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基礎研究と臨床研究の融合による、神経疾患によってひきおこされる疼痛に対する

新しい治療法の開発に関する研究

平成20年度 総合研究報告書

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（総合）研究報告書

基礎研究と臨床研究の融合による、神経疾患によってひきおこされる疼痛に対する  
新しい治療法の開発に関する研究

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研究要旨：基礎研究によって得られたヒトの脳内痛覚認知機構の詳細な知見に基づいて、定位脳手術、脳深部刺激療法による臨床応用をおこない、神経・筋疾患に併発する治療困難な疼痛に対する新たな治療法の開発をおこなっていく。これまでは経験的に行われてきた視床痛などの治療を、非侵襲的脳機能解析法と神経生理学的知見に基づいた、いわばEvidence-Based Medicineによって行う画期的な試みである。

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A. 研究目的

神経・筋疾患による疼痛は、視床痛、幻肢痛を初めとする極めて難治性かつ発症のメカニズムが明らかでは無いものが多い。10年以上前には、ヒトにおける痛覚認知の脳内情報処理機構に関してはほとんど何もわかっておらず、治療も従来からの経験に基づくものが中心であった。しかし、この5年程の間に脳波、脳磁図とfMRIなどの各種非侵襲的脳機能計測法の技術革新に伴い、痛覚認知の脳内情報処理機構がかなり明らかになってきた（研究代表者が主として担当）。また臨床面では、さまざまな外科的手法による除痛効果が報告されてきた。特に定位脳手術の手技を用いた脳深部刺激療法の著明な効果と運動皮質刺激療法が近年の大きな話題となっている（研究分担者が主として担当）。種々の非侵襲的計測法を用いてヒトの脳内痛覚認知機構を明らかにすること、及び、基礎的研究によって得られた知見を元にして除痛治療を行う事、すなわち神経・筋疾患による疼痛治療におけ

るEvidence-Based Medicineの施行が主要研究目的である。すなわち、ようやく「科学的に」疼痛のメカニズムと除痛効果についての総合的な研究が可能となってきたと考えている。

疼痛治療のためには、痛覚刺激に対する脳内情報処理過程の解明が必須であり最も基本的な事項である。逆に、基礎的結果に基づく疼痛治療の臨床応用の結果により、さらに基礎的研究を新たに展開できる。本研究によって得られた成果は、今後、神経・筋疾患による疼痛の治療のみならず、がん痛などによる全身疾患の疼痛治療にも応用が可能であり、国民の医療に対する貢献は極めて大きいと考えられる。

B. 研究方法

1. 研究目標

神経・筋疾患によってひきおこされる難治性疼痛の新しい（画期的な）治療法の開発を最終的な研究目標とする。

2. 研究仮説、およびその解明方法

神経・筋疾患によってひきおこされる難治性疼痛は、その発症メカニズムと責任部位が明らかにされていないため、治療が困難である。そのためには、先ず、健康人における脳内の痛覚認知機構を最新の非侵襲的脳機能計測法を用いて詳細に明らかにする。その結果に基づき、痛覚認知に重要な役割を果たして



いる部位を脳外科的に刺激、凝固あるいは摘出することにより、除痛治療を行う。また、極めて特殊な痛みを訴える患者さんに対しては、各患者さん各々に非侵襲的脳機能計測を行い、その結果に基づいて治療を行っていく。

### 3. 研究計画の要約 (研究責任者)

基礎的研究 (生理学研究所) では、脳波、脳磁図、fMRI、TMSを併用してA $\delta$ 線維とC線維を上行する信号の脳内情報処理過程を詳細に検索していく。現在までの研究で、痛覚認知の初期過程には、先ず刺激対側の第1次感覚野 (SI)、第2次感覚野 (SII) と島が平行して活動し、その後おそらく脳梁を經由して刺激同側のSII、島、帯状回、扁桃体が活動する事が明らかになってきた。したがって是非とも行なわなければならない事は、上記の部位の時間的、空間的な活動の詳細な分析である。

また、痛覚認知は情動と深い関連がある。情動に関係深い辺縁系、特に帯状回と島の役割を明らかにする必要がある。

### 4. 研究分担者の協力体制

臨床研究 (日本大学医学部、大阪大学医学部) では、視床痛、幻肢痛といった慢性疼痛を呈する患者に対して脊髄刺激、脳深部刺激、大脳皮質運動領刺激などの様々な除痛方法を加え、その効果を検討することにより、病態機序の解明を行っていく。視床痛は難治例が多いが、大脳皮質運動領刺激に有効例が多い。幻肢痛などの末梢性求心路遮断痛に対しては、定位脳手術の手技を用いた脳深部刺激療法 (視床知覚中継核刺激) が特に有効である。また、刺激の継続によって疼痛自体が消失する症例も存在することから、視床ならびに大脳皮質での神経機構の再構成についても検討を行う。さらに、研究代表者 (柿木) のグループが痛覚認知に関して重要な部位であることを確認している第2次感覚野、島と帯状回の刺激療法についても具体的に見当を開始している。

#### (倫理面への配慮)

健常被験者を対象とする実験の場合にも患者さんを対象とする治療時にも、実験あるいは治療の意義と内容を良く説明してインフォ

ームドコンセントを取ったあとに実施している。生理学研究所、日本大学医学部および大阪大学医学部で定めた倫理規定を遵守し、倫理委員会の承認を受けている。

### C. 研究結果、D. 考察

研究代表者は本年度は4編の英文原著論文を発表した (印刷中を含む)。主要な2論文について内容を紹介する。

動脈の圧受容器が痛覚認知に影響するか否かを痛覚関連誘発脳波を用いて解析した。収縮期には脳波の振幅は拡張期よりも有意に低下している事がわかり、動脈の圧受容器が痛覚認知に影響を及ぼすことが立証された。これは英国バーミンガム大学との共同研究である (Edwards et al., Pain, 2008)。

痛覚認知における posterior parietal cortex (PPC) の役割について、第1次体性感覚野と第2次体性感覚野の活動との関連を含めて詳細に解析した。PPCの活動はおそらく第1次体性感覚野の活動に引き続いて現れ、PPCの中でも inferior parietal lobule (BA 40) が痛覚認知に重要であることを発見した。本論文は日本大学、大阪大学との共同研究によってなされた (Nakata et al., Neuroimage, 2008)。

