



## ***IST-2001-35271 Project SpikeFORCE: Real-time Spiking Networks for Robot Control***

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**Project funded by the Future and Emerging Technologies  
arm of the IST Programme FET-Life-like Perception  
Systems (LPS) Proactive Initiative 2001 in Bionics**





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Universidad de Granada  
Fundada en 1531

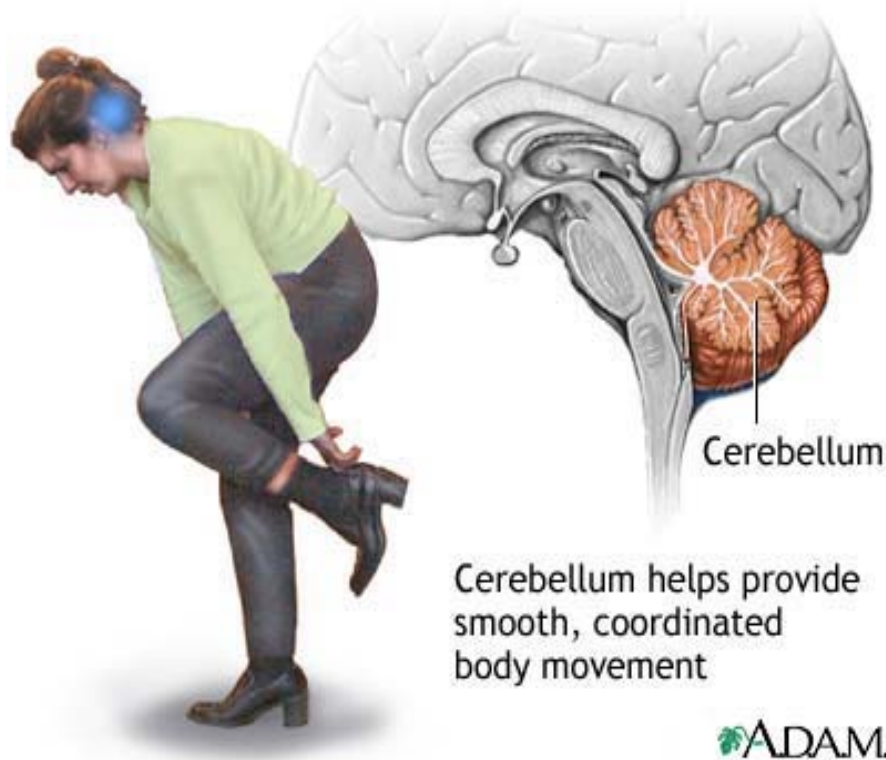
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webmaster: Anna Cemiglia

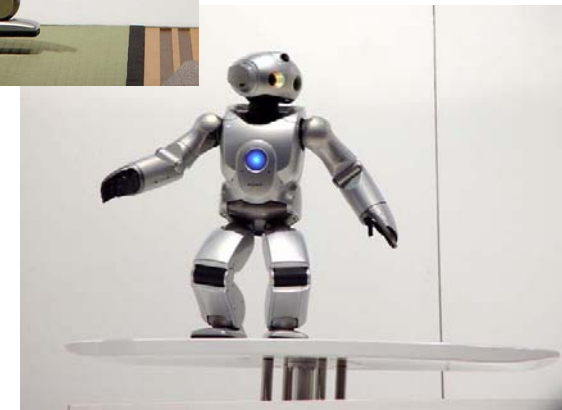
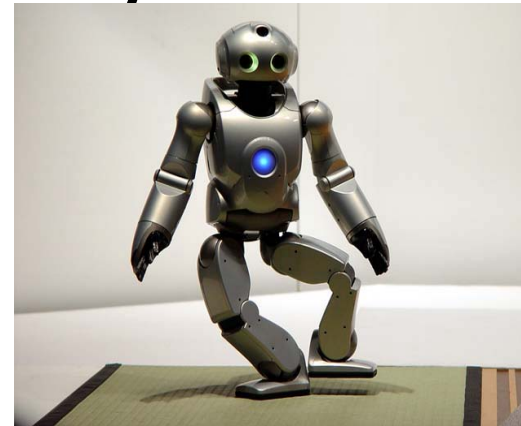
<http://www.spikeforce.org>

# Project Objectives

**Produce a model of the cerebellum based on known physiology and latest analytical and computational results that can be implemented efficiently in software/hardware for running real-time robotic experiments.**

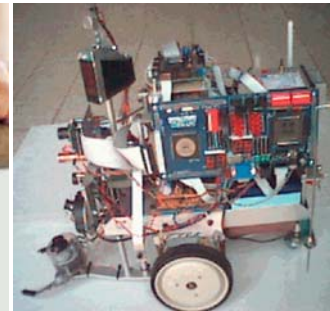
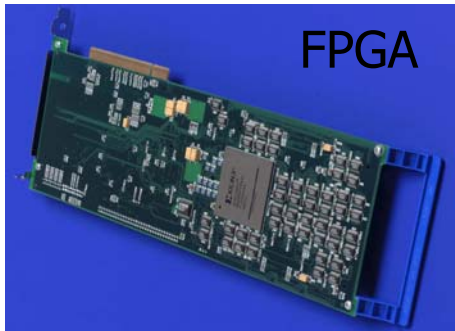
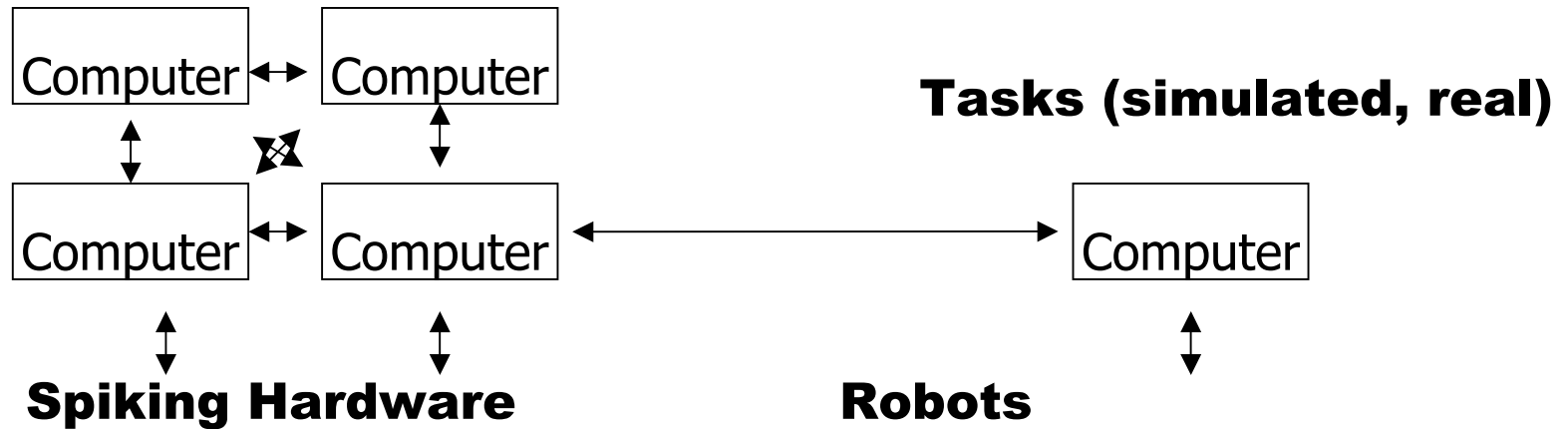


## Sony SDR-4X



# Real-time Spiking Network for Robot Control

## Spiking Cerebellar Model





## ***IST-2001-35271 Project SpikeFORCE: Real-time Spiking Networks for Robot Control***

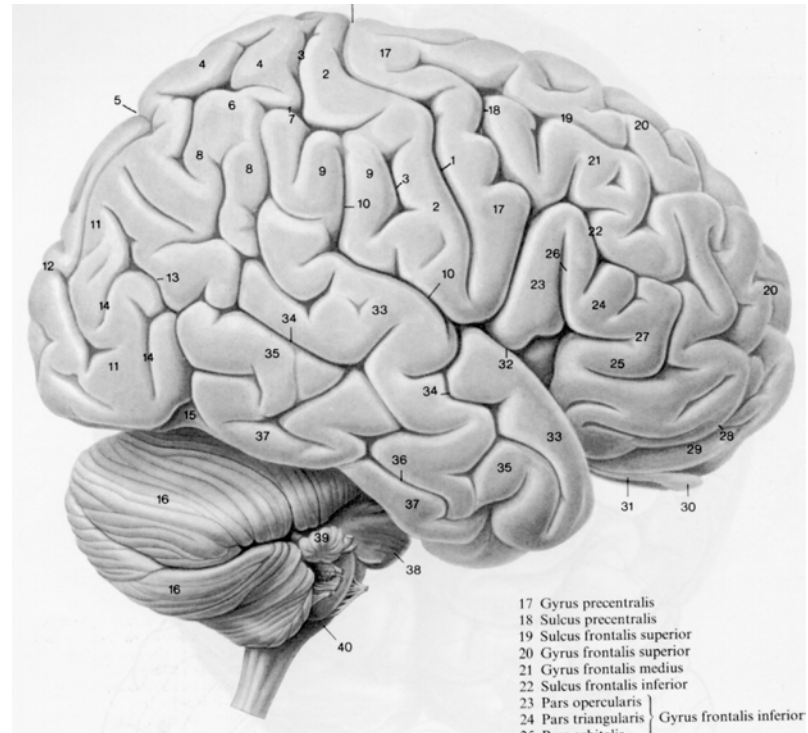
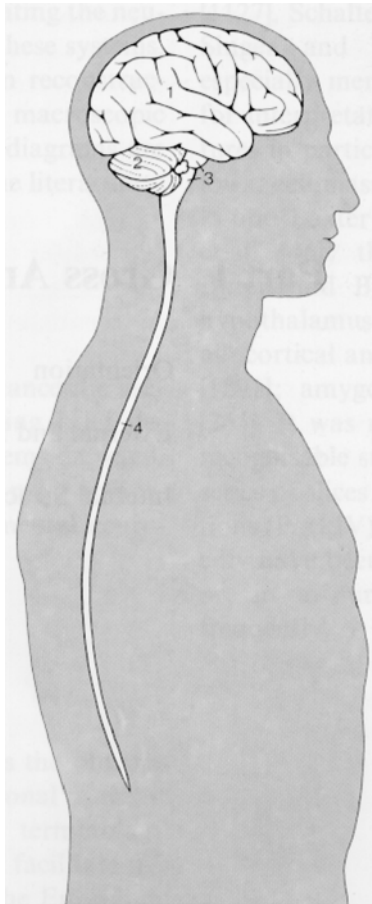


### **Impacts:**

- Advances in robot learning  
fine response modulation/anticipation with context
- Improve cerebellar neurophysiological knowledge
- Spiking representation
- Improve knowledge of action-perception loop  
cerebellum participation
- Real-time spiking hardware technology
- Potential use in human rehabilitation

