

MUNI  
MED

**M U N I**  
**M E D**

**8**

# **Auditory and vestibular system**

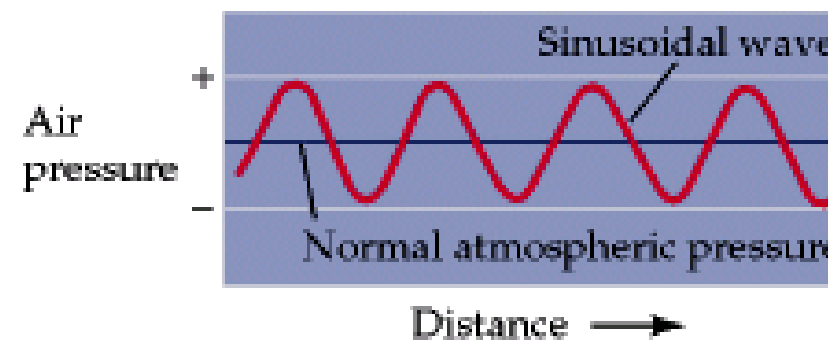
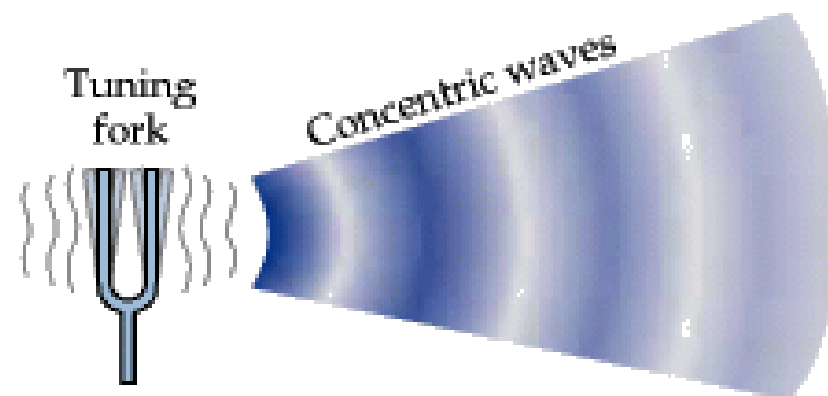
# Auditory system

- Transduction of sound waves to the receptor and the action potential
- Transmission to CNS
- Signal processing
  - Sound decoding
  - Interpretation

# Auditory system

- Transduction of sound waves to the receptor and the action potential generation
- Transmission to CNS
- Signal processing
  - Sound decoding
  - Interpretation

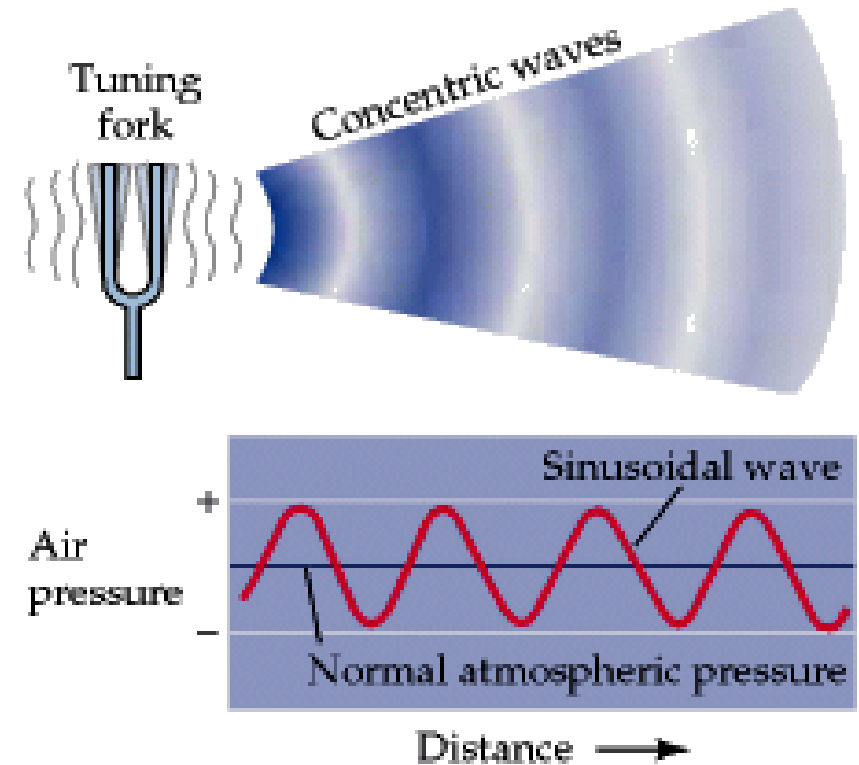
**Sound is audible mechanical vibration of an elastic medium such as air**



<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

# Auditory system

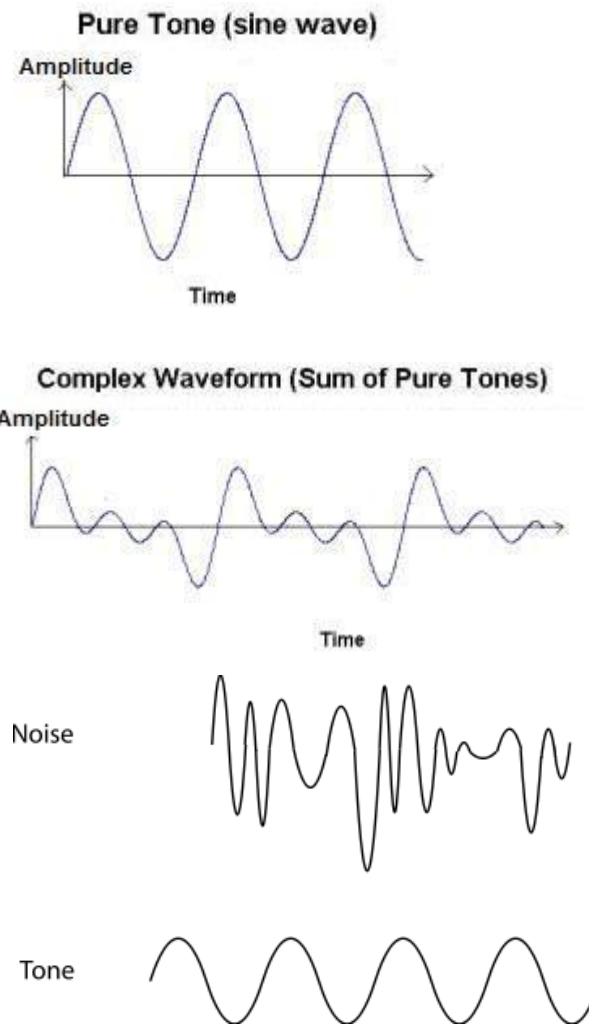
- Air/water vibration caused by solid object
- Sound characteristics
  - Frequency – pitch
  - Amplitude – intensity
  - Timbre – given by representation of harmonic frequencies of the oscillation
- Pure tone
- Complex sound



<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

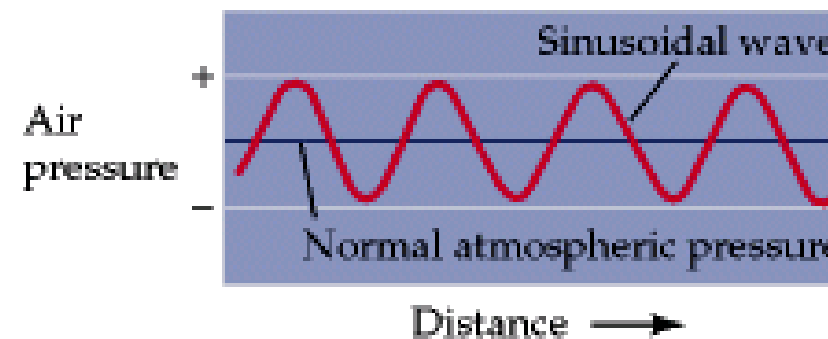
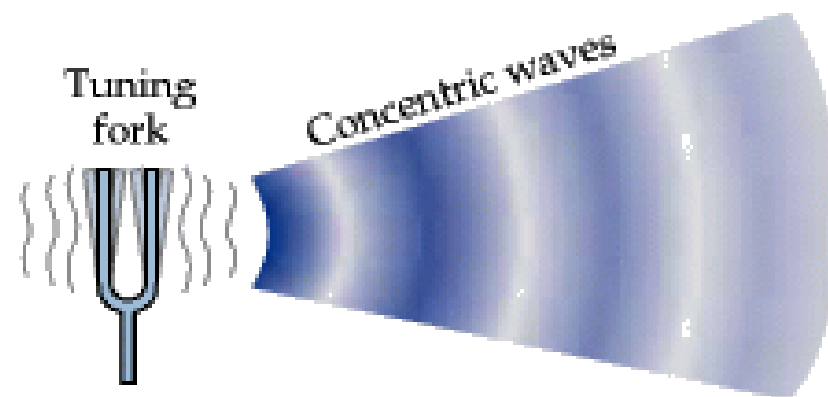
# Sound

- Pure tone
  - Determined by frequency
- Complex sound
  - Sum of pure tones
    - Harmonic (musical)
      - periodic
    - Disharmonic (noise)
      - aperiodic



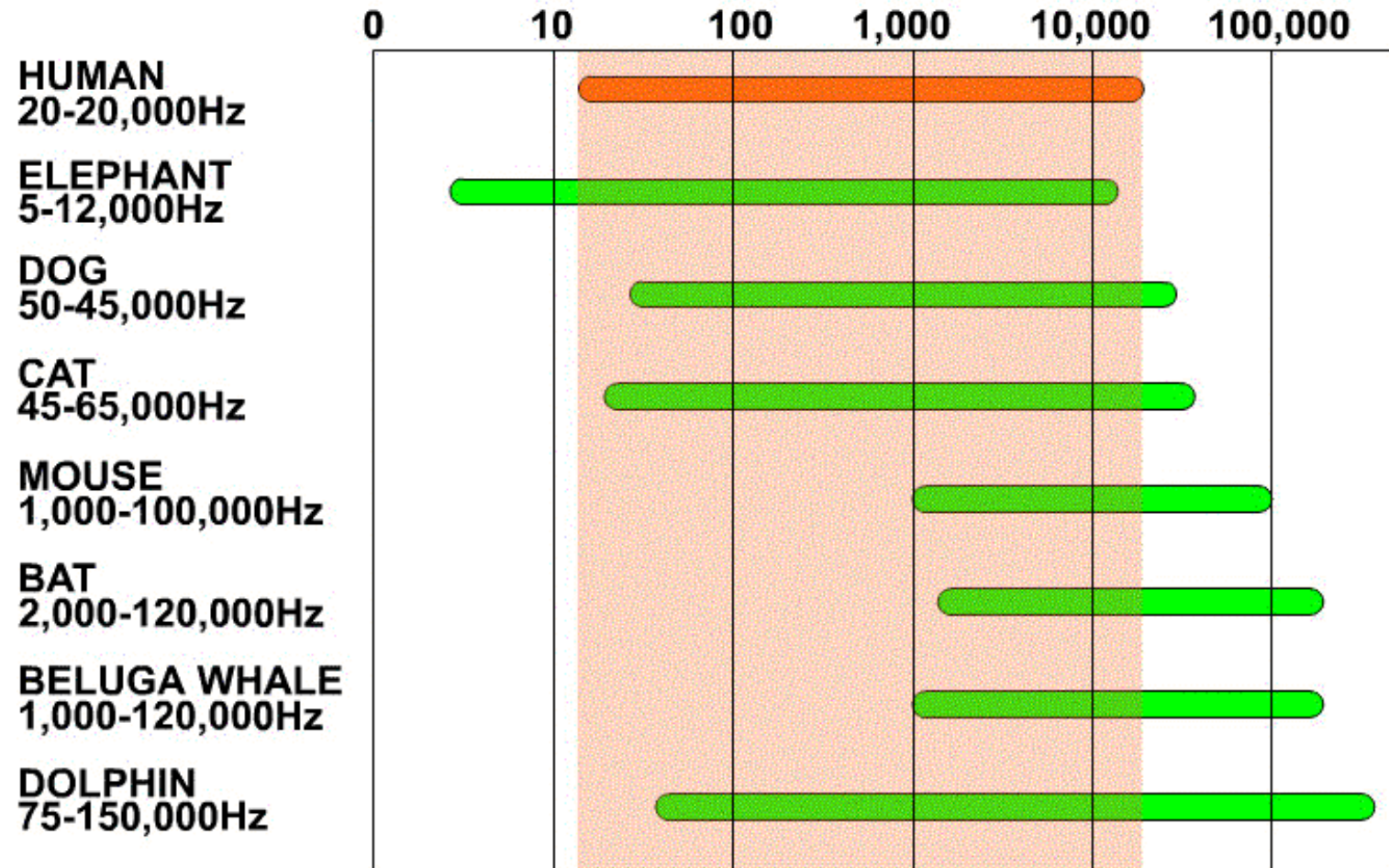
<http://www.earmaster.com/music-theory-online/ch03/chapter-3-2.html>

