

# TVB-multiscale:

## interfacing TVB with NEST (and ANNarchy) spiking networks

### for multiscale co-simulation

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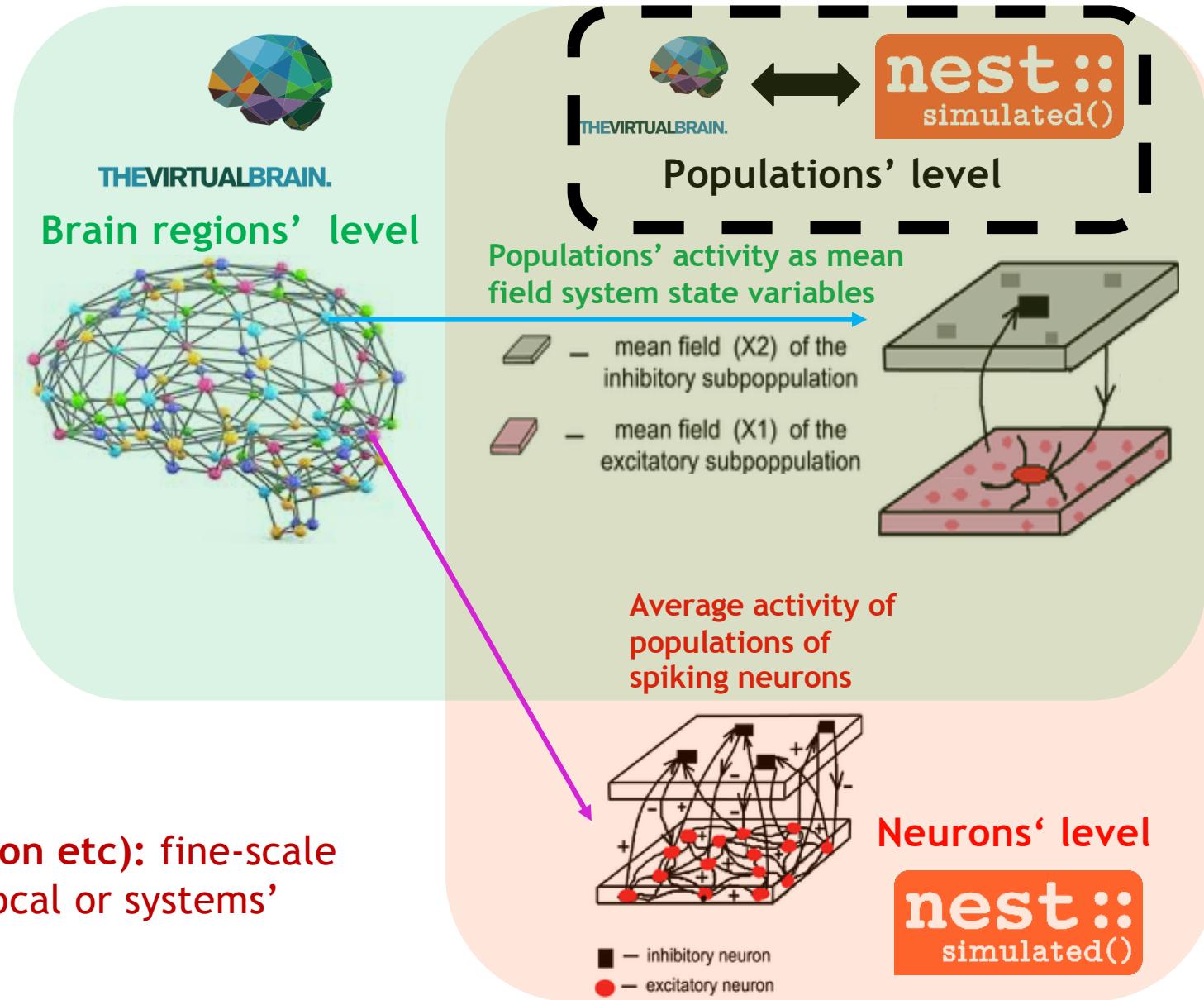
Human Brain Project

# Motivation

TVB: large-scale simulation linking brain anatomical data ((d)MRI, CT etc) to neuroimaging data, by generating virtual neural source activity.



