

CPC 2021: Introduction to Computational Psychiatry

Klaas Enno Stephan



Translational Neuromodeling Unit



**Universität
Zürich**^{UZH}



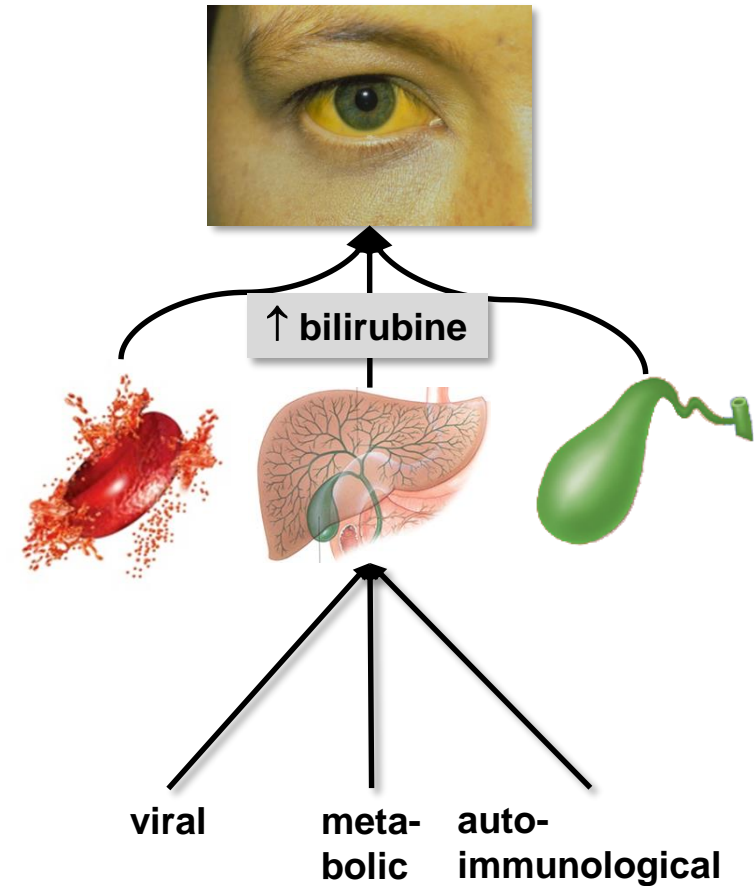
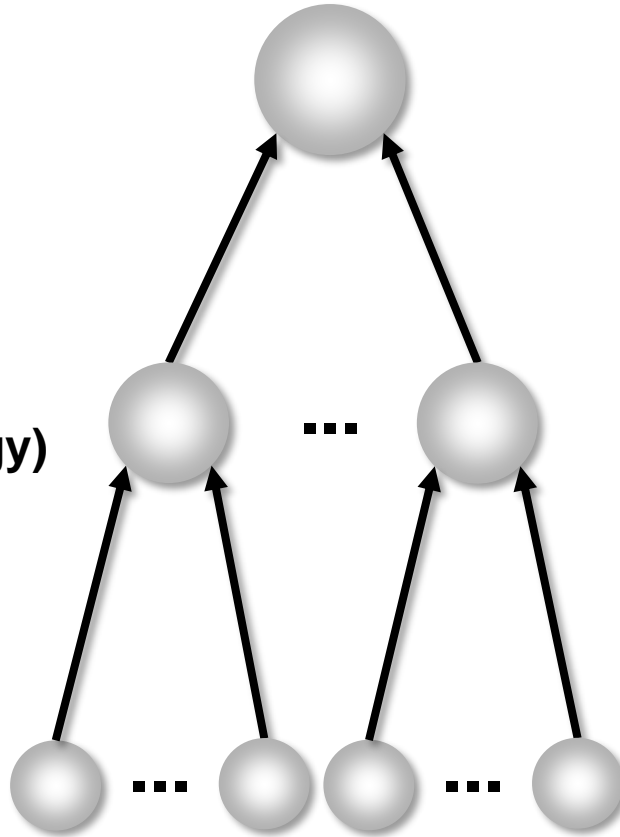
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

From differential diagnosis to nosology

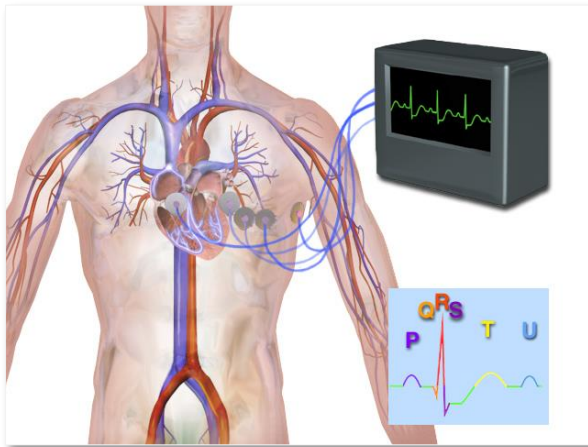
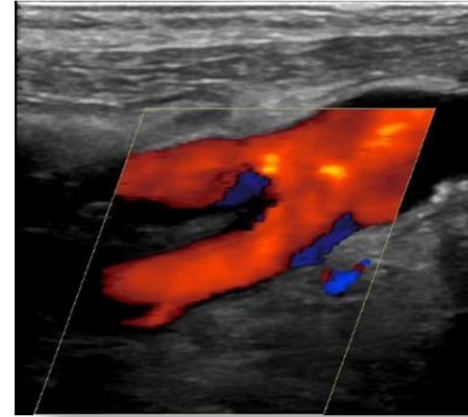
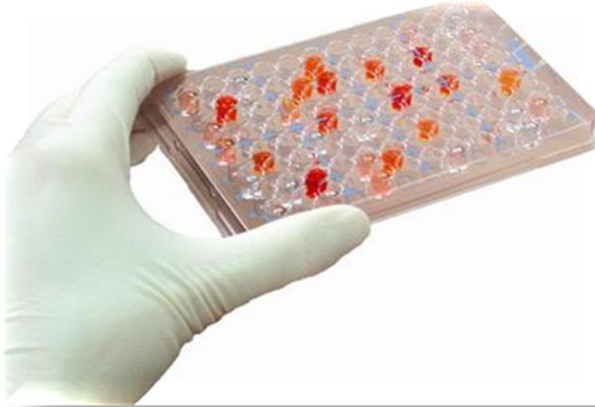
SYMPTOM

