



# Sleep Measurements in Animals



**Yanhua Huang**

Translational Neuroscience Program  
Departments of Psychiatry  
School of Medicine  
University of Pittsburgh

*yhuang@pitt.edu*

# Sleep Measurements in Animals

## EEG-based Sleep Recording

- **Laboratory rat and mouse**
- Other species

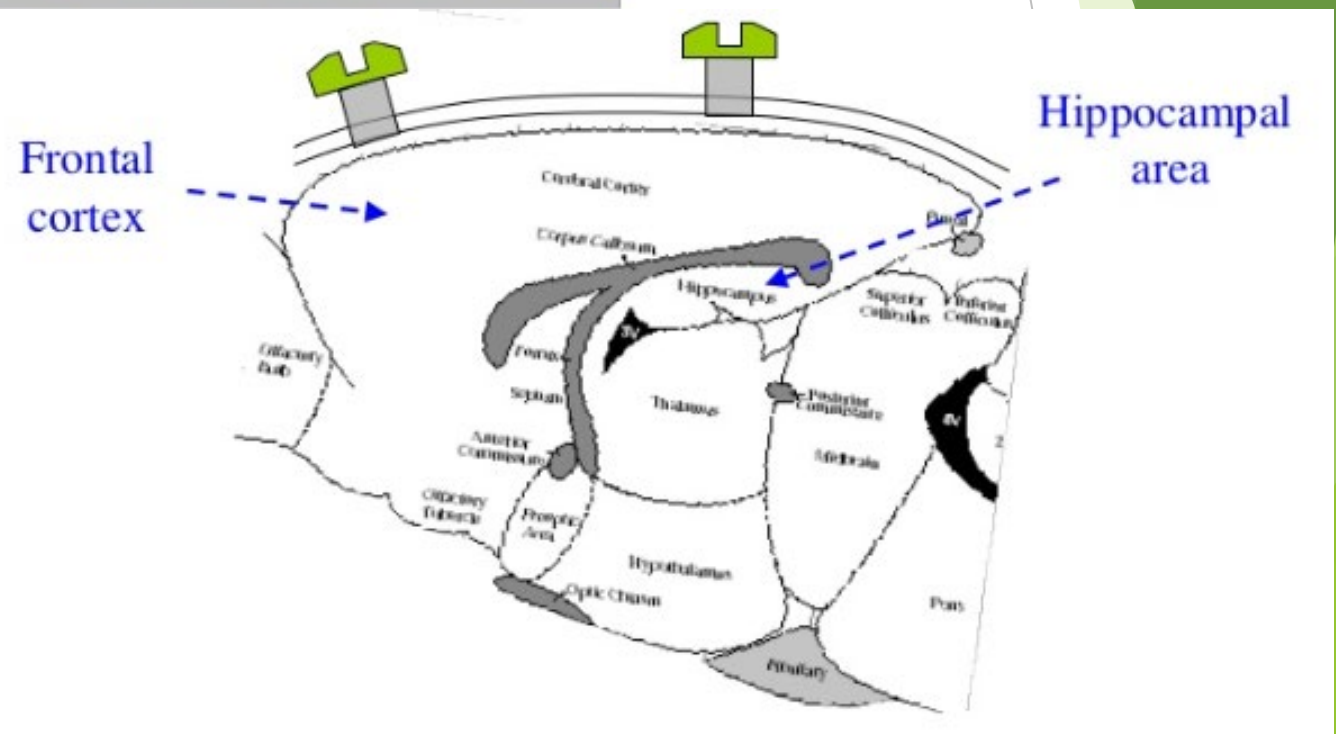
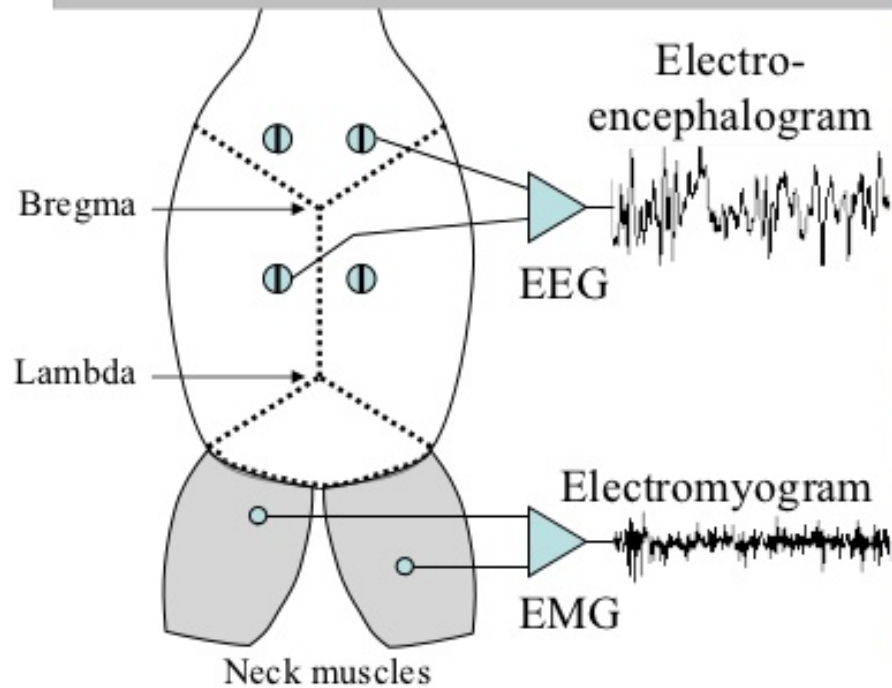
## Alternative Approaches

- Actigraphy
- Piezo Sleep Behavioral Tracking
- Electric Field Sensing
- Video-based analyses

# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Rat/Mouse

- ▶ Electroencephalography (EEG) + Electromyography (EMG)

Cortical EEG and neck muscle EMG signals can be visually scored to yield three sleep/wake state: wake, slow-wave sleep (SWS), and rapid-eye movement sleep (REMS).



# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Rat/Mouse

**Tethered**

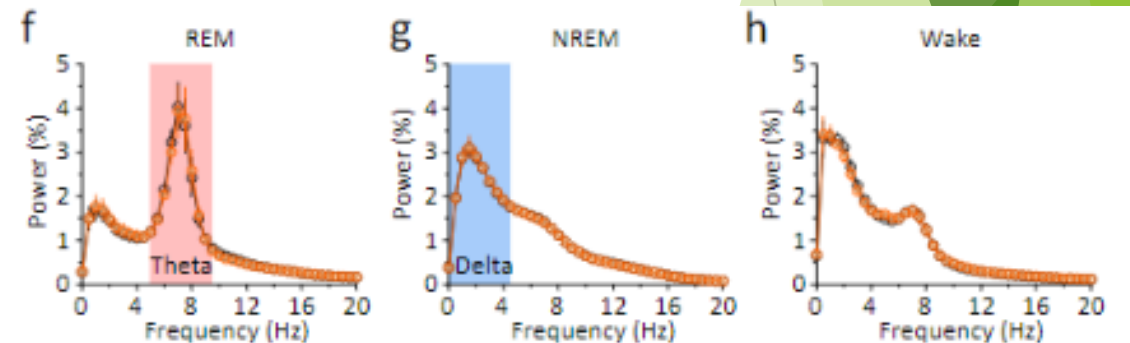
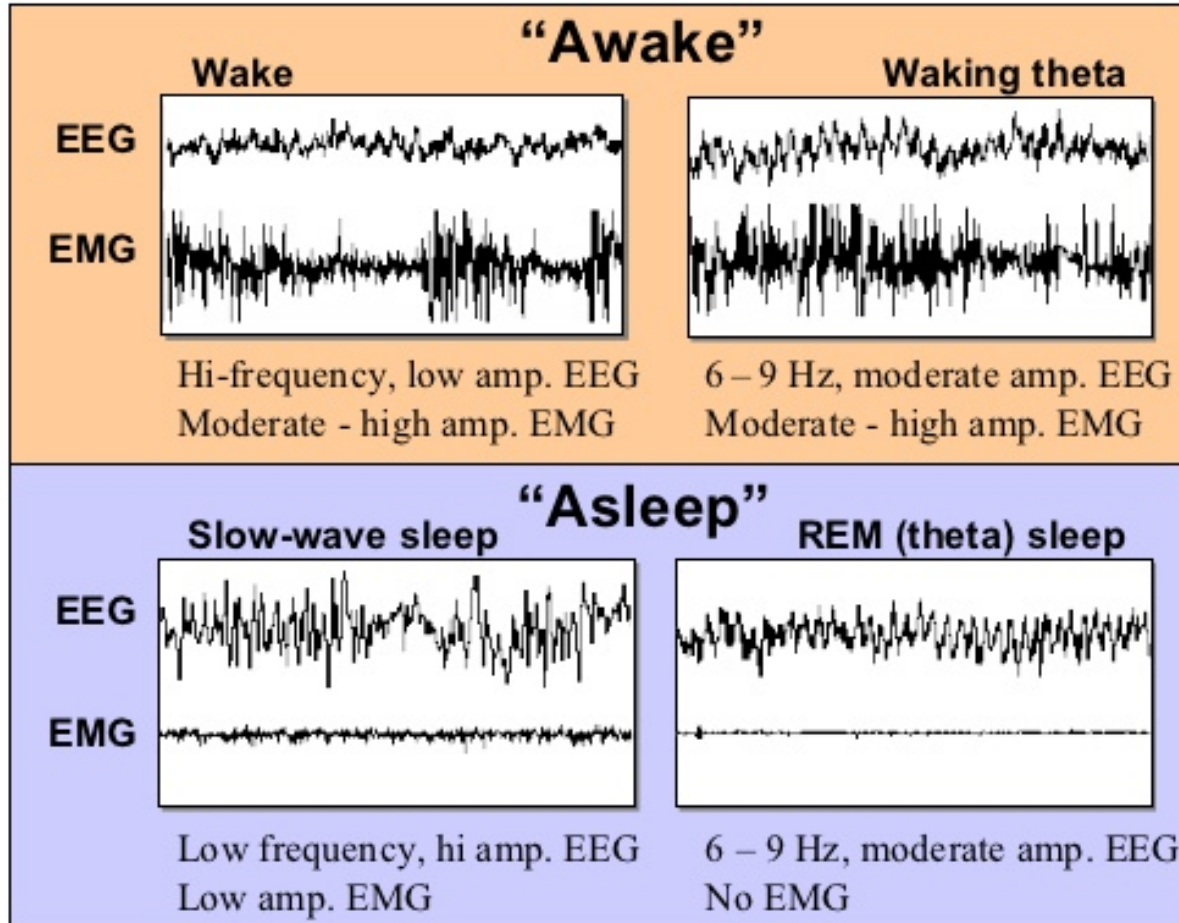


