

Martin Iniguez de Onzono Muruaga Topic 06 CP

```
In [1]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
```

Exercise 1. Potassium channel

a) Write Python functions.

```
In [2]: def alpha_n(V):
    return 0.01*(V+55)/(1-np.exp(-0.1*(V+55))) # V in mV

def beta_n(V):
    return 0.125*np.exp(-0.0125*(V+65)) # V in mV

def ik(V,ek,n,gk):
    return gk*(n**4)*(V-ek) # mA

def dn(n,t,V):
    return alpha_n(V)*(1-n)-beta_n(V)*n

In [3]: # Constants needed for the exercise

ek = -77 # mV
gk = 36e-9 # S
```

b) Plot the activation time constant and the steady-state activation.

```
In [4]: def tau(V):
    return 1/(alpha_n(V)+beta_n(V)) # ms

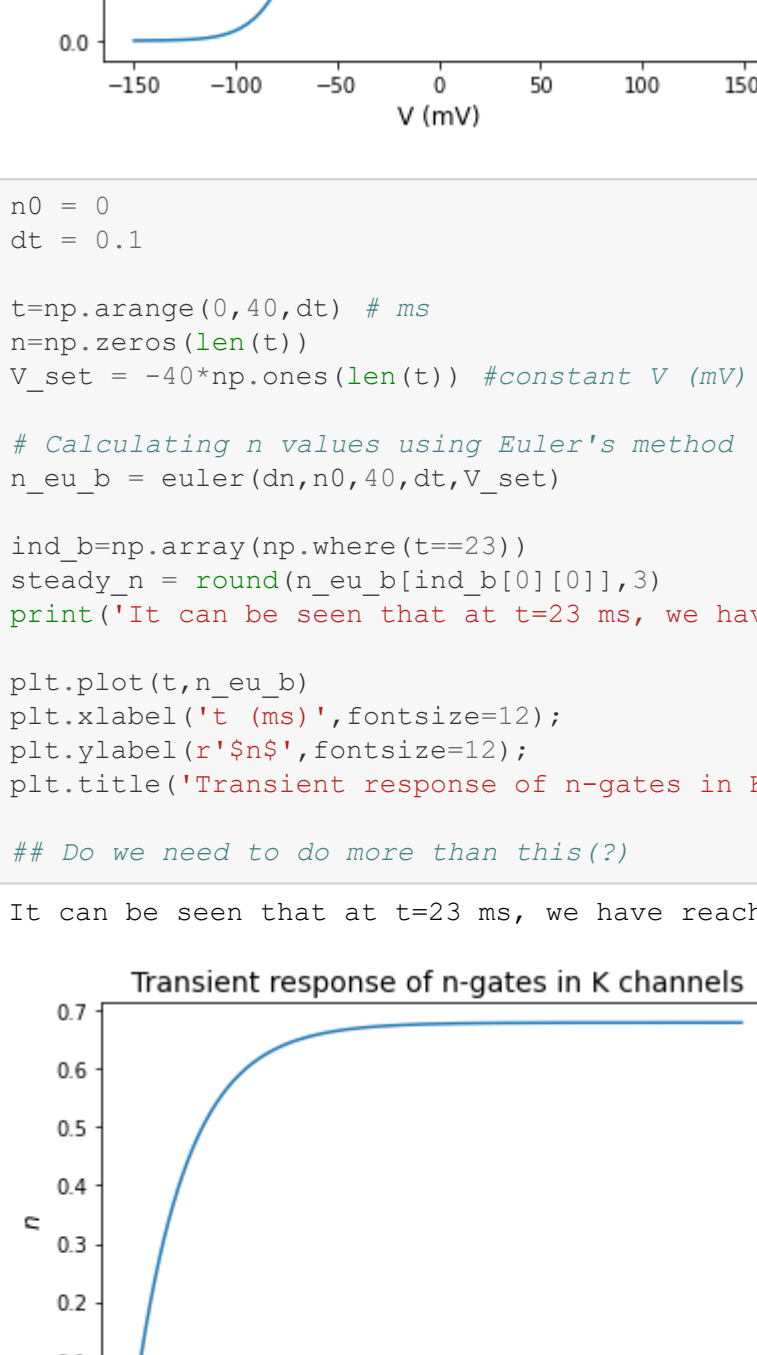
def n_inf(V):
    return tau(V)*alpha_n(V)

def euler(f_func, x 0, t_max, dt,V):
    iterat = int(np.floor(t_max/dt))
    x = np.zeros(iterat)
    x[0]=x_0
    for i in range(1,iterat):
        x[i] = x[i-1]+f_func(x[i-1],dt*(i-1),V[i-1]) *dt
    return x

In [5]: V = np.linspace(-150,150,200)
tau_n = tau(V)
V_maxt = round(V[np.argmax(tau_n)],2)

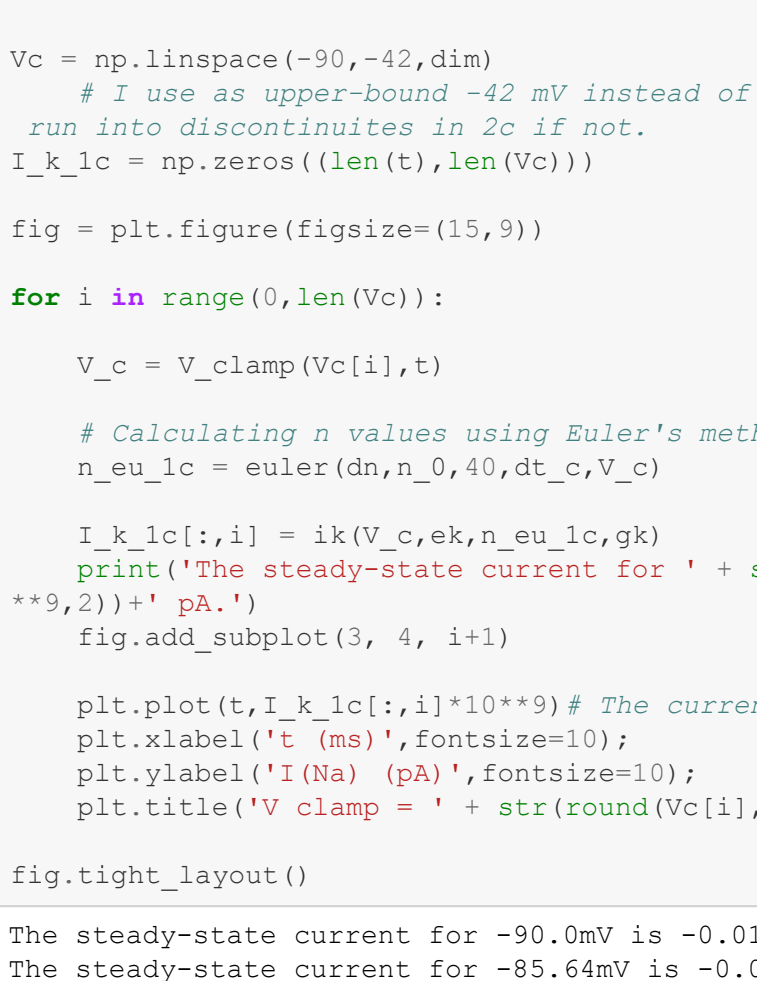
plt.plot(V,tau_n)
plt.xlabel('V (mV)',fontsize=12);
plt.ylabel('tau (ms)',fontsize=12);
plt.title('Activation time constant of n-gates in K channels',fontsize=12);
print('The voltage with maximum tau is V = '+str(V_maxt) + ' mV')
```

