

Neural Networks and Biological Modeling.  
Spring 2011

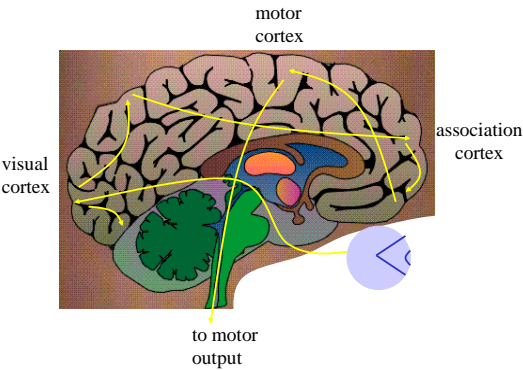
Course for physicists and life scientists

Moodle:

<http://moodle.epfl.ch/course/view.php?id=2341>

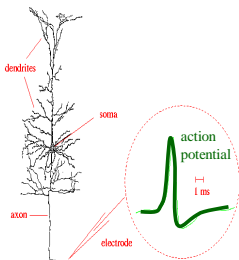
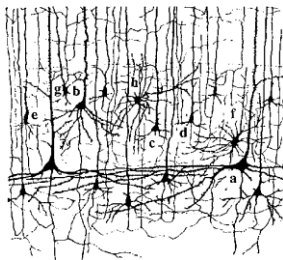
TA's: Felipe Gerhard, Friedemann Zenke, Skander Mensi,  
Dr. Tim Vogels

Wulfram Gerstner  
<http://lcn.epfl.ch/>

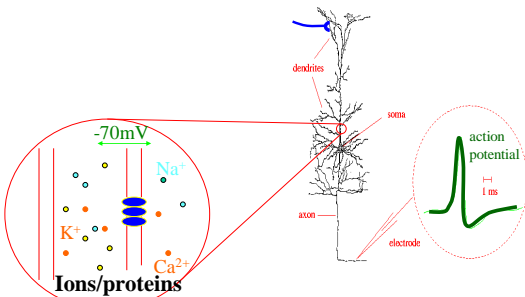


10 000 neurons  
3 km wires

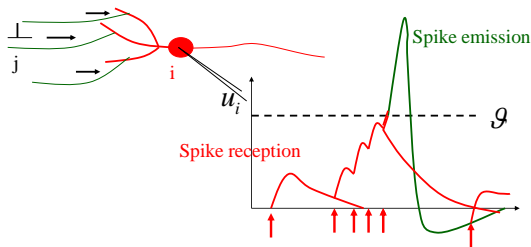
Signal:  
action potential (spike)



Hodgkin-Huxley type models:  
Biophysics, molecules, ions



Integrate-and-fire type models

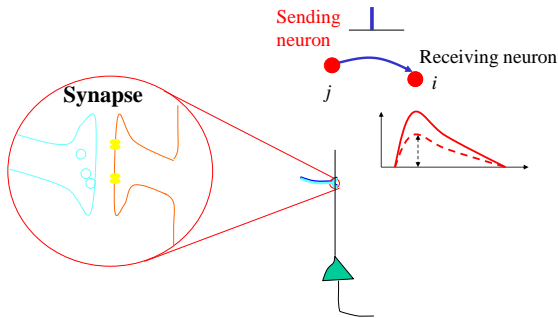


- spikes are events
- threshold
- spike/reset/refractoriness

Neural Networks and Biological modeling

- Lecture 1: Passive membrane and Integrate-and-Fire model
- Lecture 2: Hodgkin-Huxley models (detailed models)
- Lecture 3: Two-dimensional models (FitzHugh Nagumo)

## Models of synaptic Plasticity



Synaptic changes = basis of learning

## Neural Networks and Biological modeling

Lecture 1: Passive membrane and Integrate-and-Fire model

Lecture 2: Hodgkin-Huxley models (detailed models)

Lecture 3: Two-dimensional models (FitzHugh Nagumo)

