

# Randomness and information in biological data

## BIO-369

Prof. Anne-Florence Bitbol



Lecture 11

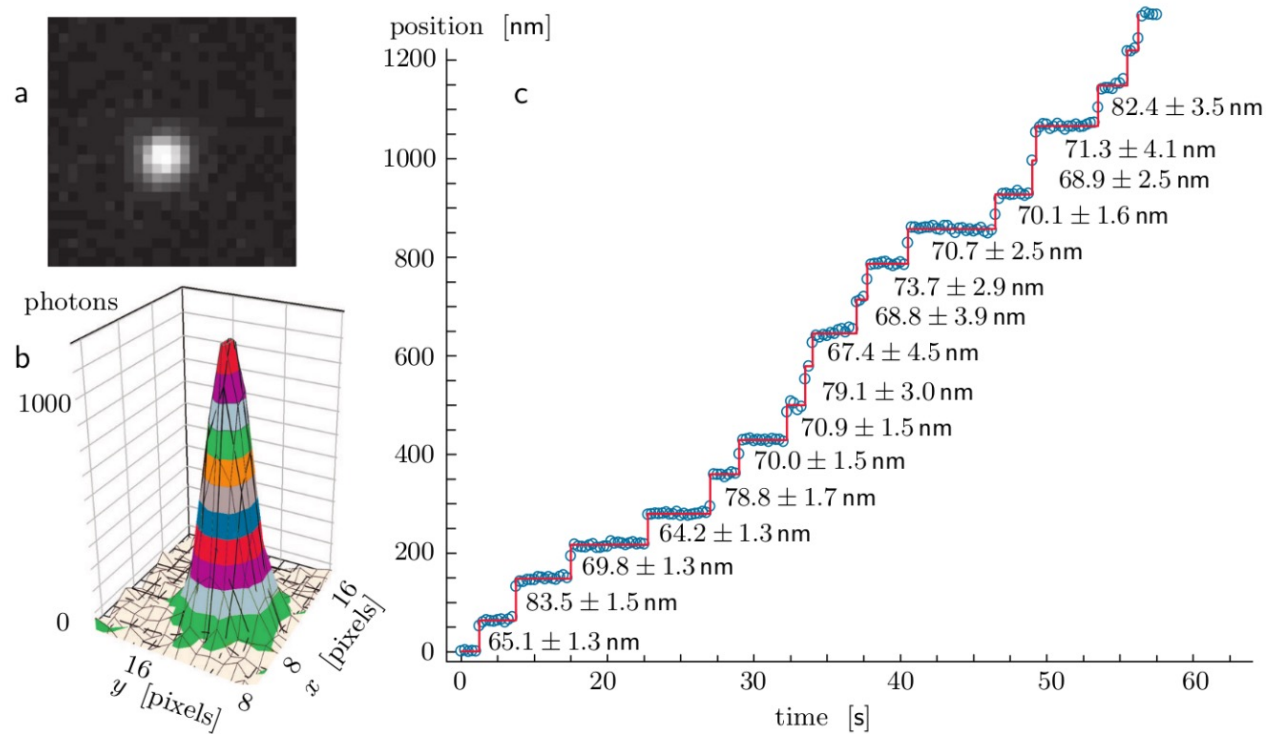
# Organization

## ■ Reminder: evaluation

- **Numerical mini-project (40% of the final grade)**
  - Three problem sessions devoted to working on the mini-project (weeks 10-11):
    - **Monday April 28 at 3:15pm** in room CE1106
    - **Monday May 5 at 10:15am** in room BS170
    - **Wednesday May 7 at 3:15pm** in room CE1106 (lecture slot)
  - Deadline to hand in the mini-project: **Friday May 9 (11:59pm)**
- **Written exam** during the exam session (**60% of the final grade**) – **Monday June 30 from 9:15 to 12:15**
- Extra problem session during exam preparation period?

