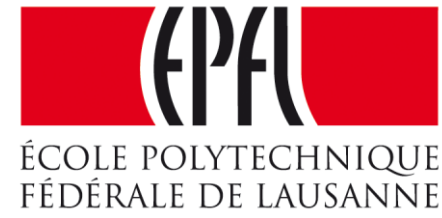


Week 11 – Continuum models –Part 1: Transients



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks:

Week 11 – Continuum models: Cortical fields and perception

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- model connectivity
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

- uniform solution
- bump solution

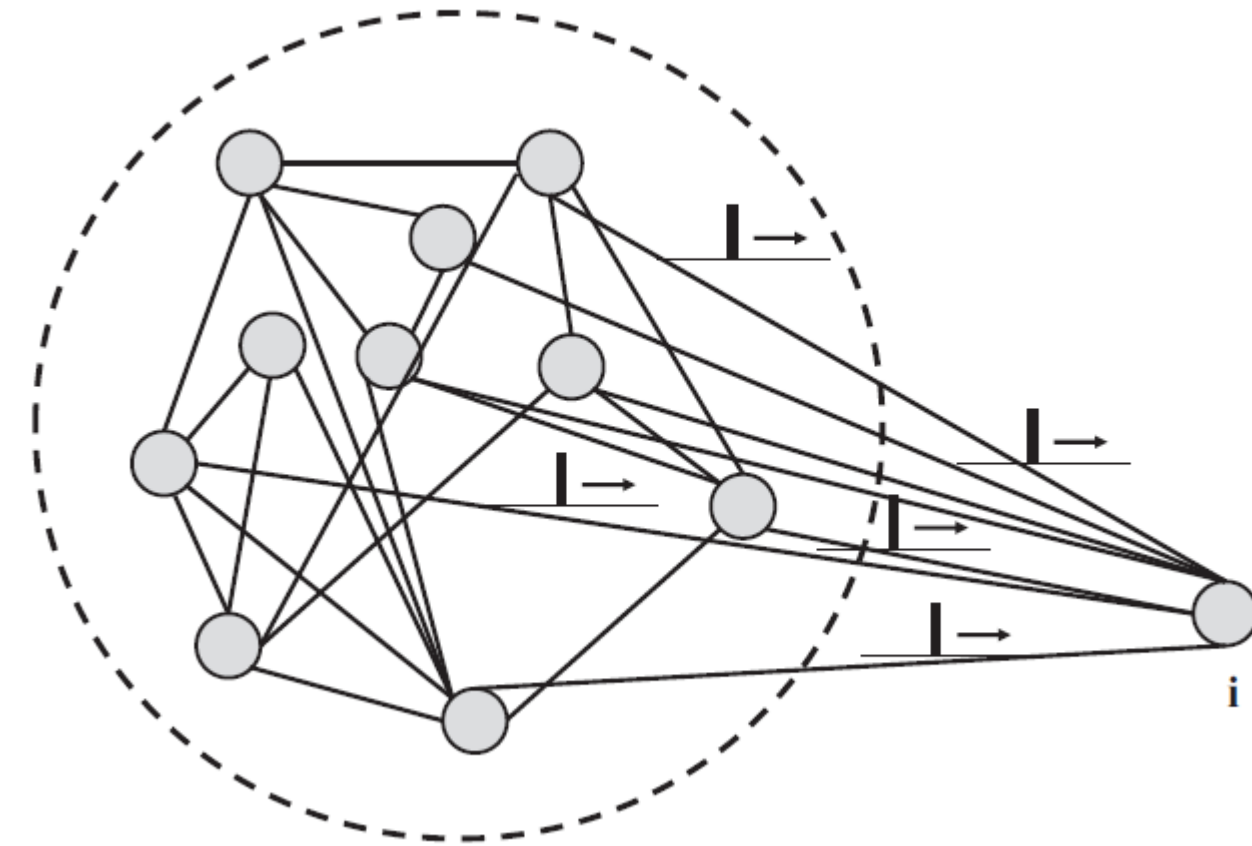
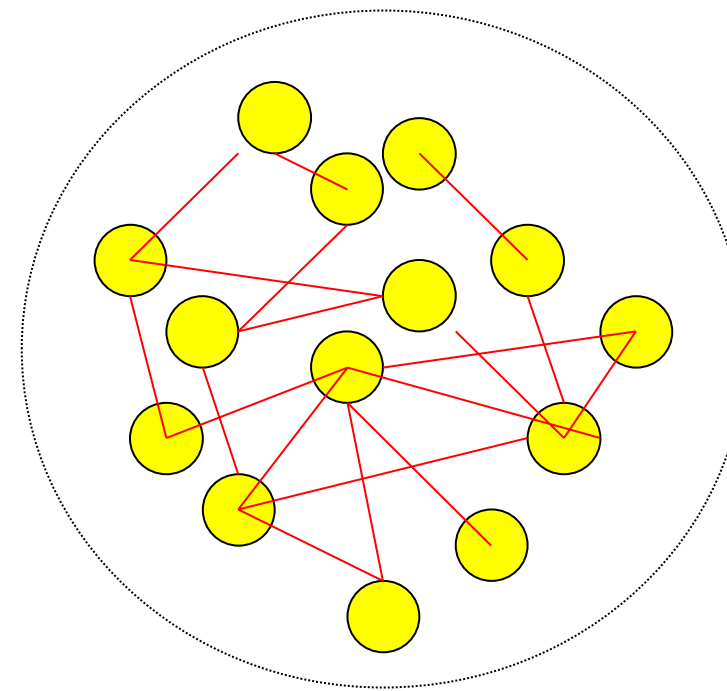
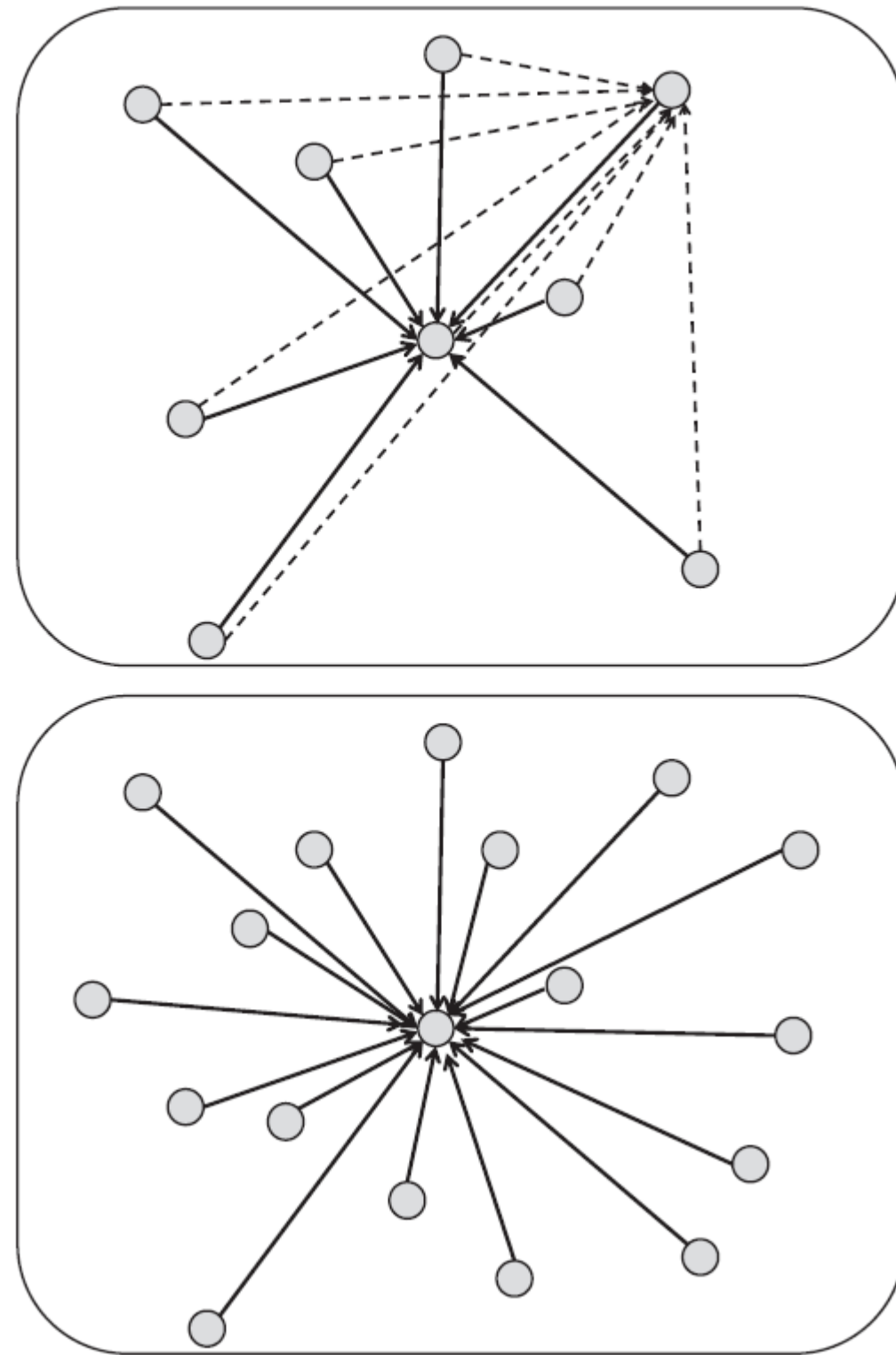
11.4. Perception

11.5. Head direction cells

Single population full connectivity

A

1



All neurons receive the same
total input current ('mean field')

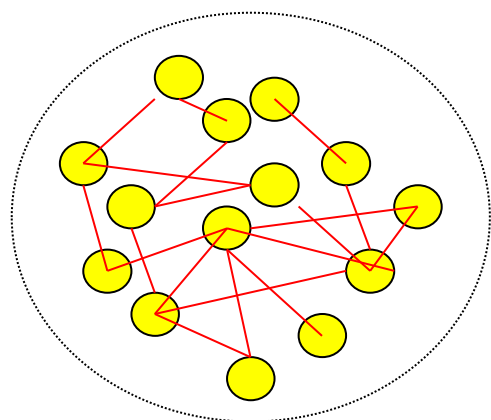
Review from Week 10: stationary state/asynchronous activity

Homogeneous network

All neurons are identical,

Single neuron rate = population rate

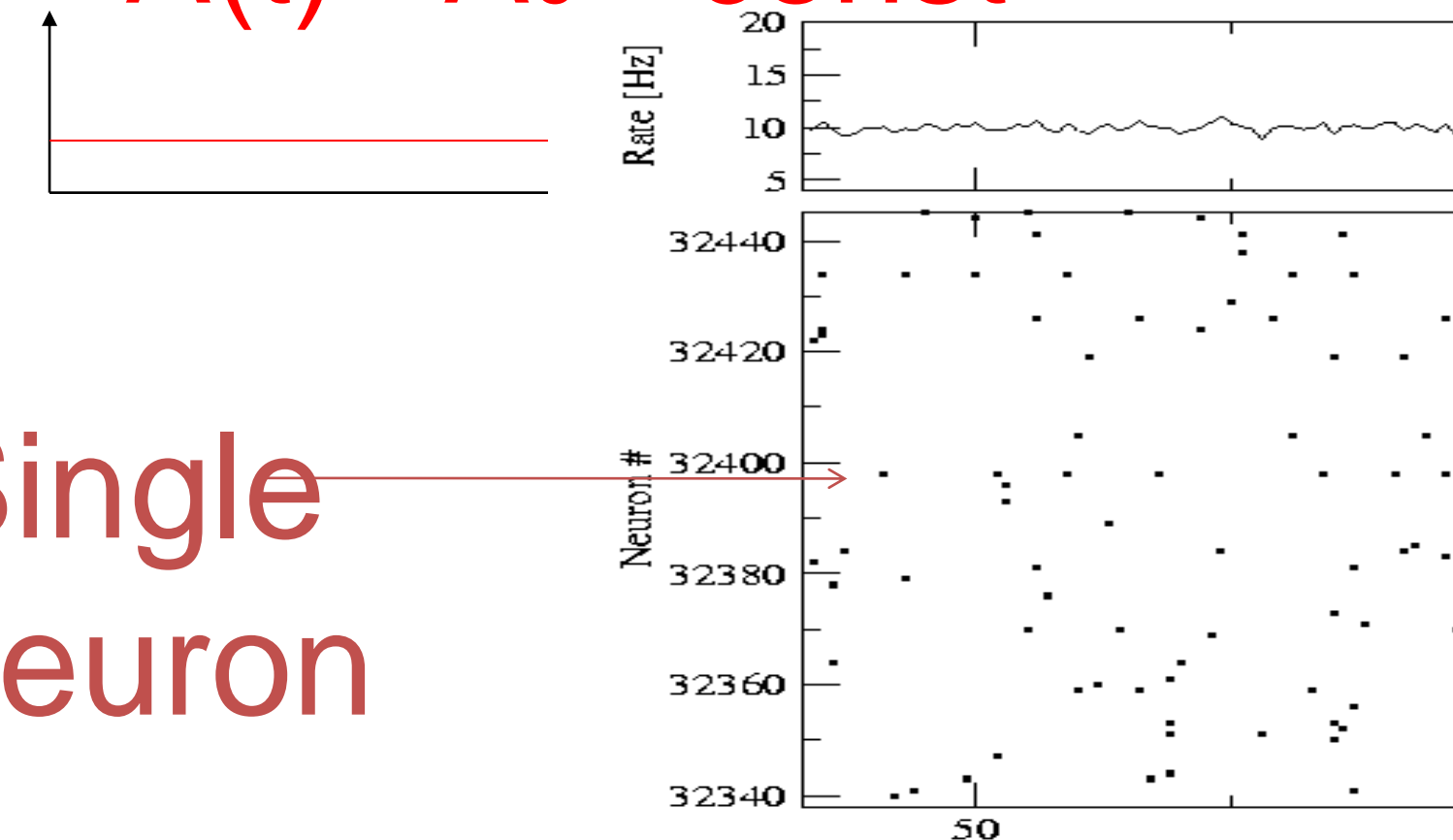
$$\nu = g(I_0) = A_0$$



frequency (single neuron)

$$\nu = \langle s \rangle^{-1} = \left[\int_0^\infty s P_I(\hat{t} + s | \hat{t}) ds \right]^{-1} = g(h_0)$$

$$A(t) = A_0 = \text{const}$$



Single
neuron

Week 10-part 3: mean-field arguments

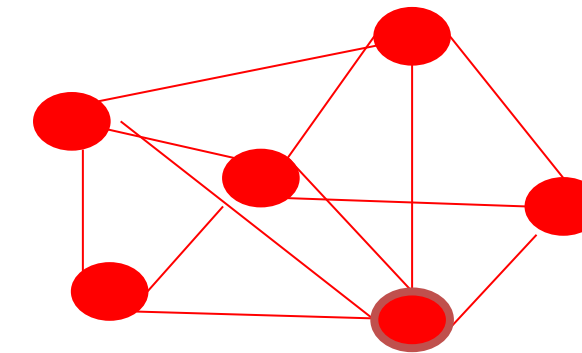
All neurons receive the same total input current ('mean field')

$$I_0 = [J_0 q A_0 + I_0^{ext}]$$

$$I_i(t) = J_0 \int \alpha(s) \underline{A(t-s)} ds + I^{ext}(t)$$

Index i disappears

$$w_{ij} = \frac{J_0}{N}$$

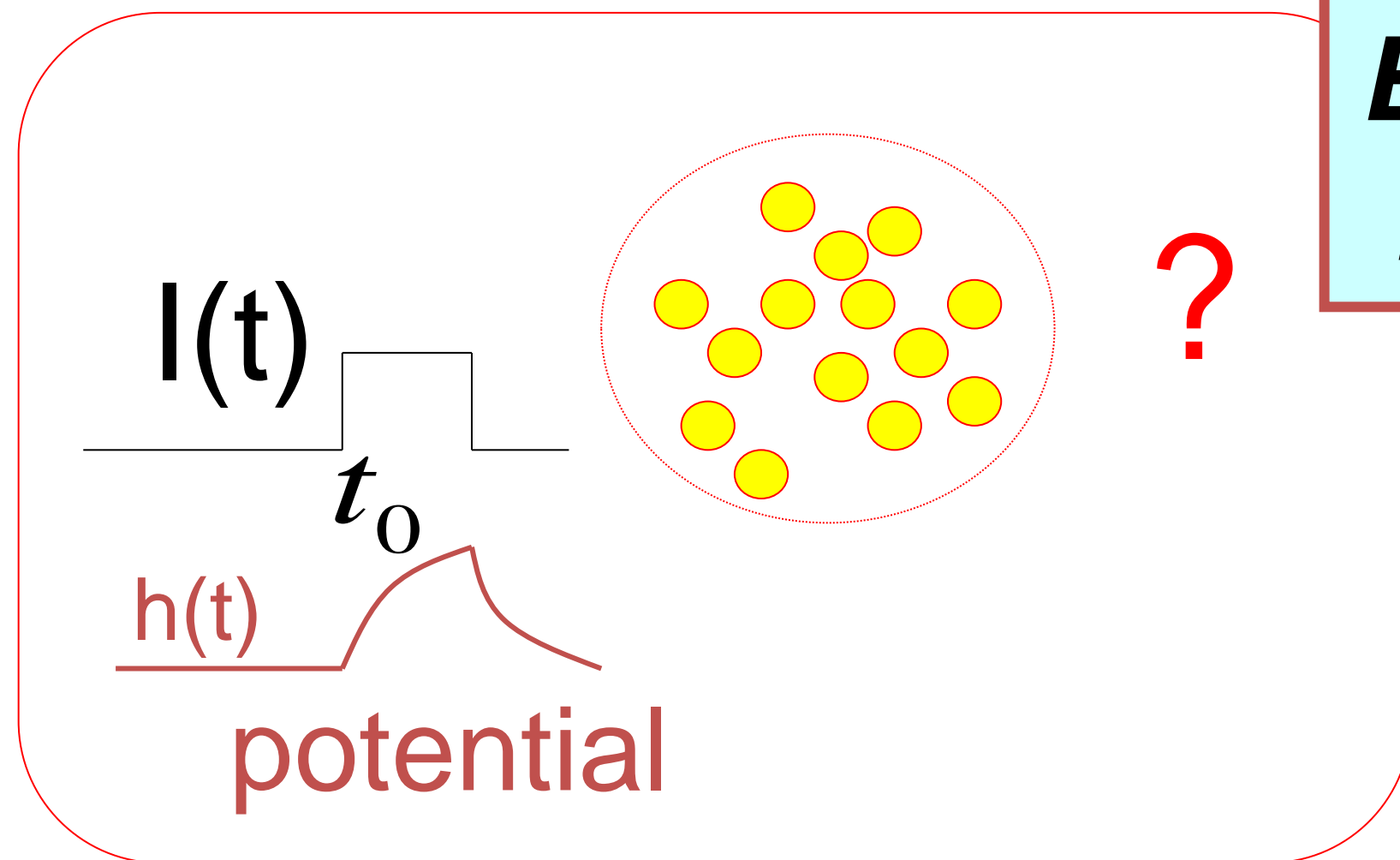


fully
connected

All spikes, all neurons

$$I^{net}(t) = \sum_j \sum_f w_{ij} \underline{\alpha(t - t_j^f)} + I^{ext}$$

Week 11-part 1: Transients in a population of **uncoupled** neurons

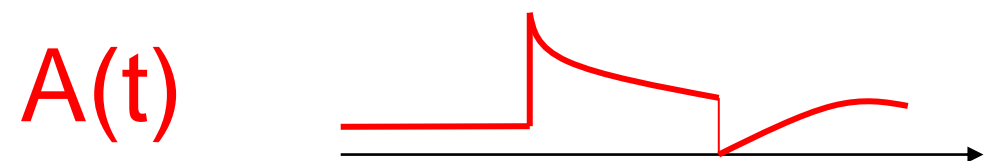
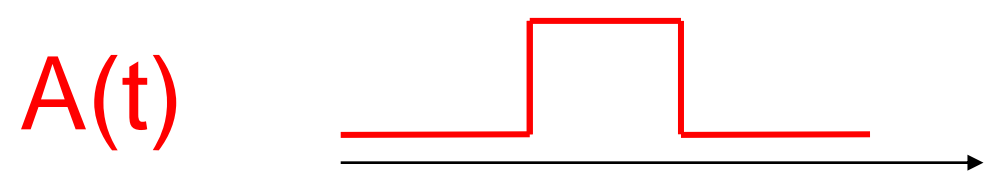
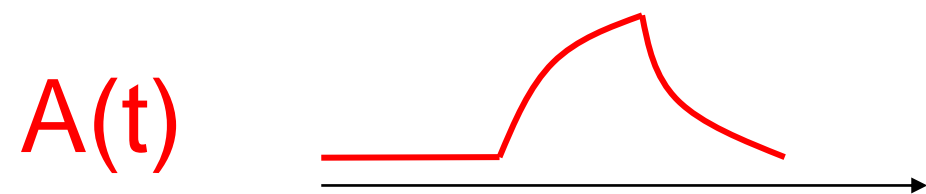
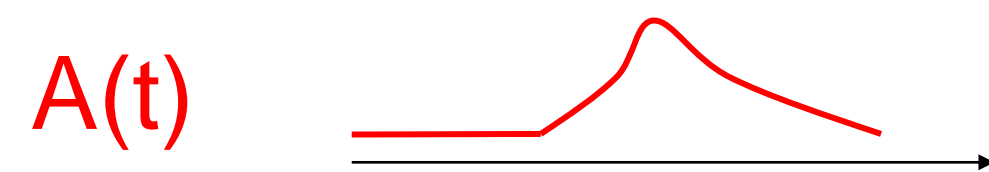


Blackboard:
 $h(t)$

Students:
Which would you choose?

