

Swipe Right to Spike

Analysis and modeling of spiking neurons

2019-01-08

#isiCNI2019

Slides:

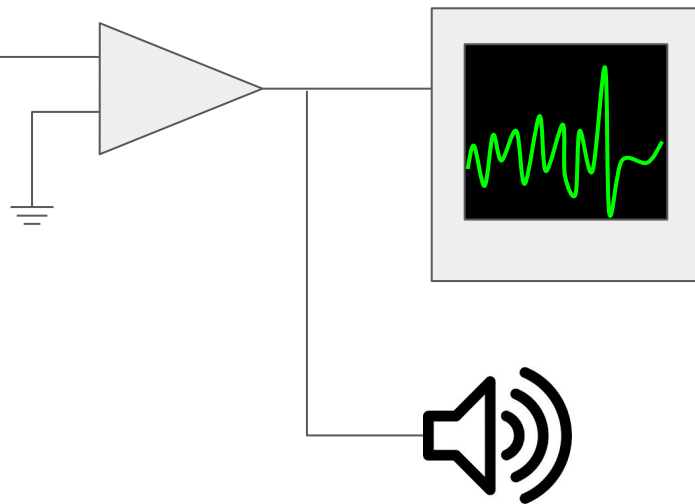
https://github.com/rkp8000/imbizo_2019_spikes_tutorial

Outline

- Crash course in action potentials.
- Basic spike train analysis.
- Spiking neuron models.
- Short problem set time.
- Advanced spike train analysis.
- Other spike-based concepts.
- Full problem set time.

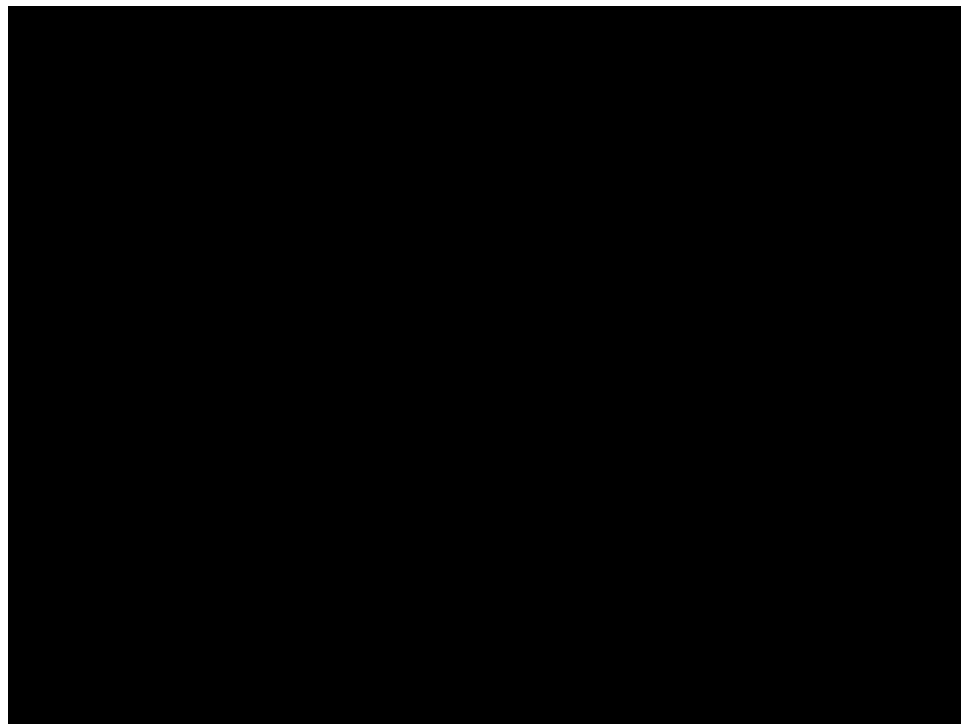
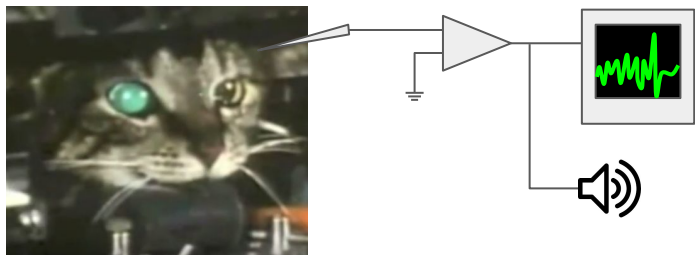
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Hubel and Wiesel 1959





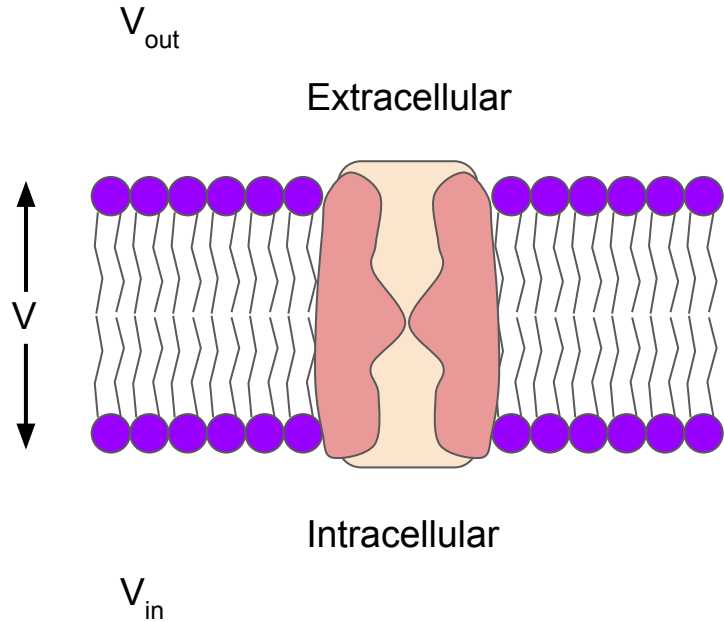
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VdFf3egwfg>

Spike generation and detection

Membrane potential = voltage diff across neuron membrane:

$$V_m = V_{in} - V_{out}$$



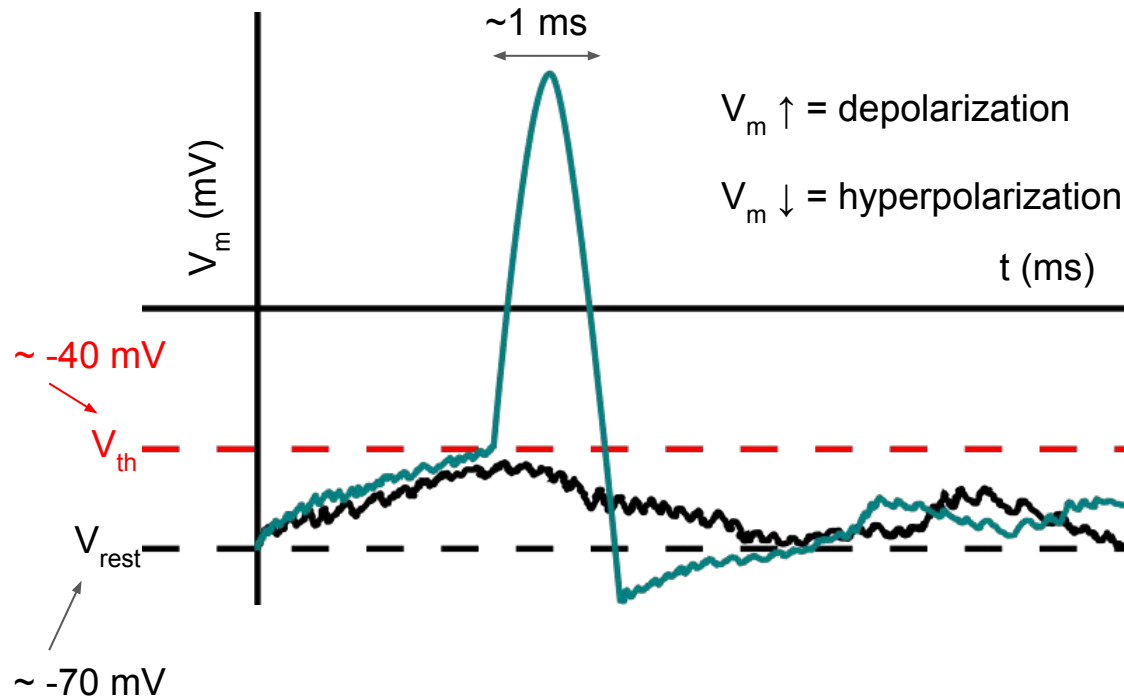
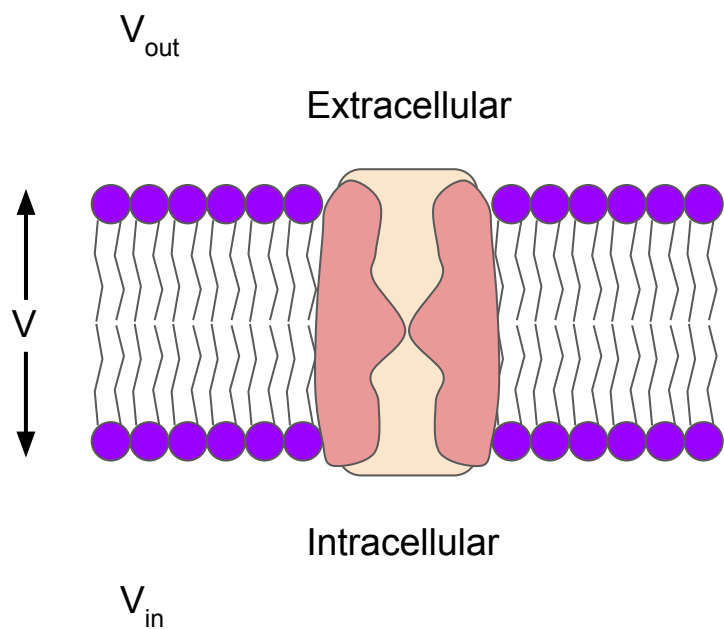
Typical resting $V_m = V_{rest} \sim -70 \text{ mV}$

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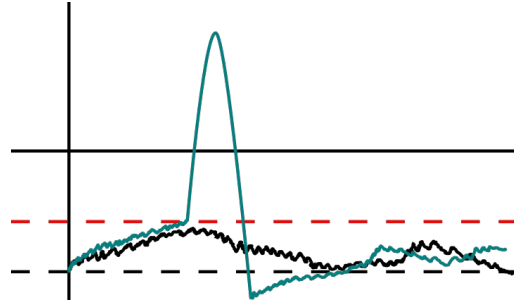
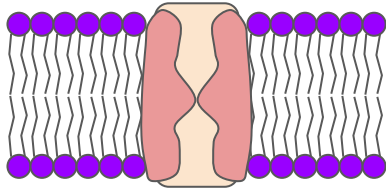
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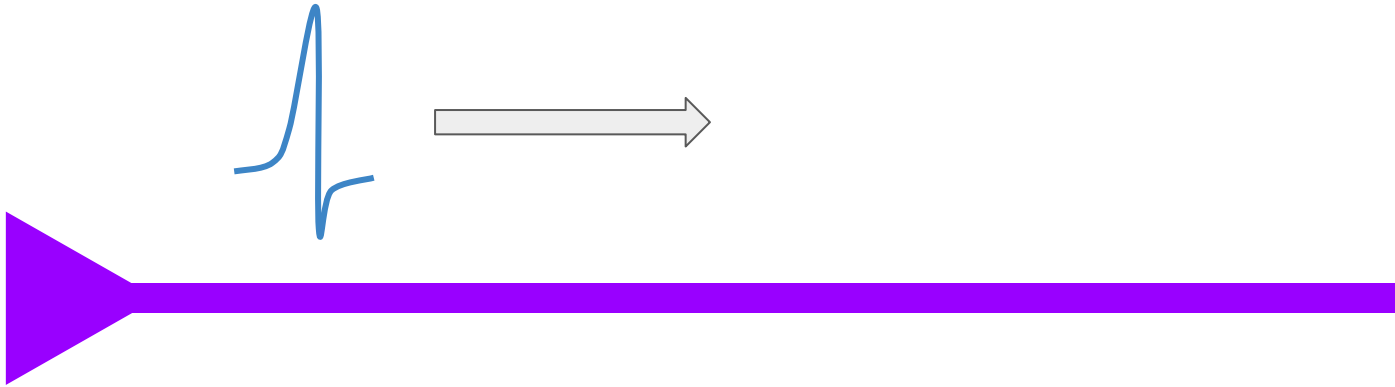
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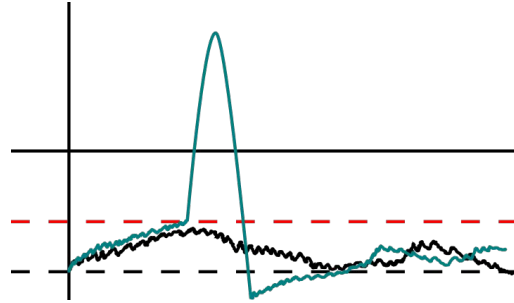
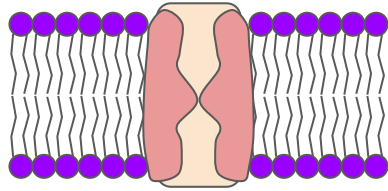
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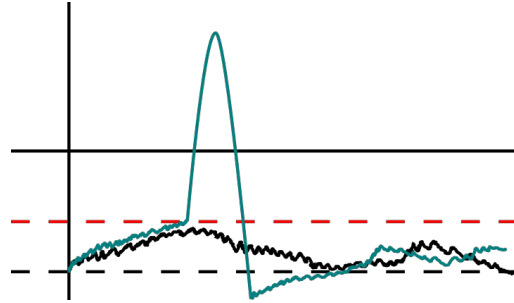
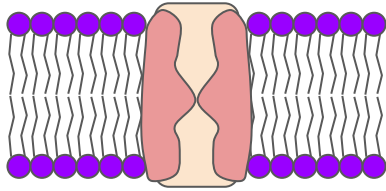
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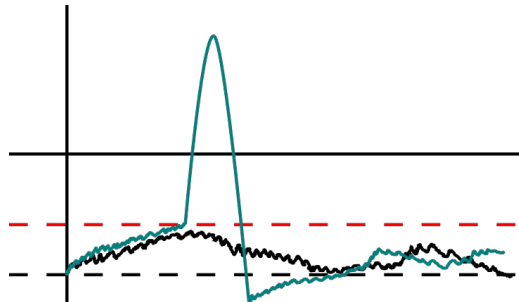
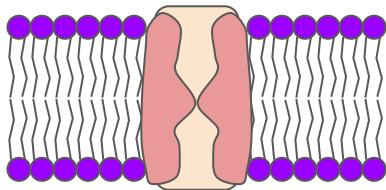
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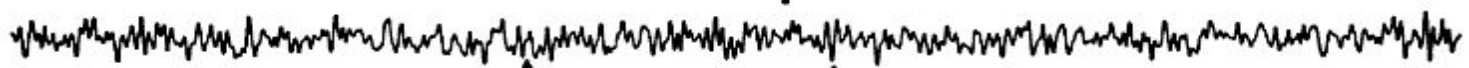


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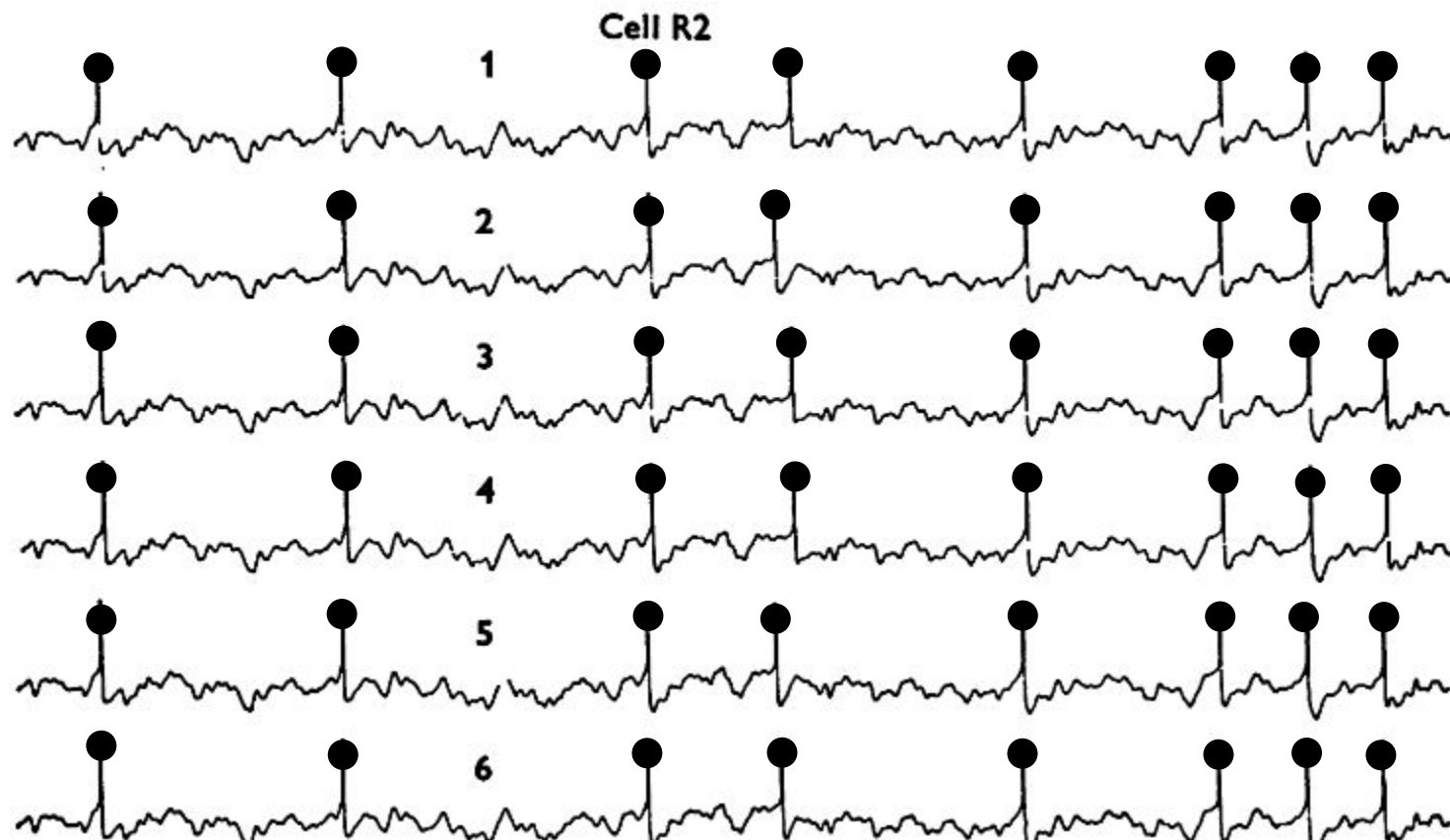
Spiking basics: raster plots and PSTHs



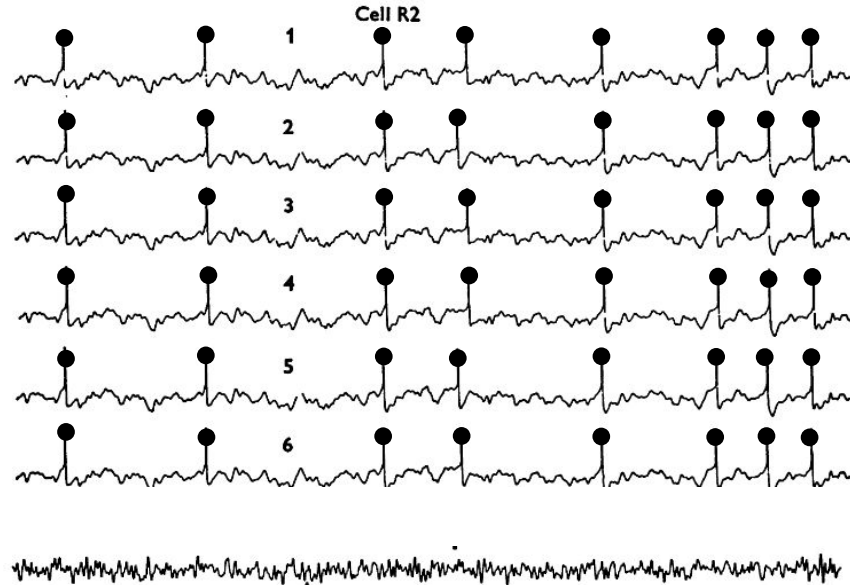
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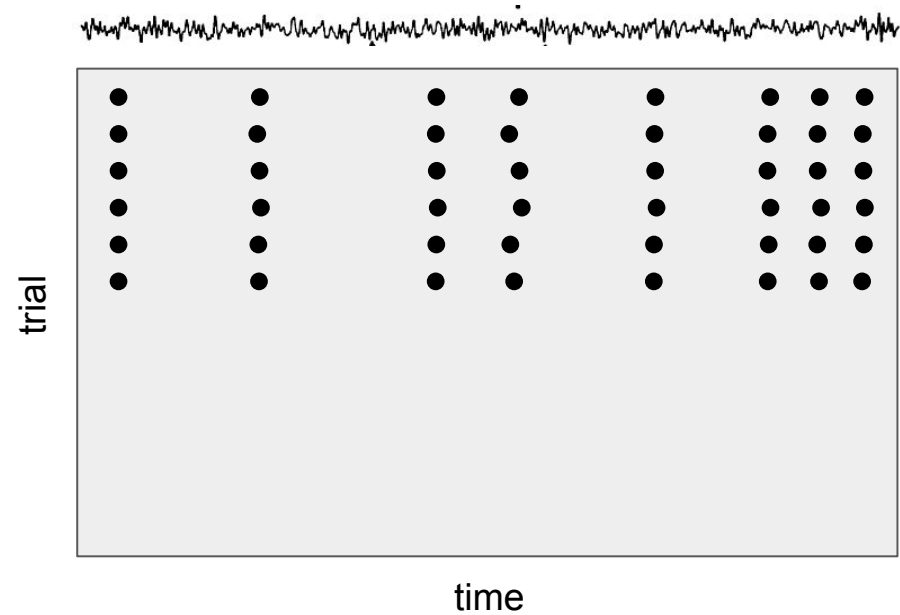
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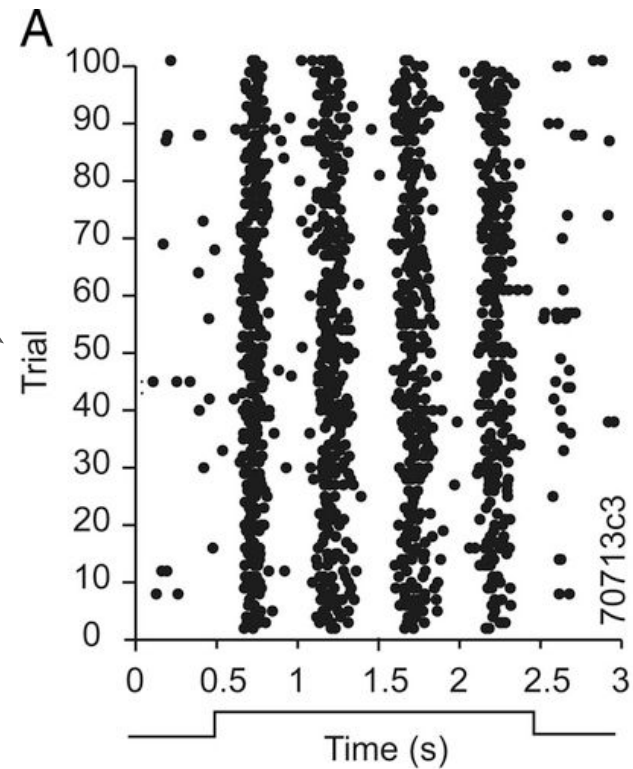
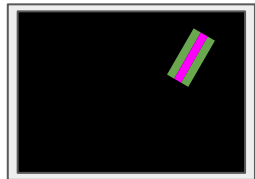
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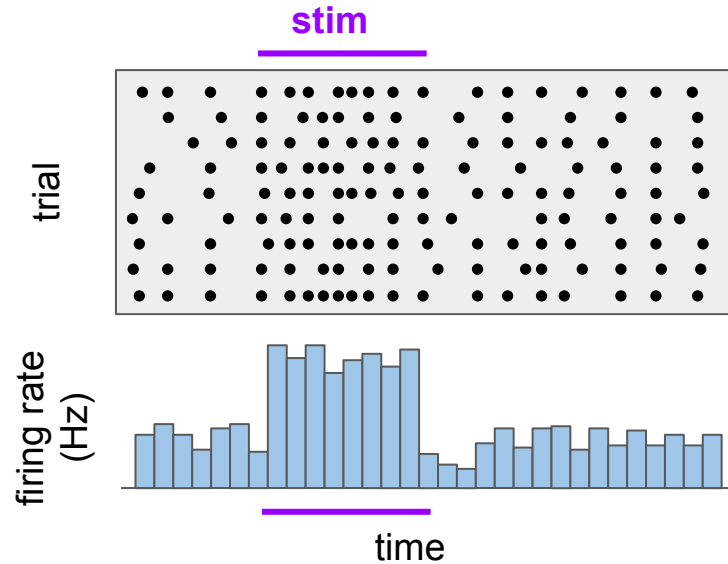
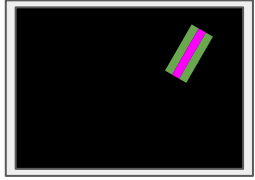
Raster plot



