

Regulation of Signal Strength by Presynaptic Mechanisms

9.013 / 7.68: Core Class

**Sheng Lectures
Presynaptic Mechanisms**

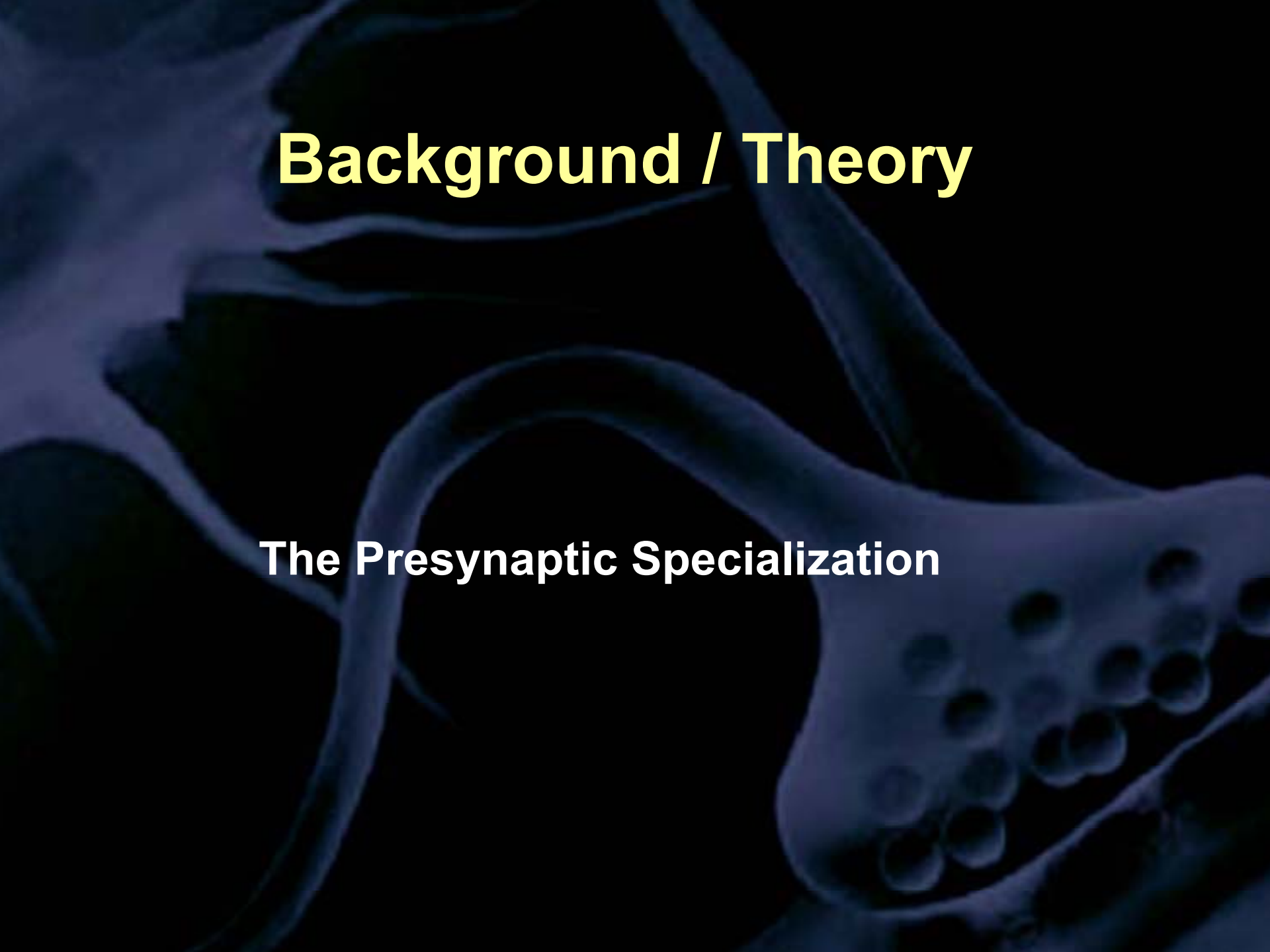
Nathan Wilson

Background / Theory

The background of the slide is a dark blue, almost black, field. Overlaid on this are several glowing, light blue, organic shapes that resemble veins or flowing liquid. These shapes are interconnected and flow from the top left towards the bottom right. In the lower right quadrant, there is a distinct cluster of approximately 15 small, light blue, spherical or circular shapes, arranged in a somewhat irregular, grid-like pattern. The overall aesthetic is scientific and abstract.

Background / Theory

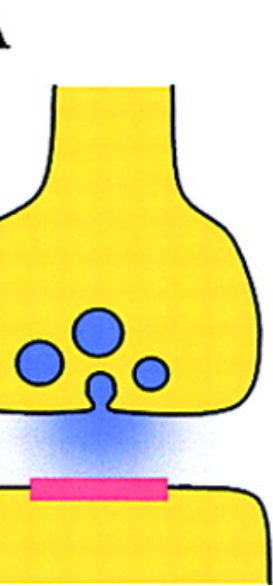
The Presynaptic Specialization



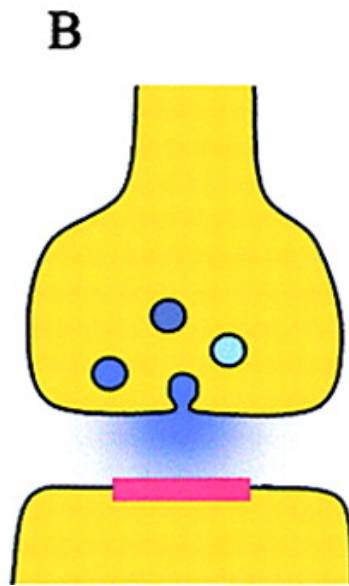
Background / Theory

Presynaptic Characteristics of Interest

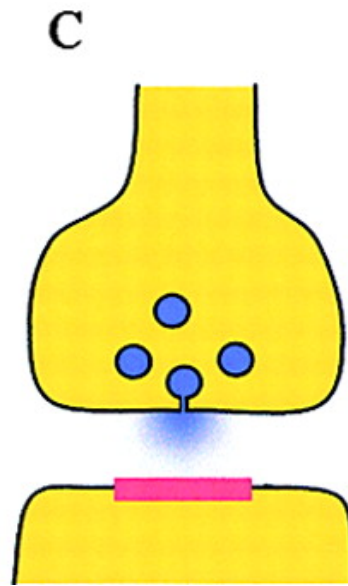
Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



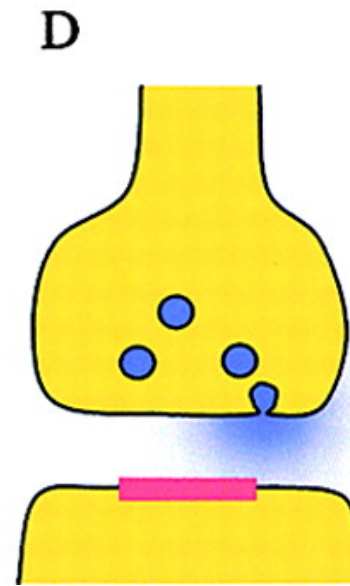
Non-Uniform
Volume



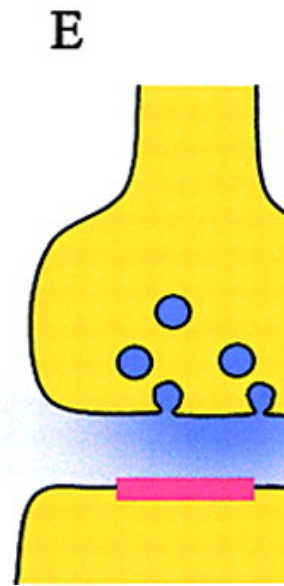
Non-Uniform
Filling



Non-Uniform
Flux

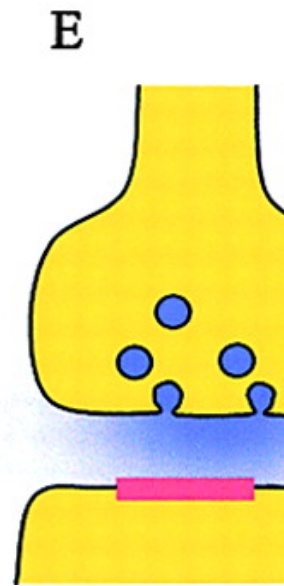
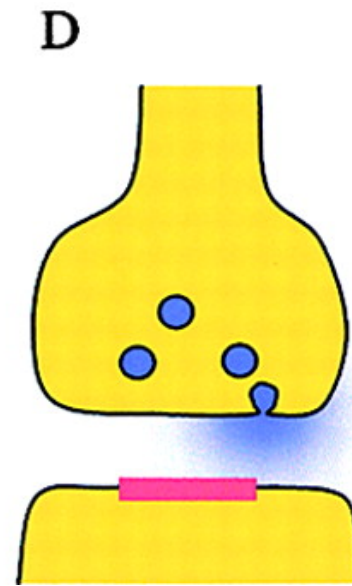
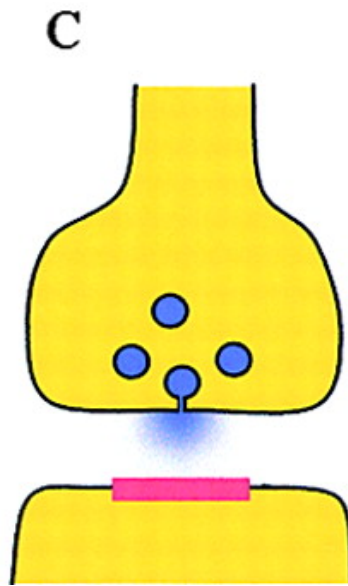
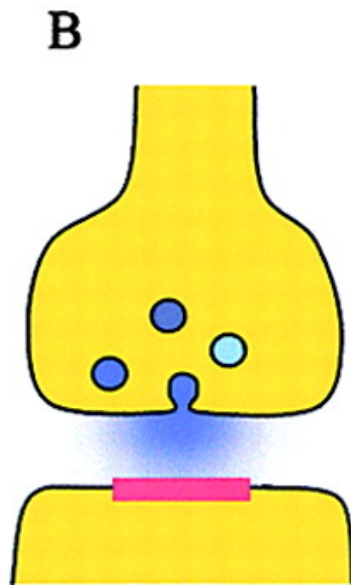
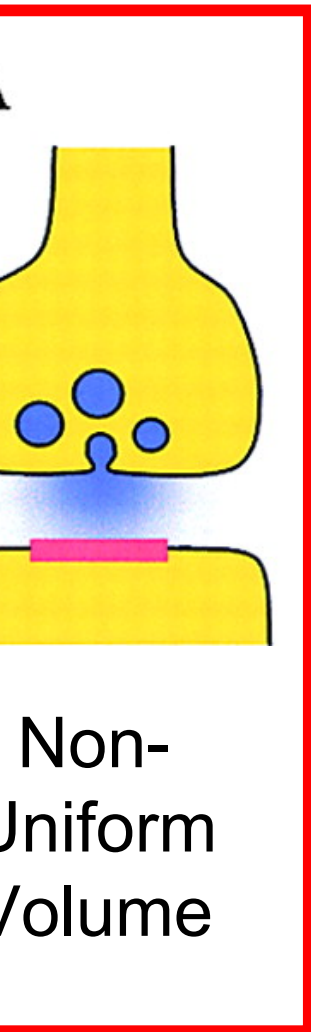


Non-Uniform
Alignment
of
Release

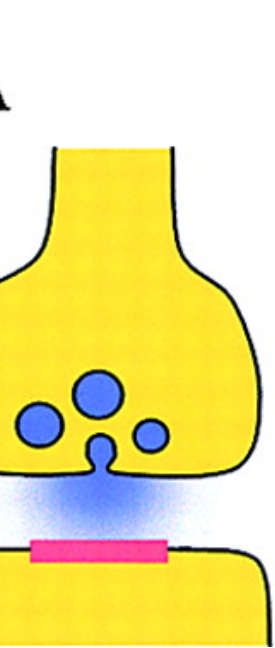


Variable
Number
of
Vesicle
Fusing

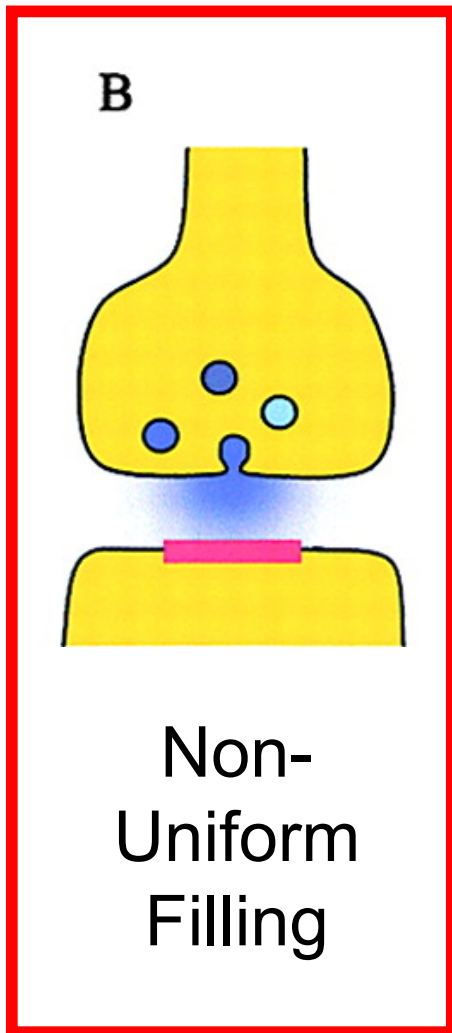
Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



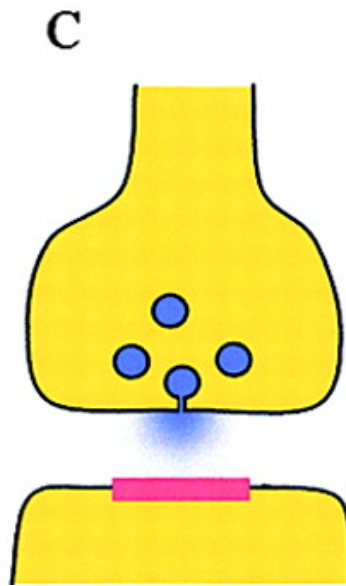
Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



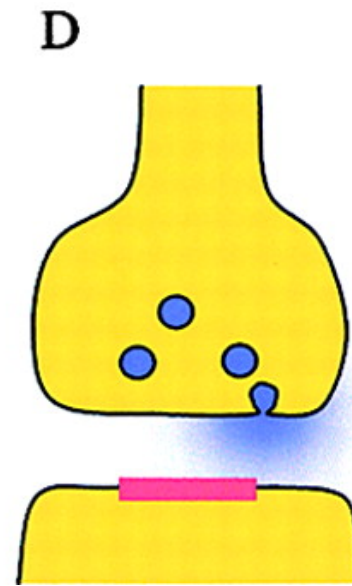
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Volume



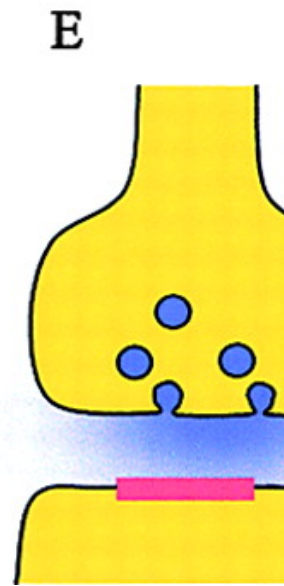
Non-Uniform
Filling



Non-Uniform
Flux

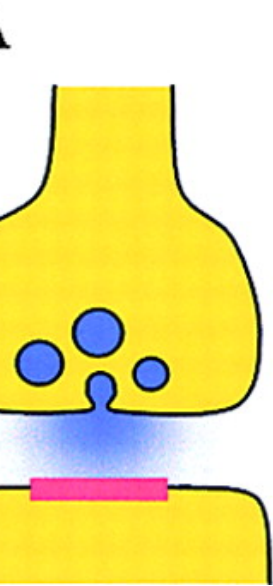


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Alignment
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Release

