

# Spike-field coherence (and cross-covariance)

**Computing the coherence (Part 2)**

Instructor: Mark Kramer

# Coherence: words

*A constant phase relationship between two signals, at the same frequency, across trials.*

## Note

- *“same frequency”*

- *“across trials”*

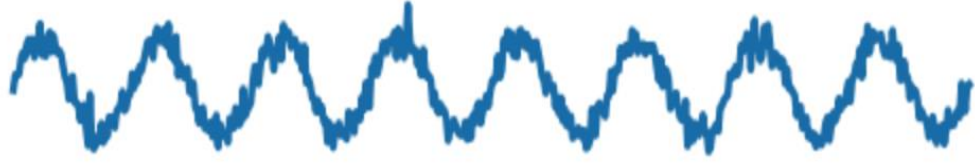
# Coherence: idea

Ex: Record data simultaneously from two sensors, across multiple trials

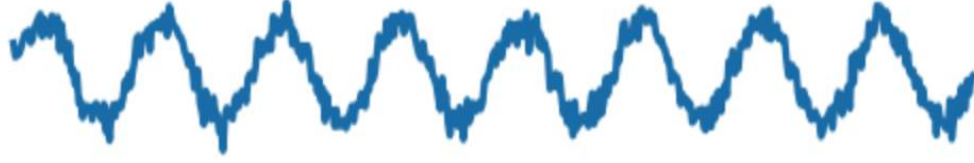
x (field: EEG, LFP, ...)

y (field: EEG, LFP, ...)

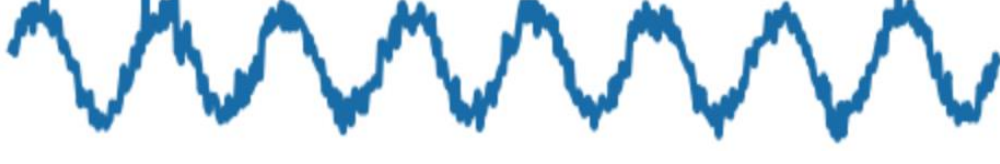
Trial 1



Trial 2



Trial 3



Is there a *constant phase relationship* between  $x$  &  $y$ , at the same  $f$ , across trials?

# Coherence: equations

Remember:

$$K_{xy, j} = \frac{|\langle S_{xy, j} \rangle|}{\sqrt{\langle S_{xx, j} \rangle} \sqrt{\langle S_{yy, j} \rangle}}$$

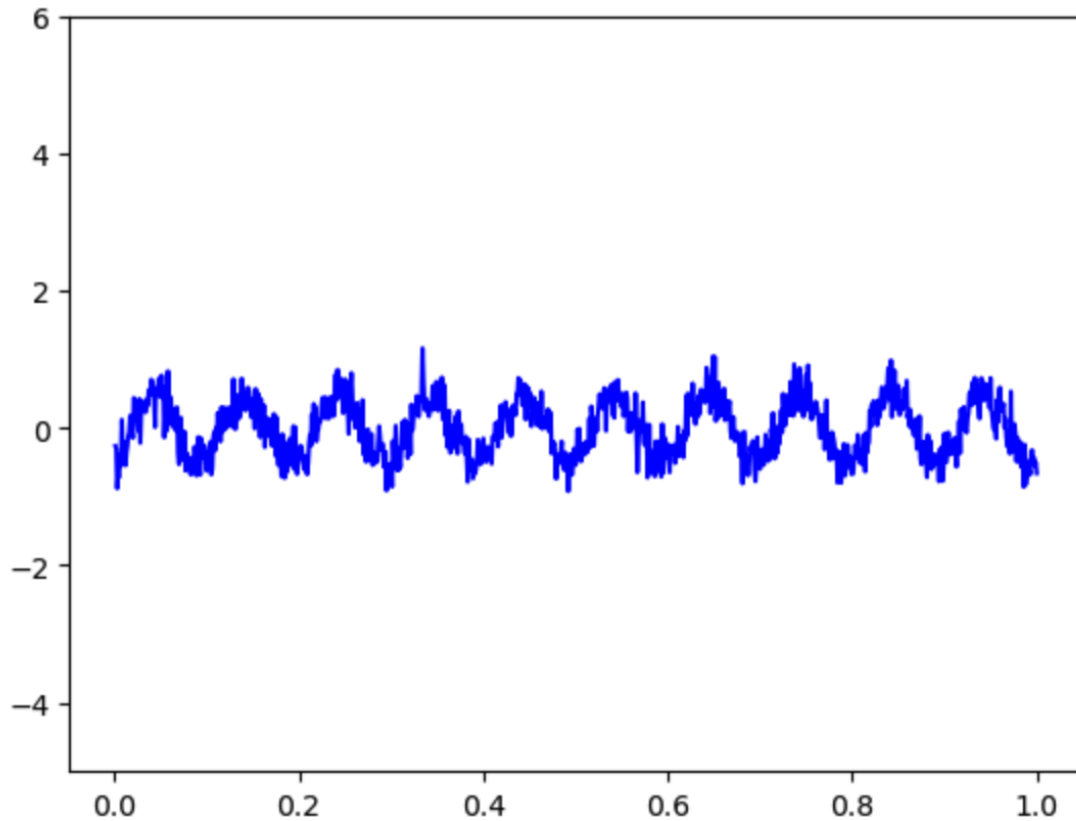
$S_{xy, j}$  = Cross-spectrum at frequency index j

