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neo: a 100% code jam project!

History:

- Discussions started in Freiburg 2009 (codejam #3): Pierre Y., Andrew D, Luc E., ...
- Neo 0.1 release some mouth. Coded almost alone.
- Neo 0.1 presented in Marseille 2010 (codejam #4)
- And New discussion for neo 0.2: Andrey S, Philipp R, Andrew D, Florent J, ...
- Private code jam with new team in Gif at Andrew's lab last year.
- Released on feb 2012. neo 0.2
- Presentation Edinburgh 2012 (codemjam #5)

What is neo?

neo.core = a simple and intuitive set on objects for representing electrophysiological dataset in python.

neo.io = a common layer for reading/writing in the cacophony of file formats.

Goals?

What are main interests:

- Interoperability between projects (g-node, pynn, OpenElectrophy, NeuroTools, ...)
- A 5 min. installable, multiplatfrom, and easy to play file reader.

Dependencies?

Few = numpy and quantities Optional for some IOs = pytables , scipy,

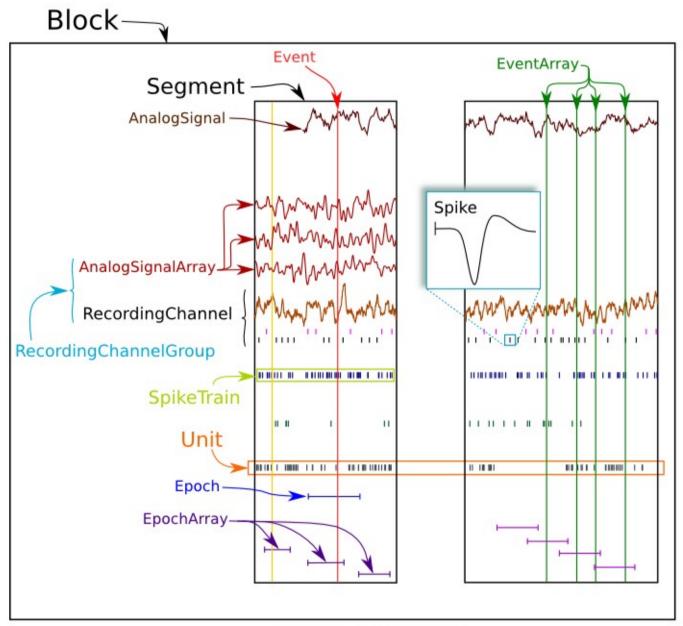
Equivalent project

- Neuroshare (ddl provide commercial)
- for neuro imaging: nibabel (python)

What is new?

- new schema more consistent.
- new objects
- New IOs
- use the quantities module for everything that can have units.
- Python 3 support
- better tests
- Doc with better English grammar.

Class tour



Neo 0.2 architecture

Class tour: Concept

3 types of objects:

- Data objects : AnalogSignal, SpikeTrain, EventArray, EpochArray
- Containers objects : Block, Segment
- Grouping objects: RecordingChannel, RecordingChannelGroup, Unit (ex Neuron)

All object have 3 types of attributes:

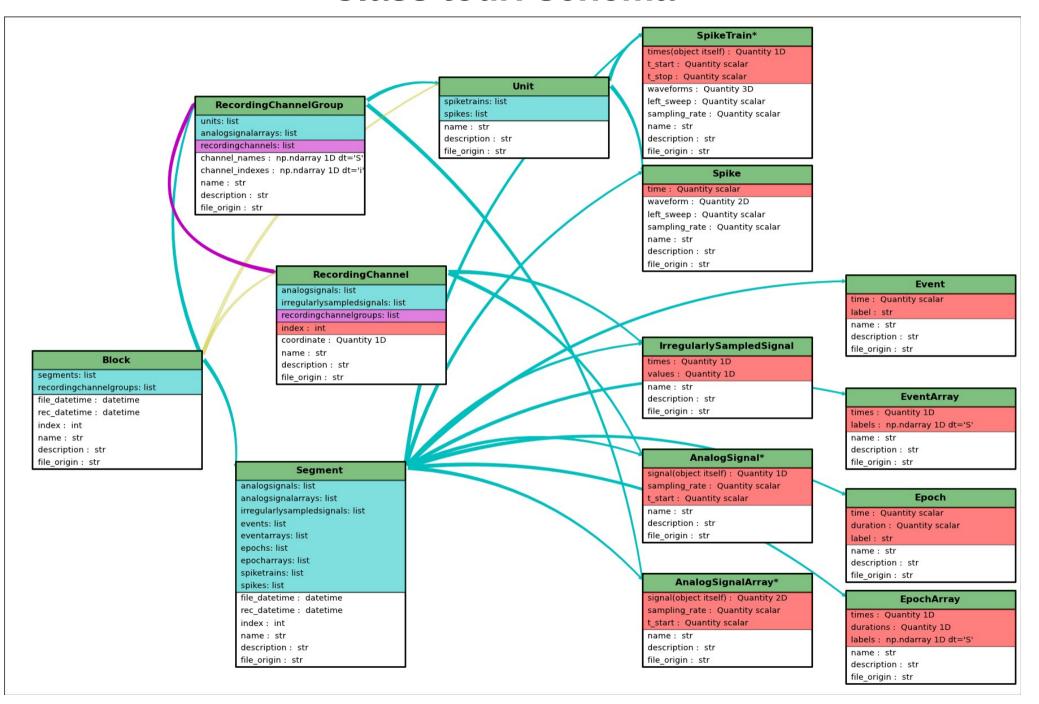
- Required (AnalogSignal.sampling rate, AnalogSignal.t start, ...)
- Recommended (AnalogSignal.name, ...)
- Free in annotations dict:

```
>>> seg = Segment()
>>> seg.annotate(stimulus="step pulse", amplitude=10*nA)
>>> print(seg.annotations)
{'amplitude': array(10.0) * nA, 'stimulus': 'step pulse'}
```

SpikeTrain, AnalogSignal, and AnalogSIgnalArray inherits python-quantities:directly behave like np.array with units.

```
>>> import neo
>>> st = neo.SpikeTrain([3, 4, 5], units='sec', t_stop=10.0)
>>> print(st)
[ 3. 4. 5.] s
```

Class tour: schema



Class tour: definition

AnalogSignal: A regular sampling of a continuous, analog signal.

AnalogSignalArray: A regular sampling of a multichannel continuous analog signal. (2D NumPy array)

Spike: One action potential characterized by its time and waveform.

SpikeTrain: A set of action potentials (spikes) emitted by the same unit in a period of time (with optional waveforms).

Event and EventArray: A time point representing an event in the data, or an array of such time points.

Epoch and EpochArray: An interval of time representing a period of time in the data, or an array of such intervals.

Segment: A container for heterogeneous discrete or continous data sharing a common clock (time basis) but not necessarily the same sampling rate, start time or end time. A Segment can be considered as equivalent to a "trial", "episode", "run", "recording", etc., depending on the experimental context. May contain any of the data objects. **Block:** The top-level container gathering all of the data, discrete and continuous, for a given recording session. Contains Segment and RecordingChannelGroup objects.