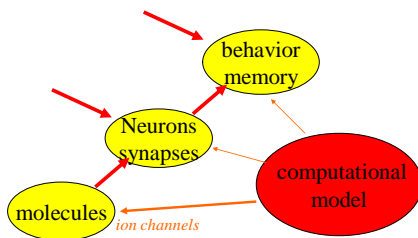
Lecture 4: Synaptic plasticity

Lecture 5: Network dynamics and Associative Memory

Lecture 6: Reinforcement learning

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## Computational Neuroscience



LCN Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL  
 Laboratory of Computational Neuroscience, LCN, CH 1015 Lausanne

## Background: What is brain-style computation?



Brain

Computer



## Systems for computing and information processing

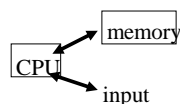


Brain

Computer



Distributed architecture  
 $10^{10}$  proc. Elements/neurons  
 No separation of  
 processing and memory



Von Neumann architecture  
 1 CPU  
 $10^{10}$  transistors

## Systems for computing and information processing



Brain

Computer



slow

Tasks:  
 Mathematical  
 $\sqrt{5} \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{5}\right)$

fast

fast

Real world  
 E.g. complex scenes

slow

## Systems for computing and information processing



Brain



Computer

Where is the program?

Clear separation:  
software (program)/hardware

Where is the memory?

In the synaptic connections

Where is the learning?

In the synaptic connections

Clear separation:  
memory/processing

## Neural Networks and Biological modeling

Course: Monday : 9:15-13:00

Lecture 1: Passive membrane and  
Integrate-and-Fire model

Lecture 2: Hodgkin-Huxley models  
Lecture 3: Two-dimensional models  
Lecture 4: Synaptic plasticity  
Lecture 5: Associative Memory  
Lecture 6: Reinforcement learning

Lecture 7: miniproject handout  
Lectures 8-10

Noise and the neural code

Lectures 11-13

Network dynamics

## Neural Networks and Biological modeling

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A typical Monday:

1st lecture 9:15-9:50

1st exercise 9:50-10:00

← paper and pencil

2nd lecture 10:15-10:35

2nd exercise 10:35-11:00

← paper and pencil

3rd lecture 11:15 – 11:40

3rd exercise 12:15-13:00

← paper and pencil  
OR interactive toy  
examples on computer

Course of 4 credits = 6 hours of work per week  
4 'contact' + 2 homework

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<http://lcn.epfl.ch/>

[moodle.epfl.ch](http://moodle.epfl.ch)

have your laptop  
with you

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3rd lecture 11:15 – 11:40

3rd exercise 12:15-13:00

longer exercises

(paper and pencil or

interactive toy examples)

3rd exercise 12:15-13:00  
**Miniproject**

**Not a course on Artificial Neural Networks**  
→ **Pattern Classification and Machine Learning**

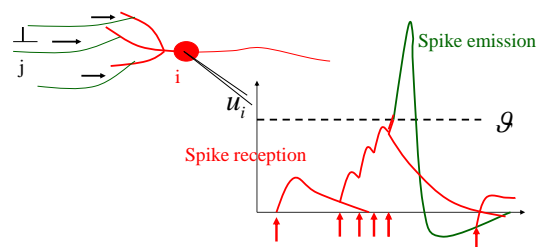
## Neural Networks and Biological modeling

Lecture 1:

### Passive membrane and Integrate-and-Fire model

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### Integrate-and-fire type models



