

Scientific Python Tutorial – CCN Course 2013

How to code a neural network simulation

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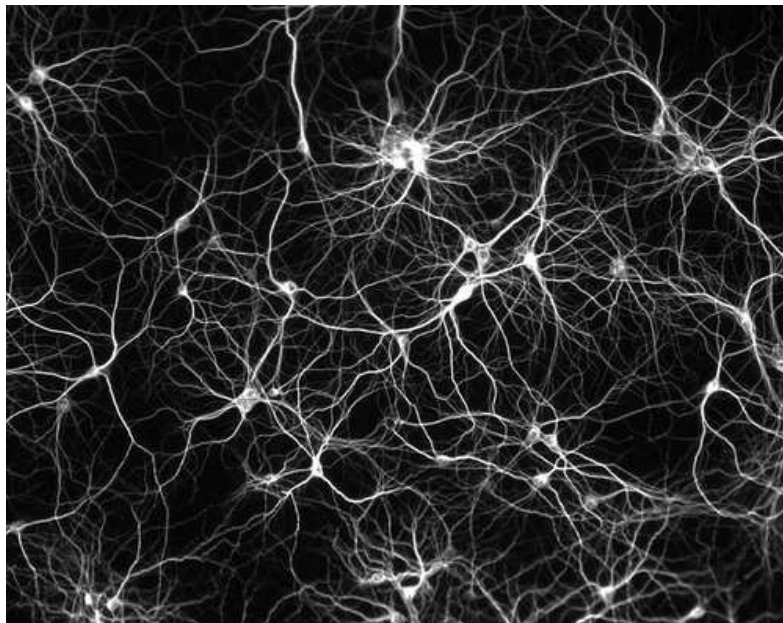
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Goal of tutorial

- We will program a neural network simulation together.



We will practice on the way:

- Writing scripts

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- How to simulate neurons and synapses

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- Writing scripts
- Usage of array notation
- How to integrate ODEs
- How to plot results
- How to simulate neurons and synapses
- How to program a quite realistic network simulation

What has to be done in principle

- There are n **neurons**, excitatory and inhibitory, that are inter-connected with **synapses**.

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- There are n **neurons**, excitatory and inhibitory, that are inter-connected with **synapses**.
- The network gets some **input**
- Each neuron and each synapse follows a particular **dynamics over time**.
- The simulation solves the interplay of all components and e.g. yields **spiking activity** of the network for given inputs, which can be further analyzed (e.g. plotted)

We will proceed in 5 successive steps

- 1 Simulate a **single neuron** with current step input

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- 2 Simulate a single neuron with **Poisson input**

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- 3 Simulate **1000 neurons** (no recurrent connections)
- 4 Simulate a **recurrent network**

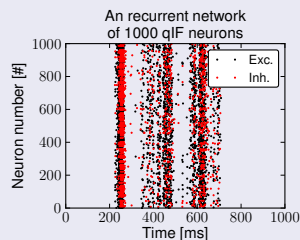
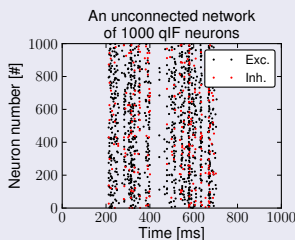
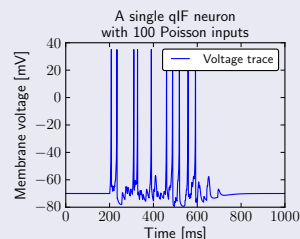
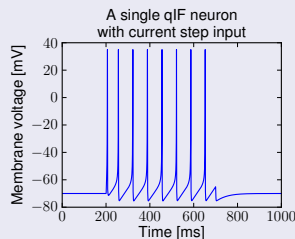
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- 5 Simulate a simple **orientation column**

We will proceed in 5 successive steps

- ① Simulate a **single neuron** with current step input
- ② Simulate a single neuron with **Poisson input**
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- ④ Simulate a **recurrent network**
- ⑤ Simulate a simple **orientation column**

Result plots



Which neuron model to use?

Biophysical model (i.e. Hodgkin-Huxley model)

$$C_m \frac{dV_m}{dt} = -\frac{1}{R_m}(V_m - V_L) - \sum_i g_i(t)(V_m - E_i) + I$$

Including non-linear dynamics of many channels in $g_i(t)$

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Including non-linear dynamics of many channels in $g_i(t)$

Mathematical simplification (Izhikevich, book chapter 8)

if $v < 35$:

$$\dot{v} = (0.04v + 5)v + 150 - u - I$$

$$\dot{u} = a(bv - u)$$

if $v \geq 35$:

$$v \leftarrow c$$

$$u \leftarrow u + d$$

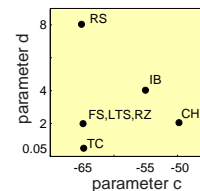
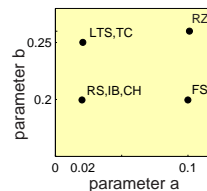
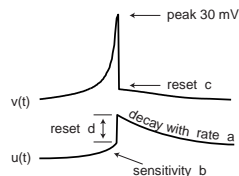
With $b = 0.2$, $c = -65$, and $d = 8$, $a = 0.02$ for excitatory neurons and $d = 2$, $a = 0.1$ for inhibitory neurons.

