

# A saturation model for impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

based on work in preparation by: T.D. Barbara Nguyen-Vu, Grace Q. Zhao, Han-Mi Lee, SL, Surya Ganguli, Carla J. Shatz, Jennifer L. Raymond

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Stanford University, Applied Physics

July 10, 2013

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### └ Outline

- 1 VOR learning and the cerebellum
- 2 The effects of enhanced plasticity and saturation
- 3 Modelling approach
- 4 Modelling results

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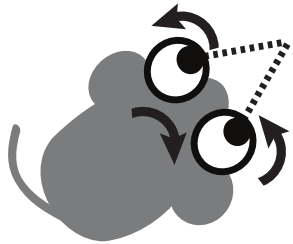
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└ VOR learning and the cerebellum

Section 1

VOR learning and the cerebellum

## Section 1

# VOR learning and the cerebellum



Eye movements compensate for head movements to maintain fixation.

Requires control of VOR gain =  $\frac{\text{eye velocity}}{\text{head velocity}}$ .

Needs to be adjusted as eye muscles age, etc.

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└ VOR learning and the cerebellum

└ Vestibular Occular Reflex



Eye movements compensate for head movements to maintain fixation.

Requires control of VOR gain =  $\frac{\text{eye velocity}}{\text{head velocity}}$

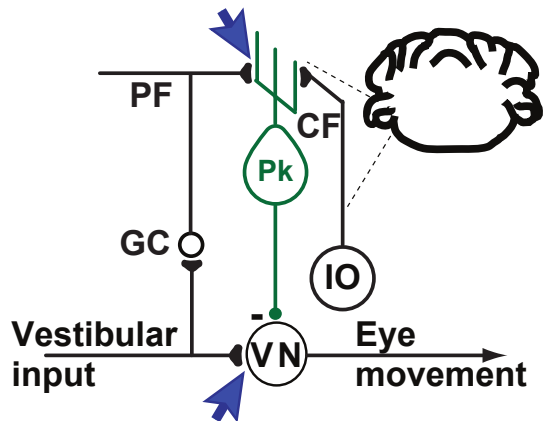
Needs to be adjusted as eye muscles age, etc.

# VOR training

## VOR Increase Training



## VOR Decrease Training



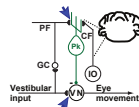
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└ VOR learning and the cerebellum

└ VOR training

VOR training



1. trick brain into thinking VOR gain needs adjusting my moving visual stimuli
2. anti-phase → increase gain
3. in phase → decrease gain
4. Gain change involves cerebellum
5. Marr-Albus-Ito: Pf-Pk synapses
6. Lisberger-Miles: Vestibular input-VN synapses
7. Different mechs for different freq, head angle, gain up/down.
8. Different Pk cells have different tunings.
9. Gain up in case of interest: LTD in Pf-Pk in flucculus
10. Gain down: uses different mech for behaviour, but does reverse LTD in Pf-Pk in flucculus

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└ The effects of enhanced plasticity and saturation

Section 2

The effects of enhanced plasticity and saturation

## Section 2

### The effects of enhanced plasticity and saturation

- Can the saturation effect overcome the enhanced plasticity?
- How can a little reverse bias help, but too much hurt?
- Can we find a purely synaptic explanation of these results?

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Saturation by enh. plasticity impairs learning  
└ The effects of enhanced plasticity and saturation

└ Questions

1. in competition
2. first makes sense, but second?
3. This is a question about synaptic populations after all.

- Can the saturation effect overcome the enhanced plasticity?
- How can a little reverse bias help, but too much hurt?
- Can we find a purely synaptic explanation of these results?

