



# CerebNEST



## A Bioinspired Multiscale Modelling of The Cerebellar Network

HBP Partnering Projects Meeting: Status quo & outlook

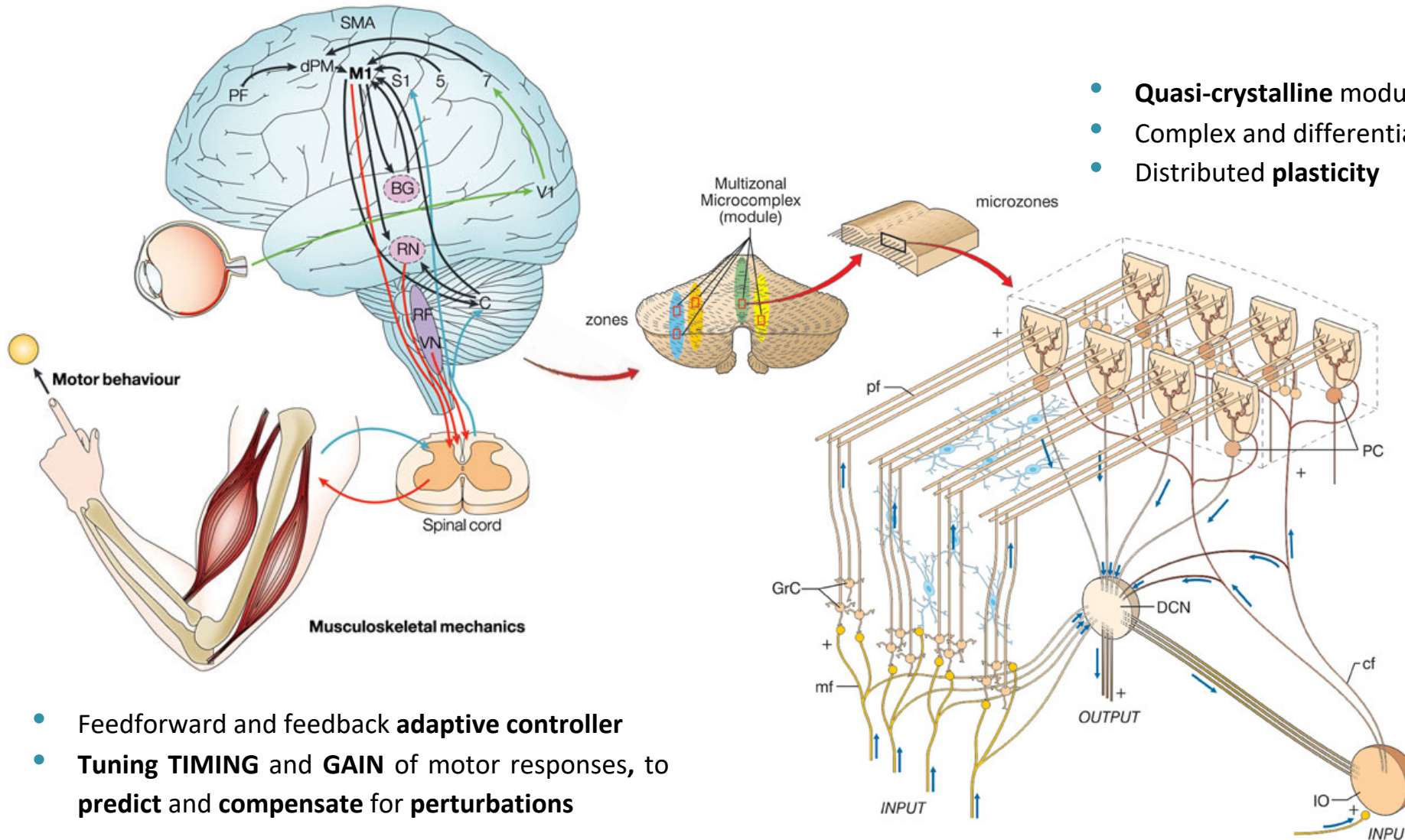
5-7 September 2022 | Nijmegen, The Netherlands



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# Why simulate the cerebellum?



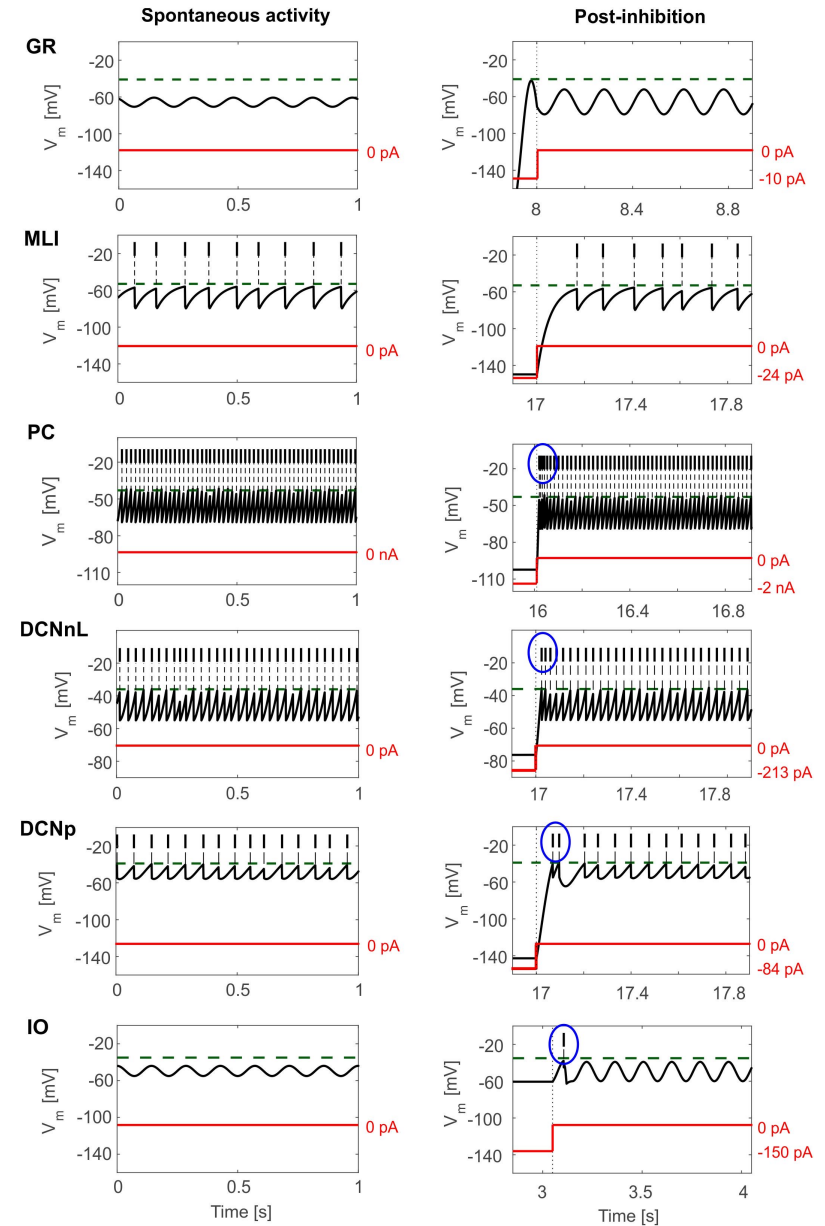
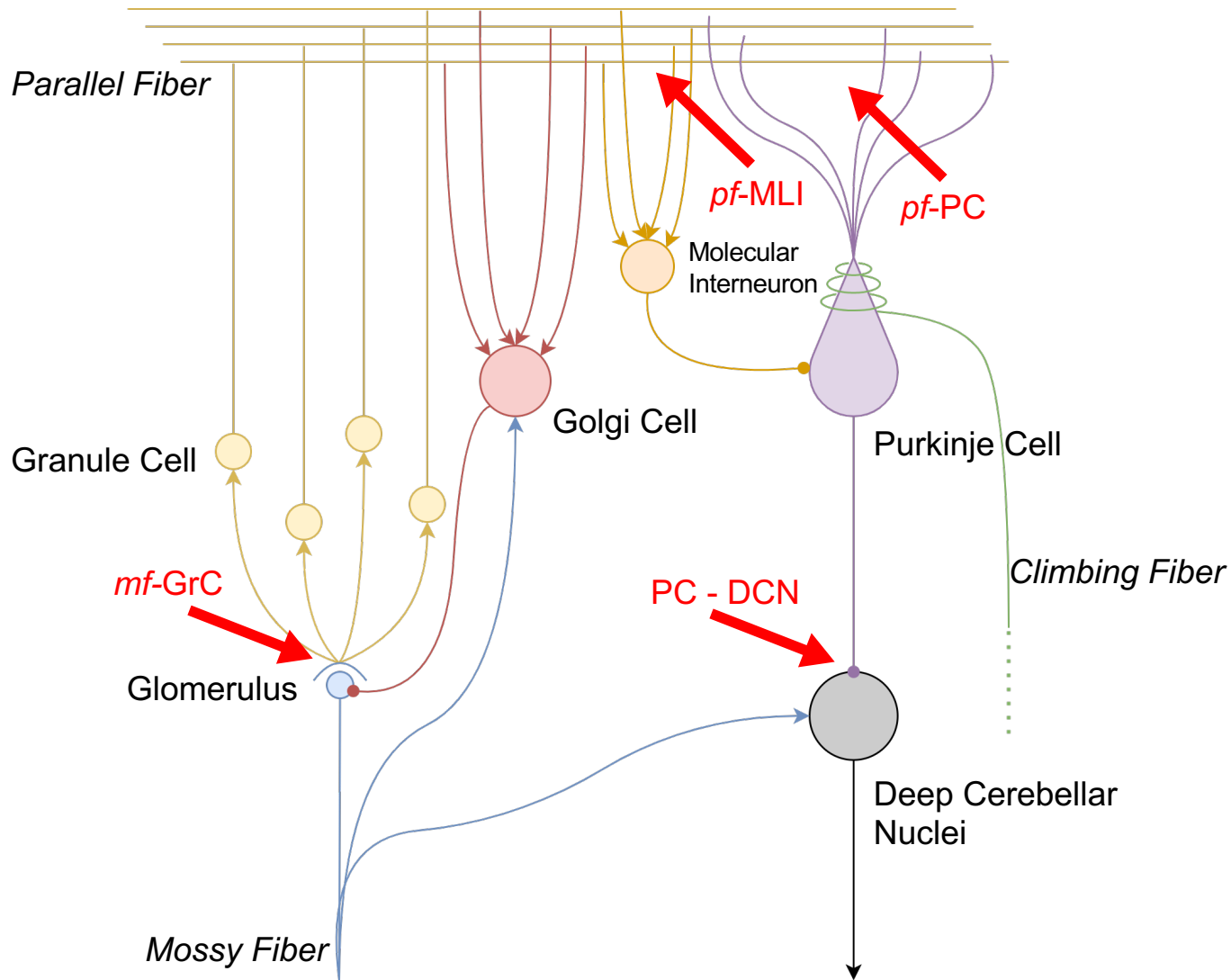
- **Quasi-crystalline** modular microcircuit structure
- Complex and differentiated single **neuron and synapse dynamics**
- Distributed **plasticity**