# Superresolution microscopy: FIONA

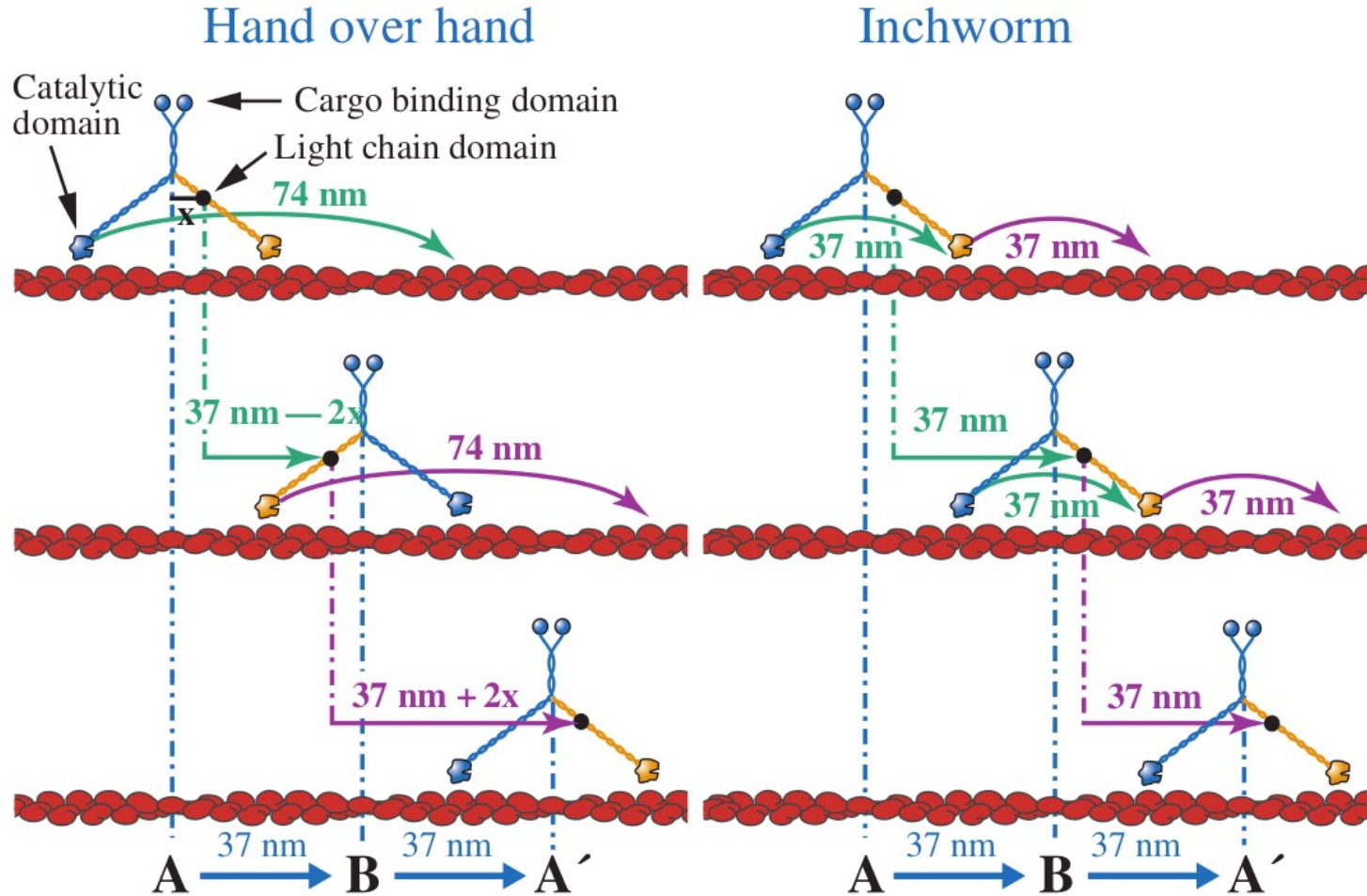
Yildiz et al, 2003



- a: Single image of a single fluorophore attached to the molecular motor protein myosin-V. Each camera pixel represents 86 nm in the system
- b: Number of photons collected in each pixel for the image in (a)
- c: Maximum likelihood estimates of the position of the fluorophore versus time, revealing a sequence of  $\sim 74$  nm steps

