



LFPy-tutorial CNS2013

**Espen Hagen¹, Szymon Łęski², Henrik Lindén³, Eivind S
Norheim¹, Klas H Pettersen¹, Gaute T Einevoll¹**

¹Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB), Ås, Norway

²Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Warsaw, Poland

³Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden



LFPy - Introduction

- **LFPy** is a **Python**-package for calculating extracellular potentials from multi-compartment neuron models
- **LFPy** home page: <http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy>
- Live LFPyLubuntu image: <http://goo.gl/1soiM>
 - Use .iso-file with Virtualbox or similar, see <http://www.virtualbox.org>
 - Comes with the **Python -- pylab** environment, **LFPy** and **NEURON** preinstalled

LFPy - Introduction

- Topics:

- Why model extracellular potentials?
- Biophysical modeling scheme (brief)
- **LFPy** overview
- **LFPy** installation
- Brief explanation of the main classes in **LFPy**
- **LFPy** usage
- **LFPy** provided examples

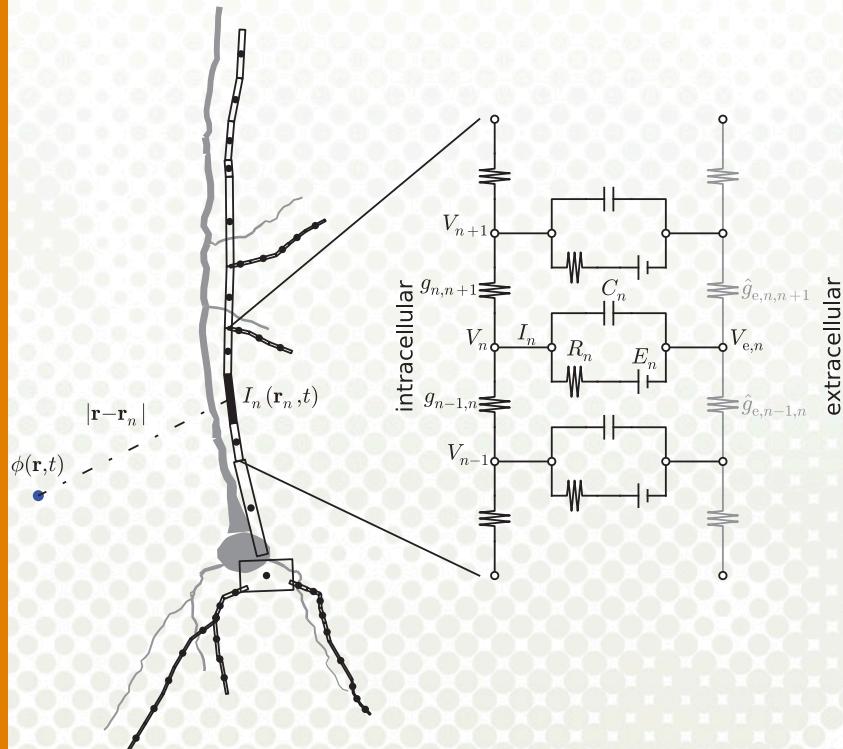
LFPy - Introduction

- Why model extracellular potentials?
 - Improve understanding of experimental measurements:
 - Reach of LFP (Łęski et al. *PLoS Comp Biol*, 2013; Lindén et al. *Neuron*, 2011)
 - Spectral content of LFP (Lindén et al. *J Comput Neurosci*, 2010)
 - Extracellular action potential shapes (Gold et al. *J Neurophysiol*, 2006; Pettersen et al. *Biophys J*, 2008)
 - Methods validation:
 - Spike sorting (Einevoll et al. *Curr Op Neurobiol*, 2012)
 - CSD estimation (Łęski et al. *Neuroinf*, 2011; Pettersen et al. *J Comput Neurosci*, 2008)

LFPy - Introduction

- Why model extracellular potentials?
 - **O14:** Taxidis et al.; Extracellular field signatures of CA1 spiking cell assemblies during sharp wave-ripple complexes
 - **P119:** Hagen et al.; Hybrid scheme for modeling LFPs from spiking cortical network models
 - **P120:** Ness et al.; Modeling Extracellular Potentials in Microelectrode Array Recordings
 - **P417:** Chintaluri et al.; Realistic simulations of local field potentials in a slice
 - others: **P41, P126, P255, ...**

LFPy - Introduction



- Forward-modeling scheme for extracellular potentials for multi-compartment neuron models:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{I_n(t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_n|}$$

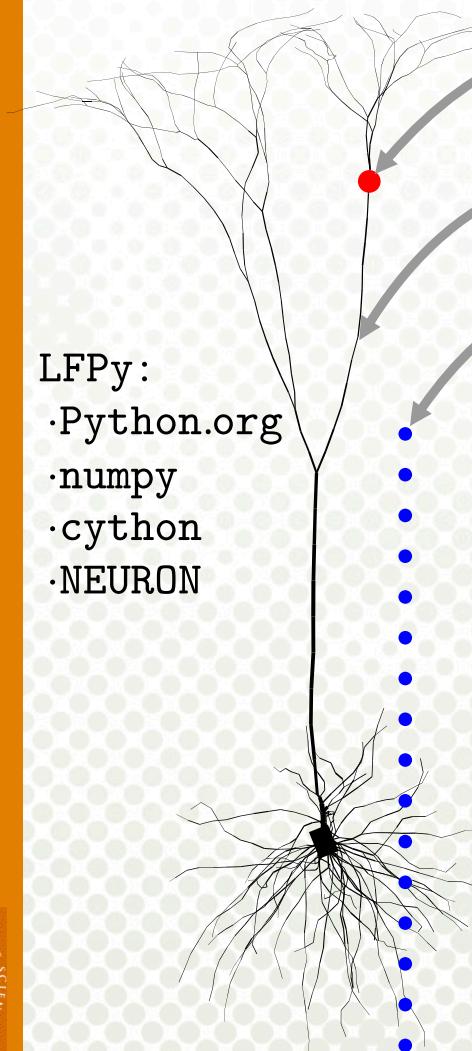
- Line-sources (Holt & Koch 1999)