$$A(t) = \frac{n(t - \frac{\Delta t}{2}; t + \frac{\Delta t}{2})}{N \Delta t}$$

population
activity



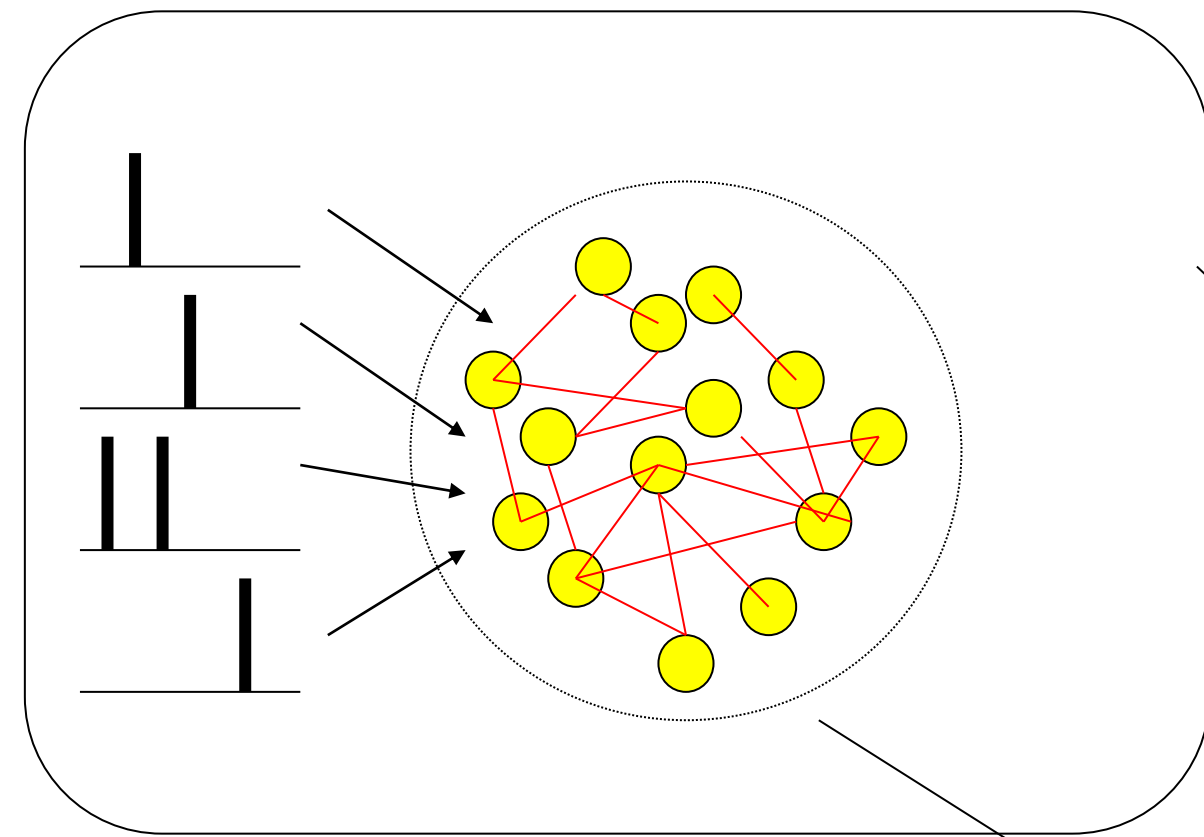
$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} A(t) = -A(t) + g(h(t))$$

$$A(t) = g(\underline{h(t)}) = g\left(\int \kappa(s) I(t-s) ds\right)$$

$$A(t) = g(\underline{I(t)})$$

$$A(t) = g(I(t), I'(t))$$

Week 11-part 1: Transients in a population of neurons



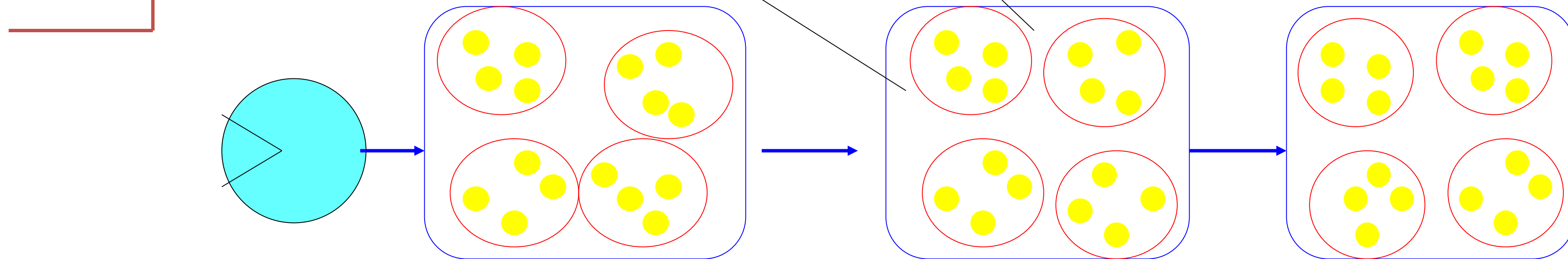
Population

- 50 000 neurons
- 20 percent inhibitory
- randomly connected

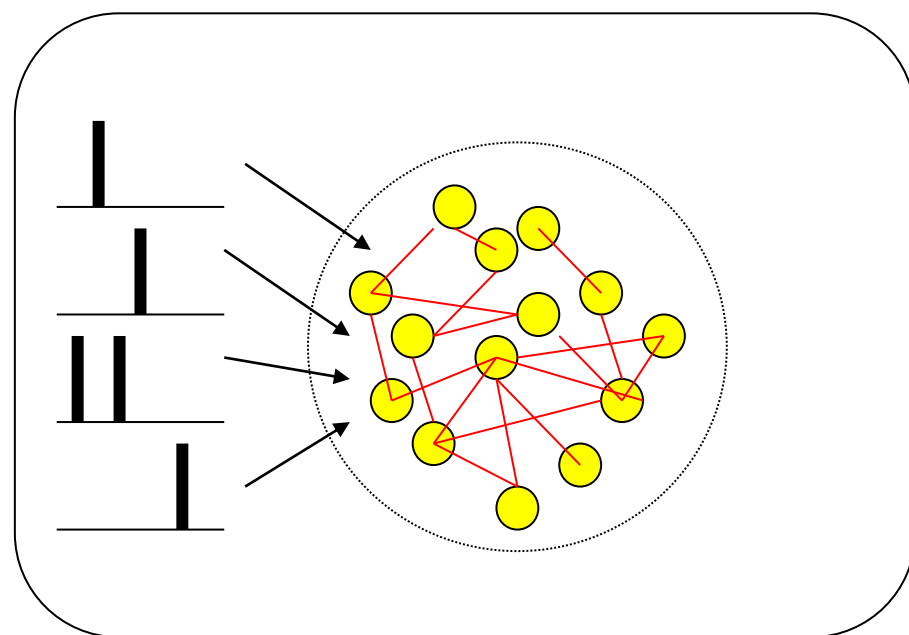
Connections

4000 external
4000 within excitatory
1000 within inhibitory

input { low rate
- high rate



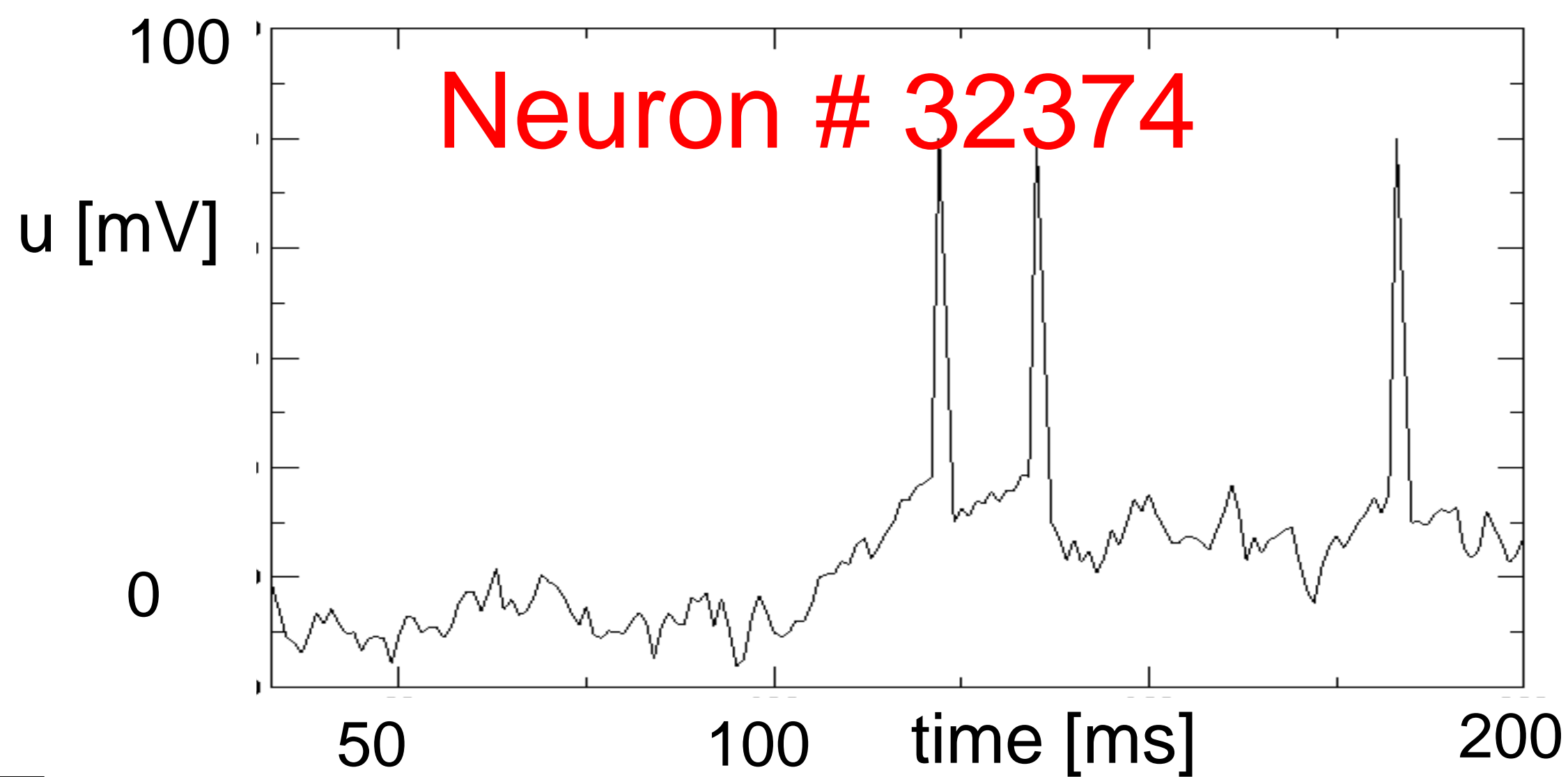
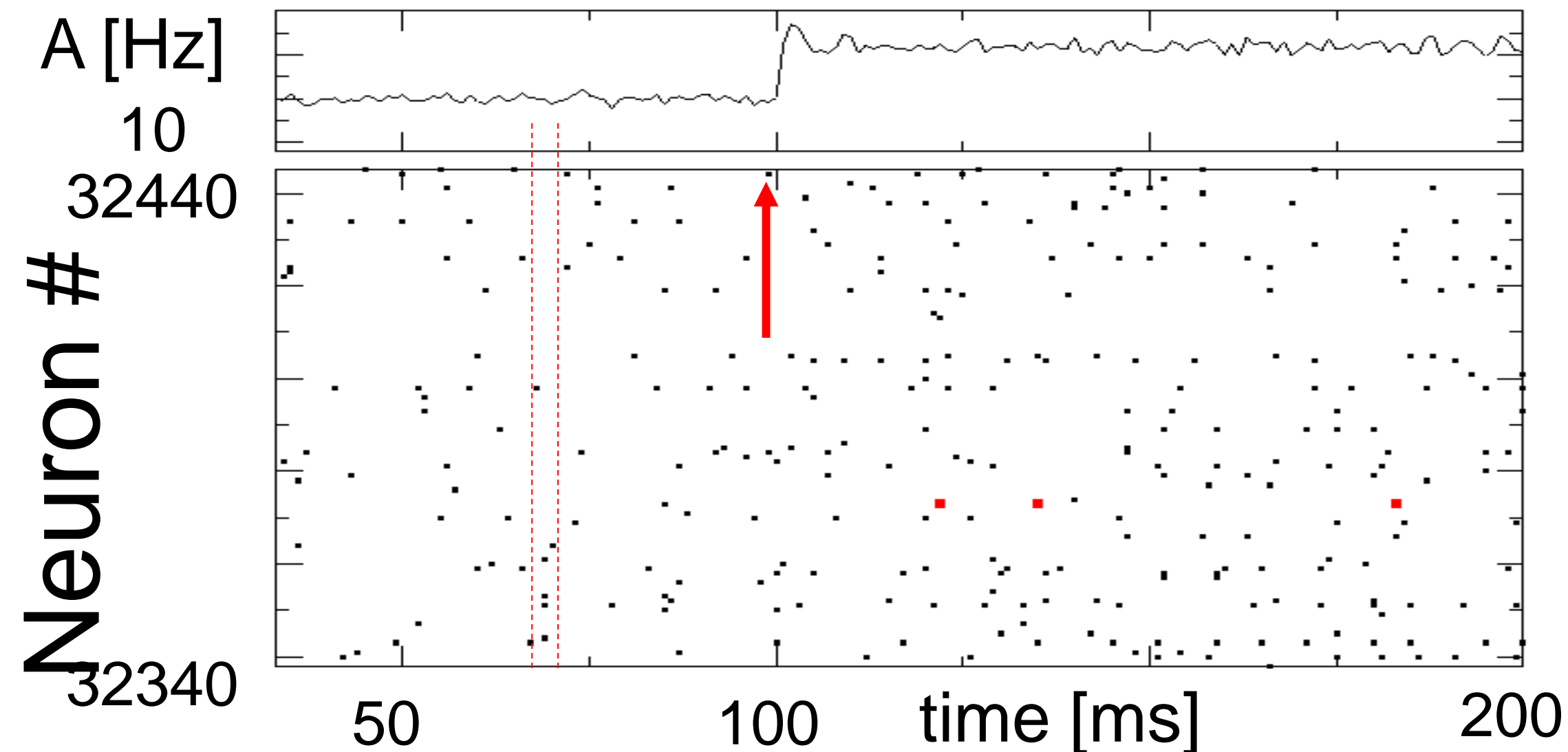
Week 11-part 1: Transients in a population of neurons



input { low rate
high rate

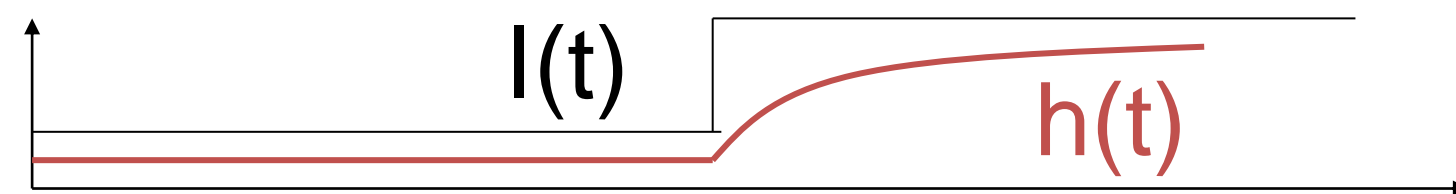
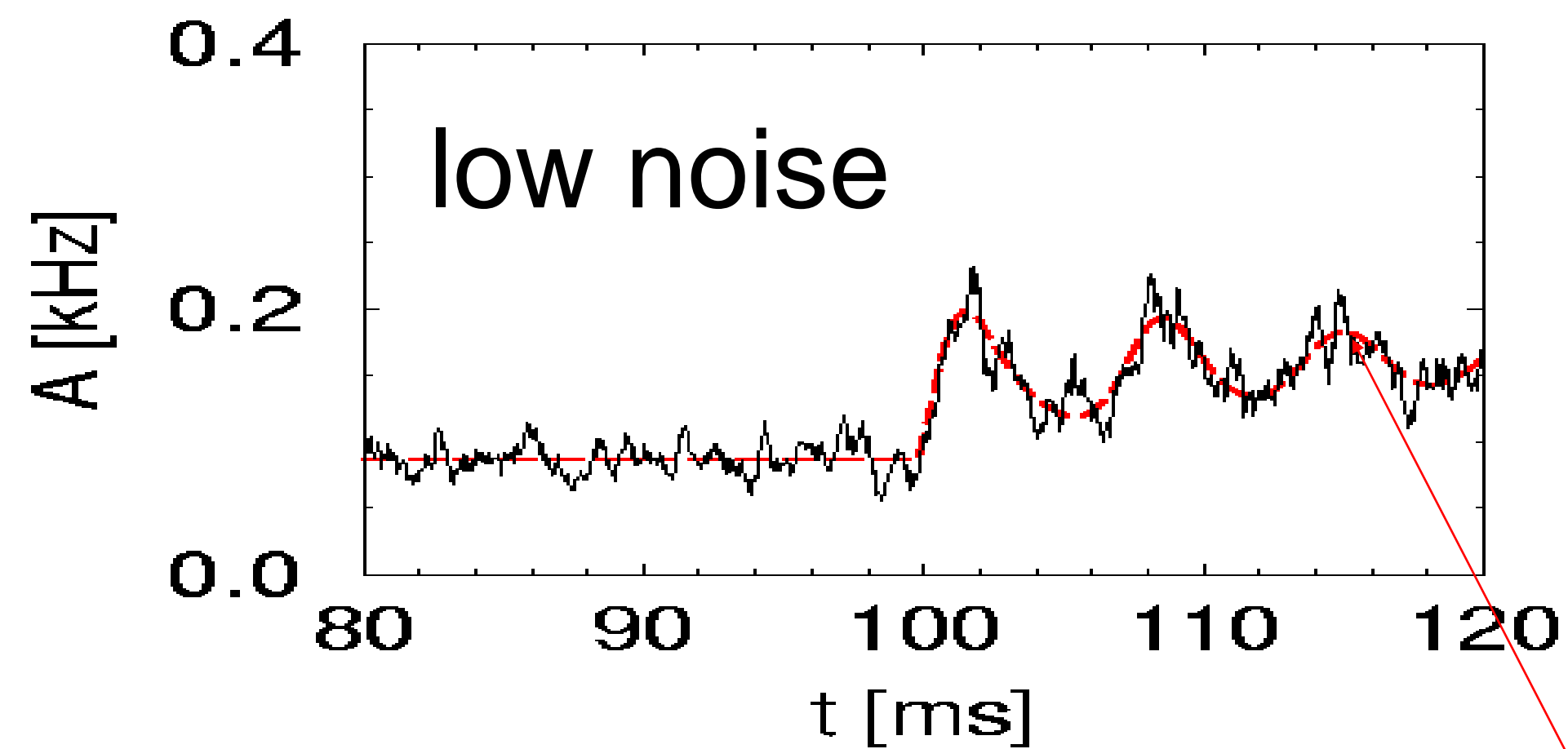
Population

- 50 000 neurons
- 20 percent inhibitory
- randomly connected



Week 11-part 1: Theory of transients for escape noise models

uncoupled population
(escape noise/fast noise)



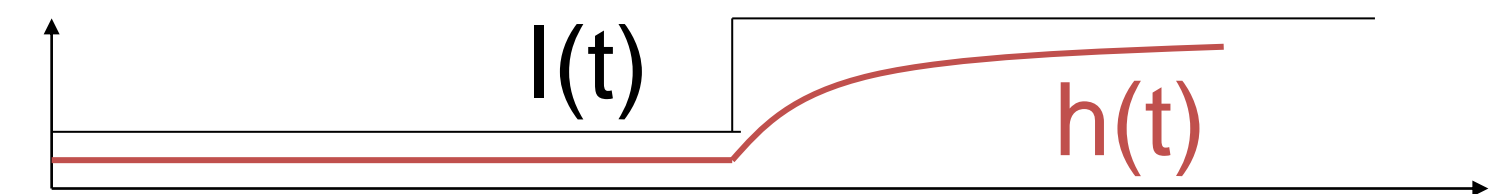
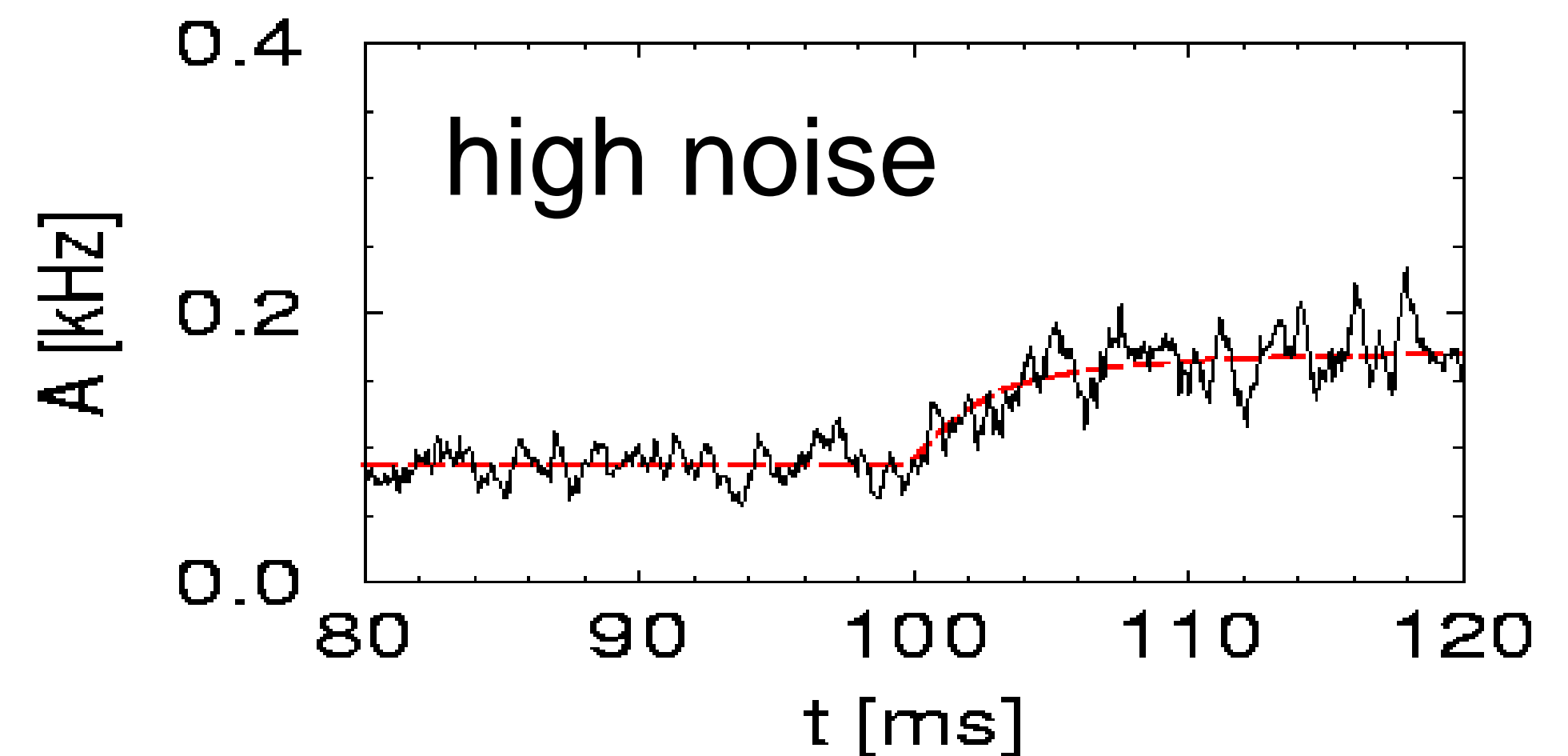
fast transient

$$A(t) \approx g(I(t))$$

$$A(t) \approx g(I(t), I'(t))$$

But transient oscillations

(escape noise/fast noise)



slow transient

$$A(t) = F(h(t))$$

Week 11-part 1: High-noise activity equation

blackboard

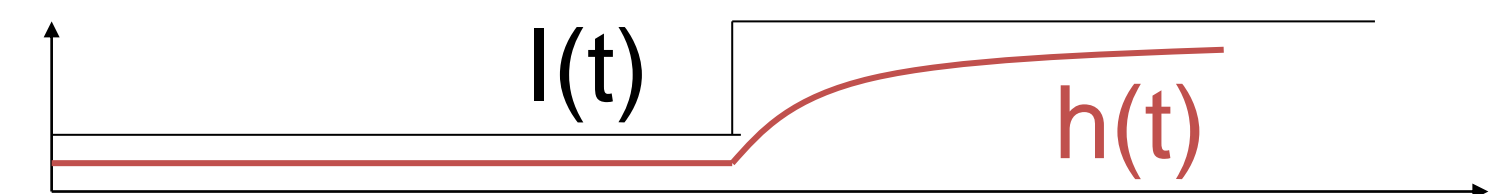
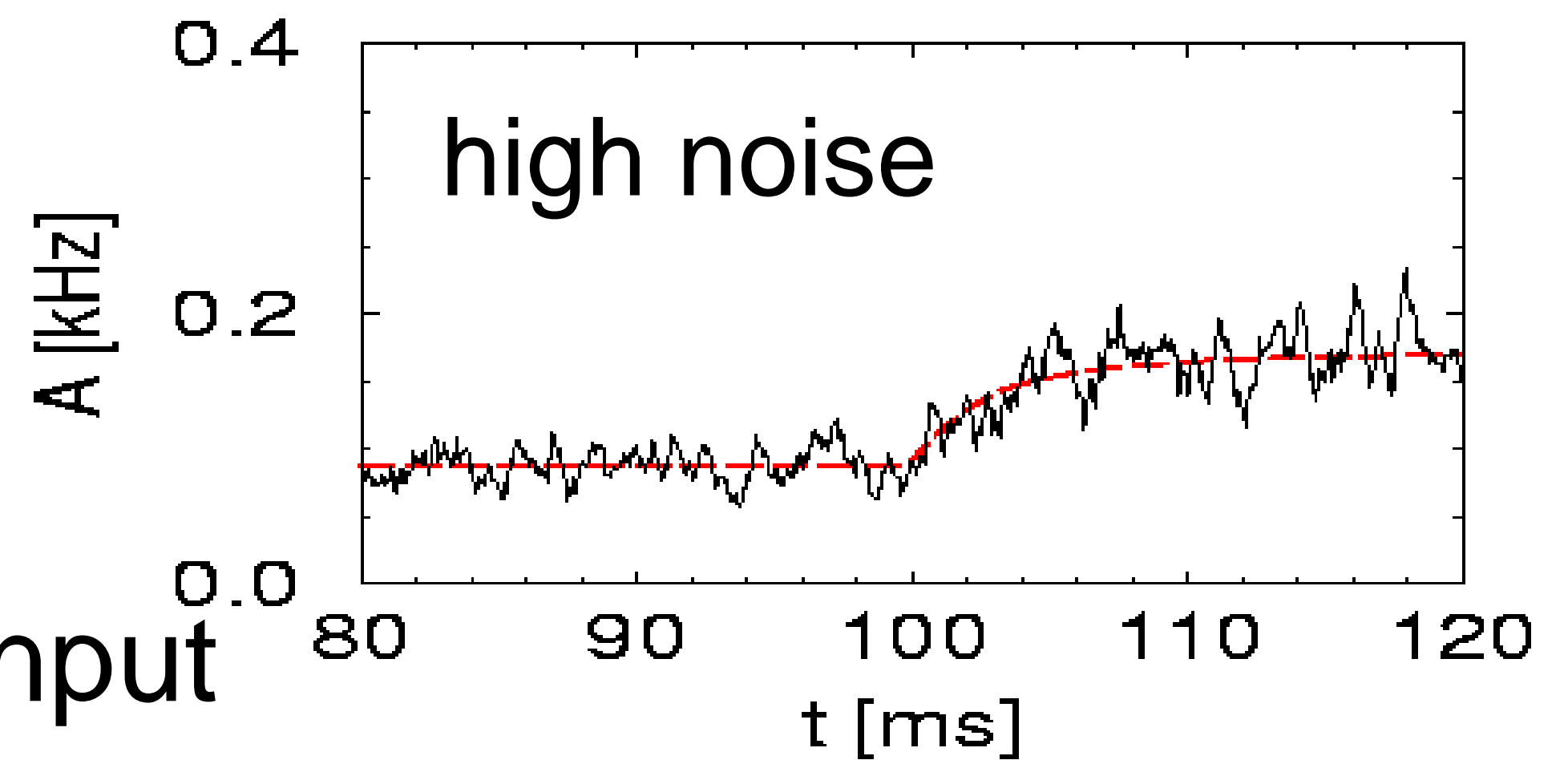
In the limit of **high noise**,
Population activity

