

# Mean field models for neural networks with excitatory interactions

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Based on joint works with J. Inglis, S. Rubenthaler and E. Tanré

# Part I. Motivation

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## a. General picture

## Basic purpose

- Provide a simple model for a **neuronal network**
  - with **similar** neurons
    - ↪ focus on one single **typical neuron**
  - choose a **standard model** for the dynamics of the typical neuron
    - ↪ examples: **diffusion process** (with hard threshold),  
jump processes (with soft threshold)
- Use **mean field** assumption to describe interactions
  - a neuron sees the others through the **whole collectivity**
  - **global quantity of interest** ↪ **global averaged firing rate**

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  - a neuron sees the others through the **whole collectivity**
  - **global quantity of interest**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **global averaged firing rate**
- **Excitatory** feature
  - if **global averaged firing rate**  $\uparrow \Rightarrow$  **each neuron is more likely to spike**
  - would make sense to regard inhibitory counterpart

# Challenges

- Mean field limit
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  - expect propagation of chaos / LLN
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influence of the excitation?
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- Literature

$\rightsquigarrow$  mean field integrate and fire [Lewis and Rinzel (03); Ostojic, Brunel and Hakim (09); Caceres, Carrillo, Perthame (11,14); DIRT; Inglis and Talay (16)]



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- $\rightsquigarrow$  mean field integrate and fire
- $\rightsquigarrow$  application to systemic risk [[Hambly and Ledger \(16\)](#), [Nadotchiy and Shkolnikov \(17\)](#)]

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- $\rightsquigarrow$  application to systemic risk
- $\rightsquigarrow$  models without hard threshold [[Fournier Löcherbach \(16\)](#)],  
Hawks model of mean field types [[Chevallier \(16\)](#)]

## Part I. Motivation

b. A general form for the finite network

# General LIF model for a single neuron

- Describe **membrane potential** of the neuron
  - ↪ neuron fires if membrane potential is high
  - several simple models
    - ↪ jump model with **soft threshold** ↪ **spike is more likely if potential is high**
    - ↪ diffusive model with **hard threshold** ↪ **spike occurs if potential reaches a threshold**

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$$\frac{d}{dt}V_t = -\lambda V_t + I_t^{\text{int}} + I_t^{\text{ext}}$$

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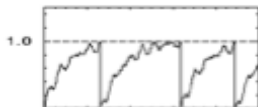
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- **Threshold** ↪ spike whenever  $V$  reaches firing value  $V_F$

$$\tau = \inf\{t \geq 0 : V_t \geq V_F\}$$

- after  $\tau$  (no refractory period) ↪ reset potential at  $V_\tau = V_R$



# Currents for connected neurons

- Label the neurons  $i = 1, \dots, N$

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- **External current**

$$I_t^{\text{ext},i} = \text{mean-trend}_t^i + \text{noise}_t^i$$

- focus on the **noise**  $\rightsquigarrow$   $\text{noise}_t^i = (\dot{W}_t^i)_{t \geq 0}$  white noise

- very strong assumption  $\rightsquigarrow$  start with **independent noises**

- may think of correlated cases as well  $\rightsquigarrow$  more complicated [HL]

# Mean-field interaction

- Force **symmetric interactions** (no privileged interactions)
  - $I_t^{\text{int}}(V_t^j, j \neq i)$  depending on the **empirical** distribution

$$I_t^{\text{int}}(V_t^j, j \neq i) = I_t^{\text{int}}\left(N^{-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \delta_{V_t^j}\right)$$

- **Subthreshold dynamics**

$$dV_t^i = -\lambda V_t^i dt + I_t^{\text{int}}\left(N^{-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \delta_{V_t^j}\right) dt + dW_t^i$$

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- **Asymptotic model** when  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ ? expect **decorrelation** between neurons as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  + **symmetry**  $\Rightarrow$  expect **averaging**

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- **Typical neuron** interacts with its own law  $\rightsquigarrow$  McKean-Vlasov eq.

$$dV_t = -\lambda V_t dt + I_t^{\text{int}}(\mathcal{L}(V_t)) dt + dW_t$$

# Part I. Motivation

## c. Examples

# Choice of the interaction functional

- Frequently used model ([BH, IT])

- $I_t^{\text{int}}\left(N^{-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \delta v_j\right)$  based on mean activity of the network

- $\rightsquigarrow I_t^{\text{int}}\left(N^{-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \delta v_j\right)$  function of  $\frac{1}{N} \#\{\text{spikes} \leq t\}$

