

DRIVER ESTIMATION IN NON-LINEAR AUTOREGRESSIVE MODELS

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Abstract

In **non-linear autoregressive models**, the time dependency of coefficients is often driven by a particular time-series which is not given and thus has to be estimated from the data.

To allow model evaluation on a validation set, we describe a parametric approach for such **driver estimation**. After estimating the driver as a weighted sum of potential drivers, we use it in a non-linear autoregressive model with a polynomial parametrization.

Using gradient descent, we optimize the **linear filter** extracting the driver, outperforming a typical grid-search on predefined filters.

We apply this method on **electrophysiological** signals to better describe phase-amplitude couplings.

1. Driven autoregressive (DAR) models

Linear AR model

$$y(t) + \sum_{i=1}^p a_i y(t-i) = \varepsilon(t)$$

Driven AR model, with a polynomial parametrization

$$a_i(t) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_{ij} x(t)^j,$$

$$\log(\sigma(t)) = \sum_{j=0}^m b_j x(t)^j$$

Maximum likelihood estimate (MLE):

- Linear system for the AR coefficients a_{ij}
- Newton-Raphson for the gain coefficients b_j

Model likelihood

$$L = \prod_{t=p+1}^T \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma(t)^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon(t)^2}{2\sigma(t)^2}\right)$$

2. Driver estimation

We parameterize the driver as a weighted sum:

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_n x_n(t)$$

We derive the gradient of the log-likelihood:

$$\frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \alpha_n} = - \sum_{t \in \Theta} \left(\frac{\varepsilon(t)}{\sigma(t)^2} \frac{\partial \varepsilon(t)}{\partial \alpha_n} + \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon(t)^2}{\sigma(t)^2}\right) \frac{\partial \log \sigma(t)}{\partial \alpha_n} \right)$$

As a special case, we use delayed versions of an exogenous signal containing the driver:

$$x_n(t) = z(t-n) \quad -M \leq n \leq M$$

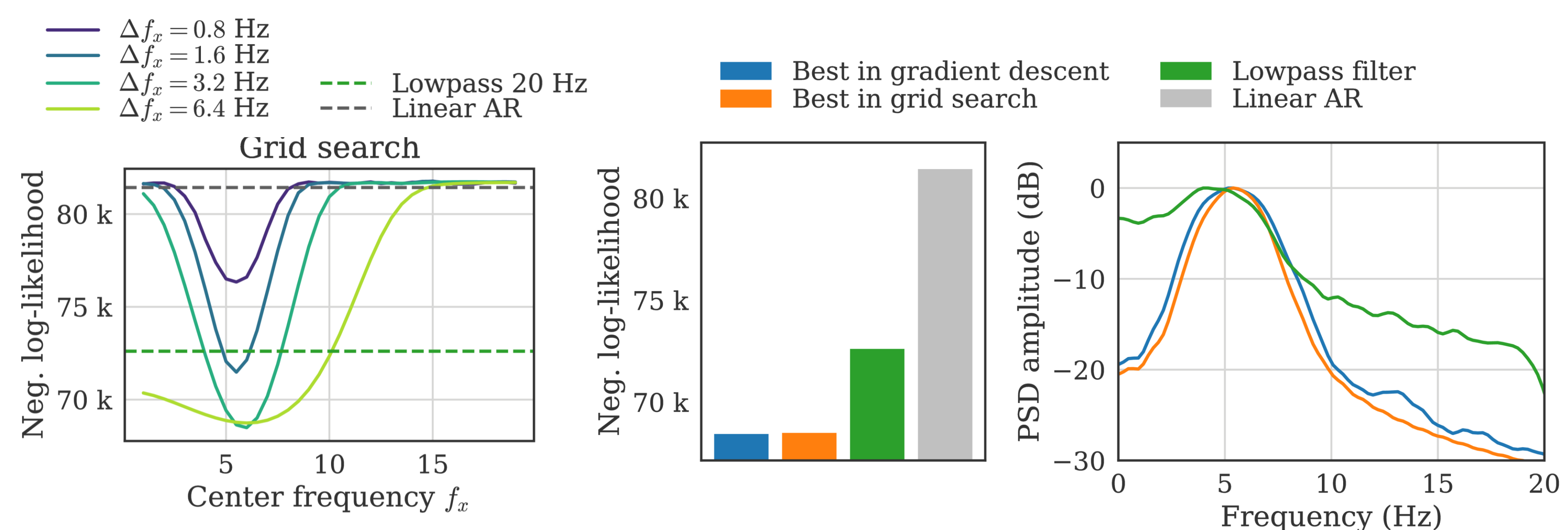
The weighted sum thus corresponds to a **linear filter**, that we learn from the data with a gradient descent.

Performances can be evaluated with the model likelihood, through **cross-validation**.

