

Week 4 – part 4b : Firing threshold in 2D models



Neuronal Dynamics: Computational Neuroscience of Single Neurons

Week 4 – Reducing detail: Two-dimensional neuron models

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✓ 4.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 4.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 4.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

✓ 4.4 Type I and II Neuron Models

- where is the firing threshold?

4.5. Nonlinear Integrate-and-fire

- from two to one dimension

Week 4 – part 4b : Firing threshold in 2D models



✓ 4.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 4.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 4.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

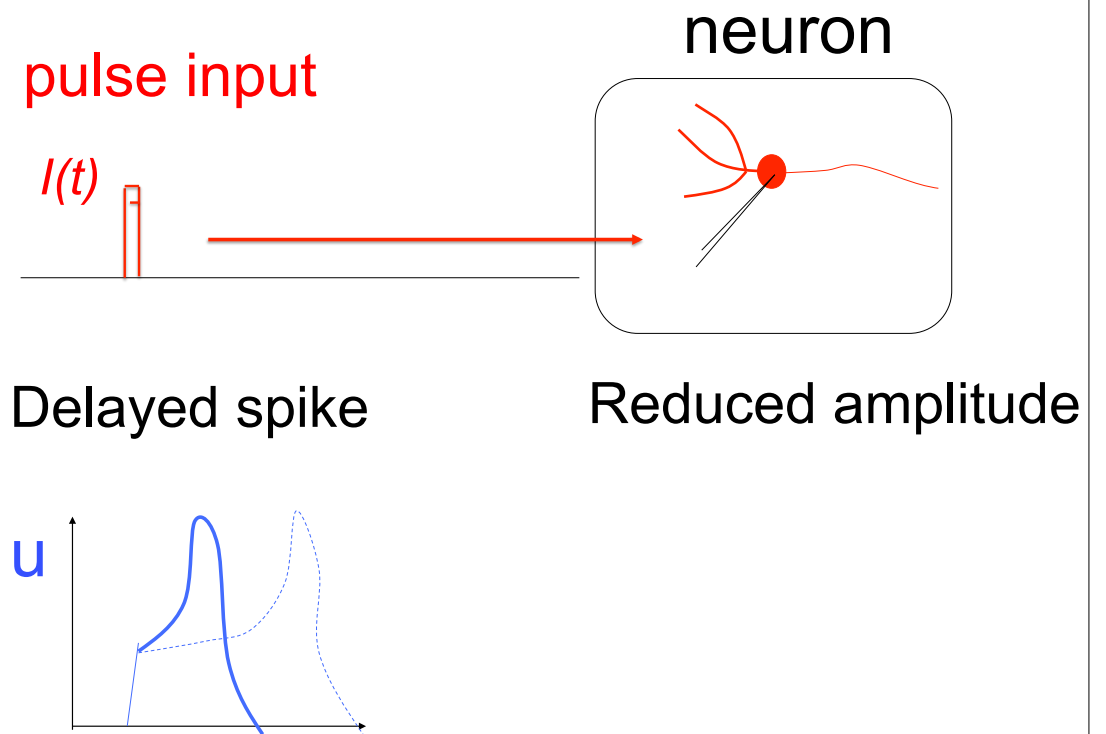
✓ 4.4 Type I and II Neuron Models

- where is the firing threshold?
- separation of time scales

4.5. Nonlinear Integrate-and-fire

- from two to one dimension

Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4b Threshold in 2dim. Neuron Models



Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4 Bifurcations, simplifications

Bifurcations in neural modeling,
Type I/II neuron models,
Canonical simplified models

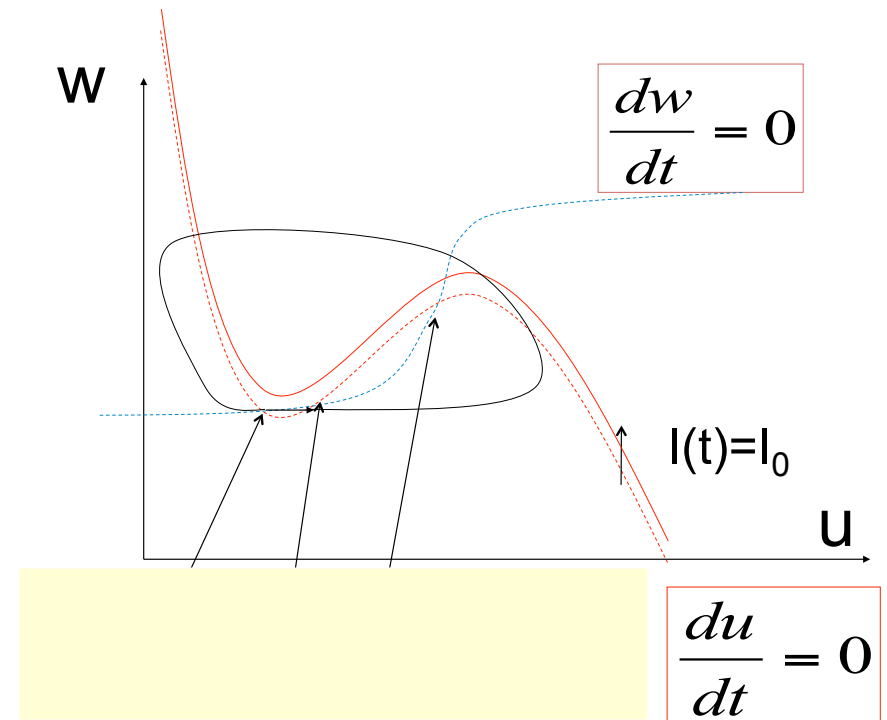
*Nancy Koppell,
Bart Ermentrout,
John Rinzel,
Eugene Izhikevich
and many others*

