

SeRC Complex Diseases - Neuro:  
**e-Science challenges in the Neuroscience field**  
- and examples of SeRC related projects

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Karolinska  
Institutet

STOCKHOLM BRAIN INSTITUTE

Integrating brain research from genes to behaviour



International Neuroinformatics  
Coordinating Facility



The brain a challenge for science and society

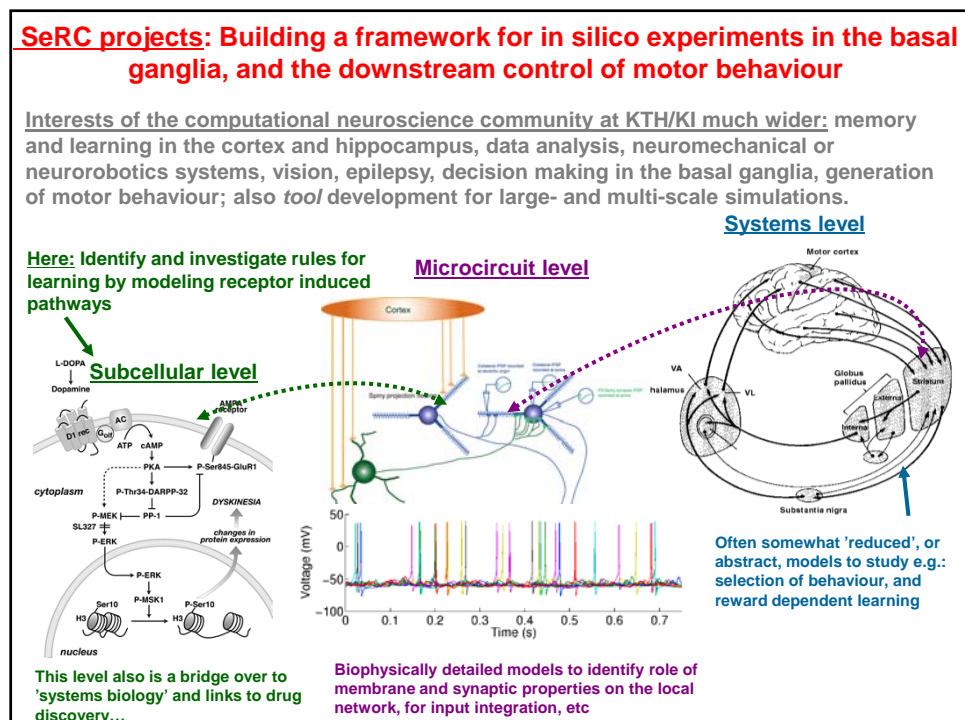
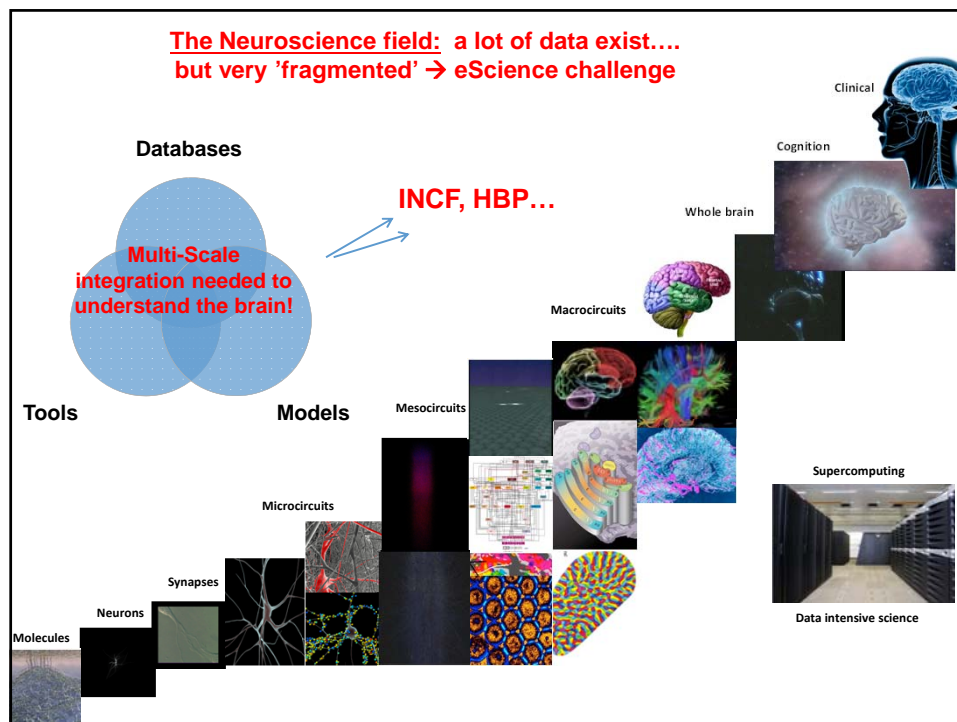
- Amazing information processing capabilities
- Energy efficient
- 'Robust' and adaptive



