

Pierre Magistretti, MD, PhD

**Food for thought :
a neuroenergetic
perspective on brain function**

**The Brain Forum
Jeddah, December 3, 2013**

The brain has considerable energetic requirements



- 2% of body mass

yet

- 15% of cardiac output
- 25% of whole body glucose utilization
- 20% of oxygen consumption

ON THE REGULATION OF THE BLOOD-SUPPLY OF
THE BRAIN. BY C. S. ROY, M.D., F.R.S., *Professor of
Pathology, University of Cambridge*, AND C. S. SHERRINGTON,
M.B., M.A., *Fellow of Gonville and Caius College. Lecturer on
Physiology in the School of St Thomas's Hospital, London.*
Plates II., III. and IV.

From the Cambridge Pathological Laboratory.

« We conclude then that the chemical products of cerebral metabolism contained in the lymph which bathes the walls of the arterioles of the brain can cause variations of the calibre of the cerebral vessels: that in this re-action *the brain possesses an intrinsic mechanism by which its vascular supply can be varied locally in correspondence with local variations of functional activity.* »

In: *Journal of Physiology (London)* 11:85-108 (1890)

*** High relative metabolic cost**

*** Highly regulated in space and time
in register with synaptic activity**

-----> Functional brain imaging

Techniques for functional brain imaging

Positron Emission Tomography (*PET*):

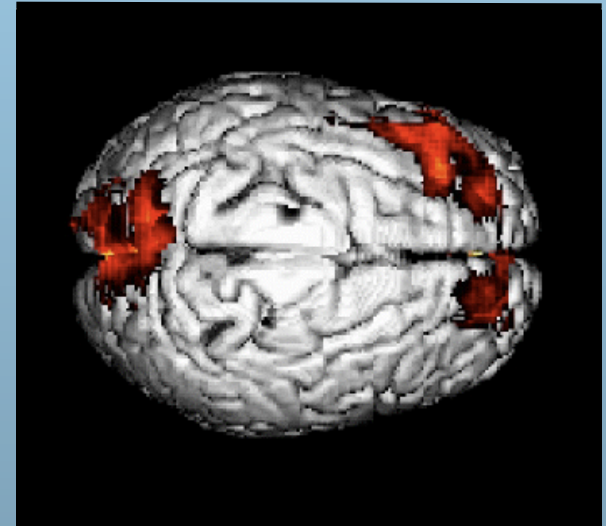
^{18}F -deoxyglucose

$^{15}\text{O}_2$

$\text{H}_2^{15}\text{O}_2$

Functional MRI (fMRI):

**change in the ratio of
oxy-/deoxy hemoglobin**

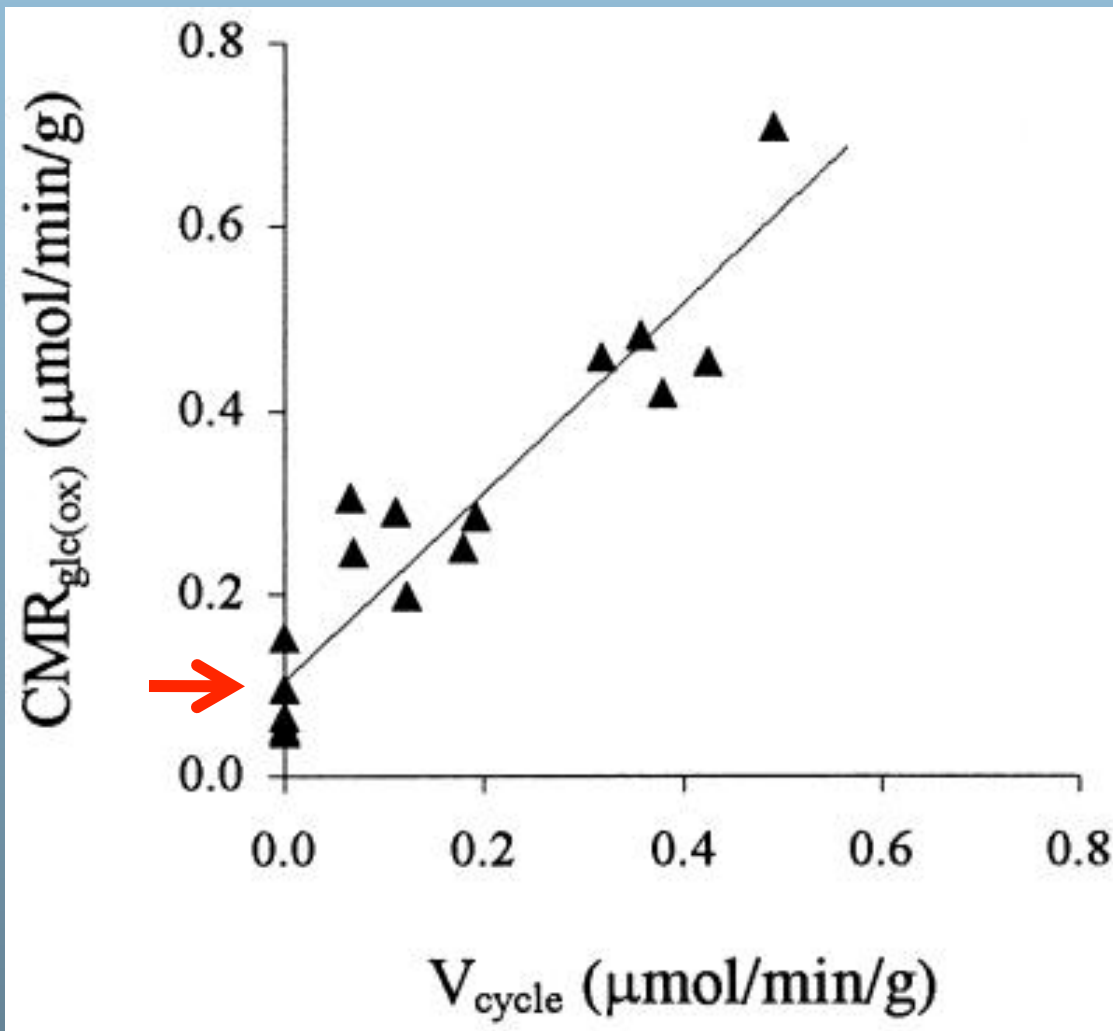


They detect signals related to energy consumption and production,
neuroenergetics

Neuroenergetics

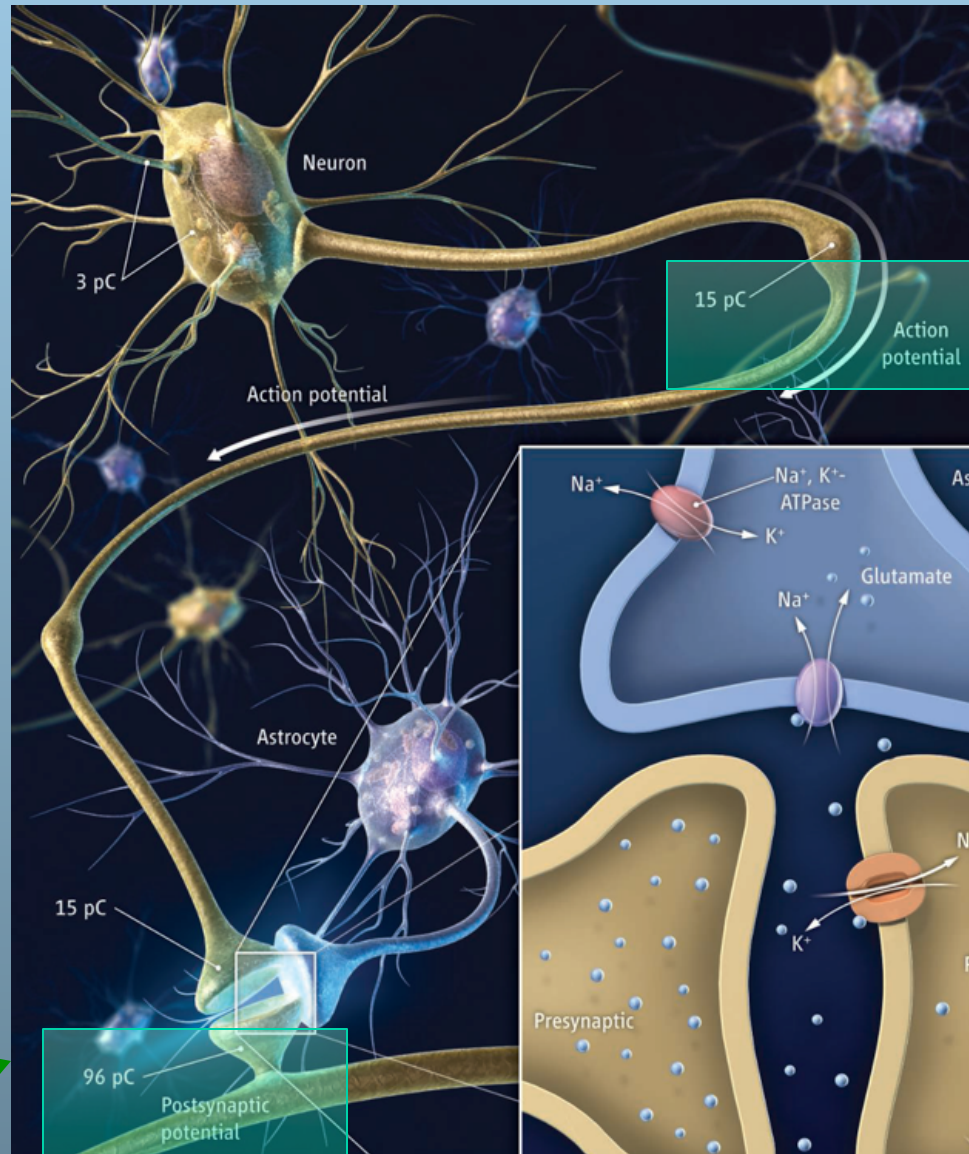
- What costs energy ?
- How is energy delivered and produced ?

**Linear relationship between
glutamatergic neurotransmission and glucose utilization
(in vivo MRS)**

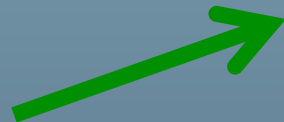
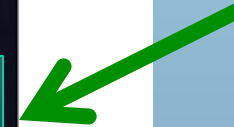


Sibson et al, 1998

Energetic cost of signaling in neurons



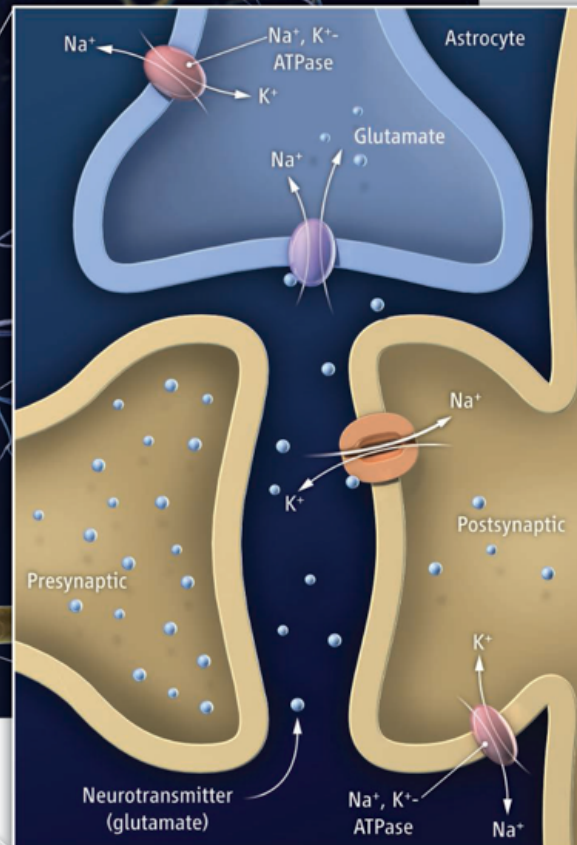
AP $\approx$ 20%



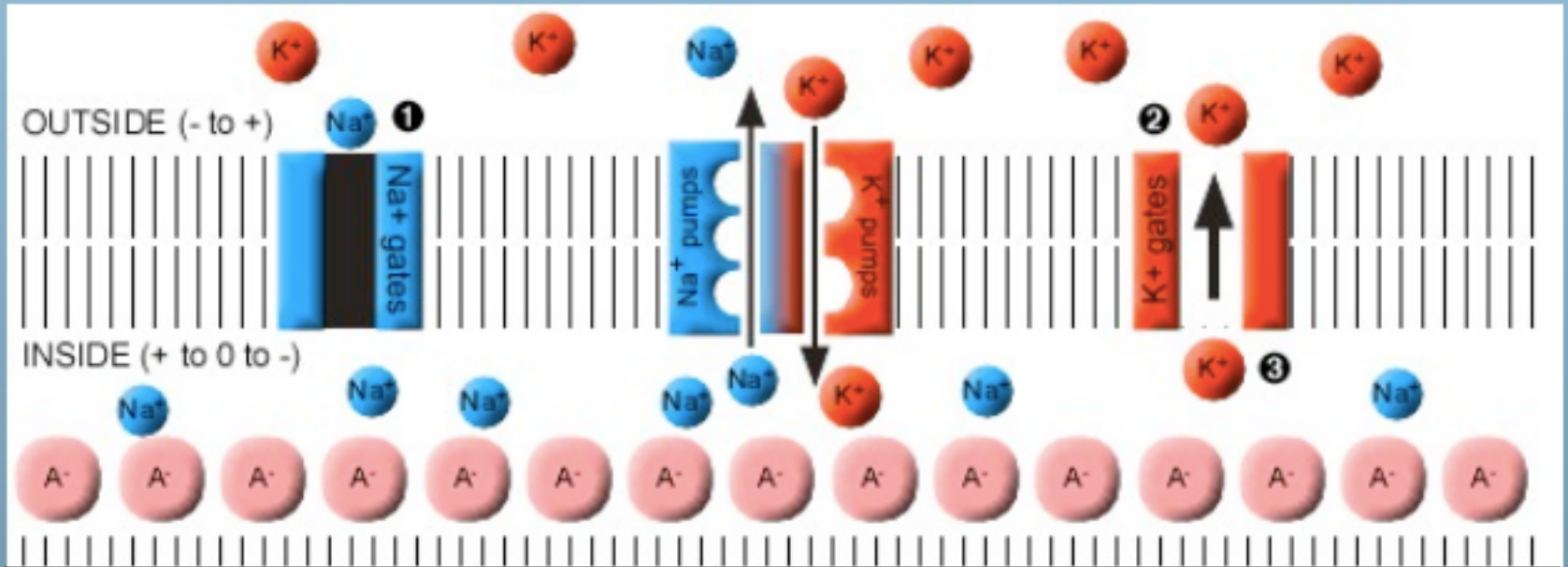
EPSP $\approx$ 80%

Magistretti, Science (2009)

