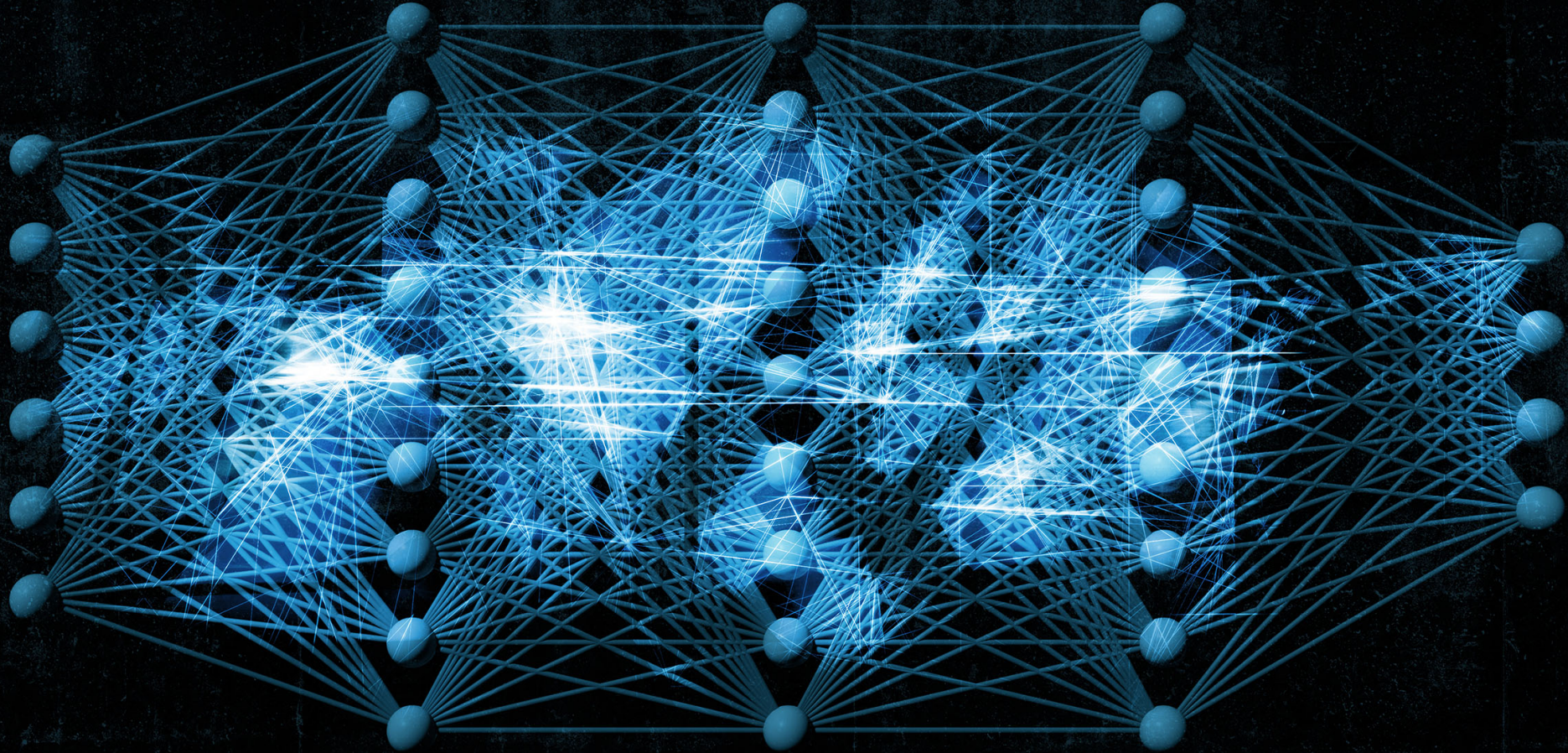


# NeuroCAD for Spiking Neural Network



Bidirectional Interleaved Complementary Hierarchical Neural Networks

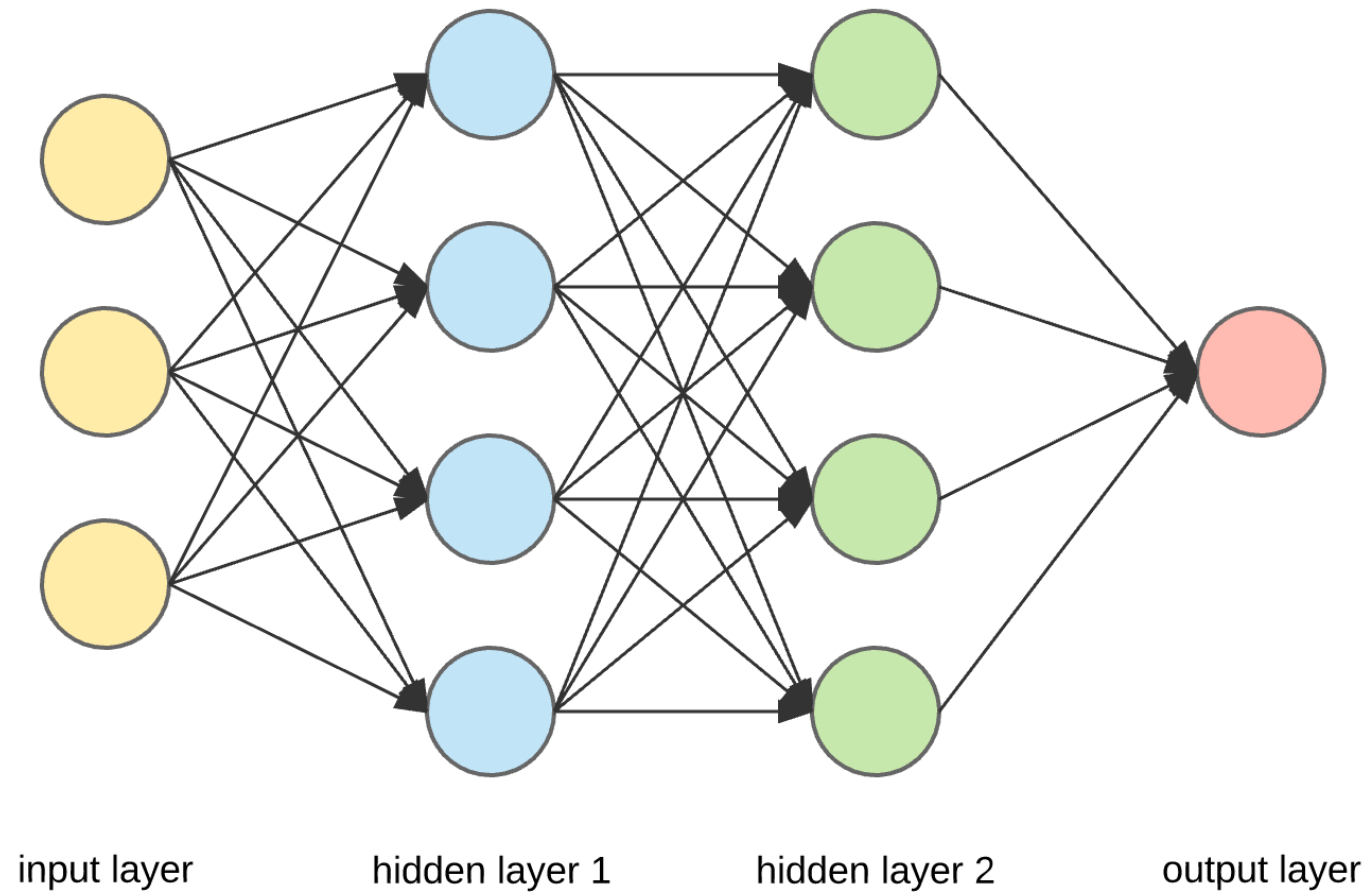
Brent Oster, SinduKumari, ORBAI



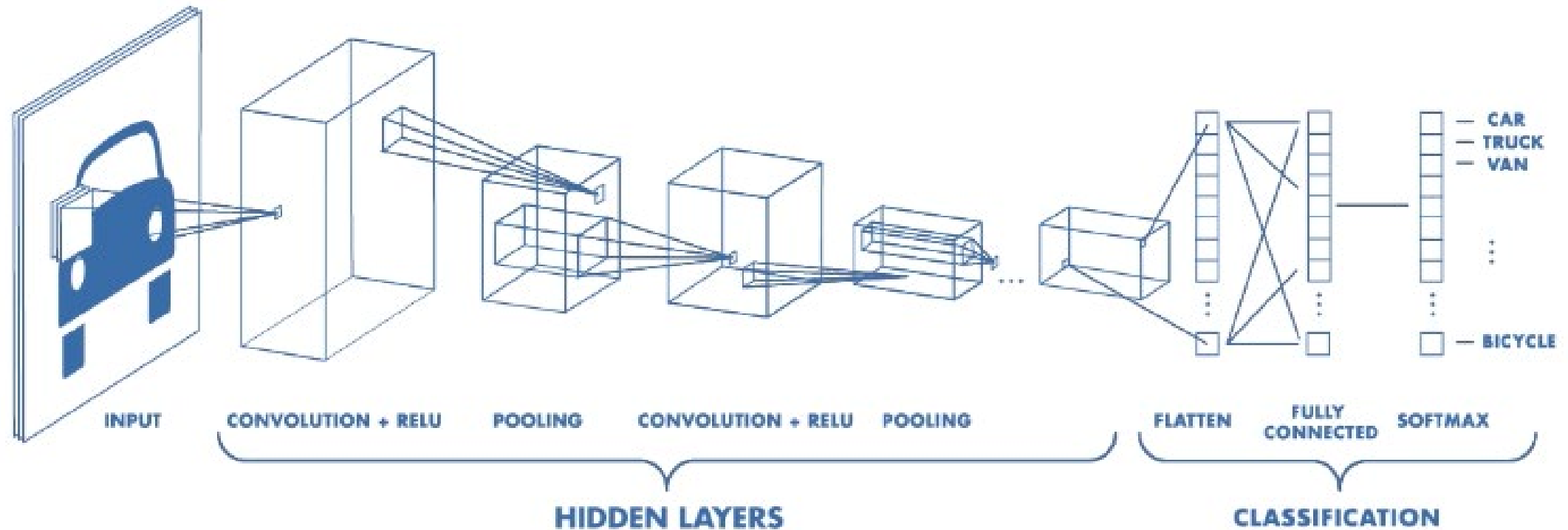
# What is Artificial Intelligence?

- Computer simulation that can do useful operations and tasks
  - Learn how to perform these tasks without explicit instructions
  - Learn by doing, on-the fly, from practice and experience
  - Learn to do a wide variety of tasks that humans can do
  - Have cognition, intuition and able to estimate given sparse information
  - Be able to control physical robots, drones, etc. intelligently
- Is Deep Learning artificial intelligence?