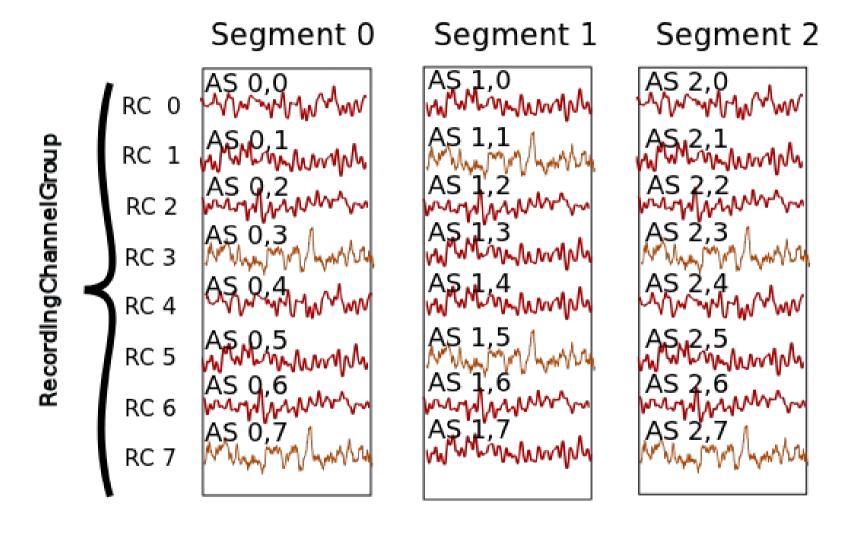
RecordingChannelGroup: A group for associated RecordingChannel objects. This has several possible uses: **RecordingChannel** objects of the same array.

Unit: A Unit gathers all the SpikeTrain objects within a common Block, possibly across several Segments, that have been emitted by the same cell. A Unit is linked to RecordingChannelGroup objects from which it was detected. This replaces the Neuron class in the previous version of Neo (v0.1).

Class tour : Use case

RC = RecordingChannel

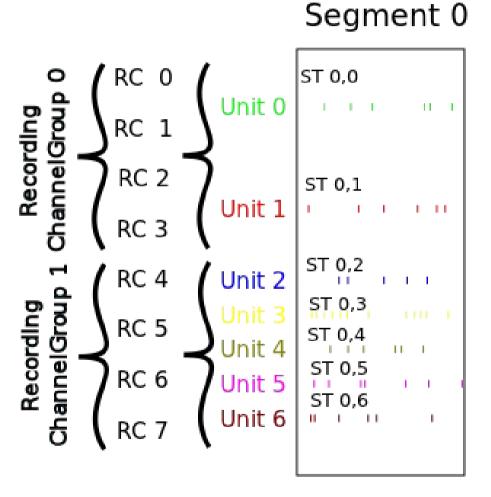
AS = AnalogSignal



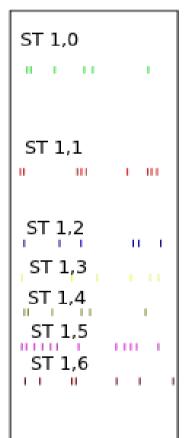
Class tour: Use case

RC = RecordingChannel

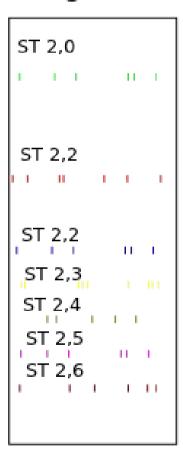
ST = SpikeTrain



Segment 1



Segment 2



IO tour

First interest to have same classes: Same API to read/write data files.

All formats are really different so we need a flexible API:

- ABF = Block+Segment+AnalogSignal+Event
- Plexon = Segment+SpikeTrain+Spike+AnalogSignal
- PyNN = SpikeTrain+AnalogSignal
- RAW = AnalogSignal

What is this API?

- For each format you have an IO class
- The IO class can read or write one or several neo objects.

