

# Adaptive Neural Information Processing

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# Adaptive Coding over Evolution

- Large monopolar cells (LMCs) in the blowfly compound eye encode contrast signals in the natural environment
- LMCs have limited response levels, and need to adapt their contrast sensitivity (gain function) to encode contrast signals efficiently.
- Here, efficiency means using the resource efficiently, i.e., the probability distribution of all our states should be constant,  $P(o)=\text{constant}$

$c$  : contrast level;  $o$ : output level

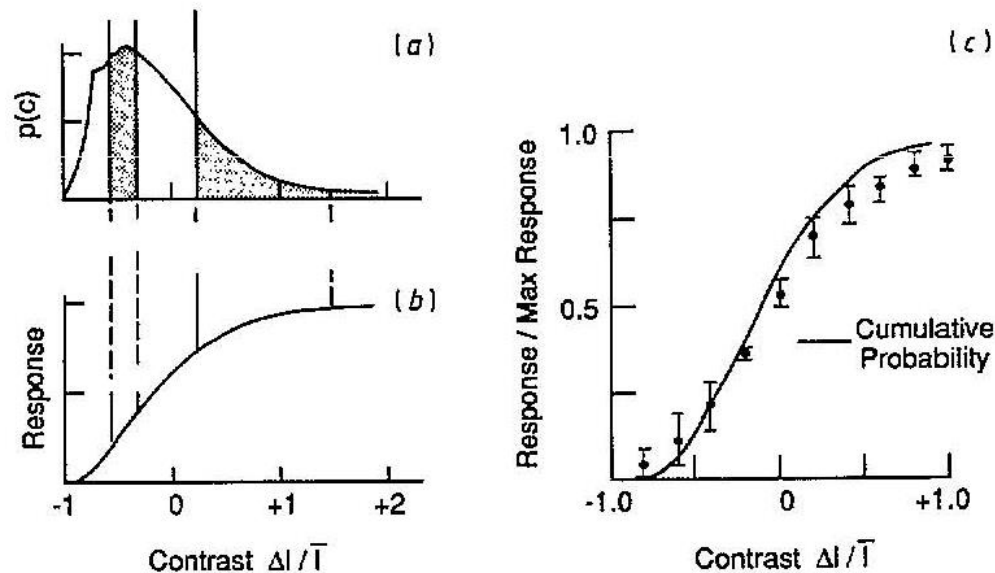
$o = g(c)$ : the gain/contrast sensitivity

