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The Shanghai Lectures 2022

Natural and Artificial Intelligence in Embodied Physical Agents

December 1st, 2022

From Zagreb, Croatia

Today's program (CET)

08:30 sites begin connecting

08:55 all sites are ready

09:00 (Fabio) Welcome

09:05 Machine Learning and Deep Learning: an Embodied AI Perspective

10:00 Break

**10:10 Guest Lecture by Yulia Sandamirskaya, Intel Germany, Munich,
Germany: Neuromorphic Computing**

11:00 Wrap-up

Today's Guest Lecture

**10:10 Yulia Sandamirskaya,
Intel Germany, Munich, Germany
«Neuromorphic Computing»**

Stay tuned!



Lecture 5

Machine Learning and Deep Learning: an Embodied AI Perspective

Fabio Bonsignorio
Professor, ERA CHAIR in AI for Robotics



University of Zagreb
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing
Laboratory for Autonomous Systems and Mobile Robotics



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from the European Union's
Horizon 2020 research and
innovation programme under the
Grant Agreement No. 952275



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Why it matters



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Published: 27 January 2016

Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search

David Silver, Aja Huang, Chris J. Maddison, Arthur Guez, Laurent Sifre, George van den Driessche, Julian Schrittwieser, Ioannis Antonoglou, Veda Panneshelvam, Marc Lanctot, Sander Dieleman, Dominik Grewe, John Nham, Nal Kalchbrenner, Ilya Sutskever, Timothy Lillicrap, Madeleine Leach, Koray Kavukcuoglu, Thore Graepel & Demis Hassabis

Nature 529, 484–489 (2016) | Cite this article

107k Accesses | 3655 Citations | 3122 Altmetric | Metrics

Abstract

The game of Go has long been viewed as the most challenging of classic games for artificial intelligence owing to its enormous search space and the difficulty of evaluating board positions and moves. Here we introduce a new approach to computer Go that uses 'value networks' to evaluate board positions and 'policy networks' to select moves. These deep

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Editorial Summary

AlphaGo computer beats Go champion

The victory in 1997 of the chess-playing computer Deep Blue in a six-game series against the then world champion Gary Kasparov was seen as a significant milestone in the development of artificial intelligence. An even greater

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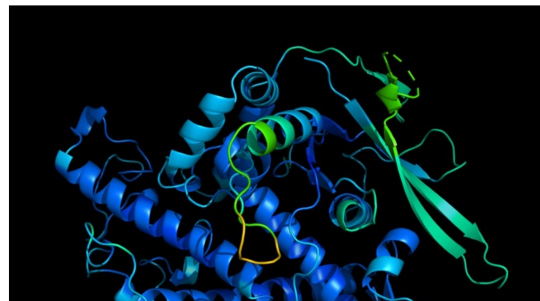
nature > news > article

NEWS · 30 NOVEMBER 2020

'It will change everything': DeepMind's AI makes gigantic leap in solving protein structures

Google's deep-learning program for determining the 3D shapes of proteins stands to transform biology, say scientists.

Ewen Callaway



RELATED ARTICLES

AI protein-folding algorithms solve structures faster than ever



The revolution will not be crystallized: a new method sweeps through structural biology



The computational protein designers



Chess: New York, 1997



1 win

3 draws

2 wins

Go: Hong Kong, 2017

Google's AlphaGo Defeats Chinese Go Master in Win for A.I.



Ke Jie, the world's top Go player, reacting during his match on Tuesday against AlphaGo, artificial intelligence software developed by a Google affiliate. China Stringer Network, via Reuters

By Paul Mozur

May 23, 2017



[阅读简体中文版](#)

HONG KONG — It isn't looking good for humanity.

A comparison

Chess and GO are 'perfect information games'

They always have an optimal value function which determines, under perfect game assumptions by all players, the outcome of the game from any initial state s .

The recursion tree in such games will include roughly b^d moves

- Chess: $b \approx 35$, $d \approx 80$
- Go: $b \approx 250$, $d \approx 150$

Interestingly the developers of AlphaGo have implemented an exhaustive testing and evaluation schema to compare and refine different gaming policies by mixing Montecarlo Simulations, Machine learning and guided sampling techniques.

Remarks

- In **embodied AI (and robotics!)** deterministic approaches are practically impossible to implement -> **No ‘perfect information games’**
- We are very much likely still far from what we have to cope with for a robot operating in the real world, but it can be seen as a better approximation than Chess....and other proposed before.

Silver, D. et al. , Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search, Nature 529, 484–489, 2016

Crash Introduction to ML

Lecture slides from *Deep Learning*

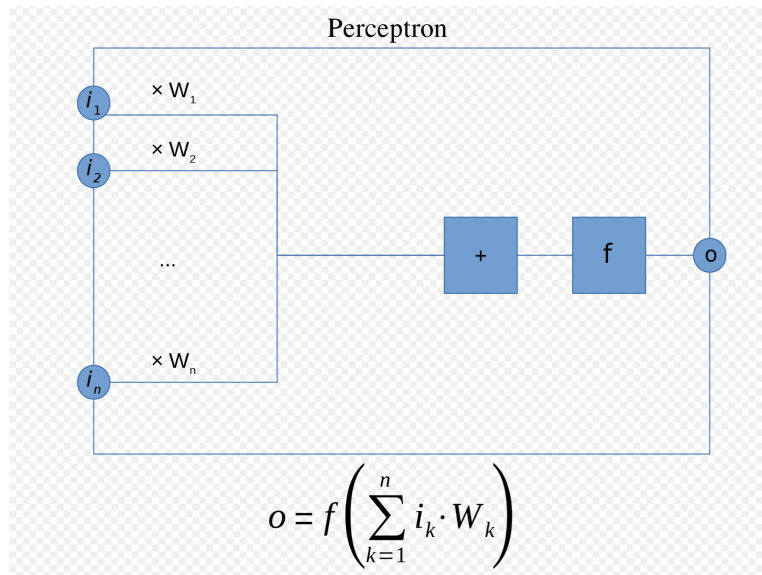
www.deeplearningbook.org

Ian Goodfellow

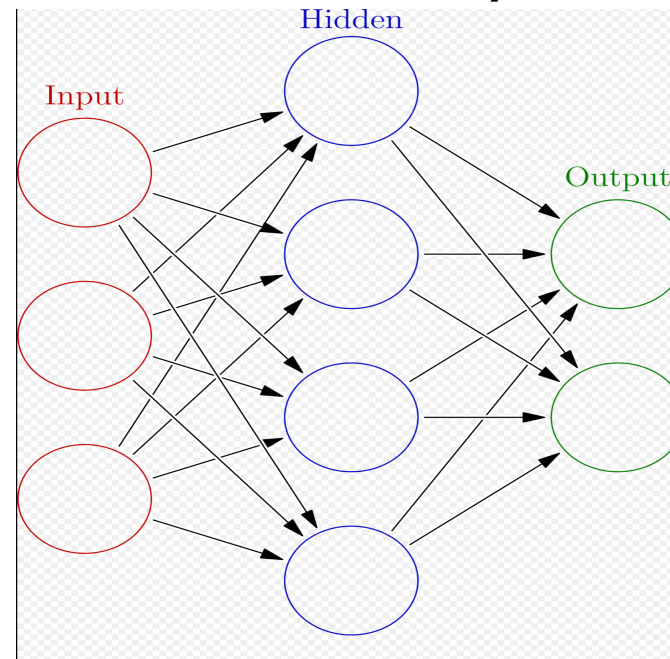
2016-09-26

The beginning

Rosenblatt's
Perceptron (1958)



ANN (Artificial Neural Network)
with hidden layers



Picture source: Wikipedia

Representations Matters (F-O-R!)

