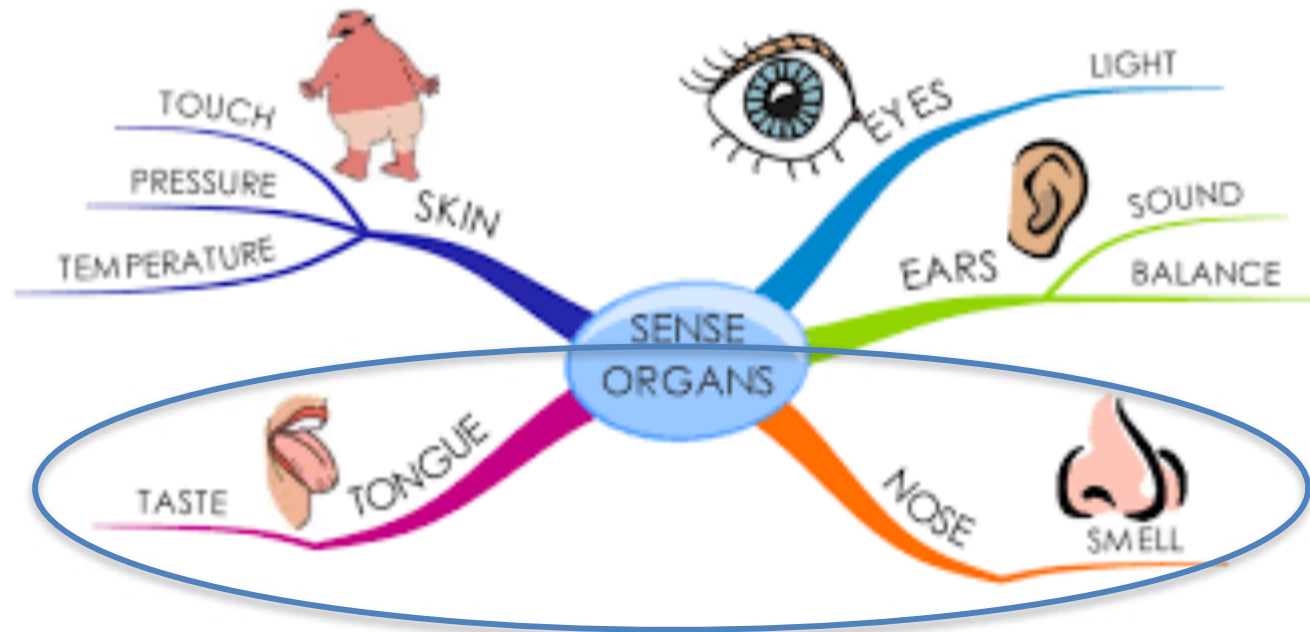
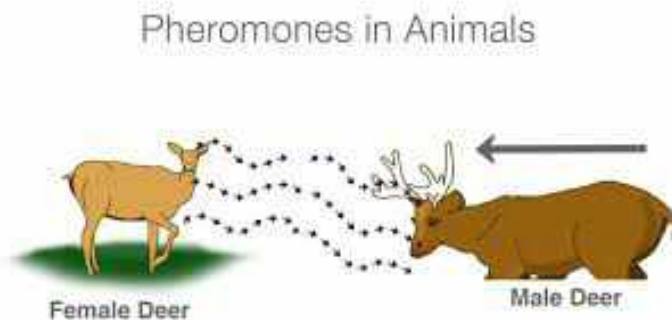


Sensory Systems



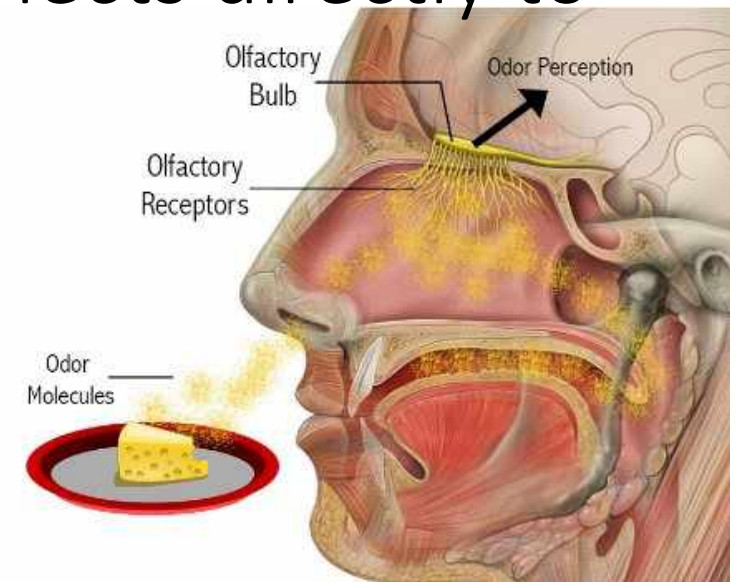
Sensory Systems: Olfaction

- Sense of Smell
 - important for survival
 - e.g.: toxins, food, reproduction
 - animals superior to humans in their olfactory abilities
 - detection of *pheromones* that in turn effects the behaviour of others of its species (typical in animals)
 - e.g. mating, fighting, marking territory in animals

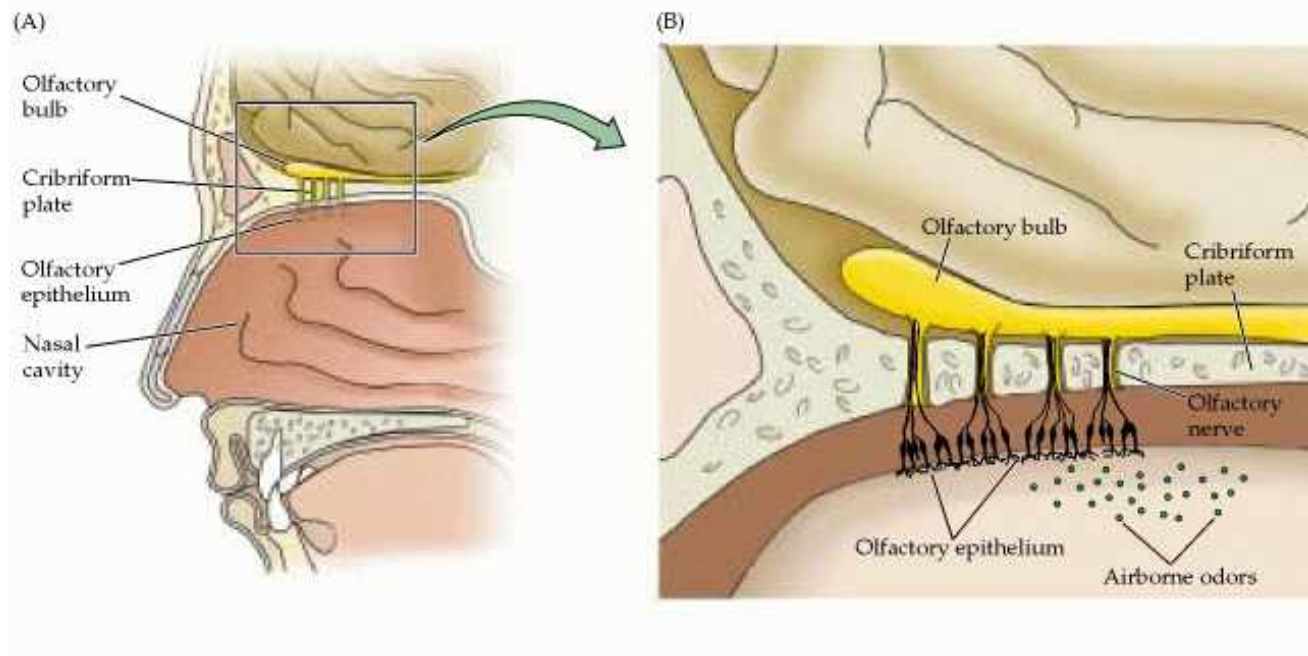


Sensory Systems: Olfaction

- detects odour molecules in our food and environment - chemoreceptors
- receptors present in nasal cavity
- send input to olfactory bulb in forebrain
- olfactory system is the only human sense that bypasses the thalamus and connects directly to the forebrain