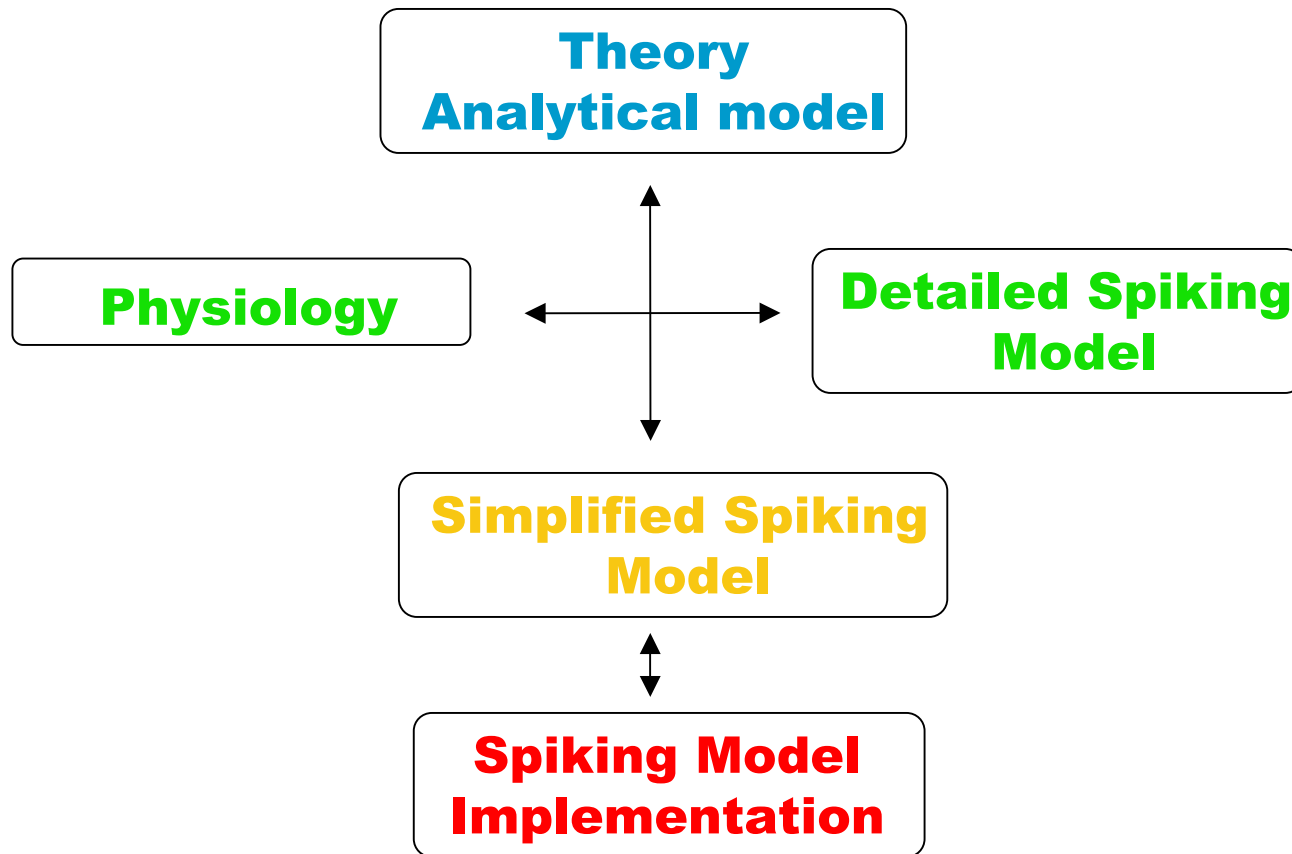
# The Cerebellum

The human central nervous system, Nieuwenhuys *et al.*, 1988



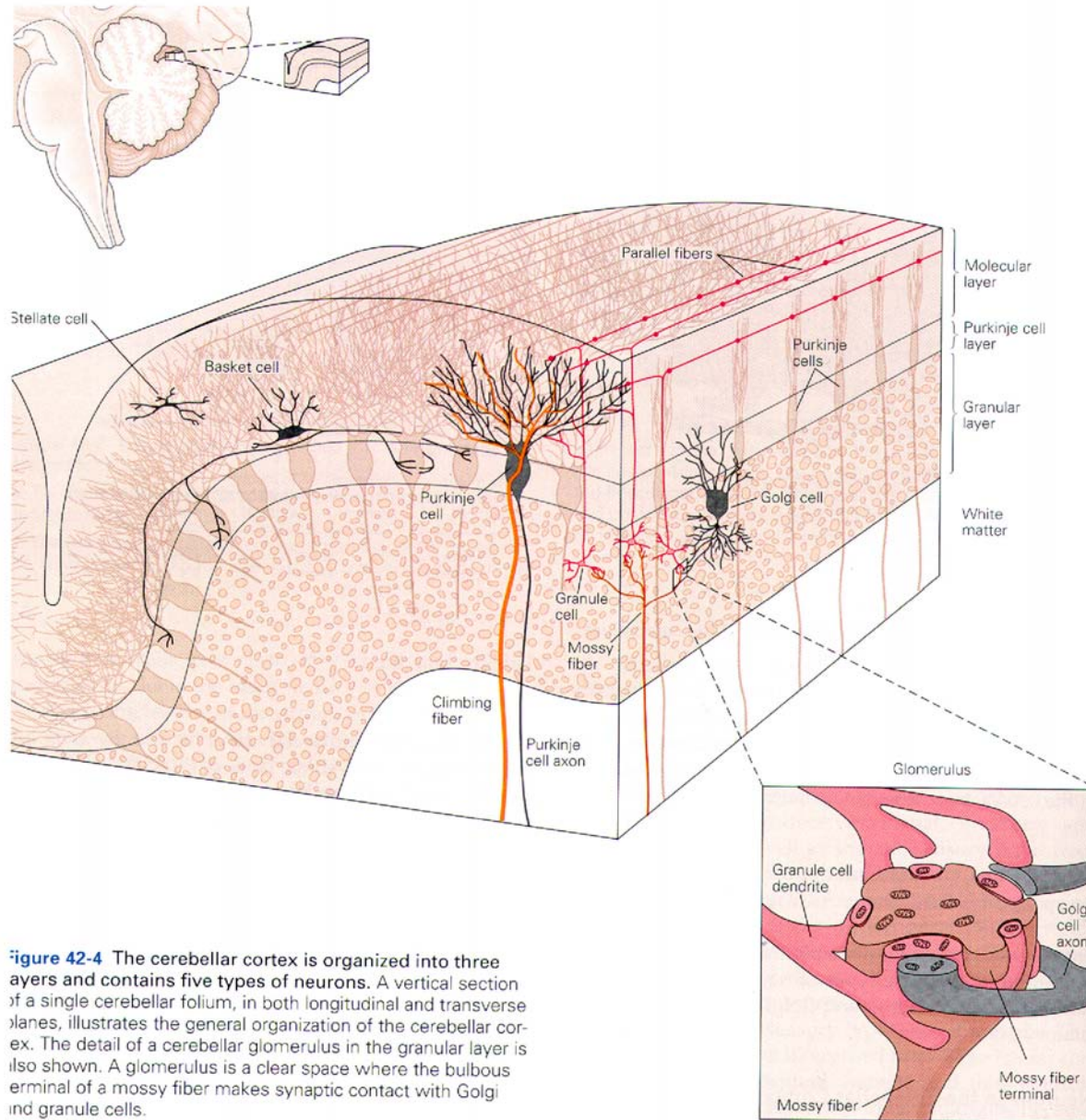
- 17 Gyrus precentralis
- 18 Sulcus precentralis
- 19 Sulcus frontalis superior
- 20 Gyrus frontalis superior
- 21 Gyrus frontalis medius
- 22 Sulcus frontalis inferior
- 23 Pars opercularis
- 24 Pars triangularis
- 25 Pars orbitalis
- 26 Pars orbitalis
- 27 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 28 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 29 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 30 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 31 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 32 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 33 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 34 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 35 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 36 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 37 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 38 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 39 Gyrus frontalis inferior
- 40 Gyrus frontalis inferior

# Route to a spiking cerebellar model



# The Cerebellum

Principles of Neural Science, Kandel *et al.*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., 2000



**Figure 42-4** The cerebellar cortex is organized into three layers and contains five types of neurons. A vertical section of a single cerebellar folium, in both longitudinal and transverse planes, illustrates the general organization of the cerebellar cortex. The detail of a cerebellar glomerulus in the granular layer is also shown. A glomerulus is a clear space where the bulbous terminal of a mossy fiber makes synaptic contact with Golgi and granule cells.



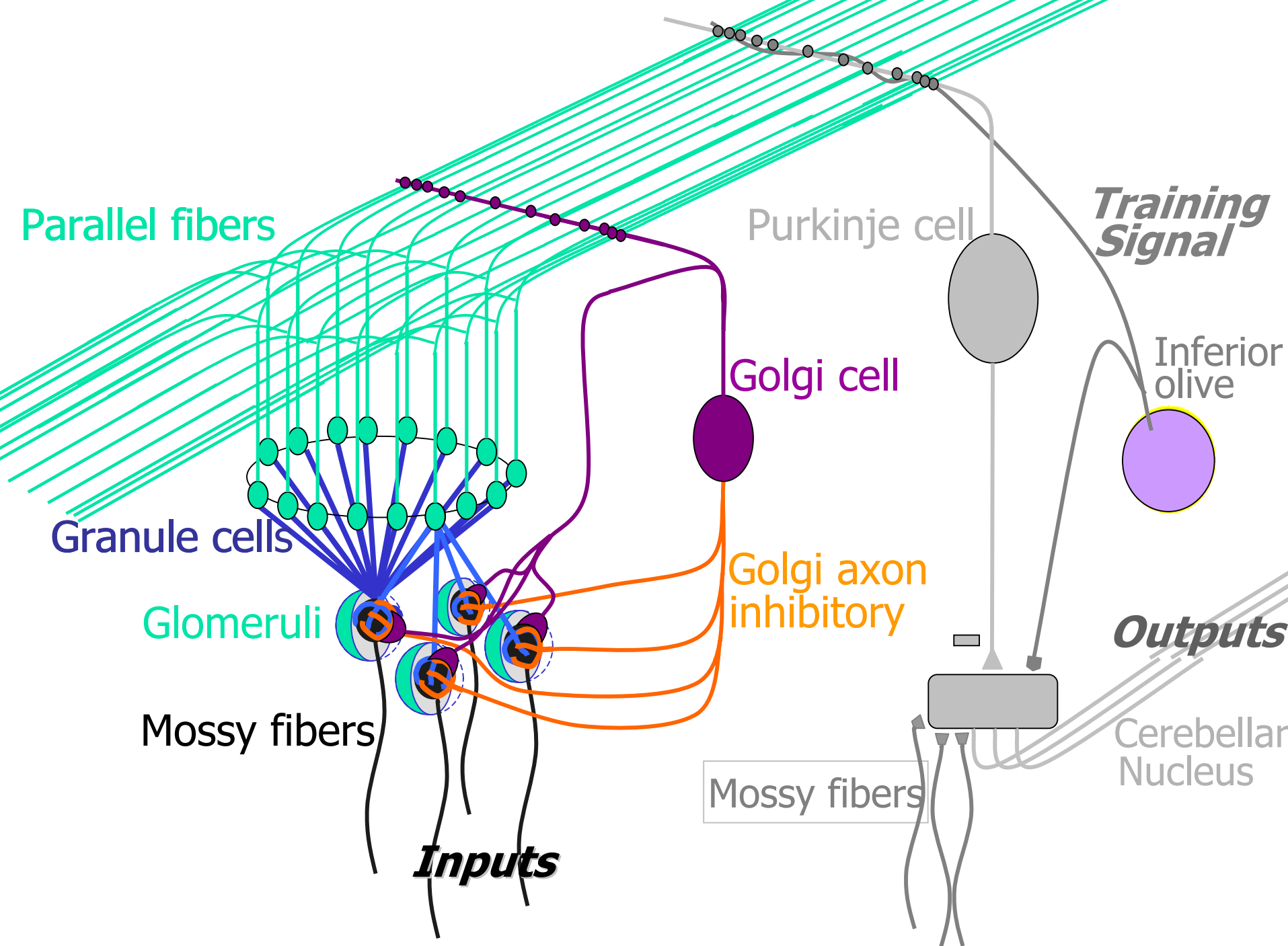


# *Granular layer*

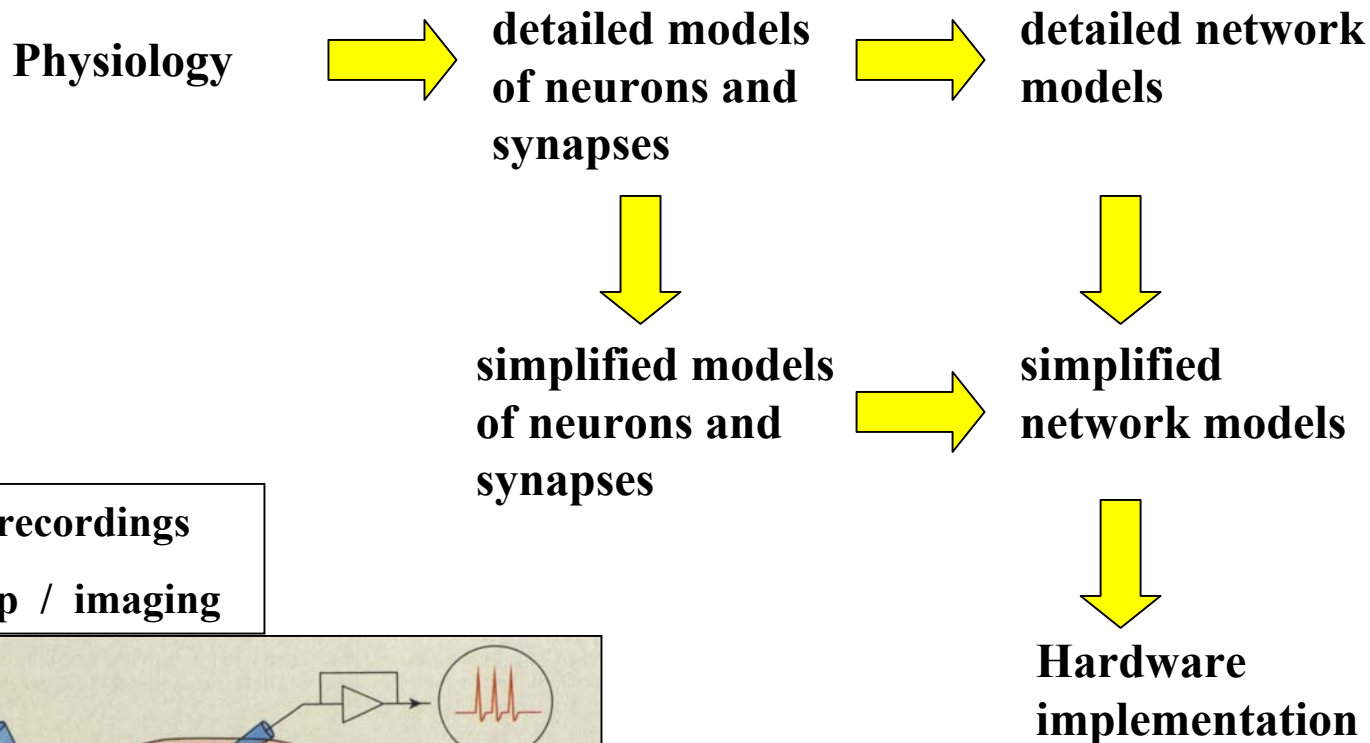


## Outline:

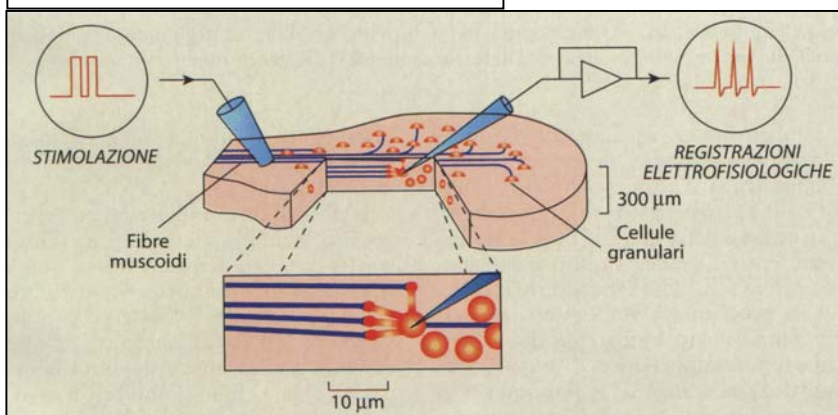
- **Physiology**
- **Computer models**
- **Theoretical models**



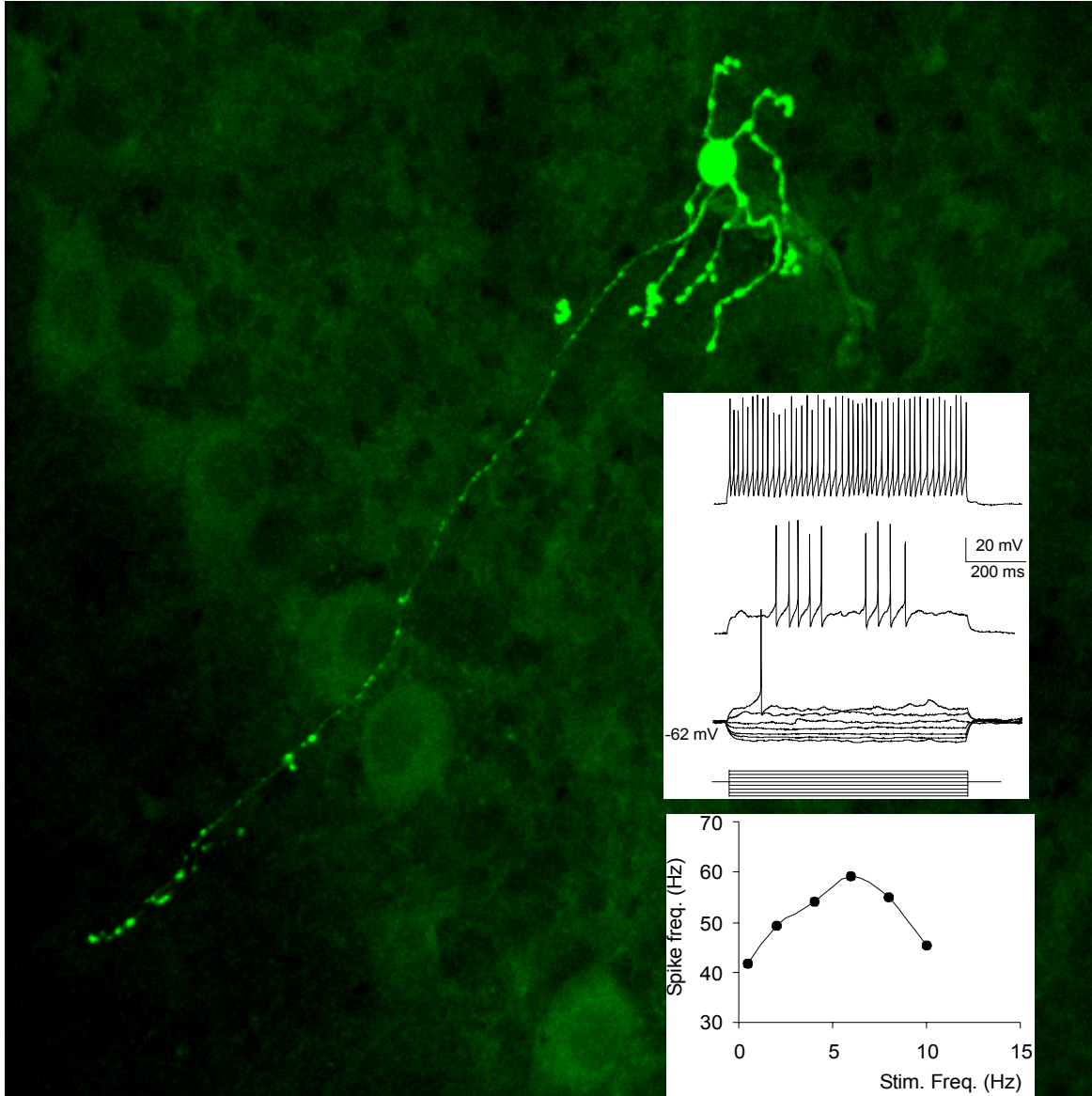
# Modeling: from physiological complexity to simplified hardware implementation retaining the salient biophysical properties of neurons and synapses