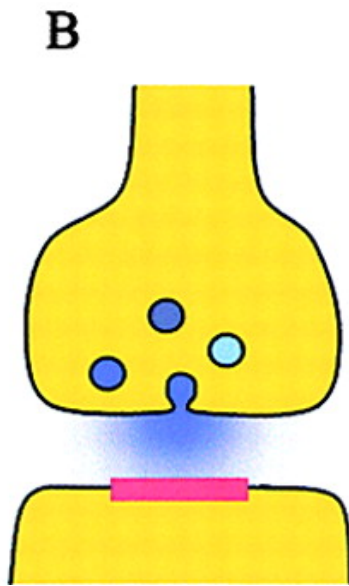


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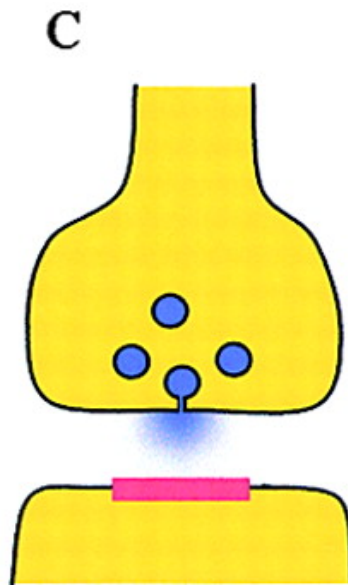
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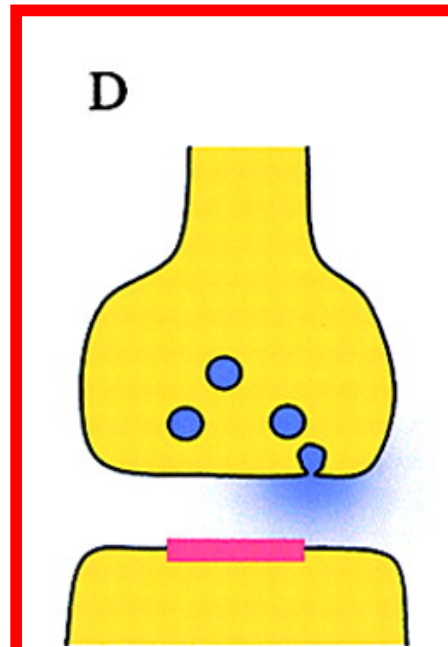
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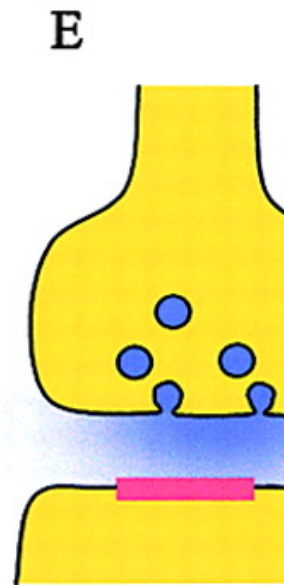
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Filling



Non-Uniform
Flux

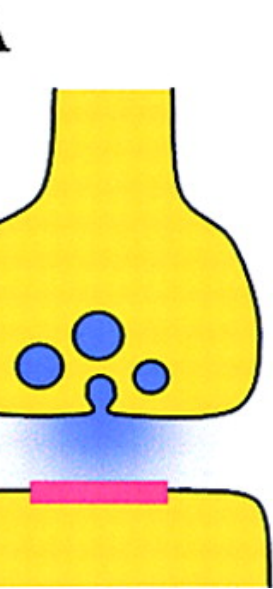


Non-Uniform
Alignment
of
Release

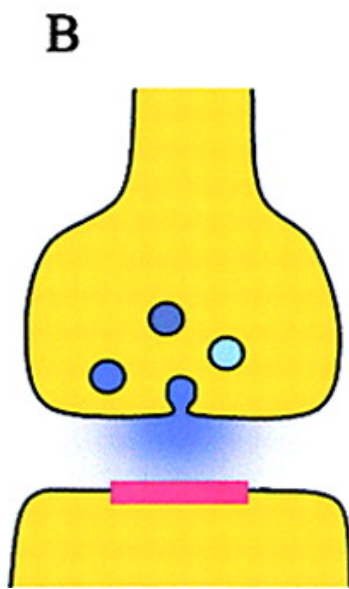


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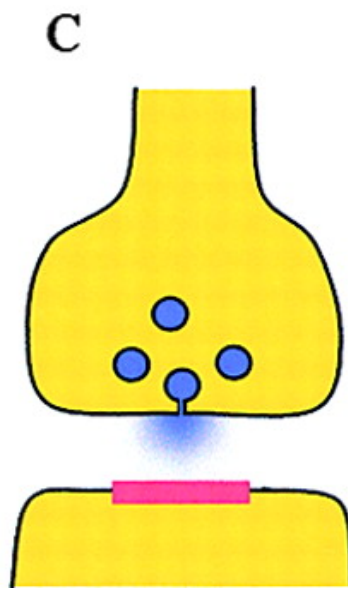
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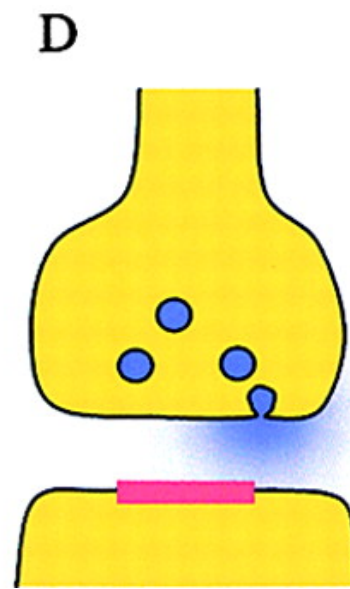
Non-Uniform
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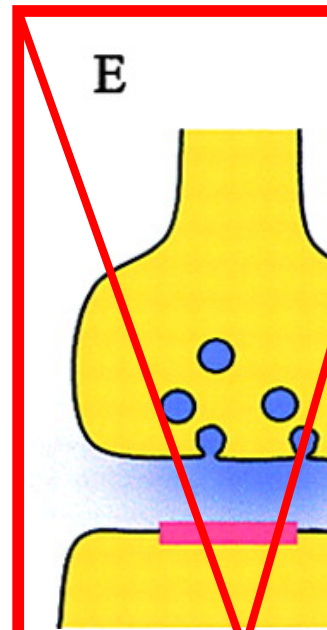
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Filling



Non-Uniform
Flux

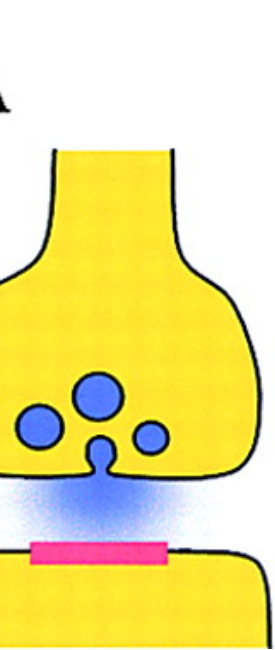


Non-Uniform
Alignment
of
Release

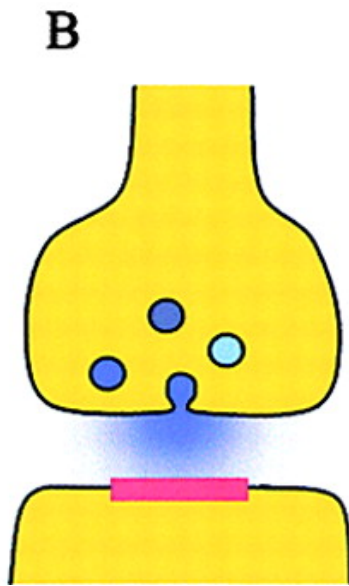


Variable
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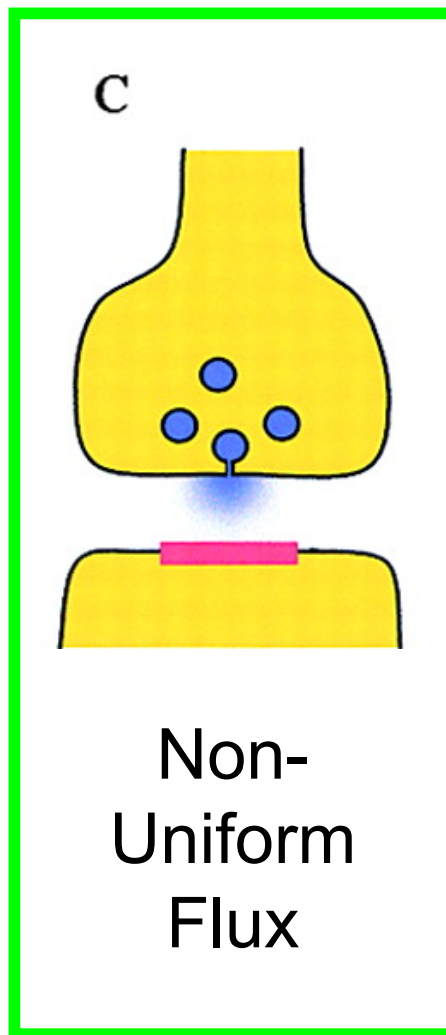
Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



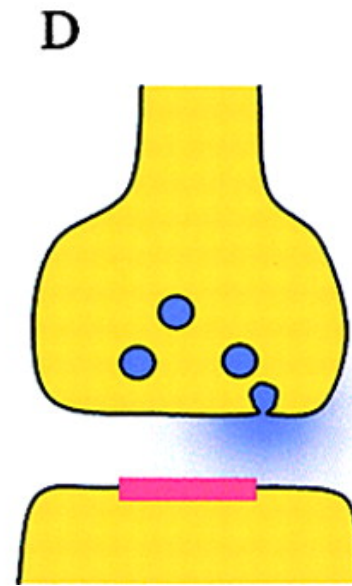
Non-Uniform
Volume



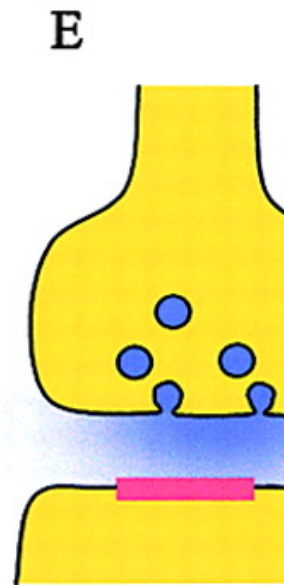
Non-Uniform
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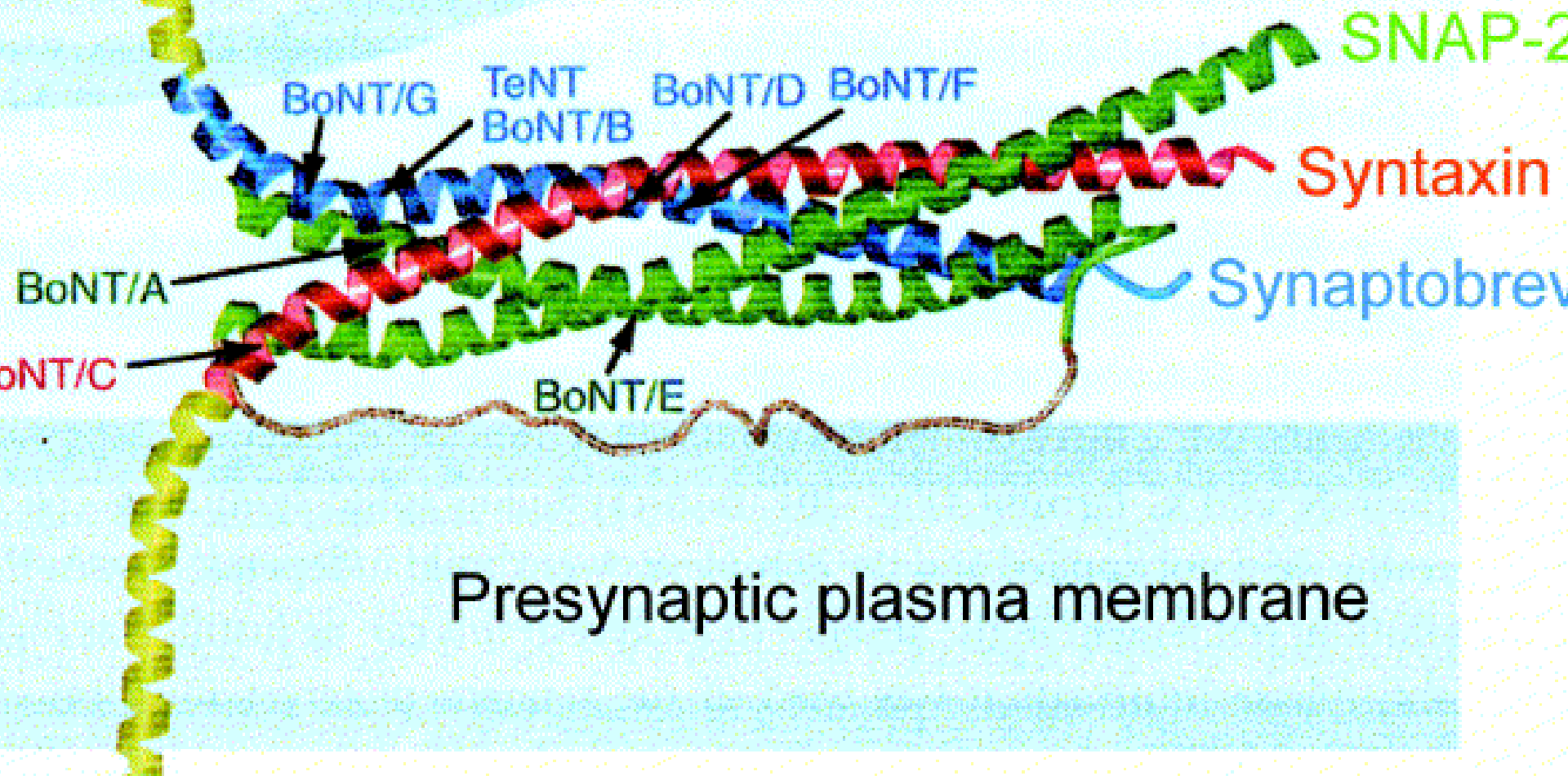


Non-Uniform
Alignment
of
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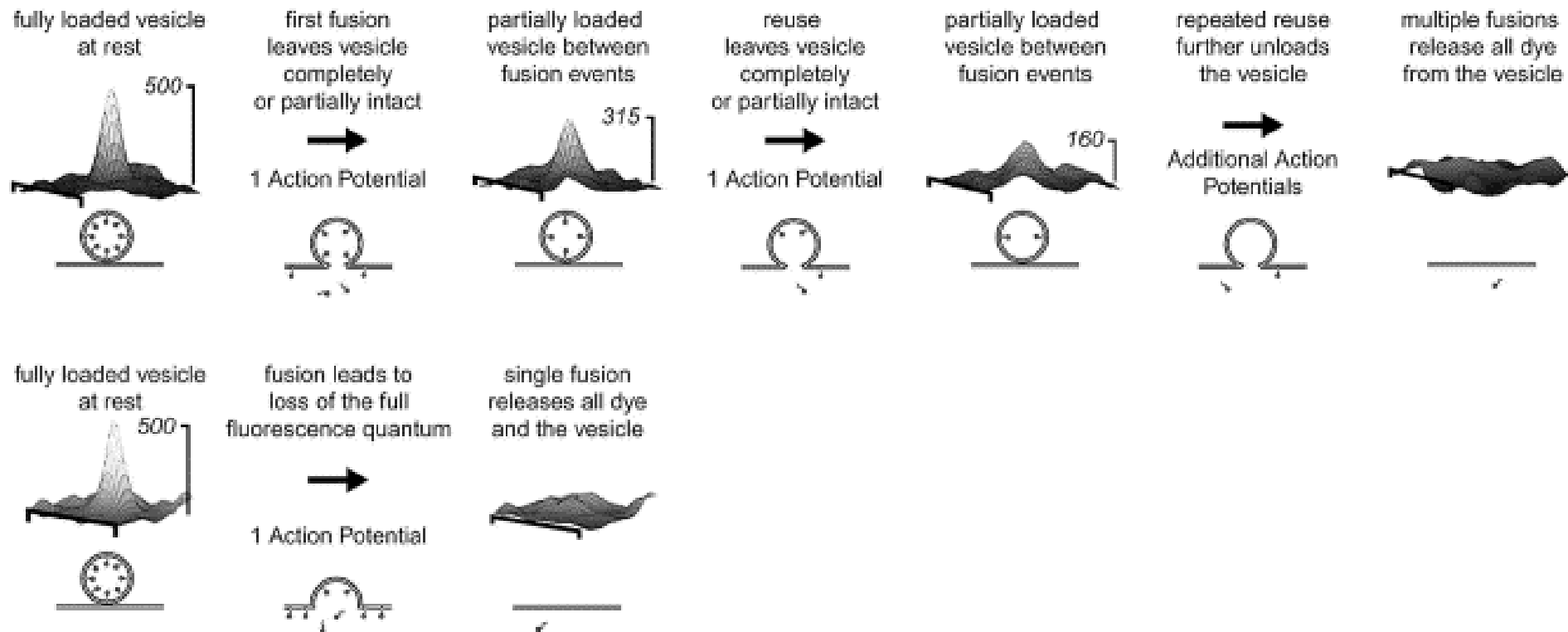


