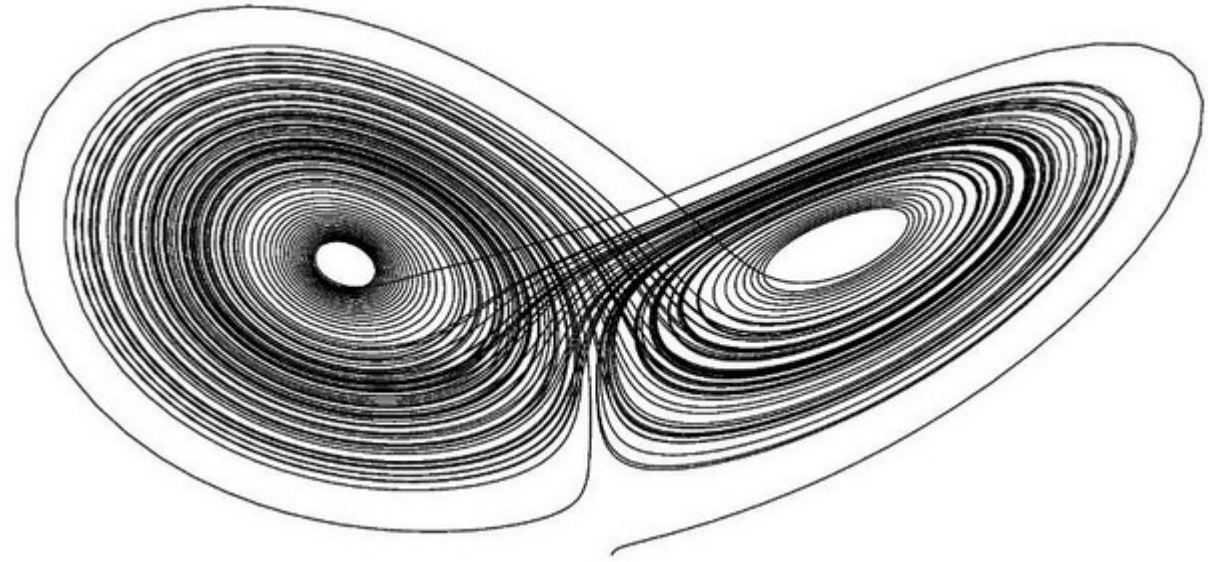


BENESCO Lecture Series on
Sleep, Epilepsy,
Consciousness and Cognition

Bern, Feb. 28th 2020

Simple differential equations - an introduction using Matlab