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└─Modelling approach

Section 3

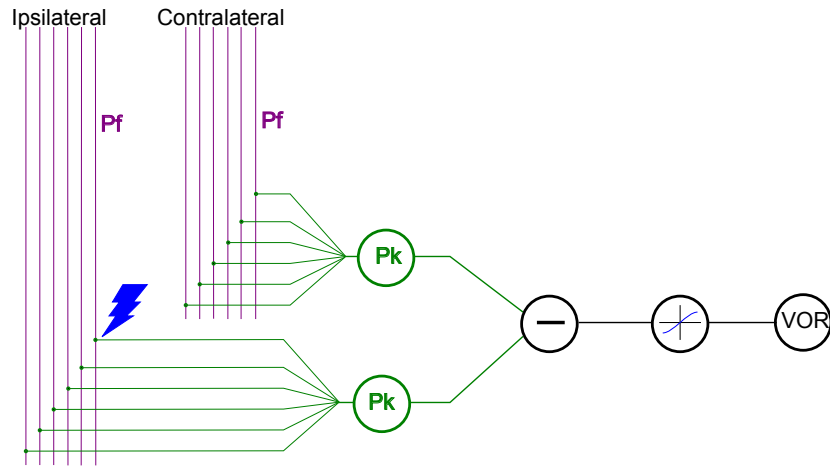
Modelling approach

## Section 3

### Modelling approach



# Model of circuit

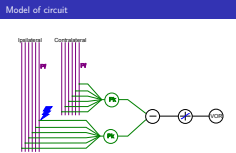


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└ Modelling approach

└ Model of circuit



1. Contralateral baseline shift compensates for Our baseline shift
2. Gain increase due to LTD at lightning
3. Gain decrease due to plasticity elsewhere, but also reverses LTD at lightning
4. Nonlinearity here won't affect our questions, as long as it doesn't change
5. Nonlinearity before compensation could change things

## Simplifying assumptions

- No spatial/temporal correlations in plasticity events.
  - Potentiating/depressing plasticity events  $\sim$  Poisson processes.
  - Potentiation and depression are described by Markov processes.
- [Fusi et al. (2005), Fusi and Abbott (2007), Barrett and van Rossum (2008)]

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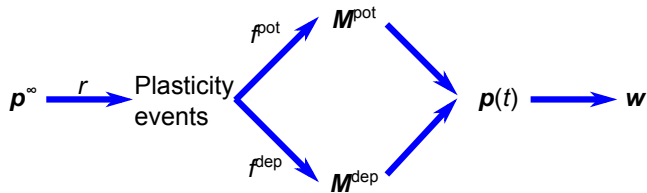
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- Modelling approach

- └ Simplifying assumptions

1. allows us to concentrate on synapse, not neuron/network
2. No filing system
3. don't care if STDP...
4. looks like binary synapse from outside. Inside...

There are  $N$  identical synapses with  $M$  internal functional states.



$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}(t)}{dt} = r\mathbf{p}(t)\mathbf{W}^F, \quad \mathbf{W}^F = f^{\text{pot}}\mathbf{M}^{\text{pot}} + f^{\text{dep}}\mathbf{M}^{\text{dep}} - \mathbf{I},$$

$$\mathbf{p}^\infty \mathbf{W}^F = 0.$$

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└ Modelling approach

└ Dynamics

Dynamics

There are  $N$  identical synapses with  $M$  internal functional states.



$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}(t)}{dt} = r\mathbf{p}(t)\mathbf{W}^F, \quad \mathbf{W}^F = f^{\text{pot}}\mathbf{M}^{\text{pot}} + f^{\text{dep}}\mathbf{M}^{\text{dep}} - \mathbf{I},$$

$$\mathbf{p}^\infty \mathbf{W}^F = 0.$$

1. stoch process has steady state.
2. Prior activity puts it in this state. row vec.
3. plasticity events at rate  $r$
4. fraction pot/dep
5. probs changed by Markov matrices, prob  $i \rightarrow j$
6. Readout: synaptic weight vec when in each state.
7. Memory at  $t = 0$ , keep track of pot/dep
8. subsequent: average over pot/dep

**Mutation:** Changes mechanism of LTD  $\implies$  change  $\mathbf{M}^{\text{dep.}}$

**Training:** Changes statistics of LTP/LTD  $\implies$  change  $r, f^{\text{pot}}, f^{\text{dep.}}$

**Learning:** Change in VOR gain  $\implies$  decrease in  $\langle \mathbf{w} \rangle$

1. lower threshold  $\rightarrow$  increase off-diagonal elements.
2. Only parameters we have. Don't care about  $r$ .
3. Only output we have. Don't keep track of synaptic identity.