Variable
Number
of
Vesicle
Fusing

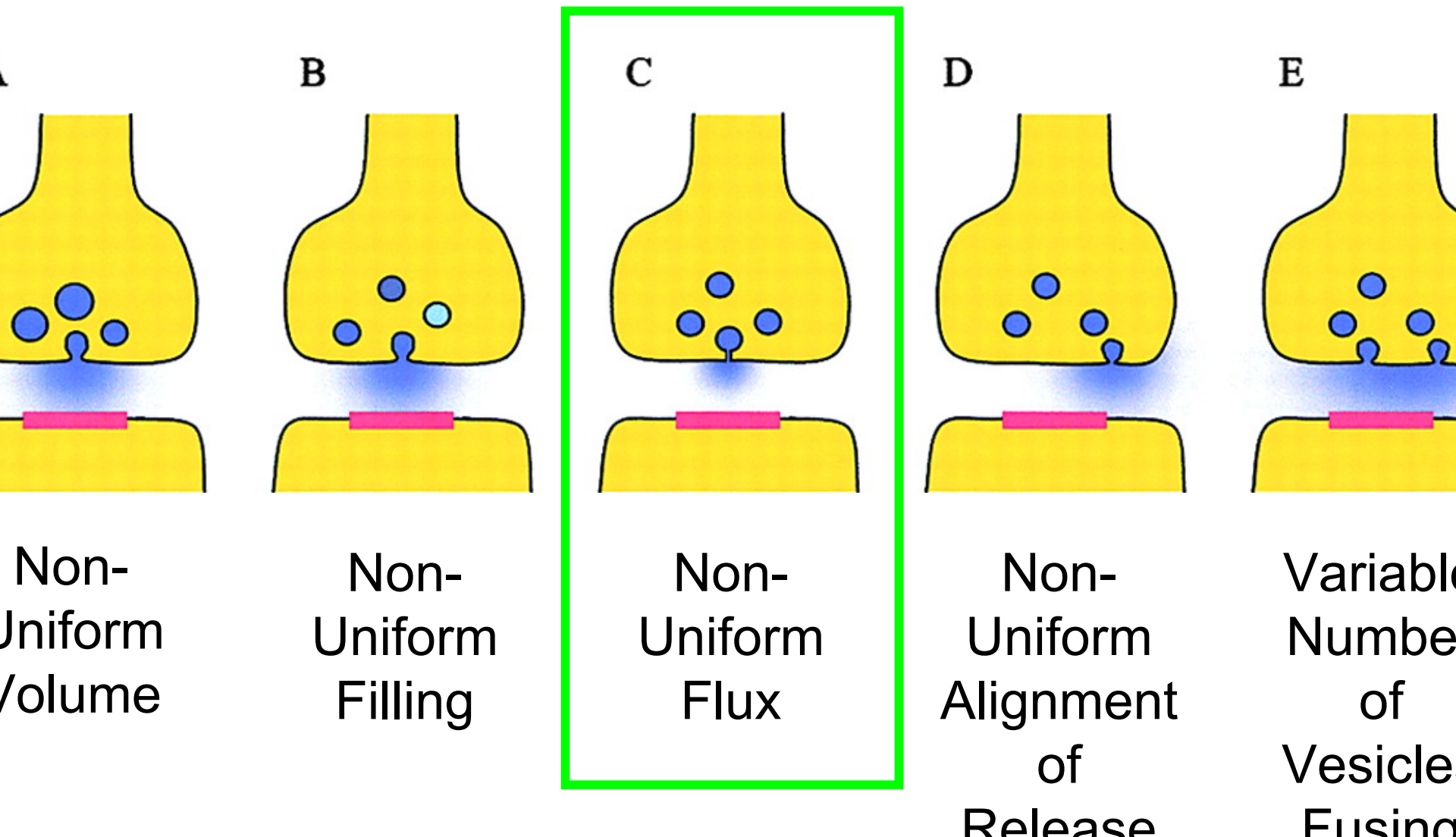
Synaptic vesicle membrane



(At Least) Two Modes of Fusion



Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



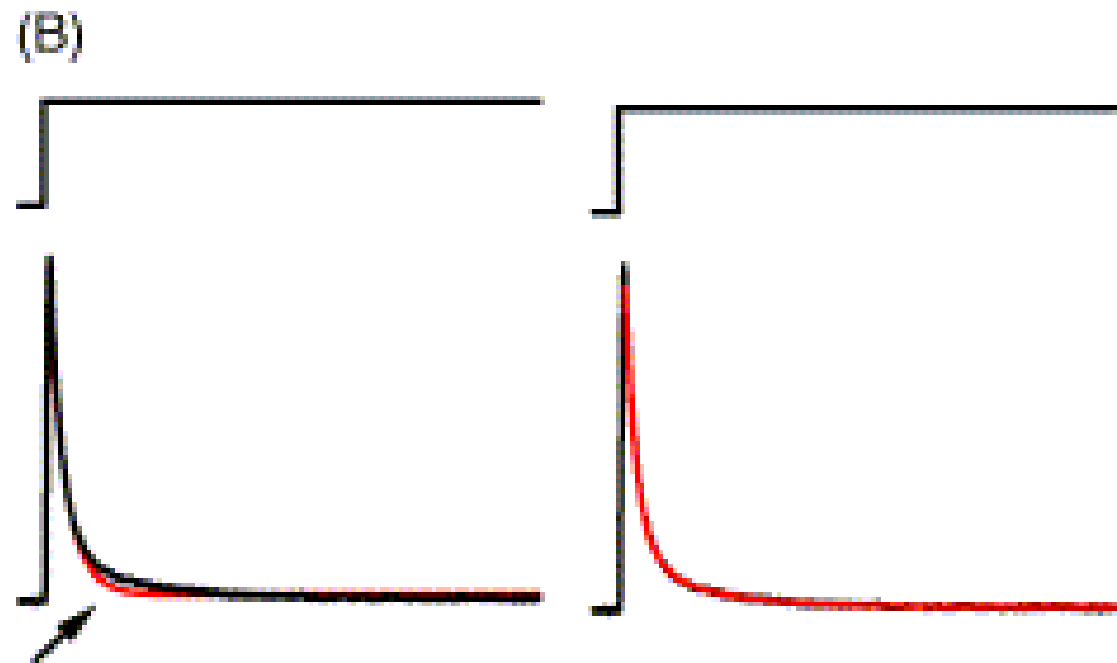
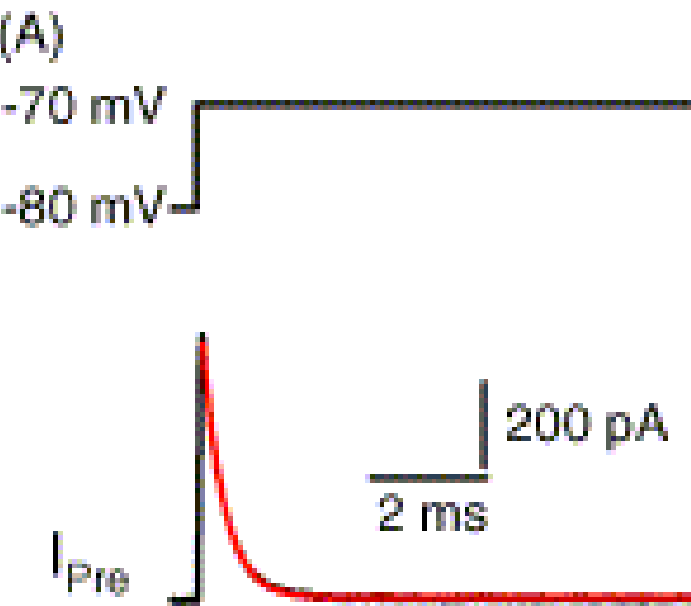
Clever Methods

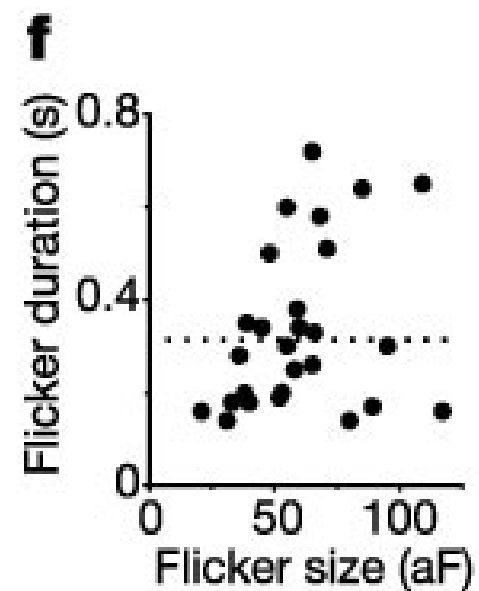
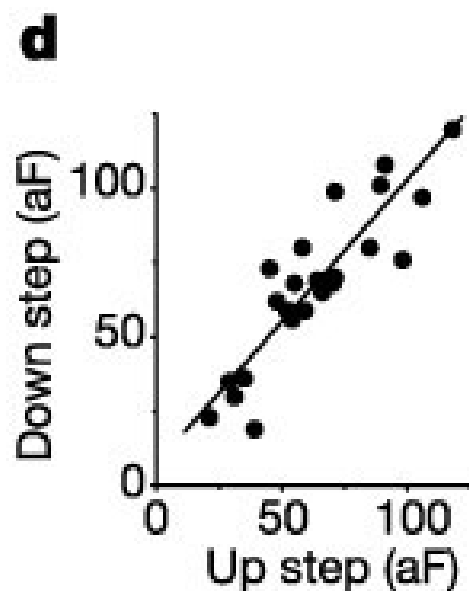
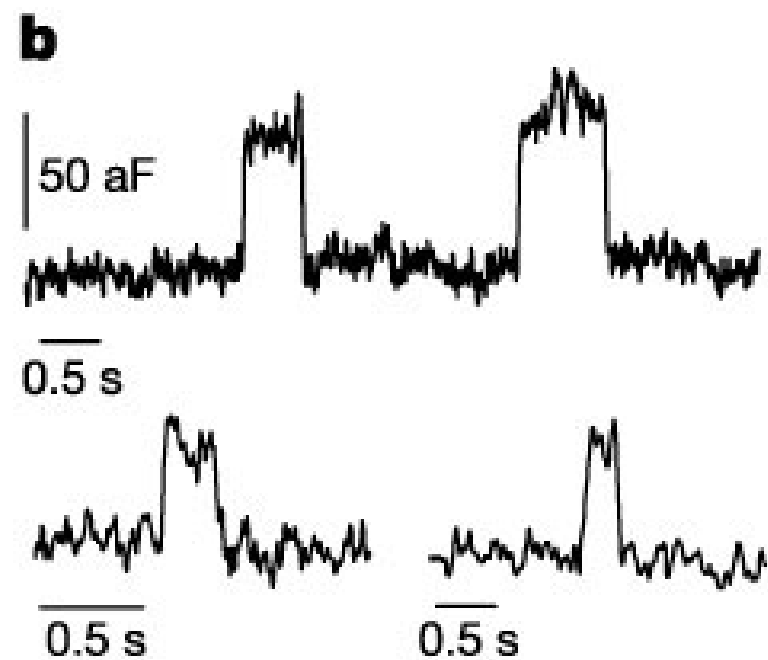
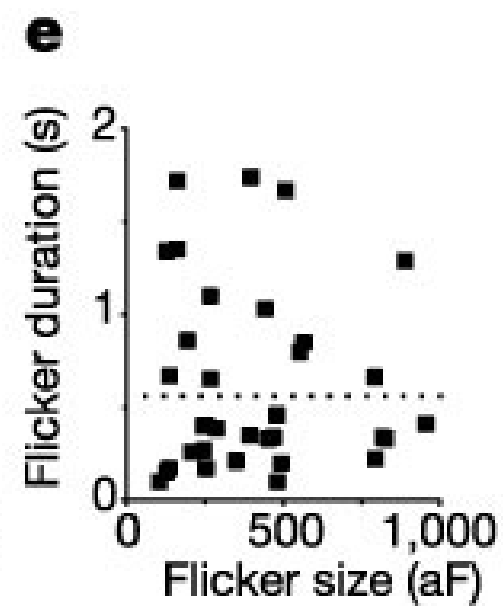
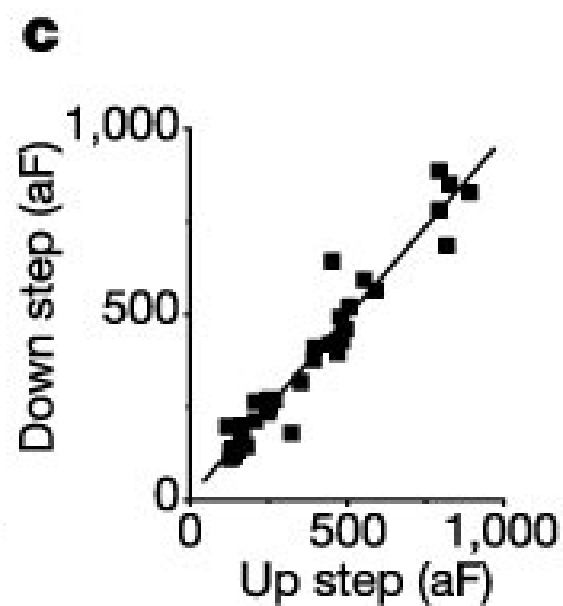
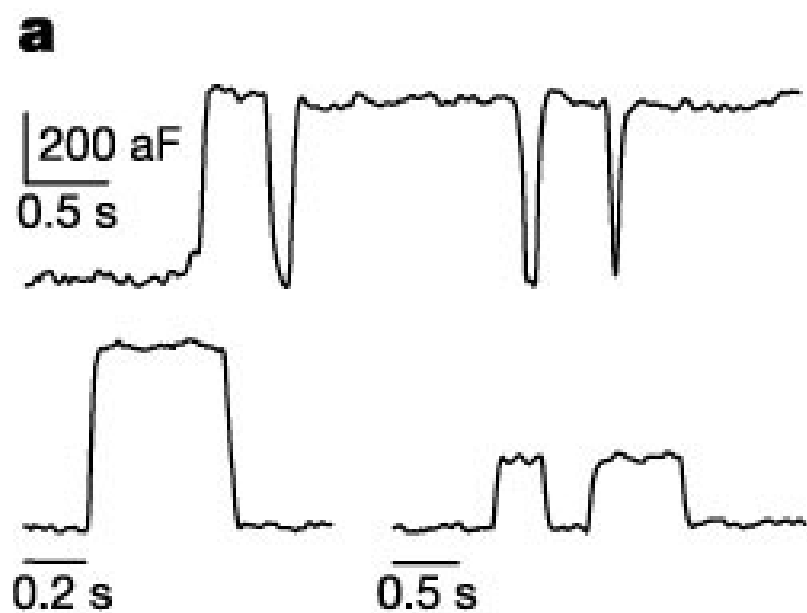
Method 1:

Capacitance

**(Direct Sensing of
Transmitter Release)**

Capacitance Technique



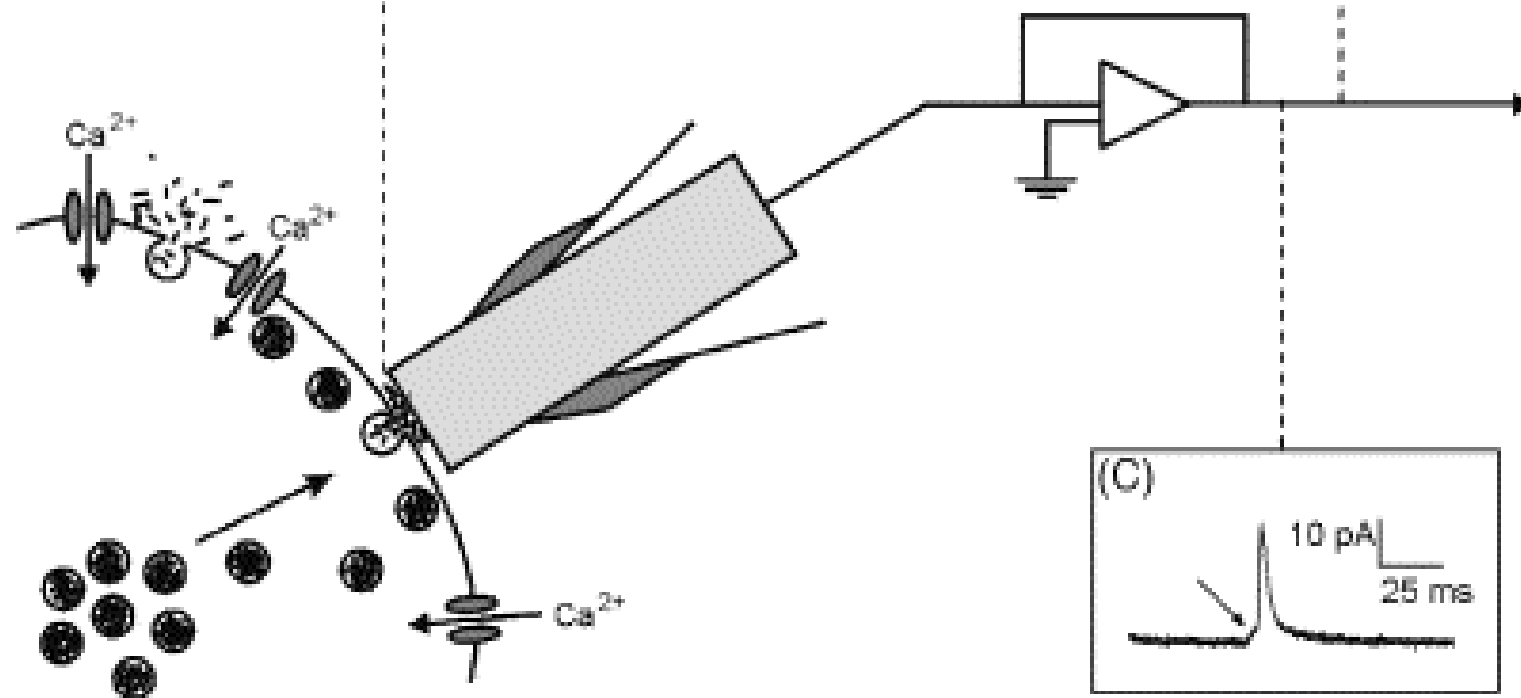
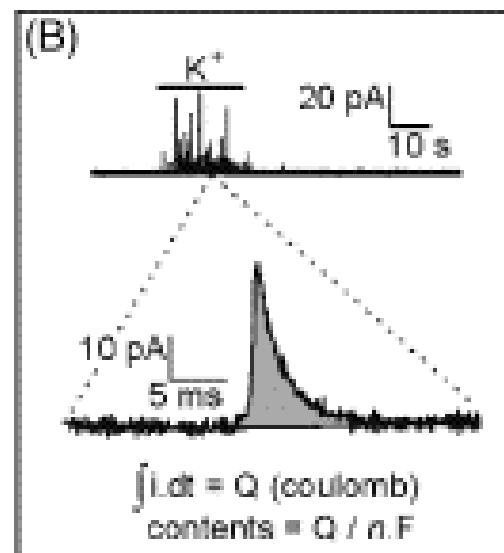
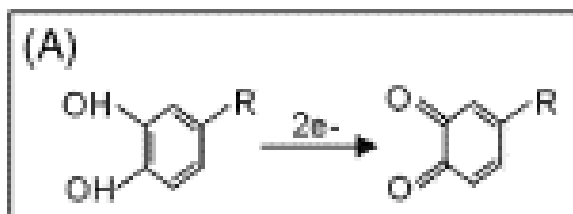


