Random Structures in the retina

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1. The retina and its dynamics

2. Retinal waves

3. Retinal anticipation

The retina and its dynamics



Visual cortex



Visual cortex











« Analogic computing »
 No spikes (except in GCs)
 Low energy consumption
 Dedicated circuits
 Small number of neurons
 Specialized synapses

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3. The conjunction of non linearities and regular structure can produce a highly *disordered spatio-temporal* dynamics.

4. The retina is sensitive to *changes in its physiology* (development, pharmacology, pathologies). These changes can be addressed from the point of view of *bifurcations theory*.

Retinal waves

Random structures as high dimensional spatio-temporal chaos.

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The structure of the <u>adult retina</u>



The structure of the retina <u>during</u> <u>development</u>

Retina's layered structure is shaped during development



Retinal waves

1 8

Recordings from the retina



<u>Spontaneous</u> spatio-temporal waves during development Disappear short after birth when vision is functional



MEA recording of the voltage from a mouse retina (courtesy E Sernagor).

Stages of Retinal Waves During Development



- Chemical synapses <u>not</u> formed yet
- Gap juctionmediated

Stages of Retinal Waves During Development

Stage II



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Stages of Retinal Waves During Development

Stage II



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Focus on stage II retinal waves

Stage II retinal waves are well studied experimentally and there is already existing work on their modeling



Starburst Amacrine

Retinal waves require three components: i) Spontaneous bursting activity



Zheng et al., 2006, Nature

Retinal waves require three components:

- i) Spontaneous bursting activity
- ii) Refractory mechanism (slow After HyperPolarisation-sAHP)



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iii) Coupling (through Acetylcholine neurotransmitter)



Experiment for coupled and isolated neurons, Zheng et al., 2006, Nature

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Retinal waves require three components:

Several models of stage II retinal waves have been proposed already:

ii) **Refractory mechanism (**slow After HyperPolarisation- sAHP)

- Feller et all Neuron, 1997. et vicholine neurotransmitter).
- Eglen et al, J. Neuroscience 2000.
- Godfrey & Swindale. PLoS Comput Biol, 2007.
- Hennig et al, J. Neuroscience, 2009
- Lansdell et al, PLoS Computational Biology, 2014.

But none of them as studied simultaneously these 3 aspects:

(i) realistic model of spontaneous bursting
 (ii) sAHP biophysical modelling
 (iii) realistic Ach interaction.

Experiment for coupled and isolated neurons, Zheng et al., 2006, Nature

A network model for stage II retinal waves

A network model for stage II retinal waves

Membrane potential dynamics



A network model for stage II retinal waves



sAHP current

• Definition

- Slow After Hyperpolarisation Current
- Calcium-dependent slow potassium channels

• Mechanism

- Model SK-like channels (Abel et al. 2004)
- Gating Mechanism: Four ions Ca²⁺ bind to Calmodulin (CaM)



Calcium gated potassium channel

superhimik.livejournal. com/ 36
sAHP current

- Four *Ca*²⁺ions bound to calmodulin open the channel
- I_{sAHP} current depends on gating variable R as follows:

$$I_{sAHP} = g_{sAHP}^{m} R^{4} \left(V - V_{K} \right)$$
 (Hennig et al. 2009)



The conductance is proportional to the fourth power of R because four terminals are needed to open the channel.

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Set of equations for sAHP current

Activated Ca-gated K+ channel



Gating mechanism

All 4 subunits R of the channel are bound to activate the channel

47

Saturated Calmodulin molecule (CaM) bind to each channel subunit

4 Calcium ions bound to each saturated Calmodulin complex S

Set of equations for sAHP current

Activated

$$\tau_R \frac{dR}{dt} = a_R S (1 - R) - R$$

$$\tau_{S} \frac{dS}{dt} = -S + a_{S}C^{4} \left(1 - S\right)$$

S : Fraction of saturated calmodulin concentration (CaM)

$$\tau_{Ca}\frac{dC}{dt} = -a_R\frac{C}{H_x} + C_o + \delta_{Ca}I_{Ca}(V)$$

C : Intracellular Calcium concentration

SACs Network

Model synaptic interactions



SACs realistic

connections

SACs on a lattice

SACs become points on a lattice

Acetylcholine current

- Molecular nicotinic receptors (nAchR)
- Two molecules of acetylcholine bind to open a nicotinic channel
- The nicotinic conductance depends on the second power of the acetylcholine neurotransmitter concentration A

$$g_{Ach} = g_{Ach}^m \frac{A^2}{K_d^2 + A^2}$$





$$C_{m} \frac{dV_{i}}{dt} = -g_{L}(V_{i} - V_{L}) - g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C}) - g_{K}N_{i}(V_{i} - V_{K}) -G_{sAHP}(R_{i})(V_{i} - V_{K}) - G_{A}(\{A_{k}\}_{k\in\mathcal{B}_{i}})(V_{i} - V_{A})$$

$$\tau_{N} \frac{dN_{i}}{dt} = \Lambda(V_{i})(N_{\infty}(V_{i}) - N_{i})$$

$$\tau_{C} \frac{dC_{i}}{dt} = -\frac{\alpha_{C}}{H_{X}}C_{i} + C_{0} - \delta_{C}g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C})$$

