

Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics

Summer School 2021

Day 4

Simulating Brain Microcircuit Activity and Signals in Mental Health



Etyay Hay

camh | Krembil Centre for
Neuroinformatics



KCNI Summer School - Connect



(during sessions) Use the chat or the ask question!



virtually meet with us
in **gather.town**



You can return to the session and
re-watch the videos

Post session survey - tell us how the session went:

<https://forms.gle/ji18qLMZEZ9L16Ln6>



KCNISchool@camh.ca

CAMH Land Acknowledgement

CAMH is situated on lands that have been occupied by First Nations for millennia; lands rich in civilizations with knowledge of medicine, architecture, technology, and extensive trade routes throughout the Americas. In 1860, the site of CAMH appeared in the Colonial Records Office of British Crown as the council grounds of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, as they were known at the time.

Today, Toronto is covered by the Toronto Purchase, treaty No. 13 of 1805 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Toronto is now home to a vast diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis who enrich this city.

CAMH is committed to reconciliation. We will honour the land through programs and places that reflect and respect its heritage. We will embrace the healing traditions of the Ancestors, and weave them into our caring practices. We will create new relationships and partnerships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis and share the land and protect it for future generations.



Day 4 - Synopsis



9:00 am
- 10:30 am

Simulating brain microcircuit activity in mental health
Etay Hay

10:45 am
- 12:15 pm

Simulating EEG from brain microcircuits in mental health
Etay Hay



1:00 pm
- 2:30 pm

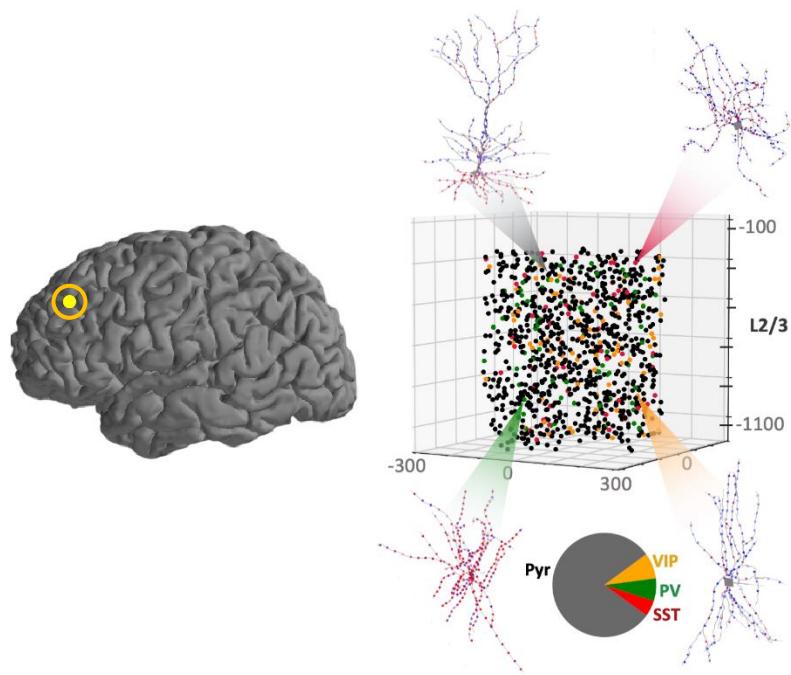
*Tutorial – simulating and analyzing spiking from neurons
and microcircuits*
Frank Mazza

2:45 pm
- 4:15 pm

*Tutorial – simulating and analyzing EEG signals from
brain microcircuits*
Frank Mazza

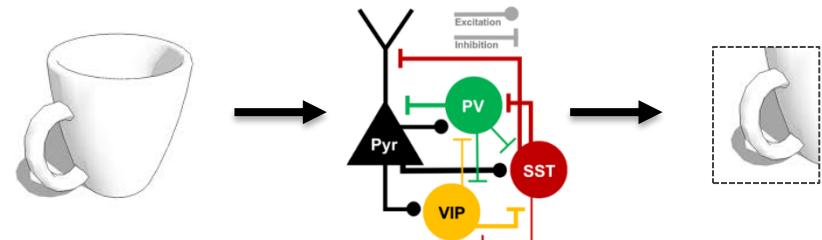
Cortical Microcircuits in Mental Health

Human Microcircuit Models



Depression, Aging
Schizophrenia

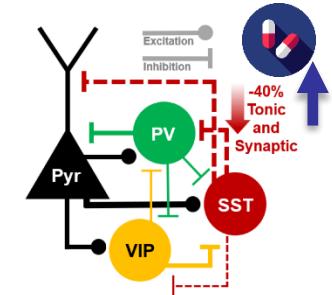
Mechanisms of Cortical Processing



Diagnostic Biomarkers

Testing Pharmacology In Silico

Simulated EEG



Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics

Summer School 2021

Day 4 – Session 1

Simulating brain microcircuit activity in mental health

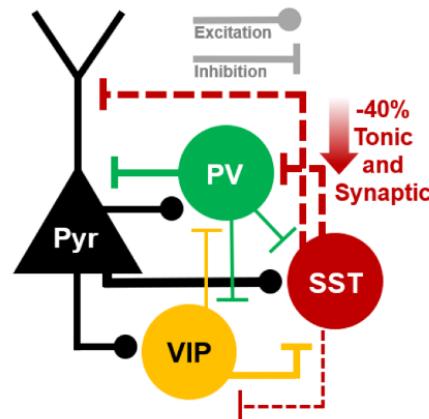
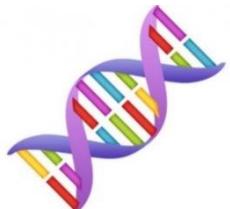
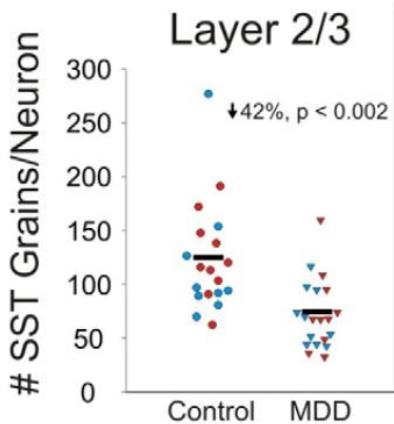
Etyay Hay

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Neuroinformatics

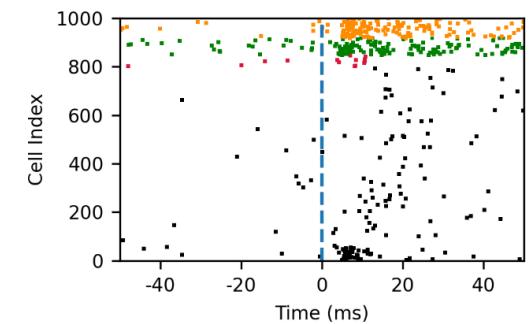


From Cellular Mechanisms to Brain Microcircuit Function

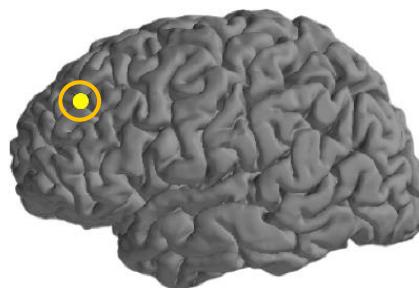
Gene Expression in Health and Depression



Brain Activity & Function

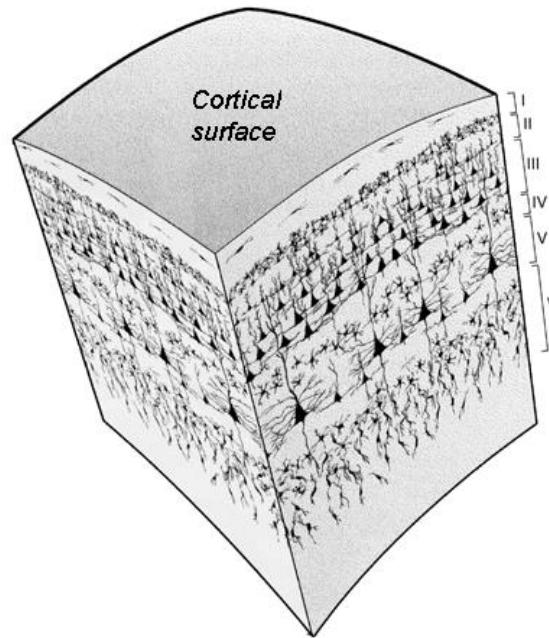
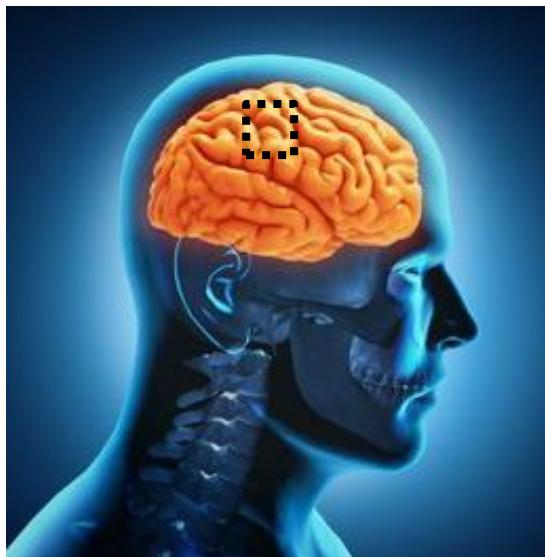


Stimulus Processing

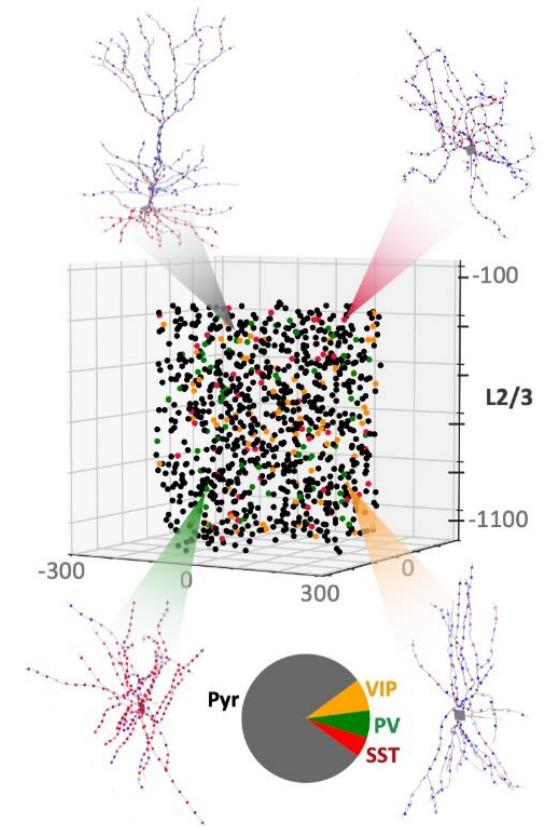


Cortical Microcircuits

Cerebral Cortex



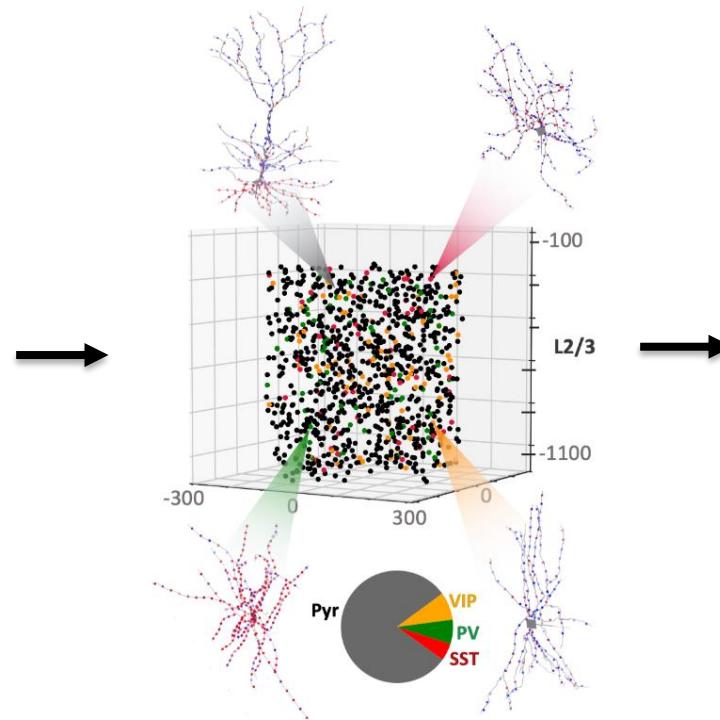
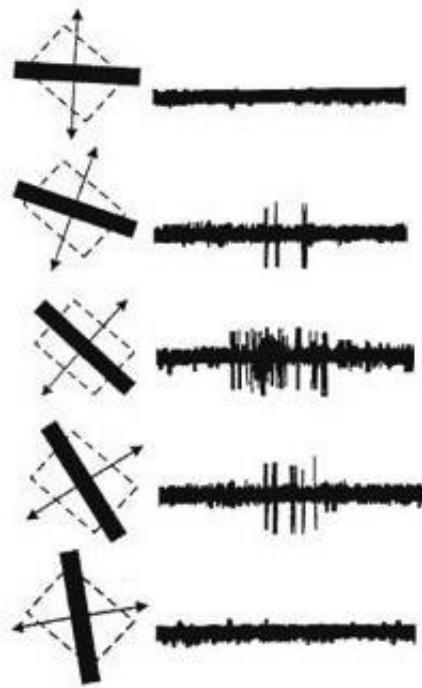
Microcircuits



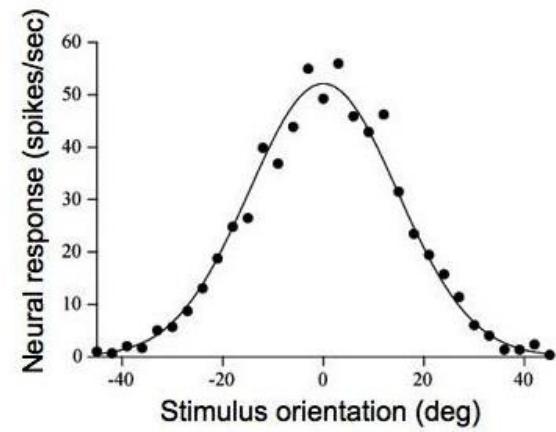
- ~30,000 neurons in a cortical column
- 3,000-7,000 neurons in each layer
- Distinct neuronal types and connectivity

Stimulus Processing in Neuronal Microcircuits

Stimulus Neuron
Orientation Response



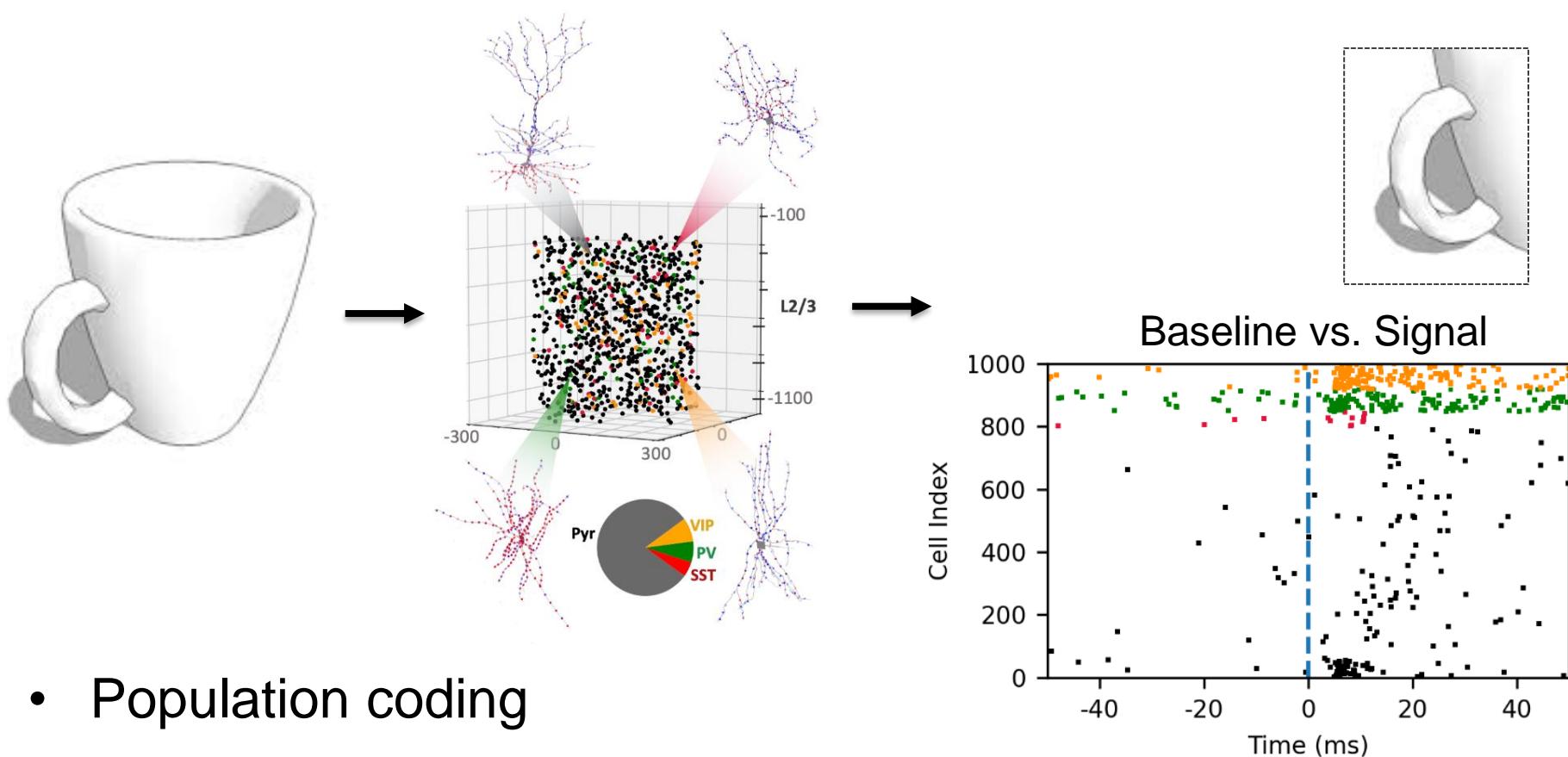
Feature Selectivity



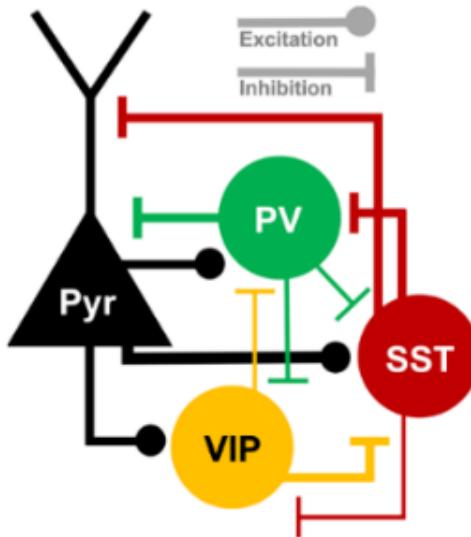
Hubel and Wiesel
(Nobel Prize)



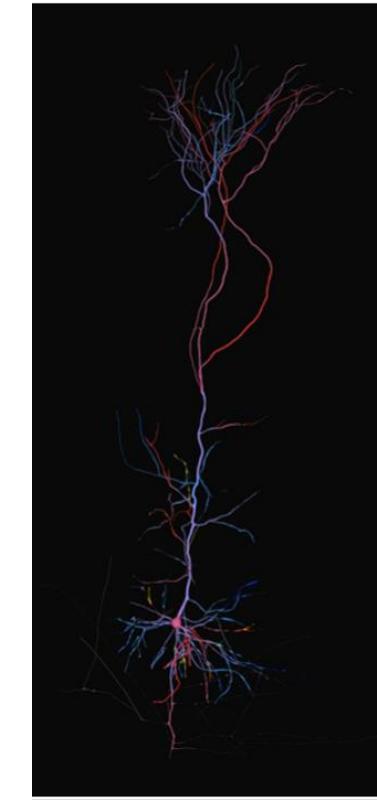
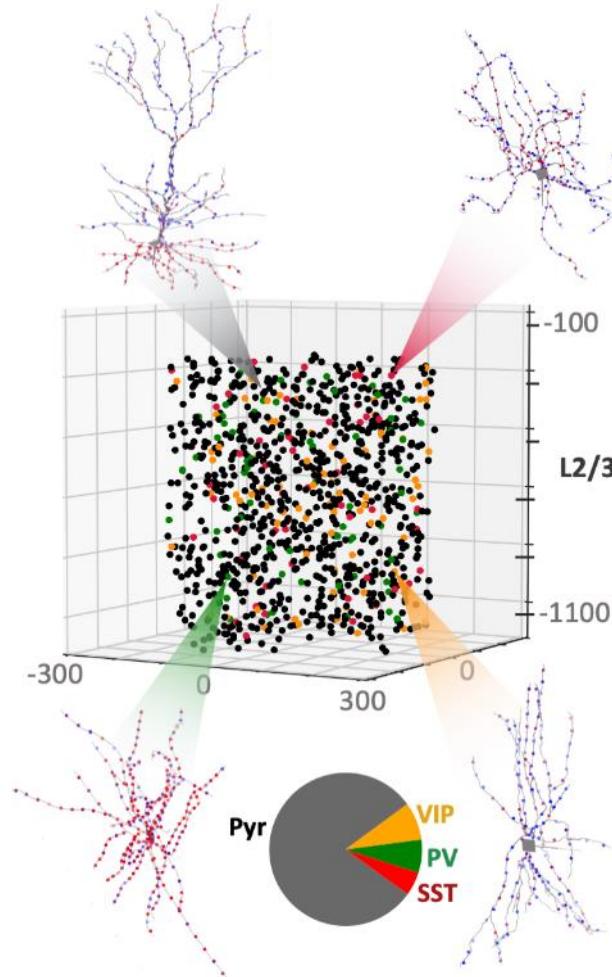
Stimulus Processing in Neuronal Microcircuits



Neuronal Microcircuit Properties

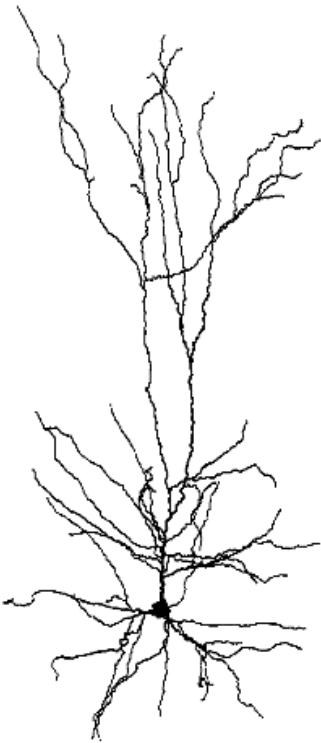


Circuit
Connectivity

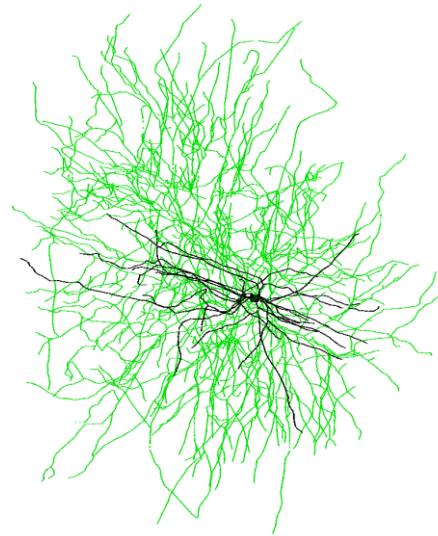


Neuronal
Electrophysiology

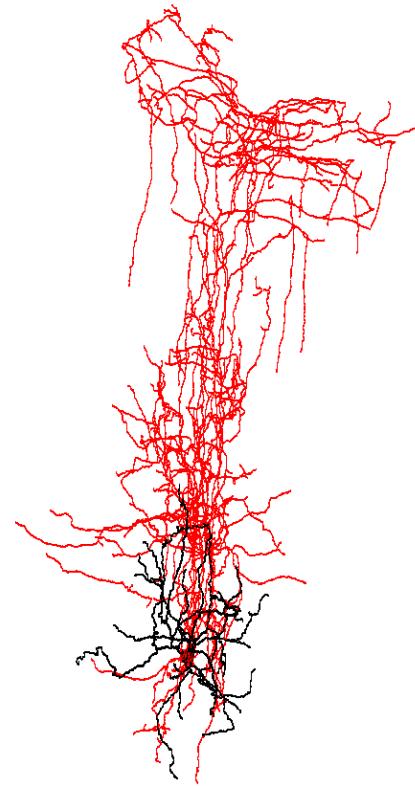
Neuron Types



**Pyramidal
Neuron**



**PV
Interneuron**



**SST
Interneuron**



**VIP
Interneuron**

Reconstructed human morphologies from:

ALLEN BRAIN ATLAS
DATA PORTAL

camh | Krembil Centre for
Neuroinformatics

Allen Brain Database

ALLEN BRAIN ATLAS

DATA PORTAL

HOME CELL TYPES TOOLS

Search... 