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \sum_{n=1}^N I_n(t) \int \frac{d\mathbf{r}_n}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_n|}$$

- Current conservation imply:

$$\sum_{n=1}^N I_n(t) = 0$$

LFPy - Overview



LFPy class-objects:

- `LFPy.Synapse`
- `LFPy.StimIntElectrode`
- `LFPy.Cell`
- `LFPy.TemplateCell`
- `LFPy.RecExtElectrode`

LFPy:
· Python.org
· numpy
· cython
· NEURON

- Why Python?
 - Object oriented
 - Easy to script
 - Flexible
 - Plethora of packages for visualizations and analysis
 - [http://
pypi.python.org/
pypi](http://pypi.python.org/pypi): ~32500 packages
 - Interface other programming languages

LFPy - Installation

- Make sure **Python**-prerequisites are met:
 - **neuron** (`./configure --with-nrnpython`)
 - **Cython**, **NumPy**, **SciPy**, **matplotlib**
(opt. **ipython** (**notebook**), **h5py**, **mpi4py**)
- Download the **LFPy** source code:
[http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy/downloads/
LFPy-0.9.5.tar.gz](http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy/downloads/LFPy-0.9.5.tar.gz)
- Unzip:
`tar -xzf LFPy-0.9.5.tar.gz`
- Or, get development version of **LFPy** using subversion:
`svn co \`
[http://bebbservice.umb.no/svn-public/LFPy-
release/trunk](http://bebbservice.umb.no/svn-public/LFPy-release/trunk) **LFPy**

LFPy - Installation

- Install from LFPy source code:

```
cd /path/to/LFPy
```

```
python setup.py install --user
```

- Easy installation of LFPy:

```
easy_install LFPy --user
```

- Small test with IPython:

```
ipython -c "import LFPy"
```

```
NEURON -- VERSION 7.3
```

```
(694:9d4ab20927bc) 9d4ab20927bc
```

```
...
```

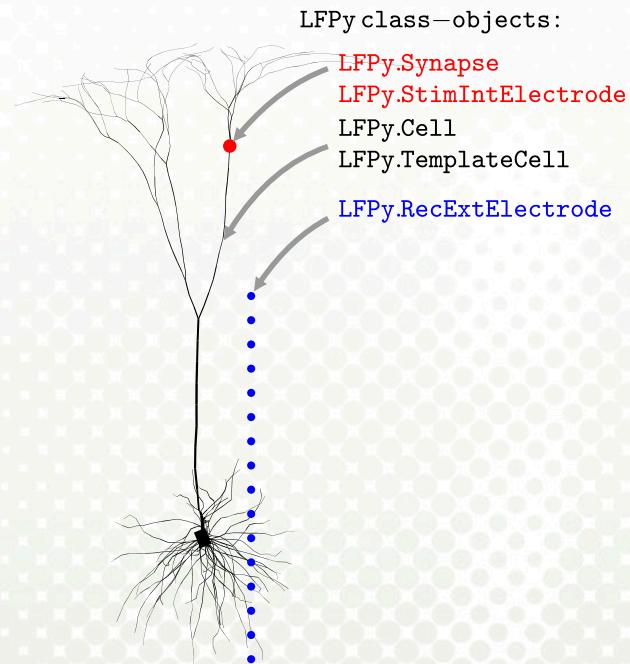
- With NEURON:

```
nrngui --python -c "import LFPy"
```

LFPy – Main Classes

- The primary LFPy-classes employed to set up simulations are:
 - **LFPy.Cell**
 - **LFPy.Synapse**
 - **LFPy.RecExtElectrode**
- Other classes and functions:
 - class **LFPy.StimIntElectrode**
 - functions **LFPy.lfpcalc.calc_lfp***,
LFPy.inputgenerators.*, **LFPy.tools.***
- For detailed information please refer to the online documentation:

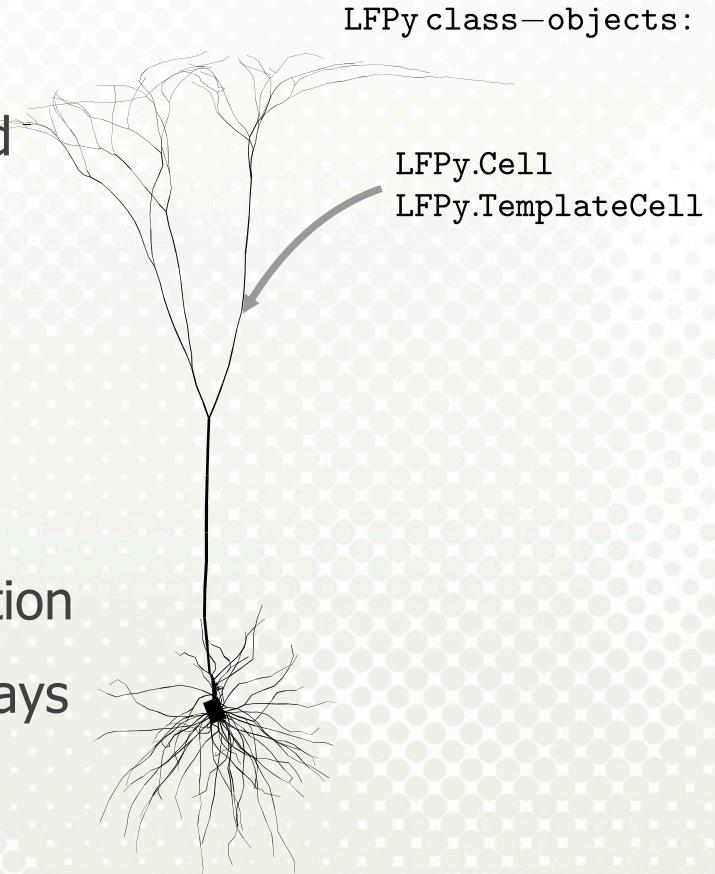
<http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy/classes.html>



LFPy – Main Classes

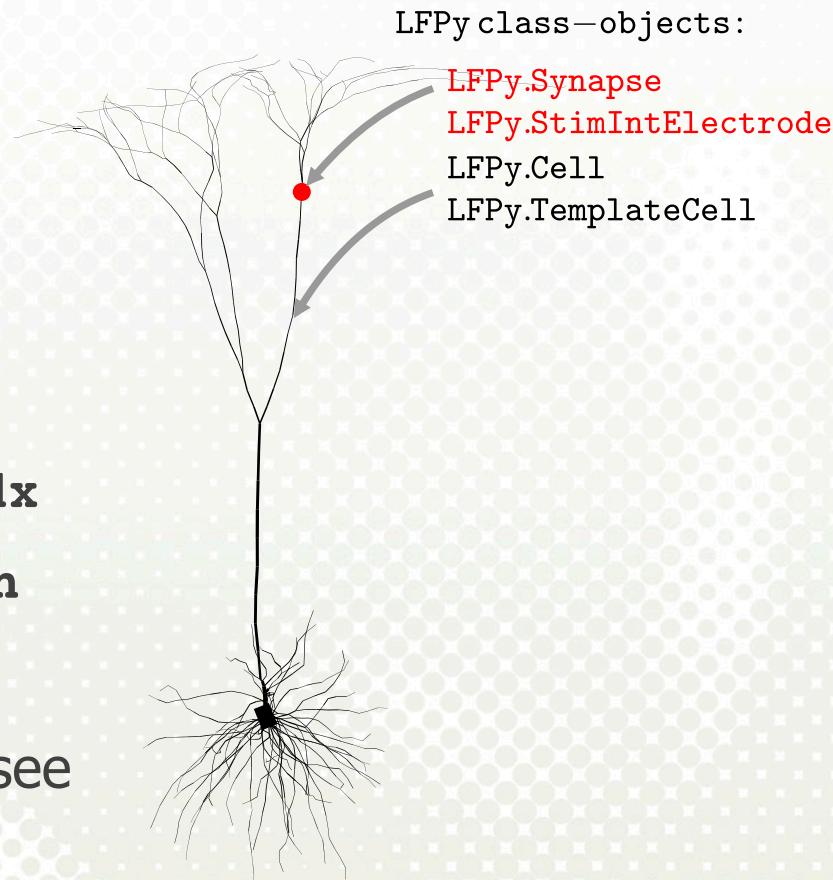
- **LFPy.Cell:**

- Uses **NEURON** under the hood
- Loads the morphology
- Set the neuronal properties:
 - membrane mechanisms
 - number of compartments
 - Set cell location and rotation
- Collect the geometry into arrays
- Methods for segment indices
- positioning in 3D
- Simulation control



LFPy - Main Classes

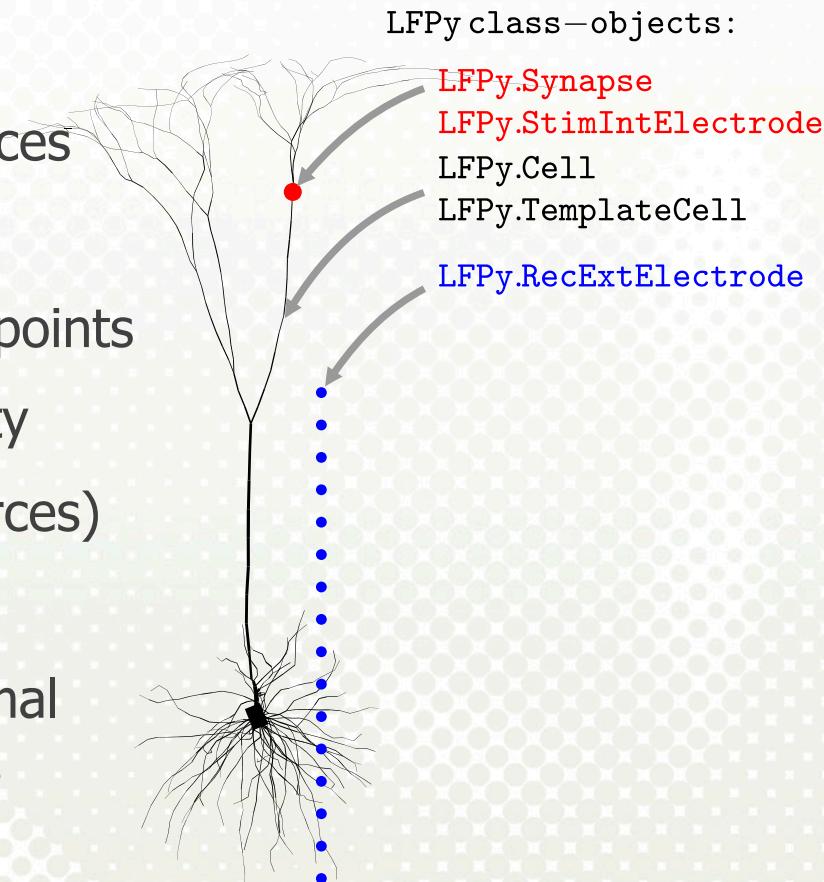
- **LFPy.Synapse:**
 - attach synapse-objects onto cell objects
 - Keyword arguments:
 - **cell**-object
 - compartment index, **idx**
 - synapse type, **Exp2syn**
 - mechanism arguments
- Set up as **NetCon** objects (see **NEURON** documentation) for synaptic weights and times.



