



erc

European

Research

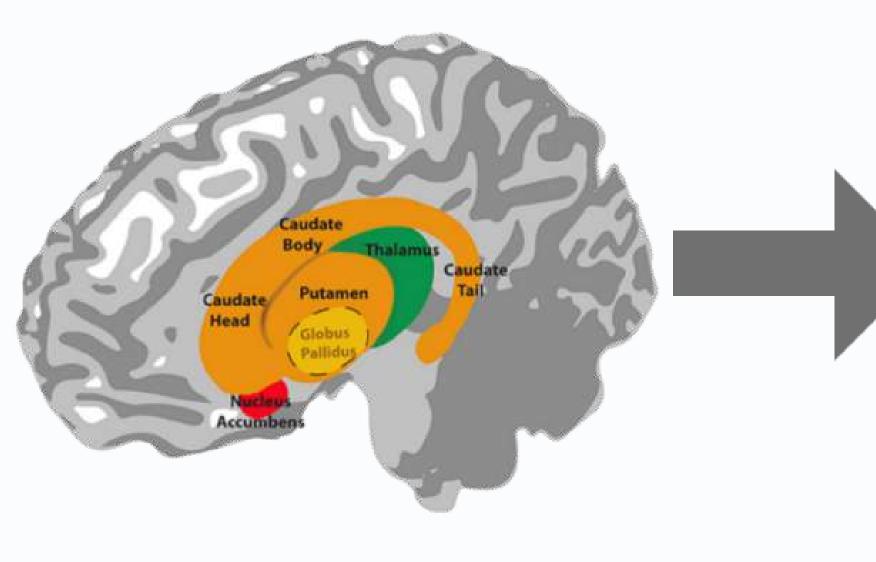
Council

# **How to design brains on a chip** Luc Libralesso (\*,\*\*) - Florian Larramendy (\*) - Vincent Jost (\*\*) - FRÉDÉRIC MAFFRAY (\*\*) - THIBAULT HONEGGER (\*) (\*) Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, LTM, 38000 Grenoble, France (\*\*) Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, G-SCOP, 38000 Grenoble, France