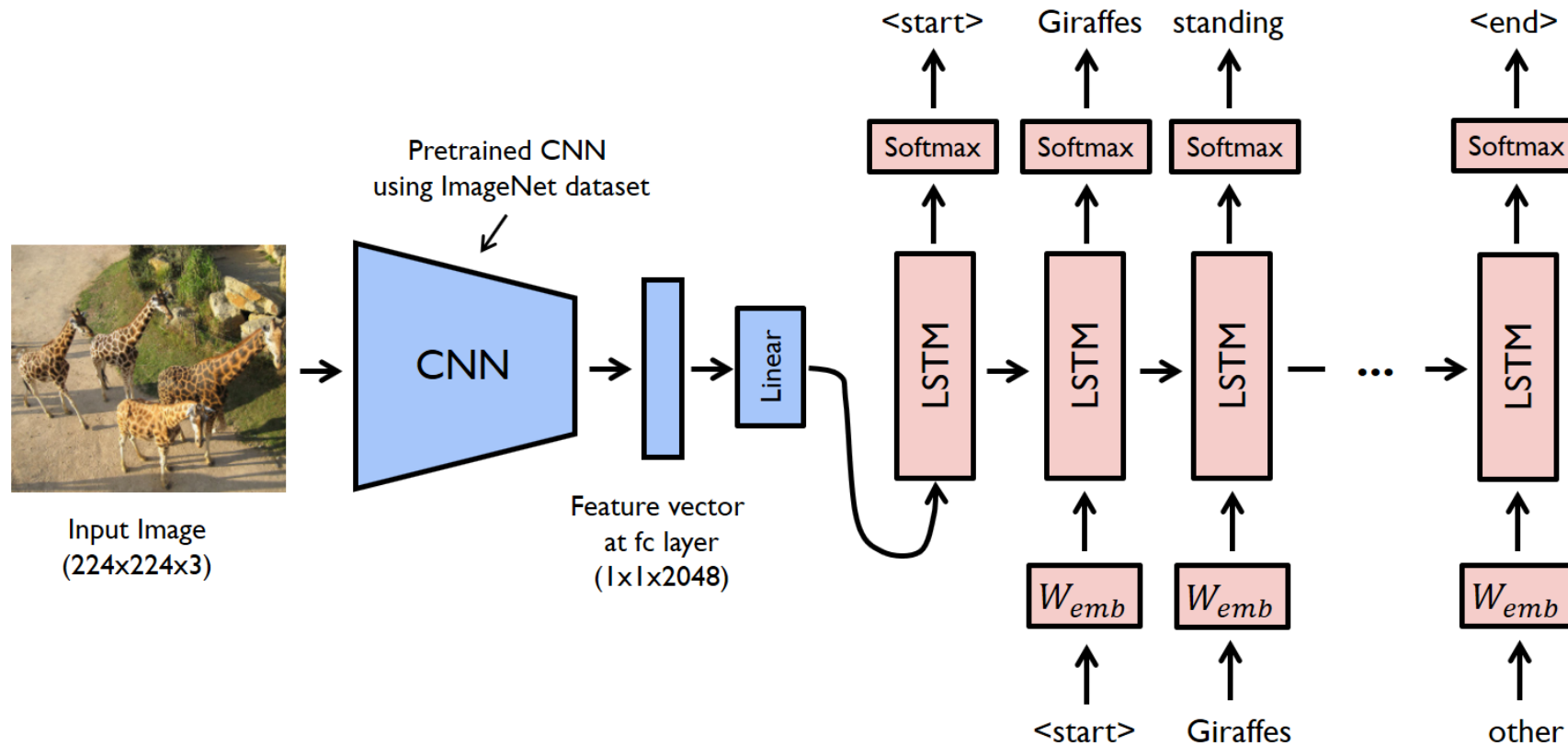
# Deep Learning with 'Neural' Networks is State of Art Today



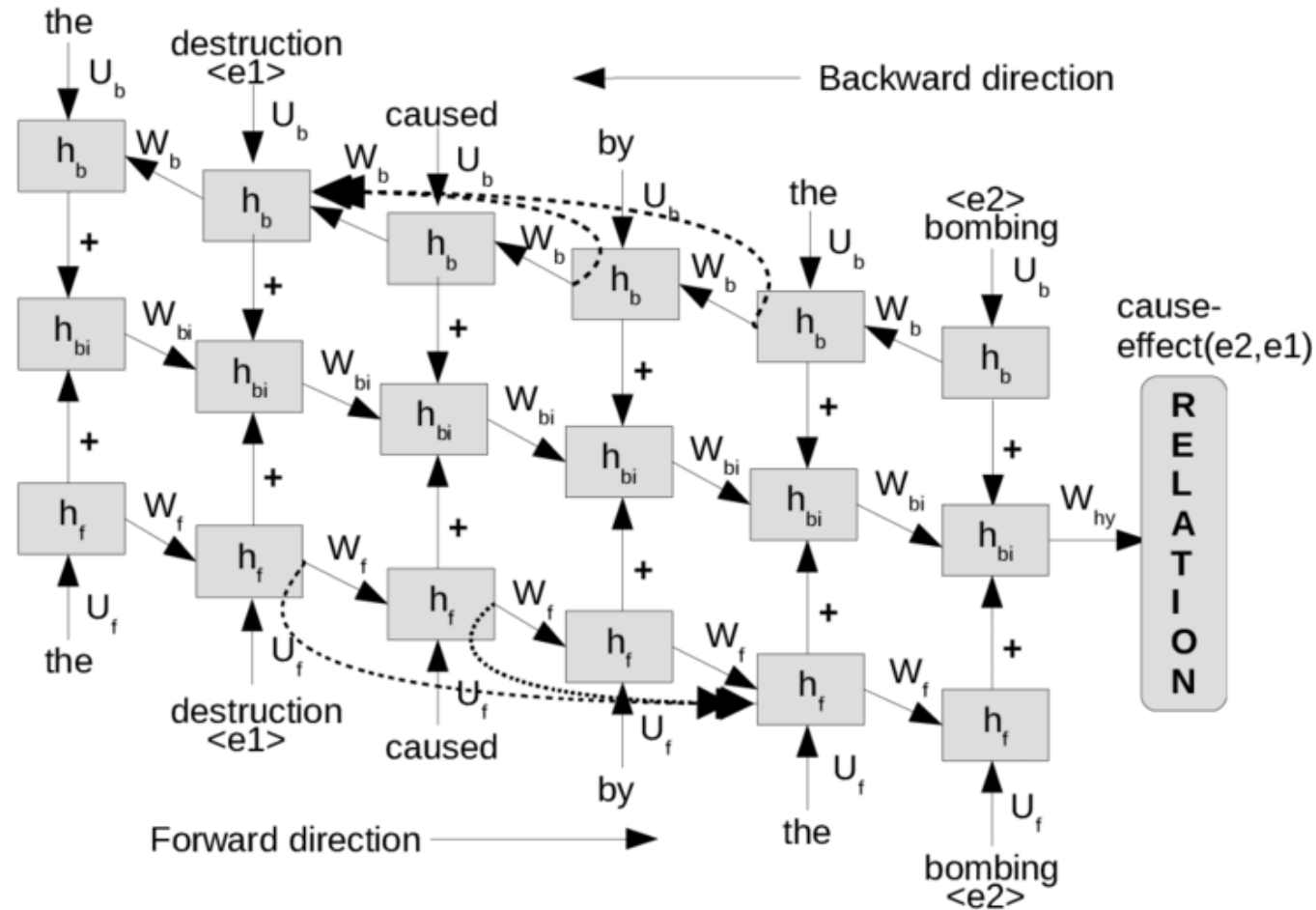
# Convolutional Neural Networks – Image Recognition



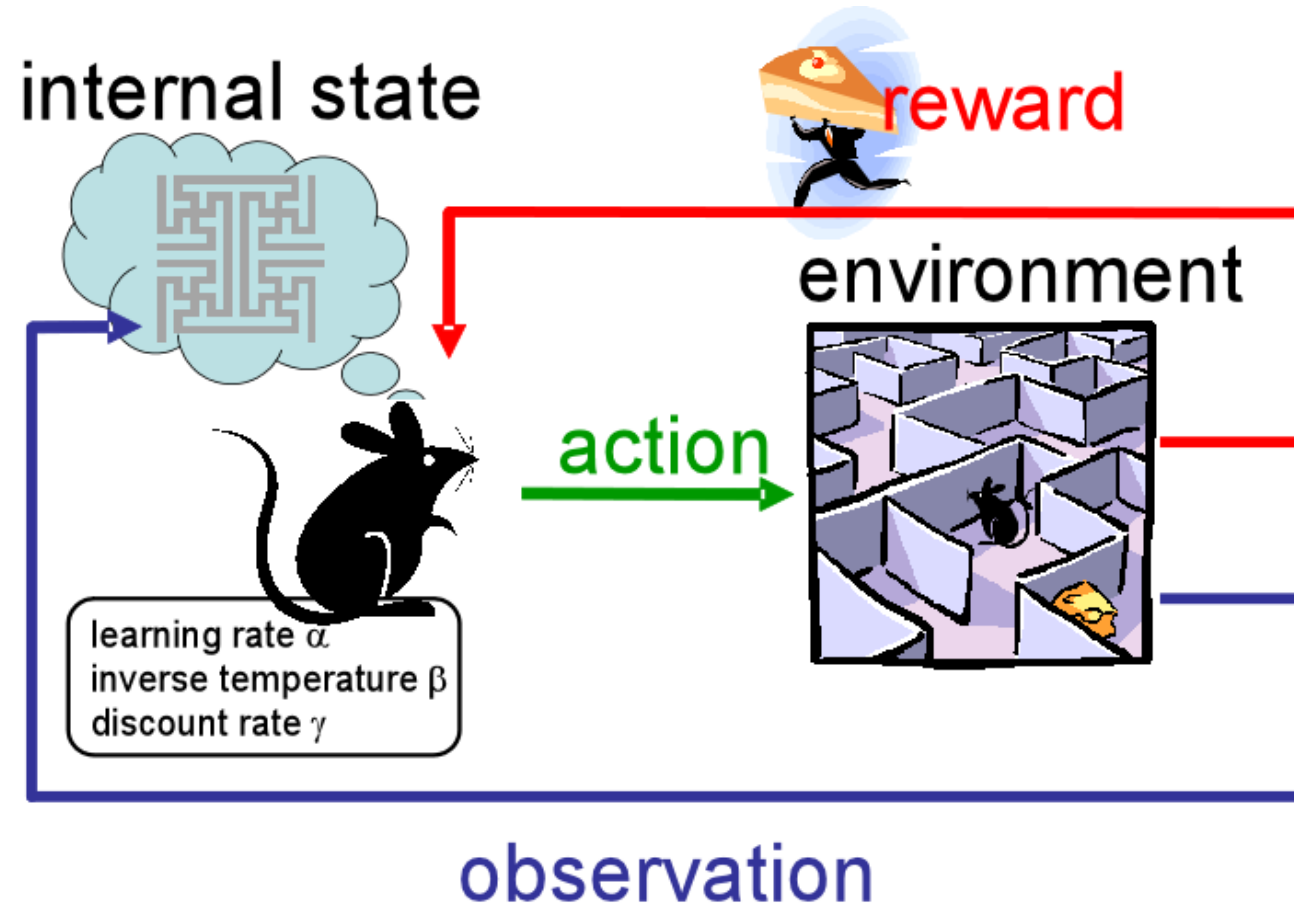
# CNN –RNN Hybrid for Vision



# Recurrent Neural Networks – Language, Speech



# Reinforcement Learning – Control AI



# Generative Adversarial Neural Networks (GAN)

## Unsupervised (Dynamic?) Learning?

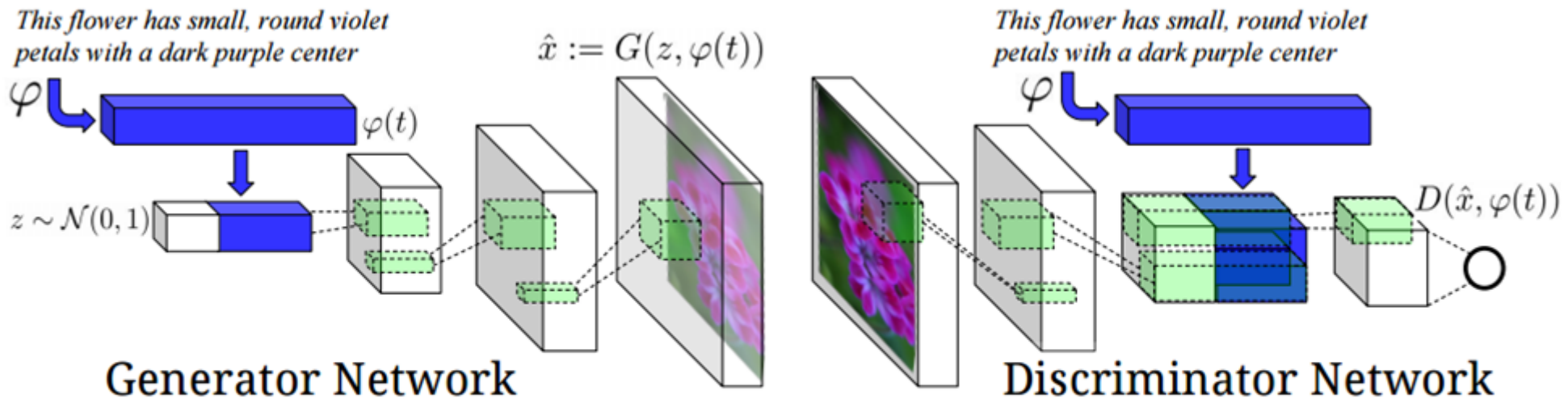


Figure 2. Our text-conditional convolutional GAN architecture. Text encoding  $\varphi(t)$  is used by both generator and discriminator. It is projected to a lower-dimensions and depth concatenated with image feature maps for further stages of convolutional processing.