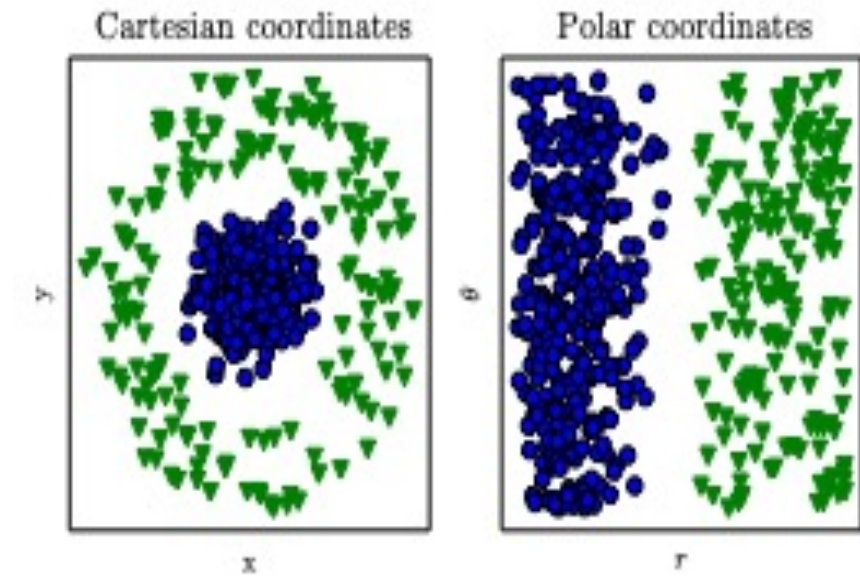


Figure 1.1

Depth: Repeated Composition

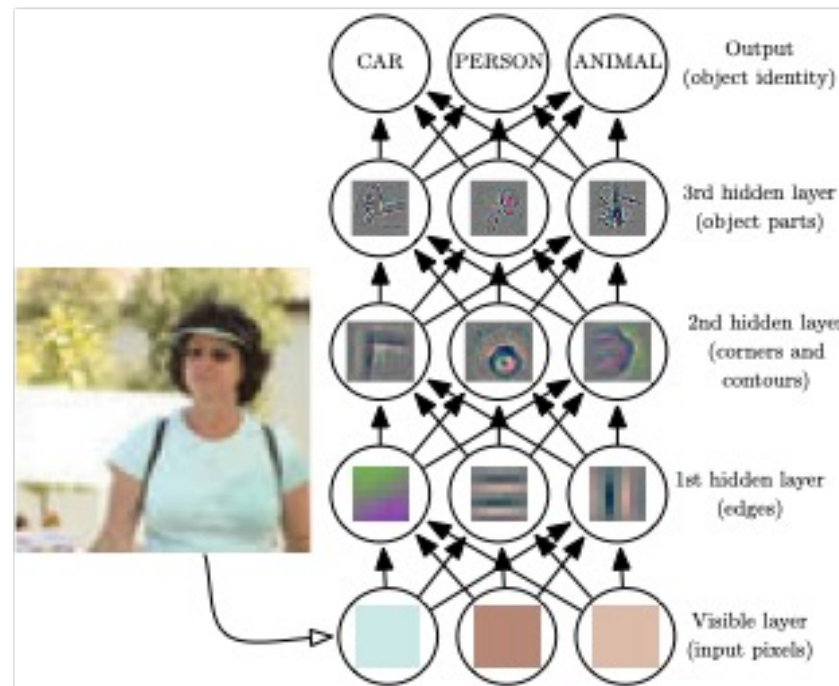


Figure 1.2

Machine Learning and AI

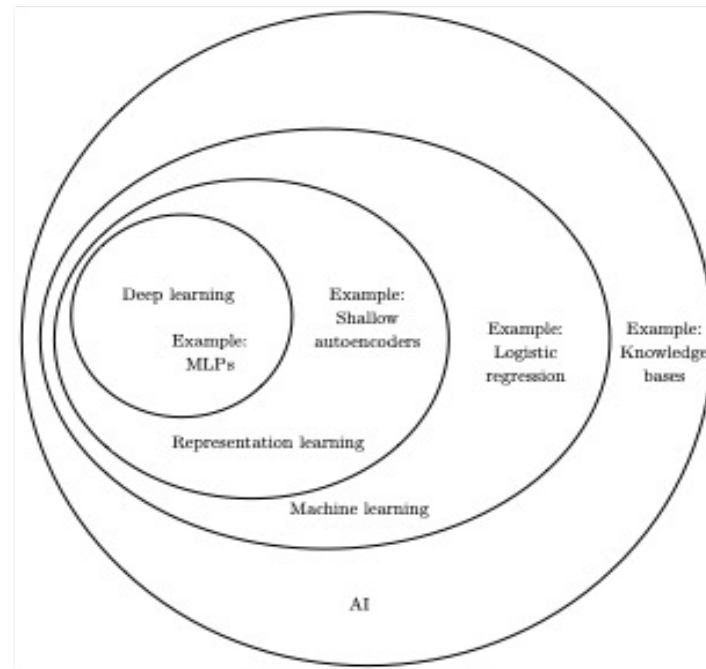


Figure 1.4

Historical Waves

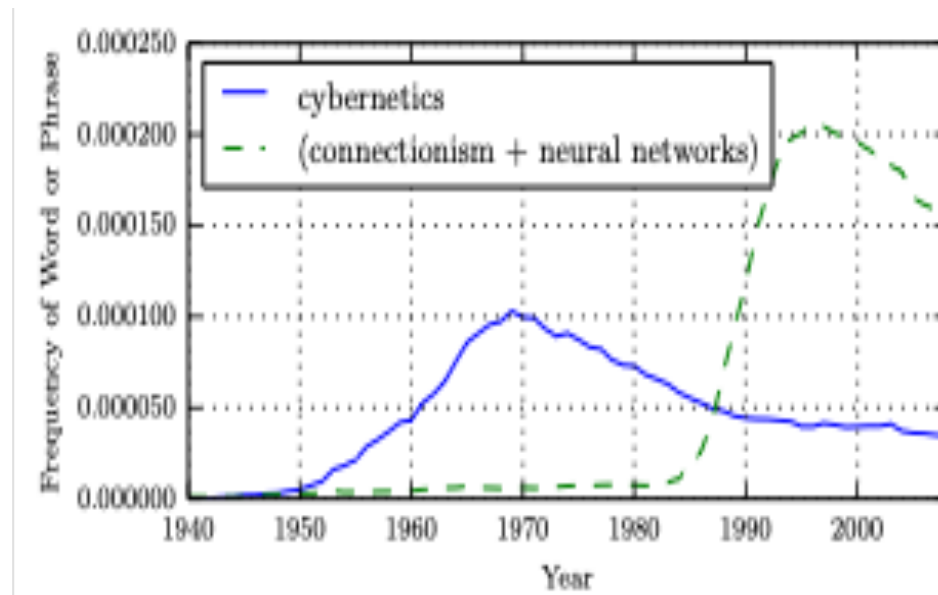


Figure 1.7

Historical Trends: Growing Datasets

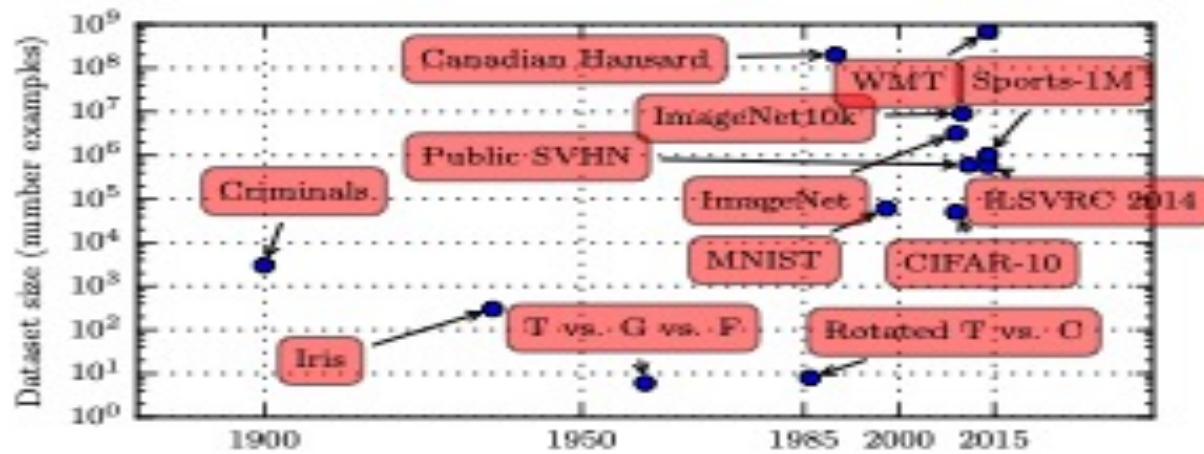


Figure 1.8

The MNIST Dataset

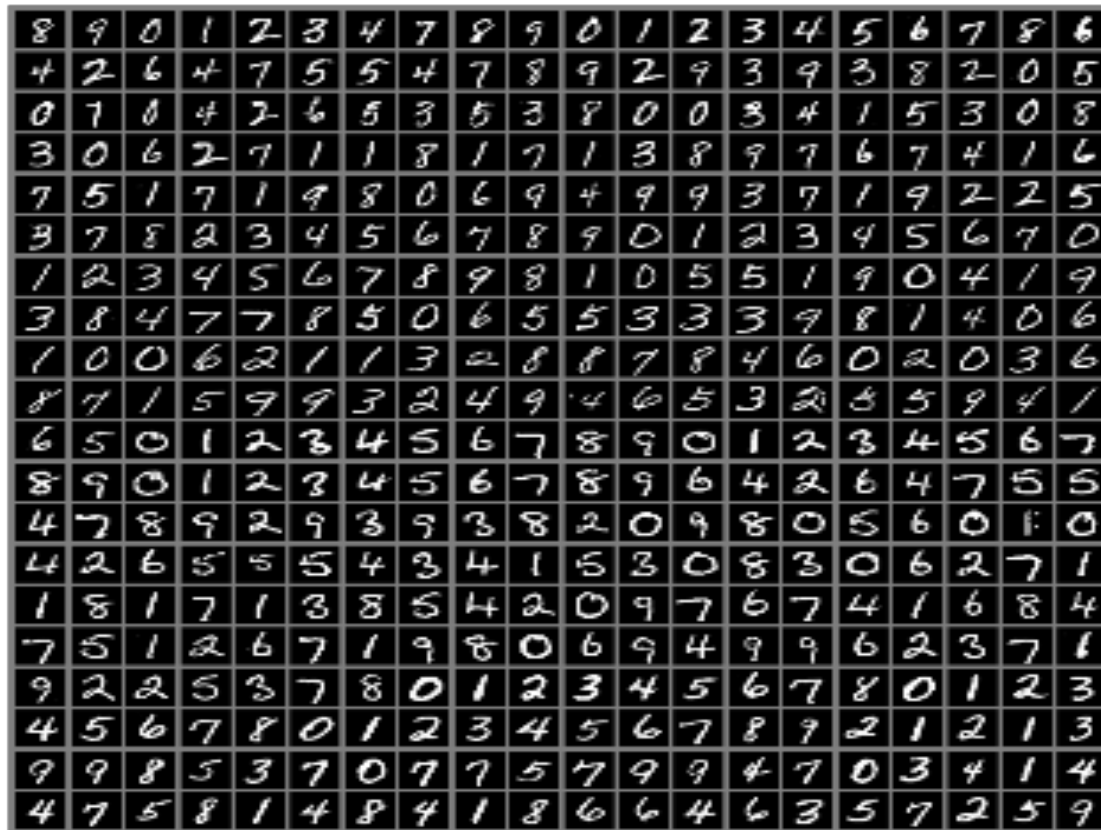


Figure 1.9

Connections per Neuron

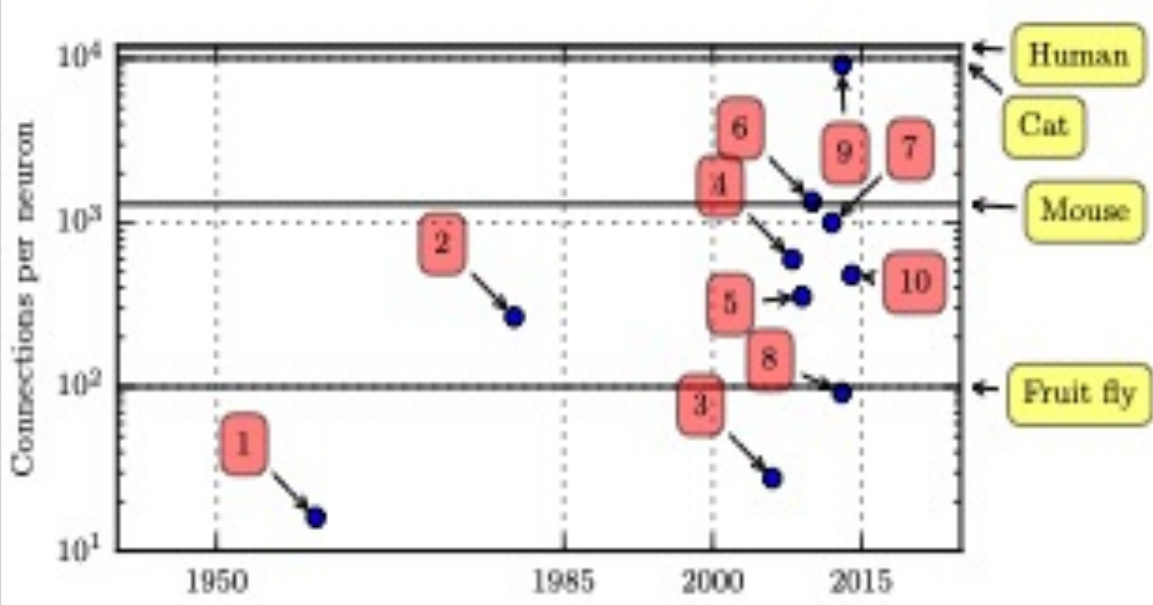


Figure 1.10

Number of Neurons

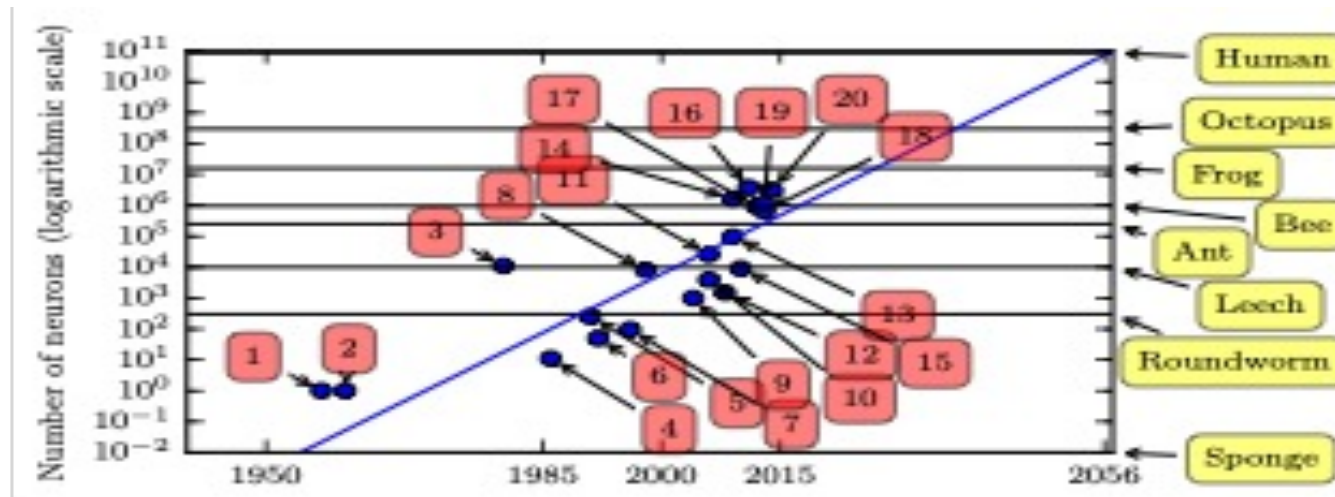


Figure 1.11

Solving Object Recognition

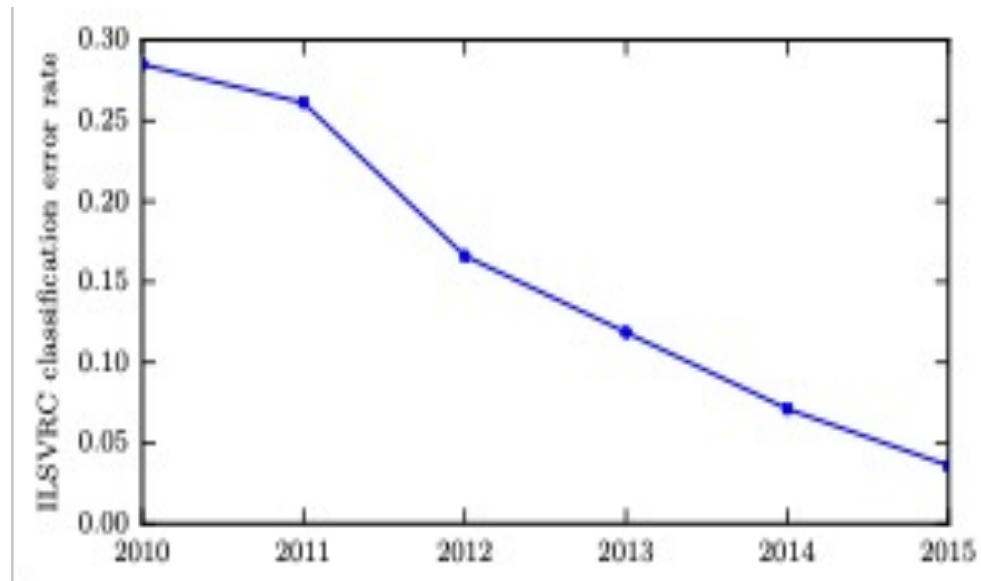


Figure 1.12

Gradient Descent

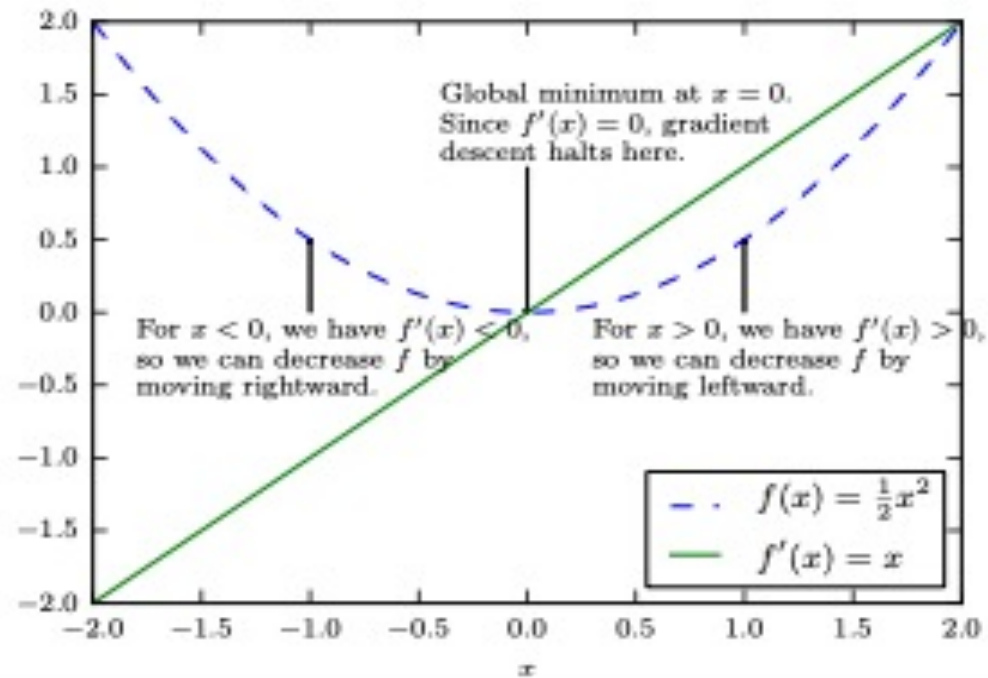


Figure 4.1

Approximate Optimization

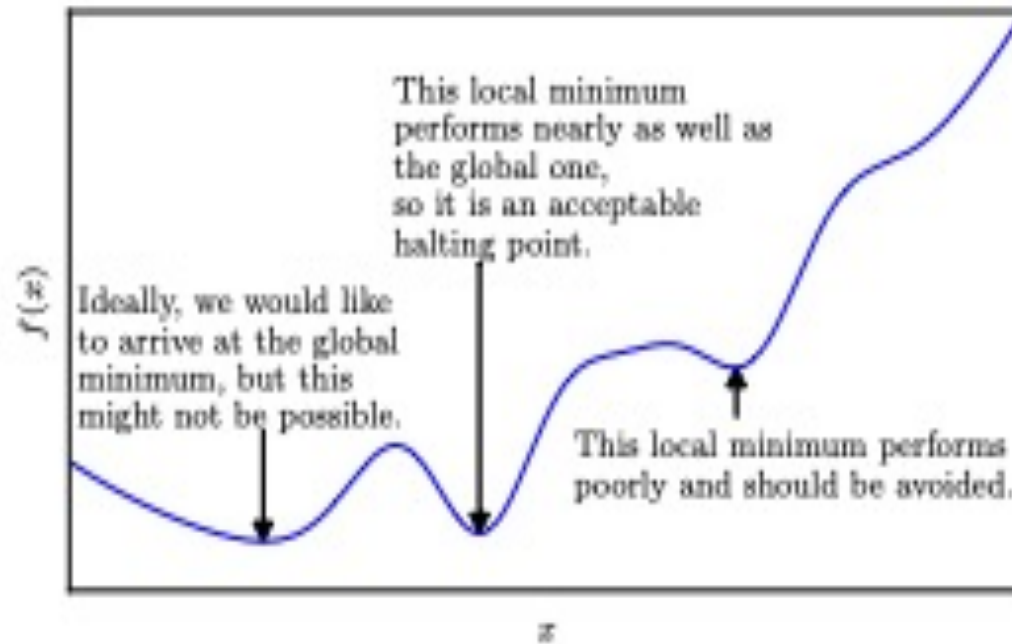
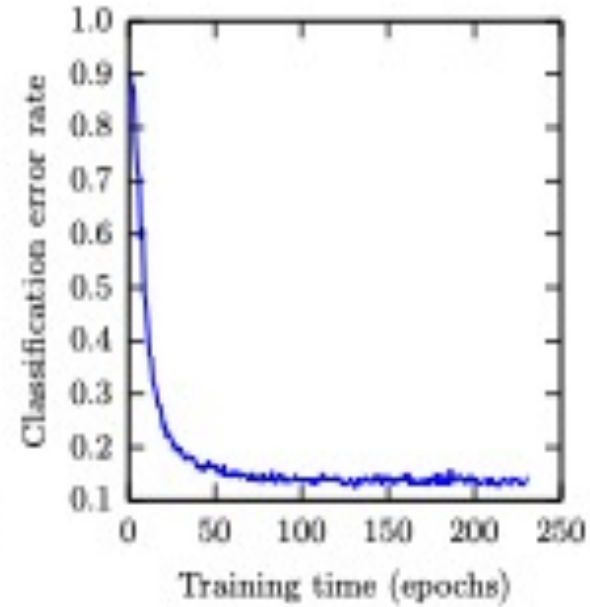
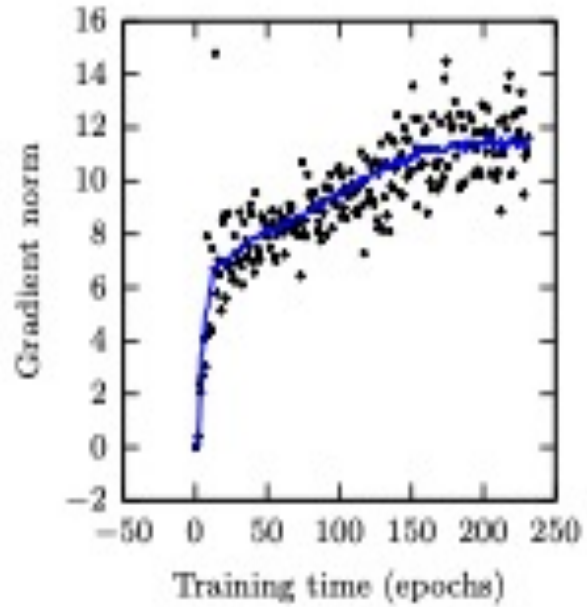


Figure 4.3

We usually don't even reach a local minimum



Iterative Optimization

- **Gradient descent**
- **Curvature**
- **Constrained optimization**

Critical Points

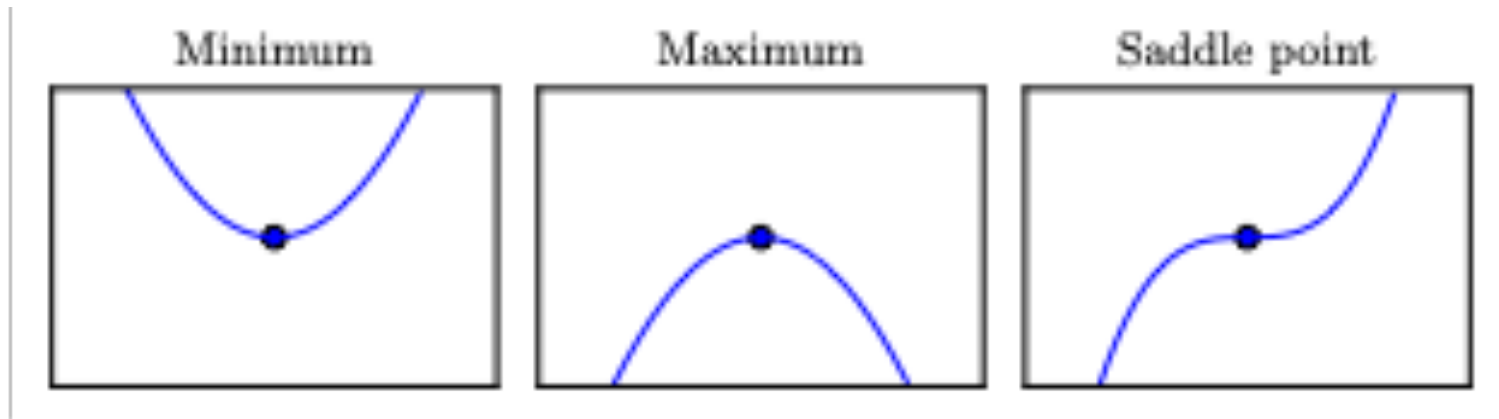


Figure 4.2

Saddle Points

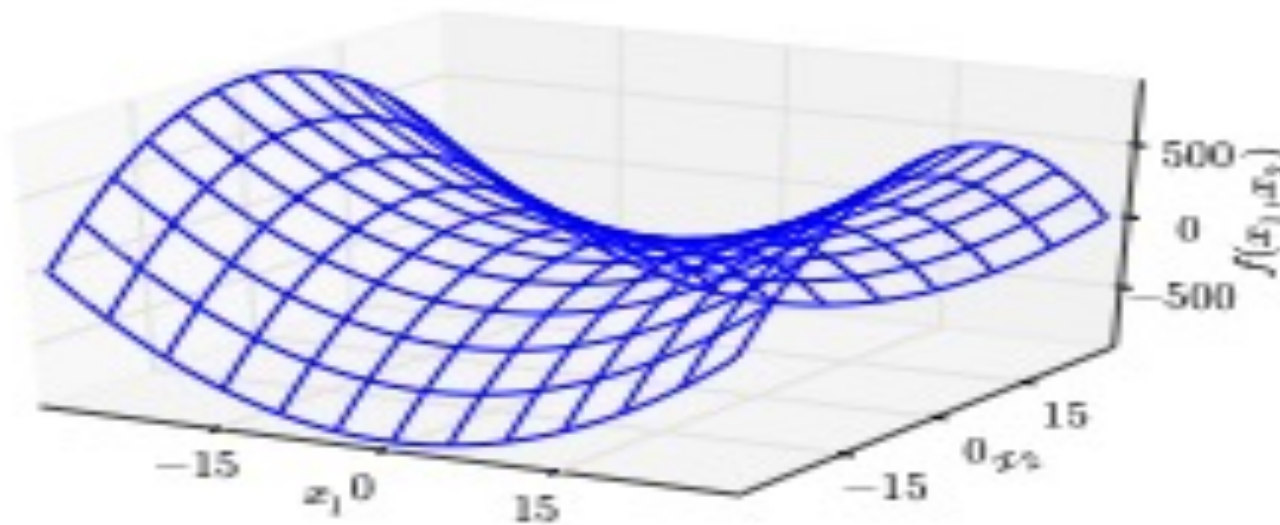


Figure 4.5

Saddle points attract
Newton's method

(Gradient descent escapes,
see Appendix C of "Qualitatively
Characterizing Neural Network
Optimization Problems")

