

# CPC 2020: Introduction to Computational Psychiatry

Klaas Enno Stephan



Translational Neuromodeling Unit



**Universität  
Zürich**<sup>UZH</sup>



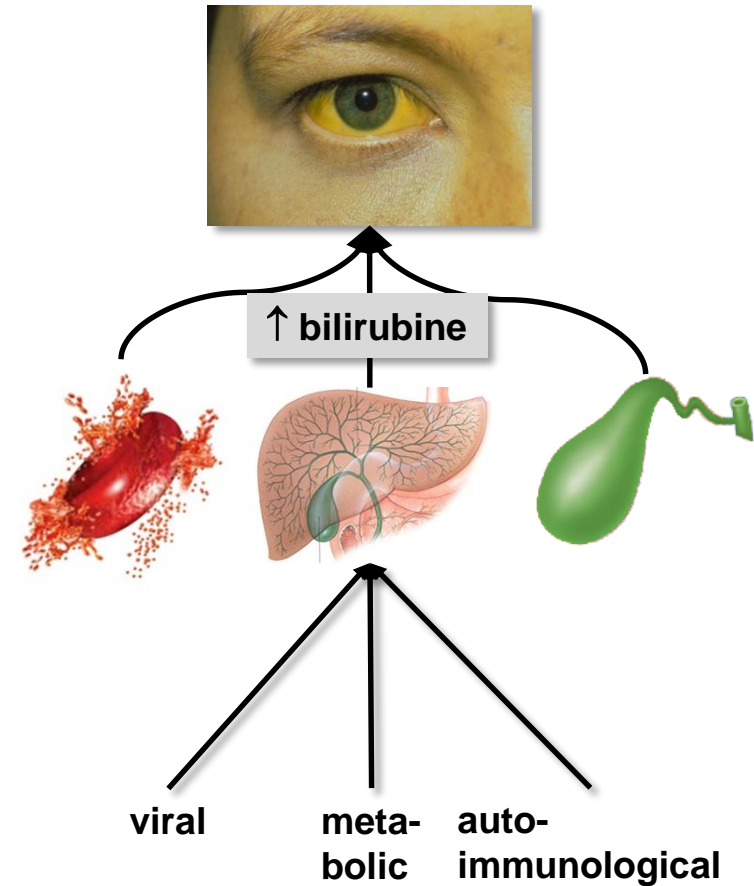
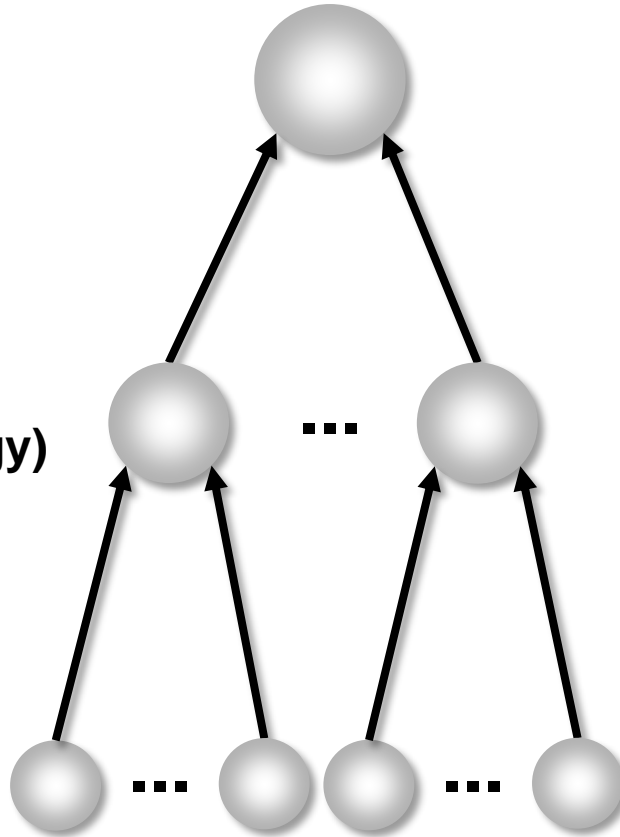
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

# From differential diagnosis to nosology

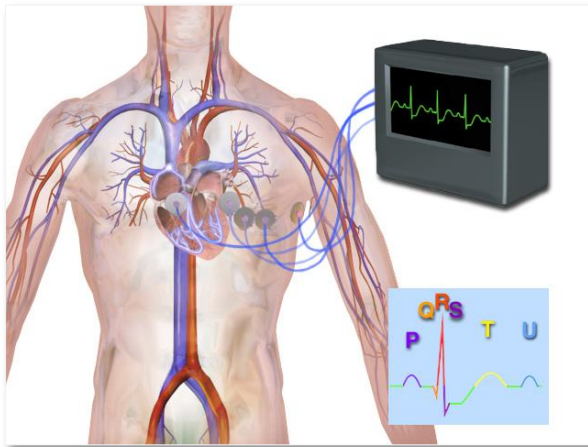
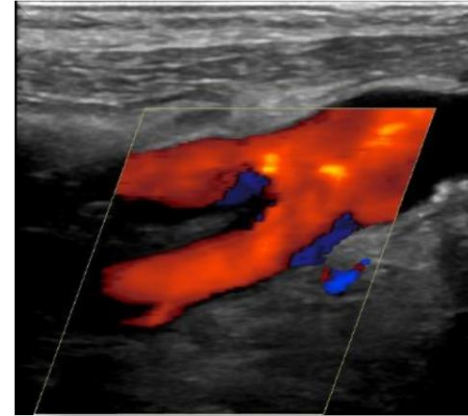
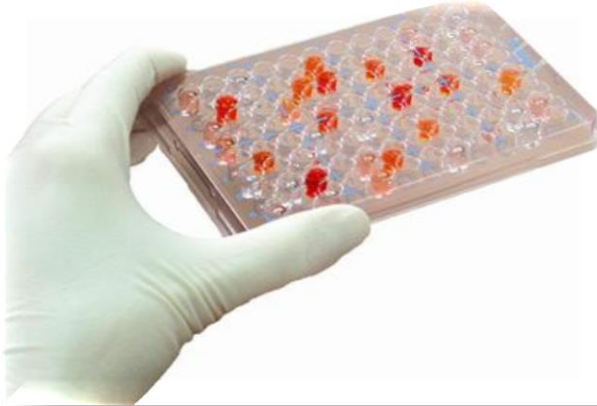
**SYMPTOM**

**MECHANISMS  
(pathophysiology)**

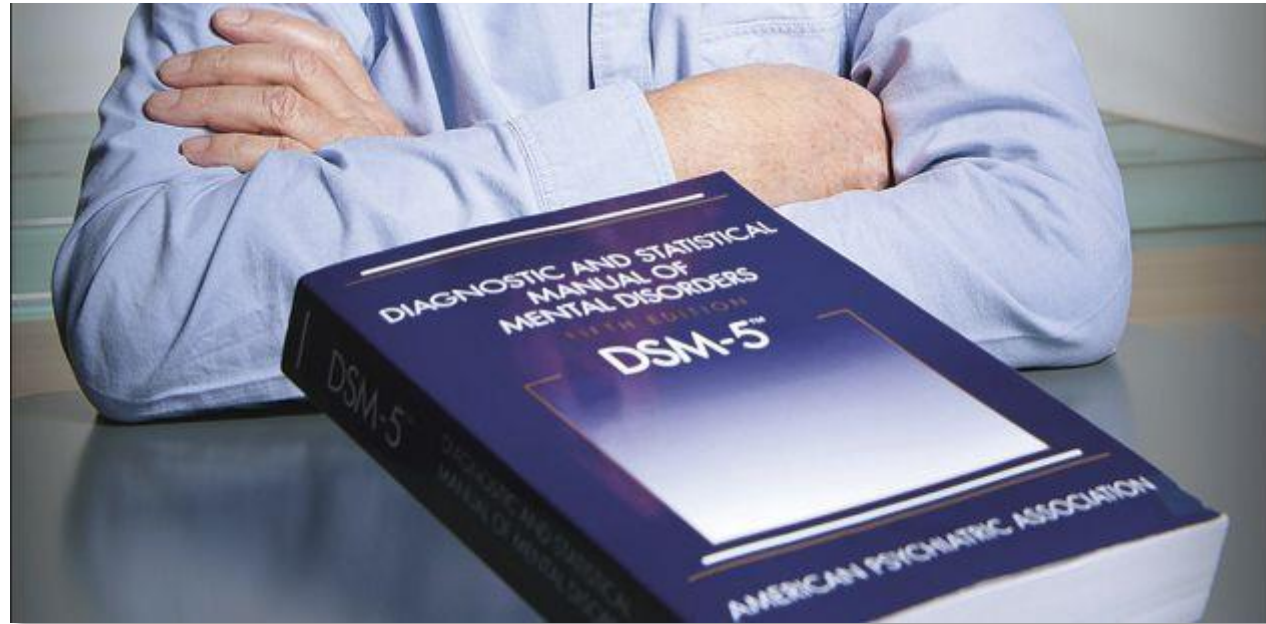
**CAUSES  
(aetiology)**



**>3,000 FDA-approved clinical tests in medicine**



# 1 diagnostic instrument in psychiatry



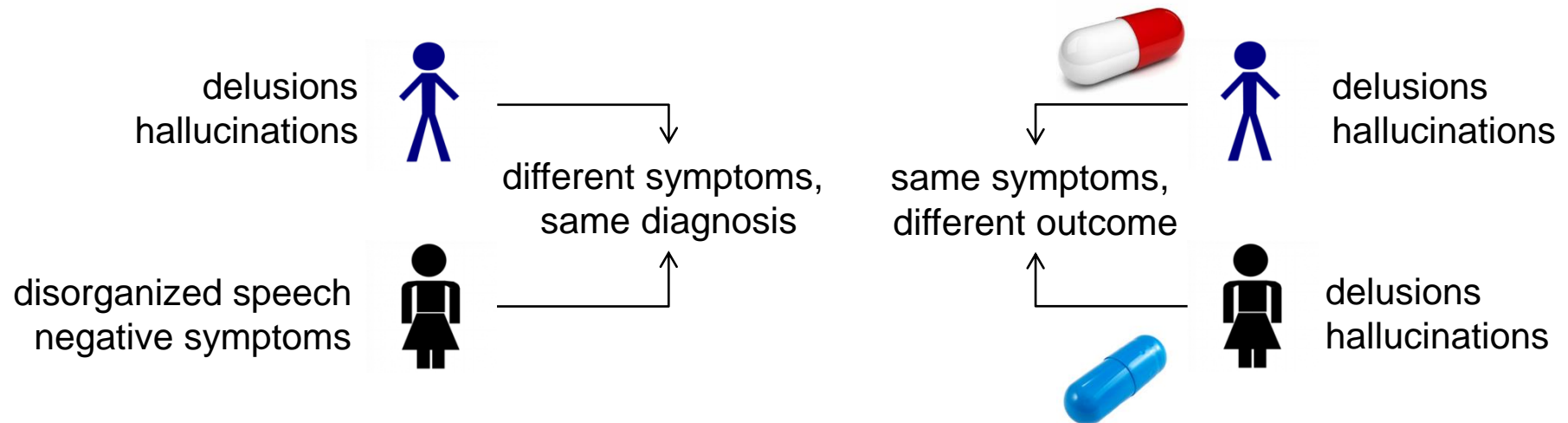
# Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)



