

Computational model of the novel seizure pattern

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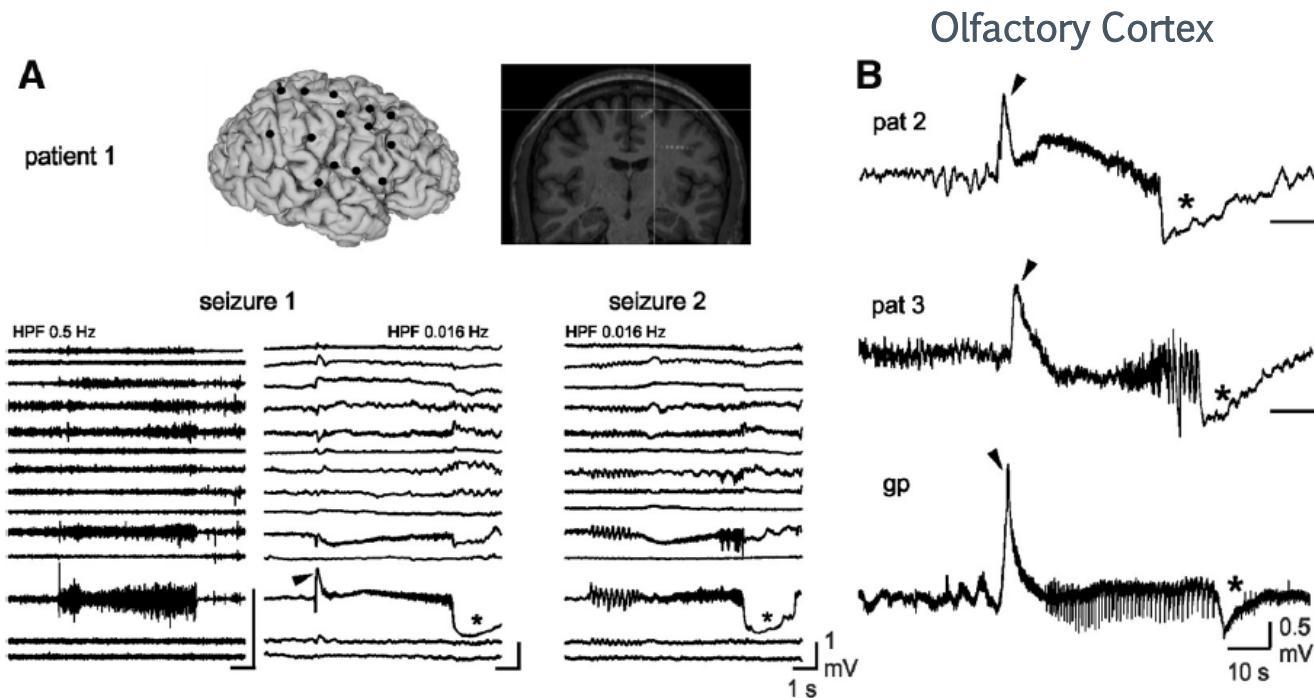
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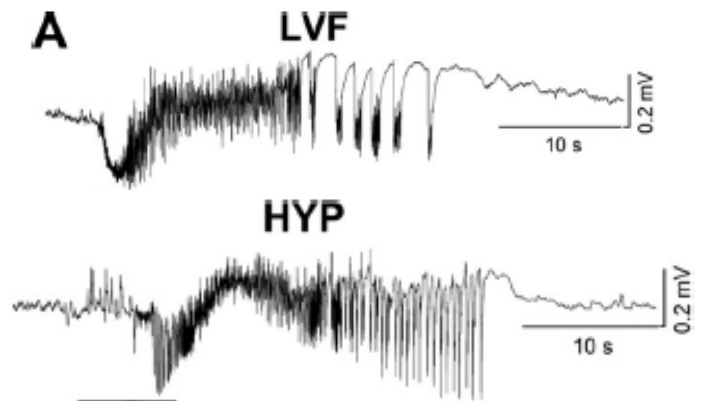
Novel seizure-like pattern

- › Over a lifetime, one in 26 people will be diagnosed with epilepsy
- › In many cases etiology remains unknown
- › Standard filtering masks novel Seizure-like event (SLE)

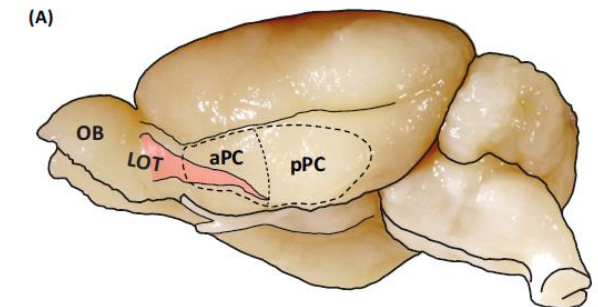
„Normal” seizure
Temporal lobe



Source: Uva et. al. 2017 J. Neuroscience



Source: Avoli et. al. 2016 J. Neurophysiol.