# Superresolution microscopy: FIONA

Yildiz et al, 2003



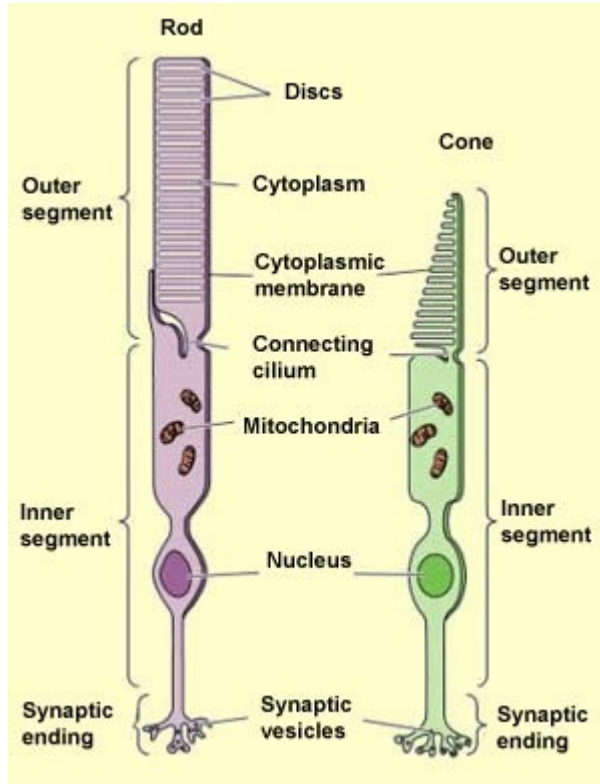
Allowed to settle how myosin “walks” on actin filaments

# Photoreceptor cells in the retina

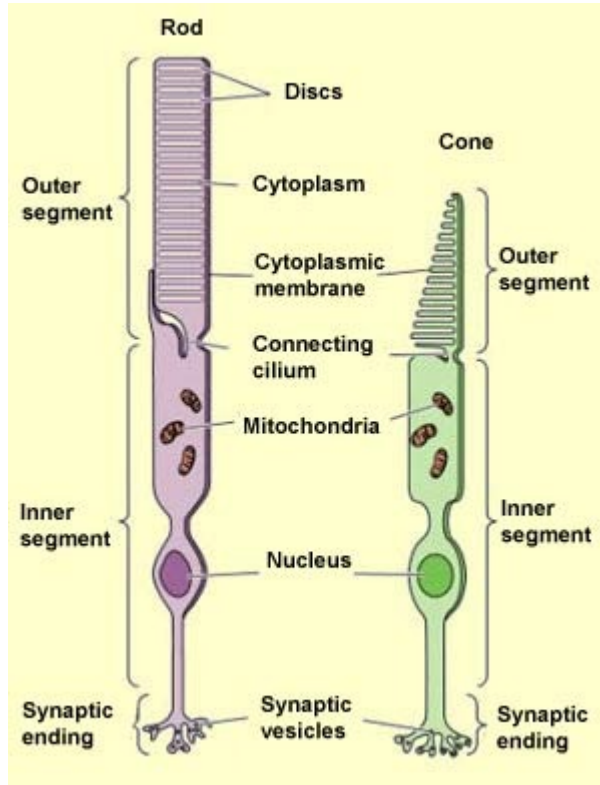
The outer segment consists of a stack of discs embedded in the cell membrane

Light-sensitive pigments are located on these discs

Rod cells can function in lower light better than cone cells, but have little role in color vision



