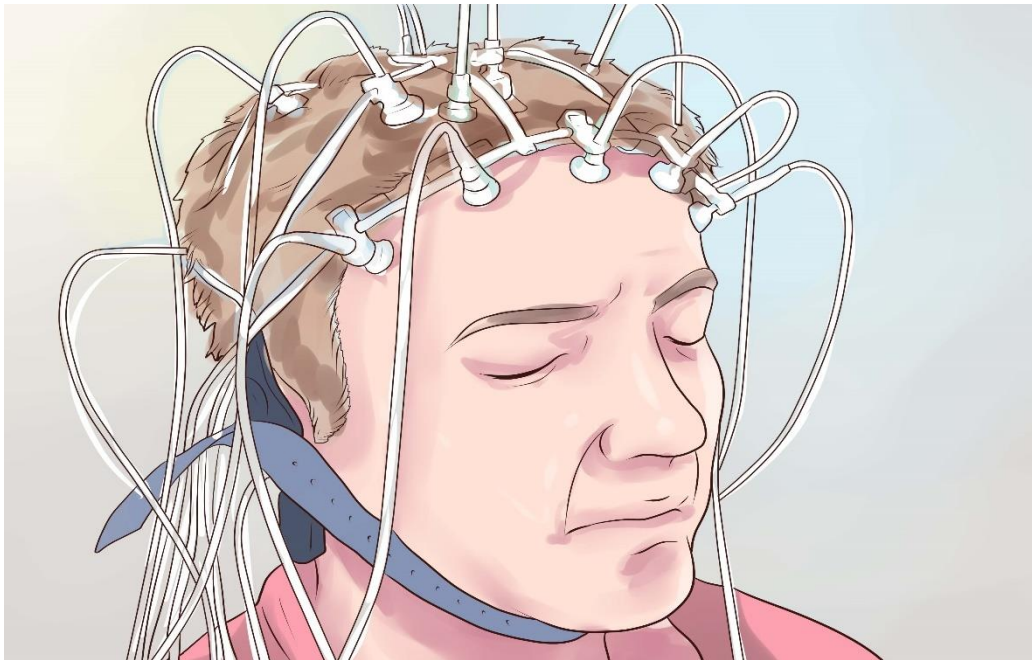


The normal Electroencephalography (EEG)



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Subspecialty Certification in Epilepsy

A Fellow in Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology,
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, USA.

A Research Fellow in Sleep Disorders Center,
Cleveland Clinic, USA.

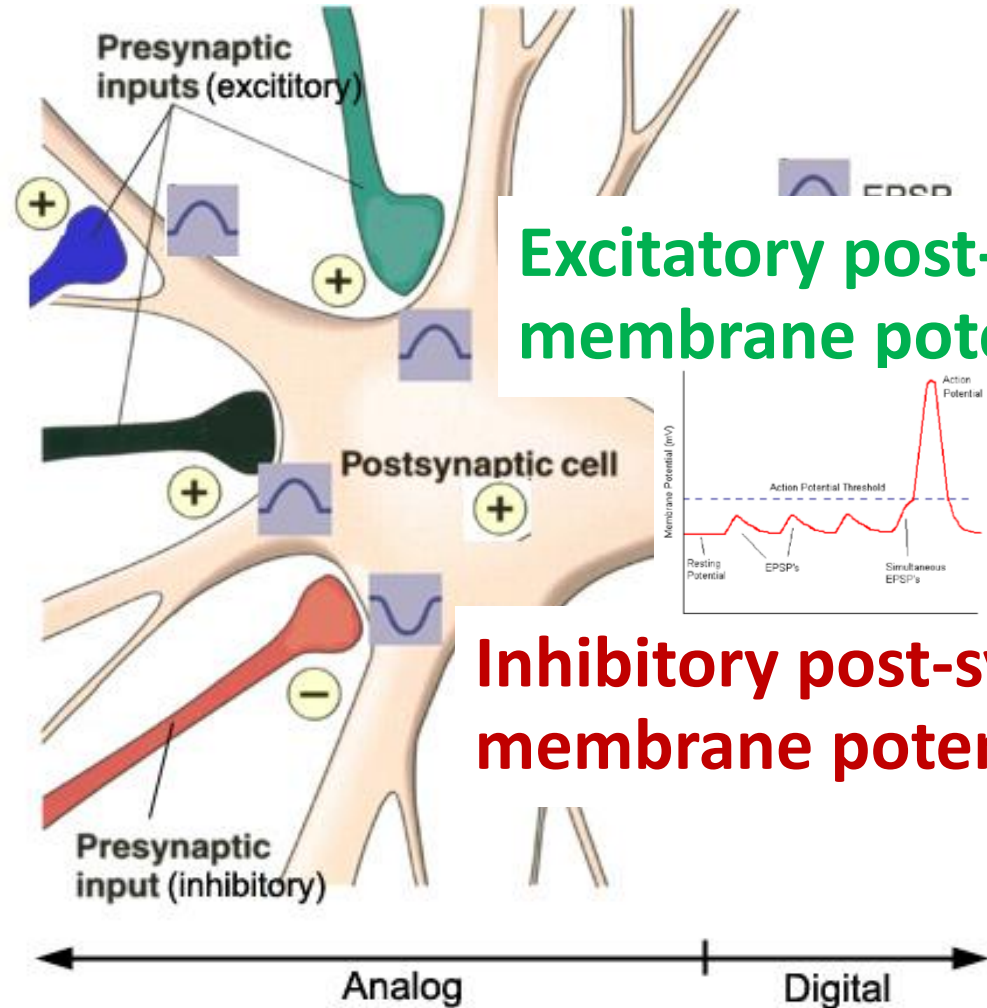
Biophysical aspect of EEG

- Source of EEG activity
- Pyramidal cell
- EEG recorded one side, which adjacent to cortical surface, of a dipole.
- EEG recorded neuron population potentials (EPSPs, IPSPs)
- Time dilatation

Glutamate,
Acetylcholine

Synapse

GABA



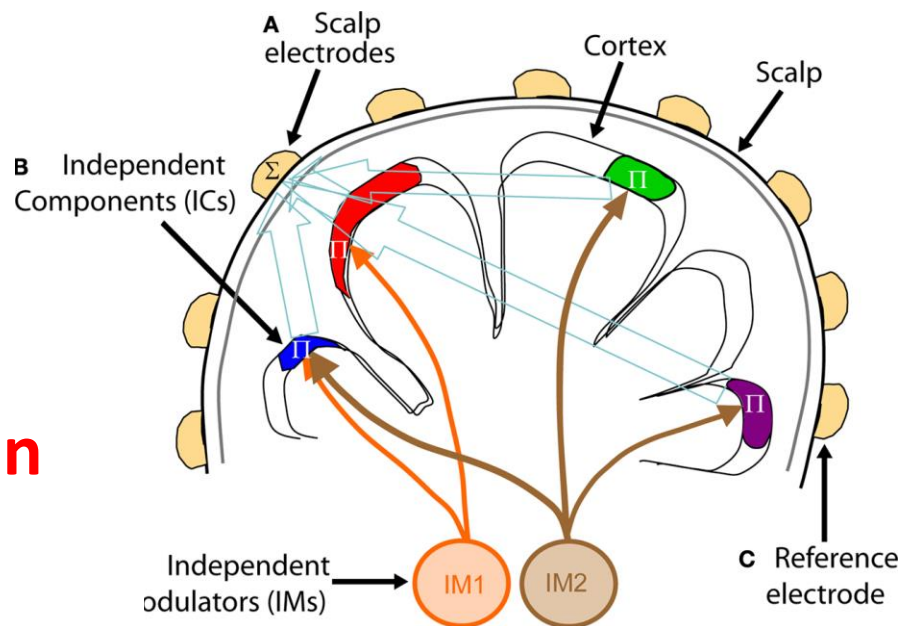
Excitatory post-synaptic
membrane potential (EPSP)

Inhibitory post-synaptic
membrane potential (IPSP)

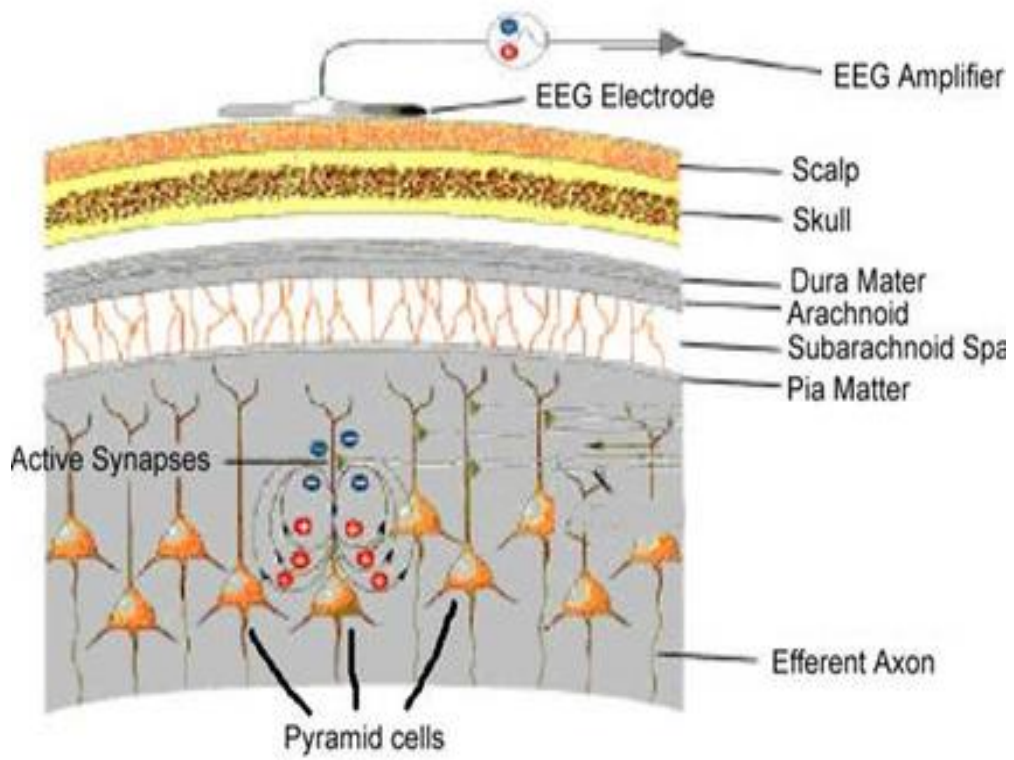
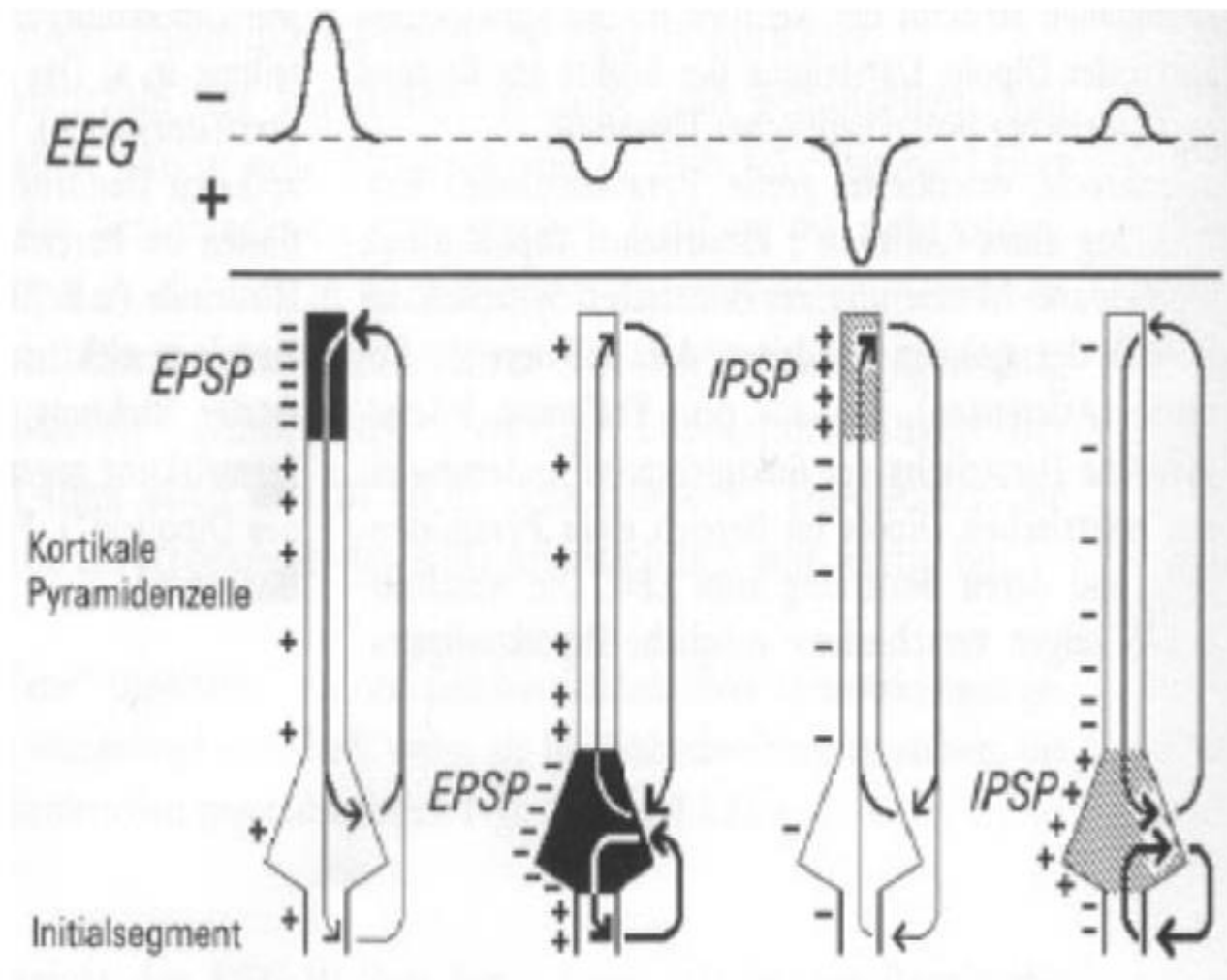
Analog

