
Eyes are smarter than scientists believed

Ulisse Ferrari

ulisse.ferrari@gmail.com

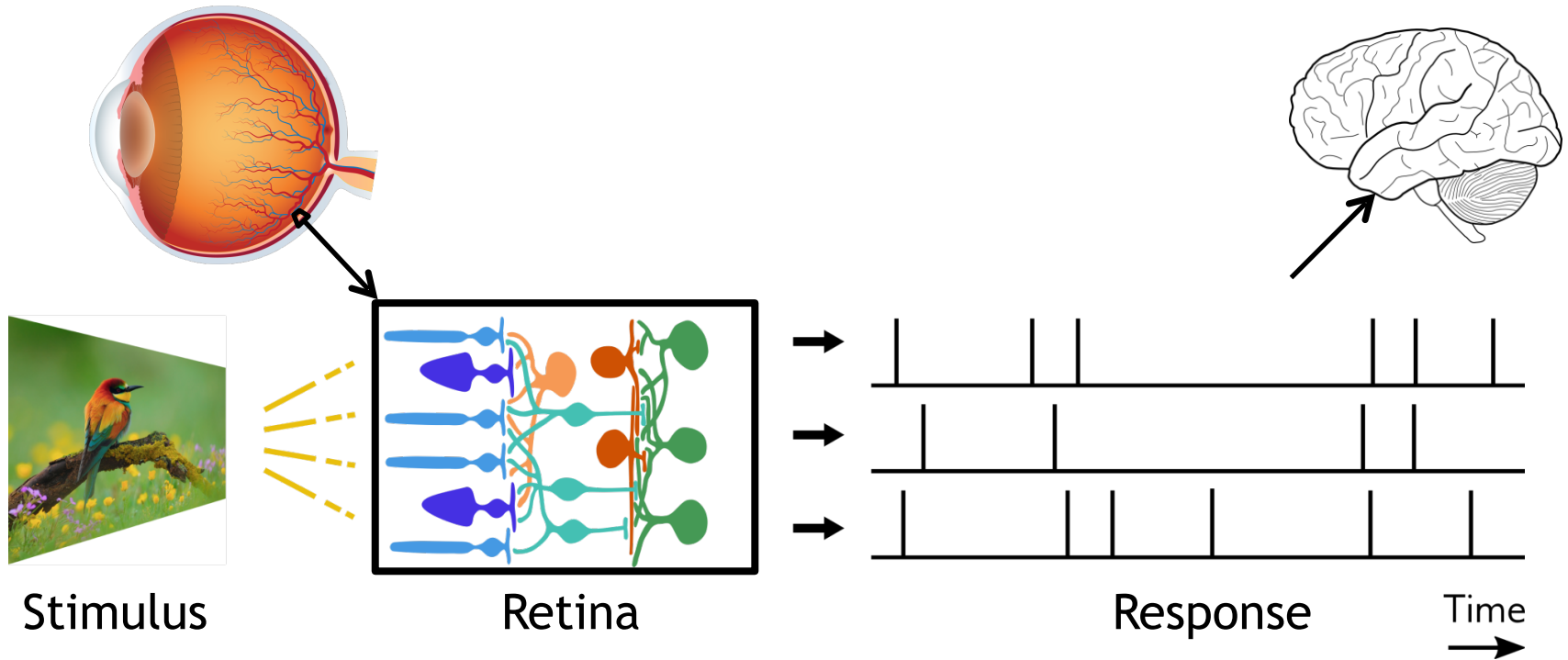


Find the TD material at **<http://oliviermarre.free.fr/>**

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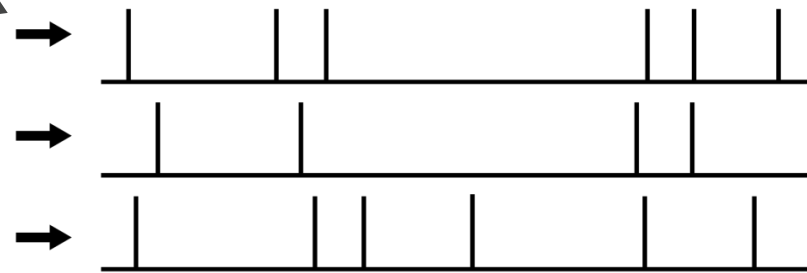
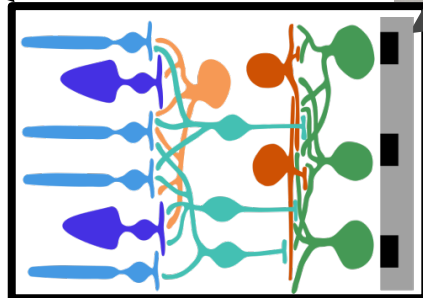
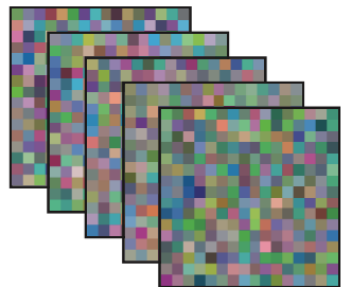
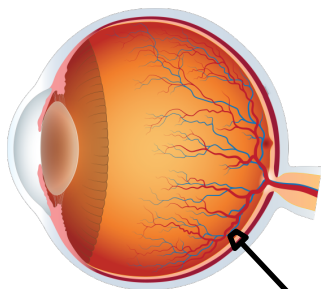
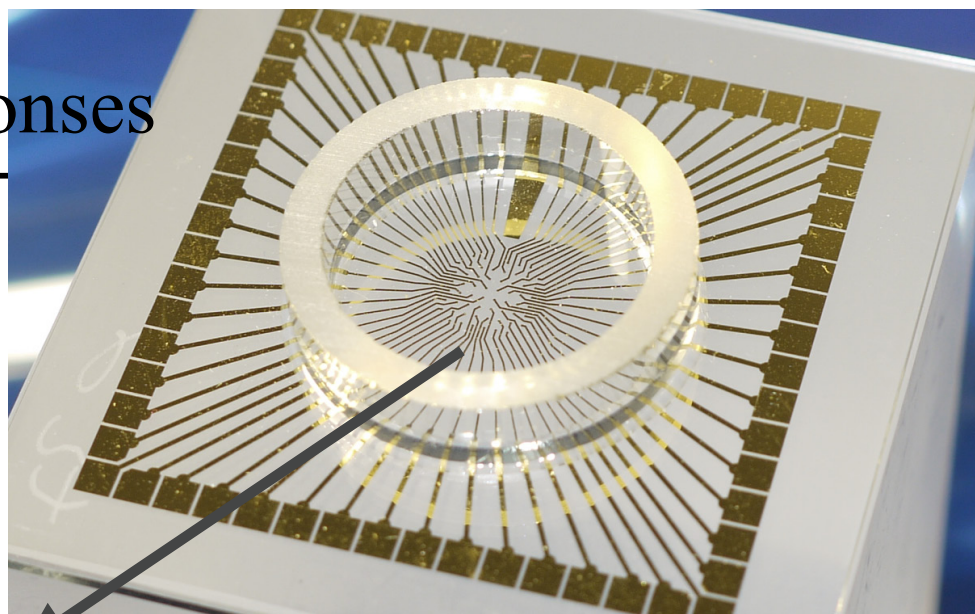
- 1) The structure of the retina
- 2) Stimulus processing in the retina
- 3) Predicting retinal light-response

Predicting retinal light responses



Goal: predict spiking times

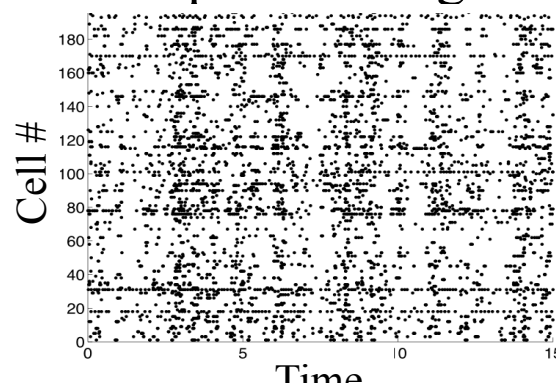
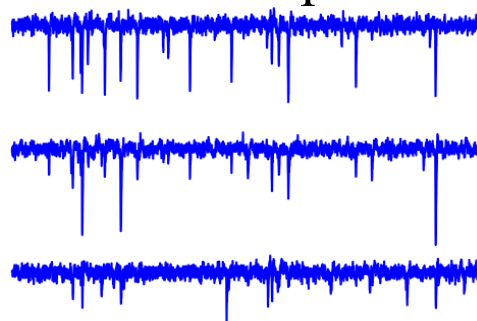
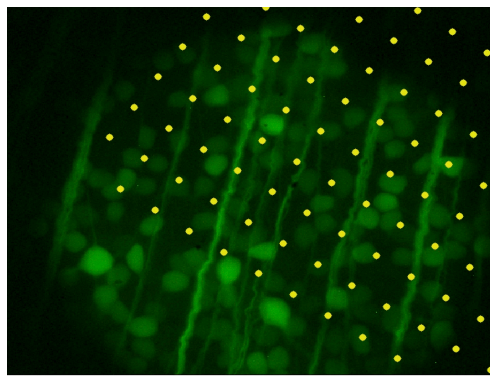
Predicting retinal light responses