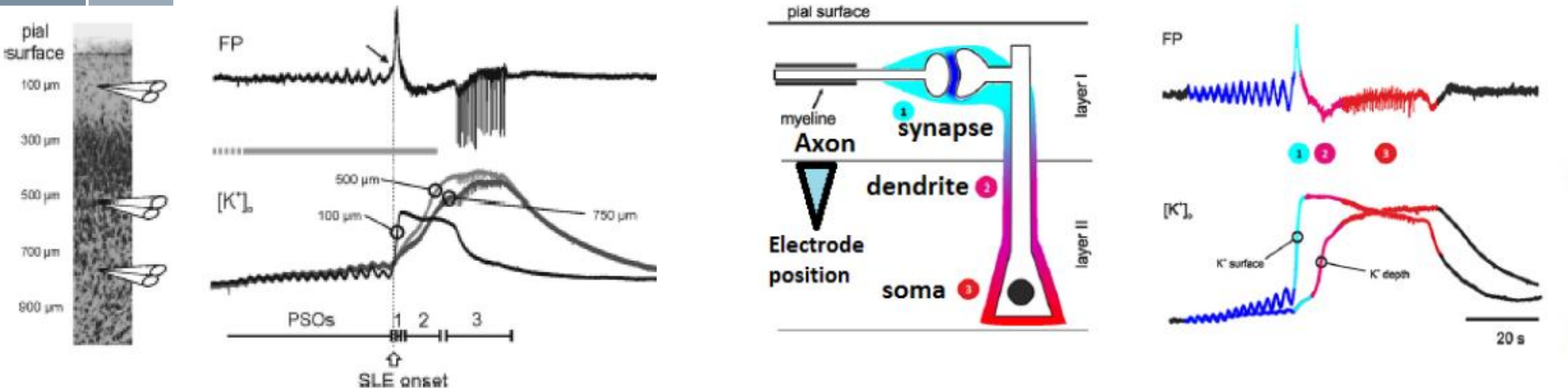


Source: Bekkers et. al. 2013 Trends in Neuroscience



Experimental Data (*in vitro*) – Uva et. el. 2017

1. During Pre Seizure Oscillation (PSO) extracellular $[K^+]_o$ increases beyond the threshold of the buffering capability of astrocyte/glia (dark blue)
2. Potassium accumulates in layer 1 further depolarizing unmyelinated axon fibers and blocking synaptic transmission (light blue)
3. The accumulated potassium slowly diffuses to layer 2 and 3 (Pink)
4. Progressive recruitment of neuronal activity in layers 2 and 3 further increases $[K^+]_o$ in these layers (red)
5. Seizure-like event (SLE) terminates with return of $[K^+]_o$ to the level observed before SLE (black)



