



LFPy

Local Field Potentials in Python

LFPy-tutorial CNS2013

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LFPy - Introduction

- **LFPy** is a **Python**-package for calculating extracellular potentials from multi-compartment neuron models
- **LFPy** home page: <http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy>
- Live LFPyLubuntu image: <http://goo.gl/1s0iM>
 - Use .iso-file with Virtualbox or similar, see <http://www.virtualbox.org>
 - Comes with the **Python** `--pylab` environment, **LFPy** and **NEURON** preinstalled
- Article preprint: <http://goo.gl/OgJN1>
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LFPy - Introduction

- Topics:
 - Why model extracellular potentials?
 - Biophysical modeling scheme (brief)
 - **LFPy** overview
 - **LFPy** installation
 - Brief explanation of the main classes in **LFPy**
 - **LFPy** usage
 - **LFPy** provided examples

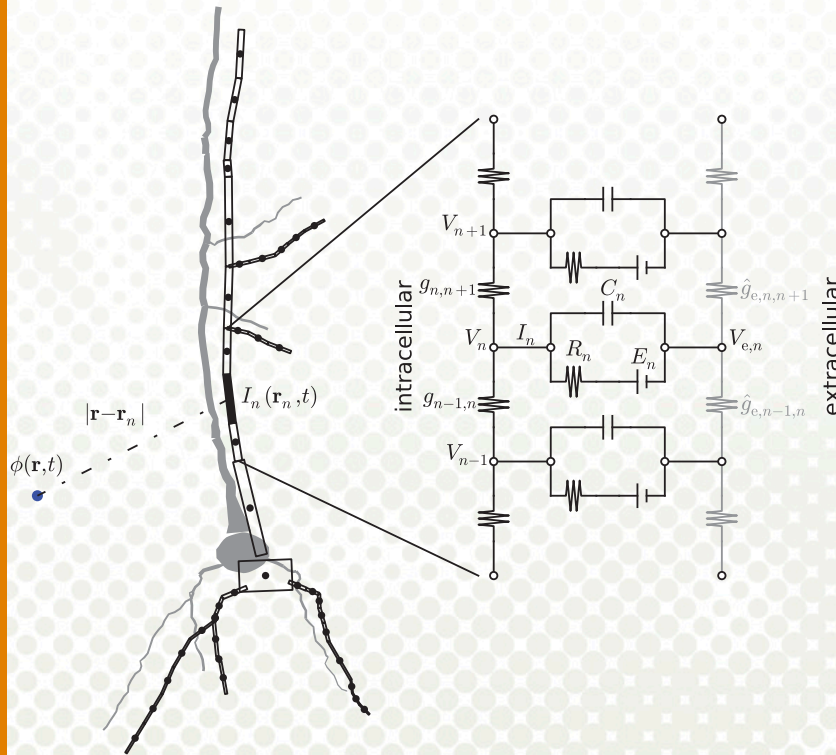
LFPy - Introduction

- Why model extracellular potentials?
 - Improve understanding of experimental measurements:
 - Reach of LFP (Łęski et al. *PLoS Comp Biol*, 2013; Lindén et al. *Neuron*, 2011)
 - Spectral content of LFP (Lindén et al. *J Comput Neurosci*, 2010)
 - Extracellular action potential shapes (Gold et al. *J Neurophysiol*, 2006; Pettersen et al. *Biophys J*, 2008)
 - Methods validation:
 - Spike sorting (Einevoll et al. *Curr Op Neurobiol*, 2012)
 - CSD estimation (Łęski et al. *Neuroinf*, 2011; Pettersen et al. *J Comput Neurosci*, 2008)

LFPy - Introduction

- Why model extracellular potentials?
 - **O14**: Taxidis et al.; Extracellular field signatures of CA1 spiking cell assemblies during sharp wave-ripple complexes
 - **P119**: Hagen et al.; Hybrid scheme for modeling LFPs from spiking cortical network models
 - **P120**: Ness et al.; Modeling Extracellular Potentials in Microelectrode Array Recordings
 - **P417**: Chintaluri et al.; Realistic simulations of local field potentials in a slice
 - others: **P41**, **P126**, **P255**, ...