Spiking simulators (NEST, Neuron etc): fine-scale simulation for investigation of local or systems' neural mechanisms



# Software structure

- ❖ ***TVB-multiscale/tvb\_multiscale/core:*** extends TVB to perform multiscale co-simulation.
  - spiking\_models: region\_node, devices, network, and their builders
  - interfaces: tvb\_to\_spikeNet, spikeNet\_to\_tvb, and their builders
  - tvb/simulator\_builder
  - data\_analyzer/spiking\_network\_analyzer
  - plot, io (read/write to/from .h5 files), utils (utility scripts)
- ❖ ***TVB-multiscale/tvb\_multiscale/tvb\_nest:*** Python interface of TVB with (Py)NEST, for co-simulation of TVB and NEST models.
  - nest\_models: region\_node, devices, network, their builders, builders of specific models
  - interfaces: tvb\_to\_nest, nest\_to\_tvb, their builders, builders of specific models
- ❖ ***TVB-multiscale/tvb\_multiscale/tvb\_annarchy:*** Python interface of TVB with ANNarchy, for co-simulation of TVB and ANNarchy models.
  - annarchy\_models: region\_node, devices, network, their builders, builders of specific models
  - interfaces: tvb\_to\_annarchy, annarchy\_to\_tvb, their builders, builders of specific models
- ❖ ***TVB-multiscale/tvb\_multiscale/tvb\_elephant:***
  - spike\_stimulus\_builder
  - spiking\_network\_analyzer
- ❖ ***TVB-multiscale/*** docker, examples, tests, docs



<https://github.com/the-virtual-brain/tvb-multiscale>



<https://hub.docker.com/r/thevirtualbrain/tvb-nest3>

# Default workflow

1. Setup configuration  
(min\_delay, integration time resolution etc)
  2. Build TVB model and simulator  
(connectivity, model, coupling, integrator, monitors etc)
  3. Build Spiking Network model  
(neural populations, stimulation and measuring devices)
  4. Build interfaces
  5. (Co-)Simulate
  6. Gather results, analyze, plot, write to .h5 files
- 

# EBRAINS collaboratory

## Co-Simulation The Virtual Brain Multiscale



Last modified by [Lia Domide](#) on 2020/08/16 14:10

<https://tvb-nest.apps.hbp.eu/>

jupyter documentation\_example Last Checkpoint: 6 minutes ago (autosaved)

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**TVB-NEST: Bridging multiscale activity by co-simulation**

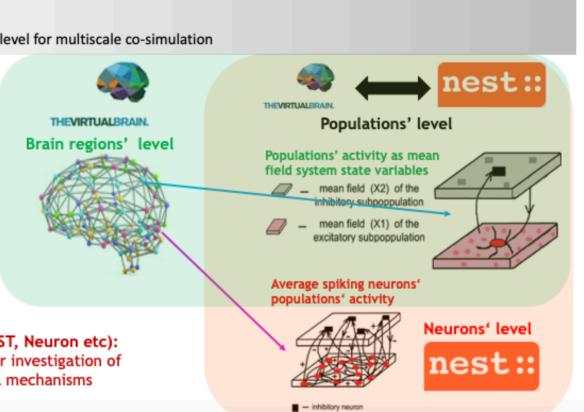
Step-by-step learn how to perform a co-simulation embedding spiking neural networks into large-scale brain networks using TVB.

