

## Week 7 – part 5 : Parameter estimation



# Neuronal Dynamics: Computational Neuroscience of Single Neurons

## Week 7 – Optimizing Neuron Models For Coding and Decoding

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

- ✓ 7.1 What is a good neuron model?
  - Models and data
- ✓ 7.2 AdEx model
  - Firing patterns and analysis
- ✓ 7.3 Spike Response Model (SRM)
  - Integral formulation
- ✓ 7.4 Generalized Linear Model (GLM)
  - Adding noise to the SRM
- 7.5 Parameter Estimation**
  - Quadratic and convex optimization
- 7.6. Modeling in vitro data**
  - how long lasts the effect of a spike?
- 7.7. Helping Humans**

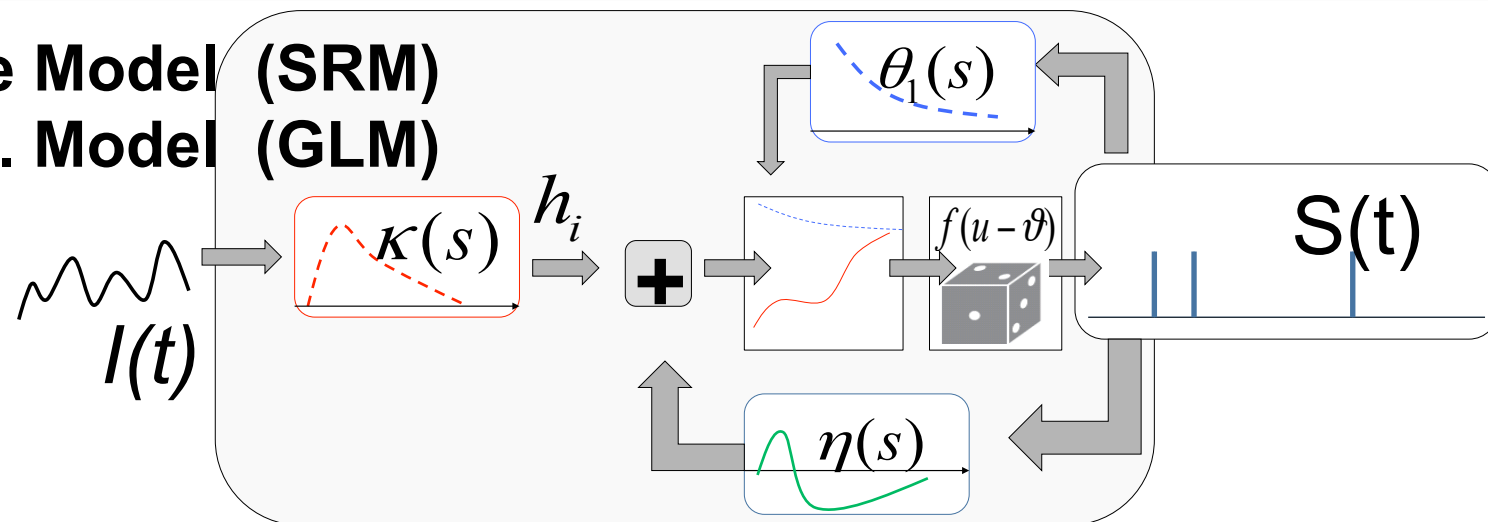
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# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

Spike Response Model (SRM)  
Generalized Lin. Model (GLM)



Subthreshold  
potential

$$u(t) = \int \underbrace{\eta(s)}_{\text{known spike train}} S(t-s) ds + \int_0^\infty \underbrace{\kappa(s)}_{\text{known input}} I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$$