OVERVIEW CELL FEATURE SEARCH RNA-SEQ DATA DOCUMENTATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS HELP

Cell Feature Search

DOWNLOAD CELL FEATURE DATA

The brain cell database is a survey of biological features measured from single cells, in human and mouse.
Explore cell properties and access detailed experimental data using the feature browser below.

Species

Human Mouse

Location

Select Areas

Transgenic Targeting

Select Mouse Lines

Donor Profile

Age

18

Sex

90

Female

Male

Years of seizure

0

Select Disease

60

Select Donor

Ethnicity/Race

Hemisphere

Left Right

Models

Morphology annotation

Reconstruction type

Full Dendrite Only None

Dendrite type

Spiny Aspiny Sparsely spiny

Apical dendrite status

Intact Truncated N/A

Allen Brain Database

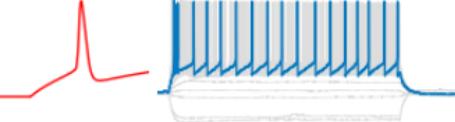
Results: 2333 of 2333 cells

Human cell id: 643625553

PLP Layer 5 aspiny

Donor: 29 yrs, Male Disease state: epilepsy

[Electrophysiology >](#)

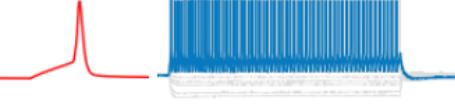


Human cell id: 643584386

PLP Layer 5 aspiny

Donor: 29 yrs, Male Disease state: epilepsy

[Electrophysiology >](#)



Human cell id: 643575207

PLP Layer 3 aspiny

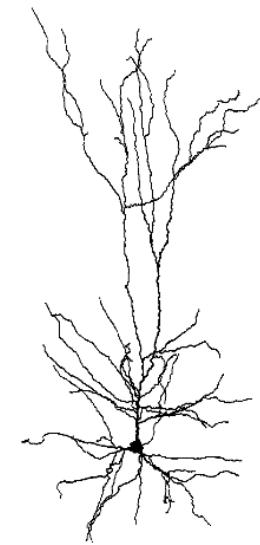
Donor: 29 yrs, Male Disease state: epilepsy

[Electrophysiology >](#)

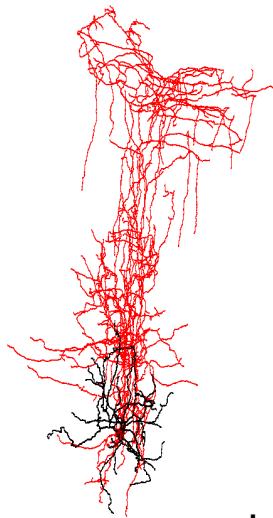
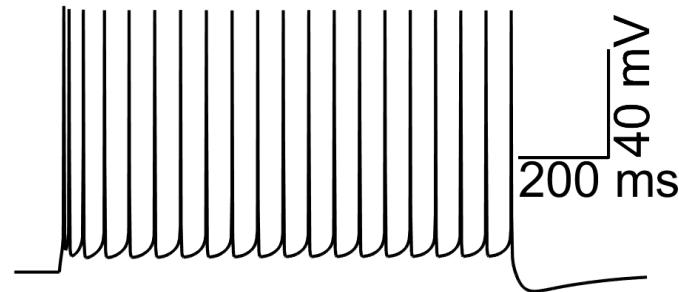
[Morphology >](#)



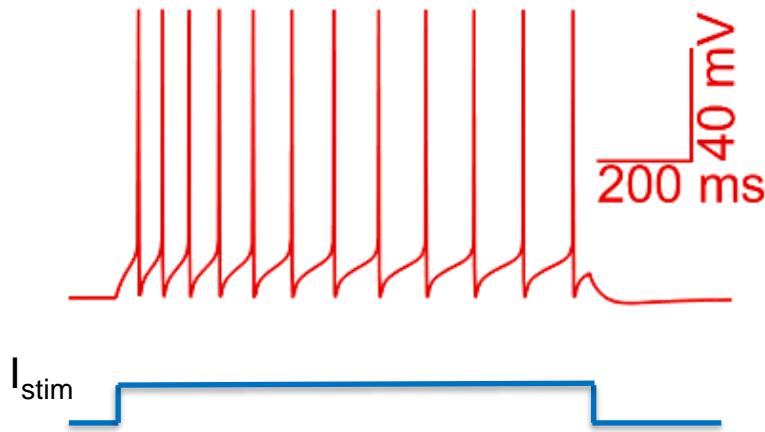
Neuronal Firing and Gain



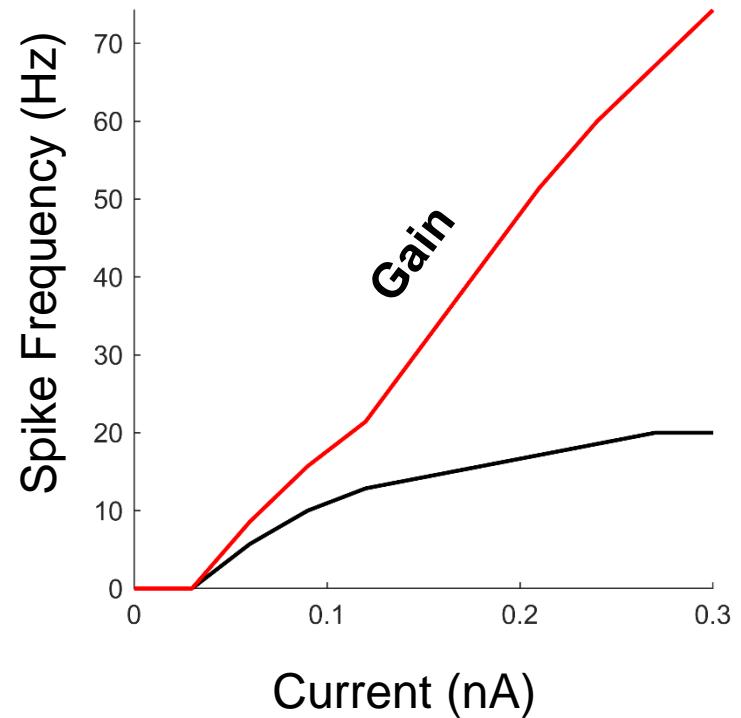
Model Human
Pyramidal Neuron



Model Human
SST Interneuron

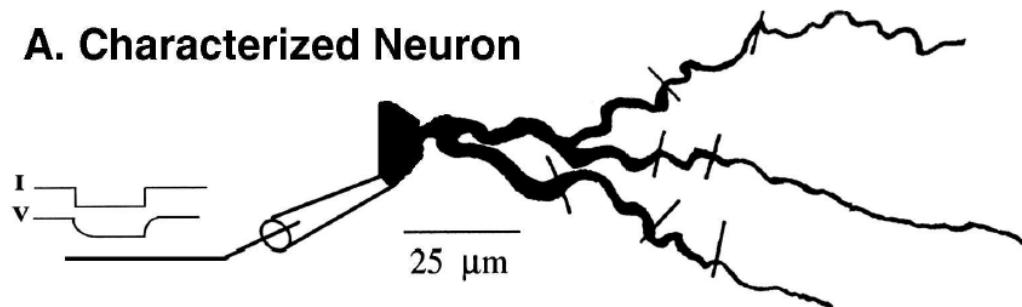


Frequency-Input Curve

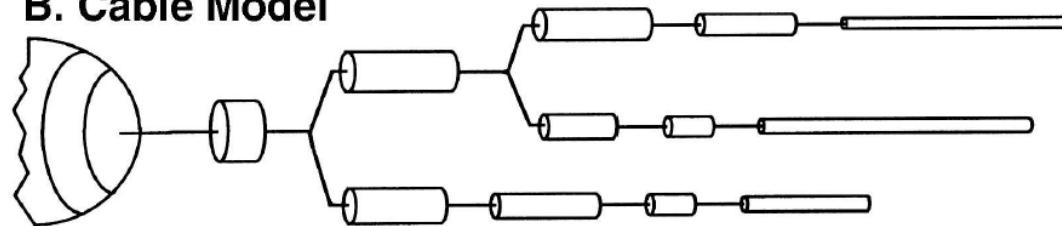


Biophysical Models

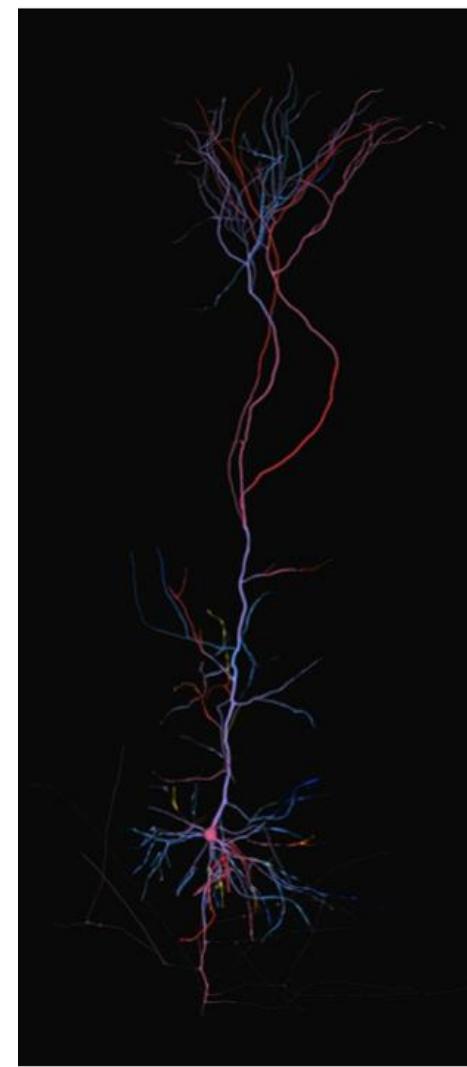
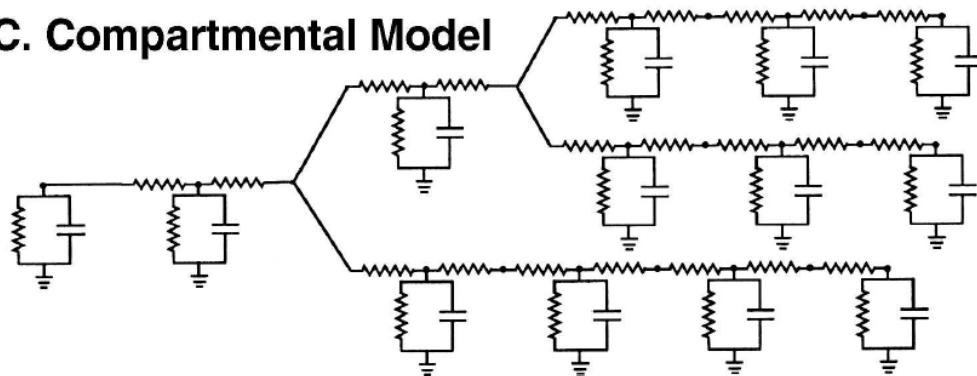
A. Characterized Neuron



B. Cable Model

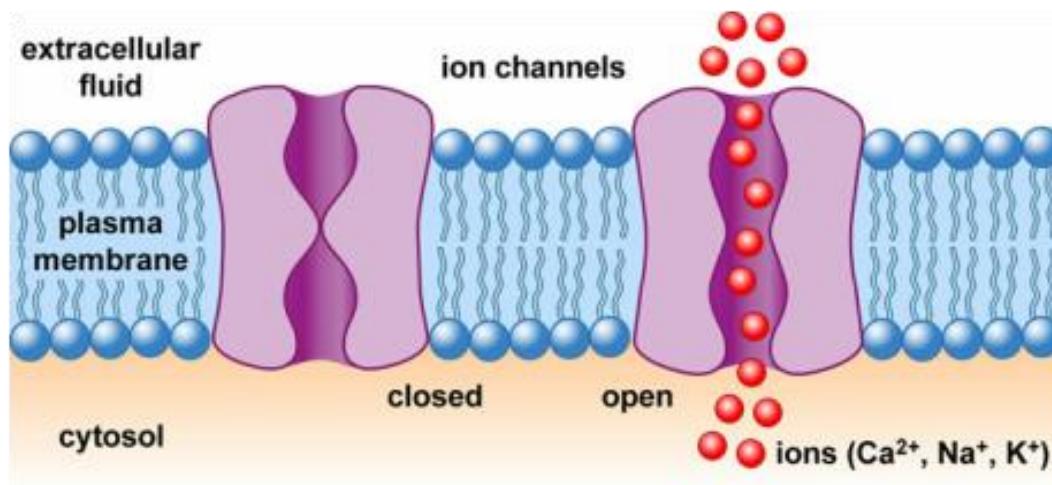
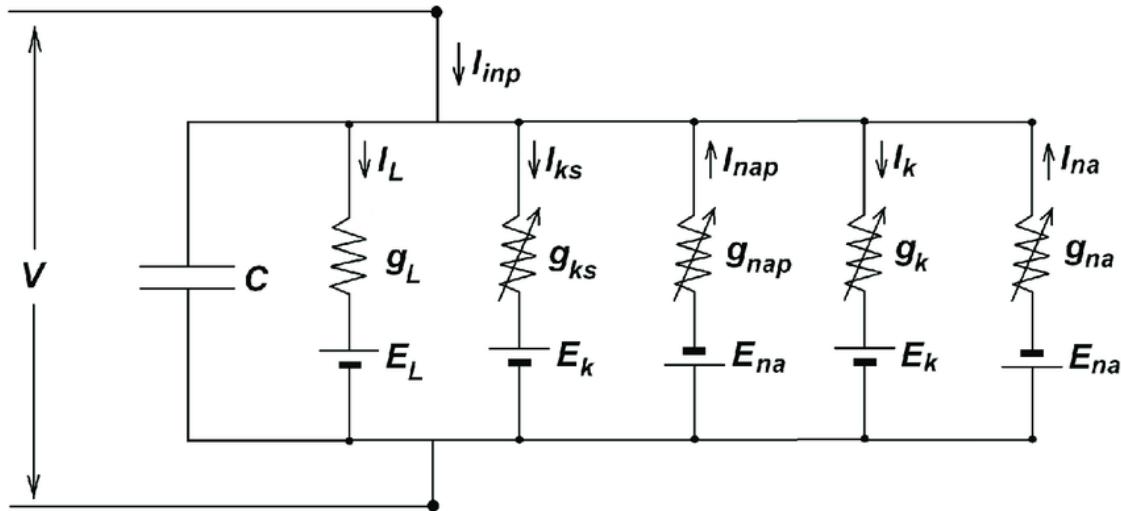


C. Compartmental Model



Simulated in *NEURON*

Membrane Currents

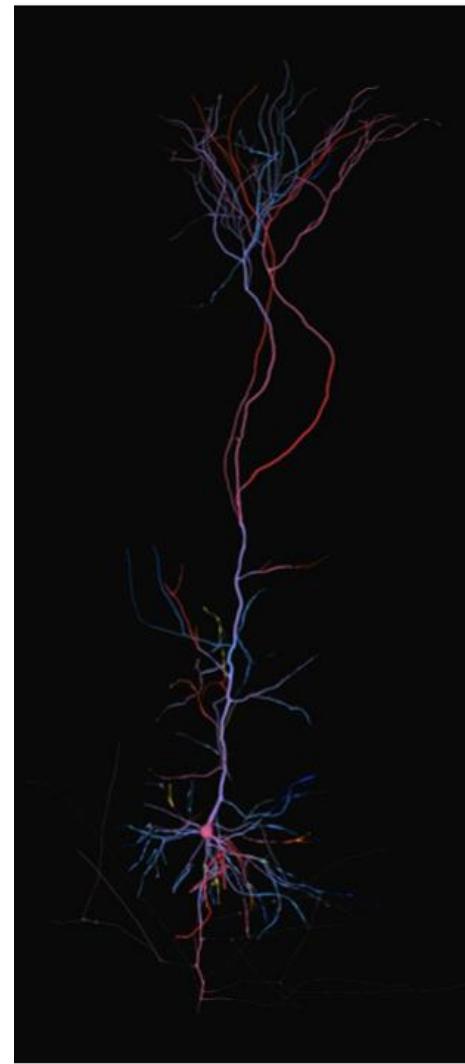
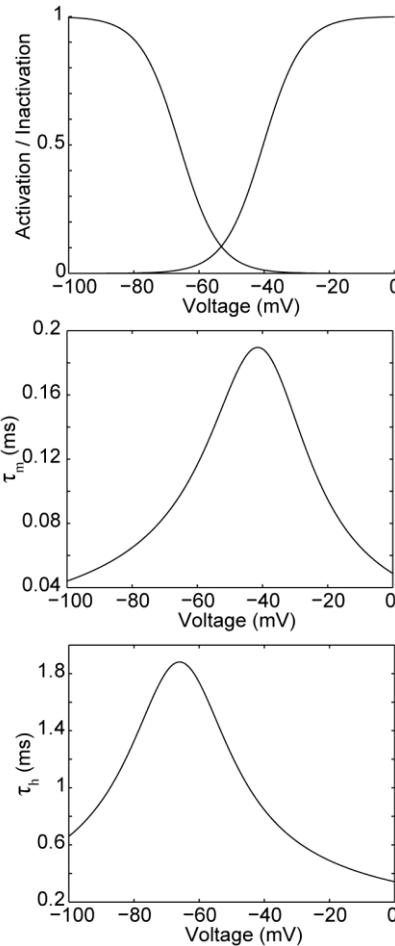
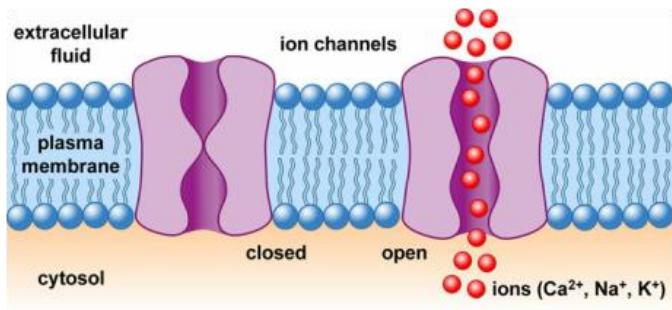


Ion Channel Models

$$I = \bar{g} \cdot m^x \cdot h^y (V - E)$$

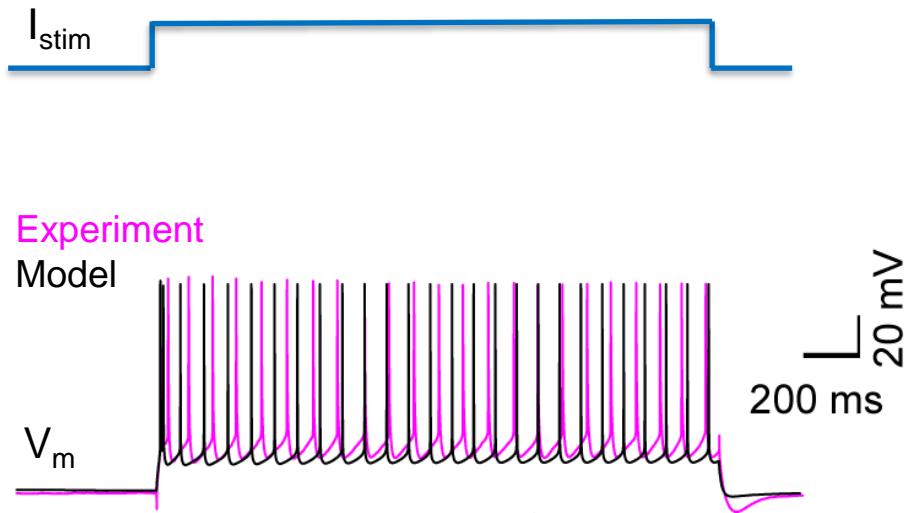
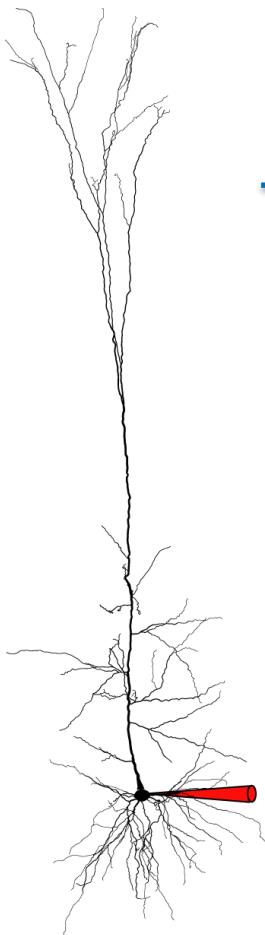
$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{(m_\infty - m)}{\tau_m}$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{(h_\infty - h)}{\tau_h}$$



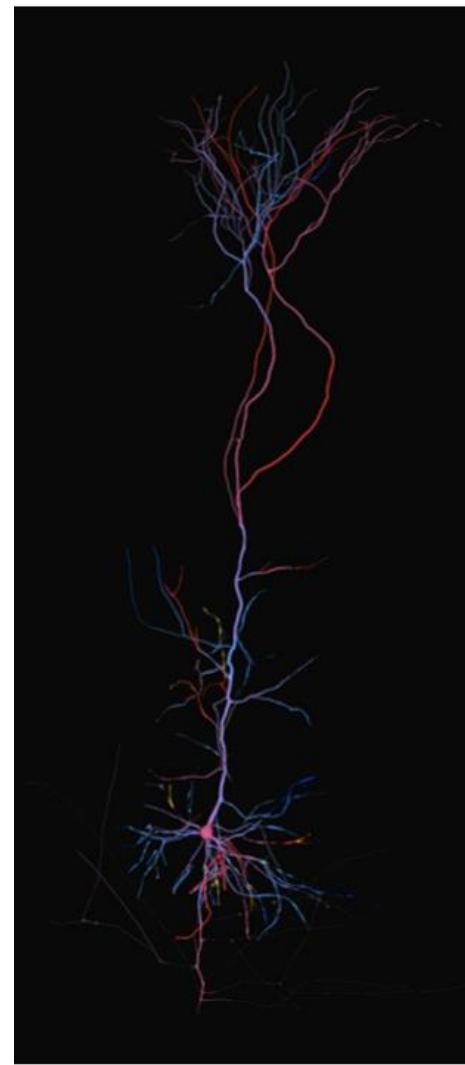
Hodgkin & Huxley (Nobel Prize)