$$A(t) = F(h(t))$$

Membrane potential caused by input

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} h(t) = -h(t) + R I(t)$$

noise model A
(escape noise/fast noise)



slow transient

$$A(t) = F(h(t))$$

Week 11-part 1: High-noise activity equation

Population activity

$$A(t) = F(h(t))$$

Membrane potential caused by input

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} h(t) = -h(t) + R I(t)$$

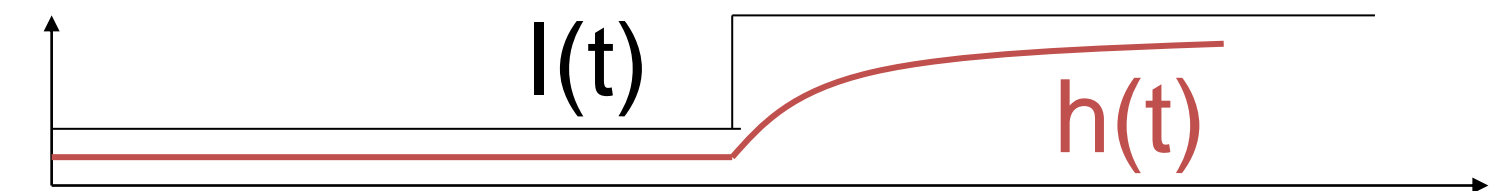
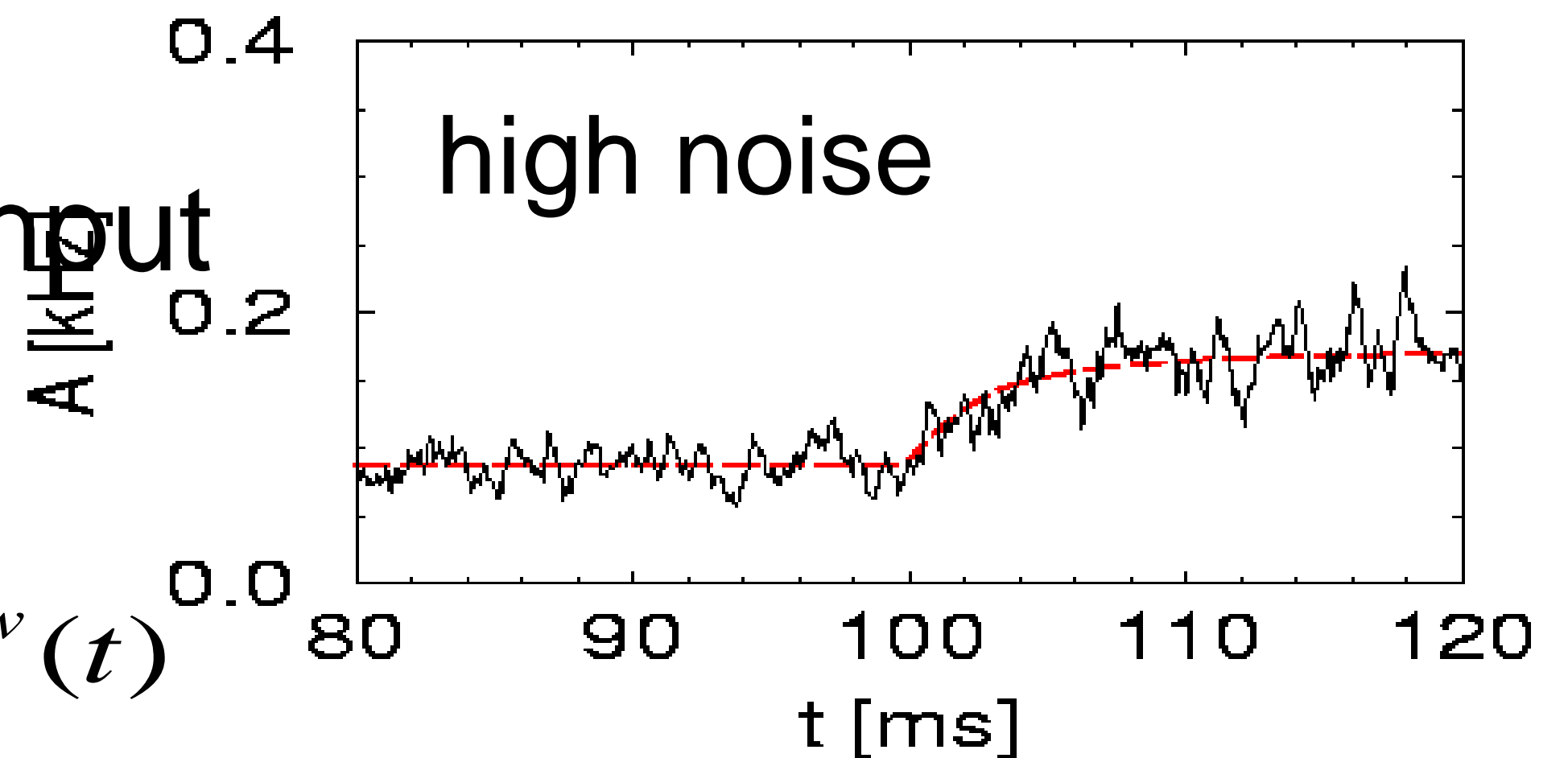
$$I(t) = I^{ext}(t) + I^{netw}(t)$$

$$I(t) = I^{ext}(t) + J_0 q A(t)$$

$$I(t) = I^{ext}(t) + J_0 q F(h(t))$$

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} h(t) = -h(t) + R I^{ext}(t) + \gamma F(h(t))$$

noise model A
(escape noise/fast noise)



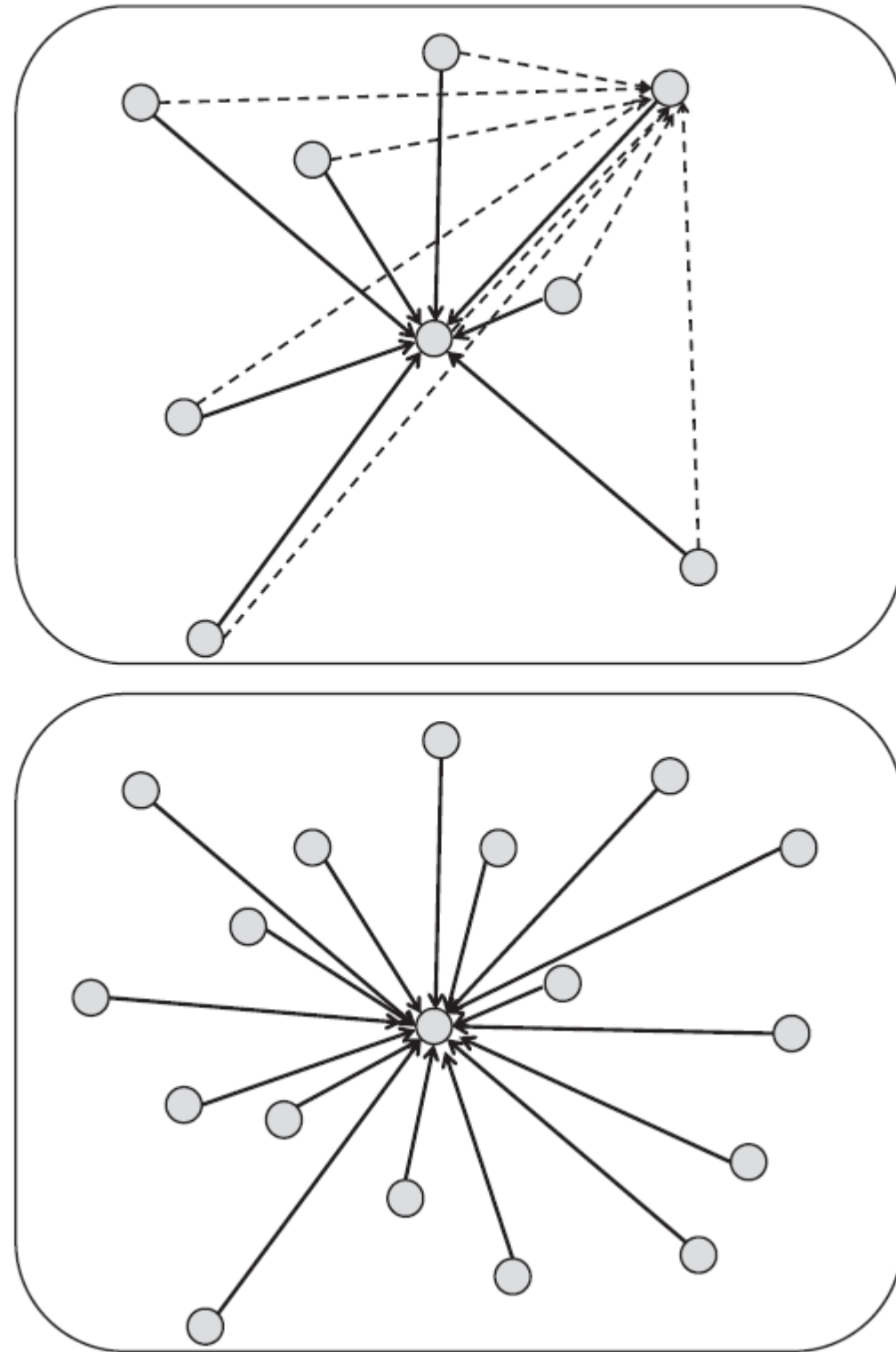
slow transient

$$A(t) = F(h(t))$$

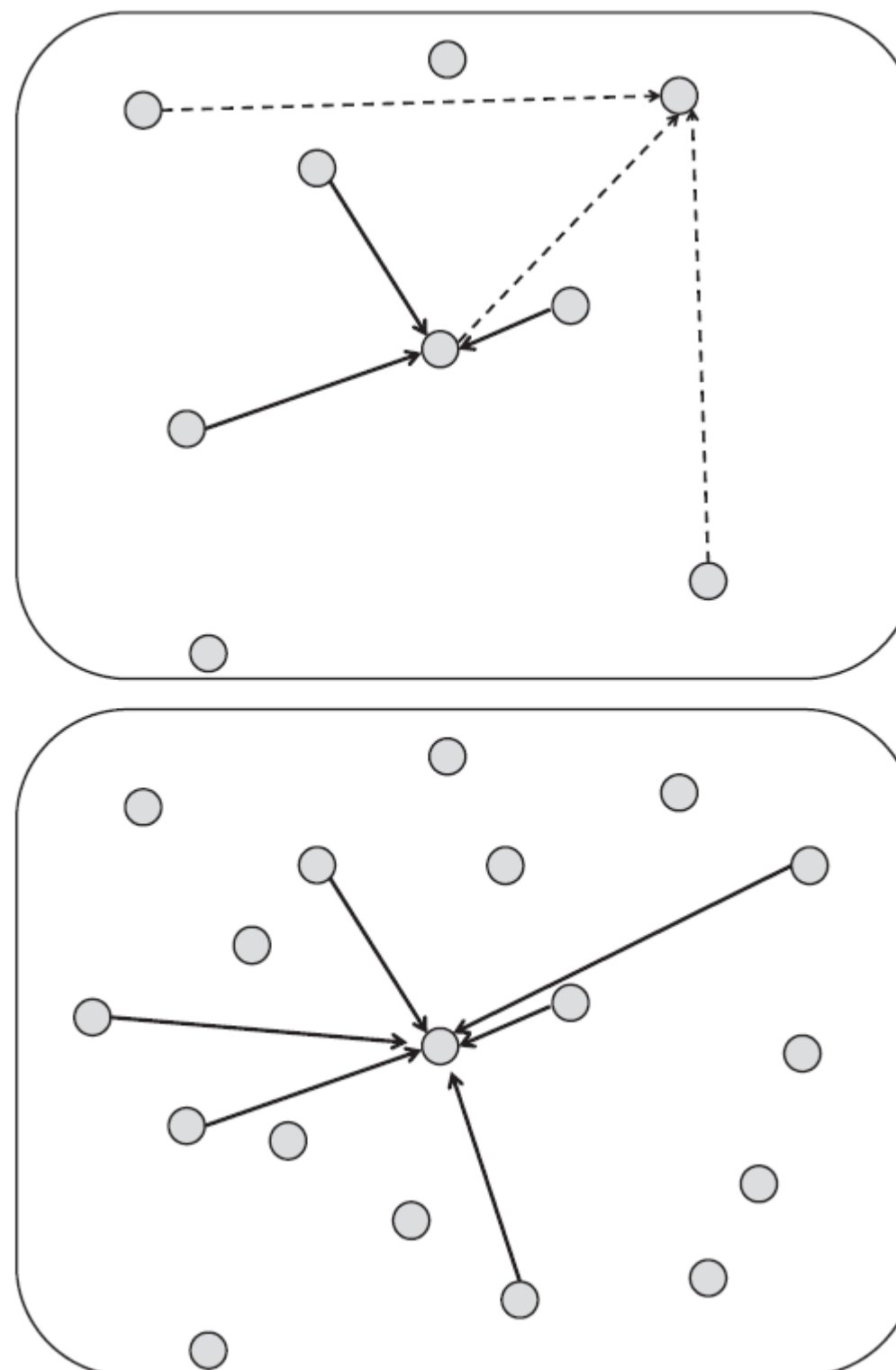
1 population = 1 differential equation

Week 10-part 2: mean-field also works for random coupling

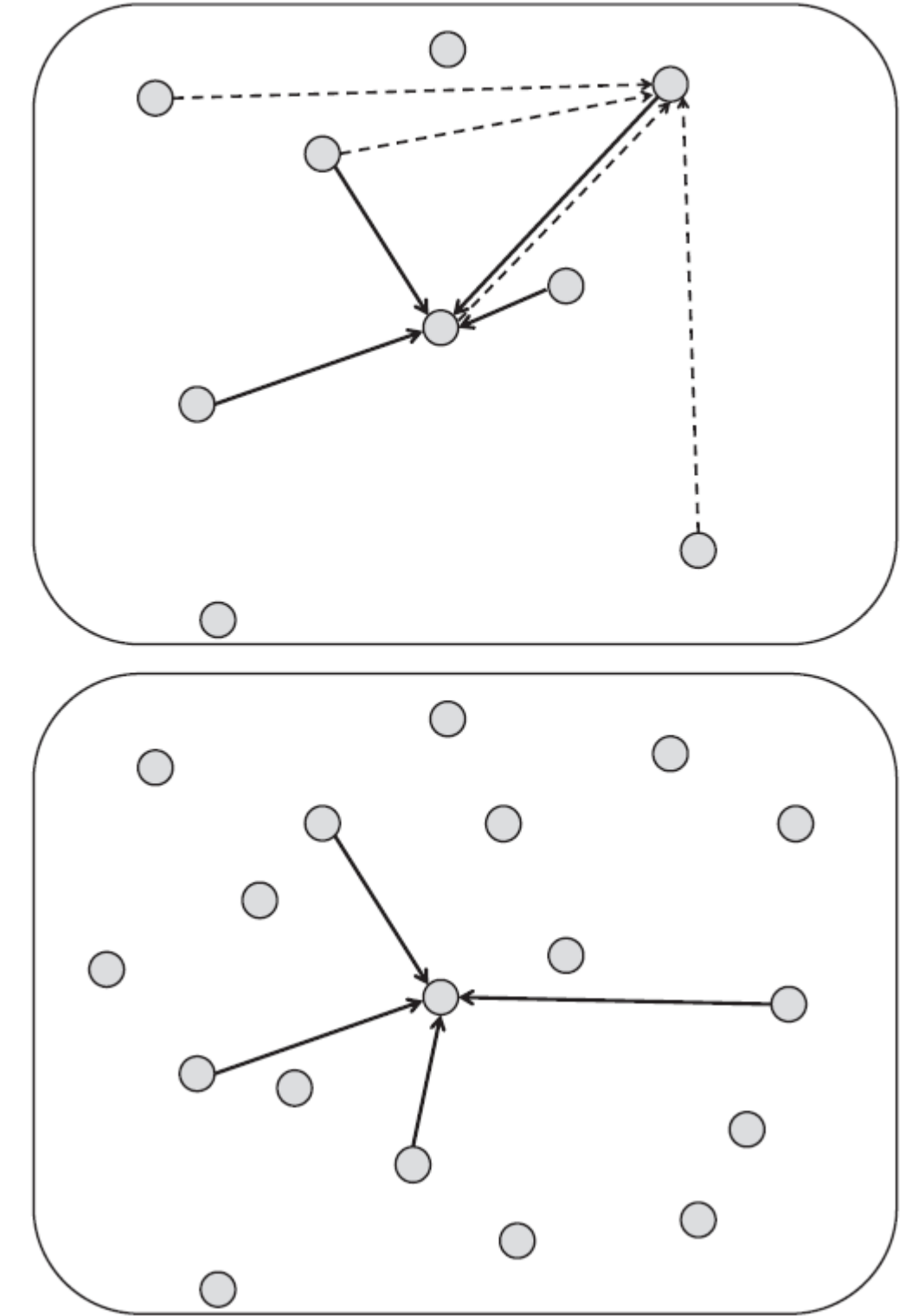
full connectivity



random: prob p fixed



random: number K
of inputs fixed



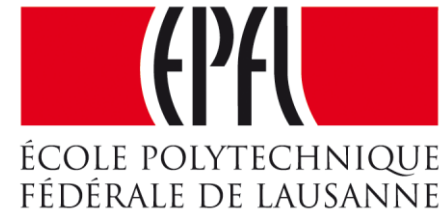
*Image: Gerstner et al.
Neuronal Dynamics (2014)*

Quiz 1, now

Population equations

- ☐ A single cortical model population can exhibit transient oscillations
- ☐ Transients are always sharp
- ☐ Transients are always slow
- ☐ in a certain limit transients can be slow
- ☐ An escape noise model in the high-noise limit has transients which are always slow
- ☐ A single population described by a single first-order differential equation (no integrals/no delays) can exhibit transient oscillations

Week 11 – part 2 :



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks:

Week 11 – Continuum models: Cortical fields and perception

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- from multiple to continuous populations
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

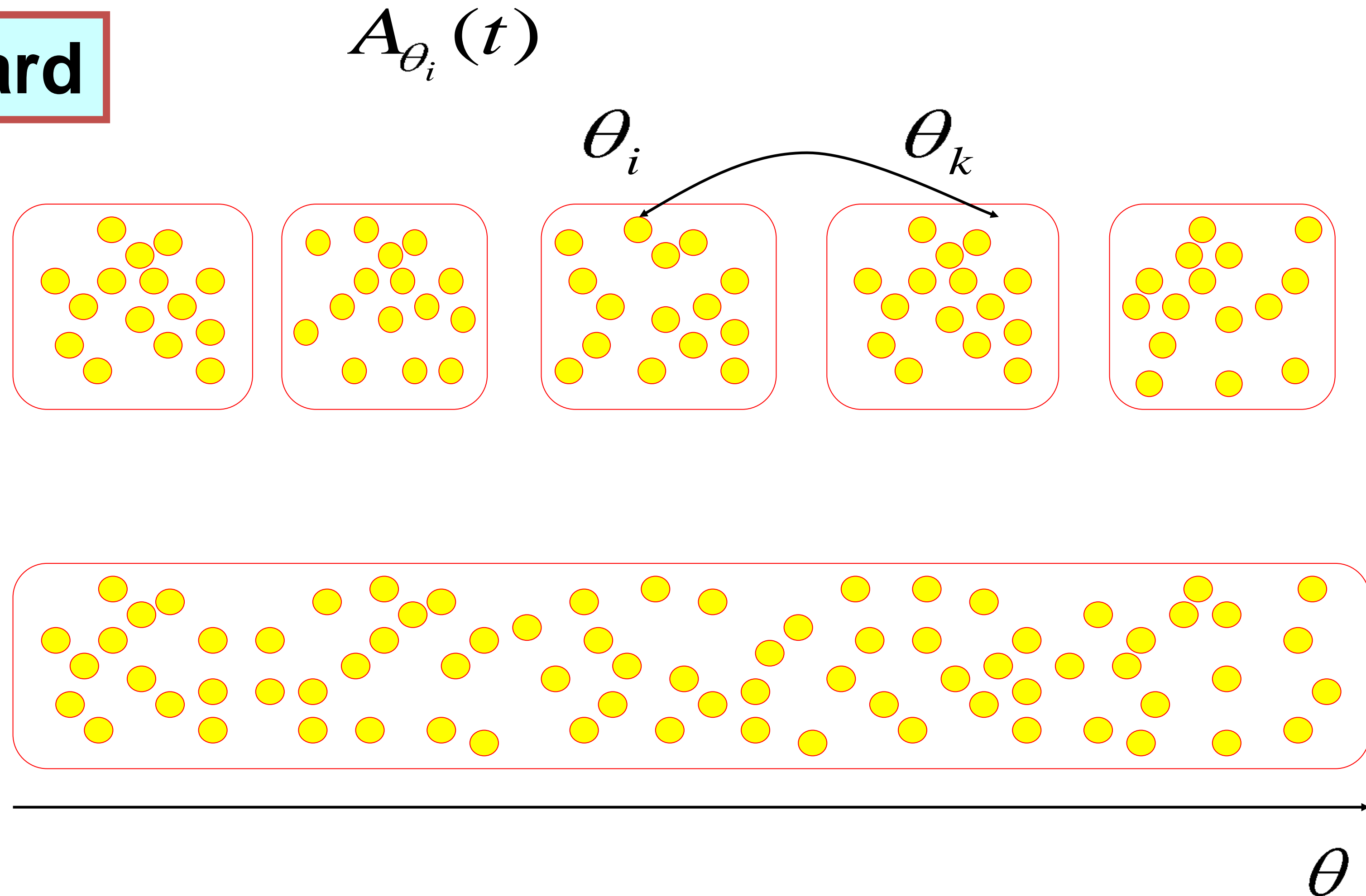
- uniform solution
- bump solution

11.4. Perception

11.5. Head direction cells

Week 11-part 2: multiple populations → continuum

Blackboard



Week 11-part 2: Field equation (continuum model)