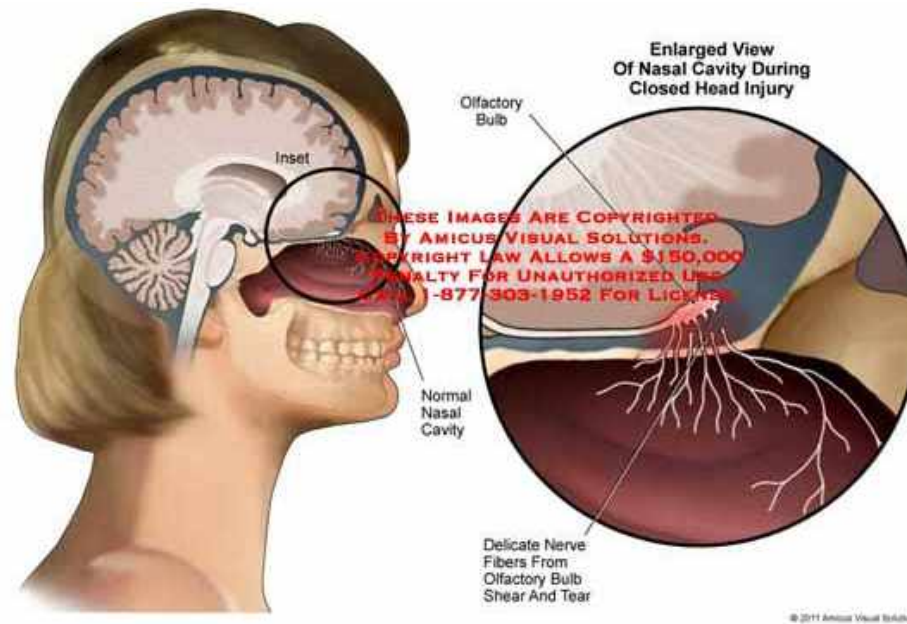


Sensory Systems: Olfaction



Each odor activates a different pattern of glomeruli

Anosmia



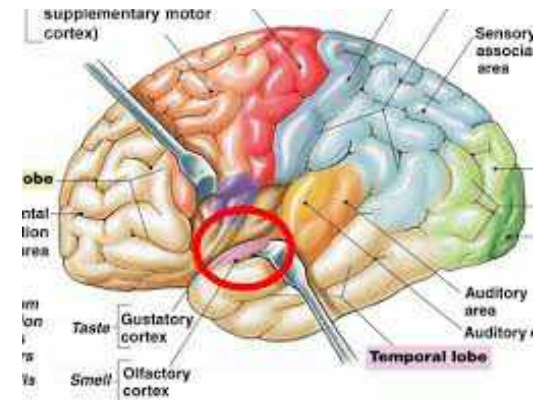


Gustation



Sensory Systems: Gustatory

- Importance:
 - Survival value
 - discrimination between nutrients and toxins (Scott, 1992)
 - provides pleasure
 - gustatory cortex **not the same** as tongue area of the somatosensory cortex but close



Sensory Systems: Gustatory

- Sense of taste
 - Sweet
 - Sour
 - Salty
 - Bitter
 - Umami (glutamate molecule)
- “Taste” results from complex patterns of neural activity produced by *taste buds*
- *taste buds* - contain receptors



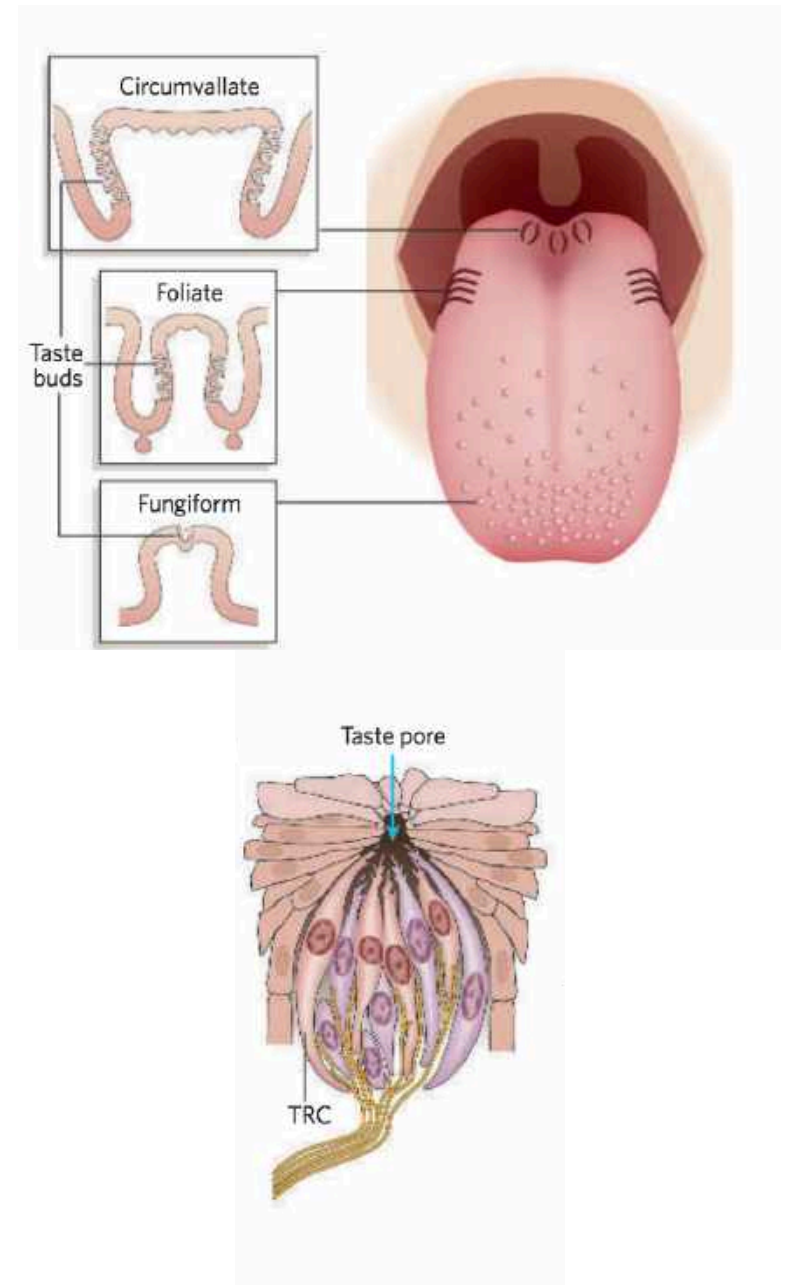
Umami????!!!

