



Anatoly Buchin^{1,2,3}, Anton Chizhov^{4,5}, Gilles Huberfeld^{6,7}, Richard Miles⁸ and Boris Gutkin^{1,3}

¹École Normale Supérieure, Laboratoire des Neurosciences Cognitives, Group for Neural Theory (France, Paris)

²University of Washington, Department of Physiology and Biophysics (United States, Seattle)

³National Research University Higher School of Economics, Center for Cognition and Decision Making (Russia, Moscow)

⁴Ioffe Institute, Computational Physics Laboratory (Saint Petersburg, Russia)

⁵Sechenov Institute of Evolutionary Physiology and Biochemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences, (Saint Petersburg, Russia)

⁶Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital, Assistance Publique-Hopitaux de Paris, Neurophysiology Department (France, Paris)

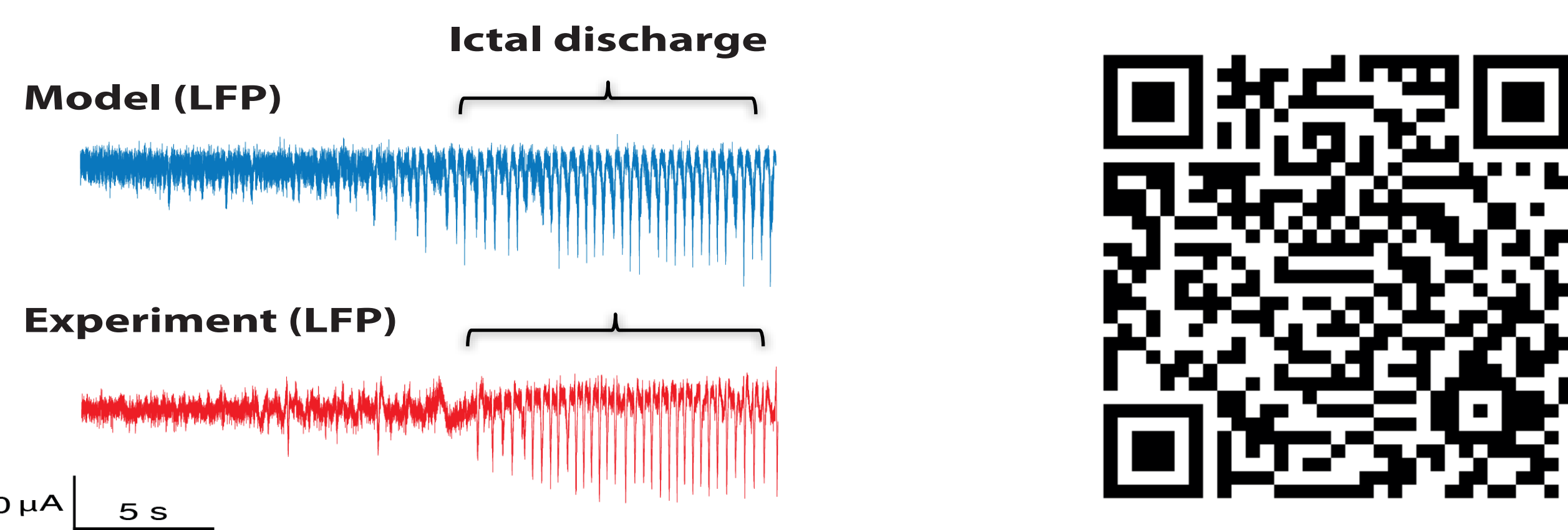
⁷Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale U1129 «Infantile Epilepsies and Brain Plasticity», Paris Descartes University (France, Paris)

⁸Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Epinière, Cortex et Epilepsie Group (France, Paris)