Digital

**Time
dilation**

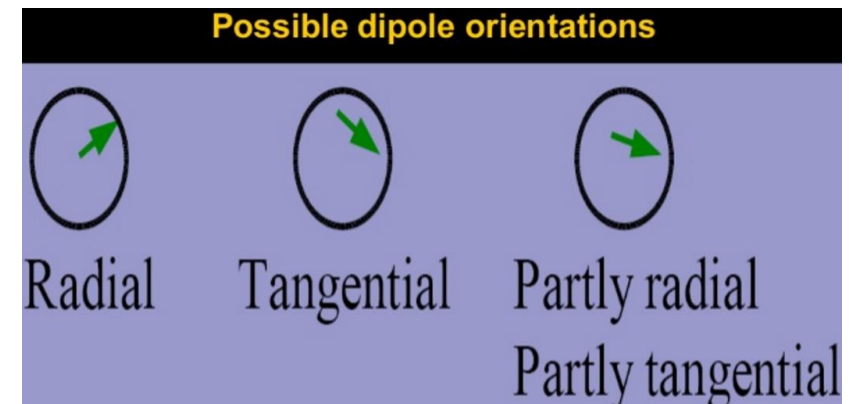
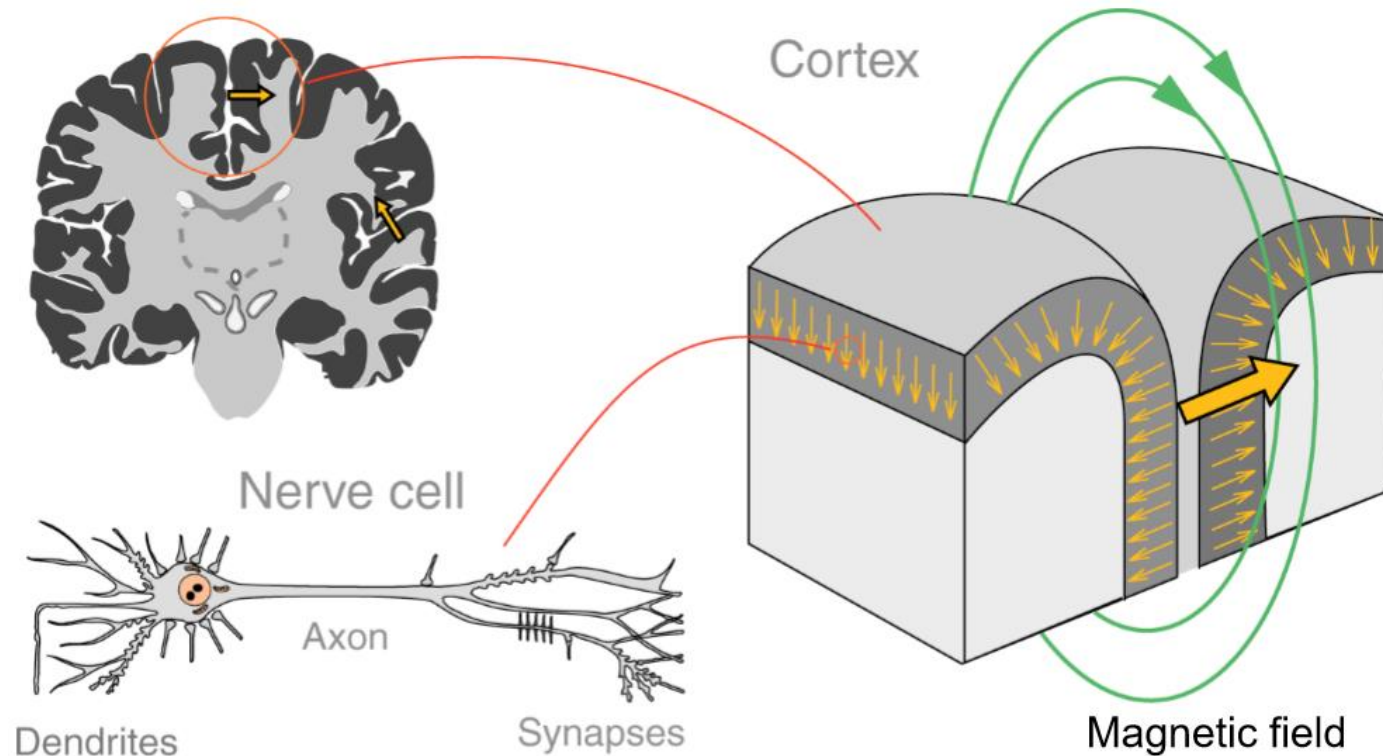


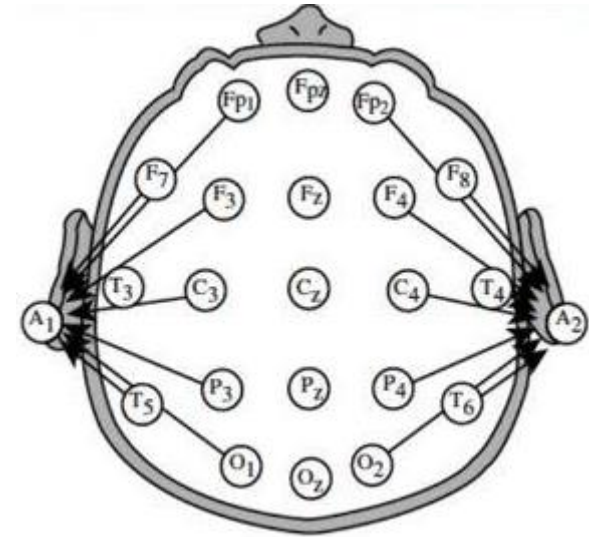
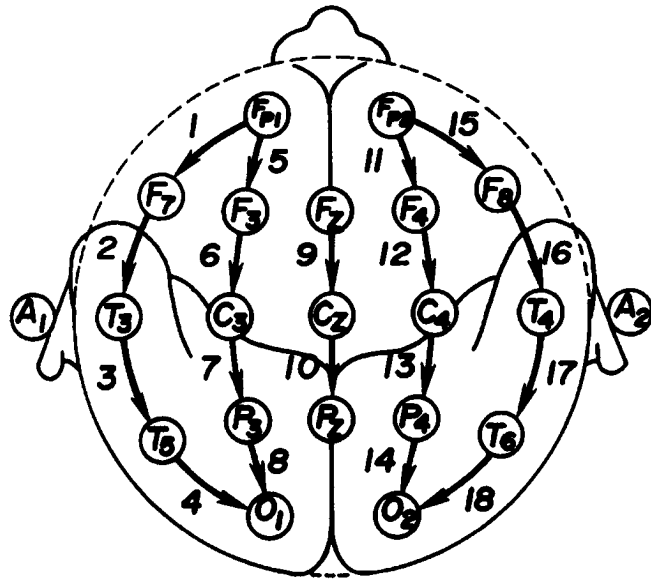
Dipole



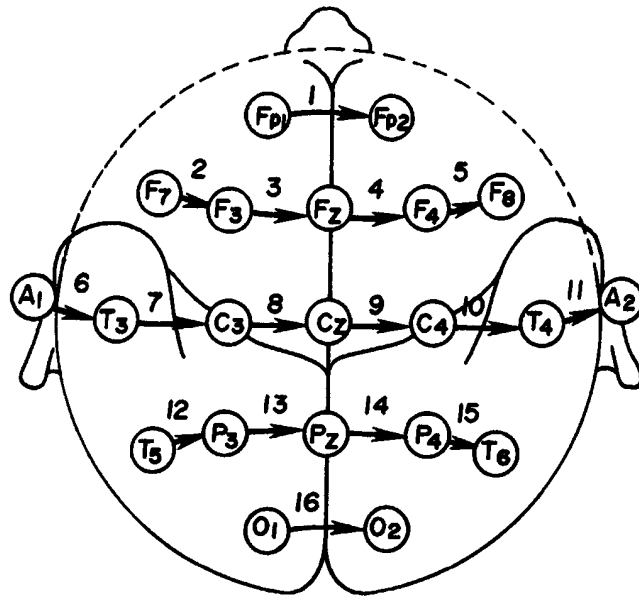
Orientation of Electrical field

At least 6 square cm of cortex must be activated in order for scalp EEG to detect a change in potential





- Referential montage
 - Referential Cz
 - Referential ears
- Average reference montage
- Bipolar montage
 - AP longitudinal bipolar
 - Transverse bipolar
- Laplacian montage

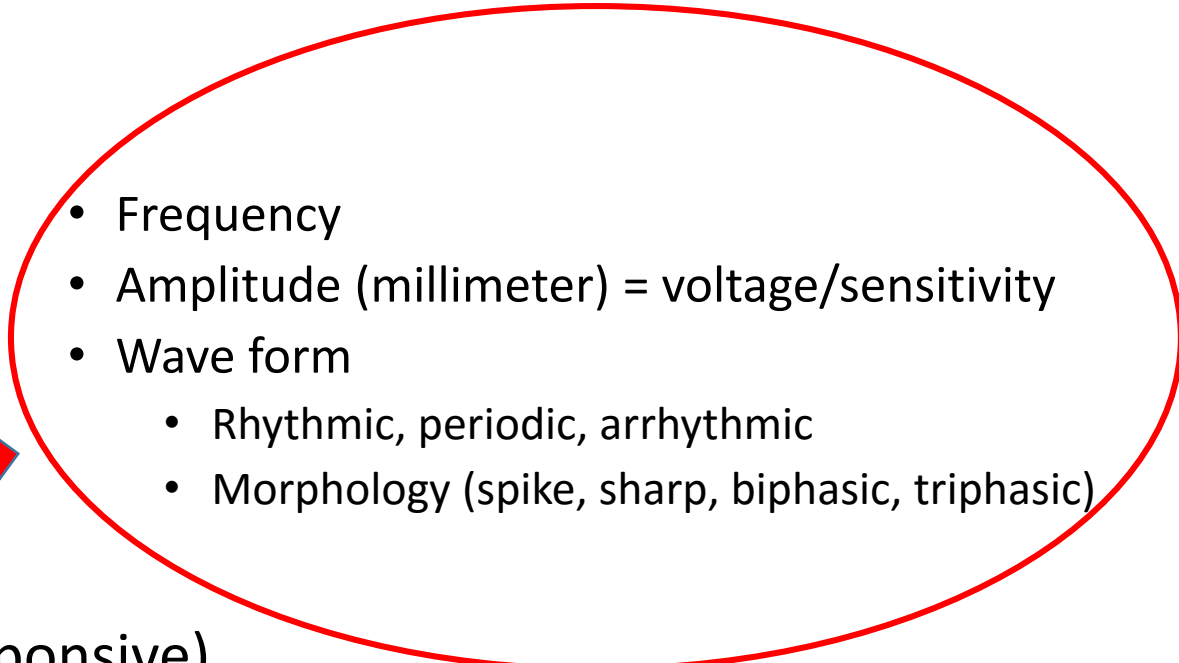


Facts about Normal EEG

- Normal patterns
- No abnormal pattern
- Does not guarantee if brain has an exactly normal function.
- Normal variants
 - Between persons of the same age
 - More in wake than sleep



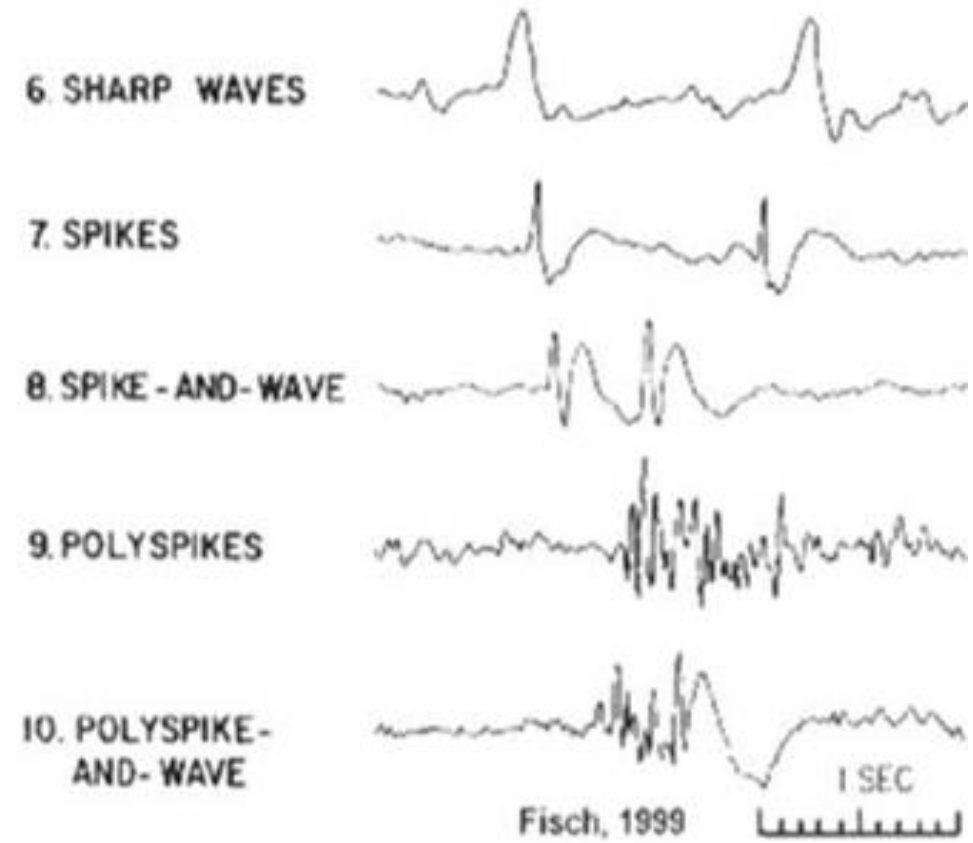
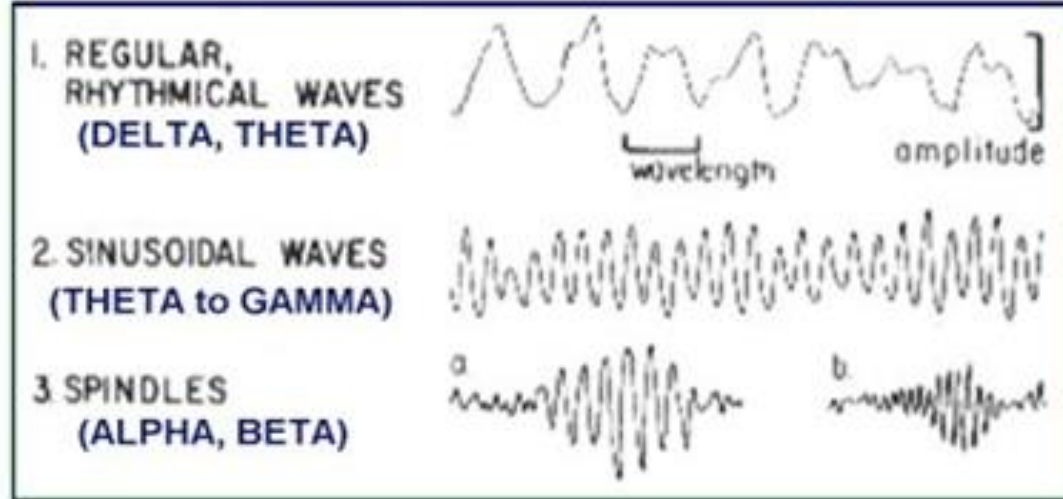
Steps of reading EEG

- Patient's age
 - State of consciousness
 - Description of EEG activity
 - Dominant rhythm
 - Location/ Distribution
 - Reactivity (highly responsive, nonresponsive)
 - Symmetry, synchrony, Regularity
 - Quantity (continuous, Intermittent)
- 
- Frequency
 - Amplitude (millimeter) = voltage/sensitivity
 - Wave form
 - Rhythmic, periodic, arrhythmic
 - Morphology (spike, sharp, biphasic, triphasic)

Posterior dominant rhythm : Ages dependence

- 4 months 4 Hz
 - 5 months to 1 year 5-6 Hz
 - 3 year 8 Hz (>80% of age group)
 - 9 years 9 Hz
 - 15 years 10 Hz
-
- Term newborn: Chronological age
 - Pre-term newborn: Conceptional age

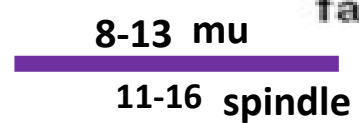
Range of EEG waveforms



Frequency (Hz)