Stimulus
Multi-electrode array

Retina
Extracellular potential

Response
Spike sorting

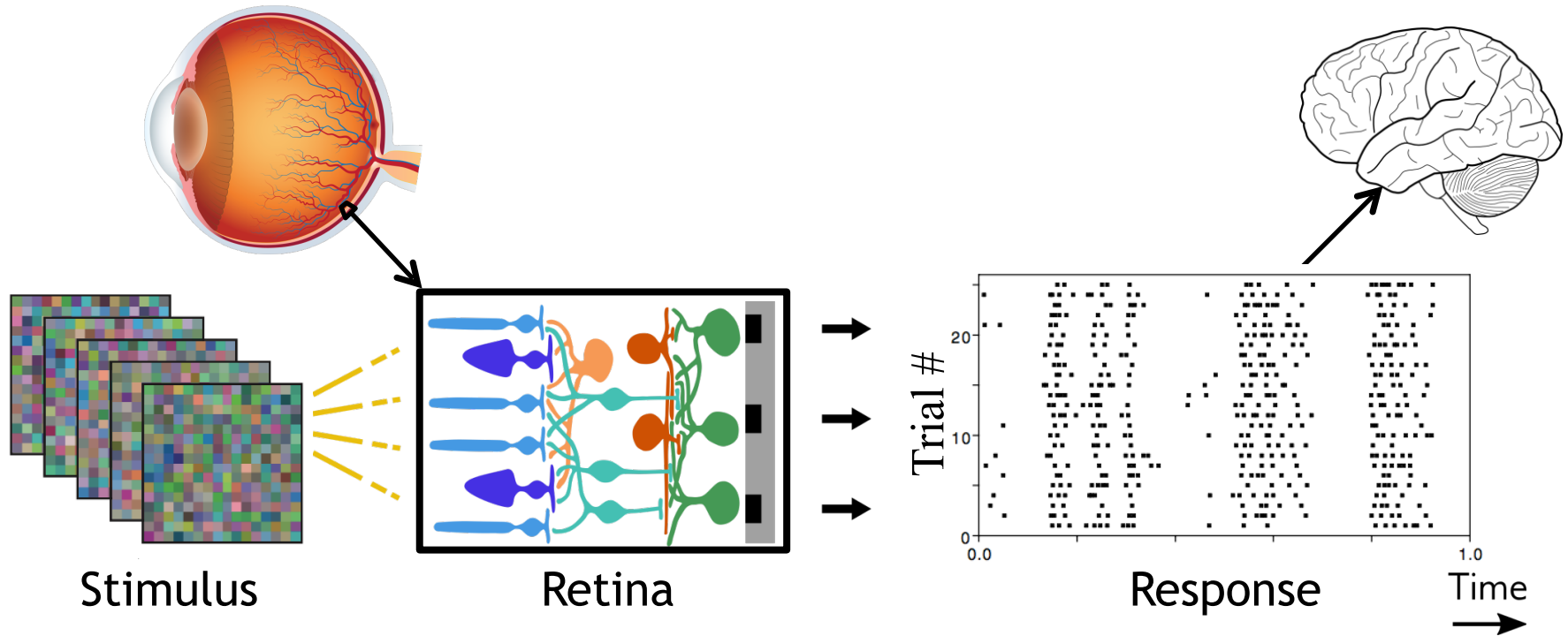


Marre '12; Yger '16

Predicting retinal light responses

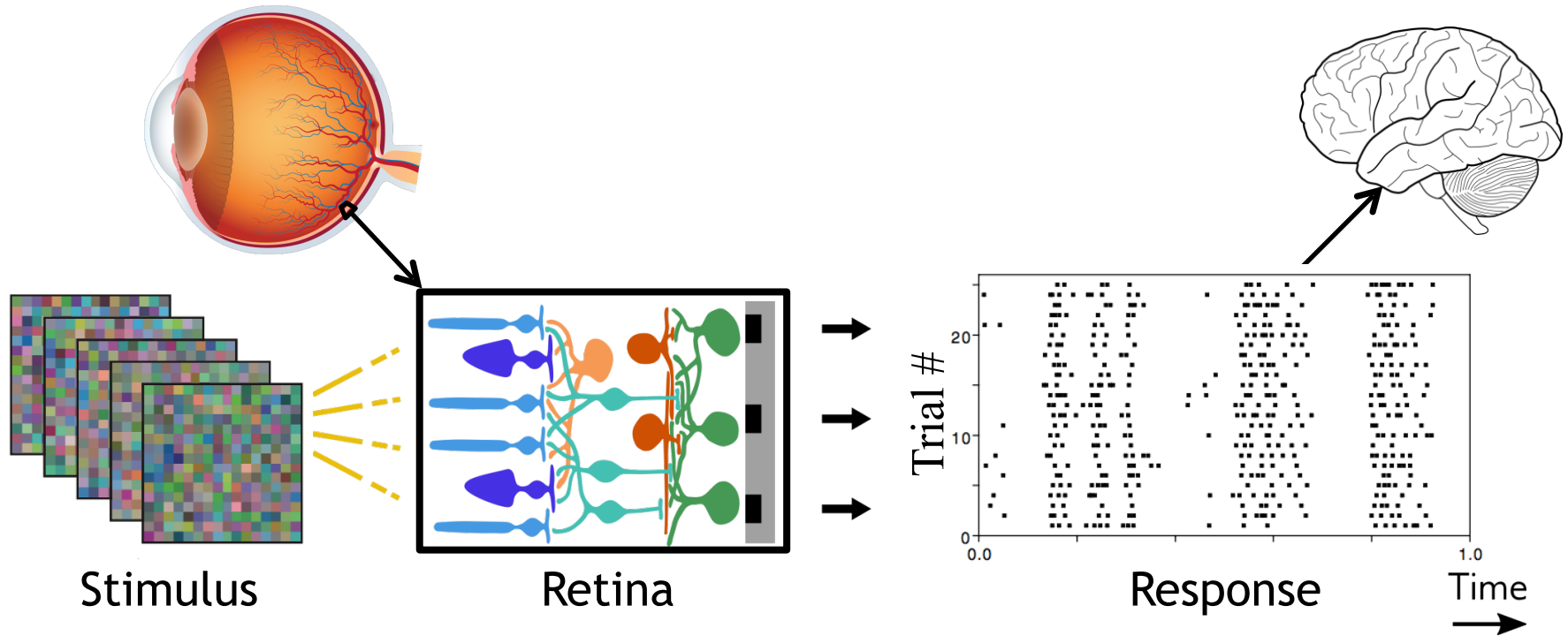


Predicting retinal light responses

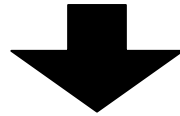


Response is reliable but noisy!

Predicting retinal light responses



Response is reliable but noisy!

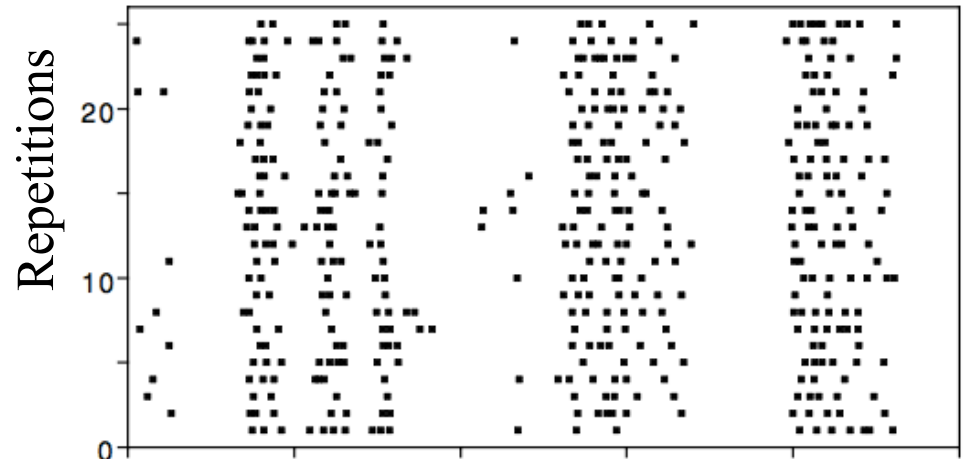


Average over trials

Predicting retinal light responses

Peri-Stimulus Time Histogram (PSTH)

- 1) repeat video (trials)
- 2) align responses in time

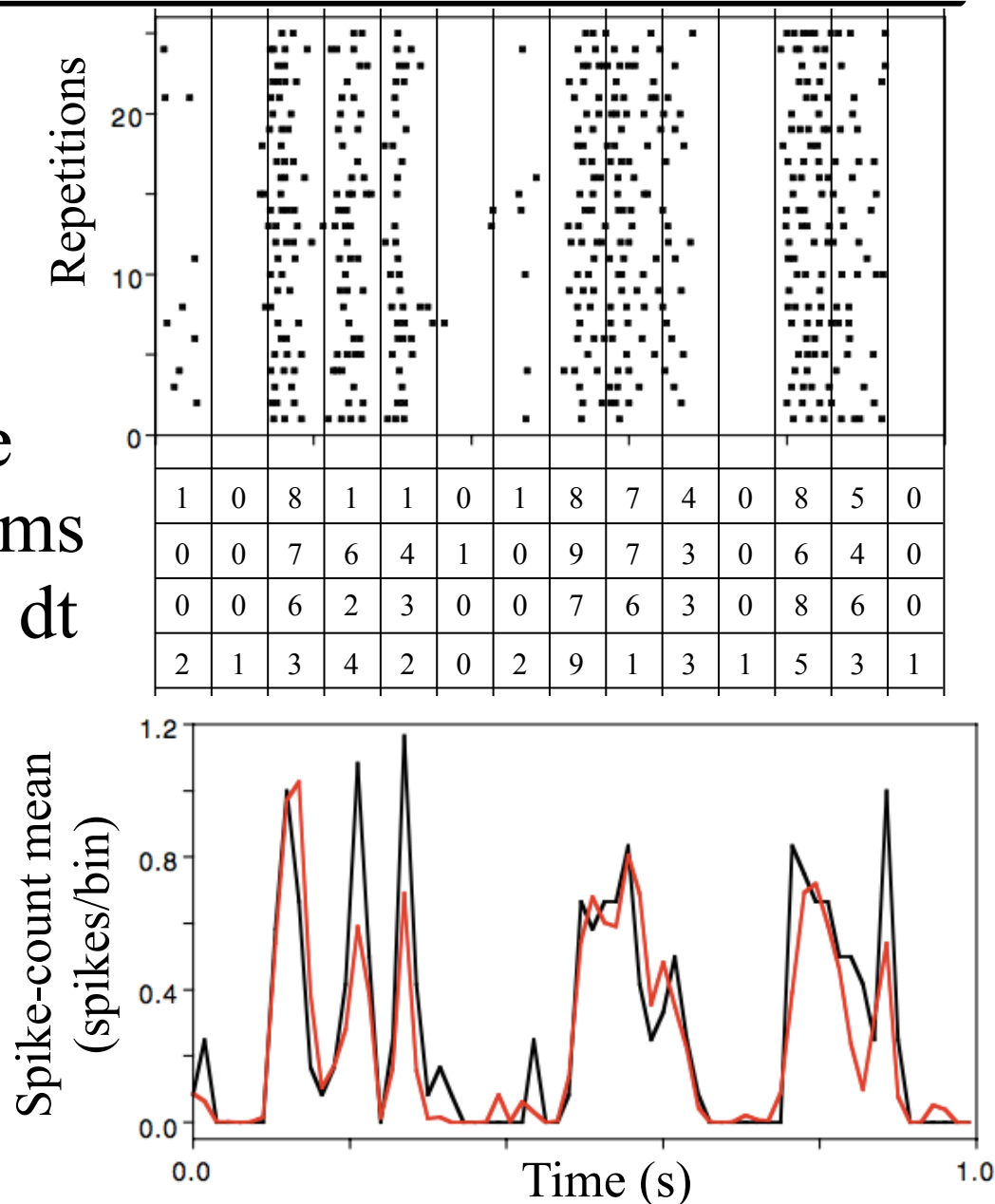


Predicting retinal light responses

Peri-Stimulus Time Histogram (PSTH)

- 1) repeat video (trials)
- 2) align responses in time
- 3) bin responses at $\Delta t = 25\text{ms}$
- 4) spike counts n_t in each Δt
- 5) average over trials
- 6) estimate spike rate

Can we predict $\langle n_t \rangle$?



Linear model

$$\tilde{S}_{xyt} = \left(S_{xyt} - \langle S \rangle \right) / \text{std}(S)$$

$$f(t) = w * \tilde{S}(t) + b = \sum_{x,y,\tau} w_{x,y}(\tau) \tilde{S}_{x,y}(t - \tau) + b$$

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After some algebra: $w_{x,y}(\tau) = \sum_{\tau'} \text{STA}_{x,y}(\tau') C_{x,y}^{-1}(\tau', \tau)$

Spike-Triggered Average

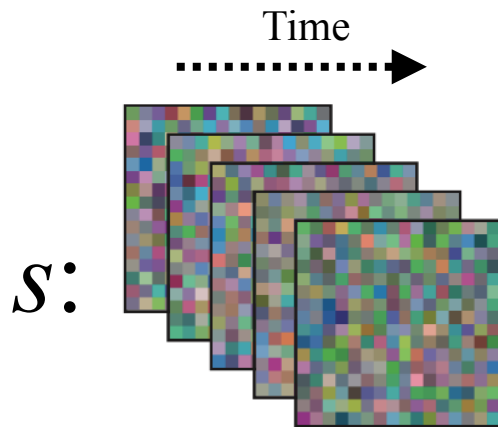
$$\text{STA}_{x,y}(\tau) \equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_t n(t) \tilde{S}_{x,y}(t - \tau)$$

Stimulus autocorrelation

$$C_{x,y}(\tau', \tau) \equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_t \tilde{S}_{x,y}(t - \tau') \tilde{S}_{x,y}(t - \tau)$$

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$$C_{x,y}(\tau', \tau) = \delta(\tau - \tau')$$



