

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Biophysical Background</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Channels in Biological Membranes . . . . .	4
2.1.1	Cells, Membranes, and Channels . . . . .	4
2.1.2	Principal Molecular Structure of Voltage-Gated Channels . . . . .	5
2.2	Technique of Obtaining Single-Channel Measurements . . . . .	8
<b>3</b>	<b>Modeling and Simulating the Current through Channels</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	Markov Model . . . . .	13
3.2	Monte-Carlo Simulation of the Undisturbed Time Series of Gating . . . . .	14
3.3	The Spectrum of the Noise . . . . .	15
3.3.1	Simulating the Colored Background Noise . . . . .	15
3.3.2	Filtering and Sampling . . . . .	17
<b>4</b>	<b>Reconstruction of the Noise-Free Time Series by Means of Jump Detection Algorithms</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1	Four Alternative Methods for Jump Detection . . . . .	21
4.1.1	The Hinkley-Detector . . . . .	21
4.1.2	Higher-Order Hinkley-Detector . . . . .	24
4.1.3	First-Order Low-Pass with Threshold Detector . . . . .	25
4.1.4	Bessel-Filter of Eighth Order with Threshold Detector . . . . .	25
4.2	Detection Algorithms Working at an Exemplary Time Series . . . . .	26
4.3	Effects of the Selected Time Resolution on the Performance of the Detectors	30
4.4	False Alarms . . . . .	32
4.4.1	White Noise . . . . .	32
4.4.2	Colored Noise . . . . .	33
4.5	Missed Events . . . . .	37
4.6	Estimation of Event Length . . . . .	37
4.7	Requirements for Application . . . . .	39
<b>5</b>	<b>Correction for Dwell-Time Omission</b>	<b>40</b>
5.1	The Problem of Missed Events and Correction Strategies . . . . .	40
5.1.1	Limited Time Resolution . . . . .	40
5.1.2	Consequences on the Dwell-Time Histograms . . . . .	40
5.1.3	Different Kinds of Methods for the Analysis of Single-Channel Data	41
5.1.4	Analysis without Correction for Missed-Events . . . . .	41
5.1.5	Brief Events Missed by the Detector . . . . .	42
5.1.6	Correction Methods Based on the Assumption of a Fixed Dead Time	42
5.1.7	Alternative Approaches . . . . .	44
5.1.8	The New Theoretical Approach: Modeling the Detector . . . . .	44
5.2	Theory . . . . .	45
5.2.1	Model of the Channel . . . . .	45
5.2.2	Hinkley-Detector . . . . .	47
5.2.3	Three-Dimensional System State: Channel, Detector and Test Value	48
5.2.4	Probabilities in the State Space . . . . .	48
5.2.5	Temporal Evolution . . . . .	49
5.2.6	Stationary Solution . . . . .	51

5.2.7	Mean Dwell-Time in $D = O$ . . . . .	52
5.2.8	Time Constant of the Exponential Fit . . . . .	53
5.3	Simulation . . . . .	54
5.4	Comparison . . . . .	54
5.5	Discussion . . . . .	57
5.5.1	Modeling a Detector . . . . .	57
5.5.2	What is Neglected? . . . . .	57
5.5.3	Invertibility . . . . .	58
5.5.4	Aspects of Application . . . . .	59
5.5.5	Future Extensions of the Theory . . . . .	60
5.6	Conclusion . . . . .	60
<b>6</b>	<b>Detection of Jumps in Single-Channel Data Containing Subconductance Levels</b> . . . . .	<b>61</b>
6.1	Sublevels Require a New Type of Detector . . . . .	61
6.2	The Algorithm . . . . .	64
6.2.1	Alternative Levels . . . . .	65
6.2.2	Calculation of Test Values $h_{it}$ and Jump Detection . . . . .	66
6.2.3	Choice of the Threshold . . . . .	67
6.2.4	The Test Values Rise with Different Slopes . . . . .	67
6.2.5	Diagnosis: Finding the Correct Candidate . . . . .	70
6.2.6	The Diagnosis Phase . . . . .	71
6.3	Guidelines for Application . . . . .	76
6.4	Distinguishing Different Channels from Sublevels . . . . .	78
6.4.1	Simulation . . . . .	78
6.4.2	Transition Matrix . . . . .	80
6.5	Discussion . . . . .	84
6.5.1	Required Accuracy of Levels . . . . .	84
6.5.2	Missed Events . . . . .	84
6.5.3	Generalization . . . . .	85
<b>7</b>	<b>Determination of the Rate Constants</b> . . . . .	<b>86</b>
7.1	Current Levels in the Time Series and in the Amplitude Histogram . . . . .	86
7.2	Jump Detection and Creation of Dwell-Time Histograms . . . . .	88
7.3	Analysis of a Typical Measurement with only one Channel . . . . .	88
7.4	Multi-Channel Analysis . . . . .	91
7.5	Mean Rate Constants of Several Measurements under Control Conditions . . . . .	95
7.6	Confirming the Results by Simulation . . . . .	97
<b>8</b>	<b>Cooperativity of Multiple Channels</b> . . . . .	<b>98</b>
8.1	Theory . . . . .	98
8.1.1	Determination of $M_i$ , the Total Dwell-Time at Level $i$ . . . . .	99
8.1.2	Testing Independence of Channels . . . . .	99
8.1.3	Determination of $N$ . . . . .	100
8.2	Experiments . . . . .	101
8.2.1	Testing Independence in the Whole Record and in the Sections . . . . .	101
8.2.2	Constancy of Channel Number at a Sudden Change of Open Probability . . . . .	104
8.3	Discussion of Mechanisms for Cooperativity . . . . .	107

<b>9 The Blocking Effect of Cs<sup>+</sup> on the K<sup>+</sup> Channel</b>	<b>109</b>
9.1 Results in Presence of Cs <sup>+</sup> . . . . .	110
9.1.1 Cs <sup>+</sup> at Positive Voltage: No Block . . . . .	110
9.1.2 Cs <sup>+</sup> Block at Negative Voltage: Frequent Brief Gaps . . . . .	111
9.1.3 I/V Curves . . . . .	113
9.1.4 Rate Constants of the Cs <sup>+</sup> -Induced Block . . . . .	114
9.1.5 Open Probability . . . . .	119
9.2 Interpretation of the Strong Voltage-Dependence . . . . .	120
9.2.1 The Woodhull-Model . . . . .	120
9.2.2 More Ions - More Voltage-Dependence . . . . .	121
9.2.3 Flexible Channel Protein - More Voltage-Dependence . . . . .	122
9.2.4 Arguments for the Flexible-Pore Model . . . . .	125
 <b>Summary</b>	 <b>126</b>
 <b>Zusammenfassung</b>	 <b>129</b>
References . . . . .	132