See Alle et al, same issue

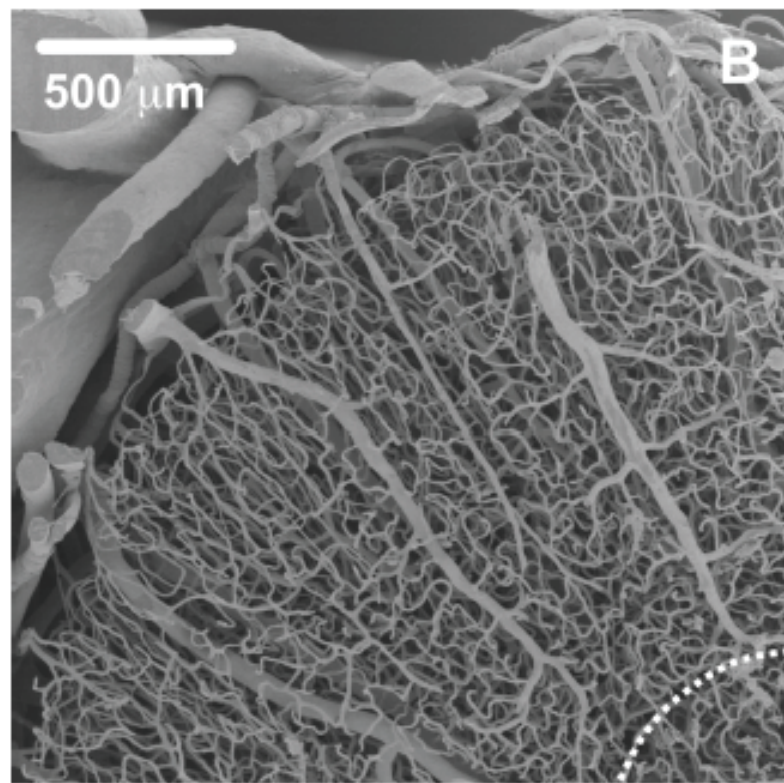
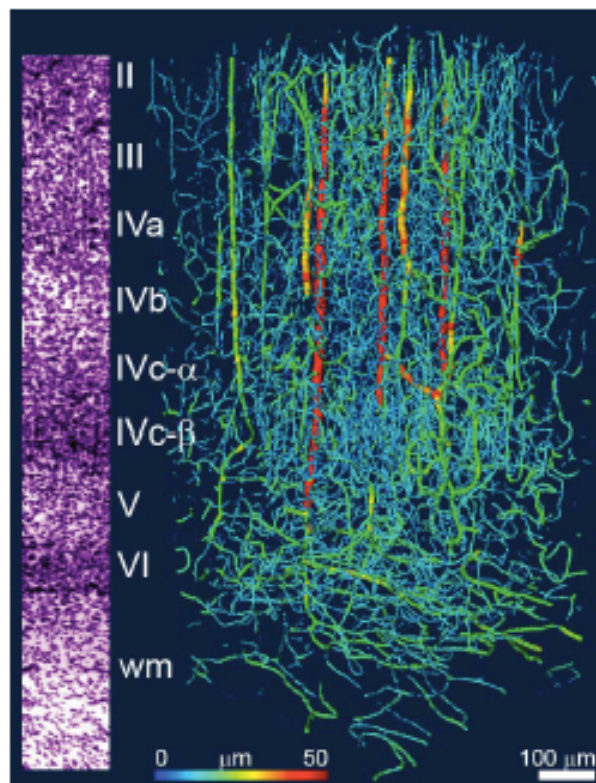


the energy is used to restore the distribution of charge
“recharge the batteries “

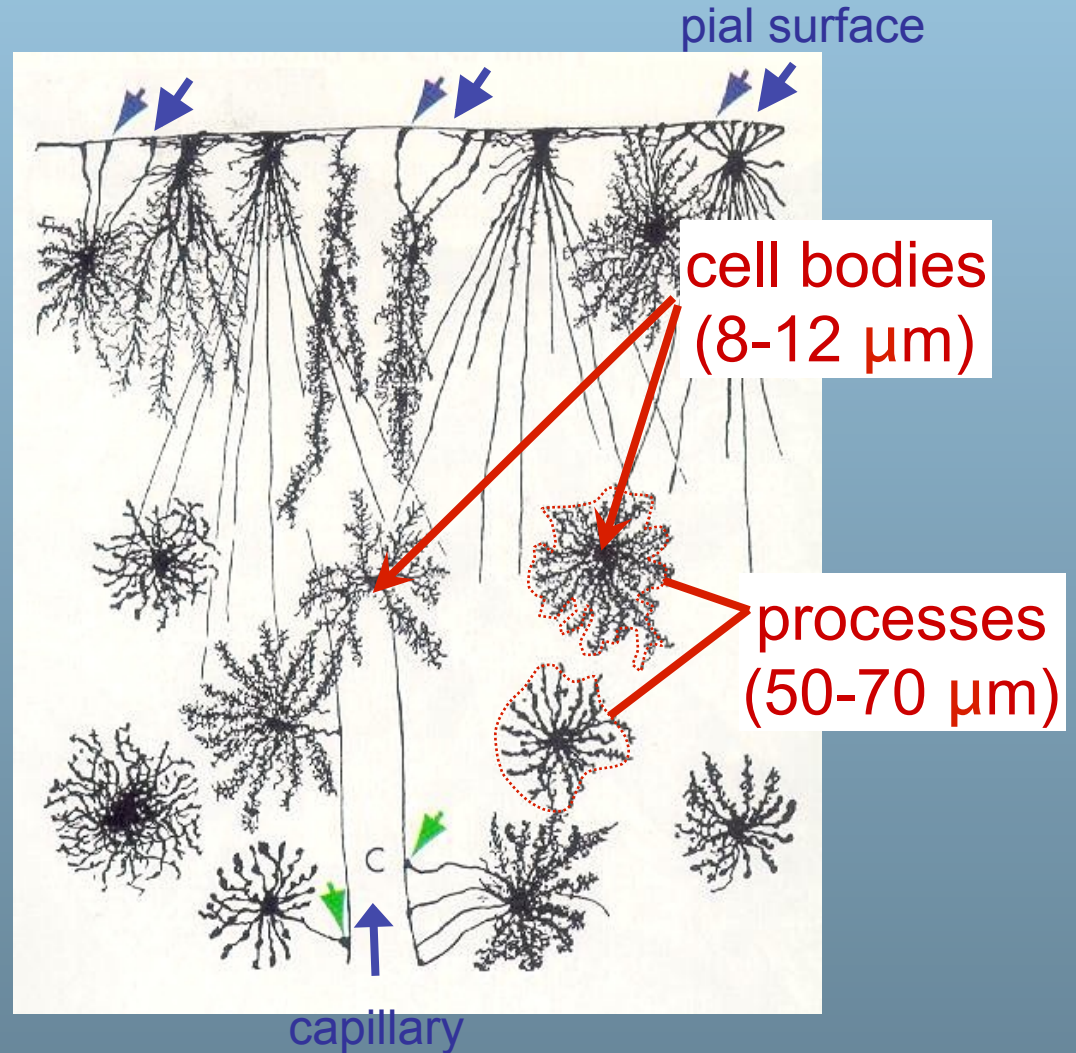
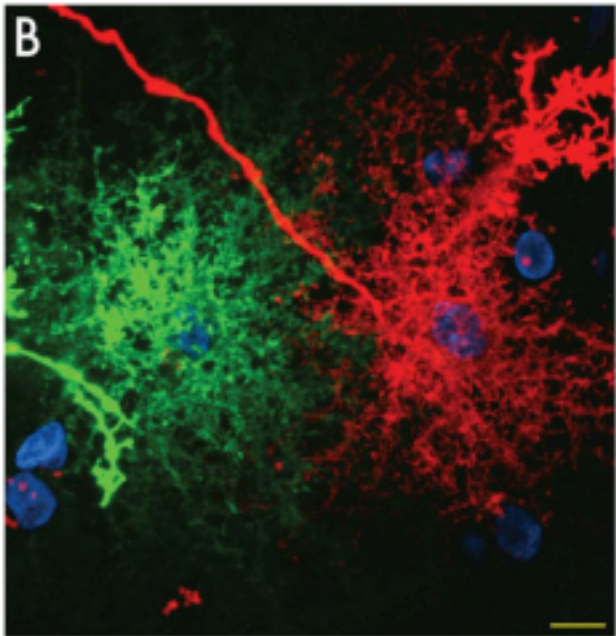
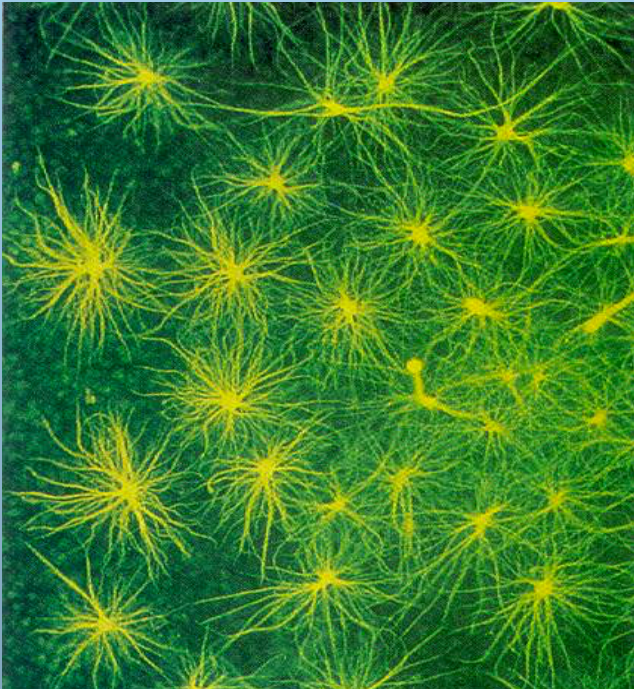


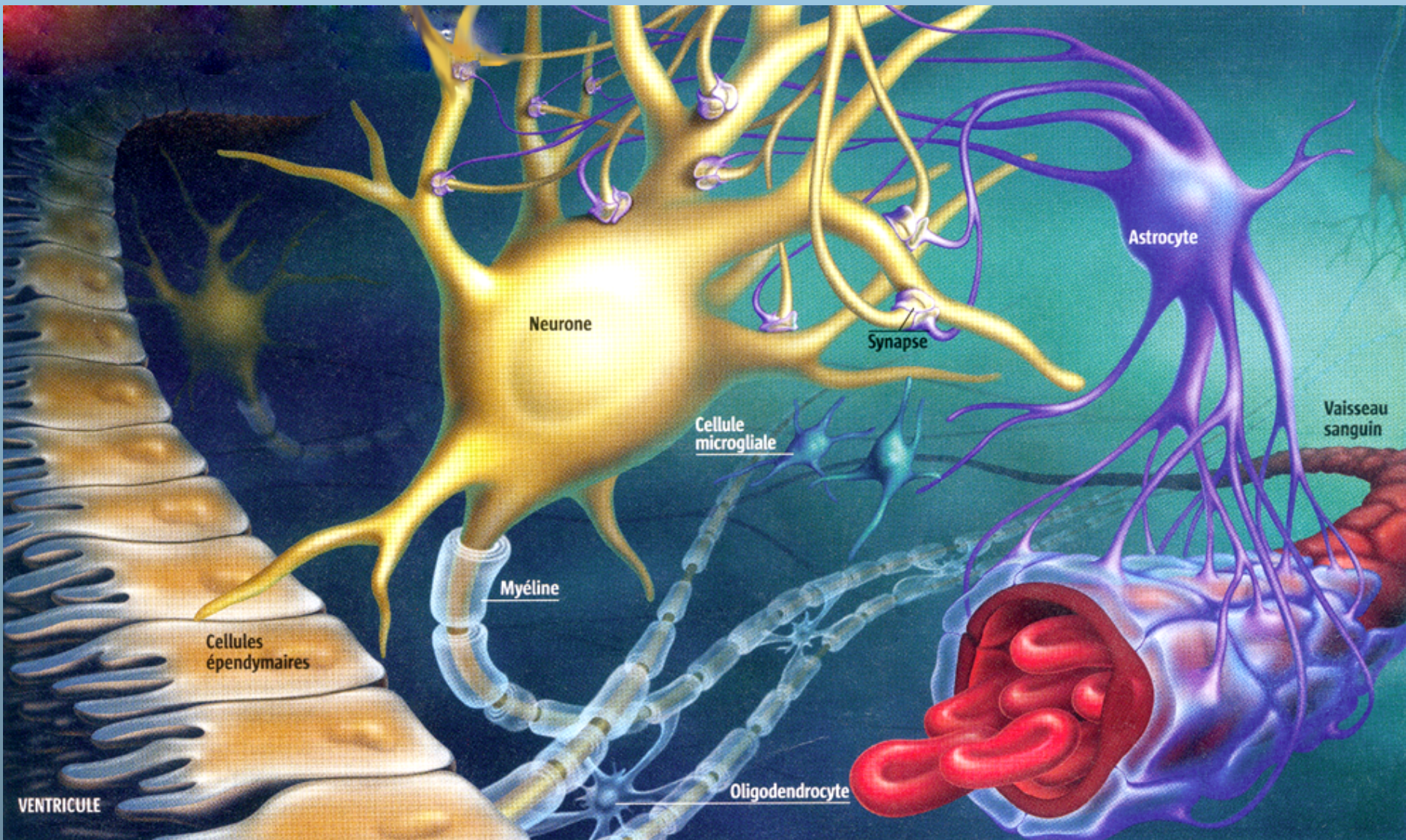
Neuroenergetics

- What costs energy ?
- How is energy delivered and produced ?