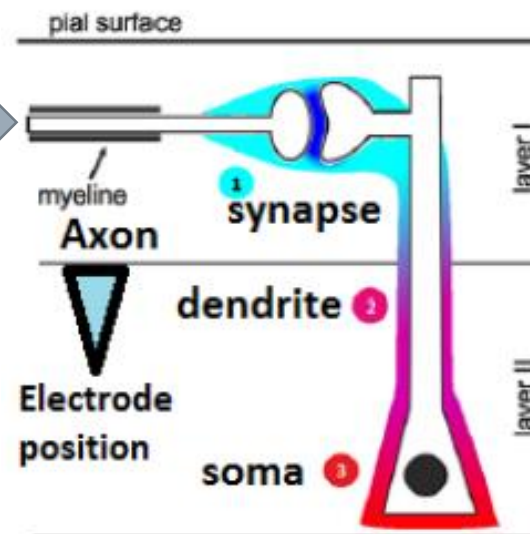


Methods – basic mechanisms

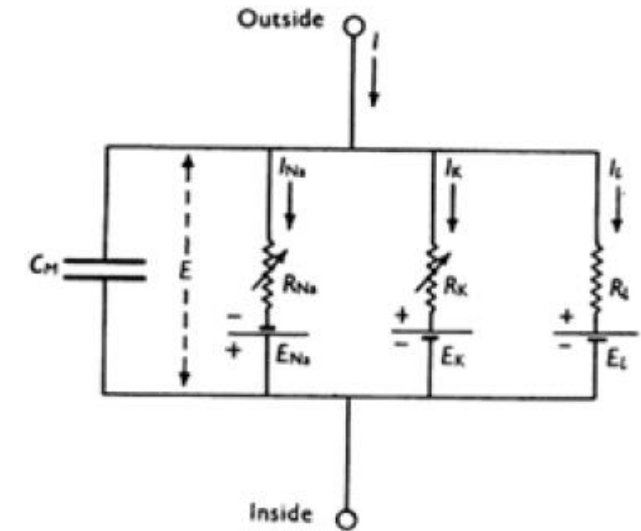
- › NEURON v7.2 programming
- › Hodgkin-Huxley set of membrane equations (axon, soma)
- › Sodium/Potassium pump (axon, soma)
- › Passive currents (dendrite)

Artificial spikes
stimulation

