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# A Minimal Example of the Neural Engineering Framework
# The NEF is a method for building large-scale neural models using realistic
# neurons. It is a neural compiler: you specify the high-level computations
# the model needs to compute, and the properties of the neurons themselves,
# and the NEF determines the neural connections needed to perform those
# operations.
#
# The standard software for building NEF models is Nengo (<a href="http://nengo.ca">http://nengo.ca</a>).
  Nengo is a cross-platform Java application that provides both a drag-and-
   drop
   graphical user environment and a Python scripting interface for
   creating these neural models. It has been used to model a wide variety of
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#
   behaviour, including motor control, visual attention, serial recall, action
#
   selection, working memory, attractor networks, inductive reasoning, path
#
   integration, and planning with problem solving.
#
# However, given the complexity of Nengo, and due to the fact that this is a
  fairly non-standard approach to neural modelling, we feel it is also useful
#
#
  to have a simple example that shows exactly how the NEF works, from
#
  beginning to end. That is the goal of this script.
#
# This script shows how to build a simple feed-forward network of leaky
  integrate-and-fire neurons where each population encodes a one-dimensional
#
#
  value and the connection weights between the populations are optimized to
# compute some arbitrary function. This same approach is used in Nengo,
# extended to multi-dimensional representation, multiple populations of
#
  neurons, and recurrent connections.
#
# To change the input to the system, change 'input'
# To change the function computed by the weights, change 'function'
#
# The size of the populations and their neural properties can also be adjusted
  by changing the parameters below.
#
# This script requires Python (http://www.python.org/) and Numpy
   (http://numpy.scipy.org/) to run, and Matplotlib (http://matplotlib.org/)
#
#
   produce the output graphs.
#
# For more information on the Neural Engineering Framework and the Nengo
# software, please see http://nengo.ca
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import random
import math
# Parameters
dt = 0.001  # simulation time step
t_rc = 0.02  # membrane RC time constant
t_ref = 0.002  # refractory period

