

## Learning

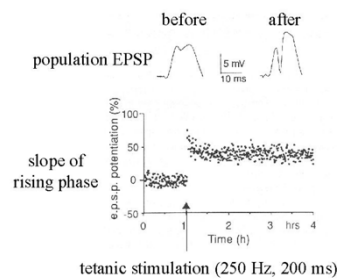
Computational Cognitive Neuroscience  
Randall O'Reilly

## Overview of Learning

- Biology: synaptic plasticity
- Computation:
  - Self organizing – soaking up statistics
  - Error-driven – getting the right answers

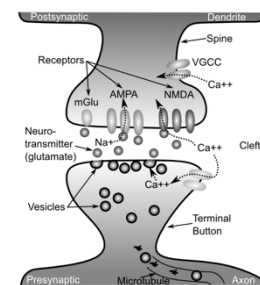
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## Synapses Change Strength (in response to patterns of activity)



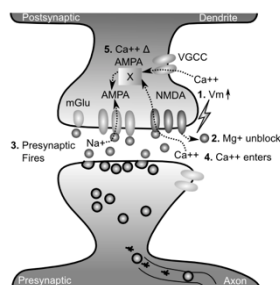
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## What Changes??



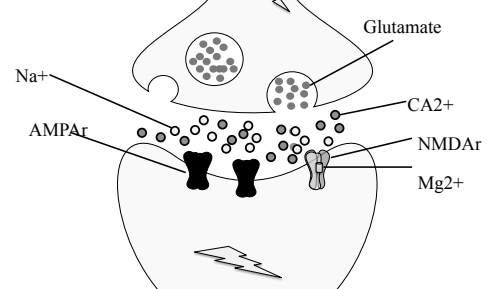
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## Gettin' AMPA'd

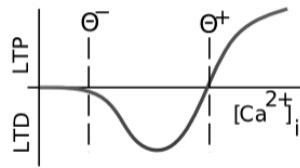


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## Opening the NMDA receptor calcium channel

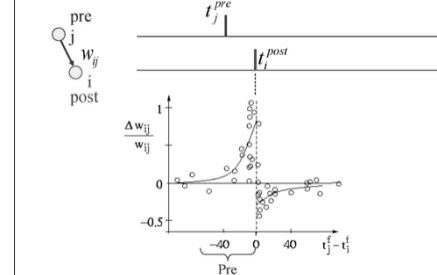


## Which Way?



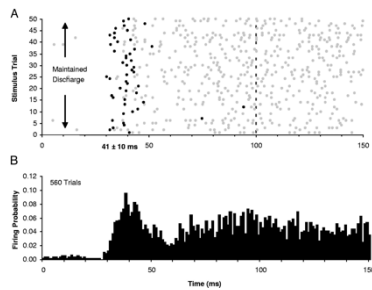
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## Causal Way?



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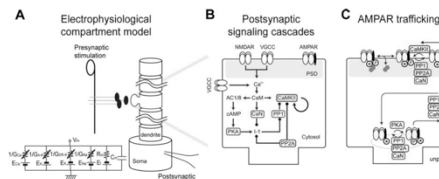
## Let's Get Real..



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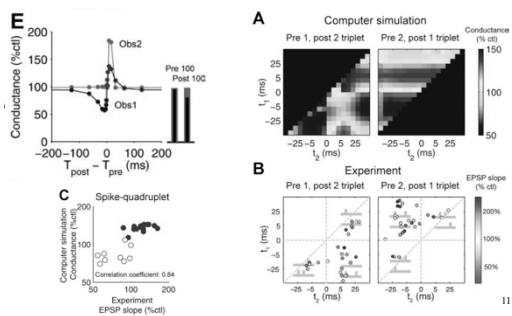
## Urakubo et al, 2008 Model

- Highly detailed combination of 3 existing strongly-validated models:



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### “Allosteric” NMDA Captures STDP (including higher-order and time integration effects)



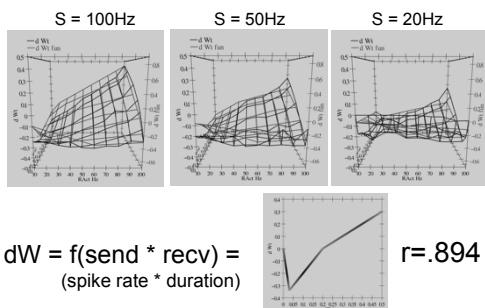
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## What About Real Spike Trains?



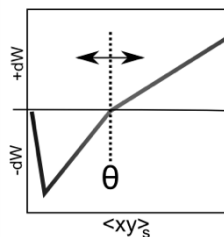
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## Extended Spike Trains = Emergent Simplicity

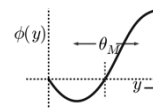


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## XCAL = Linearized BCM

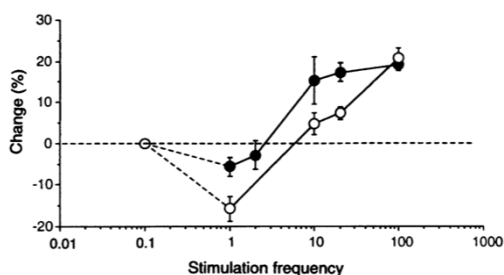


- Bienenstock, Cooper & Munro (1982) – BCM:
- **adaptive threshold  $\Theta$** 
  - Lower when less active
  - Higher when more.. (homeostatic)



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## Threshold Does Adapt



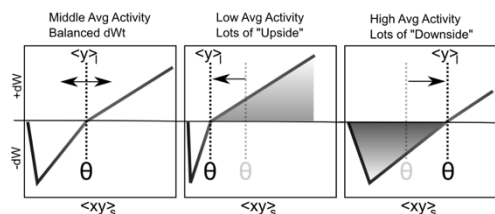
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## Computational: Self-Organizing and Error-Driven

- Self-organizing = learn general statistics of the world.
- Error-driven = learn from difference between expectation and outcome.
- Both can be achieved through XCAL.

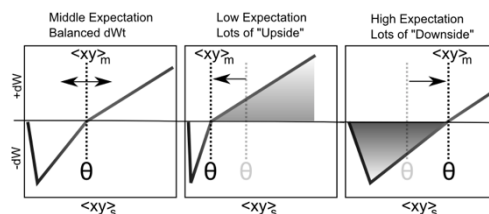
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## Floating Threshold = Long Term Average Activity (Self Org)



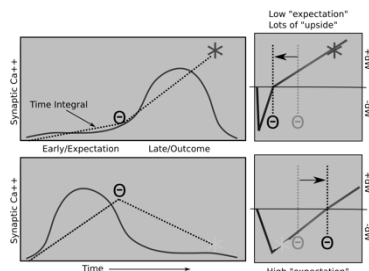
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## Floating Threshold = Medium Term Synaptic Activity (Error-Driven)



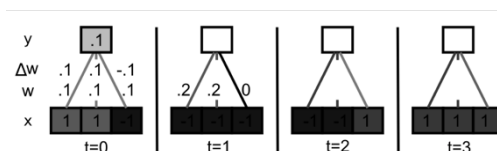
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## Fast Threshold Adaptation: Late Trains Early



Essence of Err-Driven:  $dW = \text{outcome} - \text{expectation}$

## Hebbian Learns Correlations



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## Self Organizing Learning

- Inhibitory Competition: only some get to learn
- Rich get richer: winners detect even better
  - But also get more selective (hopefully)
- Homeostasis: keeping things more evenly distributed (higher taxes for the rich!)

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## Limitations of Self-Organizing

- Can't learn to solve challenging problems – driven by statistics, not error..

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