

Week 6 – part 4b : From diffusive noise to escape noise



Neuronal Dynamics: Computational Neuroscience of Single Neurons

Week 6 – Noise models:

Escape noise

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✓ 6.1 Escape noise

- stochastic intensity and point process

✓ 6.2 Interspike interval distribution

- Time-dependent renewal process
- Firing probability in discrete time

✓ 6.3 Likelihood of a spike train

- generative model

6.4 Comparison of noise models

- escape noise vs. diffusive noise
- from diffusive noise to escape noise

6.5. Rate code vs. Temporal Code

- timing codes
- stochastic resonance

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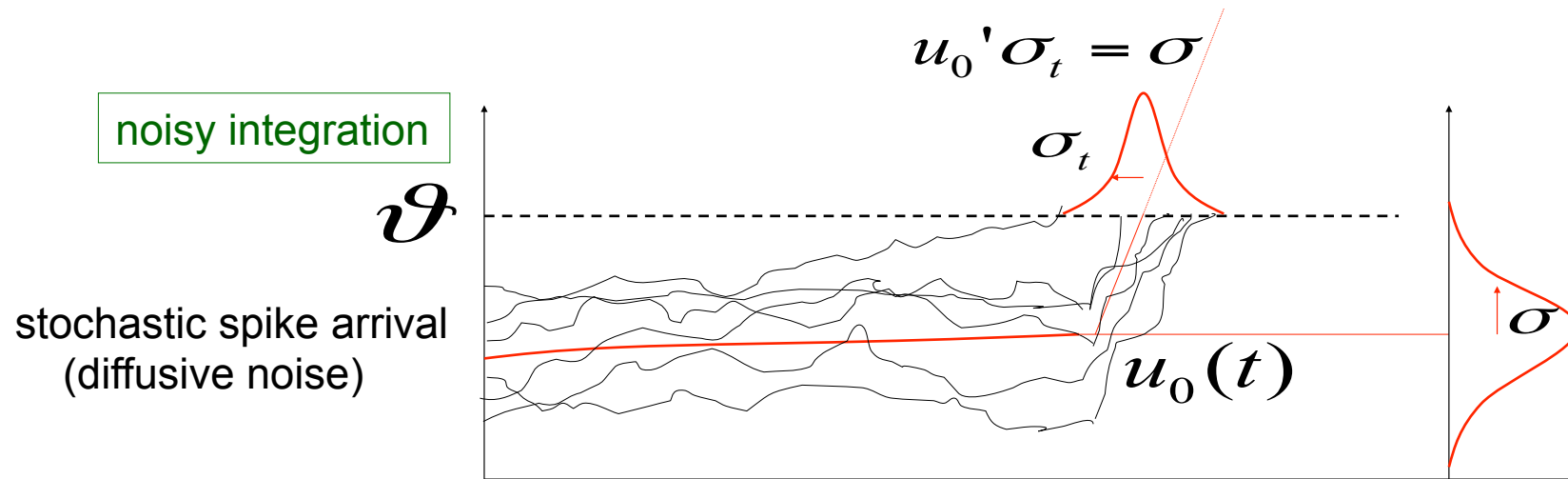
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Noise models: from diffusive noise to escape rates

