# Concentration phenomena for a FitzHugh-Nagumo neural network

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November 18, 2021

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Asymptotic Behaviors of systems of PDEs arising in physics and biology - 4th edition

#### Overview

We consider that neural networks are particle systems. It is possible to describe them through 3 distinct scales :



GOAL :

Derive information at the macroscopic scale from the mesoscopic scale

# Microscopic scale and mean field limit

#### Behavior of a neuron

• We focus on the dynamics of the voltage through the membrane of a neuron. Experiments showcase 2 main features



(*i*) Delay when responding to an external input.

(ii) Self-regulation.

Hodgkin & Huxley, '52.

• Hodgkin & Huxley obtained a precise but mathematically complicated model.

• We will use a simplified version that captures its main features : FitzHugh-Nagumo's model for a neuron

#### FitzHugh-Nagumo's neuron

A neuron i is modeled by  $(v_t^i, w_t^i) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  (voltage & delay)

$$\begin{cases} dv_t^i = \left(N(v_t^i) - w_t^i + I_{\text{ext}}\right) dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t, \\ dw_t^i = A\left(v_t^i, w_t^i\right) dt, \end{cases}$$

• A is an affinity while N is non-linear, typically  $N(v) = v - v^3$ .

•  $I_{\text{ext}}$  is the current resulting from interaction with other neurons

$$I_{\text{ext}} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Phi(x_i, x_j) (v^i - v^j),$$

where  $x_i \in K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is the location of neuron *i*.

• We obtain the following microscopic model, where  $1 \le i \le N$ 

$$\begin{cases} dv_t^i = \left(N(v_t^i) - w_t^i - \frac{1}{n}\sum_{j=1}^n \Phi(x_i, x_j)(v_t^i - v_t^j)\right) dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t^i, \\ dw_t^i = A(v_t^i, w_t^i)dt. \end{cases}$$

(1)

#### Mean field limit

It was proved that in the mean field limit  $N \to +\infty$  the microscopic system is described by

FitzHugh-Nagumo's mean field equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f = -\partial_v \left( \left( N(v) - w - \mathcal{K}_{\Phi}(f) \right) f \right) - \partial_w \left( A(v, w) f \right) + \partial_v^2 f, \\ f(0, \cdot) = f_0, \end{cases}$$

where f(t, x, v, w) is the probability distribution of finding neurons with a potential  $v \in \mathbb{R}$ , adaptation variable  $w \in \mathbb{R}$ , at time  $t \ge 0$  and position  $x \in K$  within the network, and  $\mathcal{K}_{\Phi}(f)$  is the non-local term due to interactions between neurons

$$\mathcal{K}_{\Phi}(f)(x,v) = \int_{\mathcal{K}\times\mathbb{R}^2} \Phi(x,x')(v-v')f(x',v',w')dx'dv'dw'.$$

#### References

• J. Baladron, D. Fasoli, O. Faugeras and J. Touboul. *Mean-field description and propagation of chaos in networks of Hodgkin-Huxley and FitzHugh-Nagumo neurons* (2012).

• M. Bossy, O. Faugeras and D. Talay. *Clarification and complement to* "mean-field description and propagation of chaos in networks of Hodgkin-Huxley and FitzHugh-Nagumo neurons" (2015).

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• E. Luçon and W. Stannat. *Mean-field limit for disordered diffusions with singular interactions* (2014).

• J. Crevat. *Mean-field limit of a spatially-extended FitzHugh-Nagumo neural network*(2019).

## Concentration phenomena

#### Modeling assumptions

We decompose the interaction kernel  $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$  as follows

$$\Phi(x,x') = \Psi(x,x') + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\delta_0(x-x'),$$

where

- $\Psi$  is "more regular" and accounts for Weak/Long range interactions,
- dirac mass  $\delta_0$  accounts for Strong/Local interactions with strength  $\epsilon > 0$ .

GOAL :

Study the system in the regime of Strong/Local interactions, that is when  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

**References :** 

Bressloff (03), Luçon/Stannat (14).