研究分担者 (日本大学) は、本年は、low-dose ketamine 点滴療法と Dual-lead spinal cord stimulation (Dual-lead SCS) の併用療法が神経障害性疼痛に有効であることを明らかにした。

ドラッグチャレンジテストで ketamine-sensitive な症例に対して、100ml の生食に 20mg のケタラール® (0.33mg/Kg) を加え、約1時間かけて点滴する low-dose ketamine 点滴療法を開発した。この方法では、2週間ごとに外来で low-dose ketamine の点滴を施行し、塩酸マプロチニン (Ludimil®) 30mg/day、プロマゼパム (Lexotan®) 6mg/day、ガバペンチン (GABAPEN®) 600~1200 mg/day を併用する。また、新しく使用可能となったメドトロニック社製のシナジー脊髄刺激装置では、2本の電極の合計8箇所刺激点を自由に選択可能であり、陽極と陰極を選択すれば2本の電極間での刺激も可能となり、これまでと違った脊髄刺激を行うこ



とができる。

ケタミン点滴後に明らかに疼痛が抑制される持続時間は1時間から6時間以内が最も多く、24時間以内が77%であったが、24時間以上持続するものも23%存在した。長期投与によるケタミン耐性の有無についての検討では、モルヒネのような耐性は認めなかった。ケタミンの点滴によって情動面の変化を呈する症例が存在したが、投与量ならびに投与時間の調整によってコントロールが可能であった。Low-dose ketamine点滴療法では、効果の持続時間が短い症例でも一度疼痛を軽減することが疼痛の管理には重要であり、これによって精神的な安定を得られるという症例が多い。また、central sensitizationの解除にも有効であると考えられている。併用薬として、本邦でも使用可能となったガバペンチンには、神経終末からの興奮性アミノ酸の遊離を抑制する作用が報告されており、ケタミンとの相乗効果も期待される。

これまで疼痛に対する脊髄刺激療法の有効例はfailed-back painやCRPSに限られることが多かったが、ketamine-sensitiveなpost-stroke pain症例に対しては、Dual-lead SCSとlow-dose ketamine点滴療法の併用療法が有効であることを明らかにすることができた。

大阪大学(研究分担者)では、脊髄硬膜外刺激が無効であった中枢性疼痛患者の中心溝内に電極を埋め込み、より直接的な一次運動野刺激を試みたところ、中心溝内からの刺激の有効性が、中心前回脳表の刺激と比較すると相対的に優れていることを明らかにした(Hosomi, Saitoh et al: Clin Neurophysiol 2008)。中心溝を術中に展開して、電極を留置することで一時的に中枢性疼痛が顕著に軽減することを明らかにした。また中心溝内で捕らえられる脳表脳波に運動麻痺の上肢の運動関連電位がもっとも顕著に捕らえられることも分かってきた(Yanagisawa, Saitoh et al: Pain Res 2008)。この事象を応用してBrain Machine Interfaceの研究にも取り組んでいる(Yanagisawa et al: NeuroImage, in press)。これらの研究は代表者との共同研究である。最近、MRIのDiffusion tensor image技術が進歩してきたので、これを応用

し、脳卒中後疼痛の患者において、運動線維、感覚線維の描出率と疼痛との関連を、主任研究者とともに研究し、両者の描出率がよい患者で、経頭蓋磁気刺激療法による一次運動野刺激の効果が優れていることをつきとめ、より感覚線維の描出率と相関することを報告した(Goto, Saitoh et al: Pain 2008)。2年間で5例の患者に大脳一次運動野刺激療法を施行した。

臨床研究としておこなっている経頭蓋磁気刺激療法はすでに、のべ100例近くになっている。それらの患者において、臨床データを詳細に検討したところ、クロスオーバー試験を行った患者では、シャム刺激に比して有意な除痛効果を認め、若年者、脳に原因を有さない難治性疼痛患者において、有効性が高い結果を得ている(臨床神経生理学学会2008, 神戸)。

## E. 結論

痛覚認知に関与する脳部位が次第に明らかになりつつある。また、これまで経験的に行われてきた外科的除痛療法の作用機序を、基礎的知見に基づいて解釈できるようになってきた。同様に、大脳に情報を送りあるいは情報が送られてくる脊髄の機能も明らかになってきた。

今後は、末梢神経、脊髄、脳幹、大脳を総合的に解析してくる必要があることがあらためて認識された。

## F. 健康危険情報

特記すべき事はない。

## G. 研究発表

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- H. 知的財産権の出願・登録状況  
(予定を含む。)
1. 特許取得  
特に無い
  2. 実用新案登録  
特に無い
  3. その他  
特に無い

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## 研究成果の刊行に関する一覧表

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## Centrifugal modulation of human LEP components to a task-relevant noxious stimulation triggering voluntary movement

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### ABSTRACT

In the present study, we investigate the top-down centrifugal modulation of neural responses to a task-relevant noxious stimulation triggering voluntary movement by recording magnetoencephalography (MEG) and electroencephalography (EEG) simultaneously. An auditory warning signal was followed 2–3 s later by a noxious YAG laser stimulation as an imperative signal delivered to the left hand dorsum. Ten normal subjects performed three different conditions, Control, Movement, and Count. In Control, the subjects were asked to relax and rest quietly with no task. In Movement, the subjects extended the left index finger after imperative stimuli. In Count, the subjects counted the number of imperative stimuli silently. The amplitude of the N2 component recorded by EEG, which peaked about 220 ms after noxious stimulation, was significantly attenuated in Movement, but not in Count, compared to Control. The root-mean-square (RMS) from both hemispheres, and areal mean signal (AMS) amplitudes and the equivalent current dipole (ECD) strengths from SI/PPC and bilateral SII recorded at around 170 ms by MEG were not significantly different among the three conditions. In contrast, ECD strengths and AMS amplitudes from the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC), which showed a similar peak to the N2 component, were smaller in Movement than Control and Count. We therefore suspect that neural activities related to generator mechanisms of N2, especially including ACC, are inhibited by movement-related neural activities during the preparatory period. The present findings indicate a characteristic of pain-motor integration in a movement preparatory period.