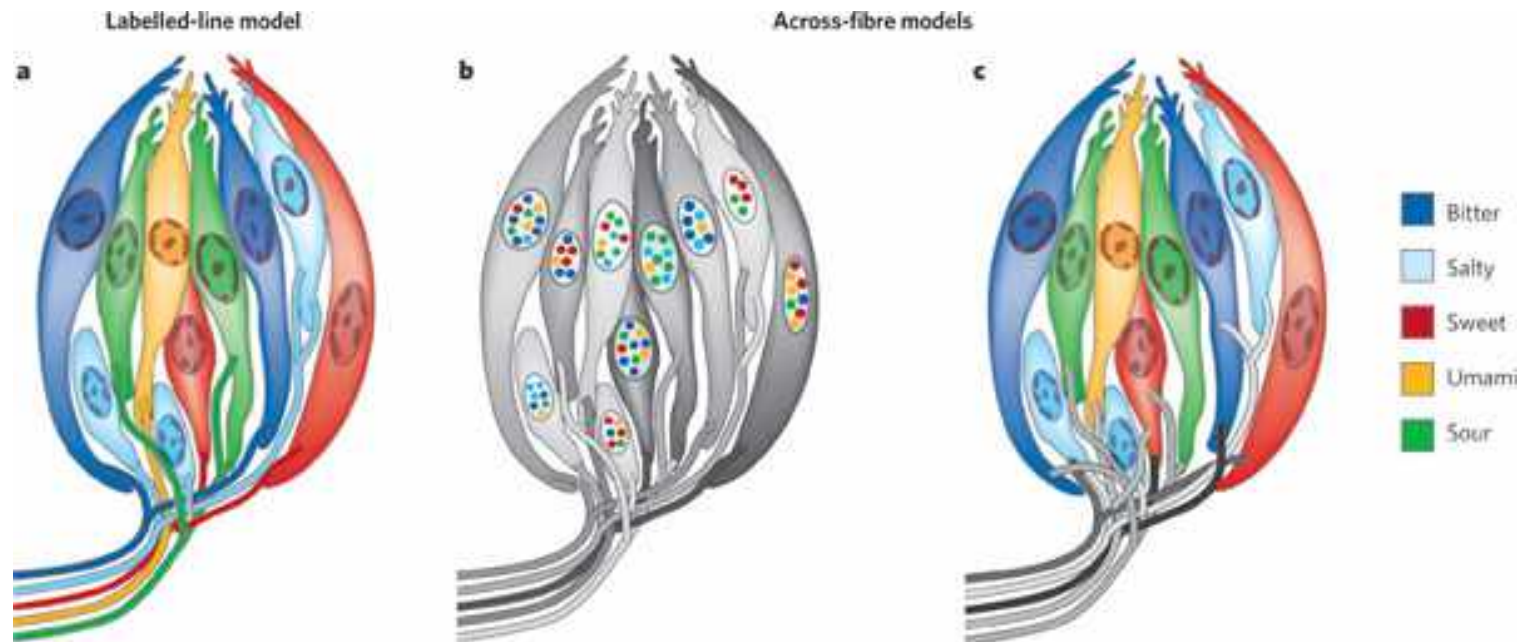
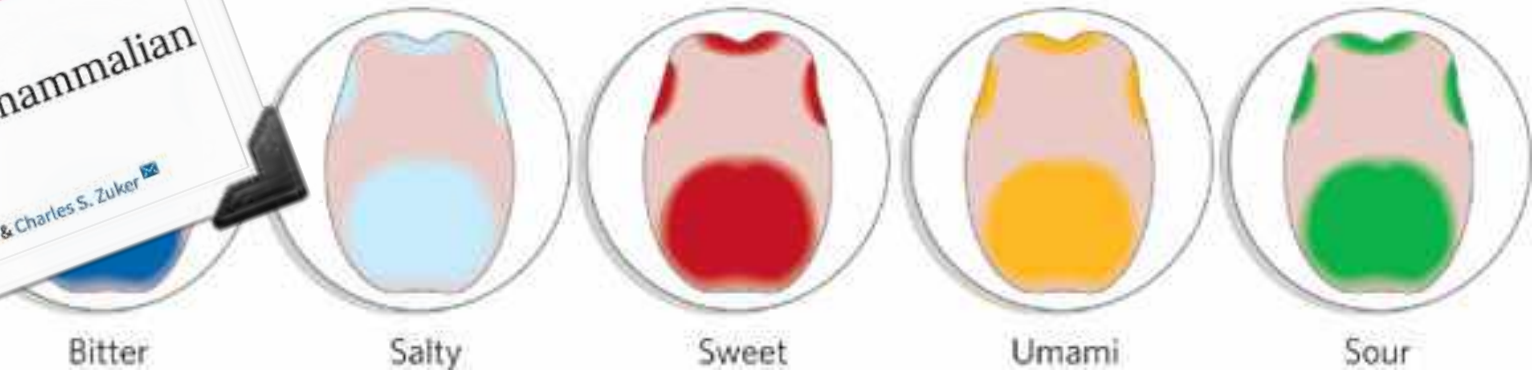
- Japanese word - “deliciousness”
- pleasant savoury taste
- by itself it is not palatable
- feeling of satiety, less craving

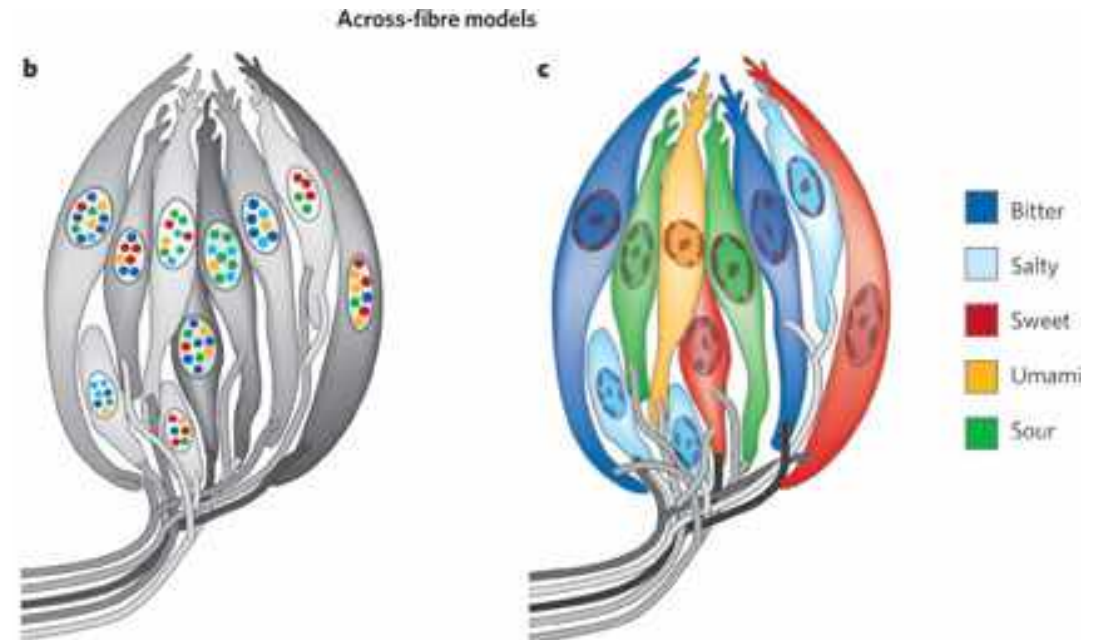


Tongue

- bumps on tongue - *papillae* (3 kinds)
- taste buds located in *papillae* - contain receptor cell
- each taste bud has taste receptor cells for molecules of all 5 taste qualities