Clever Methods

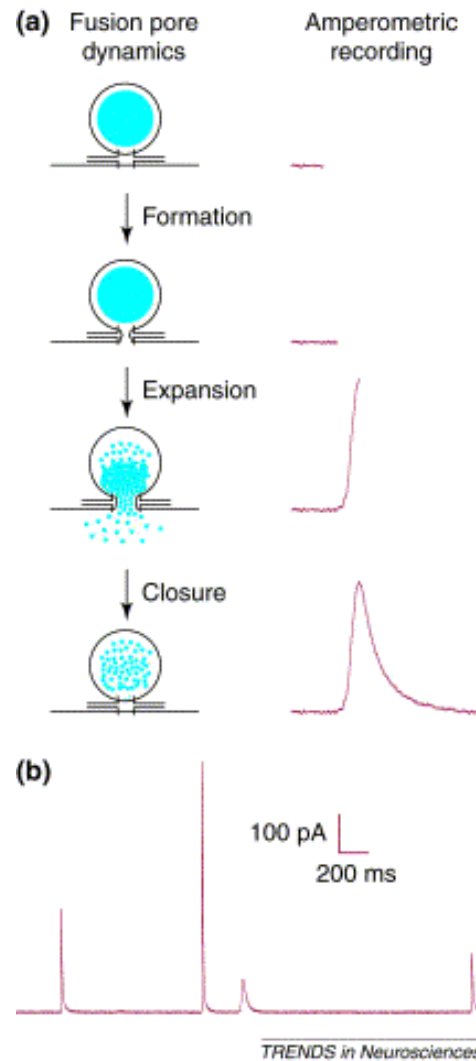
Method 2:

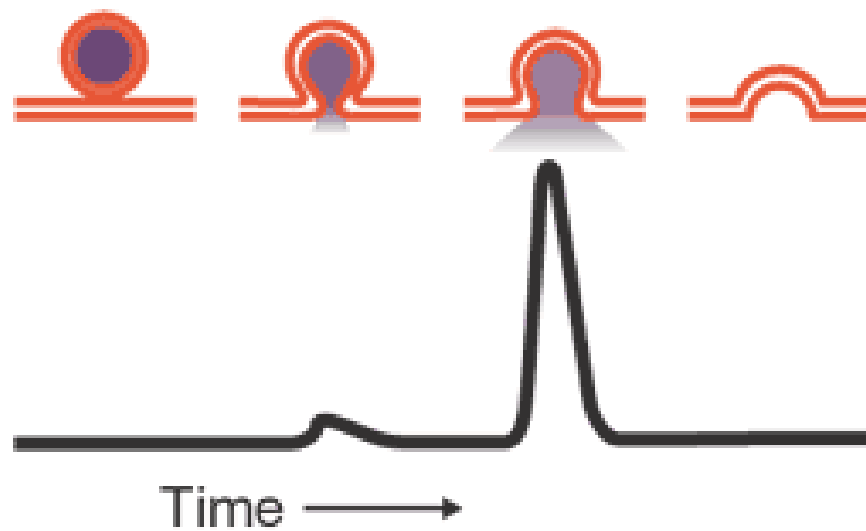
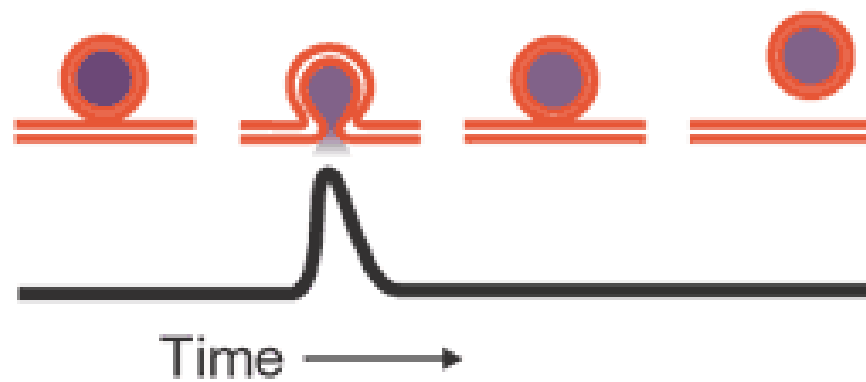
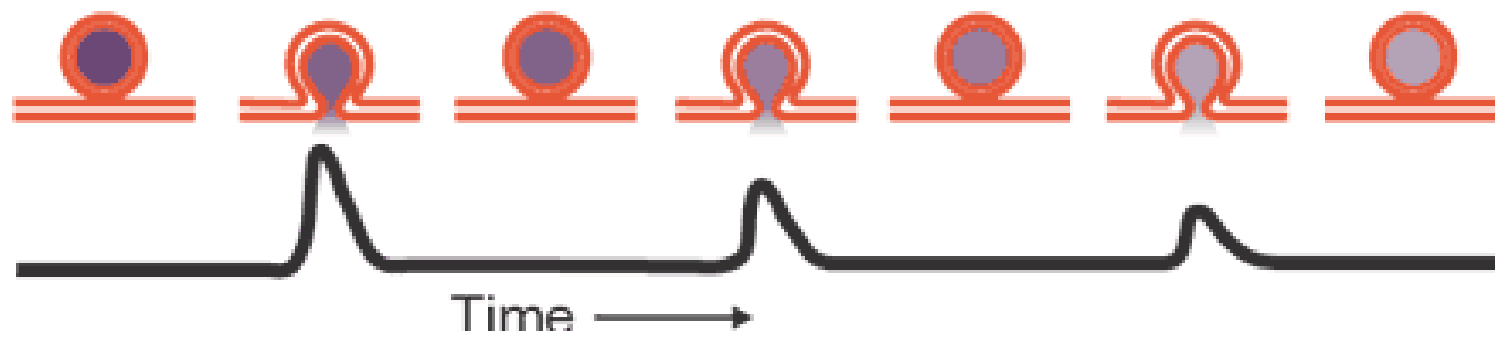
Amperometry

**(Direct Sensing of
Transmitter Release)**



Measurement of Fusion Modes via Amperometry



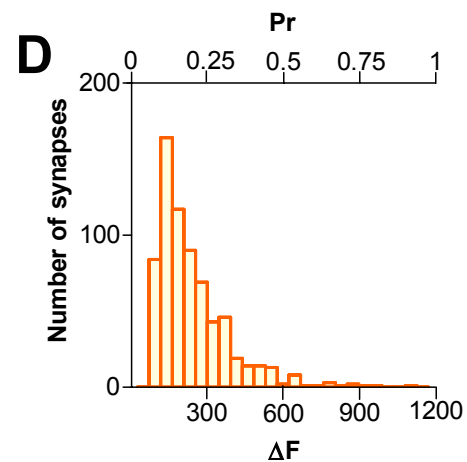
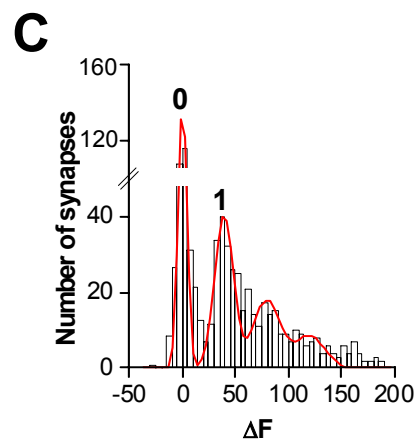
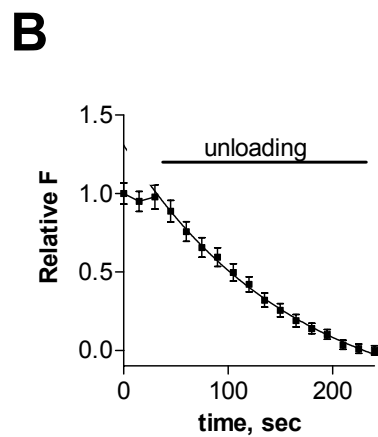
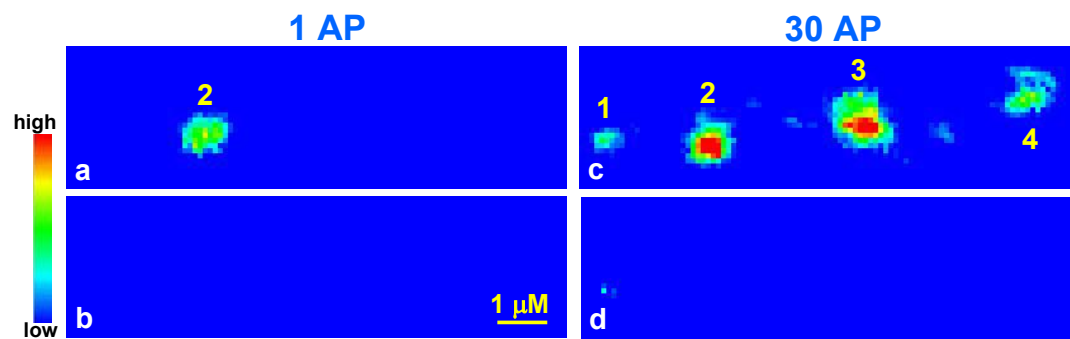
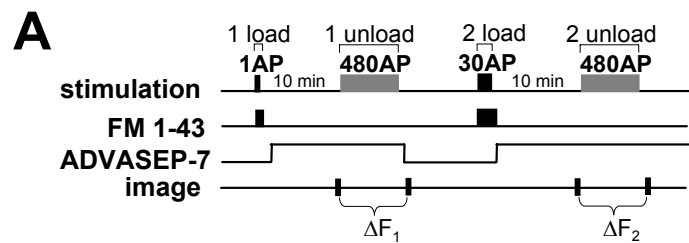
a**b****c**

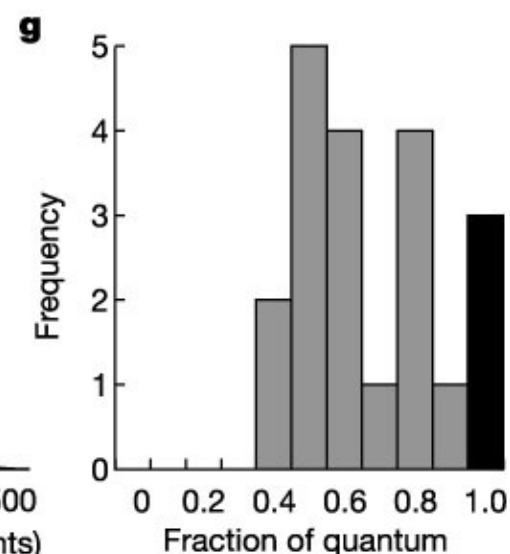
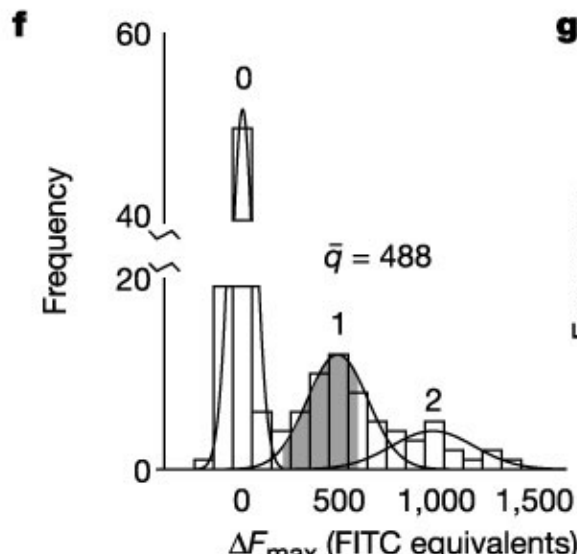
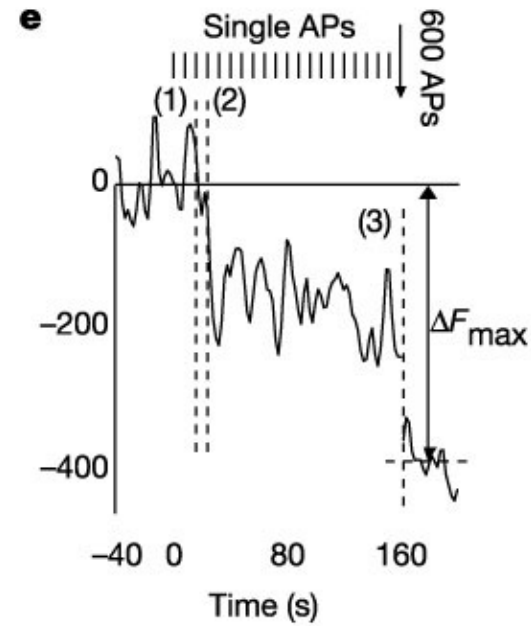
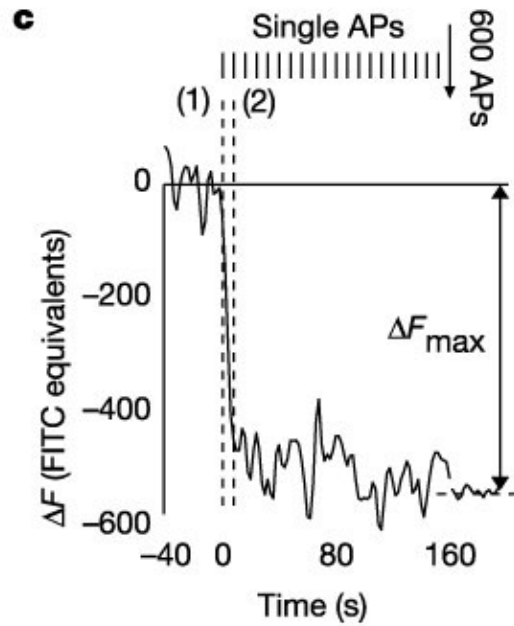
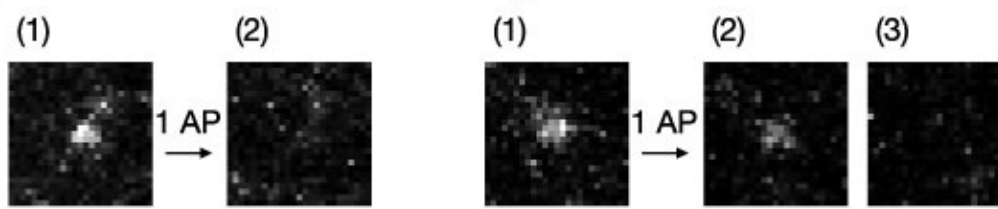
Clever Methods

