

## Week 3 – part 5: Compartmental Models



# Neuronal Dynamics: Computational Neuroscience of Single Neurons

## Week 3 – Adding Detail: Dendrites and Synapses

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- √ 3.1 Synapses
- √ 3.2 Short-term plasticity
- √ 3.3 Dendrite as a Cable
- √ 3.4 Cable equation

### 3.5 Compartmental Models

- active dendrites

## Week 3 – part 5: Compartmental Models



√ 3.1 Synapses

√ 3.2 Short-term plasticity

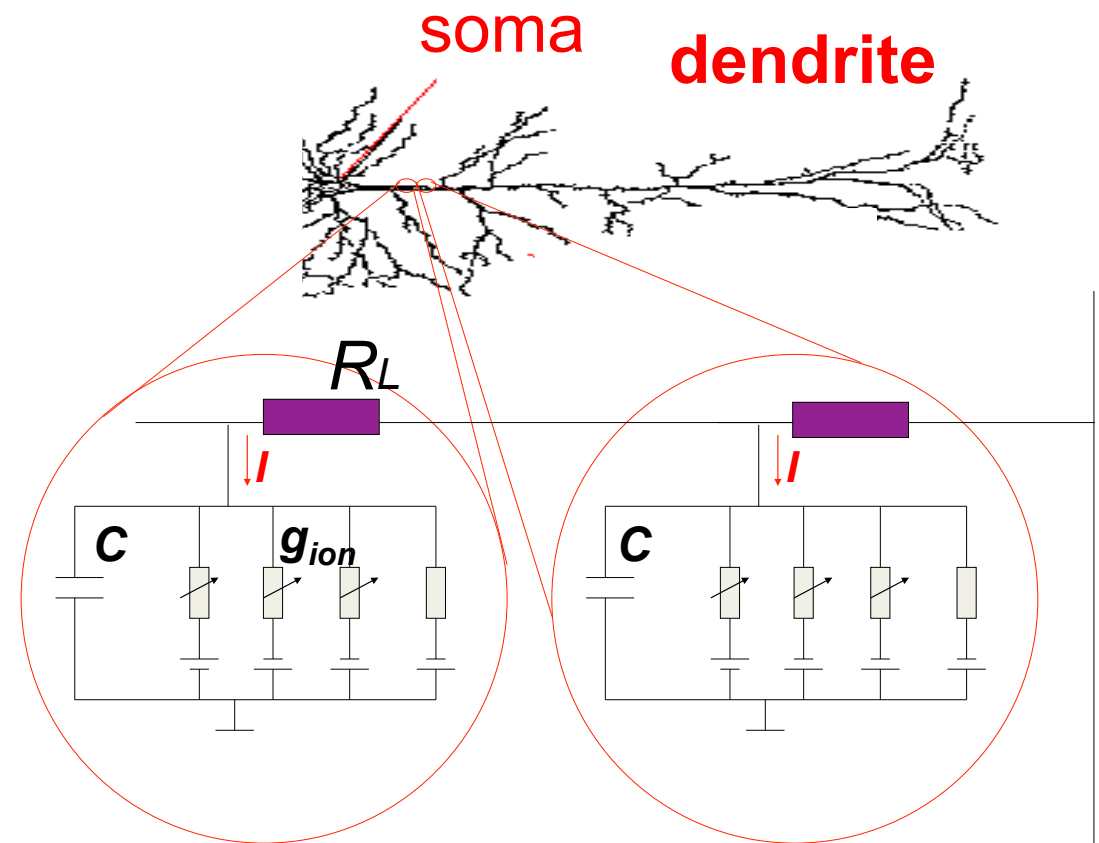
√ 3.3 Dendrite as a Cable

√ 3.4 Cable equation

**3.5 Compartmental Models**

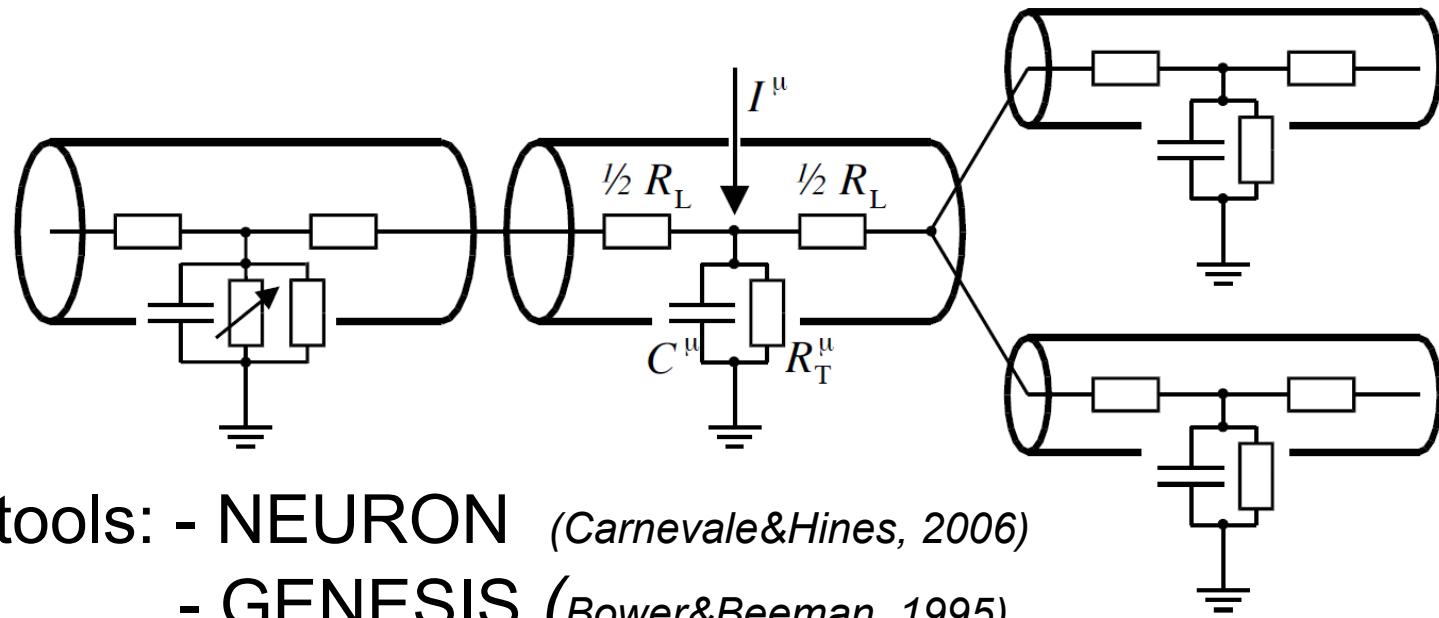
- active dendrites

# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Compartmental models