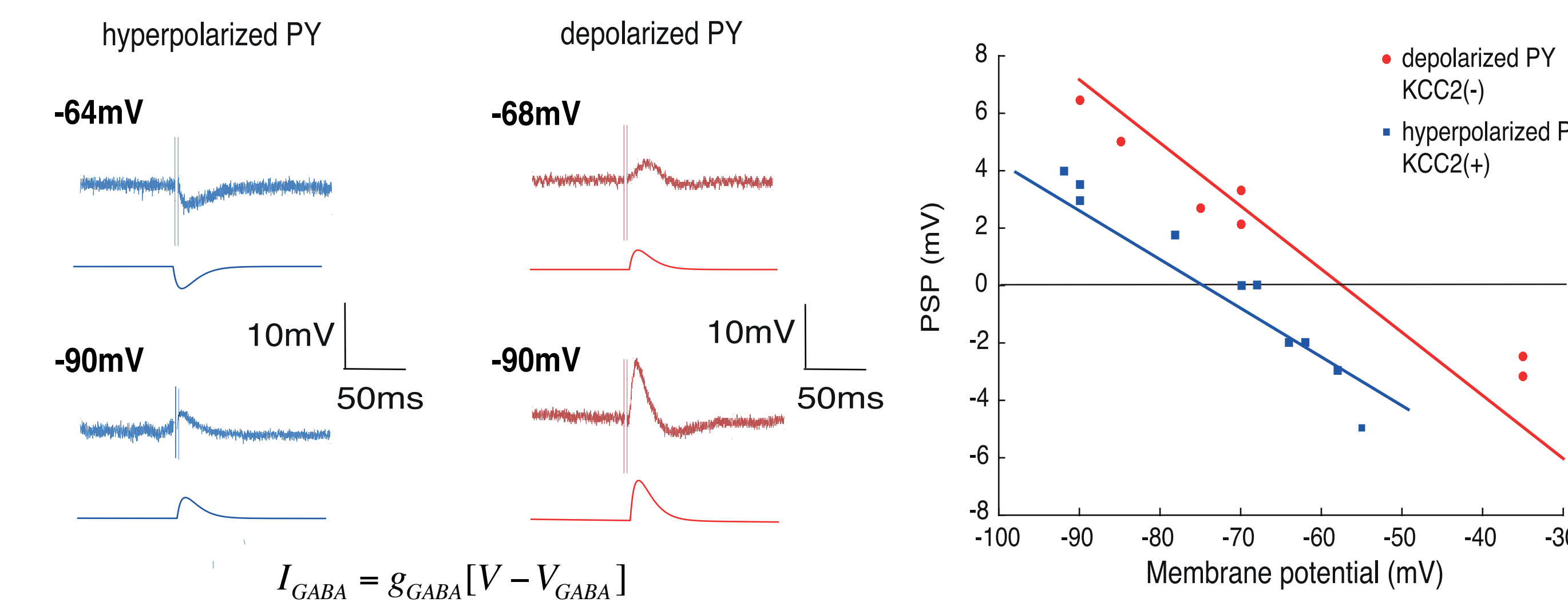
Introduction

- Ion regulation in the brain is a major determinant of neural excitability
- Intracellular chloride in neurons is regulated together with extracellular potassium by Kation Chloride Cotransporter 2 (KCC2)
- During temporal lobe epilepsy, the regulation of intracellular chloride is impaired in the pyramidal cells due to KCC2(-) pathology
- Using realistic neural network model describing ion mechanisms, we show that chloride homeostasis pathology provokes seizure activity
- We show that there is a crucial percentage of pathological cells required for seizure initiation
- Our model predicts that restoration of the chloride homeostasis in pyramidal cells could be viable antiepileptic strategy