Saddle-node onto limit cycle bifurcation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

stimulus
↓



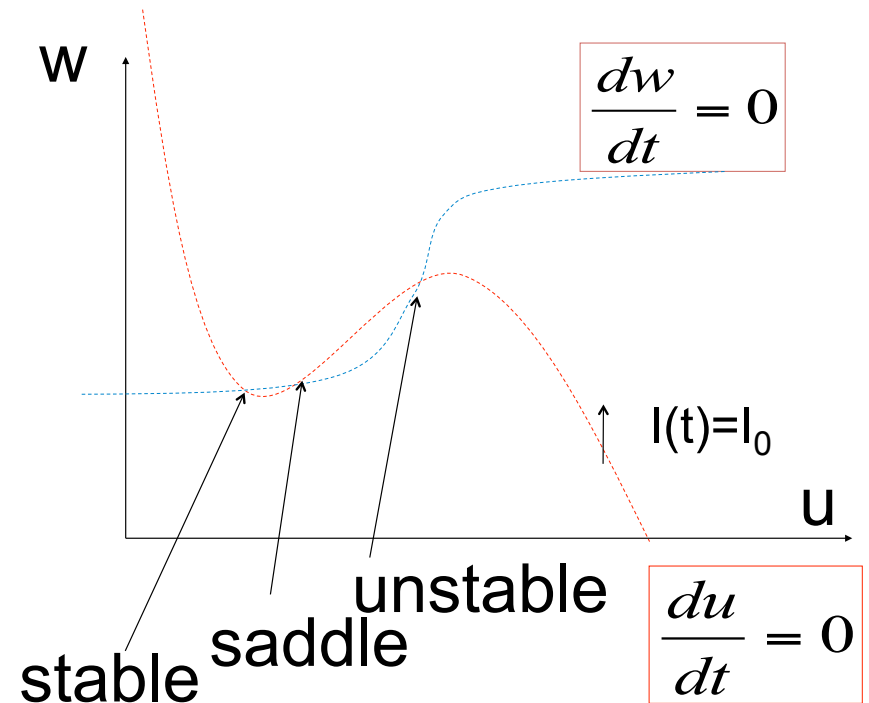
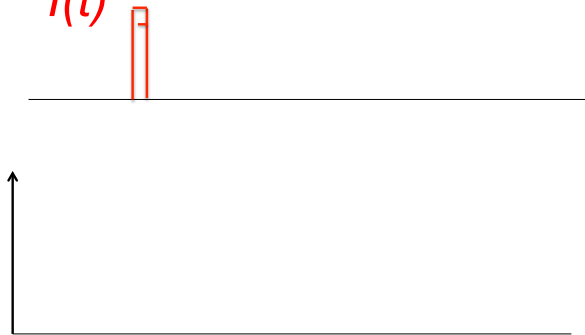
Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4b Pulse input

