

Robust Computation with Neuronal Heterogeneity

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Experimental Neuroscience

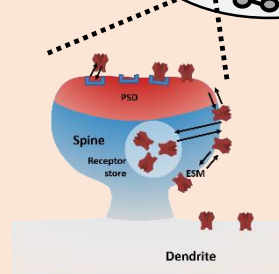
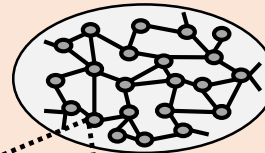
Behavioral Neuroscience



Molecular Neuroscience

Computational Neuroscience

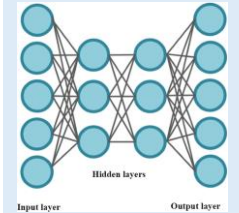
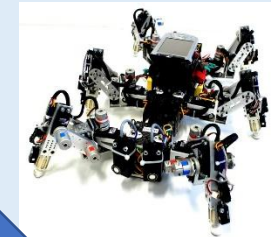
(Plastic) recurrent neuronal network models



Single synapse models

Neuro-inspired Technology

Robotics & AI



Neuromorphic Computing

*Experimental
Neuroscience*

Behavioral Neuroscience



Molecular
Neuroscience

*Computational
Neuroscience*

Part I:

(Plastic) recurrent
neural network
models

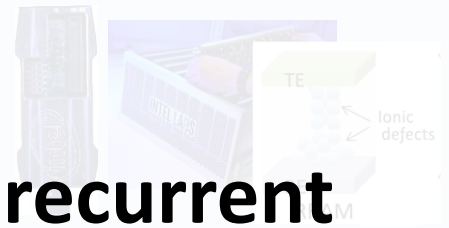
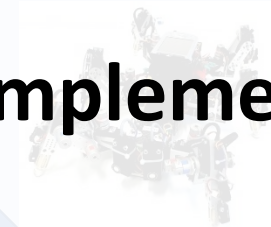
Part II:

The advantages of neuronal heterogeneity for recurrent
neural networks

models

*Neuro-inspired
Technology*

Robotics & AI



Neuromorphic
Computing

**The functional implication and neuromorphic implementation
of multi-timescale plasticity**

CRC 1286: Quantitative Synaptology

Speaker: Prof. Rizzoli; Vice-Speaker: Prof. Tetzlaff

2017-2029



UMG



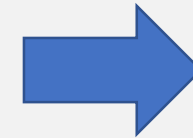
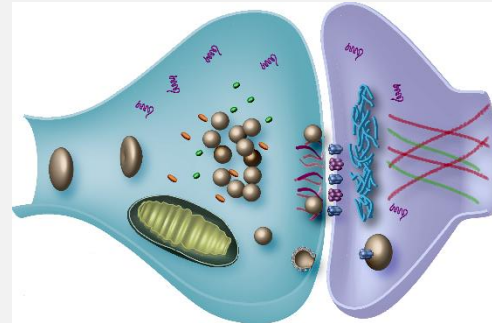
LEIBNIZ
FORSCHUNGSINSTITUT
FÜR MOLEKULARE
PHARMAKOLOGIE



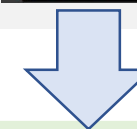
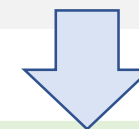
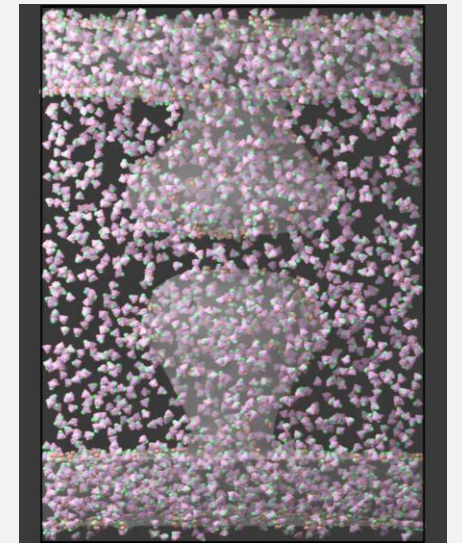
Goal: To analyze the synapse in quantitative detail, to enable computational models of synaptic function.

Deeper understanding of:

- synapse function
- synaptic disease
- single-synapse computation
- differences between synapses
- link between synapse structure and function → connectomics



Outcome:
Computational model of synaptic dynamics



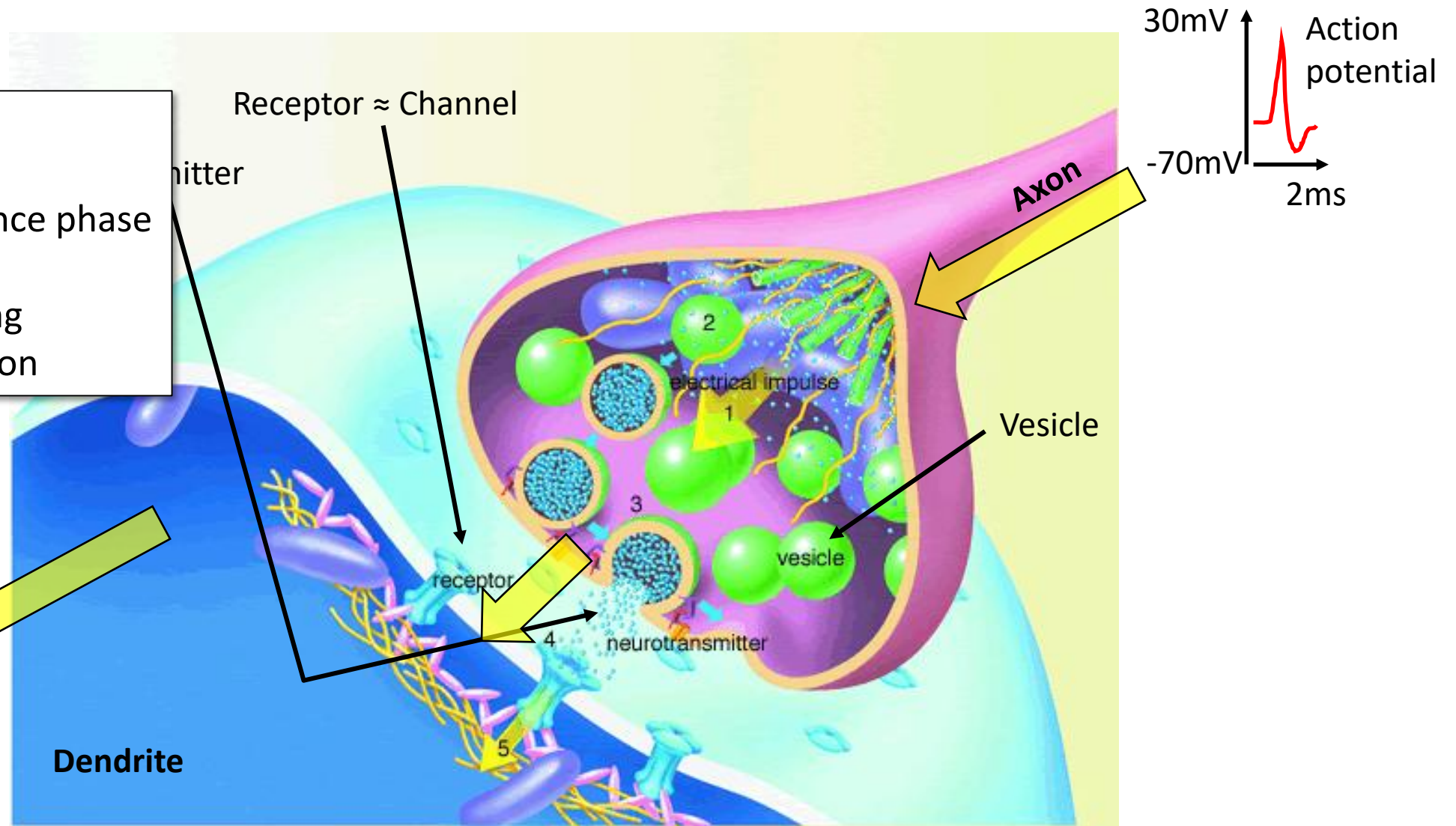
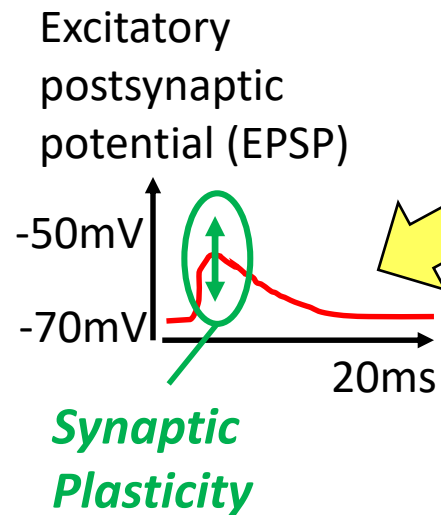
Research Community

Cellular Neurosci., Molecular Neurosci., Computational Neurosci., Systems Neurosci., Neurology,
Artificial Intelligence, **Neuromorphic Computing**, ...

Biological Synapse

General properties:

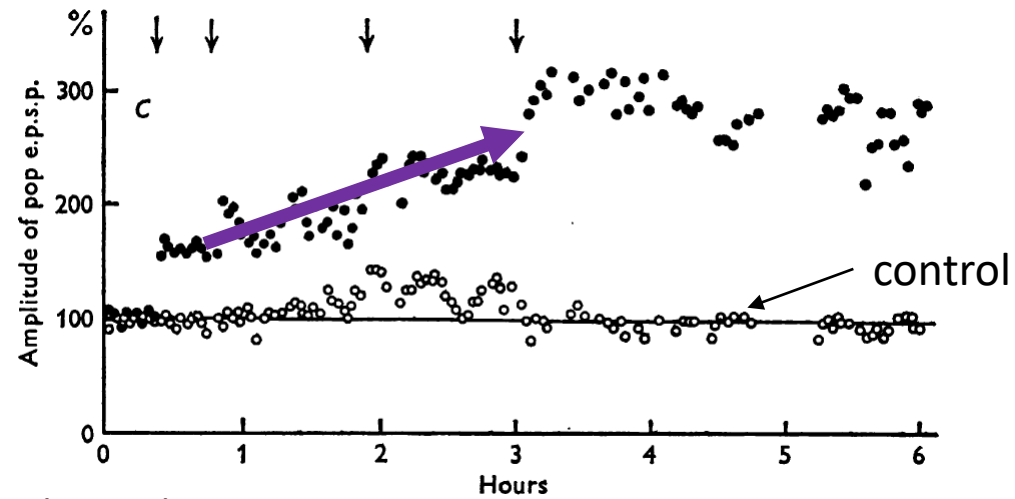
- No error-signal
- No training/inference phase
- Local variables
- Continuous learning
- Low weight precision



Long-term Synaptic Plasticity

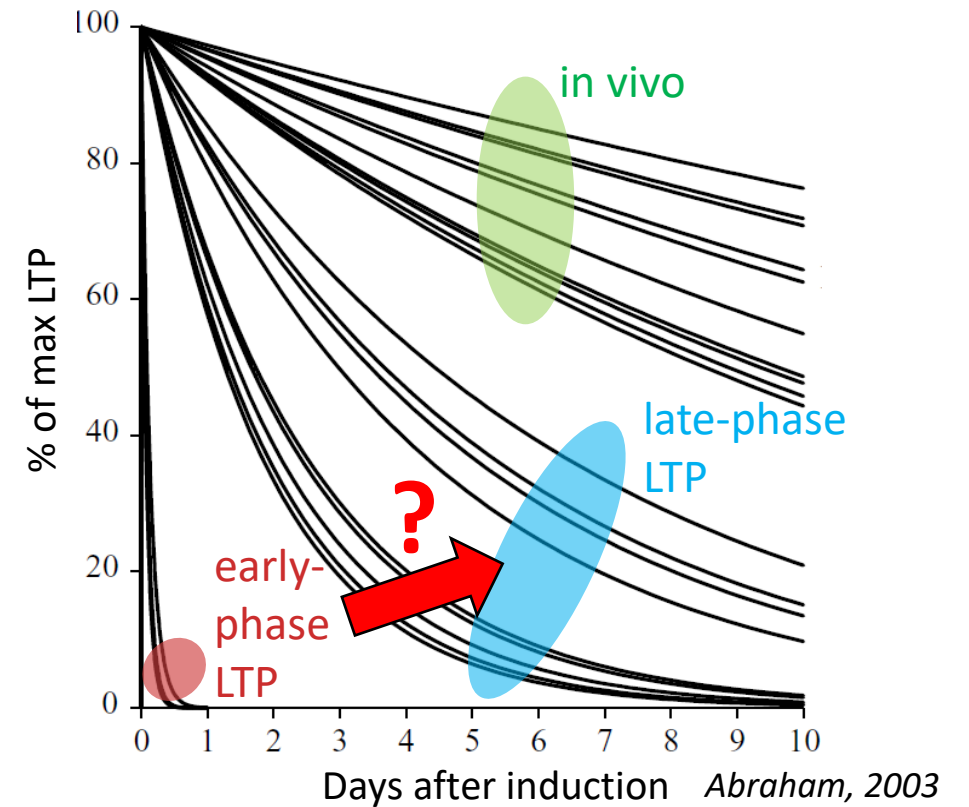
Induction of Long-term Potentiation (LTP):