The voltage with maximum tau is V = -77.64 mV



```
In [6]: ninf = n_inf(V)

plt.plot(V,ninf)
plt.xlabel('V (mV)',fontsize=12);
plt.ylabel('n_inf',fontsize=12);
plt.title('Steady-state activation of n-gates in K channels',fontsize=14);
```



```
In [7]: n0 = 0
dt_c = 0.1
t=np.arange(0,40,dt_c) # ms
dim=12

# I use as upper-bound -42 mV instead of 40, and a lower bound of -90 mV instead of -100 because we
run into discontinuities in 2c if not.
I_k_lc = np.zeros((len(t),len(Vc)))

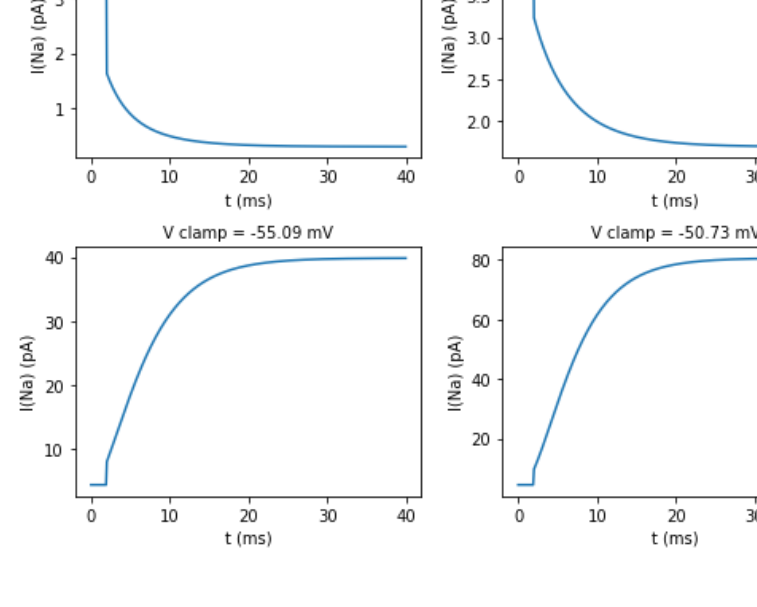
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15,9))

for i in range(0,len(Vc)):
    V_c = V_clamp(Vc[i],t)

    # Calculating n values using Euler's method
    n_eu_b = euler(dn,n_0,40,dt_c,V_c)

    I_k_lc[:,i] = ik(V_c,ek,n_eu_b,gk)
    print('The steady-state current for ' + str(round(V_c[-1],2)) + ' mV is ' +str(round(I_k_lc[-1,i]*10**9,2))+' pA')
    fig.add_subplot(3, 4, i+1)
```

It can be seen that at t=23 ms, we have reached the steady state, n==1 + str(steady_n)