Population activity

$$A(x, t) = F(h(x, t))$$

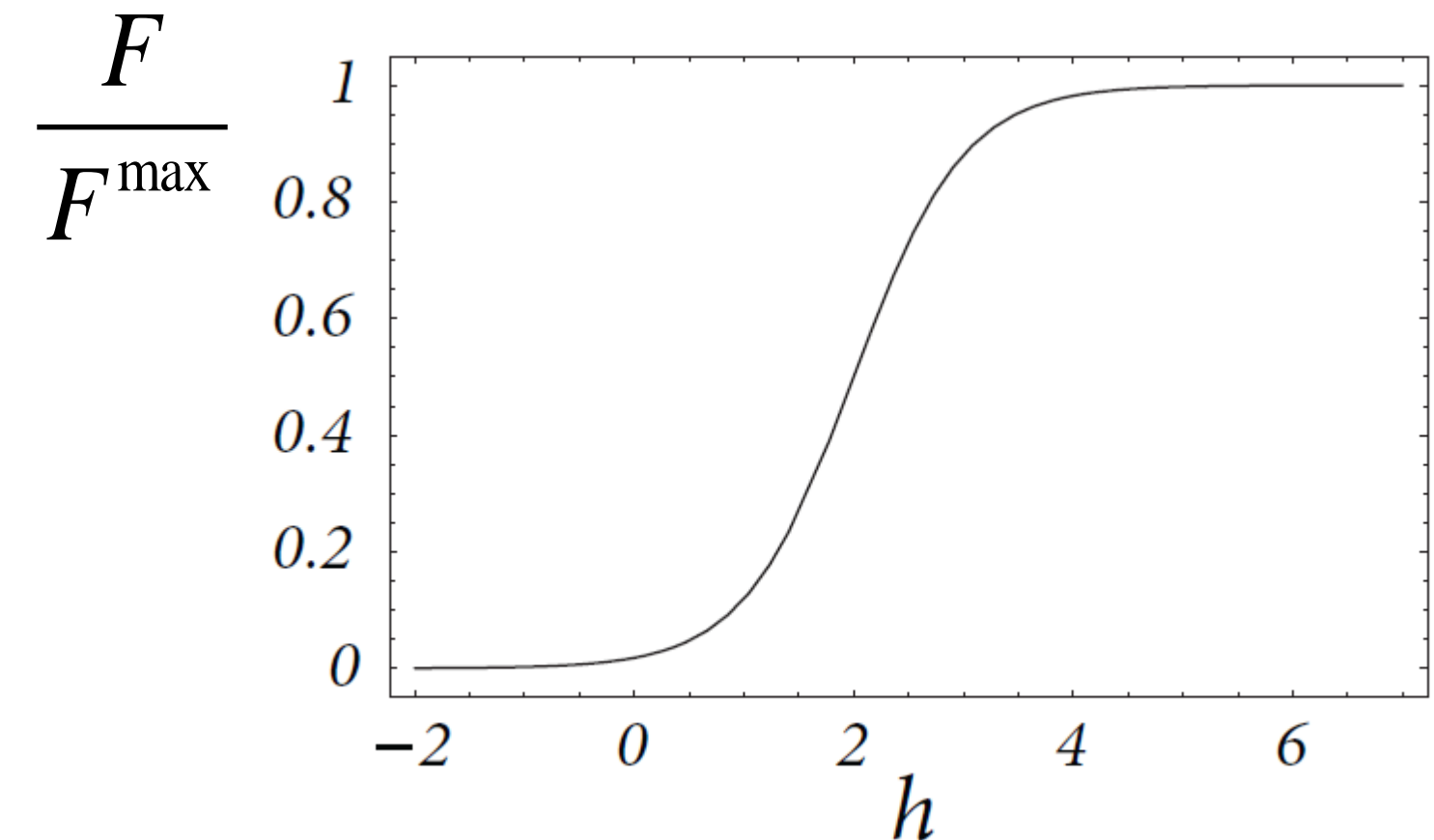
Membrane potential caused by input

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} h(x, t) = -h(x, t) + R I(x, t)$$

$$I(x, t) = I^{ext}(x, t) + I^{netw}(x, t)$$

$$I^{netw}(x, t) = d \int w(x - x', t) A(x', t) dx'$$

$$\tau \frac{d}{dt} h(x, t) = -h(x, t) + R I^{ext}(x, t) + d \int w(x - x') F(h(x', t)) dx'$$



1 field = 1 integro-differential equation

Exercise 1.1 now (stationary solution)

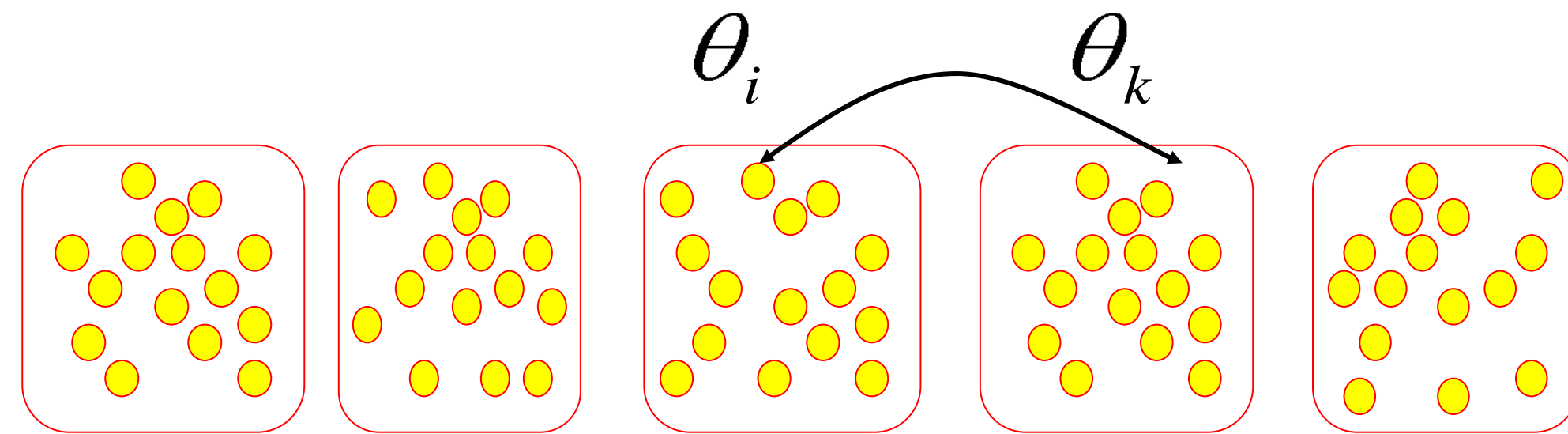
Consider a continuum model,
Find analytical solutions:

- spatially uniform solution $A(x,t) = A_0$

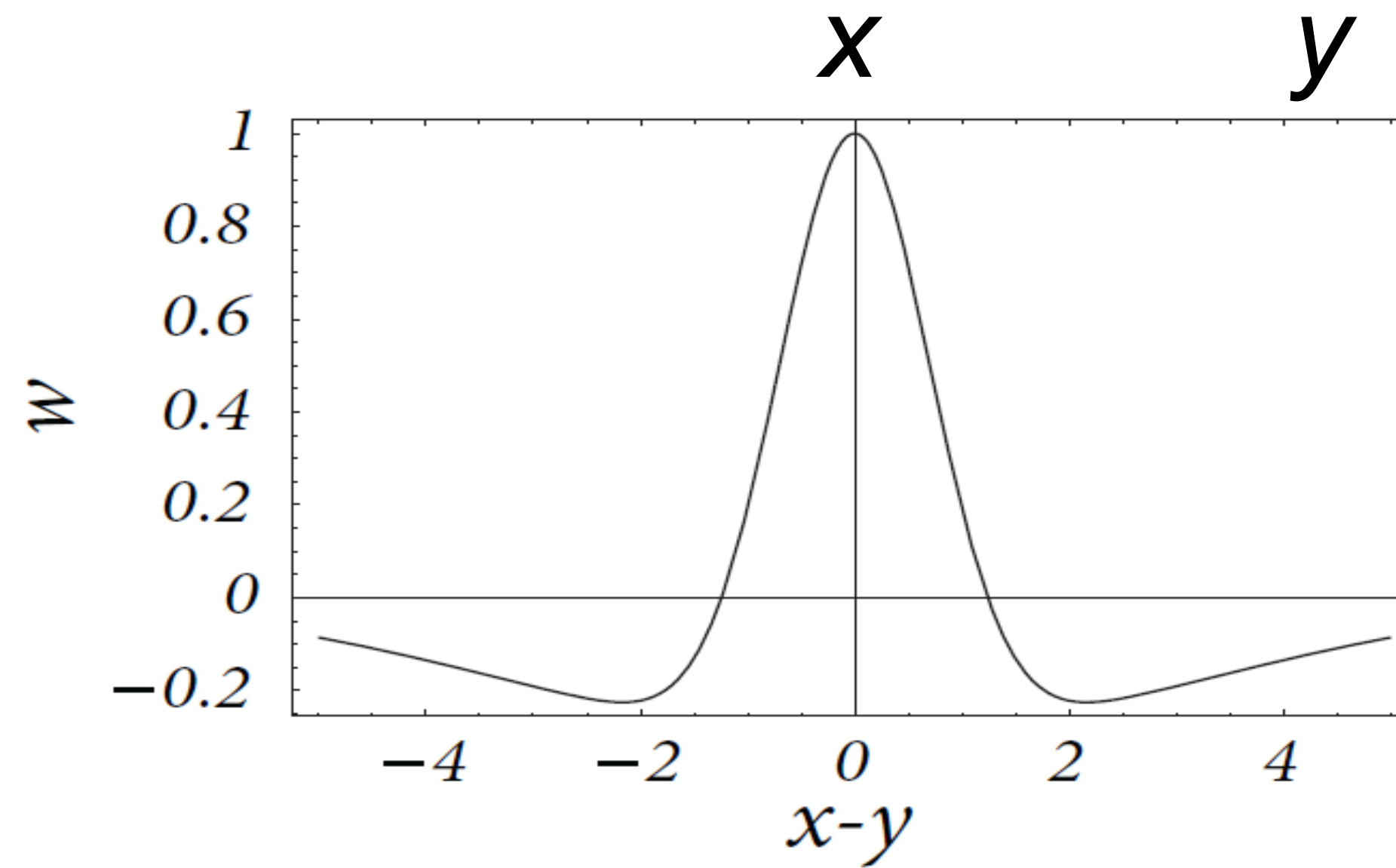
Next lecture at
10:45

If done: start with Exercise 1.2 now (spatial stability)

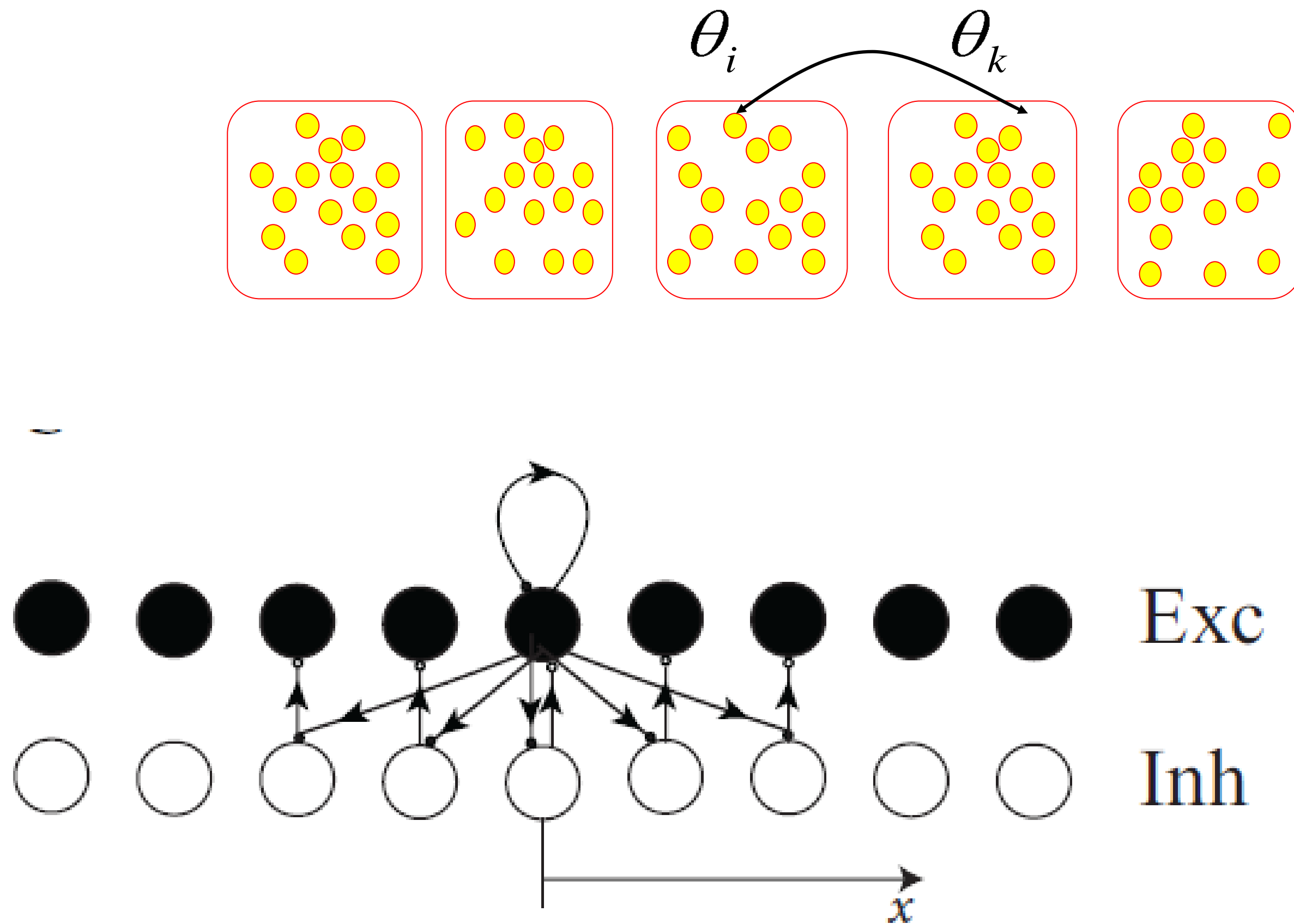
Week 11-part 2: coupling across continuum



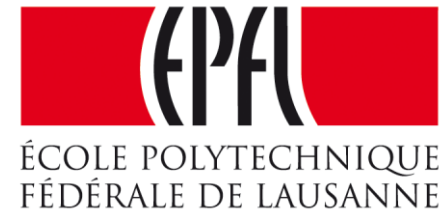
Mexican hat



Week 11-part 2: cortical coupling



Week 11 – part 3 :



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks:

Week 11 – Continuum models: Cortical fields and perception

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- from multiple to continuous populations
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

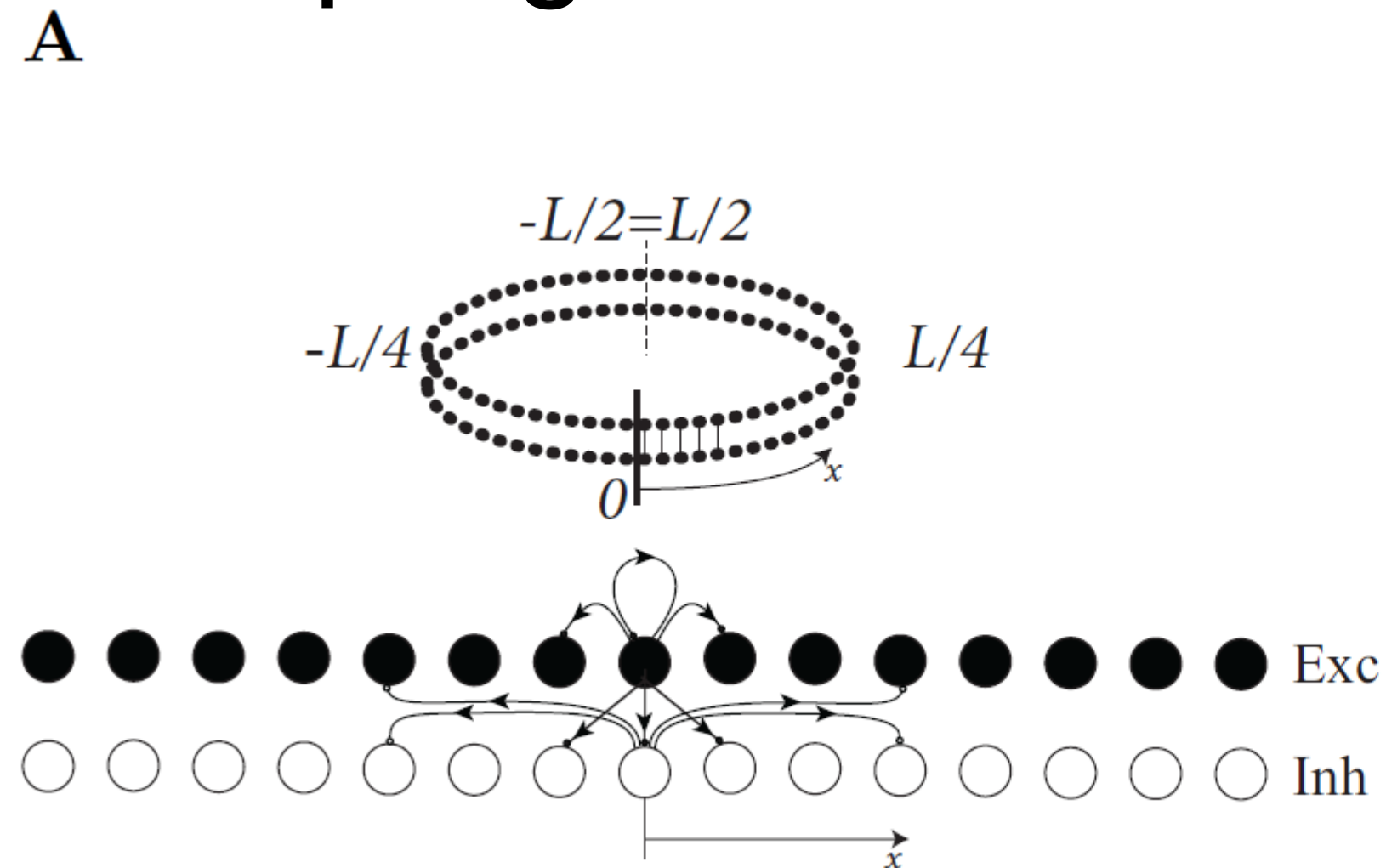
- uniform solution
- bump solution

11.4. Perception

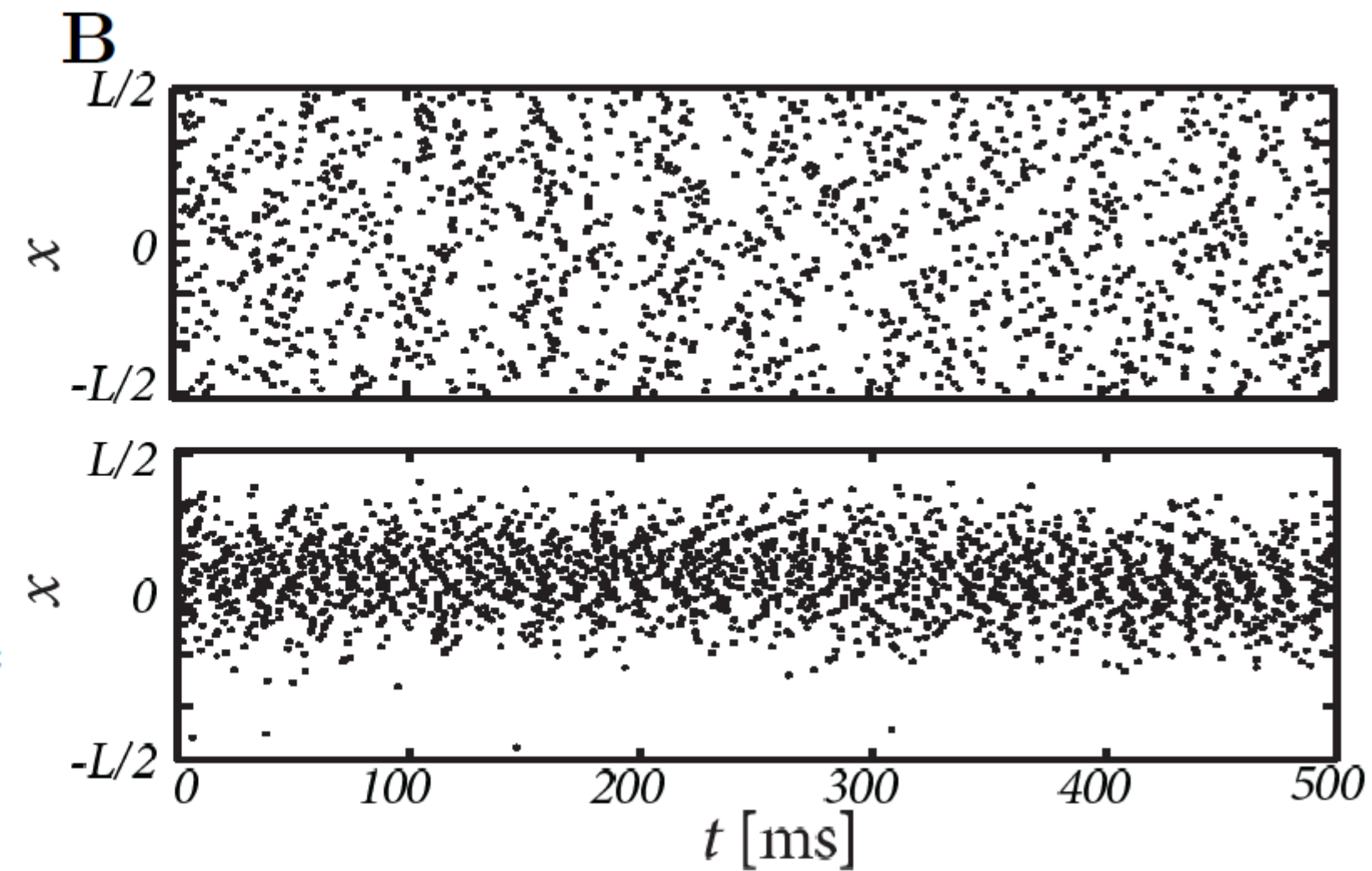
11.5. Head direction cells

Week 11-part 3: Solution types (ring model)

Coupling:



Input-driven regime



Bump attractor regime

Week 11-part 3: Solution types: input driven regime

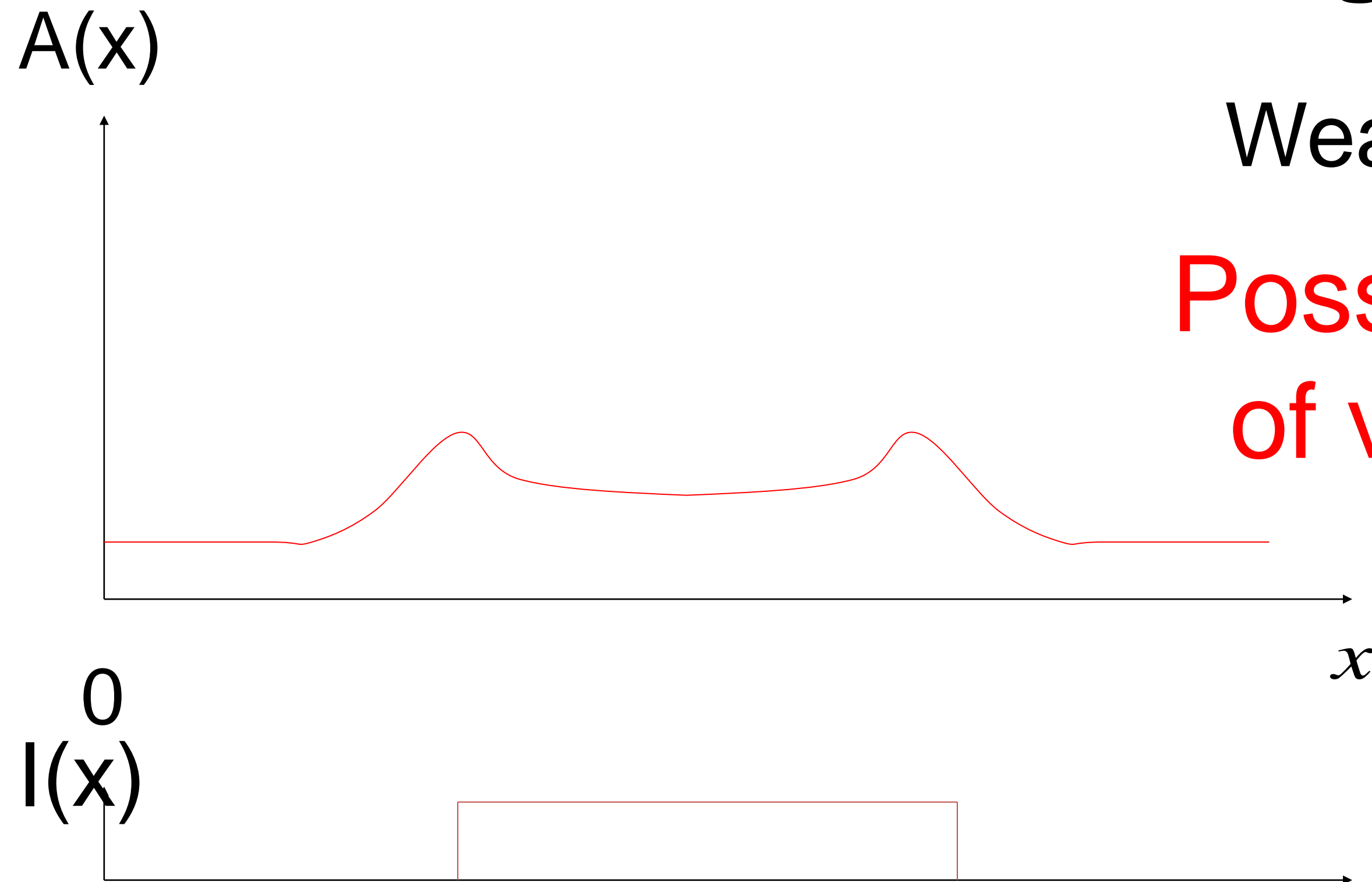
Field Equations:

Wilson and Cowan, 1972

I. Edge enhancement

Weaker lateral connectivity

Possible interpretation
of visual cortex cells:
(see final part this week)

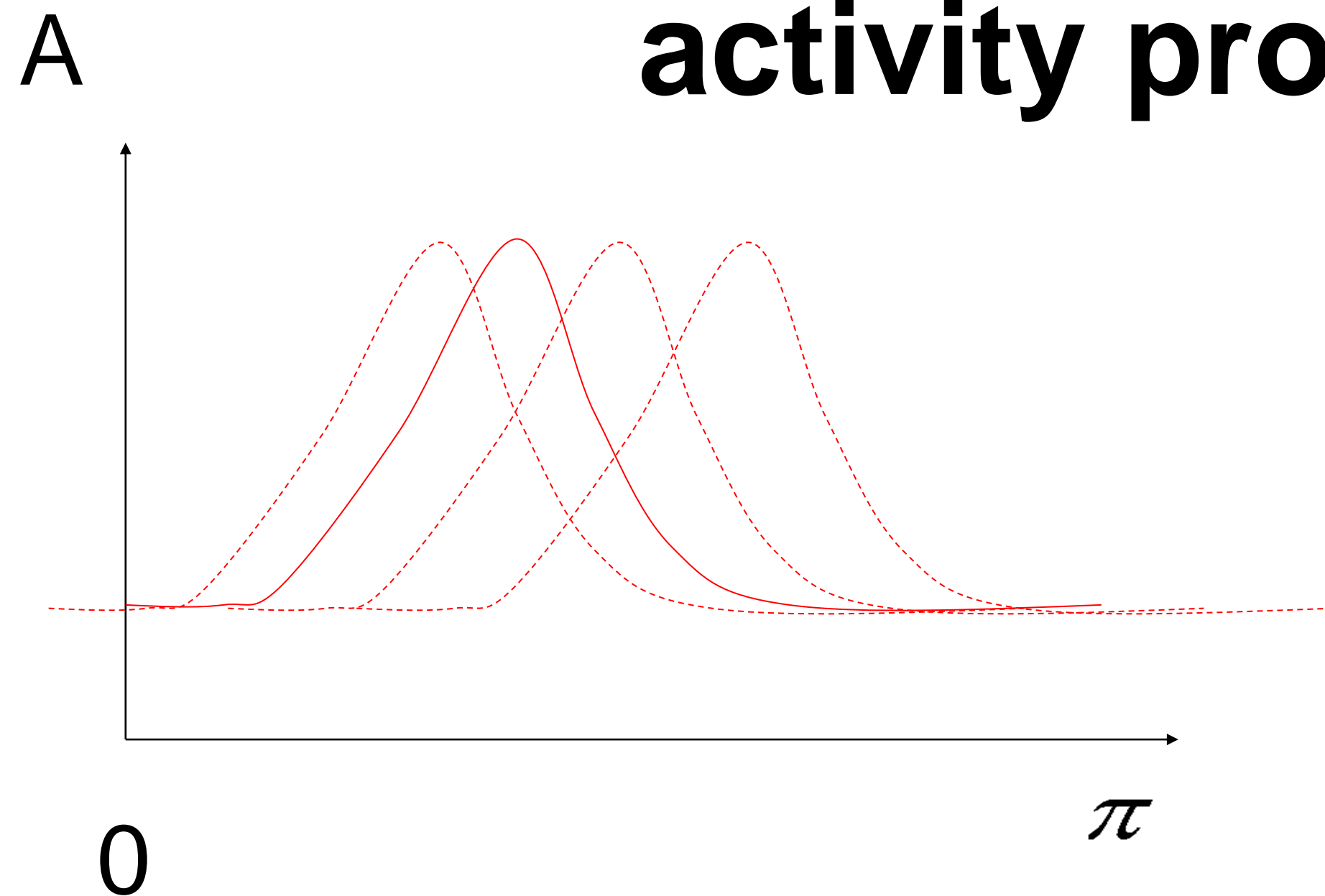


Week 11-part 3: Solution types: bump solution

Field Equations:

Wilson and Cowan, 1972

II: Bump formation: activity profile in the absence of input strong lateral connectivity

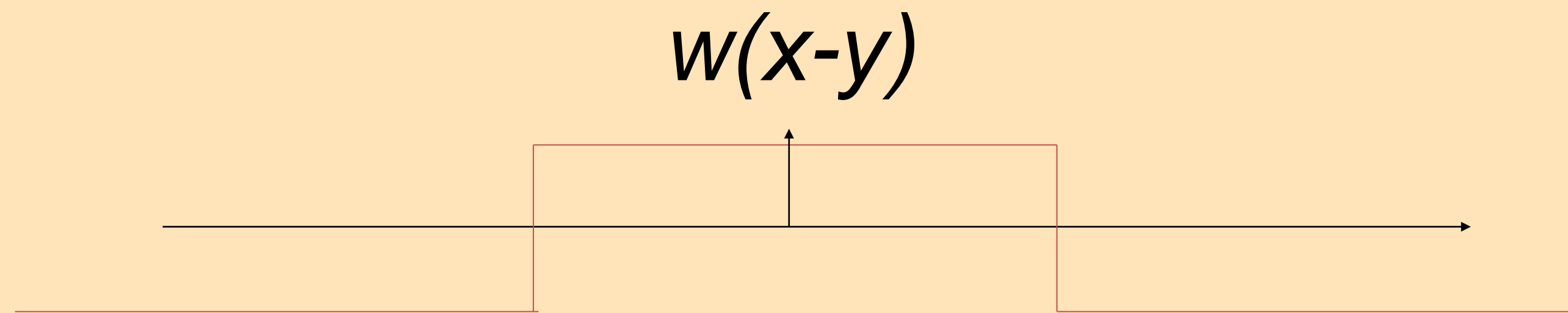


Possible interpretation
of head direction cells:
→ (see later today)

Exercise 2.1+2.2 now (stationary bump solution)

Consider a continuum model,
Find analytically the bump solutions

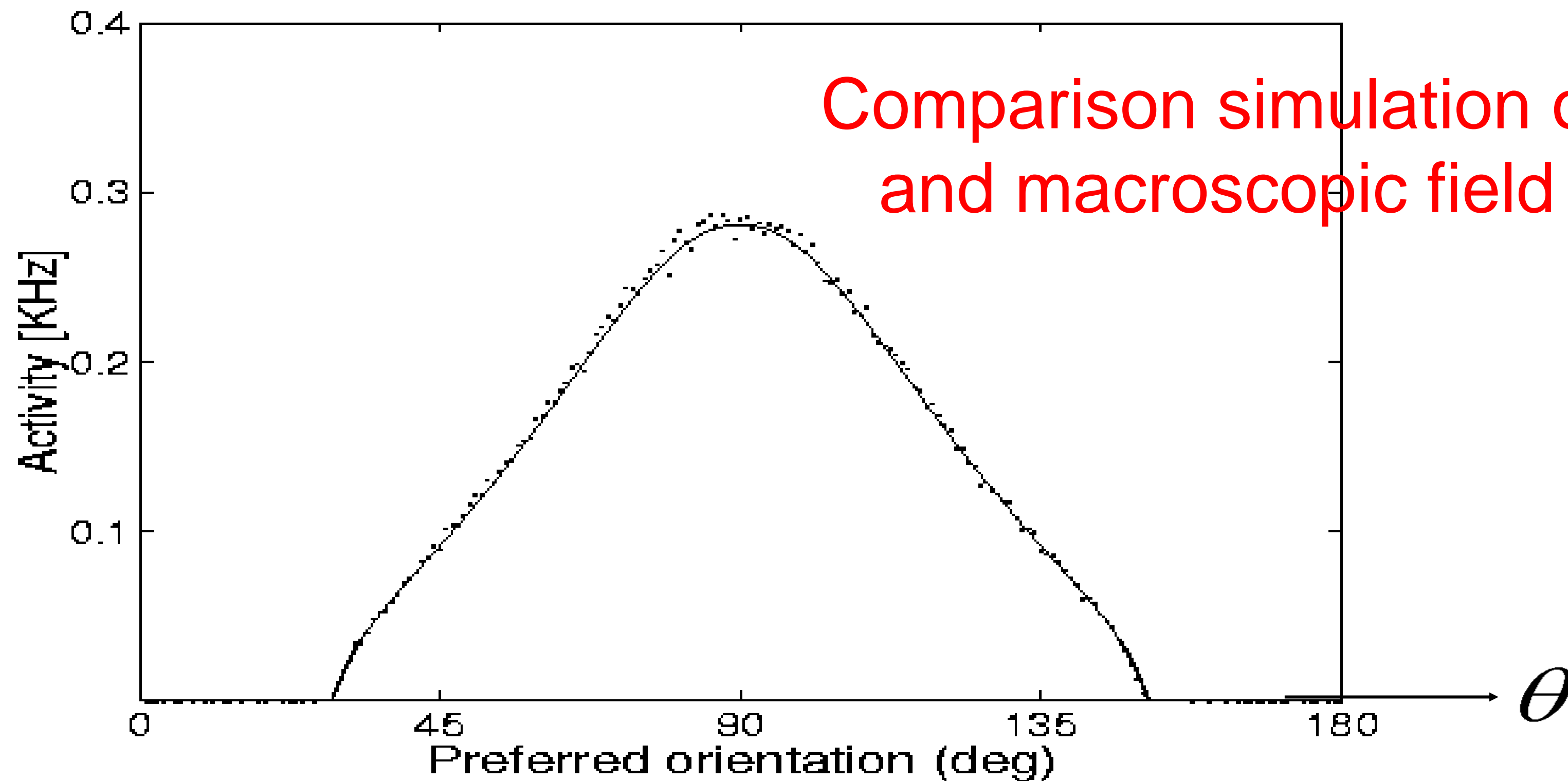
Next lecture at
11:28



Week 11-part 3: Solution types: bump solution

Spiridon&Gerstner

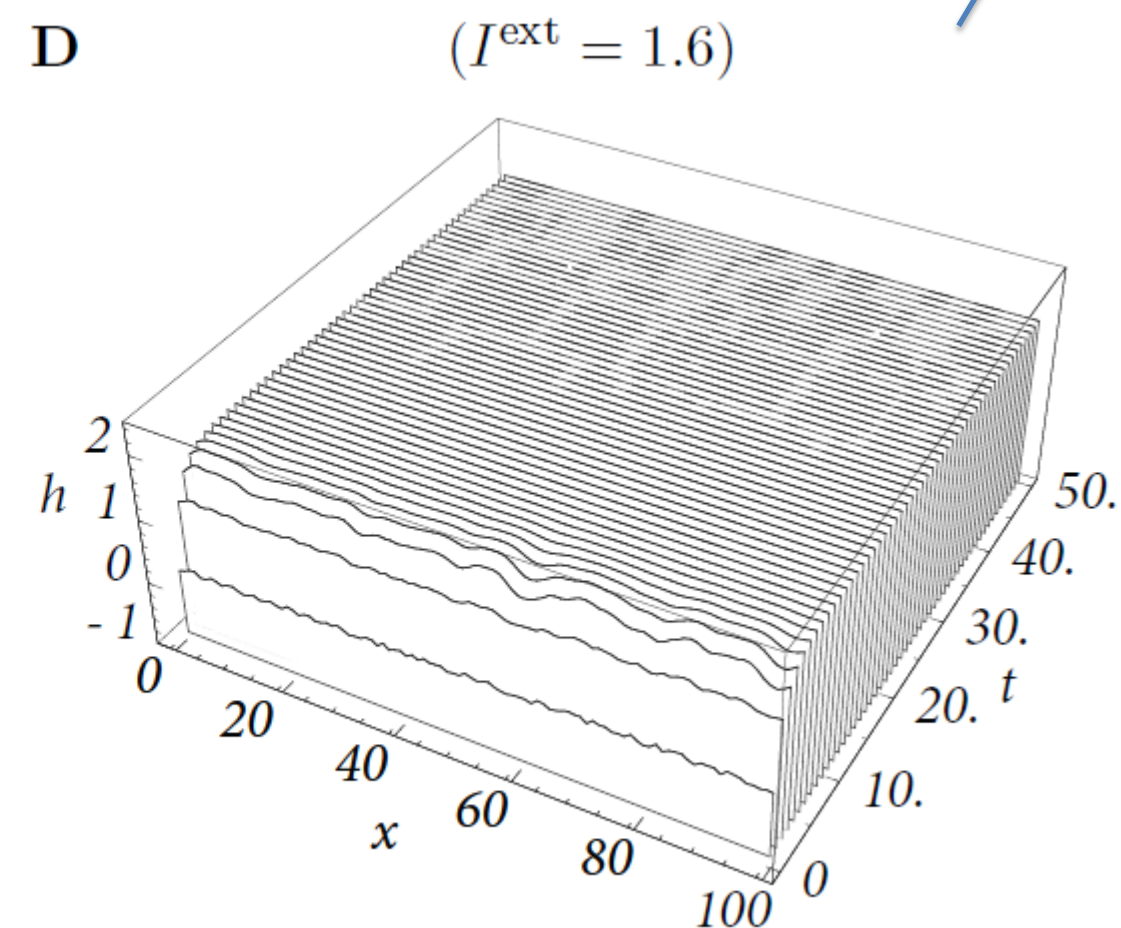
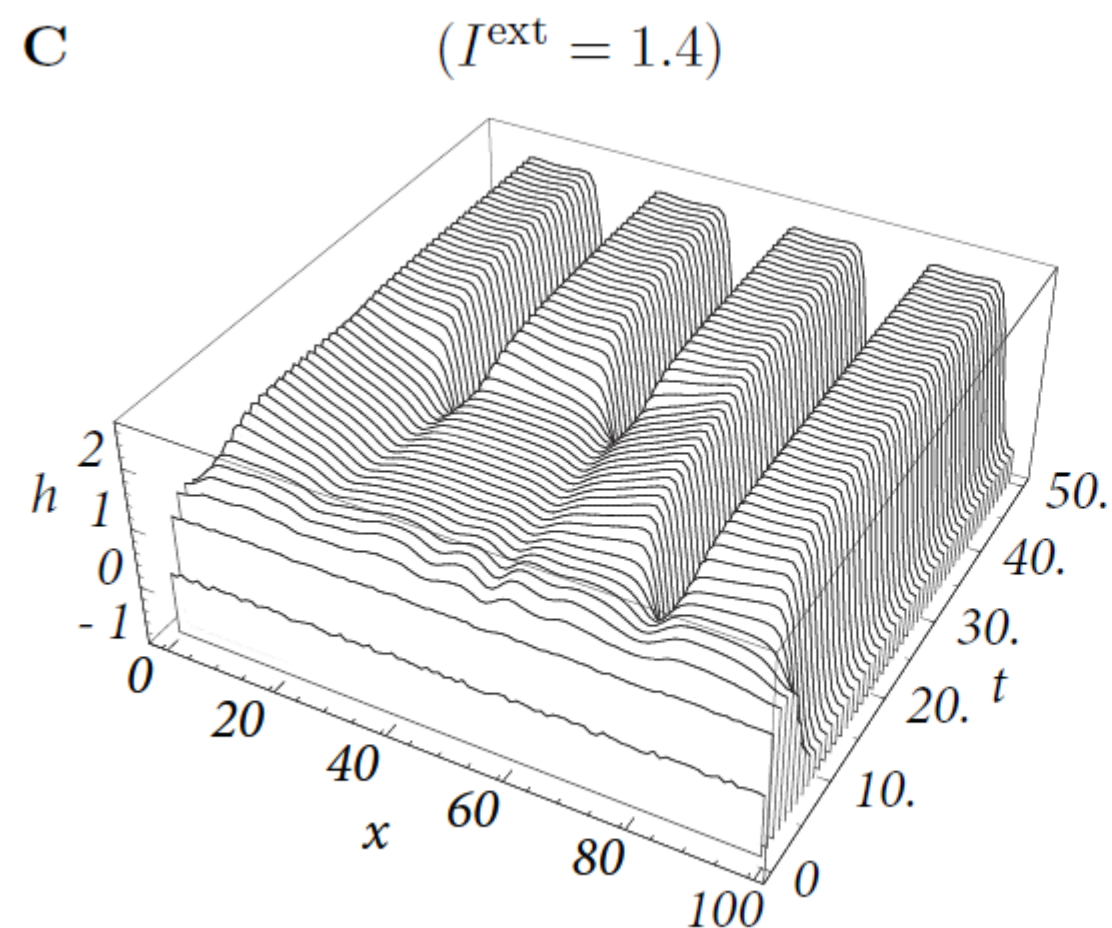
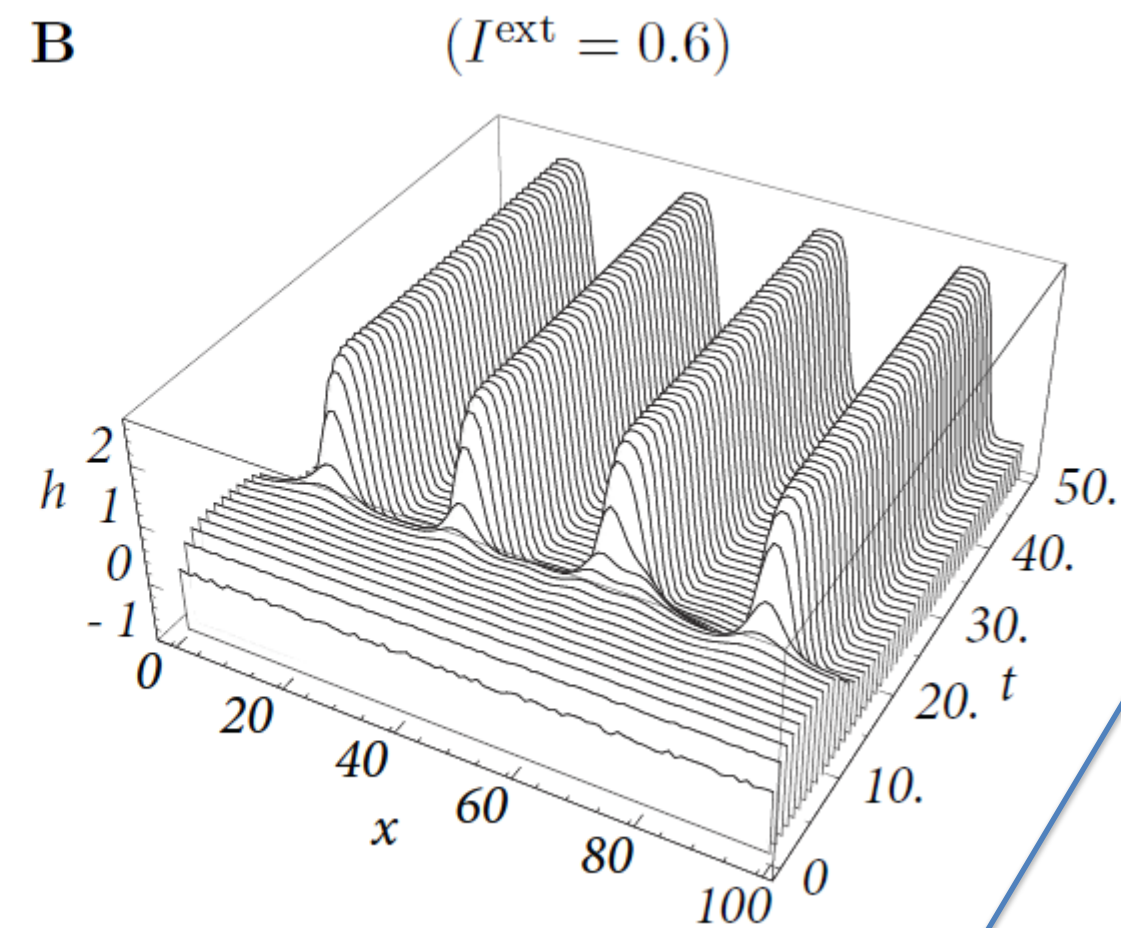
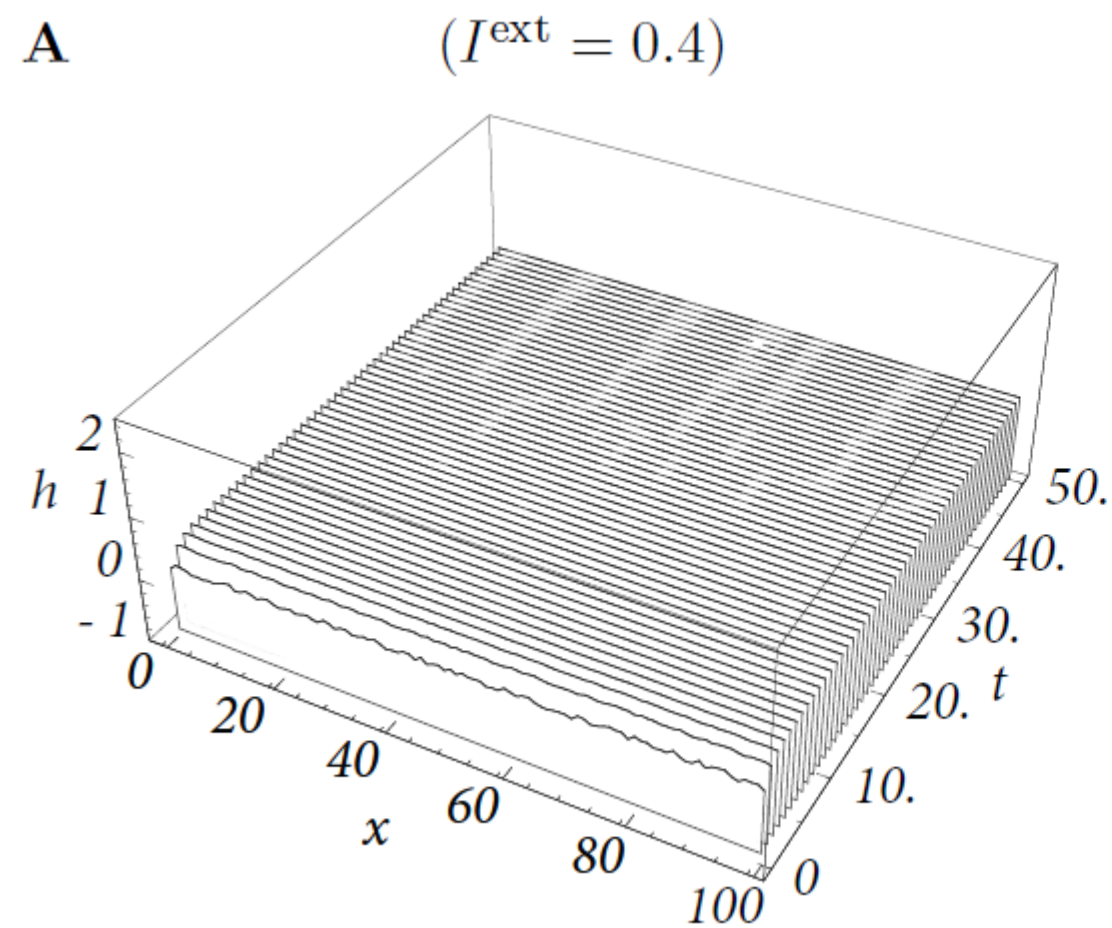
$$A(\theta, t) = A(\theta)$$



Continuum: stationary profile

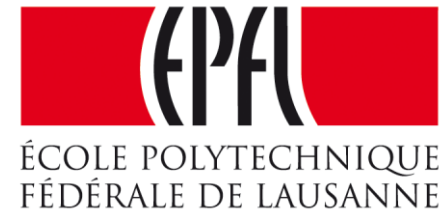
See: Chapter 9, book:
Spiking Neuron Models,
W. Gerstner and W. Kistler, 2002

Week 11-part 3: Solution types (continuum model)



time

Week 11 – part 4:



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks:

Week 11 – Continuum models: Cortical fields and perception

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- model connectivity
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

- uniform solution
- bump solution

11.4. Perception

11.5. Head direction cells

Week 11-part 5: uniform/input driven solution

Field Equations:

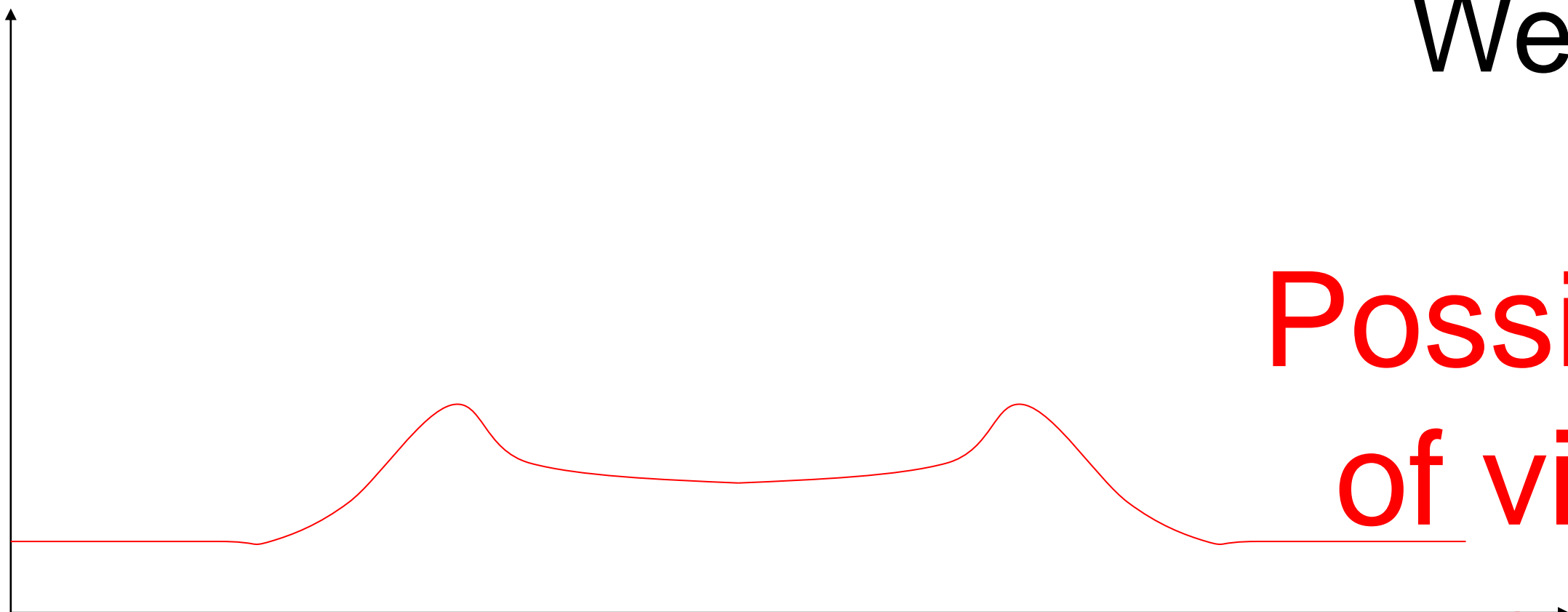
Wilson and Cowan, 1972

Basic phenomenology

I. Edge enhancement

Weaker lateral connectivity

$A(x)$



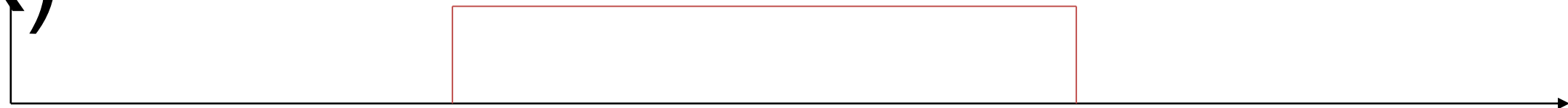
Possible interpretation
of visual cortex cells:

contrast enhancement in

- orientation

- location

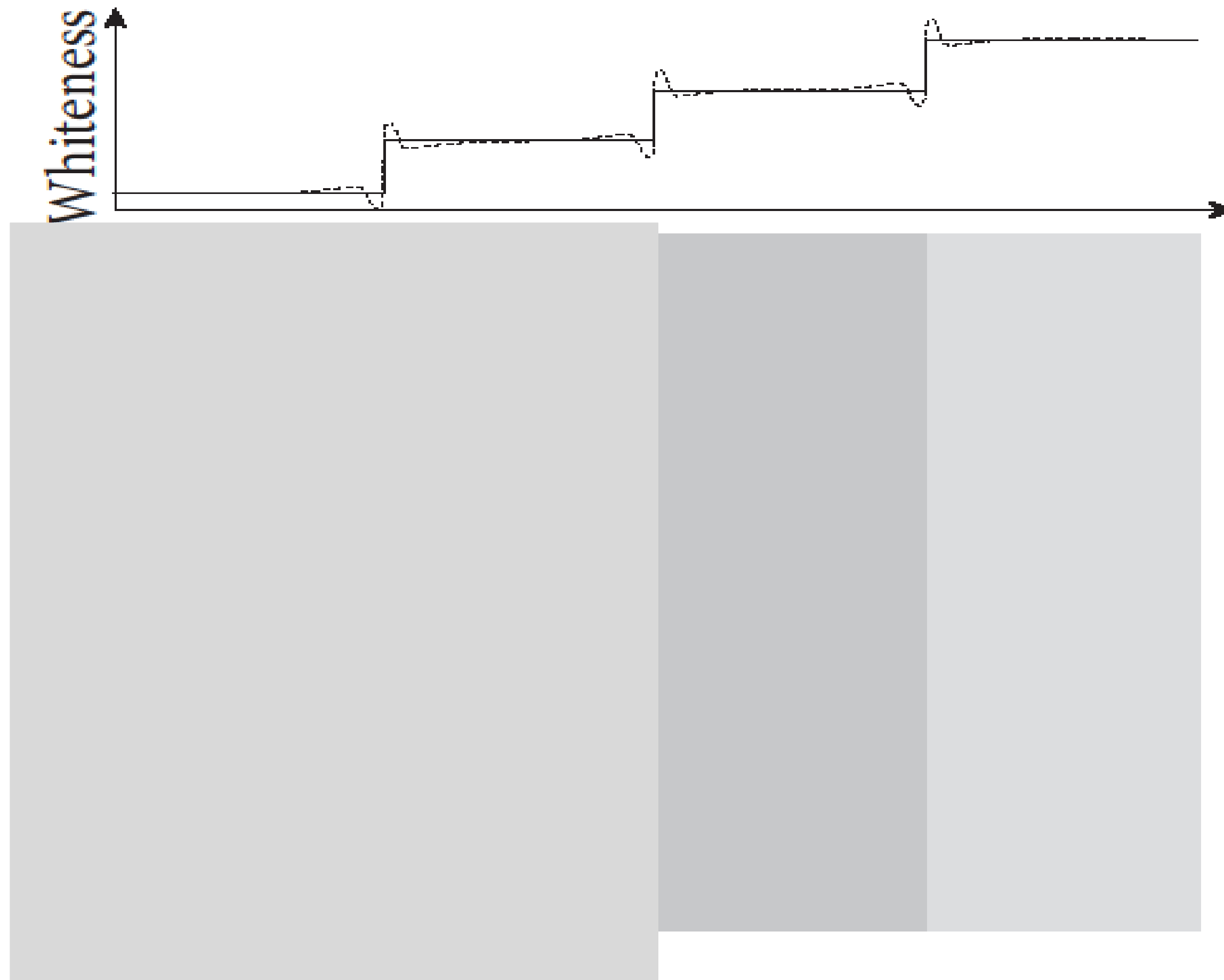
$I(x)$



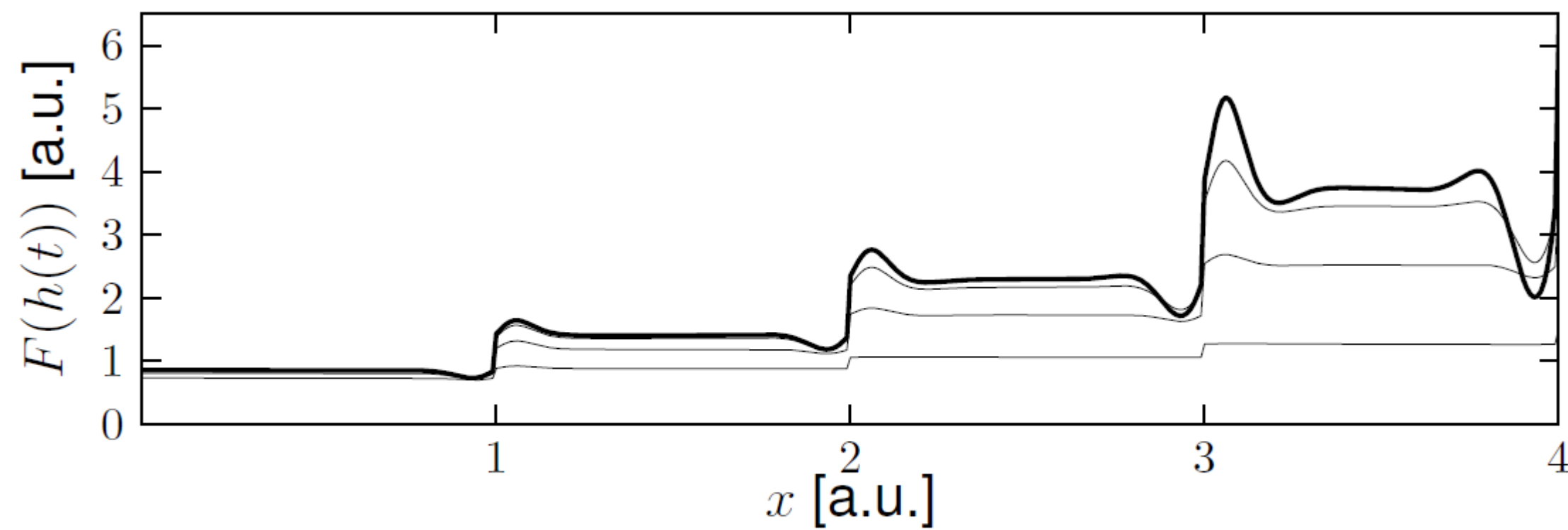
Continuum models: grid illusion



Continuum models: Mach Bands



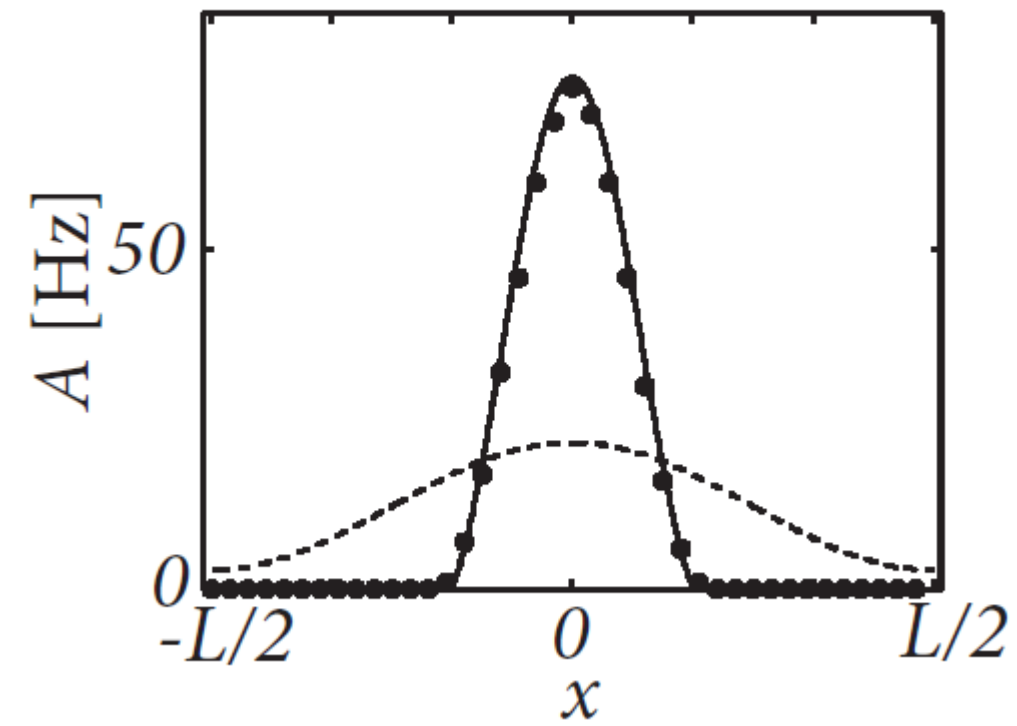
Week 11-part 4: Field models and Perception



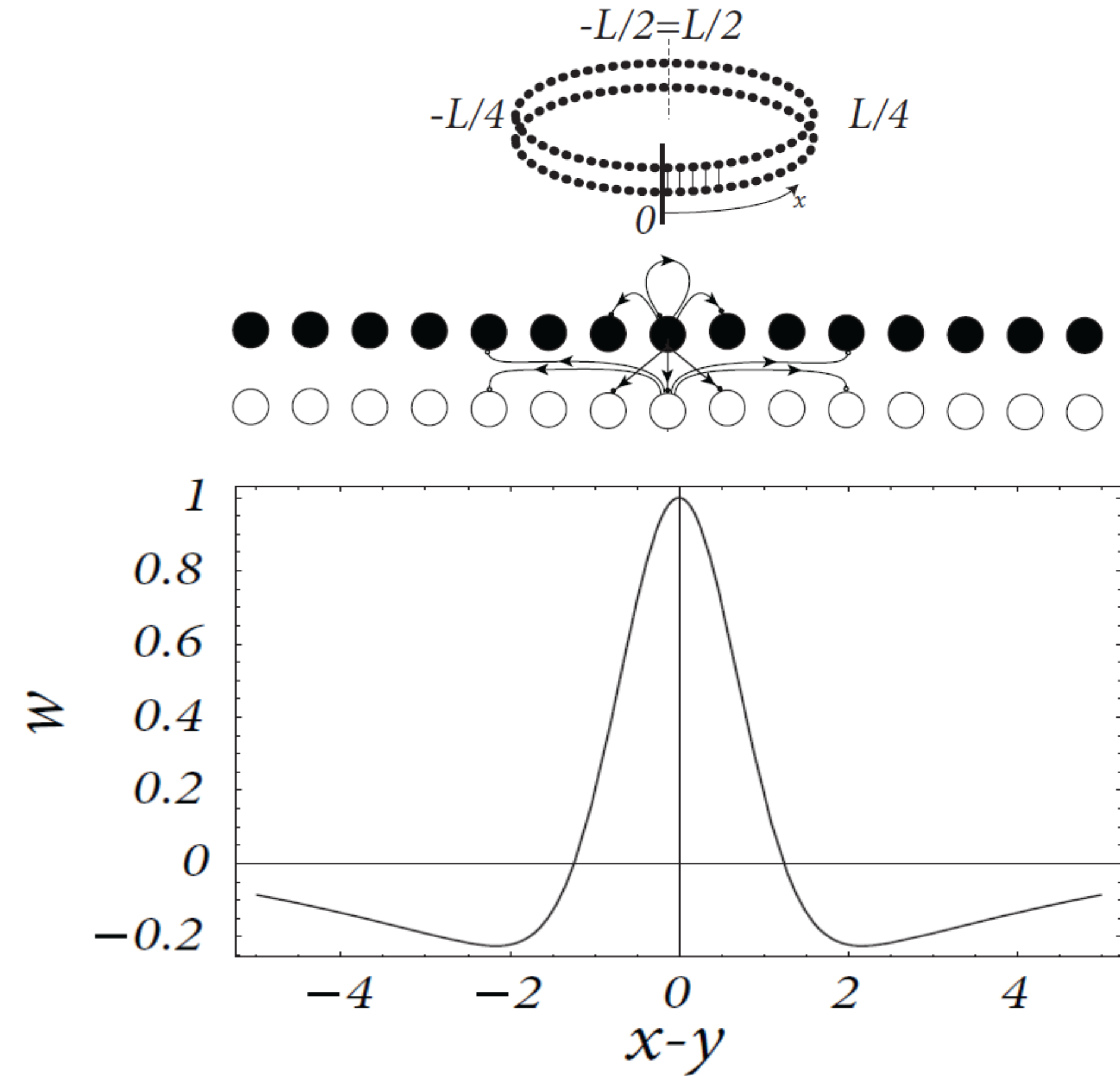
ig. 18.9: **A.** Mach bands in a field model with mexican hat

Week 11-part 4: Field models and Perception

B



A



Week 11-part 4: Field models and Perception

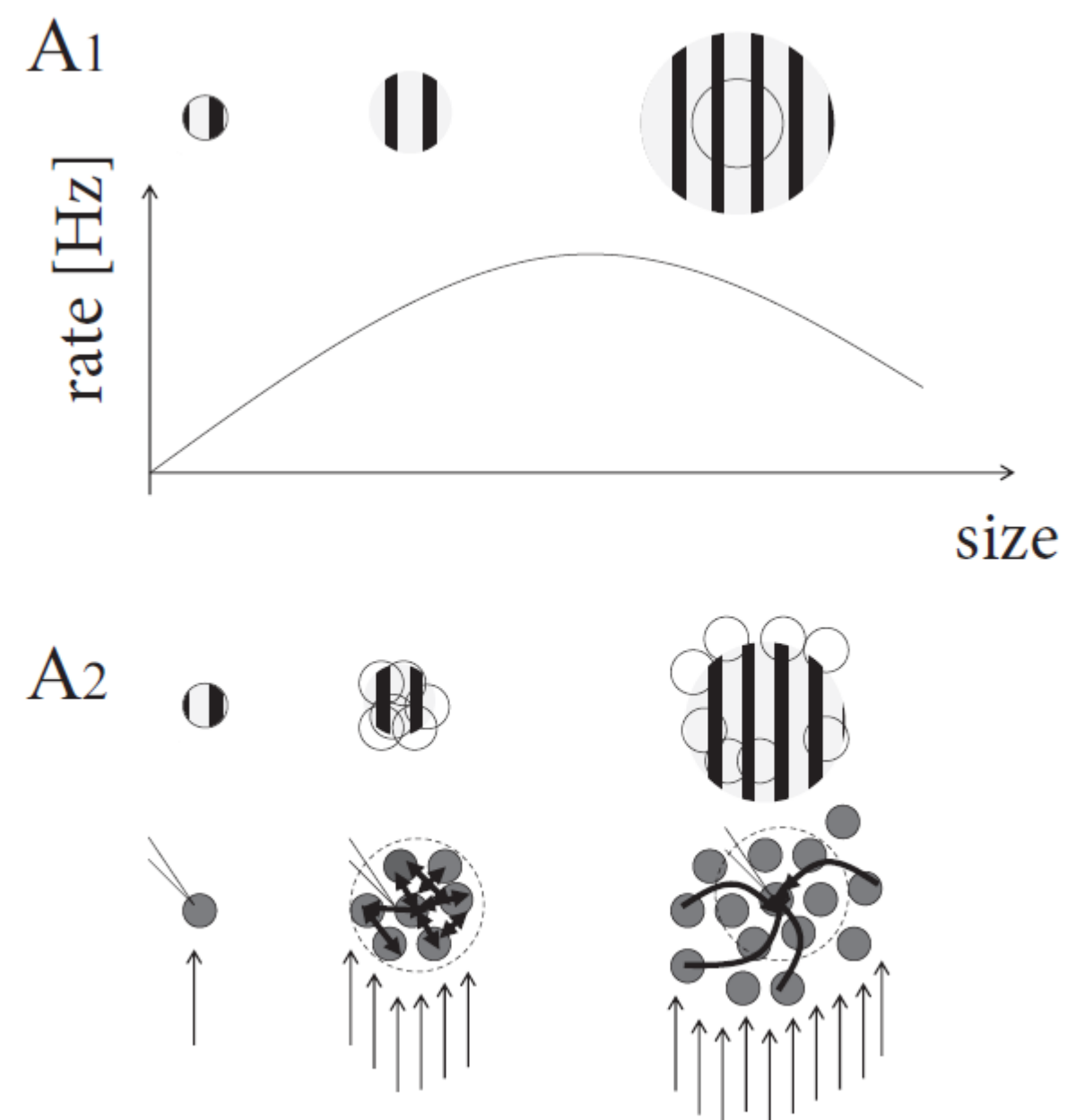


Fig. 18.12: Surround suppression.

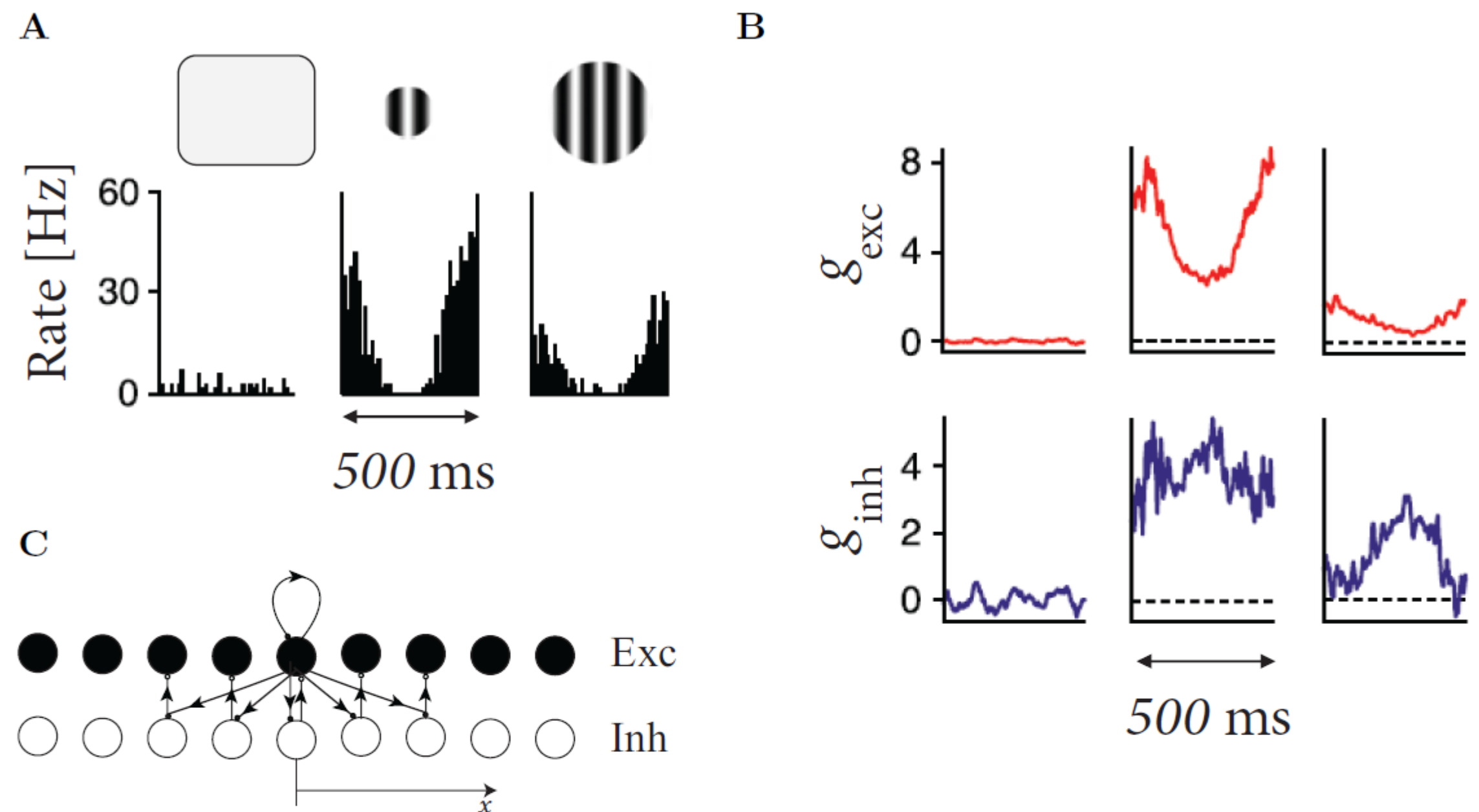
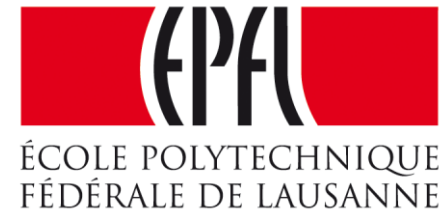


Fig. 18.13: Network stabilized by local inhibition. The schematic model could potentially explain why larger gratings lead not only to less excitatory input g_{exc} , but also to less inhibitory input g_{inh} . **A.** The firing rate as a function of the phase of the moving grating for the three stimulus conditions (blank screen, small and large grating). **B.** Top: Excitatory input into the cell. Bottom: Inhibitory input into the same cell. As in A, left, middle and right correspond to a blank screen, a small grating and or a large grating. Note that the larger grating leads to a reduction of both excitation and inhibition; adapted from (Ozeki et al., 2009). **C.** Network model with long range excitation and local inhibition. Excitatory neurons within a local population excite themselves (feedback arrow), and also send excitatory input to inhibitory cells (downward arrows). Inhibitory neurons project

Week 11 – part 5:



Biological Modeling of Neural Networks:

Week 11 – Continuum models: Cortical fields and perception

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- model connectivity
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