Wave length



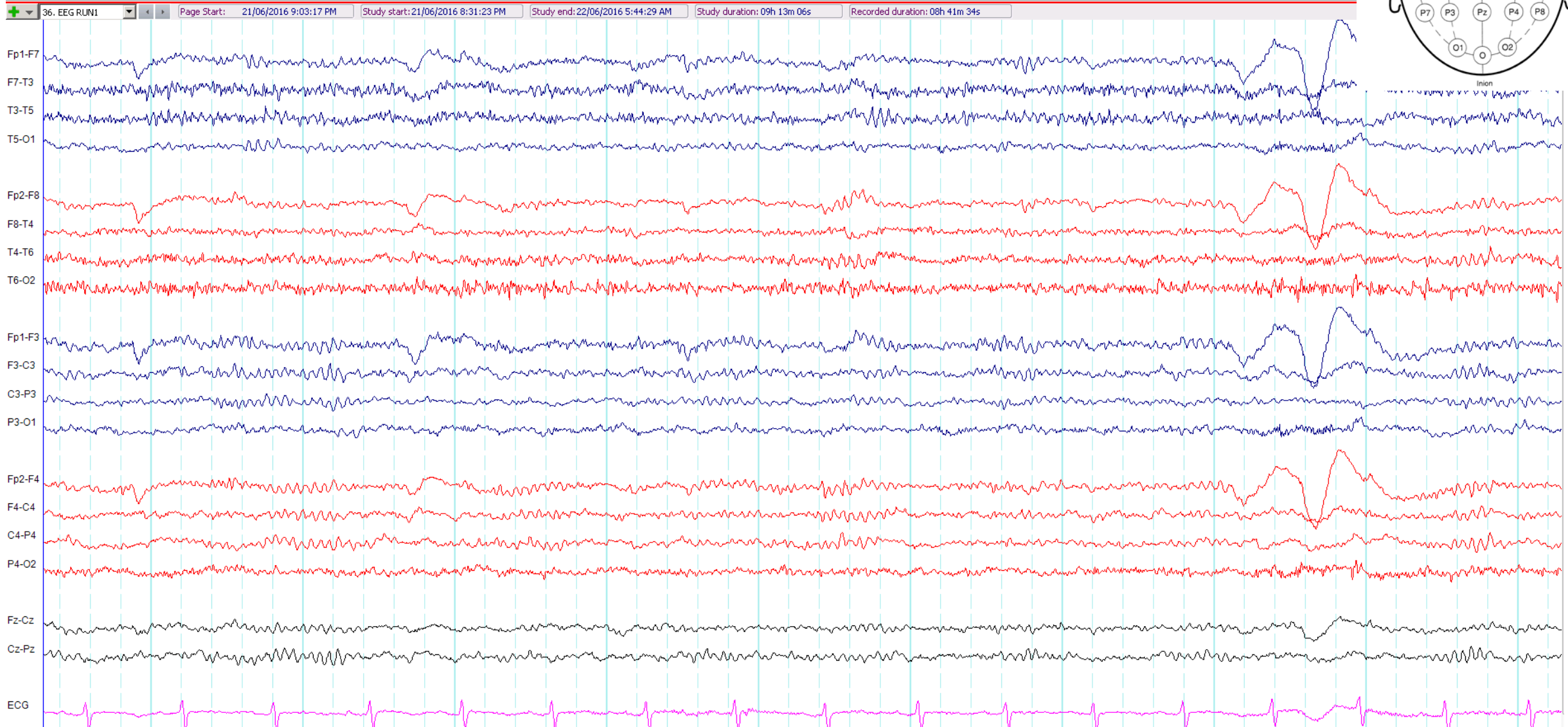
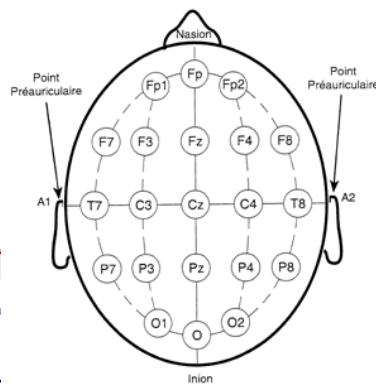
Awake EEG

- Beta wave
- Alpha wave
- Mu rhythm
- Theta activity (in young age group)

- Physiologic artifacts in awake

Beta waves

- 13-30 Hz
- Amplitude < 20 μ V
- Diffusely, more prominently in the frontal regions

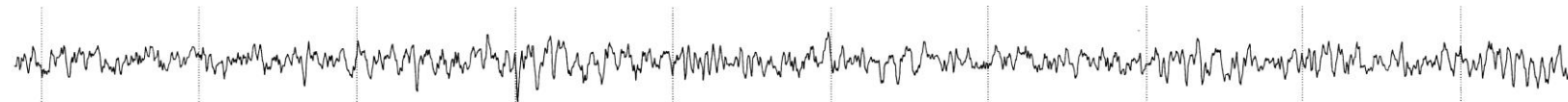


Beta waves

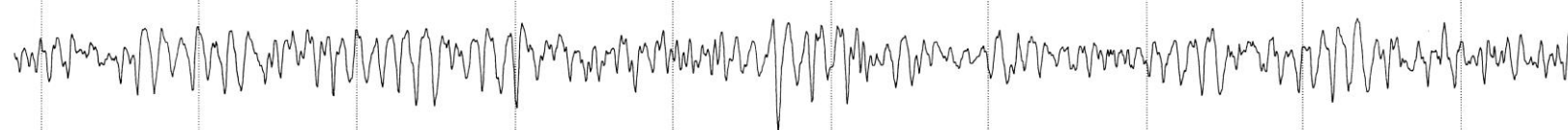
- 13-30 Hz
- Amplitude < 20 uV
- Location: Diffusely, more prominently in the frontal regions

- More common in infants and young children less than 1 ½ years old.
- Enhanced by sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic drugs
 - Not dose dependent but up to individual's sensitivity
- Enhance in a region of skull defect called "Breach rhythm".

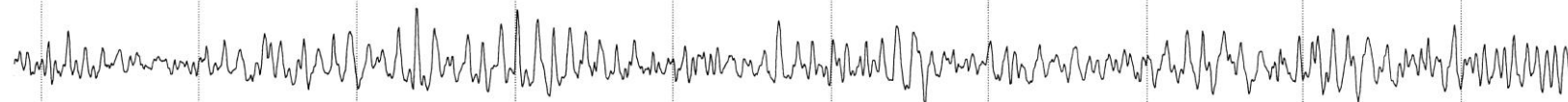
Fp1-F3



F3-C3



C3-P3



P3-O1



Fp2-F4



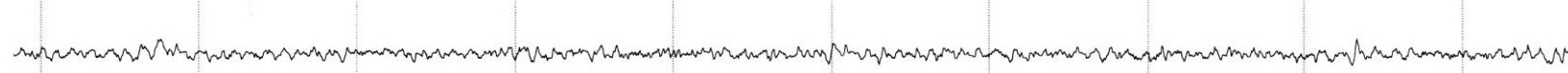
F4-C4



C4-P4

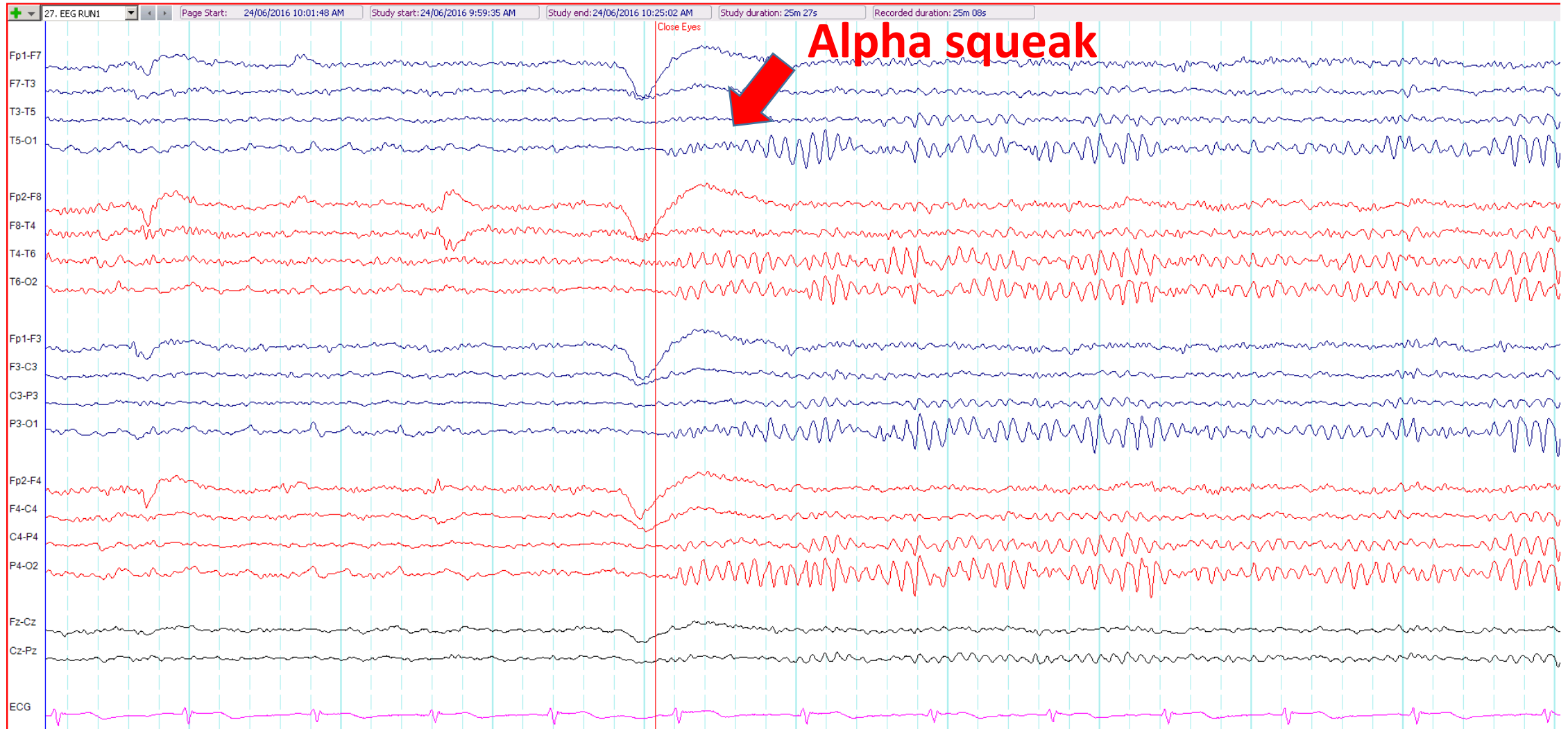


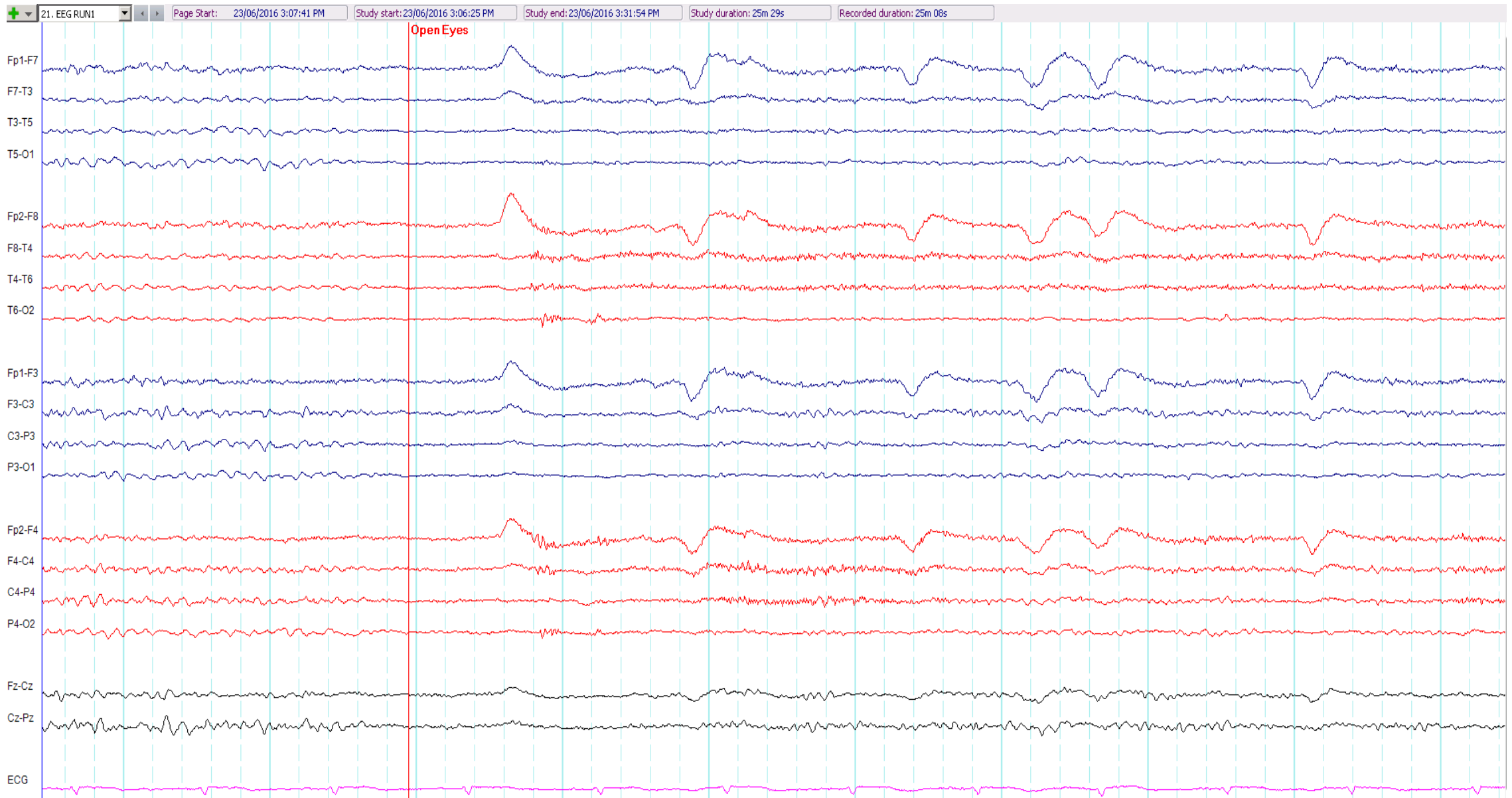
P4-O2



Alpha waves

- 8-12 Hz
- Sinusoidal wave forms
- 15-45uV
- posterior half of the head
- Reactivity: Eye closed/ eye opening





Blocked or attenuated by eye opened, attention, especially visual and mental effort.

Alpha rhythm, neurophysiological rhythm

- Frequency (age dependence) :
 - about 1 Hz different between Rt./Lt. hemisphere
 - ¼ of normal adults, alpha rhythm is poorly visualized
- Morphology: Rounded or Sinusoidal wave forms
- Amplitude:
 - Right > Left
 - Age dependence
 - variable, mostly < 50uV (15-45uV)
 - 6-7% of normal adults showed voltage of < 5 uV

Alpha rhythm, neurophysiological rhythm

- Location:
 - Posterior half of the head; occipital, parietal, posterior temporal regions
 - Might extend into central region (Demonstrable by attenuation by eye opening)
 - May occasionally extend to F3,F4 but not Fp1, Fp2. (May be prominent in referential montages.)

Alpha rhythm, neurophysiological rhythm

- Reactivity:
 - Eye closed/ eye opening
 - Blocked or attenuated by attention, especially visual and mental effort.
 - Best seen in relative mental inactivity, physical relaxation
 - Extreme upward gaze tends to facilitate the posterior alpha rhythm
(Mulholland, 1969; Mulholland and Evans, 1965)
 - Lateral eye deviations may have similar effects (Fenwick and Walkier, 1969).
- Squeak effect

Clinical correlation of alpha rhythm

- Slowing of the alpha is one of the earliest signs of diffuse brain injury.
- Alpha amplitude asymmetry of $> 50\%$ indicates focal injury to the hemisphere having lower amplitude.
- Some drugs could induce slow background
 - Phenytoin
 - Carbamazepine

Mu rhythm

- Rest-state of motor neurons
- 8-13 Hz, Alpha activity in central region, arc-like central rhythm
- Often asynchronous, asymmetry
- Blocked by contralateral limb movement, intension of movement, sensory stimulation and mental activity
- Commonly seen in adolescents and young adults (17-19%)
- Less commonly in elderly and children less than 4 years old

Theta activity

- 3.5-8 Hz
- Awake state
 - Small amount theta 6-7 Hz mixed with alpha
 - Frontal, frontocentral regions



In young age group

- Fm theta rhythm at the Frontal region
 - Relation to mental calculation, reading, etc.