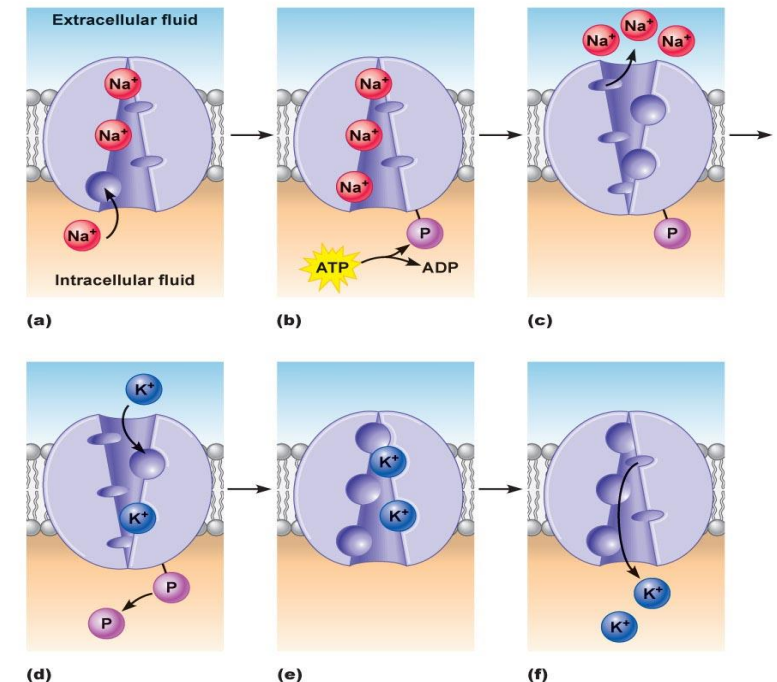
Spikes freq: ~7 Hz



Uva et. el. 2017



Source: Hodgkin and Huxley 1952 J. Physiol.



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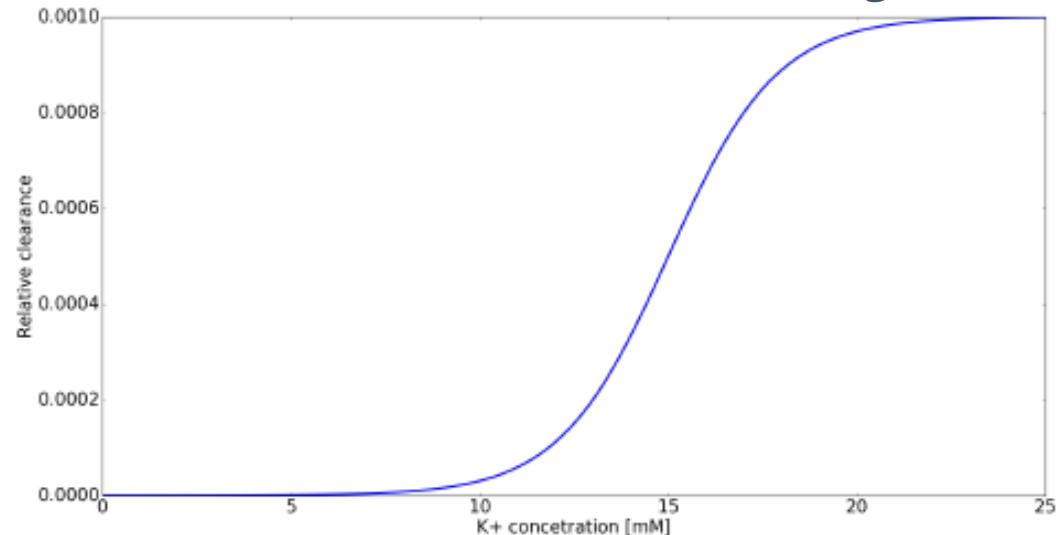
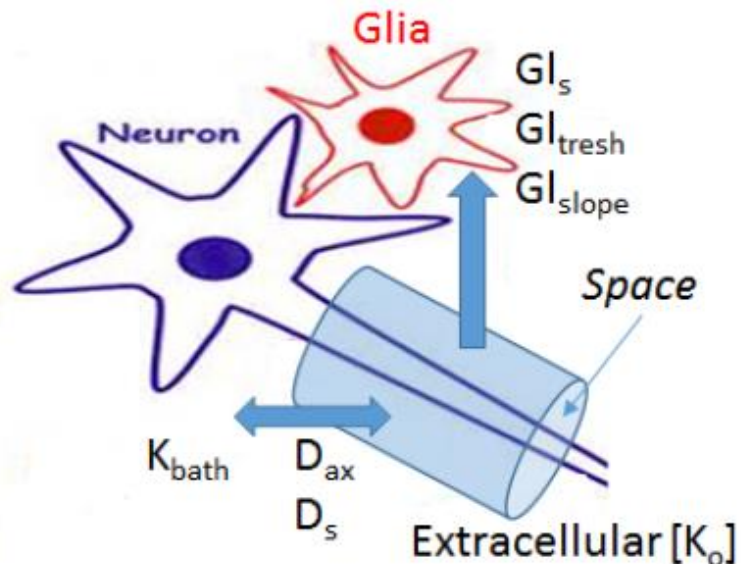
Methods – Extracellular potassium dynamics

