

Blocking of a single whisker has no significant effect on the movement of a neighboring whisker. In this experiment (Szwed M., Bagdasarian K., Ahissar, E, unpublished), an anesthetized rat was artificially whisking (as a result of facial nerve stimulation; see Szwed et al., 2003). Blocking whisker C1 by inserting a pole close to the whisker base (black), did not affect the movement of C2 (solid red; compare to C2 whisking when C1 is not blocked, in dashed red).