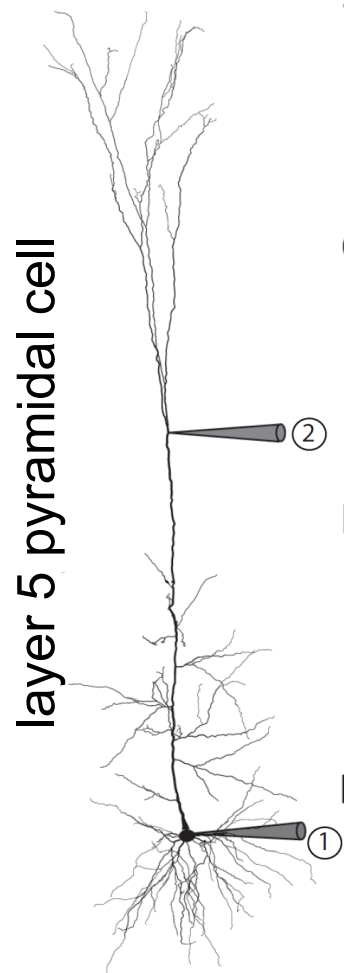
## Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Compartmental models

$$\frac{u(t, \mu - 1) - u(t, \mu)}{0.5(R_L^\mu + R_L^{\mu-1})} - \frac{u(t, \mu) - u(t, \mu + 1)}{0.5(R_L^\mu + R_L^{\mu+1})} = C^\mu \frac{d}{dt} u(t, \mu) + \sum_{ion} I_{ion}(t, \mu) - I^\mu(t)$$



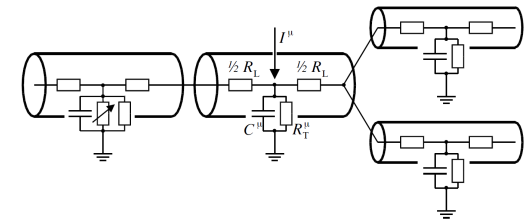
Software tools: - NEURON (*Carnevale&Hines, 2006*)  
- GENESIS (*Bower&Beeman, 1995*)

# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Model of Hay et al. (2011)



Morphological reconstruction

- Branching points
- 200 compartments ( $\leq 20\mu m$ )
- spatial distribution of ion currents



'hotspot'

*Ca currents*

Sodium current (2 types)