Network Architecture



# Performance Capture Human to Train Robot AI?



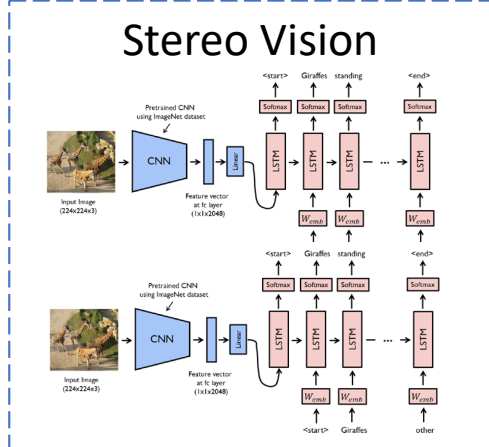
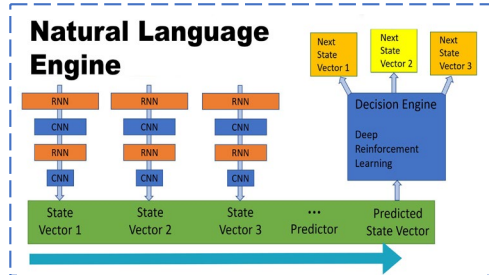
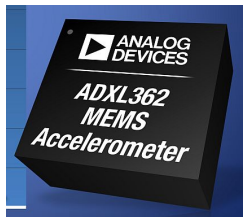
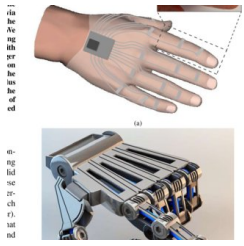
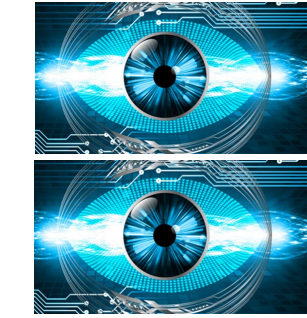
Intensive Performance  
Capture of Individual

Use as Training Dataset  
for Android Mimic AI

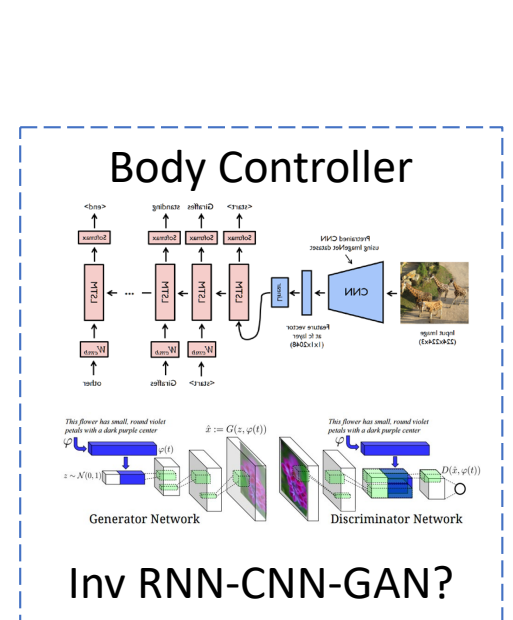
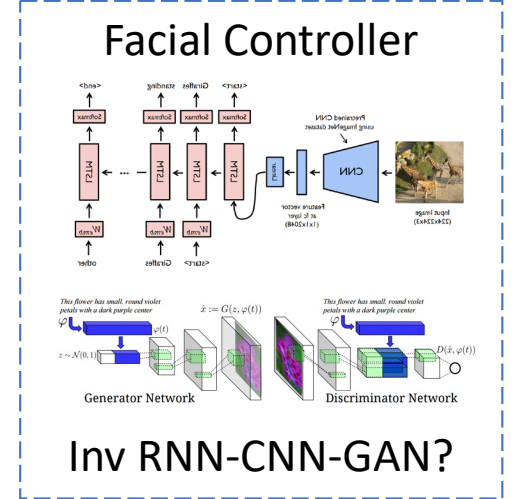
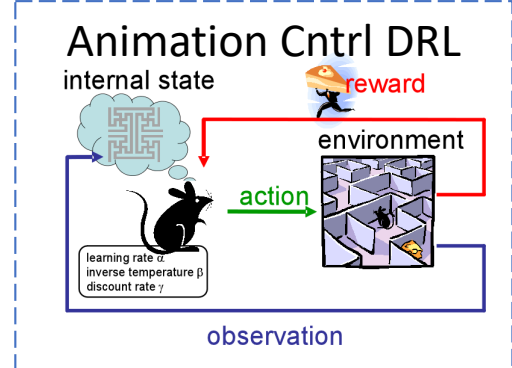
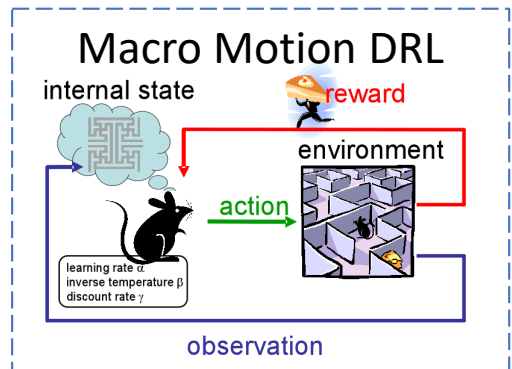
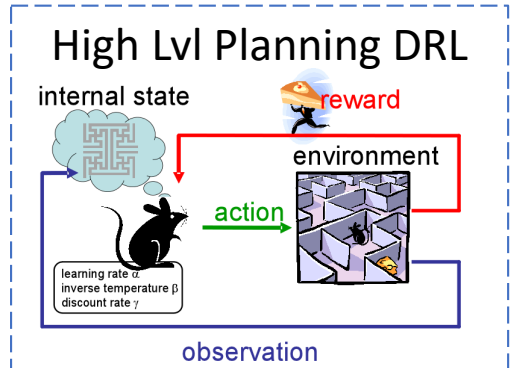
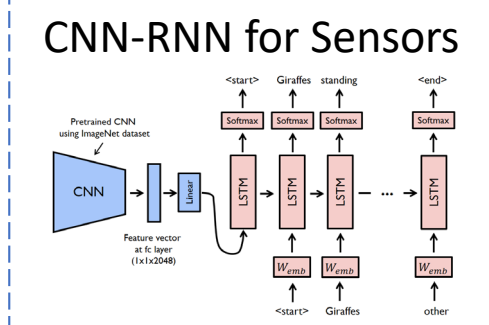
Motion  
Facial Expressions  
Voice & Speech  
Mannerisms



# Building a Humanoid Robot AI with Deep Learning Tech



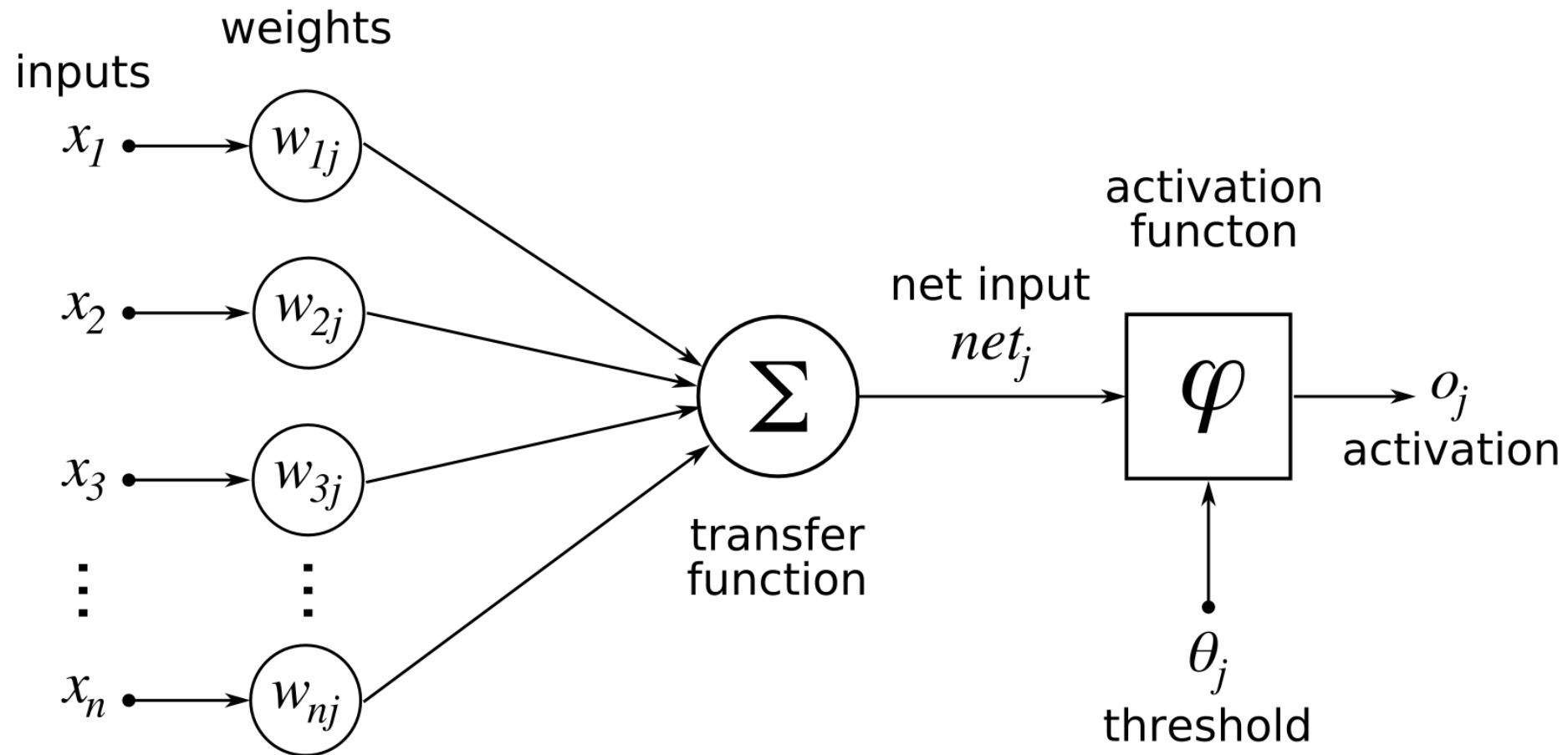
Dual CNN-RNN?



