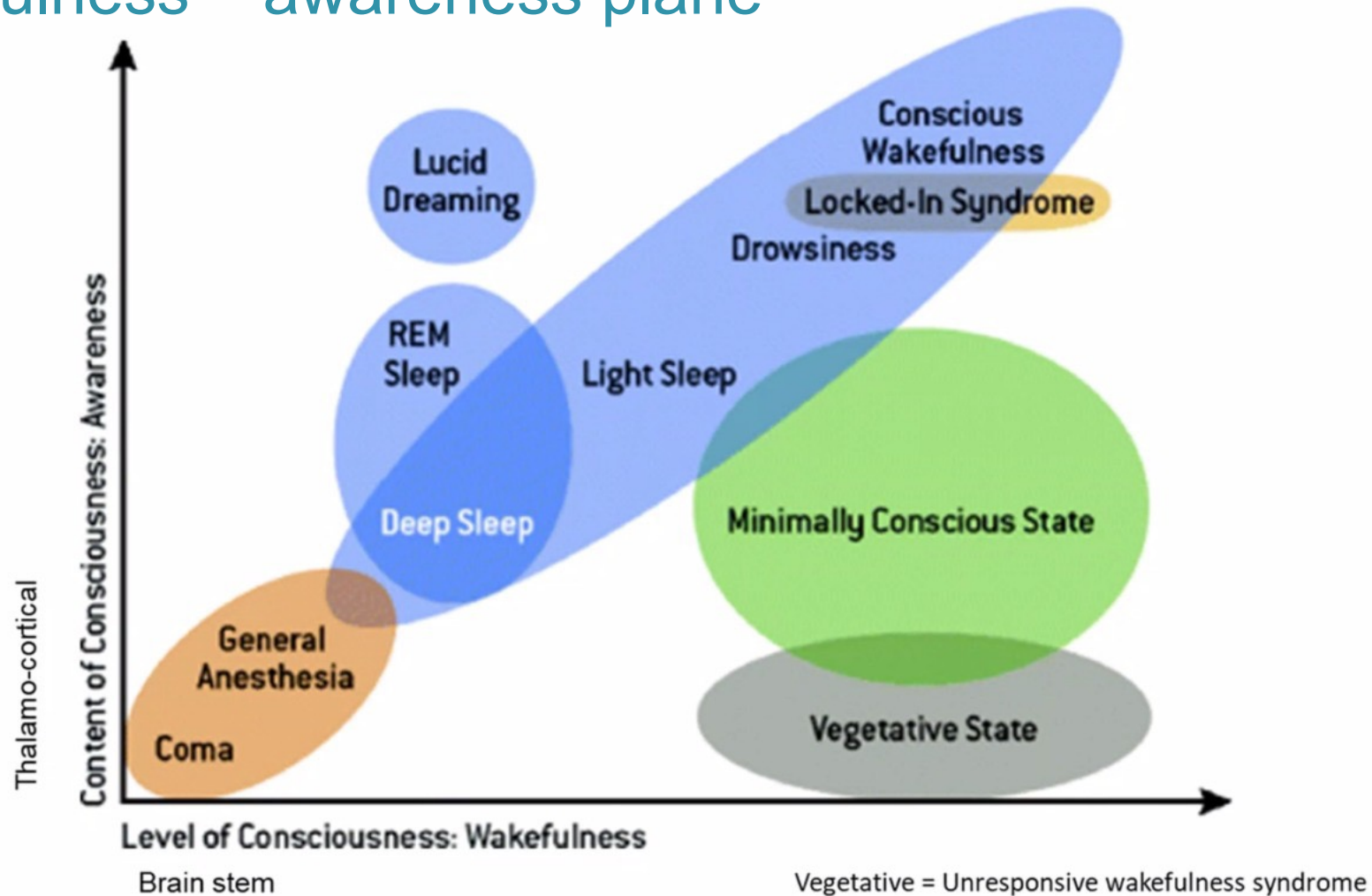


# Cognitive and energetic benefits of awake/sleep cycles during incremental learning in spiking neural networks -> Bio-inspired AI

Pier Stanislao Paolucci

On behalf of APE Lab @ INFN: R. Ammendola, I. Bernava, A. Biagioni, G. De Bonis, C. Capone, P. Cretaro, C. De Luca, O. Frezza, F. Lo Cicero, A. Lonardo, C. Lupo, M. Martinelli, P.S. Paolucci, E. Pastorelli, L. Pontisso, F. Simula, L. Tonielli, M. Turisini, P. Vicini

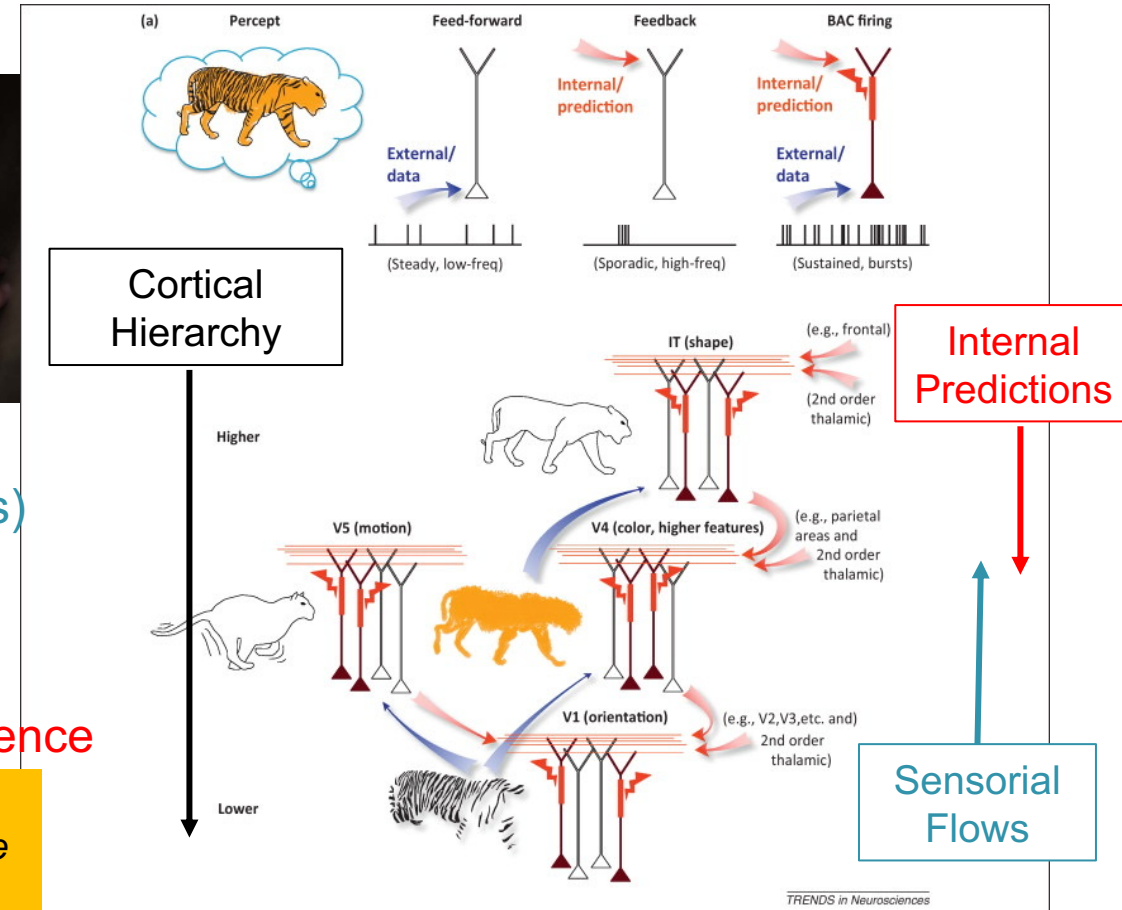
# Brain States and Consciousness: an emerging classification in the wakefulness – awareness plane



