project proposal:

Tom Tetzlaff

Effect of homeostatic regulation on dynamics of recurrent neuronal networks

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Outline

Background

Questions and hypotheses

Proposed work plan

- both in nature and in Computational Neuroscience, neuronal network dynamics can become unstable, leading either
 - to an explosion of network activity or other pathological states, or
 - to dying out of network activity
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firing activity \( \shcap \) synaptic input \( \shcap \) firing activity \( \shcap \)
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synaptic coupling between them ↑
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- - \sim correlations in firing activity \uparrow

. . .

- typical countermeasures
 - Computational Neuroscience: laborious parameter tuning and/or unrealistic assumptions
 - (healthy) brains: homeostatic regulation

Known forms of homeostasis in biological neuronal networks

 intrinsic plasticity (hours-days): regulation of cell-intrinsic excitability (e.g., thresholds; "slow adaptation") (Naudé et al. 2012) Intrinsic plasticity



(Watt and Desai 2010)

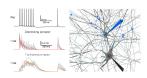
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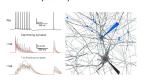
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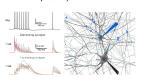
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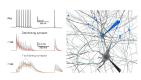
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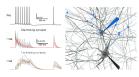
- synaptic normalization (hours-days): long-term synaptic plasticity under the constraint that the total amount of synaptic ressources per neuron (e.g. postsynaptic receptors) is constant (Hartmann et al. 2015)
- structural plasticity (hours-days): removal or formation of connections controlled by postsynaptic activity level ("synaptic turnover") (Butz and Ooyen 2013; Gallinaro and Rotter 2018; Gallinaro, Gašparović, and Rotter 2022)

Intrinsic plasticity



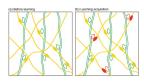
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Short-term plasticity



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Structural plasticity



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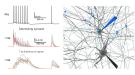
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- ... and certainly many more

Intrinsic plasticity



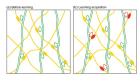
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Questions and hypotheses

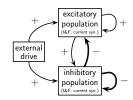
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Questions and hypotheses

- 1) What biologically plausible mechanisms can effectively stabilize healthy recurrent network dynamics (low rates, asynchronous firing)?
- 2) How does the presence of such mechanisms alter network dynamics, such as the dynamics in response to perturbations?

 implement a simple recurrent neuronal network model as presented during the NEST tutorial

(see NEST example: balanced_random_network.py)

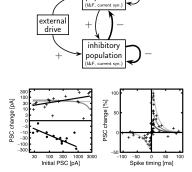


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equip the model with a classical form of spike-timing-dependent plasticity in the connections between excitatory neurons

(such as proposed by Morrison, Aertsen, and Diesmann (2007); see NEST synapse model stdp_pl_synapse*)



excitatory population

(Morrison, Aertsen, and Diesmann 2007)

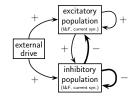
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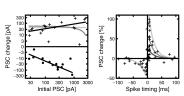
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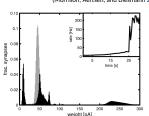
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 observe how the network activity evolves into an epileptic high-activity state for high levels of synaptic potentiation (learning rate)





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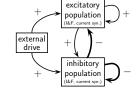
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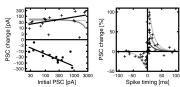
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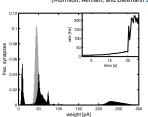
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- observe how the network activity evolves into an epileptic high-activity state for high levels of synaptic potentiation (learning rate)
- extend the model with one (or several) of the mentioned forms of homeostasis





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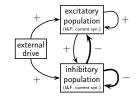
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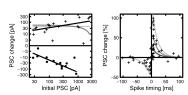
(see NEST example: balanced_random_network.pv)

2 equip the model with a classical form of spike-timing-dependent plasticity in the connections between excitatory neurons

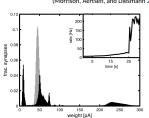
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- 3 observe how the network activity evolves into an epileptic high-activity state for high levels of synaptic potentiation (learning rate)
- 4 extend the model with one (or several) of the mentioned forms of homeostasis
- 5 investigate if the destabilization of network activity by strong synaptic potentiation can be prevented by the implemented form of homeostasis





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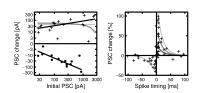
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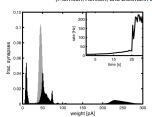
- observe how the network activity evolves into an epileptic high-activity state for high levels of synaptic potentiation (learning rate)
- extend the model with one (or several) of the mentioned forms of homeostasis
- investigate if the destabilization of network activity by strong synaptic potentiation can be prevented by the implemented form of homeostasis
- investigate how the implemented form of homeostasis affects network dynamics in the absence or presence of external perturbations (such as average firing rates, level of correlations in firing activity, power spectra of population activity, sensitivity to perturbations)

excitatory population (l&F, current syn.)

external drive inhibitory population (l&F, current syn.)

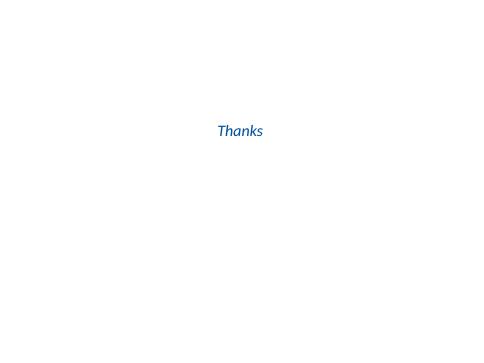


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(Bachmann et al. 2020)

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