known spike train

known input

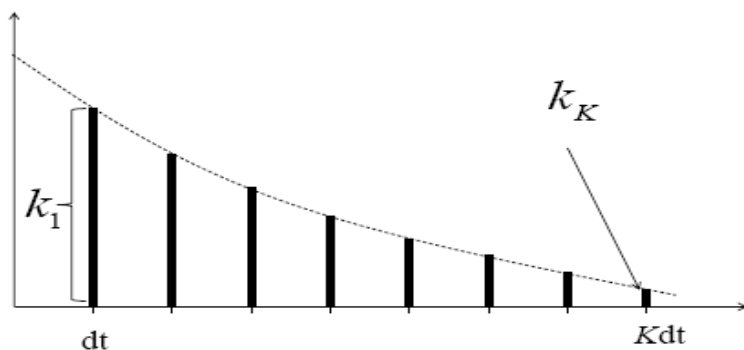
Linear filters/linear in parameters

# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

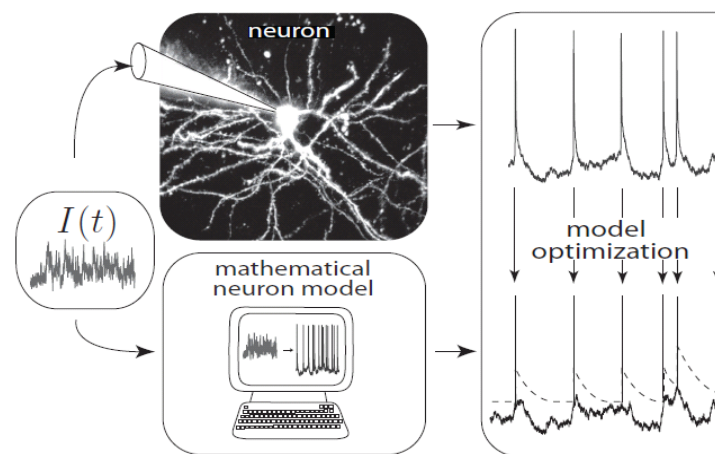
Linear in parameters = linear fit = quadratic problem

$$u(t) = \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$$

$$u(t_n) = \sum k_k I_{n-k} + u_{rest}$$



comparison model-data

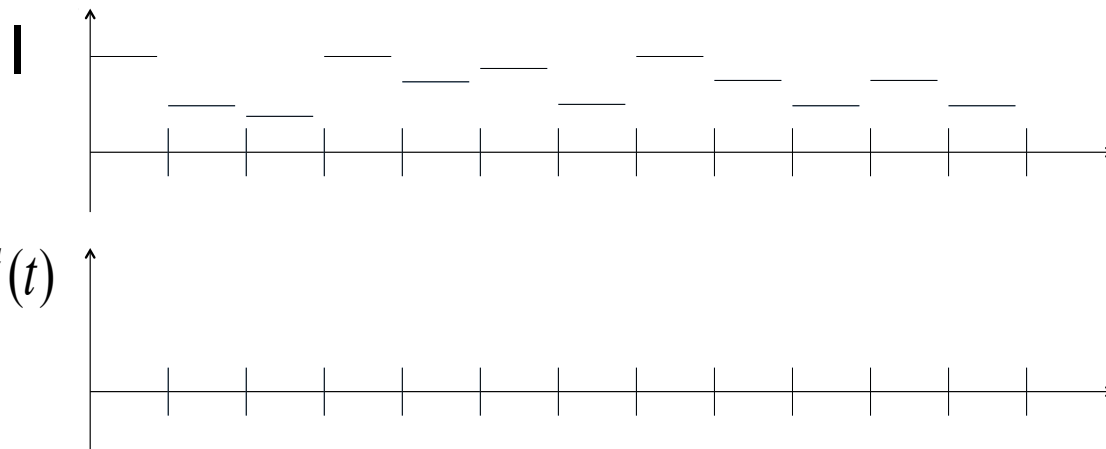
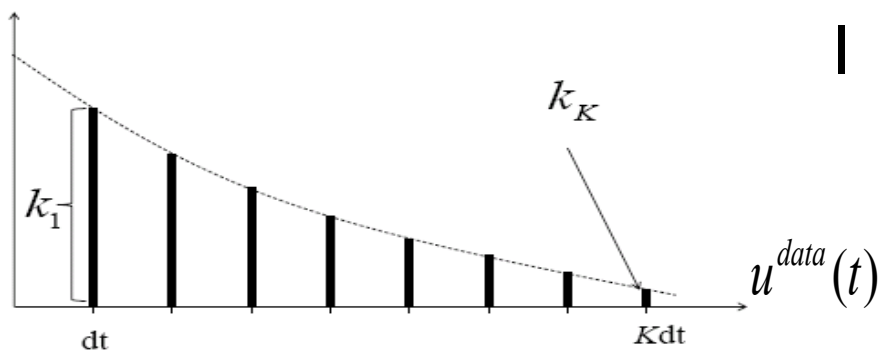


# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

Linear in parameters = linear fit

$$u(t) = \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$$

$$u(t_n) = \sum k_k I_{n-k} + u_{rest}$$



$$E = \sum_n [u^{data}(t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^K k_k I_{n-k} - u_{rest}]^2$$

# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

Linear in parameters = linear fit = quadratic optimization

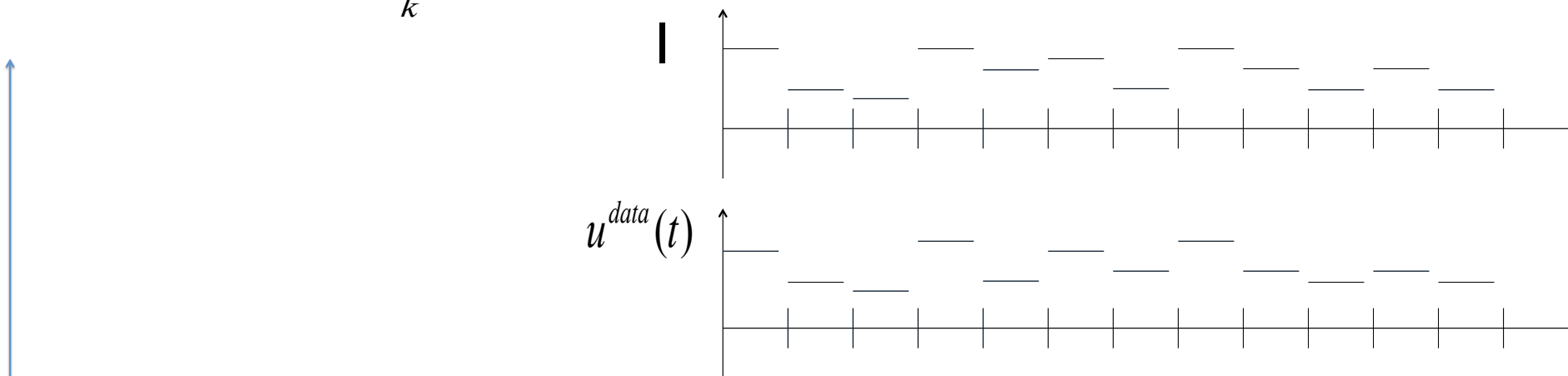
Model

$$u(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$$

$$u(t_n) = \sum_k k_k I_{n-k} + u_{rest}$$

Data

$$u^{data}(t)$$

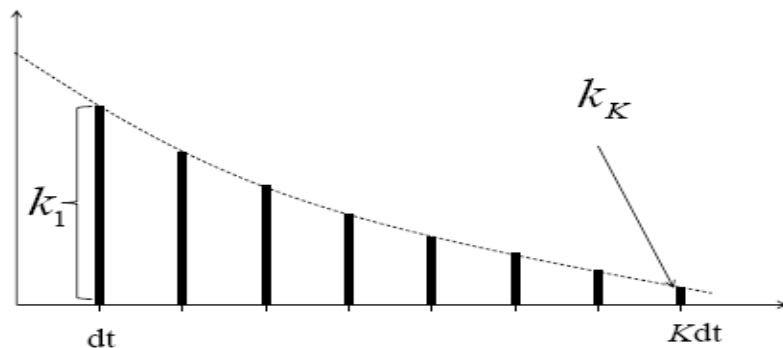


$$E = \sum_n [u^{data}(t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^K k_k I_{n-k} - u_{rest}]^2$$

# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

Vector notation

$$u(t_n) = \sum_k k_k I_{n-k} + u_{rest}$$



$$u(t_n) = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}_n$$

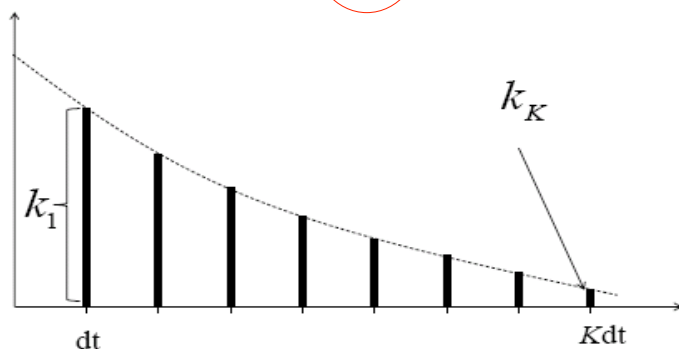
$$E = \sum_n [u^{data}(t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^K k_k I_{n-k} - u_{rest}]^2$$

# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Parameter estimation: voltage

Linear in parameters = linear fit = quadratic problem

$$u(t) = \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest} + \int_0^\infty \eta(s) S(t-s) ds$$

$$u(t_n) = \sum k_k I_{n-k} + u_{rest}$$



$$u(t_n) = \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_n$$

time \ input	$\vec{x}$				
	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	...	$x_K$
$t=K+1$	$I_K$	$I_{K-1}$	$I_{K-2}$	...	$I_1$
$t=K+2$	$I_{K+1}$	$I_K$	$I_{K-1}$	...	$I_2$
$t=K+3$	$I_{K+2}$	$I_{K+1}$	$I_K$	...	$I_3$
.					
.					
.					
$t=T$	$I_T$	$I_{T-1}$	$I_{T-2}$	...	$I_{T-K+1}$

$$E = \sum_n [u^{data}(t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^K k_k I_{n-k} - u_{rest}]^2$$



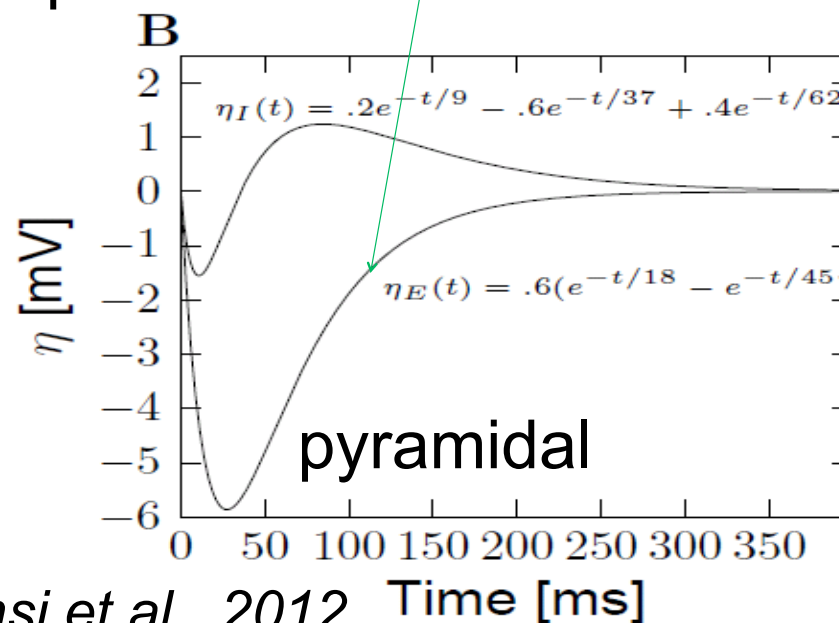
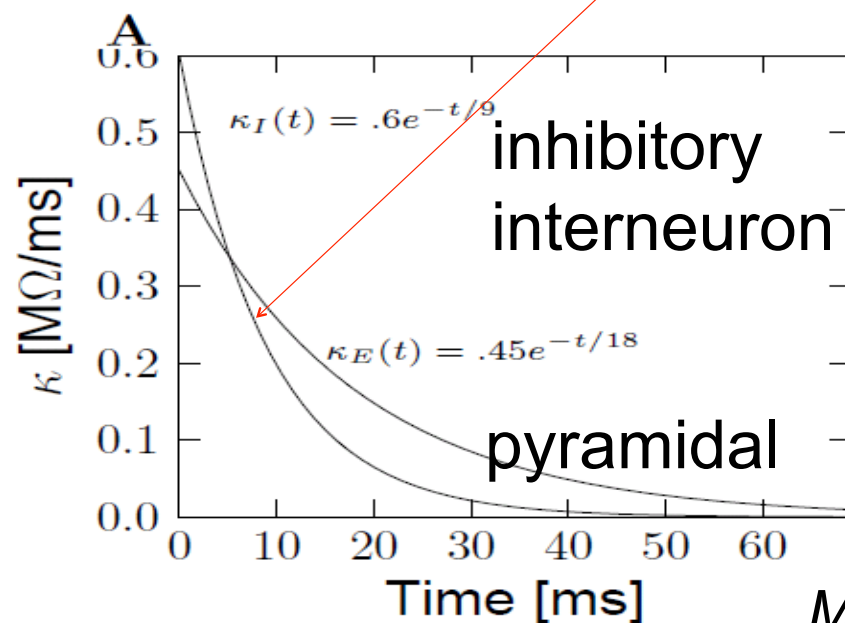
# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Extracted parameters: voltage

