



## Probing retinal function with a multi-layered simulator

Evgenia Kartsaki, Bruno Cessac, Gerrit Hilgen, Evelyne Sernagor

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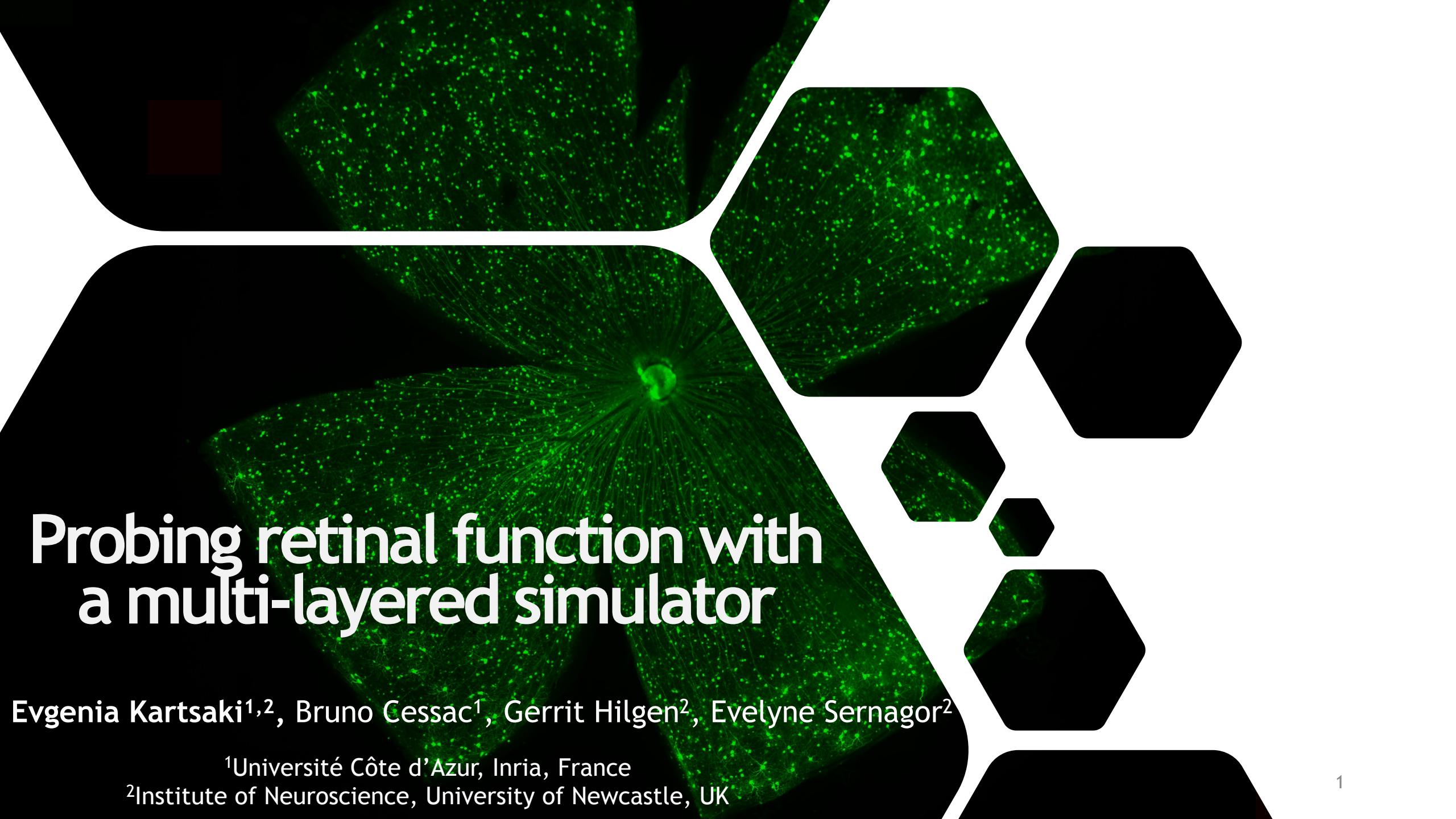
HAL Id: hal-02389076

<https://hal.science/hal-02389076>

Submitted on 2 Dec 2019

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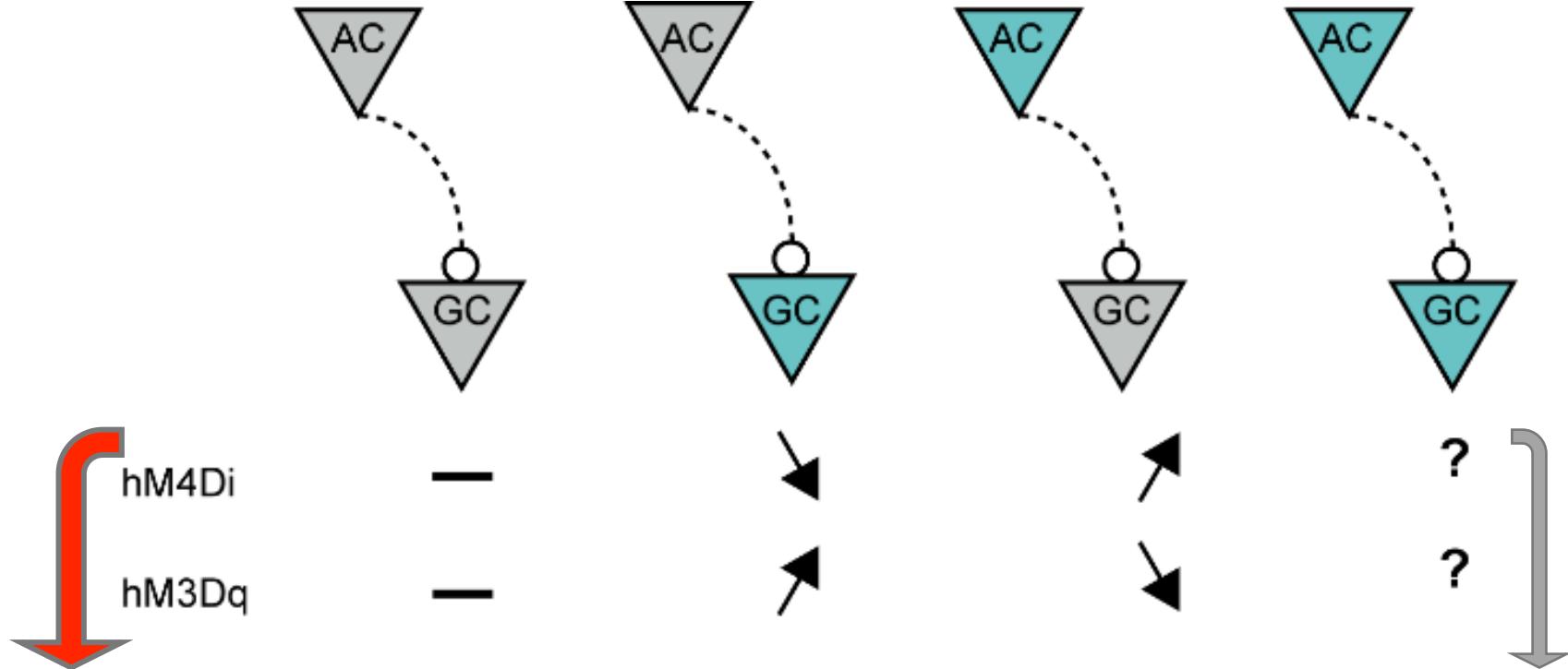