Curvature

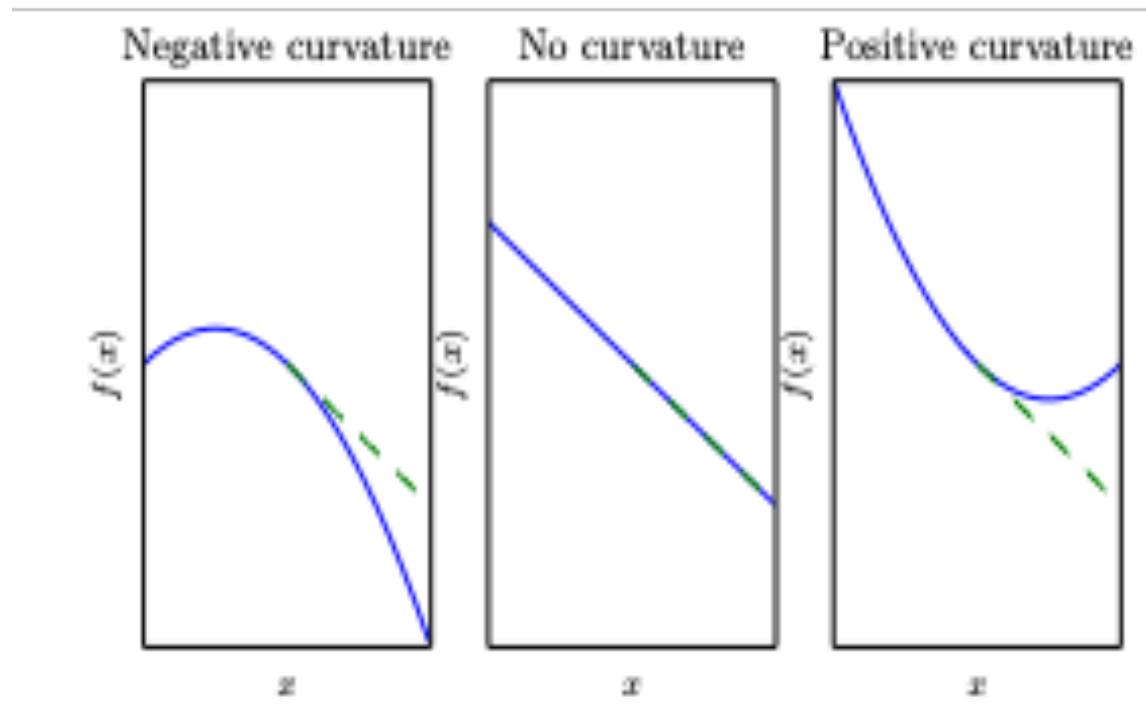
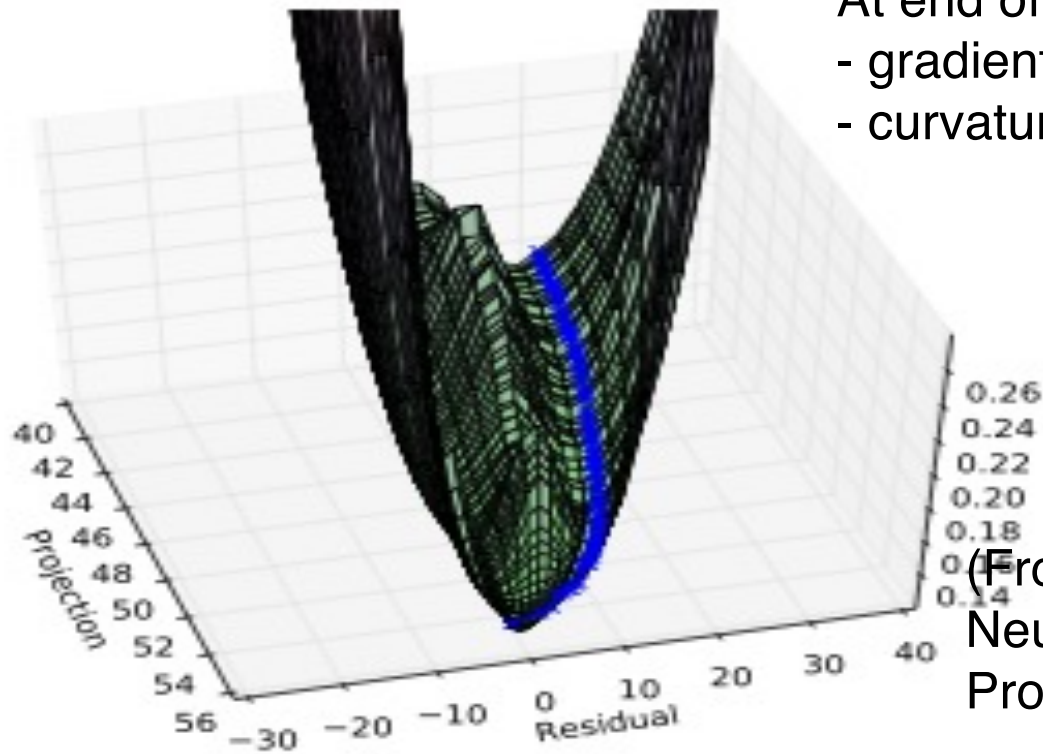


Figure 4.4

Neural net visualization



- At end of learning:
- gradient is still large
 - curvature is huge

(From “Qualitatively Characterizing Neural Network Optimization Problems”)

Iterative Optimization

- **Gradient descent**
- **Curvature**
- **Constrained optimization**

Roadmap

- **Iterative Optimization**
- **Rounding error, underflow, overflow**

Numerical Precision: A deep learning super skill

- **Often deep learning algorithms “sort of work”**
 - **Loss goes down, accuracy gets within a few percentage points of state-of-the-art**
 - **No “bugs” per se**
- **Often deep learning algorithms “explode” (NaNs, large values)**
- **Culprit is often loss of numerical precision**

Rounding and truncation errors

- In a digital computer, we use **float32** or similar schemes to represent real numbers
- A real number x is rounded to $x + \text{delta}$ for some small delta
- **Overflow**: large x replaced by **inf**
- **Underflow**: small x replaced by **0**

Machine Learning Basics

Linear Regression

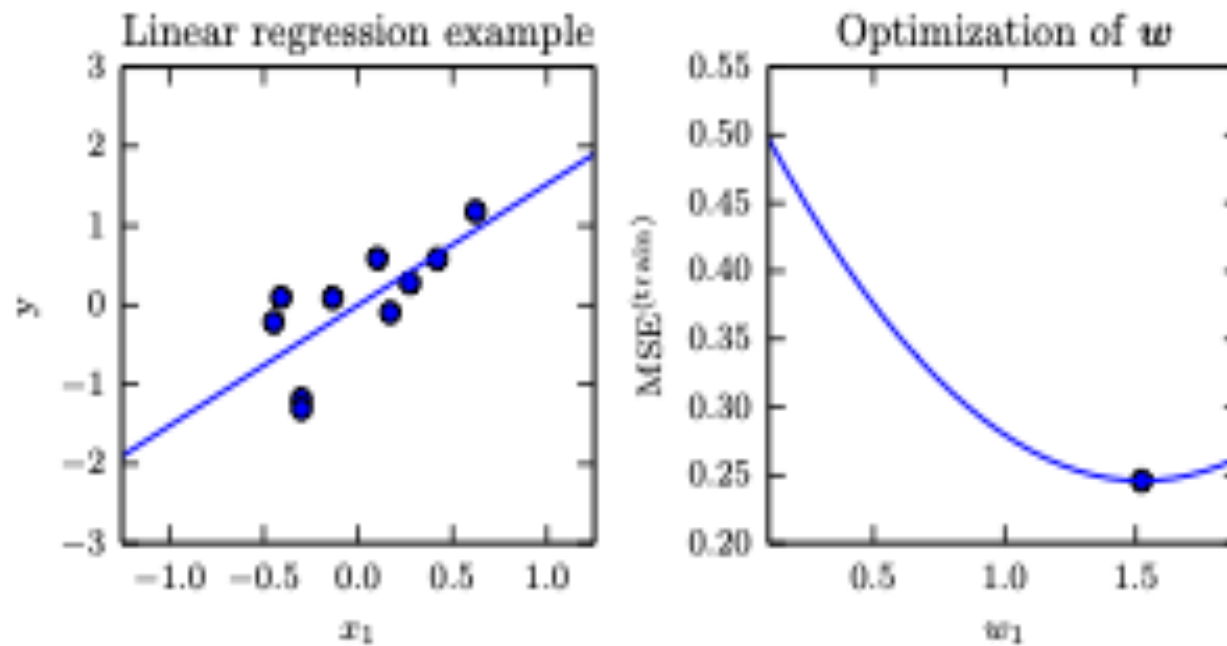


Figure 5.1

Underfitting and Overfitting in Polynomial Estimation

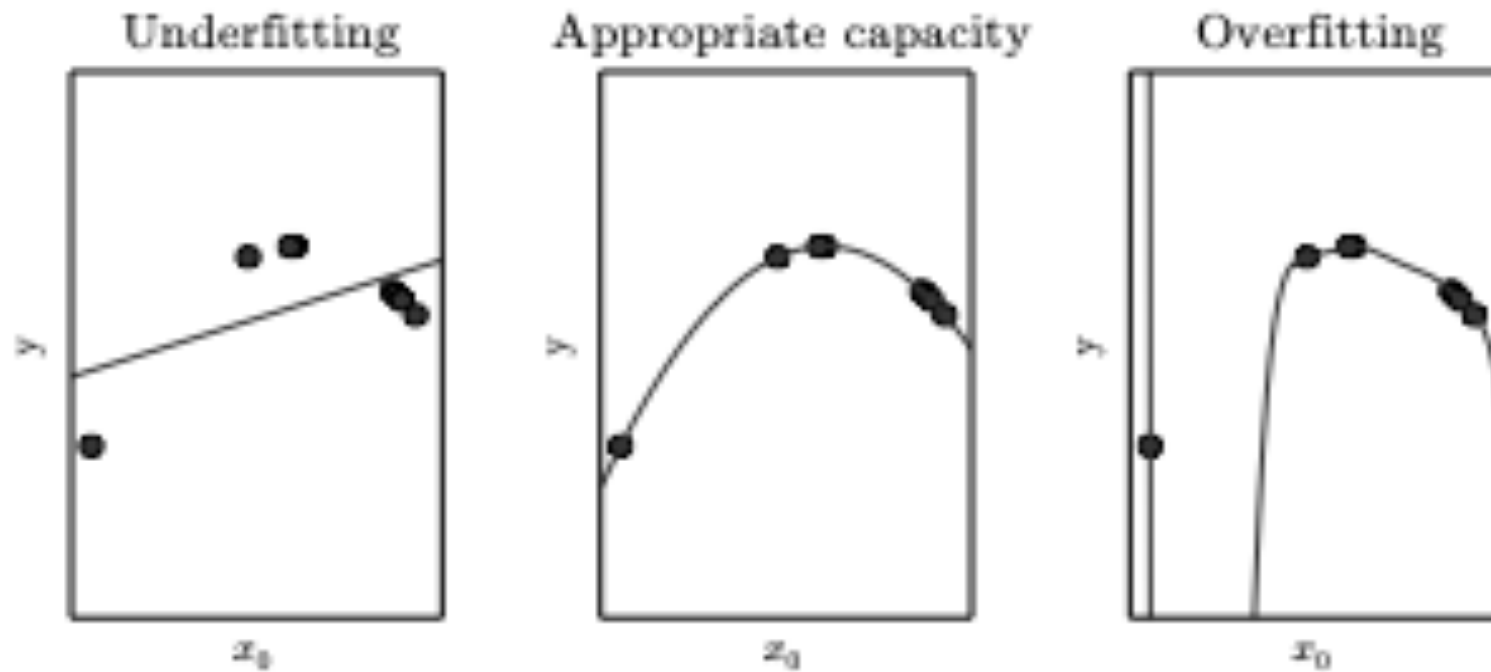


Figure 5.2

Generalization and Capacity

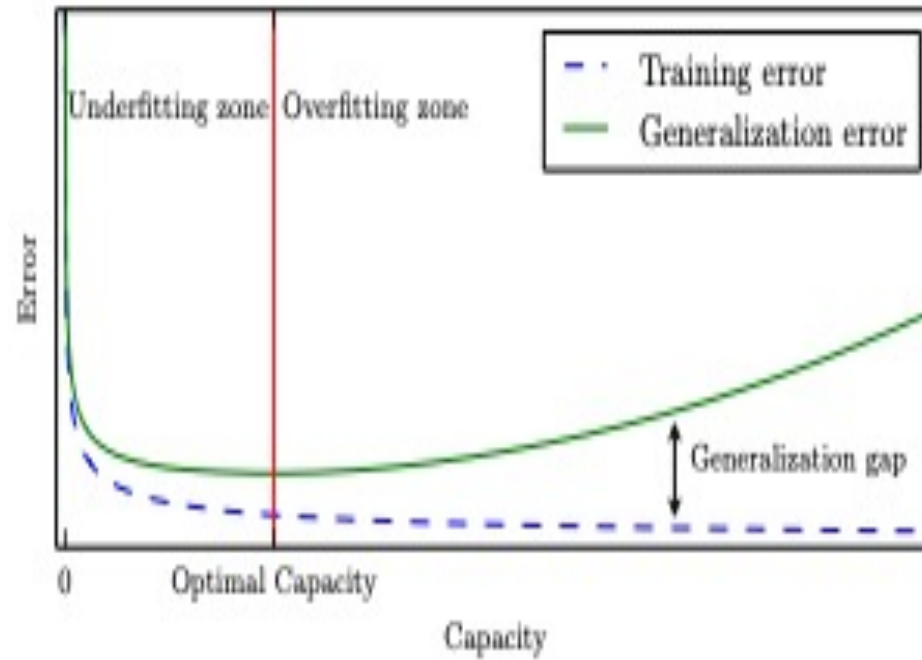
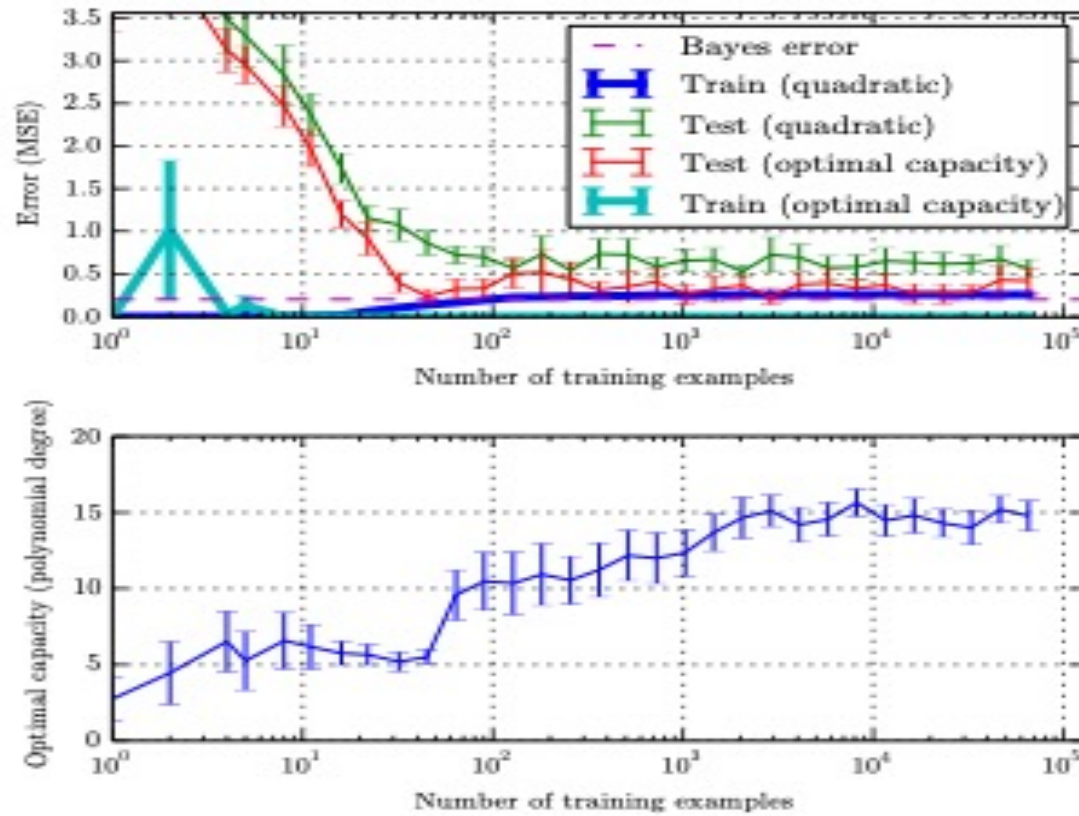


