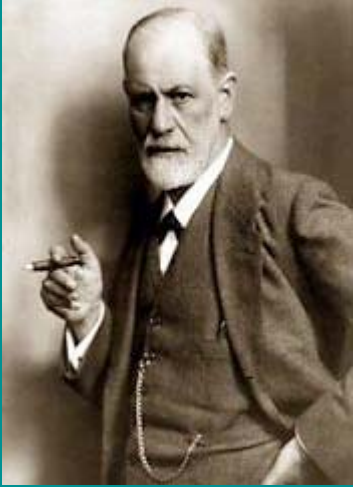


# Lecture 2: Origins of Psychoanalysis

Freud's early development and  
the Studies in Hysteria (1895)

# Sigmund Freud



- Freud: Reductionist or Constructivist?

# Freud's early training

- Ernst Brucke
- Helmholtz, Brucke, duBois-Reymond
- Reductionist “oath”



Brücke and I pledged a solemn oath to put into power this truth: no other forces than the common physical-chemical ones are active within the organism. In those cases which cannot at the time be explained by these forces one has either to find the specific way or form of their action by means of the physical-mathematical method, or to assume new forces equal in dignity to the chemical-physical forces inherent in matter, reducible to the force of attraction and repulsion.”

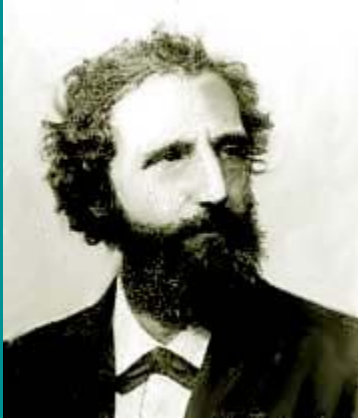
--Émil du Bois-Reymond

# Freud's early career

- Early physiological studies
- “On Coca” (1884)
- Brucke's mentorship
- Practice in Neurology



# Other Influences



- Philosopher Franz Brentano with whom Freud studied
- Darwin
- Archeology
- Goethe
- Brentano

# Visit to Charcot (1885)



- Jean-Martin Charcot
- “Napoleon of Neurosis”



- Conversion Hysteria
- Beliefs of his contemporaries
- Charcot: Trauma plus hypnotic susceptibility
- Freud’s reception of Charcot’s ideas: “...wrecking my aims and opinions”

“Theory is good; but it does not prevent things from existing”- Charcot to Freud in 1885

# Hypnosis Before Charcot



- Anton Mesmer



- Mesmer's career
- Animal Magnetism
- Hypnosis
- Miraculous cures
- Mesmer's demise

## Charcot's theory of hysteria

Multiple, co-existing states of mind

Psychogenic causes

**“I received the profoundest impression of the possibility that there could be powerful mental processes which nevertheless remained hidden from the consciousness of men”**