Astrocytes





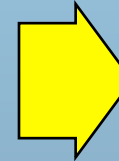
from F. Pfrieger and C. Steinmetz, *La recherche*, 2003 (361)

Which are the cellular and molecular mechanisms that underlie the coupling of synaptic activity with metabolic and vascular responses ?

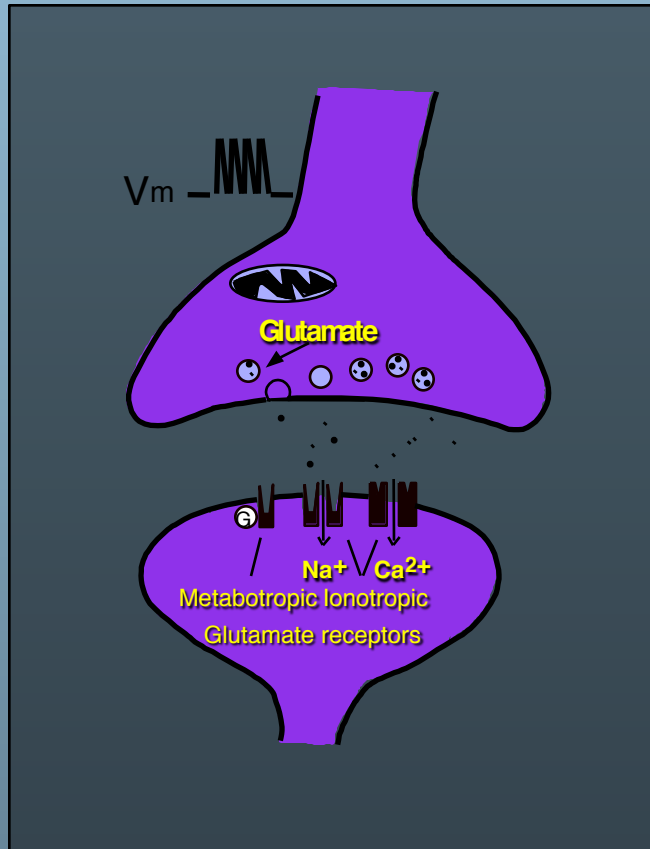
NEURONAL
ACTIVITY



METABOLIC AND
VASCULAR
RESPONSES



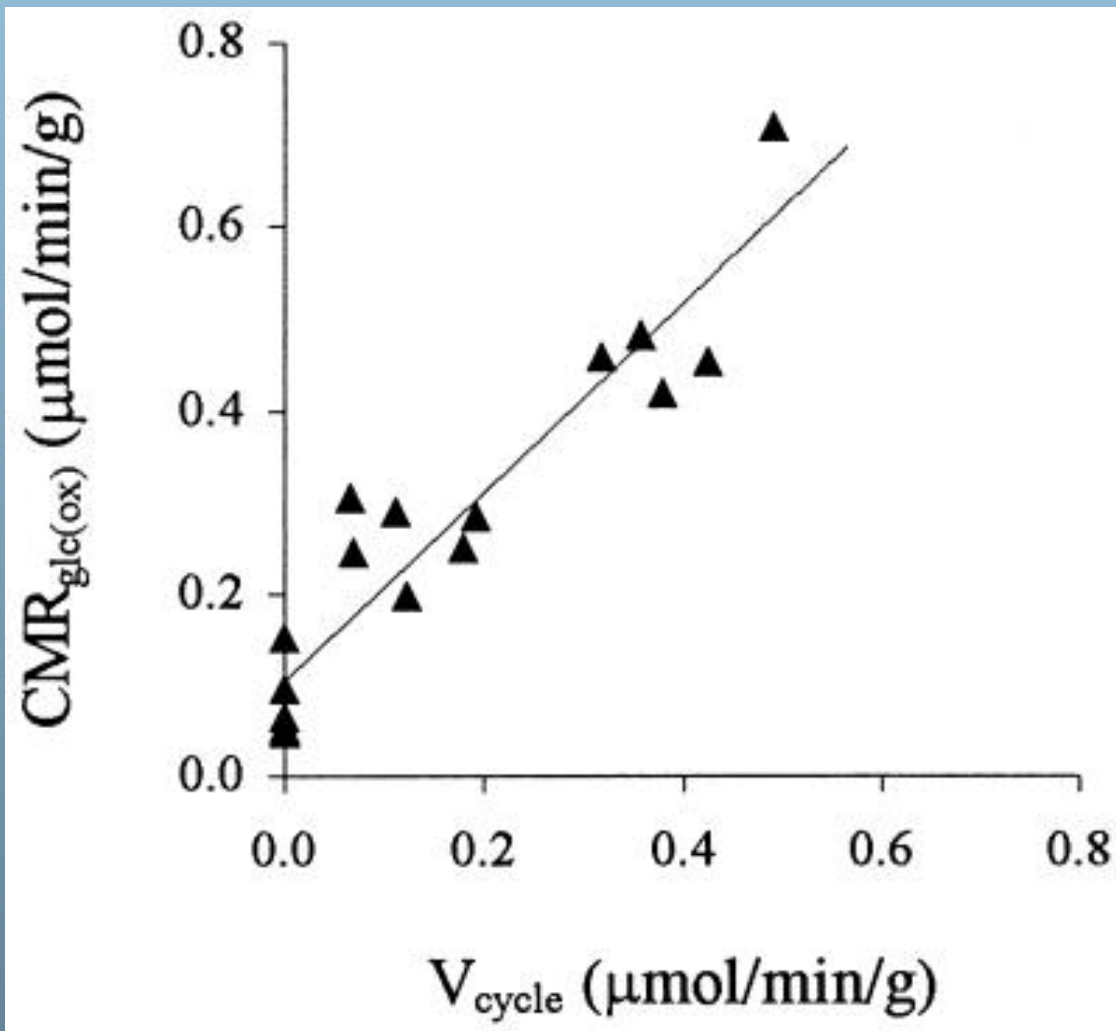
FUNCTIONAL
BRAIN IMAGING



“Coupling”

