## Temporal correlations in neuronal spikes induced by noise and periodic forcing

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UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA BARCELONATECH

# Over the years, Arkady' work has been a great source of inspiration

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The University of Ohio, April 2016

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



#### Outline



- Introduction
  - Motivation: spiking lasers that mimic neuronal behavior
  - Symbolic method of timeseries analysis

#### Results:

- Response to a weak periodic input: comparison of optical and neuronal spikes
- Analysis of ISI sequences generated by singleneuron models
- Summary



#### In our lab: experiments with semiconductor lasers



## WHAT DO LASERS HAVE TO DO WITH NEURONS?



Similar statistics of inter-spike intervals?



#### MOTIVATION



Science 345, 668 (2014)

"a computer that is **inspired** by the brain."

Neuro-synaptic architecture allows to do things like image classification at a very low power consumption.

- Spiking lasers: photonic neurons?
- potential building blocks of braininspired computers.
- Ultra fast ! (micro-sec vs. mili-sec)

### HOW SIMILAR NEURONAL AND OPTICAL SPIKES ARE?

#### **Coherence Resonance in a Noise-Driven Excitable System**

Arkady S. Pikovsky\* and Jürgen Kurths\*

Max–Planck–Arbeitsgruppe "Nichtlineare Dynamik" an der Universität Potsdam Am Neuen Palais 19, PF 601553, D-14415, Potsdam, Germany (Received 9 August 1996)



### Experimental Evidence of Coherence Resonance in an Optical System SCL with feedback

Giovanni Giacomelli

Istituto Nazionale di Ottica, Largo E. Fermi 6, 50125 Firenze, Italy

Massimo Giudici and Salvador Balle

Departamento de Física Interdisciplinar, Instituto Mediterraneo de Estudios Avanzados (CSIC-UIB), 07071 Palma de Mallorca, Spain

Jorge R. Tredicce

Institut Non-Linéaire de Nice, UMR 6618 Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique-Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis, 06560 Valbonne, France (Received 13 July 1999)

#### FHN model





## Neuron inter-spike interval (ISI) distribution



FIG. 1. (a) An experimental ISIH obtained from a single auditory nerve fiber of a squirrel monkey with a sinusoidal 80dB sound-pressure-level stimulus of period  $T_0 = 1.66$  ms applied at the ear. Note the modes at integer multiples of  $T_0$ . Inset:

A. Longtin et al, PRL 67 (1991) 656

# Similarity of neuronal & optical spikes?







A. Aragoneses et al, Opt. Exp. (2014)M. Giudici et al, PRE 55, 6414 (1997) D. Sukow and D. Gautheir, JQE (2000)



# How neurons encode information?

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- In the spike rate?
- Is the timing of the spikes relevant?
  - Rate-based information encoding is slow.
  - Temporal codes transmit more information.

## HOW TEMPORAL CORRELATIONS CAN BE IDENTIFIED AND QUANTIFIED?



# Inter-spike-intervals serial correlation coefficients



Exp Brain Res (2011) 210:353-371

### HOW TO INDENTIFY TEMPORAL STRUCTURES? RECURRENT / INFREQUENT PATTERNS?

# Symbolic method of analysis of ISI sequences





#### **Ordinal analysis**

Brandt & Pompe, PRL 88, 174102 (2002)



The OP probabilities allow to identify frequent patterns in the *ordering* of the data points

Random data  $\Rightarrow$  OPs are equally probable

- Advantage: the probabilities uncover temporal correlations.

- Drawback: we lose information about the actual values.



#### To fix ideas: the logistic map x(i+1)=4x(i)[1-x(i)]







Histogram x(i)



 Ordinal analysis provides complementary information.



#### **Ordinal bifurcation diagrams**





With D=3 we can study correlations among 4 spikes.

**⇒210** 

• With D=4  $x_2$   $x_3$   $x_4$   $x_5$   $x_5$  $x_$ 

⇒012

The number of patterns grows with the length of the pattern as D!



5

U. Parlitz et al. / Computers in Biology and Medicine 42 (2012) 319-327



#### D=5: 5!=120 patterns

- How to quantify the information?
  - Permutation entropy

$$s_p = -\sum p_i \log p_i$$

- How to select optimal D? depends on:
  - The length of the data.
  - The length of the correlations.

# Contrasting empirical optical spikes with synthetic neuronal spikes

- do they have similar ordinal statistics?

- are there more/less frequent patterns?





