



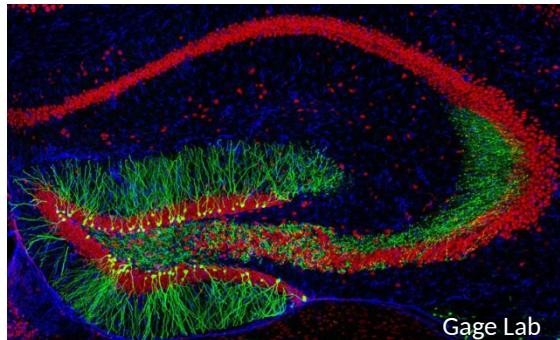
# Internal representation of hippocampal neuronal population span a time-distance continuum

Alessandro Torcini

*CY Cergy Paris Université – LPTM , Cergy-Pontoise*

# Hippocampus as a processor

*Raw spatio-temporal data*



*Processed information*



**Space**

Place Cells  
Grid/border cells  
Head direction cells



**Place**

**Context**  
Lateral Entorhinal Cortex



**Duration**

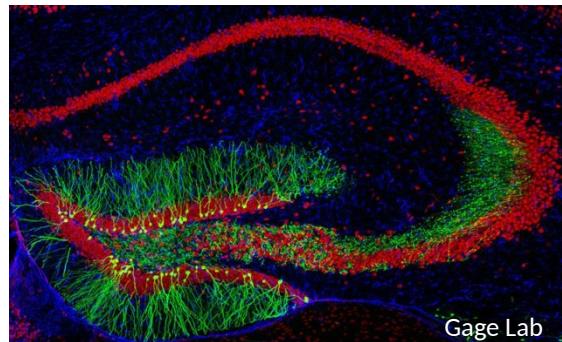
**Timing**  
Theta rhythm  
Speed cells



**Distance**

# Processing information in Hippocampus

Raw spatio-temporal data



Processed  
information



**Space**

Place Cells  
Grid/border cells  
Head direction cells

**Context**

LEC

**Timing**

Theta rhythm  
Speed cells

Bittner *et al* 2015  
Milstein *et al* 2015

**Place**



**Duration**

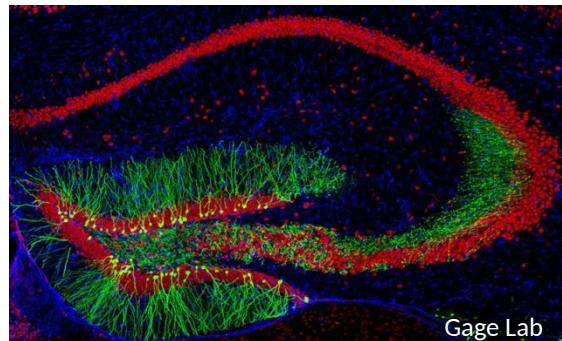


**Distance**



# Hippocampus as a processor

Raw spatio-temporal data



Processed  
information



Space

Grid/border cells  
Head direction cells

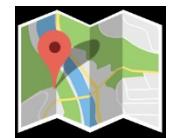
Context

LEC

Timing

Theta rythm ia fundamental  
Speed cells

Place



Duration

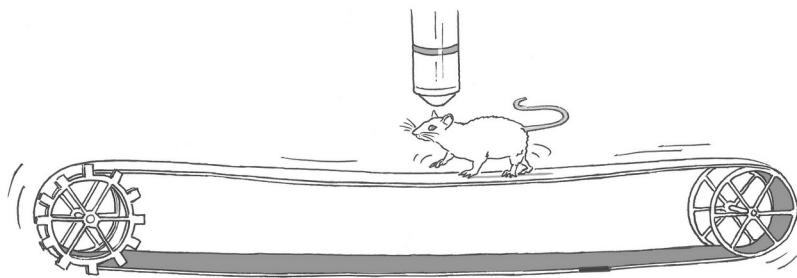


Distance



*Internally Generated Cell Assembly Sequences in the Rat Hippocampus*  
Pastalkova, Itskov, Amarasingham & Buzsáki, Science (2008)

# New paradigm with spontaneous behavior

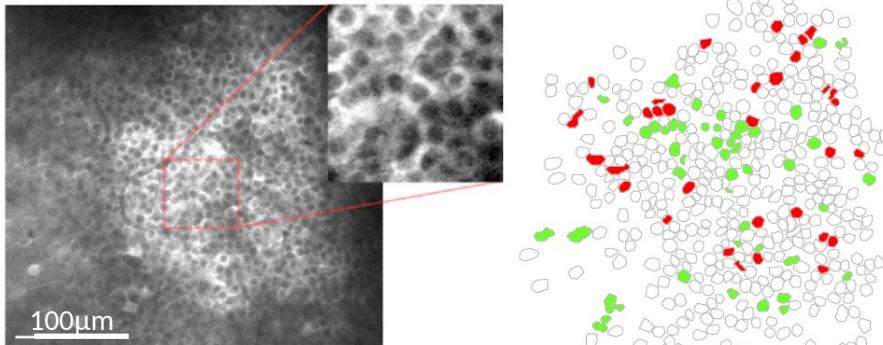


Headfixed mouse on a treadmill

## Minimize external information and constraints

- Non motorized
- No task, no reward
- No cues, experiment in the dark
- Neither water nor food deprivation
- N=7 mice

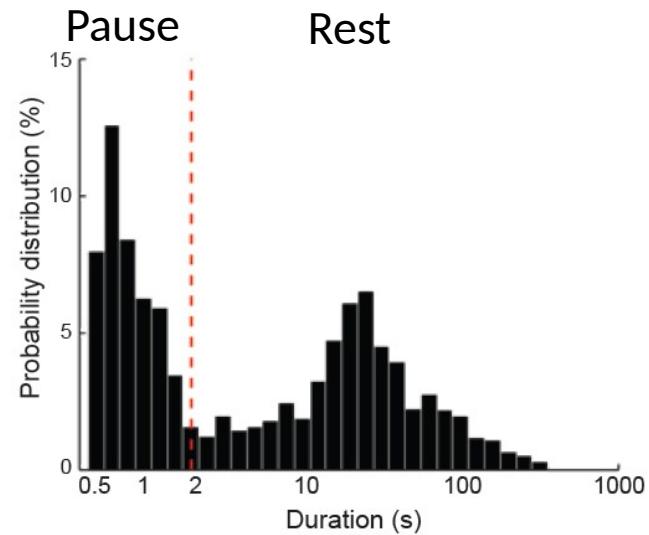
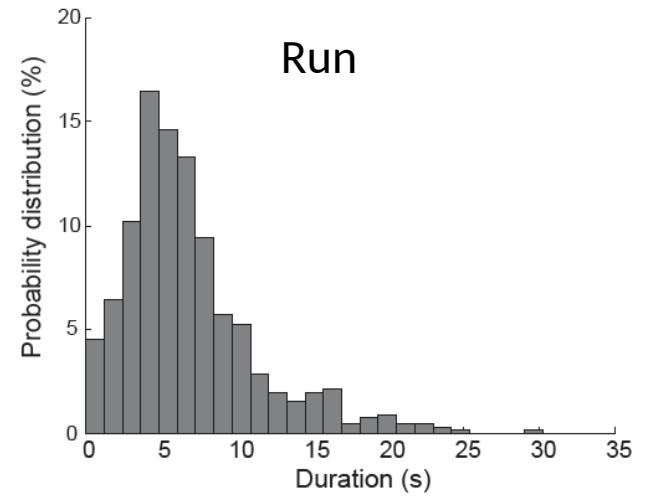
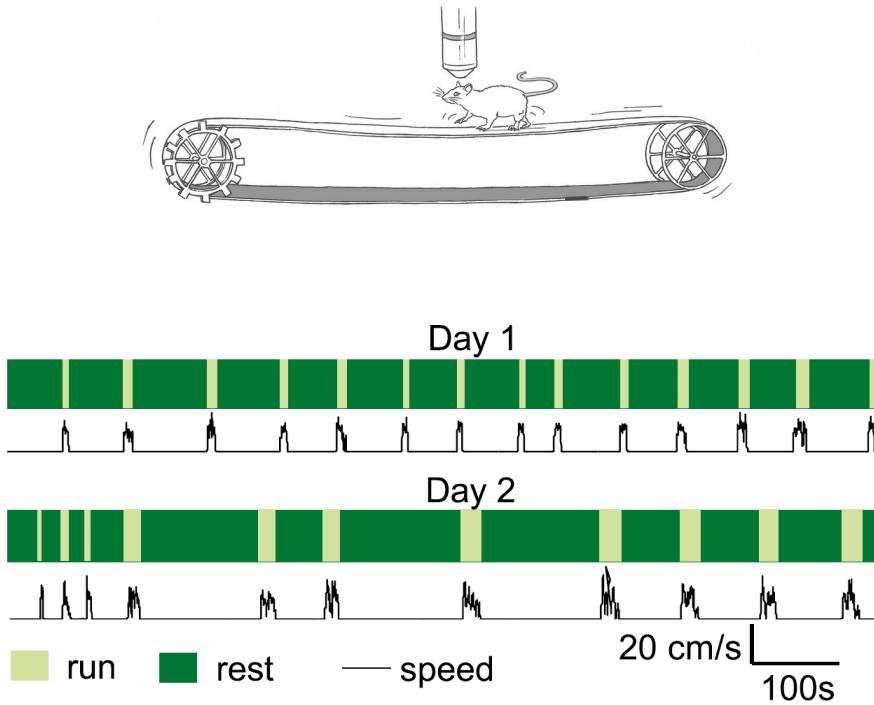
CA1 pyramidal cell layer



