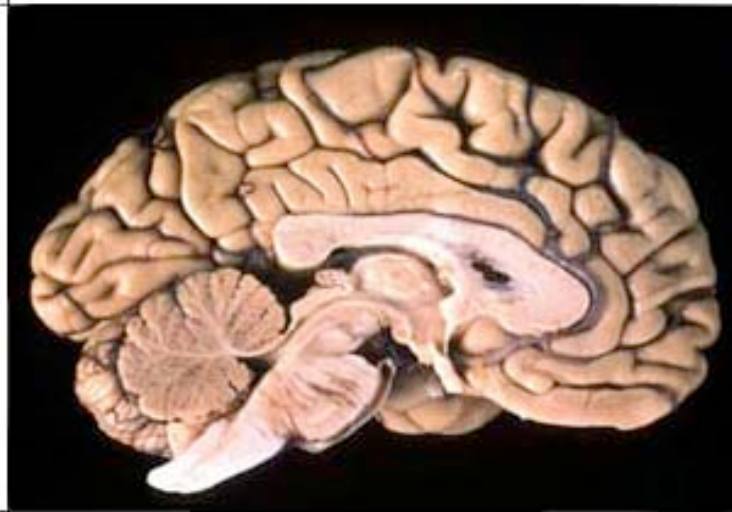


DB/IR: Rethinking the great divide



SIGMOD 2005 Panel

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Apr(iorie)
Information Management

