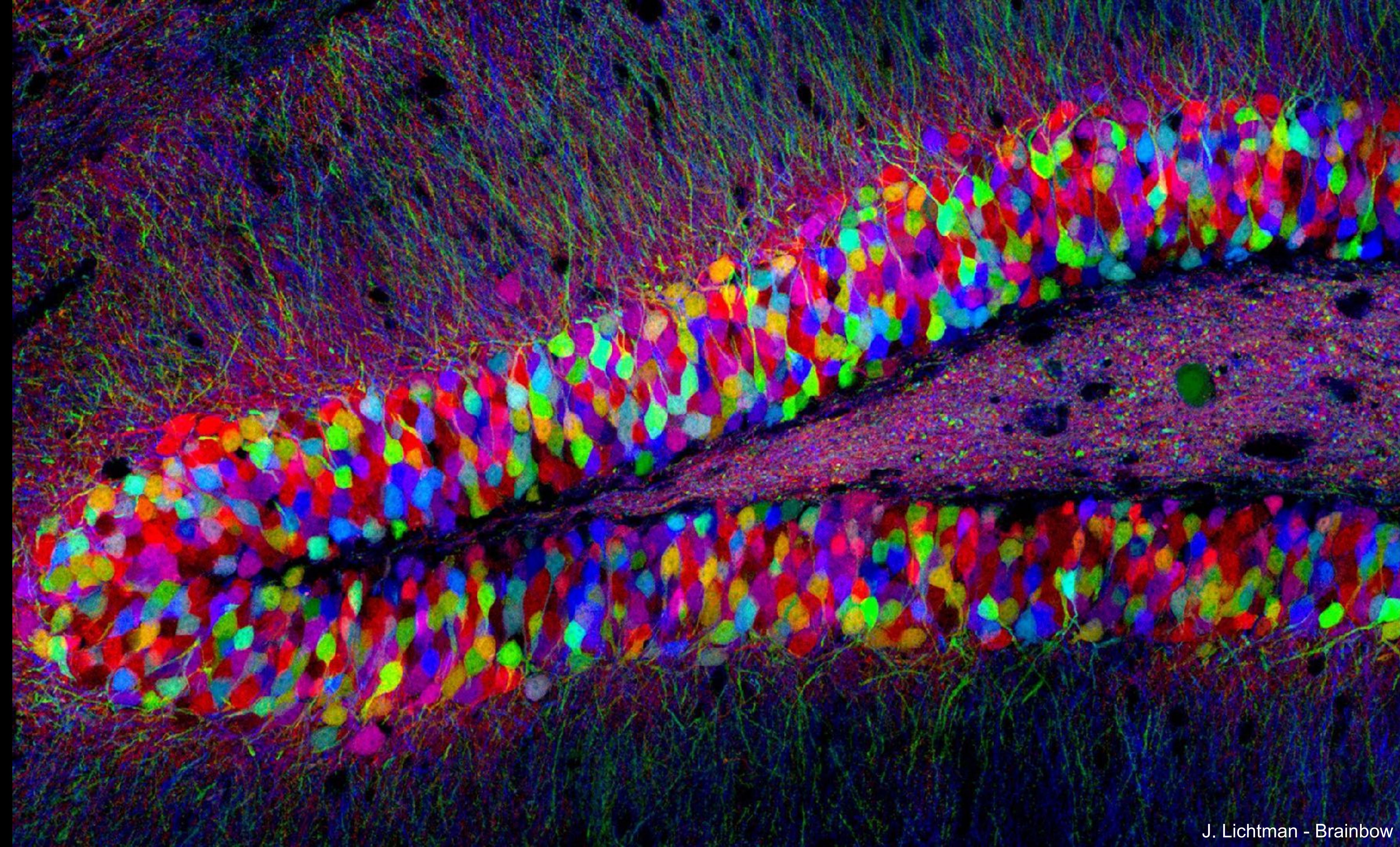


# **How a Discovery Fellowship will make me a future leader**

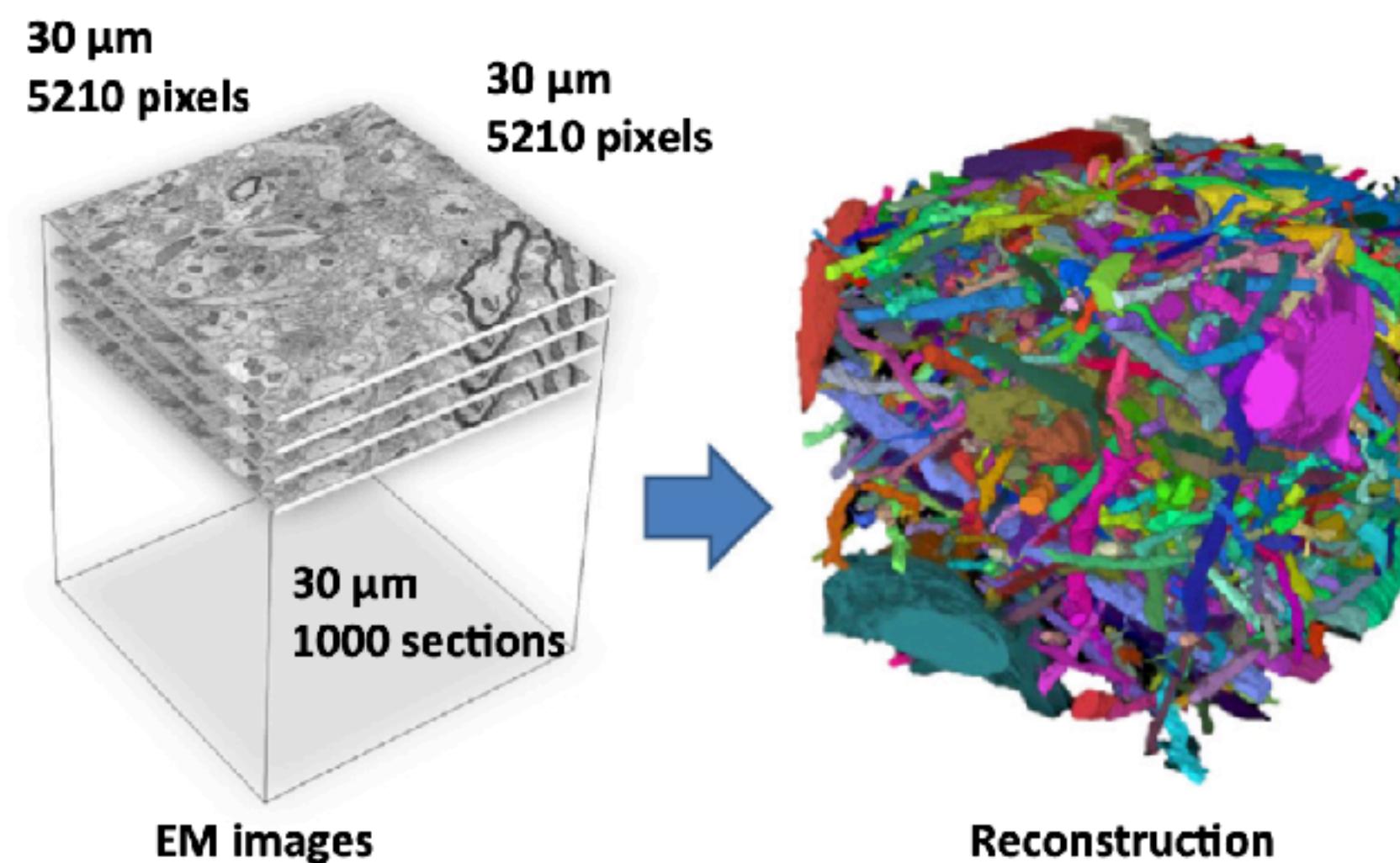
**Jacques Carolan**  
University College London



# State-of-the-art connection mapping

**Technology Gap:** Map connectivity across neuronal microcircuits with neuron-scale resolution in the awake, behaving brain

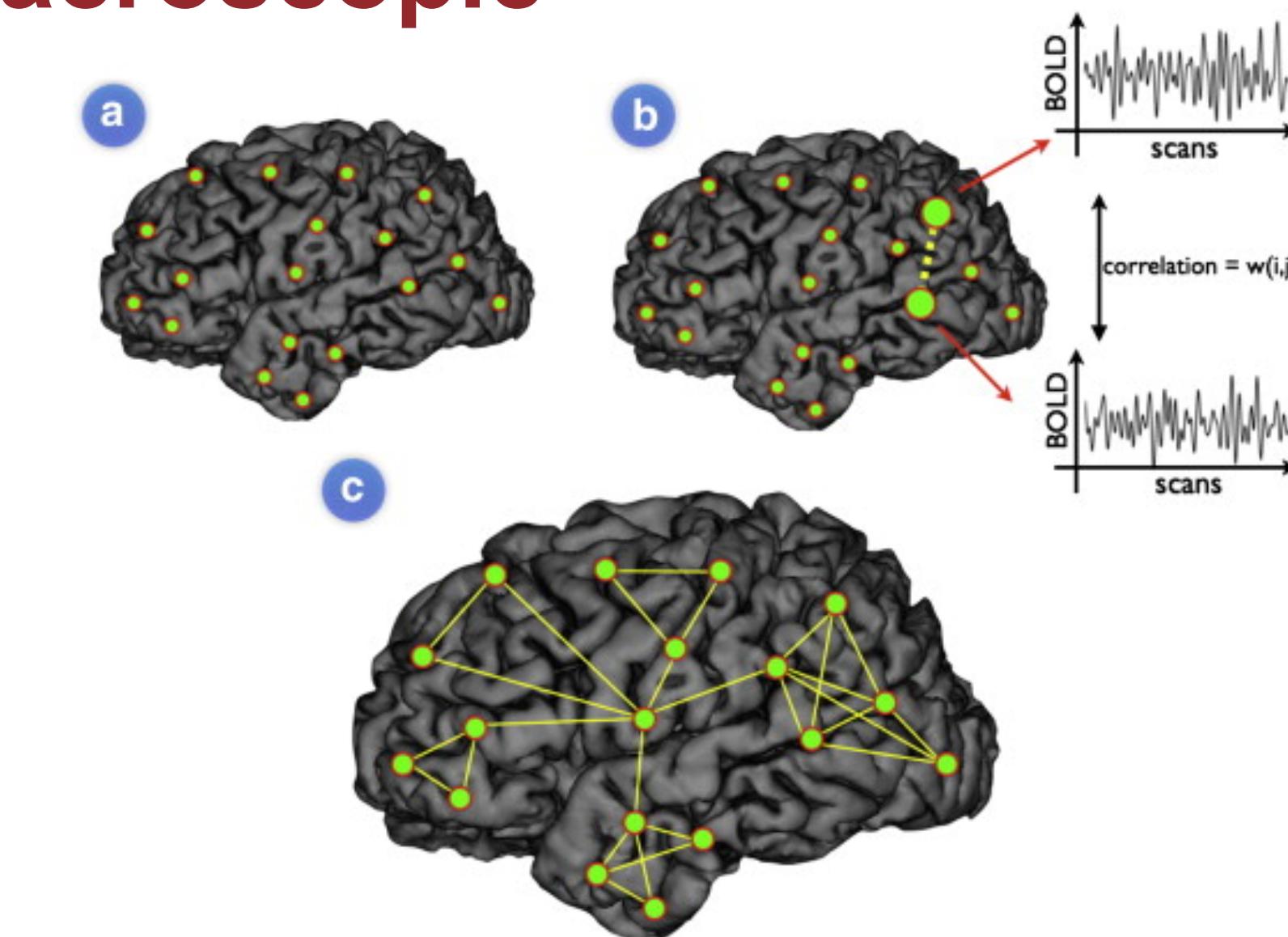
## Microscopic



- **Resolution:**  $\sim \text{nm}^3 << \text{neuron}$
- **Volume:**  $\text{mm}^3$
- **Speed:** Slow (1 year / reconstruction)
- **Temporal:** Static (post-mortem)