Neuron model

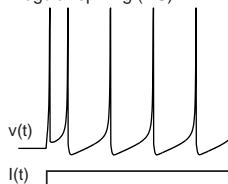
$$v' = 0.04v^2 + 5v + 140 - u + I$$

$$u' = a(bv - u)$$

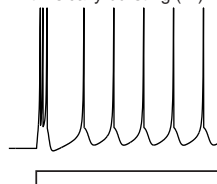
if $v = 30$ mV,
then $v \leftarrow c$, $u \leftarrow u + d$



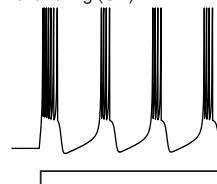
regular spiking (RS)



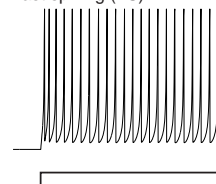
intrinsically bursting (IB)



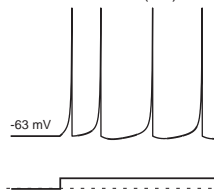
chattering (CH)



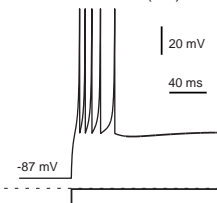
fast spiking (FS)



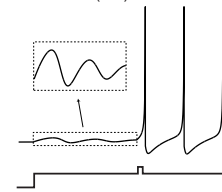
thalamo-cortical (TC)



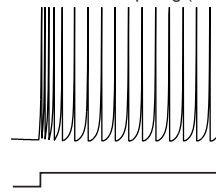
thalamo-cortical (TC)



resonator (RZ)



low-threshold spiking (LTS)



Step 1: Simulate a single neuron with injected current

Exercise 1

Simulate one excitatory neuron for 1000ms and plot the resulting voltage trace. Apply a current step ($I_{\text{app}} = 7\text{pA}$) between time 200ms and 700ms.

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Neuron model:

if $v < 35$:

$$\dot{v} = (0.04v + 5)v + 150 - u - I_{app}$$

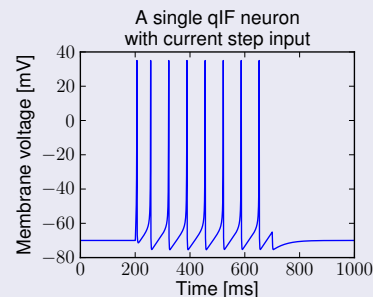
$$\dot{u} = a(bv - u)$$

if $v \geq 35$:

$$v \leftarrow c$$

$$u \leftarrow u + d$$

with $d = 8$, $a = 0.02$, $b = 0.2$, $c = -65$



Step 1 in detail:

Open SPYDER and create a new file (script) that will simulate the neuron. Import the necessary modules (`from pylab import *`)

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize parameter values ($\Delta t = 0.5\text{ms}$, $a = 0.02$, $d = 8$, \dots)

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- 2 Reserve memory for voltage trace v and u (of length $T = 1000/\Delta t$) and set first element to -70 and -14 , respectively.

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 - 1 set $I_{\text{app}} \leftarrow 7$ if $t\Delta t$ is between 200 and 700 (otherwise 0)

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 - ❶ set $I_{\text{app}} \leftarrow 7$ if $t\Delta t$ is between 200 and 700 (otherwise 0)
 - ❷ if $v_t < 35$: update element $t + 1$ of v and u according to

$$v_{t+1} \leftarrow v_t + \Delta t \{ (0.04 v_t + 5) v_t - u_t + 140 + I_{\text{app}} \}$$

$$u_{t+1} \leftarrow u_t + \Delta t a (b v_t - u_t)$$

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 - ❸ if $v_t \geq 35$: set the variables, $v_t \leftarrow 35$, $v_{t+1} \leftarrow c$, and $u_{t+1} \leftarrow u_t + d$.

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 - ❸ if $v_t \geq 35$: set the variables, $v_t \leftarrow 35$, $v_{t+1} \leftarrow c$, and $u_{t+1} \leftarrow u_t + d$.
- ❹ Plot the voltage trace v versus t

Solution to step 1 (Python)

```

1 from pylab import *
2
3 # 1) initialize parameters
4 tmax = 1000.
5 dt = 0.5
6
7 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
8 a = 0.02 # RS, IB: 0.02, FS: 0.1
9 b = 0.2 # RS, IB, FS: 0.2
10 c = -65 # RS, FS: -65 IB: -55
11 d = 8. # RS: 8, IB: 4, FS: 2
12
13 # 1.2) Input pars
14 lapp=10
15 tr=array([200.,700])/dt # stm time
16
17 # 2) reserve memory
18 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
19 v = zeros(T)
20 u = zeros(T)
21 v[0] = -70 # resting potential
22 u[0] = -14 # steady state
23
24 # 3) for-loop over time
25 for t in arange(T-1):
26     # 3.1) get input
27     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:

```

```

28         l = lapp
29     else:
30         l = 0
31
32
33     if v[t]<35:
34         # 3.2) update ODE
35         dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
36         v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+l)*dt
37         du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
38         u[t+1] = u[t] + dt*du
39     else:
40         # 3.3) spike !
41         v[t] = 35
42         v[t+1] = c
43         u[t+1] = u[t]+d
44
45 # 4) plot voltage trace
46 figure()
47 tvec = arange(0.,tmax,dt)
48 plot(tvec,v,'b',label='Voltage trace')
49 xlabel('Time [ms]')
50 ylabel('Membrane voltage [mV]')
51 title("""A single qIF neuron
52 with current step input6""")
53 show()

```

Synapse model

Conductance based synaptic input

A simple synaptic input model would be

$$I_{\text{syn}} = \sum_j w_j s_j (v - E_j)$$

where w_j is the weight of the j th synapse and E_j its reversal potential (for instance 0 mV for excitatory and -85 mV for inhibitory synapses).

Variable s_j implements the dynamics of the j th synapse:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{s}_j &= -s_j/\tau_s \\ s_j &\leftarrow s_j + 1, \quad \text{if pre-synaptic neuron spikes}\end{aligned}$$

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Optional: Synaptic depression

Change the update to

$$s_j \leftarrow s_j + h_j, \quad h_j \leftarrow 1 - (1 + (U - 1)h_j)e^{-\Delta t_j \tau_d},$$

with e.g. $U = 0.5$, $\tau_d = 500\text{ms}$. Δt_j is the interval between current and previous spike of neuron j .

Step 2: Single neuron with synaptic input

Exercise 2

Simulate the neuron model for 1000ms and plot the resulting voltage trace. Assume that 100 synapses are attached to the neuron, with each pre-synaptic neuron firing with a Poisson process of rate $f_{\text{rate}} = 2$ Hz between time 200ms and 700ms.

Step 2: Single neuron with synaptic input

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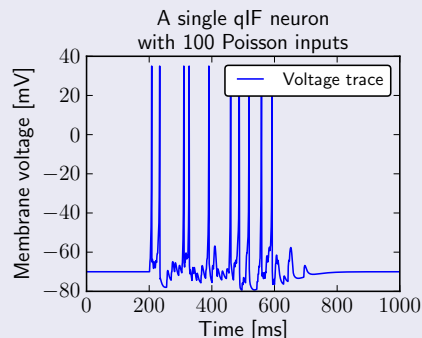
Synaptic input model:

$$I_{\text{syn}} = \sum_j w_j^{\text{in}} s_j^{\text{in}}(t)(E_j^{\text{in}} - v(t))$$

$$\dot{s}_j^{\text{in}} = s_j^{\text{in}}/\tau_s$$

$$s_j^{\text{in}} \leftarrow s_j^{\text{in}} + h_j, \quad \text{if synapse } j \text{ spikes}$$

with $h_j = 1^*$, $\tau_s = 10$, $w_j^{\text{in}} = 0.07$, $E_j = 0$,
 $j = 1 \dots 100$. Poisson: Input synapse j spikes if
 $r_j(t) < f_{\text{rate}}\Delta t$, where $r_j(t) \in [0, 1]$ are uniform
 random numbers drawn for each step t .



Step 2 in detail:

Use the last script, save it under a new file name, and add the necessary lines.

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($\tau_s = 10$, $f_{\text{rate}} = 0.002\text{ms}^{-1}$)

Step 2 in detail:

Use the last script, save it under a new file name, and add the necessary lines.

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($\tau_s = 10$, $f_{\text{rate}} = 0.002\text{ms}^{-1}$)
- 2 Reserve memory and initialize the vectors $\mathbf{s}^{\text{in}} = (s_j^{\text{in}})$, $\mathbf{w}^{\text{in}} = (w_j^{\text{in}})$, and $\mathbf{E} = (E_j)$ with $n_{\text{in}} = 100$ constant elements (same values as in Step 1)

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- 3 Inside the for-loop change/add the following:

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- ❸ Inside the for-loop change/add the following:
 - ❶ Set $p_j = 1$ if $r_j \leq f_{\text{rate}}\Delta t$ (otherwise 0) during times of applied input. r_j is a uniform random number between 0 and 1. Use array notation to set the input for all n_{in} input synapses. [▶ Hint](#)

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- ③ Inside the for-loop change/add the following:
 - ① Set $p_j = 1$ if $r_j \leq f_{\text{rate}}\Delta t$ (otherwise 0) during times of applied input. r_j is an uniform random number between 0 and 1. Use array notation to set the input for all n_{in} input synapses. [▶ Hint](#)
 - ② before the v_t update: Implement the conductance dynamics \mathbf{s} and set I_{app} according to the input. Use array notation with dot “.” product and element-wise “ \odot ” product. [▶ Hint](#)