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

pulse input

$I(t)$

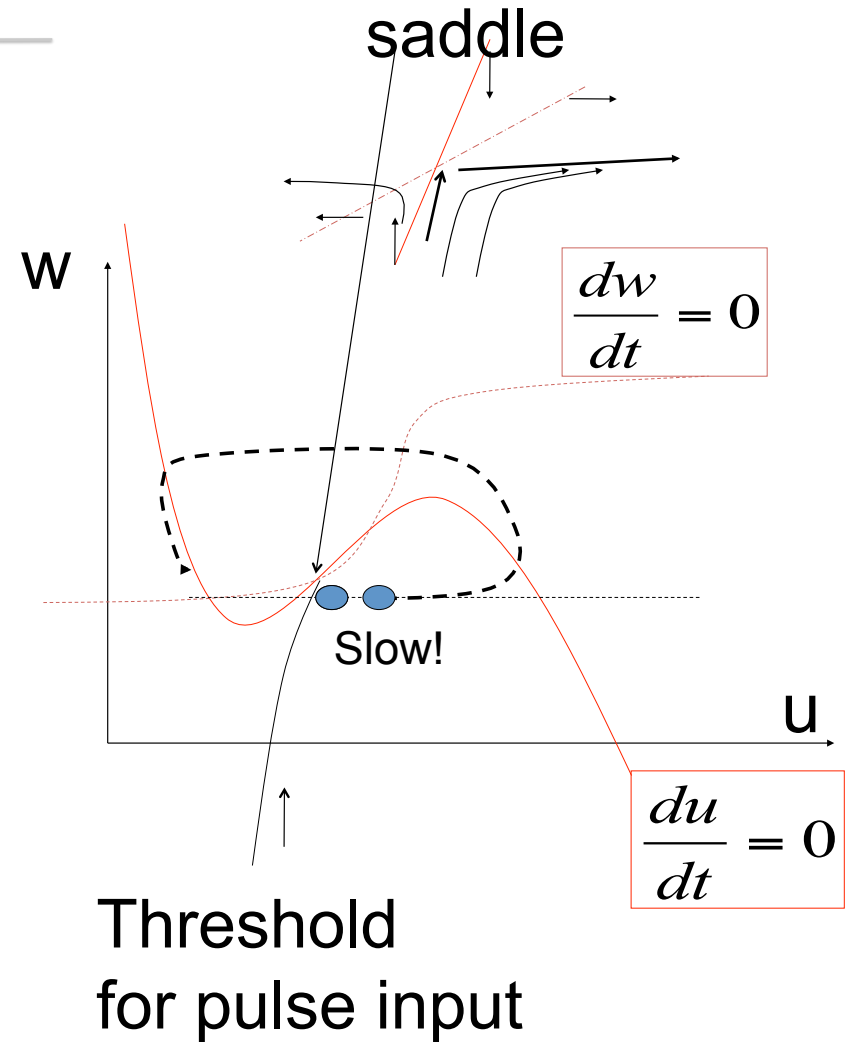
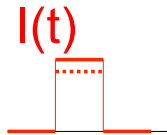


4.4b Type I model: Pulse input

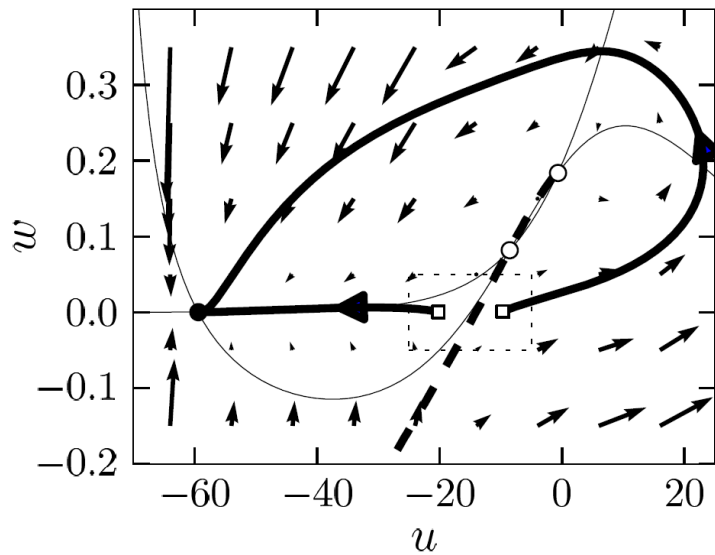
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