- uniform solution
- bump solution

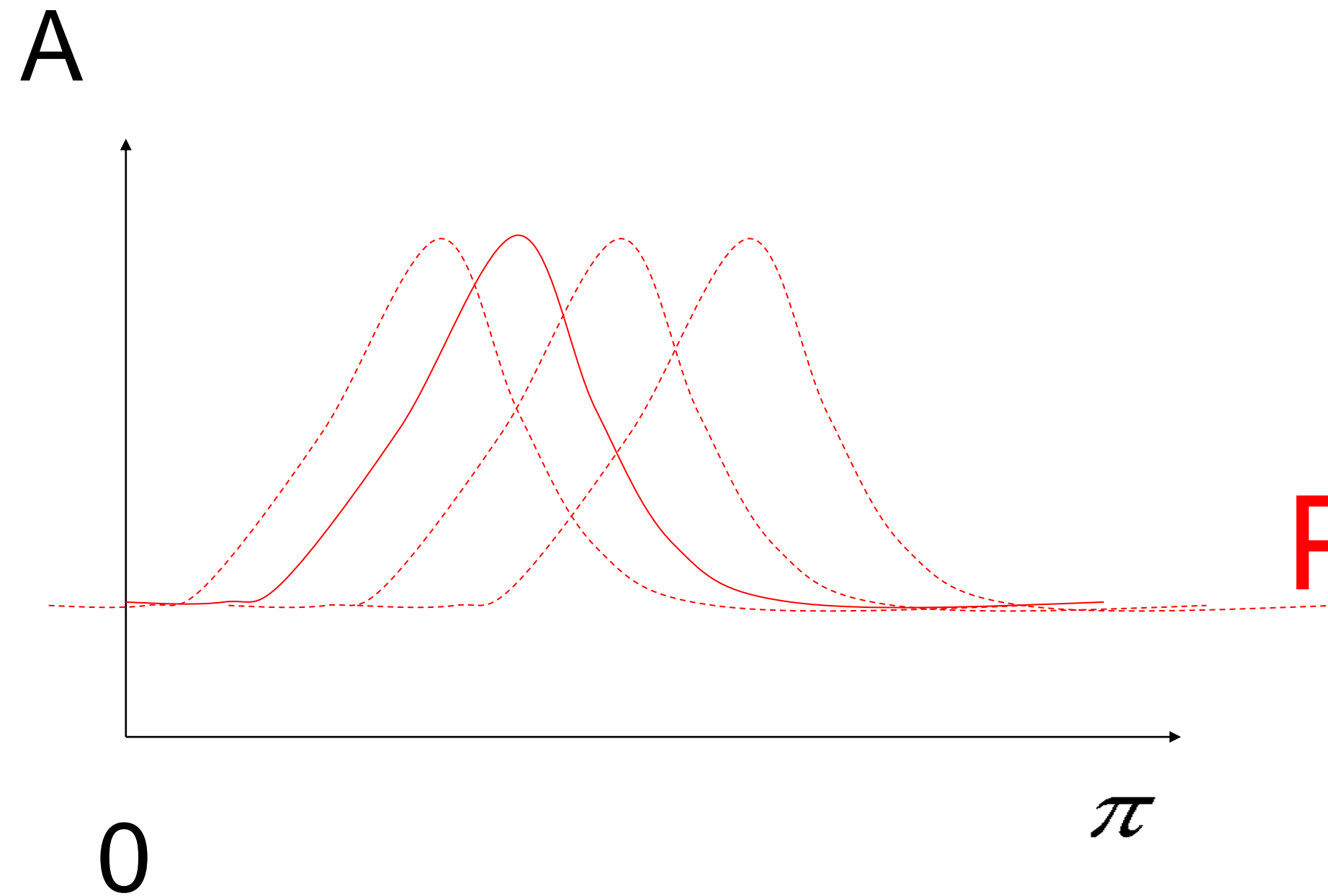
11.4. Perception

11.5. Head direction cells

Basic phenomenology

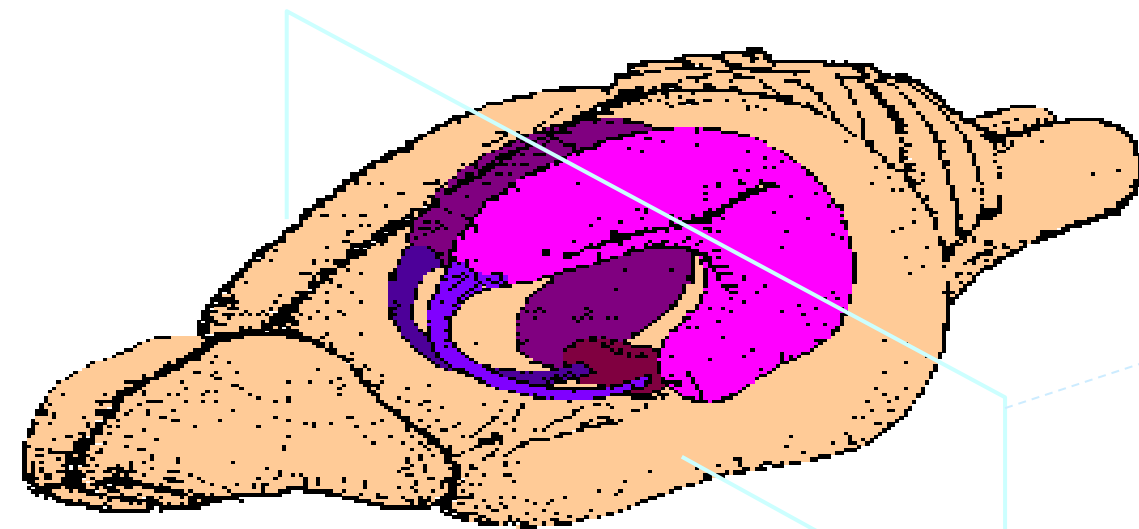
II: Bump formation

strong lateral connectivity

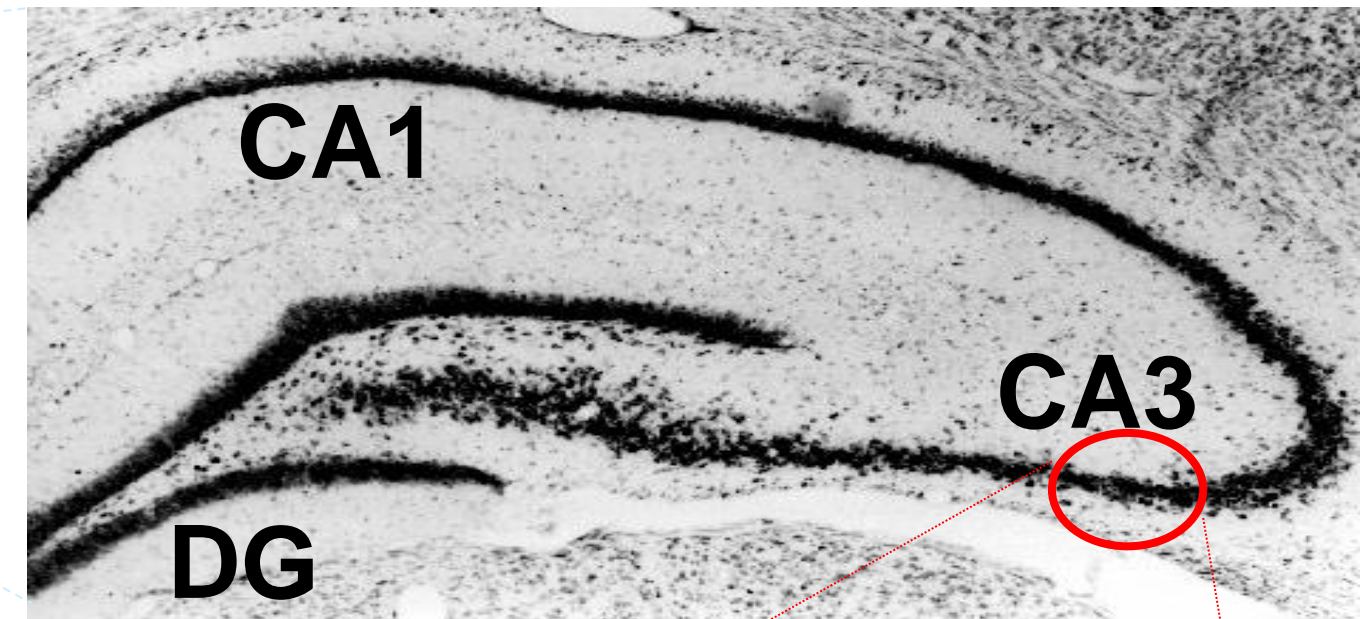


Possible interpretation
of head direction cells:
always some cells active
→ indicate current orientation

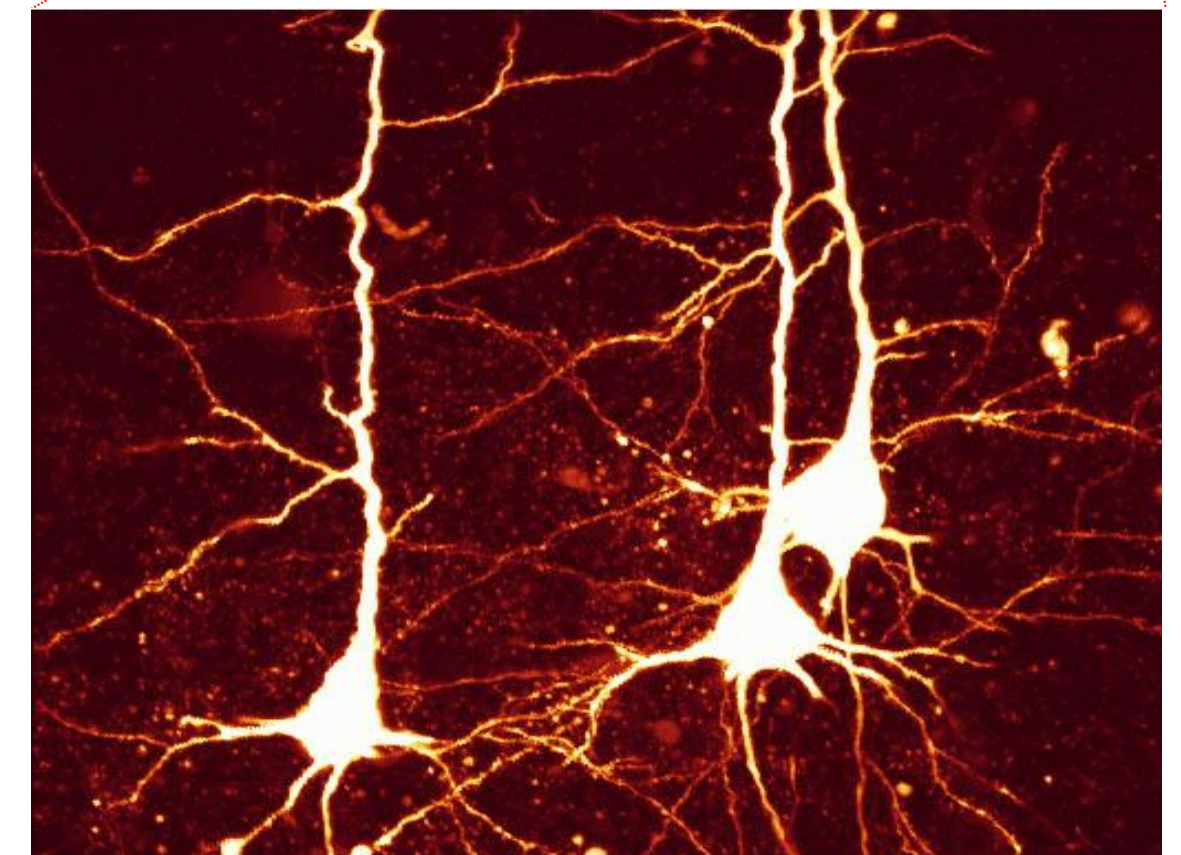
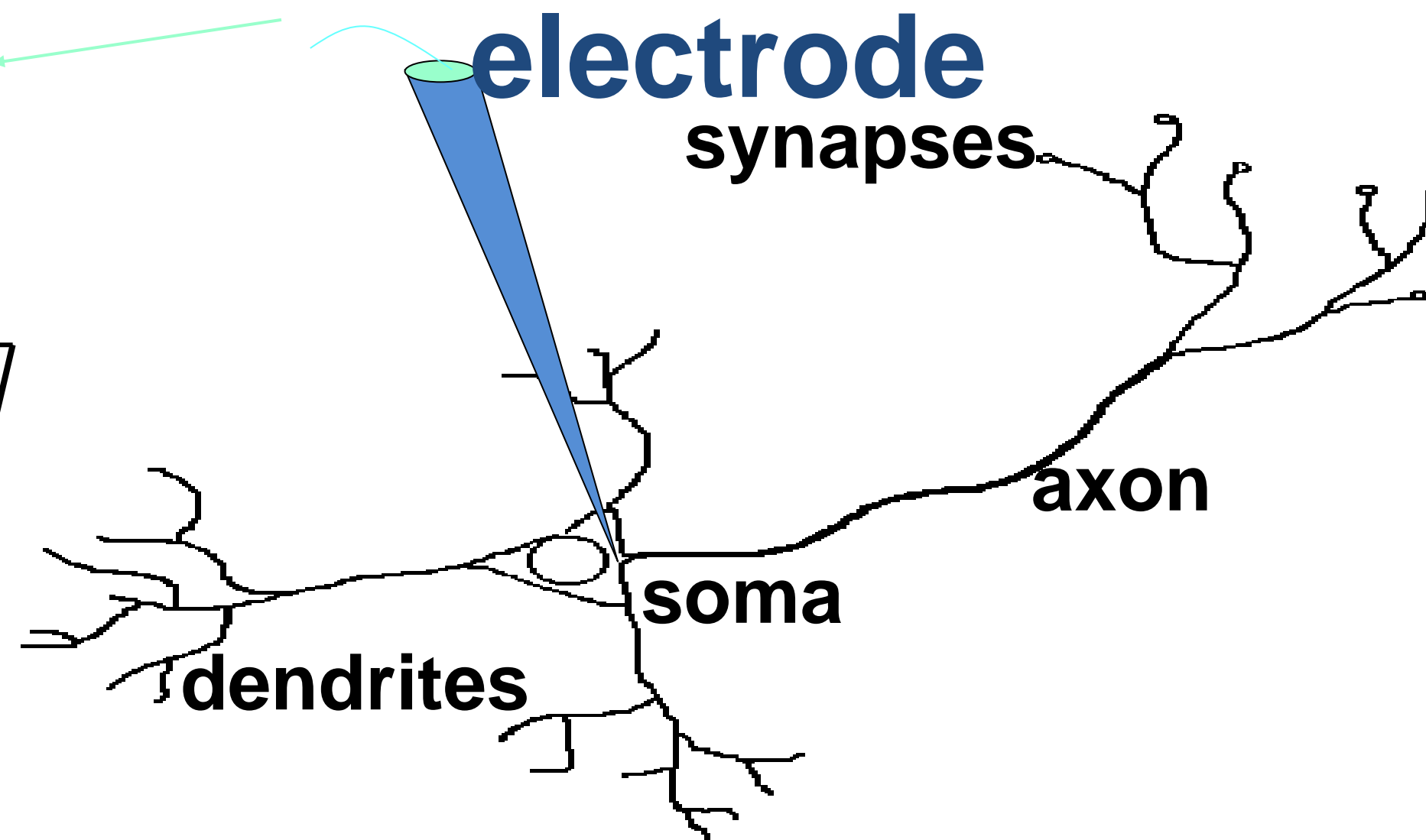
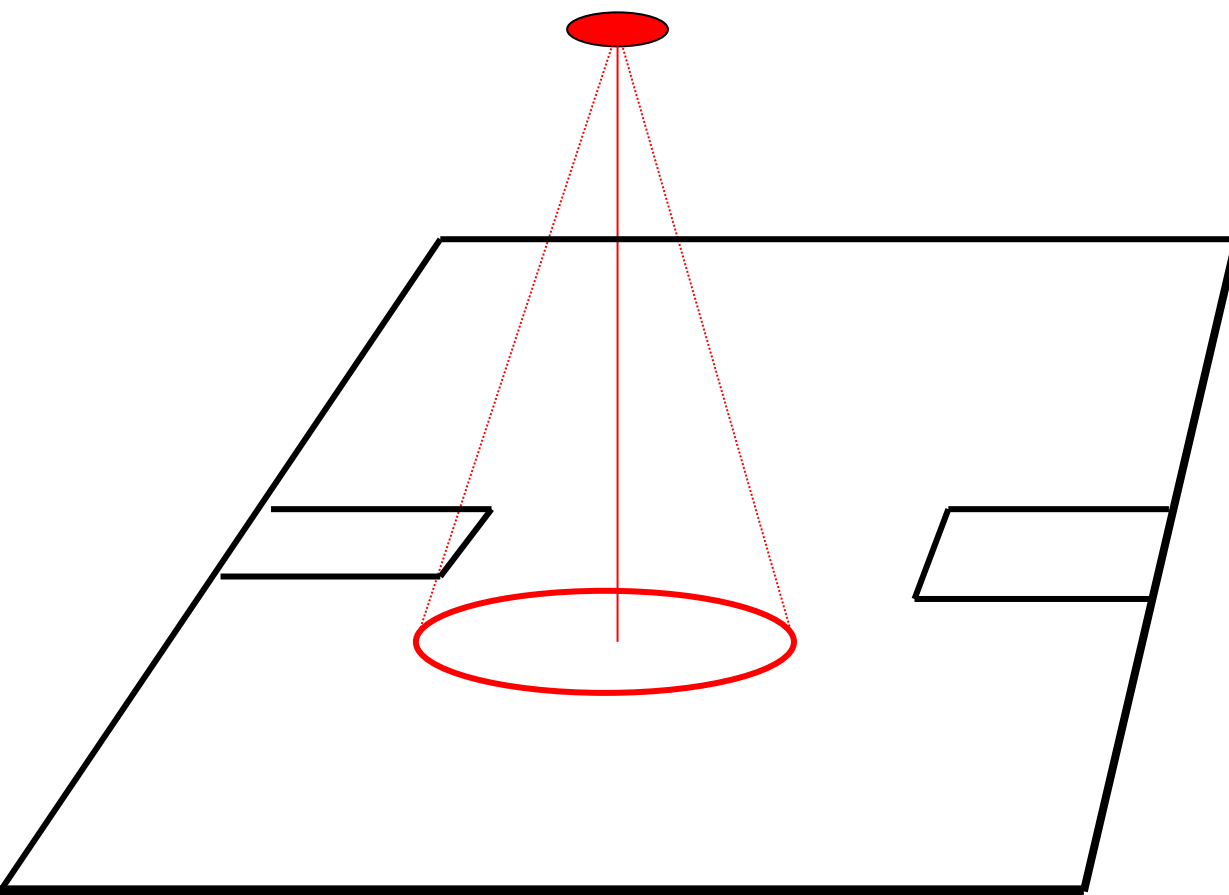
Week 11-part 5: Hippocampal place cells



rat brain



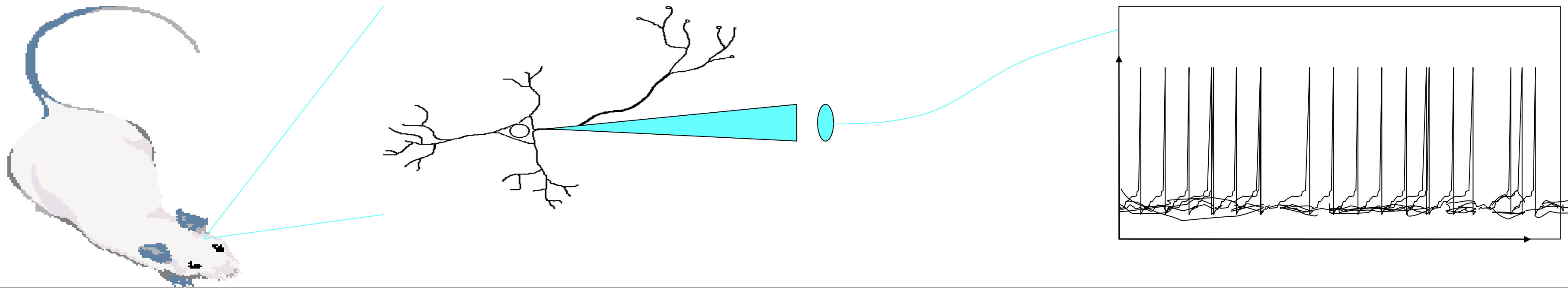
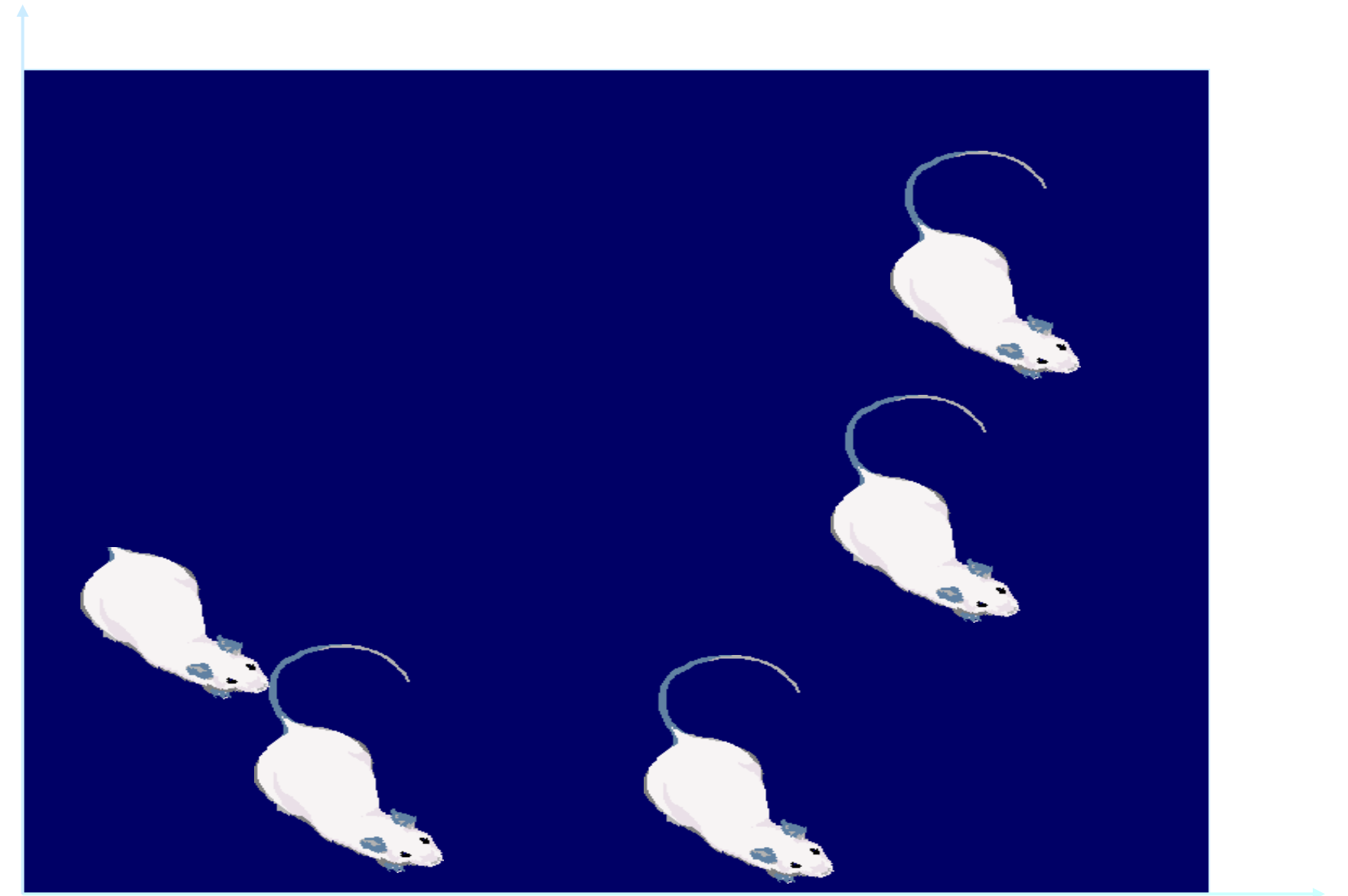
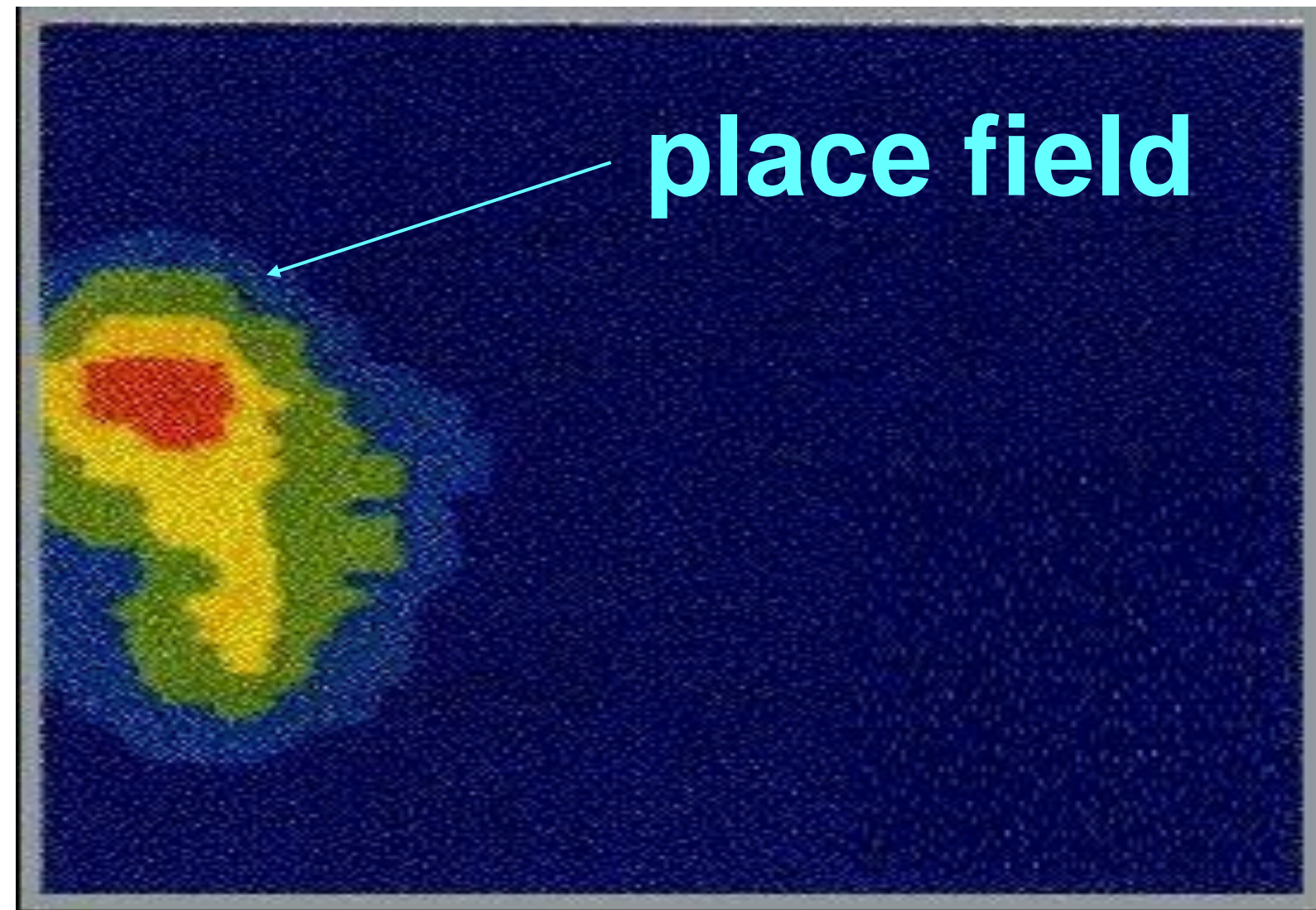
Place fields



