

User-Instructions

Please take a moment to read the [Kilosort 4 paper](#), which is the primary sorting algorithm used. Please also read [Spike Interface Paper](#), which is the open source library the pipeline is built on.

These instructions assume basic familiarity with VS Code, jupyter notebooks, conda environments, and command line interface. If you're unfamiliar, try it anyways! :)

1. Start ec2 instance
 1. See Instructions
2. SSH into AWS machine
 1. See Instructions
 2. A Laptop will be configured to have easy access to AWS Machine
 3. student@z-lab-ec2
3. Open "codespace"
4. Open Notebooks -> z-sort notebook
5. data lives in the data directory
 1. data is necessarily formatted like this:

```
data                                     # Contains patient data
  Patient-1                             # <C> Variable patient ID
    session-1                           # <C> Variable session ID
      raw                               # Always called raw
        intan_file.rdh                 # Raw recording file
      sorted                           # Contents are generated by sorting
      figs                             # Contains png summary
      sorter_folder                    # Contains the sorted spikes
      analyzer_folder                  # <P> Nessecary intermediate folder
      curated_analyzer.zarr            # Final product to export
    session-2                           # Other Patient-1 Sessions
    ...
  Patient-2                             # Next Patient
  ...

sorting_script                          # Sorting Code
  custom_probes                         # Contains nessecary probe geometry
  docs                                 # Contains helpful docs
  notebooks                            # Contains sorting notebookas
    z-sort_notebook.ipynb              ---> # This is the main notebook
  src                                  # Source code (edit with caution)
```

<C> – You will need to copy the name of this directory into the notebook
<P> – You will need to paste the relative path and paste into the notebook, which is done by opening the file navigation bar on the left of VS code, right clicking, and "copy relative path". This path is needed to launch the

Run jupyter notebook cells in order

-1. If you just did some sorting, make sure to end the active terminal by pressing control+z

0. In between sessions, you *MUST* restart the notebook, otherwise you will get phantom data 🙻

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Sorting Notebook

This notebook will download and sort electrophysiology collected using an Intan headstage, in the .r

The data is intracranial mouse recording, from a 16 channel microarray. The paper can be found here <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0221510>

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1. Activate conda environment

Getting Set Up

1. Open a terminal. Make sure "Sorter" environment is active by running these commands in the terminal

```
...  
conda deactivate  
conda activate sorter  
...
```

```
○ (sorter) marco@ip-172-31-78-229:~/codespace/sorting_script$ conda deactivate  
conda activate sorter
```

2. import lab script

```
# 2. Import scripts
from sorting_scripts import zsort
```

✓ 0.6s

3. Set Patient and Session Paths

```
# 3. Set Patient and Session Paths
patient = "Intan_RDH_2000"
session = "Session1"

path_dict = zsort.set_paths(patient, session)
path_dict
```

✓ 0.0s

1

Found Intan file: /data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/raw/Intan RHD file1.rhd

```
{'patient': 'Intan_RDH_2000',
 'session': 'Session1',
 'repo_root': PosixPath('/home/marco/codespace/sorting_script'),
 'data_root': PosixPath('/data'),
 'session_location': PosixPath('/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1'),
 'sorted_data': PosixPath('/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/Intan_RDH_2000-Session1-sorted')
 'sorter_output_folder': PosixPath('/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/Intan_RDH_2000-Session1-sort
 'analyzer_folder': PosixPath('/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/Intan_RDH_2000-Session1-sort
 'intan_file': PosixPath('/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/raw/Intan RHD file1.rhd')}
```

4. Load File



```
# 4. Load File
```

```
import spikeinterface.full as si
```

```
recording_path = path_dict["intan_file"]
```

```
rec = si.read_intan(recording_path, stream_id = "0")
```

[3]

✓ 0.2s

5. Set Probe



```
# 5. Set Probe
```

```
probe = "neuronexus-A16x1_2mm_50_177_A16.json"
```

```
rec = zsort.set_probe(rec, path_dict, probe)
```

[4]

✓ 0.1s

... no probe, attaching one

6. Sort



```
# 6. Sort
```

```
sort = zsort.sort(rec, path_dict)
```

[5] ✓ 1m 22.6s

... [zsort] recording dtype is unsigned (uint16); converting to signed

... write_binary_recording (no parallelization): 100%

... kilosort.run_kilosort:

kilosort.run_kilosort: Computing preprocessing variables.

kilosort.run_kilosort: -----

kilosort.run_kilosort: N samples: 24000480

kilosort.run_kilosort: N seconds: 1200.024

kilosort.run_kilosort: N batches: 401

kilosort.run_kilosort: Preprocessing filters computed in 0.45s; total 0.45s

kilosort.run_kilosort:

kilosort.run_kilosort: Resource usage after preprocessing

kilosort.run_kilosort: *****

kilosort.run_kilosort: CPU usage: 7.10 %

kilosort.run_kilosort: Mem used: 5.70 % | 3.55 GB

kilosort.run_kilosort: Mem avail: 58.55 / 62.10 GB

kilosort.run_kilosort: -----

kilosort.run_kilosort: GPU usage: `conda install pynvml` for GPU usage

kilosort.run_kilosort: GPU memory: 1.86 % | 0.27 / 14.58 GB

kilosort.run_kilosort: Allocated: 0.06 % | 0.01 / 14.58 GB

kilosort.run_kilosort: Max alloc: 0.44 % | 0.06 / 14.58 GB

kilosort.run_kilosort: *****

kilosort.run_kilosort:

kilosort.run_kilosort: Computing drift correction.