[http://www.acoustics.salford.ac.uk/acoustics\\_info/sound\\_synthesis/](http://www.acoustics.salford.ac.uk/acoustics_info/sound_synthesis/)



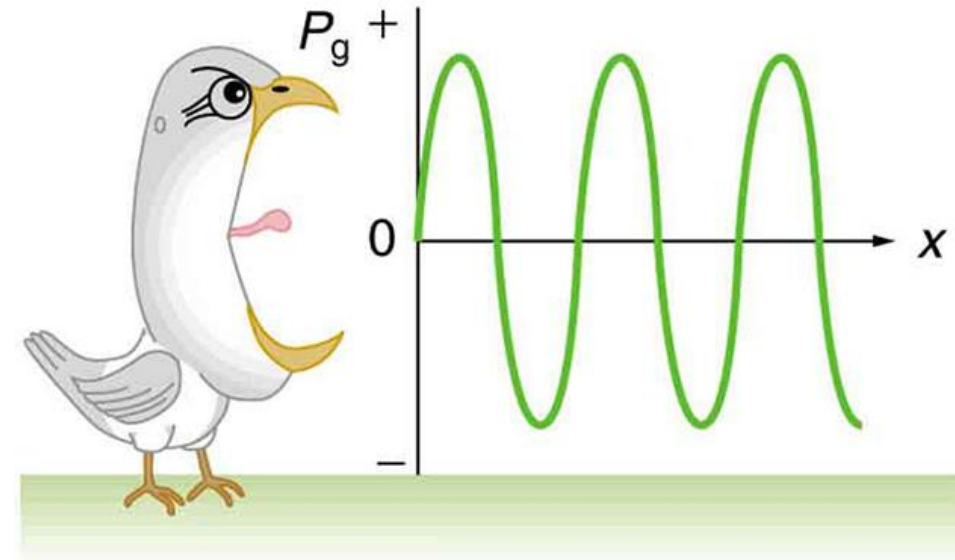
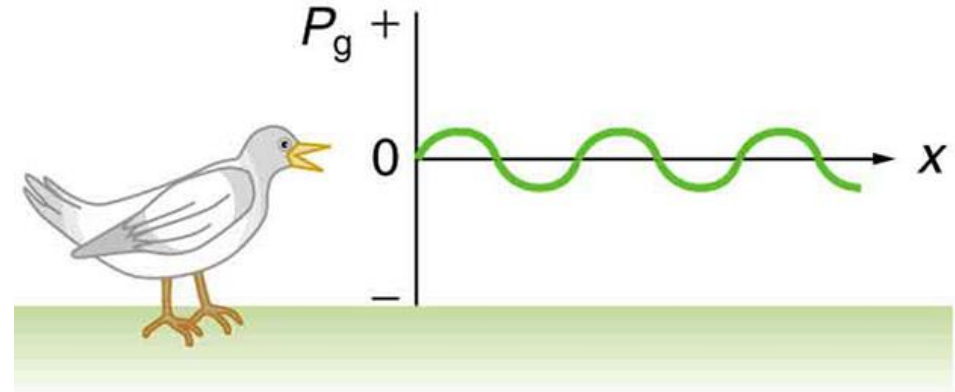
<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

# Audible spectrum



# The intensity and volume of sound

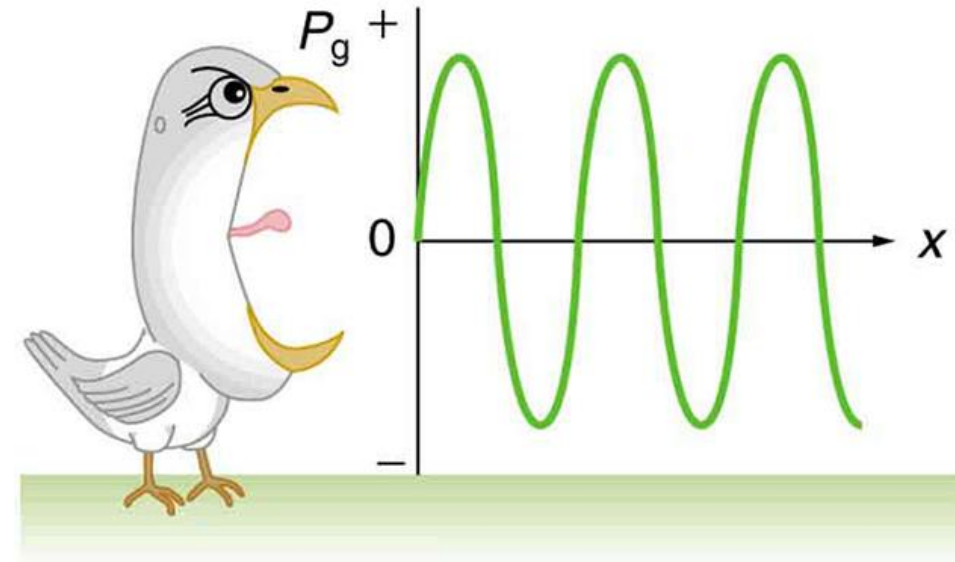
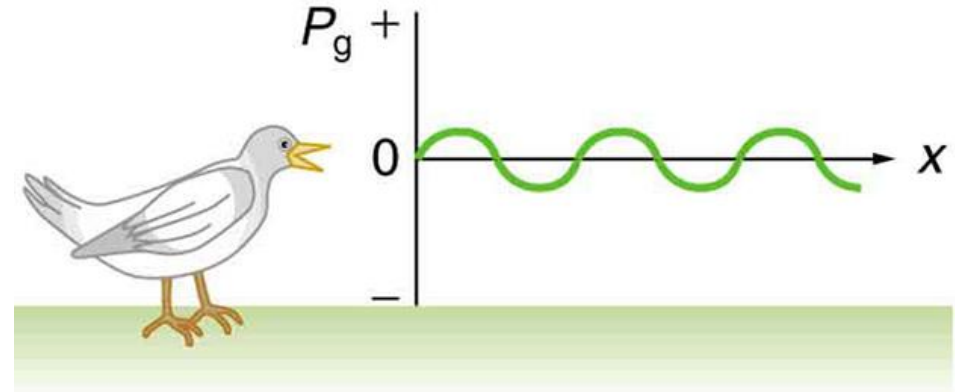
- Intensity of sound
  - Amplitude
    - Whisper – 20 dB
    - Speaking - 65 dB
    - Jet engine – 100 dB
    - Pain treshold – 120 dB





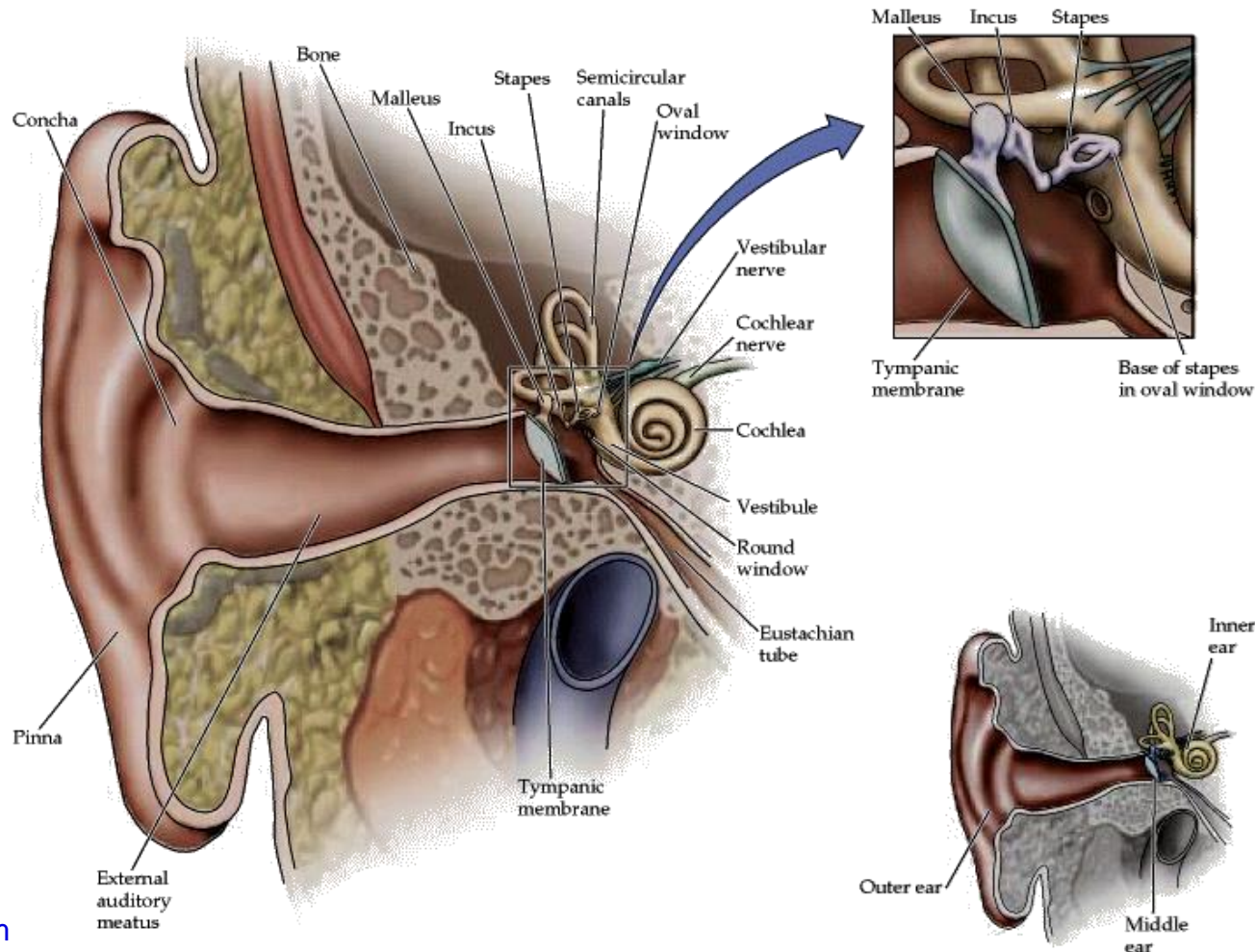
# The intensity and volume of sound

- Intensity of sound
  - Amplitude
    - Whisper – 20 dB
    - Speaking - 65 dB
    - Jet engine – 100 dB
    - Pain treshold – 120 dB
- Volume
  - Subjectively perceived intensity