**MECHANISMS
(pathophysiology)**

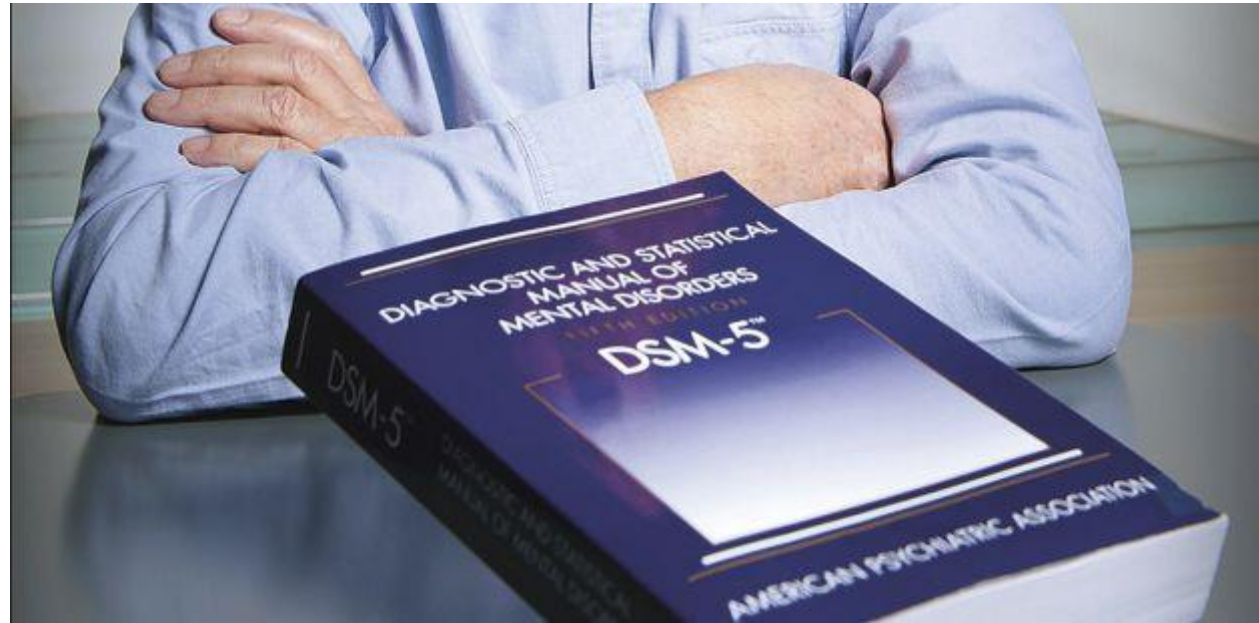
**CAUSES
(aetiology)**



>3,000 clinical tests in medicine

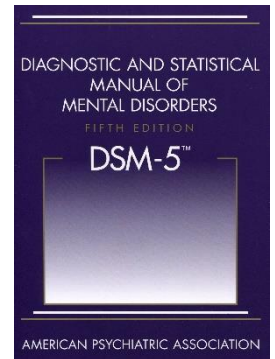


1 diagnostic instrument in psychiatry



Contemporary psychiatric classifications: ICD and DSM

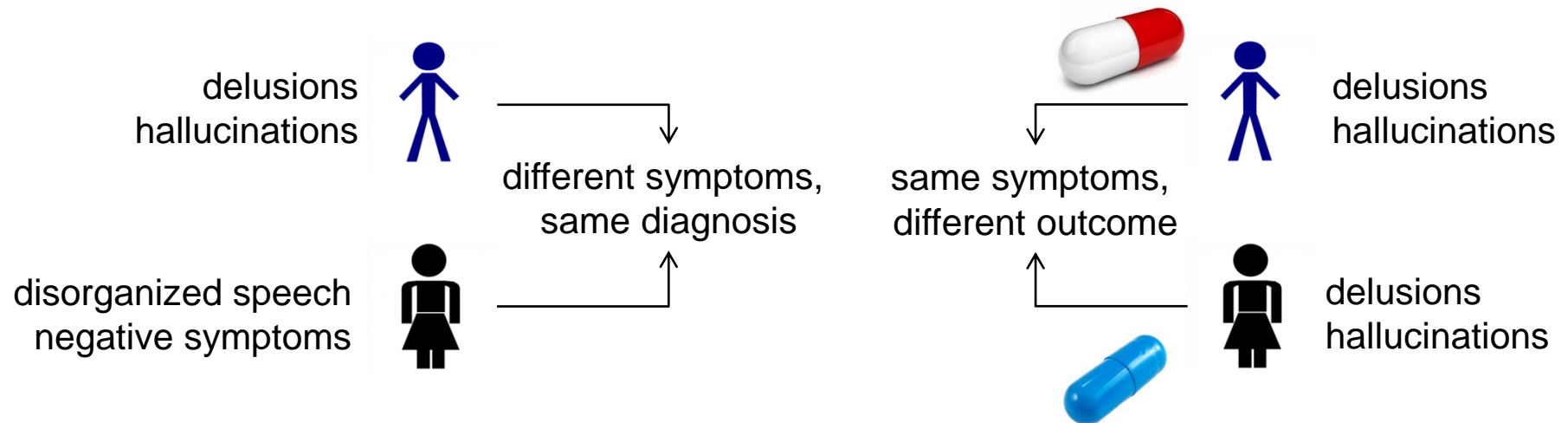
- **International Classification of Diseases (ICD):**
 - curated by the World Health Organization (WHO)
 - freely available
 - presently in its 10th revision (ICD-10); ICD-11 will come into effect in 2022
- **Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)**
 - published by the American Psychiatric Association (APA)
 - not free
 - presently in its fifth edition (DSM-5)
- **both schemes**
 - define mental disorders as syndromes
 - reflect the consensus (or compromise) of expert committees
 - are descriptive (without reference to mechanisms)



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

PERSPECTIVE

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

S Kapur¹, AG Phillips² and TR Insel³

Approaches are needed that ...

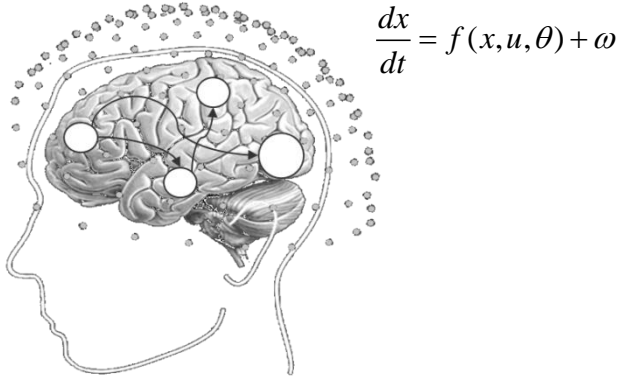
- at the level of individual patients
 - identify the most likely mechanism that explains symptoms
 - have predictive validity in relation to clinically relevant questions (e.g. disease trajectory and treatment response)
- at the level of populations
 - explain heterogeneity across patients
 - re-define diagnoses based on mechanisms and causes

This is the grand challenge for psychiatry.

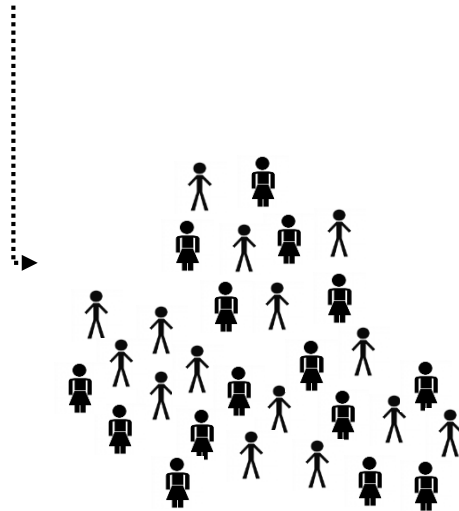
Could computational approaches help?

1 Developing computational assays of neuronal and cognitive processes

Translational Neuromodeling & Computational Psychiatry

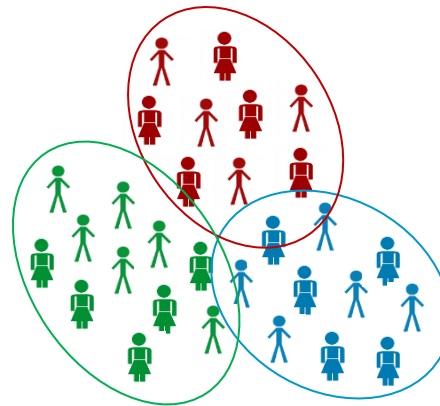


$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, u, \theta) + \omega$$



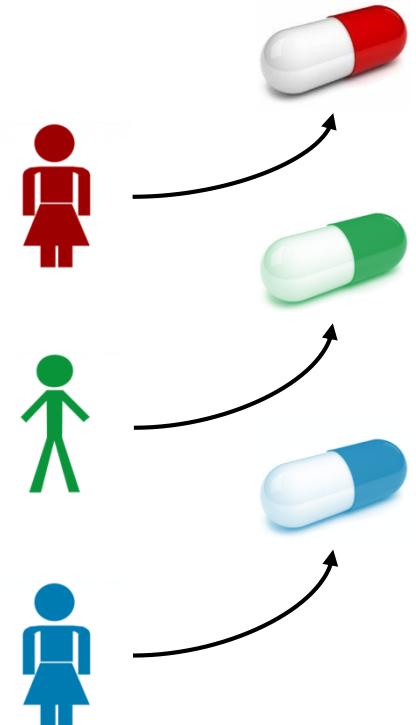
2 Application to brain activity and behaviour of individual patients

3 Differentiating patients based on inferred mechanisms



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

4 Individual treatment prediction

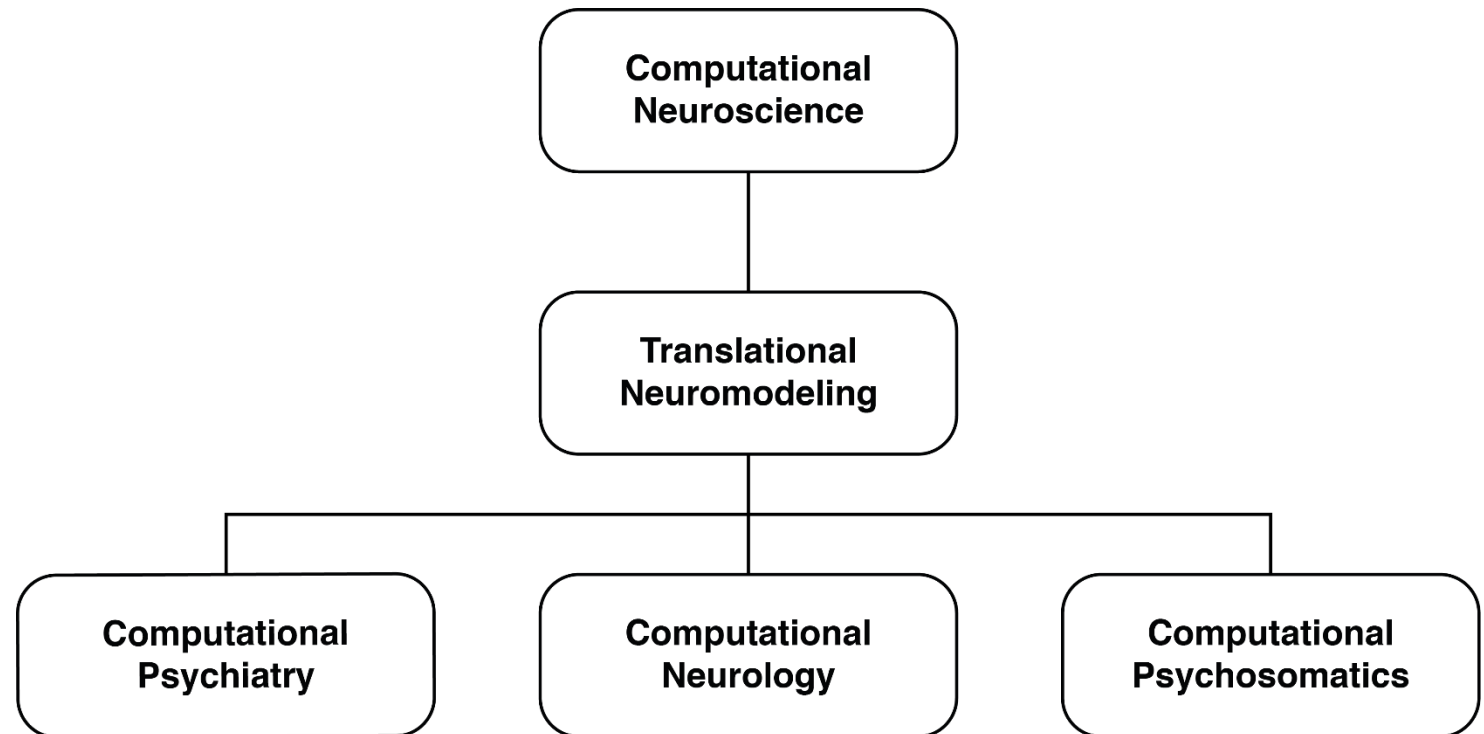


A taxonomy of computational clinical neuroscience

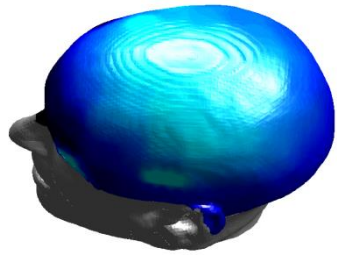
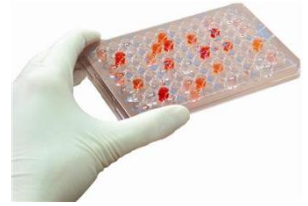
Understanding how/what
the brain computes