LFPy - Main Classes

- **LFPy.RecExtElectrode**

- extracellular recording devices
- Main arguments:
 - Coordinates of contact points
 - extracellular conductivity
 - method (point/line-sources)
- Optional:
 - radius and surface normal vectors for the contacts
 - n -point surface area averaged potential



LFPy - Usage

- Working in local folder:
`cd /path/to/LFPy/examples/`
- Have a look at the two provided **ipython** notebooks
 - Post-synaptic response of somatic synapse
 - LFPs from a single, apical synapse
- Employ an interactive ipython notesession:
`ipython notebook --pylab inline`
- Two interactive examples should be available:

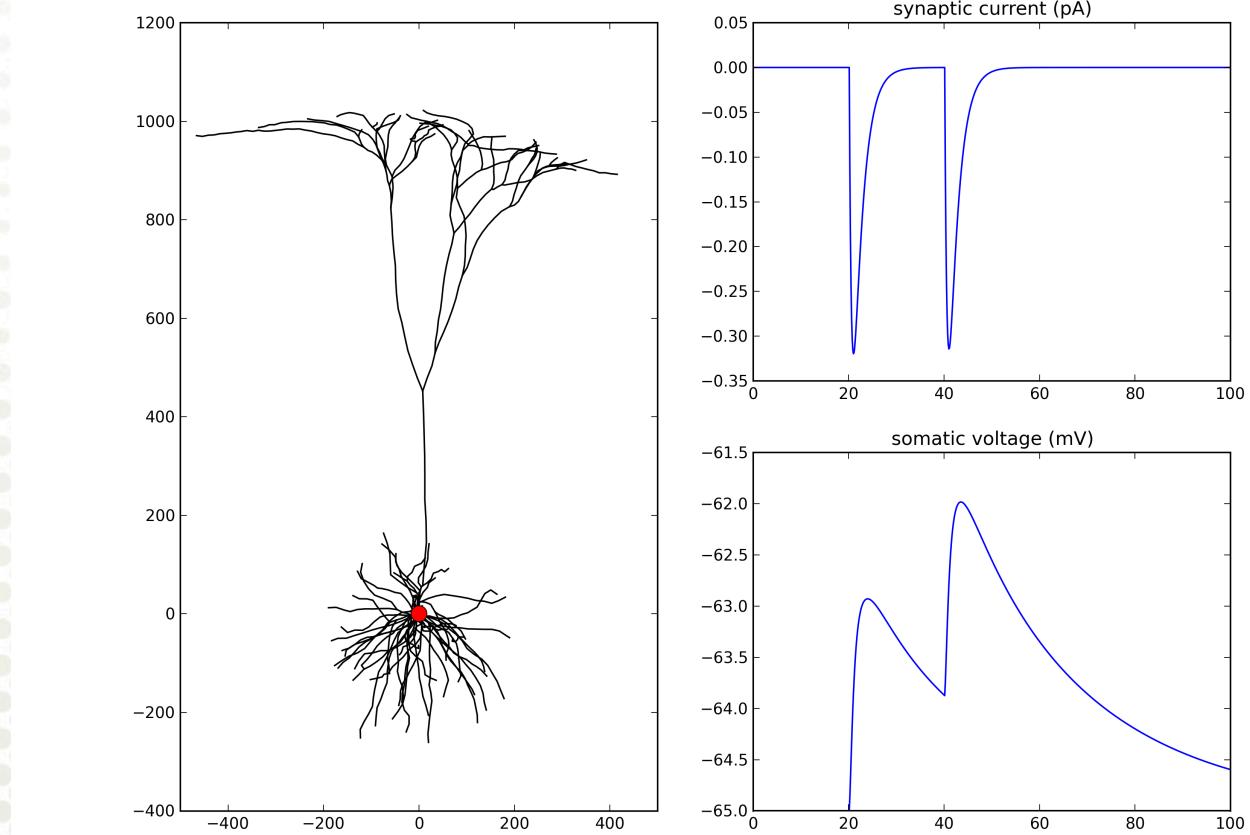


The screenshot shows a web-based interface for managing Jupyter notebooks. At the top, there are navigation icons (back, forward, search, etc.) and a URL bar showing "Web 127.0.0.1:8888". Below the URL bar, the title "IP[y]: Notebook" is displayed. A message "Drag files onto the list to import notebooks." is shown above a list of available notebooks. The list contains two entries: "LFPy-example-1" and "LFPy-example-2", each with a "Delete" button to its right. A "New Notebook" button is located in the top right corner of the main content area.