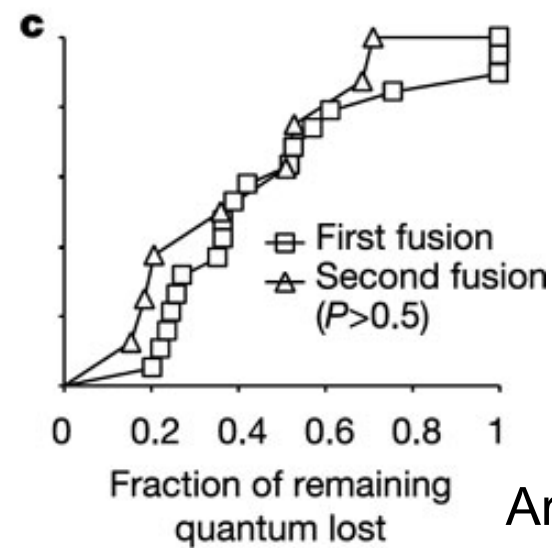
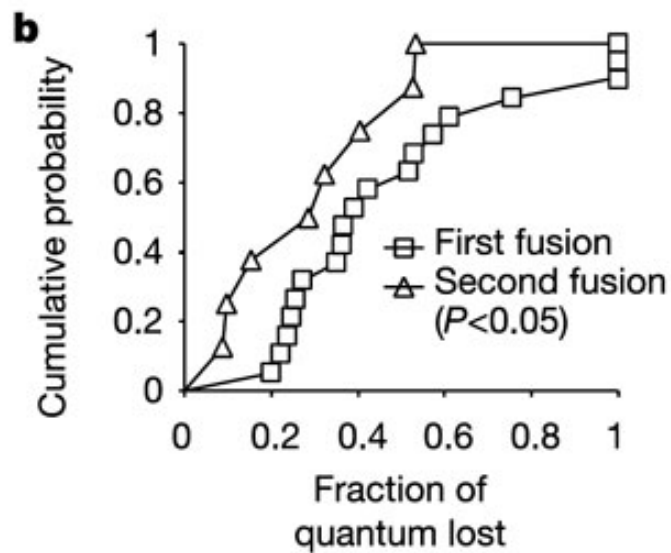
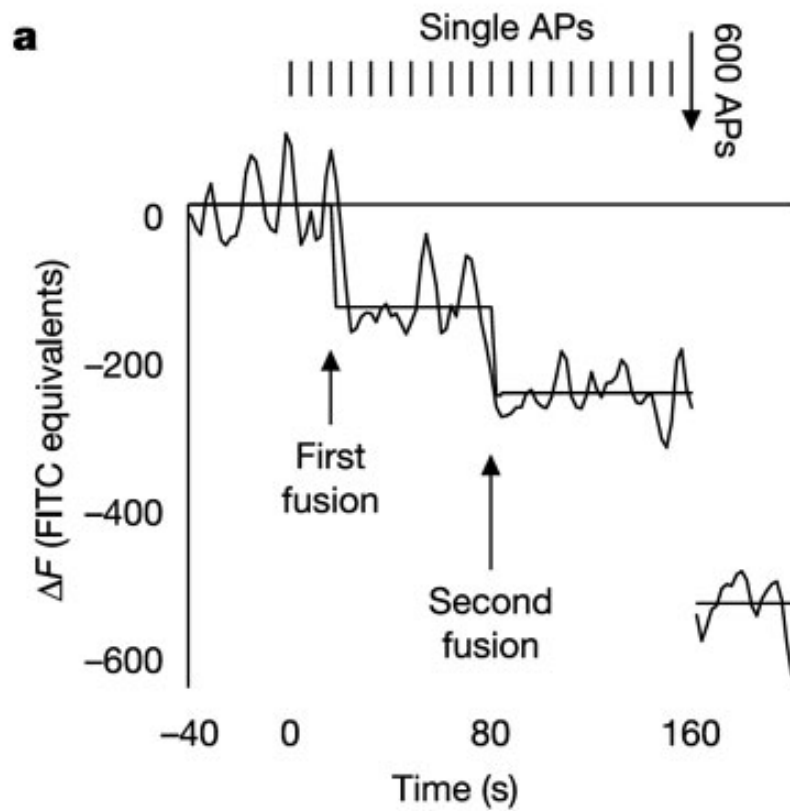
Method 3:

FM Imaging

**(Fluorescent Staining of
Active Vesicles)**





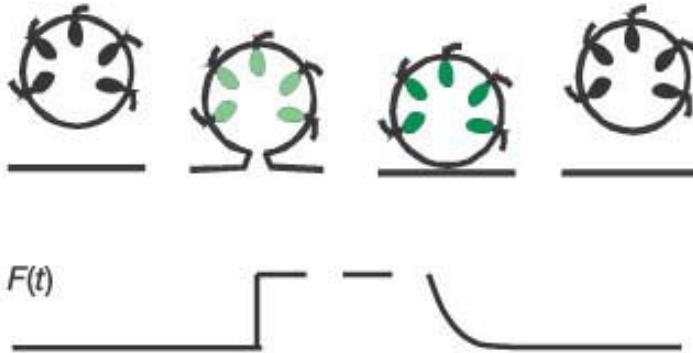
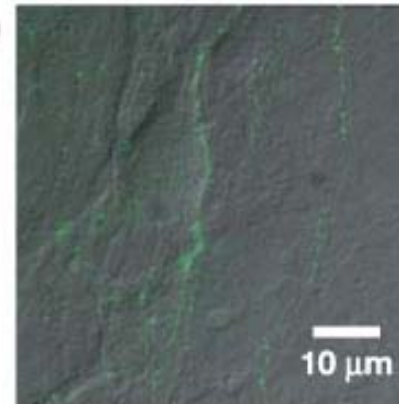
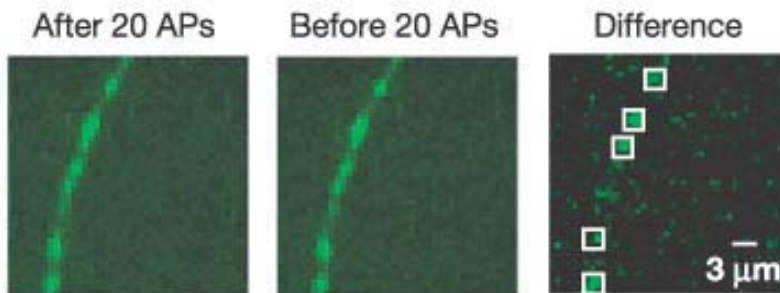
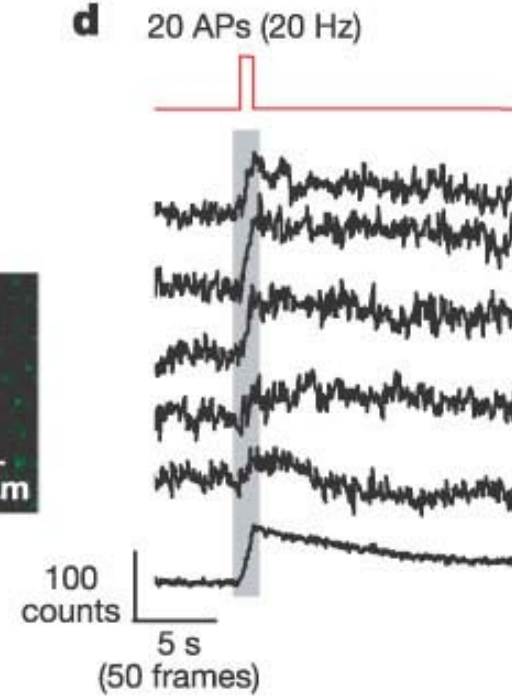


Clever Methods

Method 4:

Synaptophluorins

**(pH-Sensitive Visualization
of Fusion Events)**

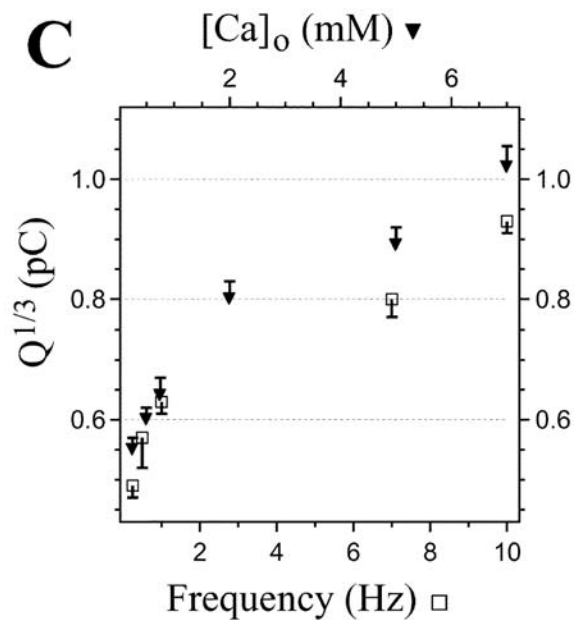
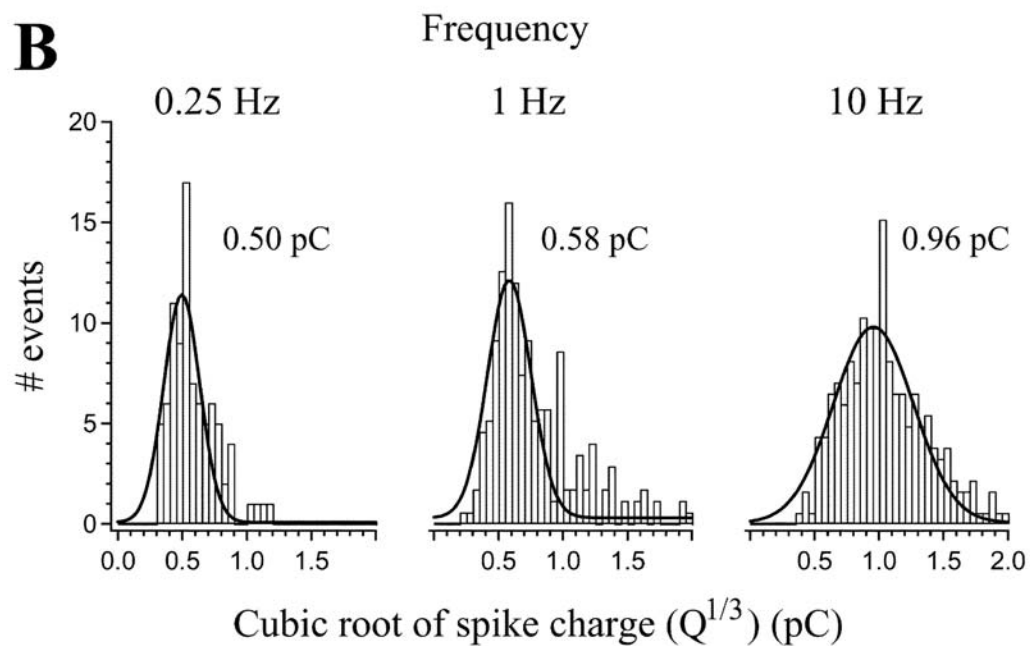
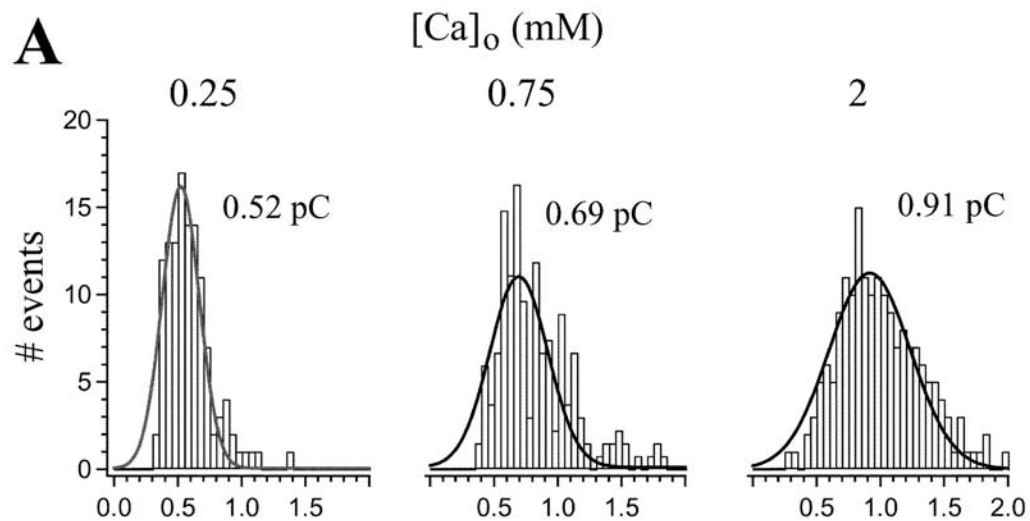
a**b****c****d**

Regulation

Molecular Regulation of Fusion Process

Regulation of the Fusion Pore

- The rate of fusion pore expansion is regulated by:
 - Intracellular Ca^{2+}

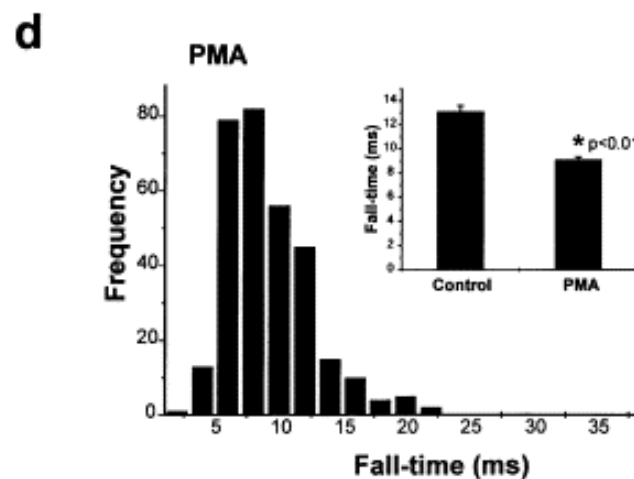
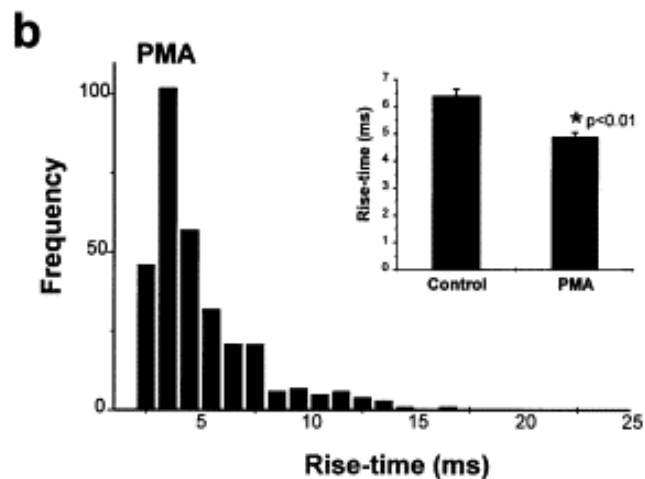
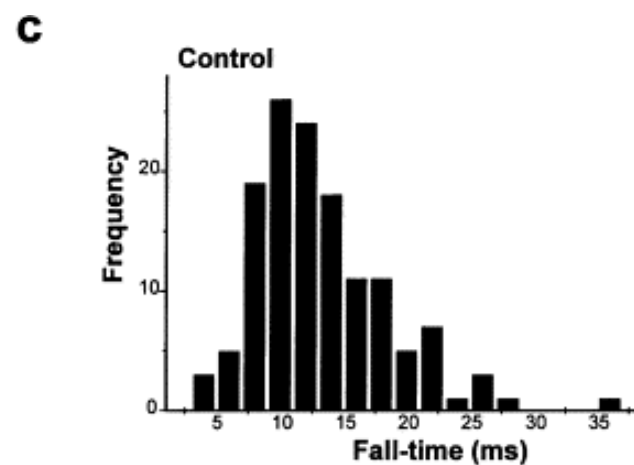
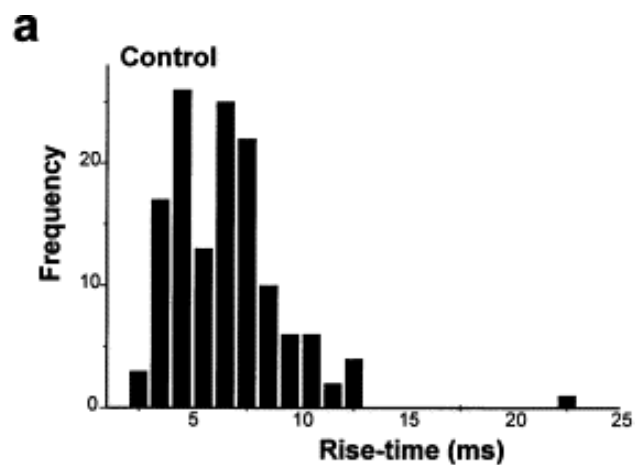


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 - Phorbol esters (e.g. PMA, via PKC pathway)



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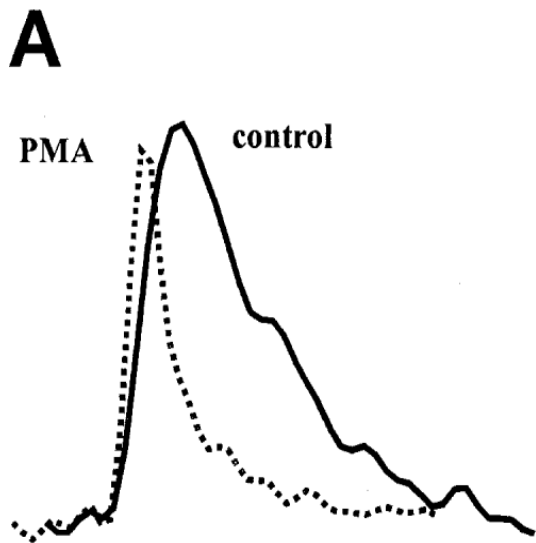
Regulation of the Fusion Pore

- The rate of fusion pore expansion is regulated by:
 - Intracellular Ca^{2+}
 - Phorbol esters (e.g. PMA, via PKC pathway)
- Fusion pore open time is regulated by
 - synaptotagmin I/IV
 - dynamin

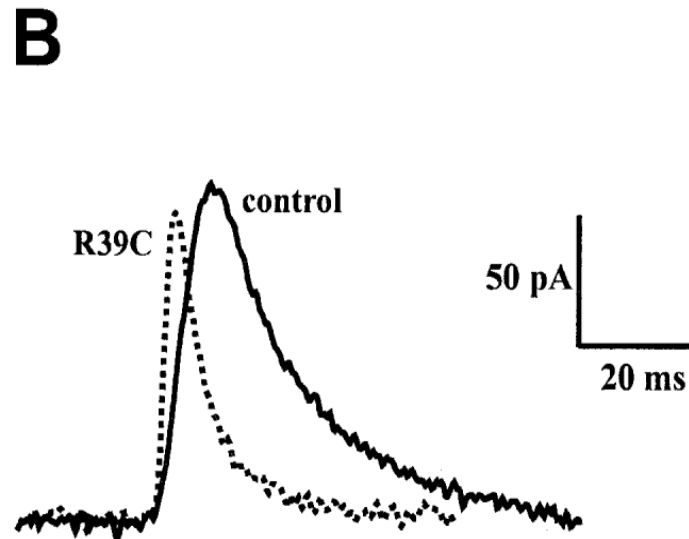
Regulation of the Fusion Pore

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 - Intracellular Ca^{2+}
 - Phorbol esters (e.g. PMA, via PKC pathway)
- Fusion pore open time is regulated by
 - synaptotagmin I/IV
 - dynamin
- Shift of the mode of exocytosis to “kiss-and-run” by:
 - High extracellular Ca^{2+}
 - Staurosporine (kinase inhibitor) (?)
 - Phorbol esters (e.g., PMA, PKC activator)
 - Munc-13