$$P(o)do = P(c)dc$$

$$\alpha g'(c) = P(c)$$

$$g(c) = \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_{-1}^c P(c)dc$$

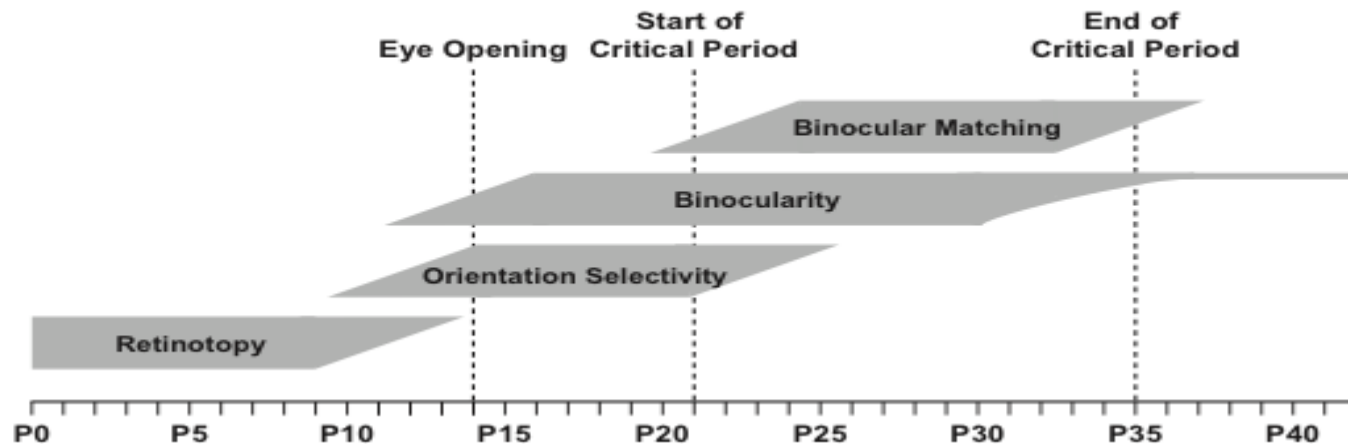
# Adaptive Coding over Evolution



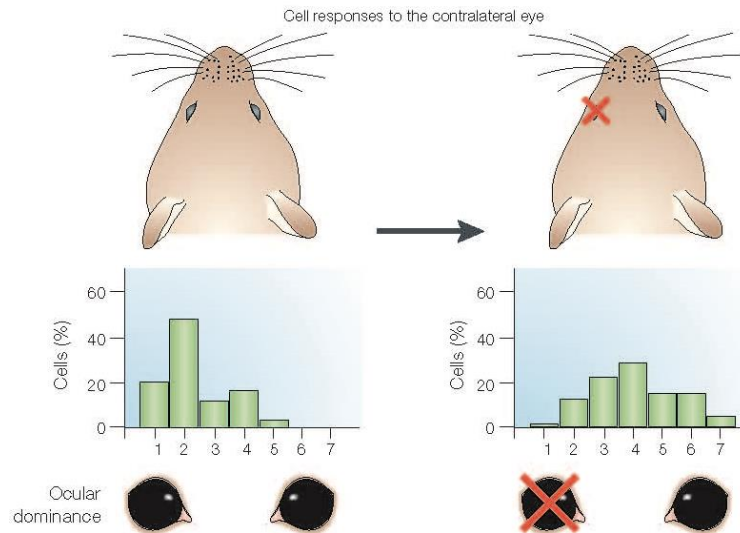
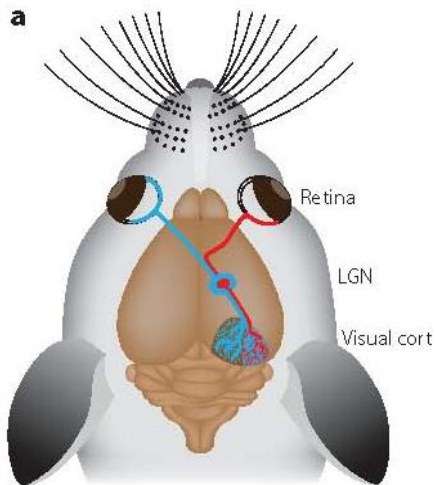
**Figure 1.** Probability distribution of contrasts, (a), in the fly environment from the measurements of Laughlin (1981). The contrast-response predicted by information theory is the cumulative probability map in (b). (c) is a comparison between the predicted response and that actually measured by Laughlin (1981) in the LMC.

# Adaptive Coding over Development

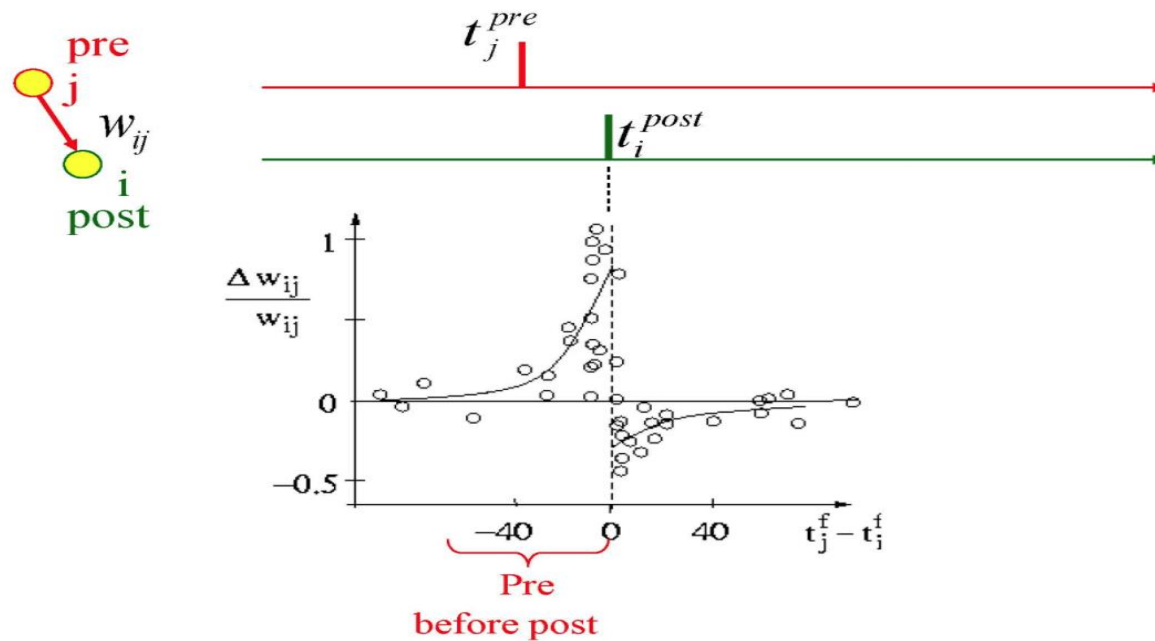
Critical Period in the development of  
primary visual cortex of mouse