Acute slice recordings  
Patch-clamp / imaging

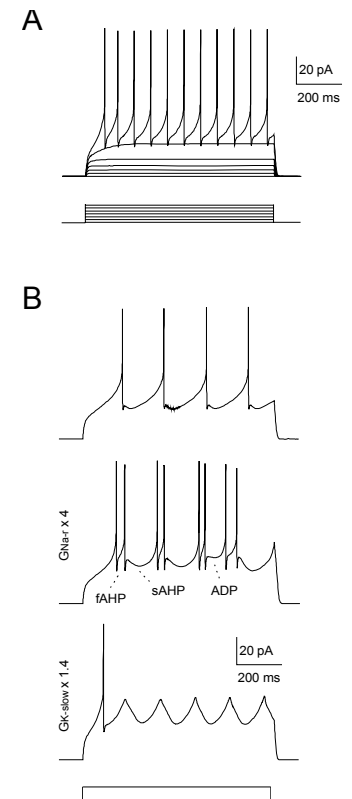


# Granule cell

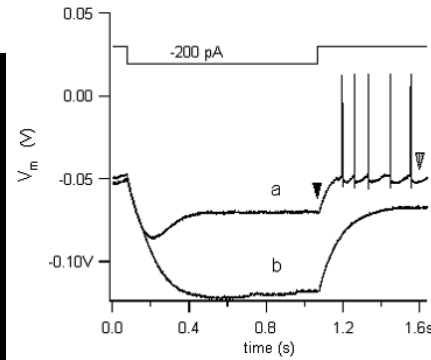
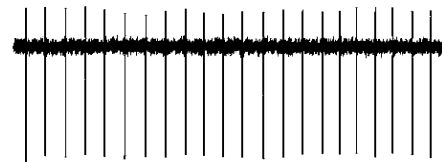
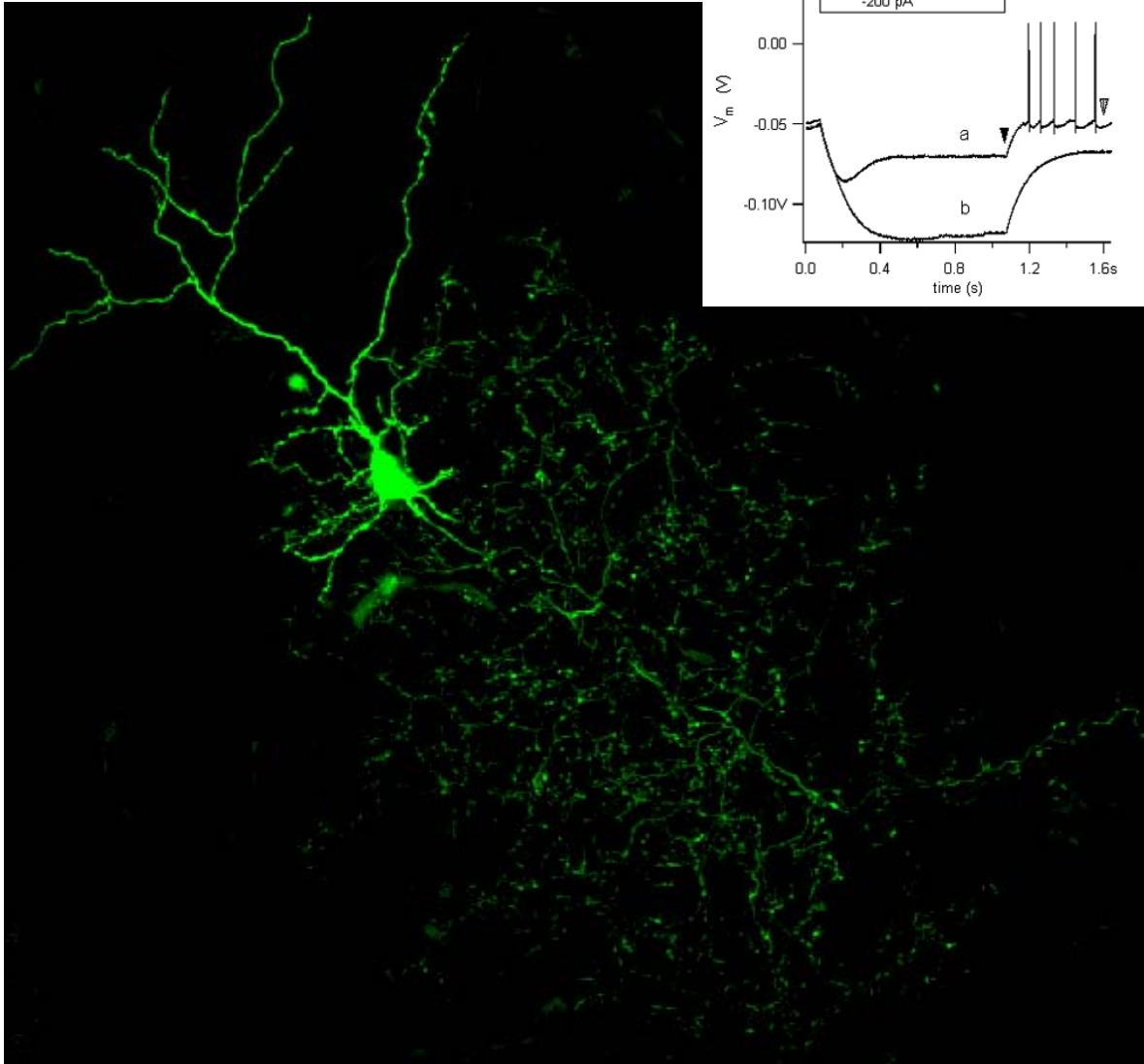


- 1) *Repetitive firing*
- 2) *Inward rectification*
- 3) *Bursting*
- 4) *Resonance*

## model

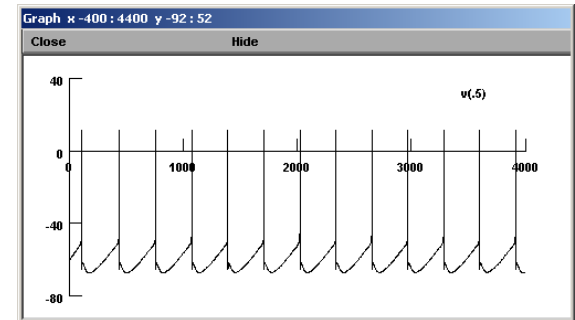


# Golgi cell

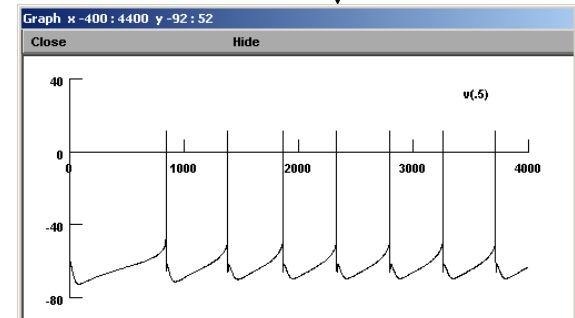


- 1) *Autorhythmic firing*
- 2) *Subthreshold oscillations*
- 3) *Postinhibitory rebound*
- 4) *Post-burst pause*
- 5) *Inward rectification*

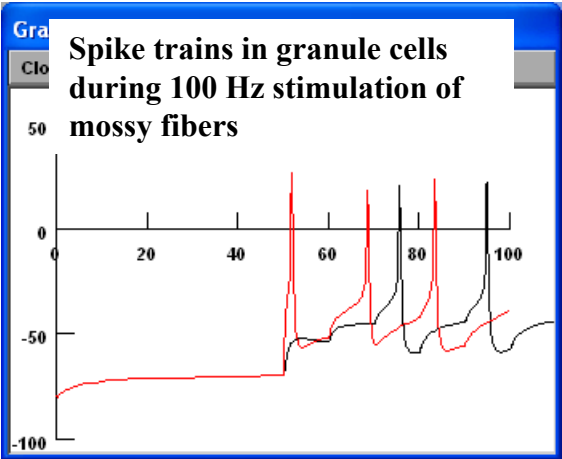
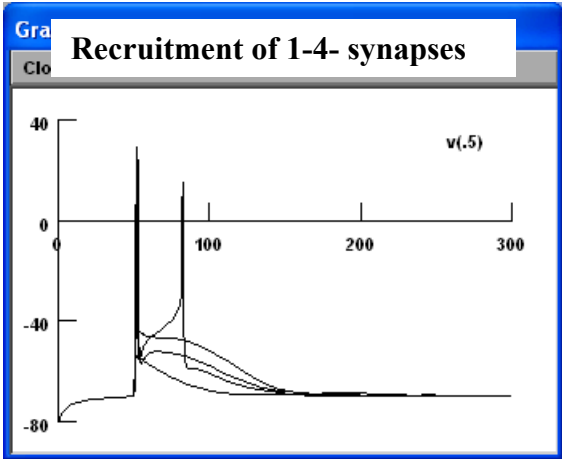
**model**



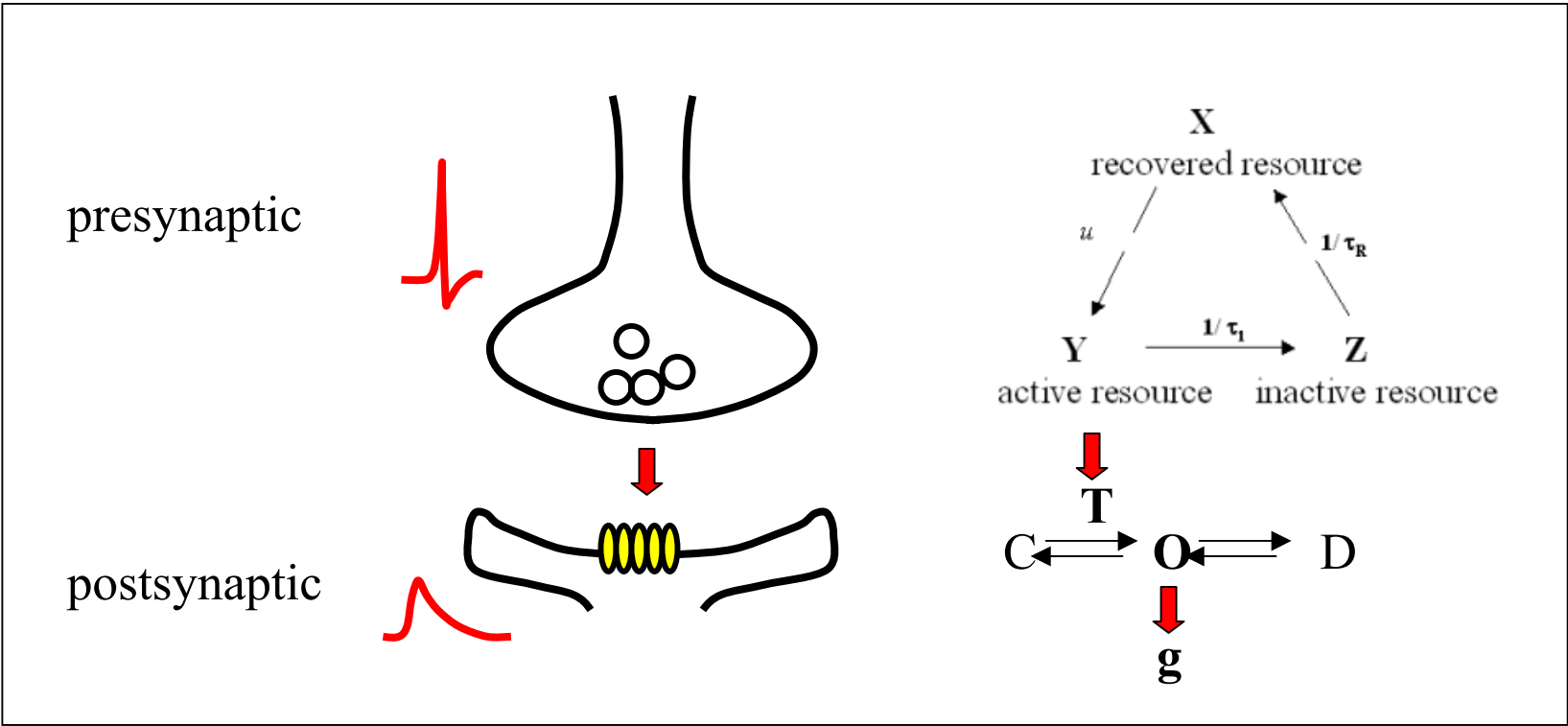
$I_H$  50%



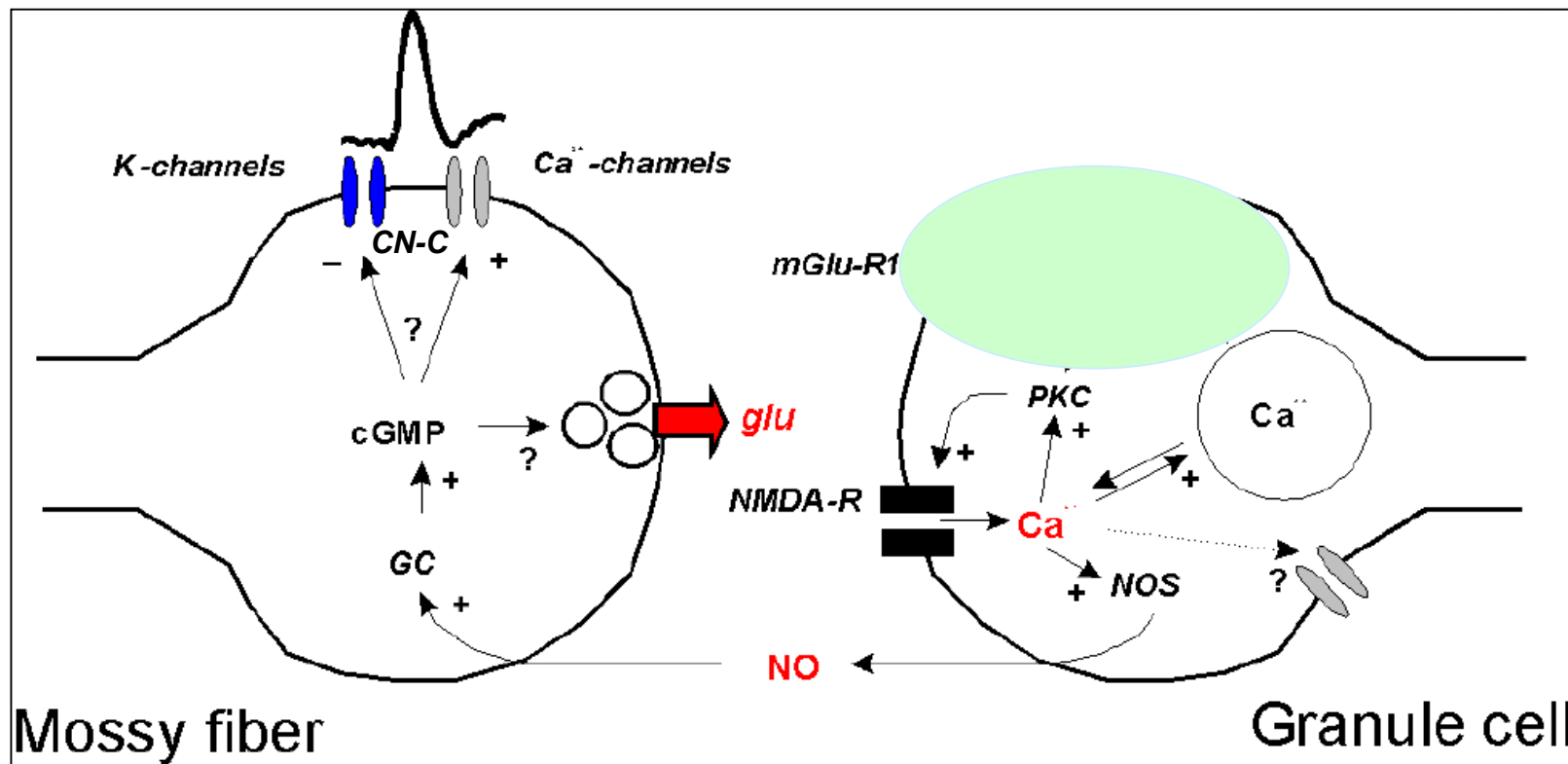
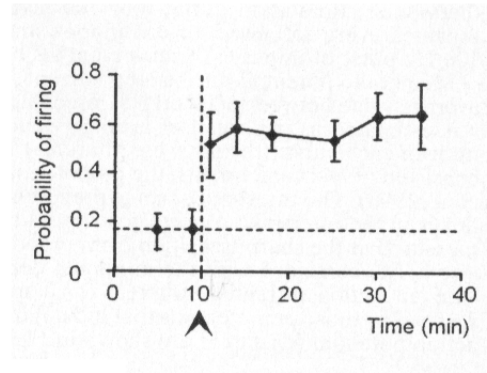
# Modeling neurotransmission dynamics by conductance-based models



Mossy fiber - granule cell neurotransmission



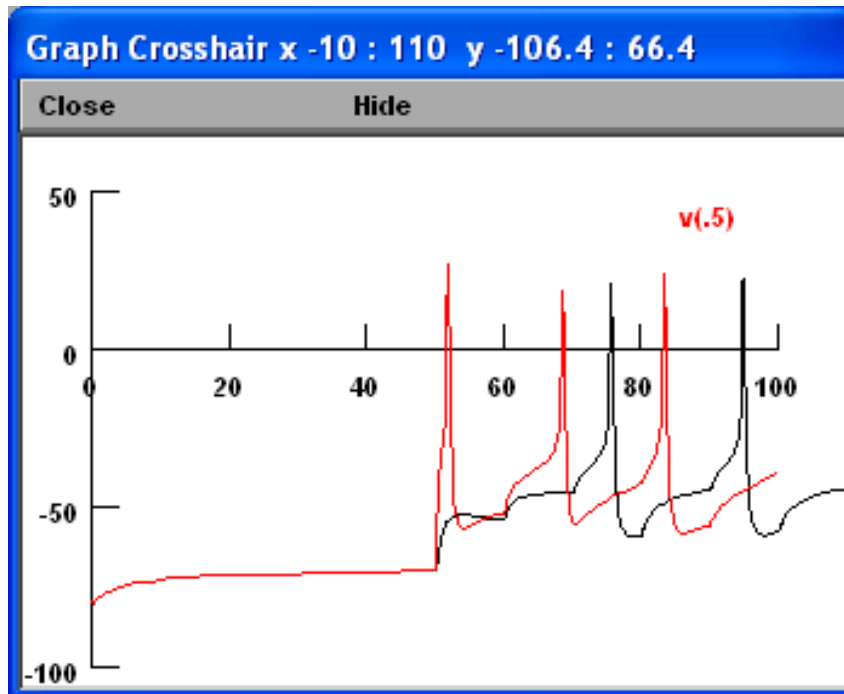
# Mossy fibre – granule cell LTP



Mossy fiber

Granule cell

# The presynaptic expression mechanism implies that neurotransmission dynamics are modified during LTP



Control of spike initiation in the model by changing release probability

$p = 0.1$

$p = 0.5$

The influence of dynamics changes caused by LTP are currently under testing in a detailed model network comprising 2000 Granule Cells.