-spikes are events  
-threshold  
-spike/reset/refractoriness

**Subthreshold regime**  
- linear  
- passive membrane

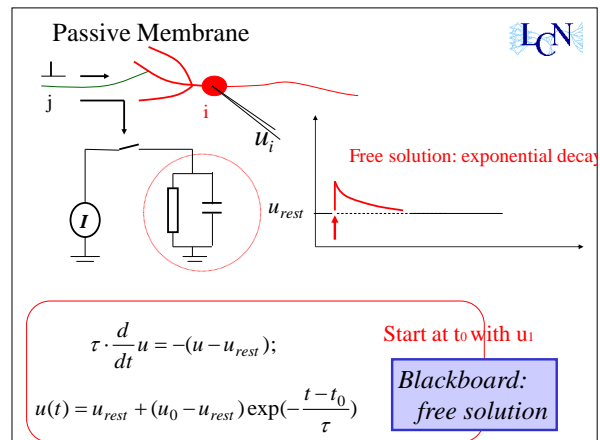
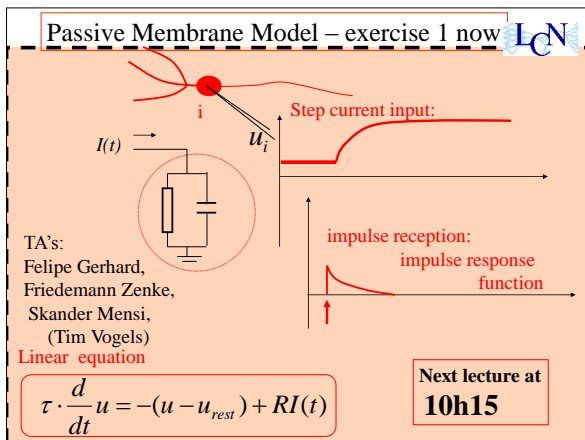
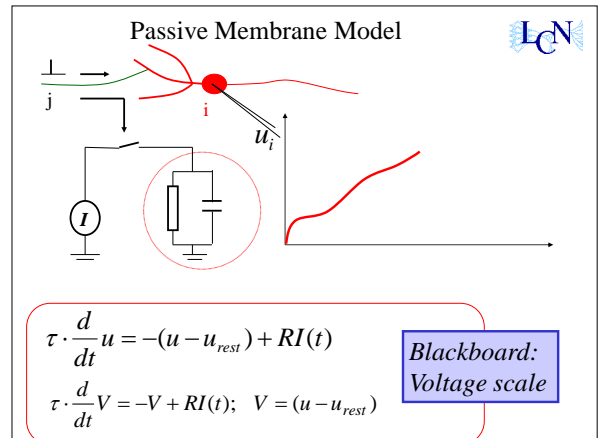
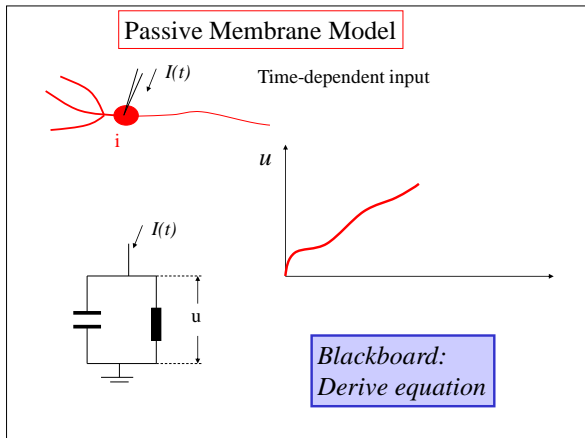
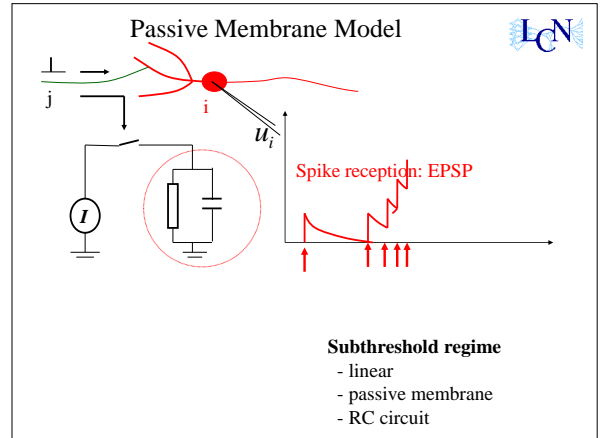
# Introduction to computational neuroscience