# Deep Learning is NEVER Going Work for THAT!

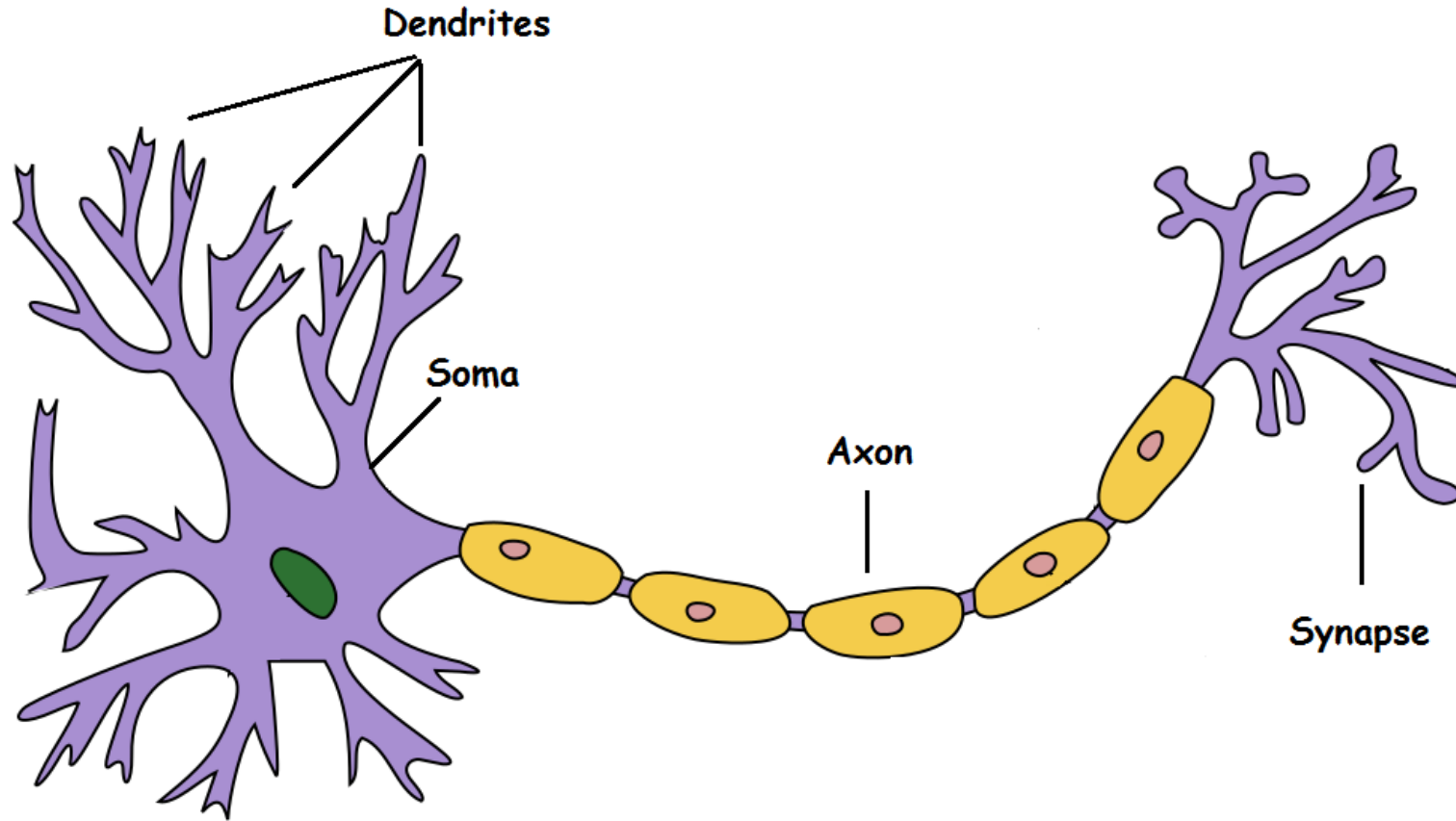
- **Deep Learning is only able to:**
  - Learn from structured, formatted, and usually labelled data
  - Do very narrow tasks within the domain of that data
  - Requires large amounts of data to make accurate predictions
- **Deep Learning CANNOT:**
  - Learn to do general tasks or multiple tasks with same network architecture
  - Does not work well on unstructured real-world data
  - Can not stack multiple layers of DL implementations and have it train
  - Learn from experience in a real-life dynamic environment
  - Have cognition, intuition, or operate with sparse data, reach human AI

# Deep Learning 'Neurons' Are Too Simplistic





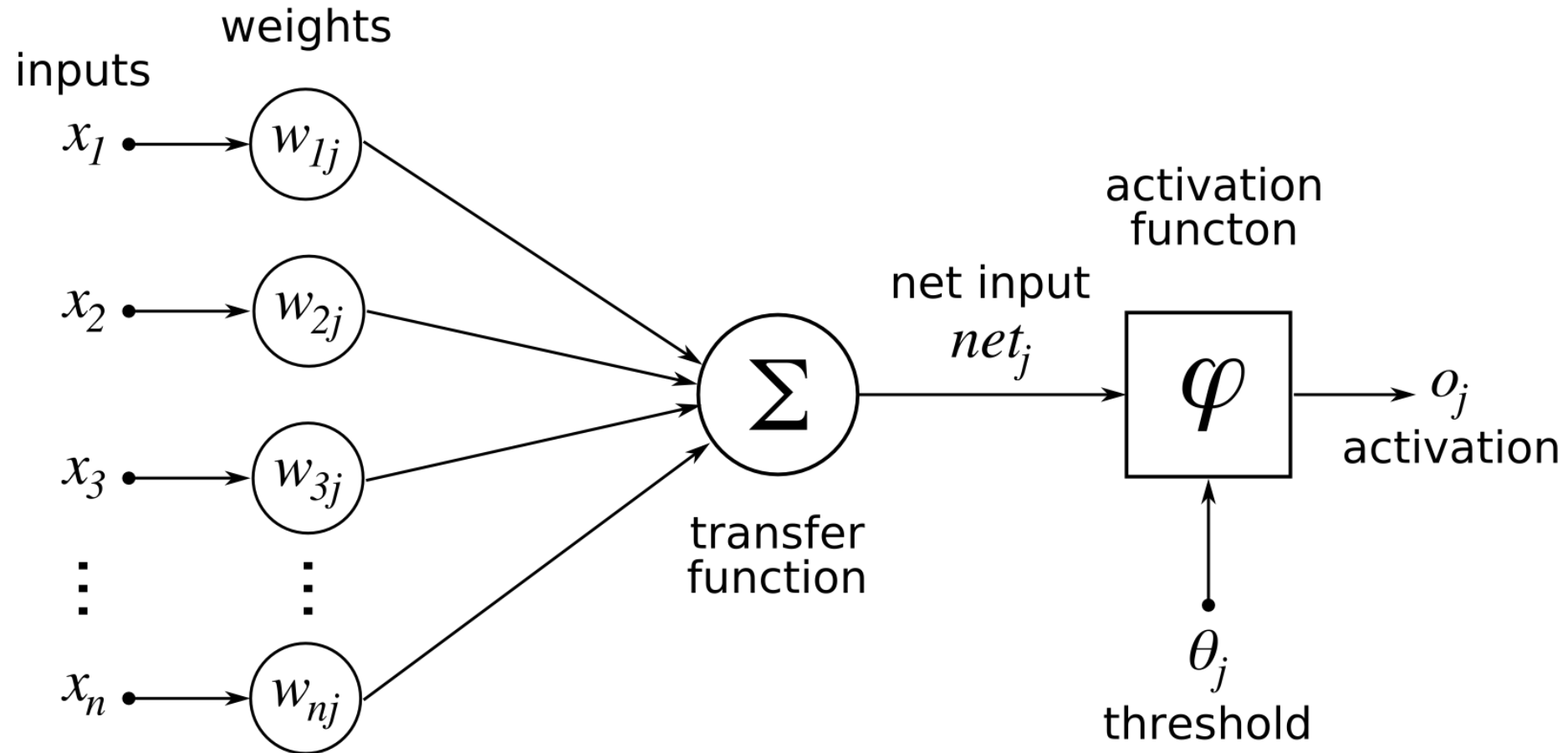
# Real Biological Neurons are Very Sophisticated Electro-Chemical Computers



# How Does a Biological Neuron Work (roughly)?

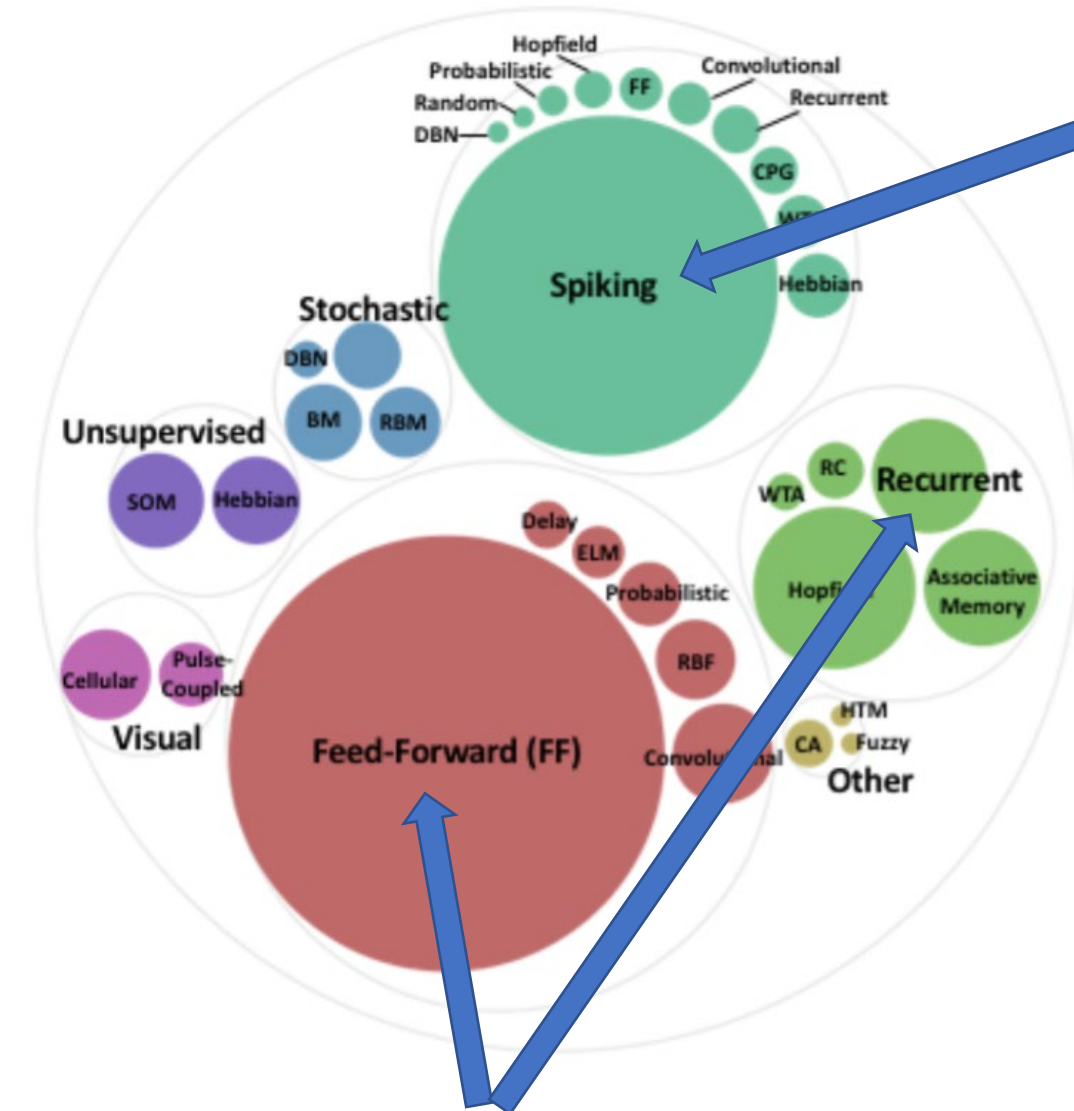
- The neuronal body integrates inputs from the dendrites coming into it
  - Integrates incoming signals in both **space and time**
  - Some dendrites excite, some inhibit, adding or subtracting from the potential
  - Neuronal body 'fires' when action potential (-55mv) is reached across cell wall
- When the neuronal body fires, a spike train is transmitted down the axon
  - Transmitted along axon, branches, and is amplified (and modified) along the way
  - Signal in **time and space** that carries more information than a simple amplitude
- Spiking signal is further modified at synapse
  - Axon spike train stimulates neurotransmitter release from pre-synaptic side
  - Neurotransmitters drift across synapse, modified by ambient neurochemistry
  - Receptors on post-synaptic side integrate chemical signal, firing at a threshold
  - A spike train propagates down the dendrite to the next neuron
  - If both the pre and post synaptic neuron fire close together: synapse strengthens