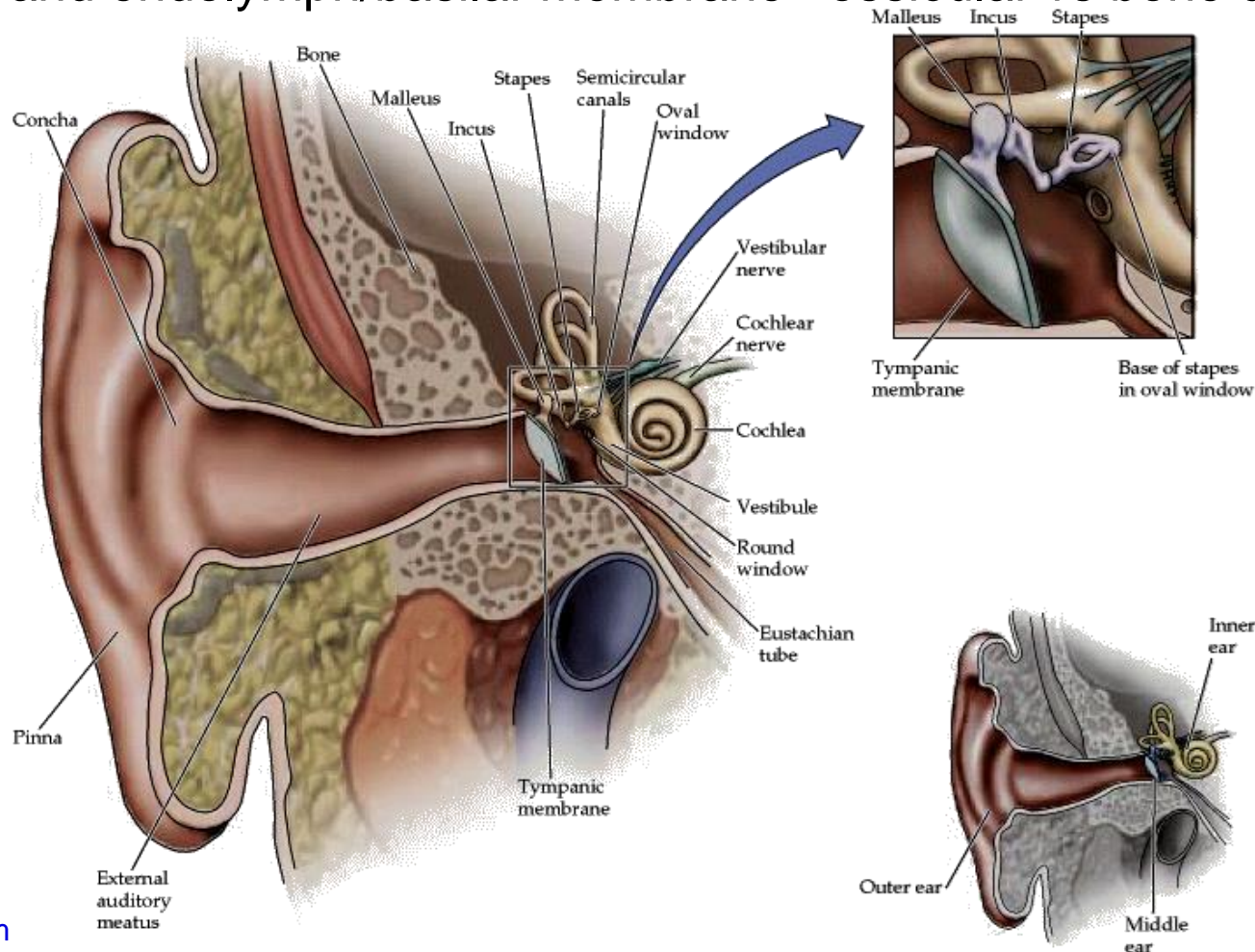
# External ear

- ✓ Transmission of acoustic signal from environment to the tympanic membrane



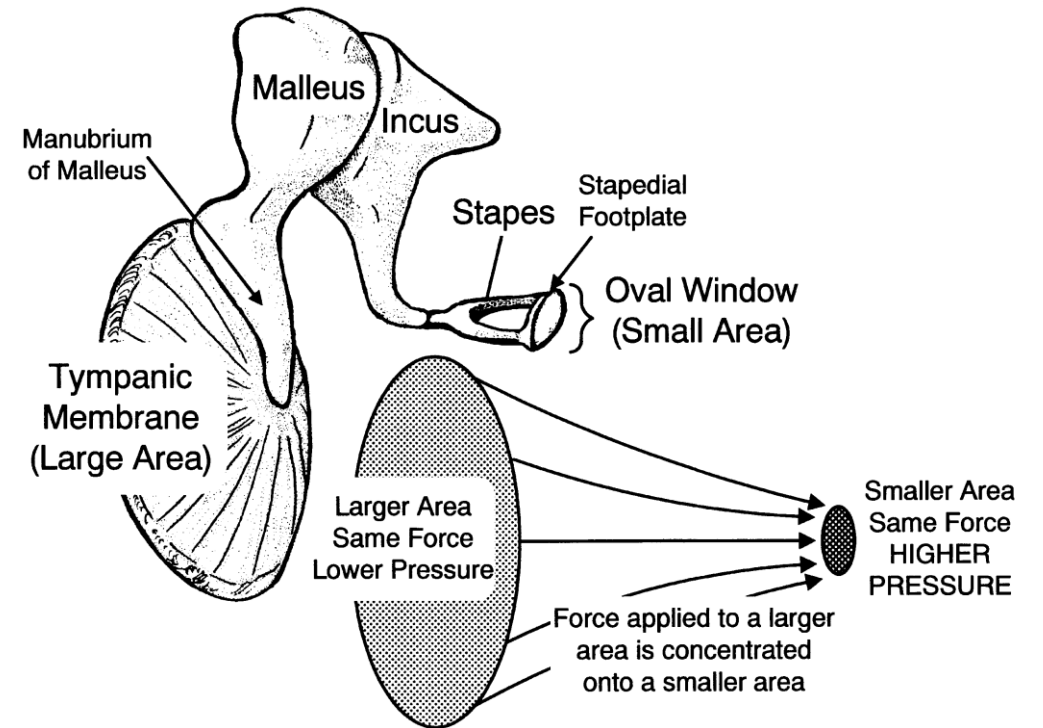
# Middle ear

- ✓ Transmission of acoustic signal from the tympanic membrane to the oval window and endolymph/basilar membrane –ossicular vs bone conduction



# Middle ear

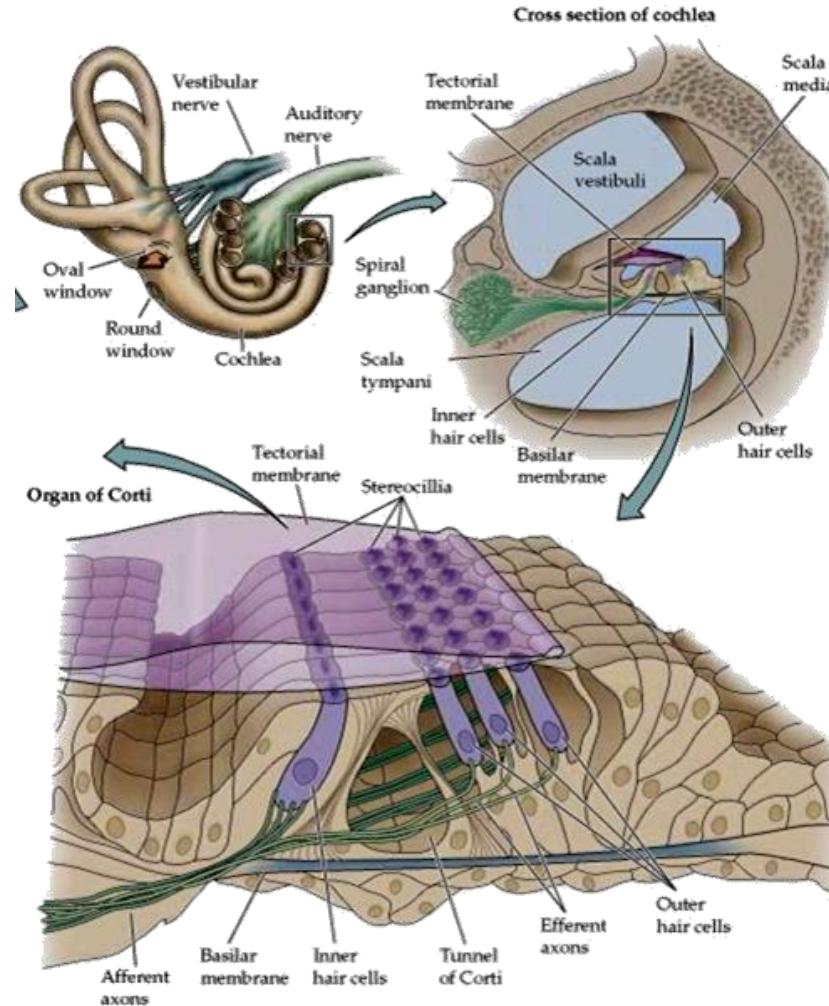
- A significant difference in acoustic impedance between air and endolymph
- Signal amplification
  - Tympanic membrane area/oval window area
  - Ossicles
- Protective function
  - m.stapedius and tensor tympani
  - Eustachian tube



<http://slideplayer.com/slide/3433153/>

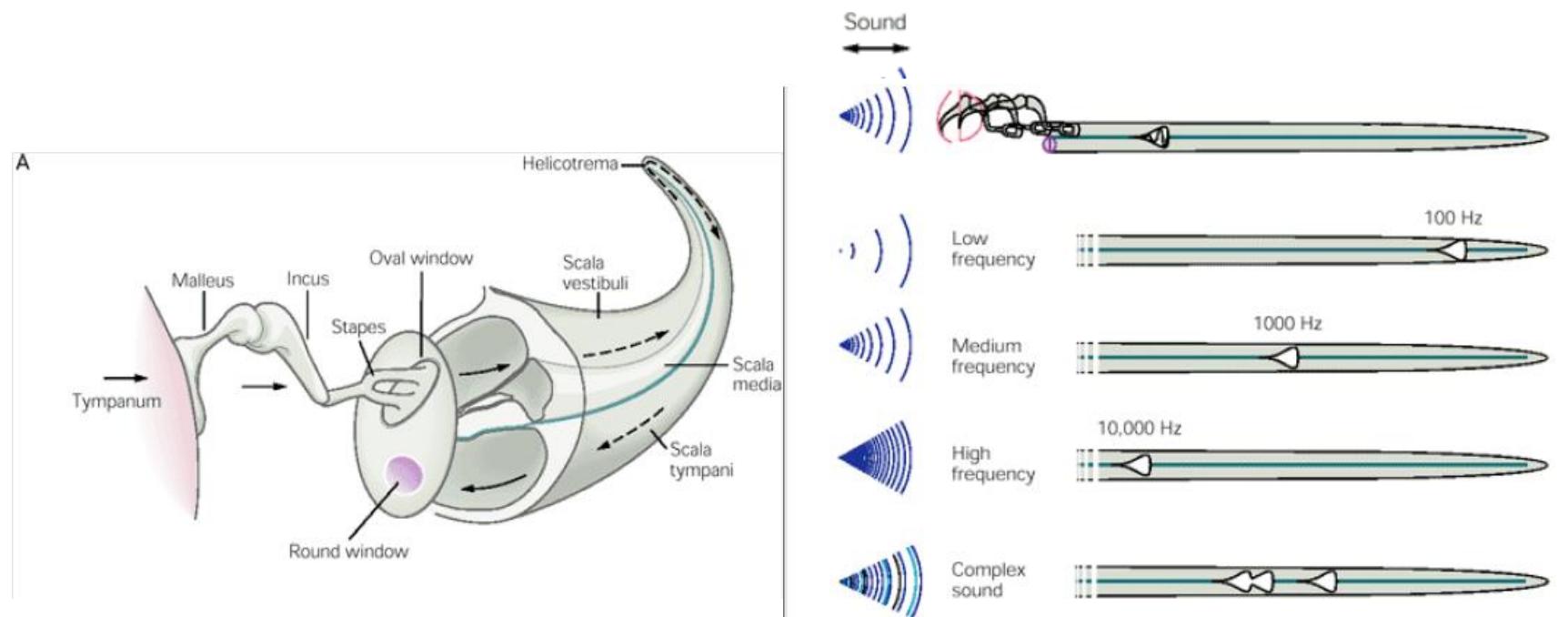
# Inner ear

- ✓ Transduction of endolymph/basilar membrane vibrations to receptor and action potential