V. Kaynig et al., *Med. Imag. Analysis* (2015)

## Macroscopic



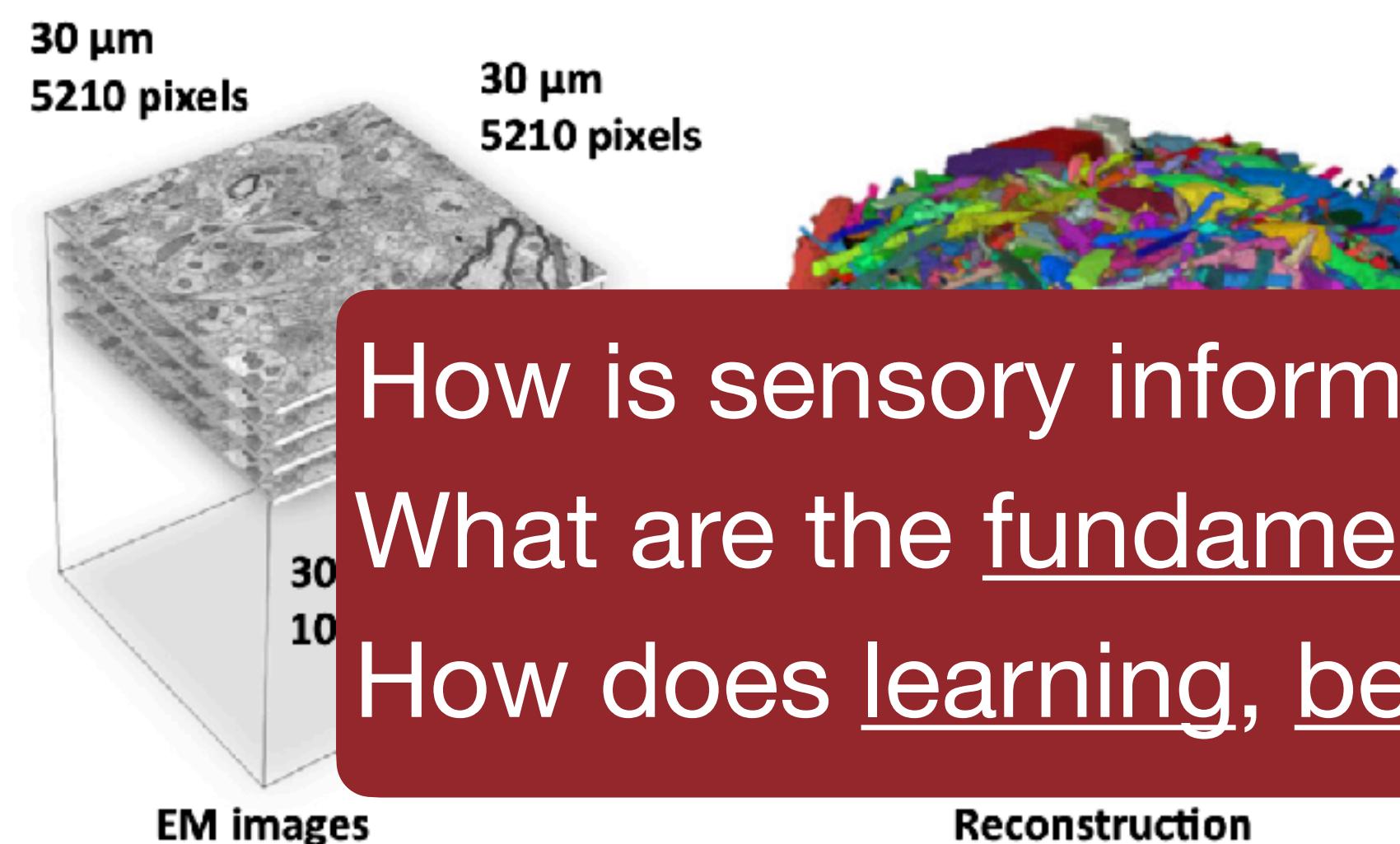
- **Resolution:**  $\text{mm}^3 \sim 100,000 \text{ neurons}$
- **Volume:** Full brain
- **Speed:** Fast ( $\sim 10 \text{ ms / image}$ )
- **Temporal:** Dynamic (*in vivo*)

MP Van Den Heuvel & HEH Pol, *European Neuro.* (2010)

# State-of-the-art connection mapping

**Technology Gap:** Map connectivity across neuronal microcircuits with neuron-scale resolution in the awake, behaving brain

## Microscopic

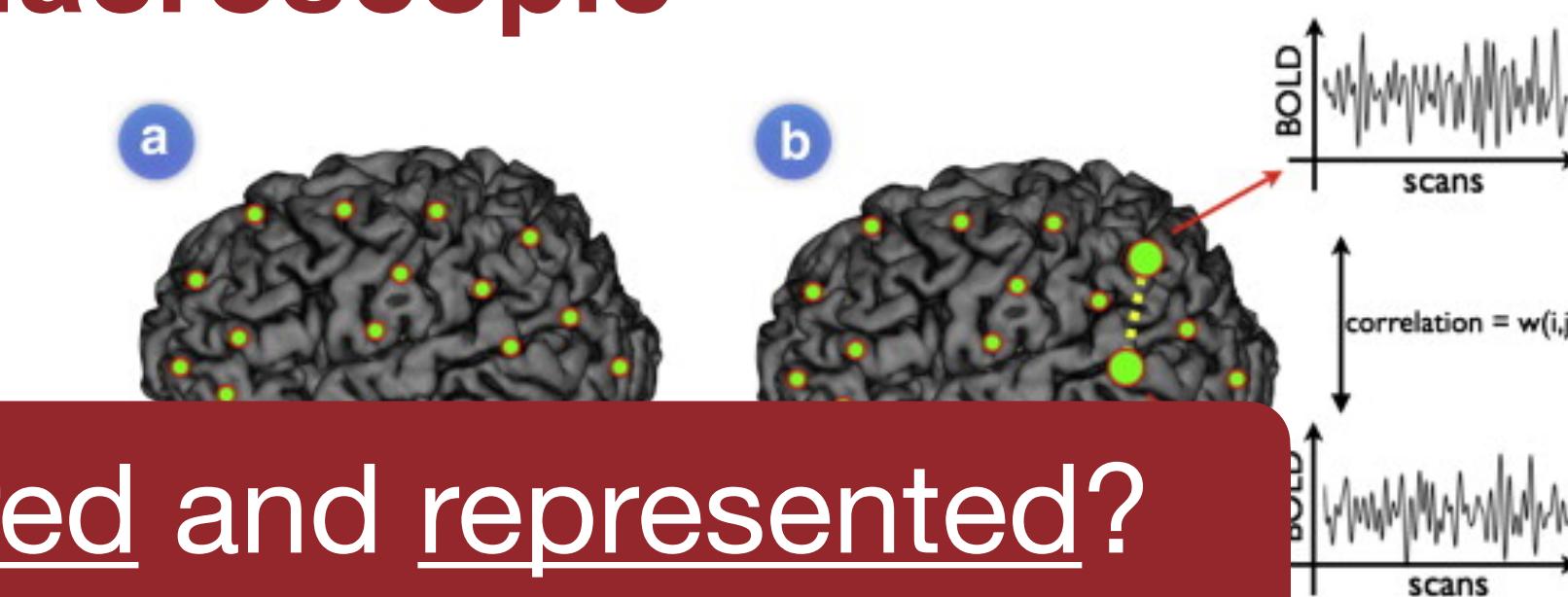


How is sensory information stored and represented?  
What are the fundamental computational principles?  
How does learning, behavior and cognition arise?

