

Week 4 – part 2: Phase Plane Analysis



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

- Overview: From 4 to 2 dimensions
- MathDetour 1: Separation of time scales
- MathDetour 2: Exploiting similarities

4.2 Phase Plane Analysis

- Role of nullcline

4.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

- MathDetour 3: Stability of fixed points

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

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Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. Phase Plane Analysis

2-dimensional equation

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

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

Enables graphical analysis!

- Discussion of threshold
- Type I and II

Neuronal Dynamics – 4.1. Reduction of Hodgkin-Huxley model

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = \underbrace{-g_{Na} m_0(u)^3 (1-w)(u - E_{Na})}_{I_{Na}} - \underbrace{g_K \left(\frac{w}{a}\right)^4 (u - E_K)}_{I_K} - \underbrace{g_l (u - E_l)}_{I_{leak}} + I(t)$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = -\frac{w - w_0(u)}{\tau_w(u)}$$

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

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

Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. Nullclines of reduced HH model

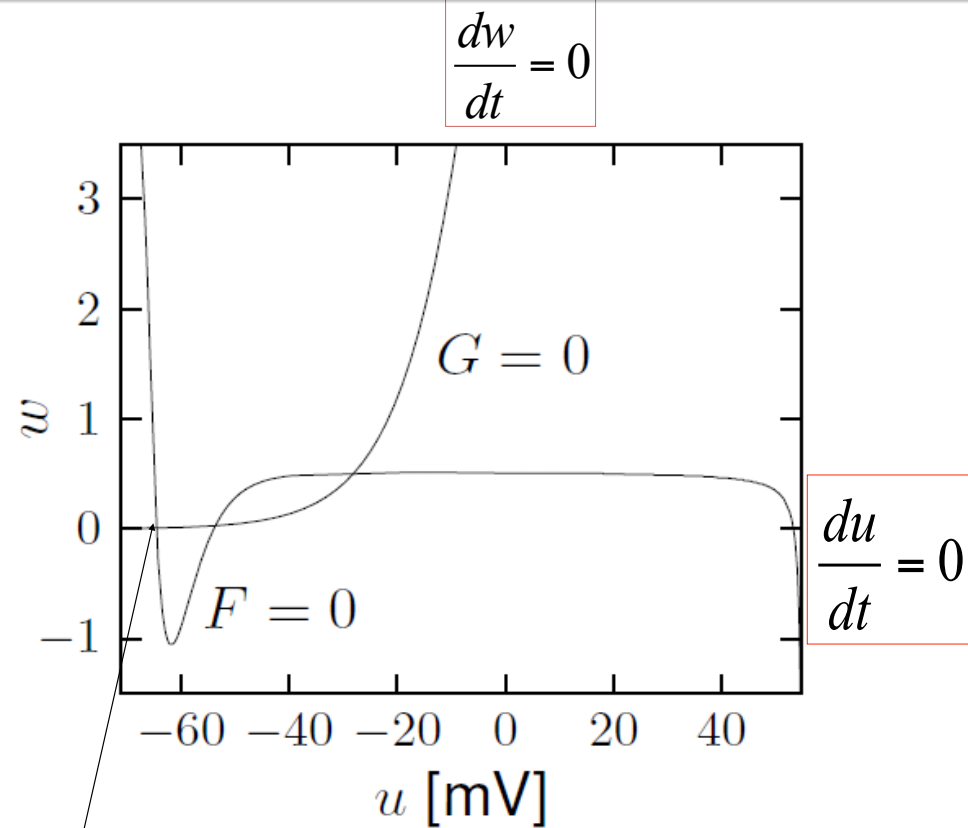
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