LFPy - Introduction



- Forward-modeling scheme for extracellular potentials for multi-compartment neuron models:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{I_n(t)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_n|}$$

- Line-sources (Holt & Koch 1999)

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \sum_{n=1}^N I_n(t) \int \frac{d\mathbf{r}_n}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_n|}$$

- Current conservation imply:

$$\sum_{n=1}^N I_n(t) = 0$$

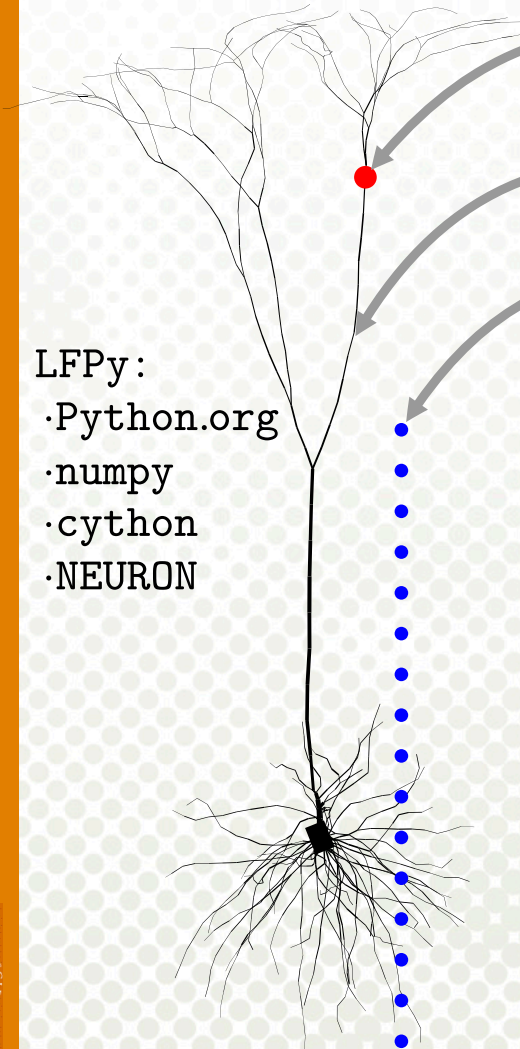
LFPy - Overview

LFPy class-objects:

LFPy.Synapse
LFPy.StimIntElectrode
LFPy.Cell
LFPy.TemplateCell
LFPy.RecExtElectrode

LFPy:

·Python.org
·numpy
·cython
·NEURON



● Why Python?

- Object oriented
- Easy to script
- Flexible
- Plethora of packages for visualizations and analysis
- <http://pypi.python.org/pypi>: ~32500 packages
- Interface other programming languages

LFPy - Installation

- Make sure **Python**-prerequisites are met:
 - **neuron** (`./configure --with-nrnpython`)
 - **Cython, NumPy, SciPy, matplotlib**
(opt. **ipython (notebook), h5py, mpi4py**)
- Download the **LFPy** source code:
<http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy/downloads/LFPy-0.9.5.tar.gz>
- Unzip:
`tar -xzf LFPy-0.9.5.tar.gz`
- Or, get development version of **LFPy** using subversion:
`svn co \`
<http://bebiservice.umb.no/svn-public/LFPy-release/trunk> **LFPy**

LFPy - Installation

- Install from LFPy source code:

```
cd /path/to/LFPy  
python setup.py install --user
```
- Easy installation of LFPy:

```
easy_install LFPy --user
```
- Small test with IPython:

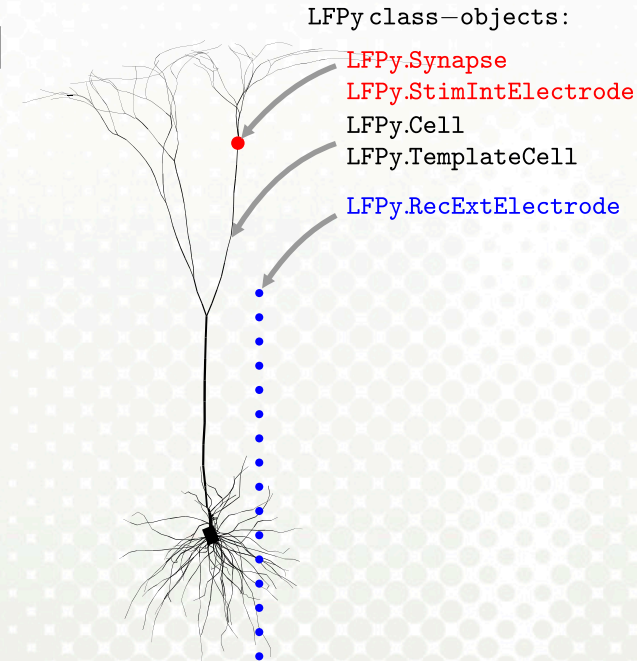
```
ipython -c "import LFPy"  
NEURON -- VERSION 7.3  
(694:9d4ab20927bc) 9d4ab20927bc  
...
```
- With NEURON:

```
nrngui --python -c "import LFPy"
```

LFPy – Main Classes

- The primary **LFPy**-classes employed to set up simulations are:
 - **LFPy.Cell**
 - **LFPy.Synapse**
 - **LFPy.RecExtElectrode**
- Other classes and functions:
 - class **LFPy.StimIntElectrode**
 - functions **LFPy.lfpcalc.calc_lfp***, **LFPy.inputgenerators.***, **LFPy.tools.***
- For detailed information please refer to the online documentation:

<http://compneuro.umb.no/LFPy/classes.html>



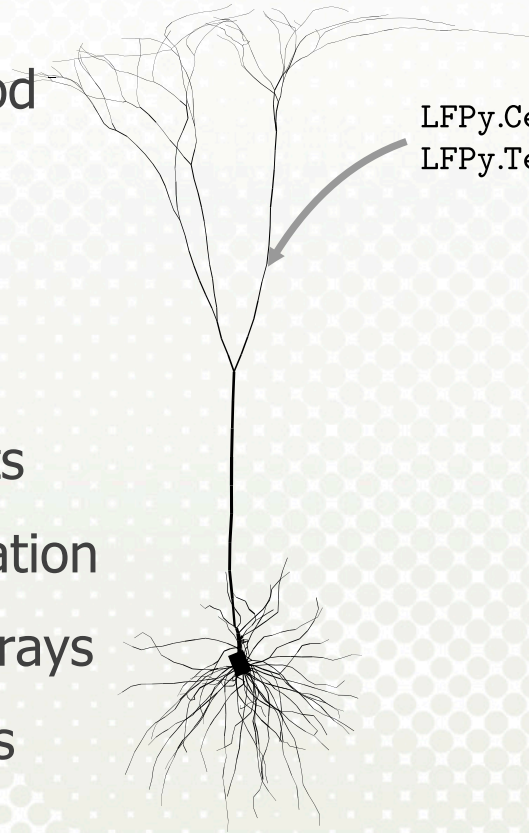
LFPy – Main Classes

● **LFPy.Cell:**

- Uses **NEURON** under the hood
- Loads the morphology
- Set the neuronal properties:
 - membrane mechanisms
 - number of compartments
 - Set cell location and rotation
- Collect the geometry into arrays
- Methods for segment indices
- positioning in 3D
- Simulation control

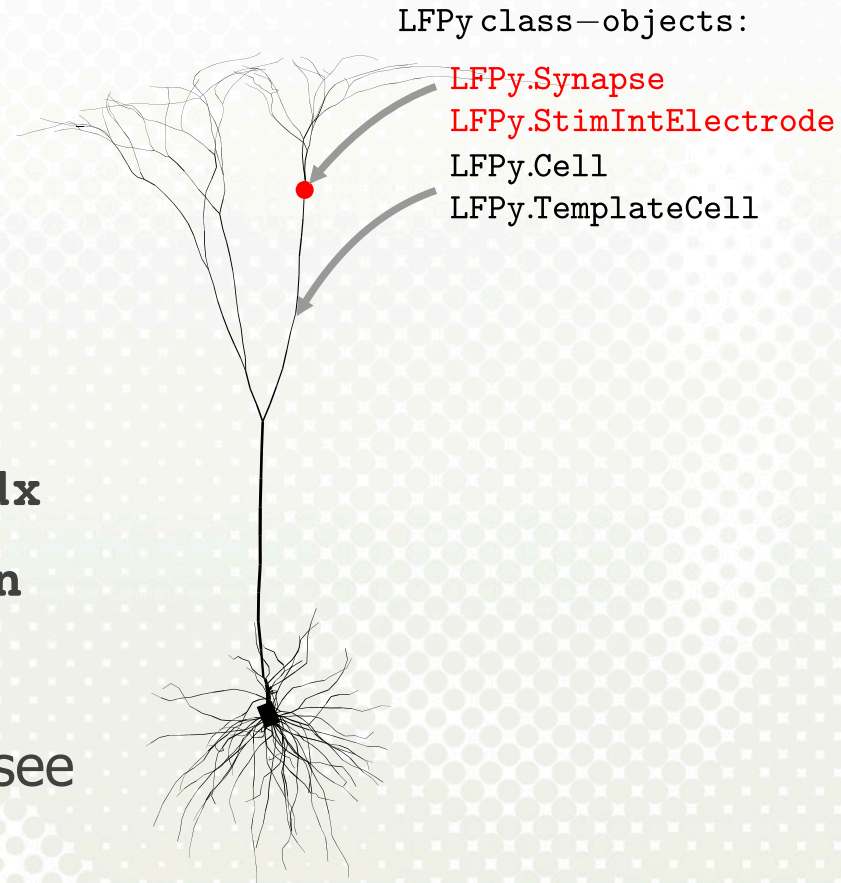
LFPy class-objects:

LFPy.Cell
LFPy.TemplateCell



LFPy - Main Classes

- **LFPy.Synapse:**
 - attach synapse-objects onto cell objects
 - Keyword arguments:
 - **cell**-object
 - compartment index, **idx**
 - synapse type, **Exp2syn**
 - mechanism arguments
- Set up as **NetCon** objects (see **NEURON** documentation) for synaptic weights and times.