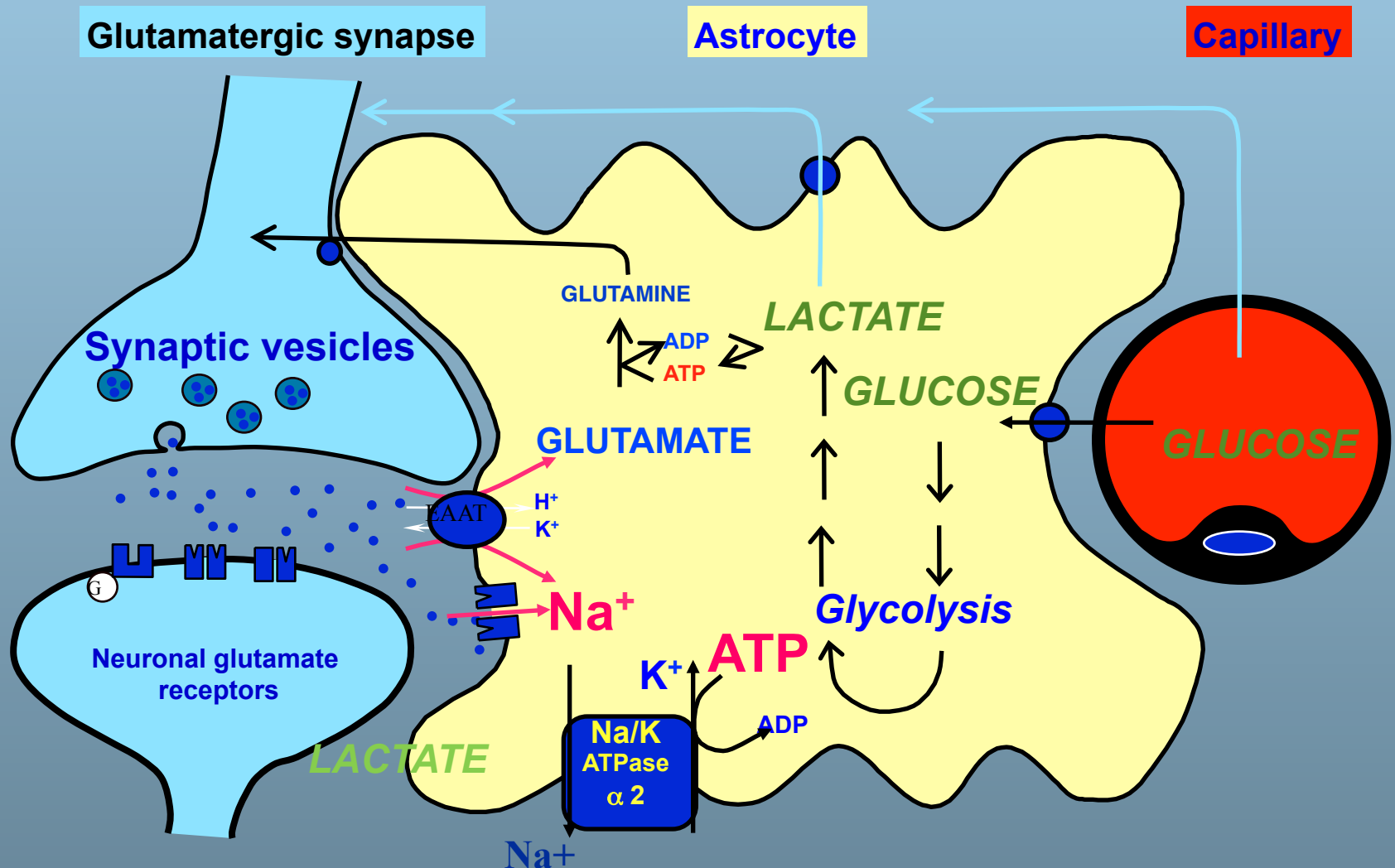


**Linear relationship between
glutamatergic neurotransmission and glucose utilization
(in vivo MRS)**

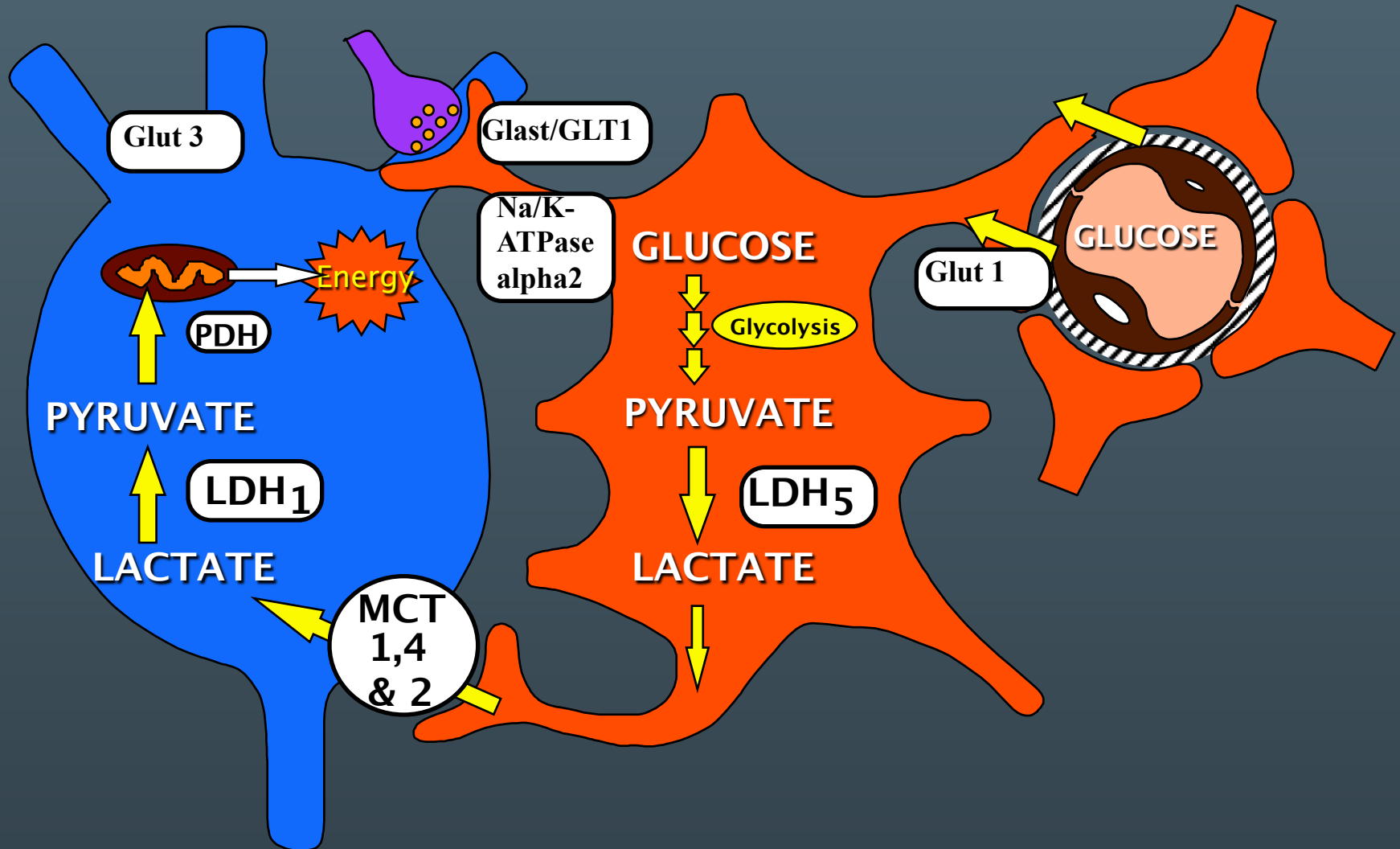


Sibson et al, 1998

Mechanism for Coupling Neuronal Activity to Glucose Utilization



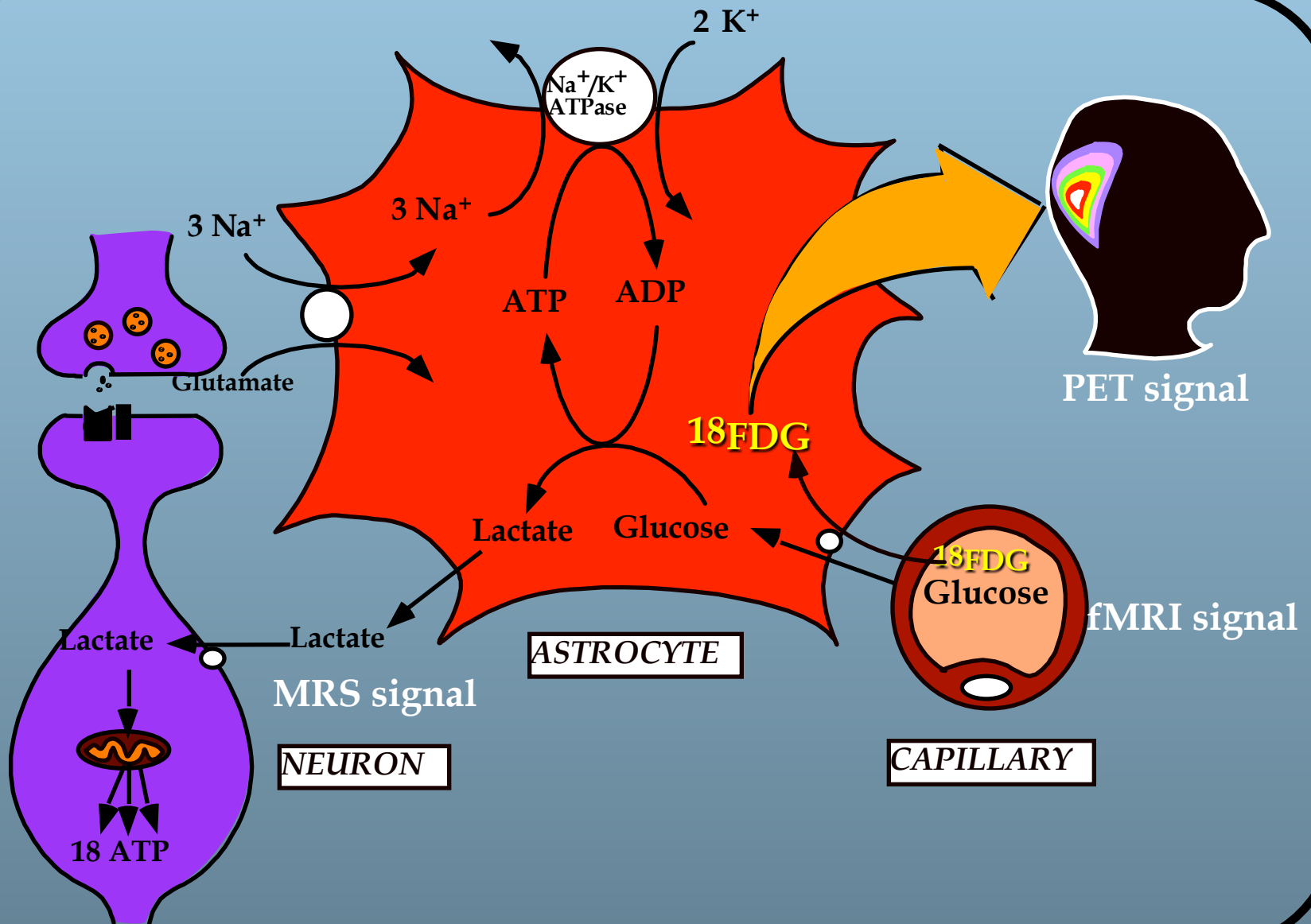
ASTROCYTE-NEURON LACTATE SHUTTLE (ANLS)



Neurons are mainly oxidative

Astrocytes are mainly glycolytic

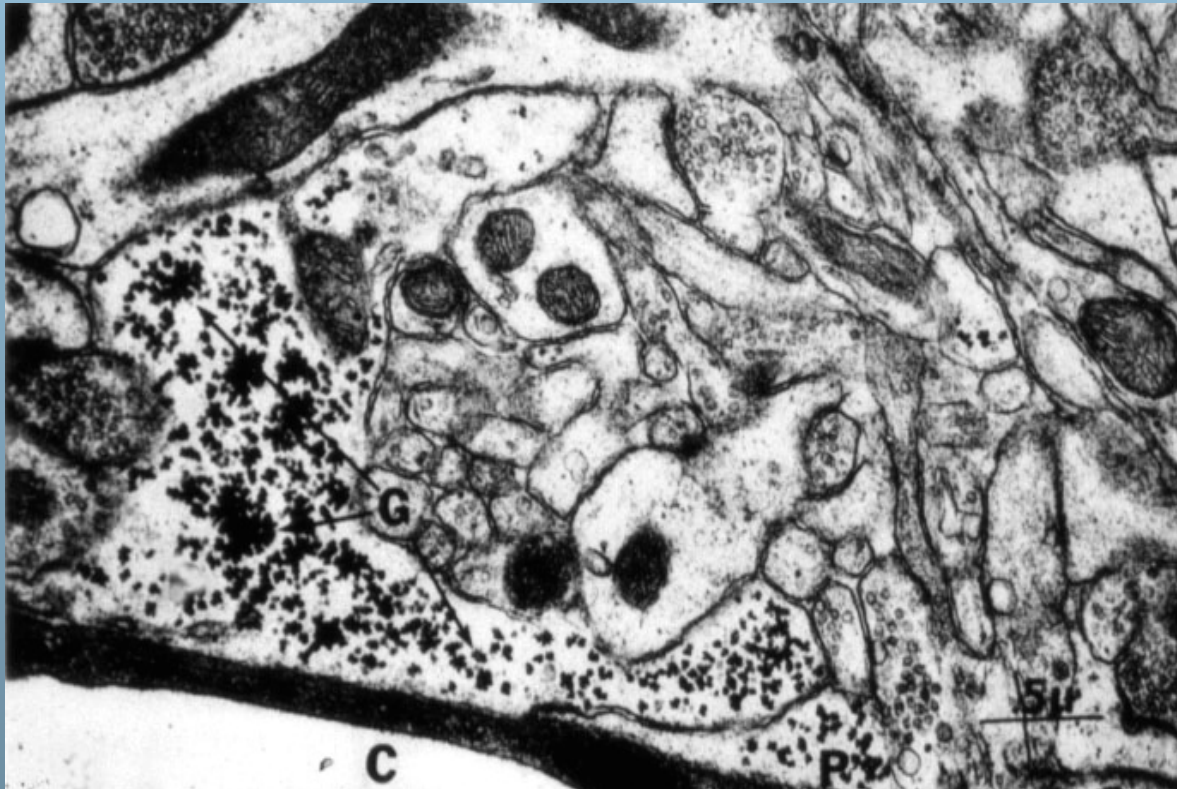
ROLE OF ASTROCYTES IN BRAIN IMAGING SIGNALS



Neuroenergetics

- What costs energy ?
- How is energy delivered and produced ?
 - Energy can also be stored and mobilized when necessary

Glycogen is exclusively localized in astrocytes



NA and VIP circuits II

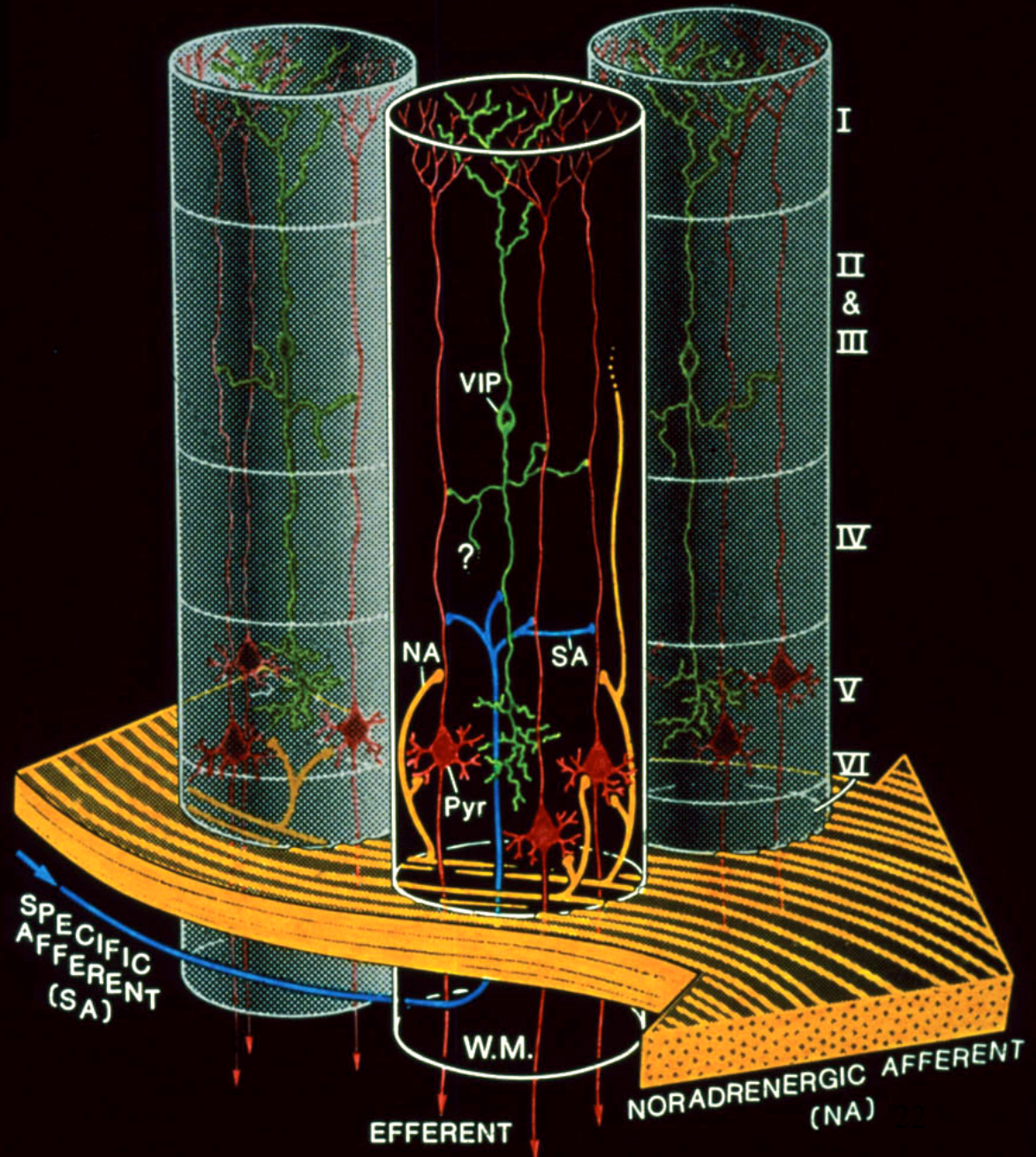
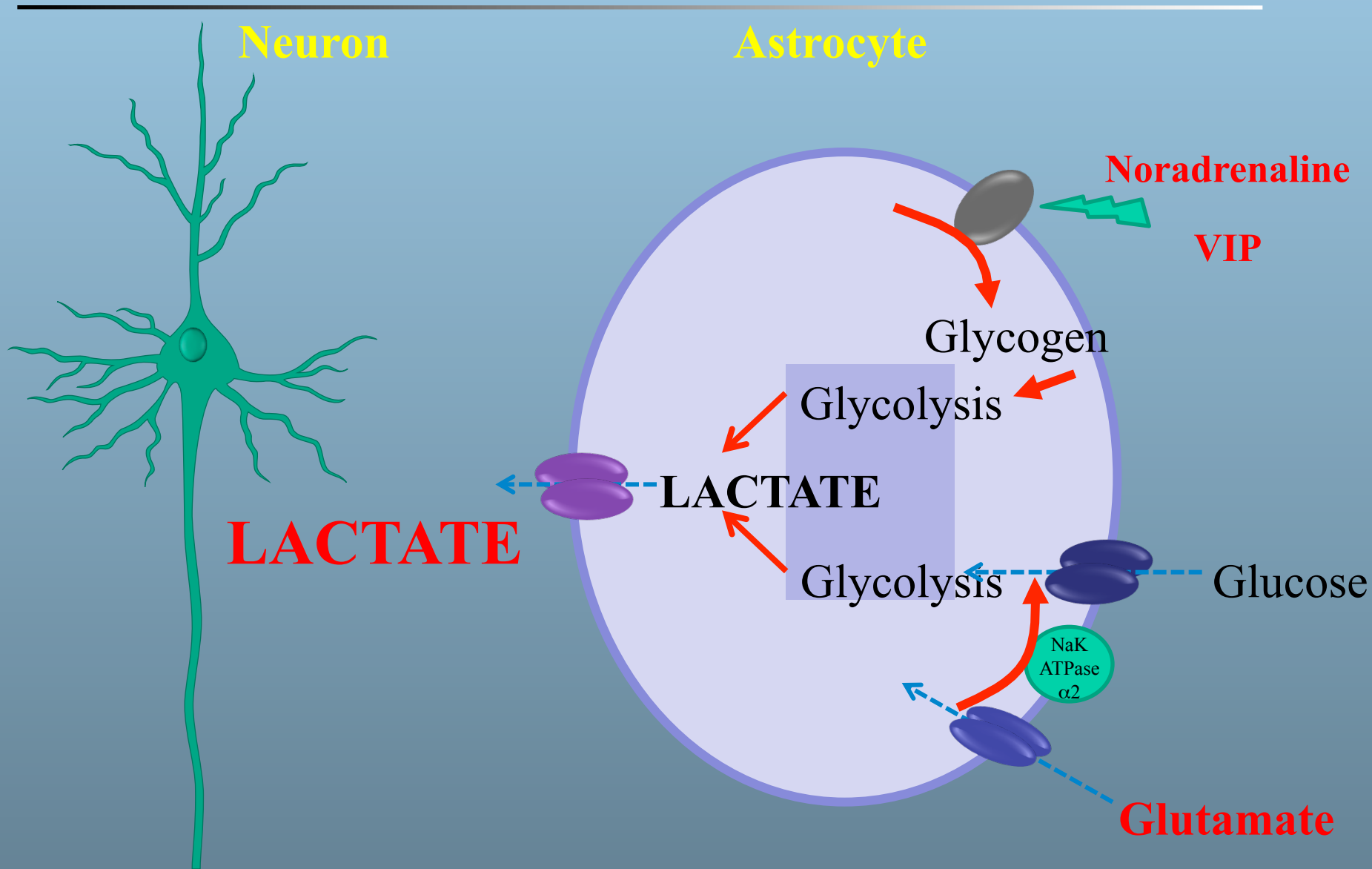