$S_{xx, j}, S_{yy, j}$  = Auto-spectra at frequency index j

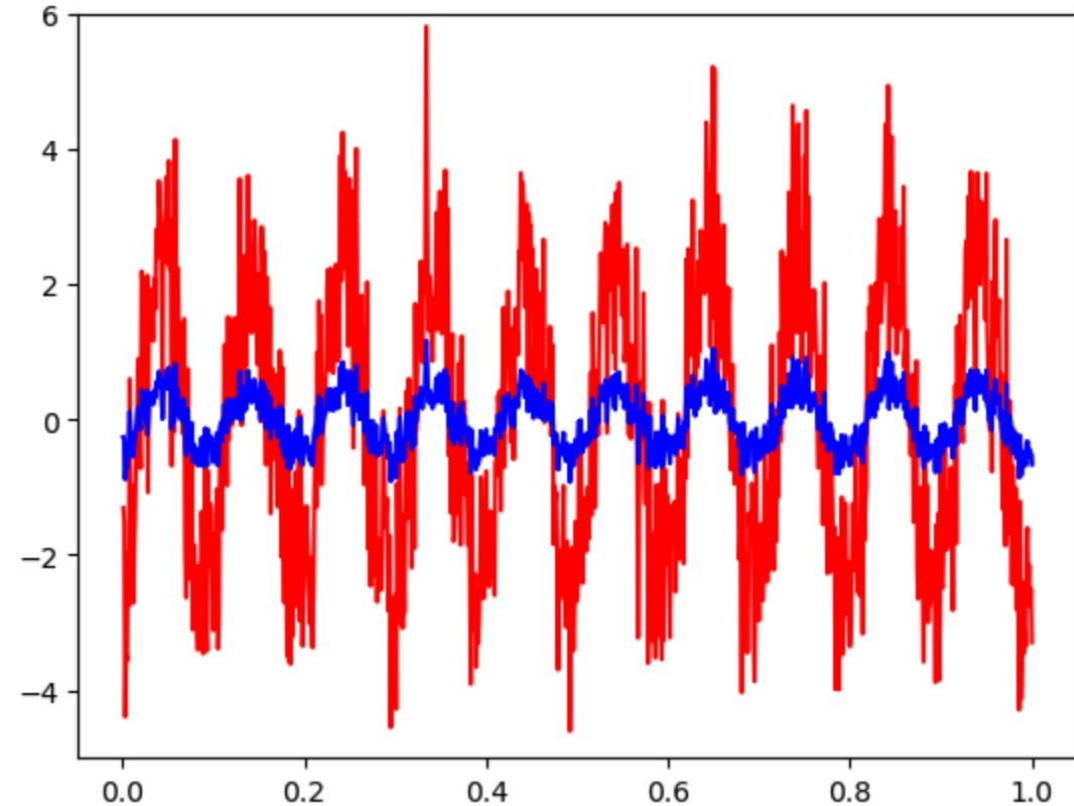
$\langle S \rangle$  = Average of S over trials

# Coherence: impact of scaling

**Q.** How does scaling x or y impact the coherence?



multiply  
by  
5



**Q.** Impact on coherence between x and y?

# Coherence: impact of scaling

Scale:  $A_{j,k} \rightarrow 5A_{j,k}$

$$\kappa_{xy, j} = \frac{\left| \sum_{k=1}^K 5A_{j,k} B_{j,k} \exp(i\Phi_{j,k}) \right|}{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^K (5A_{j,k})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{m=1}^K B_{j,m}^2}}$$