- Feedforward and feedback **adaptive controller**
- **Tuning TIMING** and **GAIN** of motor responses, to **predict and compensate for perturbations**

mf: mossy fiber  
 cf: climbing fiber  
 pf: parallel fiber  
 GoCs: Golgi cells  
 GrCs: granule cells  
 SCs: stellate cells  
 BCs: basket cells  
 PCs: Purkinje Cells  
 DCN: deep cerebellar nuclei

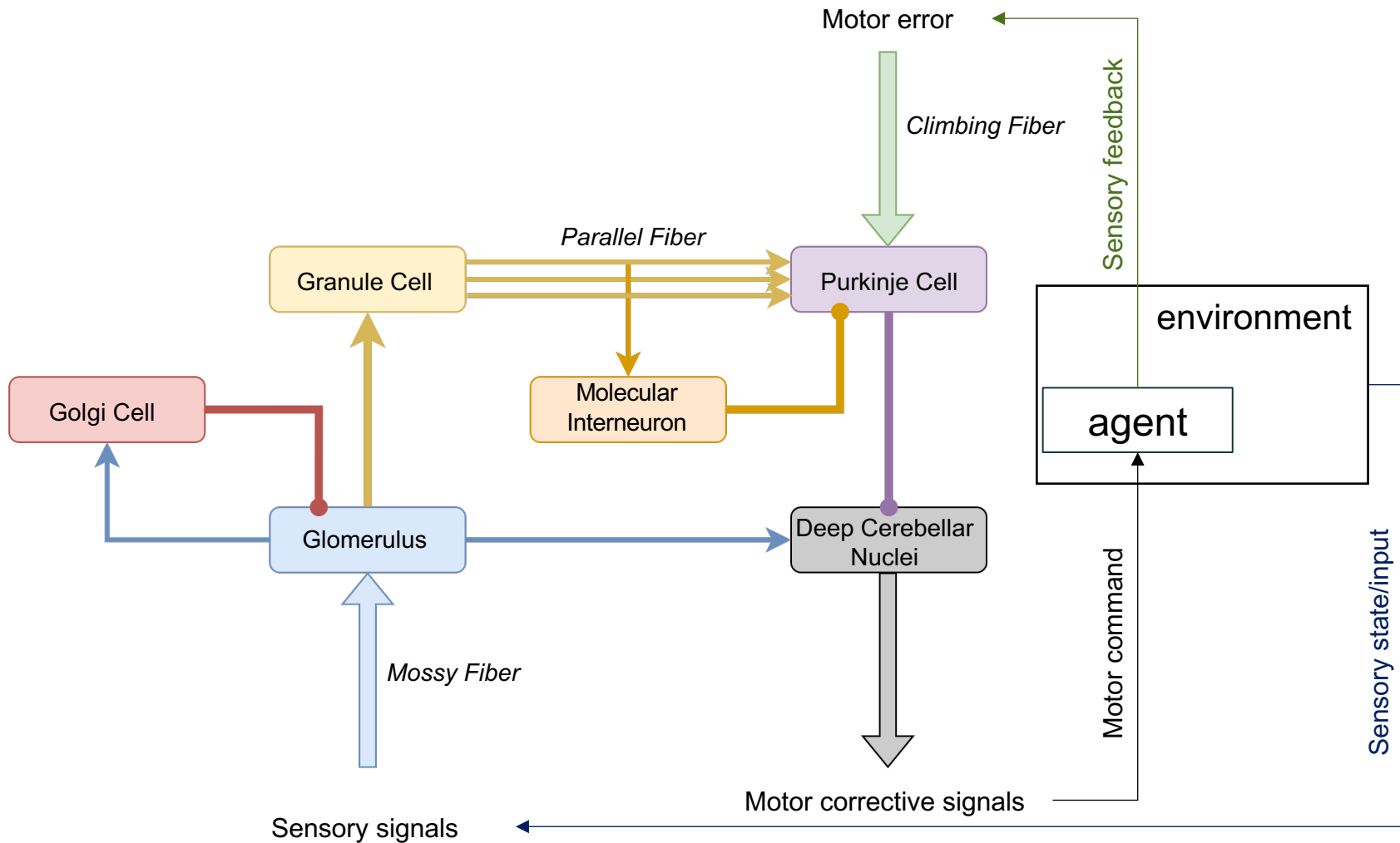
Taken from: D'Angelo E. and Casali S., 2013

# Why simulate the cerebellum?

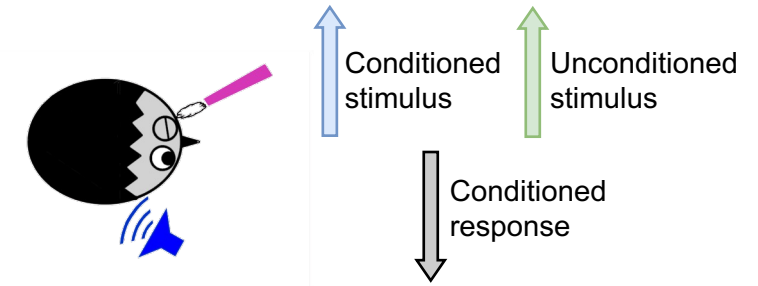


Taken from: Geminiani A et al., 2019

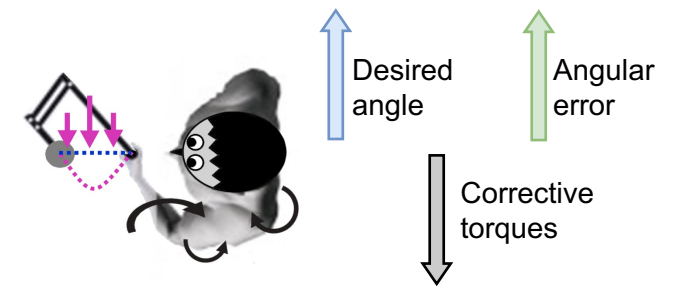
# Why simulate the cerebellum?



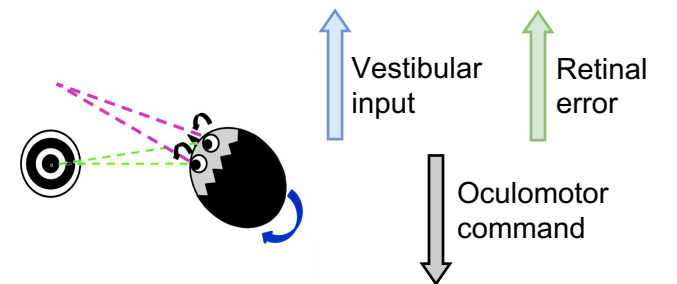
## Eye Blink Classical Conditioning (EBCC)



