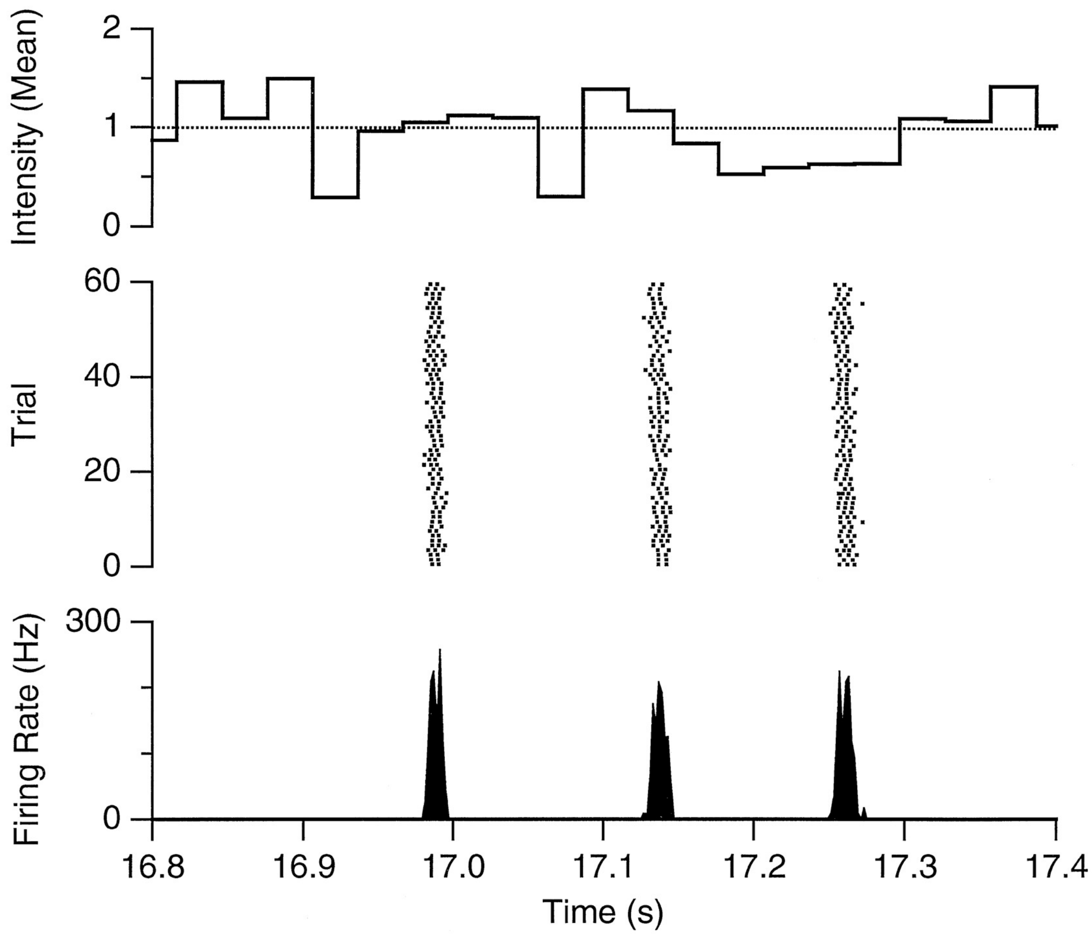
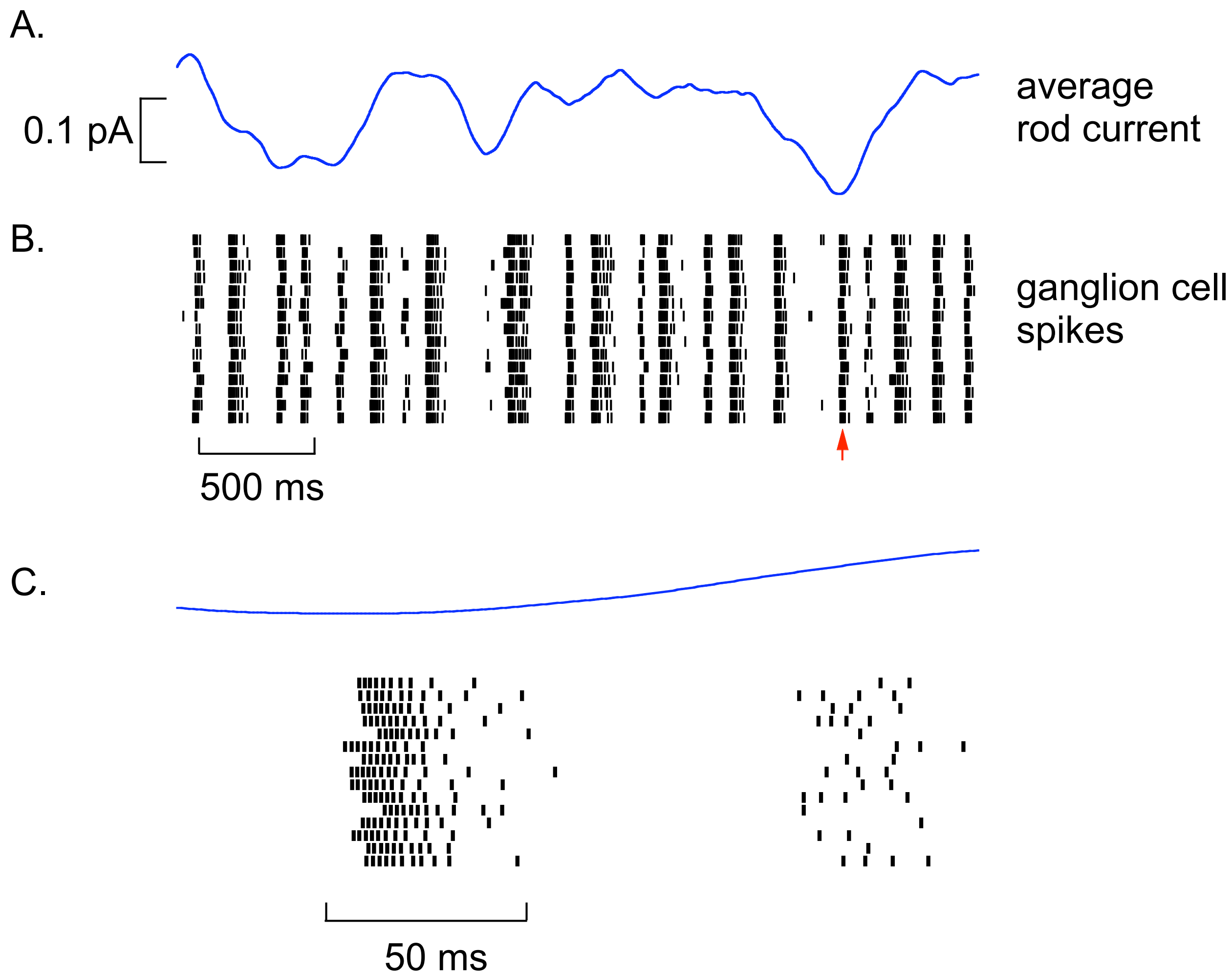
TEMPORAL PRECISION OF SENSORY RESPONSES