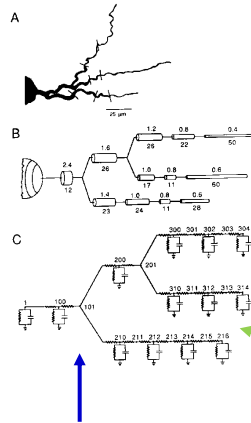
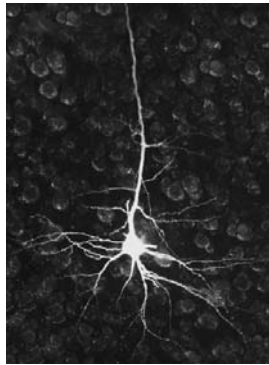
→ 'Alien' technology  
that we need to  
understand better



Diseases - 800 billions Euro/year in EU → motivation to put efforts into understanding better how the brain works, from molecule to behaviour



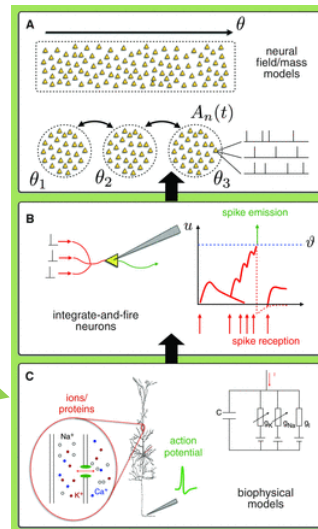
**Modeling neurons/networks – compartmentalize to deal with the spatial problem; use an *equivalent electrical circuit* for the membrane**



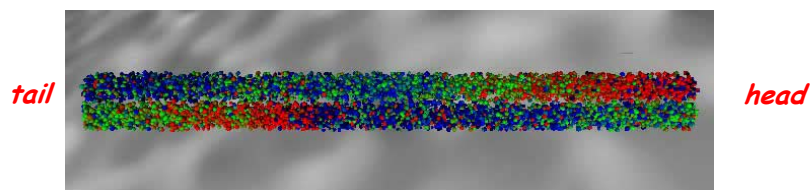
**"Equivalent electrical circuits"**

(can result in many thousand differential equations per model cell when many ion channels represented → computationally heavy, but scales well on parallel computers)

**Model reductions used sometimes:**



**Example of simulations of detailed and large networks (KI/KTH collaborations) – motor pattern generation in the lamprey**