# Photoreceptor cells in the retina



The outer segment consists of a stack of discs embedded in the cell membrane

Light-sensitive pigments are located on these discs

Rod cells can function in lower light better than cone cells, but have little role in color vision

Rod cells contain rhodopsin, a light-sensitive transmembrane protein (and a GPCR)

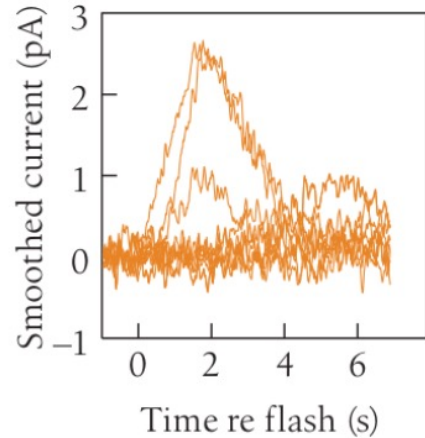
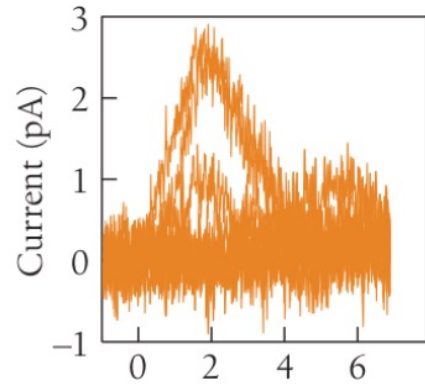
Light → structural change that increases its affinity for another protein and triggers a signaling pathway

→ closing of ion channels and hyperpolarization

→ change in the current across the membrane of the rod cell

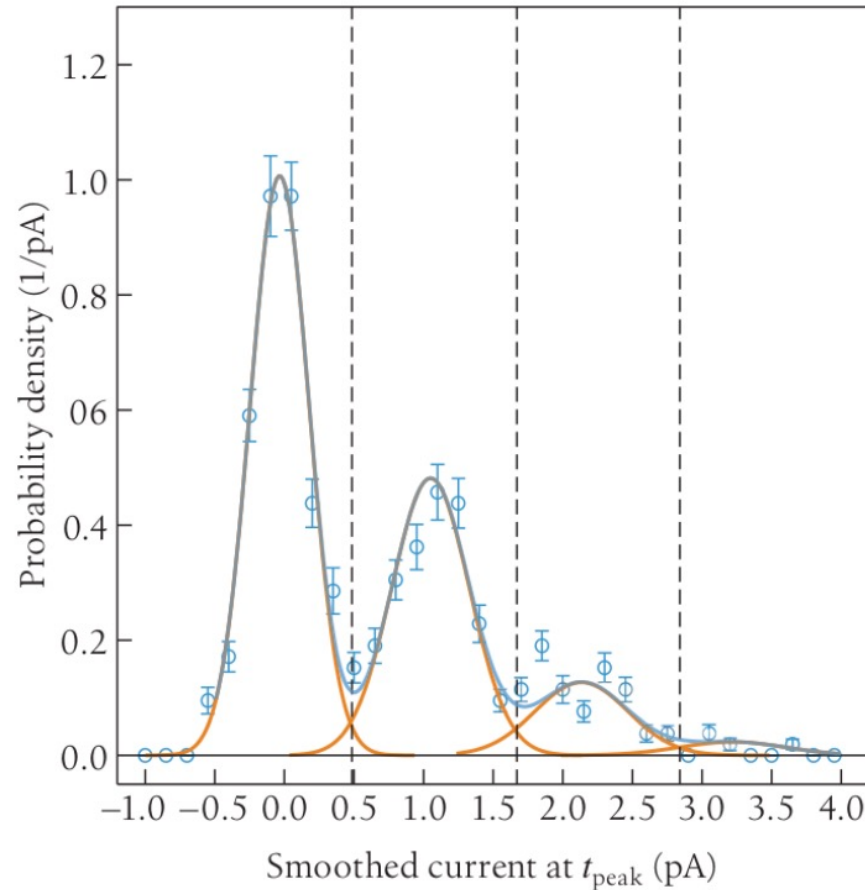
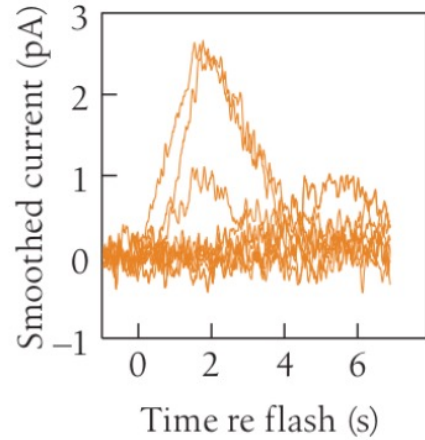
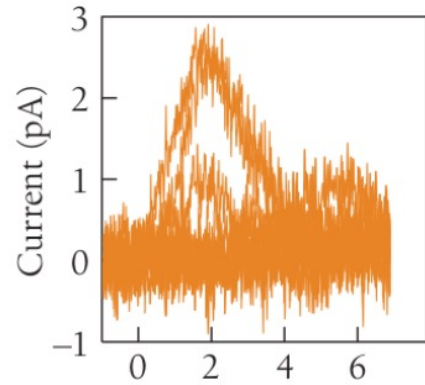


