

## ASSIGNMENT 2 — MODELLING ACTION POTENTIALS

### All Aboard the Spike Train!!!

For all questions below, provide all programming code and plots in the report.

#### 1. Program the Hodgkin-Huxley Model (12 marks):

- Perform Euler integration to solve the HH model (i.e., the  $Na$  and  $K$  channels, not  $Ca$  or  $K_{(Ca)}$ ) using the parameter values in the lecture slides.
- Use the following Initial Conditions:  $E_{soma0}, m0, h0, n0, t0 = -70 \cdot 10^{-03}, 0, 1, 0, 0$ .
- Solve for 0.2s with a time-step of 0.00001s, with  $I_{ext} = 1.0 \cdot 10^{-10}$ .
- Plot the membrane potential and each of the channels ( $K, Na_m, Na_h$ ) over time. 10 marks.
- Show on separate plots plot phase space for each possible pairing of states (e.g.,  $E_{soma}$  vs.  $K$ ,  $K$  vs.  $Na_m$ , etc.). 1 mark
- Solve the equations using odeint and plot the membrane potential. 1 mark

#### 2. Program the Ekeberg Model (**Graduates Only**, 12 marks):

- Perform Euler integration to solve the Ekeberg model (i.e., the  $Na, K, Ca, CA_{AP}$ ) using the parameter values in the lecture slides.
- Use the following Initial Conditions:  
 $E_{soma0}, m0, h0, n0, q0, CaAP0, t0 = -70 \cdot 10^{-03}, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0$ .
- Solve for 0.2s with a time-step of 0.00001s, with  $I_{ext} = 2.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$ .
- Plot the membrane potential and  $K, Na_m, Na_h, Ca, CA_{AP}$  over time. 6 marks
- What is the minimum  $I_{ext}$  needed to elicit an action potential within 0.2s? why? 1 mark
- At what value does the external current get high enough where the action potentials are no longer repeatedly generated within 0.2s? why? 1 marks
- Find and report the time (in seconds) of each membrane potential peak. 1 mark
- Why does  $CA_{AP}$  become greater than 1, unlike the other differential equations (e.g.,  $K, Na_m$ )? 1 mark
- Calculate and report each inter-spike interval (isi) in seconds (the time between each peak). 1 mark
- Calculate the nerve firing rate in Hz for each isi ( $Hz = 1/s$ ). 1 mark