Notebook Name	Action
LFPy-example-1	Delete
LFPy-example-2	Delete

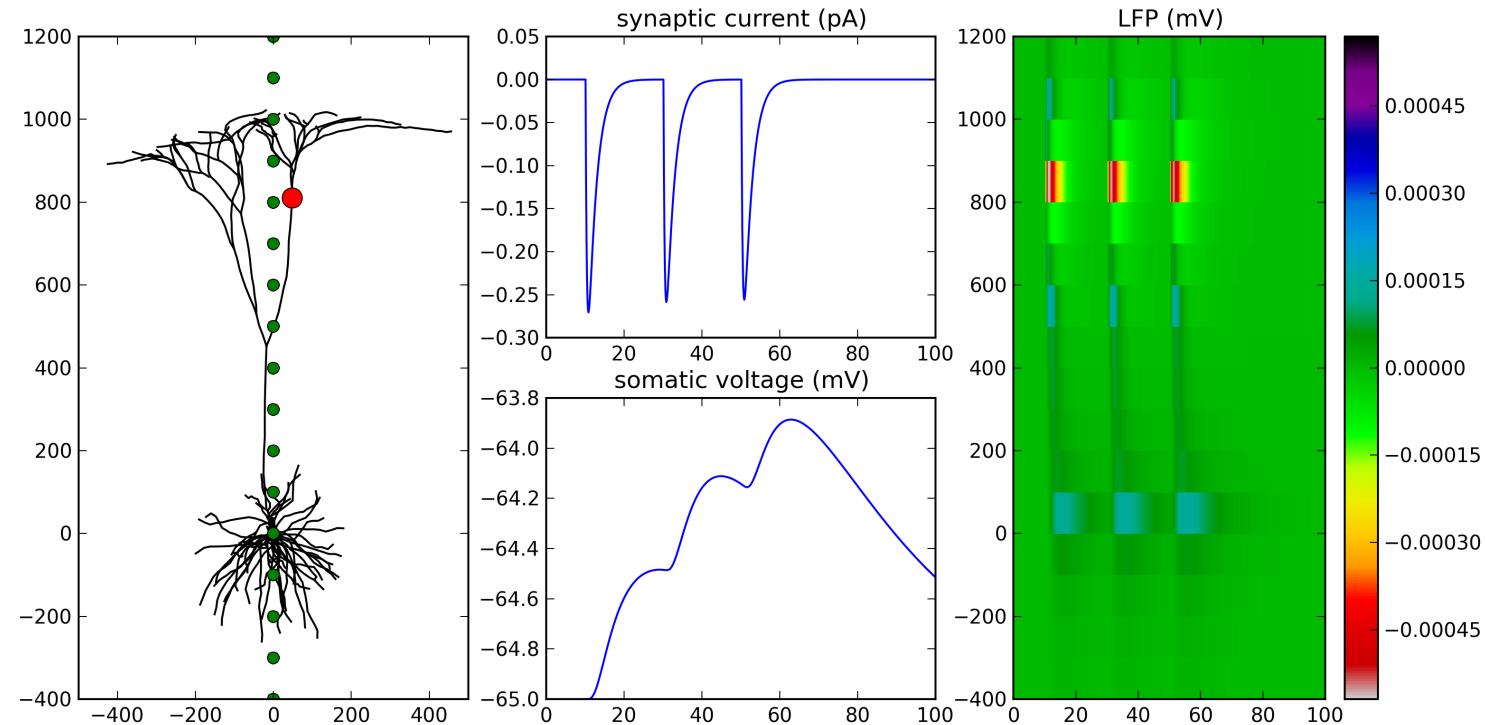
LFPy - Usage

- Interactive example 1:
 - Calculate the post-synaptic response of somatic synapse