Berry and Meister, 1998



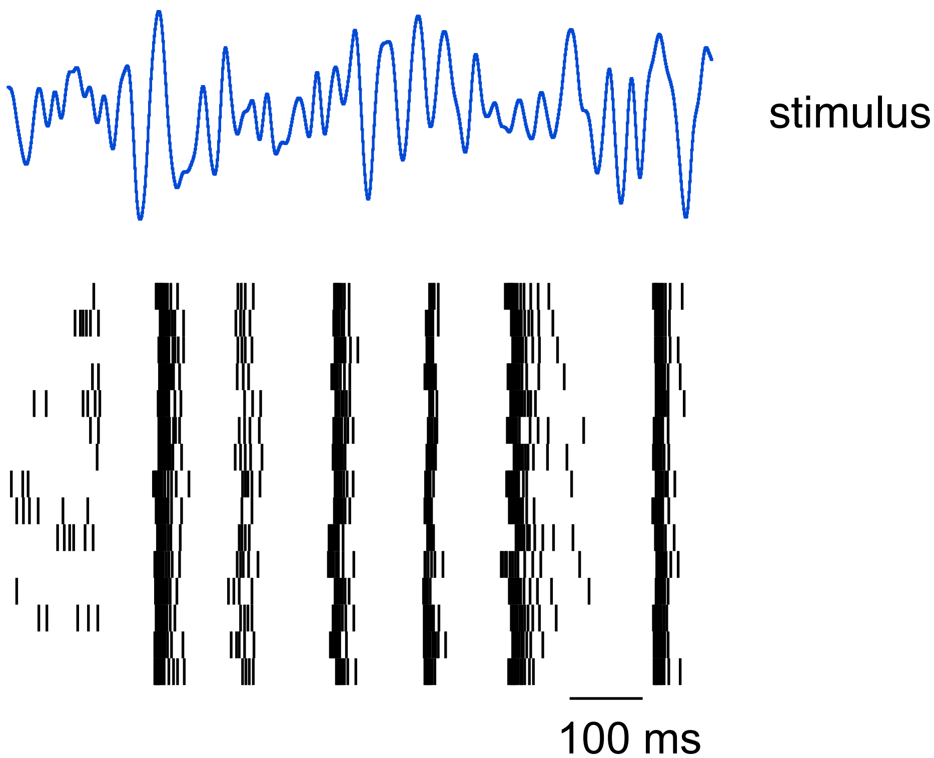
Today:
(1) how can we measure temporal precision?
(2) what mechanisms enable/limit precision?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?



1. Important characteristic of the neural code
2. Precision can dramatically exceed apparent limits set by sensory inputs

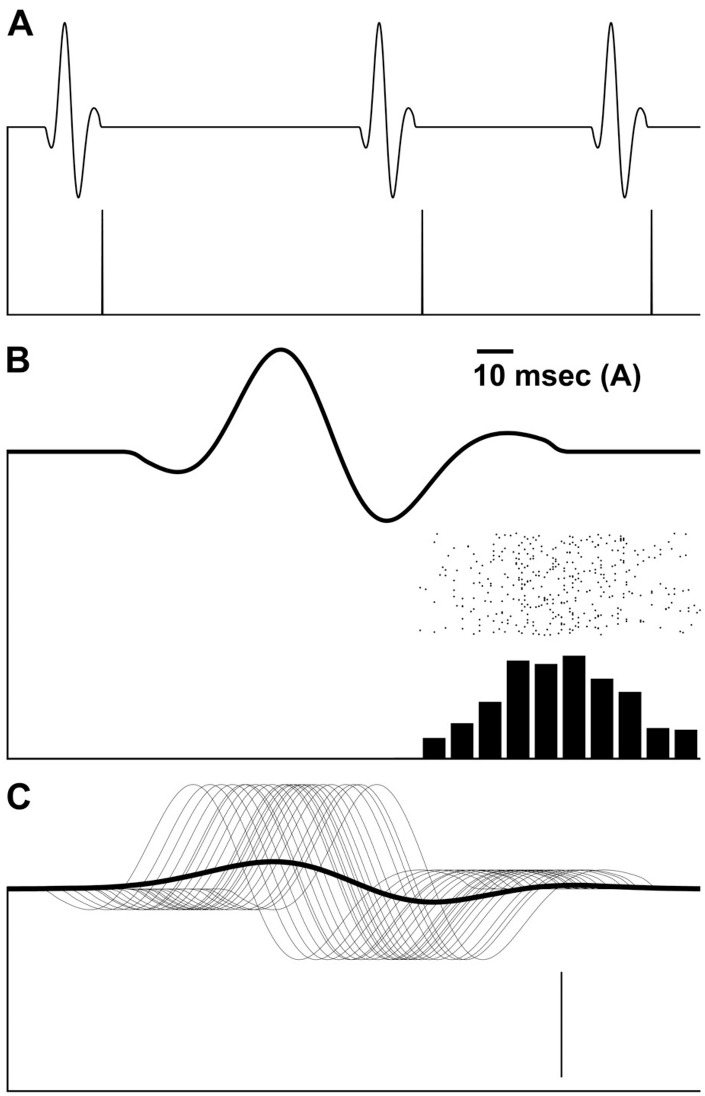
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



difference between two responses includes dropped spikes, spontaneous spikes and temporally jittered spikes - which spikes should be compared?