Illustration by Jamie Simon



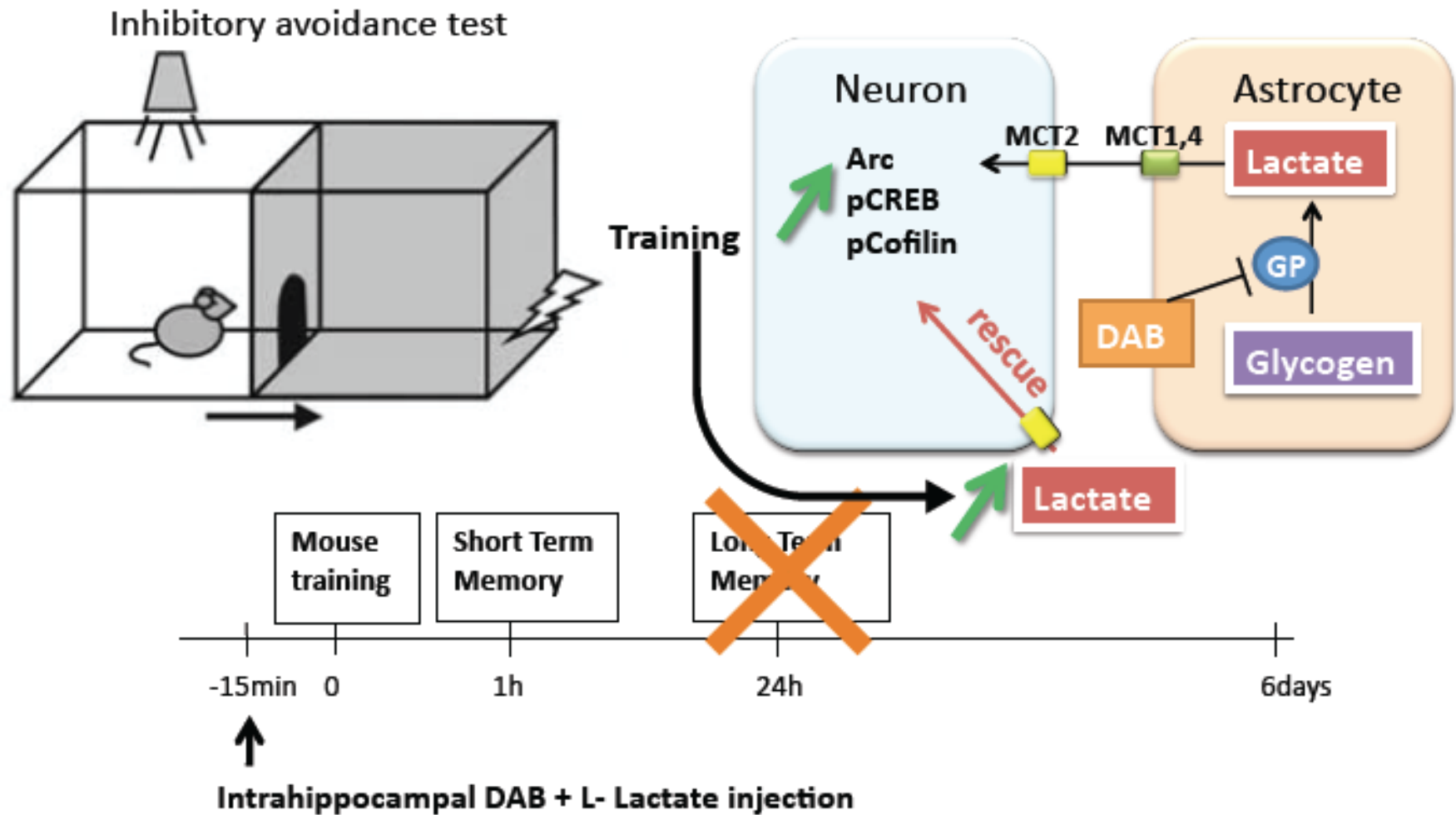
Neuroenergetics

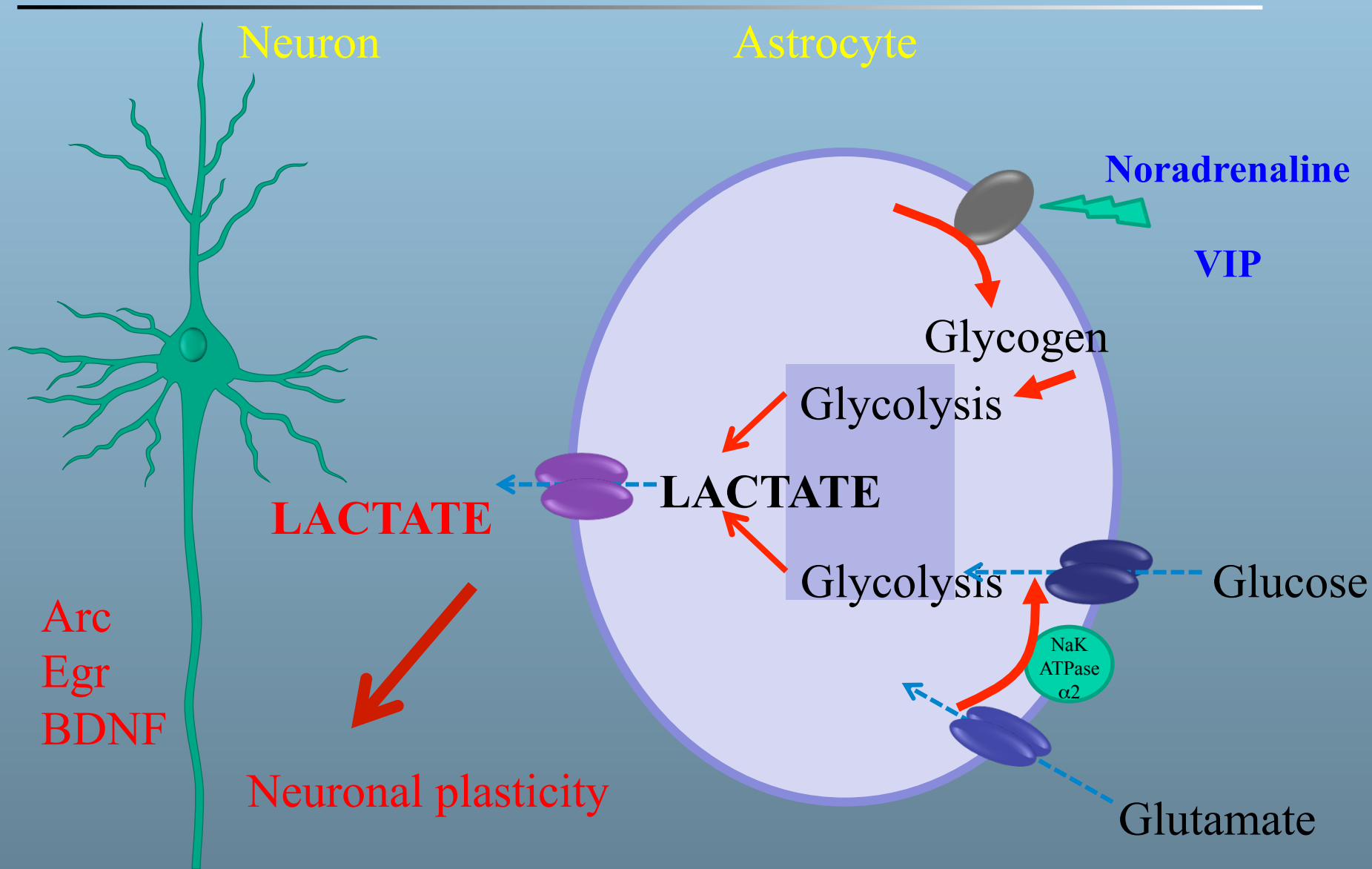
Energy can signal information

Cell

Astrocyte-Neuron Lactate Transport Is Required for Long-Term Memory Formation

Akinobu Suzuki,¹ Sarah A. Stern,^{1,6} Ozlem Bozdagi,^{1,2,6} George W. Huntley,¹ Ruth H. Walker,^{3,4} Pierre J. Magistretti,^{5,*}
and Cristina M. Alberini^{1,2,*}





Differential gene expression analysis

47 differentially expressed transcripts are selected using the following cutoff

1. Average Fold change between **control** and **Treatment** >2
2. Fold change in each **Treatment** replicate $\geq$ average fold change of three **Treatment** replicates

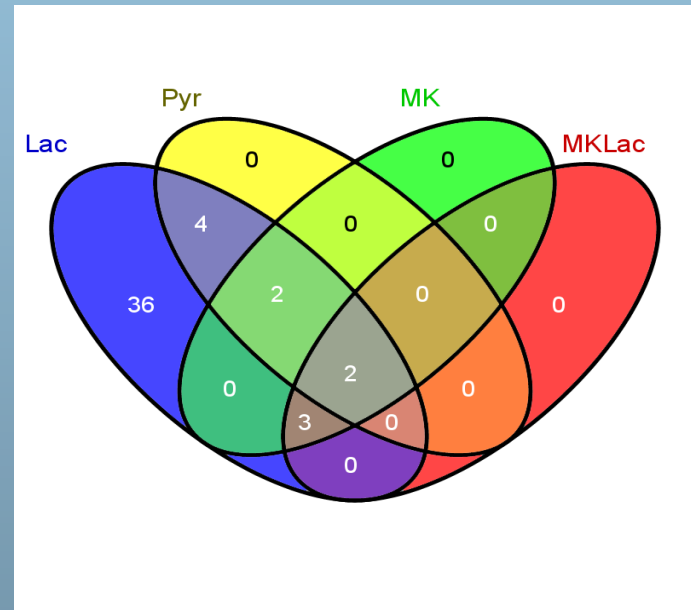
$$\text{AvgFC} = \frac{\text{FC}(\text{Lac1-Lac2}) + \text{FC}(\text{Lac1-Lac3}) + \text{FC}(\text{Lac2-Lac3})}{3}$$

$$\text{FC}(\text{Lac1-Lac2}) \geq \text{AvgFC}$$

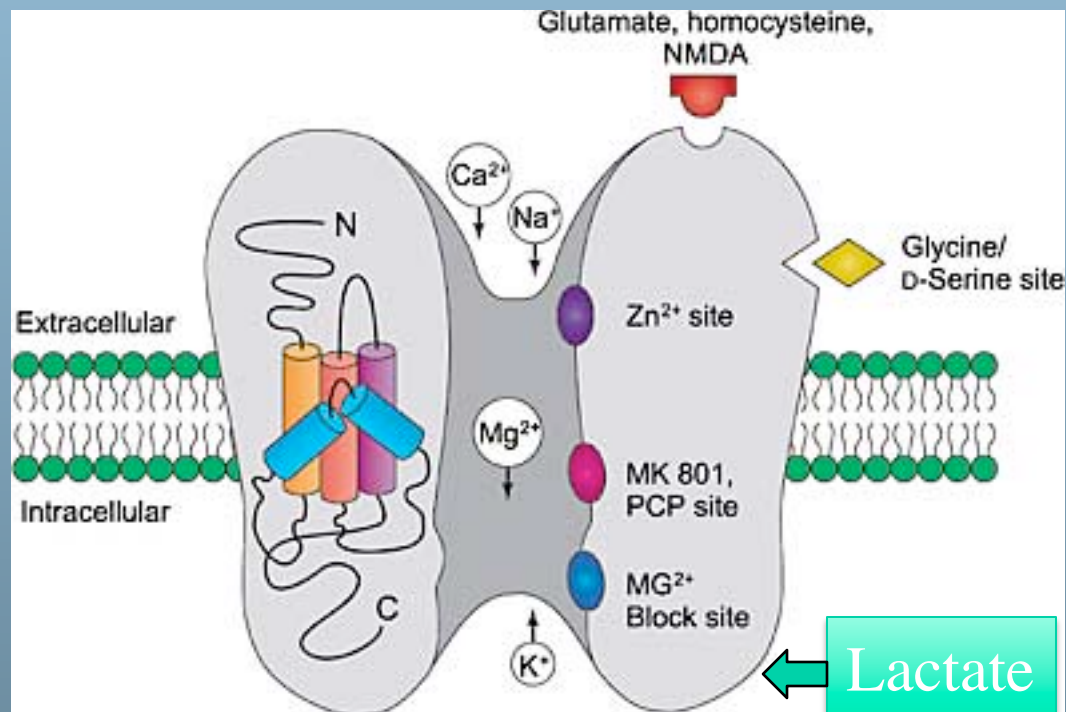
$$\text{FC}(\text{Lac1-Lac3}) \geq \text{AvgFC}$$

$$\text{FC}(\text{Lac2-Lac3}) \geq \text{AvgFC}$$

3. P value ≤ 0.02 (2% chance could be false positive)



NMDA Receptor



**An energy substrate, Lactate, acts also as an
information signalling molecule.**

**> The same molecule provides energy and
information.**

Neuroenergetics and brain function

What is next ?

