

## Original Research Article

### Study of Discharge Outlines of Subthalamic Nucleus-Globus Pallidus External and the Favorable Impact of Deep Brain Stimulation in the Parkinson State

#### Abstract:

**Aims:** The aim of our model is to simulate deep brain stimulation mathematically instead of doing it experimentally to check whether the outlines in Parkinson's disorder helps in reducing the motor symptoms or not. Also, to prove that the symptoms for Parkinson's disease are reduced up to 99.59%.

**Study design:** Cross-correlation function.

**Place and duration of study:** Study was conducted in private college of Gurugram from January 2021 to September 2021.

**Methodology:** Self designed, the conduct of the model has been accessible with the support of activity outlines produced in a normal state and Parkinson's state. These outlines have been related by finding out their correlation coefficient for dissimilar values of essential parameters. Here, a single-compartment conductance-based model is taken that concentrates on the subthalamic nucleus and synaptic input from globus pallidus (external). Current model displays extremely nonlinear behavior regarding many essential parameters.

**Results:** Outcomes show that the activity outlines are extremely penetrating to several essential parameters. Deep brain stimulation is measured as a harmless and well-borne surgical technique to lighten Parkinson's disease and extra movement ailments indications across some psychiatric situations. So, the deep brain stimulation technique has been applied here mathematically to find the cross-correlation between the two states. With the help of this stimulation, some promising results are obtained.

**Conclusion:** The conclusion is that DBS is operative at reducing motor indications of parkinsonism by 99.59%.

**Keywords:** Parkinson's disorder, Deep brain stimulation, Movement disorder, Dopamine, Cross-correlation, Subthalamic nucleus, Basal ganglia, Parkinson's state

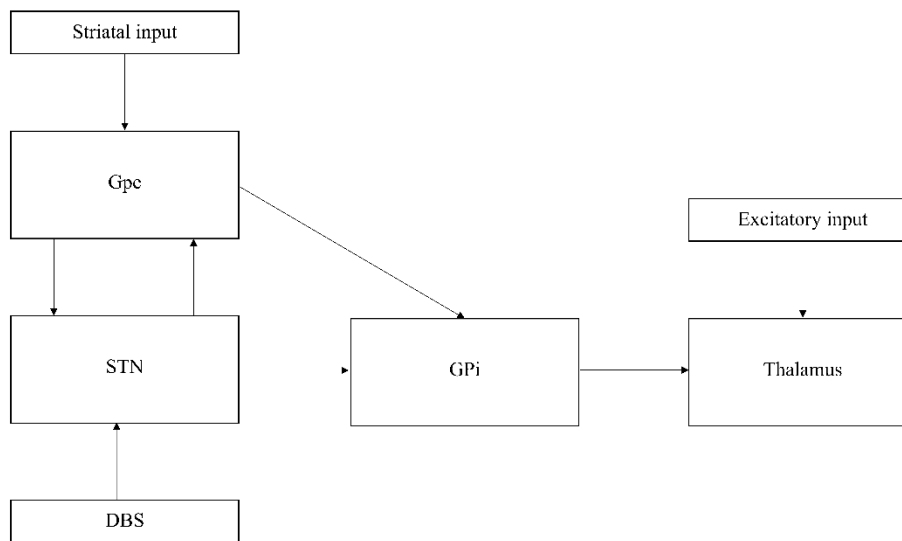
#### 1. Introduction:

Parkinson's disorder (PD) is considered as declining of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta (SNc) resulting in motor indications [1]. High-frequency deep brain stimulation (DBS) of the sub-thalamic nucleus (STN) or globus pallidus internus (GPi) is a recognized medical treatment to reduce the motor indications of the disorder [2,3]. This work chooses to study STN and GP because there are two main targets in Parkinson's disease patients i.e., subthalamic nucleus and globus pallidus [4,5]. Subthalamic nucleus neurons obtain glutamatergic involvements from added brain parts, counting cortical contributions via the so-called hyper-direct trail, presenting a substitute foundation for the variation of subthalamic nucleus action [6]. As the disorder grows, the quantity of dopamine shaped in the

brain declines, resulting in an individual generally being incapable to manage movement [7]. The reason for the reduction of dopamine is not well known, and hence there is currently no analysis and treatment at the initial phase [8,9]. There are various treatments at the future phases of illnesses, for example, medication and operation, to achieve its indications. Brain-related illnesses are among the utmost confusing of all the illnesses, and our unawareness of the fundamental illness device is the main problem to the expansion of improved analytical organizations [10]. Parkinson's illness changes the information designs in movement-associated pathways in the brain. Experimental outcomes executed on rats display that the activity outlines transform from single spike activity to diverse burst manner in Parkinson's illness. However, the reason for this variation in the activity outline is not so far understood. The subthalamic nucleus is the chief nuclei tangled in the basis of motor dysfunction in Parkinson's illness.

