# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Seeing in Strange Colors</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Alien Sensory World of Bees</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>“It’s Just Instinct”—or Is It?</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Roots of Bee Intelligence and Communication</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Learning about Space</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Learning about Flowers</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>From Social Learning to “Swarm Intelligence”</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The Brains Behind It All</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>“Personality” Differences between Bees</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Do Bees Have Consciousness?</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Afterword</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acknowledgments 215

Notes and Bibliography 217

Illustration Credits 247

Index 251
Let us suppose that an inhabitant of Venus or Mars were to contemplate us from the height of a mountain, and watch the little black specks that we form in space, as we come and go in the streets and squares of our towns.... All he could do, like ourselves when we gaze at the hive, would be to take note of some facts that seem very surprising; and from these facts to deduce conclusions probably no less erroneous, no less uncertain, than those that we choose to form concerning the bee....

"Whither do they tend, and what is it they do?" he would ask, after years and centuries of patient watching. "What is the aim of their life, or its pivot?... I can see nothing that governs their actions. The little things that one day they appear to collect and build up, the next they destroy and scatter. They come and they go, they meet and disperse, but one knows not what it is they seek.

—Maurice Maeterlinck, 1901

Understanding the minds of alien life-forms is not easy, but if you relish the challenge, you don't have to travel to outer space to find it. Alien minds are right here, all around you. You won't necessarily find them in large-brained mammals—whose psychology is sometimes studied for the sole purpose of finding human-ness in slightly modified form. With insects such as bees, there is no such temptation: neither the societies of bees nor their individual psychology are remotely like those of humans (figure 1.1). Indeed, their perceptual world is so distinct from ours, governed by completely different sense organs, and their lives are ruled by such different priorities, that they might be accurately regarded as aliens from inner space.
Insect societies may look to us like smoothly oiled machines in which the individual plays the part of a mindless cog, but a superficial alien observer might come to the same conclusion about a human society. Over the course of this book, it will be my goal to convince you that each individual bee has a mind—that it has an awareness of the world around it and of its own knowledge, including autobiographical memories; an appreciation of the outcomes of its own actions; and the capacity for basic emotions and intelligence—key ingredients of a mind. And these minds are supported by beautifully elaborate brains. As we will see, insect brains are anything but simple. Compared to a human brain with its 86 billion nerve cells, a bee’s brain may have only about a million. But each one of these cells has a finely branched structure that in complexity may resemble a full-
grown oak tree. Each nerve cell can make connections with 10,000 other ones—hence there may be more than a billion such connection points in a bee brain—and each of these connections is at least potentially plastic, alterable by individual experience. These elegantly miniaturized brains are much more than input-output devices; they are biological prediction machines, exploring possibilities. And they are spontaneously active in the absence of any stimulation, even during the night.

What It’s Like to Be a Bee

To explore what might be inside the mind of a bee, it is helpful to take a first-person bee perspective, and consider which aspects of the world would matter to you, and how. I invite you to picture what it’s like to be a bee. To start, imagine you have an exoskeleton—like a knight’s armor. However, there isn’t any skin underneath: your muscles are directly attached to the armor. You’re all hard shell, soft core. You also have an inbuilt chemical weapon, designed as an injection needle that can kill any animal your size and be extremely painful to animals a thousand times your size—but using it may be the last thing you do, since it can kill you, too. Now imagine what the world looks like from inside the cockpit of a bee.

You have 300° vision, and your eyes process information faster than any human’s. All your nutrition comes from flowers, each of which provides only a tiny meal, so you often have to travel many miles to and between flowers—and you’re up against thousands of competitors to harvest the goodies. The range of colors you can see is broader than a human’s and includes ultraviolet light, as well as sensitivity for the direction in which light waves oscillate. You have sensory superpowers, such as a magnetic compass. You have protrusions on your head, as long as an arm, which can taste, smell, hear, and sense electric fields (figure 1.2). And you can fly. Given all this, what’s in your mind?

The Challenges of Being a Forager in the Wild

What is in an animal’s (including a human’s) mind is a mixture of information from its evolutionary history; information passing through the
Figure 1.2. Portrait of a bumble bee, and how it may see a flower. A. Electron micrograph of a bee’s head. Its antennae can sense surface textures and air currents, tastes, smells, temperature, and electric fields. The large curved eyes on both sides of the head can look in all directions simultaneously (except to the back) and possess sensitivity to ultraviolet and polarized light. These compound eyes consist of thousands of “micro-eyes” (so-called ommatidia), each with its own hexagonal lens (see inset; scale bar 50 µm), and each of which contributes one pixel to an image. B and C. An impression of how a typical star-shaped flower maps onto the bee’s curved eyes when viewed from a distance of 4 cm. Note the poor visual resolution and the strongly distorted image from this vantage point.
sensory filters it has acquired during evolution; information it has memo-
rized from its experience; and things it might imagine, or anticipate. To
explore the possible contents of a mind, it helps to think about what matters
to the animal in question—what’s important in that animal’s daily life. For
example, one thing you can be fairly sure is not on a honey bee worker’s
mind is sex: worker bees are typically sterile, and female reproduction is
ceded to the queen. On the other hand, flowers are likely to have a com-
pletely different significance in the mind of a bee than in our minds.
Because plants can turn solar power into an energy drink—nectar—they
mean survival for the individual bee and its family. Pollen—plants’ sperm—is
an equally important resource to collect, since it contains high concen-
trations of nutritious proteins.

To explore further what plausibly could be on the mind of a creature
for whom flowers mean life, imagine a young bee on its first day outside
its home. The challenge is to memorize the location of home and landmarks
in its surroundings, and to locate profitable flower resources. Moreover,
within just a few excursions the bee would be expected to bring home a
surplus, or its younger siblings will starve to death. It’s clear that our ex-
ploring bee must have a large archive of evolutionary knowledge—it does
not have to learn to fly, for example, and it has an inborn knowledge that
colored, scented dots in the landscape might be flowers.

However, there are many forms of information for which evolution
will not have provided the bee with the necessary guidance, since a lot is un-
predictable from one generation to the next. The bee does not know from
birth where the flowers are, or what exactly they look like; how to manipu-
late them, whether they contain nectar or pollen, whether they are a good
resource or poor; even if they are of good species, they may have already
been depleted by competitors. All these things need to be explored and
learned by each individual bee. In other words, a bee has to learn a lot in
its short adult lifetime of perhaps three weeks, or it will neither find its way
home nor become an efficient flower forager.

A bee’s first flight is the most dangerous. In bumble bees, up to
10 percent of foragers never return to their native colonies after departing
for the first time. Some fail the challenge of accurately remembering the
home location; others fall victim to insectivorous birds or sit-and-wait
flower predators such as crab spiders. To appreciate the nature of the chal-
lenge, imagine human children in this situation. To roughly match the
endowment of a few-days-old novice forager bee, let’s assume our experi-
mental children are already a few years old (say six years, so of school age).
You release them into a wild environment—that is, one without purpose-built, memorable landmarks such as buildings (figure 1.3). Let’s make things simpler for the children and keep our environment predator-free. Their only instruction is to bring back food that, like a bee’s food, is perhaps up to five kilometers away from home. They need to have the forethought to take sufficient provisions to survive the trip, and when they run out, the resourcefulness to find their own. To match the complexity of floral structures, let’s assume that the food needs to be extracted from a variety of puzzle boxes whose mechanics must be figured out by the children themselves, without any instructions from adults. Then, without the assistance of well-meaning passersby, they must find their way home. How many do you think you would see at the end of the day who would also be carrying a significant surplus of food?