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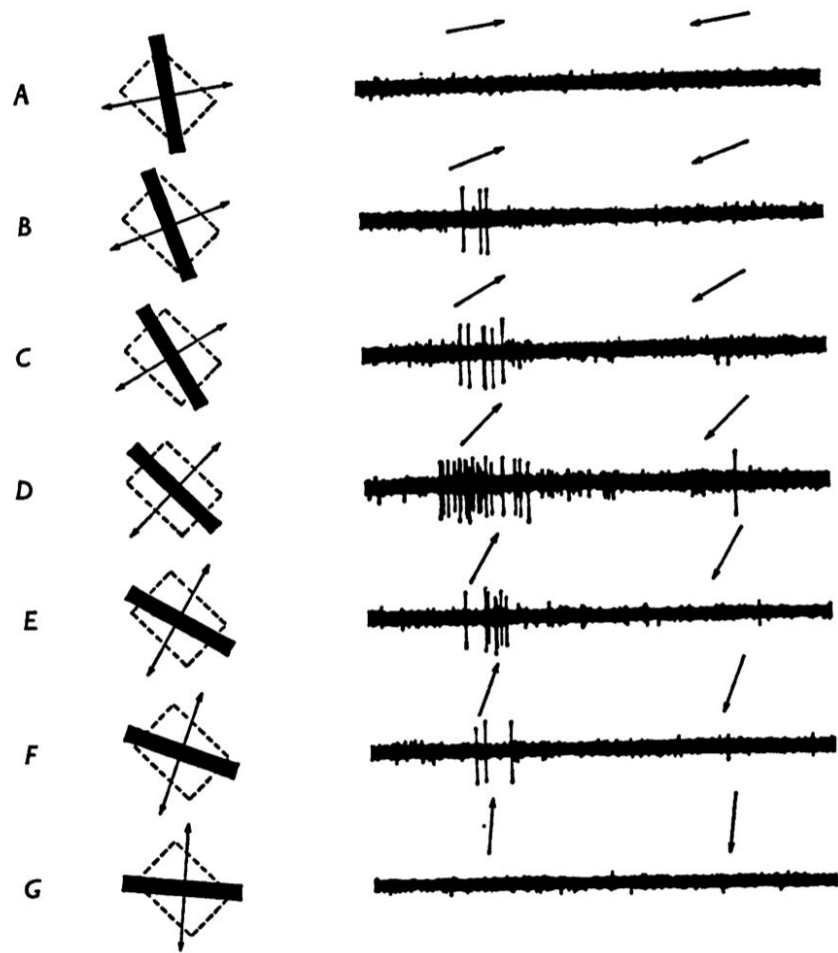


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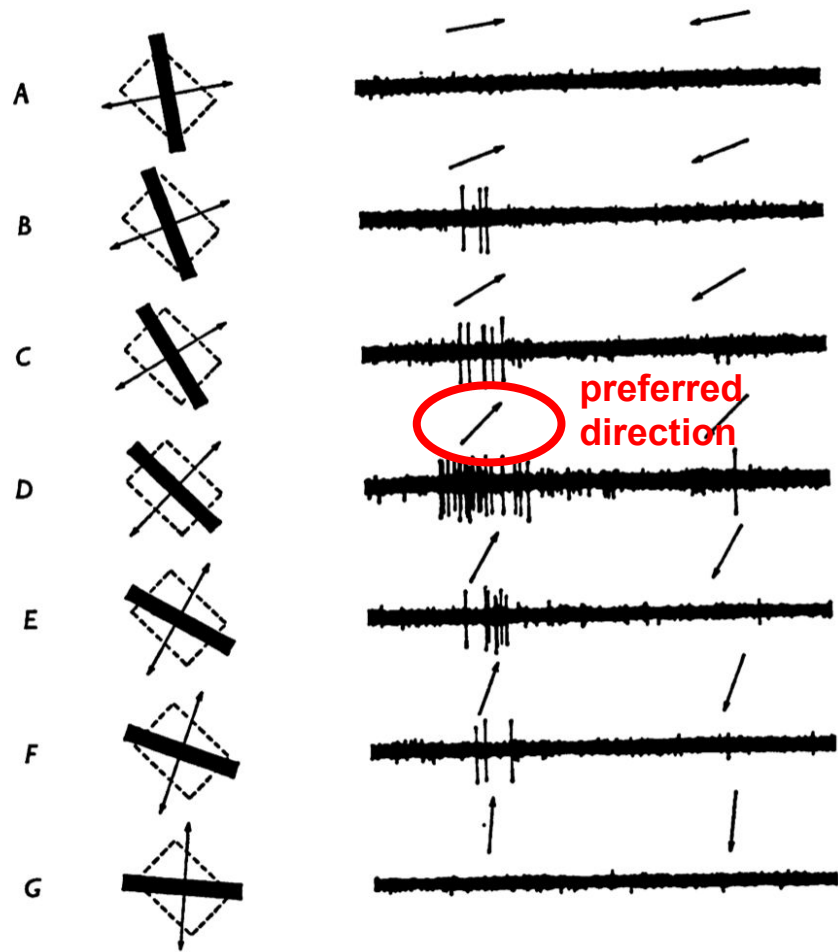


peristimulus time histogram

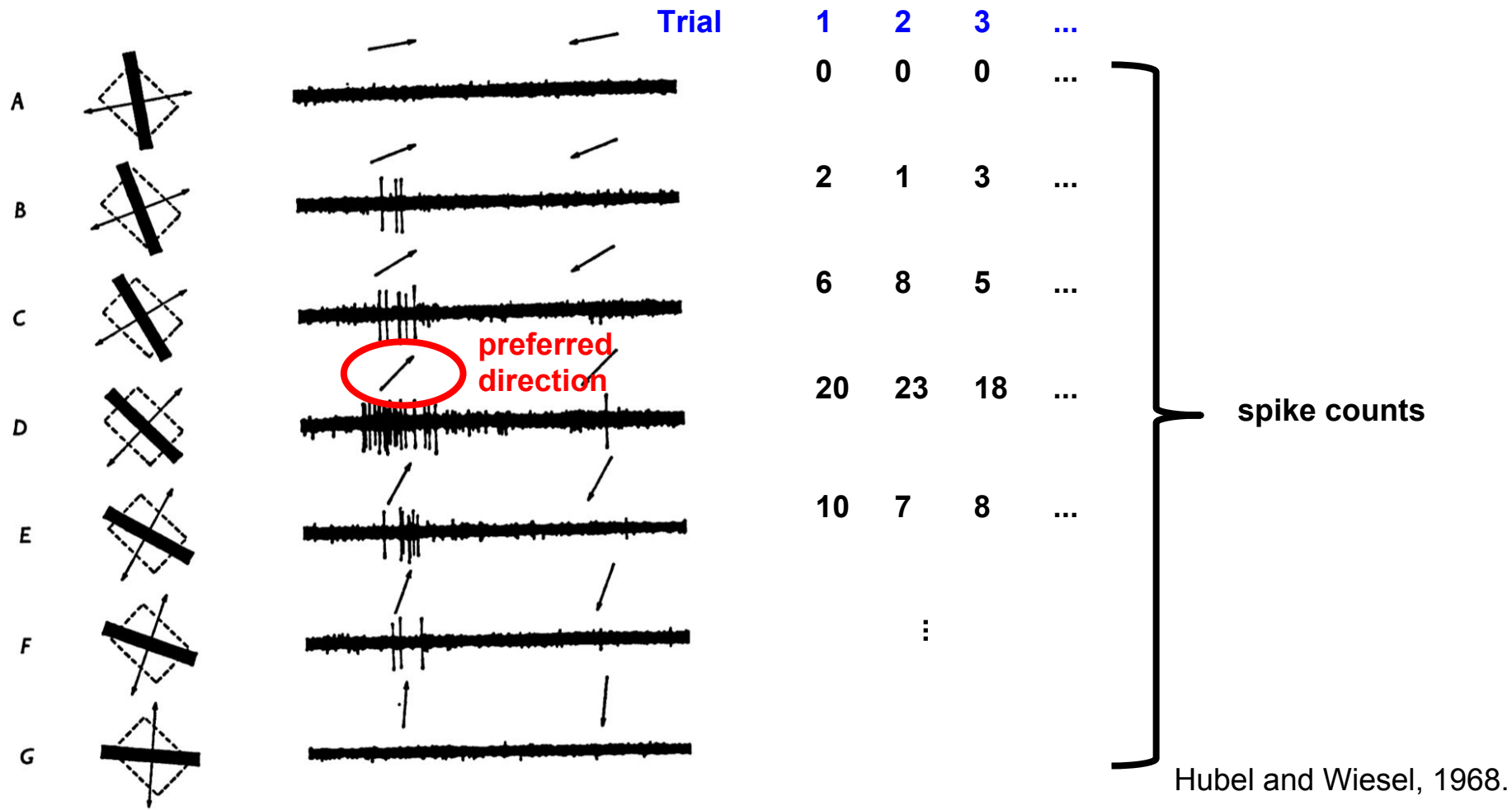
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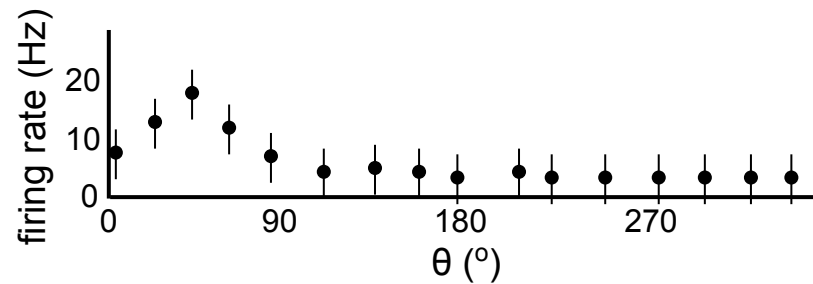
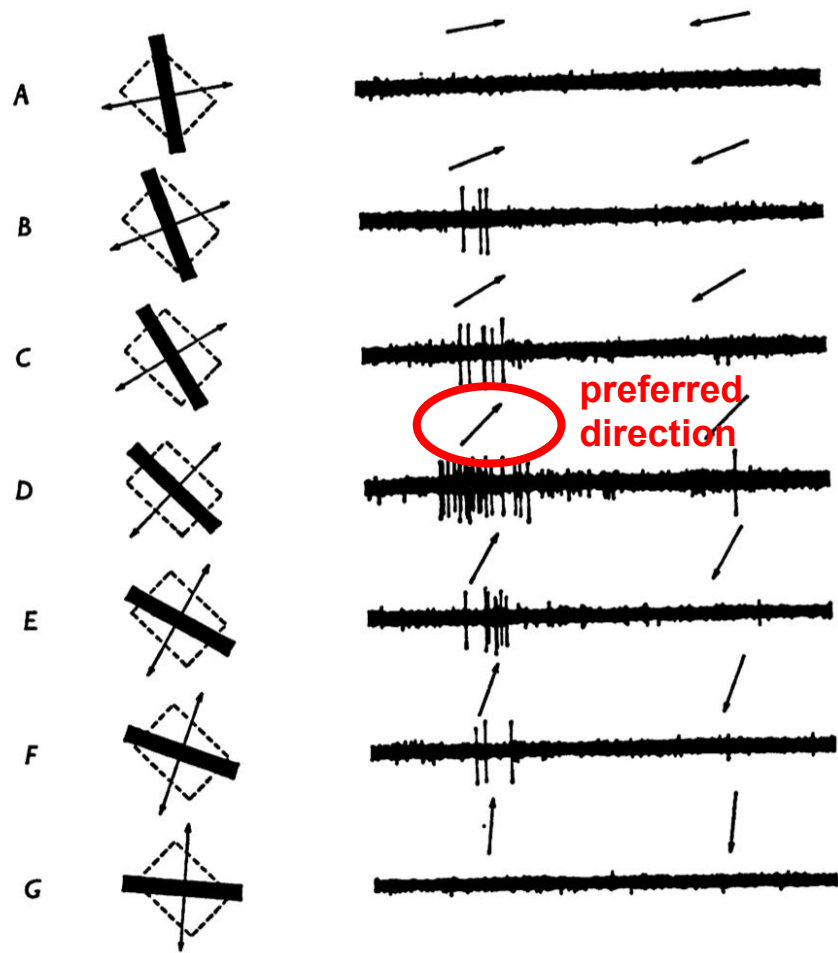
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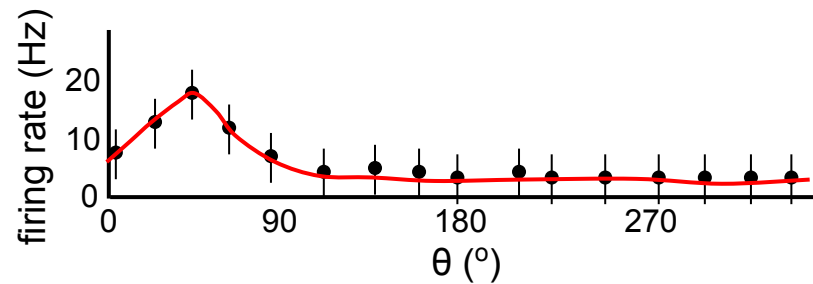
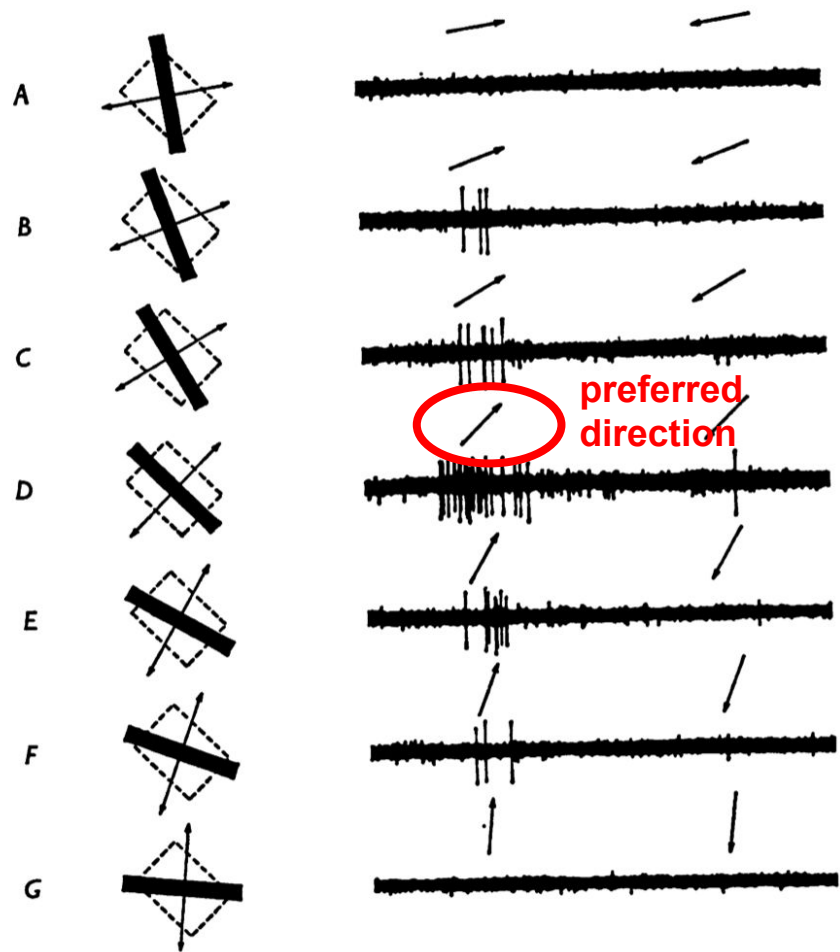


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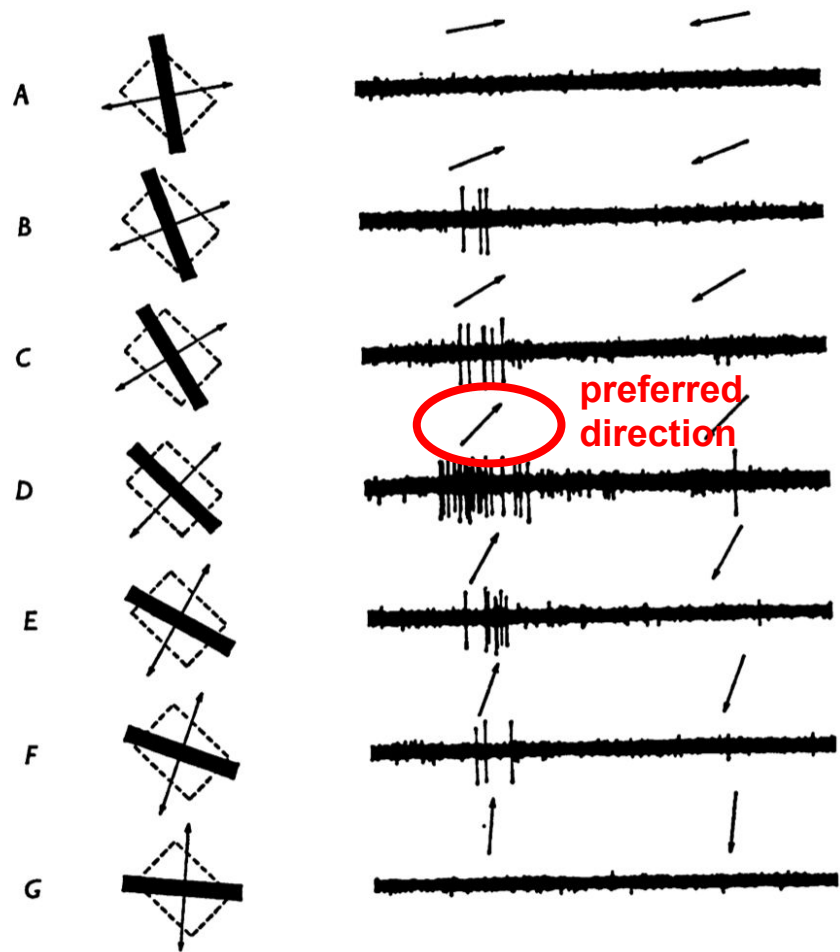
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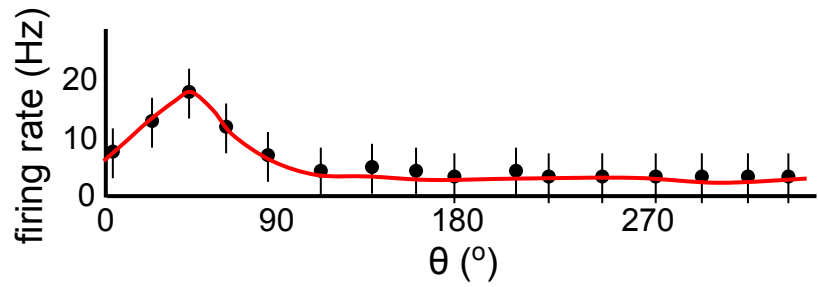


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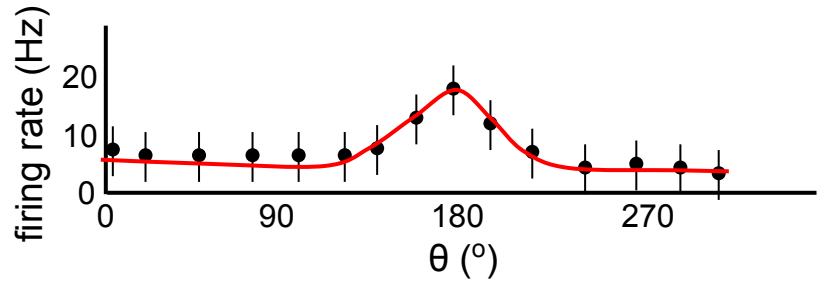
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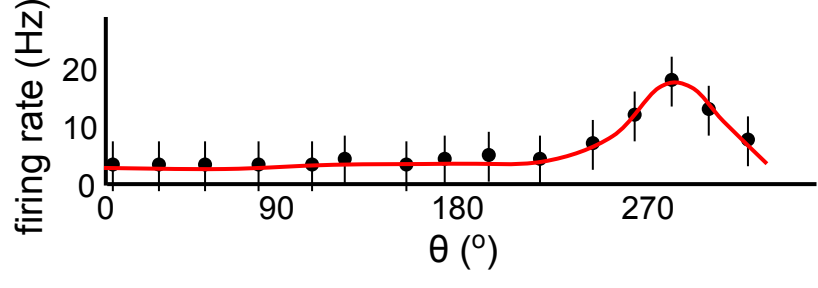
cell 1



cell 2



cell 3



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Spiking basics: the inter-spike interval distribution

Unless all inputs fixed, spike times generally quite variable: ***what distribution underlies this variability?***