M.V. Sanchez-Vives, M. Massimini, S. Laureys, A. Destexhe, J. Storm, M. Mattia, P.S. Paolucci et al. (2020) kick-off meeting of “Networks Underlying Cognition and Consciousness” Work-package, The Human Brain Project.

# Thalamo-cortical spiking models showing the beneficial cognitive and energetic effects of the interplay among sleep and memories, learned by combining contextual and perceptual information

- Sleep essential, in all animal species
- Young humans pass the majority of time sleeping, when learning is faster
  - Sleep deprivation detrimental for cognition, even in adults
    - Sleep deprivation, terrible torture
- Roles in *biological intelligence*
  - Optimization of energy consumption
  - Homeostatic processes (normalization of representations)
  - Novel, creative associations and planning
  - Optimization of performances
  - Recovery /restorations of bio-chemical optimality
- (our opinion) Sleep essential for bio-inspired artificial intelligence

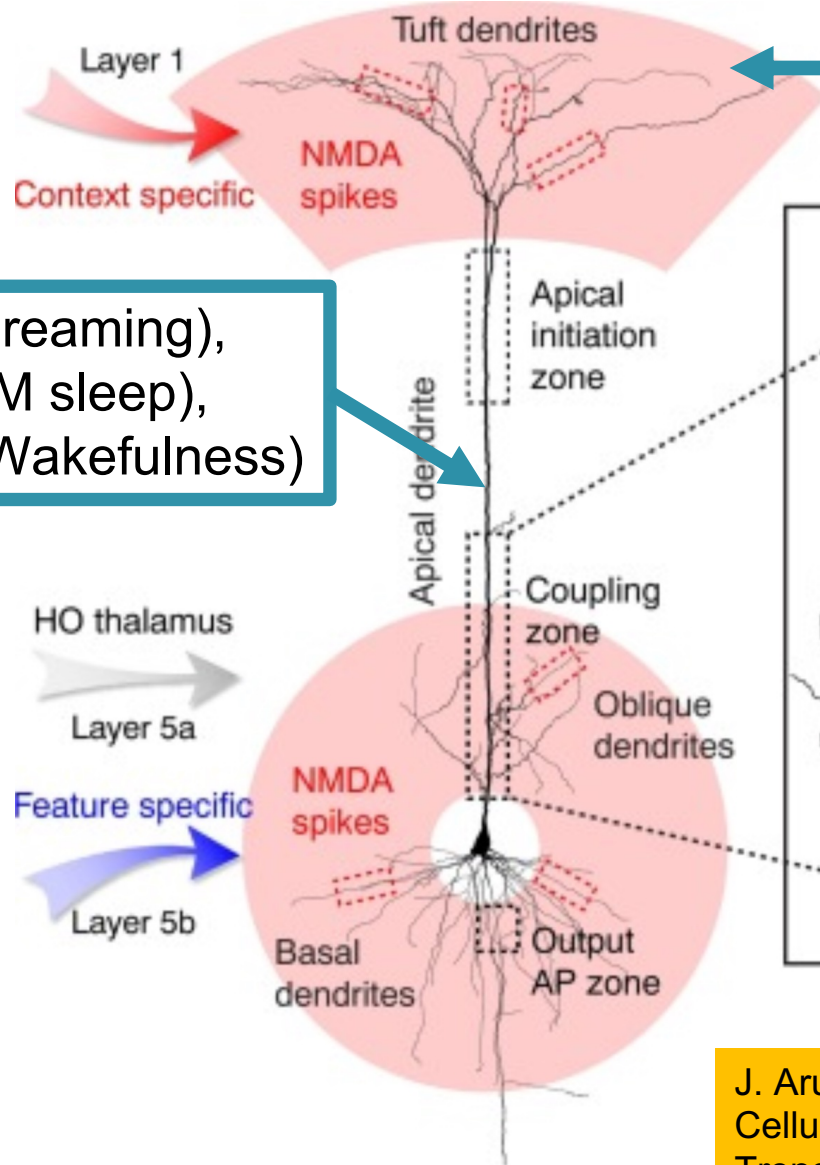


Thalamo-cortical spiking model of incremental learning combining perception, context and NREM-sleep **PLoS Computational Biology** (2021). B. Golosio, C. De Luca, C. Capone, ..., P.S. Paolucci. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1009045>

Sleep-like slow oscillations improve visual classification through synaptic homeostasis and memory association in a thalamo-cortical model **Scientific Reports** (2019). C. Capone, E. Pastorelli, B. Golosio, P.S. Paolucci. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-45525-0>

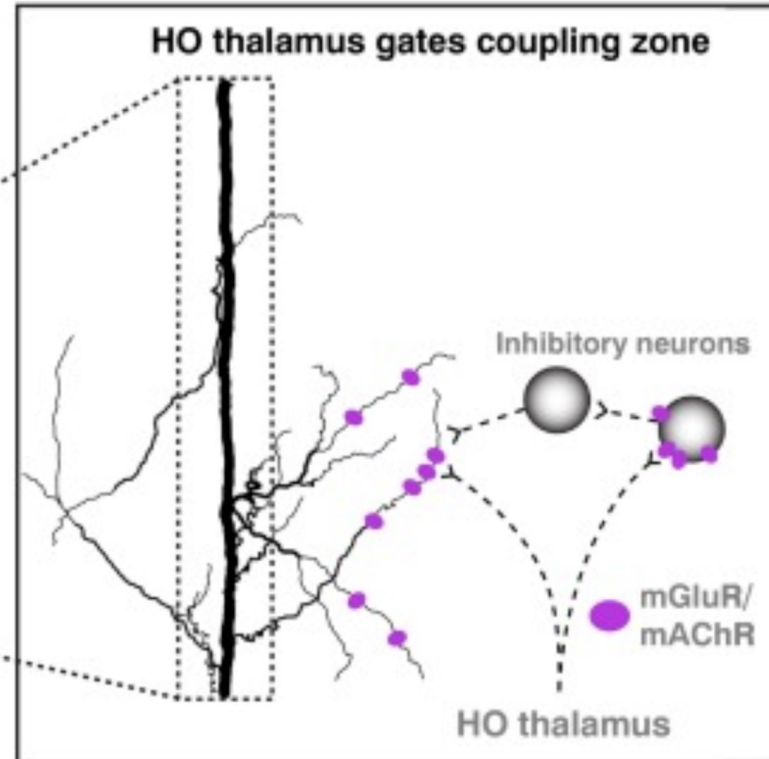
Larkum, M. A cellular mechanism for cortical associations: an organizing principle for the cerebral cortex. **Trends in Neurosciences**, 36 (2013), 141.