It is clear that those few who might succeed would be the ones with extraordinary spatial memory, good searching and motor learning abilities,
and fine judgments of the quality of various resources. Over the next few
days, some individuals may get better and better: having remembered the
most profitable vending machines, they will focus on exploiting these (and
recognizing others like them), and will also find shorter paths to connect
the best locations. But things won’t be entirely stable. Let’s introduce
some competition from a different group of children, and also some un-
predictable changes, as in the flower world: a previously profitable location
vanishes and new ones emerge, requiring further exploration. These are
just a few of the basic challenges that a bee faces, and that therefore might
occupy her mind. In the following sections, we will learn that these chal-
lenges require many forms of complicated decision making and efficient
memory organization.

The Mind of a Shopper in the
Flower Supermarket

Flowers are, essentially, plants’ sex organs, and their colors, patterns, and
scents are designed to lure animals into a sexual transaction that many
plants, given their lack of mobility, cannot accomplish without help: the
transfer of pollen from male flower parts to female ones. But bees don’t
usually provide this service for free; they need to be rewarded for their ef-
forts. From this perspective, pollination systems may be viewed as bio-
logical markets in which animals choose between “brands” (flower species)
on the basis of their quality (sugar content of nectar, for example) and
plants compete for “customers” (pollinators). Bees learn the advertisements
that flowers display and link them to the quality of the product each flower
contains. The offerings of this market are constantly in flux: a flower patch
that was rewarding in the morning may cease to yield nectar by lunchtime,
or may have been depleted by competitors. It may be rewarding again at
the same time the next morning, but then have withered altogether three
days later. Foraging bees need to update their information in light of these
changes and juggle exploitation with prospecting for alternative sources.

Much of the workings of the bee’s mind can be understood only when
one considers the natural challenges of the constantly changing market
economy in which it must operate. The pressures of operating in this set-
ting are often expressed in terms of physical performance. For example,
a bee can carry its own body weight in nectar and/or pollen; it may need
to visit 1,000 flowers and fly 10 kilometers to fill its honey stomach only once; and 100 such trips may be required to generate a teaspoon of honey. Less appreciated are the mental efforts required along the way: in visiting 1,000 flowers, the bee has to work 1,000 floral “puzzle boxes” whose mechanics can be as complicated as operating a lock (figure 1.4), and no two flower species are quite alike in the mechanics that have to be learned to gain access to their contents. While flying through a flower meadow, the bee is constantly bombarded with stimuli (color patterns, scent mixtures, electric fields) from multiple flowers of several species per second, requiring the bee to pay attention only to the most relevant stimuli and to suppress the rest. Between visits to 1,000 flowers, the bee may have to reject 5,000 other flowers that either are unfamiliar or have been found to be poorly rewarding, or only rewarding at a different time of day (figure 1.5).

While foraging, the bee also has to overcome the frustration and the starvation risk of finding dozens of empty flowers in a row that a competitor has recently emptied, and she must decide when to cut her losses and

Figure 1.4. A flower as a natural puzzle box. A. frontal view and B. lateral view of monkshood flower (Aconitum variegatum); and C. A bumble bee inside the flower, inserting its tongue overhead into the “hood” of the flower to extract nectar. Naïve individuals often fail to locate the nectar, and even those that succeed take dozens of visits to hone the technique.
explore for an alternative food source. As she keeps visiting several thousands of flowers a day, rules begin to emerge; for example, are bilaterally symmetrical flower species (such as snapdragons) more rewarding than radially symmetrical ones (such as daisies), irrespective of species and color? Learning rules is not typically regarded as within the reach of an insect mind, but as we will soon discover, the pressures of operating in the flower supermarket have given rise to such intelligent operations in the bee. What’s more, while figuring out all these contingencies, she also has to dodge attacks from predators, and remember and avoid flower...
patches where predation risk is especially high. She has to keep track of the location of her home no matter how convoluted her flight path, and in the face of wind gusts that might displace her far from her established route.

**Complex Decisions, Communication, and Construction at Home**

Finally, upon her return home, the bee might find that a bear is digging up her nest. What to do? Should she first unload her forage, or attack the bear and risk being killed? Should she buzz around the bear's head in a menacing way in the hope that this will suffice as a deterrent? Or should she slyly wait on a nearby tree until the attack is over? You might think that these choices are decided by innate priorities, but individual bees can choose differently according to their own predispositions.

After the bear is gone, nest repairs are needed in addition to replacing stolen honey. Building honeycomb requires the construction of precisely hexagonal cells from slivers of soft material that emerge from the abdomen, the cells sized roughly to fit around a bee's body. For unknown reasons, this task involves forming hanging chains of bee workers (figure 1.1). Bees have to hold hands with their sisters, suspended in midair, while repair work continues around the clock.

Night or day, it is always dark in a typical western honey bees' nest (one undamaged by a bear, that is), and the world inside is no less fascinating and strange than a bee's outside world. Imagine a 100-story windowless skyscraper, as packed with people as a bus during rush hour. All main surfaces are vertical, and individuals are constantly scurrying up and down walls. How does any individual know what to do, among the dozens of tasks that need to be taken care of by the colony as a whole?

Much of bee communication works by pheromones (cocktails of chemicals released by multiple glands distributed over the body—fifteen in the case of the honey bee) and by electrostatic signals bees can generate, which they sense with mechanosensory hairs. But honey bees can also communicate about flower locations using symbolic movements: a strange motor display called the dance language. A forager performs a solo dance on a vertical wall. Imagining you are a bee, you and several other bees try to decipher from the dancer's moves where she has found a food bonanza.
It’s dark, so to read her movements, you have to touch her throughout her dance. A bee does this by putting its feelers on the dancer’s abdomen and holding them there while the dancer turns and shimmies. To add an evolutionary perspective, imagine your life depended on how well you could sense and interpret the dancer’s movements. Some of us would do better on a dark dance floor than others. Some would fail altogether. Some individuals might have a knack for communicating via dances in the dark and be pretty good at it right away; others would be more adept at learning to communicate this way. In time, over many generations, there would be selection both for particularly efficient ways of encoding messages in dances, and for aptitude in tactiely deciphering the code.

Why Imagining Other Minds Is Important for Understanding them

Some philosophers may argue that there is no point in trying to imagine such strange alternative worlds. I disagree; I think that it’s tremendously useful. I cannot precisely imagine what it’s like to be you (much less any other animal), but I can do it a little bit, knowing you. I cannot imagine whether you see red the same way I do, but I can check the extent to which you and I agree on calling the same things red, and the extent to which we each discriminate between two similar shades of red (which a bee cannot do). I can also imagine what it’s like to have reduced sensory powers (it happens when I take off my glasses, or when I am feeling my way around a dark cellar and have to use my tactile sense to compensate for the lack of vision), and I can imagine, a little bit, what it’s like to have a sensory superpower, such as X-ray vision. If I did, it would certainly be accessible to experimentation—for example, you could measure how thick a wall my vision could penetrate, whether I could detect the color of someone’s clothes through a wall, and so on. Such tests of what another being can perceive help us to imagine its world a little better.