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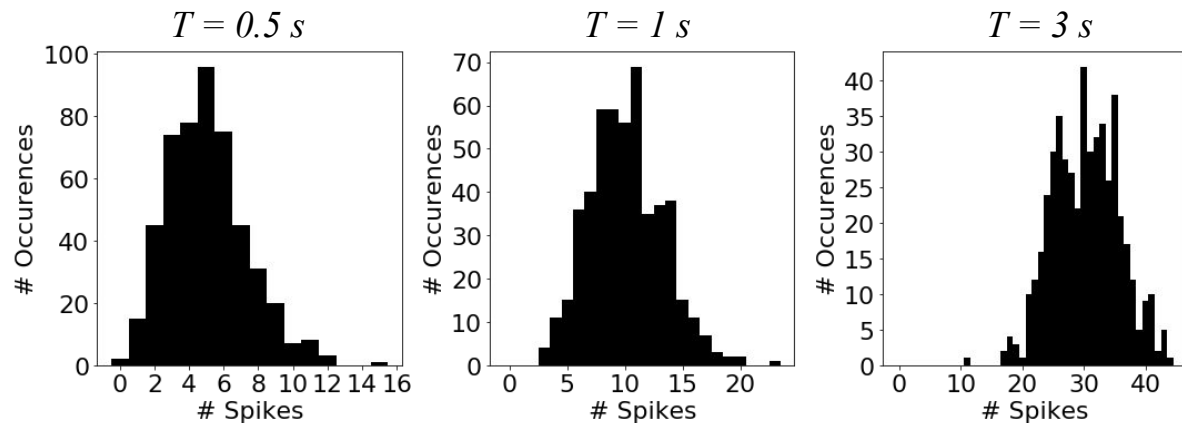
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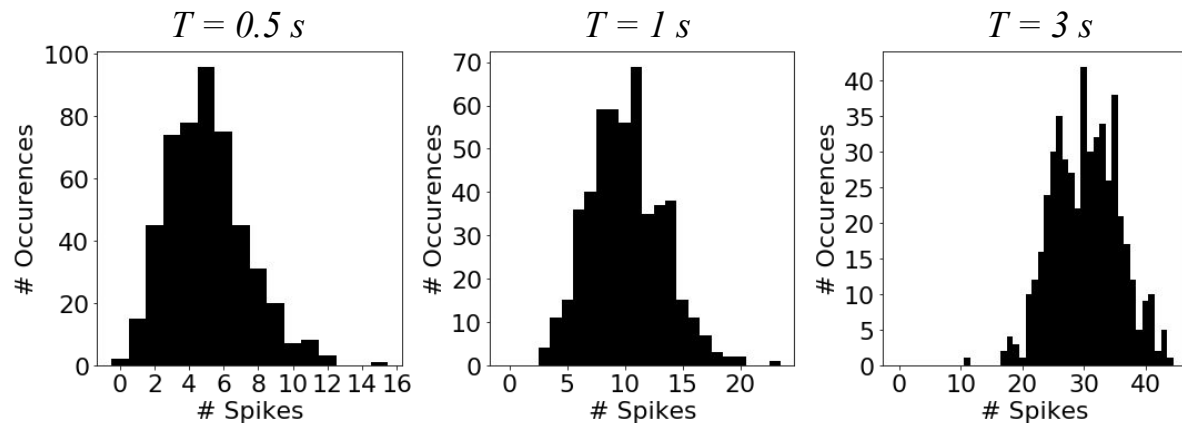
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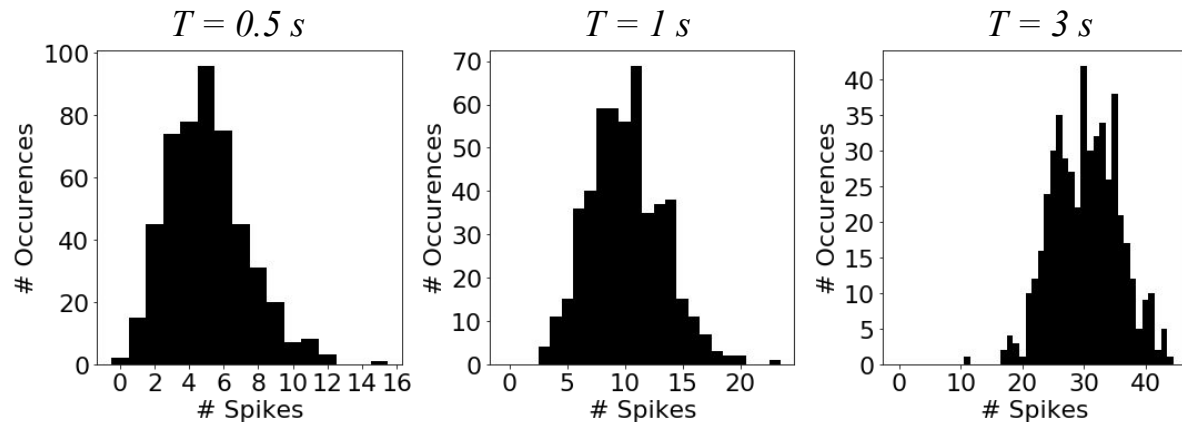
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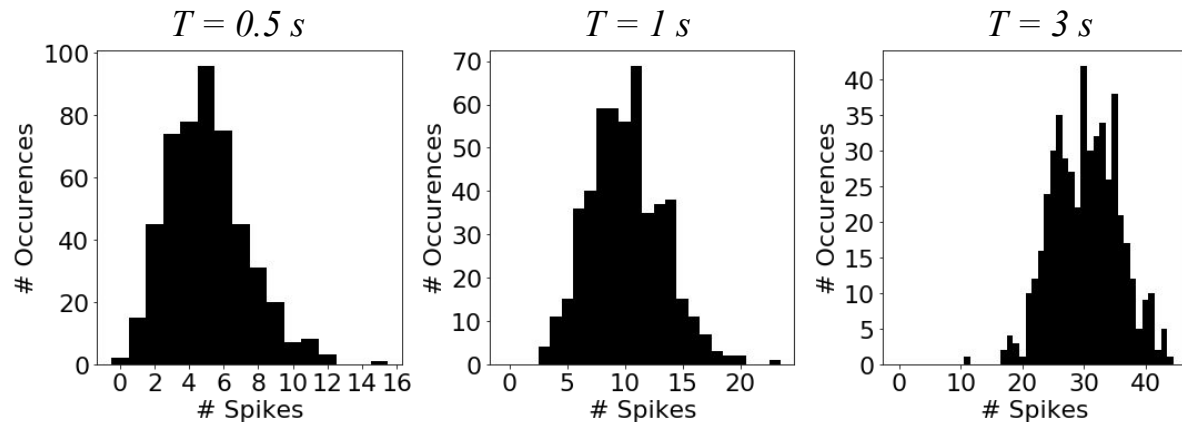
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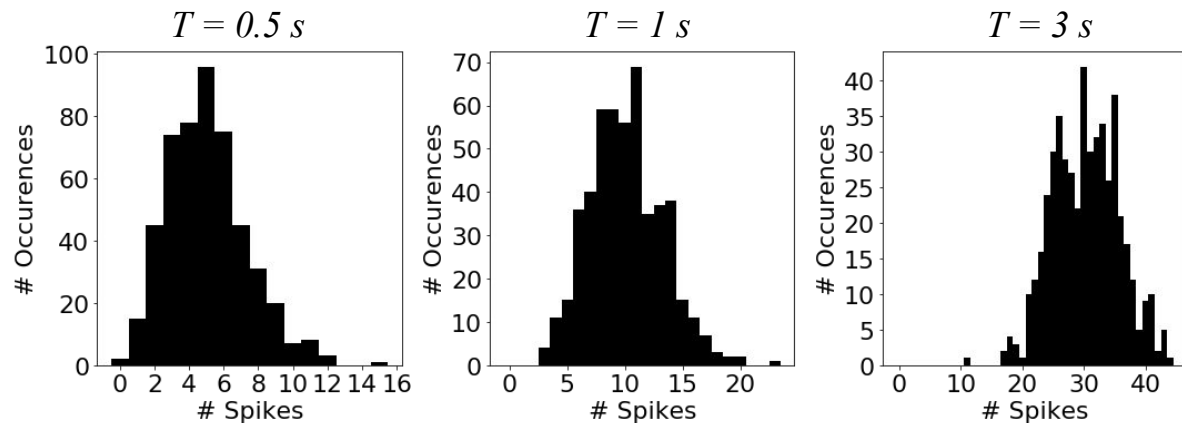
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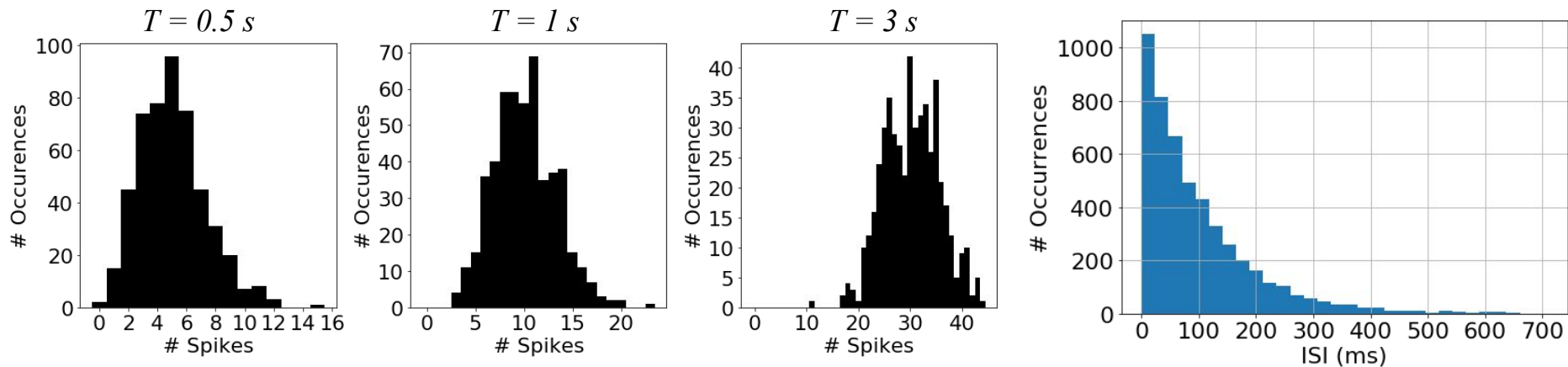
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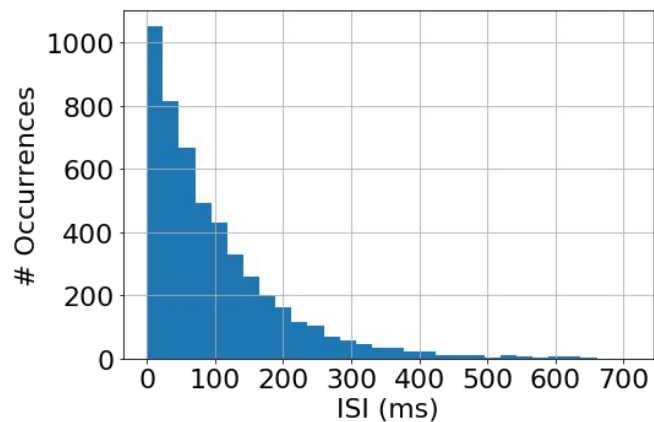
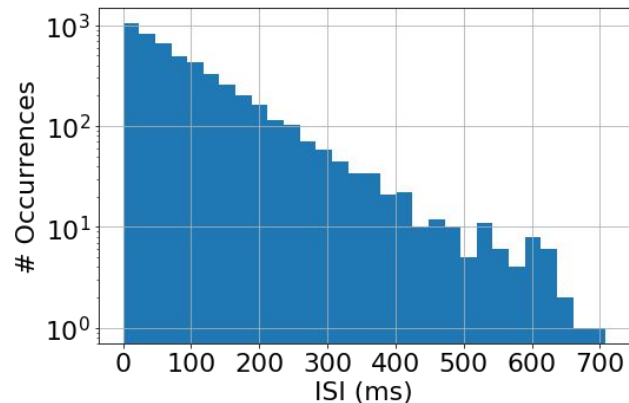
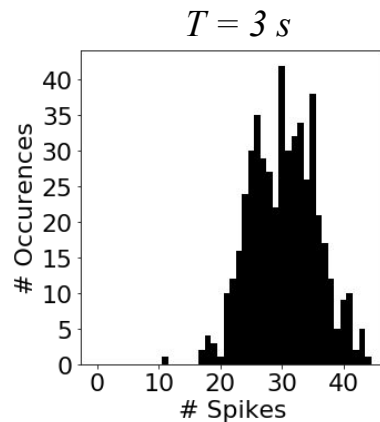
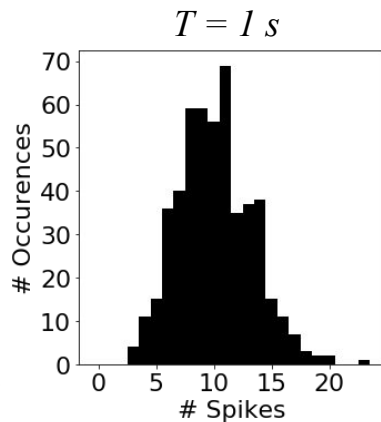
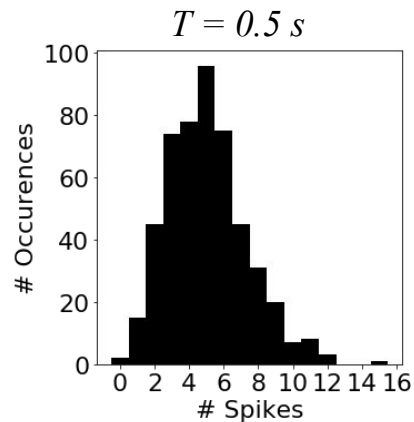
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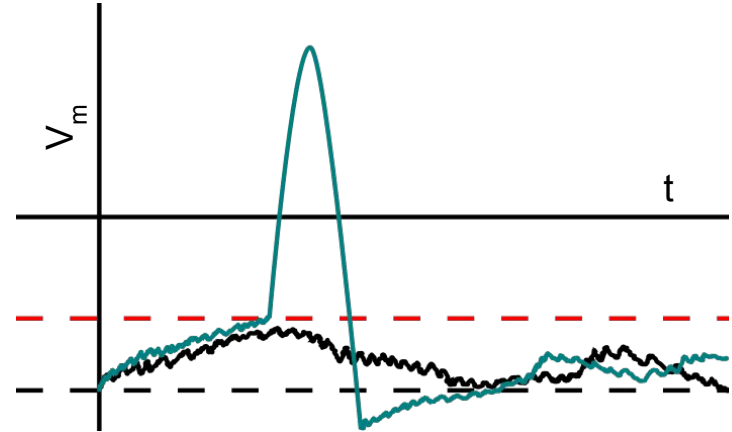
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Hodgkin-Huxley
model

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dV_m}{dt} = \frac{I}{C_m} - \frac{\bar{g}_K n^4}{C_m} (V_m - V_K) - \frac{\bar{g}_{Na} m^3 h}{C_m} (V_m - V_{Na}) - \frac{\bar{g}_l}{C_m} (V_m - V_l) \\ \frac{dn}{dt} = \alpha_n(V_m)(1 - n) - \beta_n(V_m)n \\ \frac{dm}{dt} = \alpha_m(V_m)(1 - m) - \beta_m(V_m)m \\ \frac{dh}{dt} = \alpha_h(V_m)(1 - h) - \beta_h(V_m)h \end{array} \right.$$

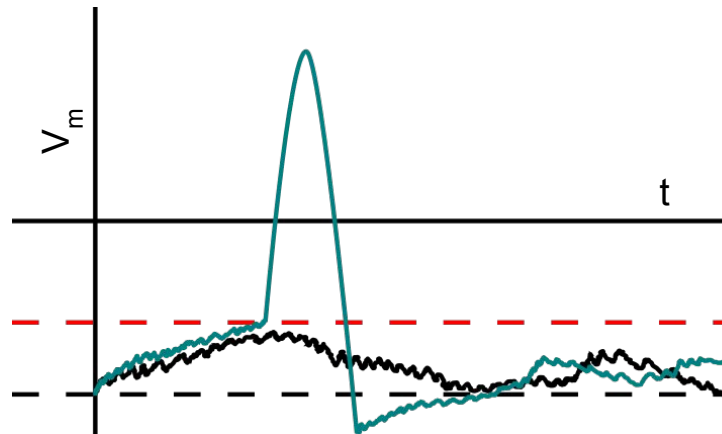
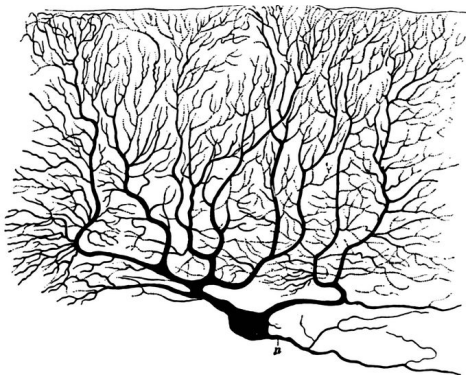


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Realistic neuron
morphology!

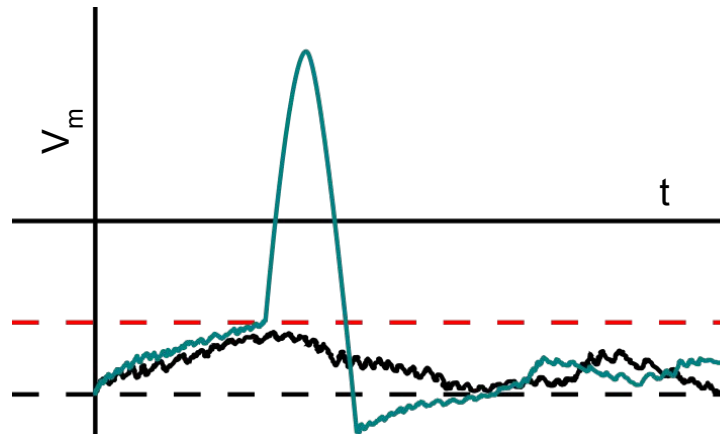
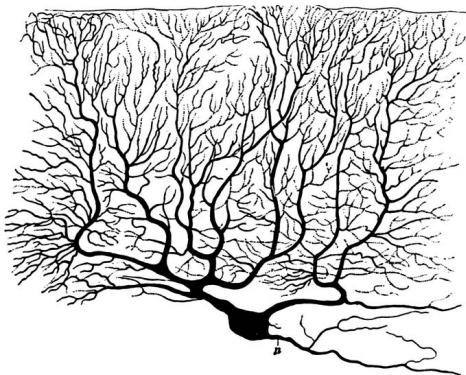


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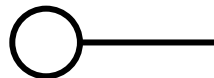
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Can we simplify?



Spiking neuron models: the leaky integrate-and-fire (LIF) neuron

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discretize

$$\tau \frac{V_t - V_{t-1}}{\Delta t} = -(V_{t-1} - V_{leak}) + RI_t$$
$$V_t = V_{t-1} + \frac{\Delta t}{\tau} [-(V_{t-1} - V_{leak}) + RI_t]$$

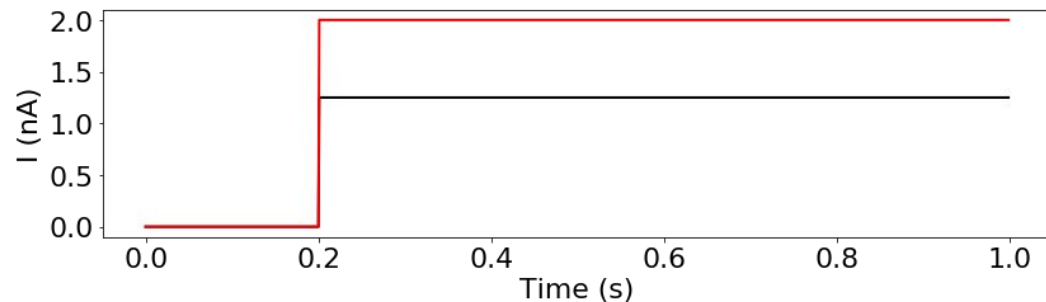
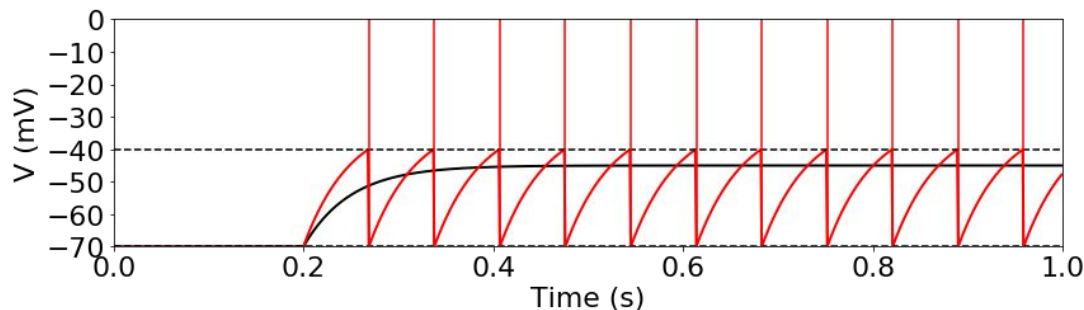
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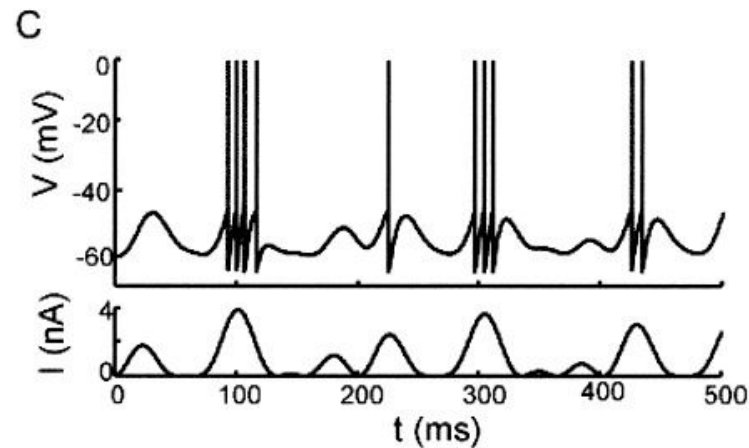
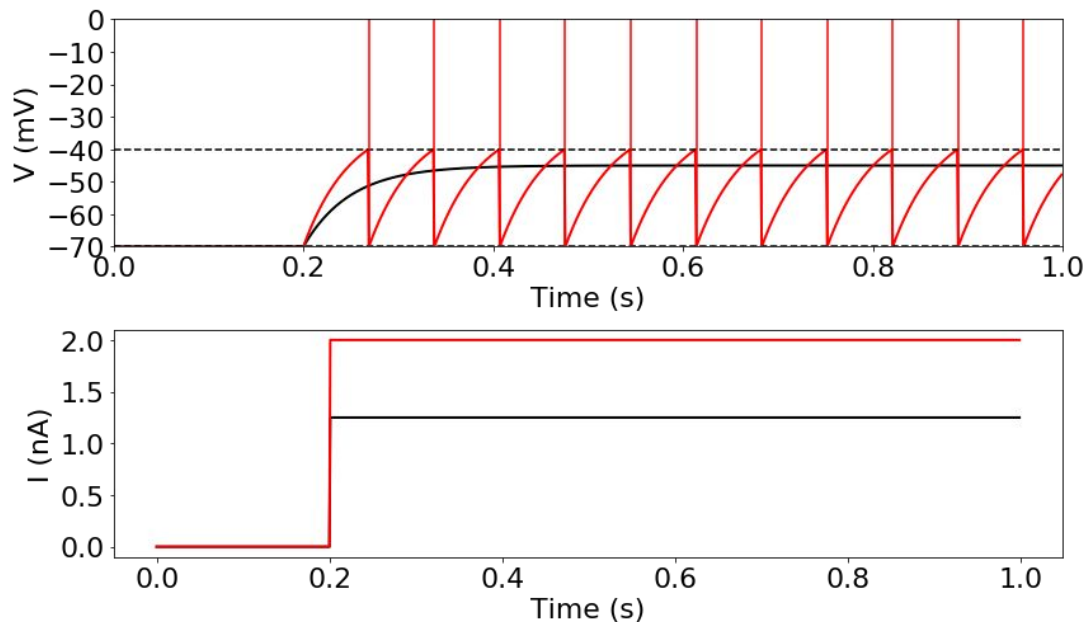
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Spiking neuron models: modeling synapses

Presynaptic spikes as sum of delta functions

$$y(t) = \delta(t - t_{spk}^0) + \delta(t - t_{spk}^1) + \dots \delta(t - t_{spk}^n)$$

Current-based synapses

$$\tau \frac{dV}{dt} = -(V(t) - V_{leak}) + RI(t) + wy(t)$$

$$\tau \frac{dV_i}{dt} = -(V_i(t) - V_{leak}) + RI(t) + \sum_j w_{ij} y_j(t)$$

Conductance-based synapses

$$\tau \frac{dV}{dt} = -(V(t) - V_{leak}) + RI(t) + RI_{syn}(t)$$

$$I_{syn}(t) = g_{syn}(t)(V(t) - E_{syn})$$

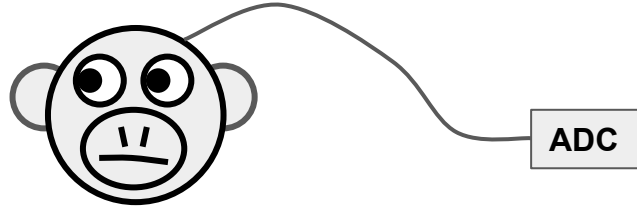
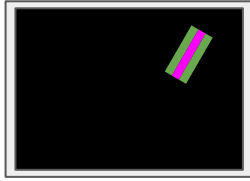
$$g_{syn}(t) = w \sum_{t_{spk}^k} \alpha(t - t_{spk}^k)$$

Problem set part 1

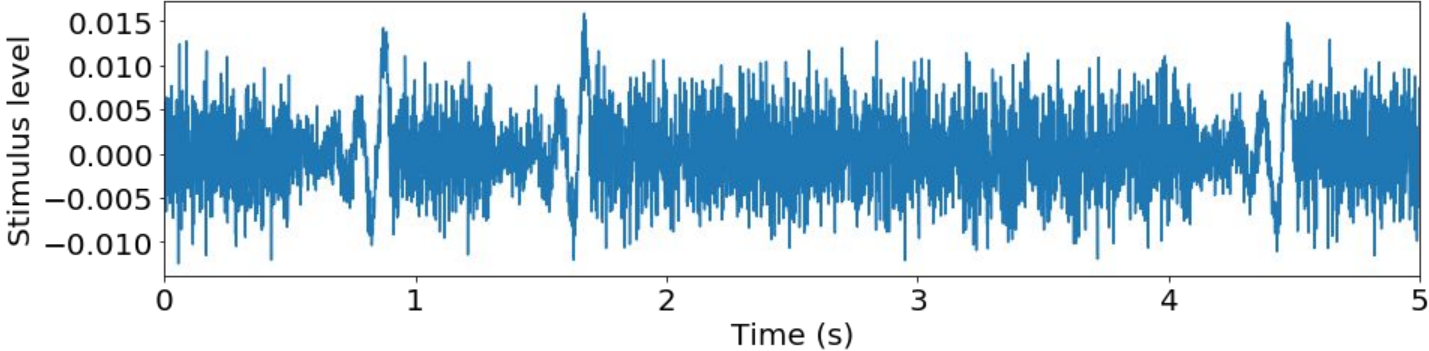
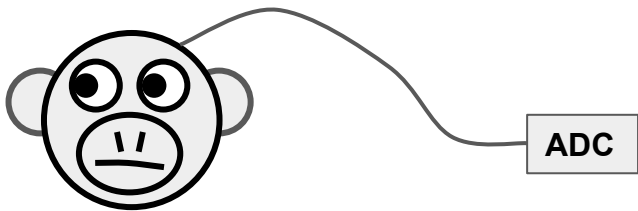
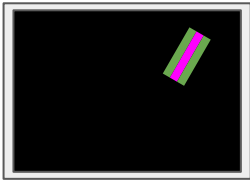
https://github.com/rkp8000/imbizo_2019_spikes_tutorial

problems_1.ipynb

General neural response models

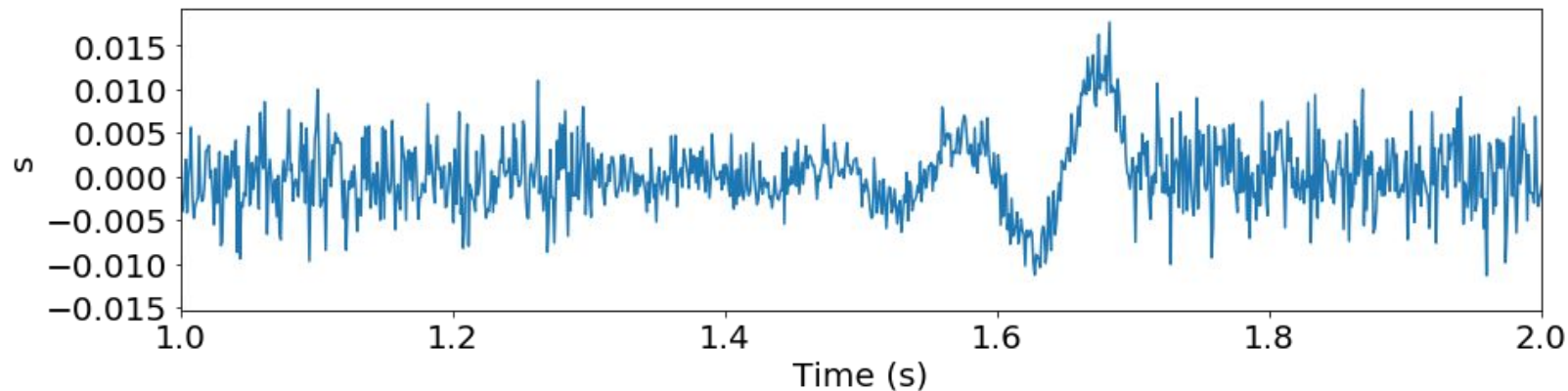


General neural response models



Interlude: Linear filtering

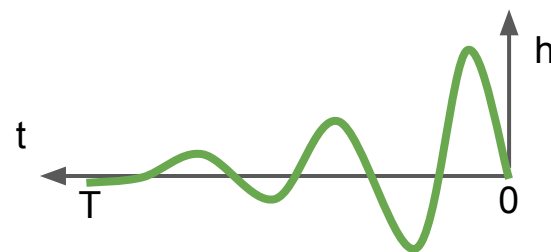
Given a time-series, how do we look for specific “features”?



How do we detect this feature?

