



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Investigation of Spiking Neural Networks for Modulation Recognition using Spike-Timing-Dependent Plasticity

Eric J. Knoblock, NASA GRC

Hamid R. Bahrami, The University of Akron

IEEE Cognitive Communications for Aerospace Applications Workshop (CCAAW)

June 25, 2019



Agenda

- Motivation and Goals
- Overview of Spiking Neurons
- Spiking Neuron Model
- SNN Architecture
- Learning Algorithm
- Classification Error Performance
- Discussion and Future Work



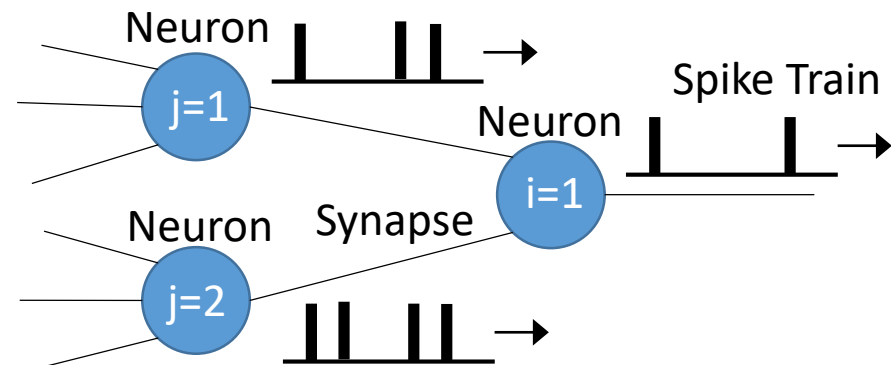
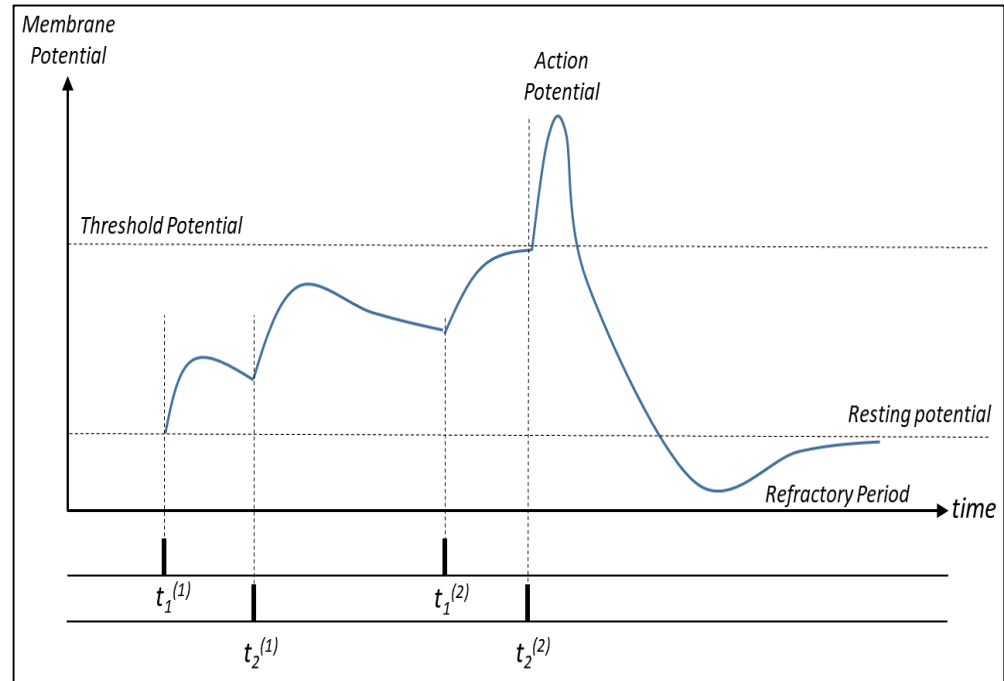
Motivation and Goals

- NASA's infusion of new capabilities
 - Machine learning and artificial intelligence
 - Increased mission science return, enhanced autonomy
- Spiking Neural Networks (SNNs) and neuromorphic hardware
 - Energy efficiency
 - Ideal for resource-constrained platforms
 - CubeSats
- Cognitive functionality
 - Modulation recognition capability (BPSK, QPSK, 8PSK)
 - SNN using STDP
 - Classification error performance



Spiking Neural Networks

- SNNs model biology
- Neurons and connecting synapses
- Neuron membrane potential and threshold
- Action potentials (e.g., spikes)
- Neuronal Refractoriness