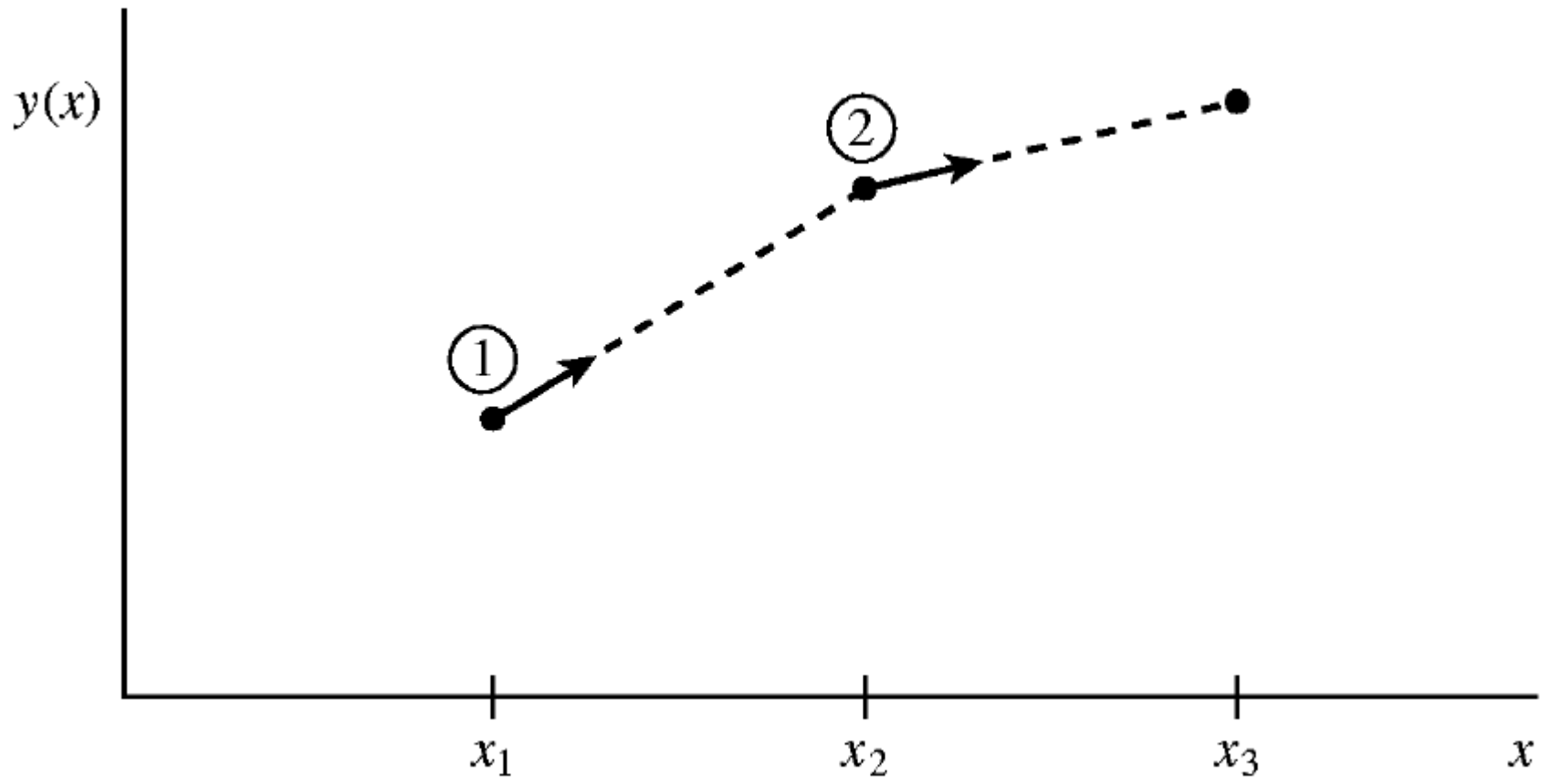


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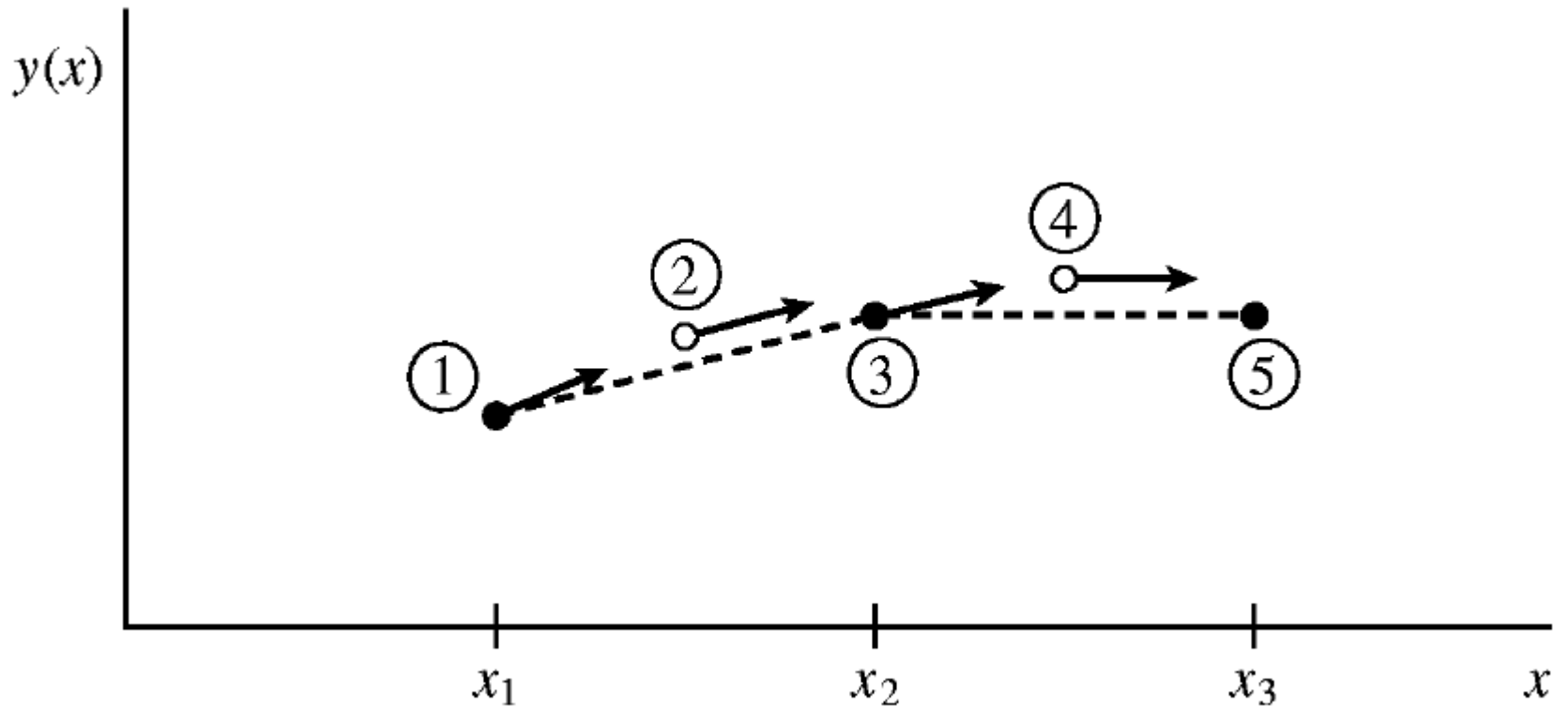
Christian Rummel