XOR, AND, OR  
on contextual information

Apical Drive (Dreaming),  
Isolation (NREM sleep),  
Amplification (Wakefulness)

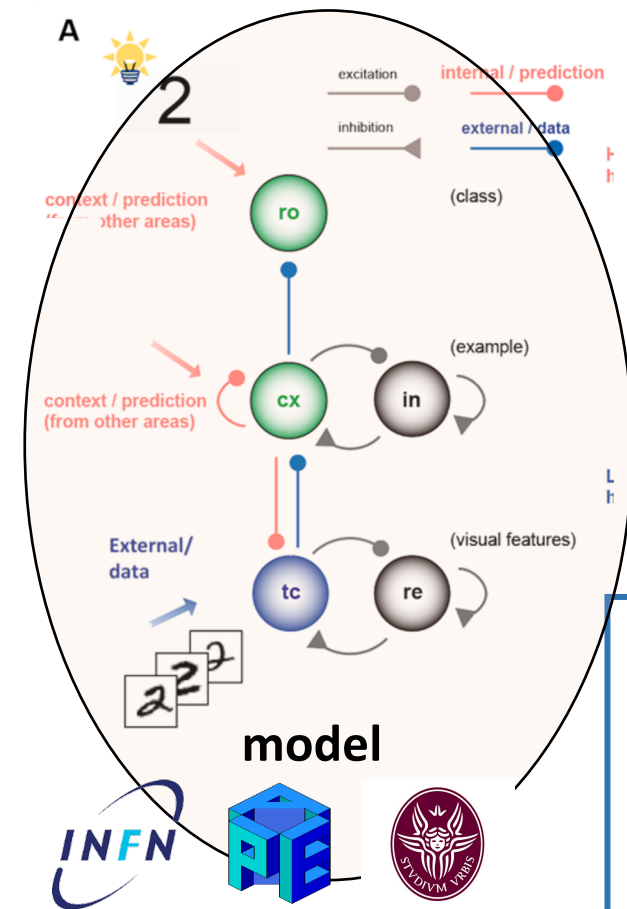


Sleep / wake  
dependent  
neural  
mechanisms of  
conscious /  
unconscious  
processing

J. Aru, M. Suzuki, M. E. Larkum, (2020)  
Cellular Mechanisms of Conscious Processing  
Trends in Cognitive Sciences  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2020.07.006>

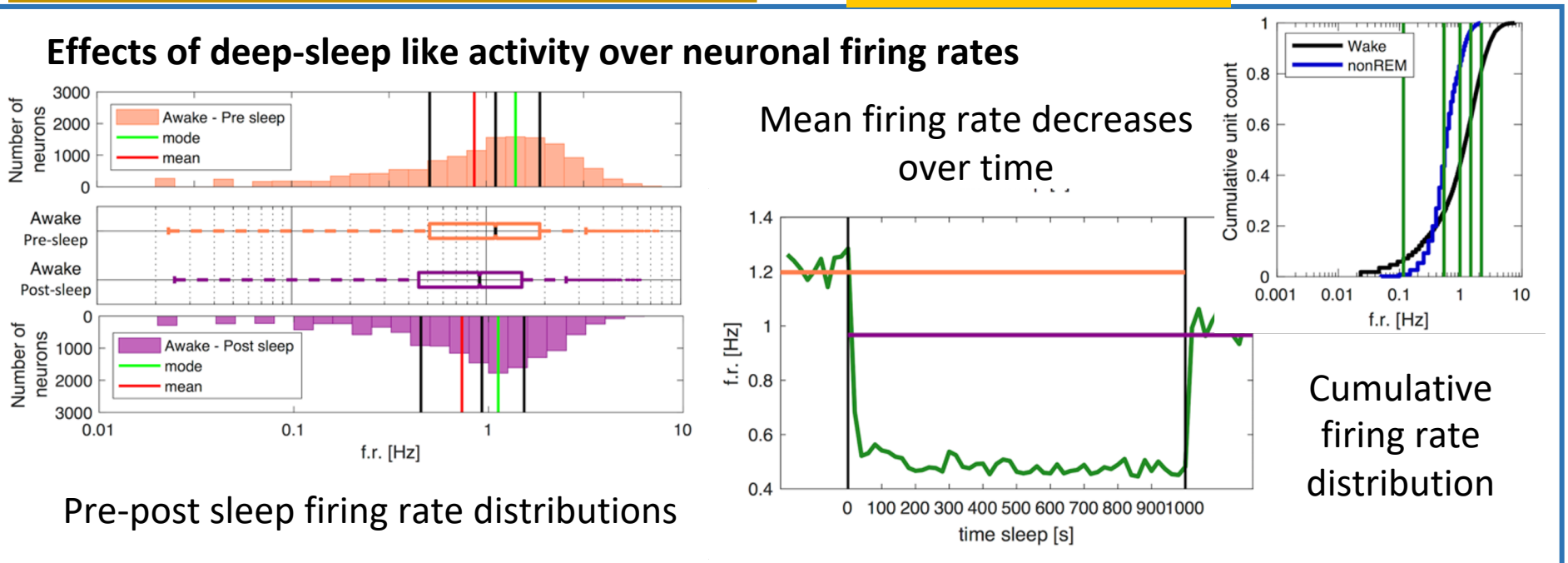
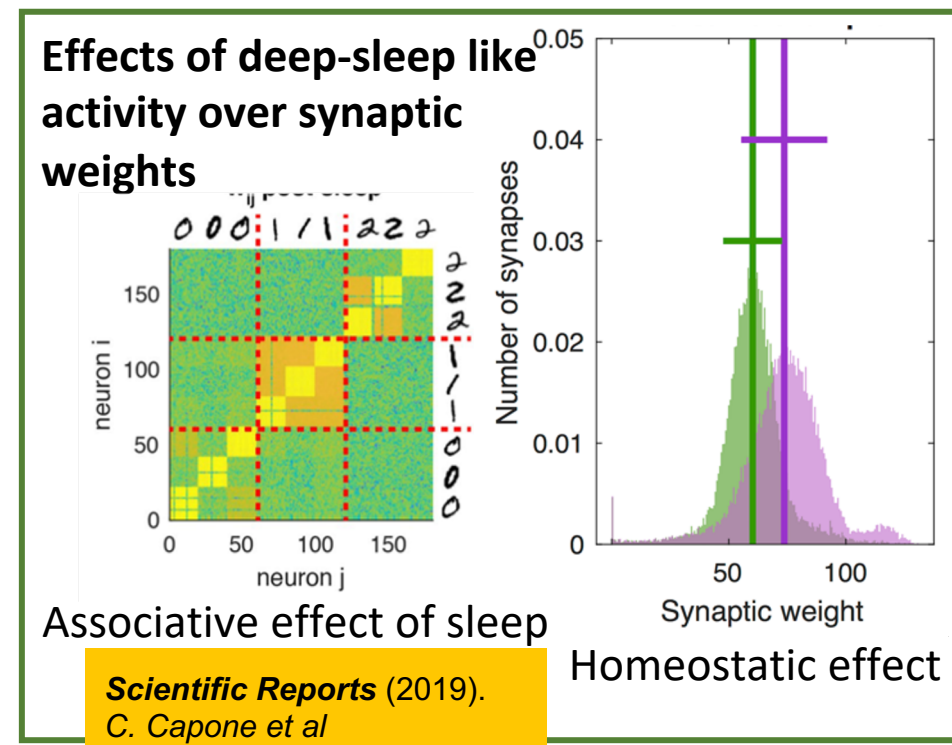
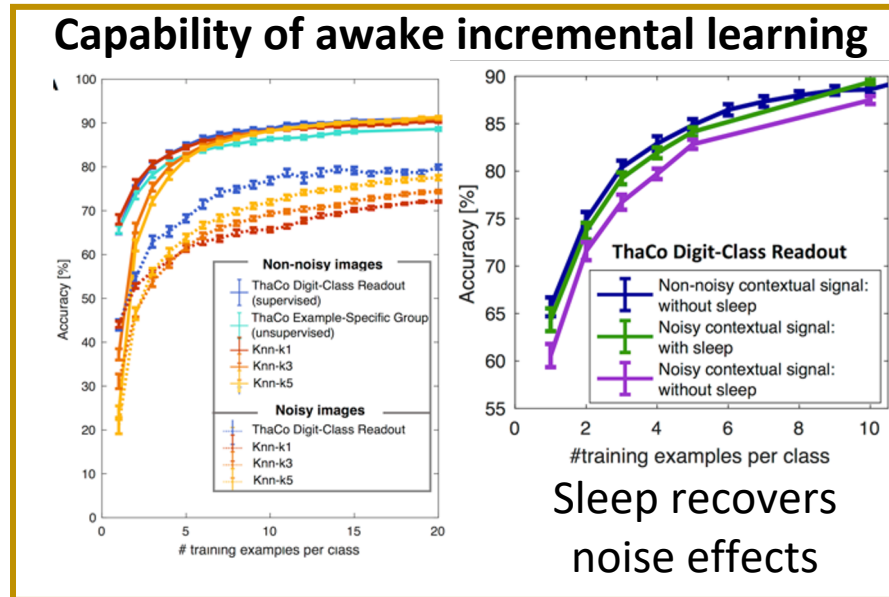