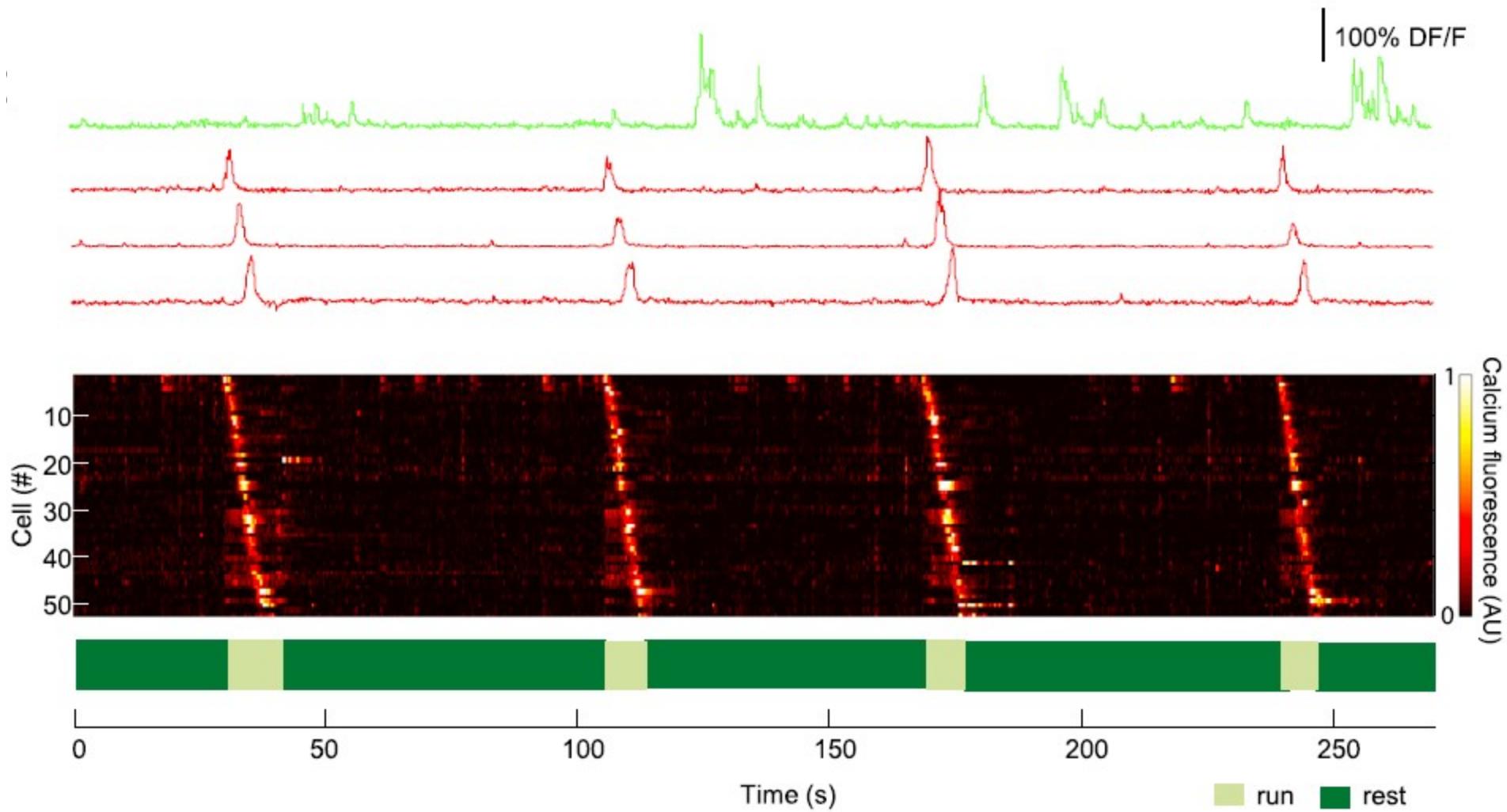
## Large-scale calcium imaging

- Chronic implantation of
- cranial window
- $400 \times 400 \mu\text{m}^2$  field of view
- 140+-47 active neurons over 1000
- 39+-11 % activated during run
- 34 imaging sessions of 20/30 min
- 2 consecutive days sessions

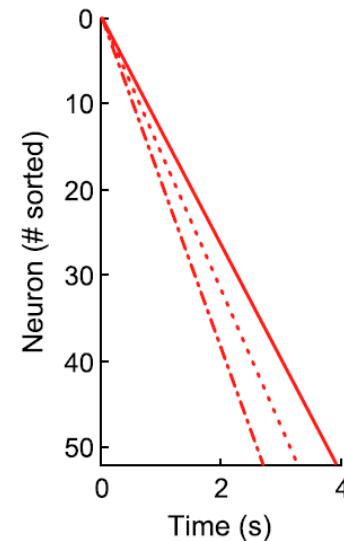
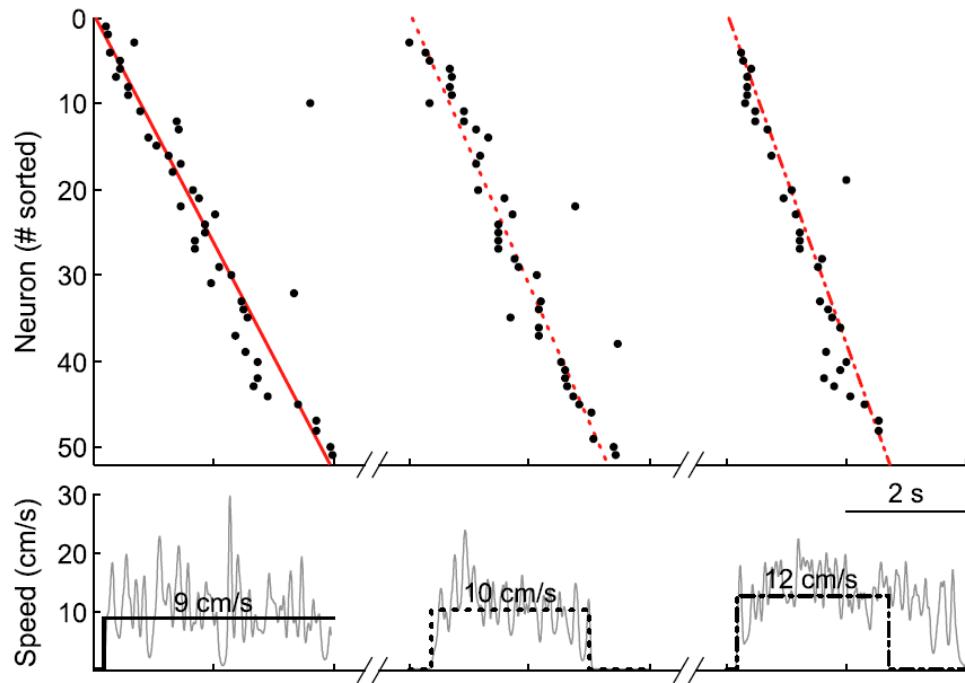
# Spontaneous behavior



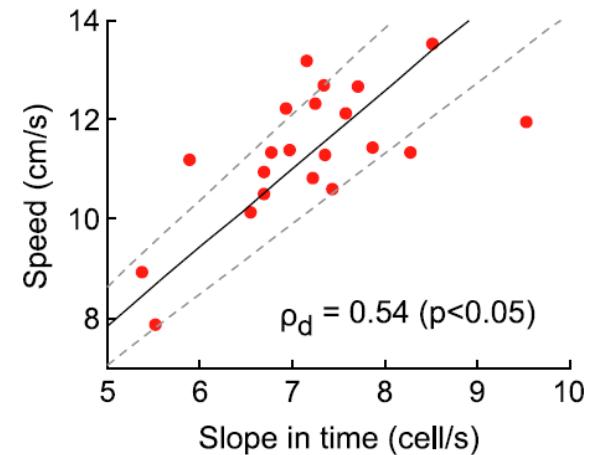
# Sequences in the absence of task



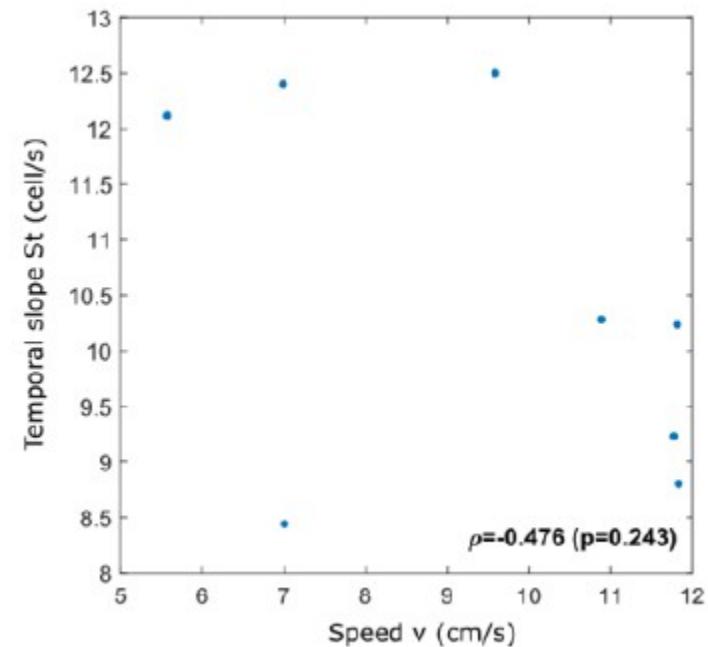
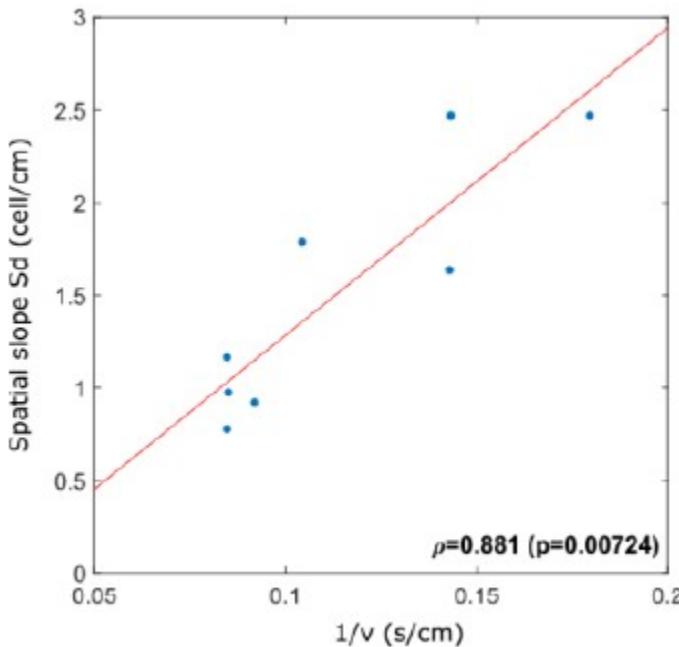
# Sequence dynamics vs mouse speed