Yamaguchi Y et al, 1985

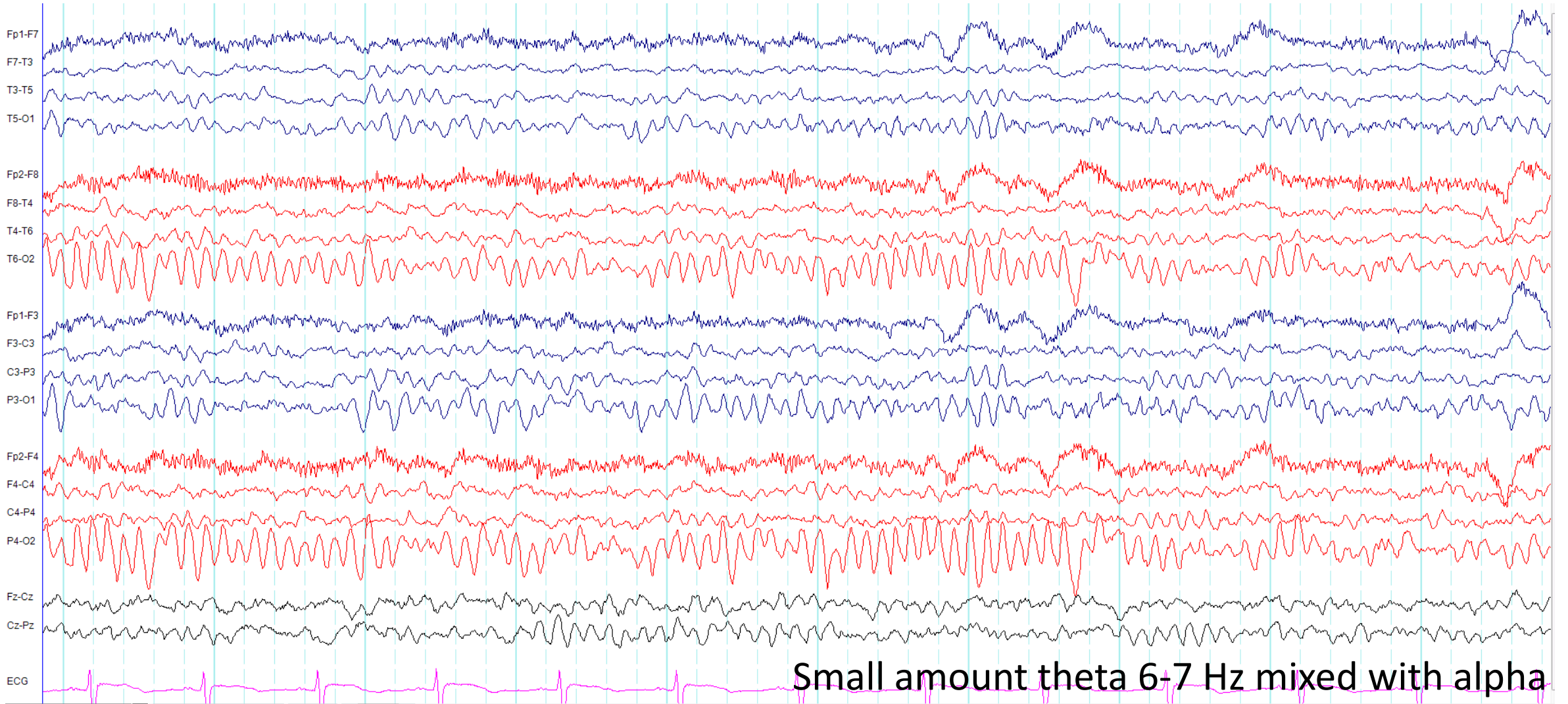
- Theta , midline theta rhythm
 - Temporal lobe epilepsy Ciganek et al, 1961
 - ¼ of non-epileptic group

Westmoreland BF et al, 1985

- Sleep state

Theta activity in young age group

Girl, 6 y/o



Delta activity

Normal

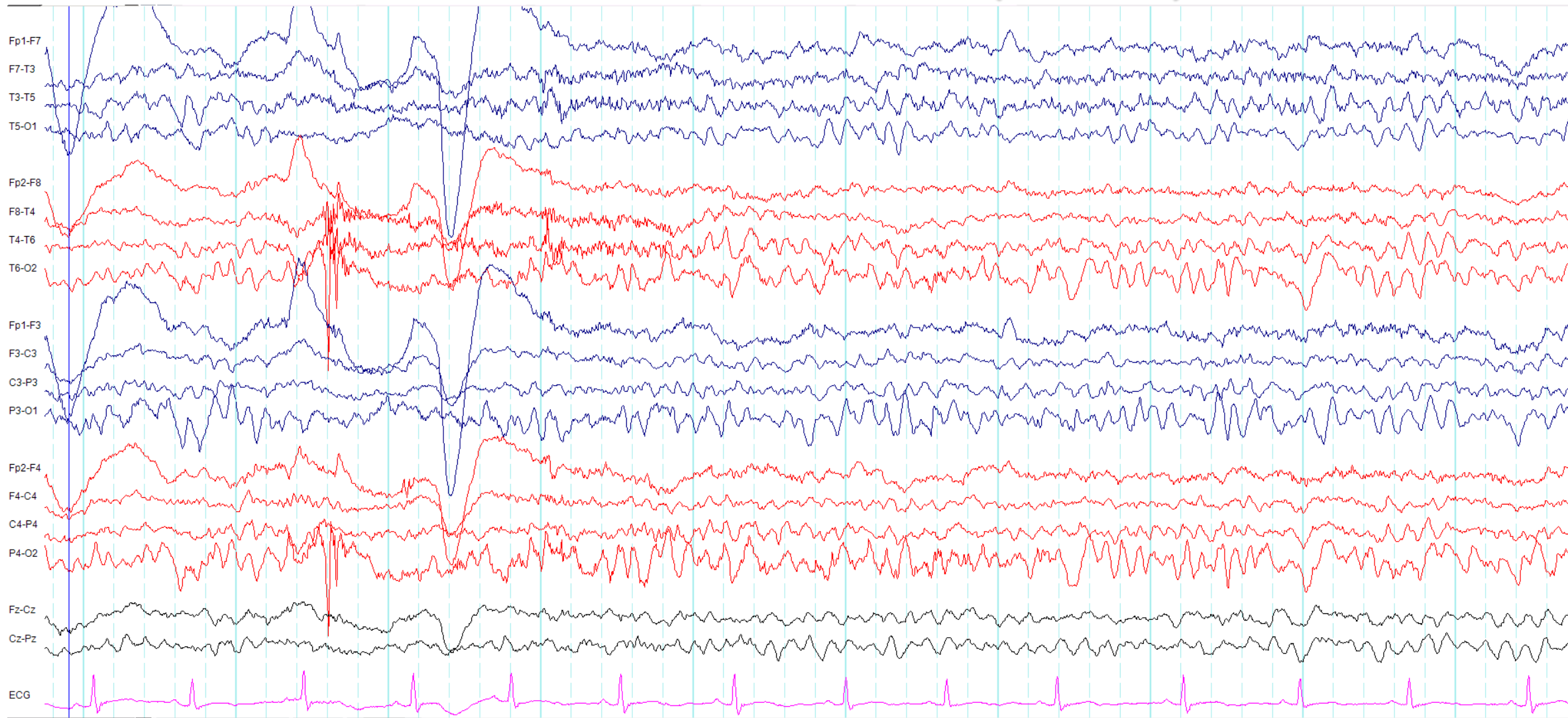
- Posterior slow wave of youth
 - Young children to 20 years old or could be late as 25 years old
 - Maximum at 9-14 years old
 - Uncommon in age group less than 2 years old
 - Amplitude not > 1.5 time of alpha rhythm or > 200 μV
 - Attenuated by eye opening
 - May be accentuated by hyperventilation or stress

- Consistent or persistent as ORIDA

Abnormal

Posterior Slow Wave of Youth (PSWYs)

12 y/o



Sleep EEG

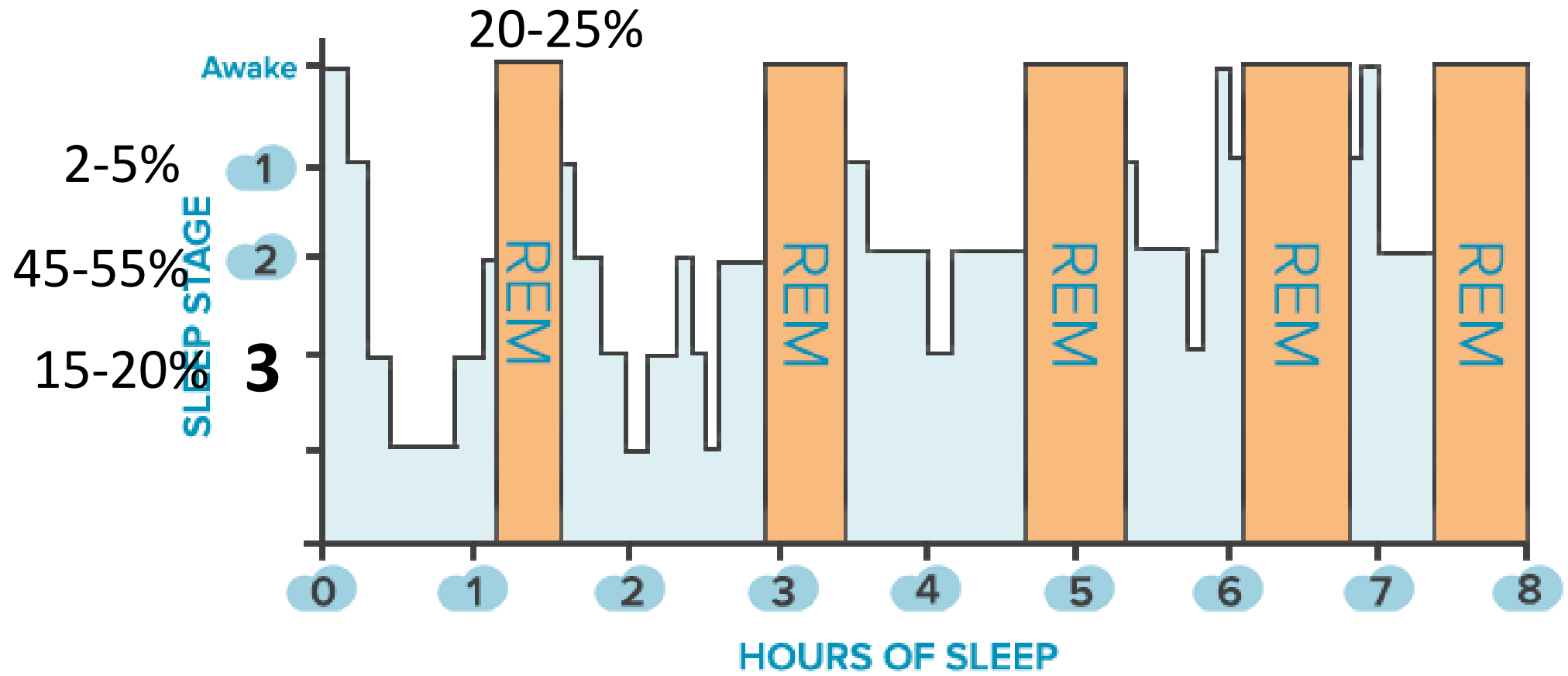
- Non-Rapid Eye Movement (NREM) sleep
 - Stage 1 : Drowsiness
 - Stage 2
 - Stage 3 : Slow Wave Sleep > 20 -50%
 - Stage 4 : Slow Wave Sleep > 50%
- Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep



Stage 3: SWS > 20%

Sleep stages

Slow down muscle activity, muscle twitching



90-120 minutes / cycle

5-7 cycles/night

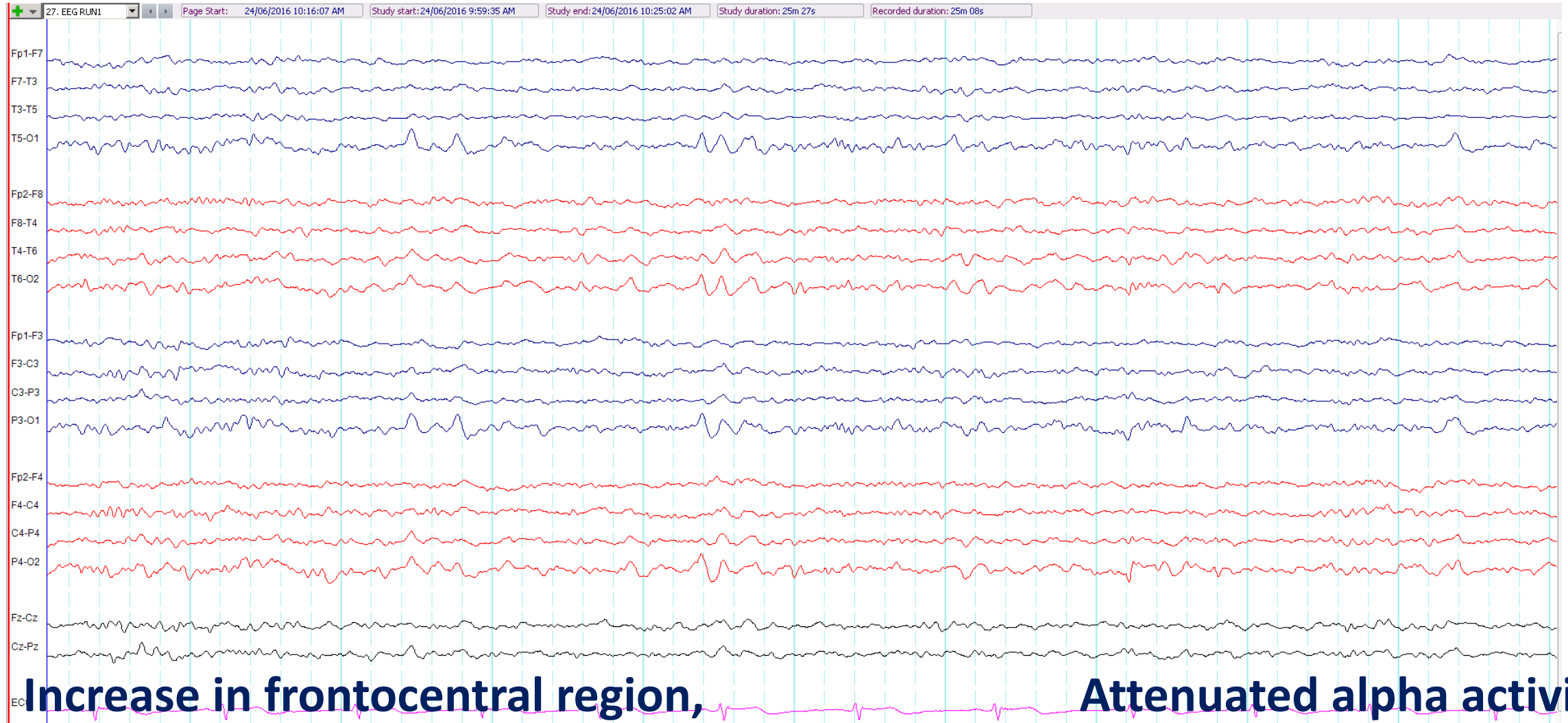
Sleep NREM stage 1 (drowsiness)

- EEG activity in Transitional state
 - Attenuated alpha activity, 4-7Hz (Theta activity)
 - low amplitude, mixed frequency, waning of waking background
- Posterior Occipital Sharp Transient of sleep (POSTs)
 - Appear around ages 3 – 4 y/o
- Vertex wave
 - First appear at 6-8 weeks post term

- Hypnagogic hypersynchrony
- Hypnapompic hypersynchrony

- Slow rolling eye movements (< 0.5 Hz)
- Reduction of muscle artifact

Posterior Occipital Sharp Transients of sleep (POSTs)