3. Simulations

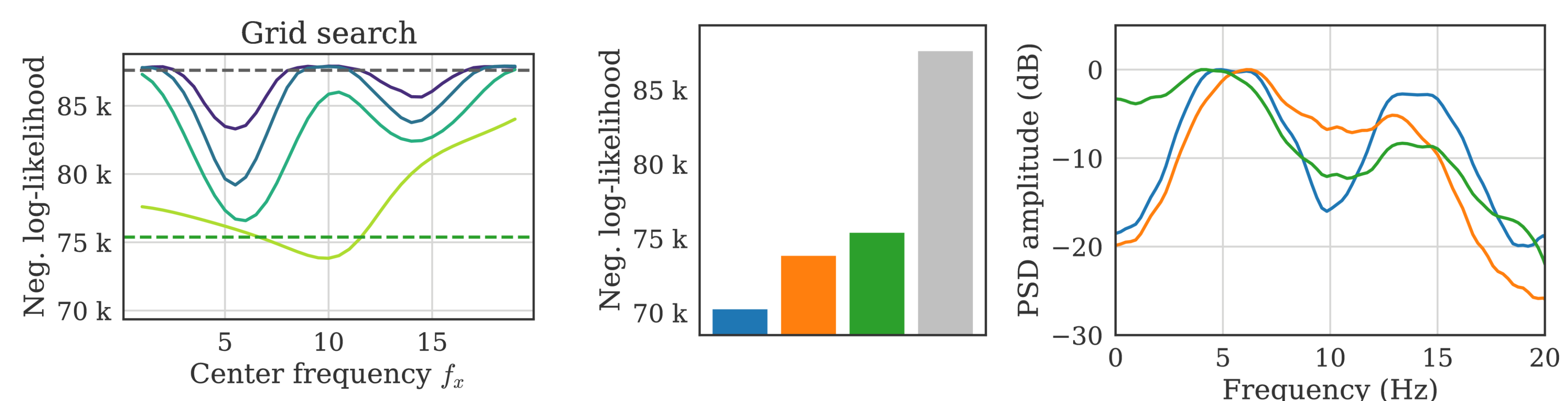
Simulations with **unimodal** power spectral density (PSD) drivers:

The gradient descent strategy reaches the same performances as the grid search.



Simulations with **bimodal** power spectral density (PSD) drivers:

The gradient descent strategy outperforms the grid search strategy.