100 Hz for 1 sec or 10 Hz for 10 sec



Bliss and Lomo, 1973

Maintenance of LTP:



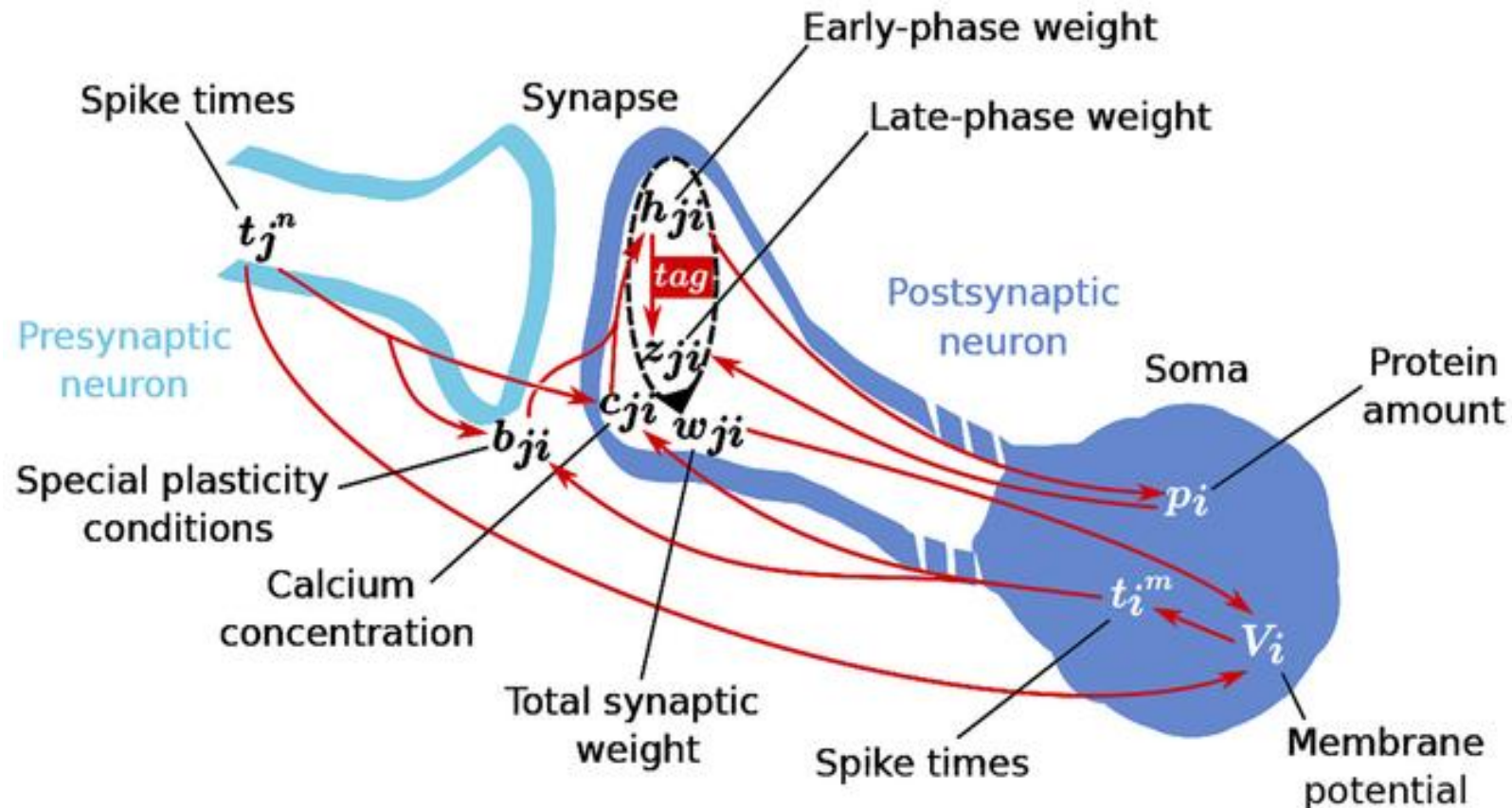
Abraham, 2003

Early- and Late-Phase Plasticity

The **synaptic weight** consists of two components

- i) **Early-phase weight** (e.g. receptor dynamics)
- ii) **Late-phase weight** (e.g. synthesis of new proteins)

Clopath et al., 2008; Barrett et al., 2009; Li, Kulvicius, Tetzlaff, 2016; Luboeinski & Tetzlaff, 2021; 2022;

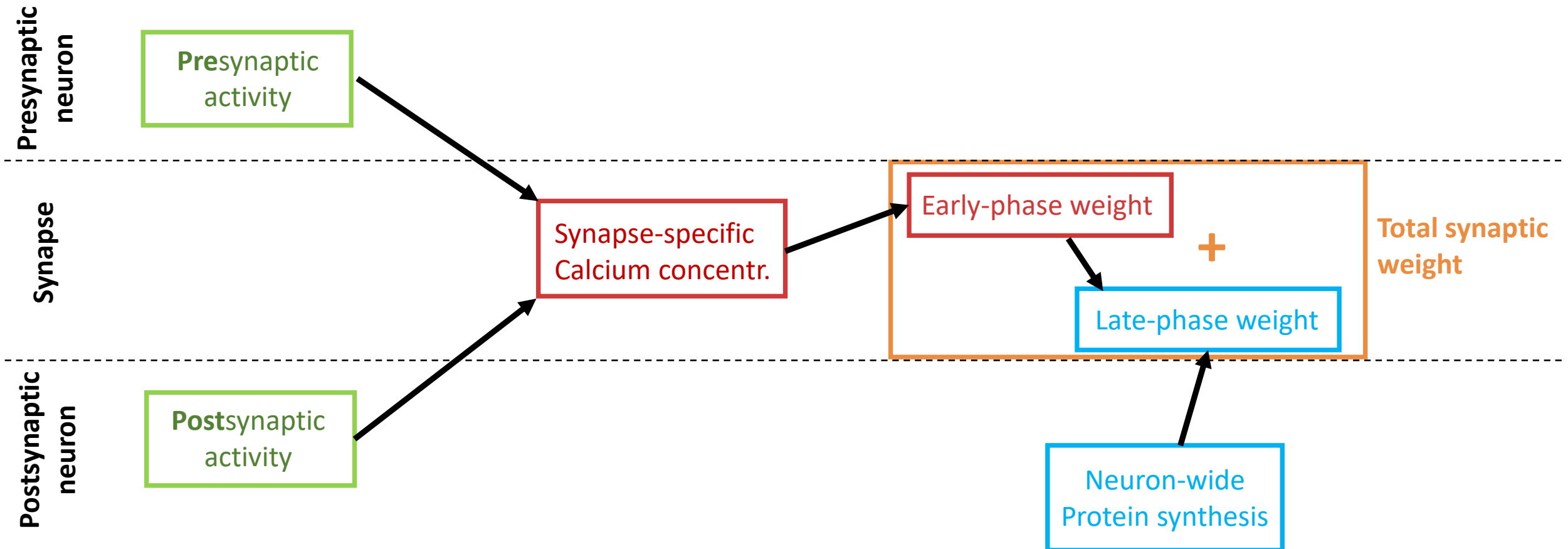


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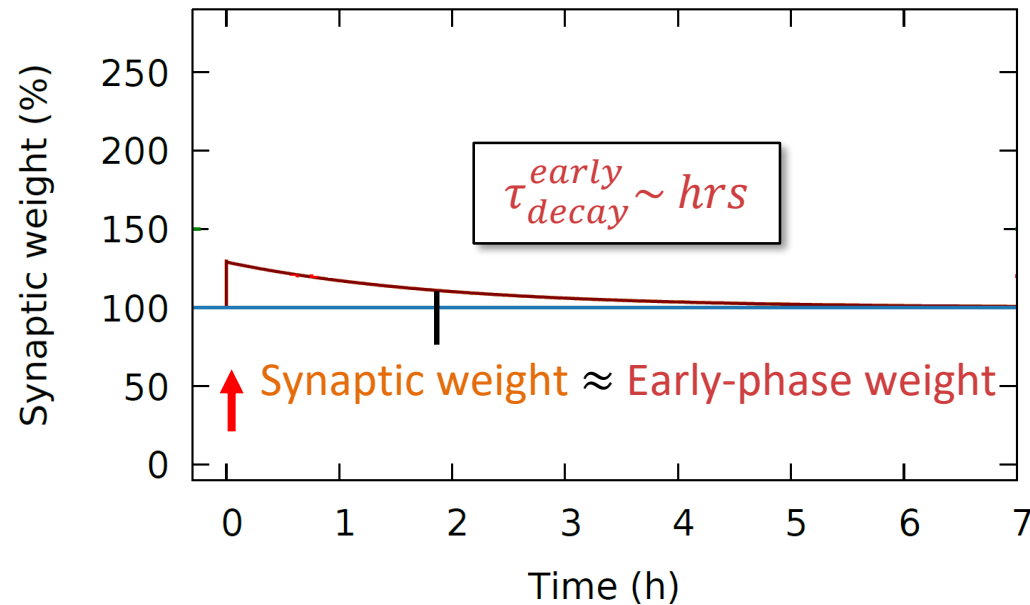
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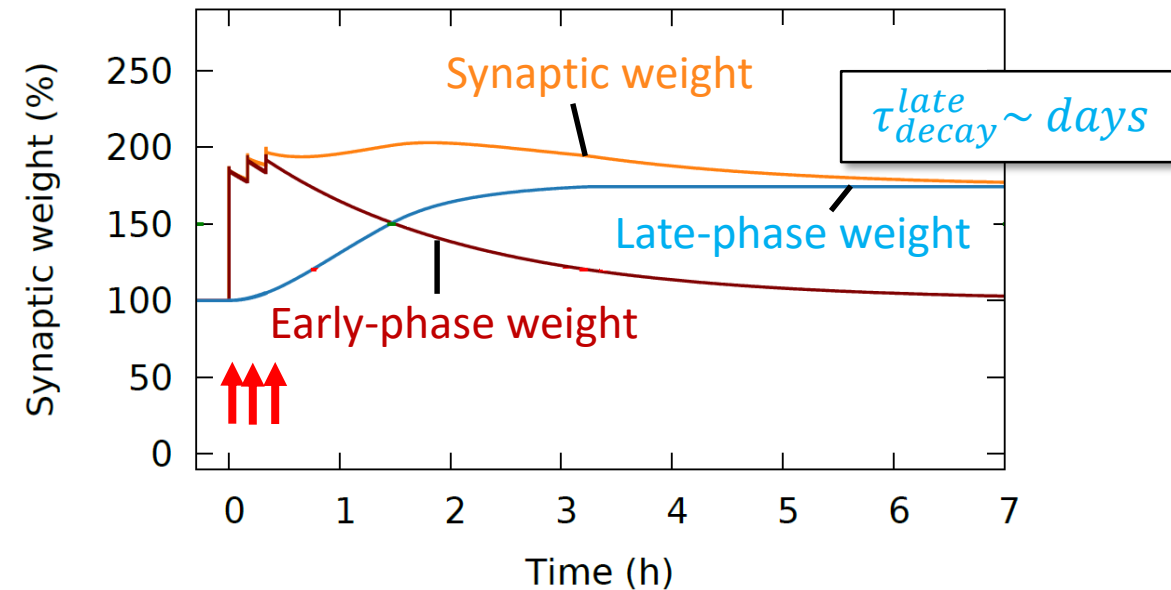
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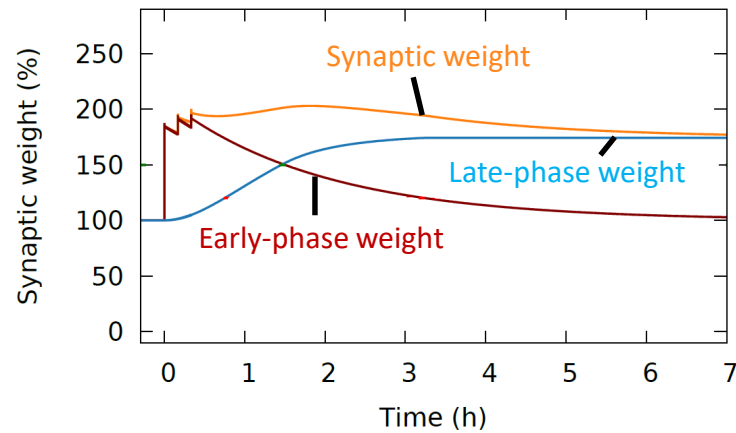
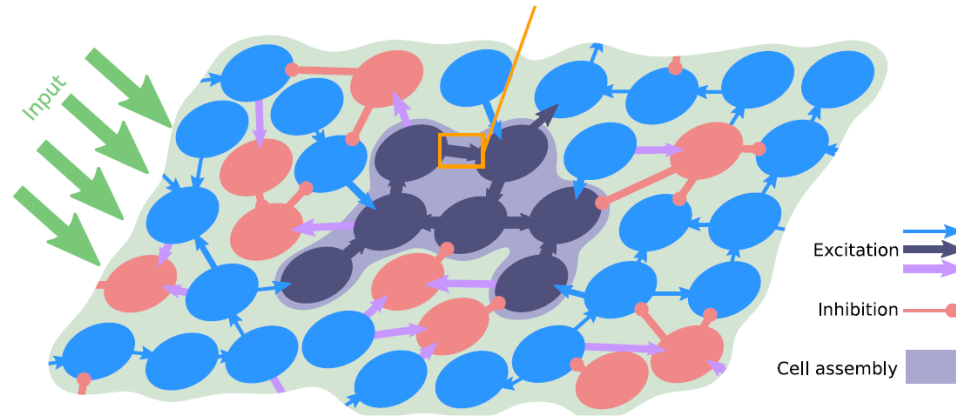
Only calcium-based plasticity