The 5's cancel  $\rightarrow$  no impact on coherence

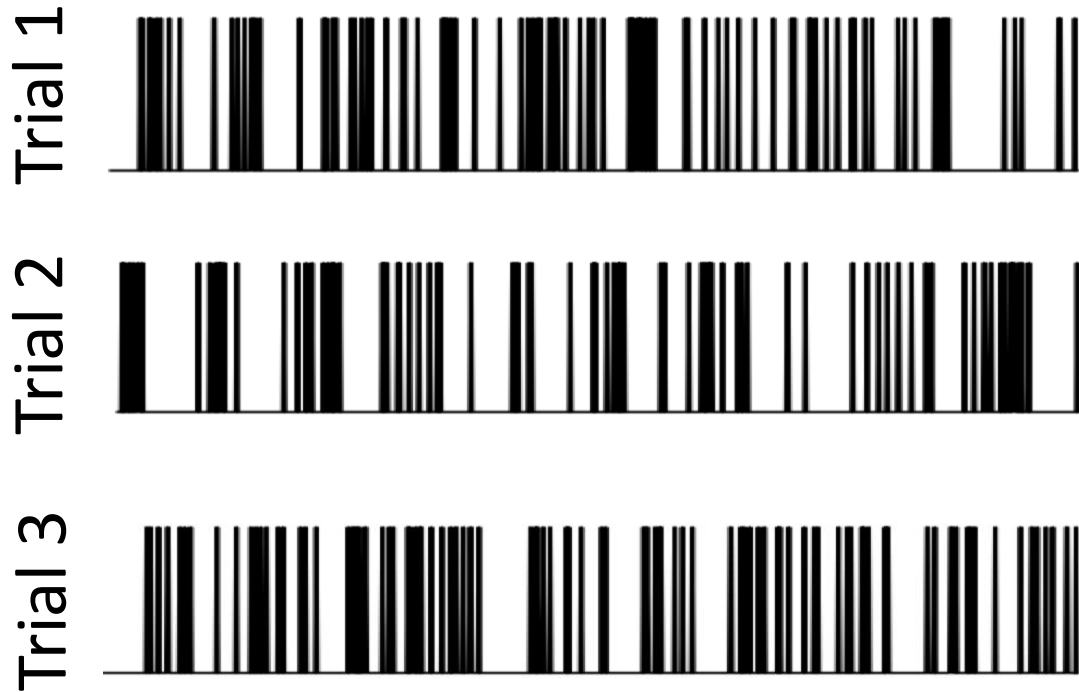
Q. How does scaling x or y impact the coherence?

A. It doesn't.

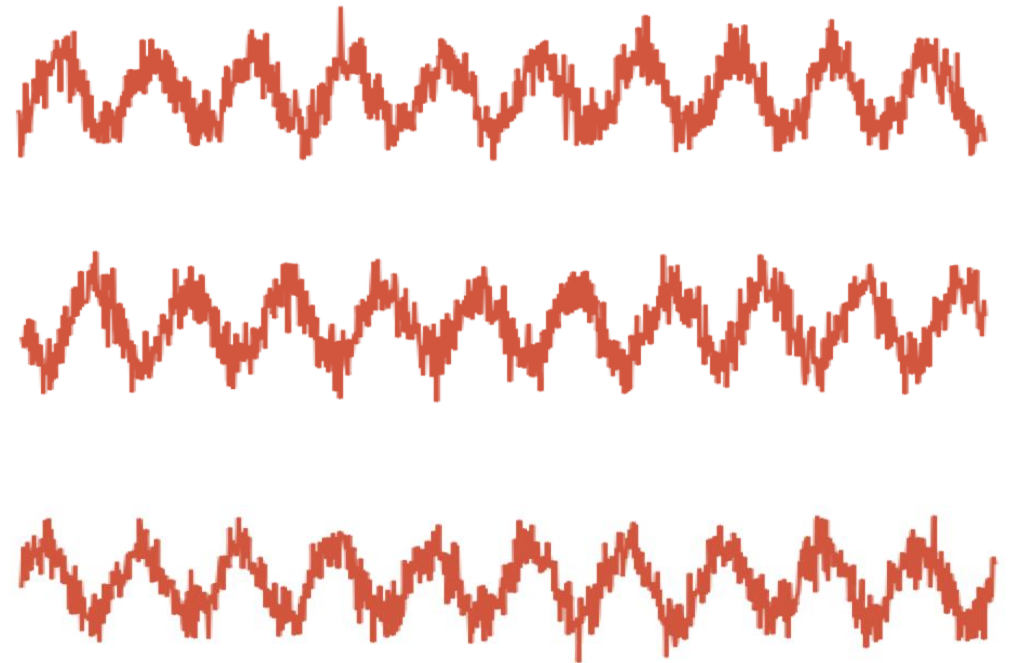
# Coherence: idea

Example: Record data simultaneously from two sensors, across multiple trials

x (spikes)