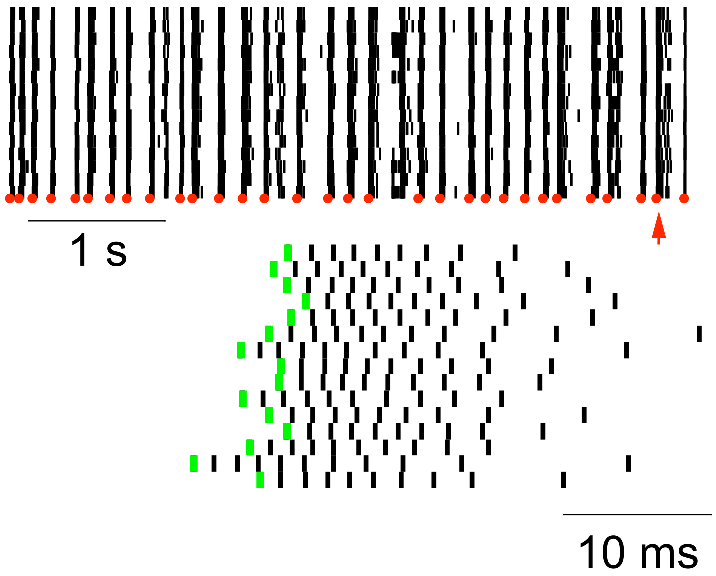
SPIKE-TRIGGERED AVERAGE AND SPIKE JITTER

Aldworth et al., 2005



jitter spikes until relation between stimulus and spikes degraded

TEMPORAL PRECISION OF SELECTED BURSTS



identify bursts that:

1. are preceded by period of silence
2. have spikes in large fraction of trials

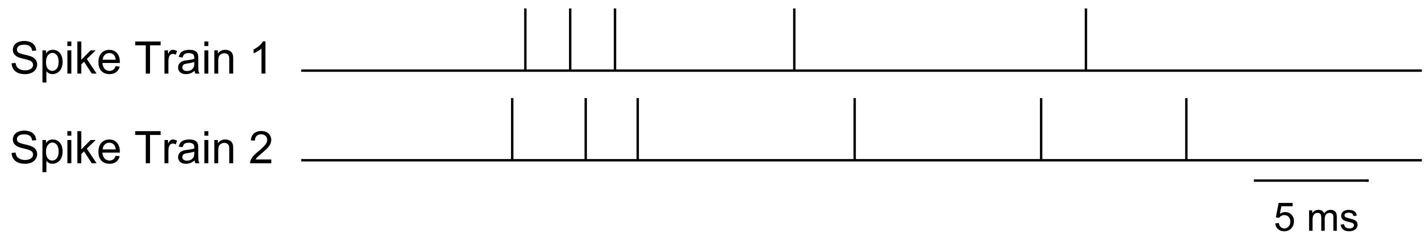
measure variance of first spike time in bursts

problem:

only quantify precision of small fraction of spikes

USING VICTOR DISTANCE METRIC TO QUANTIFY PRECISION OF ALL SPIKES

Victor and Purpura, 1997

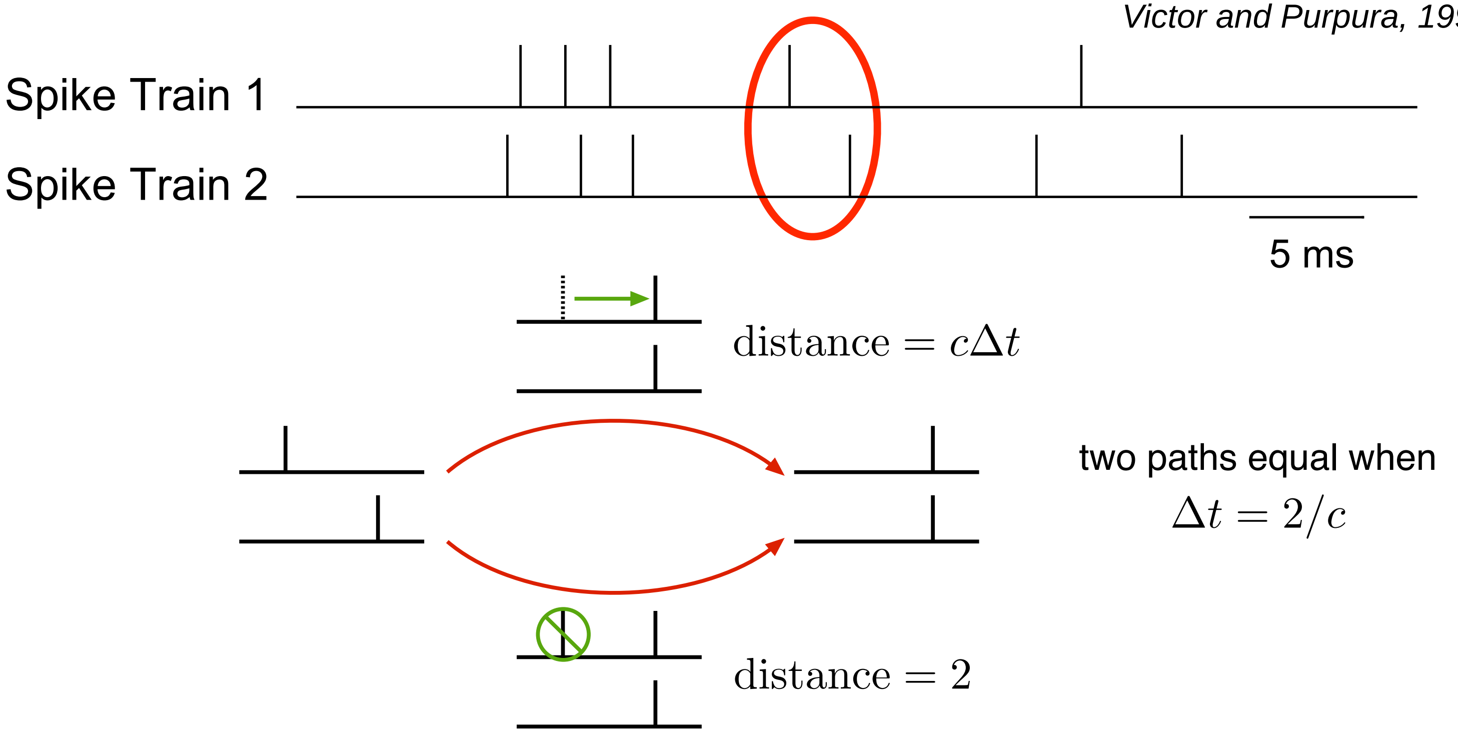


• Map spike train 1 onto spike train 2 by (1) deleting spikes, (2) adding spikes, and (3) sliding spikes