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_j^{\text{in}} &\leftarrow s_j^{\text{in}} + p_j \\
 I_{\text{app}} &\leftarrow \mathbf{w}^{\text{in}} \cdot (\mathbf{s}^{\text{in}} \odot \mathbf{E}^{\text{in}}) - (\mathbf{w}^{\text{in}} \cdot \mathbf{s}^{\text{in}}) \odot v_t \\
 s_j^{\text{in}} &\leftarrow (1 - \Delta t / \tau_s) s_j^{\text{in}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution to step 2 (Python)

```

1 from pylab import *
2
3 # 1) initialize parameters
4 tmax = 1000.
5 dt = 0.5
6
7 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
8 a = 0.02
9 b = 0.2
10 c = -65
11 d = 8.
12 tau_s = 10 # decay of synapses [ms]
13
14 # 1.2) Input pars
15 tr=array([200.,700])/dt
16 rate_in = 2 # input rate
17 n_in = 100 # number of inputs
18 w_in = 0.07 # input weights
19 W_in = w_in*ones(n_in) # vector
20
21 # 2) reserve memory
22 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
23 v = zeros(T)
24 u = zeros(T)
25 v[0] = -70 # resting potential
26 u[0] = -14 # steady state
27 s_in = zeros(n_in) # synaptic variable
28 E_in = zeros(n_in) # rev potential
29 prate = dt*rate_in*1e-3 # abbrev
30
31 # 3) for-loop over time
32 for t in range(T-1):
33     # 3.1) get input
34
35     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:
36         # NEW: get input Poisson spikes
37         p = uniform(size=n_in)<prate;
38     else:
39         p = 0; # no input
40
41     # NEW: calculate input current
42     s_in = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s_in + p
43     l = dot(W_in,s_in*E_in)
44     l -= dot(W_in,s_in)*v[t]
45
46     if v[t]<35:
47         # 3.2) update ODE
48         dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
49         v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+l)*dt
50         du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
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52     else:
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58 # 4) plot voltage trace
59 figure()
60 tvec = arange(0.,tmax,dt)
61 plot(tvec,v,'b',label='Voltage trace')
62 xlabel('Time [ms]')
63 ylabel('Membrane voltage [mV]')
64 title("""A single qIF neuron
65 with %d Poisson inputs""" % n_in)
66 show()

```

Solution to step 2 with STP (Python)

```

1 from pylab import *
2
3 # 1) initialize parameters
4 tmax = 1000.
5 dt = 0.5
6
7 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
8 a = 0.02
9 b = 0.2
10 c = -65
11 d = 8.
12 tau_s = 10 # decay of synapses [ms]
13 tau_d = 500 # synaptic depression [ms]
14 stp_u = 0.5 # STP parameter
15
16 # 1.2) Input pars
17 tr=array([200.,700])/dt
18 rate_in = 10 # input rate
19 n_in = 1 # number of inputs
20 w_in = 0.03 # input weights
21 W_in = w_in*ones(n_in) # vector
22
23 # 2) reserve memory
24 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
25 v = zeros(T)
26 u = zeros(T)
27 v[0] = -70 # resting potential
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29 s_in = zeros(n_in) # synaptic variable
30 E_in = zeros(n_in) # rev potential
31 prate = dt*rate_in*1e-3 # abbrev
32 h = ones(n_in)
33 lastsp = -inf*ones(n_in)
34
35 # 3) for-loop over time
36 for t in arange(T-1):
37     # 3.1) get input
38     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:
39         # NEW: get input Poisson spikes
40         p = uniform(size=n_in)<prate;
41
42         #update synaptic depression
43         tmp = exp(dt*(lastsp[p]-t)/tau_d)
44         h[p] = 1 - (1+(stp_u-1)*h[p])*tmp
45         lastsp[p] = t
46     else:
47         p = 0; # no input
48
49         # NEW: calculate input current
50         s_in = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s_in + p*h
51         I = dot(W_in,s_in*E_in)
52         I -= dot(W_in,s_in)*v[t]
53
54     if v[t]<35:
55         # 3.2) update ODE
56         dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
57         v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+I)*dt
58         du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
59         u[t+1] = u[t] + dt*du
60     else:
61         # 3.3) spike !
62         v[t] = 35
63         v[t+1] = c
64         u[t+1] = u[t]+d
65
66 # 4) plot voltage trace
67 figure()
68 tvec = arange(0.,tmax,dt)
69 plot(tvec,v,'b',label='Voltage trace')
70 xlabel('Time [ms]')
71 ylabel('Membrane voltage [mV]')
72 title("""A single qIF neuron
73 with %d Poisson inputs""" % n_in)
74 show()

```

Step 3: Simulate 1000 neurons (not inter-connected)

Exercise 3

Simulate 1000 neurons for 1000 ms and plot the resulting spikes. Assume that each neuron receives (random) 10% of the 100 Poisson spike trains of rate $f_{\text{rate}} = 2$ Hz between time 200 ms and 700 ms. Note that the neurons are not yet inter-connected.

Step 3: Simulate 1000 neurons (not inter-connected)

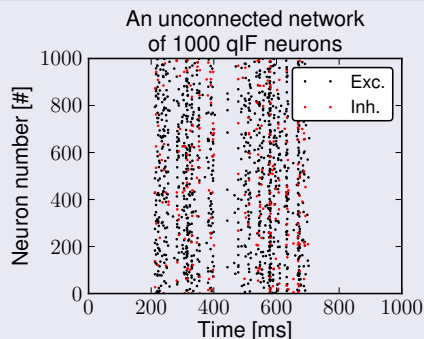
Exercise 3

Simulate 1000 neurons for 1000 ms and plot the resulting spikes. Assume that each neuron receives (random) 10% of the 100 Poisson spike trains of rate $f_{\text{rate}} = 2$ Hz between time 200 ms and 700 ms. Note that the neurons are not yet inter-connected.