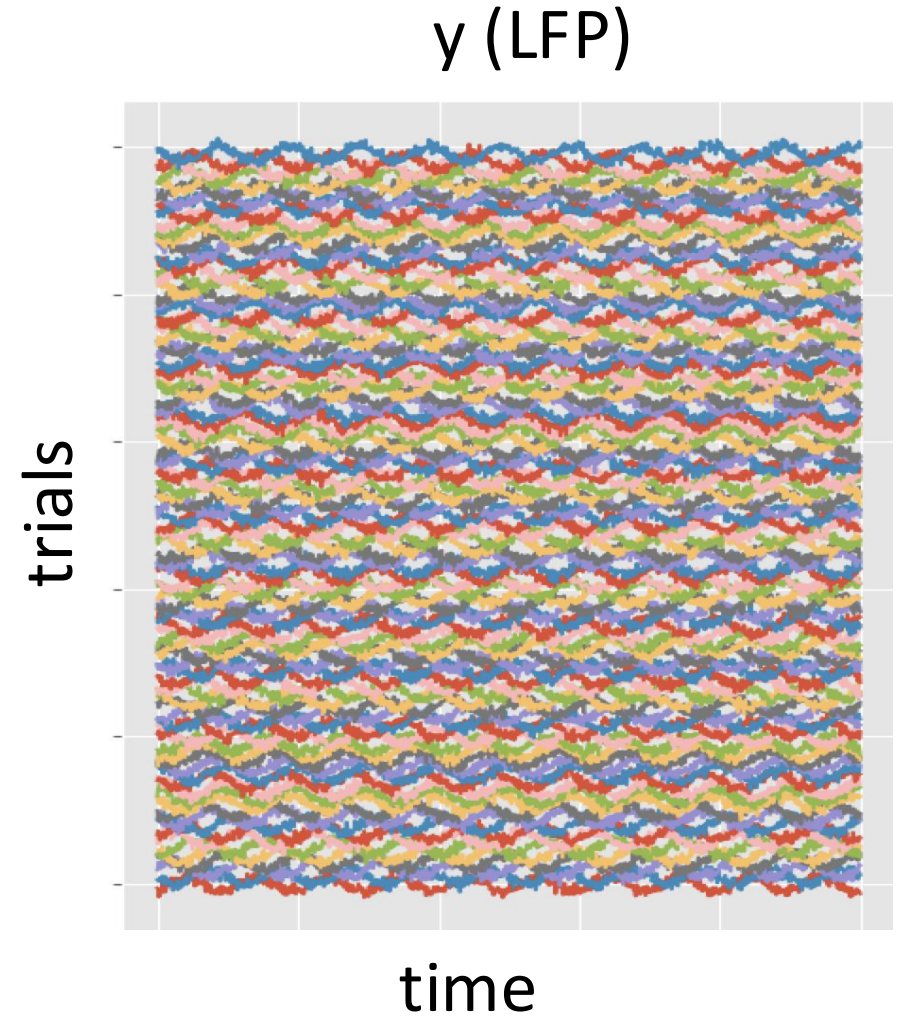
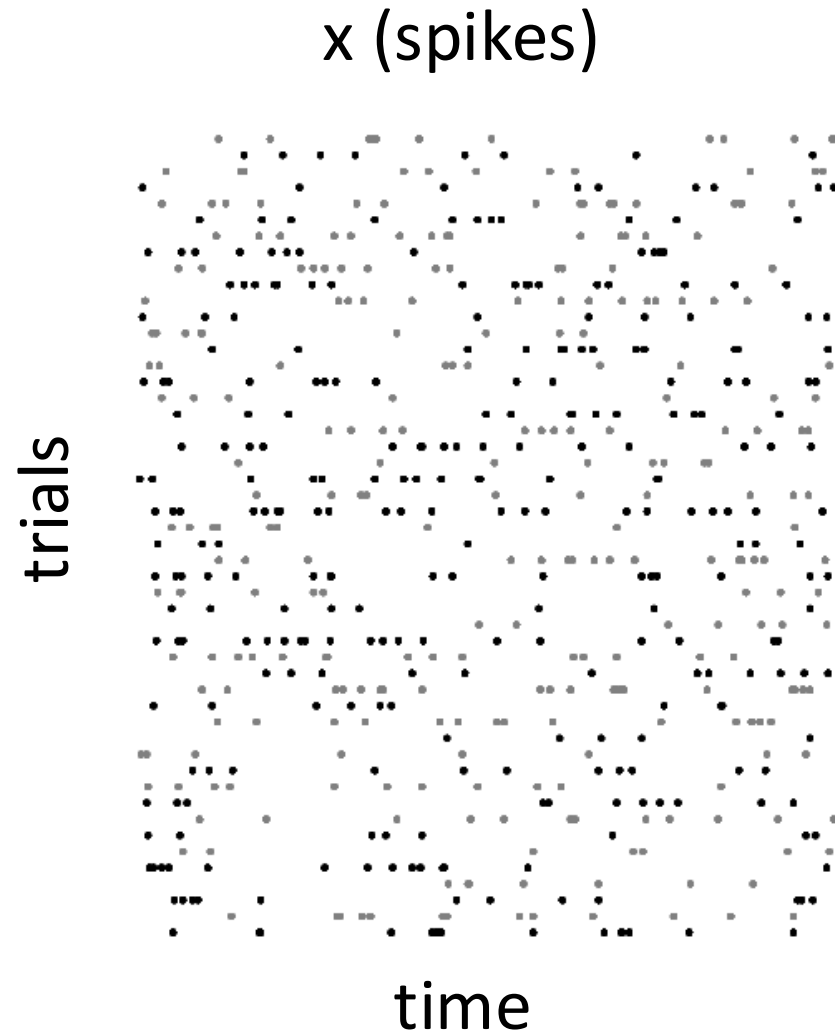
y (LFP)



Is there a *constant phase relationship* between  $x$  &  $y$ , at the same freq, across trials?