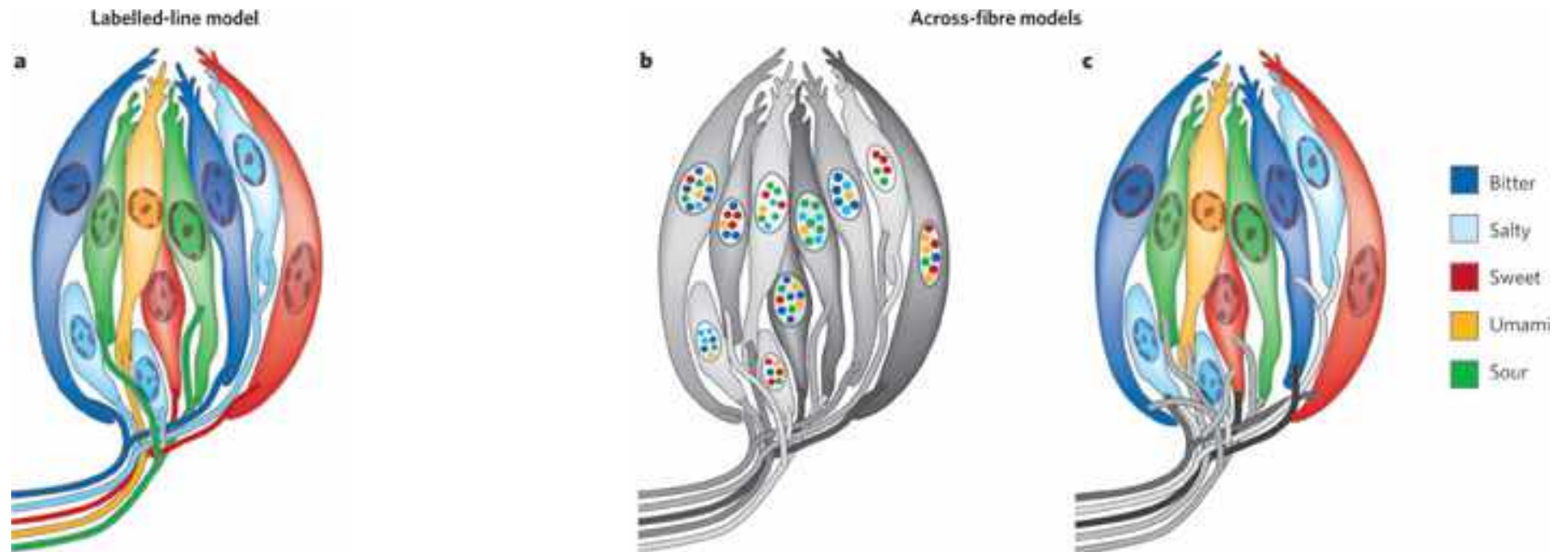


Labeled-line

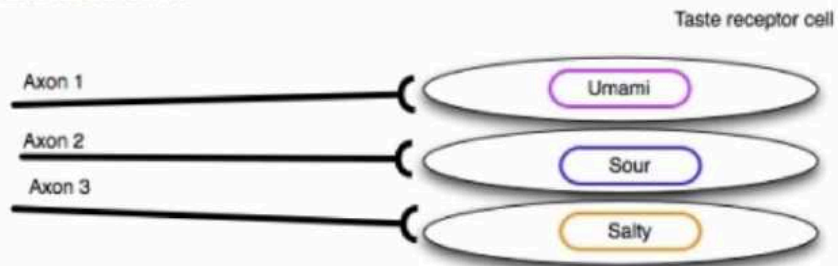
- receptor cells are tuned to respond to single taste modalities — sweet, bitter, sour, salty or umami - **dedicated line**
- each taste quality is specified by the activity of non-overlapping cells and fibres

Across-fibre

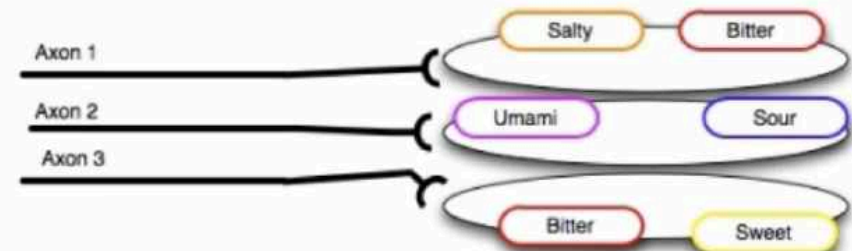
- individual taste receptor cells (TRCs) are tuned to multiple taste qualities; consequently the same afferent fibre carries information for more than one taste modality
- the specification of any one taste quality is embedded in a complex pattern of activity across various lines