# Probing retinal function with a multi-layered simulator

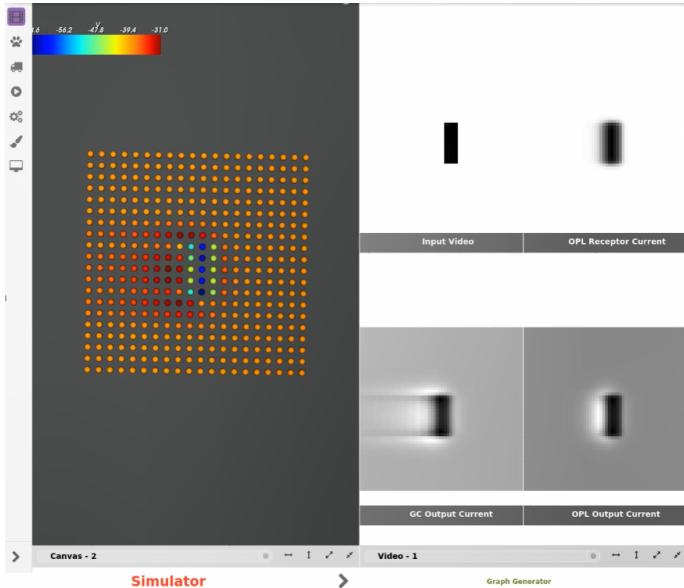
Evgenia Kartsaki<sup>1,2</sup>, Bruno Cessac<sup>1</sup>, Gerrit Hilgen<sup>2</sup>, Evelyne Sernagor<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Université Côte d'Azur, Inria, France

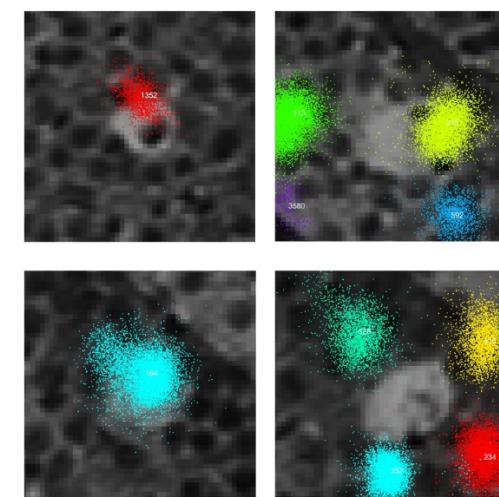
<sup>2</sup>Institute of Neuroscience, University of Newcastle, UK