- $\rightsquigarrow$  if function is  $\begin{cases} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{excitation} \\ \text{inhibition} \end{cases}$

- Other version (see [OBH, DIRT, NS])  $\rightsquigarrow$  interactions

- replace interaction currents by interaction pulses

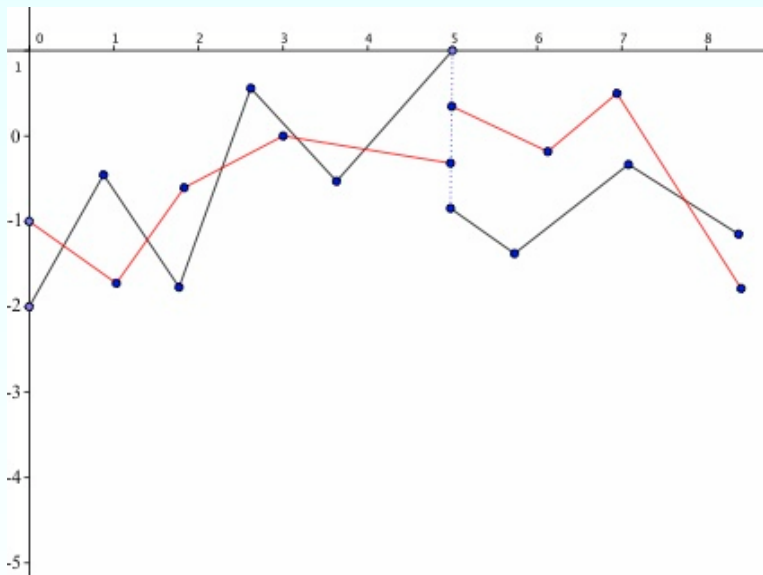
$$\begin{aligned} I_t^{\text{int}}(V^j, j \neq i) &= \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{1}_{\{V_{t-}^j = V_F\}} \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\alpha}{N} \#\{\text{spiking neurons} \neq i \text{ at } t\} \end{aligned}$$

- $\alpha > 0 \Leftrightarrow$  instantaneous self-excitatory interaction

- Replace spikes by defaults  $\rightsquigarrow$  systemic risk in economy [BH,NS]

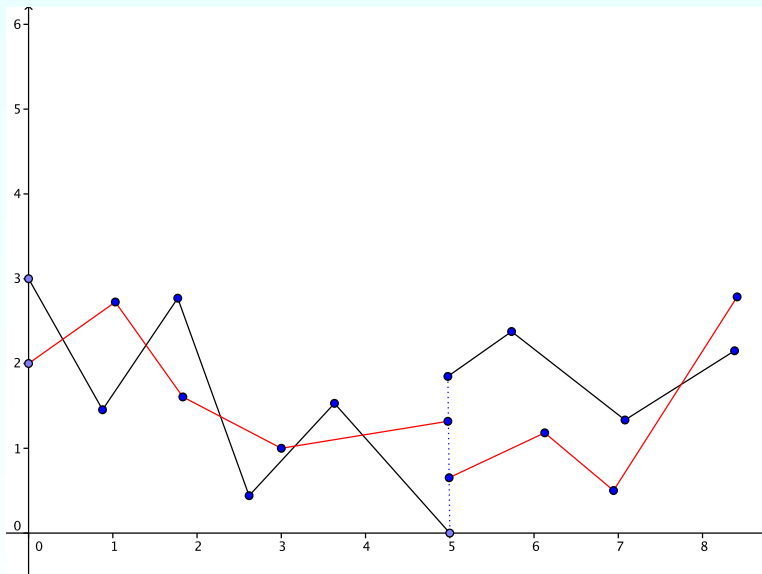
# Picture for neuronal model

- For  $V_F = 1$  and  $V_R = -1$  threshold is zero



# Picture for systemic risk model

- Consider  $V_F$  minus the potential  $\rightsquigarrow$  threshold is zero





## Part II. Limiting model

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### a. Standard McKV equations

## A non-singular particle system

- Forget the spikes and focus on standard dynamics

$$dX_t^i = b(X_t^i, \bar{\mu}_t^N)dt + \sigma(X_t^i, \bar{\mu}_t^N)dW_t^i$$

- $X_0^1, \dots, X_N^i$  i.i.d. (and  $\perp$  of noises),  $\bar{\mu}_t^N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{X_t^i}$

- $\exists!$  if the coefficients are Lipschitz in all the variables  $\rightsquigarrow$  need a suitable distance on space of measures