Develops/validates
mathematical models for
solving clinical problems

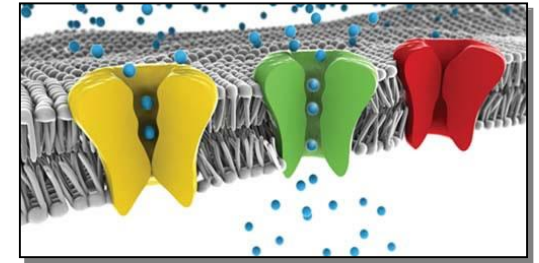
Application within
specific medical fields



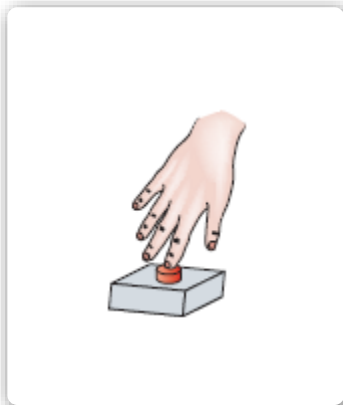
Generative models as "computational assays"



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



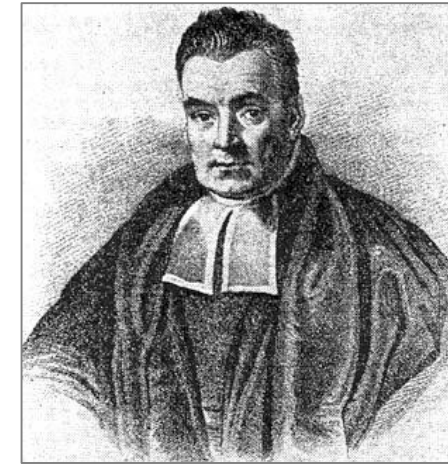
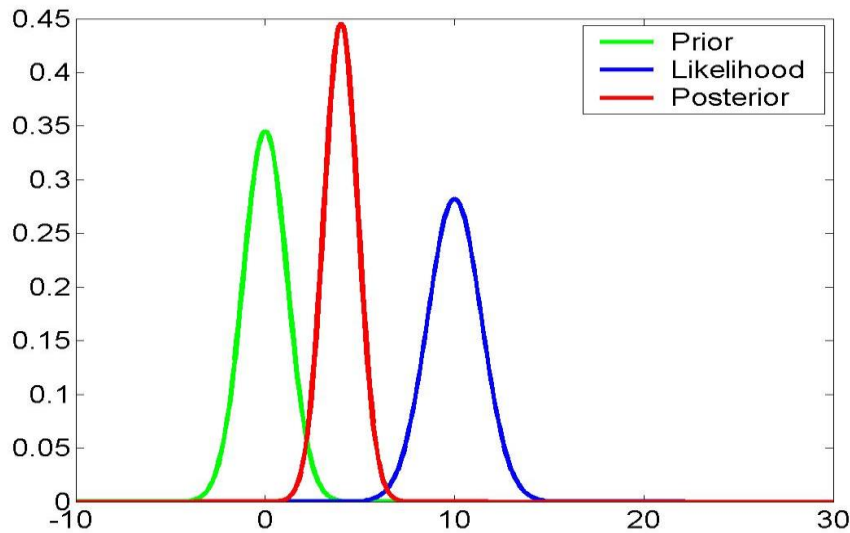
y = data, θ = parameters, m = model



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



Bayes' rule



The Reverend Thomas Bayes
(1702-1761)

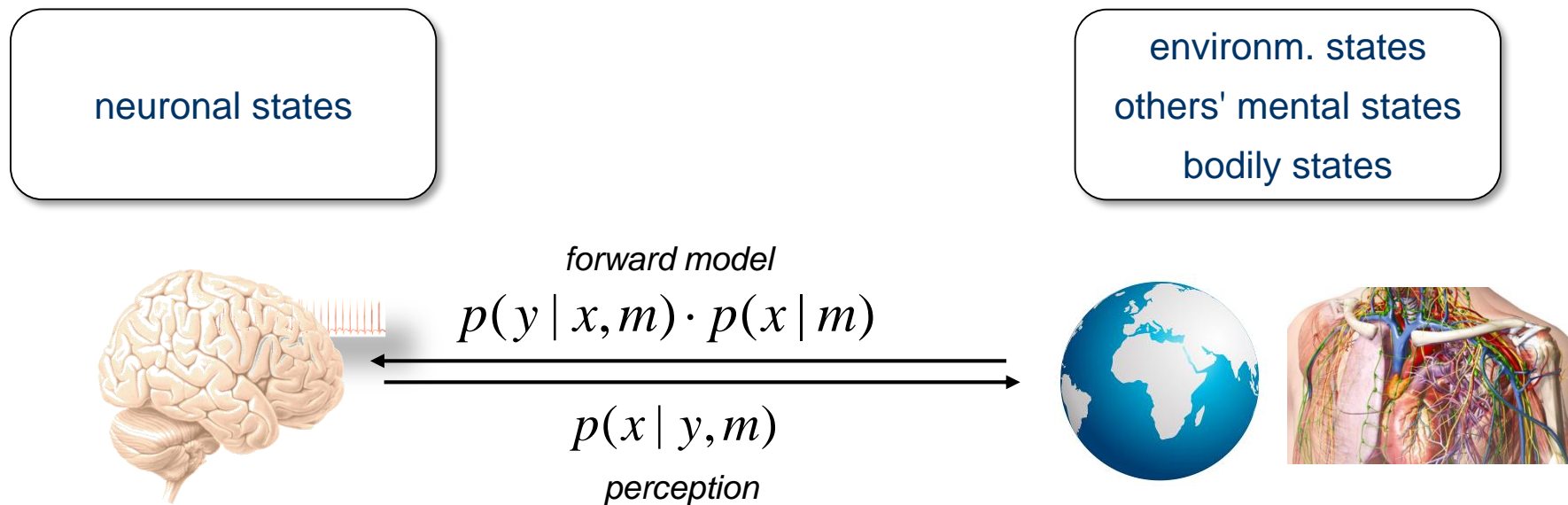
$$\text{Posterior (inference)} \quad p(\theta | y) = \frac{\text{Likelihood (data)} \quad p(y | \theta) \quad \text{Prior (prediction)} \quad p(\theta)}{\text{Evidence (normalisation term)} \quad p(y)}$$

θ : parameters
 y : data

"... the theorem expresses how a ... degree of belief should rationally change to account for availability of related evidence."

Wikipedia

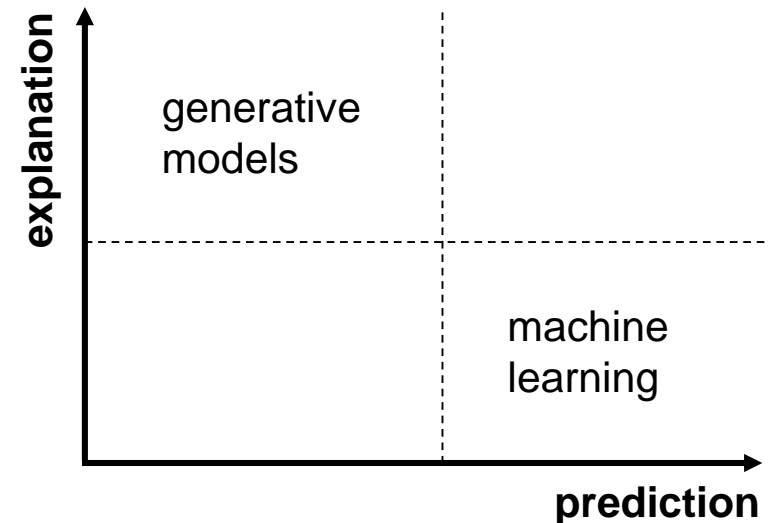
Generative models as a concept for brain function: the "Bayesian brain" hypothesis



perception = inference = inversion of a generative model

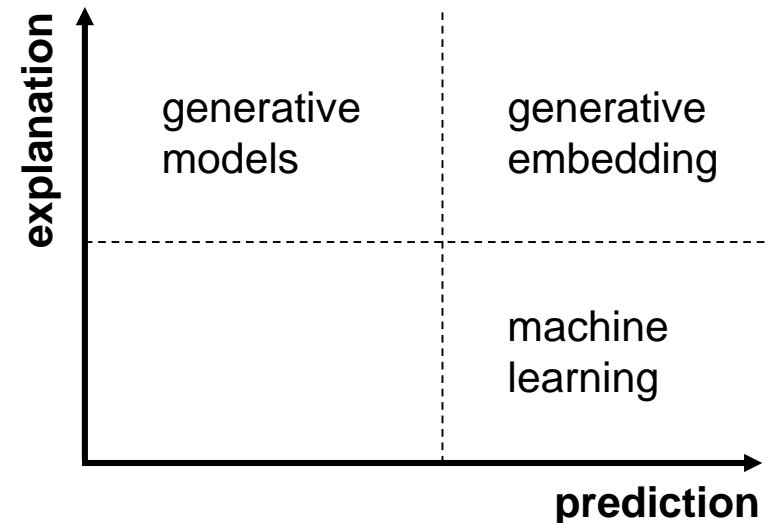
The “Two Cultures of Computational Psychiatry”

- **explanation:** generative models
 - data-generating process is of central interest
 - goal: identify the mechanisms underlying clinical symptoms
- **prediction:** machine learning (ML)
 - data-generating process is treated as a black box
 - goal: prediction of clinically relevant outcomes, e.g. treatment response, remission, relapse



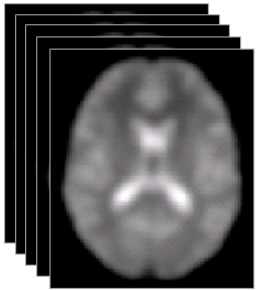
The “Two Cultures of Computational Psychiatry” ... and Generative Embedding as their bridge

- **explanation:** generative models
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- **generative embedding:**
 - applies ML to estimates by generative models