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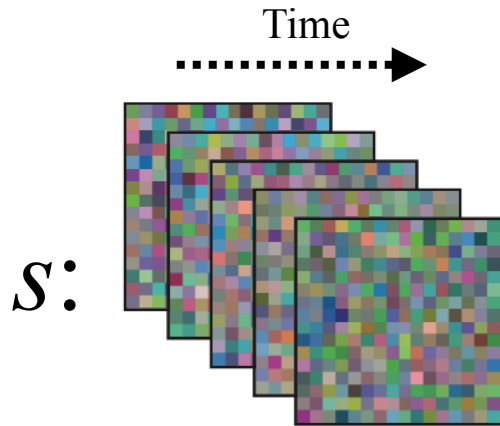
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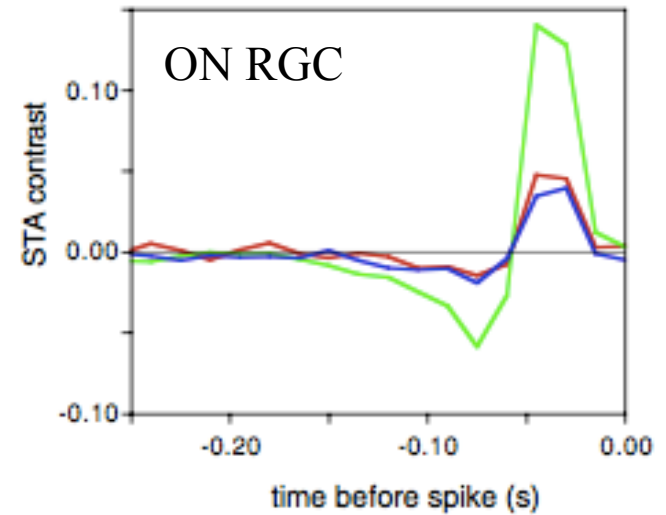
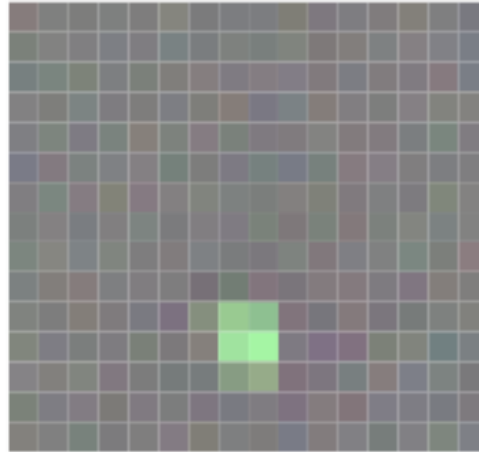
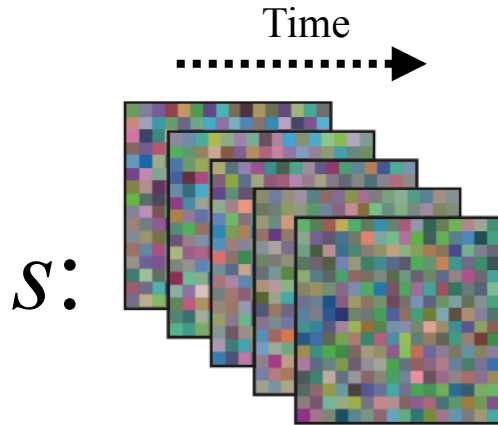
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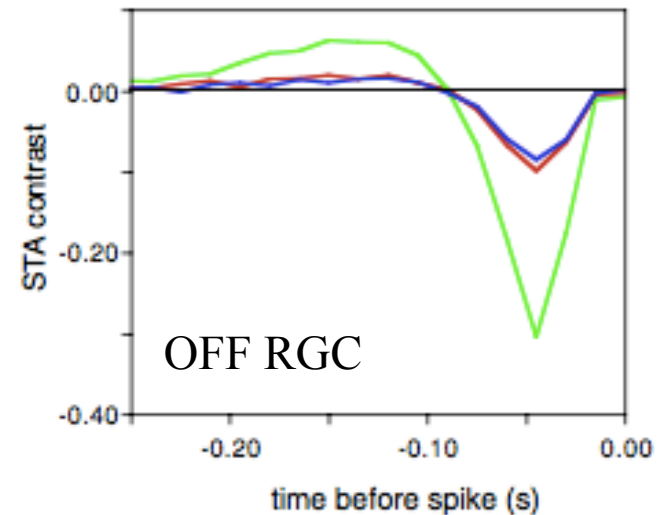
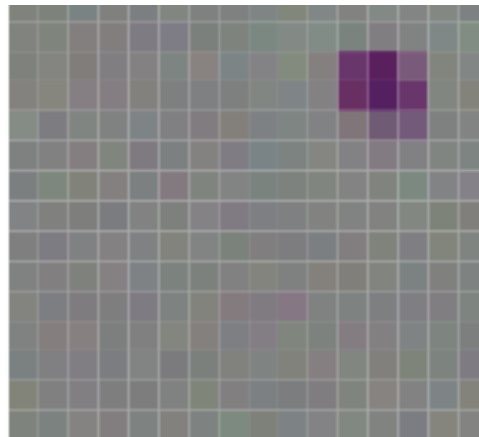
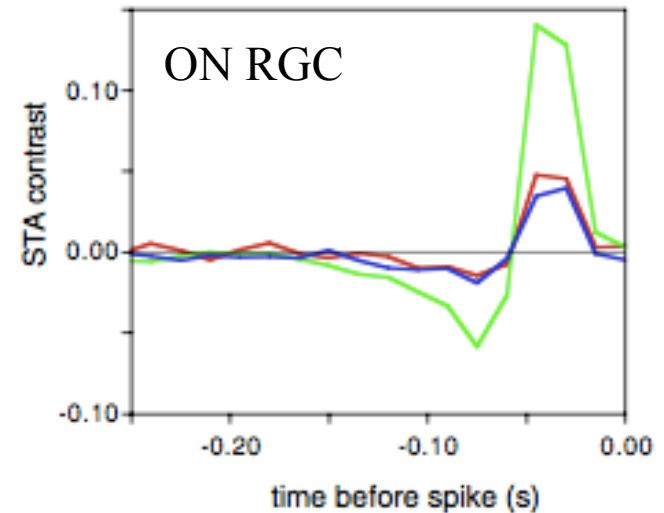
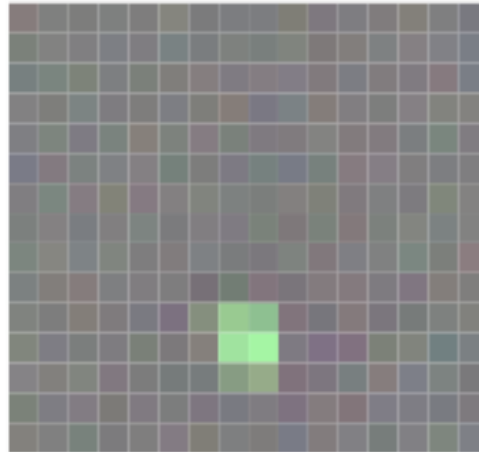
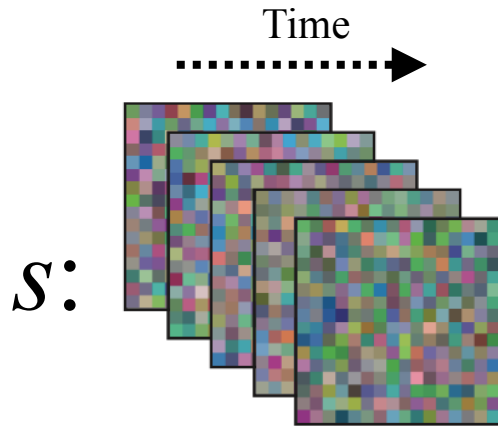
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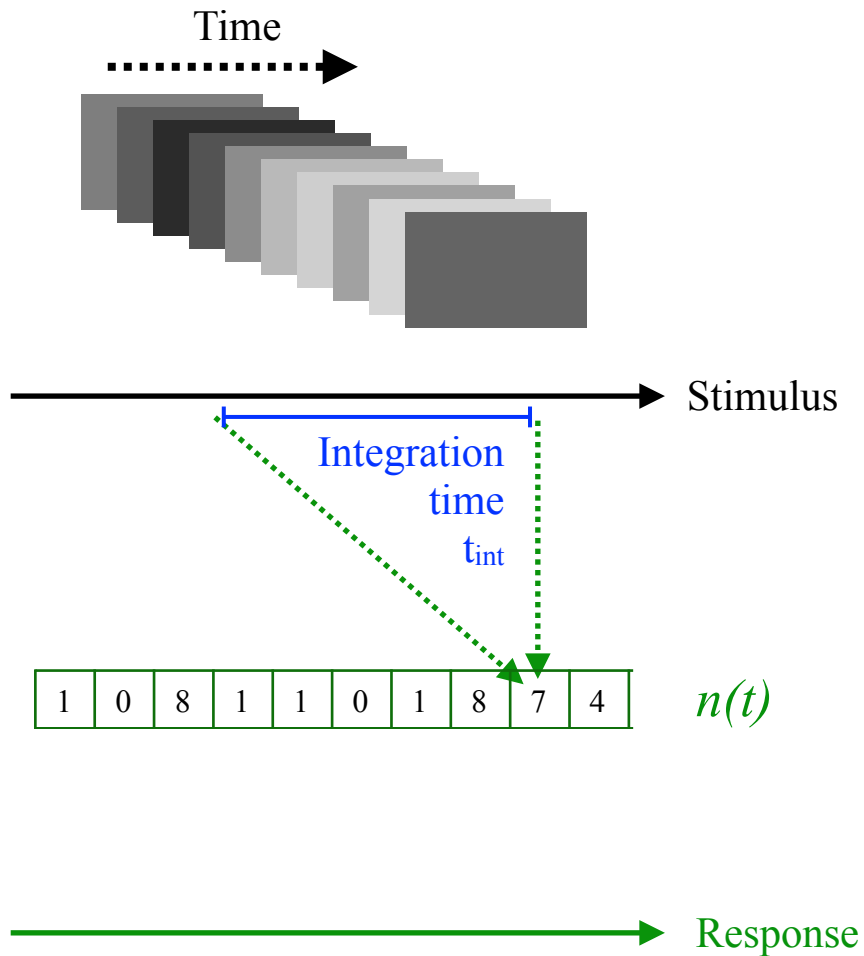
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Linear model: full field case

$$f(t) = w * \tilde{S}(t) + b = \sum_{\tau}^{t_{int}} w(\tau) \tilde{S}(t - \tau) + b$$

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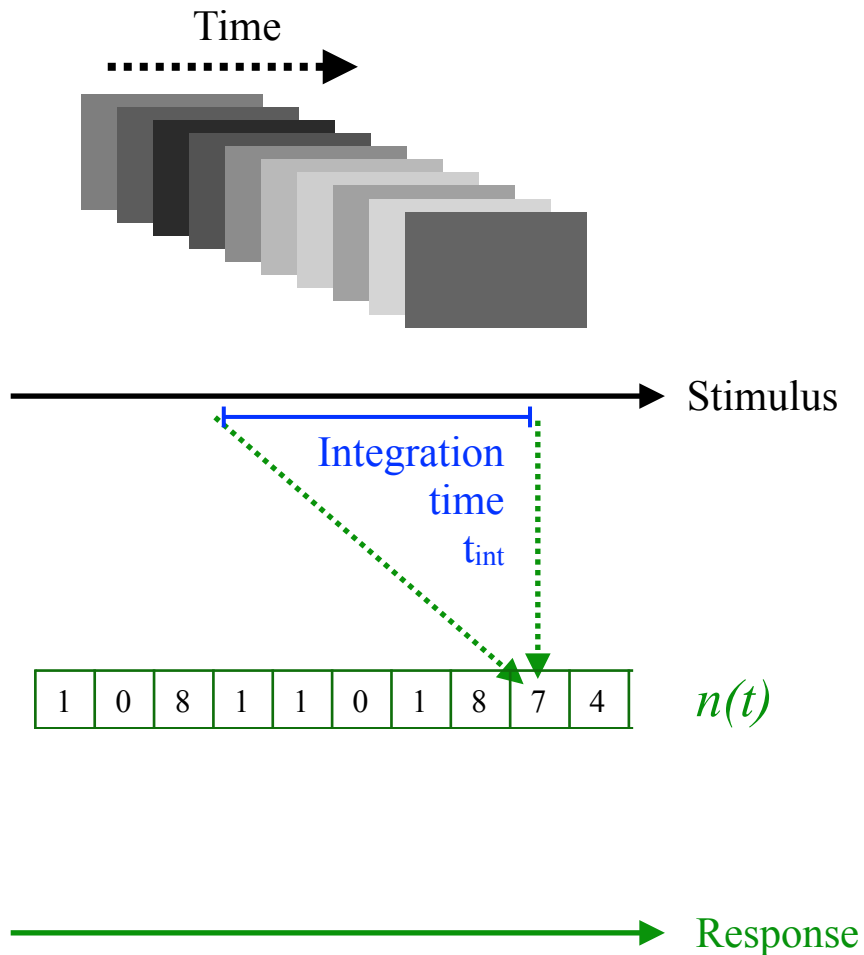
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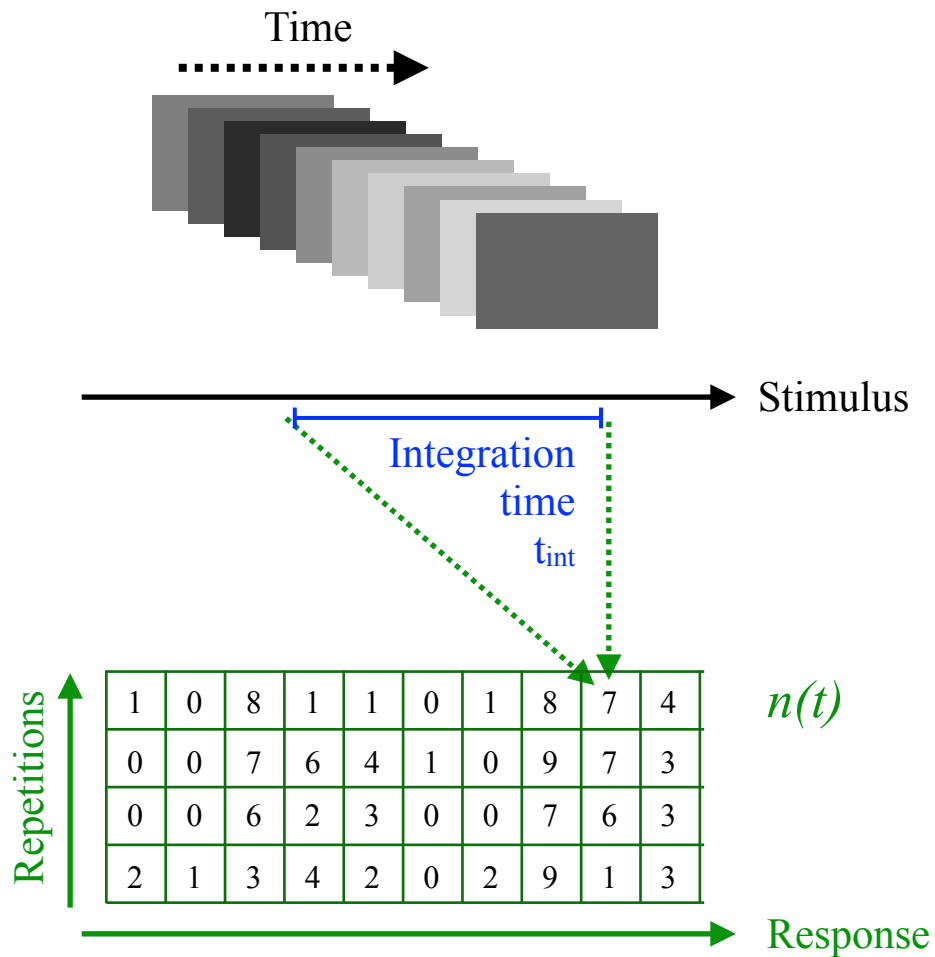
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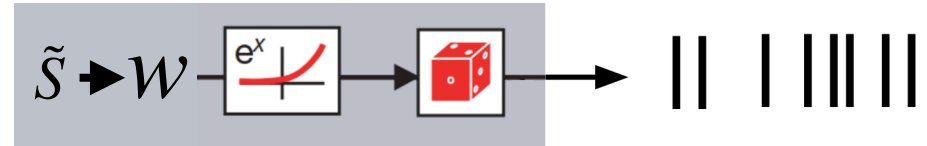
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$$\begin{aligned} \text{STA}(\tau) &\equiv \frac{1}{T} \sum_t n(t) \tilde{S}(t - \tau) \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_t \left(\frac{1}{R} \sum_r n^r(t) \right) \tilde{S}(t - \tau) \end{aligned}$$