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

u-nullcline

w-nullcline

stimulus



Stable fixed point

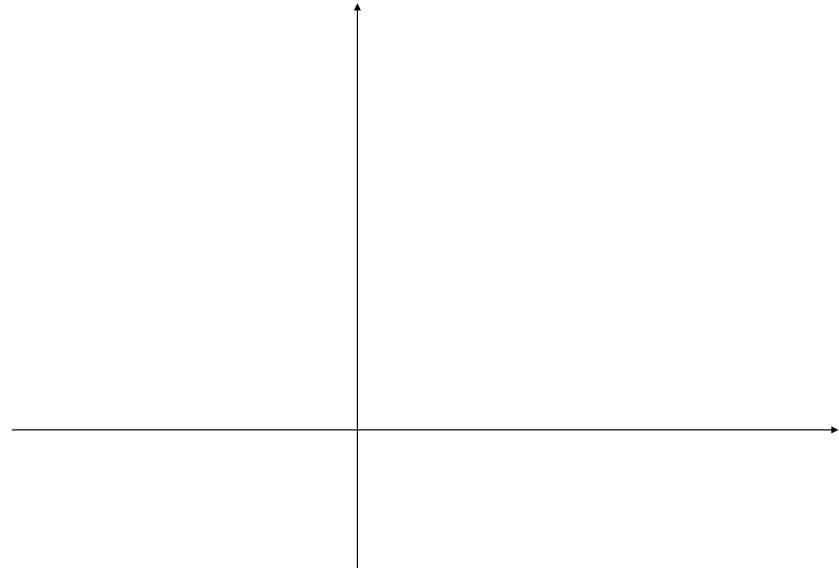
Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. FitzHugh-Nagumo Model

$$\begin{aligned}\tau \frac{du}{dt} &= F(u, w) + RI(t) \\ &= u - \frac{1}{3}u^3 + RI(t)\end{aligned}$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w) = b_0 + b_1 u - w$$

u-nullcline

w-nullcline



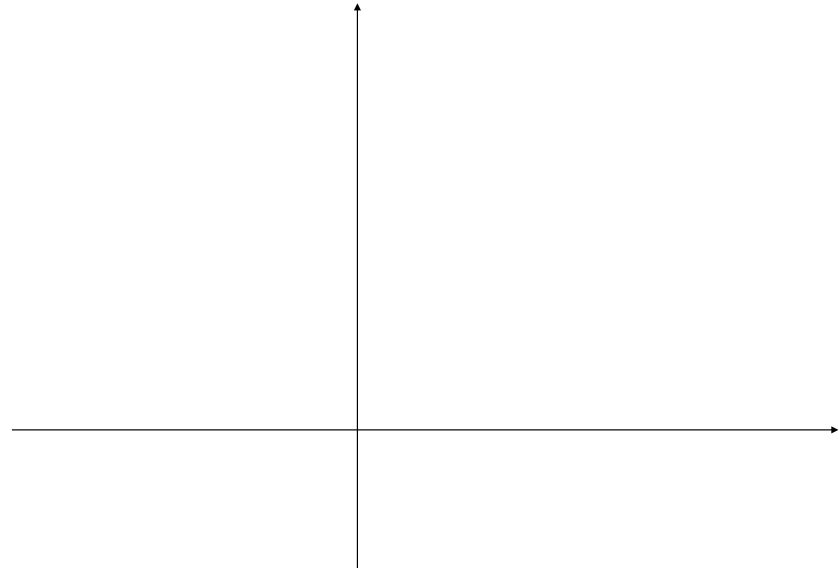
Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. flow arrows

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Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. flow arrows