**Wireless**



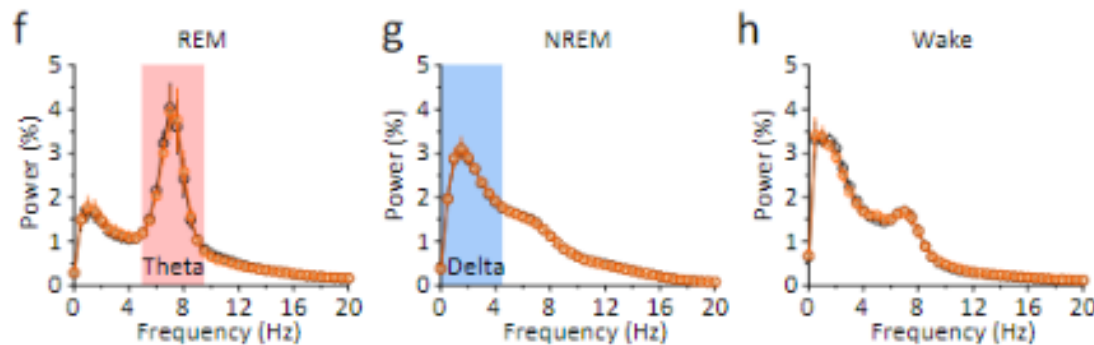
# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Sleep Scoring

- ▶ Waveform-based: Amplitude and Frequency



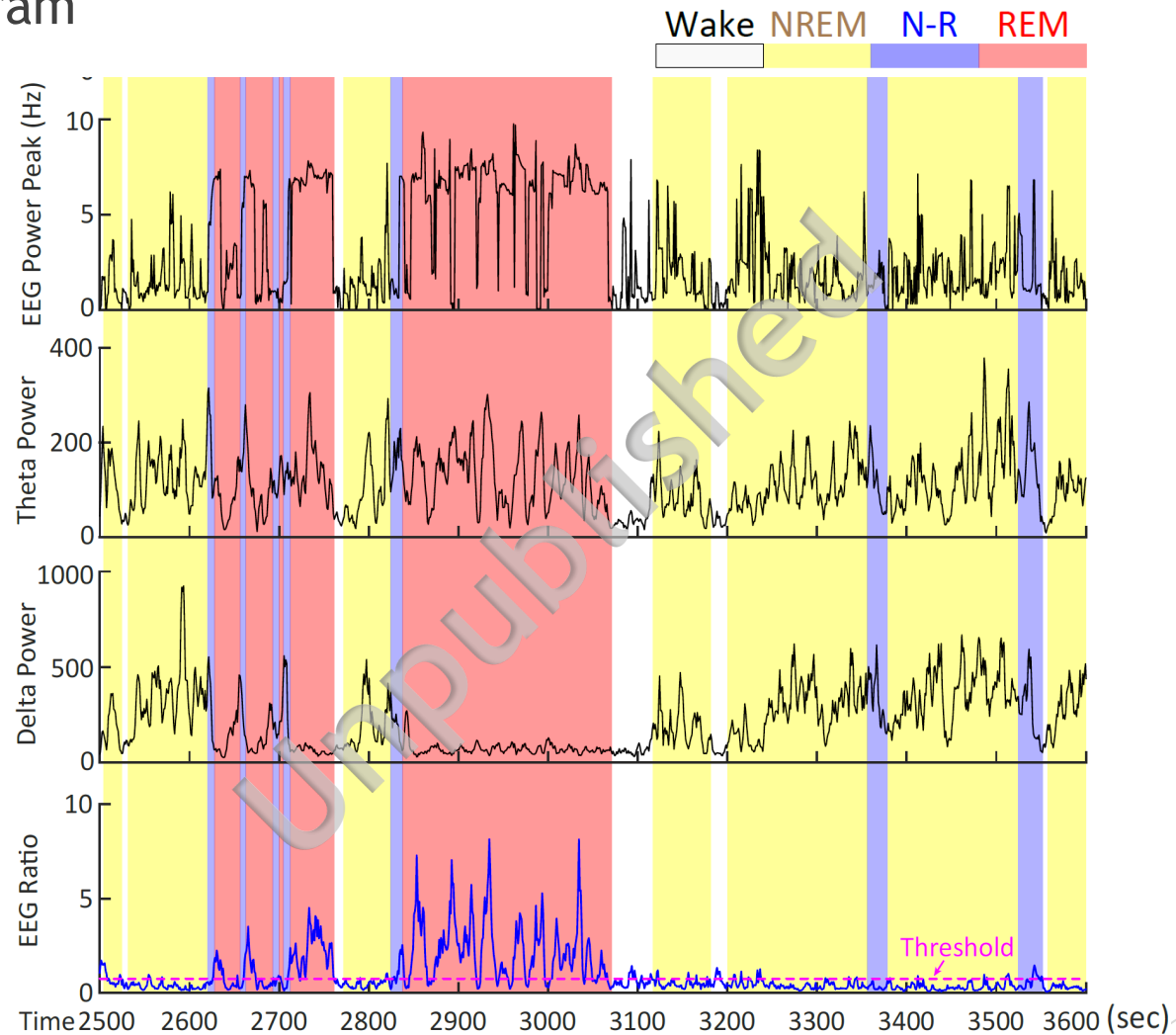
# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Data Analysis

- ▶ Sleep Time Analysis  
e.g. 24-hr/12-hr total wake/NREM/REM time, sleep latency.
- ▶ Bout / Transition Analysis  
e.g. wake/NREM/REM bout number/duration, transition #.
- ▶ Power Spectrum Analysis  
e.g. Power distribution (FFT), Slow wave amplitude (SWA), etc.



# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Data Analysis

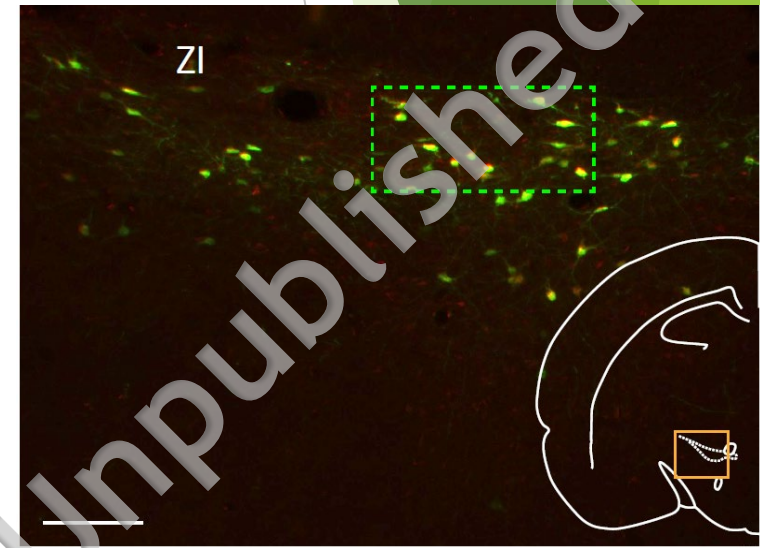
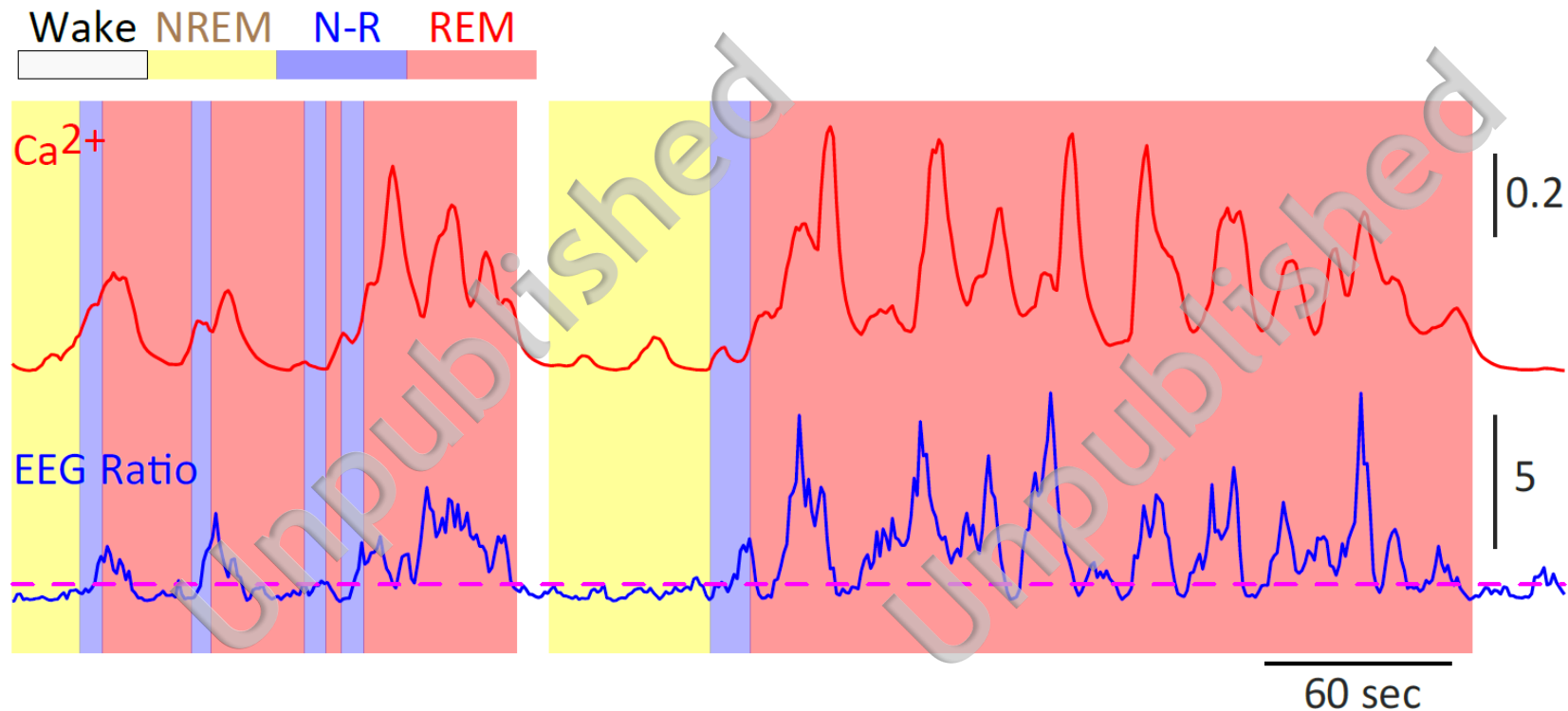
## ► EEG spectrogram



(Wang et al., unpublished)

# EEG-based Sleep Recording: Data Analysis

## ► EEG spectrogram



(Wang et al., unpublished)