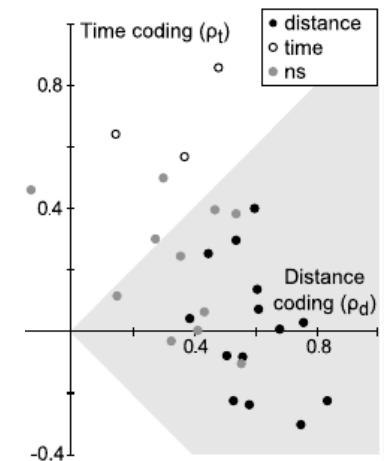
In this session, the **temporal slope** of the firing sequences is proportional to the **mouse speed**: neurons encode for **run distance**



# Sequence dynamics vs mouse speed

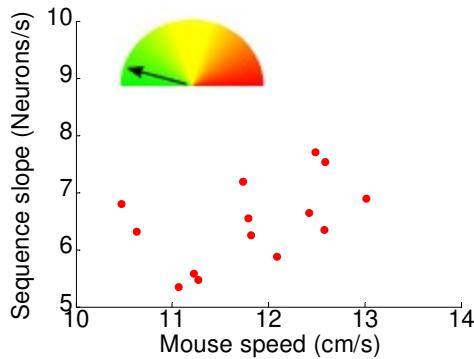
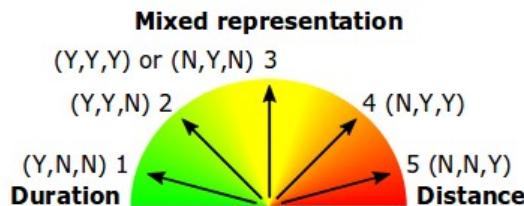


In this session, the **spatial slope** of the firing sequences is proportional to the **mouse speed**:  
neurons encode for the **run duration (elapsed time)**

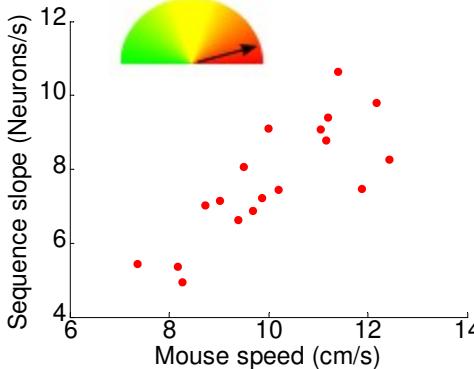
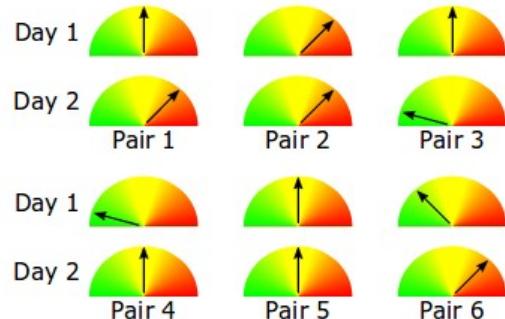


# Analysis of **distance** and **duration** representation

D Tests (temporal, spatio-temporal, spatial)

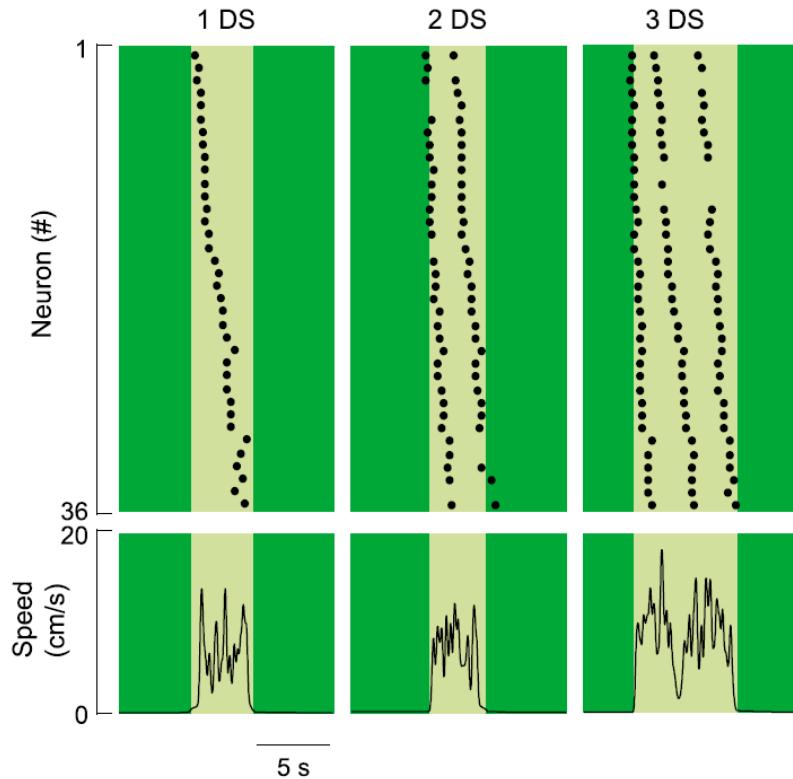


F

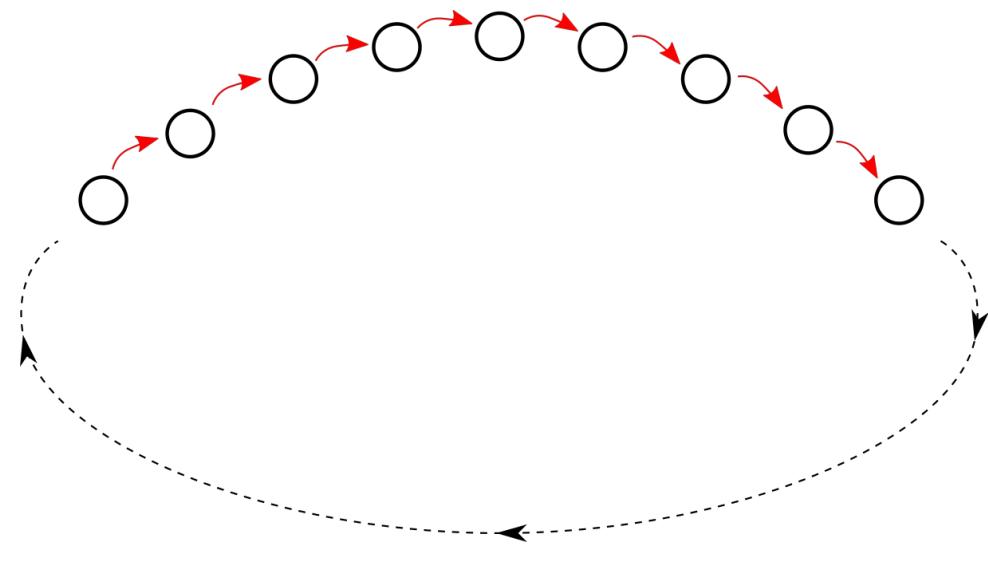


- Depending on the degree of correlation of the **temporal** (**spatial**) sequence slope and the **mouse speed** we have a **distance** (**duration**) representation
- A large part of the same neurons fires on Day 1 and Day 2, but they can modify their coding from Day 1 to Day 2
- Hippocampus can flexibly change the representation type from one day to the other

# Underlying Network

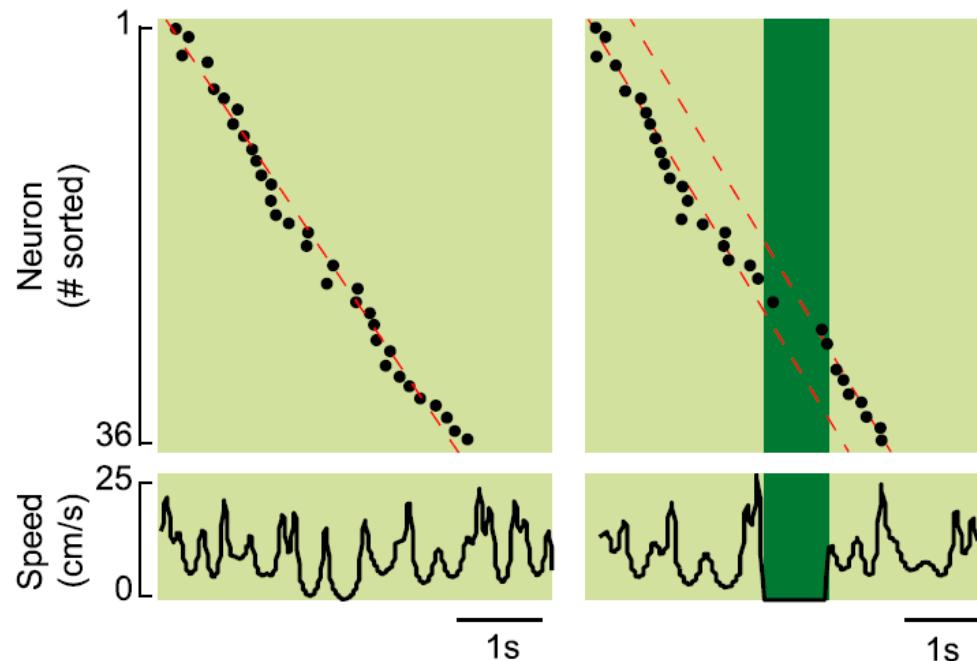


Sequences reboot within continuous run episodes



## Recurrent functional network with PBCs

# Sequences restart after short pause



Sequences do not reboot if pause < 2s

## Short term plasticity

# Model requirements

## Outputs

- Neuronal sequences generated from non sequential inputs
- Duration and distance representation

## Inputs

- Time and speed.