Neuron Simulations



Ion channel densities optimized
using Genetic Algorithms

Simulated in *NEURON*



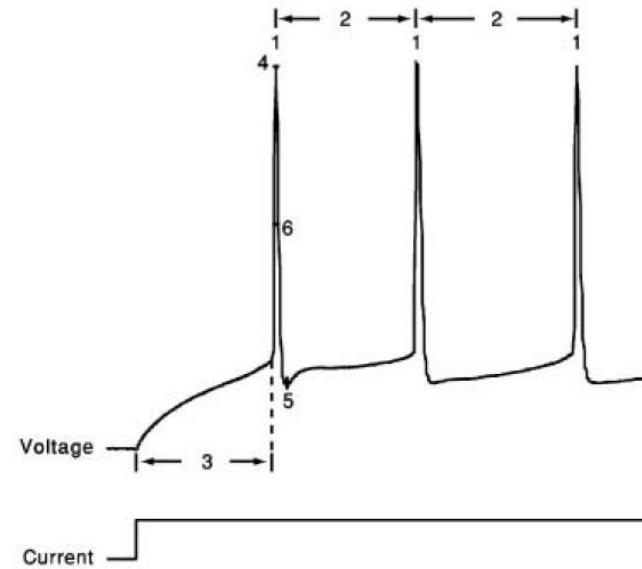
Electrophysiological Features

Spike height, width

Spike rate

Adaptation

Latency

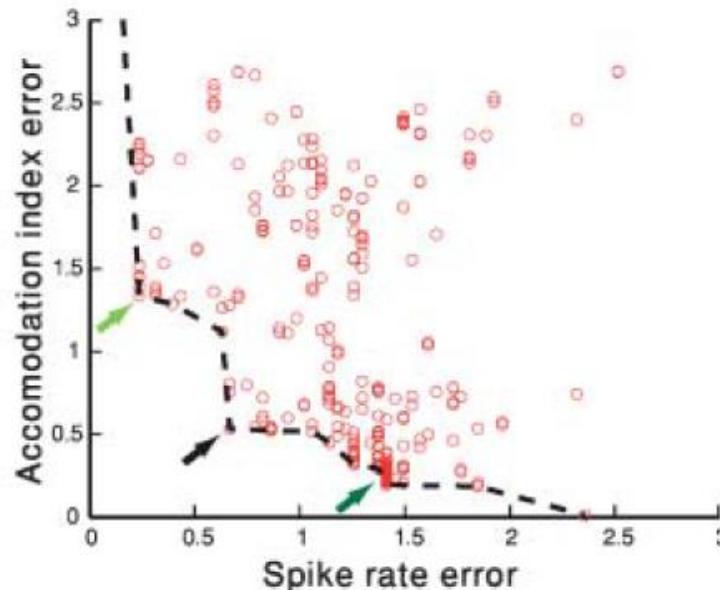


Multi-Objective Optimization

- Objectives: electrophysiological features
- Non-dominance
- Pareto-front

Green models do
not dominate each
other

Black model
doesn't dominate
green models



Genetic Algorithm Optimization

1. Population of N models

	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P
Model 1	0.5	0.01	0.1	0.3
Model 2	0.2	0.05	0.5	0.5
...				
Model N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2

Channel density

Genetic Algorithm Optimization

2a. Mutation with some probability

	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P
Model 1	0.5	0.01	0.1	0.3
Model 2	0.2	0.05	0.5	0.5
...				
Model N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2



	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P
Model 1	0.5	0.01	0.1	0.3
Model 2	0.18	0.05	0.75	0.5
...				
Model N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2

Genetic Algorithm Optimization

2b. Crossover between models

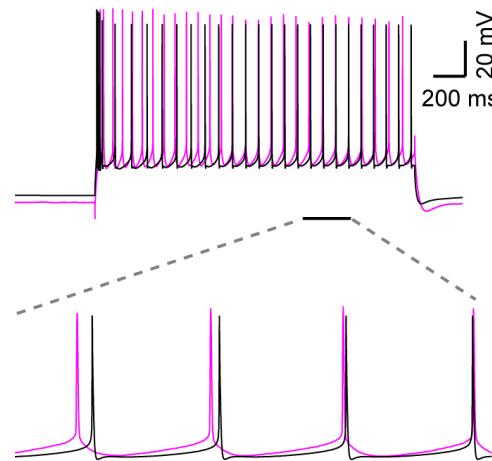
	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P
Model 1	0.5	0.01	0.1	0.3
Model 2	0.18	0.05	0.75	0.5
...				
Model N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2



	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P
Model 1	0.5	0.05	0.75	0.3
Model 2	0.18	0.01	0.1	0.5
...				
Model N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2

Genetic Algorithm Optimization

3. Evaluate model fitness



	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P	Fitness (SD)	
Model 1	0.5	0.05	0.75	0.3	0.8	✓
Model 2	0.18	0.01	0.1	0.5	4.4	✗
...						
Model 2N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.1	✓

Genetic Algorithm Optimization

4. Select N best models as next generation

	Na_T	Ca_{HVA}	K_T	K_P	Fitness (SD)
Model 1	0.5	0.05	0.75	0.3	0.8
Model 2	0.18	0.01	0.1	0.5	4.4
...					
Model 2N	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.1

5. Iterate until model fitness is satisfactory (converges within experimental variability)

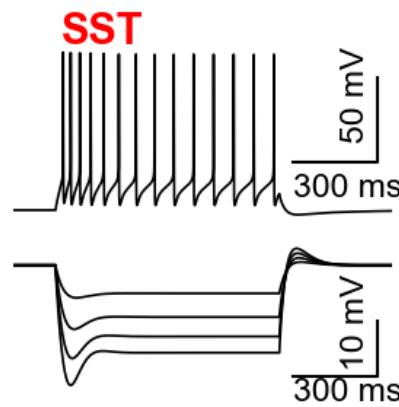
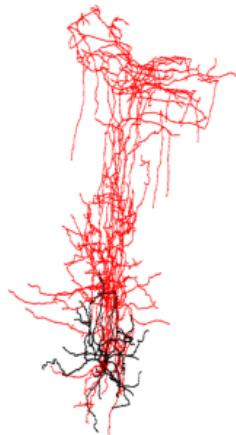
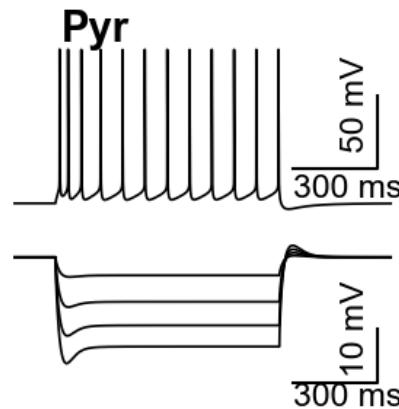
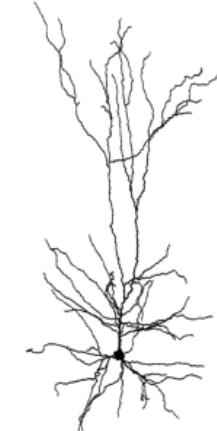
Genetic Algorithm Optimization

- Useful for optimizing biophysical models
 - Complex solution space
 - System with unclear learning rule
- Optimality not guaranteed but convergence is often good
- Parallel computing
- BluePyOpt available

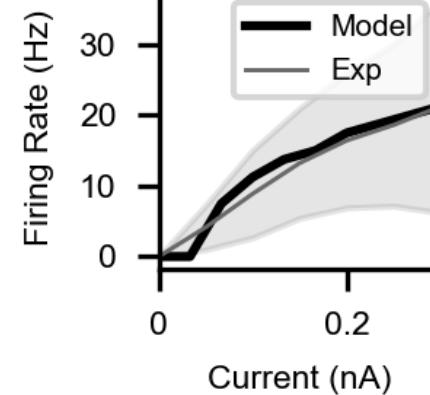


SciNet, NSG, BlueGene

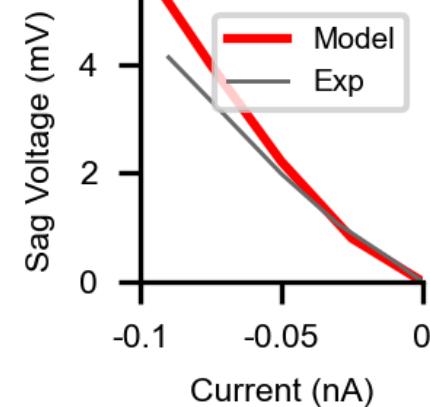
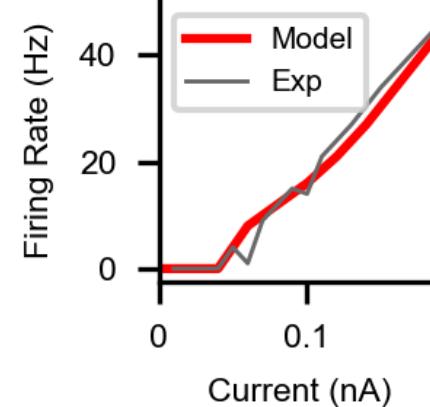
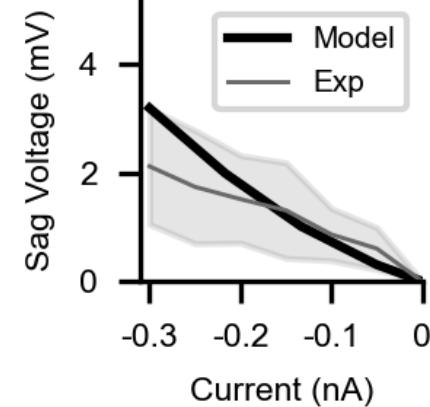
Models of Neuronal Firing



Input-Output Properties



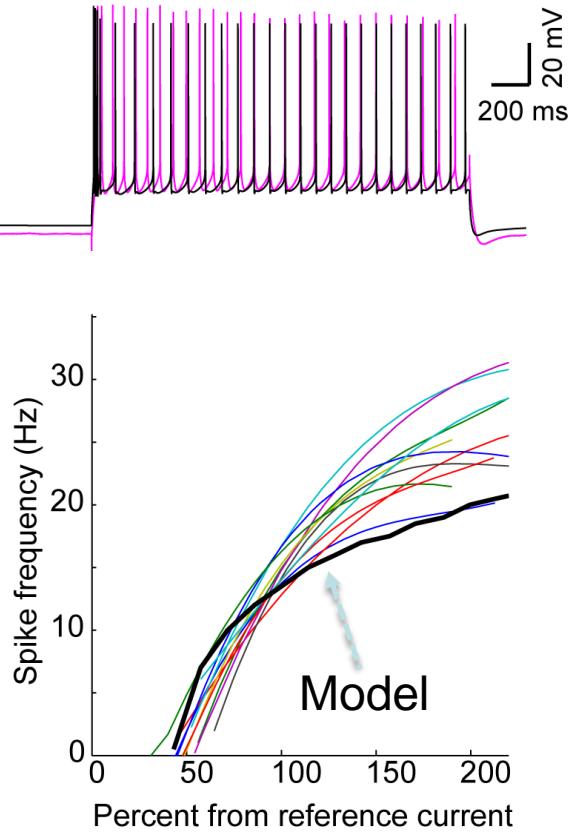
Dendritic Properties



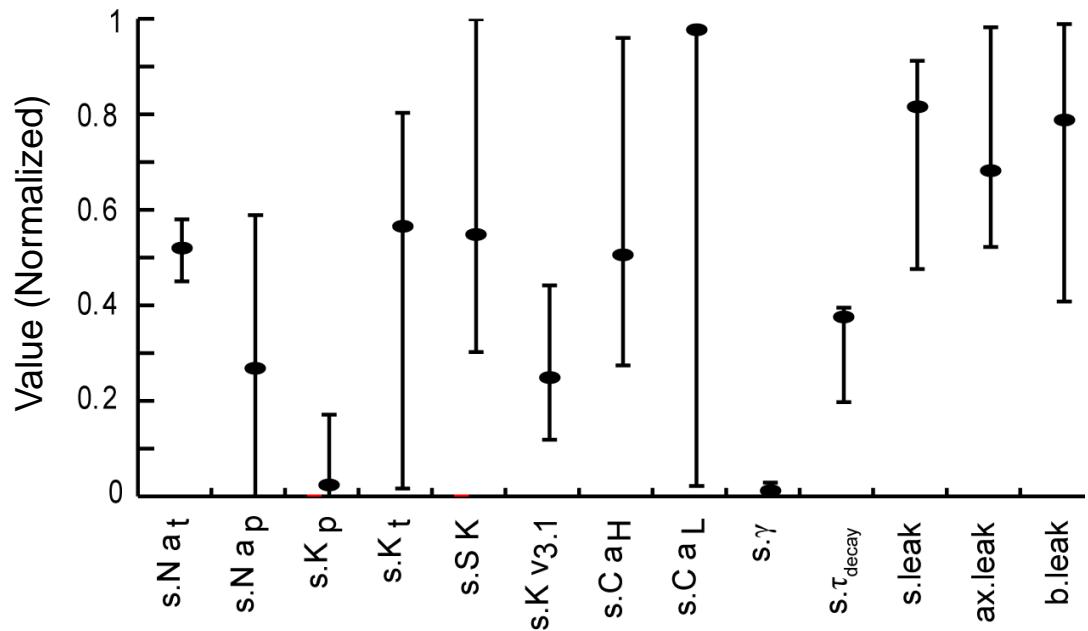
Biophysical Mechanisms

Experiment

Model

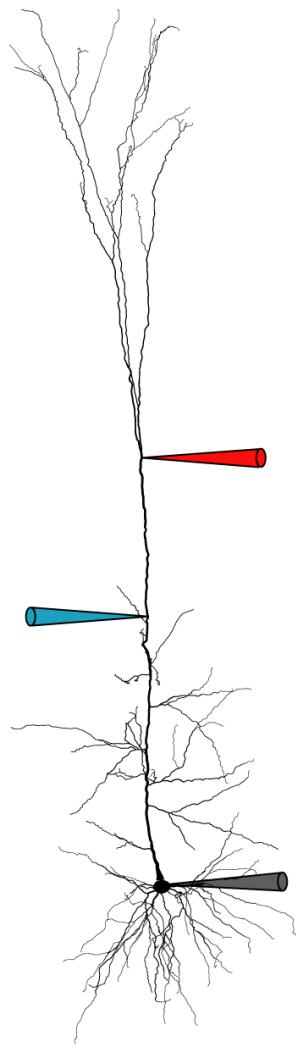


(Hay et al, 2011)