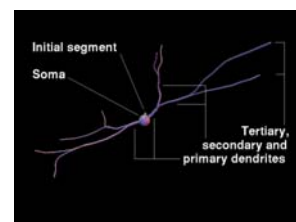
*tail*

*head*

*around one full wave length along the body*

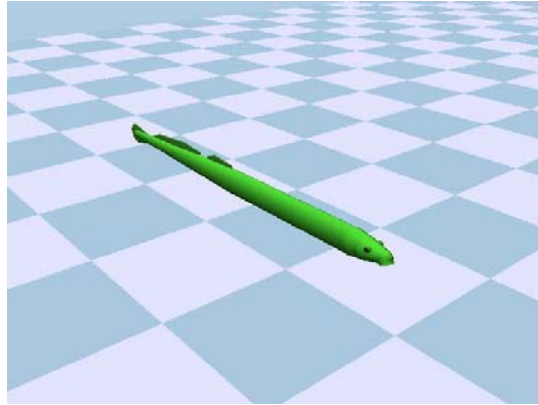
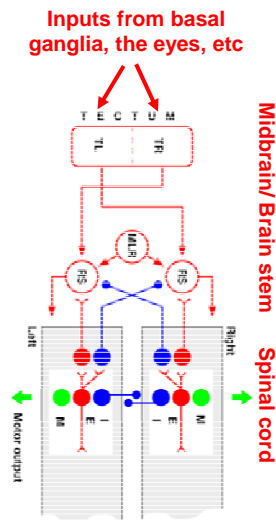
● **spiking** ● **inhibited** ● **depolarized**

- Full scale models have been simulated (10000 neurons, almost 760000 synapses, 86 compartments per cell )
- Compare predictions from model with *in vitro* or *in vivo* experiments: control of swimming frequency/speed; role of endogenous modulators (DA, 5-HT, etc)
- Control of the coordination along cord (phase lag)
- Recently: use above as platform to study the control from brainstem and basal ganglia, etc



above from Kozlov et al, 2009, PNAS 106:20027-32, and Huss et al, 2007, J Neurophysiol. 97:2696-711

## Study the control of such motor networks during steering – can the neural activity generated explain behaviour?\*

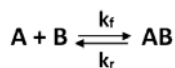


Kozlov, et al, PNAS 111(9):3591-6 (2014) – spinal cord network linked to mechanical part, controlled by brain stem, etc

→ Future work: use a more detailed basal ganglia module to control behaviour

\*(SeRC supported)

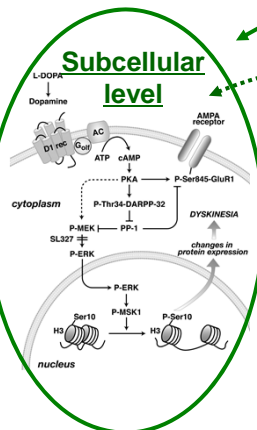
- 1- Build network, e.g. X reactions; Y species; Z parameters



- 2- Convert it to ODEs

$$\frac{d[AB]}{dt} = k_f \cdot [A] \cdot [B] - k_r \cdot [AB]$$

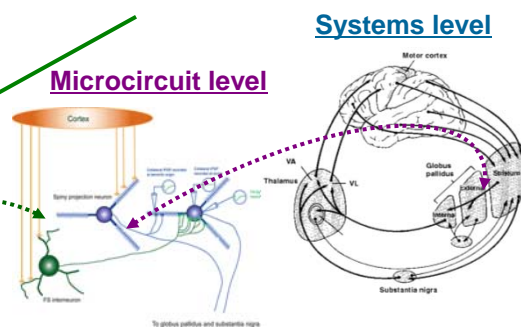
- 3- Fit model



## Also investigate the subcellular level...

Modeling of subcellular systems to understand learning; also a bridge over to drug discovery

### Systems level

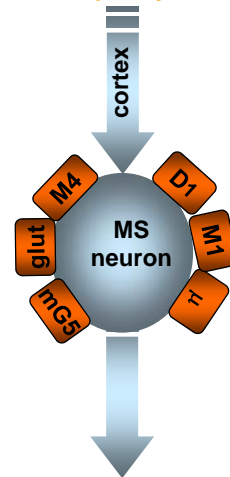
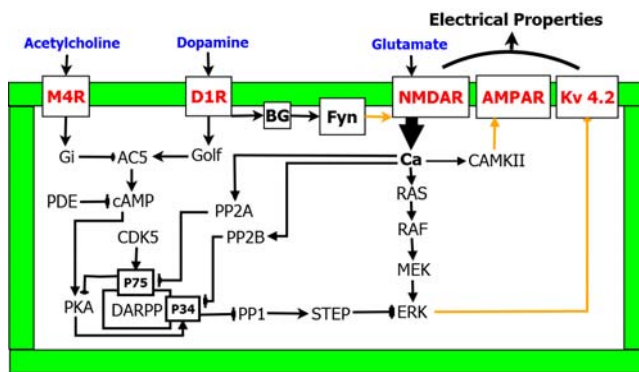


Neuron's morphology is complex. Subcellular compartments have very small volumes and also some molecules diffuse while others are anchored locally → stochastic approaches necessary

## Ongoing or recent work on subcellular level\*

**Questions:** What are the mechanisms underlying reward dependent learning in the basal ganglia? How is signaling changed in addiction? How can plasticity be restored in disease? How are membrane conductances affected by different neuromodulators?