Figure 5.3

Training Set Size

Figure 5.4



Weight Decay

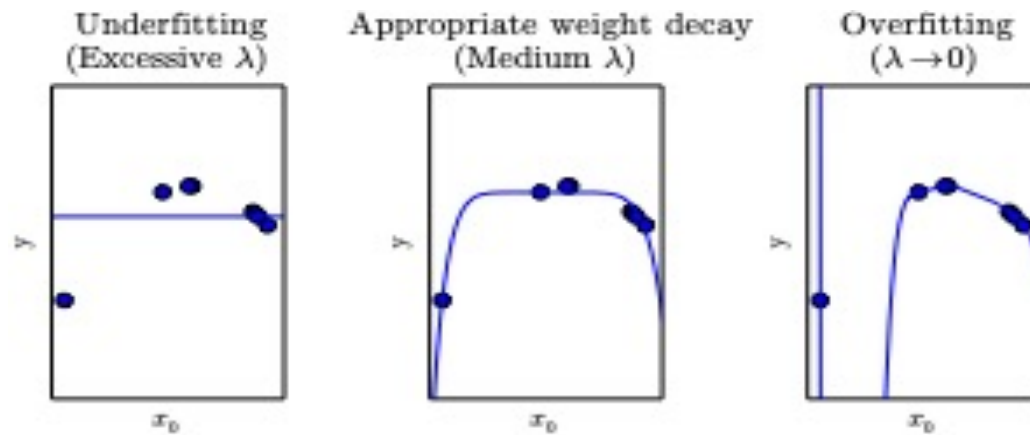


Figure 5.5

Bias and Variance

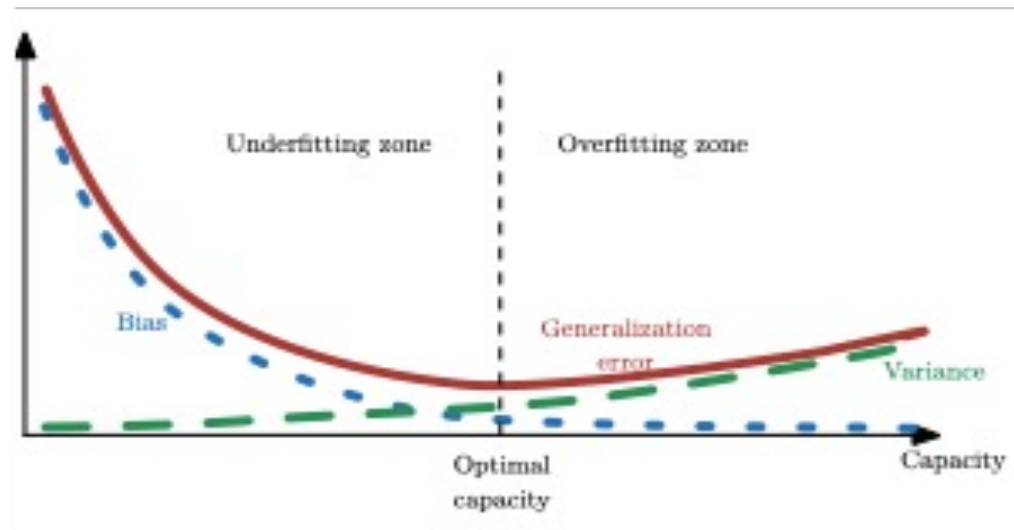


Figure 5.6

Decision Trees

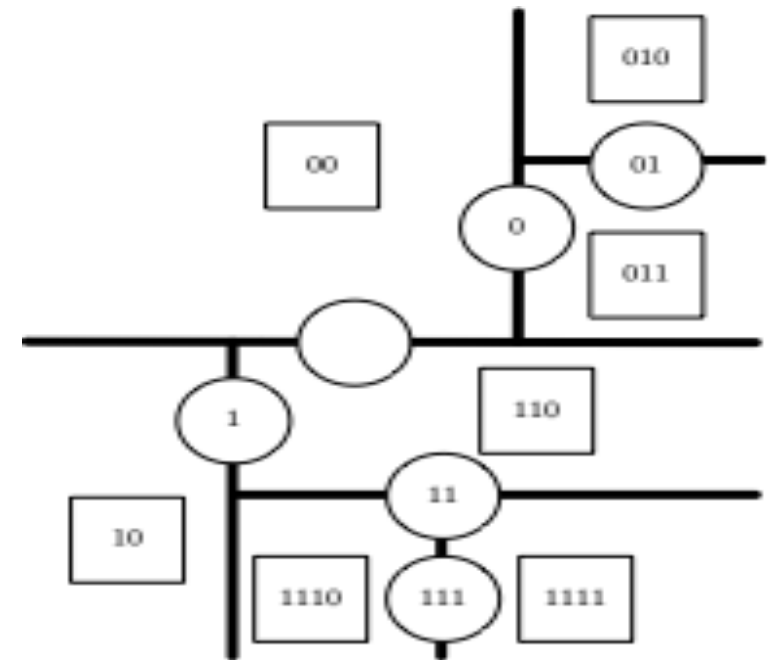
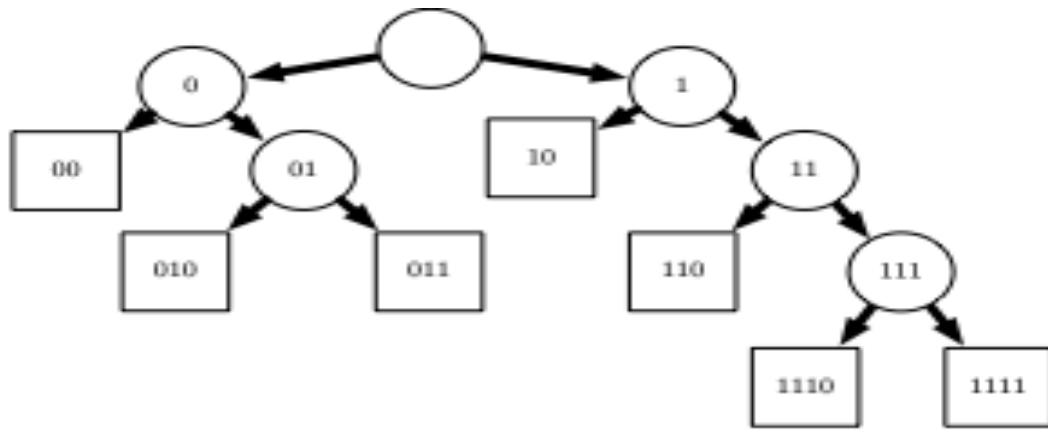


Figure 5.7

Principal Components Analysis

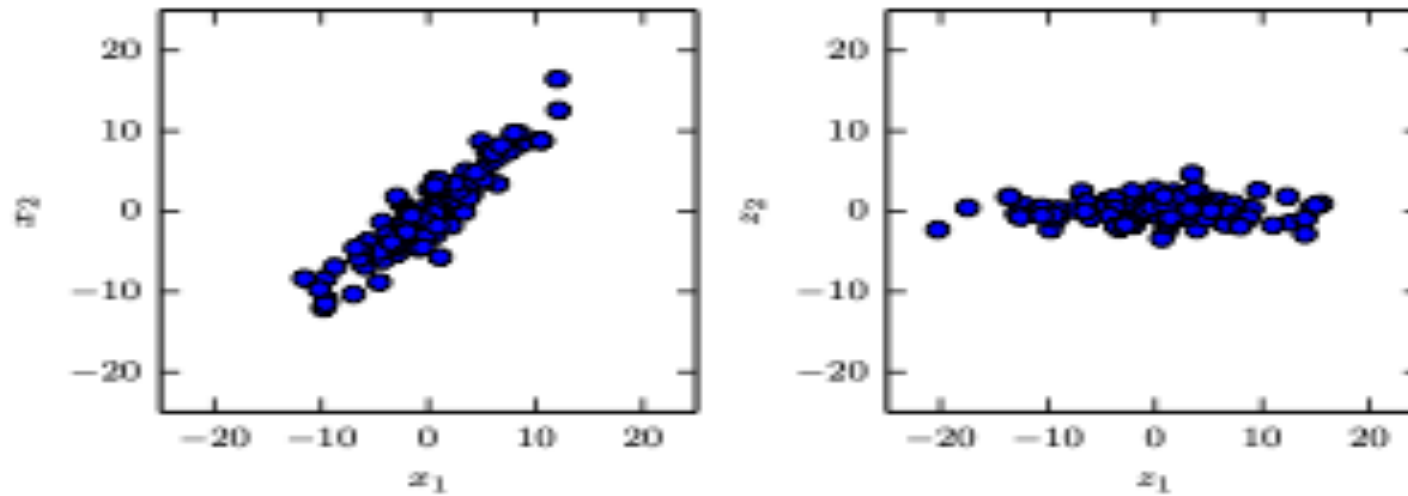


Figure 5.8

Curse of Dimensionality

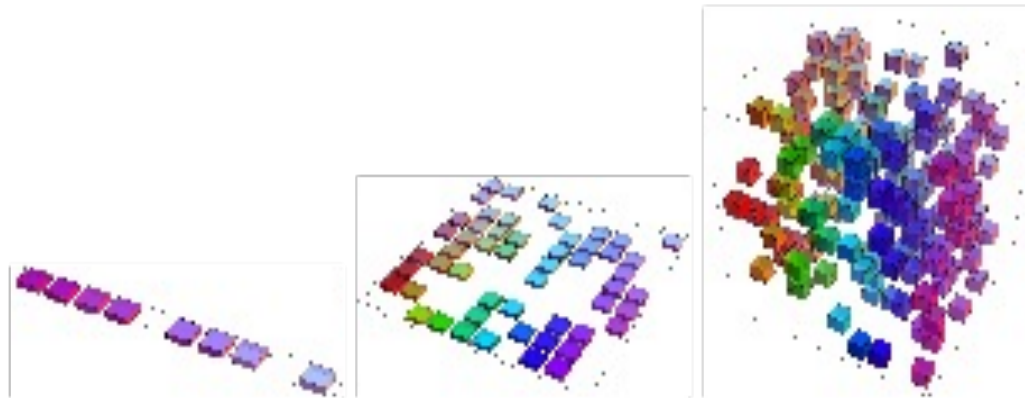


Figure 5.9

remember: Chess vs Go

Nearest Neighbor

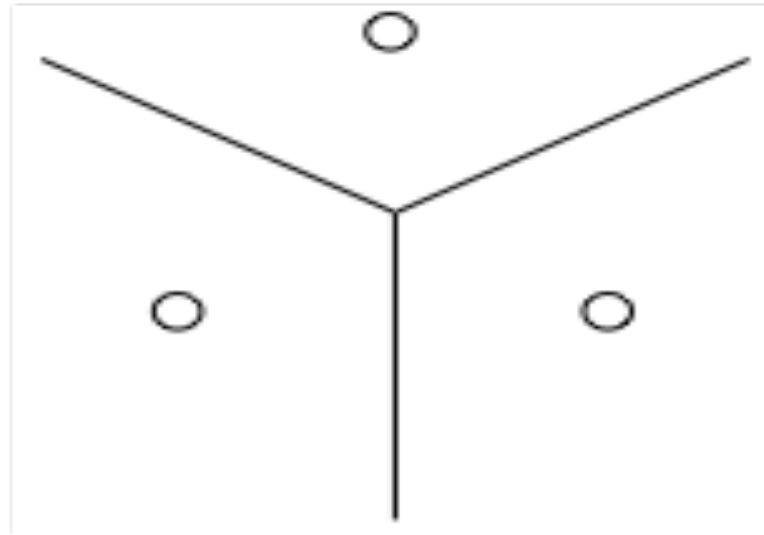


Figure 5.10

Manifold Learning

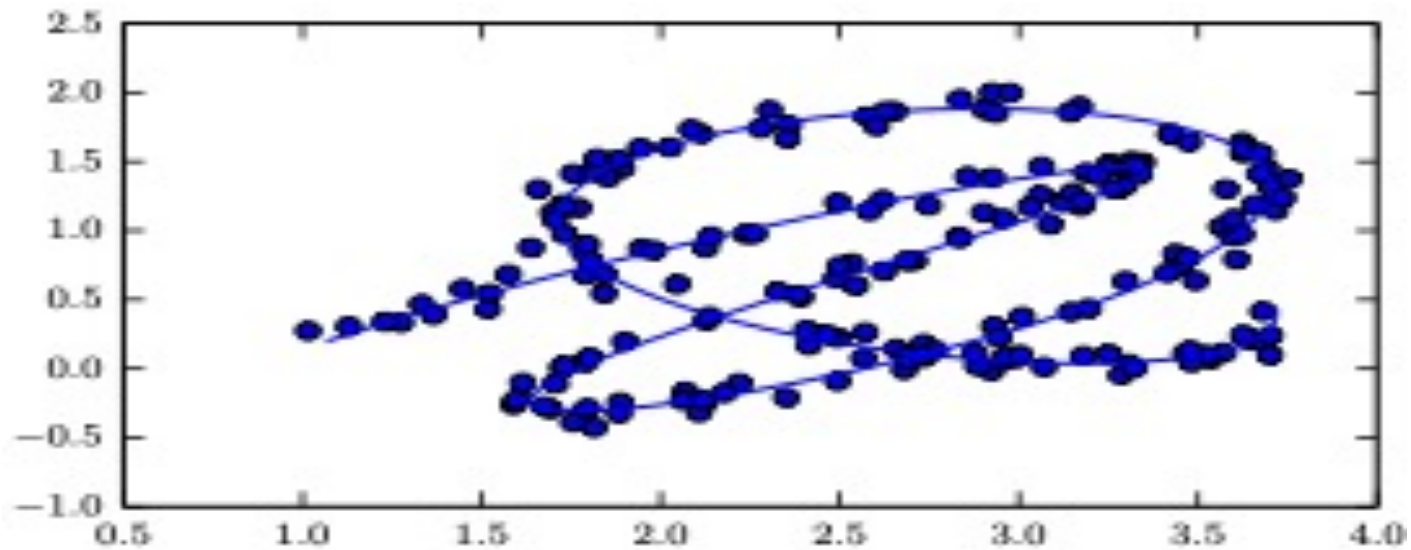


Figure 5.11

Convolutional Networks

Convolutional Networks

- **Scale up neural networks to process very large images / video sequences**
 - **Sparse connections**
 - **Parameter sharing**
- **Automatically generalize across spatial translations of inputs**
- **Applicable to any input that is laid out on a grid (1-D, 2-D, 3-D, ...)**

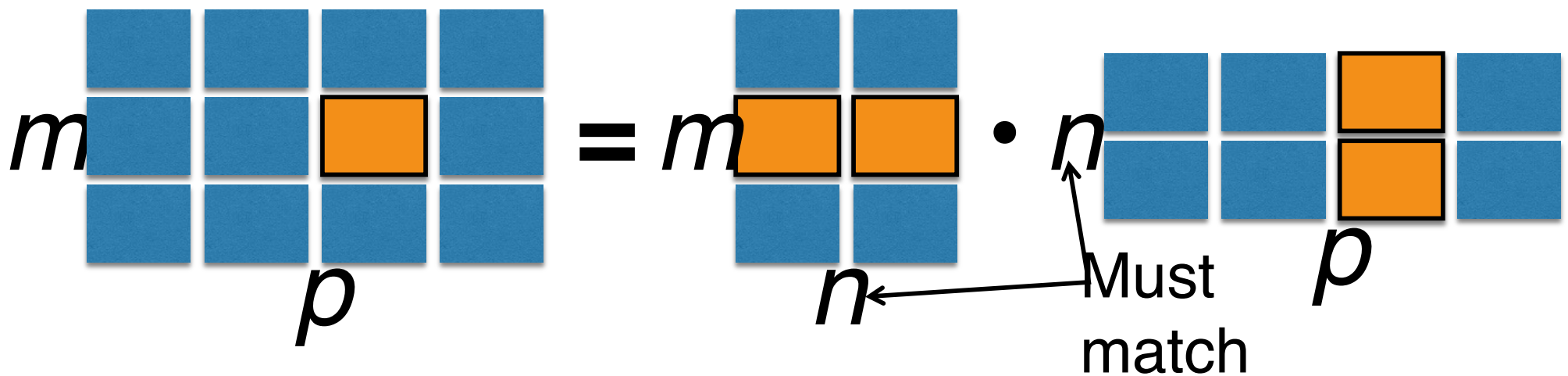
Key Idea

- Replace matrix multiplication in neural nets with convolution
- **Everything else stays the same**
 - **Maximum likelihood**
 - **Back-propagation**
 - **etc.**

Matrix (Dot) Product

$$C = AB. \quad (2.4)$$

$$C_{ij} = \sum_k A_{i,k} B_{k,j}. \quad (2.5)$$



2D Convolution

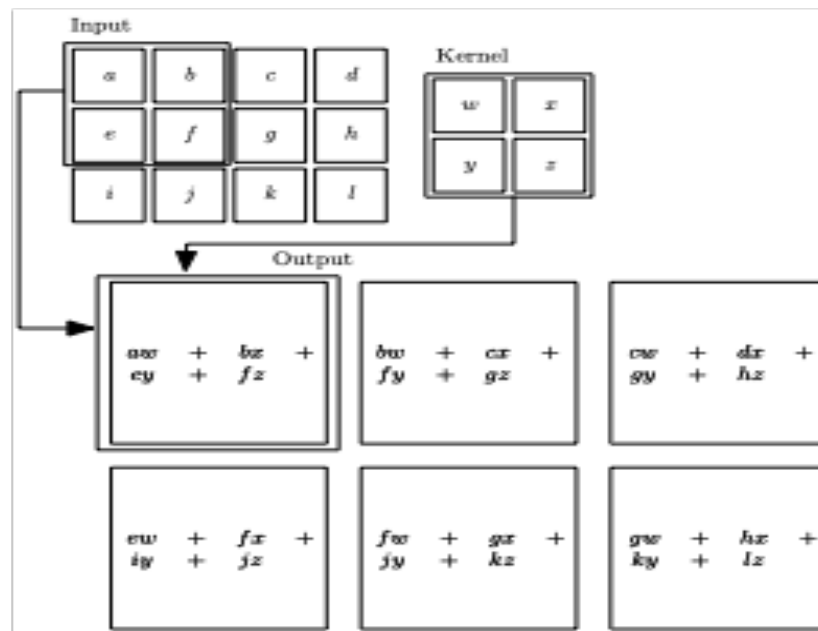


Figure 9.1

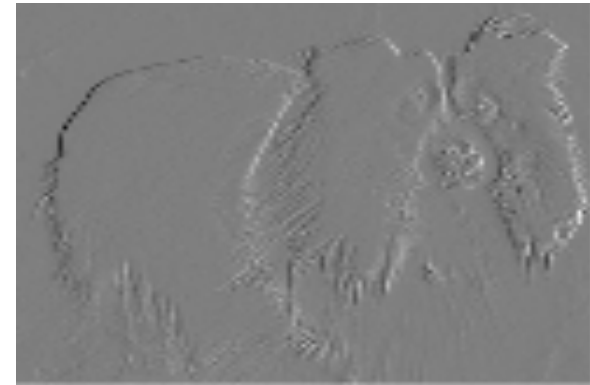
Edge Detection by Convolution



Input

1	-1
---	----

Kernel



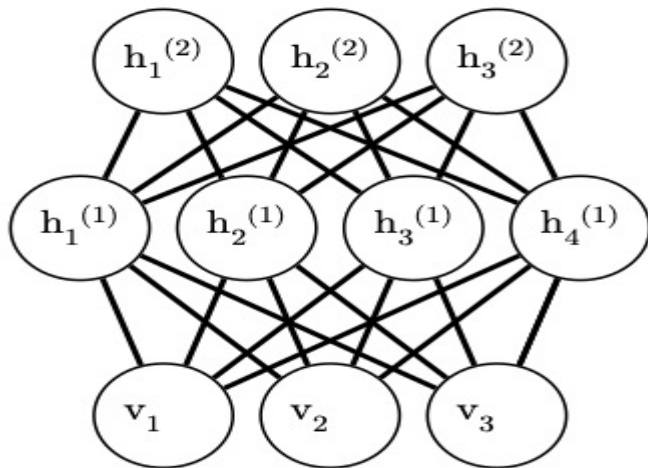
Output

Figure 9.6

Practical Methodology

What drives success in ML?

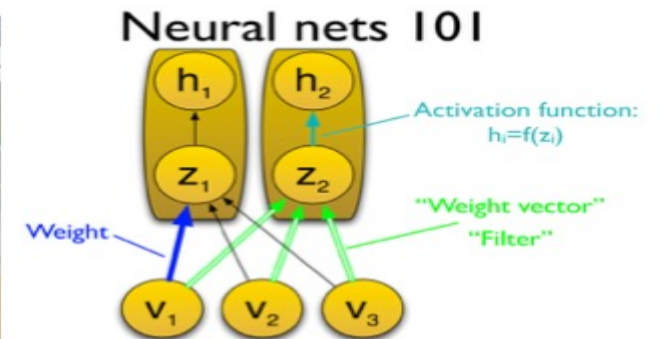
Arcane knowledge
of dozens of
obscure algorithms?



