## Exponential Decay Current Synapses

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## Overview

- Conductance synapses can be modeled as exponential decay current synapses
- The membrane voltage has an alpha functionlike response to an exponential decay current injection
- Using exponential decay current synapses permits a closed-form solution to the membrane voltage in response to a pre-synaptic spike
- When spike times can be solved analytically, fast discrete event simulations can be used

### Leaky Integrate-and-Fire



# Synapse Types

- Conductance synapses
  - Current depends on difference between membrane voltage and channel reversal potential
  - Nonlinear so no solution to differential equations
  - Requires continuous simulation
- Current synapses
  - Models conductance synapses as injected current
  - Linear injections have solution which can be used to calculate whether voltage exceeds threshold
  - Permits use of discrete event simulation

## Simulation Demonstration

- Animated Interactive Simulation Java Applet
- CroftSoft IntFire v1.1 http://www.CroftSoft.com/library/software/intfire/
- Left-click for excitatory input
- Right-click for inhibitory input

#### CroftSoft IntFire v1.1



### CroftSoft IntFire v1.1

- Modified to show time series data for currents
- Modified to use exponential decay current synapses (injectors)
- Excitatory current negative since it flows into the neuron
- Net current is difference between excitatory current and inhibitory current
- Membrane voltage shows alpha function-like response to exponential decay current input

#### Net Current



## **Different Decay Rates**



## Firing Threshold



## **Closed-Form Solution**

- Continuous simulation updated in small steps
- Discrete event simulation only updated at spike times so simulations can potentially run faster
- Closed-form solution to membrane voltage permits calculation of next spike time in reponse to most recent pre-synaptic spike
- Mihalas and Niebur (2009) use exponential decay current synapses since linear differential equations are analytically solvable

### Leaky Integrator



# Injected Current

- I injected current
- I' first derivative of the injected current
- $I_0$  peak current at start of injection
- λ injected current exponential decay rate
- t time since current injected
- $I' = -\lambda \cdot I$  exponential decay differential •  $I = I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$  exponential decay closed-form

## **Capacitive Current**

- V membrane voltage at time t
- V' first derivative of the membrane voltage
- $V_n$  membrane voltage at start of injection
- C membrane capacitance
- I capacitive current
- I<sub>c</sub> = C V'

## Leakage Current

- G leakage conductance
- E leakage conducance reversal potential
- I leakage current

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$$I_{L} = G \cdot (V - E)$$

#### **Differential Equations**

$$I' = -\lambda \cdot I$$
$$I_C = C \cdot V'$$
$$I_L = G \cdot (V - E)$$

$$I_C + I_L + I = 0$$

$$C \cdot V' + G \cdot (V - E) + I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t} = 0$$

## Solving Homogeneous

$$a_{1} \cdot x' + a_{0} \cdot x = F$$

$$r = a_{0}/a_{1}$$

$$q = F/a_{1}$$

$$x' + r \cdot x = q$$

$$x' + r \cdot x = 0$$

$$x' = -r \cdot x$$

$$h = e^{-\int r}$$

$$x = k \cdot h$$

#### **Standard Form**

 $C \cdot V' + G \cdot (V - E) + I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t} = 0$  $C \cdot V' + G \cdot (V - E) = -I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$  $C \cdot V' + G \cdot V - G \cdot E = -I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$  $C \cdot V' + G \cdot V = G \cdot E - I_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$  $V' + \frac{G}{C} \cdot V = \frac{G}{C} \cdot E - \frac{I_0}{C} \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$ 

## Homogeneous Solution (1 of 2)

 $V' + \frac{G}{C} \cdot V = \frac{G}{C} \cdot E - \frac{I_0}{C} \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot t}$  $V' + \frac{G}{C} \cdot V = 0$  $V' = -\frac{G}{C} \cdot V$  $\frac{V'}{V} = -\frac{G}{C}$ 

## Homogeneous Solution (2 of 2)

 $\int_{0}^{l} \frac{V'}{V} = -\int_{0}^{l} \frac{G}{C}$  $\ln V = -\frac{G}{C} \cdot t + \alpha$  $V = e^{-\frac{G}{C} \cdot t + \alpha}$  $V = e^{\alpha} \cdot e^{-\frac{G}{C} \cdot t}$  $V = V_0 \cdot e^{-\frac{G}{C} \cdot t}$ 

#### Solving Nonhomogeneous $x' + r \cdot x = q$ $x = k \cdot h$ $x' = k' \cdot h + k \cdot h'$ $x'+r\cdot x = (k'\cdot h+k\cdot h')+r\cdot(k\cdot h)$ $x' + r \cdot x = k' \cdot h + k \cdot (h' + r \cdot h)$ $h' + r \cdot h = 0$ $x' + r \cdot x = k' \cdot h = q$ k' = q/h $k = \int q/h$ $x = k \cdot h$

## Nonhomogeneous Solution (1 of 6)



### Nonhomogeneous Solution (2 of 6)



### Nonhomogeneous Solution (3 of 6)



### Nonhomogeneous Solution (4 of 6)



### Nonhomogeneous Solution (5 of 6)



#### Nonhomogeneous Solution (6 of 6)





## References

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