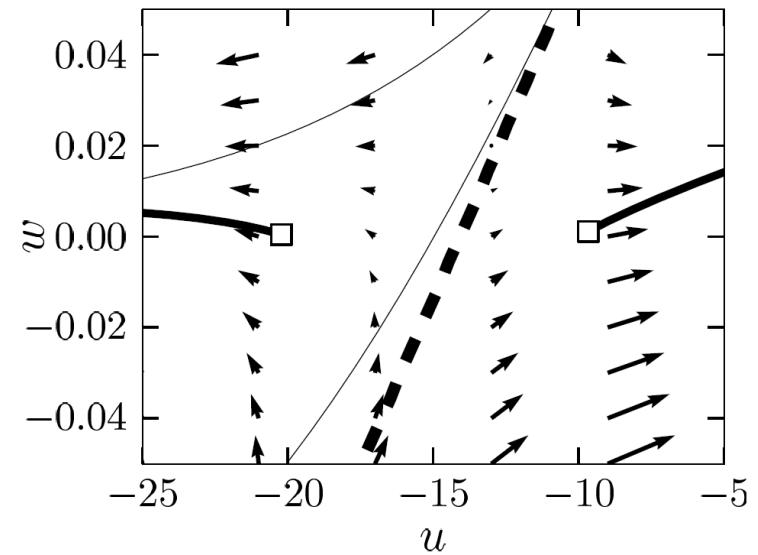
pulse input



4.4b Type I model: Threshold for Pulse input

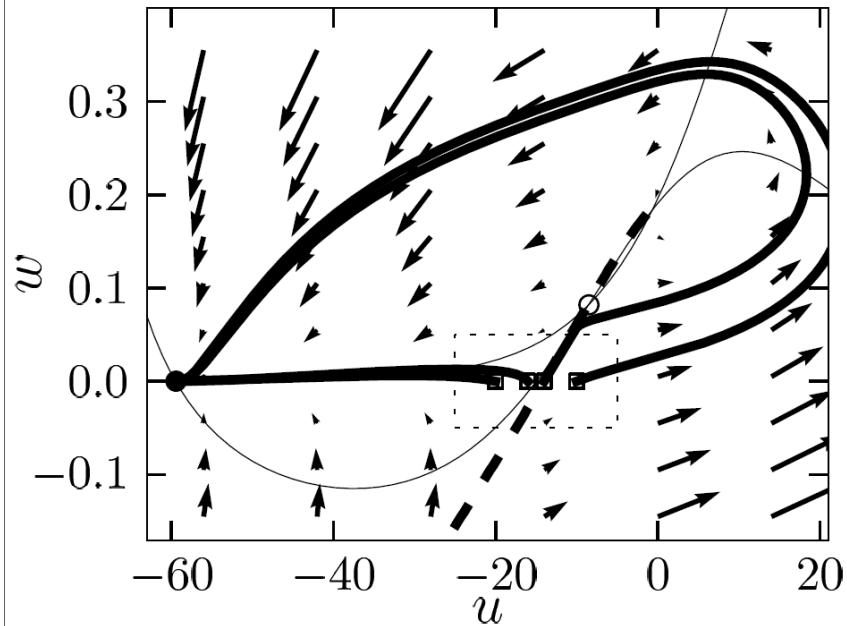


Stable manifold plays role of
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

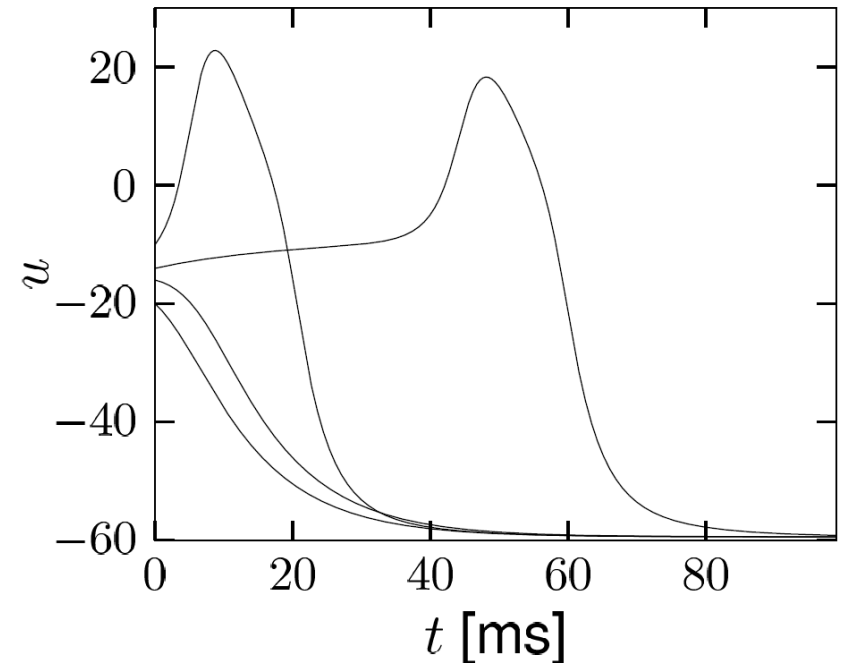


*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

4.4b Type I model: Delayed spike initiation for Pulse input

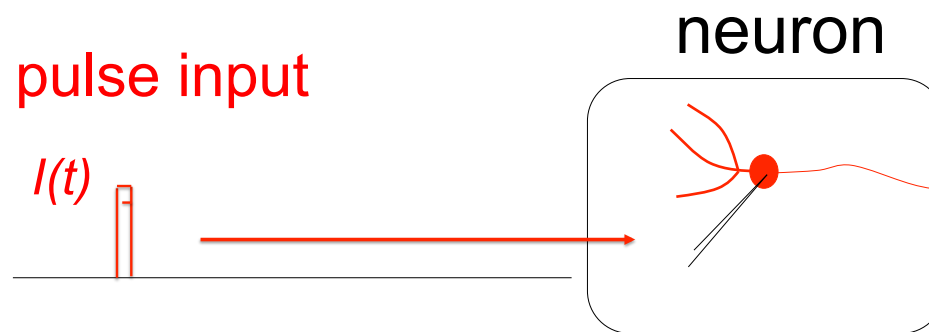


Delayed spike initiation close to
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

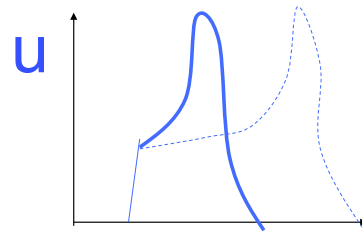


*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

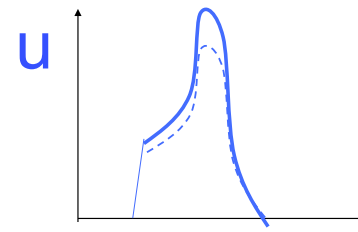
Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4b Threshold in 2dim. Neuron Models