SCAN, University Institute of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology
University of Bern, Inselspital
christian.rummel@insel.ch

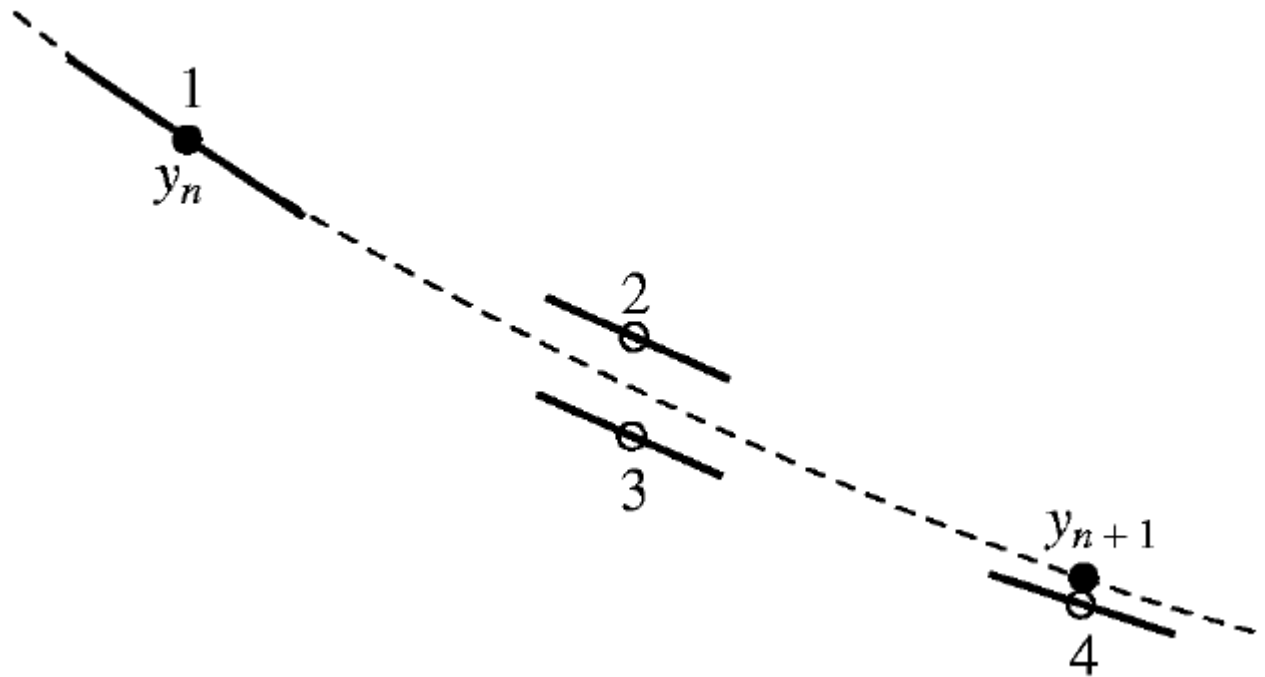
Euler Algorithm (1768–70)