# Spike-field coherence

Consider the data:



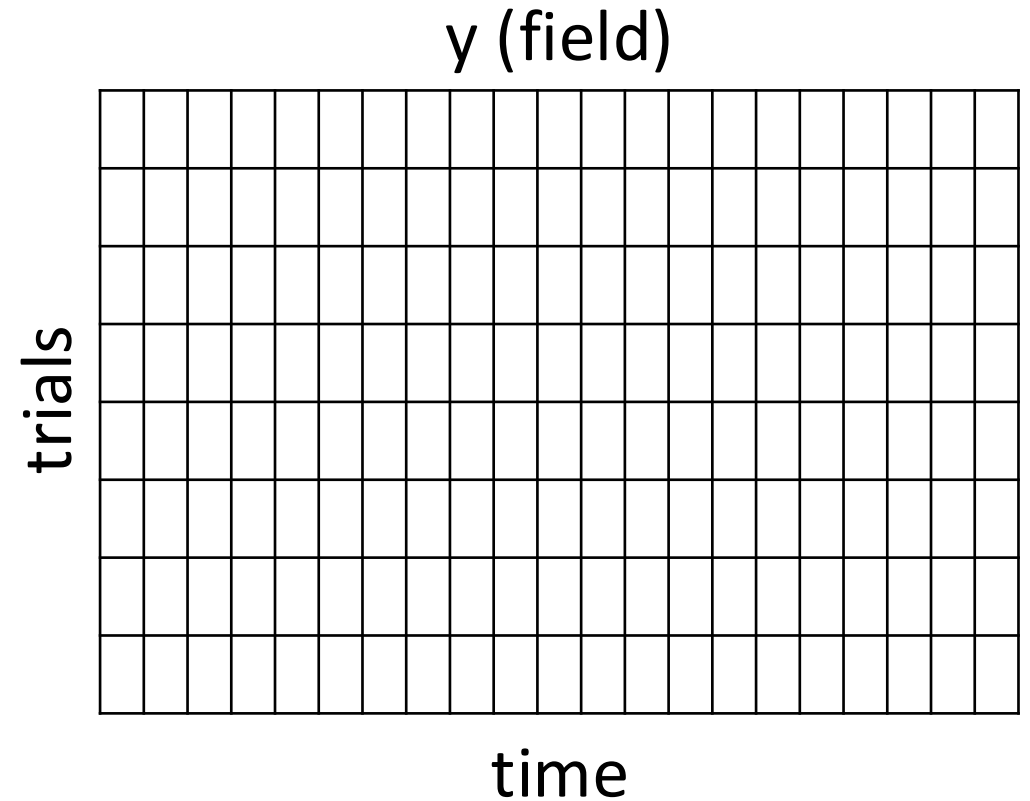
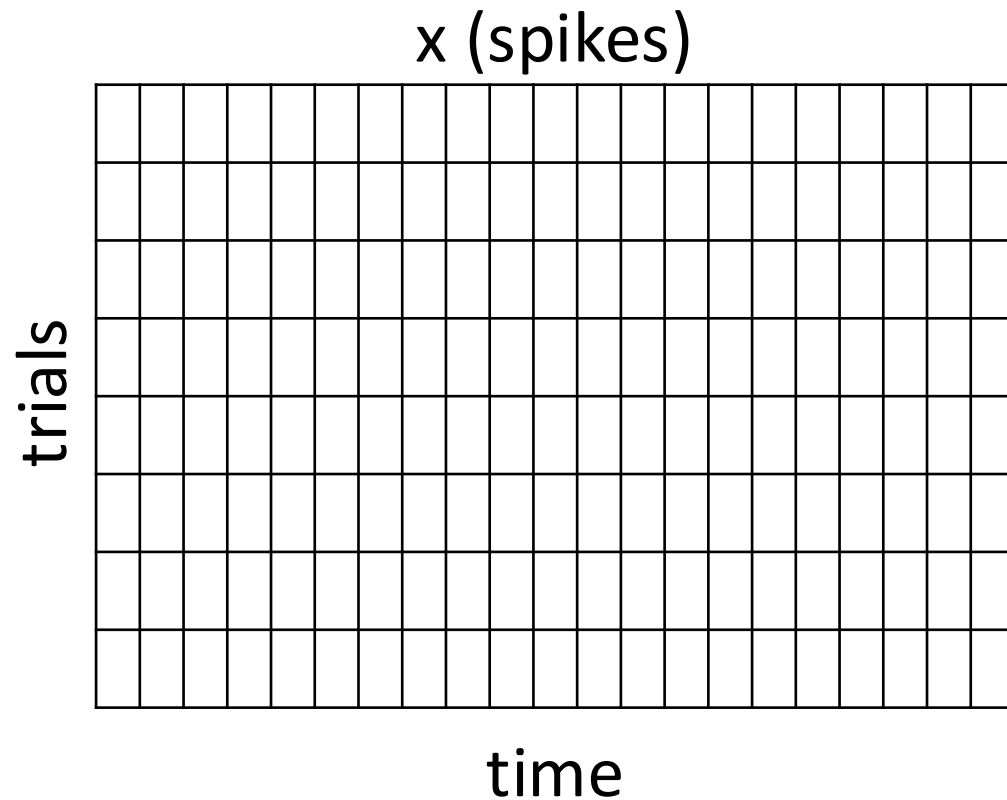
We want a measure of consistent neural spiking at a specific phase of the field ...