Excitatory and inhibitory neurons:

A neuron is, with probability $p_{\text{inh}} = 0.2$, a (fast-spiking) inhibitory neuron ($a = 0.1$, $d = 2$), others are (regular spiking) excitatory neurons ($a = 0.02$ and $d = 8$).

Input weights of input synapse j to neuron i is set to $w^{\text{in}} = 0.07$ if connected (otherwise 0).



Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)

Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)
- 2 Initialize 2 logical vectors \mathbf{k}_{inh} and \mathbf{k}_{exc} of length n , where $\mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}(i)$ is True with probability $p = 0.2$ (marking an inhibitory neuron) and False otherwise. And $\mathbf{k}_{\text{exc}} = \neg \mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}$.

Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)
- 2 Initialize 2 logical vectors \mathbf{k}_{inh} and \mathbf{k}_{exc} of length n , where $\mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}(i)$ is True with probability $p = 0.2$ (marking an inhibitory neuron) and False otherwise. And $\mathbf{k}_{\text{exc}} = \neg \mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}$.
- 3 Reserve memory and initialize $v_{i,t}$, $u_{i,t}$ (now being $T \times n$ matrices). Set parameter vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{d} according to \mathbf{k}_{exc} and \mathbf{k}_{inh} .

Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)
- 2 Initialize 2 logical vectors \mathbf{k}_{inh} and \mathbf{k}_{exc} of length n , where $\mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}(i)$ is True with probability $p = 0.2$ (marking an inhibitory neuron) and False otherwise. And $\mathbf{k}_{\text{exc}} = \neg \mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}$.
- 3 Reserve memory and initialize $v_{i,t}$, $u_{i,t}$ (now being $T \times n$ matrices). Set parameter vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{d} according to \mathbf{k}_{exc} and \mathbf{k}_{inh} .
- 4 The weights $w_{ij}^{\text{in}} = 0.07$ now form a $n \times n_{\text{in}}$ matrix. Set 90 % random elements to 0 to account for the connection probability.

Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)
- 2 Initialize 2 logical vectors \mathbf{k}_{inh} and \mathbf{k}_{exc} of length n , where $\mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}(i)$ is True with probability $p = 0.2$ (marking an inhibitory neuron) and False otherwise. And $\mathbf{k}_{\text{exc}} = \neg \mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}$.
- 3 Reserve memory and initialize $v_{i,t}$, $u_{i,t}$ (now being $T \times n$ matrices). Set parameter vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{d} according to \mathbf{k}_{exc} and \mathbf{k}_{inh} .
- 4 The weights $w_{ij}^{\text{in}} = 0.07$ now form a $n \times n_{\text{in}}$ matrix. Set 90 % random elements to 0 to account for the connection probability.
- 5 Inside the for-loop change/add the following:
 - 1 Same update equations (for $v_{i,t+1}$ and $u_{i,t+1}$) but use array notation.

Step 3 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize new parameter values ($n = 1000$)
- 2 Initialize 2 logical vectors \mathbf{k}_{inh} and \mathbf{k}_{exc} of length n , where $\mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}(i)$ is True with probability $p = 0.2$ (marking an inhibitory neuron) and False otherwise. And $\mathbf{k}_{\text{exc}} = \neg \mathbf{k}_{\text{inh}}$.
- 3 Reserve memory and initialize $v_{i,t}$, $u_{i,t}$ (now being $T \times n$ matrices). Set parameter vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{d} according to \mathbf{k}_{exc} and \mathbf{k}_{inh} .
- 4 The weights $w_{ij}^{\text{in}} = 0.07$ now form a $n \times n_{\text{in}}$ matrix. Set 90 % random elements to 0 to account for the connection probability.
- 5 Inside the for-loop change/add the following:
 - 1 Same update equations (for $v_{i,t+1}$ and $u_{i,t+1}$) but use array notation.
- 6 Plot the spike raster. Plot black dots at $\{(t, i) | v_{it} \geq 35\}$ for excitatory neurons i . Use red dots for inhibitory neurons.

Solution to step 3 (Python)

```

1 from pylab import *
2
3 # 1) initialize parameters
4 tmax = 1000.
5 dt = 0.5
6
7 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
8 n = 1000 # number of neurons
9 pinh = 0.2 # prob of inh neuron
10 inh = (uniform(size=n)<pinh) # whether inh.
11 exc = logical_not(inh)
12 a = inh.choose(0.02,0.1) # exc=0.02, inh=0.1
13 b = 0.2
14 c = -65
15 d = inh.choose(8,2) # exc=8, inh=2
16 tau_s = 10
17
18 # 1.2) Input pars
19 tr=array([200.,700])/dt
20 rate_in = 2
21 n_in = 100
22 w_in = 0.07
23 pconn_in = 0.1 # input conn prob
24 C = uniform(size=(n,n_in))<pconn_in
25 W_in = C.choose(0,w_in) # matrix
26
27 # 2) reserve memory
28 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
29 v = zeros((T,n)) # now matrix
30 u = zeros((T,n)) # now matrix
31 v[0] = -70 # set 1st row
32 u[0] = -14
33 s_in = zeros(n_in)
34 E_in = zeros(n_in)
35 prate = dt*rate_in*1e-3
36
37 # 3) for-loop over time
38 for t in arange(T-1):
39     # 3.1) get input
40     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:

```

```

41         p = uniform(size=n_in)<prate;
42     else:
43         p = 0;
44
45     s_in = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s_in + p
46     I = W_in.dot(s_in*E_in)
47     I -= W_in.dot(s_in)*v[t]
48
49     # NEW: handle all neurons
50     fired = v[t]>=35
51
52     # 3.2) update ODE, simply update all
53     dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
54     v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+I)*dt
55     du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
56     u[t+1] = u[t] + dt*du
57
58     # 3.3) spikes !
59     v[t][fired] = 35
60     v[t+1][fired] = c
61     u[t+1][fired] = u[t][fired]+d[fired]
62
63 # 4) plotting
64 # NEW: get spikes and plot
65 tspk, nspk = nonzero(v==35)
66 idx_i = ind1(nspk, nonzero(inh)[0]) # find inh
67 idx_e = logical_not(idx_i) # all others are exc
68
69 figure()
70 plot(tspk[idx_e]*dt, nspk[idx_e], 'k.',
71      label='Exc.', markersize=2)
72 plot(tspk[idx_i]*dt, nspk[idx_i], 'r.',
73      label='Inh.', markersize=2)
74 xlabel('Time [ms]')
75 ylabel('Neuron number [#]')
76 xlim((0,tmax))
77 title("""An unconnected network
78 of %d qIF neurons""" % n)
79 legend(loc='upper right')
80 show()

```

Step 4: Simulate recurrent network

Exercise 4

Simulate 1000 neurons as before but with added recurrent connections.

Step 4: Simulate recurrent network

Exercise 4

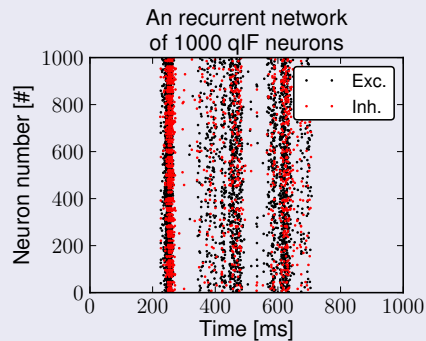
Simulate 1000 neurons as before but with added recurrent connections.

Recurrent synaptic activations

A neuron i is sparsely connected to a neuron j (with probability $p_{\text{conn}} = 0.1$). Thus neuron i receives an additional current I_i^{syn} of the form:

$$I_i^{\text{syn}} = \sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij} s_j(t) (E_j - v_i(t))$$

Weights are Gamma distributed ($w_{\text{avg}} = 0.005$ and $g_{\text{sc}} = 0.002$). Set the inhibitory to excitatory connections twice as strong on average.



Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).

Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).
- 2 Reserve memory and initialize weights $W = (w_{ij})$ to zero. Randomly choose 10% of the matrix elements.

Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).
- 2 Reserve memory and initialize weights $W = (w_{ij})$ to zero. Randomly choose 10% of the matrix elements.
- 3 Set the chosen weight matrix elements to values drawn from a Gamma distribution of scale $g_{sc} = 0.002$ and shape $g_{sh} = \frac{w_{avg}}{g_{sc}}$, with $w_{avg} = 0.005$. [▶ Hint](#)

Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).
- 2 Reserve memory and initialize weights $W = (w_{ij})$ to zero. Randomly choose 10% of the matrix elements.
- 3 Set the chosen weight matrix elements to values drawn from a Gamma distribution of scale $g_{sc} = 0.002$ and shape $g_{sh} = \frac{w_{avg}}{g_{sc}}$, with $w_{avg} = 0.005$. [▶ Hint](#)
- 4 Make the weight matrix “sparse” to speed up computations. [▶ Hint](#)

Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).
- 2 Reserve memory and initialize weights $W = (w_{ij})$ to zero. Randomly choose 10% of the matrix elements.
- 3 Set the chosen weight matrix elements to values drawn from a Gamma distribution of scale $g_{sc} = 0.002$ and shape $g_{sh} = \frac{w_{avg}}{g_{sc}}$, with $w_{avg} = 0.005$. [▶ Hint](#)
- 4 Make the weight matrix “sparse” to speed up computations. [▶ Hint](#)
- 5 Scale weights from inh. to exc. neurons by the factor of 2. [▶ Hint](#)

Step 4 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- ➊ Initialize and allocate memory for the new variables ($\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, E_j). Set $E_j = -85$ if j is an inhibitory neuron (otherwise 0).
- ➋ Reserve memory and initialize weights $W = (w_{ij})$ to zero. Randomly choose 10% of the matrix elements.
- ➌ Set the chosen weight matrix elements to values drawn from a Gamma distribution of scale $g_{sc} = 0.002$ and shape $g_{sh} = \frac{w_{avg}}{g_{sc}}$, with $w_{avg} = 0.005$. [▶ Hint](#)
- ➍ Make the weight matrix “sparse” to speed up computations. [▶ Hint](#)
- ➎ Scale weights from inh. to exc. neurons by the factor of 2. [▶ Hint](#)
- ➏ Inside the for-loop change/add the following:
 - ➐ add the equations for recurrent synaptic dynamics s_j and add I_{syn} to the total applied current.