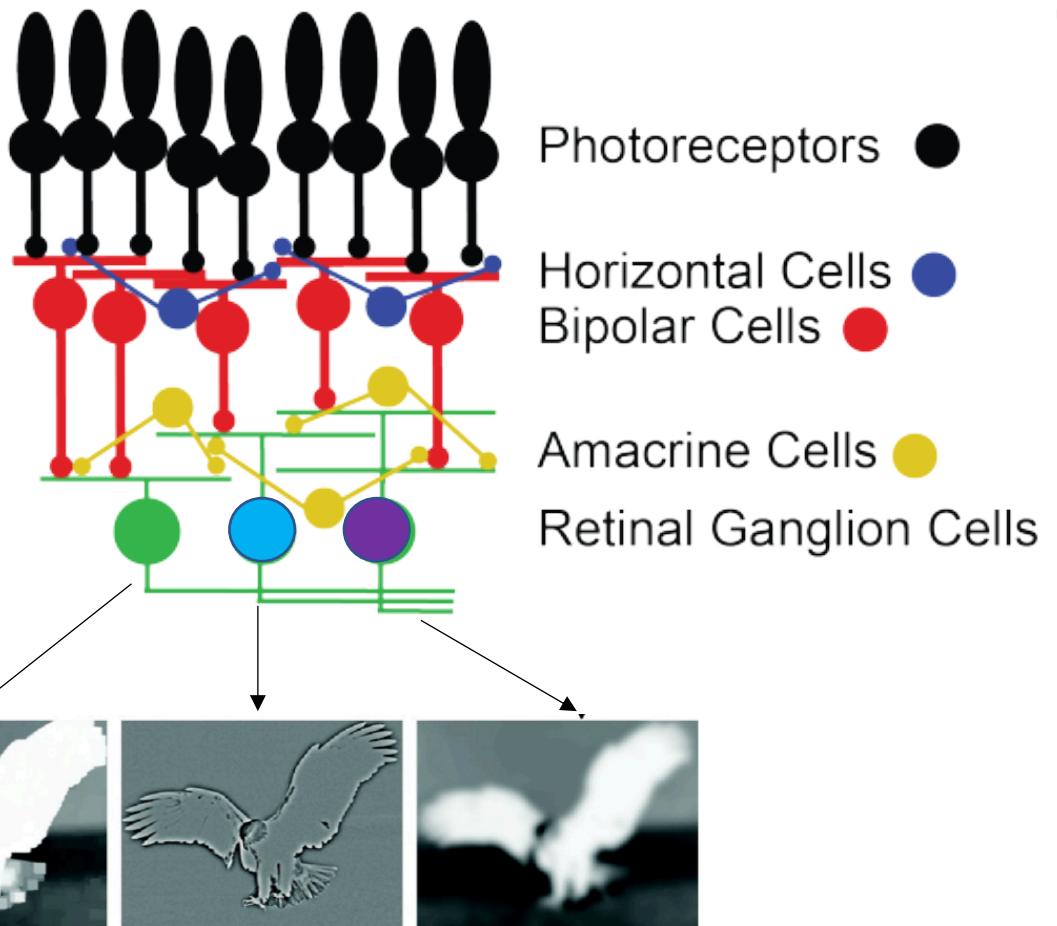
Retinal Simulator

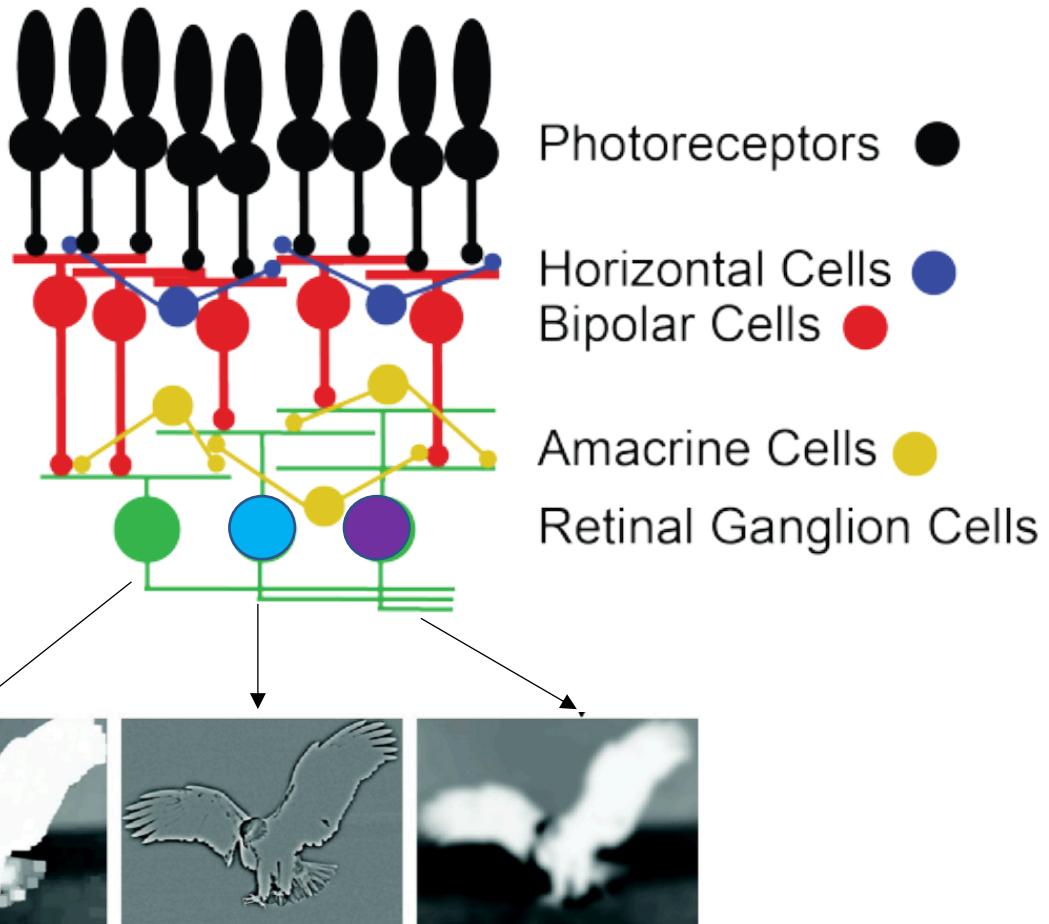


Electrophysiology & IHC

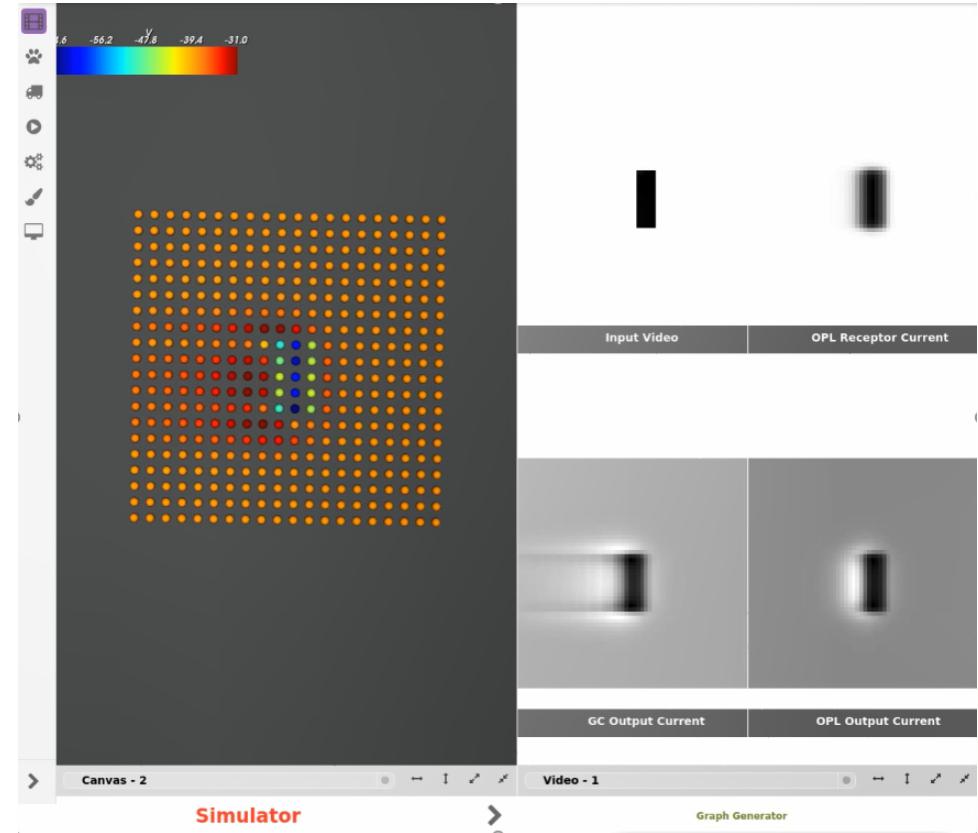


Gerrit Hilgen

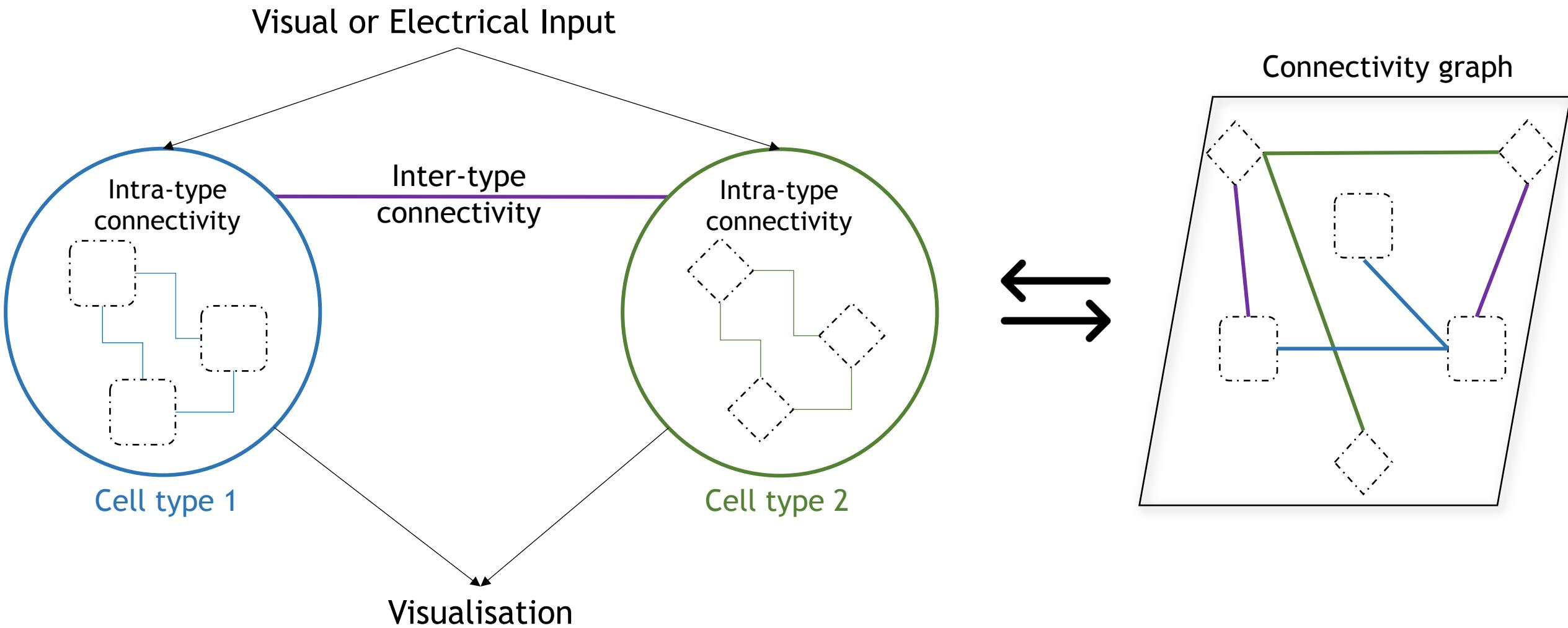




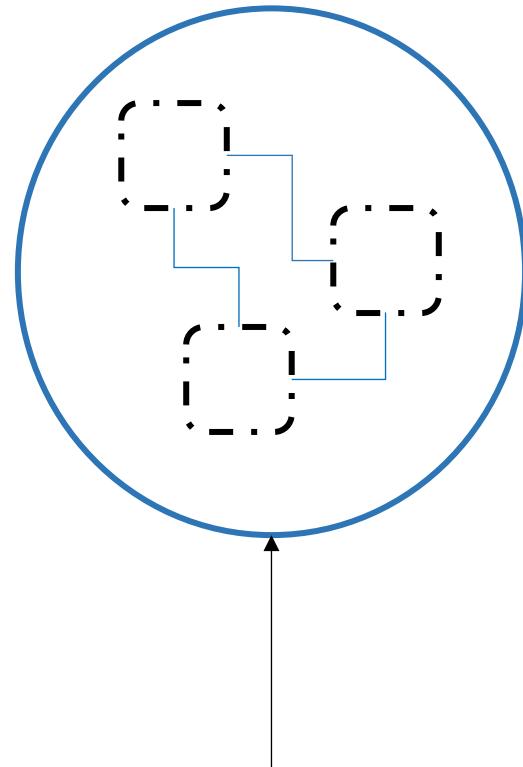
Macular



# General structure



# Basic building blocks - cell



Visual or Electrical Input

# Cell

- ✓ A set of **variables** evolving in time and characterizing the cell's evolution : e.g. membrane potential, probability that a ionic channel of a given type is open etc.

macularCell
+ State X : vector
+ Parameters $\mu$ : vector
+ Isyn : double
+ Iext : double
+ function f ( X, $\mu$ , Isyn, Iext ) : void

# Cell

- ✓ A set of **variables** evolving in time and characterizing the cell's evolution : e.g. membrane potential, probability that a ionic channel of a given type is open etc.
- ✓ A set of **parameters** that constrain the cell's evolution : e.g. conductance, reversal potential, membrane capacitance, characteristic time of a channel's activity

```
macularCell
+ State X : vector
+ Parameters μ : vector
+ Isyn : double
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+ function f ( X, μ, Isyn, Iext ) : void
```

# Cell

- ✓ A set of **variables** evolving in time and characterizing the cell's evolution : e.g. membrane potential, probability that a ionic channel of a given type is open etc.
- ✓ A set of **parameters** that constrain the cell's evolution : e.g. conductance, reversal potential, membrane capacitance, characteristic time of a channel's activity
- ✓ A function controlling the cell's evolution with a differential equation

```
macularCell
+ State X : vector
+ Parameters μ : vector
+ Isyn : double
+ Iext : double
+ function f ( X, μ, Isyn, Iext ) : void
```