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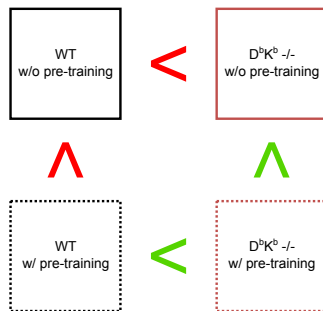
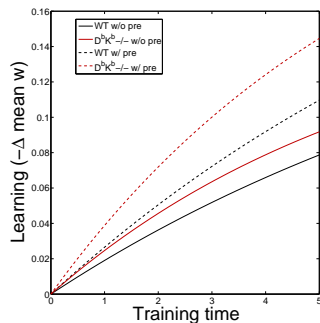
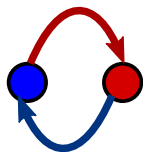
Saturation by enh. plasticity impairs learning  
└─Modelling results

Section 4

Modelling results

## Section 4

### Modelling results

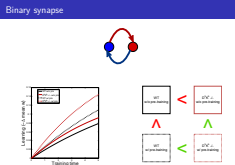


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└ Modelling results

└ Binary synapse

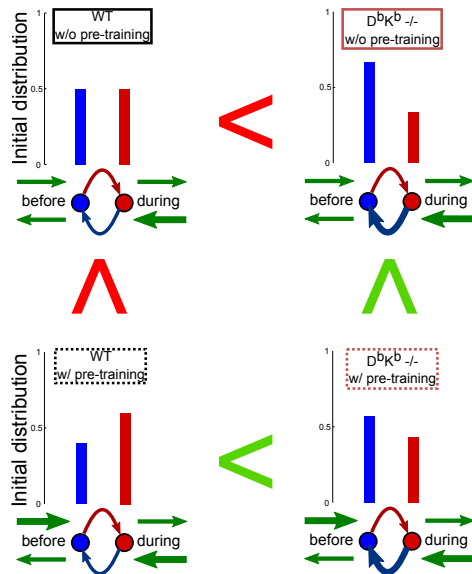


1. Compare solid curves
2. Compare black curves
3. understand why next slide

# Binary synapse: initial distributions

Learning rate:

- ~ rate of events
- × prob. of transition
- × prob. ready for  $\Delta w$
- ×  $(-\Delta w)$

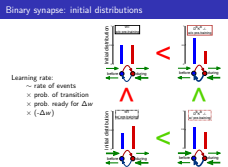


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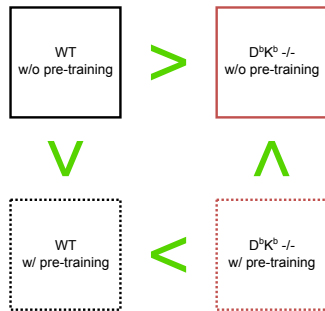
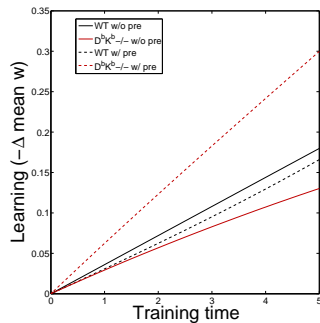
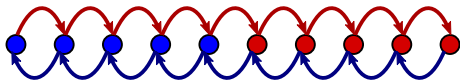
Saturation by enh. plasticity impairs learning

└ Modelling results

└ Binary synapse: initial distributions



1. WT: start with everything equal – just for illustration, not essential
2. WT: during training, increase  $f^{\text{dep}}$  (green arrow) → weakening.
3. KO: inc  $q^{\text{pot}}$  → bias
4. KO: competition between inc prob trans & dec prob ready
5. KO: first one wins. see why after next model
6. pre: reduces/reverses bias. always helps.