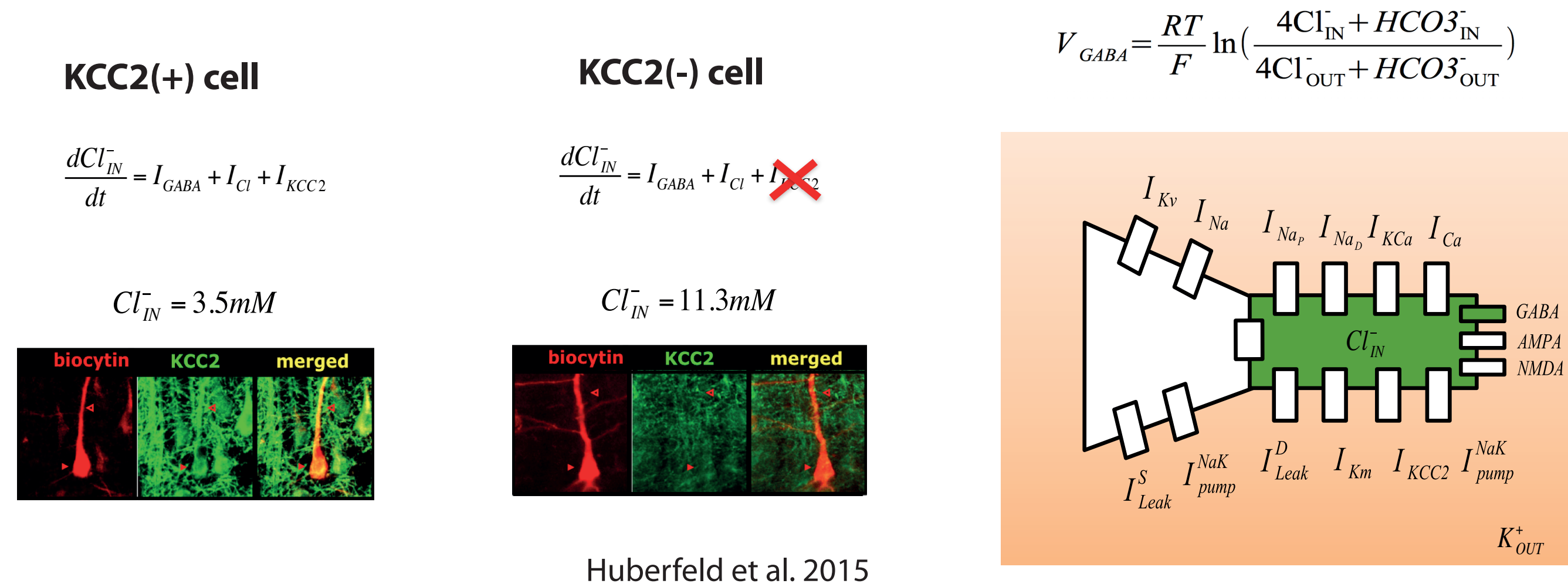


1 Absence of KCC2 leads to depolarizing GABA

Post-synaptic potentials induced by extracellular stimulation

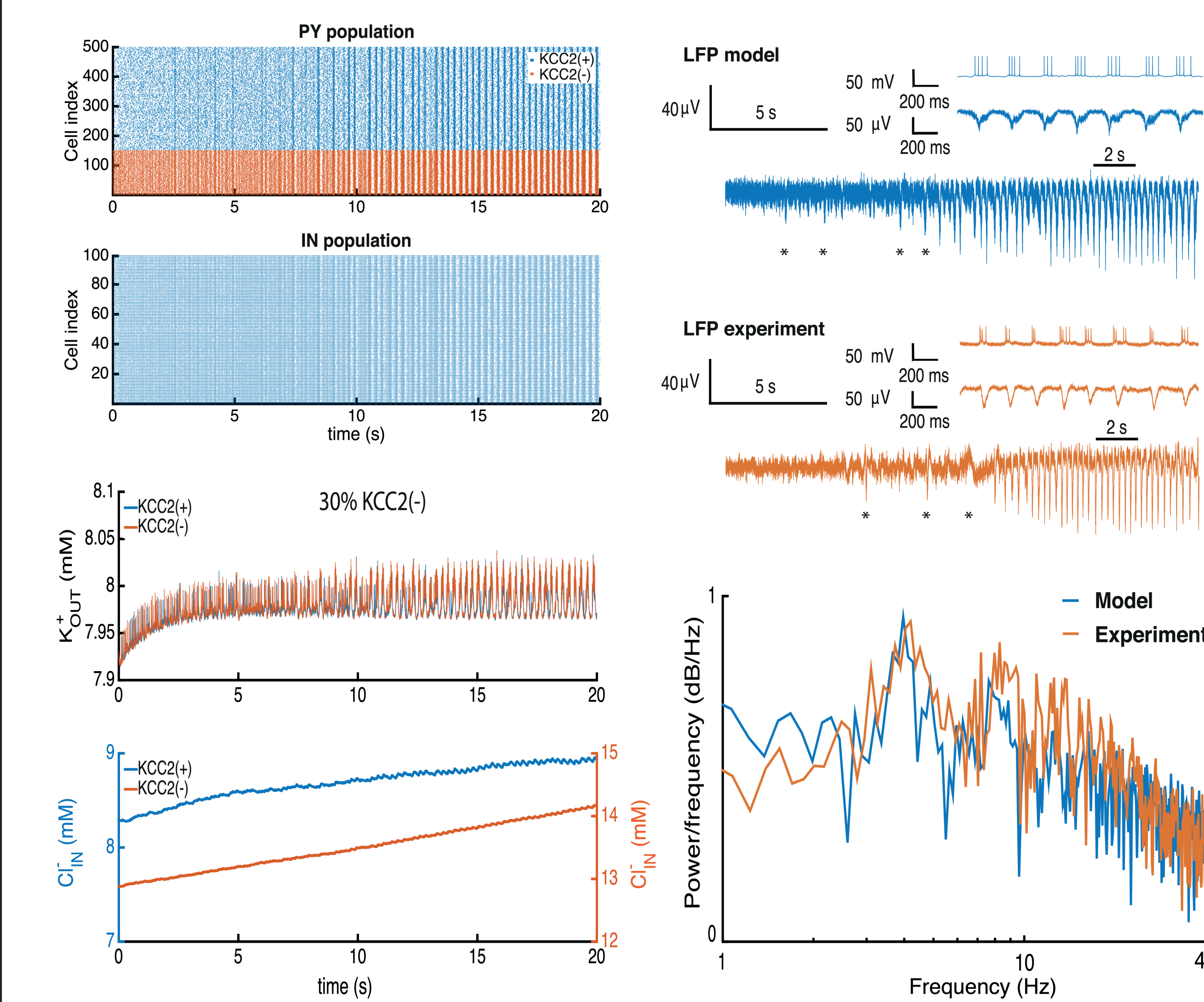


Mechanism of depolarizing GABA response



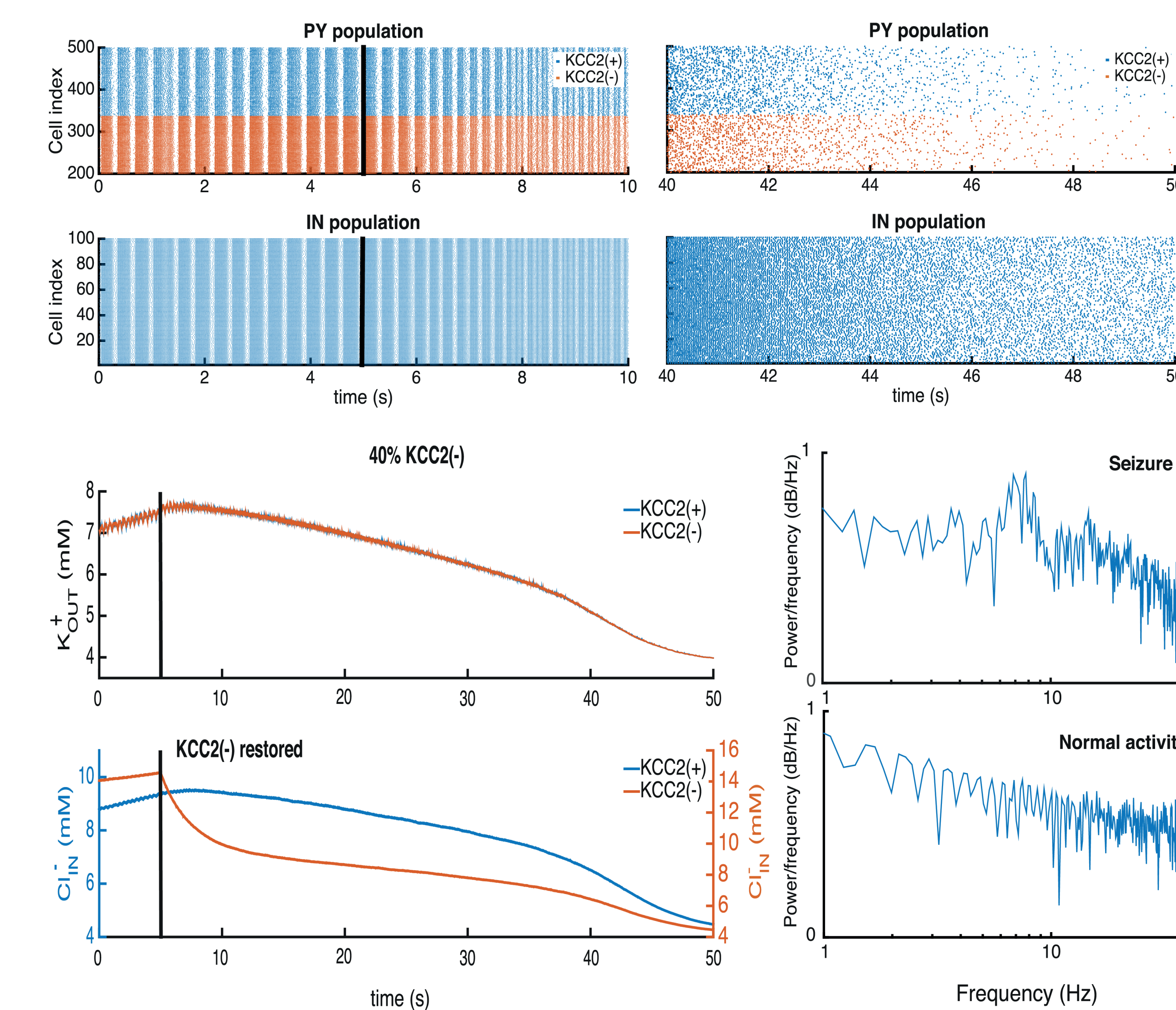