In [1]:  
from IPython.core.display import Image, display  
display(Image(filename='./ConceptGraph.png', width=1000, unconfined=False))

**Motivation**  
Interfacing at populations' level for multiscale co-simulation

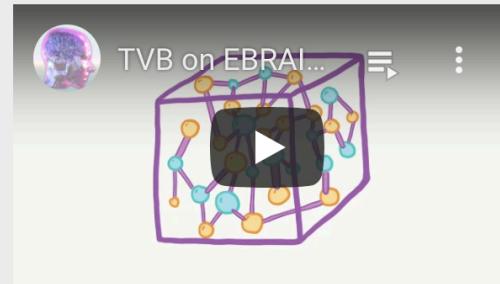
TVB: large-scale simulation linking brain anatomical data ((d)MRI, CT etc) to neuroimaging data, by generating virtual neural source activity.

Spiking simulators (NEST, Neuron etc): fine-scale simulation for investigation of local or systems' neural mechanisms



<https://wiki.ebrains.eu/bin/view/Collabs/the-virtual-brain-multiscale/>

## TVB Co-Simulation



Multiscale: TVB - NEST

Authors: D. Perdikis, L. Domide, J. Mersmann, M. Schirner, P. Ritter



# TVB-multiscale on EBRAINS collaboratory

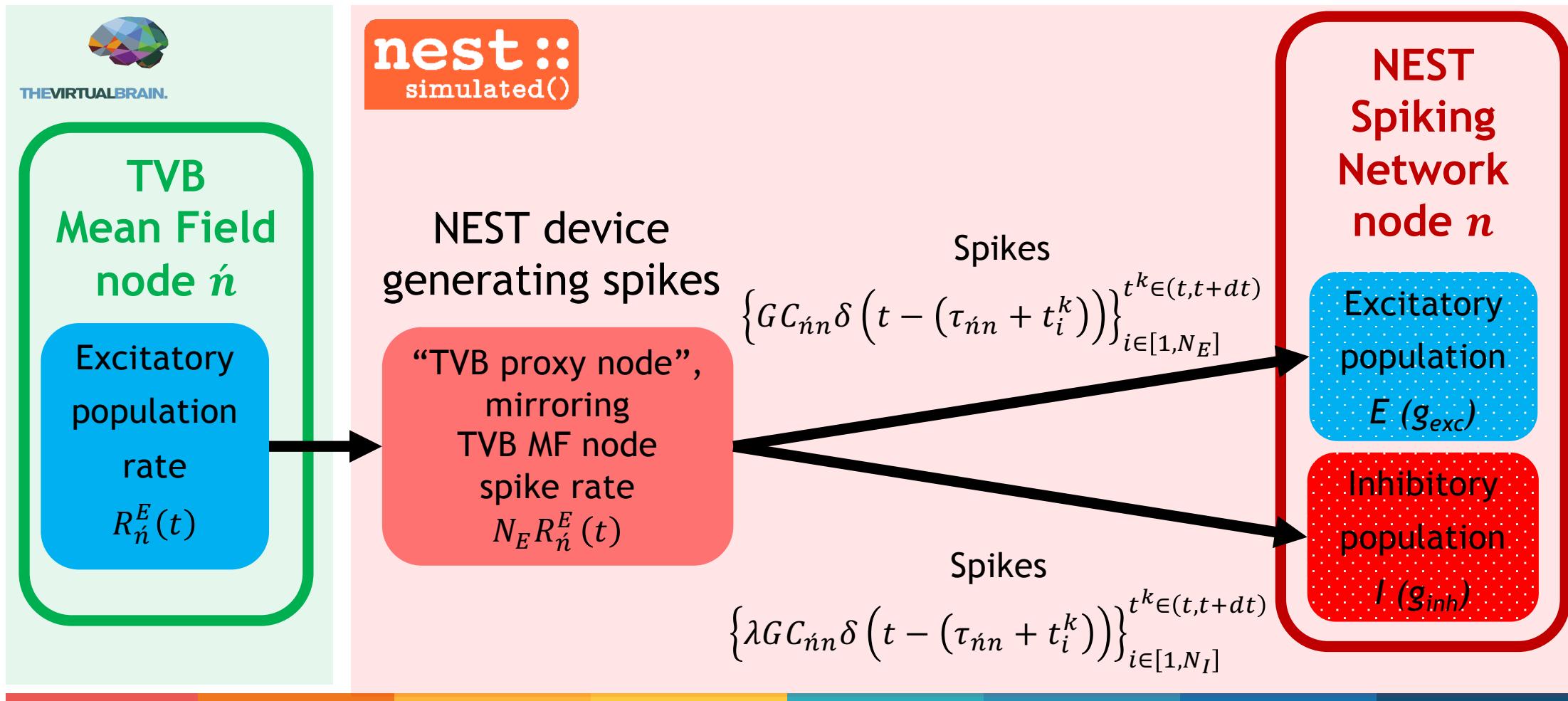
## ❖ Use case in EBRAINS Collaboratory:

- 1 excitatory (E) and 1 inhibitory (I) population per region node
- Coarse-scale **MF nodes** in TVB with a reduced Wong-Wang model
- fine-scale spiking networks **SP nodes** with an "integrate-and-fire", (alpha) conductance model ("iaf\_cond\_alpha").



# Use case

*TVB to NEST coupling via TVB “proxy” nodes: spike rate*





# Use case

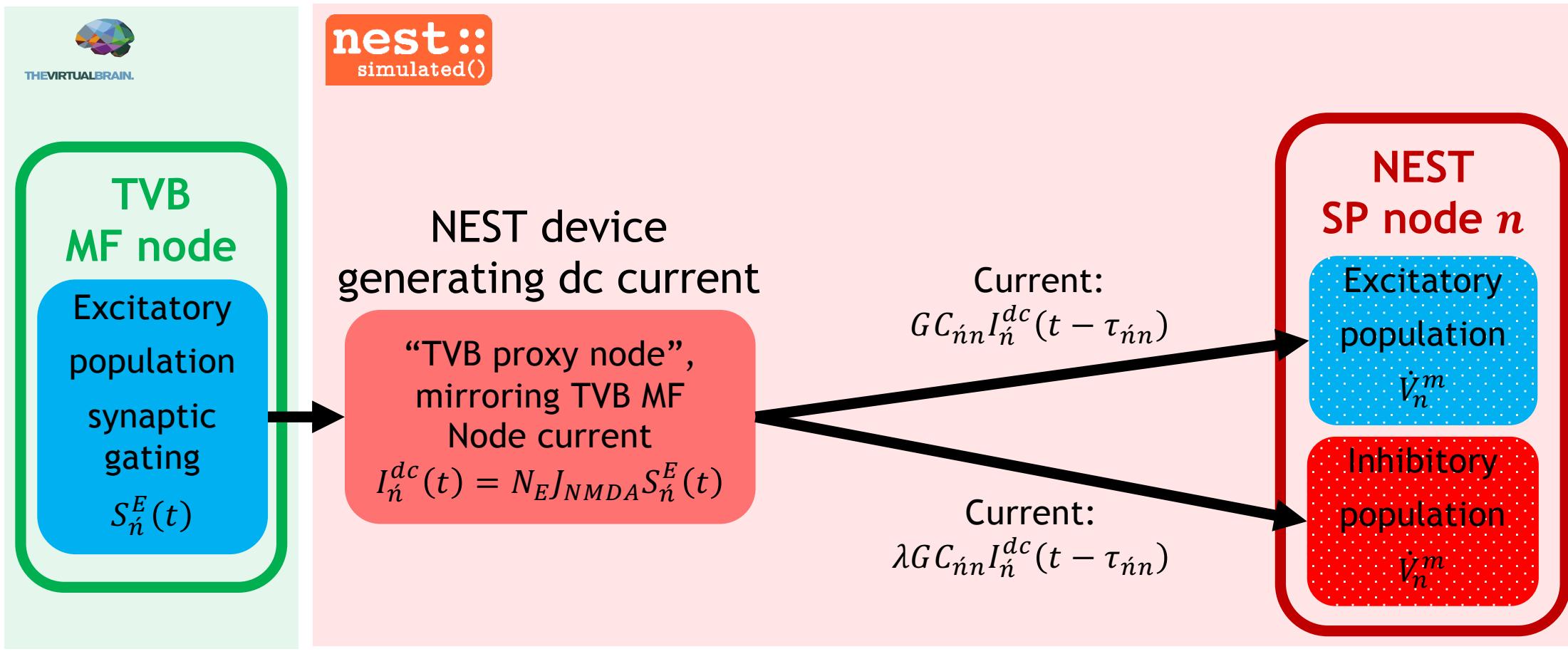
## TVB to NEST coupling via TVB “proxy” nodes: spike rate

```
tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces = [
    {"model": "inhomogeneous_poisson_generator",
     "params": {"allow_offgrid_times": False},
    # # -----Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)-----
     "interface_weights": 1.0 * N_E, # Convert mean value to total value
    # Applied outside NEST for each interface device
    # -----Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None, nest_node_id=None)-----
     "weights": tvb_weight_fun, "delays": tvb_delay_fun, "receptor_type": 0,
    #
    #           TVB sv -> NEST population
     "connections": {"R_e": ["E"]},
     "source_nodes": None, "target_nodes": None} ] # None means all here

if lamda > 0.0:
    tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces.append(
        {"model": "inhomogeneous_poisson_generator",
         "params": {"allow_offgrid_times": False},
        # # -----Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)-----
         "interface_weights": lamda * N_E, # Convert mean value to total value
        # Applied outside NEST for each interface device
        # -----Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None, nest_node_id=None)-----
         "weights": tvb_weight_fun, "delays": tvb_delay_fun, "receptor_type": 0,
        #
        #           TVB sv -> NEST population
         "connections": {"R_e": ["I"]},
         "source_nodes": None, "target_nodes": None
    }
)
```