# Coherence: idea

Example: Record data simultaneously from two sensors, across multiple trials

Organize the data ...



Each row is a trial, each column is a time point, organize data in matrices.

# Spike-field coherence

$$\kappa_{ny, j} = \frac{\text{trial averaged } \underline{\text{cross}} \text{ spectrum}}{\sqrt{\text{trial averaged } \underline{\text{spike}} \text{ spectrum}} \sqrt{\text{trial averaged } \underline{\text{field}} \text{ spectrum}}}$$
$$\kappa_{ny, j} = \frac{|\langle S_{ny, j} \rangle|}{\sqrt{\langle S_{nn, j} \rangle} \sqrt{\langle S_{yy, j} \rangle}}$$

trial averaged spike spectrum

trial averaged field spectrum

y = field signal (e.g., EEG, MEG, LFP, ...)

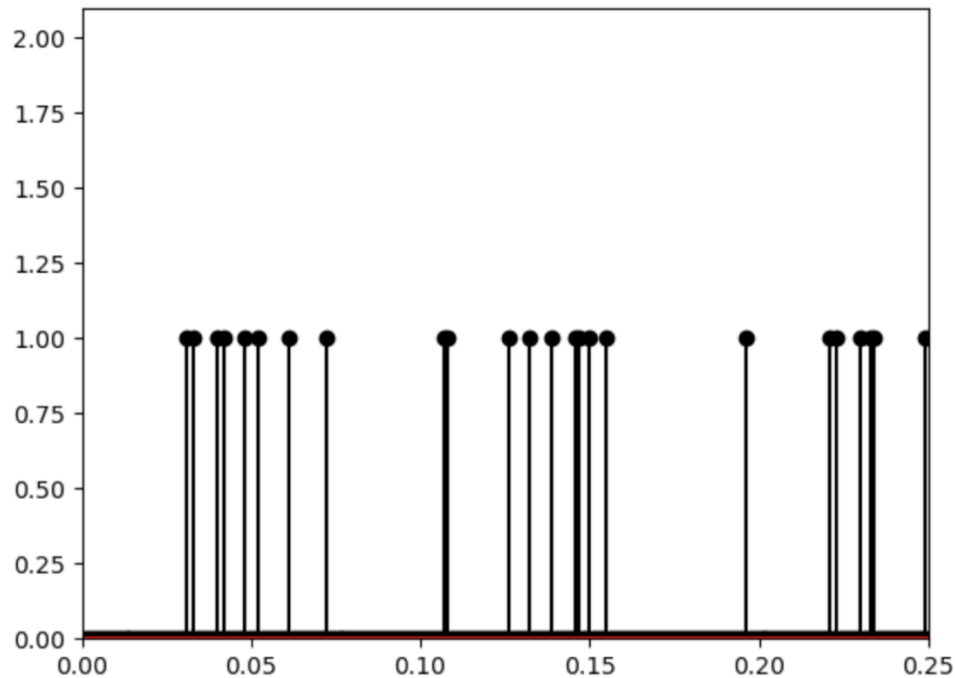
n = spike train (e.g., [0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ... ])

Same equations ... but new problems ...