Delayed spike



Reduced amplitude



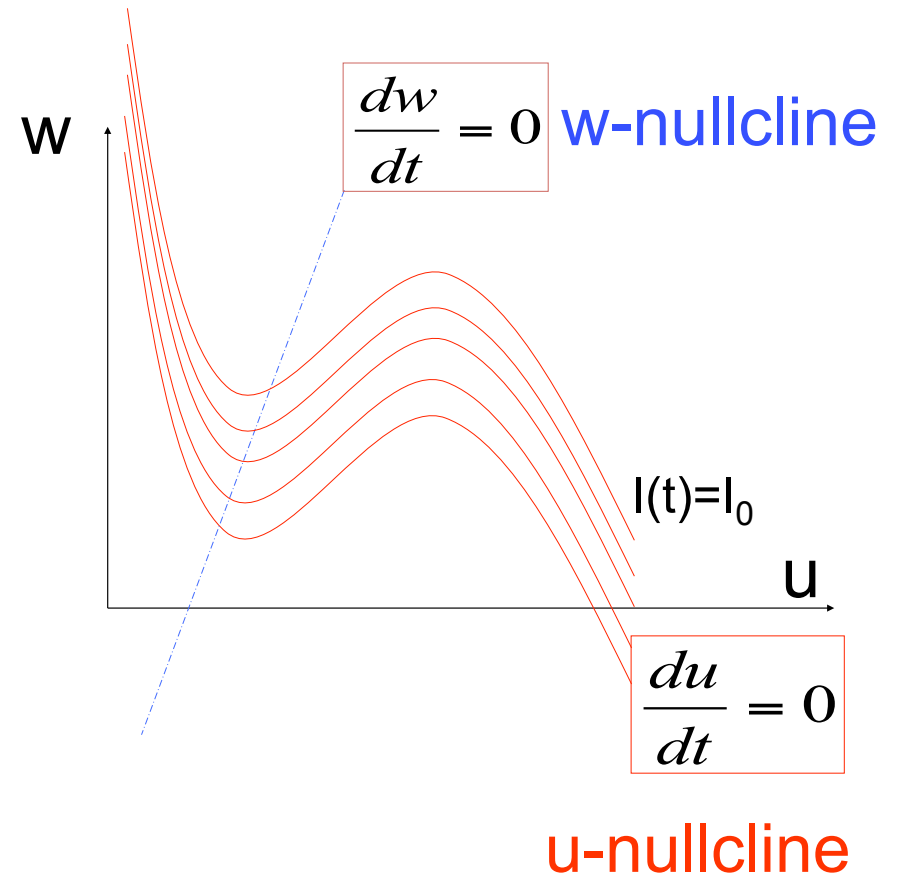
FitzHugh-Nagumo Model: Hopf bifurcation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

stimulus
↓

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

apply constant stimulus I_0

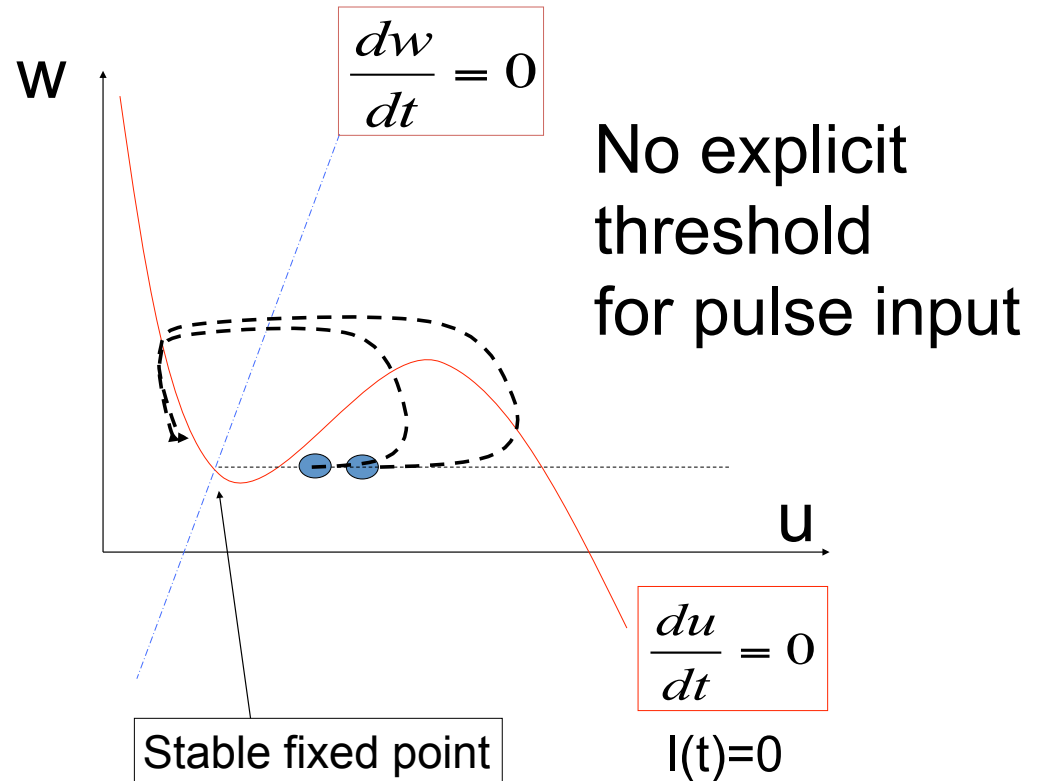
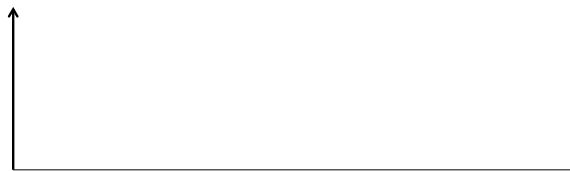
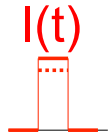