7. Create analyzer



```
# 7. Analyze  
zsort.analyze(rec, sort, path_dict)
```

[6] ✓ 29.5s

... No valid analyzer found, creating a new one
Reason: This folder does not exists [/data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/Intan](#)
[zsort] recording dtype is unsigned (uint16); converting to signed

... estimate_sparsity (workers: 16 processes): 100%

... [/home/marco/miniconda3/envs/sorter/lib/python3.11/site-packages/spikein](#)
warnings.warn("The registered recording will not be persistent on disk")

... compute_waveforms (workers: 16 processes): 100%

... noise_level (workers: 16 processes): 100%

... Fitting PCA: 100% 32/32 [00:01]

... Projecting waveforms: 100% 3

... Compute : spike_amplitudes (workers: 16 processes): 100%

... SortingAnalyzer: 16 channels - 32 units - 1 segments - binary_folder - :
Loaded 11 extensions: random_spikes, waveforms, templates, noise_levels

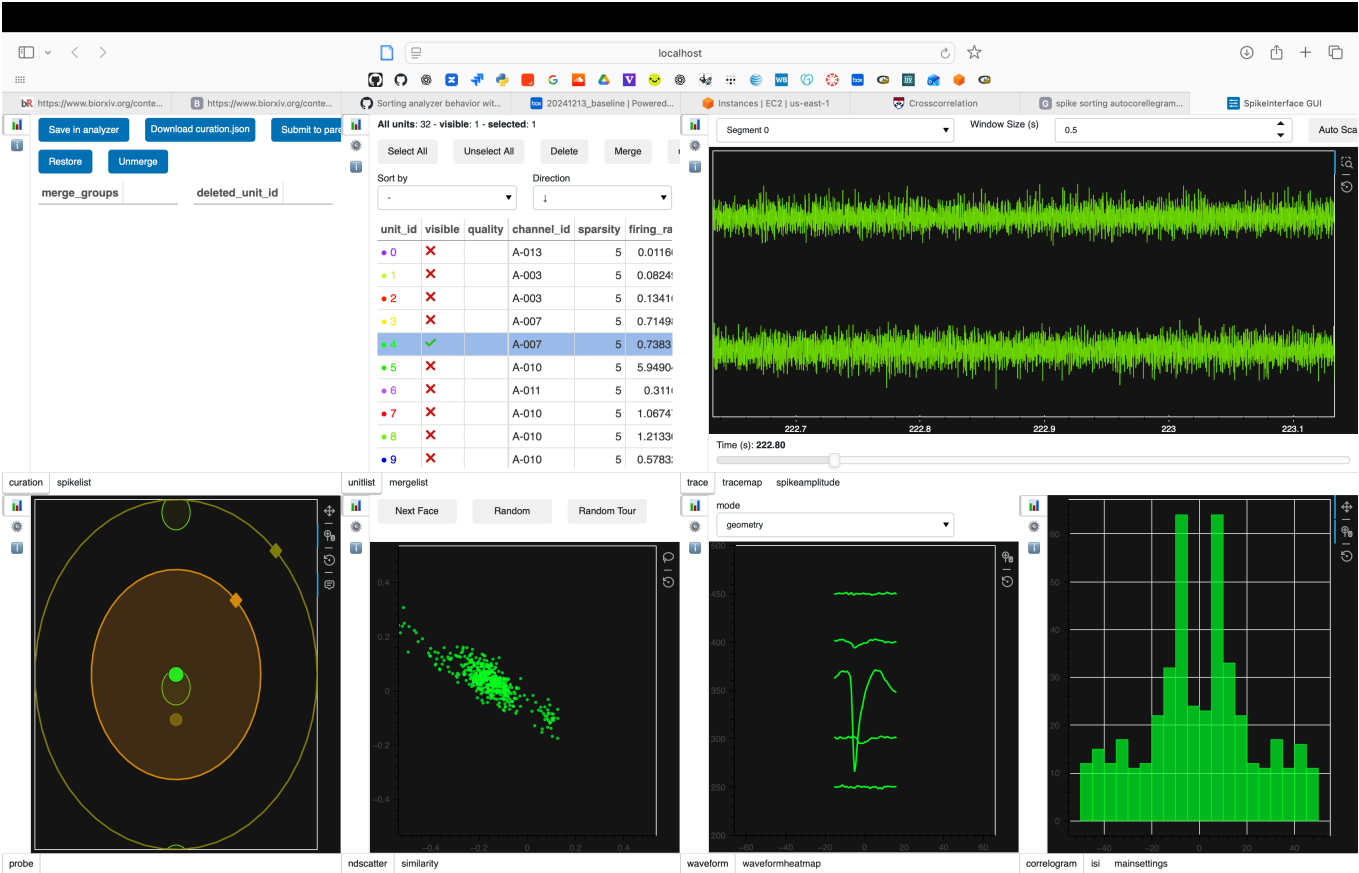
8. launch curator from terminal

Copy and paste this into the terminal

```
sigui --mode=web --curation "data/Intan_RDH_2000/Session1/Intan_RDH_2000-Sorted/Intan_RDH_2000-Session1-analyzer_folder"
```