# Cell

- ✓ A set of **variables** evolving in time and characterizing the cell's evolution : e.g. membrane potential, probability that a ionic channel of a given type is open etc.
- ✓ A set of **parameters** that constrain the cell's evolution : e.g. conductance, reversal potential, membrane capacitance, characteristic time of a channel's activity
- ✓ A function controlling the cell's evolution
- ✓ **Isyn** : A synaptic input corresponding to synaptic connections with other cells

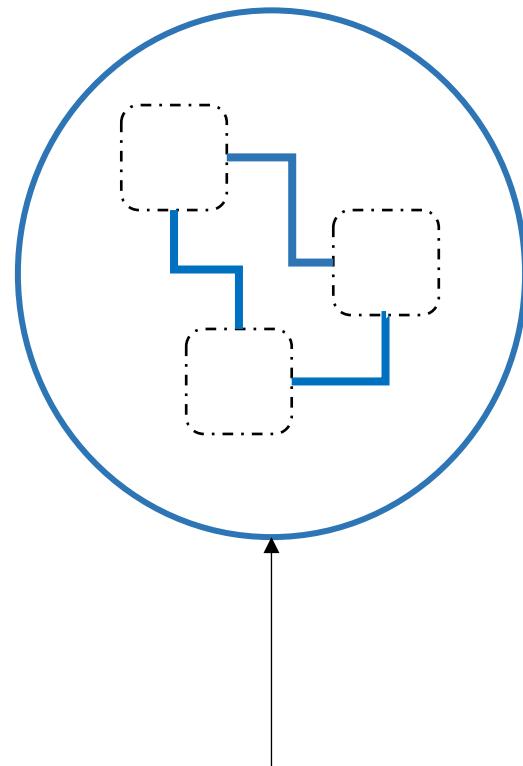
```
macularCell
+ State X : vector
+ Parameters μ : vector
+ Isyn : double
+ Iext : double
+ function f ( X, μ, Isyn, Iext ) : void
```

# Cell

- ✓ A set of **variables** evolving in time and characterizing the cell's evolution : e.g. membrane potential, probability that a ionic channel of a given type is open etc.
- ✓ A set of **parameters** that constrain the cell's evolution : e.g. conductance, reversal potential, membrane capacitance, characteristic time of a channel's activity
- ✓ A function controlling the cell's evolution
- ✓ **Isyn** : A synaptic input corresponding to synaptic connections with other cells
- ✓ **Iext** : An external input corresponding either to a visual input or the electric current provided by an electrode

```
macularCell
+ State X : vector
+ Parameters μ : vector
+ Isyn : double
+ Iext : double
+ function f ( X, μ, Isyn, Iext ) : void
```

# Basic building blocks - synapse



Visual or Electrical Input

# Synapse

macularSynapse

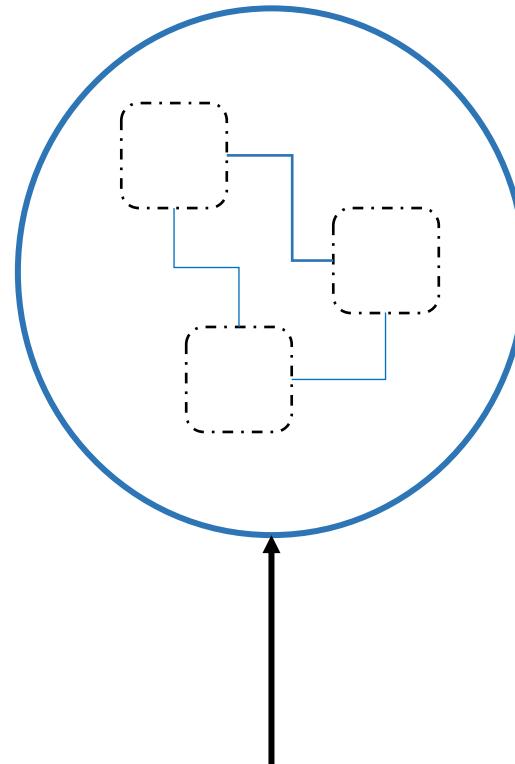
+ Variables X : vector

+ Parameters μ : vector

+ computeSynapticCurrent (X, μ, pre, post) : void

- ✓ Chemical or electrical (gap junction)
- ✓ A set of variables that evolve in time : e.g. conductance
- ✓ A set of parameters : e.g. synaptic weight