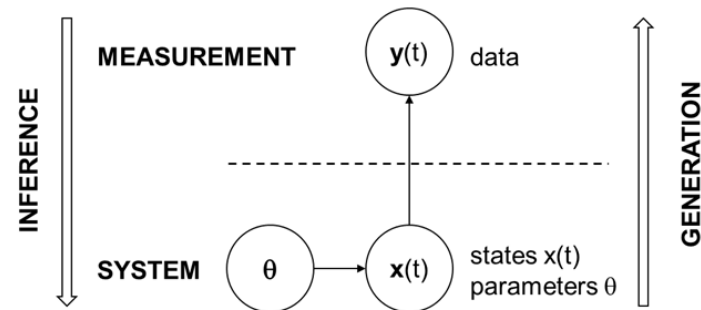


Generative embedding

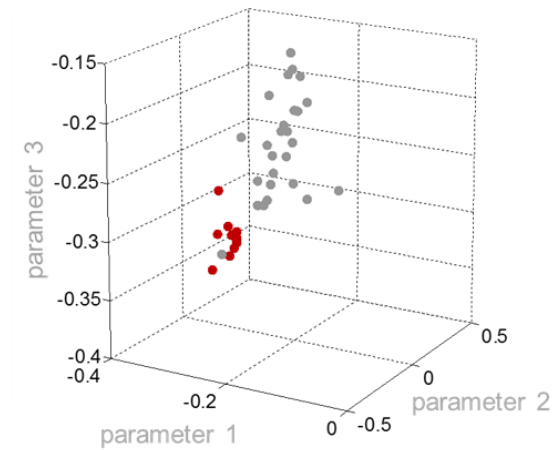
high-dimensional data



generative model



mechanistic interpretation



theory-driven
dimensionality reduction

posterior densities →
features for machine learning

Computational assays: key clinical questions

SYMPTOMS

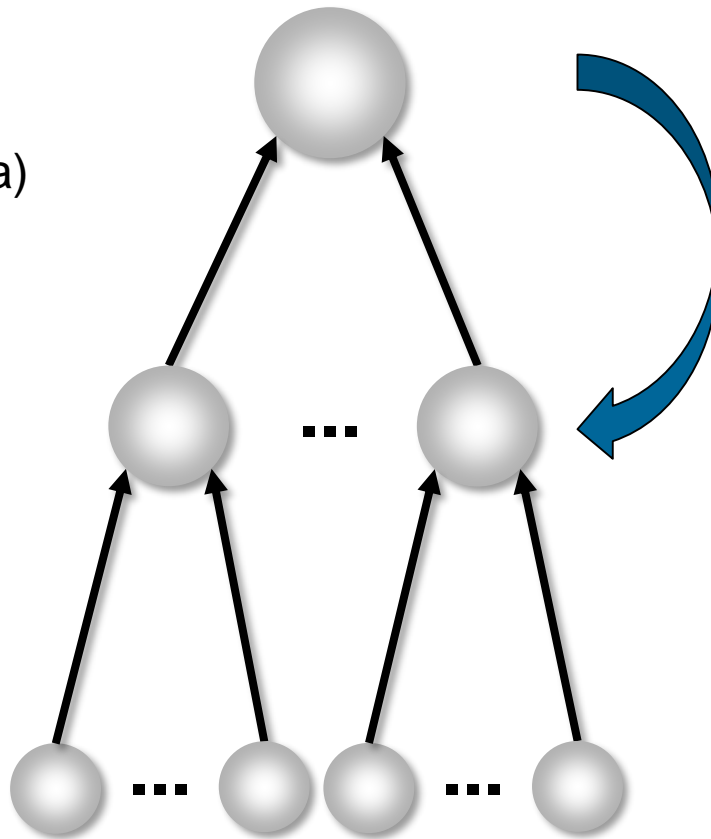
(behavioural or physiological data)

MECHANISMS

(computational, physiological)

CAUSES

(aetiology)

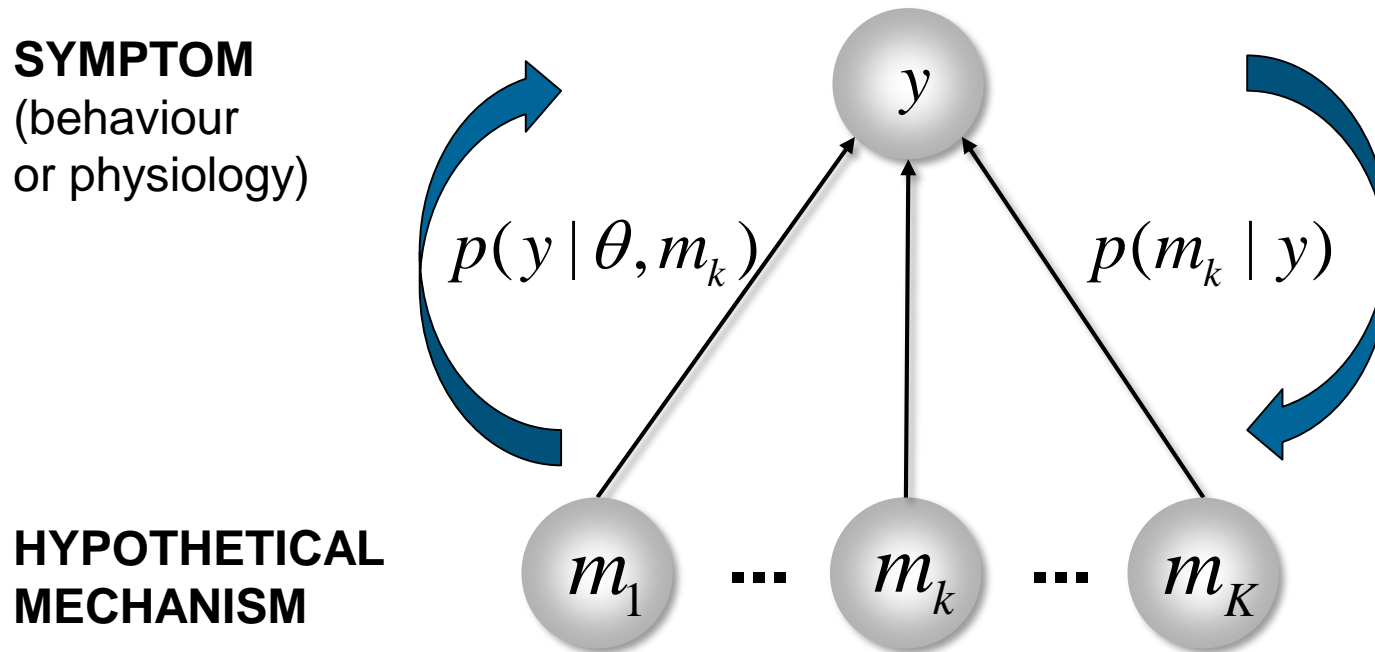


① differential diagnosis of alternative disease mechanisms

② stratification / subgroup detection into mechanistically distinct subgroups

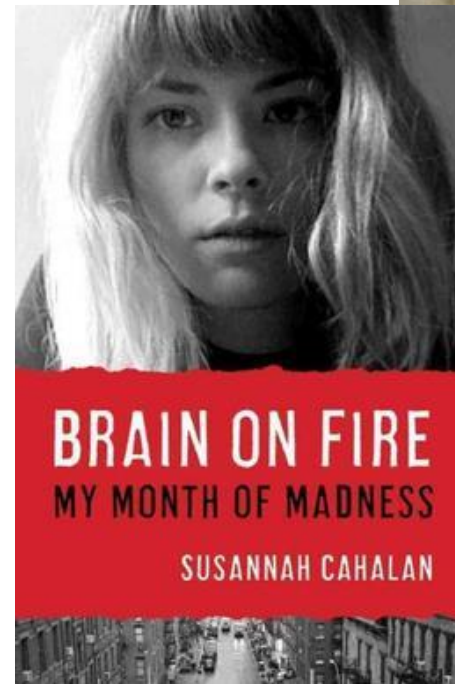
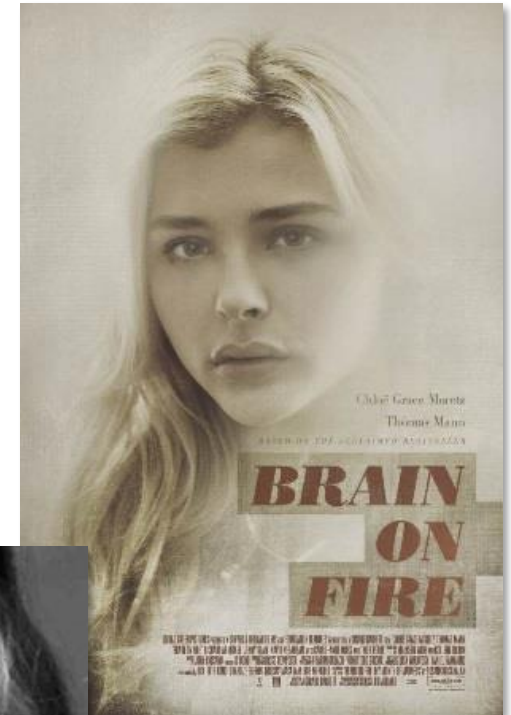
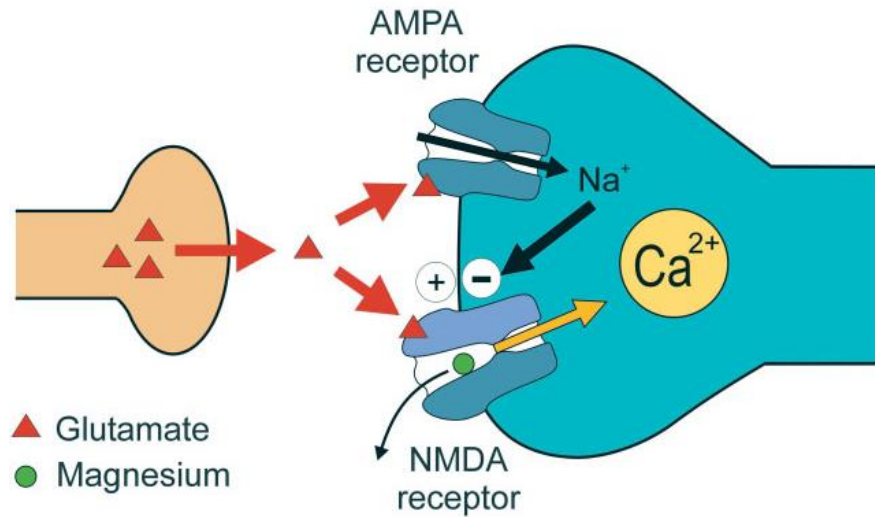
③ prediction of clinical trajectories and treatment response