# DSM-5: Schizophrenia

- Positive symptoms:
    - Delusions
    - Hallucinations
    - Disorganized speech
  - Grossly disorganized or catatonic behavior
  - Negative symptoms (e.g., flat affect, anhedonia, avolition, asociality)
- + social or occupational dysfunction  
+ continuous signs of the disturbance for at least six months

≥ 2 symptoms  
(at least one pos. symptom)  
over ≥ 1 month



# Psychiatric disorders = heterogeneous spectrum diseases



**polygenetic basis**  
**gene-environment interactions**  
**environmental variation**

**variability in clinical  
trajectory and treatment  
response**

**multiple disease mechanisms**



Molecular Psychiatry (2012) 17, 1174–1179

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[www.nature.com/mp](http://www.nature.com/mp)

## PERSPECTIVE

**Why** has it taken so long for biological psychiatry to develop clinical tests and what to do about it?

S Kapur<sup>1</sup>, AG Phillips<sup>2</sup> and TR Insel<sup>3</sup>



**We often take DSM too seriously  
(or forget about its original purpose).**

**Trying to develop clinical tests based on constructs which are  
inherently heterogenous is not a promising strategy.**



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[www.nature.com/mp](http://www.nature.com/mp)

## **PERSPECTIVE**

Why has it taken so long for biological psychiatry to develop clinical tests and what to do about it?

S Kapur<sup>1</sup>, AG Phillips<sup>2</sup> and TR Insel<sup>3</sup>

From reinforcement learning models to  
psychiatric and neurological disorders

Tiago V Maia<sup>1,2</sup> & Michael J Frank<sup>3,4</sup>

## Computational psychiatry

P. Read Montague<sup>1,2</sup>, Raymond J. Dolan<sup>2</sup>, Karl J. Friston<sup>2</sup> and Peter Dayan<sup>3</sup>

## Computational approaches to psychiatry

Klaas Enno Stephan<sup>1,2,3</sup> and Christoph Mathys<sup>3</sup>

## Computational psychiatry: the brain as a phantastic organ

*Karl J Friston, Klaas Enno Stephan, Read Montague, Raymond J Dolan*

## Computational Psychiatry

Xiao-Jing Wang<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup> and John H. Krystal<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>

## Computational Psychiatry: towards a mathematically informed understanding of mental illness

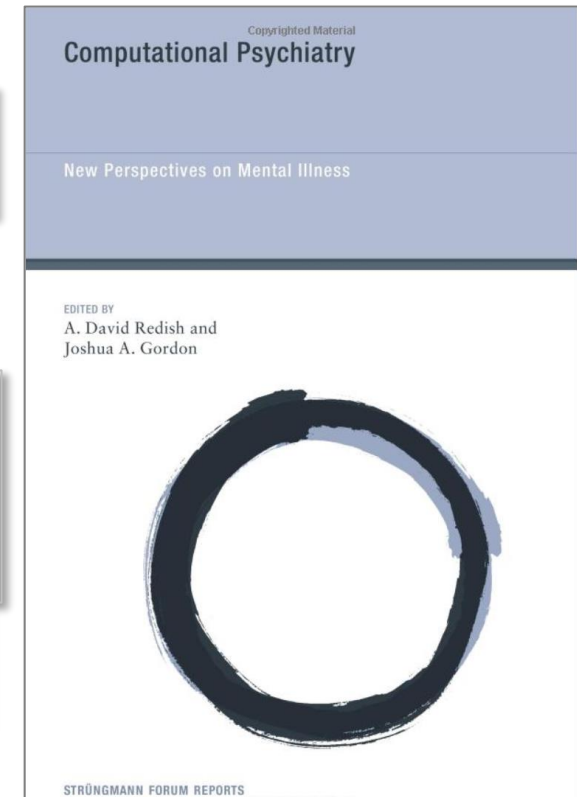
Rick A Adams,<sup>1,2</sup> Quentin J M Huys,<sup>3,4</sup> Jonathan P Roiser<sup>1</sup>

## Computational psychiatry as a bridge from neuroscience to clinical applications

Quentin J M Huys<sup>1,2,5</sup>, Tiago V Maia<sup>3,5</sup> & Michael J Frank<sup>4</sup>

## Computational Psychosomatics and Computational Psychiatry: Toward a Joint Framework for Differential Diagnosis

Frederike H. Petzschner, Lilian A.E. Weber, Tim Gard, and Klaas E. Stephan



# What exactly do we mean by "computational"?

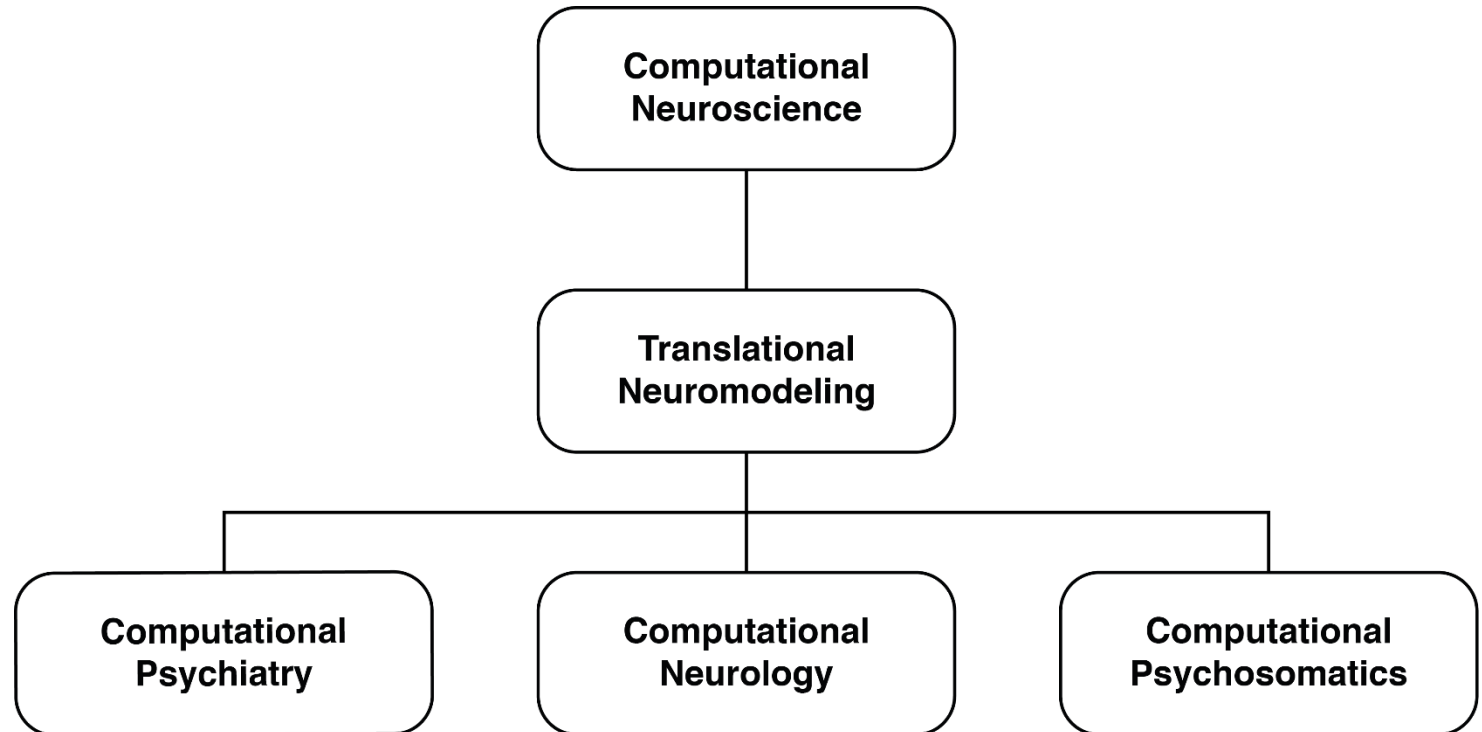
- in **computer science**:
  - “computation” = a well-defined process (algorithm) that transforms an input set into an output set in a finite number of steps
- in **neuroscience**: three common usages
  - *methodological approach*
    - investigations of neural or cognitive systems by algorithmic, as opposed to analytical (algebraic), approaches  
→ “computational neuroscience”
  - *information processing*
    - as opposed to biophysical implementation
  - *unspecified*
    - any work in which computer-based analyses play a dominant role
    - e.g. machine learning analyses of clinical, behavioural, imaging data

# A taxonomy of computational clinical neuroscience

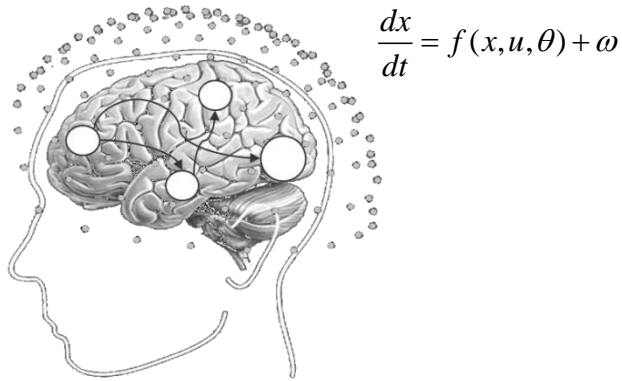
Understanding how/what  
the brain computes

