

Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



Week 4

Reducing detail:

Analysis of 2D models

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

Reading for week 4:
NEURONAL DYNAMICS
- Ch. 4.4 – 4.7

Cambridge Univ. Press



3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

4.1 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles

4.2 Pulse input

- where is the firing threshold?
- separation of time scales

4.3. Further reduction to 1 dim

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

Week 4 – Review from week 3

-Reduction of Hodgkin-Huxley to 2 dimension

-step 1: separation of time scales

-step 2: exploit similarities/correlations

Week 4 – Review from week 3

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = - \overbrace{g_{Na} [m(t)]^3 h(t) (u(t) - E_{Na})}^{I_{Na}} - \overbrace{g_K [n(t)]^4 (u(t) - E_K)}^{I_K} - \overbrace{g_l (u(t) - E_l)}^{I_{leak}} + I(t)$$

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = -g_{Na} m_0(u)^3 (1-w)(u-E_{Na}) - g_K \left[\frac{w}{a}\right]^4 (u-E_K) - g_l (u-E_l) + I(t)$$

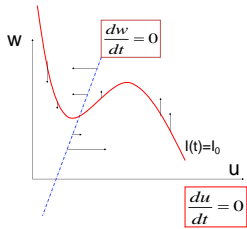
1) dynamics of m are fast — $m(t) = m_0(u(t))$

2) dynamics of h and n are similar — $1-h(t) = a \underbrace{n(t)}_{w(t)}$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = - \frac{h - h_0(u)}{\tau_h(u)}$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = - \frac{n - n_0(u)}{\tau_n(u)}$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = - \frac{w - w_0(u)}{\tau_{eff}(u)}$$

Week 4 – review from week 32-dimensional equation ^{stimulus}

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

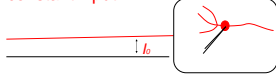
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Enables graphical analysis!

- Pulse input
 - AP firing (or not)
- Constant input
 - repetitive firing (or not)
 - limit cycle (or not)

Week 4 – part 1: Reducing Detail – 2D modelsramp input/
constant input

neuron

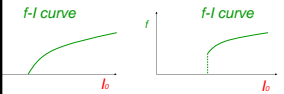


✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

Type I and type II models

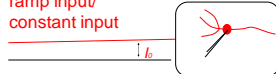
**4.1 Type I and II Neuron Models**

- limit cycles
- where is the firing threshold?
- separation of time scales

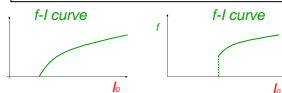
4.2. Further Reduction to 1D

Week 4 – 4.1. Type I and II Neuron Modelsramp input/
constant input

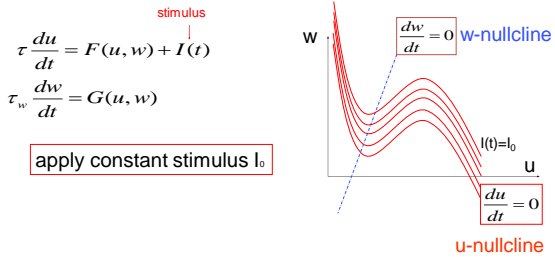
neuron



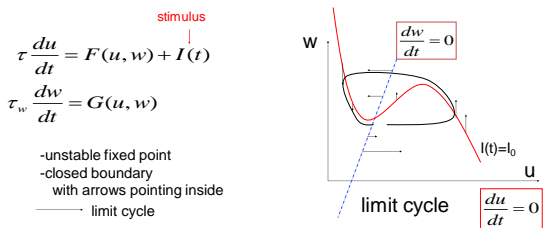
Type I and type II models



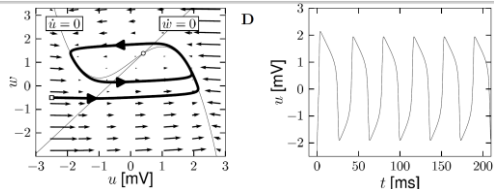
4.1 Nullclines change for constant stimulus