# A non-singular particle system

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- $\exists!$  if the coefficients are Lipschitz in all the variables  $\rightsquigarrow$  need a suitable distance on space of measures
- Use the Wasserstein distance on  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad W_2(\mu, \nu) = \left( \inf_{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^2 d\pi(x, y) \right)^{1/2},$$

where  $\pi$  has  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  as marginals on  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$

- $X$  and  $X'$  two r.v.'s  $\Rightarrow W_2(\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(X')) \leq \mathbb{E}[|X - X'|^2]^{1/2}$

- Example  $W_2\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_i}, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x'_i}\right) \leq \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - x'_i|^2\right)^{1/2}$

# McKean-Vlasov SDE

- Expect some decorrelation / averaging in the system as  $N \uparrow \infty$ 
  - replace the empirical measure by the theoretical law

$$dX_t = b(X_t, \mathcal{L}(X_t))dt + \sigma(X_t, \mathcal{L}(X_t))dW_t$$

- Cauchy-Lipschitz theory
  - assume  $b$  and  $\sigma$  Lipschitz continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \Rightarrow$  unique solution for any given initial condition in  $L^2$
  - proof works as in the standard case taking advantage of

$$\mathbb{E}\left[|(b, \sigma)(X_t, \mathcal{L}(X_t)) - (b, \sigma)(X'_t, \mathcal{L}(X'_t))|^2\right] \leq C\mathbb{E}[|X_t - X'_t|^2]$$

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- **Propagation of chaos**

- each  $(X_t^i)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$  converges in law to the solution of MKV SDE
  - particles get **independent** in the limit  $\rightsquigarrow$  for  $k$  fixed:

$$(X_t^1, \dots, X_t^k)_{0 \leq t \leq T} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{L}(\text{MKV})^{\otimes k} = \mathcal{L}((X_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T})^{\otimes k} \quad \text{as } N \nearrow \infty$$

- $\lim_{N \nearrow \infty} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \mathbb{E}[(W_2(\bar{\mu}_t^N, \mathcal{L}(X_t))^2] = 0$

## Part II. Limiting model

### b. Formulation of the asymptotic problem

# Ansatz

- Recall the **subthreshold dynamics** of the **finite** network

$$V_t^i = V_0^i - \lambda \int_0^t V_s^i ds + \frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{j \neq i} \#\{\text{neuron}(j) \text{ spiked before } t\} + W_t^i$$



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- **Heuristics**  $\leadsto$  same formal reasoning as for a regular interaction current

$$\boxed{I_t^{\text{int}}(V^j, j \neq i) \underset{N \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim} \alpha \mathbb{E}(M_t)}$$

- $M_t =$  number of spikes for typical neuron up to  $t$

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- $M_t =$  **number of spikes for typical neuron up to  $t$**
- Subthreshold** dynamics for typical neuron as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$V_t = V_0 - \lambda \int_0^t V_s ds + \alpha \mathbb{E}(M_t) + W_t$$

- $M_t = \#\{t \geq 0 : V_{t-} = V_F\}$  **depends on  $V$ !**
- Typical non-singular interactions**  $\int_0^t b(\mathbb{E}(M_s)) ds$  [BH,IT]; see also MFG [Campi,Fischer]

# Interpretation of the mean-field interaction

- Subthreshold dynamics

$$V_t = V_0 - \lambda \int_0^t V_s ds + \alpha \mathbb{E}(M_t) + W_t$$

- firing value  $V_F = 1$ , reset (after spiking)  $V_R = 0$

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- **Crucial question**: what class of admissible solutions?

- class of solutions dictates **regularity** for  $\mathbb{E}(M_t) \rightsquigarrow$  physical interpretation?

$$\mathbb{E}(M_{t+h} - M_t)$$

$\sim_{N=\infty}$  probability of spike in  $[t, t+h]$

$\sim_{N<\infty}$  proportion of spikes in  $[t, t+h]$

- $\mathbb{E}(M_t)$  is allowed to jump  $\Leftrightarrow$  **large proportion of neurons may spike at the same time**
- may stand for massive simultaneous spikes in the system

## Instantaneous firing rate

- Meaning for requiring  $e : t \mapsto \mathbb{E}(M_t)$  to be differentiable?

probability of spike in  $[t, t + h] \sim e'(t)h$

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- Subthreshold dynamics if differentiability

$$dV_t = -\lambda V_t dt - \alpha e'(t) dt + dW_t$$

- SDE  $\rightsquigarrow$  stochastic calculus and **regularizing effect**
- $\mathbb{P}(V_t \in dy) = p(t, y) dy, \quad t > 0, \quad y < 1$