# Tonotopic arrangement

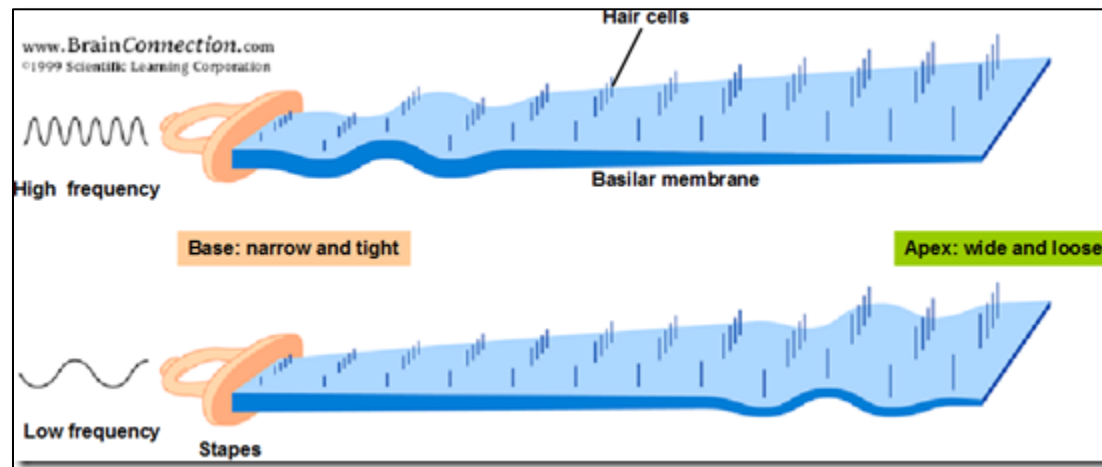
- Proximal part  
– high frequency
- Distal part  
– low frequency



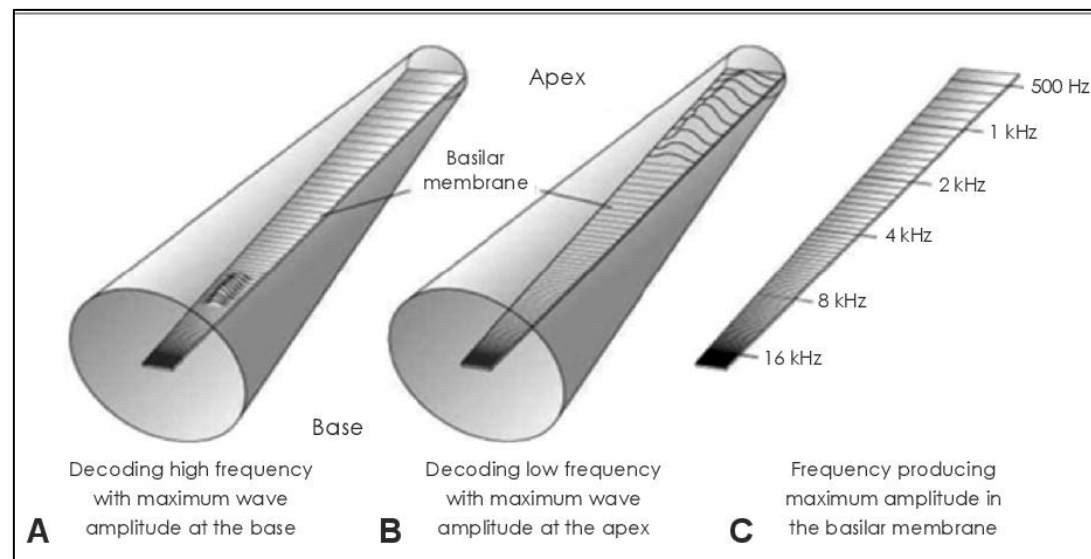
<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

# Basilar membrane

- Basal part
  - Narrow and tight
  - High frequencies
- Apical part
  - Wide and loose
  - Low frequencies



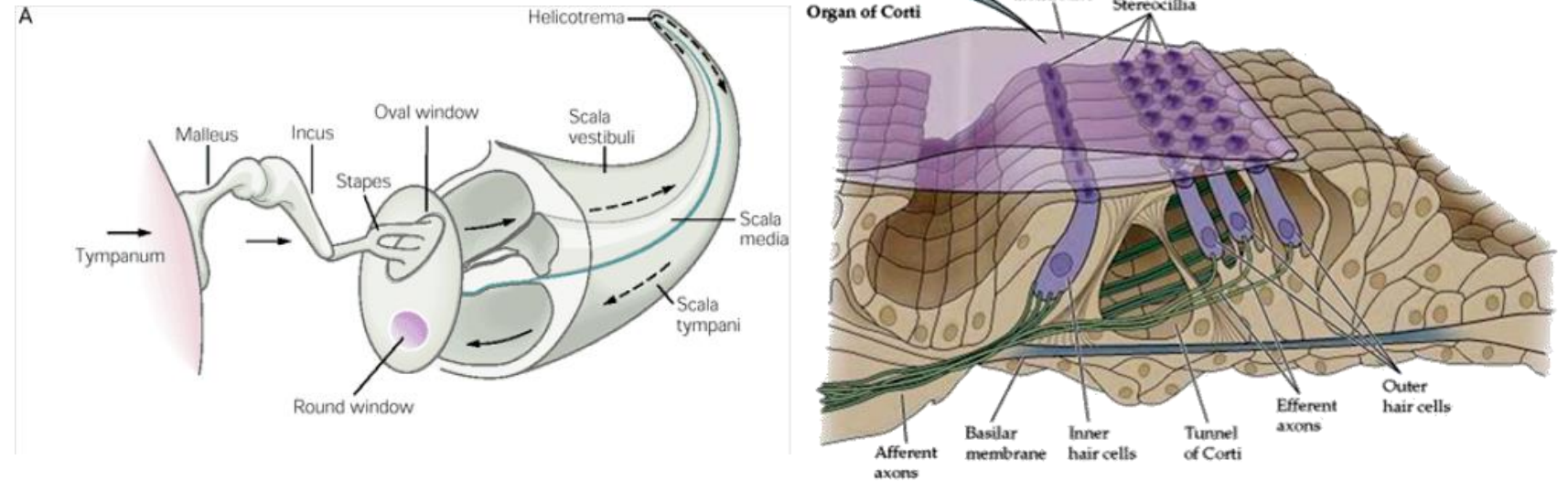
[http://lh6.ggpht.com/\\_Rljx\\_Mg4ZVM/TNeYbcwJOYI/AAAAAAAAACmA/9S\\_7HaZu5DI/s1600-h/image%5B62%5D.png](http://lh6.ggpht.com/_Rljx_Mg4ZVM/TNeYbcwJOYI/AAAAAAAAACmA/9S_7HaZu5DI/s1600-h/image%5B62%5D.png)



<https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Mass-and-Stiffness-Impact-on-the-Middle-Ear-and-the-Kim-Koo/16a2a6b5ffd1c963efd906cea109277bfbf0d7e3/figure/3>

# Organ of Corti

- Inner hair cells
  - aprox. 3 500
- Outer hair cells
  - aprox. 12 000
- Tectorial membrane

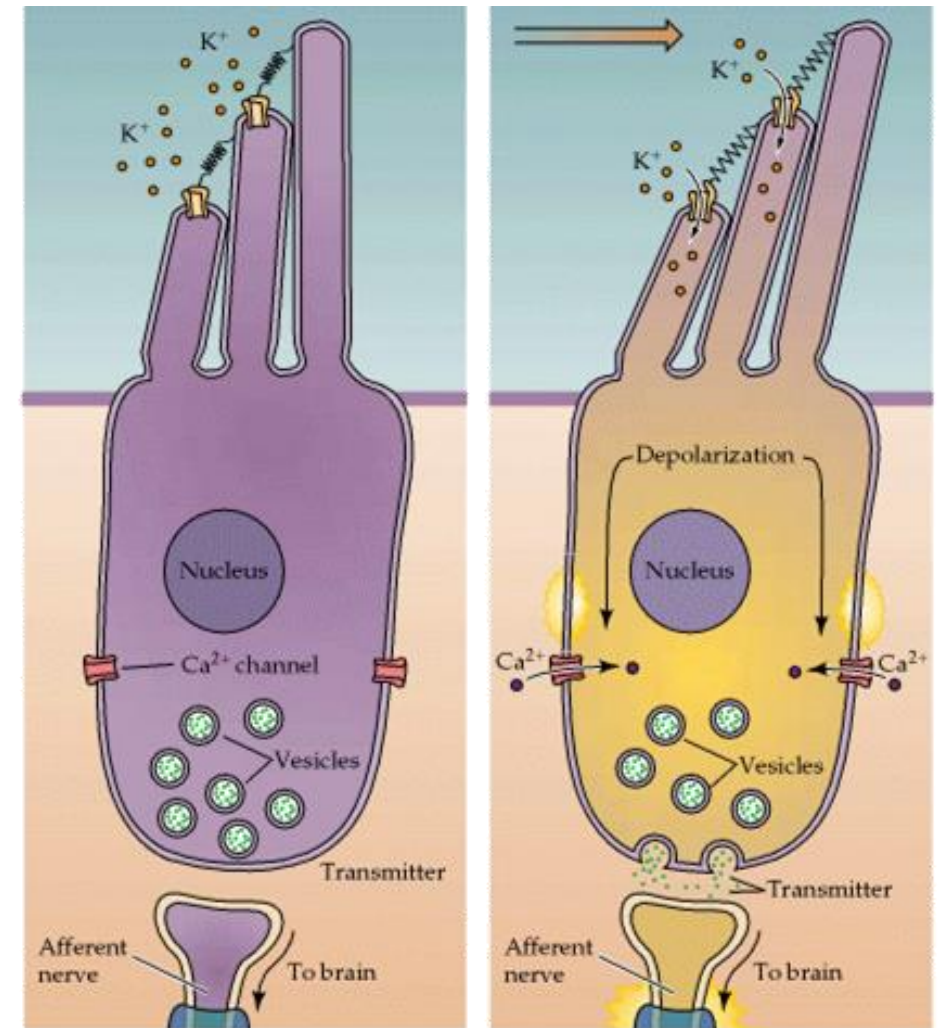
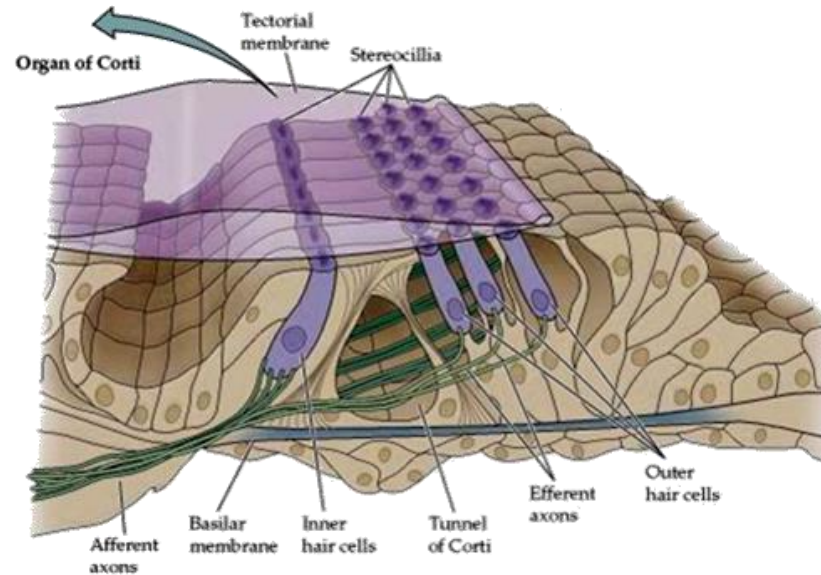