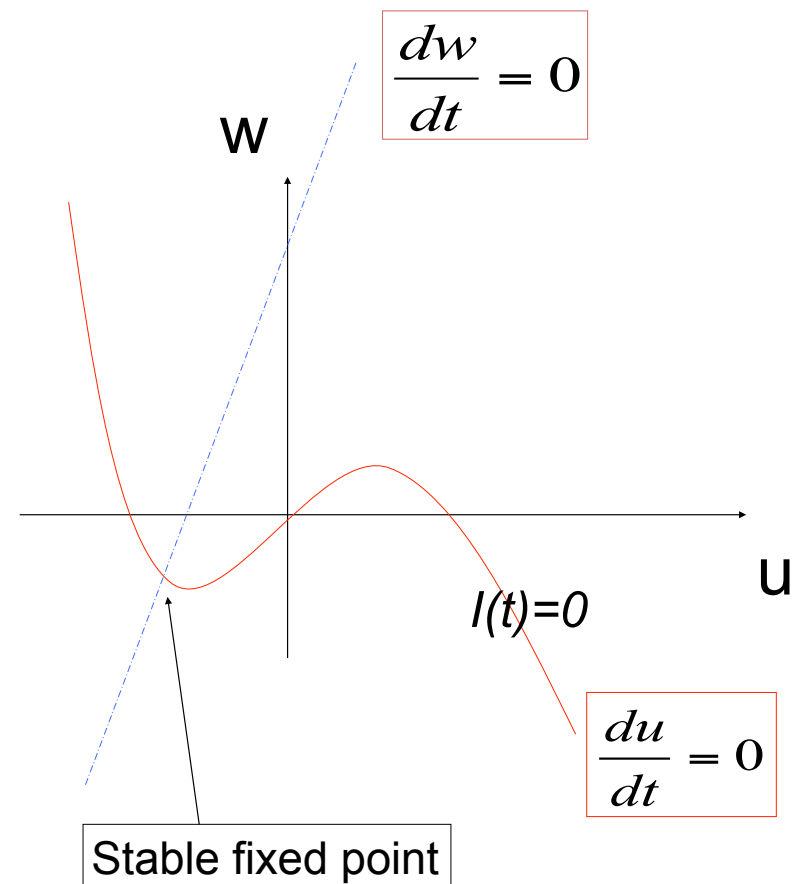
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t) \quad \text{Stimulus } I=0$$

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

Consider change in small time step

Flow on nullcline

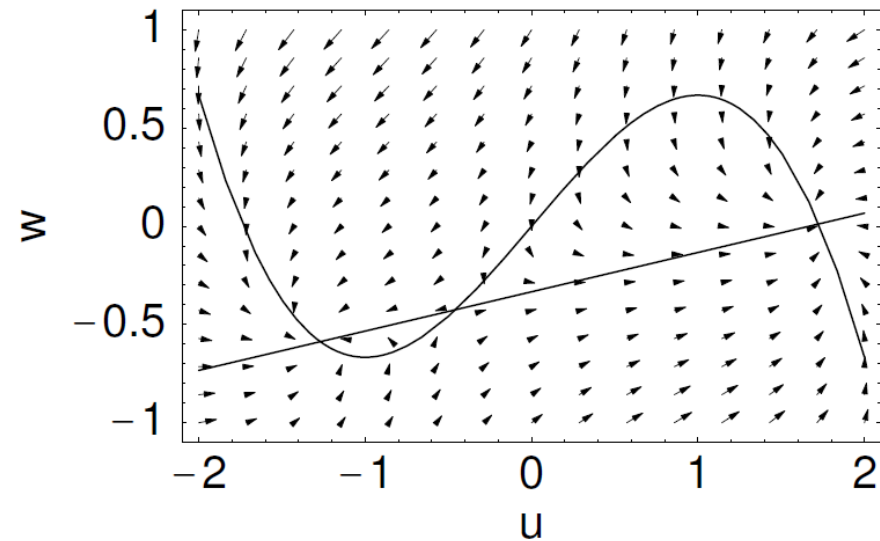
Flow in regions between nullclines



Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. FitzHugh-Nagumo Model

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Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. Phase Plane Analysis

2-dimensional equation

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

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

Enables graphical analysis!

Important role of

- nullclines
- flow arrows

Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.4.

A. u-Nullclines

- ☐ On the u-nullcline, arrows are always vertical
- ☐ On the u-nullcline, arrows point always vertically upward
- ☐ On the u-nullcline, arrows are always horizontal
- ☐ On the u-nullcline, arrows point always to the left
- ☐ On the u-nullcline, arrows point always to the right

B. w-Nullclines

- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows are always vertical
- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows point always vertically upward
- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows are always horizontal
- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows point always to the left
- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows point always to the right
- ☐ On the w-nullcline, arrows can point in an arbitrary direction