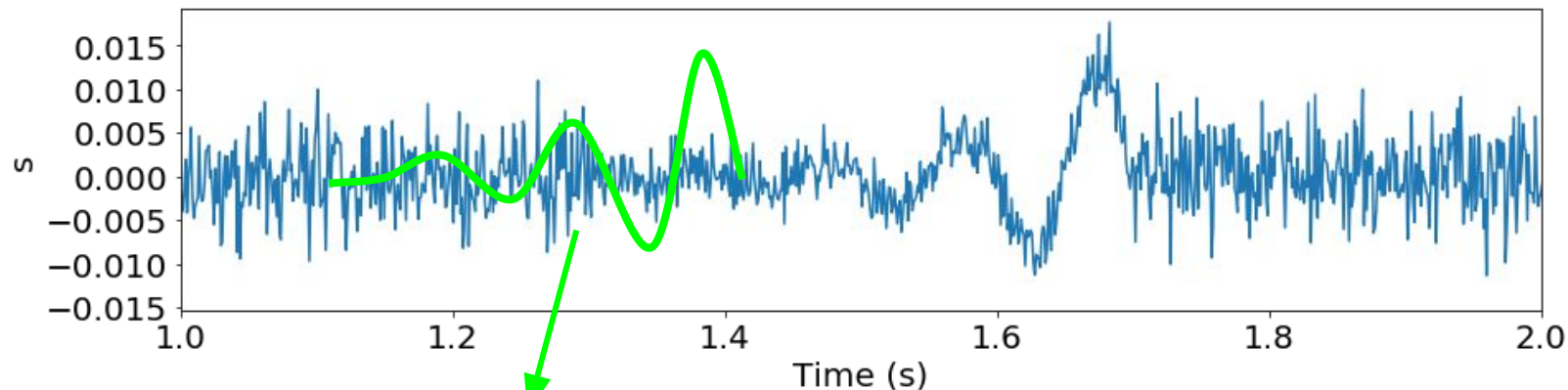
Answer:

1. Create “filter” with same shape as target feature.



Interlude: Linear filtering

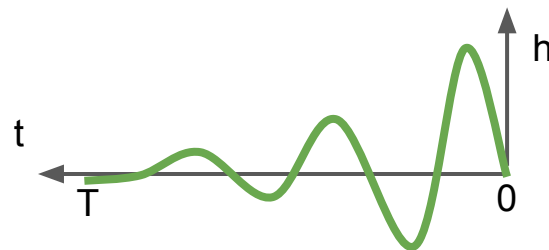
Given a time-series, how do we look for specific “features”?



$$\int_0^T h(\tau)s(t - \tau)d\tau \sim 0$$

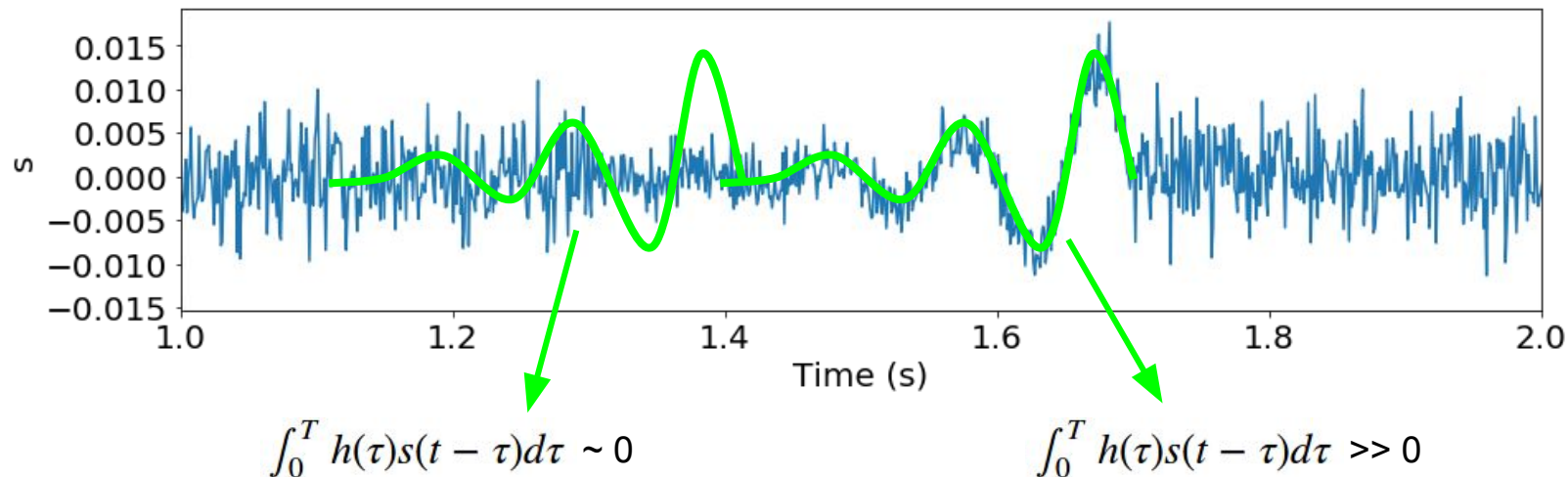
Answer:

1. Create “filter” with same shape as target feature.
2. Slide filter along time-series and take inner product with windowed time-series.



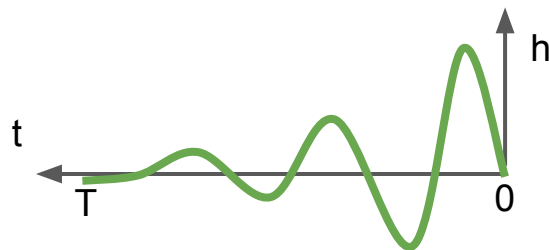
Interlude: Linear filtering

Given a time-series, how do we look for specific “features”?



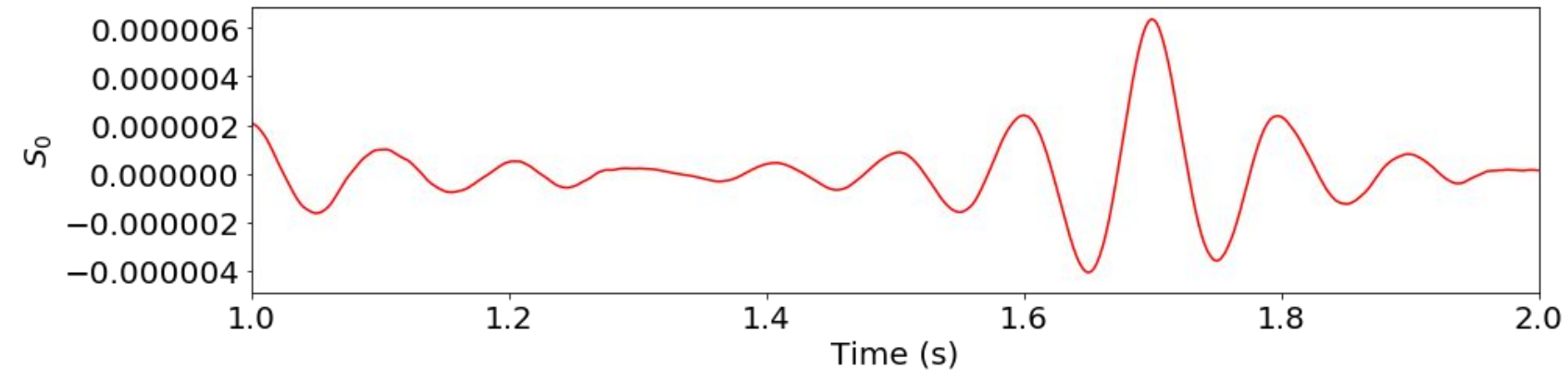
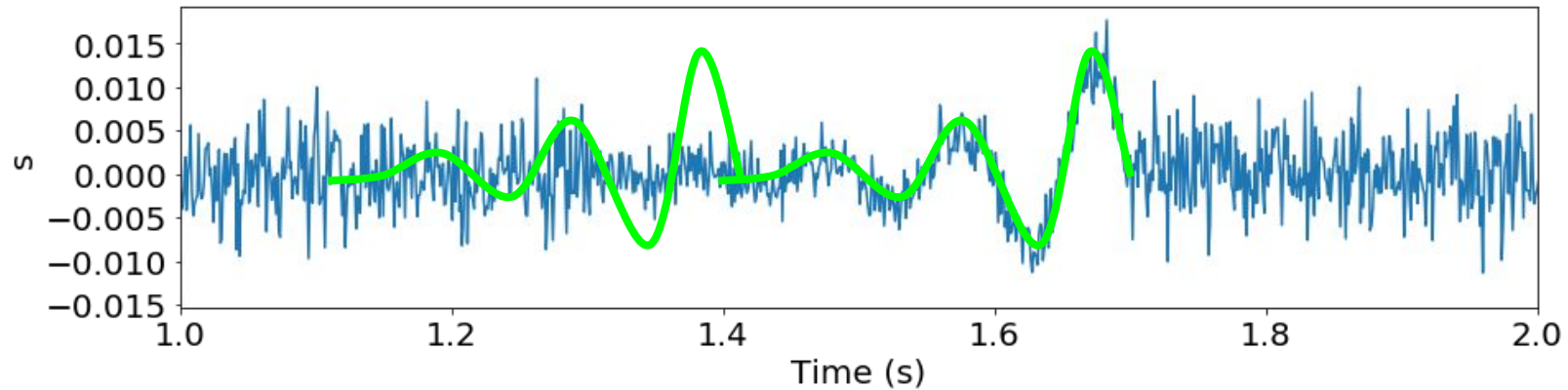
Answer:

1. Create “filter” with same shape as target feature.
2. Slide filter along time-series and take inner product with windowed time-series.

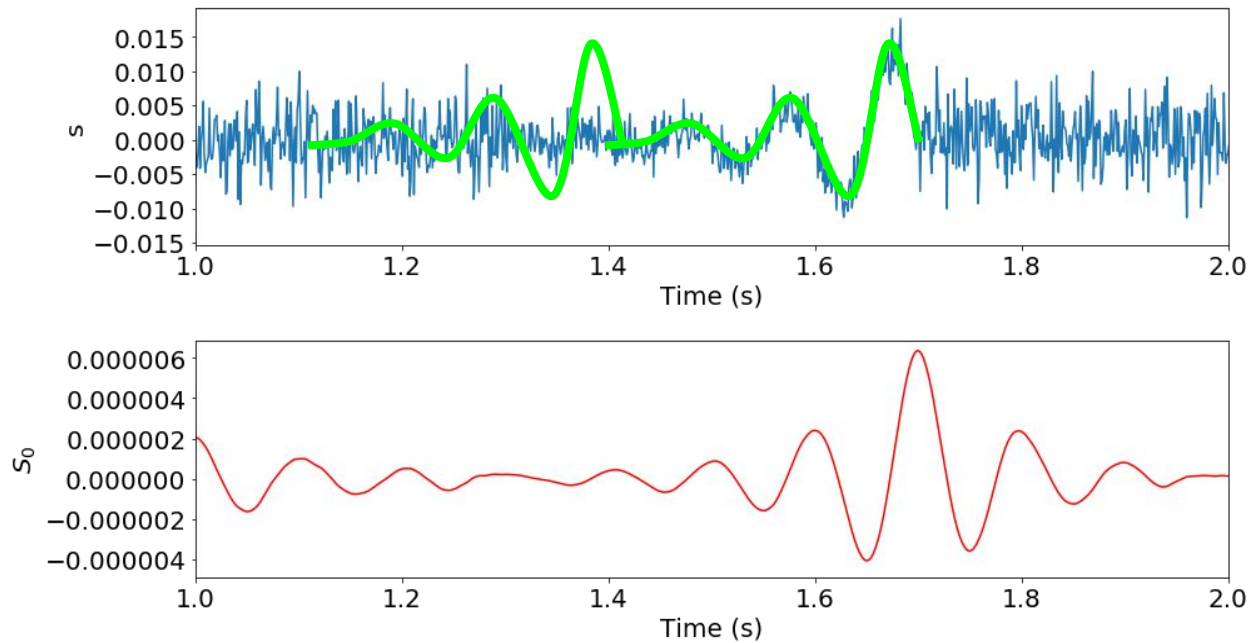


Interlude: Linear filtering

Given a time-series, how do we look for specific “features”?

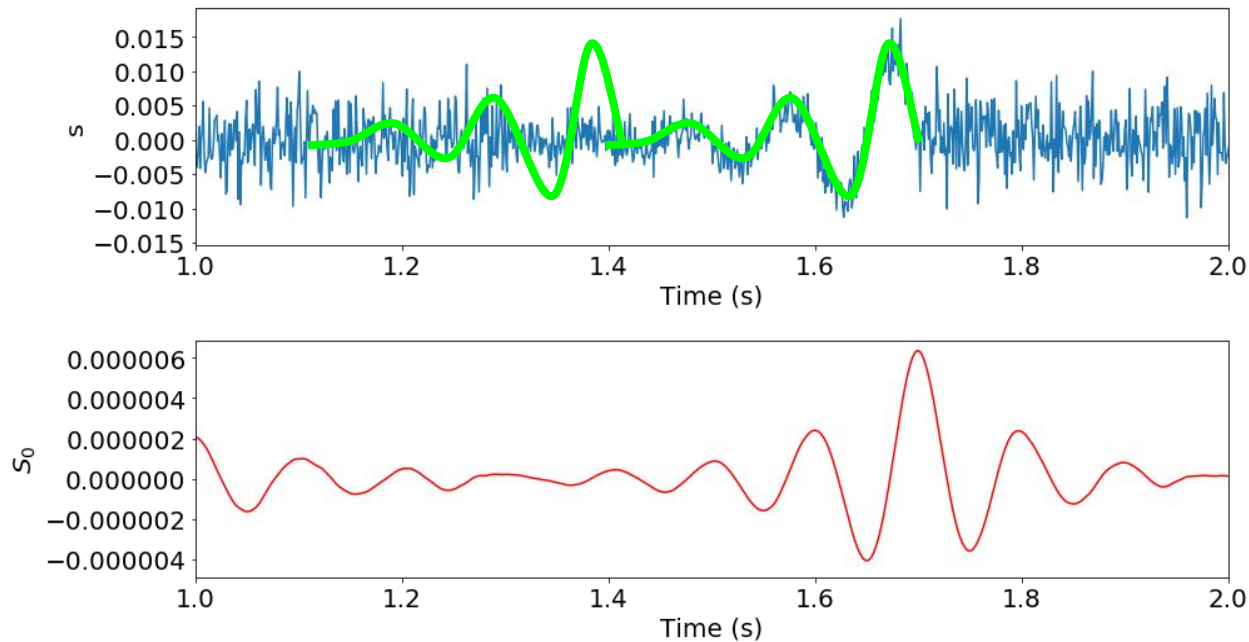


Interlude: Linear filtering



$$s_0(t) = \int_0^T h(\tau)s(t - \tau)d\tau$$

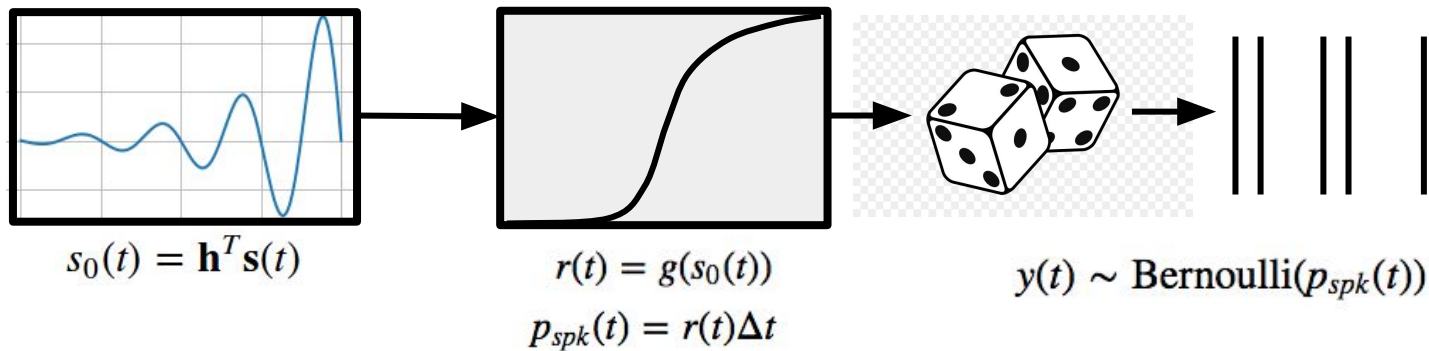
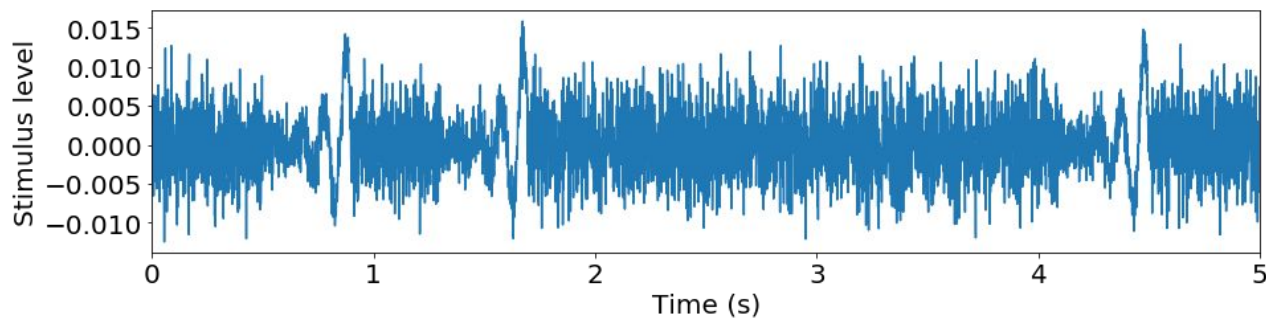
Interlude: Linear filtering



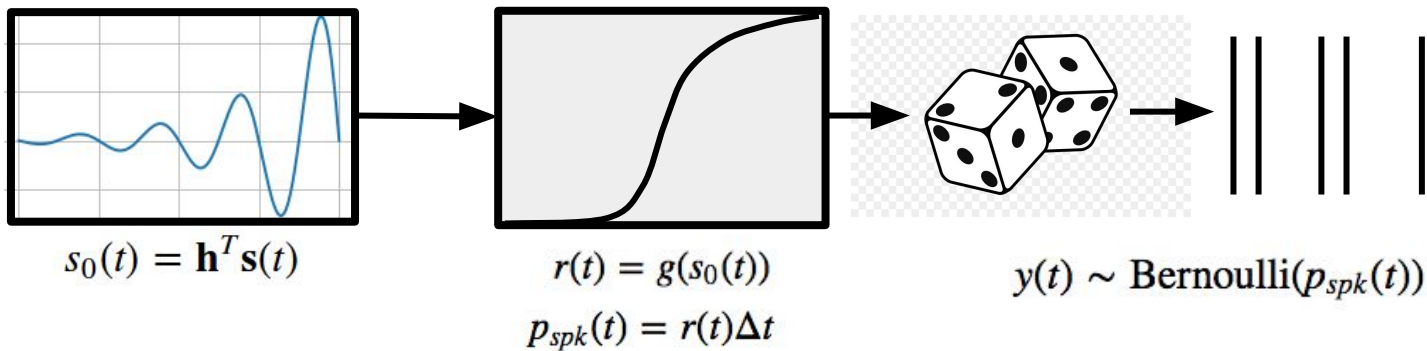
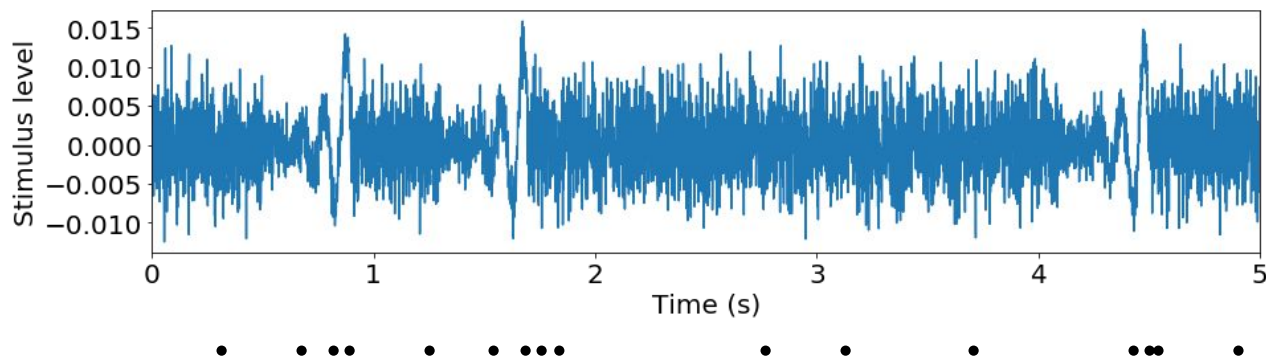
$$s_0(t) = \int_0^T h(\tau)s(t - \tau)d\tau$$

Discretization: $s_0(t) = \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{s}(t) \equiv \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{s}(t)$

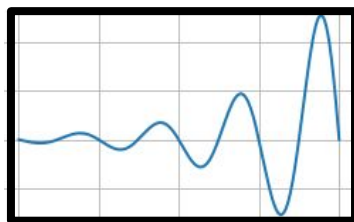
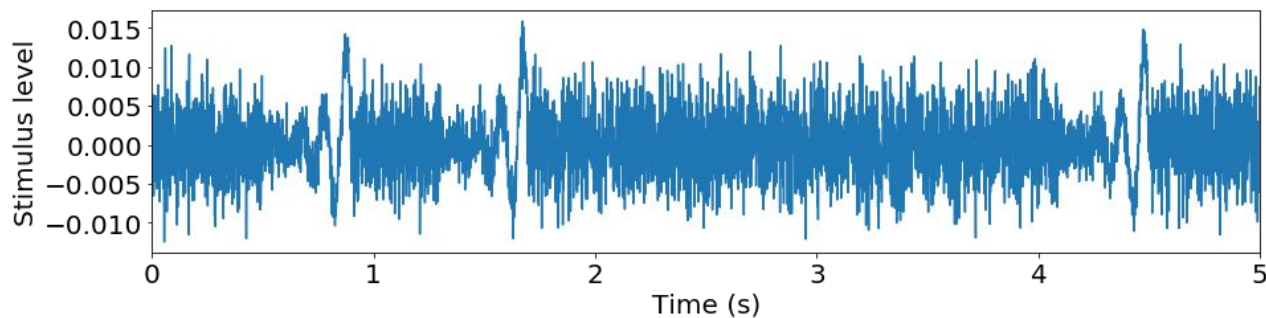
Spiking neuron models: the linear-nonlinear-Poisson (LNP) neuron



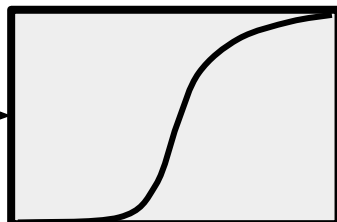
Spiking neuron models: the linear-nonlinear-Poisson (LNP) neuron



Spiking neuron models: the linear-nonlinear-Poisson (LNP) neuron



$$s_0(t) = \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{s}(t)$$



$$r(t) = g(s_0(t))$$

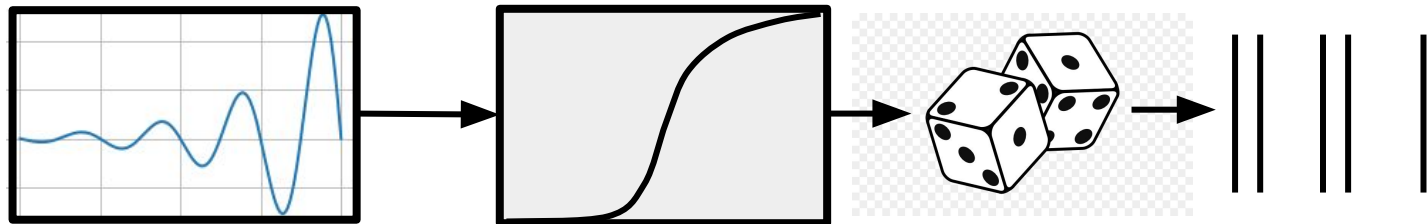
$$p_{spk}(t) = r(t)\Delta t$$



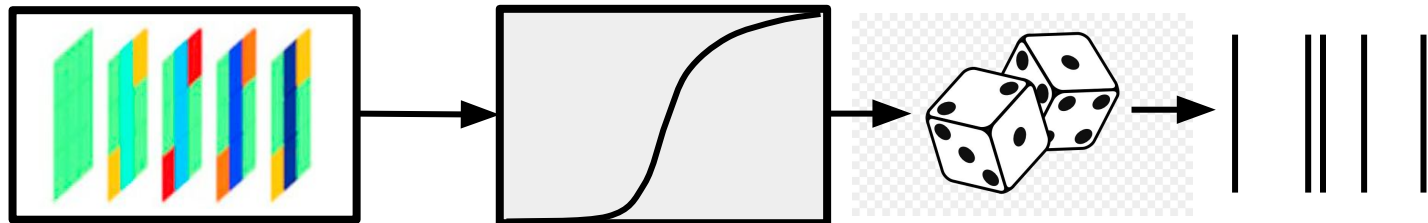
$$y(t) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{spk}(t))$$

