#### A Pulse-Gated Mechanism for Synaptic Copy Between Neural Circuits

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### Motivation

THE CASE OF H.M. (HENRY MOLAISON, AND MANY OTHERS) TELLS US THAT SHORT-TERM MEMORIES ARE FORMED IN THE HIPPOCAMPUS, BUT STORED, FOR THE LONG-TERM, ELSEWHERE.

EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT THALAMIC SPINDLES, HIPPOCAMPAL RIPPLES AND CORTICAL SLOW OSCILLATIONS ACT LIKE A COMMUNICATION CHANNEL THAT FACILITATES MEMORY CONSOLIDATION.

CLEARLY, IN A NEUROMORPHIC CIRCUIT, WE MIGHT ALSO WANT TO COPY SYNAPSES FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.

# Outline



SYNFIRE-GATED SYNFIRE CHAINS
SYNFIRE-GATED SYNFIRE CHAINS FOR GRADED INFORMATION PROPAGATION
HOW TO COMPUTE WITH SGSCS
LEARNING

• TRANSFERRING SYNAPSES

# Synfire chains



#### SYNFIRE CHAIN

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# Synfire chains



#### ORIGINAL HOPE: TO PROPAGATE GRADED INFORMATION WITH SYNFIRE CHAINS

- CAN'T PROPAGATE GRADED INFORMATION THIS WAY



#### Synfire-gated synfire chains



#### FEED-FORWARD CHAIN OF NEURONS



PRECISE TEMPORAL SEQUENCE OF GATING PULSES





#### Synfire-gated synfire chains

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MECHANISM: USE NEURAL POPULATIONS IN A CONVENTIONAL SYNFIRE CHAIN (I.E. ONE THAT APPROACHES AN ATTRACTOR) AS A PULSE GENERATOR TO PUSH SECONDARY POPULATIONS ABOVE THRESHOLD

WANG, SORNBORGER, TAO PLOS COMP BIO (2016)



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Current, Graded Synfire Chain

EXX PR

#### SGSC: A mean field model



SORNBORGER, WANG, TAO, JCNS (2015)

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#### IMPLICATIONS:

• SEPARATION OF INFORMATION CONTROL - GATING PULSES INFORMATION CONTENT - GRADED FIRING RATES

• SGSCS MAY BE USED AS BUILDING BLOCKS FOR CONSTRUCTING NEURAL CIRCUITS

#### **Computing with SGSCs**

PULSE-GATED PROPAGATION BETWEEN VECTORS OF POPULATIONS

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} I^d = -I^d + S \left[ KI^u + p^u(t) \right]^+$$

FIXED CONNECTIVITY

**DYNAMIC ROUTING** 

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LEADS TO FEED-FORWARD NEURAL CIRCUITS WITH ACTIVELY GATED LINEAR MAPS

 $\mathbf{I}^u(t) \stackrel{K}{\to} \mathbf{I}^d(t)$ 

SORNBORGER, WANG, TAO, JCNS (2015)

#### Learning a Process



#### A SIMPLE EXAMPLE: AN AUTOREGRESSIVE (AR) PROCESS

NEED NEURAL CIRCUITS TO
ESTIMATE COVARIANCE MATRIX
ESTIMATE PROCESS COEFFICIENTS FROM COVARIANCE
PREDICT FUTURE PROCESS VALUES

#### Learning a Process



SHAO, SORNBORGER, TAO, 50th Asilomar Conference (2016)

### **Gradient Descent/PMPY**

$$\mathbf{p}_{n+1}' = \mathbf{p}_n' + \frac{\Delta t}{\tau} Q_1 \Gamma' \left( \boldsymbol{\gamma}' - Q_1 \Gamma' \mathbf{p}_n' \right)$$

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**"BURN IN" OF PROCESS COEFFICIENTS WITH HEBBIAN SYNAPSES** 

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**Covariance Matrix Elements** 



**AR Process Coefficients** 



### **Synaptic Copy**

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WE WILL USE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME MECHANISMS THAT WE USED TO LEARN AN AR PROCESS IN THE SYNAPTIC COPY CIRCUIT, WITH ONE ADDITION.



### **Synaptic Copy**

PULSE SEQUENCE TO COPY SYNAPTIC VALUES FROM ONE NEURAL REGION TO ANOTHER

GENERATE TRANSFORMS OF EUCLIDEAN VECTORS AND COPY TO EITHER SIDE OF NEW HEBBIAN SYNAPSES

EFFECTIVELY A GREEN'S FUNCTION TECHNIQUE



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### Conclusions



• USING PULSE-GATING TO PRECISELY CONTROL INFORMATION PROPAGATION, WE HAVE IMPLEMENTED A CIRCUIT CAPABLE OF FIRST LEARNING A STOCHASTIC PROCESS, THEN TRANSFERRING THE LEARNED SYNAPSES TO A SECONDARY CIRCUIT.

• THE TRANSFER CIRCUIT MAKES USE OF NESTED OSCILLATIONS AND OPERATES INDEPENDENTLY OF THE PROCESS USED TO LEARN THE INFORMATION THAT IS TRANSFERRED, TWO CHARACTERISTICS OF SLEEP CONSOLIDATION OF MEMORY





### **Questions?**