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### Introduction

Many studies have investigated somatosensory-motor integration by recording somatosensory evoked potentials (SEPs) during voluntary movement. Characteristically, the amplitudes of short-latency components are attenuated, while those of long-latency are enhanced (Giblin, 1964; Kakigi, 1986; Hoshiyama and Sheean, 1998; Rossini et al., 1999; Valeriani et al., 2001; Nakata et al., 2003), and this phenomenon is termed 'gating'. The modulation of neural responses during movement is mainly the result of two major mechanisms (Jones et al., 1989; Wasaka et al., 2005a; Kida et al., 2006a). The first mechanism is centrifugal, whereby signals from neurons involved in producing movement modulate ascending somatosensory signals at cortical or subcortical levels. The second mechanism is centripetal, whereby ascending somatosensory signals generated by voluntary movement modulate ascending signals

eliciting the SEPs. In addition, since such modulation also has been found in the preparatory period of voluntary movement (Starr and Cohen, 1985; Staines et al., 1997; Shimazu et al., 1999; Murase et al., 2000; Asanuma et al., 2003; Kida et al., 2004, 2006a,b; Wasaka et al., 2005a,b, 2006), the centrifugal mechanism is closely related to the gating effects (Nakata et al., 2003).

This gating effect has been also researched by recording somatosensory evoked magnetic fields (SEFs) using magnetoencephalography (MEG), and similar results were found regarding the cortical responses. That is, the early responses generated from primary somatosensory cortex (SI) were attenuated during voluntary movement, whereas the late responses in the secondary somatosensory cortex (SII) were strengthened (Rossini et al., 1989; Kakigi et al., 1995a, 1997; Huttunen et al., 1996; Forss and Jousmäki, 1998; Lin et al., 2000). Such modulation also occurred before voluntary movement (Wasaka et al., 2003, 2005c; Kida et al., 2006c).

Studies using SEPs and SEFs have focused on the somatosensory-motor integration following the tactile stimulation of ascending A $\beta$  fibers during voluntary movement. However, there are some studies investigating the pain-motor integration following the noxious

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stimulation of ascending A $\delta$  fibers. Kakigi and colleagues reported that the amplitudes of laser-evoked potentials (LEPs) elicited by noxious CO<sub>2</sub> laser stimulation were attenuated during voluntary movement at vertex electrodes, indicating the opposite results to the modulation of late-components of SEPs (Kakigi and Shibasaki, 1992; Kakigi et al., 1993). In addition, our previous study using laser-evoked magnetic fields (LEFs) showed that voluntary movement attenuated neural activities of S1 and S2 evoked by noxious stimulation (Nakata et al., 2004), which was also the opposite to the above-mentioned studies. These results indicate that the characteristic of pain-motor integration ascending A $\delta$  fibers is different from that of somatosensory-motor integration ascending A $\beta$  fibers. However, the mechanisms for pain-motor integration are still unknown because of the small number of studies, compared to those on somatosensory-motor integration. In a recent study, Le Pera et al. in Italy reported that the amplitudes of LEPs elicited by CO<sub>2</sub> laser stimulation at vertex electrodes were attenuated in the time interval between a visual warning stimulus followed after 1 s by an imperative stimulus (S1–S2 paradigms) (Le Pera et al., 2007). In their experiment, the attenuation was found even if the subjects counted the number of imperative stimuli in the paradigm instead of motor tasks, and a noxious stimulus to evoke the LEPs was irrelevant to the subject's movement task. Thus, their data might include not only movement-related activity but also effects of cognition and attention, on the attenuation of LEPs.

In the current study, to clarify the centrifugal mechanisms of pain-motor integration before voluntary movement, we recorded the MEG and EEG responses simultaneously to noxious stimulation used as a task-relevant imperative signal to trigger voluntary movement in a forewarned reaction time paradigm. Several studies have attempted to clarify the centrifugal modulation of task-relevant tactile inputs, utilizing a forewarned reaction time paradigm where the tactile stimulation used to elicit the SEPs/SEFs was also used as an imperative signal (Shimazu et al., 1999; Murase et al., 2000; Asanuma et al., 2003; Kida et al., 2004, 2006a,b,c). The application of this paradigm allows one to examine how neural activities just before the task-relevant signal modulate neural responses to that signal. We hypothesized that the neural responses on LEPs and/or LEFs are modulated when noxious stimulation triggers a voluntary movement in a forewarned reaction time paradigm.

## Materials and methods

### Participants

Ten normal right-handed males (mean age 31.7 years, range 25–44 years) participated in this study. The subjects did not have a history of any neurological or psychiatric disorders. Informed consent was obtained from all participants. The study was approved by the Ethical Committee of the National Institute for Physiological Sciences, Okazaki, Japan.

### Experimental paradigm

The subjects performed a warning stimulus (S1)–imperative stimulus (S2) paradigm. A pair of S1 and S2 stimuli was given to the subjects at an interval of 2–3 s. The S1–S1 interval was 10 s to avoid habituation of evoked pain-related cortical responses (Raj et al., 2003). S1 was an auditory pure tone (60 dB SPL, 50 ms duration), presented through a speaker. For S2, a thulium:YAG laser beam (NeuroLaser, BAASEL Lasertechnik, Germany) was applied to the dorsum of the left hand as noxious stimulation. The wavelength was 2000 nm, pulse duration was 1 ms, and spot diameter was 6 mm. To determine the intensity of painful stimulation, we used a visual analogue scale (VAS), in which 0 represented 'not painful' and 10 represented 'an intensity which subjects could not tolerate'. Subjects were asked to rate the intensity of the perceived pain, and a stimulus intensity of VAS