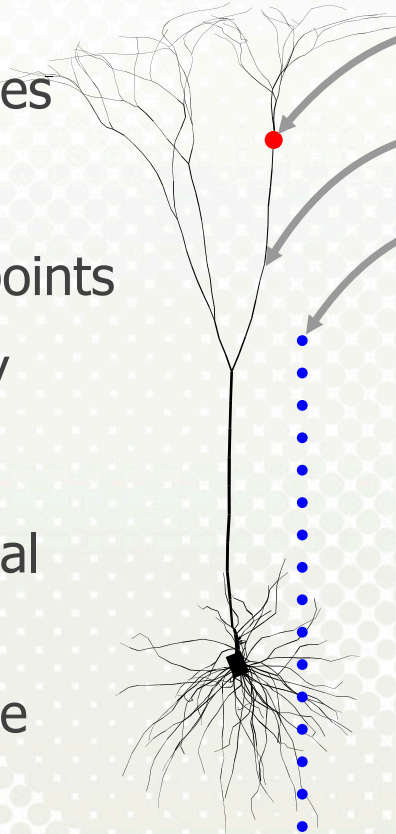
LFPy - Main Classes

● **LFPy.RecExtElectrode**

- extracellular recording devices
- Main arguments:
 - Coordinates of contact points
 - extracellular conductivity
- Optional:
 - radius and surface normal vector for the contacts
 - calculated potential is the n -point surface area averaged potential

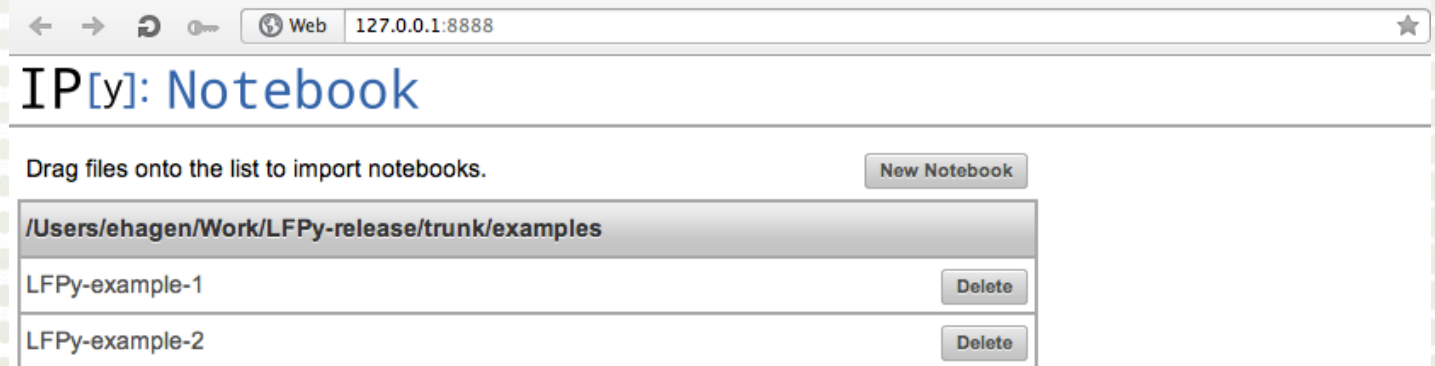
LFPy class—objects:

LFPy.Synapse
LFPy.StimIntElectrode
LFPy.Cell
LFPy.TemplateCell
LFPy.RecExtElectrode