Linear-nonlinear Poisson model (LNP)

$$P_t(n) = \text{Poisson}(n | f(t)) = \frac{f(t)^n}{n!} e^{-f(t)}$$

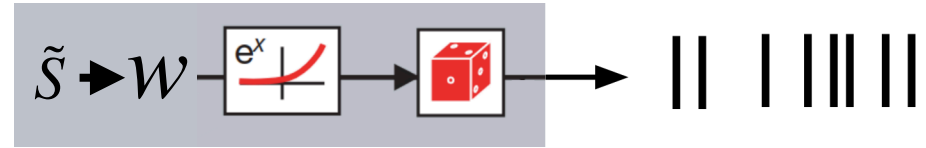


$$f(t) = \text{NL}(w * \tilde{S} + b) \rightarrow \exp(w * \tilde{S} + b)$$

Where NL(x) can be $\exp(x)$ or another nonlinear function

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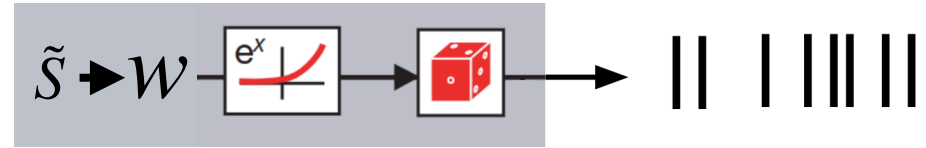
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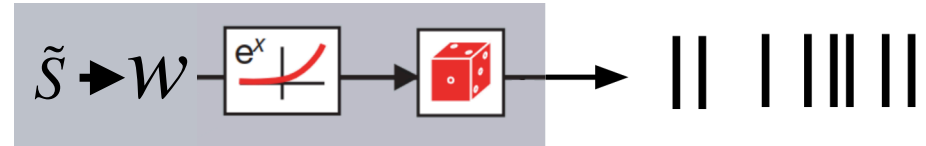
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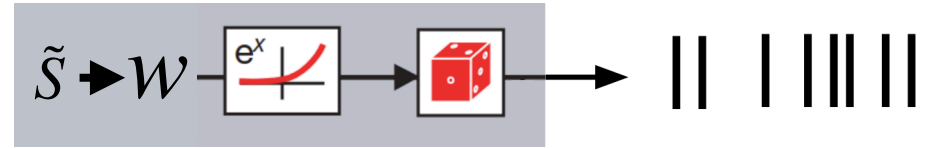
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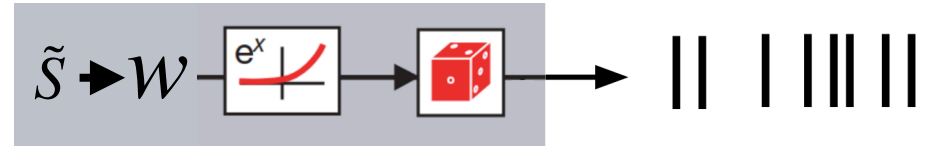
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Can be solved by steepest gradient

LNP model + L₂-Regularisation

To have a smooth w , we should minimise $(w(\tau) - w(\tau + 1))^2$

LNP model + L₂-Regularisation

To have a smooth w , we should minimise $(w(\tau) - w(\tau + 1))^2$

$$\ell_\lambda(w, b) = \sum_t (n(t) \log f(t) - f(t)) - \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{\tau, \tau'} w(\tau) L(\tau, \tau') w(\tau')$$

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Laplacian: $L(\tau, \tau') =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & & & & & \\ -1 & 4 & -1 & & & & & & \\ & -1 & 4 & -1 & & & & & \\ & & -1 & \ddots & & & & & \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & & \ddots & -1 & & & \\ & & 0 & & & -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & & & & & -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & & & & & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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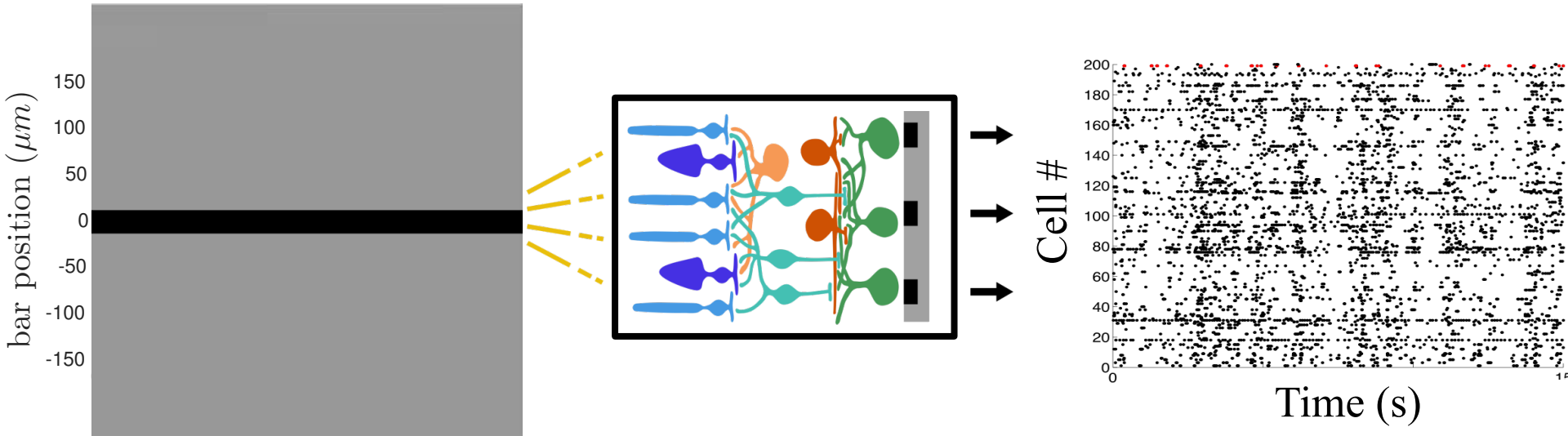
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And the strength λ should be optimised over the validation set

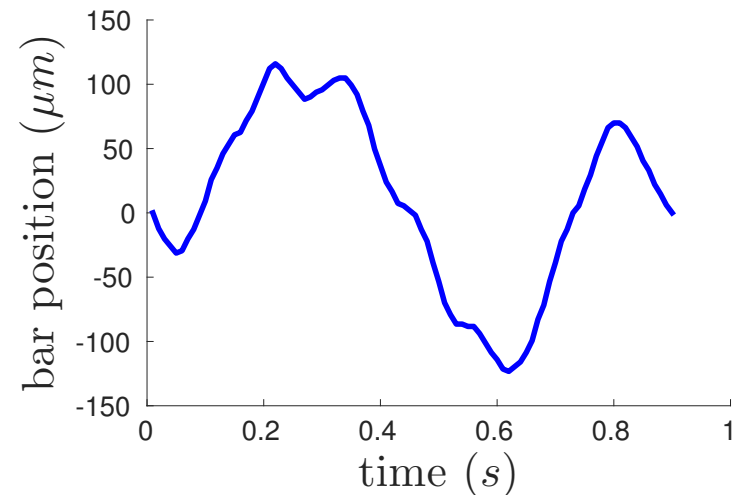
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

What happens if the stimulus is more complex?



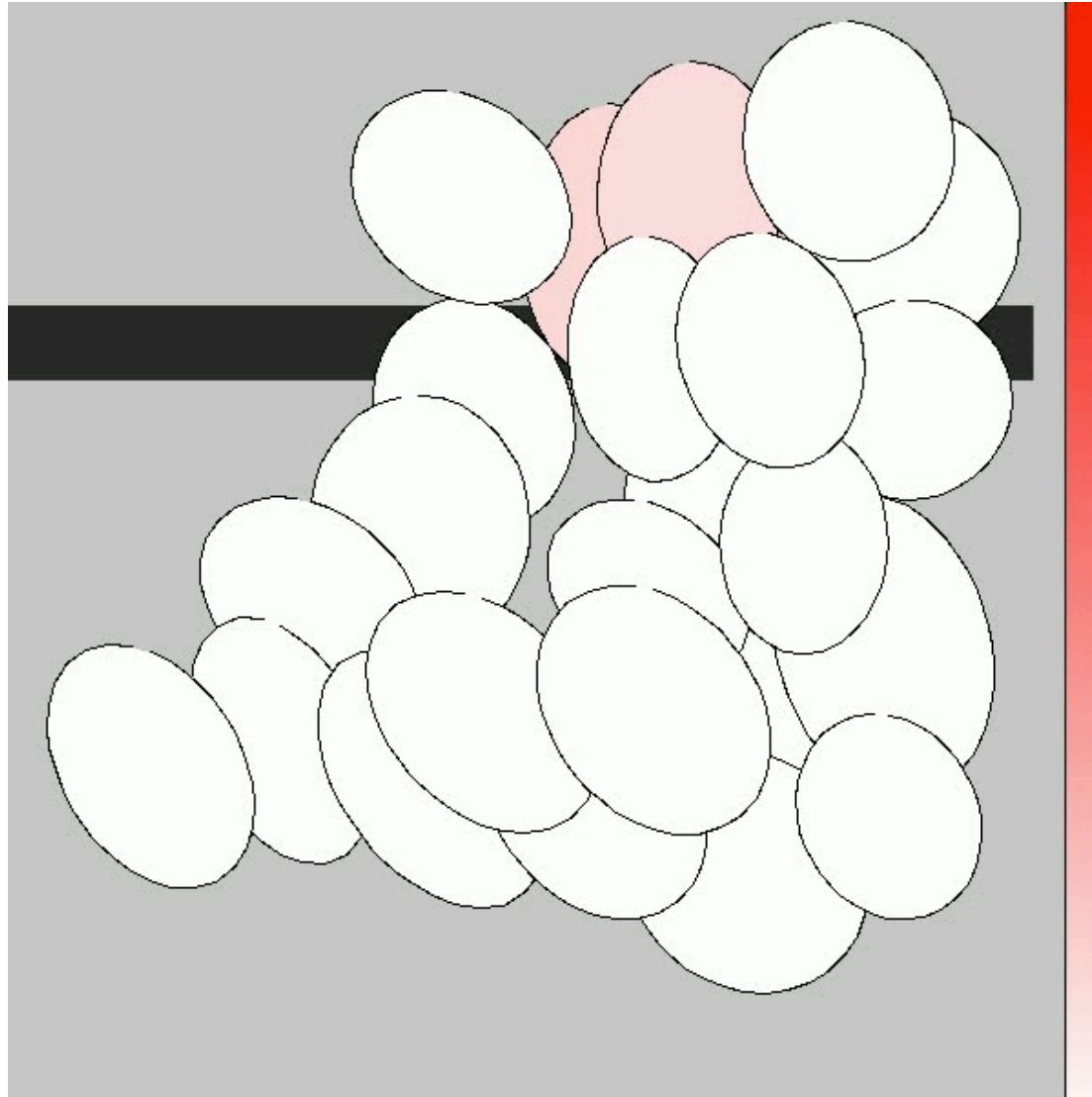
Relevant: test the tracking
of moving object