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- Fokker Planck equation

$$\partial_t p(t, y) + \partial_y [(-\lambda y + \alpha e'(t)) p(t, y)] - \frac{1}{2} \partial_{yy}^2 p(t, y) = e'(t) \delta_0$$

◦  $p(t, 1) = 0$  and  $\partial_y p(t, 1) = -\frac{1}{2} e'(t)$

◦ **control of  $e' \Leftrightarrow$  control of the mass near 1**

## Part II. Limiting model

c. The need for  $\alpha < 1$

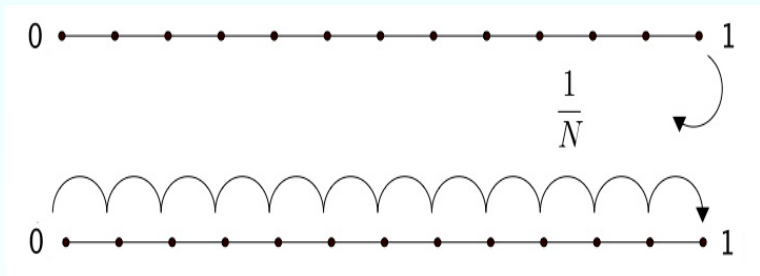


## Cascade phenomenon

- Difficulty  $\alpha$  will dictate the smoothness of  $e$ ! **Cascade phenomenon in the modeling if  $\alpha > 1$ !**

- Example: **runaway** behavior if reset ( $V_R = 0, V_F = 1$ )  $\leadsto$  plot  $V_F$ -potential

- choose  $N + 1$  neurons,  $\alpha = (N + 1)/N$  and  $V_0^i = i/N$ ,  
 $i = 0, \dots, N$ ,



- **particles keep jumping!**

- $\alpha < (N + 1)/N \Rightarrow$  no way for defaulting twice at same time

# Reformulating the limiting model

- Convenient to reformulate solutions  $\leadsto$  unknown without reset

$$Z_t = V_t + M_t$$

- $M_t = \#$  different positive integers crossed by  $(Z_s)_{0 \leq s \leq t}$

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- Application

$$\left( \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} Z_s \right)_+$$

$$\leq (Z_0)_+ + 2|\lambda| \int_0^t \left( \sup_{0 \leq r \leq s} Z_r \right)_+ ds + \alpha \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} Z_s \right)_+ \right] + \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} |W_s|$$

- $\alpha < 1$  needed to get an *a priori* bound

## Part II. Limiting model

### c. Solvability results

# Solvability of the regular model

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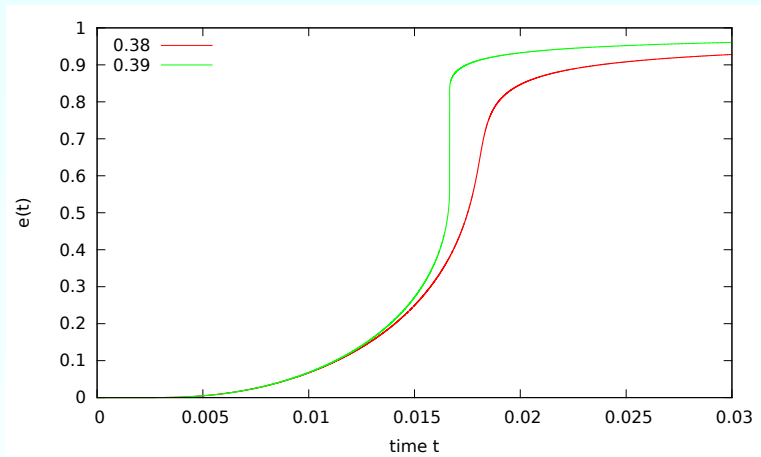
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  - for  $V_0 < 1$ ,  $\exists!$  solution without blow-up for  $\alpha$  small enough
  - explicit (but non-optimal) bounds on critical values  $\alpha$



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  - explicit (but non-optimal) bounds on critical values  $\alpha$
- Brownian example:  $\lambda = 0$  and  $V_0 = 0.8$  ( $V_F = 1$ ,  $V_R = 0$ )
  - existence of regular solutions if  $\alpha \leq 0.10$
  - no regular solutions if  $\alpha \geq 0.54$
  - numerically, critical value  $\sim 0.38 \dots$
- Exemple O-U  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  critical  $\alpha \rightarrow 1$  ( $\Leftrightarrow \lambda$  fixed and  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ )

# Illustration



- Need a general notion of solutions with **blow-up**
  - **existence is known** [DIRT], **uniqueness is partial only** [NS]

# Lower bound for criticality

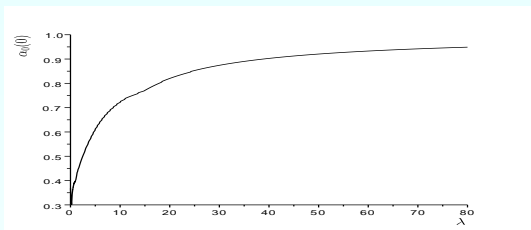


Figure: Plot of  $\alpha_0(0)$  in terms of  $\lambda \in [0; 80]$ .

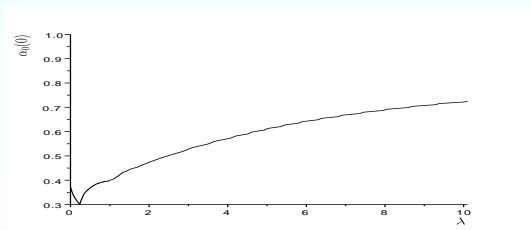


Figure: Plot of  $\alpha_0(0)$  in terms of  $\lambda \in [0; 10]$ .

## Part II. Limiting model

e. Existence of a blow-up for  $\alpha \gg 0$

## Caceres Carrillo Perthame argument

- Choose  $V_0 = v_0$  and  $\lambda = 0$  to simplify
- Compute Laplace transform of potential

$$z(t) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(\mu V_t)], \quad \text{for } \mu > 0$$

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$$\frac{d}{dt} z(t) = \underbrace{\left[ \alpha \mu e'(t) + \frac{\mu^2}{2} \right]}_{\eta(t)} z(t) + \underbrace{[1 - \exp(\mu)] e'(t)}_{\nu(t)}$$

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- solve the ODE and use  $z(t) \leq \exp(\mu)$

$$0 \leq \exp\left(-\mu + \int_0^t \eta(s) ds\right) \left[ z(0) - \int_0^t \nu(s) \exp\left(-\int_0^s \eta(u) du\right) ds \right] \leq 1$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  let  $t$  tend to  $\infty$

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$$0 = z(0) - \int_0^\infty v(s) \exp\left(-\int_0^s \eta(u) du\right) ds$$

- integrate explicitly

$$1 - \frac{\alpha\mu \exp(\mu v_0)}{\exp(\mu) - 1} = \frac{\mu^2}{2} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\alpha\mu e(s) - \frac{\mu^2}{2}s\right) ds \geq 0$$



## Part III. Solving the model for $\alpha \ll 1$

### a. General plan

## Sketch of the proof

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## Ingredients for the contraction in small time

- **Fix  $e$**  and consider  $dV_t^e = -\lambda V_t^e dt + \alpha e'(t) dt + dW_t$  before spike
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- **Use parametrization** when  $V_0 = v_0 < 1$

$$p^e(t, y) = q(t, v_0, y) - \int_0^t \int_{-\infty}^1 (\alpha e'(s) - \lambda) \partial_z p^e(s, z) q(t - s, z, y) dz ds$$

$\rightsquigarrow q = p^0$  for  $e = 0$  and drift  $-\lambda(y - 1)$

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- use  $p^e(0, y) \leq \beta(1 - y)$  to control  $\partial_z p^e(s, z)$

## Part III. Solving the model for $\alpha \ll 1$

### b. From small to arbitrary time

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- Assume  $\exists$  solution with  $e \in C^1$  on  $[0, T]$ 
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- Bound of  $p(t, y)$ 
  - **rough bound** using (non-killed) Gaussian kernels

$$V_0 > \varepsilon \Rightarrow p(t, y) \leq C(\varepsilon, \alpha), \quad y \in (0, \varepsilon/4)$$

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  - **Hölder regularity of  $p(t, y)$  in  $y$**
  - **Lipschitz regularity of  $p(t, y)$  in  $y$**
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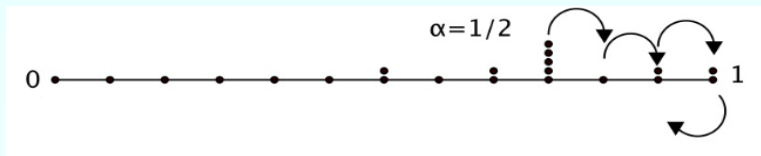
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## Part III. Solving the model for $\alpha \ll 1$

