



# Efforts on the integration and large-scale simulation of a whole-brain model led to the development of a collaborative framework for data-driven modeling

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HBP Partnering Projects Meeting: Status quo & outlook

5-7 September 2022 | Nijmegen, The Netherlands



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Computational modeling of the Brain

## Technical targets

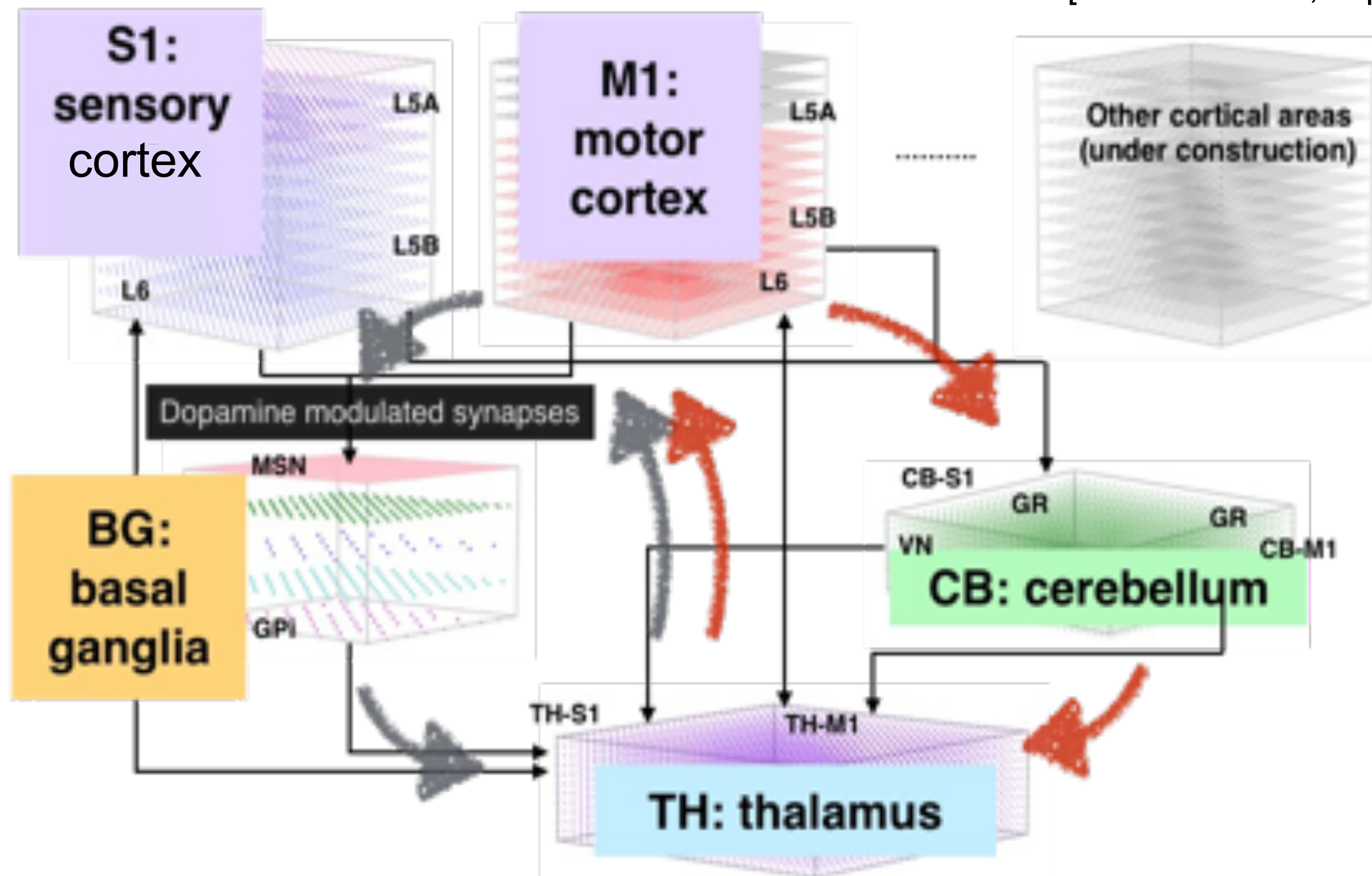
- ▶ Large scale simulation of neural models of different species on supercomputer.
- ▶ Improve simulation performance in terms of computational time, memory consumption, and processes communication.
- ▶ The ultimate goal is to simulate a real size human brain.

## Scientific targets

- ▶ Investigate the dynamic nature of the whole-brain network realized by the interaction of multiple type of neurons [**Prof. Anne Graybiel: “Dynamics are critical”**].
- ▶ Understanding dynamics of cognitive and motor functions.
- ▶ Understanding neural dynamics of Mental Diseases.
- ▶ Integration with musculoskeletal models / robots.

# A model of the Whole-brain

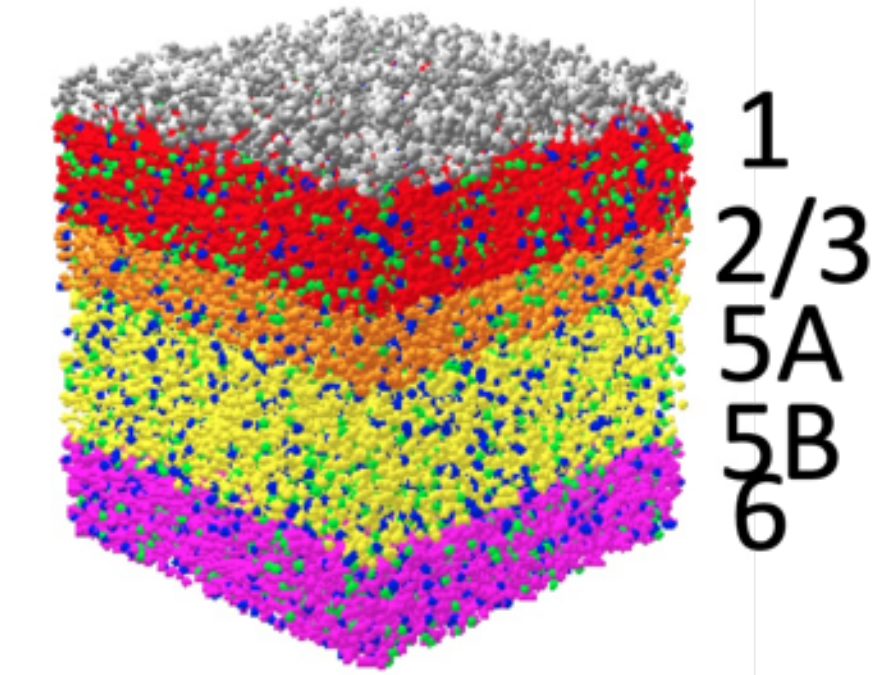
[Gutierrez et al., in preparation]



(only few population layers and inter-regional connections are displayed)

- ▶ Each region is modelled with **multiple layers using NEST**
- ▶ Several Integrate-and-Fire **neuron and synapse models**.
- ▶ Model is **biologically constrained** by electrophysiological, anatomical and morphological data.

## Cerebral Cortex

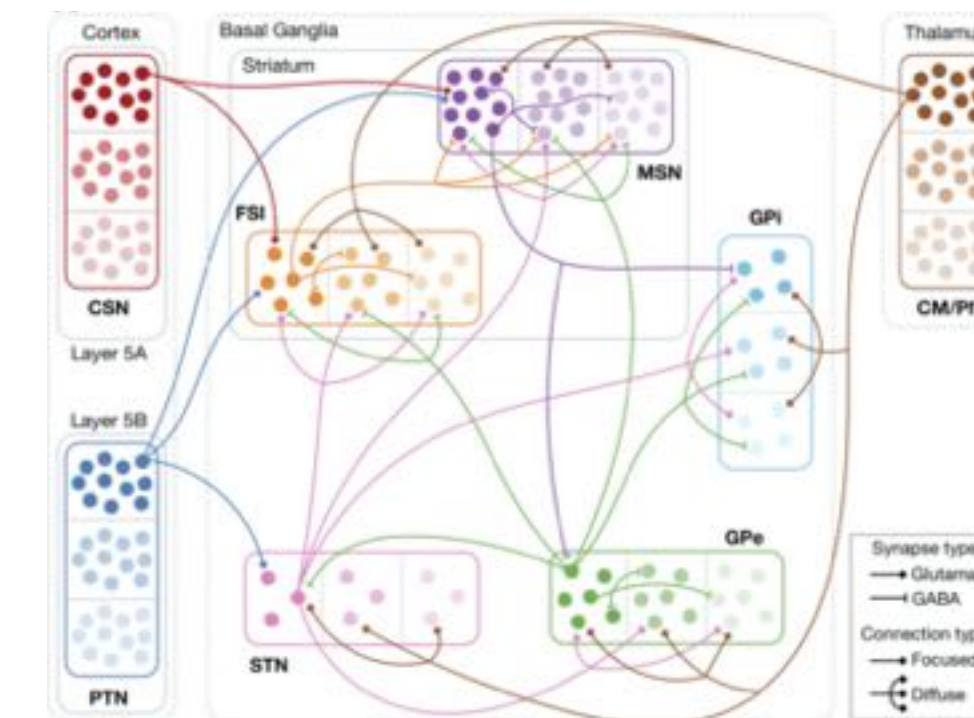


[Igarashi et al., 2019 Front. Neuroinformatics]

[Sun et al., 2019 JNNS 2019]

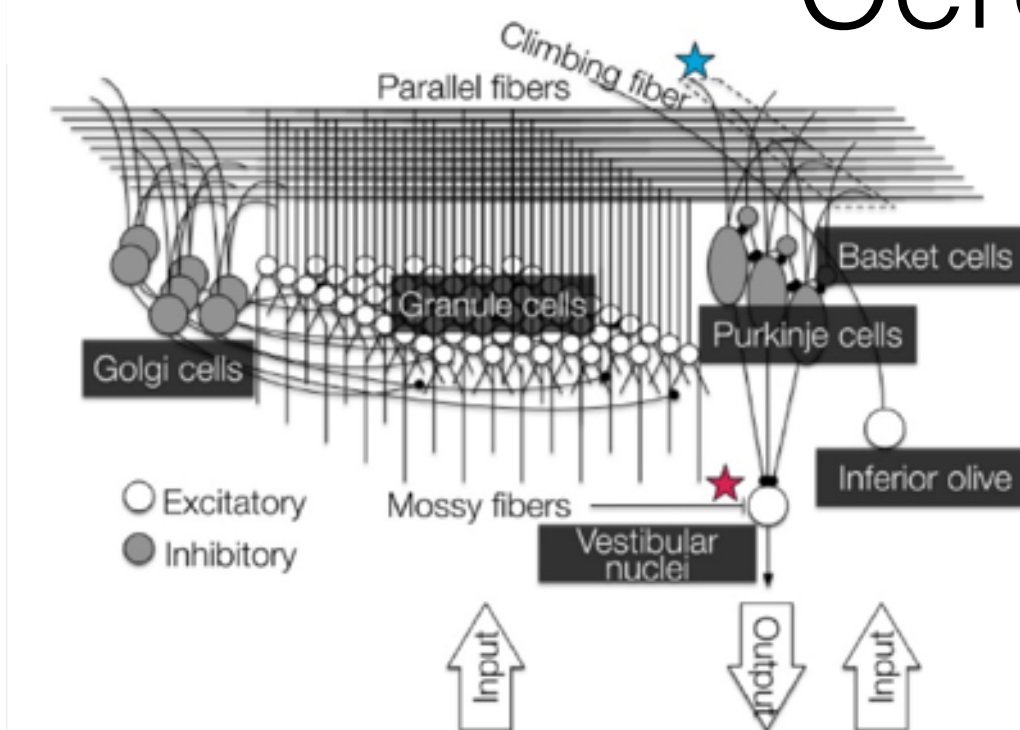
[Heidarinejad et al., 2019 JNNS 2019]

## Basal Ganglia



[Girard et al., EJM 2020]