#### Strong interactions & concentration phenomenon

• With this ansatz the equation rewrites

$$\partial_t f^{\epsilon} = -\partial_v \left( \left( N(v) - w - \frac{\rho_0^{\epsilon}}{\epsilon} (v - \mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}) - \mathcal{K}_{\Psi}(f^{\epsilon}) \right) f^{\epsilon} \right)$$
(2)  
$$-\partial_w \left( A(v, w) f^{\epsilon} \right) + \partial_v^2 f^{\epsilon},$$

where

$$\rho_0^\epsilon(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f^\epsilon dv dw \text{ and } \mathcal{V}^\epsilon(t,x) = \frac{1}{\rho_0^\epsilon} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} v f^\epsilon dv dw.$$

 $\bullet$  Multiplying the equation by  $|\nu-\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}|^2$  and integrating yields

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |v - \mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}(t)|^2 f^{\epsilon} dv dw \stackrel{=}{\underset{\epsilon \to 0}{=}} O(\epsilon).$$

Hence,  $f^\epsilon$  is expected to concentrate around  $\mathcal{V}^\epsilon$ 

$$f^{\epsilon}(t, v, w) \underset{\epsilon \to 0}{=} \delta_{\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}(t)}(v) \otimes F^{\epsilon}(t, w) + \sqrt{\epsilon},$$
  
where  $F^{\epsilon}(t, w) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f^{\epsilon}(t, v, w) dv.$ 

## Concentration's profile

#### Concentration's profile

Our goal is to determine the profile of this concentration.





Concentration with Gaussian profile

Concentration with triangular profile

Here are plots of

$$y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} g\left(\frac{v}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}\right),$$

for  $\sqrt{\epsilon} = 1$ ; 0.7; 0.5 and g a gaussian profile (fig. 1) and triangular profile (fig. 2).

 $\bullet$  Consider the following re-scaled version  $g^\epsilon$  of  $f^\epsilon$  :

$$f^{\epsilon}(t, v, w) = \frac{1}{\epsilon^{\alpha}} g^{\epsilon} \left( t, \frac{v - \mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}(t)}{\epsilon^{\alpha}}, w - \mathcal{W}^{\epsilon}(t) \right),$$
(3)

where  $\alpha > {\rm 0}$  needs to be determined, and

$$\mathcal{W}^{\epsilon} = rac{1}{
ho_0^{\epsilon}}\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} w f^{\epsilon} dv dw.$$

• <u>GOAL</u> :

proving that  $g^{\epsilon}$  converges and compute the limit.

We obtain the equation on  $g^\epsilon$  changing variables in the equation on  $f^\epsilon$ 

$$\partial_{t}g^{\epsilon} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon^{\alpha}}\partial_{u}\left[\left(N(\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon} + \epsilon^{\alpha}u) - N(\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}) - (\Psi *_{r}\rho_{0}^{\epsilon})\epsilon^{\alpha}u - \omega - \mathcal{E}\right)g^{\epsilon}\right] \\ -\partial_{\omega}\left[A_{0}\left(\epsilon^{\alpha}u, \omega\right)g^{\epsilon}\right] + \frac{1}{\epsilon^{2\alpha}}\partial_{u}\left(\rho_{0}^{\epsilon}\epsilon^{2\alpha-1}ug^{\epsilon} + \partial_{u}g^{\epsilon}\right),$$

where  $A_0 = A - c$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is an error term.

• It is natural to take  $\alpha = 1/2$ . Indeed, we obtain

$$\partial_{t}g^{\epsilon} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}\partial_{u}\left[\left(N(\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon} + \sqrt{\epsilon}u) - N(\mathcal{V}^{\epsilon}) - (\Psi *_{r}\rho_{0}^{\epsilon})\sqrt{\epsilon}u - \omega - \mathcal{E}\right)g^{\epsilon}\right] \\ -\partial_{\omega}\left[A_{0}\left(\sqrt{\epsilon}u,\omega\right)g^{\epsilon}\right] + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\partial_{u}\left(\rho_{0}^{\epsilon}ug^{\epsilon} + \partial_{u}g^{\epsilon}\right).$$