<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>



# Inner hair cells

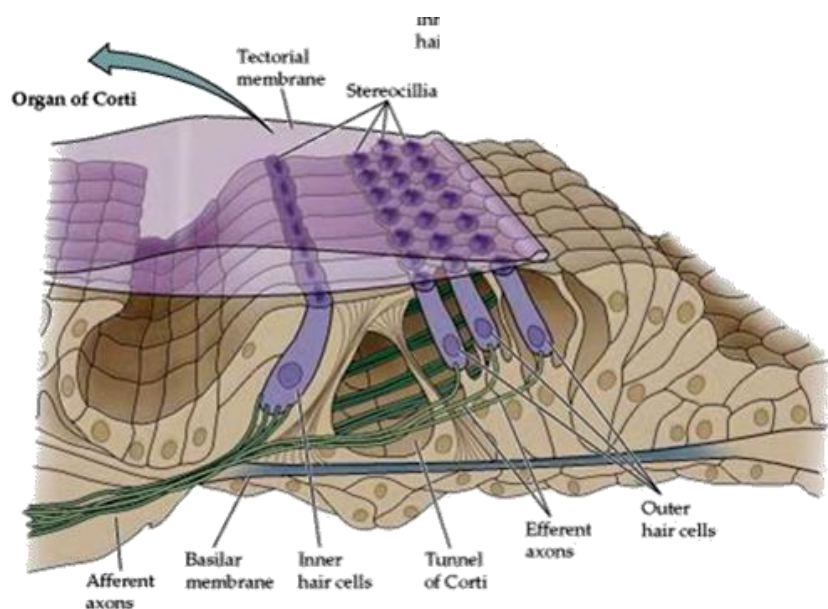
➤ Sensory function



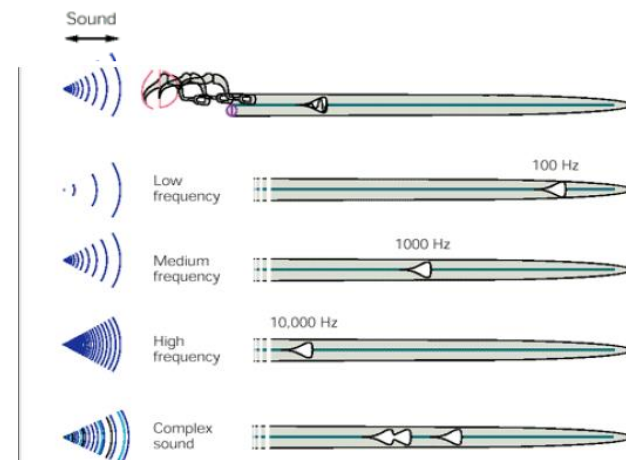
<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

# Outer hair cells

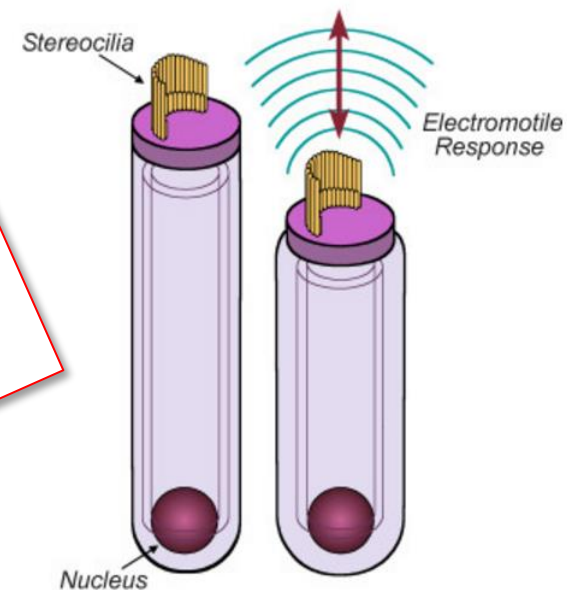
- Modulation of the signal
  - ✓ Amplification of required frequencies
- The number increases towards apex (low frequencies)



<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>



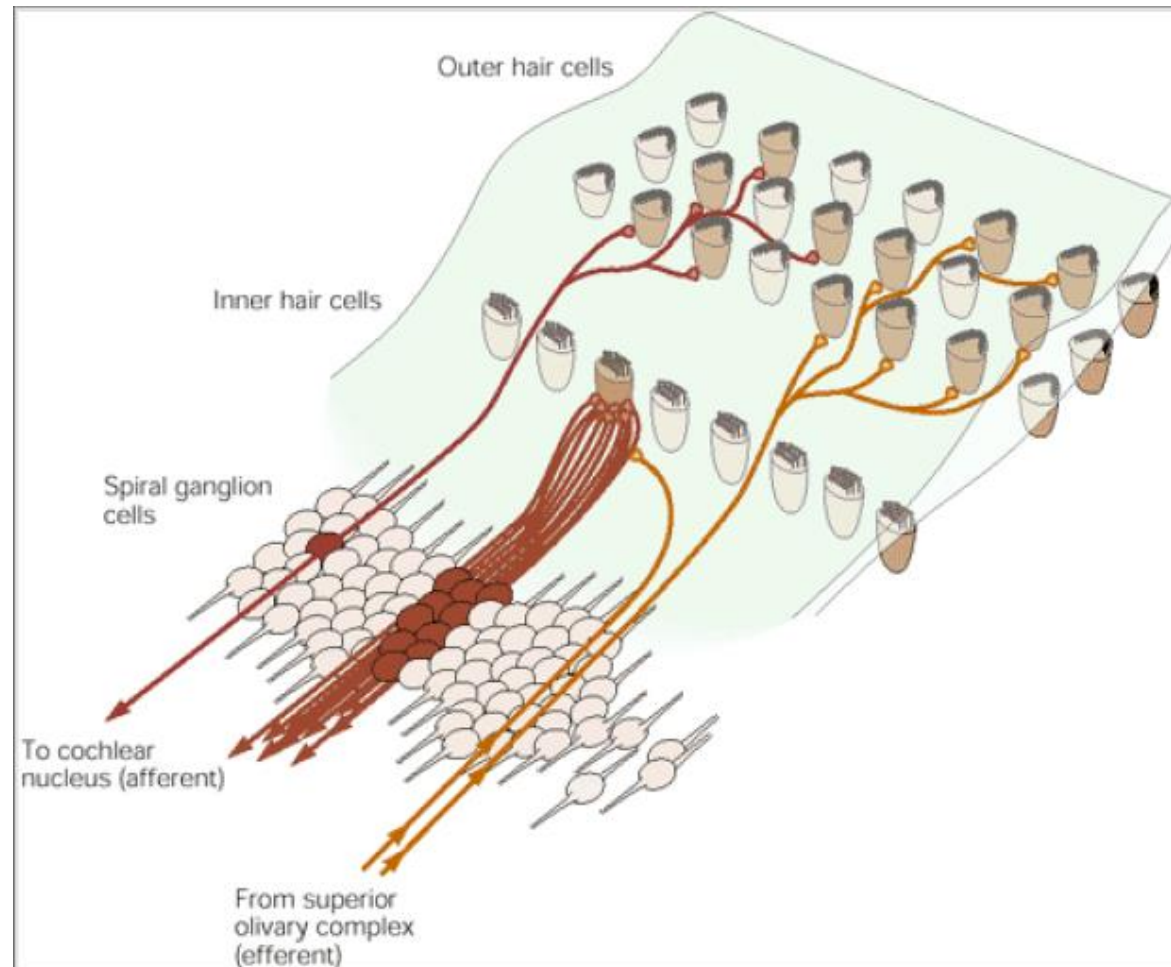
Their action may be detected  
 Otoacoustic emissions



The Outer Hair Cell

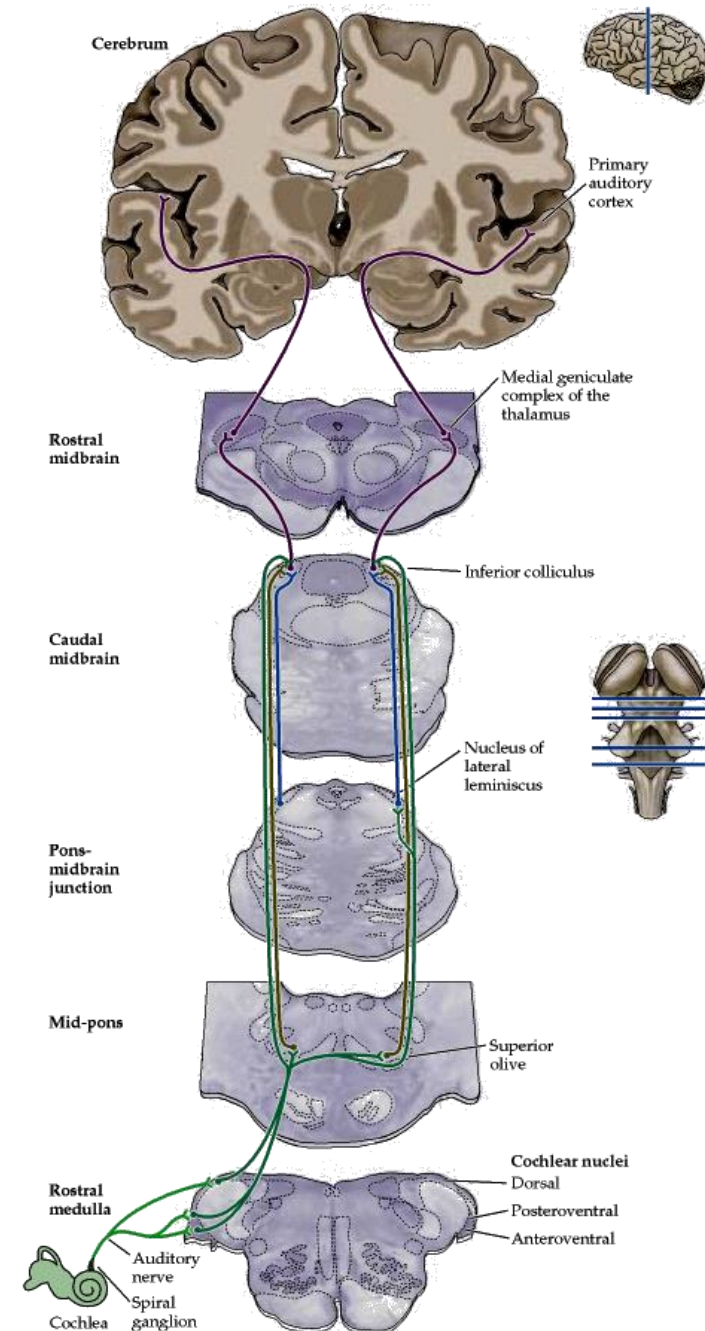
<http://www.neurophys.wisc.edu/auditory/johc.html>