IO: tour

Module	Python 2	Python 3
AlphaOmegaIO	Yes	No
AsciiSignalIO	Yes	Yes
AsciiSpikeTrainIO	Yes	Yes
AxonIO	Yes	No
BlackrockIO	Yes	No
ElanIO	Yes	No
HDF5IO	Yes	No
KlustakwikIO	Yes	No
MicromedIO	Yes	No
NeoMatlabIO	Yes	Yes
NeuroExplorerIO	Yes	No
PlexonIO	Yes	No
PyNNIO	Yes	Yes
RawBinarySignalIO	Yes	Yes
Spike2IO	Yes	Yes
TdtIO	Yes	No
WinEdrIO	Yes	Yes
WinWcpIO	Yes	Yes

IO tour: workflow

One class per format:

```
>>> from neo.io import MyFormatIO
>>> reader = MyFormatIO(filename = "myfile.dat")
```

Different modes (file, dir, database, ...)

```
>>> from neo.io import MyFormatIO
>>> print MyFormatIO.mode
'file'
```

Examples

```
>>> reader = io.PlexonIO(filename='File_plexon_1.plx')
>>> reader = io.TdtIO(dirname='aep_05')
```

IO tour: workflow

Concept of readable/supported objects:

```
>>> MyFormatIO.supported_objects
[Segment , AnalogSignal , SpikeTrain, Event, Spike]
>>> MyFormatIO.readable_objects
[Segment]
```

Class offer reading method for readable objects

```
>>> seg = reader.read_segment()
>>> type(seg)
neo.core.Segment
```

All classes propose read() = read block()

```
>>> bl = reader.read()
>>> print bl.segments[0]
neo.core.Segment
```

IO tour: workflow

Cascade option:

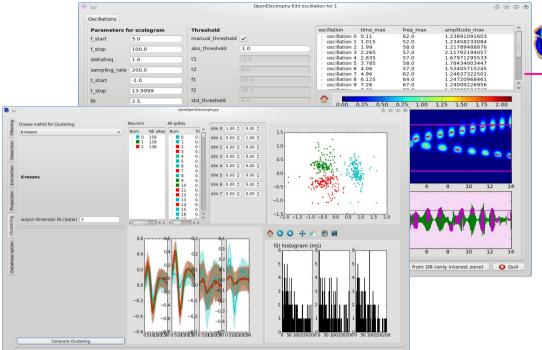
```
>>> seg = reader.read_segment( cascade=True)
>>> print(len(seg.analogsignals)) # this is N
>>> seg = reader.read_segment(cascade=False)
>>> print(len(seg.analogsignals)) # this is zero
```

Lazy option:

```
>>> seg = reader.read_segment(lazy=False)
>>> print(seg.analogsignals[0].shape) # this is N
>>> seg = reader.read_segment(lazy=True)
>>> print(seg.analogsignals[0].shape) # this is zero, the An
>>> print(seg.analogsignals[0].lazy_shape) # this is N
```

Projects on top of neo

OpenElectrophy



Web portal for benchmarking spike sorting algorithm At G-Node (Felix Franke, Andrey Slobodev)

PyNN

New NeuroTools





Mozaik

Conclusion

- If your project generate data : write an IO for neo
- If your project manage signals and spikes: provide an interface to neo objects
- If your experimentalist colleague wants to read data set from commercial systems: neo.io

Thanks to the the neo team

Samuel Garcia
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Thierry Brizzi
Florent Jaillet
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Cyril Dejean

Thanks to Michael Hanke to make the very first debian package of my life.

```
total 1396
drwxrwxr-x 10 sgarcia sgarcia 4096 2012-03-15 19:53 neo-0.2.0
-rw-rw-r-- 1 sgarcia sgarcia 1485 2012-03-15 19:11 neo_0.2.0-1_amd64.changes
-rw-rw-r-- 1 sgarcia sgarcia 2219 2012-03-15 19:11 neo_0.2.0-1.debian.tar.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 sgarcia sgarcia 804 2012-03-15 19:11 neo_0.2.0-1.dsc
-rw-rw-r-- 2 sgarcia sgarcia 1297989 2012-03-15 16:53 neo_0.2.0.orig.tar.gz
-rw-r--- 1 sgarcia sgarcia 113974 2012-03-15 19:11 python-neo_0.2.0-1_all.deb
sgarcia@sgarcia-laptop:~/package neo/deb_dist$
```