# Basic building blocks - External Input

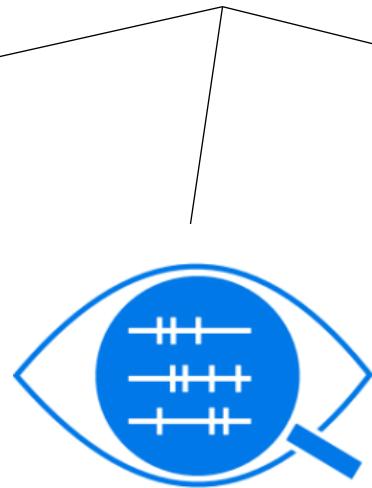


Visual or Electrical Input

# External Input



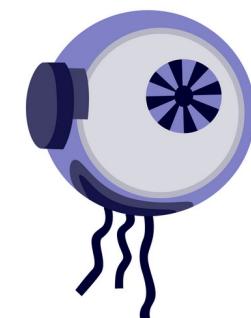
Visual Input



Virtual Retina module

- ✓ Emulate the outer plexiform layer (OPL) current

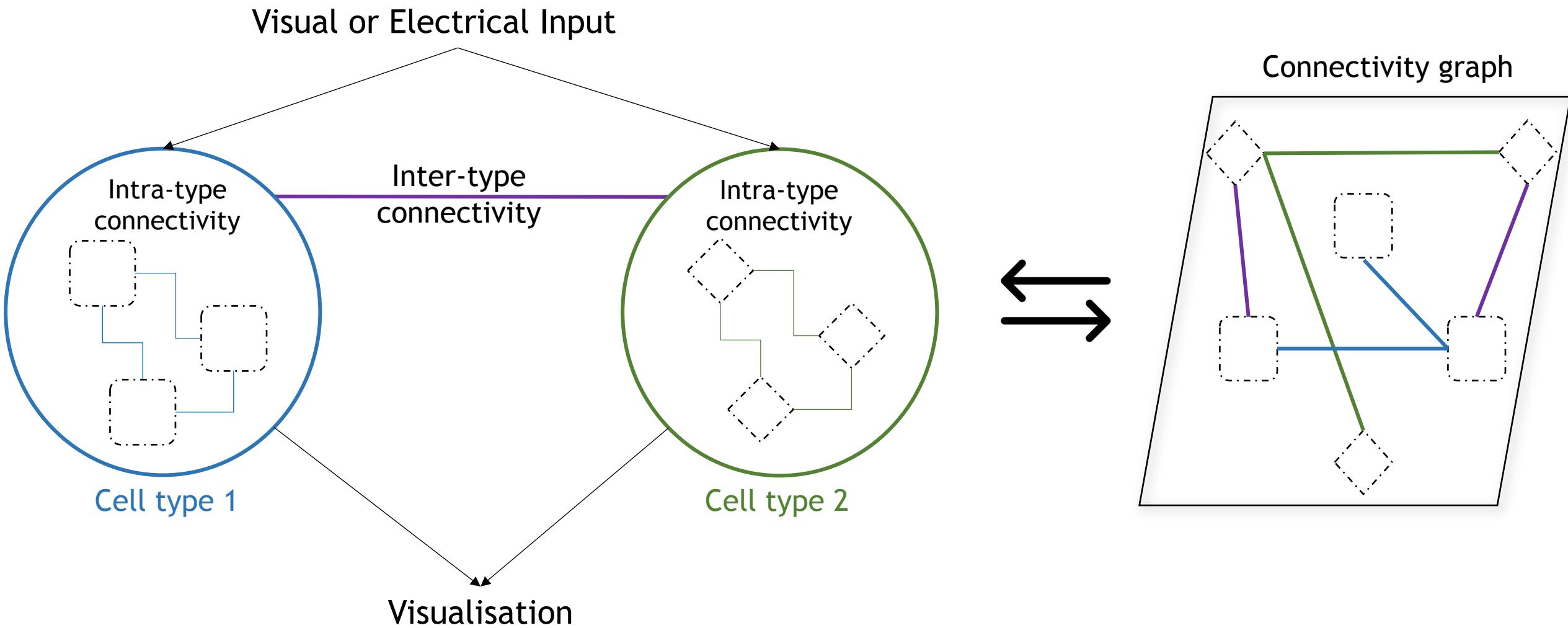
A.Wohrer et al., 2009



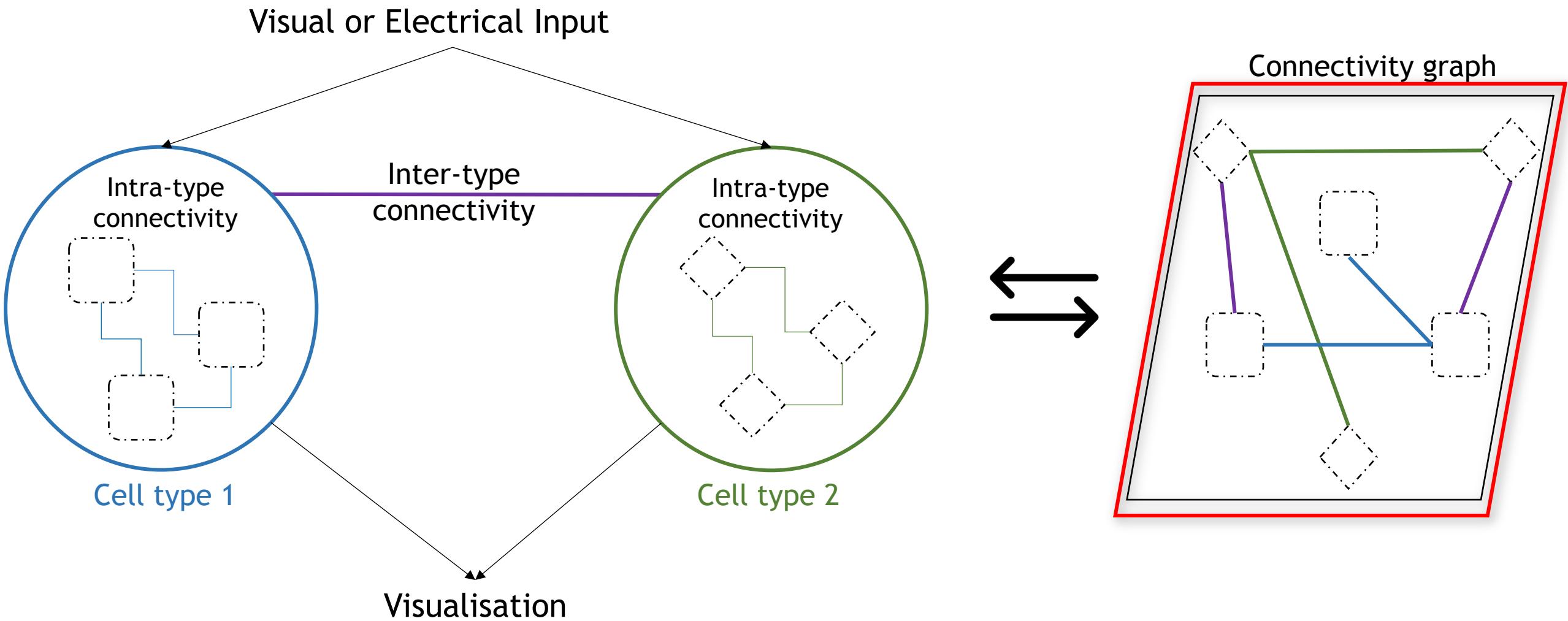
Retinal prosthesis

- ✓ Emulate the electric current provided by an electrode

# General structure



# General structure



# Graph

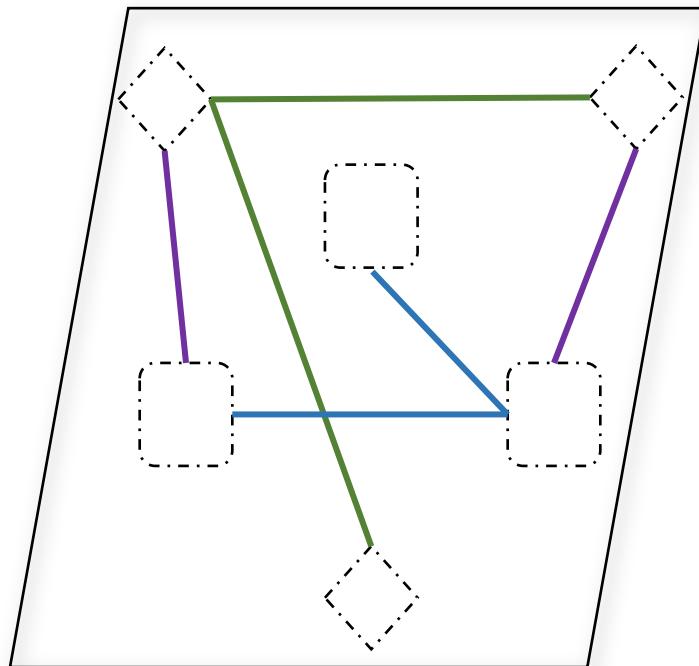
**macularGraph**

- + cells : macularCell
- + synapses : macularSynapse
- + CellCoordinates: vector
- + SynapseIndices: vector

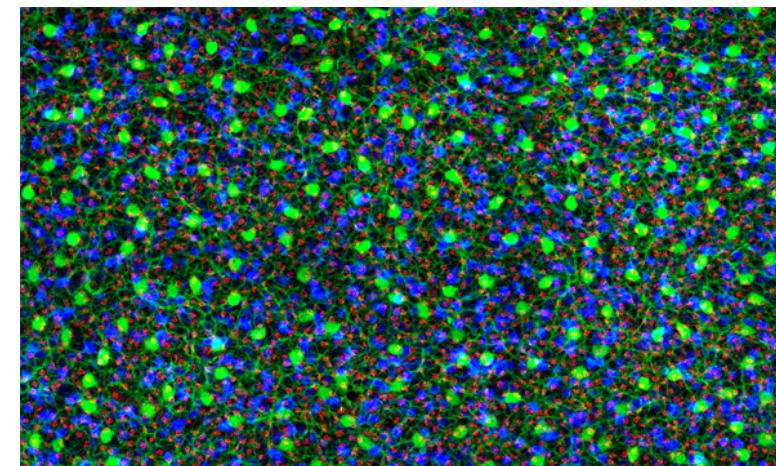
- ✓ Cell types
- ✓ Synapse types
- ✓ Cell coordinates
- ✓ Synapse indices