9. curate in the window that pops up in your browser



Should popup in browser

All units: 32 - visible: 1 - selected: 1



Select All

Unselect All

Delete

Merge

Sort by

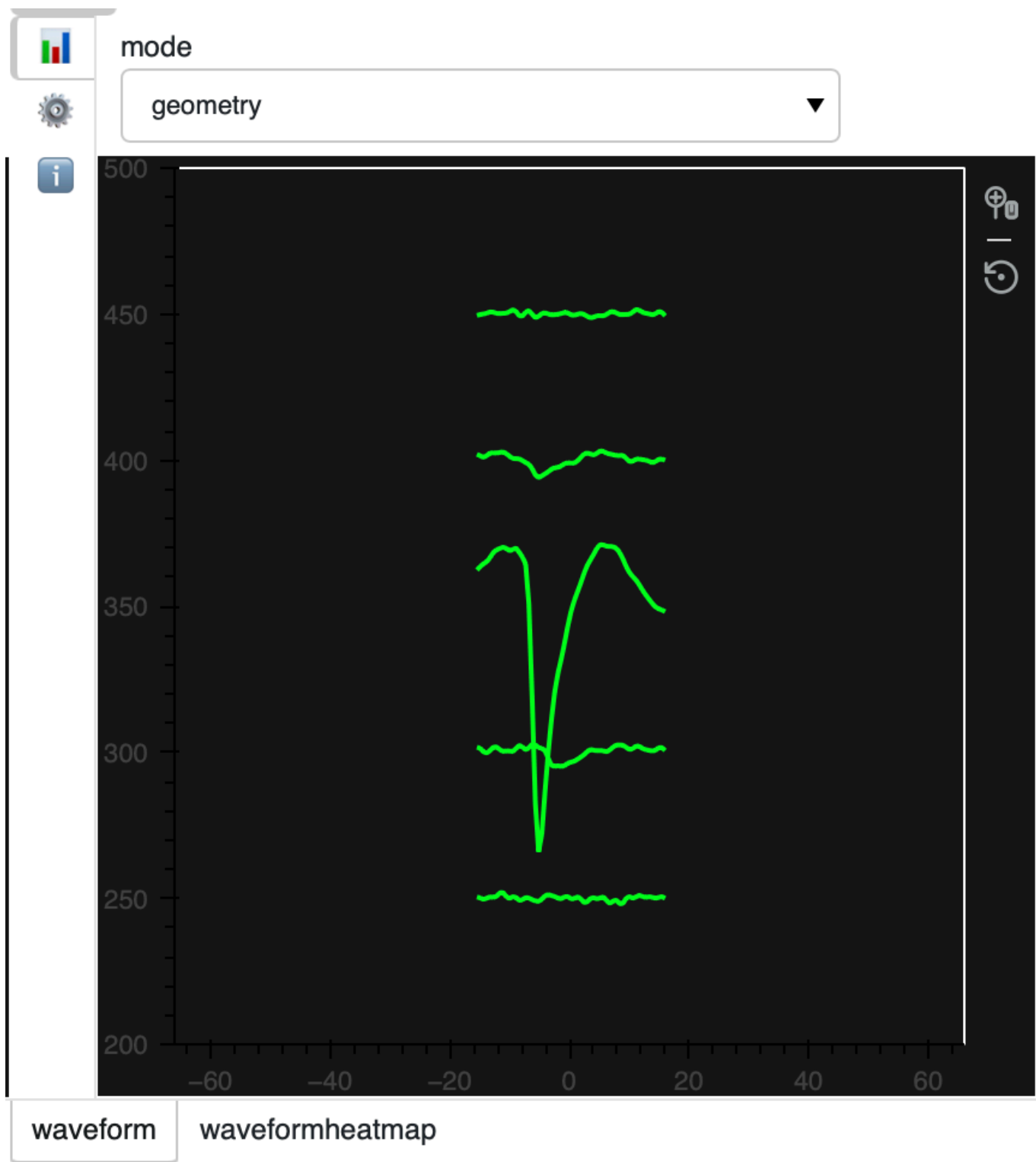
Direction

-

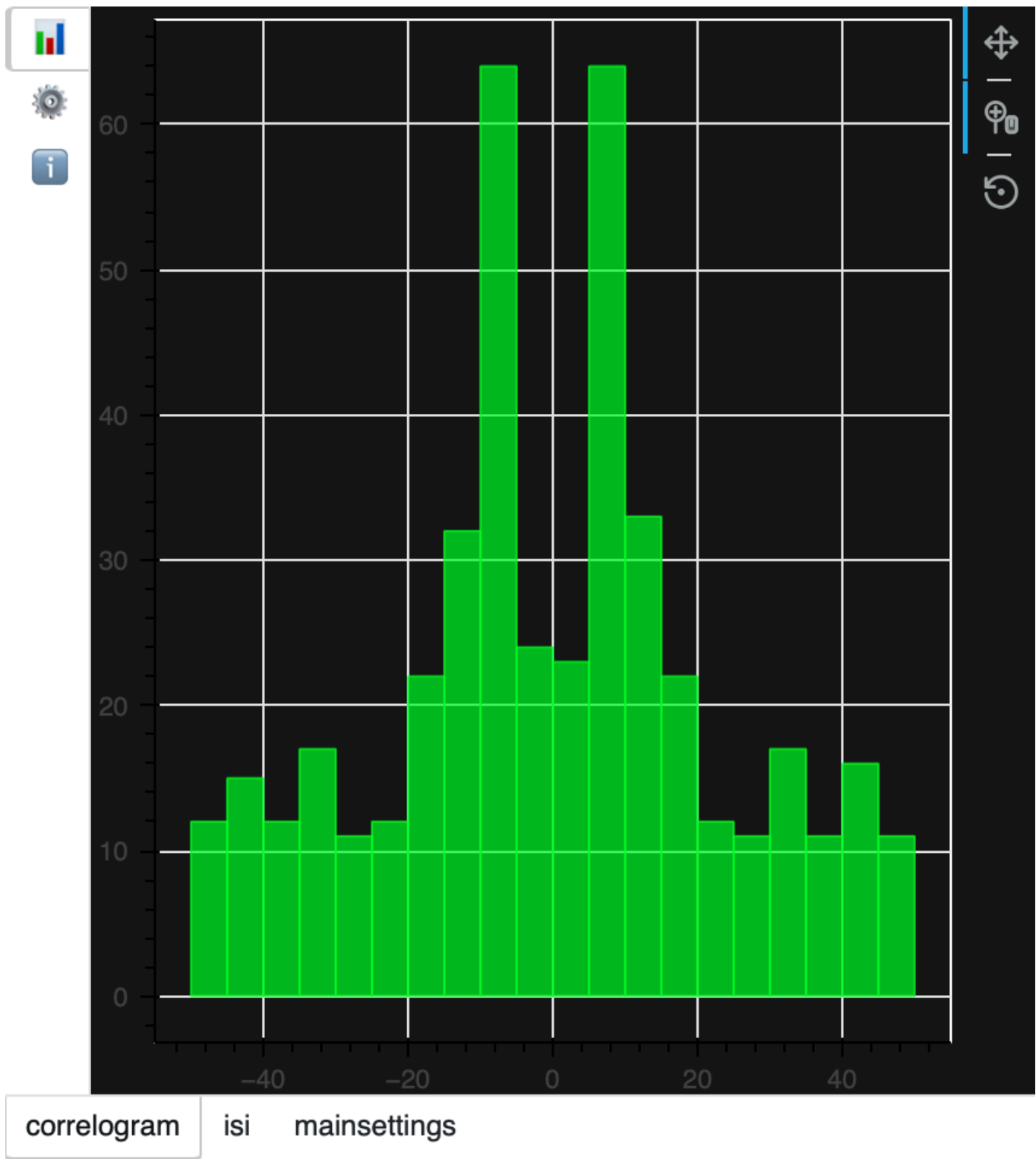


unit_id	visible	quality	channel_id	sparsity	firing_rate
● 0	✗		A-013	5	0.01160
● 1	✗		A-003	5	0.08249
● 2	✗		A-003	5	0.13410
● 3	✗		A-007	5	0.71498
● 4	✓		A-007	5	0.73837
● 5	✗		A-010	5	5.94904
● 6	✗		A-011	5	0.3110
● 7	✗		A-010	5	1.06747
● 8	✗		A-010	5	1.21330
● 9	✗		A-010	5	0.57835

