

# Classification of Postsynaptic Current Events in Purkinje Cells

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# Introduction

- Purkinje cells are in the cerebellum.
- They receive excitatory and inhibitory inputs.
  - Postsynaptic current is a **mixture of events**.
    - Fast events.
    - Slow events.
  - Drugs can selectively block receptors.
    - DNQX blocks AMPA receptors (fast events).
    - Bicuculine blocks GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors (slow events).
  - But drugs cause artifacts.
    - Blocking one receptor type interferes with normal interactions.
    - Example: where presynaptic receptors mediate retrograde feedback.
- The challenge is to **unmix and classify events** using computational methods.
  - Fast event trains.
  - Slow event trains.
- But first, some background about Purkinje cells and their connectivity.

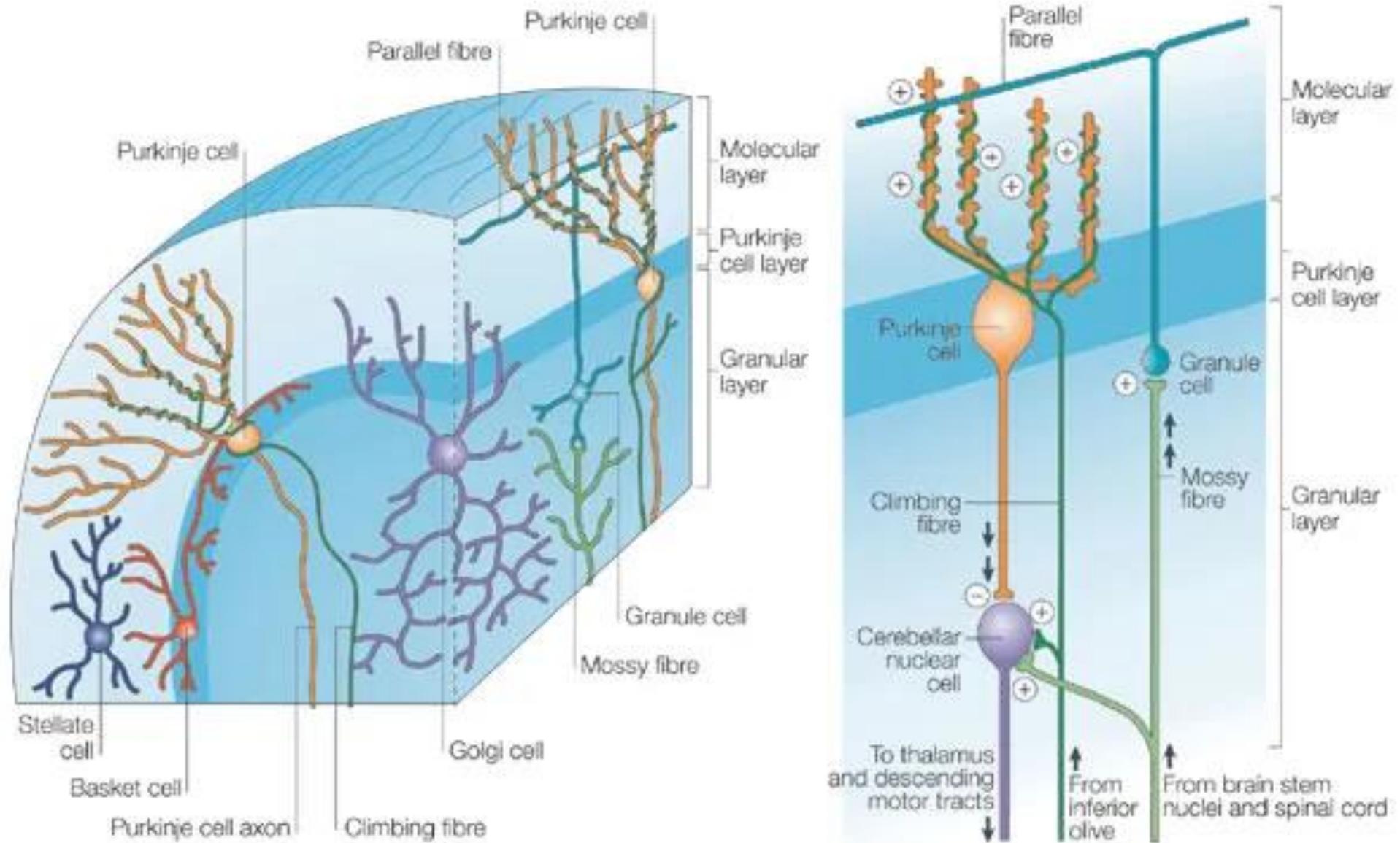
# Inputs to the Purkinje cell.

## Excitatory

- 1) Parallel fibre
- 2) **Climbing fibre**

## Inhibitory

- 1) Stellate cell
- 2) **Basket cell**



Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

Image: (Apps *et al.* 2005).

# Purkinje cell synapses

- 1) Parallel fiber (PF) (+)
- 2) Molecular layer interneuron (MLI)
  - a. **basket cells** and **stellate cells** (-)
  - b. **presynaptic NMDARs** in basket cell terminals?
- 3) **Lugato cell (LC)**
- 4) **Granule cell (GrC)**
- 5) **Unipolar brush cell (UBC)**
- 6) **Mossy fibre (MF)**
- 7) **Climbing fibre (CF) (+)**