# Inervation of the organ of Corti



# Sound processing

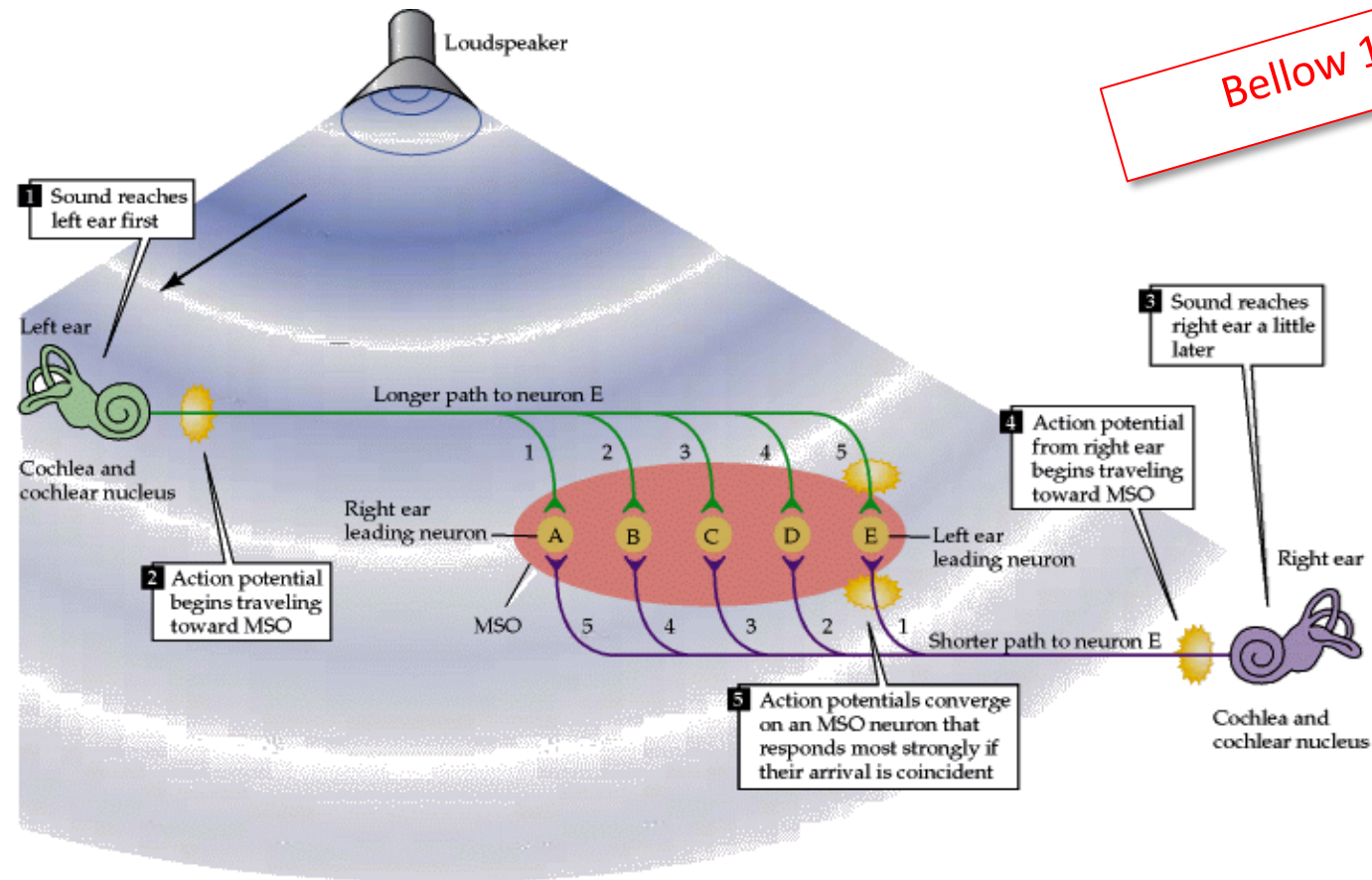
- Nucleus spiralis cochleae
- Nucleus cochlearis ventralis
  - Information about intensity
  - Time delay – the sound direction
- Nucleus cochlearis dorsalis
  - Information about frequency
- Olivary nuclei
  - Analysis of direction
  - Modulation (increase) of the outer hair cells sensitivity
- Colliculi inferiores
  - Integration of information from the lower structures
  - Centre of acoustic reflexes
- N. corporis geniculati medialis
  - Thalamus
- Auditory cortex



<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>

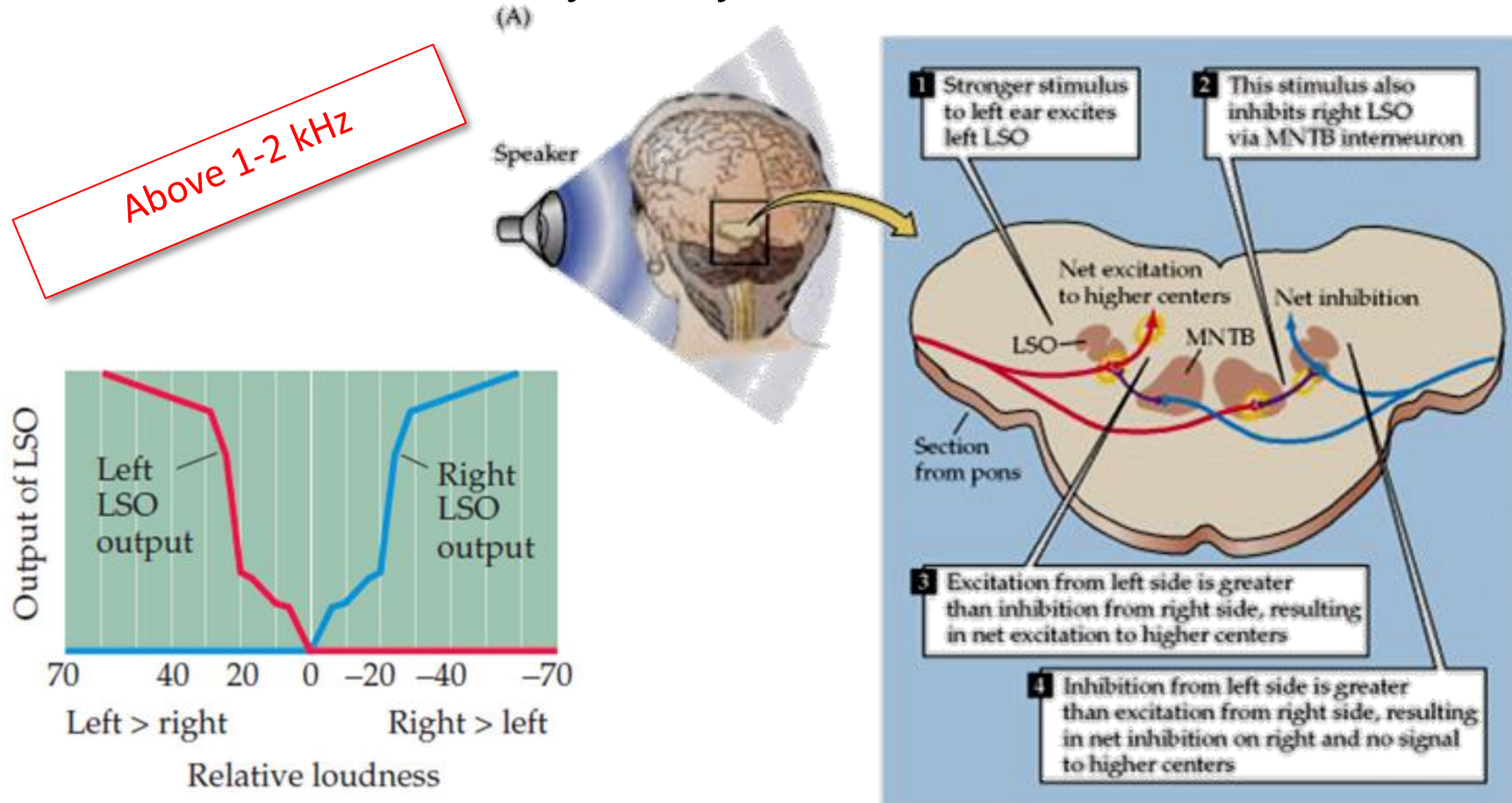
# Nucleus olivaris superior medialis

✓ Time delay based sound localization



# Nucleus olivaris superior lateralis

- ✓ Intensity analysis based sound localization

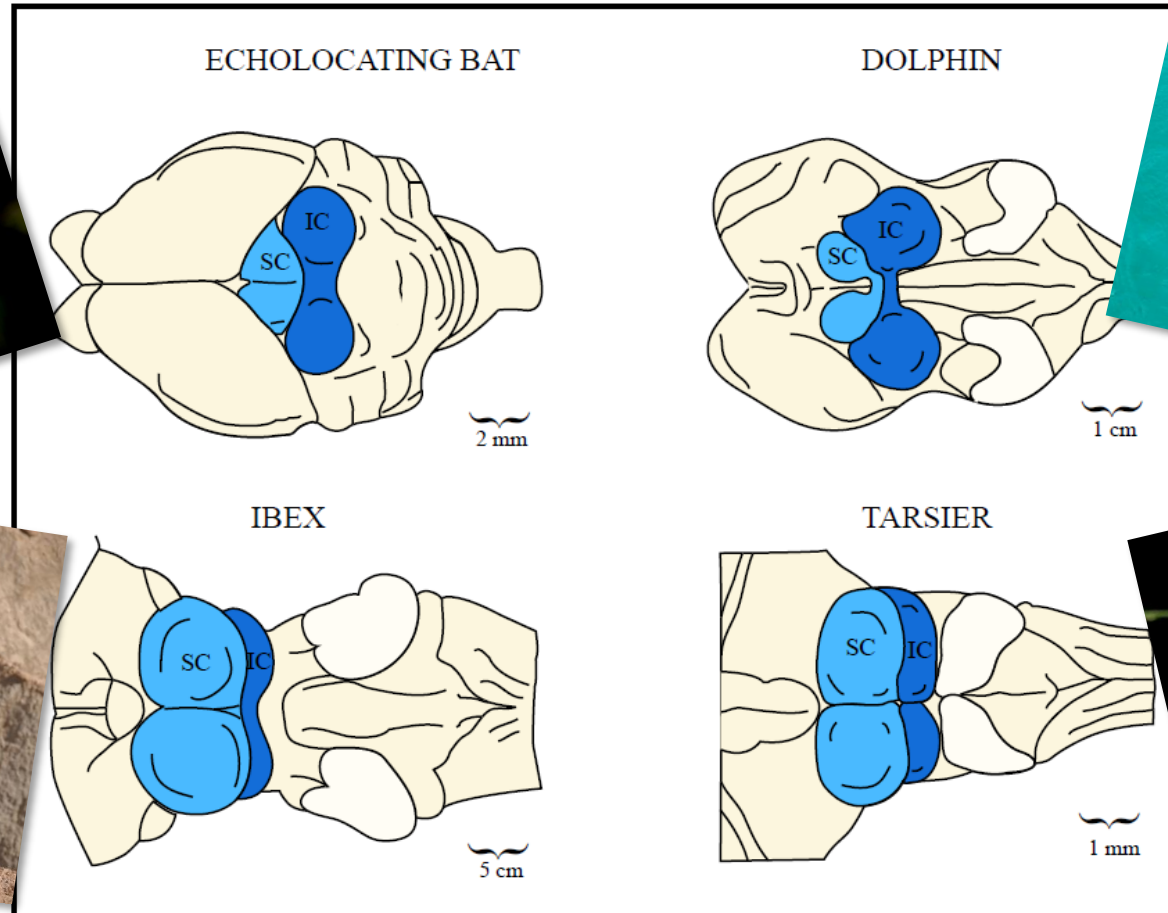


# Colliculi inferiores in various animal species

<https://www.earth.com/news/bats-mammal-longevity/>



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nubian\\_ibex](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nubian_ibex)