# Thalamo-cortical INFN models of the energetic and cognitive effects of sleep after awake learning



Thalamo-cortical ... **PLoS Computational Biology** (2021). B. Golosio, C. De Luca, C. Capone, ..., P.S. Paolucci.

comparable with experiment  
Watson et al. **Neuron** 90 (2016)



# In progress INFN work to add dreaming (REM) to deep-sleep (NREM) and wakefulness modeling

## Apical Amplification – Isolation – Drive VS Wakefulness, NREM, REM

Cellular mechanism supporting “brain state specific”

combination/decoupling of

contextual information

(i.e. internal information,

flowing either Top-Down from areas higher in the abstraction

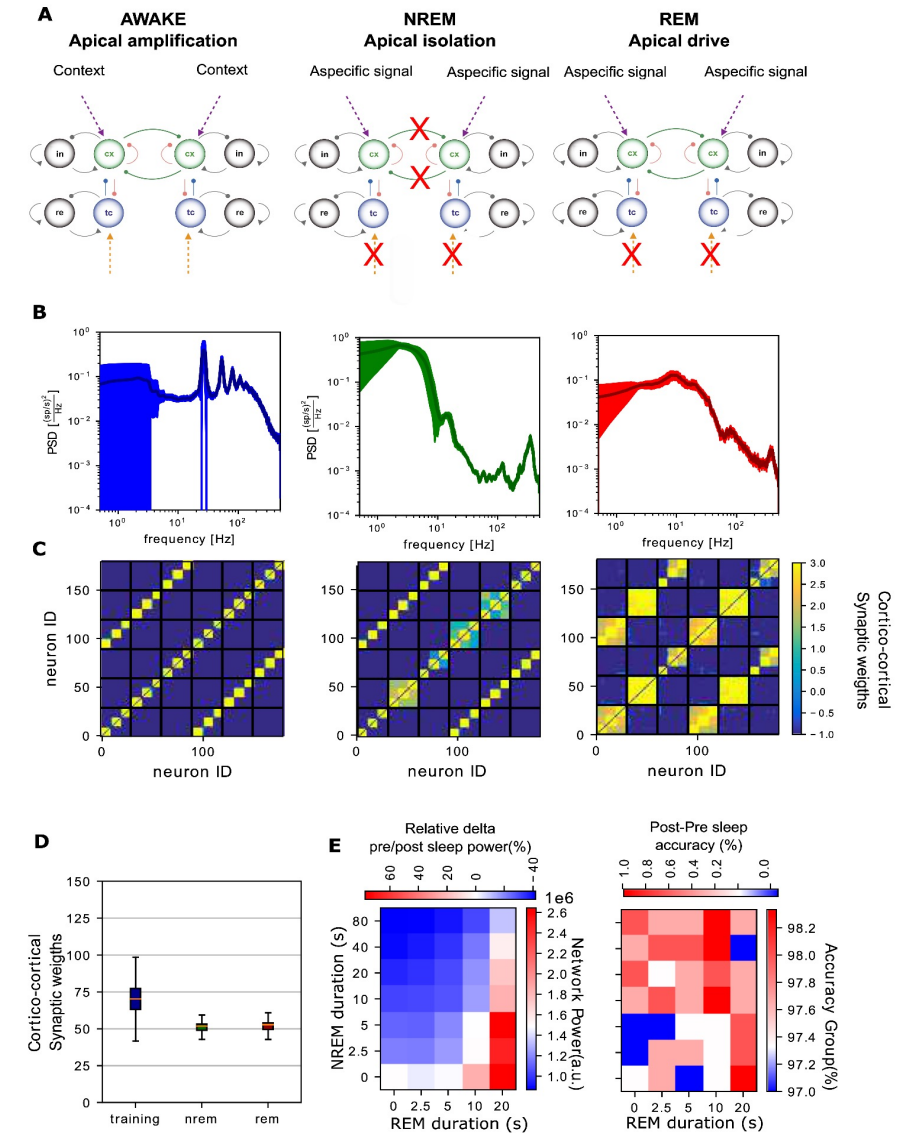
Hierarchy and/or Laterally from other areas at similar level of abstraction