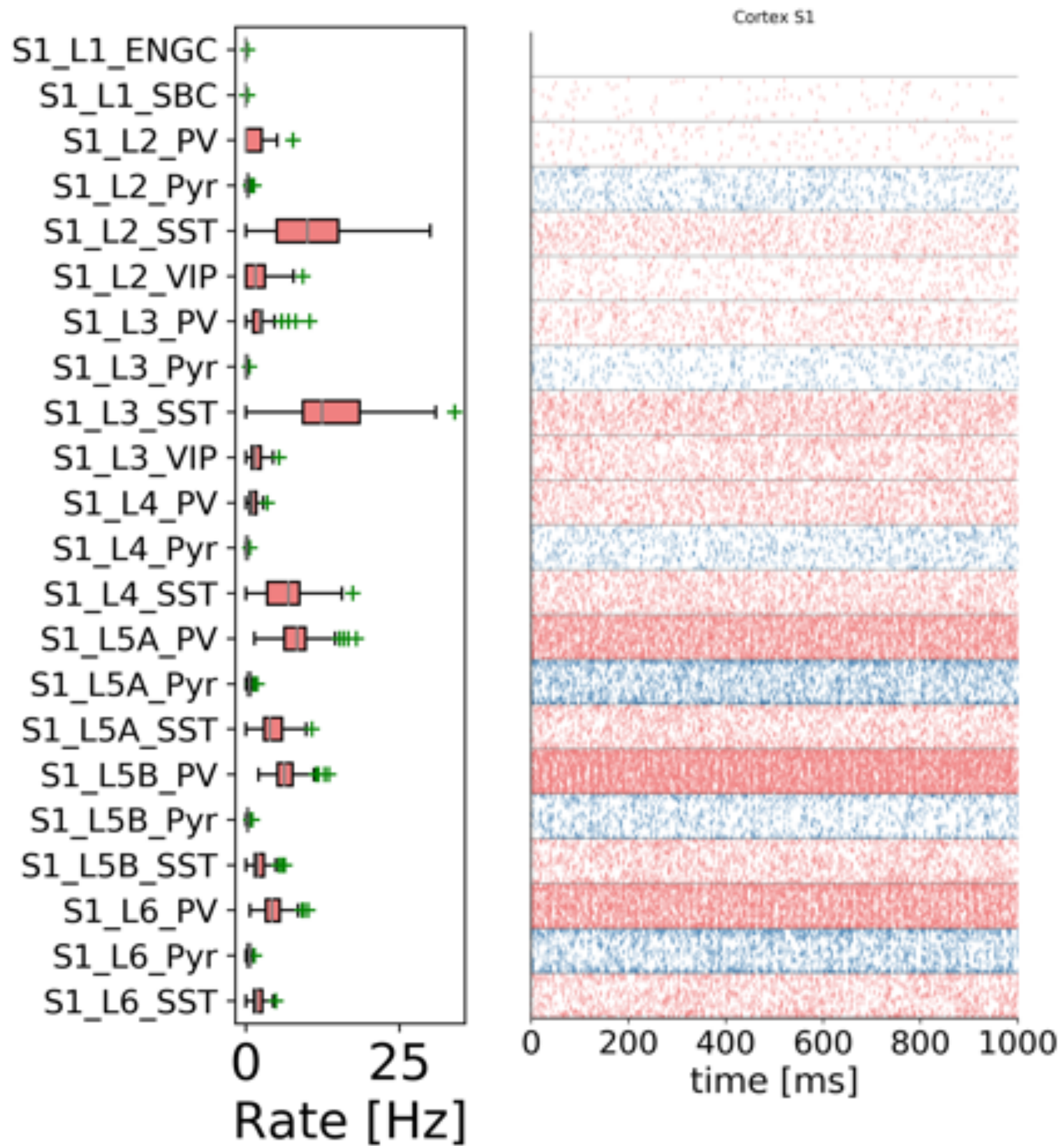
## Cerebellum



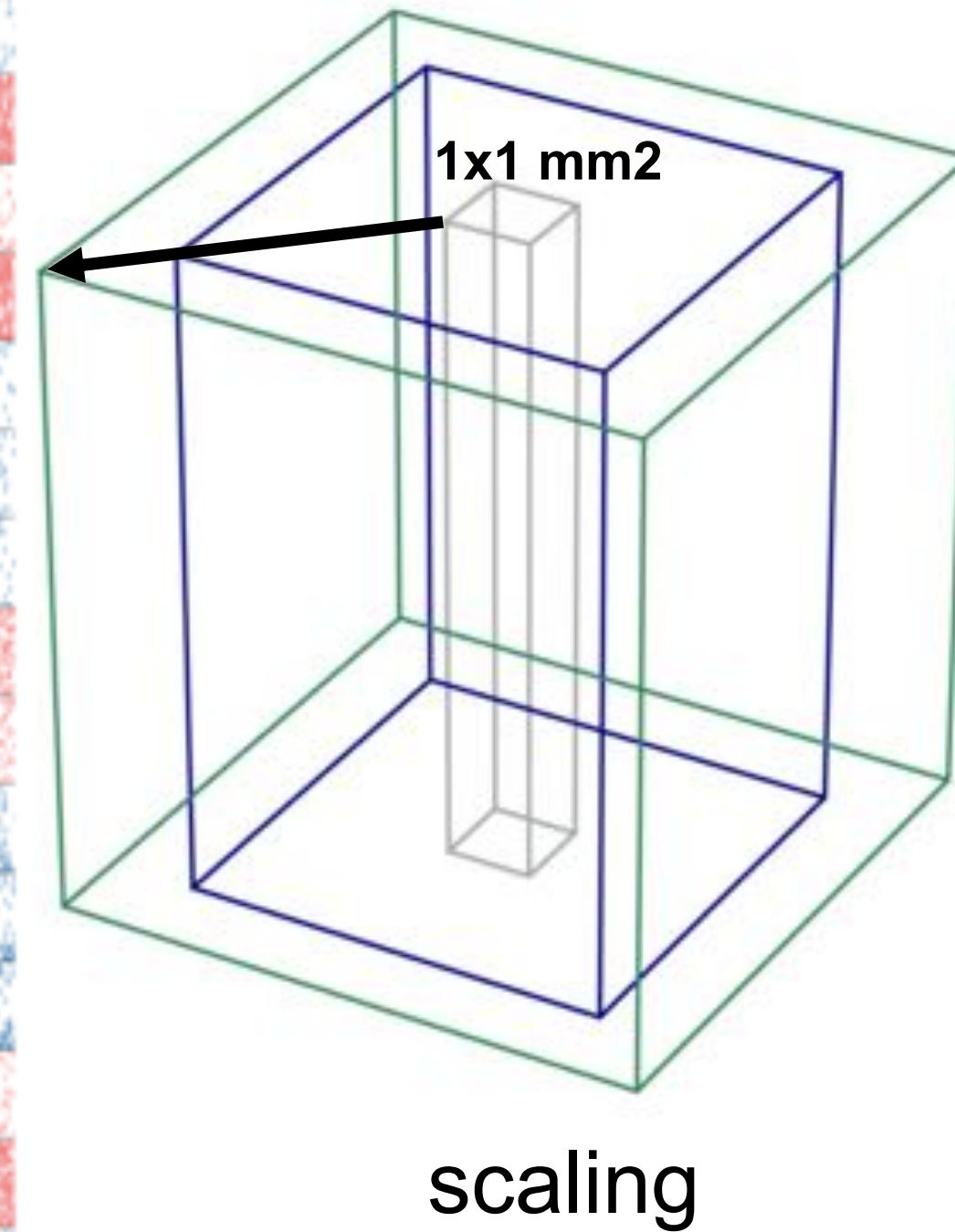
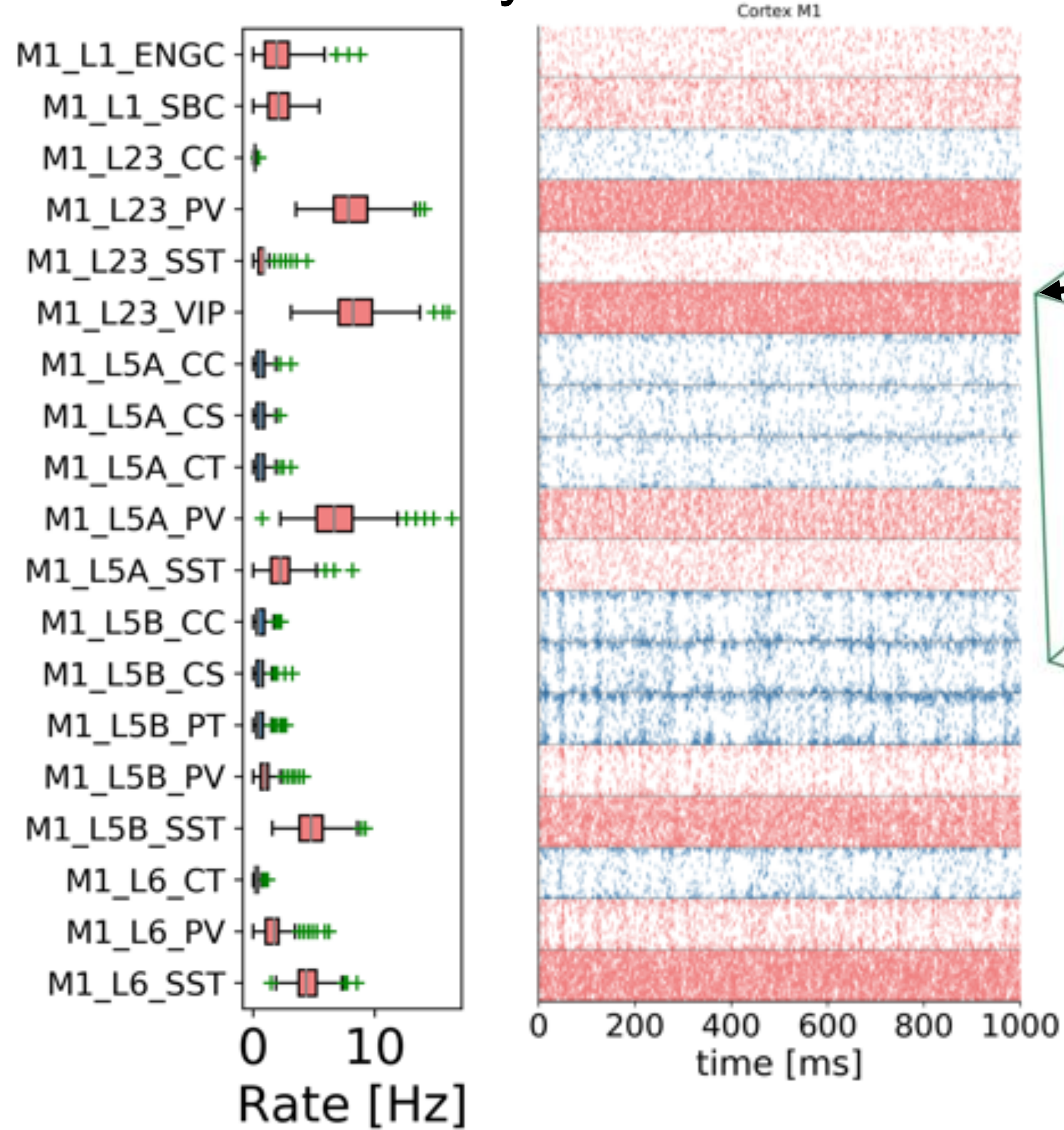
[Yamazaki and Nagao, PLoS ONE 2012]

# Cortical Areas - Resting State (1000 ms) nest::

## S1 - Primary Somatosensory Cortex



## M1 - Primary Motor Cortex



# EXABRAINPREP - Preparing brain models for exascale systems (NEST)

**Target:** to address scaling issues during network construction

**Outputs:**

- Whole-Brain model [Gutierrez, Sun, et al., in preparation] migration from NEST 2 to NEST 3 (PyNEST).
- Implementation of the new functions/commands in the model