Fusion pore can be regulated

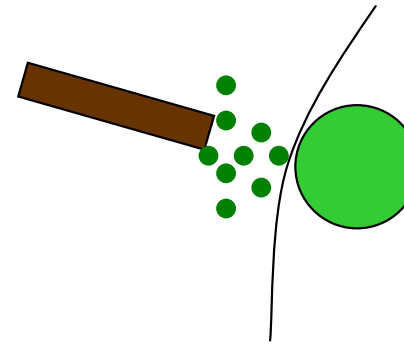


A) Spikes from control and phorbol ester (PMA)-treated cells;



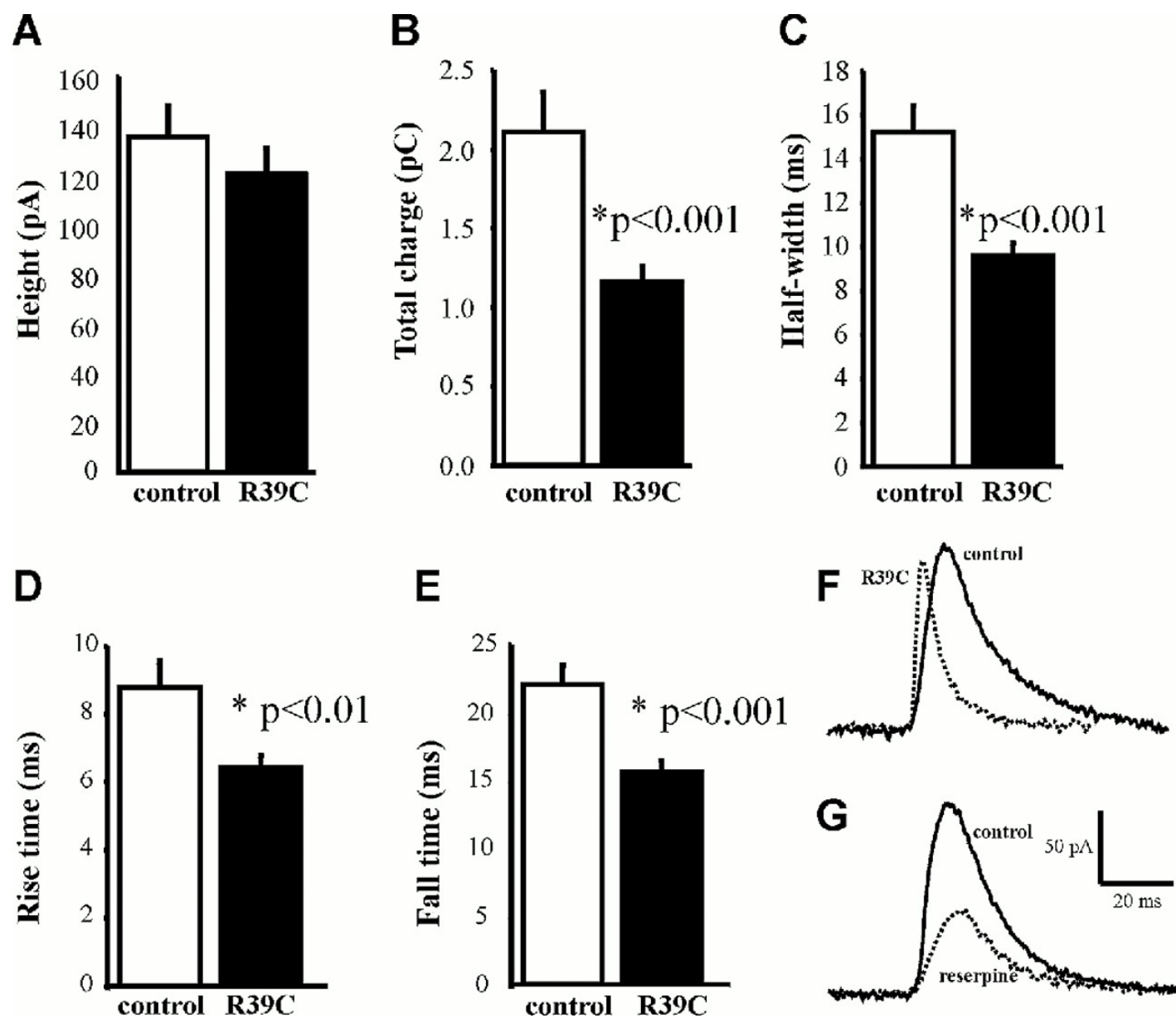
(B) spikes from control non-transfected and from Munc18(R39)-expressing cells;

Carbon Fibre
Amperometry



Catecholamine

Chromaffin
Cells



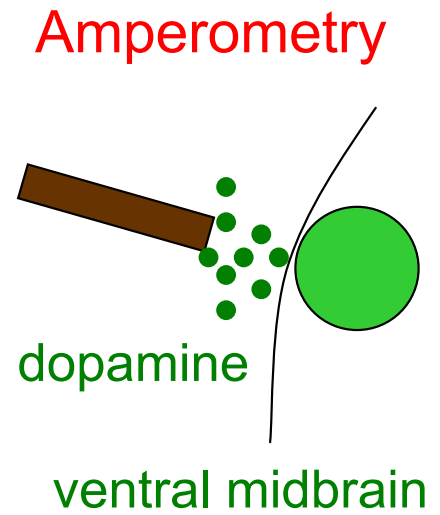
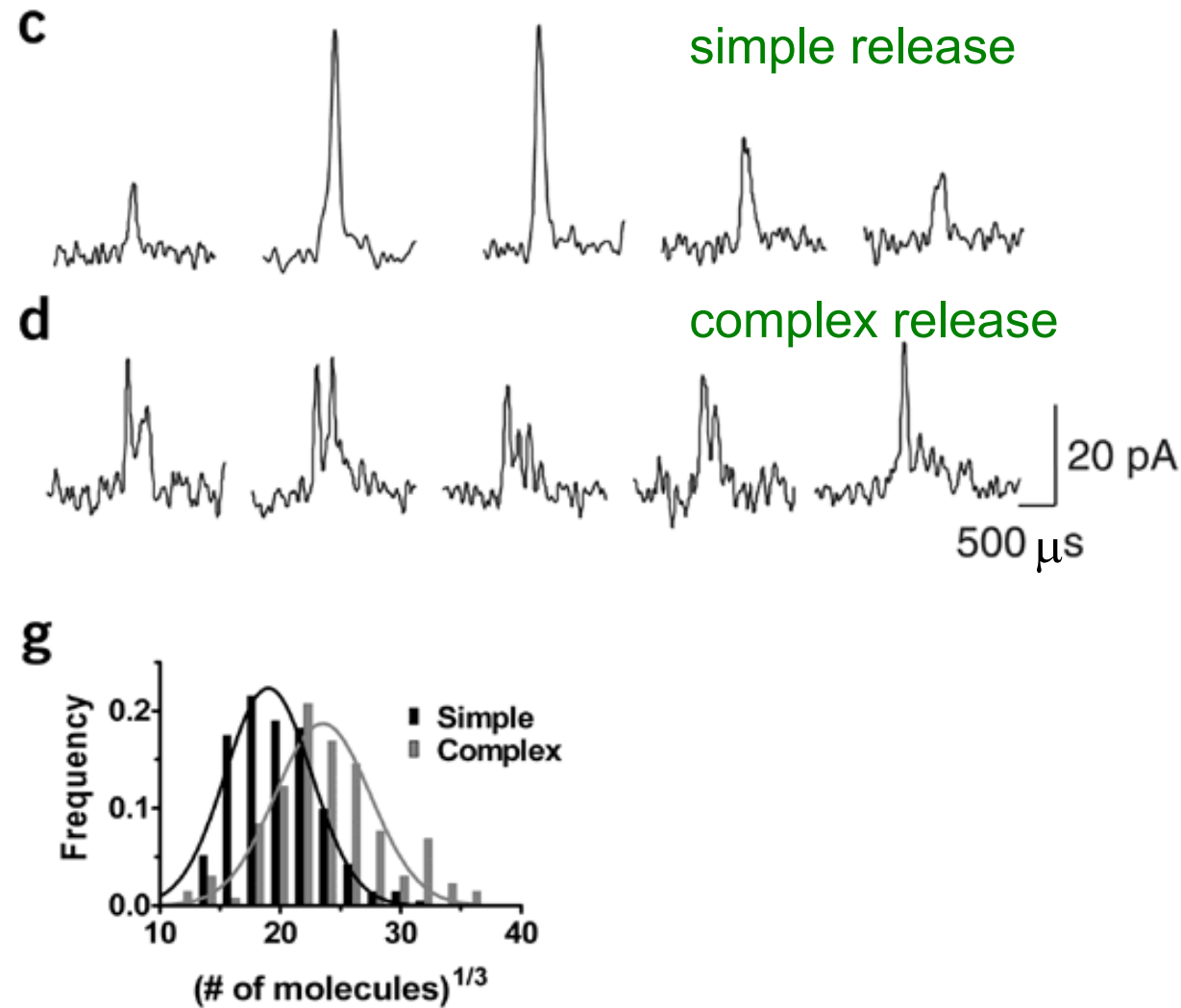
Regulation

Molecular Regulation of Fusion Process

Regulation

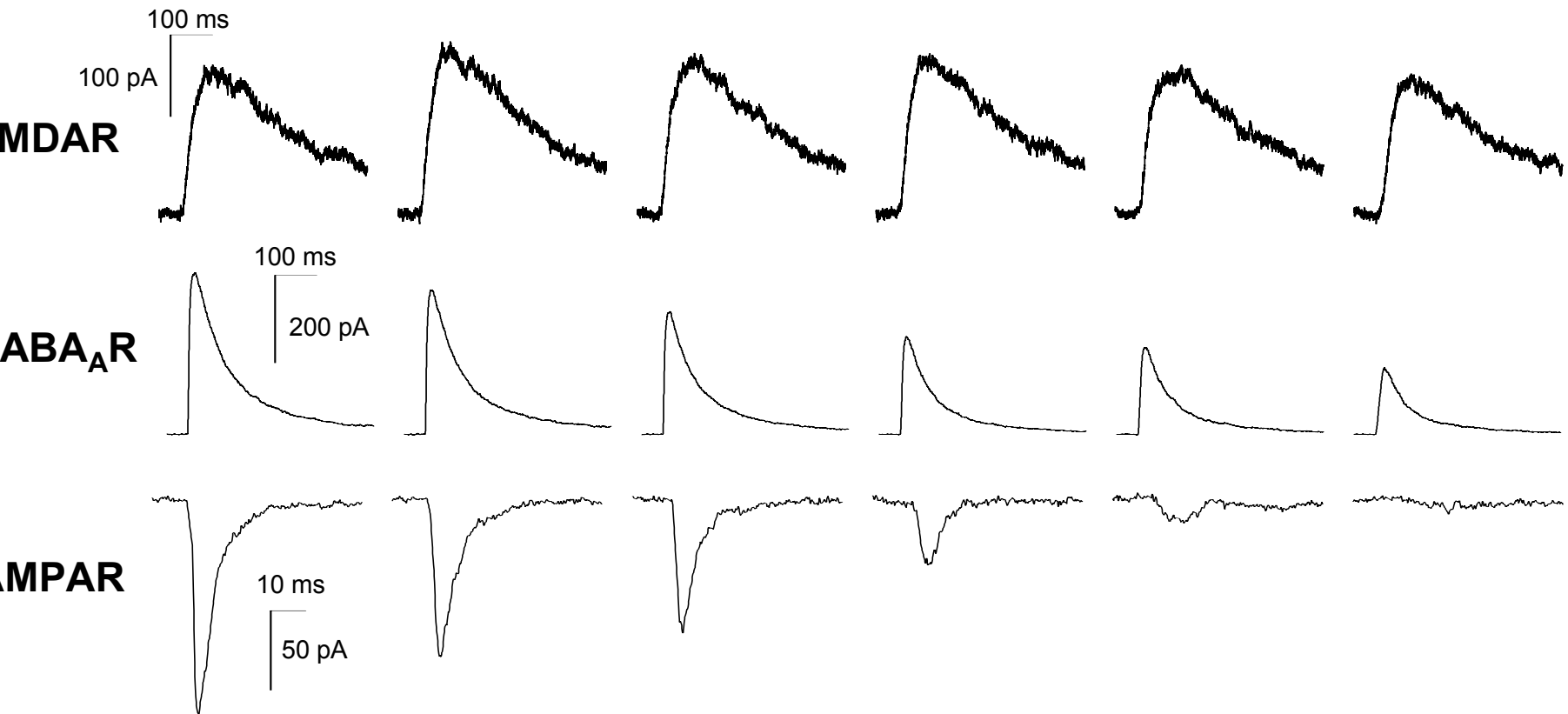
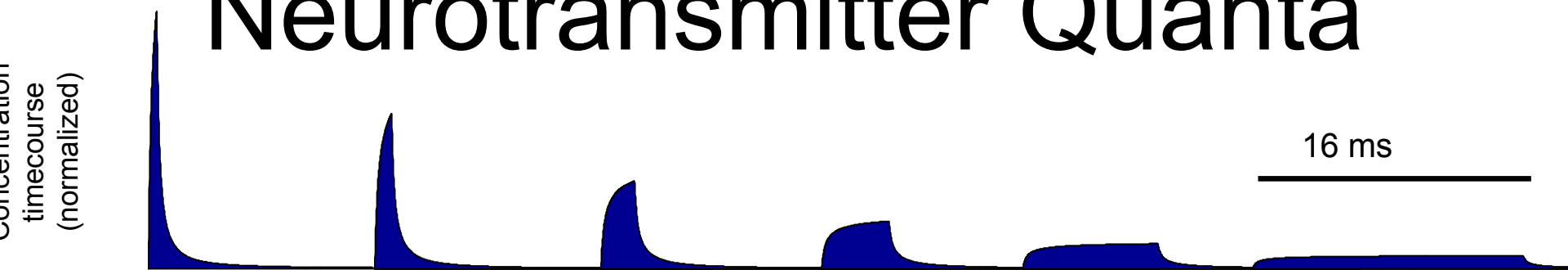
**Implications for
Synaptic Transmission**

Quantal size is regulated by the fusion pore in small vesicles of dopaminergic neurons



Staal, Mosharov, Sulzer
(Nat Neurosci, 2004)

the Timecourse of Release of Neurotransmitter Quanta



Regulation

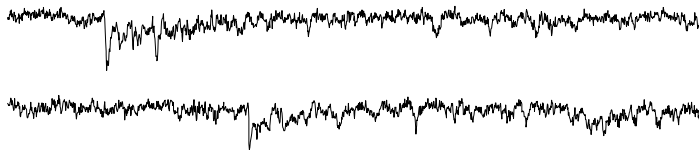
**Implications for
Synaptic Transmission**

Regulation

**Implications for
Development of
Neural Networks**

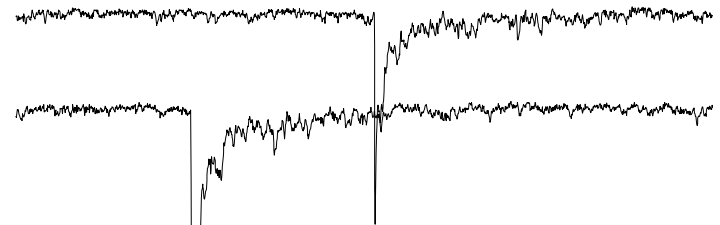
During Development of Neural Networks, Transmission Changes from “Silent” Type to Functional

Immature:
Silent Transmission



Synaptic Release
Causes NMDA
Receptor-Mediated
Current

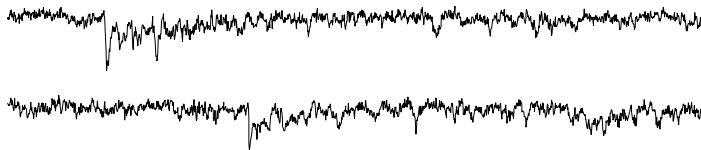
Mature: Functional



Synaptic Release
Causes (NMDA + AMPA)
Receptor-Mediated
Current

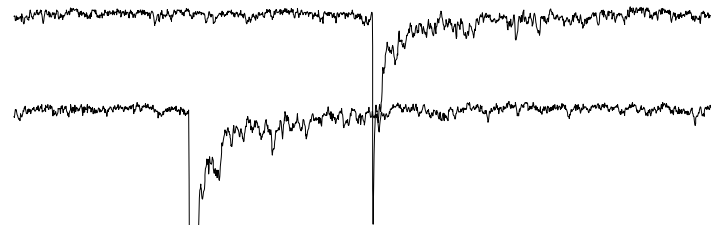
During Development of Excitatory Signaling in Hippocampal Circuits, Transmission Changes from a Slow, “Silent” Type, to a Fast, Functional Type

Immature:
Silent Transmission



Synaptic Release
Causes NMDA
Receptor-Mediated
Current

Mature:
“Functional Transmission”

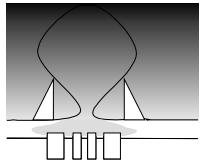


Synaptic Release
Causes (NMDA + AMPA)
Receptor-Mediated
Current

What's Different?