Spiking neuron models: the linear-nonlinear-Poisson (LNP) neuron

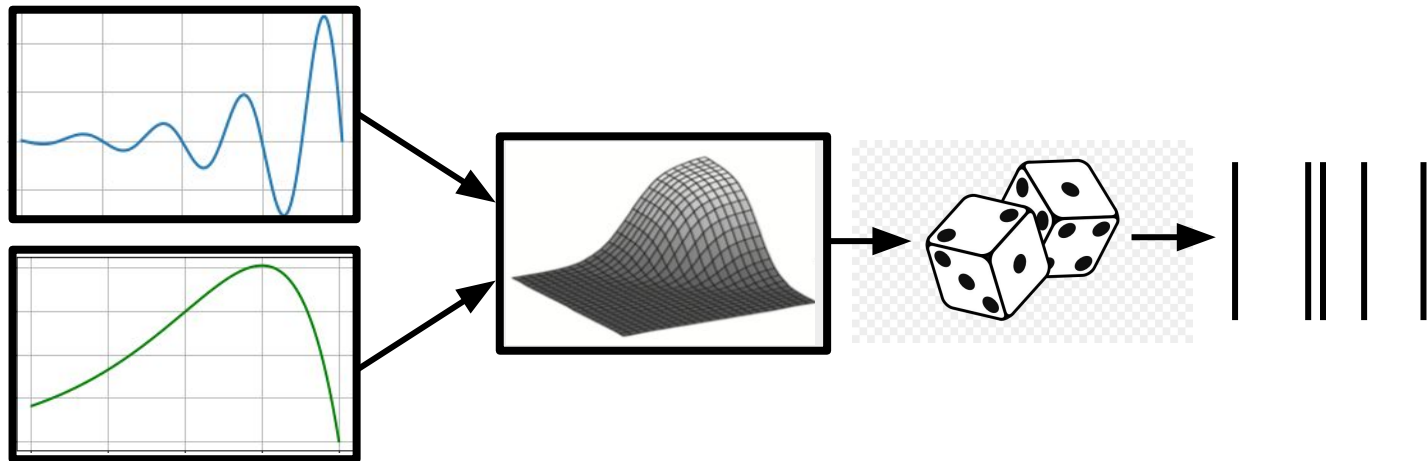
Scalar stim, single filter



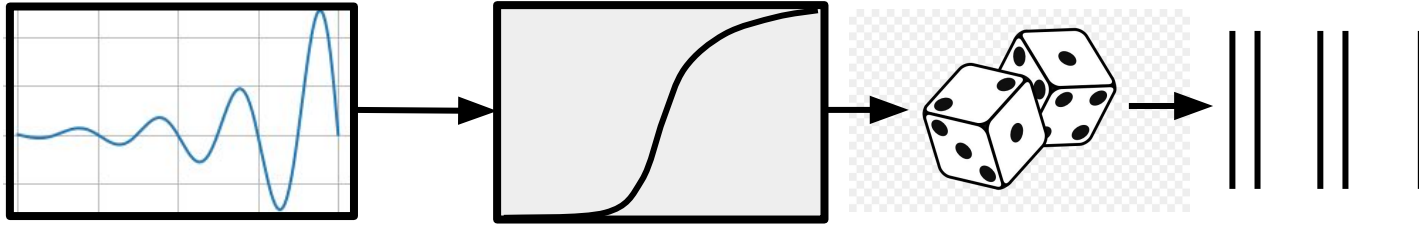
Vector stim, single filter



Scalar or vector stim, multiple filters



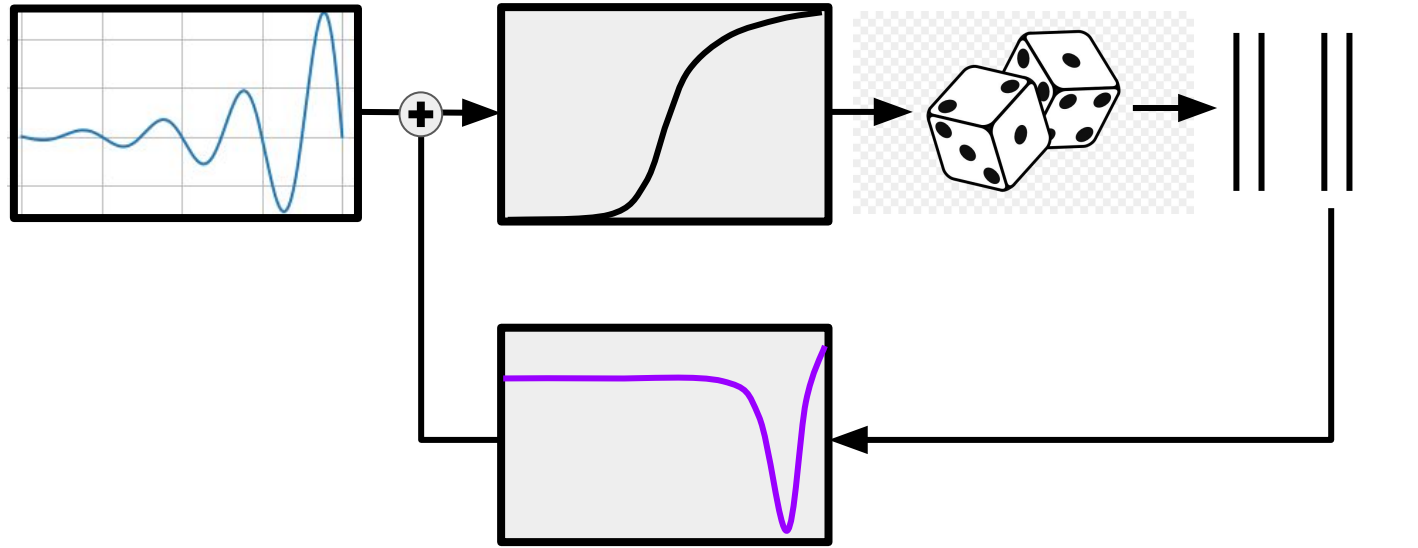
Spiking neuron models: the generalized linear model



How can we account for spike history?

Spiking neuron models: the generalized linear model

Paninski 2004
Pillow 2008

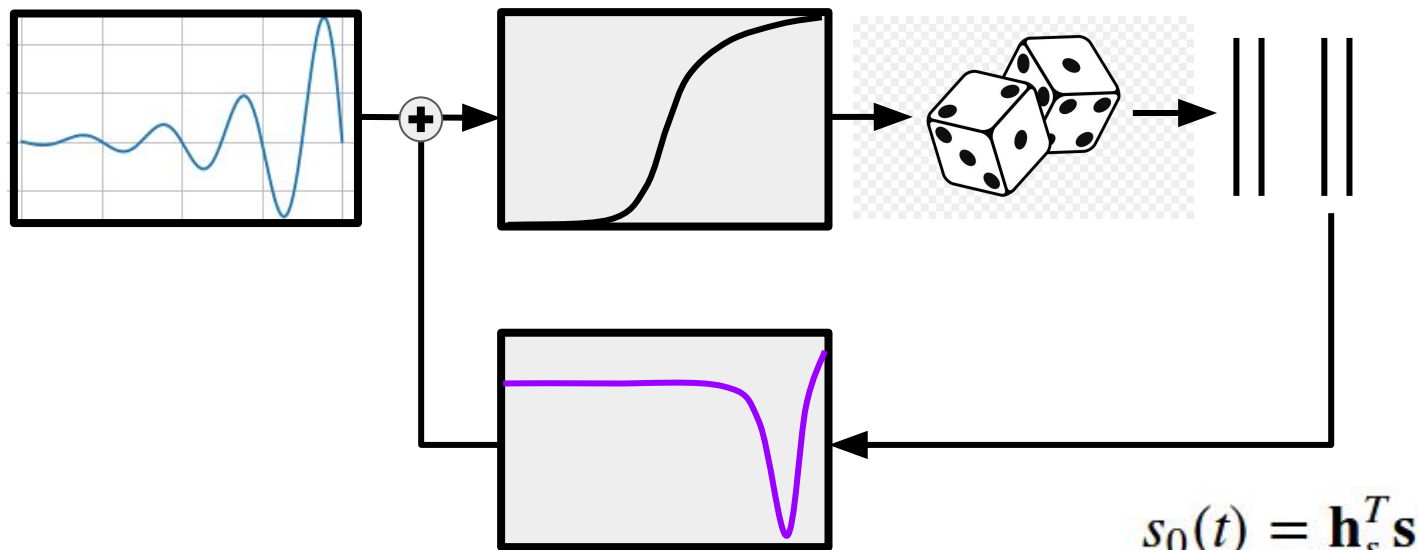


How can we account for spike history?

Introduce “spike-history” filter $\mathbf{h}_y(t)$.

Spiking neuron models: the generalized linear model

Paninski 2004
Pillow 2008



How can we account for spike history?

Introduce “spike-history” filter $\mathbf{h}_y(t)$.

$$s_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_s^T \mathbf{s}(t)$$

$$y_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t)$$

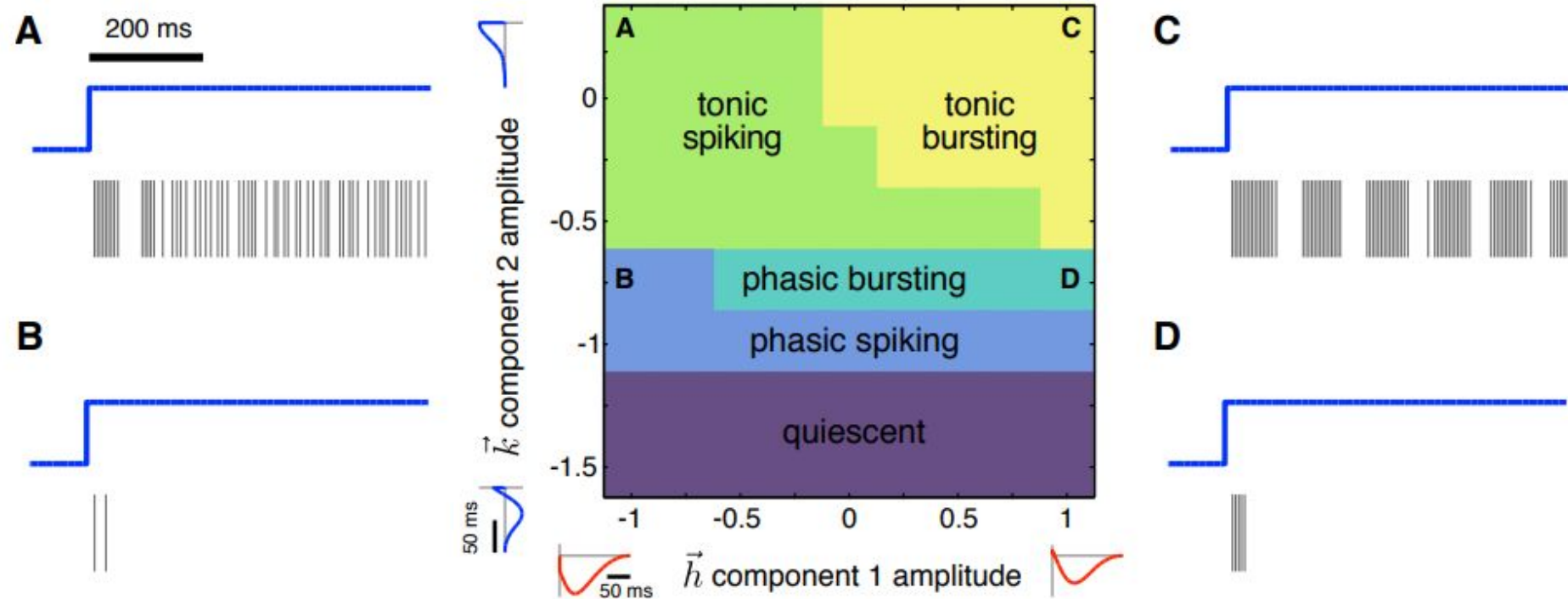
$$r(t) = g(\mathbf{h}_s^T \mathbf{s}(t) + \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t) + b)$$

$$p_{spk}(t) = r(t)\Delta t$$

$$y(t) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{spk}(t))$$

Spiking neuron models: the generalized linear model

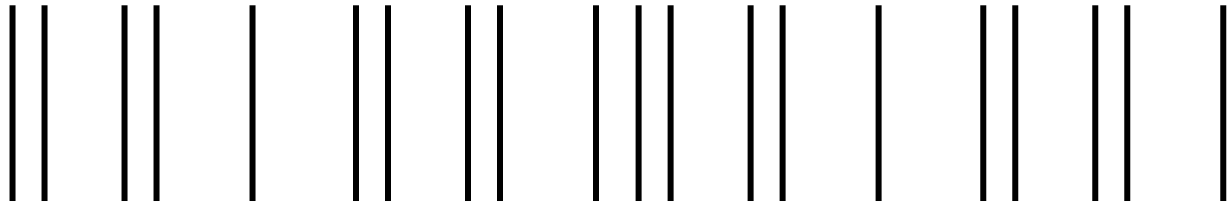
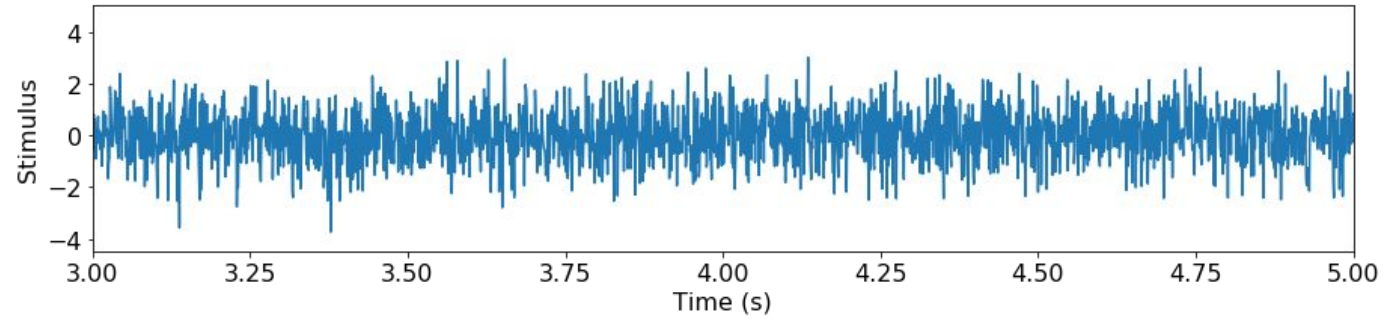
GLMs can reproduce a wide diversity of behaviors.



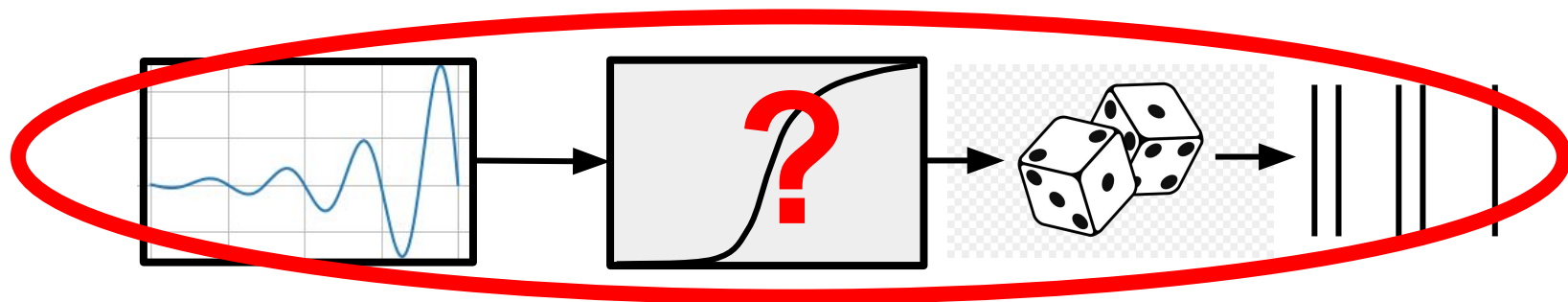
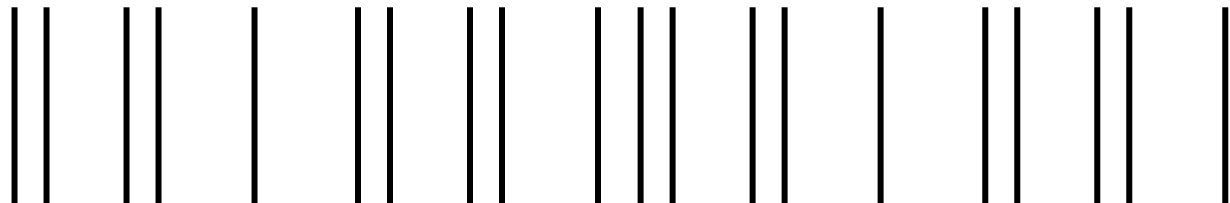
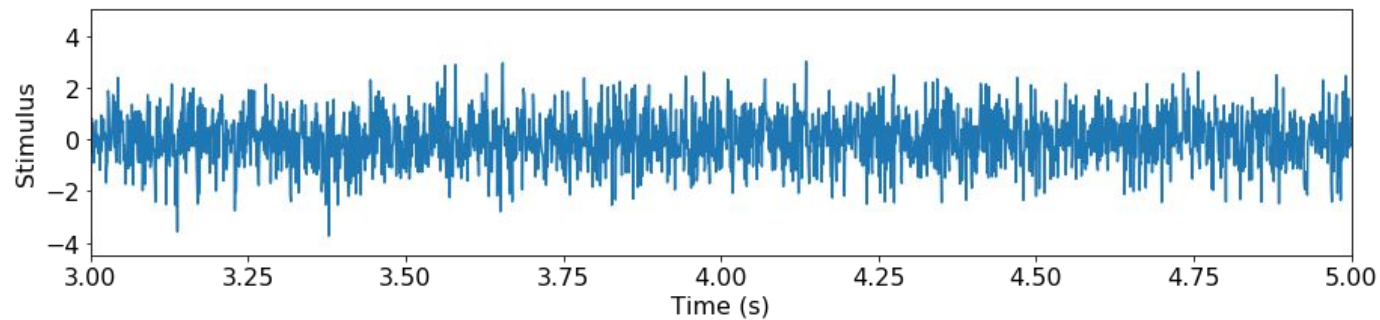
Outline

- Crash course in action potentials.
- Basic spike train analysis.
- Spiking neuron models.
- Short problem set time.
- Advanced spike train analysis.
- Other spike-based concepts.
- Full problem set time.

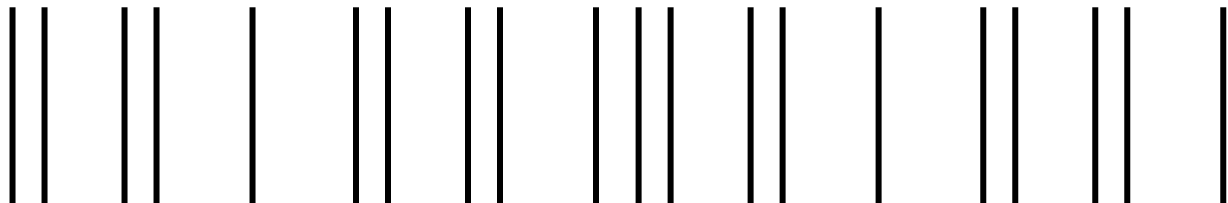
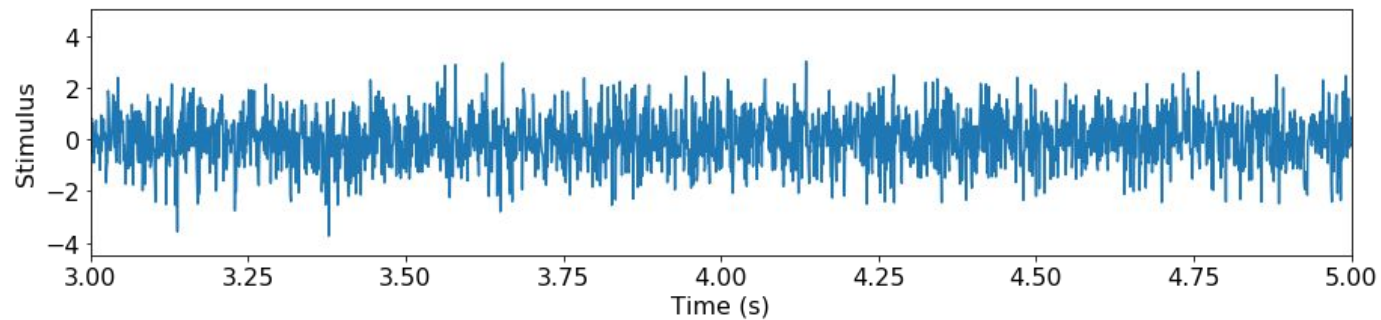
Spike train analysis: identifying filters



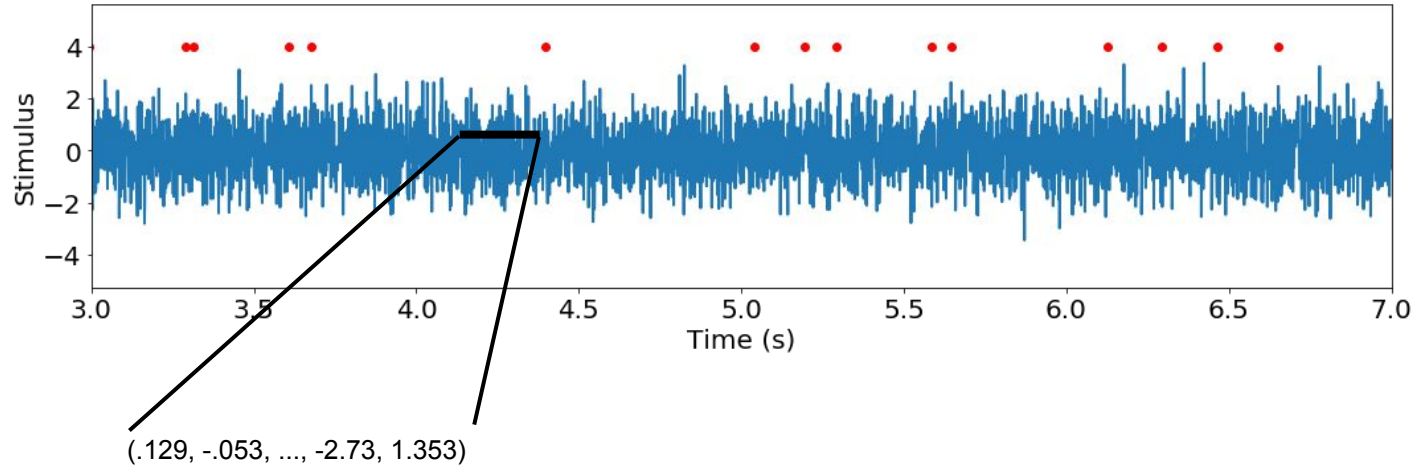
Spike train analysis: identifying filters



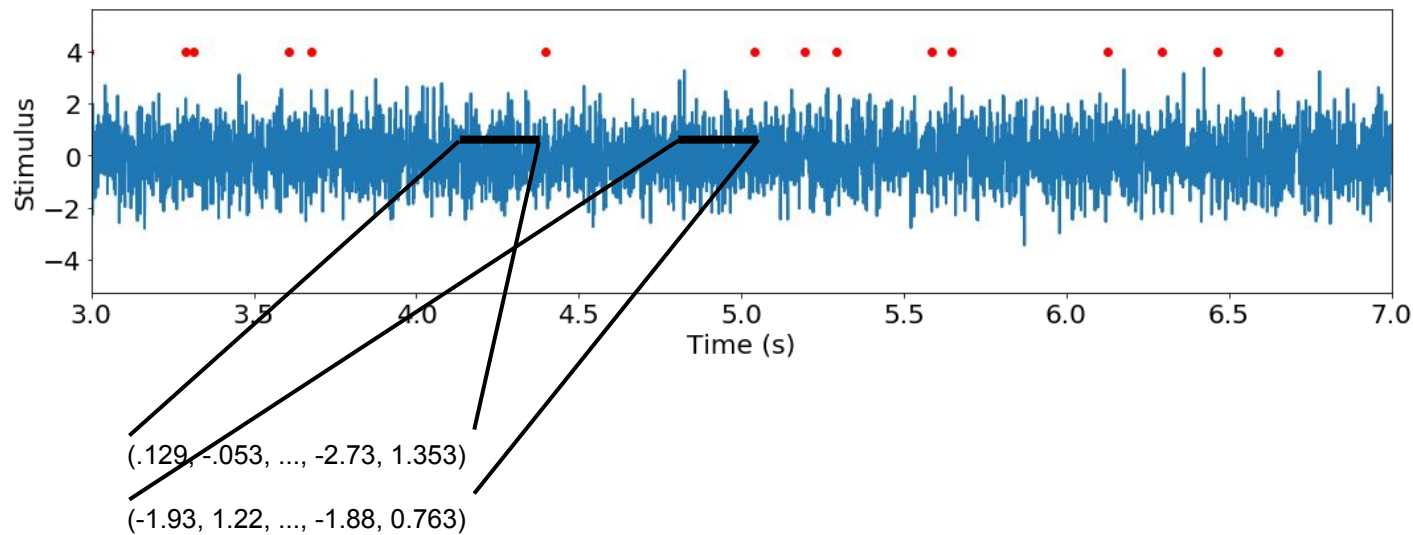
Spike train analysis: identifying filters