Develops/validates  
mathematical models for  
solving clinical problems

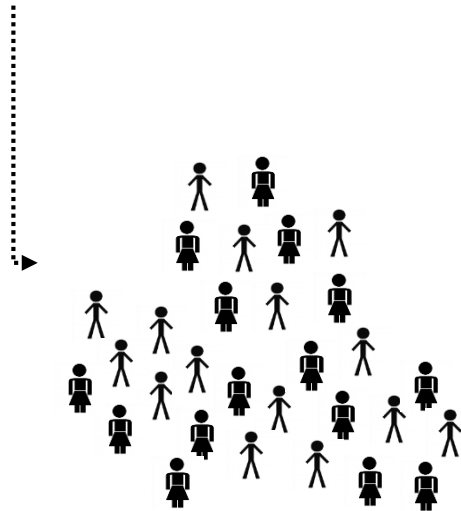
Application within  
specific medical fields



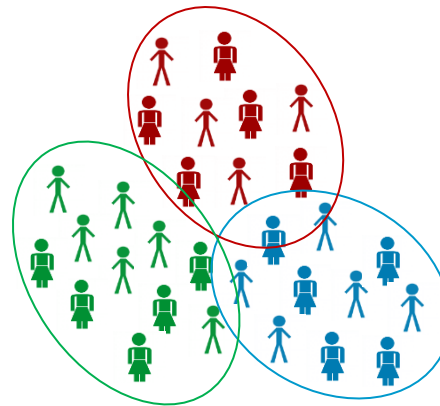
# 1 Computational assays: Models of disease mechanisms



# 2 Application to brain activity and behaviour of individual patients



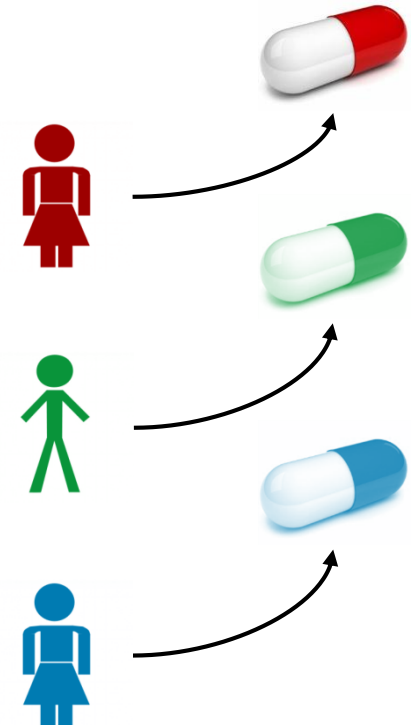
# 3 Detecting subgroups/-dimensions (based on inferred mechanisms)



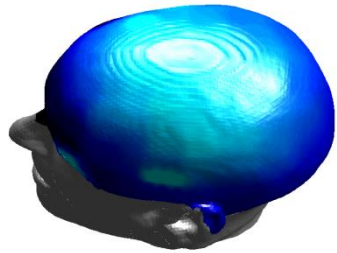
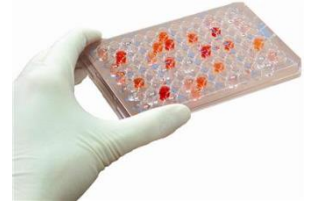
- disease mechanism A
- disease mechanism B
- disease mechanism C

# Translational Neuromodeling and Computational Psychiatry

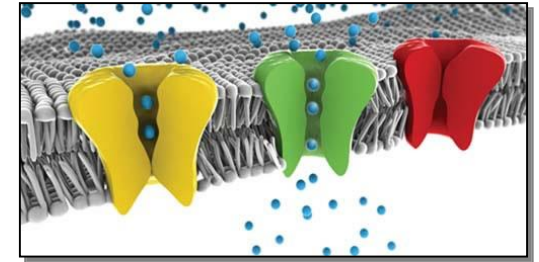
# 4 Individual treatment prediction



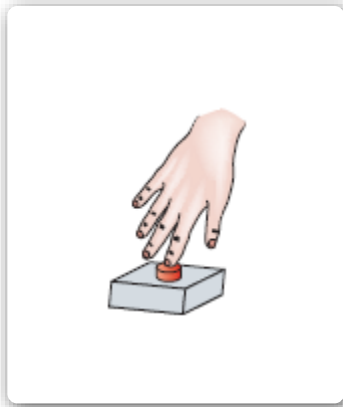
# Generative models as "computational assays"



$$\begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{p(y | \theta, m) \cdot p(\theta | m)} \\ \xrightarrow{p(\theta | y, m)} \end{array}$$



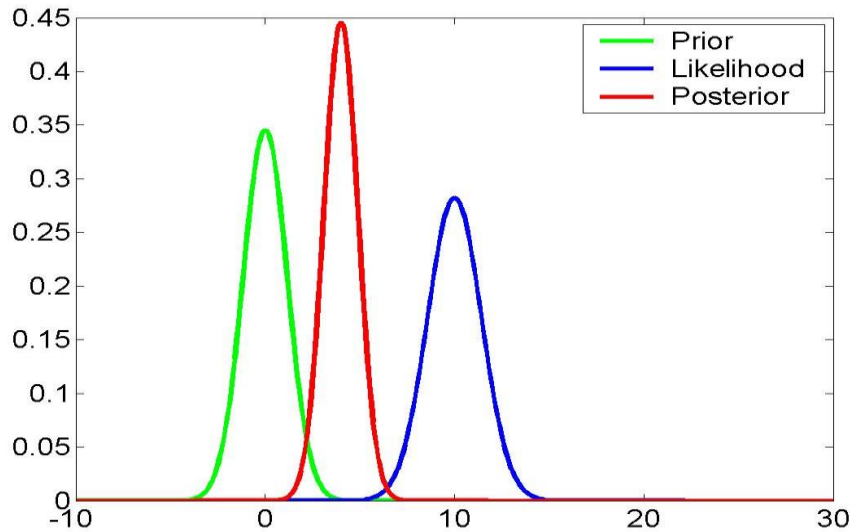
$y$  = data,  $\theta$  = parameters,  $m$  = model



$$\begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{p(y | \theta, m) \cdot p(\theta | m)} \\ \xrightarrow{p(\theta | y, m)} \end{array}$$



# Bayes' rule

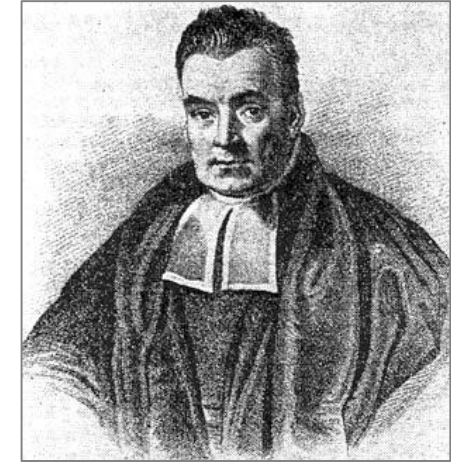


Likelihood × prior: generative model

$$p(\theta | y) = \frac{p(y | \theta) p(\theta)}{p(y)}$$

$\theta$ : parameters  
 $y$ : data

**Model evidence:** normalisation  
term and index for model goodness



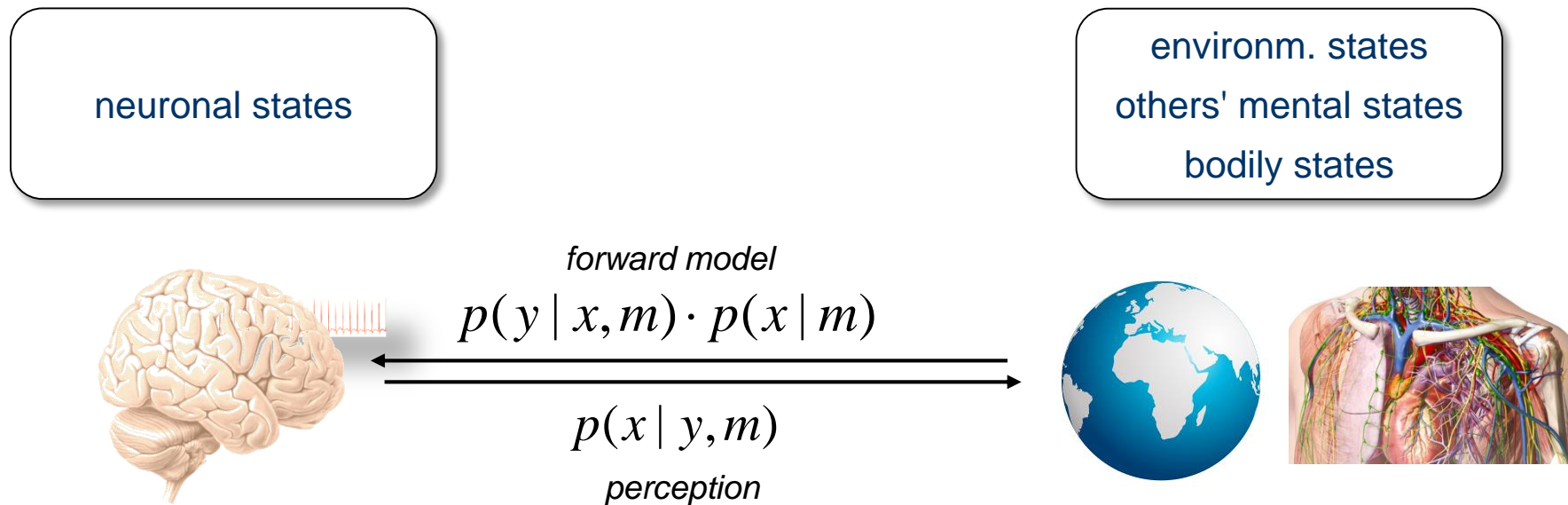
The Reverend Thomas Bayes  
(1702-1761)

“... the theorem expresses how a degree of belief, expressed as a probability, should rationally change to account for the availability of related evidence.”