- **Resolution:**  $\sim\text{nm}^3 \ll \text{neuron}$
- **Volume:**  $\text{mm}^3$
- **Speed:** Slow (1 year / reconstruction)
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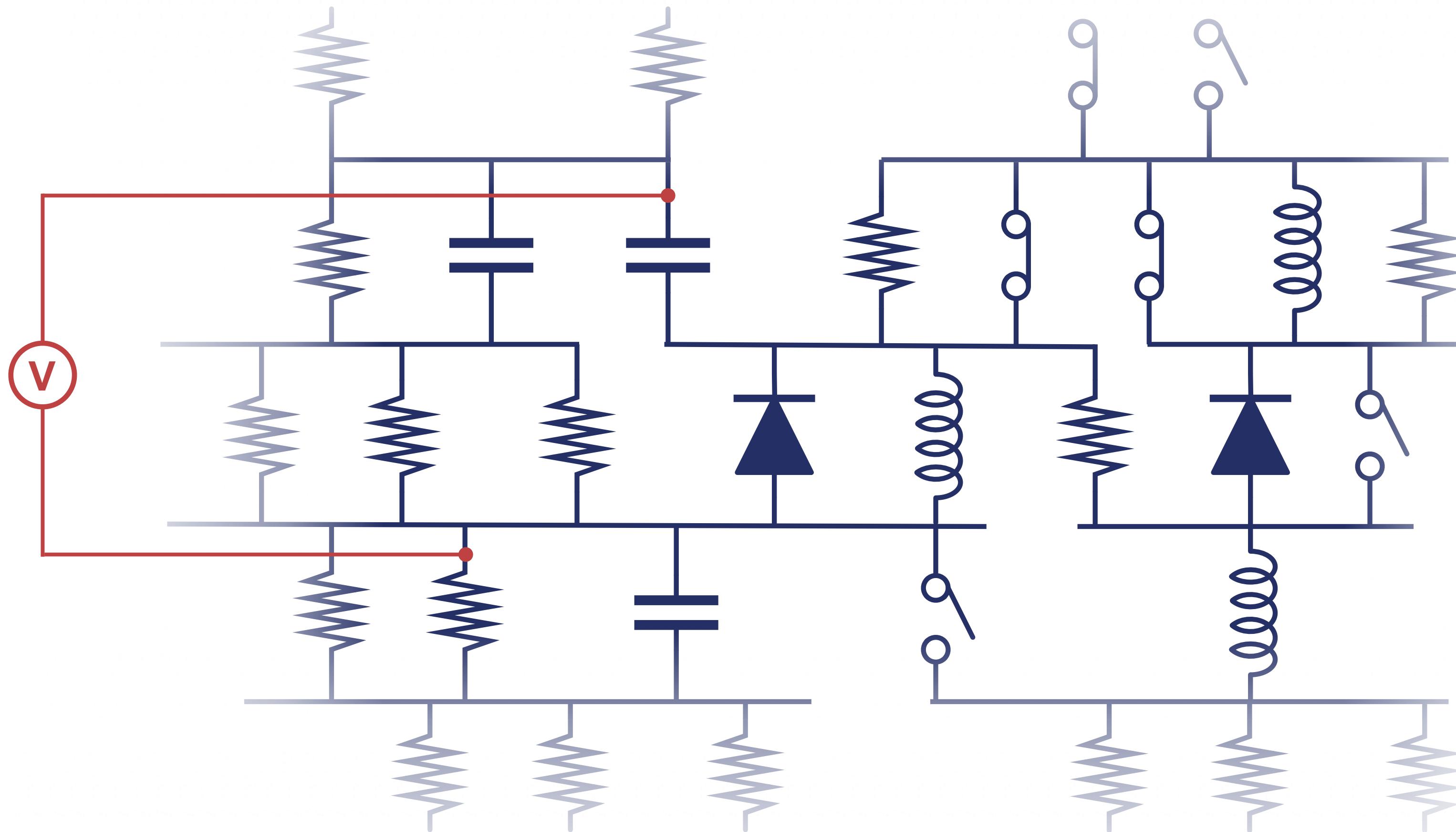
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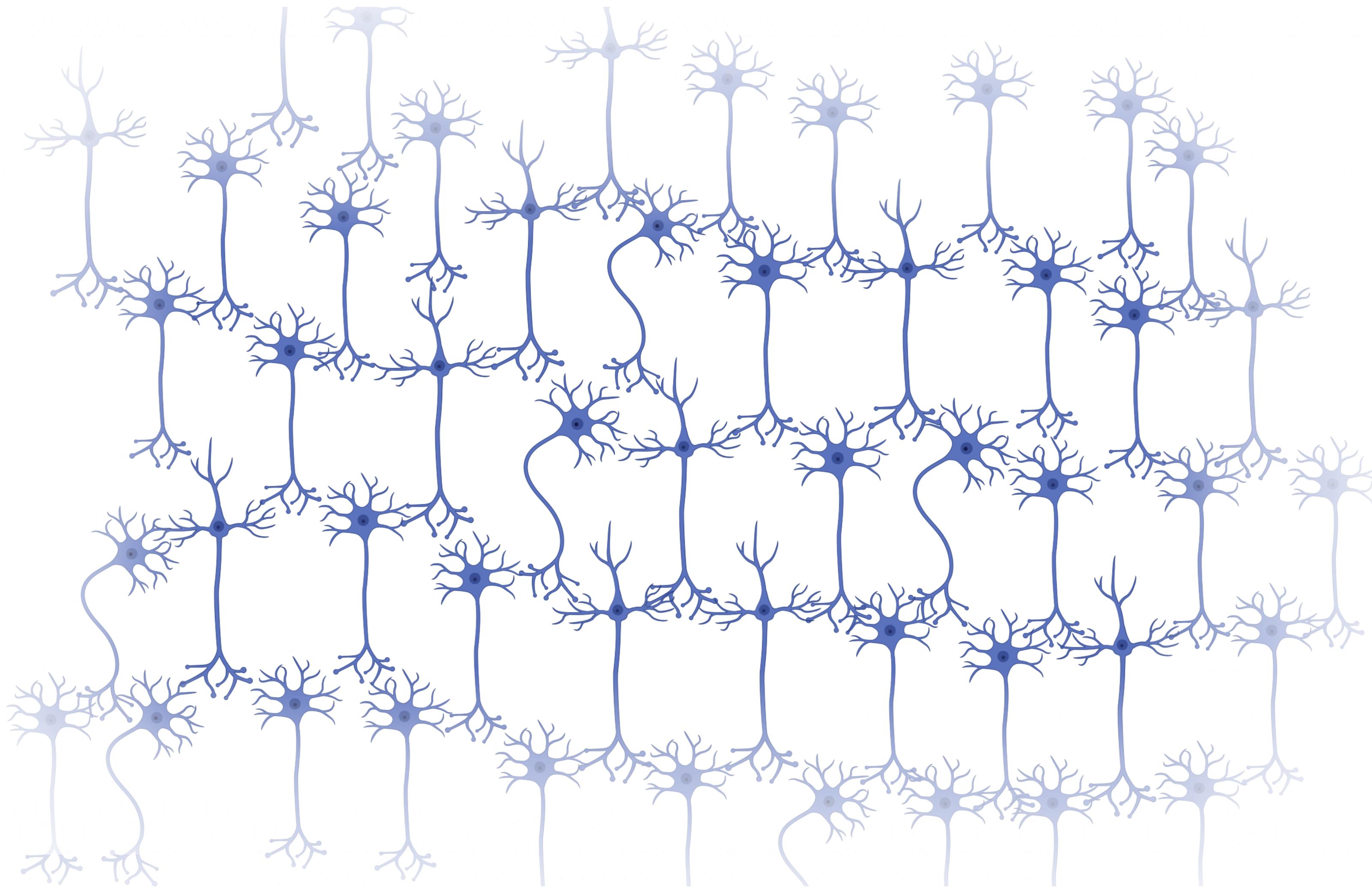
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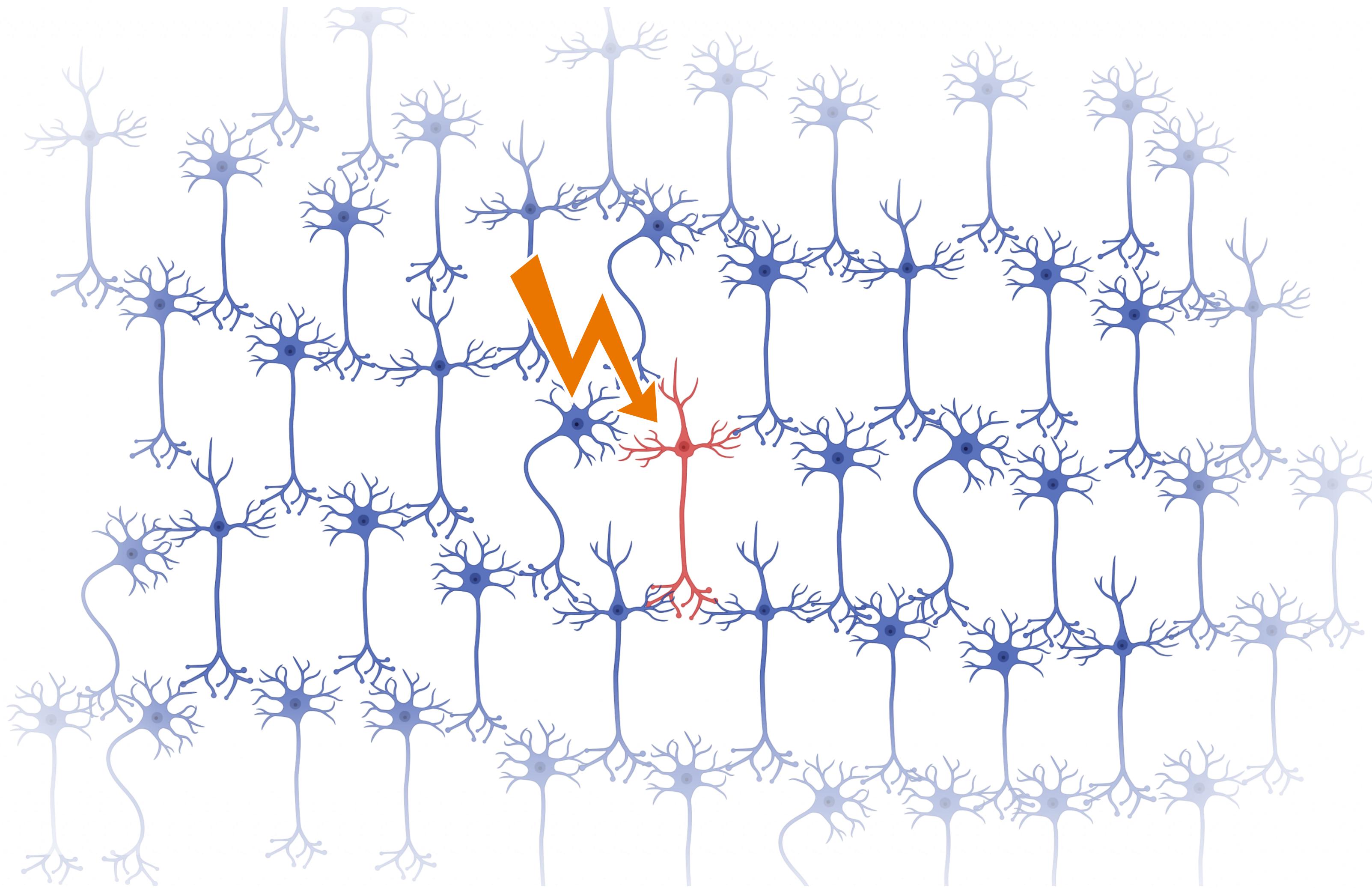
# Mapping Connectivity