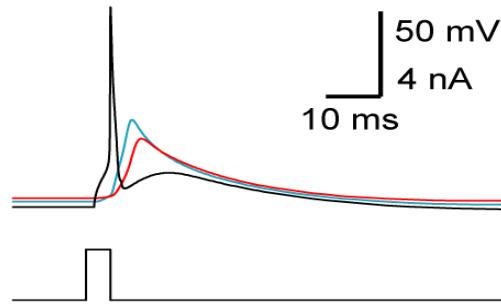


Parameter ranges from ~150
models for somatic firing

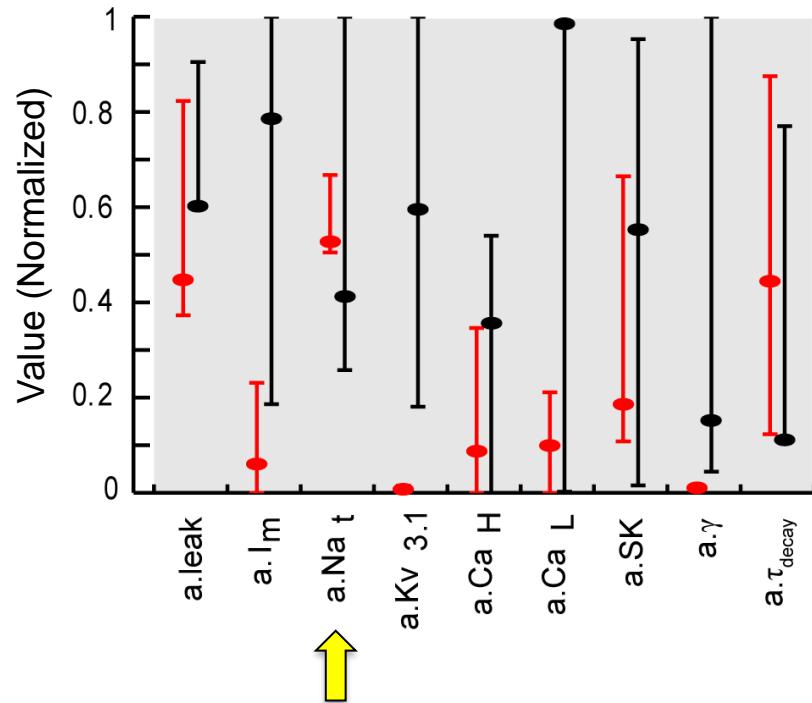
Biophysical Mechanisms



Backpropagating spikes

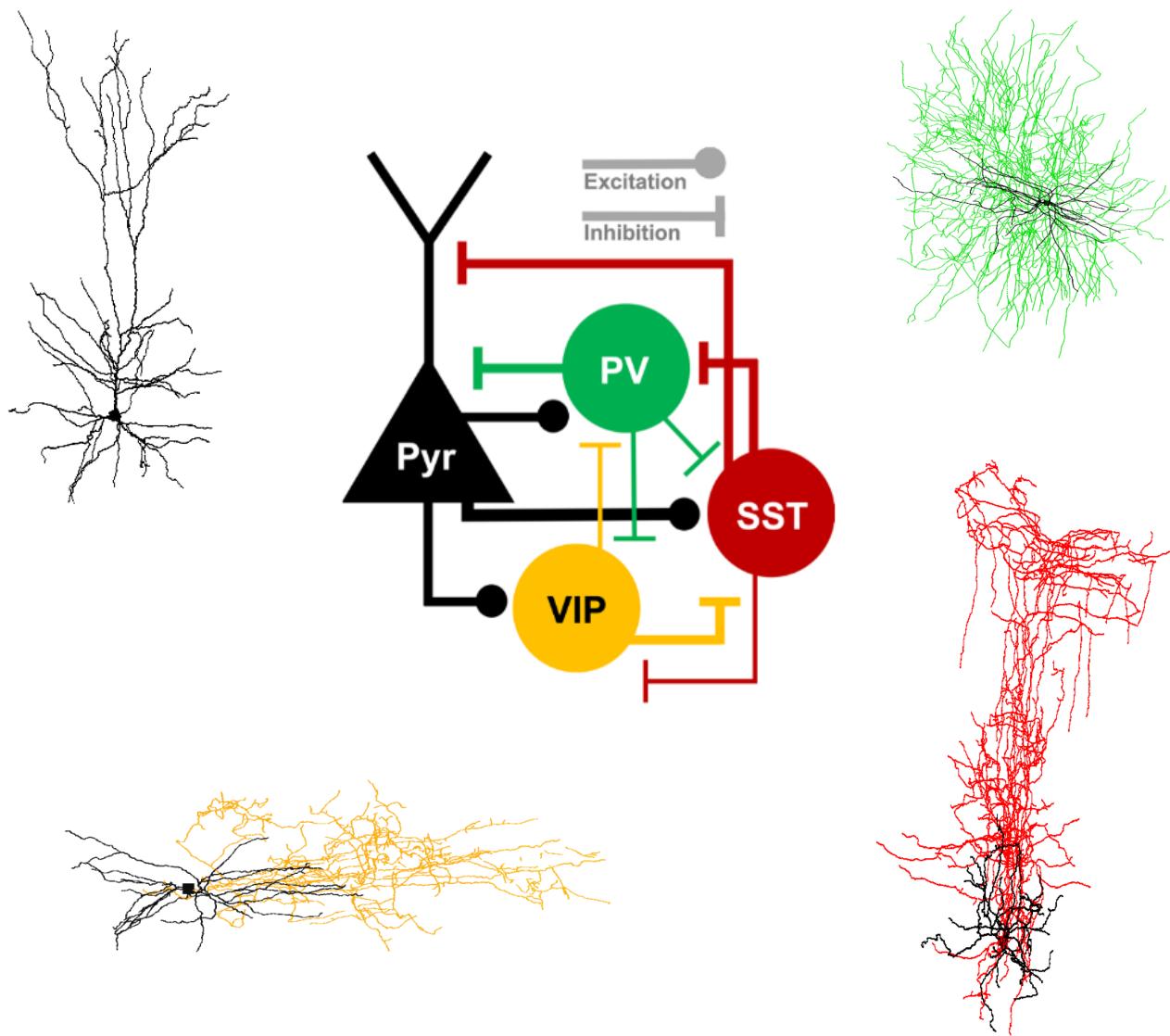


~150 models for somatic spiking
vs.
~900 models for dendritic spiking

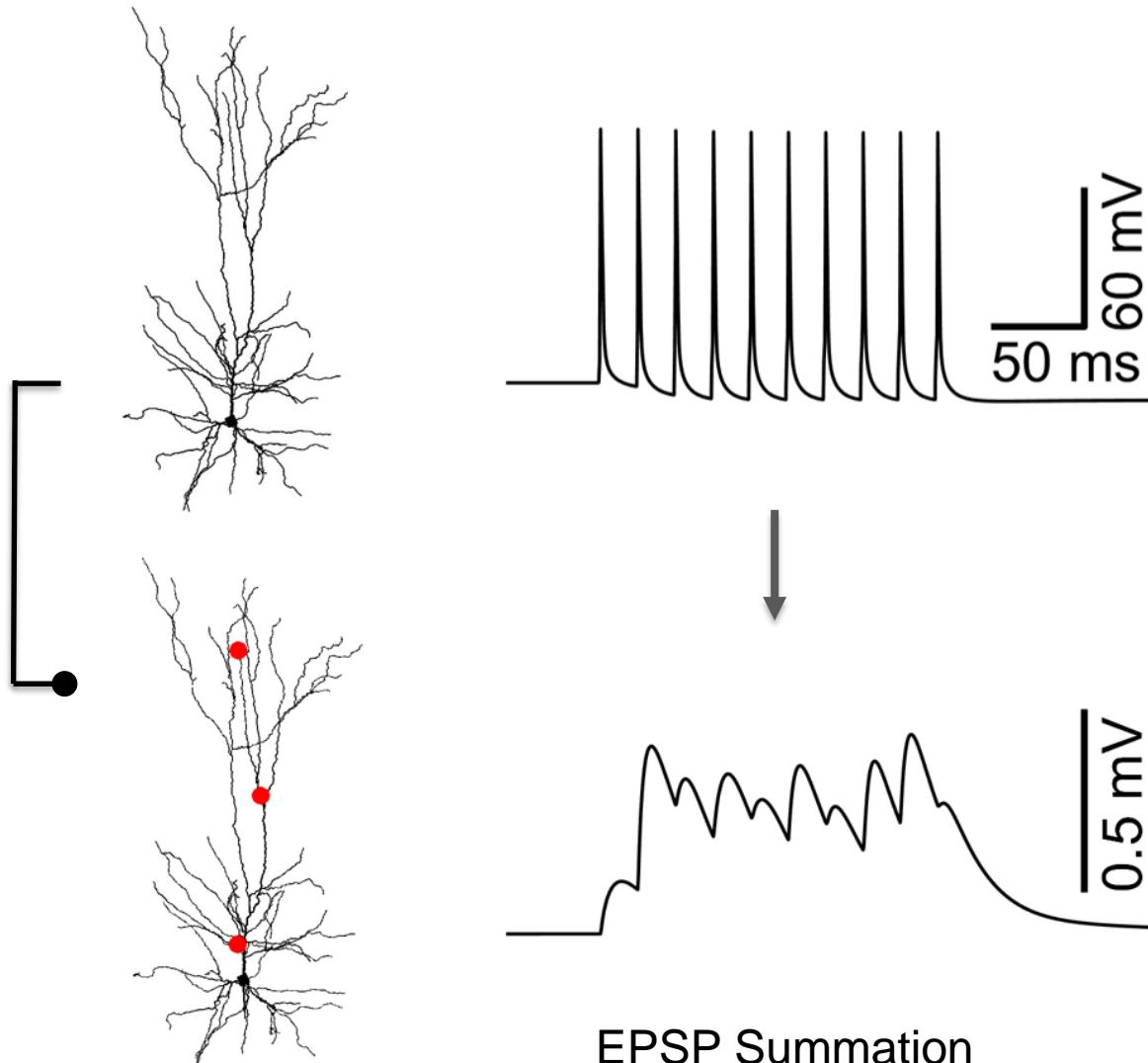


Dendritic Na^+ conductance in
backpropagating spikes

Microcircuit Connectivity

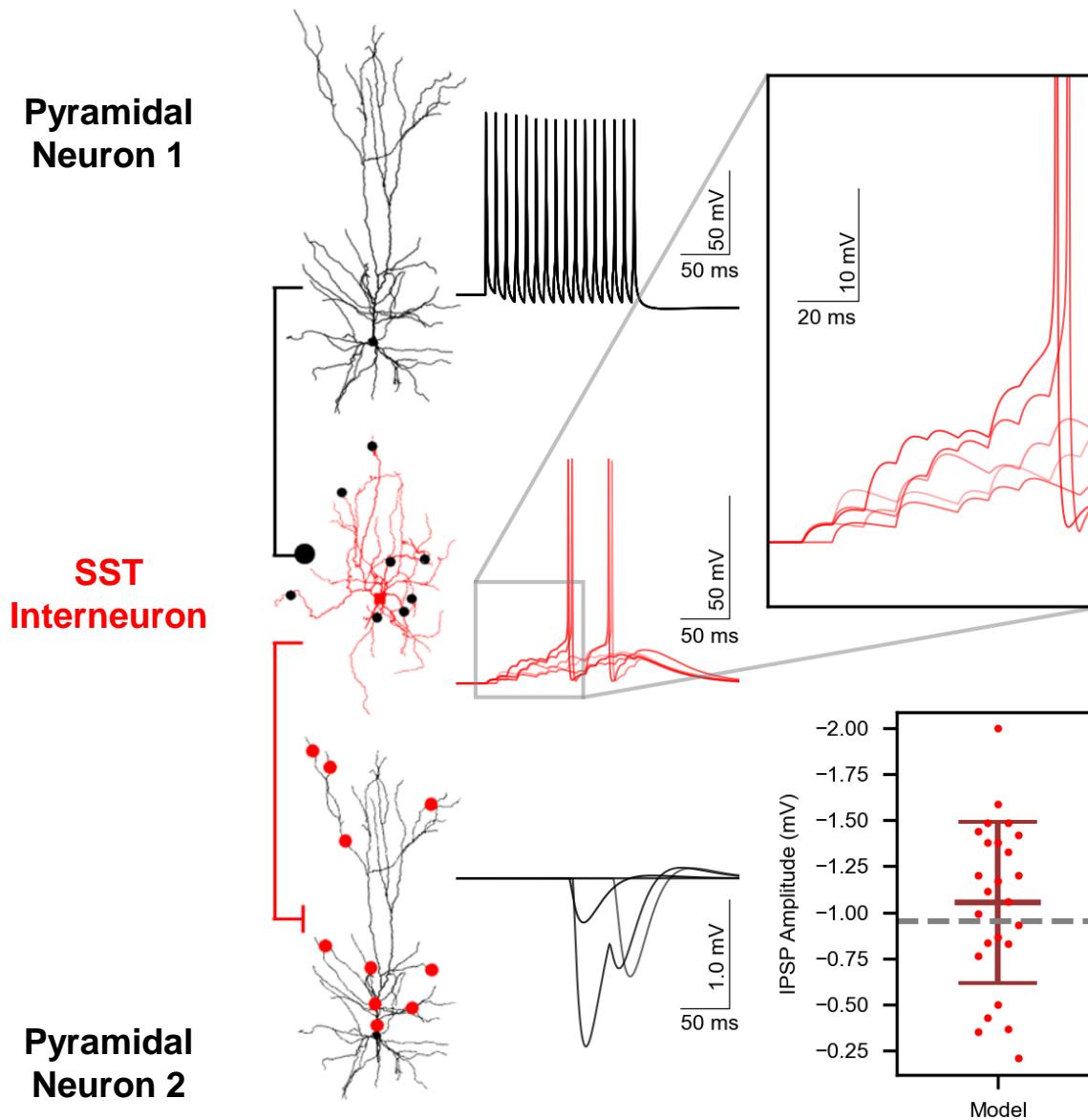


Excitatory Connections



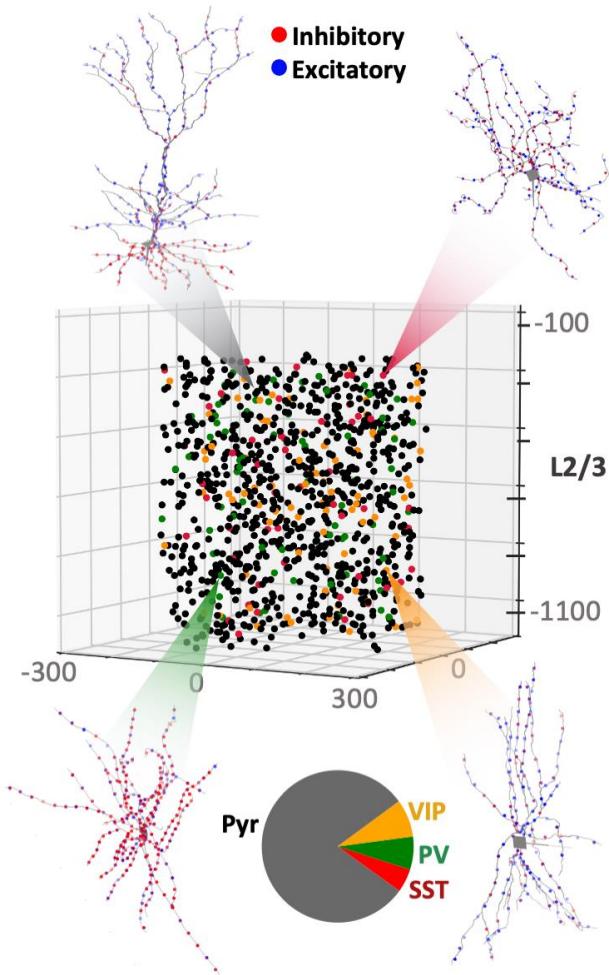
(Yao et al, 2021)

Lateral Inhibition



Microcircuit Models – cell proportions

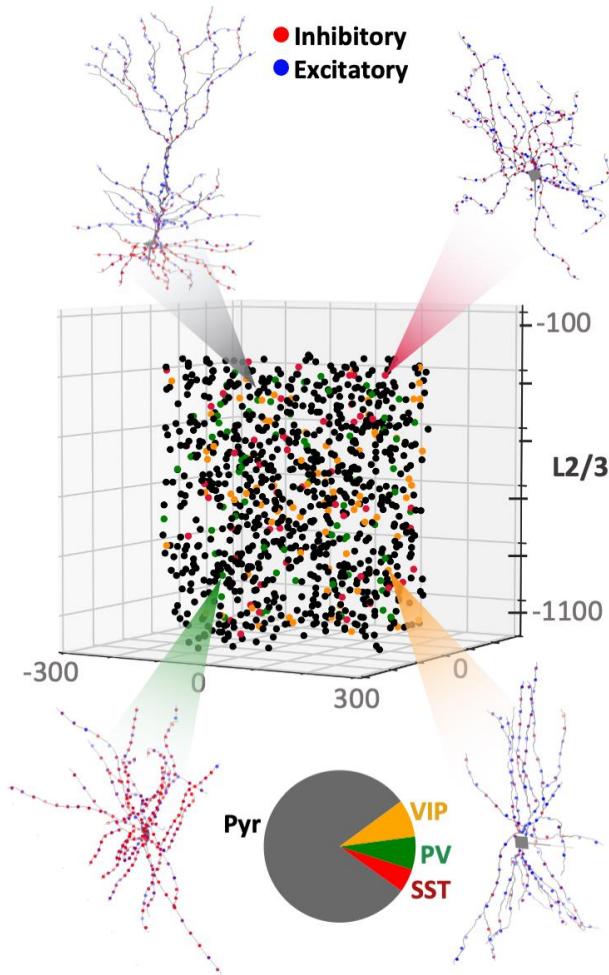
Cortical Layer 2/3 Microcircuit Models



- 20% interneurons in somatosensory microcircuits
- 30% interneurons in prefrontal microcircuits
- Slightly higher % in human vs. mice

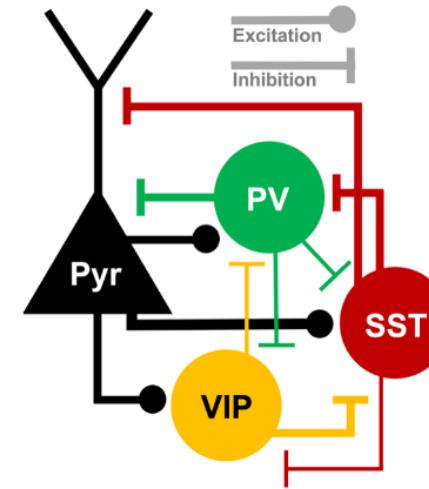
Microcircuit Models – connectivity

Cortical Layer 2/3 Microcircuit Models



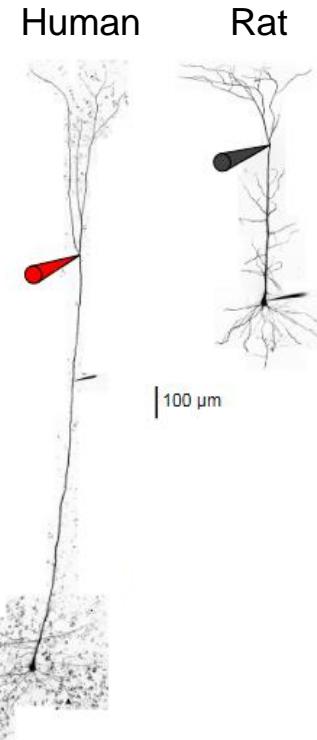
(Yao et al, 2021)

- Pyr→Pyr, $p = 0.15$ (literature)
- Type-specific probabilities
(Allen Brain, Blue Brain)

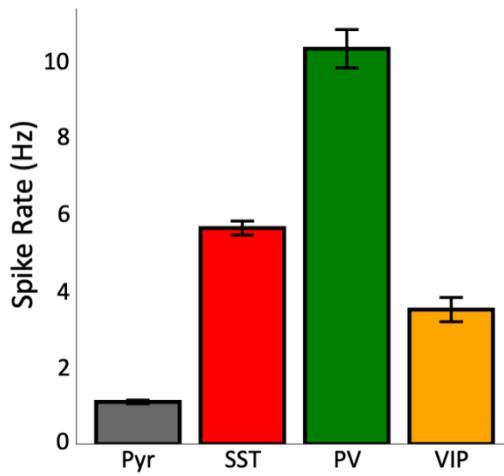
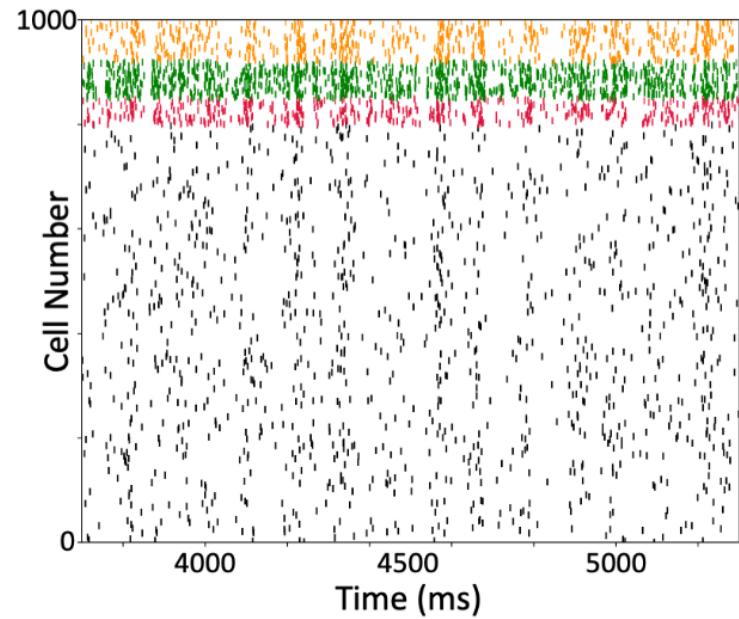
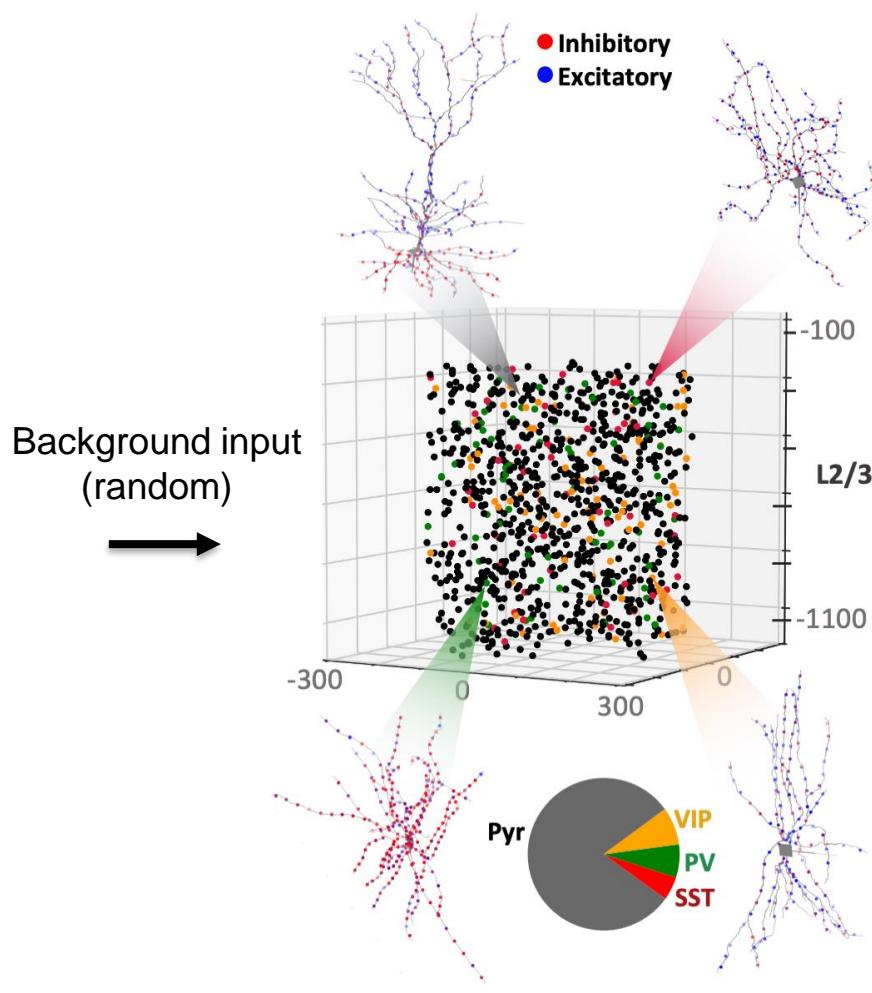


Human vs. Rodent Cortical Microcircuits

- Larger neurons
 - altered input integration
- Stronger inhibitory synapses
- Larger layer dimensions
 - altered EEG contributions?
- Model prediction power for human disorders



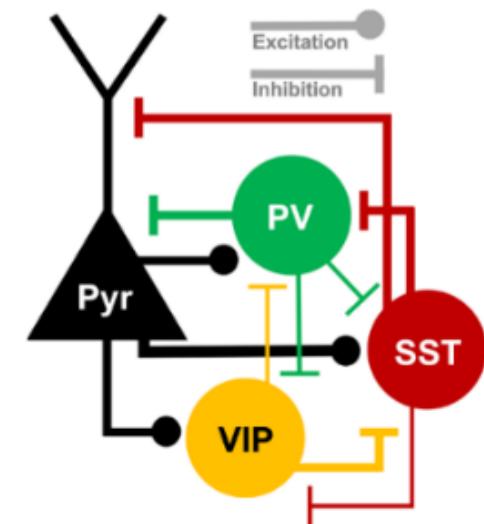
Simulating Baseline Microcircuit Activity



Model reproduces baseline
rates across neuron types

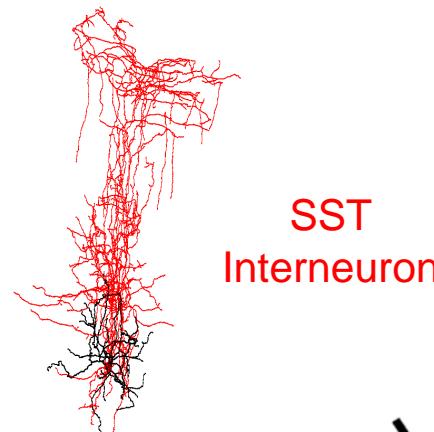
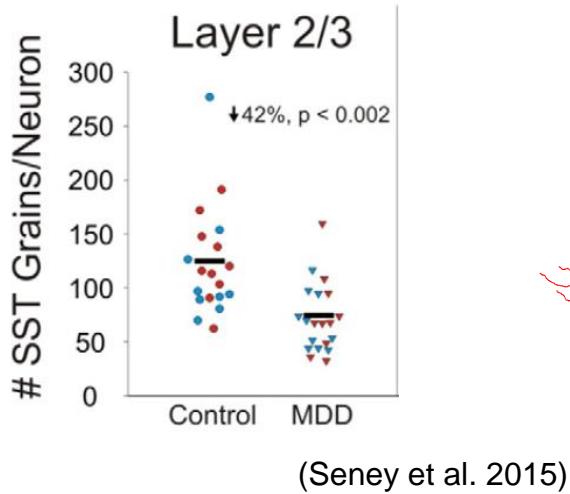
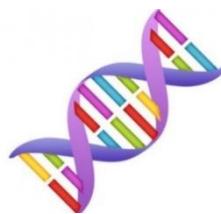
Altered Inhibition in Depression

- MDD – major depressive disorder (depression)
- Leading cause of disability worldwide
- 66% of patients resistant to SSRI treatment
- Altered inhibition associated with treatment-resistant depression

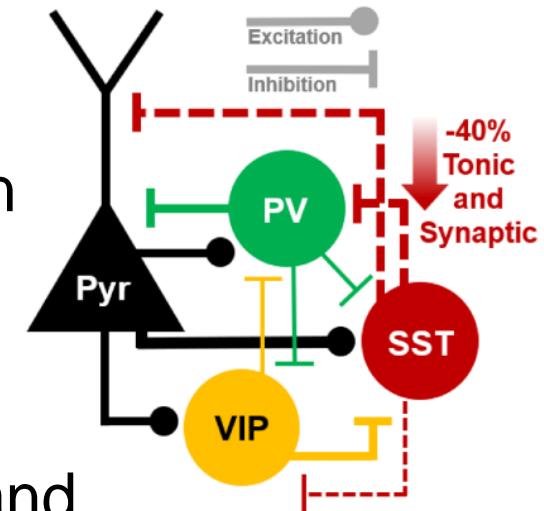


Reduced SST Inhibition in Depression

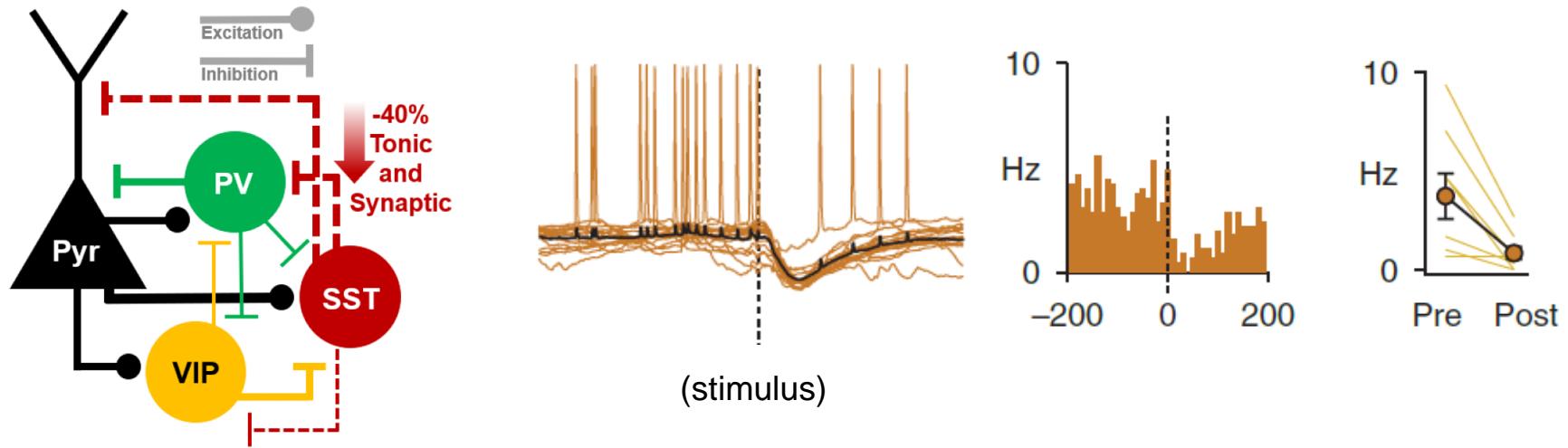
SST Expression in SST⁺ Interneurons



- Postmortem tissue, healthy vs. depression
- ~40% reduction across layers
- Supported by pharmacological (prevot 2019) and optogenetic (Fee 2021) studies in rodent models



SST - Baseline vs Response

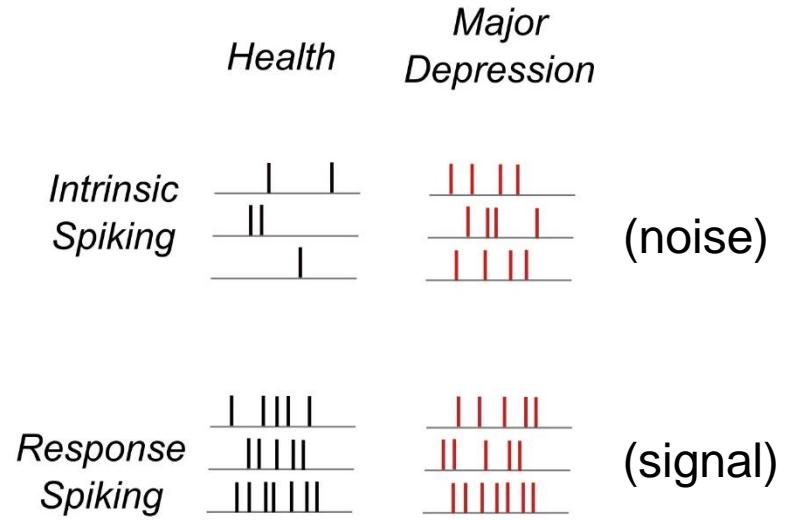
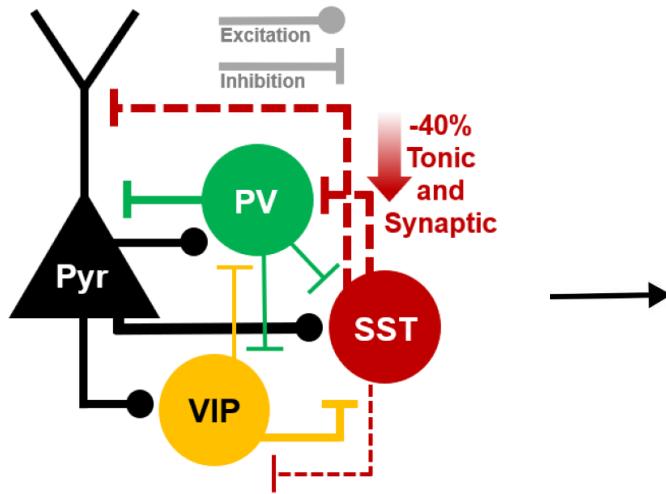


Gentet et al. 2012

- SST interneurons mediate baseline inhibition
- Silent during early response

Reduced SNR in depression?