- Representation of populations as compact GIDCollections

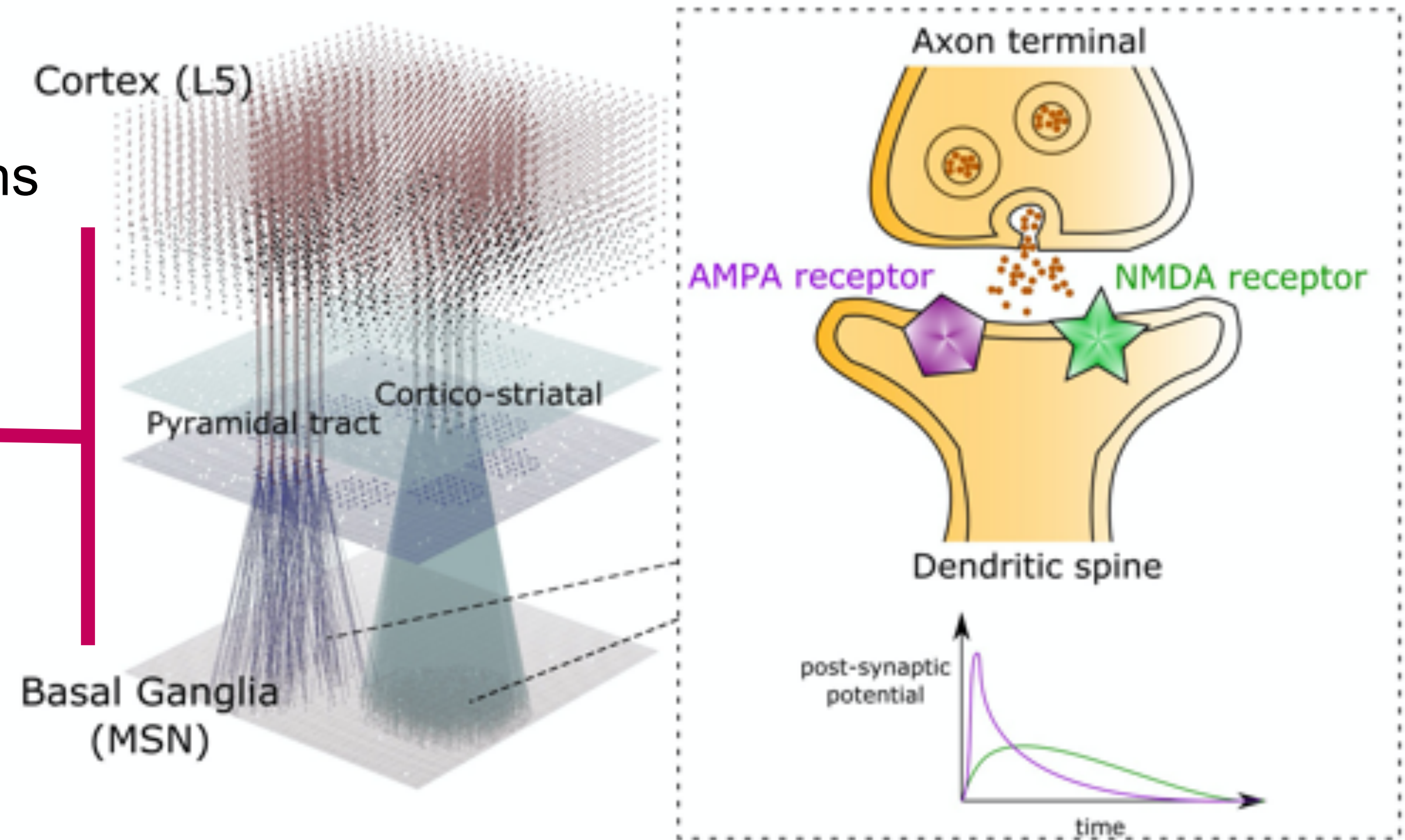
Neuronal populations are not full lists of neuron IDs anymore, that eliminates memory bloat.

- CollocatedSynapses()

It is now possible to create connections with several synapses simultaneously.

- Aggregated Connection Rules and BuildNetwork()

Aggregating Connect ( ) reduces significantly the call and parallelization overhead during network construction, by using the same connection rules across pairs of populations.



# Compiler Flags Evaluation for NEST 3 (PyNEST)@Fugaku supercomputer



[<https://www.r-ccs.riken.jp/en/fugaku/about/>]

## Compilers

C : Fujitsu mpifcc  
 C++ : Fujitsu mpiFCC

## Network Model

Brunel Network (Random balanced populations)  
 2 MPI processes running at an interactive job

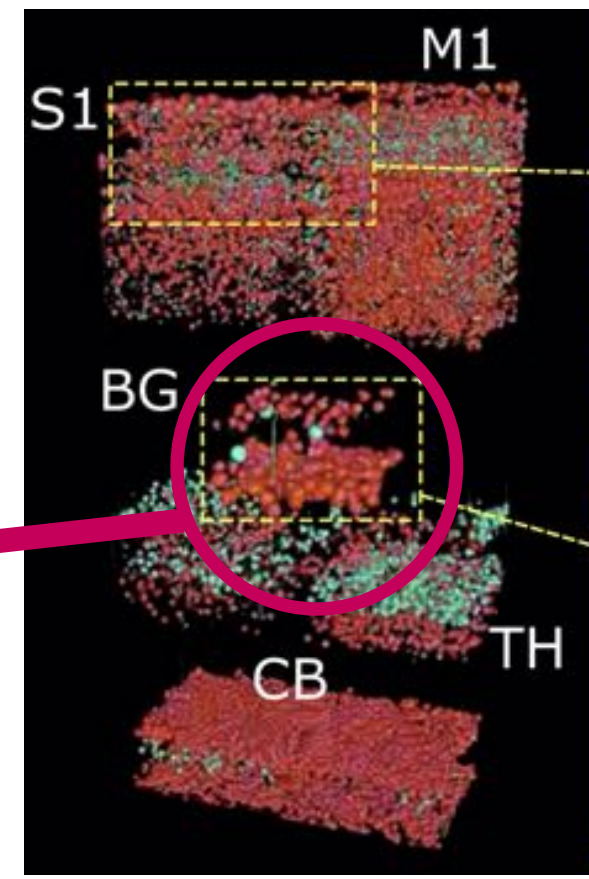
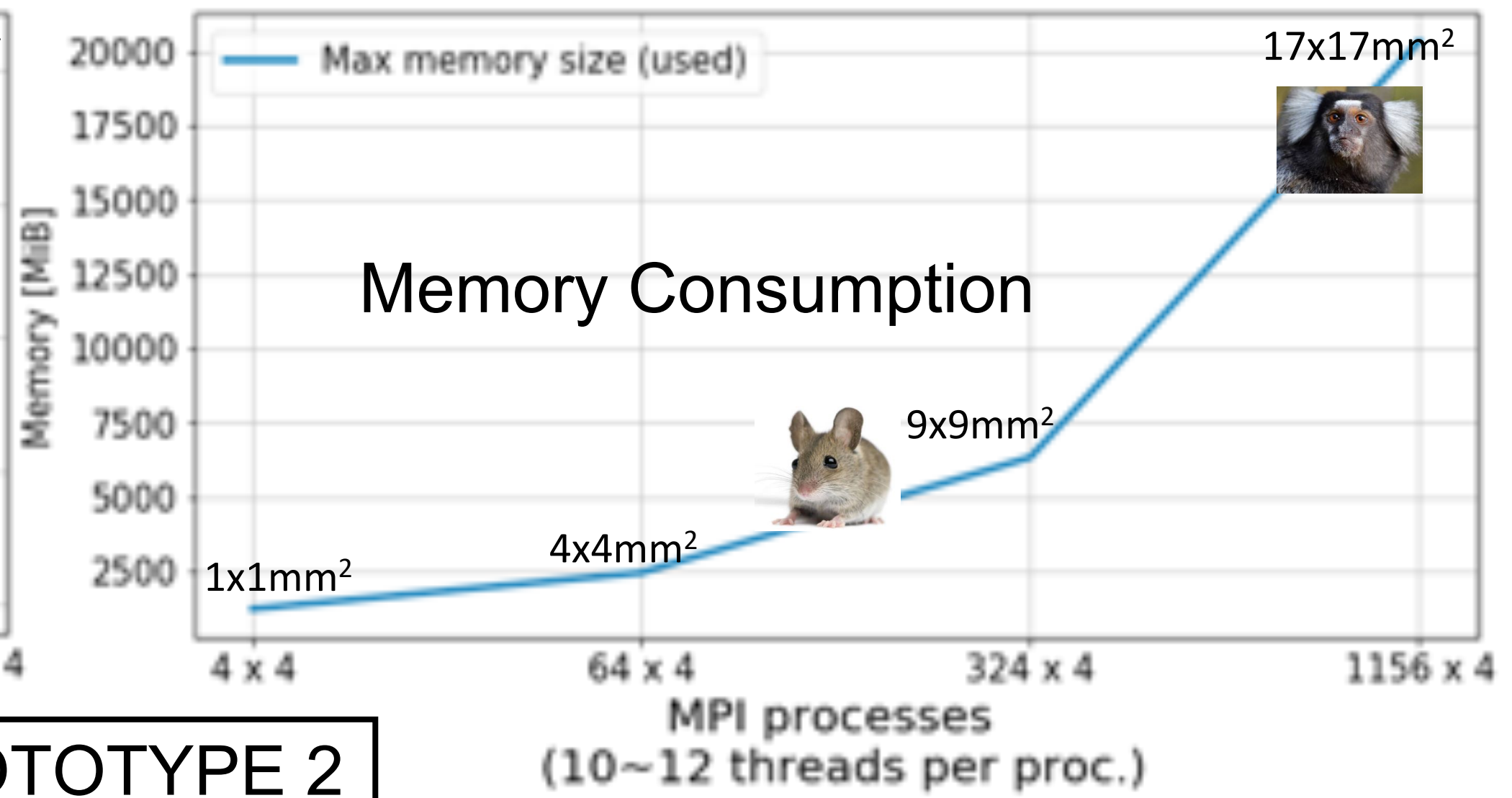
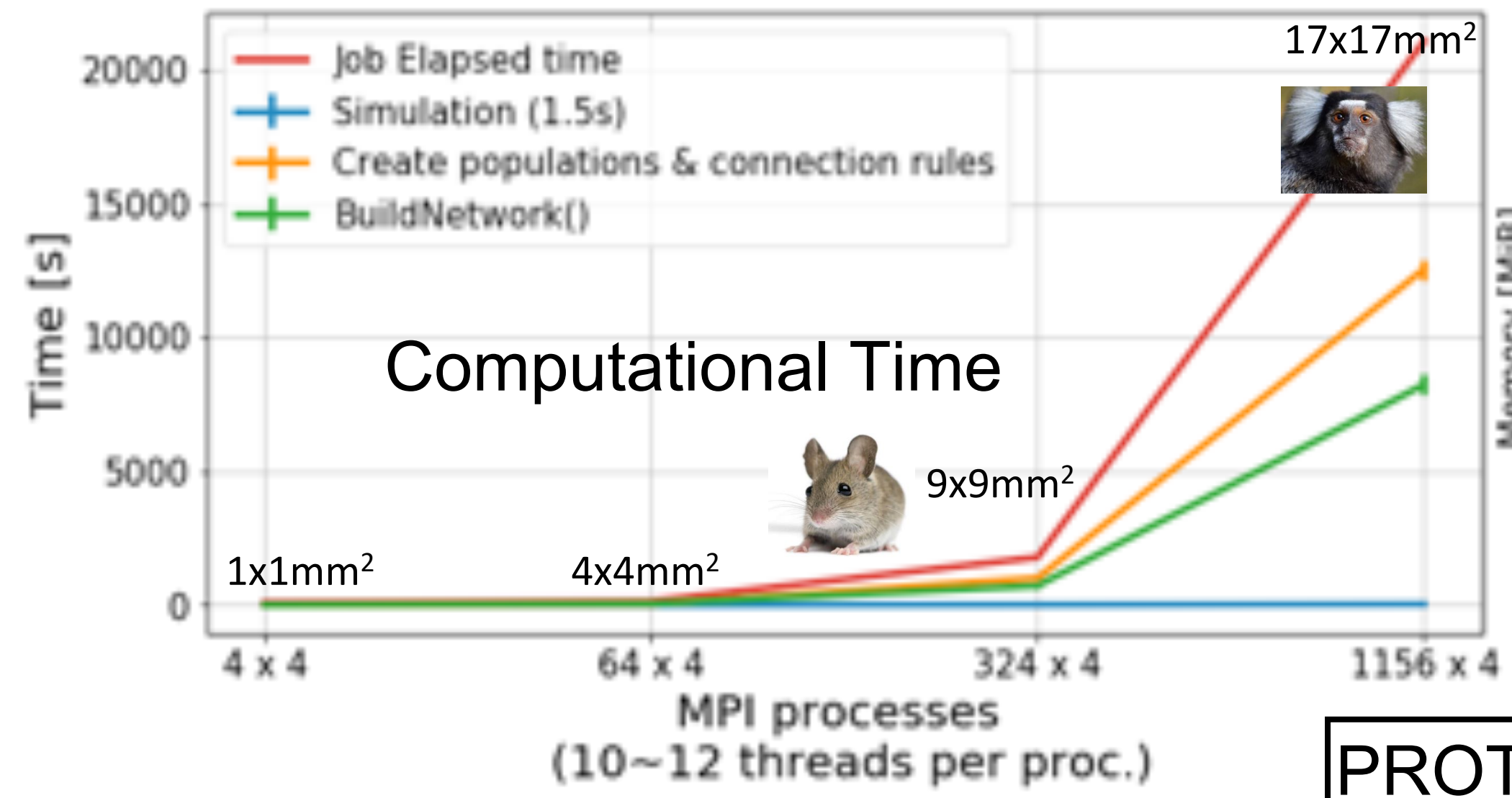
	C compiler flags : -fPIC -Kfast -Kparallel -x1 -fopenmp	C compiler flags : -fPIC -x1 -Kparallel -Kopenmp -openmp	C compiler flags : -fPIC -Kfast -x1 -Kparallel -Kopenmp -openmp	C compiler flags : -fPIC -Kfast -x1 -fopenmp	C compiler flags : -Kfast,parallel -fPIC -fopenmp	C compiler flags : -fPIC -fopenmp
	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -fPIC -Kfast -Kparallel -x1 -fopenmp	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -fPIC -x1 -Kparallel -Kopenmp -openmp	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -fPIC -Kfast -x1 -Kparallel -Kopenmp -openmp	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -fPIC -Kfast -x1 -fopenmp	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -Kfast,parallel -fPIC -fopenmp	C++ compiler flags : -std=c++11 -fPIC -fopenmp
<b>Building Time (s) per process</b>	44.20	48.04	42.36	42.44	17.17	163.52
<b>Simulation Time (s) per process</b>	85.73	111.30	85.74	85.59	51.73	446.93

