

- Magnocellular pathway – involved in motion processing, good temporal resolution
- Input received from diffuse bipolar cells (rods)
- Centre-surround receptive fields (region on retina where stimuli influences a neuron's firing rate)
 - Sensitive to differences in light intensity
 - On and off centre ganglion cells – receive input from on and off-centre bipolar cells
 - **On-centre**: increases firing when light falls on centre of receptive field, inhibited by light that falls in surround
 - **Off-centre**: inhibited when light falls on centre, excited when light falls in surround
 - Help emphasise object boundaries (edges) and code light & dark
 - Each cell responds best to spots of a particular size – act as filter
 - Unaffected by intensity in light – most sensitive to differences in the intensity of light

Lecture 2 – Spots to stripes, early visual processing (Ch. 3)

- LGN – 6 layers
 - Magnocellular
 - M ganglion cells (rods)
 - Responds best to large, fast moving cells
 - Bottom 2 layers
 - Parvocellular
 - P ganglion cells (cones)
 - Slower to respond
 - Top 4 layers
 - Koniocellular
 - In between
- Striate cortex organisation
 - Orientation tuning
 - Neurons respond most to bars of a certain orientation
 - Cells give graded response
 - Firing rate high for vertical oriented bar presented in middle
 - Every neuron has a preferred orientation
 - Spatial frequency
 - Cycles of grating
 - Number of times a pattern repeats
 - Visual angles
 - Some neurons like fine info, some like coarse info
 - Sensitivity changes – low lighting (scotopic) rods are most active –

high spatial frequency, coarse detail vs. photopic conditions cones
are more active – low spatial frequency, fine detail

- Low spatial frequency = processed faster