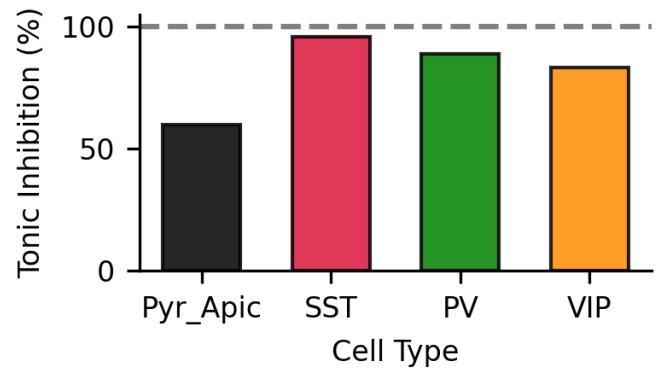
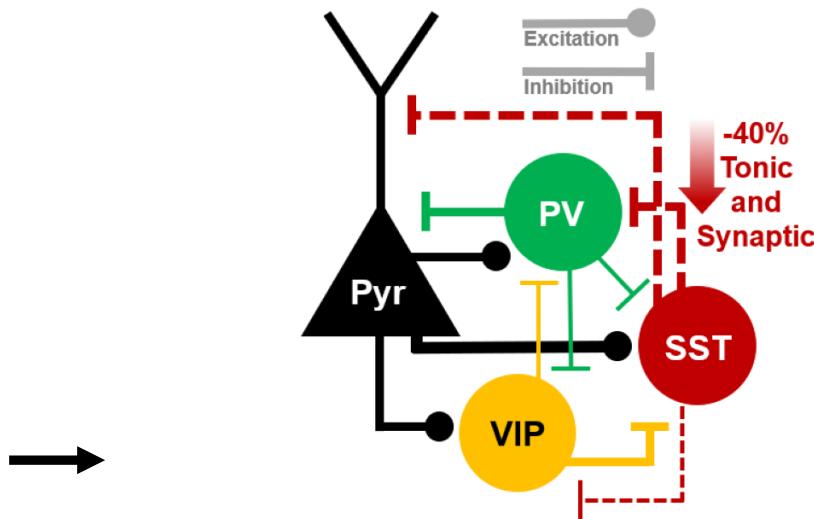
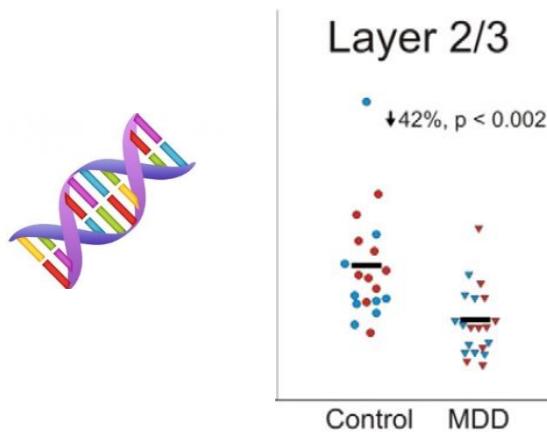
Cortical Processing



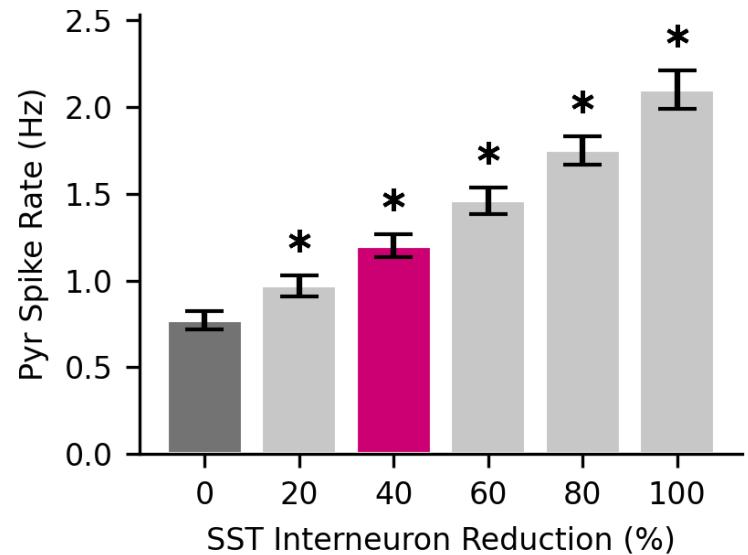
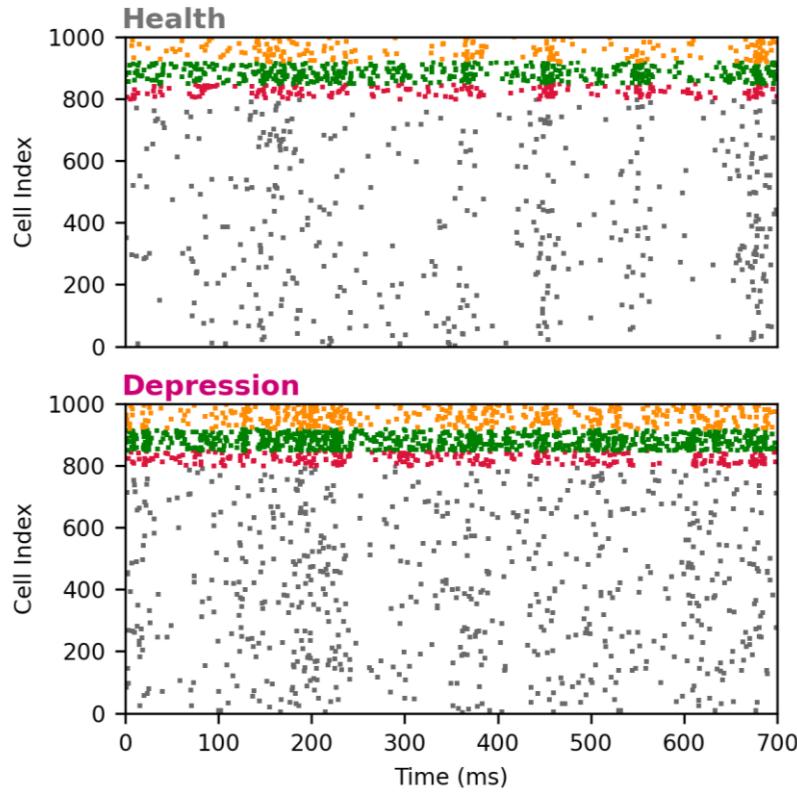
- Increased baseline spiking (noise)?
- Reduced signal-to-noise ratio, detection quality?
- May play a role in rumination

Depression Microcircuit Models

SST expression data

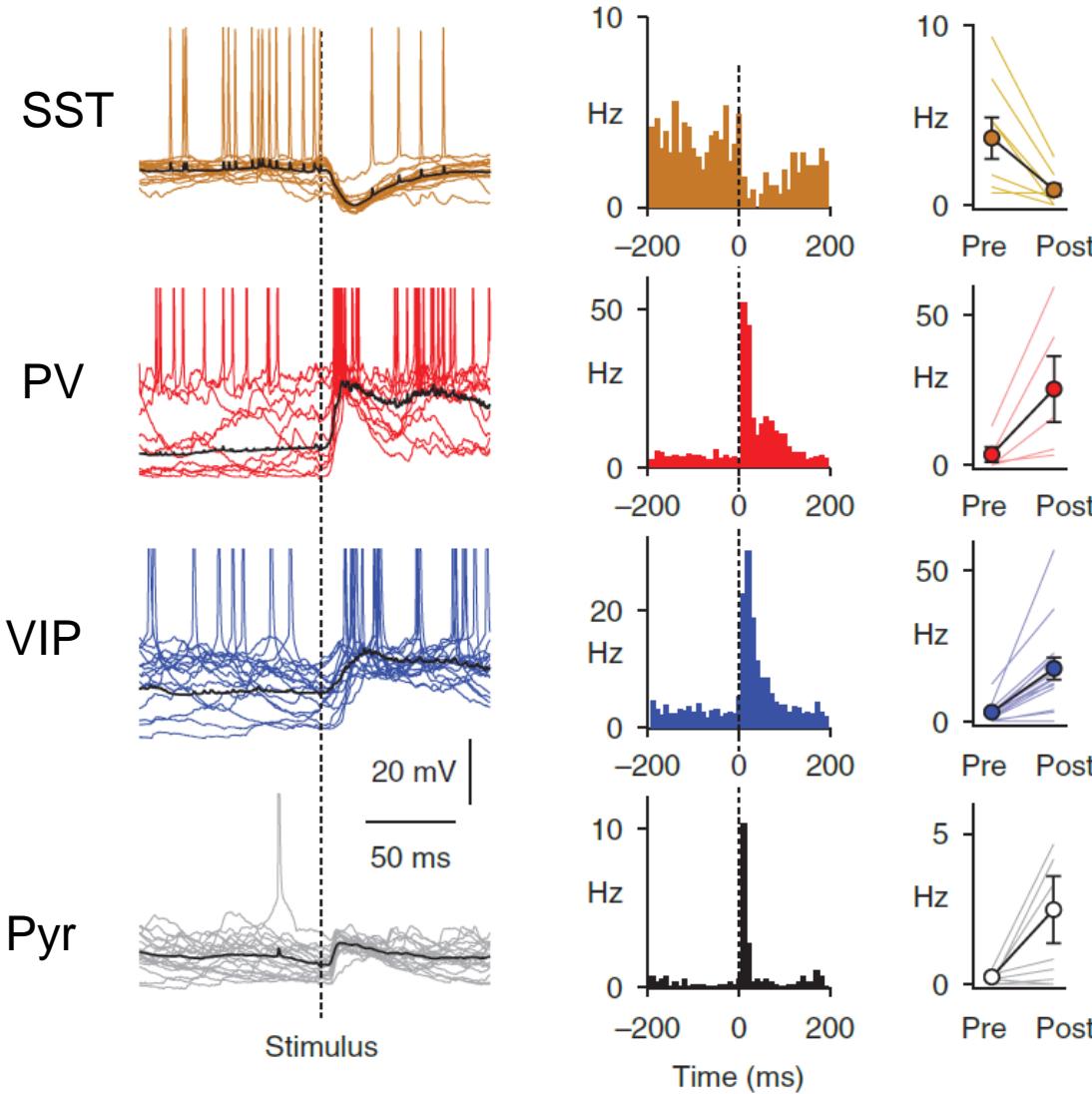


Increased Baseline Activity in Depression Microcircuits



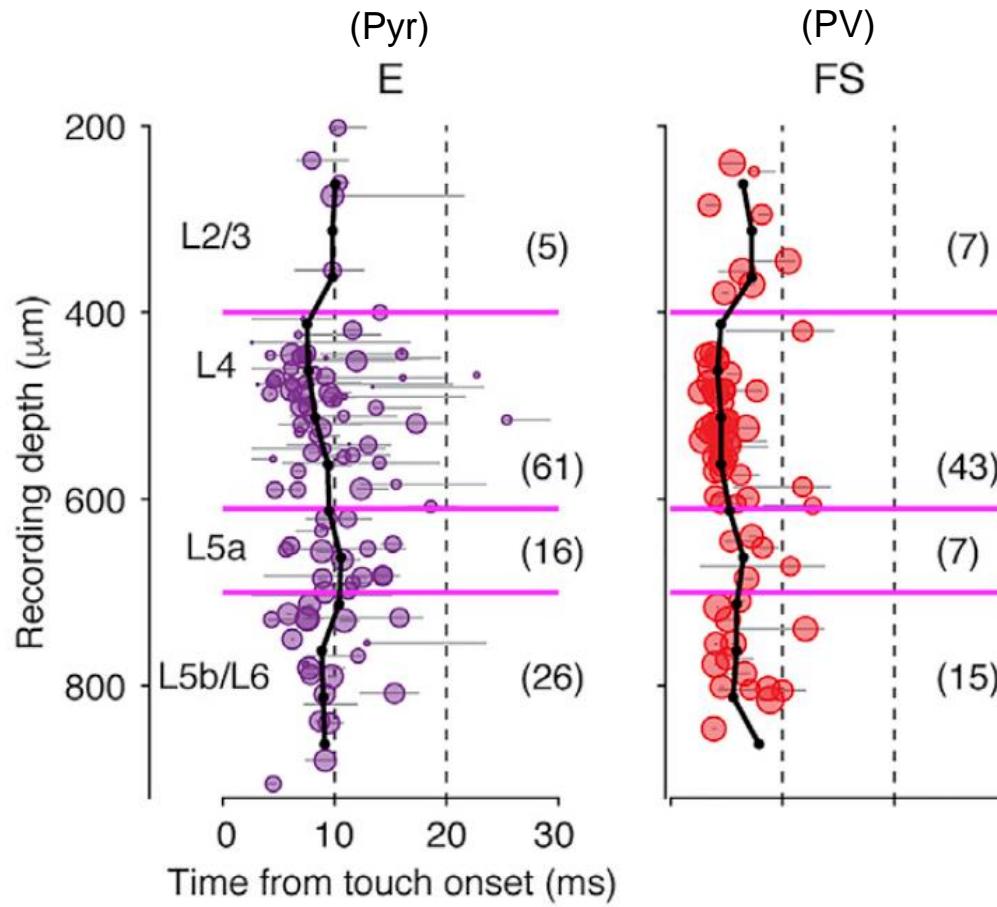
~50% increased
firing in depression

Baseline vs Response Activity



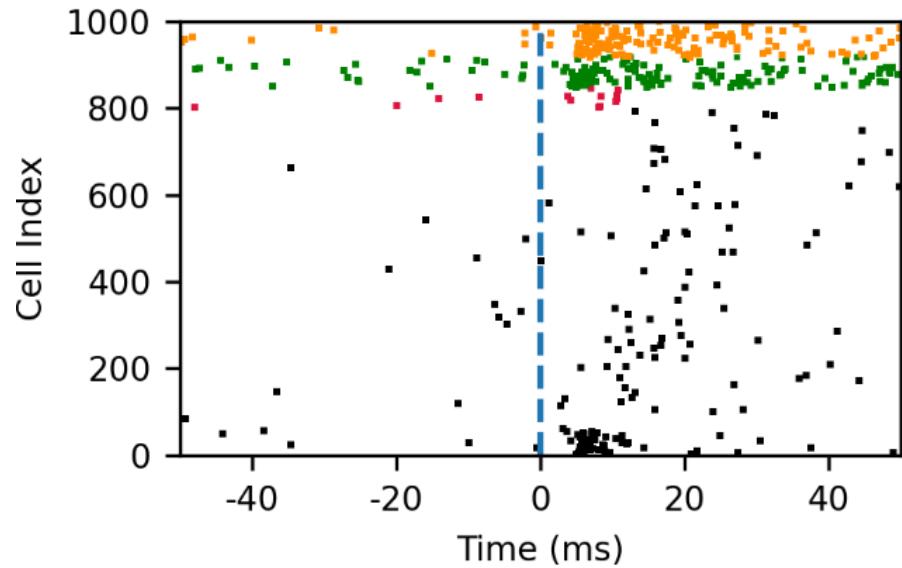
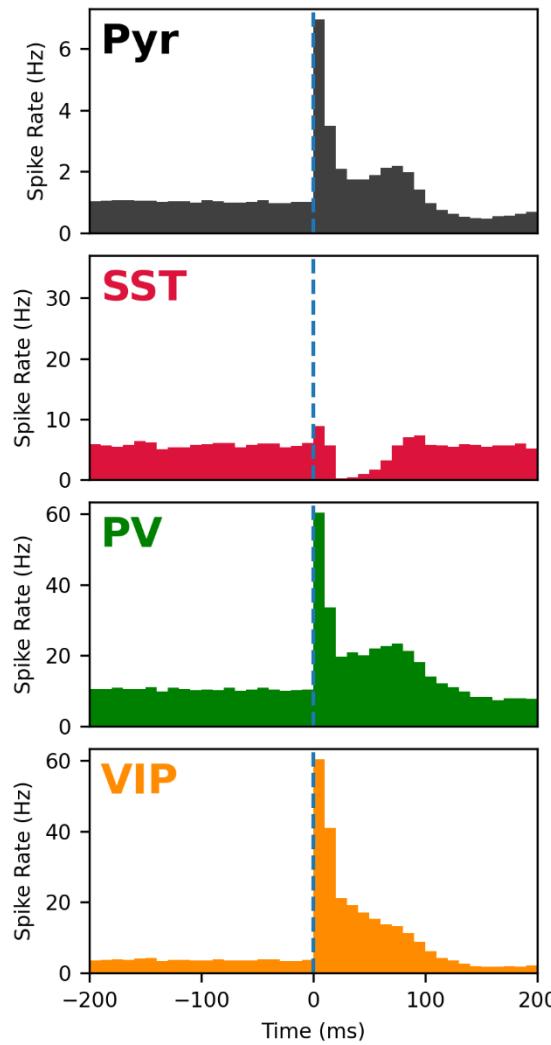
Gentet et al. 2012

Response Latency

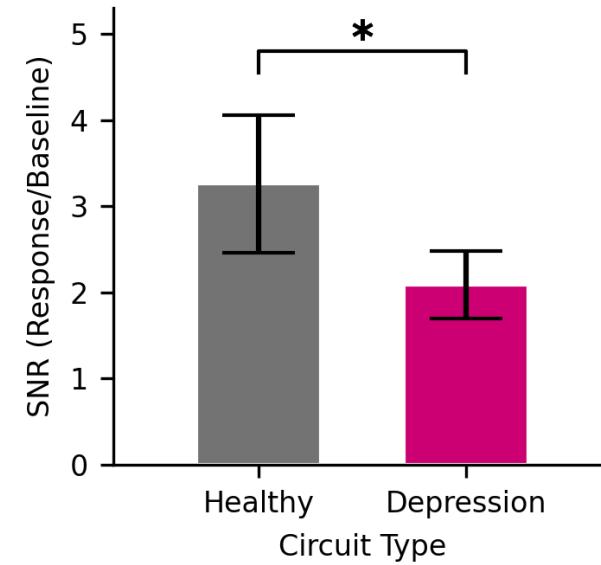
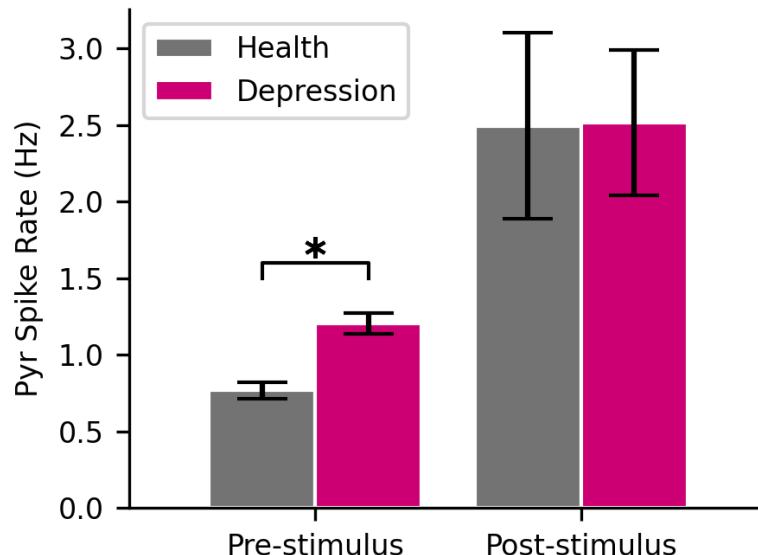


Yu et al. 2019

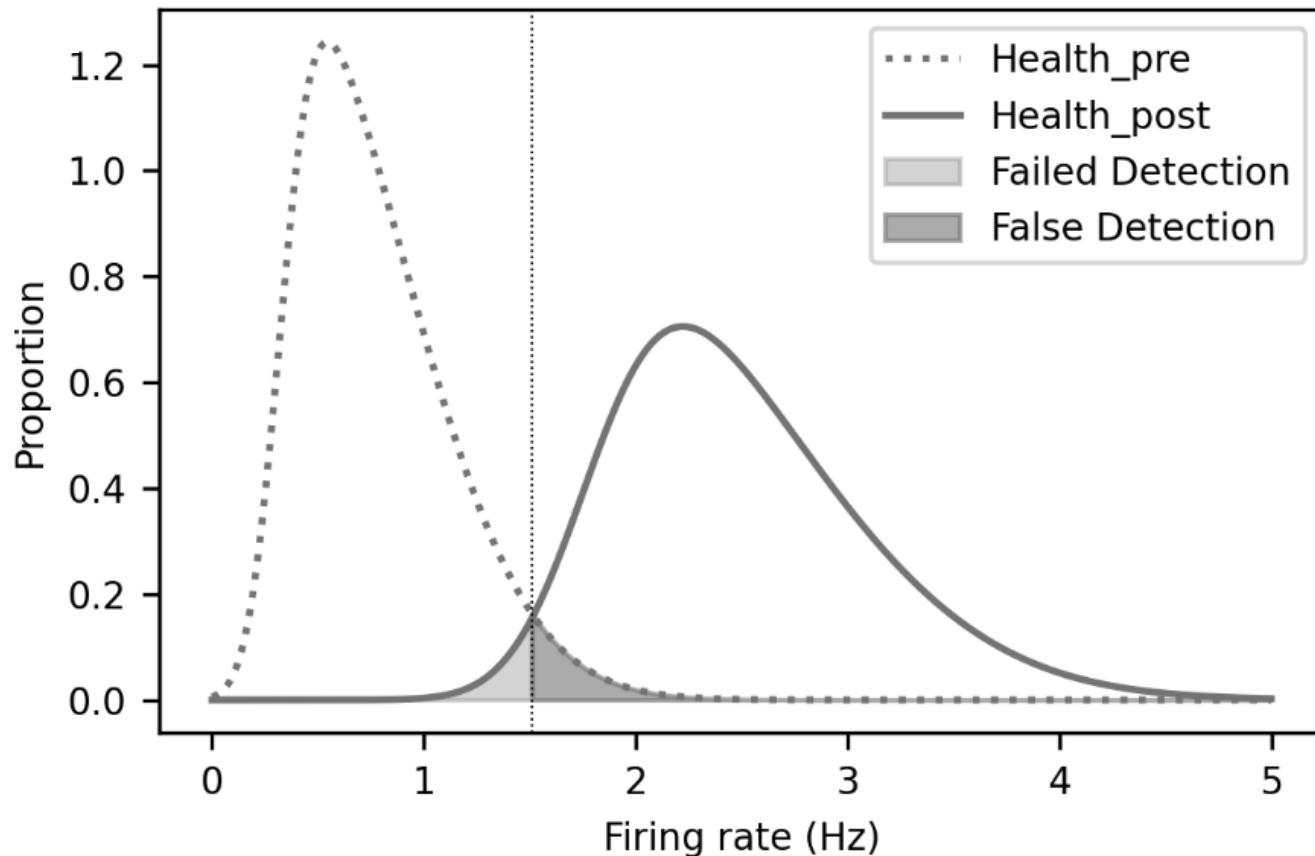
Simulating Microcircuit Response



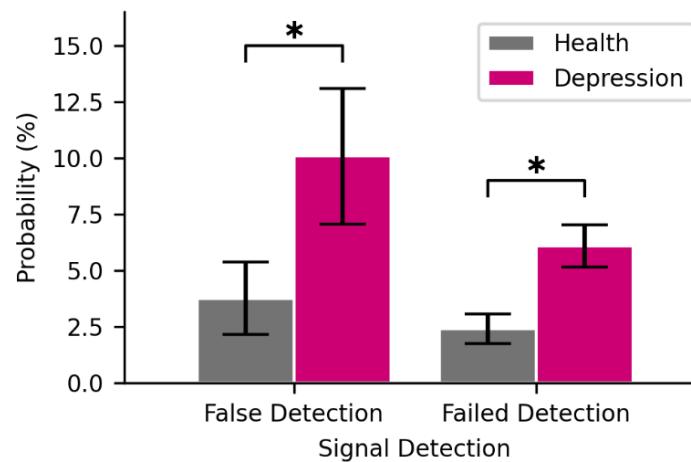
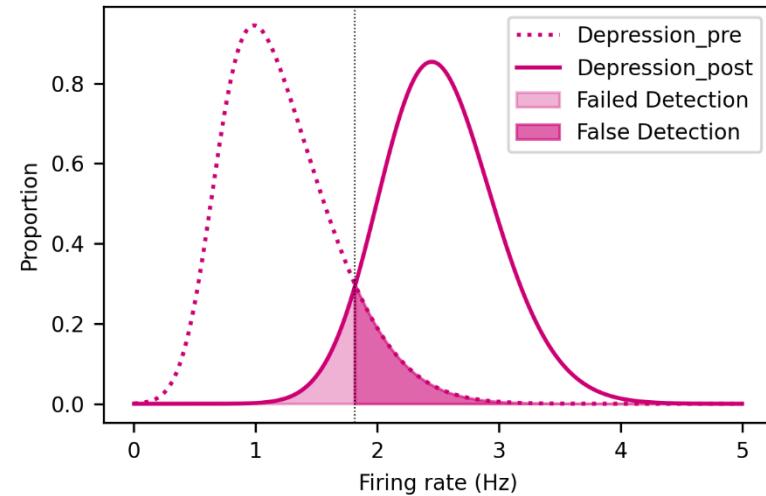
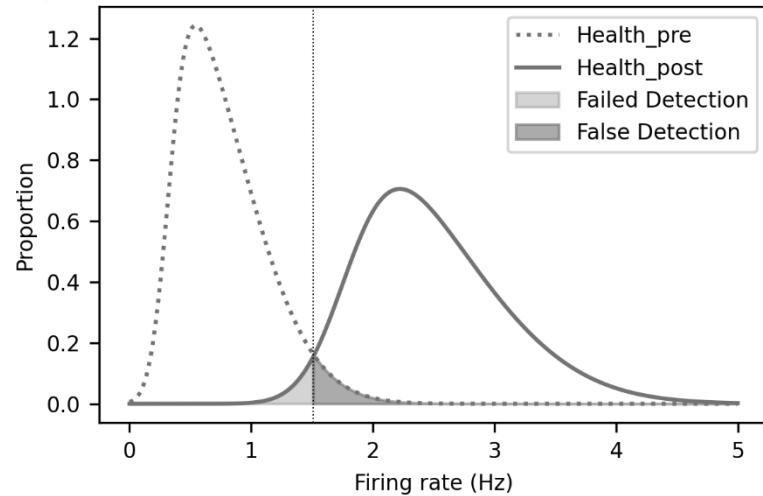
Reduced Cortical SNR in Depression