c) Voltage clamp. Simulate the current responses Ik to voltage steps under voltage-clamp conditions.

```
In [8]: def V_clamp(Vc,t):
    ind=np.array(np.where(t==2)) # ms
    V_start = -65*np.ones((ind[0][0]))
    V_end = Vc*np.ones((len(t)-ind[0][0]))
    V = np.concatenate((V_start,V_end))
    return V
```

```
In [9]: n_0 = 0.3177
dt_c = 0.1
t=np.arange(0,40,dt_c) # ms
dim=12

Vc = np.linspace(-90,-42,dim)

# I use as upper-bound -42 mV instead of 40, and a lower bound of -90 mV instead of -100 because we
run into discontinuities in 2c if not.
I_k_lc = np.zeros((len(t),len(Vc)))

fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15,9))

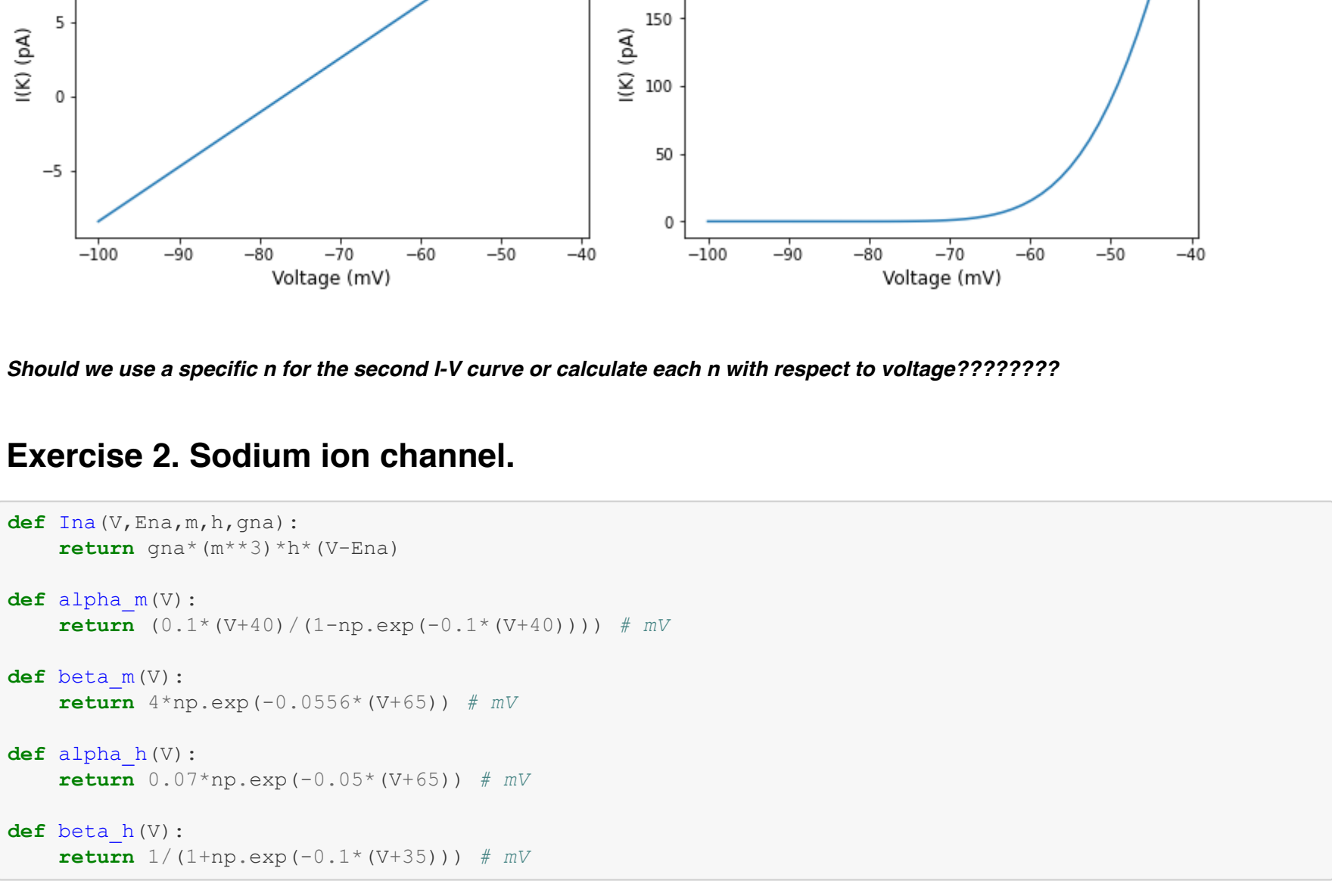
for i in range(0,len(Vc)):
    V_c = V_clamp(Vc[i],t)

    # Calculating n values using Euler's method
    n_eu_lc = euler(dn,n_0,40,dt_c,V_c)

    I_k_lc[:,i] = ik(V_c,ek,n_eu_lc,gk)
    print('The steady-state current for ' + str(round(V_c[-1],2)) + ' mV is ' +str(round(I_k_lc[-1,i]*10**9,2))+' pA')
    fig.add_subplot(3, 4, i+1)
```

fig.tight_layout()