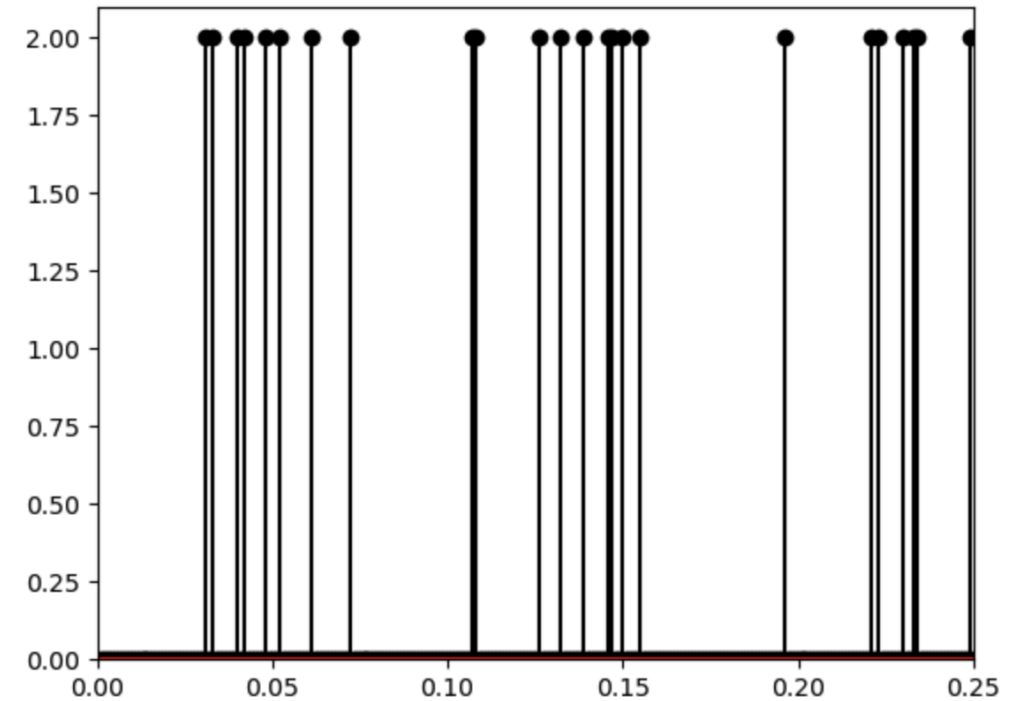
# Spike-field coherence: dependence on rate

**Q.** How does scaling x or y impact the coherence?

**Q:** How do you scale a spike train?



multiply  
by  
2

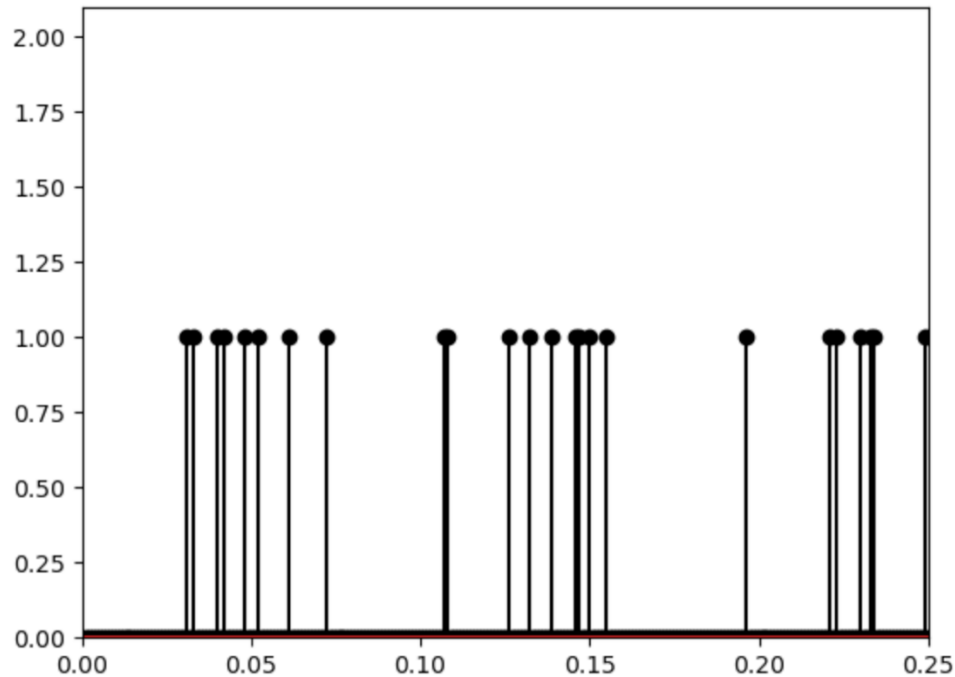


No!