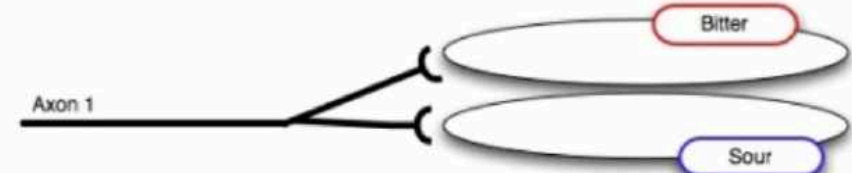
Labeled Line



Across Fiber Model 1



Across Fiber Model 2

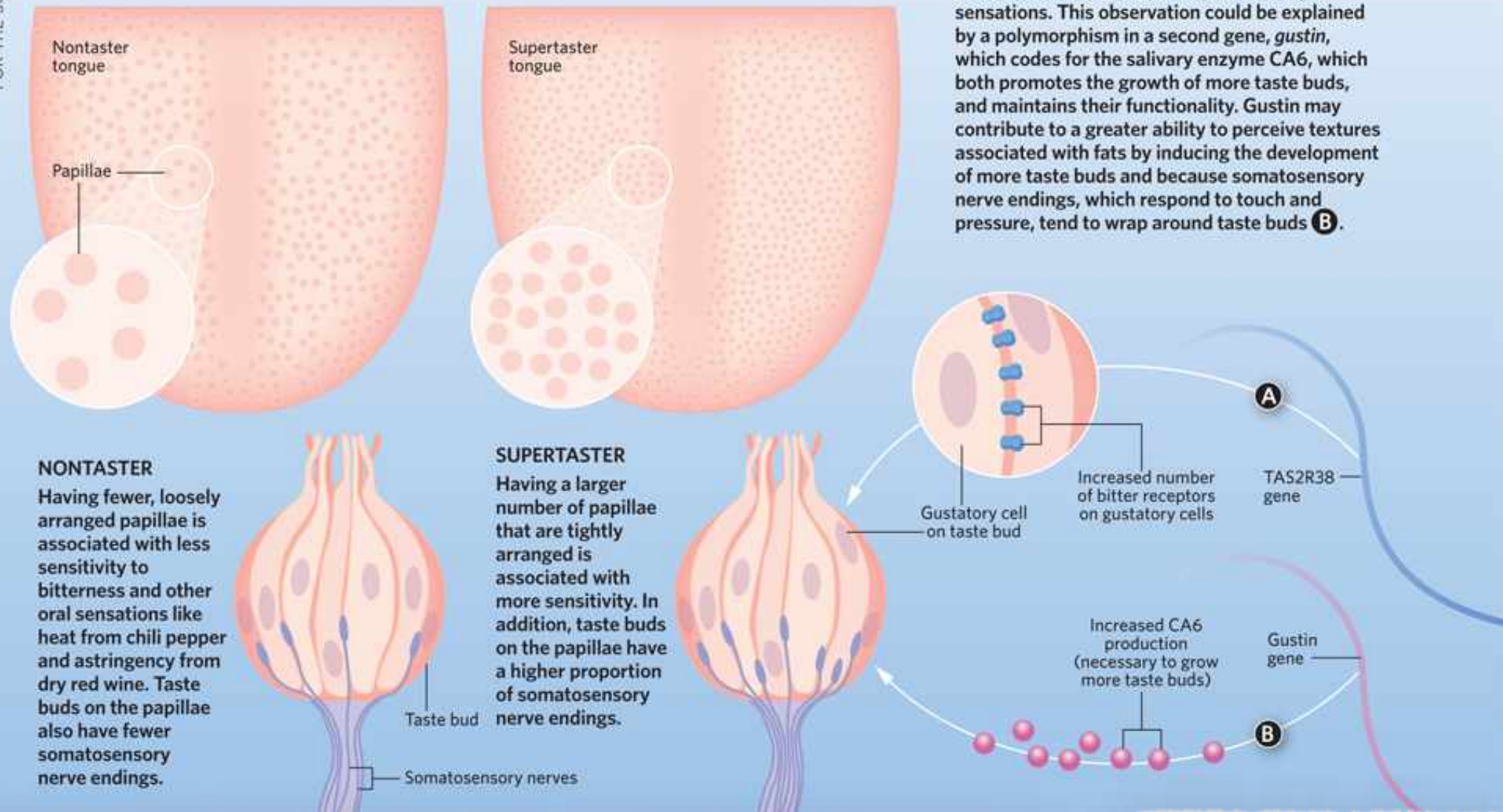


SUPERTASTER ANATOMY

The first inkling of a genetic basis for perceiving fat came from research on a different sensation: bitterness. One anecdotal report from the 1960s suggested that people who were more sensitive to the bitter taste of the thiourea PTC had leaner bodies than those who were less sensitive. This sensitivity correlated with other anatomical changes in the mouth that could allow for detection of fat by way of its texture.

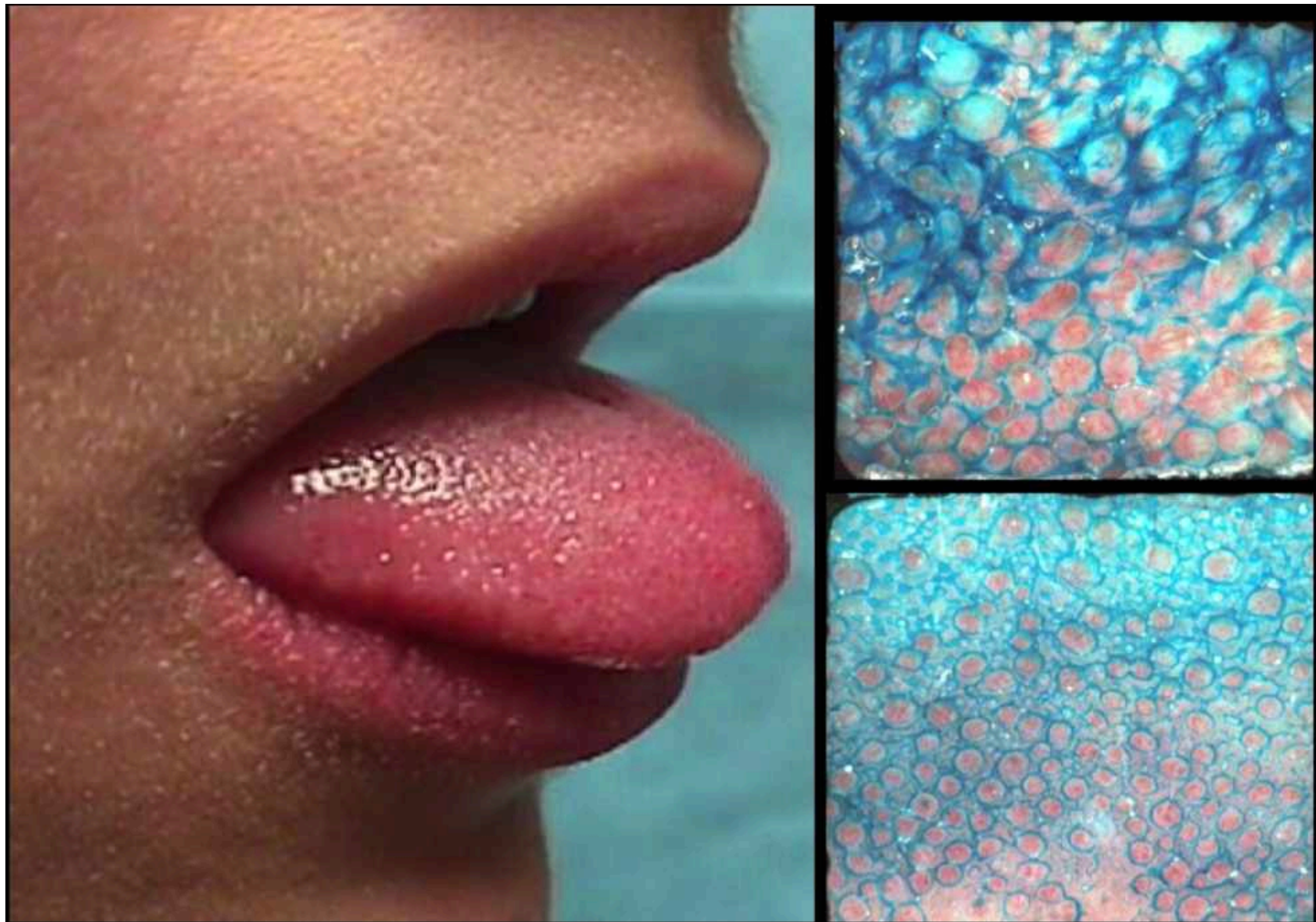
GENES THAT MAKE A SUPERTASTER

Supertasters, or individuals who are very sensitive to the bitter taste of the thioureas PTC and PROP, have a polymorphism in *TAS2R38*, a gene that codes for a receptor for these bitter tasting compounds **A**. However, supertasters appear to be more sensitive to a wide range of oral sensations. This observation could be explained by a polymorphism in a second gene, *gustin*, which codes for the salivary enzyme CA6, which both promotes the growth of more taste buds, and maintains their functionality. Gustin may contribute to a greater ability to perceive textures associated with fats by inducing the development of more taste buds and because somatosensory nerve endings, which respond to touch and pressure, tend to wrap around taste buds **B**.