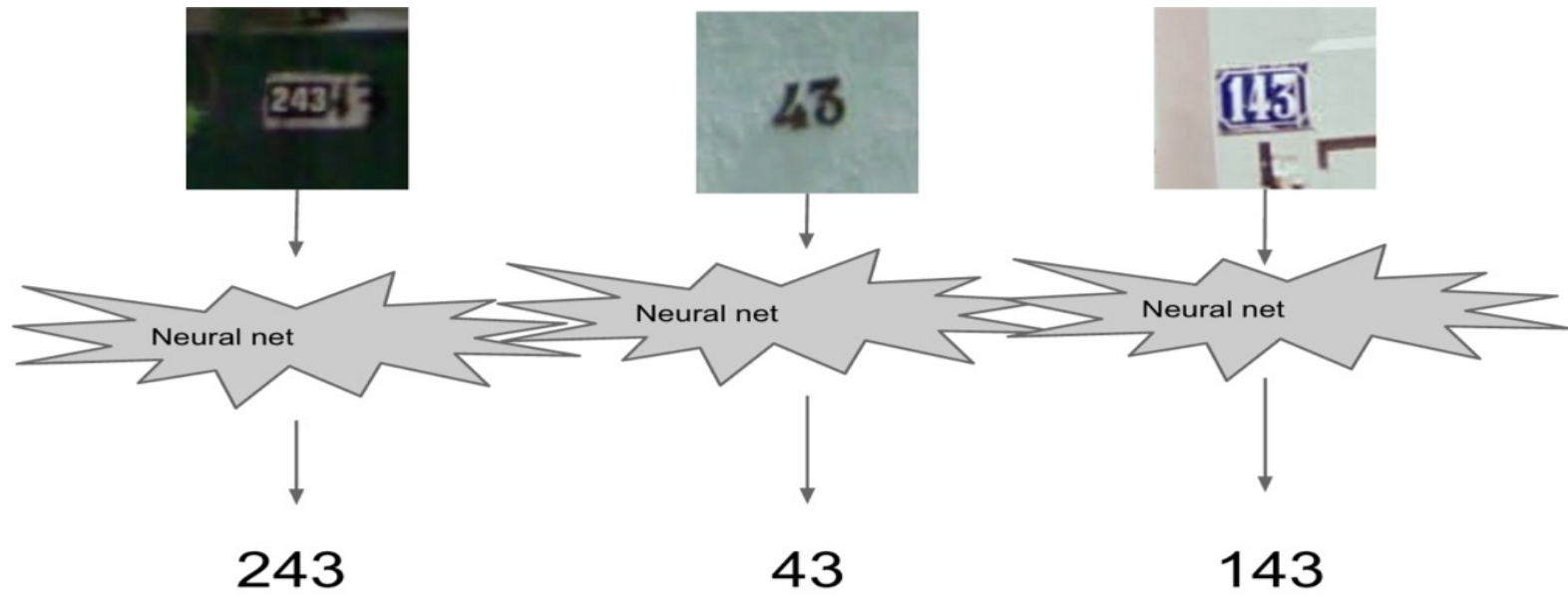
Mountains
of data?



Knowing how
to apply 3-4
standard techniques?



Example: Street View Address Number Transcription



(Goodfellow et al, 2014)

Three Step Process

- Use needs to define metric-based goals
- Build an end-to-end system
- Data-driven refinement

Identify Needs

- High accuracy or low accuracy?
- Surgery robot: high accuracy
- Celebrity look-a-like app: low accuracy

Choose Metrics

- Accuracy? (% of examples correct)
- Coverage? (% of examples processed)
- Precision? (% of detections that are right)
- Recall? (% of objects detected)
- Amount of error? (For regression problems)

End-to-end System

- Get up and running ASAP
- Build the simplest viable system first
- What baseline to start with though?
 - Copy state-of-the-art from related publication

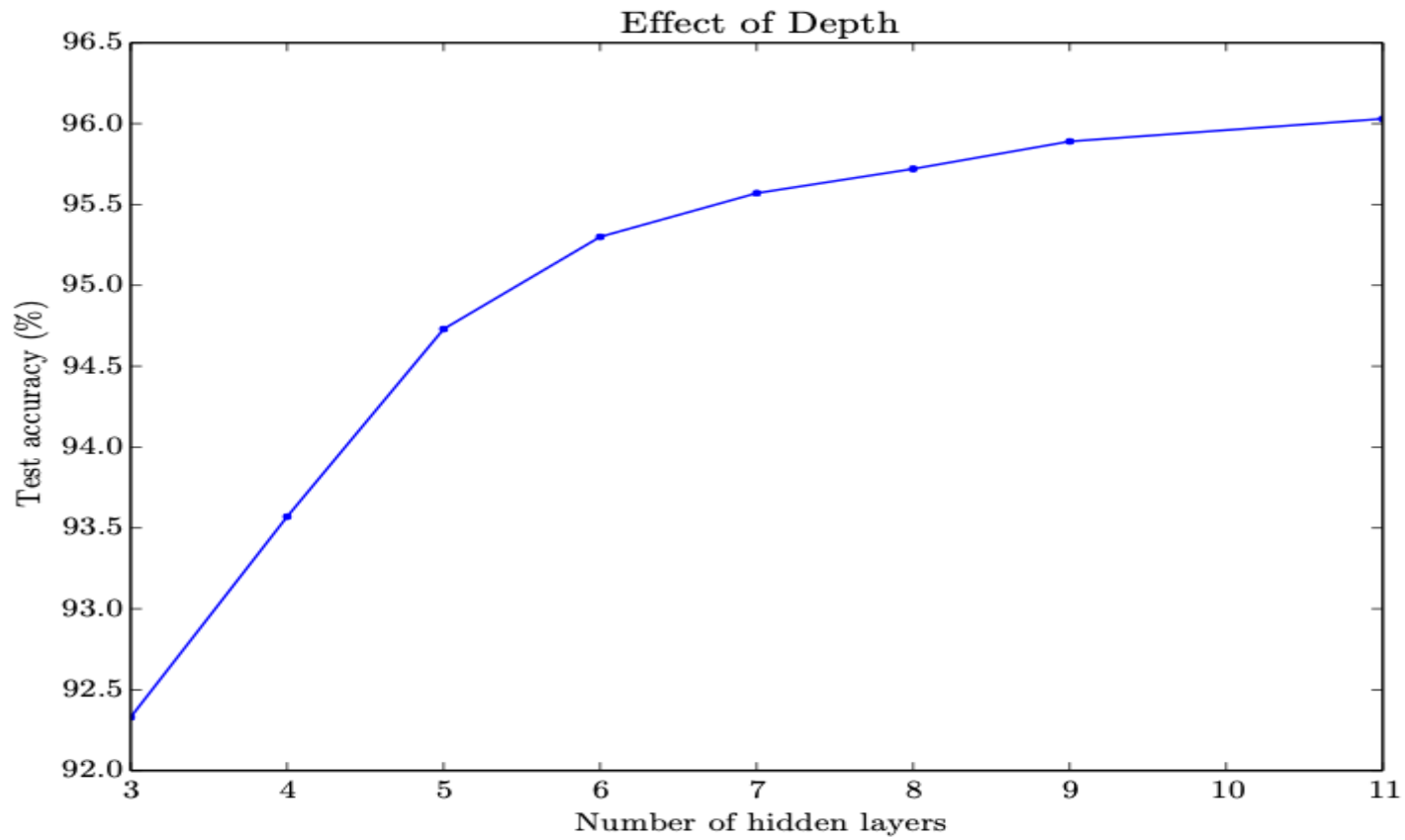
Deep or Not?

- Lots of noise, little structure -> not deep
- Little noise, complex structure -> deep
- Good shallow baseline:
 - *Use what you know*
 - Logistic regression, SVM, boosted tree are all good

Choosing Architecture Family

- No structure \rightarrow fully connected
- Spatial structure \rightarrow convolutional
- Sequential structure \rightarrow recurrent

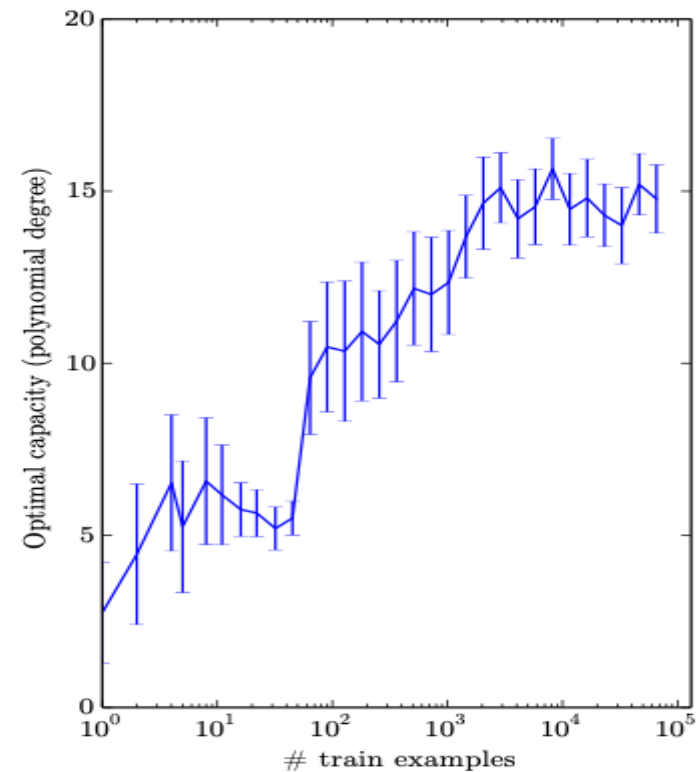
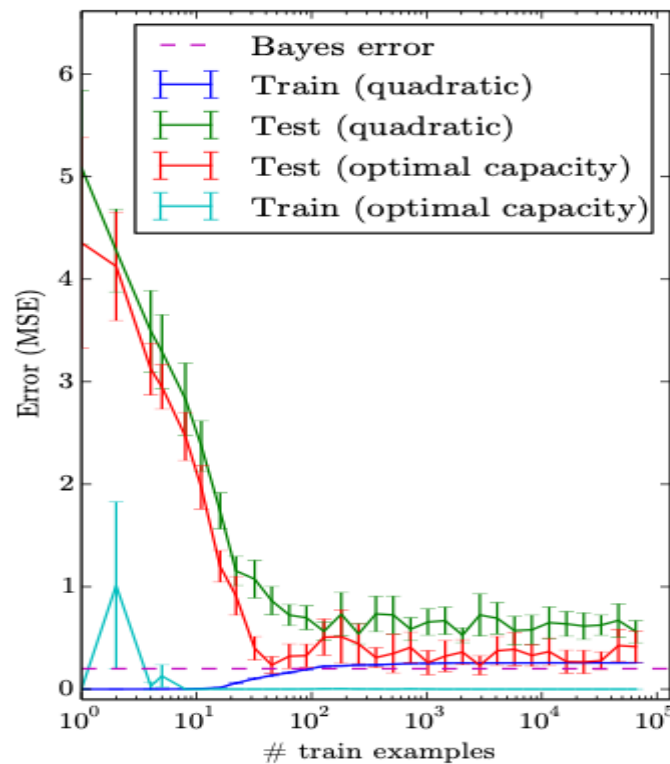
Increasing Depth



High Test Error

- Add dataset augmentation
- Add dropout
- Collect more data

Increasing Training Set Size



Tuning the Learning Rate

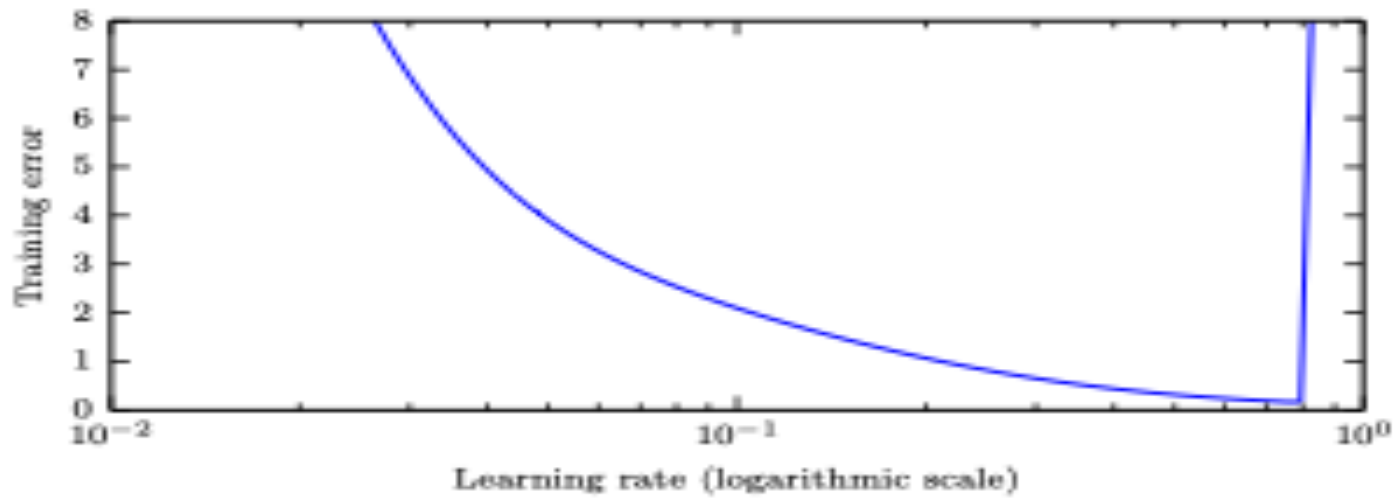


Figure 11.1

Monte Carlo Methods

Roadmap

- **Basics of Monte Carlo methods**
- **Importance Sampling**
- **Markov Chains**

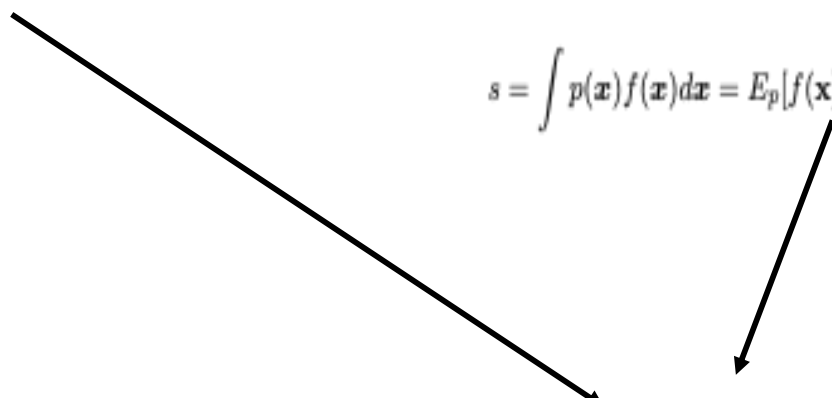
Randomized Algorithms

	Las Vegas	Monte Carlo
Type of Answer	Exact	Random amount of error
Runtime	Random (until answer found)	Chosen by user (longer runtime gives less error)

Estimating sums / integrals with samples

$$s = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x}) = E_p[f(\mathbf{x})] \quad (17.1)$$

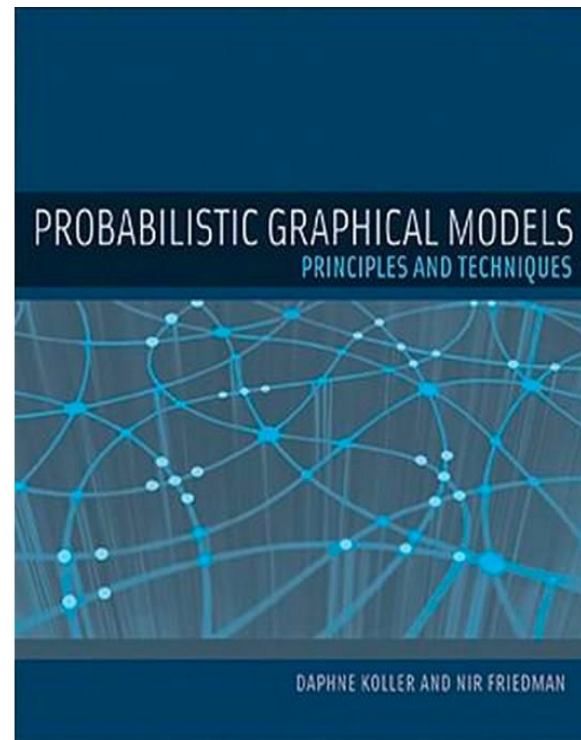
$$s = \int p(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = E_p[f(\mathbf{x})] \quad (17.2)$$


$$\hat{s}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}). \quad (17.3)$$

Justification

- **Unbiased:**
 - The expected value for finite n is equal to the correct value
 - The value for any specific n samples will have random error, but the errors for different sample sets cancel out
- **Low variance:**
 - Variance is $O(1/n)$
 - For very large n , the error converges “almost surely” to 0

For more information...



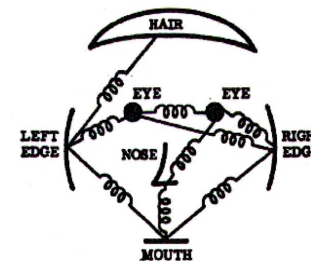
Object Categorization

Lecture slides adapted from "Object Categorization
an Overview and Two Models"

Fei Fei Li

Agenda

- Introduction to “Object Categorization”
- “Bag of Words” models
- Part-based models



object   [Pronunciation Key](#) (ˈɒbjɪkt, -jɛkt')

n.

1. Something that can be perceived by one or more of the senses, especially sight or touch; a perceptible object.
2. A focus of attention, thought, or action: *an object of curiosity*.
3. The purpose or goal of a specific action or effort: *the object of the game*.
4. Grammar.
 - a. A noun, pronoun, or noun phrase that receives or is affected by the action of a verb within a sentence.
 - b. A noun or substantive governed by a preposition.
5. Philosophy. Something intelligible or perceptible by the mind.
6. Computer Science. A discrete item that can be selected and maneuvered, such as an onscreen graphic. In object-oriented programming, objects include data and the procedures necessary to operate on that data.



perceptible



vision



material

thing

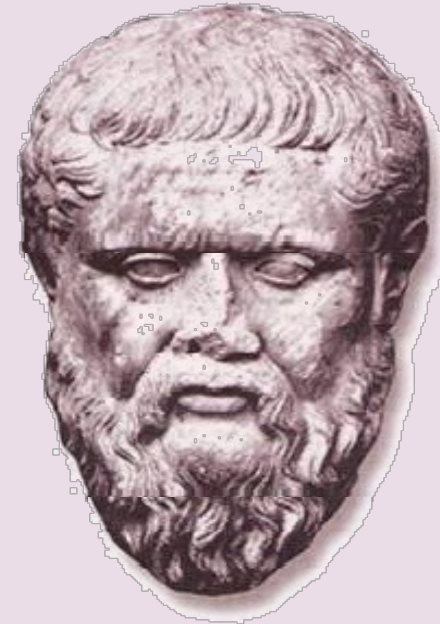
Plato said...

Ordinary objects are classified together if they `participate' in the same abstract Form, such as the Form of a Human or the Form of Quartz.