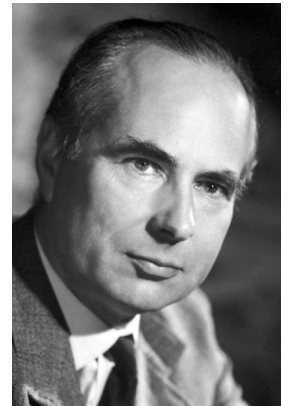
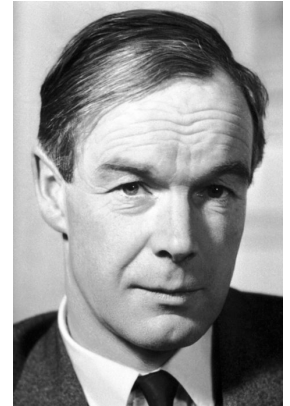
2nd Order Runge-Kutta Algorithm (~1900)



4th Order Runge-Kutta Algorithm (~1900)

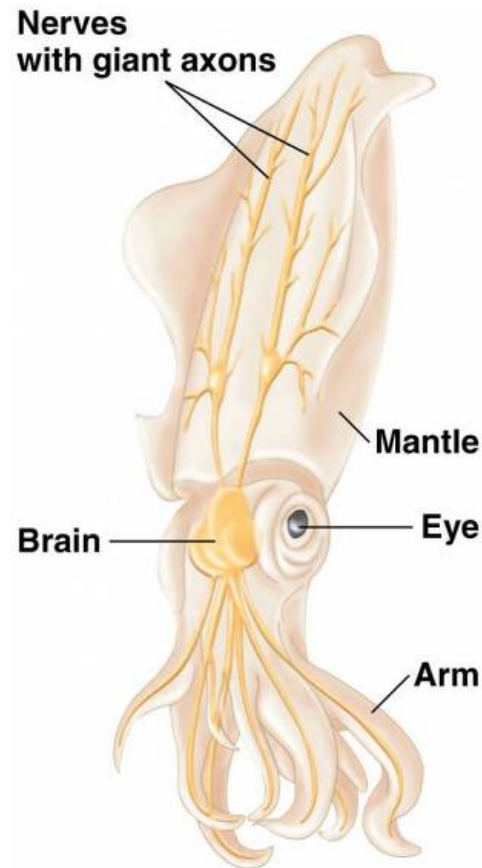
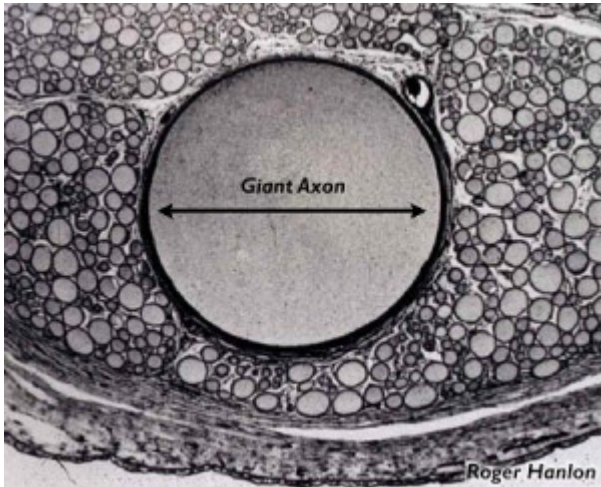


Hodgkin-Huxley Model (1952)



Nobel Prize 1963

Hodgkin-Huxley Model (1952)