#### **Ordinal analysis of ISI correlations**

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P = 1 / 6; **N > 10,000 ISIs** 

A. Aragoneses, S. Perrone, T. Sorrentino, M. C. Torrent and C. Masoller, Sci. Rep. **4**, 4696 (2014)



#### Minimal model of ISI correlations: modified circle map

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$$\varphi_{i+1} = \varphi_i + \rho + \frac{K}{2\pi} \left[ \sin(2\pi\varphi_i) + \alpha_c \sin(4\pi\varphi_i) \right] + D\zeta$$
$$X_i = \varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_i$$

 $\rho = \underline{\text{natural frequency}}$ forcing frequency K = forcing amplitude

D = noise strength

#### Lang-Kobayashi Circle map data 0.5 time-delay model **Empirical laser data** ρ=0.23, K=0.04, D=0.002 0.19 probabilities 0.21 0.18 0.19 0.17 ).25 0.17 0.16 ЧО 0.15 0.15 26.4 26.6 26.8 27 27.2 0.98 1.02 1.0 Pump current parameter, µ Pump current (mA) 0 ) 0.2 0 Parameter $\alpha_c$ 0.6 012 021 20 -210 -0.2 0.4 02 20

- Same "clusters" & same hierarchical structure.
- Modified circle map: minimal model for ordinal correlations.
- Same qualitative behavior found with other lasers & feedback conditions.

Model equations and parameters: A. Aragoneses et al, Sci. Rep. 4, 4696 (2014)



#### **Connection with neurons**

- The circle map describes many excitable systems.
- The modified circle map has been used to describe spike correlations in biological neurons.

A. B. Neiman and D. F. Russell, *Models of stochastic biperiodic oscillations and extended serial correlations in electroreceptors of paddlefish*, PRE 71, 061915 (2005)



$$\begin{aligned} & \overleftarrow{\frac{dx}{dt}} = x - \frac{x^3}{3} - y, \\ & \frac{dy}{dt} = x + a + a_o \cos(2\pi t/T) + D \overleftarrow{g}(t), \end{aligned}$$

**FHN model** 



Gaussian white noise and <u>subthreshold</u> (weak) modulation:  $a_0$  and T such that spikes are only noise-induced. Time series with 100,000 ISIs simulated.



# Analysis of synthetic ISI sequences generated by single-neuron models

- more/less frequent patterns encode information?





# FHN model: role of the noise strength



- No noise-induced temporal ordering.
- External periodic input induces temporal ordering.
- Preferred ordinal patterns depend on the noise strength.
- Resonant-like behavior.



# Role of the modulation amplitude

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 The amplitude of the (weak) modulation does not modify the preferred and the infrequent patterns.





#### Role of the modulation period

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 More probable patterns depend on the period of the external input and on the noise strength.

Which is the underlying mechanism? A change of the spike rate?



$$C_j = \frac{\langle (I_i - \langle I \rangle) (I_{i-j} - \langle I \rangle) \rangle}{\sigma^2}$$

## Relation between ordinal probabilities and C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>



Varying noise strength, modulation amplitude and period: all datasets collapsed  $\Rightarrow$  clear trend with C<sub>2</sub>, no trend with C<sub>1</sub>



#### Are there longer temporal correlations?



- Modulation period T >  $\langle I \rangle$  induces long temporal correlations
- Sharp transition seen in S<sub>pe</sub> at T=10 not detected by C<sub>1</sub> or C<sub>2</sub>



#### Statistically significant results? Influence of the length of the data

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Long datasets are need for a robust estimation of the ordinal probabilities.

## Conclusions





#### What did we learn?

#### Take home message:

- ordinal analysis is useful for understanding data, uncovering patterns,
- for model comparison, parameter estimation, classifying events, etc.
- robust to noise and artifacts in the data.
- Main conclusions
  - Correlations in optical & neuronal spike sequences compared: good qualitative agreement.
  - Minimal model for optical spikes identified: a modified circle map.
  - FHN model with subthreshold modulation and Gaussian white noise
    - There are preferred ordinal patterns which depend on the noise strength and on the period of the input signal, but not on (weak) amplitude of the signal.
    - resonance-like behavior: certain periods and noise levels maximize the probabilities of the preferred patterns, enhancing temporal order.
  - Open issues (ongoing and future work):
    - Hierarchical & clustered structure: universal feature of excitable systems?
    - Mathematical insight: can we calculate the probabilities analytically?
    - Role of coupling? induce preferred/infrequent patterns?
    - Compare with empirical data (single-neuron ISI sequences)



#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

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#### Papers at: http://www.fisica.edu.uy/~cris/

 Unveiling the complex organization of recurrent patterns in spiking dynamical systems

A. Aragoneses, S. Perrone, T. Sorrentino, M. C. Torrent and C. Masoller, Sci. Rep. 4, 4696 (2014).

- Emergence of spike correlations in periodically forced excitable systems
  J. A. Reinoso, M. C. Torrent, C. Masoller
  PRE in press (2016) http://arxiv.org/abs/1510.09035
- Analysis of noise-induced temporal correlations in neuronal spike sequences
  J. A. Reinoso, M. C. Torrent, C. Masoller
  EPJST in press (2016).