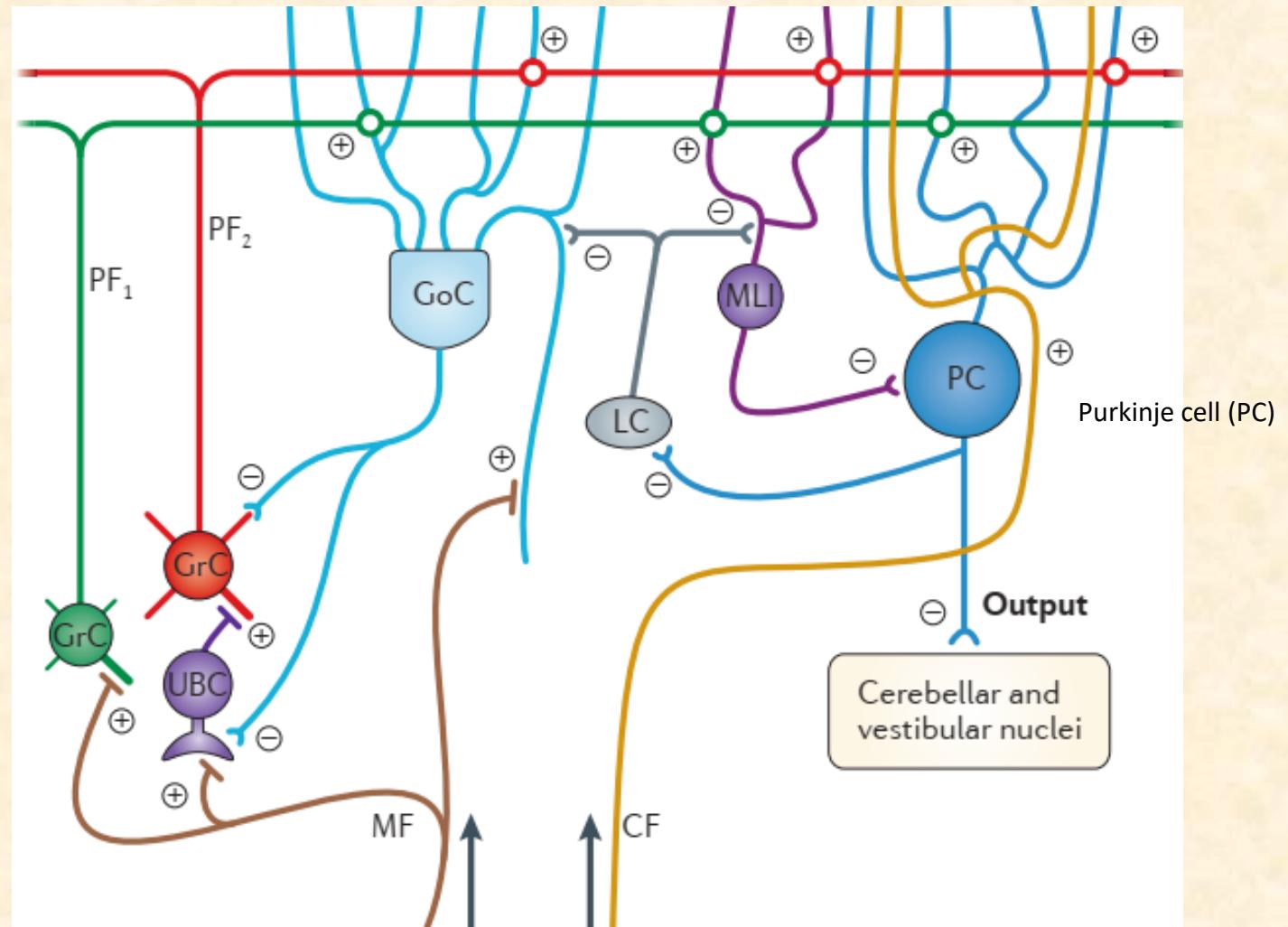
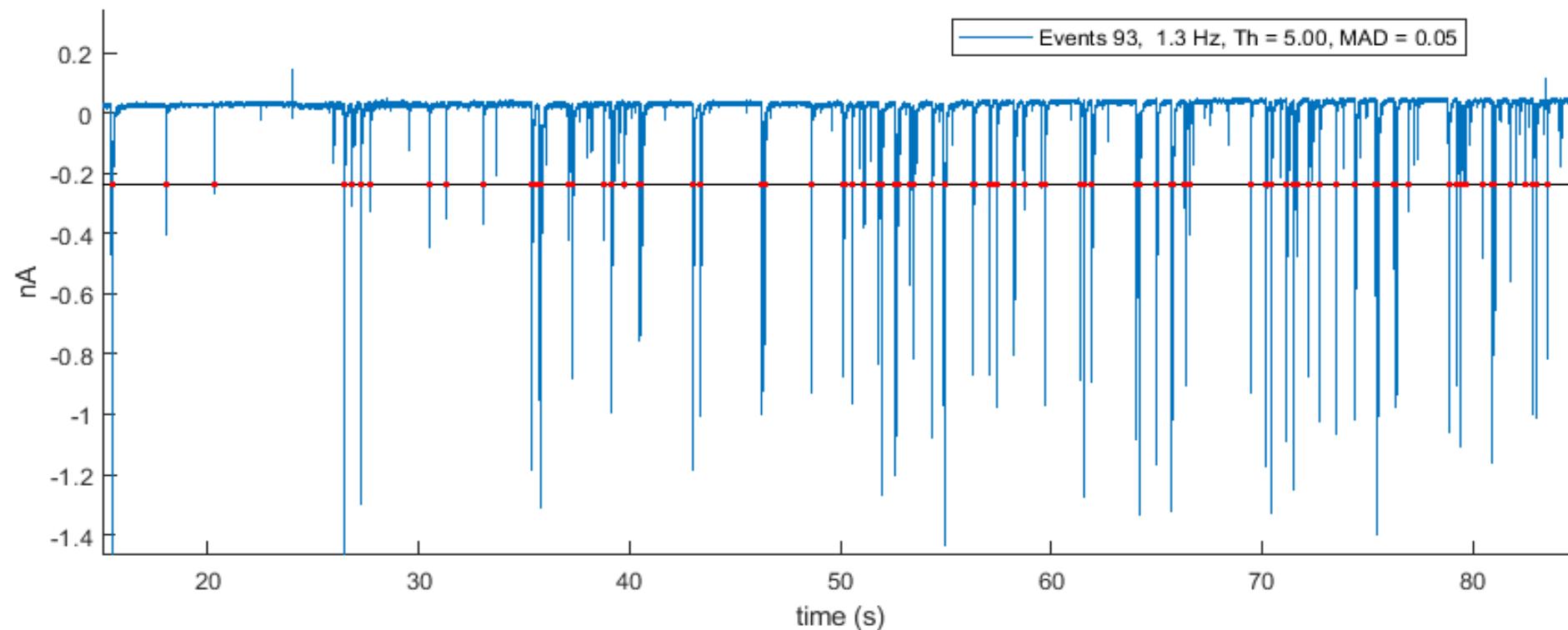