t_pstc = 0.1  # post-synaptic time constant

N_A = 50  # number of neurons in first population

N_B = 40  # number of neurons in second population

N_samples = 100  # number of sample points to use when finding decoders
rate_A = 25, 75 # range of maximum firing rates for population A
rate_B = 50, 100 # range of maximum firing rates for population B
# the input to the system over time
def input(t):
    return math.sin(t)
# the function to compute between A and B
def function(x):
    return x*x
# Step 1: Initialization
# create random encoders for the two populations
encoder_A = [random.choice([-1,1]) for i in range(N_A)]
encoder_B = [random.choice([-1,1]) for i in range(N_B)]
def generate_gain_and_bias(count, intercept_low, intercept_high, rate_low,
    rate_high):
    qain = []
    bias = []
    for i in range(count):
        # desired intercept (x value for which the neuron starts firing
        intercept = random.uniform(intercept_low, intercept_high)
        # desired maximum rate (firing rate when x is maximum)
        rate = random.uniform(rate_low, rate_high)
        # this algorithm is specific to LIF neurons, but should
        # generate gain and bias values to produce the desired
        # intercept and rate
        z = 1.0 / (1-math_exp((t_ref-(1.0/rate))/t_rc))
        g = (1 - z)/(intercept - 1.0)
        b = 1 - g*intercept
        gain.append(g)
        bias.append(b)
    return gain, bias
# random gain and bias for the two populations
gain_A, bias_A = generate_gain_and_bias(N_A, -1, 1, rate_A[0], rate_A[1])
gain_B, bias_B = generate_gain_and_bias(N_B, -1, 1, rate_B[0], rate_B[1])
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# a simple leaky integrate—and—fire model, scaled so that v=0 is resting
# voltage and v=1 is the firing threshold
def run_neurons(input, v, ref):
    spikes=[]
    for i in range(len(v)):
        dV = dt * (input[i]-v[i]) / t rc # the LIF voltage change equation
        v[i] += dV
        if v[i] < 0: v[i] = 0
                                            # don't allow voltage to go below
            0
        if ref[i]>0:
                                            # if we are in our refractory
            period
            v[i]=0
                                                keep voltage at zero and
            ref[i]-=dt
                                                decrease the refractory period
        if v[i]>1:
                                            # if we have hit threshold
            spikes.append(True)
                                            #
                                                spike
            v[i] = 0
                                           # reset the voltage
                                           #
                                                and set the refractory period
            ref[i] = t ref
        else:
            spikes.append(False)
    return spikes
# measure the spike rate of a whole population for a given represented value x
def compute_response(x, encoder, gain, bias, time_limit=0.5):
   N = len(encoder) # number of neurons
    v = [0]*N
                       # voltage
    ref = [0]*N
                    # refractory period
    # compute input corresponding to x
    input = []
    for i in range(N):
        input.append(x*encoder[i]*gain[i]+bias[i])
        v[i]=random.uniform(0,1) # randomize the initial voltage level
    count = [0]*N  # spike count for each neuron
    # feed the input into the population for a given amount of time
    t = 0
    while t<time_limit:</pre>
        spikes=run_neurons(input, v, ref)
        for i,s in enumerate(spikes):
            if s: count[i]+=1
        t += dt
    return [c/time_limit for c in count] # return the spike rate (in Hz)
# compute the tuning curves for a population
def compute_tuning_curves(encoder, gain, bias):
    # generate a set of x values to sample at
    x_values=[i*2.0/N_samples - 1.0 for i in range(N_samples)]
    # build up a matrix of neural responses to each input (i.e. tuning curves)
    A=[]
    for x in x values:
        response=compute_response(x, encoder, gain, bias)
        A.append(response)
    return x_values, A
# compute decoders
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import numpy
def compute decoder(encoder, gain, bias, function=lambda x:x):
    # get the tuning curves
    x_values,A = compute_tuning_curves(encoder, gain, bias)
    # get the desired decoded value for each sample point
    value=numpy.array([[function(x)] for x in x_values])
    # find the optimum linear decoder
    A=numpy.array(A).T
    Gamma=numpy.dot(A, A.T)
    Upsilon=numpy.dot(A, value)
    Ginv=numpy.linalg.pinv(Gamma)
    decoder=numpy.dot(Ginv,Upsilon)/dt
    return decoder
# find the decoders for A and B
decoder_A=compute_decoder(encoder_A, gain_A, bias_A, function=function)
decoder_B=compute_decoder(encoder_B, gain_B, bias_B)
# compute the weight matrix
weights=numpy.dot(decoder_A, [encoder_B])
# Step 2: Running the simulation
v_A = [0.0]*N_A # voltage for population A ref_A = [0.0]*N_A # refractory period for population A
input_A = [0.0]*N_A # input for population A
v_B = [0.0]*N_B # voltage for population B
ref_B = [0.0]*N_B # refractory period for population B
input_B = [0.0]*N_B # input for population B
# scaling factor for the post-synaptic filter
pstc_scale=1.0-math.exp(-dt/t_pstc)
# for storing simulation data to plot afterward
inputs=[]
times=[]
outputs=[]
ideal=[]
                    # the decoded output value from population B
output=0.0
t=0
while t<10.0:
   # call the input function to determine the input value
   x=input(t)
   # convert the input value into an input for each neuron
    for i in range(N A):
        input_A[i]=x*encoder_A[i]*gain_A[i]+bias_A[i]
    # run population A and determine which neurons spike
    spikes_A=run_neurons(input_A, v_A, ref_A)
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# decay all of the inputs (implementing the post-synaptic filter)
   for j in range(N B):
       input_B[j]*=(1.0-pstc_scale)
   # for each neuron that spikes, increase the input current
   # of all the neurons it is connected to by the synaptic
   # connection weight
   for i,s in enumerate(spikes_A):
       if s:
           for j in range(N_B):
               input_B[j]+=weights[i][j]*pstc_scale
   # compute the total input into each neuron in population B
   # (taking into account gain and bias)
   total_B=[0]*N_B
   for j in range(N_B):
       total_B[j]=gain_B[j]*input_B[j]+bias_B[j]
   # run population B and determine which neurons spike
   spikes_B=run_neurons(total_B, v_B, ref_B)
   # for each neuron in B that spikes, update our decoded value
   # (also applying the same post-synaptic filter)
   output*=(1.0-pstc_scale)
   for j,s in enumerate(spikes_B):
       if s:
           output+=decoder_B[j][0]*pstc_scale
   print t, output
   times.append(t)
   inputs.append(x)
   outputs.append(output)
   ideal.append(function(x))
   t+=dt
# Step 3: Plot the results
x,A = compute_tuning_curves(encoder_A, gain_A, bias_A)
x,B = compute_tuning_curves(encoder_B, gain_B, bias_B)
import pylab
pylab.figure()
pylab.plot(x, A)
pylab.title('Tuning curves for population A')
pylab.figure()
pylab.plot(x, B)
pylab.title('Tuning curves for population B')
pylab.figure()
pylab.plot(times, inputs, label='input')
pylab.plot(times, ideal, label='ideal')
pylab.plot(times, outputs, label='output')
pylab.title('Simulation results')
pylab.legend()
pylab.show()
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