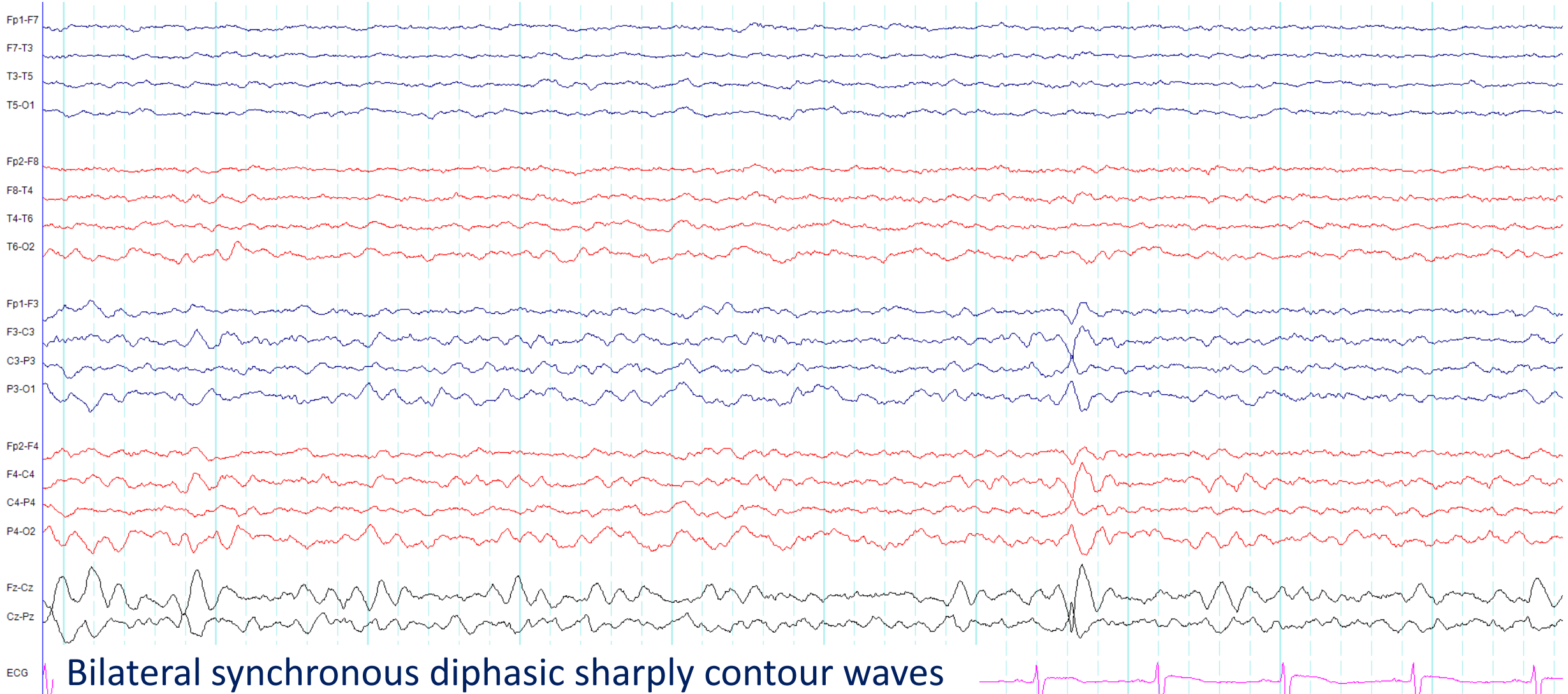


**Increase in frontocentral region,
occipital theta**

**Attenuated alpha activity
Fragmented background**

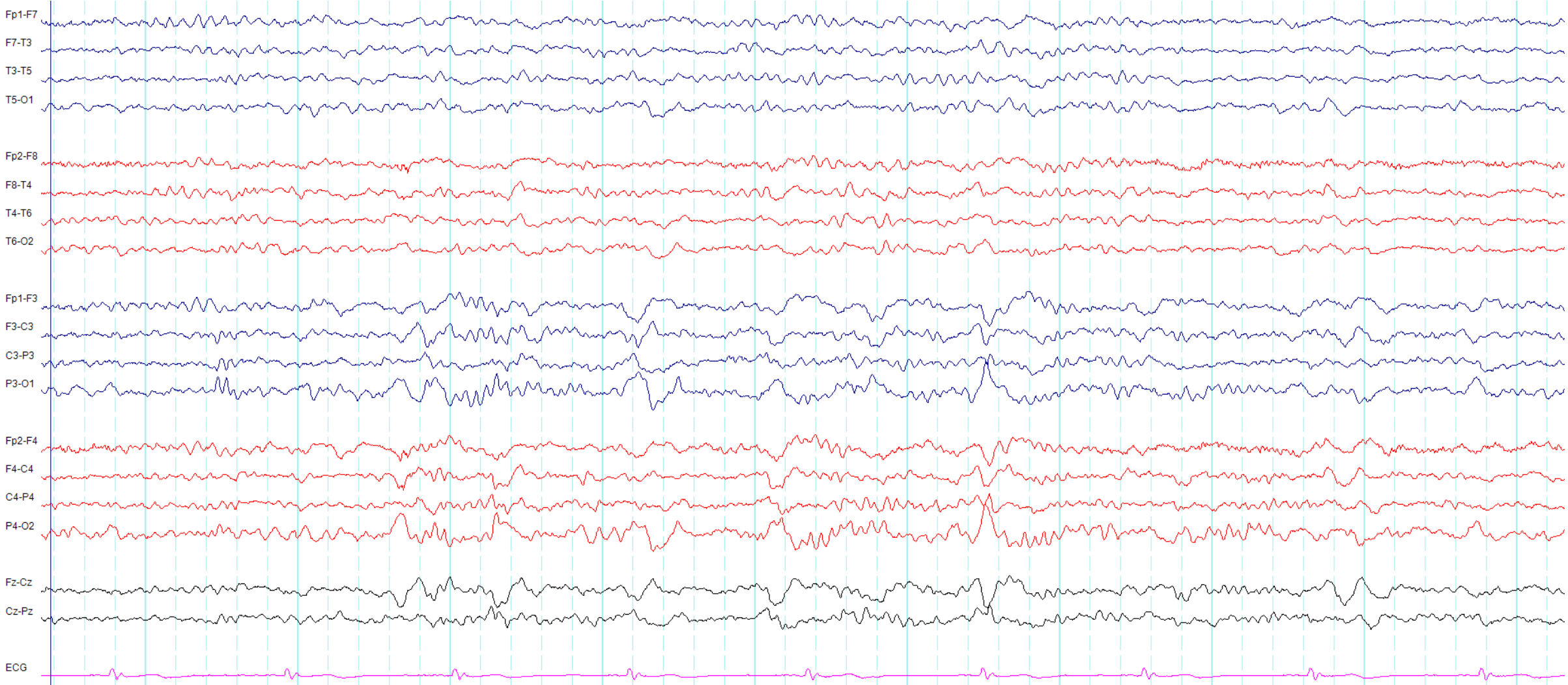
Vertex (V) wave

Maximum amplitude at Cz, C3, C4
Might asymmetry but not persistent
At the end of stage 1 or beginning of stage 2



Bilateral synchronous diphasic sharply contour waves

Asymmetrical V wave

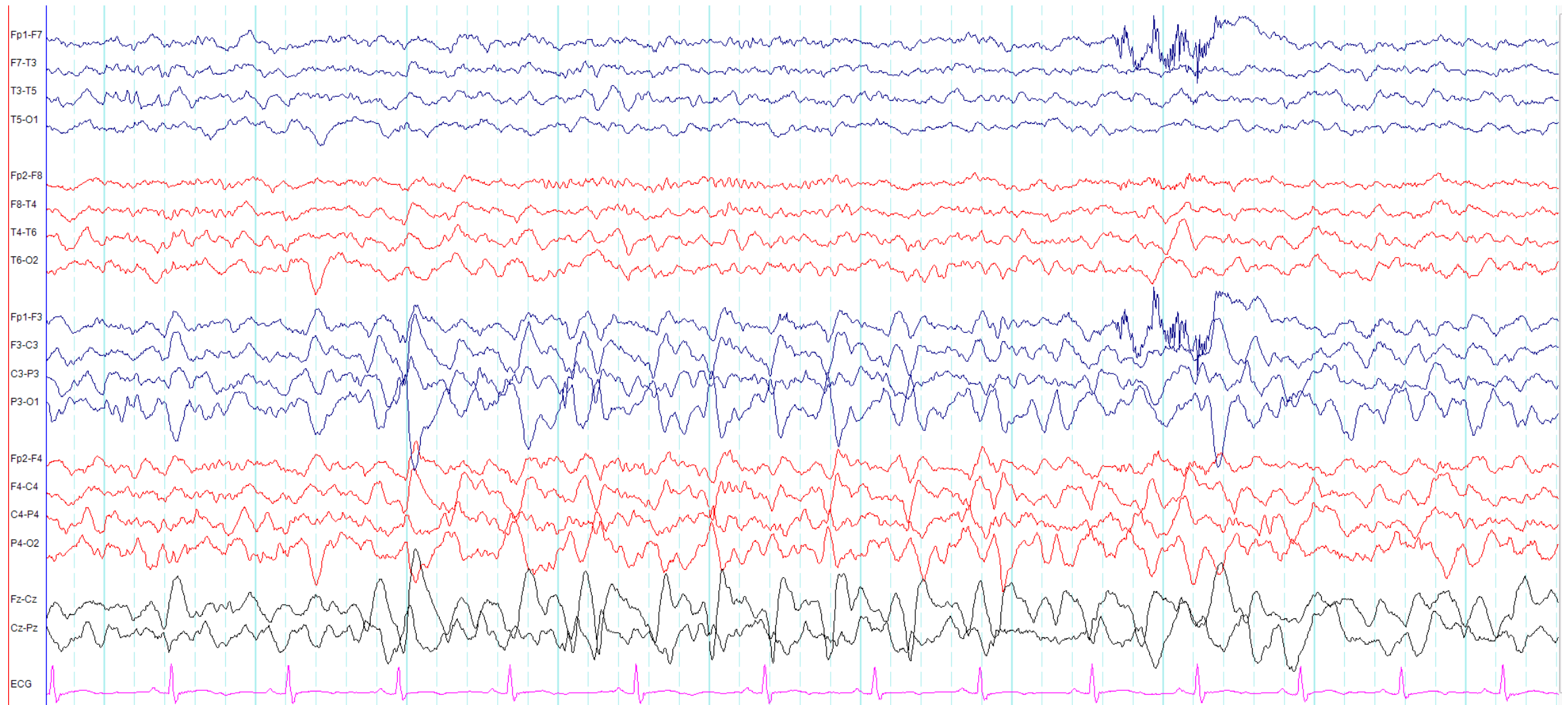


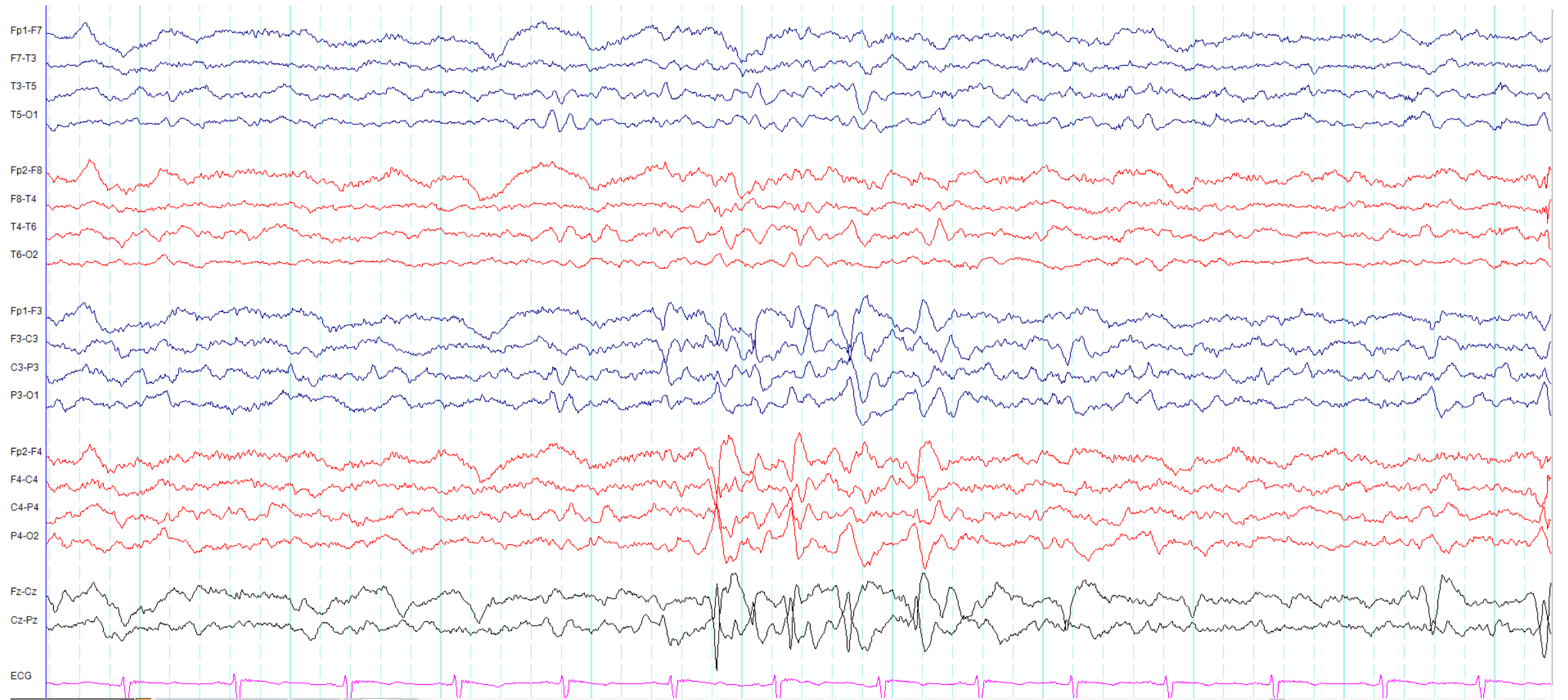
Vertex (V) sharp waves

- Bilateral synchronous diphasic sharply contour waves in central regions
 - initial negative / then positive deflection
- Appear by 6-8 weeks post-term
- Abnormal:
 - Persistent asymmetry >20%
 - Asynchrony : in hydrocephalus,

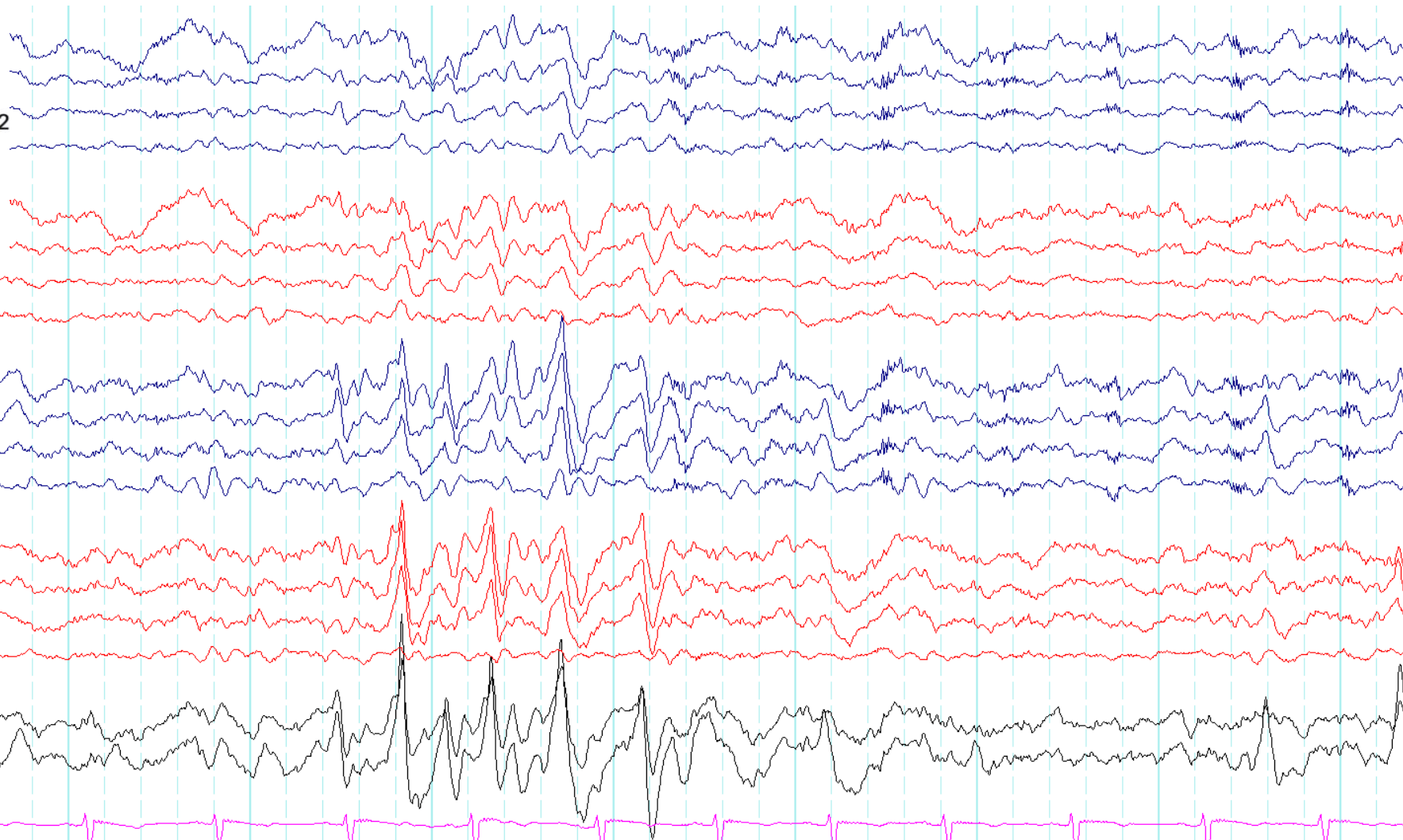
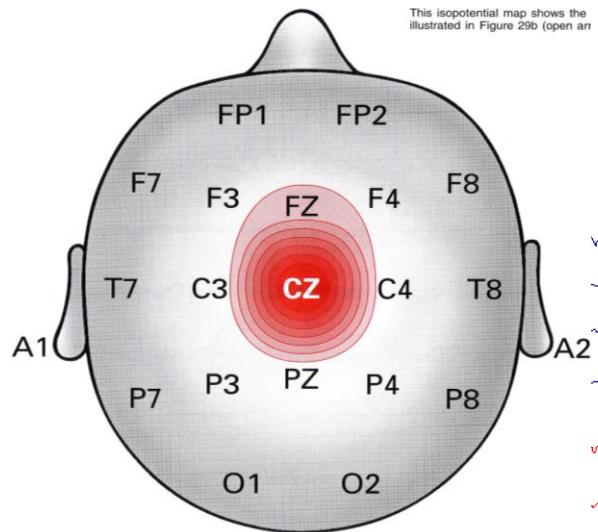
Repetitive V waves