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

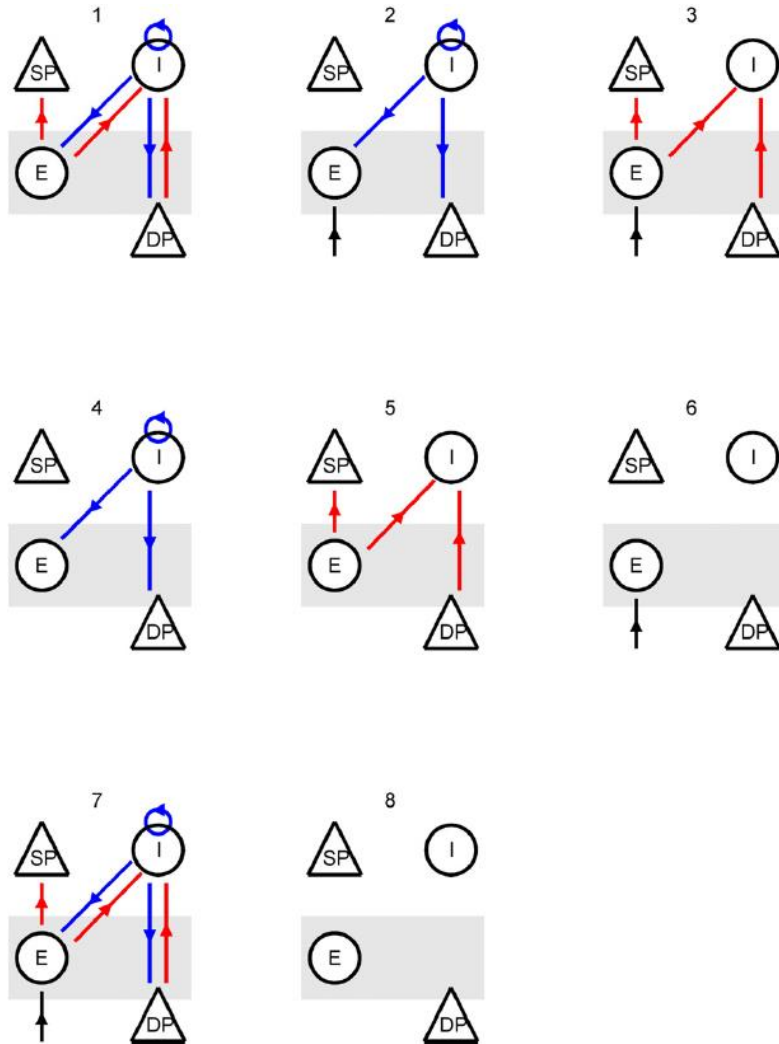


Table 2

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

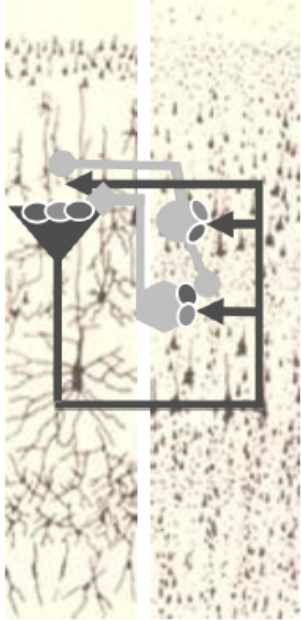
Example of how model selection can serve to infer on pathophysiological processes in single patients.