supertaster = typically more sensitivity to **bitter** taste

Tepper, "Nutritional implications of genetic taste variation: the role of PROP sensitivity and other taste phenotypes,"
Annu Rev Nutr, 28:367-88, 2008



the supertaster paradox

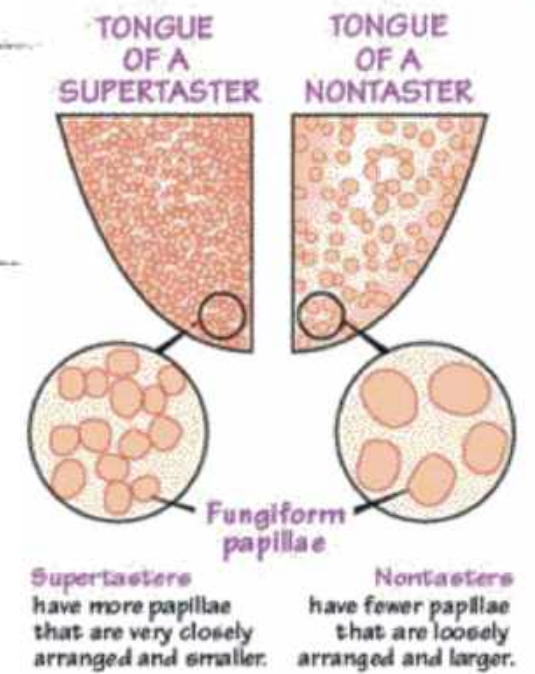


Image source: PBS

DO THEY MAKE GOOD FOOD CRITICS?



K.L. Keller et al., "Common variants in the CD36 gene are associated with oral fat perception, reported fat acceptance, and obesity in African-Americans,"
Obesity, 2012



variations of a gene
CD36



ability to detect
fat in the mouth



C.A. Andersen et al. Cortical response to fat taste. Chemical Senses. Vol. 45, published online March 14, 2020. doi: 10.1093/chemse/bjaa019.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7vnspDNx7g>

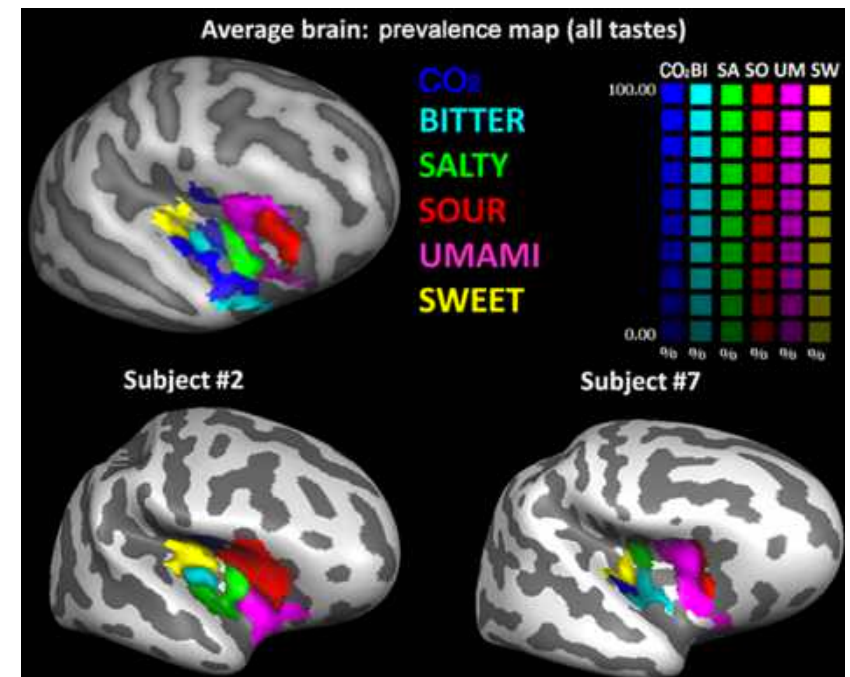


- sixth taste compound???





Gustatory cortex

- chemotopic organisation of taste compounds
- sixth taste compound???



Cortical representation of different taste modalities on the gustatory cortex: A pilot study

Anna Prinster   , Elena Cantone  , Viviana Verlezza, Mario Magliulo, Giovanni Sarnelli, Maurizio Iengo, Rosario Cuomo, Francesco Di Salle, Fabrizio Esposito

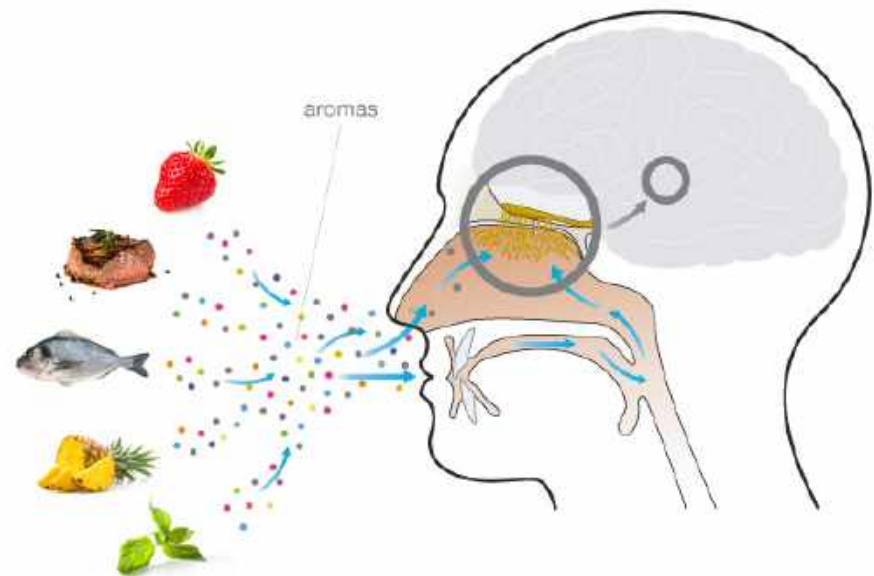
Published: December 27, 2017 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0190164>

Food Pairing

- scientific method to identify which ingredients/ foods &/or drinks go well together
- 80% of taste is aroma perceived through the nose (orthonasal) and through the mouth (retronasal)