### c. Implementing the rough bound for $p$

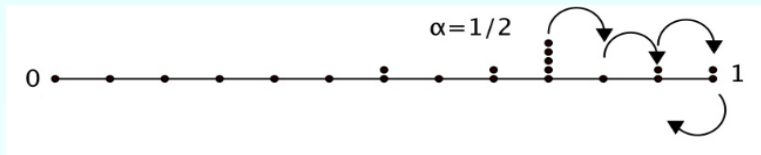
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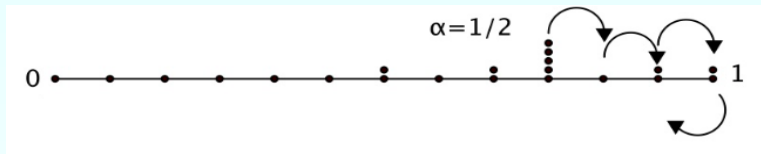
$$\Leftrightarrow \exists \delta_n \downarrow 0 : \underbrace{\text{kick due to particles in } [0, \delta_n]} < \delta_n$$

$$\alpha \int_0^{\delta_n} p(t-, y) dy$$

- if  $p(t, y) < 1/\alpha$  for  $y \in [0, \varepsilon)$  then  $e(t) = e(t-)$

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- **Application**  $\Rightarrow$  implement the bound  $p(t, y) \leq C(\varepsilon, \alpha)$ 
  - if  $C(\varepsilon, \alpha)\alpha < 1$  then continuity of  $e$
  - provides the condition  $\alpha$  small!
  - continuity dictated by Brownian:  $e$  1/2-Hölder

## Regularity of $p$ close to the boundary

- Recall Dirichlet condition  $p(t, 1) = 0$ 
  - $p$  satisfies Fokker-Planck  $\leadsto$  Feynman-Kac

$$p(T, y) = \mathbb{E} \left[ p(T - \rho, Y_\rho) \exp(\lambda \rho) \mid Y_0 = y \right]$$

- where  $dY_t = \lambda Y_t dt - \alpha e'(T - t) dt + dW_t$
- $\rho = \inf\{t \geq 0 : Y_t \notin (1 - \delta, 1)\} \wedge T$  (don't see the reset)



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- **Probability to hit the boundary**

- **competition** between  $B$  and  $e$ 
  - $\rightsquigarrow e$  pushes  $Y$  away from 1
- $e$  1/2 Hölder  $\Rightarrow B$  wins with **>0 probability**
- $y > 1 - \delta/2$  and  $\delta \ll 1 \Rightarrow p(T, y) \leq (1 - c) \sup_{t \in [0, T], x \geq 1 - \delta} p(t, x)$

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  - $p$  satisfies Fokker-Planck  $\rightsquigarrow$  Feynman-Kac

$$p(T, y) = \mathbb{E} \left[ p(T - \rho, Y_\rho) \exp(\lambda \rho) \mid Y_0 = y \right]$$

- where  $dY_t = \lambda Y_t dt - \alpha e'(T - t) dt + dW_t$
  - $\rho = \inf\{t \geq 0 : Y_t \notin (1 - \delta, 1)\} \wedge T$  (don't see the reset)
- Regularity of  $p$  at the boundary  $\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}\{Y_\rho = 1\}$

$$p(T, y) \leq C \mathbb{P}(\{Y_\rho = 1 - \delta\} \cup \{\rho = T\}) \sup_{t \in [0, T], x \in [1 - \delta, 1]} p(t, x)$$

- Probability to hit the boundary
  - competition between  $B$  and  $e$ 
    - $\rightsquigarrow e$  pushes  $Y$  away from 1
  - $e$  1/2 Hölder  $\Rightarrow B$  wins with **>0 probability**
  - get Hölder decay and then Lipschitz (barrier lemma)

## Part IV. Solutions with blow-up

### a. Physical solutions of the particle system

## Returning to the particle system

- Specify **mean field interaction**

$$V_t^{i,N} = V_0^{i,N} - \lambda \int_0^t V_s^{i,N} ds + \frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N M_t^{j,N} + W_t^i - M_t^{i,N}$$

- $M_t^{i,N} = \sum_{k \geq 1} \mathbf{1}_{[0,t]}(\tau_k^{i,N})$

$$\rightsquigarrow \tau_k^{i,N} = \inf \left\{ t > \tau_{k-1}^{i,N} : V_{t-}^{i,N} + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (M_t^{j,N} - M_{t-}^{j,N})}_{\text{kick}} \geq 1 \right\}$$