The question that so puzzles some philosophers—is it unknowable what it’s actually like to be some other animal?—is probably relatively pointless. After all, it feels entirely unspectacular to live in an alternative sensory world once you get used to it. Only the transition of acquiring a new sensory ability, if we could do so, would feel exciting; but it would lose its strangeness quite quickly, and then it would feel normal. Sensory
perceptions only become subjective experiences in any meaningful sense if they are attached to emotional experiences—in a bee’s case, perhaps, her reactions to finding a food bonanza, escaping a crab spider attack, or seeing her nest ripped apart by a large mammal. We will learn that bees have mind states that, by the same criteria applied to domestic and wild animals, would certainly qualify as “emotion-like states.”

To explore what it might feel like to experience life from any animal’s perspective, understanding what is important for that animal, as we have done above, is a necessary starting point. If we grasp that animals such as bees perceive the world through entirely different sensors than ours, and that different aspects of the environment are relevant for their well-being and survival, then we can unleash our imagination, immunized against the risks of anthropomorphizing—inappropriately reading human-like psychology into animals’ behavior.

Which Bees?

When contemplating bees, most of us think of social species, most prominently the domesticated western honey bee, *Apis mellifera*. Indeed, much of what we know about the psychology of bees has been studied in this ubiquitous species and a handful of other social species, such as bumble bees. Their social lives come with fascinating aspects of psychology. For example, they employ highly complex communication systems that ensure the efficient division of labor inside the colony to provide adequate nutrition, climate control, and colony defense. Yet only a few hundred of the world’s 20,000+ bee species are social, and the biology and behavior of the many solitary species are no less fascinating. These bees, too, provide for their young and build a home for them—but they are single working mothers, for their males, just like those of social bees, are good only for sex. Solitary females face many of the same learning tasks as social bees—for example, acquiring the spatial memory for home, and learning the appearance and handling techniques of various flowers. Solitary bees face the additional challenges of being “jacks-of-all-trades”: while social bees can allocate tasks to groups of specialists, solitary bee mothers must do it all themselves: locate suitable nesting locations, construct nests, defend them from parasites and predators, and provision the brood. However, I will not attempt comprehensive coverage of the literature on the psychology of
these many species of bees. Instead, my focus will be on informative examples from across the world of bees.

**Road Map of the Book**

The book is structured as follows. This introduction is followed by an overview of the bees’ sensory toolkit (chapters 2 and 3). This is important because all the information that is stored in a bee’s mind must first pass through its sense organs—and we will discover shortly that the sensory world of bees is not only wholly different from that of humans, but also quite possibly richer. However, not everything that is in an animal’s (including a human’s) mind is individually acquired: our instincts govern, at least in part, what we desire, what we fear, how we perform certain movements, and so on. Chapter 4 is about the diverse repertoire of bees’ innate behaviors, and the extent to which these govern their psychology and learning behavior. Following this, in chapter 5 we explore how the roots of bee intelligence can be sought in their lifestyle as central place foragers (i.e., those that have a home to return to). Bees’ ancestors had already switched from a vagabond lifestyle to one in which adults built nests where they protected and provisioned their offspring, and this required a keen spatial memory to ensure that the location of the nest could always be found even after long-distance excursions. Chapter 6 contains a detailed exploration of how bees’ minds represent space.

In chapter 7 we learn how the habit of flower visitation drove bees to be the intellectual giants of the insect world; how, beyond the basic need to learn flower locations, colors, and scents, bees also learn rules and concepts over their lifetime that help them exploit flower resources efficiently. Chapter 8 turns to bee social learning. Bees can learn a surprising amount of information from observing peers, including which flowers to visit, but also how to solve complex object-manipulation tasks. Accordingly, many complex social behaviors are much more driven by individual problem solving than by a diffuse swarm intelligence, as was traditionally thought.

Having covered the ground from sensory input to complex social cognition, in chapter 9 we explore how the miniature nervous system of bees can support such stunning complexity. Chapter 10 focuses on psychological differences between individual bees, and their neural underpinnings.
In chapter 11, we draw on evidence from all the preceding chapters and ask perhaps the most difficult question: Are bees conscious? Given that the answer is most likely “yes,” we end in chapter 12 with ethical considerations relating to bee conservation, as they emerge from our explorations of subjective experiences and the likelihood of at least a basic emotional life in bees.

A Historical Framework

Bees, and the sweets they provide, have been with humans right from the beginning of our evolutionary history. Our closest relatives among the apes consume honey and use tools for its extraction from wild bee colonies. It is therefore eminently plausible that the earliest hominins did the same. Prehistoric cave painters on several continents immortalized the raiding of bee colonies, and the members of many extant hunter-gatherer tribes extract honey from multiple species of wild bees. Honey is the most carbohydrate-rich energy drink that nature has to offer, and some scientists now believe that the practice of efficient honey collection might have fueled the evolution of our energy-hungry brains.

But, as many creative persons will testify, sugar is not all that’s required to fuel the generation of bright ideas. And indeed bees provided for inebriation, too: mead, made from fermented honey, is one of the oldest alcoholic beverages. Mead has been consumed for at least 9,000 years, in countries as far apart as China, Finland, Ethiopia, and pre-Hispanic Mexico. And candles made from beeswax lit up the night (and scholars’ desks, and temples) for many millennia before the advent of electric light.

Given the long-standing relationship between humans and bees, it is perhaps unsurprising that there is a vast body of scholarly work about the behavior of bees. During research for this book, I have enjoyed browsing the historic literature on the topic, such as the works of the blind Swiss scholar François Huber, who reported, around the turn of the eighteenth to nineteenth century, on the possibility that planning abilities were involved in the comb construction of honey bees, as well as on interindivial “personality” variation, by which he sought to explain labor division in the colony. Another inspiring story is that of the African American scientist Charles Turner (1867–1923), who performed pioneering experiments on the psychology of bees and other insects while working against impossible
odds, as a high school teacher without access to scientific laboratories or libraries.

Some of this historical literature is so little known by today’s scientists that unearthing it is as exciting as if these discoveries had been made in one’s own laboratory. Throughout the book, I have provided a historical context to more-recent findings, and we will see that many seemingly contemporary ideas about the minds of bees had already been expressed, in some form, over a century ago. Since our scientific forebears were often also excellent writers, with styles less dry and jargon-y than many of today’s scholars, I will give you tastes of these historic writings, in the hope that this will inspire you to explore the original works. I have also dedicated space to describing at least some biographical details of the scholars whose breakthroughs have inspired me. This is because no scientist operates in a vacuum: it is often important to understand, for key discoveries as well as important errors, the times and circumstances in which these scientists operated and who influenced them.