Example system

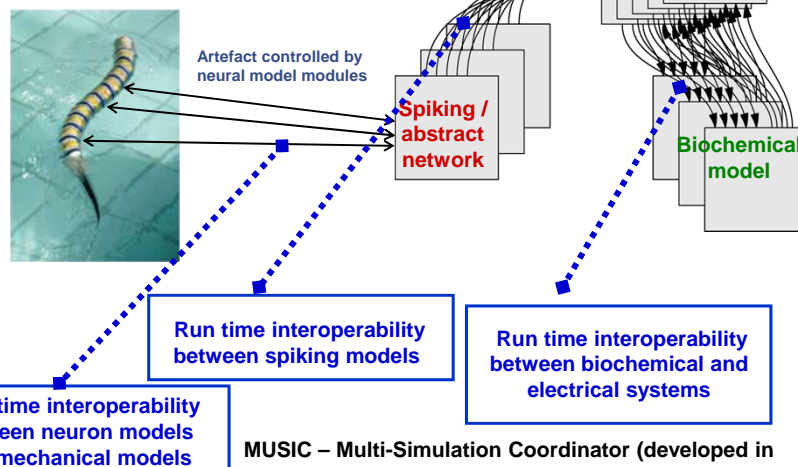


Synthesizing conflicting data related to dopamine and glutamate interactions: Gutierrez-Arenas O, Eriksson O, Kotaleski JH (2014) PLoS Comput Biol. 10(1):e1003445 (SeRC supported)

## Further visions....

Fields involved: HPC, visualization, numerical analysis, robotics, neuroscience

Requirements: linking of simulators during runtime



MUSIC – Multi-Simulation Coordinator (developed in collaboration with INCF), see Djurfeldt et al, 2010, Neuroinformatics 8:43-60

**incf** | **Neuro  
Informatics 2014**  
Leiden, The Netherlands | August 25 - 27



Confirmed speakers: **Margarita Behrens**  
**Dmitri (Mitya) Chklovskii**  
**Daniel Choquet**  
**Ila Fiete**  
**Michael Milham**  
**Felix Schürmann**



INCF 2014 Short Course

## Introduction to Neuroinformatics

**August 22-23, 2014**

Prior to the INCF Annual Congress  
Leiden, the Netherlands

**Application deadline:**  
**May 20, 2014**

No course fee  
Travel support available

data analysis and neuronal coding  
databases and ontologies  
multiscale modeling  
neuroengineering  
simulation/computation/workflows  
clinical applications  
visualization

**For:**  
neuroscience researchers  
informatics researchers  
advanced students  
postdoctoral researchers  
faculty members





## In interactions with.....

- KTH and KI collaborators (Sten Grillner, Gilad Silberberg, Alex Kozlov, Anders Lansner, Michael Hanke, Olivia Eriksson )
- SeRC Application experts/ INCF researchers: Mikael Djurfeldt, David Silverstein
- PhD students and postdocs at KTH and KI (Omar Gutierrez-Arenas, Anu Nair, Ekaterina Brocke, Jovana Belic, Johannes Hjorth, Andreas Klaus, Mikael Lindahl, Kai Du, Pierre Berthet , Robert Lindroos – modeling)
- Kim “Avrama” Blackwell, USA (modeling, NeuroRD)
- Laurent Venance, Paris (experiments, synaptic plasticity)
- Arvind Kumar, Freiburg and Matthias Hennig, Edinburgh (modeling/theory)
- Upi Bhalla, Bangalore (modeling/experiments)

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