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_j &\leftarrow s_j + 1, & \text{if } v_j(t-1) \geq 35 \\
 I^{syn} &\leftarrow W \cdot (\mathbf{s} \odot \mathbf{E}) - (W \cdot \mathbf{s}) \odot \mathbf{v} \\
 s_j &\leftarrow (1 - \Delta t / \tau_s) s_j
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution to step 4

```

1 from pylab import *
2 from scipy.sparse import csr_matrix
3
4 # 1) initialize parameters
5 tmax = 1000.
6 dt = 0.5
7
8 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
9 n = 1000
10 pinh = 0.2
11 inh = (uniform(size=n)<pinh)
12 exc = logical_not(inh)
13 a = inh.choose(0.02,0.1)
14 b = 0.2
15 c = -65
16 d = inh.choose(8,2)
17 tau_s = 10
18
19 # NEW recurrent parameter
20 w = 0.005 # average recurrent weight
21 pconn = 0.1 # recurrent connection prob
22 scaleEl = 2 # scale l→E
23 g_sc = 0.002 # scale of gamma
24 E = inh.choose(0,-85)
25 # NEW: make weight matrix
26 W = zeros((n,n))
27 C = uniform(size=(n,n))
28 idx = nonzero(C<pconn) # sparse connectivity
29 W[idx] = gamma(w/g_sc, scale=g_sc, size=idx[0].size)
30 W[ix_(exc,inh)] *= scaleEl #submat indexing
31 W = csr_matrix(W) # make row sparse
32
33 # 1.2) Input pars
34 tr=array([200.,700])/dt
35 rate_in = 2
36 n_in = 100
37 w_in = 0.07
38 pconn_in = 0.1
39 C = uniform(size=(n,n_in))<pconn_in
40 W_in = C.choose(0,w_in)
41
42 # 2) reserve memory

```

```

43 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
44 v = zeros((T,n))
45 u = zeros((T,n))
46 v[0] = -70
47 u[0] = -14
48 s_in = zeros(n_in)
49 E_in = zeros(n_in)
50 prate = dt*rate_in*1e-3
51 s = zeros(n) # rec synapses
52
53 # 3) for-loop over time
54 for t in arange(T-1):
55     # 3.1) get input
56     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:
57         p = uniform(size=n_in)<prate;
58     else:
59         p = 0;
60
61     s_in = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s_in + p
62     l = W_in.dot(s_in*E_in)
63     l -= W_in.dot(s_in)*v[t]
64
65     fired = v[t]>=35
66
67     # NEW: recurrent input
68     s = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s + fired
69     lsyn = W.dot(s*E) - W.dot(s)*v[t]
70     l += lsyn # add to input vector
71
72     # 3.2) update ODE
73     dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
74     v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+l)*dt
75     du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
76     u[t+1] = u[t] + dt*du
77
78     # 3.3) spikes !
79     v[t][fired] = 35
80     v[t+1][fired] = c
81     u[t+1][fired] = u[t][fired]+d[fired]
82
83 # 4) plotting
84 tspk, nspk = nonzero(v==35)

```

Step 5: Simulate an orientation column

Exercise 5

Restructure the connection matrix and the input to simulate an orientation column. That is all E-E neurons only connect to neighboring neurons and the network resembles a 1D ring.

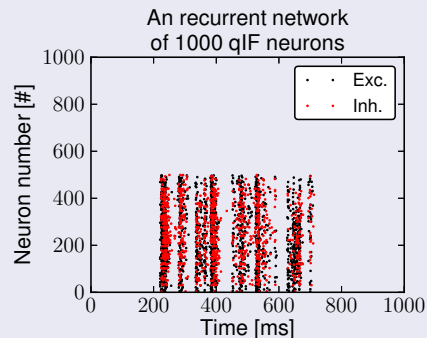
Step 5: Simulate an orientation column

Exercise 5

Restructure the connection matrix and the input to simulate an orientation column. That is all E-E neurons only connect to neighboring neurons and the network resembles a 1D ring.

Ring structure

A neuron i is still sparsely connected to a neuron j but now with probability $p_{\text{conn}} = 0.4$. However, if all neurons are arranged on a ring from 0 to 2π exc-to-exc connections are only possible if two neurons are nearer than $\pi/4$. Input is only delivered to a half of neurons (e.g. from 0 to π). Use the same input connection probability as before.



Step 5 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Set indexes of the weight matrix to zero, which belong to exc-exc connections further apart that $\pi/4$. Hint: One can use `scipy.linalg.circulant`

Step 5 in detail:

Modify the last script (after saving it under new name).