# Sleep Measurements in Animals

## EEG-based Sleep Recording

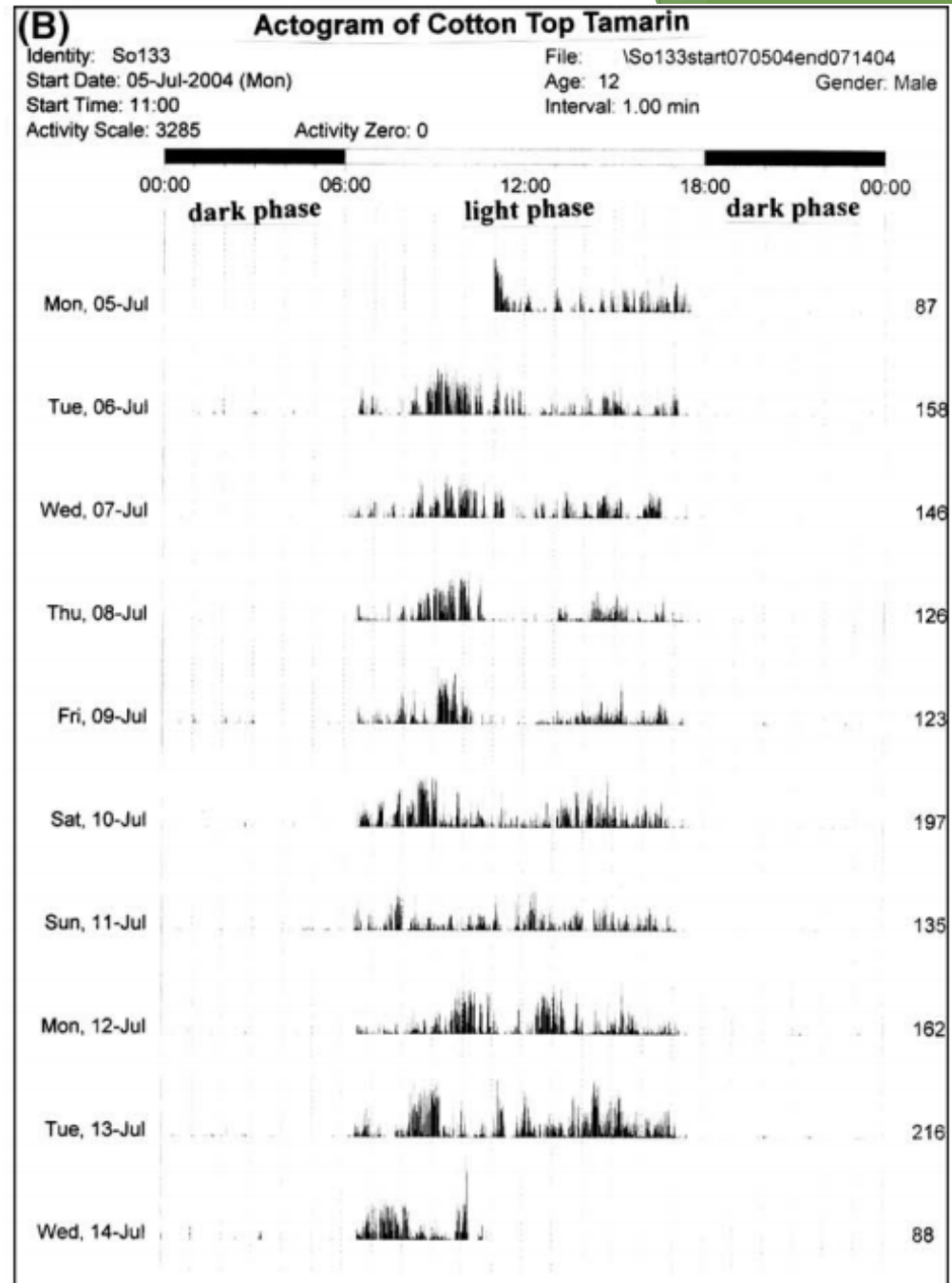
- Laboratory rat and mouse
- Other species

## Alternative Approaches

- Actigraphy
- Piezo Sleep Behavioral Tracking
- Electric Field Sensors
- Video-based posture analysis

# Alternative: Actigraphy

- ▶ Nonhuman primates
- ▶ Similar to human actigraphy
- ▶ Long-term; non-invasive
- ▶ Wake (active) vs. Sleep (inactive)
- ▶ Does not differentiate NREM vs REM sleep



# Alternative: PiezoSleep Behavioral Tracking

- ▶ Piezoelectric sensor pad (piezoelectric PVDF polymer).
- ▶ Pressure variations associated with respiratory patterns and movement.
- ▶ Wake (active) vs. Sleep (inactive).
- ▶ NREM (regular breathing) vs. REM (irregular breathing).
- ▶ Long-term; non-invasive; high throughput.