4.1. Limit cycle (example: FitzHugh Nagumo Model)



4.1. Limit Cycle



- unstable fixed point in 2D
- bounding box with inward flow
- limit cycle (Poincare Bendixson)

Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.1. Limit Cycle

In 2-dimensional equations,
a limit cycle must exist, if we can
find a surface

- containing one unstable fixed point
- no other fixed point
- bounding box with inward flow
→ limit cycle (Poincare Bendixson)

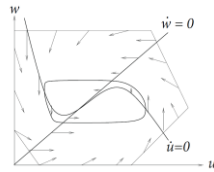


Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

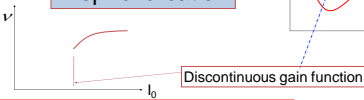
4.1 Type II Model

constant input

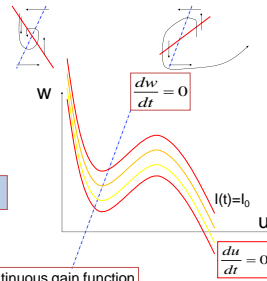
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Hopf bifurcation



Stability lost → oscillation with finite frequency



4.1. Hopf bifurcation

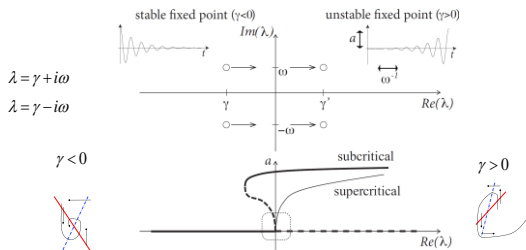
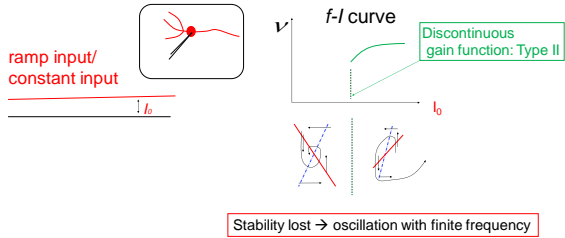
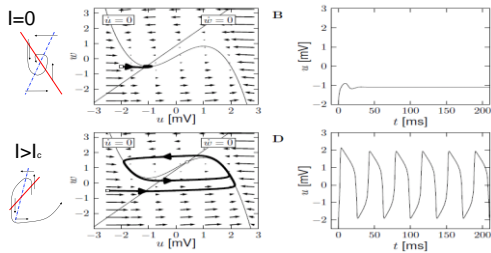


Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

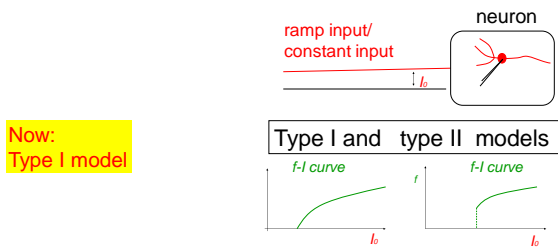
4.1. Hopf bifurcation: $f-I$ curve

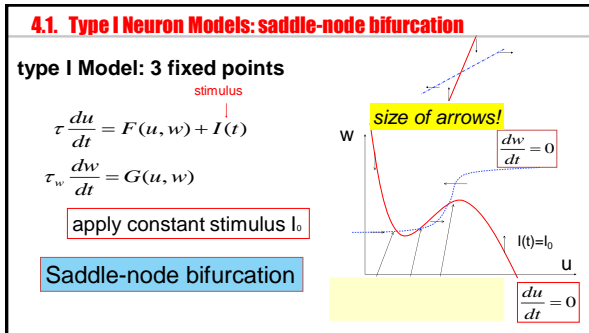


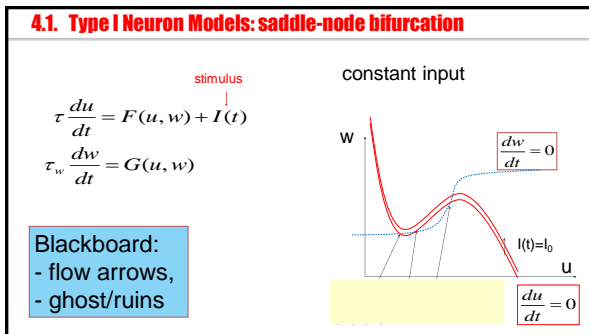
4.1 Example: FitzHugh-Nagumo / Hopf bifurcation

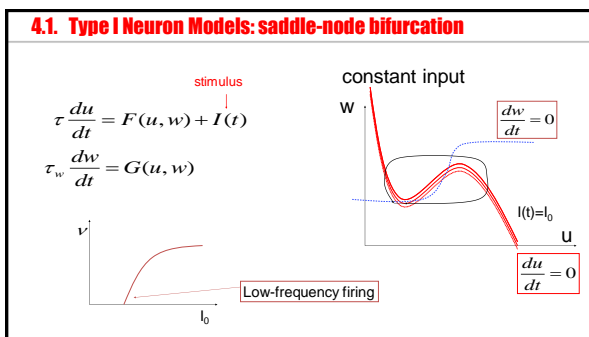


4.1. Type I and II Neuron Models

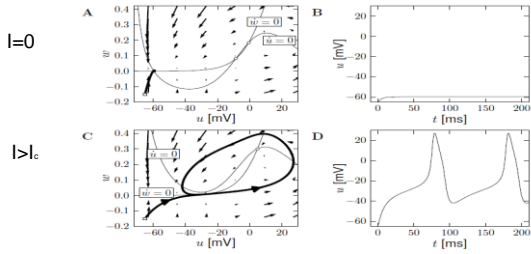




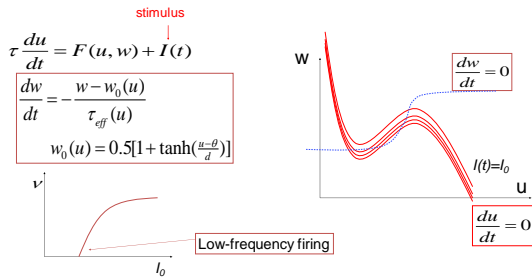




4.1. Example: Morris-Lecar as type I Model



4.1. Example: Morris-Lecar as type I Model



4.1. Type I and II Neuron Models

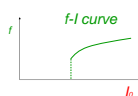
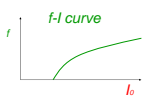
Response at firing threshold?

Type I type II

Saddle-Node
Onto limit cycle

For example:
Subcritical Hopf

ramp input/
constant input



4.1. Type I and II Neuron Models

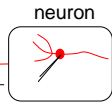
2-dimensional equation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

ramp input/
constant input

I_0

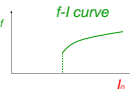
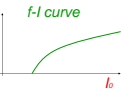


Enables graphical analysis!

Constant input

- repetitive firing (or not)
- limit cycle (or not)

Type I and type II models



Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.1

A. 2-dimensional neuron model with (supercritical) saddle-node-onto-limit cycle bifurcation

- [] The neuron model is of type II, because there is a jump in the f-I curve
- [] The neuron model is of type I, because the f-I curve is continuous
- [] The neuron model is of type I, if the limit cycle passes through a regime where the flow is very slow.
- [] in the regime below the saddle-node-onto-limit cycle bifurcation, the neuron is at rest or will converge to the resting state.

B. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with subcritical Hopf bifurcation

- [] The neuron model is of type II, because there is a jump in the f-I curve
- [] The neuron model is of type I, because the f-I curve is continuous
- [] in the regime below the Hopf bifurcation, the neuron is at rest or will necessarily converge to the resting state

4.1. Separation of time scales

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Separation of time scales

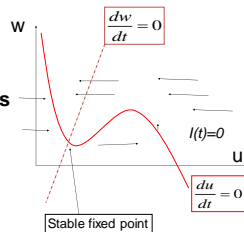
$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

$$\Delta w$$

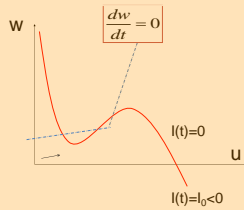
$$\Delta u$$

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u \rightarrow \Delta w \ll \Delta u$$

Unless close to nullcline



Week 4 - Exercise 1 and 2: NOW!



Next lecture at 11:15
Start Exercise 2 at 10:50

Now exercises

Week 4 – part 2: Pulse input in 2D Neuron Models



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks

Week 4

Reducing detail:

Analysis of 2D models

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EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

4.1 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles

4.2 Pulse input

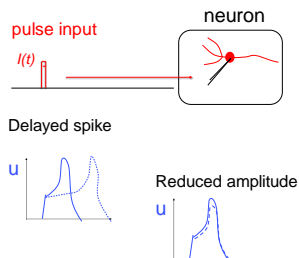
- where is the firing threshold?

- separation of time scales

4.3. Further reduction to 1 dim

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

4.2. Threshold for Pulse Input in 2dim. Neuron Models

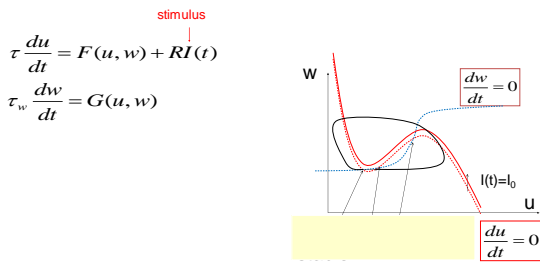


Review from 4.1 Bifurcations, simplifications

Bifurcations in neural modeling,
Type I/II neuron models,
Canonical simplified models

*Nancy Koppell,
Bart Ermentrout,
John Rinzel,
Eugene Izhikevich
and many others*

Review from 4.1: Saddle-node onto limit cycle bifurcation



4.2 Threshold for Pulse input

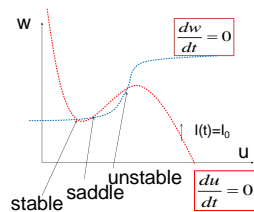
stimulus

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

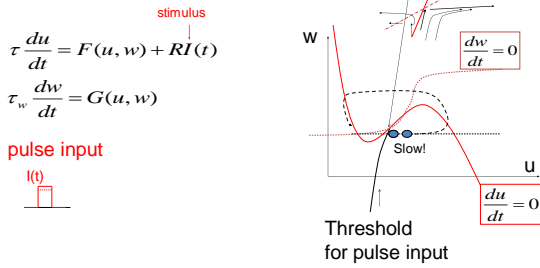
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

pulse input
 $I(t)$

Blackboard:
Saddle, stable manifold,
Slow response



4.2 Type I model: Pulse input



4.1 Type I model: Threshold for Pulse input

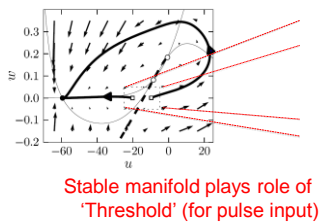


Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.1 Type I model: Delayed spike initiation for Pulse input