It is not identified whether deep brain stimulation (DBS) turns to improve or overturn neuronal movement inside a specified erection, which parts and which nerve cells inside these extents remain represented upon by DBS [11,12]. The main area tangled in the dysfunction of the brain is the basal ganglia (BG), where nuclei, SNc, striatum, STN, and GP are the main nuclei [13]. The “basal ganglia” model states to a collection of subcortical nuclei accountable mainly for motor control, besides extra roles for example motor learning, executive functions and behaviors, and reactions [14]. The external globus pallidus is the section of the globus pallidus that is comparatively away from the midline of the brain. It is occasionally used as a goal for deep brain stimulation as a treatment for Parkinson's disorder. The striatum obtains contribution straight from the cortex, and also brings neurotransmitter that is blocking to the GP by different trails, direct and indirect. It has been recognized by investigators that there is an essential derivation of disorder. Currently, STN is thought to be most complicated to exhibit Parkinson's indications, but the localization to the beginning is still not clear [15]. A classical basal ganglia model has been shown in Figure 1. In this model, the focus is on the system of the STN besides globus pallidus external (GPe). Arrows having  $\rightarrow$  signs specify inhibitory synaptic networks also involvements take place from GPe to STN, GPe to GPi, GPi to the thalamus, and striatal input to GPe, while excitatory synaptic connections and inputs occur from STN to GPe, STN to GPi, excitatory input to thalamus and DBS to STN [11]. Networks remain disturbed within different nuclei in PD [16].

The basal ganglia circuits don't yield shake fluctuations in normal basal ganglia circuits. On the opposing, the tremor fluctuations linked movement is seen in STN in disorder state. The above studies recommend that STN might be measured as the goal area to inspect the motor signs and the source of PD. Hence, the activity outlines produced in the STN model are examined and associated with the behavior of the STN model in a normal state and Parkinson's disorder state to discover the changing aspects of the STN-GPe loop subjected to numerous currents. A mathematical model along with primary approaches is described in section 2. Section 3 describes the susceptibility grounded learning of the model for many currents and their consequences. The implementation of DBS to the STN model is shown in section 4. Section 5 is the discussion and section 6 is the inference of the effort.



**Figure 1** Structures included inside the model system.

## 2. Mathematical model and methods:

A dynamical model of the basal ganglia (BG) thalamocortical system has been proposed to achieve analytically authenticated information of electrophysiology besides the structure of the system [17]. The characteristically recognized indications are automatic actions counting shock, chorea, ballism, athetosis, and dystonia; muscular inflexibility; hypotonia; disorders in upright symmetry; walking; talking; and akinesia. Numerous theories have been estimated, suggesting that more than one mechanism is probably accountable for the therapeutic advantage [18]. Improved correlations in GPi productions and the results are assumed to be cooperative relay reliability. The efficiency of DBS is because of the replacement of compulsive GPi firing outlines with extra steady movement [19]. Each neuron is demonstrated through a similar essential set of Hodgkin–Huxley type equations [20].

To the observer the behavior of activity outlines subthalamic neuron (STN)- globus pallidus external (GPe) system in Parkinson’s disease (PD) and normal state, mathematical model, conductance, and time scales are used from [21]. Examination and simulated work of the STN-GPe network is achieved using MATLAB 2020a utilizing ODE45 for a time in the range of 0 to 500 ms for the extra parameters under observation. Results are simulated for both times in the range 0-500 ms and 0-1000 ms. Since the results were the same, so 0-500 ms results are shown. The objective of this examination is to offer visions into the main reasons for the sensitivity of the model in PD. The model from equation 1, contains a single leak current ( $I_L$ ), reckless spike creating potassium ( $I_K$ ) also sodium currents ( $I_{Na}$ ), low-slung threshold T-type ( $I_T$ ) also high-threshold  $Ca^{2+}$  currents ( $I_{Ca}$ ), triggered  $Ca^{2+}$  voltage autonomous after-hyperpolarization  $K^+$  current ( $I_{ahp}$ ), synaptic current ( $I_{syn}$ ) and applied current ( $I_{app}$ ), to facilitate the equation leading the membrane potential  $V$  [22]:

$$C \frac{dV}{dt} = -I_L - I_K - I_{Na} - I_T - I_{Ca} - I_{ahp} - I_{syn} + I_{app}, \quad (1)$$

Where various membrane current is given by [12].

$$I_L = g_L \cdot (V - V_L), \quad (2)$$

$$I_K = g_K \cdot n^4 \cdot (V - V_K), \quad (3)$$

$$I_{Na} = g_{Na} \cdot m^3 \cdot (V) \cdot h \cdot (V - V_{Na}) \quad (4)$$

$$I_T = g_T \cdot a_{\infty}^3 \cdot (V) \cdot r \cdot (V - V_{Ca}) \quad (5)$$

$$I_{Ca} = g_{Ca} \cdot s_{\infty}^2 \cdot (V) \cdot (V - V_{Ca}) \quad (6)$$

$$I_{AHP} = g_{AHP} \cdot \left( \frac{(Ca)}{(Ca)+k_1} \right) \cdot (V - V_K) \quad (7)$$

Where  $C$  is the membrane capacitance,  $g_L$ ,  $g_K$ ,  $g_{Na}$ ,  $g_T$ ,  $g_{Ca}$  and  $g_{ahp}$  are the leak, potassium, sodium, high-threshold, calcium, and afterhyperpolarization conductance per unit area.  $V_L$ ,  $V_K$ ,  $V_{Na}$  and  $V_{Ca}$  are the leak, potassium, sodium, and calcium reversal potentials.  $n$ ,  $m$ , and  $h$  are dimensionless measures among 0 and 1 that are related to potassium channel activation, sodium channel activation, and sodium channel inactivation, respectively.  $K_1$  is the dissociation persistent of calcium-based hyperpolarizing current. To regulate the membrane resting potential through the experimental data, the applied current is used [23].