• Distance associated with each operation

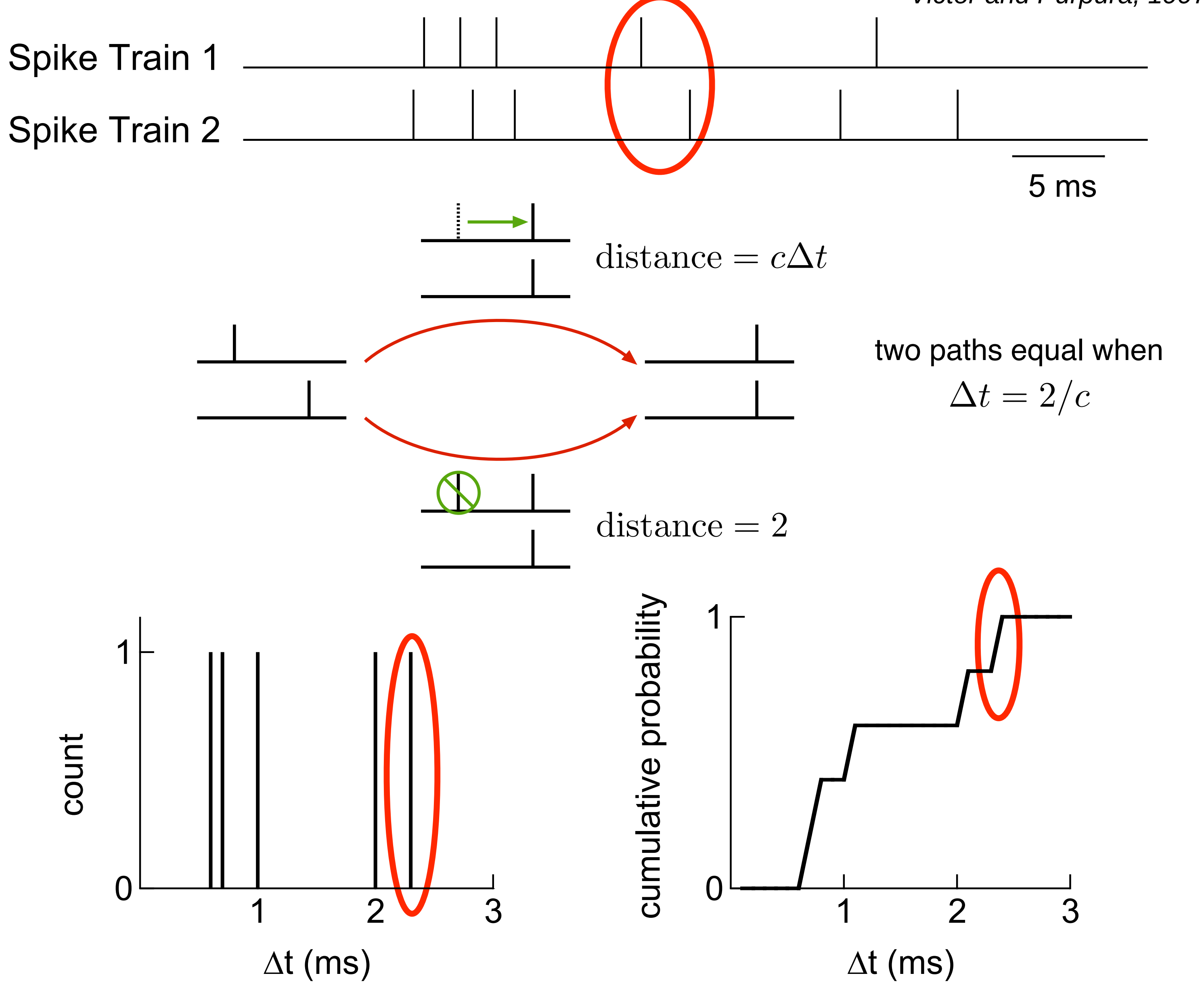
USING VICTOR DISTANCE METRIC TO QUANTIFY PRECISION OF ALL SPIKES