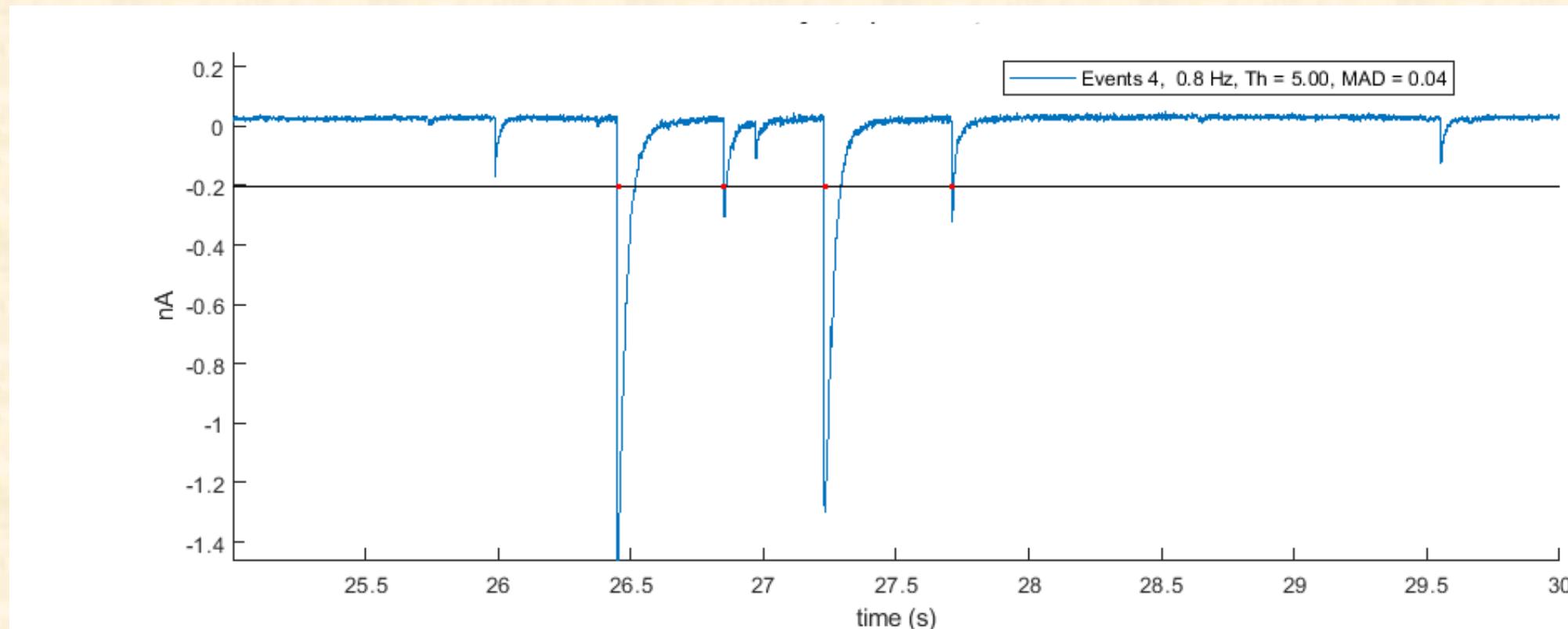
Image: (Gao 2012).

# Event Train



File 09921004.abf: DNQX and NMDA at 37.45 seconds.

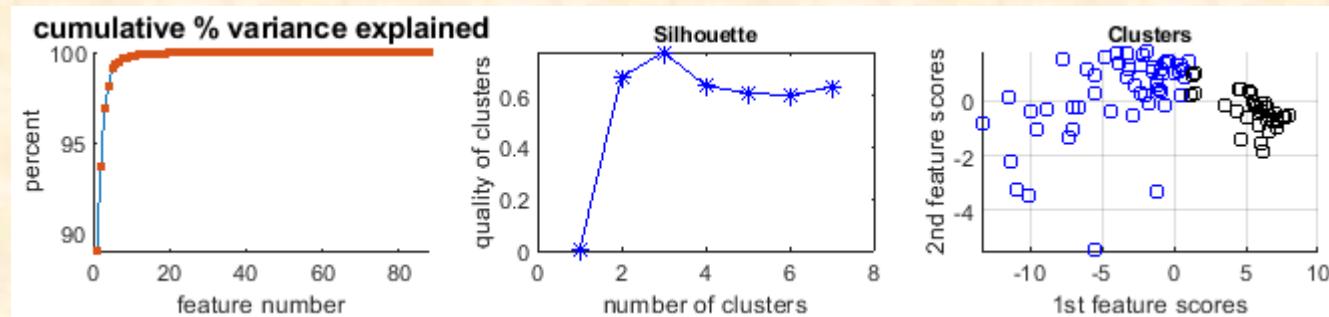
# Event Train Before DNQX



File 09921004.abf: zoom in to see shape of PSCs. Here events to do not overlap, **no fast events?**