The steady-state current for -90.0mV is -0.01 pA.
The steady-state current for -85.64mV is -0.02 pA.
The steady-state current for -81.27mV is -0.03 pA.
The steady-state current for -76.91mV is 0.0 pA.
The steady-state current for -72.55mV is 0.32 pA.
The steady-state current for -68.18mV is 1.69 pA.
The steady-state current for -63.82mV is 6.04 pA.
The steady-state current for -59.45mV is 16.98 pA.
The steady-state current for -55.09mV is 39.82 pA.
The steady-state current for -50.73mV is 80.54 pA.
The steady-state current for -46.36mV is 144.13 pA.
The steady-state current for -42.0mV is 233.13 pA.



What can be learned from this experiment? What is the predicted effect of the potassium current on the membrane potential? Explain the obtained results by referring to the plots of n_inf and tau_n.

It can be seen that, when applying clamp voltages smaller than Ek, the current induced by the potassium ions in steady-state is zero after a small negative spike. However, when applying a Voltage clamp higher than that, the potassium ions try to compensate and start leaving the neuron.

From Ek to -65 mV, the current holds a exponential decrease in time (although the steady-state is a positive current).

After -65 mV, the current increases (in a negative exponential decay manner) from its starting value.

That can be seen in the tau plot in 1b, in which we can see that the tau values start decreasing after the tau(V=Ek).

Therefore, the current from inwards to outwards (direction set by convention) is positive, as positive ions flow outwards the neuron.

d) Current-voltage curves.

```
In [10]: length_d = 50

V_d = np.linspace(-100,-42,length_d) # Until -42 because discontinuities appear if not at 2d
# Preparing two different sets of n's = one column of n at t=0, and one of the different n(V) at their
different steady-state
n=np.full(length_d,n_0)
n = np.vstack((n,n_inf(V_d)).T

I_k_ld = np.zeros((length_d,n.shape[1]))
```

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(11, 4),nrows=1, ncols=2, constrained_layout=True)
titles=['I-V curve using $n(t=0)$',r'I-V curve using $n_{\infty}(V)$']

for i in range(0,n.shape[1]):
    I_k_ld[:,i] = ik(V_d,ek,n[:,i],gk) # The current units before were mA, and now we set it to pA, so
it can be understood

ax[i].plot(V_d,I_k_ld[:,i]*10**9)
ax[i].set_xlabel('Voltage (mV)',fontsize=12);
ax[i].set_ylabel('I(K) (pA)',fontsize=12);
ax[i].set_title(titles[i],fontsize=14);
```



Should we use a specific n for the second I-V curve or calculate each n with respect to voltage????????

Exercise 2. Sodium ion channel.

```
In [11]: def ina(V,Eha,m,h,gna):
    return gna*(m**3)*h*(V-Eha)

def alpha_m(V):
    return 0.1*(V+40)/(1-np.exp(-0.1*(V+40))) # mV

def beta_m(V):
    return 1*np.exp(-0.0556*(V+65)) # mV

def alpha_h(V):
    return 0.07*np.exp(-0.05*(V+65)) # mV

def beta_h(V):
    return 1/(1*np.exp(-0.1*(V+35))) # mV
```

a) Write all functions and plot the steady-state activation and time constants.