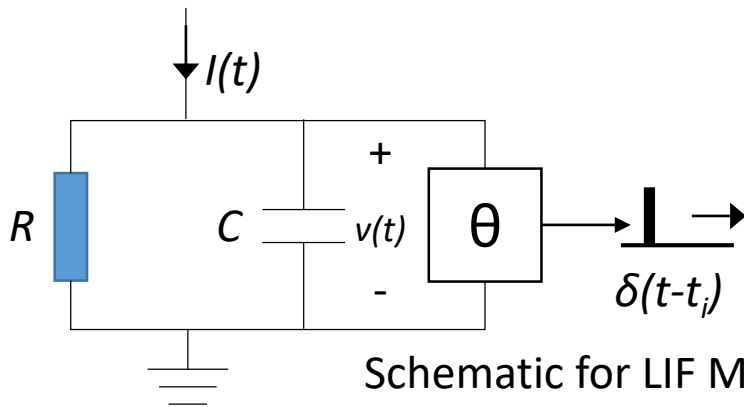
Spiking Neuron Model

- Leaky Integrate and Fire (LIF) Model

$$\tau \frac{dv}{dt} = -v(t) + RI(t)$$

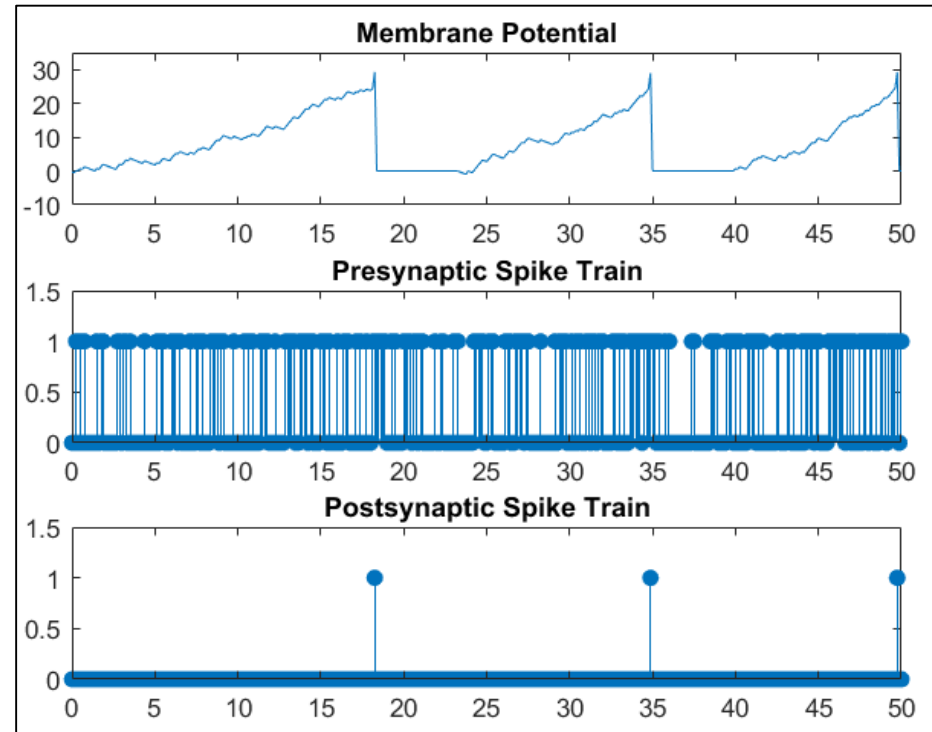
- Simplified Response Model (SRM)