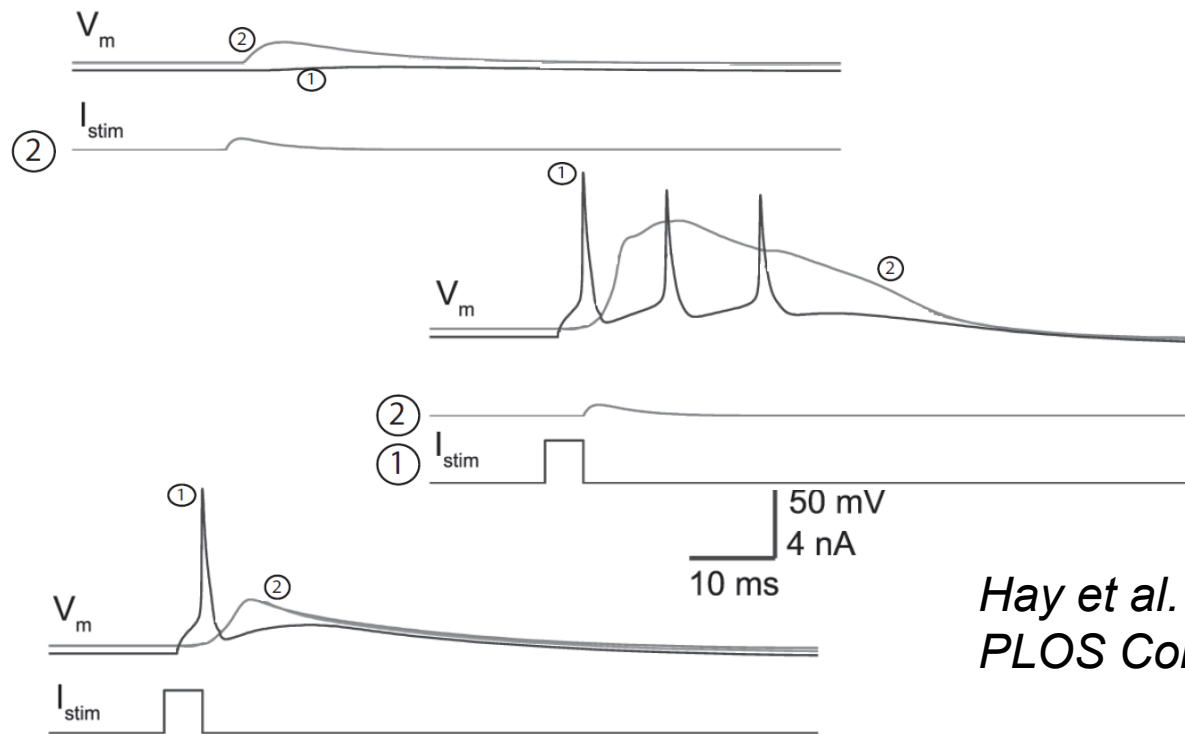
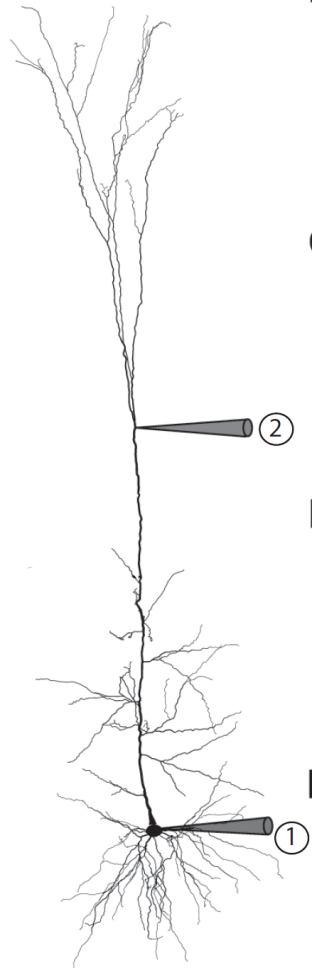
- $I_{Na,transient}$  HH-type (inactivating)
- $I_{NaP}$  persistent (non-inactivating)

Calcium current (2 types and calcium pump)

Potassium currents (3 types, includes  $I_M$ )