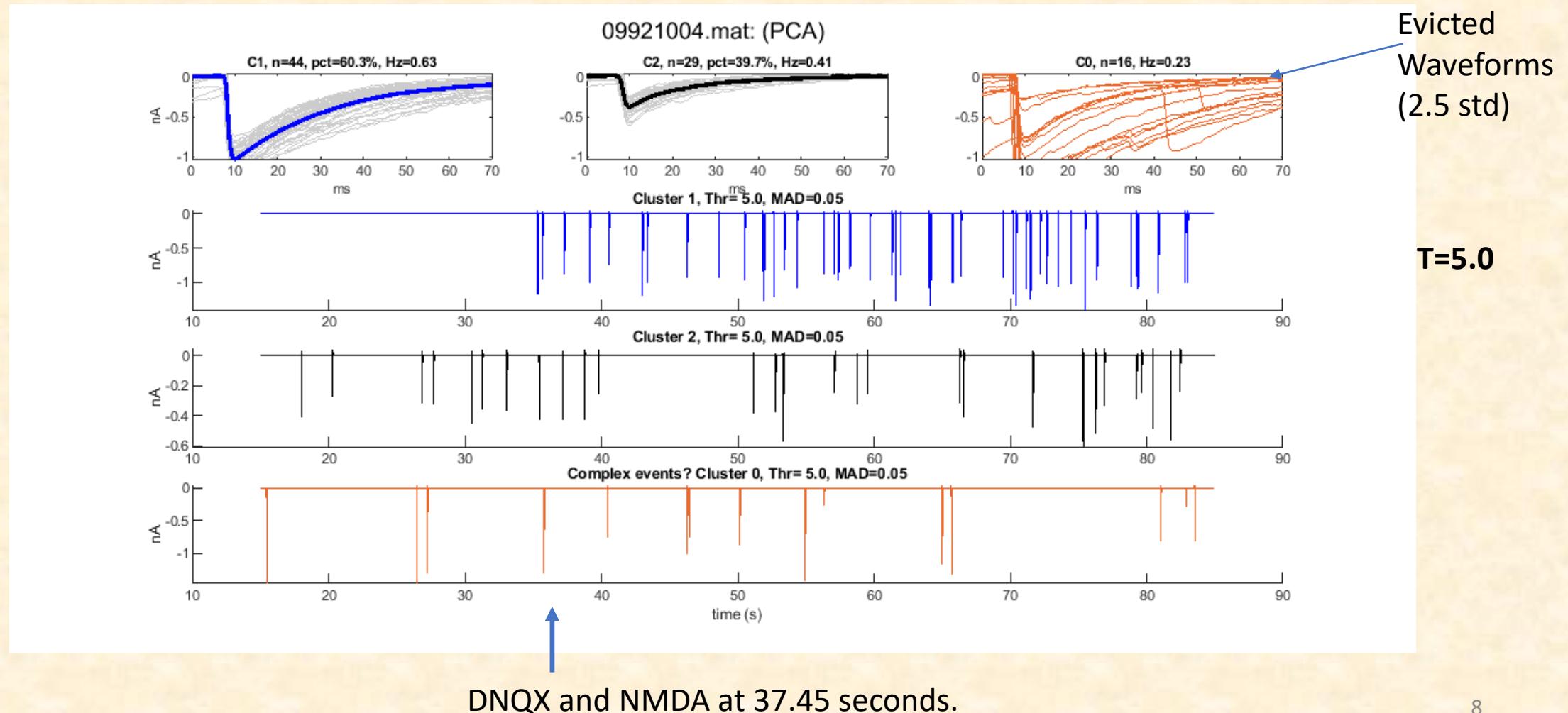
# Post Synaptic Waveform Sorting

- Event detection
  - Filter data if necessary.
  - Amplitude threshold to get candidate waveforms.
- Feature extraction and visualisation
  - Principal Components Analysis (PCA).
  - K-means clustering using the squared Euclidean distance metric.



- Compute mean waveform for each cluster and the plot event trains.

# Mean Waveforms and Event Trains

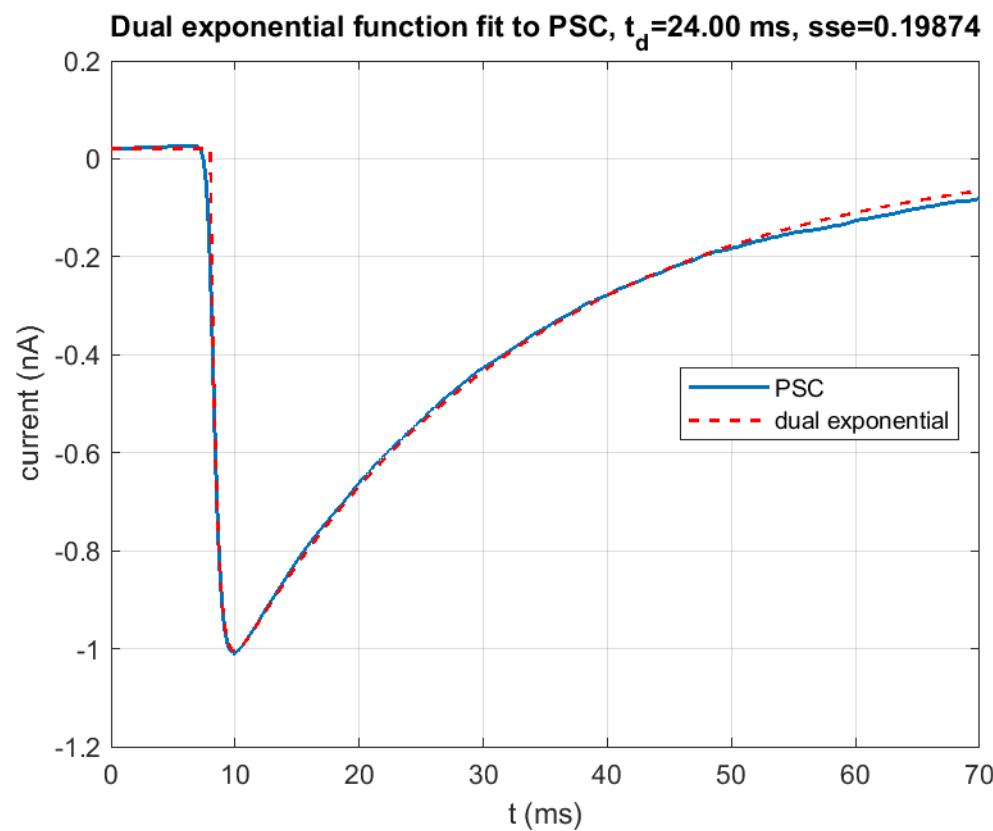


# Build Template Library: fit dual exponential function

$$I(t) = I_{max} \frac{\tau_d \tau_r}{\tau_d - \tau_r} \left( \exp \left( -\frac{t - t_s}{\tau_d} \right) - \exp \left( -\frac{t - t_s}{\tau_r} \right) \right)$$

Current  $I(t)$  depends on the rise and decay time constants.