# Scaling tests @FUGAKU supercomputer



富岳

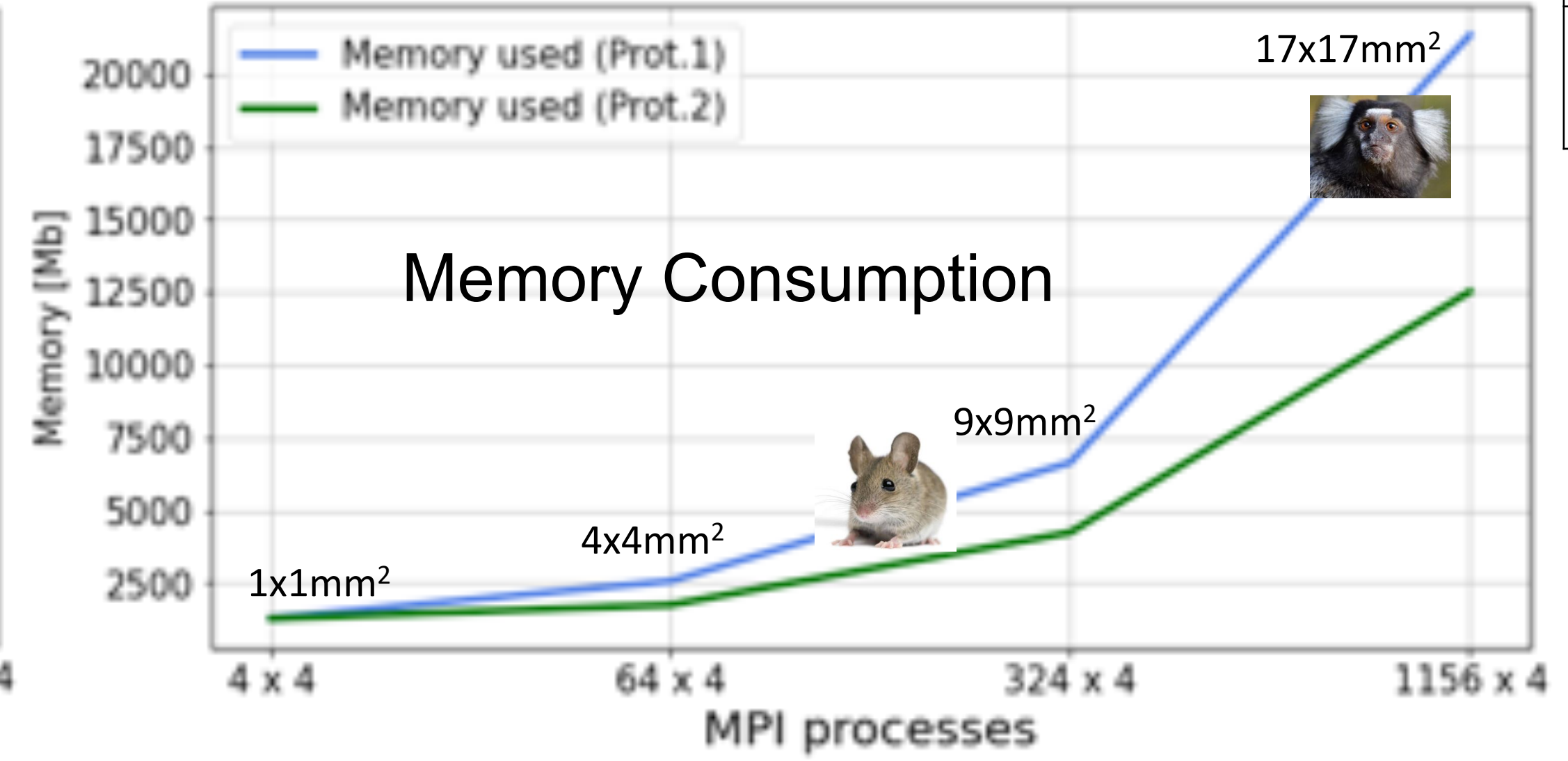
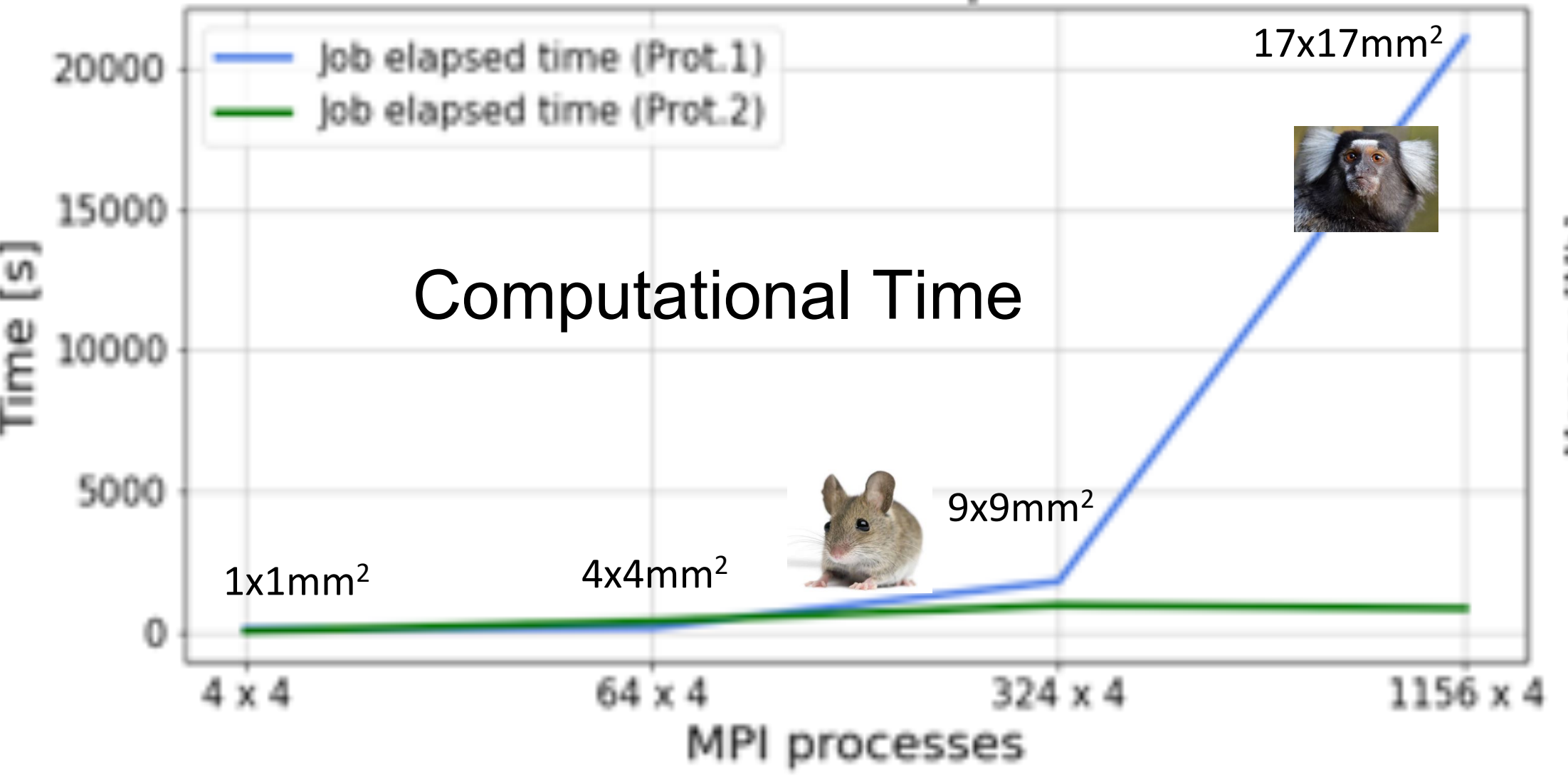
## PROTOTYPE 1



## Basal Ganglia

Network Size	Number of neurons
1x1mm <sup>2</sup>	47K
4x4mm <sup>2</sup>	751K
9x9mm <sup>2</sup>	3805K
17x17mm <sup>2</sup>	13576K

## PROTOTYPE 2



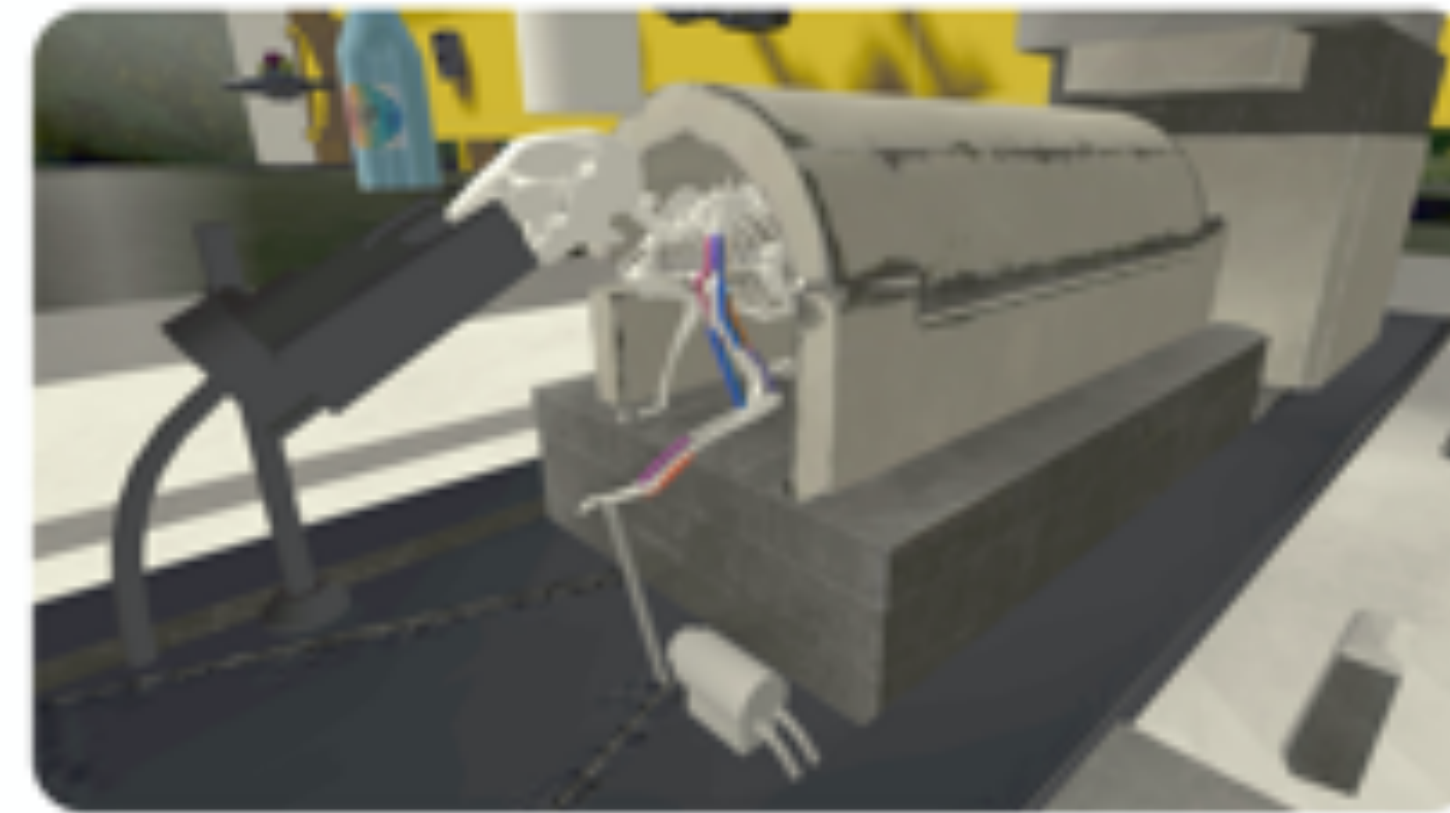
# *Next steps*

Model scaling to marmoset, macaque and human brain sizes, while improving model fitting and evaluating dynamics against experimental data.