Victor and Purpura, 1997

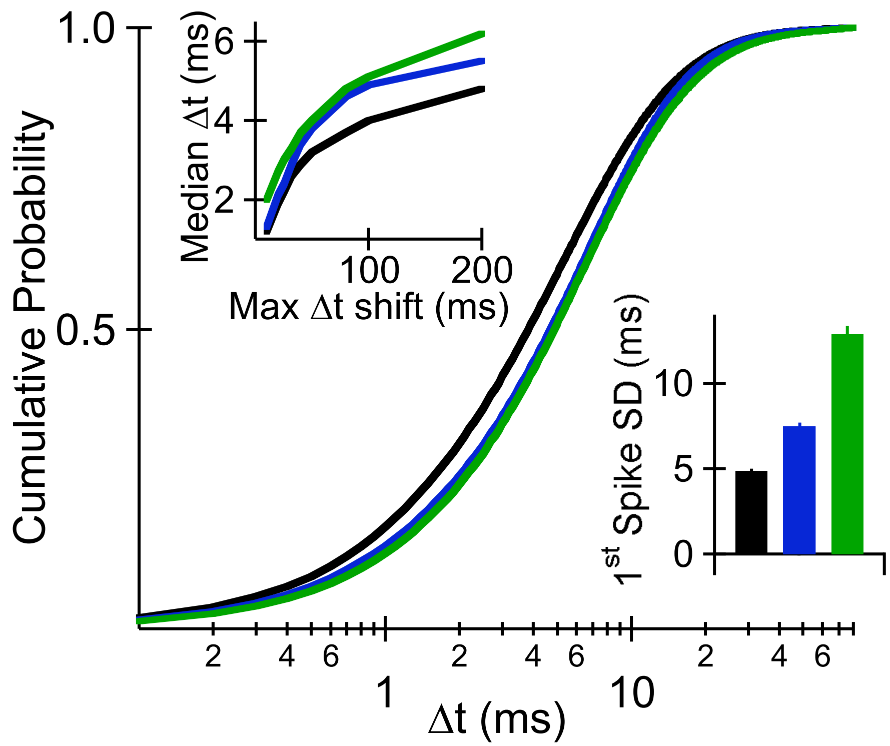


USING VICTOR DISTANCE METRIC TO QUANTIFY PRECISION OF (NEARLY) ALL SPIKES

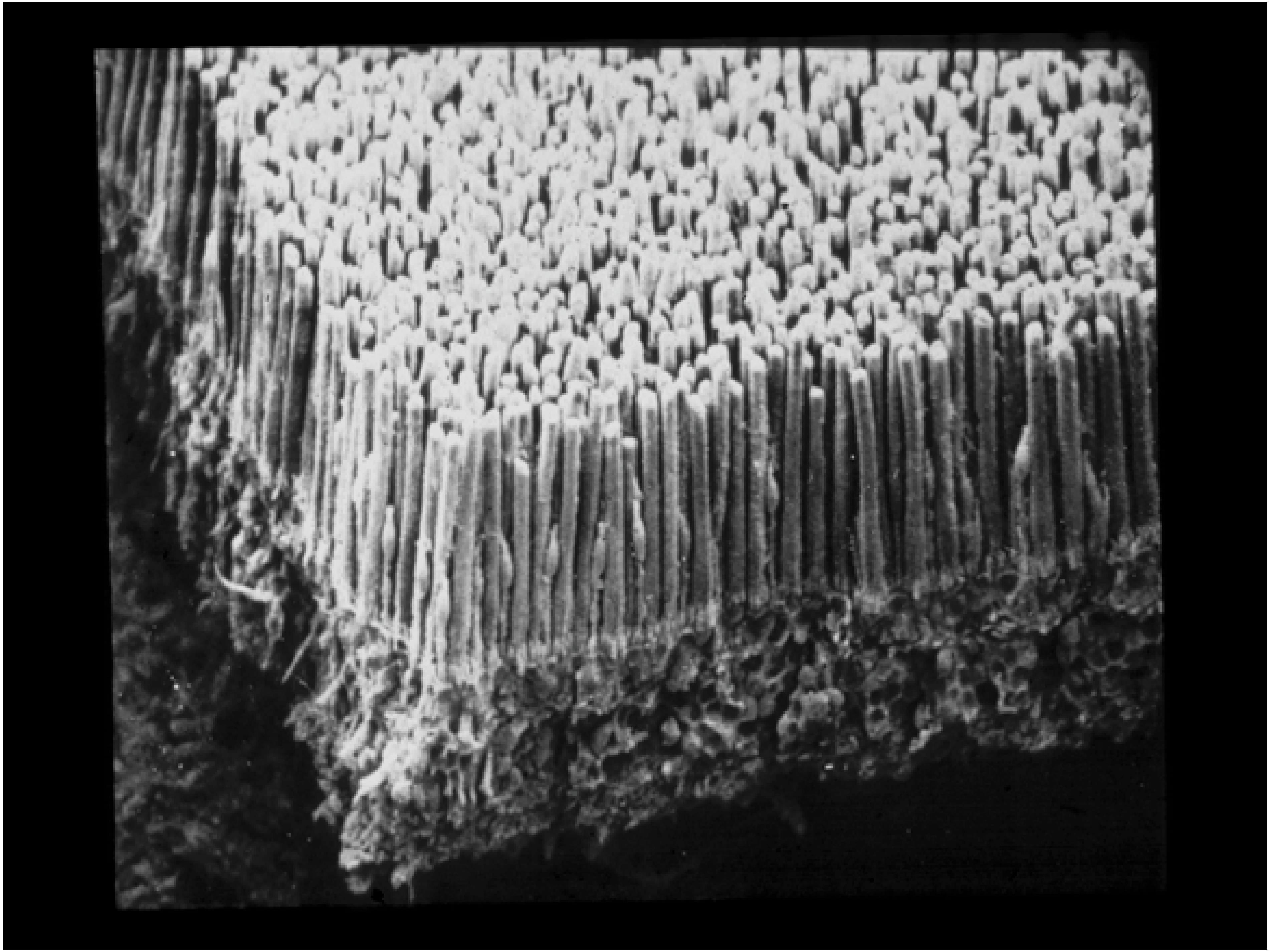
Victor and Purpura, 1997



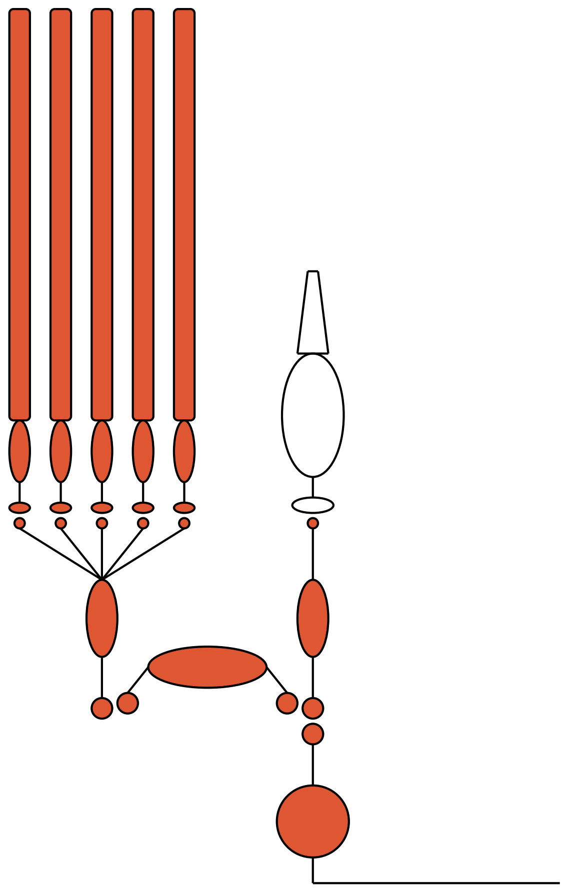
COMPARISON OF FIRST SPIKE TIMES AND VICTOR DISTANCE METRIC