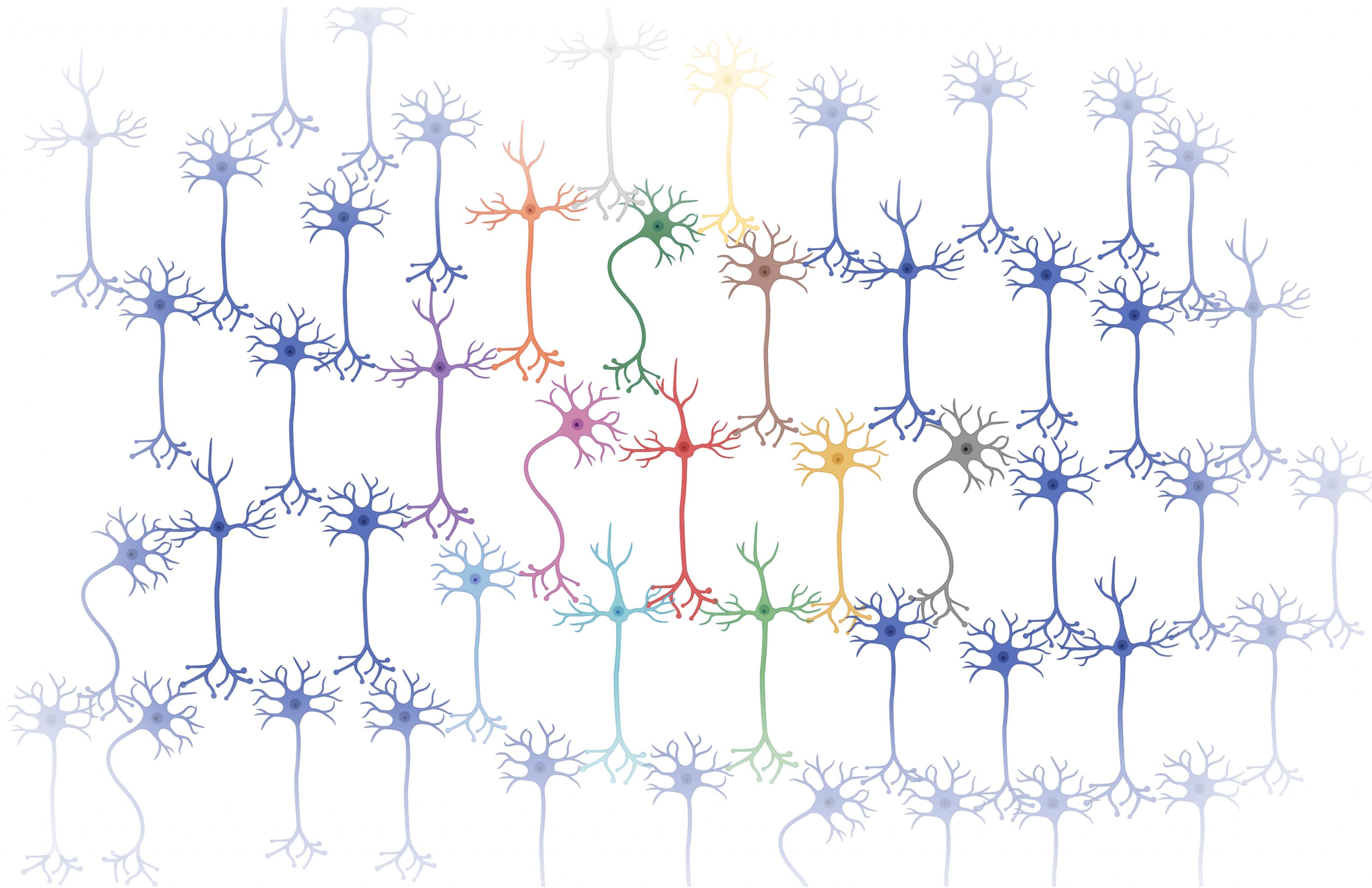
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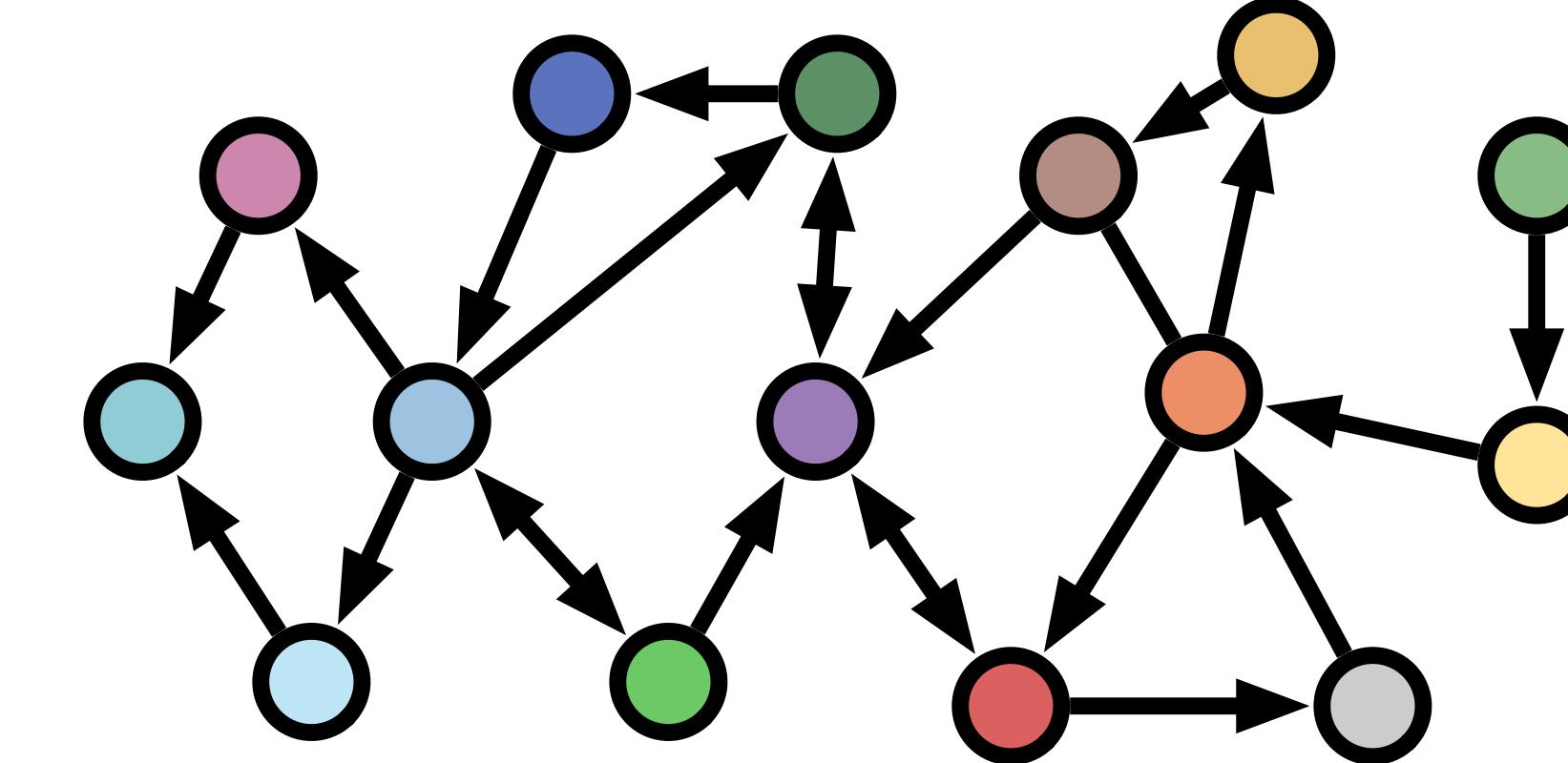
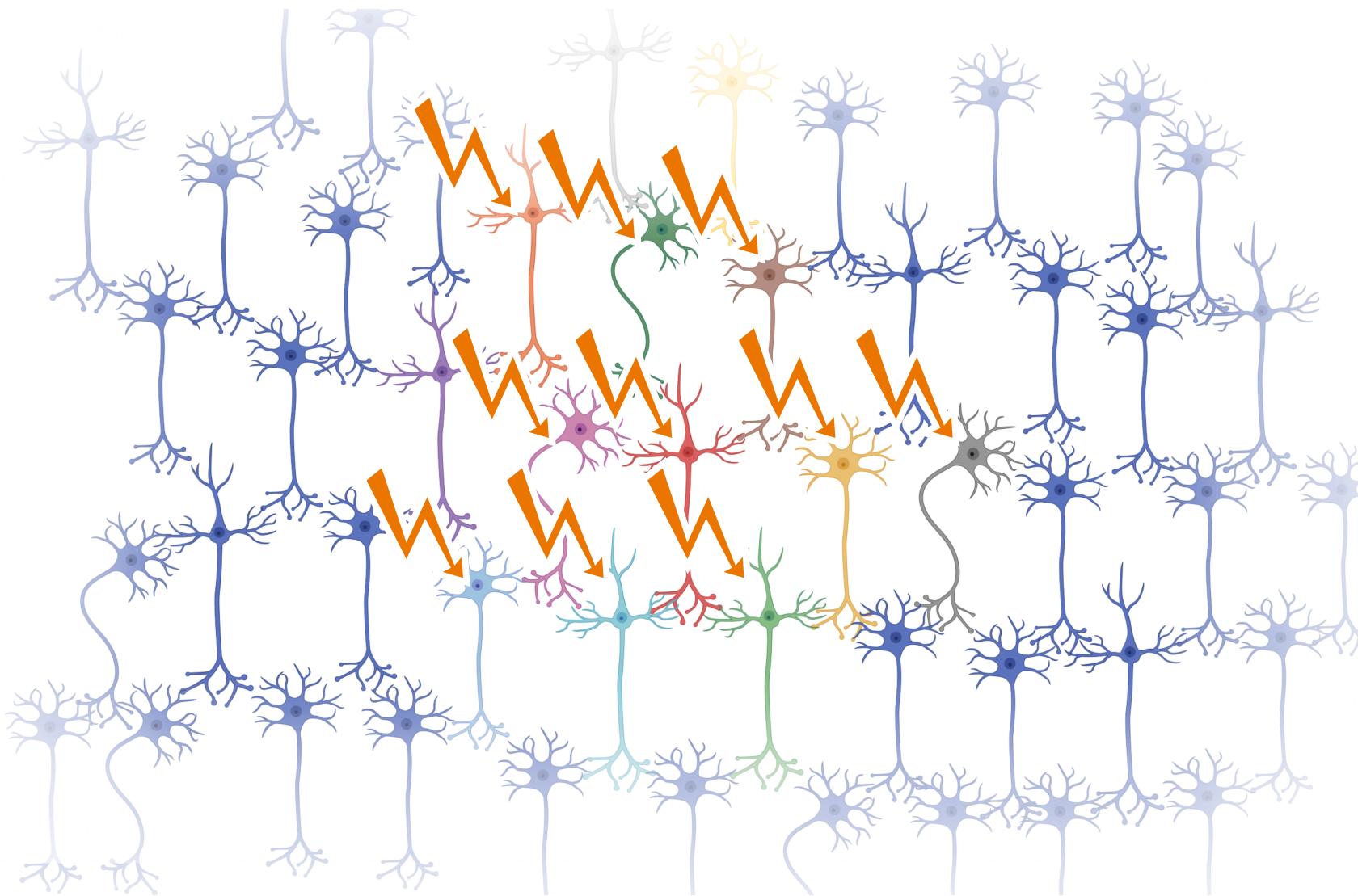
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# Mapping Connectivity