# ROBOBRAIN (NRP)

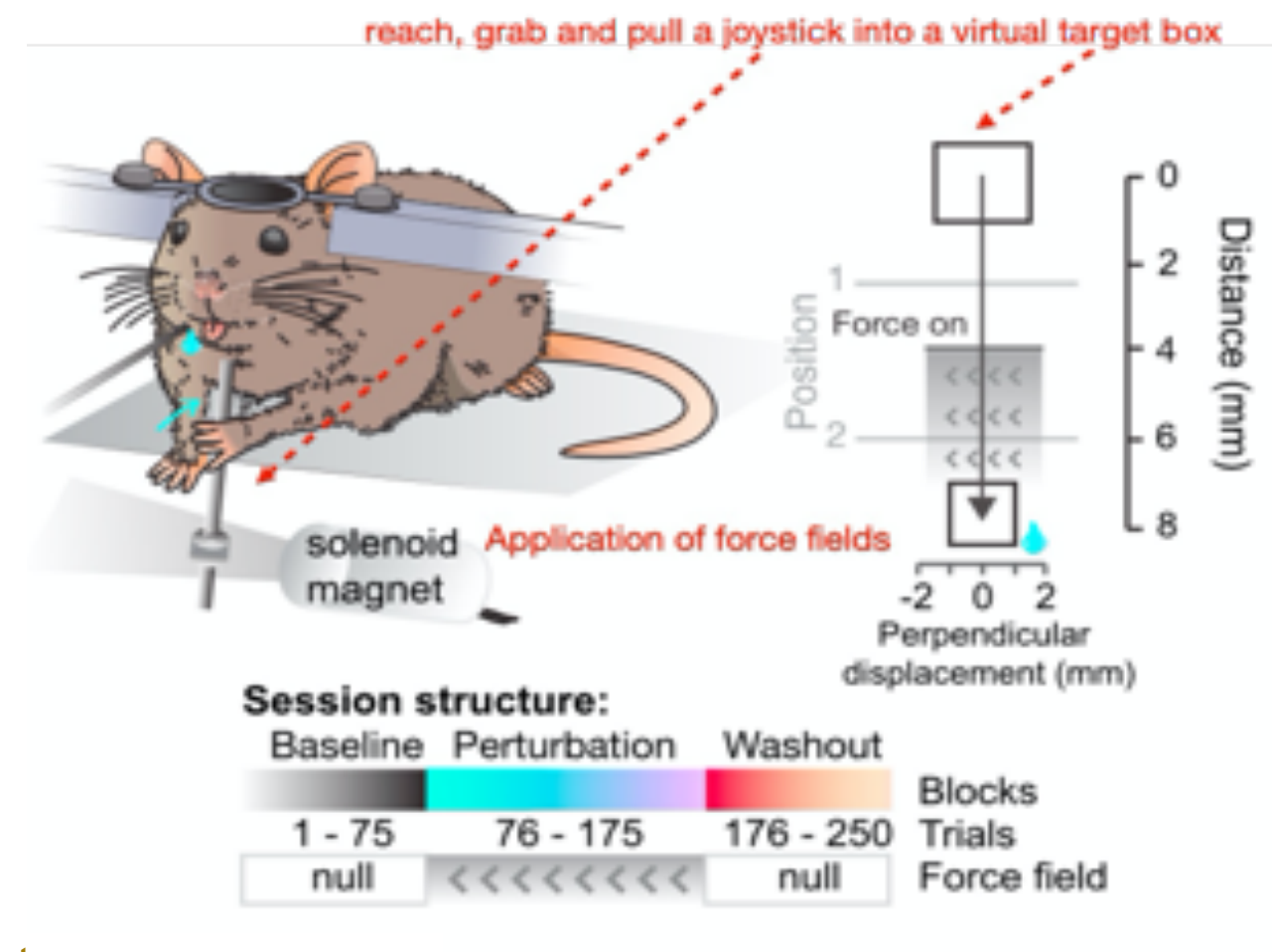
Target: **Whole-brain spiking neural network and rodent musculo-skeletal models integration for behavioral experimentation in the Neurorobotics Platform**



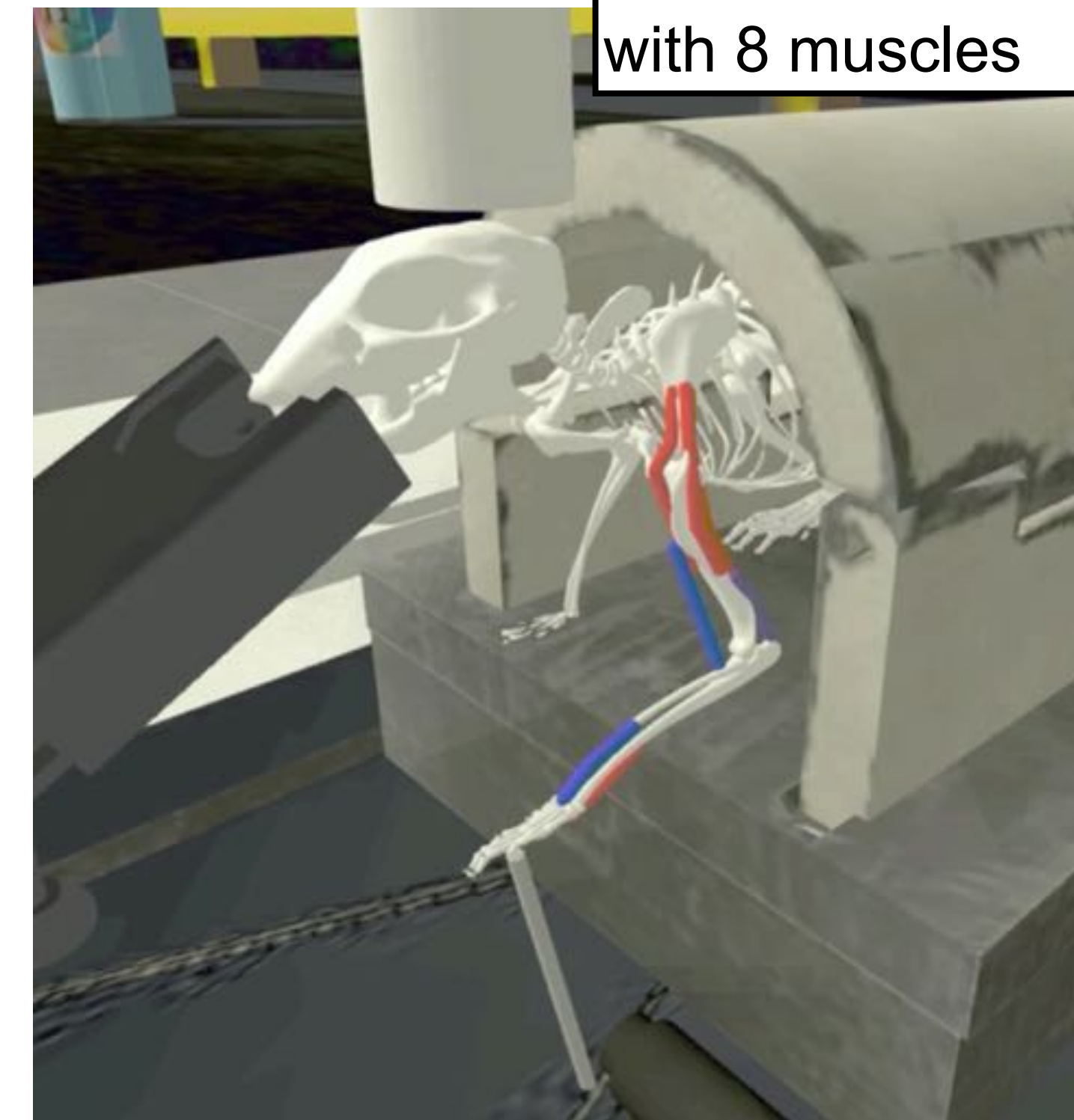
Body Model contains a mouse skeleton and a forelimb with 8 muscles

## Physical setup

- \*Mouse forelimb manipulating a Joystick with 2-degree of freedom.
- \*Based on M. Mathis et al., 2017 (Somatosensory Cortex Plays an Essential Role in Forelimb Motor Adaptation in Mice)



[M. Mathis et al., 2017]



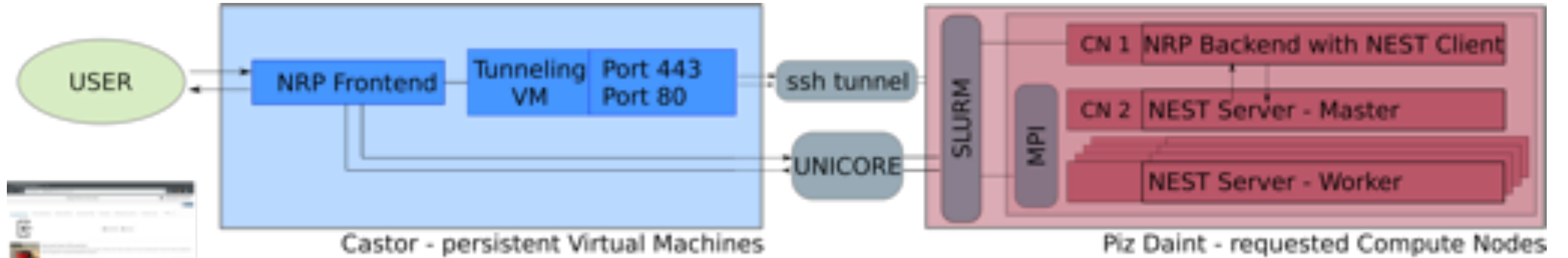
[Neurorobotics Platform, HBP]

Notes:

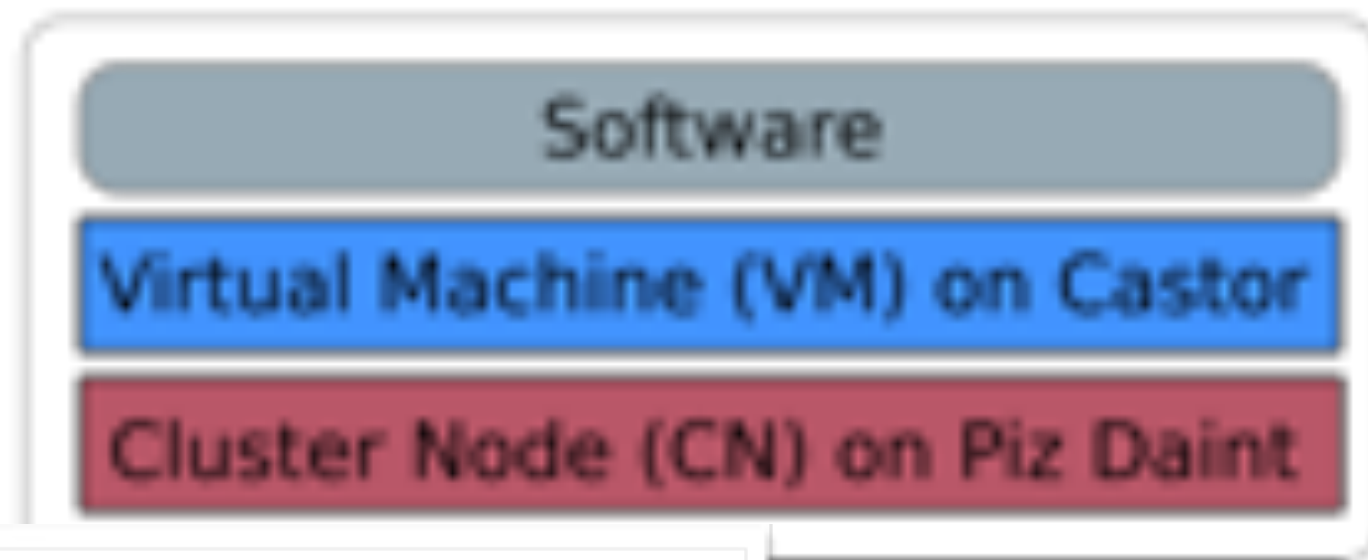
- Track the paw position and joystick position
- Task performed in the dark (or light conditions)
- Setting spatial thresholds to activate lateral force (based on joystick position)
- Joystick with 2-degree of freedom (xy plane).