## Movements perturbed by Force Fields (FF)

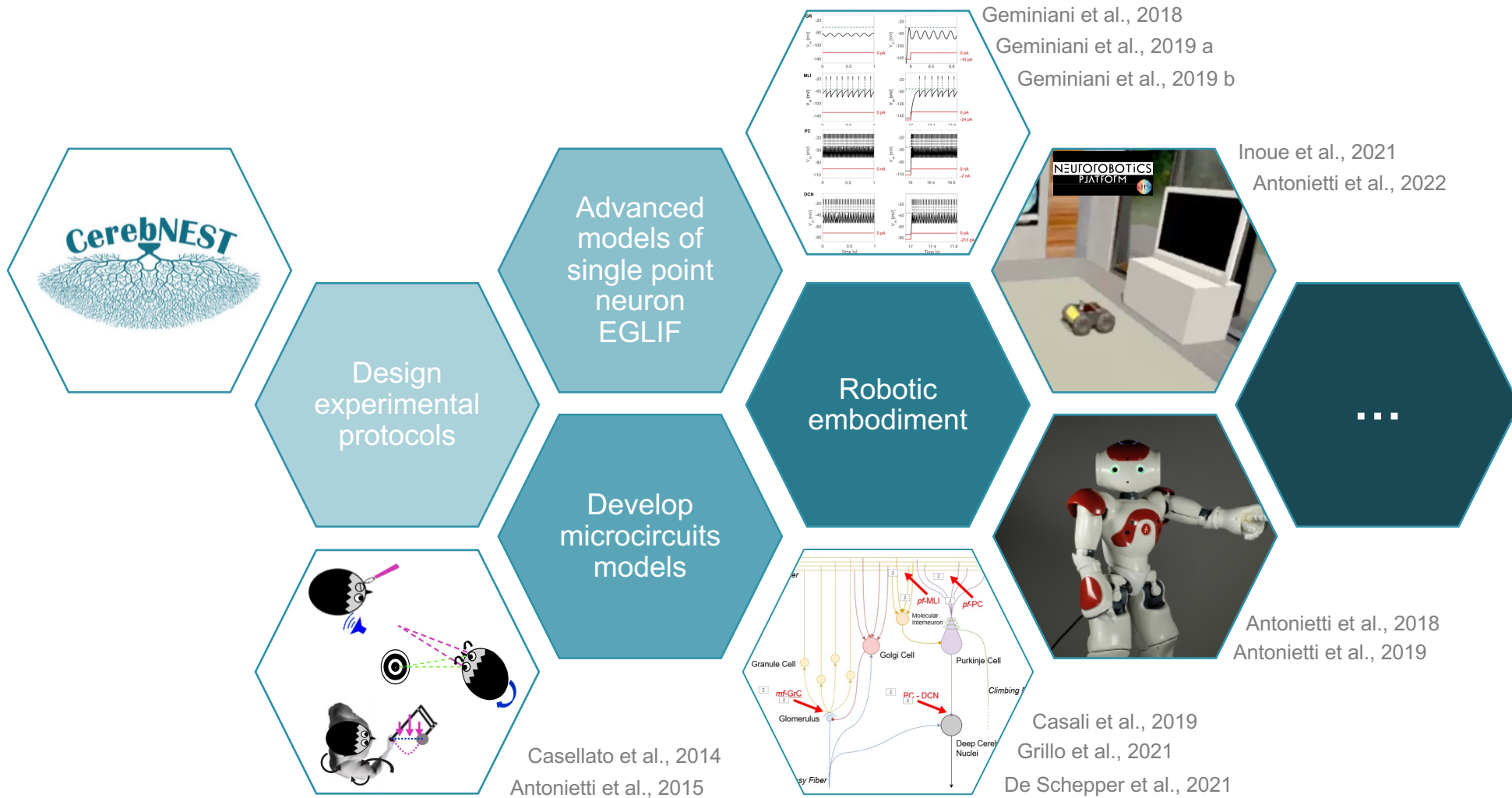


## Vestibulo-Ocular Reflex (VOR)



Adapted from: Casellato et al., 2014

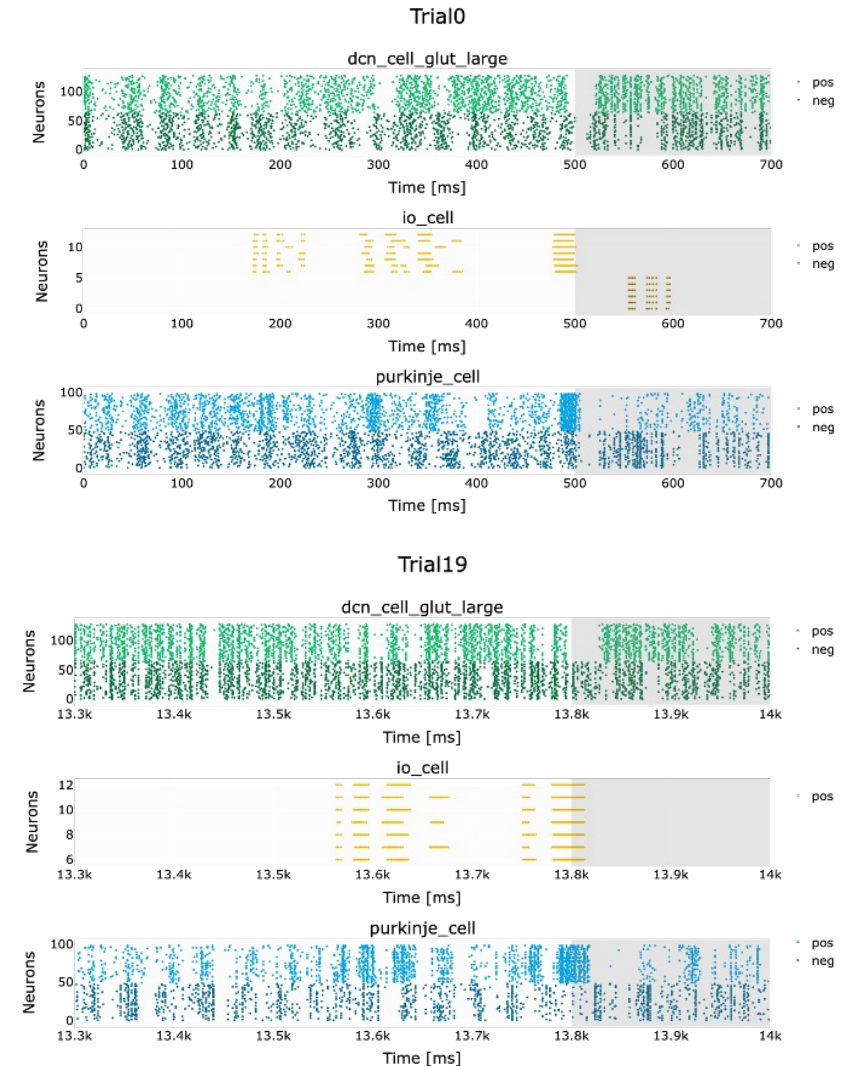
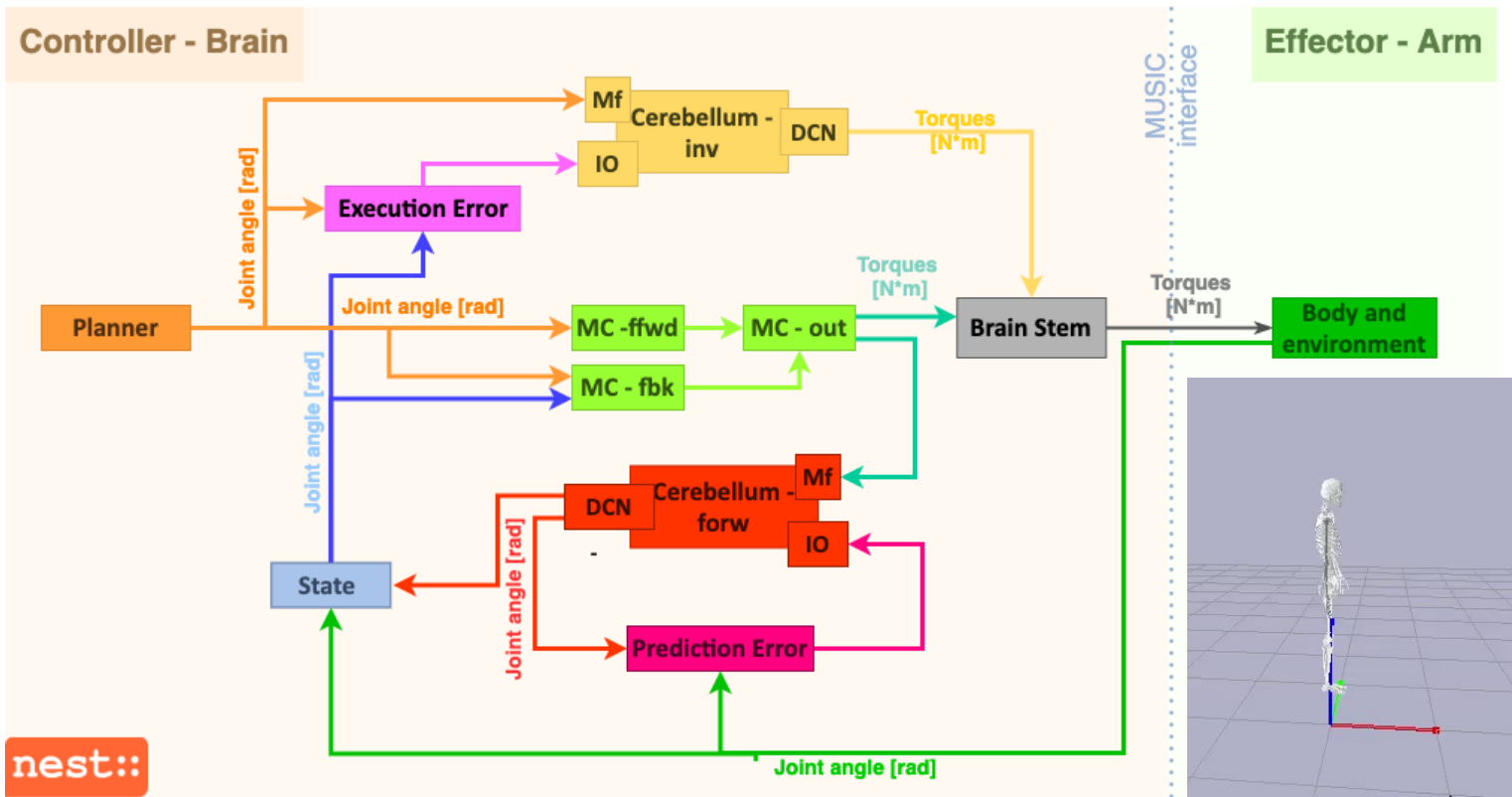
# Story of cerebNEST project



# cerebNEST today – Robotic embodiment

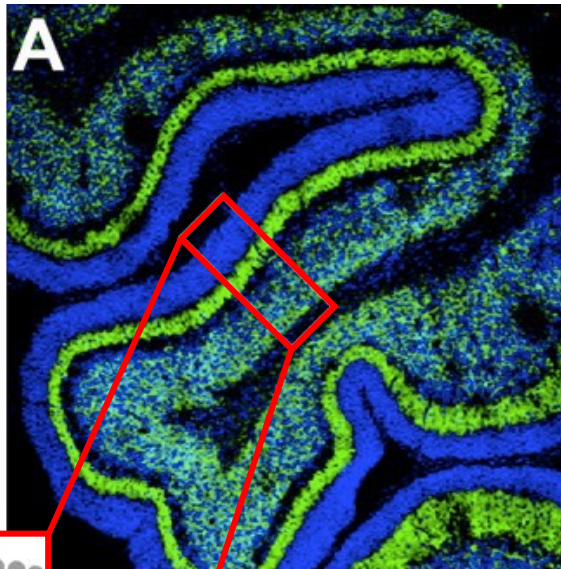


Benedetta Gambosi  
benedetta.gambosi@polimi.it

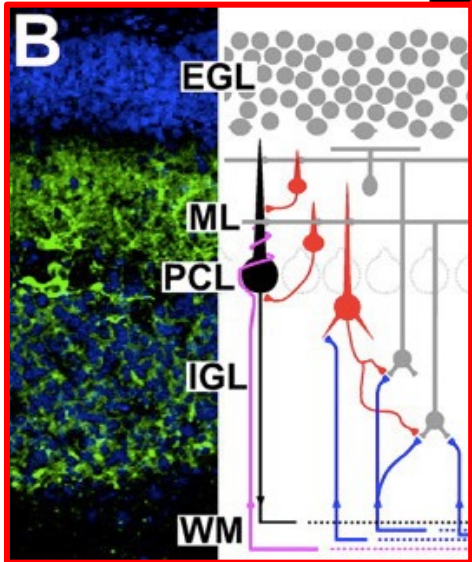


# cerebNEST today – Diffusive plasticity mechanism

Cerebellar cortex

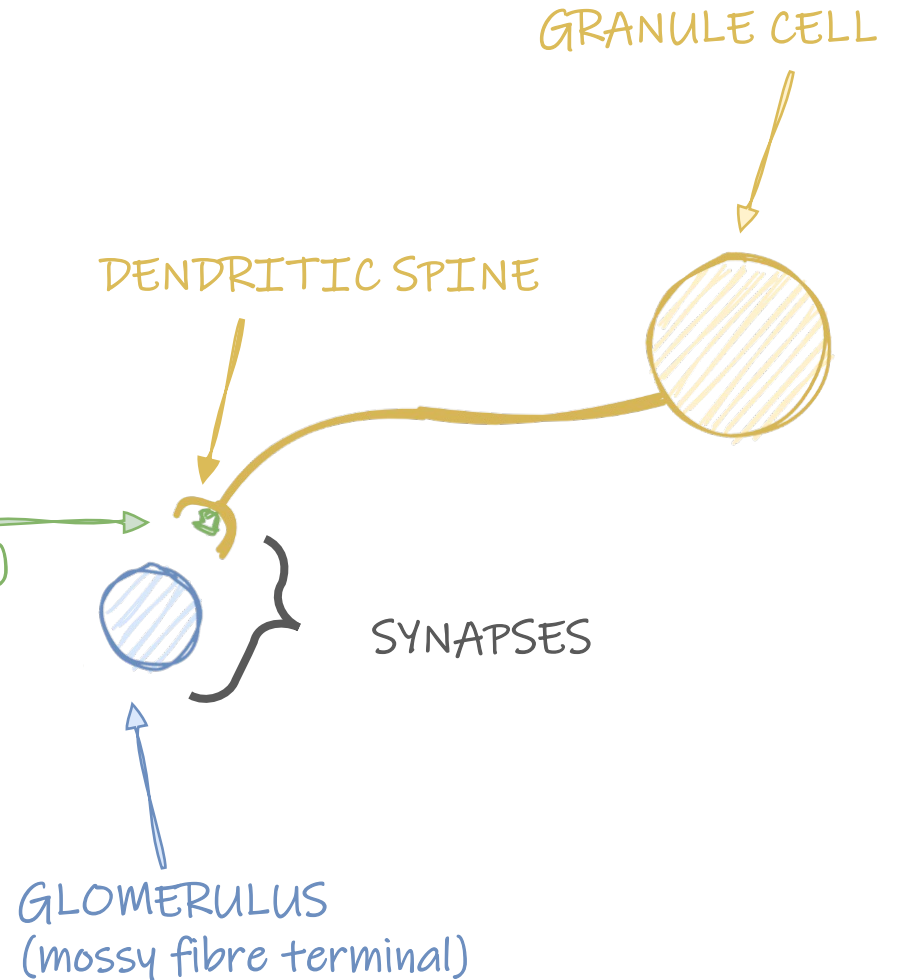


Garthwaite, et al. 1988  
Wood, et al. 2001  
Hardingham et al., 2013



nNOS ●  
Nuclei ●  
EGL: external granular layer  
ML: molecular layer  
PCL: Purkinje cell layer  
IGL: internal granular layer  
WM: white matter