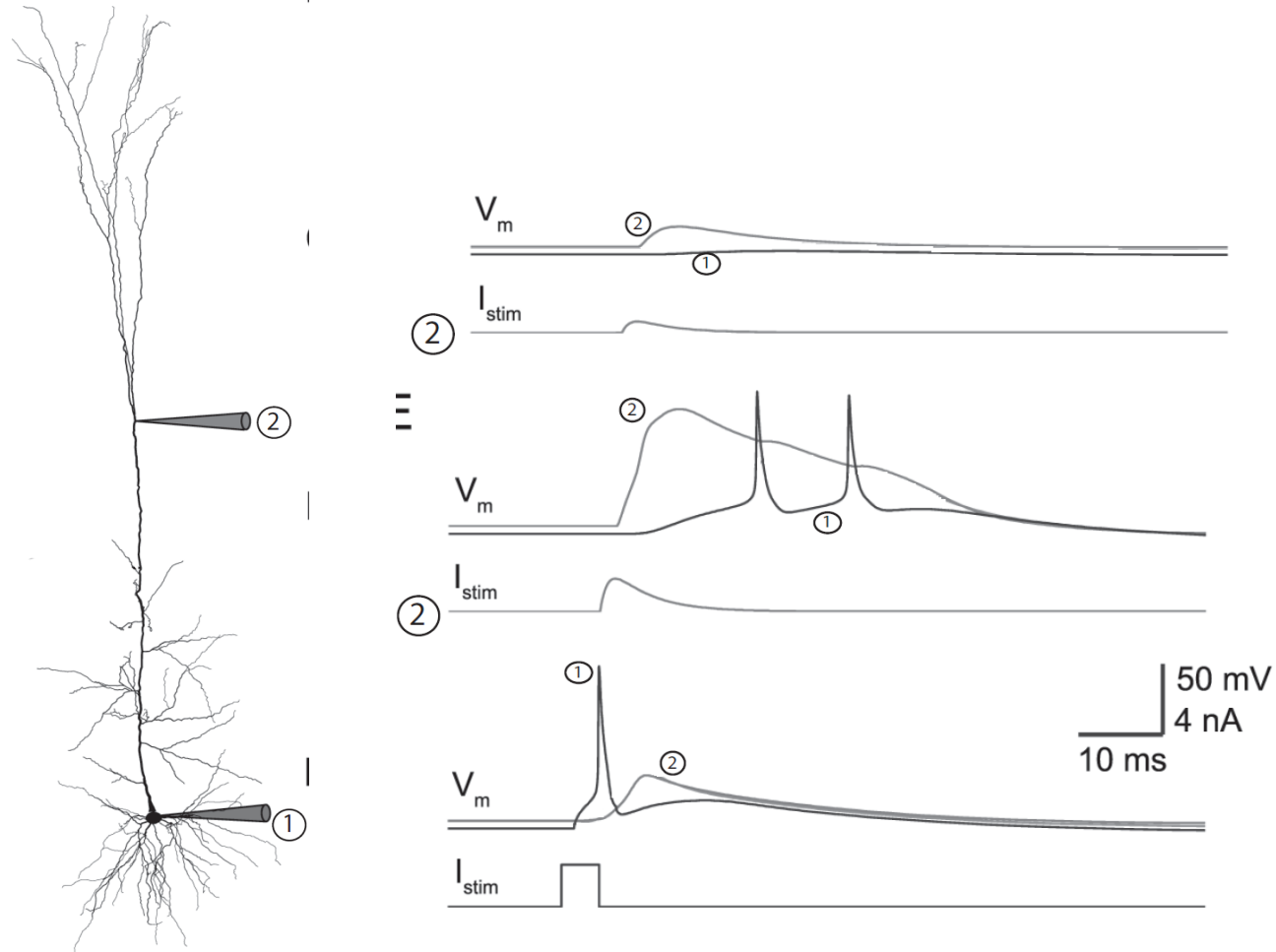
Unspecific current

# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Active dendrites: Model



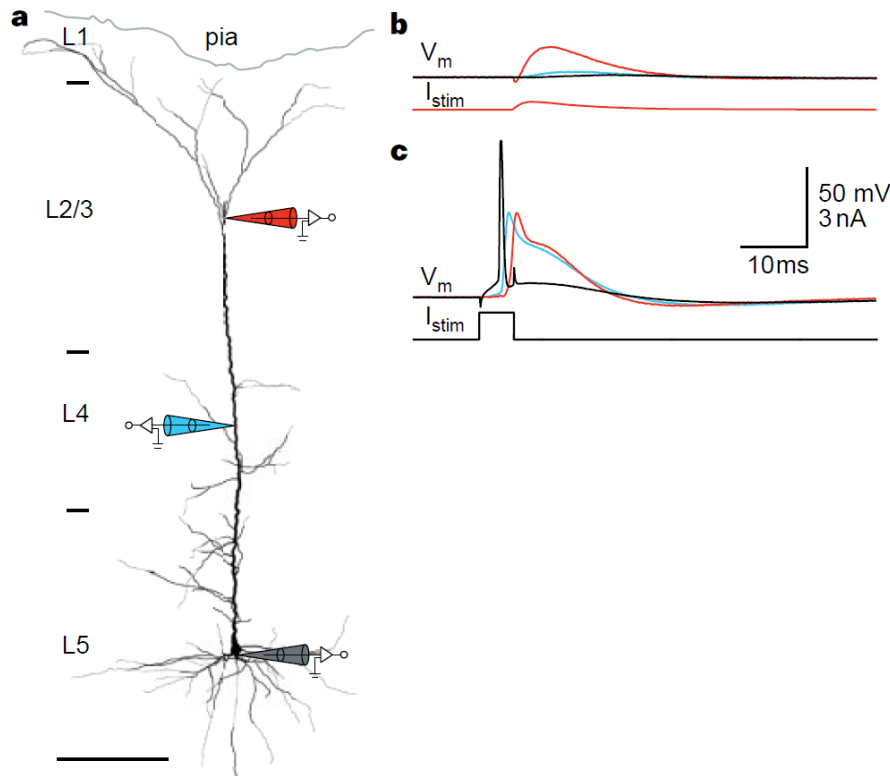
Hay et al. 2011,  
PLOS Comput. Biol.

# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Active dendrites: Model



Hay et al. 2011,  
*PLOS Comput. Biol.*

# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Active dendrites: Experiments



BPAP:

backpropagating action potential

Dendritic Ca spike:

activation of Ca channels

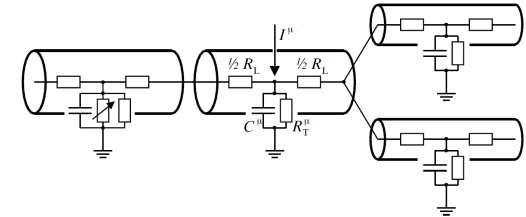
Ping-Pong:

BPAP and Ca spike

*Larkum, Zhu, Sakman  
Nature 1999*



# Neuronal Dynamics – 3.5. Compartmental models



**Dendrites are more than passive filters.**

- Hotspots
- BPAPs
- Ca spikes

## **Compartmental models**

- can include many ion channels
- spatially distributed
- morphologically reconstructed

**BUT**

- spatial distribution of ion channels  
difficult to tune

## **Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 3.5** *Multiple answers possible!*

### **BPAP**

- is an acronym for BackPropagatingActionPotential
- exists in a passive dendrite
- travels from the dendritic hotspot to the soma
- travels from the soma along the dendrite
- has the same duration as the somatic action potential

### **Dendritic Calcium spikes**

- can be induced by weak dendritic stimulation
- can be induced by strong dendritic stimulation
- can be induced by weak dendritic stimulation combined with a BPAP