Simple: fully described by
one dimensional trajectory

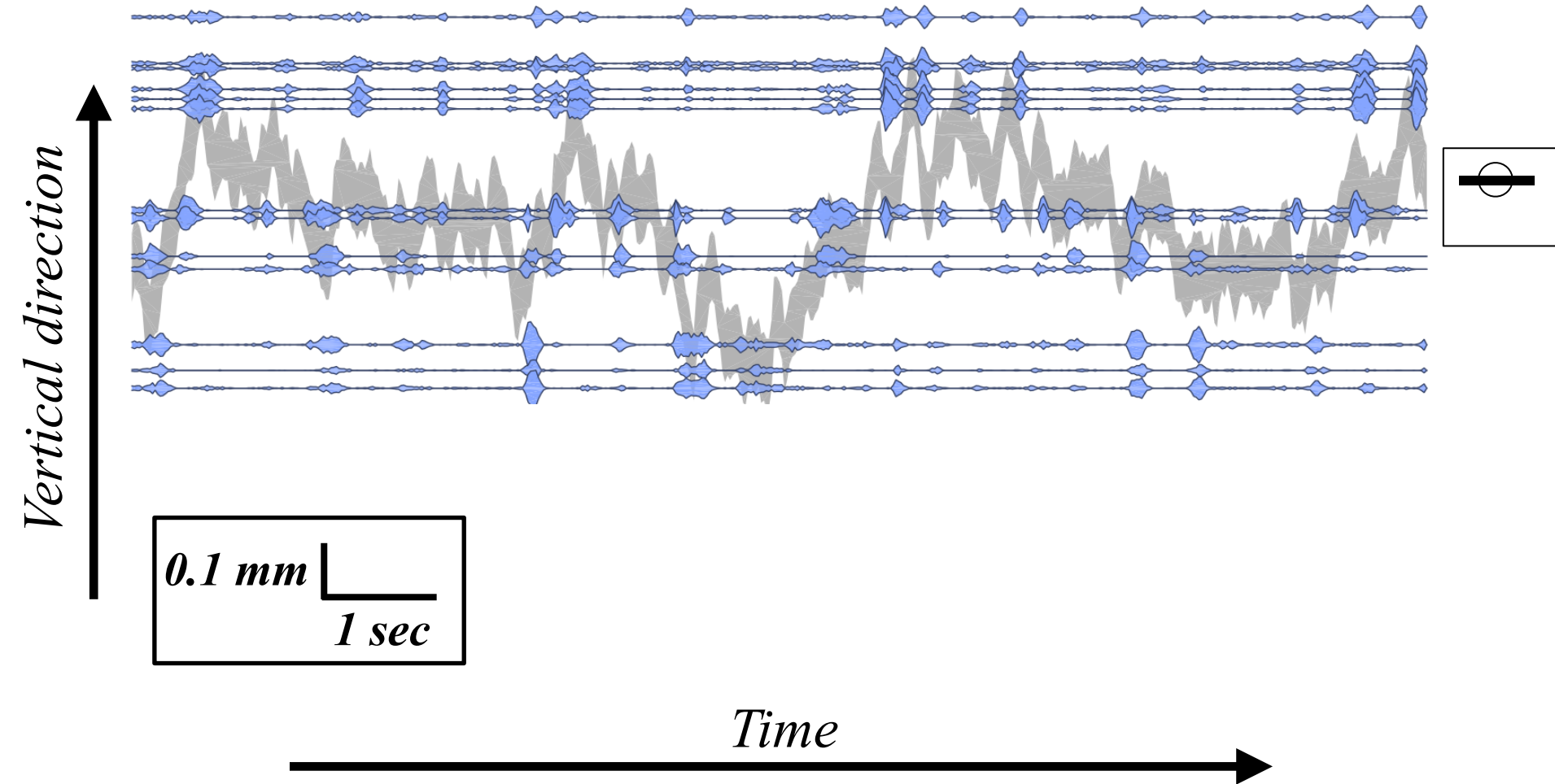


Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

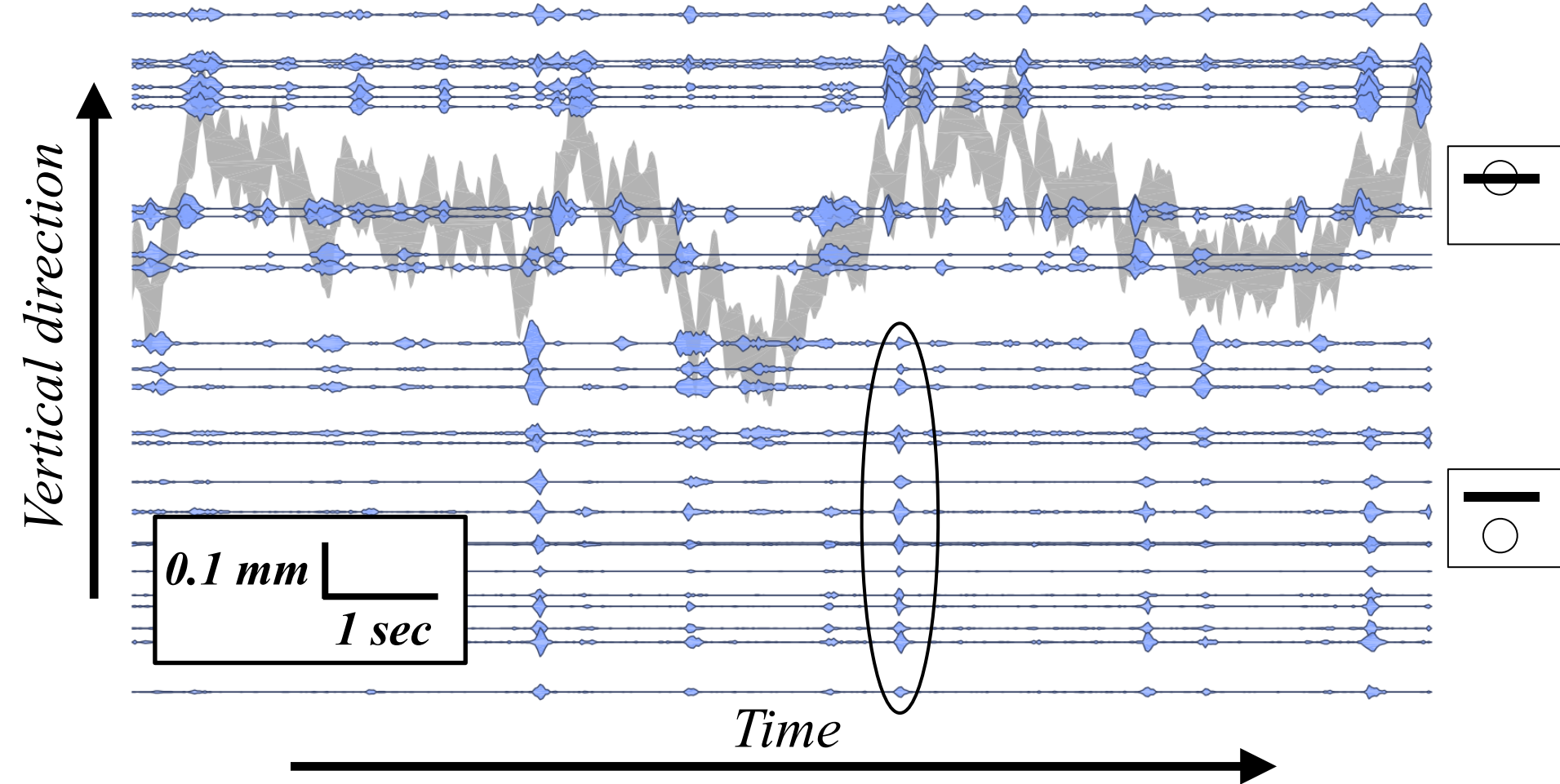
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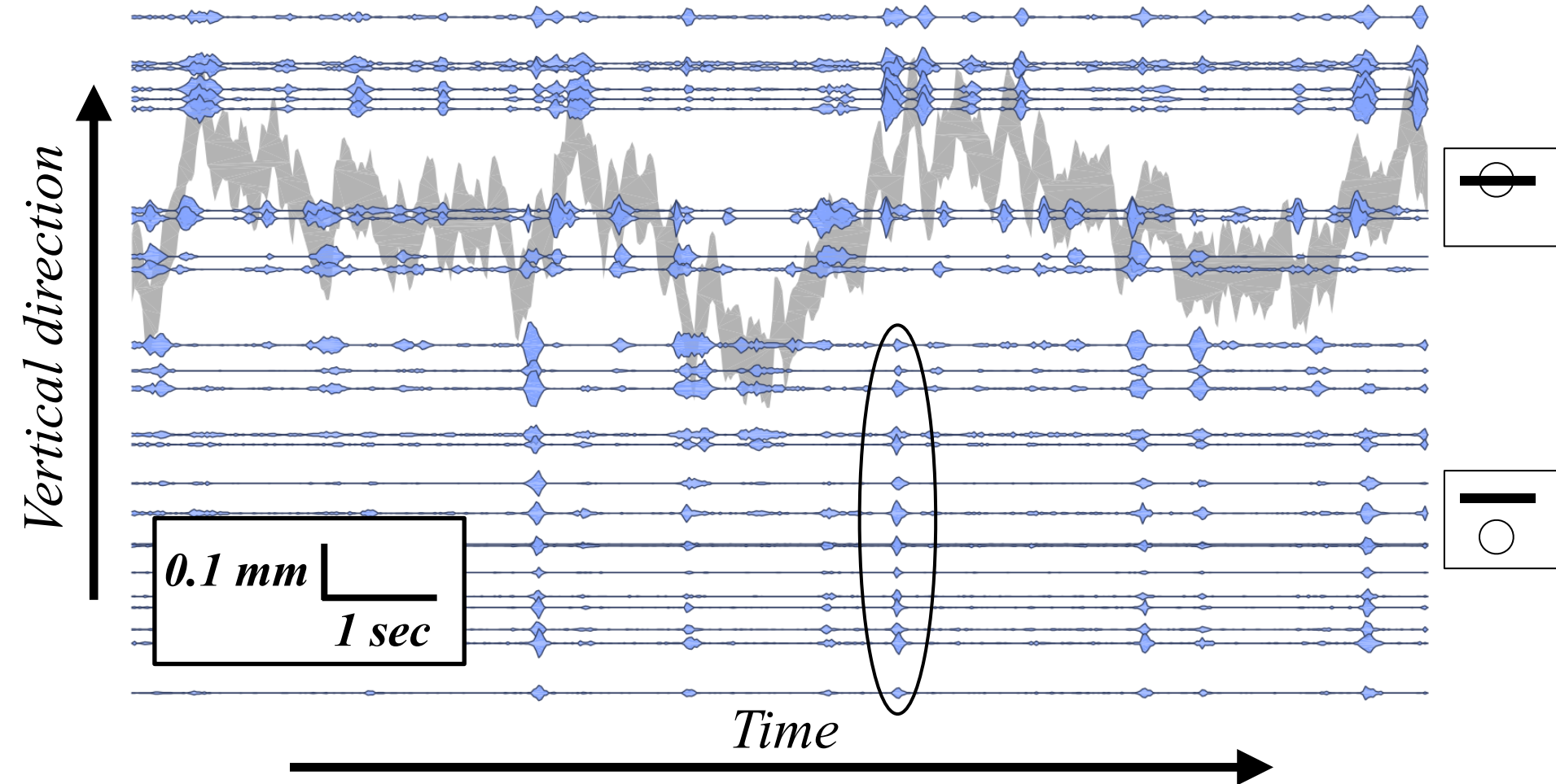
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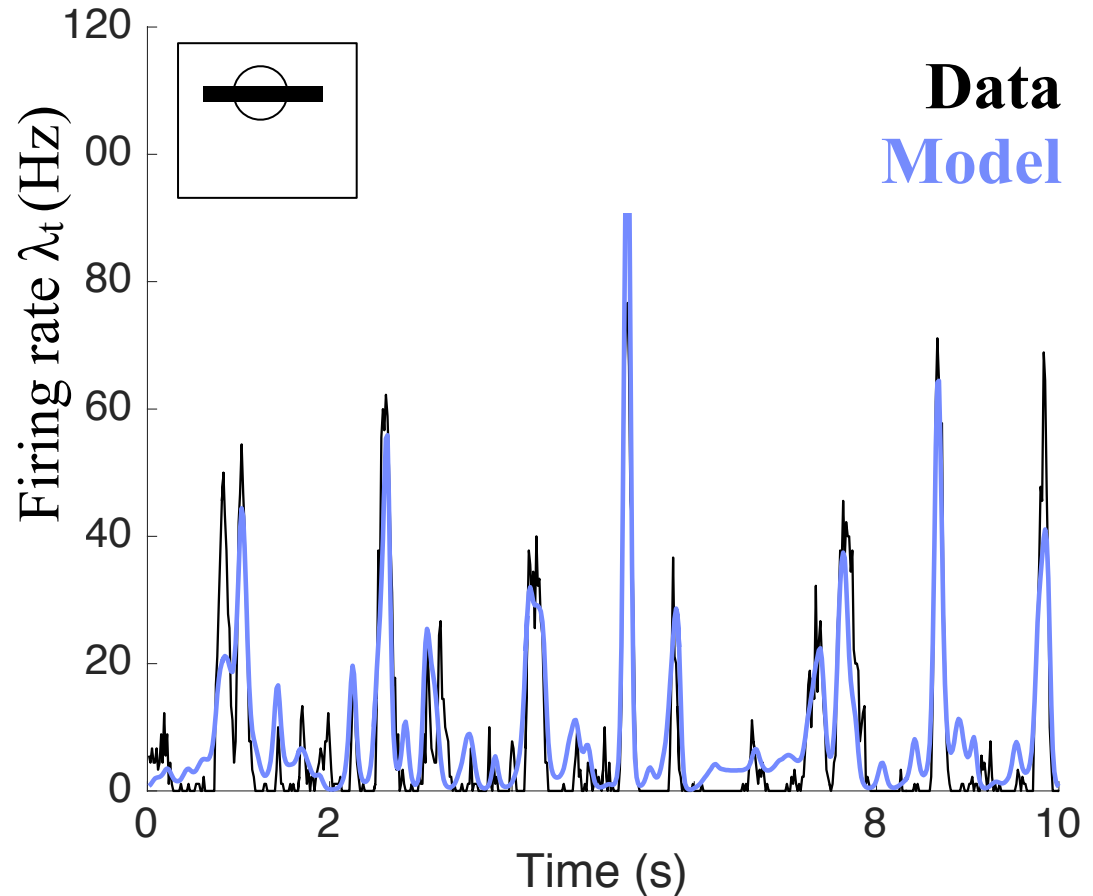
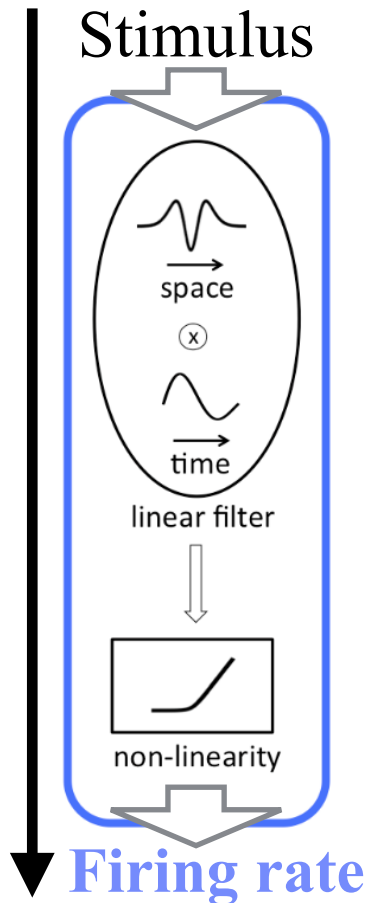
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli



Same type of cell, but different computations!