"Free energy" in table above

= negative free energy

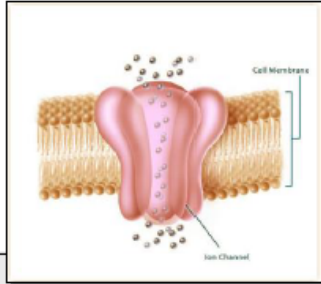
= approximation to log model evidence

① Differential diagnosis: inferring synaptic processes



- inhibitory interneurons
- excitatory interneurons
- pyramidal cells

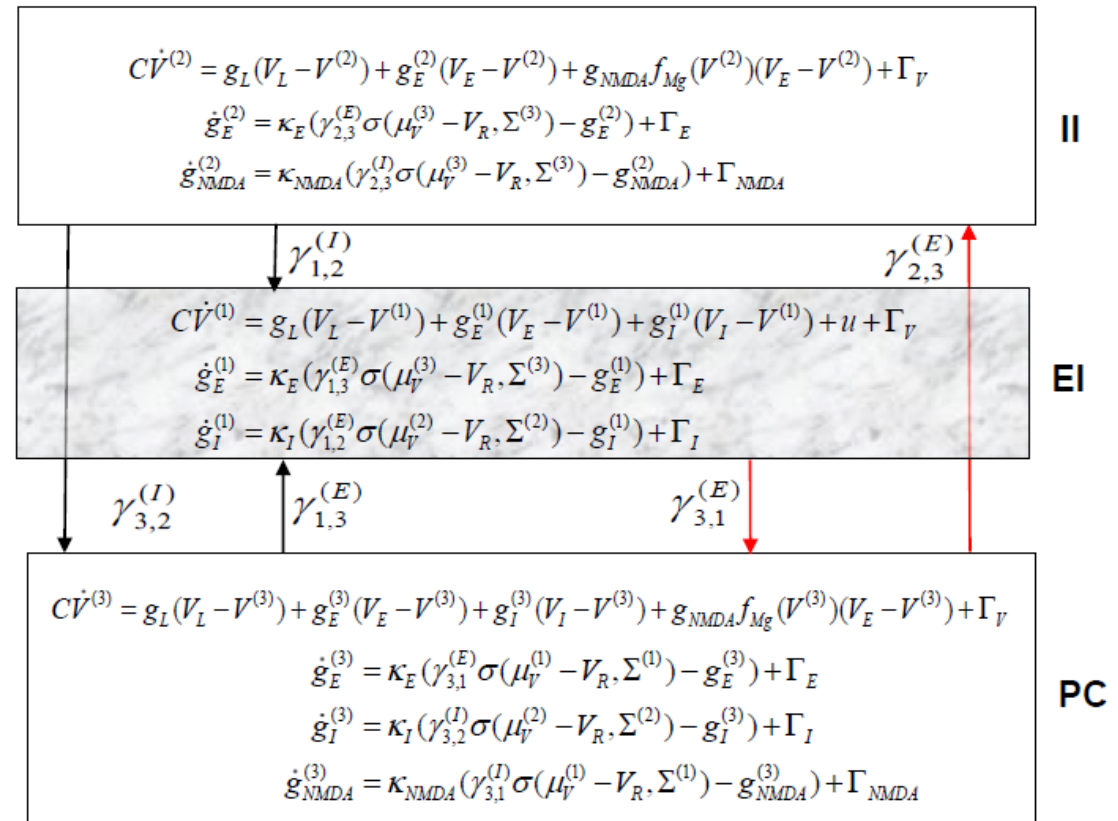
AMPA, NMDA, GABA_A receptors



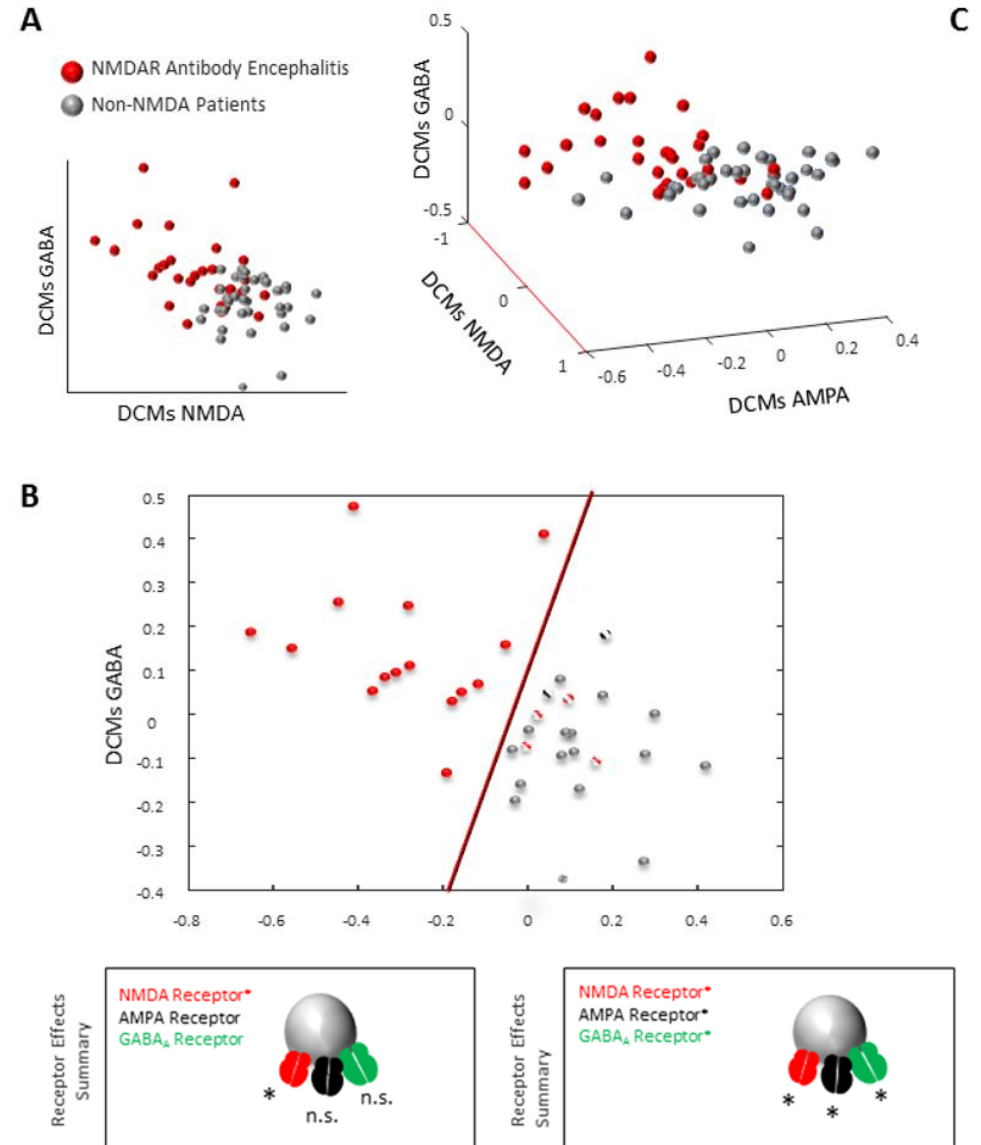
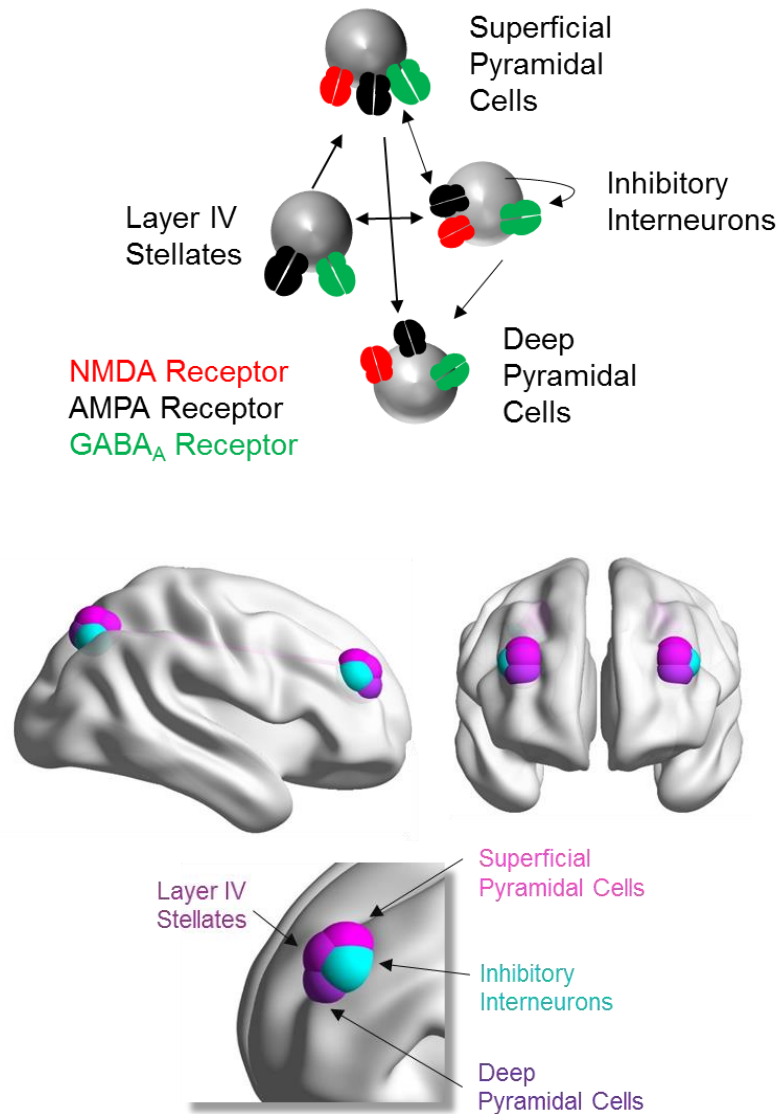
$$C\dot{V} = \sum g_i (V_i^0 - V)$$

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

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



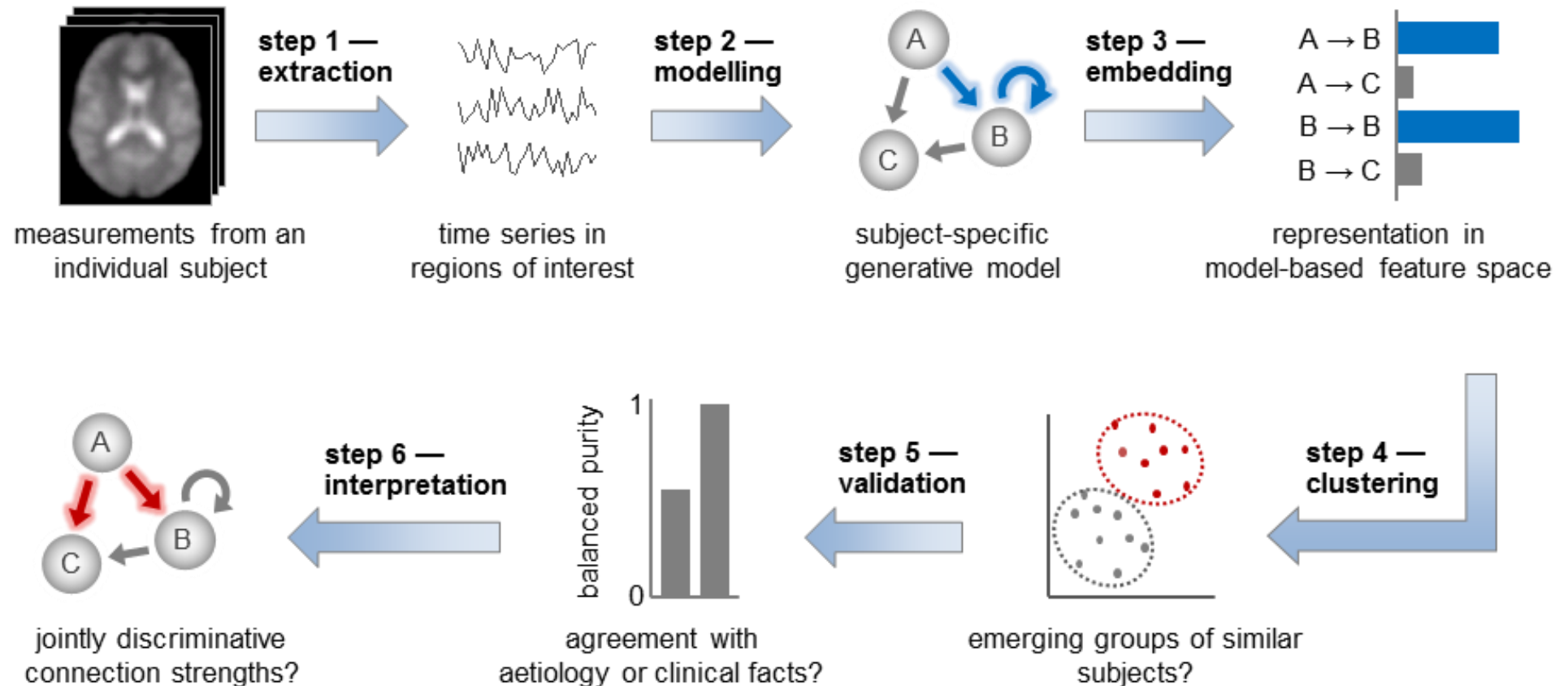
u_{ij} = presynaptic input from ensemble j to i
 σ = CDF of presynaptic depolarization density around threshold potential V_R



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

Symmonds et al. 2018, *Brain*

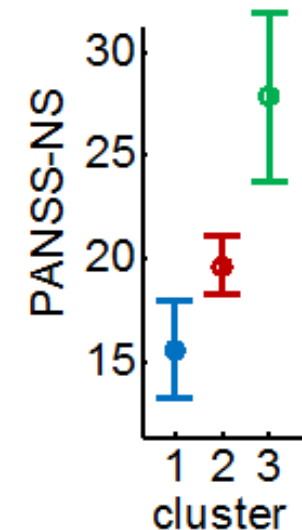
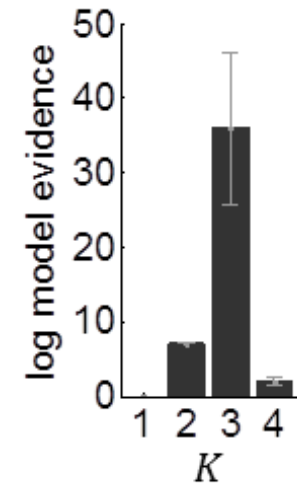
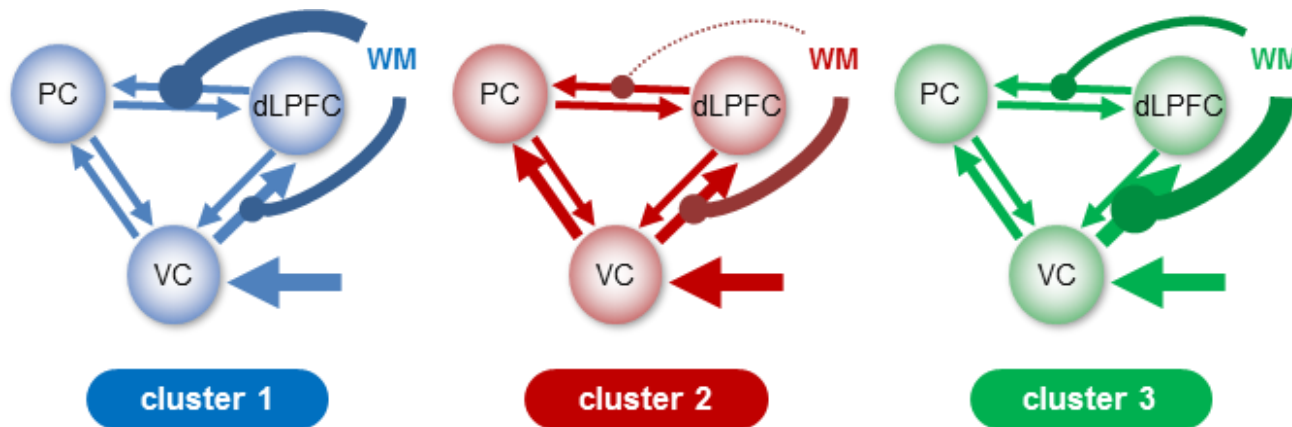
② Stratification / subgroup detection: Generative embedding (unsupervised)