Failed/False Stimulus Detection



Failed/False Detection in Depression



Measurable Deficits

CPT parameters (mean \pm S.D.) of controls and unmedicated depressed patients and differences in CPT performance between both groups

	Controls ($n = 73$)	Depressed patients ($n = 43$)	Delta	P-value
Reaction time (ms)	405.7 ± 50.3	448.1 ± 48.2	-42.4	< 0.05 ^a
Omission errors (n)	0.19 ± 0.54	7.26 ± 10.98	-7.07	< 0.001 ^b
Commission errors (n)	1.00 ± 1.39	2.35 ± 2.90	-1.35	< 0.05 ^b

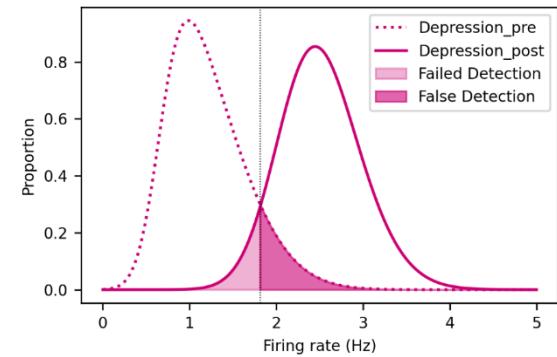
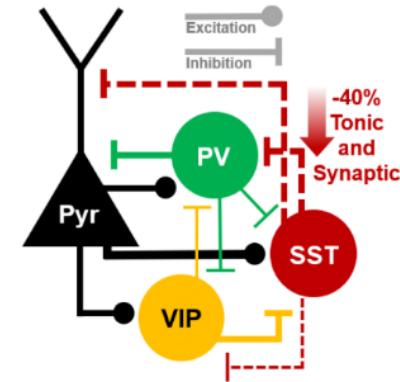
Similar deficits seen in continuous performance test (CPT) in depression (visual attention)

(Koetsier et al, 2002)

Modeling Brain Microcircuits

Applications in Mental Health

- Establish target mechanisms for new treatments
- Improve patient stratification



Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics

Summer School 2021

Day 4 – Session 2

Simulating EEG from brain microcircuits in mental health

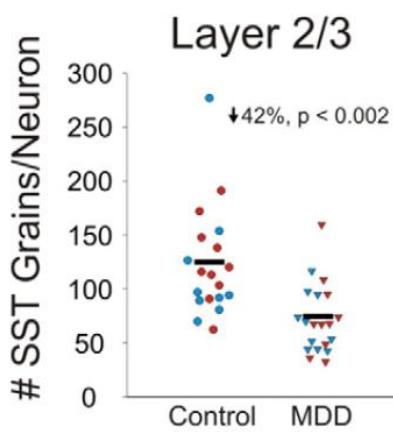
Etyay Hay

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Neuroinformatics

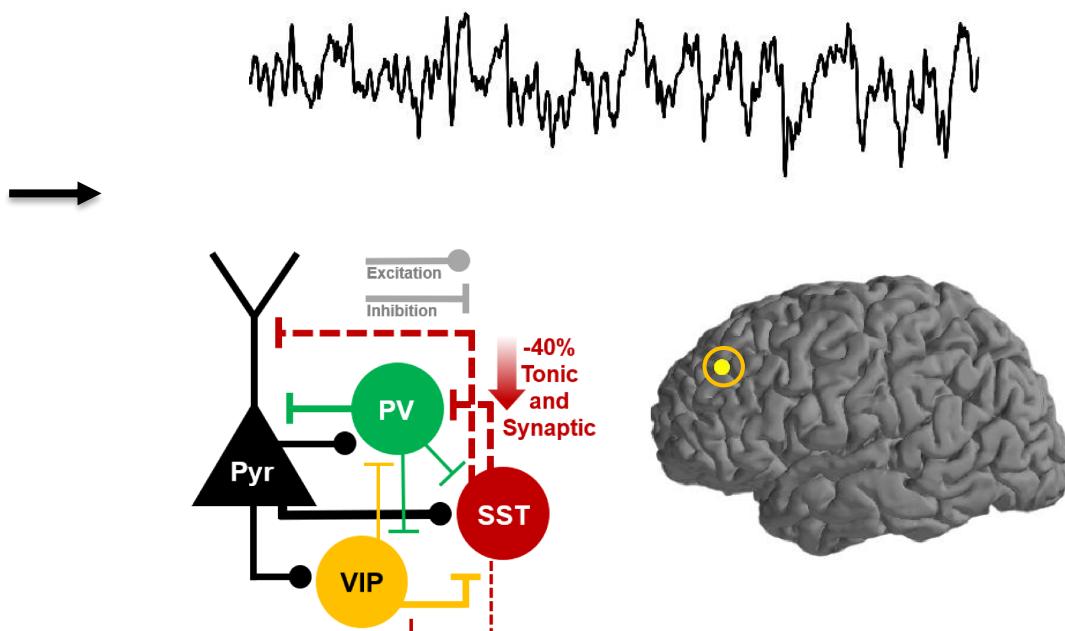


From Cellular Mechanisms to Brain Microcircuit Signals

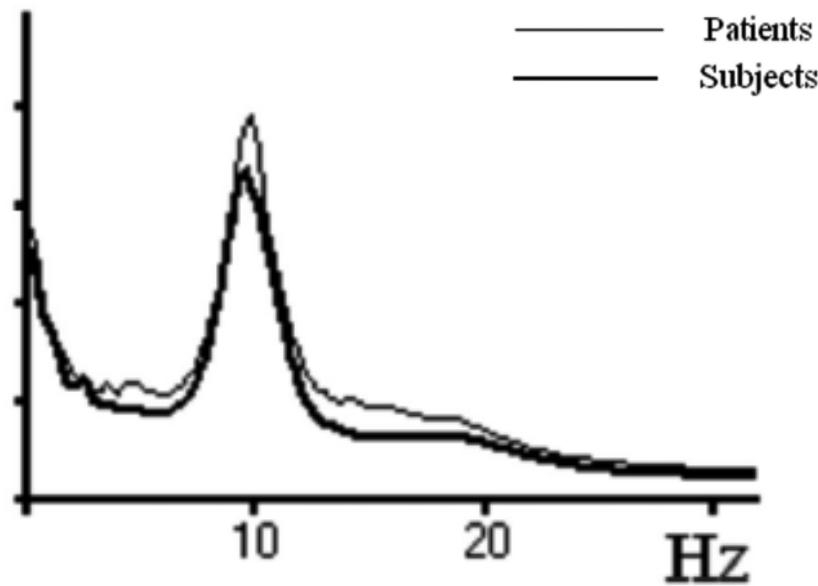
Altered Mechanisms in Depression



EEG Biomarkers?

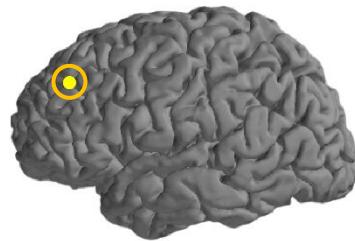


EEG Biomarkers in Depression



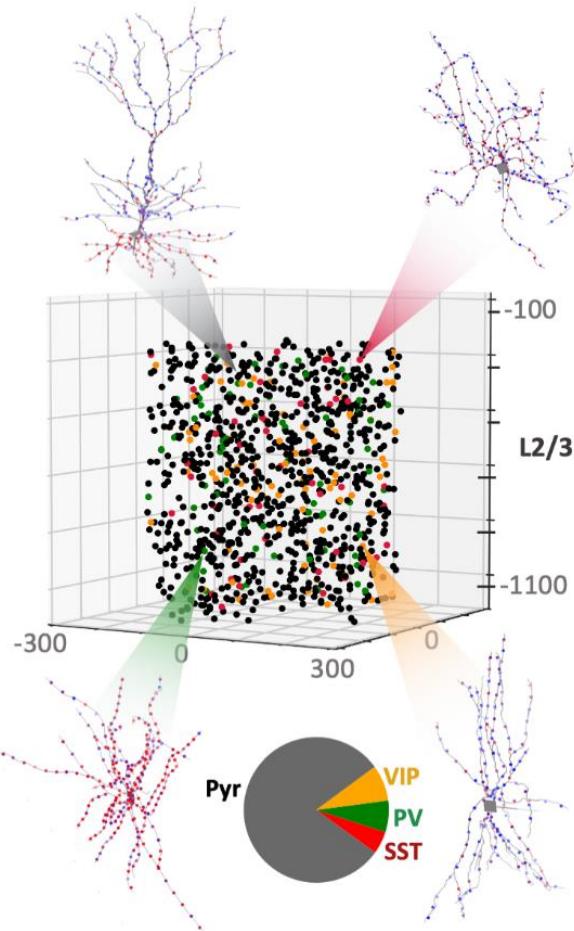
- Increased spectral power in early Depression
- EEG - cost-effective, temporal resolution

Simulating EEG Signals

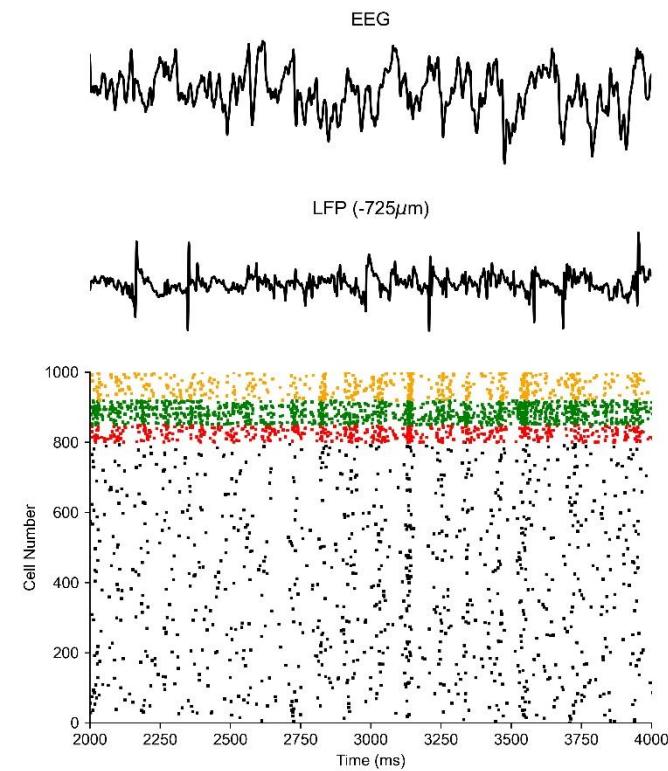


Simulated in LFPy
and NEURON

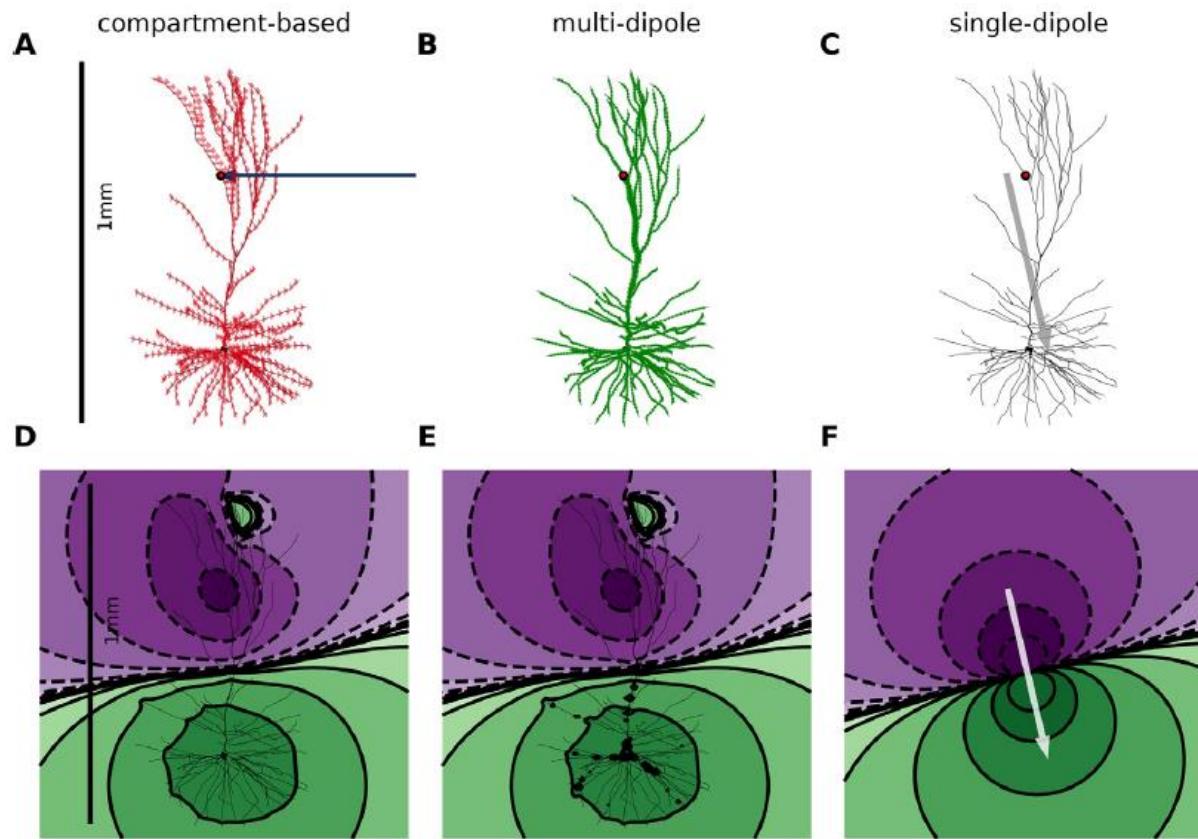
3D Microcircuit Model



Simulated EEG and LFP



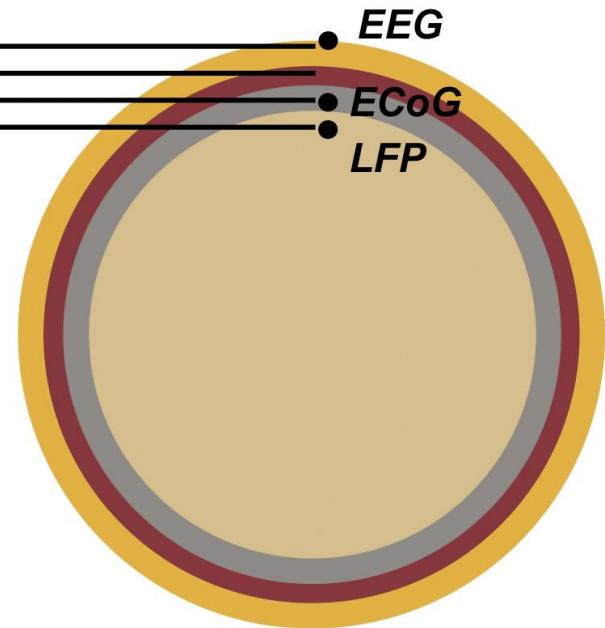
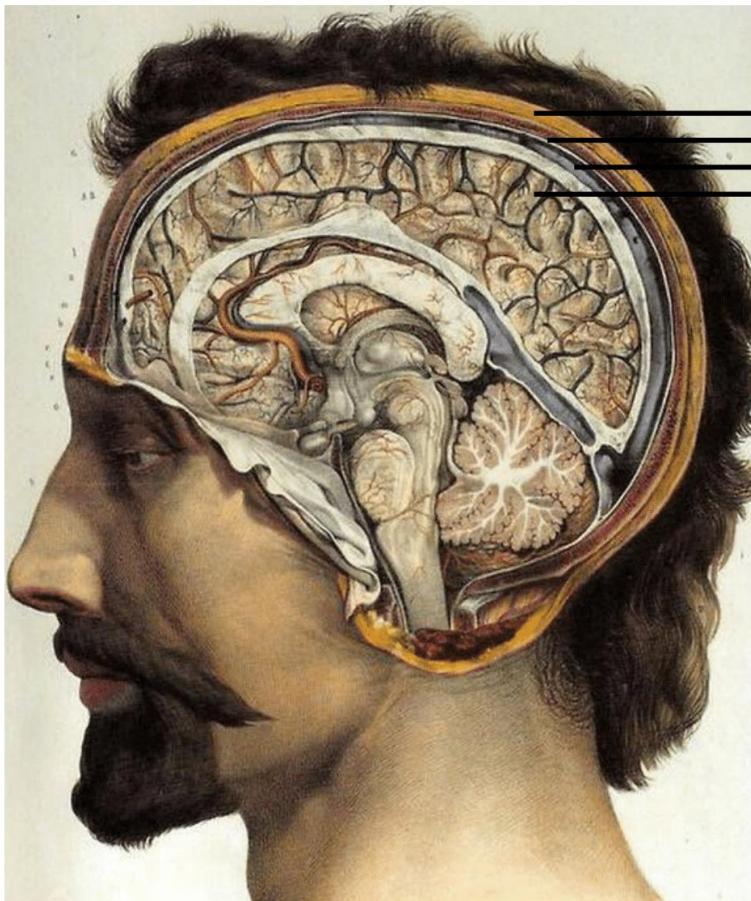
EEG Calculation



(Naess et al, 2021)

- Multi-compartmental EEG from neuron ~ single dipole
- LFPy tool – forward calculation