Subthreshold  
potential

$$u(t) = \int_0^\infty \underbrace{\kappa(s)}_{\text{known input}} I(t-s) ds + u_{rest} + \int \underbrace{\eta(s)}_{\text{known spike train}} S(t-s) ds$$

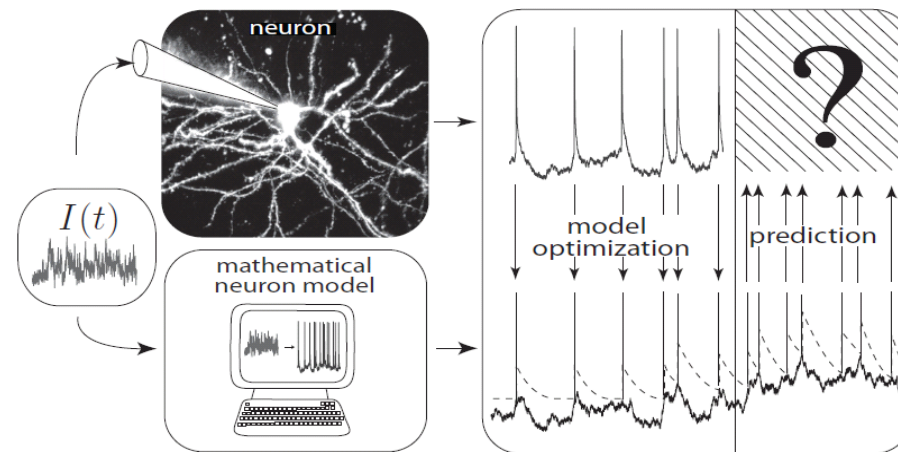
known input

known spike train



Mensi et al., 2012

# Neuronal Dynamics – What is a good neuron model?



- A) Predict spike times
- B) Predict subthreshold voltage
- C) Easy to interpret (not a 'black box')
- D) Flexible
- E) Systematic: 'optimize' parameters

## Week 7 – part 5b : Parameter estimation for spike times



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  - Quadratic optimization: subthreshold
  - convex optimization: spike times
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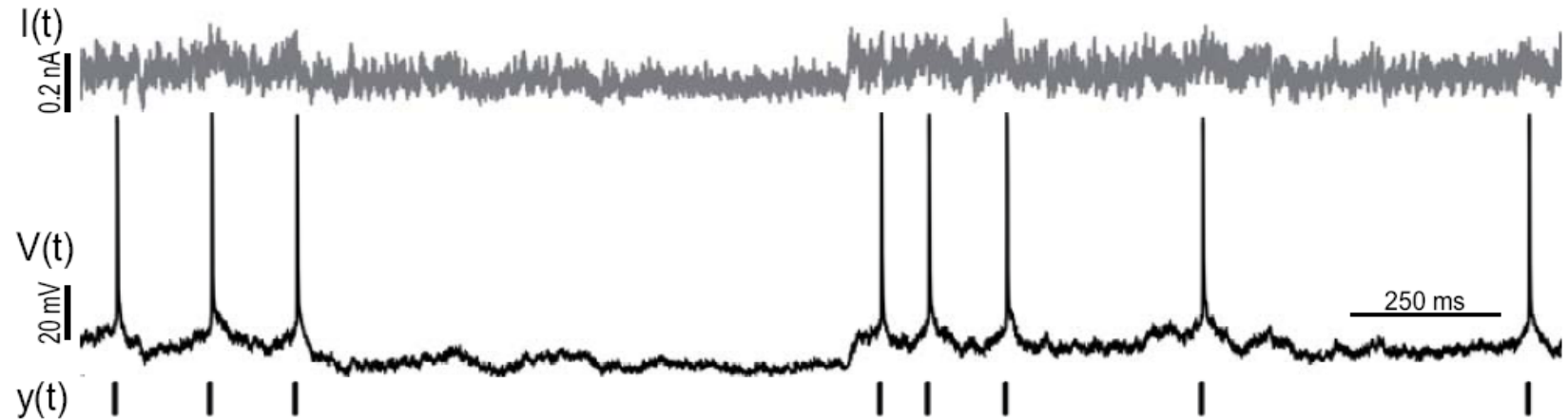
## Week 7 – part 5b : Parameter estimation for spike times