An equation that describes calcium current:

$$d \frac{[Ca]}{dt} = \varepsilon (-I_{Ca} - I_T - kCa(Ca)) \quad (8)$$

Calcium influx is categorized by  $\varepsilon$  also calcium pump rate is described by  $kCa$ . The gating variable equation for  $m$ ,  $n$ ,  $h$ ,  $s$ , and  $a$  is described by:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \phi_x \left( \frac{(x_{\infty}(V) - x)}{\tau_x(V)} \right) \quad (9)$$

For the gating variable, the constant is defined by  $\phi$ .  $\tau_x$  is the time constant function. It is described by:

$$\tau_x(V) = \tau_x^0 + \tau_x^1 / \left( 1 + \exp\left(-\frac{(V - \theta_x^1)}{\sigma_x^1}\right) \right) \quad (10)$$

Here,  $\tau$  is the constant function and  $\theta$  is the half inactivation/activation variable. The total of synaptic currents as of the globus pallidus external (GPe) in addition to further nearby neurons is equivalent to synaptic current in the subthalamic neuron (STN) [21]. From GPe to STN synaptic inputs and feedback neurons from STN is well-defined for synaptic current  $I_{syn}$ .

$$I_{syn} = g_{g \rightarrow s} \cdot s_g (V - V_{g \rightarrow s}) + g_{f \rightarrow s} \cdot s_f (V - V_{f \rightarrow s}) \quad (11)$$

Synaptic conductance is defined by  $g_{g \rightarrow s}$  and  $g_{f \rightarrow s}$ . Synaptic variables are defined by  $s_g$  and  $s_f$ . To display the disintegration of dopamine, synaptic inputs show the main part. The synaptic current input strength is modified in the range [22]. Lower values correlate to

reduced dopamine points and higher conductance signifies the better dopamine points. The first-order kinetic equation is used for entire synaptic variables in the model course.

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \alpha \cdot H_{\infty}(V_{presyn} - \theta_g) \cdot (1 - s) - \beta \cdot s \quad (12)$$

In which  $H_{\infty}(V)$  is a sigmoid function and  $V_{presyn}$  is the synaptic potential since nearby neurons.  $\alpha$  is alpha,  $\theta_g$  is the half activation or inactivation voltage for gating variable  $g$ . The standards of synaptic variables are taken from Table 1.

$$H_{\infty}(V) = 1/[1 + \exp(-\frac{(V-\theta_g^H)}{\sigma_g^H})] \quad (13)$$

**Table 1** Parameters for synapses and applied current used in our mathematical model

Synapses	Parameters
$I_{STN \rightarrow GPe}$	$g_{syn}=0.15$ and $E_{syn} = 0$
$I_{STN \rightarrow GPi}$	$g_{syn}=0.15$ and $E_{syn} = 0$
$I_{GPe \rightarrow STN}$	$g_{syn}=0.5$ and $E_{syn} = -85$
$I_{GPe \rightarrow GPe}$	$g_{syn}=0.5$ and $E_{syn} = -85$
$I_{GPe \rightarrow GPi}$	$g_{syn}=0.5$ and $E_{syn} = -85$
$I_{GPi \rightarrow TH}$	$g_{syn}=0.17$ and $E_{syn} = -85$
$I_{app}$ (STN)	33 (HS)/ 23(PD)
$I_{app}$ (GPe)	20 (HS)/ 7(PD)
$I_{app}$ (GPi)	21 (HS)/ 15(PD)

### 3. Study of neurophysiology properties

This unit grants the study of the electrophysiological possessions of the STN-GPe neurons inside the STN neuron. The sub-thalamic neuron (STN) remains a significant assembly in the practical association of the basal ganglia [24]. A single-compartment conductance-based classical is used to signify every neuron in the STN and GPe. Eight cells of every type are advanced for the replications labeled in current learning [25]. Every neuron model involves a single set of regular differential equivalences, equals to a whole of 150 attached non-linear equivalences for the whole model. Above 100 parameter standards are desired to entirely stipulate involved differential equivalences [26]. The outlines produced for the subthalamic nucleus in a normal state are named STNHS and those produced for Parkinson's state are named STNPS. Assessment among STNHS and STNPS is achieved by cross-correlation coefficient (CCF) among these two. CCF is the degree of resemblance of two series as per a function of one relative to the second. The correlation coefficient can be calculated with the assistance of subsequent formula:

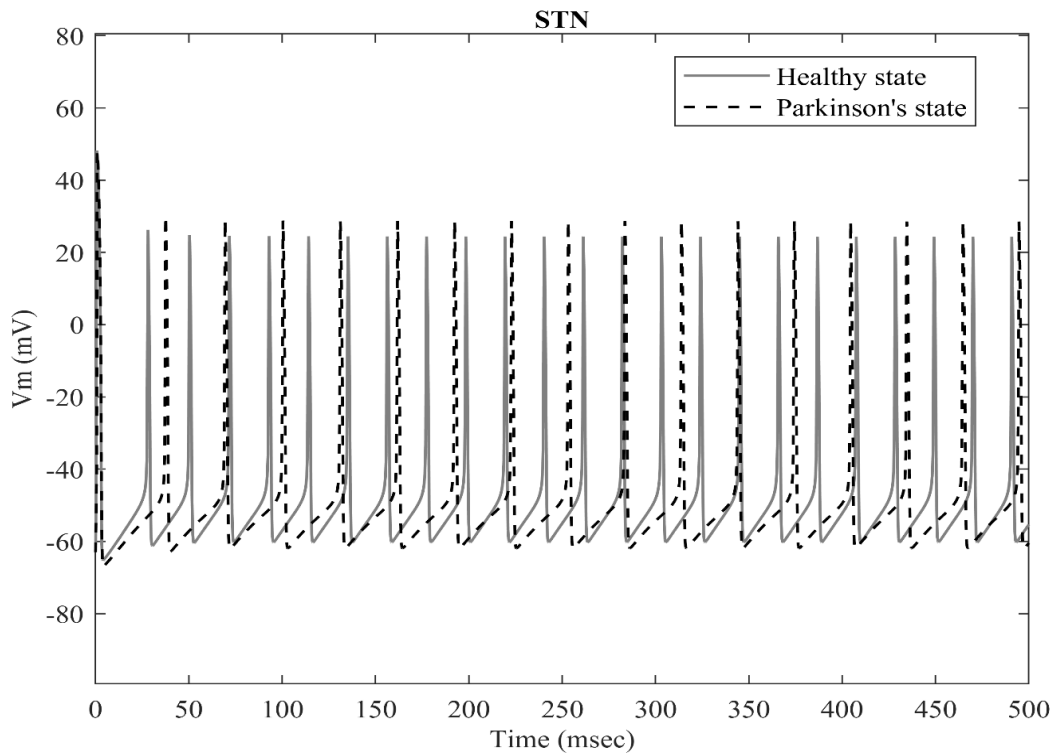
$$Correl(X, Y) = \frac{\sum(x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum(x - \bar{x})^2 \sum(y - \bar{y})^2}} \quad (14)$$

The assessment among STNHS and STNPS has been accomplished for numerous ionic and synaptic currents, for analyzing and calculating the sensitivity of the STN model. Then deep brain stimulation (DBS) is implemented on the STN model to study its effect on the model. All the discharge outlines in the paper are produced using equation 1. These discharge outlines are then replicated for particular ionic currents. The outcomes for parameters that are extremely penetrating for the model are exhibited. Applied current  $I_{app}$ , feedback membrane potential  $V_{fs}$  and presynaptic potential  $V_{presyn}$  are the parameters. The discharge outlines show sensitivity trade-offs as compared to the discharge outlines gained from, are accessible in the following segments. All the outputs of the figures are concerning the function of time. Thorough susceptibility study and outcomes are specified in the following segments. Through simulating the overhead model, constraints are being used as specified inside [21].

## 4. Results:

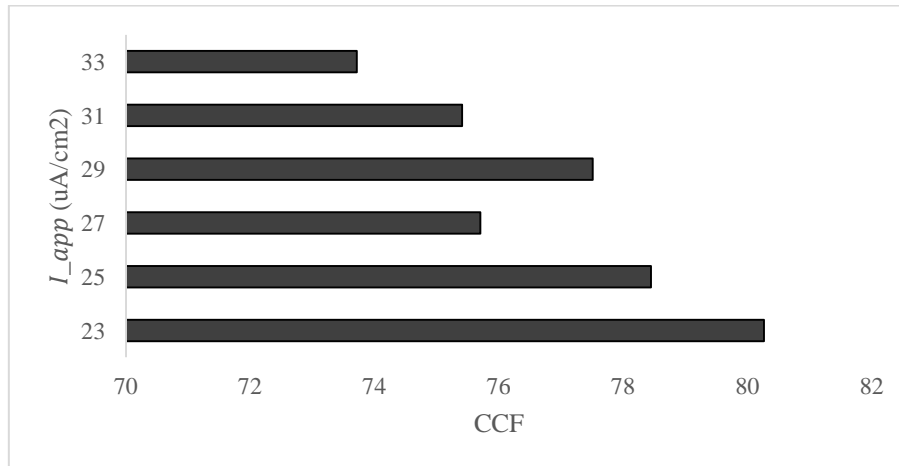
### 4.1 Sensitivity investigation for applied current

Activity outlines exhibited inside the STN-GP network in basal ganglia are classically unequal and are interrelated through the activity inside the cells. The activity outlines concerning applied current  $I_{app}$  are analyzed here. The initial reference value of  $I_{app}$  for subthalamic nucleus (STN) in the case of normal is  $33 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  and in the case of Parkinson's is  $23 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  are taken from [27]. The value of  $I_{app}$  in the range of 23 to  $33 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  are speckled, to analyze the sensitivity of these outlines in contradiction to the applied current  $I_{app}$  [13]. These outlines reveal the sensitivity for  $I_{app}$  for together subthalamic nucleus for the normal state (STNHS) and subthalamic nucleus for Parkinson's state (STNPS). The original discharge outline for  $I_{app}$  in the original state are shown by Figure 2 for normal state and Parkinson's disorder state. The values for the normal state is at  $I_{app} = 33 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  and for PD state is at  $I_{app} = 23 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ . Here, the cross-correlation coefficient value is 0.958 between the two-time series.