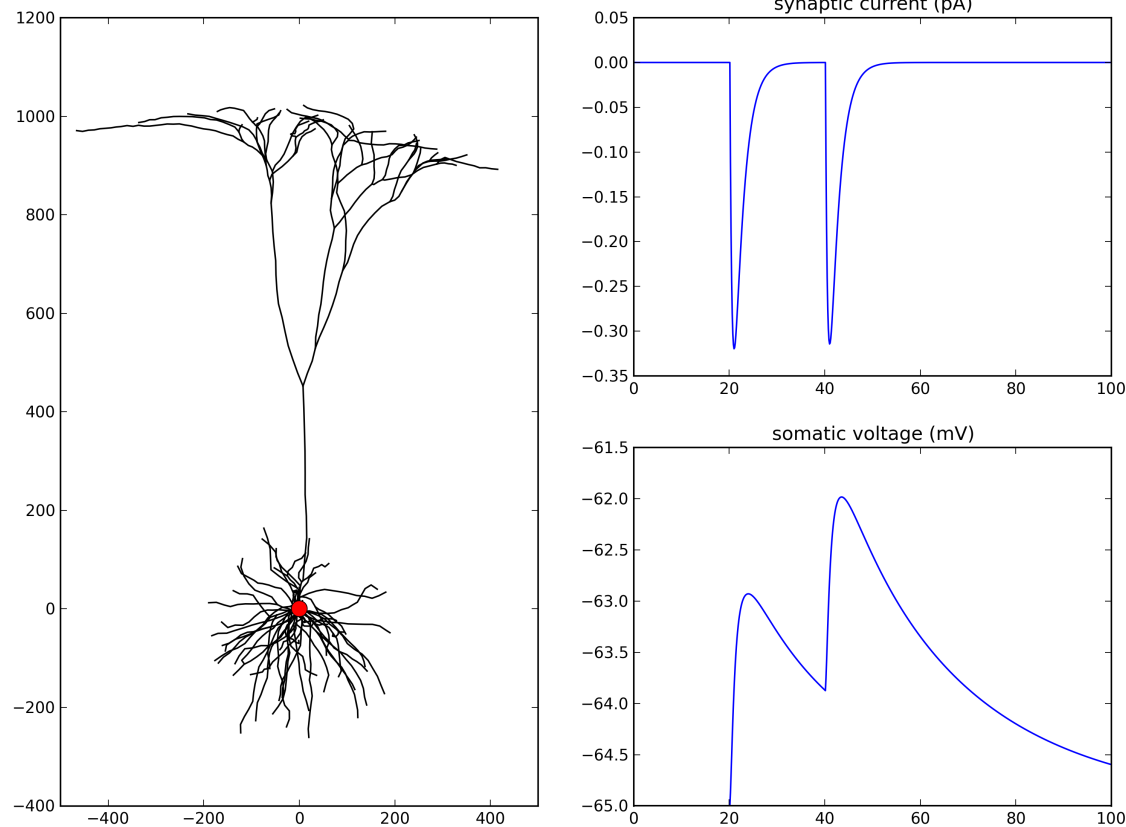
LFPy - Usage

- Working in local folder:
cd /path/to/LFPy/examples/
- Have a look at the two provided **ipython** notebooks
 - Post-synaptic response of somatic synapse
 - LFPs from a single, apical synapse
- Employ an interactive ipython notesession:
ipython notebook --pylab inline
- Two interactive examples should be available:



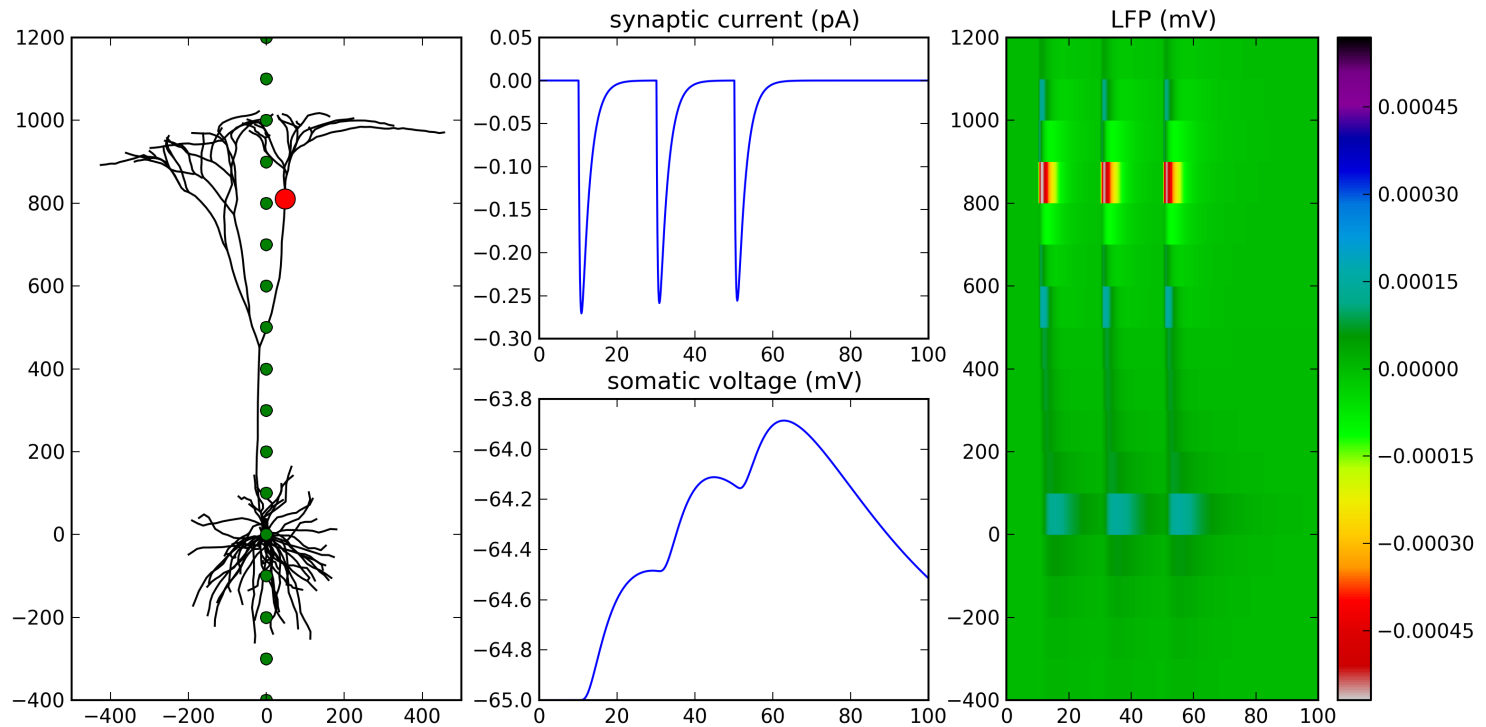
LFPy - Usage

- Interactive example 1:
 - Calculate the post-synaptic response of somatic synapse



LFPy - Usage

- Interactive example 2:
 - Calculate LFPs arising from a single, apical synapse



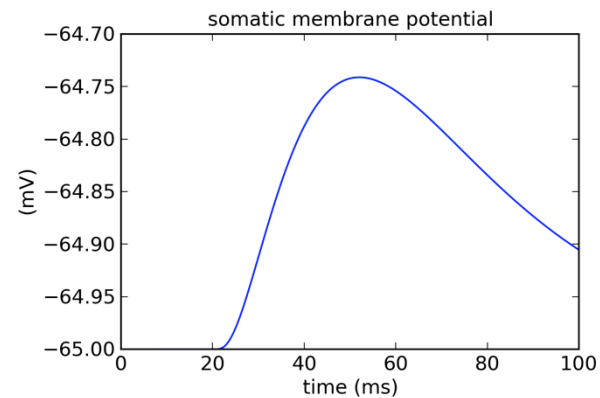
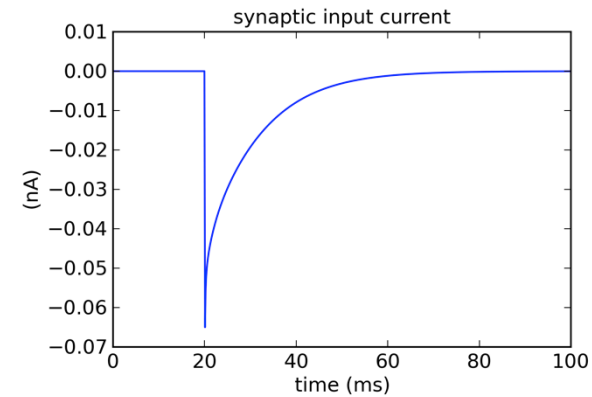
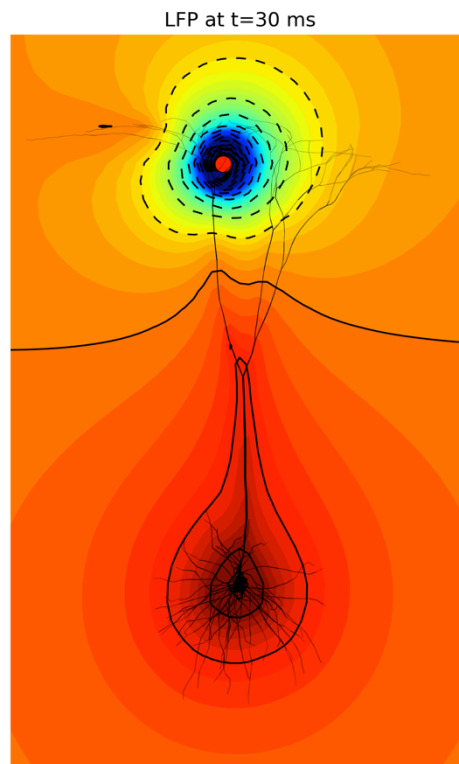
LFPy – Provided example files

- **LFPy** also comes with a set of example scripts displaying different usage cases, like:
 - using active cell models
 - using many synapses
 - dealing with a population of cell objects
- The example files are located in
`/path/to/LFPy/examples/`
- **.mod**-files must be compiled for active stuff, running
`nrnivmodl`
inside the examples folder