LFPy - Usage

- Interactive example 2:
 - Calculate LFPs arising from a single, apical synapse

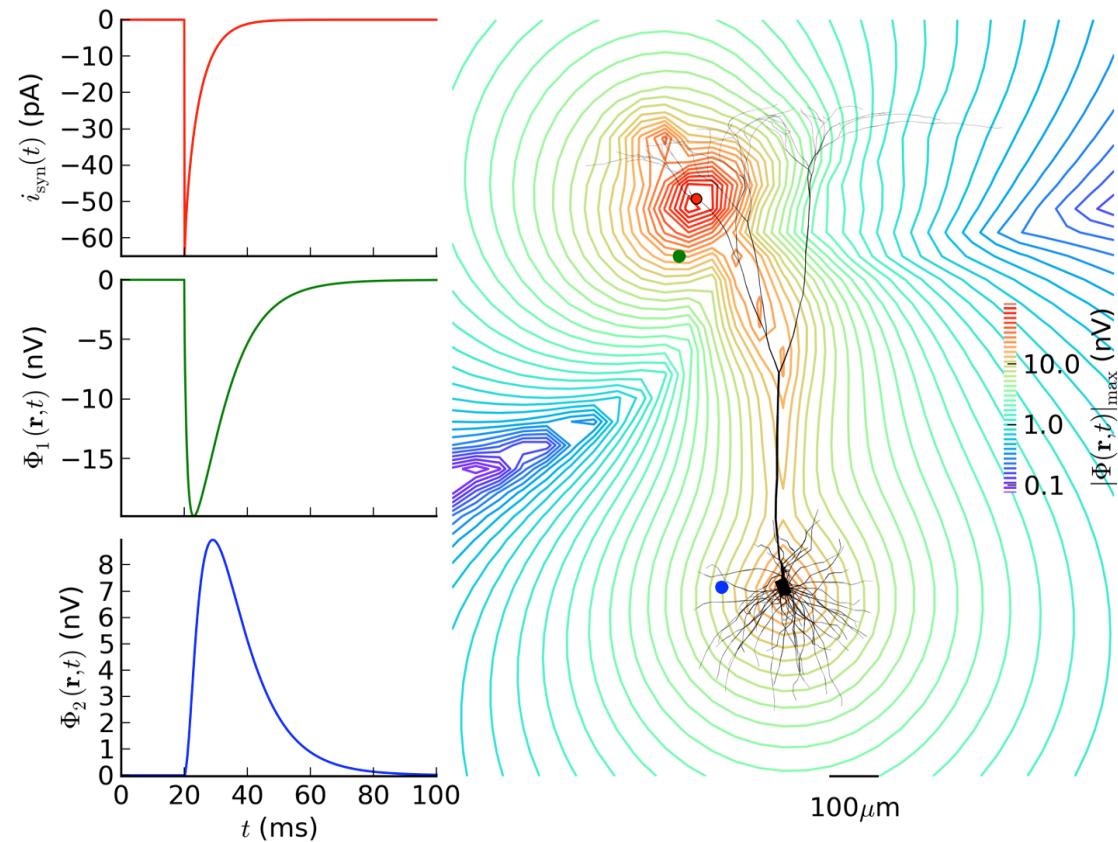


LFPy – Provided example files

- LFPy comes with example scripts displaying different usage cases:
 - using active cell models
 - using many synapses
 - dealing with a population of cell objects
- Example files in:
`/path/to/LFPy/examples/`
- `.mod`-files may be compiled for active stuff, running
`nrnivmodl`
inside the examples folder

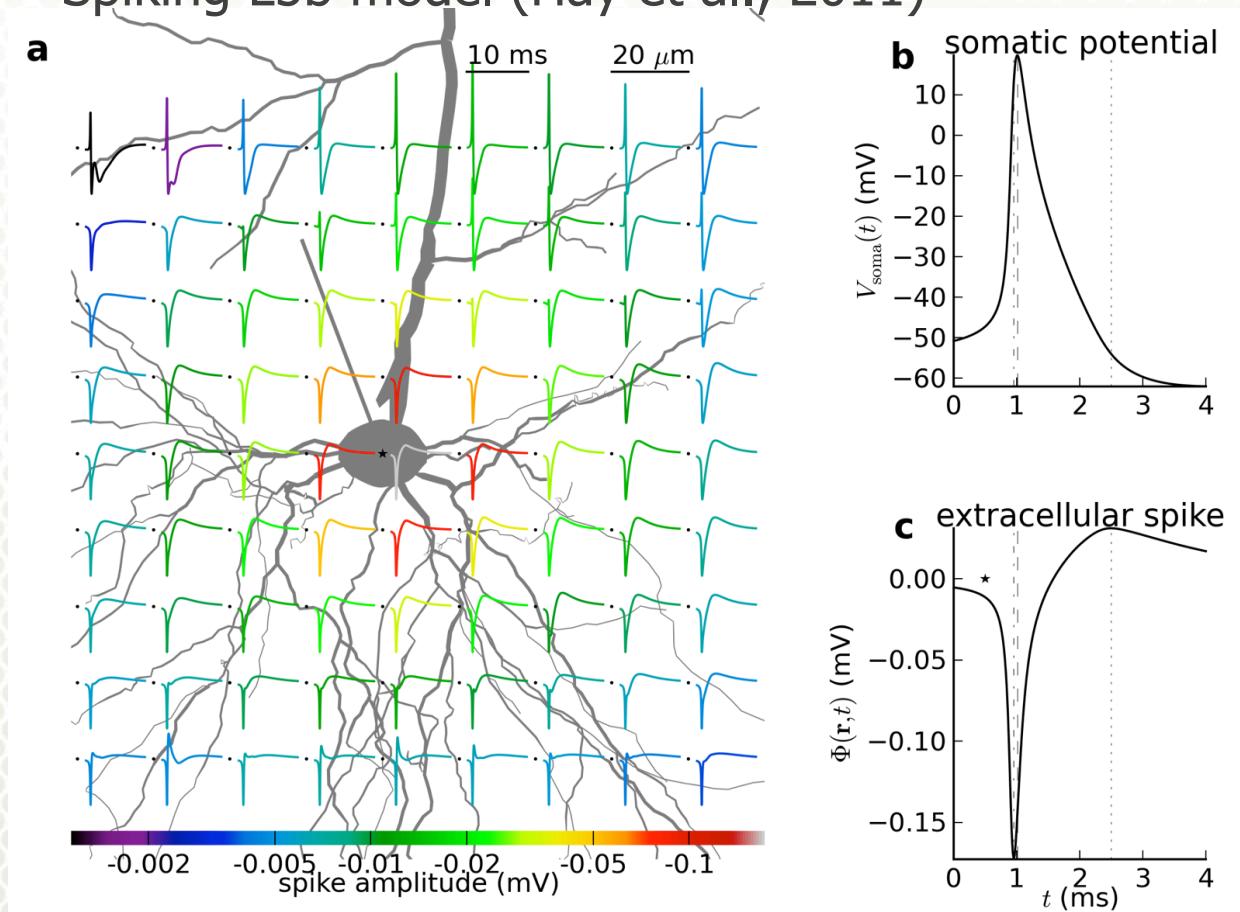
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example1.py:`
 - Single apical synapse response. Passive membrane