# Monocular deprivation impairs binocular vision

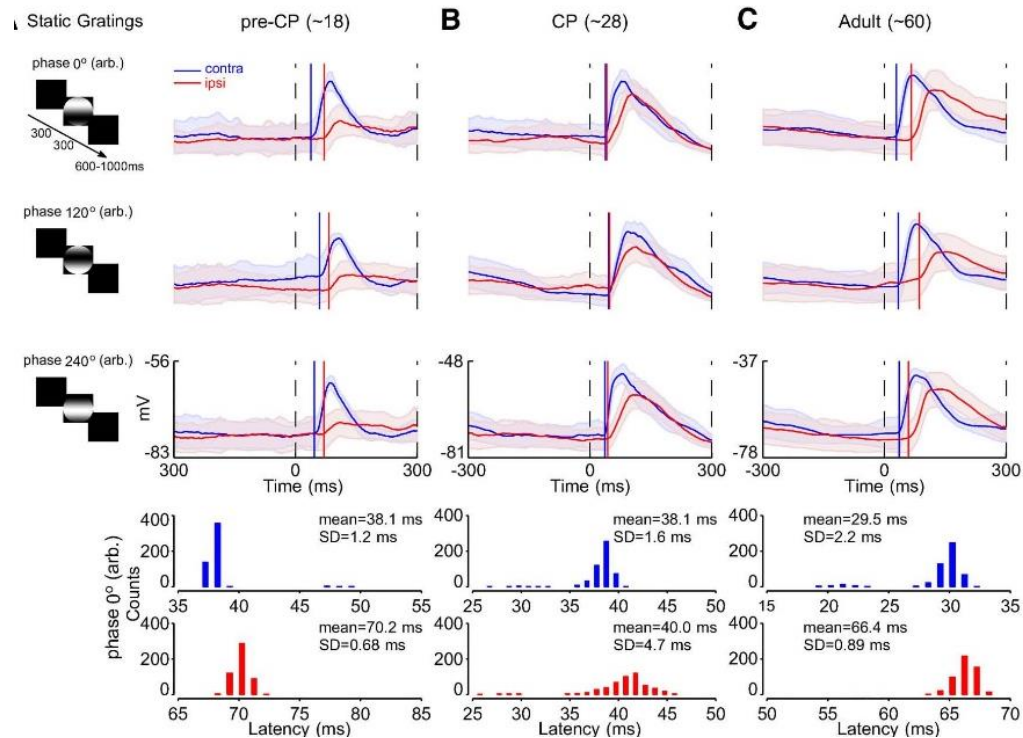


# Spike-time-dependent-plasticity (STDP)



Bi & Poo, J. Neurosci. 1998

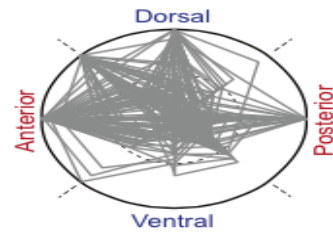
# Increased synchronization of binocular inputs in the critical period



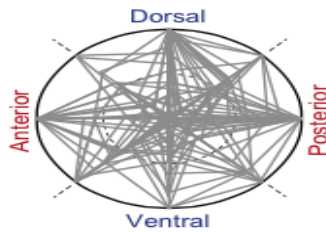
# Balancing Direction/Orientation Tuning in Development

## A Normally reared

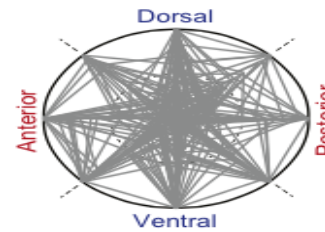
0-1 day after  
eye-opening (P13-15)



3-4 days after  
eye-opening (P15-16)