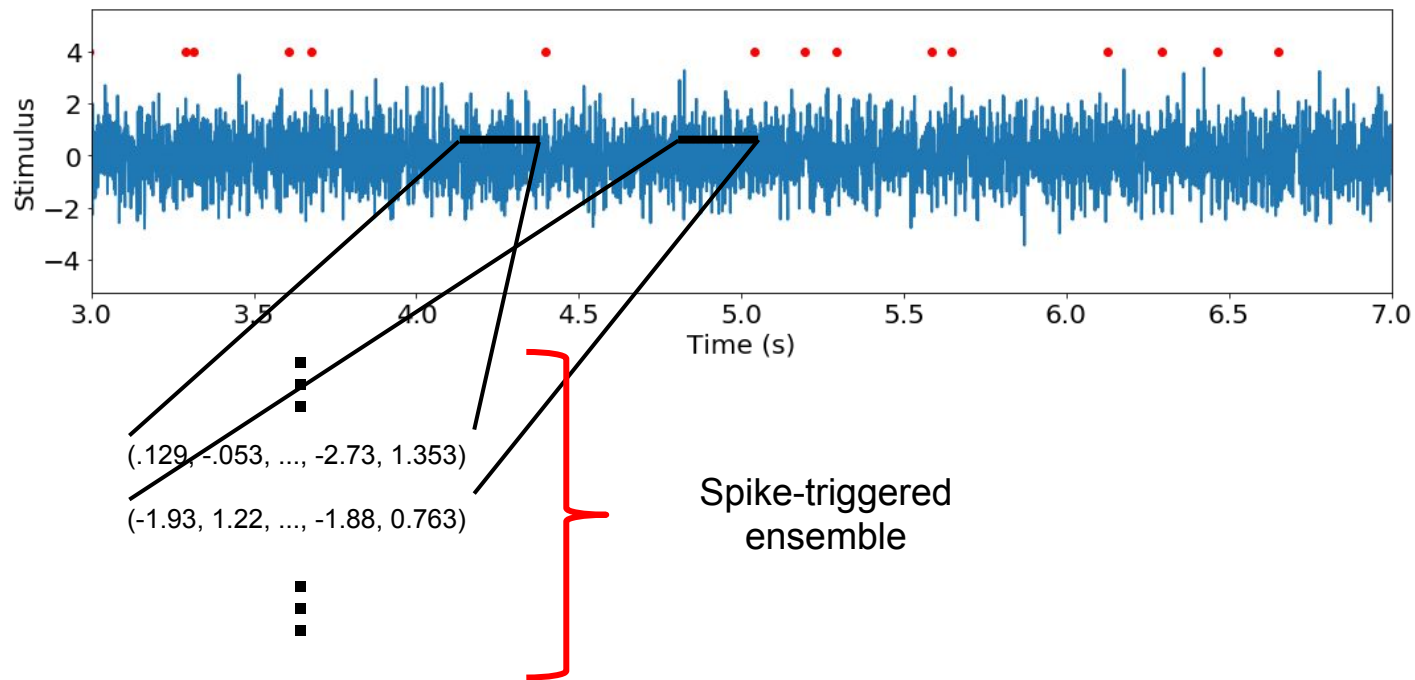
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



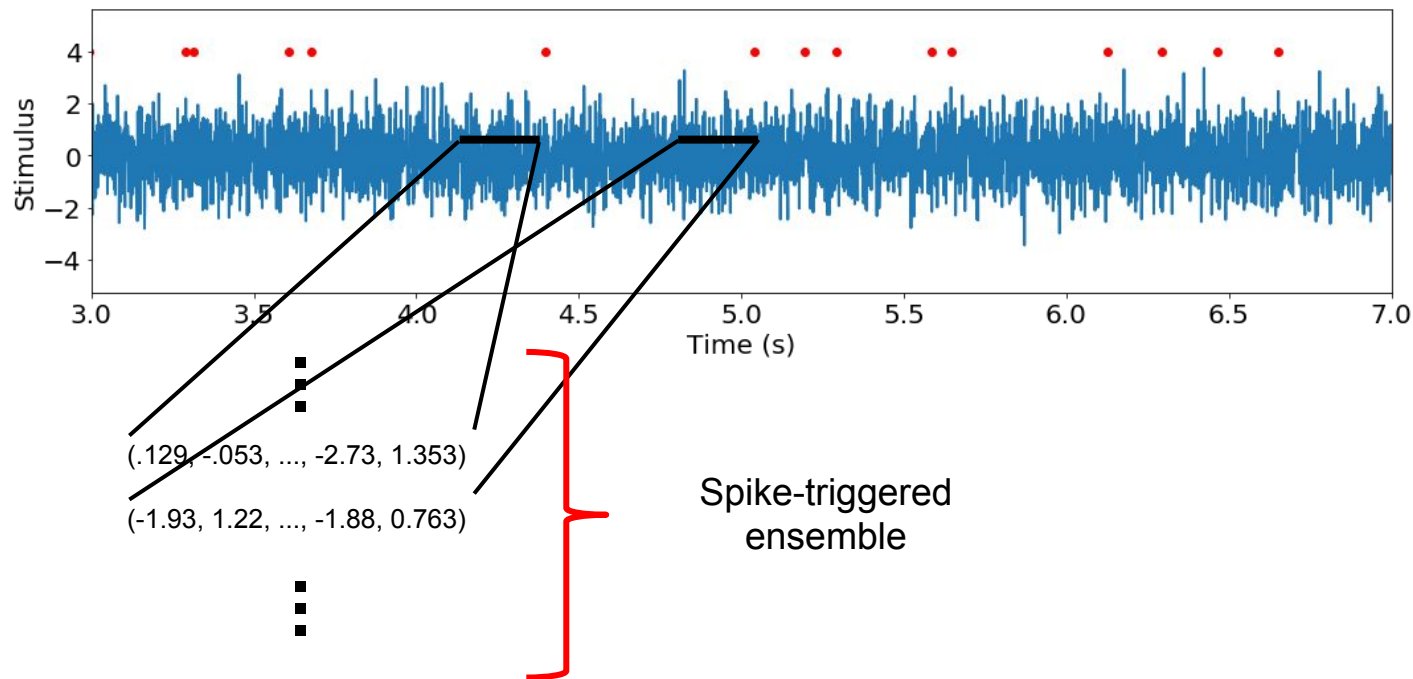
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average

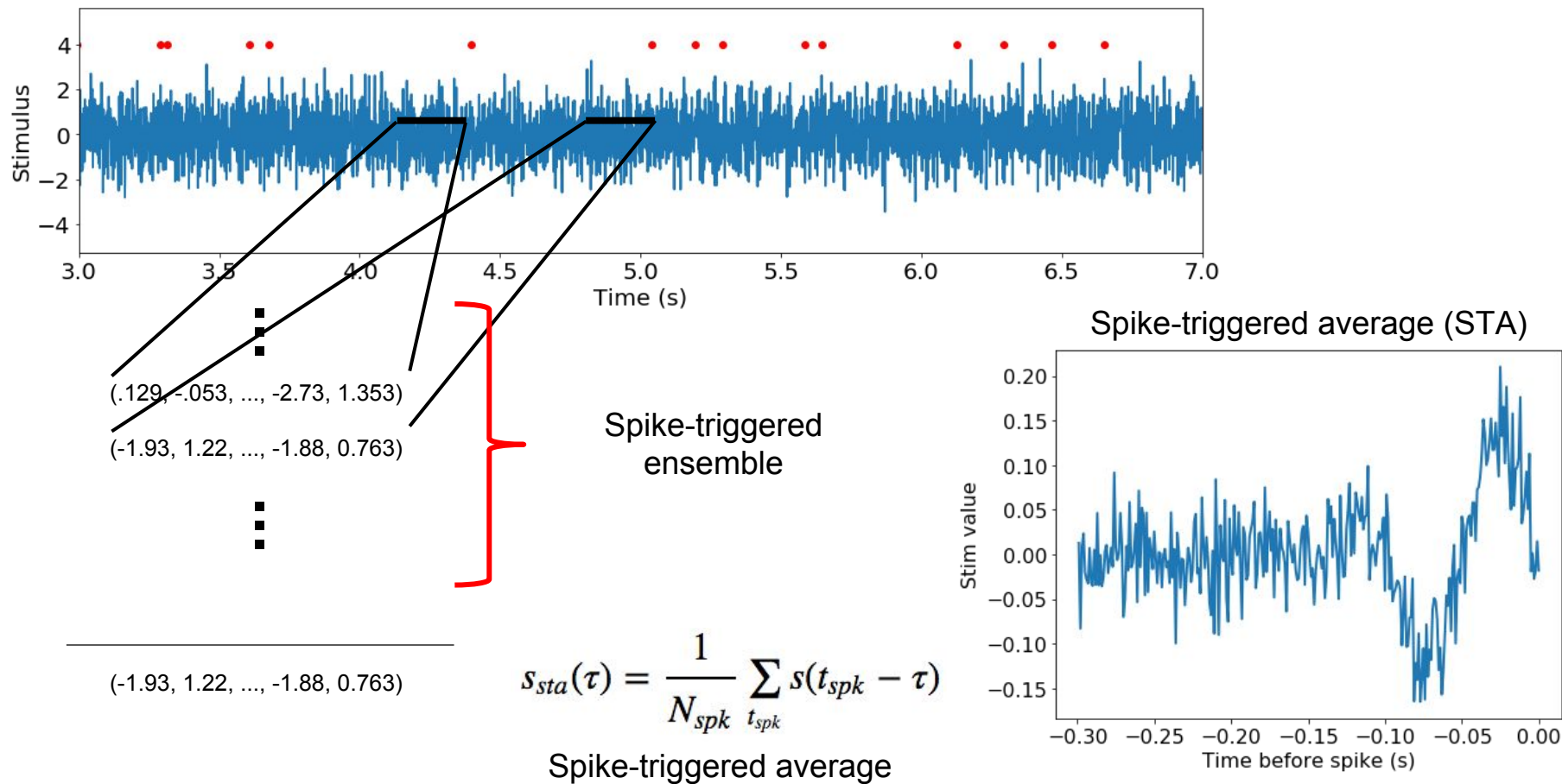


$(-1.93, 1.22, \dots, -1.88, 0.763)$

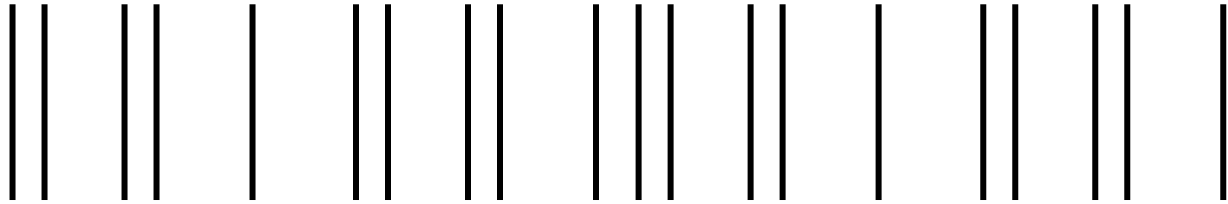
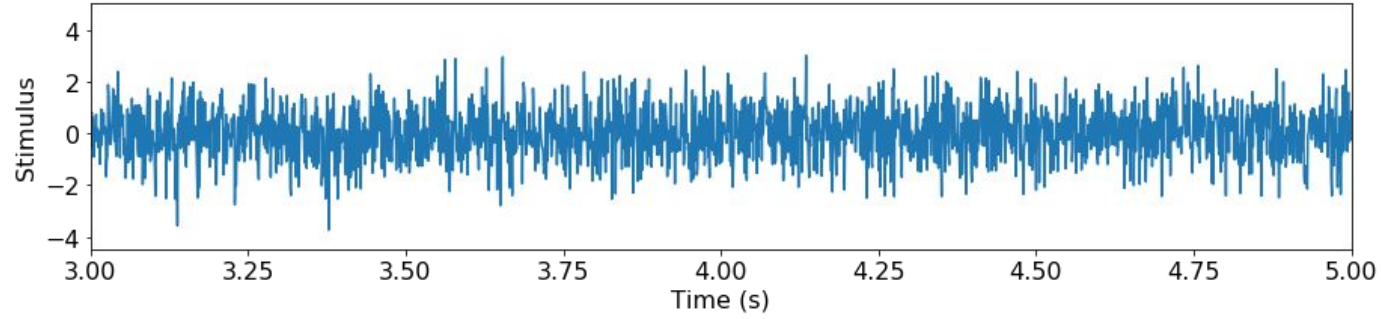
$$s_{sta}(\tau) = \frac{1}{N_{spk}} \sum_{t_{spk}} s(t_{spk} - \tau)$$

Spike-triggered average

Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



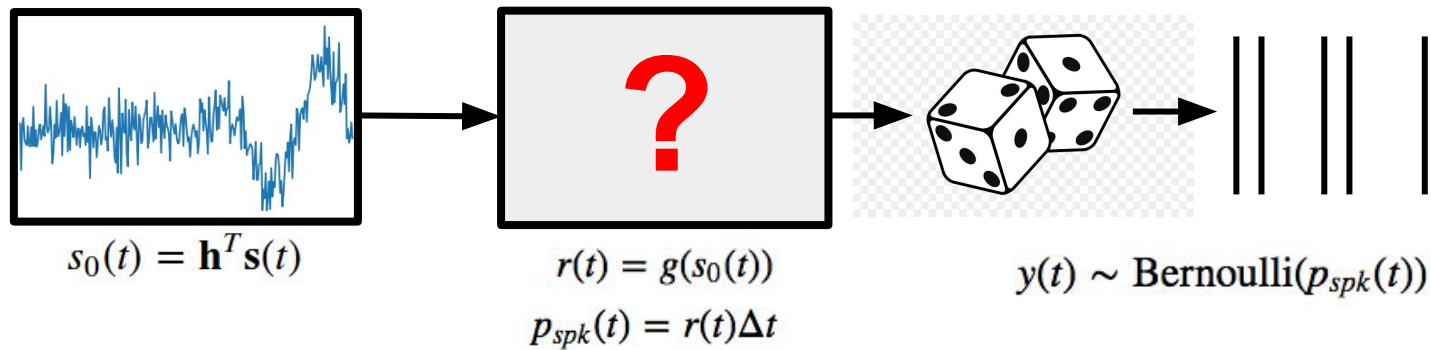
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



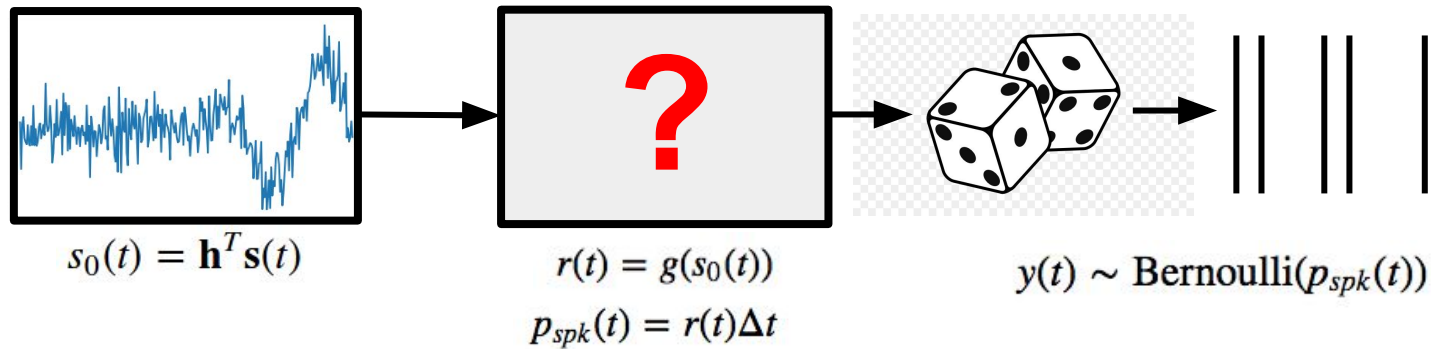
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average

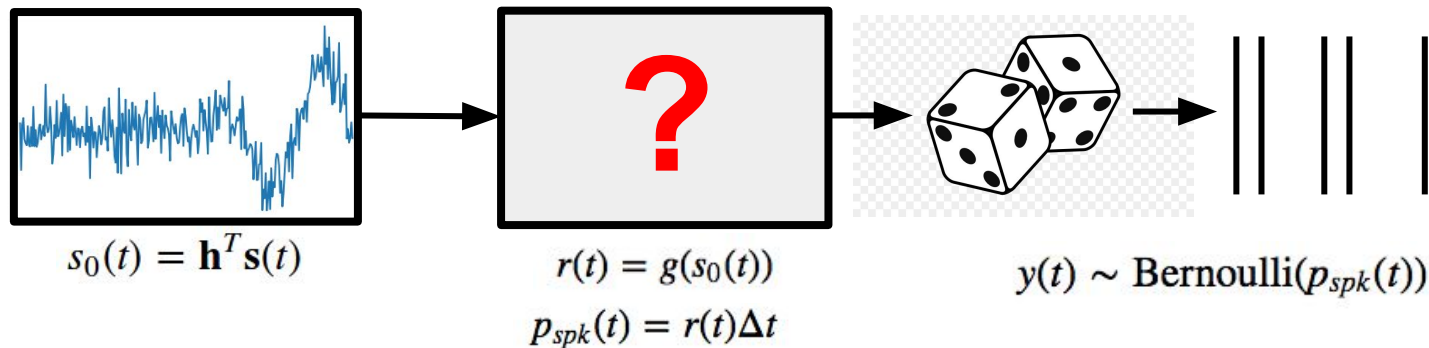


Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average

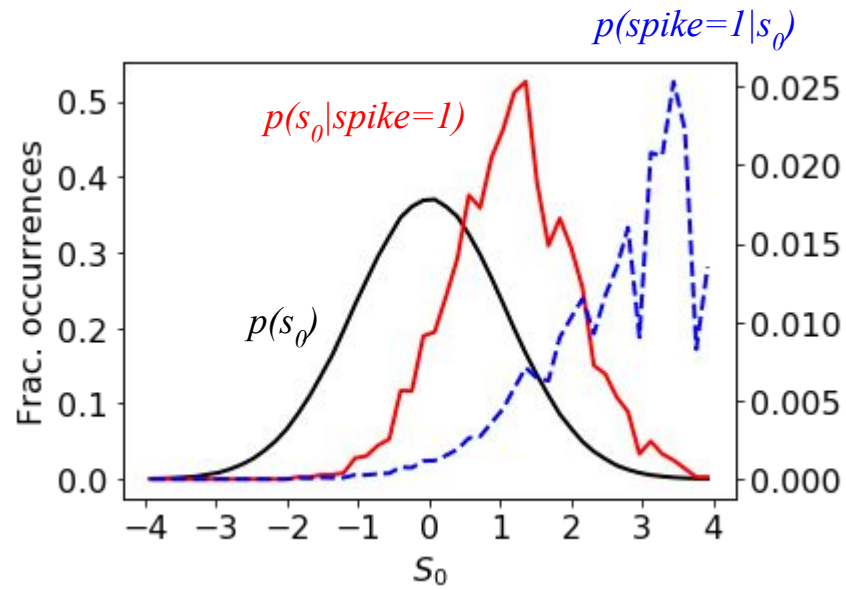


$$p(\text{spike} = 1 | s_0) = \frac{p(s_0 | \text{spike} = 1) p(\text{spike} = 1)}{p(s_0)}$$

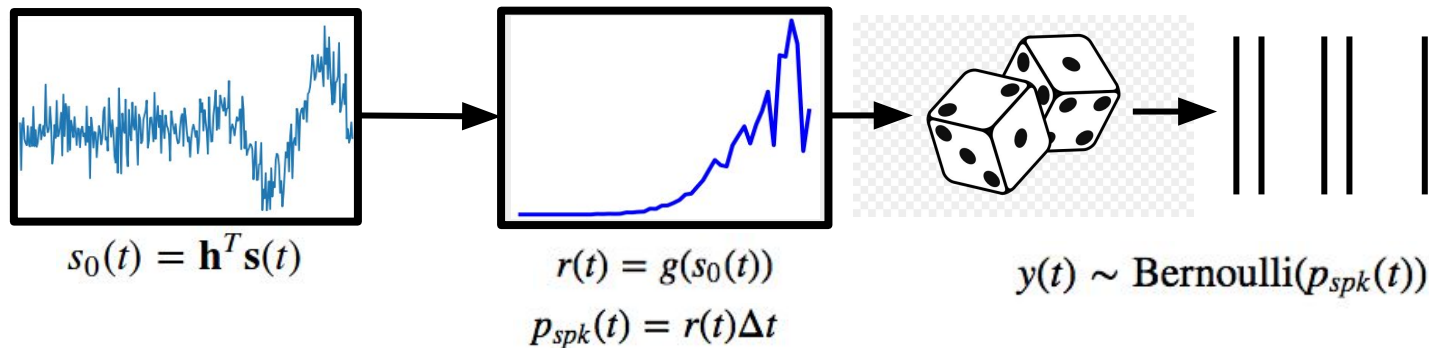
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



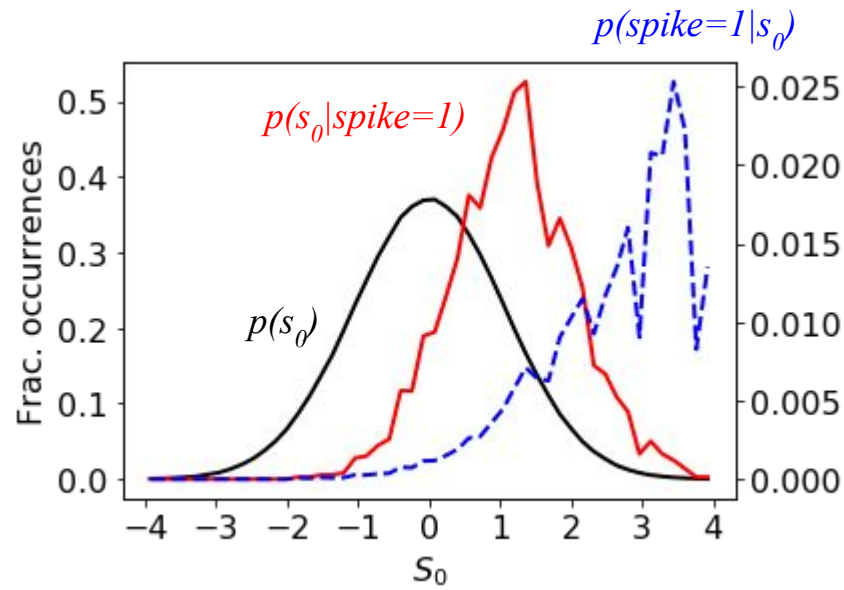
$$p(\text{spike} = 1 | s_0) = \frac{p(s_0 | \text{spike} = 1)p(\text{spike} = 1)}{p(s_0)}$$



Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average



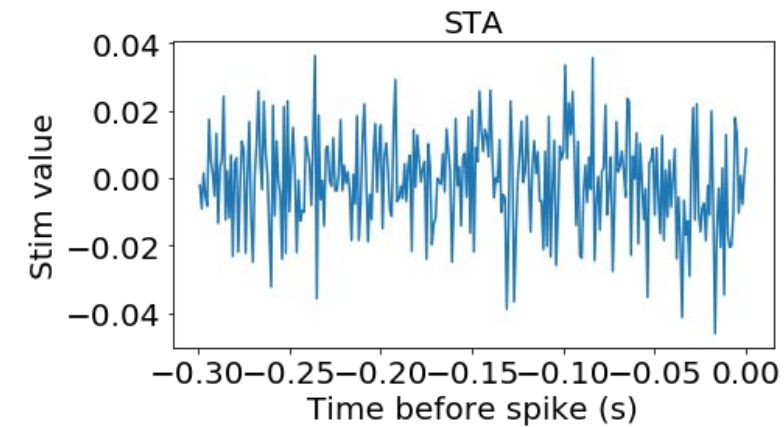
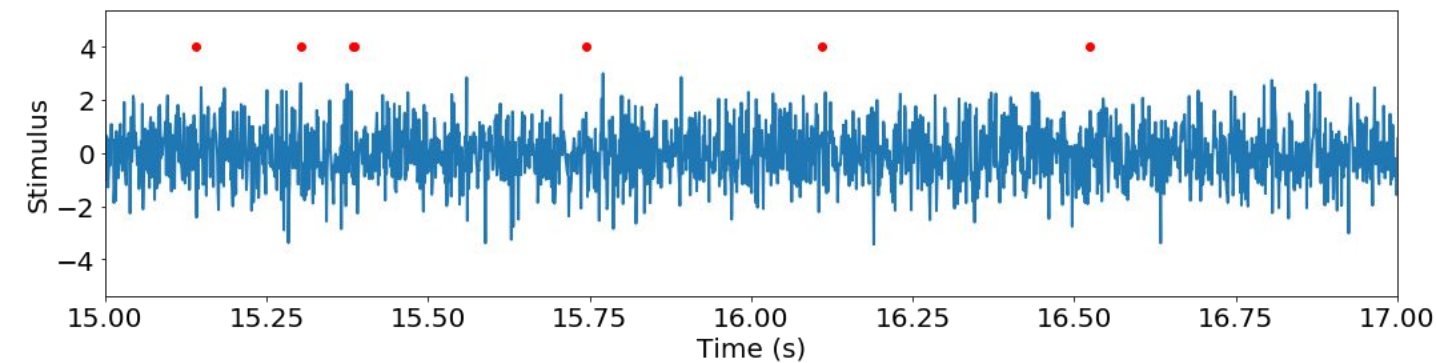
$$p(\text{spike} = 1 | s_0) = \frac{p(s_0 | \text{spike} = 1)p(\text{spike} = 1)}{p(s_0)}$$



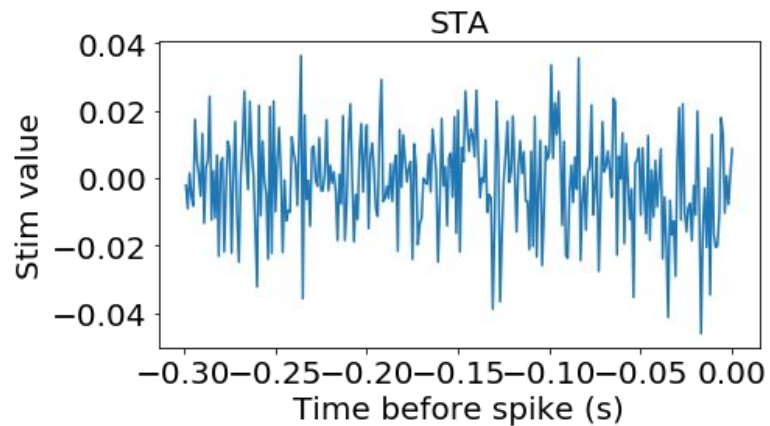
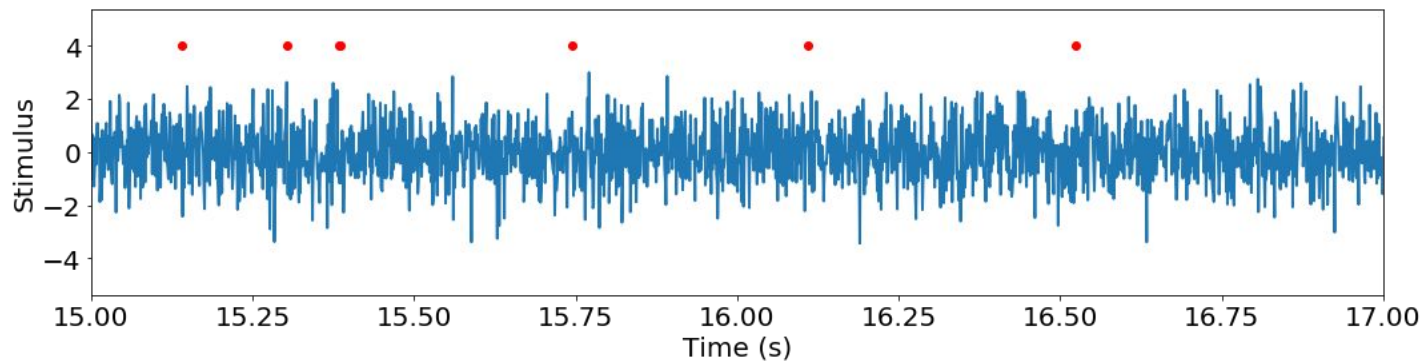
Spike train analysis: the spike-triggered average

Will spike-triggered average always be informative?

Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

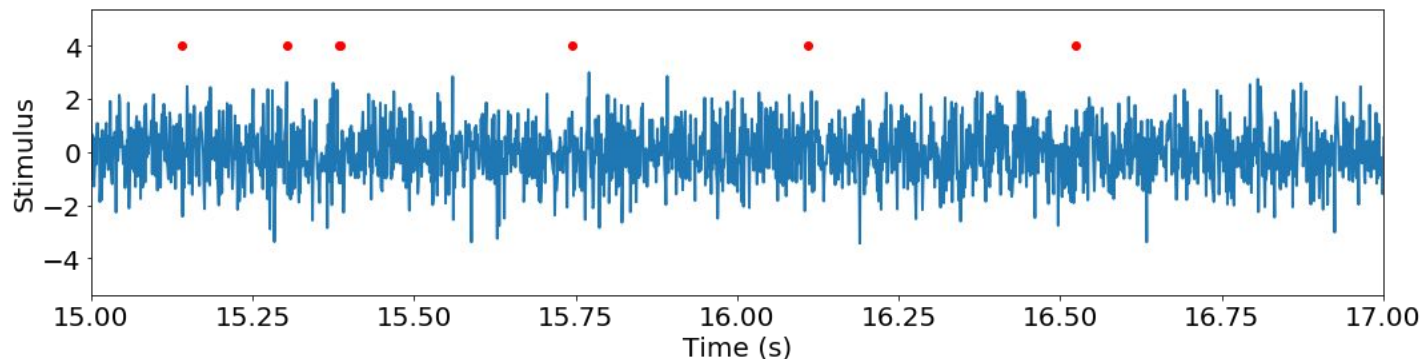


Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



STA not very interesting. What next?

Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



⋮
(.129, -.053, ..., -2.73, 1.353)
(-1.93, 1.22, ..., -1.88, 0.763)
⋮

Spike-triggered
ensemble

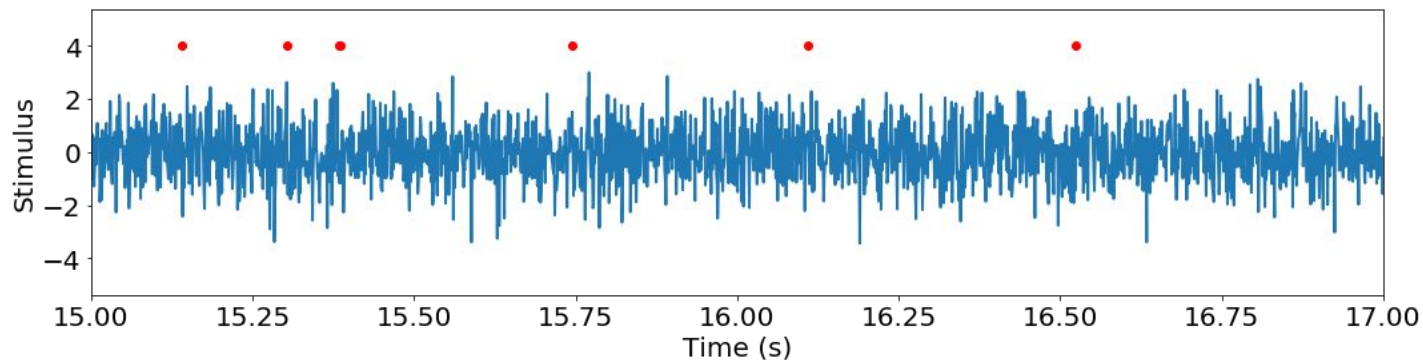
STA asks how **first-order** structure of spike-triggered ensemble differs from prior.

Now ask: how does **second-order** structure of spike-triggered ensemble differ from prior?

Recall:

first-order structure = mean
second-order structure = covariance

Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



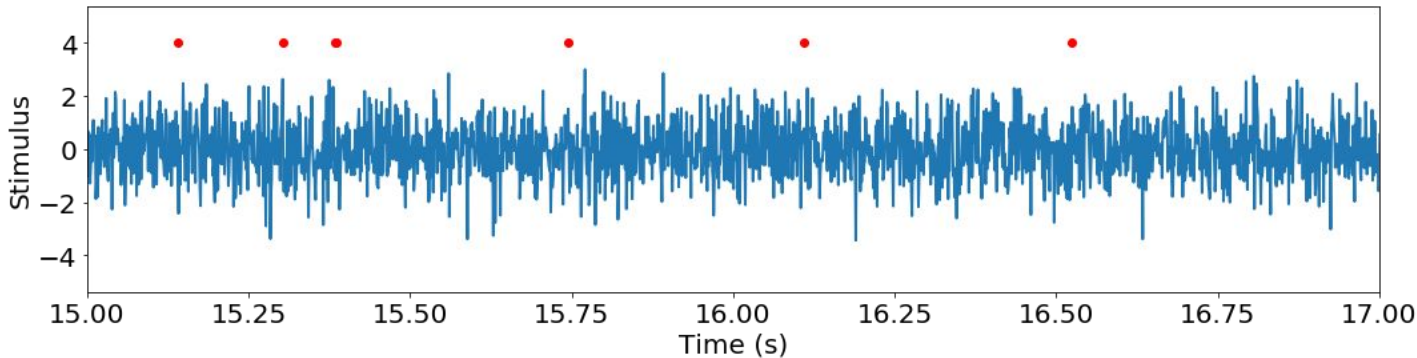
⋮
(.129, -.053, ..., -2.73, 1.353)
(-1.93, 1.22, ..., -1.88, 0.763)
⋮

} Spike-triggered ensemble

Key idea:

1. Calculate covariance K^{spk} of spike-triggered ensemble.
2. Calculate covariance K^{pr} of prior ensemble.
3. Ask: where do K^{spk} and K^{pr} differ most?

Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



⋮
(.129, -.053, ..., -2.73, 1.353)
(-1.93, 1.22, ..., -1.88, 0.763)
⋮

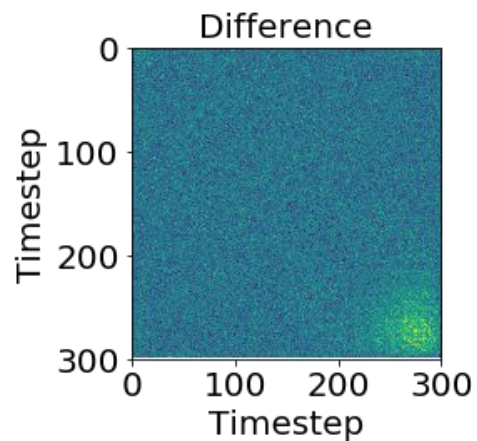
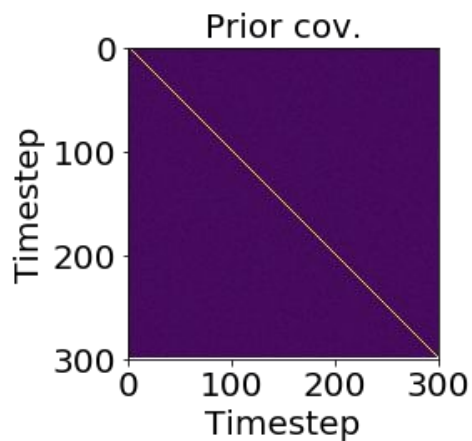
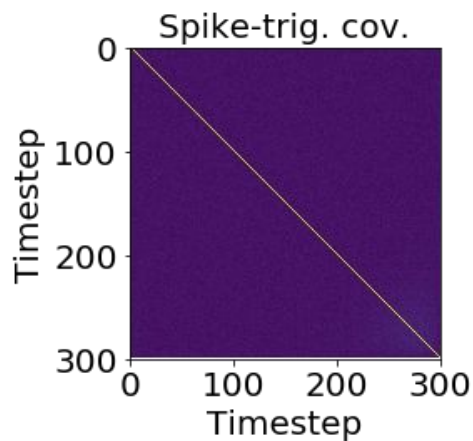
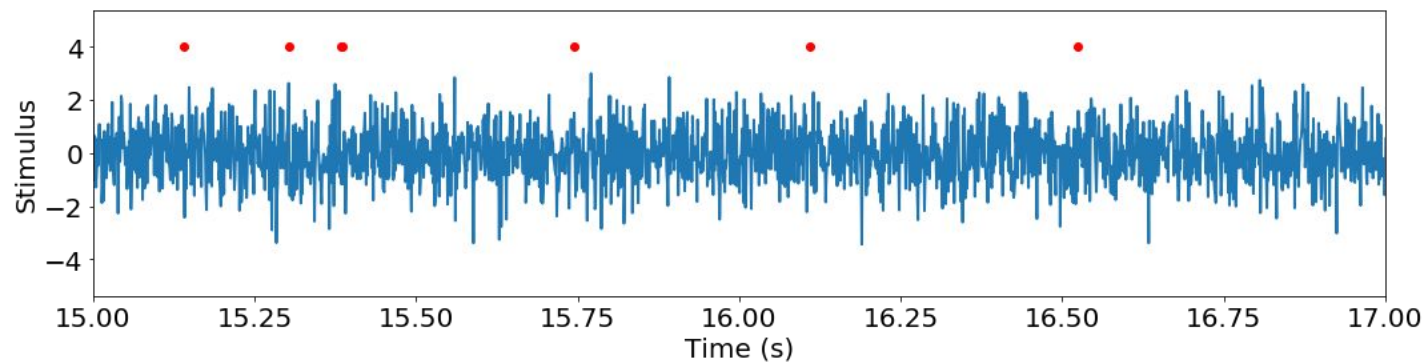
} Spike-triggered ensemble

$$K_{\tau,\tau'}^{spk} = \text{COV}(s(\tau), s(\tau'))$$
$$= E_{t_{spk}} [(s(t_{spk} - \tau) - E[s(t_{spk} - \tau)])(s(t_{spk} - \tau') - E[s(t_{spk} - \tau')])]$$

$$K_{\tau,\tau'}^{pr} = \text{COV}(s(\tau), s(\tau'))$$
$$= E_t [(s(t - \tau) - E[s(t - \tau)])(s(t - \tau') - E[s(t - \tau')])]$$

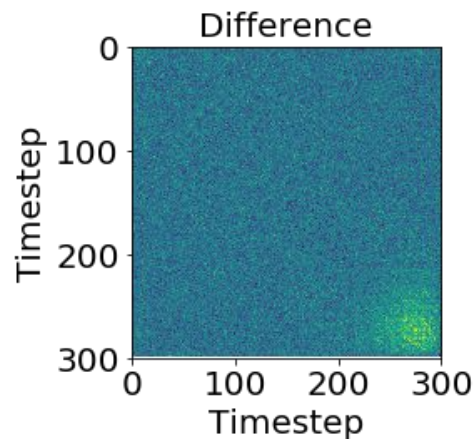
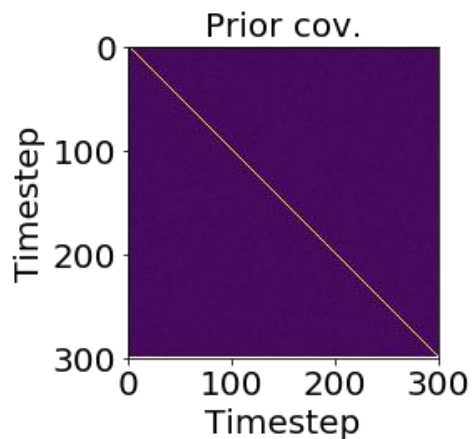
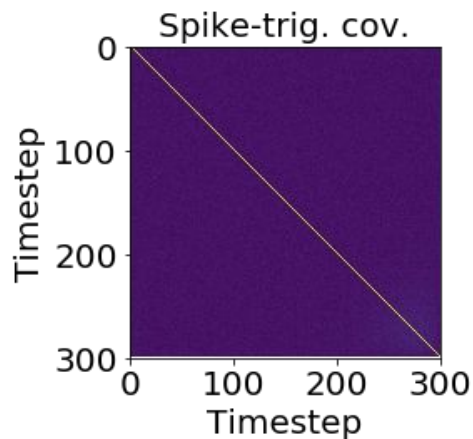
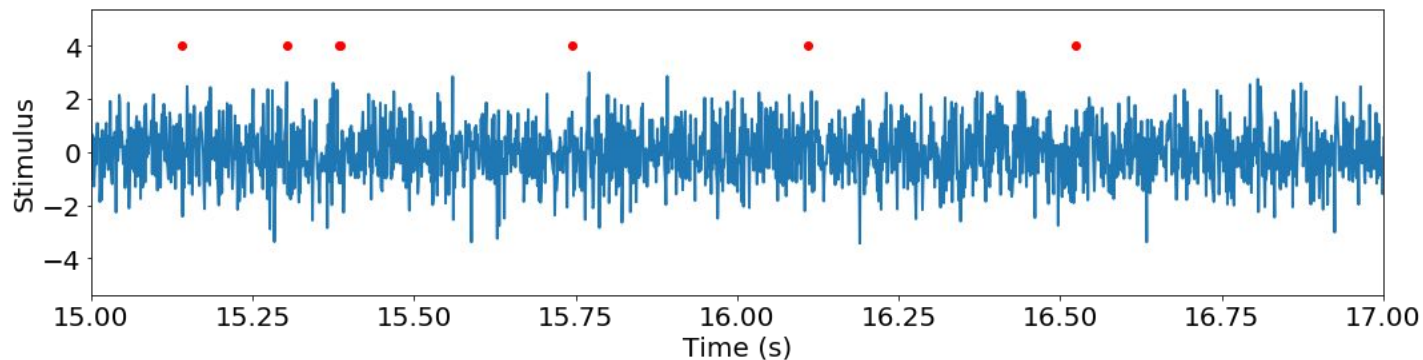
$$K^{diff} = K^{spk} - K^{pr}$$

Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

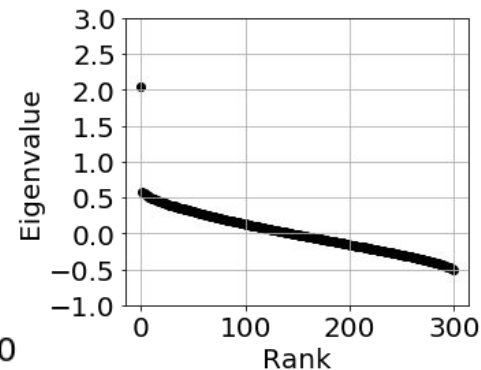
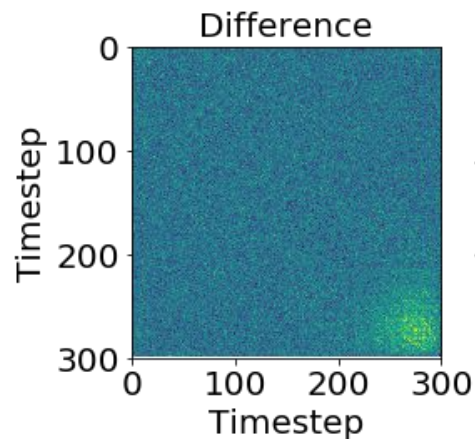
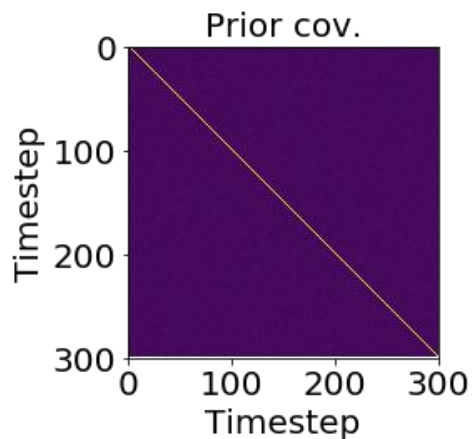
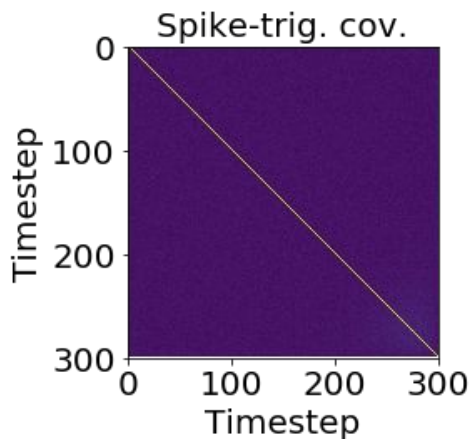
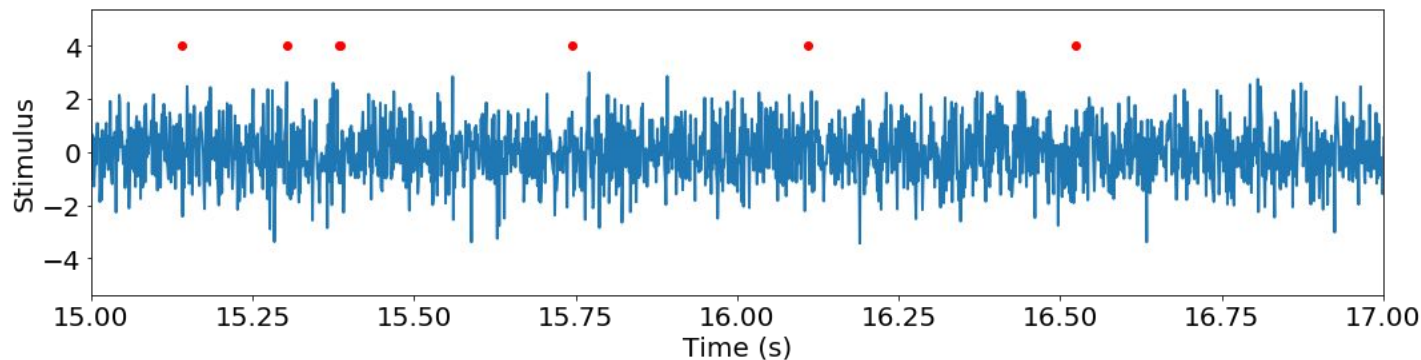
How should we quantify structure of K^{diff} ?



Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

How should we quantify structure of K^{diff} ?

Eigenvectors!

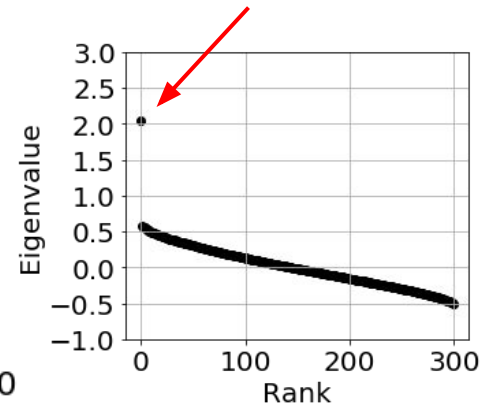
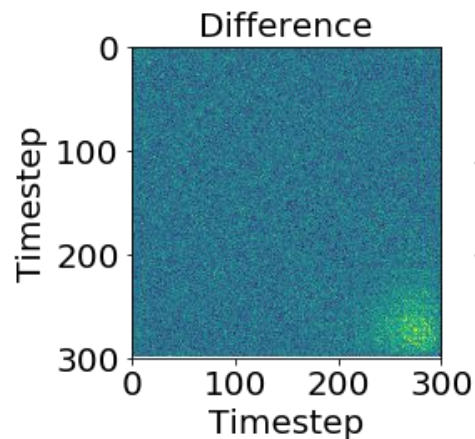
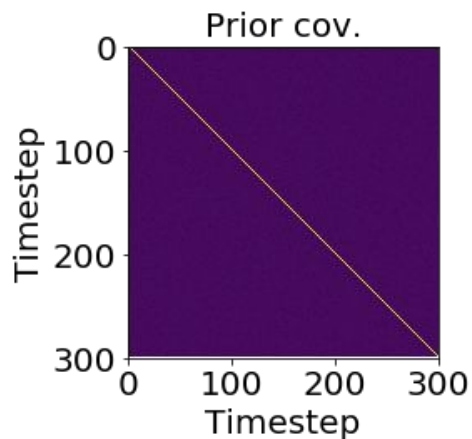
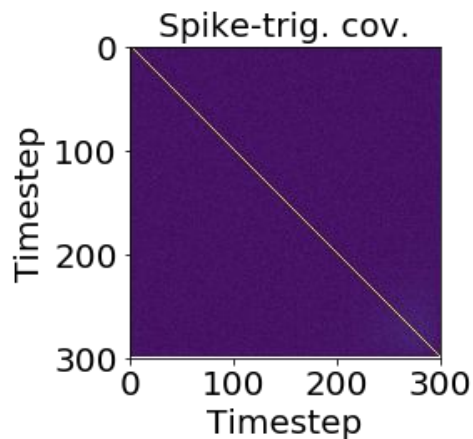
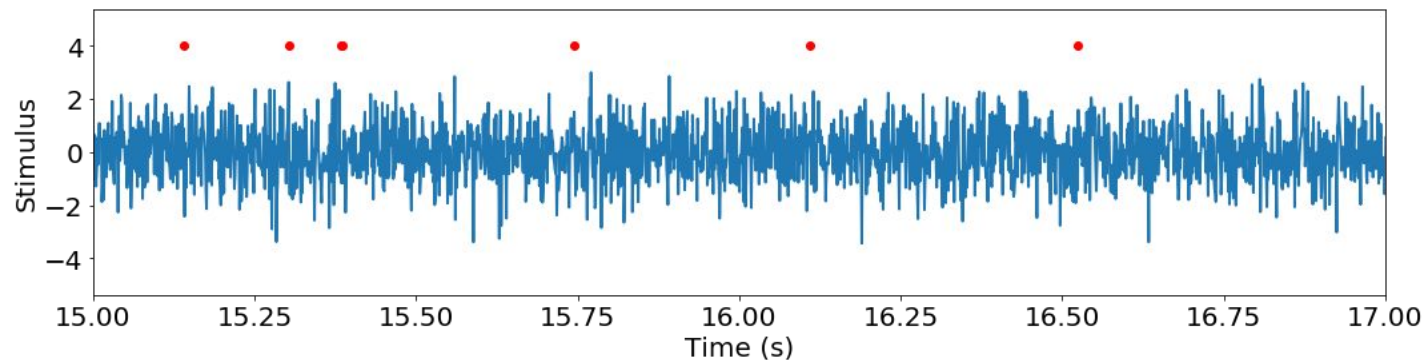


Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

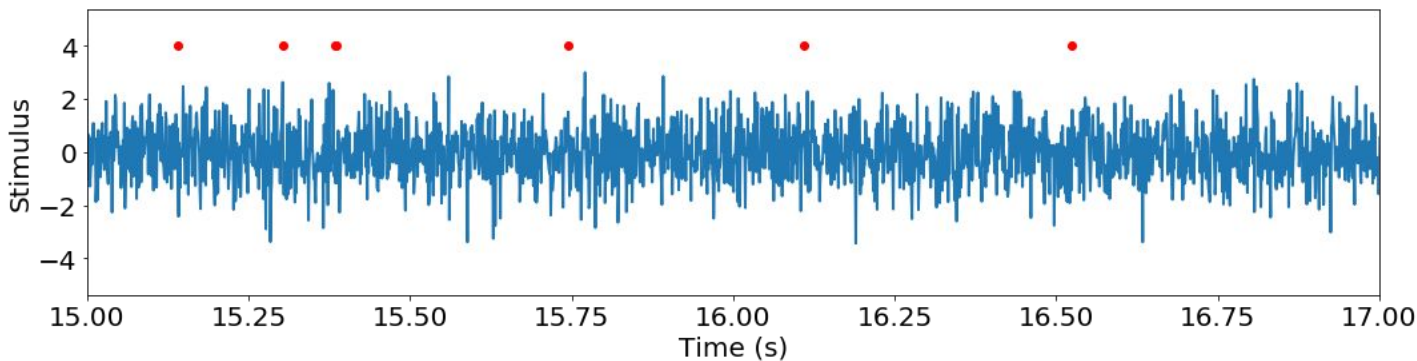
How should we quantify structure of K^{diff} ?

Eigenvectors!