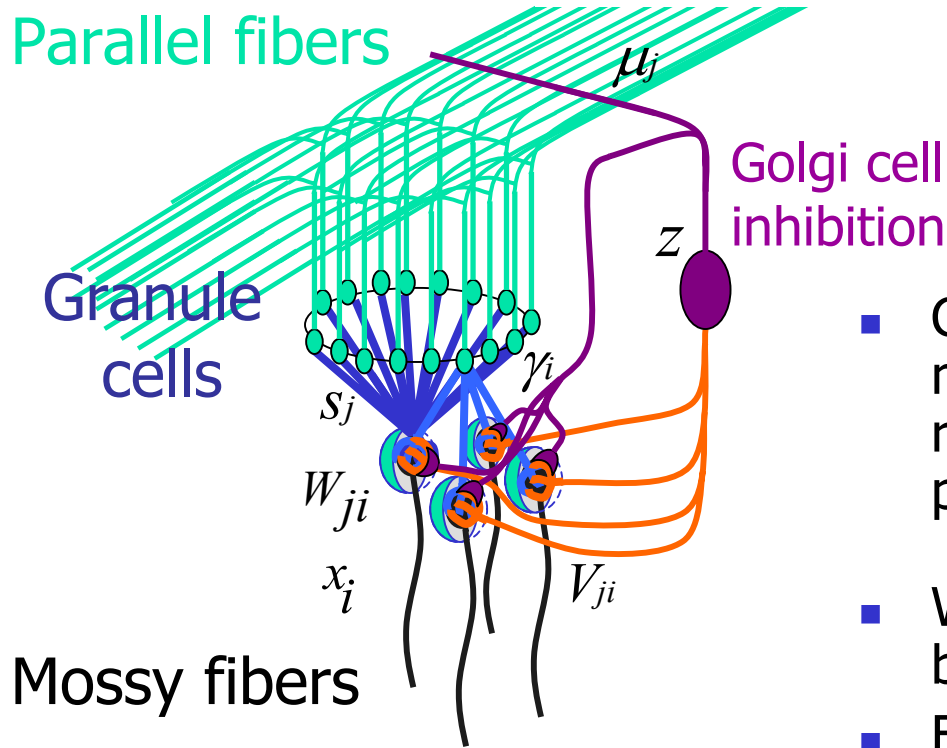
# *Granular layer*



## Outline:

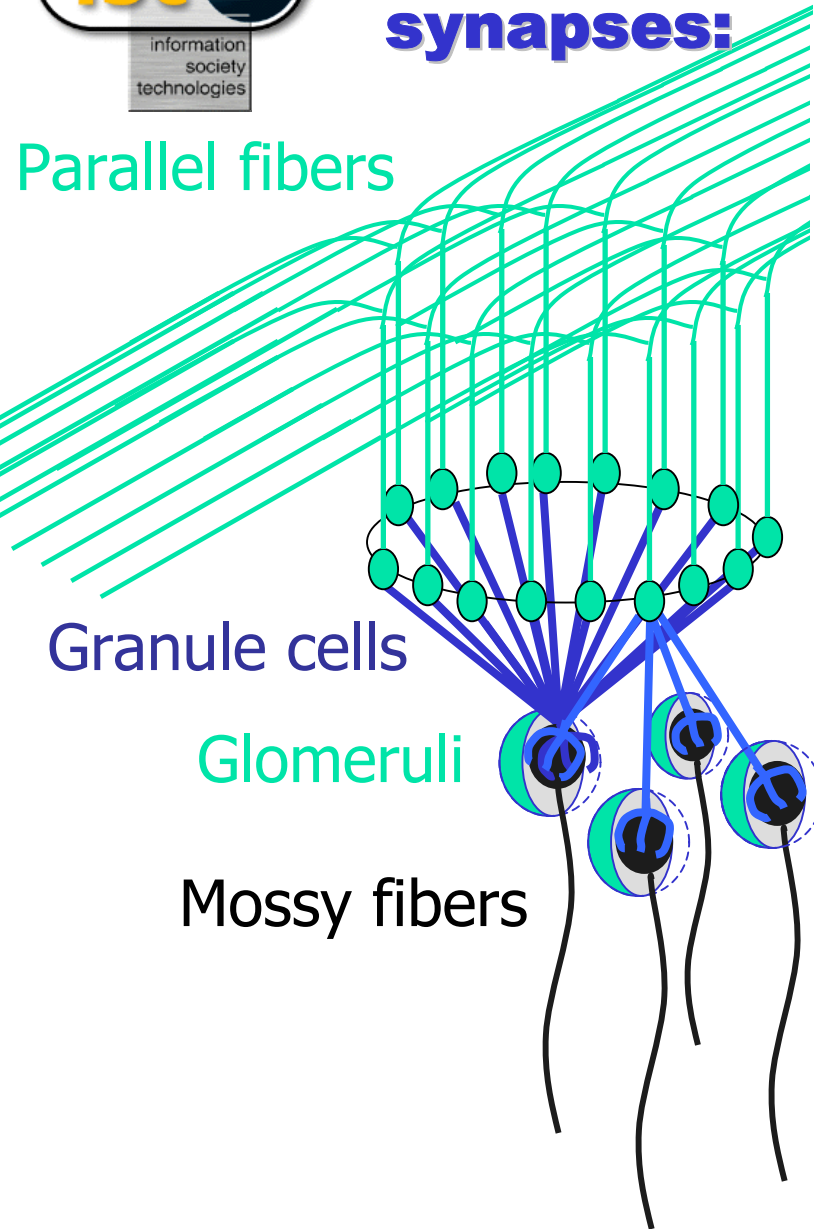
- Physiology
- Computer models
- **Theoretical models**

# Denoising: A new role for the Golgi cells



- Granule cells perform a recoding of the mossy fibers inputs into a sparse representation using a biologically plausible ICA (Coenen *et al.*, 2001; Eagleman *et al.*, 2001)
- Which permits optimal noise reduction by the Golgi cell &
- Facilitates learning in the Purkinje and molecular layer of the cerebellum (simplifies credit assignment problem)

# Plasticity at granule cell synapses:



## Experimental evidence:

mossy fiber-granule cell

synaptic weight changes:

Long-term potentiation (LTP)

synaptic weight increase

EPSPs, presynaptic currents

Long-term depression (LTD)

synaptic weight decrease

(D'Angelo, 1999; Maffei *et al.*, 2002; etc.)

Changes in cell excitability

intrinsic cell properties

(Armano *et al.*, 2000)

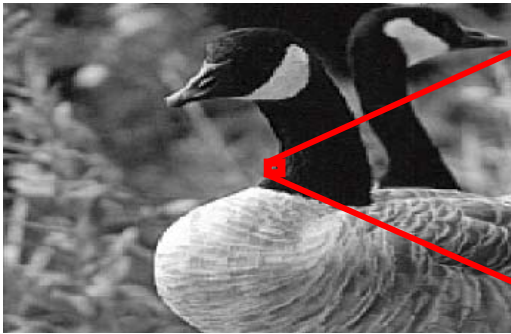
$S_j$

$w_{ji}$

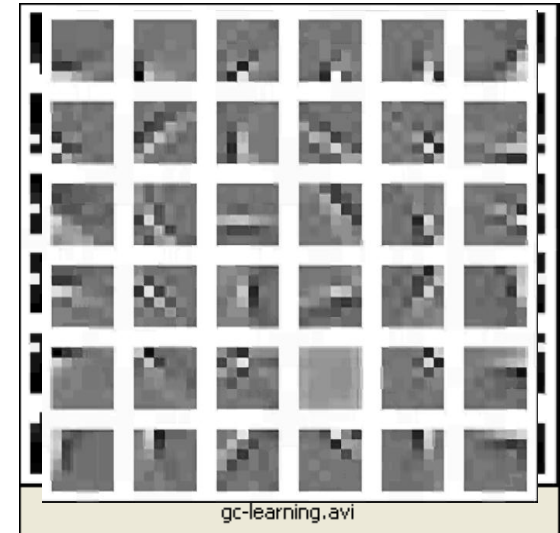
$x_i$

# Images as mossy fiber inputs to illustrate putative 'statistical structure'

granule cell  
receptive field



one pixel = one mossy fiber input



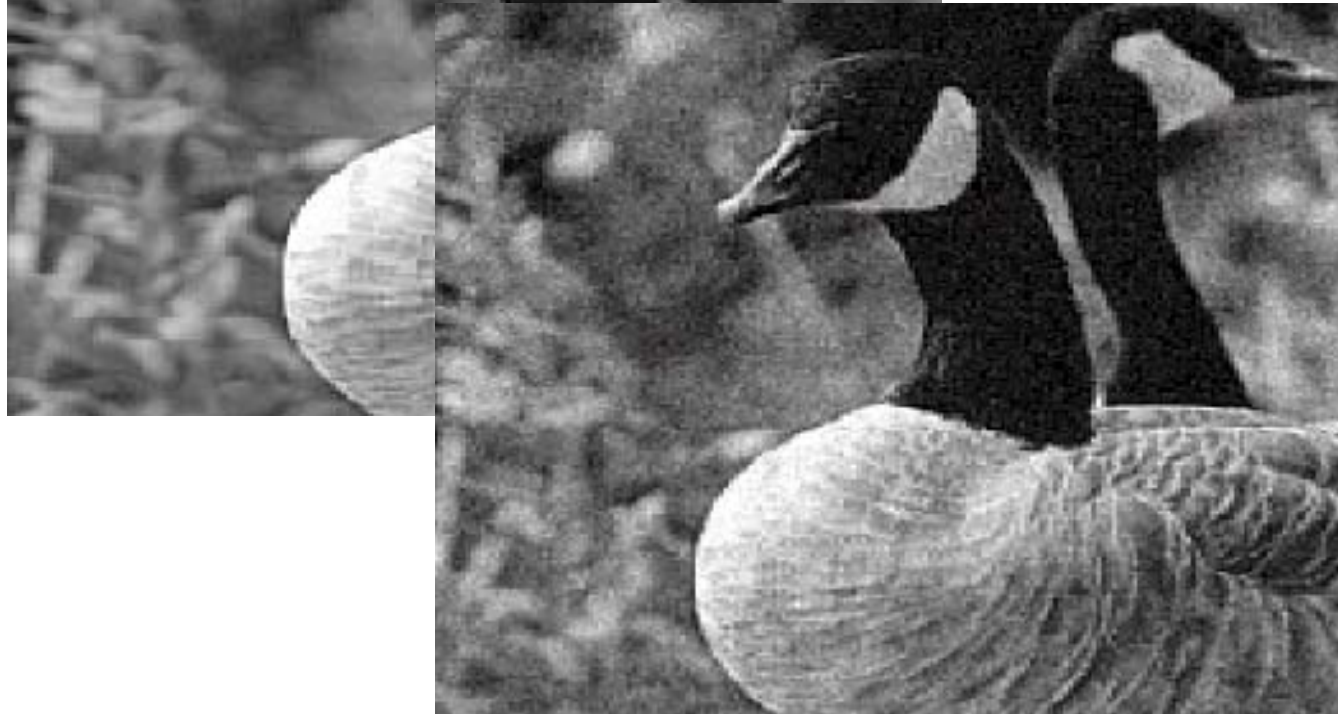
granule cell weights adapt to become independent as much as possible using the mossy fibers statistical structure

# Cerebellar inputs will contain noise:

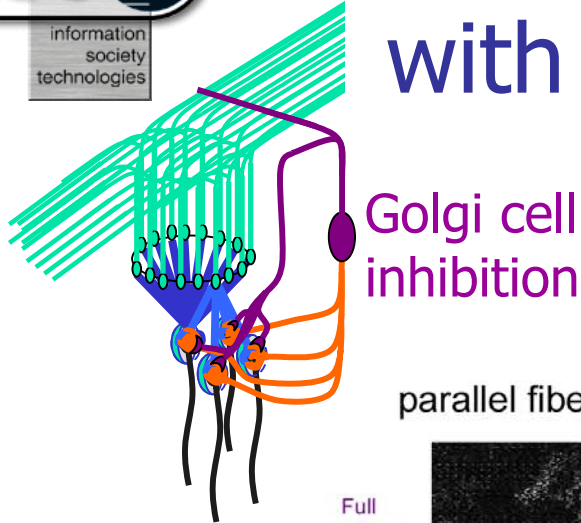
**original image**



**noisy mossy  
fibers inputs**



# Encoding by granule cells with Golgi cell inhibition



parallel fibers output

activity over a subset of parallel fibers

probability of the number of active granule cells in the subset

retained information (decoded output)

noisy mossy fibers inputs



Full coding

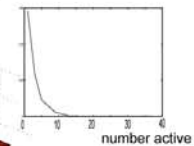
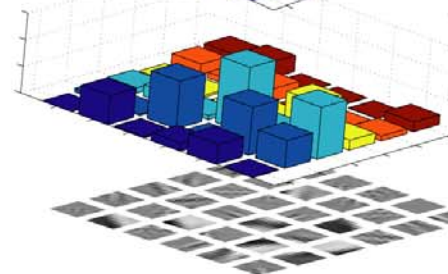
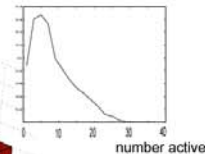
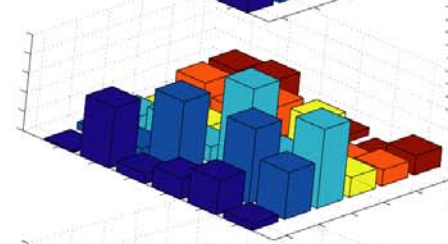
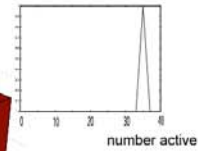
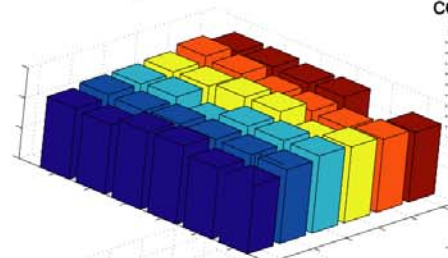


Optimal denoising



increased level of inhibition

Robust coding



Receptive fields for the subset of granule cells



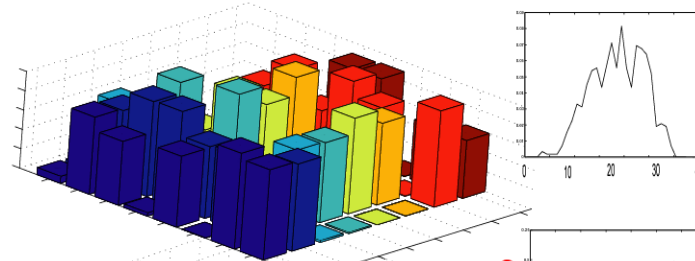
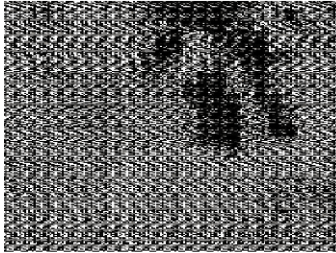
# Encoding by granule cells: robust coding?