- **Modeling**
- **New imaging modalities**
- **Nanotechnologies for *in vivo*
chemical detection**

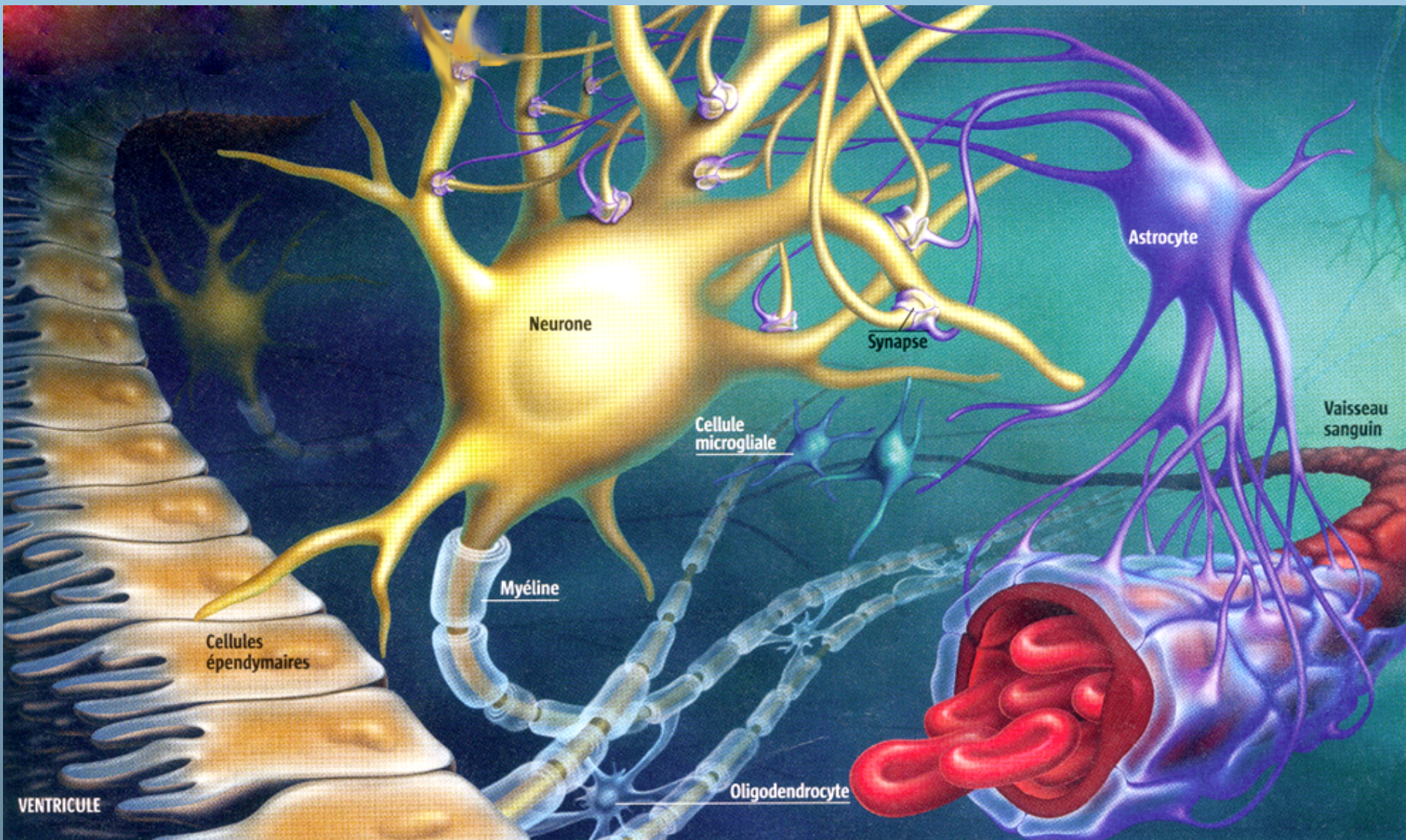
Neuroenergetics and brain function

- Modeling

The KAUST-EPFL-HBP project on
Neuron-glia-vasculature (NGV) modeling and
visualization

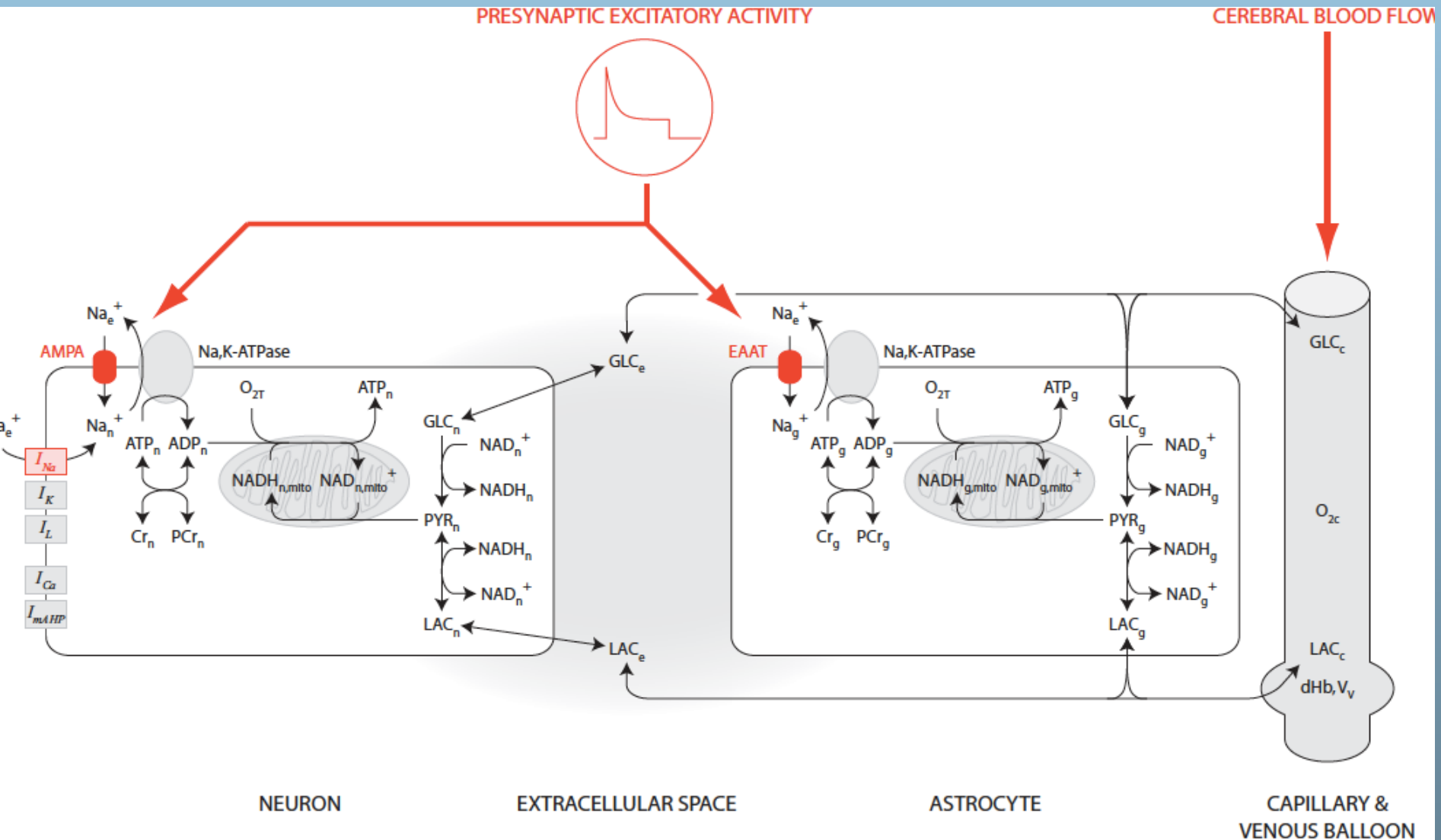
Henry Markram, Felix Schürmann, EPFL

Heikki Lehtvaslaio, Madhu Srinivasan, Corrado Cali, ³¹ KAUST



from F. Pfrieder and C. Steinmetz, *La recherche*, 2003 (361)

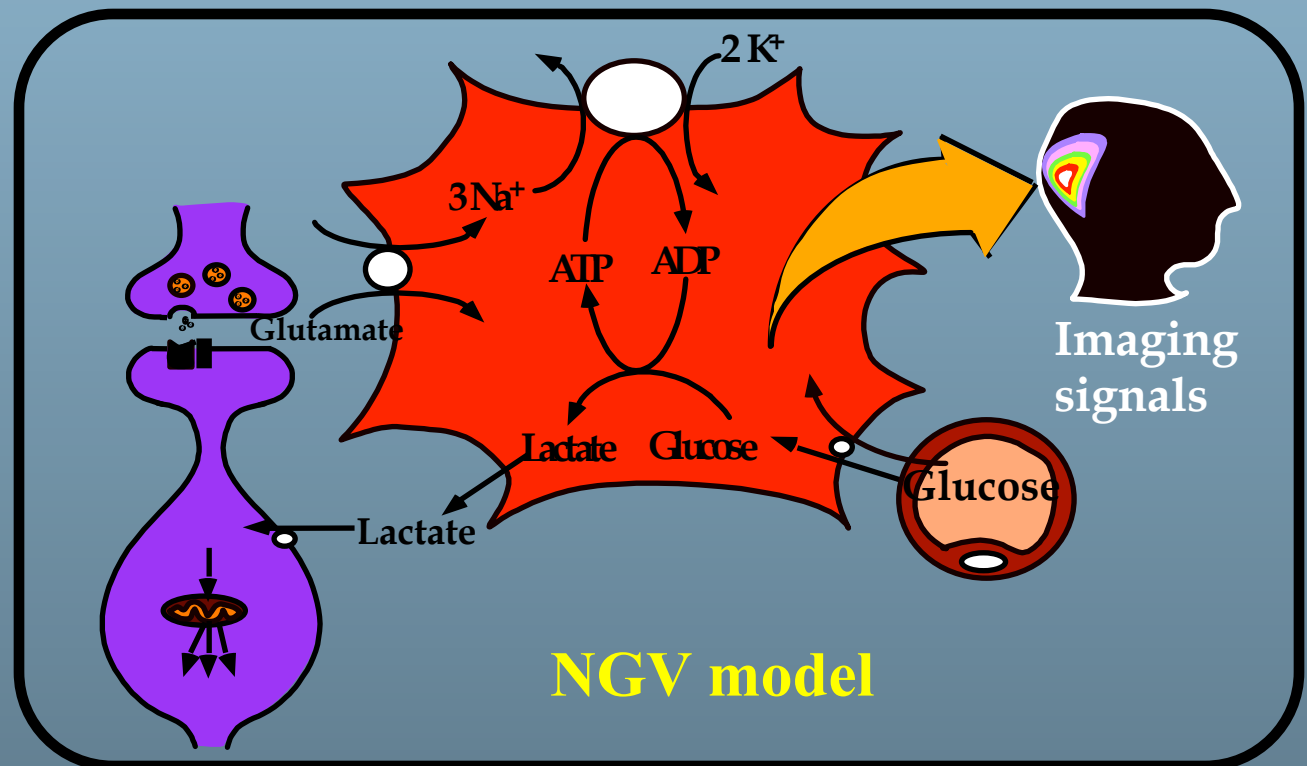
KAUST – EPFL MODELING OF NGV



In-silico imaging and visualization

- ✓Data:
- ✓Building:
- ✓Simulation:
- ✓Visualization:
- ✓Analysis:
- ✓Virtualization:

Pattern extraction & rules derivation
Constraint-based programming
Multi-scale engines
Visual supercomputing
Interactive supercomputing
In-silico biology



Neuroenergetics and brain function

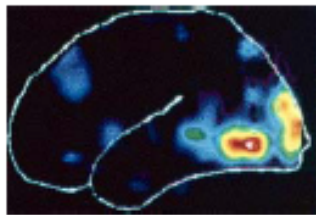
What is next ?