8 years old



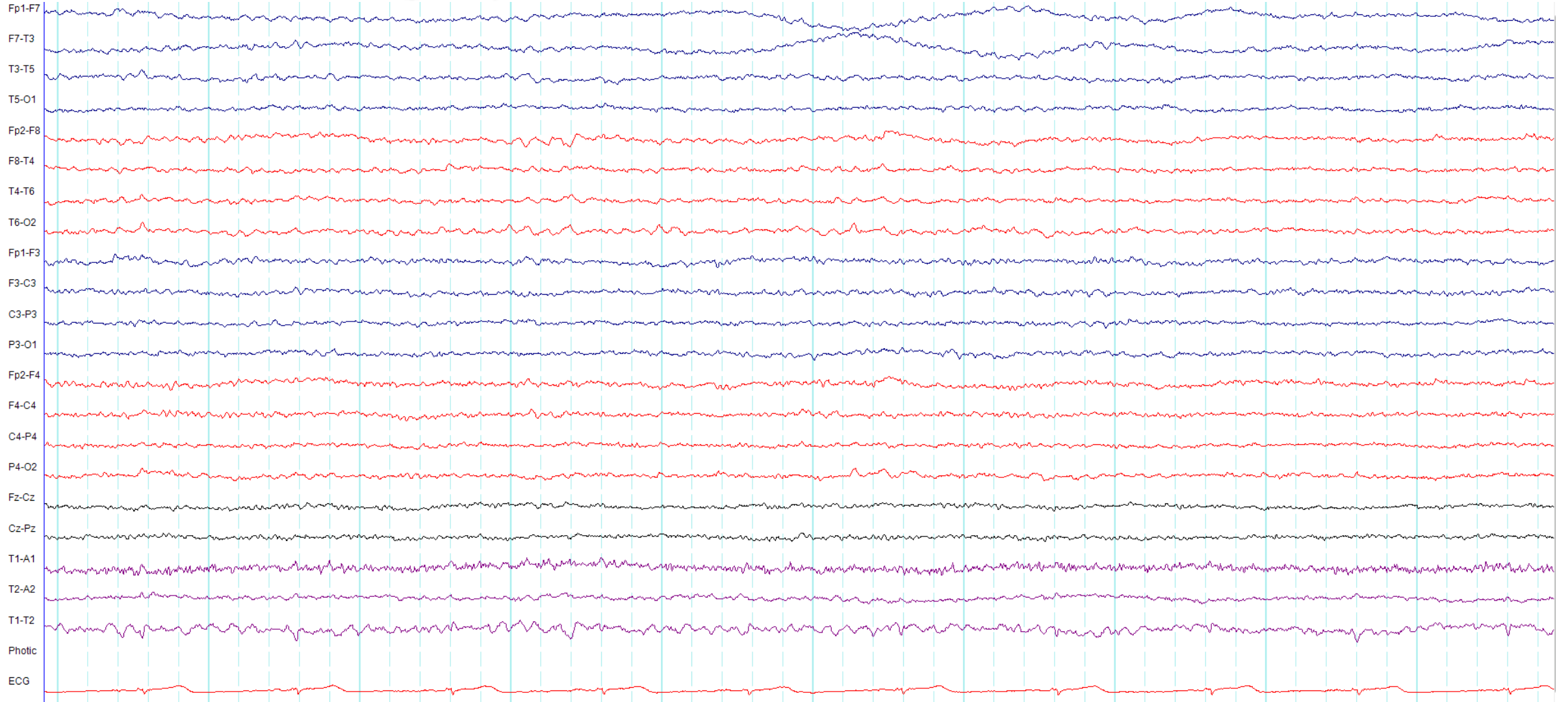


This isopotential map shows the illustrated in Figure 29b (open arr

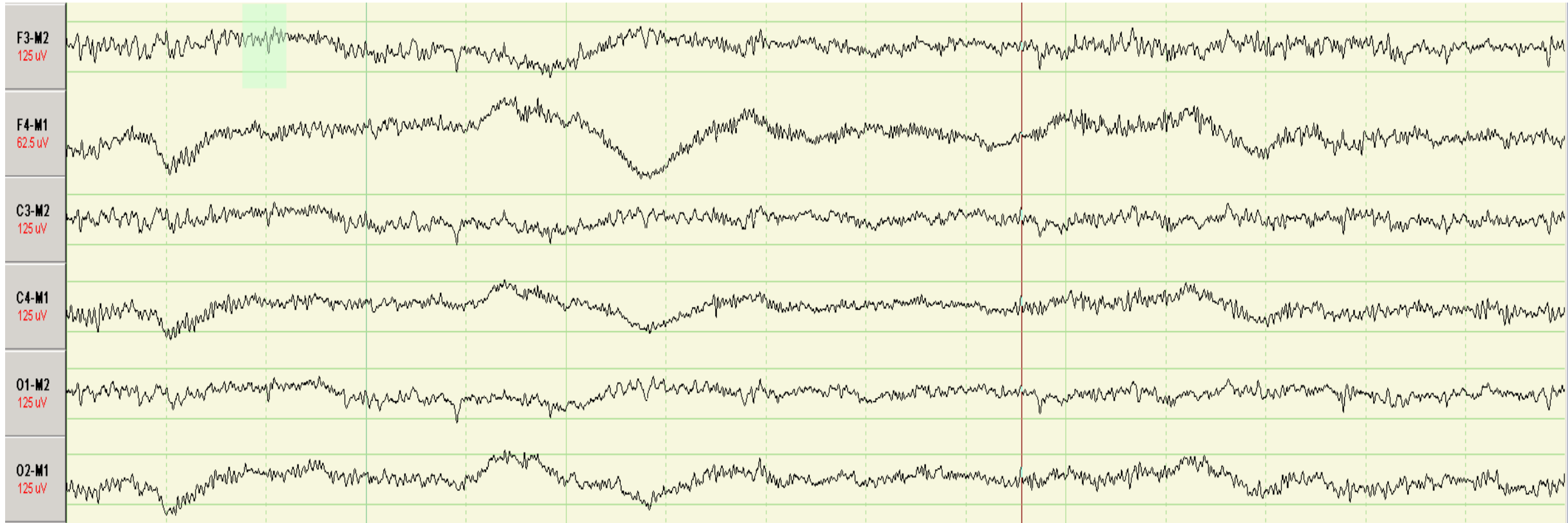


Slow rolling eye movements

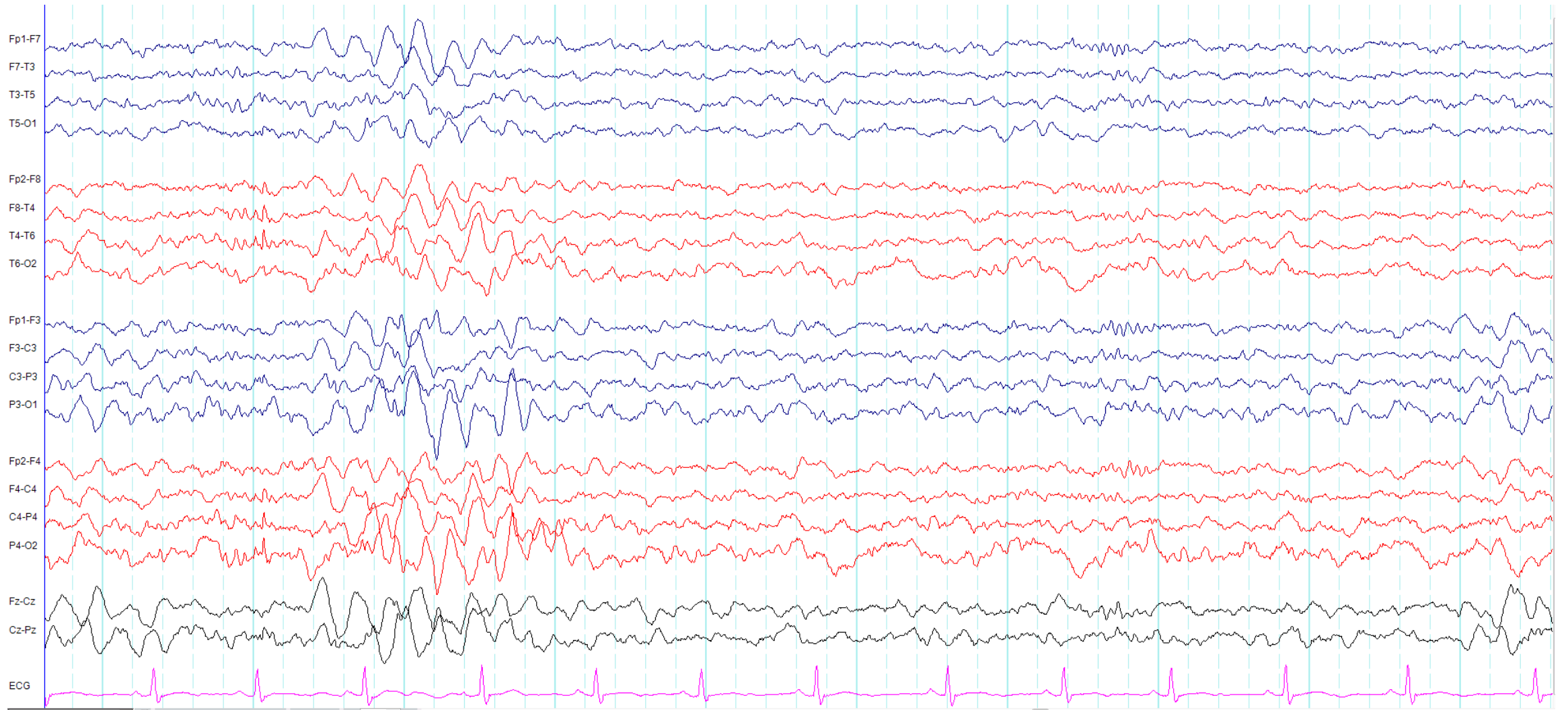
<0.5 Hz



Slow rolling eye movements (reference montage)



Hypnagogic hypersynchrony



Rhythmic bilateral synchronous high amplitude theta with widely distribution

Hypnagogic

- Abrupt onset during drowsiness

hypersynchrony

Hypnapompic

- Associated with brief arousal from light sleep

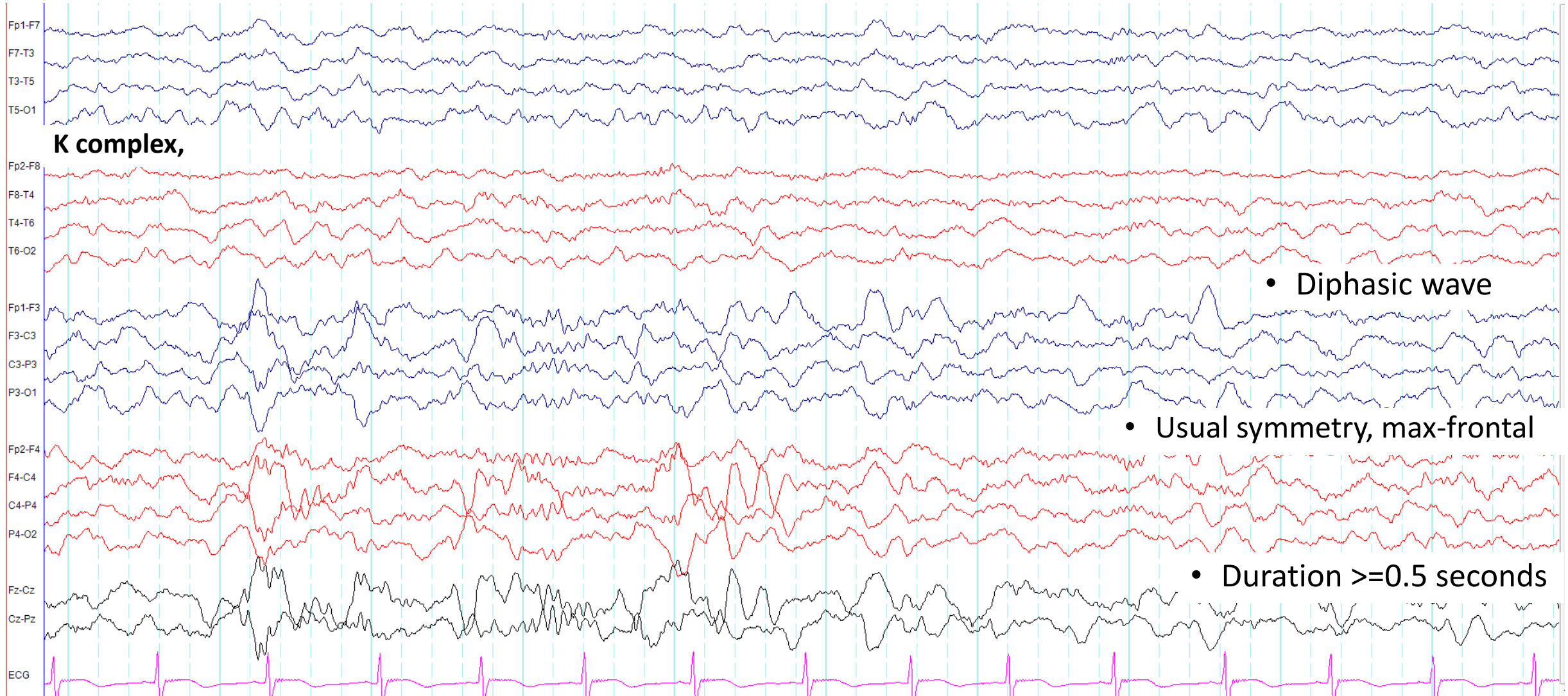
- Rhythmic bilateral synchronous theta burst with widely distribution
- Amplitude 200-300 μ V
- Most prominent at around 1 year, decrease toward 10 years old