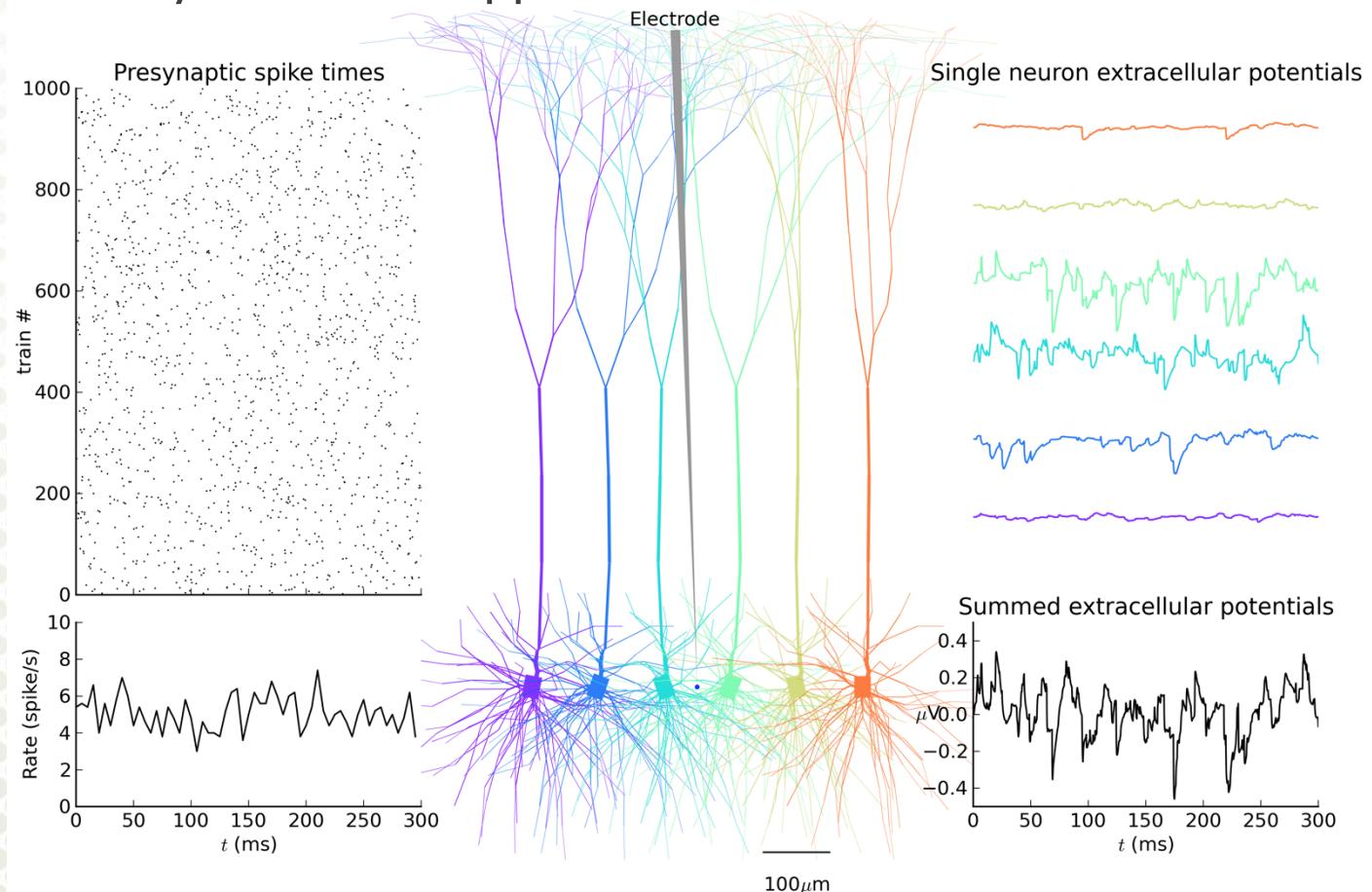
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example2.py`:
 - Spiking L5b model (Hay et al., 2011)