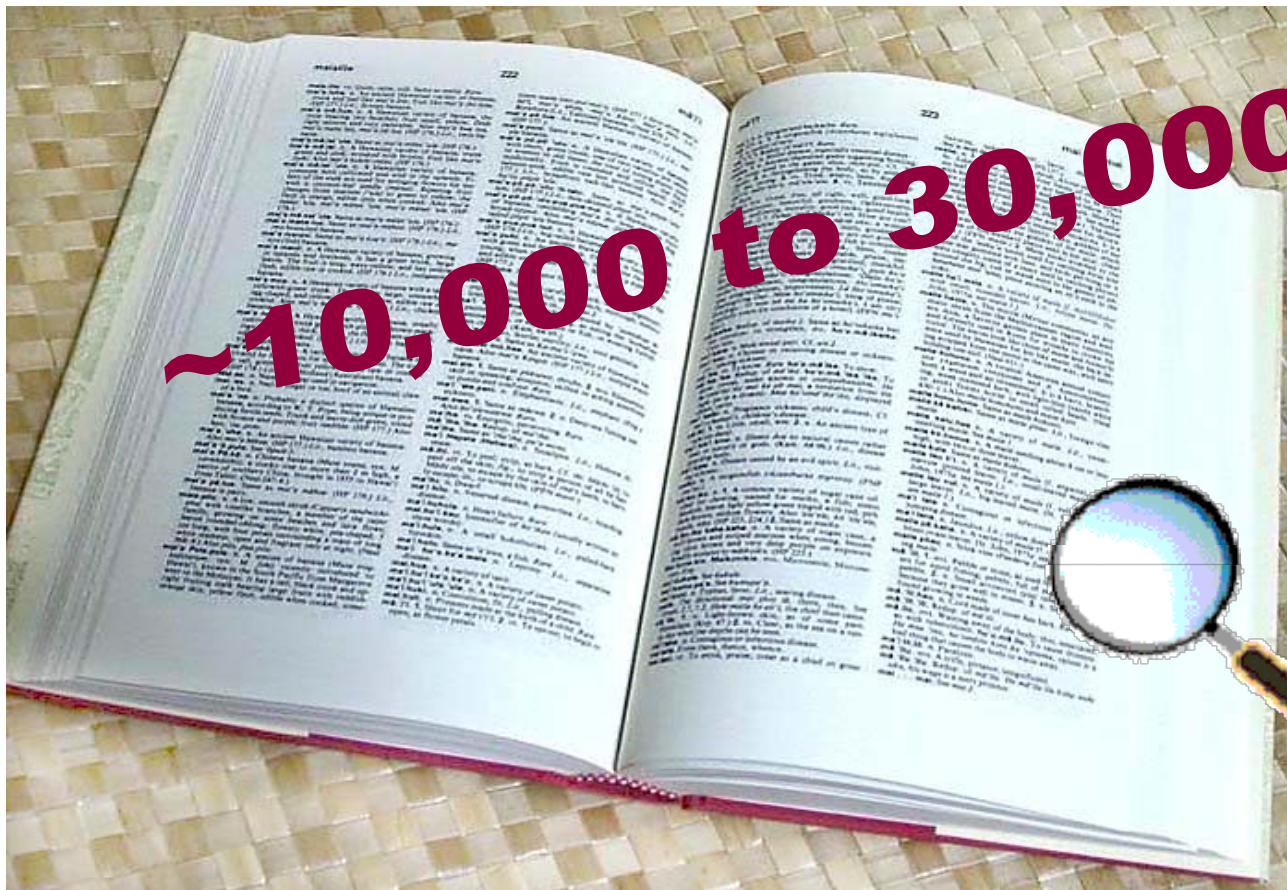
Forms are proper subjects of philosophical investigation, for they have the highest degree of reality.

Ordinary objects, such as humans, trees, and stones, have a lower degree of reality than the Forms.

Fictions, shadows, and the like have a still lower degree of reality than ordinary objects and so are not proper subjects of philosophical enquiry.



How many object categories are there?



Identification: is that Potala Palace?

Verification: is that a lamp?



Detection: are there people?

Object categorization



mountain

tree

building

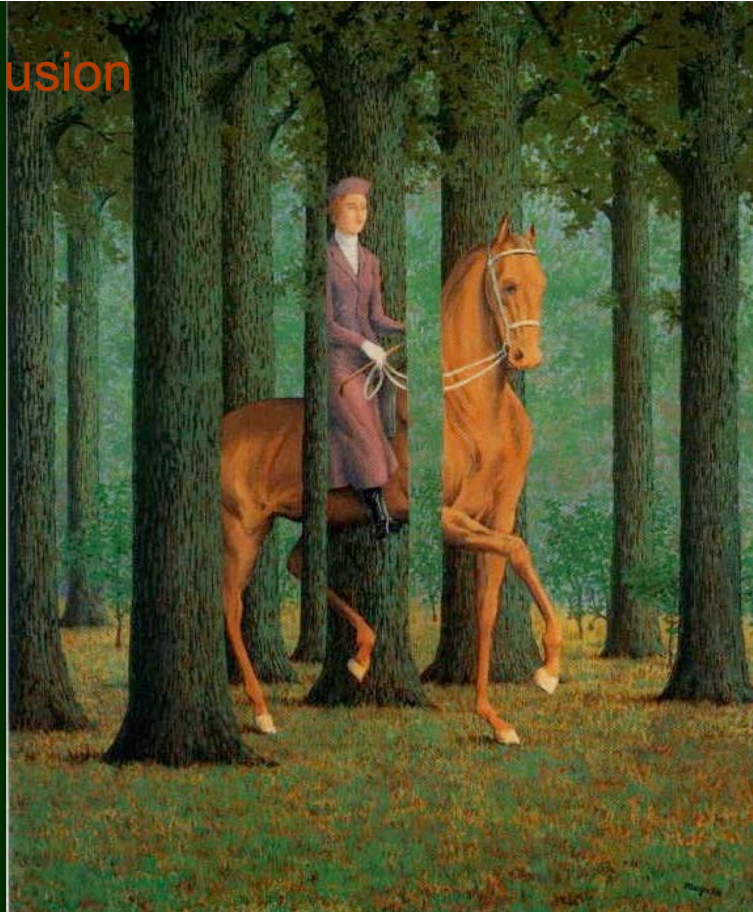
Challenges 1: view point variation



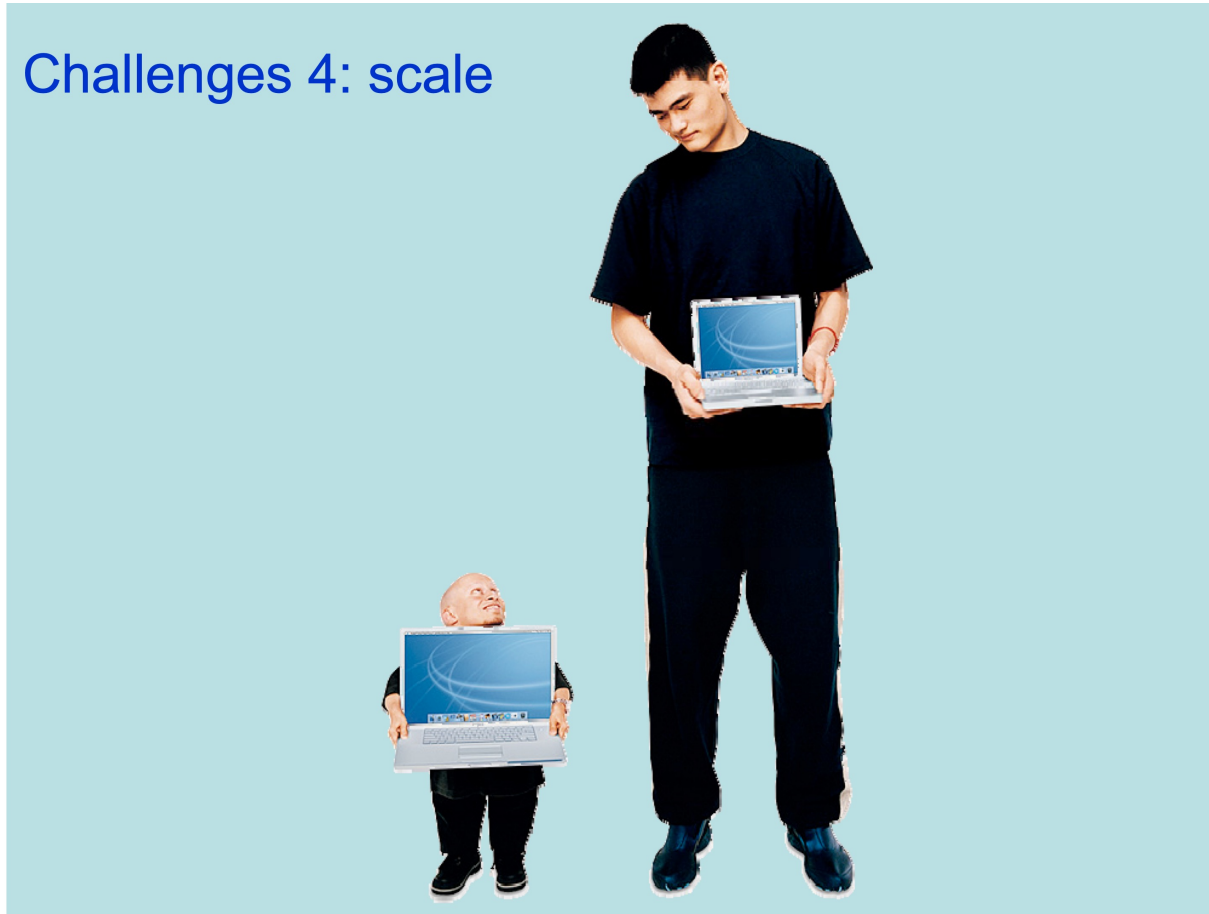
Challenges 2: illumination



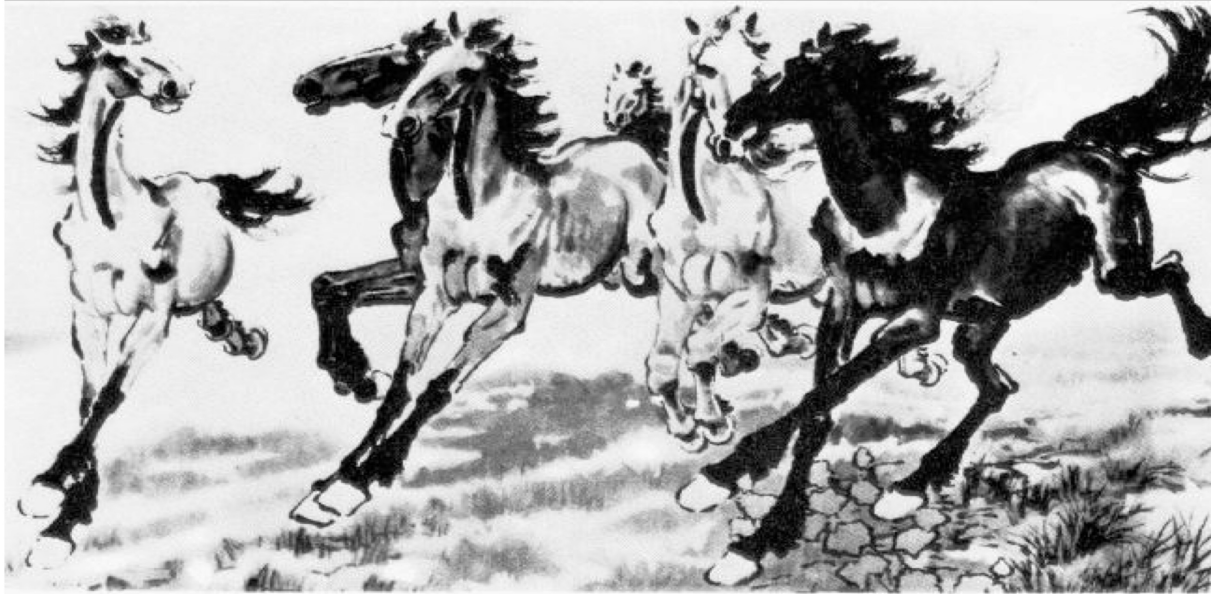
Challenges 3: occlusion



Challenges 4: scale



Challenges 5: deformation



Challenges 6: background clutter



Challenges 7: intra-class variation



erik...



a day ago

Purple Modern Chair Furniture ...
ezdelivery.co



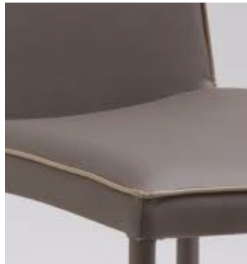
Modern chair | VENETO CHAIRS ...
styleitalia.it



White Leather Mid Century Moder...
monetex.info



April modern chair by Bontempi
habitatcasa.net



ta-particular-by ...



Modern metal chairs , BUSE...
busetto.it



BD 20 - Modern chair ...
laurameroni.com



Stilt Danish Mod Chair, Brown Aniline ...
kardiel.com · In stock



Polyhedron Origami – ORIC Chai...
marvelbuilding.com



~10,000 to 30,000

Three main issues

Representation

How to represent an object category

Learning

How to form the classifier, given training data

Recognition

How the classifier is to be used on novel data



“Bag-of-words” models

Object

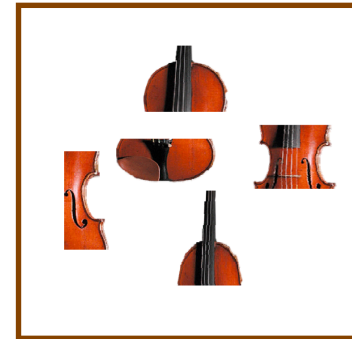
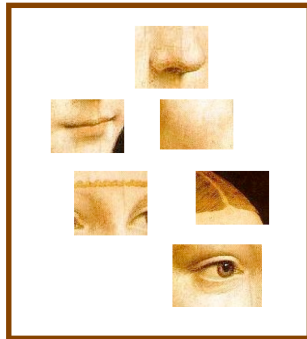


Bag of



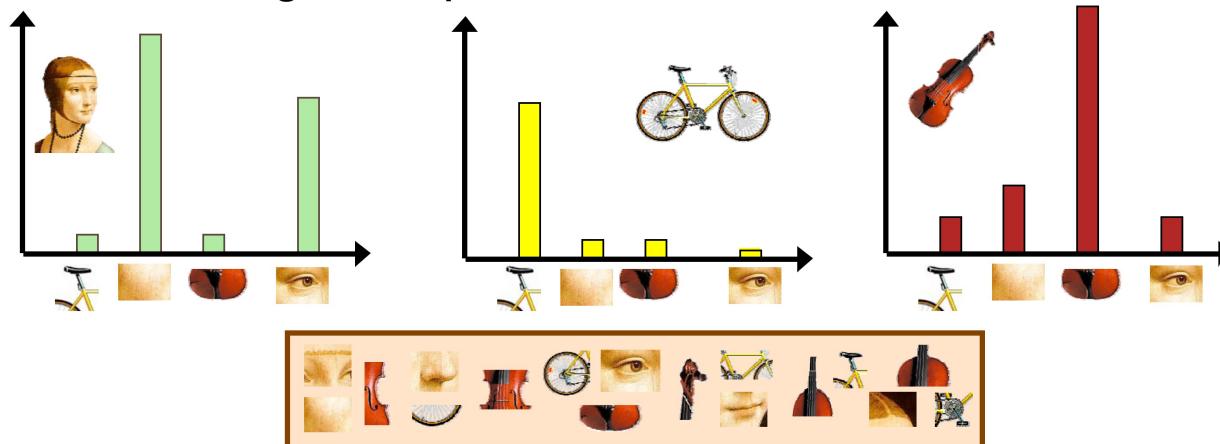
A clarification: definition of “BoW”

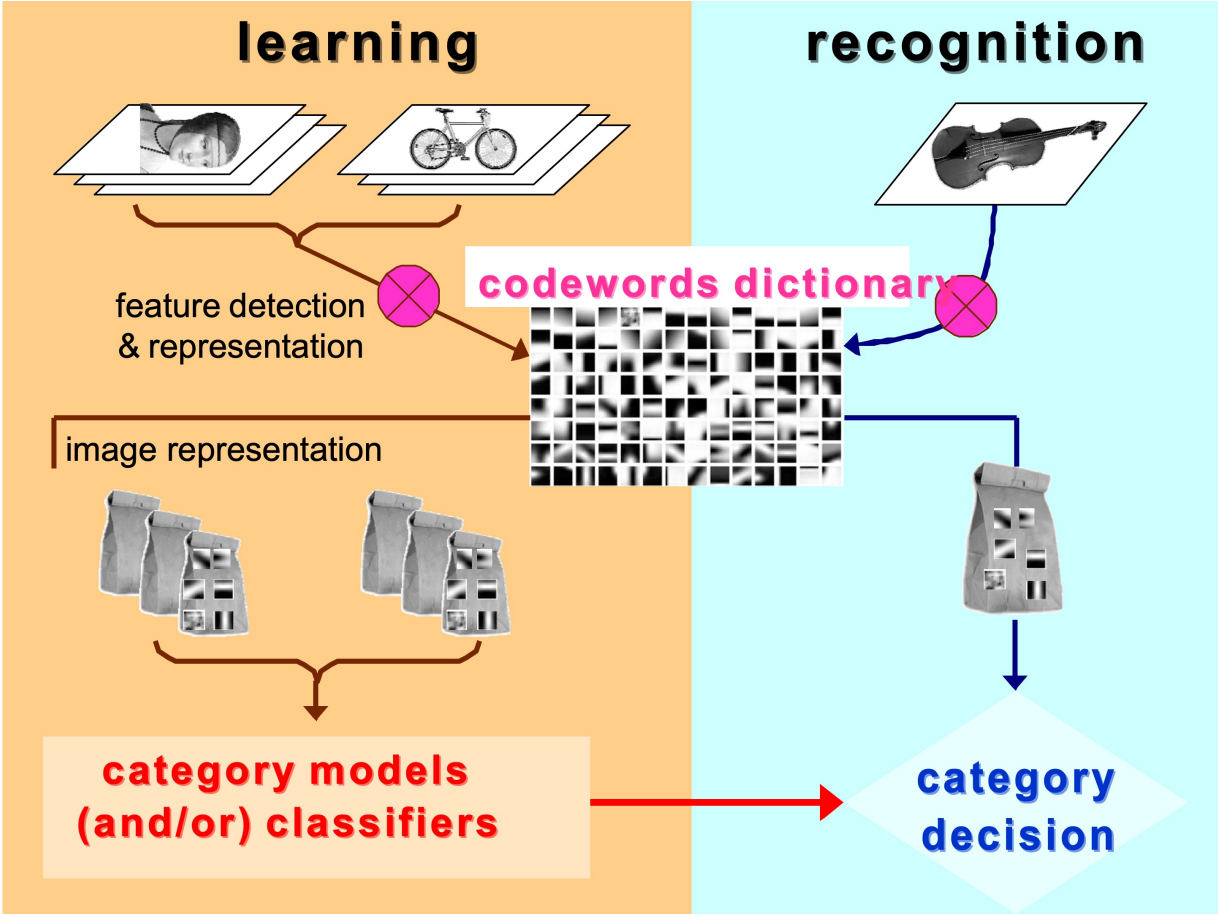
- Looser definition
 - Independent features



A clarification: definition of “BoW”

- Looser definition
 - Independent features
- Stricter definition
 - Independent features
 - histogram representation