With

bottom-up evidence from sensory system or areas lower in the abstraction hierarchy

J. Aru, F. Siclari, W. A. Phillips, J. F. Storm (2020)  
**Apical drive—A cellular mechanism of dreaming?**  
*Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*

J. Aru, M. Suzuki, M. E. Larkum, (2020)  
**Cellular Mechanisms of Conscious Processing**  
*Trends in Cognitive Sciences*



# INFN APE Lab in Human Brain Project - EBRAINS

HBP (2014-2023). budget > 500M€. (<https://www.humanbrainproject.eu>) >120 research institutions

- Mission: understand structure and mechanisms supporting brain functions: since ever a major philosophical challenge. Turned by experimental tools and HPC simulation in a scientific challenge
  - Physicists and HPC scientists central: complex systems, massive data analysis, models on HPC
- Societal motivations:
  - 800 B€/year in Europe, cost of neurologic traumatic and clinic diseases
  - Next-generation Bio-inspired AI
- Deliver of first release EBRAINS Research Infrastructure. (<https://ebrains.eu/>)
  - Open access / reproducible brain research. FAIR methodology. Integration of experimental data (atlases and activity) and models. (2023-...) EBRAINS European ESFRI: central structure + national nodes

**APELab - INFN Roma:** 2.1 M€ from HBP (2016-2023), “Networks underlying cognition and consciousness”

- Modeling cognitive, entropic and energetic optimizations effects produced by wakefulness, deep sleep (NREM), dreaming (REM) + high resolution cortical modelling on parallel/distributed computing systems
- Analysis of experimental data and high-resolution modeling of spatio-temporal features of brain activity waves
- Synergy with APELab “traditional” HPC projects. Benchmarks for next computing and networking architectures
- -> PNRR: EBRAINS Italian Node (2023-2026) proposal submitted Feb 2022 + Bio-Inspired AI (TBC)



# BASSES Workshop

Organized by APELab/LENS on behalf of the Human Brain Project – EBRAINS Research Infrastructure

**BASSES:= Brain Activity across Scales and Species:  
Analysis of Experiments and Simulations**

**When**  
13-15 June 2022

**Where**  
RomaEventi Fontana di Trevi  
Piazza della Pilotta 4, Roma

**Hybrid format** (on-line & on-site)  
Free of charge (no conference fee)  
**Call for abstract open** (poster session)



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New Insights into Computational  
Neuroscience

Guest Editor  
Dr. Giulia De Bonis

Deadline  
20 September 2022

[mdpi.com/si/104727](https://mdpi.com/si/104727)

**Special Issue**

Invitation to submit



**EBRAINS Workshop**

**Brain Activity across Scales and Species:  
Analysis of Experiments and Simulations (BASSES)**

**13 – 15 June 2022  
ROME (ITALY) AND ONLINE**

**Abstract Submission Deadline  
6 MAY 2022**

**Registration Deadline  
27 MAY 2022**

The goal of the BASSES Workshop is to provide an overview of the scientific topics of brain states and complexity, state transitions, and their connection with cognitive functions, and to demonstrate the achievements in this field obtained within the Human Brain Project thanks to the functionalities provided by the EBRAINS research platforms.

BASSES will allow people with different expertises, from experimental and theoretical neuroscientists to computer scientists, to share results and ideas and connect into a wider community.

## Scientific chairs

Anna Letizia Allegra Mascaro | LENS  
Giulia De Bonis | INFN

## Hands-on sessions

Handling EBRAINS data  
Lyuba Zehl | Forschungszentrum Jülich

Running analysis in EBRAINS  
Michael Denker | Forschungszentrum Jülich

Simulating spatially organised networks with NEST  
Johanna Senk | Forschungszentrum Jülich