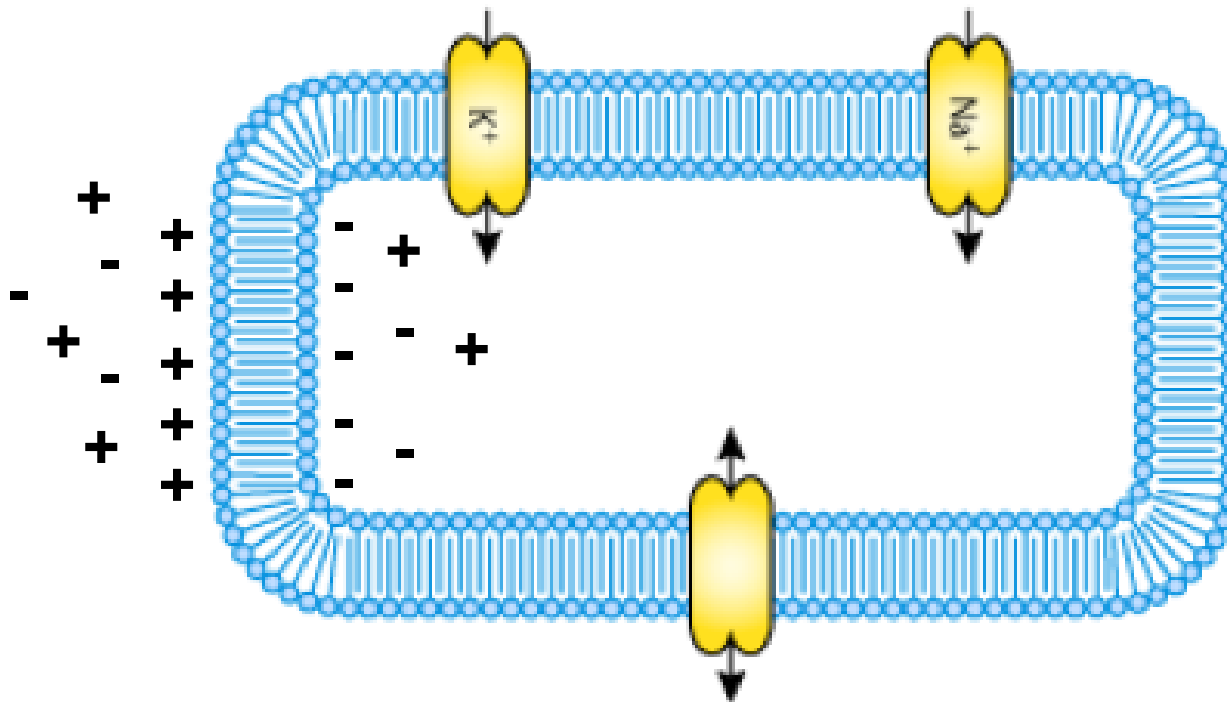
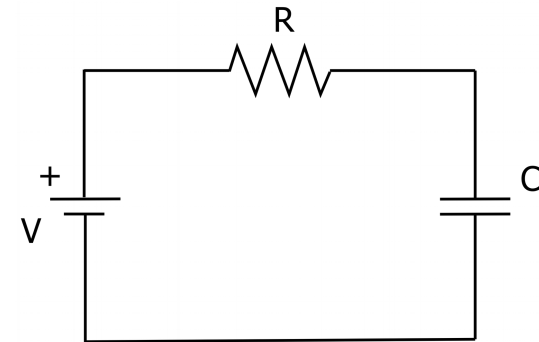


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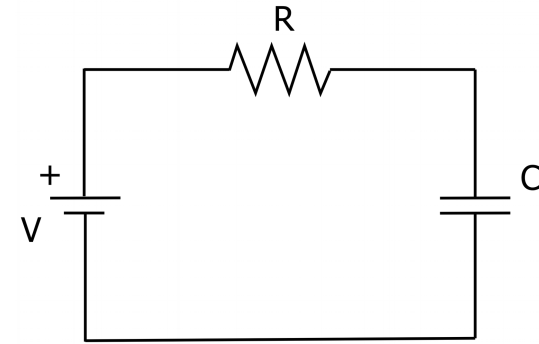


Hodgkin-Huxley Model (1952)

potential across a cell membrane:



Hodgkin-Huxley Model (1952)



voltage variable V :

$$C_m \frac{dV}{dt} = -g_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_{Na} m^3 h (V - V_{Na}) - g_L (V - V_L) + I_{appl}.$$

potassium

sodium

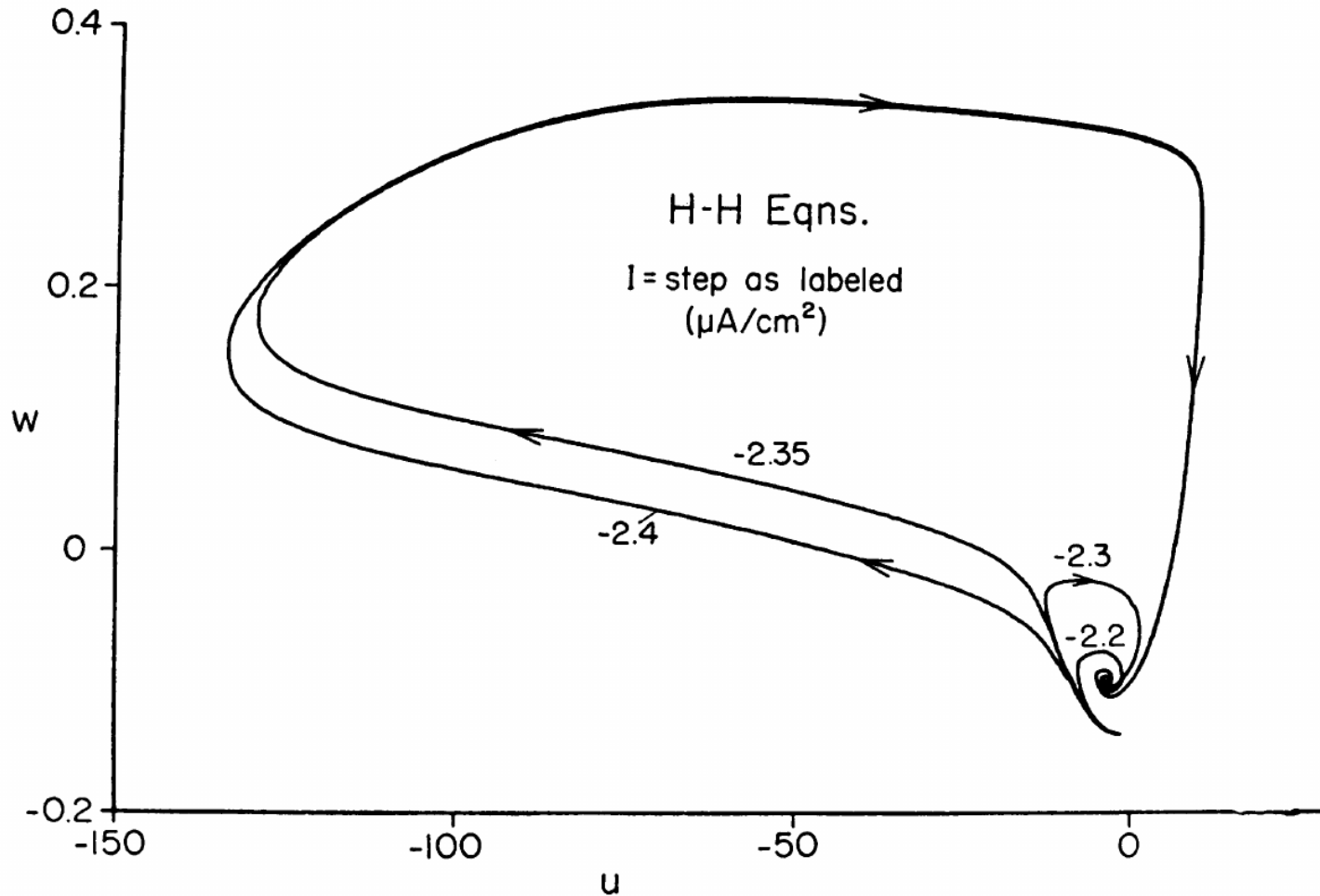
leakage

applied

gating variables m , n , h :