8 was used in each subject for the recording. In addition, subjects were requested to orally provide one adjective from a list of seven descriptors: 'not perceived', 'light touch', 'touch', 'tingling', 'warm', 'pricking', and 'burning'. All subjects reported 'pricking' for the intensity of VAS 8. This method for assessing quality of perception followed some previous studies (Opsommer et al., 2001; Mouraux and Plaghki, 2007). There were two reasons why we selected an intensity of VAS 8. First, because a strong stimulus would evoke clear and large cortical responses (Timmermann et al., 2001), we wanted to select the strongest intensity for each subject. Second, if the stimulus intensity was more than VAS 8, it was expected that subjects could not tolerate all painful stimuli during recordings. The mean intensity across all subjects was 194 mJ. Since the laser stimulator caused large magnetic artifacts, it was set outside of the shielded room, and the laser beam was conducted through optical fibers, approximately 6.5 m in length, into the shielded room. In order to maintain the distance between the laser outlet and the skin surface, a cable of optical fiber was attached to the MEG device, but the irradiated points were slightly moved by the experimenter for each stimulus to avoid tissue damage and habituation of the receptors (Kakigi et al., 1995b). During the recordings, the subjects were instructed to keep their eyes open and look at a small fixation point positioned in front of them at a distance of approximately 1.5 m. The subjects were wearing earplugs to avoid hearing sounds from the stimulator, and non-magnetic goggles for safety.

The recordings were conducted in three conditions. Condition 1 was the resting control (Control). The subjects were asked to relax and rest quietly with no task. In condition 2 (Movement), the subjects extended the left index finger as quickly as possible, when the S2 noxious stimuli were presented. In condition 3 (Count), the subjects were asked to count the number of S2 stimuli silently. To avoid the effect of habituation, only 5 stimuli were applied in one session. Each session consisted of one of three conditions, and the order of these three conditions was random. Ten sessions were conducted for each condition, and consequently 50 stimuli in total for each condition were applied.

### EEG recordings and analysis

EEGs were recorded with Ag/AgCl disk electrodes placed on the scalp at Fz, Cz, Pz, C3, and C4, according to the International 10–20 System (Jasper, 1958). Each scalp electrode was referenced to linked earlobes. To eliminate eye movements or blinks exceeding 150  $\mu$ V, an electrooculogram (EOG) was recorded bipolarly with a pair of electrodes placed 2 cm lateral to the lateral canthus of the left eye and 2 cm above the upper edge of the left orbit. The impedance was maintained at less than 5 k $\Omega$ . All of the EEG signals were collected in a signal processor (Neurofax EEG1100, Nihon-Kohden, Tokyo, Japan). The analysis epoch for ERPs was 800 ms including a prestimulus baseline period of 100 ms. The bandpass filter was set at 0.1–100 Hz and the sampling rate was 995 Hz. The peak amplitudes and latencies of N2 and P2 were measured at 170–250 ms, 280–380 ms, respectively. The amplitudes were measured baseline-to-peak. In addition, to clarify the difference in amplitude between N2 and P2, we calculated the N2–P2 component with a peak-to-peak measurement. No digital filter was applied off-line, and all ERP analyses were based on unfiltered data.

For the analysis of each component, the data on peak amplitude and latency was submitted to analyses of variance (ANOVAs) with repeated measures using as within-subject factors, Condition (Control, Movement, and Count), and Electrode (Fz, Cz, Pz, C3 and C4). For all repeated measures factors with more than two levels, it was tested whether Mauchly's sphericity assumption was violated. If the result of Mauchly's test was significant and the assumption of sphericity was violated, the Greenhouse–Geisser adjustment was used to correct for the sphericity altering the degrees of freedom using a correction



coefficient epsilon. Normalization to assess topographical differences was not applied (Urbach and Kutas, 2002). When significant effects were identified, the Tukey HSD post hoc multiple-comparison was adjusted to identify the specific differences among conditions. Statistical significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### MEG recordings and analysis

LEFs were recorded with a helmet-shaped 306-channel detector array (Vectorview; ELEKTA Neuromag Oy, Helsinki, Finland), which comprises 102 identical triple sensor elements, in a magnetically shielded room. Each sensor element consists of two orthogonal planar gradiometers and one magnetometer coupled to a multi-SQUID (Superconducting Quantum Interference Device) and thus provides three independent measurements of the magnetic fields. In the present study, we analyzed MEG signals from 204-channel planar-type gradiometers, because the data on magnetometers were usually susceptible to global magnetic noises such as changes in geomagnetic field (Hämäläinen et al., 1993) (these noises can be successfully cancelled out in recording with planar sensors). These planar-type sensors can detect the signals just above local cerebral sources (Nishitani and Hari, 2002; Noguchi and Kakigi, 2005). The signals were recorded with a bandpass of 0.1–200 Hz and digitized at 995 Hz, rejecting noise, blinks, and eye movements from the analysis automatically. The analysis period of 800 ms included a prestimulus baseline of 100 ms. The signals recorded from the 204 gradiometers were used for source localization. Before the recordings, four head position indicator (HPI) coils were attached to specific sites on the subject's head, and then electric current was fed to the HPI coils to determine the exact location of the head with respect to the MEG sensors. The locations of HPI coils with respect to the three anatomical landmarks (nasion and bilateral PA) were also measured using a three-dimensional digitizer to allow alignment of the MEG and magnetic resonance (MR) images obtained with a 3 T MRI system (Allegra scanner, Siemens, Erlangen, Germany). A three-dimensional structural brain image of each subject was obtained using an MP-RAGE sequence with the following parameters: TR=2500 ms, TE=4.38 ms, FA=8°, FOV=230 mm, matrix size=256×256 mm, voxel dimension=0.9×0.9×1.0 mm. The x-axis was fixed with the preauricular points, pointing to the right, the positive y-axis traversing the nasion, and the positive z-axis pointing up. We adopted the head-based coordinate system used in our previous studies (Nakata et al., 2004; Noguchi et al., 2004).