# ROBOBRAIN (NRP)

## Deployed Architecture

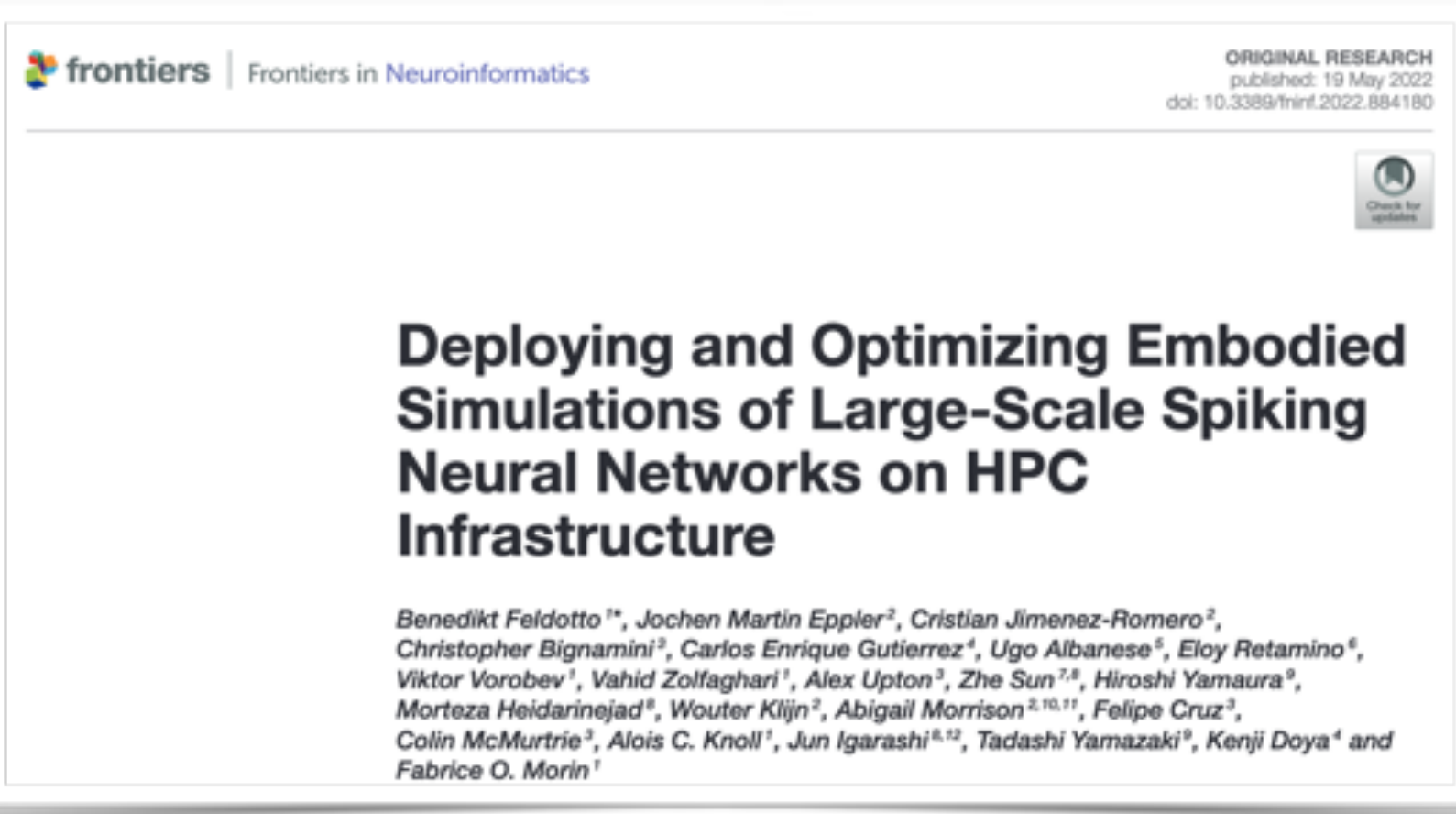
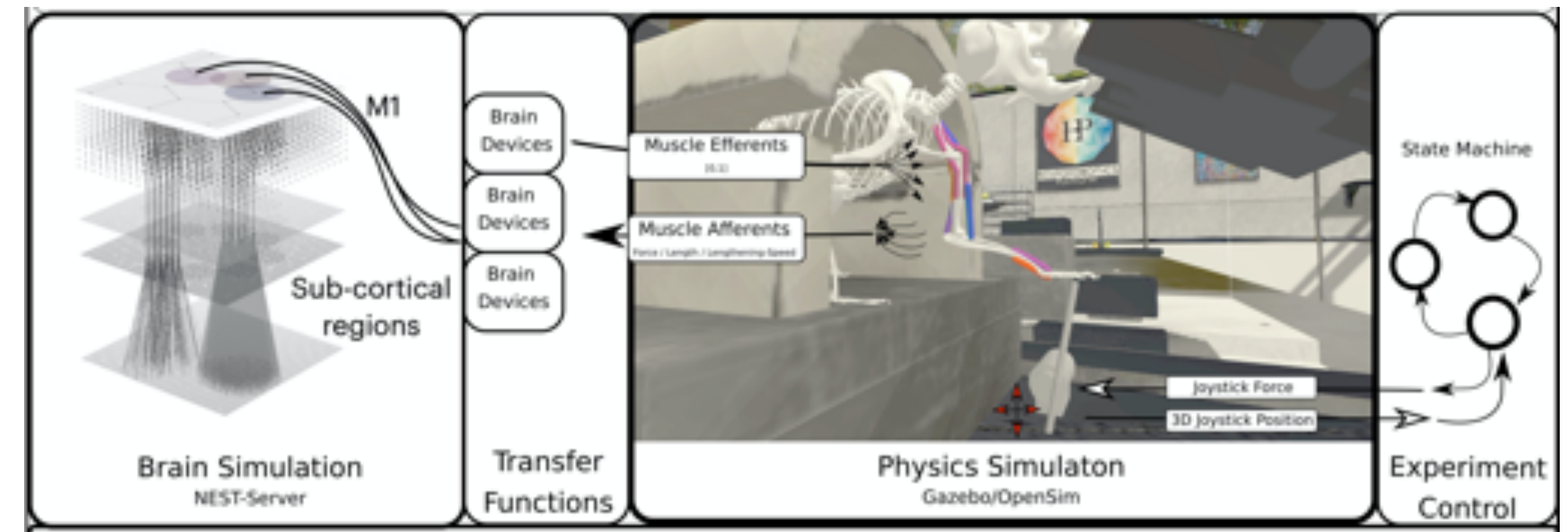


Graphical Interface



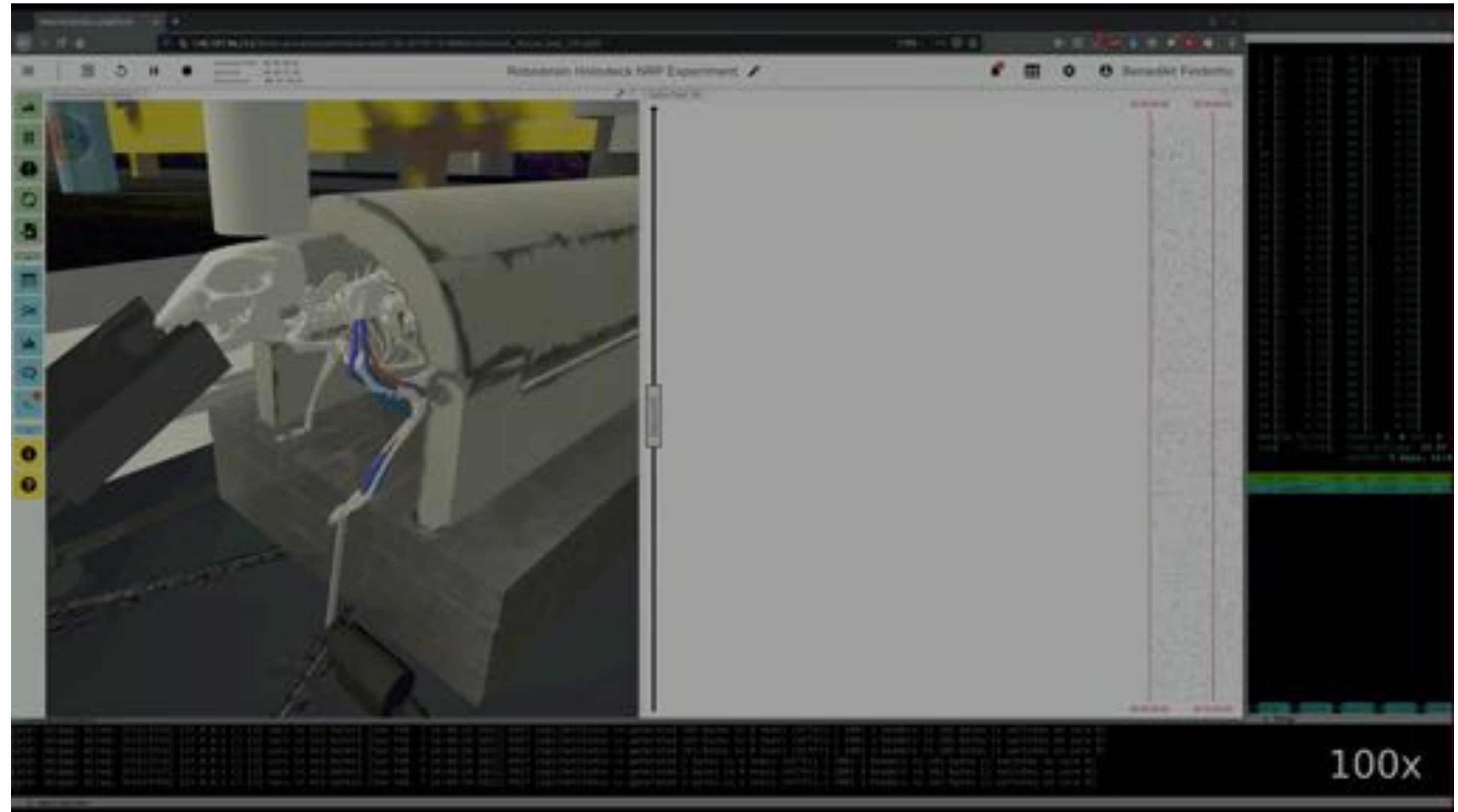
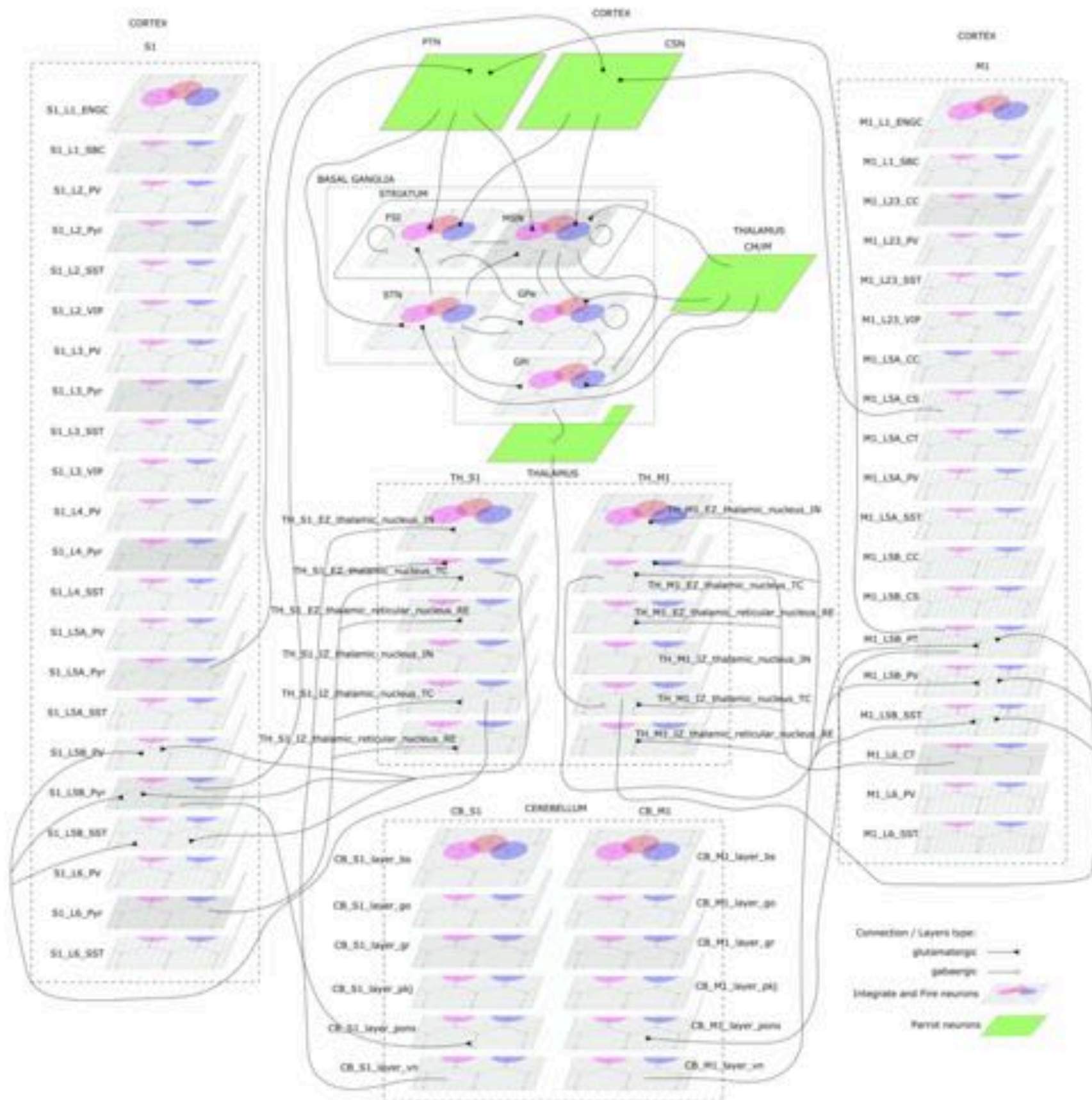
32 nodes (brain)

1 node (body)