Summary of presynaptic neurotransmitter release maturation

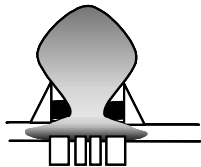
“AMPA-quiet”



restricted release



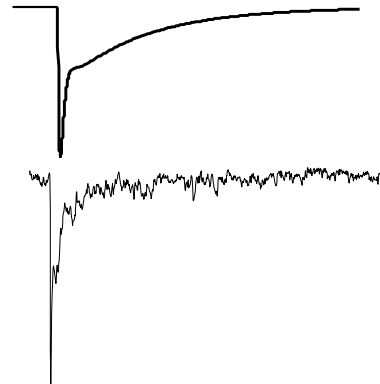
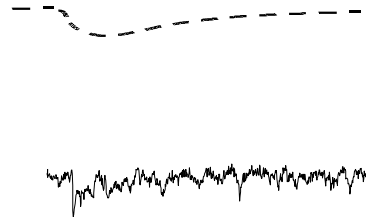
Functional



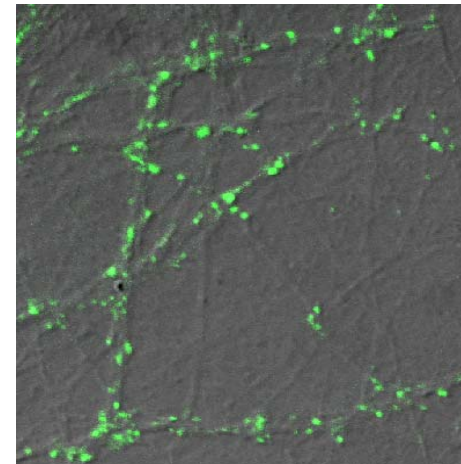
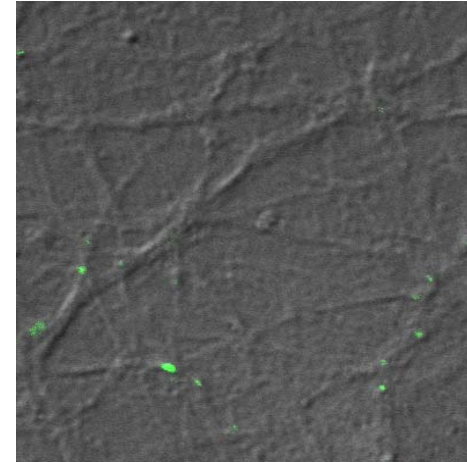
unrestricted release

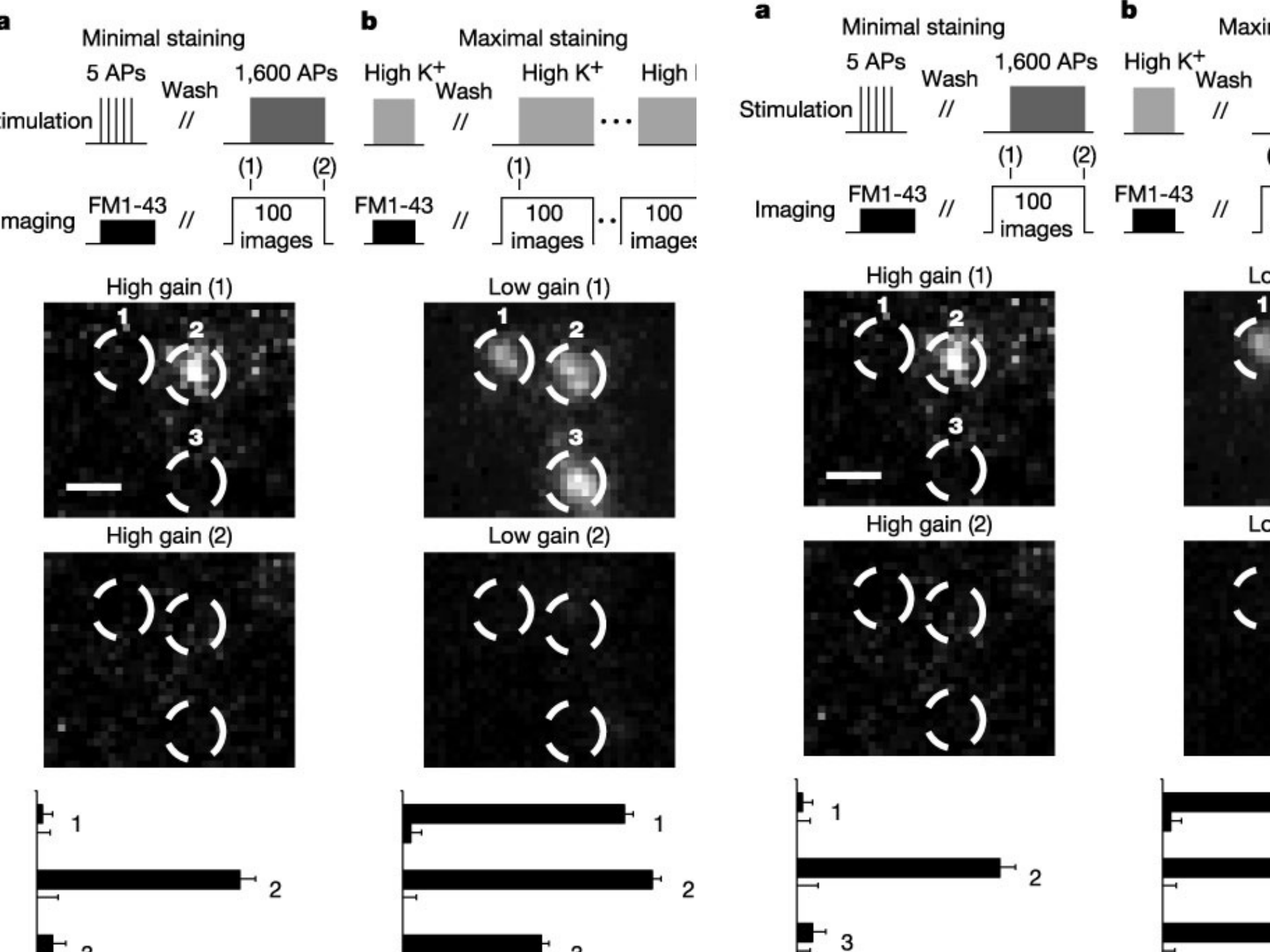


I_{synaptic}



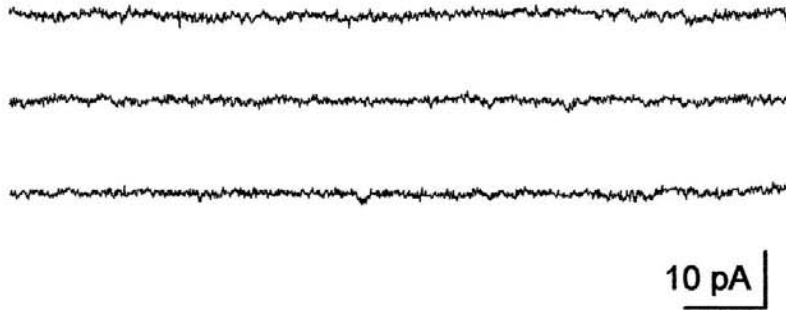
FM1-43



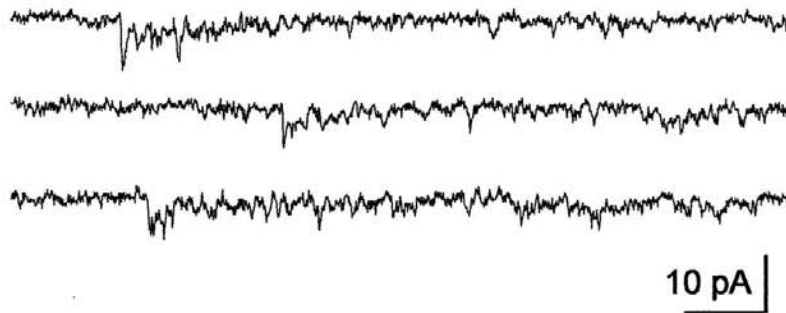


8 DIV

mM Mg^{2+}



mM Mg^{2+}

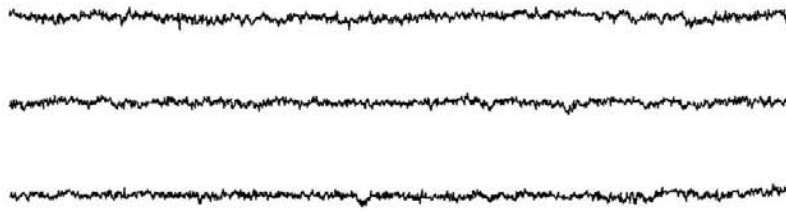


Early glutamatergic synapses exhibit “silent” transmission consisting mainly of NMDA currents.

8 DIV

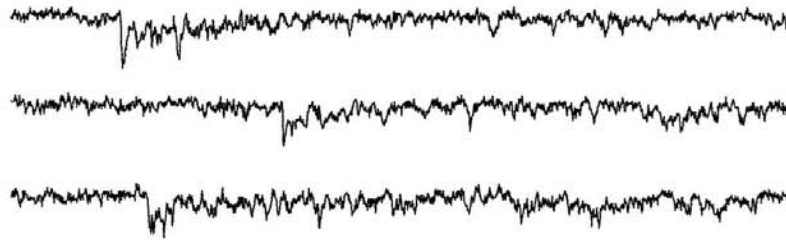
15 DIV

mM Mg^{2+}



10 pA

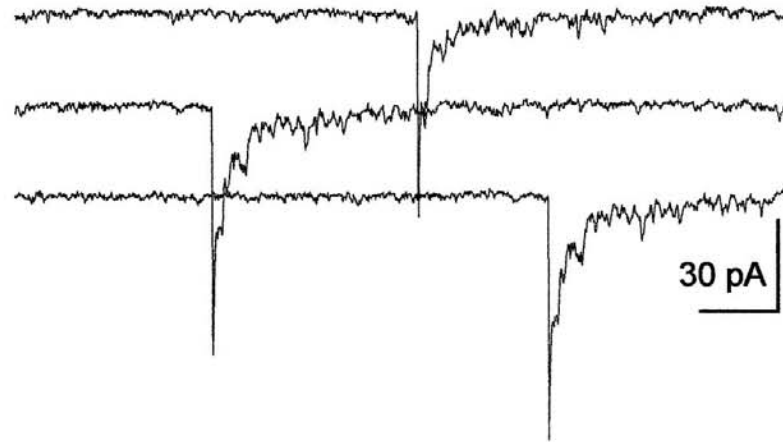
mM Mg^{2+}



10 pA

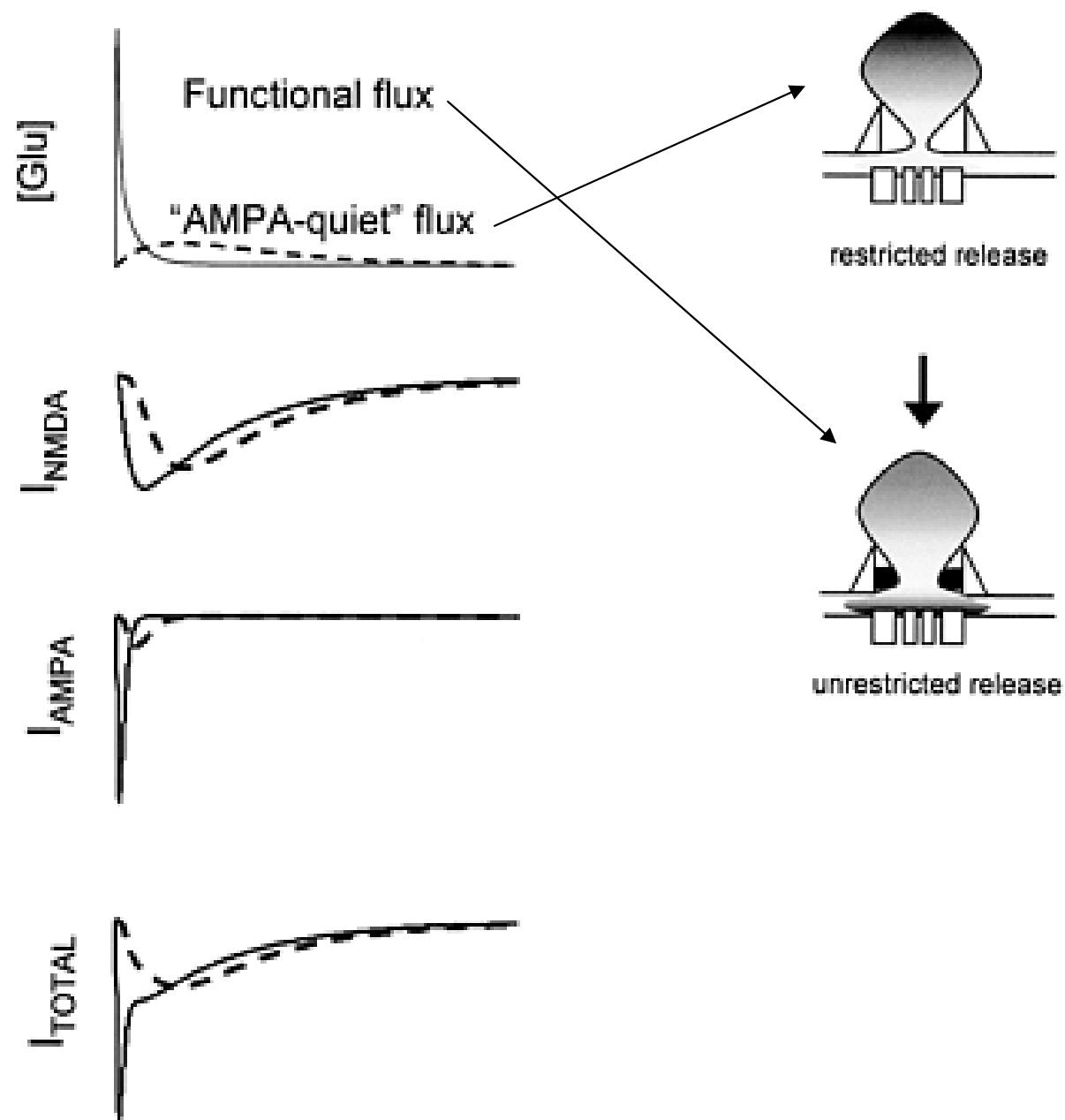


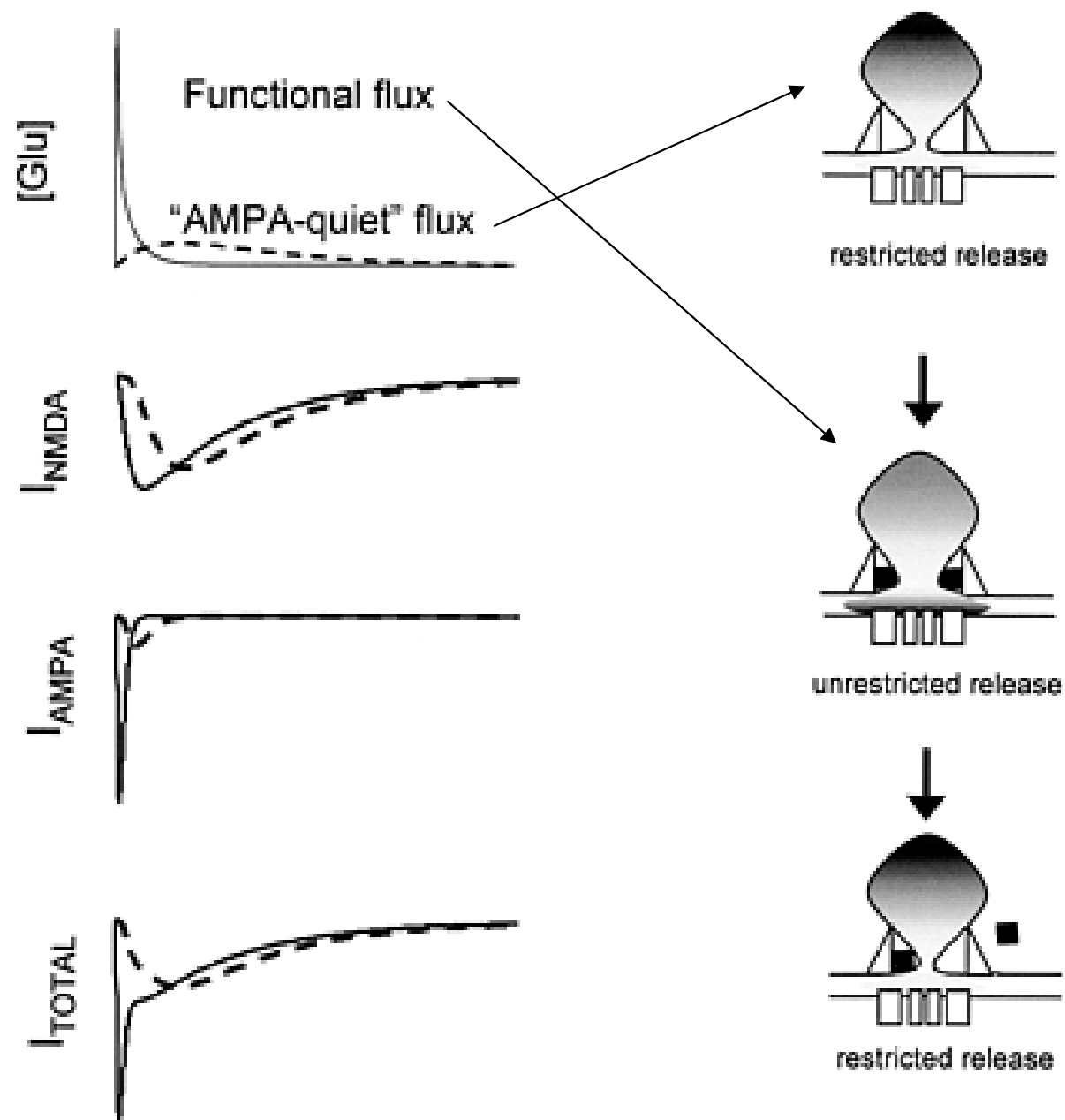
30 pA



30 pA

Later in development, NMDA currents
are joined by AMPA currents.