Hints that DL ... MUST WORK

Towards a regularity theory for ReLU networks – chain rule and global error estimates

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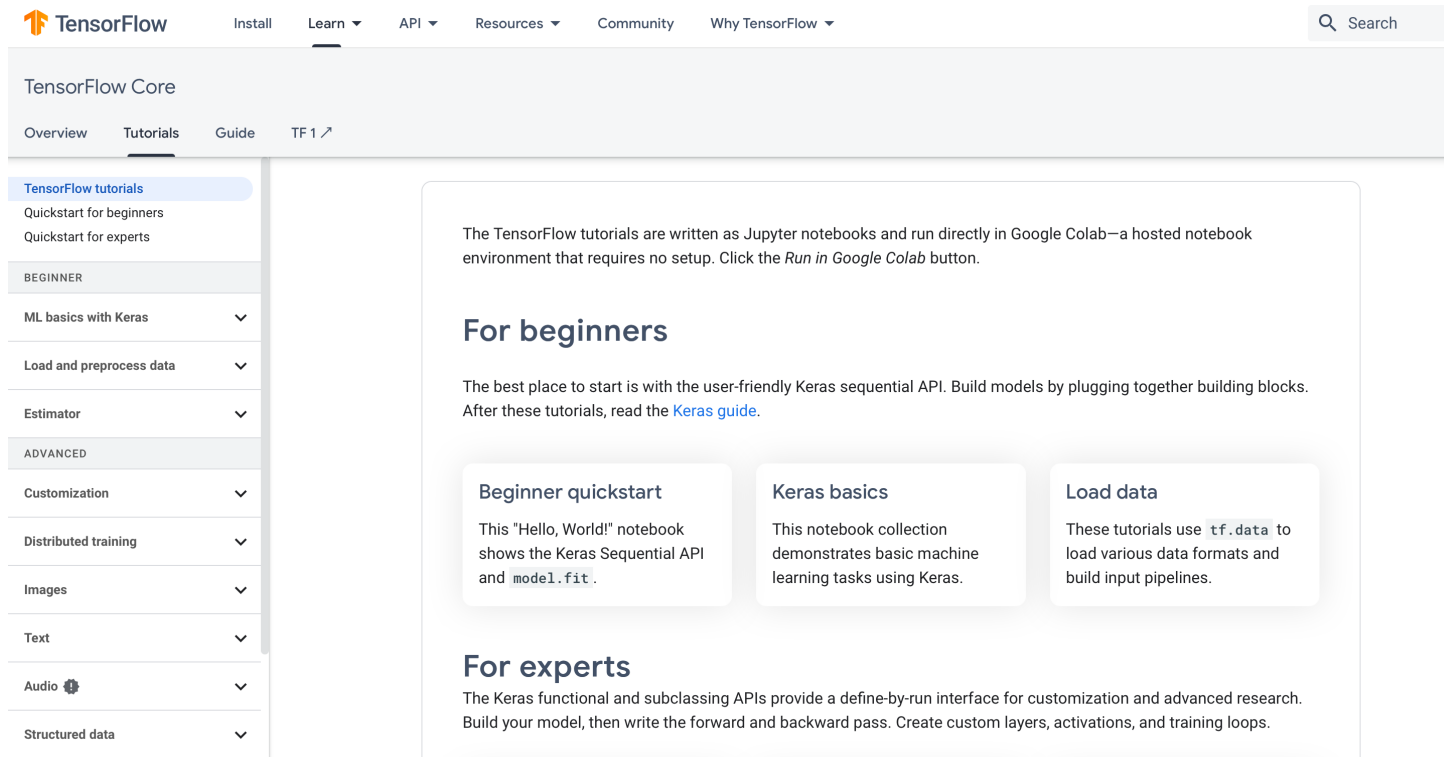
Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zürich, Switzerland

Abstract—Although for neural networks with locally Lipschitz continuous activation functions the classical derivative exists almost everywhere, the standard chain rule is in general not applicable. We will consider a way of introducing a derivative for neural networks that admits a chain rule, which is both rigorous and easy to work with. In addition we will present a method of converting approximation results on bounded domains to global (pointwise) estimates. This can be used to extend known neural network approximation theory to include the study of regularity properties. Of particular interest is the application to neural networks with ReLU activation function, where it contributes to the understanding of the success of deep learning methods for high-dimensional partial differential equations.

a way that admits a chain rule which is both rigorous as well as easy to work with. Chain rules for functions which are not everywhere differentiable have been considered in a more general setting in e.g. [16], [17]. We employ the specific structure of neural networks to get stronger results using simpler arguments. In particular it allows for a stability result, i.e. Lemma III.3, the application of which will be discussed in Section V. We would also like to mention a very recent work [18] about approximation in Sobolev norms, where they deal with the issue by using a general bound for the Sobolev norm of the composition of functions from the Sobolev space $W^{1,\infty}$.

S.LGJ 13 May 2019

Try Deep Learning by yourself!



The screenshot shows the TensorFlow Core website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the TensorFlow logo, 'Install', 'Learn', 'API', 'Resources', 'Community', and 'Why TensorFlow'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'TensorFlow Core'. The main content area is divided into two sections: a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains a 'TensorFlow tutorials' section with links for 'Quickstart for beginners' and 'Quickstart for experts'. Below this, there are sections for 'BEGINNER' and 'ADVANCED' tutorials, each with a list of topics and a dropdown arrow. The main content area features a paragraph explaining that the TensorFlow tutorials are written as Jupyter notebooks and run in Google Colab. It then has a section for 'For beginners' with a paragraph and three cards: 'Beginner quickstart', 'Keras basics', and 'Load data'. Each card contains a brief description of the tutorial. Finally, there is a section for 'For experts' with a paragraph.

TensorFlow

Install Learn API Resources Community Why TensorFlow

Search

TensorFlow Core

Overview Tutorials Guide TF 1

TensorFlow tutorials

Quickstart for beginners

Quickstart for experts

BEGINNER

ML basics with Keras

Load and preprocess data

Estimator

ADVANCED

Customization

Distributed training

Images

Text

Audio

Structured data

The TensorFlow tutorials are written as Jupyter notebooks and run directly in Google Colab—a hosted notebook environment that requires no setup. Click the *Run in Google Colab* button.

For beginners

The best place to start is with the user-friendly Keras sequential API. Build models by plugging together building blocks. After these tutorials, read the [Keras guide](#).

Beginner quickstart

This "Hello, World!" notebook shows the Keras Sequential API and `model.fit`.

Keras basics

This notebook collection demonstrates basic machine learning tasks using Keras.

Load data

These tutorials use `tf.data` to load various data formats and build input pipelines.

For experts

The Keras functional and subclassing APIs provide a define-by-run interface for customization and advanced research. Build your model, then write the forward and backward pass. Create custom layers, activations, and training loops.

<https://www.tensorflow.org/tutorials>

Well,...

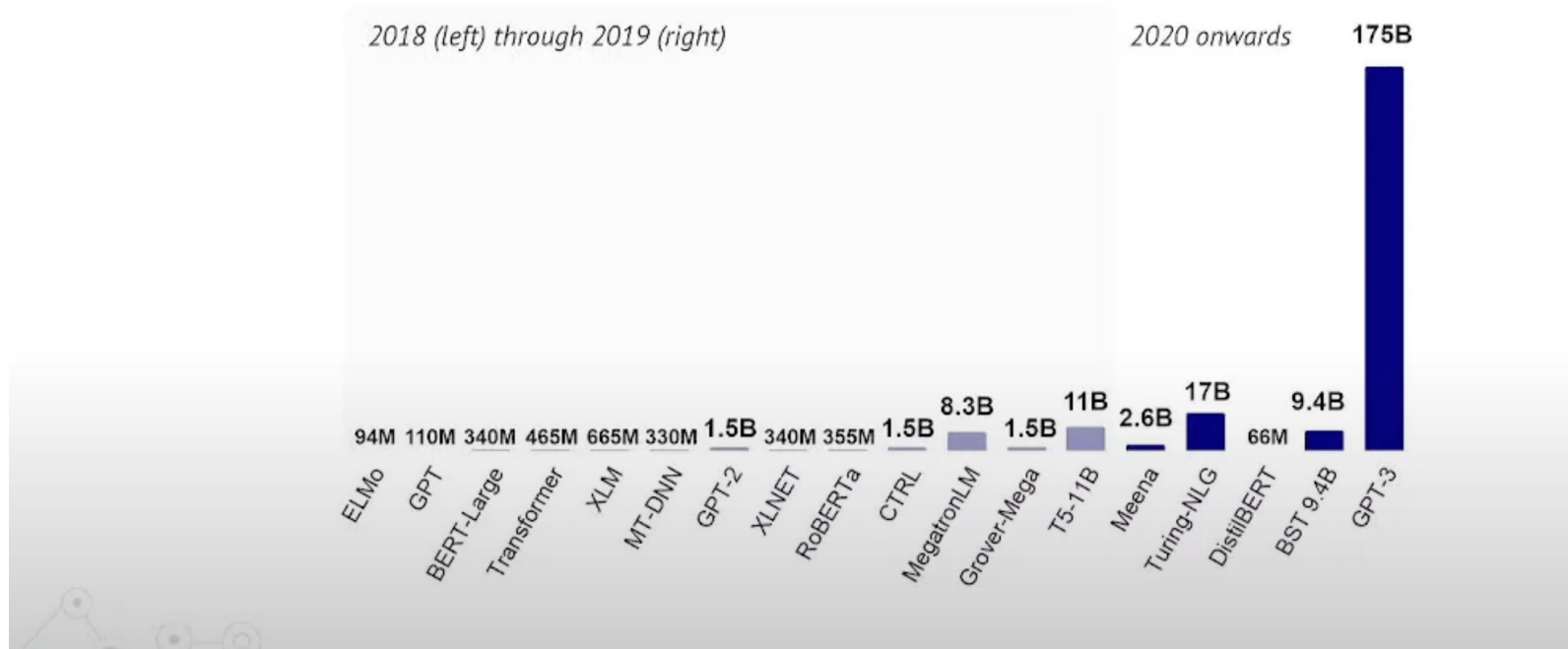
State of AI – some considerations

- The “billion” parameters club → how large, up to 175B these days!
- Cost (more later), about \$1 per 1000 parameters
- Interesting: outrageous cost for incremental improvement
 - Need research and theory
 - We can be more efficient in training algorithms
- Large models are driven by efficiency with small data
 - Sometimes... with transfer learning
- Power-law → parameter & computational power do not scale linearly (which is bad!)

(stolen from Giorgio Metta)

Well,...

The "billion" parameter club



(stolen from Giorgio Metta)

Looking for new paths forward...

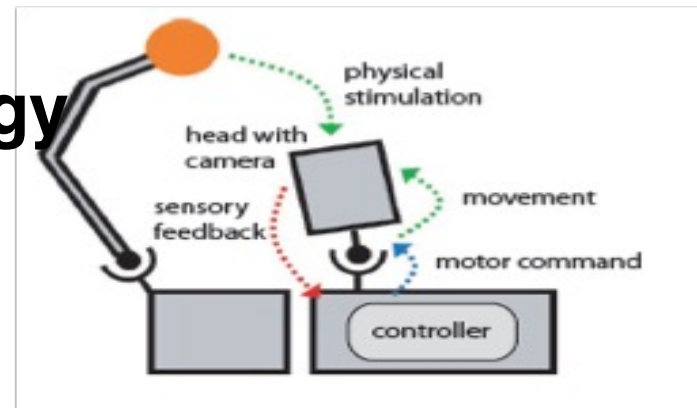
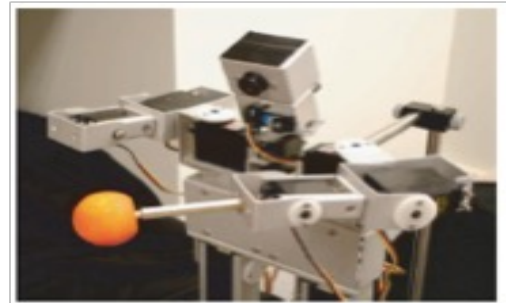
For example: **Information self-structuring**

- Experiments:

- Lungarella and Sporns, 2006

Mapping information flow in sensorimotor networks

PLoS Computational Biology



Lungarella,
Sporns (2006)

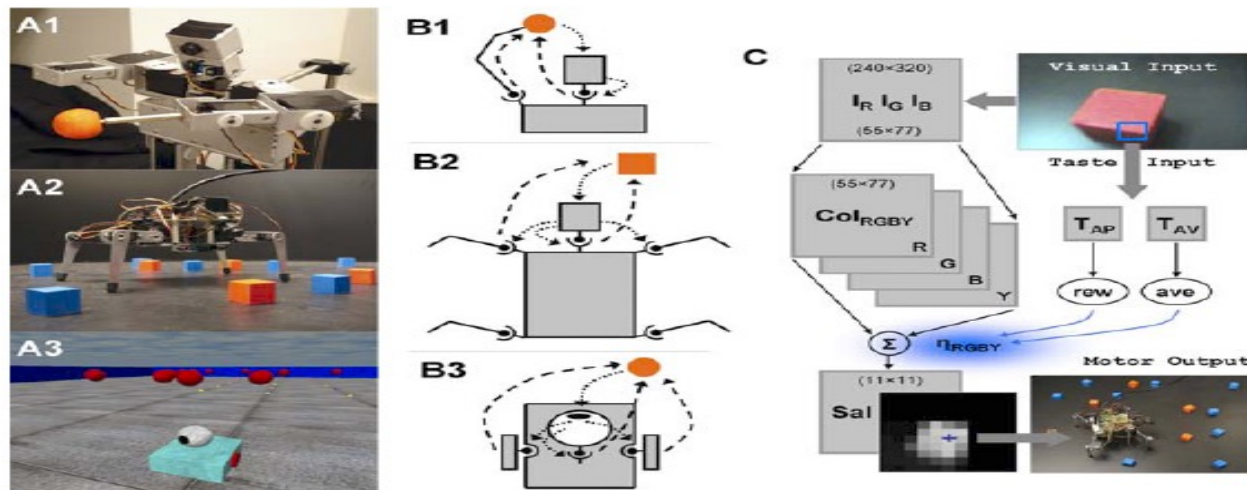


Figure 1. Robots, Sensorimotor Interactions, and Neural Control Architecture

(A1) *Roboto* has a total of 14 DOF, five of which are used in the current set of experiments. Note the head-mounted CCD camera, the pan-tilt head system (2 DOF), and the moveable left arm with shoulder, elbow, and wrist joints (3 DOF). The object is a red ball (1.25 inches diameter) attached to the tip of the last joint.

(A2) *Strider* has a total of 14 DOF, with four legs of 3 DOF each and 2 DOF in the pan-tilt head system. Objects are red and blue blocks (1 inch cubes). *Strider* is situated in an environmental enclosure with black walls.

(A3) *Madame* has 4 DOF, with 2 DOF in the pan-tilt system and 2 DOF for the wheels, which are both located on an axis vertical to the main body axis. The environment is a square arena bounded by blue walls containing 20 red-colored floating spheres.

(B1) *Roboto* engages in sensorimotor interactions via the head system and arm movements; sensory \rightarrow motor (dotted arrows), motor \rightarrow sensory (dashed arrows).

(B2) *Strider* engages in sensorimotor interactions via the head system, as well as via steering signals generated by the head and transmitted to the four legs.

(B3) *Madame's* behavior consists of a series of approaches to colored objects and ovals. Fixations to the objects are maintained by independent action of head and body.

(C) Neural control architecture. The architecture common to all robots is composed of color image arrays I_R, I_G, I_B , color-intensity map Col_{RGBY} , and saliency map Sal (see text for details). The peak of the saliency map (blue cross) determines the pan-tilt camera motion and body steering. In addition, *Strider's* neural system contains a value system with taste sensory inputs relayed via a virtual taste sensor (blue square in visual image) to taste neurons ($T_{AP, AV}$), which in turn generates reward and aversiveness signals (rew, ave). These signals are used to modulate the strengths of the saliency factors I_{RGBY} (see text for details).

DOI: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.0020144.g001

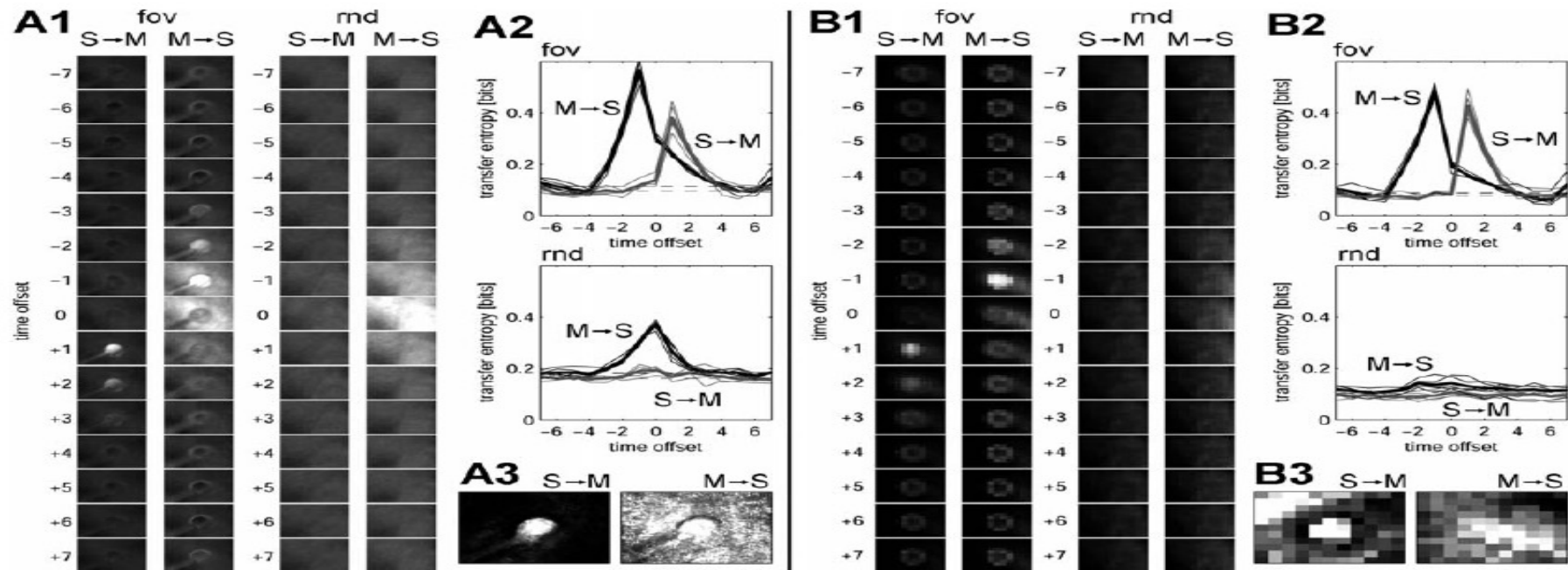


Figure 3. Information Flow (Transfer Entropy) between Sensory Input, Neural Representation of Saliency, and Motor Variables in *Roboto*

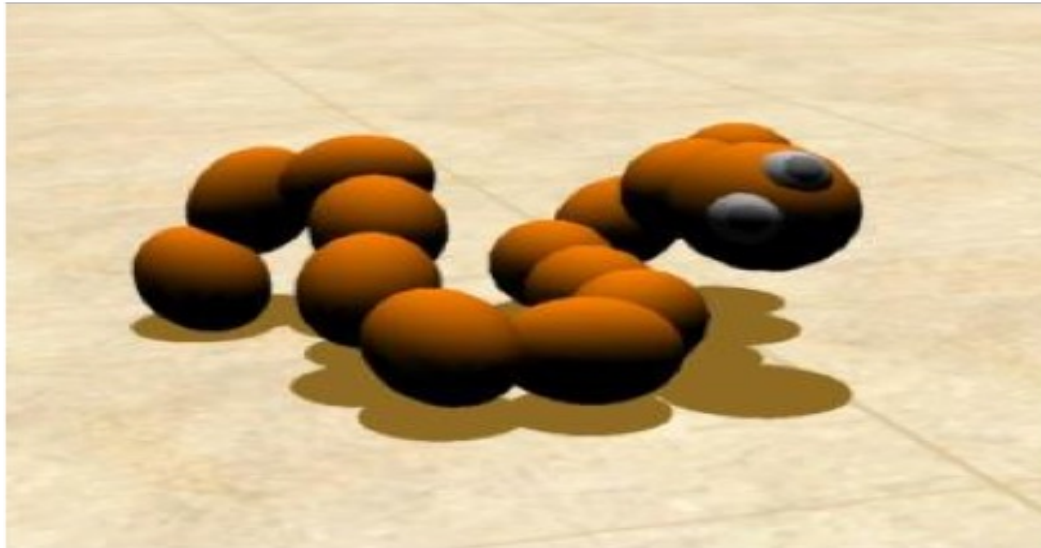
(A1) Transfer entropy between array I_R (variable S) and pan-tilt amplitude (variable M). Series of plots show maps of transfer entropy from S to M (S \rightarrow M) and from M to S (M \rightarrow S) over visual space (55×77 pixels), calculated for offsets between -7 ("M leading S") and $+7$ ("S leading M") time steps. Plots show data for conditions "fov" and "rnd." The gray scale ranges from 0.0 to 0.5 bits (for all plots in panels A1 and B1).