pyramidal cells

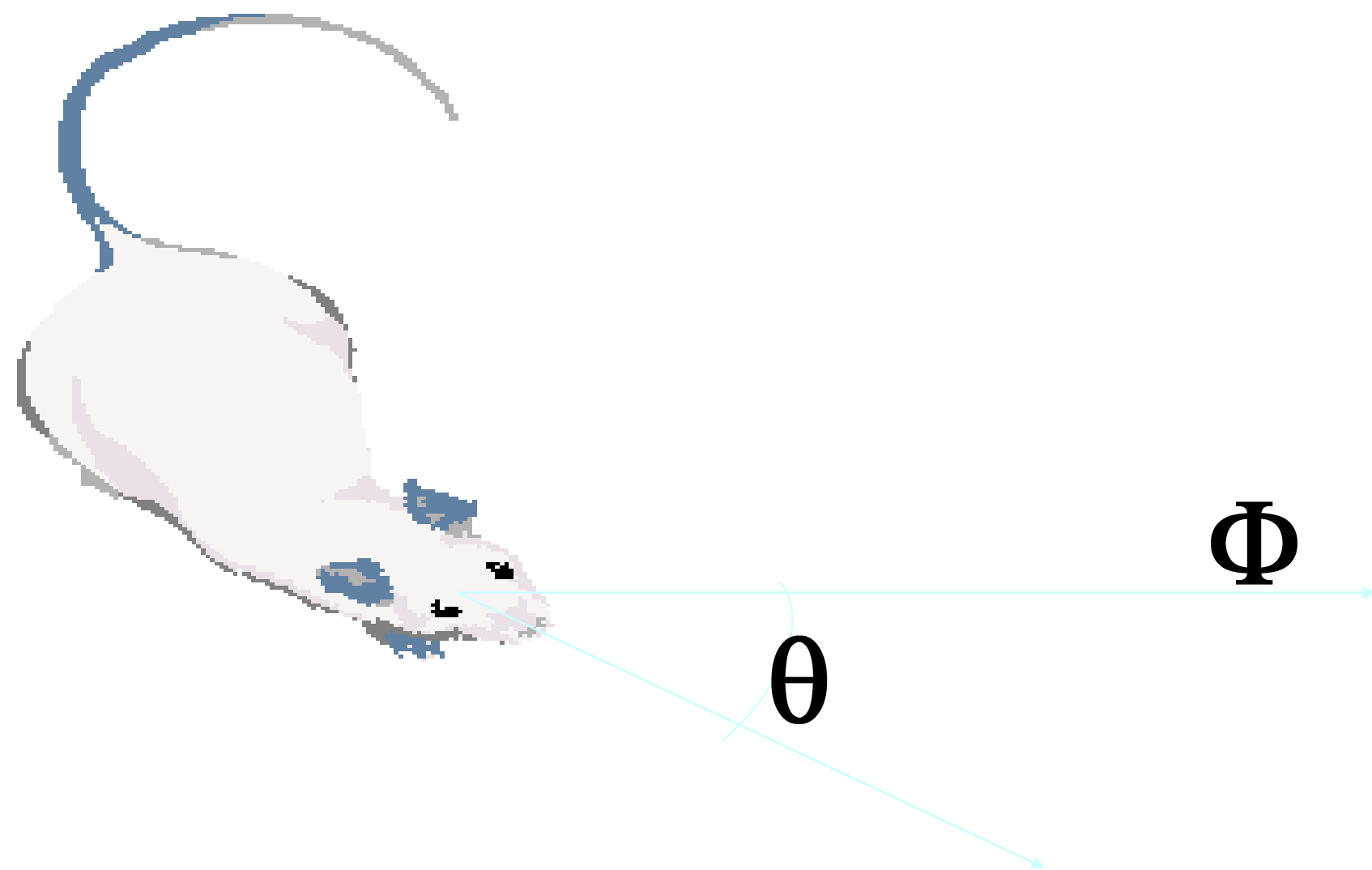
Week 11-part 5: Hippocampal place cells

Main property: encoding the animal's location

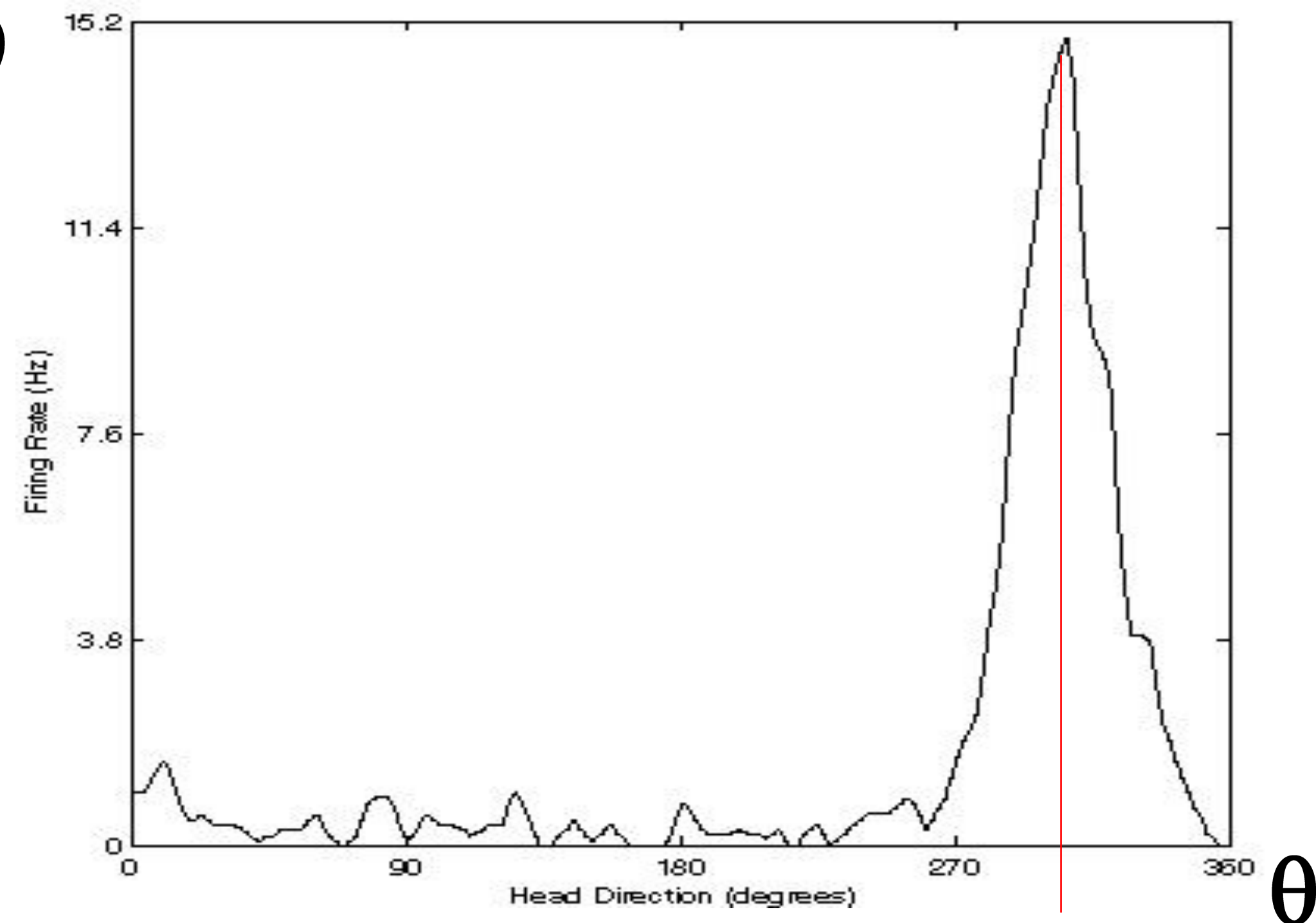


Week 11-part 5: Head direction cells

Main property: encoding the animal's heading



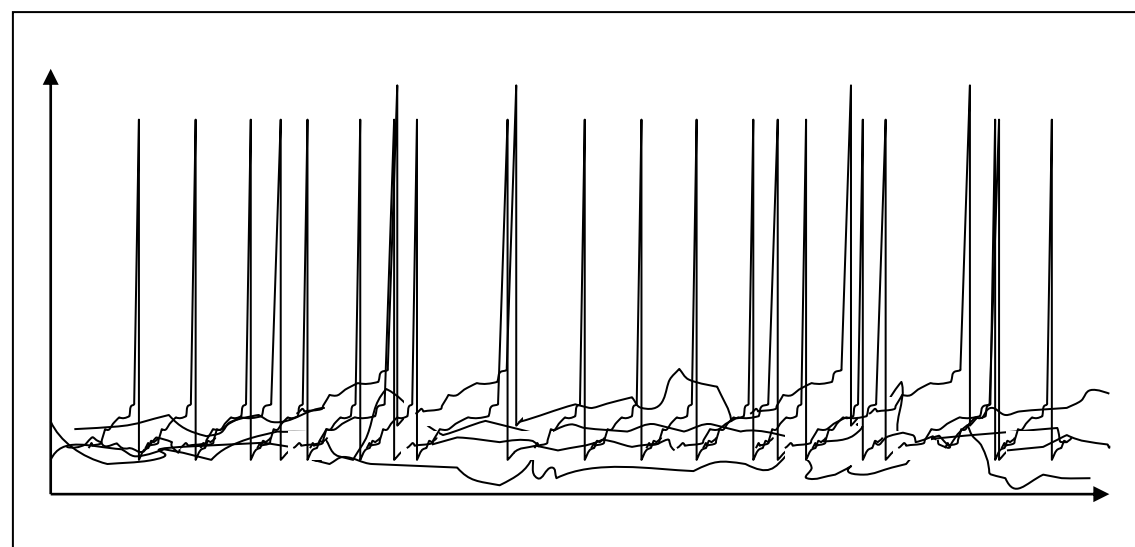
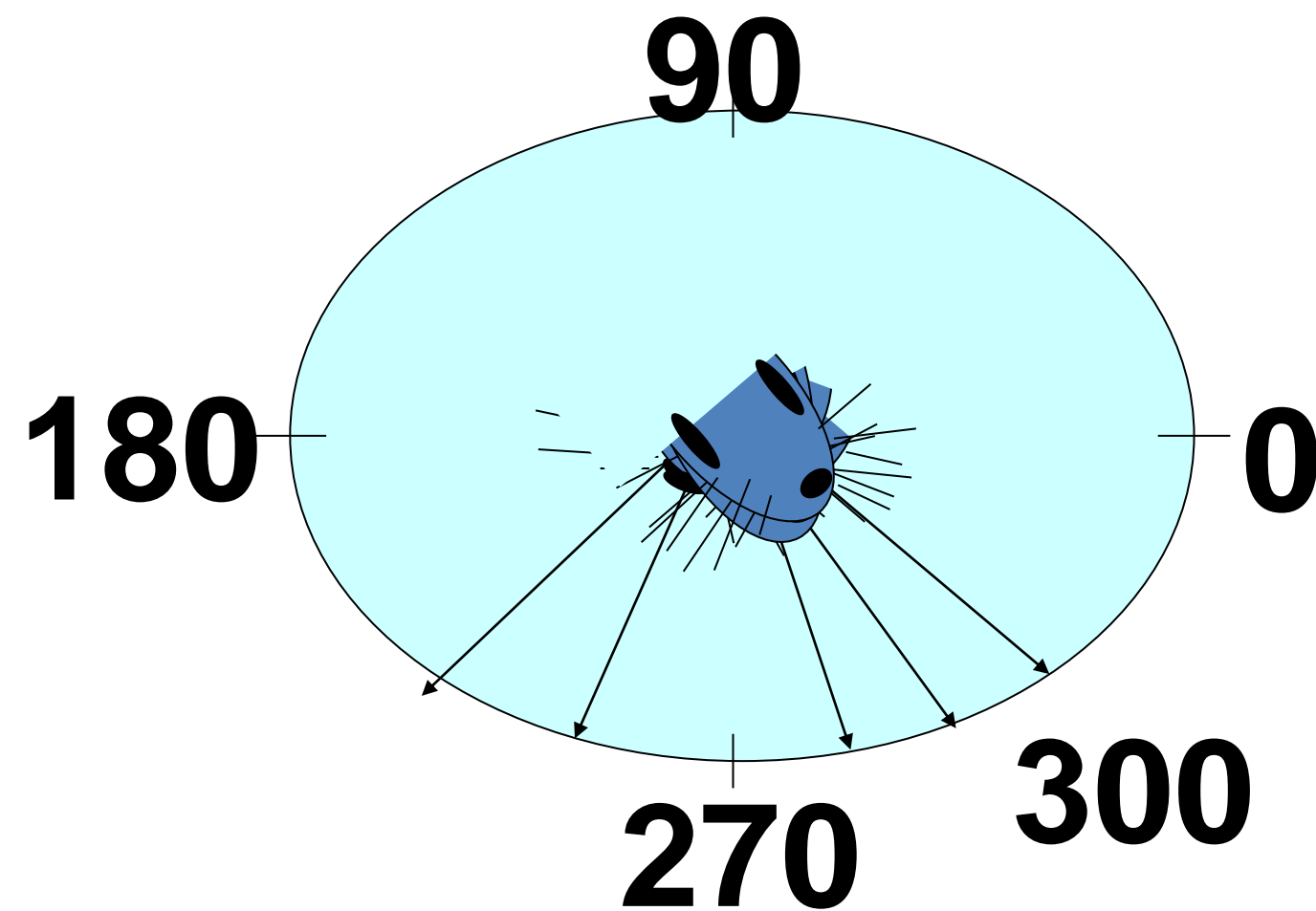
$$r_i(\theta)$$



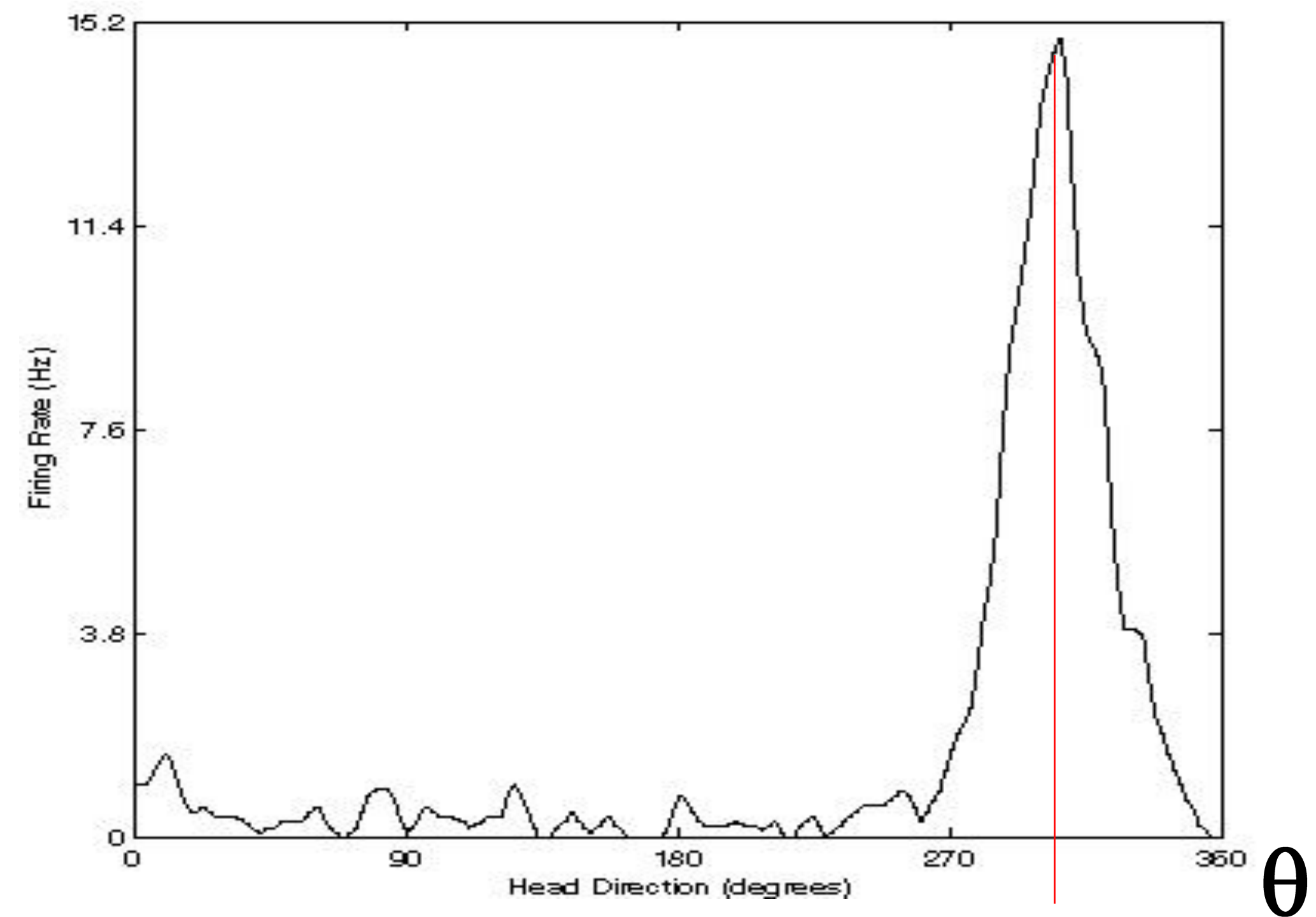
θ_i
Preferred firing direction

Week 11-part 5: Head direction cells

Main property: encoding the animal's allocentric heading

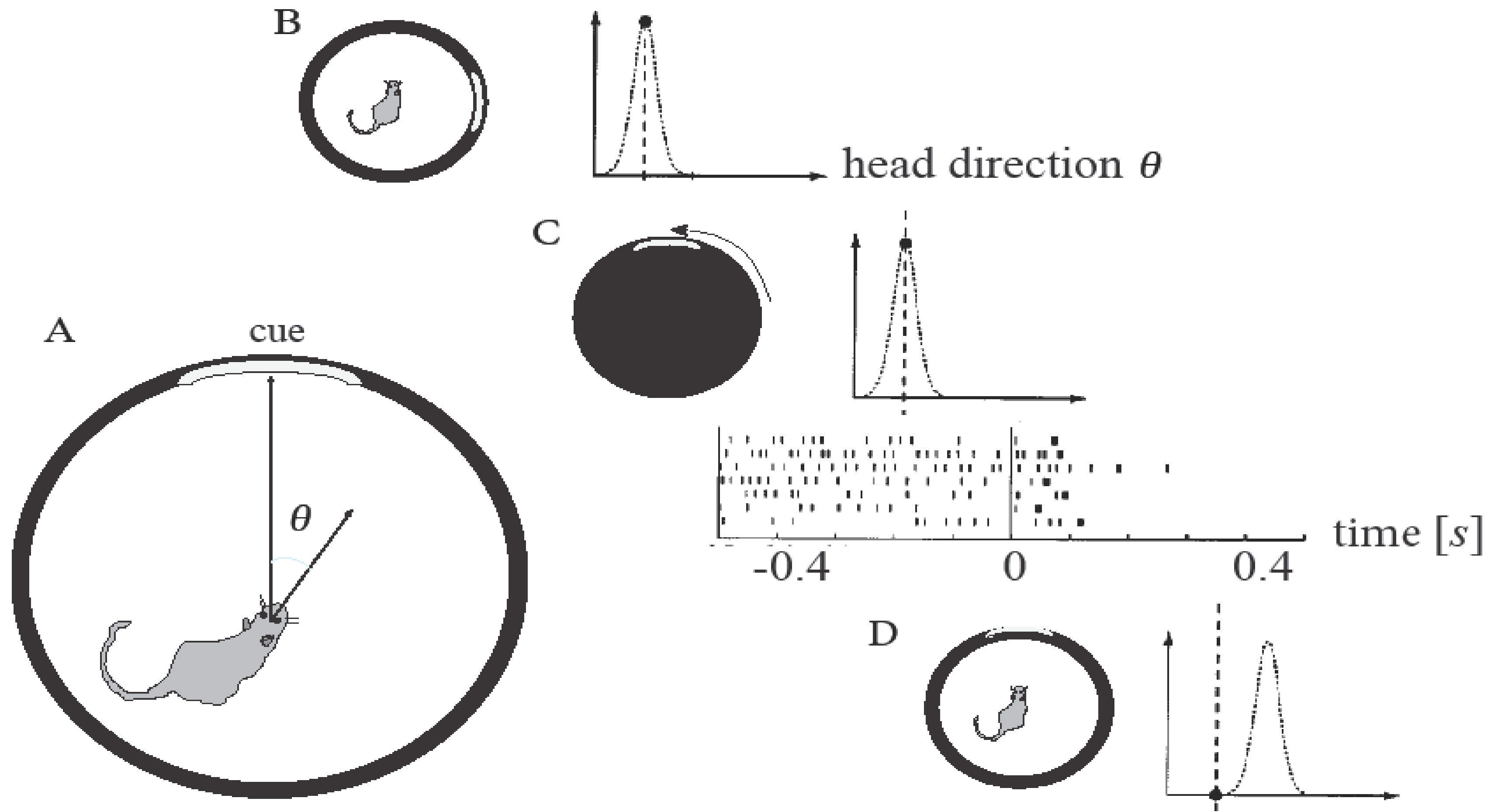


$r_i(\theta)$



θ_i
Preferred firing direction

Week 11-part 5: Head direction cells



The END

11.1 Transients

- sharp or slow

11.2 Spatial continuum

- model connectivity
- cortical connectivity

11.3 Solution types

- uniform solution
- bump solution

11.4. Perception

11.5. Head direction cells