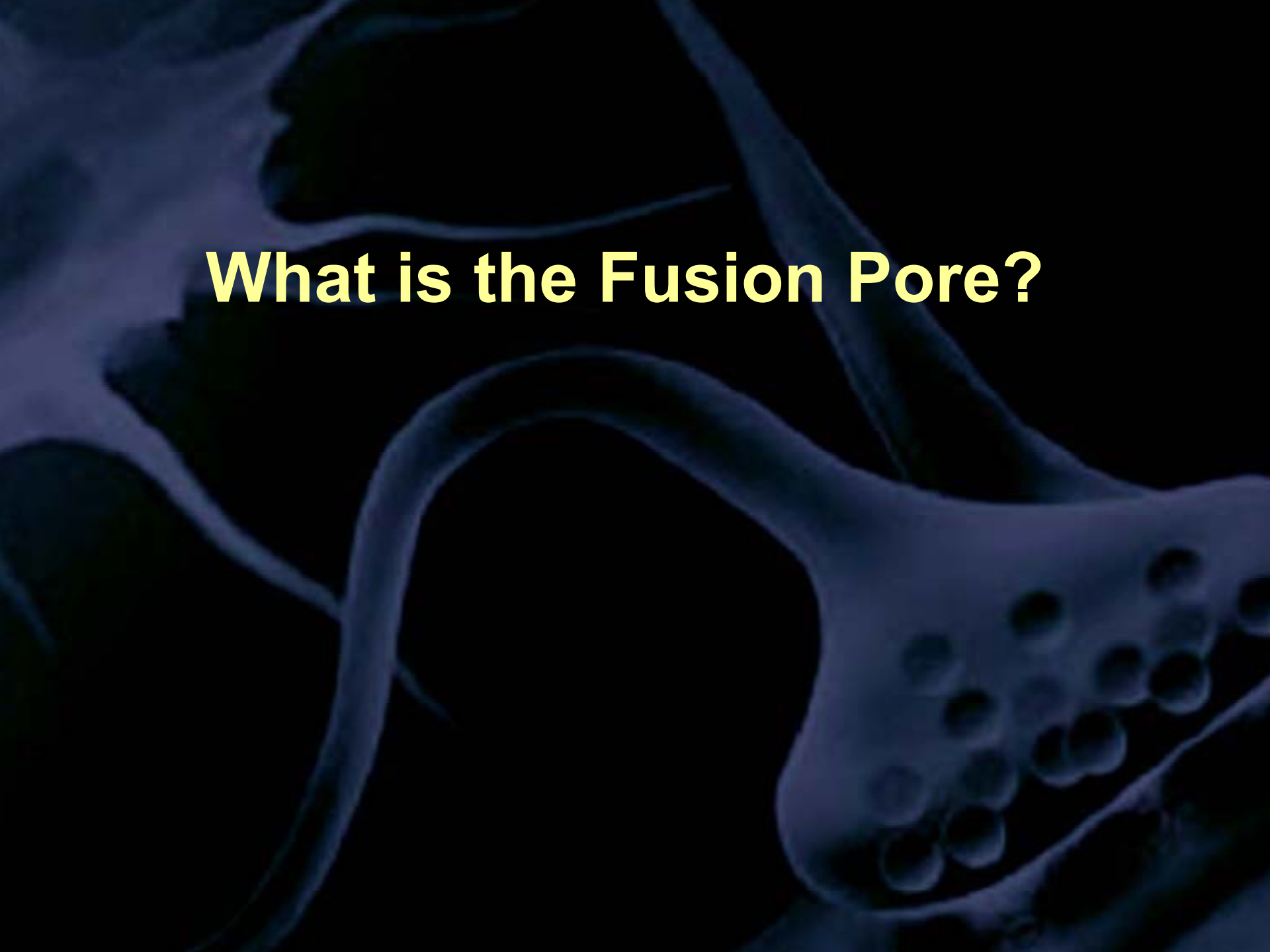


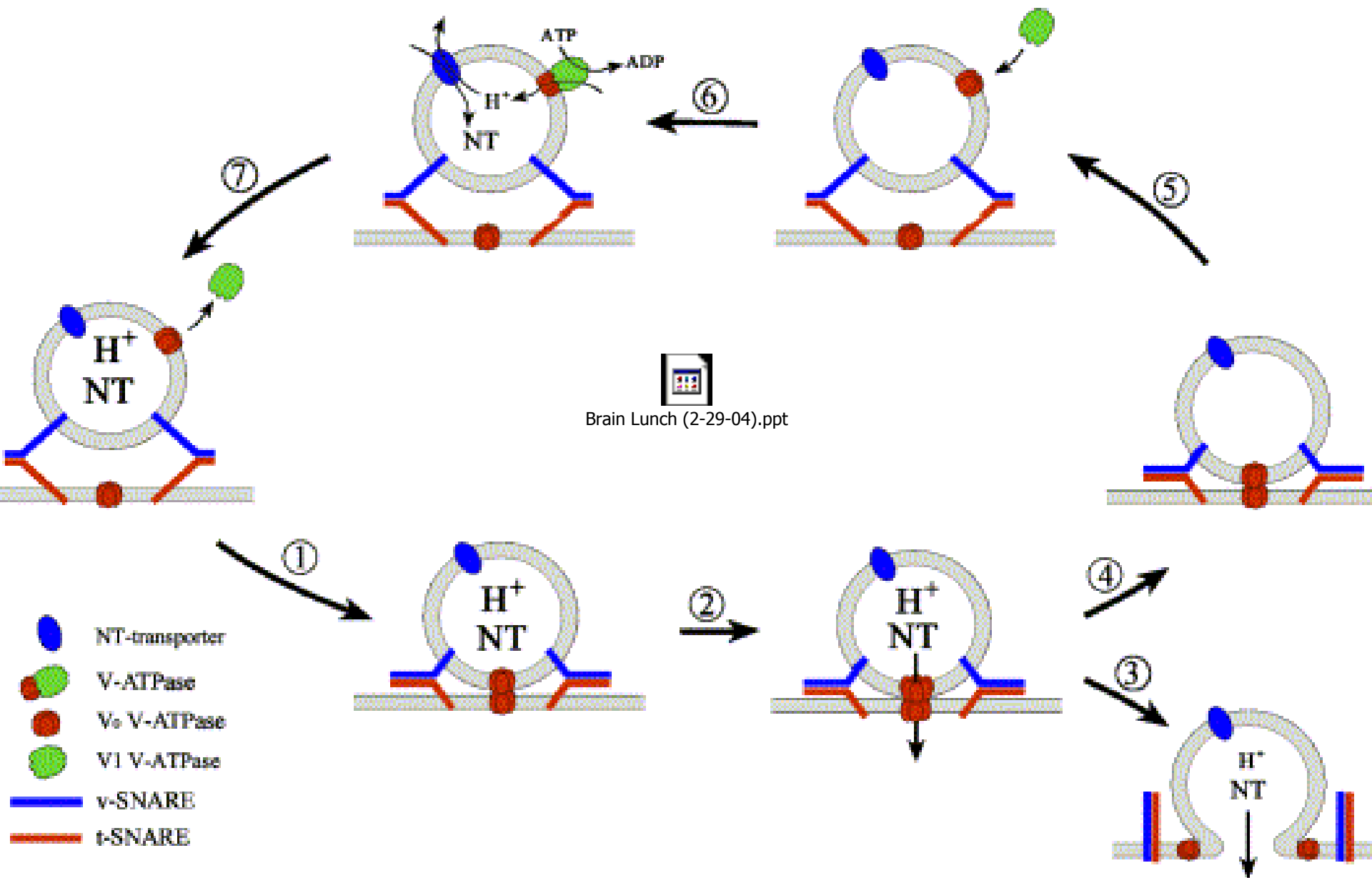


Regulation

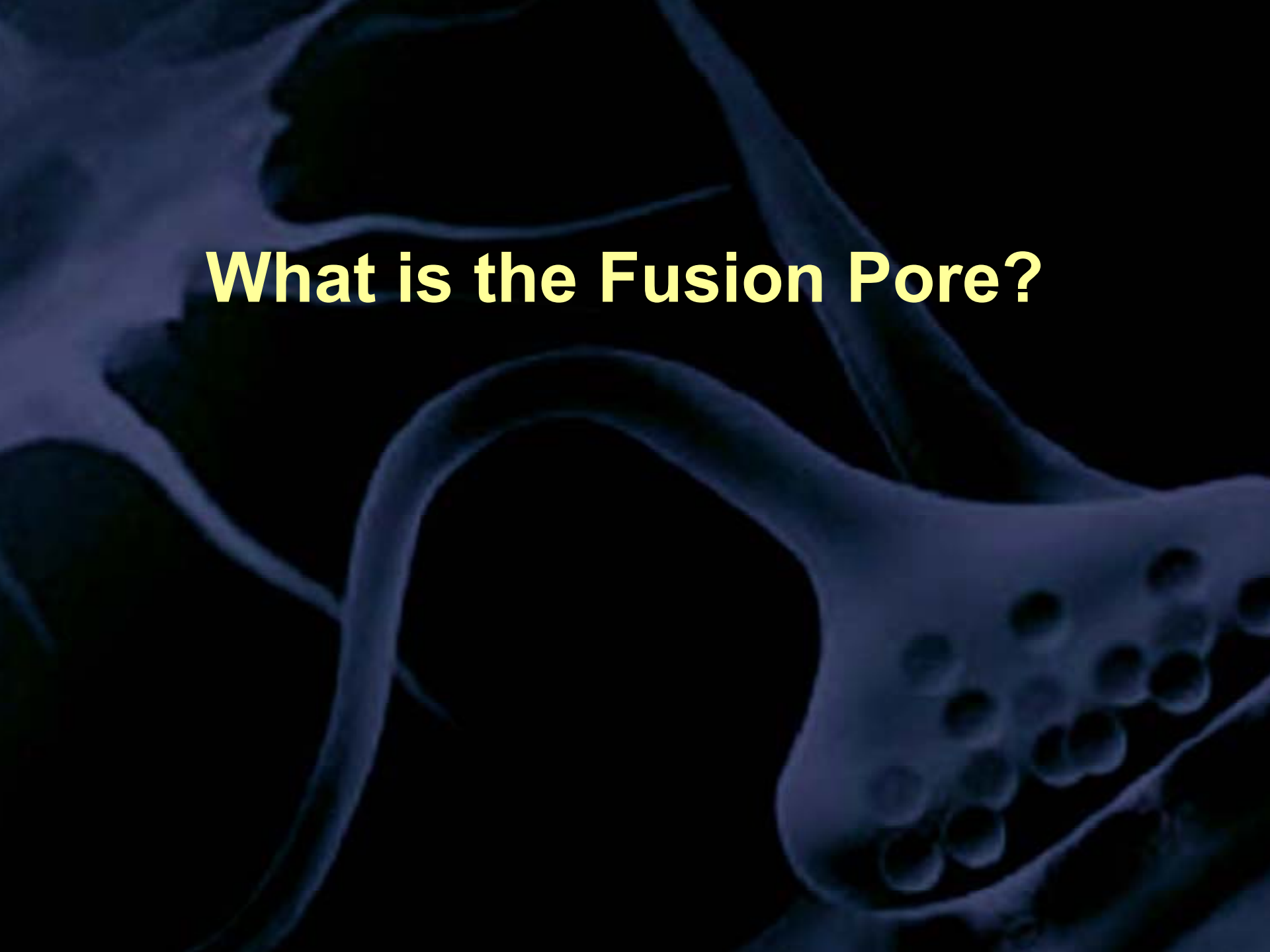
**Implications for
Development of
Neural Networks**

What is the Fusion Pore?





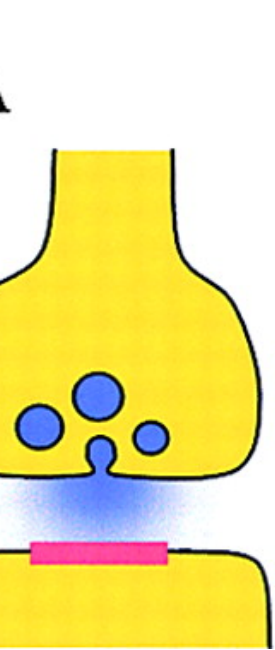
What is the Fusion Pore?



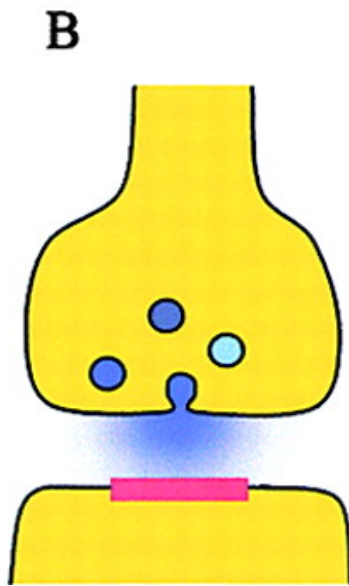
Summary

The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface with flowing, wavy lines in shades of blue and purple. In the lower right quadrant, there is a cluster of small, light-colored circles, possibly representing a biological or chemical structure.

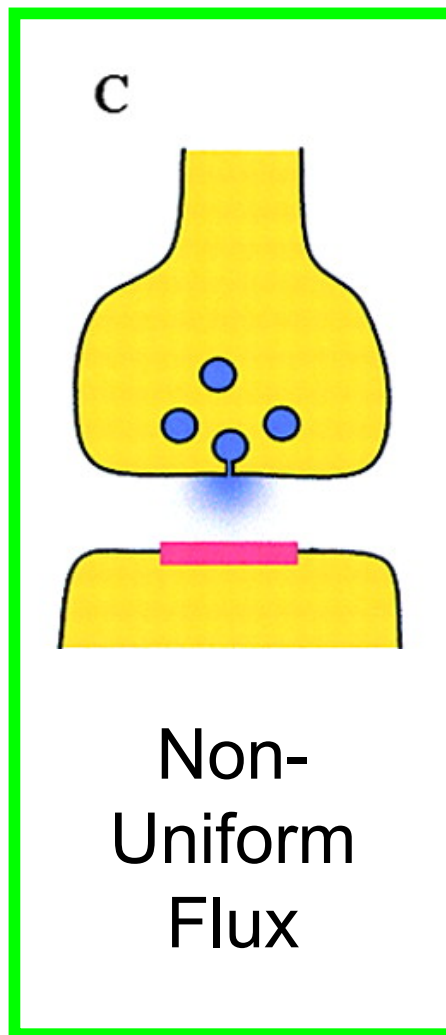
Possible Explanations for Variability in a Synapse's Quantal Amplitude



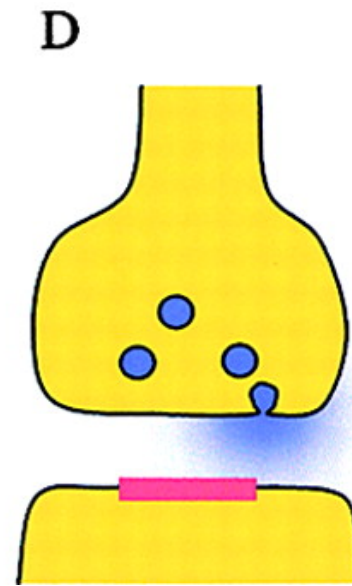
Non-Uniform
Volume



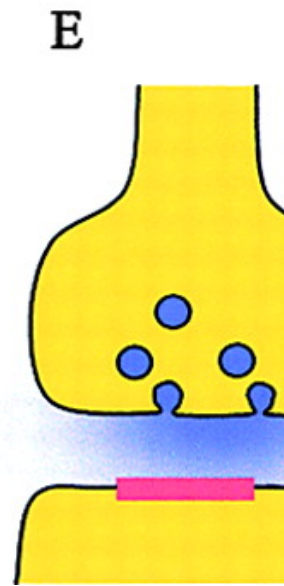
Non-Uniform
Filling



Non-Uniform
Flux



Non-Uniform
Alignment
of
Release



Variable
Number
of
Vesicle
Fusing

Regulation of Signal Strength by Presynaptic Mechanisms

9.013 / 7.68: Core Class

**Sheng Lectures
Presynaptic Mechanisms**

Nathan Wilson