Modular and Global Sparse Synchronization in Clustered Small-World Networks of Inhibitory Fast Spiking Izhikevich Interneurons

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Behaving Brain Rhythms via Sparse Synchronization

• Fast Sparsely Synchronized Brain Rhythms

- Population Level: Fast Oscillations
 e.g., gamma rhythm (30~100Hz) and sharp-wave ripple (100~200Hz)
- Cellular Level: Stochastic and Intermittent Discharges
- Associated with Diverse Cognitive Functions
- e.g., sensory perception, feature integration, selective attention, and memory formation and consolidation



Gamma rhythm in visual cortex of behaving monkey

• Sparsely Synchronized Brain Rhythms

Individual Neurons: Intermittent and Stochastic Firings like Geiger Counters Small-Amplitude Fast Population Rhythm via Sparse Synchronization of Individual Complex Firings

Coupled oscillators model: Inappropriate for investigation of the sparsely synchronized rhythms

→ Coupled Subthreshold and/or Suprathreshold Neurons in the Presence of Strong Noise They exhibit noise-induced complex firing patterns



Complex Topology and Modular Structure of Real Brain

• Complex Brain Network

Connection architecture of the real brain reveals complex topology such as small-worldness and scale-freeness which are neither regular nor random.



• Modular Structure of Brain

The mammalian brain (e.g., cat and macaque) has been revealed to have a modular structure composed of sparsely linked clustered with spatial localization.



Brain Plasticity – Learning and Memory

• Brain Plasticity

Brain plasticity refers to the brain's ability to change throughout life.

Brain plasticity occurs in the brain: At the beginning of life, In case of brain injury, and Through adulthood (whenever something new is learned and memorized)

• Synaptic Plasticity

Synaptic plasticity is the ability of a synapse between neurons to change in strength over time. → Change in the Strength of Synaptic Connections



• Non-Synaptic Plasticity

Non-synaptic plasticity involves modification of ion channel function in the axon, dendrites, and cell body.

 \rightarrow Change in the Synaptic Path Ways



Sparse Synchronization in Clustered Small-World Networks

Clustered Small-World Network

Intra-modular connection: Small-World Network Inter-modular connection: Random

• Interneuronal Network (I-I Loop)

Playing the role of the backbones of many brain rhythms by providing a synchronous oscillatory output to the principal cells

• FS Izhikevich Interneuron

Izhikevich Interneuron Model: not only biologically plausible (Hodgkin-Huxley neuron-like), but also computationally efficient (IF neuron-like)



• Effect of Inter-Modular Synaptic Connections

Effect of Inter-Modular Synaptic Connection on **Sparsely-Synchronized Brain Rhythms** in Clustered Small-World Network ⇒ Implications for The Role of The Brain Plasticity

Fast Sparsely Synchronized Rhythms in Small-World Network

• Intra-Modular Dynamics

Fast Sparsely Synchronized State with the population frequency $f_p=147$ Hz and the individual neuron's mean firing rate $f_i=33$ Hz.



Modular, Global Synchronization and Unsynchronization in Clustered Small-World Network

Instantaneous Population Spike Rate

Instantaneous sub-population spike rates for the *I*th sub-network:

$$R_{S}^{(I)}(t) \equiv \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^{L} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{i}^{(I)}} K_{h}(t - t_{j}^{(I,i)})$$

Gaussian kernel function of band width h:

$$K_h(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}h} e^{-t^2/2h^2}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

Instantaneous whole-population spike rates for the whole network:

$$R_{w}(t) \equiv \frac{1}{M} \sum_{I=1}^{M} R_{S}^{(I)}(t) = \frac{1}{M \cdot L} \sum_{I=1}^{M} \sum_{i=1}^{L} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{i}^{(I)}} K_{h}(t - t_{j}^{(I,i)})$$

• State Diagram in the $J_{inter} - M_{syn}^{(inter)}$ Plane





Modular Synchronization: Mismatching between modular synchronization of sub-networks. Global Synchronization: Matching between modular synchronization of sub-networks Unsynchronization

Synchronization-Unsynchronization Transition Effect of Large Inter-modular Synaptic Strength

• Realistic Thermodynamics Order Parameter

Sub-population order parameter for the *I*th sub-network:

$$\mathbf{O}_{S}^{(I)} \equiv (R_{S}^{(I)}(t) - \overline{R_{S}^{(I)}(t)})^{2}$$

Whole-population order parameter for the whole network:

$$\mathcal{O}_W \equiv \left(V_W(t) - \overline{V_W(t)}\right)^2$$

For the synchronized state, $O_s^{(I)}$ and O_w approach a non-zero limit value for $N \rightarrow \infty$.