Come with me on this journey into the minds of bees. We begin with their alien sensory world.
INDEX

Page numbers in italics refer to figures

aboveness, concept of, 118, 119
Aconitum sp. (monkshood), 8, 64, 101
alarm pheromone: in bumble bee foraging recruitment, 75; endogenous painkiller and, 193; learned as predictor of reward, 44, 63–64; paired with arbitrary stimulus, 125; to recruit attack on intruder, 125, 193, 202
Alem, Sylvain, 129
allatostatins, 194
Ammophila, 69, 70
Ampulex compressa, 161
animal intelligence: accuracy vs. speed and, 110; behavioral variability and, 179; difficulty of defining, 147; Dujardin on size of brain areas and, 147; Fabre’s beliefs about insects and, 51–52, 55; general, 134, 181, 208. See also intelligence of bees
animal welfare laws, 213
antennae, 42–48; electric fields sensed by, 10, 46–47; mechanosensors of, 10, 43, 45–46, 47; odor receptors of, 43–44, 171, 174–75; structure of, 42, 42–43; taste receptors of, 44–45
antennal lobes: neural connections of, 145, 146, 148, 149, 154–55, 156, 158; olfactory processing and, 144, 149, 155, 156, 158
anthropomorphizing, 12
Antirrhinum sp., 101, 111, 112
ants: attempting to build a bridge, 134; neural model of landmark orientation in, 156–57; path integration in desert ants, 87–88, 89; task specialization in, 175–76; wavelengths of light perceived by, 16–17
anxiety-like states, 192, 196
Apis: comb orientation and dance of, 72, 73–74; Lindauer’s studies in the tropics, 73–74
Apis andreniformis, 72, 73–74
Apis cerana, 72, 126
Apis dorsata, 72, 73
Apis florea, 72, 73–74
Apis mellifera, 12, 72. See also honey bees
artificial flowers: avoiding robotic spiders on, 195, 196; bumble bees’ handling of, 101–4, 102, 103; foraging routes on, 177; iridescent, 114; in social learning study, 123; in string-pulling task, 129, 130, 180; in visual resolution study, 106
artificial intelligence, 137, 139
associative learning: changing synapses, 183; defined, 110; far from simple, 110, 121; with model replicating complex learning, 158; mushroom bodies and, 158, 183; of odors with rewards, 43–44; in second-order conditioning, 124–25, 125; string-pulling task and, 131
attention: in associative learning, 110, 121; in discrimination of two colors, 109–10; scanning required for, 107, 108; in search for flowers, 104–7; spontaneous brain activity and, 161–62
Autrum, Hansjochem, 24–25
Avarguès-Weber, Aurore, 118, 124
Barron, Andrew, 207
Bateson, Melissa, 196
Bee Baron, 136–37
bee purple, 24, 24
bees, 12–13; conservation of, 187, 210–13; number of species in the world, 12. See also honey bees; solitary bees; stingless bees
beeswax, human use of, 14
Bell, Alexander Graham, 31
belowness, concept of, 118, 119
Berlepsch, August von, 136–37
Bethe, Albrecht, 60–61, 80
Bethe, Hans, 60
Betteridge’s law of headlines, 61
bitter taste, 45; individual honey bees’ thresholds of, 173. See also quinine
blindsight in humans, 204
blue, as honey bee’s favorite color, 25
blue photoreceptors, 23, 24–25, 26, 27–29, 150
Bock, Fiola, 109
Boisvert, Michael, 117–18
Bombus consobrinus, 64
Bombus terrestris, 174
Bonnet, Charles, 188, 208
Bormann, Martin, 21

251
brain of a bee, 2–3; basic construction plan of, 144, 145, 146–47; central place foraging and, 69; individual differences in structure of, 166, 182–83; number of connections in, 3, 149; number of neurons in, 2, 121, 144, 149; processing speed of, 106; task specialization and, 171. See also antennal lobes; central complex; mushroom bodies; neurons in bee brain; optic lobes

brains of animals: cognitive operations in small neural circuits of, 163; individual differences in intelligence and, 181–83; size in relation to intelligent behavior, 120–21

brains of humans: differences linked to intelligence and, 181–82; evolution fueled by honey, 14, 213; similar to other primates, 163

brains of Hymenoptera: with different lifestyles, 162–64; parasitoid, 68; sociality and, 70. See also brain of a bee

brain-to-body-mass ratio, 147

brain waves, 162, 203

Brandes, Christian, 185–86

Brembs, Björn, 179

brood rearing: by honey bees, 169; in raider ants, 175; by smaller bumble bees, 174

bumble bees, 12; attentional resources of, 107, 108, 109–10; bitter taste and, 45; body size awareness, 200–201, 201; brain differences in learning ability, 183, 184; color learning speed, 182–83, 185–86; communication about food sources, 75; cross-modal object recognition in, 204–5, 206, 207; electric fields of flowers and, 47; finding optimal sequence of feeders, 98; individual differences in intelligence, 179–81, 181; individual followed to last foraging bout, 92–93, 94, 95; individuality in speed-accuracy tradeoffs, 177–79, 178; individually different activity patterns of, 167, 168; individually different foraging routes of, 176, 177; learning from others which flowers to visit, 123; learning to handle electronic flowers, 101–4, 102, 103; learning when to expect rewards, 117–18; many never returning from first flight, 5; nectar robbing by, 127, 127–28; optimistic emotional bias in, 197, 198; orienting in complete darkness, 40–41; round cells in combs of, 56; self-image of, 200–201, 201; size differences among workers, 173–75, 174; social learning by observation, 124–25, 125; species specializing in monkshood, 64; speed-accuracy tradeoff, 109–10, 177–79, 178; temperature of thorax, 112, 113; two-channel flower detection and, 106; warm nectar preferred by, 112–13

Burnens, François, 57

Buttel-Reepen, Hugo von, 61–62, 117, 135, 141

caffeine, 197

Cajal, Santiago Ramón y, 143–44, 146, 150

carbon dioxide levels in hive, 43

categorization by honey bees, 114–17, 116, 121
caterpillars, Fabre's procession of, 51–52
central body, 158–59, 159
central complex, 144, 145, 148, 158–60, 159;
consciousness and, 144, 160–61; parasitoid wasp injecting near, 161; in path integration, 91, 144, 159, 160
central place foraging, 69, 77. See also foraging central place navigation, 6

Cerapachys biroi, 175

chemoreception, 44. See also odor perception; taste in honey bees

Christy, Robert, 165
cockroaches, 26, 28, 161, 166, 178
cognitive abilities of bees: interactions between innate behavior and, 50–51, 63–65; not requiring large brains, 120–21, 161; some rarely encountered in nature, 134
cognitive bias, pessimistic vs. optimistic, 196–97
cognitive maps, 81–84; change of mind to different destination and, 95; jet-lagged honey bees and, 95–97; novel shortcuts and, 82–83, 83, 95, 96, 97; as open question for bees, 97; optimal sequence of feeders and, 98