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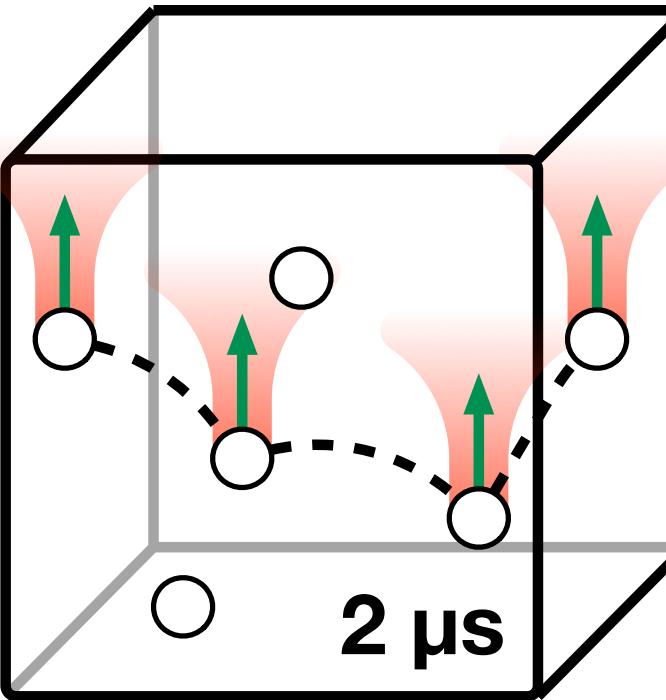
## Wish list

- Control and readout of neural activity
- Neuron-scale spatial resolution ( $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ )
- Action potential temporal resolution ( $\sim 1 \text{ ms}$ )
- Highly parallelizable (100s of neurons)

# All-Optical Voltage Scope

## O1. High-Speed Imaging

- Ultra-fast random access imaging at **cellular resolution**
- Multiplexing to maximize signal extraction

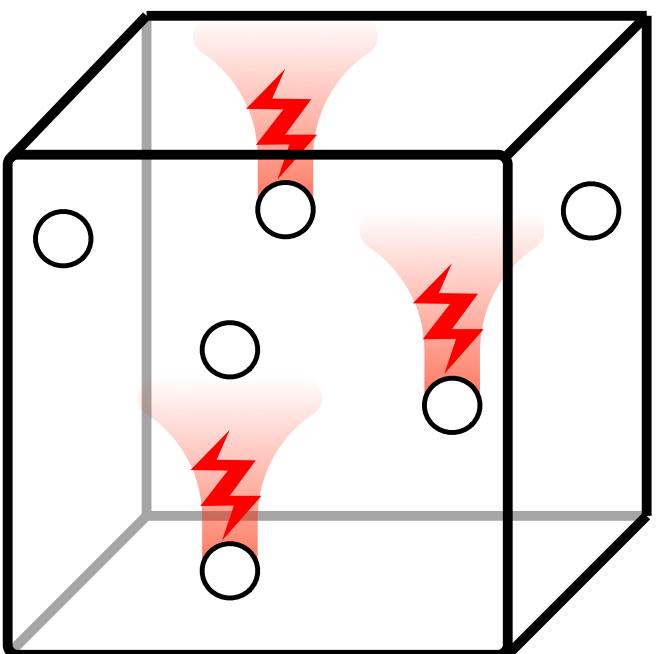


### Technological Goal:

Image **500 neurons** at **1 kHz** across a **500  $\mu\text{m}^3$**  FOV  
(state-of-the-art = 24 neurons)

## O3. Closed-Loop Optogenetic Stimulation

- Co-express opsins with GEVs
- **Cellular resolution patterned photo-excitation** controlled by high-speed electronics (FPGA)

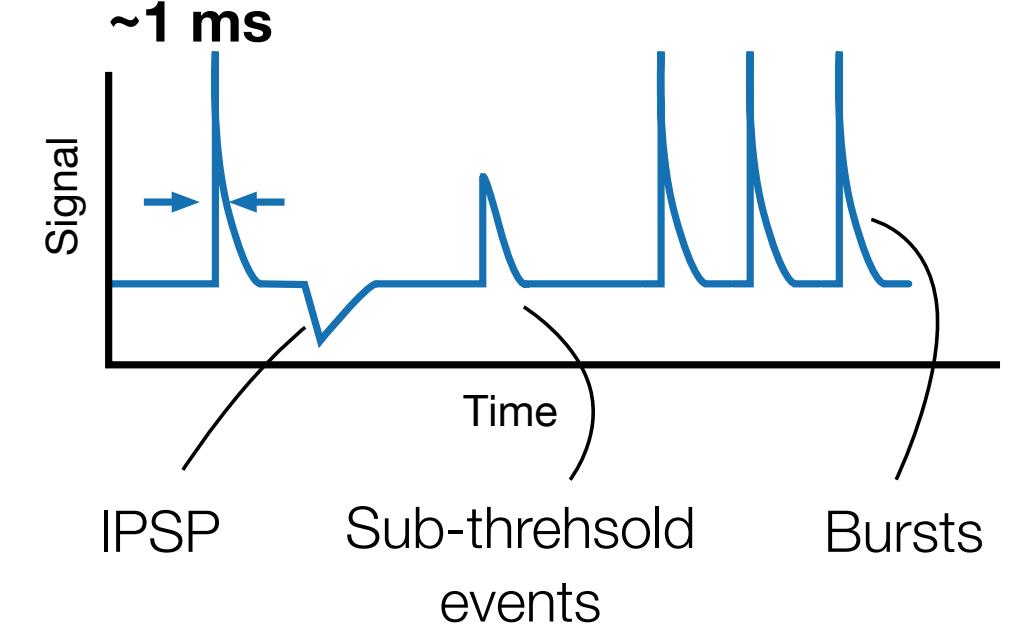


### Technological Goal:

'Readout → computation → excitation'  
clock cycle of  $200 \mu\text{s}$  < action potential

## O2. Voltage Indicators

- *In vivo* imaging of GEVs in the **barrel cortex** and **cerebellum** in awake, behaving mice

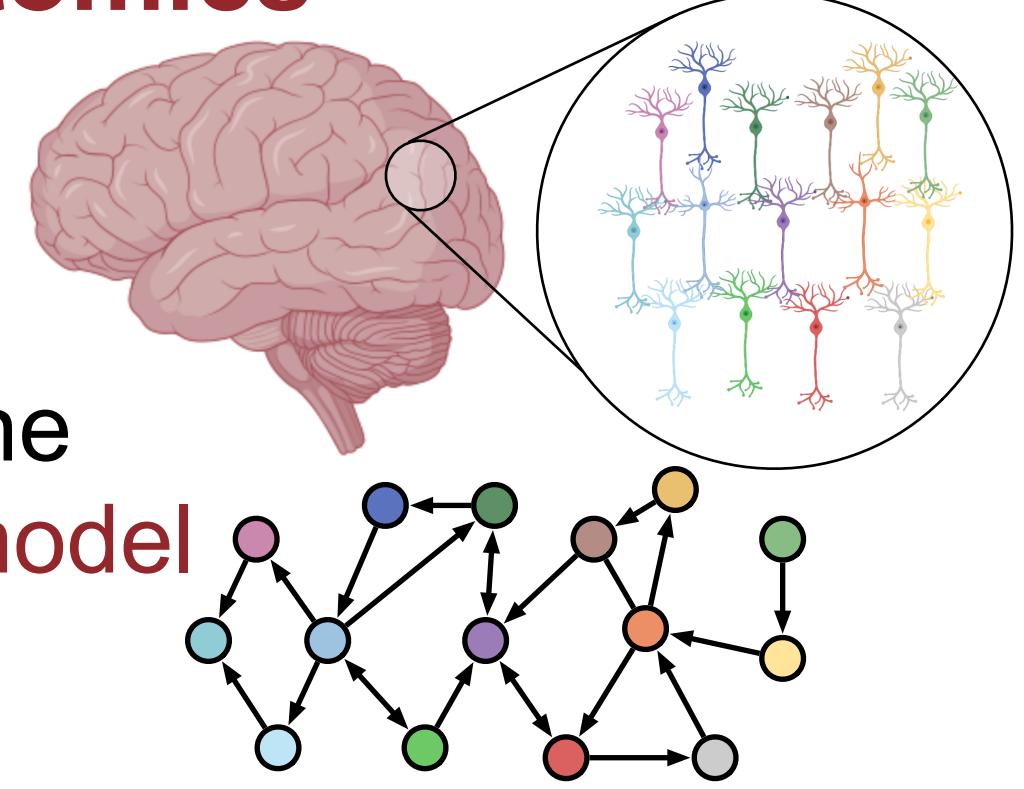


### Biological Goal:

Track the onset of '**sparse representation**' in response to a sensory stimulus

## O4. All-Optical Connectomics

- Determine **wiring diagram** of a **500 neuron network**
- Optimal control to determine a **dynamical connectivity model**