*Theta oscillation with varying amplitude*

## Network

- Excitatory neurons with global inhibition
- Recurrent excitation => *circular network*
- Short term plasticity => *synaptic facilitation and depression*

# Continuous Attractor Neural Network

**Circular recurrent network**  
+ External excitatory input

**Local excitation**

+ Global inhibition

→ Localized activity bump

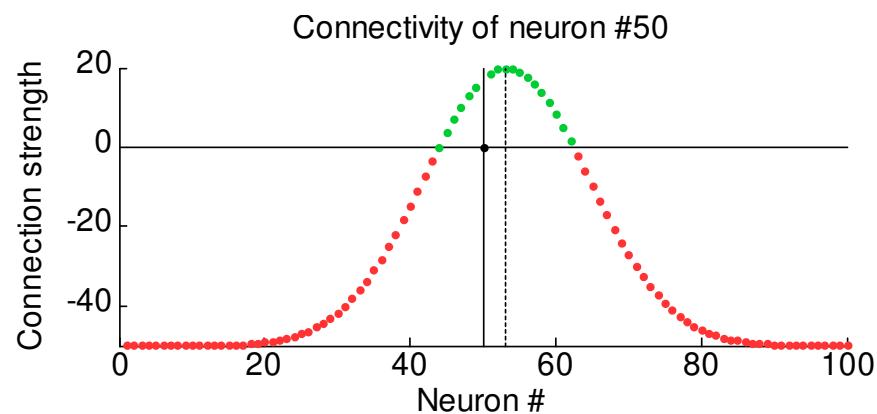
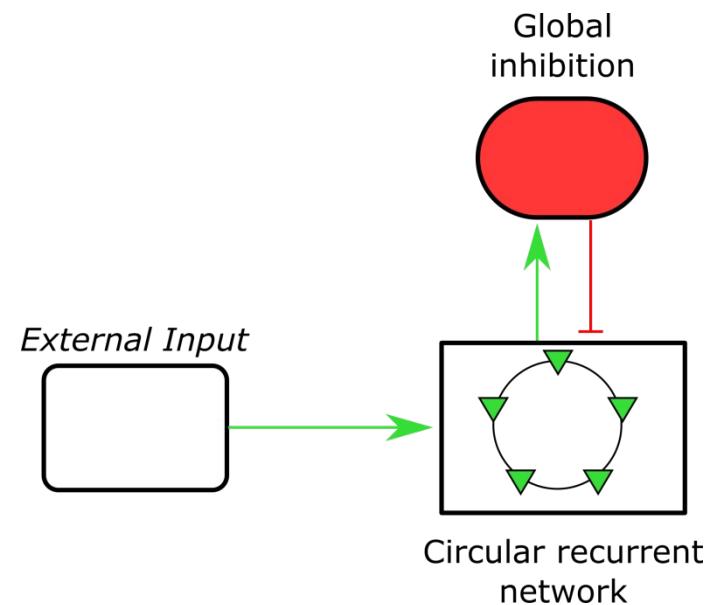
**Asymmetry of local connexions  $\delta$**

→ Movement of activity bump

Neuronal sequences follows always same order

$$W_{i \rightarrow j} = J_1 e^{-(i-j-\delta)^2/\sigma^2} - J_0$$

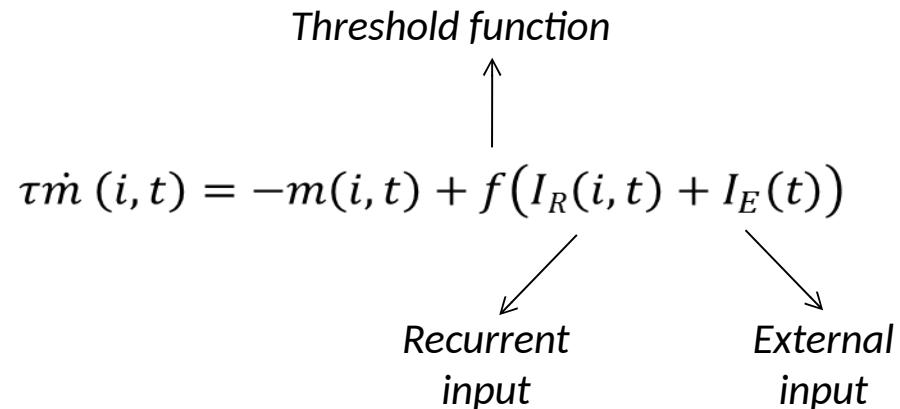
Romani & Tsodyks (2014), Wang et al (2015)



# Continuous Attractor Neural Network

## Firing rate model

Romani & Tsodyks (2014)

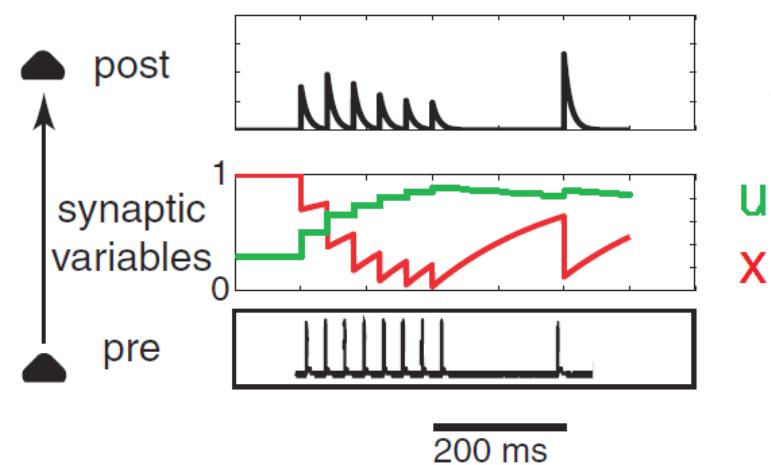


## Synaptic plasticity

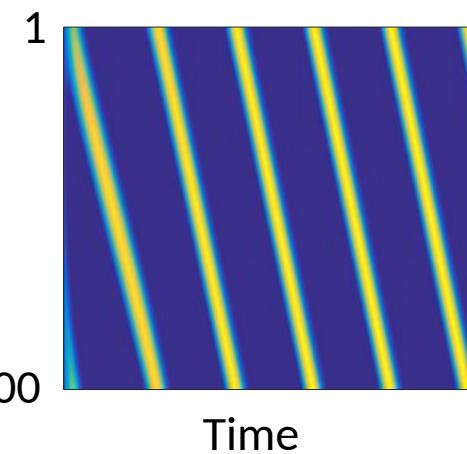
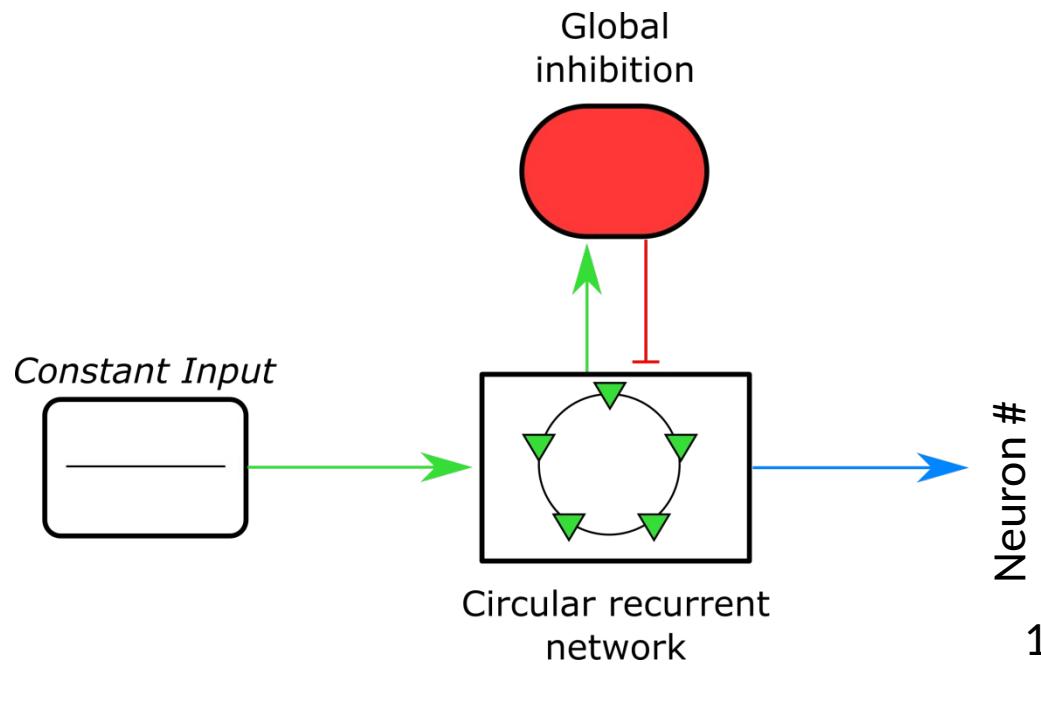
Mongillo et al (2008)

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1-x}{\tau_D} - u \ x \ \delta(t-t_{sp})$$

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{U-u}{\tau_F} + U (1-u) \ \delta(t-t_{sp})$$

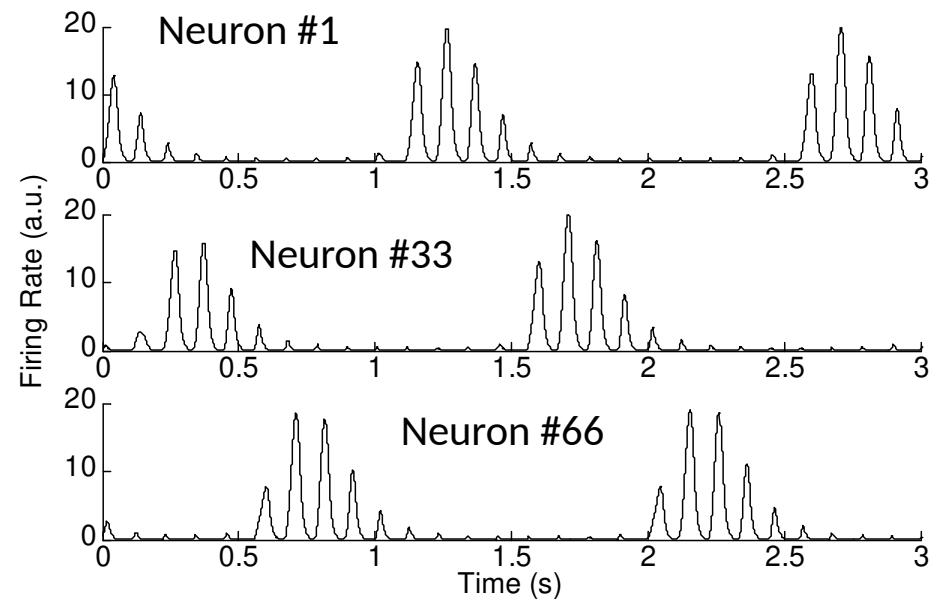
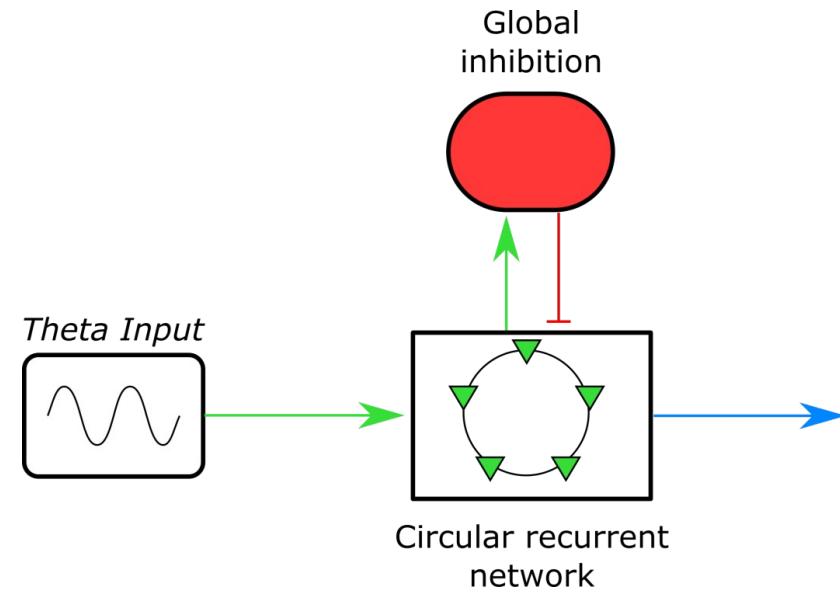