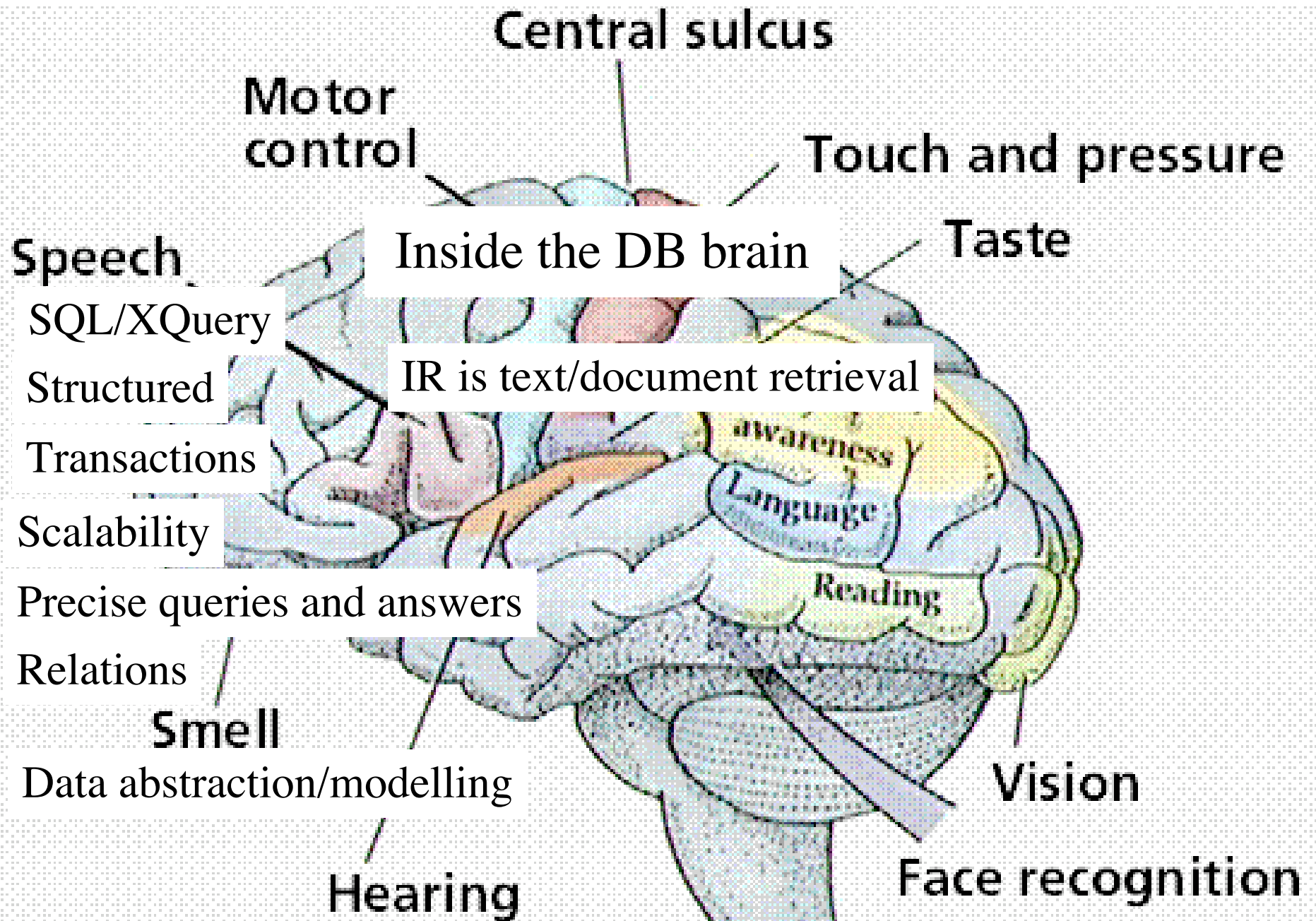
Rethinking the great divide



The brain of a DB researcher

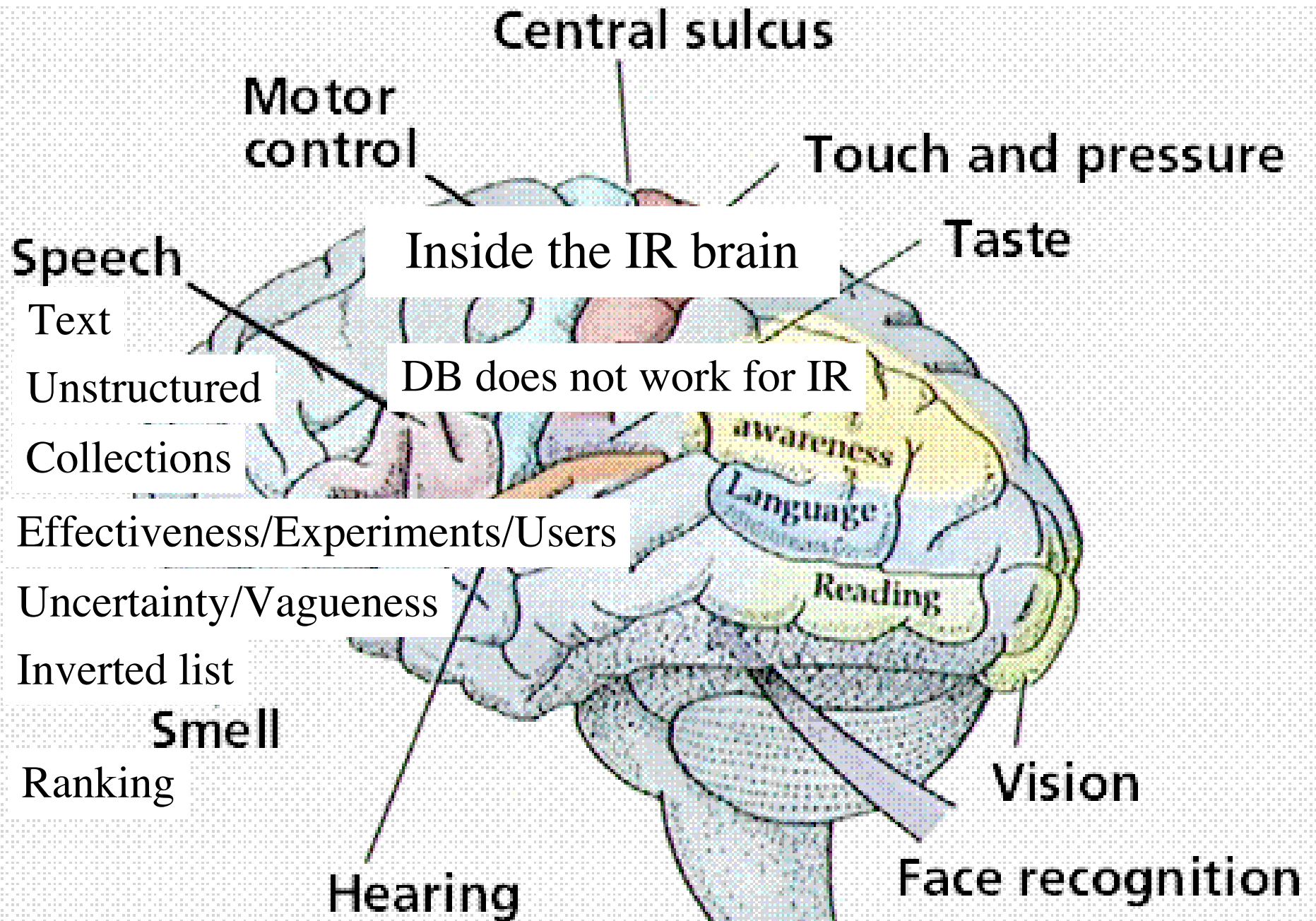


The brain of an IR research



<http://www.emc.maricopa.edu/faculty/farabee/BIOBK/BioBookNERV.html>

Image from Purves et al., Life: The Science of Biology, 4th Edition, by Sinauer Associates (www.sinauer.com) and WH Freeman (www.whfreeman.com)



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Past, Presence, and Future

- Past: Rijsbergen:79 (data vs info retrieval), [Schek/Pistor:82](#), Fuhr:93, ..., Croft:95: “what people want from IR: the top 10”, SIGIR 2004 workshop on integration of DB and IR
- Presence:
 - XML drives DB and IR: XQuery + Text
 - Chaudhuri/Ramkrishnan/Weikum: Can you clap ...
 - DB+IR platforms: Stream-based algebra, lazy probabilistic evaluation, new index structures, etc.
- Future: Next DB+IR workshop in planning

Position Statements

Web retrieval has poor quality.
IR technology is insufficient.
It is about time that we add
semantics to data and queries!