We first calculated vector sums from the longitudinal and latitudinal derivatives of the response recorded on the planar-type gradiometers at each of the 102 sensors' location. This was achieved by squaring MEG signals of gradiometer pairs, summing these signals together, and then recalculating the square root of this sum, following our previous studies (Kida et al., 2006c, 2007; Nakata et al., 2008). The calculation was carried out for all 102 sensors' locations to make an isocountour map of amplitude. Then, we calculated root-mean-square (RMS), in the set of sensors in each hemisphere (96 sensors) to compare the global field power among the three conditions (Hoshiyama et al., 2007). In addition, we analyzed the areal mean signals (AMS) of four gradiometer pairs that showed the largest response to measure amplitude and latency in the regions of interest. Finally, we calculated group averages across subjects. This method of data analysis followed previous studies using the same MEG system as the present study (Tarkiainen et al., 2003; Nakata et al., 2005, 2008; Bonte et al., 2006; Akatsuka et al., 2007a,b).

To identify the sources of the evoked activities, the equivalent current dipole (ECD), which best explains the measured data, was computed by using a least-squares search. Before estimating the ECDs, we examined the magnetic field pattern in 2-ms steps visually to identify all local and stable dipole field patterns. This procedure

provided an initial estimate of the number of sources activated during the analysis period (Forss et al., 1999; Avikainen et al., 2002). Then, to select the ECD source, we first identified 3–4 channels, which detected large responses around the central sulcus and the Sylvian fissure (Nguyen et al., 2004; Nakata et al., 2005; Wasaka et al., 2005c, 2007; Kida et al., 2006c, 2007), and selected 16–18 channels around those channels with the large responses. A subset was employed for the estimation of ECDs. This number of channels has been used to cover around the signal maxima channels over somatosensory cortices, following previous studies using the same Neuromag system (Forss et al., 1996, 1999; Lin et al., 2000; Avikainen et al., 2002; Raji et al., 2003; Nguyen et al., 2004; Möttönen et al., 2005; Nakata et al., 2005, 2008; Wasaka et al., 2005c, 2007; Nevalainen et al., 2006; Sakamoto et al., 2008a,b). These calculations gave the three-dimensional location, orientation, and strength of the ECD in a spherical conductor model, which was based on each subject's MRI to show the source location. The goodness-of-fit (GOF) value of an ECD was calculated to indicate in percentage terms how much the dipole accounts for the measured field variance. Only ECDs explaining more than 85% of the field variance at selected periods of time were used for further analysis. The analysis period was extended to the entire time period and all channels were taken into account in computing a time-varying multi-dipole model. The strengths of the previously found ECDs were allowed to change while their locations and orientations were kept fixed. If signals from any brain regions were insufficiently explained by the model, we re-analyzed the data to estimate more precise regions. The data acquisition and analysis followed Hämäläinen et al. (1993). In addition, the source location was transformed into the Talairach standard brain source (Talairach and Tournoux, 1988), following previous studies (Nishitani et al., 1999; Ploner et al., 2000; Nakata et al., 2005).

For the analysis of RMS from both hemispheres, the data on peak amplitude and latency was submitted to analyses of variance (ANOVAs) with repeated measures using as within-subject factors, Condition (Control, Movement, and Count), and Hemisphere (Left and Right). Data for the peak amplitude and latency of AMS were also submitted to two-way repeated measure ANOVA with Condition and Area. In addition, after confirmation of the dipole moments among the three different conditions, the dipole strengths and peak latencies were submitted to a two-way repeated measure ANOVA with Condition and Source of the dipole. For all repeated measures factors with more than two levels, it was tested whether Mauchly's sphericity assumption was violated. If the result of Mauchly's test was significant and the assumption of sphericity was violated, the Greenhouse-Geisser adjustment was used to correct for the sphericity altering the degrees of freedom using a correction coefficient epsilon. In addition, Tukey HSD post hoc multiple-comparison tests were adjusted for differences of the dipole strengths and peak latencies. Statistical significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### Supplementary experiment

To clarify the effect of centrifugal modulation in detail, we performed a supplementary study. We recorded LEPs from eight subjects following noxious stimulation of the left hand dorsum, and three conditions were used. Condition 1 was Control. In condition 2 (Right Hand), the subjects extended the right index finger as quickly as possible after the S2 noxious stimuli. In condition 3 (Left Foot), the subjects were asked to perform ankle dorsiflexion of the left foot. Six sessions were conducted for each condition, and consequently 30 stimuli for each condition were applied. EEGs were recorded at Fz, Cz, Pz, C3, and C4, and all EEG signals were collected on a signal processor (Neuropack MEB-2200 system, Nihon-Kohden, Tokyo, Japan). The analysis epoch was 1000 ms, including a prestimulus baseline period of 100 ms, the bandpass filter was set at 0.1–50 Hz, and the sampling rate was 1000 Hz. To judge whether subjects responded to noxious S2



stimuli precisely, an electromyogram (EMG) was also recorded from a pair of electrodes about 3 cm apart on the skin overlying the contraction muscle in the right forearm (Condition 2) and left anterior tibial muscle (Condition 3). The procedure for data analysis was the same as the main experiment.

## Results

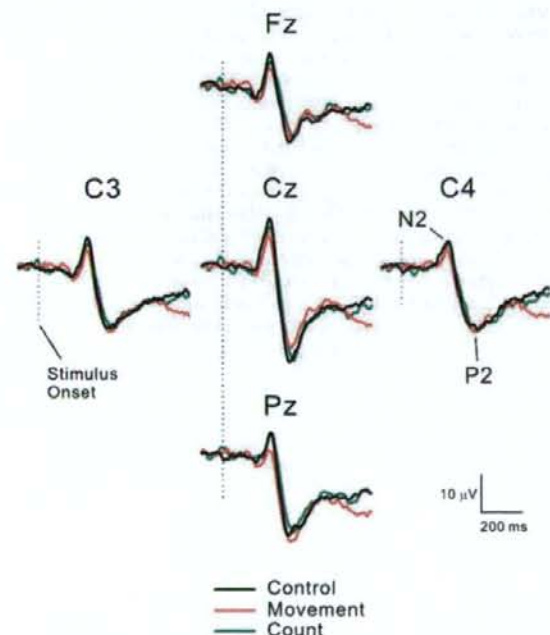
### Behavioral and EEG data

The mean reaction time (RT) in Movement was 472 ms (standard error: SE 39 ms).