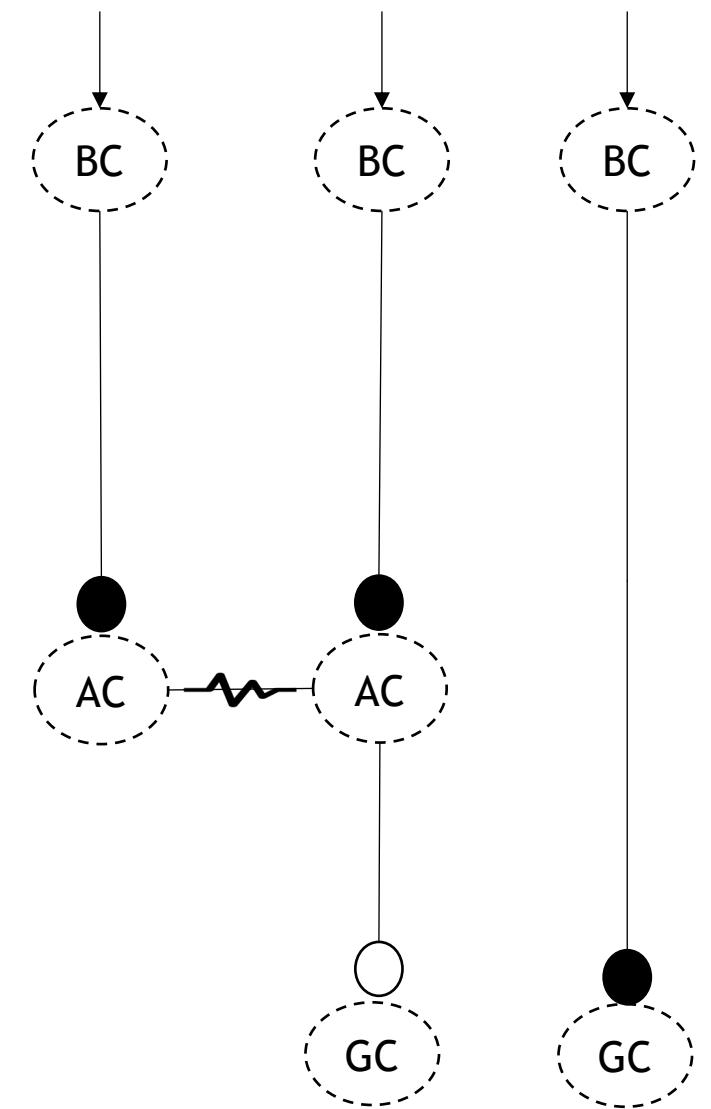
# Graph

Connectivity graph



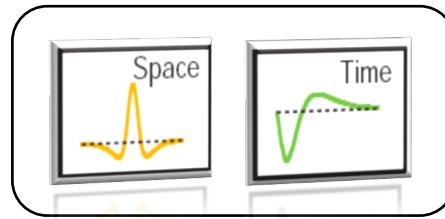
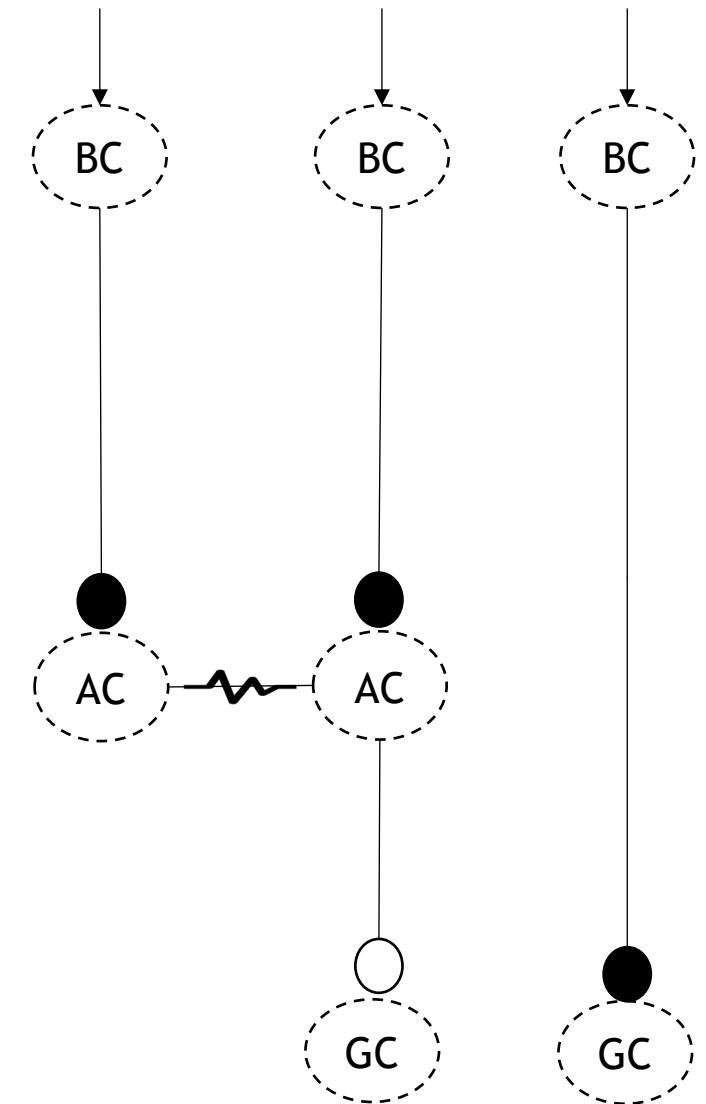
- ☞ Design a local circuit with specific connectivity patterns
- ☞ Deploy it to the whole retina





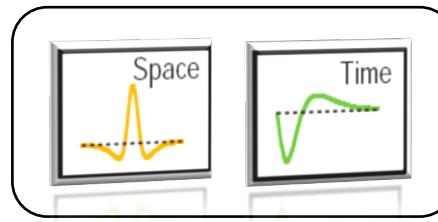
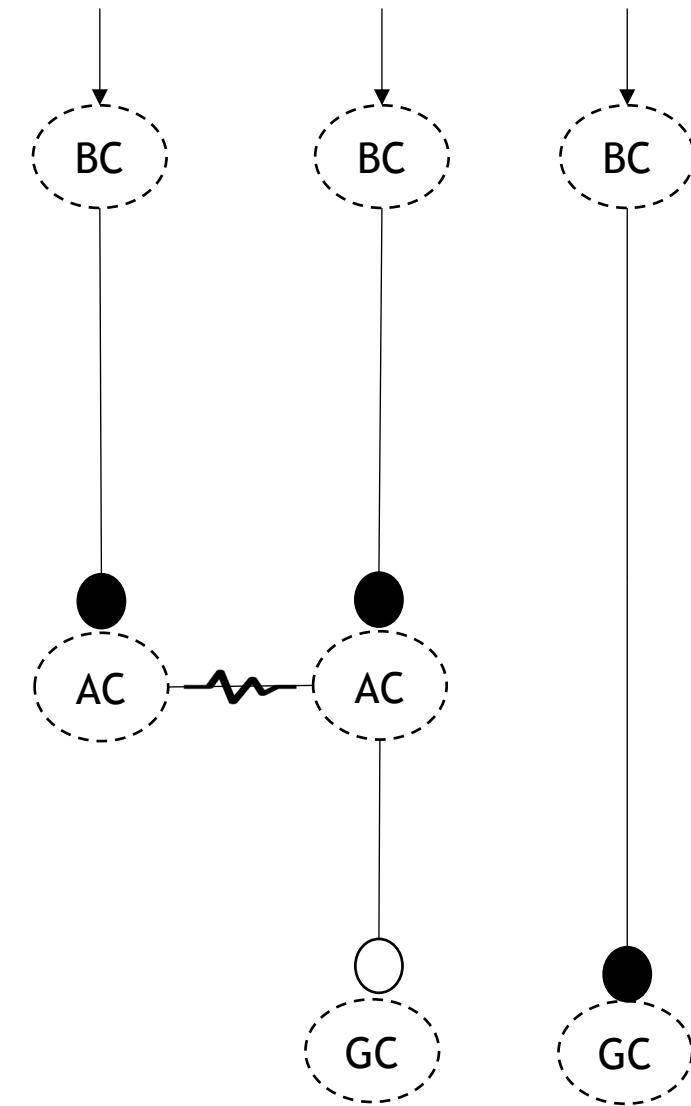
● ○ Chemical synapse

