

Non-invertibility of basal ganglia network calls for new biomarkers

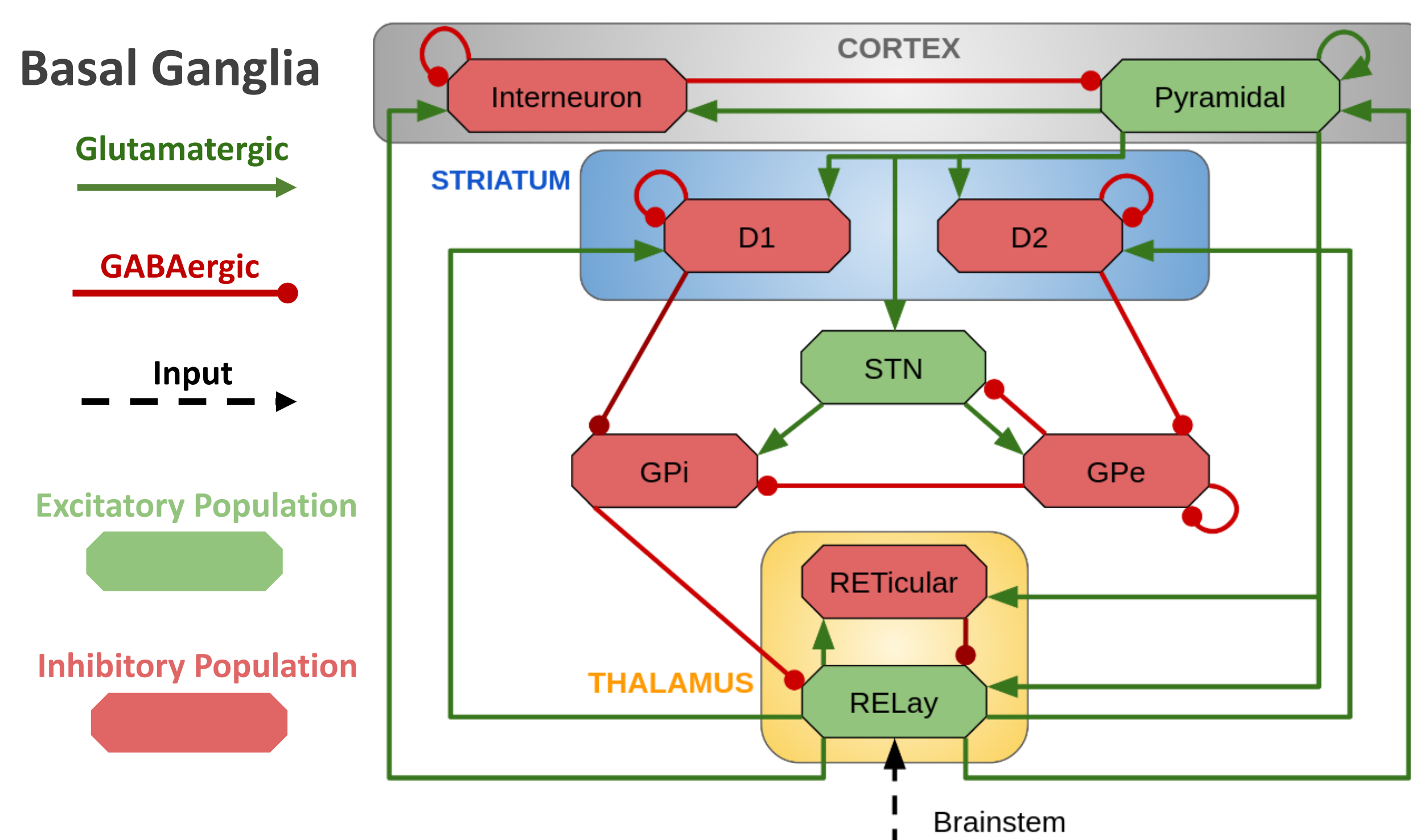
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INTRODUCTION

- Mathematical models of the basal ganglia (BG) partition the parameter space based on the parkinsonian biomarkers into healthy and pathological (P-conformal)
- We show that biomarkers alone, do not constrain the high-dimensional parameters space of BG models

MODEL



Mean-field model

Solved for voltage $V_k(t)$ and field $\phi_k(\mathbf{r}, t)$ for each population k

$$\tau_r \tau_d \frac{d^2 V_k}{dt^2} + (\tau_r + \tau_d) \frac{dV_k}{dt} + V_k = \sum_i v_{ki} \phi_i(t - \delta_{ki}) + I_k^{ext}$$

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi_k}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{\gamma_a} \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial t} + \phi_k - r_a^2 \nabla^2 \phi_k = \frac{Q_k^{\max}}{1 + \exp \left[-\frac{V_k - \theta_k}{r_k} \right]}$$