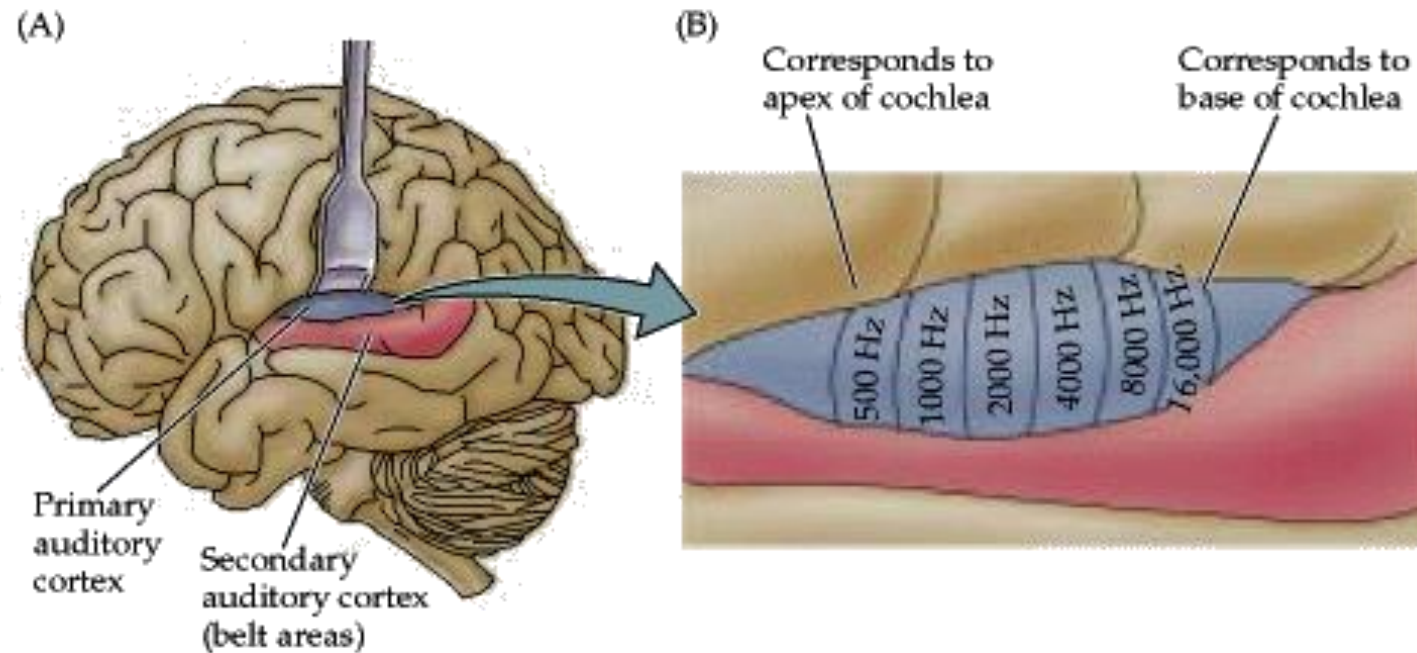
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/3543919/humans-communicate-with-dolphins-by-2021/>

<https://www.animalfactencyclopedia.com/Tarsier-facts.html>



Gerald Schneider. *9.14 Brain Structure and Its Origins, Spring 2014.* (Massachusetts Institute of Technology: MIT OpenCourseWare), <http://ocw.mit.edu> (Accessed). License:Creative Commons BY-NC-SA

# Auditory cortex

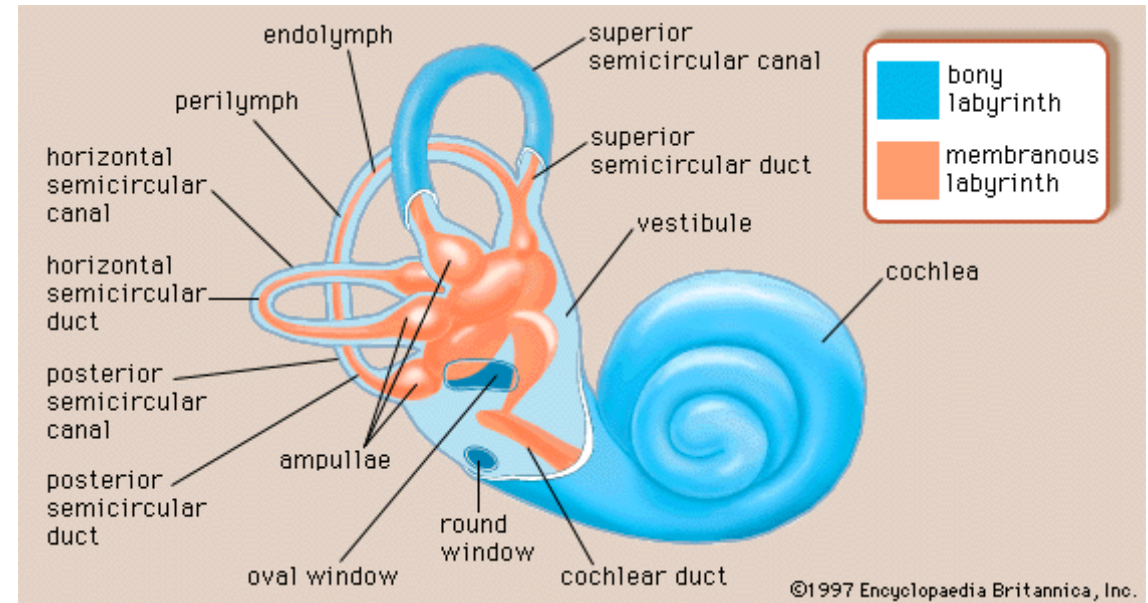


<http://www.slideshare.net/drpsdeb/presentations>



# Vestibular system

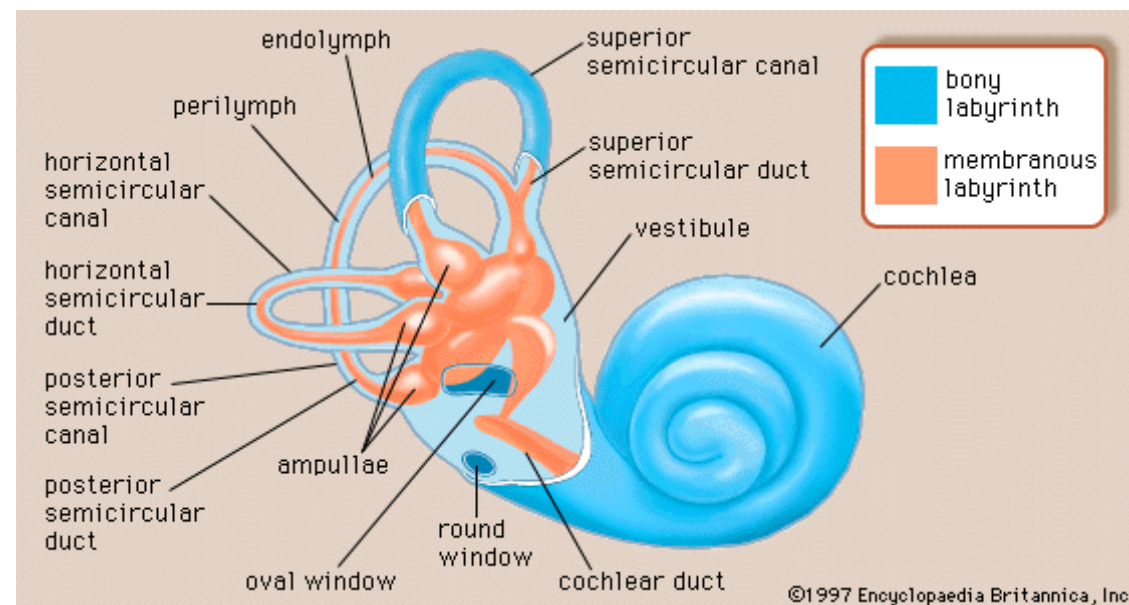
- Associated with auditory system
  - Anatomic localization
  - Hair cells
- Information about
  - Position
  - Acceleration
    - ✓ Linear
    - ✓ Angular



<http://www.slideshare.net/CsillaEgri/presentations>

# Vestibular system

- Associated with auditory system
  - Anatomic localization
  - Hair cells
- Information about
  - Position
  - Acceleration
    - ✓ Linear
    - ✓ Angular

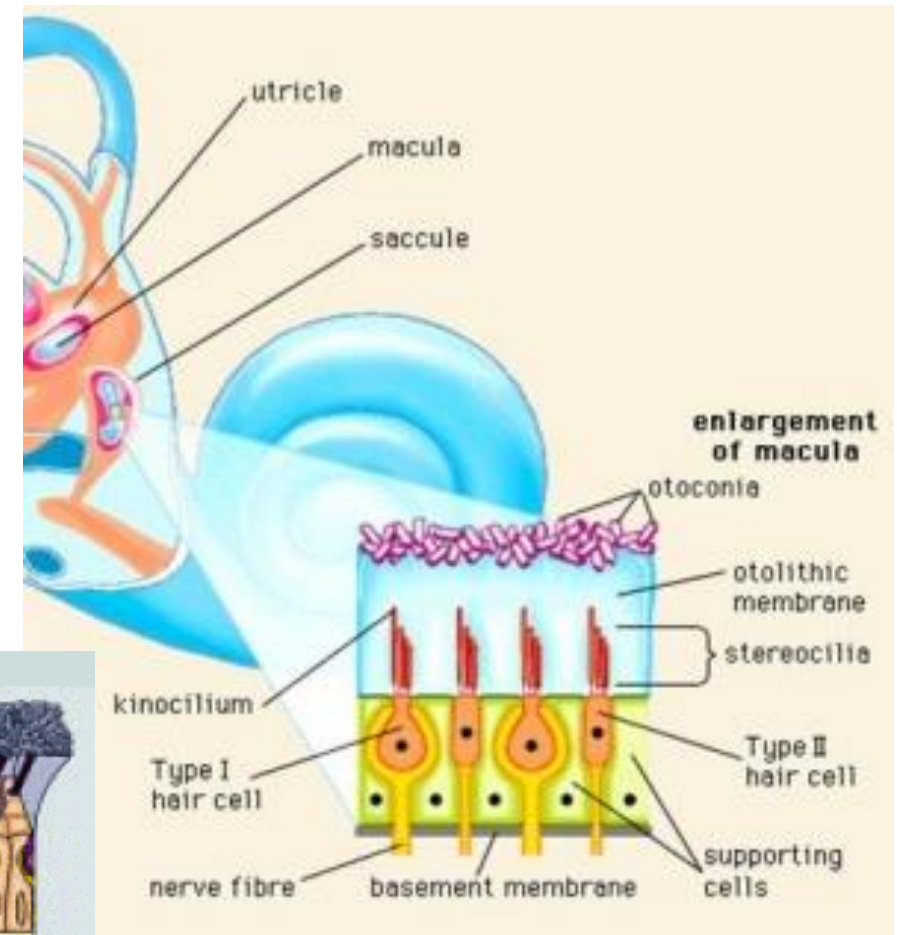
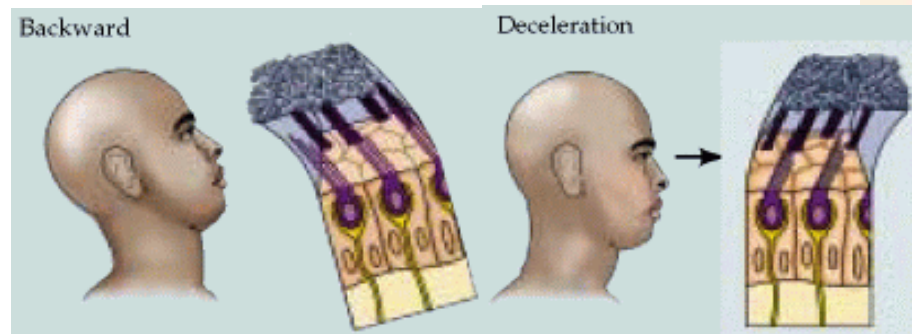


<http://www.slideshare.net/CsillaEgri/presentations>

**Maintenance of the balance  
Muscle tone modification**  
**„Maintenance of the balance“ of the sight  
Vestibuloocular reflexes (VOR)**