Collett, Thomas, 80, 87–88, 89
color learning speed, 25; genetic basis of, 185–86; increased with experience, 183; individual differences in brain structure and, 182–83
color mixing, 22, 23–24, 24
color receptors of bees, 22–25, 23; computer-generated sets of, 27; flower colors and, 27–29; optic ganglia and, 150; polarization sensitivity and, 38–40, 39
color receptors of humans, 22, 23
color receptors of representative arthropods, 26, 28–29
color vision of bees: discrimination of two colors in, 109–10, 177–79, 178; distance from flower and, 105; mixing rules, 22–24, 24; von Frisch on, 18–20, 19. See also color receptors of bees
columns: in central complex, 158–59; in optic lobes (cartridges), 150
comb. See wax comb
communication by bees, 10–11; by bumble bees about food sources, 75; division of labor and, 12; electric fields in, 10, 47; interaction between innate and learned behaviors in, 134; magnetic fields and, 40; sociality and, 70–71; by stingless bees, 74–75. See also dance language; pheromones
comparative phylogenetic analysis, 26, 28–29
compass neurons, 91
consciousness in bees: access to past and future in, 203; central complex and, 144, 160–61; Christof Koch on, 117; comparative study of, 208; cross-modal object recognition and, 204–5, 206, 207; metacognition and, 207; neural oscillations and, 162, 203; not requiring large brain with neocortex, 161; possibly found in early evolution, 199, 208–9; self-generated motion and, 200; spontaneous brain activity and, 161–62; status of evidence for, 188–89, 207–9. See also emotions in bees; pain; self-recognition
cconservation of bees, 210–13; environmental degradation and, 210–11; moral obligation toward conscious animals and, 212–13; with pollinator-friendly flowers, 187, 211; wild, not domesticated in hives, 211–12
conspecifics: basic recognition of, 202; significance in social learning, 131–32, 134
ccontext learning, 80–81, 81, 121
counting abilities in bees, 87, 88, 153
crab spiders, 5, 12, 93, 194, 195, 196
cross-modal object recognition, 204–5, 206, 207
cultural diffusion, 131, 142
cultural traditions in honey bees, 128–29
cuticula, 45
dance language, 10–11, 70–77; communicating suitable nest site, 137, 138, 139–40, 141; cultural traditions transmitted by, 129; decoded by two *Apis* species, 126; electric fields in, 47; evolution of, 73–75, 77; interaction between innate and learned behaviors in, 134; at night, 82, 117; with no correlate in gross neuroanatomy, 147; of tropical honey bees, 72, 73–74, 76–77; vibrations and sounds in, 46
Darwin, Charles: on bees repeatedly visiting same flower species, 100; on comb-making power, 56; Fabre’s homing experiments and, 78–79, 80; Fabre’s rejection of evolution and, 51, 55; on insects learning by observing others, 122, 124, 125; Lubbock and, 31; on understanding in bees, 122, 131
Daumer, Karl, 20, 22–24
Dawson, Erika, 124–26
dead reckoning. See path integration
death dance, 167, 168
delayed matching-to-sample paradigm, 115–17, 116
delayed non-matching-to-sample paradigm, 116, 116–17
Dennett, Daniel, 55
desert ants, path integration in, 87–88, 89
differences between bees. See individual differences of bees
differences between colonies, 166, 183, 185–86
diffraction gratings, 114
digger wasps: depositing cricket in burrow, 54; Fabre’s observations of, 52–53, 55, 69; sealing nest entrance, 69, 70
division of labor: communication systems for, 12; Huber on, 14, 172. See also specialization in colonies
domain-general learning, 180–81
dopamine reward system of mammals, 155
dornhaus, Anna, 75, 76–77, 109
dreamlike states, 162
drones, 57, 169
Dujardin, Félix, 145, 146–47
dwarf honey bee, 73–74
dyer, Adrian, 109, 110
Dzierzon, Johann, 78, 93
dedge orientation detector neurons, 152
efference copy, 199
egg laying by honey bee queen, 169
electric fields, 8, 46–48
electronic flowers, 101–4, 102
electrostatic charges, 10, 46–48
ellipsoid body, 148, 158, 159, 160
emotions in bees, 12; anxiety, 192, 196; moral obligation of humans and, 212–13; positive vs. negative, 196–97, 198; possible states to be studied, 208; psychoactive substances and, 197–98. See also pain
endogenous painkiller, 193–94
environmental degradation, 210–11
epigenetic differences, 166
Eskov, Evgeny, 46
For general queries, contact webmaster@press.princeton.edu
ethics, 137

evolution: of central place foraging, 69, 77; of dance language, 72, 73–75, 77; of heritable traits, 166; of Hymenoptera, 67–69, 70, 147; with small adjustments in neural circuits, 163

Exner, Sigmund, 46

exoskeleton: imagining the experience of, 3; mechanosensors protruding from, 45; von Frisch’s denial of nociception and, 190

eyes: of larger bumble bees, 174, 174. See also color receptors of bees; ommatidia; vision in bees

Fabre, Jean-Henri, 51–55; on digger wasps, 52–53, 55, 69; “homing sense” and, 78–79, 80, 95; on insect intelligence, 51–52, 55

face recognition, 110–11; in wasps, 111, 163

fanning to ventilate hive, 172

fan-out, fan-in architecture, 156–57

fan-shaped body, 148, 158, 159, 160

Farris, Sarah, 68

feature detector neurons, 152–53

Fernando, Chrisantha, 152–53

Fewell, Jennifer, 172

first flight of young bee, 5–7, 92–93

fission of honey bee colonies, 134–37. See also swarming behavior

flagellum, 42, 42, 45–46

flexible problem solving, 134, 179, 208

“flower attractiveness,” 62

flower colors: adapted to insect color vision, 28–29; honey bees’ preference for blue, 115; iridescence and, 113–14; pollination syndrome concept and, 62, 63; rarity of red flowers, 20; speed-accuracy tradeoffs in discrimination of, 109–10, 177–79, 178; surface texture and, 111, 112; von Frisch on, 18–20, 19. See also color learning speed; color vision of bees

flowers: attention to, 104–7; detected better by larger bumble bees, 174, 174; electric charges on, 8, 47; iridescent, 113–14; learning how to handle, 8, 8, 64, 69, 123; number needed to visit, 8; odor molecules produced by, 43; planting pollinator-friendly species, 187, 211; psychoactive substances in, 197–98; rules for operating in meadow of, 9; searching among multiple types of, 106–7; search time based on size of, 105; temperature of, 111, 112–13; texture of, 111, 112; UV reflectance of, 17, 20. See also artificial flowers; flower colors; foraging; nectar; pollen; pollination

food sources: mushroom bodies and, 70; non-natural, 211

foraging: central place foraging, 69, 77; challenges of, 5–10, 6; on first day by young bee, 5–7; individually different bumble bee routes, 176, 177; individual sensitivity to sugar and, 173; larger bumble bees specialized in, 174; physical performance in, 7–8; slow learners’ contribution to colony and, 186; temporal patterns of, 167, 168; by workers 2–3 weeks of age, 169, 171

fruit flies, 150, 160, 167, 197

ganglia: of optic lobes, 144, 146, 150, 158; in prey of digger wasps, 53

Geiger, Karl, 85

general intelligence, 134, 181, 208

Giurfa, Martin, 114–17, 118

glance, information processed in, 106–7, 108, 119–20

Glover, Beverley, 111, 113–14

Gould, James, 81–82

Goulson, Dave, 128

green photoreceptors, 23, 24–25, 26, 27–29, 105, 150

guard bees at nest entrance, 61, 169, 193, 202

Guiraud, Marie, 119

habitat loss, 210–11

Hammer, Martin, 154–55

harmonic radar, 92, 92, 95, 98. See also radar tracking of bees

hearing, 45–46

heritable traits, 166

hexagonal cells, 56

homing sense, 60–61, 78–80

honey: consumed by apes, hominins, and hunter-gatherers, 14; human brain evolution fueled by, 14, 213; required number of foraging trips, 8