# Do you still call this a 'Neuron'?



# Spiking Neuron Models Behave more like real neurons

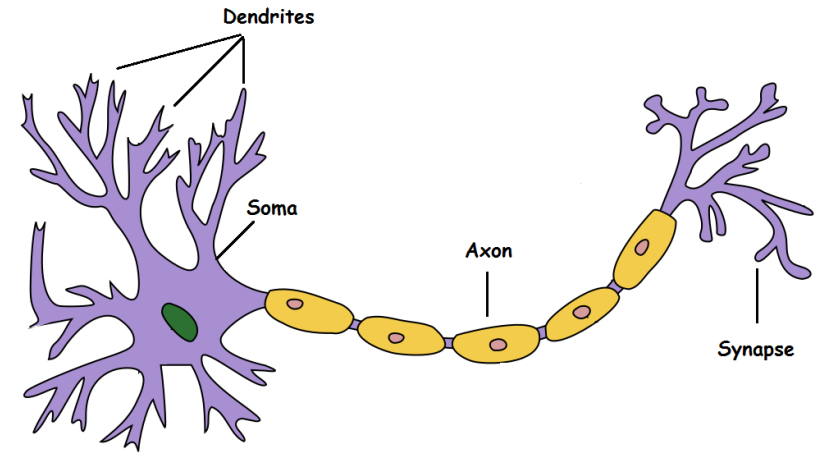
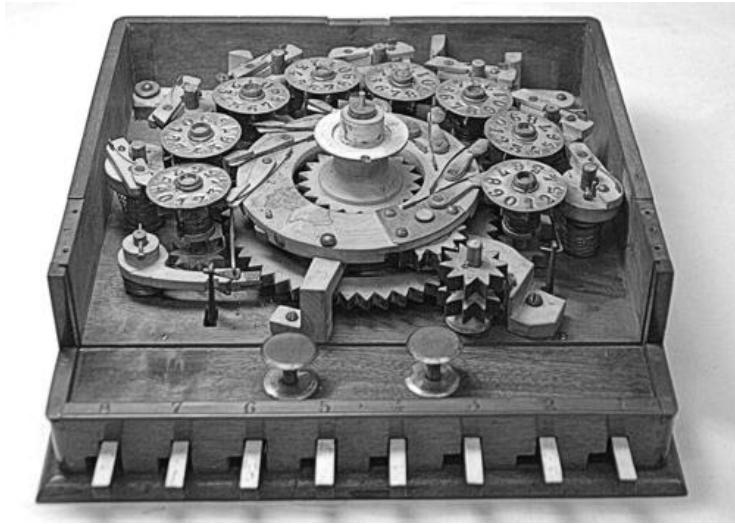
- Time-domain signals that propagate
- Information encoded in spikes
- Time-domain integration of spikes
- Integration in neuron and synapse
- Complex signal processing system
- Time dependency, lag in signals
- Allows waves, cascades, feedback
- Synapses that strengthen with use
  - Hebbian Learning
- Unsupervised associative learning



DL Uses Only a Subset of  
Artificial Neuron Models

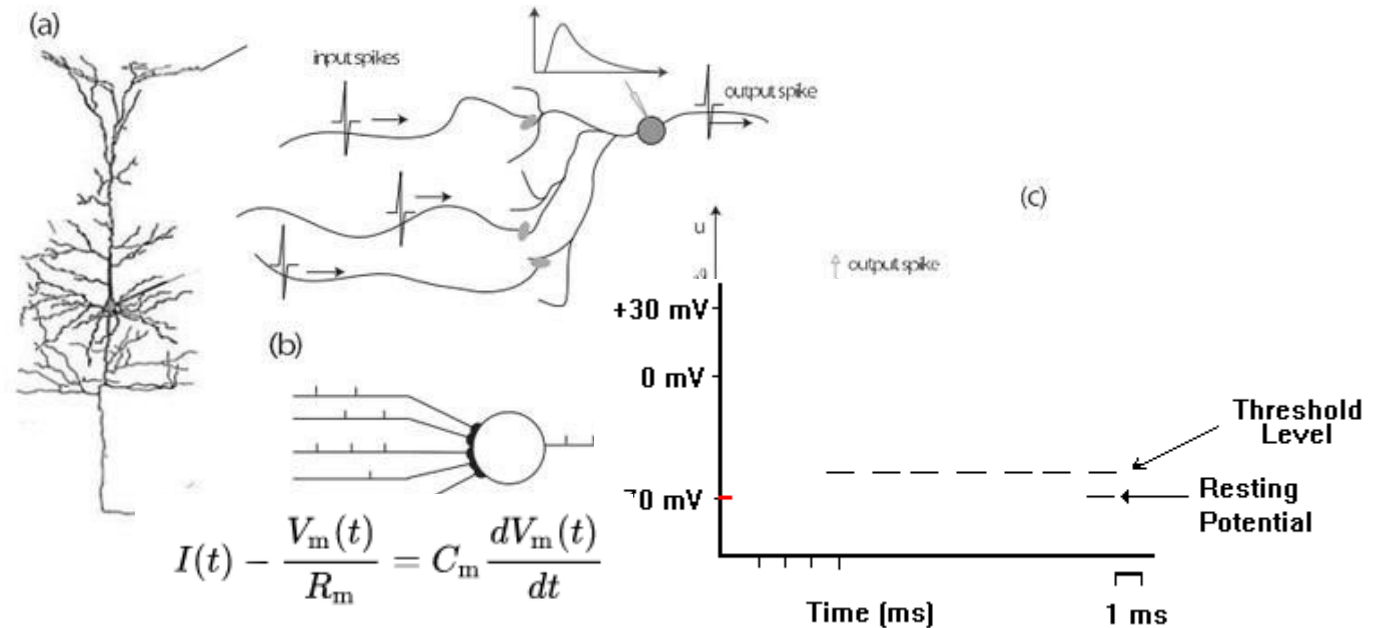
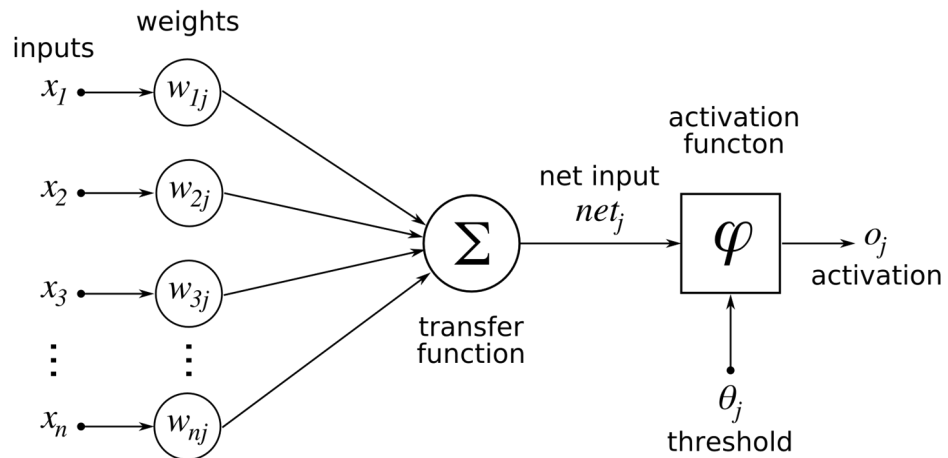


# A Spiking Neuron is More Like a Biological Neuron



## Spiking Neuron

### Deep Learning Neuron



# Link to BICHNN Demo

[https://youtu.be/bthVbbbV\\_PM](https://youtu.be/bthVbbbV_PM)

# NeuroCAD Synapse Model 'Leaky Watering Can'

## Variables

$L$  = neurotransmitter level

$L_s$  = neurotransmitter saturation level

$ts$  = time since input spike

## Constants

$R$  = reuptake rate

$L_i$  = neurotransmitter input from spike

$L_f$  = neurotransmitter 'consumed'

when firing

$tth$  = threshold time to learn within

$F_t$  = fraction to reduce  $L_s$  by when training

$$L = L * (1 - R)$$

$$ts += dt;$$

If (spike comes in)

$$L = L + L_i$$

$$ts = 0$$

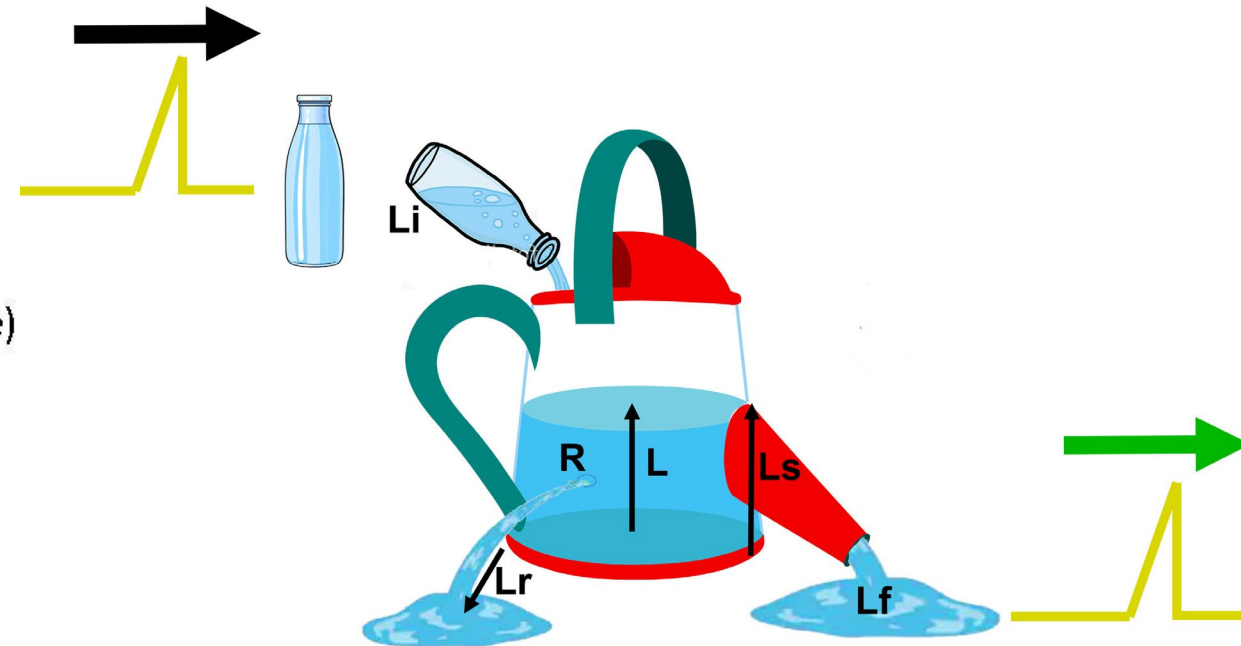
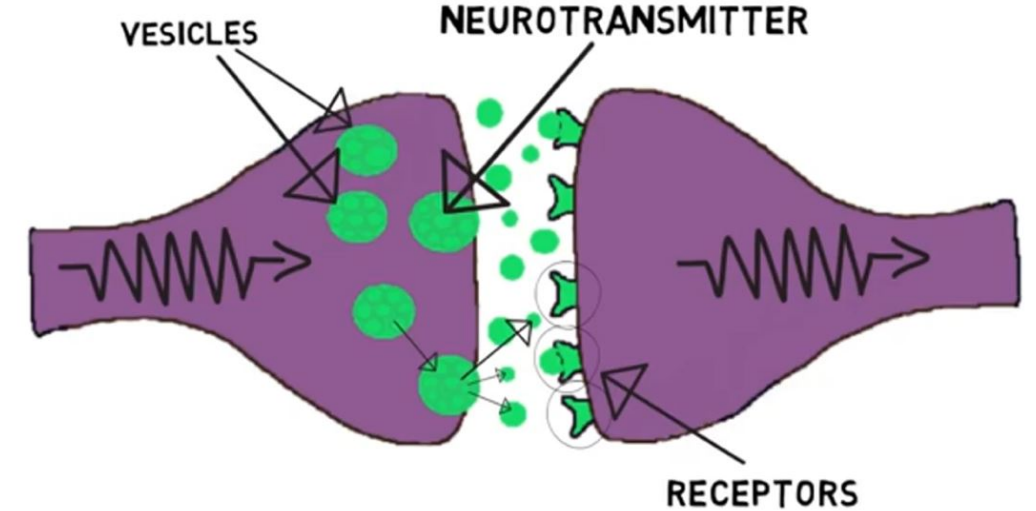
if ( $L > L_s$ )