FitzHugh-Nagumo Model - pulse input

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{RI(t)}$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

pulse input



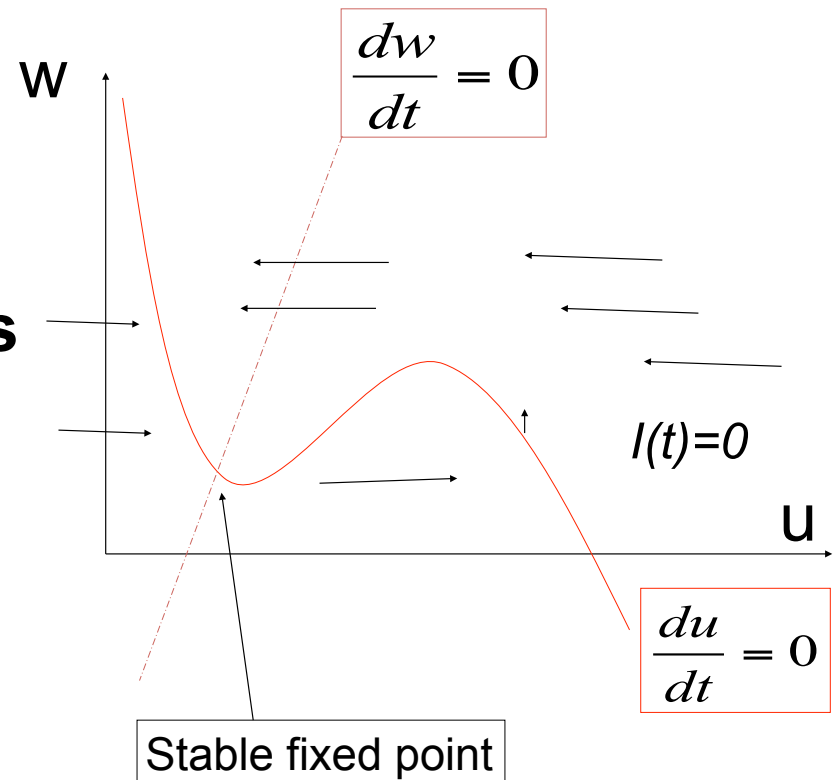
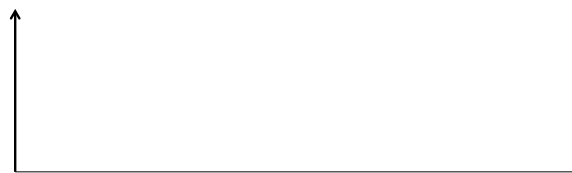
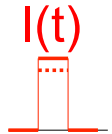
FitzHugh-Nagumo Model - pulse input threshold?

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

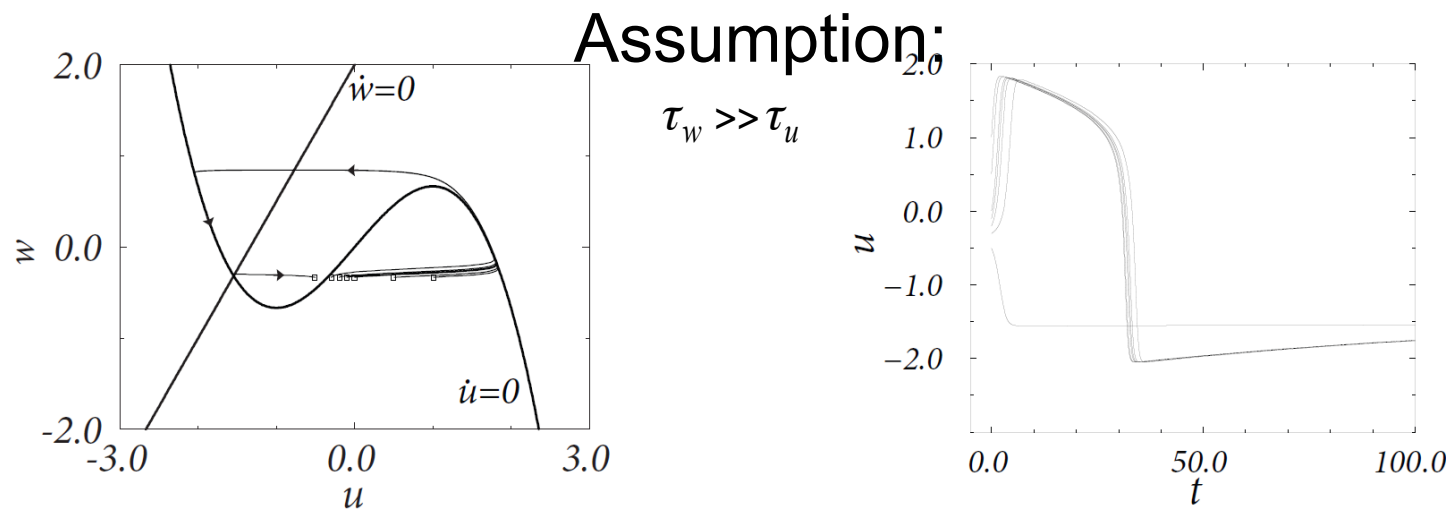
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Separation of time scales