*Wikipedia*



# Generative models as a concept for brain function: the "Bayesian brain" hypothesis



perception = inference = inversion of a generative model

# Computational assays: key clinical questions

## **SYMPTOMS**

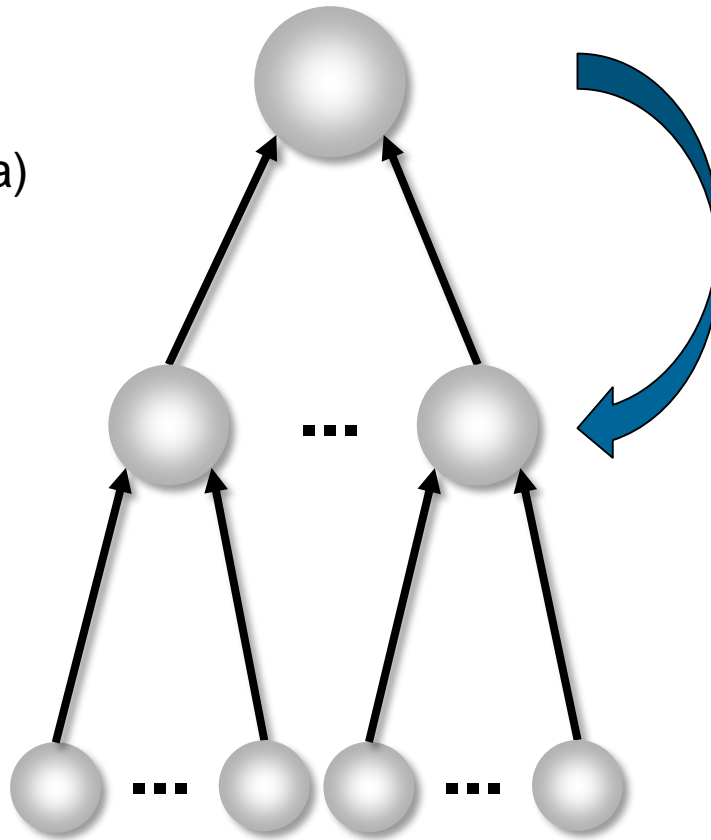
(behavioural or physiological data)

## **MECHANISMS**

(computational, physiological)

## **CAUSES**

(aetiology)

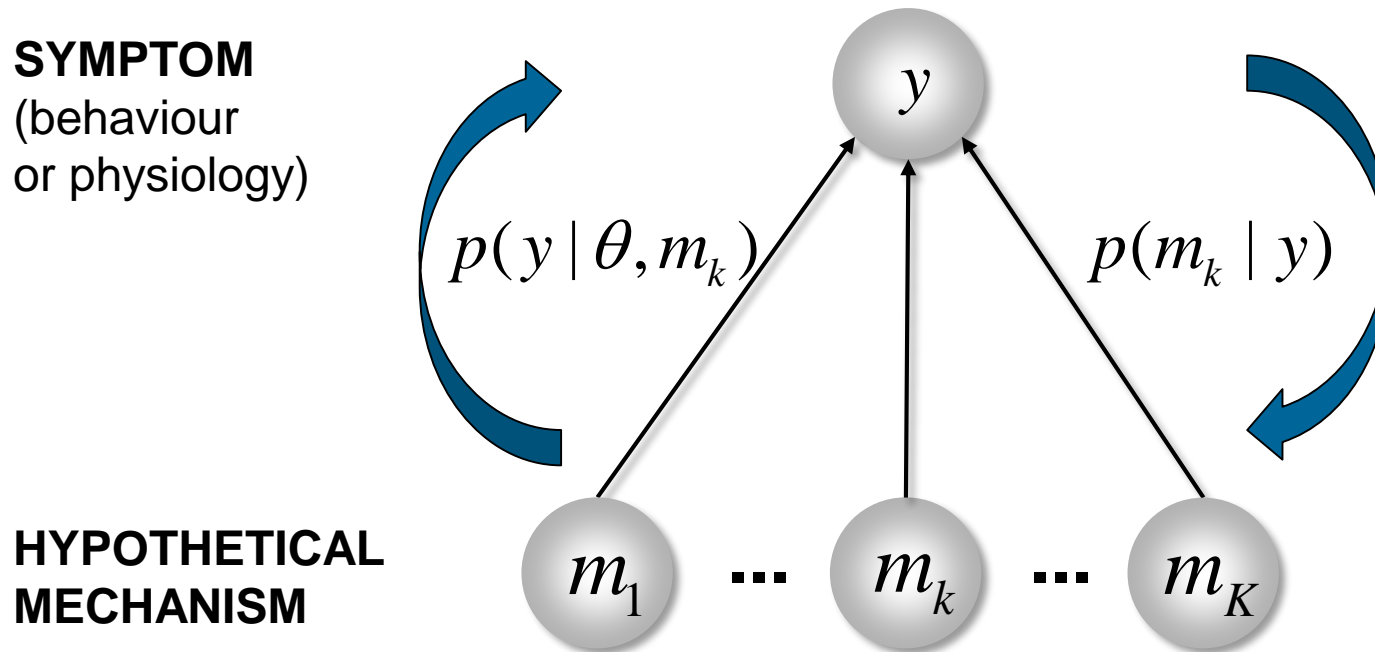


**① differential diagnosis** of alternative disease mechanisms

**② stratification / subgroup detection** into mechanistically distinct subgroups

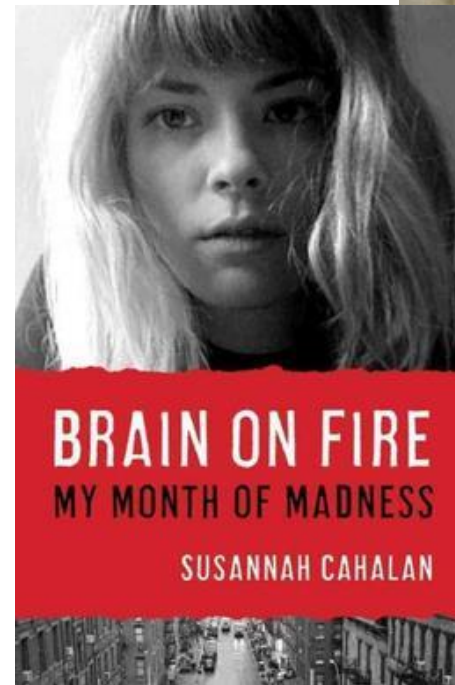
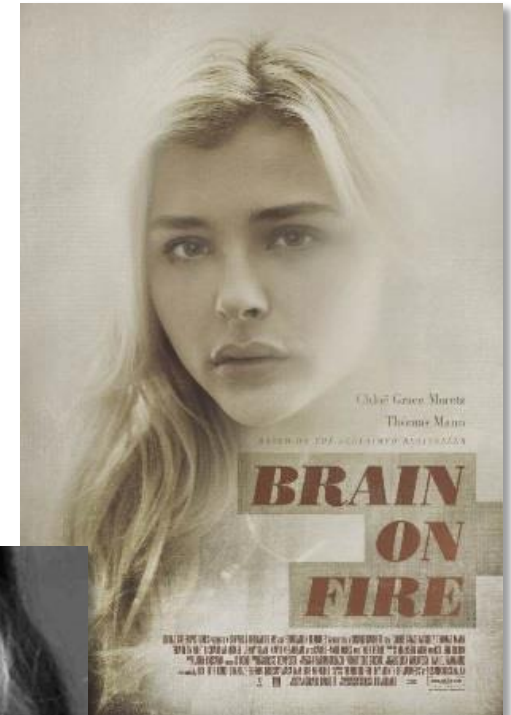
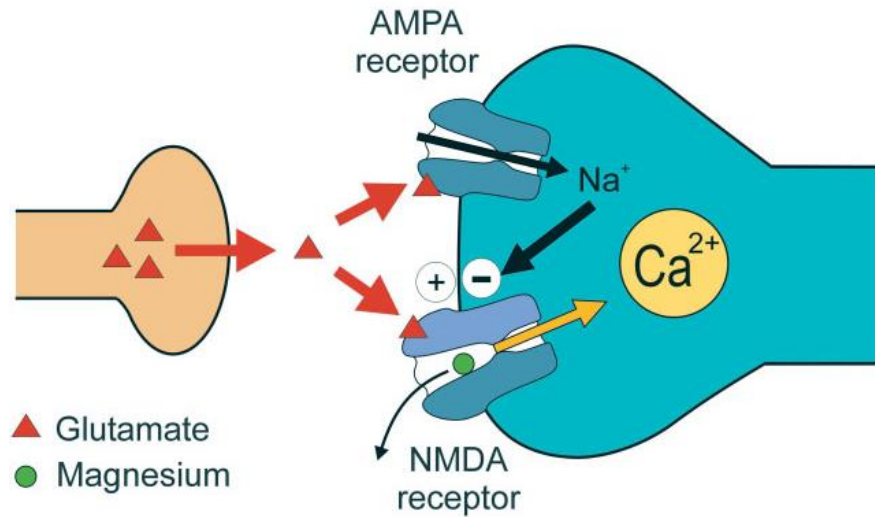
**③ prediction** of clinical trajectories and treatment response