```
In [12]: def tau(V):
    return 1/(alpha_m(V)+beta_m(V))

def th(V):
    return 1/(alpha_h(V)+beta_h(V))

def m_inf(V):
    return tau(V)*alpha_m(V)

def h_inf(V):
    return th(V)*alpha_h(V)
```



```
tau_m = tm(V)
tau_n = tn(V)
tau_h = th(V)

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(15, 5), nrows=1, ncols=1)
```

ax[0]

```
ax[0]
ax[0]
ax[0]
```



```
[18]: length_d = 50
V_2d = np.linspace(-100,-40,length_d) # Discontinuities at -40 mV, so we use as upper bound -40 mV

m = np.full(length_d,m0)
m = np.vstack((m,m_inf(V_2d))).T

h = np.full(length_d,h0)
h = np.vstack((h,h_inf(V_2d))).T

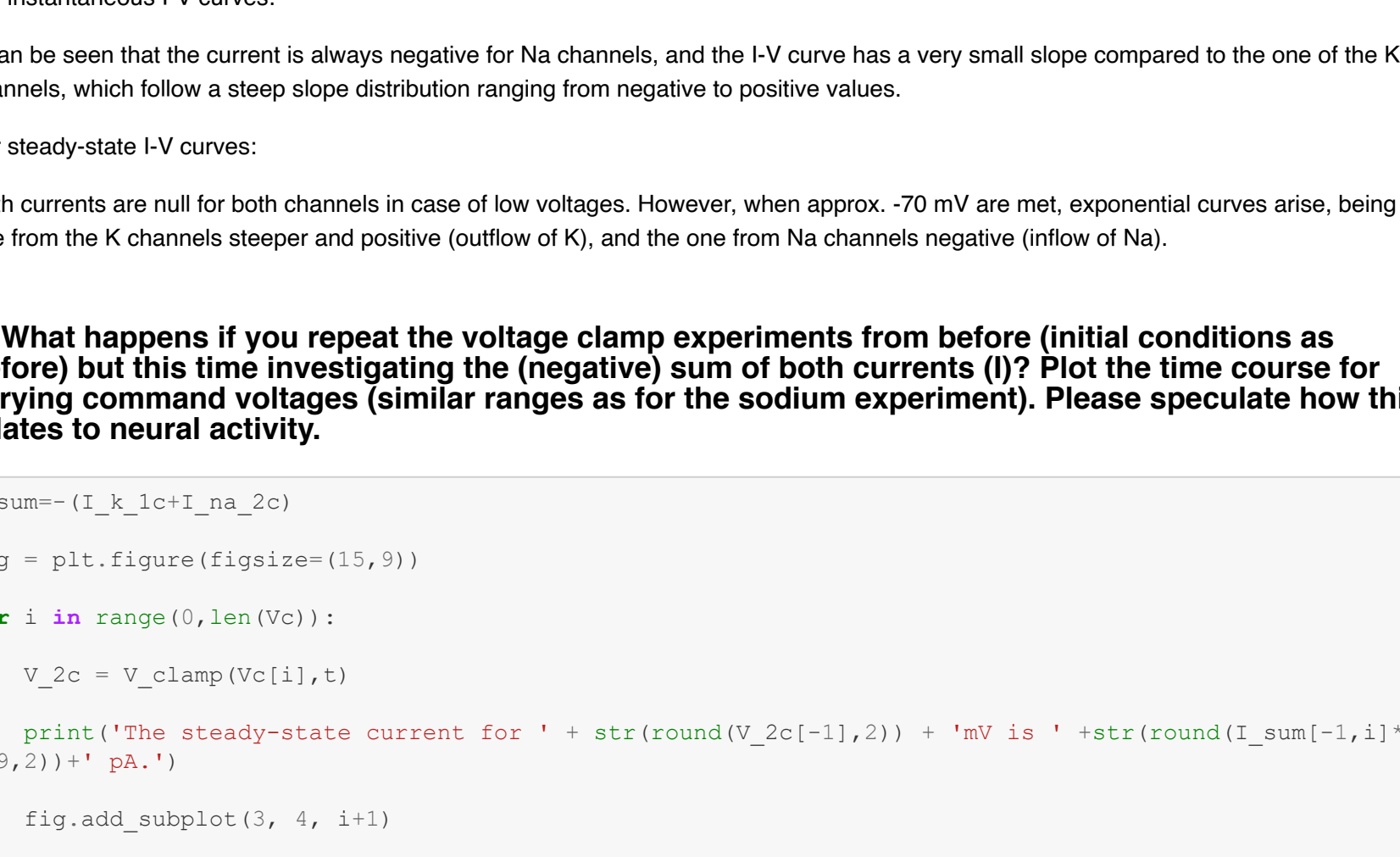
I_na_2d = np.zeros((length_d,m.shape[1]))