1 “mode” of interest



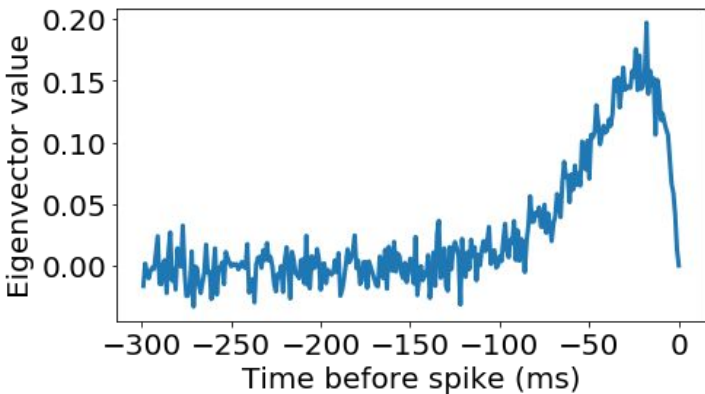
Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



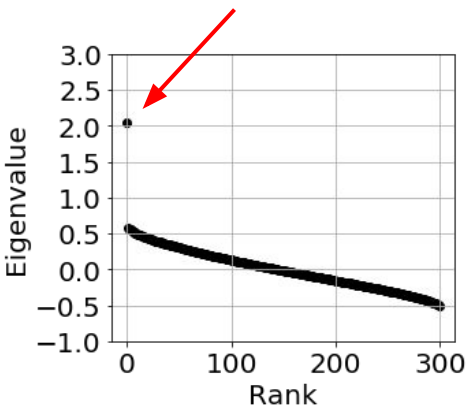
How should we quantify structure of K^{diff} ?

Eigenvectors!

Top mode of K^{diff}



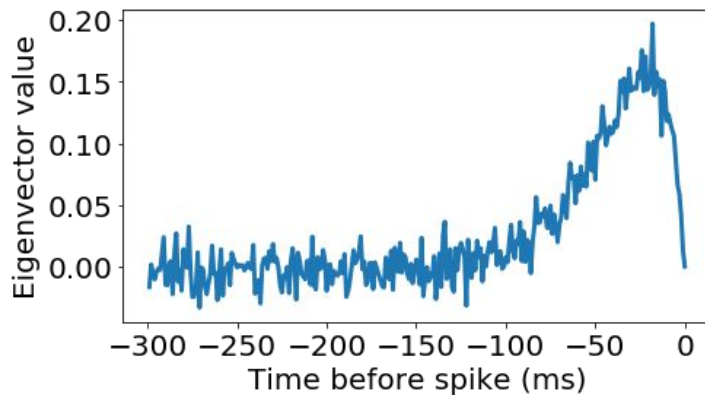
1 “mode” of interest



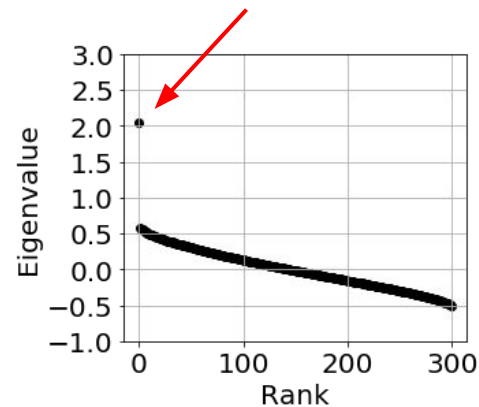
Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



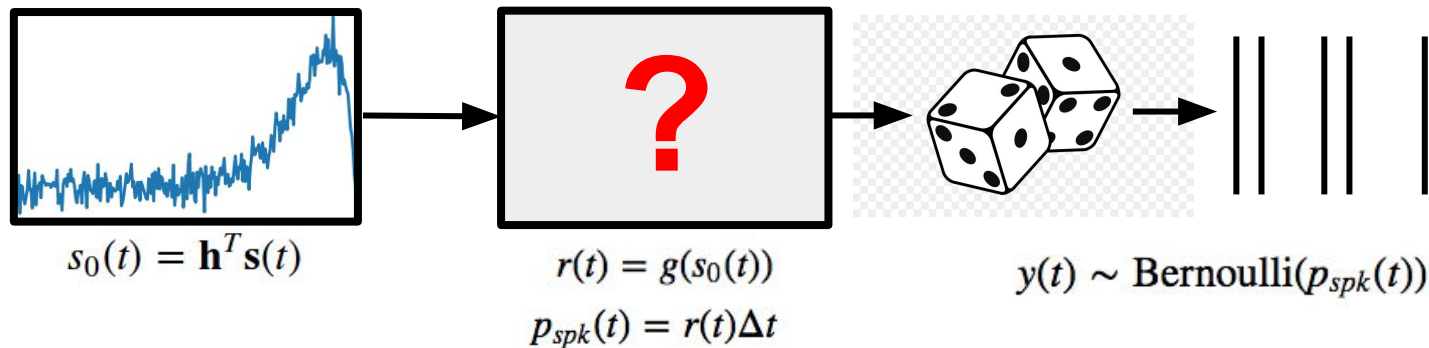
Top mode of K^{diff}



1 "mode" of interest

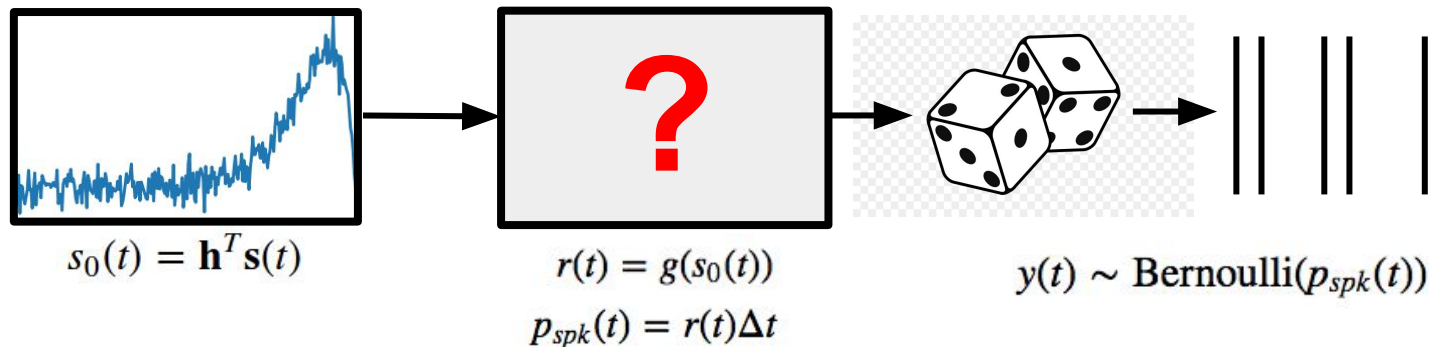


Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

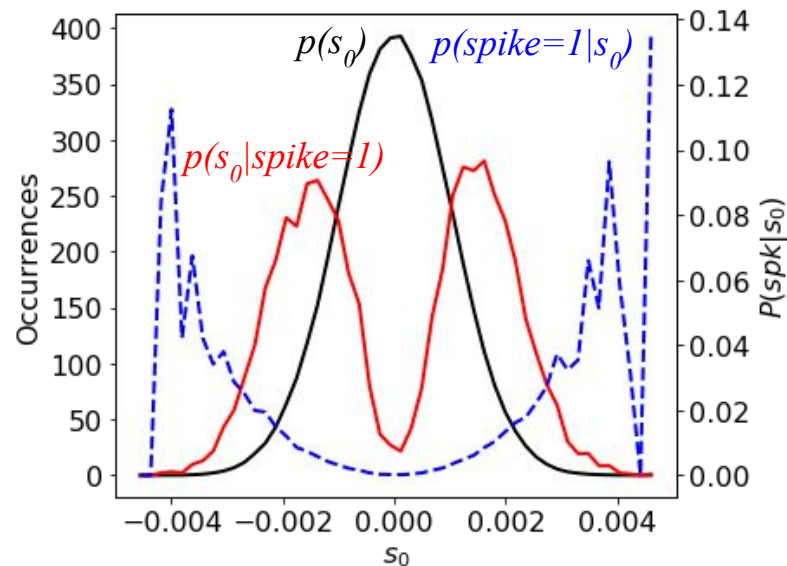


$$p(\text{spike} = 1 | s_0) = \frac{p(s_0 | \text{spike} = 1)p(\text{spike} = 1)}{p(s_0)}$$

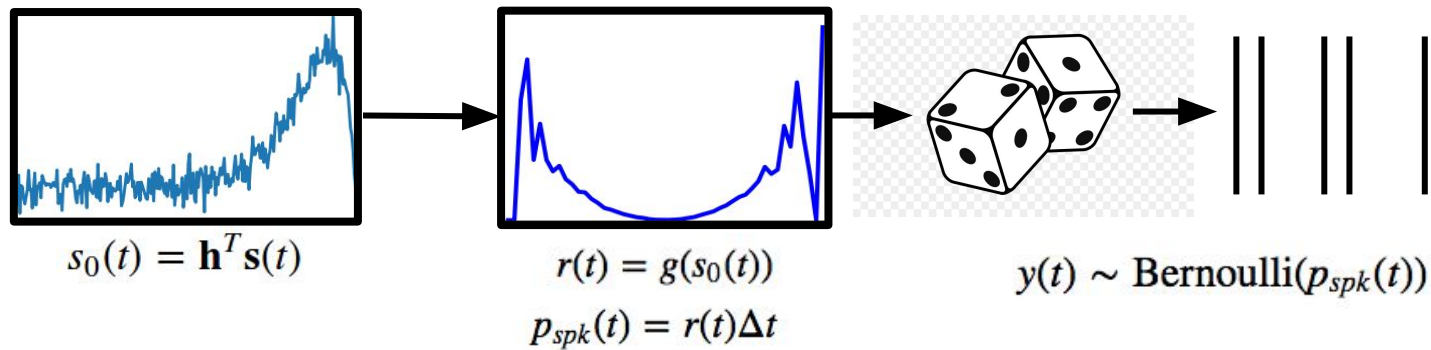
Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



$$p(\text{spike} = 1 | s_0) = \frac{p(s_0 | \text{spike} = 1) p(\text{spike} = 1)}{p(s_0)}$$

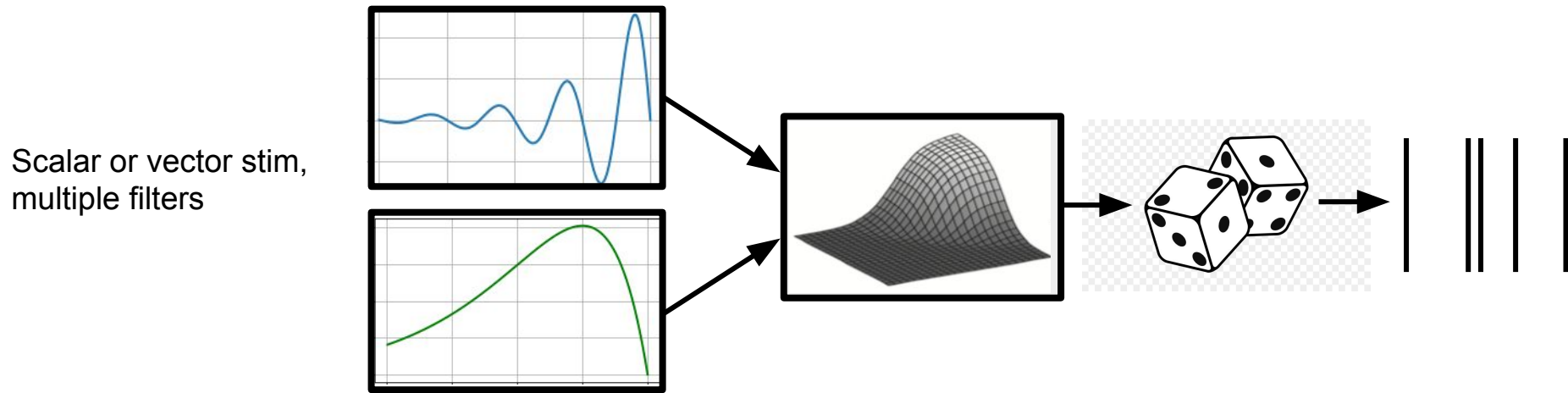


Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis



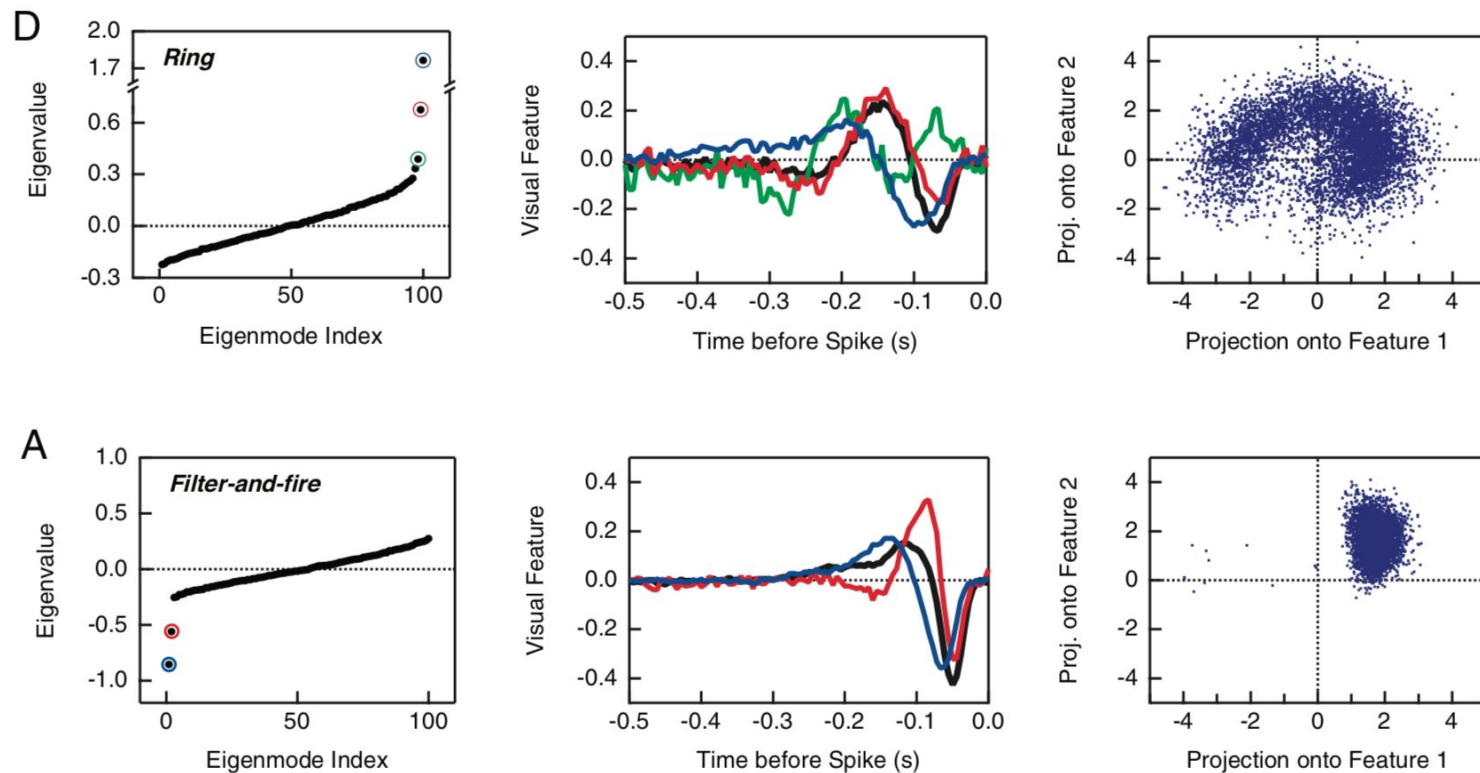
Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

Can also have multiple top eigenmodes yielding multiple filters

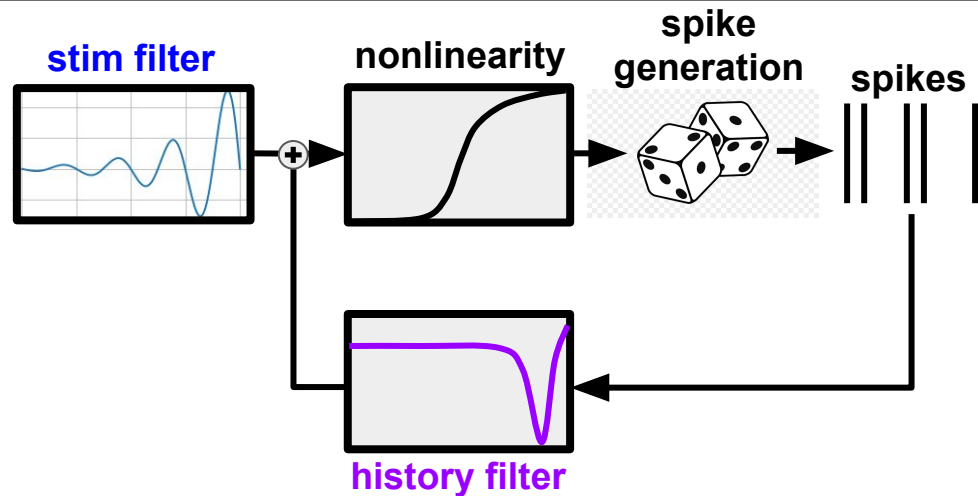


Spike train analysis: spike-triggered covariance analysis

Salamander retinal ganglion cells



Spike train analysis: generalized linear models



spike train generation

$$s_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_0^T \mathbf{s}(t)$$

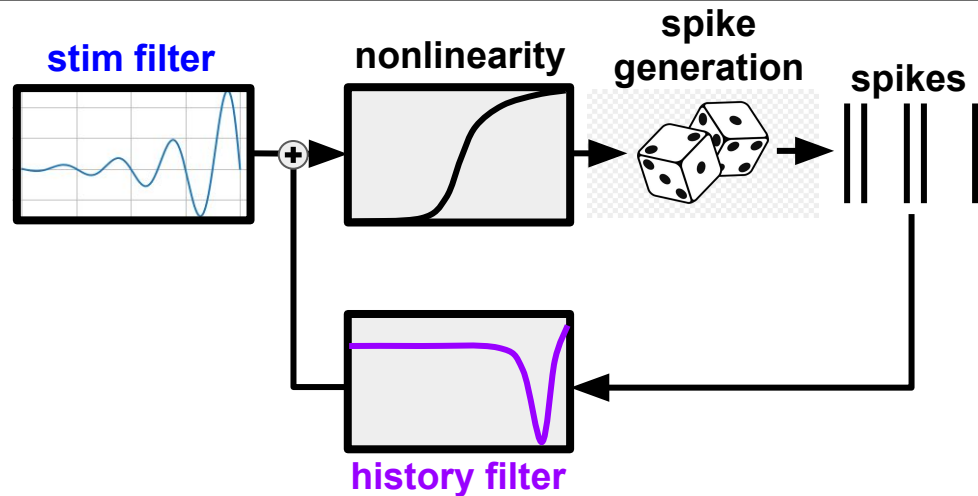
$$y_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t)$$

$$r(t) = g(\mathbf{h}_0^T \mathbf{s}(t) + \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t) + b)$$

$$p_{spk}(t) = r(t)\Delta t$$

$$y(t) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{spk}(t))$$

Spike train analysis: generalized linear models



spike train generation

$$s_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_0^T \mathbf{s}(t)$$

$$y_0(t) = \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t)$$

$$r(t) = g(\mathbf{h}_0^T \mathbf{s}(t) + \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t) + b)$$

$$p_{spk}(t) = r(t)\Delta t$$

$$y(t) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{spk}(t))$$

maximum likelihood model fitting

$$\hat{\theta} \equiv \{\hat{\mathbf{h}}_s, \hat{\mathbf{h}}_y, \hat{b}\} = \arg \max_{\theta} p[y(t)|\theta, s(t)] = \arg \max_{\theta} \prod_t p[y(t)|r(t; \theta, s(t' < t), y(t' < t))]$$

$$p[y(t)|r(t; \theta, s(t' < t), y(t' < t))] = r(t; \theta, s(t' < t), y(t' < t))\Delta t$$

$$r(t; \theta, s(t' < t), y(t' < t)) = g(\mathbf{h}_s^T \mathbf{s}(t) + \mathbf{h}_y^T \mathbf{y}(t) + b)$$

Outline

- Crash course in action potentials.
- Basic spike train analysis.
- Spiking neuron models.
- Short problem set time.
- Advanced spike train analysis.
- Other spike-based concepts.
- Full problem set time.

Spike train analysis: information in spikes

How much *information* do spikes contain about stim?

How much *information* do models capture?

Spike train analysis: information in spikes

How much *information* do spikes contain about stim?

How much information do models capture?

For well sampled stim, can compute mutual info between stim and spike from spike rate alone.

$$I(r, s) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt \frac{r(t)}{\bar{r}} \log \frac{r(t)}{\bar{r}}$$

$$\frac{r(t)}{\bar{r}} = \frac{P(\text{spike at } t | s)}{P(\text{spike at } t)} = \frac{P(s | \text{spike at } t)}{P(s)} \rightarrow \frac{P(s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots | \text{spike at } t)}{P(s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots)}$$

By definition

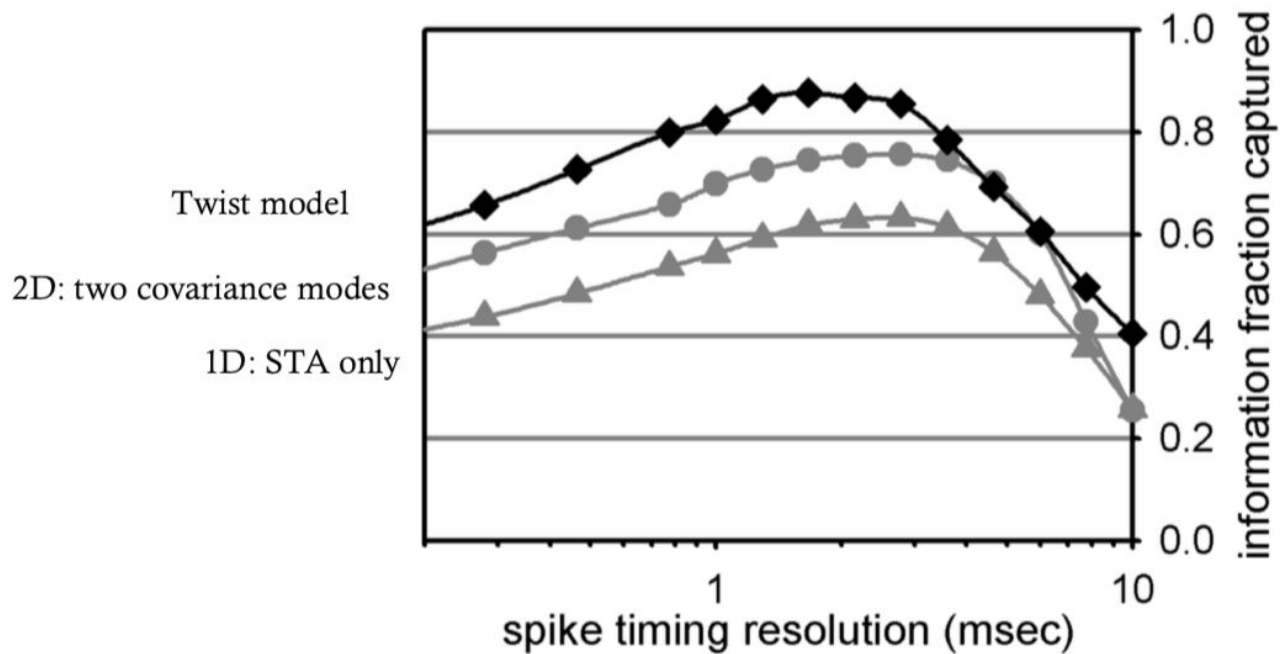
Bayes' rule

Dimensionality reduction

$$I_{\text{one spike}}^K = \int d^K s P(s_1, \dots, s_K | \text{spike at } t) \log_2 \left[\frac{P(s_1, \dots, s_K | \text{spike at } t)}{P(s_1, \dots, s_K)} \right]$$

Spike train analysis: information in spikes

Approximating H-H neuron with simpler models:



Other spike-based concepts

- Comparing spike trains
- Decoding stimuli from spikes
- Nonlinear dendritic integration
- Networks of spiking neurons
- Spike-timing-dependent plasticity
- Inferring network structure from spikes
- Spike sequences

Problem set part 2

https://github.com/rkp8000/imbizo_2019_spikes_tutorial

problems_2.ipynb

References

Free and friendly online textbooks:

- [Spiking Neuron Models](#) (Gerstner and Kistler 2002)
- [Theoretical Neuroscience](#) (Dayan and Abbott 2009)
- [Neuronal Dynamics](#) (Gerstner et al. 2014)

A few papers to get you started

- [Bryant et al. "Spike initiation by transmembrane current: a white-noise analysis."](#) 1976
- [Shadlen et al. "The Variable Discharge of Cortical Neurons: Implications for Connectivity, Computation, and Information Coding."](#) 1998
- [Brunel. "Dynamics of sparsely connected networks of excitatory and inhibitory spiking neurons."](#) 2000
- [Reinagel et al. "Temporal Coding of Visual Information in the Thalamus."](#) 2000
- [Song et al. "Competitive Hebbian learning through spike-timing-dependent synaptic plasticity."](#) 2000
- [Aguera y Arcas et al. "Computation in a Single Neuron: Hodgkin and Huxley Revisited."](#) 2003
- [Slee et al. "Two-Dimensional Time Coding in the Auditory Brainstem."](#) 2005
- [Fairhall et al. "Selectivity for Multiple Stimulus Features in Retinal Ganglion Cells."](#) 2005
- [Victor. "Spike train metrics."](#) 2005
- [Pillow et al. "Spatio-temporal correlations and visual signaling in a complete neuronal population."](#) 2008
- [London et al. "Sensitivity to perturbations in vivo implies high noise and suggests rate coding in cortex".](#) 2010
- [Weber et al. "Capturing the Dynamical Repertoire of Single Neurons with Generalized Linear Models".](#) 2016
- [Nicola et al. "Supervised learning in spiking neural networks with FORCE training."](#) 2017