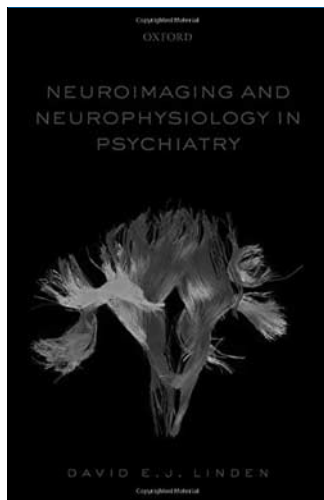


experimental findings and neuroanatomical details, and any prospective reader should be warned that this is not an 'easy read'. Nevertheless, I would encourage all those interested in understanding the brain to meet the challenge enthusiastically – *Surfing Uncertainty* just might change your view of the brain (and of reality) forever.

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Neuroimaging and Neurophysiology in Psychiatry

By David E. J. Linden.
Oxford University Press. 2016.
£29.99 (pb). 140 pp.
ISBN 9780198739609

The ever-growing availability of brain investigation techniques opens up new avenues for the improvement of psychiatric practice. However, busy psychiatrists do not always find it easy to keep up to speed with all technological developments and their multifaceted clinical applications, and so this book by David Linden is a welcome help. As an agile and introductory volume, it clearly explains the basic physics and physiology behind the main techniques of neuroimaging, including magnetic resonance imaging and positron emission tomography, as well as non-invasive neurophysiology (mainly electroencephalography). It comprehensively covers clinically relevant aspects of neuroimaging and neurophysiology, which are discussed in the light of up-to-date information in a concise and clinically relevant manner.

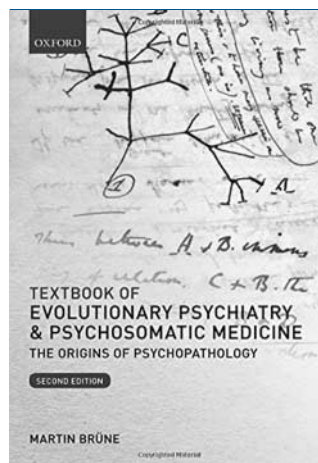
An introductory chapter on the clinical and research uses of neuroimaging and neurophysiology in psychiatry is followed by two chapters presenting an overview of the most relevant techniques of neuroimaging and neurophysiology (with brain stimulation). Chapters 4 and 5 locate the clinical indications of neuroimaging and neurophysiology within the diagnostic work-up of patients with psychiatric disorders. Neuroimaging and diagnostic disease markers are covered, as are key insights into the mechanisms of mental disorders provided by modern neuroimaging techniques. Of particular interest is chapter 8, as it touches on the forensic implications of 'mind reading'. The final two chapters outline the therapeutic applications of neuroimaging and neurophysiological techniques. Both the iconography and the bibliographic apparatus are of the highest standard.

Thanks to the author's knowledge and first-hand experience with the latest research, this book provides a valuable and easy-to-read reference that will help clinical neuropsychiatrists in their everyday practice. It is at most a minor exaggeration to say that with his recent books David Linden is personally responsible for charting the rapidly changing territory between neurology and

psychiatry for the benefit of the current generation of neuropsychiatrists. His efforts and endeavours have achieved the important goals of informing psychiatric practice and ultimately improving the quality of patient care.

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Textbook of Evolutionary Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine: The Origins of Psychopathology, (2nd edn)

By Martin Brüne.
Oxford University Press. 2016.
£44.99 (pb). 496 pp.
ISBN 9780198717942

The origins of psychopathology is a topic approached in mainstream psychiatry by examining genetic factors, pathophysiology and the developmental factors (ontogeny). Martin Brüne, like other evolutionary psychiatrists, finds this approach incomplete and proposes that these proximate causes of psychopathology should be complemented by ultimate causation ones (phylogeny and adaptive functions). By doing that, the four 'why' questions suggested by Tinbergen (function or adaptation, phylogeny, mechanism and ontogeny) would be covered. This is possibly the main theme of this book and has influenced the structure of its chapters.

The book therefore is not a list of evolutionary theories of psychopathology. Instead, it is largely written using a standard psychiatric textbook layout. Clinical chapters are divided into sections similar to any other introductory textbook of psychiatry, such as symptomatology, epidemiology, risk factors, pathophysiology, differential diagnosis, course and outcome, and treatment, in addition to a section which provides an evolutionary synthesis. Part one of the book, which provides the theoretical background, covers evolutionary principles, human life history in addition to causes of psychopathology, the human brain and psychiatric assessment in line with the approach described above.

In sections called 'Afterthought', added to chapters in part 1 and 3, Brüne outlines concepts, impressions and insights which provide a different dimension to the content of the chapter and sometimes clarify difficult ideas. Examples of these afterthoughts include 'genetic determinism', 'the possibility to prevent mental illness', 'what non-verbal behaviour can tell us' and 'the social brain hypotheses'. The last is one of many examples in this book used to highlight the importance of the social context in the origin of psychopathology. This is used to dispel a common misconception that the evolutionary approach is a reductionist enterprise that aims to explain psychopathology in purely genetic or molecular terms. Another example is a new addition to chapter 1 in this second edition, 'the differential genetics of susceptibility' – the concept that genetic variation can promote vulnerability or