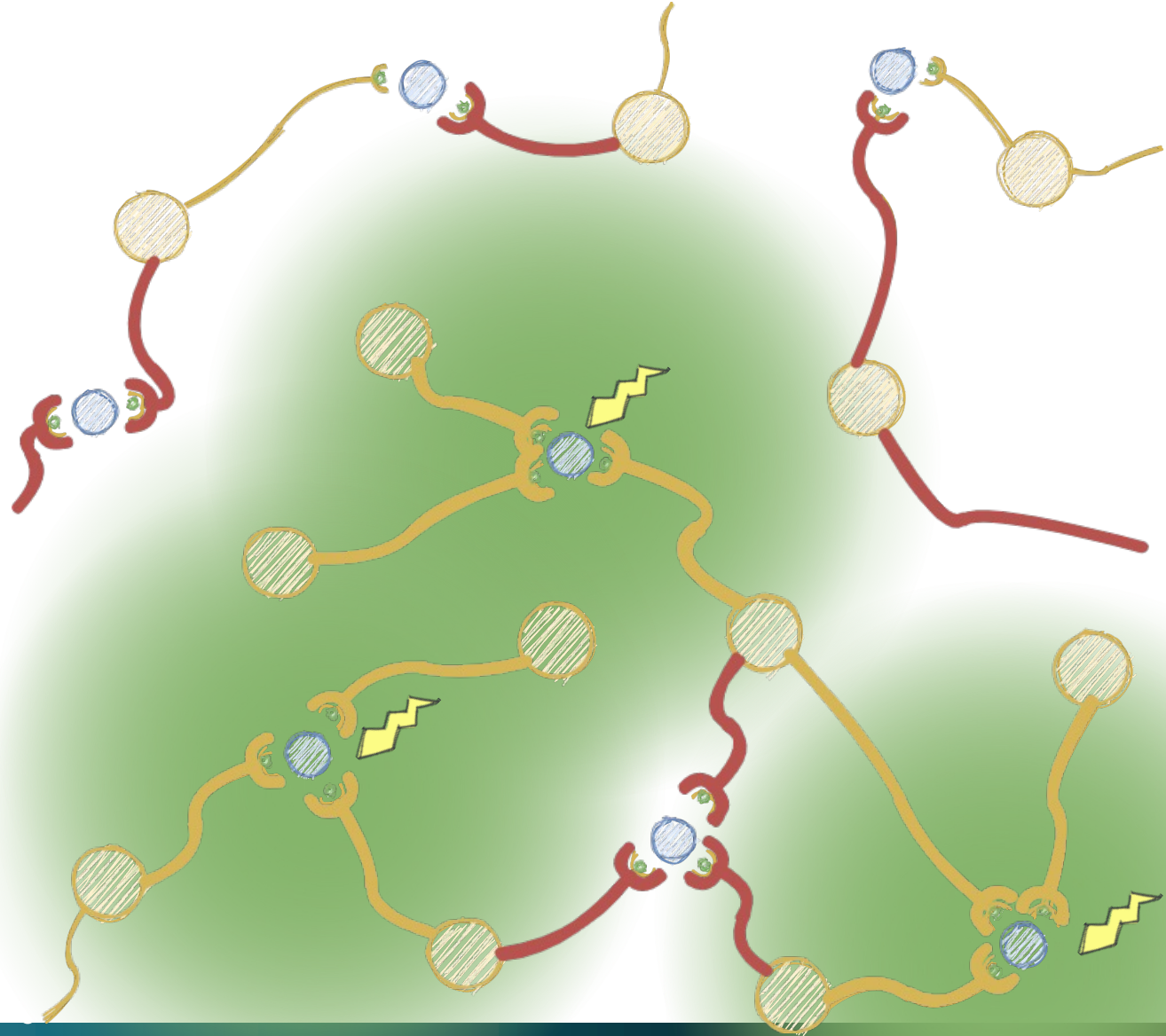
neural Nitric Oxide synthase (NO source)



# Nitric Oxide production and diffusion model in SNN

NO signal

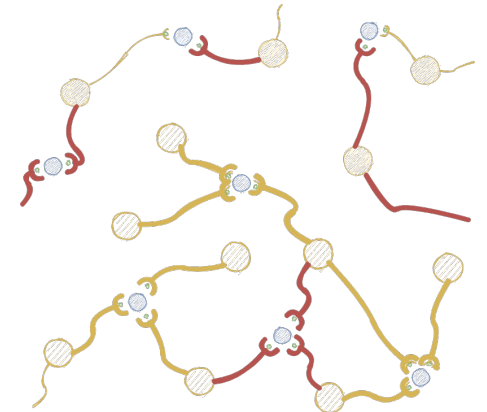
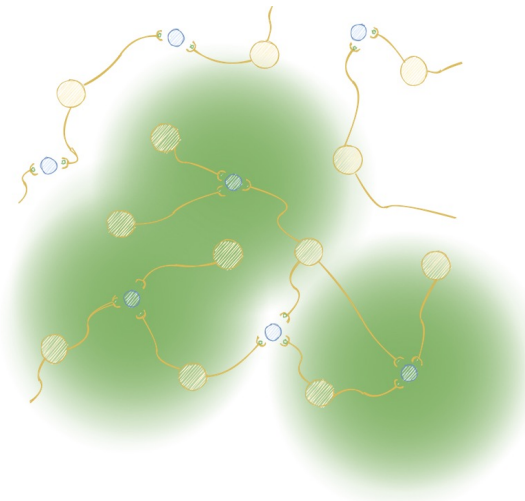
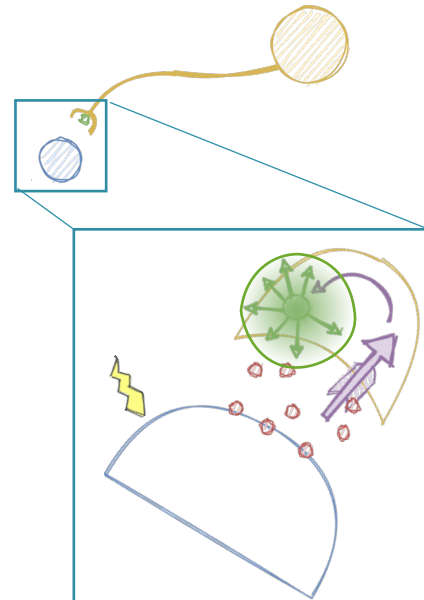
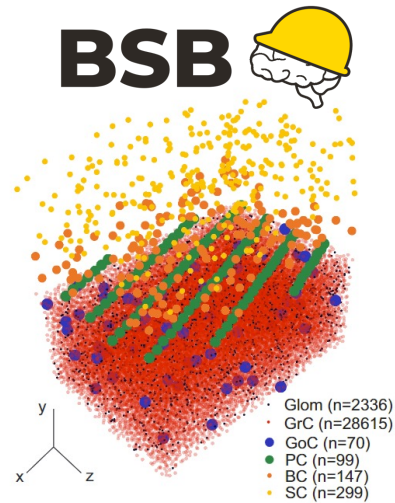
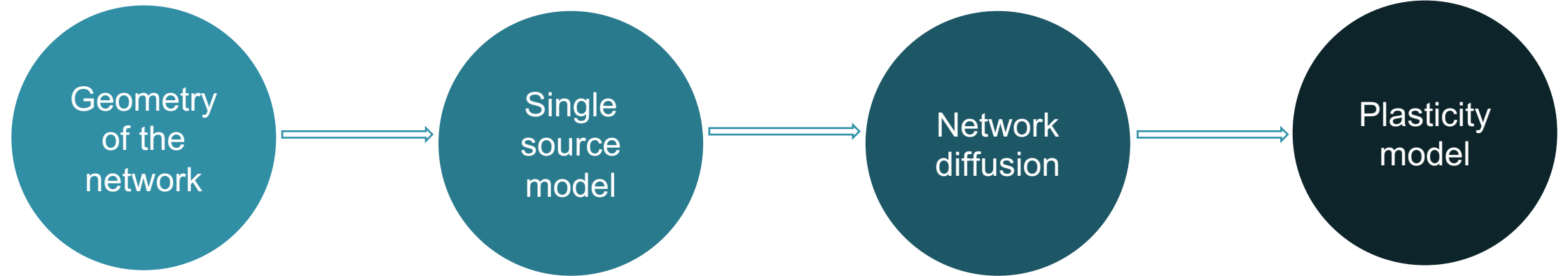
Volume transmitter



Hardingham et al., 2013  
Garthwaite, et al. 2016



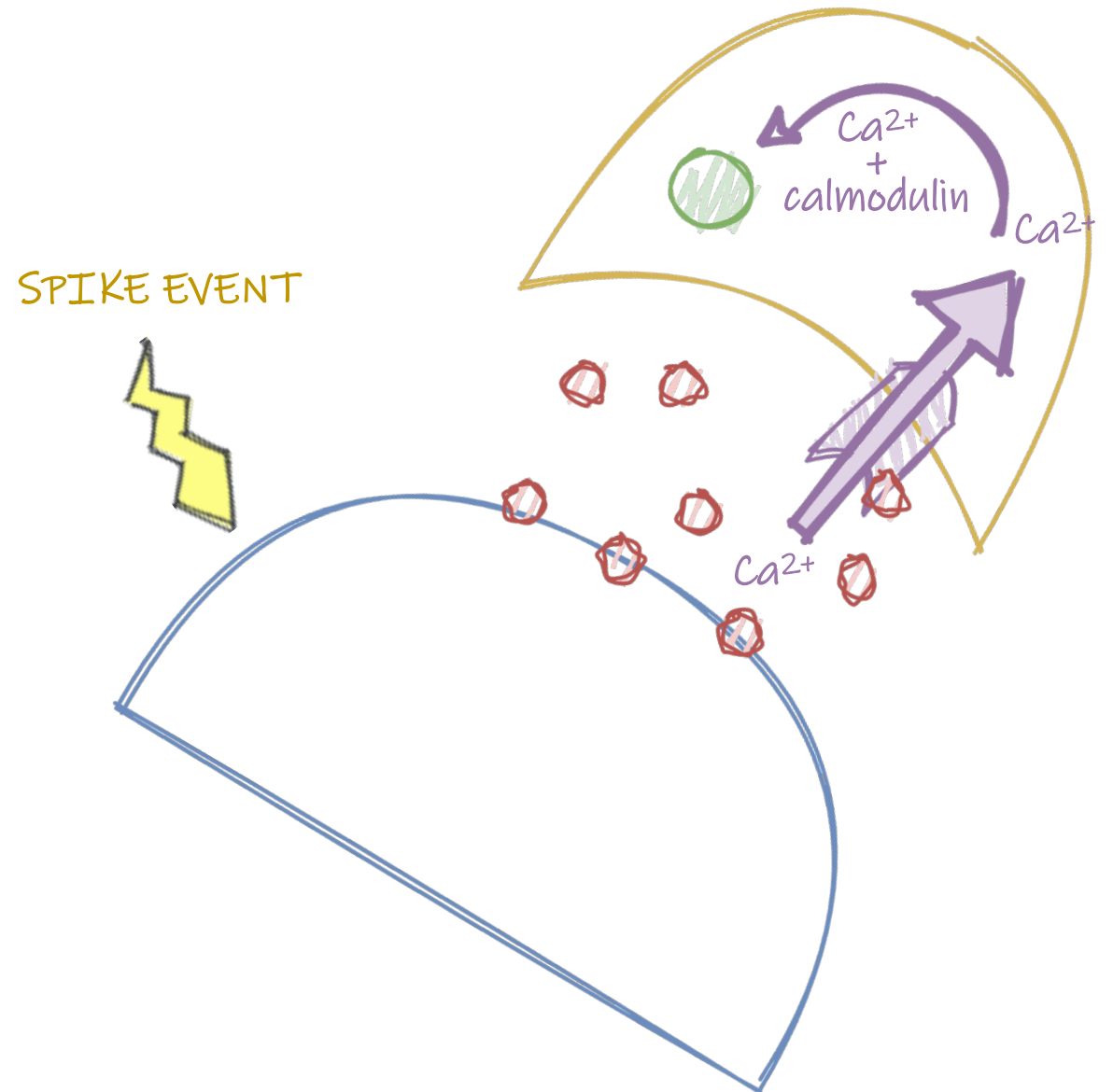
# Nitric Oxide production and diffusion model in SNN



De Schepper, Robin, et al. *bioRxiv* (2021).