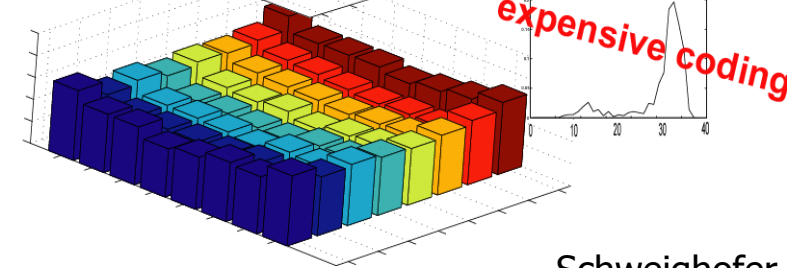
Kettner *et al.*, JNeurophys., 1997

## Other models:

Random weights

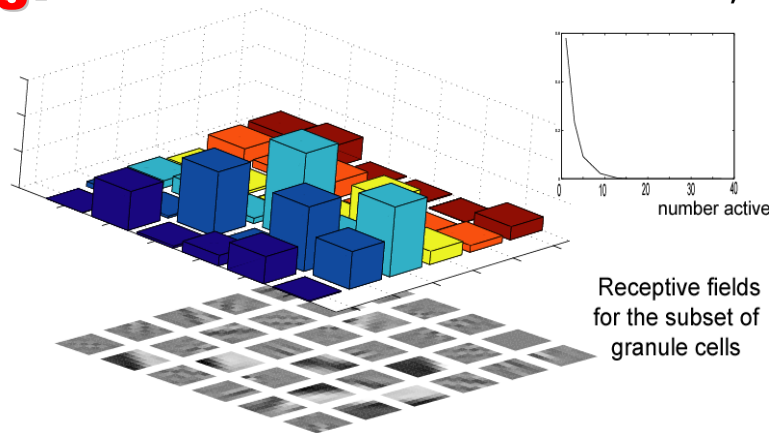
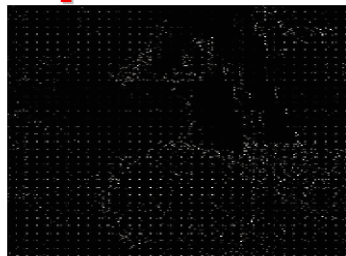


Decorrelating weights



## Robust sparse coding:

Robust coding



Schweighofer *et al.*, Neurosci., 2001  
Chauvet, 1986; Jonker *et al.*, 1998



Receptive fields  
for the subset of  
granule cells

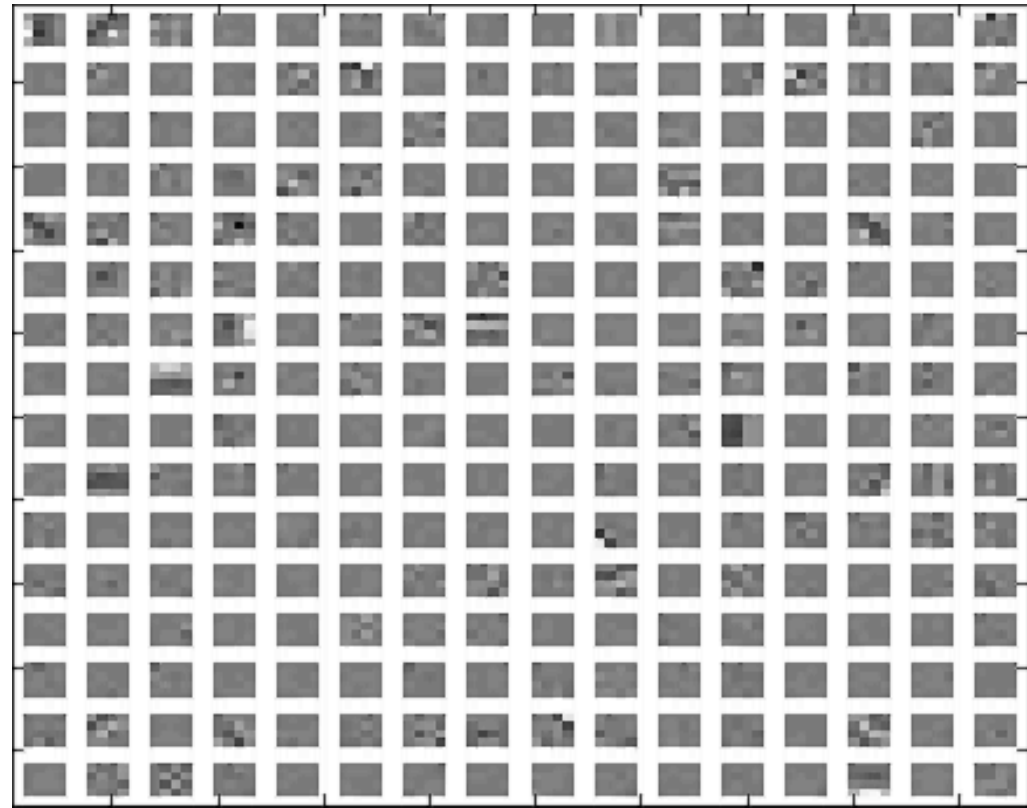
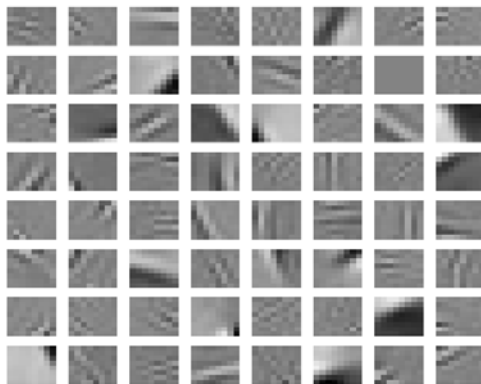
**Granule cells display  
facilitating and depressing  
synapses**  
(D'Angelo, personal communication)

**Preferred mossy fibers stimulus  
for a set of granule cells**

**Constructing temporal basis  
function from experience**

(Bell & Sejnowski, 1995; Lewicki, 2002;  
Olshausen, 2002;  
van Hateren & Ruderman, 1998)

**Static**



$$s_j(t) = \sum_n \sum_i w_{ji}(n) x_i(t-n)$$





# ***Purkinje/molecular layer***

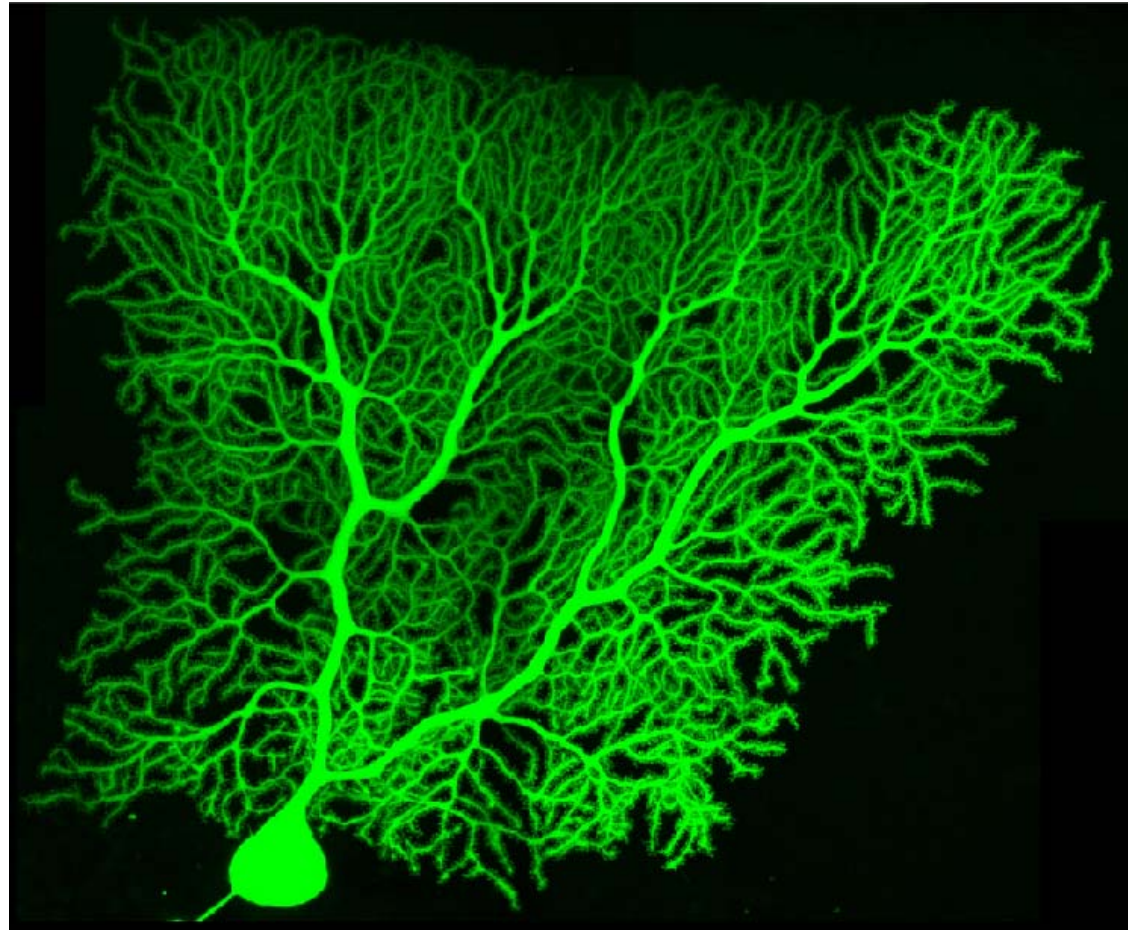


## **Outline:**

- **Physiology**
- **Theoretical models**

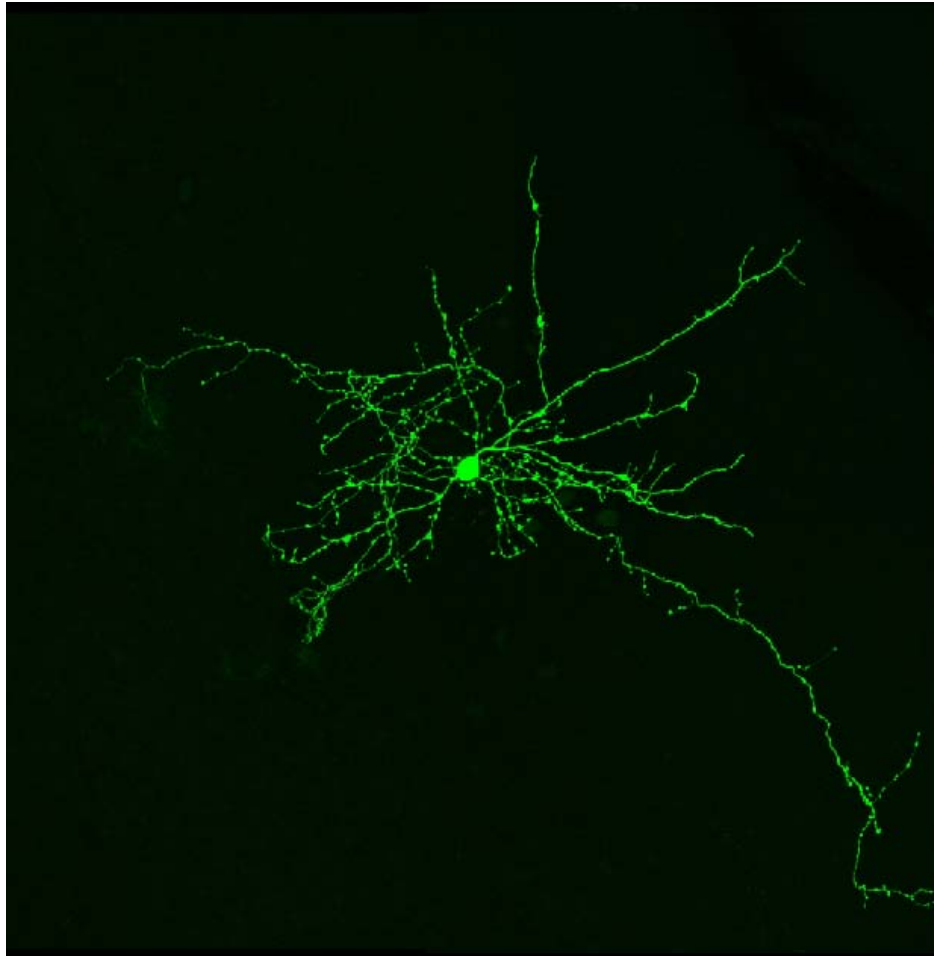
# Purkinje cell

High resolution fluorescence confocal image stacks (3D)

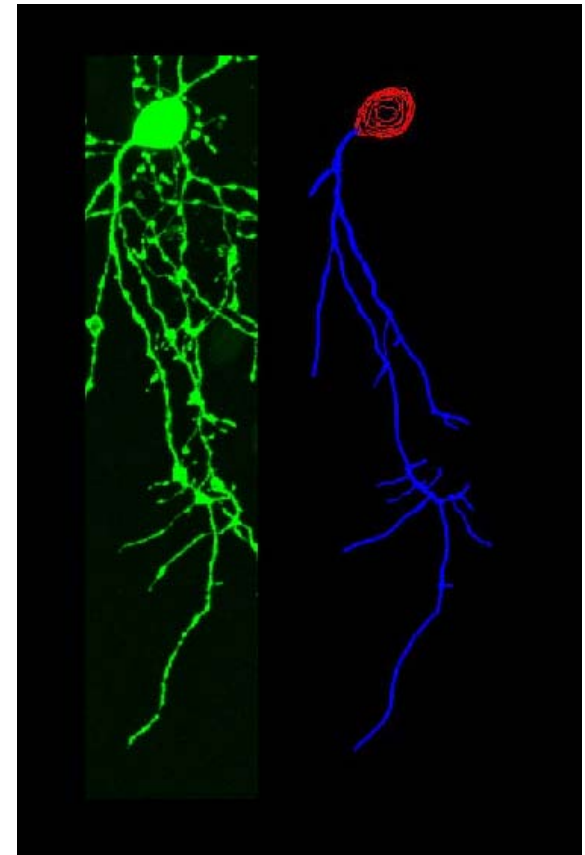


# Inhibitory interneuron

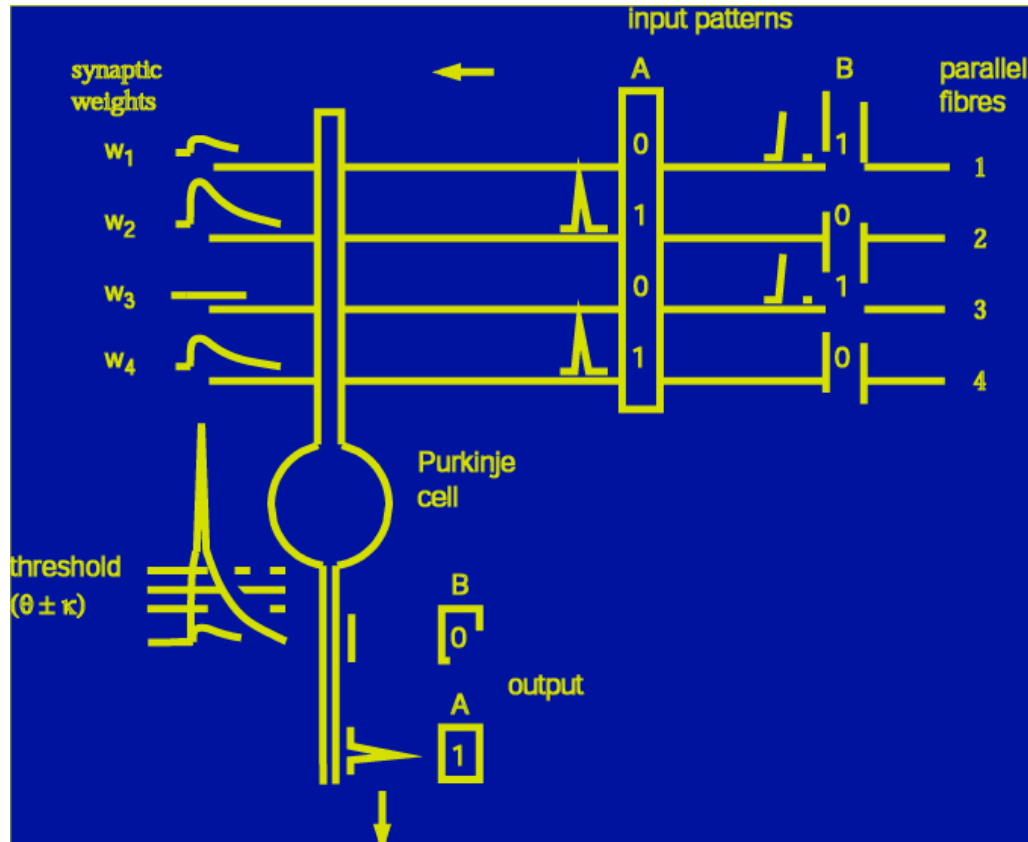
High resolution fluorescence confocal image stacks (3D)