- › Diffusion
- › Glial buffering

$$\frac{dK_o}{dt} = \text{Cell Spiking and Pump} - \text{Diffusion}$$

Glia – Diffusion sup->deep

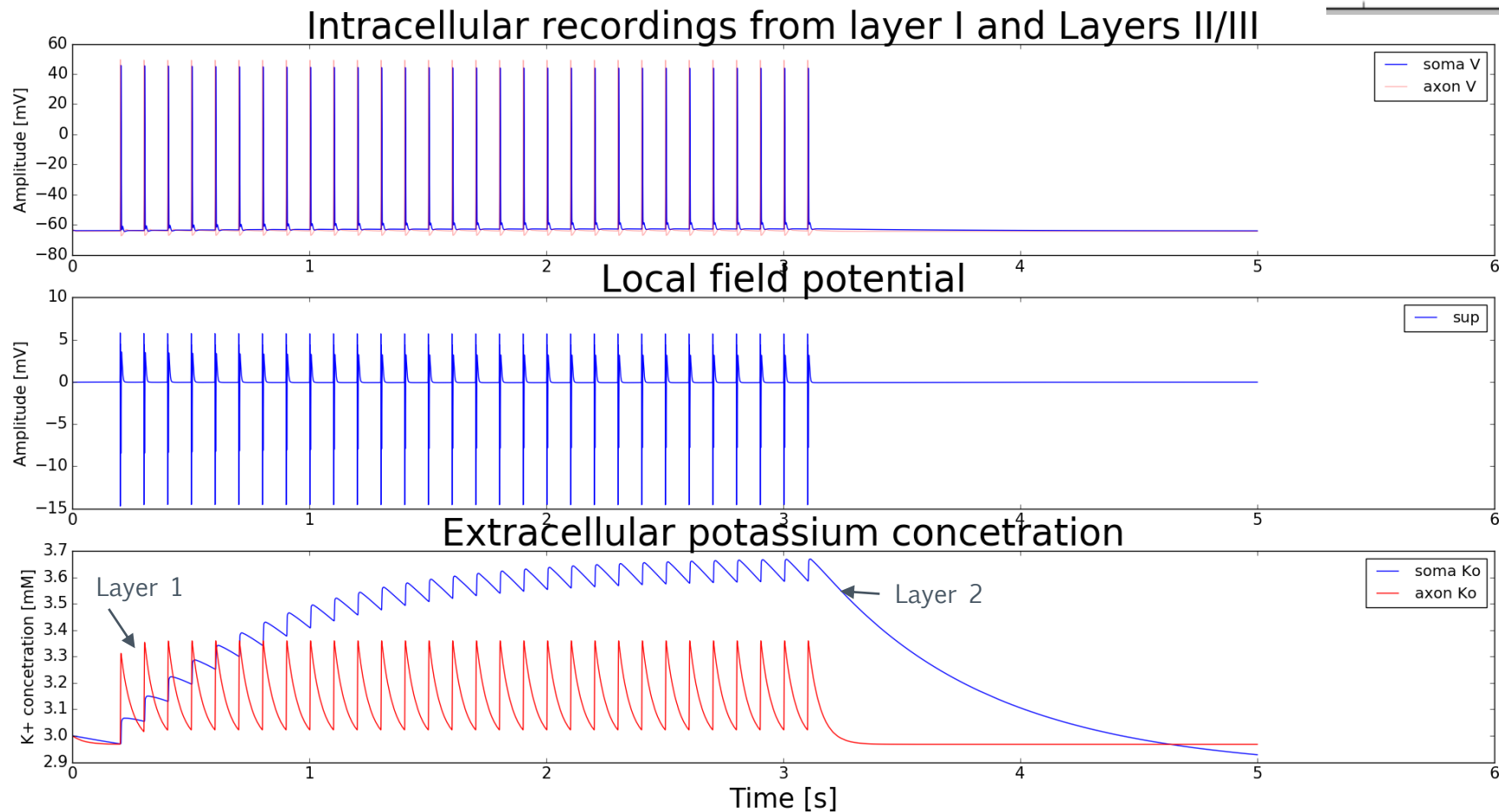
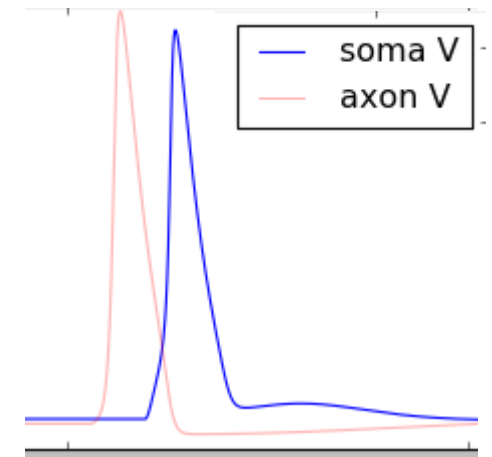
Glial [K⁺] clearance strength