Validating models against data in EBRAINS  
Andrew Davison | CNRS

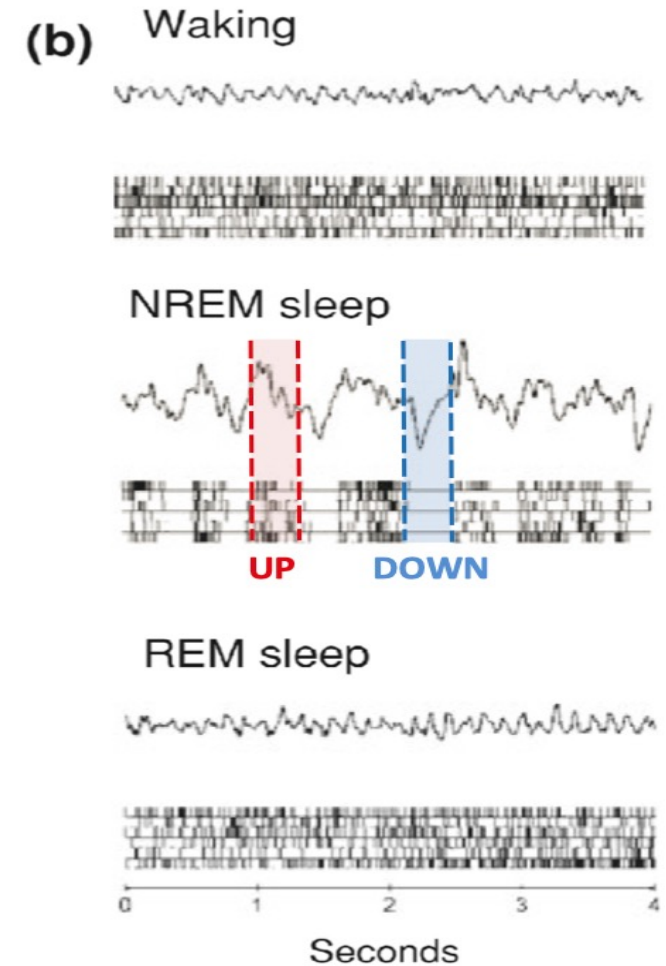
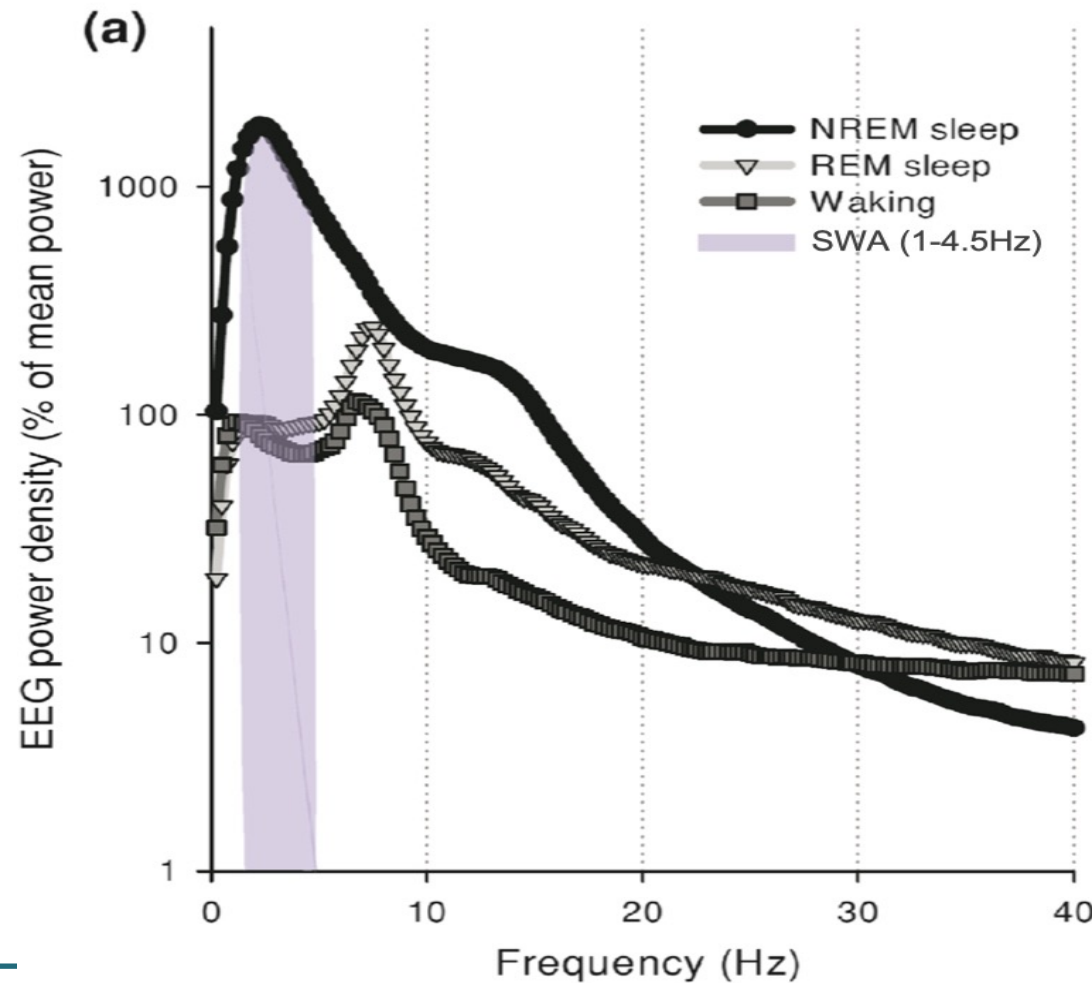
## Further information

[www.humanbrainproject.eu/en/education/ebrains-workshops/basses](https://www.humanbrainproject.eu/en/education/ebrains-workshops/basses)

## Confirmed speakers

Jan Bjaalie (University of Oslo)  
Alessandra Camassa (IDIBAPS)  
Cristiano Capone (INFN)  
Chiara De Luca (INFN)  
Alain Destexhe (CNRS)  
Jennifer Goldman (INFN)  
Bruno Golosio (University of Cagliari)  
Robin Gutzen (Forschungszentrum Jülich)  
Viktor Jirsa (Aix-Marseille University)  
Arnau Manasanch (IDIBAPS)  
Thierry Nieuwenhuis (University of Milan)  
Marcello Massimini (University of Milan)  
Maurizio Mattia (ISS)  
Elena Montagnani (LENS)  
Pier Stanislaw Paolucci (INFN)  
Francesco Pavone (LENS)  
Elena Pastorelli (INFN)  
Andrea Pigorini (University of Milan)  
Mavi Sanchez-Vives (IDIBAPS)  
Johan Storm (University of Oslo)  
Gianni Valerio Vinci (ISS)  
Sacha van Albada (Forschungszentrum Jülich)

Deep-sleep NonREM  $\leftrightarrow$  Unconscious state, Slow Waves in Delta band  
REM (dreaming) and Wake  $\leftrightarrow$  Conscious, Asynchronous Irregular activity



# Toy spiking model with plastic synapses

(1) Excitatory Neuron  $i$ , and its membrane potential  $V_i(t)$ .  
If a threshold potential is surpassed,  
it emits a signal, called “spike”.

...(2) the spike travels along the  
“axonal arborization” and reaches...

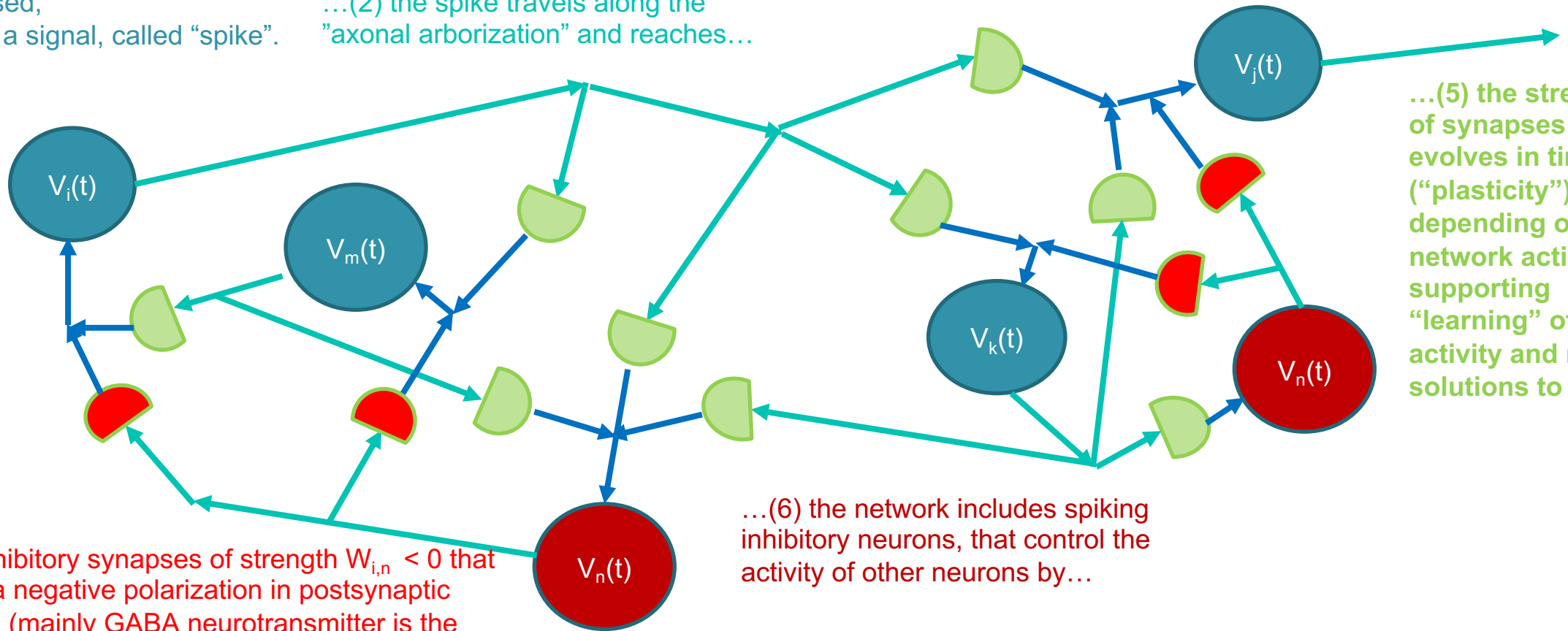
...(3) excitatory synapses of strength  $W_{j,i} > 0$  that inject a positive current in postsynaptic neurons (typically, Glutamate neurotransmitter opens the channels)