# Information about position and linear acceleration

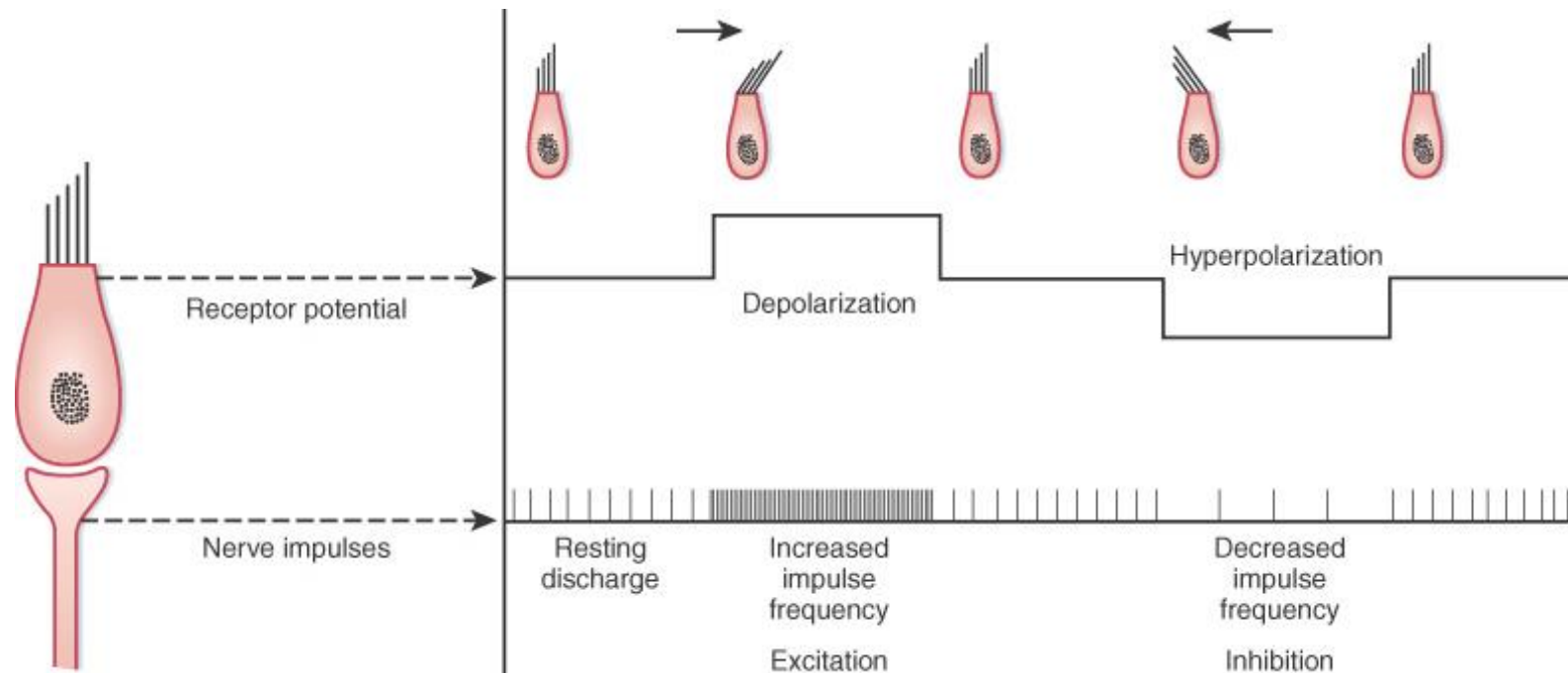
- Macula
  - $\text{CaCO}_3$  crystals
- Utriculus
  - Horizontal macula
- Sacculus
  - Vertical macula



<http://www.slideshare.net/CsillaEgri/presentations>

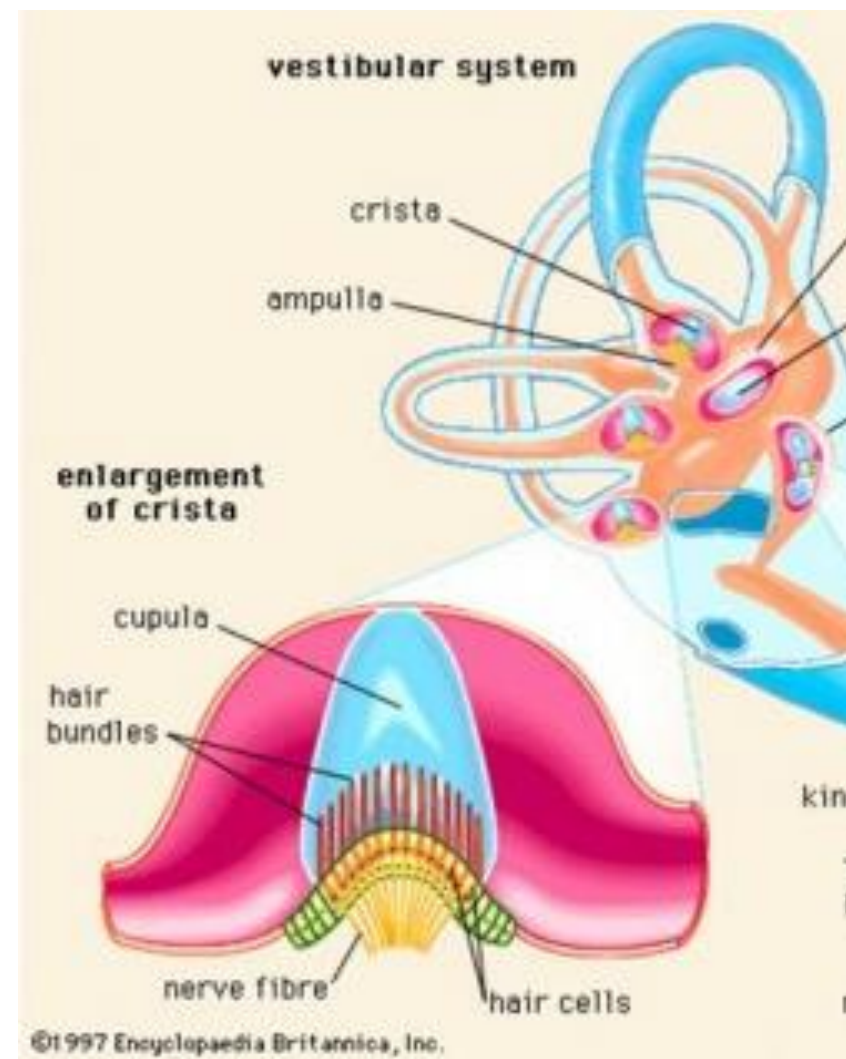
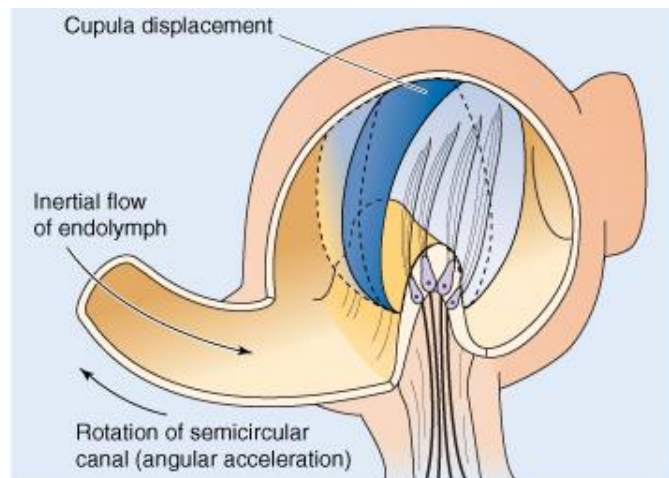
# Mechanism of reception

- Flexion towards stereocilia
  - Mechanically activated  $K^+$  channels are opened –depolarization
- Flexion away from stereocilia
  - The channels are closed - hyperpolarization



# Information about angular acceleration

- Ampulla
- Semicircular canals
  - Upper
  - Horizontal
  - Posterior



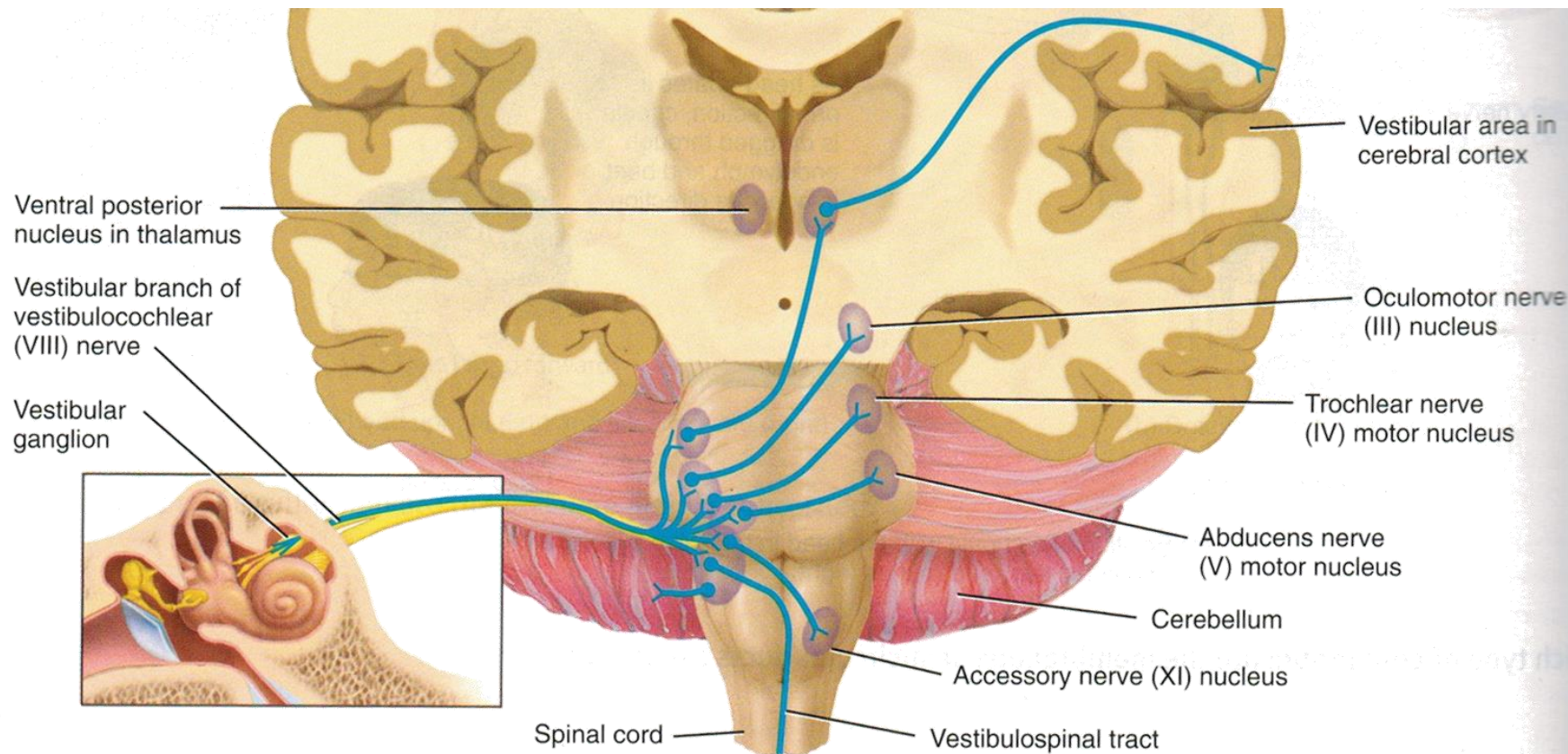
<http://www.slideshare.net/CsillaEgri/presentations>

# Vestibular nuclei

✓ Integration of vestibular, visual and somatosensory information

✓ Projections

- Cerebellum
- Oculomotoric nuclei
- Nucleus of n. Accessorius – the muscles of the neck
- Spinal nuclei
- Thalamus - cortex



<http://www.slideshare.net/CsillaEgri/presentations>

## 76. The basic physiology of auditory and vestibular system – brief characterization of the modality, basic information about signal detection and processing

- The auditory and vestibular systems are interconnected by similar mechanisms of reception (“hair cells” activated by mechanical stimuli)
- Auditory system
  - Brief characteristic of sound
  - Overview of ear anatomy and physiology
  - Middle ear more in details
  - Inner ear in details (anatomy, hair cells categorization and function...)
- Main structures involved in signal processing and source localization
- Vestibular system
  - Overview of anatomy with respect to function (detection of position, linear and angular acceleration)
  - Main projections from vestibular nuclei
- Nystagmus (presentation Vision II)

M U N I

M E D