**Figure 2** Variation of healthy state and Parkinson's state in STN-GPe Prototype.

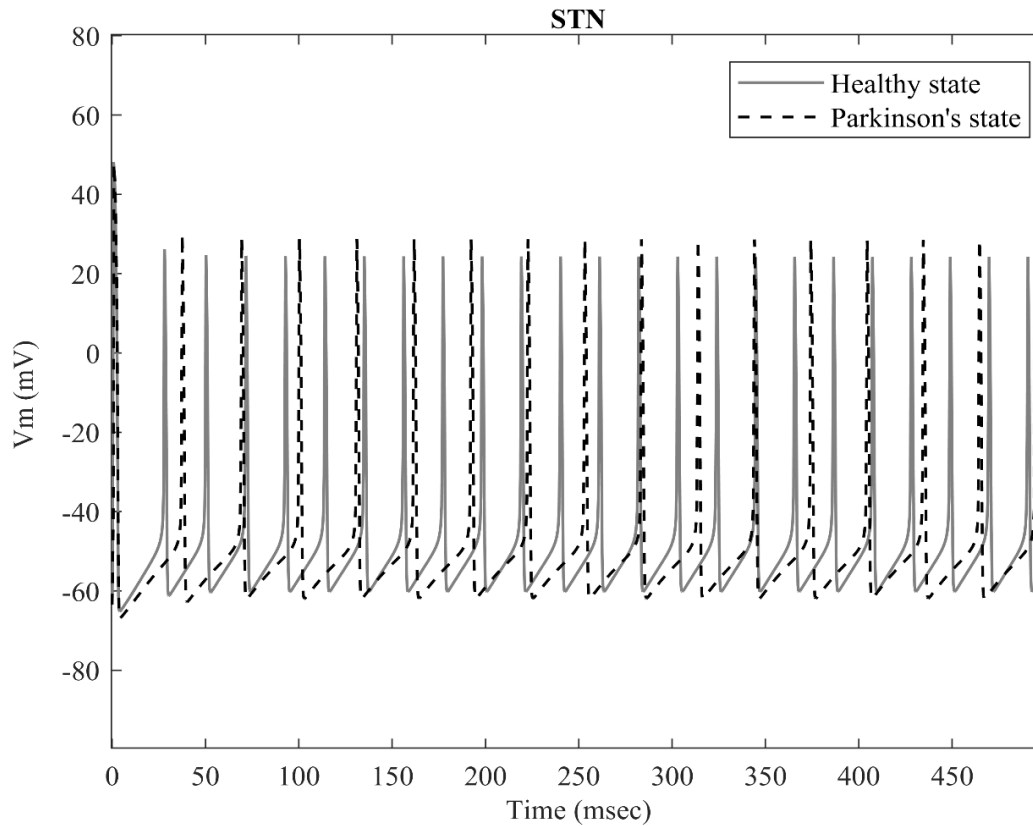
The slight alteration for the value of applied current demonstrates a trade-off inside the correlation coefficient of STNHS and STNPS calculated as shown in Figure 3 which signifies the role of applied current in Parkinson's state. The maximum correlation is obtained for STNHS and STNPS is 0.8026 at  $23 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ , which shows that the error margin has reduced by 80%. The graph is plotted for CCF for different values of applied current. This represents that the applied current does not play a vibrant role in reducing the symptoms of Parkinson's disordered person. Increasing the value of  $I_{app}$  steadily from 23 to  $33 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  does not enhance the correlation coefficient among the two-time sequences of STN in normal state and STN in Parkinson's state. The minimum cross-correlation function is 74 for the value of applied current  $33 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  while the maximum cross-correlation function is counted as 80 which is for the value of applied current  $23 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ . The applied current  $31 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ ,  $29 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ ,  $27 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  and  $25 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$  are considered in between the above-mentioned range. This means that applied current shows a less effective or negligible impact in the analysis of the two-time series for the subthalamic nucleus in a normal state and Parkinson's state. Similar result has been reported in the earlier studies [15].