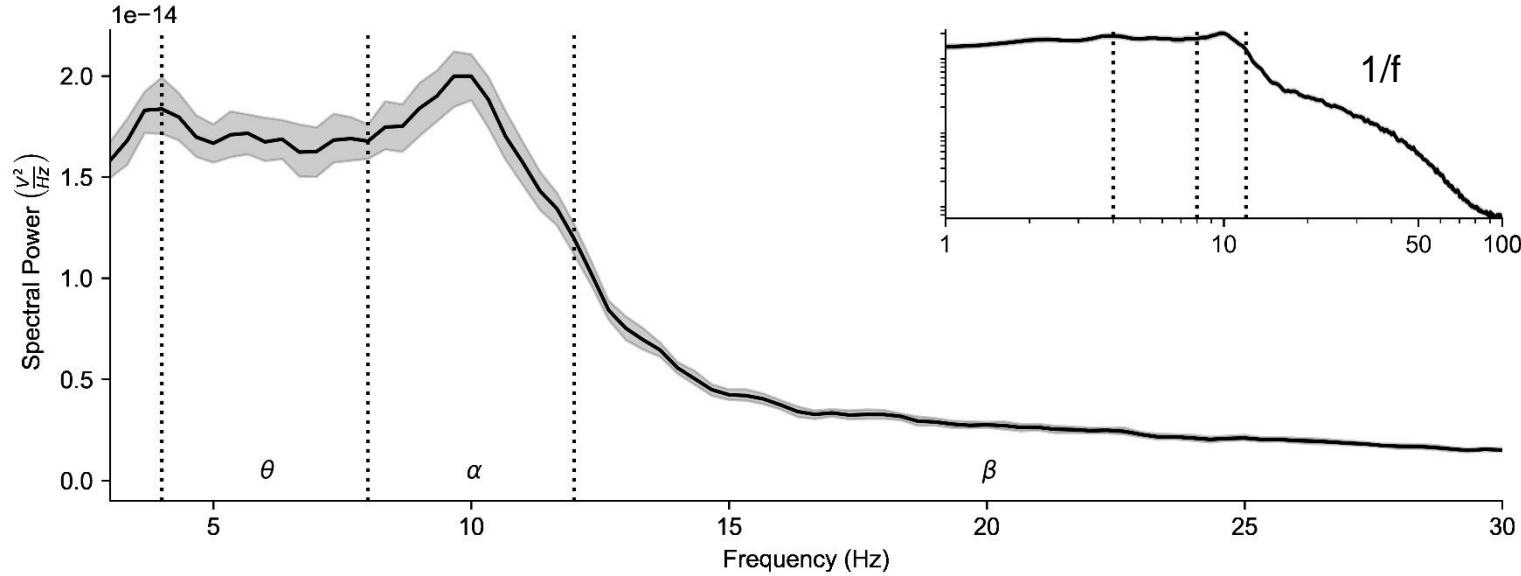
Four Sphere Head Model



Brain (Circuit)
CSF
Skull
Scalp

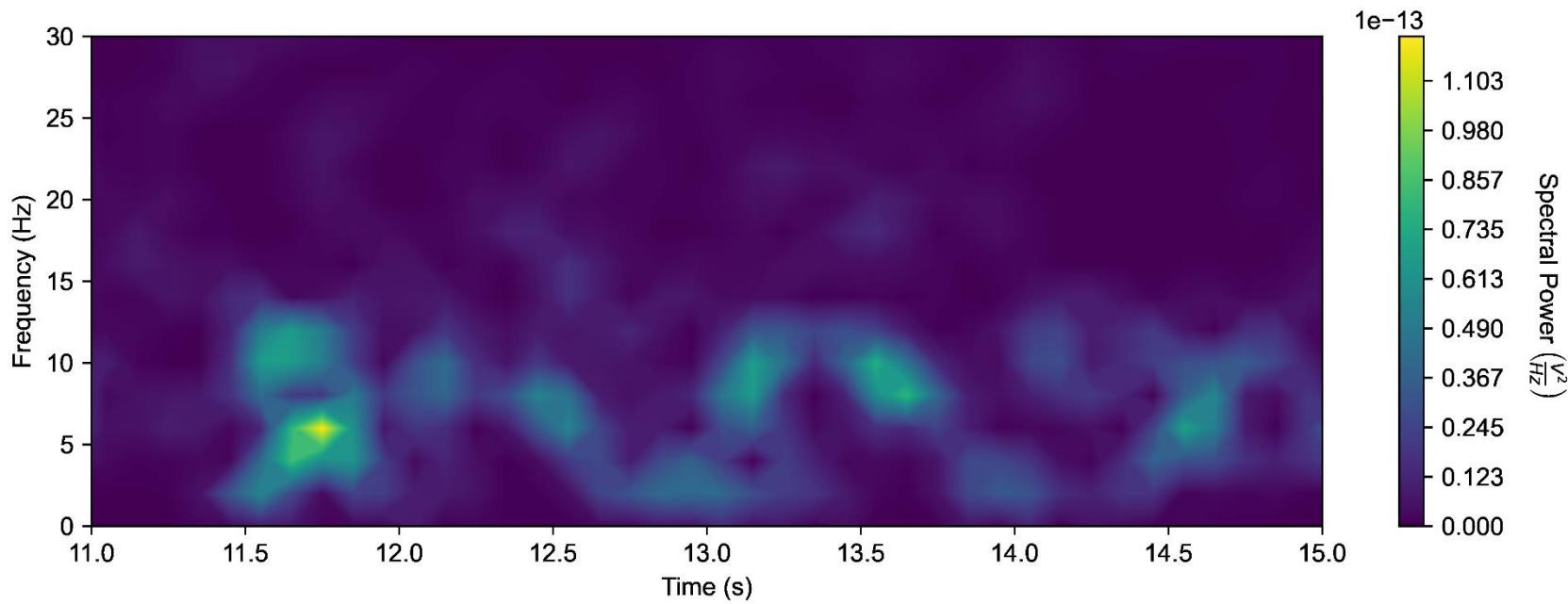
Resting EEG Properties

Microcircuit Model Validation



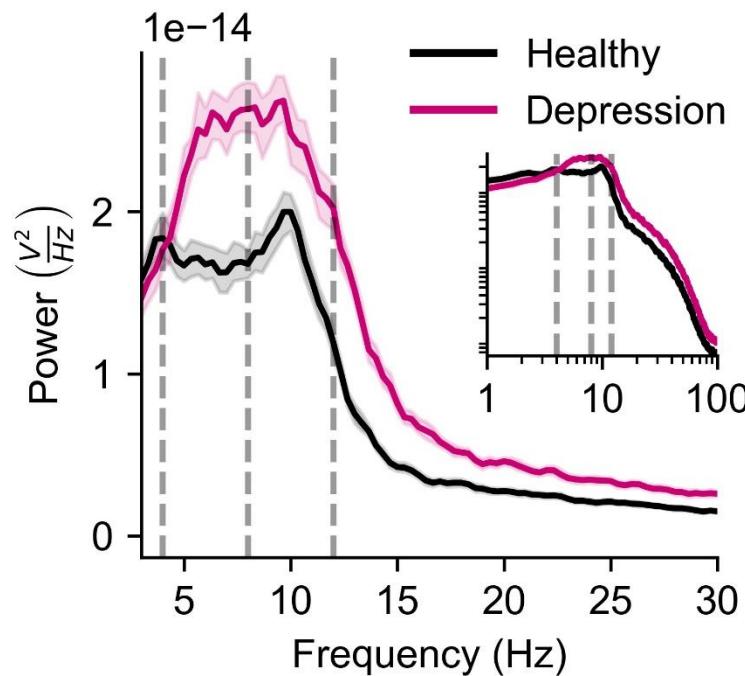
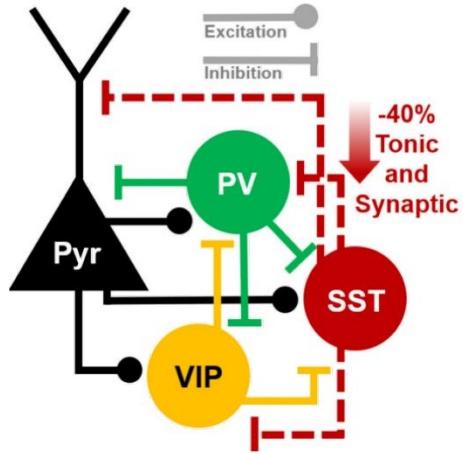
- Power spectral density (PSD)
- Theta and Alpha (4 – 12 Hz) peak power
- Log 1/f relationship

Microcircuit EEG Oscillations



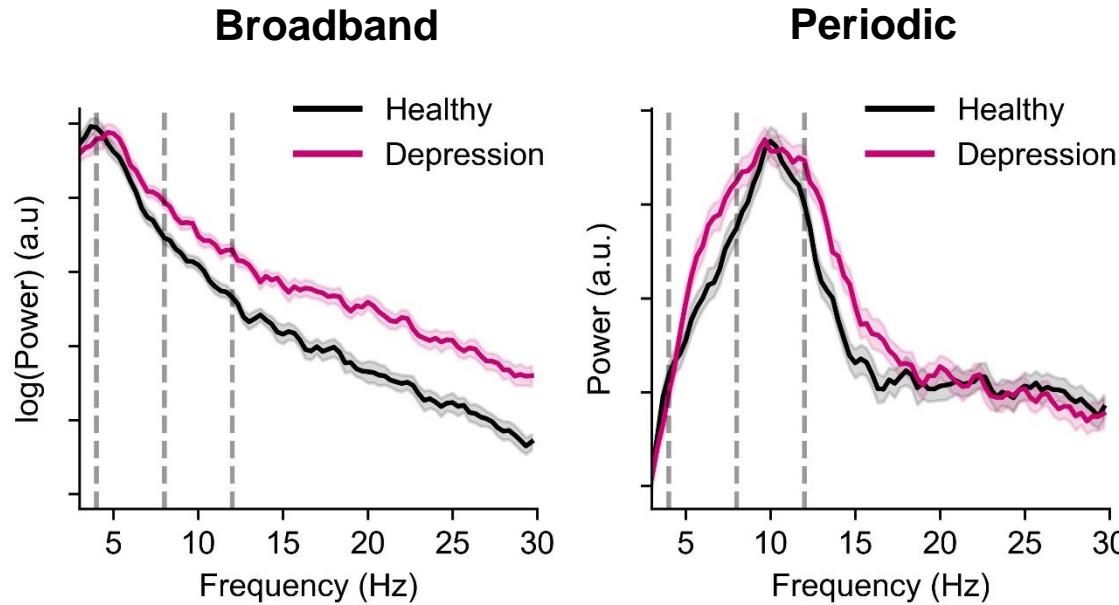
- Spectrogram – frequency power in time
- Theta and Alpha (4 – 12 Hz) events
- In line with human *in-vivo* resting EEG

Simulated EEG in Depression



- Increased spectral power in depression
- Periodic vs. Broadband?

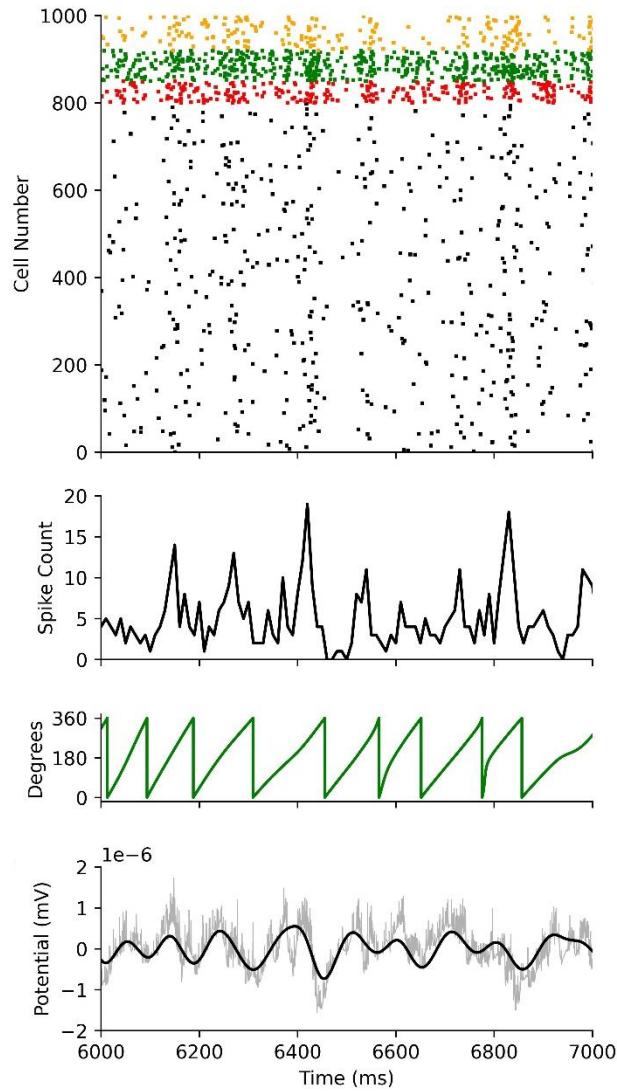
EEG Changes in Depression



- Increased broadband power
- Increased Theta (4 – 8 Hz) peak power
- Biomarkers of reduced SST inhibition

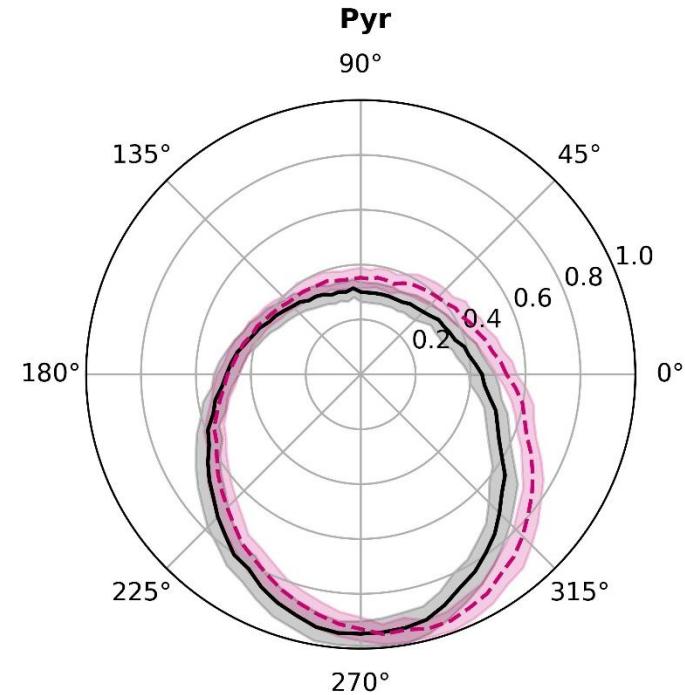
Spiking Phase Preference

**Neuronal
Spikes**

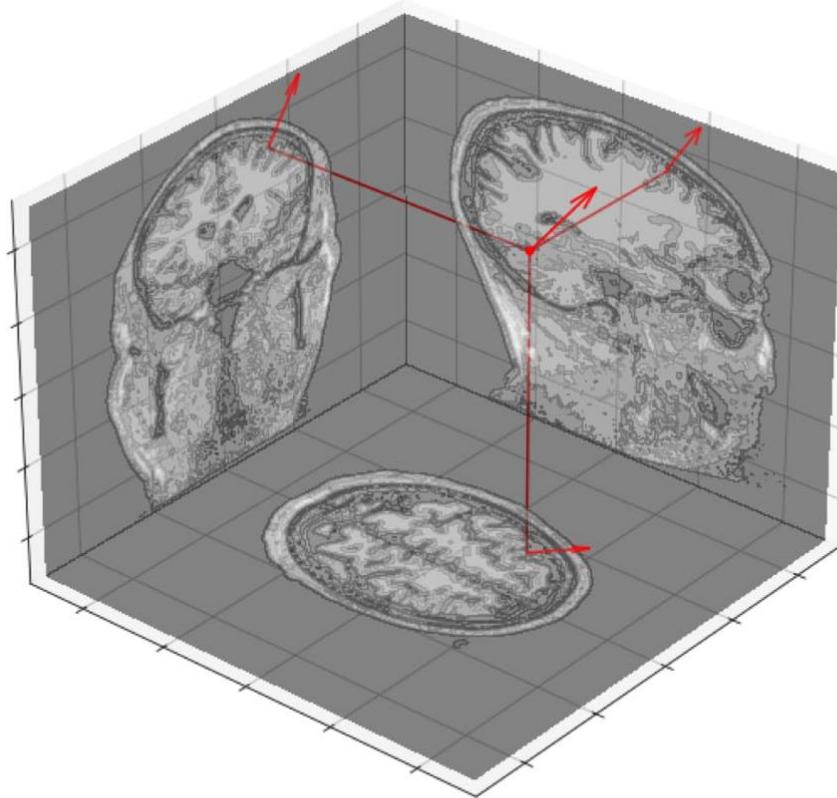


Phase

EEG

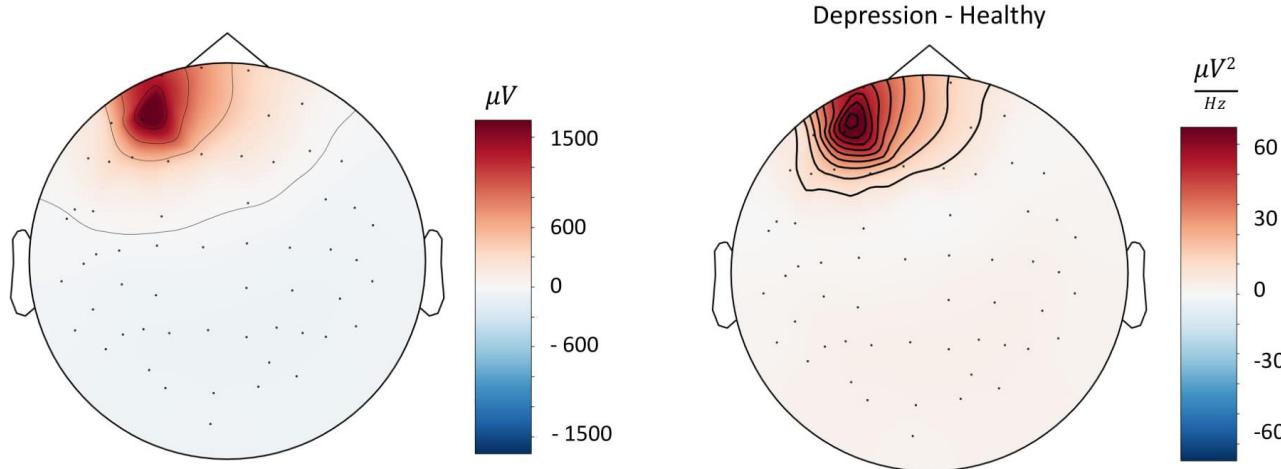


EEG – Realistic Head Model



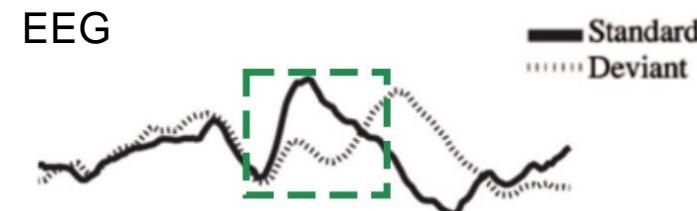
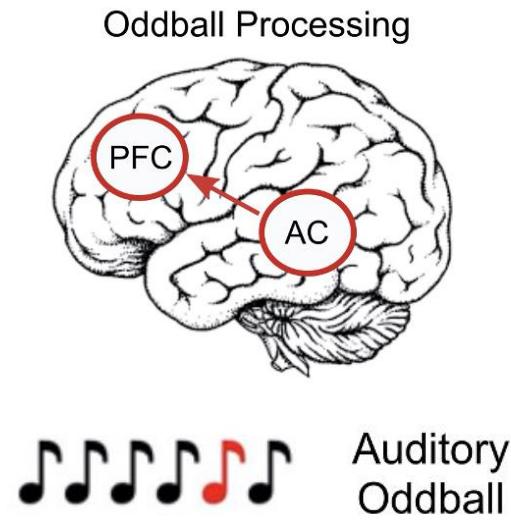
- Place dipole in dIPFC (in MNE)
- Account for brain curvature

EEG – Realistic Head Model



- Microcircuit signal is local (few mm)
- Asymmetric spatial spread

EEG Biomarkers - Schizophrenia

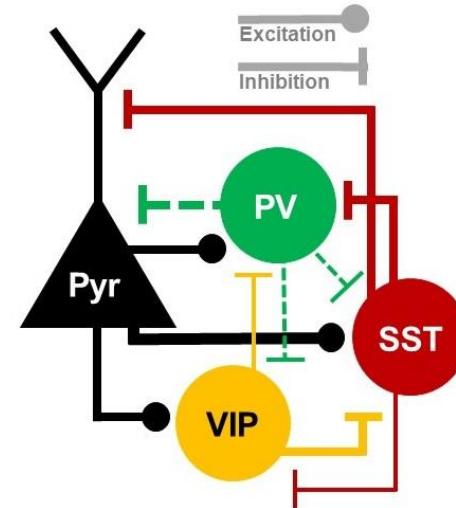


Mismatch Negativity (100 - 200 ms)

- PFC activity – processing deviation
- Mismatch negativity reduced in SCZ

Microcircuit Mechanisms in Schizophrenia

- Altered PV inhibition implicated
- Multiple mechanisms
 - NMDA input
 - PV output
- Schizophrenia subtypes?

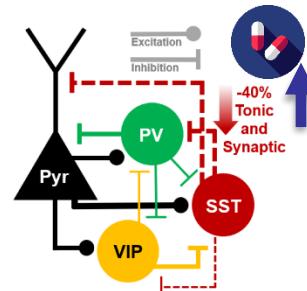
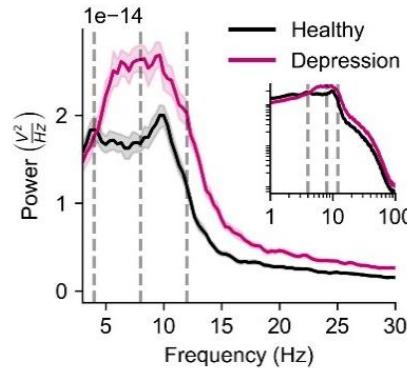
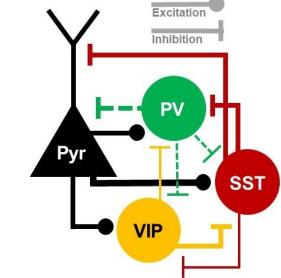
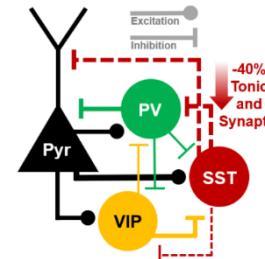


In Silico EEG Biomarkers

Applications

- Link EEG to disease mechanisms
- Improve patient stratification
- Monitor new pharmacology

Depression Schizophrenia



Further Topics In Cortical Microcircuit Modeling

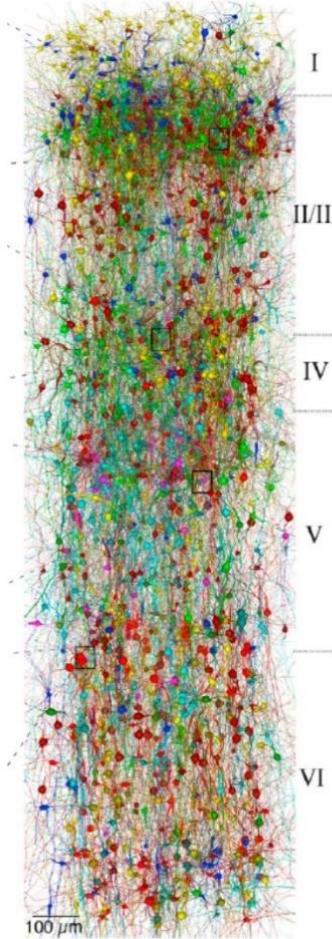
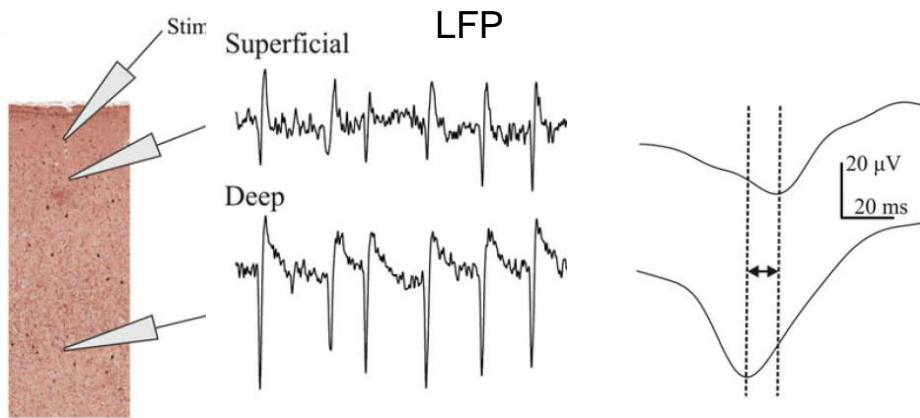
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Neuroinformatics



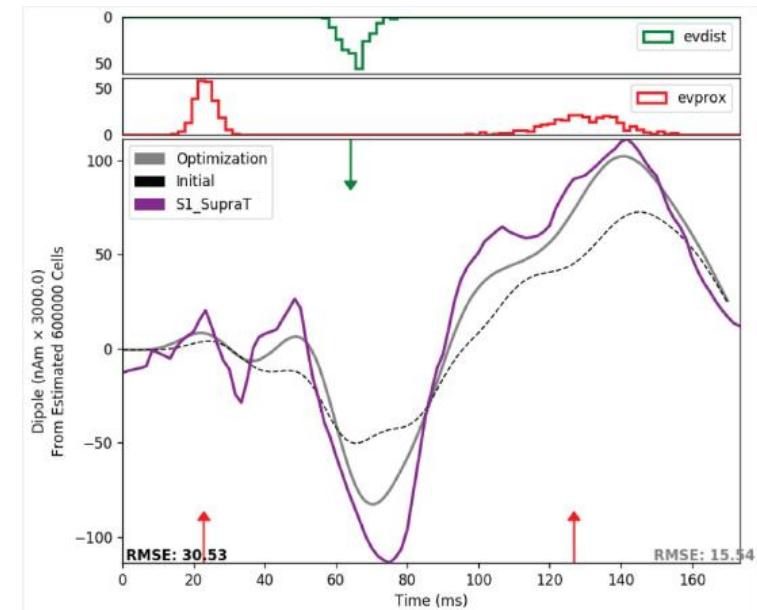
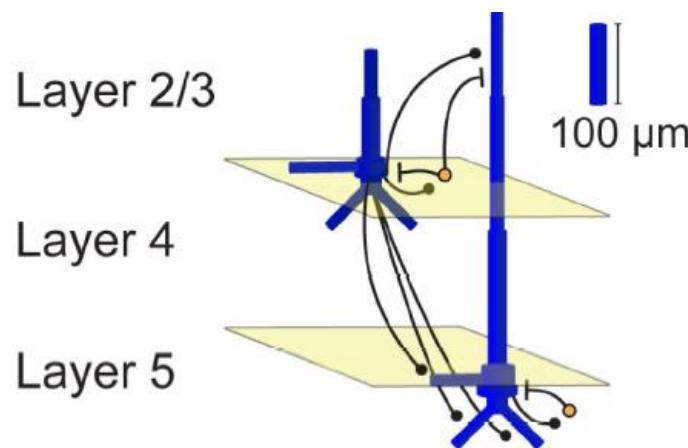
Multiple Cortical Layers