- Modeling
- New imaging modalities
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chemical detection

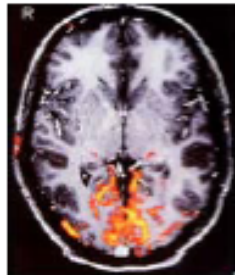
Water diffusion in brain cortex closely tracks underlying neuronal activity

Tomokazu Tsurugizawa, Luisa Ciobanu, and Denis Le Bihan¹

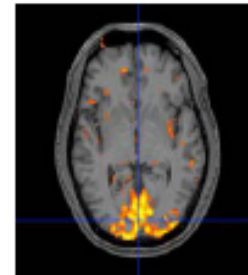
11636–11641 | PNAS | July 9, 2013 | vol. 110 | no. 28



H₂O¹⁵⁺ PET

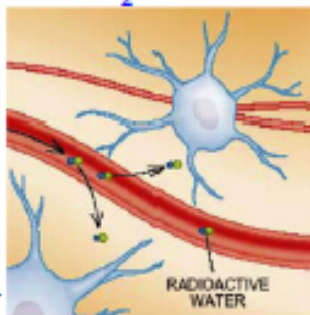


BOLD fMRI

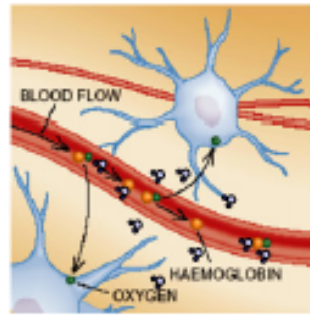


DIFFUSION fMRI

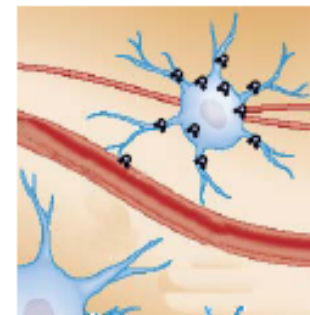
Rest



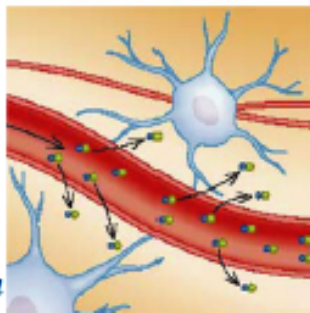
RADIOACTIVE WATER



BLOOD FLOW
OXYGEN
HAEMOGLOBIN

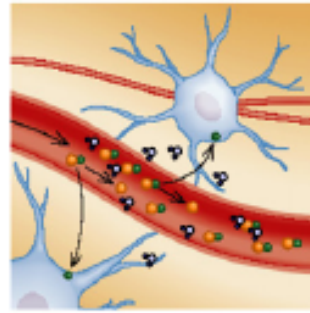


Activation



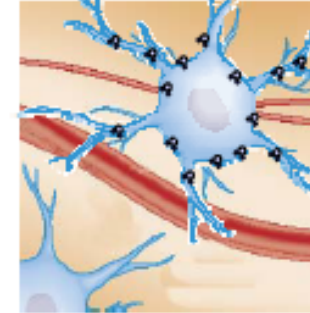
- ↗ blood flow
- ↗ quantity of radioactive water in activated tissues

Radioactive water



- ↗ blood flow & oxygenation
- ↘ magnetized water relaxation in/near vessels

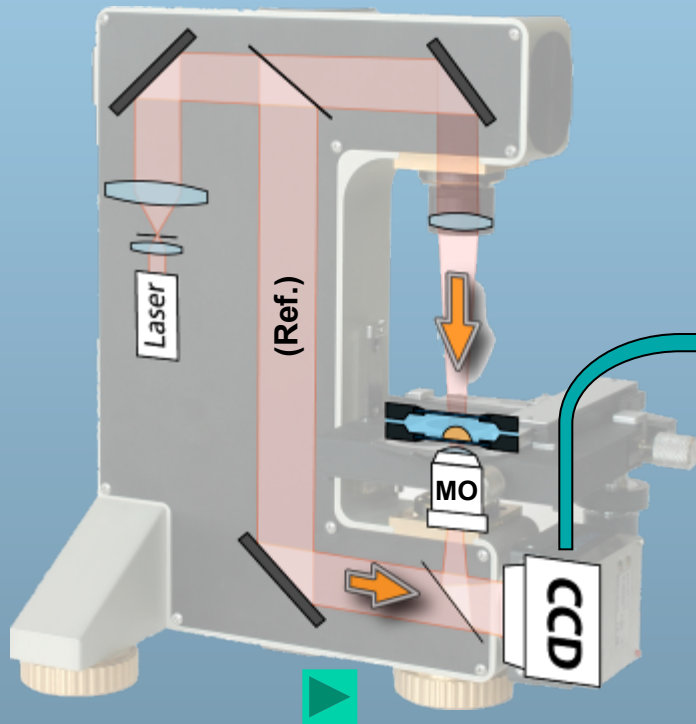
Magnetized water



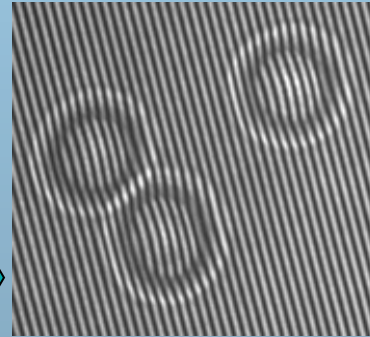
- ↗ cell size and membrane surface
- ↘ diffusion of water near membranes

Plain brain water

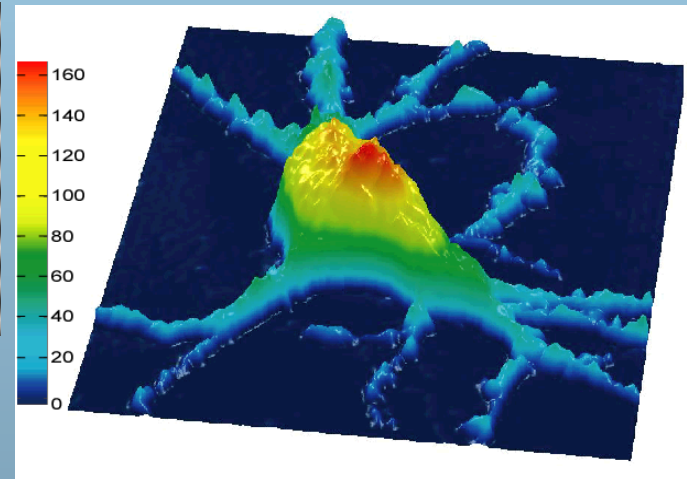
Digital Holography Microscopy



Hologram



Quantitative phase image
of living cells



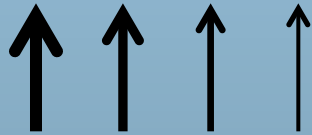
Phase of light: Visualization of
transparent specimen including
Living cell in culture

DHM Specifications and Advantages

- No mechanical or optical scanning
- Short acquisition time (~20 μ s)
- High reconstruction rate (25 im/sec)
- Choice of the focalization plane
- Sensitivity in the z-axis: ~10 nm
- Strictly non-invasive
- Phase: endogenous contrast agent

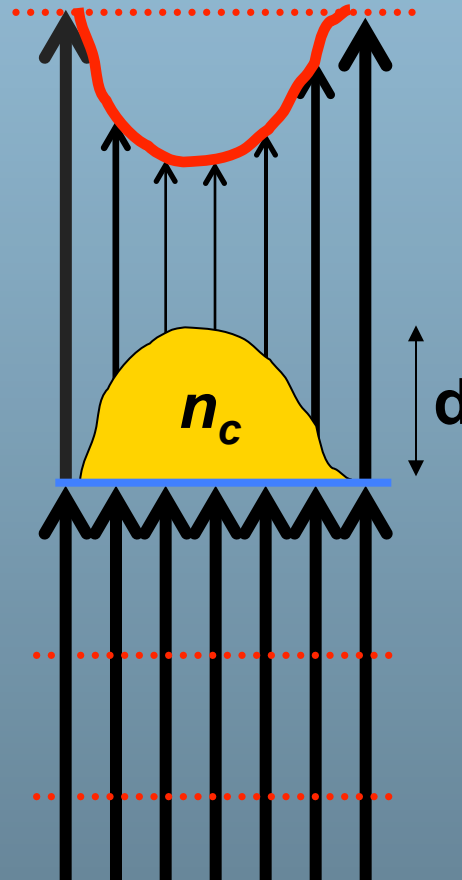
Light - Cell interaction

Intensity absorption:



Intensity contrast
image

living cells =
phase object



Wave front modification:



$$\varphi \propto (d, n_c)$$

Phase contrast
image

No direct detector
of the phase !

-> but can be encoded
by interferometry

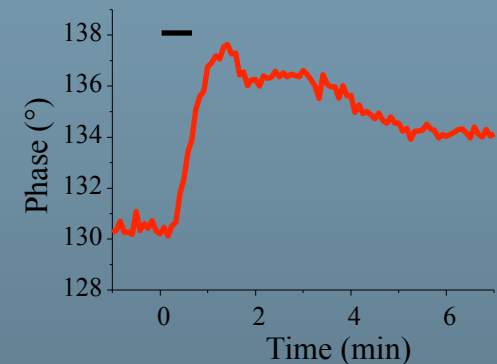
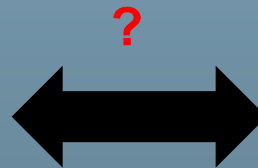
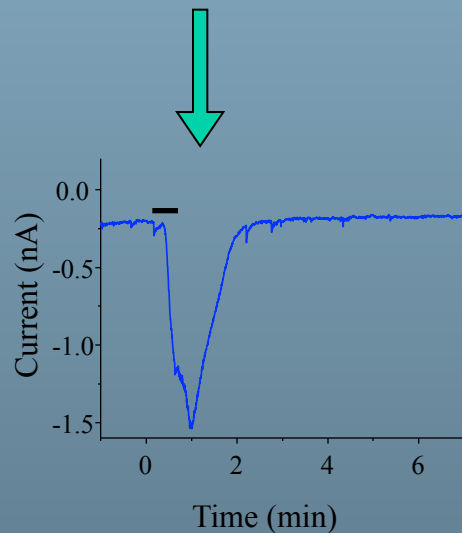
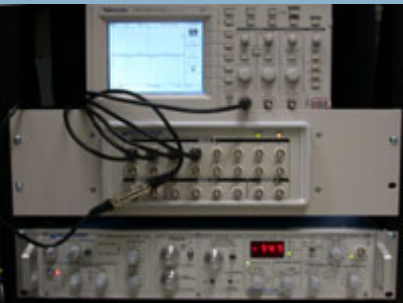
Electrical activity and phase signal recording