$$(4)$$

#### Formal derivation

• Considering the stiffer term in the former equation, we expect

$$g^{\epsilon}(t,x,u,\omega) \underset{\epsilon \to 0}{=} \mathcal{M}_{\rho_{0}^{\epsilon}}(u) \otimes G^{\epsilon}(t,x,\omega) + O(\sqrt{\epsilon}),$$

where 
$$\mathcal{M}_{\rho_0^{\epsilon}}(u) = \sqrt{\frac{\rho_0^{\epsilon}}{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\rho_0^{\epsilon}u^2}{2}\right)$$
 and  $G^{\epsilon}(t, x, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} g^{\epsilon} du$ .

• Furthermore, since  $G^{\epsilon}$  solves

$$\partial_t G^{\epsilon} - b \partial_{\omega} \left( x G^{\epsilon} \right) = -a \sqrt{\epsilon} \partial_{\omega} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} u g^{\epsilon} du \right), \tag{5}$$

 $\mathsf{and}$ 

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} ug^{\epsilon} du \stackrel{=}{_{\epsilon \to 0}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u\mathcal{M}_{\rho_{\mathbf{0}}^{\epsilon}} \otimes G^{\epsilon} du + O(\sqrt{\epsilon}) = O(\sqrt{\epsilon}),$$

it is expected that

$$G^{\epsilon}(t,x,\omega) \underset{\epsilon \to 0}{=} G(t,x,\omega) + O(\epsilon),$$

where G solves

$$\partial_t G - b \partial_\omega (\omega G) = 0.$$

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Main result

#### Main result

Coming back to the solution  $f^{\epsilon}$  to the mean field equation, this yields

#### Théorème

Under some assumptions on  $f_0^{\epsilon}$ , there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$\sup_{x \in K} W_2\left(\frac{1}{\rho_0^{\epsilon}} f^{\epsilon}, \frac{1}{\rho_0} \mathcal{M}_{\rho_0/\epsilon}\left(\cdot - \mathcal{V}\right) \otimes F\right) \leq C e^{Ct} \epsilon,$$

for all  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $t \ge 0$ , where the macroscopic system (V, F) solves the following coupled reaction-diffusion/transport equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathcal{V} = N(\mathcal{V}) - \mathcal{W} - (\Psi *_r \rho_0(x)\mathcal{V} - \Psi *_r (\rho_0 \mathcal{V})(x)), \\ \partial_t F + \partial_w (A(\mathcal{V}, w)F) = 0, \\ \rho_0(x)\mathcal{W} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} wFdw. \end{cases}$$
(6)

Here,  $W_2$  stands for the Wasserstein distance of order 2.

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• Uniform estimates (in time and  $\epsilon$ ) for moments and some relative energy using confining properties of A and N (uniformity in time) and concentrating properties of the stiffer term  $-\frac{1}{\epsilon}(v - V^{\epsilon})$  (uniformity in  $\epsilon$ ).

 $\bullet$  Coupling method in order to estimate the Wasserstein distance between  $g^\epsilon$  and  $M\otimes G$ 

**References :** Fournier/Perthame (2019).  $\bullet$  Convergence of the macroscopic system at order  $\epsilon$ 

$$\left\| \left( W_2\left( \frac{1}{\rho_0^{\epsilon}} F^{\epsilon}, \frac{1}{\rho_0} F \right) , \mathcal{V}^{\epsilon} - \mathcal{V} \right) \right\|_{L^{\infty}(K)} \leq C e^{Ct} \epsilon.$$

• We deduce an "equivalent" at order 0

$$\frac{\sqrt{\epsilon}}{C} \leq \sup_{x \in K} W_2\left(\frac{1}{\rho_0^{\epsilon}} f^{\epsilon}, \frac{1}{\rho_0} \delta_{\mathcal{V}} \otimes F\right) \leq C\sqrt{\epsilon},$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ , where C may depend on T.

• Obtaining similar results following a Hamilton-Jacobi method.

• Obtaining a strong convergence result.

• Numerical analysis of the model.

Thank you for your attention !