Reconstruction



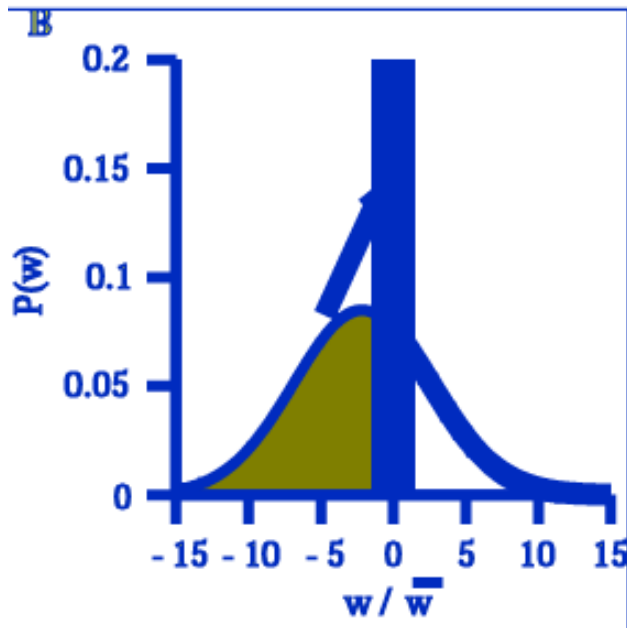
# Purkinje cell as a perceptron



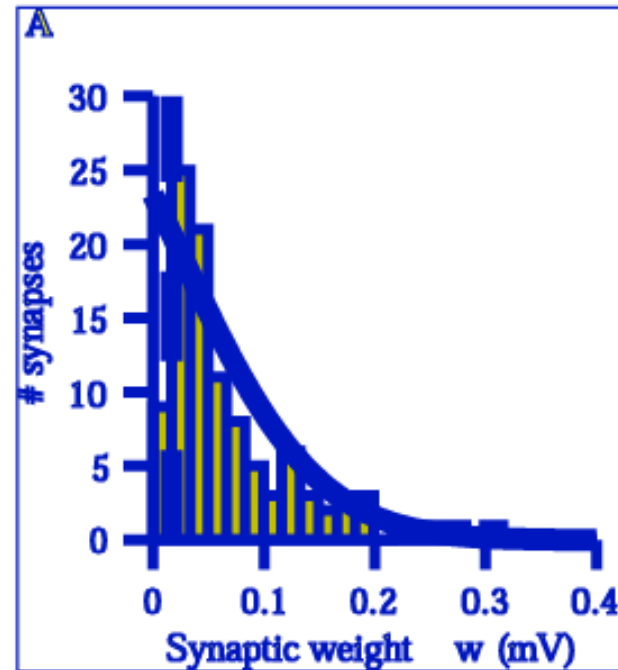
Brunel *et al.*, submitted

# Purkinje weight distributions & silent synapses

Perceptron weight distrib.



Experimental vs Theoretical



Capacity analysis:  $\sim 50000$  patterns/Purkinje cell



# Cerebellar Task Development



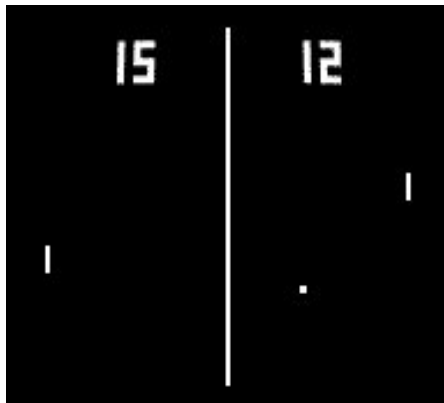
## **Outline:**

- **Task description**
- **Cerebellar simulation results**

# Task description: cerebellar pong player



## Pong - 1972



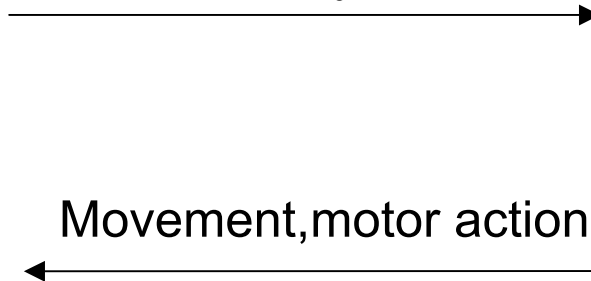
Computer

Simulated sensory systems:  
visual, auditory, touch

## Spiking cerebellar model

Computer, FPGA

Movement, motor actions



# Task description: cerebellar pong player



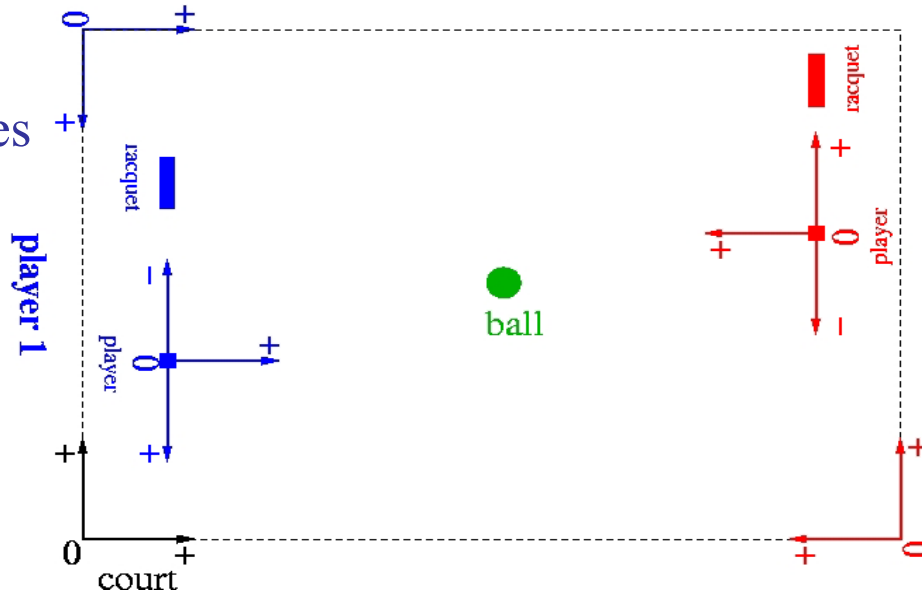
One player  
-racquet move  
with player



Different configurations possible:

- ball dynamics (speed, spin, rebound effects)
- racquet dynamics
- racquet in 1D, 2D or 3D
- control strategies:

Two players  
-racquet moves  
wrt player



tracking/pursuit  
colliding trajectory  
controller imitation

- etc.

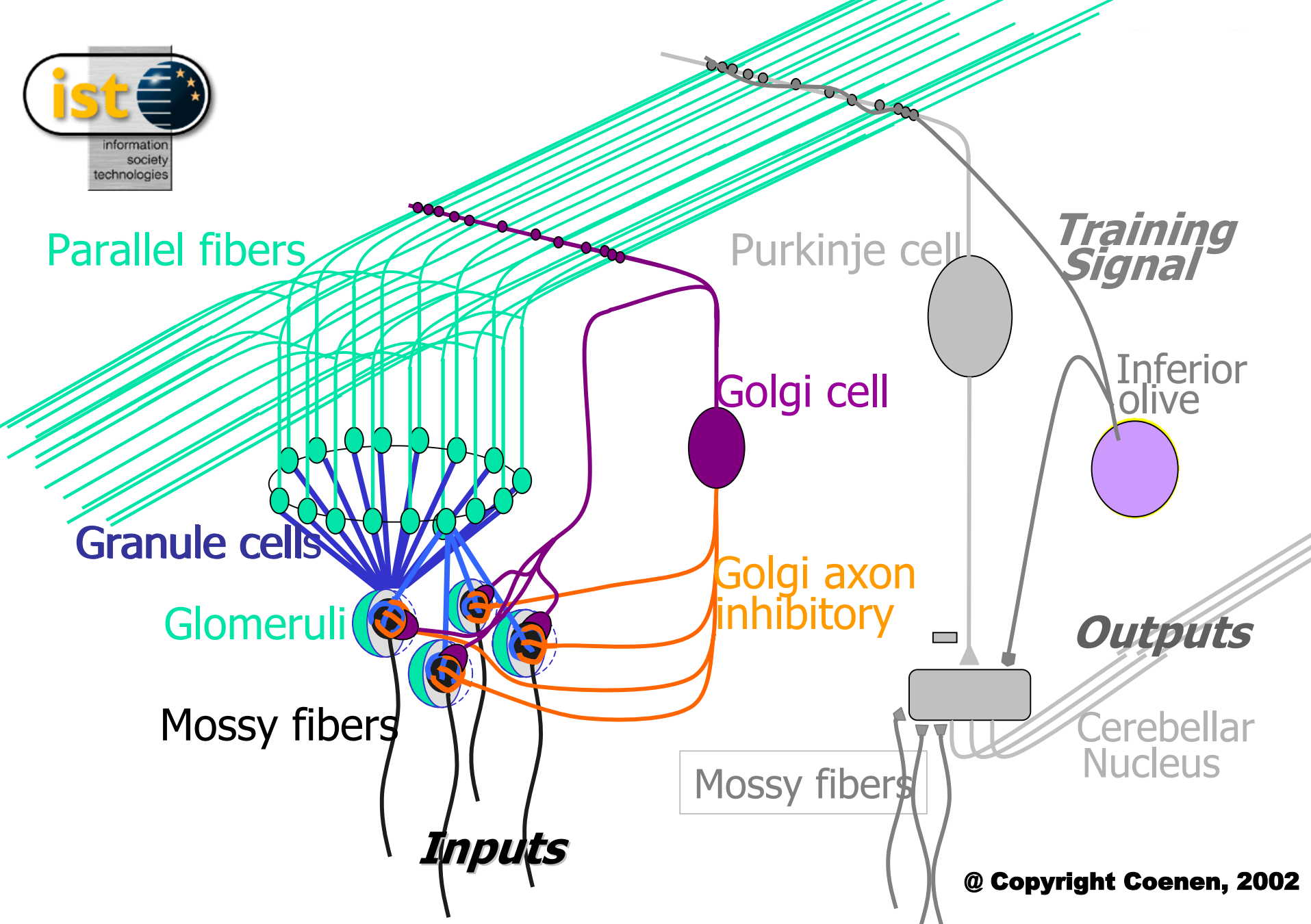


# Cerebellar pong player



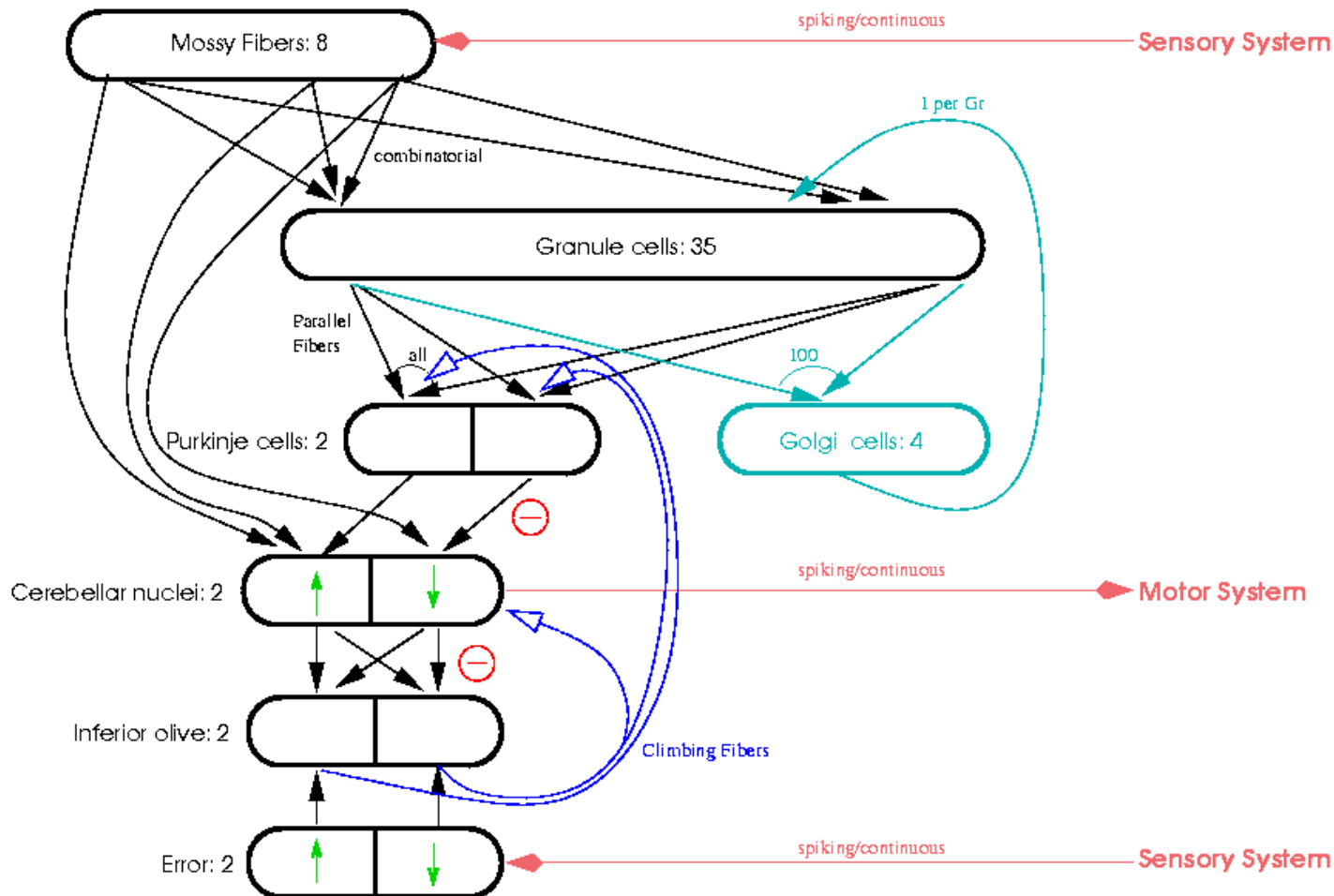
Look for:

- Learning multiple tasks -> learning multiple games  
or one game with different dynamics
- Min interference -> fast switching/modulation btw games  
with no need to relearn
- Flexible, possibly large sensorimotor context
- Cerebellar encoding: useful for high numbers of games/dynamics  
to learn