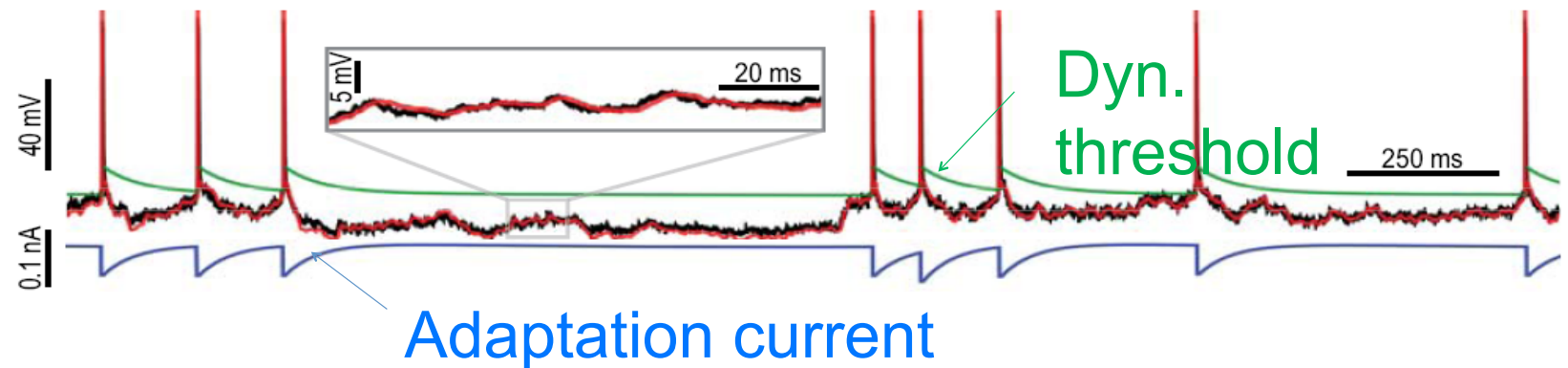
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# Fitting models to data: so far 'subthreshold'