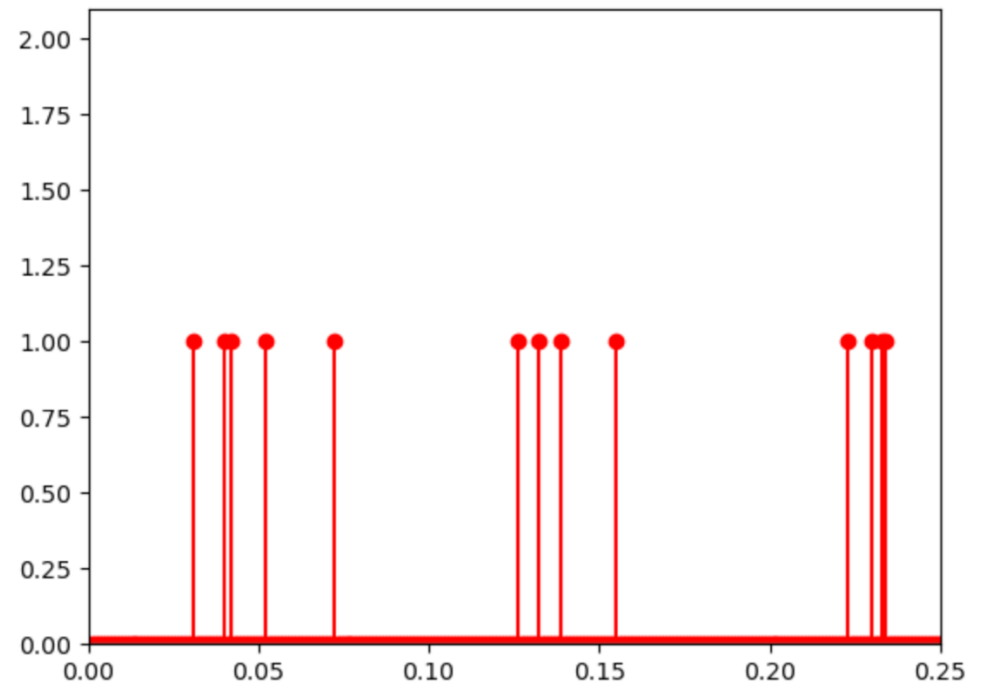
# Spike-field coherence: dependence on rate

**Q.** How does scaling x or y impact the coherence?

**Q:** How do you scale a spike train?



thin  
by  
 $1/2$   
→

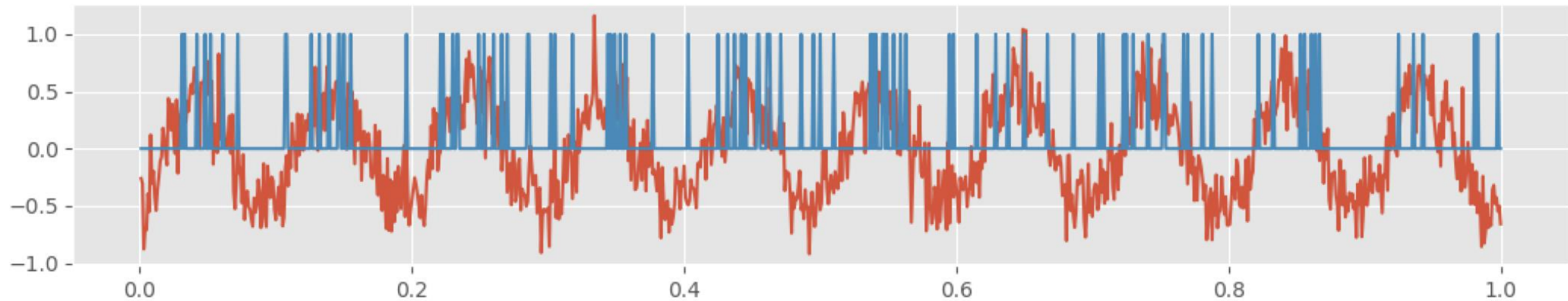


change the firing rate

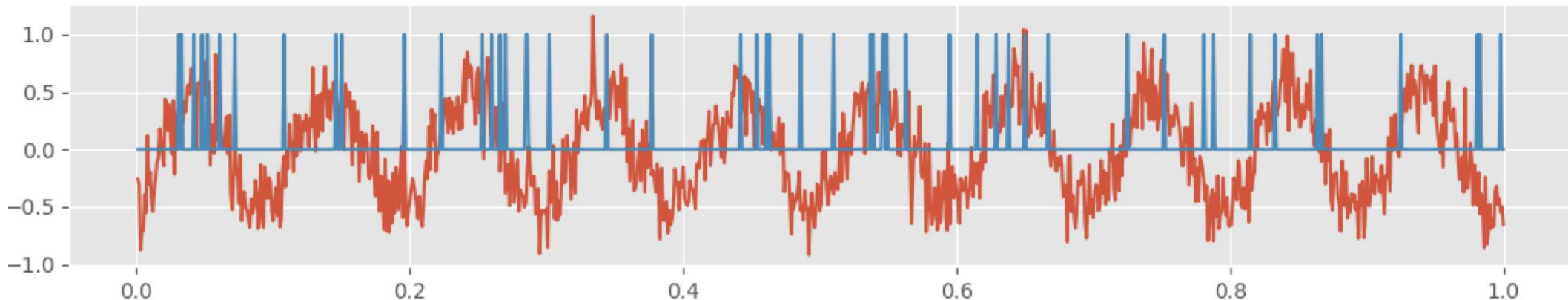
# Spike-field coherence: dependence on rate

**Q:** Does the spike-field coherence depend on the firing rate of the neuron?

Original spike & field



Scale the spiking (remove 50% of spikes, chosen at random, “thinning”)



# Spike-field coherence: dependence on rate

**Q:** Does the spike-field coherence depend on the firing rate of the neuron?

Here, rate: expected number of spikes in a given duration

Try it ...

*Python*