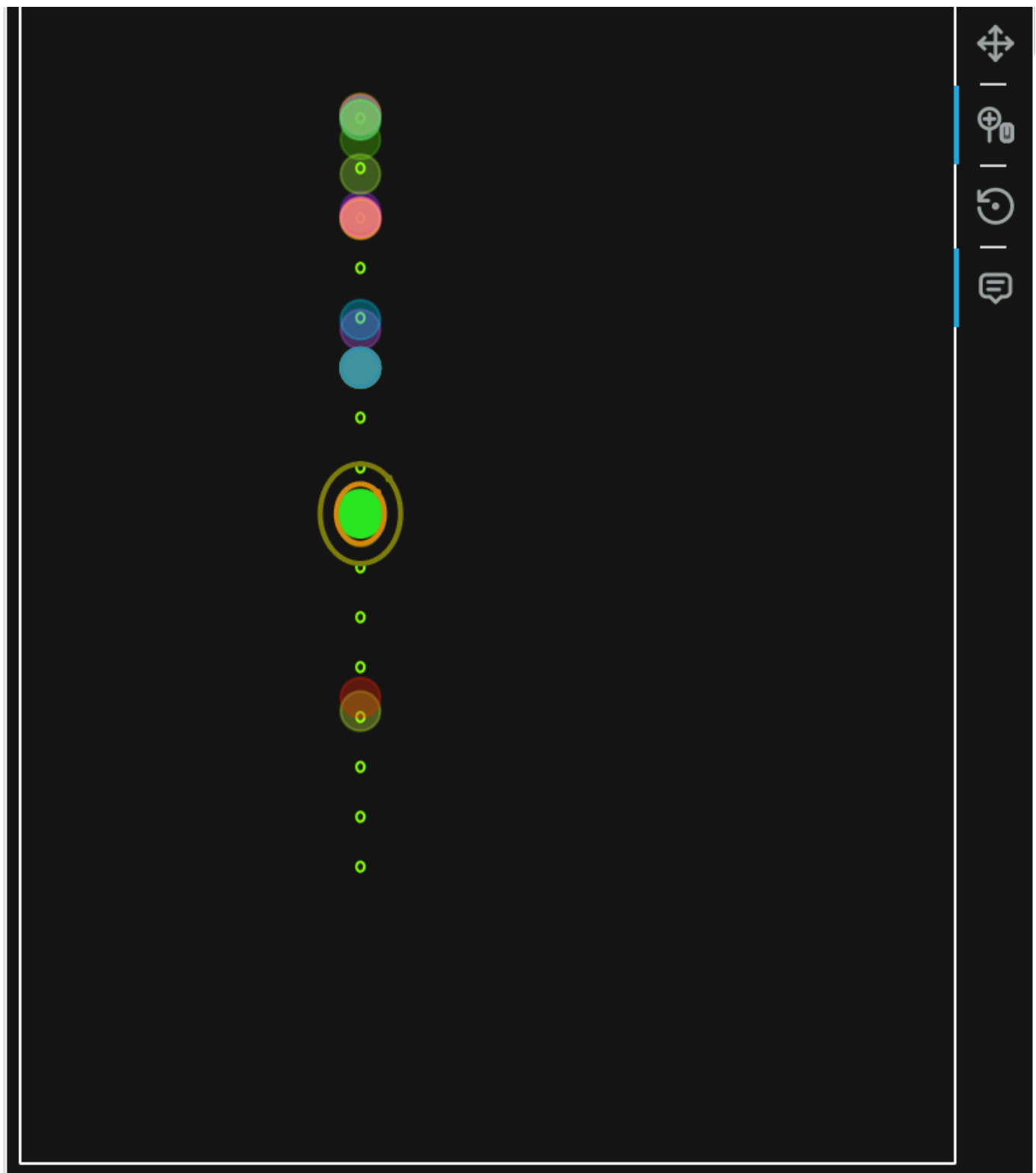
These are the units detected by the sorting algorithm



This is the trace of the selected spike, with one trace per nearby electrode



This is the auto-correlogram, which shows a histogram of the intervals between detected spikes. Because of a neurons refractory period, a single unit should show a significant dip around 0ms.



e

This shows the location of each electrode on the probe in 2D space. The small dots are the electrodes, the larger colored dots are putative spikes.

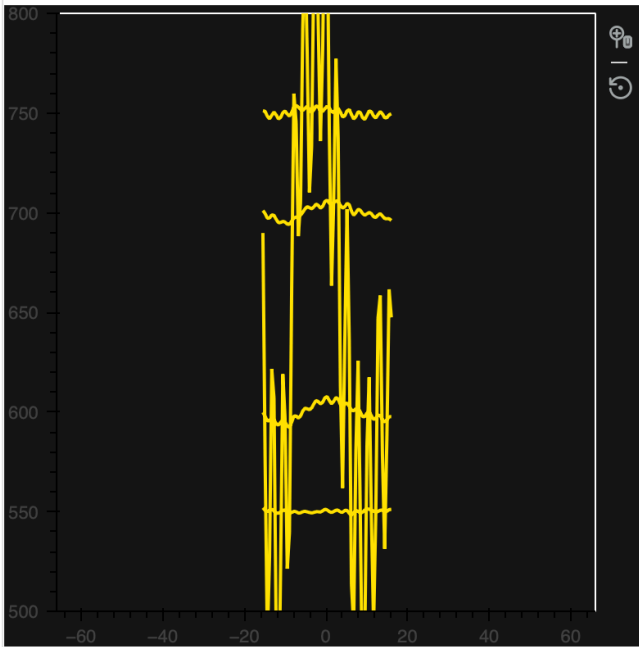
unit_id	visible	quality	channel_id	sparsity	firing_rate
● 0	✗		A-013	5	0.01160
● 1	✗		A-003	5	0.08249
● 2	✗		A-003	5	0.13410
● 3	✗		A-007	5	0.71490
● 4	✓		A-007	5	0.73830
● 5	✗		A-010	5	5.94904
● 6	✗		A-011	5	0.31100
● 7	✗		A-010	5	1.06740
● 8	✗		A-010	5	1.21330
● 9	✗		A-010	5	0.57830

Use the spike table to select spike quality, either good, noise, or MUA, which is multi unit activity.