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- may exclude interaction with  $i$  itself

- **Not well-posed!** take  $N = 3$  and

- $t : M_{t-}^1 = M_{t-}^2 = M_{t-}^3 = 0, V_{t-}^1 = 1, V_{t-}^2, V_{t-}^3 \in (1 - \frac{2\alpha}{3}, 1 - \frac{\alpha}{3})$

- $\rightsquigarrow$  1st solution  $M_t^1 = 1, M_t^2 = M_t^3 = 0$     **kick** =  $\frac{\alpha}{3}$

- $\rightsquigarrow$  2nd solution  $M_t^1 = M_t^2 = M_t^3 = 1$     **kick** = 1



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$$\Gamma_{k+1} = \left\{ i \in \{1, \dots, N\} \setminus \Gamma_0 \cup \dots \cup \Gamma_k : X_{t-}^i + \alpha \frac{|\Gamma_0 \cup \dots \cup \Gamma_k|}{N} \geq 1 \right\}$$

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- Global set of particles that spike  $\leadsto \Gamma = \bigcup_{0 \leq k \leq N-1} \Gamma_k$

$$V_t^i = V_{t-}^i + \frac{\alpha|\Gamma|}{N} \text{ if } i \notin \Gamma, \quad V_t^i = V_{t-}^i + \frac{\alpha|\Gamma|}{N} - 1 \text{ if } i \in \Gamma.$$

## Part IV. Solutions with blow-up

### b. Physical solutions of the limiting system

# Rules for spiking

- Seek càd-làg solutions
- From particle system  $\rightsquigarrow$  need to prescribe rules for spiking
  - no more than 1 spike at a given time  $\Rightarrow \Delta M_t = M_t - M_{t-} \in \{0, 1\}$

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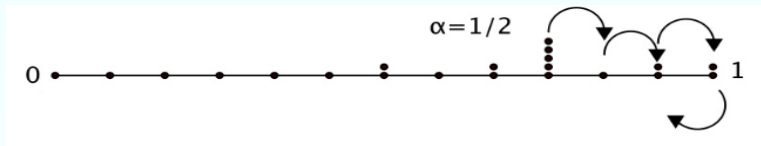
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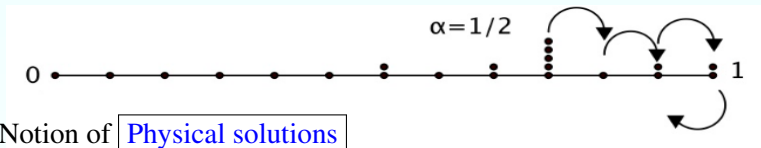


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- Notion of Physical solutions
  - no jump if remaining mass after jump is too small!

$$\Delta e(t) = \inf\{\eta \geq 0 : \mathbb{P}(V_{t-} + \alpha \eta \geq 1) < \eta\}$$

## Solutions with blow-up

- Description of the jumps of  $e(t) = \mathbb{E}(M_t)$  when blow-up?

$$\Delta e(t) = e(t) - e(t-) \geq \delta_0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \delta \leq \delta_0, \text{ kick due to particles in } [0, \delta) \geq \delta$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \delta \leq \delta_0, \quad \underbrace{\alpha \int_0^\delta p(t-, y) dy}_{\text{kick due to particles in } [0, \delta)} \geq \delta$$

kick due to particles in  $[0, \delta)$

- restart with density  $p(t, y) = p(t-, y + \Delta e(t))$  for  $y$  near 1

- Construction of a solution  $\Rightarrow$  approximation

- risk modeling  $\leadsto$  massive/systemic default?

- Uniqueness?

- [NS] : uniqueness as long as  $t : \int_0^t |e'(s)|^2 ds < \infty$  for

# Reformulation

- Convenient to reformulate solutions  $\leadsto$  unknown without reset

$$Z_t = V_t + M_t$$

- $M_t = \#$  different positive integers crossed by  $(Z_s)_{0 \leq s \leq t}$

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- Similar transformation with particle system

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## Part V. Construction of solutions with blow up

### a. M1 topology

## Description

- Need **convenient compactness** for  $\uparrow$  functions
  - rationale for using **M1** (**different from J1!**)
    - $\rightsquigarrow$  topology on  $\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathbb{R})$ , see [Skorohod, Whitt]