# Use case

*TVB to NEST coupling via TVB “proxy” nodes: current*



# Use case

## *TVB to NEST coupling via TVB “proxy” nodes: current*

```
# --For injecting current to NEST neurons via dc generators acting as TVB proxy nodes with TVB delays---

tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces = [
    {"model": "dc_generator", "params": {}},
    # Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)
    # Applied outside NEST for each interface device
    "interface_weights": 1.0, # N_E / N_E
    # Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None, nest_node_id=None)
    "weights": tvb_weight_fun, "delays": tvb_delay_fun,
    # TVB sv -> NEST population
    "connections": {"S_e": ["E"]},
    "source_nodes": None, "target_nodes": None} # None means all here

if lamda > 0.0:
    tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces.append(
        {"model": "dc_generator", "params": {},
         # -----Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)
         # Applied outside NEST for each interface device
         "interface_weights": lamda*N_E / N_I,
         # Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None, nest_node_id=None)
         "weights": tvb_weight_fun, "delays": tvb_delay_fun,
         # TVB sv -> NEST population
         "connections": {"S_e": ["I"]},
         "source_nodes": None, "target_nodes": None})
    )
```

# Use case

*TVB to NEST coupling via direct parameter update*



THE VIRTUAL BRAIN

**SP node  $n$  in TVB**

Excitatory population  
large-scale delayed coupling

$$S_n^{coup^l}(t) = G \sum_{\dot{n}} C_{\dot{n}n} S_{\dot{n}}^E(t - \tau_{\dot{n}n})$$