3 KCC2(-) pathology leads to epileptic oscillations

Transition to seizure due to chloride pathology

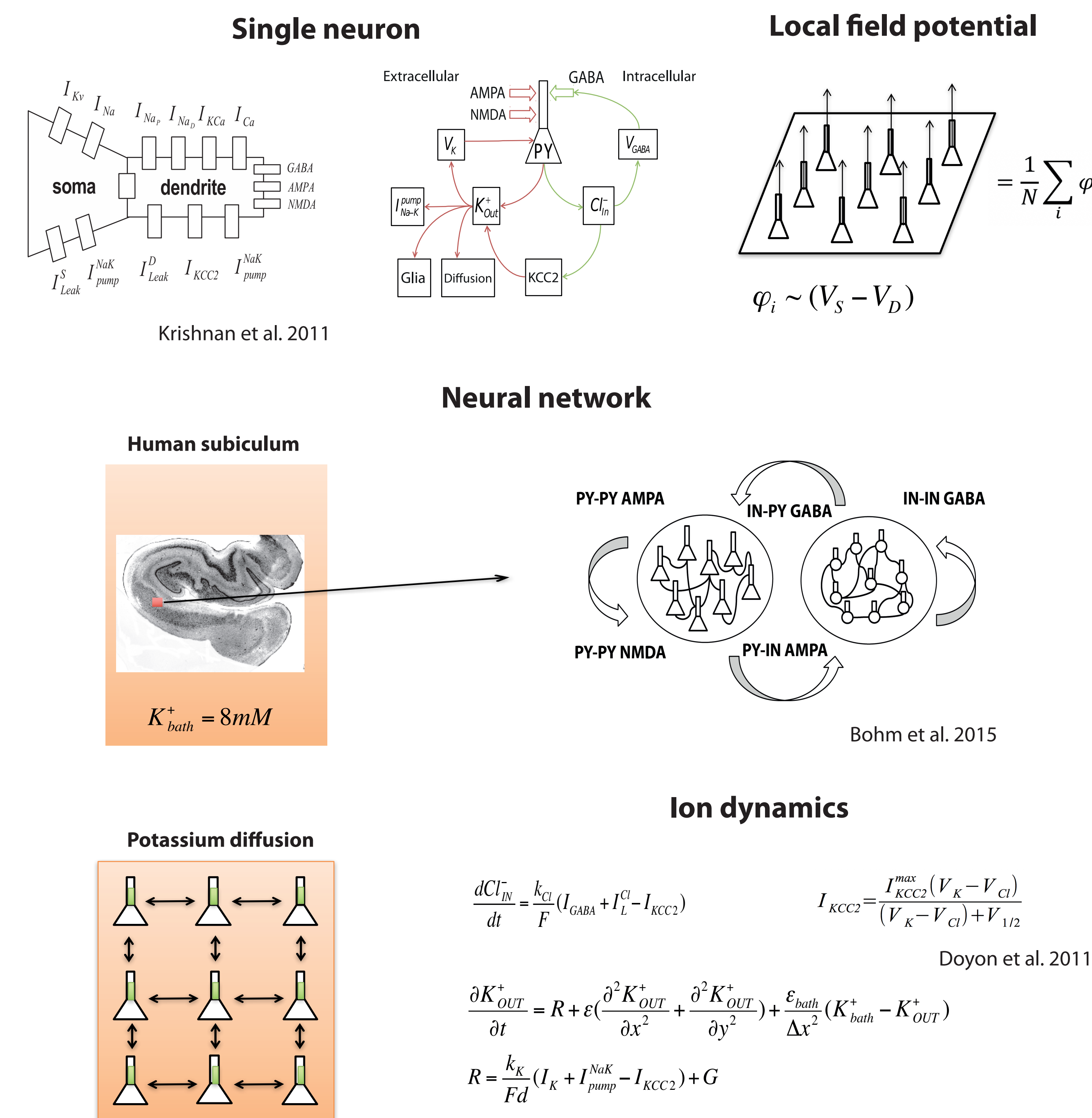


5 Restoring KCC2(-) function prevents seizure

The network restores the excitation-inhibition balance after KCC2(-)