Victor distance metric quantifies precision of majority of spikes in model-independent fashion



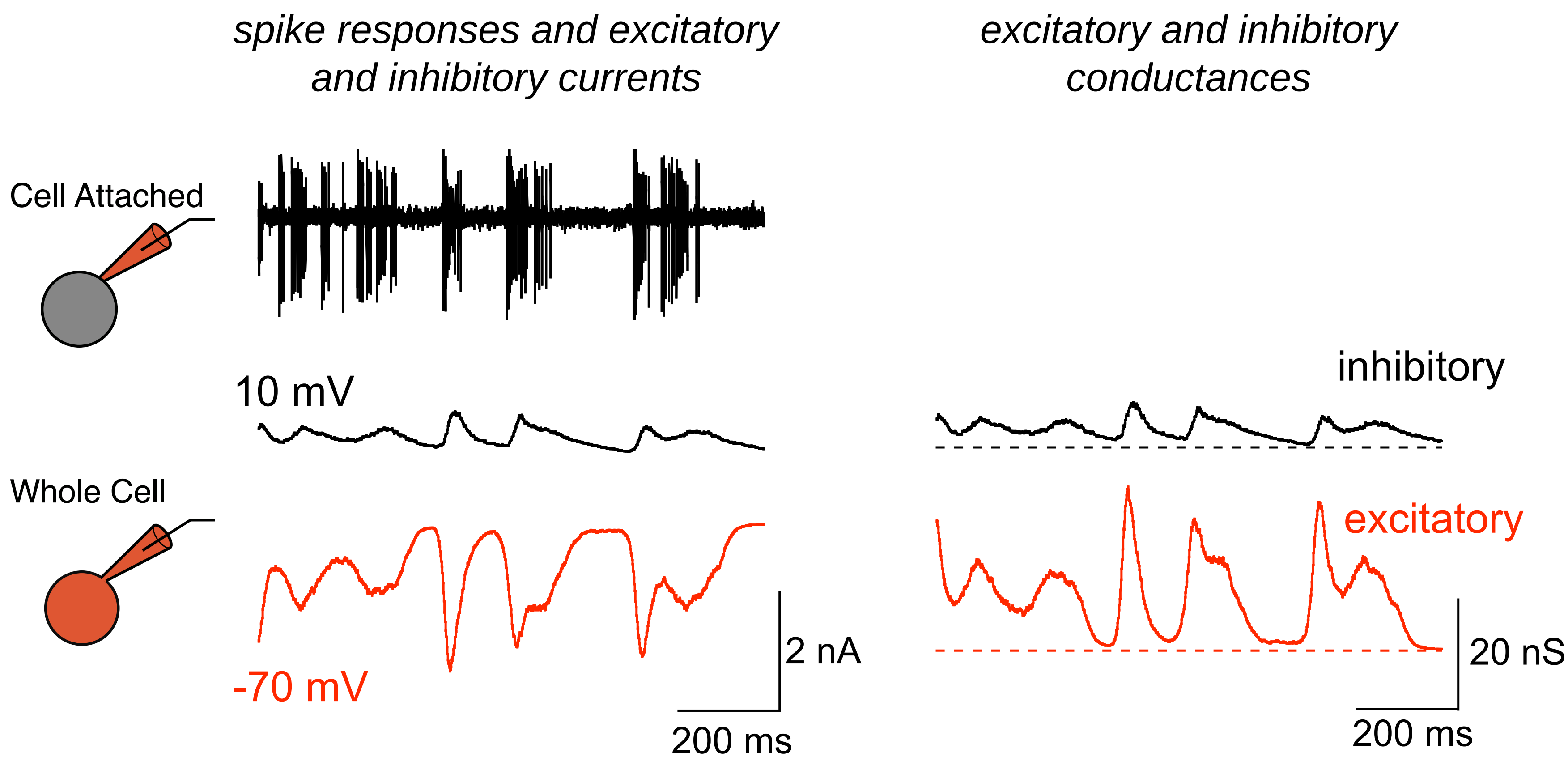
SUMMARY (TAKE 1)



- Signals traversing rod bipolar pathway evoke temporally precise responses in mouse ganglion cells

- Temporal precision limited by noise in synaptic inputs rather than noise intrinsic to ganglion cell (i.e. in dendritic processing or spike generation)

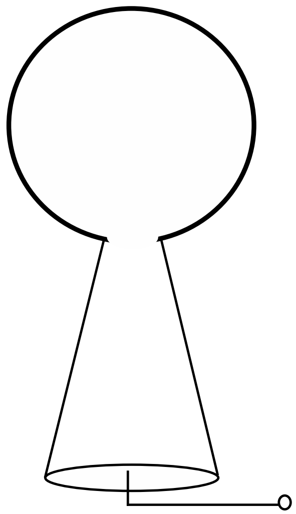
HOW ARE EXCITATORY AND INHIBITORY CONDUCTANCES COMBINED TO CONTROL SPIKING?

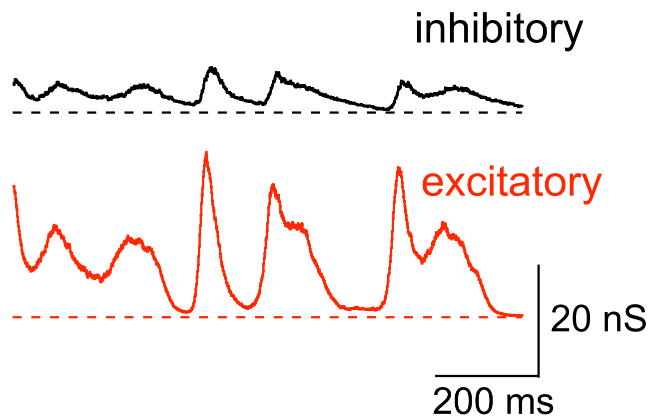


Gabe Murphy

DYNAMIC (CONDUCTANCE) CLAMP

mimicking a real conductance with injected current fails to account for voltage dependence - dynamic clamp is an alternative

