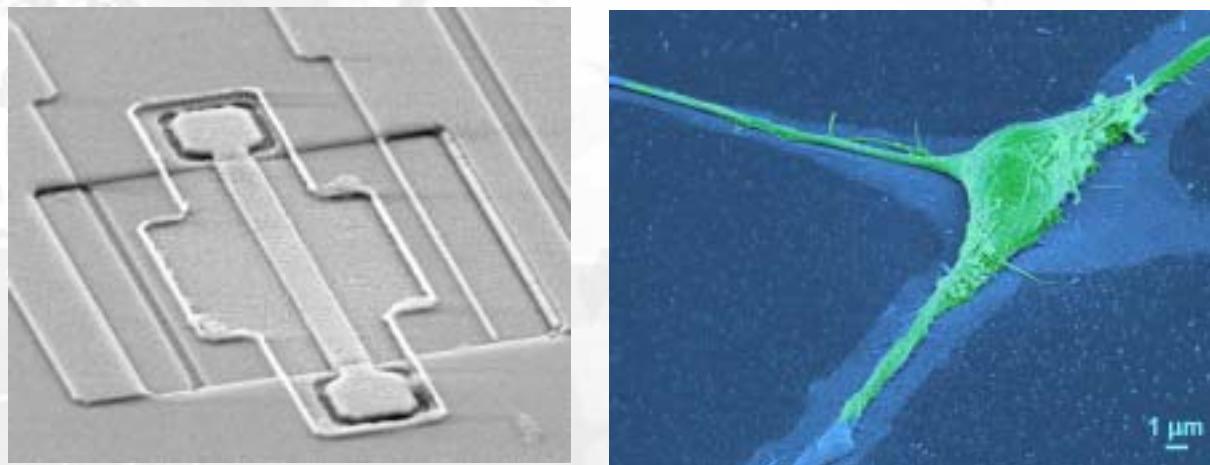




# Towards a neuroelectronic system – interfacing neurons with microelectronics

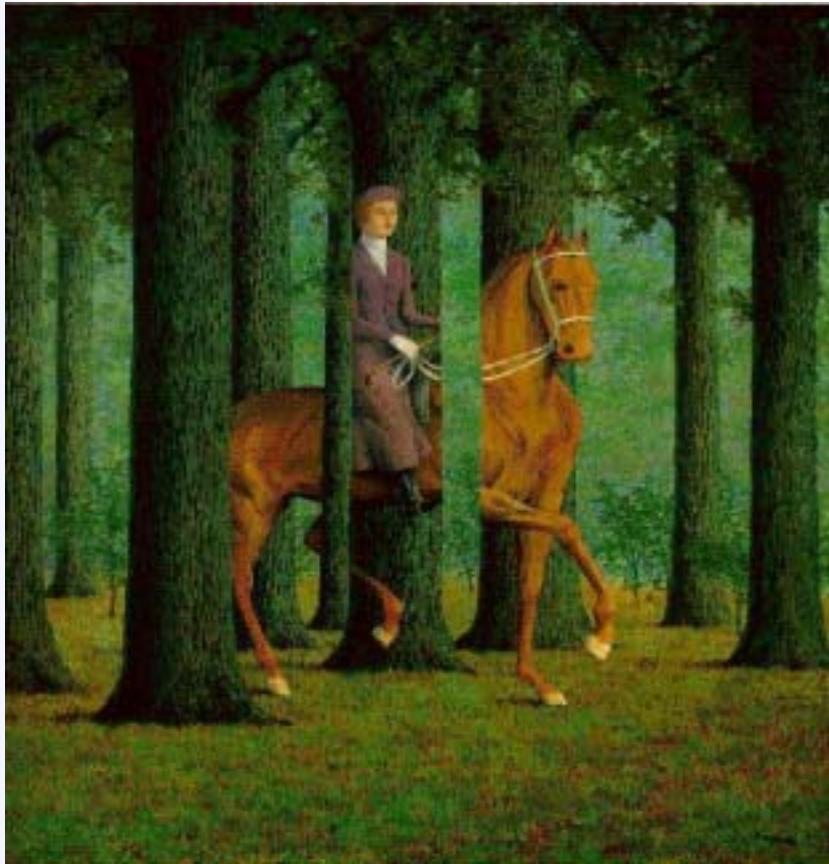
Andreas Offenhäusser

Institute for Thin Films and Interfaces (ISG-2), Forschungszentrum Jülich



# Biological information systems

Pattern recognition



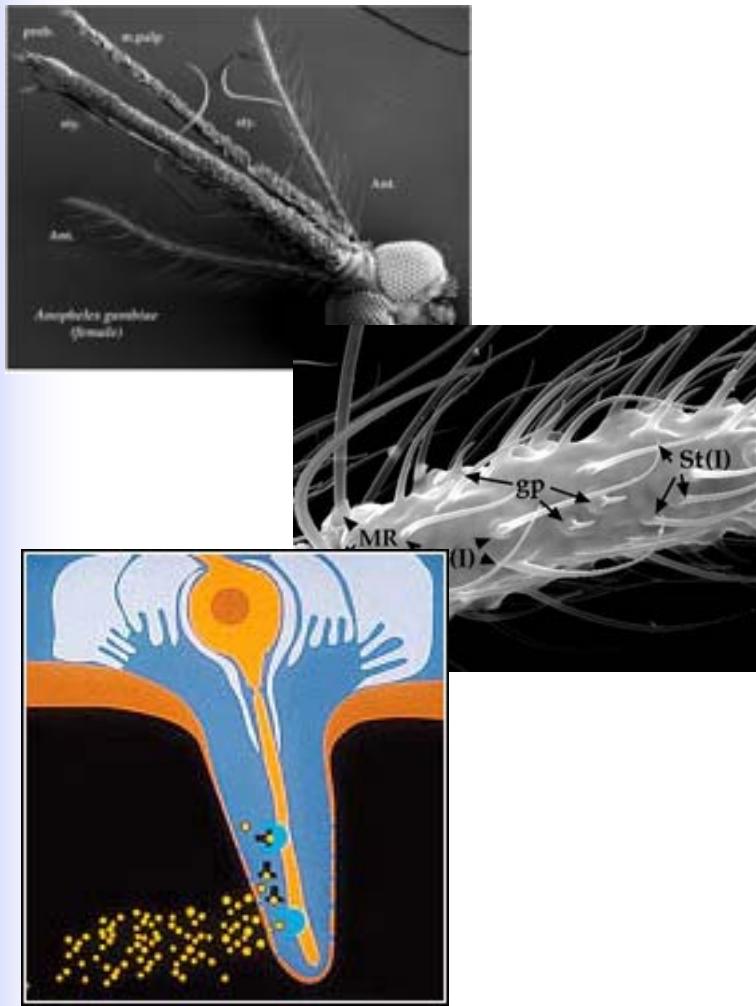
Magritte

Image recognition and processing

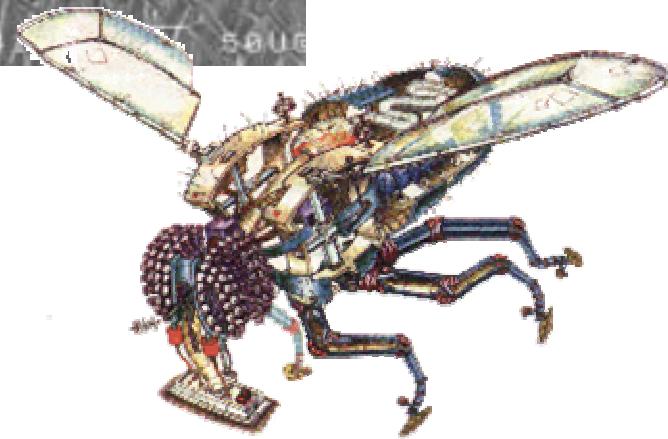
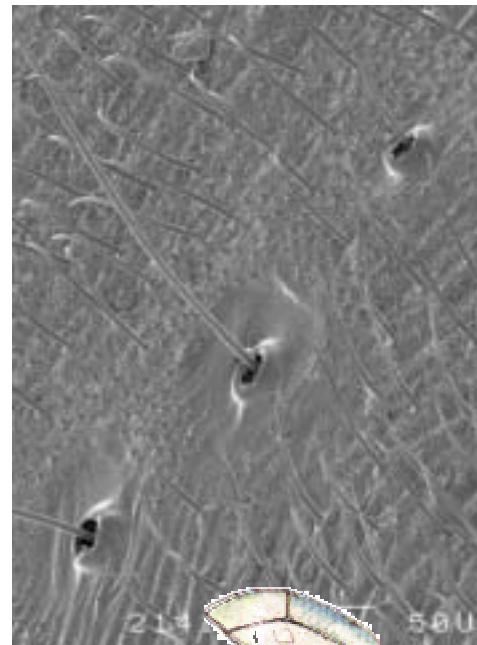


# Biological sensing systems

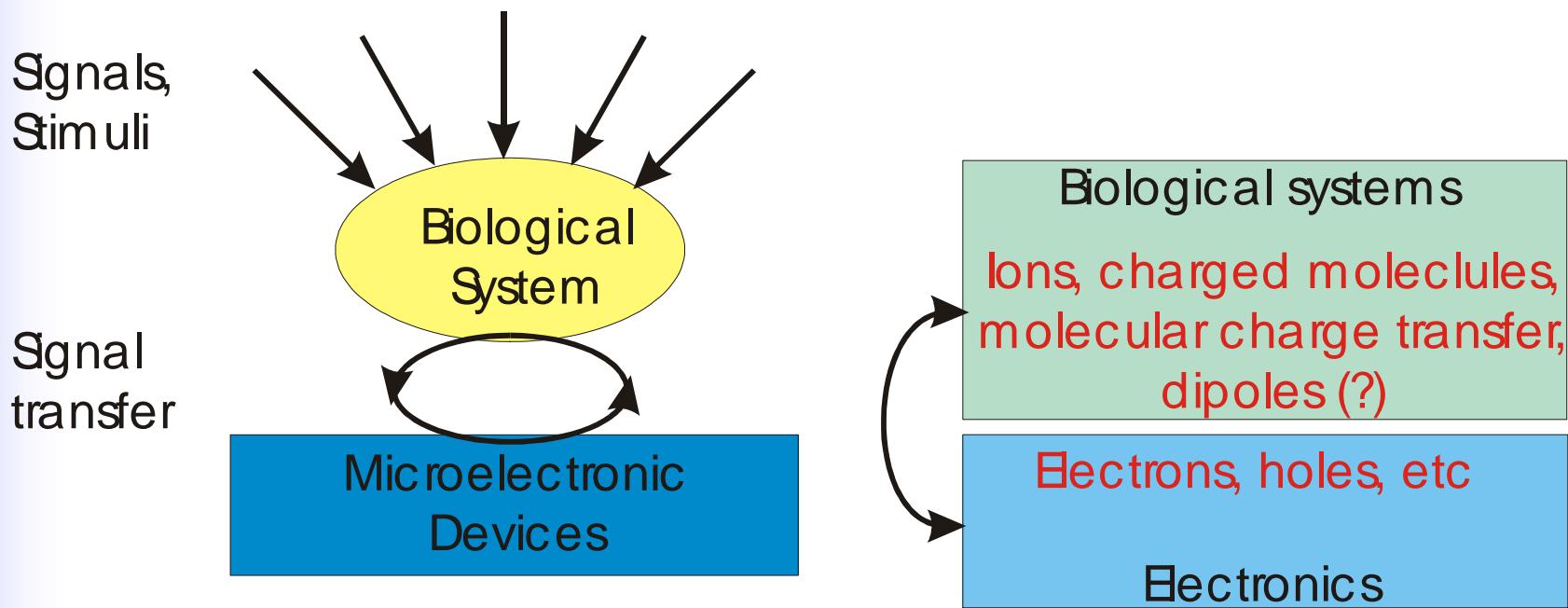
## Olfaction



## Mechanoreceptors

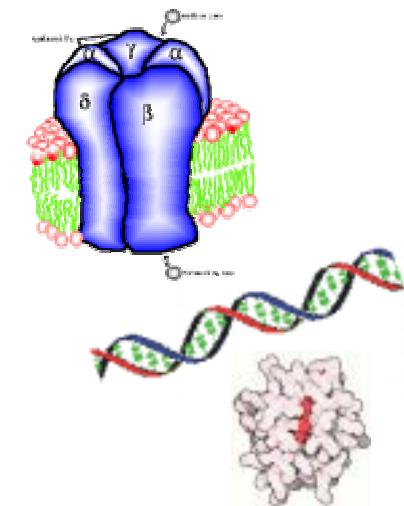
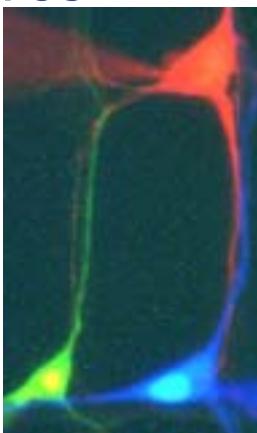


# Interfacing Biology with Electronics



# Biology meets Electronics

## Structures

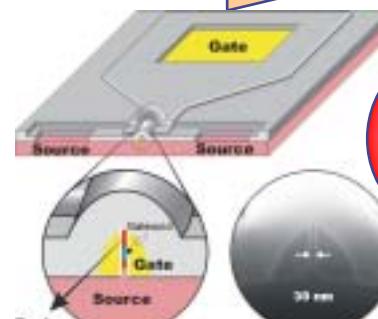
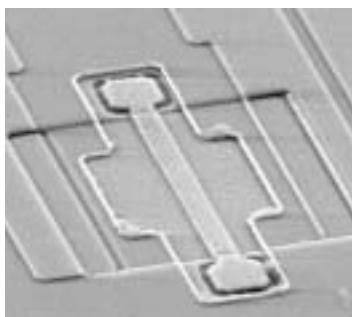


Optical lithography

Micro- and nano contact printing

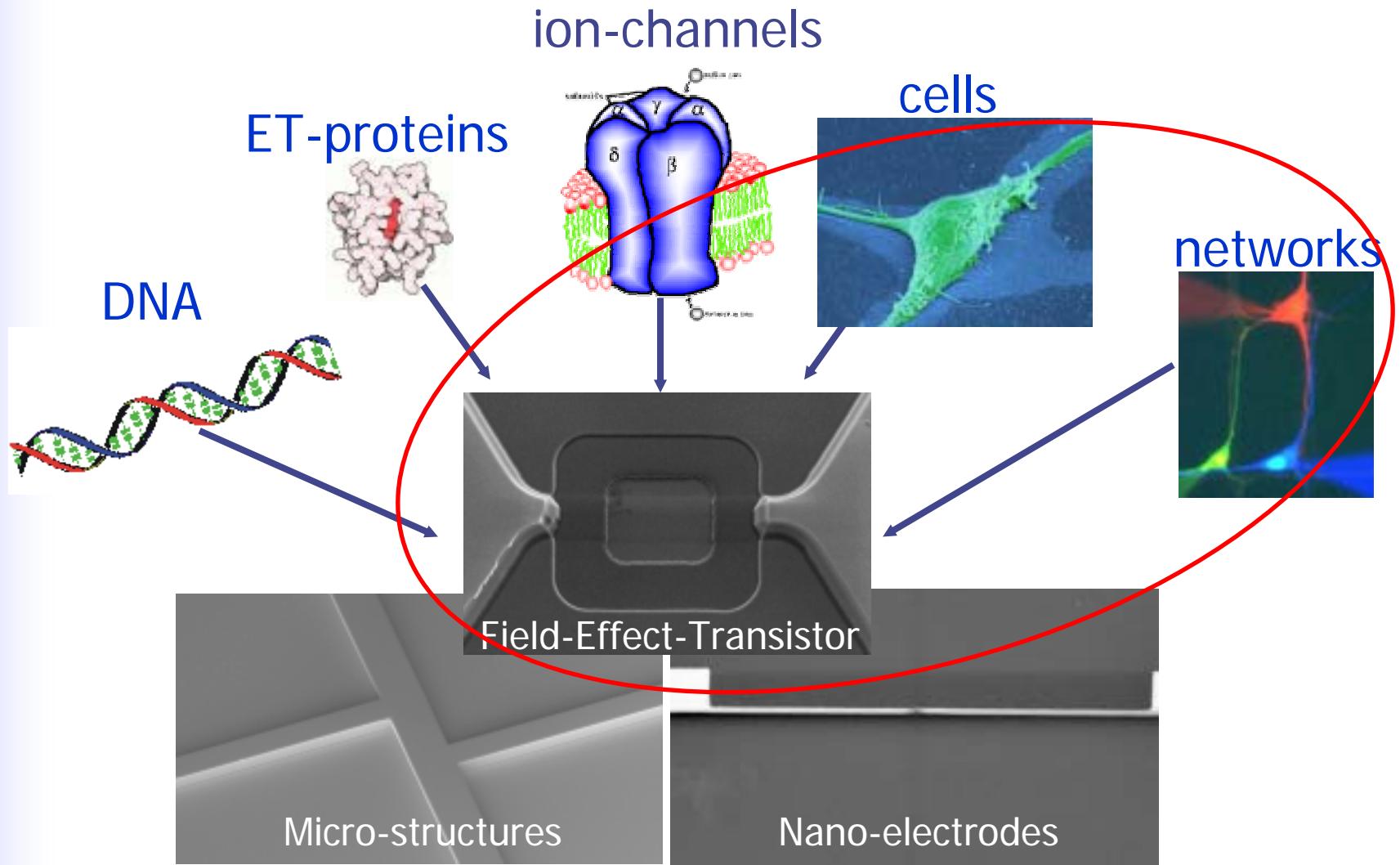
E-beam lithography

Bottom-up



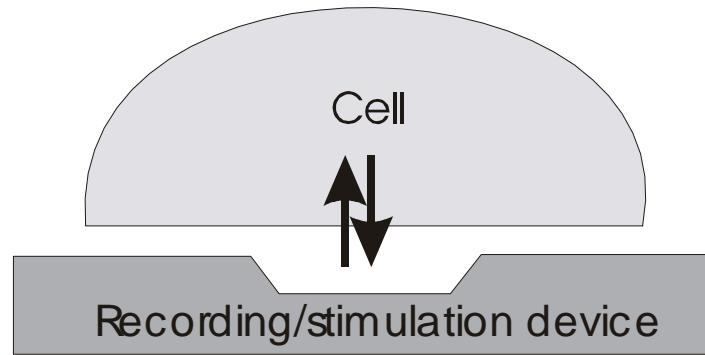
Mag.  
Nano-  
particle

# Bioelectronic hybrids

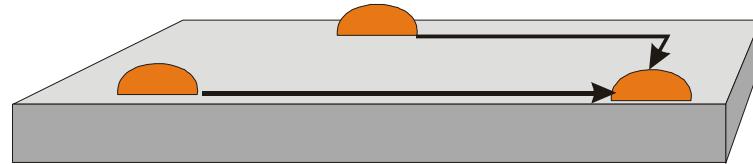


# Bioelectronic hybrids

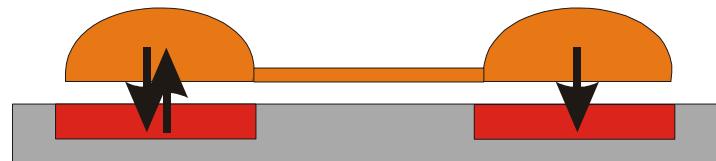
Bi-directional coupling:



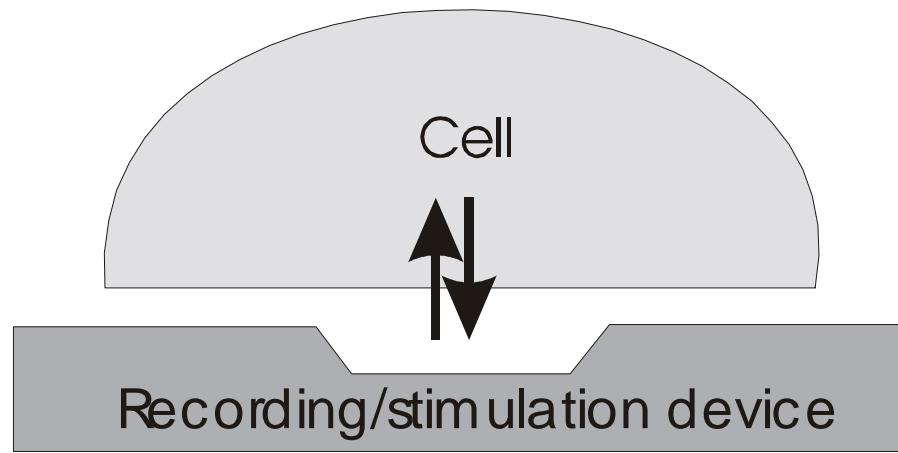
Defined networks:



Interfacing networks of  
neurons with  
microelectronic devices:



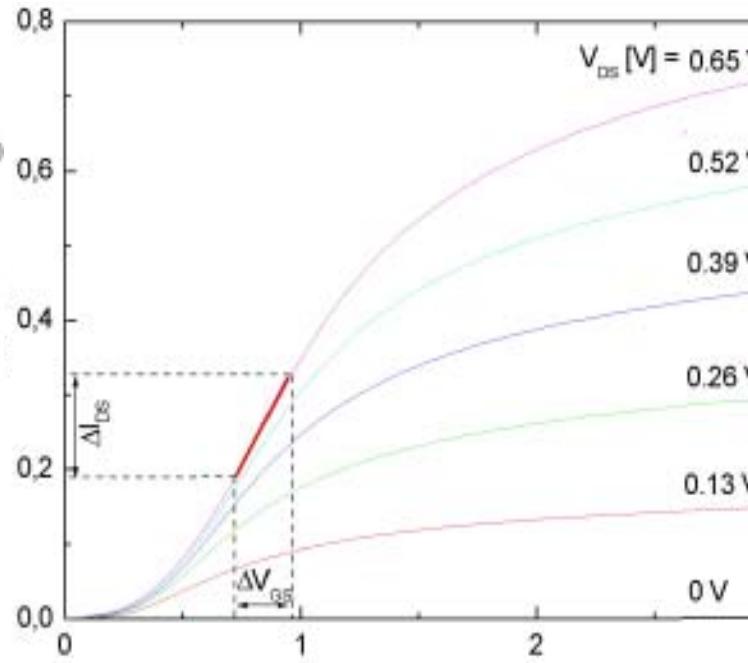
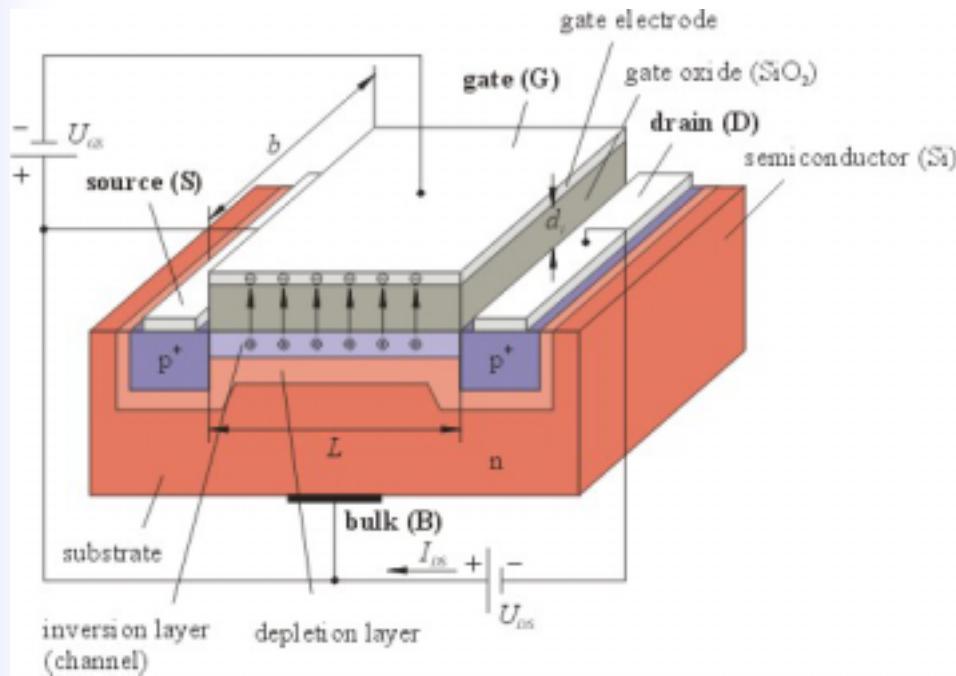
# Cell-transistor coupling



- 1) Recording of cellular signals using microelectronic devices
- 2) Stimulation cellular response using microelectrode

# Field-Effect Transistor

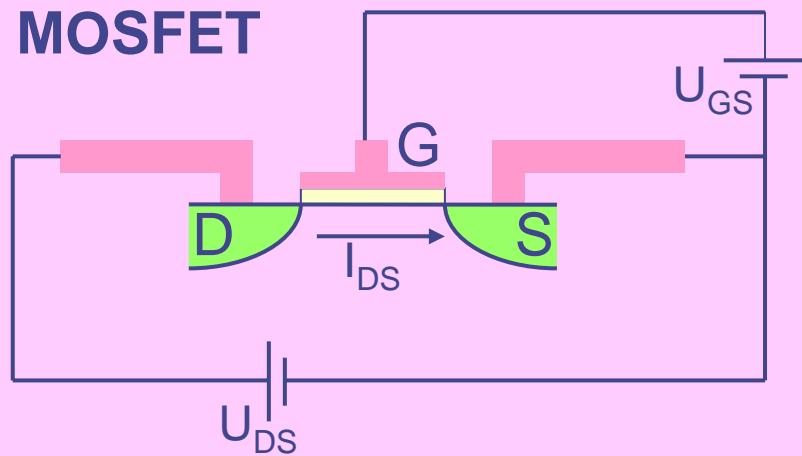
Transfer characteristics



- Gate potential modulates inversion channel between drain and source
- Changes in drain-source current are proportional to changes of the gate potential (linear region)

# Concepts

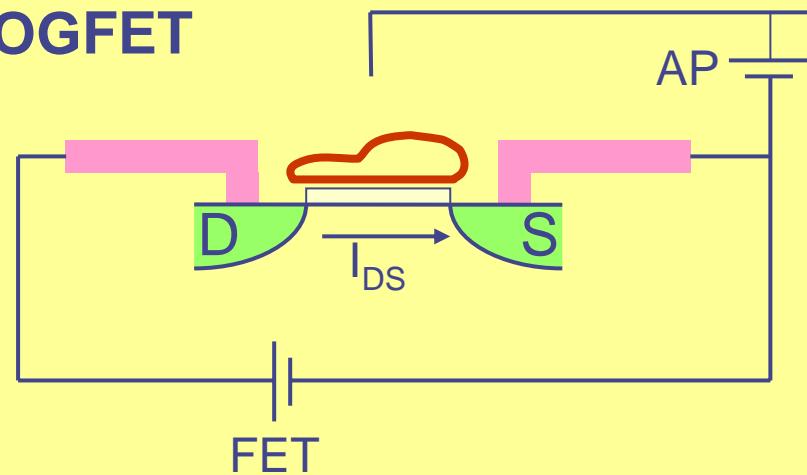
## MOSFET



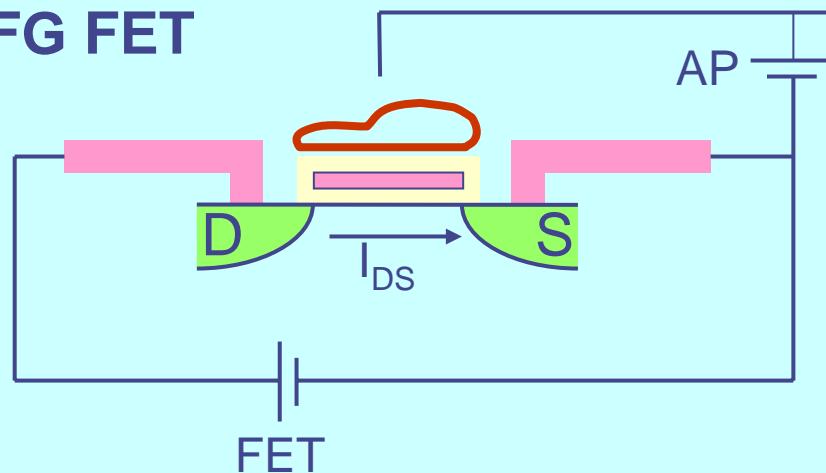
Offenhäusser A., Sprössler C., Matsuzawa M., Knoll W. (1997) Biosensors & Bioelectronics 12: 819-826.  
Ingebrandt S. et al. (submitted)

Concept derived from the work of the Bergveld laboratory e.g. BERGVELD, P., WIERSMA, J., MEERTENS, H. (1976) IEEE Trans. Biomed. Eng. 23: 136-144

## OGFET

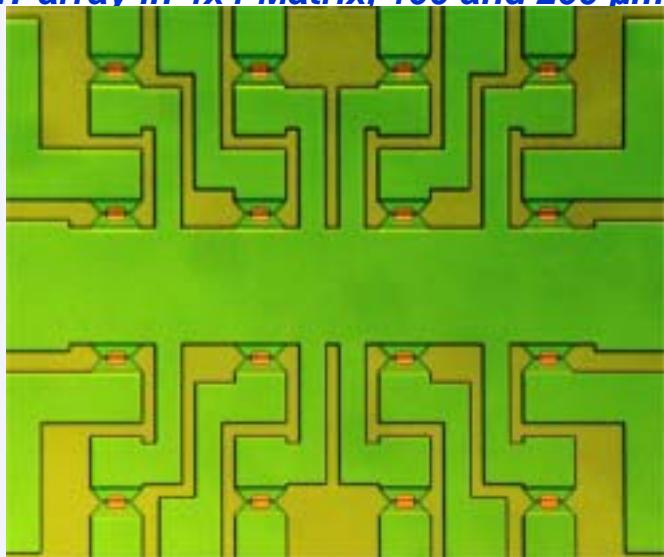


## FG FET

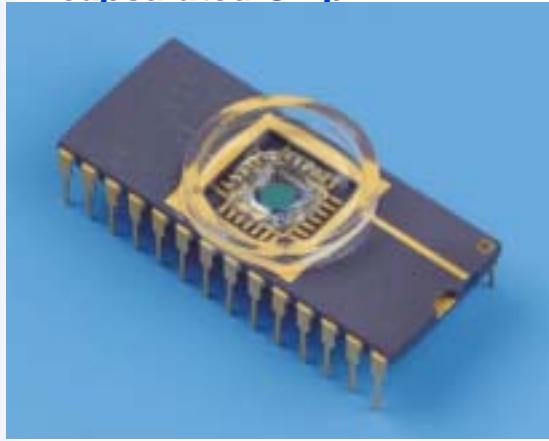


# Field-Effect Transistor

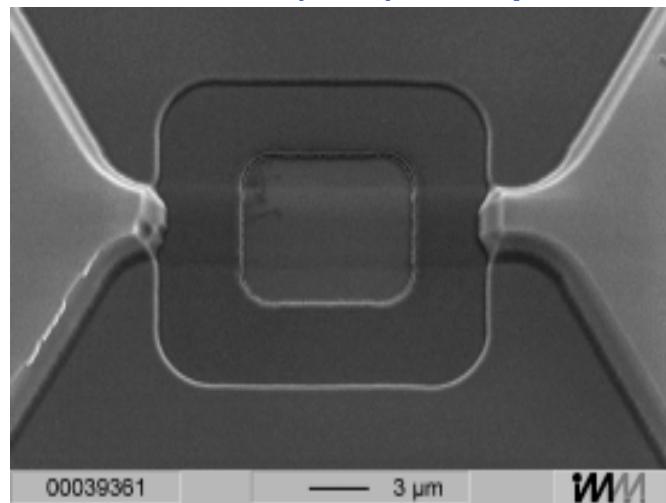
FET array in 4x4-Matrix, 100 and 200  $\mu\text{m}$  distance



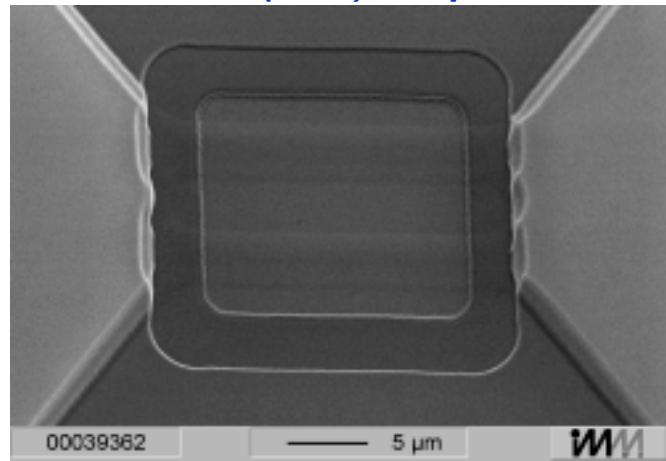
Encapsulated Chip



Individual Gate (SEM) 5x1.5  $\mu\text{m}^2$



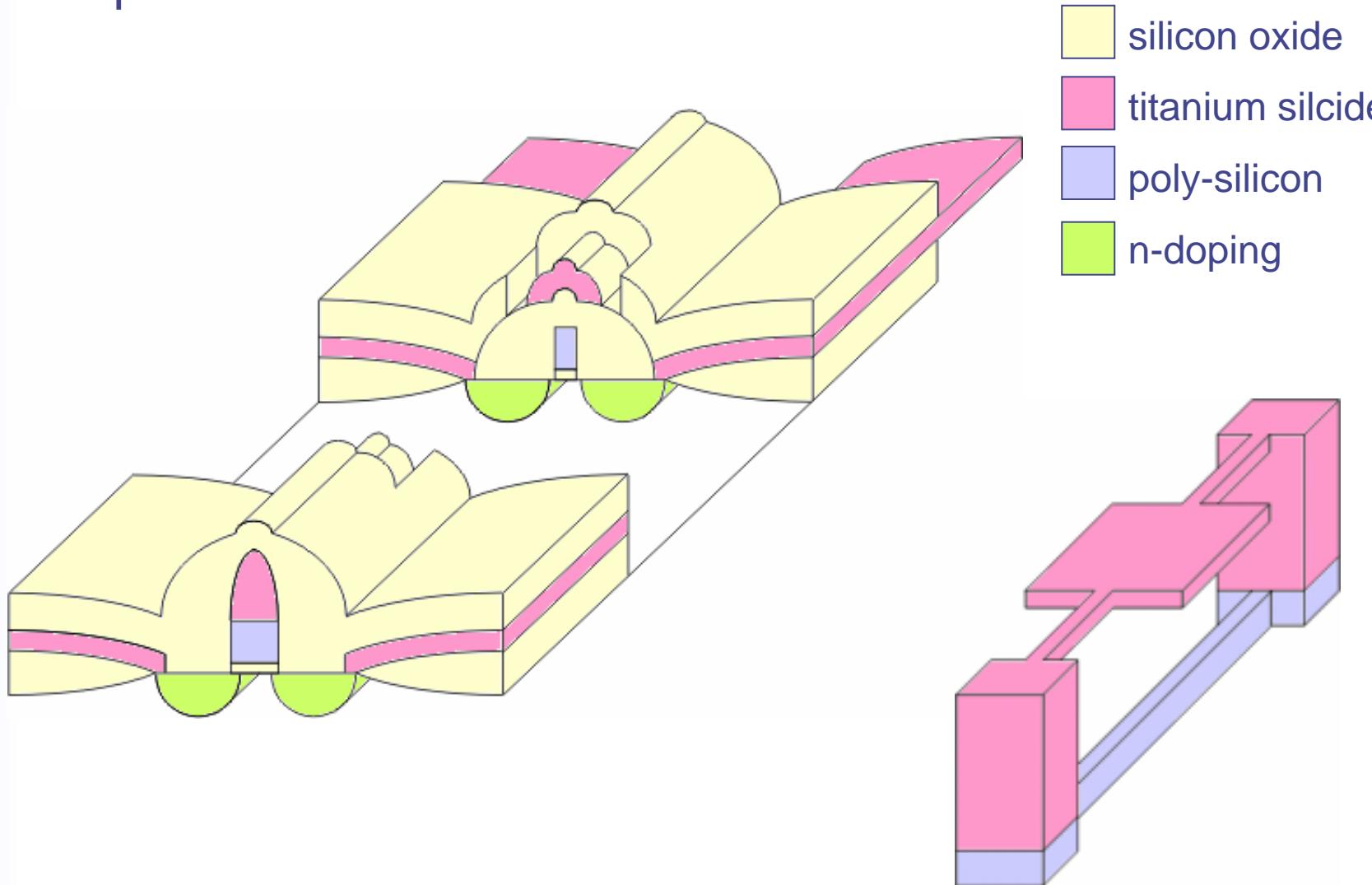
Double-Gate (SEM) 8x6  $\mu\text{m}^2$



A. Offenhäusser et al., Biosens.&Bioelec.12 (1997) 819

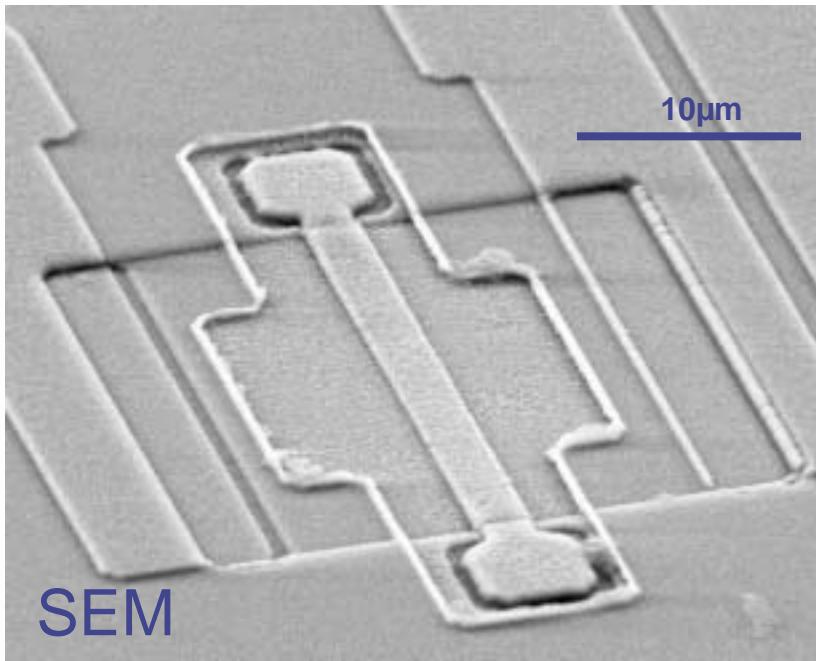
# Floating-gate Field-Effect Transistors

Concept:

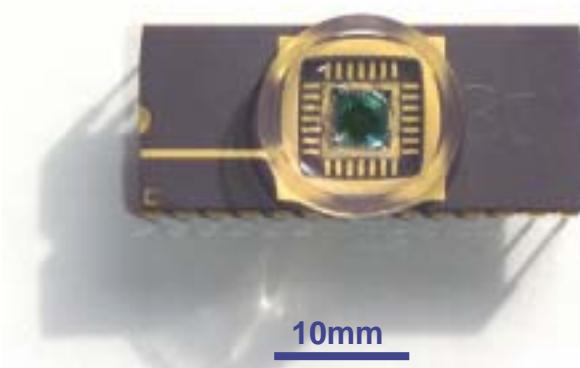
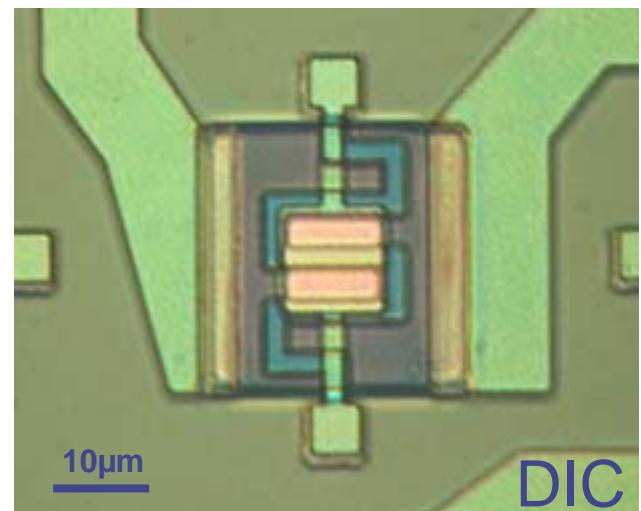


# Floating-gate Field-Effect Transistors

Ti-Si sensor gate, LIN

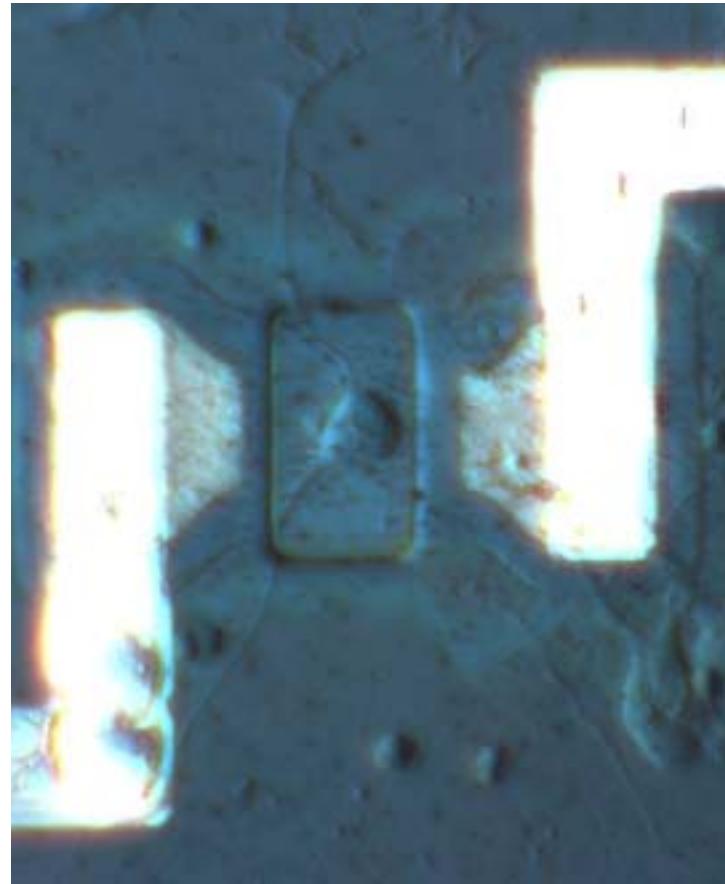
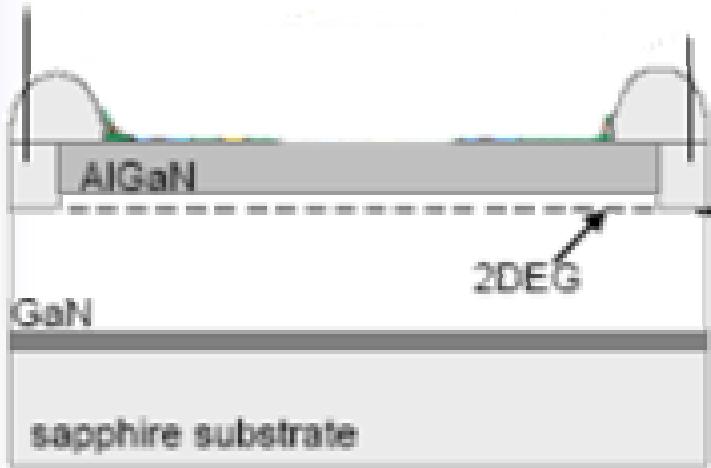