# Proof-of-concept simulation @HBP infrastructure

- We connected WB model to a musculoskeletal model in the NRP
- Whole-Brain model correspond to NEST 3 version (PyNEST), with ~1M neurons ~1.5B synapses
- The motor cortex was stimulated, and the brain-body connection allowed forelimb movement

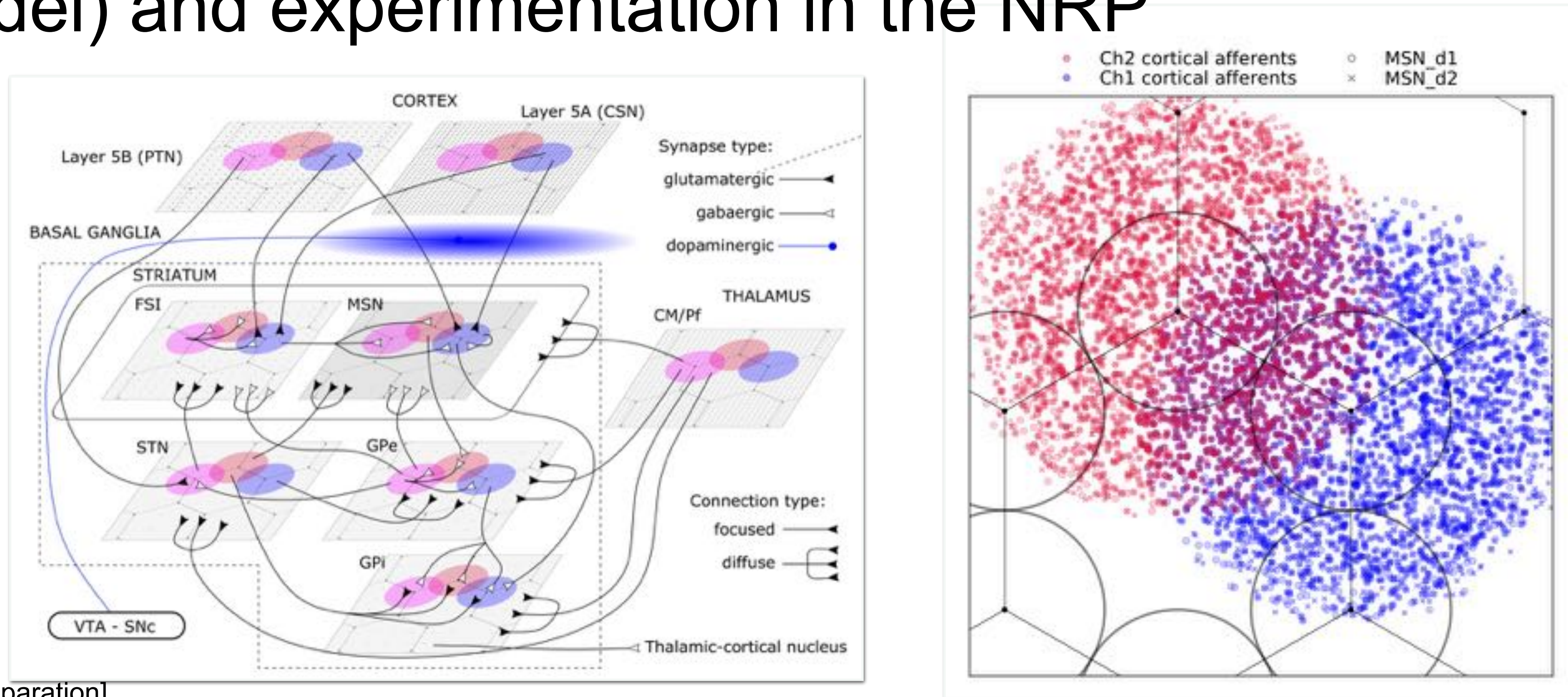


[Gutierrez, Sun, et al., in preparation]

[Feldotto B. et al., 2022]

# Next steps

Implementation of reinforcement learning (basal ganglia, large scale model) and experimentation in the NRP



[Gutierrez et al., in preparation]

# *SNNBuilder: A Spiking Neural Network Builder for Systematic Data-to-Model Workflow*

## **Goal:**

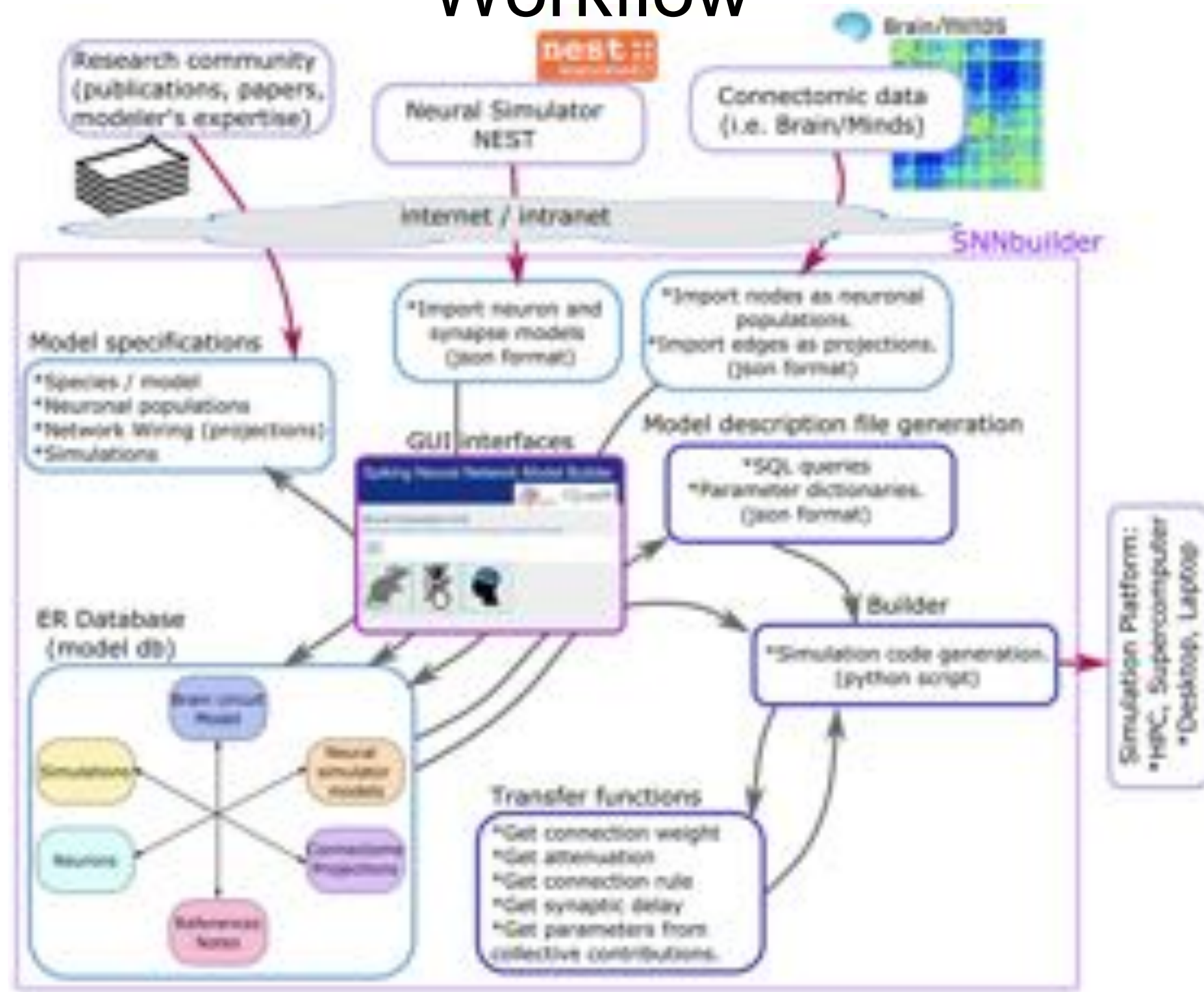
- Improve the impact of computational models in neuroscience, by building with transparency and data-driven validation (**no more black boxes**).
- Build **collaboratively**, by integrating multiple data sources and multi-user access.



# Workflow

# SNNBuilder

# GUI



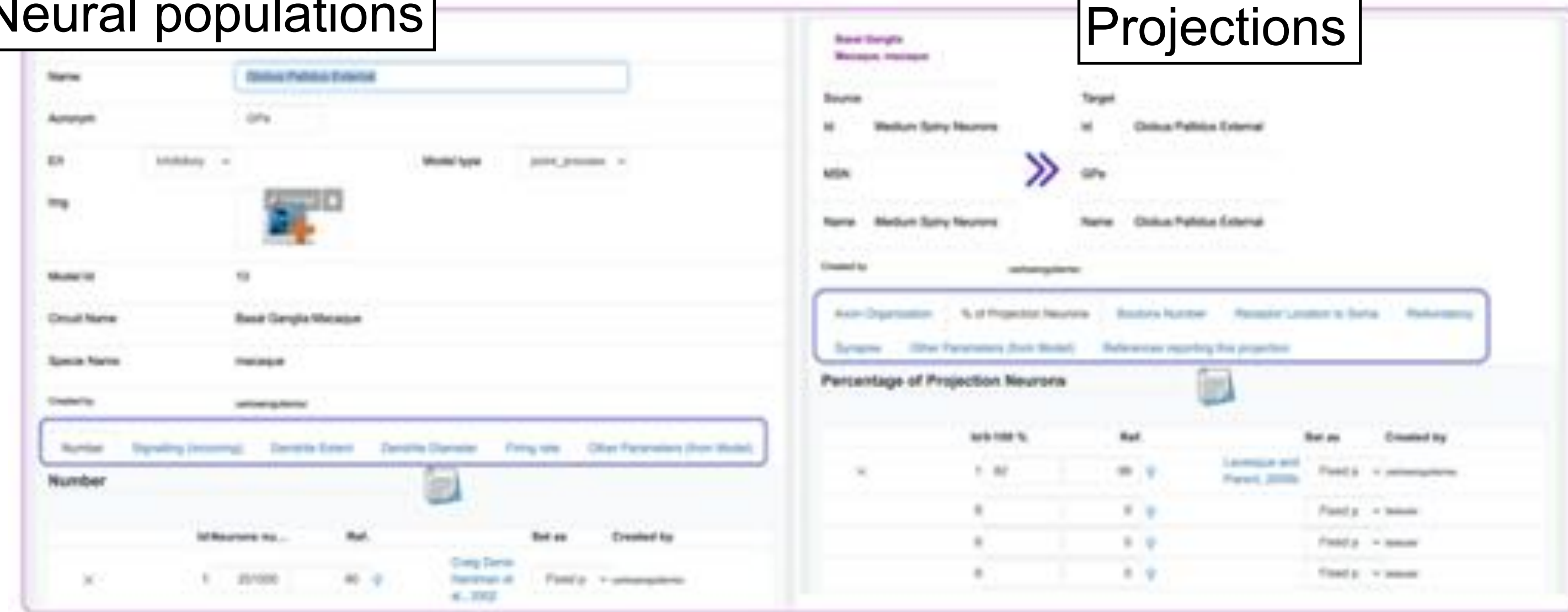
Model creation

Data organization

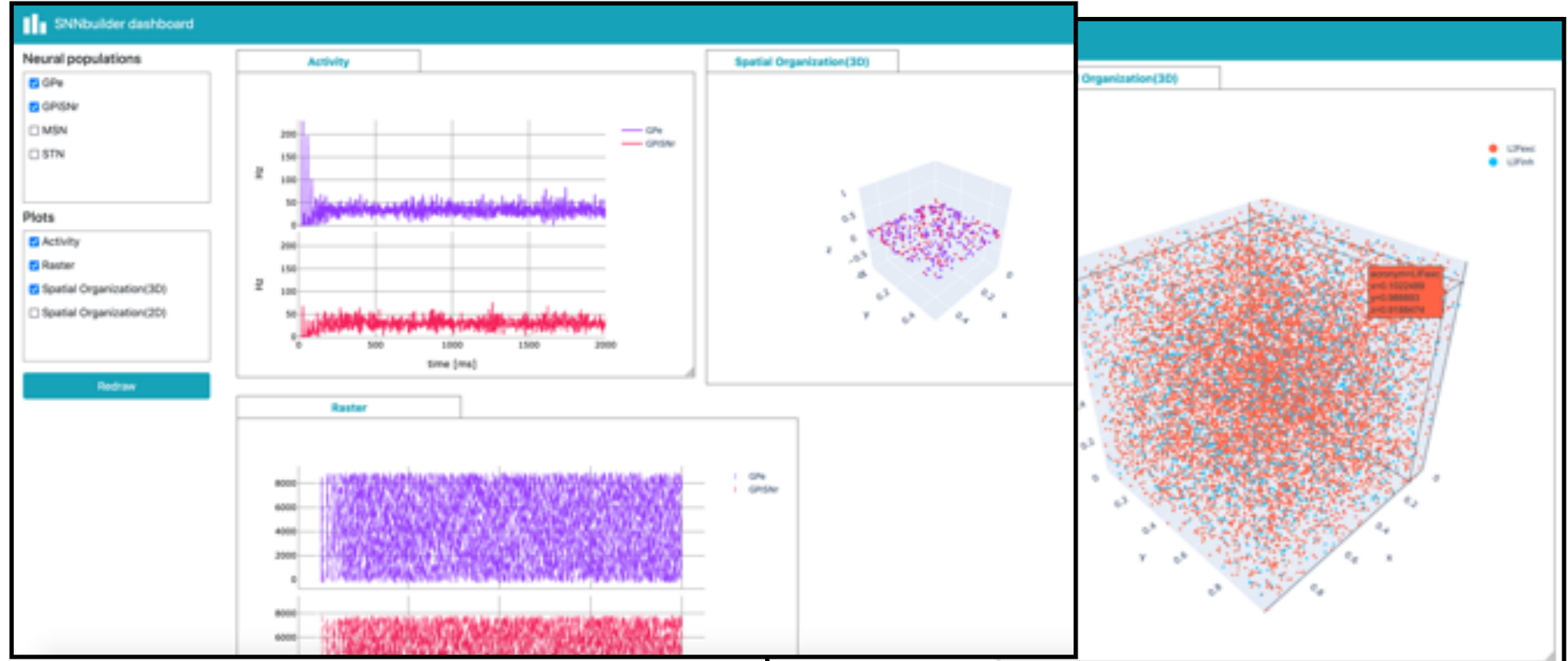


Neural populations

Projections



# Dashboards



# SNNBuilder

## Collective Intelligence

User 1



User 2



User 3



Number    Signalling & PSP    Dendrite Extent    Dendrite Diameter    Firing rate    Other Parameters (from Model)

