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W. J. A. J. Smeets, R. Nieuwenhuys. B. L. Roberts The Central Nervous System of Cartilaginous Fishes

Structure and Functional Correlations



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The macroscopic and microscopic structure of the central nervous system of a highly interesting group of fish is surveyed in this work. As representatives of the major groups within the Chondrichthyses the authors have selected the sharks **Squalus acanthias** and **Scyliorhinus canicula**, the ray **Raja clavata** and the holocephalian **Hydrolagus collei.**

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Once the Commentary stage of the process has begun, the author can no longer alter the article, but can respond formally to all commentaries accepted for publication. The target article, commentaries and author's response then co-appear in BBS. Continuing Commentary and replies can appear in later issues.

Criteria for acceptance To be eligible for publication, a paper should not only meet the standards of a journal such as *Psychological Review* or the *International Review of Neurobiology* in terms of conceptual rigor, empirical grounding, and clarity of style, but it should also offer a clear rationale for soliciting Commentary. That rationale should be provided in the author's covering letter, together with a list of suggested commentators. The original manuscript plus eight copies must be submitted.

A paper for BBS can be (*i*) the report and discussion of empirical research that the author judges to have broader scope and implications than might be more appropriately reported in a specialty journal; (*ii*) an unusually significant theoretical article that formally models or systematizes a body of research; or (*iii*) a novel interpretation, synthesis, or critique of existing experimental or theoretical work. Occasionally, articles dealing with social or philosophical aspects of the behavioral and brain sciences will be considered.

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The Behavioral and Brain Sciences

To appear in Volume 6, Number 3 (1983)

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Intentional systems in cognitive ethology: The "Panglossian paradigm" defended

Daniel C. Dennett, Tufts University

A "cognitivistic" method of attributing mental or intentional states to organisms is sketched. Its applicability to ethology is illustrated with the case of the putative communicative behavior of vervets. The method, intentional system theory, suggests experimental tests of particular interest to cognitive model builders. Its underlying assumptions make it vulnerable to the criticisms of Stephen J. Gould and Richard C. Lewontin, but these criticisms are rebutted.

With Commentary from J Bennett; AC Danto; R Dawkins; DR Griffin; G Harman; A Jolly; RC Lewontin; D McFarland; J Maynard Smith; RG Millikan; BF Skinner; HS Terrace; and others.

Is blindsight an effect of scattered light, spared cortex, and near-threshold vision?

John Campion, Richard Latto, and Y. M. Smith, University of Liverpool

"Blindsight" describes unconscious visually guided behavior elicited by stimulation in a cortical scotoma (blind area). Mediation is thought to be by subcortical pathways (the second visual system). The literature is reviewed, and it is concluded that because of methodological and conceptual difficulties in the reported studies, blindsight effects could be attributed to processes other than blindsight. First, without histological verification, some effects may be mediated by residual but degraded striate cortex. Second, many effects could result from light scattering from scotomata into the good field. Experiments using hemianopic subjects and normal subjects with simulated hemianopias yield performance similar to blindsight when only scattered light is available. The existence of blindsight remains undemonstrated.

With Commentary from JL Barbur & KH Ruddock; P Bach-y-Rita; B Bridgeman; RN Haber; O Meienberg; A Morton; P & T Pasik; E. Pöppel; R Puccetti; T Torjussen & S Magnussen; G Underwood; L Weiskrantz; J Zihl; and others.

How are grammars represented?

Edward P. Stabler, University of Western Ontario

Noam Chomsky and other linguists and psychologists have suggested that human linguistic behavior is somehow governed by a mental representation of a transformational grammar. Challenges to this are often met by invoking a computational perspective: A grammar could, of course, be represented in the memory of a computational device and govern the device's use of a language. The claim that humans are such devices, however, is unsupported and it seems unlikely that linguists and psychologists really want to claim any such thing.

With Commentary from RC Berwick; M Davis; W Demopoulous & RJ Matthews; DC Dennett; M Gross; RM Harnish; JD McCawley; JC Marshall; R May; J Morton; R Wilensky; and others.

Among the articles to appear in forthcoming issues of BBS:

DE Broadbent, "The Maltese cross: A new simplistic model for memory"

J Dinsmoor, "Observing and conditioned reinforcement"

S Grossberg, "The quantized geometry of visual space: The coherent computation of depth, form, and lightness"

ME Lamb, RA Thompson, W Gardner, EL Charnov & D Estes, "Security of infantile attachment as assessed in the "strange situation"

J Maynard Smith, "Game theory and the evolution of behaviour"

EA Stone, "Problems with current catecholamine hypotheses of antidepressant agents"

RD Weiner, "Does electroconvulsive therapy cause brain damage?"

R Wilensky, "Story grammars versus story points"

Special Issue: Event-related Potentials and Cognition

Special Issue: Canonical Papers of BF Skinner

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