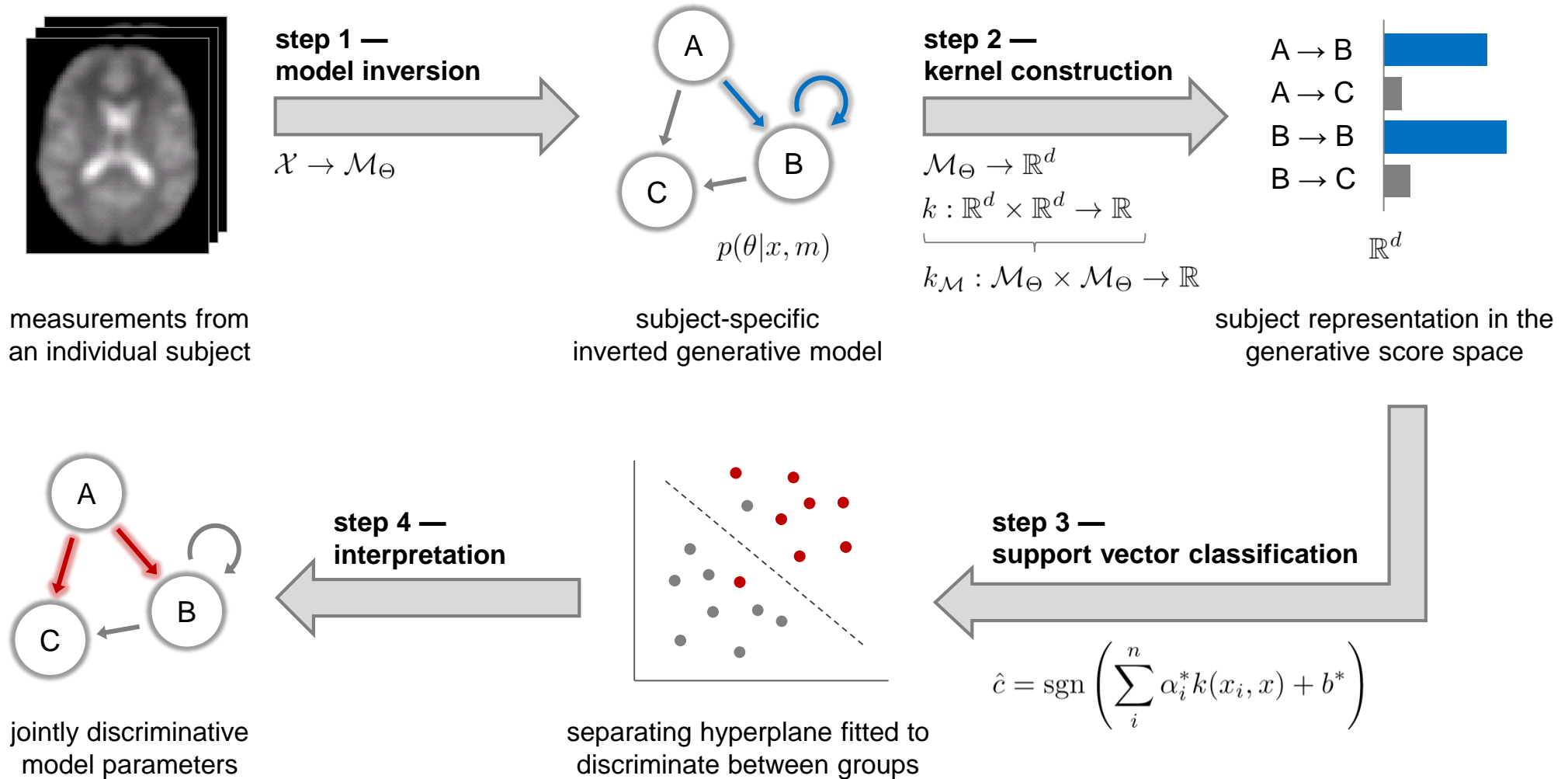
Detecting subgroups of patients in schizophrenia

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

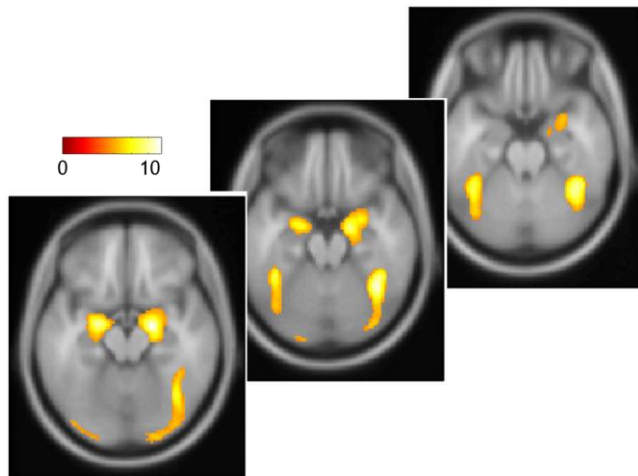
N=85 MDD patients from NESDA study (Schmaal et al. 2015, Biol. Psychiatry)

Three distinct trajectories:

