- These slides are from our previous talk in 2019, but we keep them on to remind us of the challenge here.
- 2. These are only larger brains—we now have a full description of some invertebrates like the C. elegans and the leech.
- 3. Neurons are complex, and different properties give them different electrophysiological properties.
- For example, complex morphologies mean compartmentalization of current, different conductances, capacitances and so on.
- 5. Passive and active ion channels whose activity can depend on the potential difference across the cell membrane.
- 6. Inputs at different parts of the tree can cause the neuron to behave differently.
- 7. More and more information suggests that glia (support cells) play an important role in neuronal signalling and learning

- 1. The most recent estimate puts the number of neurons in the human brain at 86B.
- 2. Experiments provide us with direct information.
- 3. They study the brain at different levels.
- There's no right level. It depends on the question being investigated.

- 1. There is so much data out there now, as we embrace Open Science.
- 2. Models/theory are necessary for:
- 3. combining independent experimental results into unified theories
- exploring these complex systems across wider range of conditions
- 5. generating new testable hypotheses
- 6. RNNs are appropriate for lots of projects, for example.
- 7. So are whole brain neural mass models.
- But, to really understand the underlying mechanisms that give rise to emergent behaviour, we must model the brain at biophysically detailed levels.
- 1. The figure shows a simplified model life cycle. Can be much more complex in practice.
- 2. Lots of tools out there for each step.
- 3. But there's are issues—fragmentation, lack of interoperability, so many APIs.

- Standards allow the representation of data and models in specific, agreed formats.
- They're not neuroscience specific, of course—even programming languages have standards.
- 3. More importantly, if one knows what the data is going to look like, one can then develop tools and APIs around it.
- And instead of everyone writing a tool for their own standard, every tool anyone writes for the one standard can be used with everyone's data.
- In neuroscience, we're fortunate enough to not have the issue of having too many standards.
- There are only a few standards in biophysically detailed modelling, and as we'll see, we ensure that these few remain interoperable.