- can only be induced by strong dendritic stimulation combined with a BPAP
- travels from the dendritic hotspot to the soma
- travels from the soma along the dendrite

# Neuronal Dynamics – week 3 – Reading

**Reading:** W. Gerstner, W.M. Kistler, R. Naud and L. Paninski,

*Neuronal Dynamics: from single neurons to networks and*

*models of cognition*. Chapter 3: *Dendrites and Synapses*, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2014

**OR** W. Gerstner and W. M. Kistler, *Spiking Neuron Models*, Chapter 2, Cambridge, 2002

**OR** P. Dayan and L. Abbott, *Theoretical Neuroscience*, Chapter 6, MIT Press 2001

## References:

M. Larkum, J.J. Zhu, B. Sakmann (1999), *A new cellular mechanism for coupling inputs arriving at different cortical layers*, *Nature*, 398:338-341

E. Hay et al. (2011) *Models of Neocortical Layer 5b Pyramidal Cells Capturing a Wide Range of Dendritic and Perisomatic Active Properties*, *PLOS Comput. Biol.* 7:7

Carnevale, N. and Hines, M. (2006). *The Neuron Book*. Cambridge University Press.

Bower, J. M. and Beeman, D. (1995). *The book of Genesis*. Springer, New York.

Rall, W. (1989). *Cable theory for dendritic neurons*. In Koch, C. and Segev, I., editors, *Methods in Neuronal Modeling*, pages 9-62, Cambridge. MIT Press.

Abbott, L. F., Varela, J. A., Sen, K., and Nelson, S. B. (1997). Synaptic depression and cortical gain control. *Science* 275, 220–224.

Tsodyks, M., Pawelzik, K., and Markram, H. (1998). Neural networks with dynamic synapses. *Neural Comput.* 10, 821–835.