Calcium-based plasticity + Protein-synthesis triggered

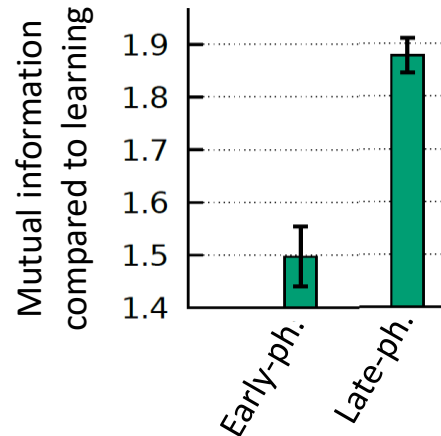


Functional Implications



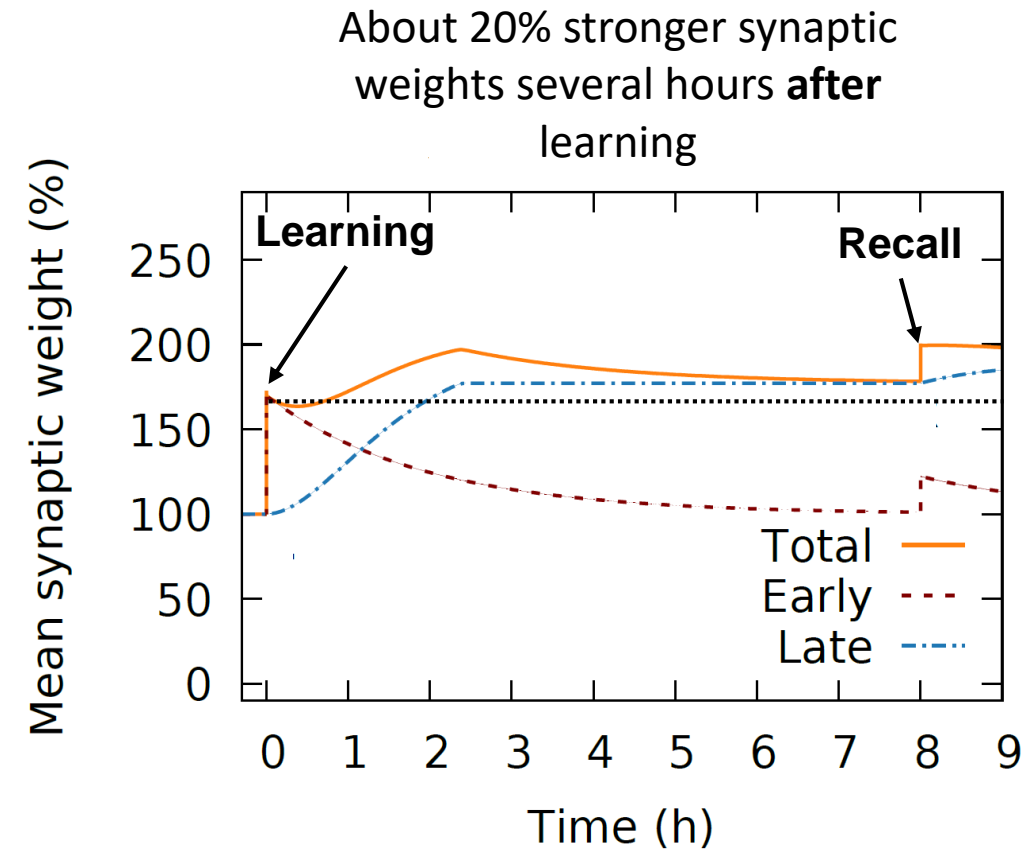
- ✓ Consolidation or stabilization of memory representations

Luboeinski & Tetzlaff, 2021



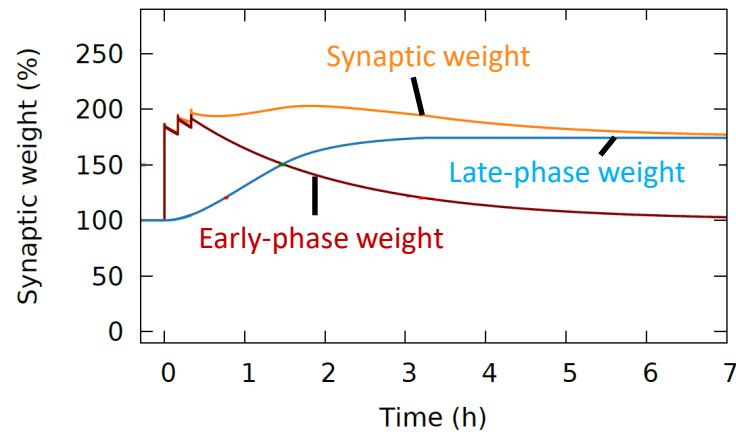
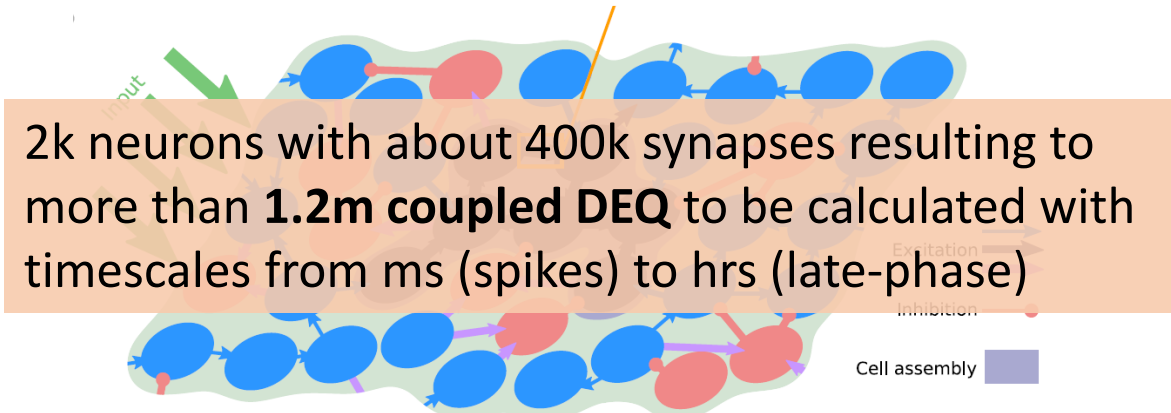
- ✓ Automatic improvement of memory representations

Luboeinski & Tetzlaff, 2021



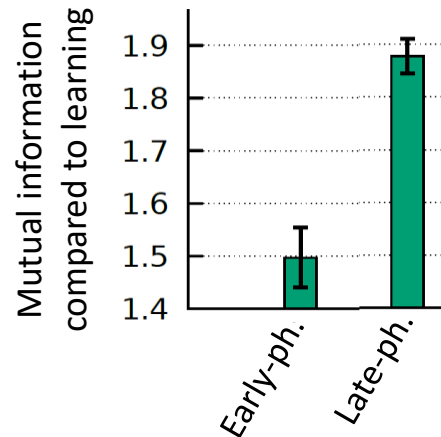
About 20% stronger synaptic weights several hours **after** learning

Functional Implications



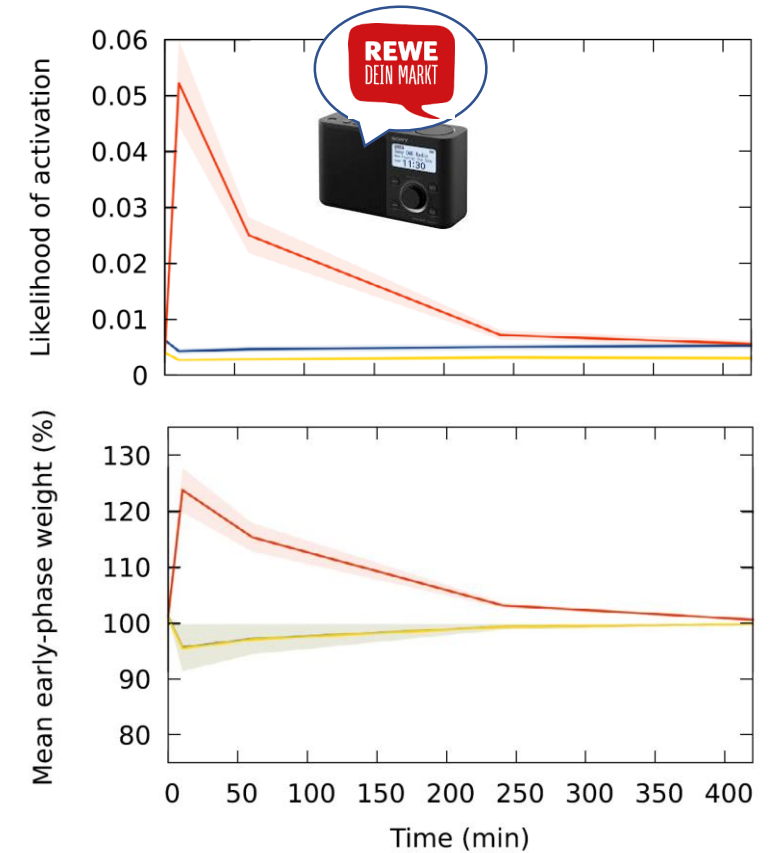
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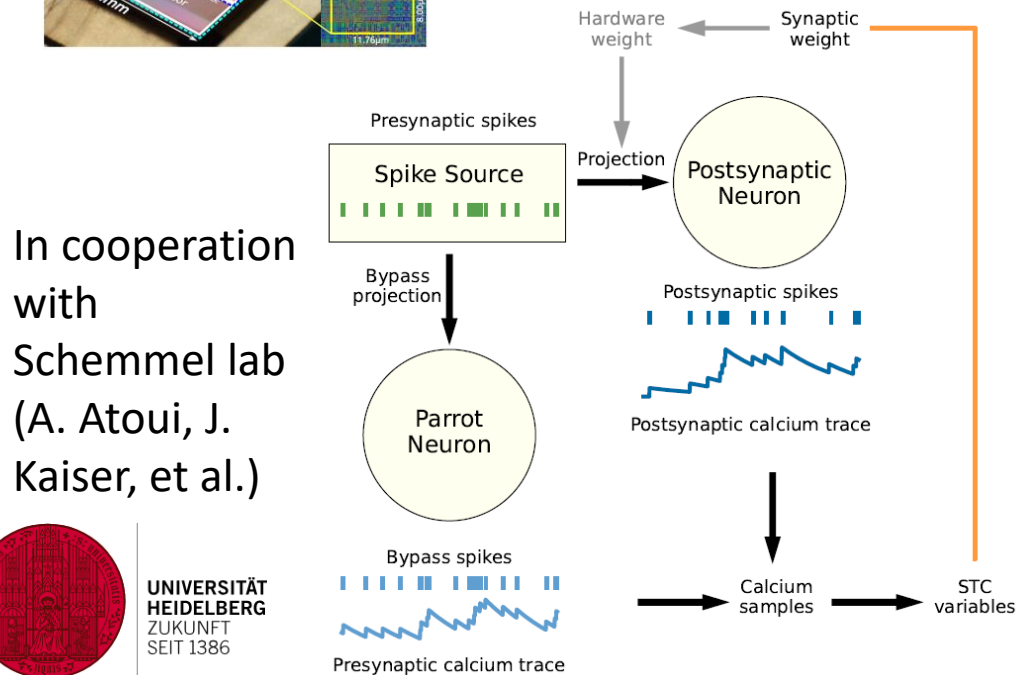
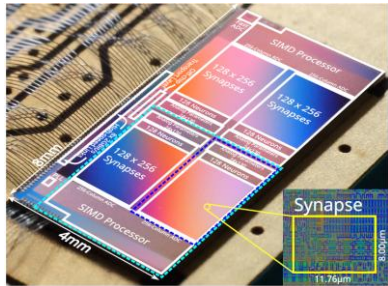
- ✓ Priming of memory representations for several hours