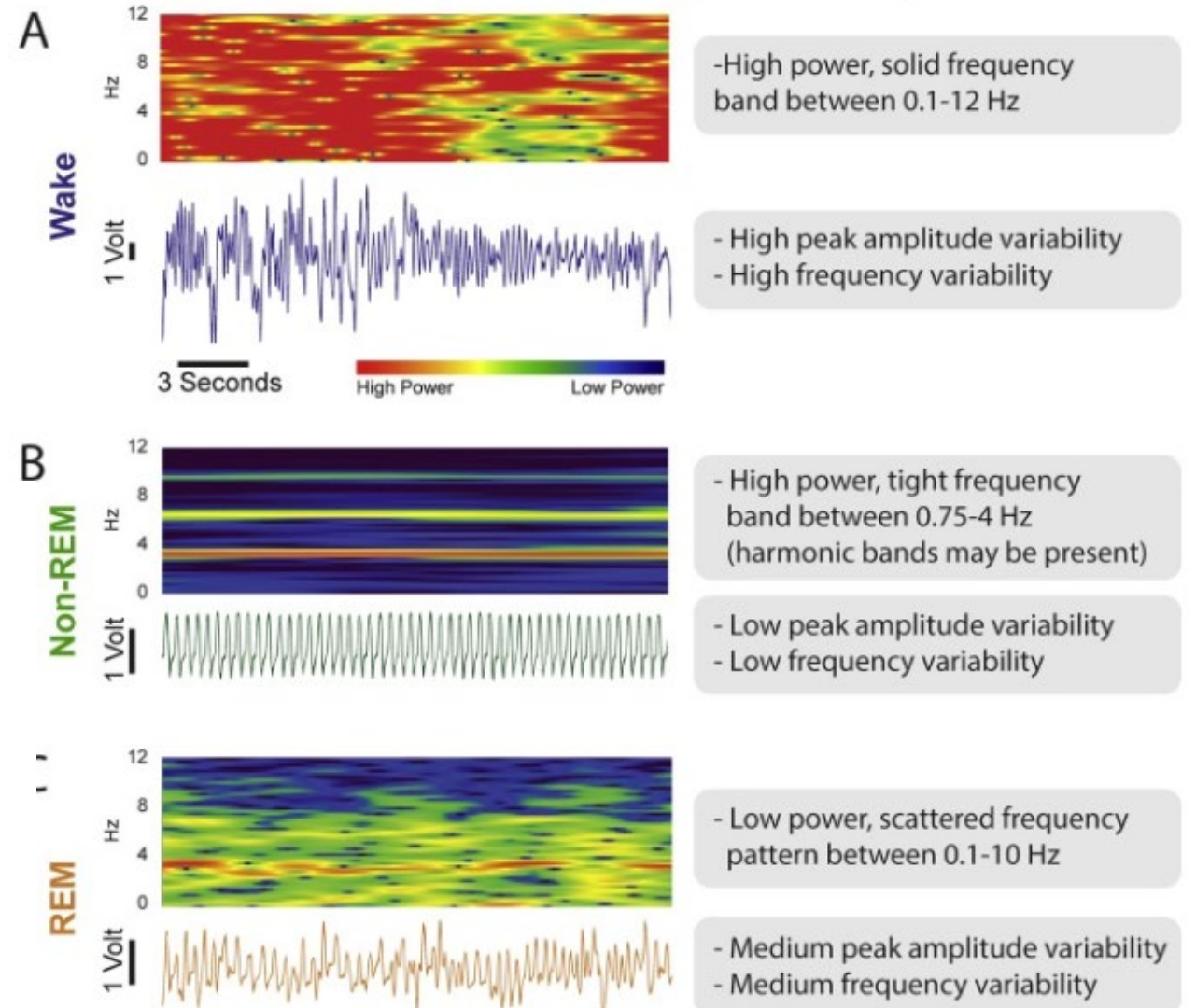
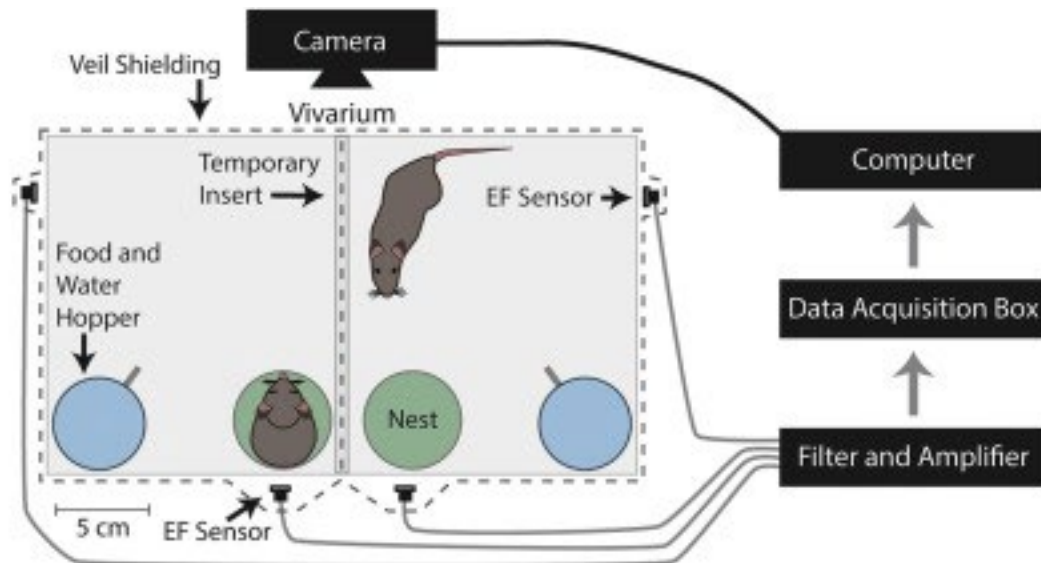


[www.sigsoln.com](http://www.sigsoln.com)