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- **Distance** between  $f_1, f_2$

$$d_{M_1}(f_1, f_2) = \inf_{(u_j, r_j), j=1,2} \{\|u_1 - u_2\|_\infty \vee \|r_1 - r_2\|_\infty\}$$

# Compact sets

- Modulus of continuity

$$w_T(f, t, \delta) = \sup_{0 \vee (t-\delta) \leq t_1 < t_2 < t_3 \leq T \wedge (t+\delta)} \text{dist}(f(t_2), [f(t_1), f(t_3)])$$

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- Connection with standard modulus

$$\circ \text{ if } (f_n)_{n \geq 1} \rightarrow f \Rightarrow \text{for any continuity point of } f$$

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{s \in [0 \vee (t-\delta), T \wedge (t+\delta)]} |f_n(s) - f(s)| = 0$$

## Part V. Construction of solutions with blow up

### b. Convergence of the particle system

## Main Statement [DIRT]

- Recall particle system

$$Z_t^{i,N} = V_0^{i,N} - \lambda \int_0^t (Z_s^{i,N} - M_s^{i,N}) ds + \frac{\alpha}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N M_t^{j,N} + W_t^i$$

$$M_t^{i,N} = [(\sup_{s \in [0,t]} Z_s^{i,N})_+]$$

- empirical measure  $\rightsquigarrow \bar{\mu}_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{Z^{i,N}}$

- r.v. with values in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathbb{R})) \rightsquigarrow$  call  $\Pi_N$  the law of  $\bar{\mu}_N$



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- Claim 2:** For a weak limit  $\Pi_\infty$ , for  $\Pi_\infty$ -a.e.  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathbb{R}))$ , the canonical process  $(z_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$  generates, under  $\mu$ , a physical solution

- under  $\mu$ ,  $(z_t - z_0 + \lambda \int_0^t (z_s - m_s) ds - \alpha \langle \mu, m_t \rangle)_{t \in [0, T]}$  is B.M.

$$\rightsquigarrow m_t = \lfloor (\sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} z_s)_+ \rfloor \text{ and } \langle \mu, m_t \rangle = \int m_t d\mu$$

## Sketch of proof

- **Tightness** requires only **a priori bounds** for  $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |Z_t|^p]$ 
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- rewrite in terms of **canonical process** under  $\bar{\mu}_N$

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- **Main difficulty** : continuity of the functional  $z \mapsto (\sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} z_s)_+$ 
  - may be false! **True if  $z$  really crosses threshold**

## Part V. Construction of solutions with blow up

### c. Another construction

## Delayed interaction

- Subthreshold potential with delayed interaction

$$V_t^\delta = V_0 - \lambda \int_0^t V_s^\delta ds + \alpha e_\delta(t) + W_t$$

- $M_t^\delta = \sum_{k \geq 1} \mathbf{1}_{[0,t]}(\tau_k^\delta)$ ,  $\tau_k^\delta = \inf \{t > \tau_{k-1}^\delta : V_{t-}^\delta + \alpha \Delta e_\delta(t) \geq 1\}$

- $e_\delta(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \leq \delta \\ \mathbb{E}(M_{t-\delta}^\delta) & \text{if } t > \delta \end{cases}$

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## Part V. Extensions

### a. Model with common noise

# Model with a common noise

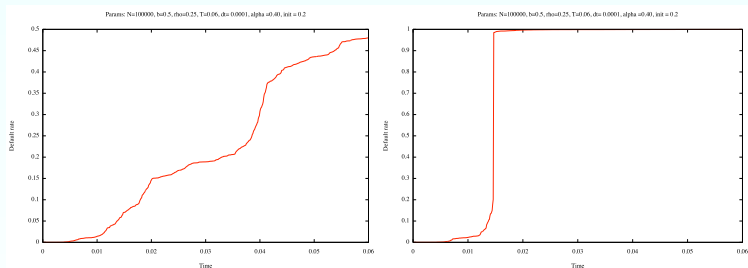
- Common source of noise in dynamics of the neurons

$$V_t^i = V_0^i - \lambda \int_0^t V_s^i ds + I_t^i + W_t^i + W_t^0$$

- Mean-field modeling

$$V_t = V_R - \lambda \int_0^t V_s ds + \alpha \mathbb{E}(M_t | W^0) + W_t + W_t^0$$

- same  $\alpha \leadsto$  two  $\neq$  plots: **competition** with common noise



$\leadsto$  See **Hambly, Ledger** (without **singular** interactions)

## Part V. Extensions

### b. Model with random weights

## Part V. Extensions

### c. Model with spatial component