# Current in a rod cell exposed to a dim flash of light



Left panels (top: raw data; bottom: data smoothed by moving average on a 100 ms window): 5 instances in which the rod cell is exposed to a dim flash at  $t = 0$

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Left panels (top: raw data; bottom: data smoothed by moving average on a 100 ms window): 5 instances in which the rod cell is exposed to a dim flash at  $t = 0$

Right panel: distribution of smoothed currents at  $t_{\text{peak}}$ , mean and standard error from 350 flashes in one cell  
Blue line: fit to distribution, composed of contributions from  $N = 0, 1, \text{etc.}$  (orange)



The probability density  $p$  of observing a given intensity  $i$  for a dim flash can be expressed as the sum over the number  $N$  of photons received by the rod cell of:

- 0%      A.  $p(N)$   
0%      B.  $p(N,i)$   
0%      C.  $p(N|i)$

To answer, please:

- Connect to <http://ttpoll.eu>
- Enter the session ID **bio369**
- Select your answer

Assume that the number of photons is 0 or 1. If we choose a threshold  $\theta$  to decide this, then the probability of making an error on our conclusion on the number of photons is:

- 0%            A.  $P(\text{conclude that } N=0 \mid N=1)$
- 0%            B.  $P(\text{conclude that } N=0, N=1)$
- 0%            C.  $P(\text{conclude that } N=0 \mid N=1) + P(\text{conclude that } N=1 \mid N=0)$
- 0%            D.  $P(\text{conclude that } N=0, N=1) + P(\text{conclude that } N=1, N=0)$

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What do you expect the optimal threshold  $\theta$  to satisfy?

- 0%            A.  $P(i=\theta \mid N=0) = P(i=\theta \mid N=1)$
- 0%            B.  $P(i=\theta, N=0) = P(i=\theta, N=1)$
- 0%            C.  $P(N=0 \mid i=\theta) = P(N=1 \mid i=\theta)$
- 0%            D.  $P(i=\theta) = 1/2$

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# Outline of the course

## II Extracting information from biological data

- 1 Quantifying randomness and information in data: entropy
  - 1.1 Notion of entropy
  - 1.2 Interpretation of entropy
  - 1.3 Entropy in neuroscience data: response of a neuron to a sensory input
- 2 Quantifying statistical dependence
  - 2.1 Covariance and correlation
  - 2.2 Mutual information
  - 2.3 Identifying coevolving sites in interacting proteins using sequence data
- 3 Inferring probability distributions from data
  - 3.1 Model selection and parameter estimation: maximum likelihood
  - 3.2 Introduction to maximum entropy inference
  - 3.3 Predicting protein structure from sequence data
- 4 Finding relevant dimensions in data: dimension reduction
  - 4.1 Principal component analysis
  - 4.2 Beyond principal component analysis
- 5 Introduction to Bayesian inference

Now that we have found the form of  $P(x)$ , what should we do?