# Cerebellar pong player: smooth pursuer

## Tennis spiking neural network simulator (Altjira Software)

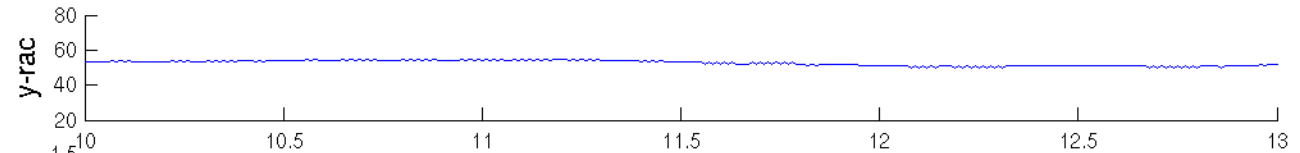


# Cerebellar pong player: cell responses during tracking **before** learning

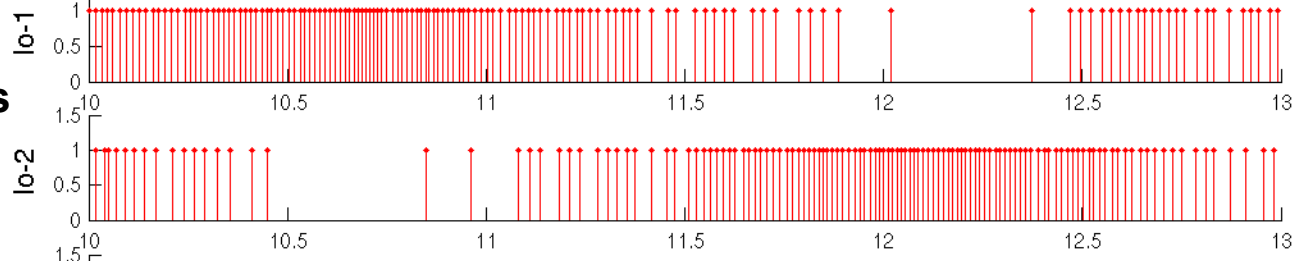


## Tennis spiking neural network simulator (Altjira Software)

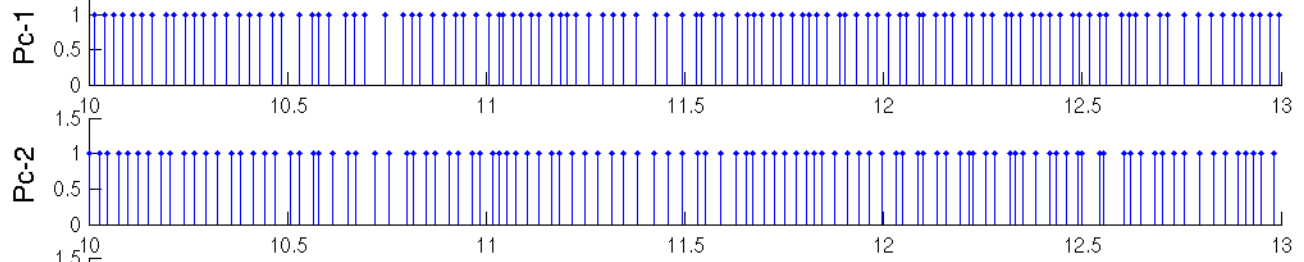
Racquet position



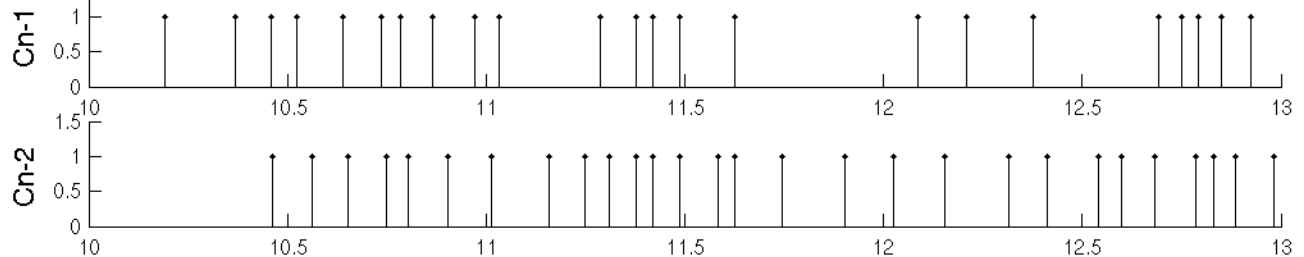
Inferior olive neurons



Purkinje cells



Cerebellar nucleus neurons

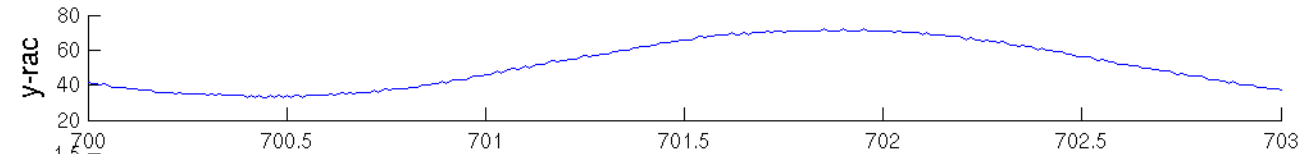


# Cerebellar pong player: cell responses during tracking **after** learning

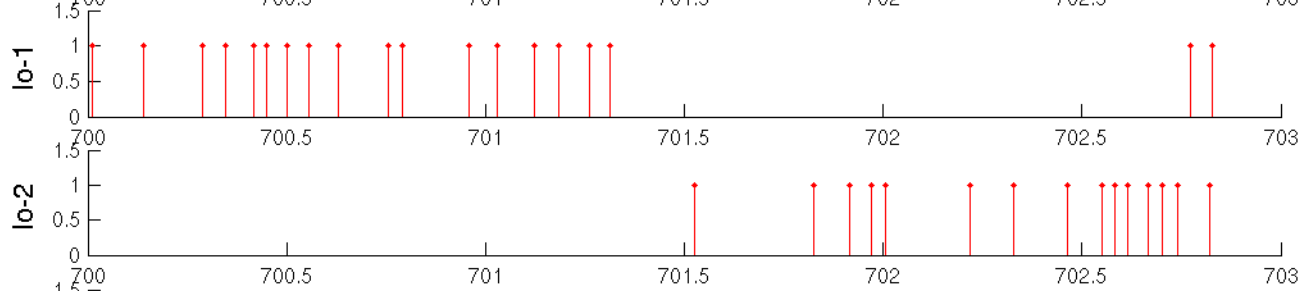


## Tenns spiking neural network simulator (Altjira Software)

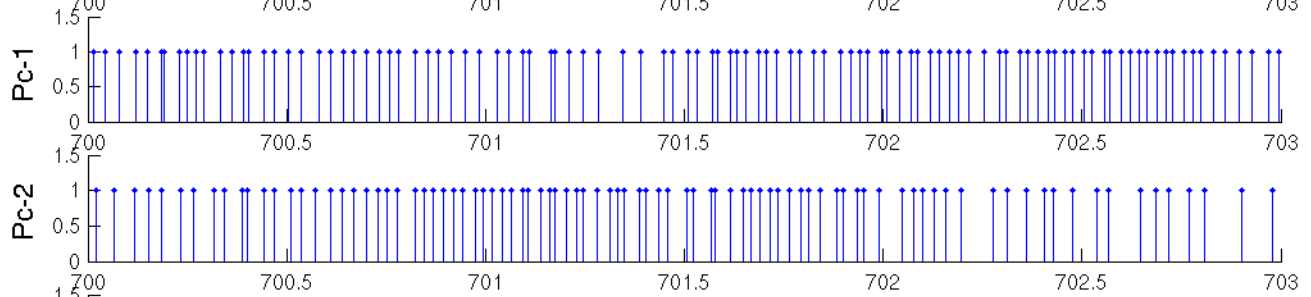
Racquet position



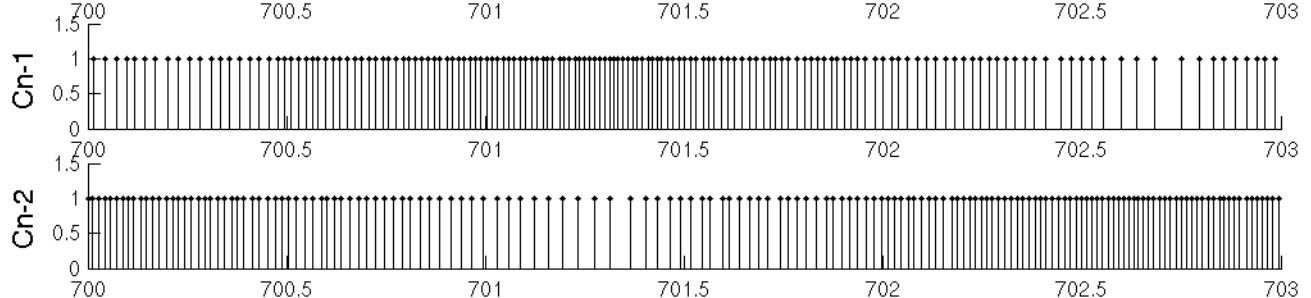
Inferior olive neurons



Purkinje cells



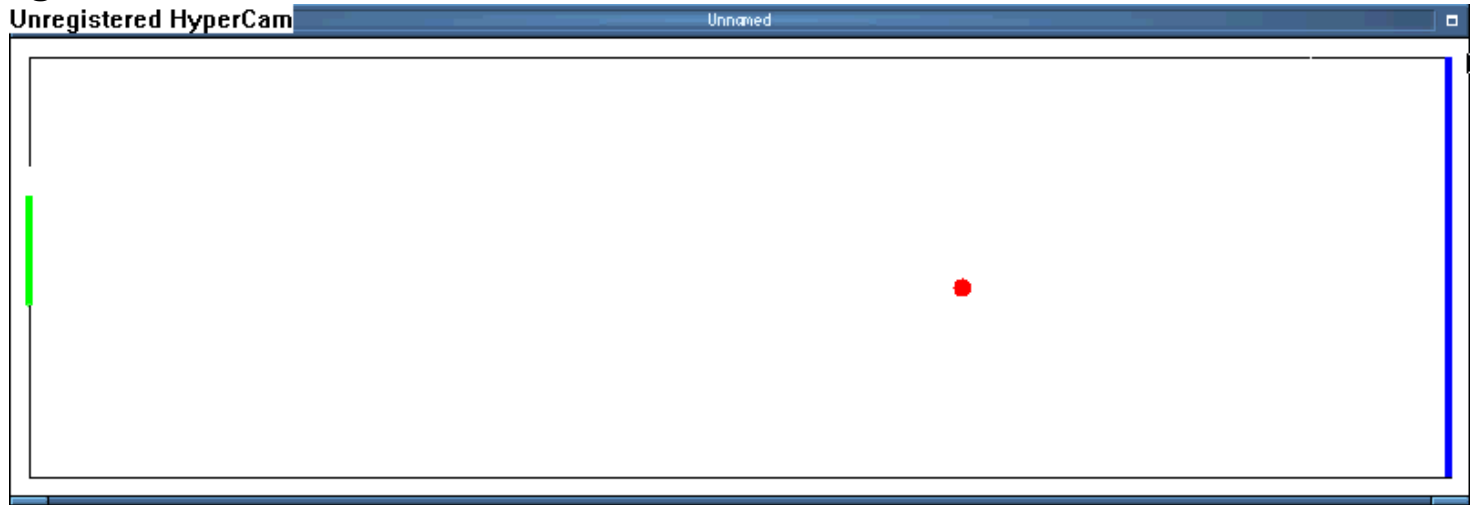
Cerebellar nucleus neurons



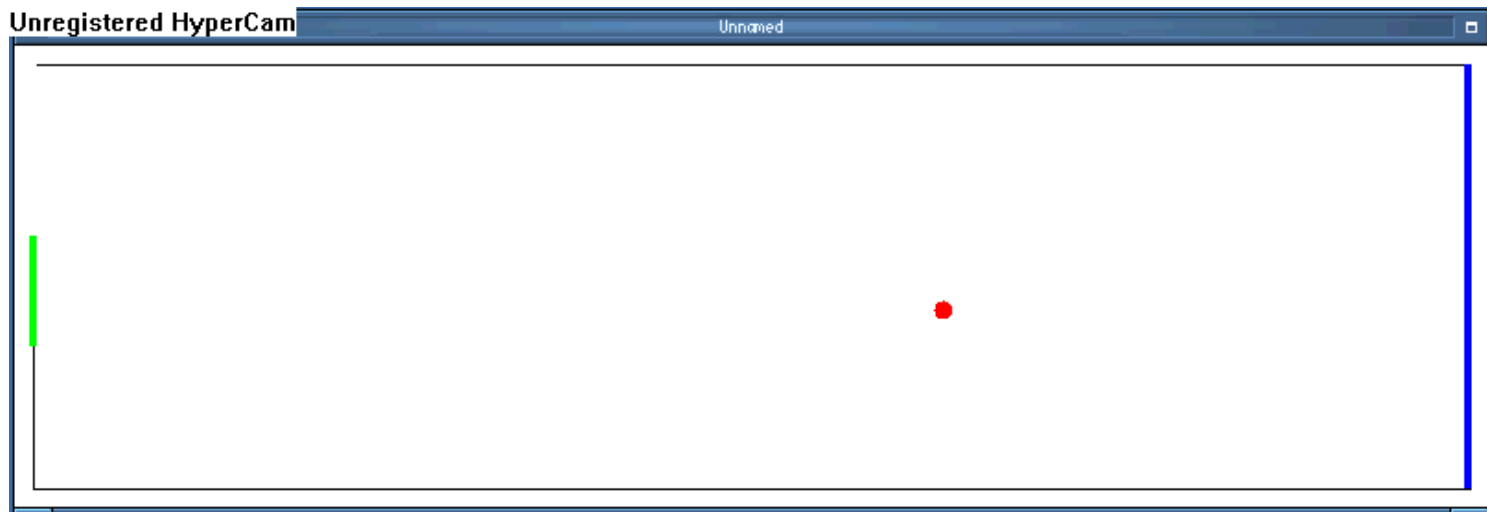
# Cerebellar pong player



**Before learning**



**After**

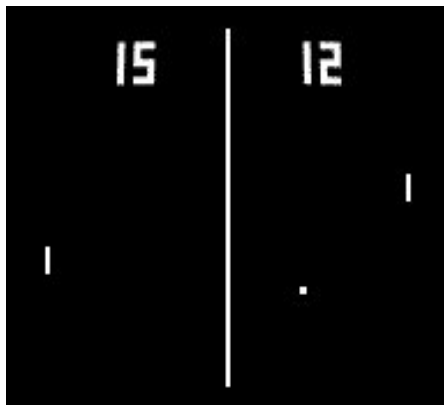


# Task extension: mixing simulated with real

## A robot playing videogames

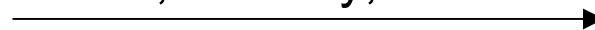


### Pong, 1972



Computer

simulated/ real systems:  
visual, auditory, touch

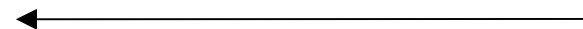


### Spiking cerebellar model

Computer, FPGA

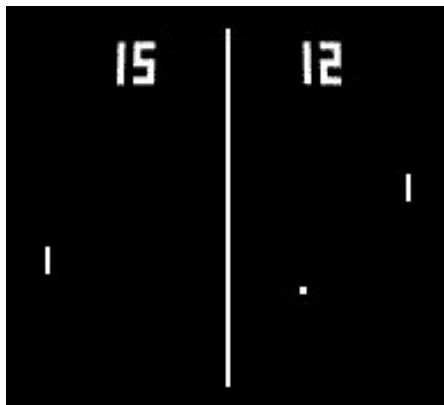


Robot movement, action

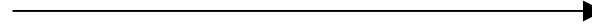


# Further extension: air-table hockey

## Air-table hockey



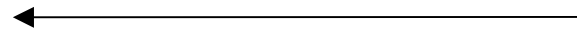
real systems:  
visual, auditory, touch



## Spiking cerebellar model



Robot movement, action







# Efficient Implementation

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Hardware

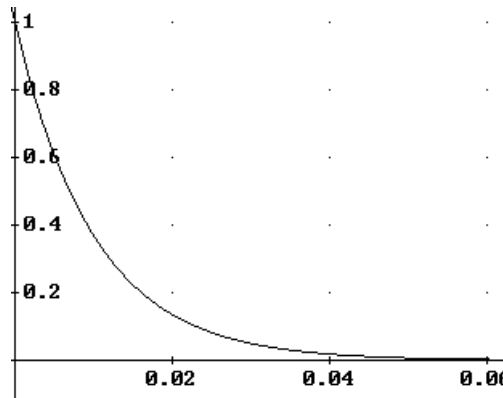
# Natural Neuron characteristics incorporated in developed hardware

Synapses as conductances (shunting or multiplicative synapses)

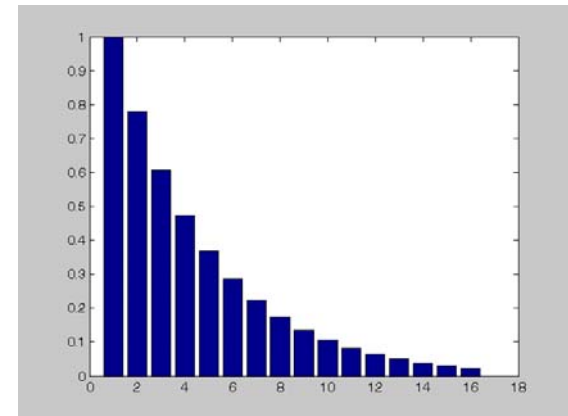
$$V_x = V_x + (E_{exc} - V_x) \cdot \sum I_i^{exc} \cdot \omega_{ij}^{exc} + (V_x - E_{inh}) \cdot \sum I_i^{inh} \cdot \omega_{ij}^{inh}$$

Time-dependent synaptic characteristic: gradual injection of charge.