Luboeinski & Tetzlaff, 2022

Neuromorphic Implementation of Multi-timescale Plasticity

BrainScaleS-2 Implementation

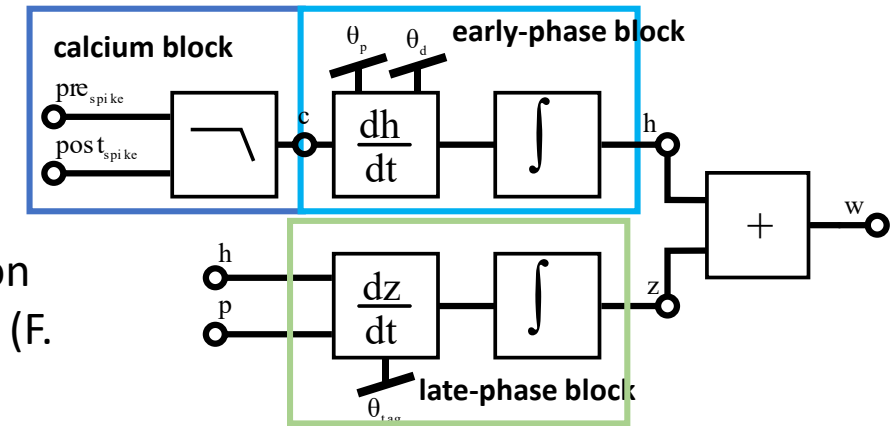
Goal: Utilizing the accelerated calculation of neuronal dynamics by BrainScaleS-2 to enable long-term investigations of memory dynamics, being relevant for neuroscience and medicine



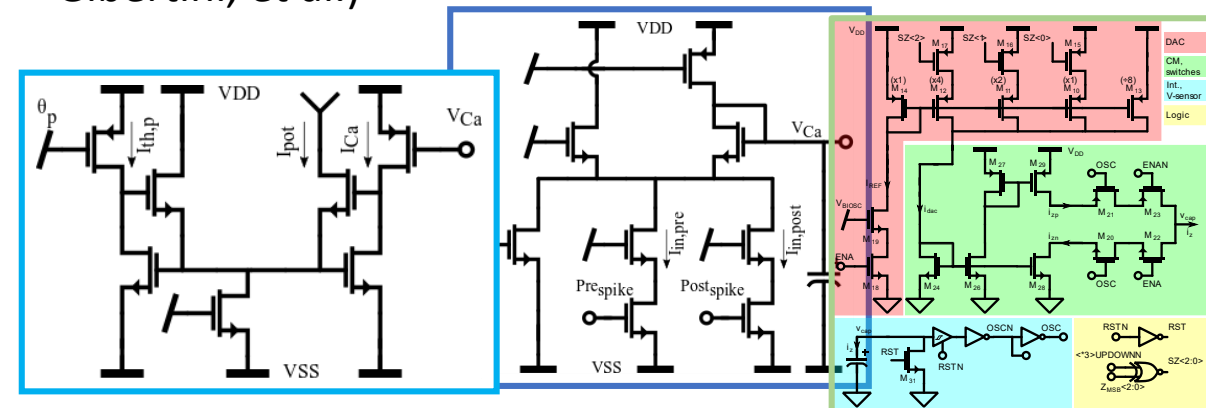
Atoui et al., 2024, arXiv

CMOS-based Implementation

Goal: Obtain a hardware system that is optimized to store information on the biological timescales of several hours



In cooperation
with Covi lab (F.
Quintana, P.
Gibertini, et al.)



*Experimental
Neuroscience*

*Computational
Neuroscience*

*Neuro-inspired
Technology*

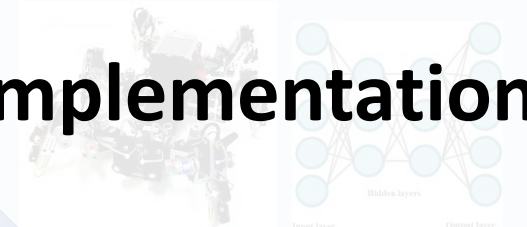
Behavioral Neuroscience



Part I:

**The functional implication and neuromorphic implementation
of multi-timescale plasticity**

Robotics & AI



Part II:

**The advantages of neuronal heterogeneity for recurrent
neural networks**

Molecular

Neuroscience



models

Neuromorphic
Computing



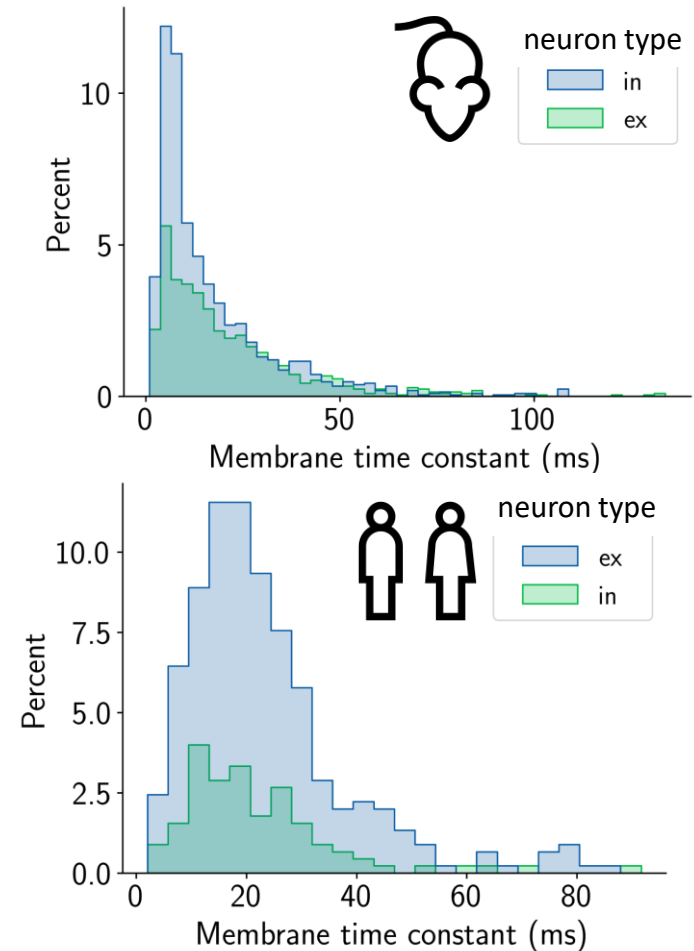
“Precision” of components



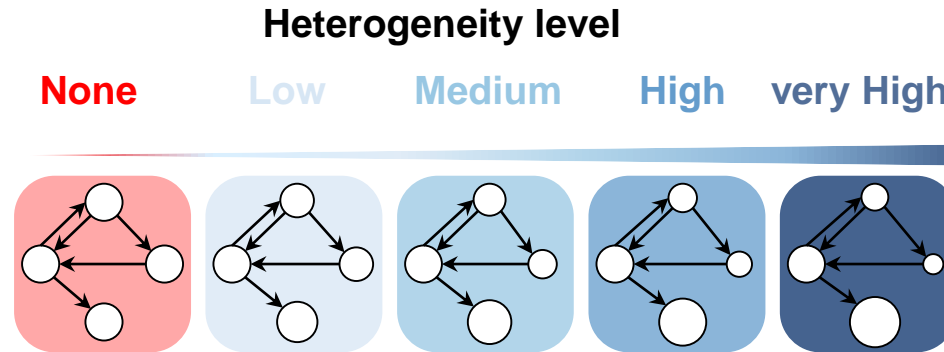
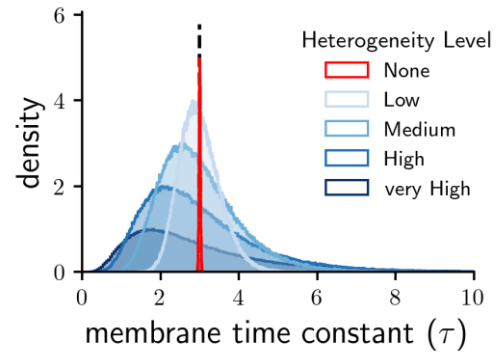
LEGO bricks are accurate to within 2 micrometers

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/kids-club/entertainment/general-entertainment/ten-top-lego-facts/>

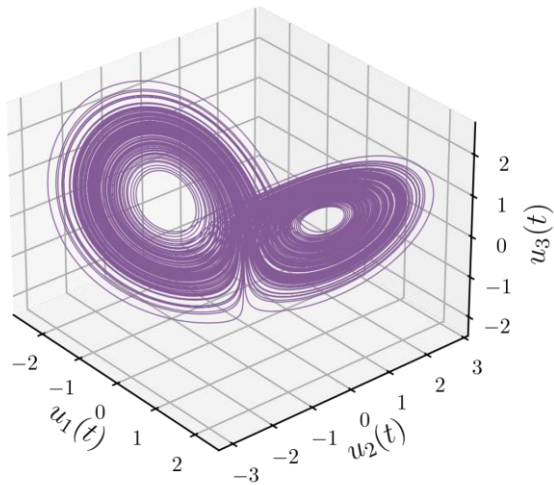
“memory of a neuron”