# Hypnosis and Dissociation

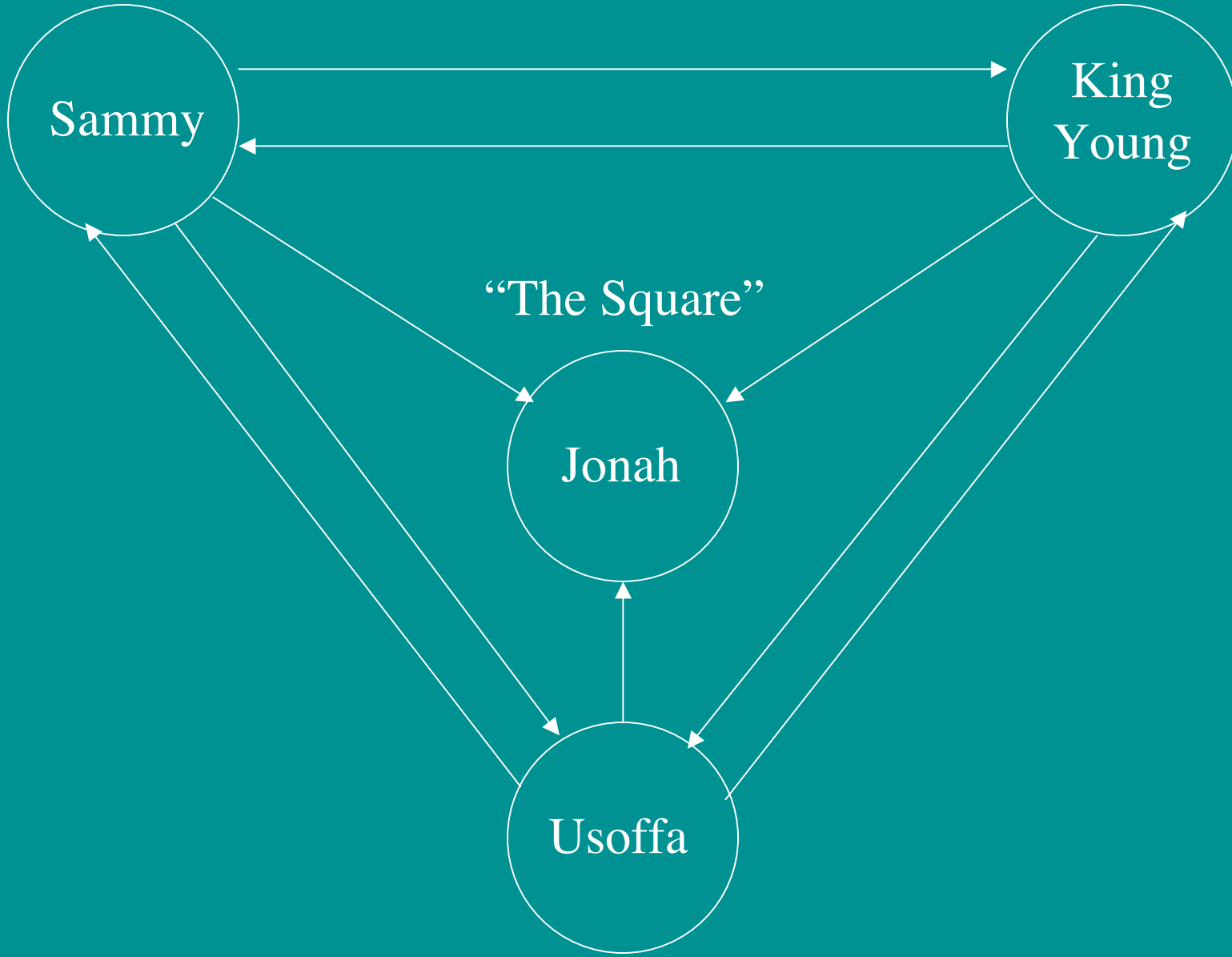


- Pierre Janet, a Freud contemporary interested in dissociation

- Hypnosis
- Age regression
- Post-hypnotic suggestions
- Dissociation
- Pierre Janet (e.g., case of Irene)
- Amnesic Barrier
- Multiple personality (MPD or DID)

“The Mediator”

“The Lover”



“The Warrior”

# The “discovery” of repression

- Joseph Breuer (1842-1925)

Hering-Breuer Reflex

Brentano

Support for Freud

# The Case of “Anna O”



- Bertha Pappenheim

- Breuer’s treatment begins 1880
- Bertha’s symptoms
- “talking cure” (chimney sweeping)
- Bernay’s catharis
- Pappenheim’s subsequent life

# Bertha Pappenheim (Anna O)

- “Psychoanalysis is in the hand of the physician what the confessional is in the hand of the Catholic clergyman; it depends on the person applying it and the specific application whether it is a good instrument or a double-edged sword”



- “If there is any justice in the next life, women will make the laws and men will bear the children”

# Studies in Hysteria (1895)

- Lucy R. (1892)
  - burnt pudding olfactory hallucination
  - “dominant mass” (desire to be wife)
  - cure is admission of repressed wish
  
- Trauma, affect, incompatibility, conversion
- “act of cowardice” on the part of patient’s ego

# Studies in Hysteria (cont.)

- Elizabeth von R.
  - Pains, weakness of legs
  - Origins of symptoms
  - Sister's death, her wish
  - 'Now he is free and I can be his wife'
  - Incompatible, repressed idea
  - Freud's treatment

The patient only gets free from the hysterical symptom by reproducing the pathogenic impressions that caused it, and by giving utterance to them with an expression of affect, and thus the therapeutic task consists solely of inducing him to do so.

--Freud

# Problems with Hypnotic approach



- Freud's office

- Not applicable to all
- Impermanence of symptom relief
- Hypnosis and Transference
- Bernheim's "pressure technique"
- Switch to Free Association

# Early Freud/Breuer Theory

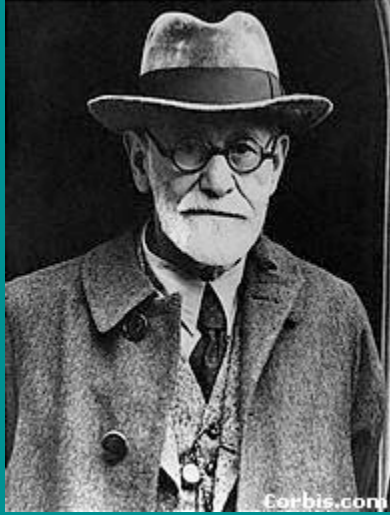
- Strangulated affect
- Inadmissible Ideas
- Catharsis (abreaction)
- Resistance
- Sexuality
- Victorian Vienna
  - “transforming hysterical misery into common unhappiness”

“In all cases I have analyzed it was the subject’s sexual life that had given rise to distressing affect...Moreover it is easy to see that it is precisely sexual life which brings with it the most copious incompatible ideas.”

--Freud, 1894

This is how the society of those days wished young girls to be: silly and untaught, well-educated and ignorant, curious and shy, uncertain and unprotected and predisposed by this education, without knowledge, without knowledge of the world from the beginning, to be led and formed by a man in marriage without any will of their own.

--Janik, "Wittgenstein's Vienna," pp. 46-47



# Conversion Hysteria and Incompatible ideas

The dominant mass

Multiple personalities

Conversion epilepsy

Sexuality

Auditorium Example

Resistance

Repression as a force in the mind

Anxiety as strangulated affect

Controversy has erupted over these findings. One possibility is that people in slow-wave sleep are really conscious, but that the 15 minutes it takes to get them into that state makes it difficult to tell. Another possibility is that they become a sort of "limbo" state of inner space. This interpretation would mean that slow-wave sleep is not a true state of unconsciousness, but rather a state of "limbo" or "inner space" where the brain is still active and processing information. This interpretation would also mean that the process of waking up is not a simple matter of turning the brain back on, but rather a complex process that takes a few seconds to get the brain back to a state of full consciousness.