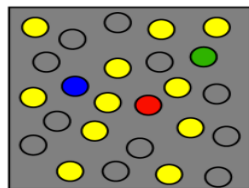


Adult (P57-79)



Rocheffort et al 2011

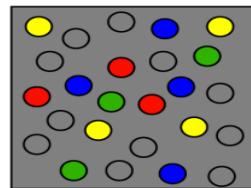
Eye-opening 1 day



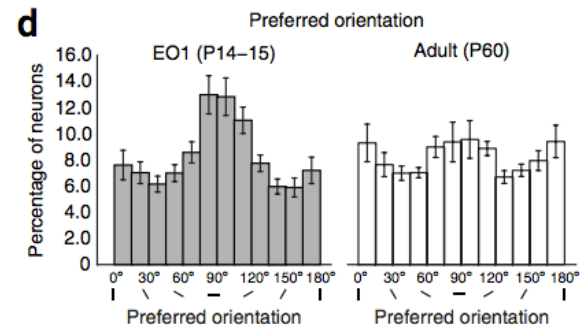
Activity  
dependent



Adult



Hagihara et al 2015





# A Computational Model

## The mechanism

- Different excitatory neuron groups encode different orientations
- All excitatory neuron groups are reciprocally connected to an inhibitory neuron pool, which mediates the competition between excitatory neurons
- Initially, horizontal orientation is encoded by neurons
- During development, new neurons are recruited to encode un-represented orientations

## The prediction

- Development is accompanied with the maturity of inhibitory neurons
- Diversity of representation increases after exposing to the environment
- Tuning of inhibitory neurons becomes flat

# On-line Adaptive Coding

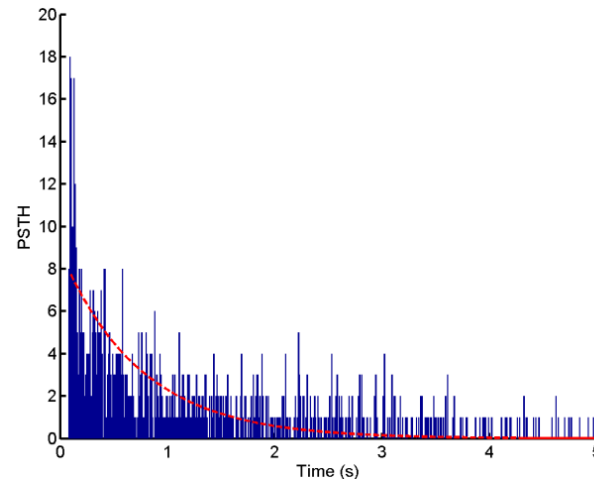
- Neural adaptation is a change over time in the responsiveness of the system to a constant stimulus.

It is usually experienced as a change in the stimulus. For example, if one rests one's hand on a table, one immediately feels the table's surface on one's skin. Within a few seconds, however, one ceases to feel the table's surface. The sensory neurons stimulated by the table's surface *respond immediately, but then respond less and less until they may not respond at all*; this is neural adaptation.

From Wikipedia

Neural systems adapt to invariant, not necessarily constant, stimuli

# Neuronal Response in Adaptation



- Firing rate increases dramatically at the onset of a stimulation.
- For invariant stimulation, firing rate attenuates gradually to the background level

# Is Adaptation Simply “Adaptation” ?

## ■ What does adaptation imply?

- Constant stimulation conveys little “information” .
- Attenuating firing rates neglects input information?

## ◆ But the stimulus is still there?

- Where is this information that “the stimulus is still there” encoded?
- Is it possible that stimulus representation is shifted from firing rates to other neural response features?