$$v_t = v_{t-1} + \sum_i \omega_i s_{it} - D$$



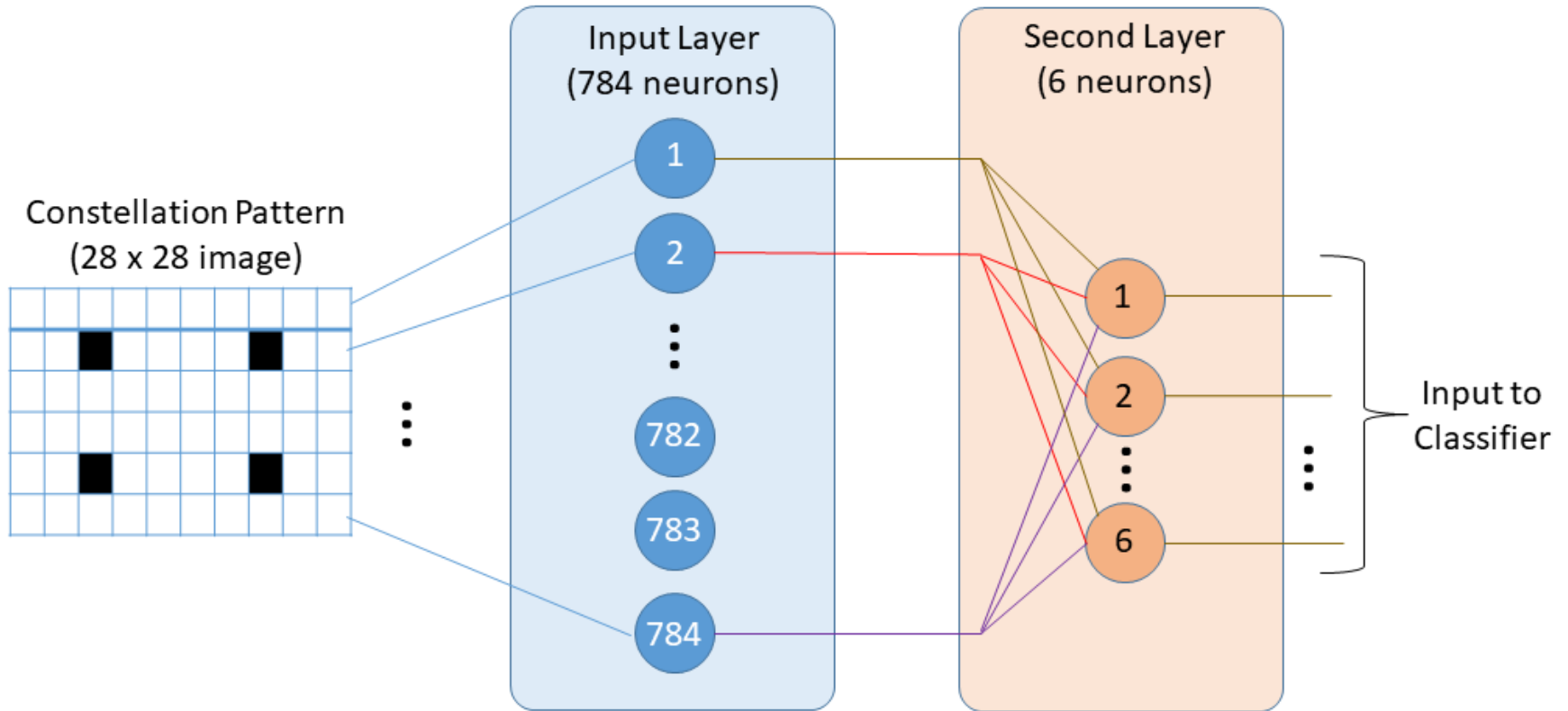
Schematic for LIF Model

(Derived from Gerstner and Kistler, "Spiking Neuron Models", 2002)





SNN Architecture



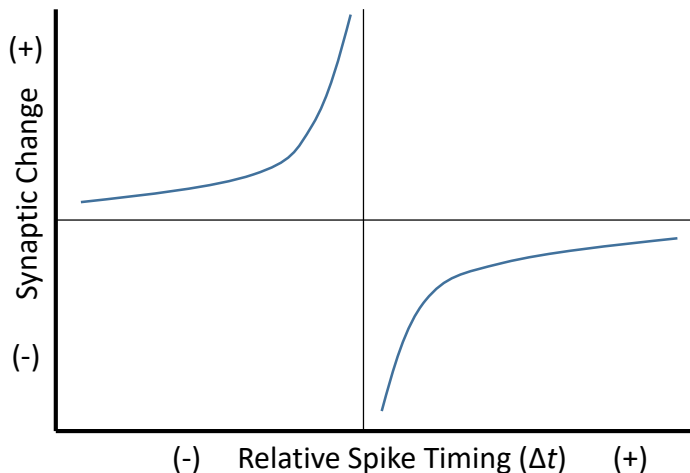


Learning Algorithm

- Unsupervised learning
- Spike-Timing-Dependent Plasticity (STDP)
- Correlation of pre- and postsynaptic spike arrivals

$$\Delta\omega(\Delta t) = \begin{cases} A_+ \exp(-\Delta t/\tau_+), & \Delta t < 0 \\ A_- \exp(-\Delta t/\tau_-), & \Delta t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