(Fire spike down dendrite)

$$L = L - L_f$$

if ( $ts < tth$ )

$$L_s = L_s * F_t$$



# So, How Do We Train Spiking Neural Networks?

- This has remained an unsolved problem since they were developed in 1955
- Most Deep Learning uses back-propagation
  - Data is fed forward through the network and produces an output
  - A difference is computed between that output and a known label for the data
  - That difference is fed backwards through the network, adjusting the weights
  - This is repeated many times for the entire dataset till weights converge
- Back propagation does NOT generally work with spiking neural nets
  - SNN signals propagate in time, with complex integration at neuron and synapse
  - There is no way to back-drive these signals, compute derivatives and adjust weights
  - But somehow all moving life on earth manages to learn with a similar architecture
  - Hebbian learning – if pre & post synaptic neuron fire together, synapse strengthens
  - But this only allows the entire network to learn if it is first properly structured



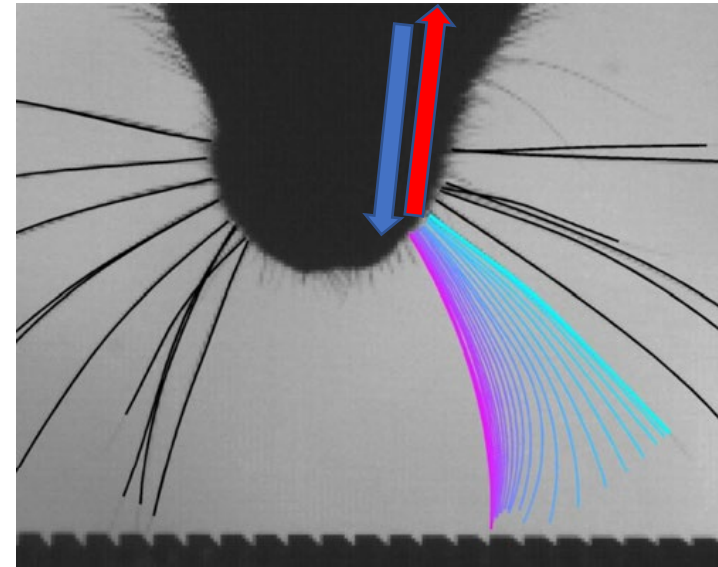
# The Quest for a Spiking Neural Net That Can Learn

Miguel Nicolelis – Brazilian Neuroscience Researcher

World expert in brain-machine interfaces, and measurement

## Tickling a Rat's Whiskers

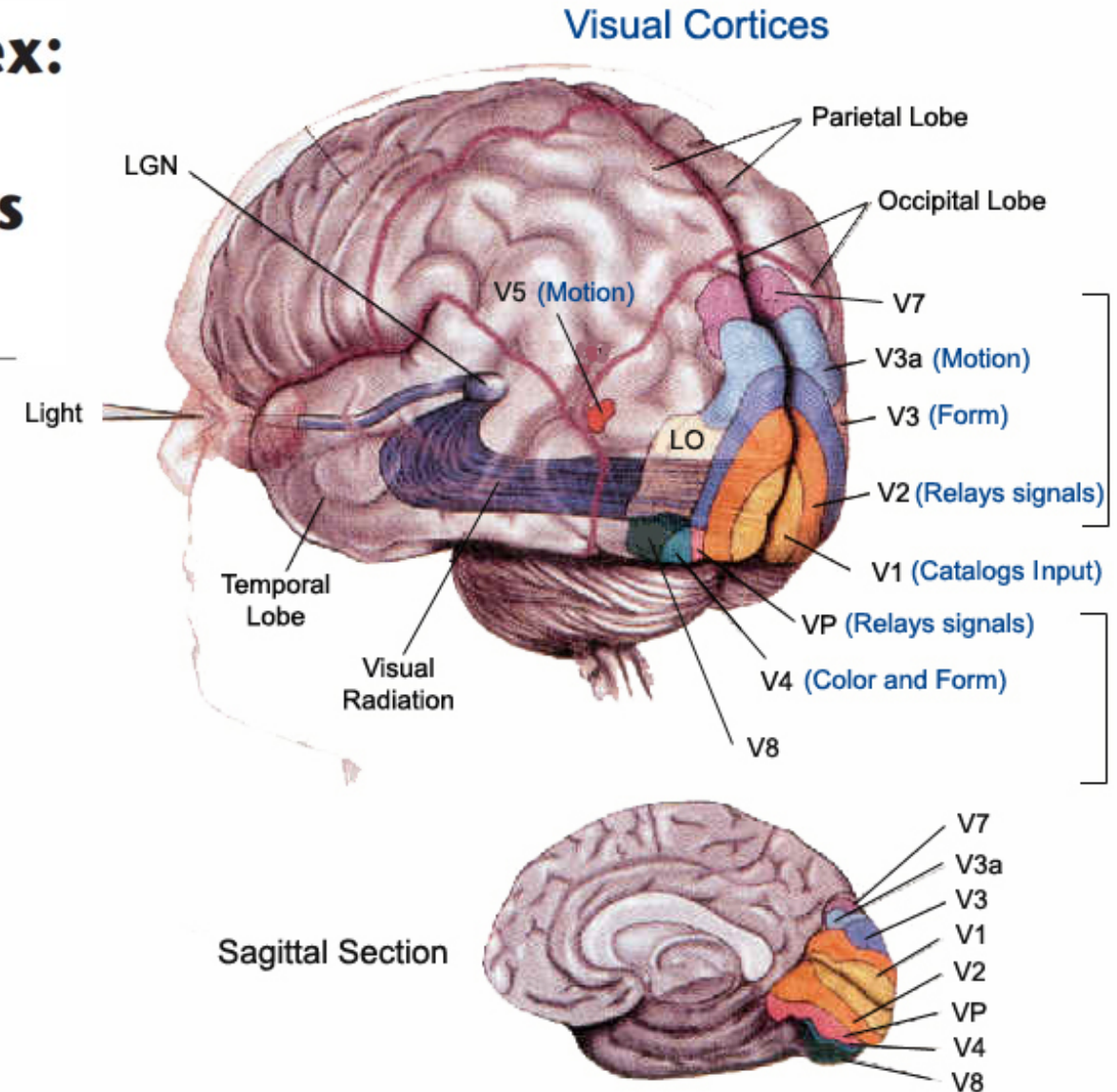
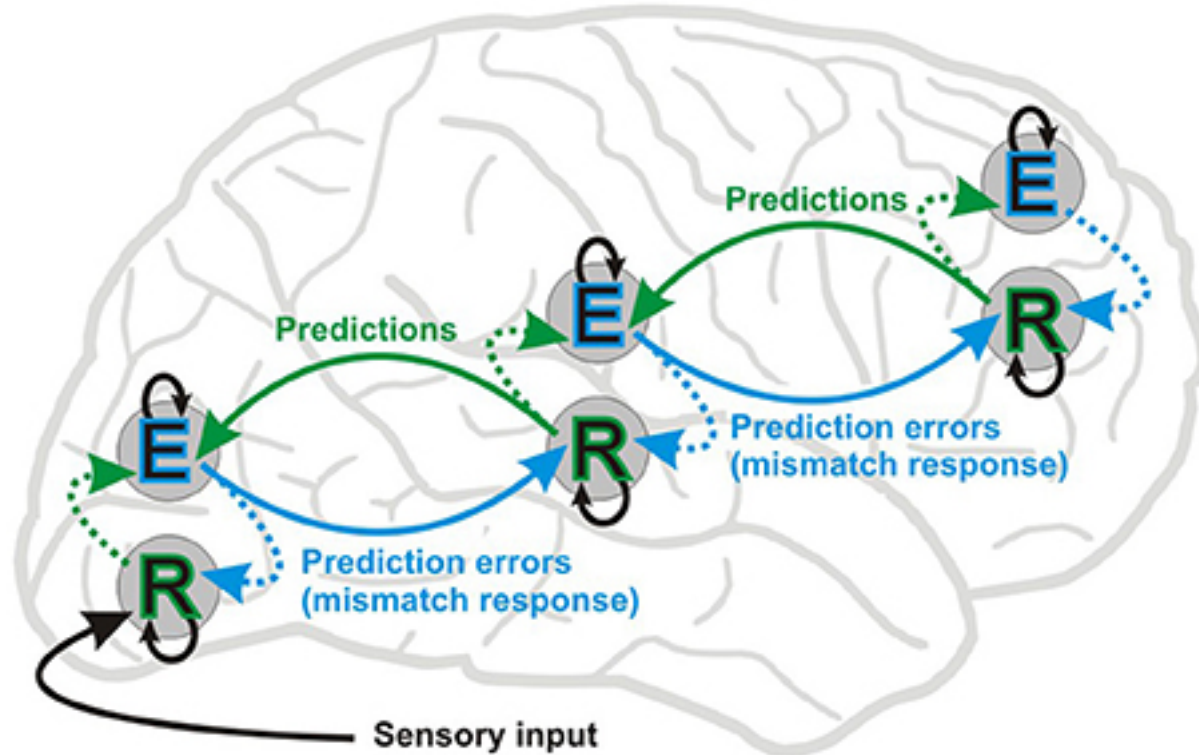
- Measuring neurological response to stimulating a rat's whiskers
- Probes were inserted at various spots in the neural path and brain
- Researcher would stimulate the rat's whiskers
- Probes could watch the signal travel from the whisker to the brain
- But there were also signals moving from the brain to the whisker
- Even when the whisker was not being stimulated, they were there
- The signal from brain to whisker was predicting the stimulus
- The two neural networks were interacting!
- Comparing the prediction and stimulus 'trains' the neural net how to perceive and predict the environment!
- EUREKA! Is this how the mammalian sensory cortex trains?