# Experiment Protocol

**Material:** Bullfrog retina;

**Record:** Multi-electrode Array (MEA);

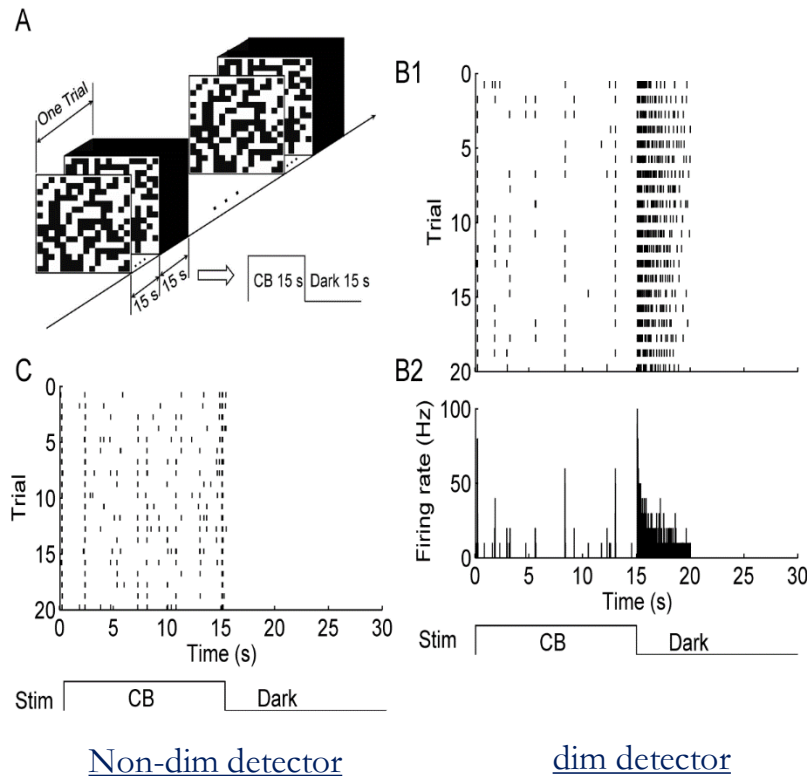
**Stimuli:** 15s Checker-board followed by 10s Full-field dark or gray stimulation

**Trails:** 20-30 times

**Task:** Explore how luminance information is dynamically encoded in neural response features (firing rate vs. correlation)

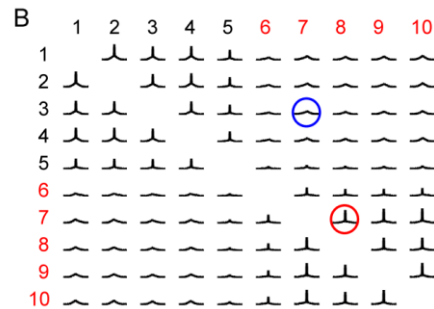
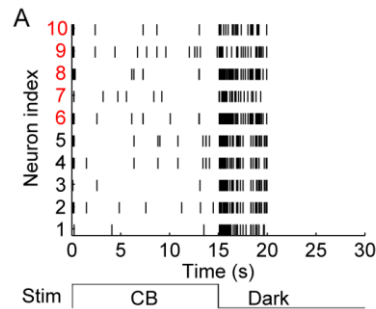


# Responses of Dim Detectors

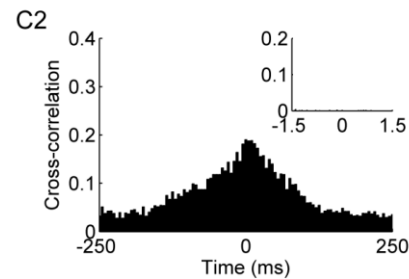
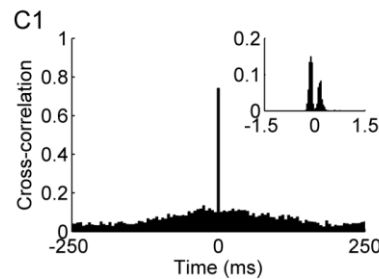


- Sensitive to dimming condition
- Detecting the approaching of a predator from behind
- Display long-lasting adaptive response—lasting 5 s
- A good model to explore adaptation