- Adaptive membrane potential
- Lateral inhibition



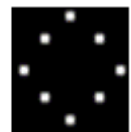
Training Patterns



BPSK

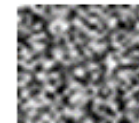


QPSK



8PSK

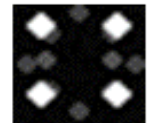
Learned Patterns



1



2



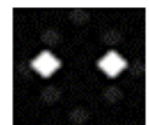
3



4



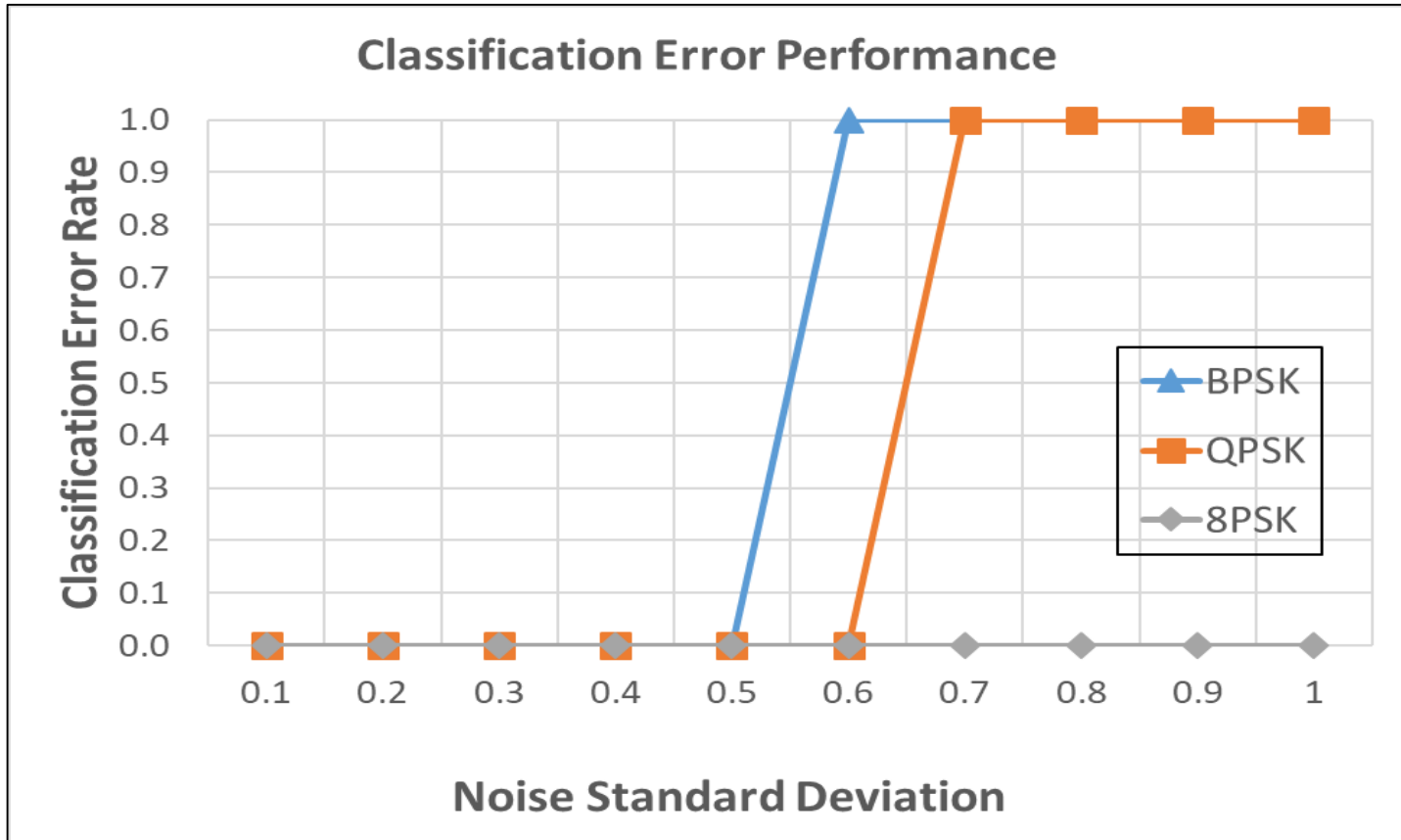
5



6



Classification Error





Discussion and Future Work

- SNN model for modulation recognition
 - Compare with CNN implementation
- Data set
 - More extensive samples with noise
 - Actual sampled I-Q values
- Learning methods
 - Challenges of unsupervised learning
 - Other STDP variants
 - Supervised, reinforcement methods
- Neural network architectures
 - Deep learning
 - Recurrent vs feedforward
- Implementation on neuromorphic hardware



Thank you