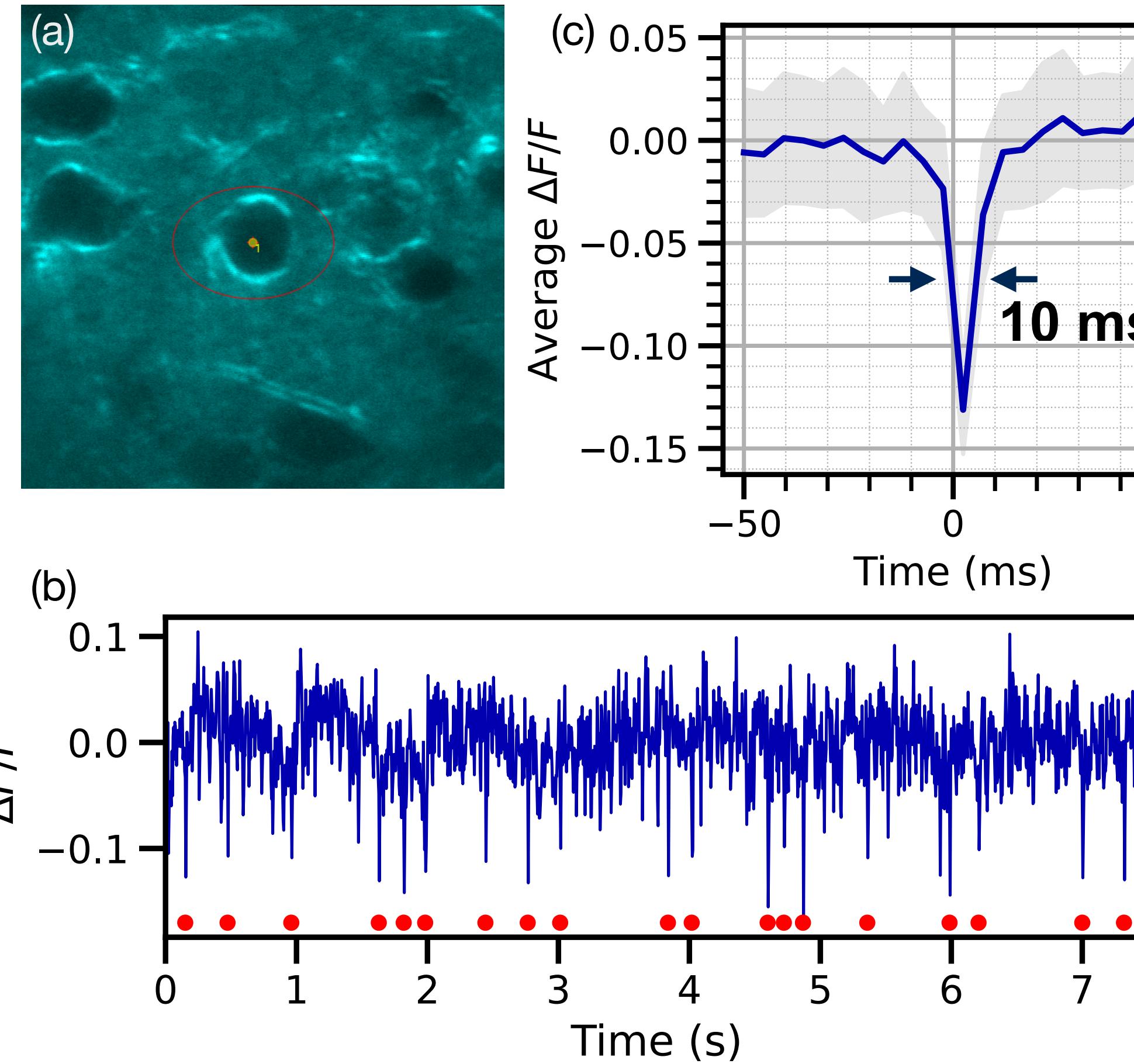
### Biological Goal:

Investigate how **connectivity** enables sparsening and how **connectivity** varies during learning

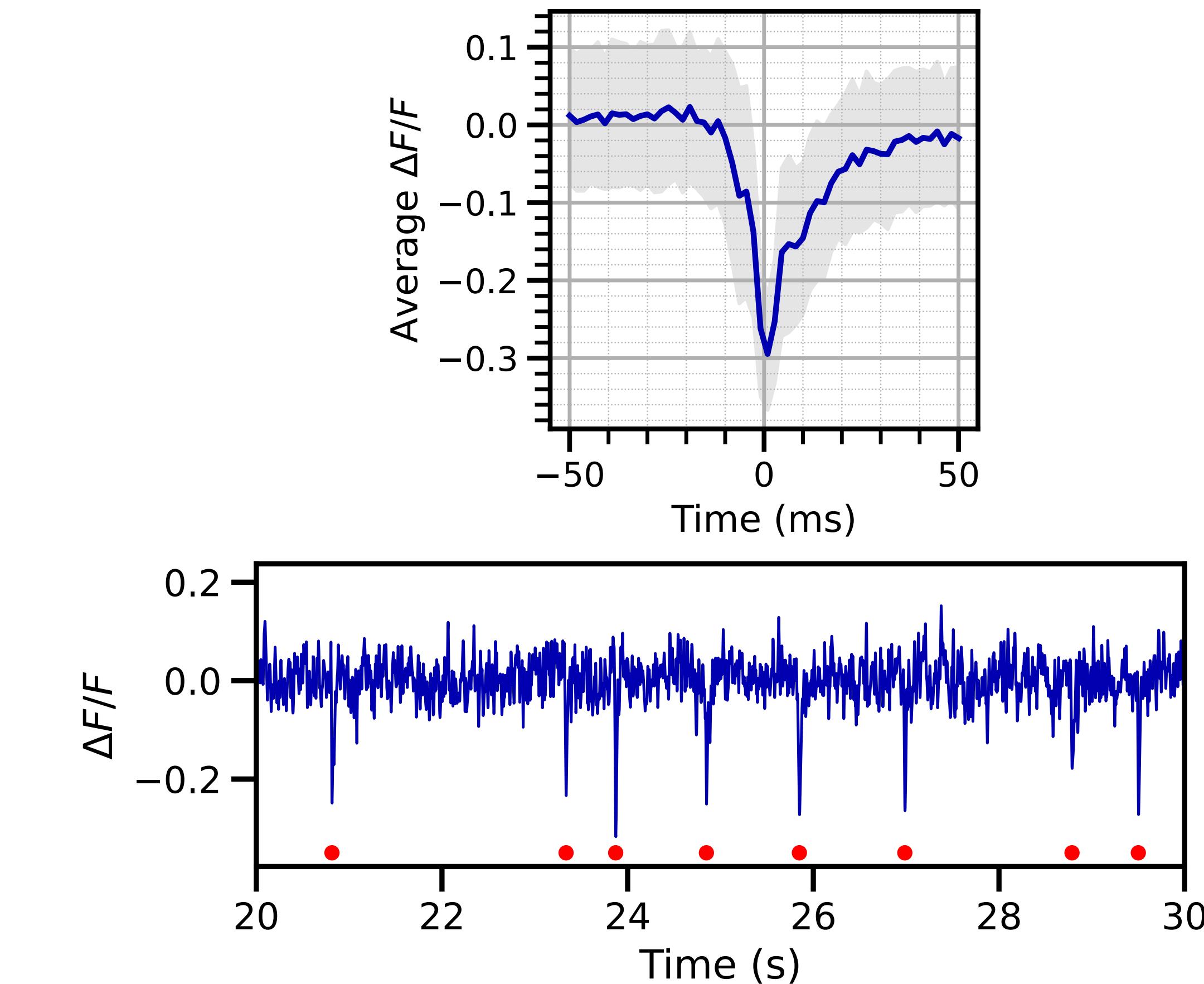
# Voltage Imaging Pilot Data

Good expression of GEVIs + suitable for 2p imaging!