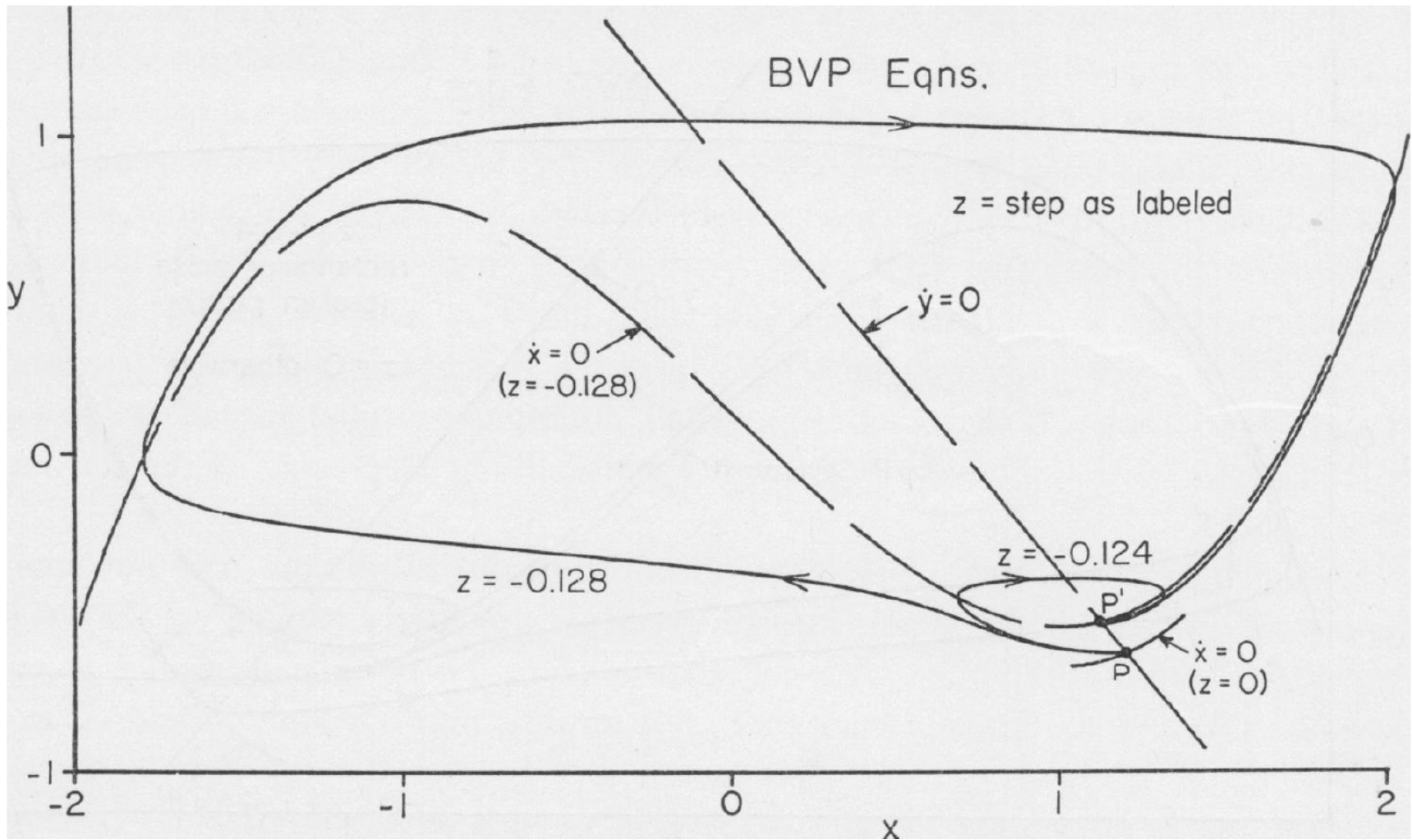
$$\tau_w(V) \frac{dw}{dt} = w_\infty(V) - w, \quad w = n, m, h,$$

Hodgkin-Huxley Model (1952)



FitzHugh, Biophys J 1 (1961)

FitzHugh-Nagumo Model (1961, 1962)



“Bonhoeffer-van-der-Pol (BVP)” model

FitzHugh, Biophys J 1 (1961)