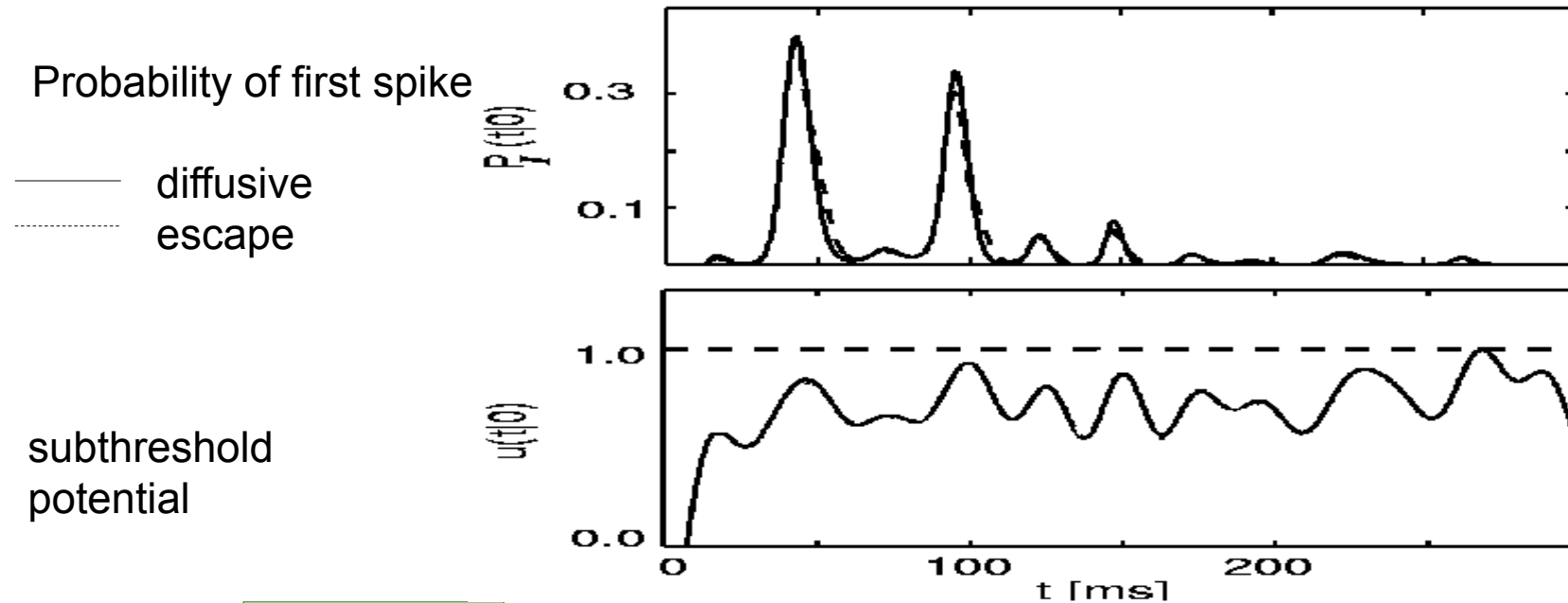


escape rate

$$\rho(t) = f(u_0(t), u_0'(t)) \propto \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{(u_0(t) - \vartheta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}{\text{erf}\left((u_0(t) - \vartheta) / \sigma\right)} [1 + u_0'(t)]$$

Comparison: diffusive noise vs. escape rates

Plesser and Gerstner (2000)



escape rate

$$\rho(t) = f(u_0(t), u'_0(t)) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{(u_0(t) - \vartheta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) [1 + u'_0(t)]$$

Neuronal Dynamics – 6.4. Comparison of Noise Models

Diffusive noise

- represents stochastic spike arrival
- easy to simulate
- hard to calculate

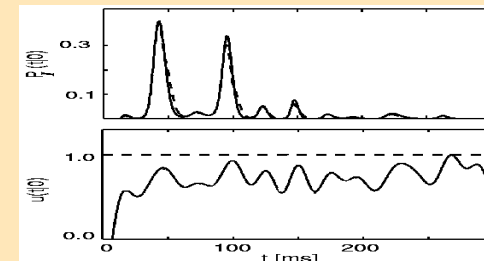
Escape noise

- represents internal noise
- easy to simulate
- easy to calculate
- approximates diffusive noise
- basis of modern model fitting methods

Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 6.3.

A. Consider a leaky integrate-and-fire model with diffusive noise:

- The membrane potential distribution is always Gaussian.
- The membrane potential distribution is Gaussian for any time-dependent input.
- The membrane potential distribution is approximately Gaussian for any time-dependent input, as long as the mean trajectory stays 'far' away from the firing threshold.
- The membrane potential distribution is Gaussian for stationary input in the absence of a threshold.
- The membrane potential distribution is always Gaussian for constant input and fixed noise level.



B. Consider a leaky integrate-and-fire model with diffusive noise for time-dependent input. The above figure (taken from an earlier slide) shows that

- The interspike interval distribution is maximal where the deterministic reference trajectory is **closest** to the threshold.
- The interspike interval vanishes for very long intervals if the deterministic reference trajectory has stayed close to the threshold before - even if for long intervals it is very close to the threshold.
- If there are several peaks in the interspike interval distribution, peak n is always of smaller amplitude than peak $n-1$.
- I would have ticked the same boxes (in the list of three options above) for a leaky integrate-and-fire model with escape noise.