honey bees: associating odors with rewards, 43–44; categorization by, 114–17, 116, 121; color learning speed of, 25; cultural traditions in, 128–29; drones, 57, 169; first flights of, 92–93; heritability of learning performance in, 185; learning comb construction details, 60; magnetic field sensitivity of, 40, 41; memories consolidated during sleep, 162; modulation of pain response in, 192–94; pessimistic bias induced in, 196–97; serial processing in, 107; taste in, 44–45, 173; time-shifted, 96; western, 10, 12, 73, 76, 135, 211; wild vs. domesticated in hives, 211–12; workers, 169, 170, 171. See also dance language; nests of honey bees; queens; swarming behavior; wax comb
Index • 255

honeycomb. See wax comb

horizontal honeycombs, 72, 74, 75–77

Huber, François, 14; on division of labor in bees, 14, 172; on judgment of bees, 49; on wax comb construction, 14, 56–59, 58

humans: animals with different cognitive strategies from, 120; brain differences linked to intelligence and, 181–82; brain evolution fueled by honey, 14, 213; brain organization similar to other primates, 163; cross-modal object recognition in, 204–5; cultural traditions in, 129; insect vision compared to, 31–32; instinct in, 48, 49–50; Lorenz on evolution of intelligence in, 66; neurons in retina of, 150, 152; parallel processing in, 107; social learning in, 122; steering crowd movements, 140; visual pattern recognition in, 204

humidity, sensed by antennae, 42

Hymenoptera: brain transformation preceding sociality, 70; evolution of, 67–69, 70, 147; Fabre on instincts of, 52–53, 55; instinct-governed behaviors in, 50; maximal sensitivity of color receptors, 26; mushroom bodies of, 70, 146, 147; unusual instinctual behaviors in, 65. See also ants; bees; wasps

_Hyposoter horticola_, 68, 69

imagining being a bee, 3, 11–12

inbreeding, avoidance of, 202

individual differences of bees, 165–66; in brain structure, 166, 182–83; in foraging routes, 176, 177; in intelligence, 166, 167, 179–81, 181; making different choices, 10; number tags and, 167, 168; “personalities,” 14, 164, 165, 183, 187; RFID and, 167, 168; in sensory thresholds, 172–73; in speed-accuracy tradeoffs, 177–79, 178

Ings, Tom, 194

innovation: behavioral variability and, 179; brain evolution in Hymenoptera and, 70; cultural diffusion of, 131, 142; in string-pulling task, 129, 180

instinct: comb construction and, 55–60; Fabre’s view of, 55; flower visitation and, 61–62; “homing sense” seen as, 60–61, 78–80; in humans, 48, 49–50; interactions between cognitive abilities and, 50–51, 63–65; learning and, 50, 51, 63–65, 134; mind and, 48, 50–51

intelligence of bees: individual differences in, 166, 167, 179–81, 181; Müller on evolutionary factors in, 69; selection pressure for small neural changes and, 163. See also animal intelligence

intention movements, of stingless bees, 74–75

iridescent flowers, 113–14

isoflurane, 96

jet-lagged honey bees, 95–97

jewel wasp, 161

Johnston’s organ, 42

Johnston’s organ, 42, 45–46, 47

Kelber, Almut, 80

Kenyon, Frederick, 147–49, 148, 150

Kenyon cells, 148, 148–49; connections to optic lobes, 183; in fan-out, fan-in architecture, 156–57; learning and, 158, 183, 184

Kerr, Warwick, 74

Koch, Christof, 117

Kunze, Jan, 89–90

lamina, 145, 146, 150, 151

landmarks: artificial, for experiments, 84–87, 86; central complex and, 144, 159, 160; displaced bee searching for, 95–96; memorized in first flight, 93; model of ant orientation and, 156–57; Turner’s discovery of navigation by, 79–80

Leadbeater, Ellouise, 123–24, 125, 127

leafcutter bees, 212

learning: of comb construction details, 60; complex but with simple brain circuits, 157–58; in context, 80–81, 81, 121; by digger wasp, 69; evolution of innate preference and, 63–64; evolved in parasitoid ancestor, 99; to forage, 5; to handle electronic flowers, 101–4, 102, 103; to handle flowers, 8, 8, 64, 69, 123; heritable variation in, 166, 185–86; individual differences in bee intelligence and, 179–81, 181; instinct and, 50, 51, 63–65, 134; microglomerular connections and, 156, 183; mushroom bodies and, 68, 157–58, 183; numbers of neurons and, 121, 149; performance not limited to one task, 180; quantifying speed of, 180; of rules, 9, 114–17, 116, 157; slow learners persisting in the wild, 186; by solitary bees, 12; synapses modified by, 149; task specialization based on, 175–76. See also associative learning; color learning speed; social learning; spatial concept learning; spatial learning; trial-and-error learning

Leblanc, Georgette, 135

Lenin’s brain, 182, 183

lifetime of adult bee, 5, 169, 171
Lindauer, Martin: on cultural traditions in honey bees, 128–29; dance in *Apis* species and, 73–75; dancing at night and, 82, 117; life of, 32–34; magnetic field sensitivity of bees and, 40; polarization vision in bees and, 36, 38; spatial memories at night and, 97, 203; swarming behavior and, 137, 139
linearly polarized light, 37
lobula, *I45, 146, 148, 150, ISI*; as feature detector, 152, 153; reward neuron and, 155
Locke, John, 205
locusts, estimating rung distances, 203
London Pollinator Project, 187
Lorenz, Konrad, 66
Loukola, Olli, 132
Lubbock, John, 16–17, 18, 25, 30–31, 32, 46, 115, 189
Lullin, Marie-Aimée, 56–57
Maeterlinck, Maurice, 1, 135, 136, 171, 211
magnetic field sensitivity, 40–42, 41
Makinson, James, 135
mason bee, Fabre's experiment with, 52
matting of: humble bees, 202; of honey bees, 169 mead, 14
mechanosensors, antennal, 43, 45–46; electric fields sensed by, 10, 47
mechanosensory stimuli: nociception and, 190; pain and, 192
medulla, *I45, 146, 148, 150, ISI, 152, 155
Megachile, 212
memory: central complex and, 158; for colors yielding sugar rewards, 25; consciousness and, 162, 189; consolidated during sleep in honey bees, 162; efficiency of categorization for, 115; of flower handling procedures, 104; for foraging part of worker's life, 171; high capacity of sparse coding in, 156–57; for landmarks, 79–80, 93; microglomeruli of synapses and, 183; mushroom bodies and, 68, 70; number of synapses and, 149; of visual patterns, 160, 204; working memory, 115–17. See also spatial memory
Menzel, Mechthild, 85
Menzel, Randolf: Brandes's work on learning and, 185–86; cognitive abilities of honey bees and, 114–15; cognitive maps and, 95–97; color learning speed and, 25; Hammer's work on reward neuron and, 154; measuring color properties of flower species, 27; mentored by Lindauer, 32; odor learning and, 43–44
metacognition, 207–9
microchips, 167
microglomeruli of synapses, 156, 183, 184
microvilli, 38, 39, 40
mind: contents of bee's mind, 3, 5; instincts and, 48, 50–51; key ingredients of, 2
mold on honeycomb, 43
Molyneux, William, 204–5
Molyneux problem, 204–5
monkshoods, 8, 64, 101
monochrome vision channel, 105–6
Müller, Hermann, 66, 69
multisensory integration, 68, 144, 149
mushroom bodies, *I44, I45, 146–47*; associative learning and, 158, 183; calyces of, *I45, 148, 148–49, 154, 155, 184*; connections to optic lobes, 183; enlarged for transition to foraging tasks, 171; evolutionary enlargement of, 68, 147; innovations in hymenopteran evolution and, 70, 147; Kenyon cells of, *I45, 148, 148–49, 154–5, 155, 184*; memory and, 68, 70; multisensory integration and, 68, 144, 149; pedunculi of, *I45, 149*; reward neuron and, 156; scent learning in model of, 157–58; storage capacity of, 156–57
navigation: central complex and, 159–60. See also landmarks; path integration; polarized light sensitivity in bees; sun compass, time-compensated
Nazism: Lindauer and, 32; Vogt and Vogt-Mugnier and, 182; von Frisch and, 20–21
nectar: body weight of, 7; carbohydrates in, 112; fed to worker larvae, 169; gathered by parasitoid wasps, 69; learning how to extract, 8, 8, 64, 123; psychoactive substances in, 197; temperature of, 112–13; time for flower to replenish, 47, 117–18; time of day when available, 62, 117
nectar robbing, 126–28, 127
nest building: as key evolutionary innovation, 63, 99; mushroom bodies and, 70, 147
nests of bumble bees, loss of nature sites for, 211
nests of honey bees, 10; choosing site for, 135–37, 138, 139–40, 141; loss of nature sites for, 211; raided by animals, 10, 193, 202
neural networks, 152–53
neural oscillations, 162, 203
neuron doctrine, 144
neurons in bee brain: numbers of, 2, 121, 144, 149; processing visual information, 150–53, *ISI*; seemingly more than necessary, 153; types of, 147–48, *I48, 150–52, ISI*. See also Kenyon cells; synapses
nicotine, 197
Index • 257