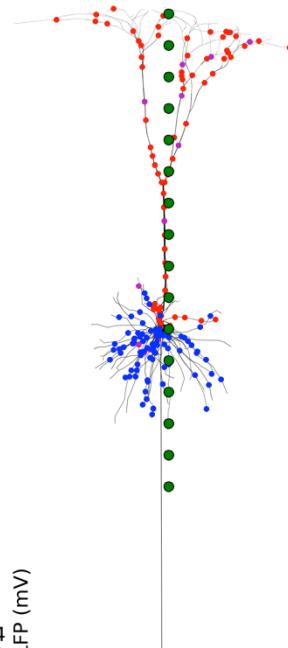
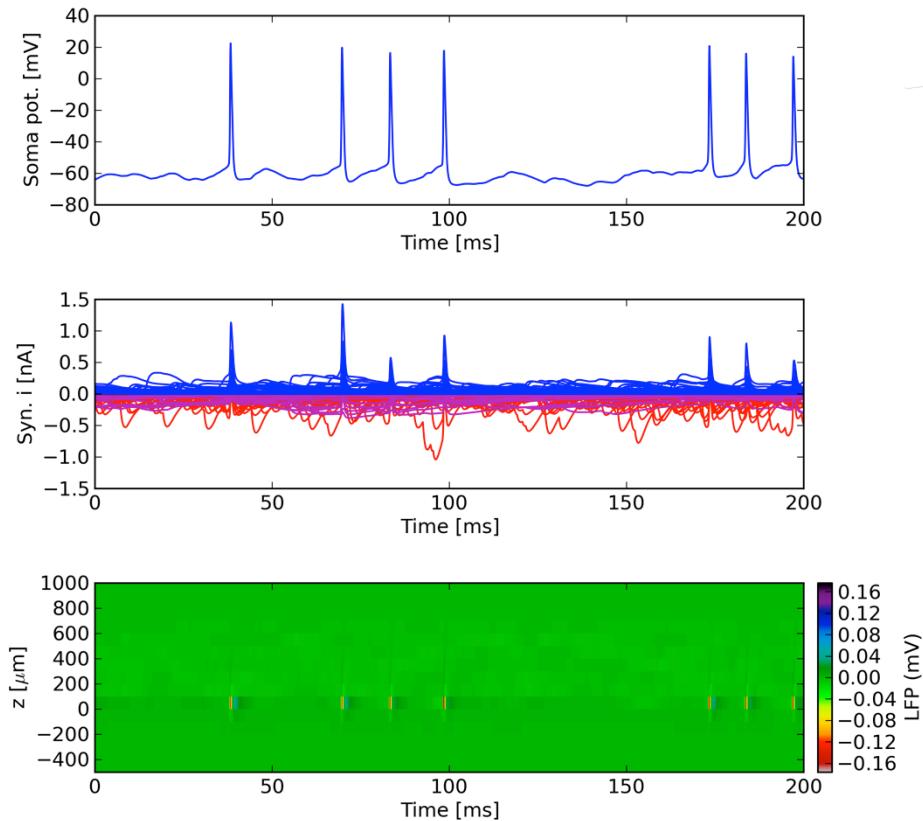
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example3.py`:
 - Hybrid model approach with MPI



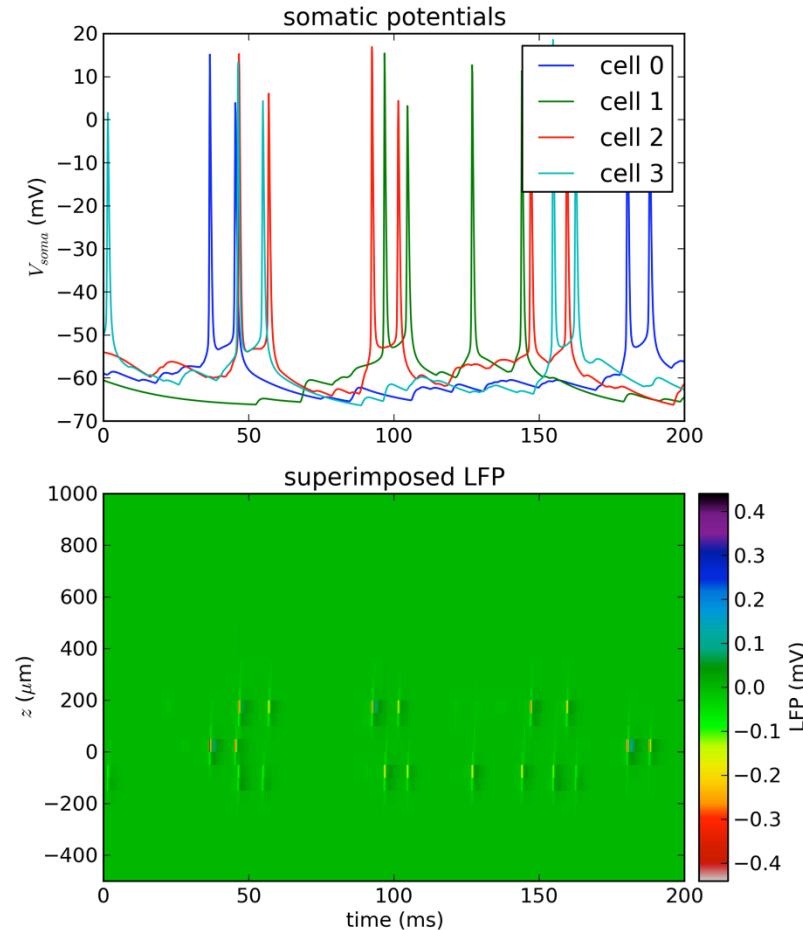
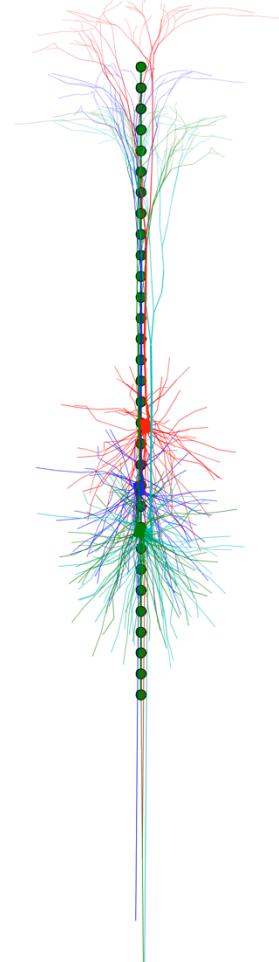
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example6.py`:
 - Distributed exc/inh. synapses. Active membrane.



LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example_mpi.py:`
 - A small population using MPI. Active membranes.



LFPy - Tutorial

- Questions?
- If not, feel free to test out **LFPy** ☺