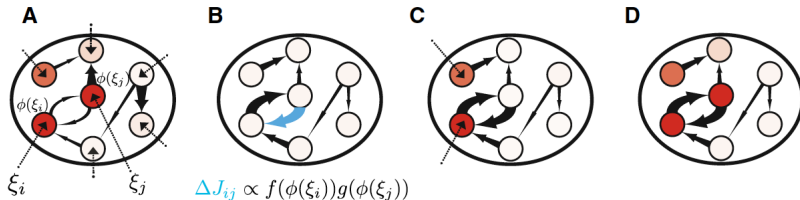


Information bounds and attractor dynamics of a Hebbian associative memory

Clayton Seitz

May 24, 2021

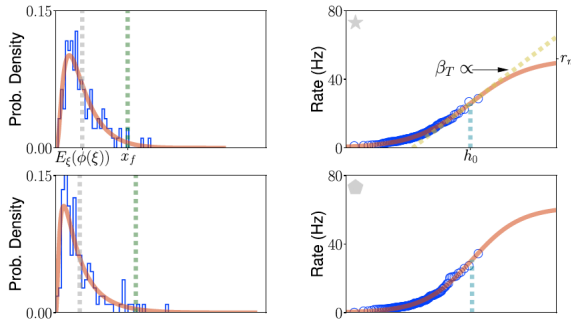
RNNs trained with a Hebbian learning rule



Measure Δr to infer the learning rule ΔW_{ij} .

1

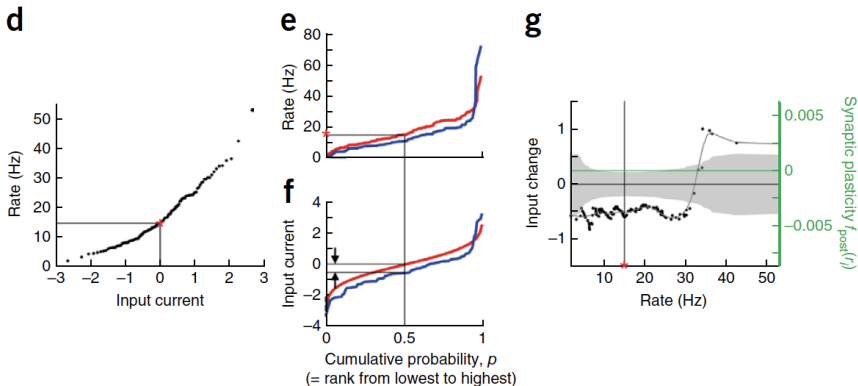
Inferring the transfer function from ITC data



Measuring the *static* transfer function from novel images assuming that input currents are Gaussian variables

$$\phi(\xi) = \frac{r_{max}}{1 + \exp \beta(\xi - \xi_0)}$$

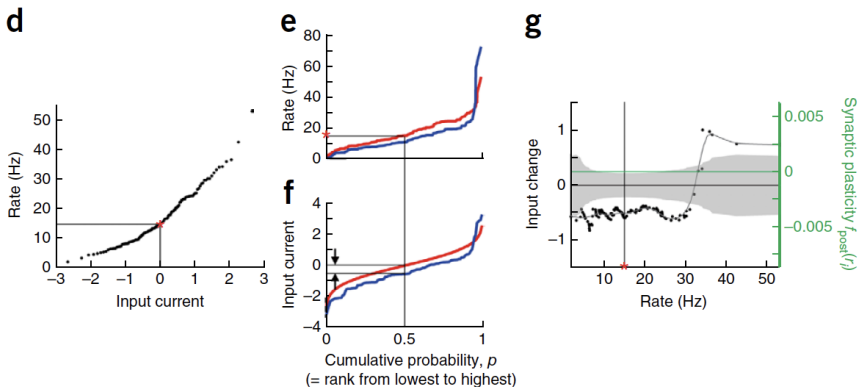
Inferring the learning rule from ITC data



Inferring the change in input current ξ_{in} from the change in firing rate in **novel** relative to **familiar** stimuli

3

Inferring the learning rule from ITC data



The change in input current to a neuron can then be read from the firing rate of that neuron when presented a novel stimulus

$$\Delta \xi_i(r) \propto (2q + 1 - \tanh(\beta(r - x)))$$

A Hebbian update for synaptic weights

Assuming that $\Delta W_{ij} \propto f(r_i)g(r_j)$, the change in input current is related to synaptic plasticity by

$$\Delta \xi_i \propto f(r_i) \sum_j g(r_j) r_j$$

which we have fit from the data as

$$\Delta \xi_i(r) \propto (2q + 1 - \tanh(\beta(r - x)))$$

so we can write

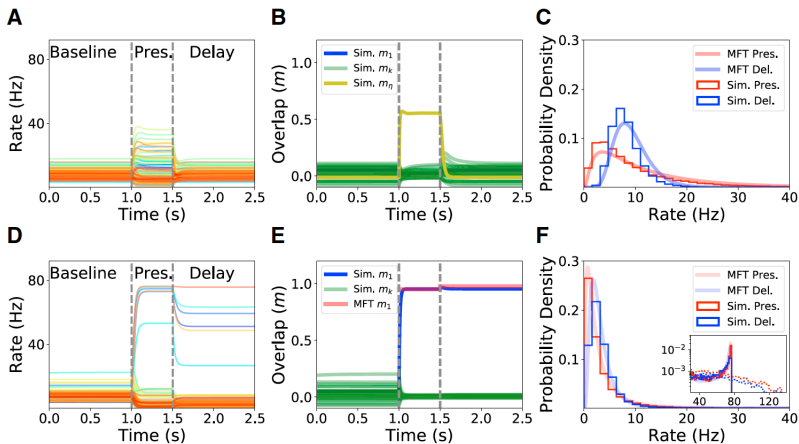
$$f(r_i) = \frac{(2q + 1 - \tanh(\beta(r - x)))}{\sum_j g(r_j) r_j}$$

During training, we stimulate the network with

$$\xi_{in}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{r} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{r} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

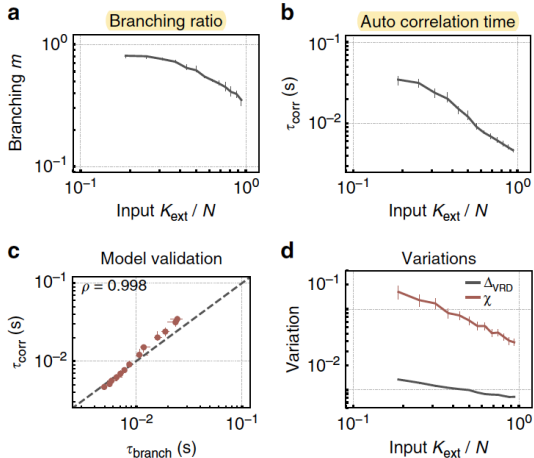
5

Presenting novel and familiar stimuli to the network



Do these networks optimize information transmission?

Are these networks functioning at a critical point? What about the balance between input and recurrence? (Cramer et al. 2020)



A coding theory perspective

How much information does the response R carry about the input pattern S i.e. $I(R; S)$ on novel and familiar stimuli?

What is the fundamental coding capacity of these networks?