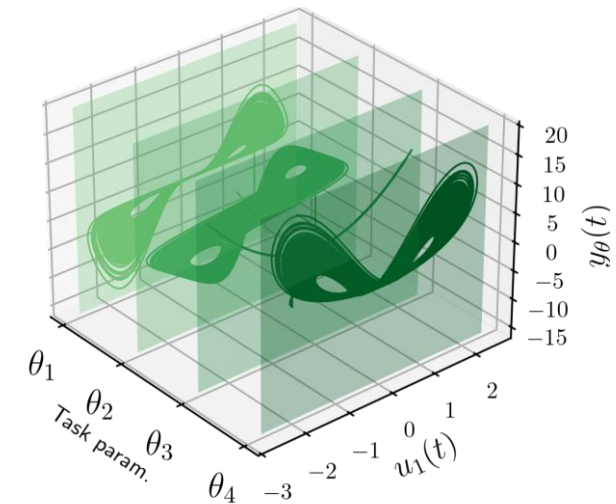
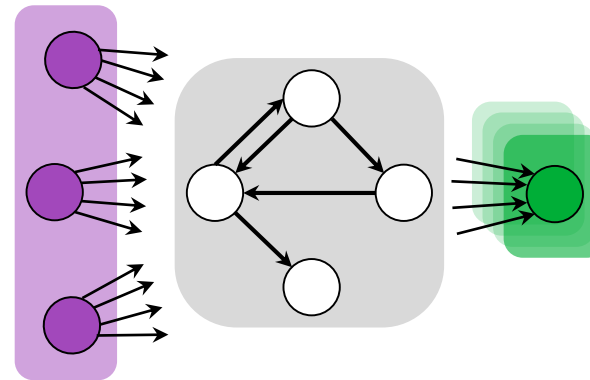
Testing Neuronal Heterogeneity in RNNs



Same network architecture, with different levels of heterogeneity

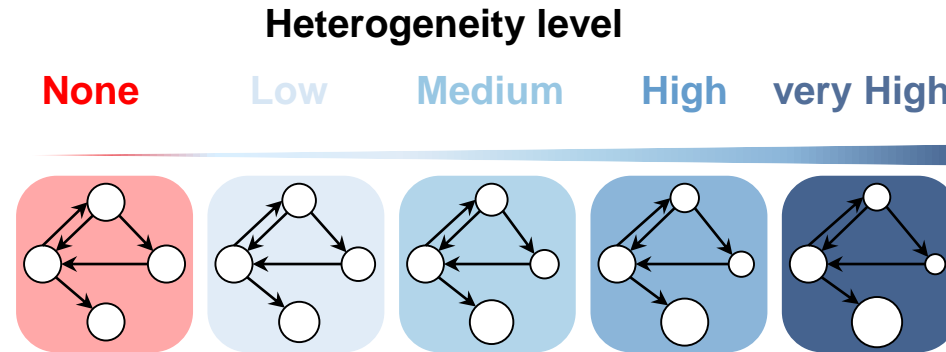
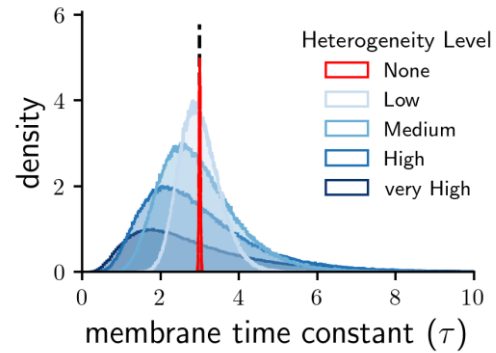


Multi-dimensional, partially predictable (sensory) input

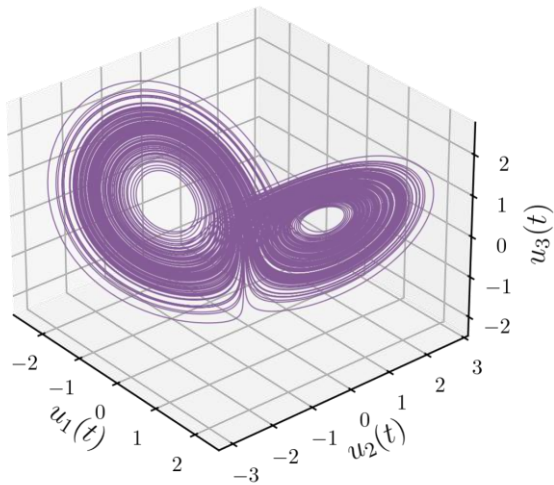


Multiple tasks or target functions

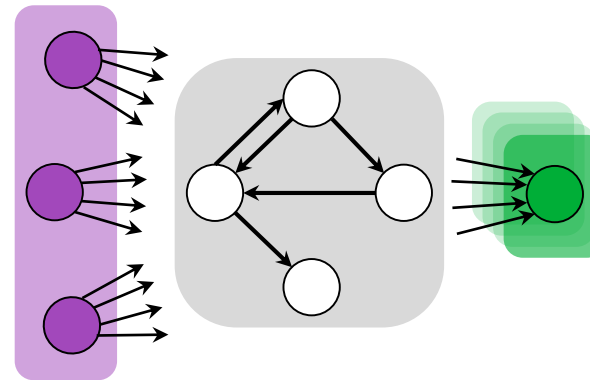
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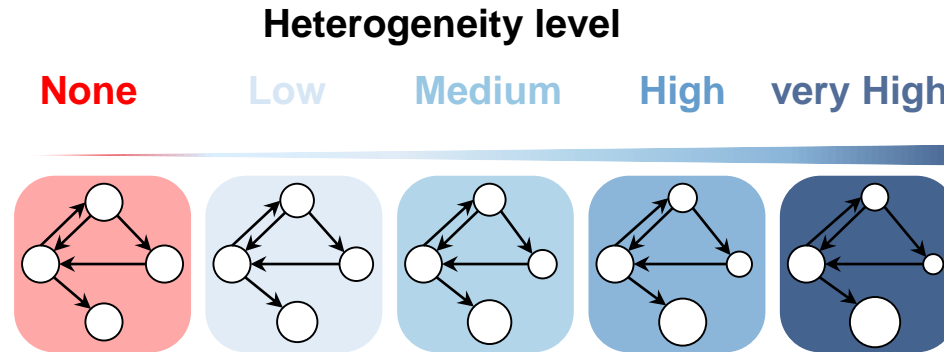
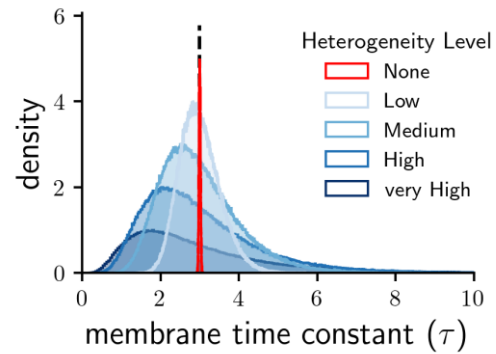


Desired Output Multi-dim. Input Time shift (memory/prediction)

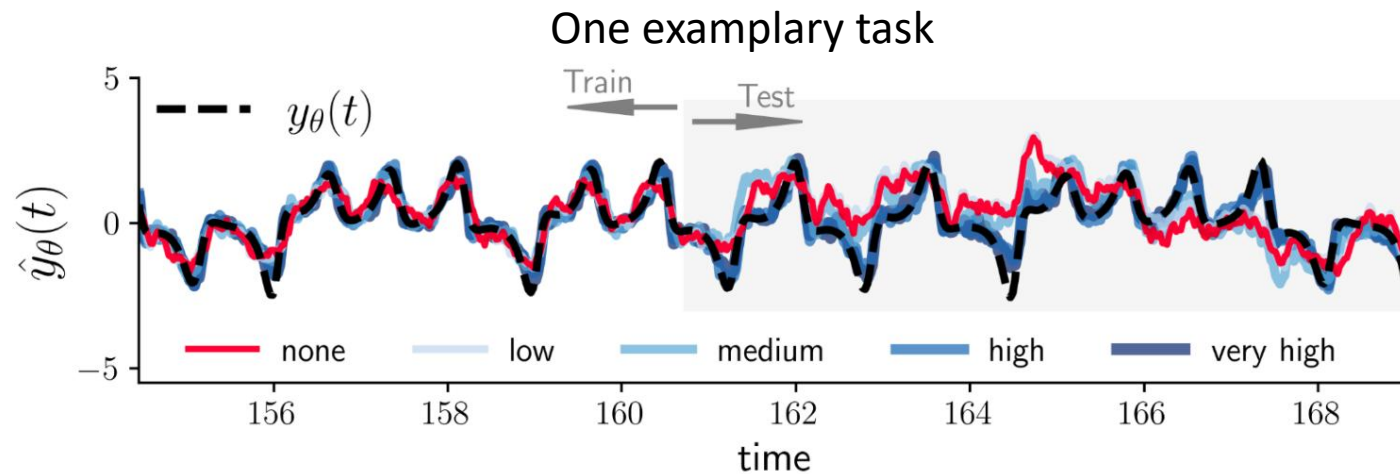
$$y_{\theta}(t) = \mathcal{F}_{\theta}[\mathbf{u}(t)] = u_k(t + \Delta)^d$$