# ❶ Differential diagnosis: model selection

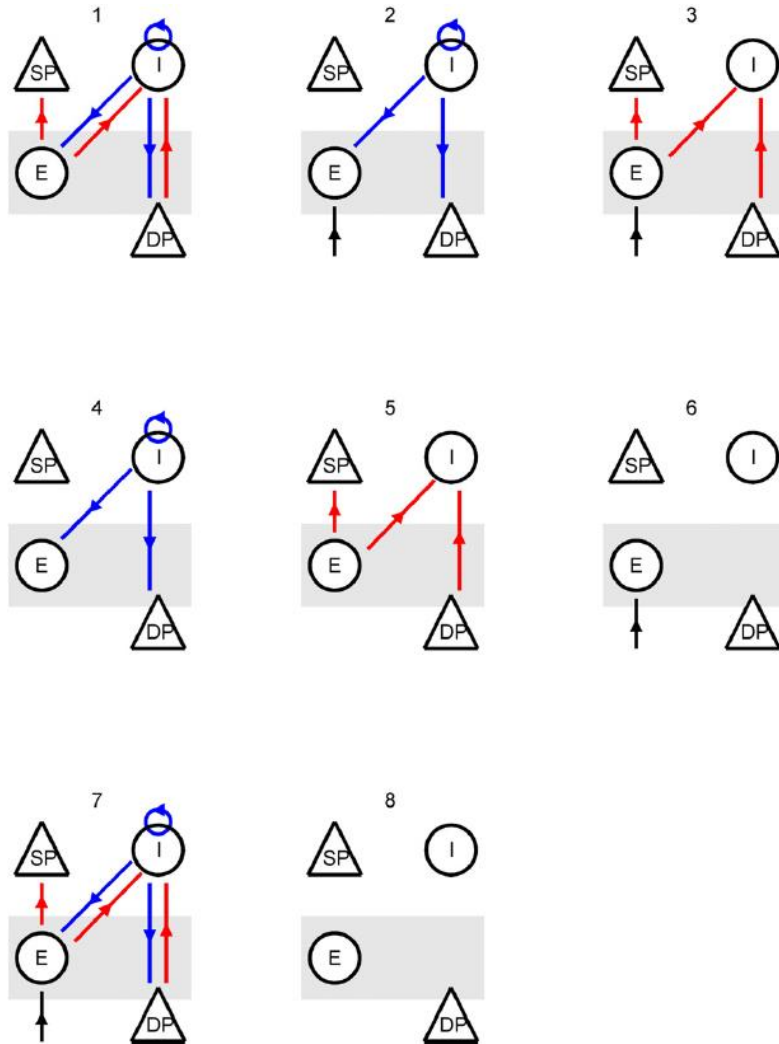


$$p(m_k | y) = \frac{p(y | m_k) p(m_k)}{\sum_k p(y | m_k) p(m_k)}$$

# NMDA receptor antibody encephalitis



# Generative modeling of seizure activity in NMDAR antibody encephalitis



**Table 2**

The variance described and the free energy for the different models inverted for each patient. Note that the winning model (highest free energy) also had the best fit and these were the same models for both patients. The free energies are expressed relative to the null model.

Model	Patient 1		Patient 2	
	Variance explained	Free energy	Variance explained	Free energy
Inhibitory + excitatory + endogenous	0.97	1430	0.95	1740
Inhibitory + excitatory	0.97	1380	0.94	1650
Inhibitory + endogenous	0.97	1320	0.94	1600
Excitatory + endogenous	0.96	1310	0.94	1680
Inhibitory	0.90	860	0.91	1130
Excitatory	0.91	1010	0.92	1460
Endogenous	0.91	950	0.91	1230
Null	0.50	0	0.75	0

Example of how model selection serves to infer on pathophysiological processes in single patients.

"Free energy" in table above

= negative free energy

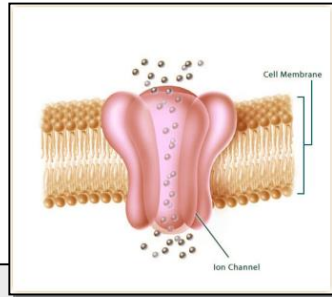
= approximation to log model evidence

# ① Differential diagnosis: inferring synaptic processes



- inhibitory interneurons
- excitatory interneurons
- pyramidal cells

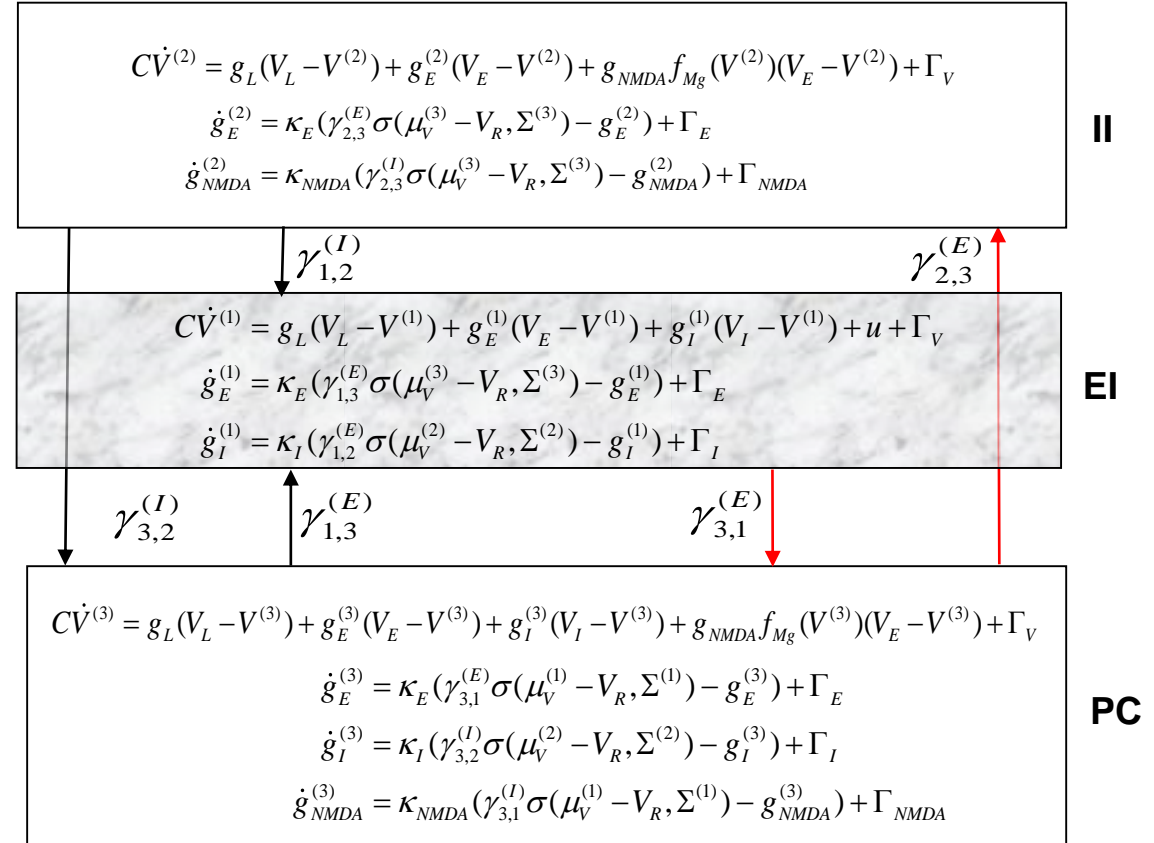
AMPA, NMDA, GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors



$$C\dot{V} = \sum g_i (V_i^0 - V)$$

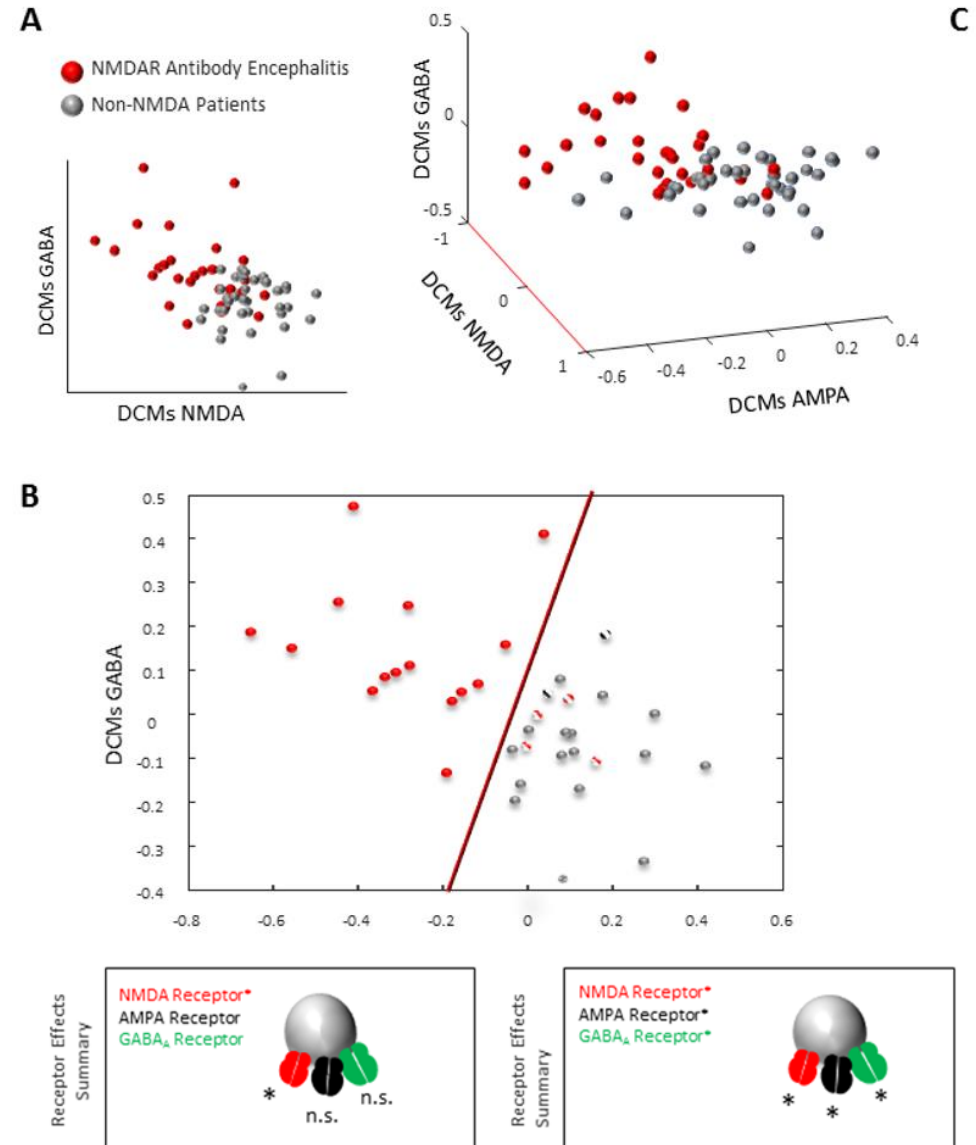
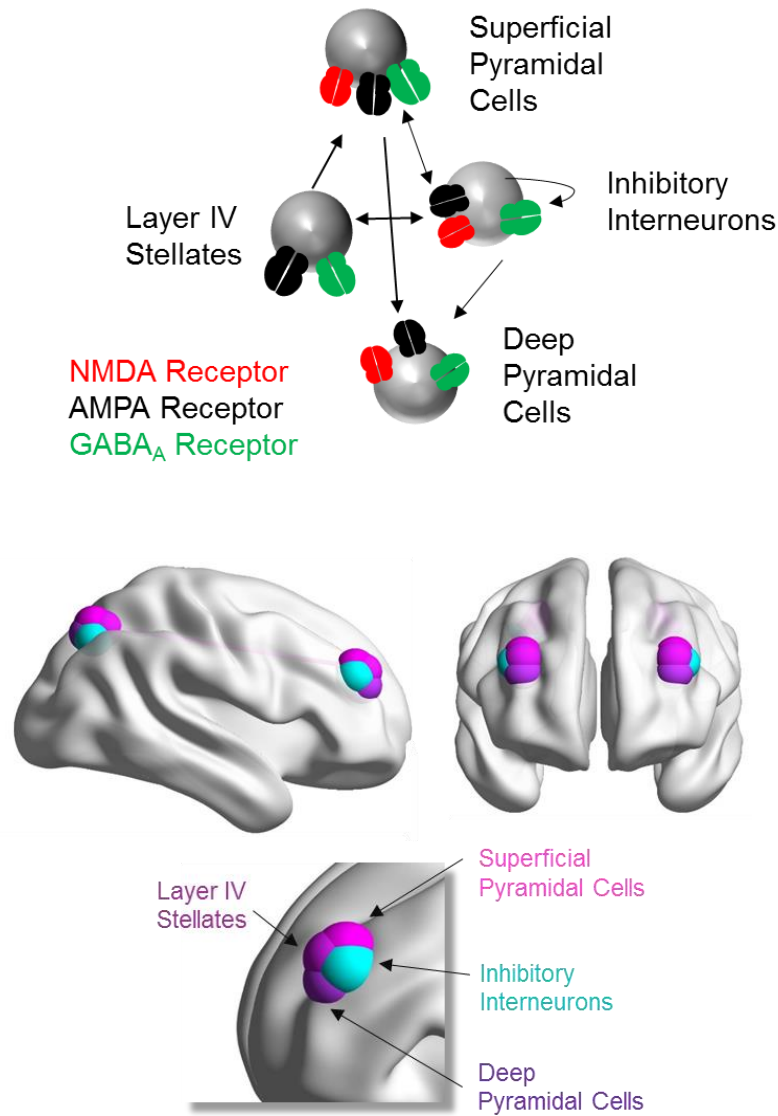
$$\dot{g}_k = \kappa (u_{ij} - g_k)$$

