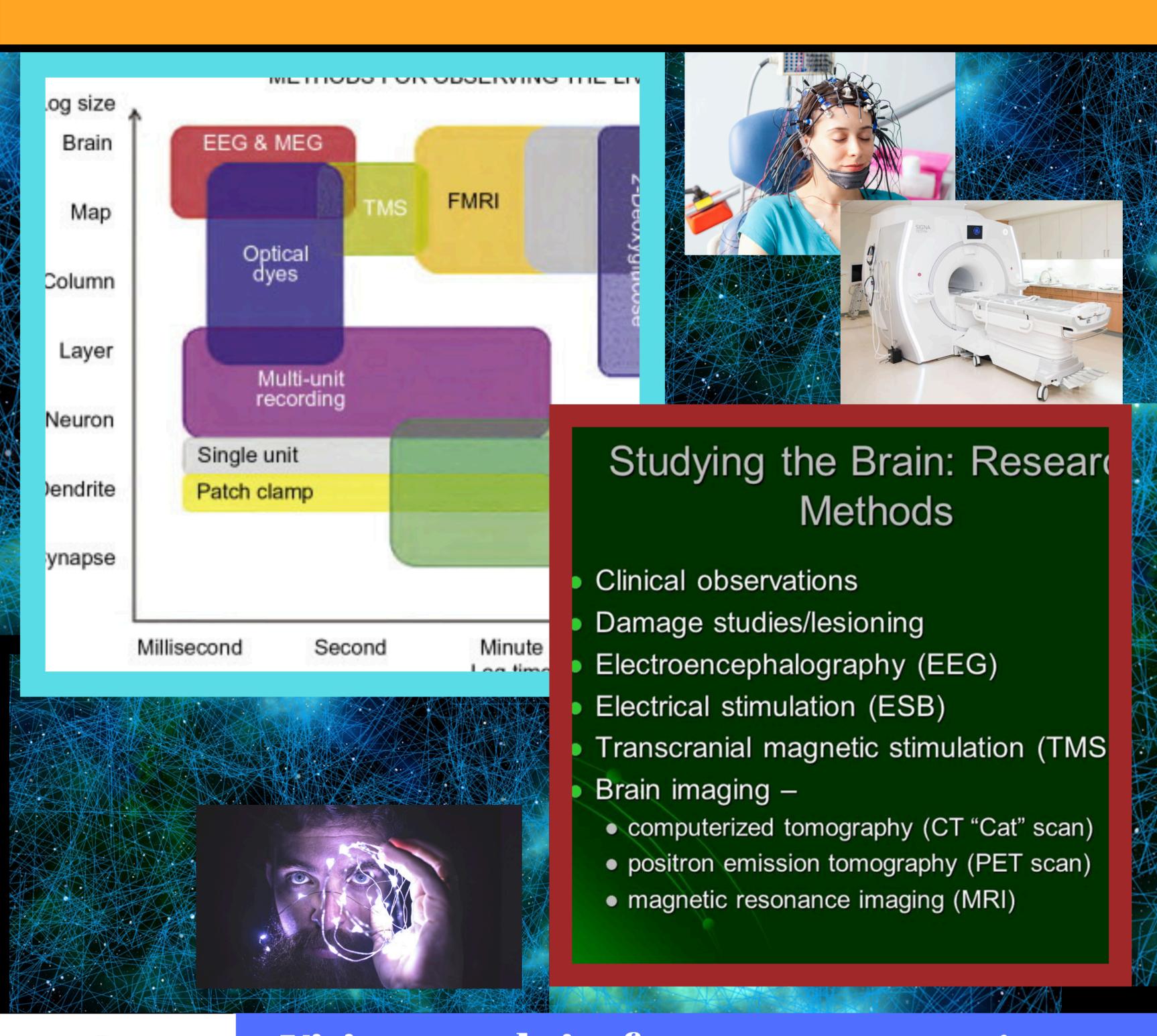
### Drosiphilia Melanegaster



Scientific name for fruit fly. Often used for studying how brains behave especially in the case of different gene expressions.

### Computational Neuroscience

The testing of hypotheses about the brain by comparing computer models and databases against normal brain behavior and revealing correlations.





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