## Lecture 1:

### Passive membrane and Integrate-and-Fire model

- ✓ -Intro: subthreshold and spikes
- -The passive membrane
- Leaky integrate-and-fire model
- Generalized integrate-and-fire model
- Quality of integrate-and-fire models

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## Neural Networks and Biological modeling

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 longer exercises  
 (paper and pencil or interactive toy examples)

Lecture 7: miniproject handout  
 Lectures 8-10 : Noise in neuron models  
 Lectures 11-13: Network dynamics

**3rd exercise 12:15-13:00**  
**Miniproject**

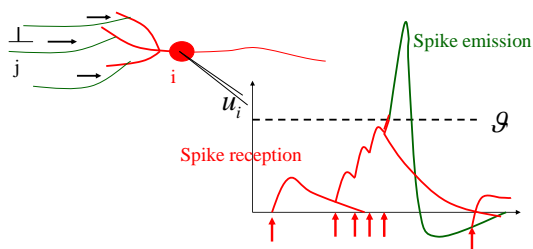
**Prerequis: Physics students: NONE (mécanique analytique)**  
**SV students: NONE (Programmation Biomathématique)**  
**Math students: willingness to work for an applied course**  
**other students (IN, SSC,EE) : Dynamical systems for eng.**

## Chapter 4: Formal Spiking models Integrate-and-Fire model

BOOK: Spiking Neuron Models,  
 W. Gerstner and W. Kistler  
 Cambridge University Press, 2002

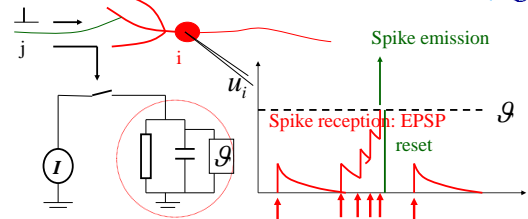
### Chapter 4

### Integrate-and-fire type models



- spikes are events
- threshold
- spike/reset/refractoriness

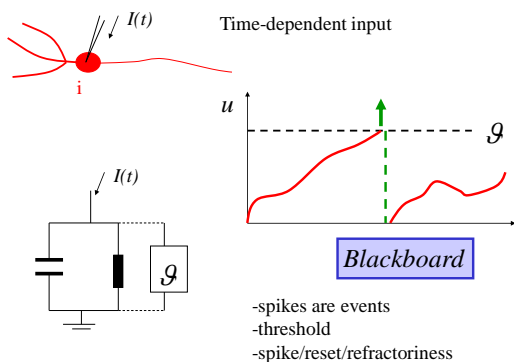
### Integrate-and-fire Model



$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = -(u - u_{rest}) + RI(t) \quad \text{linear}$$

$$u_i(t) = g \Rightarrow \text{Fire+reset} \quad \text{threshold}$$

### Integrate-and-fire type models



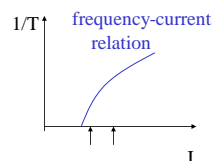
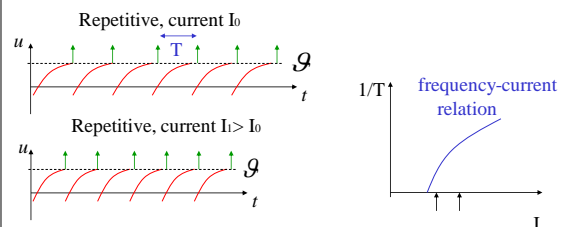
- spikes are events
- threshold
- spike/reset/refractoriness

### Leaky Integrate-and-fire Model



$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = -(u - u_{rest}) + RI_0 \quad \text{LIF}$$