$$u_{ij} = \gamma_{ij} \sigma(\mu_V^{(j)} - V_R, \Sigma^{(j)})$$



$u_{ij}$  = presynaptic input from ensemble  $j$  to  $i$   
 $\sigma$  = CDF of presynaptic depolarization density around threshold potential  $V_R$

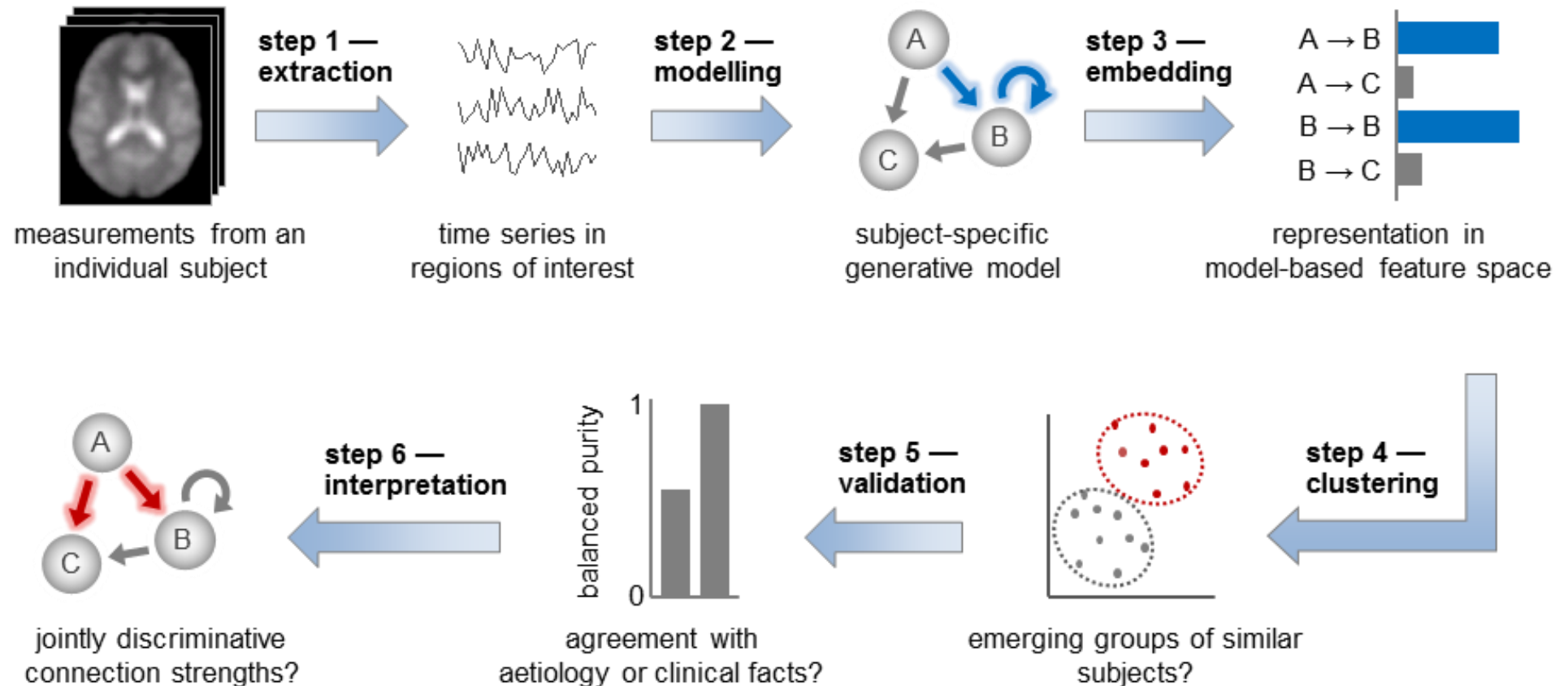




29 patients with NMDAR-antibody encephalitis  
 18 control patients (with inflammatory/metabolic encephalopathy)

Symmonds et al. 2018, *Brain*

## ② Stratification / subgroup detection: Generative embedding (unsupervised)

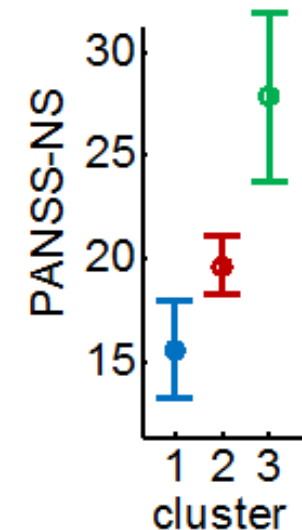
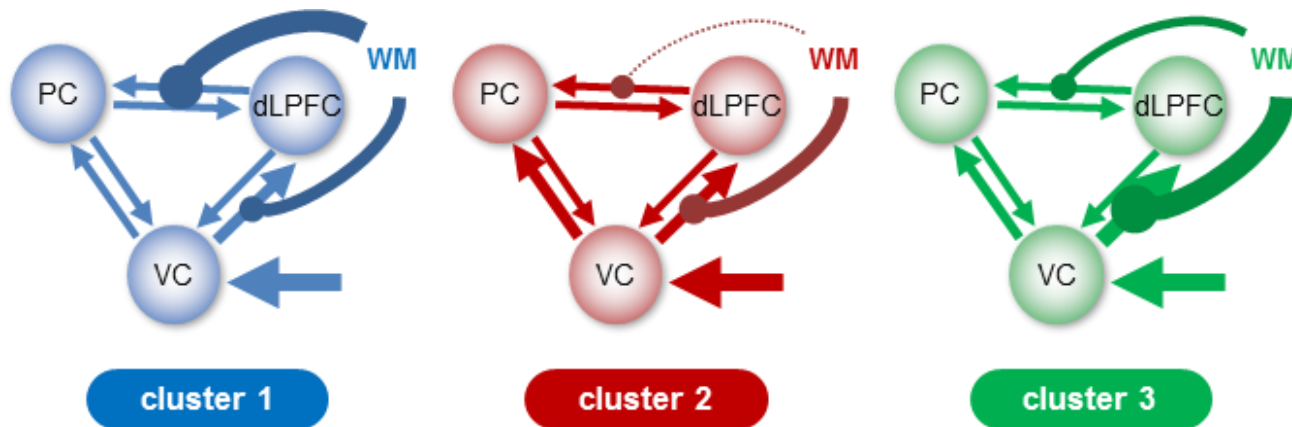
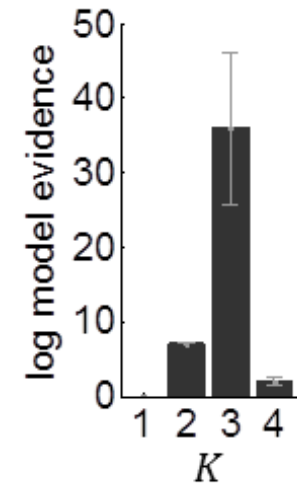