- 0% A. We are done, this probability distribution works for any lambda
- 0% B. We should choose the value of lambda such that the distribution is normalized
- 0% C. There is only one value of lambda that works, and it depends on the data

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Here we maximized entropy at fixed average energy. What do you think this procedure is equivalent to?

- 0%            A.    Maximizing the energy
- 0%            B.    Minimizing the energy
- 0%            C.    Maximizing the free energy
- 0%            D.    Minimizing the free energy

To answer, please:

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Which of the following assertions is true?

- 0%            A.  $P(x) = \sum_{x,y} P(x,y)$
- 0%            B.  $P(x) = \sum_y P(x,y)$
- 0%            C.  $P(x) = \sum_y P(x|y)$
- 0%            D.  $P(x) = \sum_y P(y|x)$

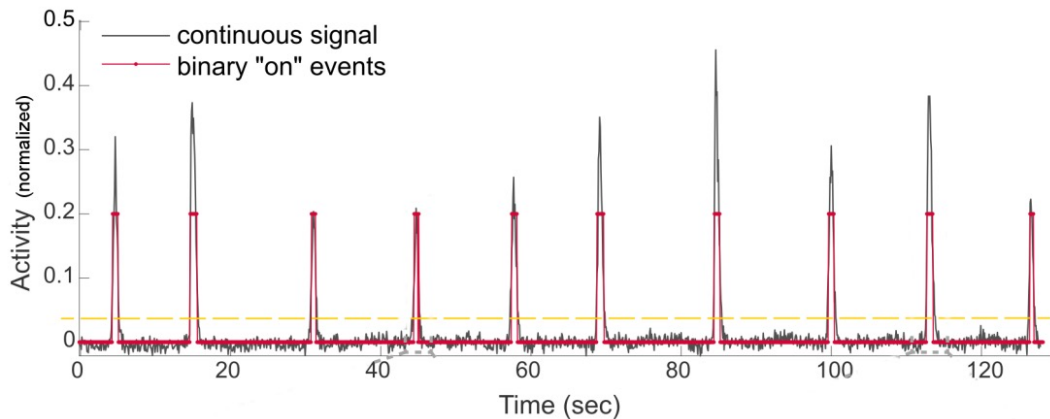
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# Some applications of maximum entropy modeling

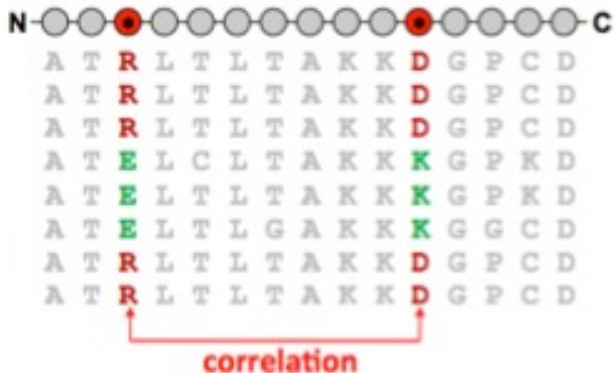
## • Neuroscience data:



$$P(\{\sigma_i\}) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp[-E(\{\sigma_i\})].$$

$$E(\{\sigma_i\}) = - \sum_{i=1}^N h_i \sigma_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^N J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j$$

## • Protein sequence data:



$$P(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_L) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ - \left[ \sum_{i=1}^L h_i(\alpha_i) + \sum_{i < j} e_{ij}(\alpha_i, \alpha_j) \right] \right\}$$