# NO single source model

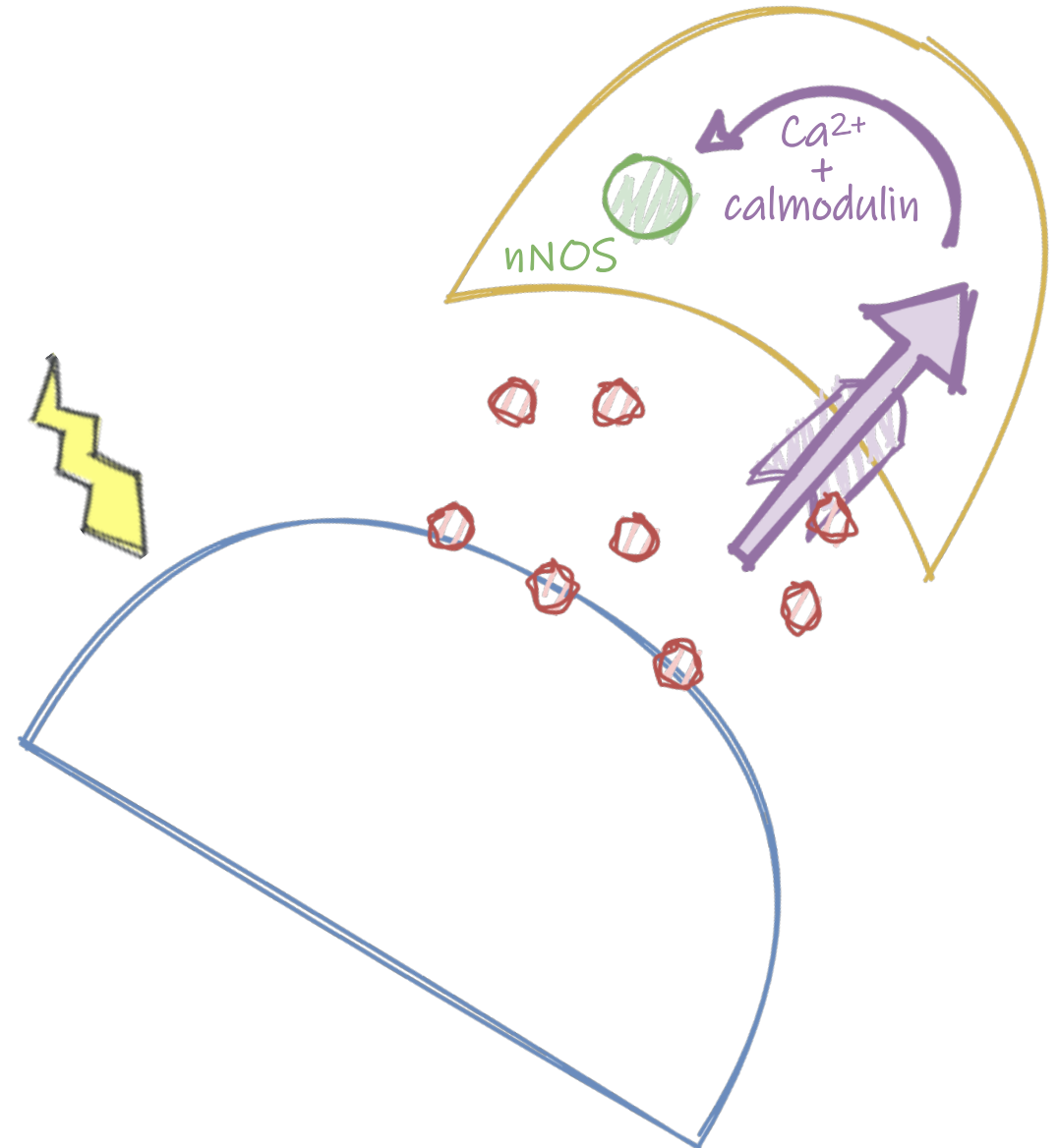
$$\frac{d\text{Calm2C}(t)}{dt} = -\frac{\text{Calm2C}(t)}{\tau_c} + \delta_{\text{spike}}$$



# NO single source model

$$\frac{dCalm2C(t)}{dt} = -\frac{Calm2C(t)}{\tau_c} + \delta_{spike}$$

$$\frac{dnNOS(t)}{dt} = -\frac{nNOS(t)}{\tau_{n1}} + \frac{1}{\tau_{n2}} \left( \frac{Calm2C(t)}{Calm2C(t) + 1} \right)$$

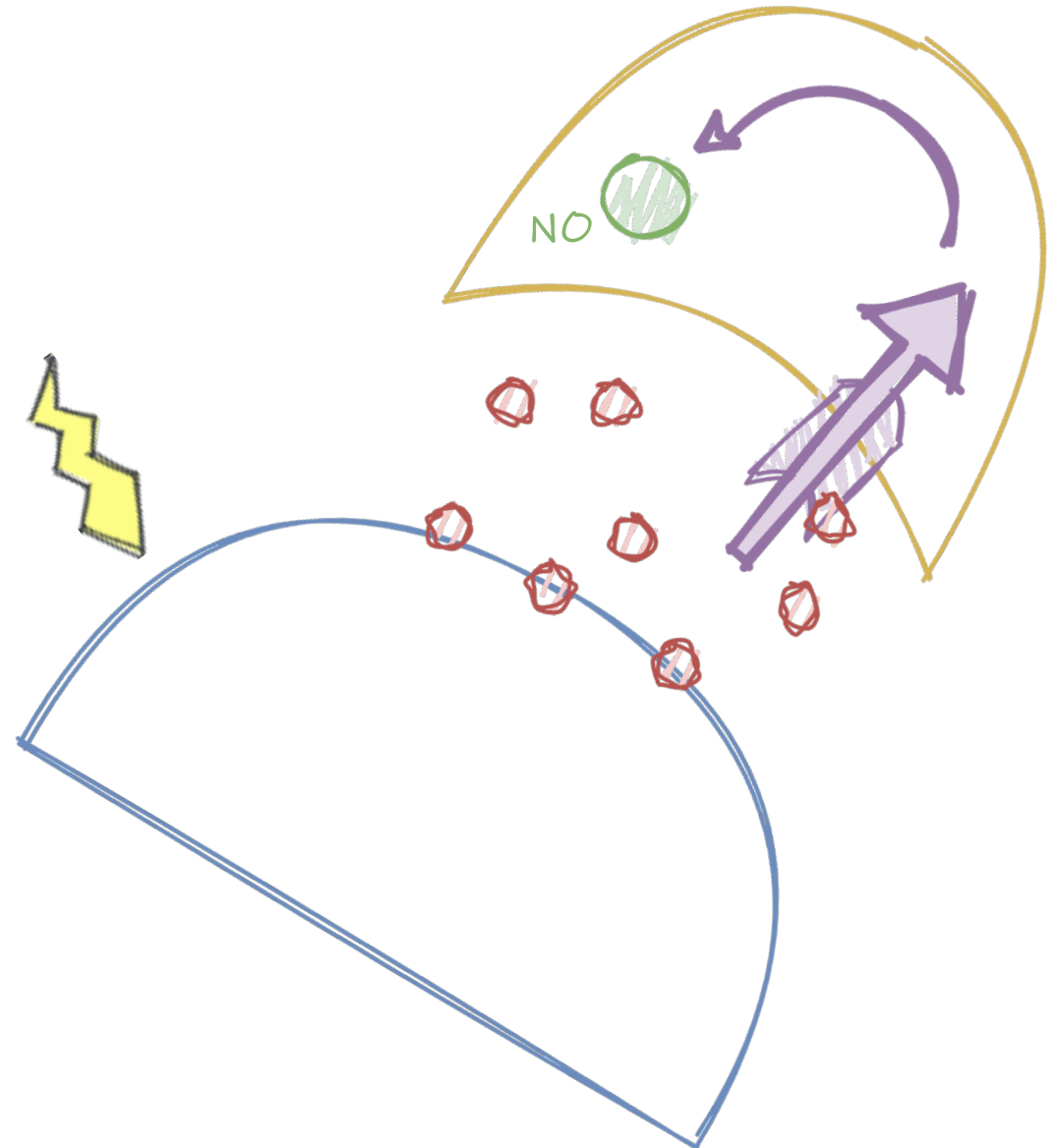


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$$\frac{dCalm2C(t)}{dt} = -\frac{Calm2C(t)}{\tau_c} + \delta_{spike}$$

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$$\frac{dNO(t)}{dt} = A * \frac{dnNOS(t)}{dt}$$