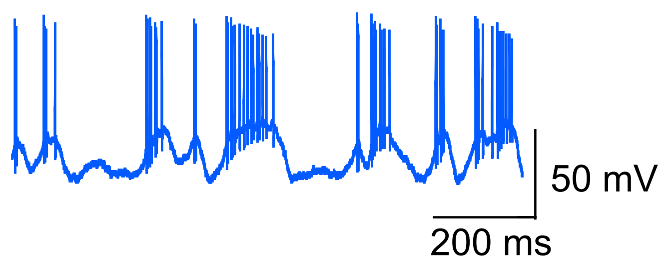




(1) measure voltage
(2) compute current

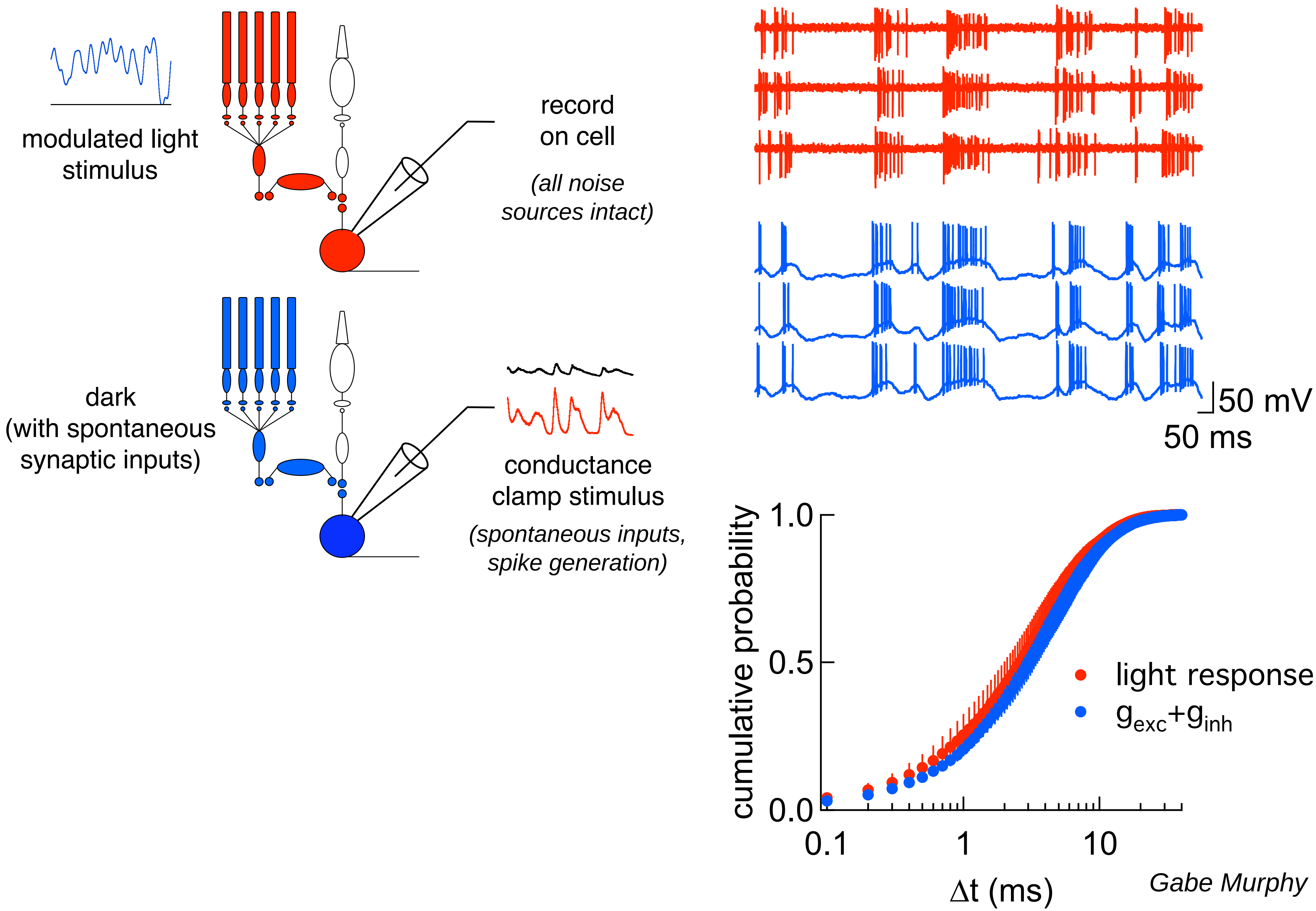
$$I = g_{\text{exc}}(V - V_{\text{exc}}) + g_{\text{inh}}(V - V_{\text{inh}})$$