LFPy - Provided example files

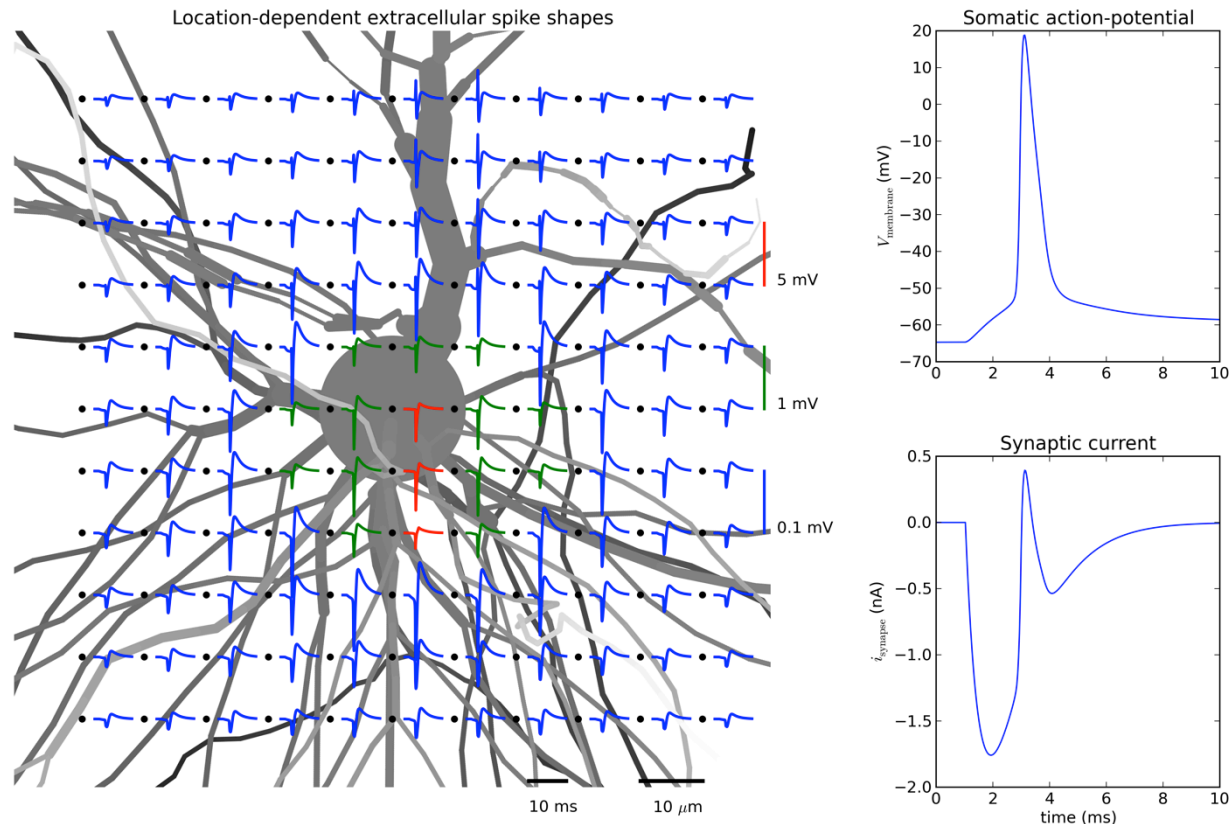
- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example4.py`:
 - Single apical synapse response. Passive membrane

example 1



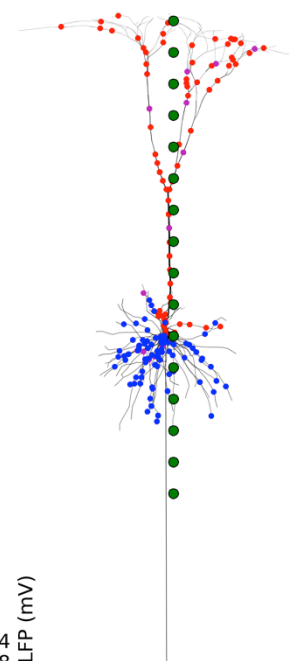
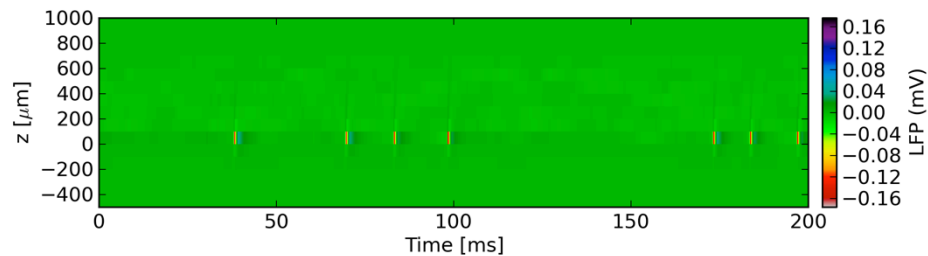
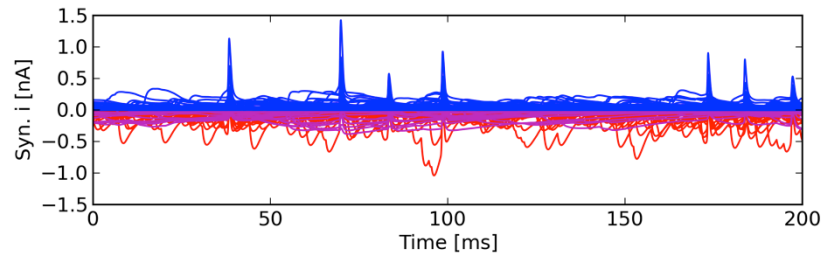
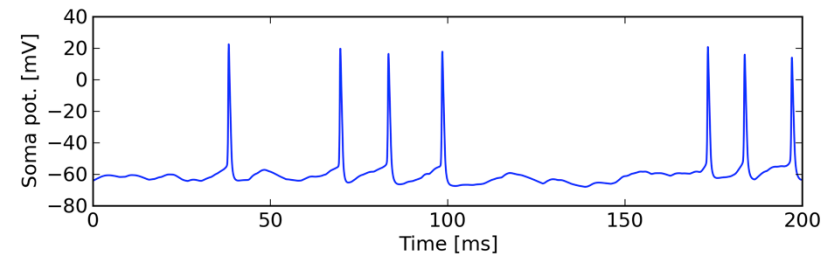
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example5.py`:
 - Extracellular spike waveforms. Active membrane.