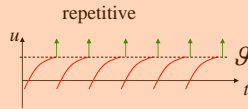
If firing:  $u \rightarrow u_{reset}$



## Exercise 2: Leaky Integrate-and-fire Model

$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = -(u - u_{rest}) + RI_0 \quad \text{LIF}$$

If firing:  $u \rightarrow u_{reset}$



Next lecture at  
11h15

What is the firing rate?  
 $f = g(I)$   
**Exercise 2 now!**

## Introduction to computational neuroscience

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#### Passive membrane and Integrate-and-Fire model

- ✓ -The passive membrane
- ✓ -Leaky integrate-and-fire model
- -Generalized integrate-and-fire model
- Quality of integrate-and-fire models

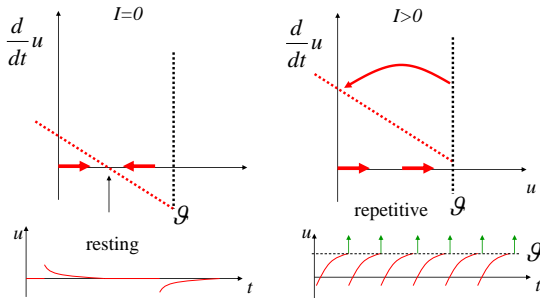
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## Integrate-and-fire Models



$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = -(u - u_{rest}) + RI(t) \quad \text{LIF}$$

If firing:  $u \rightarrow u_{reset}$



## Integrate-and-fire Models

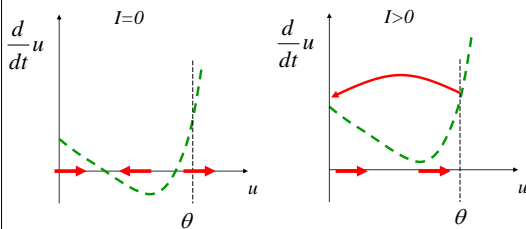


$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = -(u - u_{rest}) + RI(t) \quad \text{LIF}$$

$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = F(u) + RI(t) \quad \text{NLIF}$$

If firing:  $u \rightarrow u_{reset}$

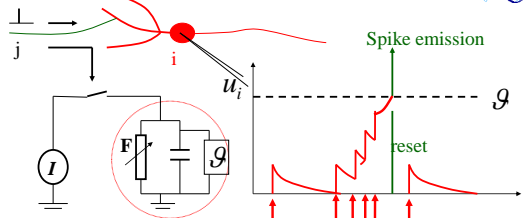
## Nonlinear Integrate-and-fire Model



$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = F(u) + RI(t) \quad \text{NONlinear}$$