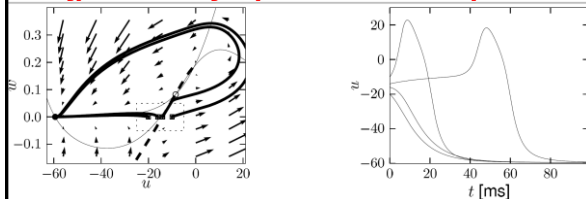
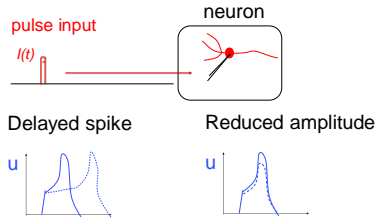


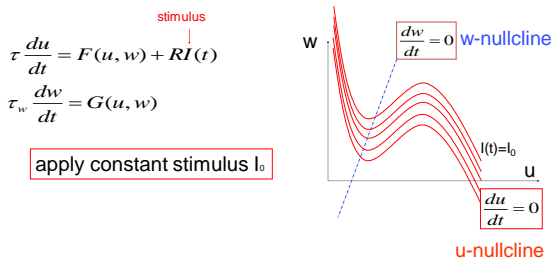
Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.2 Threshold for pulse input in 2dim. Neuron Models

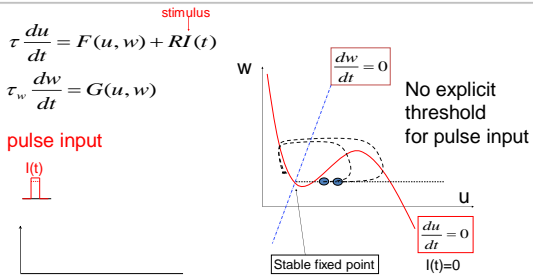


NOW: model with subc. Hopf

Review from 4.1: FitzHugh-Nagumo Model: Hopf bifurcation



4.2 FitzHugh-Nagumo Model with pulse input



Week 4 – part 2: Threshold for pulse input in 2D models



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks

Week 4

Reducing detail:

Analysis of 2D models

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✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

✓ 4.1 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles

4.2 Pulse input

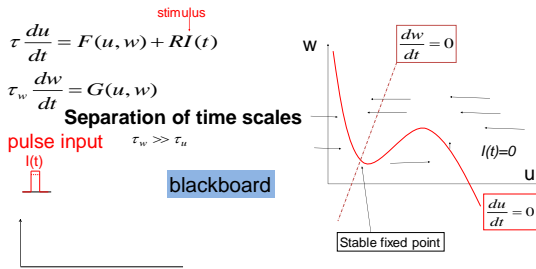
- where is the firing threshold?

- separation of time scales

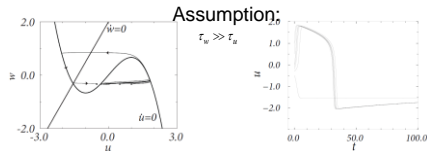
4.3. Further reduction to 1 dim

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

4.2 Separation of time scales, example FitzHugh-Nagumo Model



4.2 FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input



Middle branch of u-nullcline
plays role of
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.2 Detour: Separation of time scales in 2dim models

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Assumption:

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

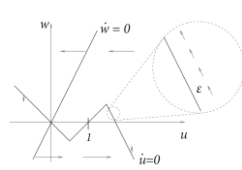
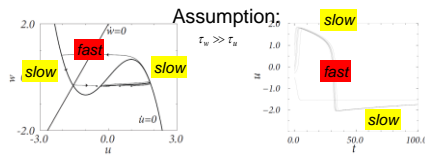


Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.2 FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input



trajectory

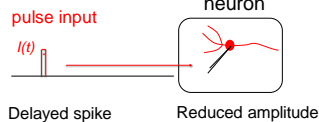
-follows u-nullcline: **slow**

-jumps between branches: **fast**

Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

4.2 Threshold for pulse input in 2dim. Neuron Models

Biological input scenario



Mathematical explanation:
Graphical analysis in 2D



Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.2.

A. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with saddle-node bifurcation

- [] The voltage threshold for repetitive firing is always the same as the voltage threshold for pulse input.
- [] in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for repetitive firing is given by the stable manifold of the saddle.
- [] in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for repetitive firing is given by the middle branch of the u-nullcline.
- [] in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the middle branch of the u-nullcline.
- [] in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the stable manifold of the saddle point.

B. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with subcritical Hopf bifurcation

- [] in the regime below the bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the stable manifold of the saddle point.
- [] in the regime below the bifurcation, a voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input exists only if $\tau_w \gg \tau_u$

Week 4: Reducing Detail – 2D models



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks

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4.1 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles

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- where is the firing threshold?
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4.3. Further reduction to 1 dim

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

4.3. Further reduction to 1 dimension

2-dimensional equation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{RI(t)}$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w) \quad \text{slow!}$$

Separation of time scales

- w is nearly constant
(most of the time)

4.3. Further reduction to 1 dimension

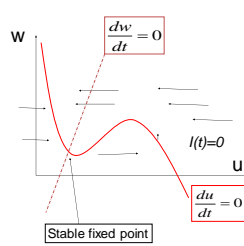
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Separation of time scales

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

→ Flux nearly horizontal



4.3. Further reduction to 1 dimension

Hodgkin-Huxley reduced to 2dim

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

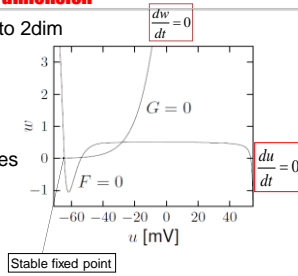
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Separation of time scales

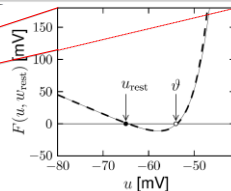
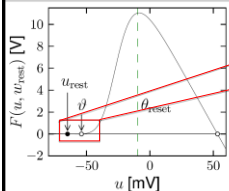
$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} \approx 0 \rightarrow w \approx w_{rest}$$

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w_{rest}) + RI(t)$$



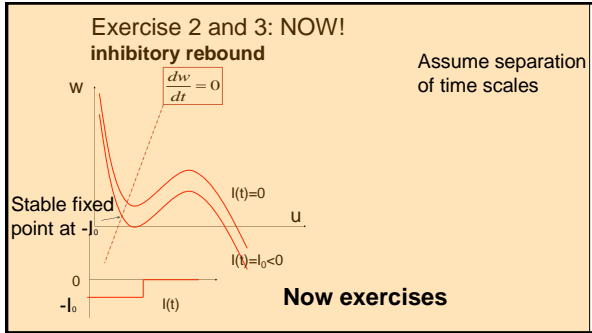
4.3. Nonlinear Integrate-and-Fire Model



$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w_{rest}) + RI(t) = f(u) + RI(t)$$

→ Nonlinear I&F (see week 1!)

Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)



Neuronal Dynamics – Literature for week 3 and 4.1

Reading: W. Gerstner, W.M. Kistler, R. Naud and L. Paninski, *Neuronal Dynamics: from single neurons to networks and models of cognition*. Chapter 4 Cambridge Univ. Press, 2014
 OR J. Rinzel and G.B. Ermentrout, (1989). Analysis of neuronal excitability and oscillations. In Koch, C. Segev, I., editors, *Methods in neuronal modeling*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.

Selected references.

- Ermentrout, G. B. (1996). *Type I membranes, phase resetting curves, and synchrony*. Neural Computation, 8(5):979-1001.
- Fourcaud-Trocme, N., Hansel, D., van Vreeswijk, C., and Brunel, N. (2003). *How spike generation mechanisms determine the neuronal response to fluctuating input*. J. Neuroscience, 23:11628-11640.
- Badel, L., Lefort, S., Berger, T., Petersen, C., Gerstner, W., and Richardson, M. (2008). Biological Cybernetics, 99(4-5):361-370.
- E.M. Izhikevich, Dynamical Systems in Neuroscience, MIT Press (2007)