$$\tau_{S} \frac{dS_{i}}{dt} = \alpha_{S}(1 - S_{i})C_{i}^{4} - S_{i}$$

$$\tau_{R} \frac{dR_{i}}{dt} = -\mu A_{i} + \beta_{A}T_{A}(V_{i}),$$

$$T_{R} \frac{dV_{i}}{dt} = -g_{L}(V_{i} - V_{L}) - g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C}) - g_{K}N_{i}(V_{i} - V_{K}) - G_{s} + 20^{P} parameters per neuron (V_{i} - V_{A})$$

$$\tau_{N} \frac{dN_{i}}{dt} = (\text{But neurons are assumed identical}) \tau_{C} \frac{dC_{i}}{dt} = -\frac{\alpha_{C}}{H_{X}}C_{i} + C_{0} - \delta_{C}g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C}) \tau_{S} \frac{dS_{i}}{dt} = \alpha_{S}(1 - S_{i})C_{i}^{4} - S_{i} \tau_{R} \frac{dR_{i}}{dt} = -\mu A_{i} + \beta_{A}T_{A}(V_{i}),$$

N neurons, 6 N equations

$$C_{m} \frac{dV_{i}}{dt} = -g_{L}(V_{i} - V_{L}) - g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C}) - g_{K}N_{i}(V_{i} - V_{K}) - G_{s}N_{1}20^{\circ} parameters per neuron (V_{i} - V_{A})$$

$$\tau_{N} \frac{dN_{i}}{dt} = (But neurons are assumed identical)$$

$$\tau_{C} \frac{dC_{i}}{dt} = -\frac{\alpha_{C}}{H_{X}}C_{i} + C_{0} - \delta_{C}g_{C}M_{\infty}(V_{i})(V_{i} - V_{C}) - Time scale separation$$

$$\tau_{S} \frac{dS_{i}}{dt} = -\alpha_{C}(1 - S_{i})C^{4} - S_{i}$$
Fast $V, N. \tau_{L} = 11 \text{ ms}, \tau_{N} = 5 \text{ ms}.$

$$\tau_{R} \frac{dR_{i}}{dt} = Medium C, A. \tau_{C} = 2 \text{ s}, \tau_{A} = 1.86 \text{ s}.$$

$$\frac{dA_{i}}{dt} = Slow S, R. \tau_{R} = \tau_{S} = 44 \text{ s}.$$

Fast time scale

Fast time scale

Morris-Lecar model with fast dynamics, in the presence of a slow external current

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV}{dt_f} = -\tilde{g}_L(V - V_L) - \tilde{g}_C M_\infty(V)(V - V_C) - \tilde{g}_K N(V - V_K) + I_{ext} \\ \frac{dN}{dt_f} = \frac{\tau_L}{\tau_N} \Lambda(V)(N_\infty(V) - N) \end{cases}$$

Fast time scale

Morris-Lecar model with fast dynamics, in the presence of a slow external current

$$\left(\begin{array}{ll} \frac{dV}{dt_f} &= -\tilde{g}_L(V - V_L) - \tilde{g}_C M_{\infty}(V)(V - V_C) - \tilde{g}_K N(V - V_K) + I_{ext} \\ \frac{dN}{dt_f} &= \frac{\tau_L}{\tau_N} \Lambda(V)(N_{\infty}(V) - N) \end{array}\right)$$



Experiment by Zheng et al. 2006, Nature











The mechanism of bursting



The mechanism of bursting



Spontaneous Bursting Mechanism of SACs



The mechanism of bursting (spontaneous)



56



The mechanism of bursting (noise induced)



58

Variability <u>within</u> retinal waves

Variability <u>within</u> retinal waves



Variability within retinal waves



Variability within retinal waves







Variability within retinal waves



Variability <u>within</u> retinal waves

Pharmacological effects can be explained and predicted from bifurcations analysis (variations of physiological parameters).

A biophysical model explains the spontaneous bursting behavior in the developing retina Dora Matzakos-Karvouniari, Lionel Gil, Elaine Orendorff, Olivier Marre, Serge Picaud, Bruno Cessac Scientific Reports, Nature Publishing Group, 2019, 9 (1), pp. 1-23. (10.1038/s41598-018-38299-4)



Cellular mechanisms of stage II retinal waves

Cellular mechanisms of stage II retinal waves

C. Synchrony through Acetylcholine



Mutual excitatory connections between SACs through Acetylcholine



The coupled dynamics of 2 SACs

V,R,A profiles of a single SAC



The coupled dynamics of 2 SACs



Synchrony: Arnold tongues


Synchrony: Arnold tongues



t (s)

Synchrony: Arnold tongues



t (s)

The coupled dynamics of 2 SACs



The coupled dynamics of 2 SACs



Waves speed in one dimensional chain

$$v_0 = \frac{1}{t_C - \frac{1}{\mu} \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{g_A} \frac{2\mu \sqrt{\gamma_A}}{d\beta\Omega} \left(\frac{I_{SN} + g_{sAHP} R^4 (V_- - V_K)}{(V_- - V_A)}\right)\right)}$$