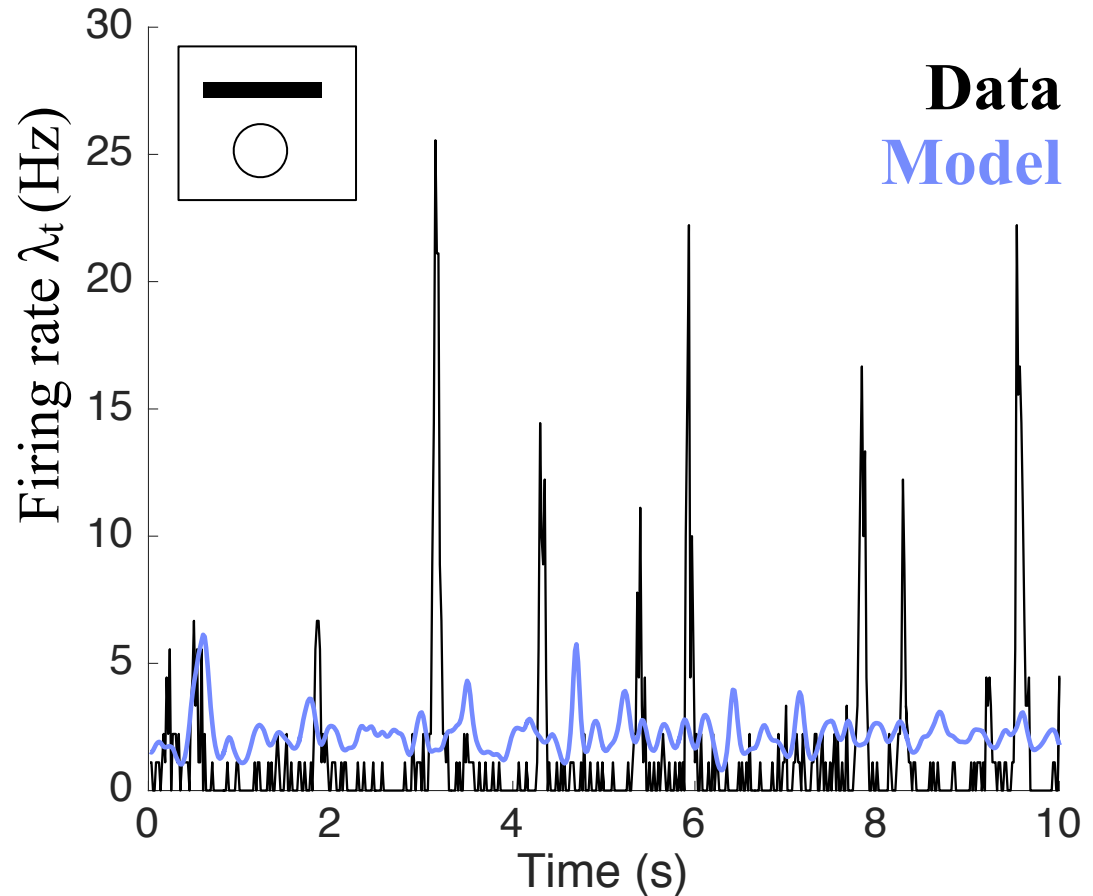
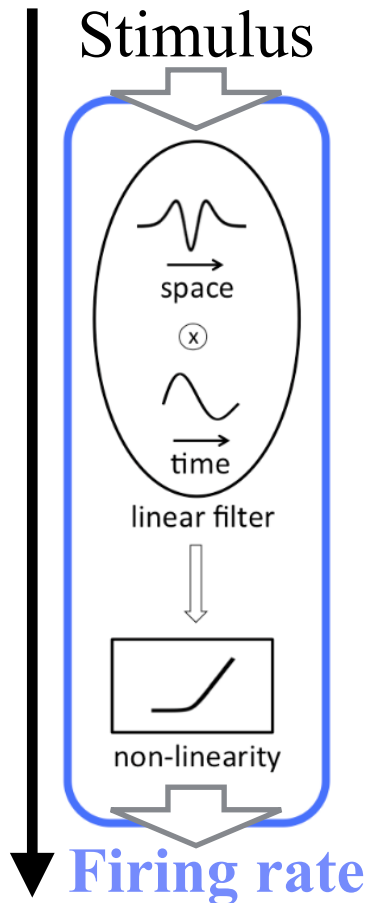
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

A simple *LNP* model...



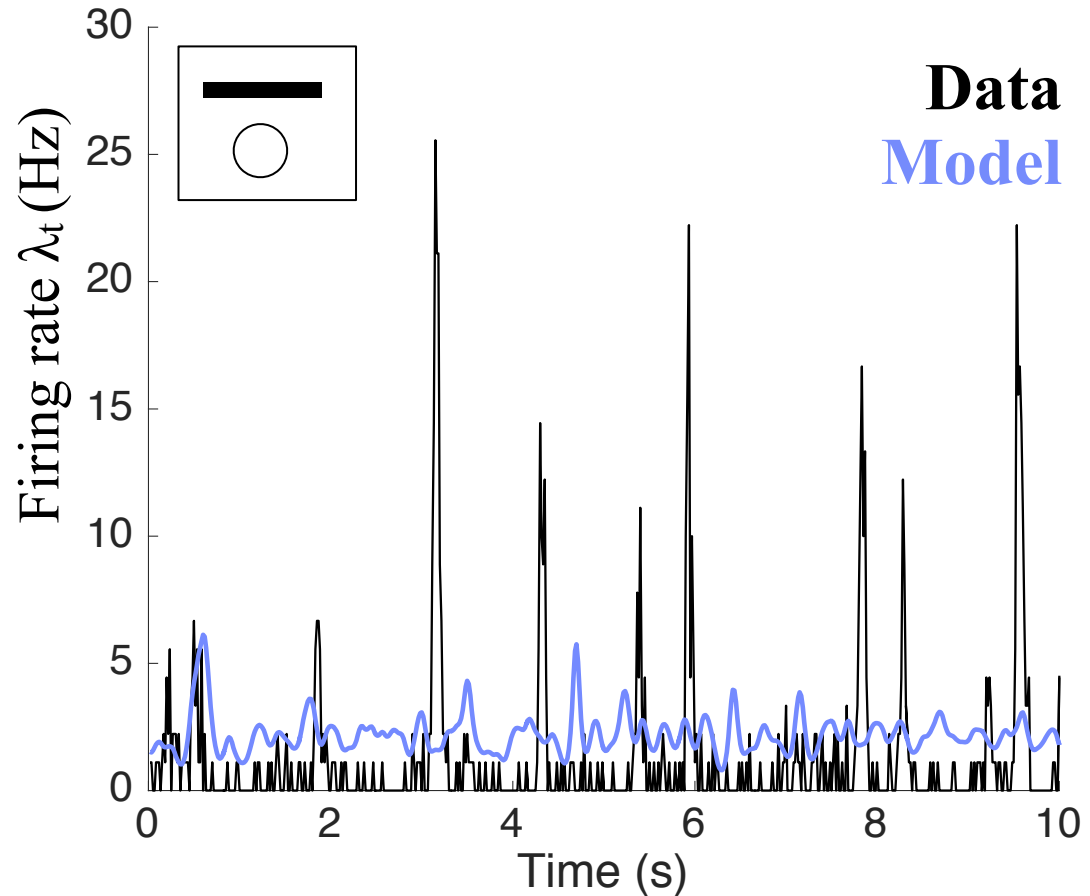
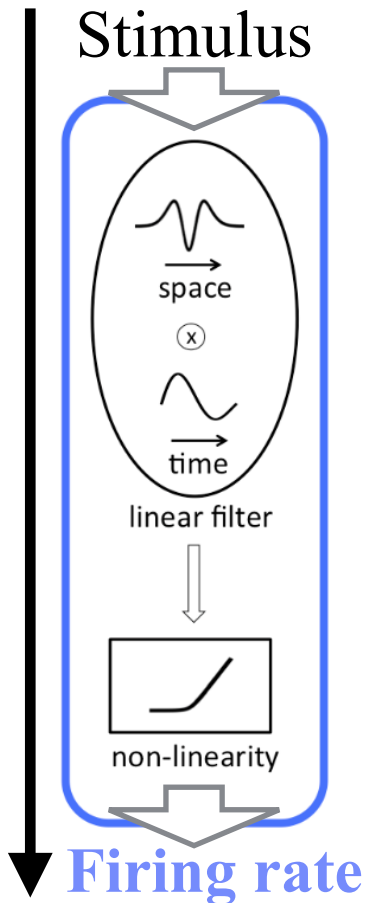
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

*A simple **LNP** model may not predict the response*



Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

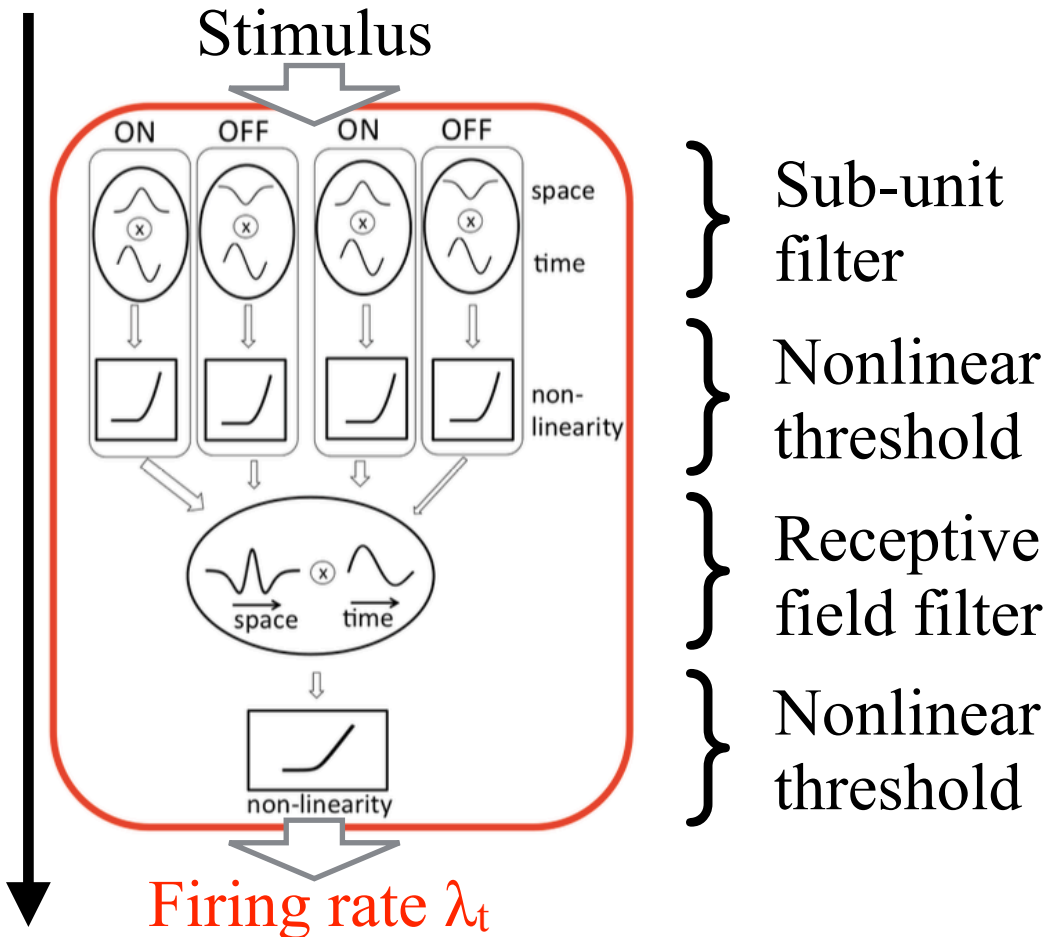
*A simple **LNP** model may not predict the response*



