### **Stimulating Neurons**

- electrical stimulation with an electrode to bring neuron above AP threshold
- · depolarize neuron by changing extracellular K+ concentration
- apply neurotransmitters/drugs that cause ligand-gated channels to open (eg glutamate)
- transcranial magnetic stimulation to induce current in neurons (noninvasive because magnetic field penetrates skull, body)
- · optogenetics: insert transgenes for channels that are light-gated





Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) over motor cortex and TMS paradigms assessing various inhibitory and excitatory neuronal populations. (A) TMS generates a fast, time-varying magnetic field, which penetrates the skull, inducing an electric field in underlying tissue, and depolarizes cortical neurons. At high enough intensities, stimulation of motor cortical regions results in motorevoked potentials (MEPs) in peripheral muscles controlled by these areas, which can be measured using electromycoraraby:





## **Optogenetics**

#### Channelrhodopsins

Rhodopsins from microalgae and eubacteria that mediate phototaxis for photosynthesis light -> increased Na+ influx light -> incresed Cl- influx

**Photoactivated Cyclases** light -> increased cAMP

LITE light -> increased transcription



## Channelrhodopsins



Major classes of single-component optogenetic tools include cation-permeable channels for membrane depolarization (such as channelrhodopsins (ChRs)), chloride pumps (for example, halorhodopsin (NpHR)) and proton pumps (such as bacteriorhodopsin or proteorhodopsin (BR/PR)) for membrane hyperpolarization.

Tye Nature Reviews Neuroscience 13 (2012) 251



# Fiber optics

to activate channelrhodopsins in vivo





#### Videos

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kj2MqEMpj4U hypothalamic electrical stimulation of cats
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I64X7vHSHOE method of the year
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88TVQZUfYGw locomotion
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIGbznBmx8M predatory swtich
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_z51OGBaWko drinking switch