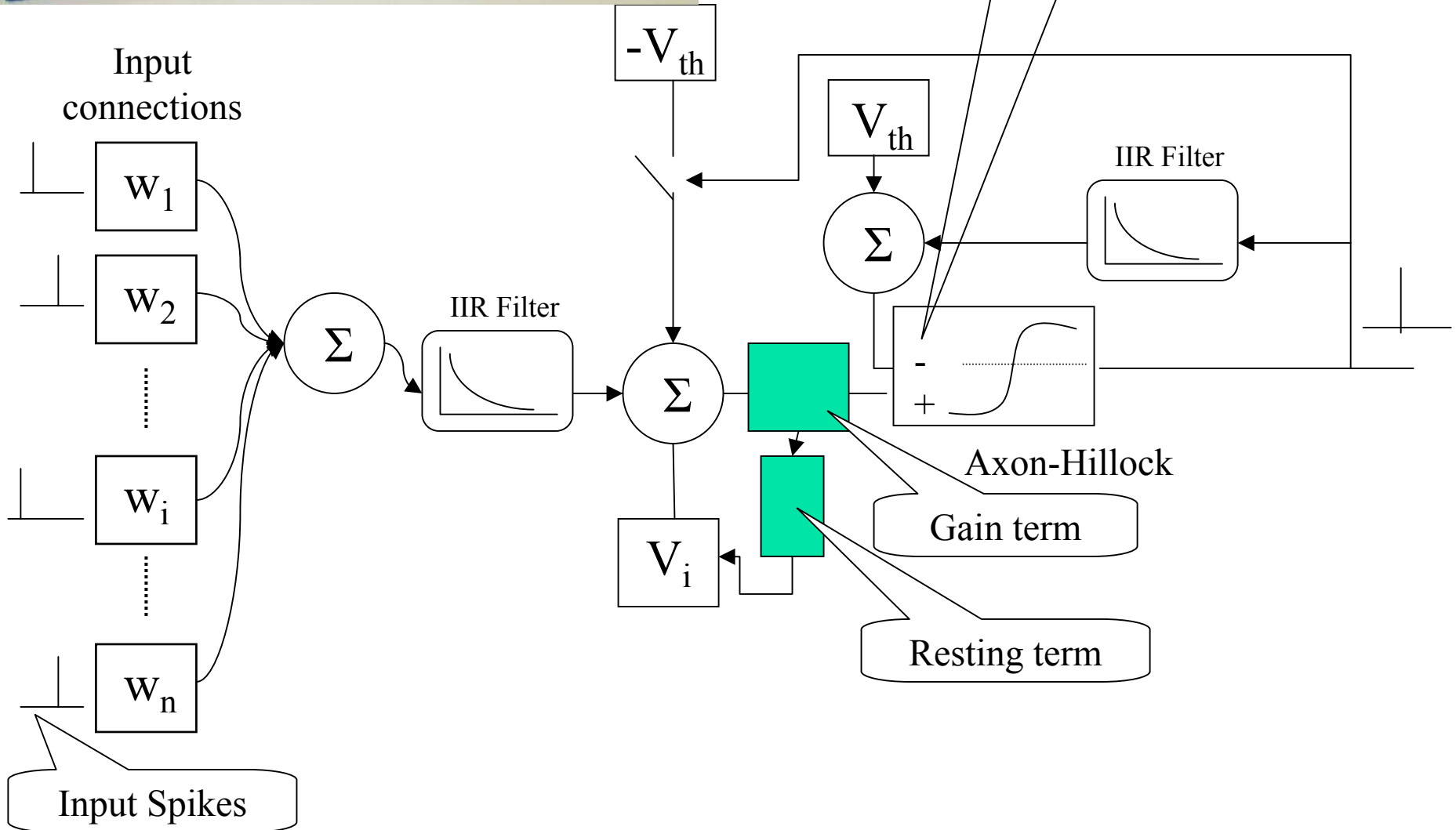
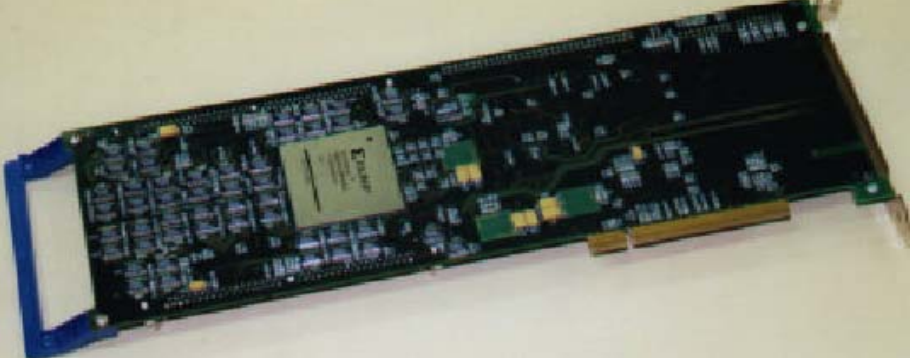
$$F_{syn} = \overline{F_{syn}} \cdot e^{-\frac{(t-t^{(f)})}{\tau}}$$



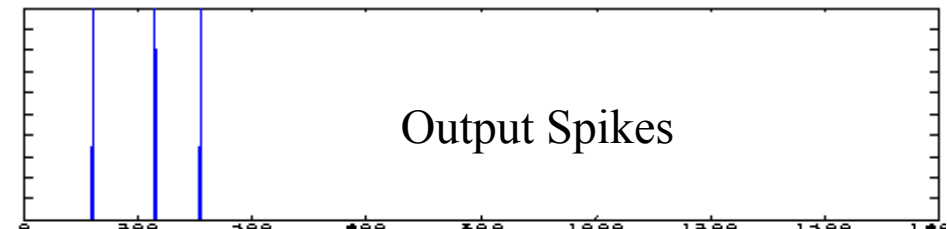
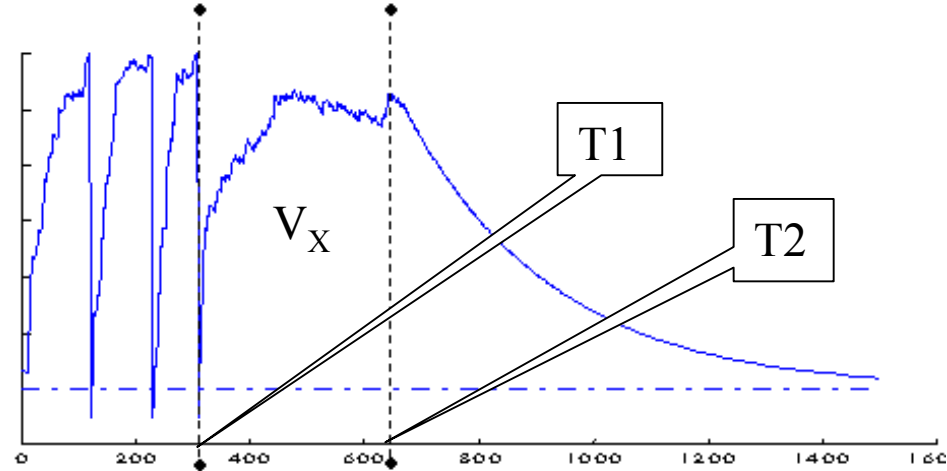
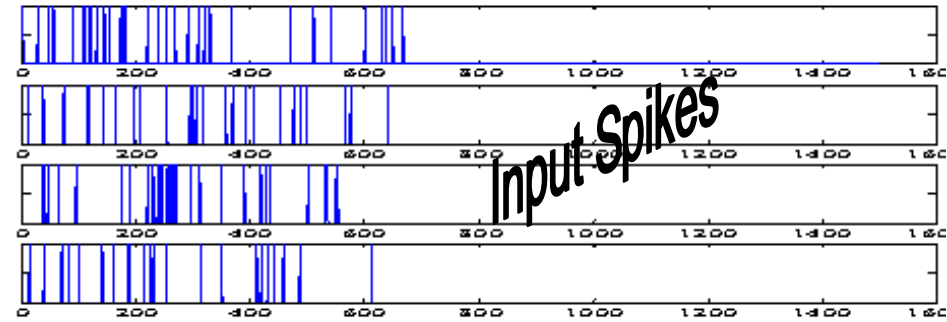
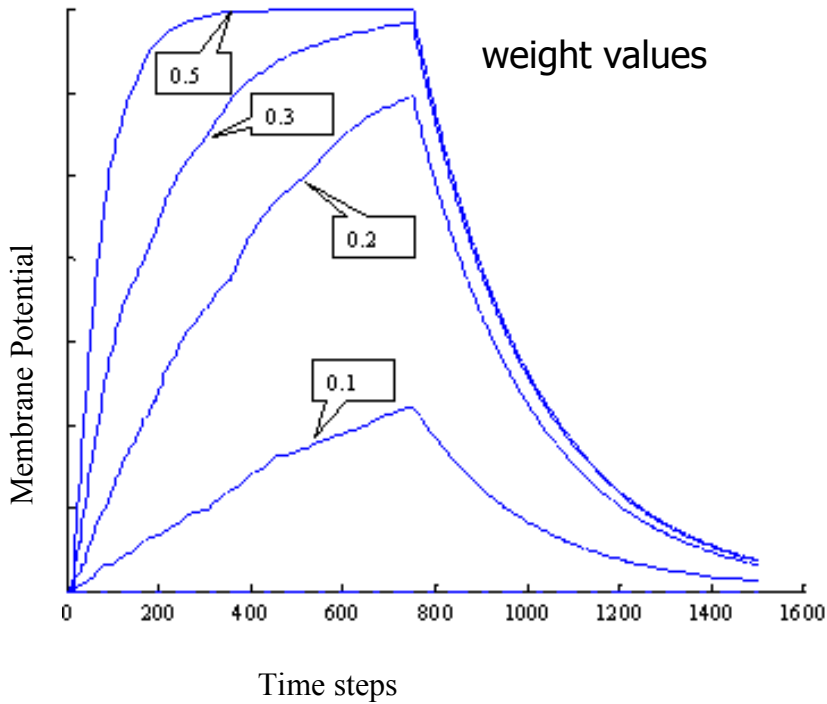
Analytical expression



16 values approach



# Experimental Results



# Preliminary Implementation (NRH approach)

**Table 1.** Implementation cost and computing time of different neural configurations.

Inputs per Neuron	Functional Units	Total Num. of Neu.	Number of Slices	Max. Clock freq. (Mhz)	Computing time (ms)	Embedded Memory Blocks (EMB)
2	2	4	1832 (9%)	23.3	0.0055	24 (15%)
2	2	1024	1966 (10%)	20.2	1.4	65 (60%)
8	4	8	5476 (28%)	20.9	0.0011	36 (22%)
8	4	1760	5595 (29%)	20.5	2.9	160 (100%)
8	8	16	12011 (62%)	18.7	0.0018	36 (22%)
8	8	1760	12010 (62%)	18.7	4.5	160 (100%)

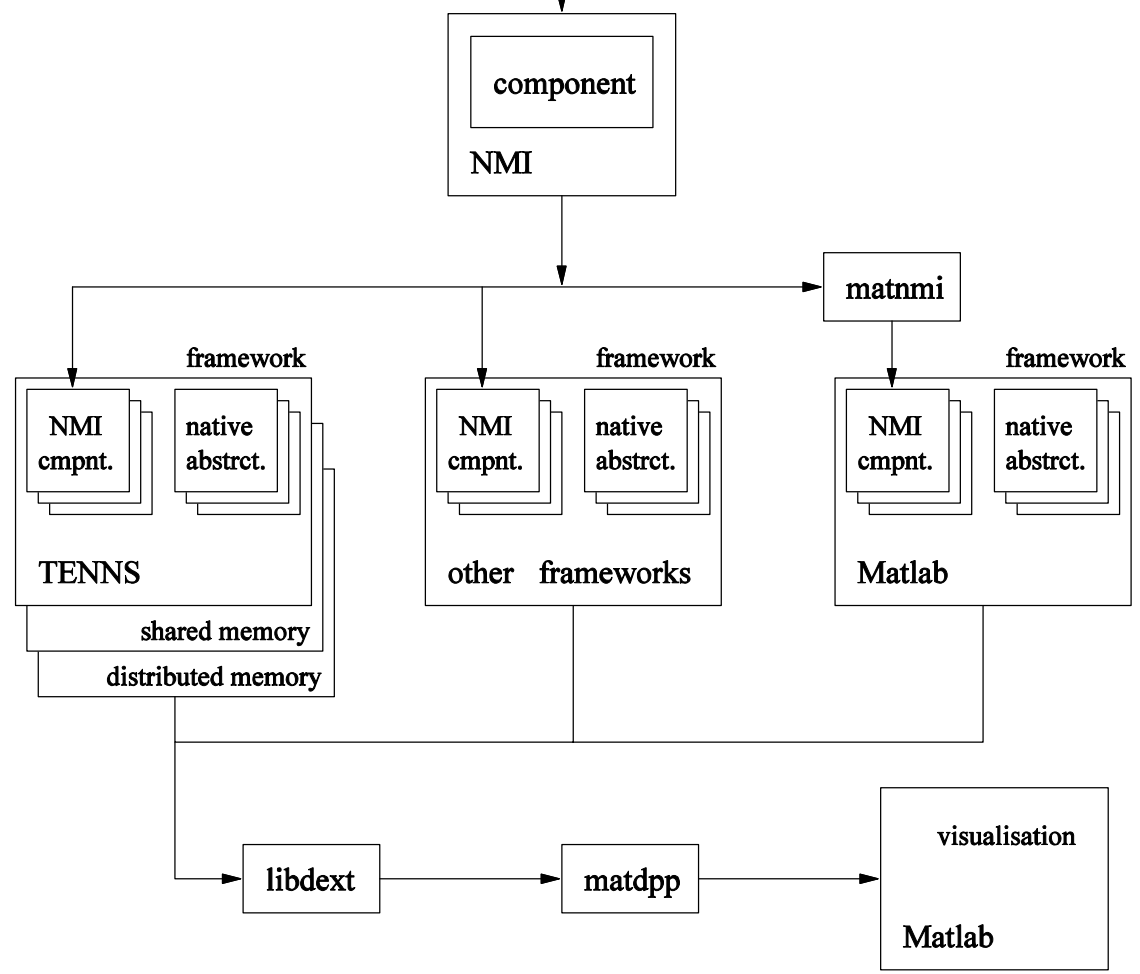
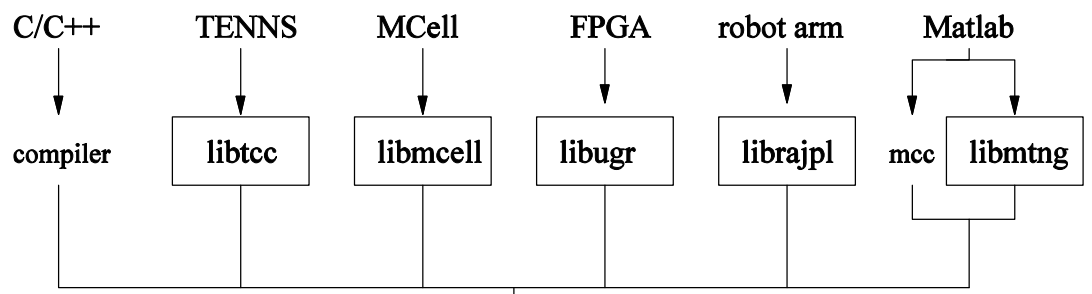


# Supporting Focus Group Software Framework



## **Outline:**

- **Network Model Interface (NMI)**





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- Dr. Michael P. Arnold (SONY subcontractor - Altjira Software)

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