*A **LNP** model is not enough flexible!*

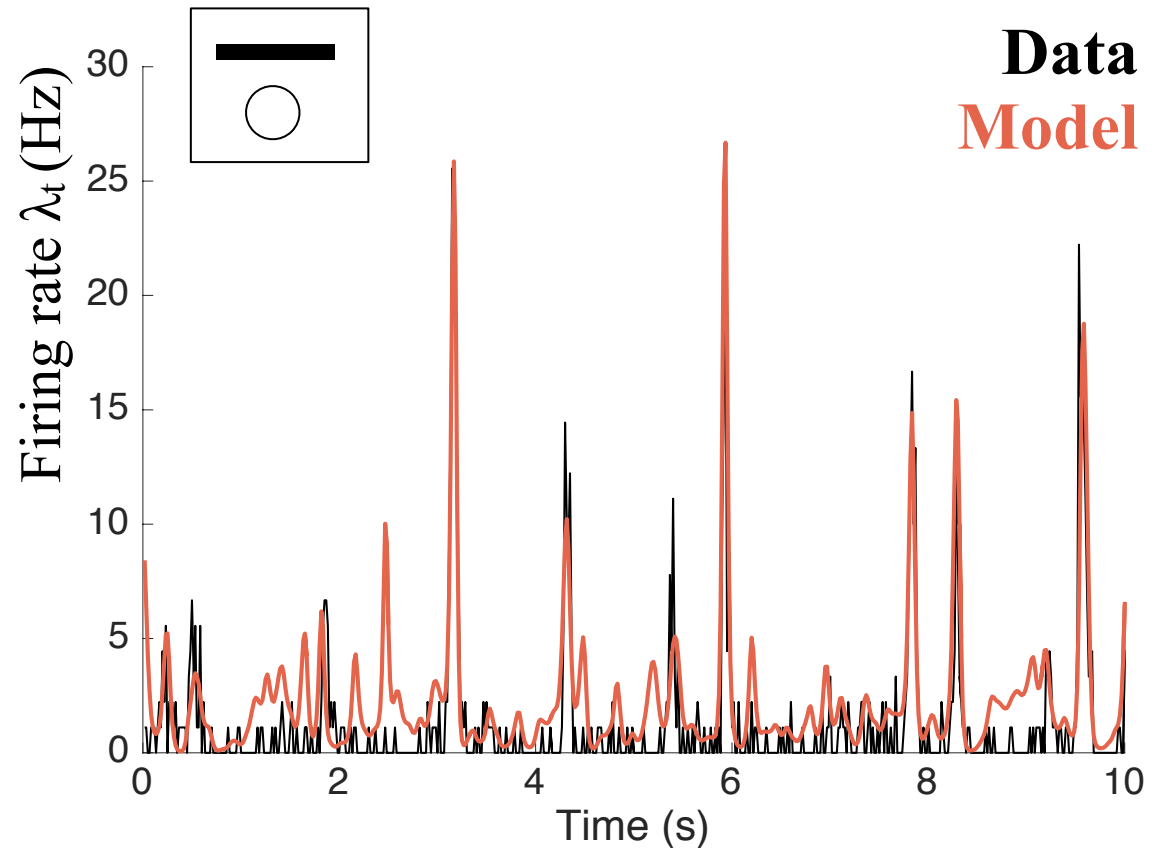
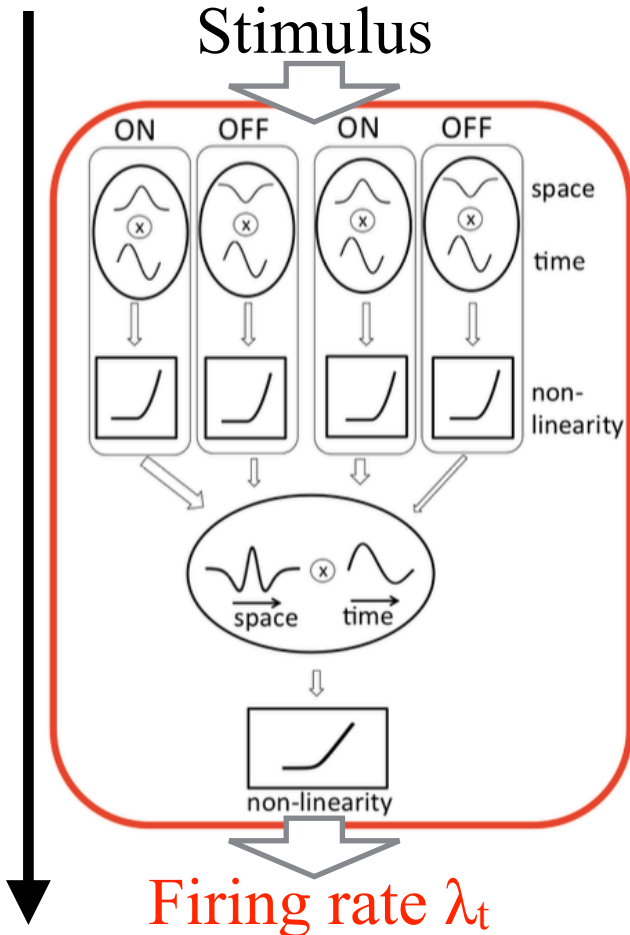
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

*An highly non-linear **LN²P** model...*



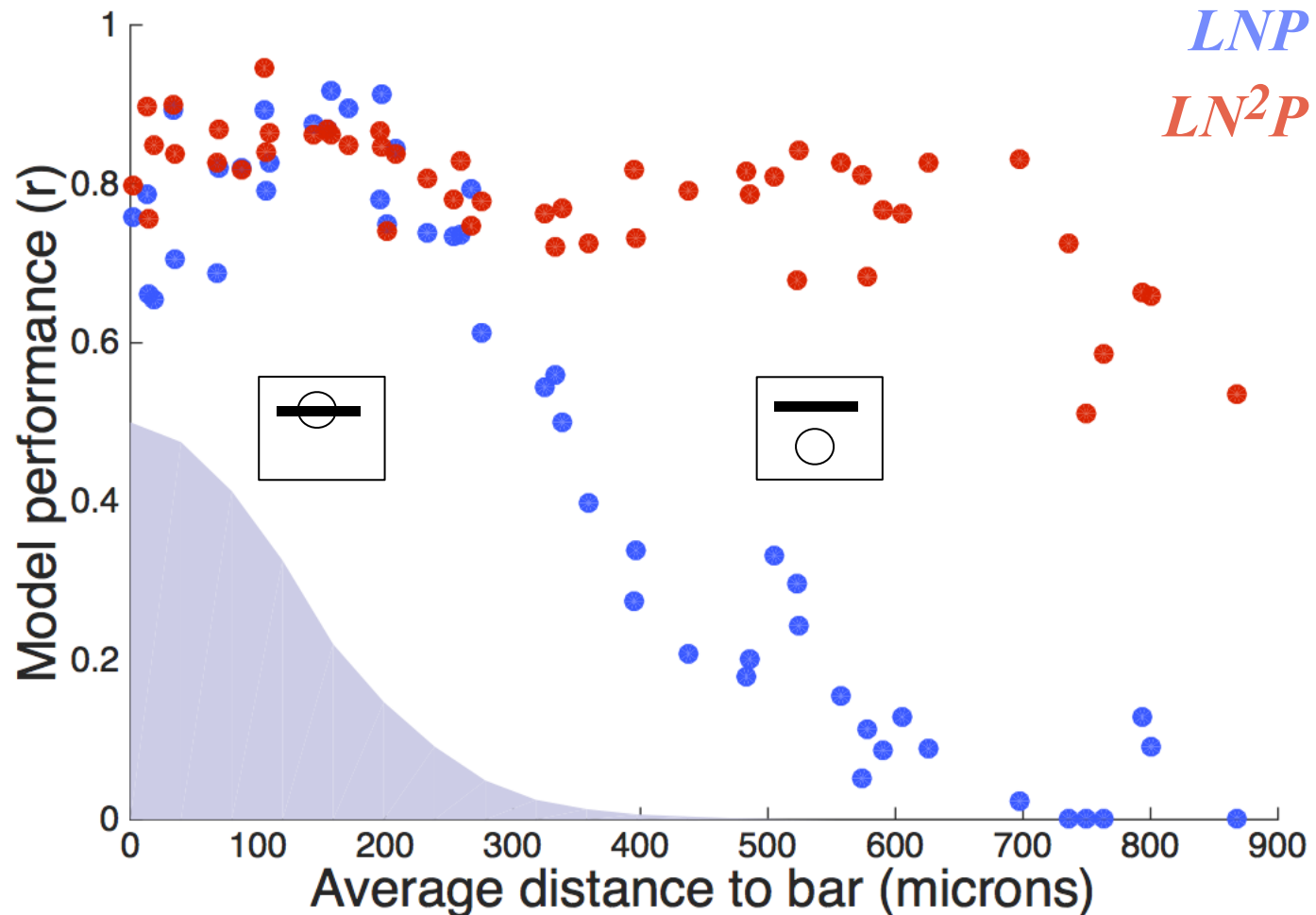
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

*An highly non-linear **LN²P** model predicts the response*



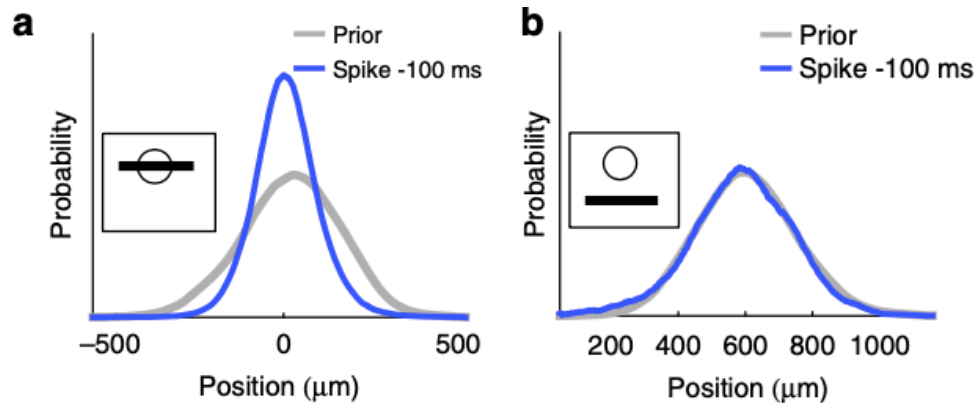
Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli

An highly non-linear LN^2P model predicts the response



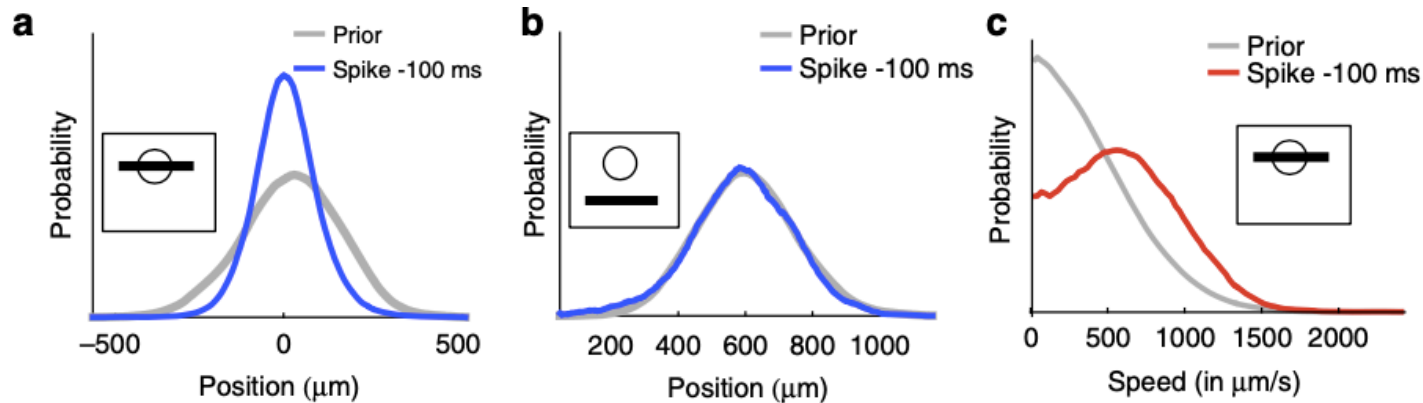
What are the neurons encoding?

How to quantify information carried by the spikes?



What are the neurons encoding?

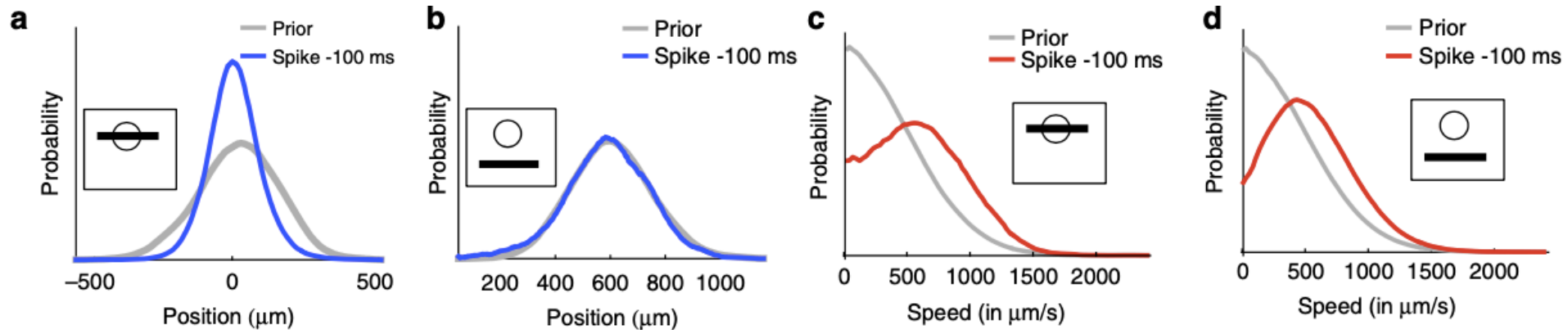
How to quantify information carried by the spikes?



Same can be done for speed...

What are the neurons encoding?

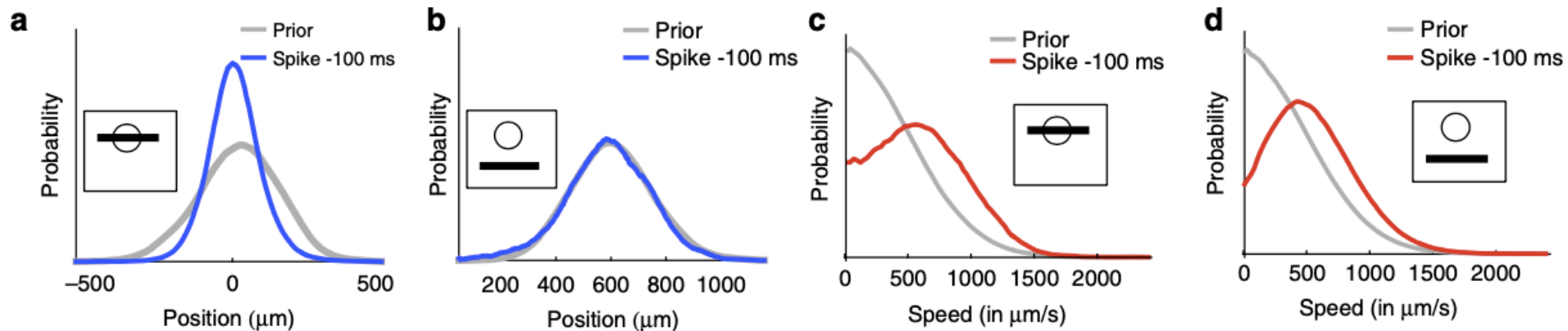
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How to quantify information carried by the spikes?