(A2) Curves show transfer entropy for five individual runs (thin lines) as well as the average over five runs (thick lines) between the single central pixel of array I_R (S) and pan-tilt amplitude (M), for directions M \rightarrow S (black) and S \rightarrow M (gray).

(A3) z-Score maps of significant image regions (plotted between $z = 0$ and $z = 6$). The z-scores are expressed as number of standard deviations above background at time offset $+1$ (S \rightarrow M) and -1 (M \rightarrow S). Mean and standard deviation of background is calculated from transfer entropy values at maximal time delays ($-7, +7$ time steps).

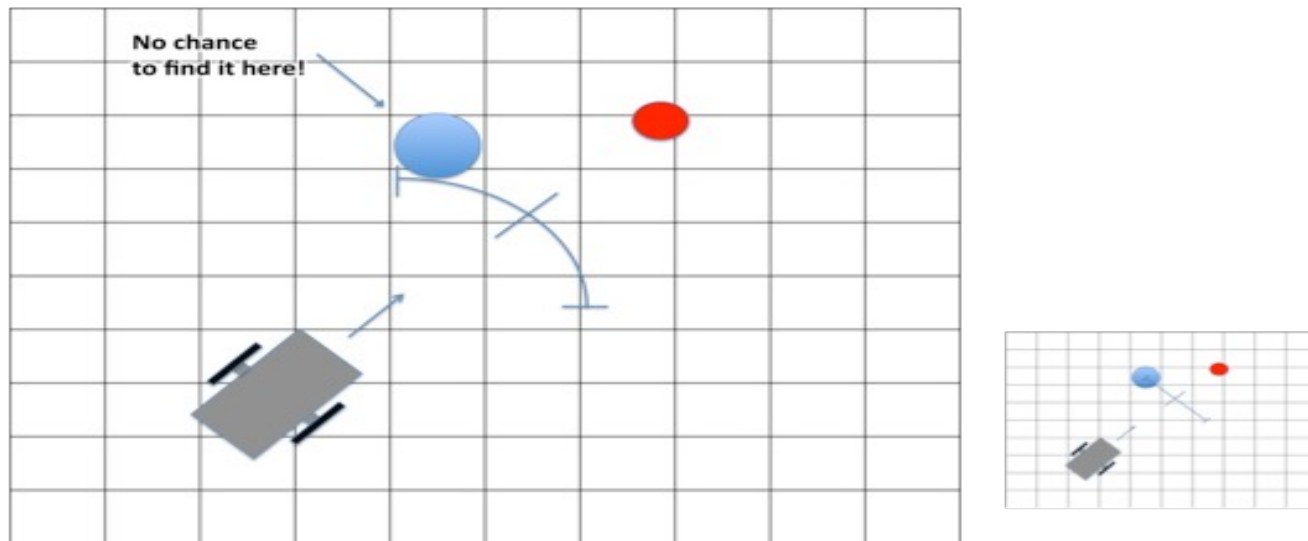
(B) All three panels have the same format as (A), but the neural activations of the saliency map Sal are substituted as variable S (11×11 neural units). DOI: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.0020144.g003

Snakebot



see: **Tanev et. al, IEEE TRO, 2005**

Maybe not GOF Euclidean space? :-)

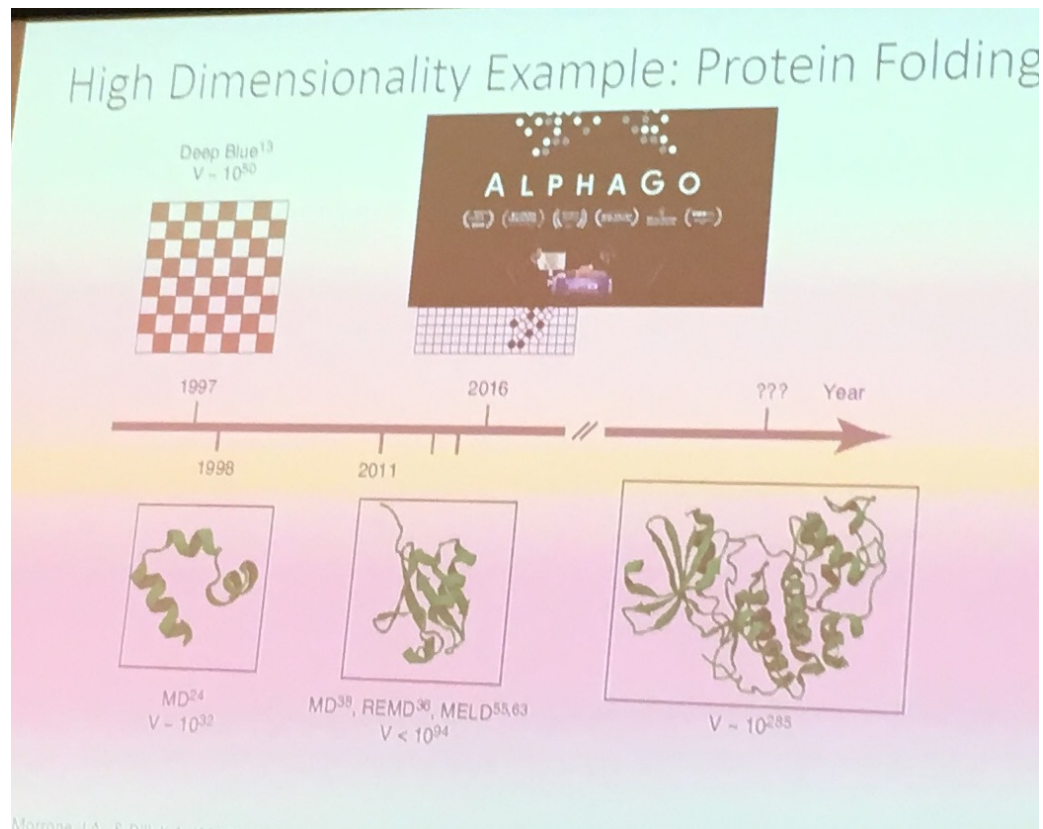


see: **Bonsignorio, Artificial Life, 2013**

Bottom Line: Physics Matters!

Coping with the common underlying theoretical issues implied by the application of ML and DL to physical systems might have deep and wide scientific and technological impact

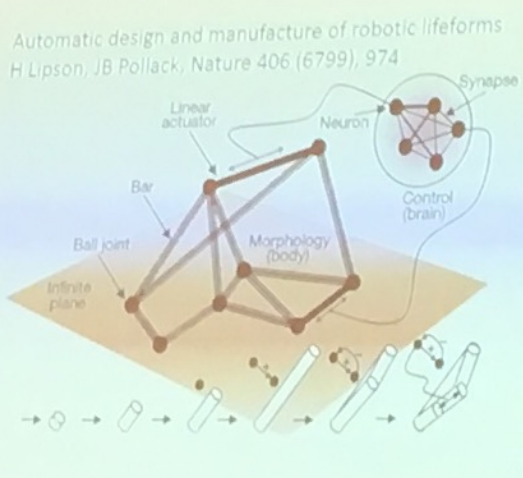
Bottom Line: Physics Matters!



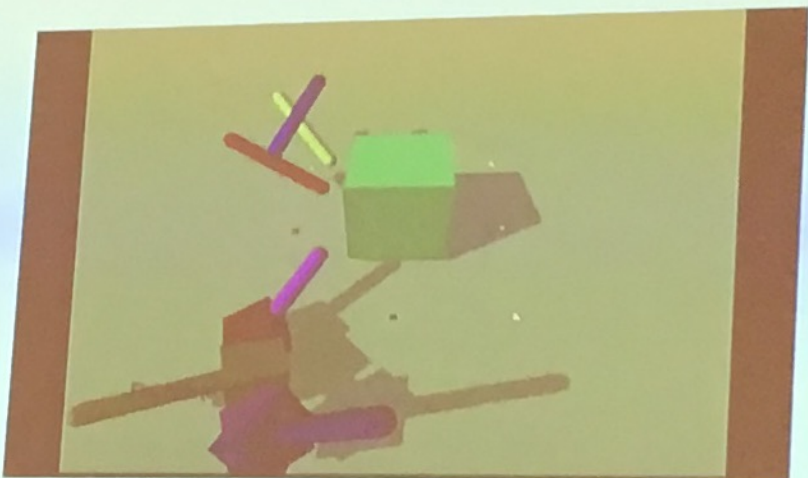
Bottom Line: Physics Matters!

It does not have to be a problem that is only solvable by ML, as long as it is cheaper and faster by ML

Automatic design and manufacture of robotic lifeforms
H Lipson, JB Pollack, Nature 406 (6799), 974



The diagram on the left illustrates the components and assembly of a robotic lifeform. It features a 3D model of a robot with a 'Morphology (body)' made of interconnected bars and joints. Labels include 'Linear actuator', 'Bar', 'Ball joint', 'Infinite plane', 'Neuron', 'Synapse', and 'Control (brain)'. Below the 3D model is a sequence of small images showing the step-by-step assembly of the robot's body parts.



The image on the right is a 3D rendering of a robotic lifeform, showing a complex, multi-limbed structure with various colored components (purple, yellow, green, red) and a central green cube-like body, set against a dark background.

G2NET
COST ACTION CA17137 — A network for Gravitational Waves, Geophysics and Machine Learning

Two views of intelligence

classical:
cognition as computation



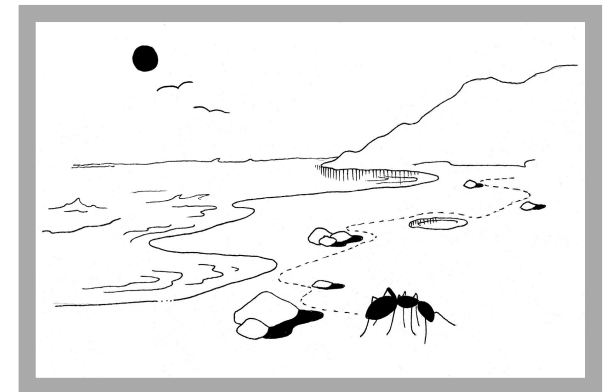
embodiment:
**cognition emergent from sensory-
motor and interaction processes**



“Frame-of-reference”

Simon’s ant on the beach

- **simple behavioral rules**
- **complexity in interaction,
not — necessarily — in brain**



thought experiment:
increase body by factor of 1000
everything else the same

The “symbol grounding” problem

real world:
doesn't come
with labels ...

How to put the
labels??



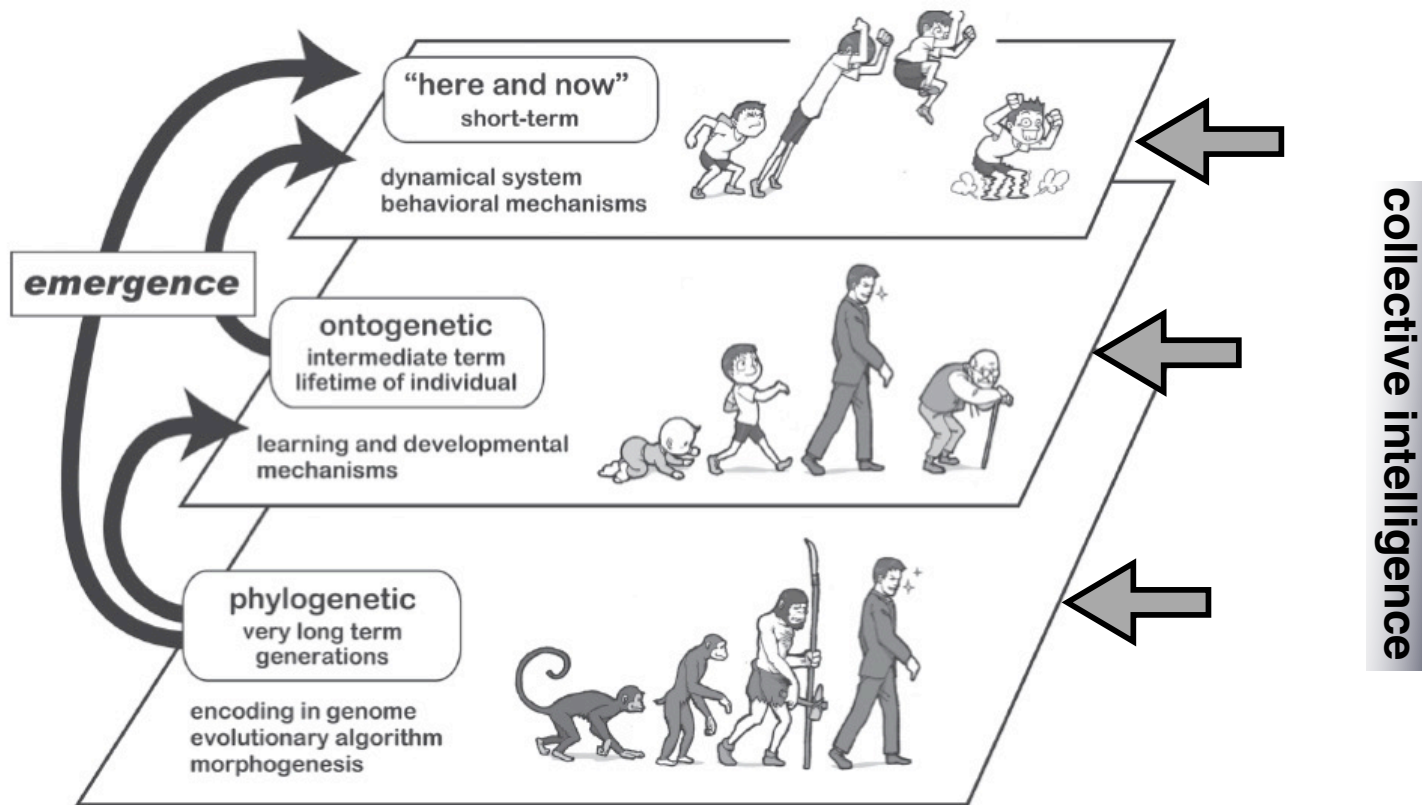
"Now! ... *That* should clear up
a few things around here!"

Gary Larson

Self-organization and emergence at many levels

- **molecules**
- **cells**
- **organs**
- **individuals**
- **groups of individuals**

Time perspectives



Today's Guest Lecture

**10:10 Yulia Sandamirskaya,
Intel Germany, Munich, Germany
«Neuromorphic Computing»**

Stay tuned!



Assignments for next week

- **Check “How the body...” for self-study**
- **Think about how ... deep learning...vs. evolutionary programming... vs ... symbolic approaches...play with tensorflow (or similar)STUDENTS’ PREZ ALWAYS WELCOME.**

End of lecture 5

Thank you for your attention!

stay tuned for lecture 6

“Embodied Intelligence: principles and open issues»



Short Bio

The ShanghAI Lectures 2013-



Prof. Fabio Bonsignorio is **ERA Chair in AI for Robotics** at FER, University of Zagreb, Croatia. He is **Founder and CEO of Heron Robots (advanced robotics solutions)**, see www.heronrobots.com. He has been visiting professor at the **Biorobotic Institute of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa from 2014 to 2019**. He has been a professor in the Department of System Engineering and Automation at the **University Carlos III of Madrid until 2014**. In 2009 he got the **Santander Chair of Excellence in Robotics** at the same university. He has been working for some 20 years in the high tech industry before joining the research community.

He is a **pioneer and has introduced the topic of Reproducibility of results in Robotics and AI**. He is a **pioneer in the application of the blockchain to robotics and AI (smart cities, smart land, smart logistics, circular economy)**. He coordinates the **Topic Group of euRobotics** about **Experiment Replication, Benchmarking, Challenges and Competitions**. He is **co-chair of the IEEE Robotics & Automation Society (RAS) Technical Committee, TC-PEBRAS (PERformance and Benchmarking of Robotics and Autonomous Systems)**.

He is a **Distinguished Lecturer for IEEE Robotics and Automation Society**, Senior Member of IEEE and member of the Order of the Engineers of Genoa, Italy.

He coordinates the task force robotics, in the G2net, an EU network studying the application of **Machine Learning and Deep Learning (Apprendimento Profondo) to Gravitational wave research, la Geophysics and Robotics**.

Has given invited seminars and talks in many places: **MIT Media Lab, Max Planck Institute, Imperial College, Politecnico di Milano in Shenzhen, London, Madrid, Warsaw, San Petersburg, Seoul, Rio Grande do Sul...**

Thank you!

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Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing
Laboratory for Autonomous Systems and Mobile Robotics



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www.heronrobots.com