

alliance nationale pour les sciences de la vie et de la santé



Institut Thématique Multi-Organismes Technologies pour la santé

Traitement du signal & modélisation pour les maladies neurologiques

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INSERM U1099 - LTSI- Université de Rennes 1 Equipe « Systèmes épileptogènes: signaux et modèles »

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11^{ème} journée ITS – 2 & 3 octobre 2019 – Rennes – https://its.aviesan.fr



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Modélisation bio-inspirée pour les maladies neurologiques: application à l'épilepsie

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« Epilepsy is a complex dynamical disease » F. Lopes da Silva

- Epileptogenic Zone: large-scale network organization (extended, distributed)
- Complexity of involved neuronal systems (« networks of networks »)
 - . Non linear mechanisms
 - . Spatial scales : sub-cellular, cellular, networks, brain area
 - . plasticity (short/long term), homeostatic control
- Pathophysiological mechanisms at different temporal scales
 - . Epileptogenesis: long-time process (days, years)
 - . Ictogenesis: short-time process (seconds, minutes)





Inter-ictal to ictal transition



Epileptic activity: many alterations at multiple levels ...

• Pyramidal cells: excitability ++ due to potassium & chloride regulation (KCC2--, NKCC1++), synchronization ++ due to increased collateral GLU excitation

 Interneurones: « dendritic-projecting » vs. « somatic-projecting », role of INs at seizure onset, INs ←→ HFOs

• GLU synaptic transmission : crucial role of AMPA et NMDA receptors, plasticity of excitatory synapses

GABA synaptic transmission : « dis-inhibition », depolarizing GABA (GABA → GABAa receptors controlling [Cl-]i → Cl- reversal potential ++)

• Extracellular space : [K+]o increase (multiple excitatory effects), ephaptic interactions (synchronization++), astrocytes (GLU release/uptake)

• And also: extrasynaptic receptor activation / potentiation; gap junctions

Not mutually exclusive, can act synergistically ...

Neurophysiology-inspired computational models can help!





Neural Mass Modeling approach (macro-scale)



Computational Neuroscience In Epilepsy Meret Van Soltes - Kevin Staley

From generic to specific NMMs



OM&P M. Desroches et al. Slow-Fast Transitions to Seizure States in the Wendling-Chauvel Neural Mass Model

$\begin{array}{l} Slow-Fast Transitions to Seizure States in the Wendling-Chauvel Neural Mass Model \end{array}$

Mathieu Desroches*1, Olivier Faugeras2, and Martin Krupa1

Incterictal to ictal transition in TLE: real versus simulated



Simulated LFP for the identified scenario



From prediction to validation



 Experimental validation confirmed model prediction (M. de Curtis' team, Annals of Neurology 2008)
 Fast Activity at Seizure Onset Is Mediated by Inhibitory Circuits in the Entorhinal Cortex In Vitro
 Vadym Gnatkovsky, MD, PhD, Laura Librizzi, PhD, Federica Trombin, PhD, and Marco de Curtis, MD

Experimental validation (in vitro)



Human data (macro- and micro-electrode contacts)



Research Article

Oct. 2018

2 3

4 5 6

Macro Contact Termination

Low-voltage fast seizures in humans begin with increased interneuron firing

Bahareh Elahian PhD, Nathan E. Lado BA, Emily Mankin PhD, Sitaram Vangala MS, Amrit Misra MD, PhD, Karen Moxon PhD, Itzhak Fried MD, PhD, Ashwini Sharan MD, Mohammed Yeasin PhD, Richard Staba PhD, Anatol Bragin PhD, Massimo Avoli MD, PhD, Michael R. Sperling MD, Jerome Engel Jr MD, PhD, Shennan A. Weiss MD, PhD 🗙





From prediction to validation

• 2003: meso-scale model can reproduce the transition from ongoing activity to seizure

• Model predictions about necessary conditions to generate **fast onset** epileptic activity:

- 1. Increased excitation
- 2. Decreased **slow inhibition**
- 3. Preserved fast inhibition
- 2008: experimental evidence (isolated brain; guinea-pig)
- 2018: clinical evidence (depth-EEG recording; human)

* "Realistic" models provide relevant insights into pathophysiological mechanisms

Neural mass modeling for

neurostimulation-based

therapeutic approaches

Transcranial current stimulation (tCS) in drug resistant epilepsies



- **Bipolar cathodal tDCS** (for 20 min with cathode positioned over the seizure focus)
- Creates weak electric fields (~1 V/m): subthreshold
- Multiple mechanisms of action (acute, lasting)
- Seizure reduction, effect on EEG discharges
- Non-invasive, no side-effects (Auvichayapat et al, 013; San-Juan et al, 017)

Safe, high-potential technique, but mechanisms of action must be clarified



- Direct local stimulation

- Extensively studied in vitro (Jefferys 1981)
- Very few in vivo studies (Weiss et al. 1998)
- Immediate membrane polarization effects well described (Bikson 2004)
- Lasting effects related to neuroplasticity
- Our objective : *in vivo* exploration of the effects of very low intensity DC stimulation (tDCS compatible)

- Combined approach "in silico/in vivo"



- Long-term perspective: explore the effects of AC stimulation

Combined approach



Methodology: experimental test of model predictions

Modeling of epileptic discharges (HPDs)



• Real versus simulated



Modeling of electric field effects

OLM Cells

• In vivo experimental setup



Hypotheses

- Immediate polarisation effects
- Affects the mean membrane (additive model)
- Both PYRs et INs are impacted



Dosimetry: $I = 1\mu A$



Results: model predictions (polarity)



Mina F., J. Modolo, ..., Benquet P., Wendling F. Model-guided control of hippocampal discharges by local direct current stimulation. Scientific Reports, 2017.

Results: model predictions (polarity)





Experimental test of model predictions



- Stimulation protocol: 1 hour; 11 times 35 seconds (~every 5 min)
- Cumulated stim. duration : 6 min 25 sec over the 60 min stimulation period
- DC (cathodal), 1 µA

Impact on epileptic discharges?

Results : in vivo model (immediate effects)





Results : *in vivo* model (immediate & lasting effects)



Work in progress : from DC to AC local direct stimulation



Before stimulation (2 mins time series)



Between stimulation blocks (2 mins time series)



Benquet P., Modolo J., Wendling F. Brain tissue stimulation method, apparatus and computer program. European Patent EP 16000751.4, 2016.

Application to therapeutic tDCS for epilepsy

The Hope...





« Take home message »

 Computational models can lead to efficient neuromodulation protocols, i.e. able to reduce epileptiform activity

• Mice: DC stimulation showed efficacy at 1 μ A, \rightarrow 2 à 10 V/m between the 2 electrodes



• In patients: high therapeutic potential but still a long way to go....

Neurology Epilepsy

PC

IN

Neurophysiology Biophysics

• Need for **hybrid models** (neurophysiology + biophysics), **personnalised** and **multi-level**

Thank you for your attention

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Fundings





"Neural Coding" "Neural Communication"





FET-Open "Hive" "Luminous"



« Kainate » model – Temporal Lobe Epilepsy



Heinrich et al., Neurobiology of Disease, 2011