## Barrel Cortex



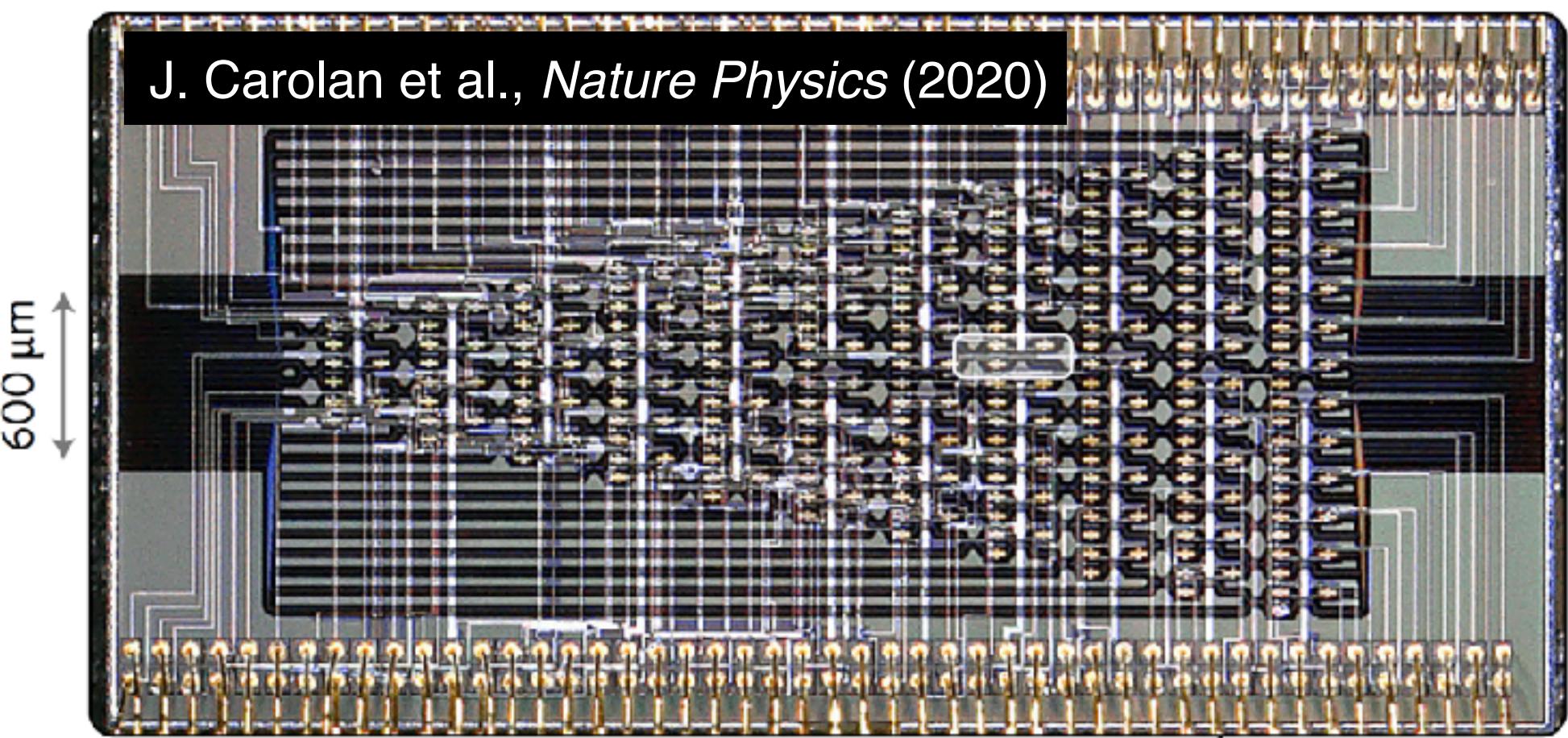
## Cerebellum



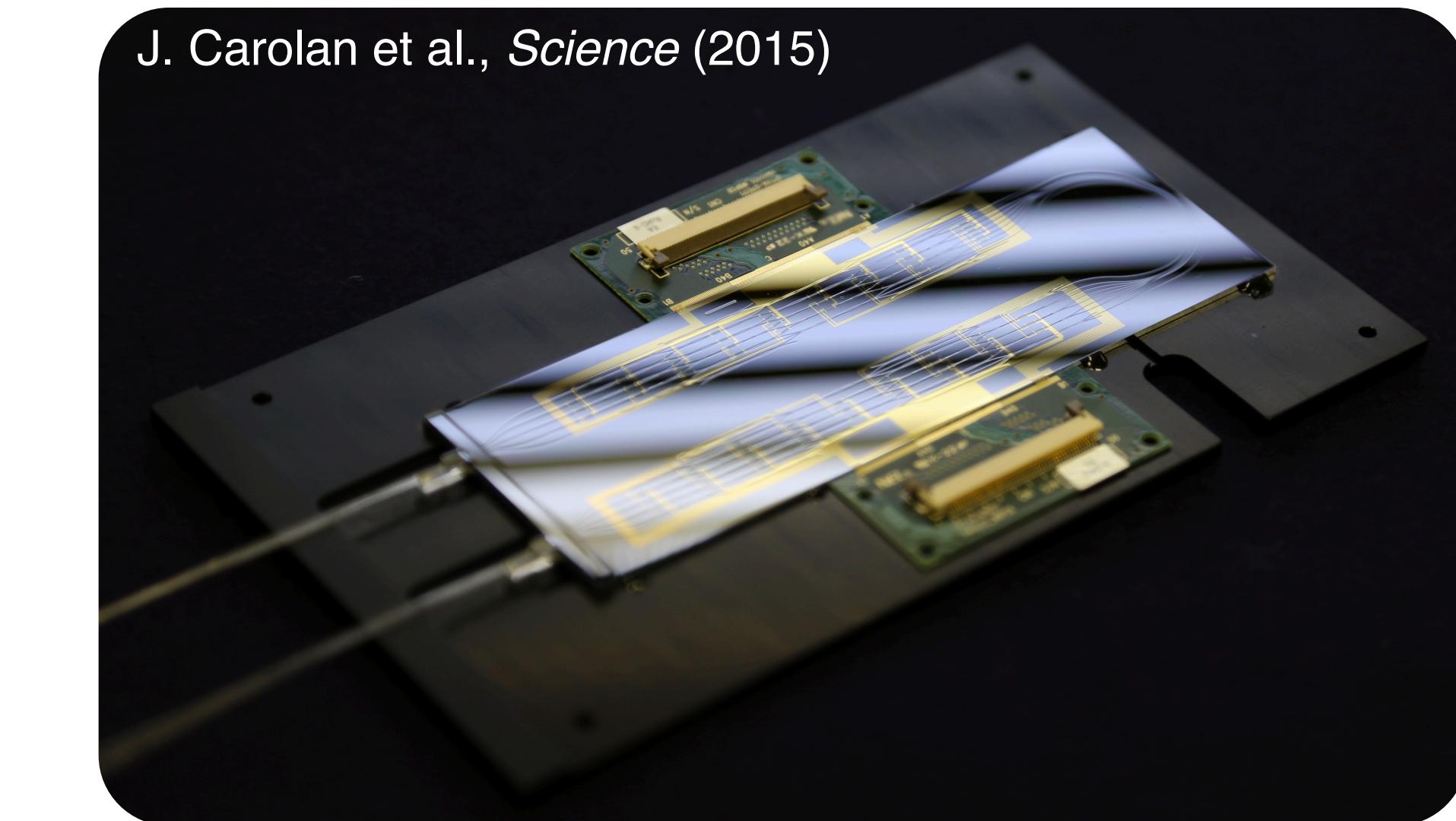
# Why me?

- **Requirements:**
  - Optical design
  - High-speed electronics
  - Systems engineering
- **My research profile:**
  - Applied Physics
  - Developing photonic technologies to accelerate quantum and classical computing

Circuit  
Neuroscience



J. Carolan et al., Optica (2019)  
U. Chakraborty et al., Optica, 6, 335 (2020)



J. Carolan et al., Nature Photonics (2014)  
C. Sparrow et al. Nature (2018)

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  - Built a diverse, international network (30 talks)

Circuit  
Neuroscience



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EDUCATE. INSPIRE. CONNECT.  
SINCE 1951  
THE  
ROYAL  
SOCIETY

Google AI ZAPATA MIIT ELENION TECHNOLOGIES

nature physics ARTICLES  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-019-0747-6>

**Variational quantum unsampling on a quantum photonic processor**

Jacques Carolan<sup>1\*</sup>, Masoud Mohseni<sup>2</sup>, Jonathan P. Olson<sup>3</sup>, Mihika Prabhu<sup>1</sup>, Changchen Chen<sup>1</sup>, Darius Bunandar<sup>1</sup>, Murphy Yuezen Niu<sup>2</sup>, Nicholas C. Harris<sup>4</sup>, Franco N. C. Wong<sup>1</sup>, Michael Hochberg<sup>5</sup>, Seth Lloyd<sup>6</sup> and Dirk Englund<sup>1,6</sup>

# Why me?

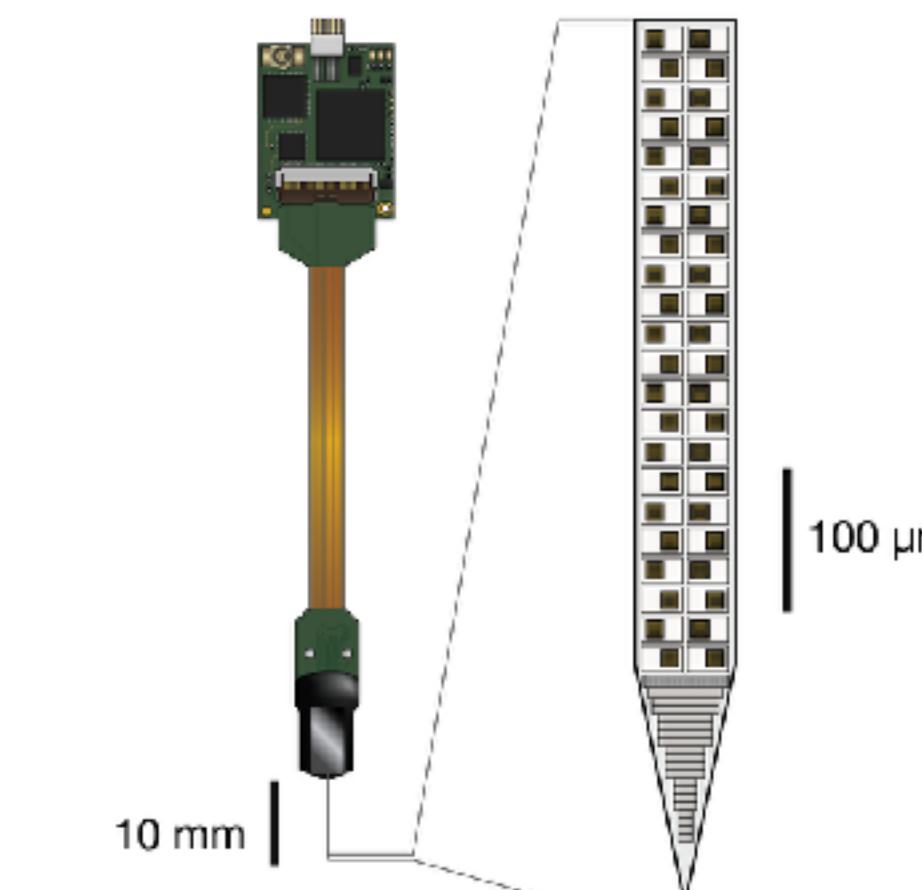
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- **Service and Teaching:**
  - Committees: IEEE Emerging Tech. Taskforce
  - Science communication and outreach
  - Teaching and supervision