pulse input $\tau_w \gg \tau_u$



4.4b FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input



Middle branch of u -nullcline
plays role of
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

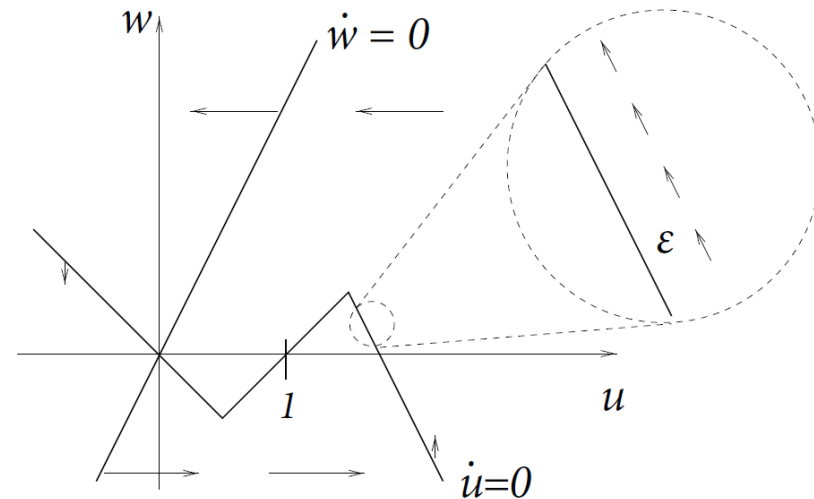
4.4b Detour: Separation of time scales in 2dim models

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

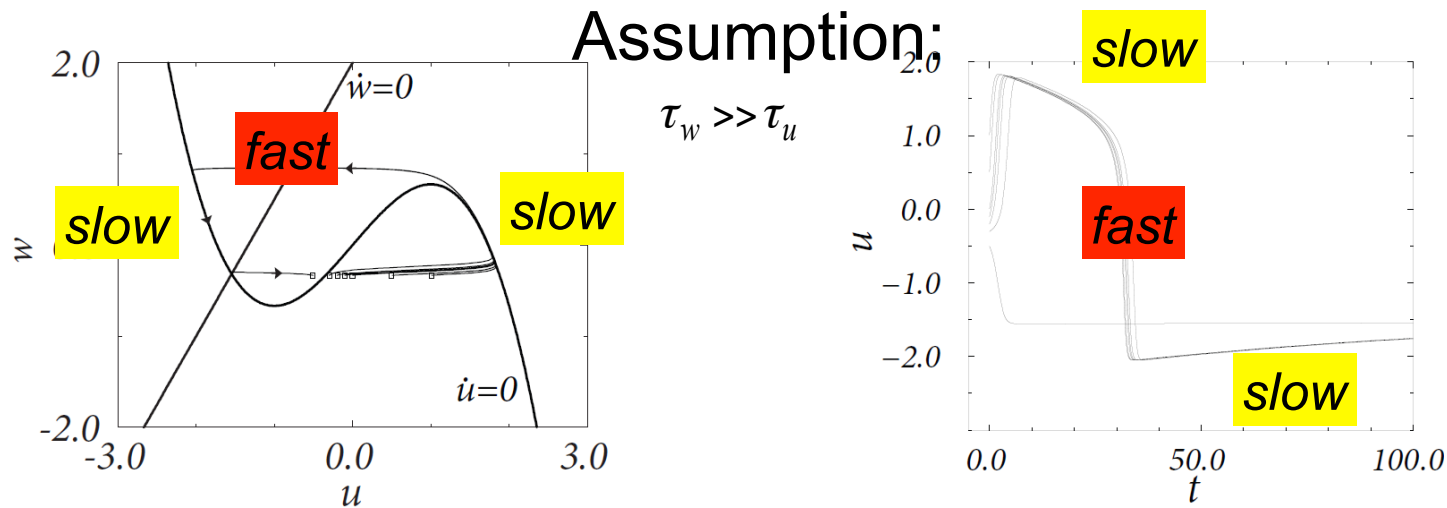
Assumption:

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$



*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

4.4b FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input

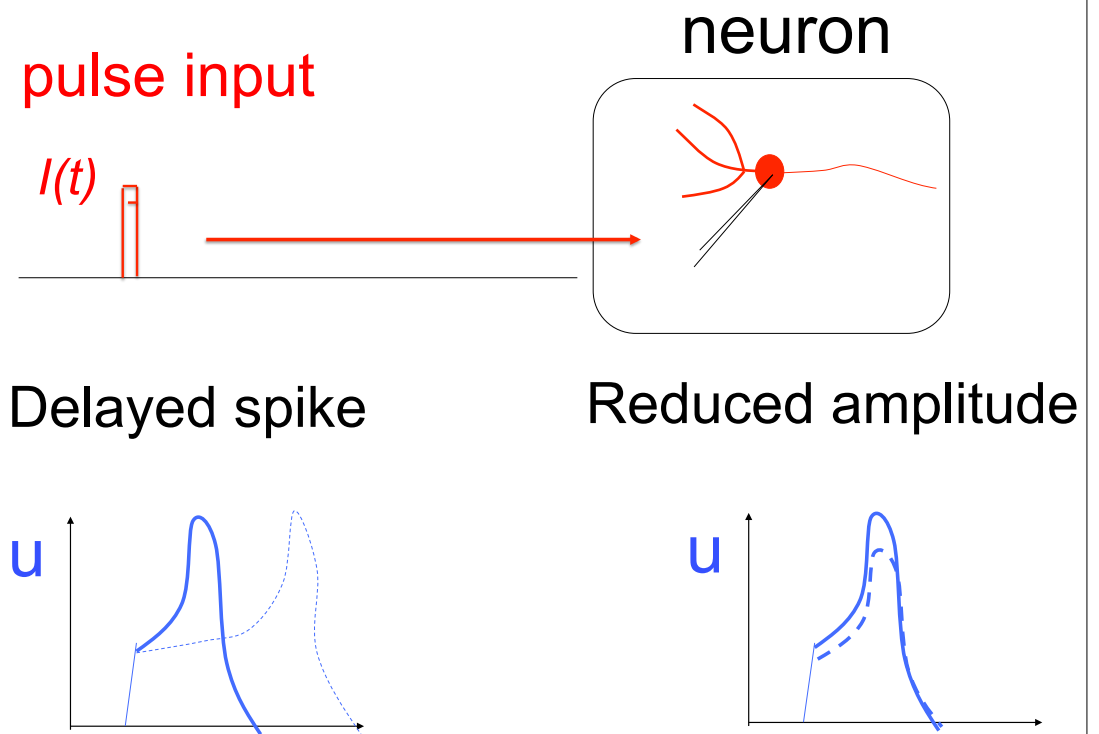


trajectory

- follows u -nullcline: **slow**
- jumps between branches: **fast**

Image: *Neuronal Dynamics*,
Gerstner et al.,
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4b Threshold in 2dim. Neuron Models



Neuronal Dynamics – 4.4 Literature

Reading: W. Gerstner, W.M. Kistler, R. Naud and L. Paninski, *Neuronal Dynamics: from single neurons to networks and models of cognition*. Chapter 4: *Introduction*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 2014
OR W. Gerstner and W.M. Kistler, *Spiking Neuron Models*, Ch.3. Cambridge 2002
OR J. Rinzel and G.B. Ermentrout, (1989). Analysis of neuronal excitability and oscillations. In Koch, C. Segev, I., editors, *Methods in neuronal modeling*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.

Selected references.

- Ermentrout, G. B. (1996). *Type I membranes, phase resetting curves, and synchrony*. Neural Computation, 8(5):979-1001.
- Fourcaud-Trocme, N., Hansel, D., van Vreeswijk, C., and Brunel, N. (2003). *How spike generation mechanisms determine the neuronal response to fluctuating input*. J. Neuroscience, 23:11628-11640.
- Badel, L., Lefort, S., Berger, T., Petersen, C., Gerstner, W., and Richardson, M. (2008). Biological Cybernetics, 99(4-5):361-370.
- E.M. Izhikevich, *Dynamical Systems in Neuroscience*, MIT Press (2007)

Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.6.

A. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with saddle-node bifurcation

- ☐ The voltage threshold for repetitive firing is always the same as the voltage threshold for pulse input.
- ☐ in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for repetitive firing is given by the stable manifold of the saddle.
- ☐ in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for repetitive firing is given by the middle branch of the u-nullcline.
- ☐ in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the middle branch of the u-nullcline.
- ☐ in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the stable manifold of the saddle point.

B. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with subcritical Hopf bifurcation

- ☐ in the regime below the bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the stable manifold of the saddle point.
- ☐ in the regime below the bifurcation, a voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input exists only if $\tau_w \gg \tau_u$