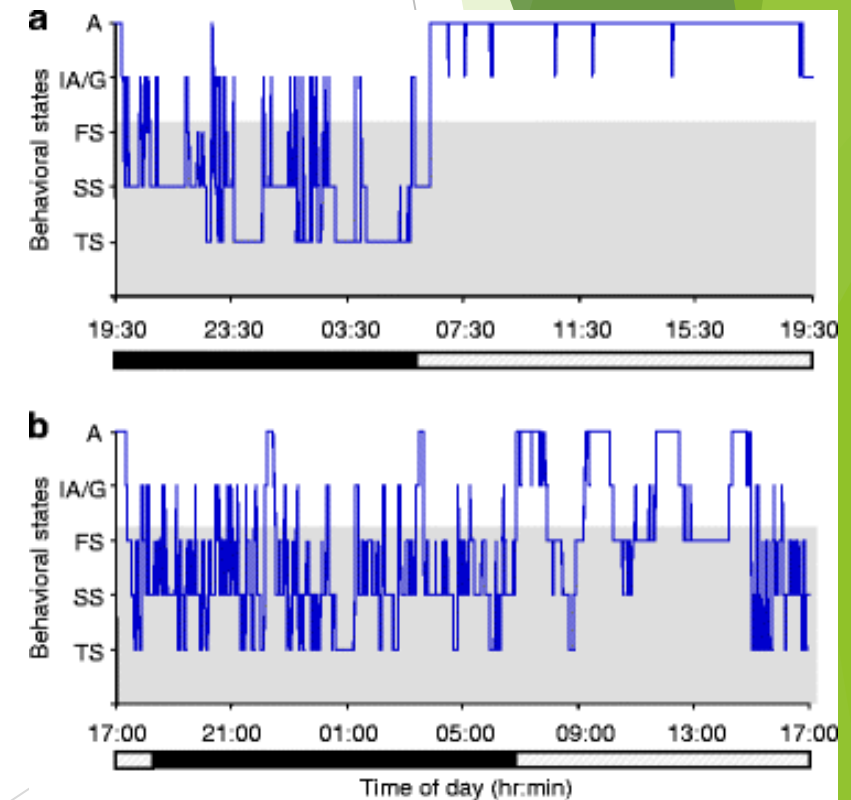
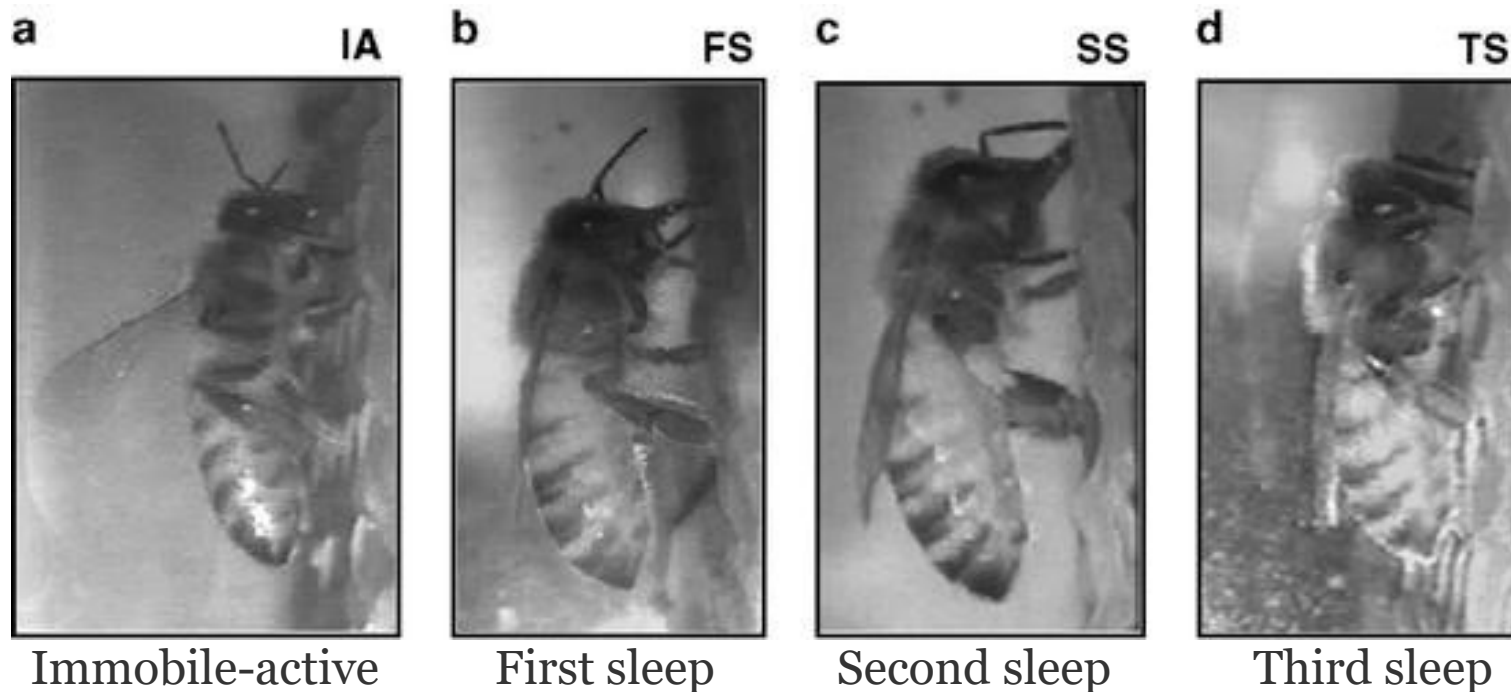
# Alternative: Electric Field Sensors

- ▶ EF sensors attached to the exterior of chambers/home cages.
- ▶ Detect fluctuations in the local electric field caused by motion (respiration and other movements).
- ▶ Wake vs. NREM vs. REM.
- ▶ Long-term; non-invasive; high throughput.