After DNQX:  $t_r = 5$  ms,  $t_d = 24$  ms

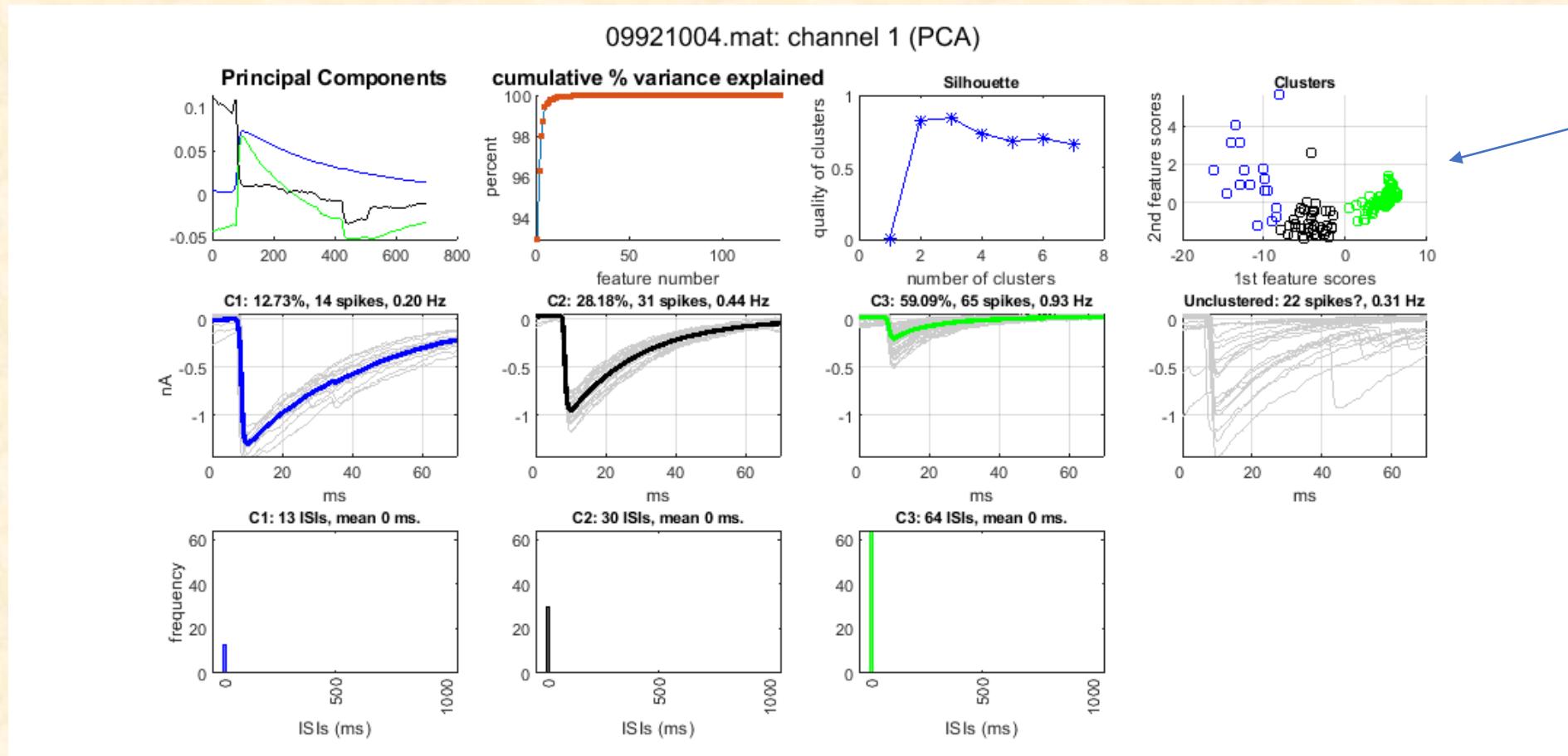


# Next Steps

- Slide templates along old **or** new data to detect and classify events.
- Use synthetic data for testing.
- Do computational analysis of data sets in context of pharmacological data.
- Additional methods?
  - Bayesian methods
    - Exploit prior knowledge about the data.
  - Machine learning
    - Neural networks for pattern recognition.
    - Learn from labelled examples
  - ?