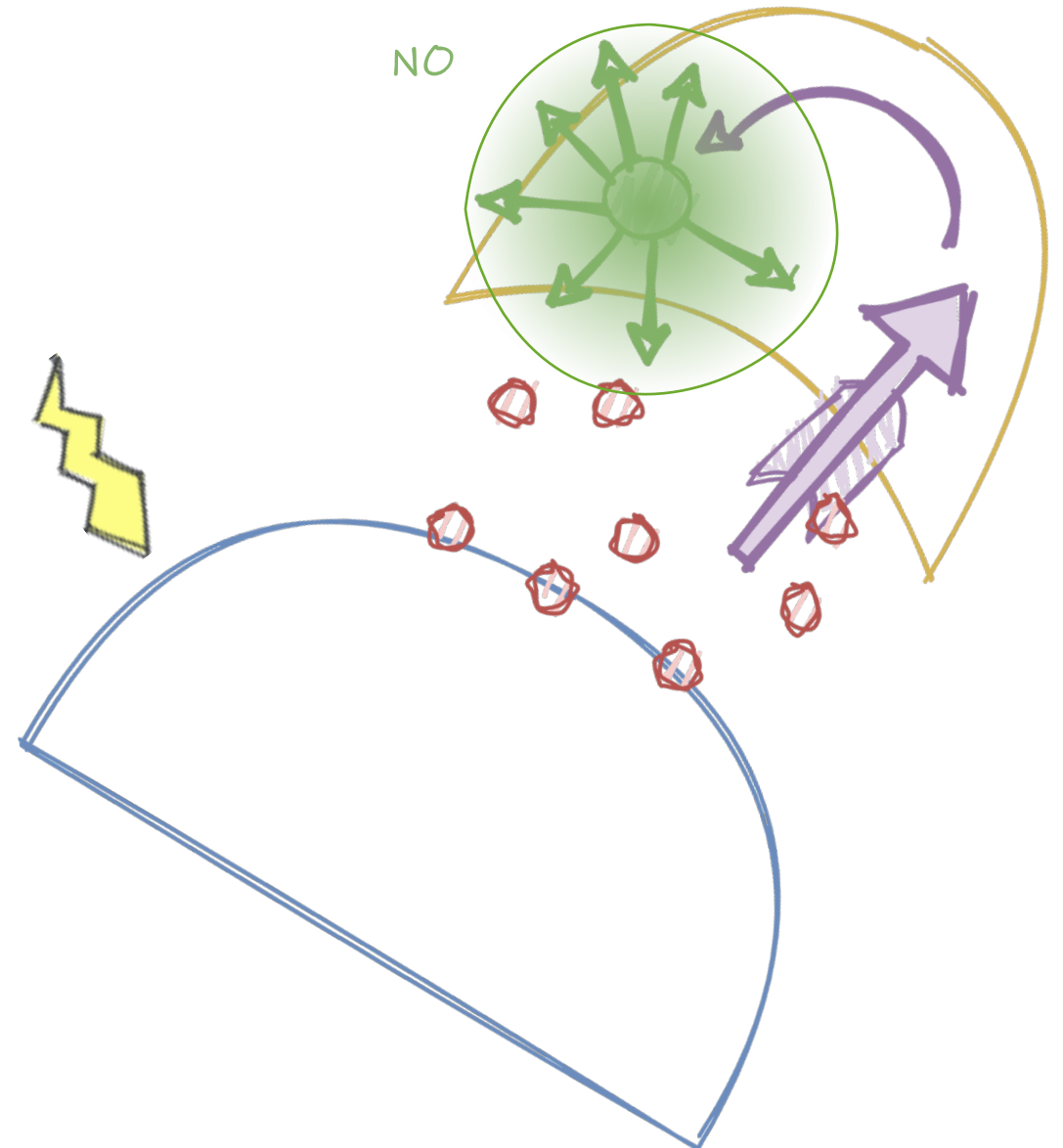
# NO single source model

$$\frac{dCalm2C(t)}{dt} = -\frac{Calm2C(t)}{\tau_c} + \delta_{spike}$$

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$$\frac{dNO(t)}{dt} = A * \frac{dnNOS(t)}{dt}$$

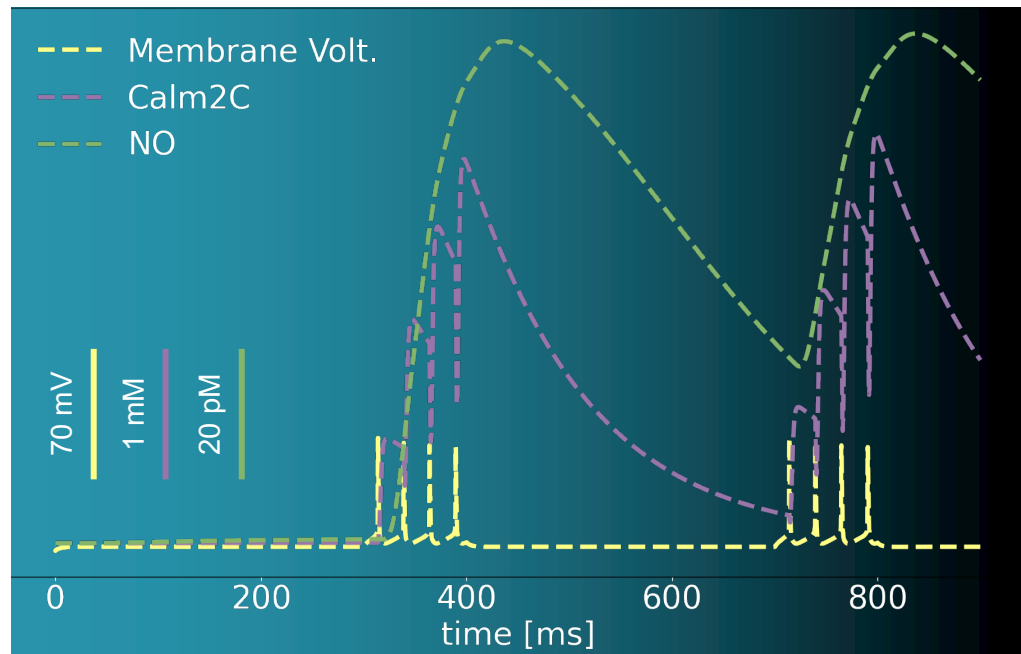
$$\frac{\partial C_{no}(r, t)}{\partial t} - D\nabla^2 C_{no}(r, t) + \lambda C_{no}(r, t) = NO(t)$$



H. Carslaw and J. Jaeger. *Conduction of heat in solids*. Oxford University Press, 1959

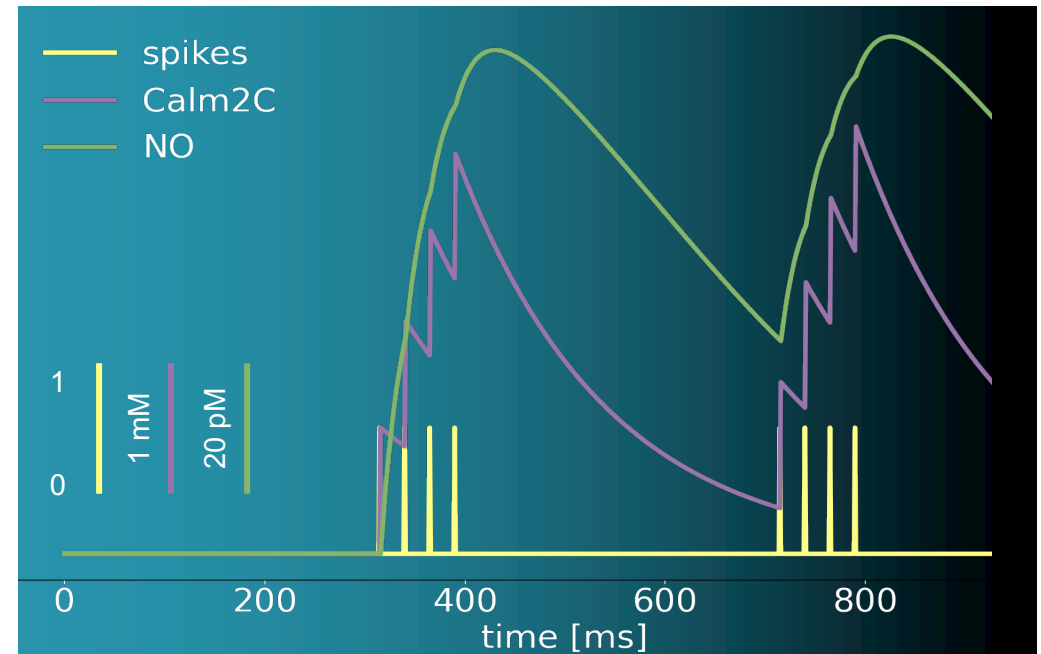
# NO single source model

Simulation in NEURON (Reaction&Diffusion)



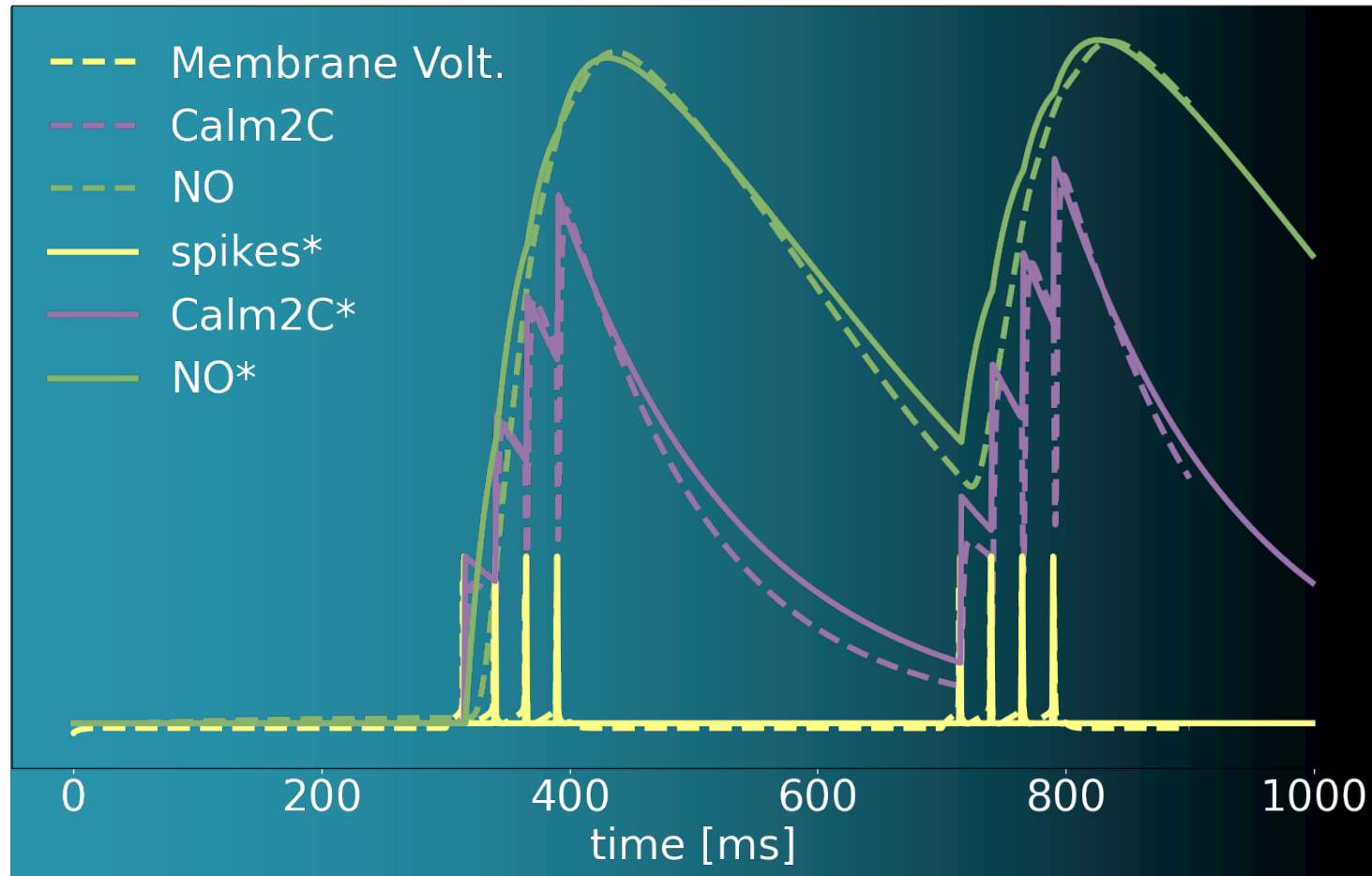
ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Simulations run by Stefano Masoli, Ph.D. University of Pavia

Simulation in python (our implementation)