Input Dimension Nonlinear Computing

Testing Neuronal Heterogeneity in RNNs



Same network architecture, with different levels of heterogeneity



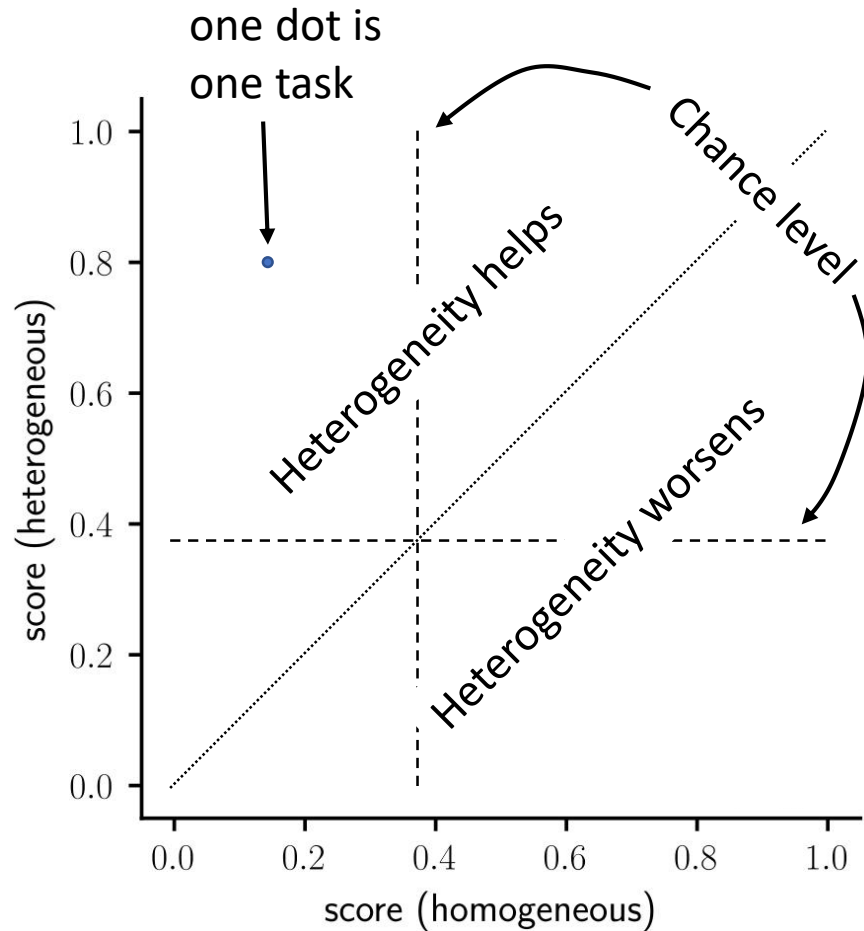
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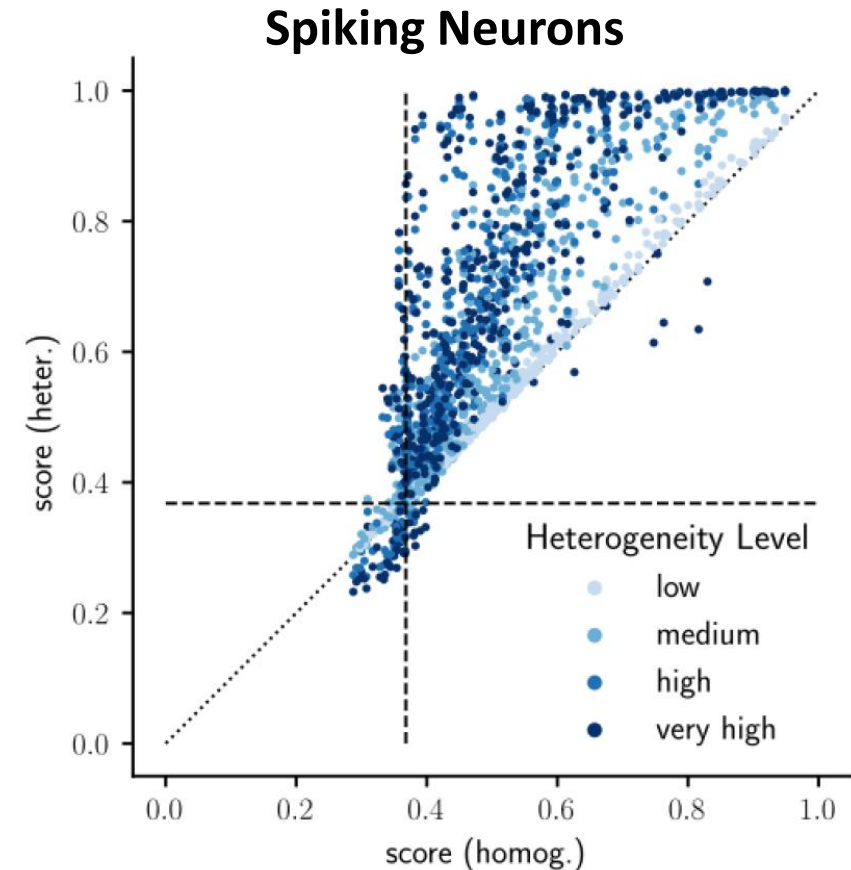
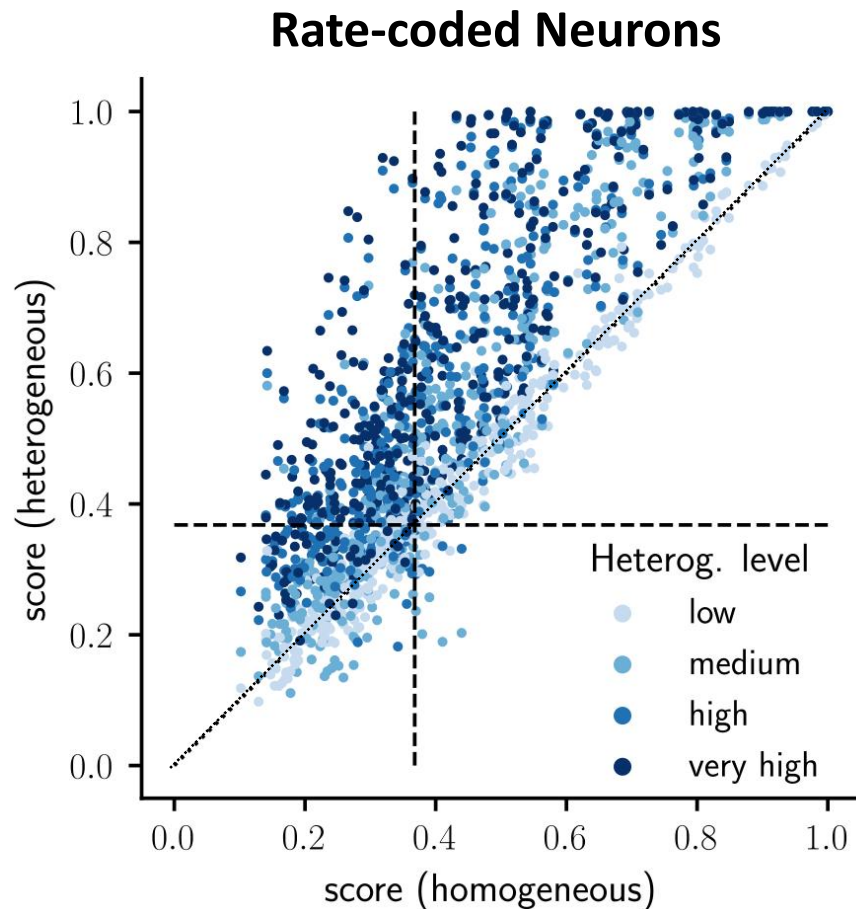
Input Dimension Nonlinear Computing

By varying the task parameters, we obtained in total **435 different tasks**.

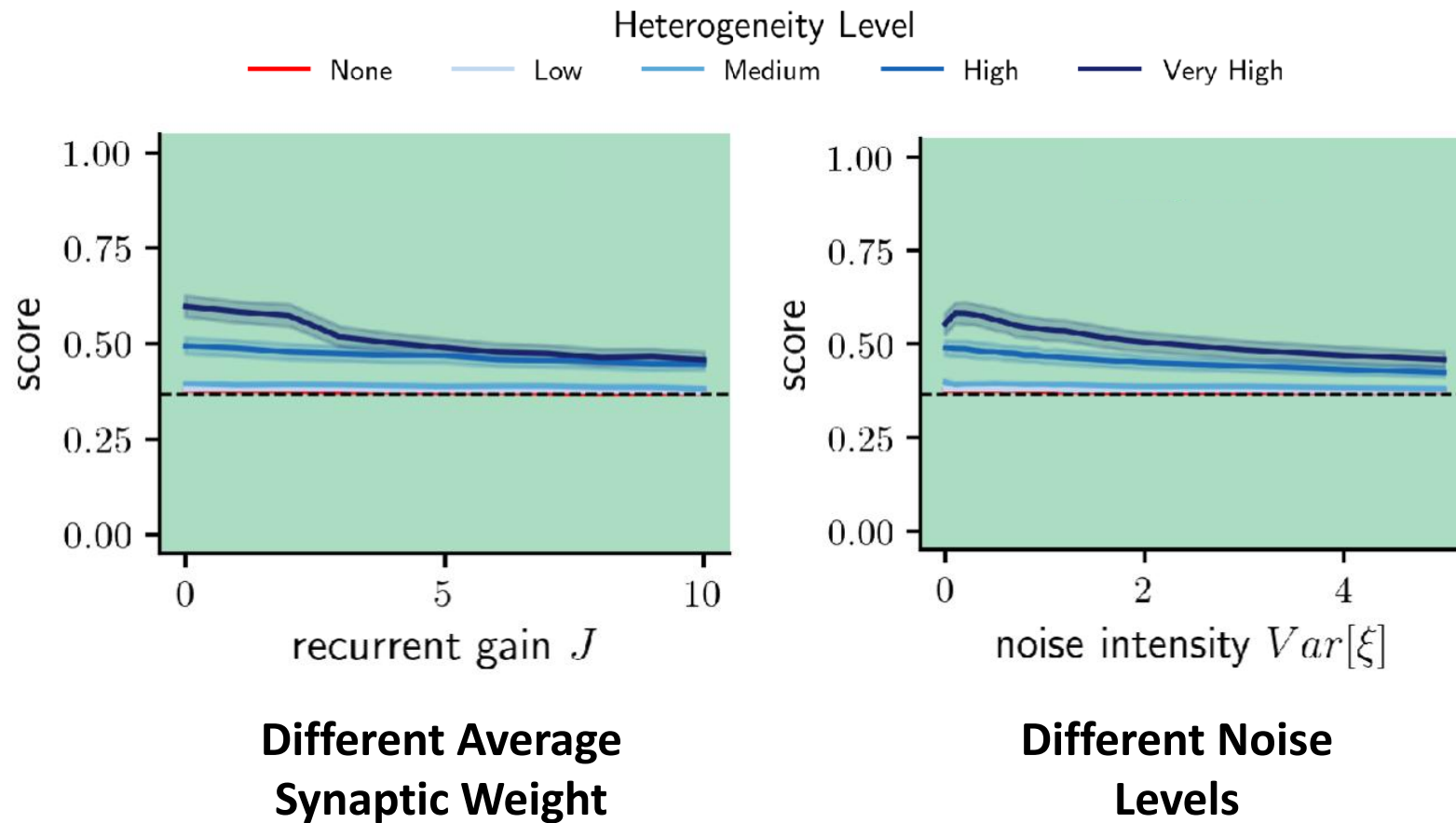
The Influence of Heterogeneity on Task Performance