- Synaptic rise time τ_r and somatic decay time τ_d
- Axonal pulse attenuation with damping rate γ_a
- Spatially homogeneous neural field ($r_a^2 \nabla^2 \phi_k = 0$)
- Axonal pulse attenuation without delay ($\delta_{ki} = 0$)
- Sigmoidal activation function with threshold θ_k , steepness r_k , and maximum firing rate of Q_k^{\max}
- Noise-free input I_k^{ext} from brainstem to k =thalamus

Parameters

- set according to physiological steady-state firing rates
- Parkinsonian state defined by varying connectivity and thresholds

Study

- Sweep the decay time scale (τ_d) to find *P-conformal* regions using the integral of power spectral density (PSD):

$$P\text{-conformal} = \left(\frac{P_{\beta}^{\text{parkin}}}{P_{\beta}^{\text{healthy}}} > 1 \right) \quad P_{\beta} = \int_{12 \text{ Hz}}^{30 \text{ Hz}} \text{PSD}(f) df$$

RESULTS

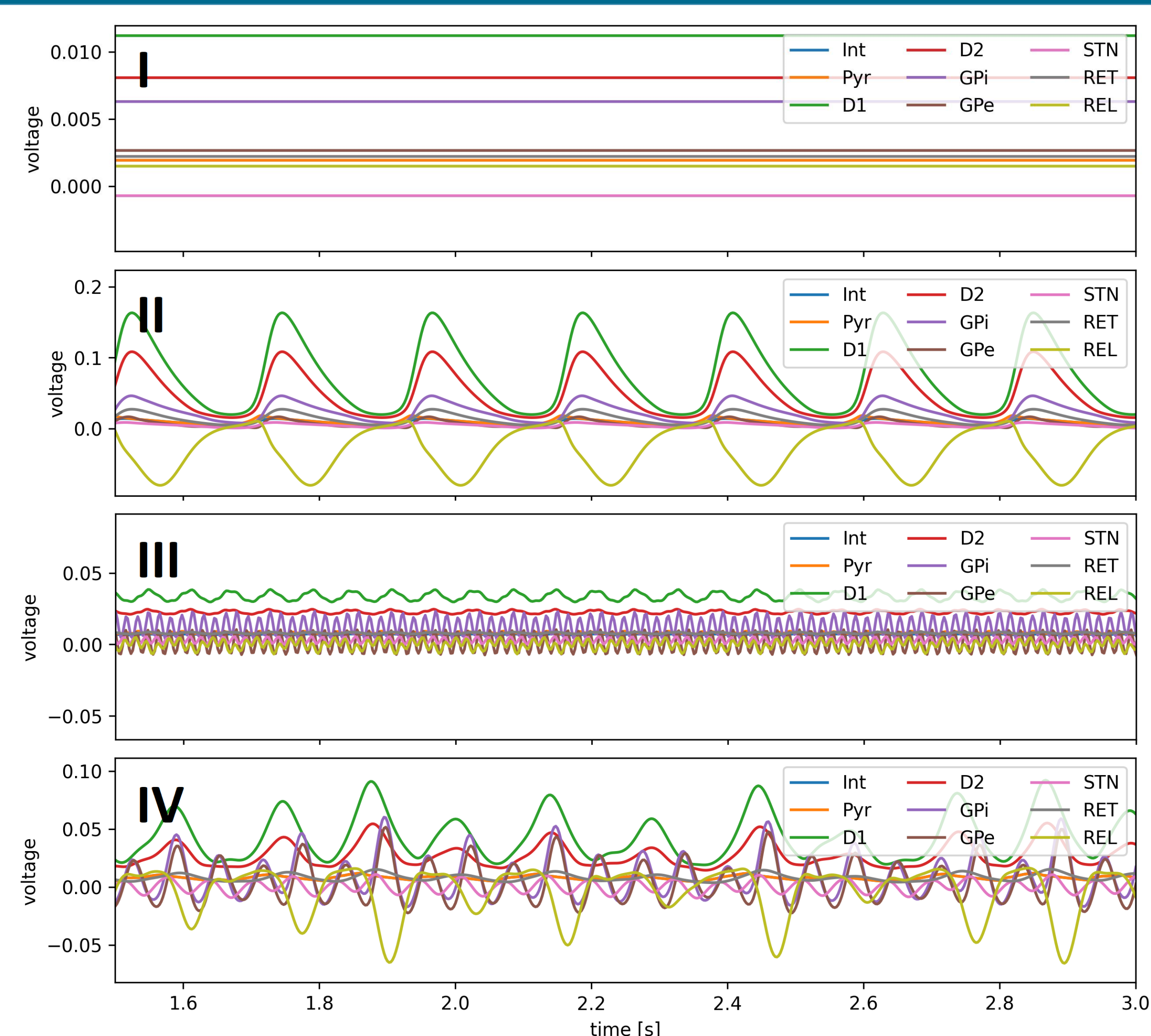


Figure 1: Canonical response types of the model

RESULTS

- Model exhibits dynamically different response types (Fig.1)
 - I. Stationary steady-state \rightarrow [1,2], this work
 - II. Uni-modal oscillation \rightarrow [3], this work
 - III. Multi-modal oscillations \rightarrow this work
 - V. Chaotic \rightarrow this work