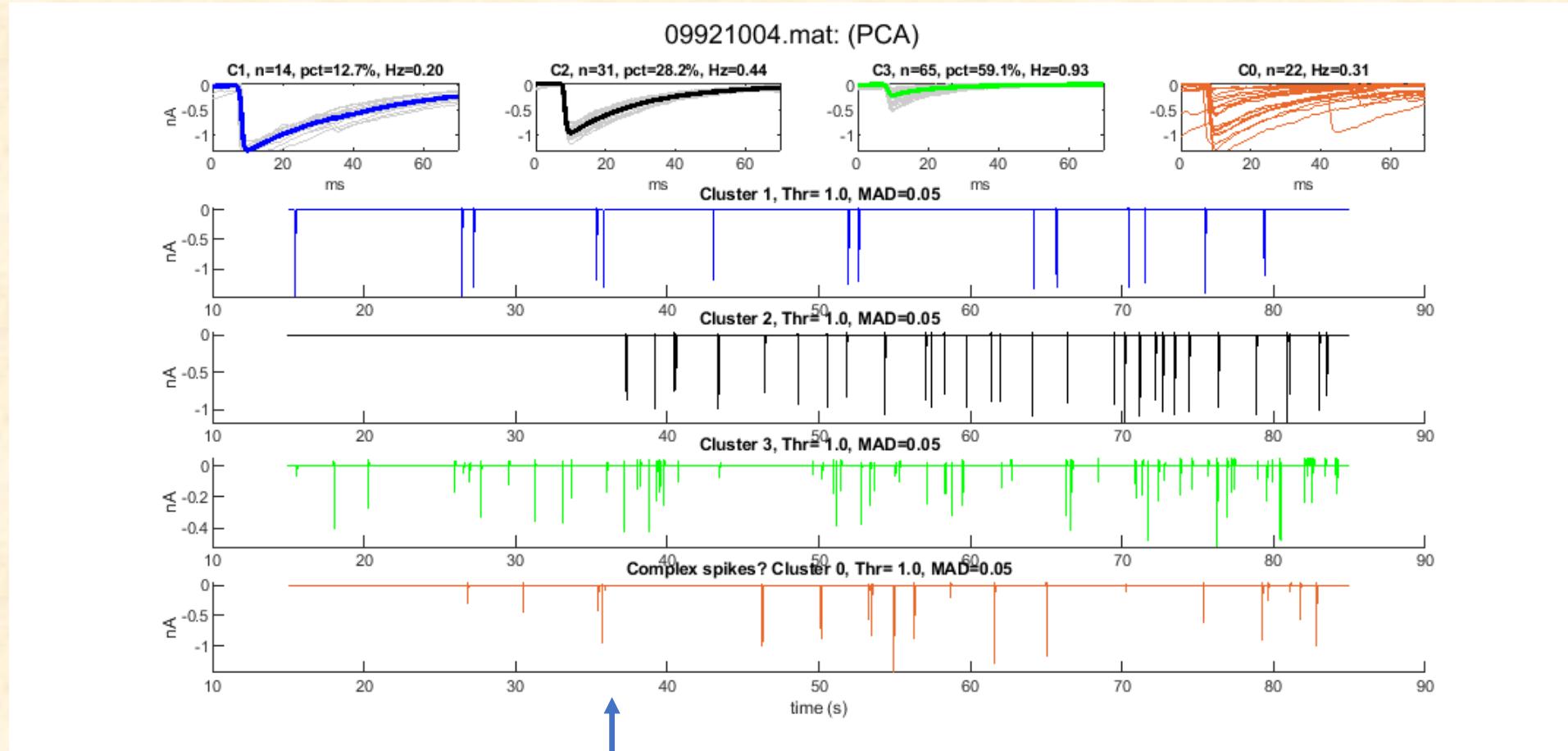


# Sorting: using $K=3$ and $T=1$

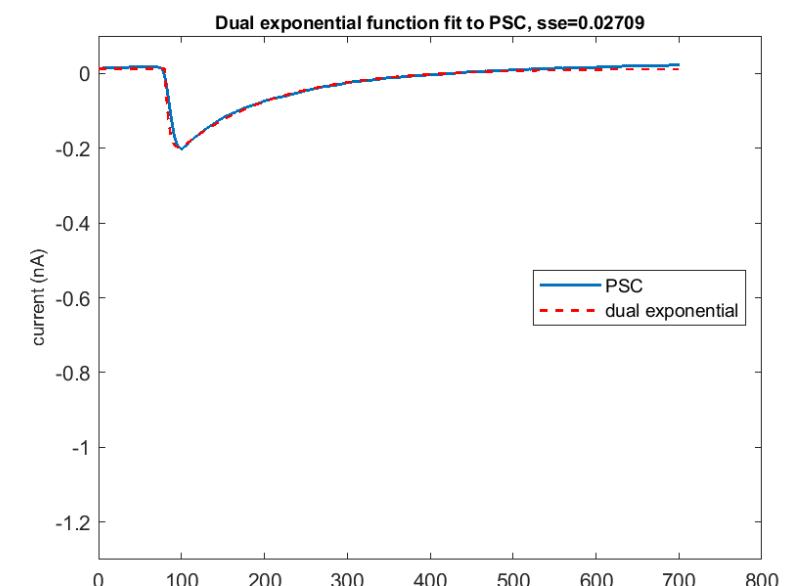
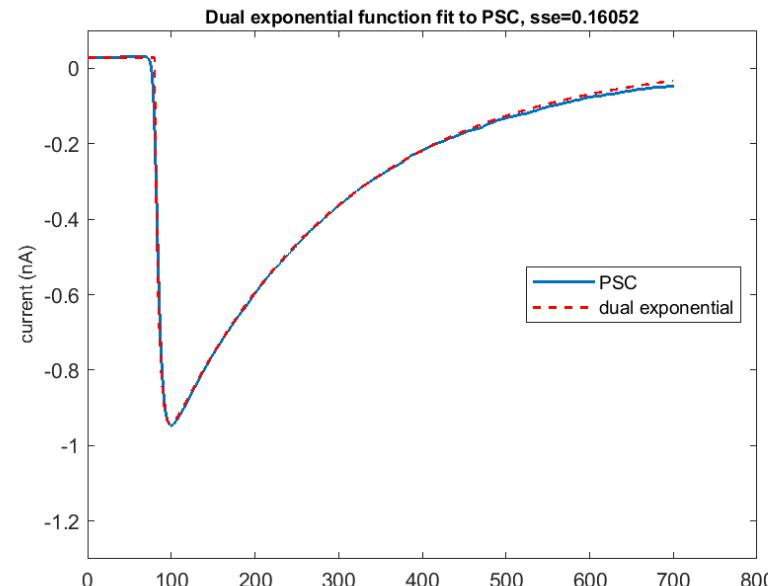
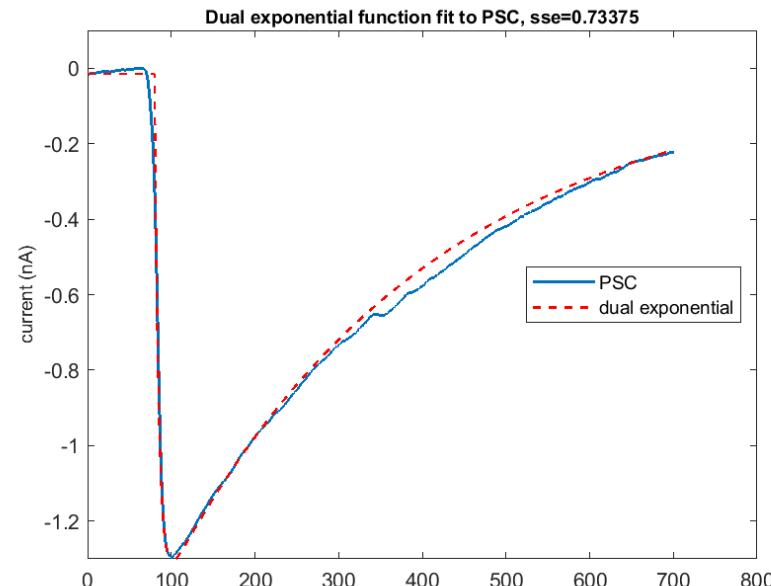