tracemap spikeamplitude

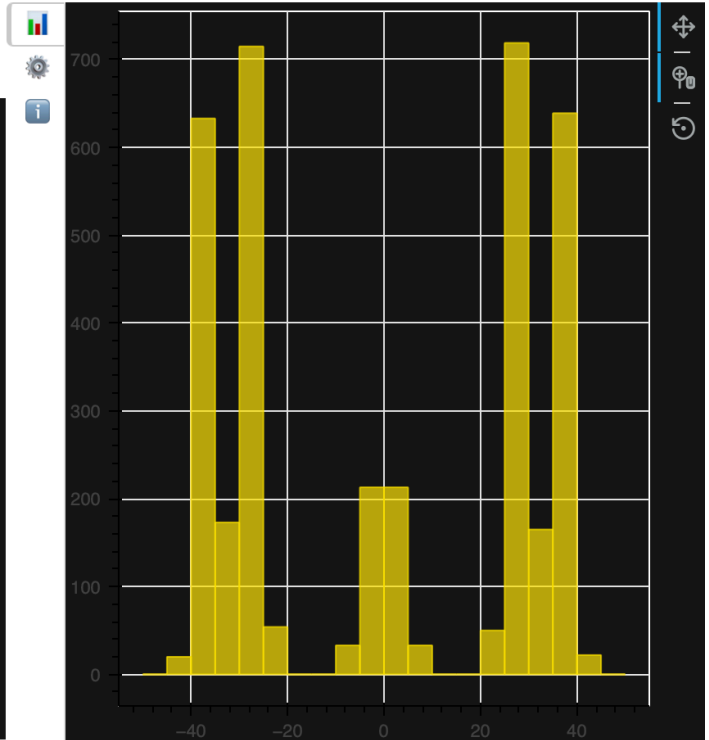
mode

geometry

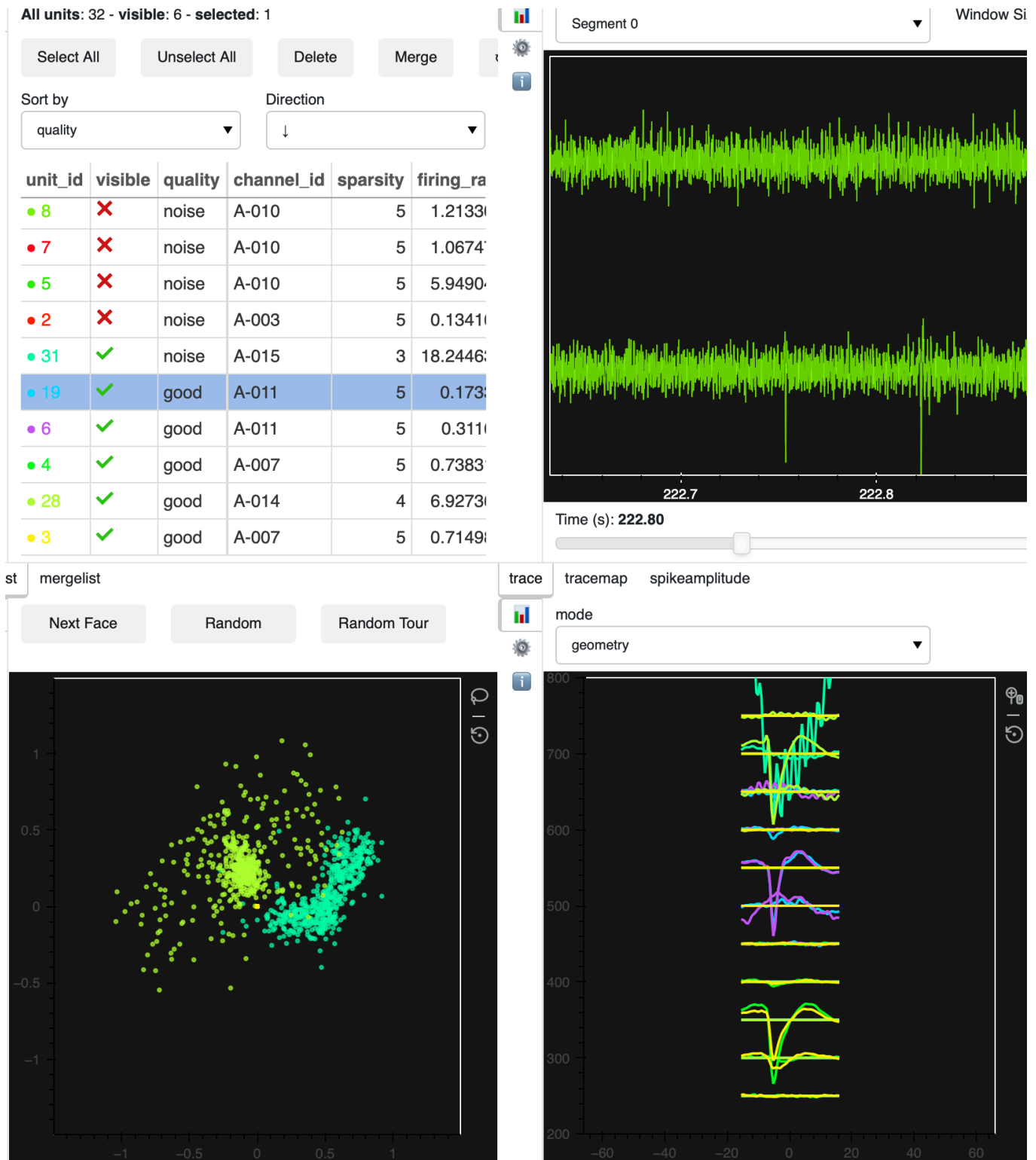


veform waveformheatmap

This trace is obvious noise.