(4) Contributing to the dynamics of postsynaptic neurons, and to the emission of spikes

...(5) the strength of synapses evolves in time (“plasticity”) depending on the network activity, supporting “learning” of past activity and novel solutions to tasks

...(7) inhibitory synapses of strength  $W_{i,n} < 0$  that induce a negative polarization in postsynaptic neurons (mainly GABA neurotransmitter is the channel opener)

...(6) the network includes spiking inhibitory neurons, that control the activity of other neurons by...





# Toy model: networks of neurons with Spike Frequency Adaptation can enter and exit from the NREM Slow Wave Activity regime

$V(t)$ , membrane potential of the neuron

$C_m$ , the membrane capacitance of the neuron

$\omega$ , the neural *fatigue* due to the emission of spikes

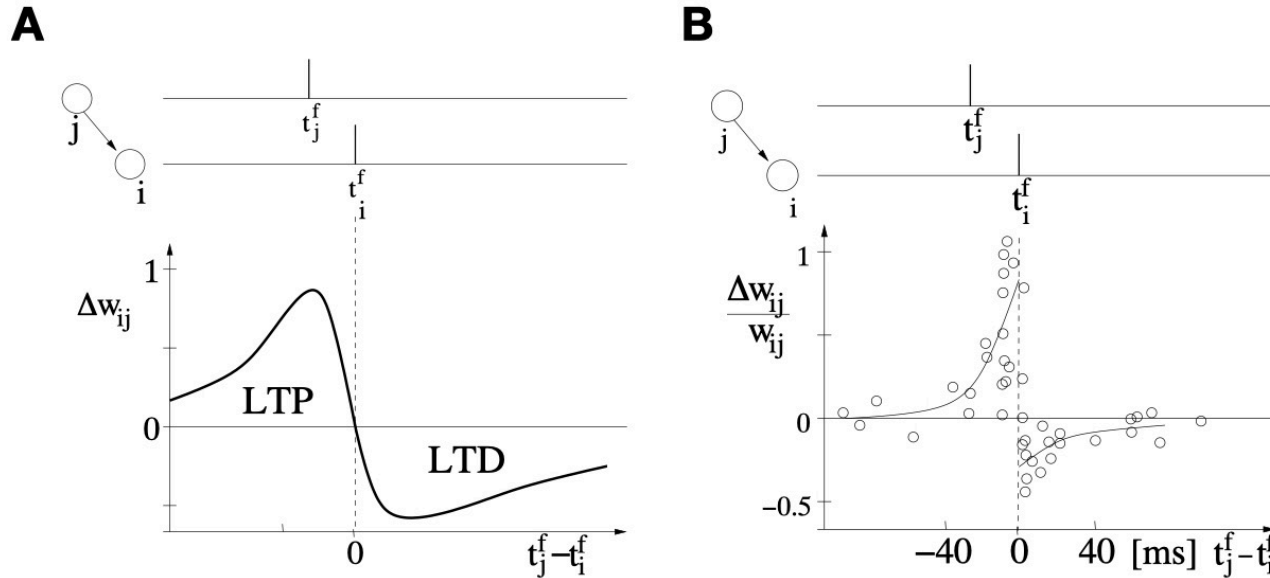
$I_{system}$ , the input current, spikes from other neurons injected by synapses

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V(t) \geq V_{threshold} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{spike emission, axonal transmission to} \\ \text{synapses that injects current in other neurons} \\ \text{reset potential to afterspike } V_{afterspike} \\ \text{increase the fatigue } \omega \end{array} \\ C_m \frac{dV}{dt} = -g_L (V - E_L) + g_L \Delta_T e^{\frac{(V - V_{th})}{\Delta_T}} + I_{system} - \omega \\ \tau_\omega \frac{d\omega}{dt} = a (V - E_L) + b \sum_k \delta(t - t_k) - \omega \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

Change b parameter  
in last equation to  
enter and exit NREM  
Slow Wave Regime

Neuromodulation  
proxy

# Learning in a toy spiking model: Spike Timing Dependent Plasticity (STDP)



General form of synaptic  
Spiking Time Dependent synaptic Plasticity (STDP)

$$\Delta w(\Delta t) = \begin{cases} A_+ e^{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_+}} & \Delta t > 0 \\ A_- e^{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_-}} & \Delta t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