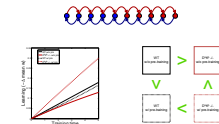
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└ Modelling results

└ Serial synapse

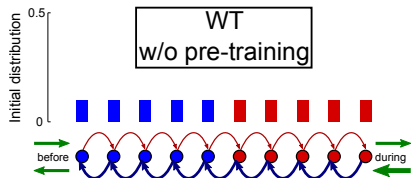
Serial synapse



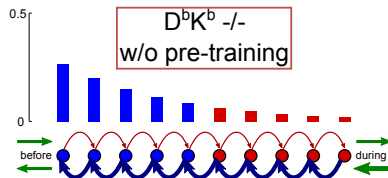
1. Still looks binary from outside. Hidden states (not essential).
2. Only see  $\Delta w$  at boundary.
3. understand why next slide



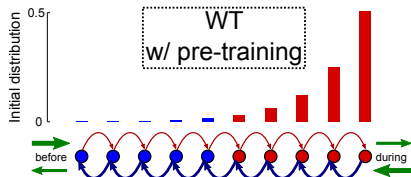
# Serial synapse: initial distributions



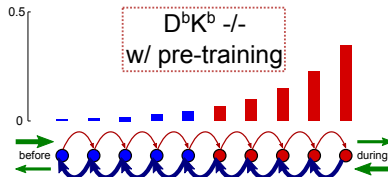
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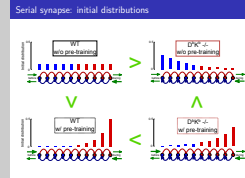


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└ Modelling results

└ Serial synapse: initial distributions



1. WT: start with everything equal – just for illustration, not essential
2. WT: during training, increase  $f^{\text{dep}}$  (green arrow)  $\rightarrow$  weakening.
3. KO: inc  $q^{\text{pot}}$   $\rightarrow$  bias, now exponential
4. KO: comp. between inc prob trans & dec prob ready, now only at bndry
5. KO: second one wins, now exponential
6. pre: reduces/reverses bias.
7. pre: little reverse bias repopulates bndry, helps.
8. pre: too much reverse bias moves away from bndry, hurts.
9. maths next slide

Serial synapse:  $\mathbf{p}_i^\infty \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{q^{\text{pot}}}{q^{\text{dep}}}\right)^i$ .

Learning rate  $\sim \mathbf{p}_{M/2}^\infty \left(\frac{q^{\text{dep}}}{q^{\text{pot}}}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{q^{\text{pot}}}{q^{\text{dep}}}\right)^{\frac{M}{2}-1}$ .

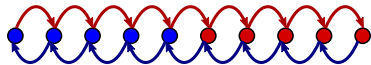
For  $M > 2$ : larger  $q^{\text{dep}} \implies$  slower learning.

For  $M = 2$ : larger  $q^{\text{dep}} \implies$  larger  $\mathcal{N} \implies$  faster learning.

1. Detailed balance. Exponential decay.
2. for large enough  $M$ ,  $q^{\text{pot}}$ , overcome  $\mathcal{N}$
3. Other factor in  $\mathbf{p}^\infty$  smaller  $\implies \mathcal{N}$  larger.

The success of the serial model relies on two features:

- Enhancing the effect of saturation,
- Metaplasticity – repeated potentiation makes subsequent depression harder.