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## **Typical workflow**

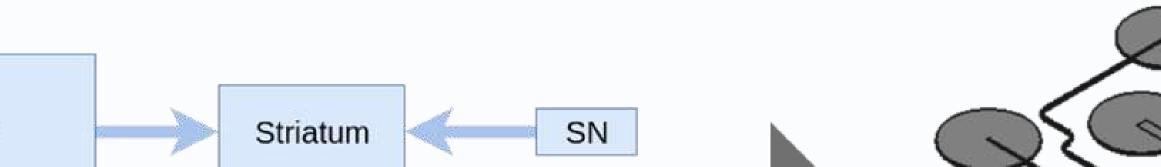


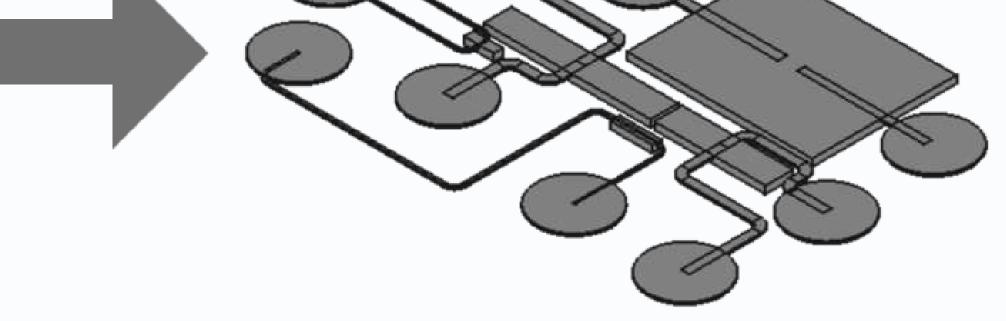


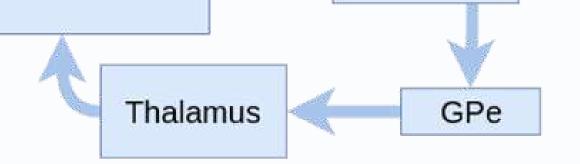
#### II. TRANSITIONAL PROCESS

Cortex









Extract graph structure. Each node has a number of

neurons, each connection has a connectivity degree,

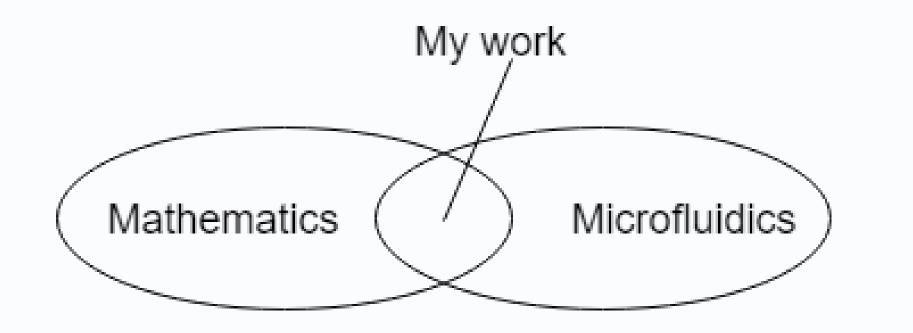
and a maximal width

Final microfluidic chip, that represents the brain part

source: [1] One of several brain patterns we want to reproduce (basal ganglia loop)

Goals

- Chip design is very complex, until now, designs were made by hand
- This work aims to use mathematical and computer tools to automate this process



### Why a computer approach ?

Too much constraints and possibilities to be handled by a human

- Lots of choices to make:
  - Chamber positions
  - Lots of possible plannar embeddings of a 3D structure
  - Channel dimentions (width, length, height)