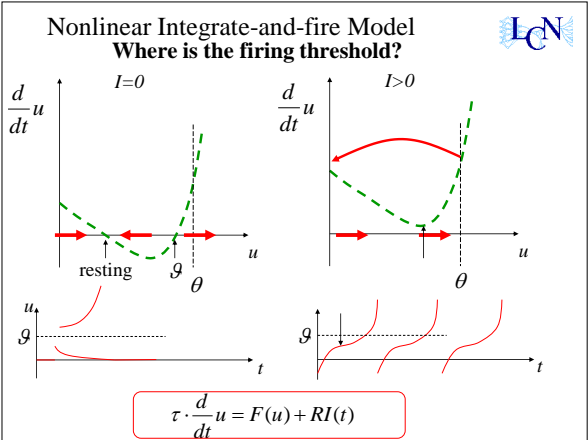
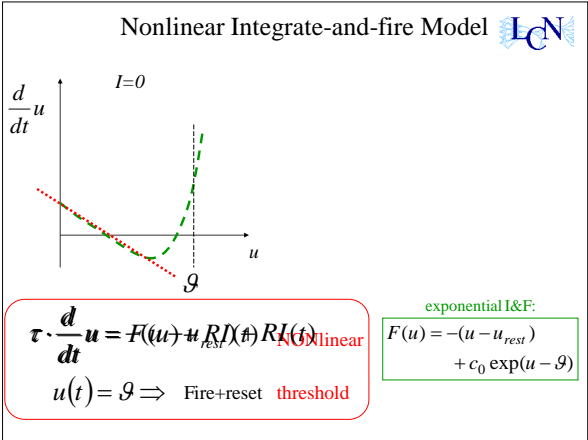
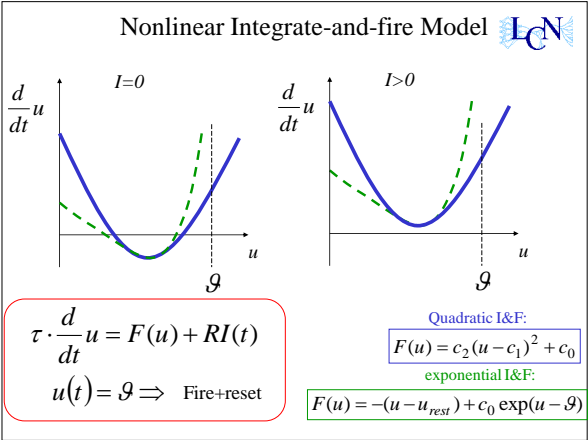
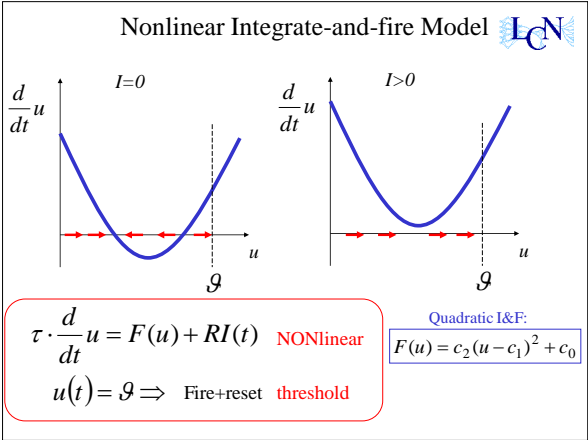
$u(t) = \theta \Rightarrow$  Fire+reset threshold

## Nonlinear Integrate-and-fire Model



$$\tau \cdot \frac{d}{dt} u = F(u) + RI(t) \quad \text{NONlinear}$$

$u_i(t) = G \Rightarrow$  Fire+reset threshold



Integrate-and Fire type models

**Where is the firing threshold?**

**Leaky integrate-and-fire (LIF)**

**Strict voltage threshold**

- by construction
- spike threshold = reset condition

**Nonlinear integrate-and-fire (eIF)**

**There is no strict firing threshold**

- firing depends on input
- exact reset condition of minor relevance

Integrate&Fire:

Where is the firing threshold?

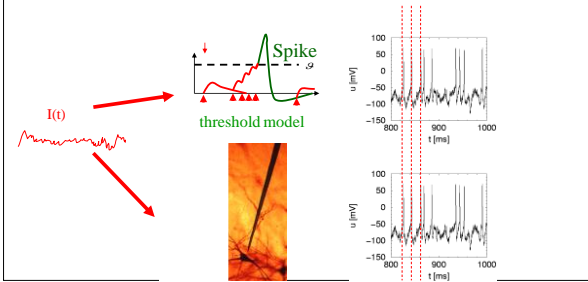
✓ 1: Introduction

✓ 2: Integrate-and-Fire (and generalisations)

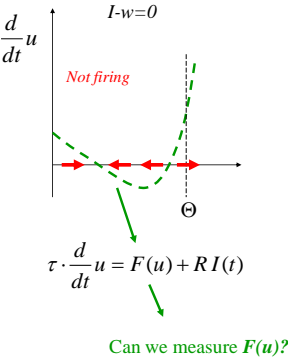
➔ 3. Quality of Integrate-and-Fire models