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└─Modelling results

└─Essential features

1. due to exponential decay
2. push away from boundary where signal generated
3. borne out by other models that fail/succeed

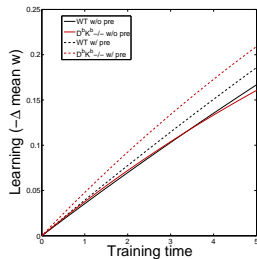
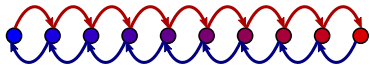
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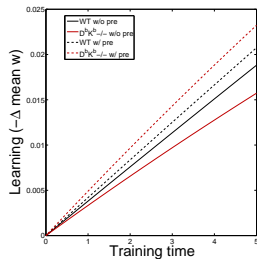
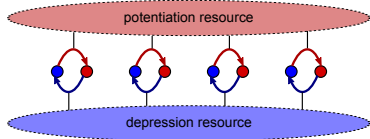


# Other models that fail

Multistate model



Pooled resource model



[Amit and Fusi (1994)]

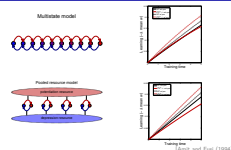


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└ Modelling results

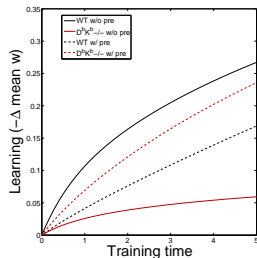
└ Other models that fail



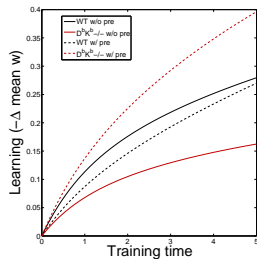
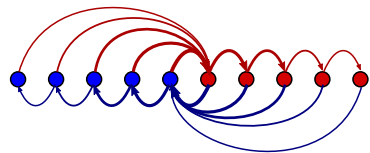
1. MS: linear weights, unlike serial.
2. like bunch of binary synapses in series.
3. solid curves: fails early on, but catches up quickly
4. black curves: fails badly
5. No real enhancement of saturation, no metaplasticity.
6. All transitions contribute: pushing to end has little effect.
7. Pooled: resource depleted by pot/dep. replenished by reverse.
8. solid curves succeed: enhanced saturation
9. black curves fail: opposite metaplasticity, pot makes dep easier

# Other models that work

Non-uniform multistate model



Cascade model



[Fusi et al. (2005)]

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└ Modelling results

└ Other models that work

1. Both models, trans probs decay exponentially from centre.
2. Nonuni: linear weights. Cascade: binary weights.
3. Enhanced saturation and metaplasticity
4. Pushing to end makes pot and dep harder
5. Note: hidden states not necessary

Other models that work

Non-uniform multistate model



Cascade model



[Fusi et al. (2005)]

## Conclusions and further questions

- The saturation effect overcome the enhanced plasticity, if it is enhanced. **Requires complexity**
- A little reverse bias can help, but too much hurts, if repeated potentiation makes depression harder. **Requires metaplasticity**
- We can find a purely synaptic explanation of VOR behaviour, iff the synapses have these features.
- We used behaviour to constrain molecular structure of synapses!
- Can we constrain it further with more experiments?

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## Saturation by enh. plasticity impairs learning

## Modelling results

## └ Conclusions and further questions

1. e.g. exponential decay, resource depletion,...
2. e.g. moving away from weight boundary, or weaker transitions.
3. Other explanations? Non-linearity in PK cell?

## Conclusions and further questions

- The saturation effect overcomes the enhanced plasticity, if it is enhanced. **Requires complexity**
- A little reverse bias can help, but too much hurts, if repeated potentiation makes depression harder. **Requires metaplasticity**
- We can find a purely synaptic explanation of VOR behaviour, iff the synapses have these features.
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## References I



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## Saturation by enh. plasticity impairs learning

- Modelling results

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└─Modelling results

└─References

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