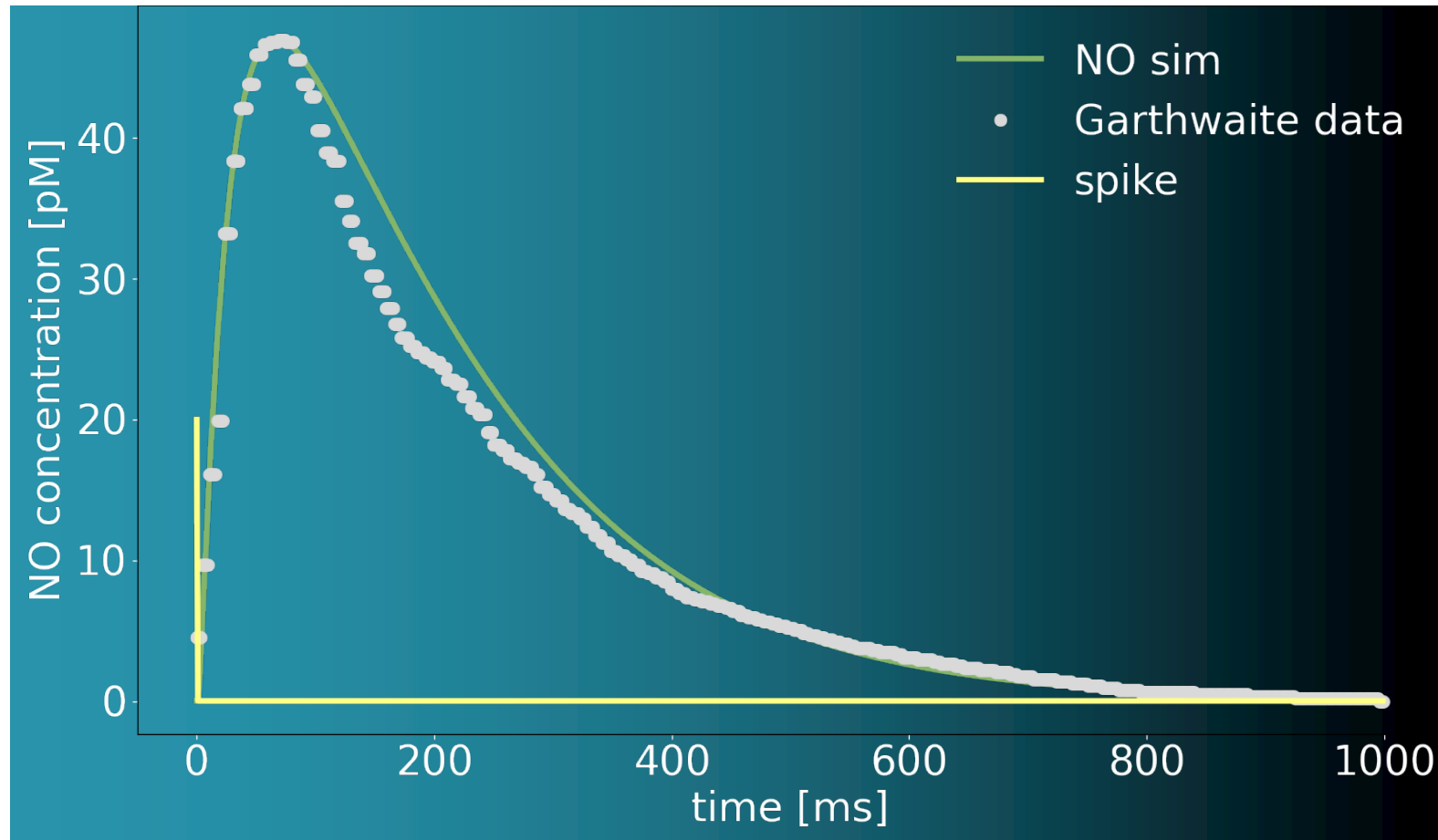
# NO single source model - production

NEURON vs our simulation\*



# NO single source model - diffusion

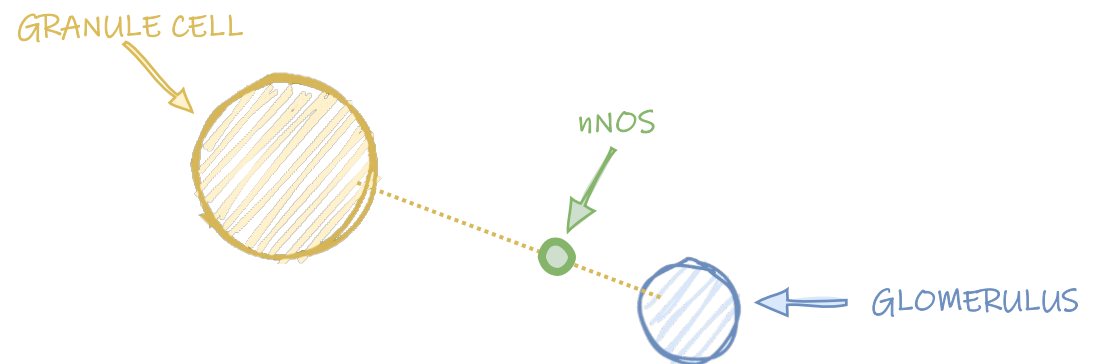
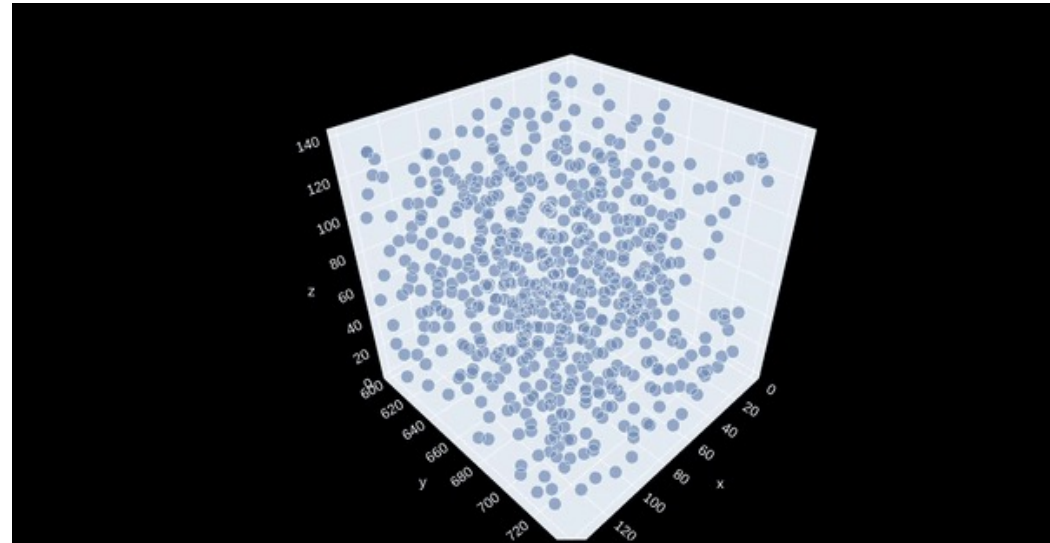
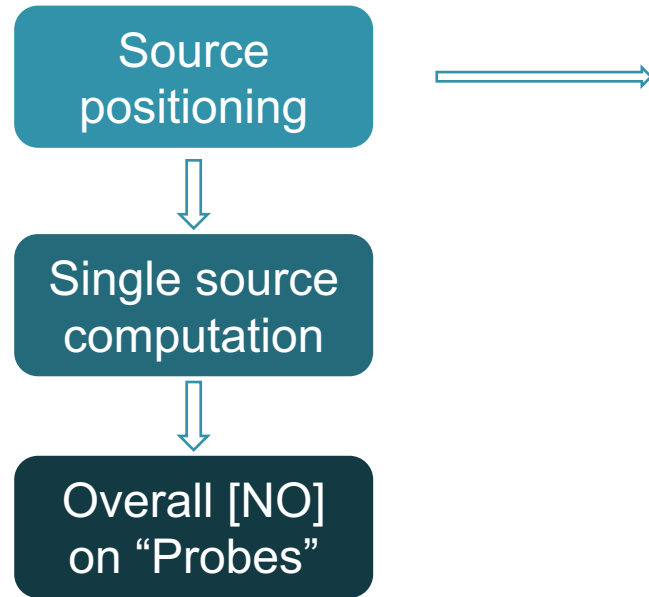
Literature data vs our simulation\*