# Neuronal Correlation Patterns



		1	
6		3	2
10	8		4
	9	7	5



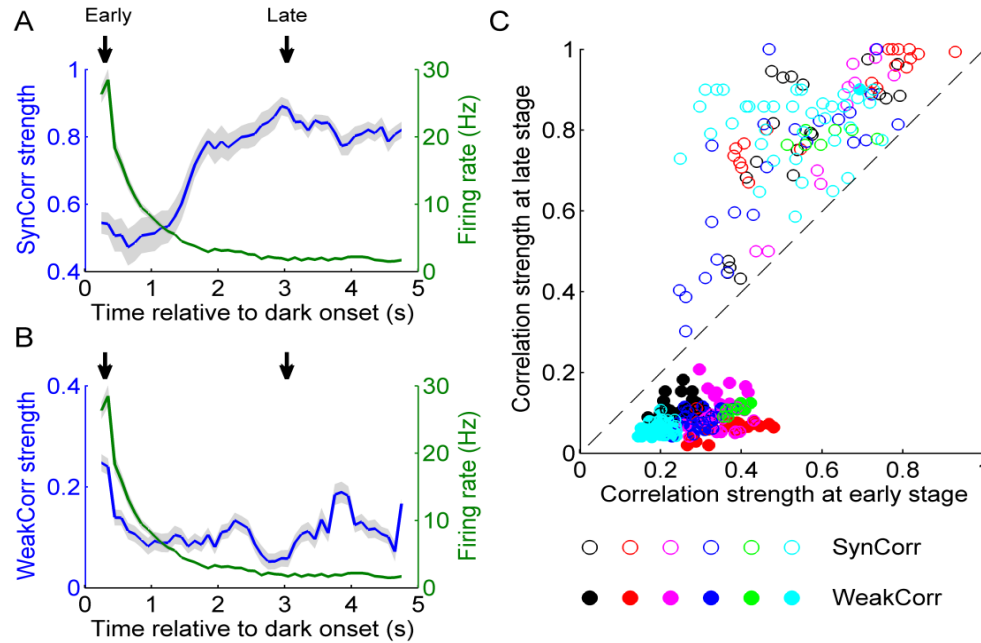
Two correlation types:

- Synchronization via gap-junction
- Weak correlation via common input

Cross-correlation:

$$C_{ij}(m) = \frac{M}{M - 2|m|} \frac{\sum_{n=1+|m|}^{M-|m|} r_i(n) r_j(n+m)}{\sqrt{\sum_{n=1}^M r_i(n)^2 \sum_{n=1}^M r_j(n)^2}}$$

# Correlation increases during adaptation



A seemingly paradoxical phenomenon:

Neuronal firing rates attenuate, whereas, syn-corr increases!



# A Discrimination Task

- Two stimuli: Dark vs. Gray
- Data: Neural population response over time
- Performance Indexes:
  - Information measure
  - Classification error

# Information Measure

•Digitalizing neural responses (0101...)

## ■ Mutual Information

$$I(S; r_1, r_2) = \sum_S \sum_{r_1, r_2} p(r_1, r_2 | s) p(s) \log_2 \left[ \frac{p(r_1, r_2 | s)}{p(r_1, r_2)} \right]$$

## ■ Synergy Information

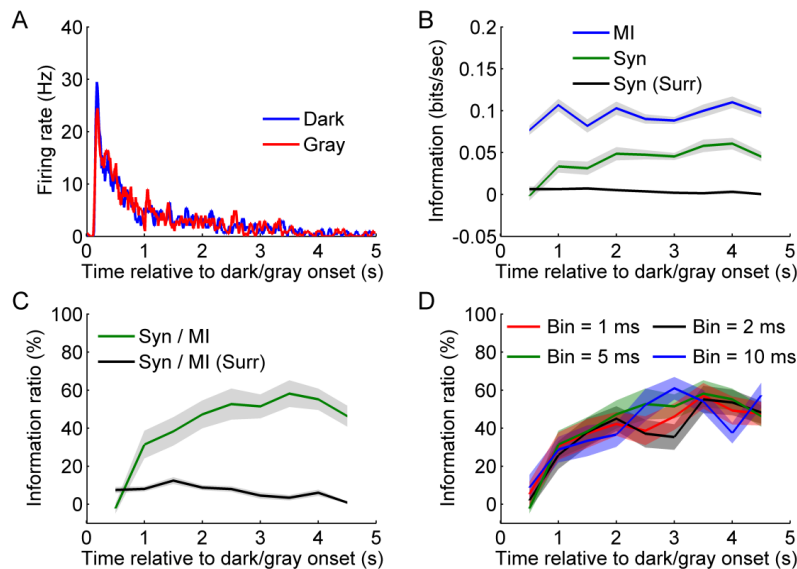
$$\text{Syn}(r_1, r_2) = I(S; r_1, r_2) - I(S; r_2) - I(S; r_1)$$

$\text{Syn}(r_1, r_2) = 0$ : Independent

$\text{Syn}(r_1, r_2) > 0$ : Information contained in neural correlated activities