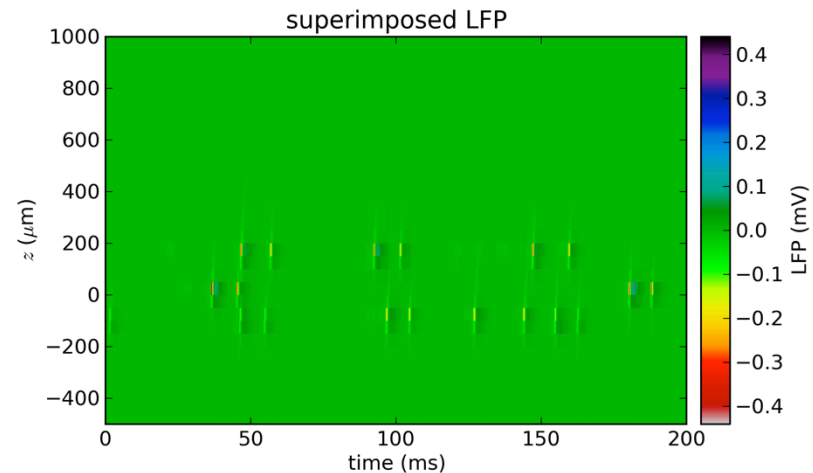
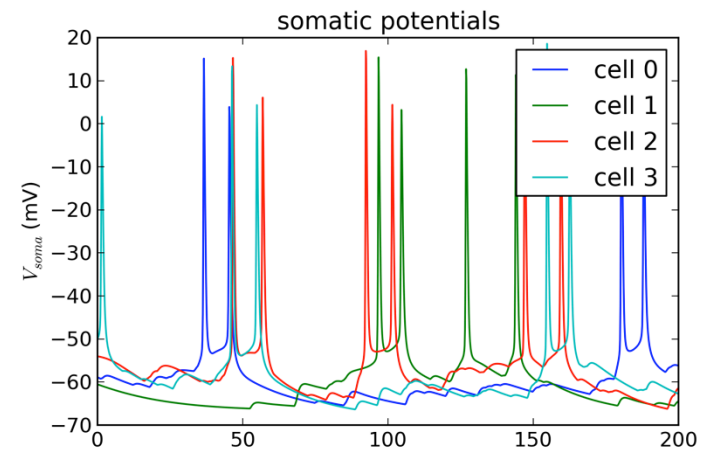
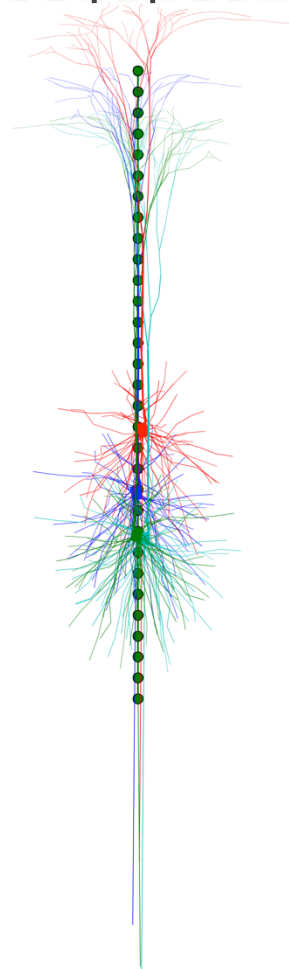
LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example6.py`:
 - Distributed exc/inh. synapses. Active membrane.



LFPy - Provided example files

- `/path/to/LFPy/examples/example_mpi.py`:
 - A small population using MPI. Active membranes.



LFPy - Tutorial

- Questions?
- If not, feel free to test out **LFPy** 😊