# Constant input



# Continuous sequences

# Oscillatory input



Romani & Tsodyks (2014), Wang et al (2015)

**Theta modulated sequences**

# Speed-dependent input

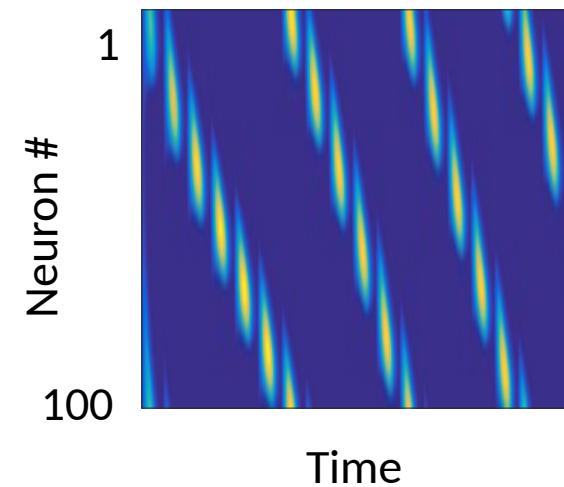
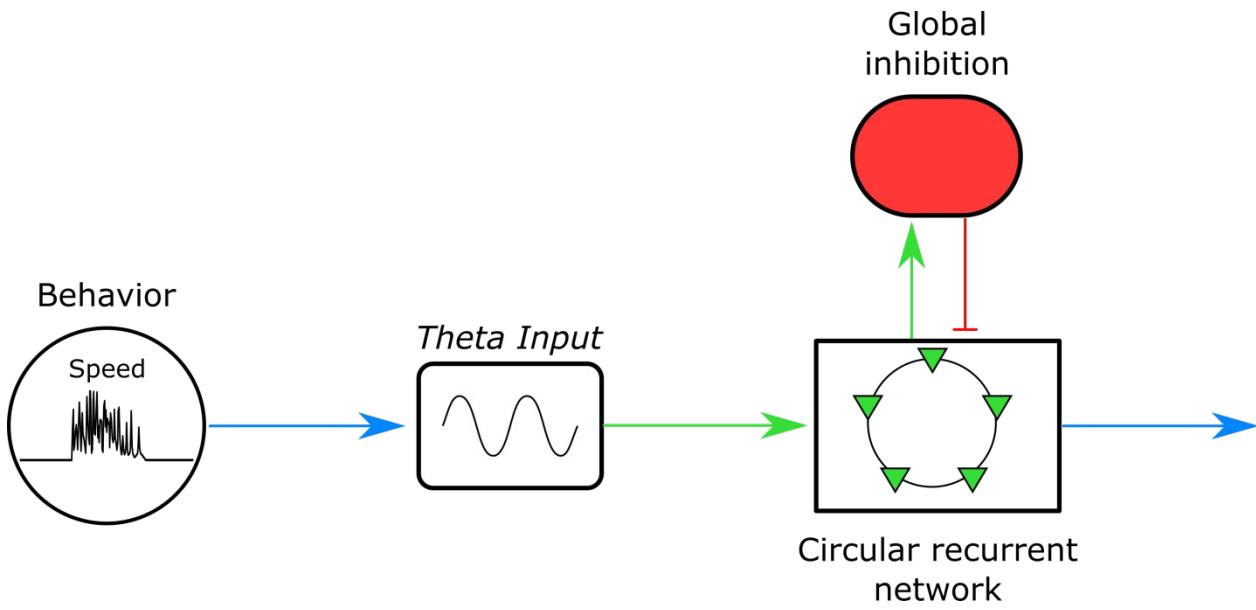
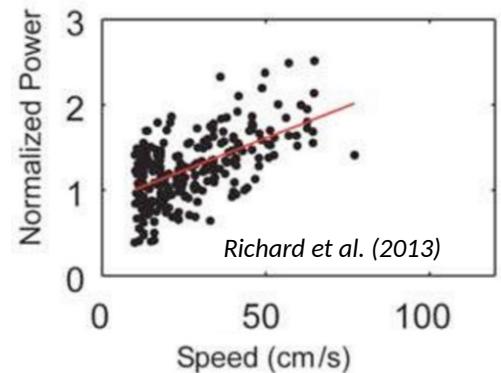
Working hypothesis :

$$I_{\theta} = \alpha + \beta v$$

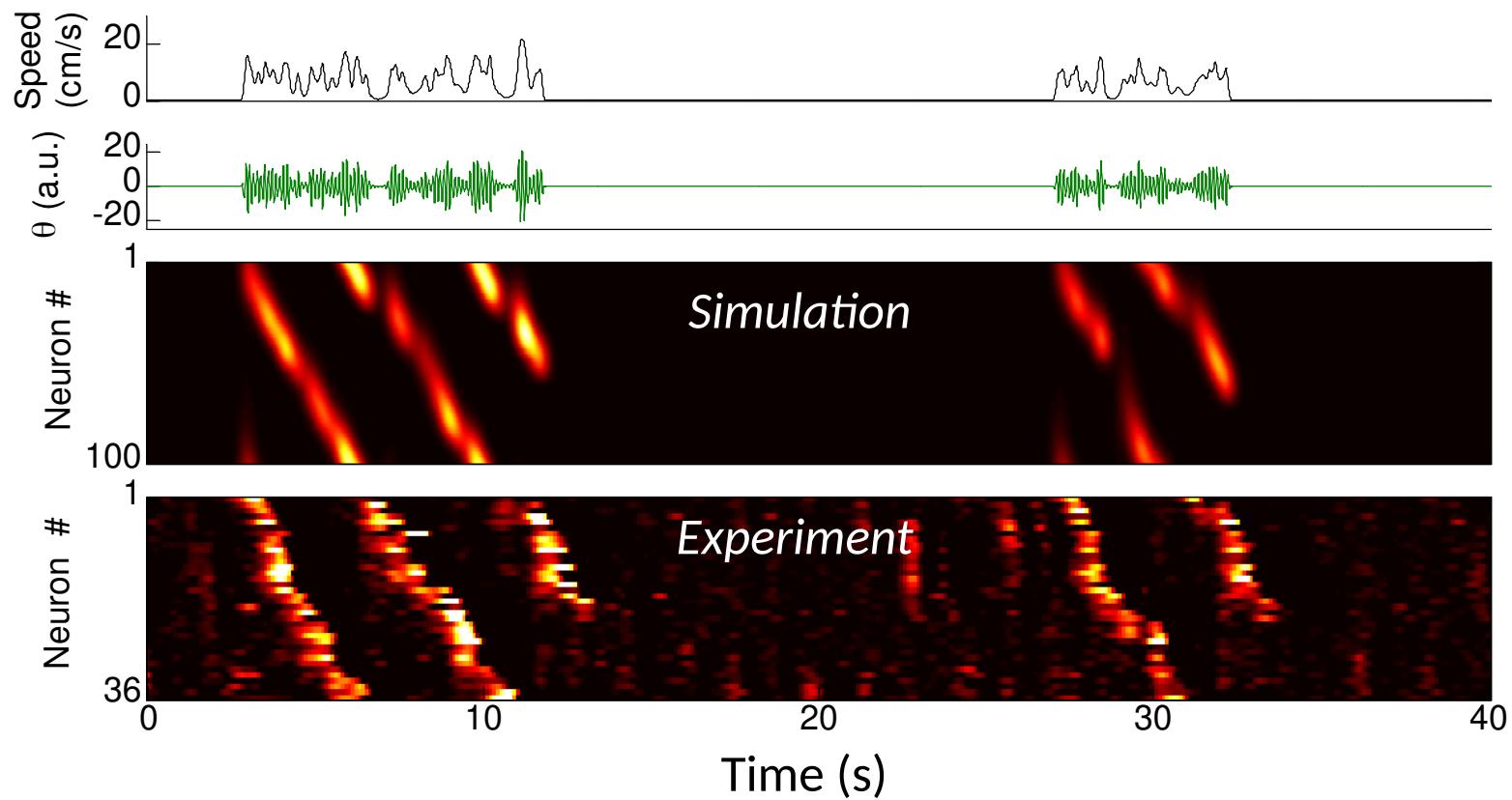
Linear relationship between theta amplitude and running speed