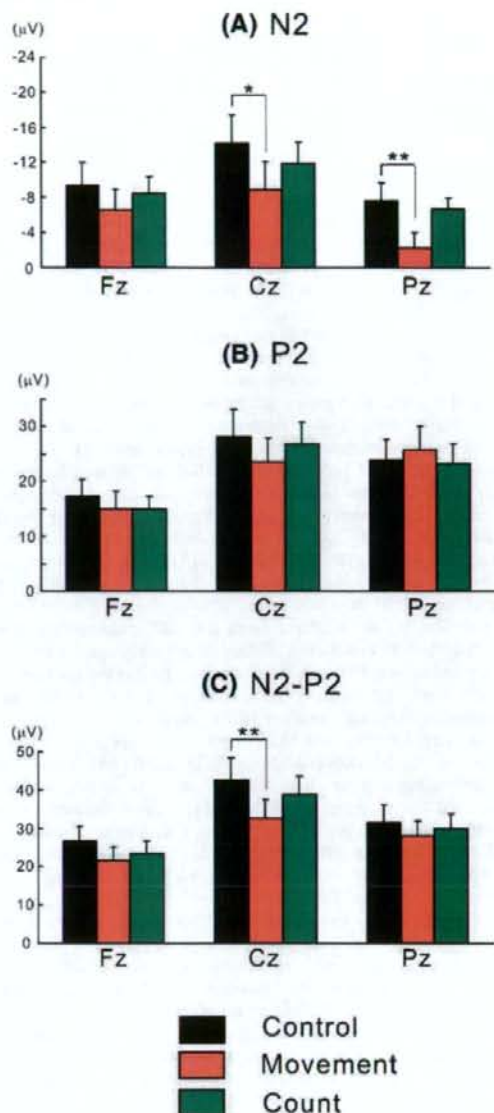
Fig. 1 displays the grand-averaged LEP waveforms in each condition across all subjects. Clear N2 and P2 components were recorded in all conditions after noxious stimulation. Judging from the morphology, the peak amplitude of N2 was smaller in Movement than Control and Count. This notion was supported by results of ANOVAs.

The ANOVAs for the amplitude of N2 revealed a significant main effect of Condition ( $F(2, 18)=6.092, p<0.01$ ). The Tukey HSD post hoc test indicated that the amplitudes were significantly smaller in Movement than Control at Cz, Pz, C3 and C4 ( $p<0.05, p<0.01, p<0.01, \text{ and } p<0.01$ , respectively) (Fig. 2A). These results suggest that voluntary movement in a preparatory period reduces the peak amplitude of the N2 component. There was also a significant main effect of Electrode ( $F(4, 36)=9.030, p<0.01, \epsilon=0.542$ ), and post hoc testing with collapsing Condition revealed that the amplitude of Cz was significantly larger than that of Fz, Pz, C3, and C4 ( $p<0.05, p<0.001, p<0.01, \text{ and } p<0.01$ , respectively).

With regard to the peak amplitude of P2, there was a significant effect of Condition–Electrode interaction ( $F(8, 72)=4.056, p<0.05, \epsilon=0.410$ ), and a main effect of Electrode ( $F(4, 36)=17.271, p<0.001$ ,



**Fig. 1.** Grand-averaged laser-evoked potentials (LEPs) in each condition following noxious YAG laser stimulation applied to the dorsum of the left hand. Clear N2 and P2 components were recorded in all conditions. Black, red, and green lines indicate waveforms of Control, Movement, and Count, respectively. The vertical line indicates the stimulus onset.



**Fig. 2.** Mean values of N2, P2, and N2–P2 amplitudes at the midline electrode, Fz, Cz, and Pz. A post hoc test indicated that the N2 amplitude at Cz and Pz was significantly smaller in Movement than Control ( $p<0.05$ , and  $p<0.01$ , respectively). The peak-to-peak amplitude of N2–P2 at Cz was significantly smaller in Movement than Control ( $p<0.01$ ). Vertical lines indicate standard errors (S.E.). \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ .

$\epsilon=0.483$ ). A post hoc test with collapsing Condition indicated that the amplitude of Cz was significantly larger than that of Fz, C3, and C4 ( $p<0.001$ , respectively), and the amplitude of Pz was also significantly larger than that of Fz, C3, and C4 ( $p<0.001, p<0.01, \text{ and } p<0.01$ , respectively). In Fig. 2B, the post hoc test did not reach the significant level for differences between conditions per electrode, although the average value was smaller in Movement than Control at Cz ( $p>0.05$ ).

The ANOVAs for the peak-to-peak amplitude of N2–P2 confirmed a significant effect of Condition–Electrode interaction ( $F(8, 72)=3.704, p<0.05, \epsilon=0.574$ ), and main effects of Condition ( $F(2, 18)=3.818$ ,



**Table 1**  
Mean peak latency of N2 and P2 components for each condition with S.E.

	Fz	Cz	Pz	C3	C4
<b>N2</b>					
Control	222.7 (4.9)	211.9 (6.0)	217.7 (7.3)	220.6 (3.9)	211.6 (6.8)
Movement	229.2 (4.9)	218.1 (6.0)	216.4 (7.3)	220.0 (3.9)	212.3 (6.8)
Count	230.9 (6.2)	220.4 (4.1)	224.1 (4.4)	227.3 (4.0)	222.9 (4.5)
<b>P2</b>					
Control	313.4 (6.3)	312.1 (5.4)	312.6 (6.3)	311.2 (7.4)	326.9 (9.2)
Movement	313.6 (7.5)	313.5 (4.1)	314.2 (6.3)	313.9 (5.6)	322.2 (9.9)
Count	323.1 (5.9)	316.5 (6.6)	321.4 (6.9)	319.2 (7.7)	333.2 (12.0)

$p < 0.05$ ) and Electrode ( $F(4, 36) = 18.138, p < 0.001$ ). Post hoc testing showed that the amplitude was significantly smaller in Movement than Control at Cz, and C3 ( $p < 0.01, p < 0.05$ , respectively) (Fig. 2C). A post hoc test with collapsing Condition indicated that the amplitude of Cz was significantly larger than that of Fz, Pz, C3, and C4 ( $p < 0.001, p < 0.01, p < 0.001$ , and  $p < 0.001$ , respectively), and the amplitude of Pz was also significantly larger than that of Fz ( $p < 0.05$ ).