# The Biological Inspiration for BICHNN

## Predictive coding in the visual cortex: a functional interpretation of some extra-classical receptive-field effects

Rajesh P. N. Rao<sup>1</sup> and Dana H. Ballard<sup>2</sup>



# **Bidirectional Interleaved Complementary Hierarchical Neural Nets**

- **Sensory perception is a dynamic, interactive process, NOT static**
- **Signals from the sensor are hierarchically processed into abstractions**
- **Abstractions are processed in the opposite direction into sensory output**
- **Close your eyes, picture a 'Fire Truck'. Your visual cortex works in reverse!**
- **These Bidirectional Interleaved Complementary Networks interact**
- **The two networks train each other to do their complementarity tasks**
- **Basically like the generator and discriminator of a GAN, only interleaved**
- **Signals can be bounced between sensor and abstract, like dreaming**
- **What we expect to sense actually influences what we really sense**

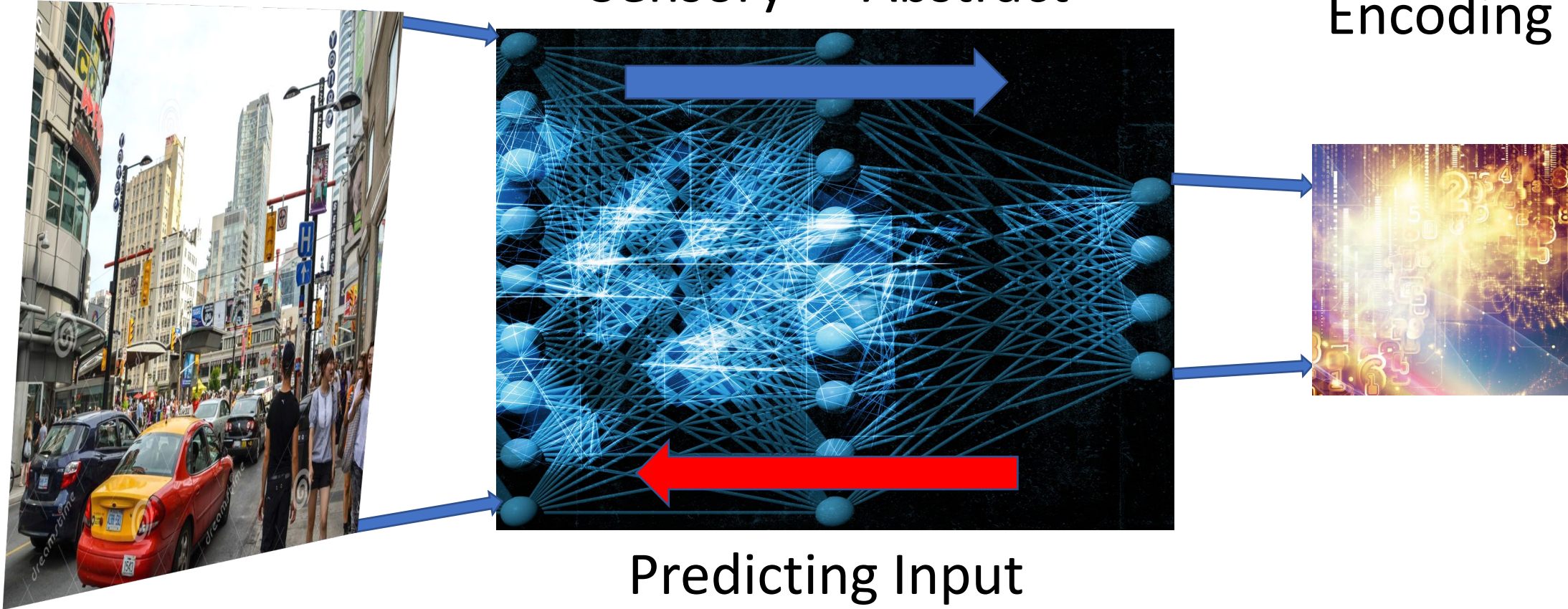


# Bidirectional Interleaved Complementary Hierarchical Neural Nets

Sensory  
Input

Processing Input  
Sensory  $\rightarrow$  Abstract

Abstract  
Encoding



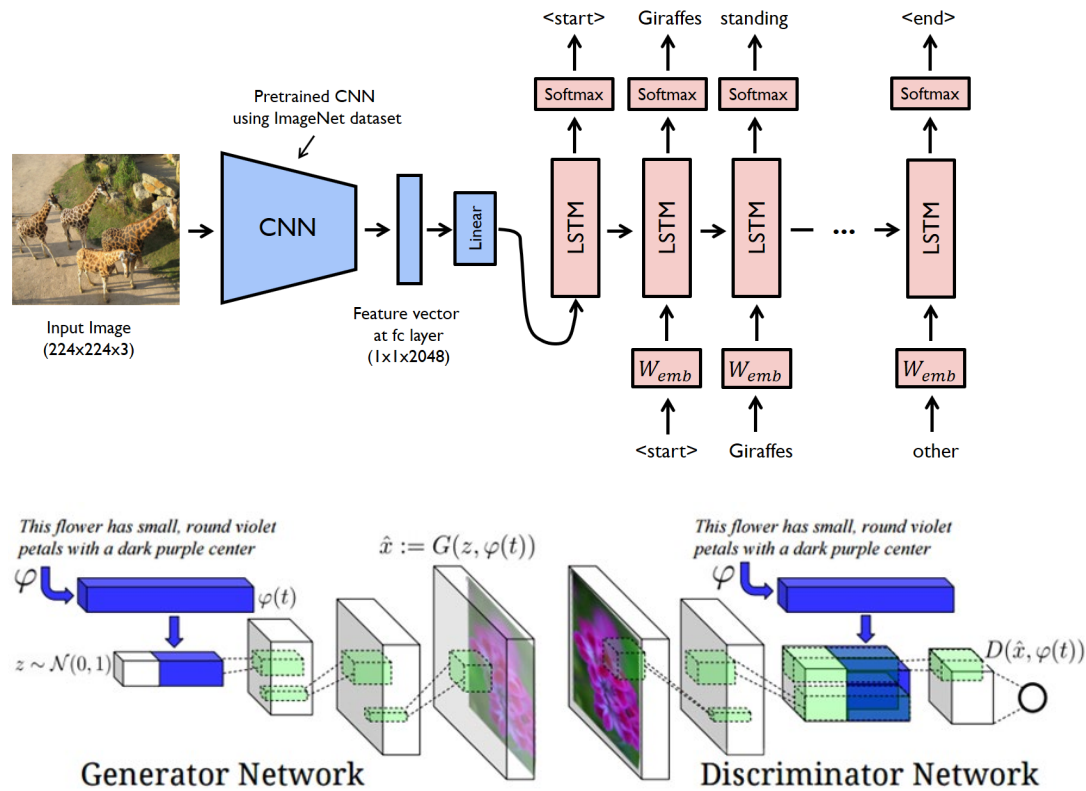
Predicting Input  
Abstract  $\rightarrow$  Sensory



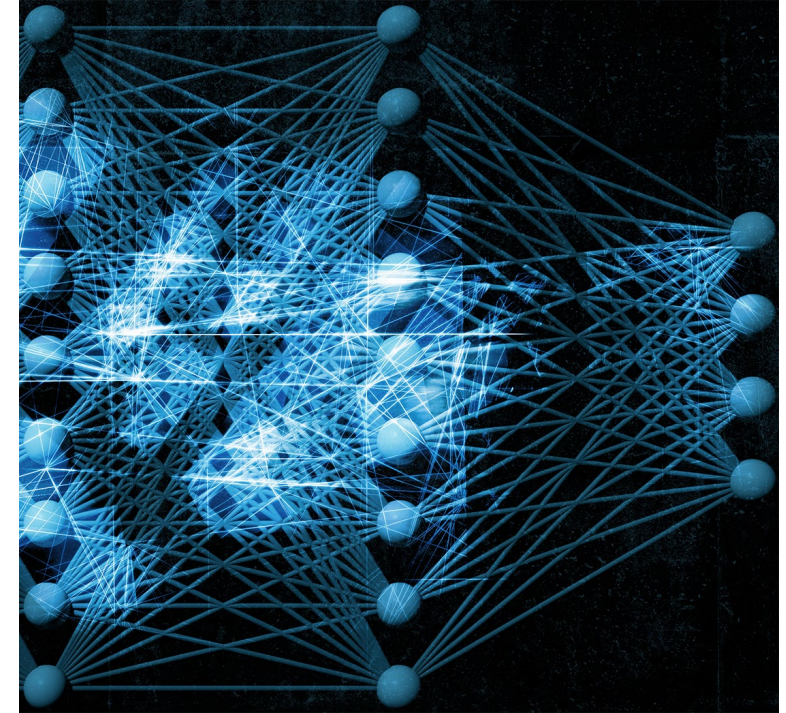
# **BICHNN – A Useful New Tool For AI**

- **Can replace CNN, RNN, and make them self-training**
- **Replaces GANs and Autoencoders, is more accurate, and powerful**
- **More powerful and easier to train for sensory applications as well**
- **Network architecture that can perform useful operations and tasks**
- **Learns how to perform these tasks without explicit instructions**
- **Learn by doing, on-the fly, from practice and experience**
- **Can be combined into multi-modal sensory systems to learn associatively**
- **Learn to do a wide variety of tasks that humans can do (in time)**
- **Generally applicable to speech, vision, sensory, and control**

# CNN + RNN + GAN



# BICHNN





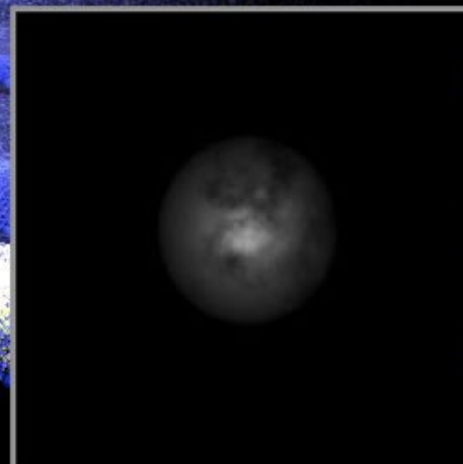
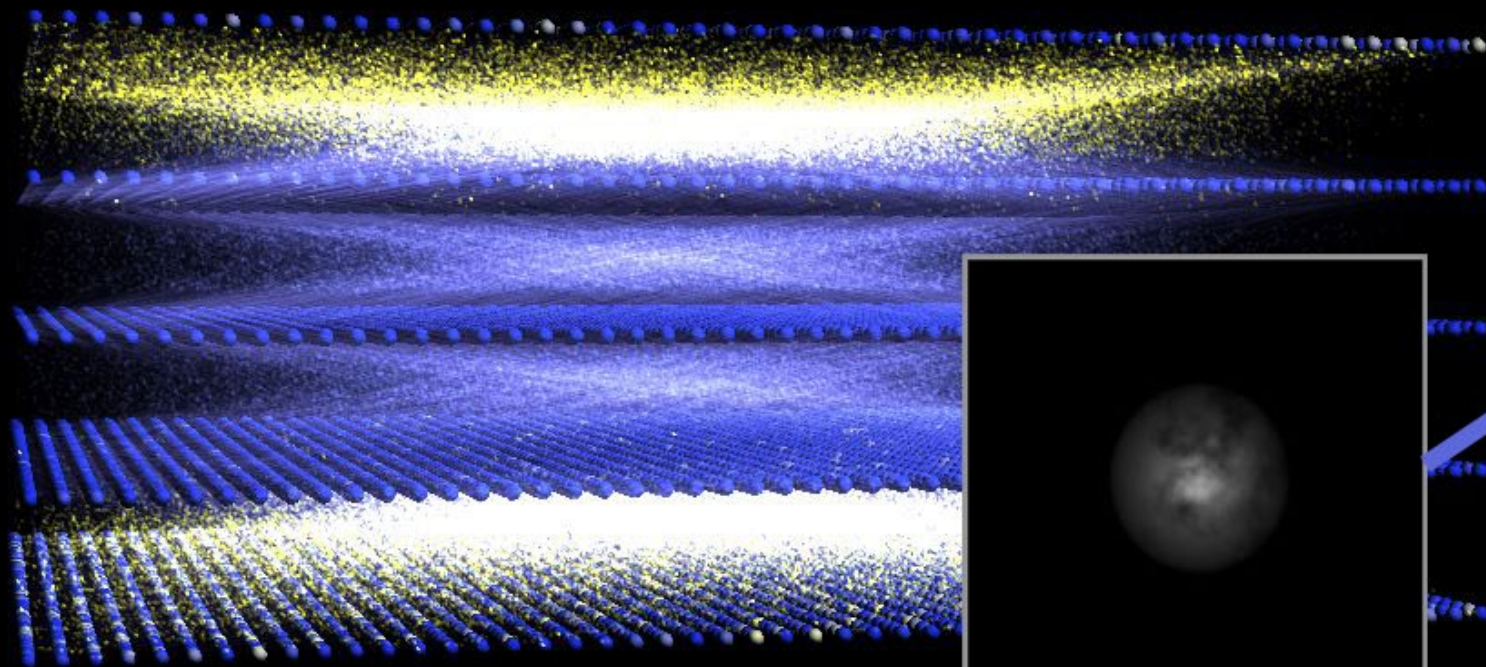
# **Architecting Spiking Neural Nets is Difficult**