Poly-Si sensor gate, MEA



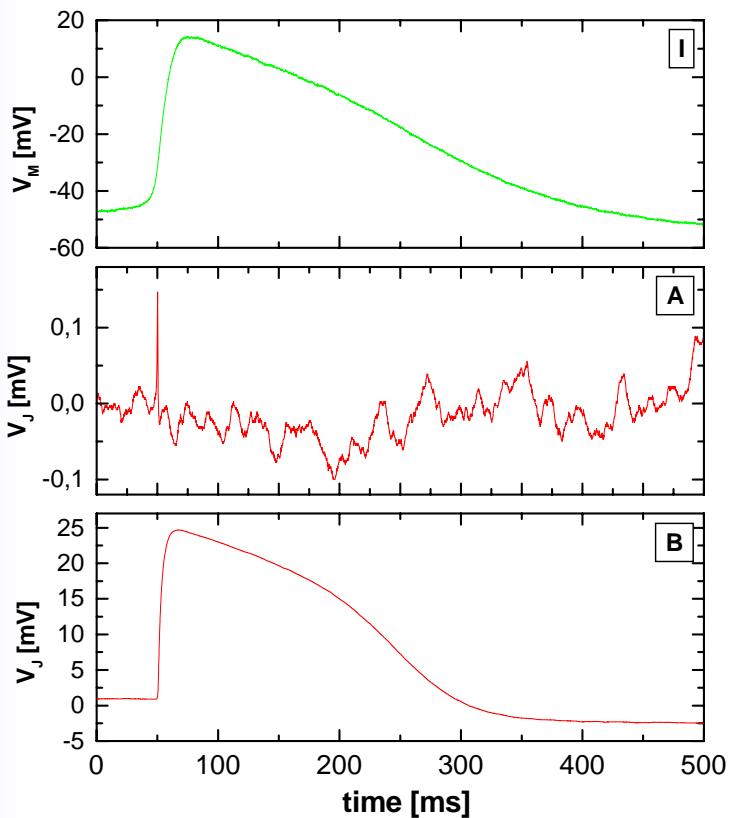
# High Electron Mobility Transistors (HEMT)

AlGaN/GaN HEMT-structure



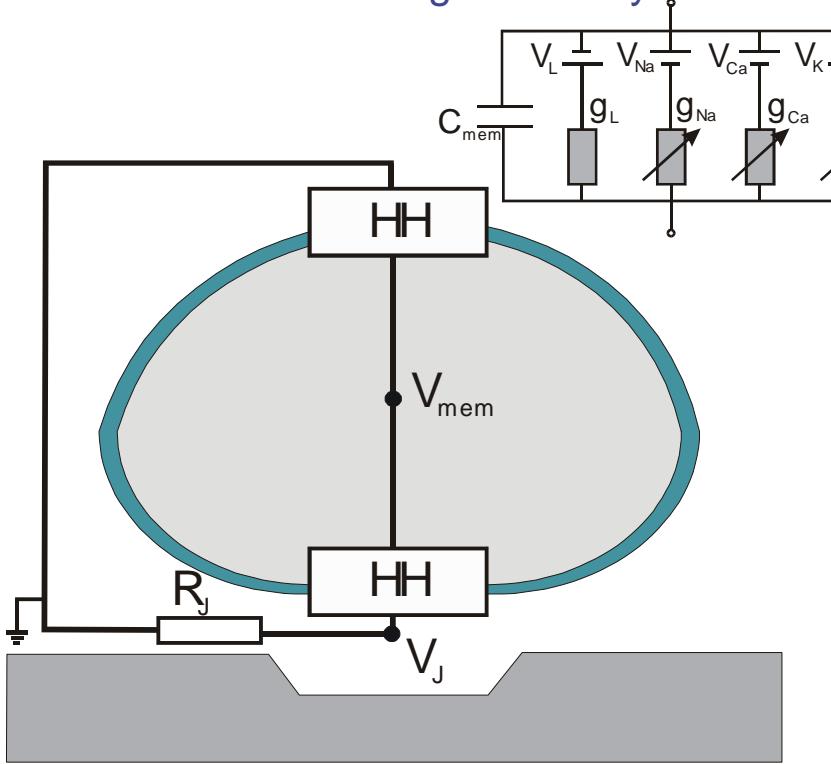
Source: Georg Steinhoff, Martin Eickhoff, Martin Stutzmann (Walter-Schottky-Institute, TU Munich)  
Sven Ingebrandt, Günter Wrobel, Peter Jaworka, Michel Marso, Hans Lüth (ISG, FZ Jülich)

# Cell-Transistor Coupling



C. Sprössler et al., Phys. Rev. E 60  
(1999) 2171-2176

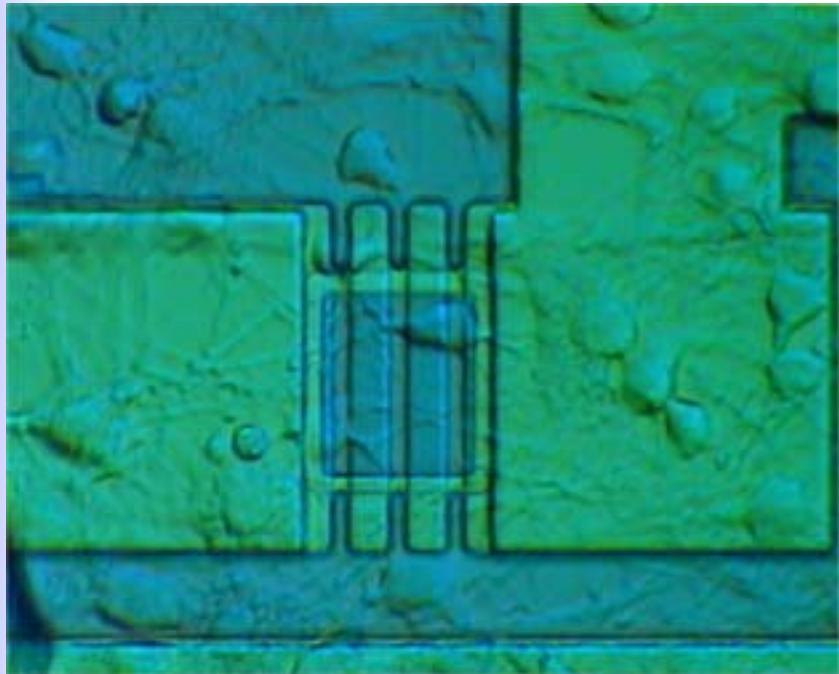
HH=Hodgkin-Huxley elements



- W.G. Regehr et al., J. Neurosci. Meth. 30, 91-106 (1992)  
S. Vassanelli & P. Fromherz, Appl.Phys.A 66, 549-554 (1998)  
C. Sprössler et al., Phys. Rev. E 60, 2171-2176 (1999)

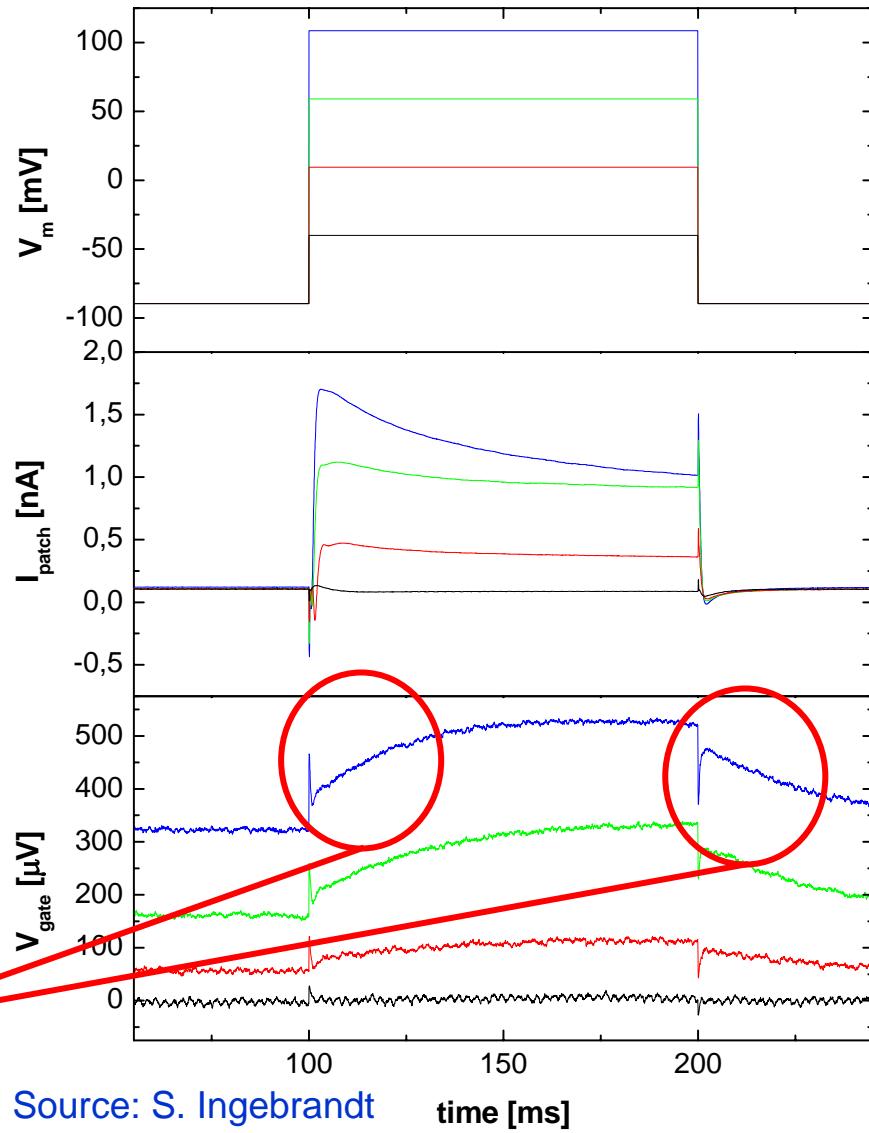
# Neuron-Transistor Coupling

Brain stem neurons (rat)



differences

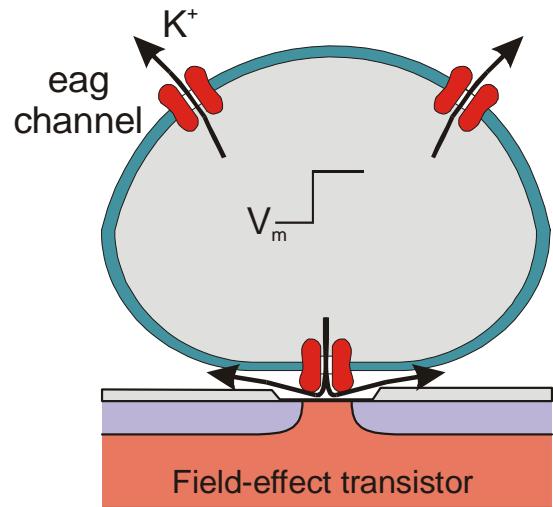
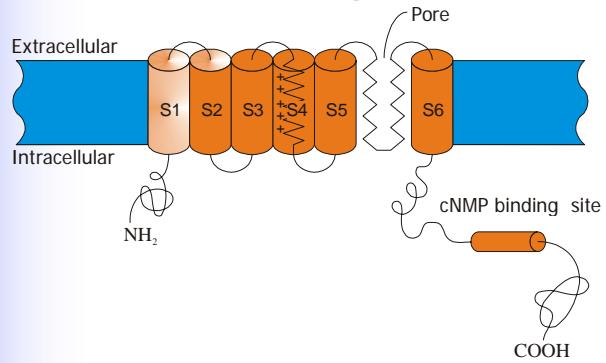
Signals are not averaged !



# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Genetically engineered cells (HEK293):

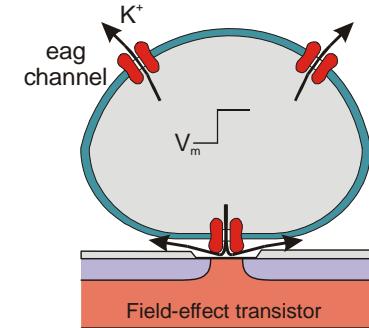
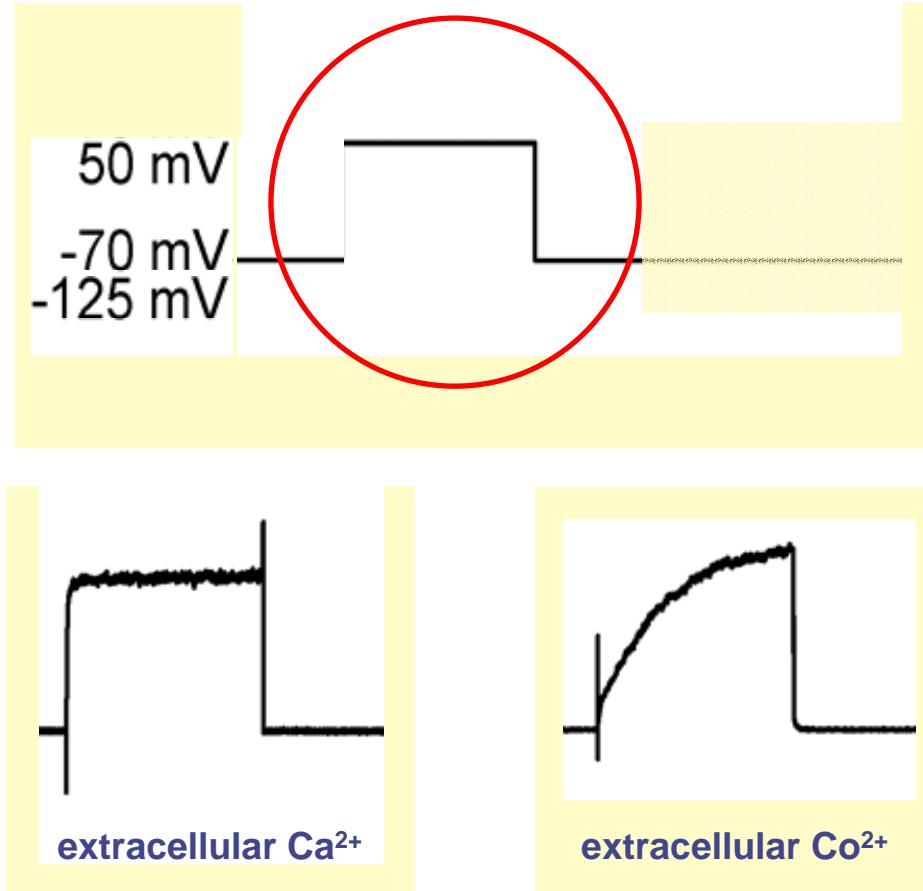
Bovine ether a go go (beag1)  
K<sup>+</sup>-channel (Frings et al (1998))



- outward rectifying potassium channel
- from the retina of bovine
- involved in control of cellular resting potential and regulation of action potentials
- channel activation is controllable

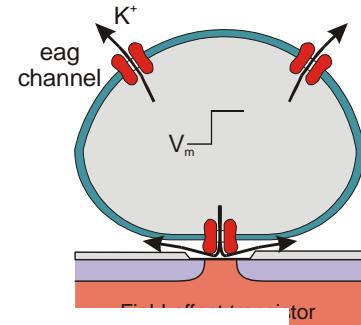
# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Genetically engineered cells (HEK293):  
Bovine ether a go go (beag1)

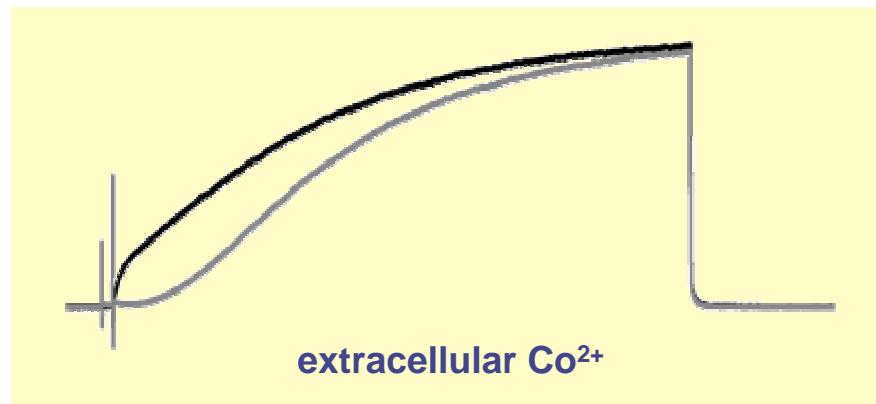
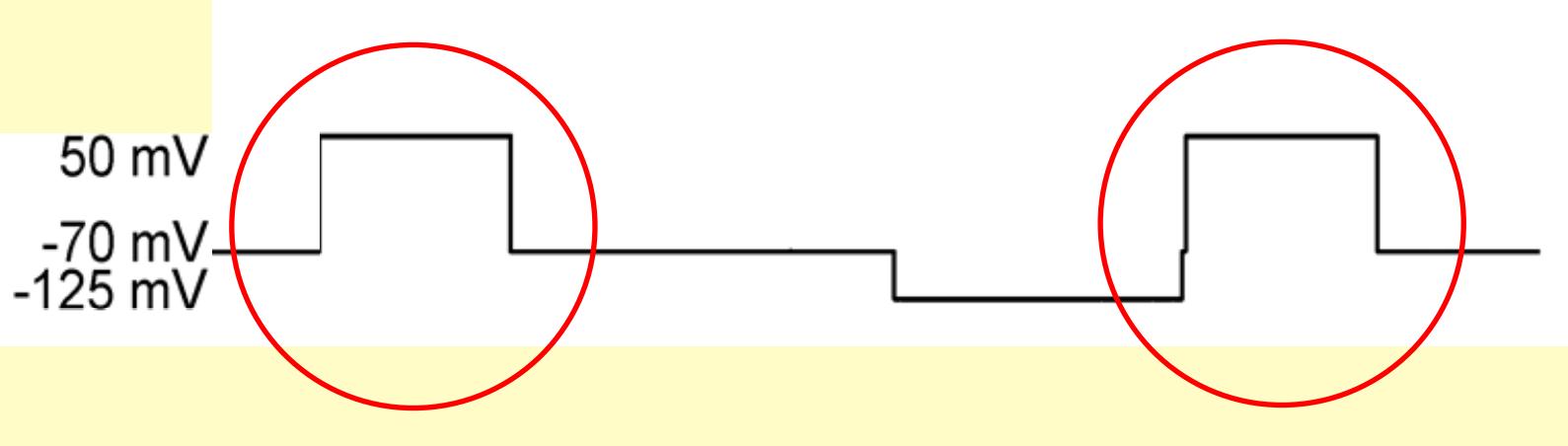


# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Genetically engineered cells (HEK293):



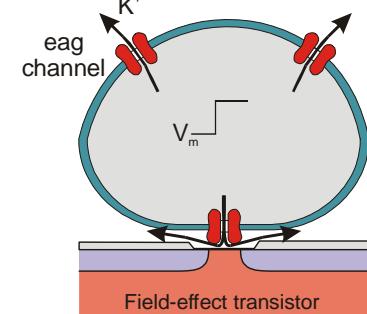
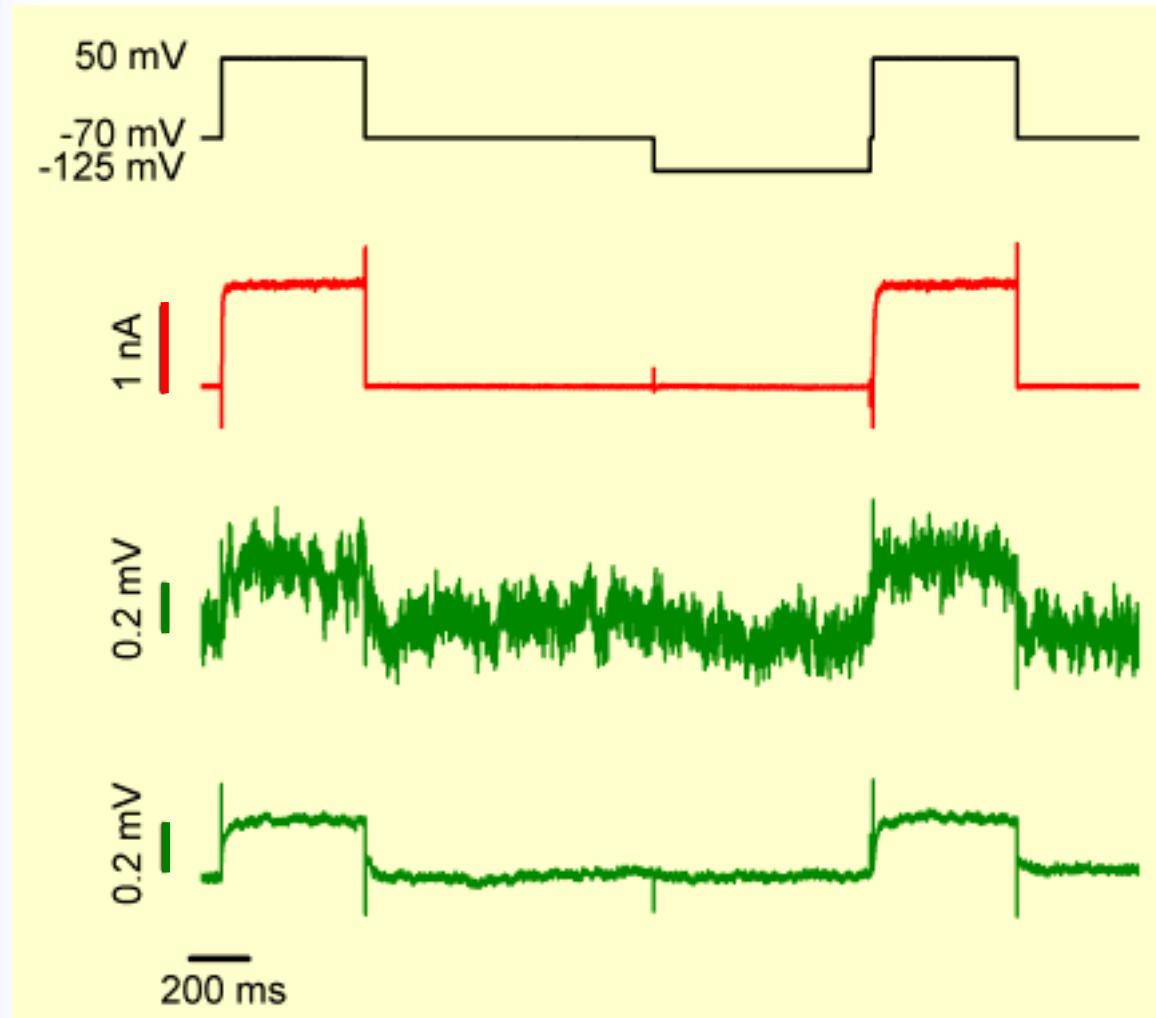
Channel-activation is dependent on stimulation pulses