—~— Electrical synapse



$$K(x, y, t) = K_S(x, y)K_T(t)$$

$$\int (S * K)(x,y,t)$$



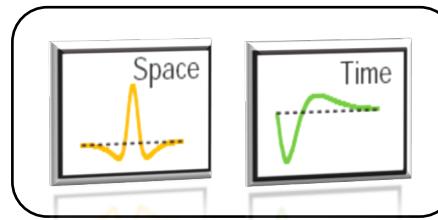
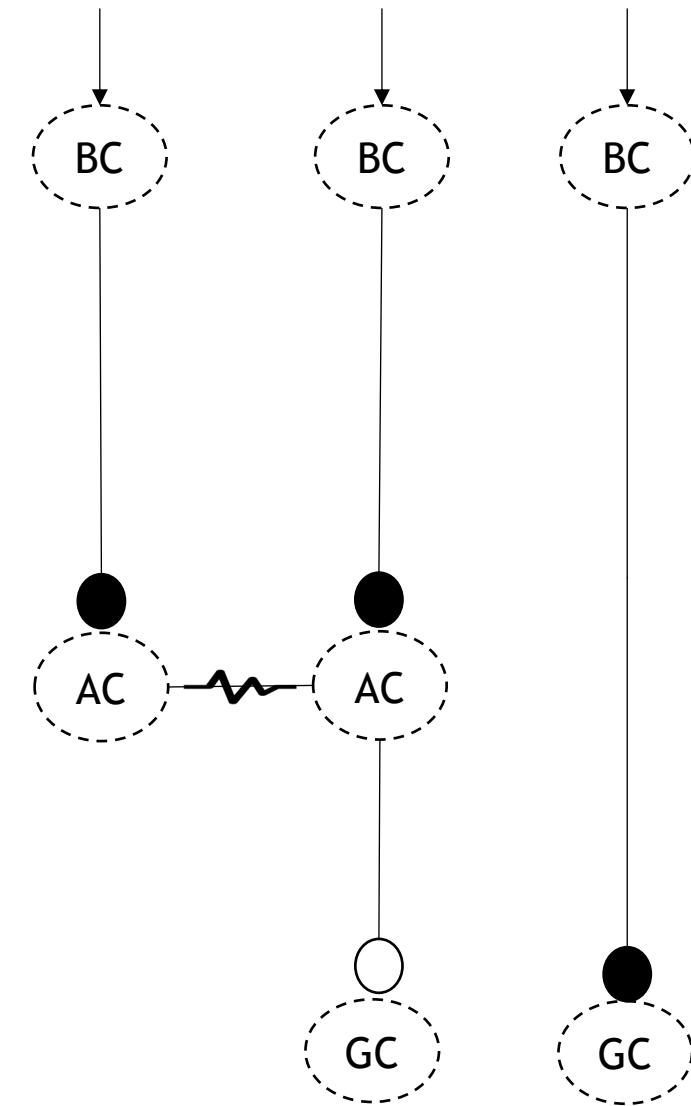
● ○ Chemical synapse  
—~— Electrical synapse

$$K(x, y, t) = K_S(x, y)K_T(t)$$

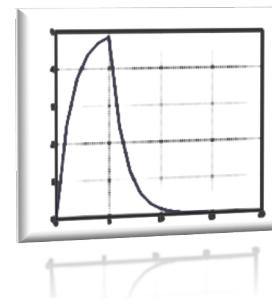
$$\int (S * K)(x, y, t)$$

$$I_{syn} = -g_{syn} (V_{post} - E_{syn})$$

$$I_{GAP} = -g_{GAP} (V_{post} - V_{pre})$$



Chemical synapse  
 Electrical synapse



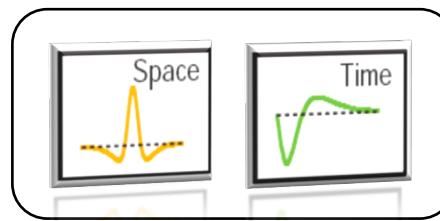
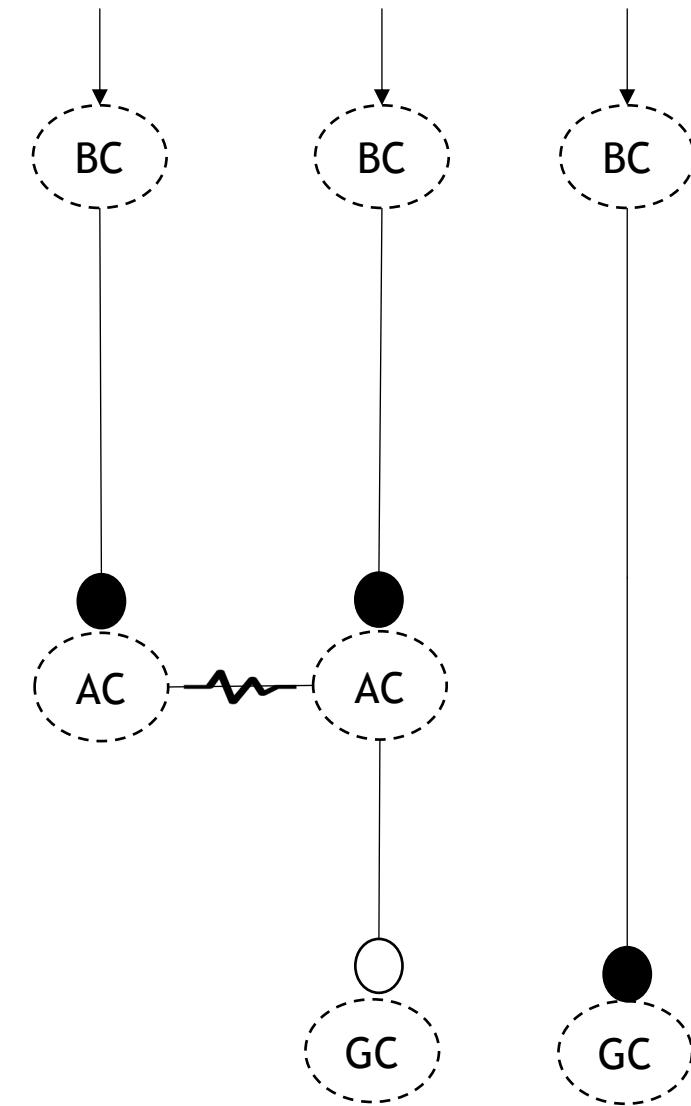
$$K(x, y, t) = K_S(x, y)K_T(t)$$

$$\int (S * K)(x, y, t)$$

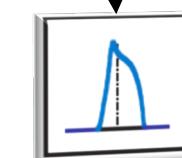
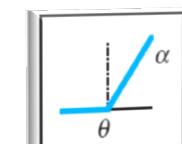
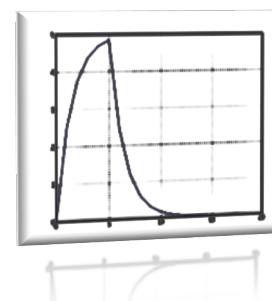
$$I_{syn} = -g_{syn} (V_{post} - E_{syn})$$

$$I_{GAP} = -g_{GAP} (V_{post} - V_{pre})$$

$$C \frac{dV}{dt} = -g_L(V - V_L) + I_{syn} + I_{ext} + I_{CNO}$$



Chemical synapse  
 Electrical synapse



$$K(x, y, t) = K_S(x, y)K_T(t)$$

$$\int (S * K)(x,y,t)$$

$$I_{syn} = -g_{syn} (V_{post} - E_{syn})$$

$$I_{GAP} = -g_{GAP}(V_{post} - V_{pre})$$

$$C \frac{dV}{dt} = -g_L(V - V_L) + I_{syn} + I_{ext} + I_{CNO}$$

$$N_G(V) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } (V \leq 0) \\ \alpha(V - \theta), & \text{if } (\theta \leq V \leq \frac{N_{max}}{\alpha + \theta}) \\ N_{max}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

All Items

Identifier: Acetylcholine

Macular repository: macular

Add parameter

Add function

gAch(A, gA, gammaA)

doc: Acetylcholine conductance for nicotinic receptors

format: SymPy

Edition:  
$$gA * A^{**2} / (gammaA + A^{**2})$$

State: All

Acetylcholine

+ New: Cell, Synapse

File: Write C++ files, Themes, Choose Theme >

Delete function

Model synaptic current

$$- gAch(pre_A, post_gAchMax, post_gammaAch) * (post_V - post_VAch)$$

Cancel Save

The screenshot shows the 'All Items' section of the Macular Synapse Model. On the left, there's a sidebar with icons for settings, identifier, extend, and a plus sign. Below that are sections for 'Model functions' and 'Model synaptic current'. In the 'Model functions' section, there's a code snippet for 'gAch(A, gA, gammaA)' with a docstring 'Acetylcholine conductance for nicotinic receptors' and a SymPy format. An 'Edition' checkbox is checked, revealing a mathematical formula. There are dropdowns for 'State' (set to 'All') and 'Acetylcholine'. Below these are buttons for '+ New' (Cell, Synapse), 'File' (Write C++ files, Themes, Choose Theme), and a 'Delete function' button. At the bottom, there's a 'Model synaptic current' section with a formula involving 'gAch' and variables 'pre\_A', 'post\_gAchMax', 'post\_gammaAch', 'post\_V', and 'post\_VAch'. At the very bottom are 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons.