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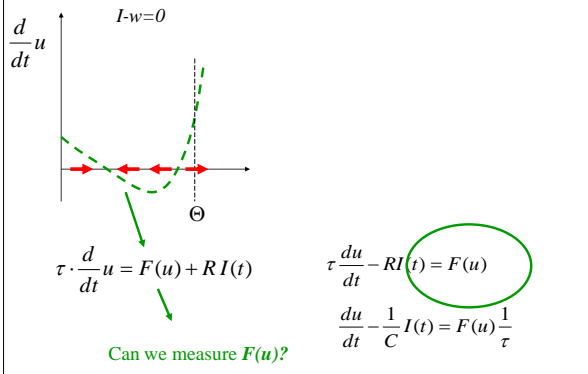
Validation of neuron models



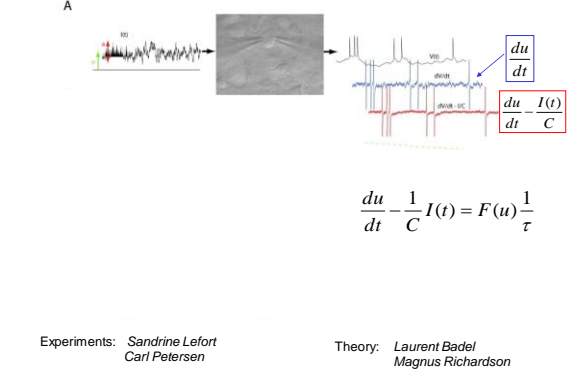
exponential Integrate-and-fire Model



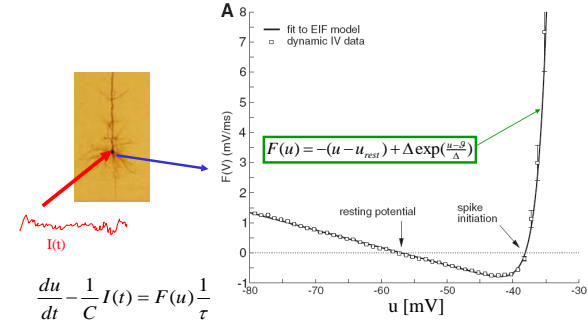
exponential Integrate-and-fire Model and IV curve



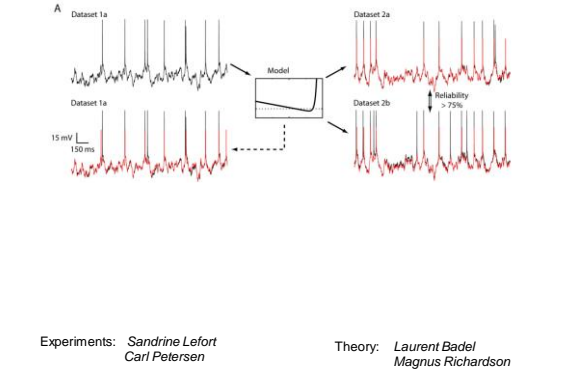
Exponential Integrate-and-fire Model and IV curve



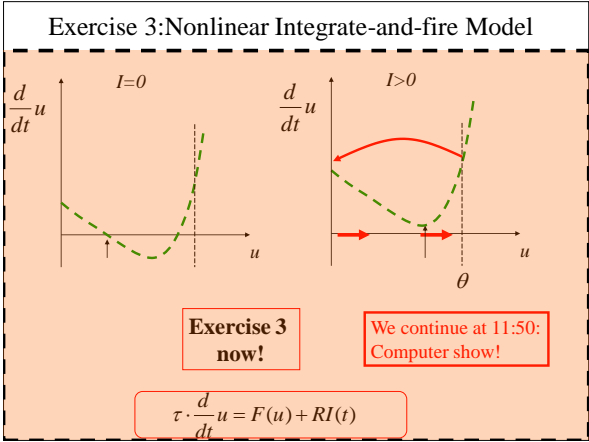
Measurement of  $F(u)$



Exponential Integrate-and-fire Model and IV curve







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## Passive membranes and Integrate&Fire:

*The end*