(3) inject current



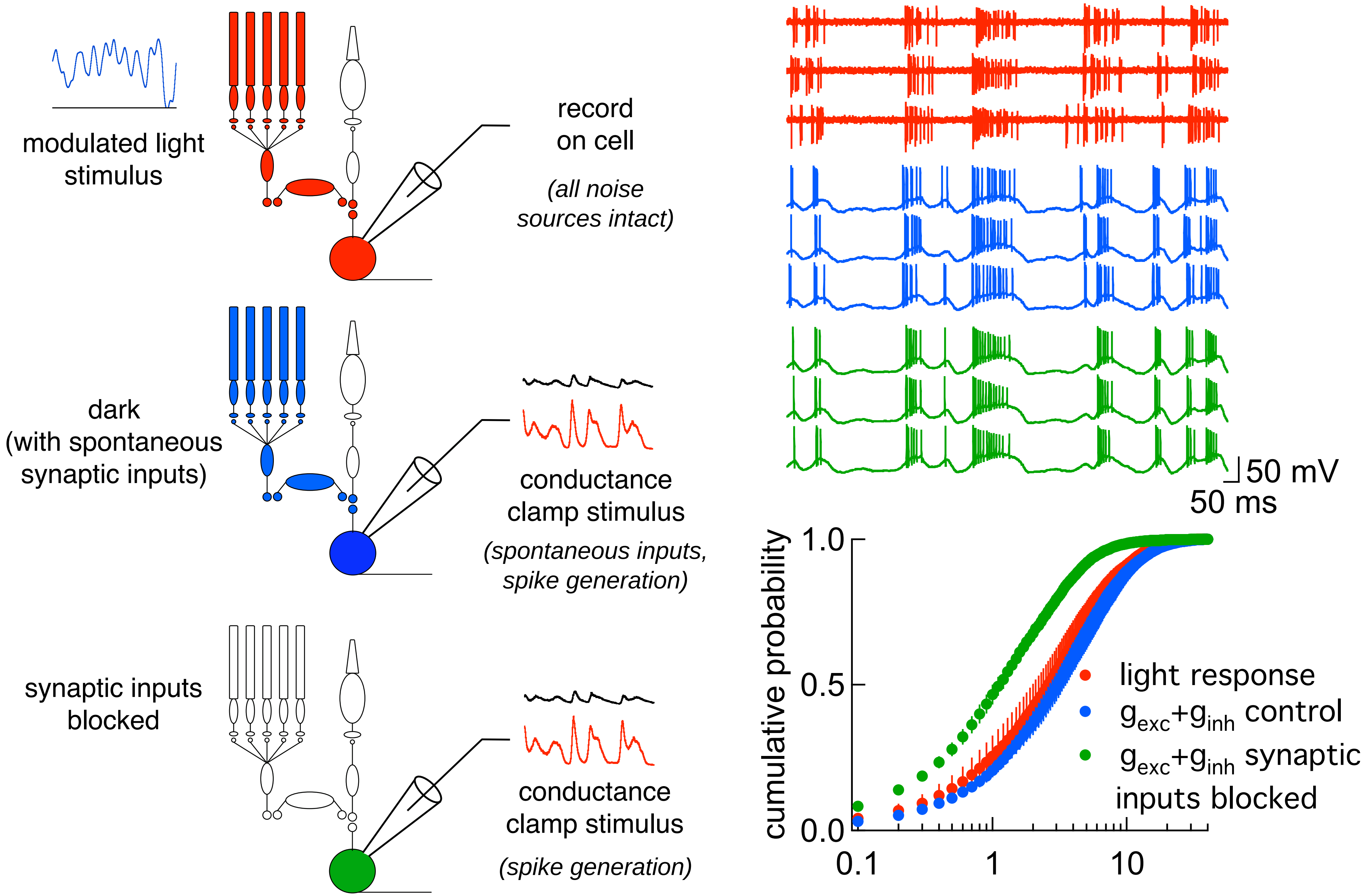
Gabe Murphy

PRECISION SIMILAR ± MODULATED LIGHT STIMULUS



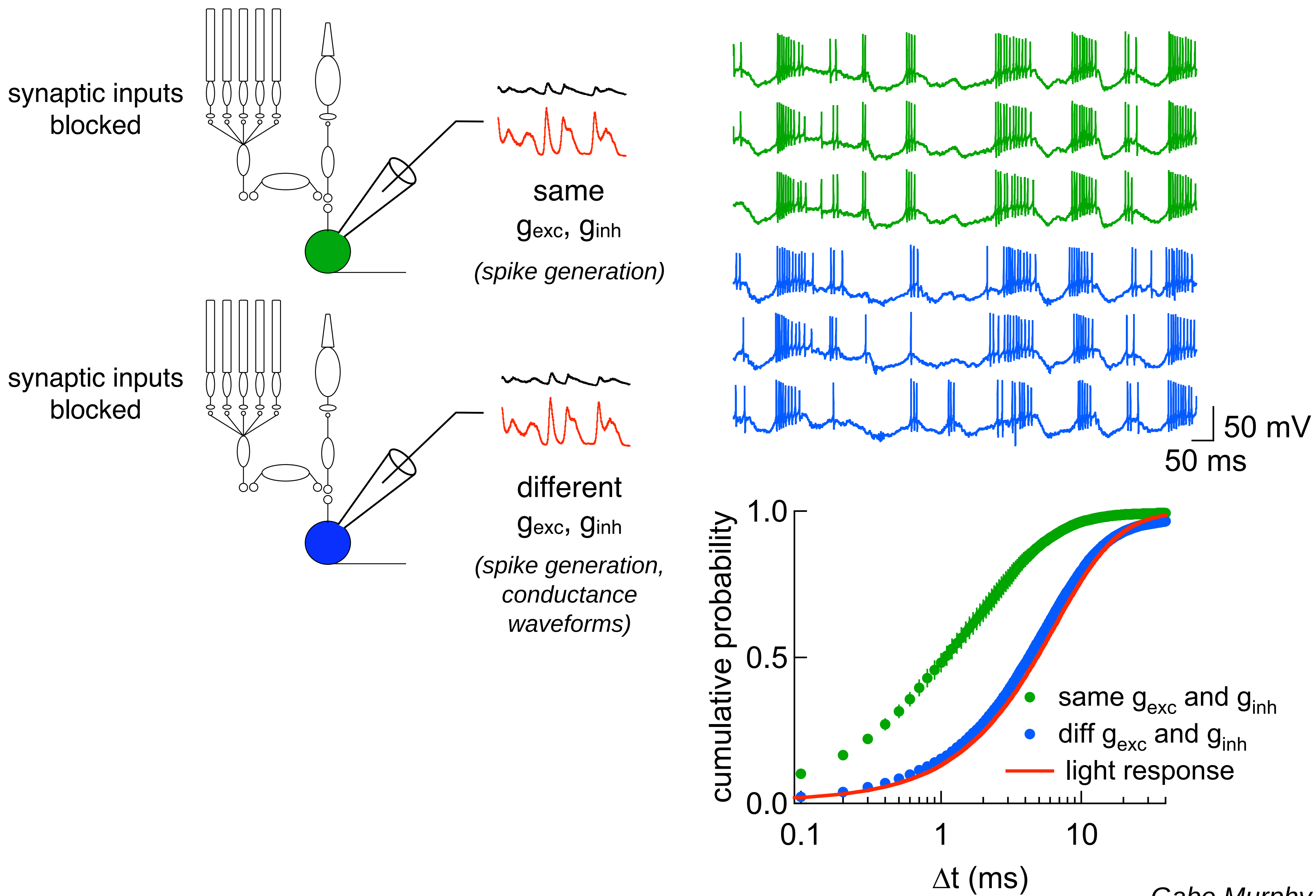
Gabe Murphy

SPIKE GENERATION CONTRIBUTES LITTLE NOISE



Gabe Murphy

SYNAPTIC INPUTS ACCOUNT FOR NOISE IN SPIKE OUTPUT



Gabe Murphy