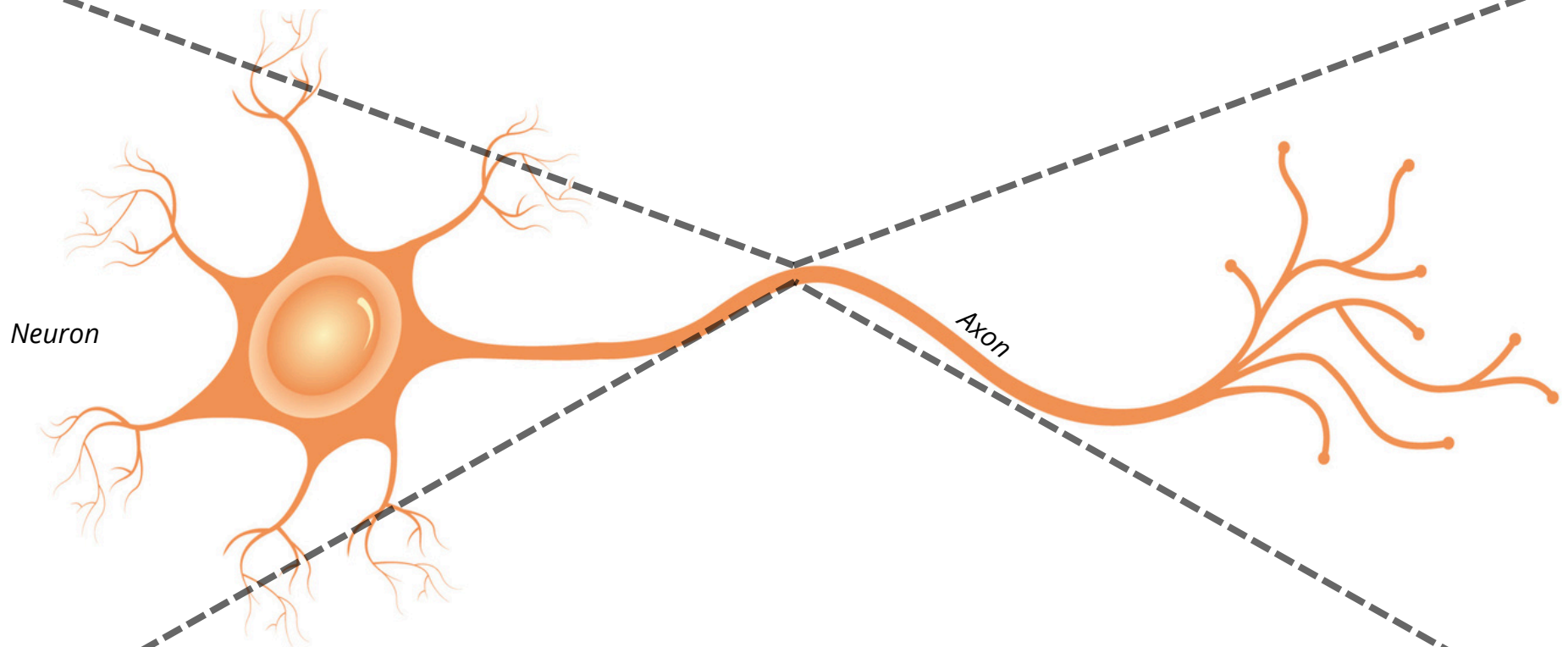
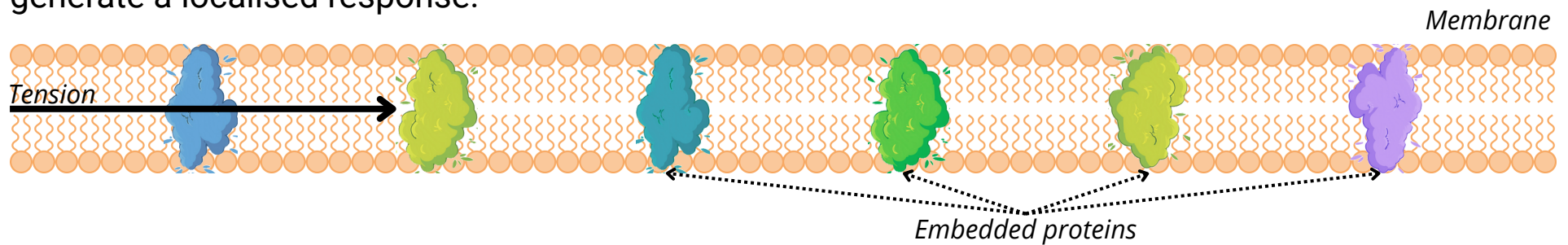


The role of obstacles in tension propagation

a) Regular arrangement of obstacles

Tension cannot propagate too far. Neurons can pinpoint more easily where a force is applied and generate a localised response.



b) Random arrangement of obstacles

Tension can propagate much further. Neurons can distribute this mechanical information across longer distances.