Source: G. Wrobel

# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  solution / p-channel FET



stimulation protocol

membrane current

FET-recording

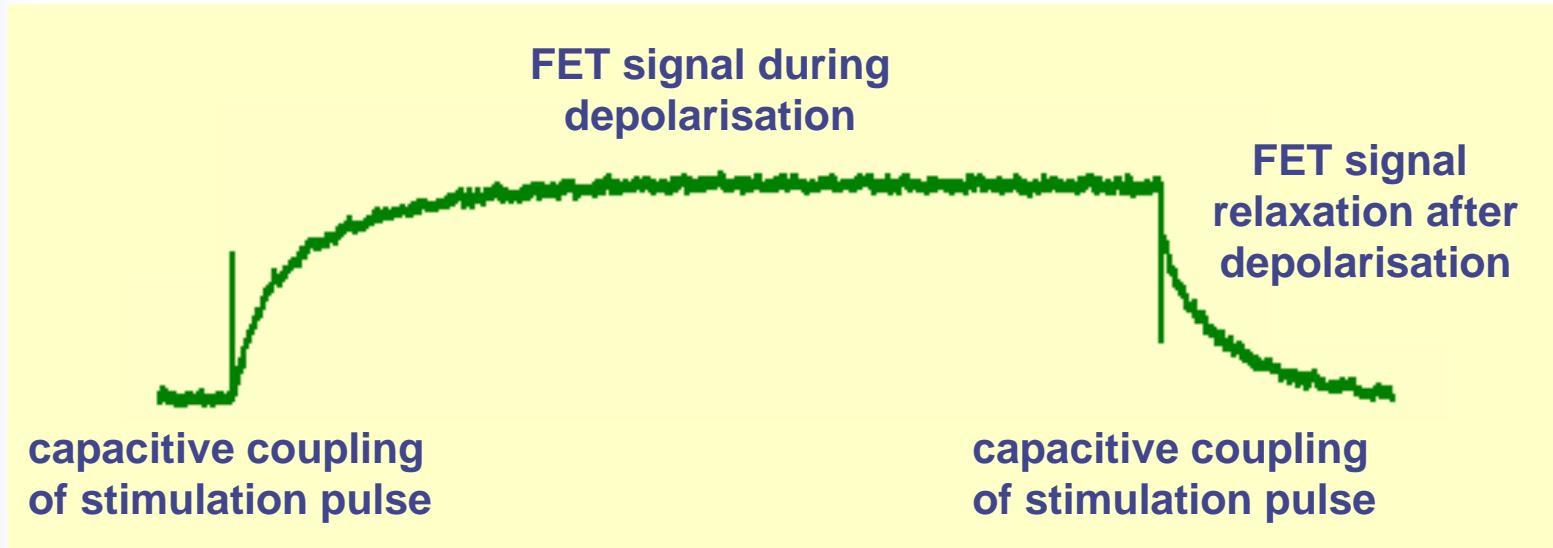
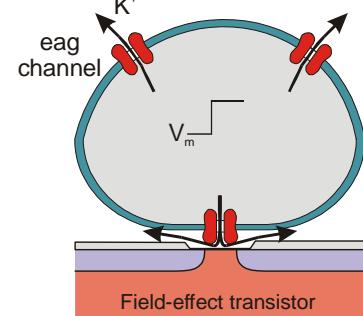
averaged ( $n = 50$ )

FET-recording

Source: G. Wrobel

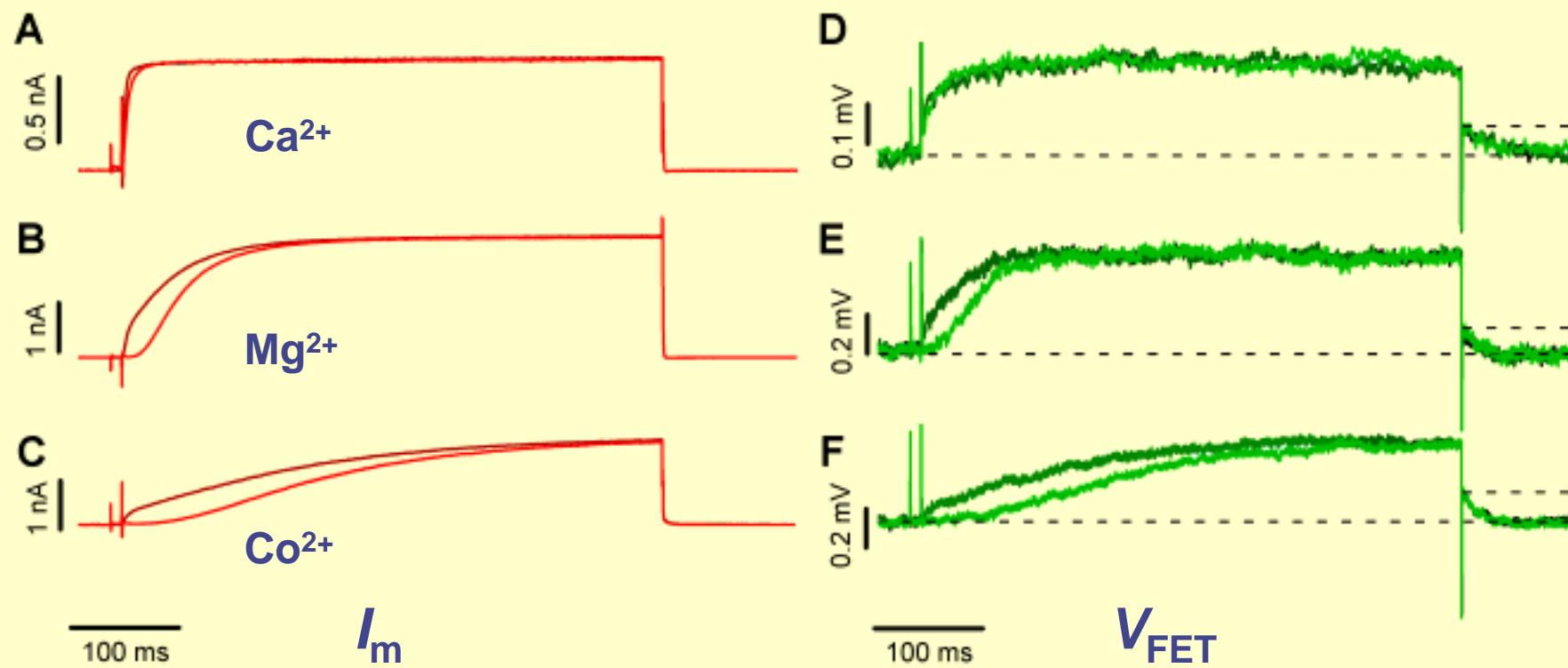
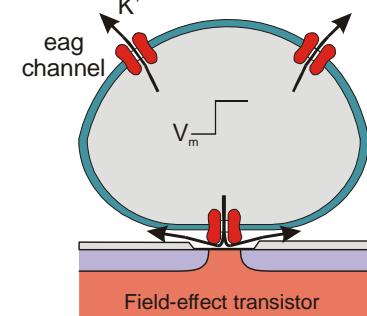
# Cell-transistor-hybrids

## Signal shape



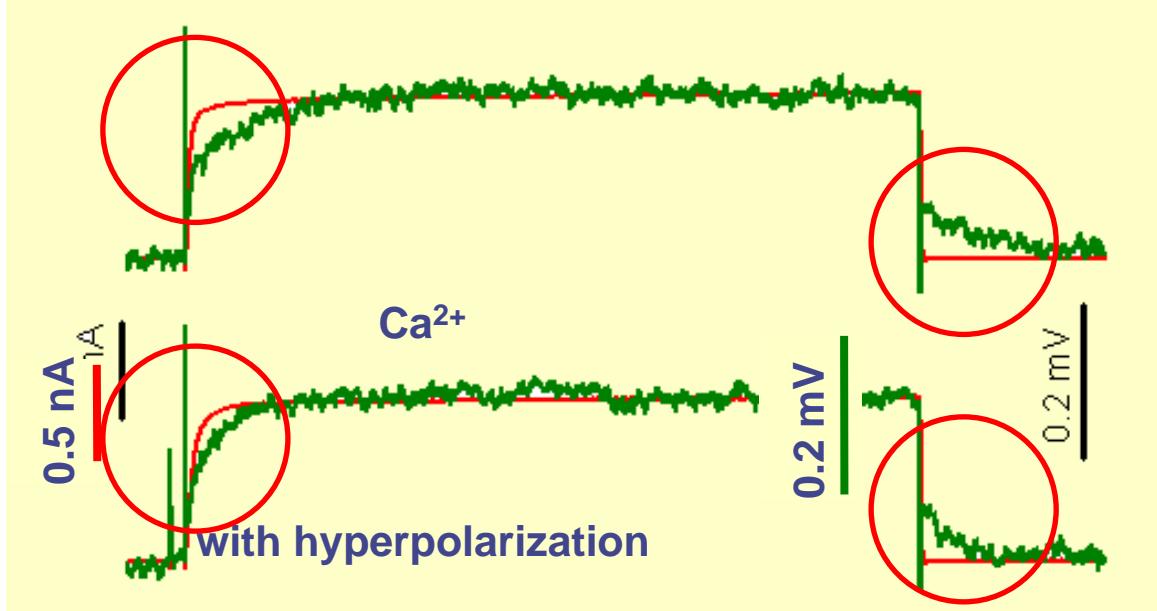
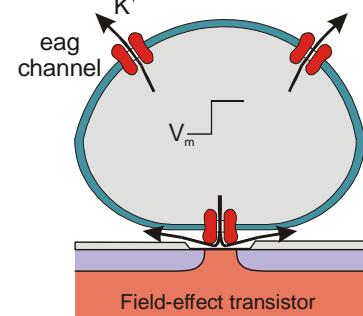
# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Comparison of whole-cell membrane current and p-channel FET signals

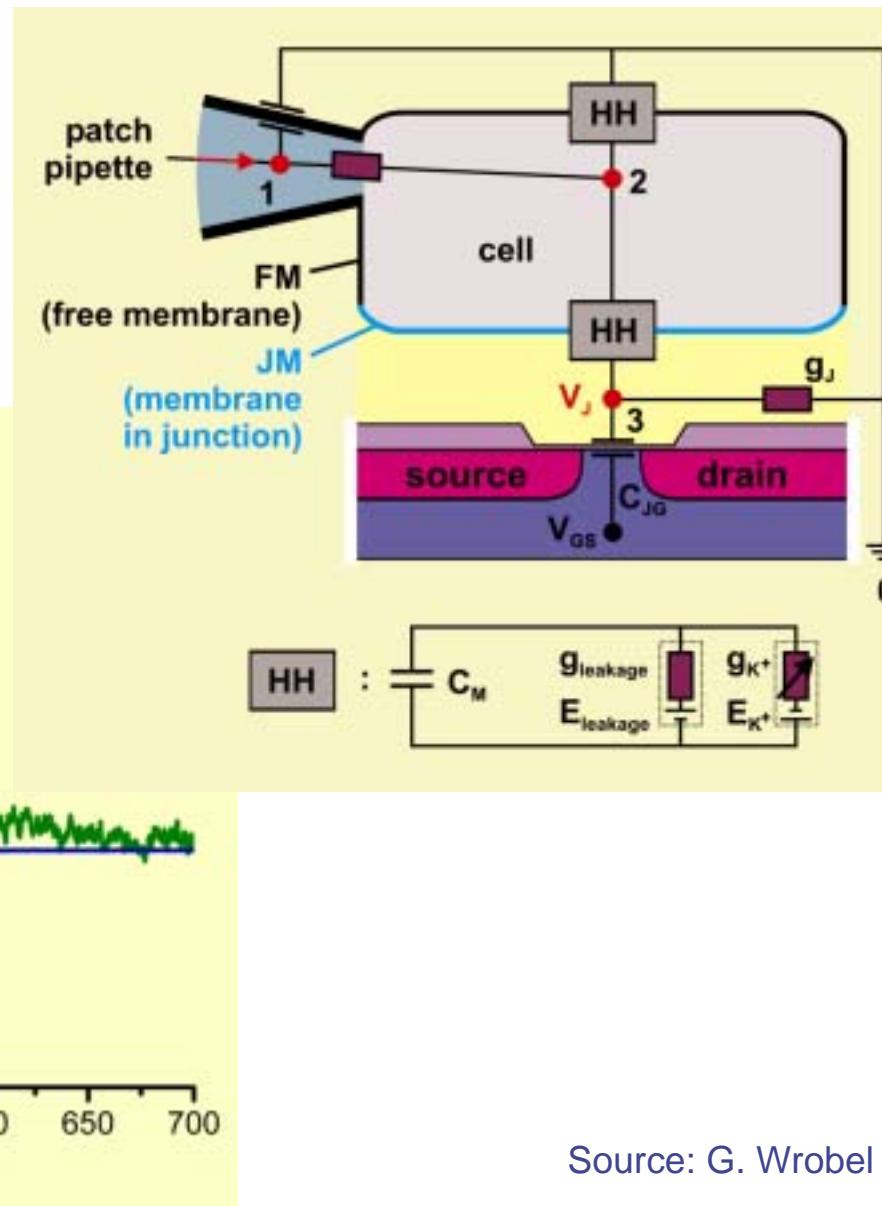
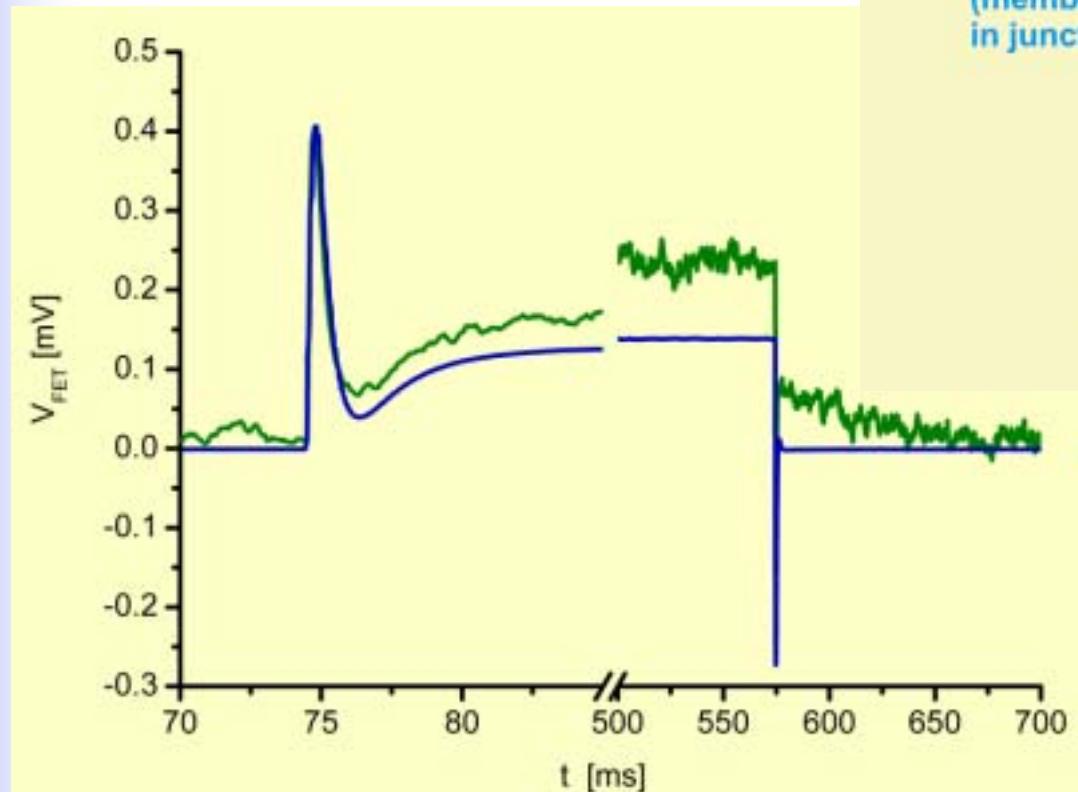


# Cell-transistor-hybrids

Time course of membrane current and  
FET signals (p-channel FET)

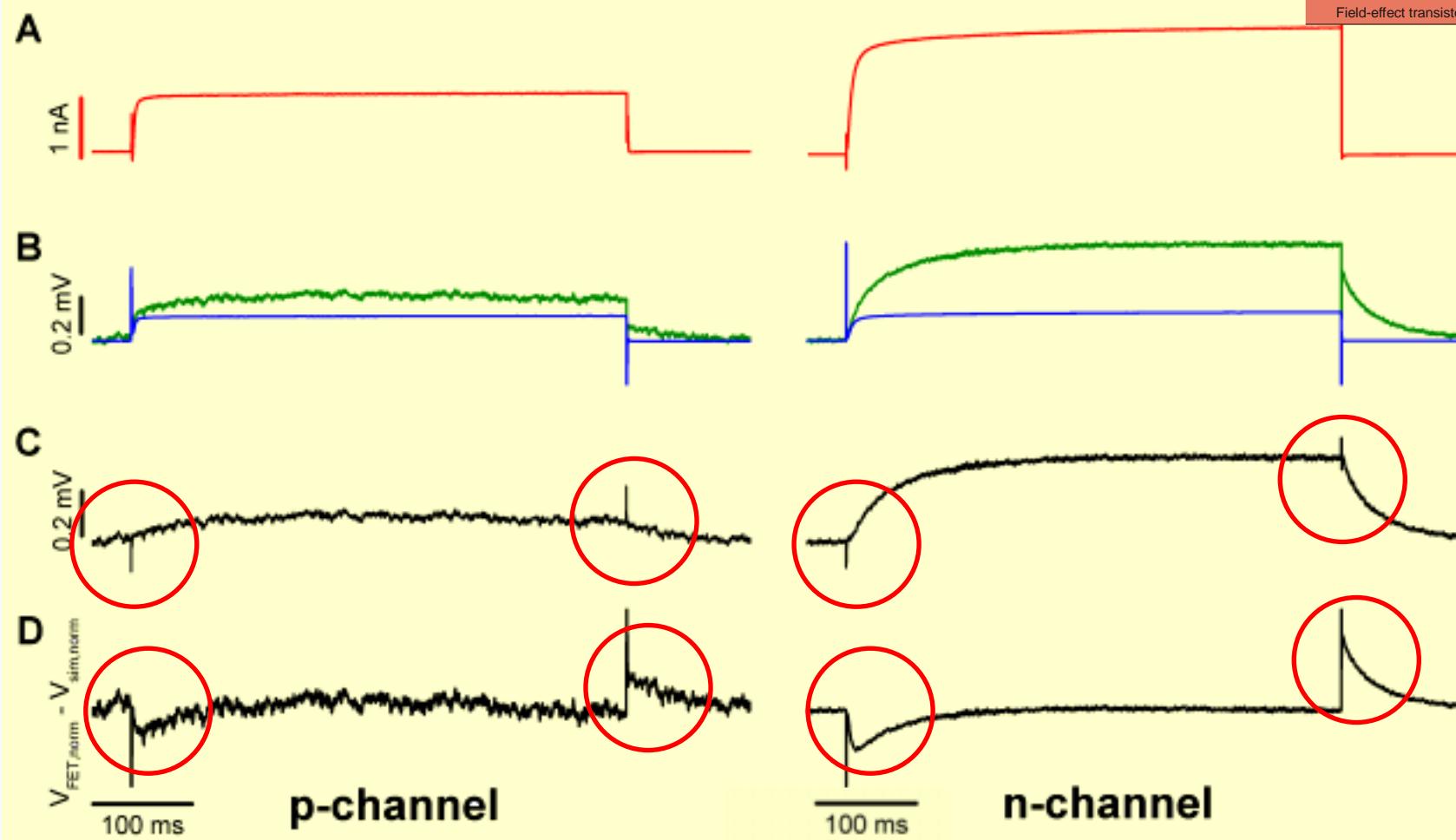
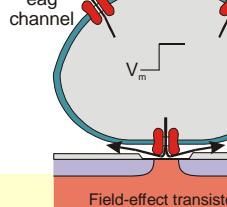


# Signal simulation- Point Contact Model

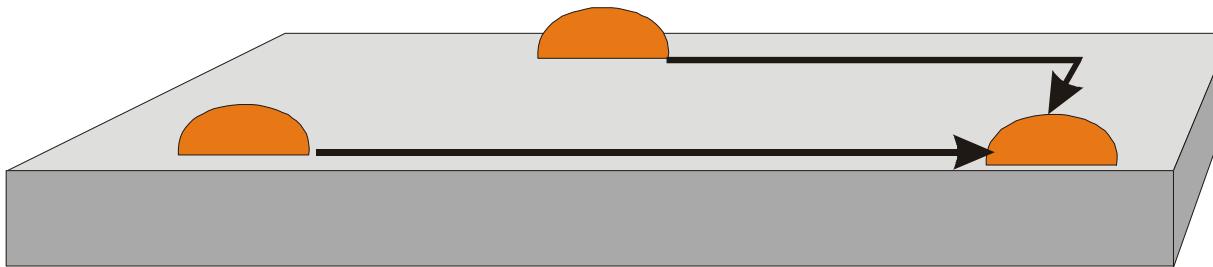


Source: G. Wrobel

# p- and n-channel devices



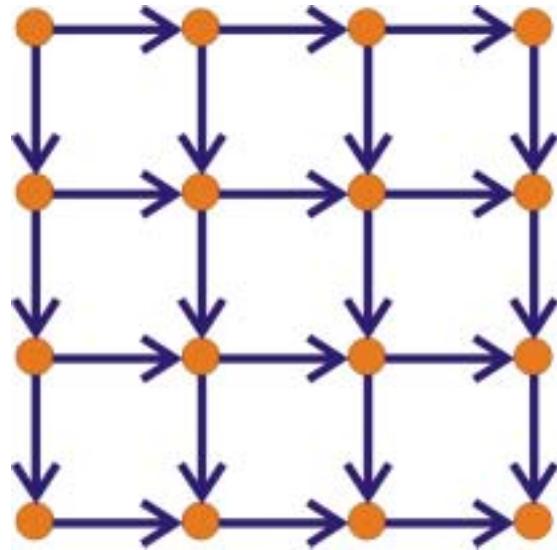
# Defined networks of neurons



- 1) To design and create in vitro neural circuits
- 2) To study of neural information processing and transfer

# Neuronal information processing

## Information processing and transfer:



### Goal:

To design and create in vitro neural circuits with which to further the study of neural information processing and transfer

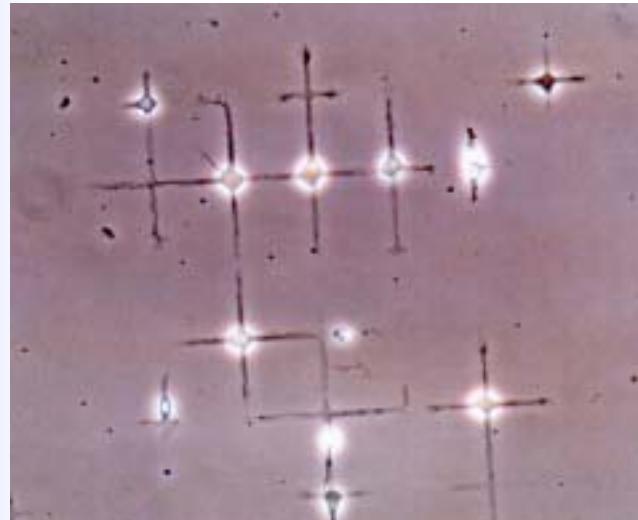
### Requirements:

#### Cellular Lithography:

- Patterned substrates
  - patterning the chemistry of substrates
  - growing cells in patterns
- Substrate topography
  - growing cells in patterns

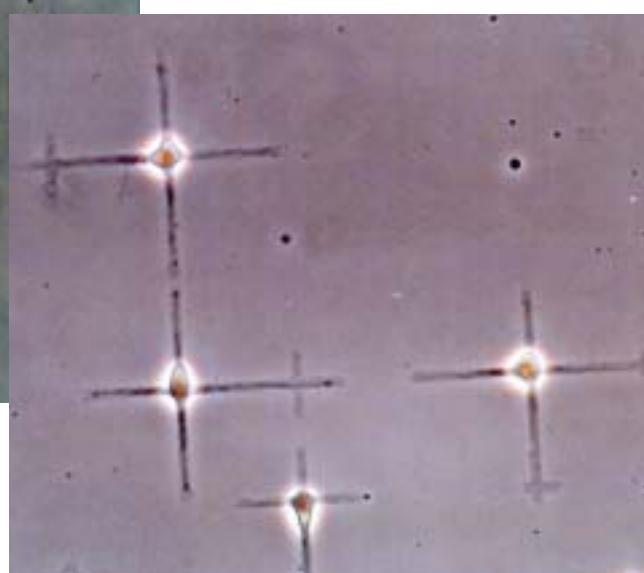
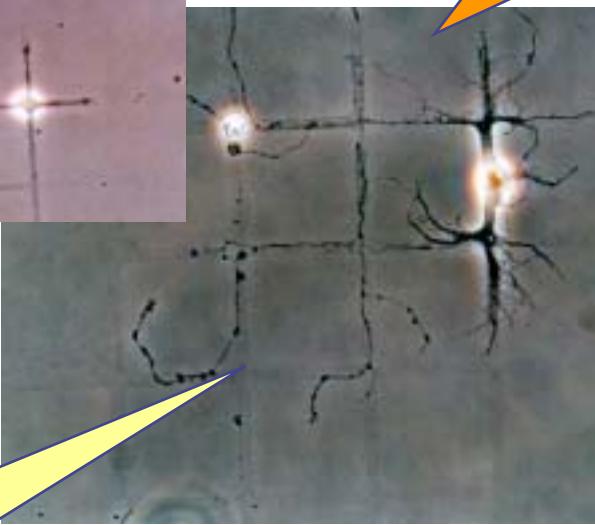
# Cell patterning

## Cellular lithography



Grid patterns of  
**cell friendly** material

Backgrounds of  
**cell repulsive** material

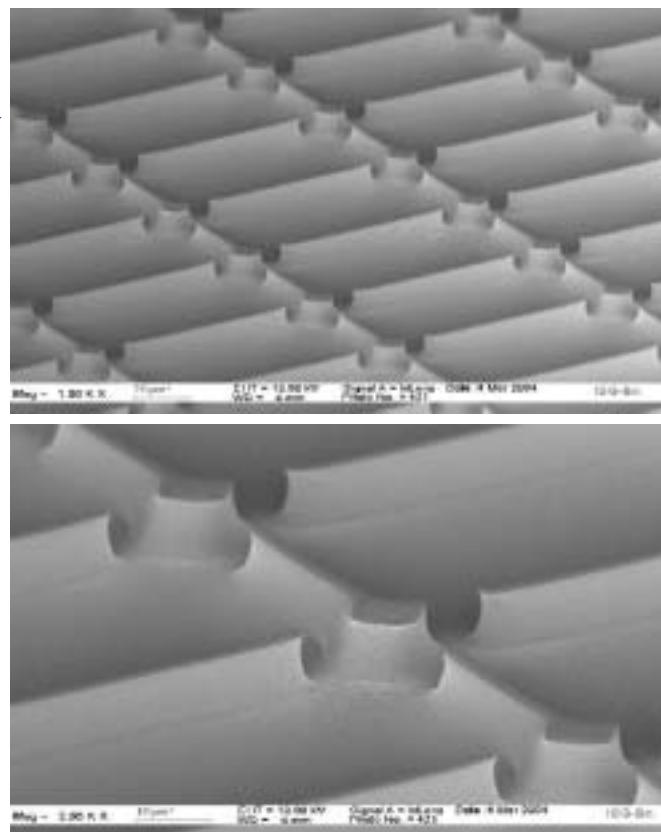
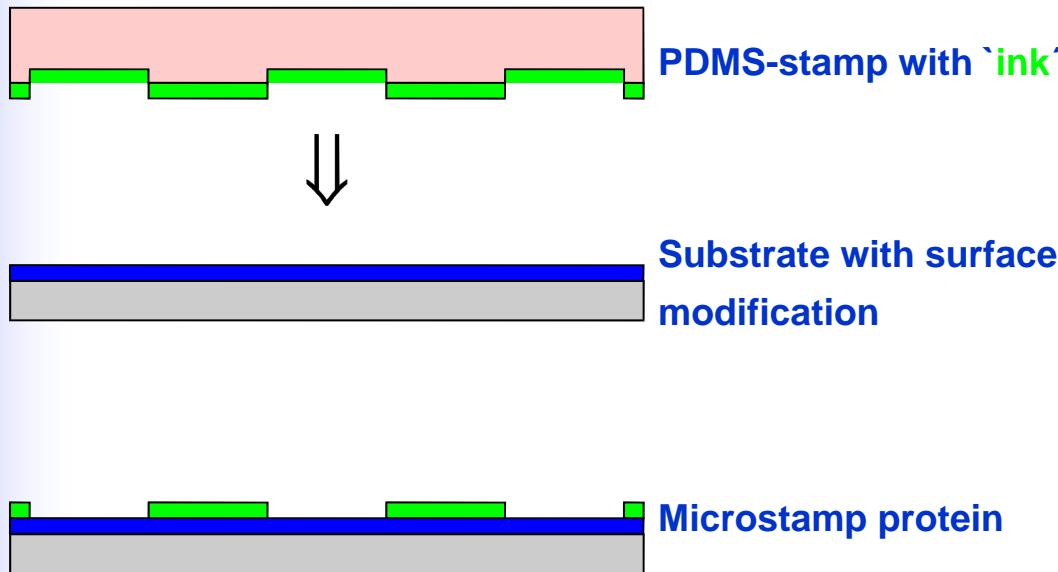


M. Scholl, et al, J. Neurosci. Meth. (2000) 104, 65-75

Neuro-iT Workshop - Bonn - June 22, 2004

# Microcontact Printing

## 'Soft' (biomolecular) lithography



Source: S. Schäfer, G. Wrobel

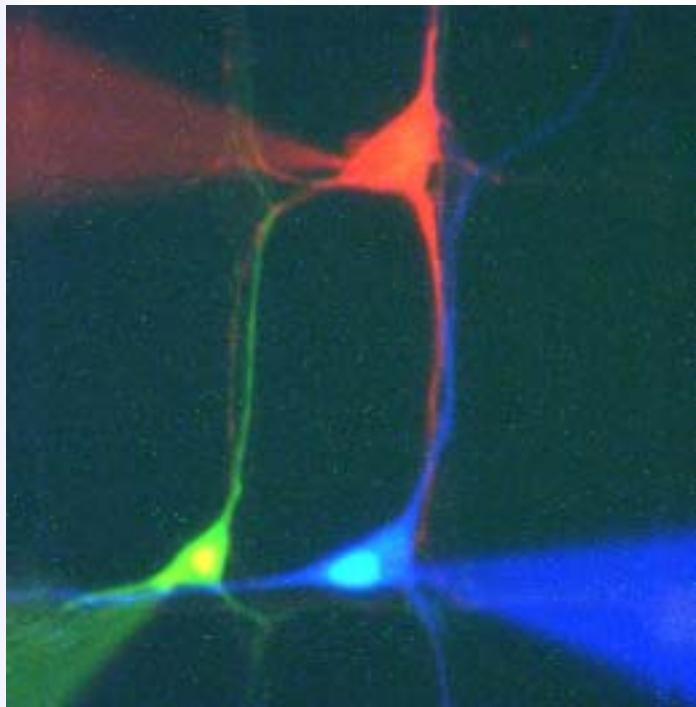
Stamp concept derived from the work of the Whitesides laboratory, e.g. Singhvi, R., Kumar, A., Lopez, GP, Stephanopoulos, GN, Wang, DIC, Whitesides, GM, and Ingber, DE (1994). Engineering cell shape and function Science 264, 696-698.

# Neuronal networks

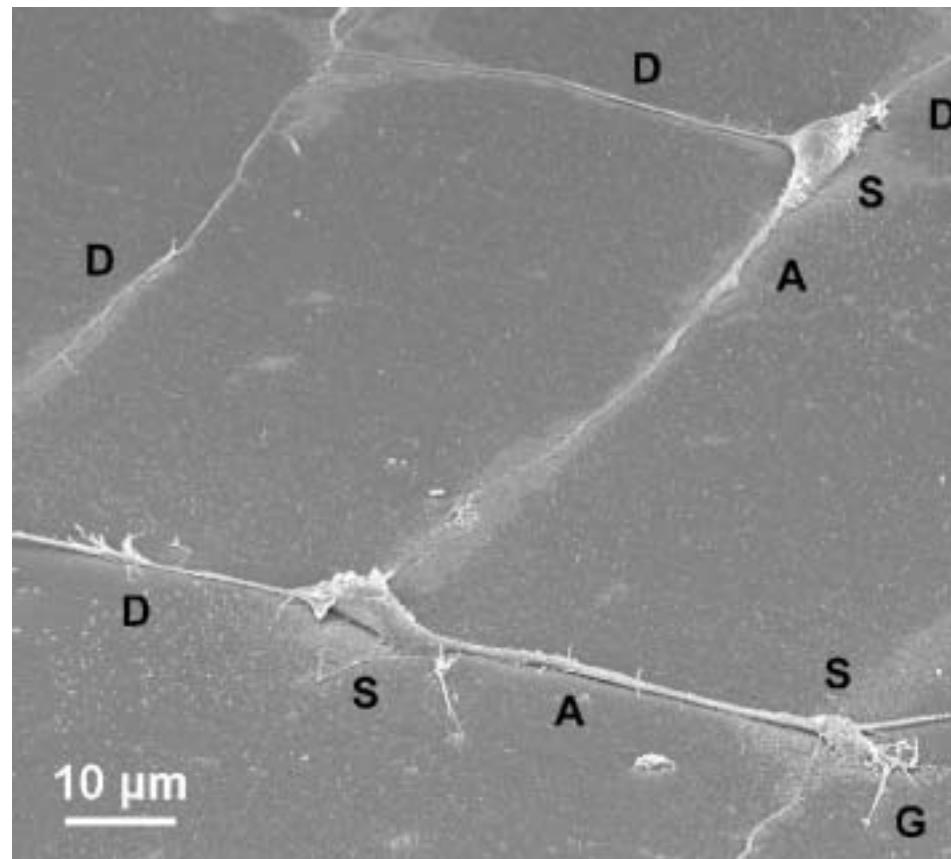
## Morphology

Polar tracers can be used to visualize cellular connections:

Sulforhodamine, Cascade Blue,  
Lucifer Yellow



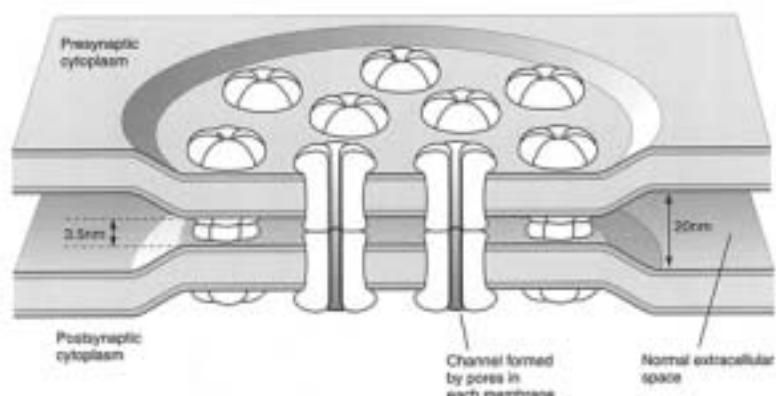
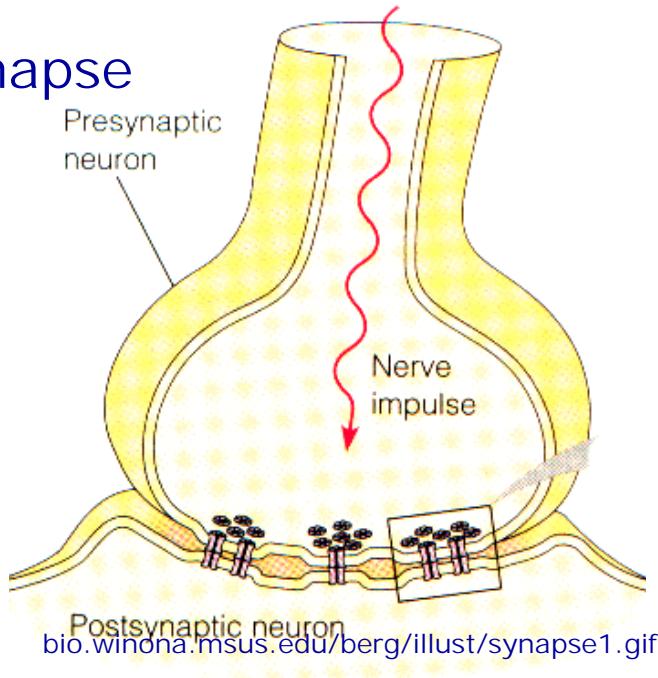
Combined fluorescent images of all three channels



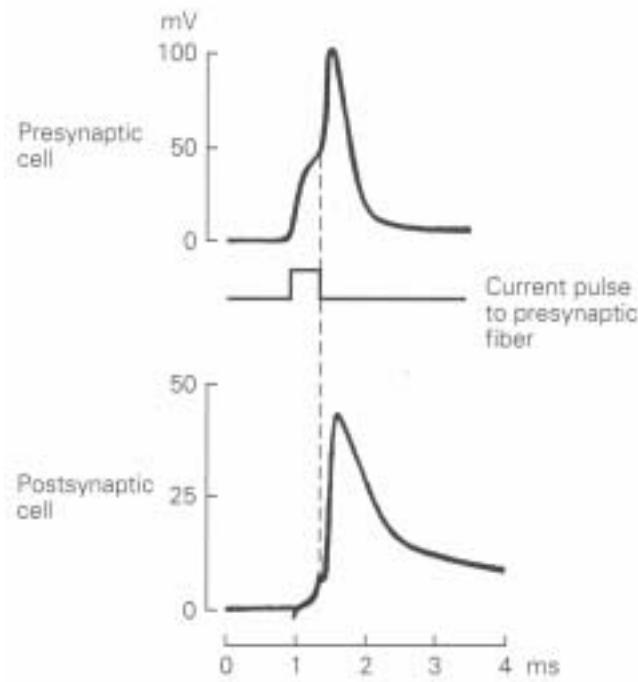
A. Vogt et al, (submitted)

# Synaptic transmission in networks of neurons

## Electrical synapse



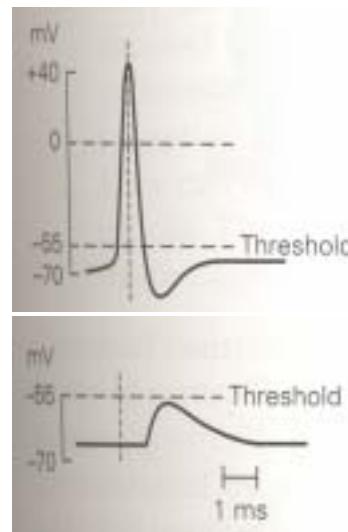
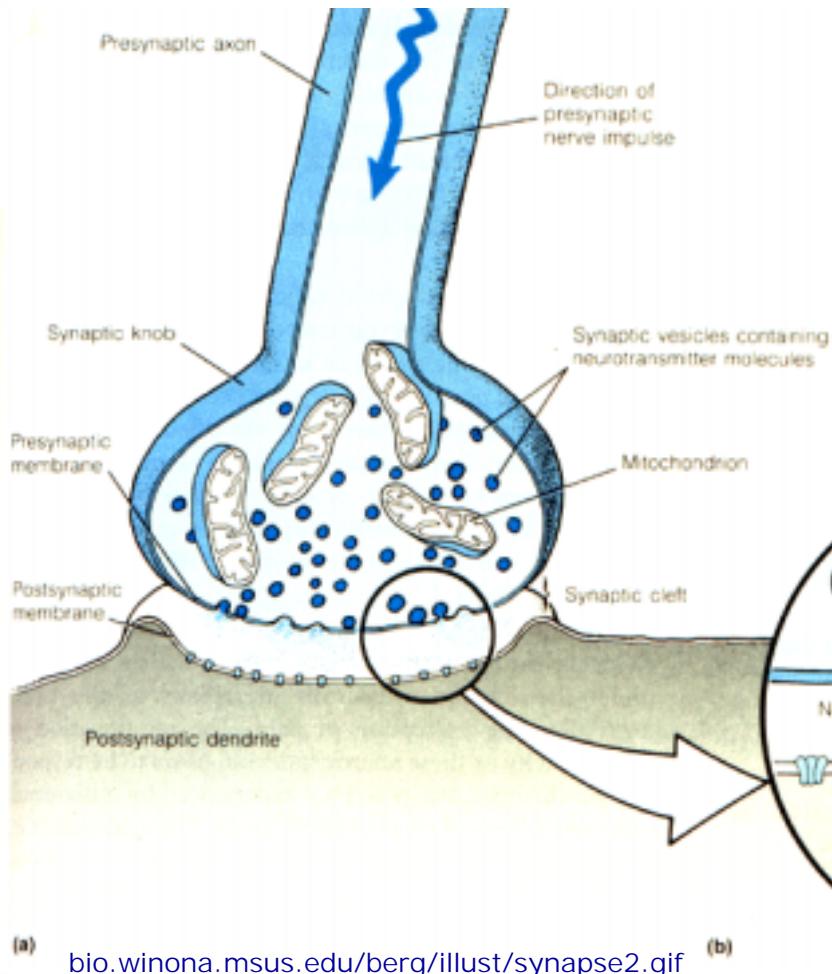
www.consciousness.arizona.edu/qantum/images/gap.jpg



Principals of Neural Science, Kandel et al, 2000

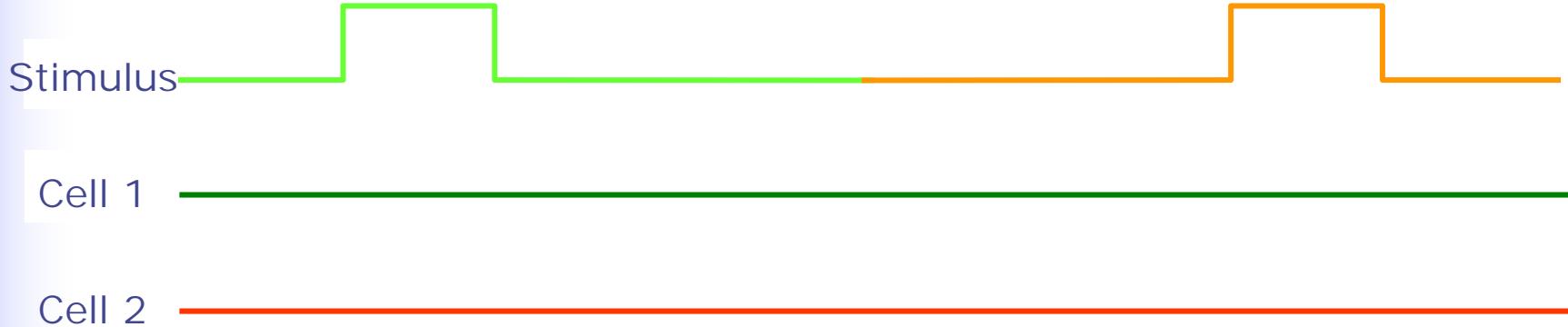
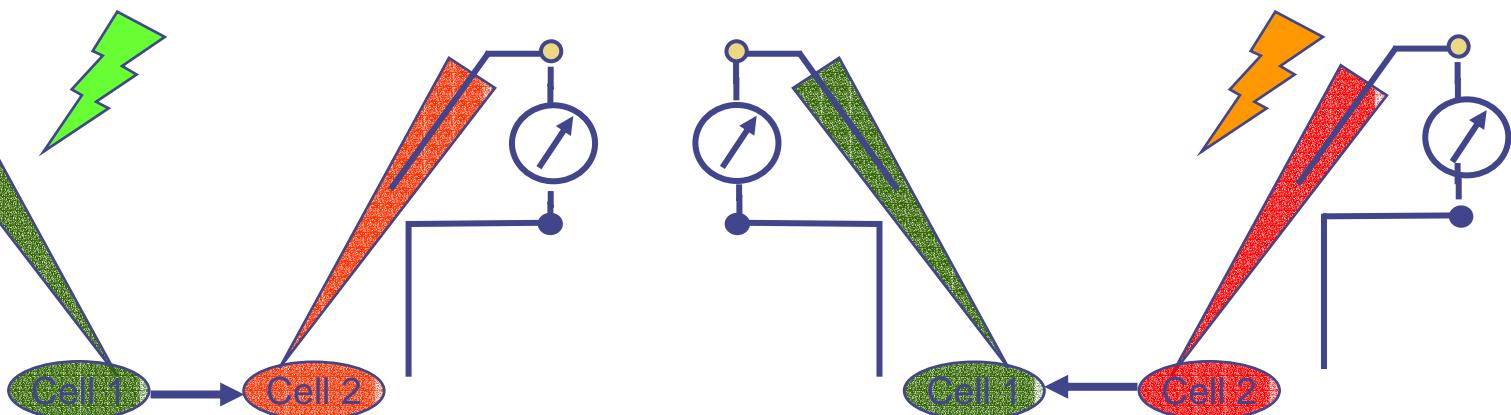
# Synaptic transmission in networks of neurons