Richard et al. (2013), Fuhrmann et al. (2015), Bender et al .(2016)

cc = 0.520 p = 0.015



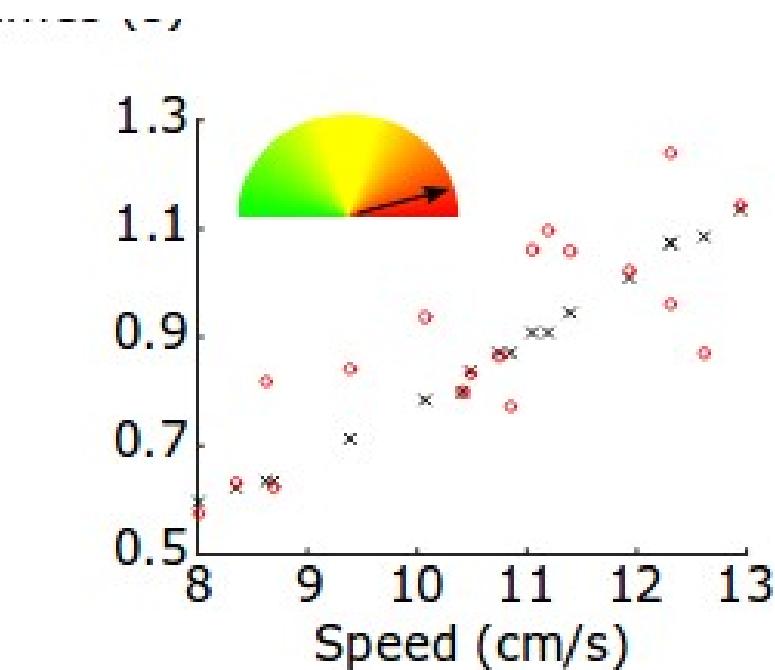
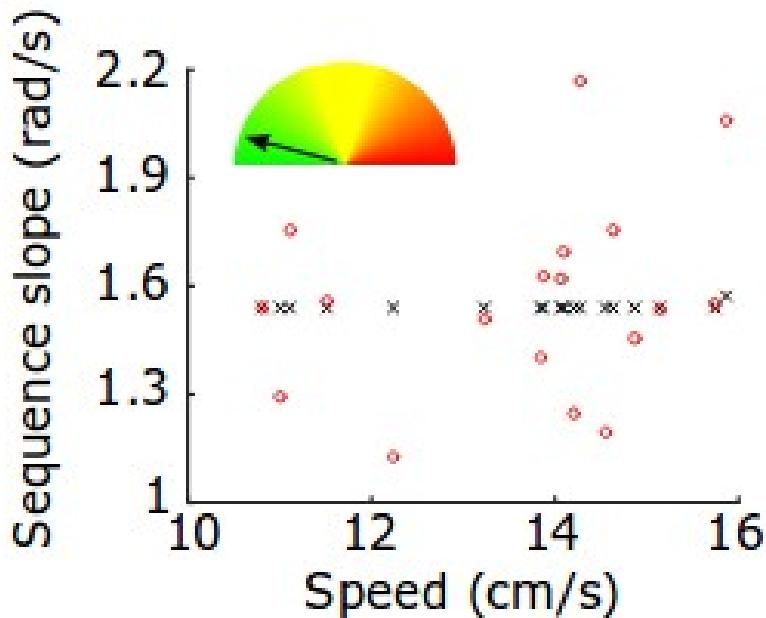
# Speed-dependent input



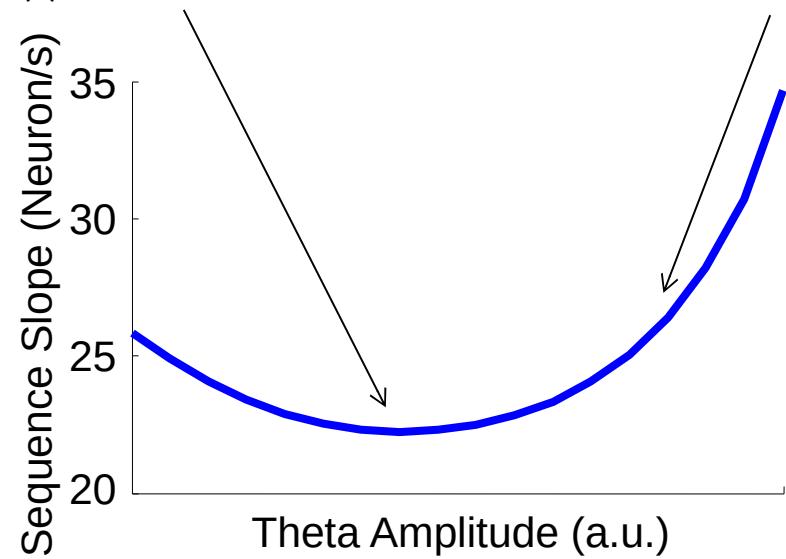
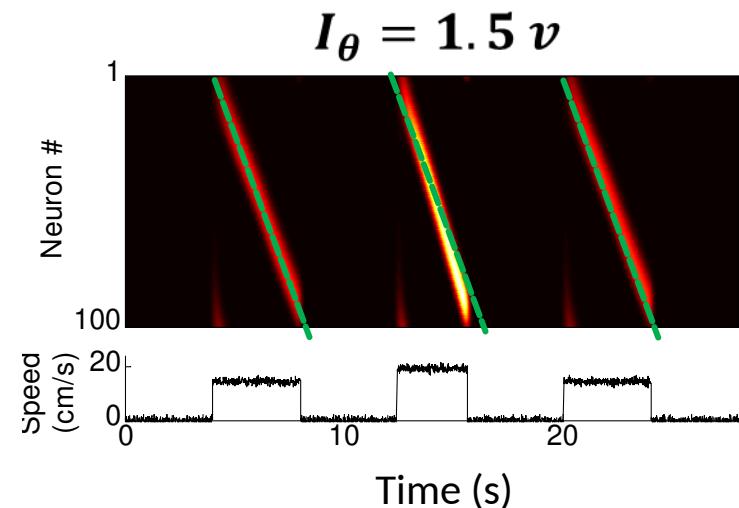
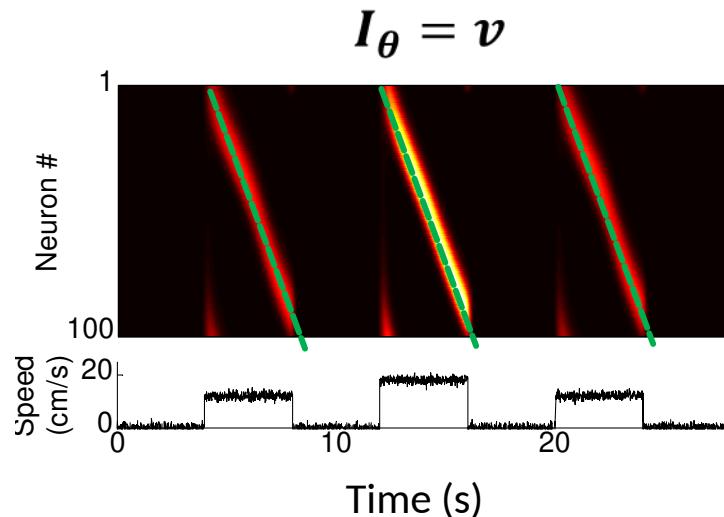
## Fitting to experimental data

We fitted the sequence slopes obtained from our model versus mouse velocity to the experimental data to obtain the mean input power  $I_0$ , the connectivity asymmetry Delta and the velocity gain Beta

C



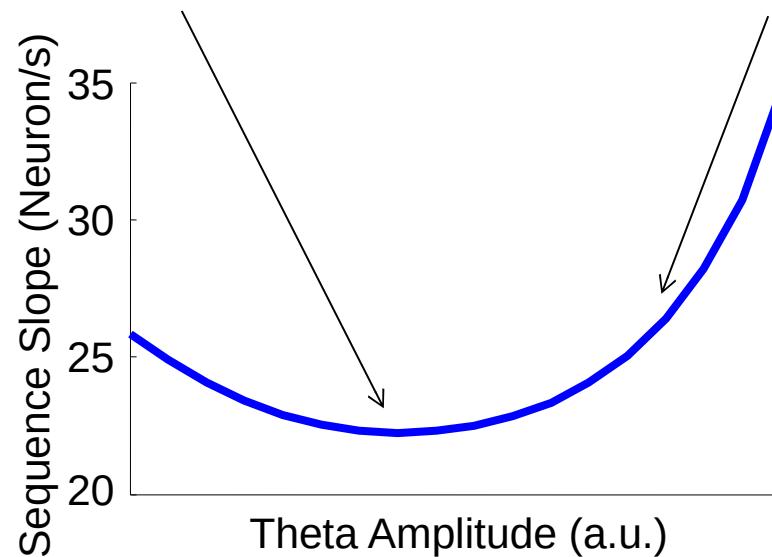
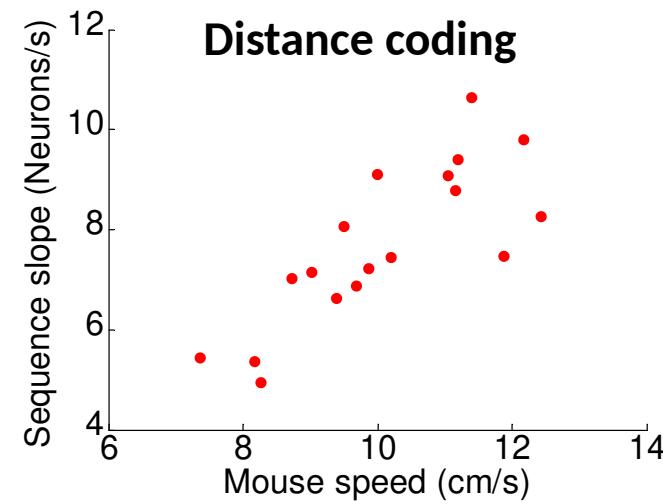
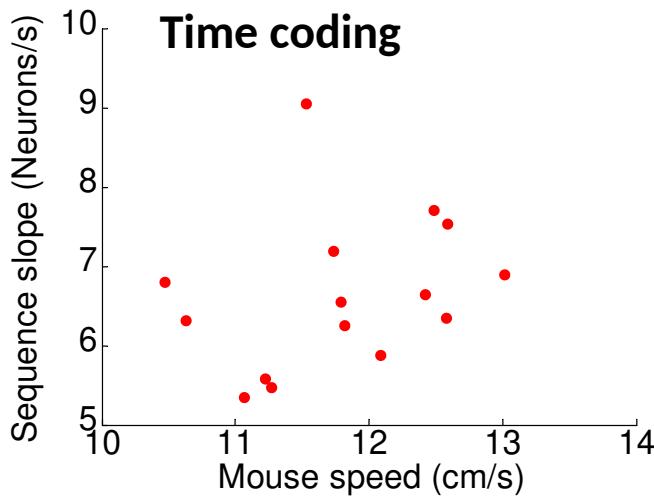
# Neuronal sequences dynamics



Nonlinear dependence  
induced by short-term  
plasticity

Facilitation is fundamental

# Spatio-temporal coding



**The same network  
can display  
both representations  
changing Theta Amplitude**

# Summary

- Experimental data suggest (functional) circular connectivity plus plasticity
- CANNs can encode both duration and distance, without modifying the network structure
- The dynamic range is sufficient for fitting the experimental data