Simulation results

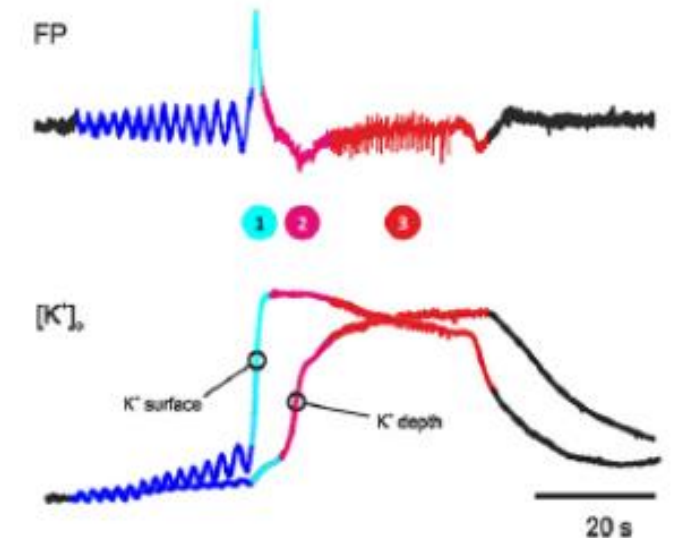
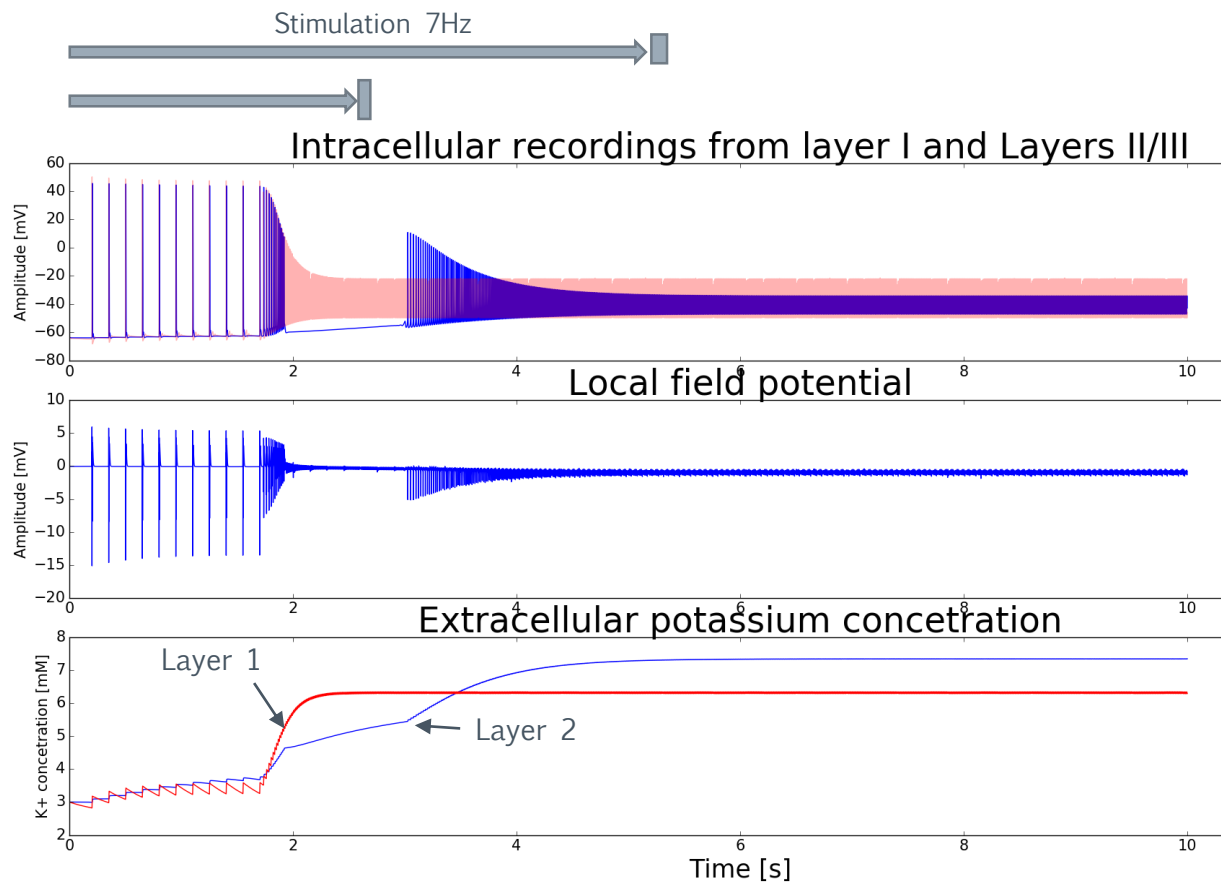
- › Conditions: **strong** potassium clearance by glia