FitzHugh-Nagumo Model (1961, 1962)

- separate slow (h,n) and fast (m) gating variables
- assume linear (n) and cubic (V) form of null clines
- transform to unit-less variables v and w

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{dt} &= v(v - \alpha)(1 - v) - w + I \\ \frac{dw}{dt} &= \varepsilon(v - \gamma w).\end{aligned}$$

FitzHugh-Nagumo Model (1961, 1962)

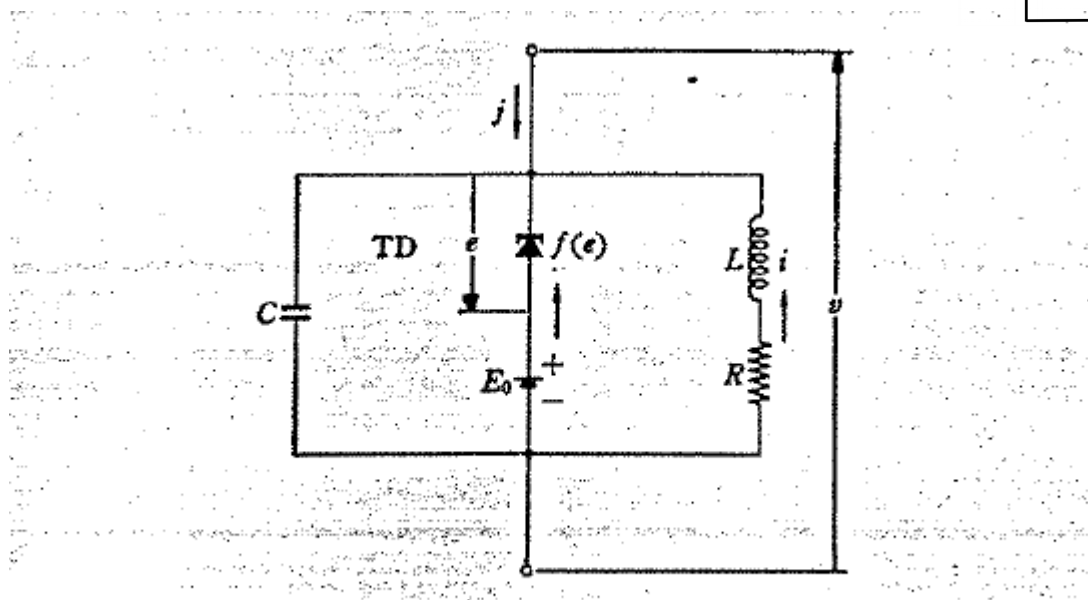
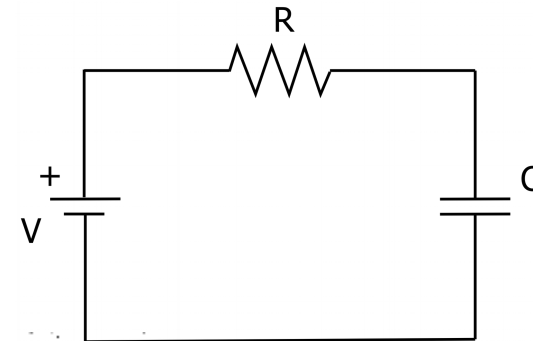


Fig. 2—An electronic simulator of the BVP model.

Literature

W.H. Press, S.A. Teukolsky, W.T. Vetterling, B.P. Flannery:
Numerical Recipes in C – The Art of Scientific Computing,
2nd edition, Cambridge University Press, 1992

<http://lpsa.swarthmore.edu/NumInt/NumIntIntro.html>

Homework

Appearance of a stable limit cycle in the FitzHugh-Nagumo model (“Hopf bifurcation”):

show numerically that the critical point is $\alpha_0 = -\varepsilon \cdot \gamma$

- write a small Matlab script to ramp up the parameter α of the FitzHugh-Nagumo model ($\varepsilon = 0.008$, $\gamma = 1.5$, $v_{eq} = 0$)
- integrate the differential equation numerically and neglect the transient (be wasteful here!)
- plot the extrema of the v coordinate
- plot example trajectories below and above the bifurcation

Homework