- Processing hierarchy
- Layer specific disease changes
- Oscillatory dynamics



(Markram et al, 2015)

Simpler Neuronal Microcircuits

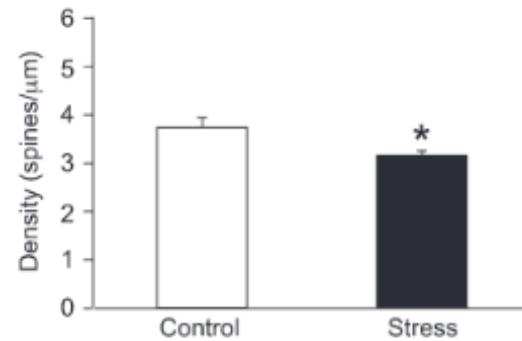


- Faster simulations/fitting
- Fewer parameters
- Useful for explorations
- Approximate EEG
 - Pyr neurons main contributors to signal

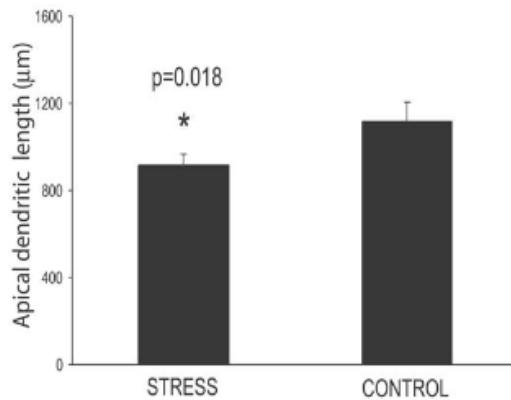
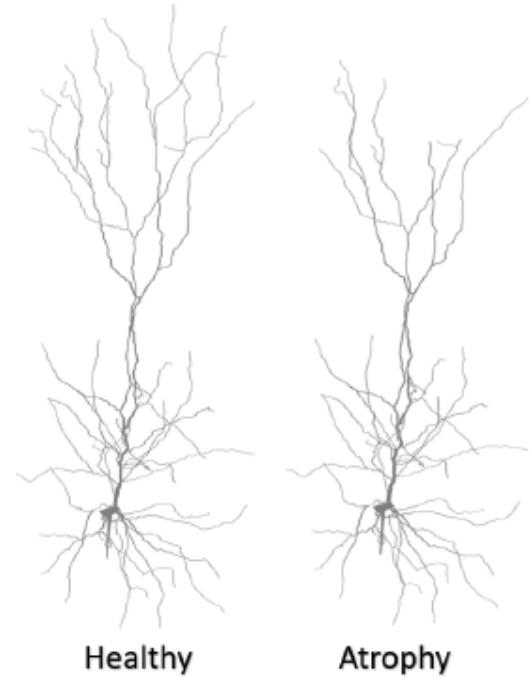
HNN tool
(Neymotin et al, 2020)

Multiple Disease Mechanisms

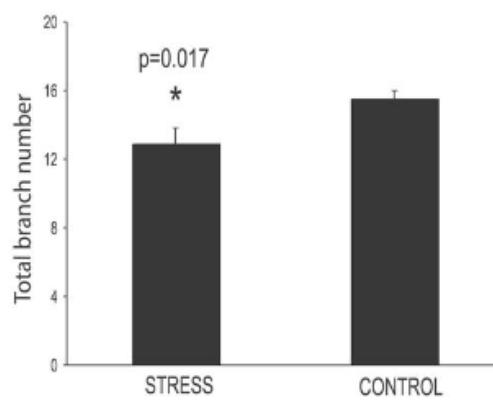
- Cell loss
- Synapse loss
- Cell atrophy



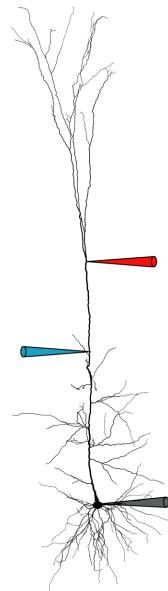
(Radley et al, 2006)



(Radley et al, 2004)

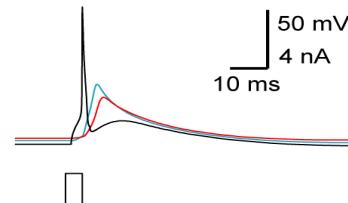


Other Dendritic Properties

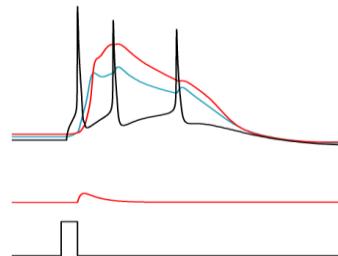


(Hay et al, 2011)

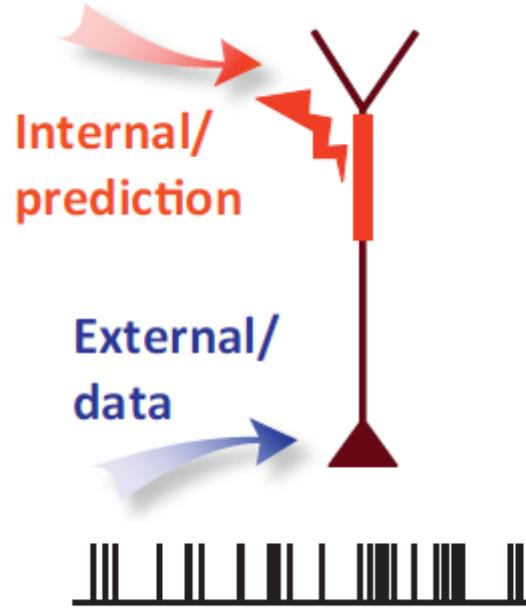
Backpropagating spikes



Calcium spike firing



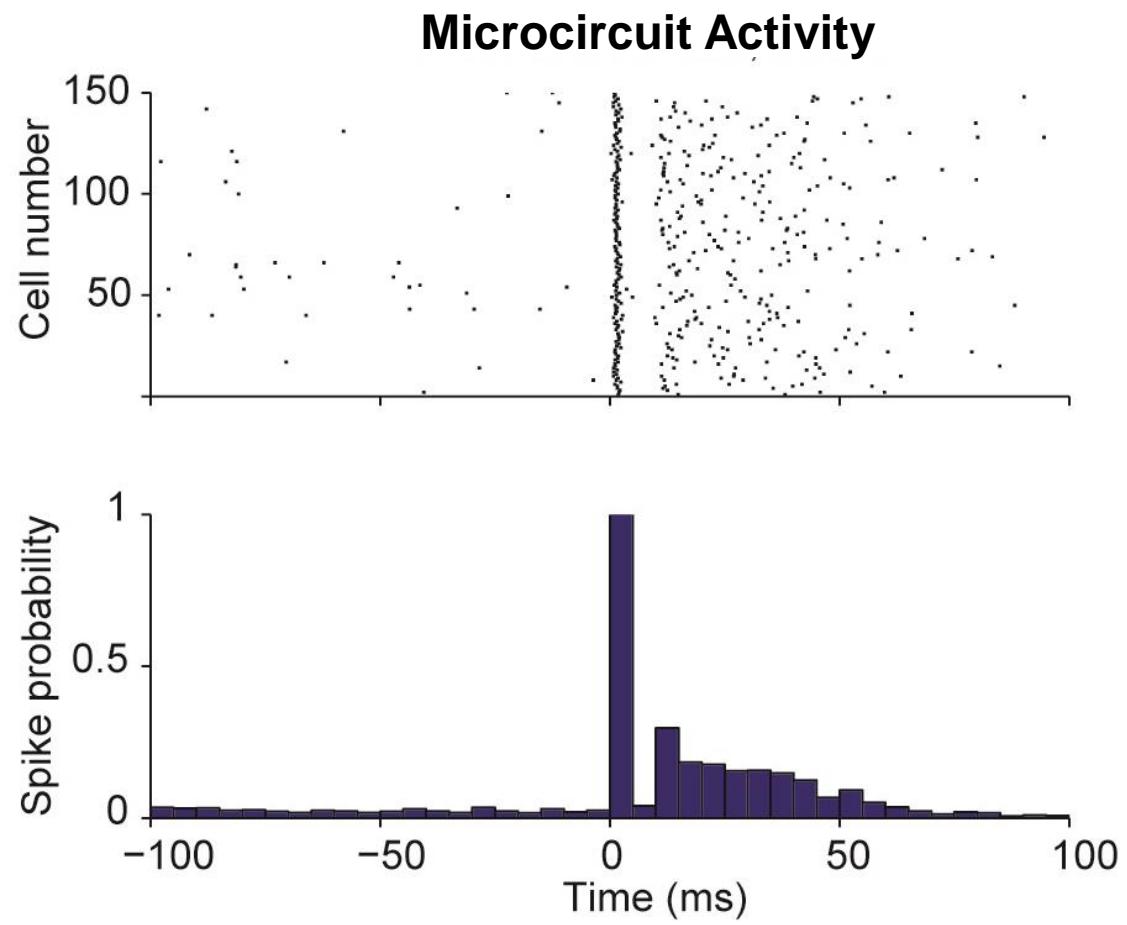
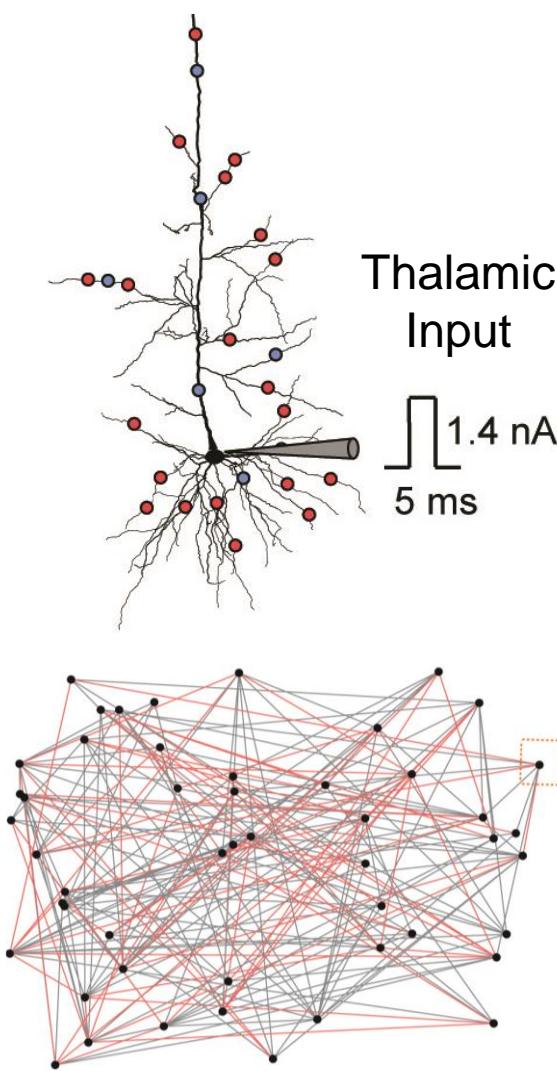
BAC firing



(Larkum, 2013)

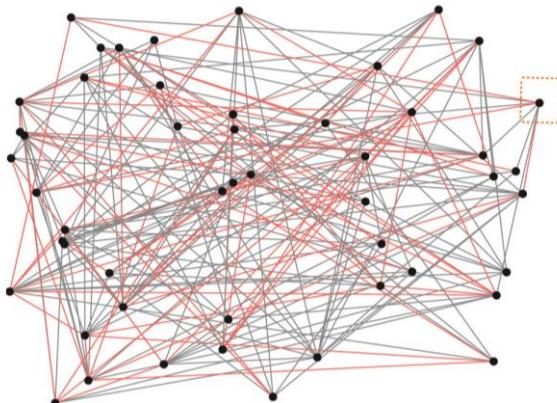
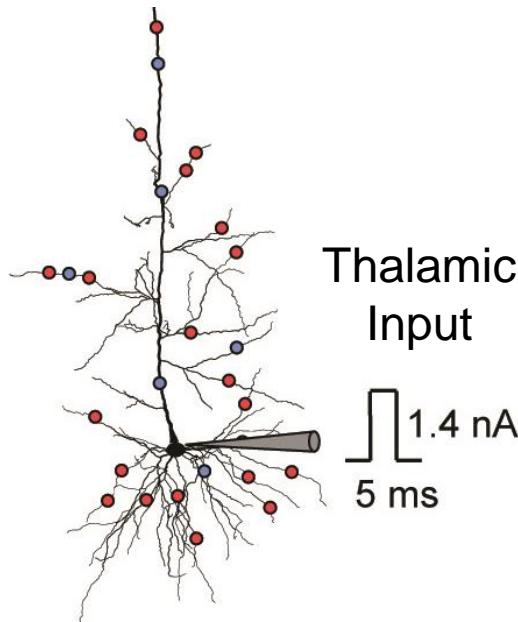
- Data in human neurons is scarce
- Similar dendritic backprop spikes
- Different dendritic calcium spikes
- Relevant to SST inhibition in depression

Modeling Other Brain Deficits

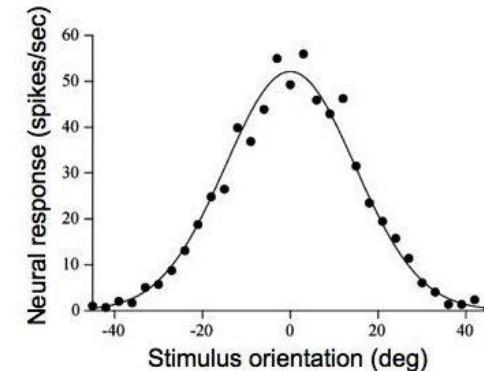
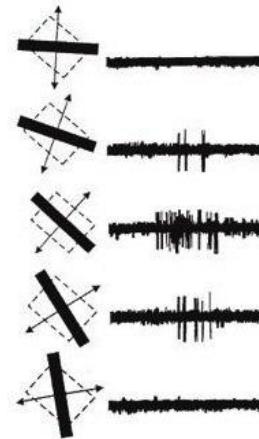


(Hay and Segev, 2015)

Modeling Other Brain Deficits



Tuning Curves

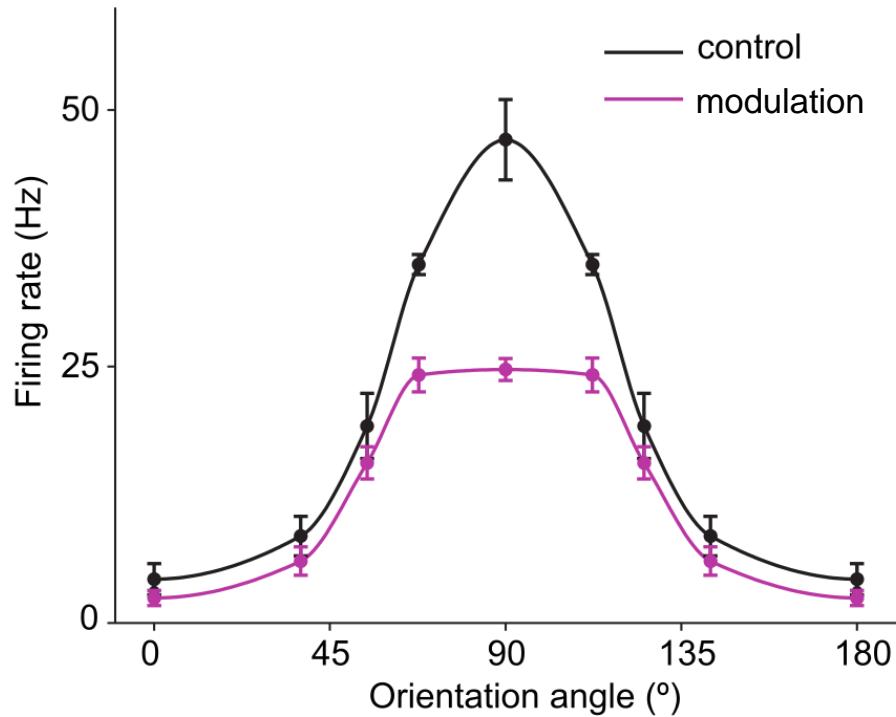


- Different amplitude of thalamic input for different orientations
- Different Microcircuit response rates

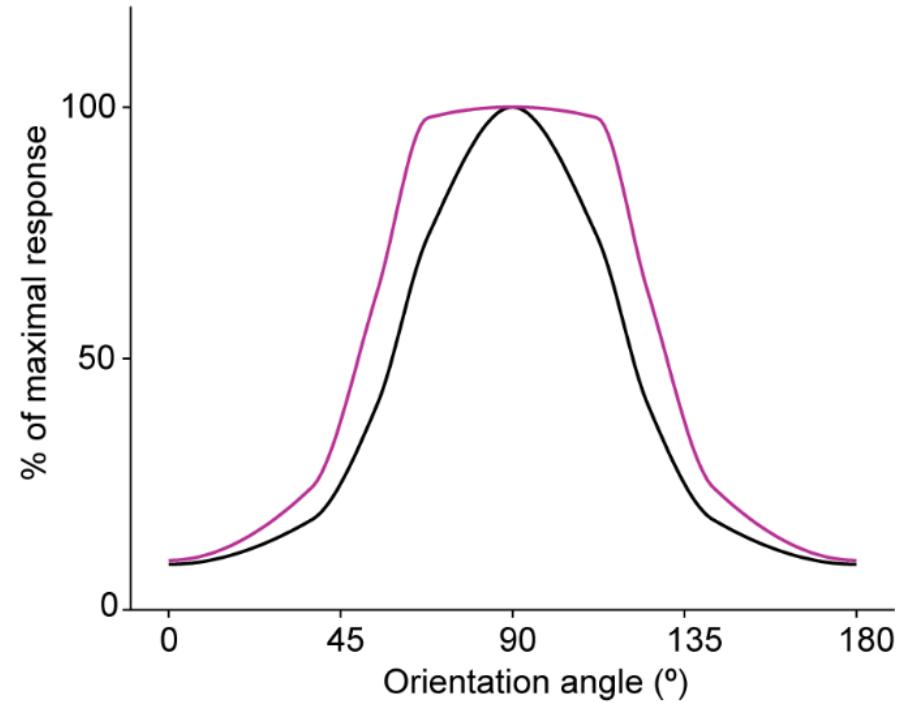
(Hay and Segev, 2015)

Modeling Other Brain Deficits

Response Amplitude



Tuning (Selectivity)

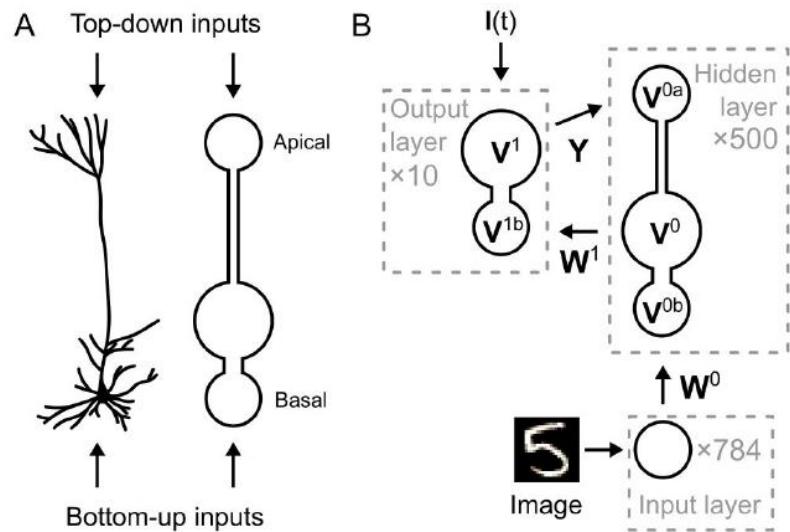


Sensory Stimulus

(Hay and Segev, 2015)

Modeling Other Brain Deficits

- Rumination?
- Memory
- Mood?
- Deep learning useful

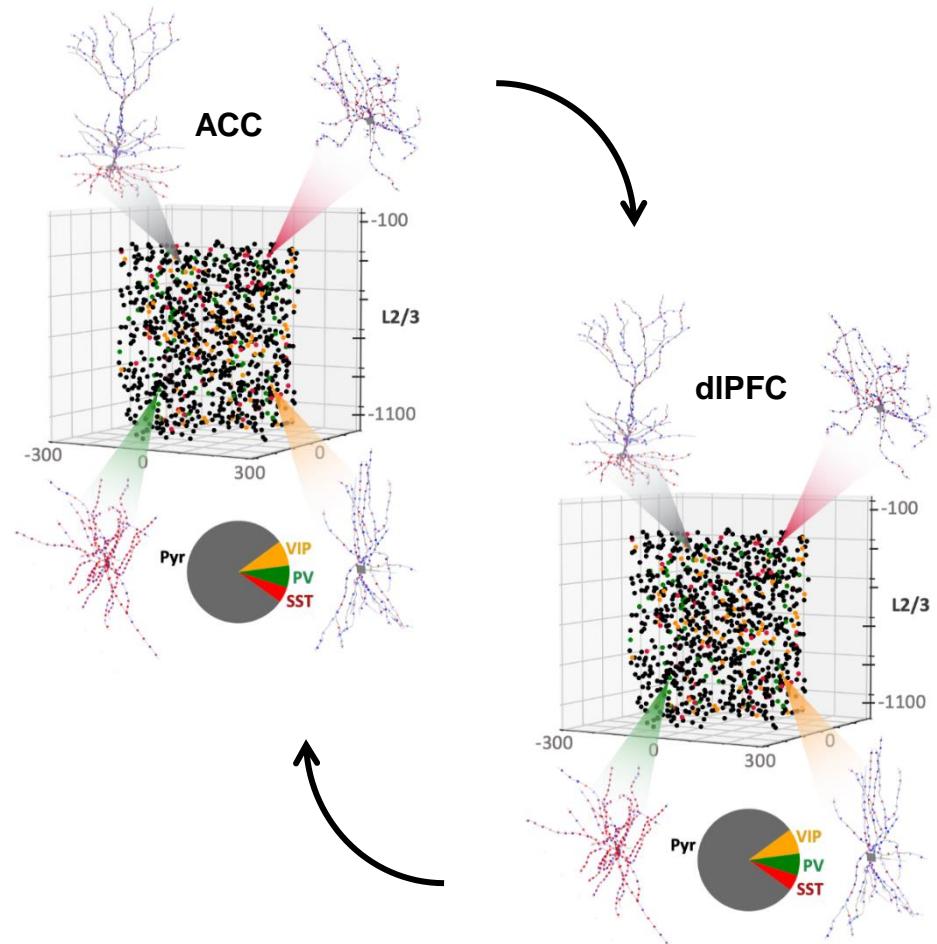


(Guerguiev et al, 2017)

Multi-regional Interactions

- PFC vs. ACC in depression

(Northoff and Sibille, 2014)



Day 4 – Next Session



1:00 pm
- 2:30 pm

Tutorial – simulating and analyzing spiking from neurons and microcircuits
Frank Mazza

2:45 pm
- 4:15 pm

Tutorial – simulating and analyzing EEG signals from brain microcircuits
Frank Mazza

- Check school github for binder or docker instructions
- Assistance available in Gathertown