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(15, 5),ncows=1,ncols=2, constrained_layout=True)
titles=['Instantaneous I-V curves','Steady-state I-V curves']

for i in range(0,m.shape[1]):
    I_na_2d[:,i] = I_na(V_2d,Ena,m[:,i],h[:,i],gna)

    ax[i].plot(V_d,I_na_2d[:,i]*10**9,label='Sodium') # The current units before were mA, and now we set it to pA
    ax[i].plot(V_d,I_k_ld[:,i]*10**9,label='Potassium') # The current units before were mA, and now we set it to pA

    ax[i].legend()
    ax[i].set_xlabel('Voltage (mV)',fontsize=12);
    ax[i].set_ylabel('I(K) (pA)',fontsize=12);
    ax[i].set_title(titles[i],fontsize=14);
```



Compare with 1d) and discuss the results.

For instantaneous I-V curves:

It can be seen that the current is always negative for Na channels, and the I-V curve has a very small slope compared to the one of the K channels, which follow a steep slope distribution ranging from negative to positive values.

For steady-state I-V curves:

Both currents are null for both channels in case of low voltages. However, when approx. -70 mV are met, exponential curves arise, being the one from the K channels steeper and positive (outflow of K), and the one from Na channels negative (inflow of Na).

e) What happens if you repeat the voltage clamp experiments from before (initial conditions as before) but this time investigating the (negative) sum of both currents (I)? Plot the time course for varying command voltages (similar ranges as for the sodium experiment). Please speculate how this relates to neural activity.

```
In [19]: I_sum=-(I_k_lc+I_na_2c)

fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15,9))

for i in range(0,len(Vc1)):
    V_2c = V_clamp(Vc1[i],t)

    print('The steady-state current for ' + str(round(V_2c[-1],2)) + 'mV is ' + str(round(I_sum[-1,i]*10**9,2)) + ' pA.')

    fig.add_subplot(3, 4, i+1)

    plt.plot(t,I_sum[:,i]*10**9)# The current units before were mA, and now we set it to pA
    plt.xlabel('t (ms)',fontsize=10);
    plt.ylabel('I (total) (pA)',fontsize=10);
    plt.title('V clamp = ' + str(round(Vc1[i],2)) + ' mV',fontsize=10);

fig.tight_layout()
```

The steady-state current for -90.0mV is 0.01 pA.
The steady-state current for -85.64mV is 0.02 pA.
The steady-state current for -81.27mV is 0.03 pA.
The steady-state current for -76.91mV is 0.02 pA.
The steady-state current for -72.55mV is -0.21 pA.
The steady-state current for -68.18mV is -1.23 pA.
The steady-state current for -63.82mV is -4.34 pA.
The steady-state current for -59.45mV is -11.81 pA.
The steady-state current for -55.09mV is -26.92 pA.
The steady-state current for -50.73mV is -54.2 pA.
The steady-state current for -46.36mV is -99.77 pA.
The steady-state current for -42.0mV is -171.01 pA.



Please speculate how this relates to neural activity.

It can be seen that for low clamping voltages (below -65 mV), the current after the first positive, instantaneous spike, goes to zero.

However, that changes from -65 mV on (as seen in the steady-state IV curves), in which we can see a positive spike (due to the m gates) followed by the exponential decay due to the potassium and h gates, which repolarize the membrane.