For the unsynchronized state, $O_s^{(I)}$ and O_w approach a zero limit value for $N \rightarrow \infty$.







Characterization of Synchronization and Unsynchronization Using the Spatial Cross-correlation

Spatial Cross-Correlation

Instantaneous individual spike rate: $r_i^{(I)}(t) \equiv \sum_{j=1}^{n_i^{(I)}} K_h(t-t_j^{(I,i)})$

Normalized temporal cross-correlation function between in the instantaneous individual spike rate in the *I*th sub-network sub-population spike rates:

$$\Gamma_{i,j}^{(I)}(\tau) = \frac{\Delta r_i^{(I)}(t+\tau) \cdot \Delta r_j^{(I)}(t)}{\sqrt{\Delta r_i^{(I)^2}(t)}} \sqrt{\Delta r_j^{(I)^2}(t)}$$

Spatial cross-correlation function: $C_l^{(I)} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^{L} C_{i,i+l}^{(I)}(0)$ for L = 1, ..., L/2.

For synchronized state: $C_l^{(l)}$: nearly non-zero constant for whole range of *l*. Correlation length = L/2 For unsynchronized state: $C_l^{(l)}$: nearly zero for whole range of *l*. Correlation length = 0



Modular-Global Synchronization Transition Effect of Small Inter-modular Synaptic Strength



• Modular and Global Synchronization

Normalized temporal cross-correlation function between the instantaneous sub-population spike rates:

$$C_{I,J}(\tau) = \frac{\overline{\Delta R_S^{(I)}(t+\tau) \cdot \Delta R_S^{(J)}(t)}}{\sqrt{\overline{\Delta R_S^{(I)}}^2(t)}} \sqrt{\overline{\Delta R_S^{(J)}}^2(t)}$$
$$\Delta R^{(I)}(t) = R^{(I)}(t) - \overline{R^{(I)}}(t)$$



• Cross-Correlation Modularity Measure

$$C_{M} = \frac{2}{M(M-1)} \sum_{I=1}^{M} \sum_{J=I+1}^{M} C_{I,J}(0)$$

$$J_{inter} < J_{inter}^{**}(\simeq 268): \text{ Modular Sync. } :0 < \langle C_M \rangle_r < 1$$
$$J_{inter}^{**} < J_{inter} < J_{inter}^{*}: \text{ Global Sync. } :\langle C_M \rangle_r \simeq 1$$



Characterization of Degree of Synchronization



$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Modulal Sync.} : \langle O_{S} \rangle_{r} < \langle O_{W} \rangle_{r}, \ \langle F_{S} \rangle_{r} < \langle F_{W} \rangle_{r}, \ \langle M_{S} \rangle_{r} < \langle M_{S} \rangle_{r} \\ \text{Global Sync.} : \langle O_{S}^{(I)} \rangle_{r} \simeq \langle O_{W} \rangle_{r}, \ \langle P_{S}^{(I)} \rangle_{r} \simeq \langle P_{W} \rangle_{r}, \ \langle M_{S}^{(I)} \rangle_{r} \simeq \langle M_{S}^{(W)} \rangle_{r} \\ \end{array}$$

• Spatial Cross-Correlation Based Measure

Average value of spatial cross-correlation function: Same behavior with average pacing degree. \rightarrow Implication with the measure for the degree of synchronization



Summary

• Investigation of The Effect of Inter-Connection on Emergence of Sparsely Synchronized Cortical Rhythms

Occurrence of Modular Sparse Synchronization and Global Sparse Synchronization Modular sparse synchronization: the population behavior reveals the clustering structure due to some mismatching between the intra-modular dynamics of the sub-networks Global Sparse Synchronization: the population behavior is globally identical, independently of the cluster structure, because of the perfect matching between the intra-modular dynamics of sub-networks

Dual Roles of Inter-Modular Coupling Strength J_{inter} Depending on Its Strength: For large $J_{inter} \rightarrow$ Destructive role to "spoil" the pacing between sparse spikings For small $J_{inter} \rightarrow$ Constructive role to "favor" the pacing between spikings in each sub-network.

Role of Number of Inter-Modular Connection Probability:

Constructive role to "favor" global communication between sub-networks

Important implications for the role of the **Brain Plasticity** which refers to the brain's ability to change its structure and function by modifying the strength or efficacy of synaptic transmission.