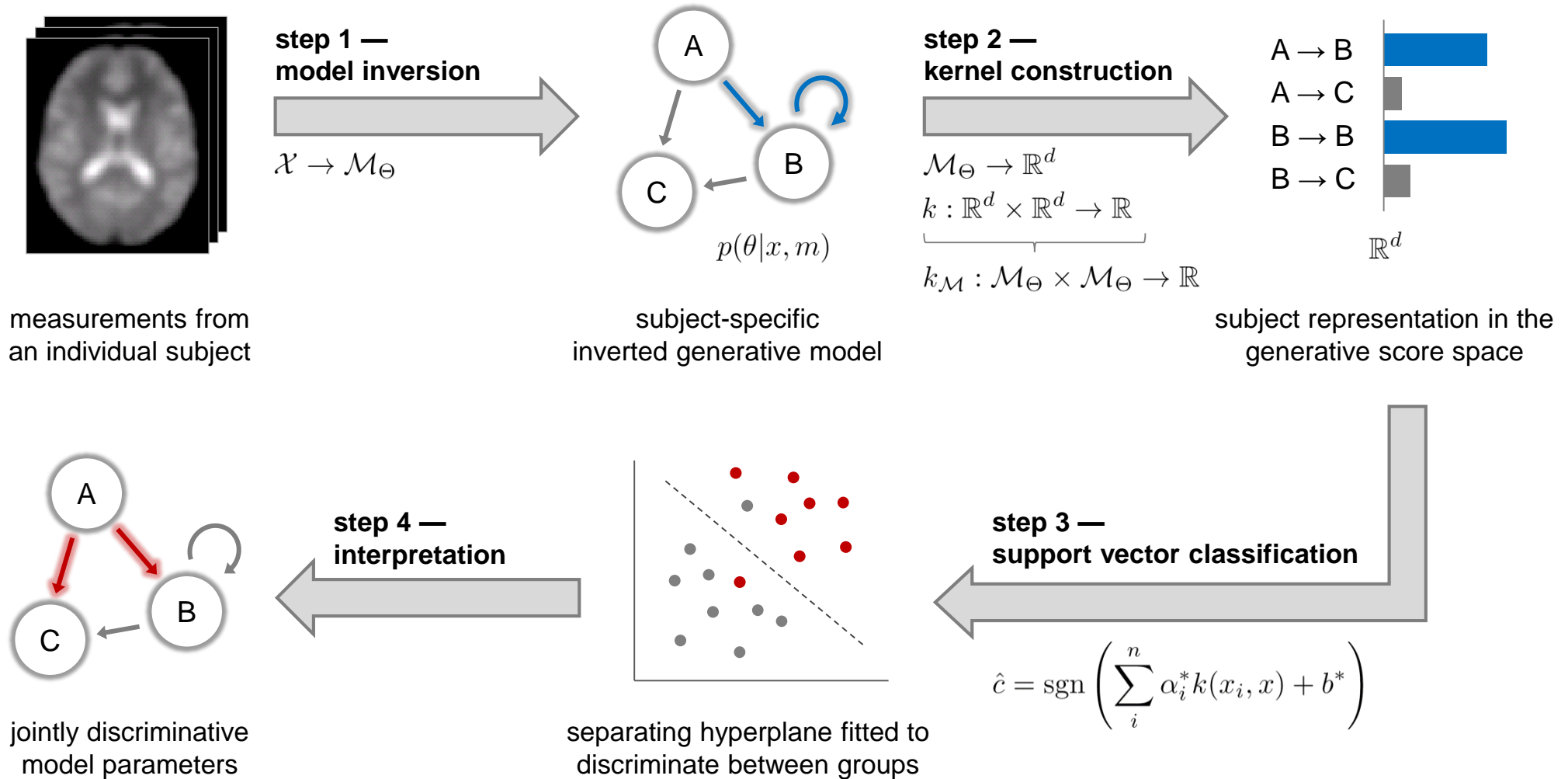
# Detecting subgroups of patients in schizophrenia

Optimal  
cluster  
solution

- three distinct subgroups (total N=41)
- subgroups differ ( $p < 0.05$ ) wrt. negative symptoms on the *positive and negative symptom scale* (PANSS)



### ③ Prediction: Generative embedding (supervised)



### ③ Prediction: Two-year outcome in depression

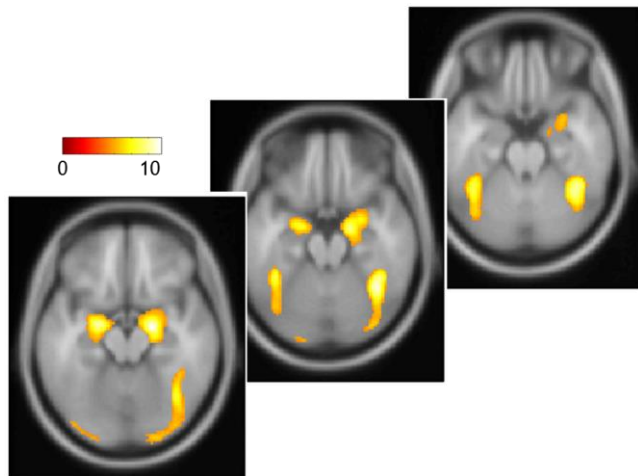
**N=85 MDD patients from NESDA study** (Schmaal et al. 2015, Biol. Psychiatry)