3 distinct clusters

# Event Trains: used K=3 and T=1



# Slow templates: used K=3 and T=1



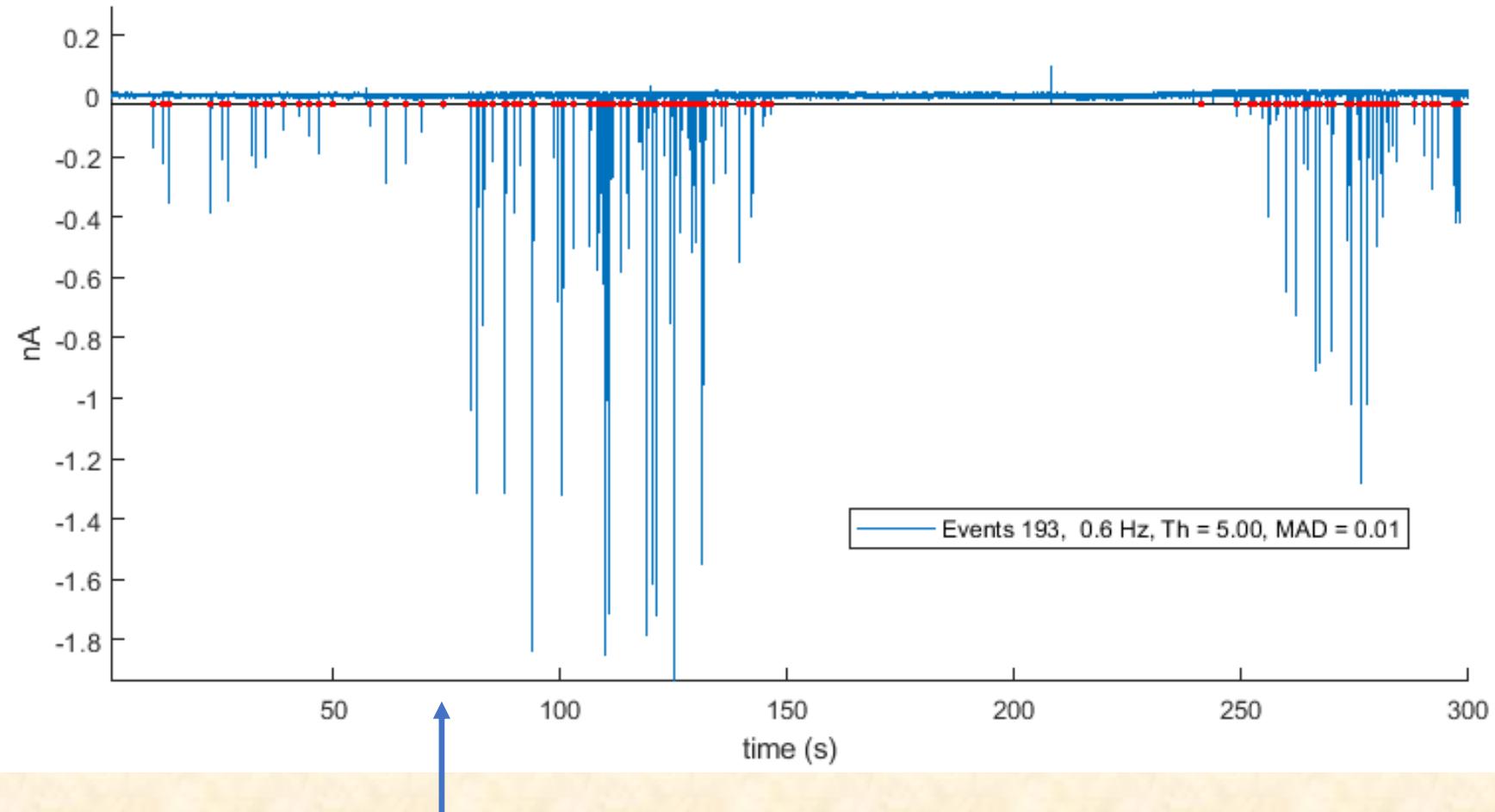
X axis in time steps, 10 steps per ms

Cluster 1:  $t_d = 32$  ms

Cluster 2:  $t_d = 22$  ms

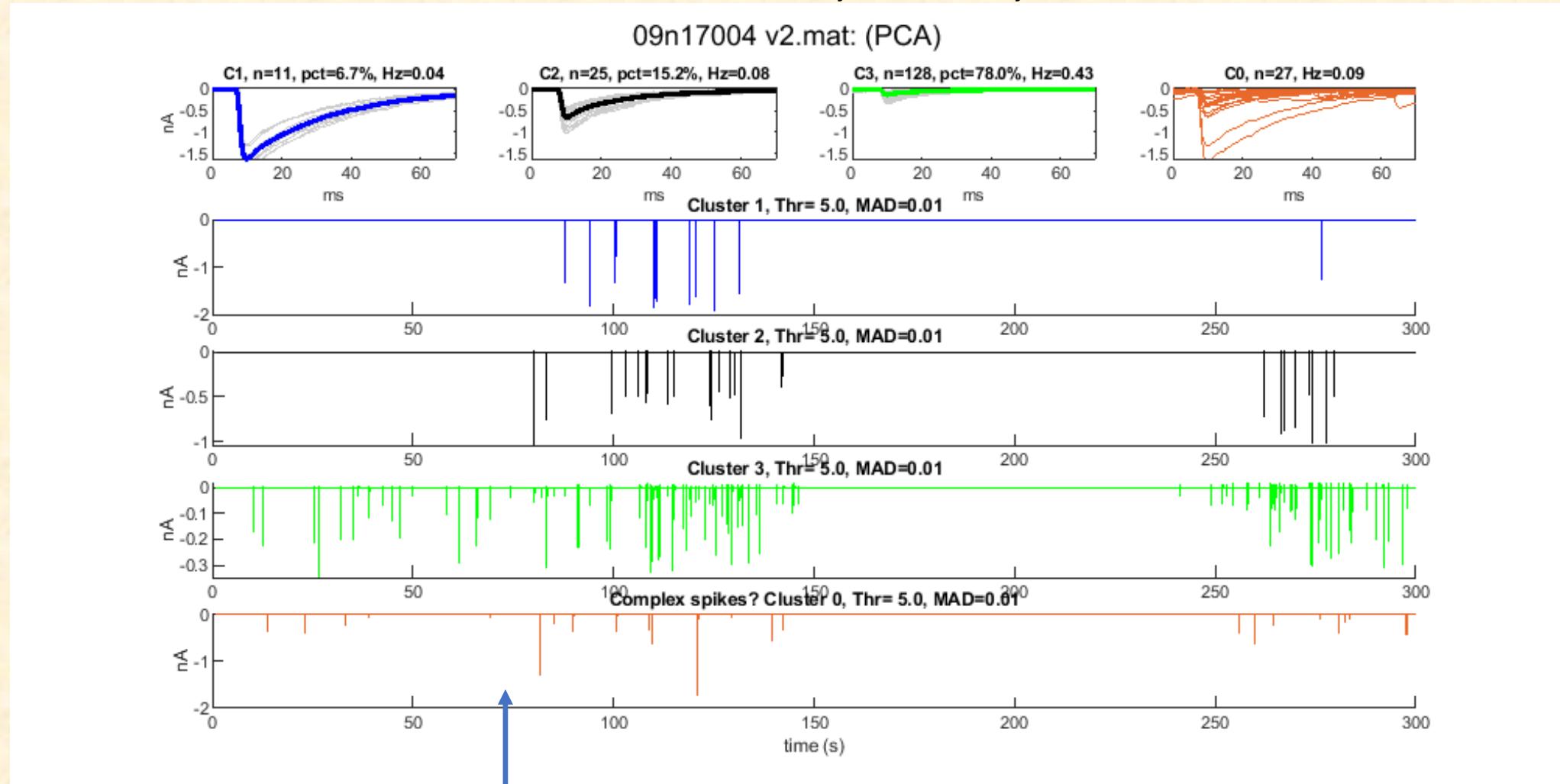
Cluster 3:  $t_d = 11$  ms

# 300 seconds, T=5

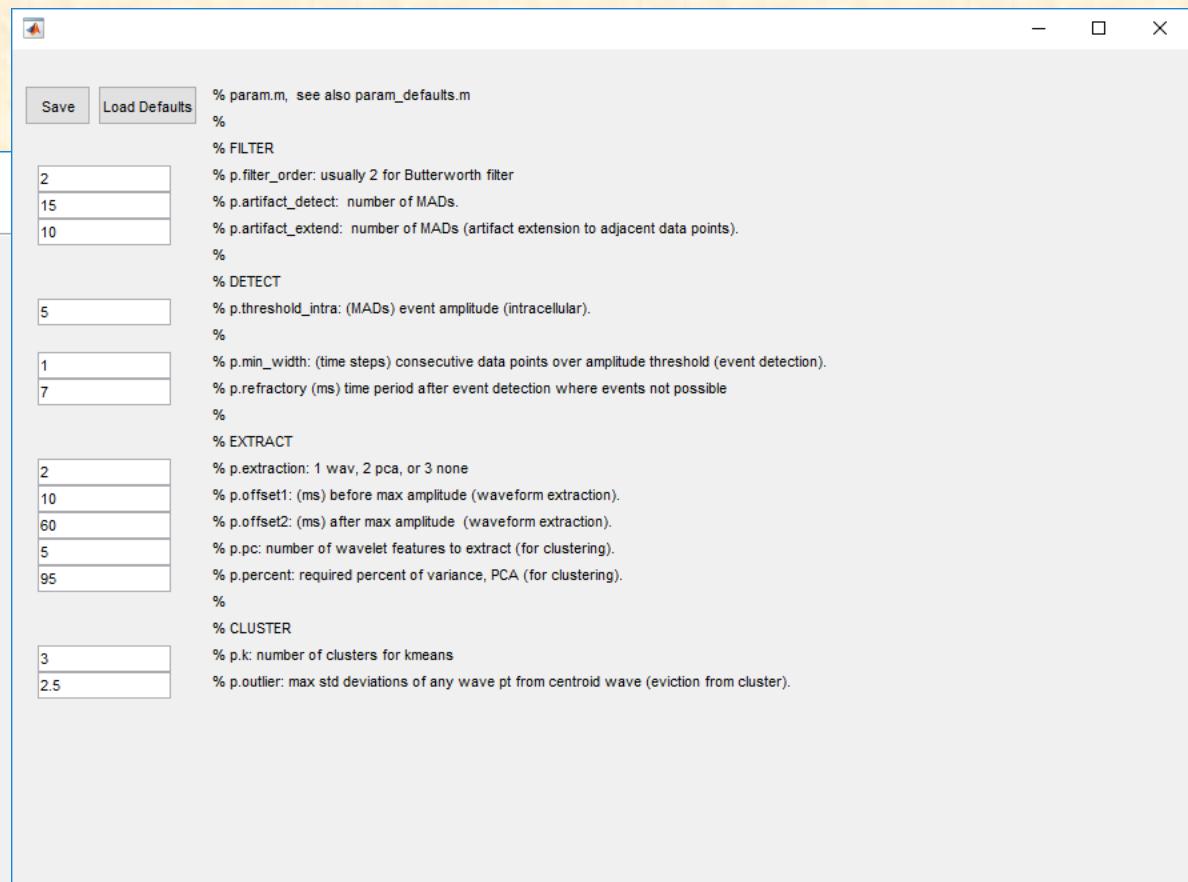
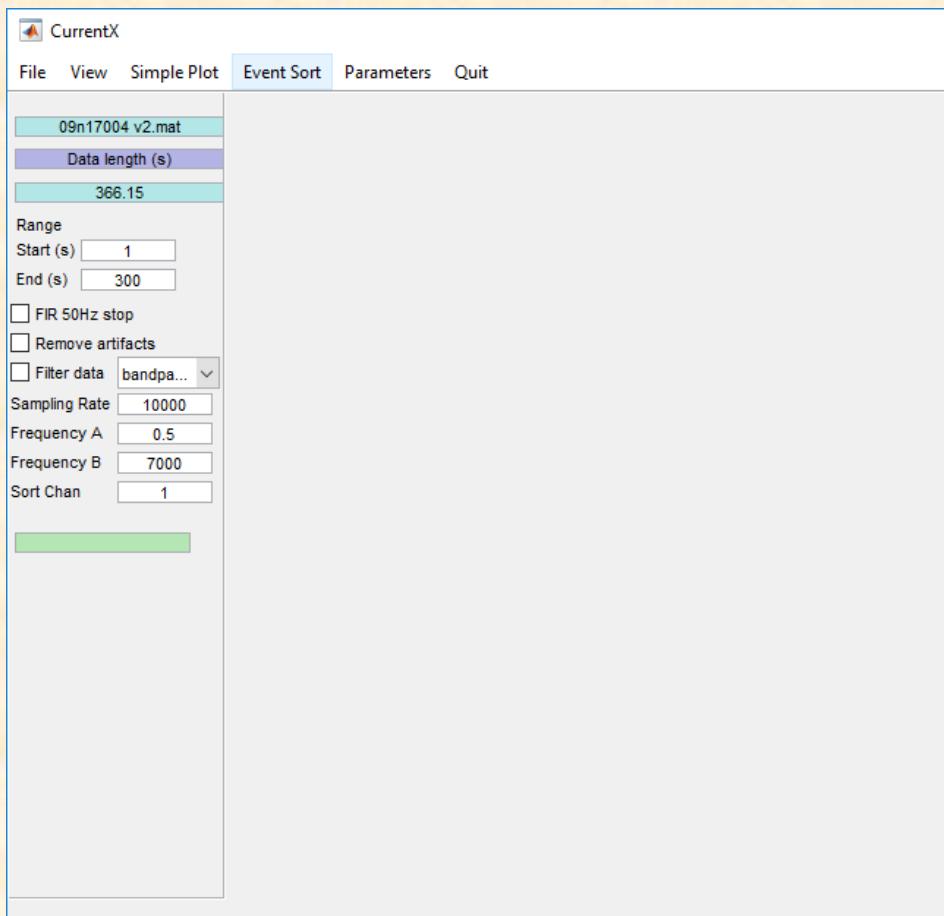


File: 09n17004 v2: DNQX and NMDA at 71.85 seconds.

# 300 seconds, K=3, T=5



# CurrentX GUI and Parameters



# References

- Duguid, Ian C and Smart, Trevor G,  
**Retrograde activation of presynaptic NMDA receptors enhances GABA release at cerebellar interneuron-Purkinje cell synapses**,  
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- Apps, Richard and Garwicz, Martin,  
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