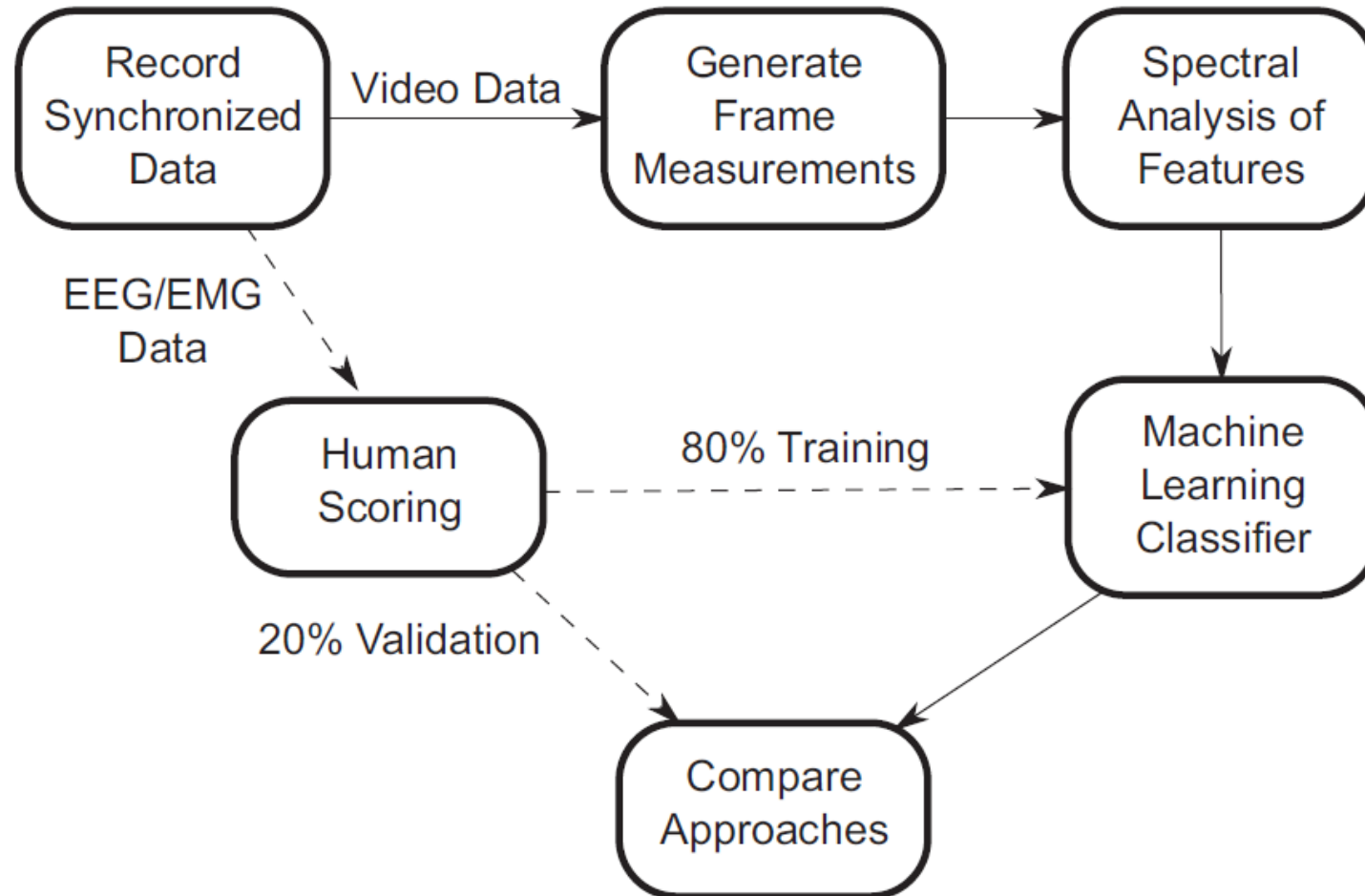


# Alternative: Video-based analysis

- ▶ Sleep Behaviors: sleep postures; immobility; reduced muscle tone; lowered body temperature; raised reaction threshold.
- ▶ Video Observation: postures; discontinuous ventilation pumping motions in the abdomen; antennae immobility.



# Alternative: Video-based analysis



# Alternative: Video-based analysis

Table 5. Performance comparison across published approaches

Approach	Wake			NREM			REM			Overall
	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	Accuracy cc.	Precision	Recall	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	Accuracy
Video (mice) [34]										0.767
Doppler (rats) [31]	0.916	0.898	0.834	0.851	0.852	0.917	0.697	0.718	0.615	0.844
Piezo (mice) [26]	0.91	0.841	0.9	0.831	0.717	0.81	0.834	<b>0.815</b>	0.66	0.787
Electric field* (mice) [33]			0.938		0.943	<b>0.943</b>			0.834	0.94
Ours (mice)	<b>0.961</b>	<b>0.984</b>	<b>0.961</b>	<b>0.914</b>	<b>0.951</b>	0.914	<b>0.898</b>	0.535	<b>0.897</b>	0.92

Bold indicates best performing approach for each metric.

\*Electric field approach uses human annotation, not a machine learning algorithm.

Geuther et al., *Sleep*, 2022

# Resources

- ▶ EEG Sleep Wake Evaluation
- ▶ <https://www.slideshare.net/jagruner/eeg-sleep-wake-evaluation-8665088>
  
- ▶ Mouse Epidural EEG Electrode Surgery
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ErECVu4jjQ>
  
- ▶ Rat Epidural EEG Electrode Surgery
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8QhmnirgyU>
  
- ▶ In vivo EEG recording in rats
- ▶ <https://www.slideshare.net/InsideScientific/measuring-eeg-in-vivo-for-preclinical-evaluation-of-sleep-and-alzheimers-disease>