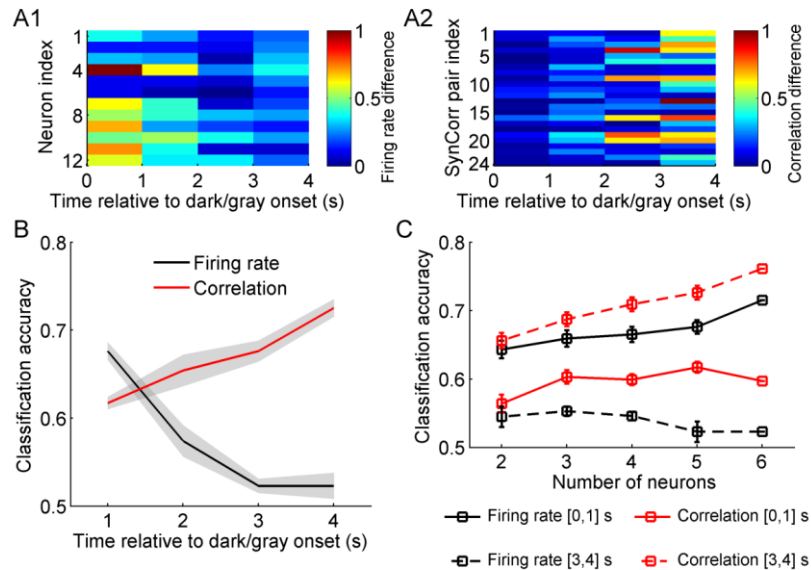
$\text{Syn}(r_1, r_2) < 0$ : Redundant

# Shift of Neural Coding Strategy



- Applied to a neuron pair
- Stimulus information conveyed by neural ensemble is rather stable
- Stimulus information conveyed by firing rates attenuate over time
- Stimulus information conveyed by neural correlation increase over time