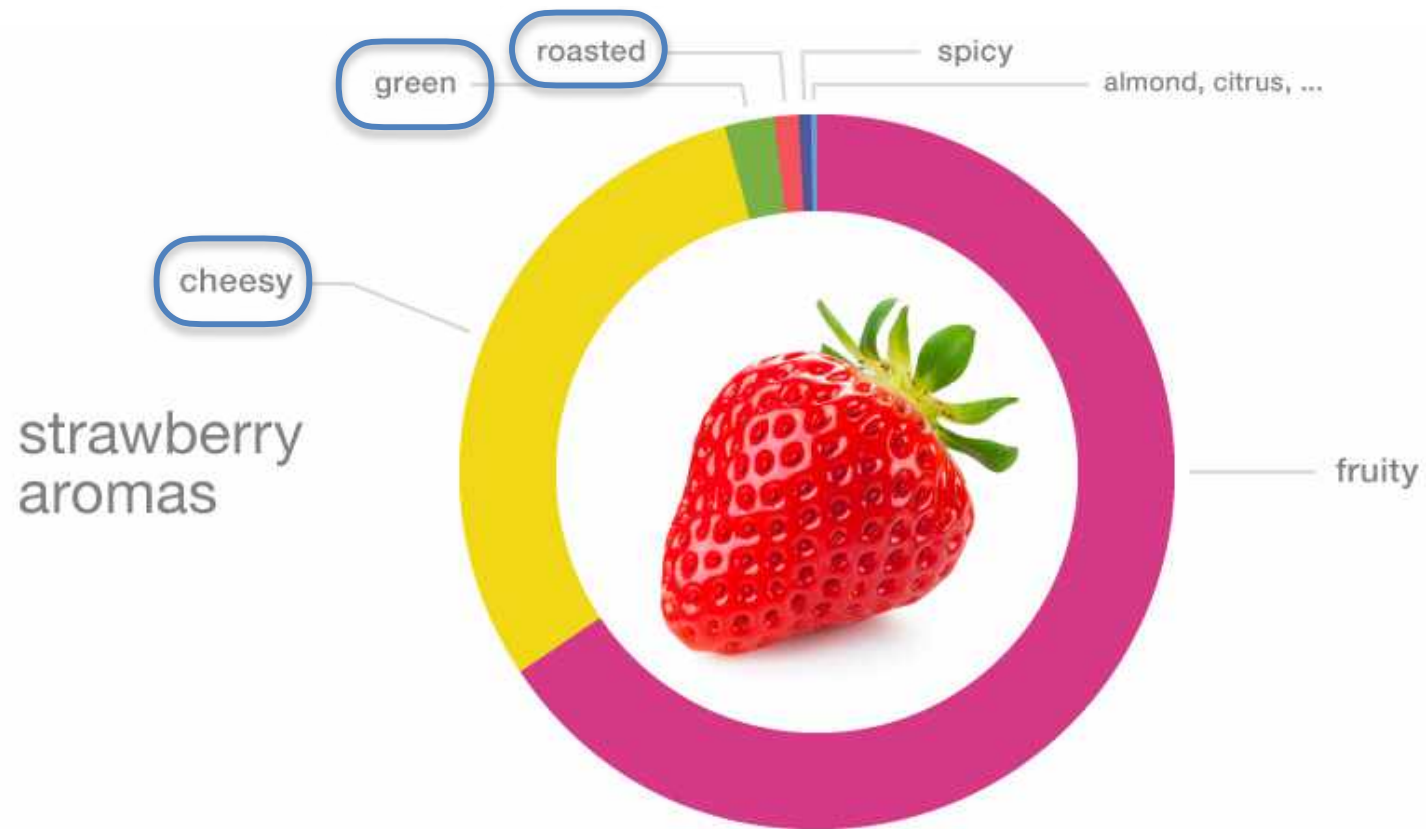
smell



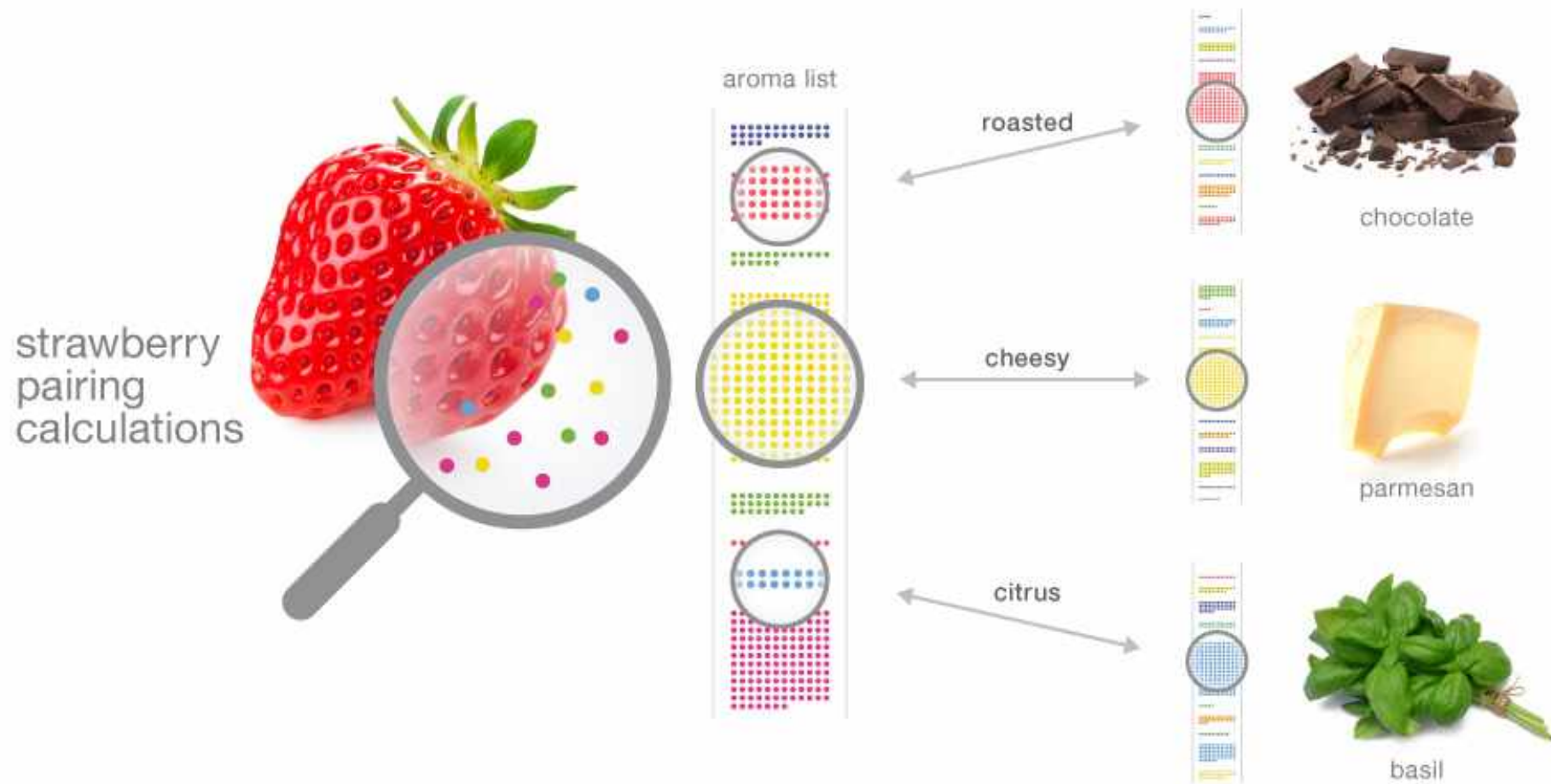
Food Pairing

- based on flavour compounds/molecules present in them
- aroma profile via gas chromatography coupled mass spectrometry (GC-MS)
- data analysis and machine learning to create algorithms calculating how well foods & drinks match
- **Computational Gastronomy**