ANOVAs for the peak latency of N2 indicated a significant effect of Electrode ( $F(4, 36) = 7.189, p < 0.001$ ), and post hoc testing with collapsing Condition demonstrated that the N2 latency was significantly later at Fz than Cz, Pz, and C4 ( $p < 0.01, p < 0.05$ , and  $p < 0.001$ , respectively). There were no significant main effect and interaction for the P2 latency. Group averages of peak latencies across all subjects are listed in Table 1, and mean and earliest RTs for individual subjects are shown in Table 2.

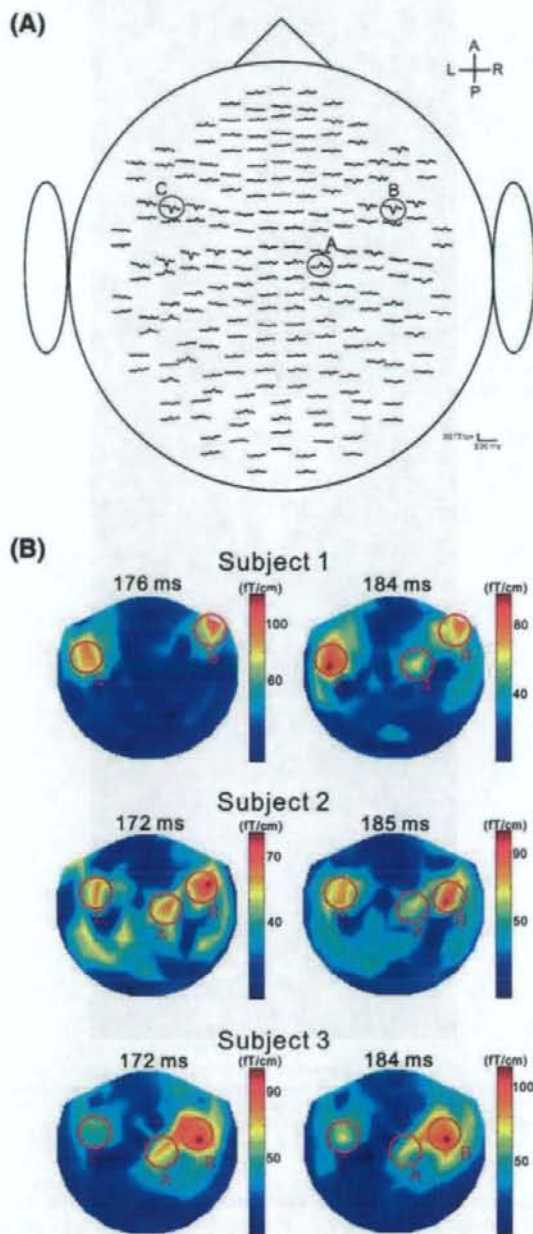
#### MEG data

Fig. 3A shows the group averages of LEFs across all subjects in the Control condition. A clear and consistent component was recorded in three cortical areas, A, B and C. Fig. 3B shows the isocontour maps in this period in three representative subjects. Just like the grand-averaged LEFs, these isocontour maps revealed distinct neural responses in regions A, B, and C. By ECD analysis, A was estimated to lie between the posterior wall of the central sulcus and superior end of the postcentral fissure contralateral to the stimulation, corresponding to SI or posterior parietal cortex (PPC), and B and C were estimated to be located in the upper bank of the Sylvian fissure, corresponding to SII, in the right and left hemisphere, respectively (Fig. 4). Therefore, we termed them, SI/PPC, cSII (contralateral SII) and iSII (ipsilateral SII). In the Control and Count conditions, these three dipoles were estimated in all subjects, but in Movement, a dipole from SI/PPC could not be estimated in one subject. Their  $x, y$  and  $z$  coordinates and peak latencies are shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Fig. 5A shows the sensor layout of the MEG to calculate the RMS from the left and right hemispheres. The mean values of RMS peak latency from both hemispheres were recorded between 160–190 ms

**Table 2**  
Mean and earliest reaction times, and peak latencies of N2 and P2 at Cz in the Movement condition for individual subjects (ms)

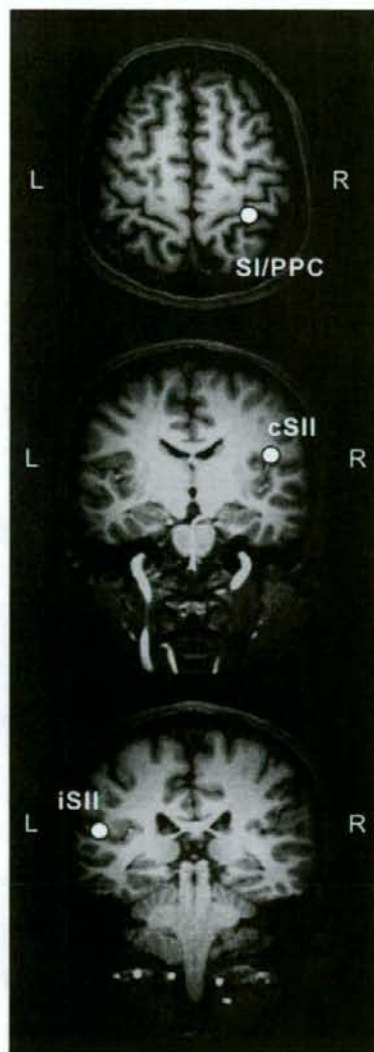
Subject	Mean RT	Earliest RT	N2 peak latency	P2 peak latency
A	663	317	223.4	304.0
B	390	238	227.2	312.7
C	485	354	217.3	338.1
D	351	233	242.2	309.2
E	617	286	219.1	318.5
F	496	313	203.8	312.8
G	505	264	233.1	300.0
H	555	333	209.0	293.6
I	269	231	206.7	322.5
J	383	229	199.6	323.7
Mean	472	280	218.1	313.5
SE	39	15	4.3	4.1