Nityananda, Vivek, 107
nociception, 190, 192. See also pain
noduli, paired, 158, 159, 160
Noema, 21
novel shortcuts, 82–83, 83, 95, 96, 97
number tags on bees, 167, 168
numerical abilities of bees, 86–87, 88, 153
Núñez, Josué, 193
odor perception, 43–44; antennal lobes and, 144, 149, 155, 156, 158; association with rewards, 43–44; changes in scent preference and, 63–64; in consolidating memories during sleep, 162; distinguishing "self" from "other," 202; mushroom body model and, 157–58; reward neuron and, 153–55; sameness-difference rules and, 117; spatial memories and, 97. See also scent trails
odor receptors, 43; distinguishing sequential odors, 44; of honey bee workers vs. queen, 171; of larger bumble bees, 174–75; speed of, 44
olfaction. See odor perception
Ollerton, Jeff, 62
ommatidia, 39, 105, 150, 151; of honey bee workers vs. queen, 171; of larger bumble bees, 174, 174
optic flow, 90, 91
optic lobes, 144, 145, 146; columns (cartridges) in, 150; connections to Kenyon cells, 183
opt-out behavior, 207
outcome awareness, 133–34, 203
Page, Robert, 173
pain, 189, 190–91, 192; in laboratory procedures, 213; moral obligation of humans and, 212–13; subjective dimension of, 192–94
painkiller, endogenous, 193–94
paired noduli, 158, 159, 160
Papaj, Daniel, 124
parallel processing, 107
parasitism, 67
parasitoid wasps, 67–69, 70; branch becoming flower-visiting bees, 69; excavating nests in the Cretaceous, 68–69, 70; many visiting flowers for nectar, 69; spatial learning in, 68; spatial memory in, 77; stinging victims in the brain, 161. See also digger wasps
parasitoidy, 67
path integration, 87–91, 89; central complex in, 91, 144, 159, 160; cognitive flexibility and, 90–91
patterning discrimination, 157
pattern recognition system, 110–11
peak shift, 157
pedicel, 42, 42, 45–46
pedunculus of mushroom body, 145, 149
Peng, Fei, 157–58
personalties of bees, 14, 164, 165, 183, 187
pesticides, 45, 211
pheromones, 10; of Fabre's caterpillars, 51; Lubbock and, 31, 189; odor receptors and, 43; queen mandibular pheromone, 170. See also alarm pheromone
photoreceptors. See color receptors of bees; UV receptors
phototaxis, 20
phylogenetic analysis, 26, 28–29
planning: instinct-governed bees and, 50, 59–60; by parasitoid wasps, 68; spatial challenges and, 66
poison gland, 193
polarized light sensitivity in animals, 38
polarized light sensitivity in bees, 36–40; central complex and, 144; pattern of sky dome and, 37, 37–38; patterns on floral targets and, 114; protocephal bridge and, 159, 159; sensory mechanism for, 38–40, 39
Polistes wasps, 163
pollen: body weight of, 7; fed to worker larvae, 169; proteins of, 5, 69
pollination: evolution of flower colors and, 29; individual learning and, 62; narrow specialization of some pollinators, 64; nectar-robbing and, 127; social learning and, 123
pollination syndrome concept, 62, 63
pollinator-plant interaction networks, 7, 62
pore plates, of larger bumble bees, 174–75
positive transfer of learning, 104
predator attacks on bees, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196. See also crab spiders
Price, Mary, 62
primates: similar brains of, 163; spatial concept learning in, 118. See also humans
proprioception, 45, 91
prosopagnosia, 110
protocephal bridge, 148, 158–60, 159
protocerebrum, 144, 151
Proust, Marcel, 97
psychoactive substances, 197–98
purple: bee purple, 24, 24; in human vision, 22
queen mandibular pheromone, 170
queens: cradle built for, 57; differences between workers and, 169, 170, 171; dueling with rivals,
queens (continued)
169; life history of, 169; swarming and, 134–35, 136, 169; tended by workers, 169
quinine, 45, 108, 109, 110, 124, 125, 178, 197
radar tracking of bees, 91–95, 92; foraging career of one bumble bee, 93, 94, 95; individuality in foraging routes, 176; optimal foraging routes, 98
raider ants, 175
Ravi, Sridhar, 200
Rayleigh, Lord, 16
red light, insensitivity to, 17, 20
resin, workers foraging for, 171
retina, 150, 151, 152
reward neuron, 153–55, 154, 156
reward pathway, 155, 156, 183
RFID (radio frequency identification), 167, 168
rhabdomeric receptor cells, 38–40, 39
rhodopsin, 39
robotic crab spiders, 194, 195, 196
Roper, Mark, 119, 152–53
royal jelly, 169
rule learning by bees, 114–17, 116; in foraging, 9; peak shift as, 157
salt receptor, 45
sameness-difference rules, 115–17, 116
Sánchez, Domingo Sánchez y, 143, 150
Sapozhnikov, Alexander, 46
scape, 42, 42
scent trails: of bumble bees, 41; of stingless bees, 74, 126. See also odor perception
Scholl, Sophie, 33
Schulmeister, Susanne, 68
scorpion wasp, 68, 69
scouts for nest site, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141
second-order conditioning, 124–25, 125
Seeley, Tom, 139–40, 141
self, distinguishing from other, 202–3
self-image of bumble bees, 200–201, 201
self-recognition, and intentional movements, 199–200
sensory apparatus: of larger bumble bee workers, 174, 174–75; in strange locations of some insects, 32; of workers vs. queens, 171
sensory perceptions: not an objective reflection of the world, 188; selective attention and, 104–5; subjective experiences and, 11–12, 188–89
sensory stimuli: flexibility of association with reward, 113; self-generated vs. other-generated, 199–200
sensory thresholds, individual, 172–73
serial processing, 107
sex: female (worker) bees and, 5, 171; male (drone) bees and, 12, 169; plant pollination and, 7
shapes: discriminating, 109; imagining, 203–5, 206, 207
Sherry, David, 117–18
Shmida, Avi, 27
shortcuts, novel, 82–83, 83, 95, 96, 97
sleep: bees’ three phases of, 162; for bumble bees in arctic summers, 167; neural oscillations during, 162; rats reliving memories during, 189
snapdragons, 101, 111, 112
social bees: evolution of sociality and, 70–71, 147; number of species, 12. See also bumble bees; honey bees; stingless bees