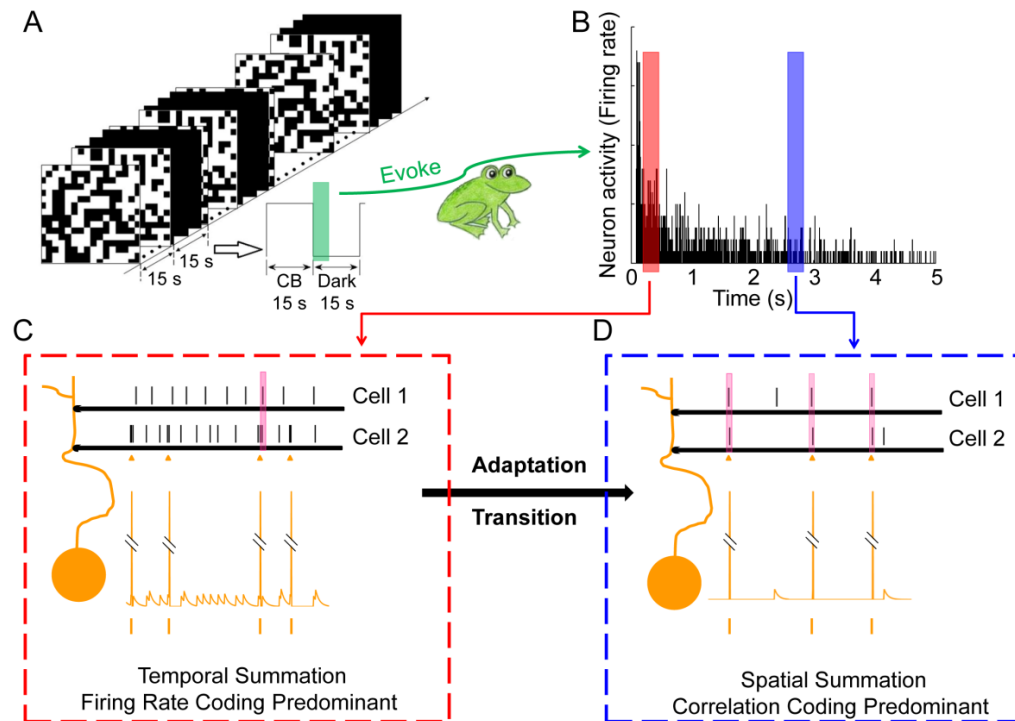
# Classification Performances



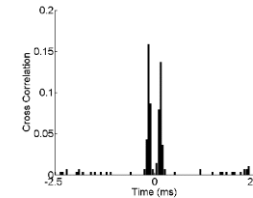
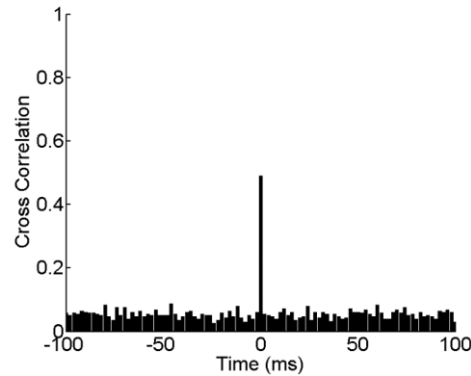
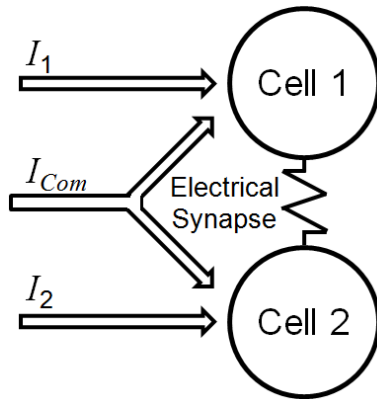
- Applied to a neural population
- Linear classifier is used
- Classification accuracy based on firing rates attenuate over time
- Classification accuracy based on correlation increases over time

Input: firing rates of individual neurons or correlations between neuron pairs  
 Output: dark or grey

# Why Adaptive Encoding?



# A Computational Model for Retina Adaptation



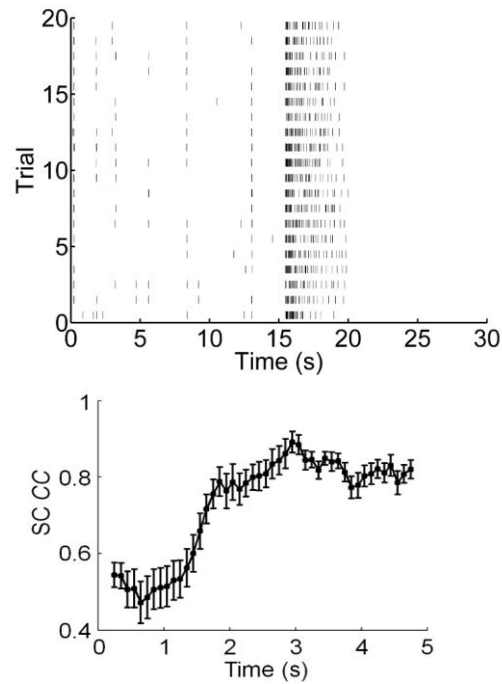
$$C \frac{dV_i}{dt} = -g_L (V_i - V_{rest}) + I_i^{input} + g_{coupling} (V_j - V_i), \quad i, j = 1, 2,$$

Facilitated Gap-junction

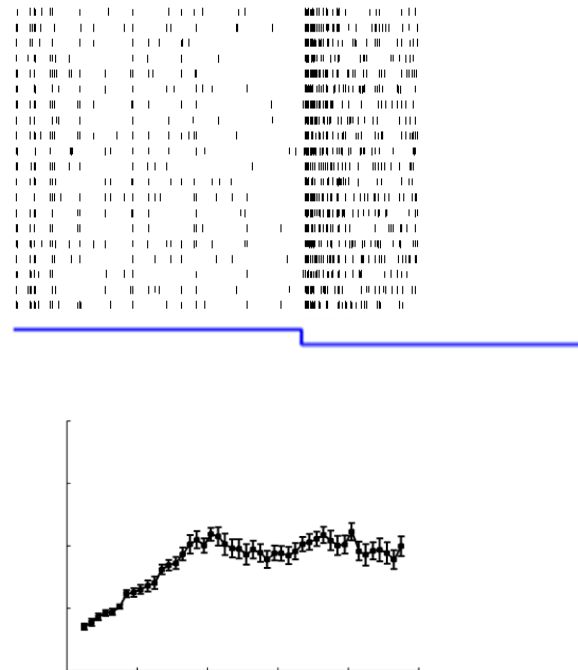
$$\tau_{coupling} \frac{dg_{coupling}}{dt} = (-g_{coupling} + g_0) + \lambda (g_m - g_{coupling}) e^{-|\Delta t|/\tau_g}$$

# Modelling Result

## Experiment



## Model



# Summary

- ◆ Adaptation is not a simple process of neglecting the information of an invariant input.
- ◆ Neural coding is dynamical in nature:
  - Both rate and correlation codes hold, but work in different time scales.
  - Larger capacity, energy saving.
- ◆ The neural system has resources to implement dynamical coding.



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