**Fig. 3.** (A) Grand-averaged laser-evoked magnetic fields (LEFs) over 204 planar coils in Control. The head is viewed from the top, and in each response pair, the upper trace illustrates the field derivative along the latitude and the lower trace that along the longitude. All data were digitally filtered (0.1–40 Hz bandpass) for display purposes. (B) The isocontour maps for Control at several time points in three representative subjects.

in each condition, which were clearly earlier than those of N2 component from Cz on EEG (Fig. 5B and Table 1). This result indicated that the MEG and EEG recorded different neural activities at different time period. ANOVA for RMS peak amplitude revealed no significant main effect of Condition and interaction, showing that there were no





**Fig. 4.** Location of ECDs superimposed on a 2D MRI scan in a representative subject. L=left, R=right, SI=primary somatosensory cortex, PPC=posterior parietal cortex, cSII=secondary somatosensory cortex contralateral to the stimulation, iSII=secondary somatosensory cortex ipsilateral to the stimulation.

significant differences of amplitudes among the three conditions (Fig. 5B and Table 5). ANOVA for RMS peak latency demonstrated a significant main effect of Hemisphere ( $F(1, 9)=13.848, p<0.01$ ), indicating that the peak latency was earlier in the right hemisphere than the left hemisphere. There were no effect of Condition and interaction for the latency.

Then, we calculated AMS in the regions of interest for all conditions (Fig. 6A). ANOVA for the peak amplitude of AMS revealed a significant main effect of Area ( $F(2, 18)=8.959, p<0.01$ ), but there were no significant main effects of Condition and interaction (Fig. 6B and Table 5). Post hoc testing with collapsing Condition revealed that SI/PPC was significantly smaller than cSII and iSII ( $p<0.01$ , respectively), but there was no significant difference between cSII and iSII. As for peak latency,

**Table 3**

Mean Talairach coordinates of the sources with S.E. for each condition

		x (mm)	y (mm)	z (mm)
Control	SI/PPC	22.1 (4.4)	-35.9 (1.9)	53.2 (1.7)
	cSII	47.8 (1.1)	-8.4 (1.1)	15.8 (1.1)
	iSII	-48.7 (0.9)	-14.3 (2.0)	17.8 (1.3)
Movement	SI/PPC	-21.8 (3.3)	-36.2 (2.8)	56.8 (1.0)
	cSII	49.0 (1.2)	-8.4 (1.2)	16.0 (1.0)
	iSII	-48.9 (1.0)	-13.1 (2.7)	14.8 (1.1)
Count	SI/PPC	22.4 (2.5)	-35.5 (1.9)	55.3 (1.8)
	cSII	48.6 (0.9)	-8.9 (2.6)	16.5 (1.4)
	iSII	-50.6 (1.3)	-12.7 (2.1)	15.7 (1.3)

There were no significant differences among the conditions. Data are expressed as the mean (S.E.). SI=primary somatosensory cortex, PPC=posterior parietal cortex, cSII=secondary somatosensory cortex contralateral to the stimulation, iSII=secondary somatosensory cortex ipsilateral to the stimulation.

there was a significant main effect of Area ( $F(2, 18)=7.740, p<0.01$ ), and post hoc analysis showed that cSII was significantly earlier than SI/PPC ( $p<0.05$ ).

With two-way ANOVAs concerning Condition (Control, Movement, Count) and Source (SI/PPC, cSII, iSII), a significant main effect of Source was found for dipole strength ( $F(2, 16)=15.401, p<0.001$ ). There was no significant main effect of Condition and Condition–Source interaction, suggesting that ECD strengths were not changed among conditions. This notion was supported by Fig. 7, showing similar ECDs of SI/PPC, cSII and iSII activities. Post hoc testing with collapsing Condition revealed that SI/PPC was significantly smaller than cSII and iSII ( $p<0.001$ , respectively), but there was no significant difference between cSII and iSII. In addition, there was a significant main effect of Source on the peak latency of ECD ( $F(2, 16)=9.078, p<0.05, \epsilon=0.552$ ). Post hoc analysis demonstrated that cSII was significantly earlier than SI/PPC and iSII ( $p<0.001$ , and  $p<0.05$ , respectively) (Table 4).

A one-way ANOVA revealed no significant effects on the x, y and z coordinates of ECDs. That is, the source locations of ECDs in SI/PPC, cSII, and iSII did not differ significantly among the conditions (Table 3).

The results of ANOVAs for the peak amplitudes of N2 and P2, RMS, AMS, and ECD strengths are listed in Table 5.

Based on N2 component data, we re-analyzed the ECD around 170–250 ms after noxious stimulation using all 306 channels of MEG to investigate which brain regions were responsible for generator mechanisms of N2. First, we calculated the AMS of five gradiometer pairs (Fig. 8A), showing that peaks were found around 160–230 ms (Fig. 8B). The morphology of the waveforms was clearly different from the results of other areas, which are shown in Fig. 6. Then, we determined the peak amplitude and latency in each condition, and performed one-way ANOVA to investigate differences among the three conditions. ANOVA for the amplitude demonstrated a significant main effect ( $F(2, 18)=3.557, p<0.05$ ), and post hoc testing revealed that the amplitude was significantly smaller in Movement than Control (Fig. 8C). There was no significant difference in peak latency among conditions. The mean values of the peak latency were 197.4 ms ( $SE\pm 4.8$ ), 198.6 ms ( $\pm 6.5$ ), and 207.9 ms ( $\pm 4.4$ ) in the Control, Movement, and Count conditions, respectively.

The ECD for this area was estimated to be located on the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) from the six, five, and five subjects in the

**Table 4**

Mean peak latencies of the sources with S.E. for each condition

	SI/PPC	cSII	iSII
Control	185.0 (5.3)	169.5 (5.0)	179.7 (4.3)
Movement	181.8 (5.1)	164.7 (4.9)	175.5 (4.0)
Count	185.0 (4.7)	162.4 (3.3)	176.2 (4.3)

There was a significant main effect of Source ( $F(2, 16)=9.078, p<0.05, \epsilon=0.552$ ), and post hoc analysis demonstrated that cSII occurred significantly earlier than SI/PPC and iSII ( $p<0.001$ , and  $p<0.05$ , respectively).