**The hippocampus is able to generate a spatiotemporal representation tuned to the task at hand**

# Acknowledgments



Susanne Reichinnek & Vincent Villette



Caroline Haimerl & Nathalie Dupuy



Arnaud Malvache & David Angulo Garcia



Thomas Tressard



Rosa Cossart



# Fundings



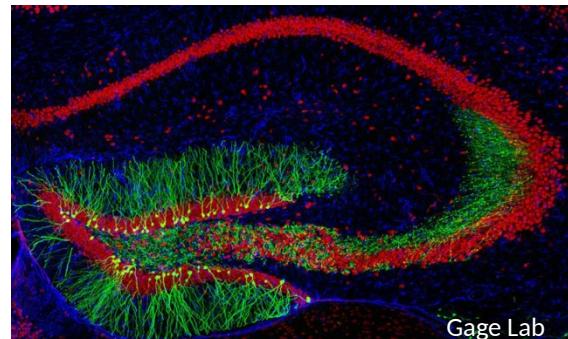
**Labex MME-DII**

Modèles Mathématiques et Économiques de la  
Dynamique, de l'Incertitude et des Interactions



# Place cell microcircuit

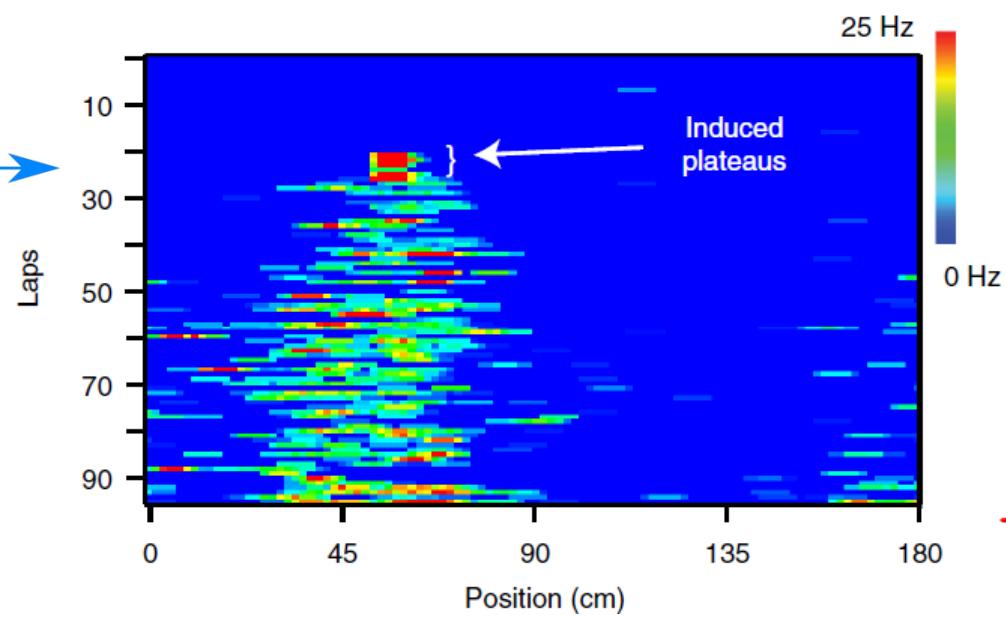
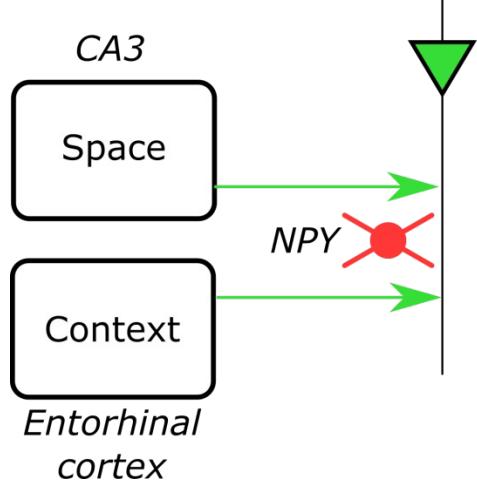
Raw spatio-temporal data



Processed information

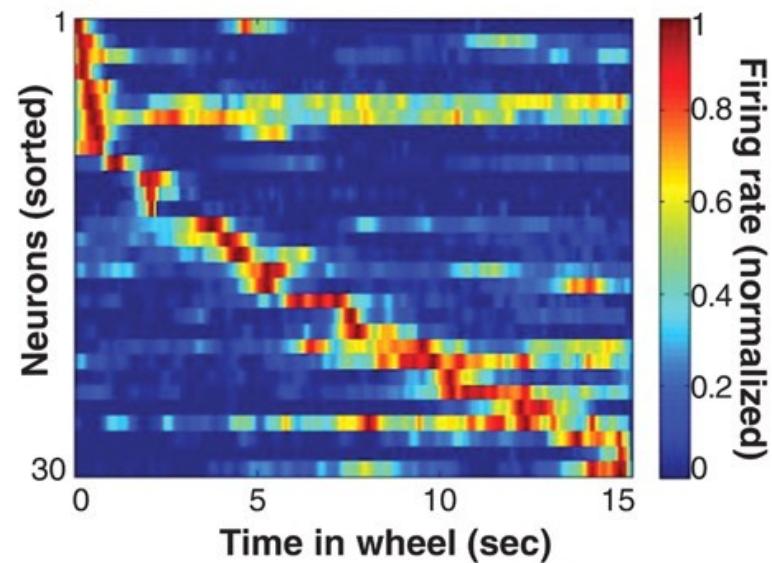
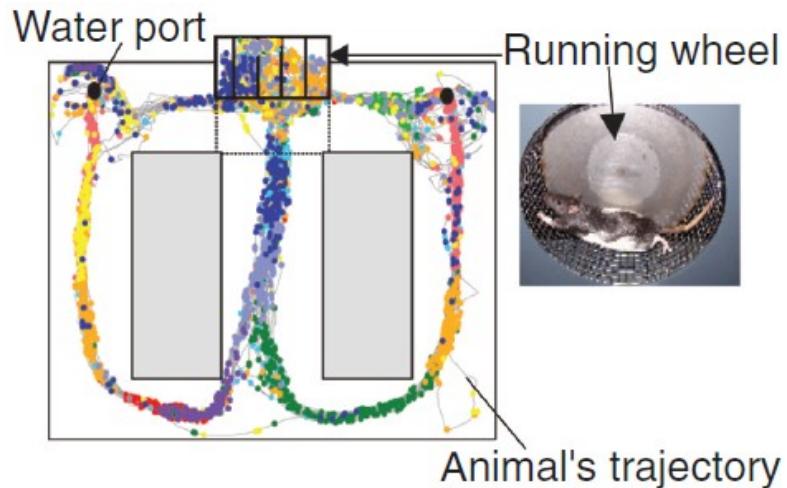


Bittner et al 2015  
Milstein et al 2015



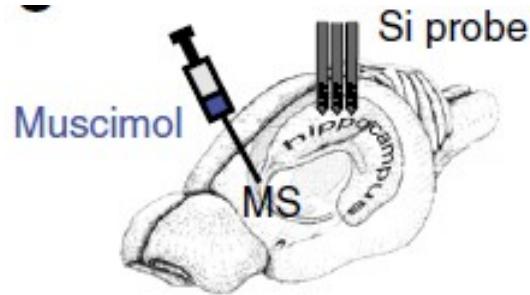
# Time sequences

## Time sequences in CA1 in a wheel during a delay task



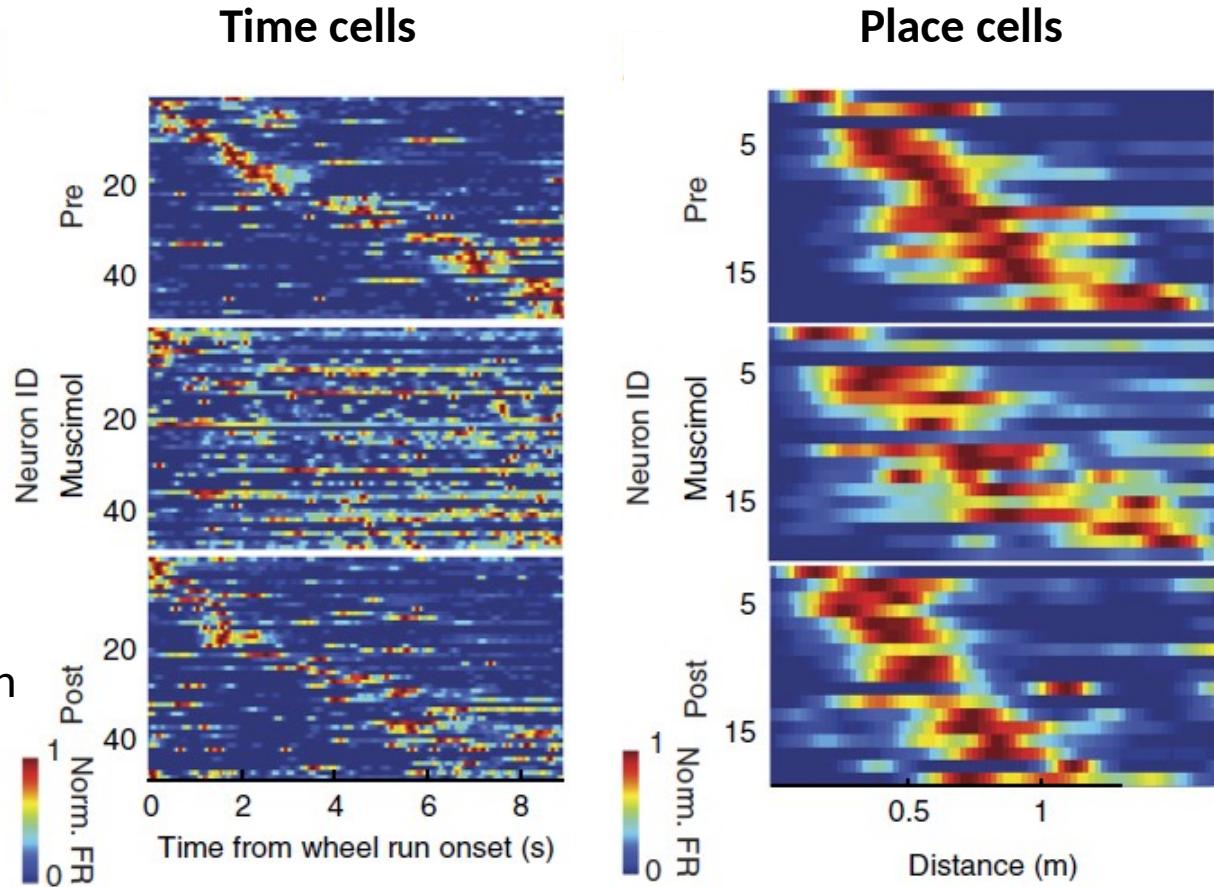
*Internally Generated Cell Assembly Sequences in the Rat Hippocampus*  
Pastalkova, Itskov, Amarasingham & Buzsáki, Science (2008)