Food Pairing



Food Pairing



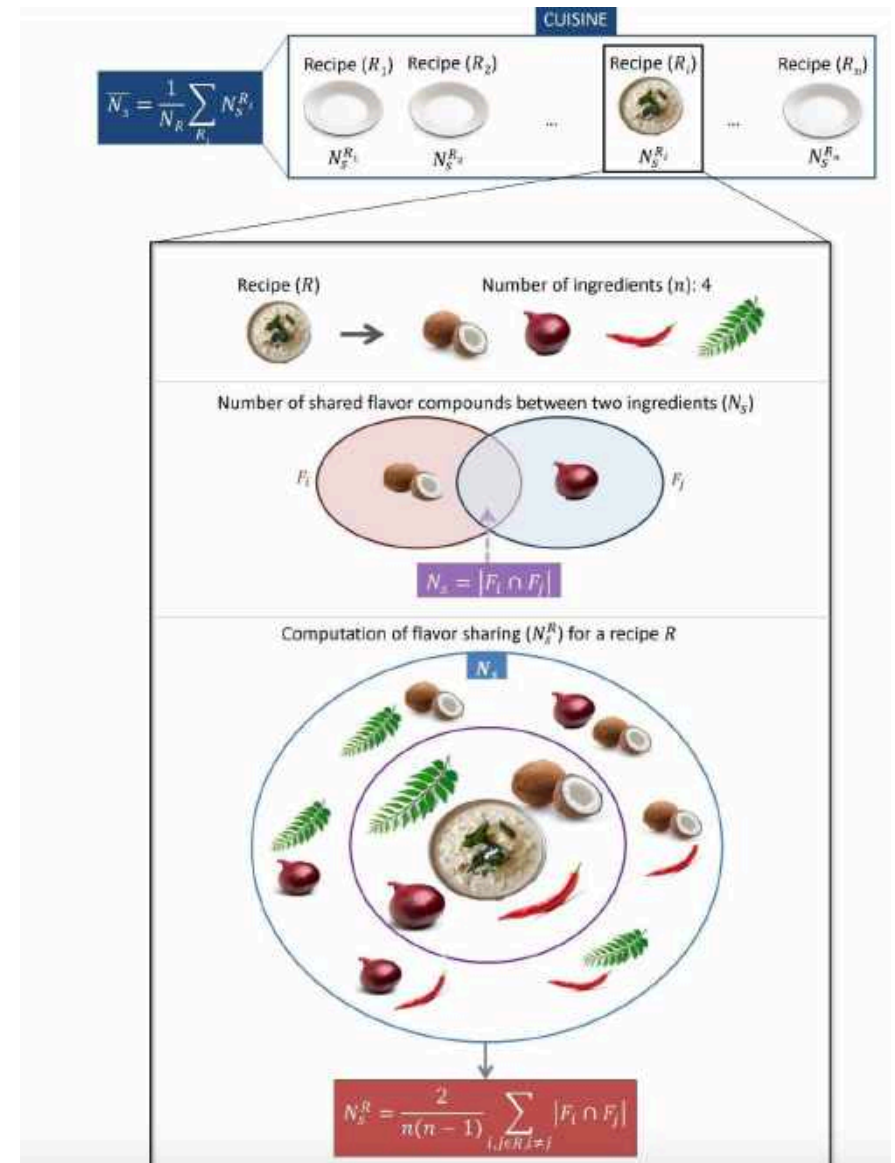
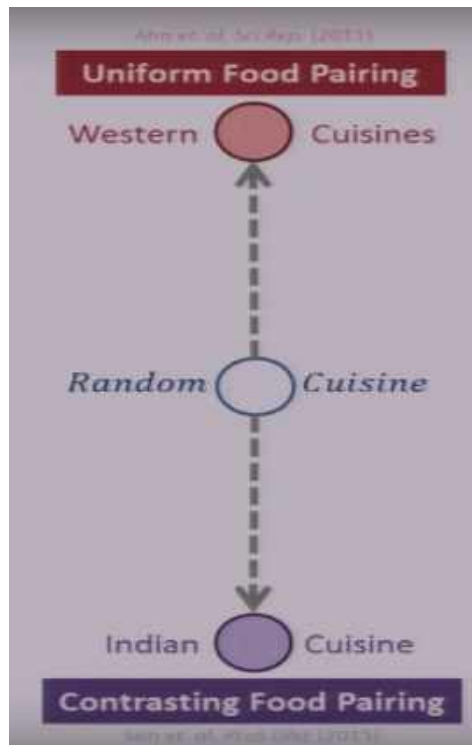
Food Pairing

- traditional and surprising pairings!



Computational Gastronomy in India

- Ganesh Bagler - IIIT-D

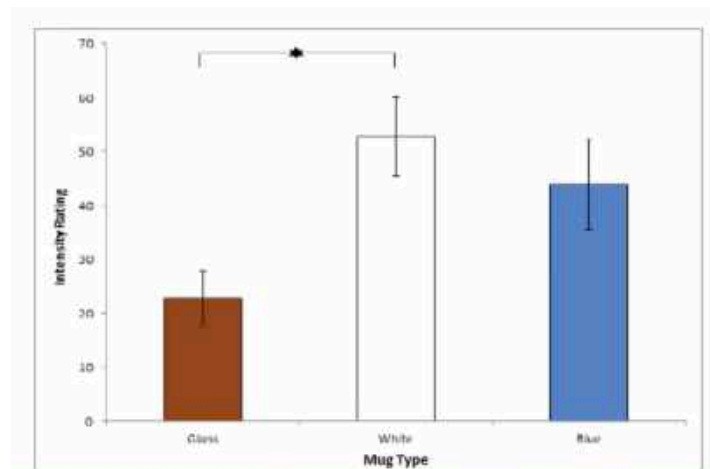


Gastrophysics = Gastronomy + Psychophysics



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVKabsudi1I>

Mug Type vs Intensity

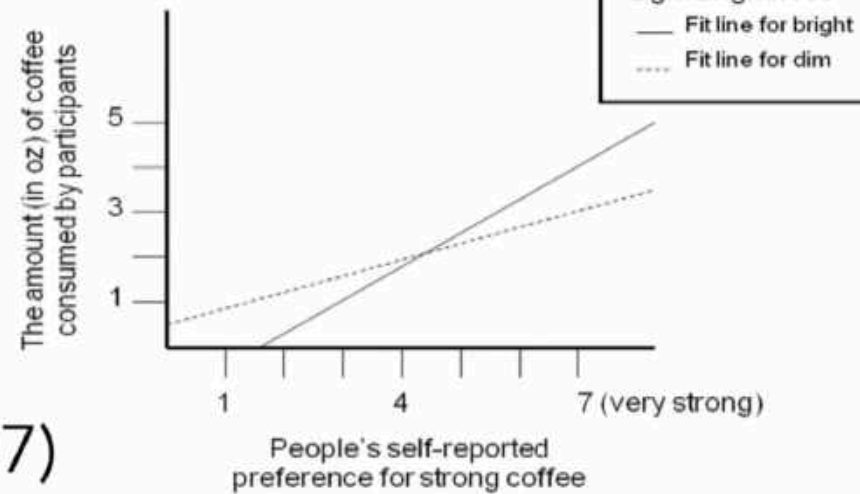


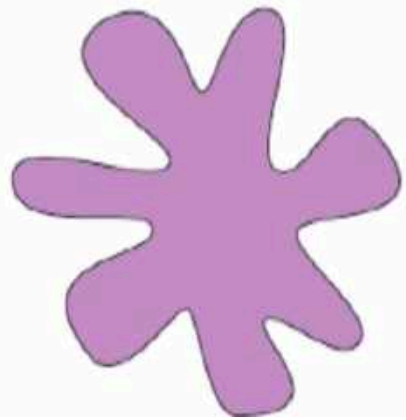
Van Doorn, Wuillemin, & Spence
(2014)

Background lighting?



Gal et al. (2007)





*Place a mark on line that
←————→
matches the coffee*





weight and material

Try this at home



<https://www.thecut.com/2016/01/drink-your-coffee-and-listen-to-these-two-clips.html>

End of Sensory Systems