Waves speed in one dimensional chain





$$g_{A_c} = -\frac{2\mu\sqrt{\gamma_A}}{n_i\beta\Omega} \frac{I_{SN} + g_S R^4 (V_- - V_K)}{V_- - V_A}$$















gach=0.168 nS



-0.064

-0.068



gach=0.168 nS





-0.060

-0.064

-0.068



gach=0.168 nS







Network of SACs : Simulated Calcium Concentration

gach=0.102 nS



gach=0.168 nS



gach=0.126 nS





Network of SACs : Simulated Calcium Concentration

gach=0.102 nS

gach=0.126 nS

Interburst(s) D ÷ gach=(l nS R g_A 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 20-



Distance Pairwise Correlations





iv) Spatial Variability





https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=shMR3NMCBDE



iv) Spatial Variability



N-neuron model

- There is a **competition** between 2 mechanisms:
 - Period variability which tends to desynchronise
 - Acetylcholine which tends to synchronise
- There is an intermediate regime of coupling, where variability is maximum
- Therefore there is a wide repertoire of patterns
 - Weak coupling leads to small localised activity
 - Moderate coupling leads to propagating patterns
 - Strong coupling leads to complete synchrony of neurons

A transport theory of retinal waves

1. The leading parameters are the Ach conductance G_A and the sAHP conductance G_S .



С





$$\frac{\partial G_A}{\partial t} = g_A D_M \left[\left(\nabla G_S, \nabla G_A \right) D_H^2 \left(\begin{array}{c} \nabla G_S \\ \nabla G_A \end{array} \right) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial G_S} \Delta G_S + \frac{\partial H}{\partial G_A} \Delta G_A \right] + S(G_S, G_A).$$

A transport theory of retinal waves

1. The leading parameters are the Ach conductance G_A and the sAHP conductance G_s .

2. Waves history generates transient refractory zones of sAHP which constrain the forthcoming waves propagation.



С











Retinal anticipation

Random connectivity and motion anticipation

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Project : ANR Trajectory.

The visual flow



The visual flow



The visual flow



The retina is NOT a camera

- High transduction rate : 1 photon can trigger a membrane voltage variation of ~1 mV
- · Able to detect approaching motion
- · Able to detect differential motion
- Sensitive to « surprise » in a visual scene
- Able to perform motion anticipation
The visual flow



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Visual Anticipation

Anticipation is carried out by the primary visual cortex (V1) through an activation wave



« Anticipatory responses along motion trajectories in awake

2 monkey area V1", Benvenutti et al. 2020, submitted to Elife and https://www.biorxiv.org/content/ 10.1101/2020.03.26.010017v2.full.pdf

Visual Anticipation

Anticipation also takes place in the retina



Source : M. Berry, I. Brivanlou, T. Jordan, and M. Meister. Anticipation of moving stimuli by the retina.Nature,398(6725):334—338, 1999





$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV_{B_{i}}}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau_{B}}V_{B_{i}} + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{A}}W_{B_{i}}^{A_{j}}V_{A_{j}} + F_{B_{i}}(t), \\ \frac{dV_{A_{j}}}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau_{A}}V_{A_{j}} + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{B}}W_{A_{j}}^{B_{i}}R_{B_{i}}, \\ \frac{dA_{B_{i}}}{dt} = -\frac{A_{B_{i}}}{\tau_{a}} + h_{B}\mathcal{N}(V_{B_{i}}). \end{cases}$$



















Souihel S., Cessac B., "On the potential role of lateral connectivity in retinalanticipation", submitted to J. Math. Neuro.



Gain control

Gain control

Souihel S., Cessac B., "On the potential role of lateral connectivity in retinalanticipation", submitted to J. Math. Neuro.

Linear regime

$$\frac{d\vec{\mathcal{X}}}{dt} = \mathcal{L}.\vec{\mathcal{X}} + \vec{\mathcal{F}}(t).$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_B} & W_B^A & 0_{N,N} \\ W_A^B & -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_A} & 0_{N,N} \\ h_B I_{N,N} & 0_{N,N} & -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_a} \end{pmatrix}$$





Fig.7. Starbust antecrine cells as stained with tucher yellow in wholemount rabbit telow.













Fig.7. Starbust antecrine cells as stained with tucher yellow in wholemount rabbit telow.











$$\frac{d\vec{\mathcal{X}}}{dt} = \mathcal{L}.\vec{\mathcal{X}} + \vec{\mathcal{F}}(t).$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_B} & W_B^A & 0_{N,N} \\ W_A^B & -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_A} & 0_{N,N} \\ h_B I_{N,N} & 0_{N,N} & -\frac{I_{N,N}}{\tau_a} \end{pmatrix}$$











Conclusions

- How to improve object identification
 - exploring the model's parameters and
 - ²⁾ using connectivity ?
- Is our model able to anticipate more complex trajectories, with accelerations for instance ?
- How to calibrate connectivity using biology?
- How does anticipation affect higher order correlations ?
- Would it be possible to design psycho-physical tests clearly showing the role of the retina in visual anticipation ?