chronic (CHR): n = 15

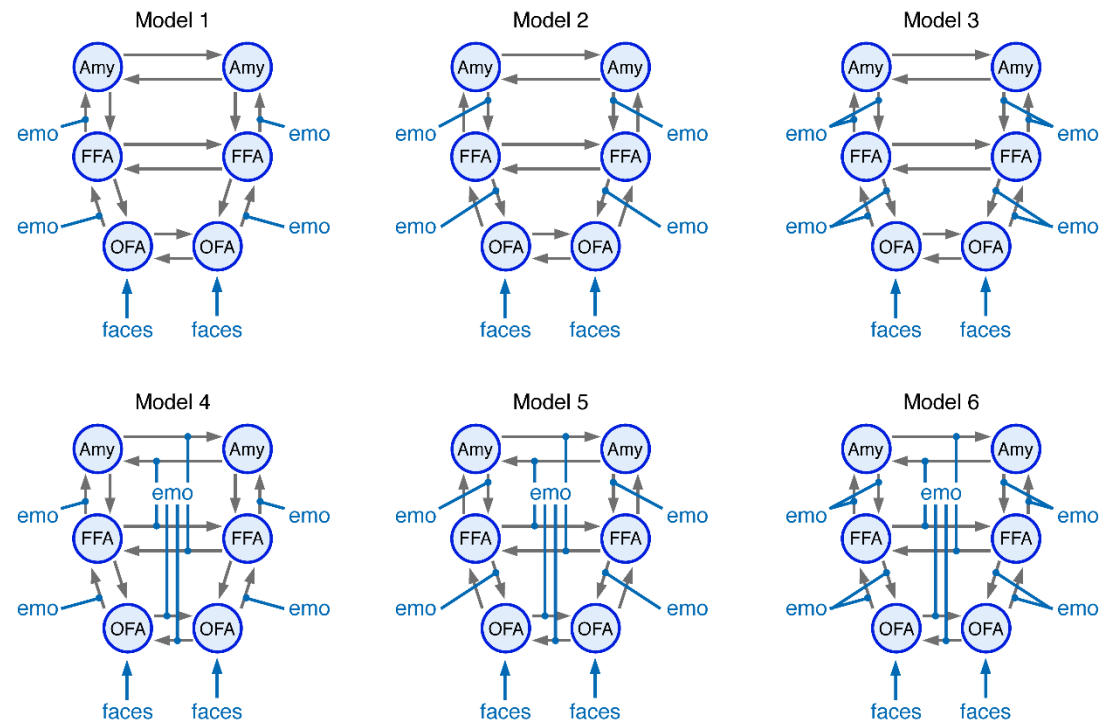
gradually improving (IMP): n = 31

remission (REM): n = 39

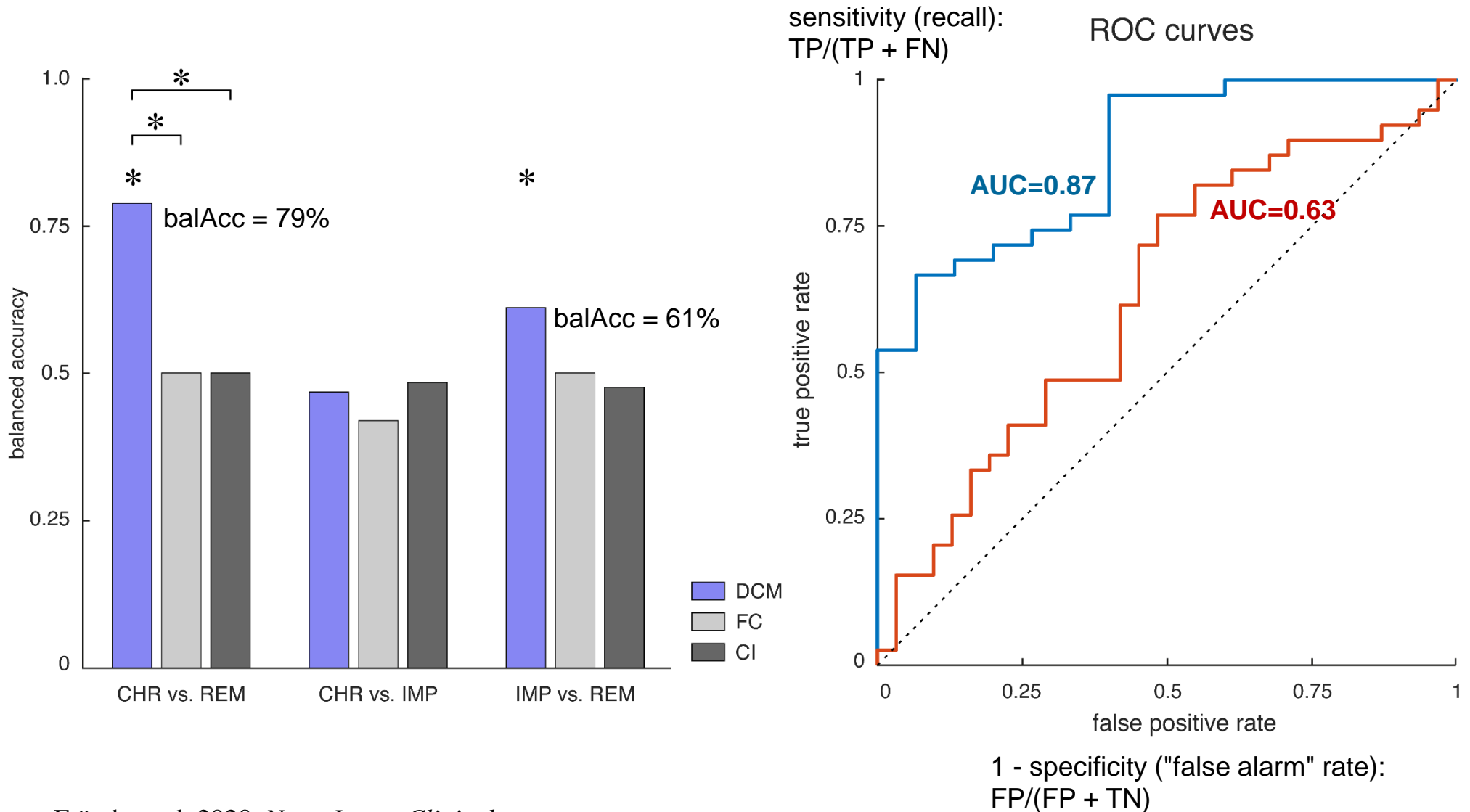


emotional faces > scrambled faces

DCM + BMA (emotional face processing)

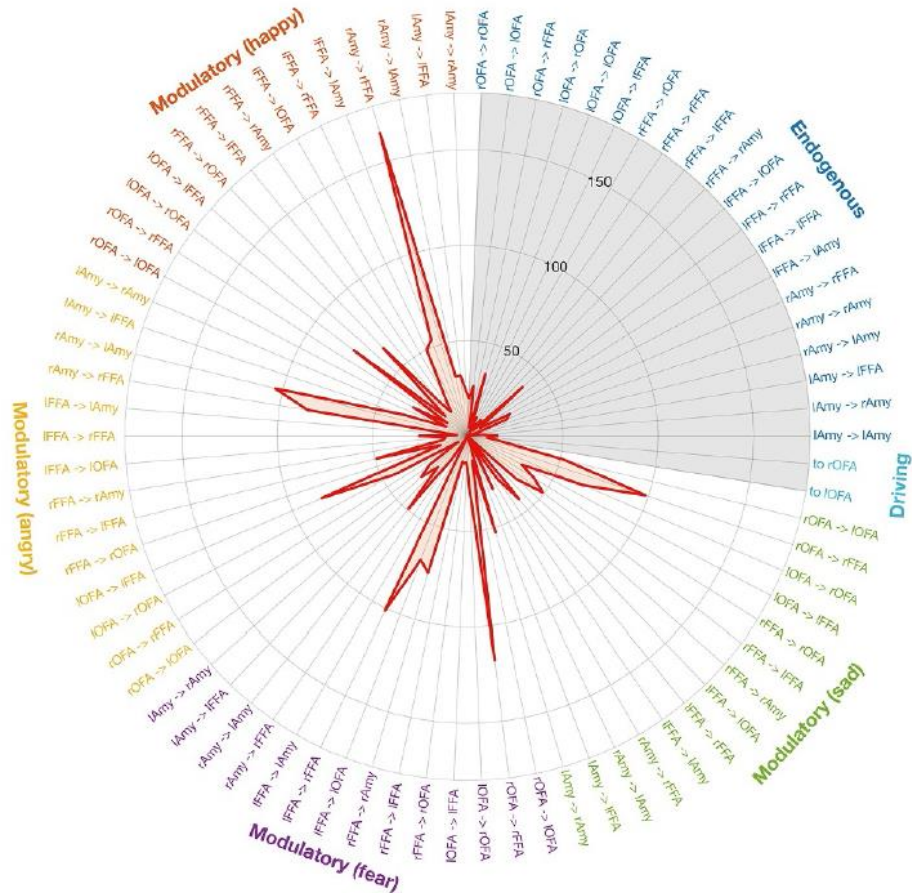


③ Prediction: Two-year outcome in depression

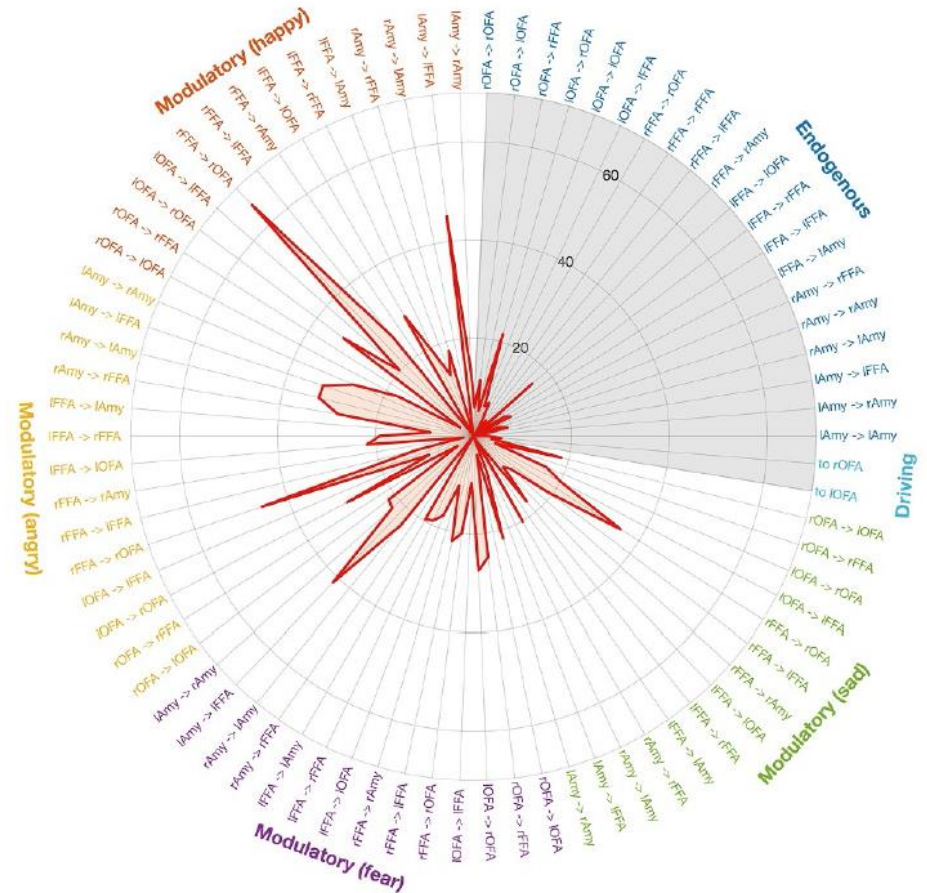


③ Prediction: Two-year outcome in depression

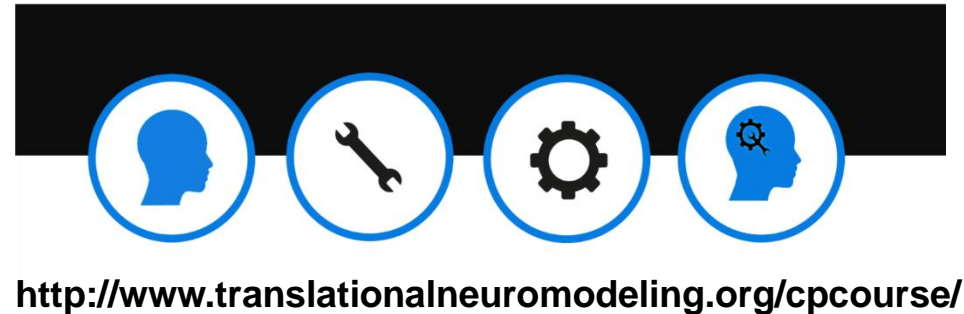
CHR vs. REM



IMP vs. REM



CPC 2021



- 7th 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 neurophysiology and behaviour
 - 40 presenters from 27 international institutions

Day 1
13.09.2021



Psychiatry

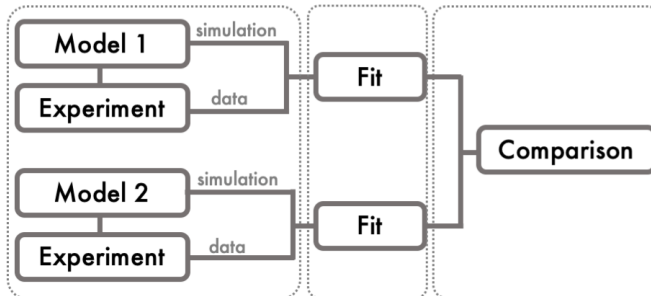
What are some of the disorders in Psychiatry and how could models address clinical needs?

Day 2
14.09.2021



Modeling

How do we build, fit, and compare computational models?



Day 3
15.09.2021

Models

What types of models are used in Computational Psychiatry?

mechanistic

data-oriented

Models of perception

Models of action selection

Models of brain connectivity

Machine Learning

Day 4
16.09.2021



Application

How are computational models applied in Psychiatry research?

Day 5
17.09.2021



Further reading: reviews on computational psychiatry

- Bennett D, Silverstein SM, Niv Y (2019) The Two Cultures of Computational Psychiatry. *JAMA Psychiatry* 76: 563-564.
- 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
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- Petzschner FH, Weber LAE, Gard T, Stephan KE (2017) Computational Psychosomatics and Computational Psychiatry: Toward a joint framework for differential diagnosis. *Biological Psychiatry* 82: 421-430.
- 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 2021!**



Twitter: @CompPsychiatry

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