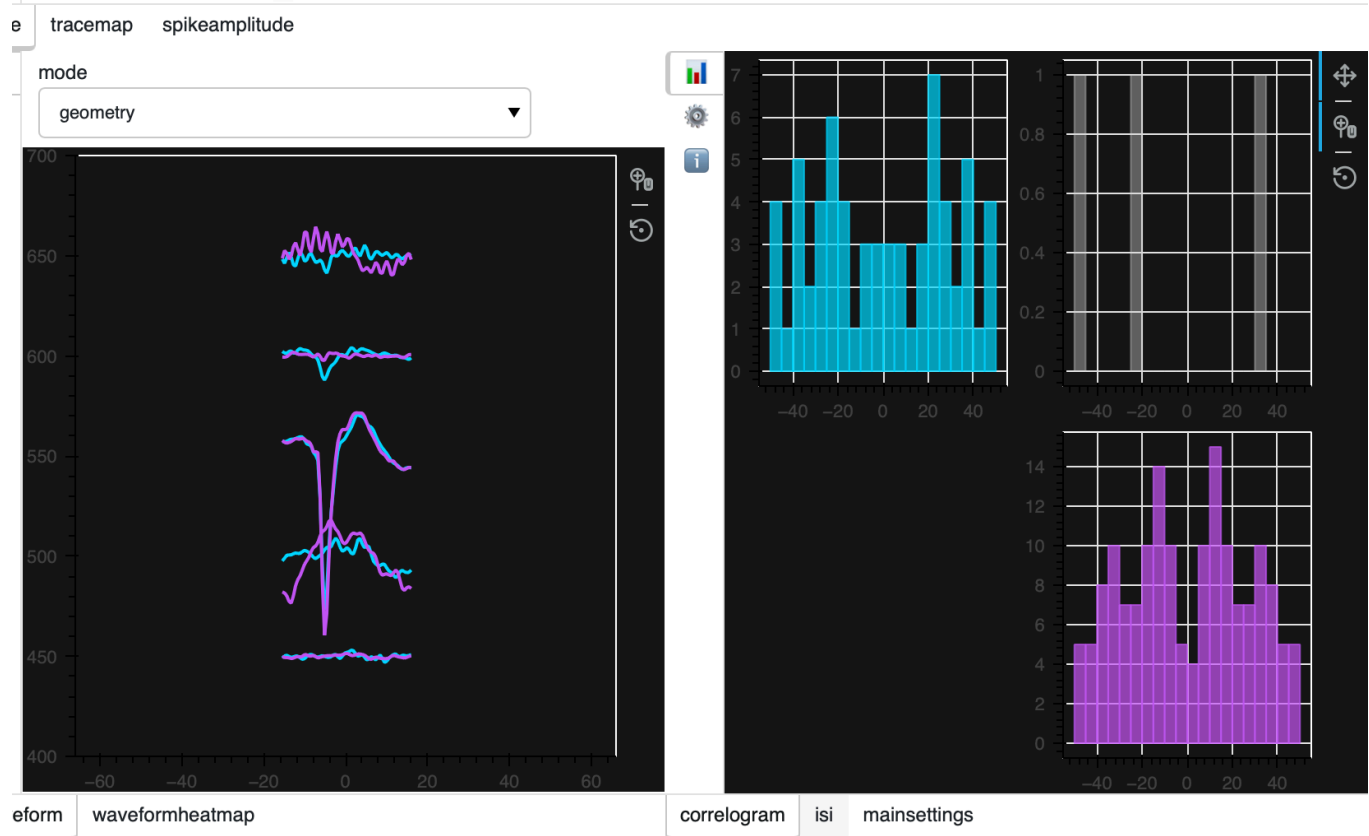


correloaram isi mainsettings

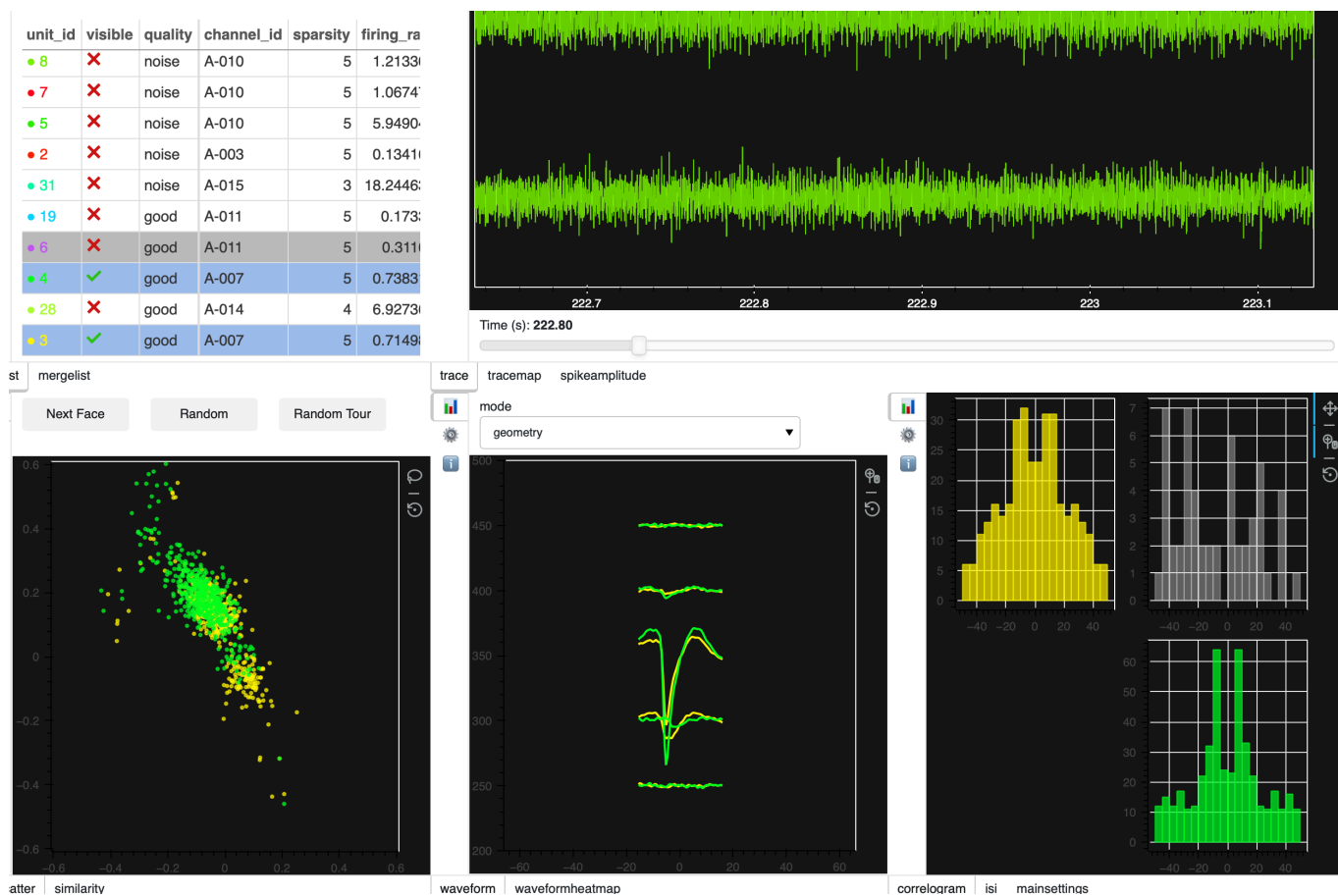


Once all of the spike qualities have been input, you can sort the table so the "good" units are near each other, to seem them all super imposed. If the spikes line up, select those two using "control + click", so see them on top of each other.

Sort by quality, and select all to see them superimposed on one another. Based on this view, 19 & 6 may be a single unit, and 3 & 28 may be a single unit. Lets drill into those.



Taking a closer look, we can see the traces stacked on top of each other, each autocorrelogram, and a cross correlelegram. The cross correlograom shows that are no spikes within 20 ms of one another between the two units, suggesting they should be merged



toggle the units in question to "visible", select both, and press merge. The new merge group will appear

Save in analyzerDownload curation.jsonSubmit to parent

RestoreUnmerge

merge_groups

3 - 4

19 - 6

deleted_unit_id

All units: 32 - visible: 2 - selected: 2

Select All

Unselect All

Delete

Merge

Sort by

quality

Direction

↓

unit_id	visible	quality	channel_id	sparsity	firing_rate
8	✗	noise	A-010	5	1.21330
7	✗	noise	A-010	5	1.06747
5	✗	noise	A-010	5	5.94904
2	✗	noise	A-003	5	0.13410
31	✗	noise	A-015	3	18.24463
19	✗	good	A-011	5	0.17330