A Experimental data set



C Model

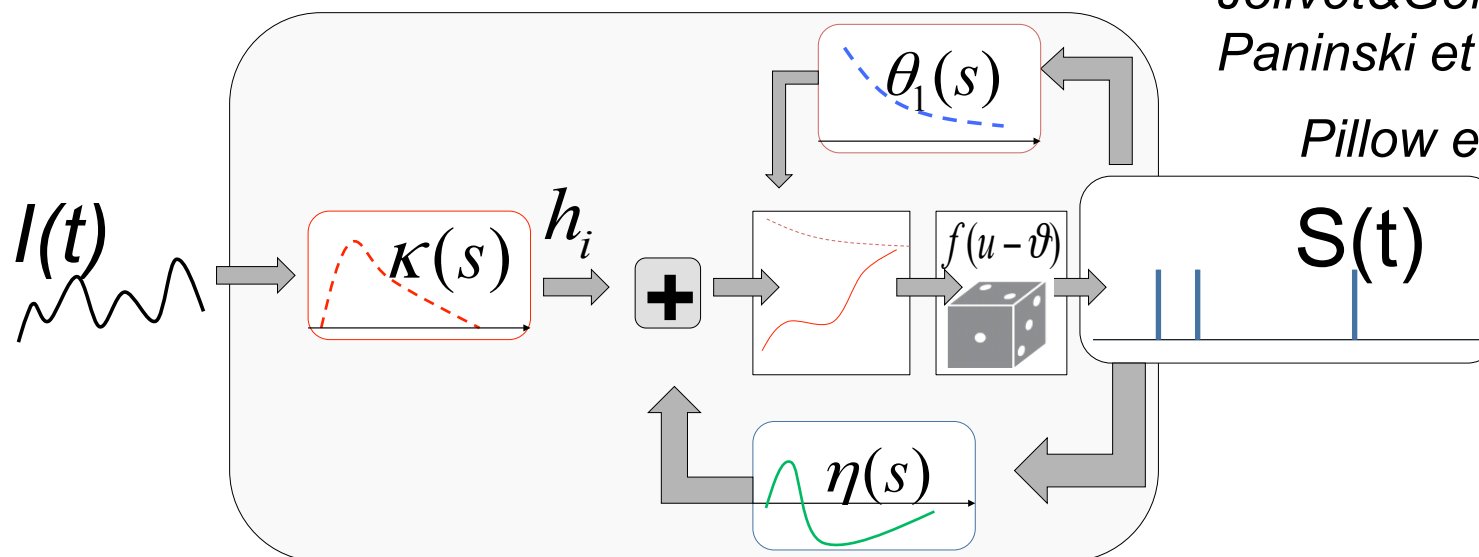


# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Threshold: Predicting spike times

*Jolivet & Gerstner, 2005*

*Paninski et al., 2004*

*Pillow et al. 2008*



**potential**  $u(t) = \int \eta(s) S(t-s) ds + \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$

**threshold**  $v(t) = \theta_0 + \int \theta_1(s) S(t-s) ds$

**firing intensity**  $\rho(t) = f(u(t) - v(t))$

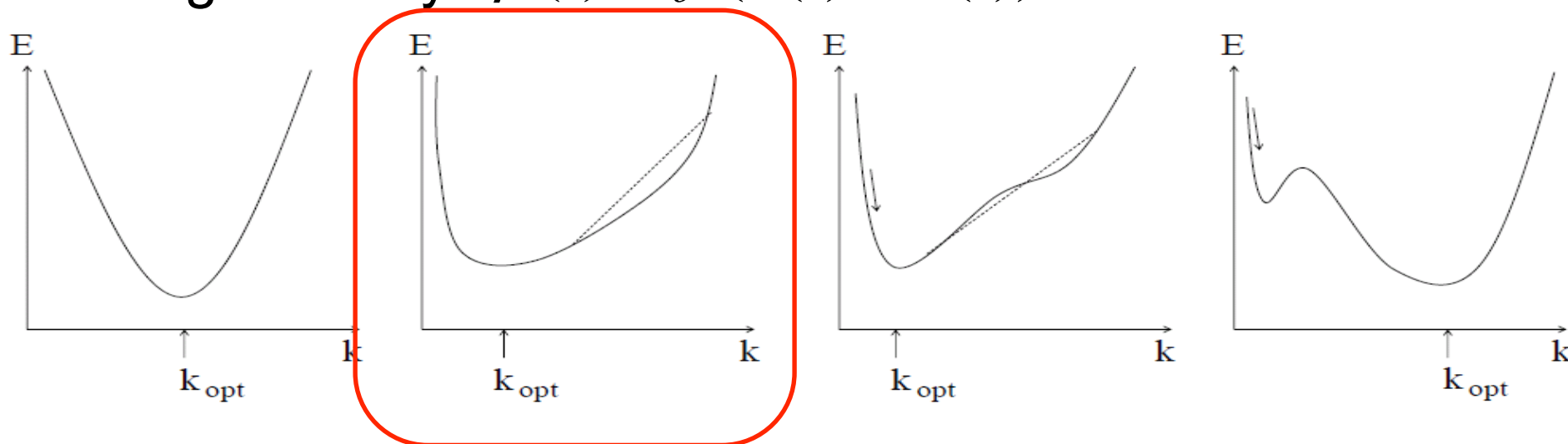
# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 Generalized Linear Model (GLM)