Ganglions  
Video

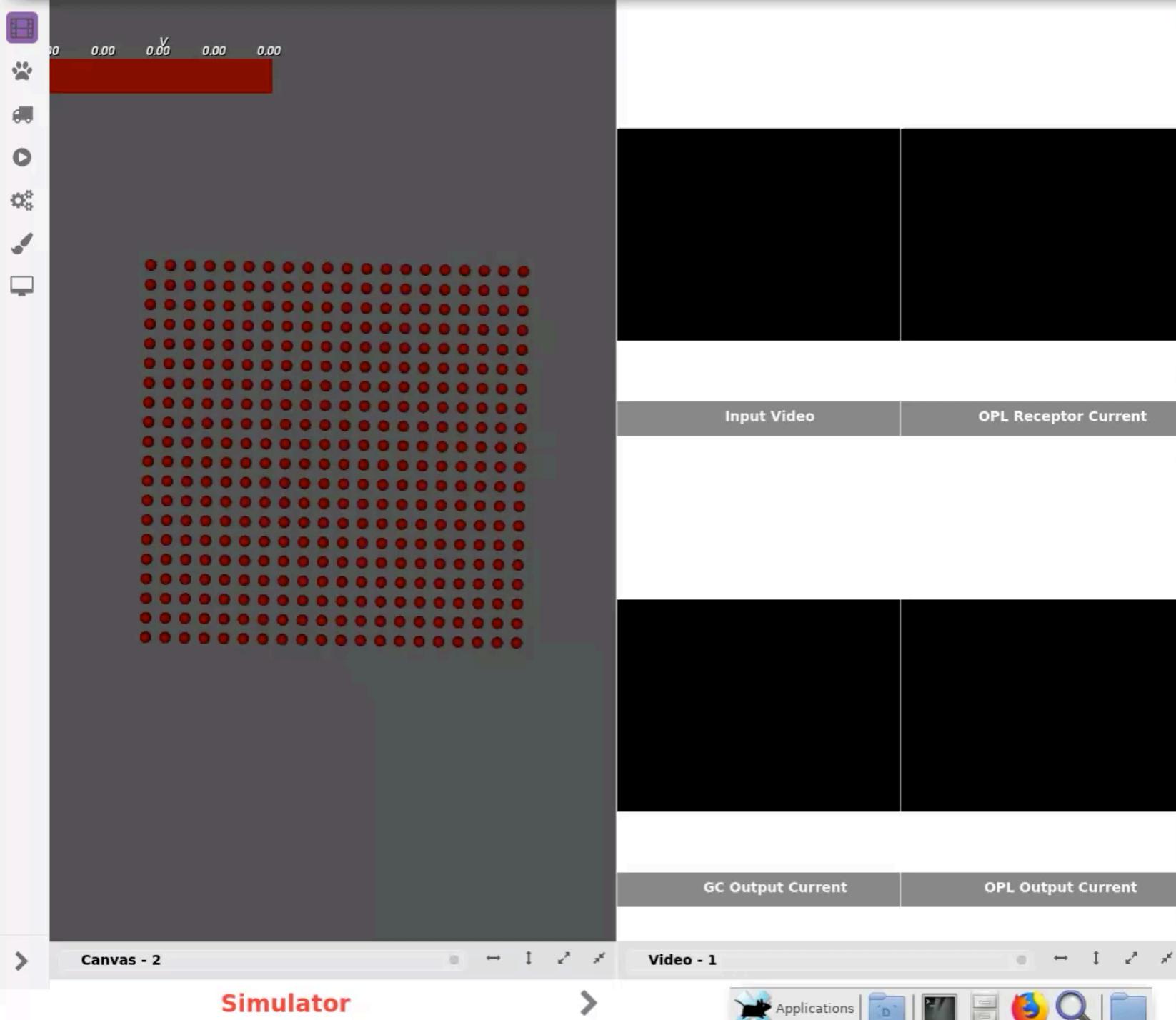


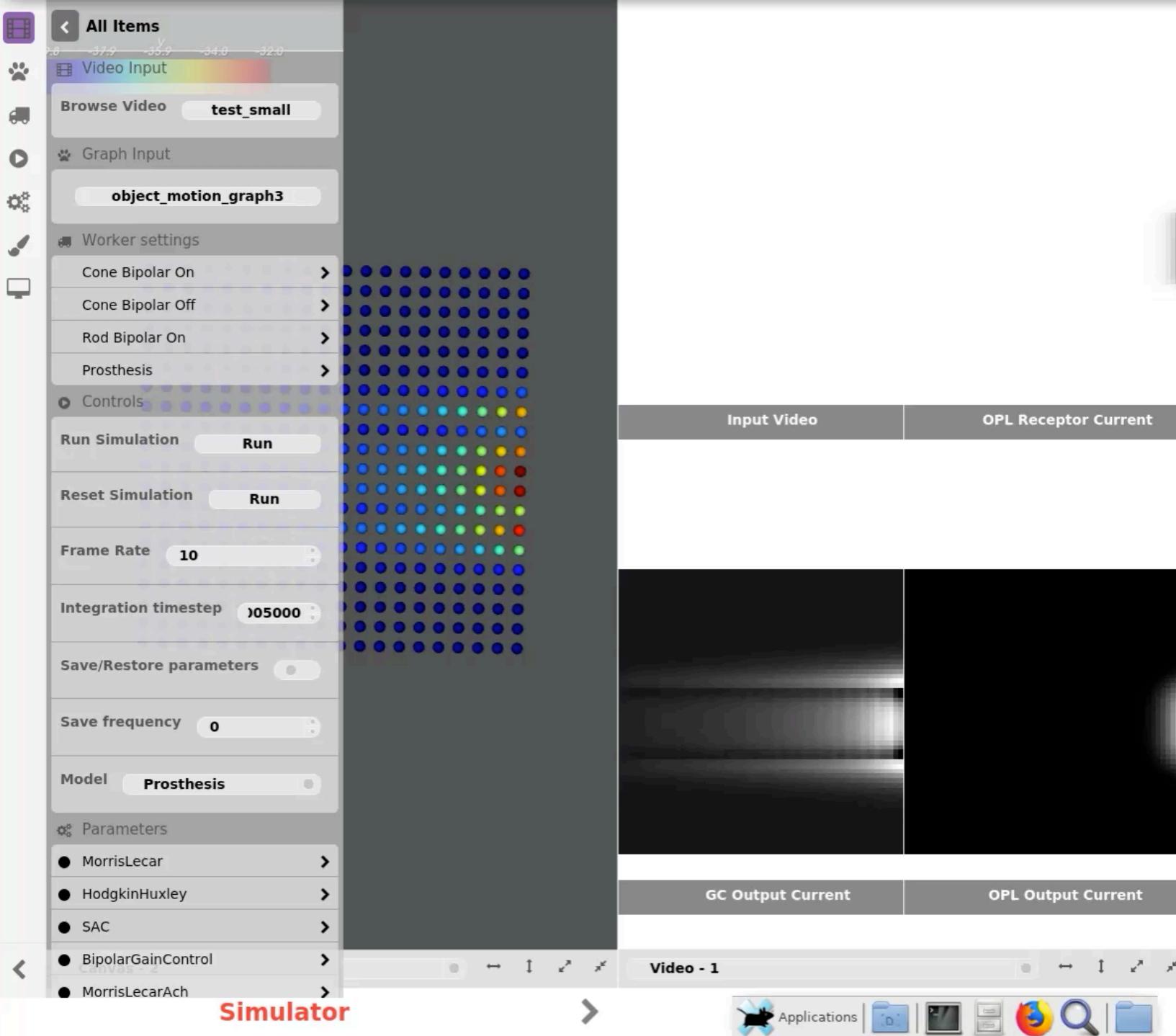
Simulator



Graph Generator







# Acknowledgements

Prof. Evelyne Sernagor  
Dr. Gerrit Hilgen



Dr. Bruno Cessac  
AMDT team

Biovision team



LEVERHULME  
TRUST

The background of the slide features a complex, glowing green neural network or brain activity visualization. It consists of numerous small green dots representing neurons or synapses, with thicker, radiating green lines representing the flow of information or signal strength. The network is centered in the frame, with its main body on the left and right sides and a dense cluster of lines radiating from a central point at the bottom center.

Thank you!

Questions?