A senior DB researcher

You are going to
SIGMOD? But they
will never understand
what IR is about!

A senior IR researcher

Information retrieval is not
just document retrieval!

A senior IR researcher

IR did not take IR+DB on board.
Meanwhile, DB does.
Will it be IR on-top of DB?
Will it be DB+IR?

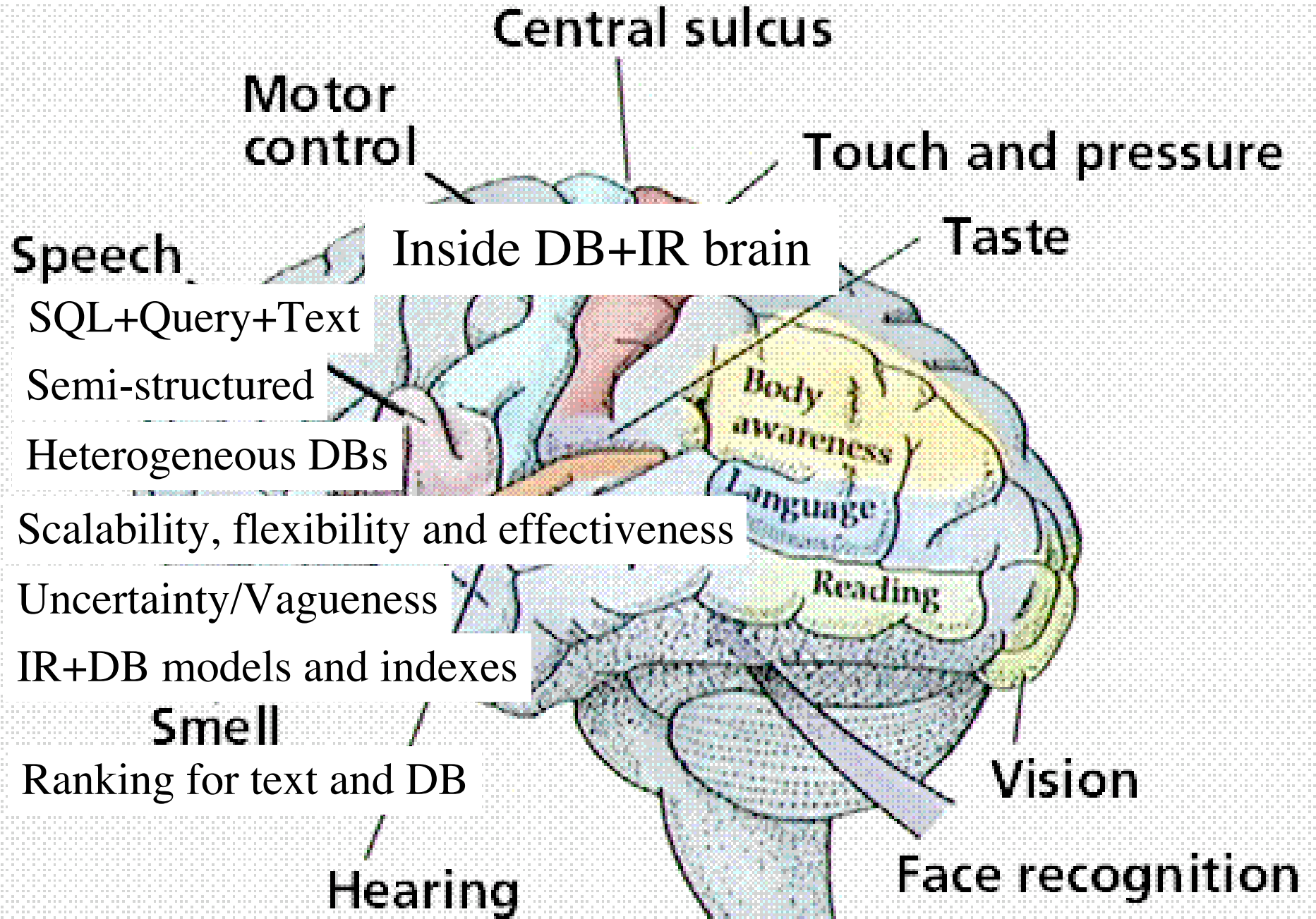
A senior IR researcher with links to DB research

My Position

- DB+IR needed? Yes. Why?
 - To improve expressiveness, flexibility and abstraction, and, overall, productivity (codd:70)
 - Scalability? The main reason for DB+IR?
- XML native? No. Why?
 - XML on top of RDBMS works ok for us
 - Integration with SQL comes for free
 - My brain relationally imprinted?

My Questions

- Which brain (community) has room for the cells and wiring needed?
- Is there more than a technological divide to overcome?
 - A sociological divide?
 - An emotional divide?



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