

The case for ‘relevance’ in sensorimotor physiology

Ragnar Granit

R. Granit is Professor in The Nobel Institute of Neurophysiology, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm 60, Sweden

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Abstract

That the nervous system does not appear to process certain information does not necessarily mean that it is incapable of doing so. If the information is made ‘relevant’ to the organism, then the ‘silent’ processing systems can become activated. For example, the ‘colour-blind’ cat can be trained to respond to different colours provided the reward is suitably appetizing. On the contrary, ‘relevance’ may often be the best explanation for placing in perspective otherwise-inexplicable physiological phenomena.