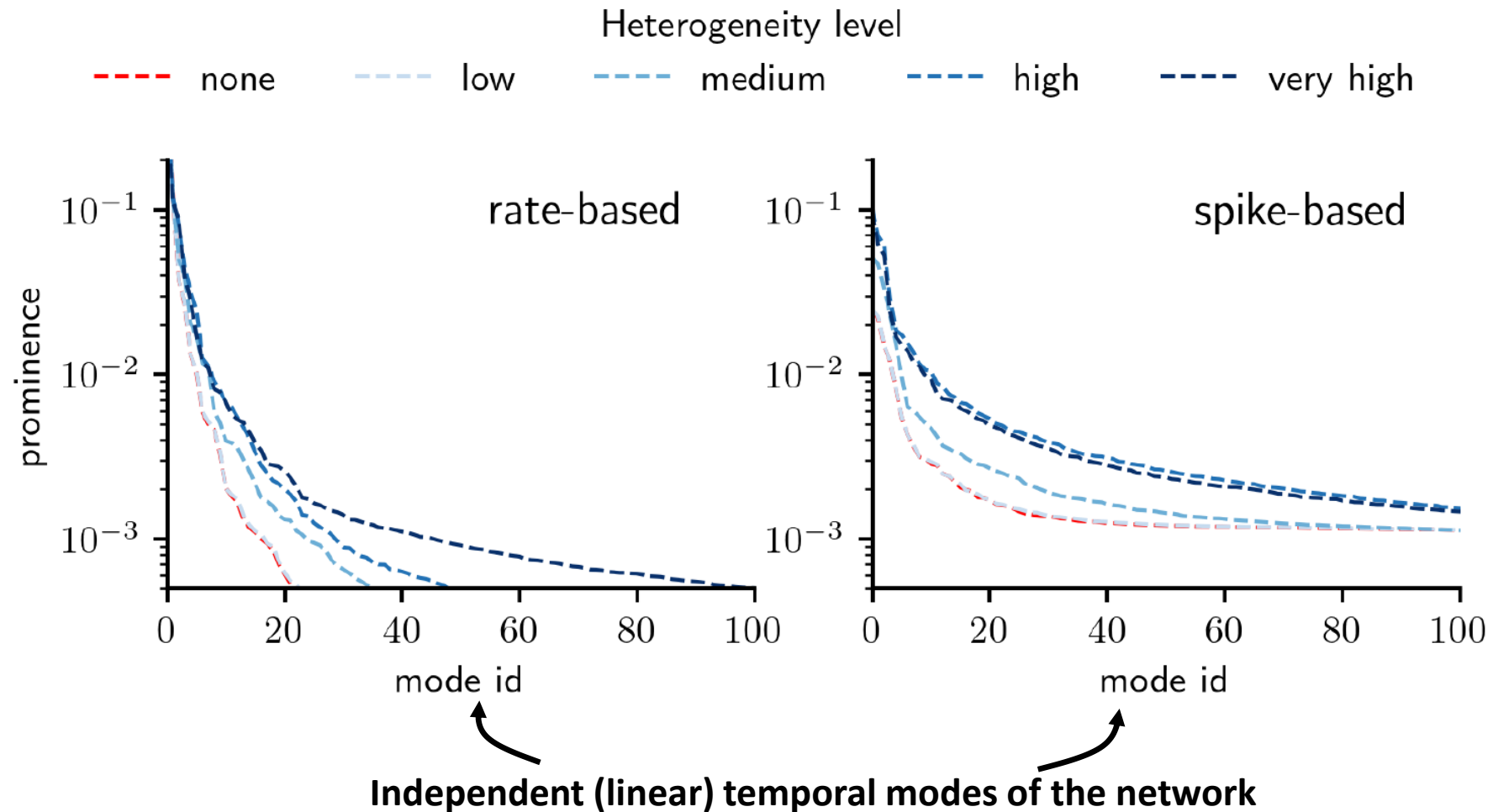
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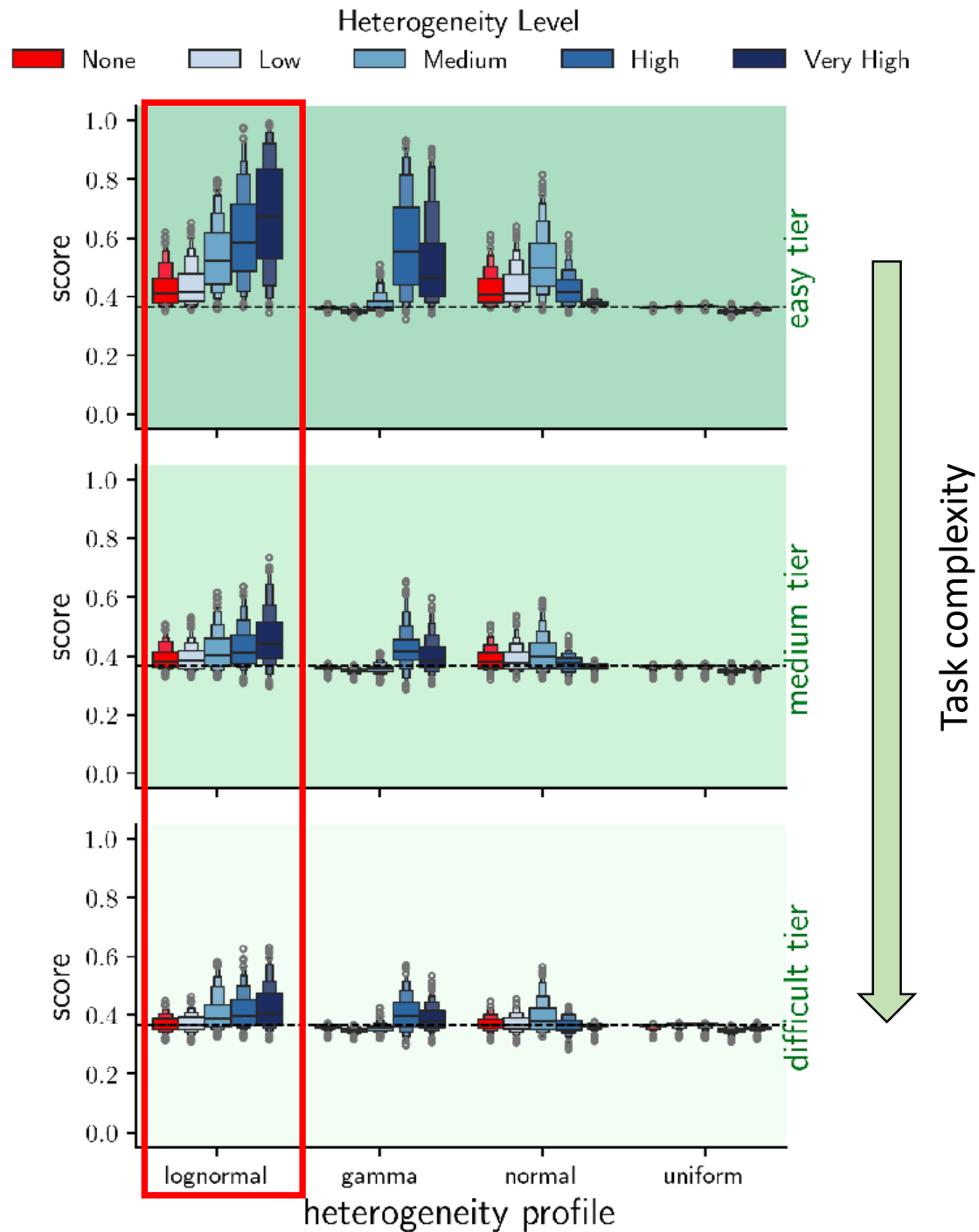
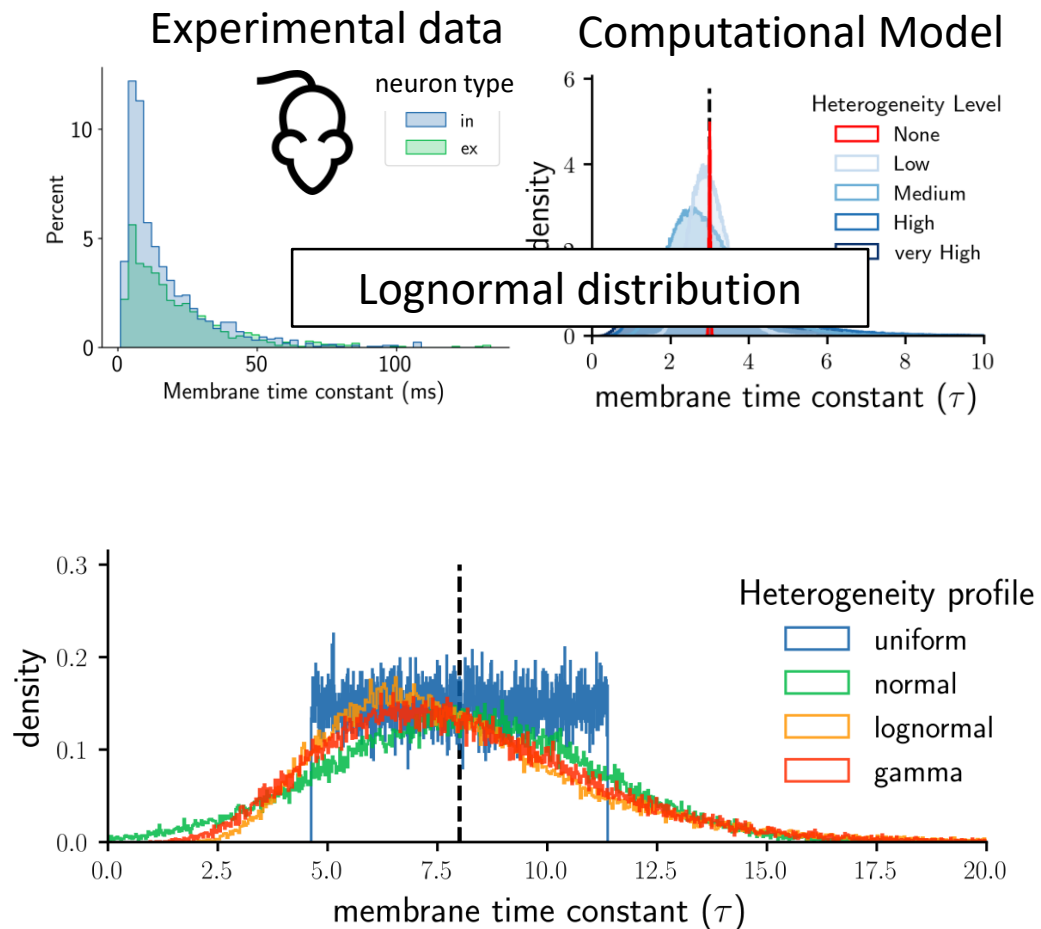
Heterogeneity improves Performance across Hyperparameters



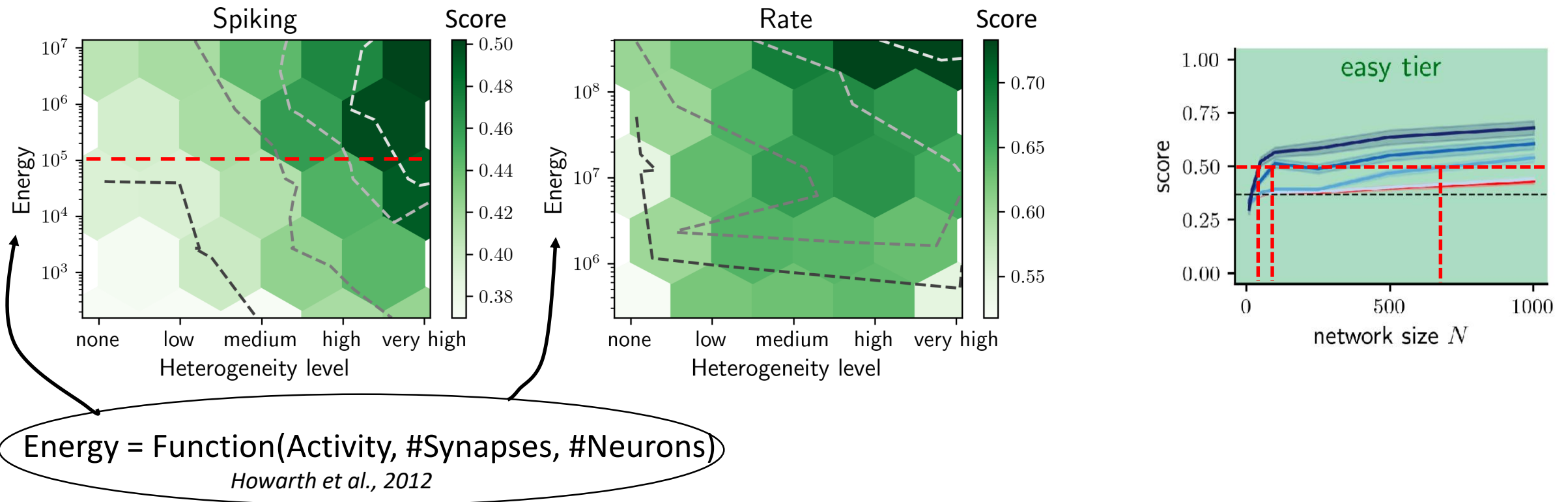
Heterogeneity enriches the information processing capacity of neural networks



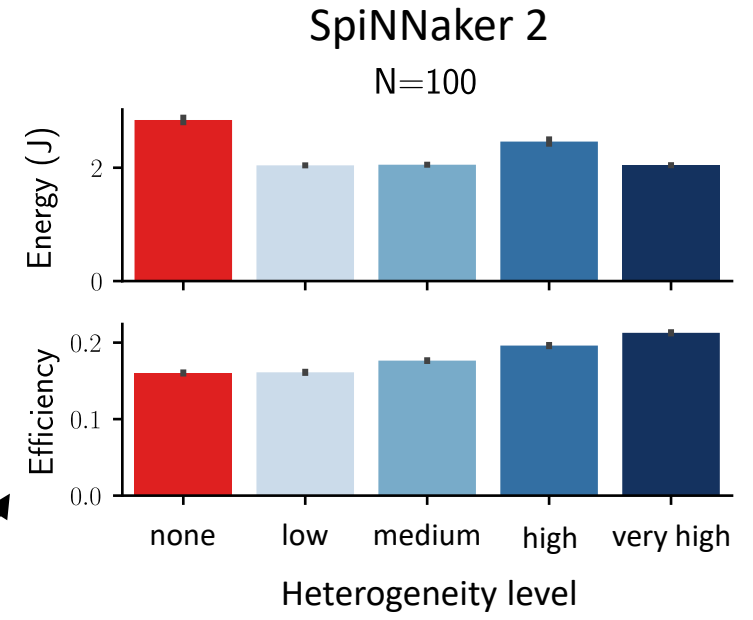
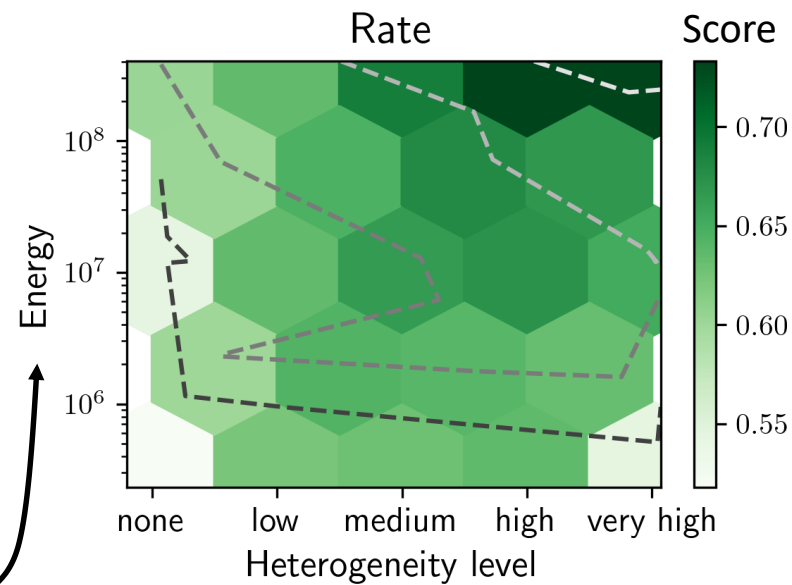
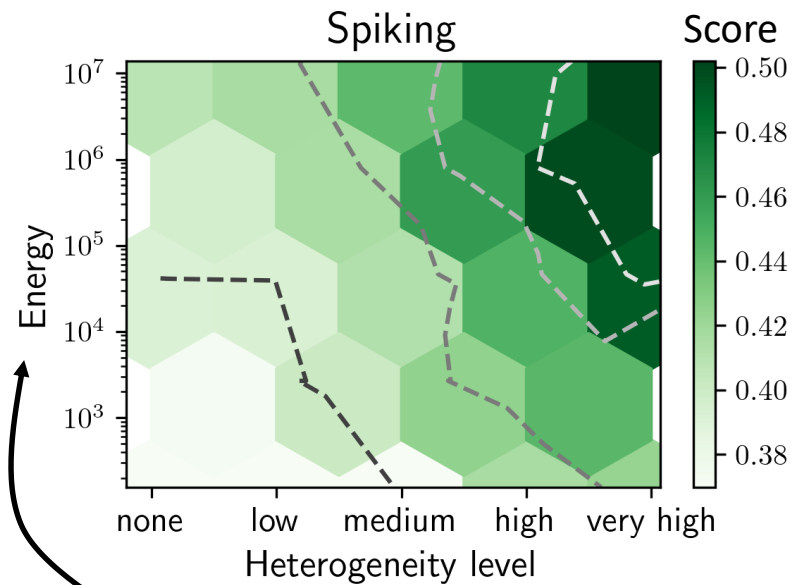
The Influence of the Heterogeneity Distribution