## Chemical synapse

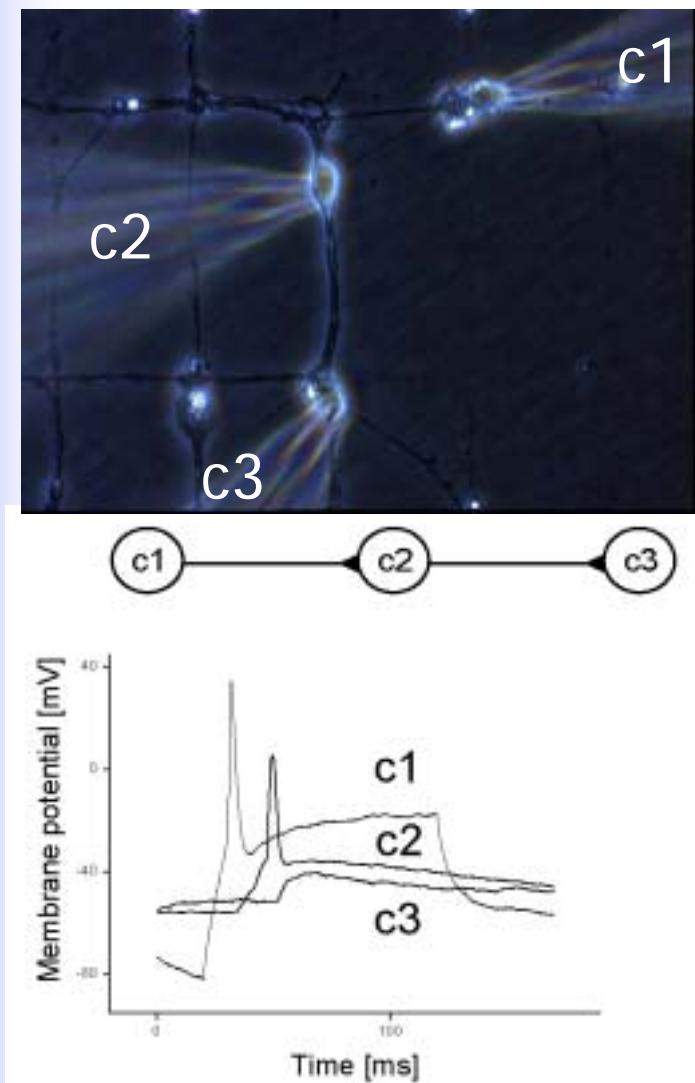


Principals of Neural Science, Kandel et al, 2000

# Experimental setup

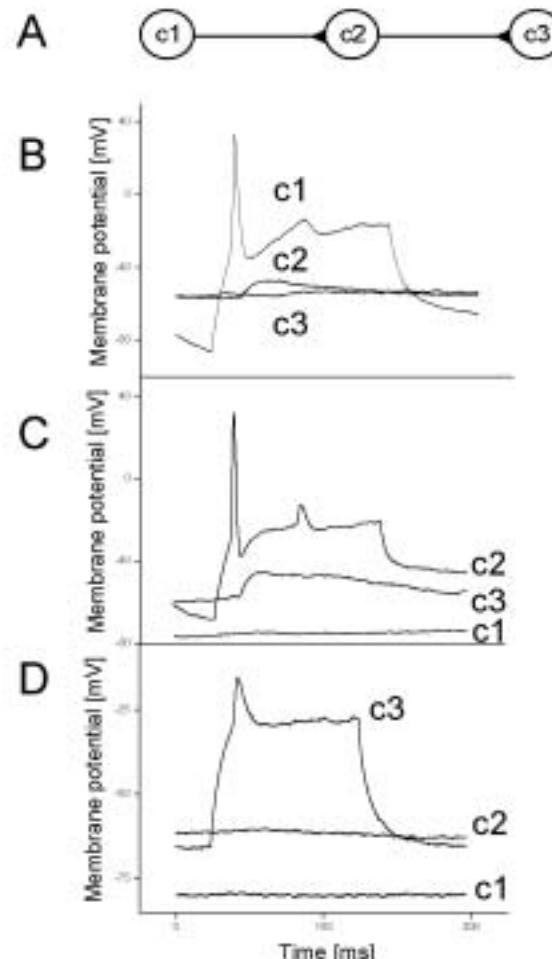


# Neuronal networks



## Chemical synapses

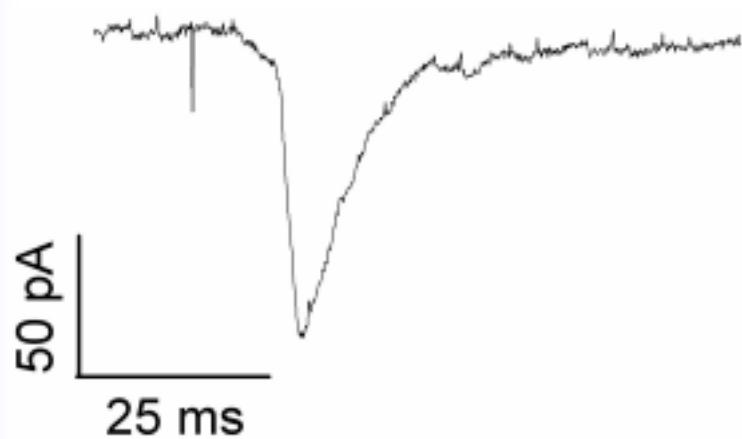
Cortical neurons on ECM-gel after 13 days in culture



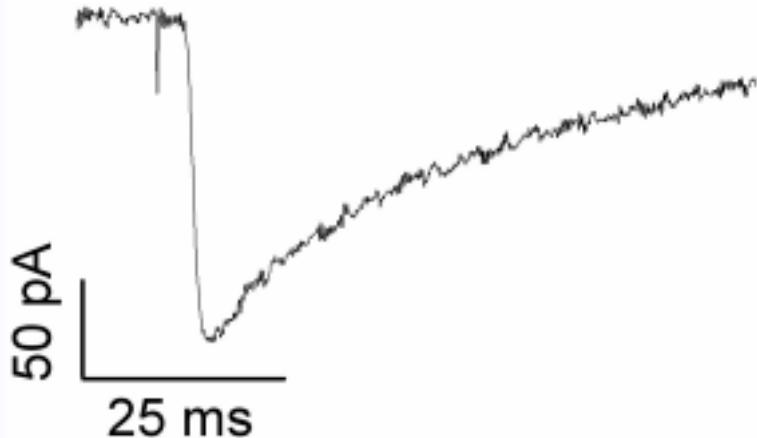
A. Vogt et al, Biotech. Progress (2003) 19, 1562-1568

# Synaptic plasticity in networks of neurons

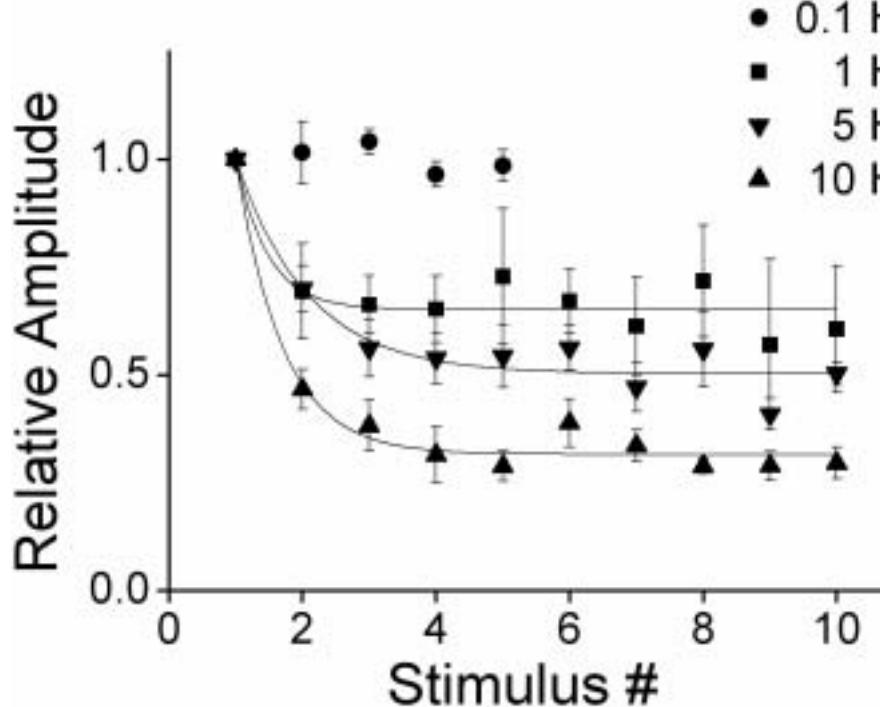
Excitatory synapses



Inhibitory synapses

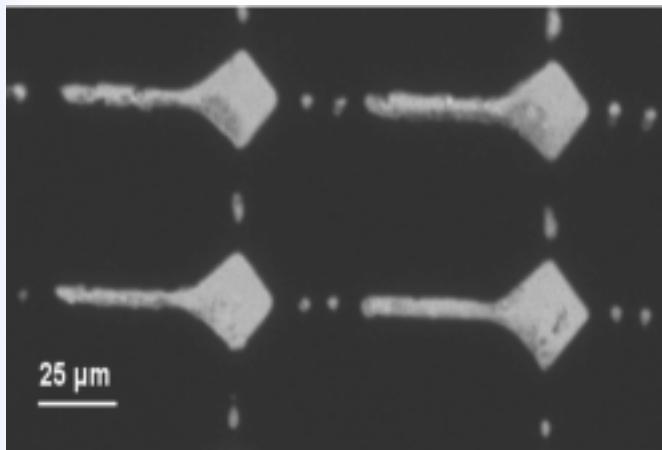


Inhibitory synapse challenged with presynaptic APs at different frequencies

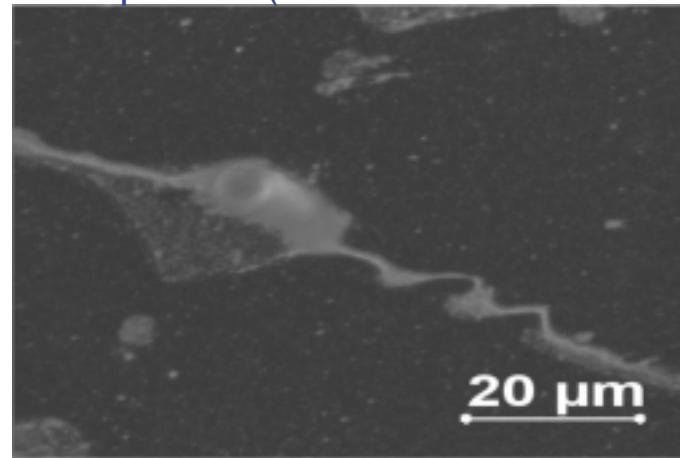


# Polarity in networks of neurons

Polarity inducing pattern (???)



Cortical neuron (12 DIV) on an interrupted micropattern (after mechanical stress)



	Gap size	Correctly oriented synapses [#]	Incorrectly oriented synapses [#]	Correctly oriented synapses [%]
A	1 μm	10	16	38.5
B	2 μm	3	5	37.5
C	5 μm	4	11	26.6
	Sum	17	32	35

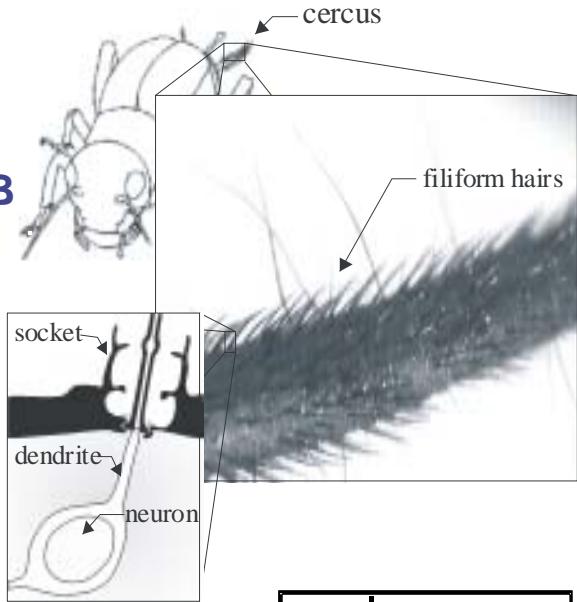
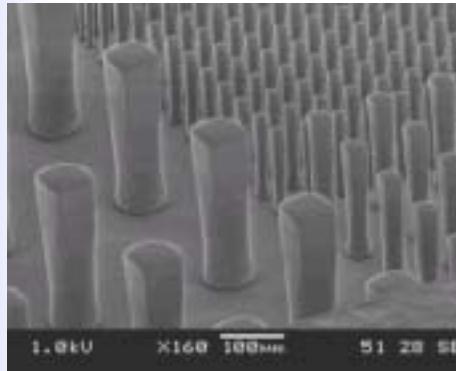
A. Vogt et al, J. Neurosci. Meth. 134 (2004) 191-19

# CICADA:

Wind-evoked escape reaction of crickets

University of Tours, F

University of Reading, GB

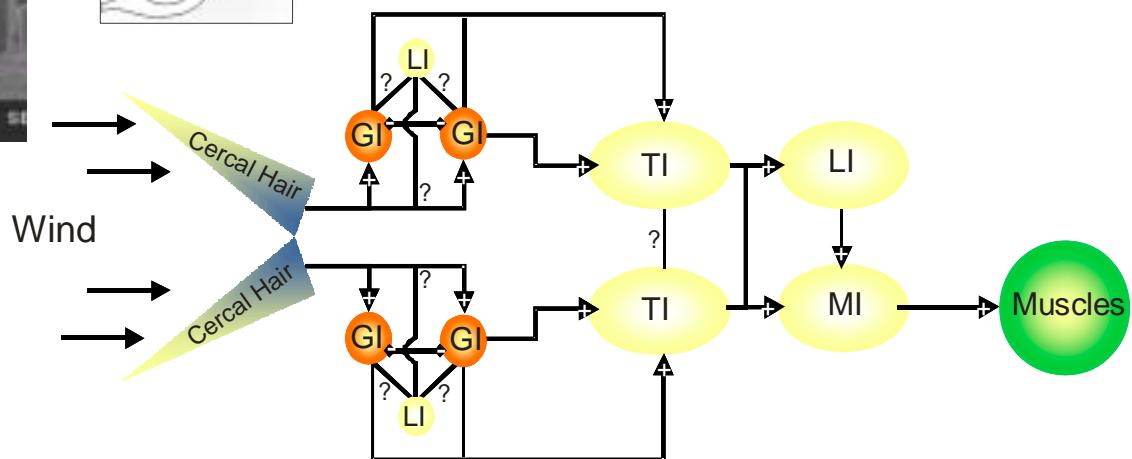


University of Twente, NL

Forschungszentrum  
Jülich, D



*Gryllus bimaculatus*

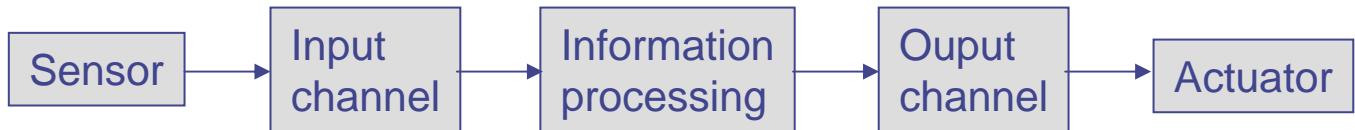
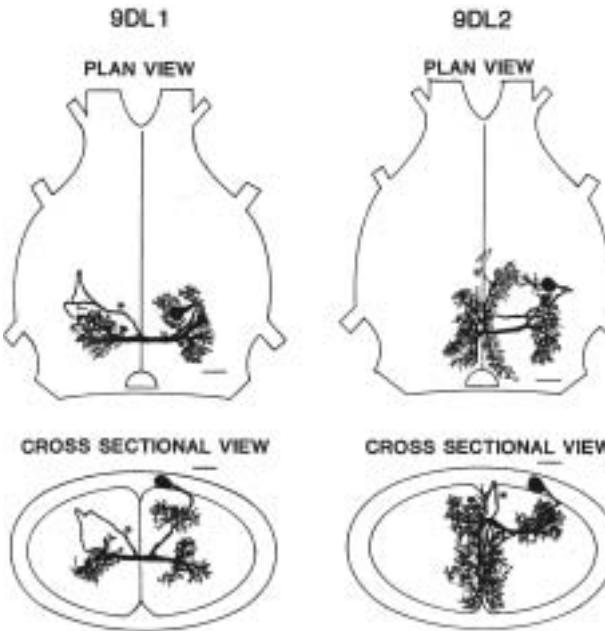
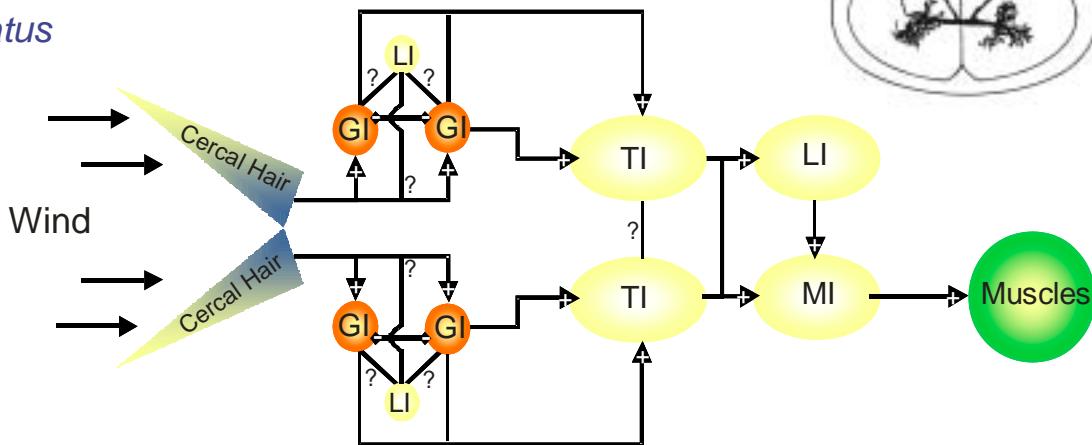


# Neuronal information processing

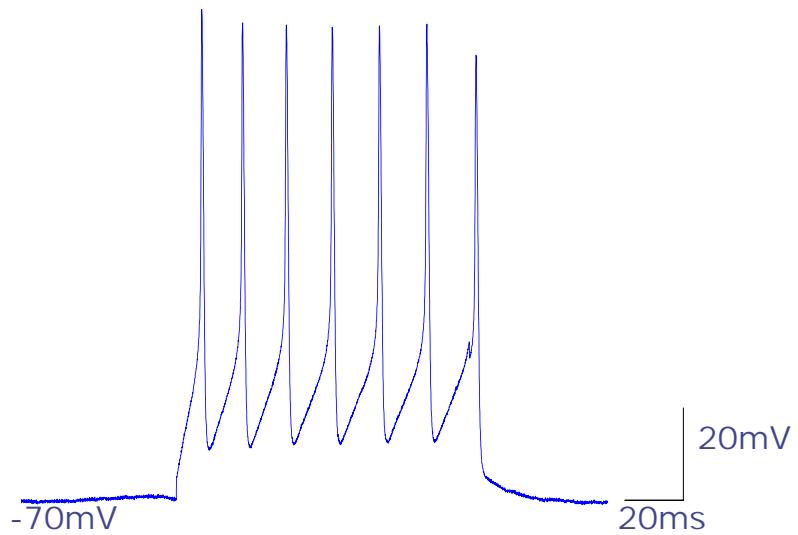
## Neuronal circuits of insects



*Gryllus bimaculatus*

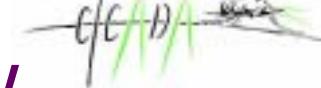


# Electrophysiology – single insect cell

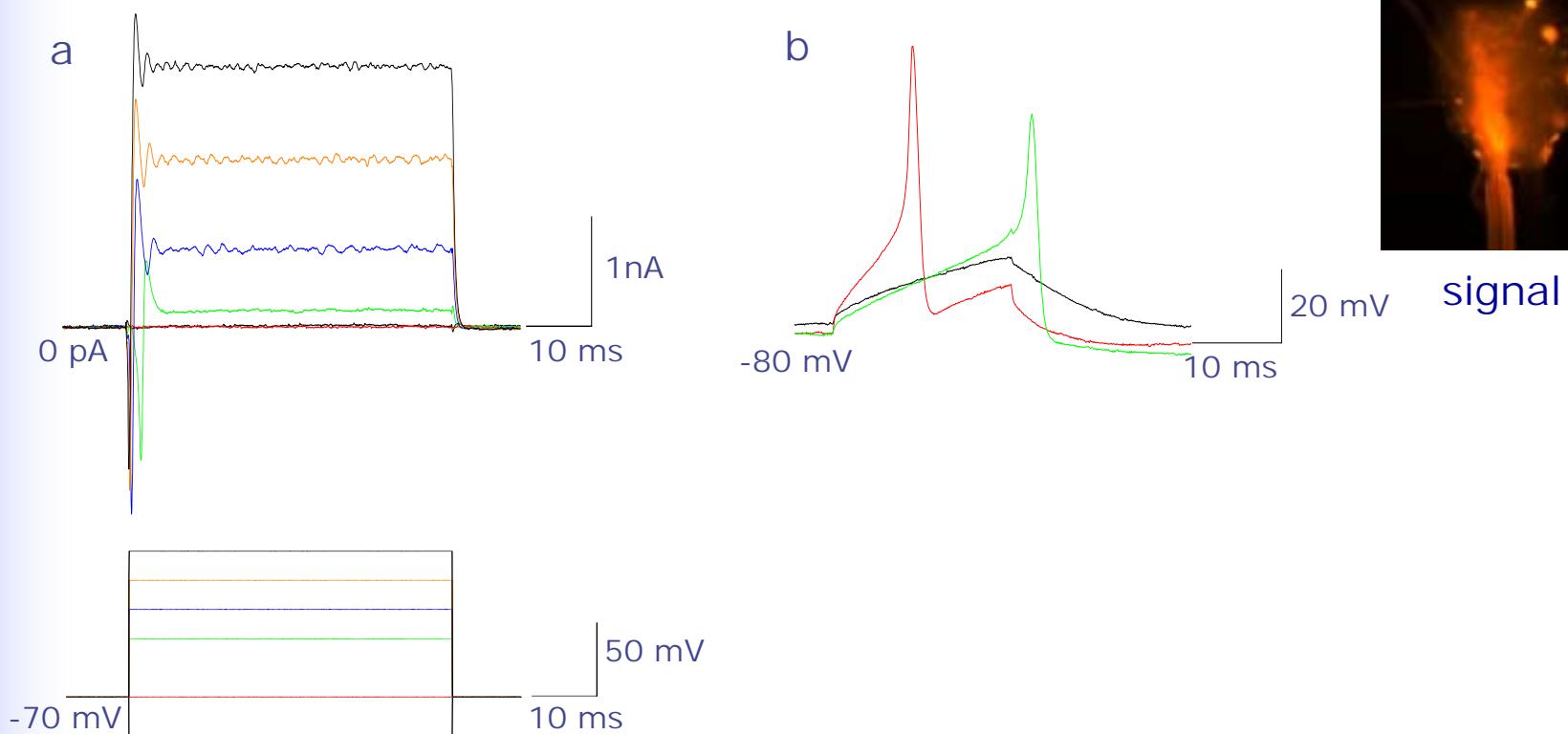


Source: P. Schulte, S. Weigel

Patch clamp recordings of a cricket neuron after 3 days in culture.  
Current clamp mode. ( $v_{mem}$ : -57mV)