NREM stage 2

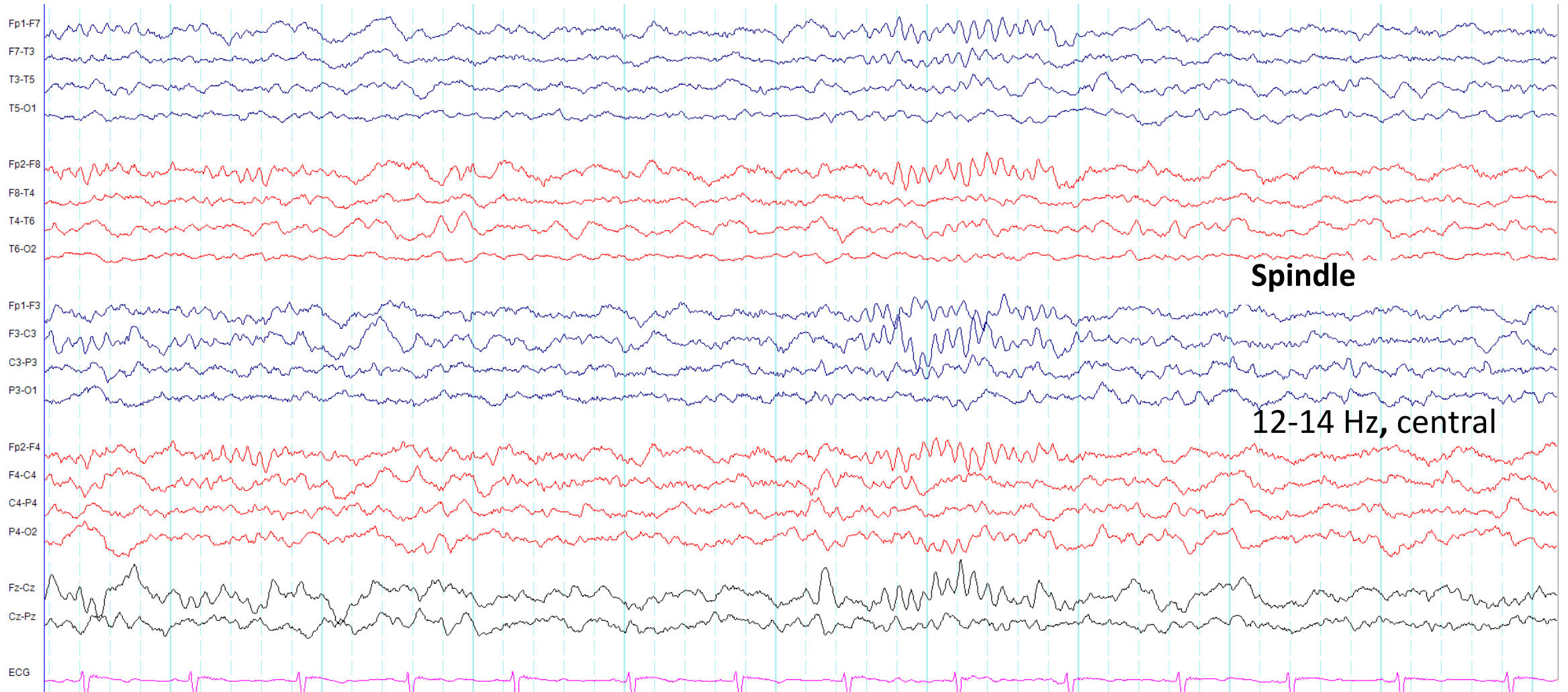
- K complexes
 - A well-delineated biphasic wave, negative followed by positive
 - Duration ≥ 0.5 seconds
 - Maximum amplitude in frontal derivations

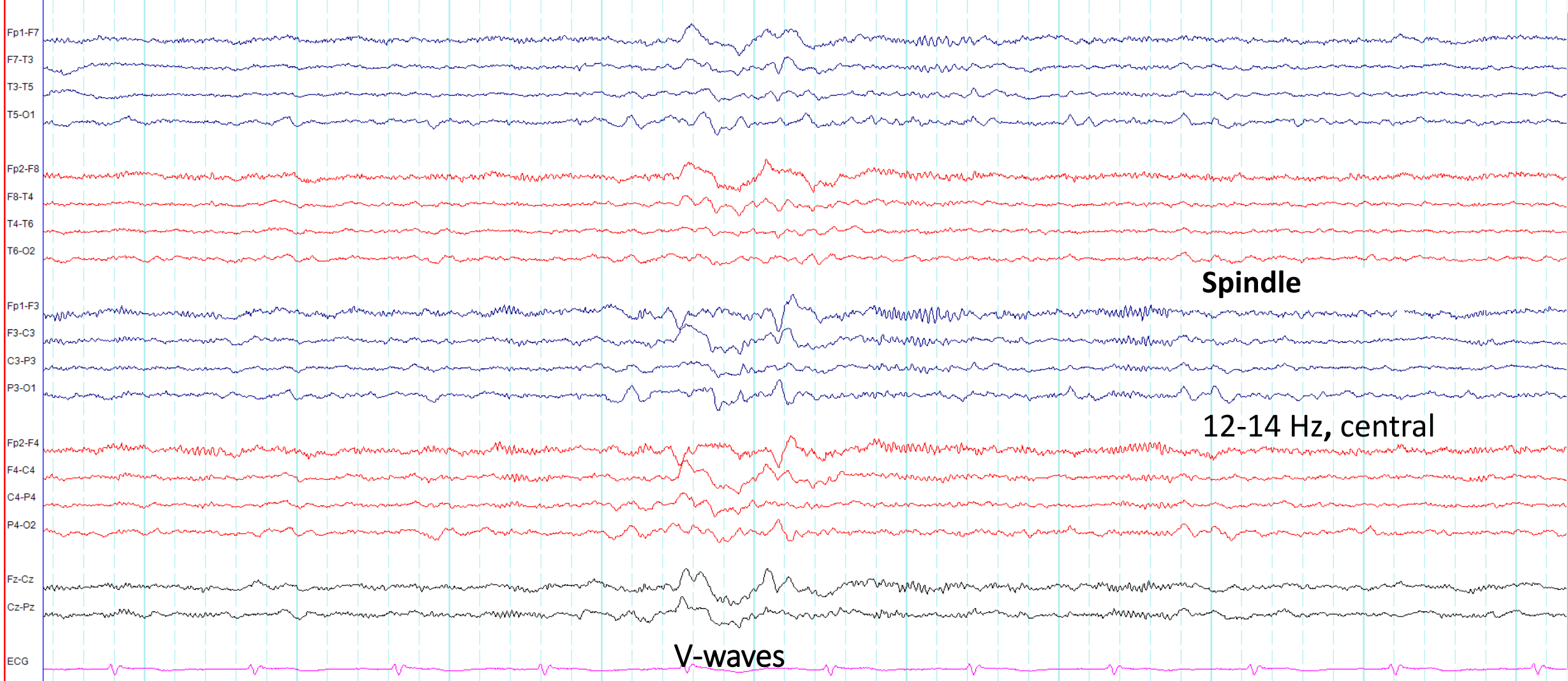
- Sleep spindles
 - A train of sinusoidal waves, 11-16 Hz (most commonly 12-14Hz)
 - Maximum amplitude in central derivations

K complexes— sleep spindle



Sleep spindle





Spindle

12-14 Hz, central

V-waves

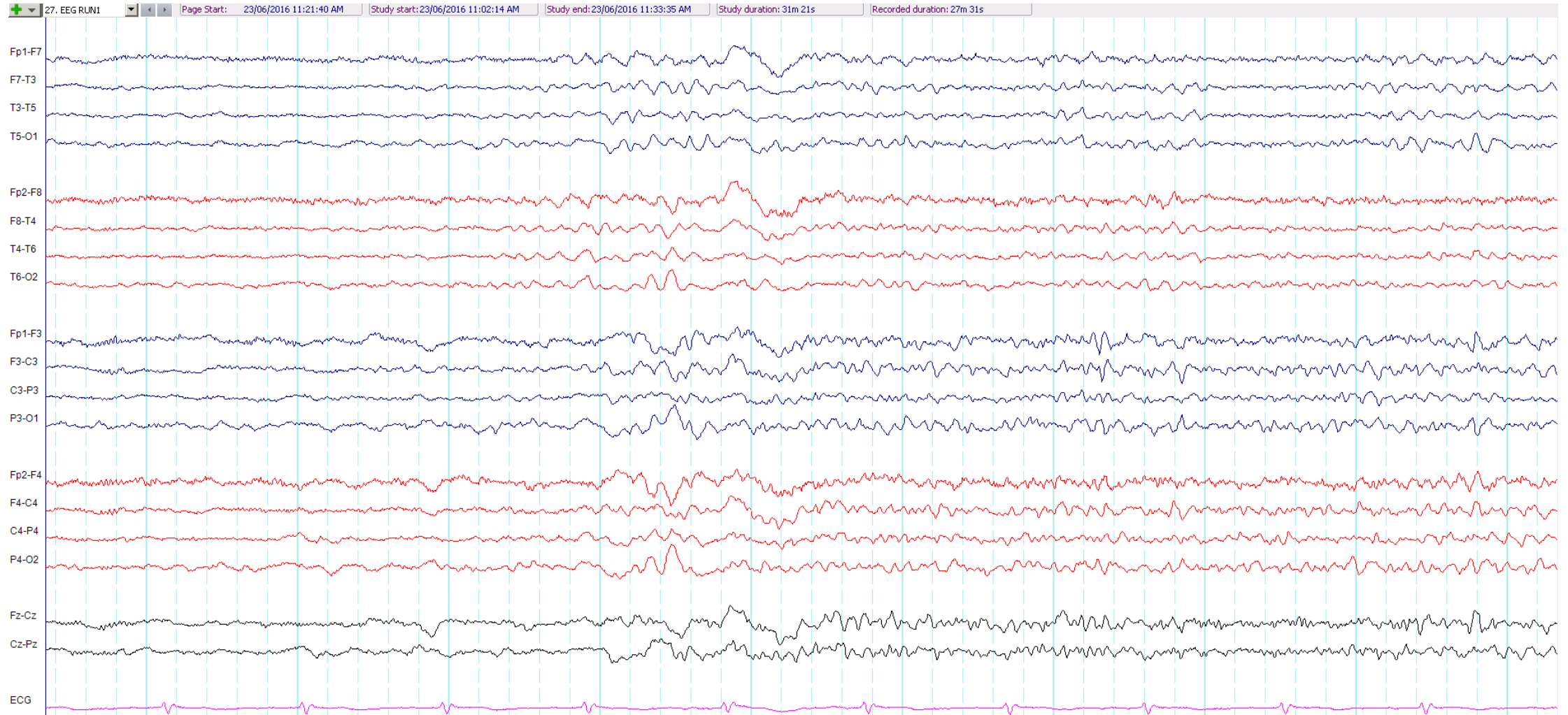
NREM stage 2

- K complexes
 - First appear between 8 and 12 weeks post-term
 - Spontaneous or in response to abrupt sensory stimulus (usually auditory)

NREM stage 2

- Sleep spindles
 - A burst of oscillatory brain activity
 - First appear between 6 and 8 post term; bilateral asynchronous
 - At age of one and a half years (18 months); bilateral synchronous
 - At age of 2 years; asynchronous = abnormal
- Three types:
 - Central 14 Hz: adults sleep, spindle coma
 - Frontal 10-12Hz: 5% of normal kids 3-12 years old
 - Nearly continuous 10Hz: related to drug effect (morphine)

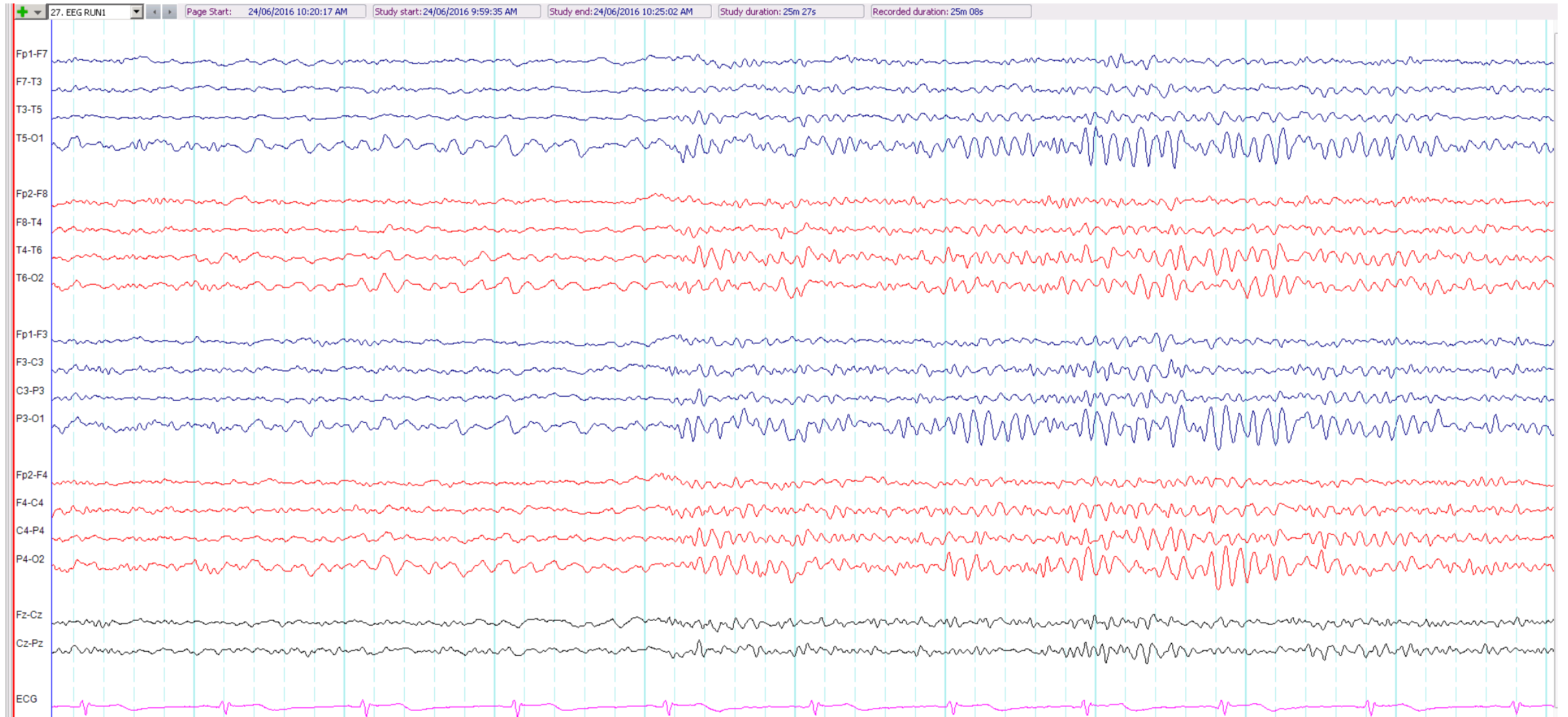
K complexes with arousal



Fast component in adult : 8-10 Hz

Arousal

Fast component in adult : 8-10 Hz



Arousal

- Post 2 months → slow component
- Post 7 months → 4-4.5 Hz
- Adult → 8-10 Hz

NREM stage 3 (Slow Wave Sleep)

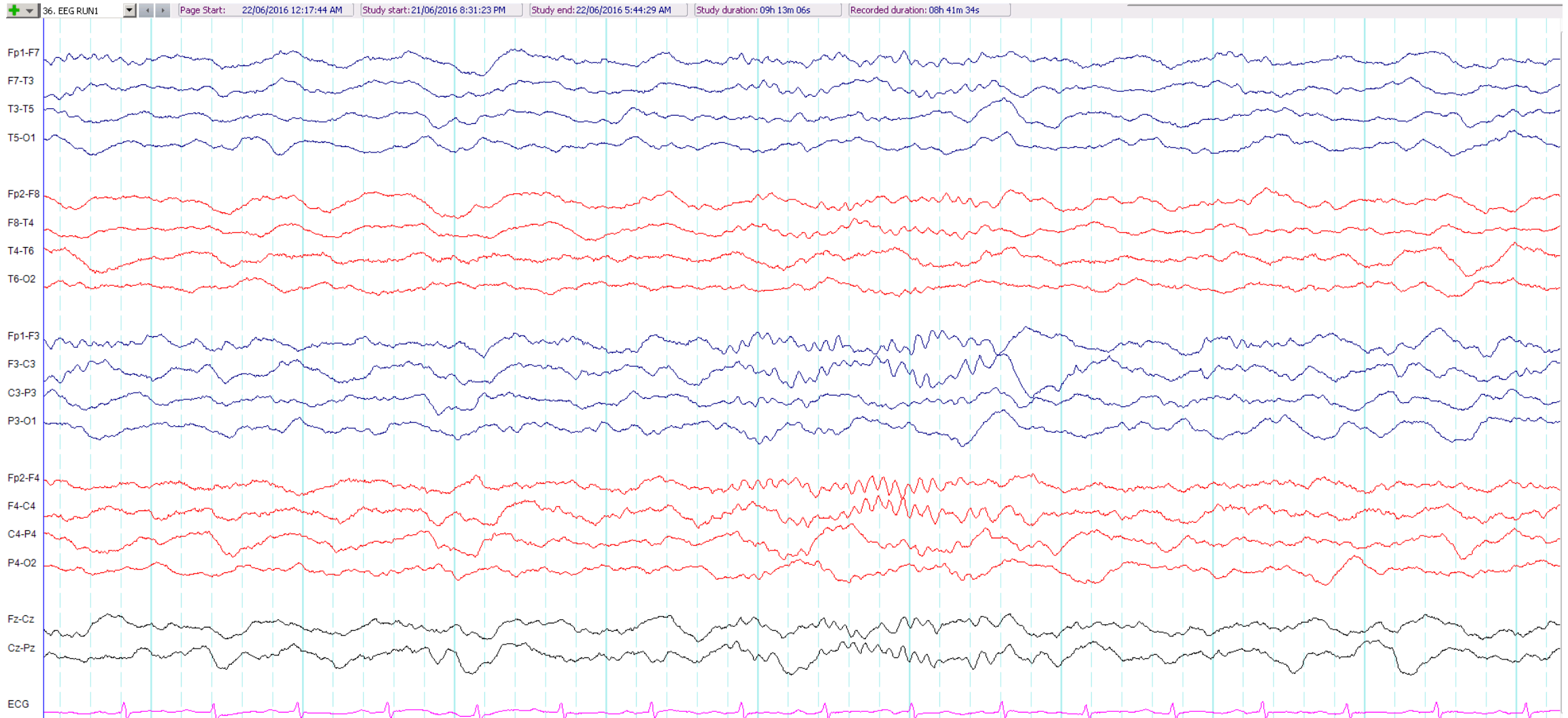
- Wave frequency 0.5-2 Hz (Delta activity)
- Peak to peak amplitude > 75 μ V (frontal regions)