Results

- › Conditions: Low potassium clearance by glia
- › Model predicts silence period

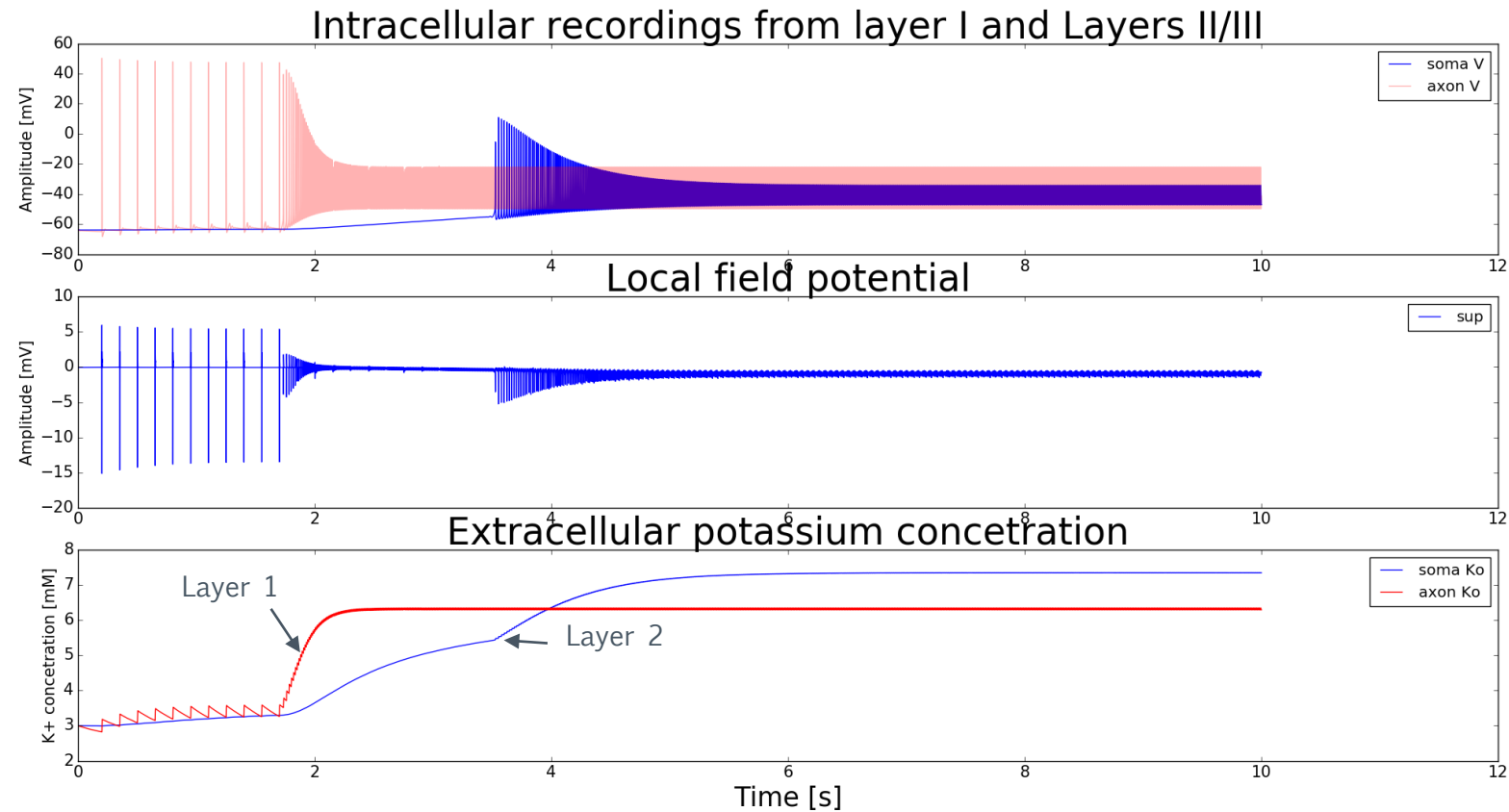




Results

Conditions:

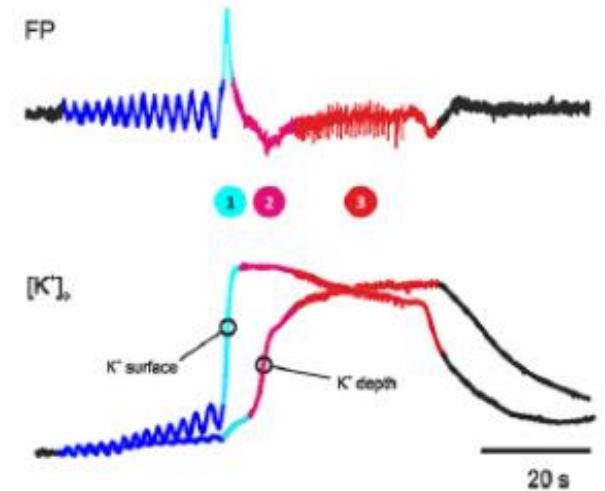
- › Low potassium clearance by glia
- › Blocked synaptic transmission