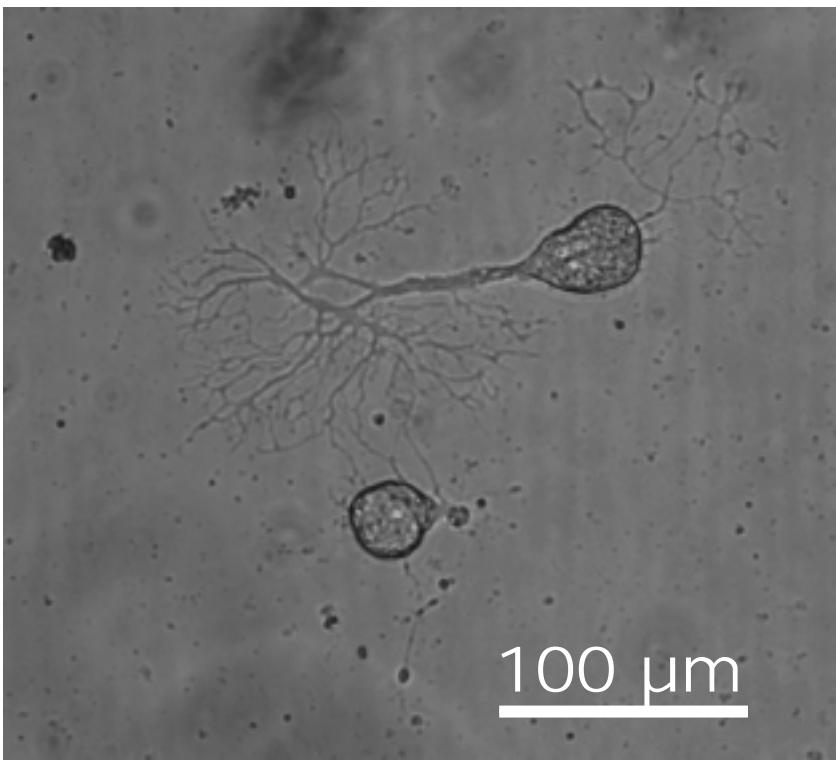
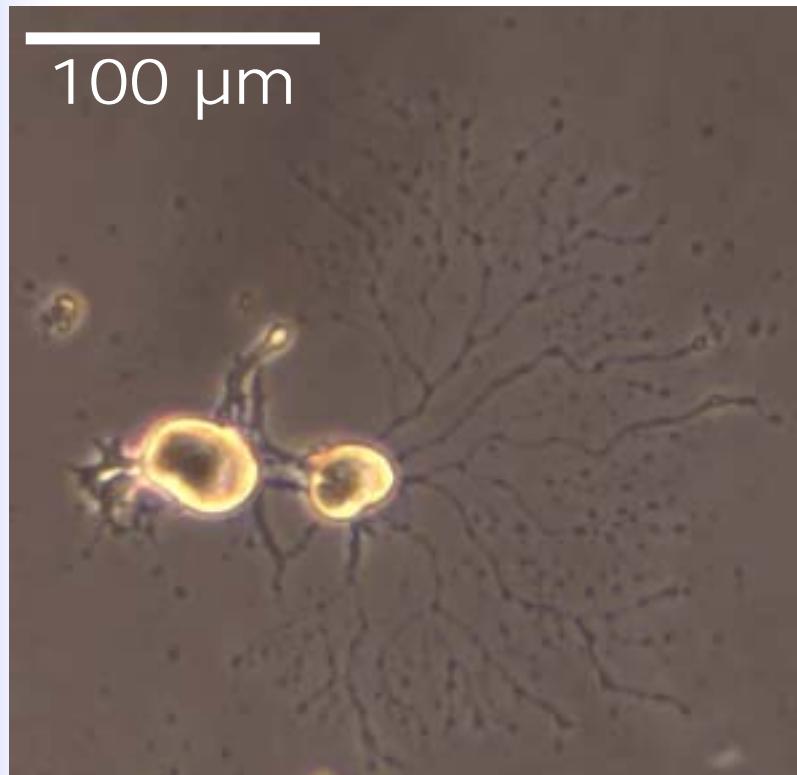
# Backfill staining and electrophysiology



Source: P. Schulte, S. Weigel

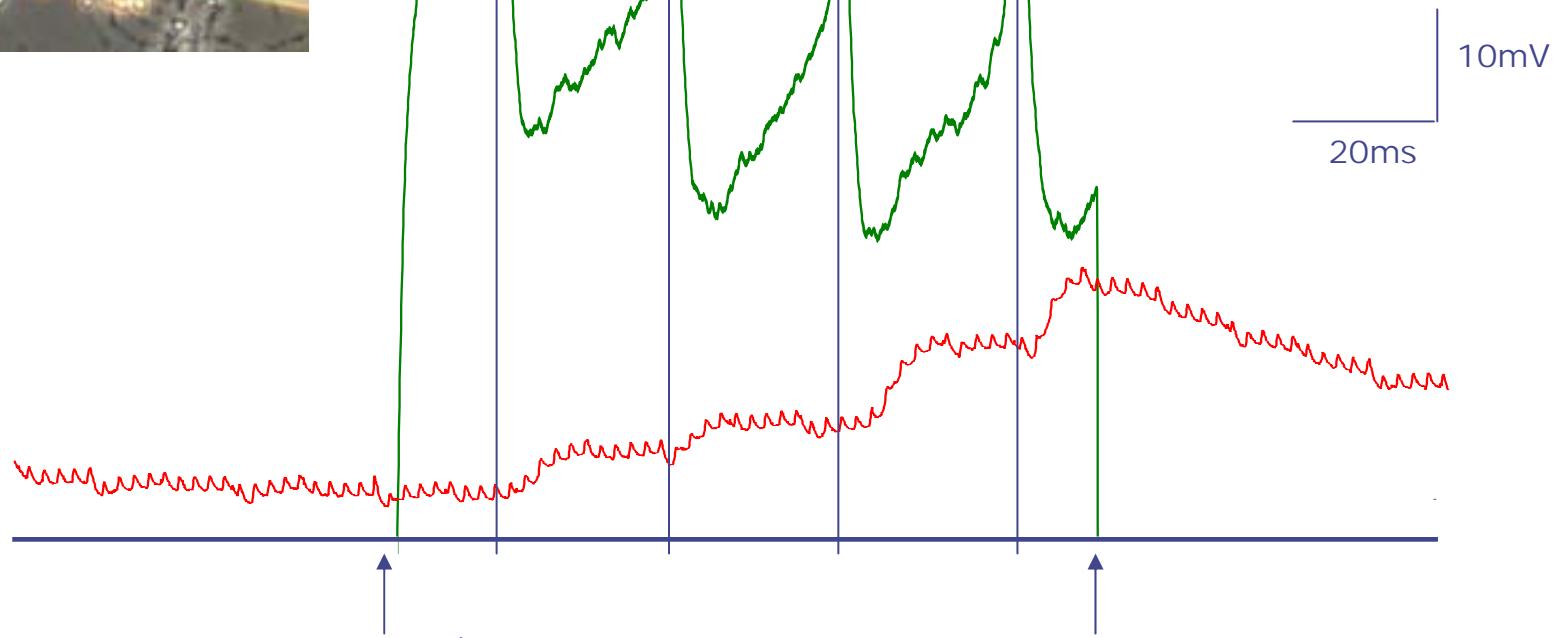
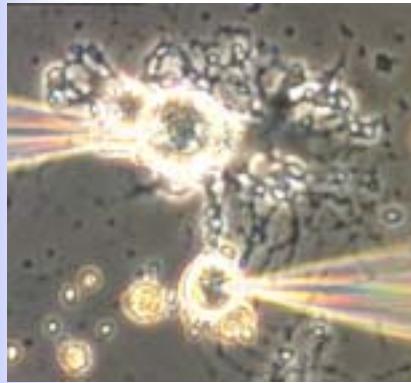
Patch clamp recording of a stained cricket neuron after 3 days in culture.  
a: voltage clamp mode; b: current clamp mode. ( $v_{mem}$ : -58mV)

# Outlook: neuronal circuits in insects



Source: P. Schulte, S. Weigel

# Electrophysiology of neuronal networks

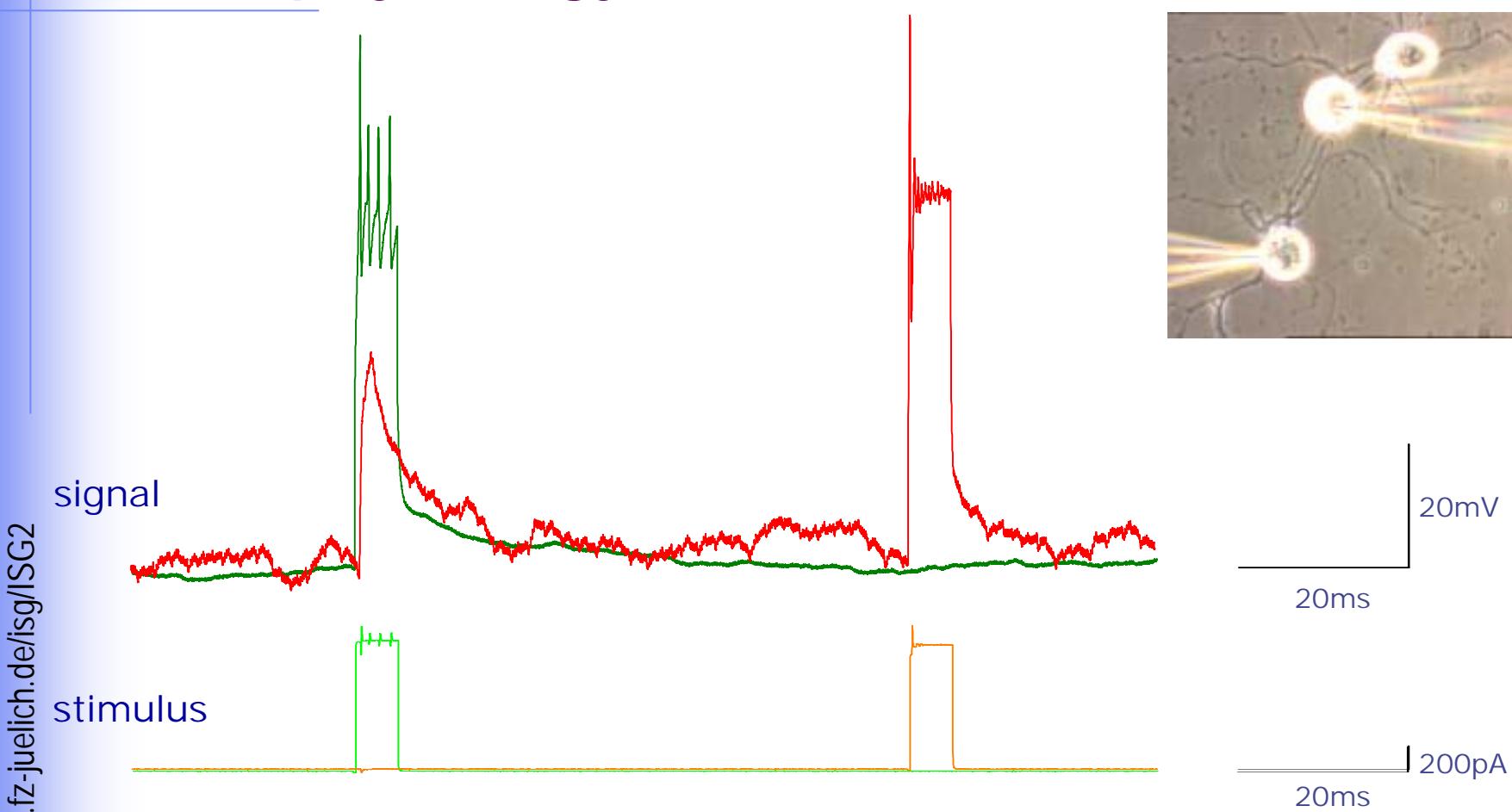
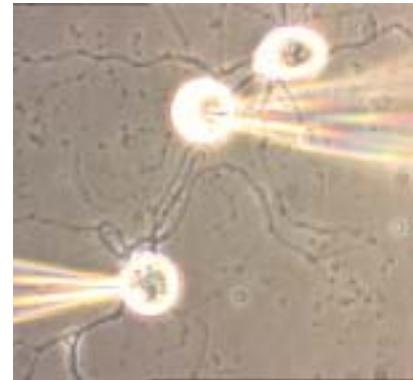


Patch clamp recording (current clamp of simple network of 2 locust neurons after 8 days in culture. (cell1:  $v_{mem}$  -42mV; cell2:  $v_{mem}$  -35mV)

Source: P. Schulte, S. Weig

# Electrophysiology of neuronal networks

C/C/D



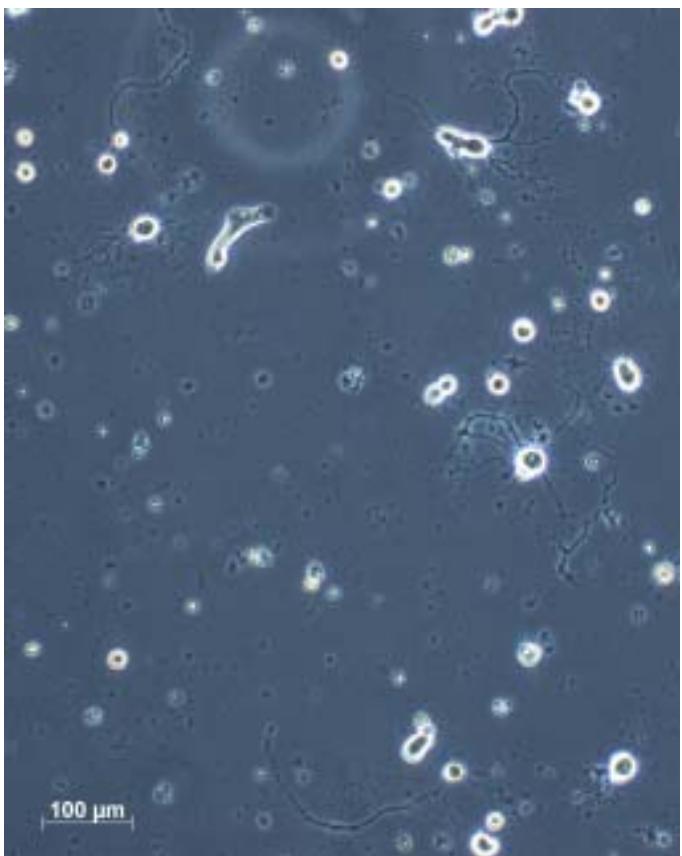
Patch clamp recording (current clamp) of simple network of cricket neurons after 8 days in culture. (cell1:  $v_{mem}$  -42mV; cell1:  $v_{mem}$  -35mV)

Source: P. Schulte, S. Weigel

# Searching cell repulsive substrate



Cricket neurons plated on PEG-coated surface after 6 days in cell culture. None of the plated neurons adhered. PEG provided by the group of Prof. Spatz, Heidelberg.

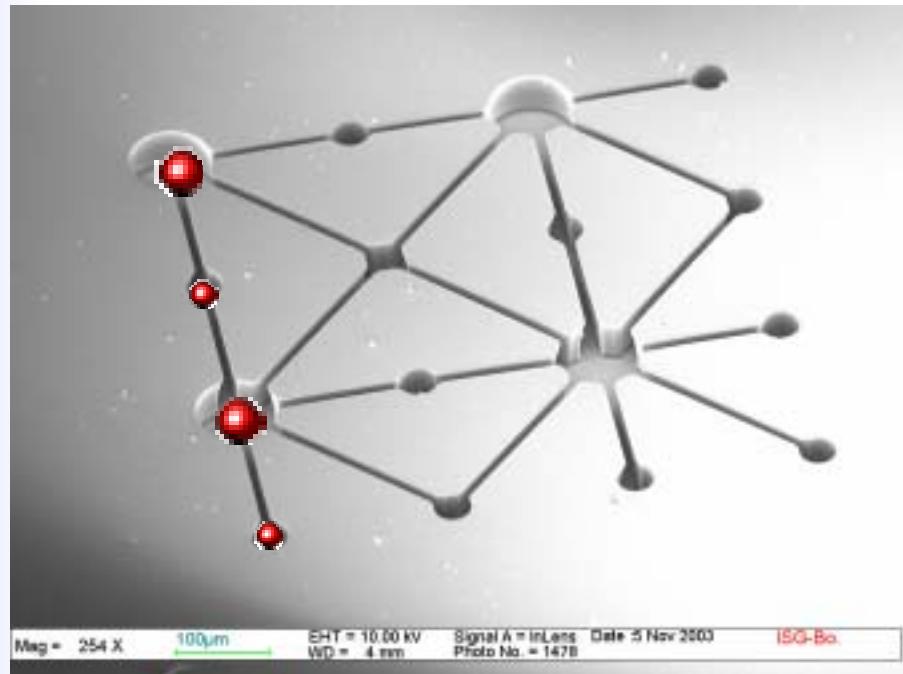


Cricket neurons on glass after 6 days in cell culture (control).

Source: P. Schulte

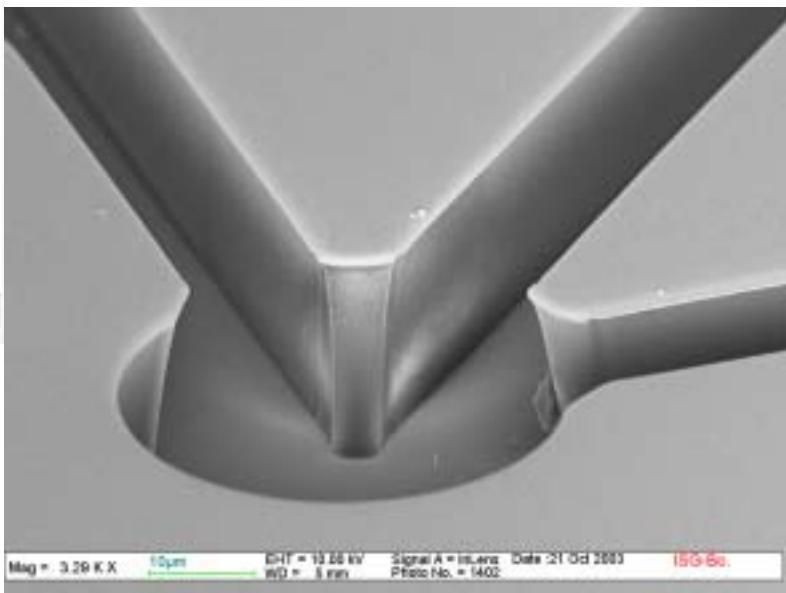
# Defined neuronal circuits in insects

Microchannels for the guidance of cell outgrowth  
Positioning of single (identified) neurons into the holes



SU-8 structure

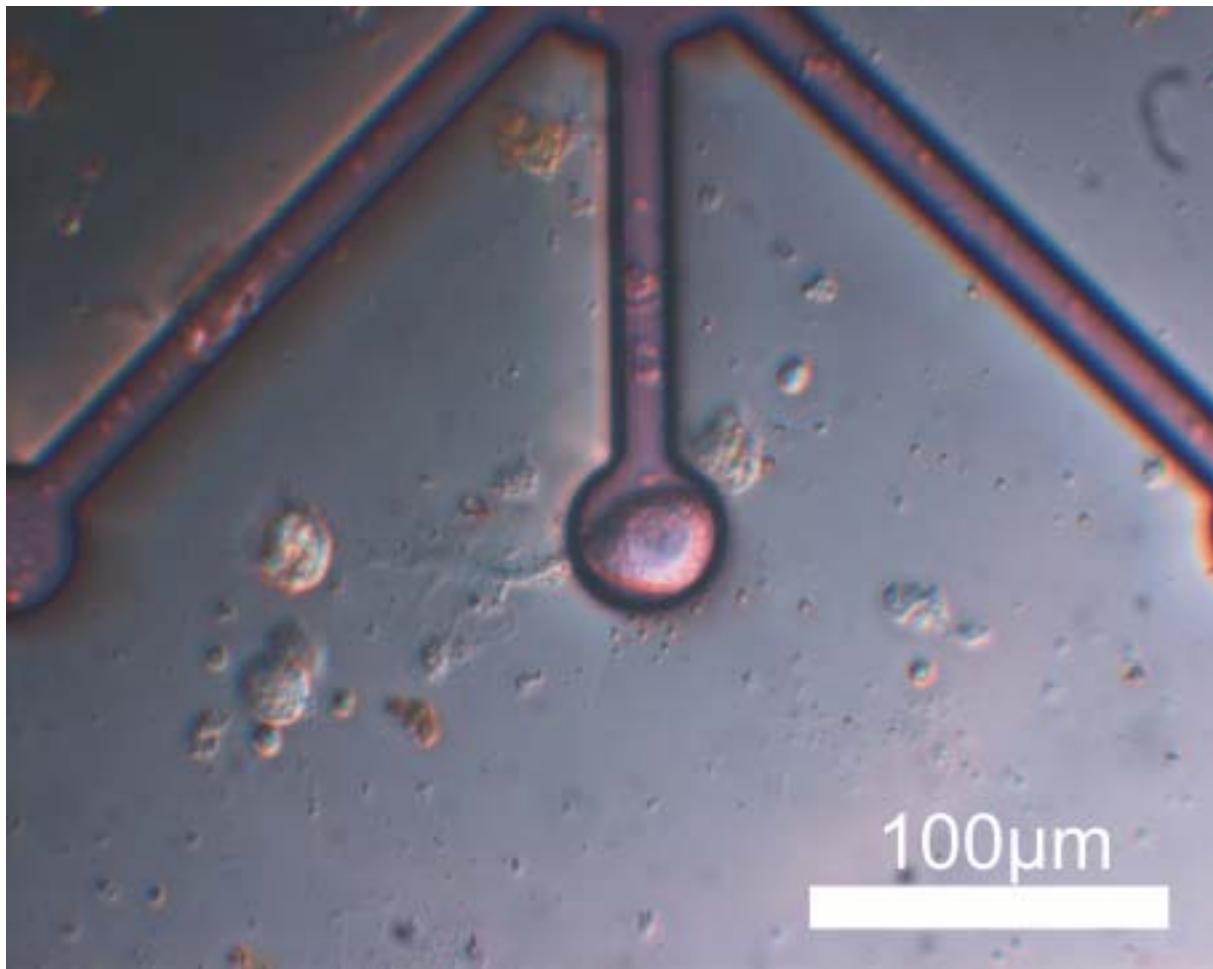
Concept derived from the work of the Fromherz and the Fujita laboratory e.g. Griscom, L.; Degenaar, P.; LePlioufle, B.; Tamiya, E.; Fujita, H. *Jpn. J. Appl. Phys.* 2001, 40, 5485-5490; Merz, M.; Fromherz, P. *Adv. Mater.* 2002, 14, 141.