**Figure 3** Variation of applied current concerning cross-correlation function.

#### 4.2 Sensitivity investigation for pre-synaptic membrane potential

$V_{presyn}$  is the membrane potential of a single pre-synaptic neuron. The consequence of  $V_{presyn}$  on synaptic variables has been examined which eventually disturb the subthalamic nucleus (STN) model in normal and Parkinson's disorder state. 31 mV is the orientation value considered for  $V_{presyn}$  referred by [21]. The values for  $V_{presyn} = 30.5$  mV and  $V_{presyn} = 31.5$  mV are taken from the research paper [13]. The pre-synaptic potential might rise or fall depending upon the networks among neighboring neurons. If the networks are disturbed, the discharge patterns might fall and if the networks are sturdy, the discharge patterns might rise [28]. Hence, it has been analyzed for disrupted and strong connections. Alteration in the pre-synaptic value does not disturb the correlation coefficient for the STN model in normal and Parkinson's disorder states. Movement outlines have been displayed for both  $V_{presyn} = 30.5$  mV and  $V_{presyn} = 31.5$  mV in Figure 4 and Figure 5 for both normal and Parkinson's state.



**Figure 4** Variations in membrane potential concerning time for healthy state and Parkinson's state at  $V_{presyn} = 30.5$  mV.

Results indicate that with the increase or decrease in the value of  $V_{presyn}$  for 30.5 mV and 31.5 mV, the correlation coefficient among the two-time sequences of STNHS and STNPS remain unchanged [13]. Table 2 displays non-linearity in dissimilar values of correlation coefficient when comparison has been made between them with activity outlines presenting linear behavior. For lag = 0, correlation coefficient is extreme in  $V_{presyn} = 31$  mV. It is detected that in the subthalamic nucleus (STN) model there is a time lag in activity outlined in normal and Parkinson's disorder (PD) states. This data discloses a linear shift among subthalamic nucleus in a normal state (STNHS) and subthalamic nucleus in Parkinson's state (STNPS) and the reason is not yet known. The cross-correlation among the two-time series is 9.32% in figure 4. The cross-correlation between the two-time series is 9.44% in figure 5.

**Table 2** Cross-correlation coefficients for  $V_{presyn}$

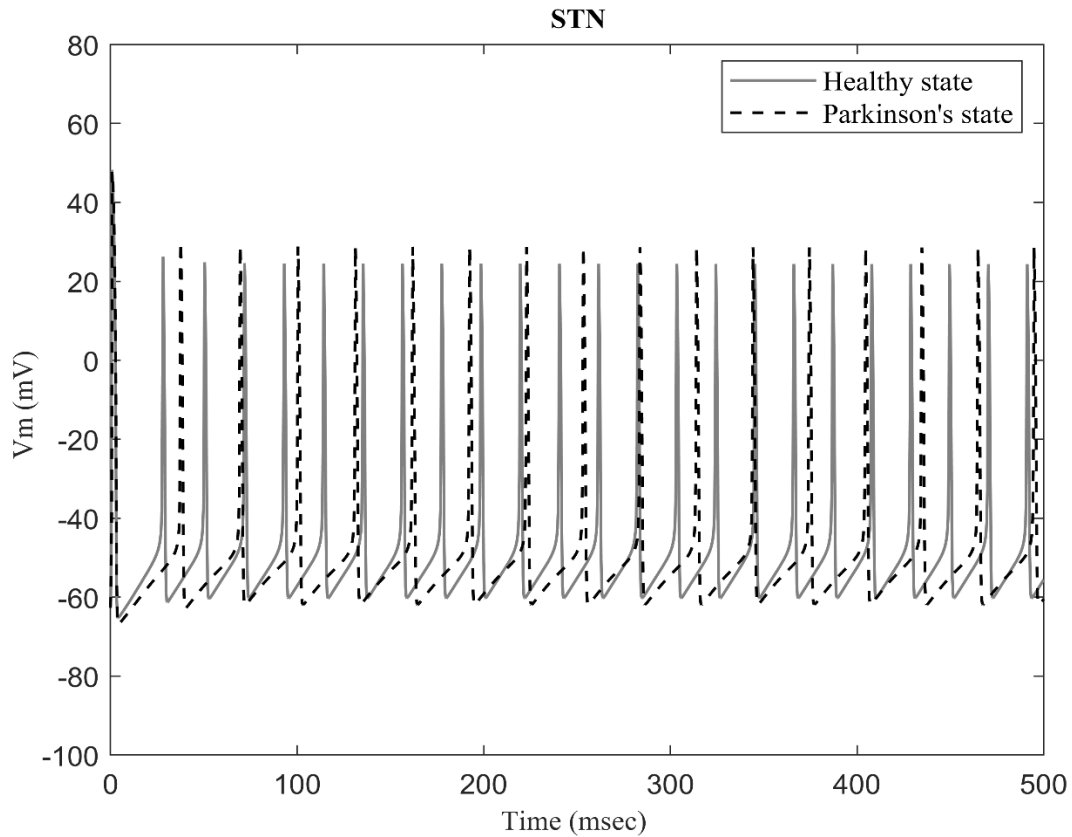
Lag	30.5 mV	31 mV	31.5 mV
0	0.093219	0.77309	0.094418
1	0.103092	0.650574	0.085267
2	0.114901	0.645038	0.083979

3	0.099946	0.649675	0.083724
4	0.118812	0.659661	0.086231
5	0.125096	0.649797	0.086154
6	0.123851	0.638336	0.085552

### 4.3 Sensitivity scrutiny for feedback membrane potential $V_{fs}$

In this sub-section, by changing feedback membrane potential  $V_{fs}$ , the outcomes of the subthalamic nucleus (STN) model have been considered. However, the learning of this model grants the existence of oscillations when the STN-GPe loop grows stronger. This phenomenon remains strong concerning differences of numerous parameters which are dopamine-dependent. It also remains vigorous for delays in the feedback loop. The model is not steady for numerous values of  $V_{fs}$  [21]. This has been revealed in Figure 6.