**nest ::**  
simulated()

NEST  
external current parameter

$$I_n^{ext}(t) = N_E J_{NMDA} S_n^{coup^l}(t)$$

$$I_n^{ext}(t) = N_E J_{NMDA} \lambda S_n^{coup^l}(t)$$

**NEST  
SP node  $n$**

Excitatory  
population  
 $\dot{V}_n^m$

Inhibitory  
population  
 $\dot{V}_n^m$

# Use case

## *TVB to NEST coupling via direct parameter update*

```
tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces = [
    {"model": "current", "parameter": "I_e",
# Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)
        "interface_weights": 1.0, # N_E / N_E
#                                         TVB sv -> NEST population
        "connections": {"S_e": ["E"]},
        "nodes": None}] # None means all here
if lamda > 0.0:
    # Coupling to inhibitory populations as well (feedforward inhibition):
    tvb_nest_builder.tvb_to_spikeNet_interfaces.append(
    {
        "model": "current", "parameter": "I_e",
# Properties potentially set as function handles with args (tvb_node_id=None)
        "interface_weights": lamda * N_E / N_I,
#                                         TVB sv -> NEST population
        "connections": {"S_e": ["I"]},
        "nodes": None}
    )
```



Human Brain Project

*NEST to TVB update*

# Use case



THE VIRTUAL BRAIN.

**TVB Mean Field  
node  $n$**

Excitatory population  
spike rate

$$Rin_n^E(t) = \frac{N_{\text{spikes}}^E(t)}{dtN_E}$$

Inhibitory population  
spike rate

$$Rin_n^I(t) = \frac{N_{\text{spikes}}^I(t)}{dtN_I}$$

**nest::**  
simulated()

NEST spike detector devices

spike count

$$N_{\text{spikes}}^E(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_E} \sum_{t^k \in (t-dt, t)} \delta(t - t_i^k)$$

spike count

$$N_{\text{spikes}}^I(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_I} \sum_{t^k \in (t-dt, t)} \delta(t - t_i^k)$$

Spikes  
 $\delta(t - t_i^k)$

Spikes  
 $\delta(t - t_i^k)$

**NEST  
Spiking  
Network  
node  $n$**

Excitatory  
Population  
 $E$

Inhibitory  
Population  
 $I$

# Modifications to the TVB simulator

- TVB-SpikeNet interface properties and configurations
- Dynamical non-state variables (e.g.  $R_n^{E/I}(t)$ ) that need to be updated in a model specific manner after integration of each time step
- Model specific modifications (e.g.  $Rin_n^{E/I}(t)$  variables to smooth instantaneous spike rate coming from NEST via linear integration acting as a low pass filter)
- Integration loop
  1. TVB to SpikeNet coupling
  2. TVB integration
  3. SpikeNet integration
  3. (Optional) SpikeNet to TVB update
  4. Compute TVB large-scale coupling and update stimulus, if any
  5. Update non-state dynamical variables (if any)
  6. Update TVB history buffer
  7. Generate TVB monitor outputs

# References

1. Ritter P, Schirner M, McIntosh AR, Jirsa VK. 2013. The Virtual Brain integrates computational modeling and multimodal neuroimaging. *Brain Connectivity* 3:121–145.
2. Sanz Leon P, Knock SA, Woodman MM, Domide L, Mersmann J, McIntosh AR, Jirsa V. 2013. The Virtual Brain: a simulator of primate brain network dynamics. *Frontiers in Neuroinformatics* 7:10.
3. Jordan, Jakob, Mørk, Håkon, Vennemo, Stine Brekke, Terhorst, Dennis, Peyser, Alexander, Ippen, Tammo, ... Plesser, Hans Ekkehard. (2019, June 27). NEST 2.18.0 (Version 2.18.0). Zenodo.
4. Deco G, Ponce-Alvarez A, Mantini D, Romani GL, Hagmann P, Corbetta M. 2013. Resting-State Functional Connectivity Emerges from Structurally and Dynamically Shaped Slow Linear Fluctuations. *The Journal of Neuroscience* 33(27): 11239 –11252.
5. Perdikis D, Schirner M, Diaz-Cortes, M-A, Domide L, Mersmann J, Ritter P (*in prep*).



# THANK YOU!



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