6	✗	good	A-011	5	0.31110
4	✓	good	A-007	5	0.73833
28	✗	good	A-014	4	6.92736
3	✓	good	A-007	5	0.71498

Save in analyzerDownload curation.jsonSubmit to parent

RestoreUnmerge

merge_groups

3 - 4

19 - 6

deleted_unit_id

31

2

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

16

All units: 32 - visible: 2 - selected: 27

Select All

Unselect All

Delete

Merge

Sort by

quality

Direction

↓

unit_id	visible	quality	channel_id	sparsity	firing_rate
8	✗	noise	A-010	5	1.21330
7	✗	noise	A-010	5	1.06747
5	✗	noise	A-010	5	5.94904
2	✗	noise	A-003	5	0.13410
31	✗	noise	A-015	3	18.24463
19	✗	good	A-011	5	0.17330
6	✗	good	A-011	5	0.31110
4	✓	good	A-007	5	0.73833
28	✗	good	A-014	4	6.92736
3	✓	good	A-007	5	0.71498

Noise units can be deleted. They are not gone forever, they just leave a cleaner curation object.

Once everything is completed to your satisfaction, select "save in analyzer". This will create a hidden curation file.

10. Save Curated Data

Return to the notebook, and run the final cell so create a curated dataset. If you look in "data<patient<session<sorted" you will see a file ending in *.zarr. This is the final product of your sorting efforts, it contains the curated data.

11. You're done! 🎉 Be sure to end the process in the terminal with Control+Z, and restart the notebook kernel



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