social learning: about which flowers to visit, 123; human culture and, 122; innate predispositions interacting with, 134; from live demonstrators vs. lifeless objects, 131–32; by observation from a distance, 124–25, 125; by observation of string pulling, 129, 130, 131, 180; by observation of thievery, 126–28, 127; by observation of tool use, 132–34, 133; from other species, 122, 125–26, 131, 134; special nature of conspecifics in, 131–32, 134; in swarm deciding on nest site, 139. See also dance language
solitary bees: Fabre on mason bee, 52; lifestyles of, 12; mushroom bodies and, 70, 147; nesting opportunities for, 211, 212; neurobiological differences from social species, 147; number of species, 12; spatial memory in, 77
Solvi, Cwyn, 129, 132, 207
sour taste, 45
Spaethe, Johannes, 104, 106–7, 174–75
sparse code, 156
spatial concept learning, 118–20, 119
spatial learning: evolved in ancestor of social bees, 99; in parasitoid wasps, 68, 69. See also learning
spatial memory: central place foraging and, 69, 77; consciousness and, 203; context learning in, 80–81, 81; of digger wasp, 69, 70; evolution of bee intelligence and, 77; evolved in ancestor of social bees, 99; “homing sense” and, 79–80; for location of feeder, 62; mushroom bodies and, 70; at night, 97, 203; traveling salesman problem and, 97–99; triggered by scents, 97. See also cognitive maps
spatial resolution of insect vision, 31; in bees, 105, 106, 174
Spatz, Hugo, 182
specialization in colonies: allocation of individuals to tasks, 171–72; brain anatomy and, 171; as result of experience, 175–76; sensitivity of senses and, 171–73; series of a worker’s specializations, 167, 169, 171; size of bumble bee workers and, 173–75, 174. See also division of labor
speed-accuracy tradeoffs, 109–10; individuality in, 177–79, 178
speed-encoding neurons, 91
*Sphex*, 53. See also digger wasps
spiders: individual differences in, 165–66. See also crab spiders
spontaneous brain activity, 3, 161–62
Srinivasan, Mandyam, 97
stinging device, 3, 193
sugar receptors, 154
sugar reward, neural pathway to, 153–55, 156, 183
sun compass, time-compensated, 34, 35, 36; central complex and, 91, 144, 159; landmarks and, 85–86; path integration and, 90, 91; time-shifted honey bees and, 96
superorganism, 141
swarming behavior, 134–42; as apparent superorganism, 140–41; “collective mind” concept and, 141–42; dancing to reach consensus, 137, 138, 139–40, 141; democratic decision making in, 139–40; initial lift-off, 135; leaving for chosen new site, 137, 140; minds of individual bees in, 141–42; queen and, 134–35, 169; scouts’ behavior in, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141
sweet taste, 45; individual honey bees’ thresholds of, 173
symmetric vs. asymmetric targets, 115
synapses, 144, 149; associative learning and, 183; microglomeruli of, 156, 183, 184
Szyszka, Paul, 44
taste in bumble bees, 45
taste in honey bees, 44–45; individual thresholds of, 173
taste receptors, 45
temperature: of bee thorax, 112, 113; of flowers, 111, 112–13; sensed by antennae, 42
termites, 171
Thomson, James, 98, 101–2, 176, 189
Tibbetts, Elizabeth, 163
time: learning interval between rewards, 117–18; perceived differently in different animals, 208
time-shifted honey bees, 96
touch receptors, antennal, 43, 45
tradition in bees, 128
transfer test, 115, 118
transitive inference, 163
traplines of bumble bees, 176, 177
traveling salesman problem, 97–99
trial-and-error learning: of another species’ dance language, 126; of body dimensions, 201; in digger wasp evolution, 53; to handle flowers, 101; vs. learning on first trial, 132–33; of optimal foraging route, 98; of string pulling, 131
trichromatic vision, 24–25
*Trigona spinipes*, 126
tropical social bees: cultural processes in, 142; honey bee dance language and, 72, 73–74, 76–77
ultraviolet light: bee species sensitive to, 20; color mixing in bees and, 23–24; flowers with reflectance of, 17, 20; seen by most animals, 17
uncertainty, self-assessment of, 207
understanding in bees: Darwin on, 122, 131; of desired task outcome, 132–34
UV receptors, 22–25; in arthropods before flowers appeared, 26, 28–29; optic ganglia and, 150; relatively slow response of, 105
vanishing bearings, 90
van Swinderen, Bruno, 161–62
ventilation of hive, 43, 172
virtual flowers, 109
vision in bees, 3, 4; neural processing of, 150–53, 151, 156, 183; spatial resolution of, 105, 106, 174; two-channel detection system, 105–6. See also color receptors of bees; color vision of bees; optic lobes; polarized light sensitivity in bees; UV receptors
vision in insects, 31–32; modeled in ants, 156–57
visual pattern memory: awareness and, 204; fan-shaped body and, 160
Vogt, Oskar, 181–82, 183
Vogt-Mugnier, Cécile, 182
von Frisch, Karl: believing bees lacked pain, 190, 191; on color vision in bees, 18–20, 19; dance language and, 71, 73, 139; Exner as mentor of, 46; Lindauer and, 32, 33–34, 36, 38; Nazis and, 20–21; path integration in bees and, 88–91, 89; taste in honey bees and, 44–45, 173; on unlimited studies of bee life, 207–8
von Hess, Carl, 18–20
VUMmx1, IS4, 154–55, 156
waggle run, 71, 72, 73. See also dance language
Waser, Nick, 62
wasps: Fabre on homing of solitary wasps, 78–79; face recognition in, 111, 163; hexagonal paper cells of, 56; parasitoid, 67–69, 70, 77, 161 (see also digger wasps)
water, workers foraging for, 171
wax comb: cleaned by workers, 169; horizontal, 72, 74, 75–77; orientation in Apis species, 72, 73–74; round cells of bumble bees, 56
wax comb construction, 2, 10; flexibility in, 57–59, 58, 60; Huber on planning in, 14; instinct and intelligence in, 55–60; by naïve individuals, 60; optimized structure of, 56; partially learned, 50, 55; by smaller bumble bees, 173; on Space Shuttle Challenger, 60; structural modifications in, 57; by workers on ~days 7–20, 169
Wehner, Rüdiger, 38, 87–88, 89
Weidenmüller, Anja, 174
western honey bee, 10, 12, 72, 73, 76, 135, 211
Whitney, Heather, 111, 113–14
Williams, Neal, 62
Wolf, Ernst, 34, 35, 84, 95
Worden, Bradley, 124
worker honey bees, 169, 170, 171
working memory, 115–17
Wright, Geraldine, 196–97