### Dendrite Extent

Notes, blog

References

	Id	Dendritic extent (µm)	Ref.	Set as	Created by
×	1	500	24	Fixed parameter	Wilson and Groves, 1980
×	6	876.83	58	Fixed parameter	Al-muhtasib et al., 2018
×	7	893.44	58	Fixed parameter	Al-muhtasib et al., 2018
×	8	594.49	58	Fixed parameter	Al-muhtasib et al., 2018
×	9	430.6	63	Fixed parameter	Bicanic et al., 2017
×	10	426.1	63	Fixed parameter	Bicanic et al., 2017
×	11	396.1	63	Fixed parameter	Bicanic et al., 2017
	0		0	Fixed parameter	carlosengulierrez
	0		0	Fixed parameter	carlosengulierrez

[New row]

Dendrite extent (µm): 588.22

Collective outcome

Number of Neurons: 1395000

Firing rate (rest): 5.00

Dendrite diameter (µm): 1.00

to 10.00

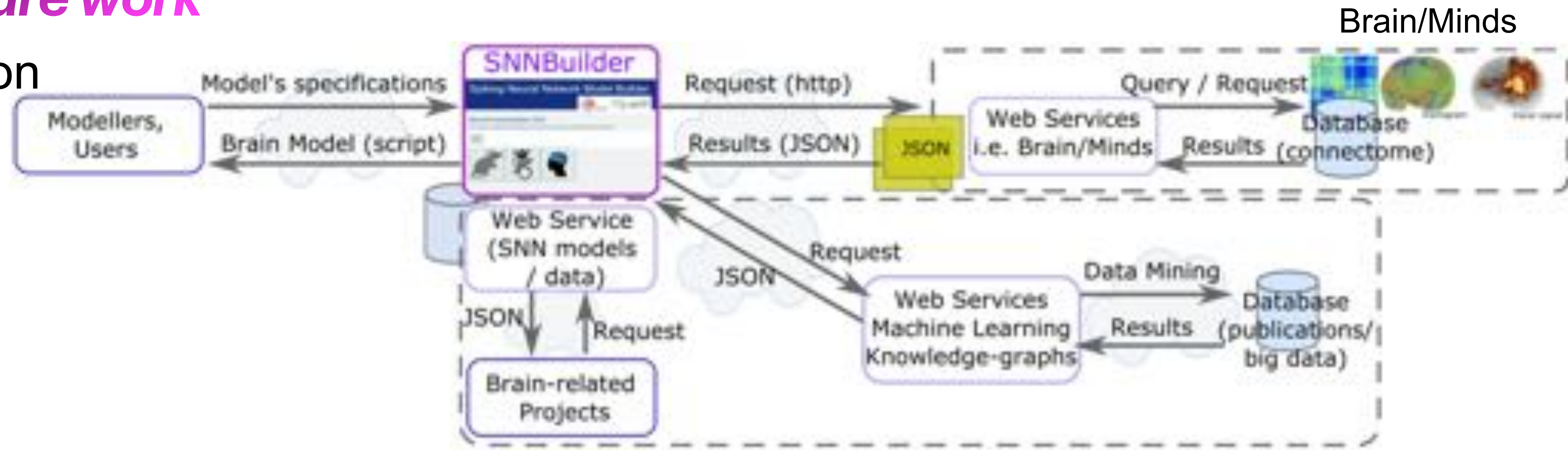
### The Wisdom of Crowds

average of 800 guesses = 1,197  
actual weight of the ox = 1,198

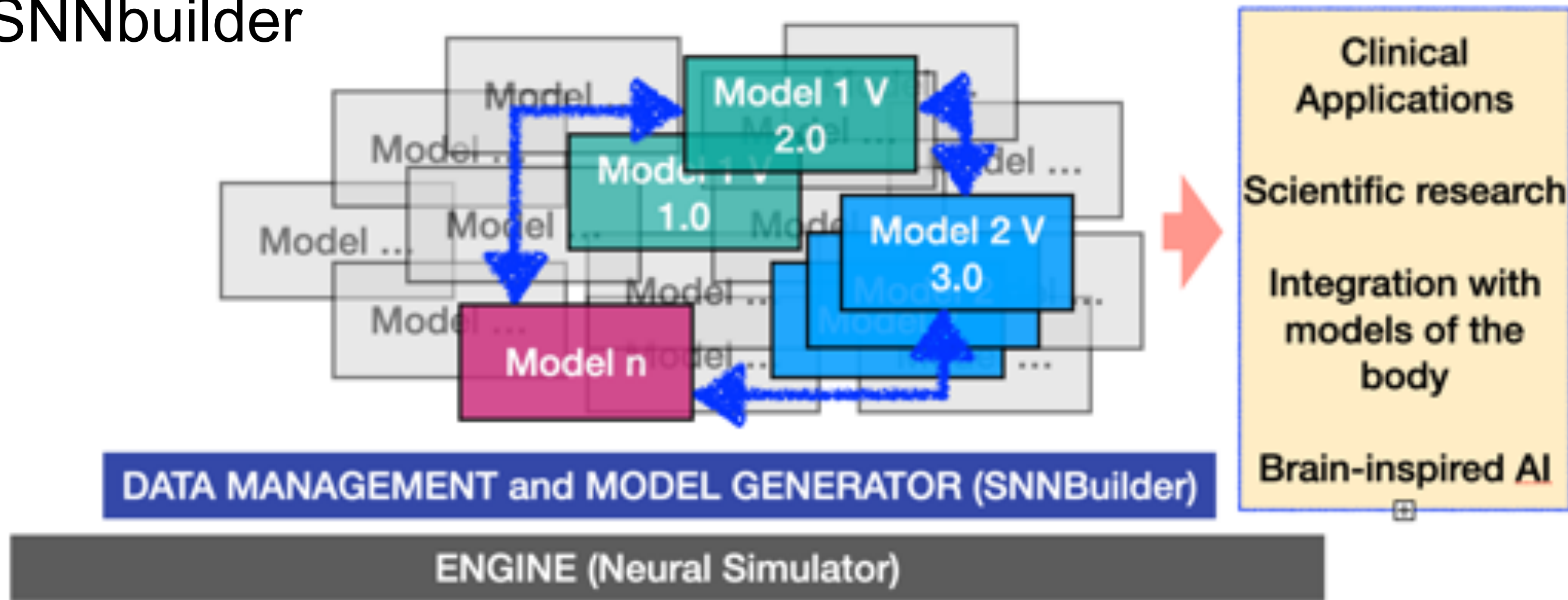


# Future work

SNNbuilder integration  
with other systems  
and DBs  
&  
Online simulation



# SNNbuilder



# Acknowledgments

- We would like to thank to:

HBP-EBrains

NEST (Hans Plesser & team)

NRP (Fabrice Morin & team)

Japan

OIST, RIKEN, UEC



# Thank you

[www.humanbrainproject.eu](http://www.humanbrainproject.eu)

[www.ebrains.eu](http://www.ebrains.eu)

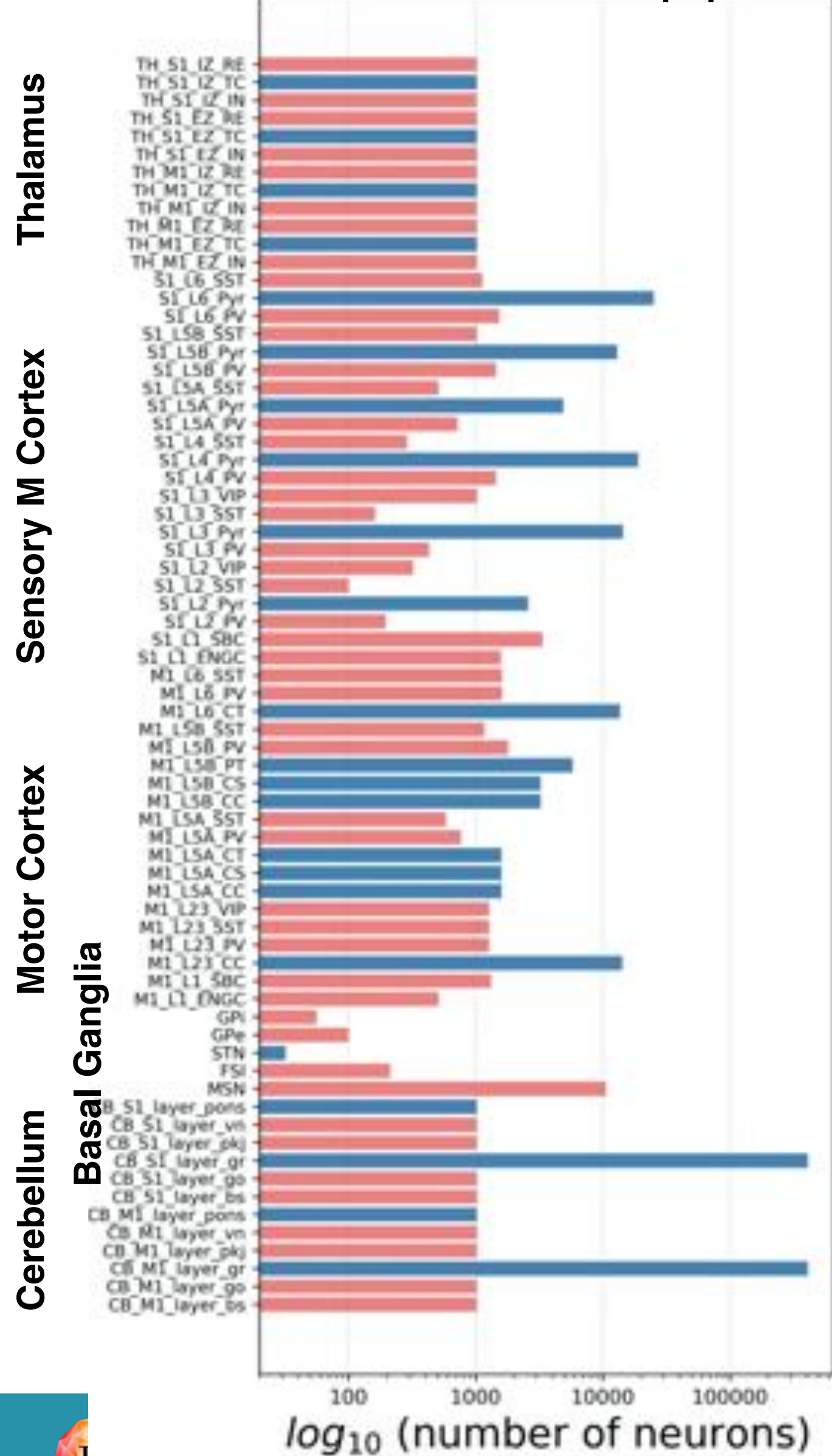


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# Structure

Number of neurons across populations



Category	Region	#Neuron	#Layers	#Neuron types
Ctx	M1	58,805	5	19
	S1	94,396	7	21
TH	VL	8,192	2	4
	VM	8,192	2	4
BG	-	10,976	5	5
CB	M1	414,720	6	6
	S1	414,720	6	6
Total	-	1,010,001	33	65