Proceed as follows:

- 1 Set indexes of the weight matrix to zero, which belong to exc-exc connections further apart than $\pi/4$. Hint: One can use `scipy.linalg.circulant`
- 2 Change the input so that only half (e.g. from 0 to π) of the neurons receive input (again with probability 0.2). neurons

Solution to step 5

```

1 from pylab import *
2 from scipy.sparse import csr_matrix
3 from scipy.linalg import circulant
4 # 1) initialize parameters
5 tmax = 1000.
6 dt = 0.5
7
8 # 1.1) Neuron / Network pars
9 n = 1000
10 pinh = 0.2
11 inh = (uniform(size=n)<pinh)
12 exc = logical_not(inh)
13 a = inh.choose(0.02,0.1)
14 b = 0.2
15 c = -65
16 d = inh.choose(8,2)
17 tau_s = 10
18
19 width = pi/4 # half-width of the orientation tuning
20 w = 0.005
21 pconn = 0.4 # set a bit higher
22 scaleEI = 2
23 g_sc = 0.002
24 E = inh.choose(0,-85)
25 W = zeros((n,n))
26 C = uniform(size=(n,n))
27 idx = nonzero(C<pconn)
28 W[idx] = gamma(w/g_sc, scale=g_sc, size=idx[0].size)
29 W[ix_(exc, inh)] *= scaleEI
30 theta = linspace(0,2*pi,n) # NEW
31 R = circulant(cos(theta))>cos(width) #NEW
32 W[:,exc] = where(R[:,exc],W[:,exc],0) # NEW
33 W = csr_matrix(W)
34
35 # 1.2) Input pars
36 tr=array([200.,700])/dt
37 rate_in = 2
38 inwidth = pi/2
39 w_in = 0.07
40 pconn_in = 0.2
41 n_in = 100
42 C = uniform(size=(n,n_in))<pconn_in

```

```

43 W_in = C.choose(0,w_in)
44 W_in[n/2:,:] = 0 # NEW
45
46 # 2) reserve memory
47 T = ceil(tmax/dt)
48 v = zeros((T,n))
49 u = zeros((T,n))
50 v[0] = -70
51 u[0] = -14
52 s_in = zeros(n_in)
53 E_in = zeros(n_in)
54 prate = dt*rate_in*1e-3
55 s = zeros(n) # rec synapses
56
57 # 3) for-loop over time
58 for t in arange(T-1):
59     # 3.1) get input
60     if t>tr[0] and t<tr[1]:
61         p = uniform(size=n_in)<pconn;
62     else:
63         p = 0;
64
65     s_in = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s_in + p
66     l = W_in.dot(s_in*E_in)
67     l -= W_in.dot(s_in)*v[t]
68
69     fired = v[t]>=35
70
71     # NEW: recurrent input
72     s = (1 - dt/tau_s)*s + fired
73     lsyn = W.dot(s*E) - W.dot(s)*v[t]
74     l += lsyn # add to input vector
75
76     # 3.2) update ODE
77     dv = (0.04*v[t]+5)*v[t]+140-u[t]
78     v[t+1] = v[t] + (dv+l)*dt
79     du = a*(b*v[t]-u[t])
80     u[t+1] = u[t] + dt*du
81
82     # 3.3) spikes !
83     v[t][fired] = 35
84     v[t+1][fired] = c

```

CONGRATULATION !

You have just coded and simulated a quite realistic network model !

Hint for generating random number

Use the `uniform` function to generate arrays of random numbers between 0 and 1.

```
1 from numpy.random import uniform
2 n_in = 100
3 r = uniform(size=n_in)
```

To set indexes i of a vector v to a with a probability p and otherwise to b one can use the method `choose`

```
1 r = uniform(size=n_in)
2 v = (r<p).choose(b,a)
```

[▶ back](#)

Hint for generating gamma distributed random number

Use the `numpy.random.gamma` function to generate arrays of random numbers which are gamma distributed.

```
1 from numpy.random import gamma
2
3 g_shape , g_scale , n = 0.003 , 2 , 1000
4 r = gamma(g_shape , g_scale , n)
```

[▶ back](#)

Hint for making sparse matrices

There are several forms of sparse matrices in the module `scipy.sparse`. The one which is interesting for our purposes is the “row-wise” sparse matrix (see the documentation of `scipy.sparse` for more information).

```
1 from pylab import *
2 from scipy.sparse import csr_matrix
3
4 R = uniform(size=(100,100)) # example matrix
5 W = where(R<0.1,R,0)        # mostly 0
6 W2 = csr_matrix(W)          # make sparse matrix
7
8 v = uniform(size=100)       # example vector
9 x = W2.dot(v)               # matrix dot product
```

[▶ back](#)

Hint for submatrix indexing

`numpy.array` provides a shortcut for (MATLAB-like) submatrix indexing. Assume one has a matrix W and wanted to add 1 to add 1 to a selection of rows and columns. One could use the convenient function `ix_` and write

```
1 from pylab import *
2
3 W = uniform(size=(10,10))      # example matrix
4 i_row = uniform(size=10)<0.5   # select some rows
5 i_col = uniform(size=10)<0.5   # select some cols
6
7 W[ix_(i_row, i_col)] += 1      # add 1 to the elements
```

[▶ back](#)

Hint for using dot product

Use the dot method of an `numpy.array` to compute the dot product.

Caution: The operator `*` yields an *element-wise* multiplication!

```
1 from pylab import *
2 a = array([1.,2,3,4])
3 b = array([1.,1,5,5])
4 c = a*b      # element-wise !
5 c.size
6 4
7 d = a.dot(b) # scalar product
8 d.size
9 1
```

▶ back