The CCF is highest for the value of  $V_{fs} = 14$  mV. Figure 6 displays that the correlation coefficient decreases for the values 0-2 mV, 4-6 mV, and 8-10 mV. Increases for the values 2-4 mV, 6-18 mV, and decreases at point 20 mV. This shows that the feedback membrane potential  $V_{fs}$  does not enhance the correlation coefficient among the two-time sequences of STNHS also STNPS.



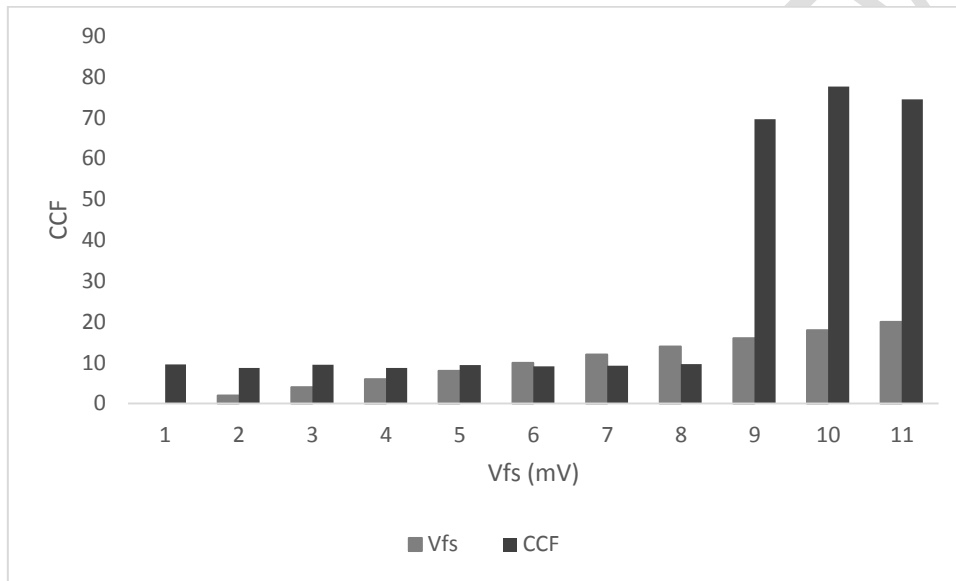
**Figure 5** Variations in membrane potential concerning time for healthy state and Parkinson's state at  $V_{presyn} = 31.5$  mV.

#### 4.4 Application of DBS on the STN model

Rhythmic pulsatile voltage transients are characteristically practical to the subthalamic nucleus of the basal ganglia, throughout high-frequency deep brain stimulation (DBS) treatment for Parkinson's disease (PD). Probably, DBS involvements that fluctuate in procedure from a high-frequency, episodic outline can be extra necessary for realizing medical purposes [29]. The DBS of STN neurons is simulated.

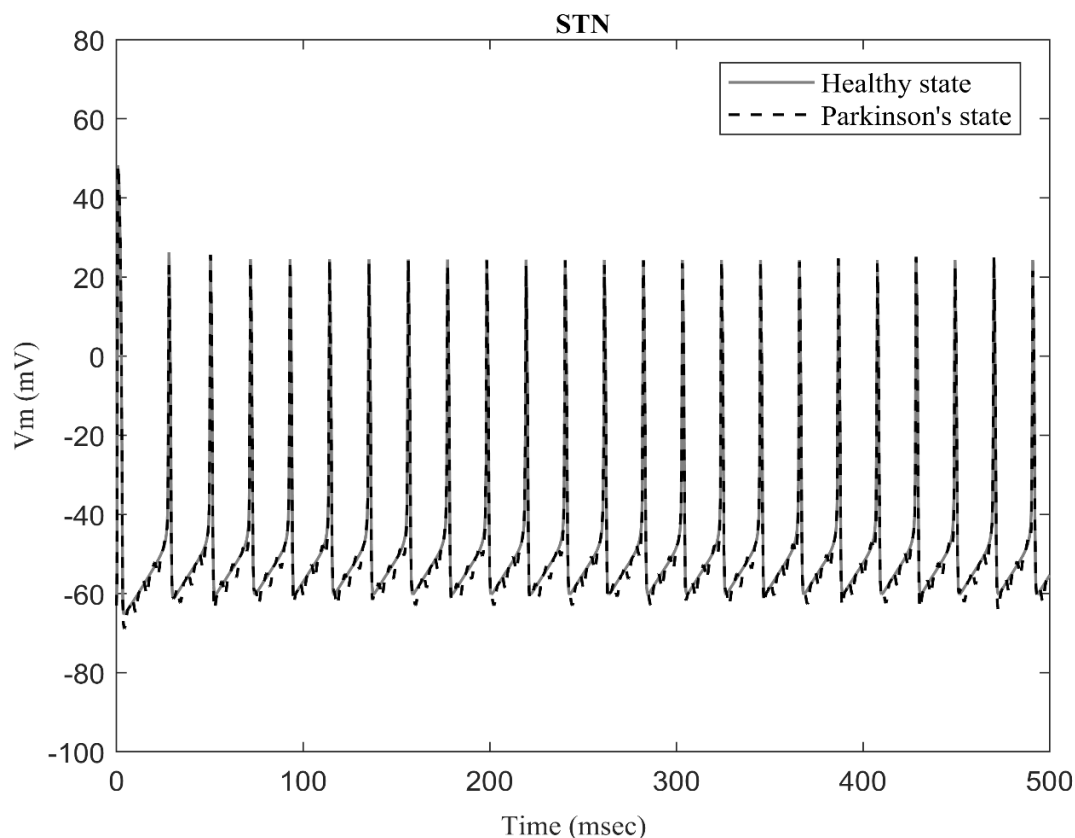
DBS of the STN is presented by the following model:

$$I_{DBS} = i_D \cdot H(\sin(2\pi t/\rho_D)) \cdot (1 - H(\sin \frac{2\pi(t+\delta_D)}{\rho_D})) \quad (15)$$



**Figure 6** The relation for normal state and Parkinson's disorder state in the range of  $V_{fs} = 0-16$  mV.

Where  $i_D$  resembles stimulation amplitude,  $\rho_D$  to the stimulation period, and  $\delta_D$  to the period of each impulse. Also,  $i_D = 200$ ,  $\rho_D = 6$  msec, and  $\delta_D = 0.6$  msec [11]. DBS offers a high frequency, excitatory contribution to STN neurons. It is discovered that this inputs centrals to the augmented action of STN neurons that sequentially stimulate GPi cells, persuading them to fire cordially at high frequency. The CCF for normal state vs Parkinson's state is 9.58%. The CCF for normal state vs Parkinson's state when DBS is applied is 99.59% as shown in Fig. 7. Since the maximum cross-correlation coefficient is 1 and the result obtained is 0.9959 when DBS is applied to Parkinson's state. It shows that the results obtained are promising because it reduces symptoms of Parkinson's state.



**Figure 7** Discharge patterns produced in STNHS and STNPD after application of DBS where Parkinson's state has reached the healthy state.

## 5. Discussion:

Ejection outlines of the single-compartment model have been examined in the hunt for discovering the constraints. Thus, modifying the changing aspects of Parkinson's disorder. The inter-connection within STN-GPe neurons is robust as seen in Figure 7 and it is evident that they are not involved in recurring movement all the time. Because of the reduction of dopamine, the networks got interrupted among diverse nuclei. But the reason for this dopamine reduction is not so far entirely known. As the stage advances, the effect of medication tends to stop and hinders the quality of life in patients. People at progressive stages of Parkinson's are advised to go for DBS surgery, which can stabilize medicine instabilities, lessen or stop instinctive actions, decrease shake, decrease inflexibility also advance reduction of movement. The activity outlines produced inside STN neuron and input from GPe neuron in a normal state and Parkinson state have been examined in hunt of discovering the parameters which modify the dynamics in Parkinson disorder. For STN-GPe, it has been seen from the result that patterns obtained are effective. Symptoms are reduced up to 99.59%. Here, the cross-correlation coefficient is 0.9959. The maximum coefficient value is 1.

The parameters are taken from the previous study profound by me [30, 31]. In this manuscript, deep brain stimulation has been discussed and the benefits of applying deep brain stimulation in Parkinson's disorder person. The values for deep brain stimulation are taken from [11]. Here, deep brain stimulation has been applied mathematically to subthalamic

neurons. The results obtained are 99.59% which shows that symptoms are reduced to a great extent. Assessment has been performed for the discharge outlines by examining the compassion in the subthalamic nucleus (STN) model because of applied current, pre-synaptic membrane potential, feedback synaptic potential, and application of DBS. Both the two-time sequences, i.e., STNHS in regular state and STNPS in Parkinson state, have fewer cross-correlation. When DBS is applied to the STN neuron, it shows maximum cross-correlation. This maximum cross-correlation signifies that the DBS technique is successful for treating patients with Parkinson's disorder. Here, one computational model is involved to contemplate in what way DBS of the STN may disturb firing outlines in the basal ganglia model.

## 6. Conclusion:

From the outlines obtained in Fig. 7, it is evident how the Parkinson's disease patterns have come down to normal person's patterns by applying DBS. Therefore, it has been mathematically found out that DBS is a successful treatment for treating patients with Parkinson's disorder. The main fact of our outcomes is that DBS may be operative at dropping motor indications of parkinsonism by 99.59%. Consequences recommend that there are further essential parameters that can modify the movement outlined in Parkinson's disorder also may progress the changed disorder outlines which are associated with a normal state.

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