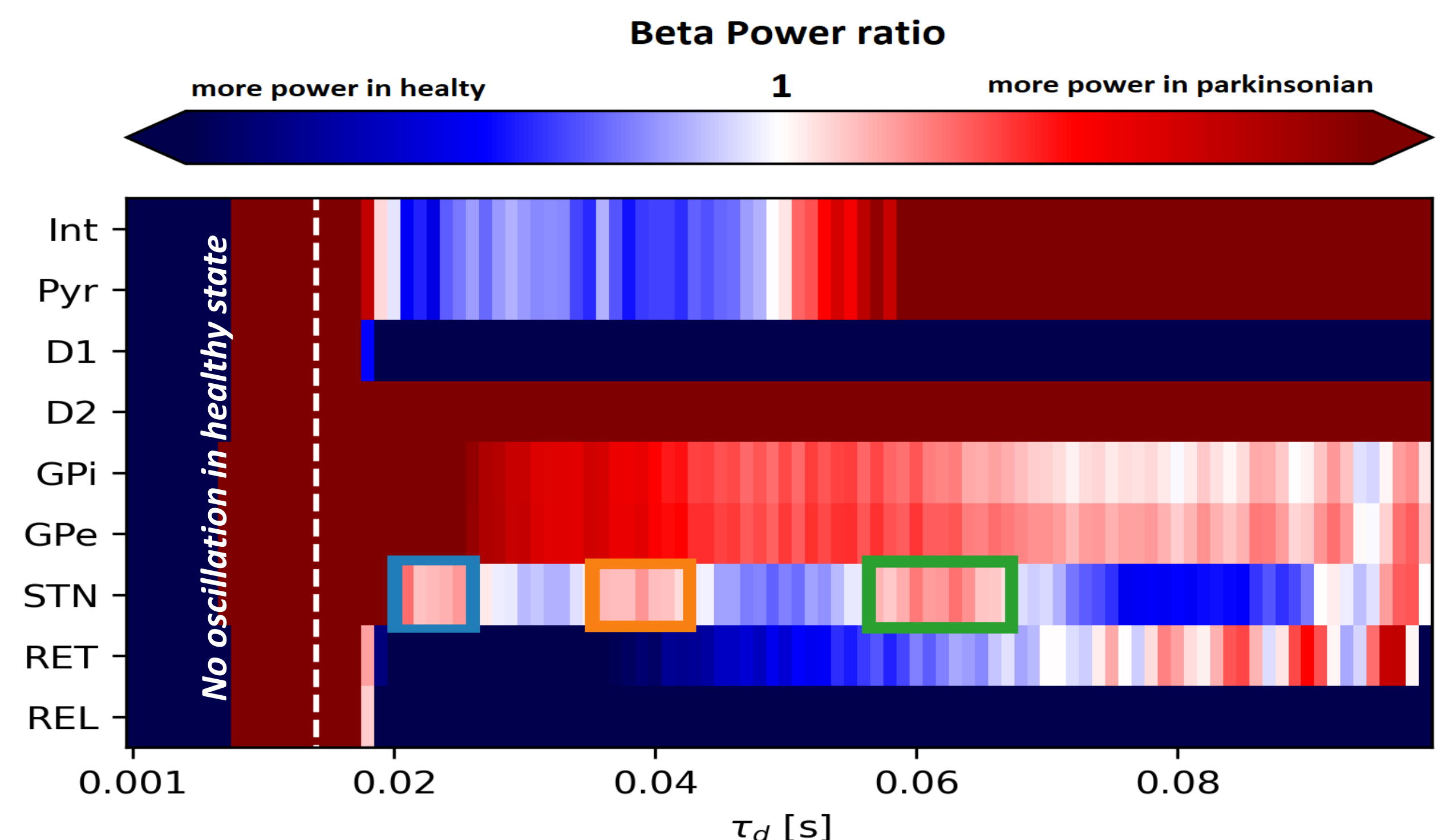


Figure 2: Multitude of P-conformal parameter regions. Some STN windows are marked in blue, orange and green