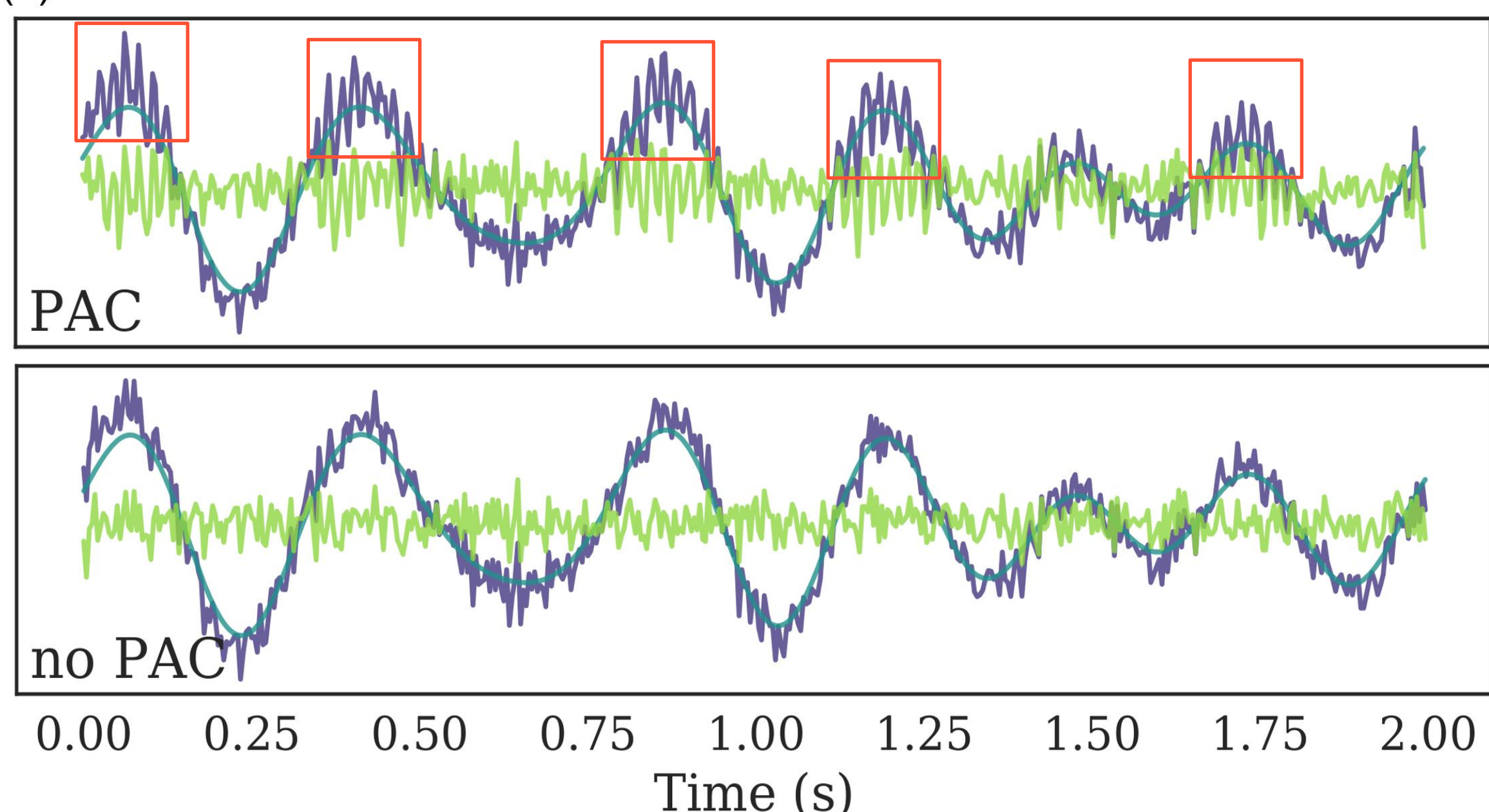


4. Phase-amplitude coupling

It is a coupling between:

- The **phase** of a slow oscillation
- The **amplitude** of high frequencies

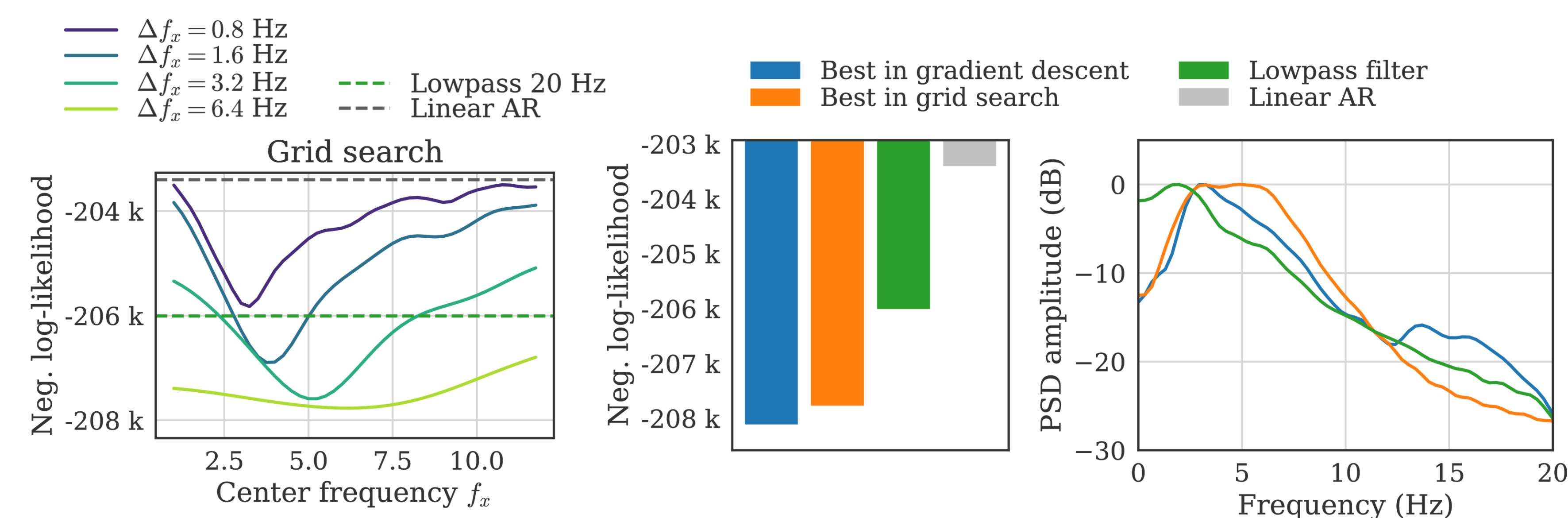
(a) — Raw signal z — Driver x — High frequencies y



5. Human auditory electrocorticogram (ECoG)

The **learned filter** better extracts an **asymmetrical** spectral shape of the driver.

This asymmetry is also observed in the grid-search, since the minimum shifts to the right as the bandwidth increases.



References

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Dupré la Tour, et al “Non-linear auto-regressive models for cross-frequency coupling in neural time series” PLOS Computational Biology (2017)