$$\log L(t^1, \dots, t^N) = -\int_0^T \rho(t') dt' + \sum_f \log \rho(t^f) = -E$$

potential  $u(t) = \int \eta(s) S(t-s) ds + \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$

threshold  $v(t) = \theta_0 + \int \theta_1(s) S(t-s) ds$

firing intensity  $\rho(t) = f(u(t) - v(t))$



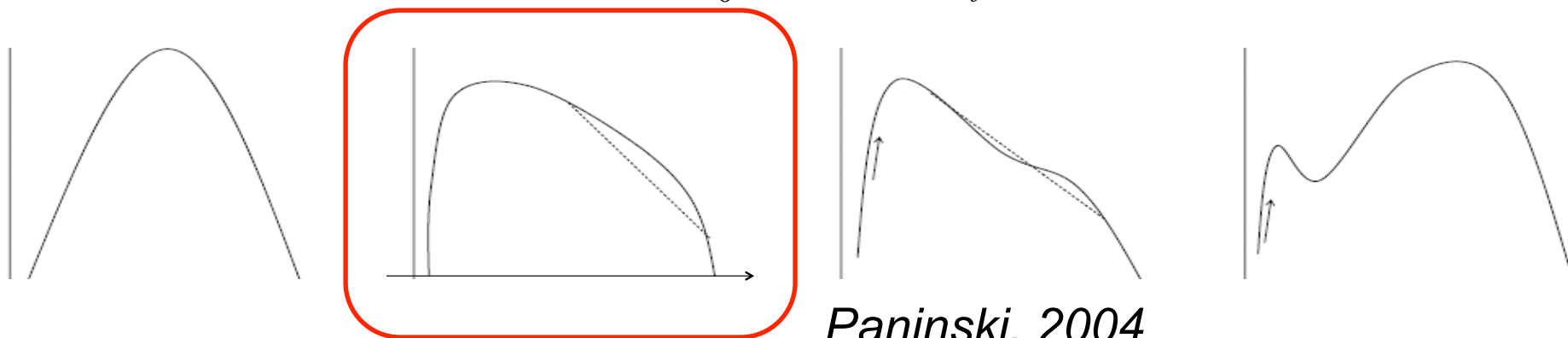
## Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 GLM: concave error function

potential  $u(t) = \int \eta(s) S(t-s) ds + \int_0^\infty \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds + u_{rest}$

threshold  $v(t) = \theta_0 + \int \theta_1(s) S(t-s) ds$

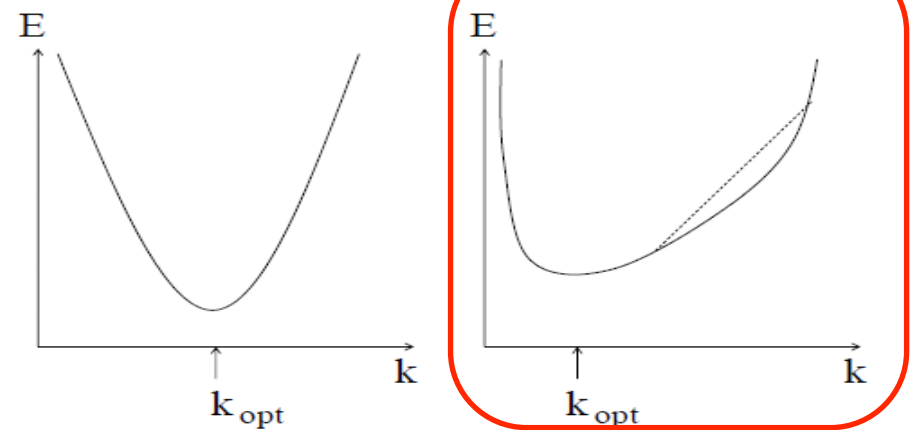
firing intensity  $\rho(t) = f(u(t) - v(t))$

$$\log L(t^1, \dots, t^N) = -\int_0^T \rho(t') dt' + \sum_f \log \rho(t^f)$$





# Neuronal Dynamics – 7.5 quadratic and convex/concave optimization



Voltage/subthreshold

- linear in parameters  
→ quadratic error function

Spike times

- nonlinear, but GLM  
→ convex error function