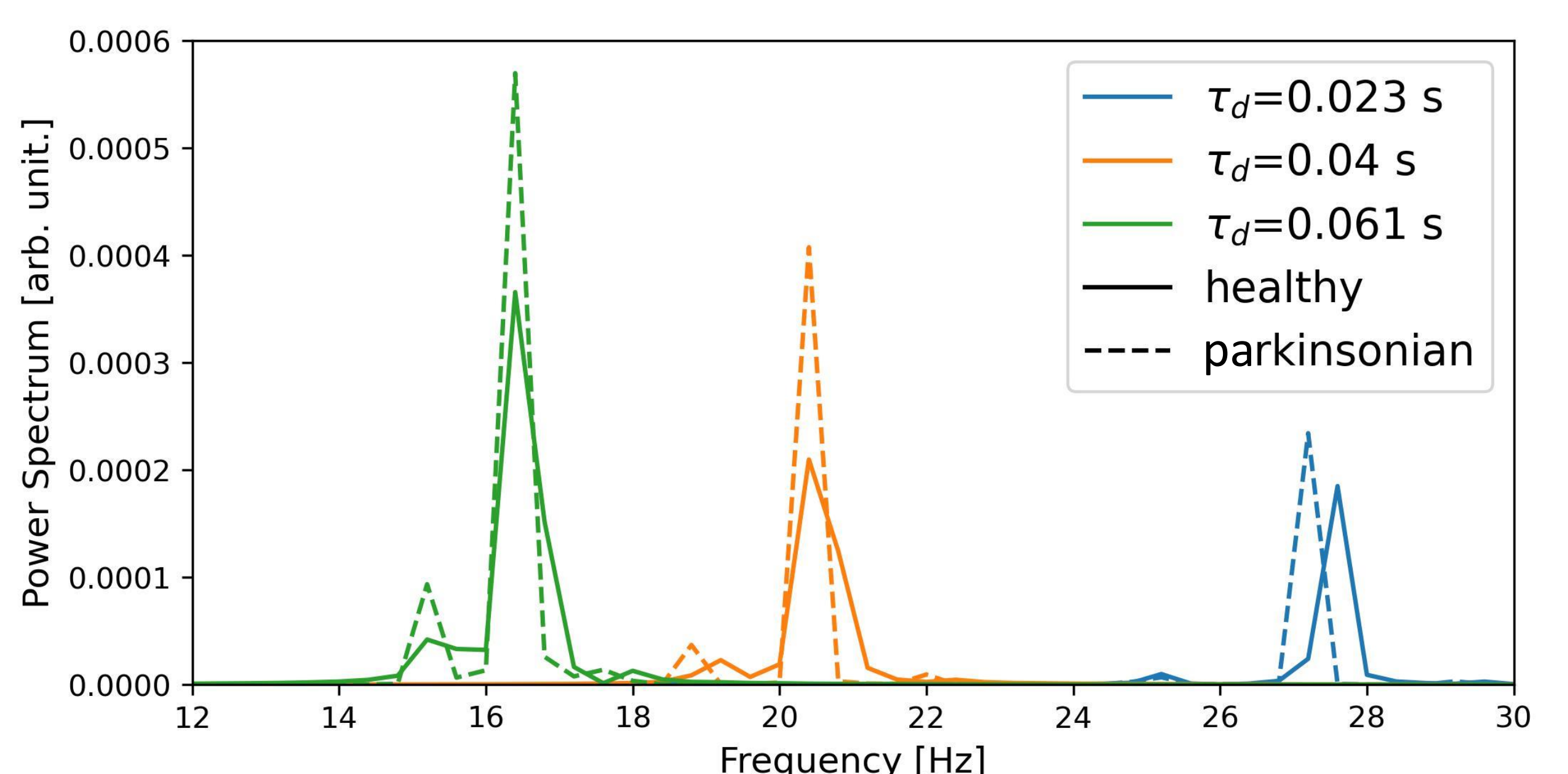


Figure 3: STN power spectral density of the windows marked in Fig. 2 in beta frequency range

DISCUSSION

- Several physiologically plausible parameter sets exhibit parkinsonian-like responses
- Computational models provide tests to discern these parameter sets using the response's dynamical type (number of modes, peak frequency, cross-correlations)
- Such tests must be validated against additional biomarkers or monitors in the brain

CONCLUSION

- Network can show varieties of dynamical responses depending on the parameters and the inputs
- Single biomarker is not enough to fully parametrize the computational model of healthy or parkinsonian state
- Model parameters must be systematically estimated using EEG/ECOG/LFP recordings and Bayesian inversion

FUTURE WORK

- Implementing the axonal delays
- Use EEG/ECOG recordings and Bayesian inversion to estimate parameters systematically

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References:

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- [3] Müller, E. J., & Robinson, P. A. (2018). Quantitative theory of deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus for the suppression of pathological rhythms in Parkinson's disease. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 14(5), e1006217. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1006217>



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