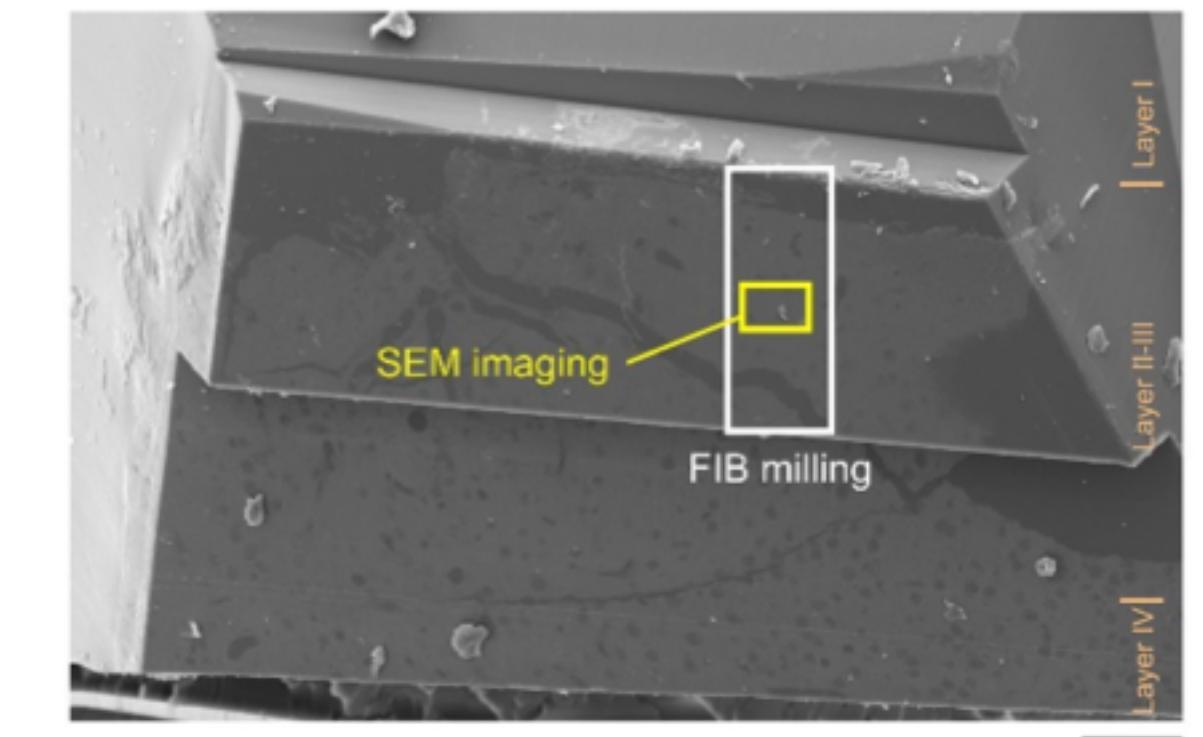
# Location: University College London



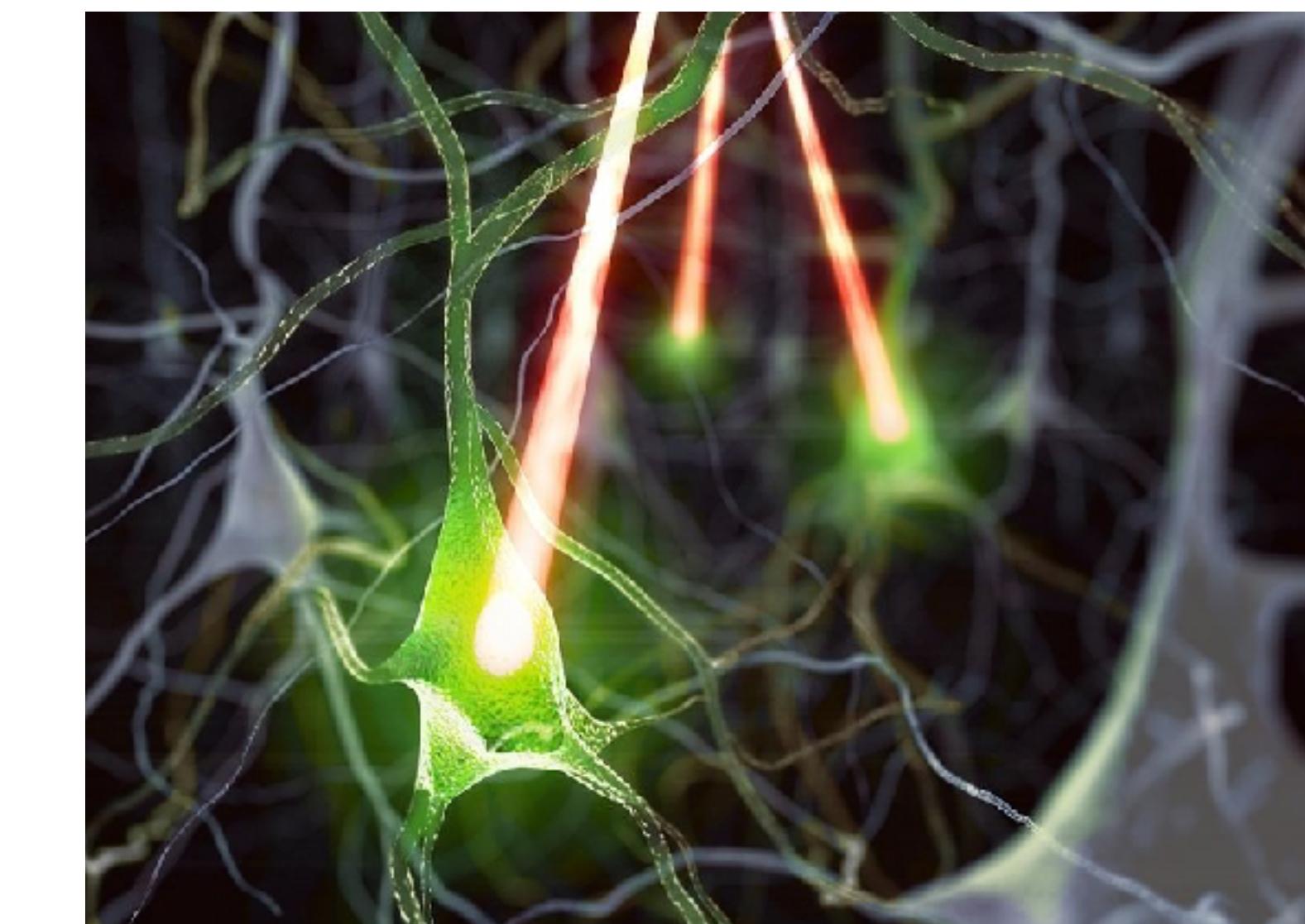
- **Neural Computation Lab at UCL**
  - Calcium based all-optical interrogation
  - Training:
    - Optogenetics, imaging, behavior
  - Resources:
    - Lasers, behavioral rigs, SLM, AODs
  - Mentorship:
    - Prof. Michael Häusser, Prof. Beverley Clark
- **Collaborations:**
  - Prof. Kenneth Harris
    - Cortical processing, neuroinformatics
  - Prof. Angus Silver
    - Microscopy, random access imaging
  - Prof. Mark Lythgoe
    - Centre for Advanced Biomedical Imaging
- **UCL Neuroscience:**
  - 2nd Globally and 1st in Europe
  - 13 different departments + 450 PIs



Jun et al., *Nature* (2017)



Simon, Roth, Sheridan et al., *bioRxiv* (2021)



Packer et al., *Nature Methods*. (2015)  
Zhang et al., *Nature Methods*. (2018)  
Robinson et al., *Cell* (2020)

# Location: University College London

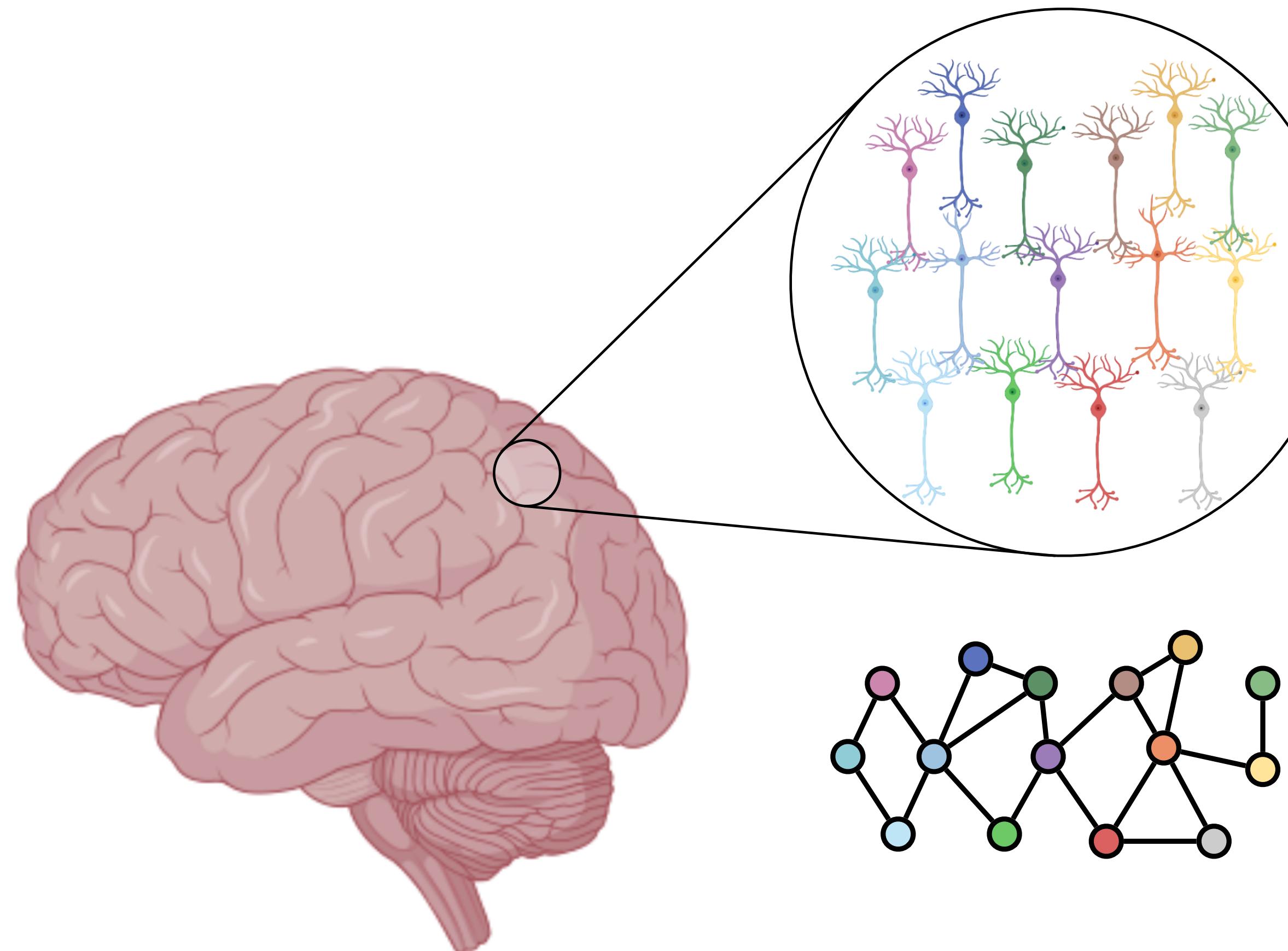


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- **Baseline neuroscience knowledge:**
  - Classes (neuroanatomy)
  - Workshops (imaging, optogenetics)
- **Building scientific networks:**
  - Neuroscience Domain @ UCL
  - Conferences (SfN, COSYNE)
  - BBSRC Fellows
  - Outreach (YouTube, Brain Awareness Week)
- **Career Development**
  - UCL Neuroscience Careers Network
  - UCL Research Staff Development Program
- **Path to independence**
  - Project and financial management
  - Mentor PhD/Master student
  - 3-5+ year timeframe: apply for UKRI Future Leaders, Wellcome Career Development Award

# How the DF will make me a future leader

**Vision:** To develop technologies across a range of modalities to both understand and repair the brain



**Mentorship and training** to transition into a new field

Build **new networks** across neuroscience and biology

**Resources** to develop next-generation technologies for systems neuroscience:

- Neural basis of brain disorders
- Brain machine interfaces
- Architectures for AI

**Unique research profile** spanning neuroscience, physics and engineering