Source: A. Reska, Y. Mourzina, R. Stockmann

# Defined neuronal circuits in insects

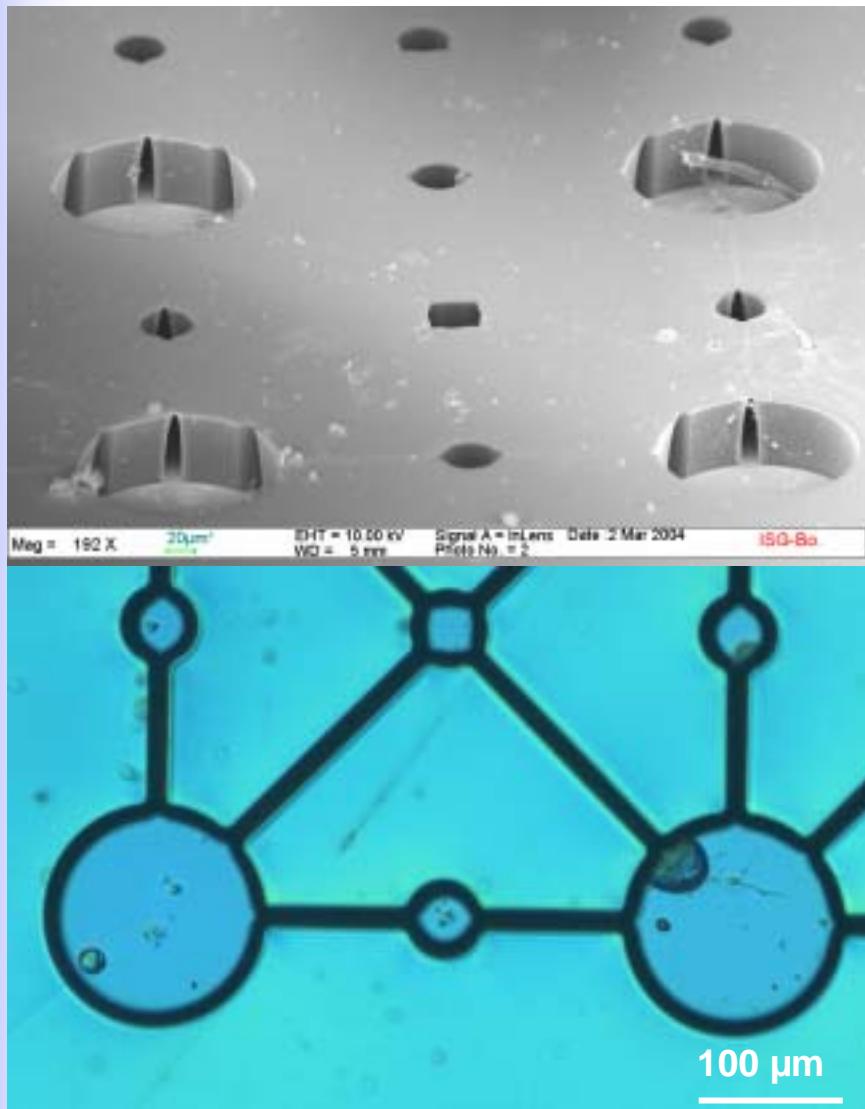
## Network formation



Source: A. Resk

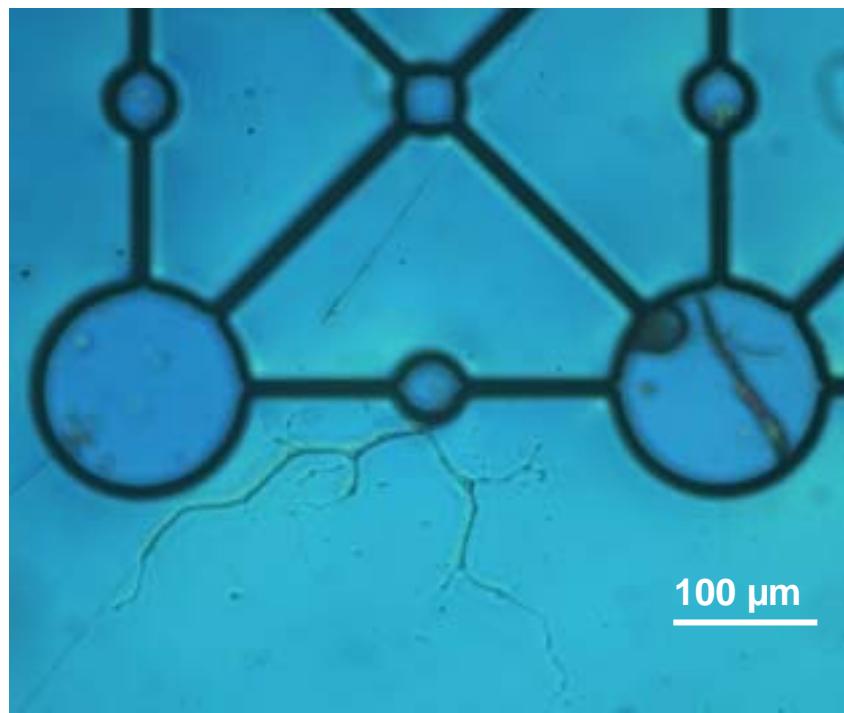
Neuron on a concanavalin A coated SU-8 structure after 5 days in culture

# Defined neuronal circuits in insects



Cell cultured for 4 days

Towards network formation

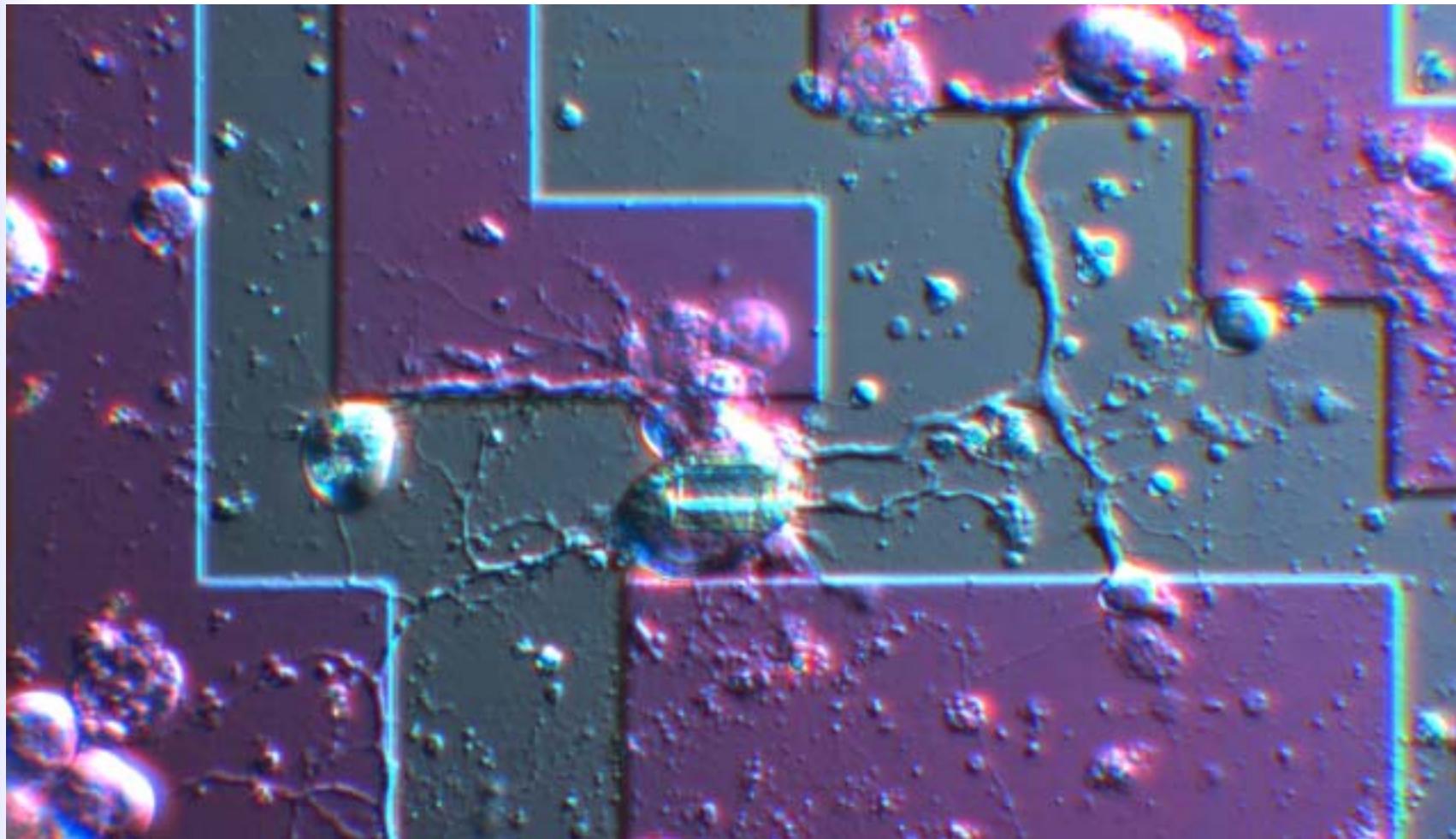


Cell cultured for 8 days

Source: A. Resk

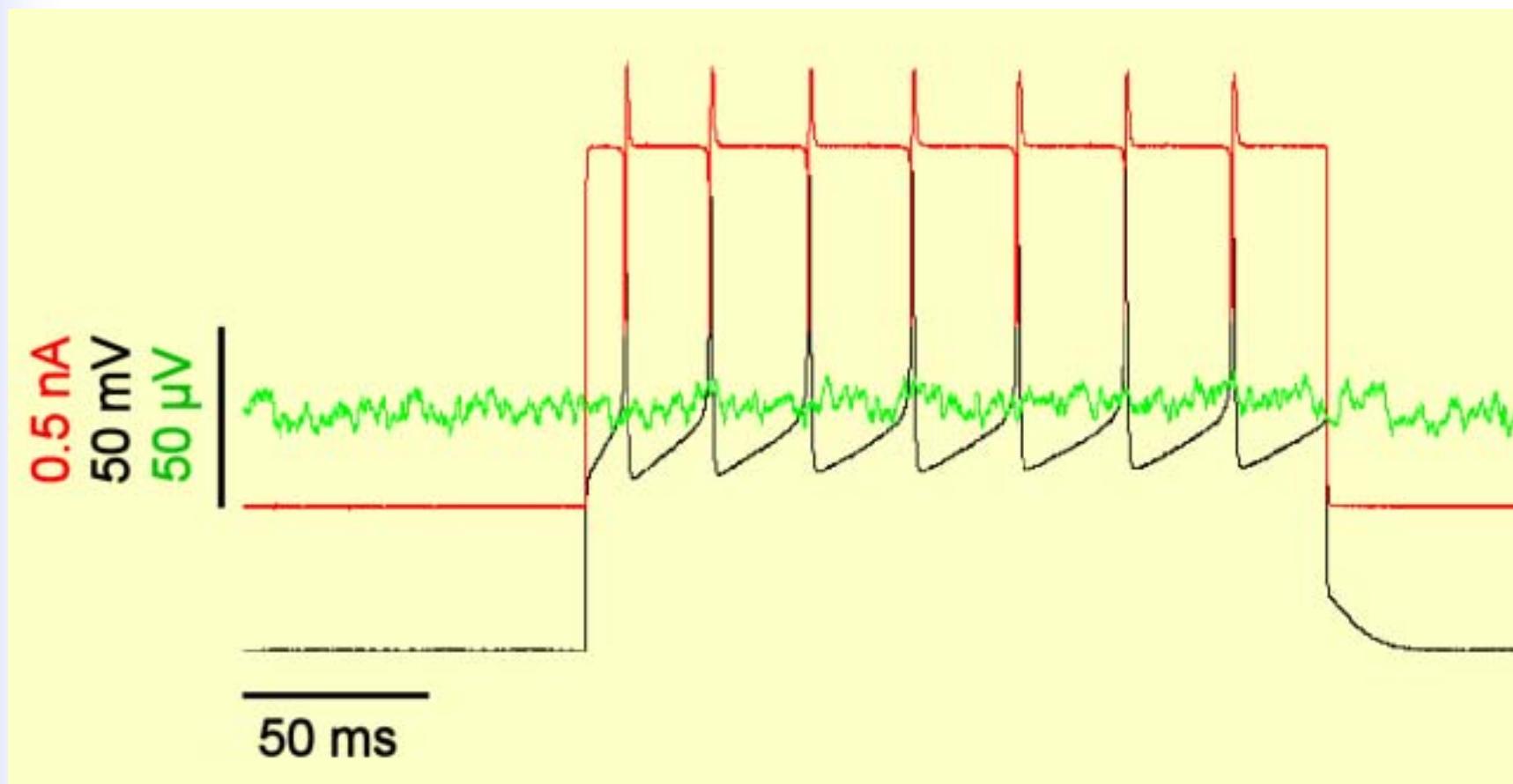
# Extracellular signal recordings

Cricket neuron on FET



# Extracellular signal recordings

Extracellular recordings of insect neurons with FETs

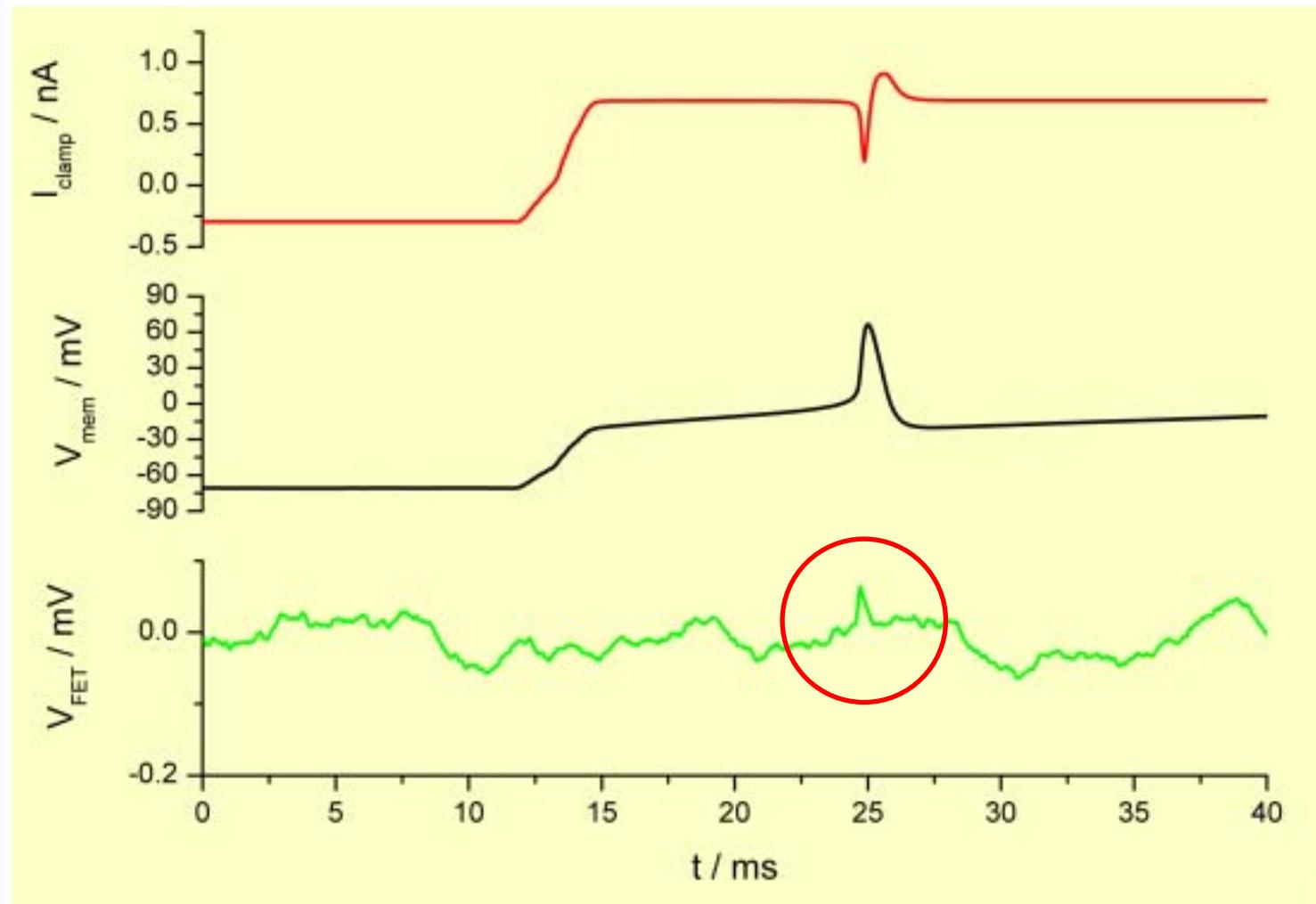


action potentials of Locust cell (cc-mode)

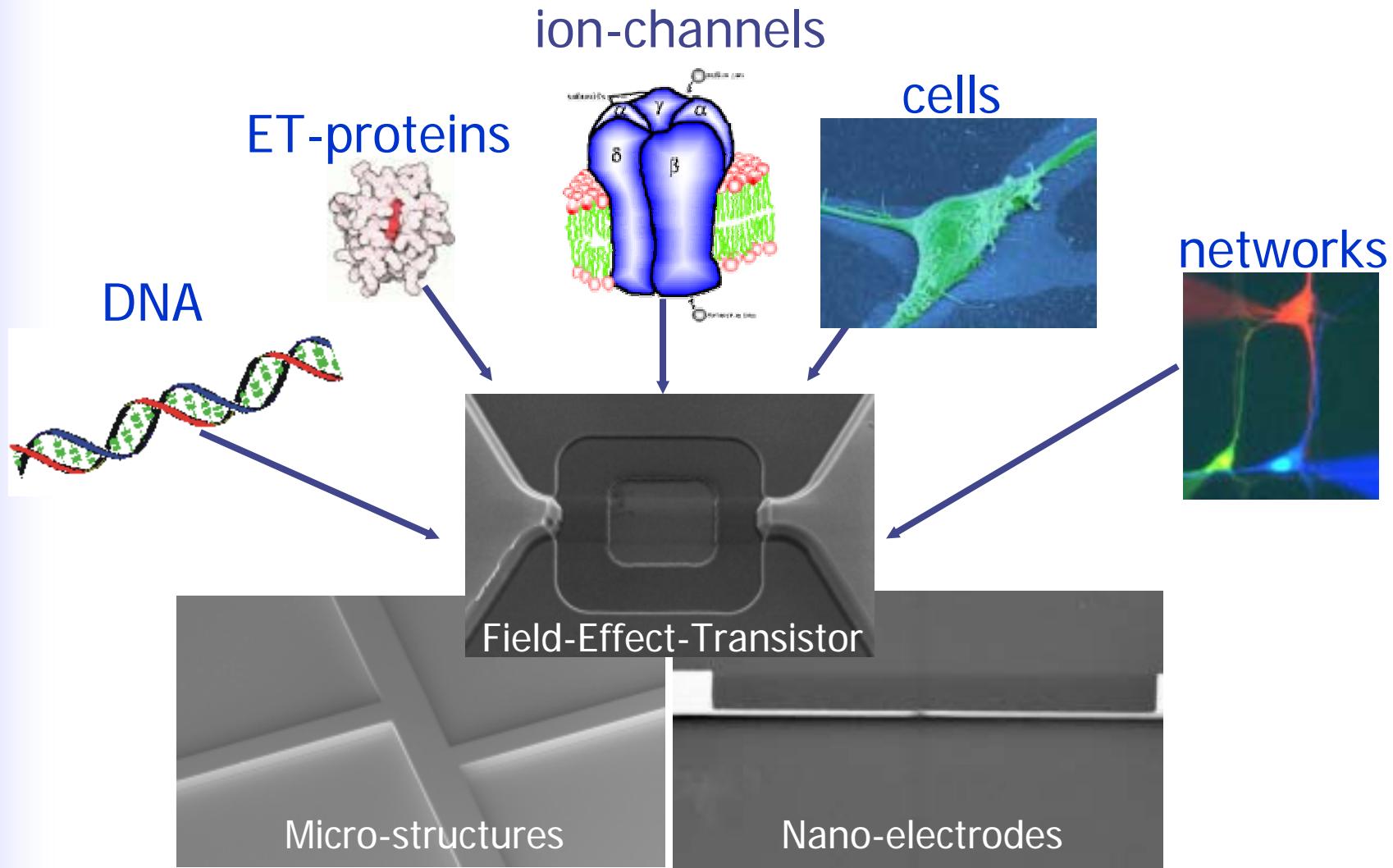
Source: G. Wrobel, S. Weig

# Extracellular signal recordings

Extracellular recordings of insect neurons with FETs



# Bioelectronic hybrids



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