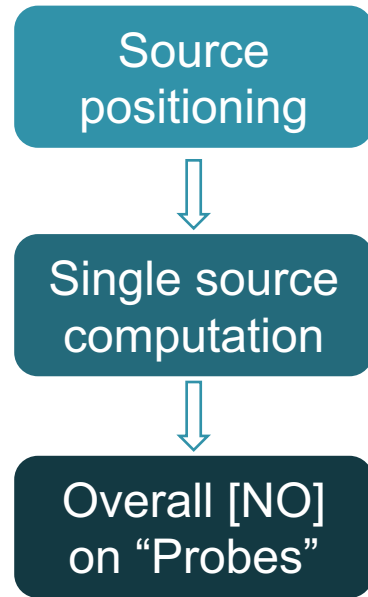
J. Garthwaite, 2016



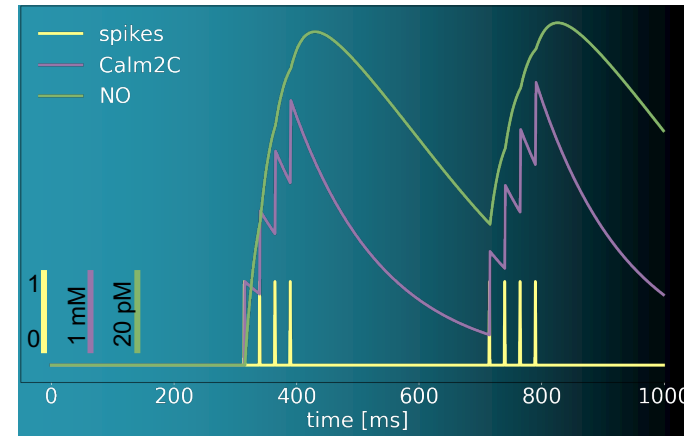
# NO network diffusion



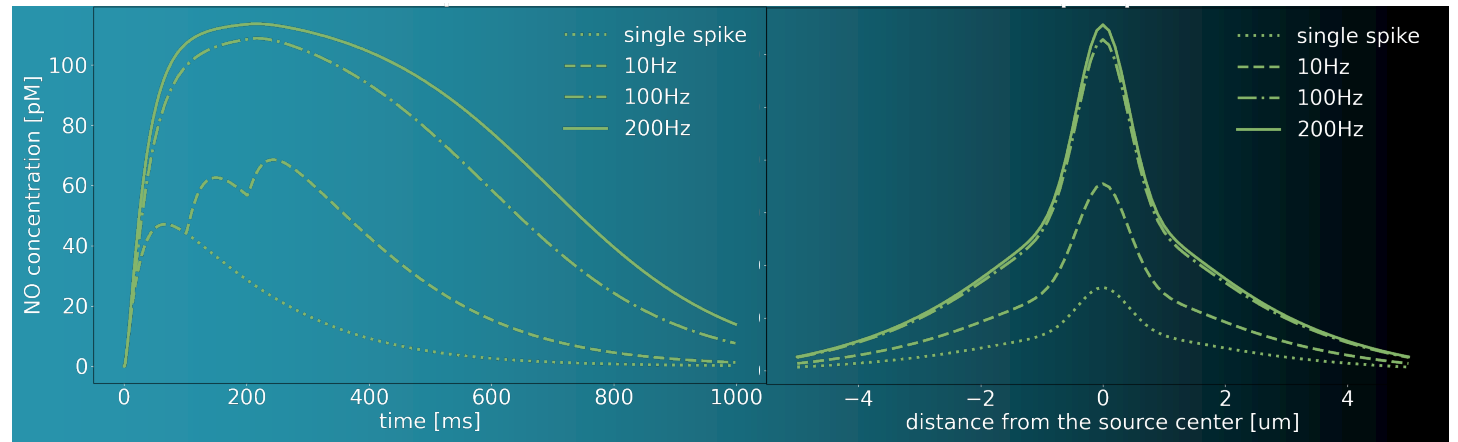
# NO network diffusion



### Production

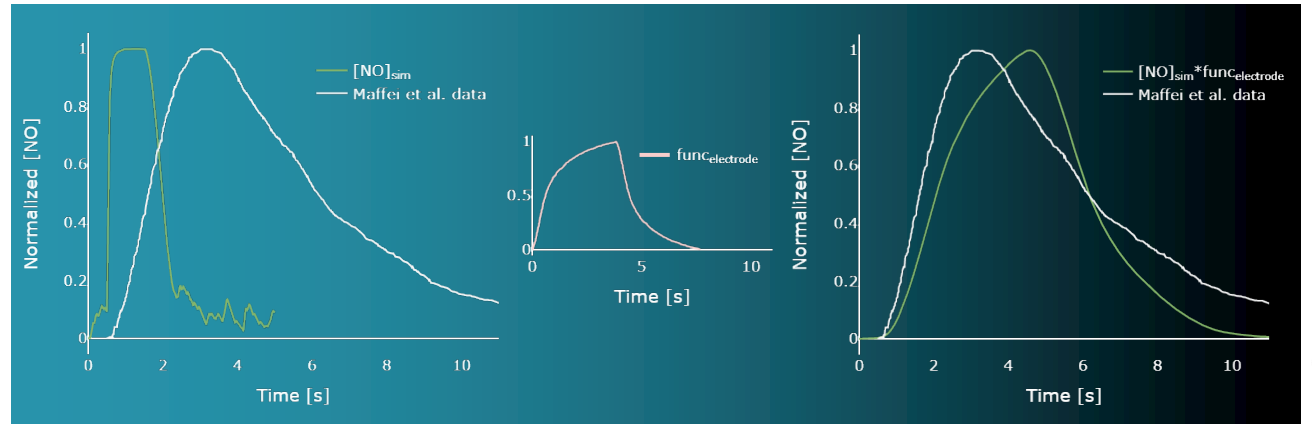
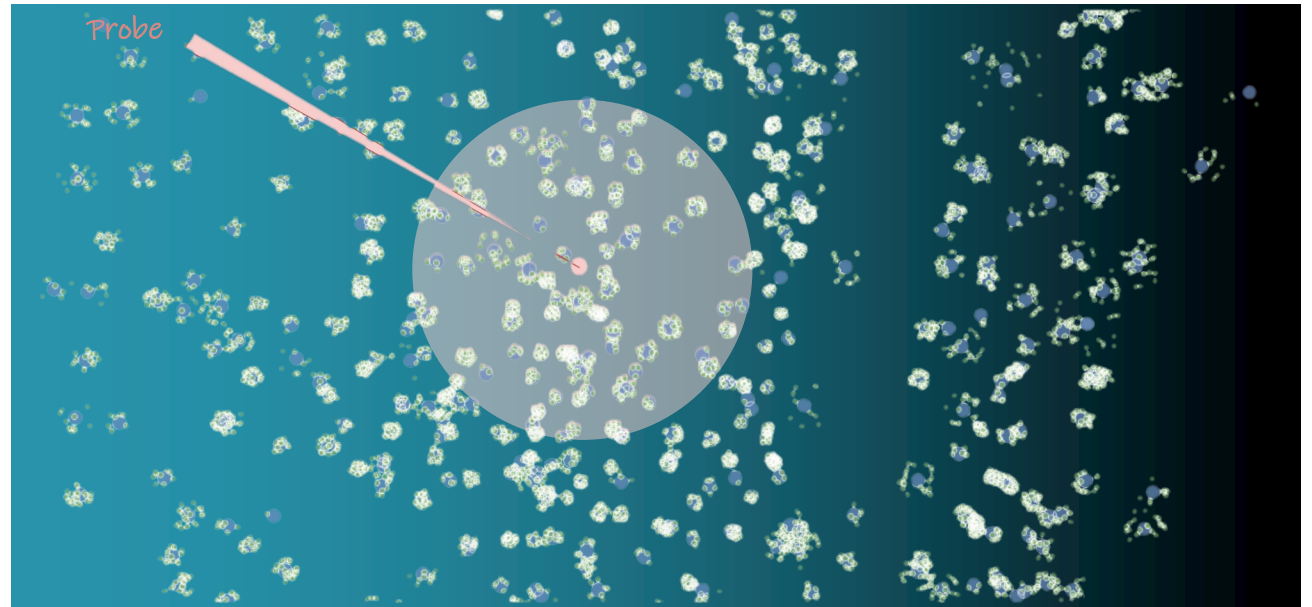
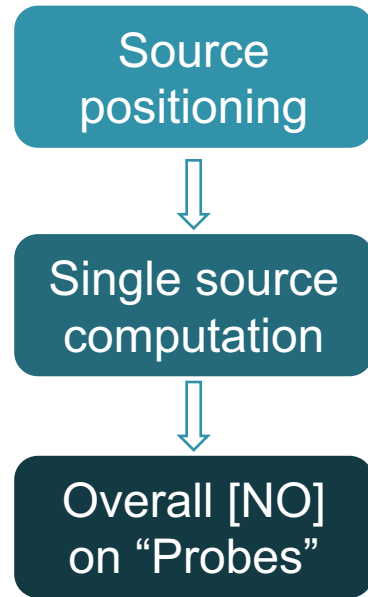


### Diffusion



Trapani et al., 2021

# NO network diffusion



Shibuki et al., 1990



# NO role in plasticity mechanism

## Nitric Oxide Is a Volume Transmitter Regulating Postsynaptic Excitability at a Glutamatergic Synapse

Joern R. Steinert,<sup>1</sup> Cornelia Kopp-Scheinflug,<sup>2</sup> Claire Baker,<sup>1</sup> R.A. John Challiss,<sup>3</sup> Raj Mistry,<sup>3</sup> Martin D. Haustein,<sup>1</sup> Sarah J. Griffin,<sup>1</sup> Huaxia Tong,<sup>1</sup> Bruce P. Graham,<sup>4</sup> and Ian D. Forsythe<sup>1,\*</sup>

## Nitric Oxide Is an Activity-Dependent Regulator of Target Neuron Intrinsic Excitability

Joern R. Steinert,<sup>1</sup> Susan W. Robinson,<sup>1</sup> Huaxia Tong,<sup>1</sup> Martin D. Haustein,<sup>1</sup> Cornelia Kopp-Scheinflug,<sup>1</sup> and Ian D. Forsythe<sup>1,\*</sup>

## The role of nitric oxide in pre-synaptic plasticity and homeostasis

*Neil Hardingham<sup>†</sup>, James Dachtler<sup>††</sup> and Kevin Fox<sup>\*</sup>*


*School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK*

## Asymmetric spike-timing dependent plasticity of striatal nitric oxide-synthase interneurons

E. Fino, V. Paille, J.-M. Deniau, L. Venance  

> *J Neurophysiol.* 2003 Oct;90(4):2478-83. doi: 10.1152/jn.00399.2003.

## NO enhances presynaptic currents during cerebellar mossy fiber-granule cell LTP

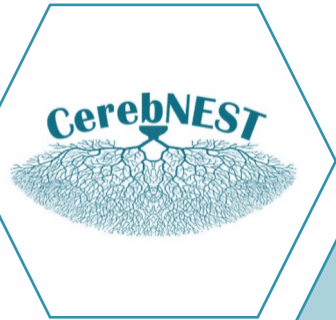
Arianna Maffei , Francesca Prestori, Katsuei Shibuki, Paola Rossi, Vanni Taglietti, Egidio D'Angelo

## Nitric Oxide Is Required for L-Type Ca<sup>2+</sup> Channel-Dependent Long-Term Potentiation in the Hippocampus

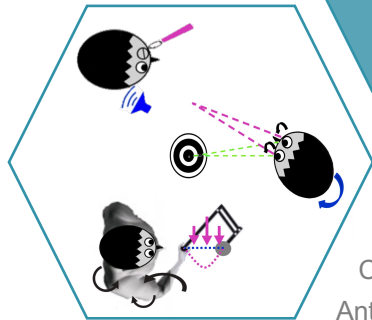
*Beatrice M. Pigott and John Garthwaite<sup>\*</sup>*

*The Wolfson Institute for Biomedical Research, University College London, London, UK*

# Future development

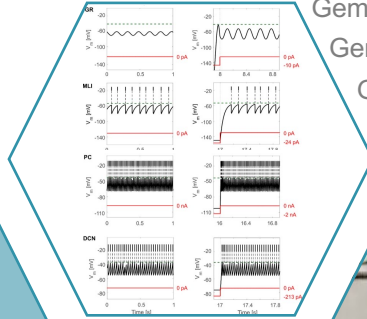


Design experimental protocols



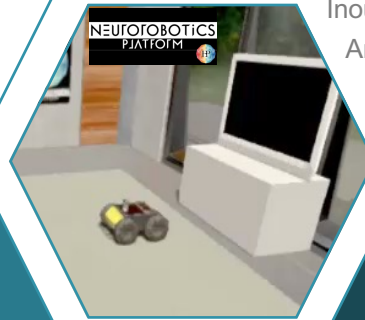
Casellato et al., 2014  
Antonietti et al., 2015

Advanced models of single point neuron EGLIF



Geminiani et al., 2018  
Geminiani et al., 2019 a  
Geminiani et al., 2019 b

Robotic embodiment



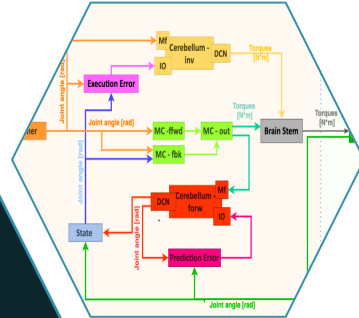
Inoue et al., 2021  
Antonietti et al., 2022

Work in progress

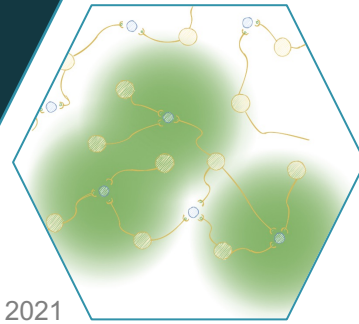


Antonietti et al., 2018  
Antonietti et al., 2019

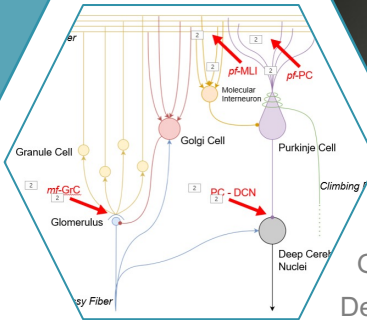
Bio-inspired robotic controller and effector



Diffusive plasticity model



Trapani et al., 2021



Casali et al., 2019  
Grillo et al., 2021  
De Schepper et al., 2021



# Thank you



Alessandra Pedrocchi, PhD



Alberto Antonietti, PhD



Alice Geminiani, PhD



Alessandra Trapani



Benedetta Gambosi

Egidio D'Angelo, PhD

Claudia Casellato, PhD

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

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



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