#### Three distinct trajectories:

chronic (CHR): n = 15

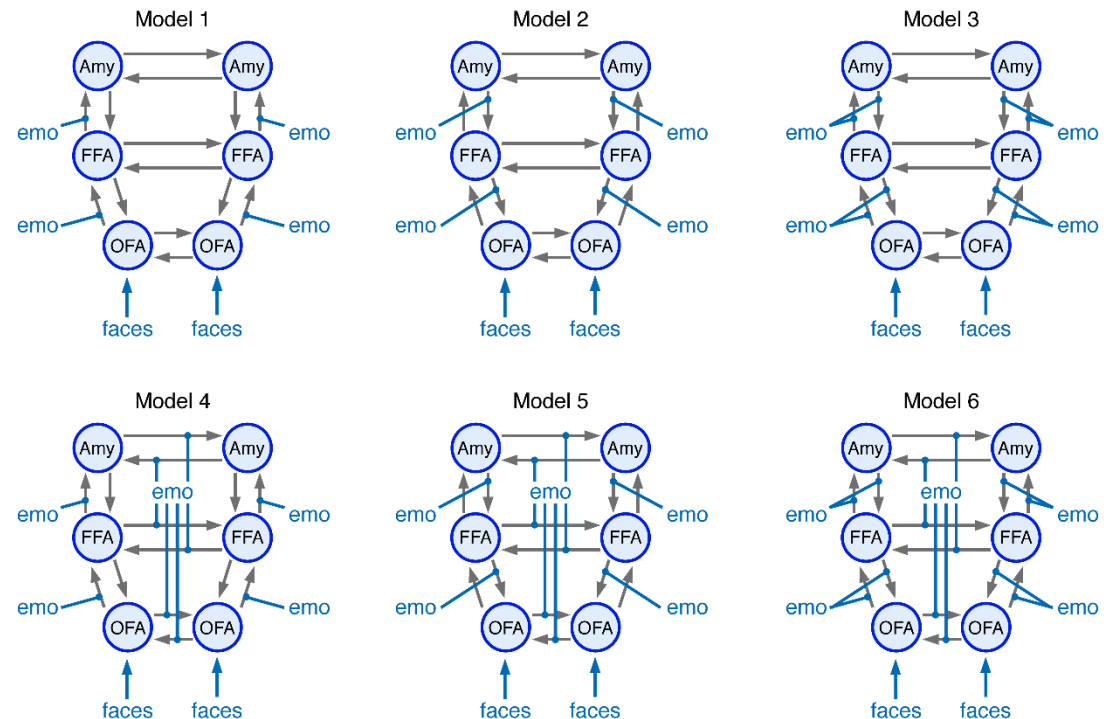
gradually improving (IMP): n = 31

remission (REM): n = 39

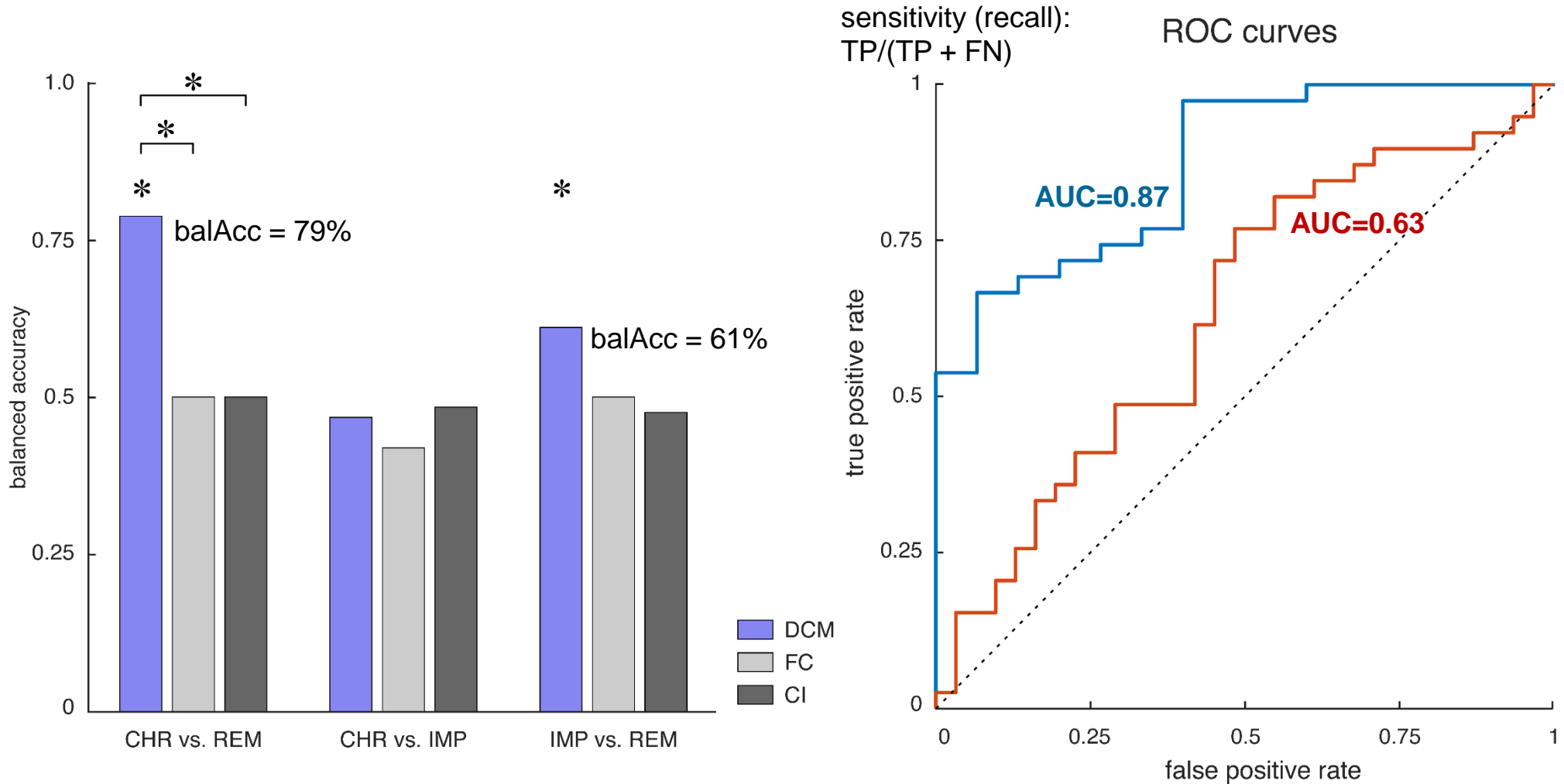


emotional faces > scrambled faces

#### DCM + BMA (emotional face processing)



### ③ Prediction: Two-year outcome in depression



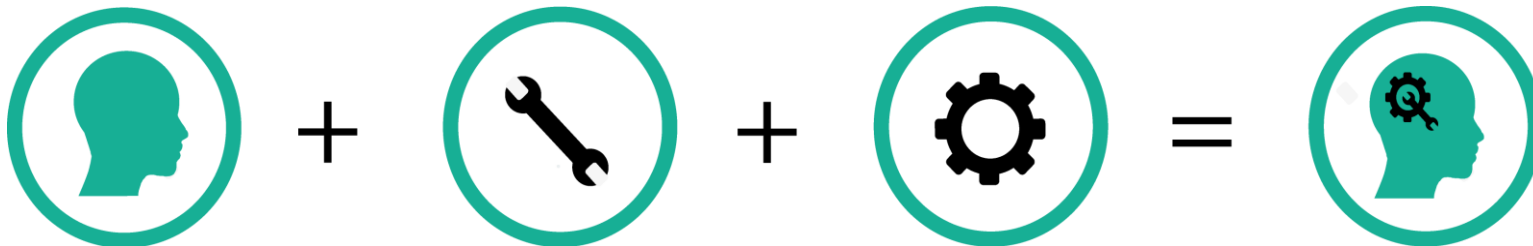
# Key challenges for CP (and our local response)

1. **Highly interdisciplinary → mutual teaching**
2. **Methodology in its infancy → open source code and data sharing**
3. **Prospective validation studies → uniting computational & biomedical scientists in new types of organisations**

# Key challenges for CP (and our local response)

1. **Highly interdisciplinary → mutual teaching**
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COMPUTATIONALPSYCHIATRYCOURSE



# Key challenges for CP (and our local response)

1. **Highly interdisciplinary → mutual teaching**
2. Methodology in its infancy → open source code and data sharing
3. Prospective validation studies by biomedical scientists in neurology

## Translational Neuromodeling Course

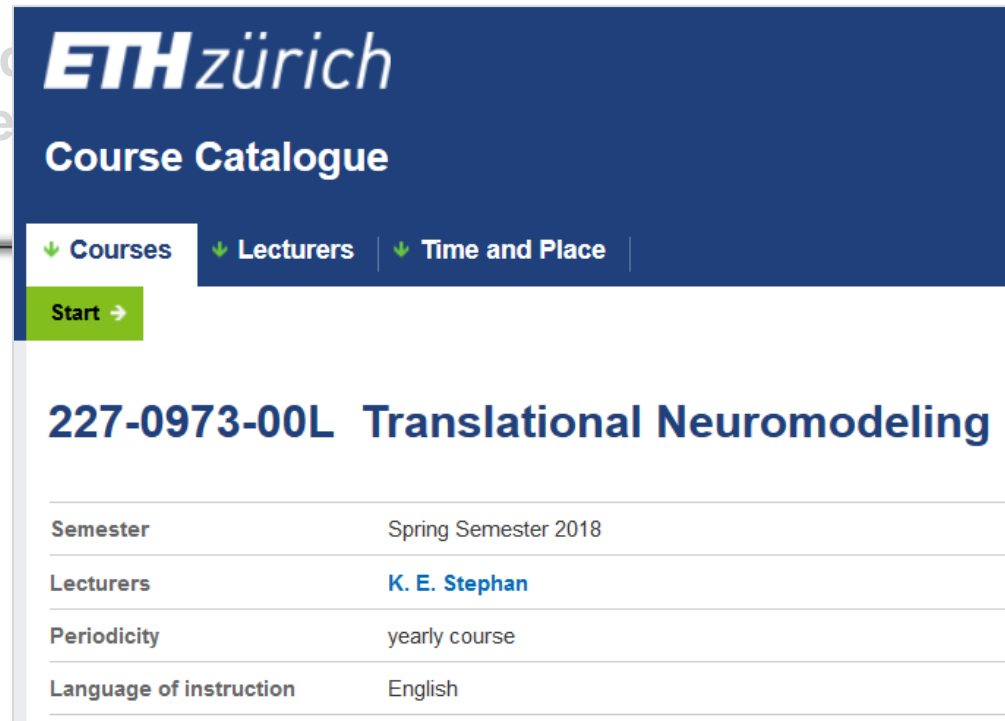
University of Zurich & ETH Zurich

3 hours lectures per week

+ 2h exercises per week

+ 2 week project

annual course (spring semester)



**ETH zürich**  
Course Catalogue

↓ Courses | ↓ Lecturers | ↓ Time and Place |

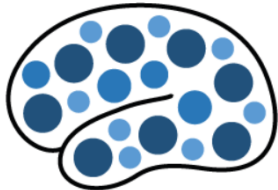
Start →

**227-0973-00L Translational Neuromodeling**

Semester	Spring Semester 2018
Lecturers	<a href="#">K. E. Stephan</a>
Periodicity	yearly course
Language of instruction	English

# Key challenges for CP (and our local response)

1. Highly interdisciplinary → mutual teaching
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TAPAS

[www.translationalneuromodeling.org/tapas](http://www.translationalneuromodeling.org/tapas)



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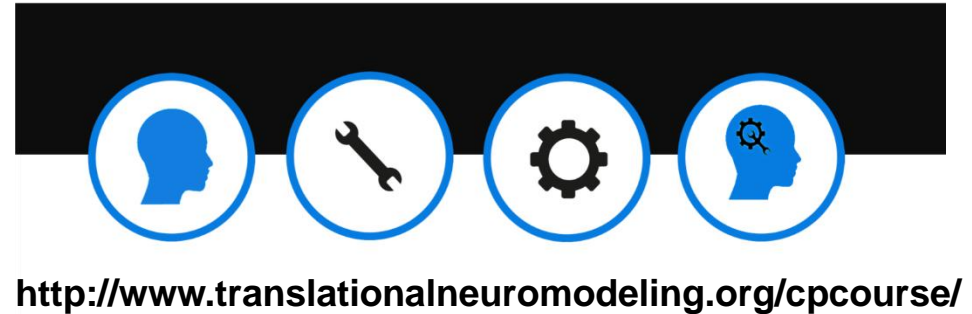


Translational Neuromodeling Unit

[www.tnu.ethz.ch](http://www.tnu.ethz.ch)



# CPC 2020

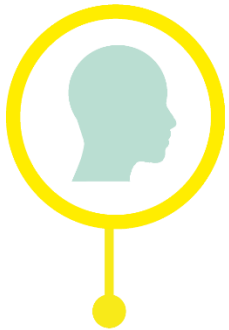


- 6th international edition
- originated from our local courses on Computational Psychiatry since 2012
- key features
  - clinical lectures (Monday)
  - methodological lectures (Tuesday – Thursday)
  - application talks (Friday)
  - practical exercises (Saturday) with different open source toolboxes
  - covers models of both physiology and behaviour
  - 35 presenters from 20 international institutions

# CPC 2020

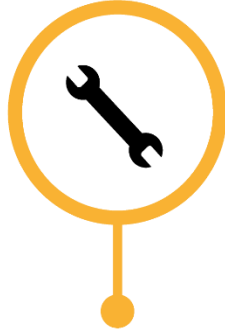


## DAY 1



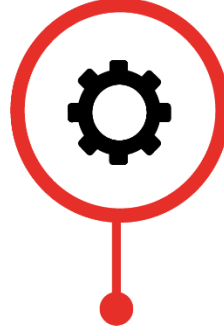
Clinical  
Psychiatry

## DAY 2



Bayesian modeling  
basics & RL

## DAY 3



Bayesian models,  
active inference,  
HGF, MDP, DDM

## DAY 4



Connectivity (DCM),  
machine learning

## DAY 5



Computational  
Psychiatry  
in application

# Further reading: reviews on computational psychiatry

- Frässle S, Yao Y, Schöbi D, Aponte EA, Heinzle J, Stephan KE (2018) Generative models for clinical applications in computational psychiatry. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science* 9: e1460.
- Friston KJ, Stephan KE, Montague R, Dolan RJ (2014) Computational psychiatry: the brain as a phantastic organ. *The Lancet Psychiatry* 1: 148-158.
- Huys Q, Maia T, Frank M (2016) Computational psychiatry as a bridge between neuroscience and clinical applications. *Nat. Neurosci.* 19: 404-413
- Maia TV, Frank MJ (2011) From reinforcement learning models to psychiatric and neurological disorders. *Nat. Neurosci.* 14, 154–162.
- Montague PR, Dolan RJ, Friston KJ, Dayan P (2012) Computational psychiatry. *Trends Cogn. Sci.* 16, 72–80.
- Stephan KE, Mathys C (2014) Computational Approaches to Psychiatry. *Current Opinion in Neurobiology* 25:85-92.
- Stephan KE, Iglesias S, Heinzle J, Diaconescu AO (2015) Translational Perspectives for Computational Neuroimaging. *Neuron* 87: 716-732.
- Stephan KE, Schlagenhauf F, Huys QJM, Raman S, Aponte EA, Brodersen KH, Rigoux L, Moran RJ, Daunizeau J, Dolan RJ, Friston KJ, Heinz A (2017) Computational Neuroimaging Strategies for Single Patient Predictions. *NeuroImage* 145:180-199
- Wang XJ, Krystal JH (2014) Computational psychiatry. *Neuron* 84: 638-654.

**Once again, a very warm welcome –  
we hope you will enjoy the CPC 2020!**



Twitter: @CompPsychiatry

<http://www.translationalneuromodeling.org/cpcourse/>