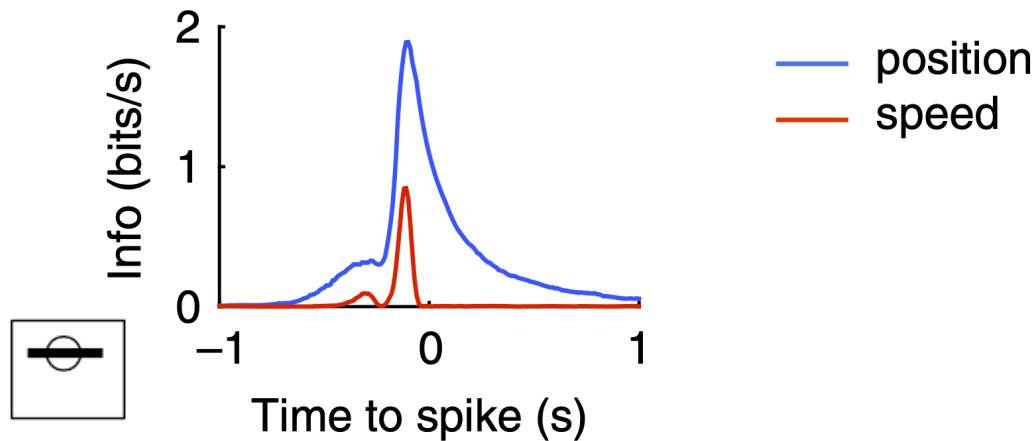


Mutual information between **pos** and **spikes**:

$$\mathcal{H}[\text{pos}] - p(\text{spike})\mathcal{H}[\text{pos} \mid \text{spike}] - p(\text{no-spike})\mathcal{H}[\text{pos} \mid \text{no-spike}]$$

Same can be done for speed...

What are the neurons encoding?

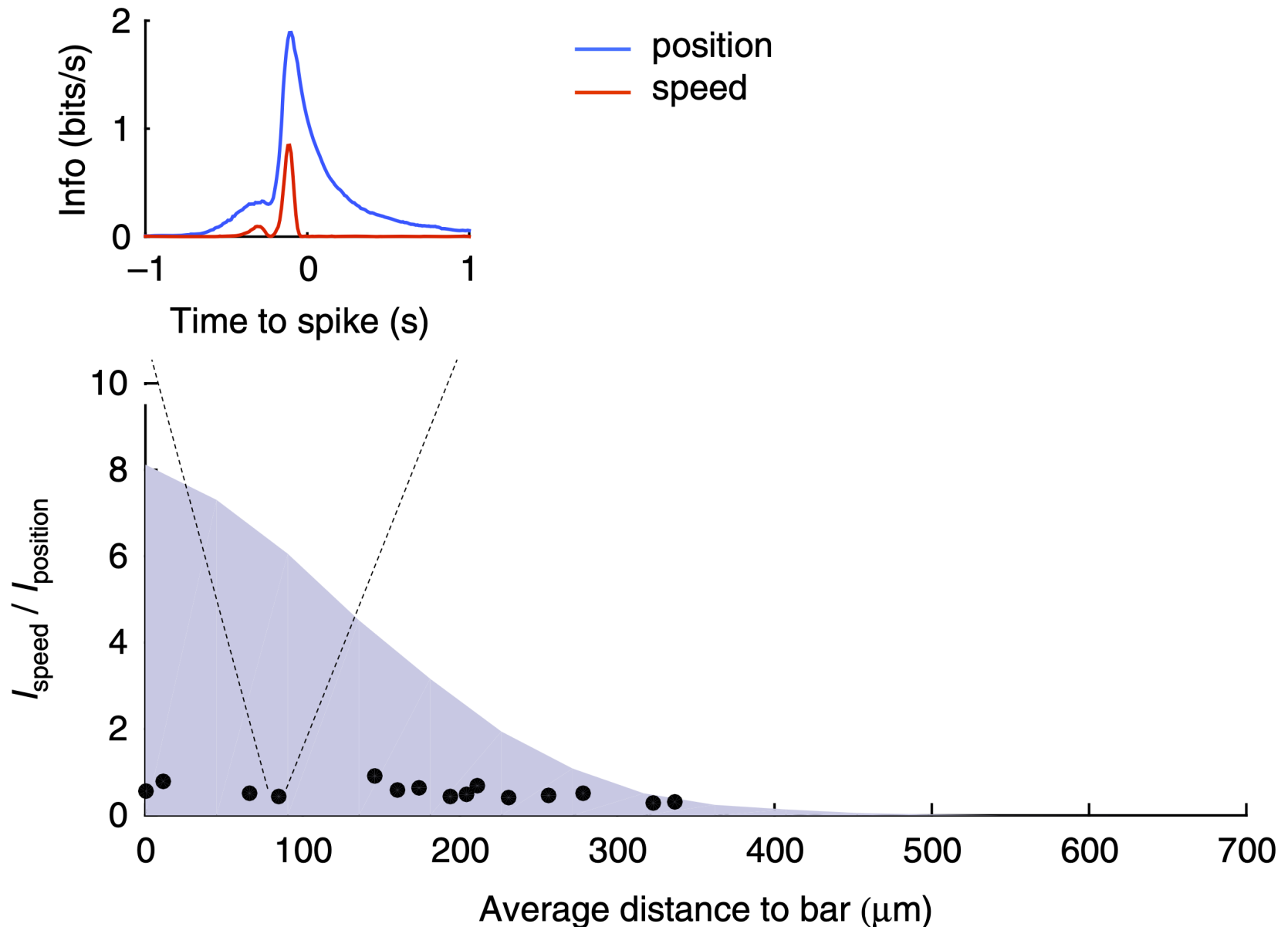


Mutual information between **pos** and **spikes**:

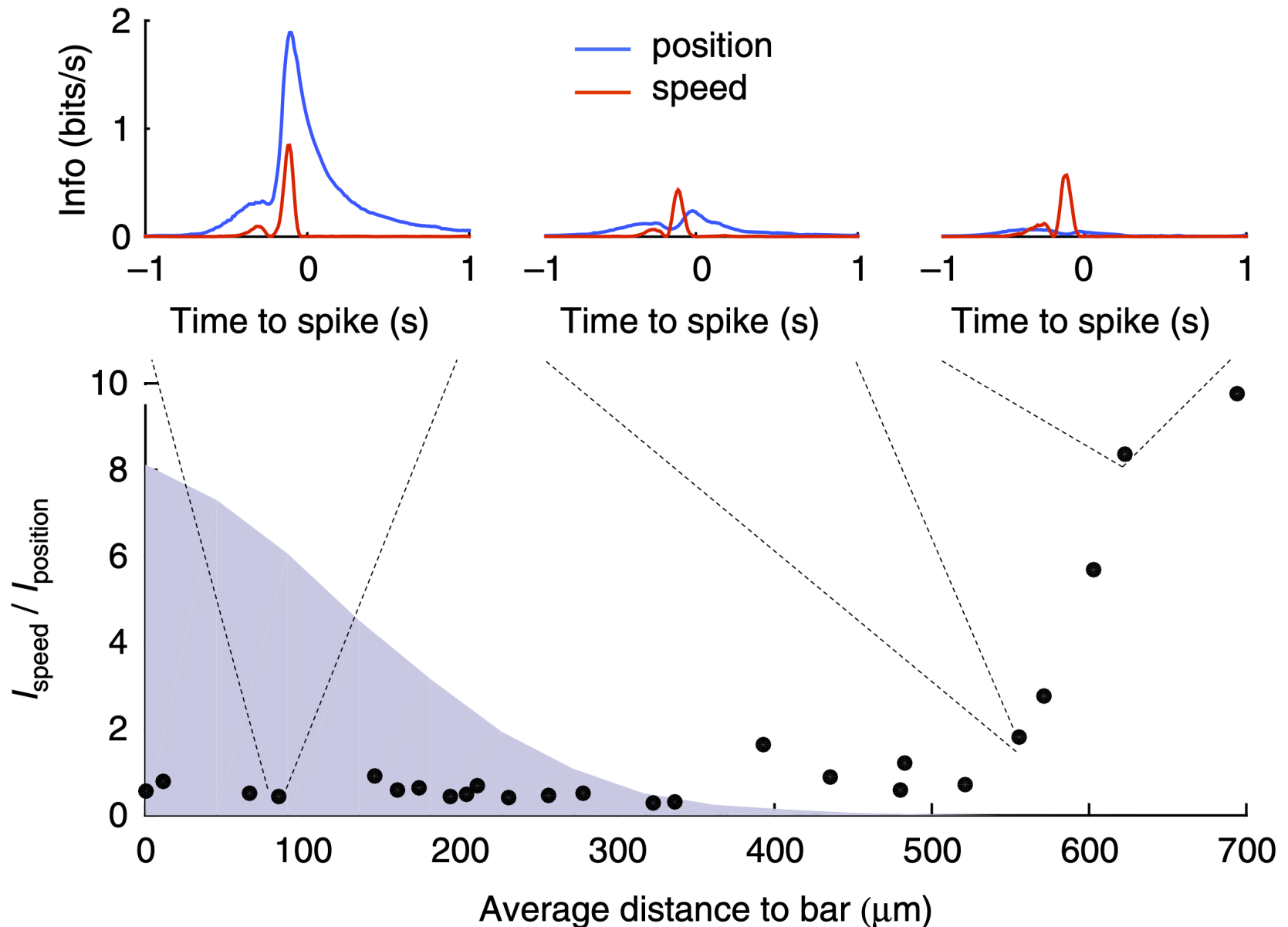
$$\mathcal{H}[\text{pos}] - p(\text{spike})\mathcal{H}[\text{pos} \mid \text{spike}] - p(\text{no-spike})\mathcal{H}[\text{pos} \mid \text{no-spike}]$$

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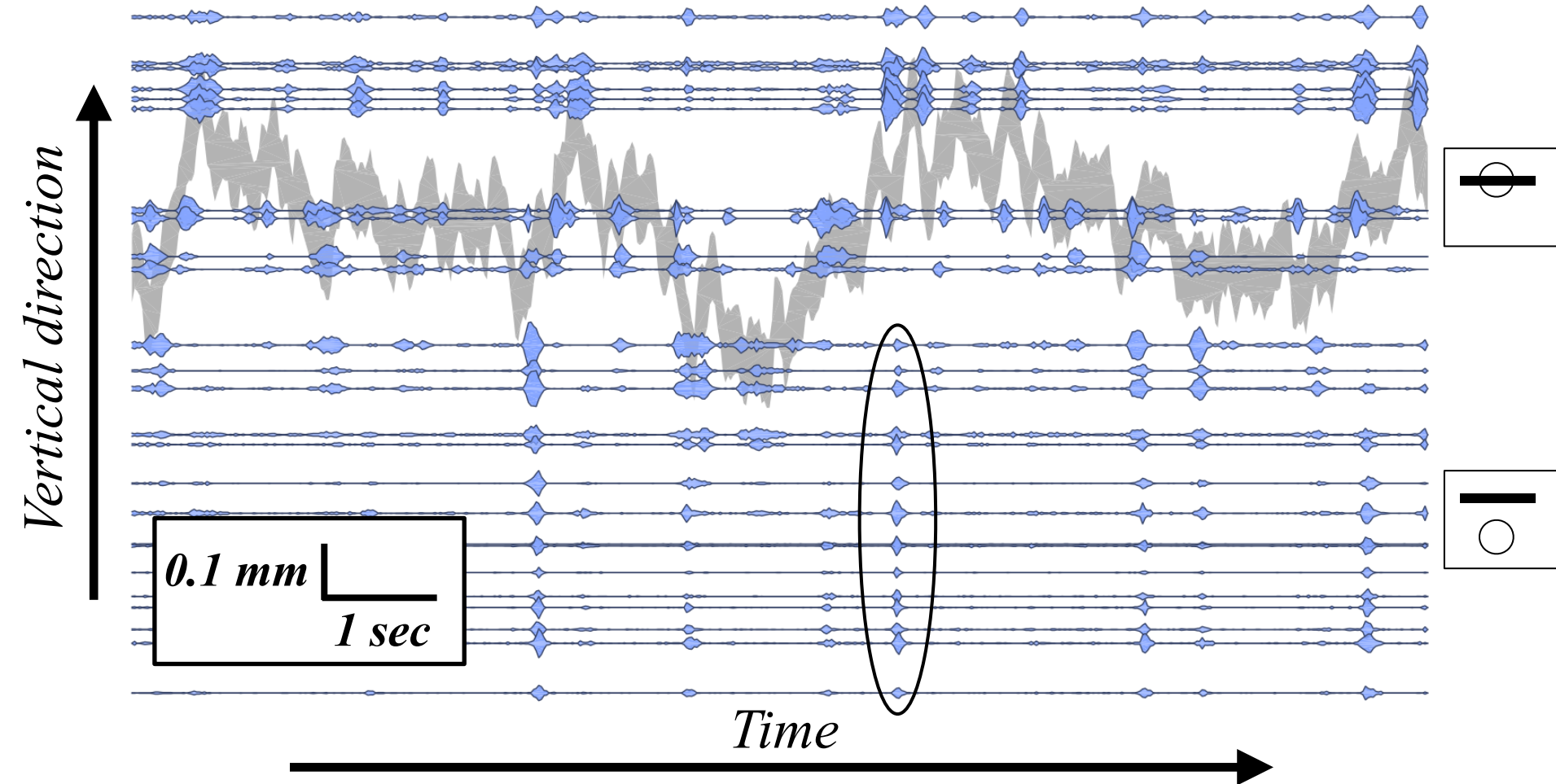
What are the neurons encoding?



What are the neurons encoding?



Predicting retinal light responses to complex stimuli



Same type of cell, but different computations!

Eyes are smarter than scientists believed

Ulisse Ferrari

ulisse.ferrari@gmail.com