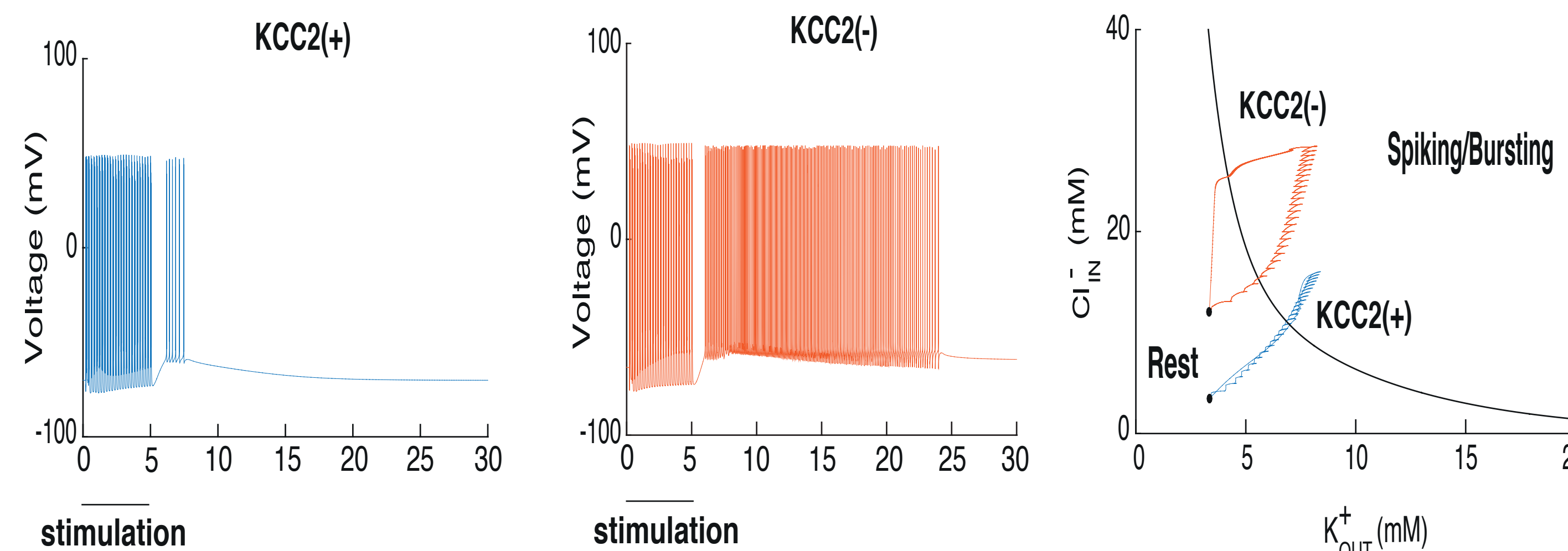


Model

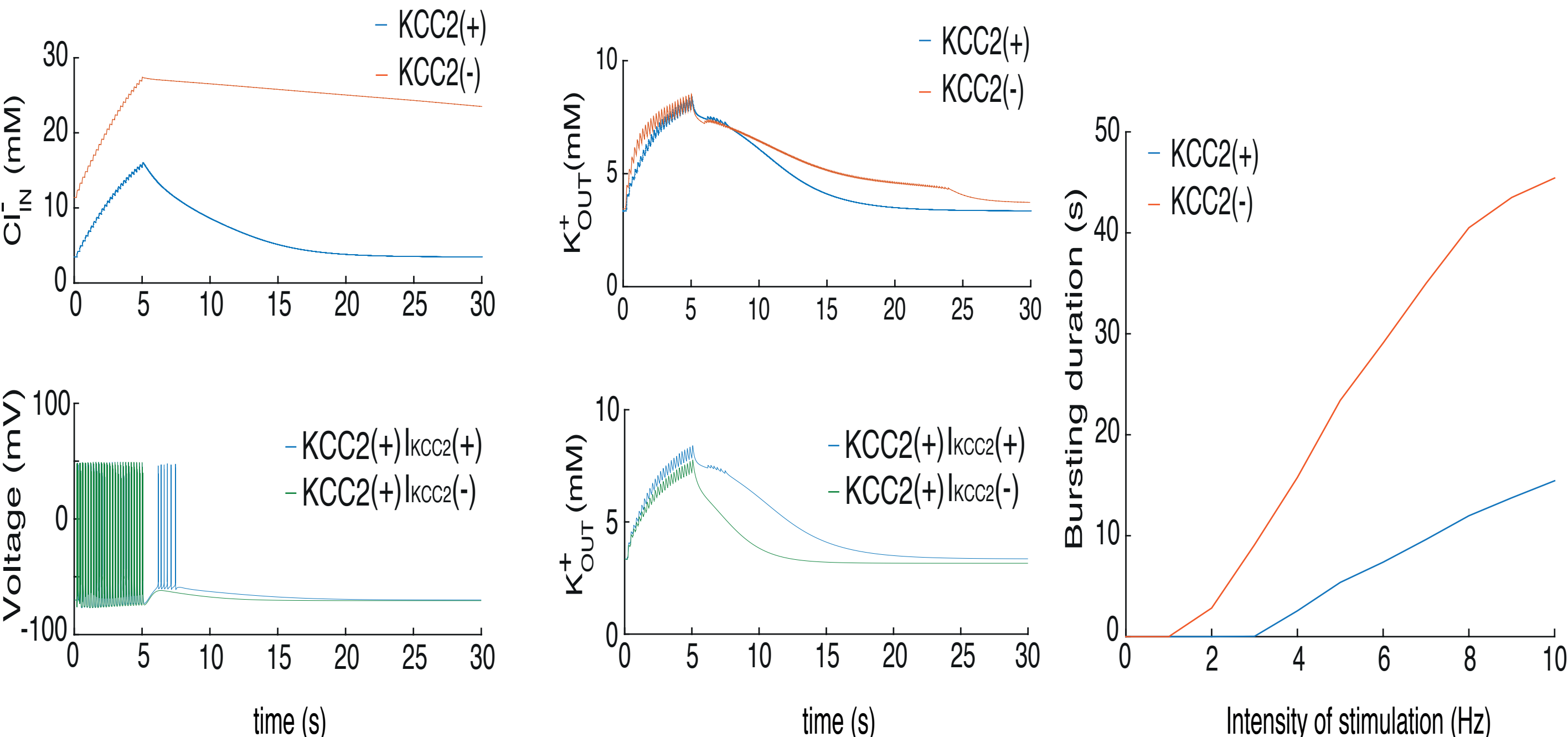


2 KCC2(-) pathology increases excitability

Response of the model to the synaptic stimulation

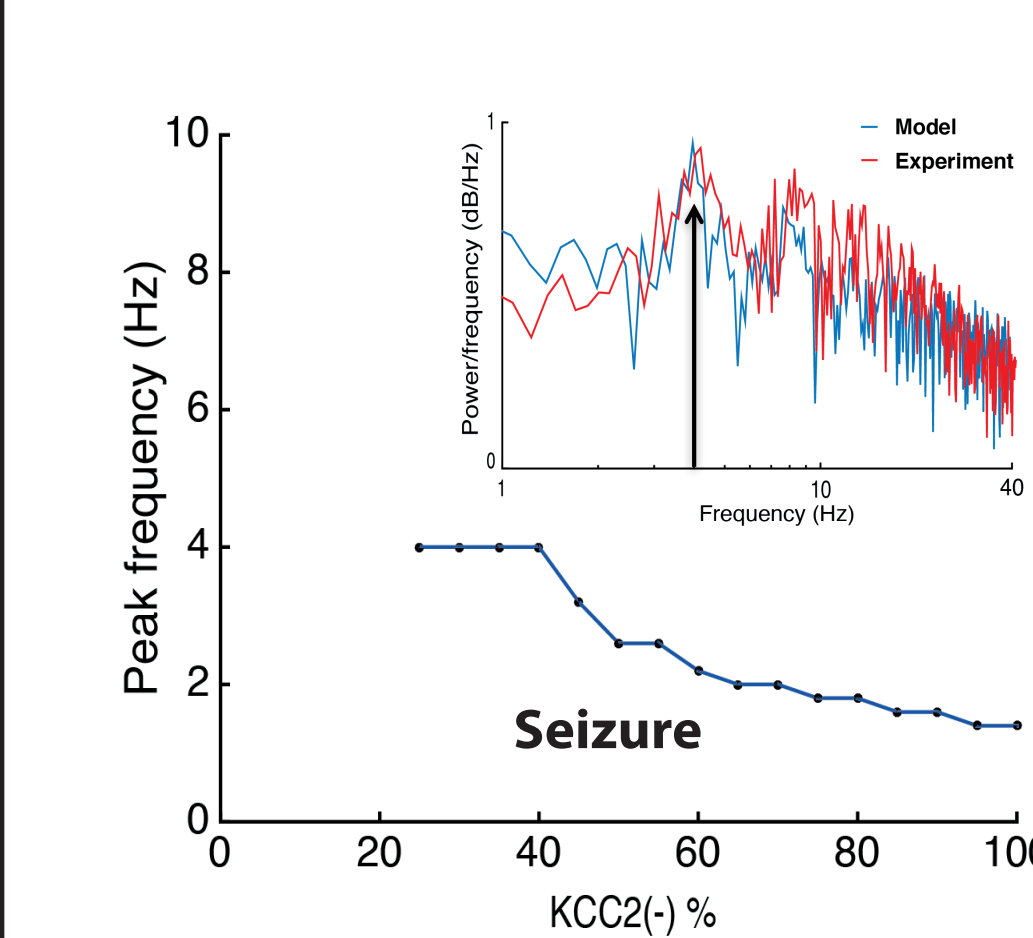


Ion concentration changes during stimulation

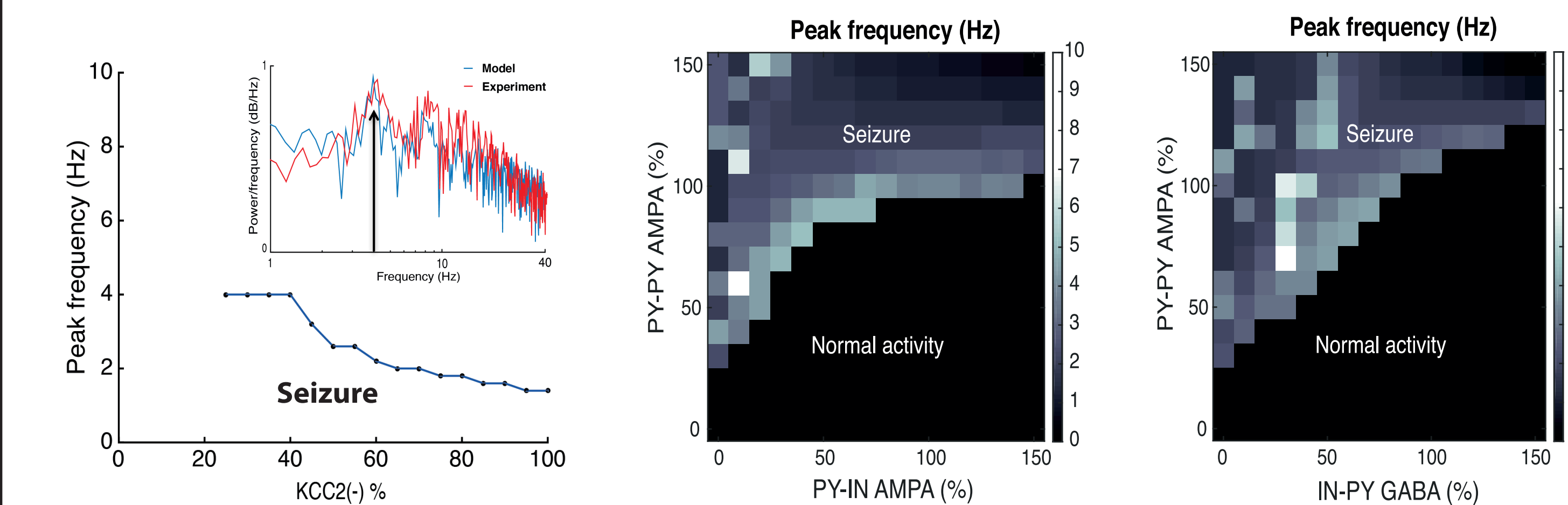


4 Epileptic oscillations are robust to synaptic strength variation

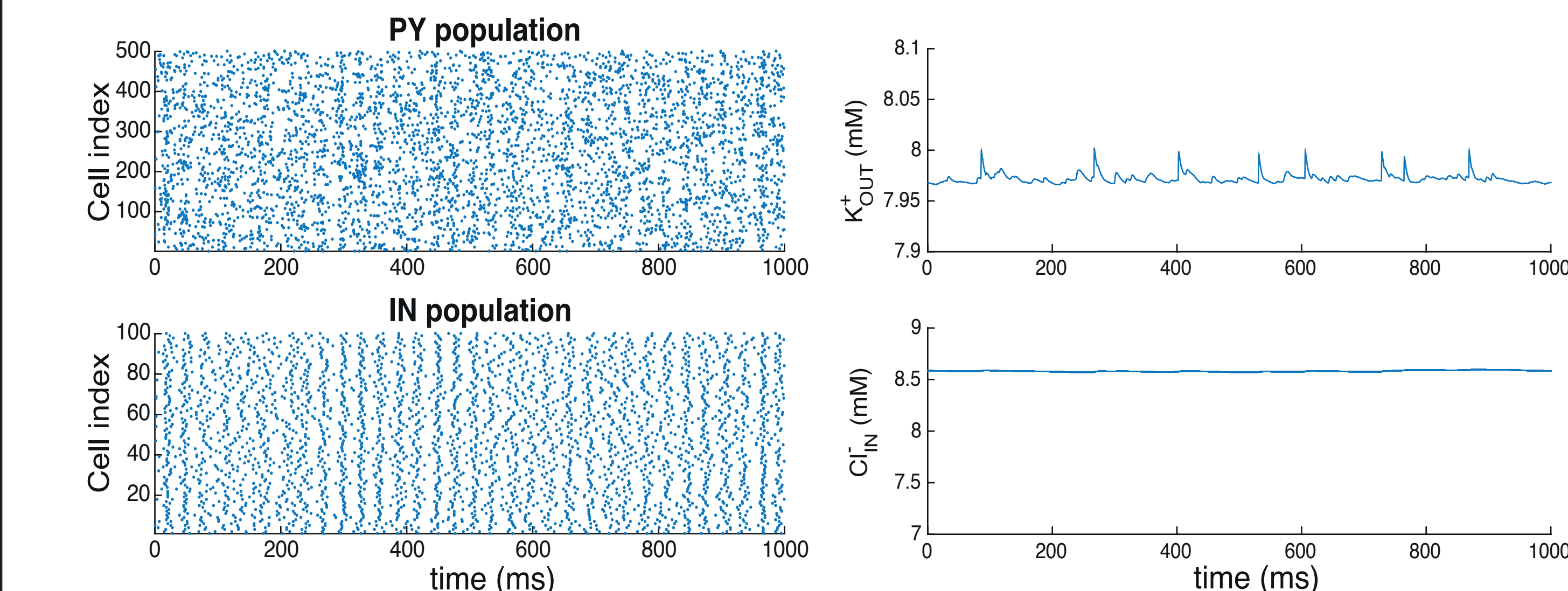