Slow wave sleep

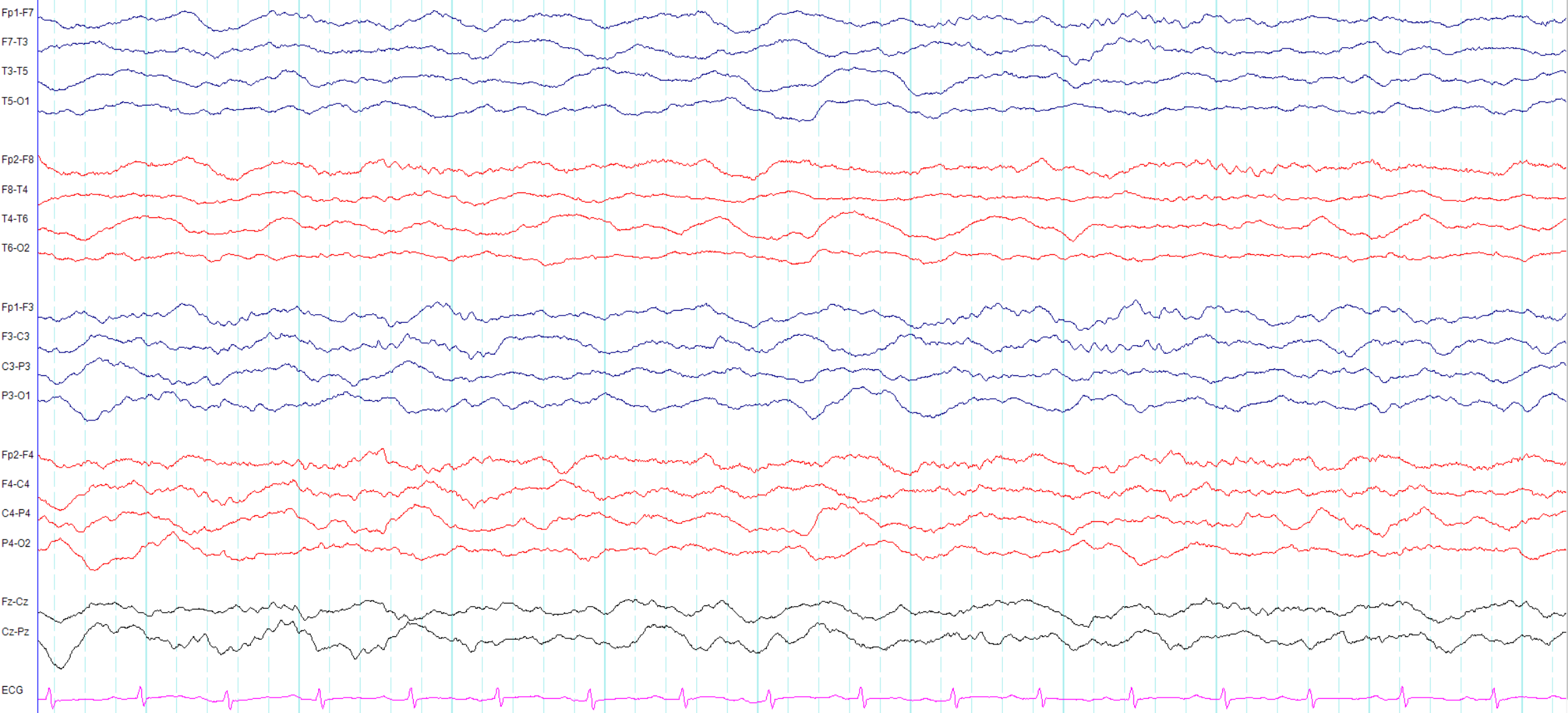
High voltage >75 μV

Polymorphic, asynchronous

Slow wave - Delta activity (0.5-2Hz)



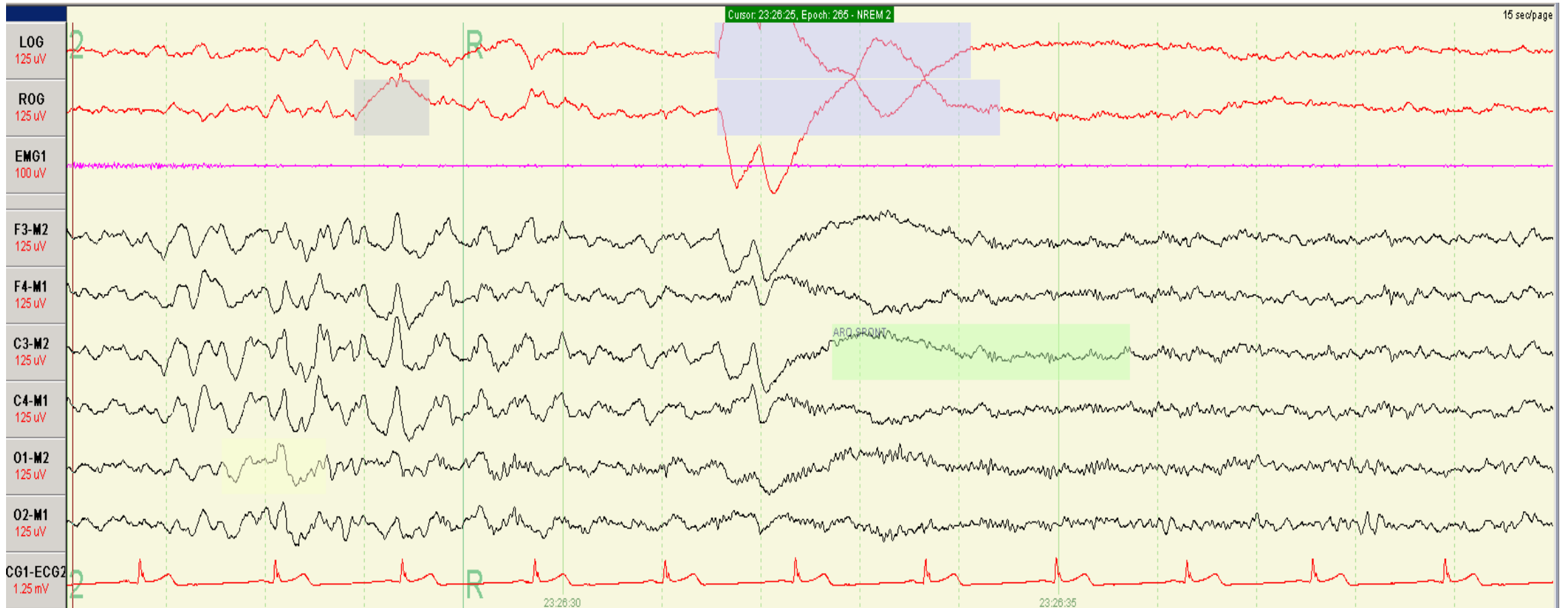
Slow wave sleep



Before Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep

- Saw tooth waves
 - Trains of 2-6 Hz sharply contour, triangular wave
 - Maximum amplitude over central head region
- Do not usually found in REEG

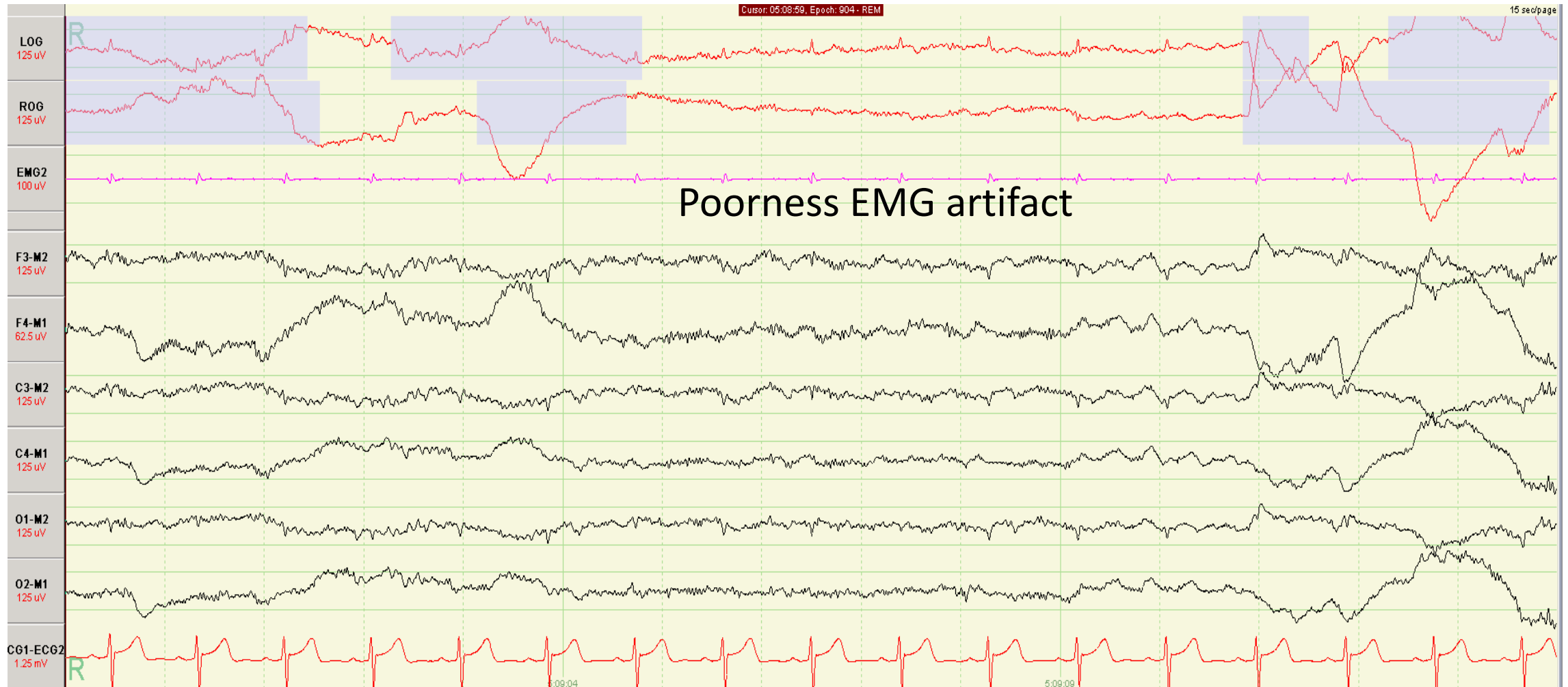
Sawtooth waves (15 sec/ page)



- Trains of 2-6 Hz sharply contour, triangular wave
- Maximum amplitude over central head region

REM -phasic

Chaotic, multidirectional eye movement

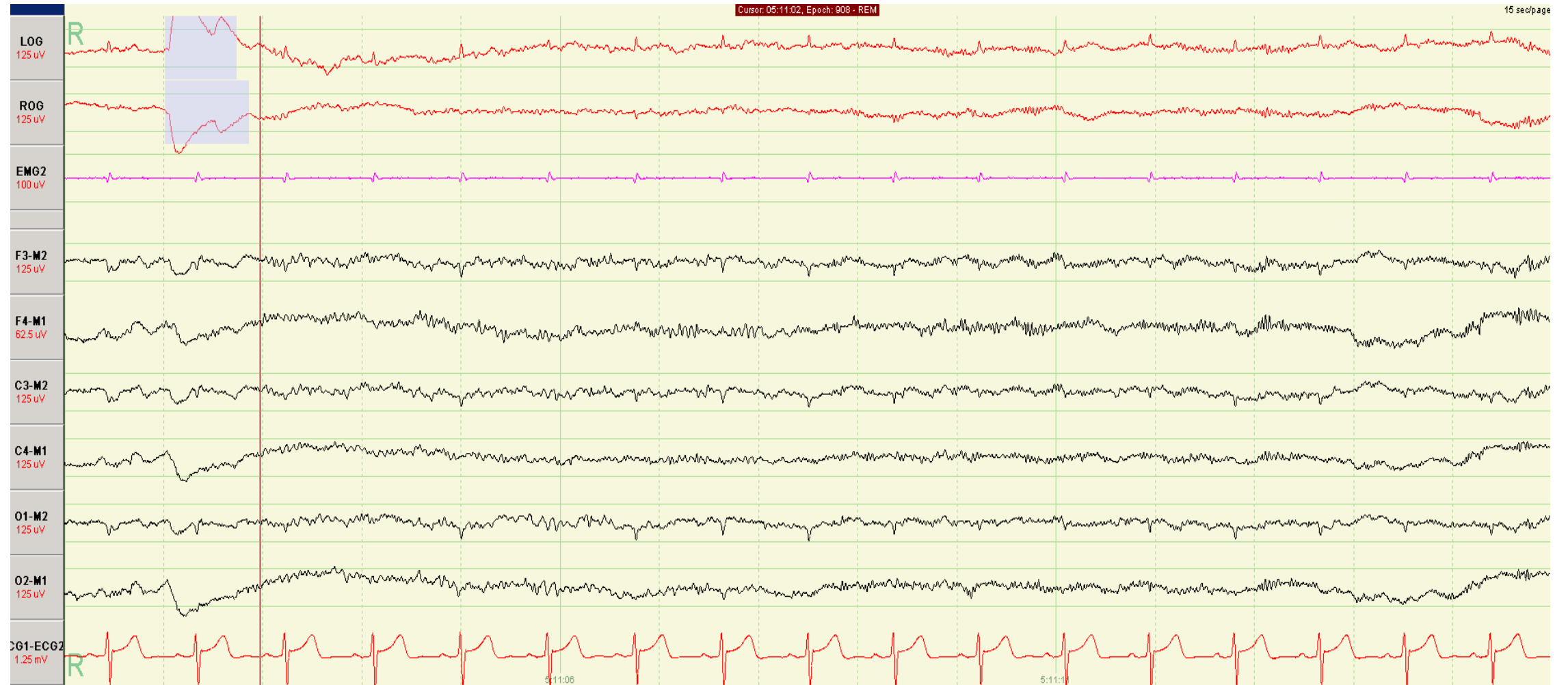


Low voltage

Mixture of fast, theta, and delta rhythms, usually alpha activity 1-2 Hz slower than awake

Without K or sleep spindle

REM - tonic



Pediatric awake EEG

- Full term to age of 3 months old
 - Mixed delta-theta activities with central predominance
- 3 months old to 1 year old
 - Clearly identified PDR followed age groups
- 1 – 19 years old
 - Similar to adults
 - Higher amplitude than adults



Sleep EEG

Pediatrics

- NREM sleep
 - **Hypnagogic/ Hypnapompic hypersynchrony**
 - Arousal response
 - POSTs
 - Vertex sharp waves
 - K complexes
 - Sleep spindle
 - Slow Wave Sleep
- REM sleep

Adults

- NREM sleep
 - Arousal response
 - POSTs
 - Vertex sharp waves
 - K complexes
 - Sleep spindle
 - Slow Wave Sleep
- REM sleep



THANK YOU