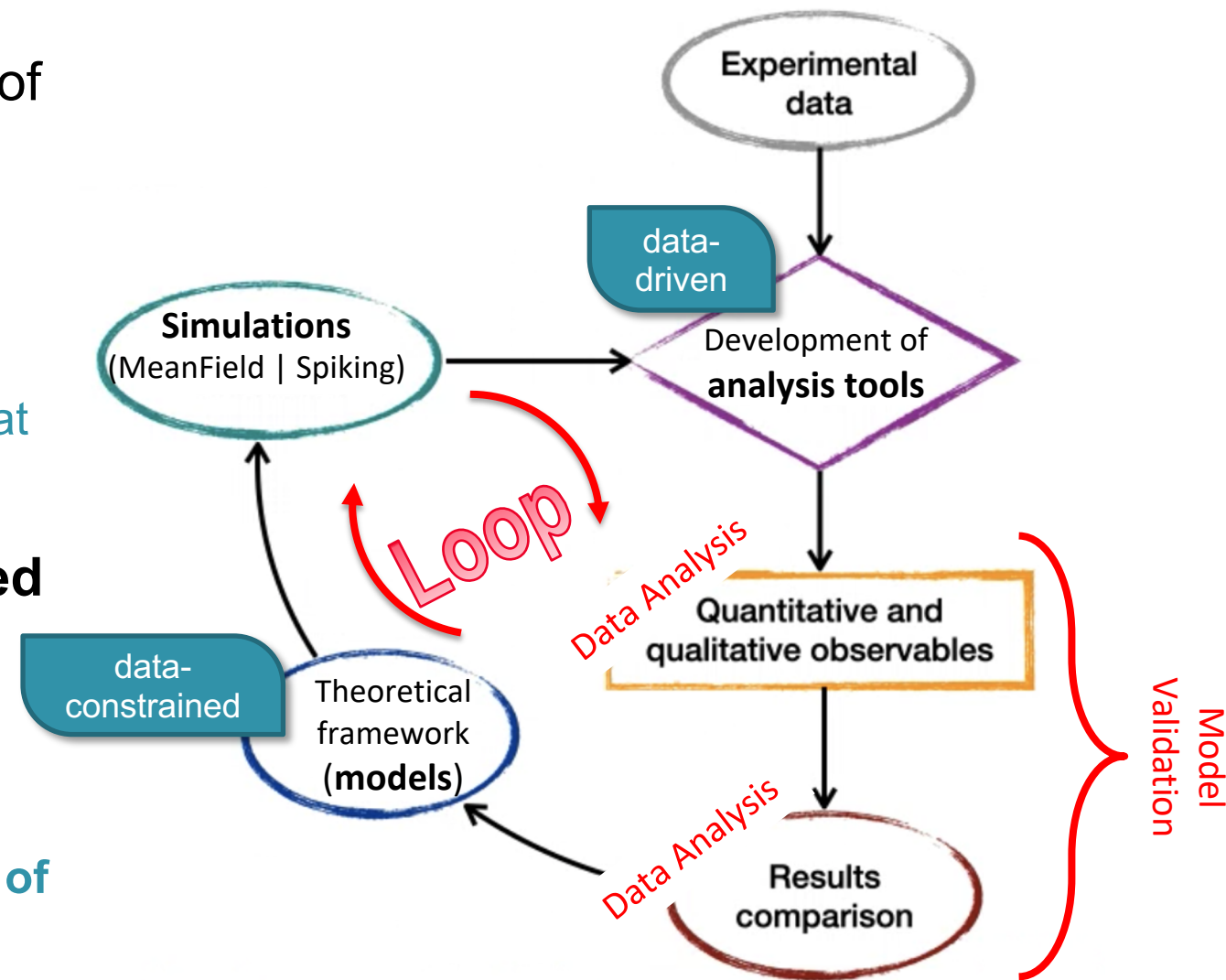
Specific form used in many of our simulations:  
NLTAH-STDP

$$\Delta w(\Delta t) = \begin{cases} -\lambda \alpha w^\mu e^{-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau}} & \Delta t \leq 0 \\ \lambda (1 - w)^\mu e^{-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau}} & \Delta t > 0 \end{cases}$$

- Synapses are engines that are able to detect both causality and anti-causality.
- They can reward themselves, by increasing their values when causality is detected,
- and depress themselves when anti-causality is detected.

# Interplay DataAnalysis – Models – Simulations

- understand mechanisms and features of the brain dynamics from **observation** and **interpretation** of **experimental data**
  - define **benchmark observables** and design **data-driven analysis tools**, for **comparing and combining different datasets**, aiming at general claims and at statistically significant assessments
- extract results from experimental recordings for feeding **data-constrained simulations** and **refining theoretical models**
  - define **methods and procedures** for the **validation of theoretical models** (comparison of experimental and simulated data) and for the **comparison of models**

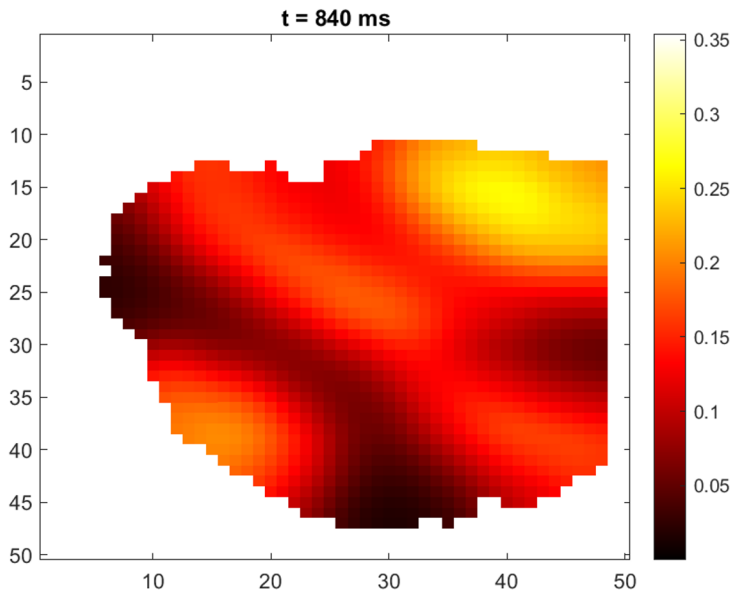
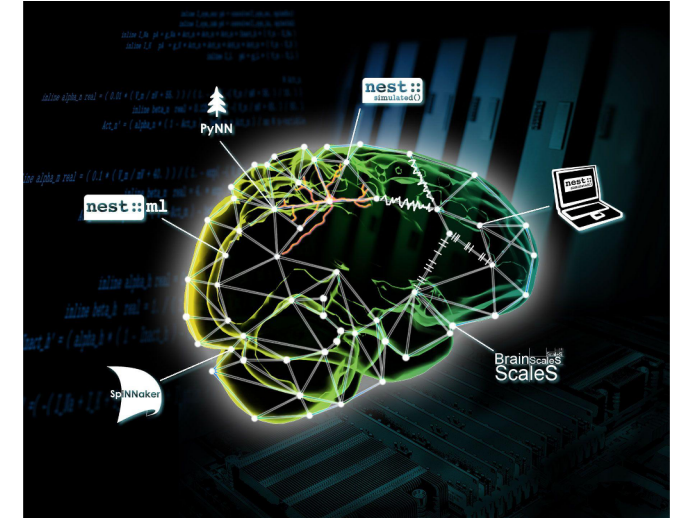




# INFN: large scale simulations



- Spiking and mean field neural network simulations reproducing models of **cortical slow wave activity** at the scale of mouse hemisphere
- Data-driven model: simulation **parameters inferred from experimental data** (wide-field calcium imaging)



- Near to **biological resolution** (54K neuron/mm2 and about 5K synapses per neuron in rat neocortex area)
- Simulated and experimental behavior compared using **analysis tools**
- Model used as a **benchmark** to drive the development of future interconnects for platforms including millions of embedded ARM cores



Human Brain Project



EBRAINS



<https://apegate.roma1.infn.it/>



@APELab\_INF

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[www.humanbrainproject.eu](http://www.humanbrainproject.eu)

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the European Union