Applications of pynapple: Signal processing and decoding

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Background: Hippocampal physiology

Place cells Theta oscillations Theta sequences Phase precession





Hippocampus shows homologous function across mammals

Learning and memory Scoville & Millner, 1957

Spatial representations O'Keefe & Dostrovsky, 1971

Cognitive map hypothesis O'Keefe & Nadel, 1978



Strange, B., Witter, M., Lein, E. *et al.* Functional organization of the hippocampal longitudinal axis. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience* (2014).

Properties of hippocampal physiology



PLACE CELLS

Pyramidal cells in the hippocampus that preferentially fire when the animal is visiting a specific location

Properties of hippocampal physiology



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Pyramidal cells in the hippocampus that preferentially fire when the animal is visiting a specific location



Grieves, R.M., Jedidi-Ayoub, S., Mishchanchuk, K. *et al.* The place-cell representation of volumetric space in rats. *Nature Communications* (2020).

THETA OSCILLATIONS

A 6-12 Hz oscillation (in rodents) that dominates the local field potential (LFP) during awake behavior and REM sleep

C Wake (Running)

Montgomery, S., Sirota, A., Buzsaki, G. Theta and Gamma Coordination of Hippocampal Networks during Waking and Rapid Eye Movement Sleep. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience* (2014).

THETA SEQUENCES & PHASE PRECESSION

Within each cycle of theta, place cells are organized into fast (~125 ms) spatial sequences representing past, present, and future locations.

This corresponds to a systematic relationship between where a place cell spikes within its place field and the coincident phase of the theta cycle, known as phase precession.

























Place cell activity is organized into fast *theta sequences*





Theta oscillations dominate the LFP while the animal runs down the track





Theta oscillations dominate the LFP while the animal runs down the track





Theta oscillations can be partitioned into *cycles*, described by a *phase* between 0 and 2π





The phase at which a place cell fires *precesses* as an animal moves through its place field





The phase at which a place cell fires *precesses* as an animal moves through its place field