Experimental data comparison

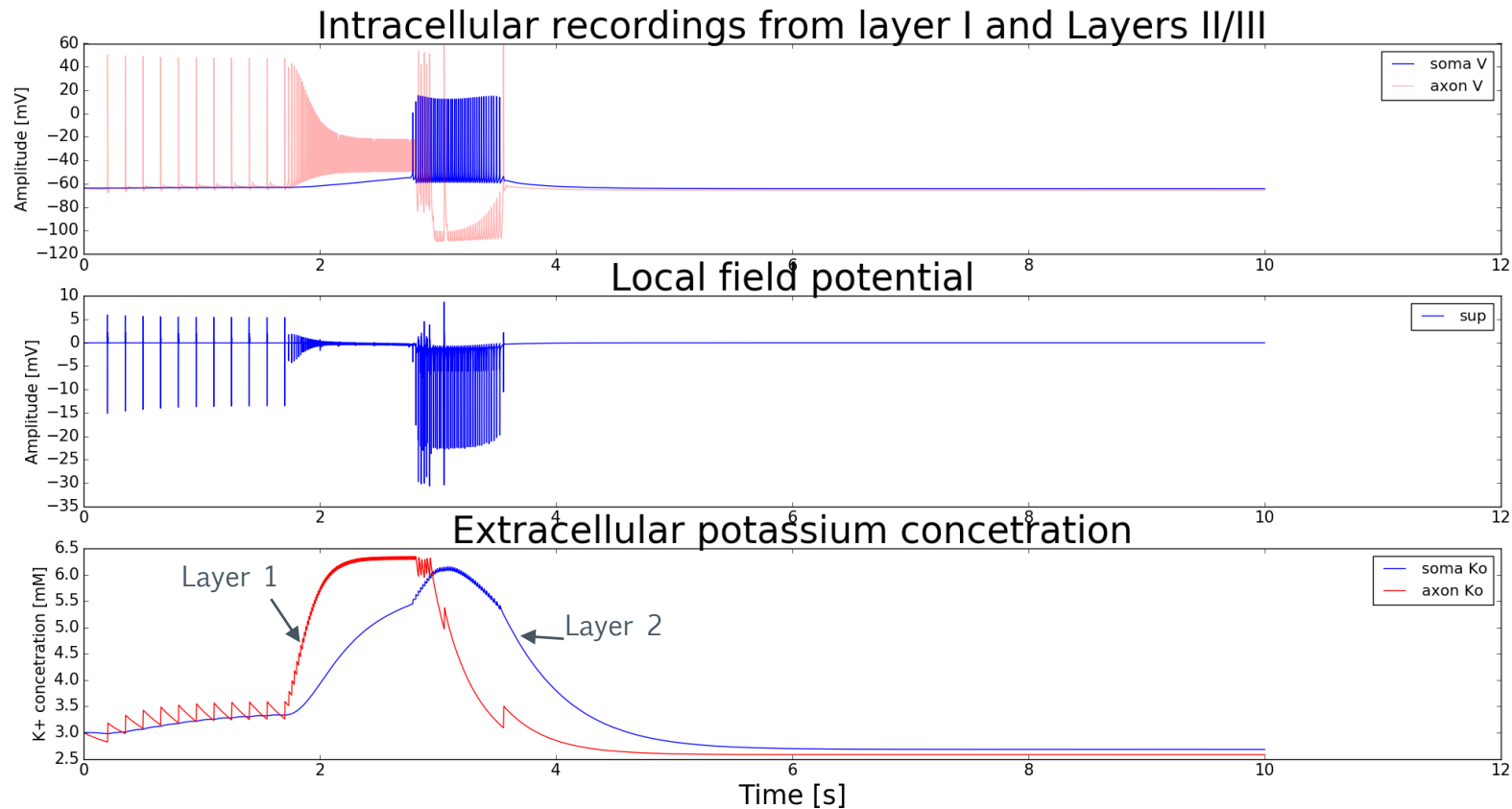
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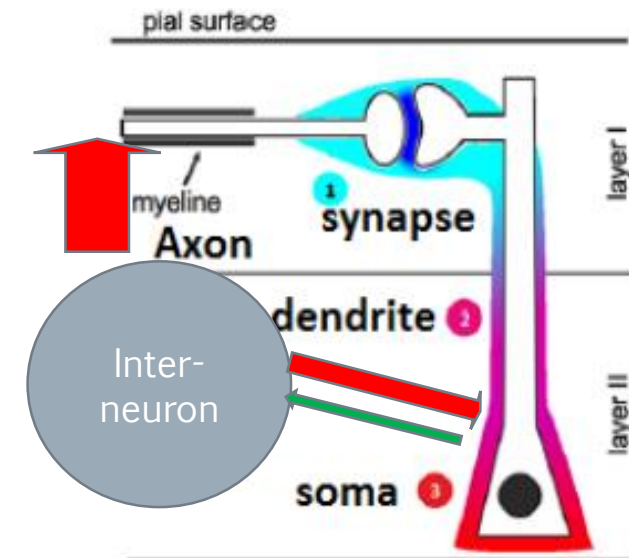
Seizure termination?

- › Low potassium clearance by glia
- › Blocked synaptic transmission
- › Excitatory connection from soma to interneuron
- › Strong inhibitory connection from interneuron to layer 1 and Layer 2/3



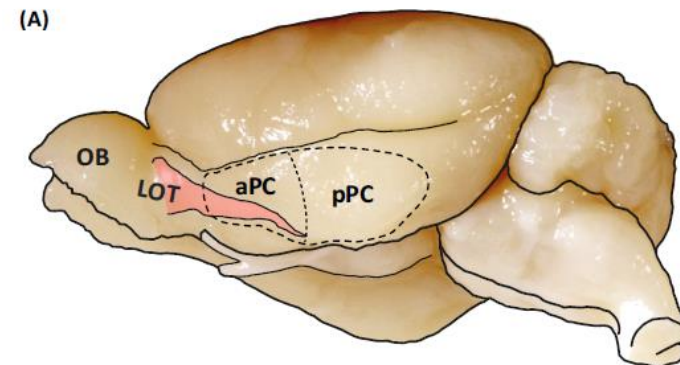
Inhibitory connection 

Excitatory connection 



SUMMARY

- › Very simple model that generated normal activity in high glia buffering conditions
- › Model reproduced main stages of the of the novel seizure pattern observed in experimental studies
- › Model exhibited stationary behavior in seizure-like state but still did not explain termination phase



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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