# Different mechanisms for place cells and time cells



Medial Septum inhibition  
**Decreases theta power**

- \* Memory-dependent firing fields in the wheel are lost
- \* Firing fields in the maze with sensory cues are maintained
- \* Theta sequences are lost



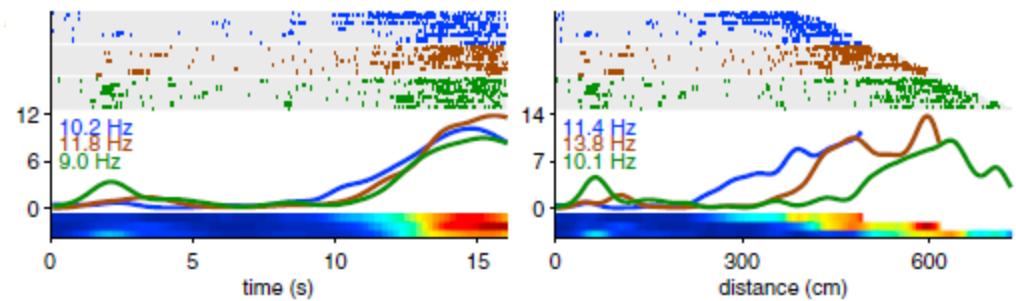
*Theta sequences are essential for internally generated hippocampal firing fields.* Wang,  
Romani, Lustig, Leonardo & Pastalkova, Nature Neuroscience (2015)

# Disentangling time and distance

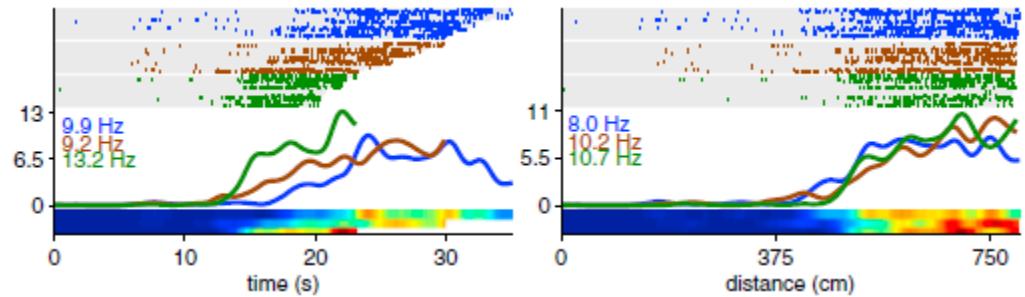


Treadmill with varying speed

## Time-fixed sessions



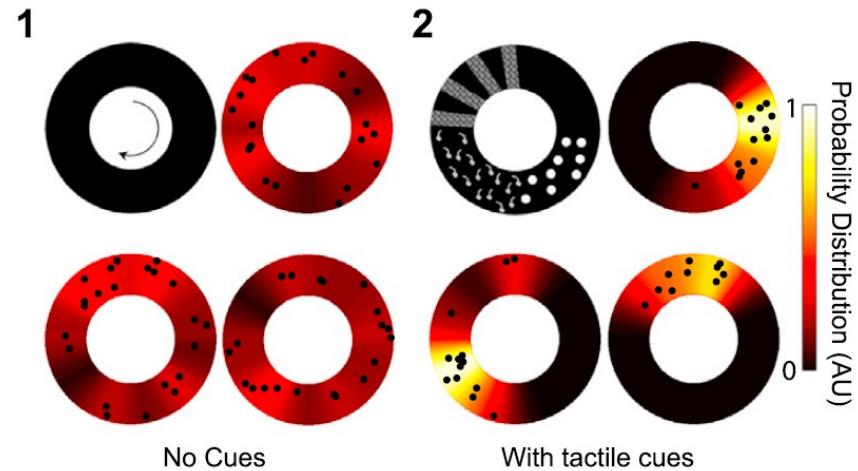
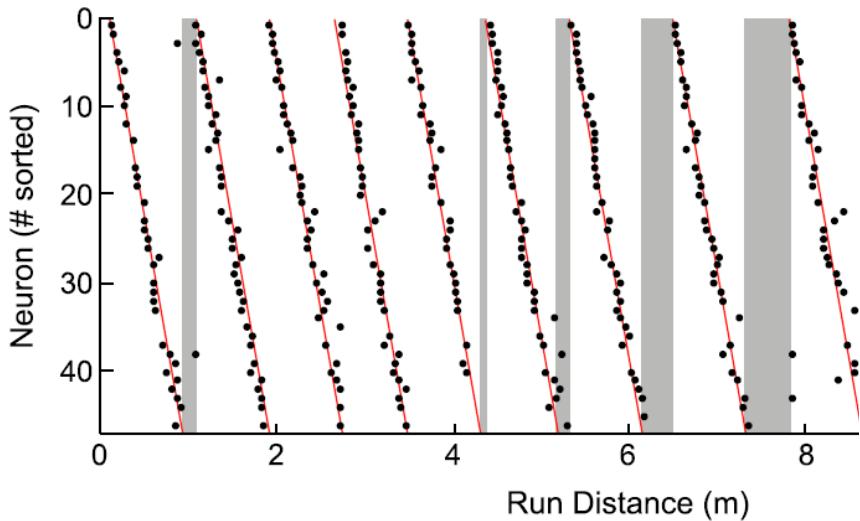
## Distance-fixed sessions



Hippocampal “Time Cells”: Time versus Path Integration

Kraus, Robinson, White, Eichenbaum & Hasselmo, Neuron (2013)

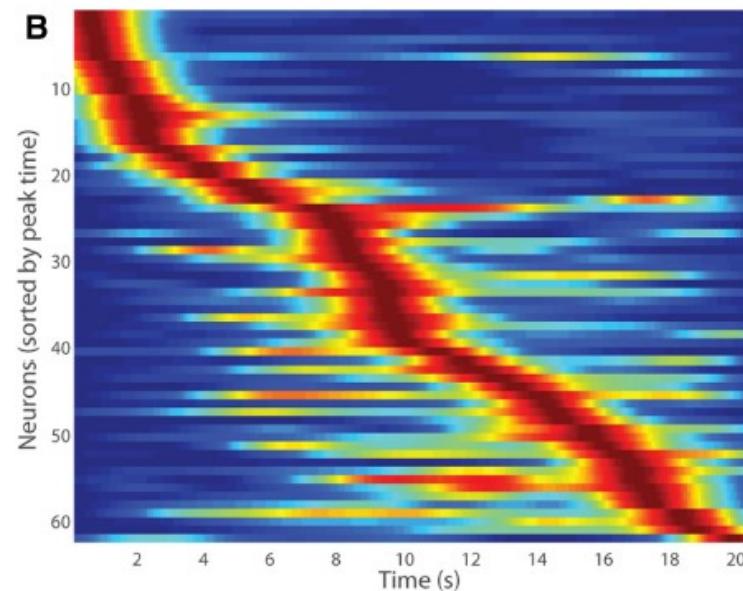
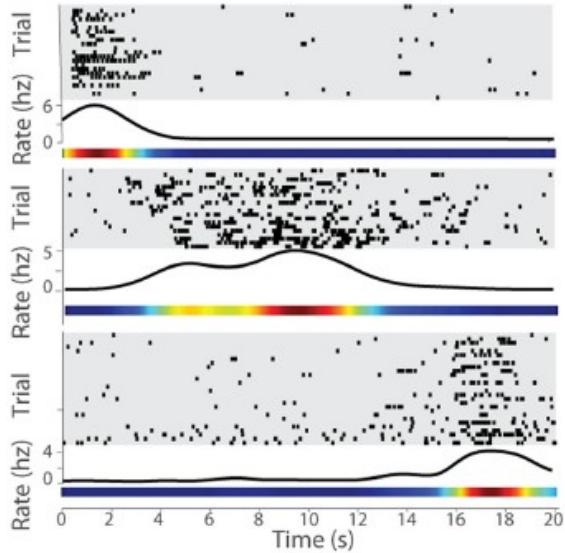
# Sequence dynamics in spatial domain



**Distance representation but not place cells!**

# Recurrent network to model CA1 ?!?

Hypothesis: CA1 reflects CA3 activity in the absence of external drive



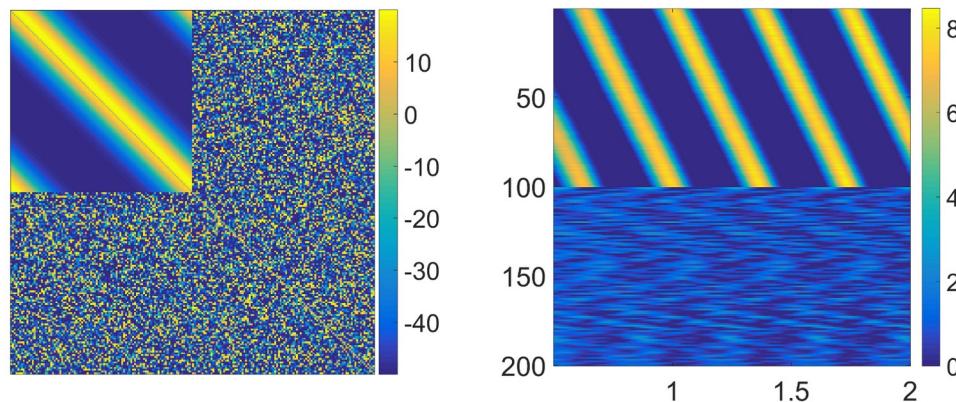
*Time Cells in Hippocampal Area CA3*

Salz, Tiganj, Khasnabish, Kohley, Sheehan, Howard & Eichenbaum, J. Neuro (2016)

# Towards a more realistic model

*Circular connectivity embedded in a random network*

Connectivity  
matrix



Model still valid  
for spatio-temporal  
coding

Connectivity in CA3 Guzman *et al*, Science (2016)