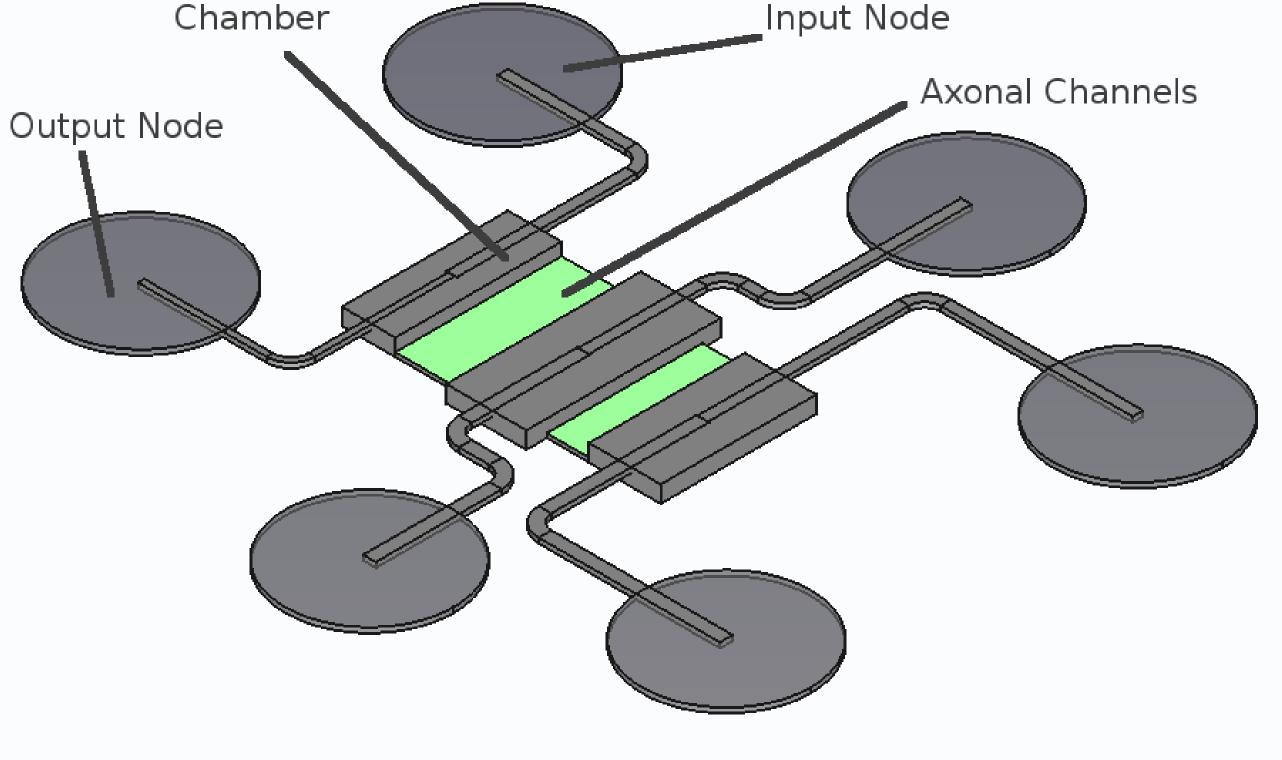
### Work done so far

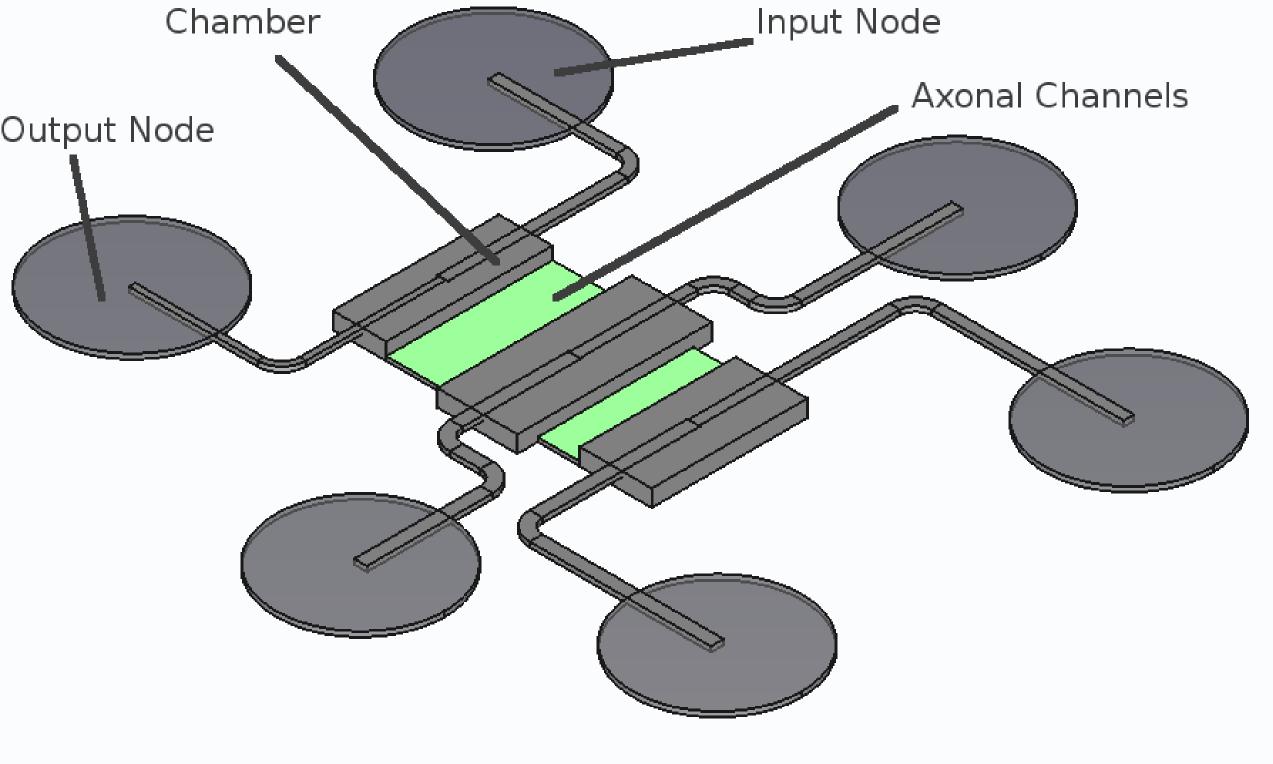
- Formal representation of chip requirements and chip designs
- Semi-automatic chip design from specifications
- Already done on several practical cases:
  - Basal ganglia loop (5 nodes)
  - Several toy models (2 to 4 nodes)

- Channel routing
- Microfluidic constraints:
  - Navier-stokes equations.
    - $\Delta_Z = \frac{\eta Q}{\rho g} \left( \frac{\lambda_{in} L_{in}}{W_{in} H_{in}^3} + \frac{\lambda_{ch} L_{ch}}{W_{ch} H_{ch}^3} + \frac{\lambda_{out} L_{out}}{W_{out} H_{out}^3} \right)$
- Fabrication constraints:
  - Two chambers should be not too close
- Neural-engineering constraints:
  - Channel width and length related to their brain equivalent
  - Each node contains a specific number of neurons

#### **Chip Architecture**

#### Perspectives





- Continue to implement brains models
- Study algorithms to optimize chamber placement
- Implement heuristics to route channels automatically

# **Bibliography**

Sung-Joo Lim, Julie A Fiez, and Lori L Holt. How may the basal ganglia contribute to auditory categorization and speech perception? Frontiers in neuroscience, 8, 2014.