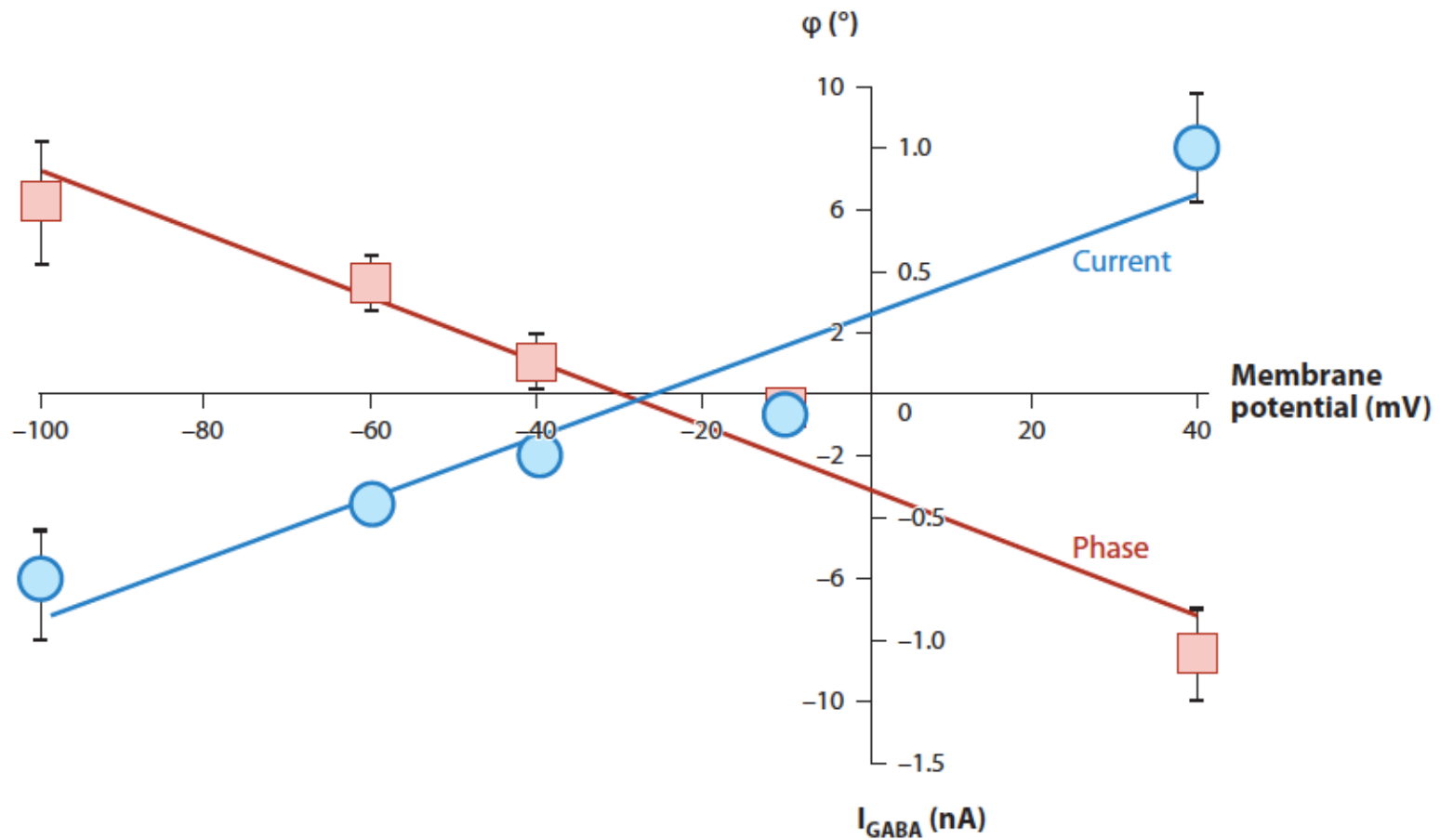
DHM/Electrophysiology set-up

Electrophysiology



DHM





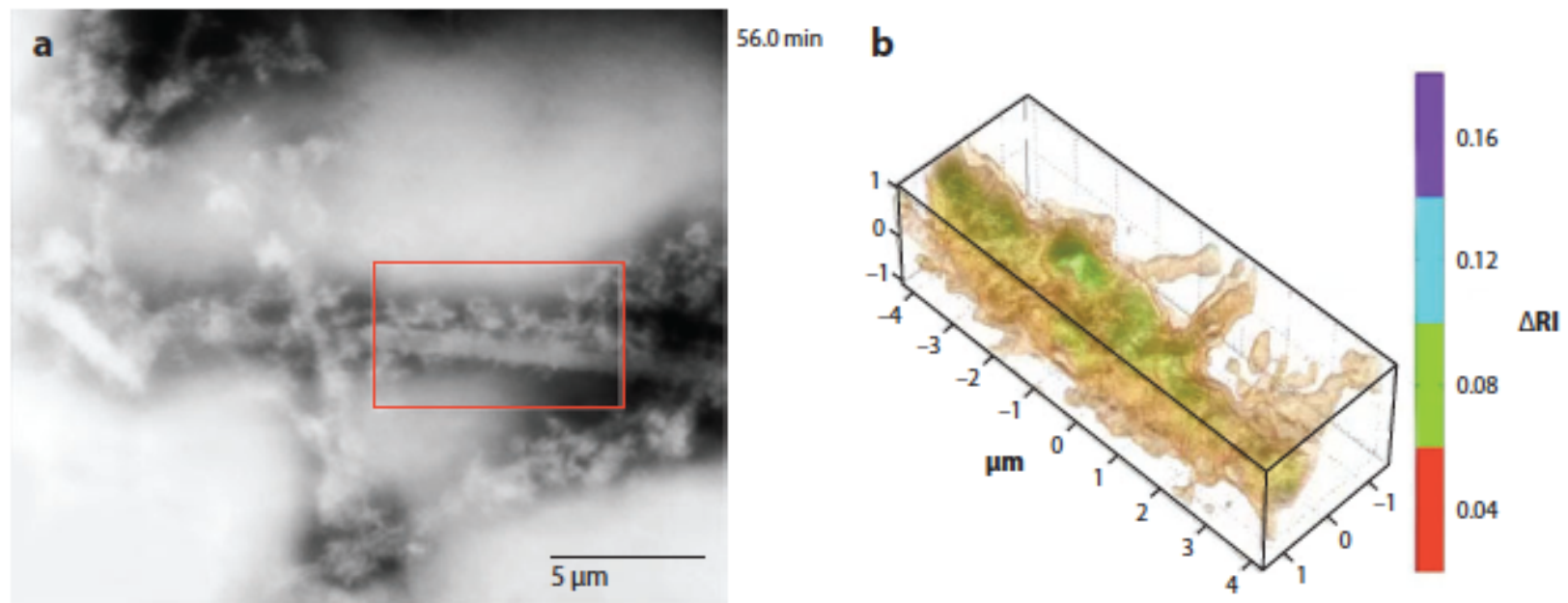


Figure 6

(a) Superresolved phase image of a dendrite section obtained by synthetic aperture quantitative phase image. (b) 3D representation of the tomographic image of an 8-μm-long section (see *inset* of panel a). It shows the body of the dendrite section with the details of protruding dendritic spines. Scale is in μm and the color code represents the difference in refractive index [from 0.04 (red) to 0.16 (violet)] between the dendrite and the extracellular medium. (Courtesy of Yann Cotte.)

Exploring Neural Cell Dynamics with Digital Holographic Microscopy

P. Marquet,^{1,2} C. Depeursinge,³
and P.J. Magistretti^{1,2,4}

Annu. Rev. Biomed. Eng. 2013. 15:407–31

Neuroenergetics and brain function

What is next ?

- Modeling
- New imaging modalities
- Nanotechnologies for *in vivo*
chemical detection

Nanotechnologies for *in vivo* chemical detection

Currently :

Microdialysis, electrochemical detection, enzyme-based probes :
Low spatial (mm) and temporal (sec, min) resolution

Future :

Need for new technologies with high spatial (um) , temporal (msec)
and multiscale resolution : **single cells within networks**

Ultrasensitive Biomolecular Assays with Amplifying Nanowire FET Biosensors

Chi On Chui^{a,b}, Kyeong-Sik Shin^a, and Yufei Mao^a

^aDepartment of Electrical Engineering and ^bCalifornia NanoSystems Institute,
University of California, Los Angeles, CA, USA 90095-1594

Nanoepitaxy: Materials and Devices V, edited by Nobuhiko P. Kobayashi, A. Alec Talin,
Albert V. Davydov, M. Saif Islam, Proc. of SPIE Vol. 8820, 88200S · © 2013 SPIE

**ADVANCED
MATERIALS**

Adv. Mater. 2008, 20, 164–167

Biospecific Recognition of Tethered Small Molecules Diluted in Self-Assembled Monolayers**

By Mitchell J. Shuster, Amit Vaish, Matthew E. Szapacs, Mary E. Anderson, Paul S. Weiss,
and Anne M. Andrews*

A Genetically Encoded FRET Lactate Sensor and Its Use To Detect the Warburg Effect in Single Cancer Cells

Alejandro San Martín^{1,2}, Sebastián Ceballo^{1,2}, Iván Ruminot^{1,2}, Rodrigo Lerchundi^{1,2}, Wolf B. Frommer³,
Luis Felipe Barros^{1*}



February 2013 | Volume 8 | Issue 2 | e57712

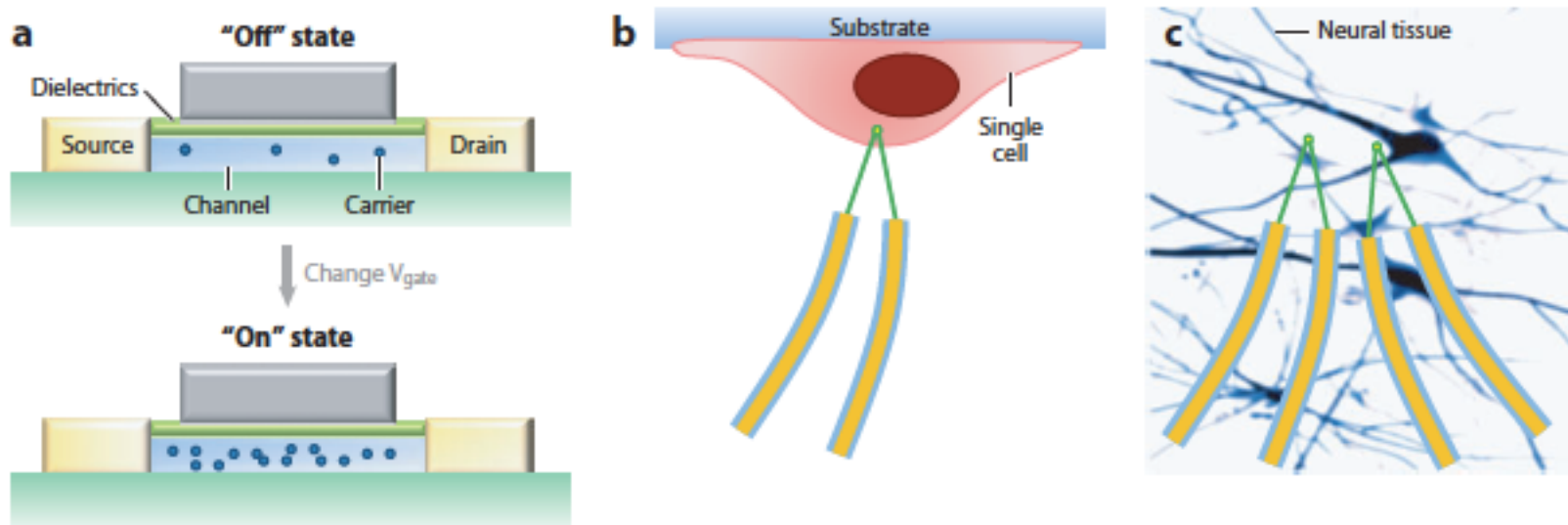
Synthetic Nanoelectronic Probes for Biological Cells and Tissues

Bozhi Tian¹ and Charles M. Lieber²

Annu. Rev. Anal. Chem. 2013. 6:31–51

Nanoelectronics : Nanoscale FET

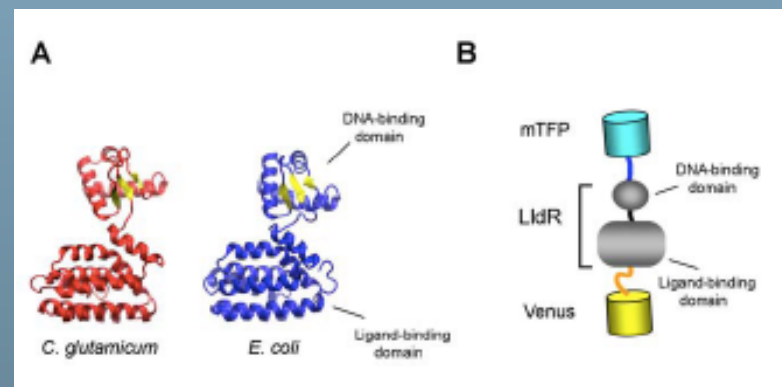
Tian & Lieber 2013



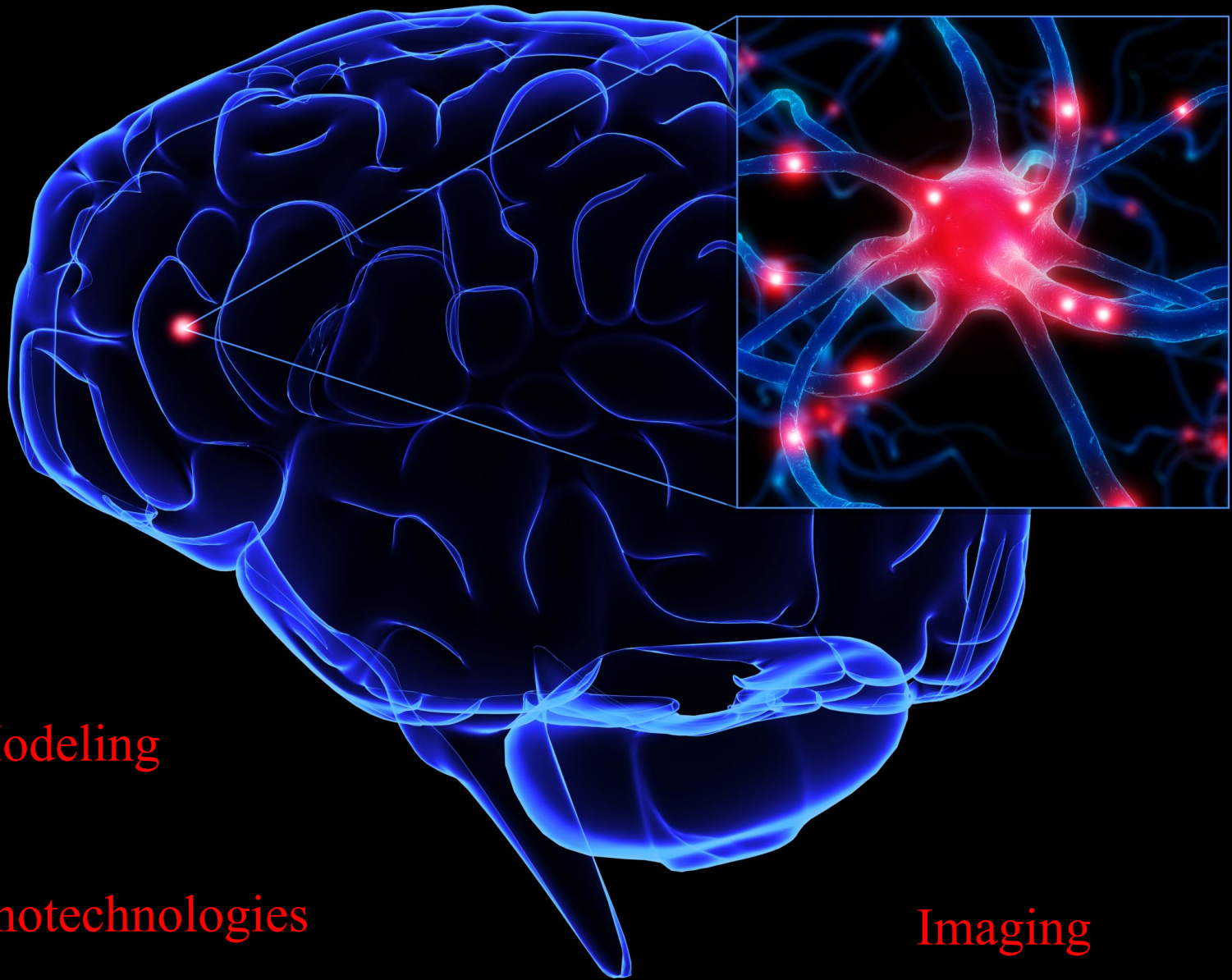
Field effect transistor (FET) basics and electrical interfaces between nanoscale FETs (nanoFETs) and biological systems.

Nanosensors : Genetically-encoded FRETs

San Martin et al., 2013



Laconic, a FRET lactate sensor based on the transcriptional regulator LldR.



Modeling

Nanotechnologies

Imaging

A neuroenergetic perspective on brain function

**... but very very low energetic cost for
information processing**

20 Watts !