Heterogeneity yield Energy-efficient Networks



Heterogeneity yield Energy-efficient Networks



Energy = Function(Activity, #Synapses, #Neurons)

Howarth et al., 2012

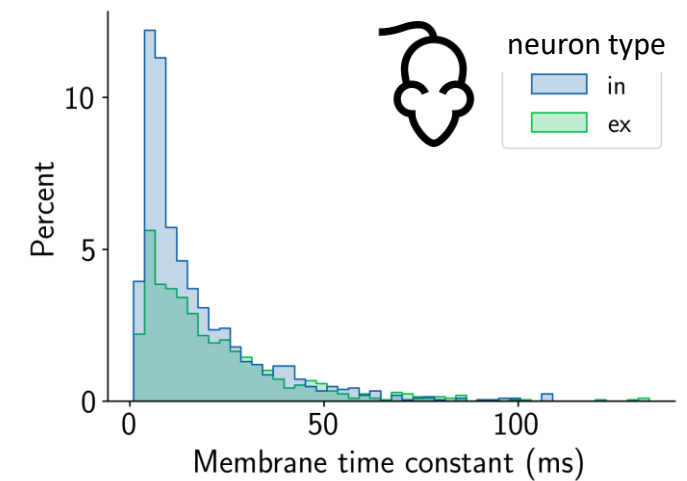
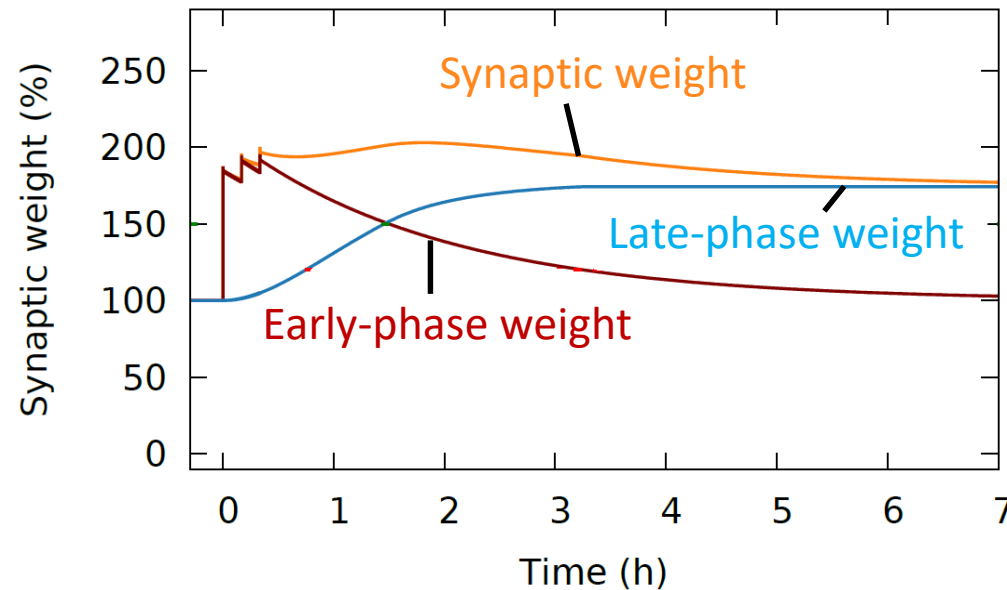
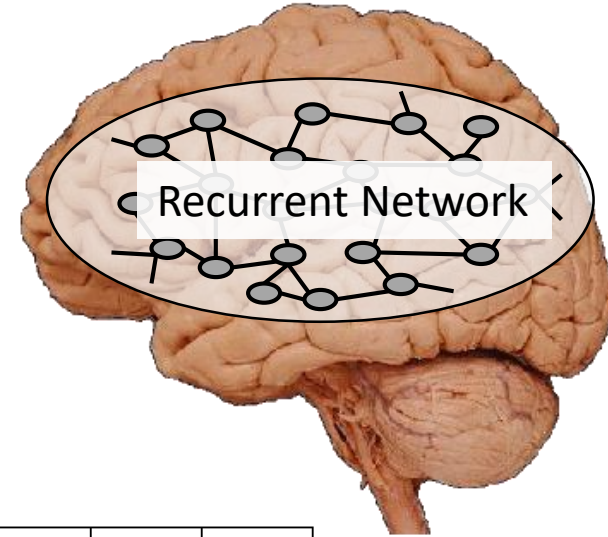
Score per energy

The Dynamic, Heterogeneous, Multi-timescale Brain

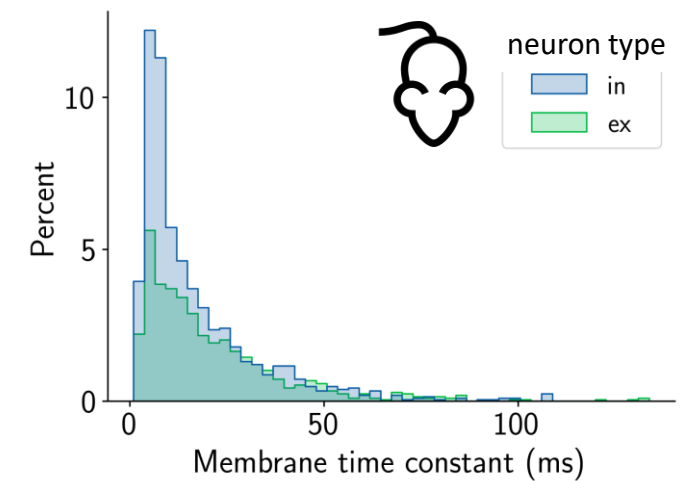
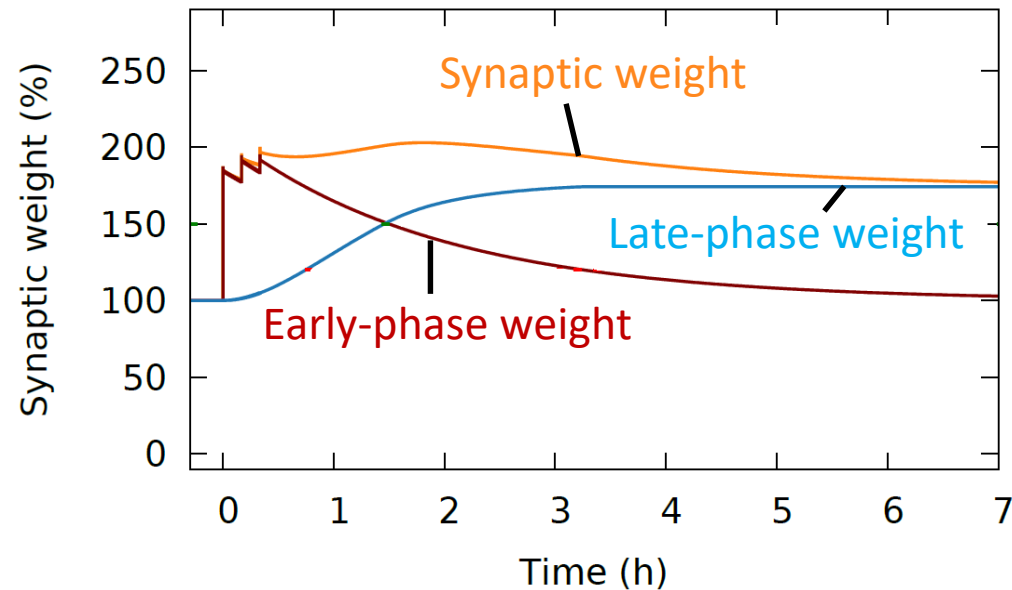
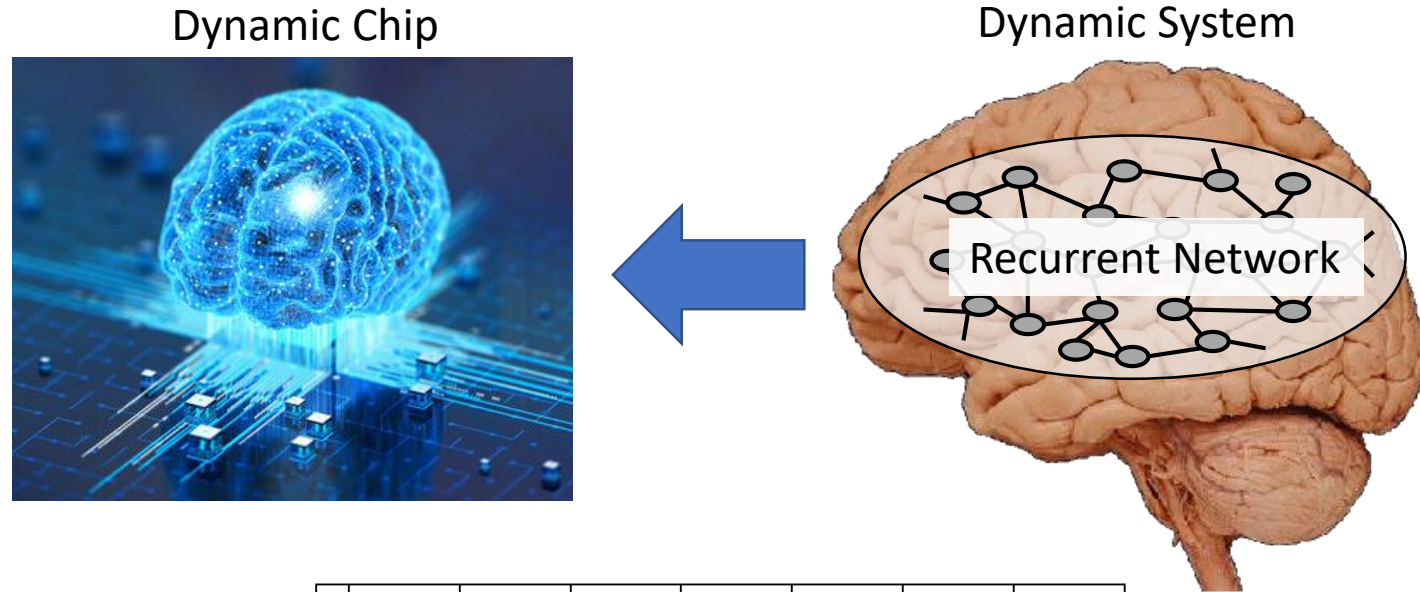
“Static” System



Dynamic System



The Dynamic, Heterogeneous, Multi-timescale Chip?



Group for Computational
Synaptic Physiology

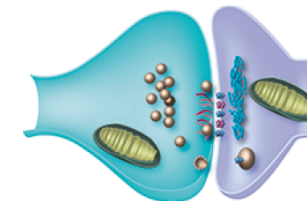
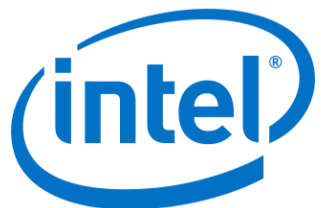
*Department for Neuro-
and Sensory Physiology*



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Arash Golmohammadi

Dr. Jannik Luboeinski



SFB 1286
Quantitative Synaptology