Seizure frequency



Co-existence of normal and pathologic activity



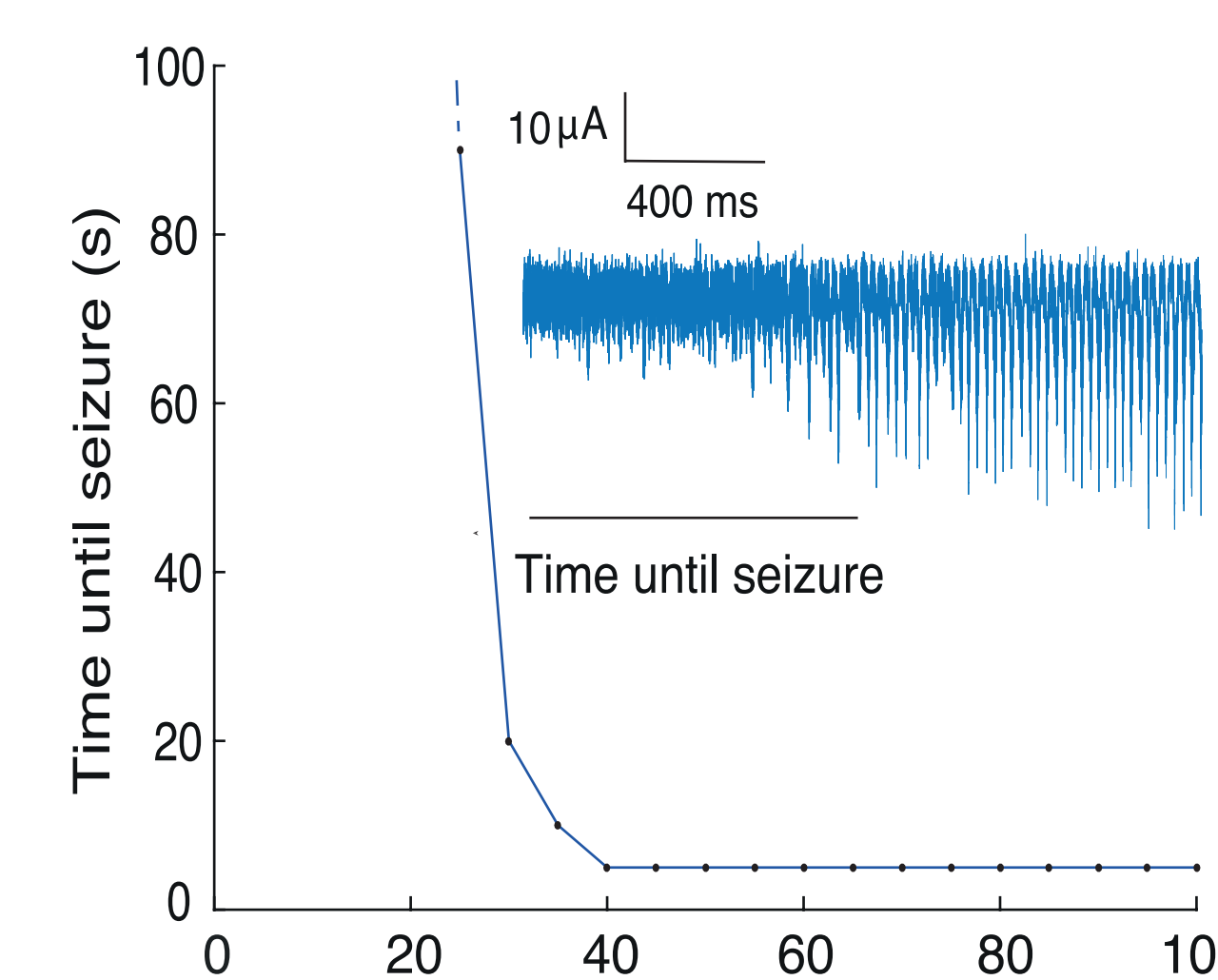
Ion dynamics during normal activity (gamma oscillations)



Conclusions

- KCC2(-) pathology leads to the depolarizing GABA reversal potential due to accumulation of intracellular chloride
- There is a critical amount of KCC2(-) pyramidal cells in the network required for seizure initiation

- Restoration of KCC2(-) function restores the excitation-inhibition balance



Related work

Buchin, Anatoly, et al. "Reduced efficacy of the KCC2 cotransporter promotes epileptic oscillations in a subiculum network model." The Journal of neuroscience. in press.

Krishnan, Giri P., and Maxim Bazhenov. "Ionic dynamics mediate spontaneous termination of seizures and postictal depression state." The Journal of Neuroscience 31.24 (2011): 8870-8882.

Huberfeld, Gilles, et al. "Perturbed chloride homeostasis and GABAergic signaling in human temporal lobe epilepsy." The Journal of neuroscience 27.37 (2007): 9866-9873.

Doyon, Nicolas, et al. "Efficacy of synaptic inhibition depends on multiple, dynamically interacting mechanisms implicated in chloride homeostasis." PLoS Comput Biol 7.9 (2011): e1002149.

Acknowledgements

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