- **Moderate sized spiking NN: 1 million spiking neurons**
- **1 Billion connections & synapses**
- **3D geometry is important because signals travel**
- **Time-dependent circuits, complex relationships**
- **NO design methodologies, intuition how to connect**
- **Like throwing 1 billion strands of spaghetti at a wall**
- **Never going to come up with functional architectures**
- **Especially not ones that can train and learn**
- **We need new design tools, new methodologies**

# NeuroCAD

- **Design software for architecting and testing Spiking Neural Networks**
- **NeuroCAD - UI workflow for SNN design using Genetic Algorithms**
  - **Layout – Lay out layers of neurons and position them**
  - **Connection – Connect the layers of neurons stochastically**
  - **Testing – Run simulations of the SNN in your test harness**
  - **Selection – Select the best performing versions of your network**
  - **Breeding – Cross-breed and mutate the best performing nets**
  - **Iterate – Run testing on the new batch till converged to solution**
- **Build more advanced AI than has ever been possible**





2D Gaussian v Multiply v Uniform Clouds v

A	1.2	Sx	3.75
SigmaX	1.34	Sy	4.5
SigmaY	1.34	Contrast	1.34
OffsetX	0.0	Display	x
OffsetY	0.0		
Display	x		

## NeuroCAD

Select layer, view &amp; set connections

Layer 2

Layer 2

#Connections/Neuron

100

Wrap Connect

50	0	0	0
+1	+2	+3	+4
0	50	0	0
0	-1	-2	-3

Save/Update Weights

Simulation Controls

Start Simulation 0 Sim timestep (ms) 10

Stop Rendering 0 Render detail 1

Top and Bottom Layer Boundary Conditions

Top Layer

☒ Connect

Boundary Condition Random

Boundary Amplify 0% 100% 200%

Bottom Layer

☒ Connect

Boundary Condition Random

Boundary Amplify 0% 100% 200%

Save Top and Bottom Inputs

Create Connectome

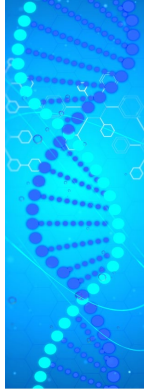


# NeuroCAD Genome – Connectome Expansion

- The human brain has 100B Neurons, 100T Connections
- All of this grows from the blueprint of only 8000 genes
- 8000 genes -> 100 trillion neural connection connectome
- This is one heck of a decompression algorithm!
- You need genes to do genetic algorithms, to breed and mutate
- NeuroCAD uses a few hundred parameters as genome
- These are expanded into 2D procedural maps and mixed in tree
- Output is a 2D probability map for connection of LayerN -> LayerM
- Genome Parameters -> 2D Procedural Maps -> Connectome

# Defining the NeuroCAD Connectome Algorithmically

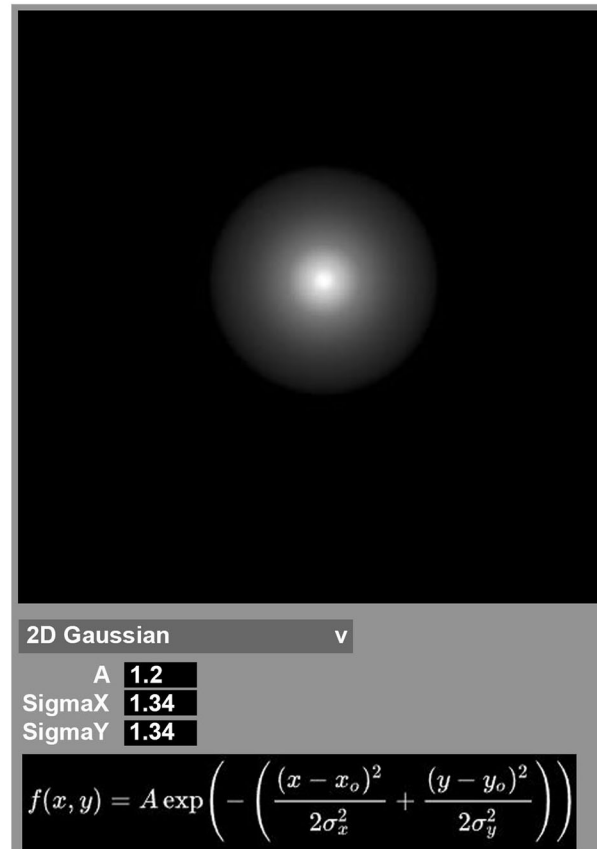
Parameters (Genome) -> 2D Algorithms -> 2D Probability Maps -> Connectome



Mapping  
2D Maps

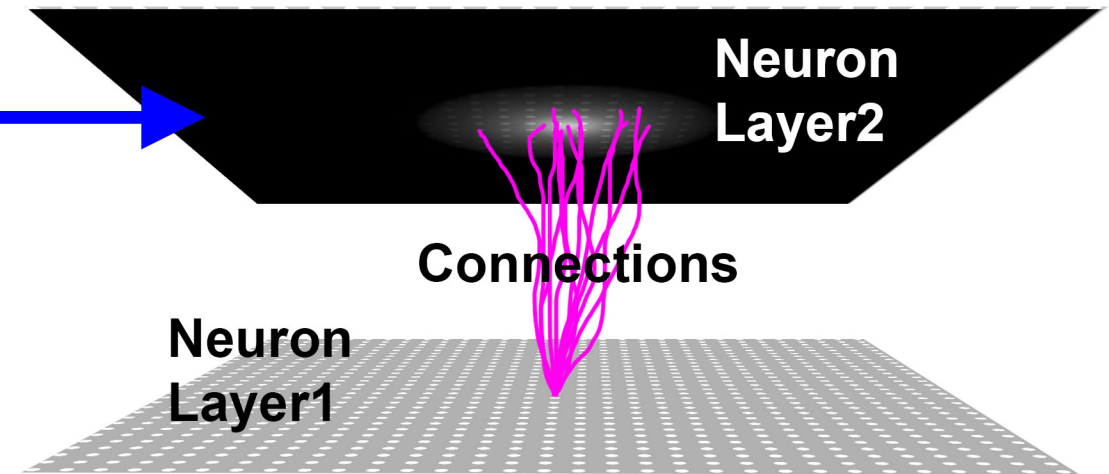
Genome  
(Parameters)

A  
SigmaX  
SigmaY



Connectome

Map Shows Connection Probability



Neuron  
Layer2

Connections

Neuron  
Layer1

5 Best Genomes  
From Last Training  
Run



Crossbreed using  
Parameter Genome

	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5
N1					
N2					
N3					
N4					
N5					

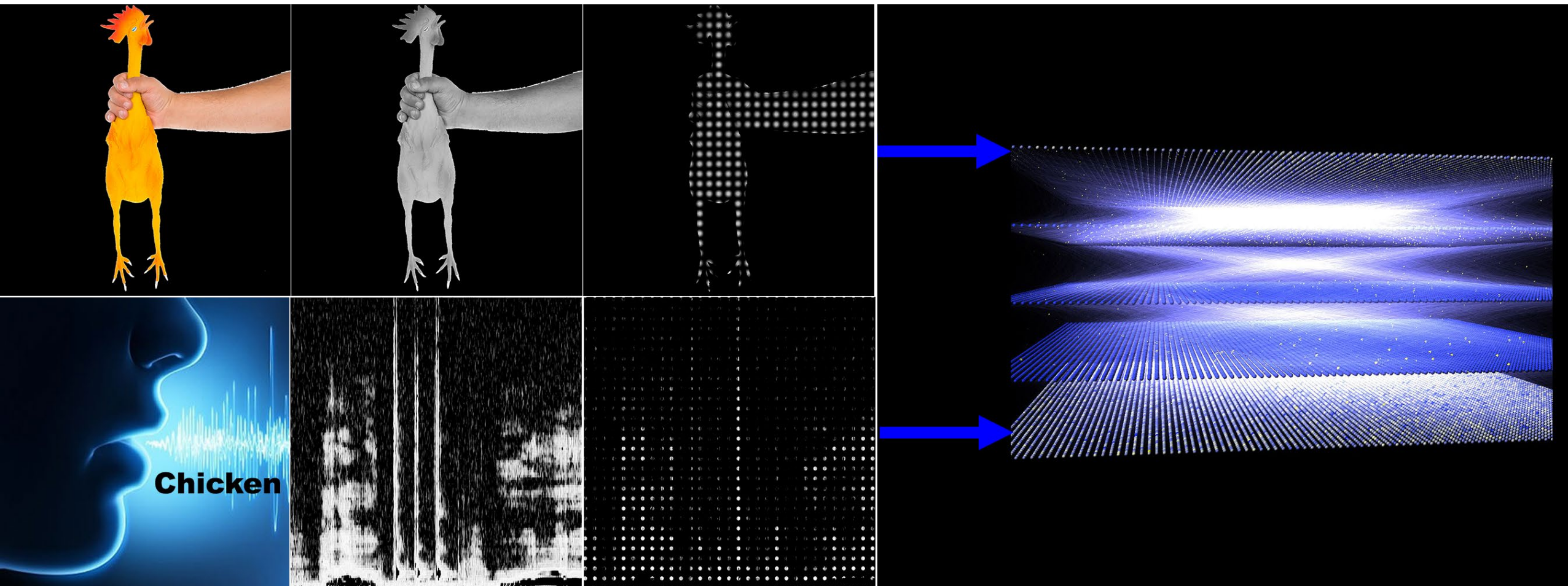


25 New  
Connectomes  
For Next  
Training Run

# NeuroCAD

**NeuroCAD is a software tool with a GUI for designing Spiking Neural Networks. It allows the user to lay out the layers of spiking neurons, connect them up algorithmically, crossbreed and mutate them to generate a population of similar neural nets, then run simulations on them, train them, cull the underperformers, and then crossbreed the top performing designs and continue the genetic algorithms till a design emerges that meets the performance criteria set by the designer.**

# Associative Learning with BICHNN





# Applications

**SPEECH & NLP**

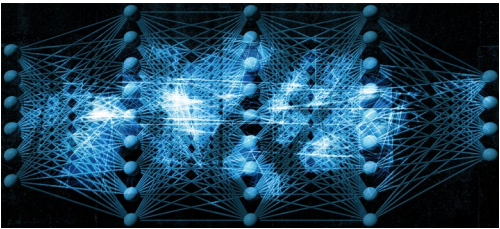
**Motion Control**

**Cognition and Learning**

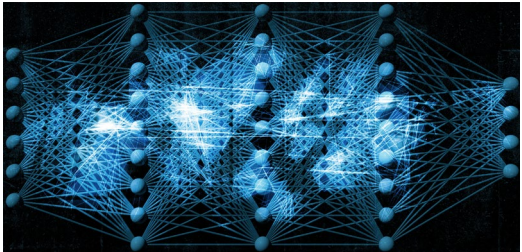
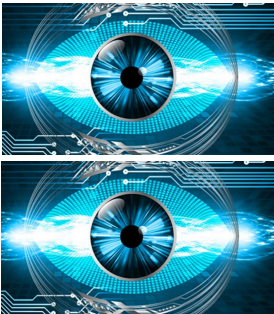
**Vision/Sensors**



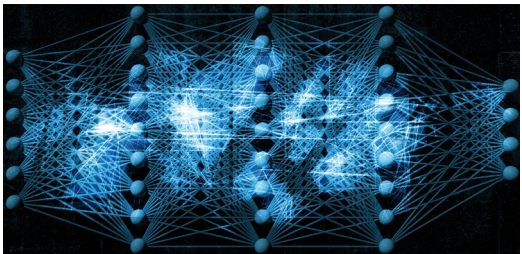
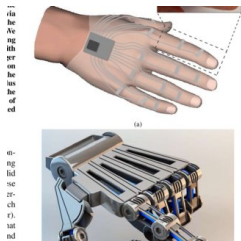
# Building a Humanoid Robot AI with BICHNN



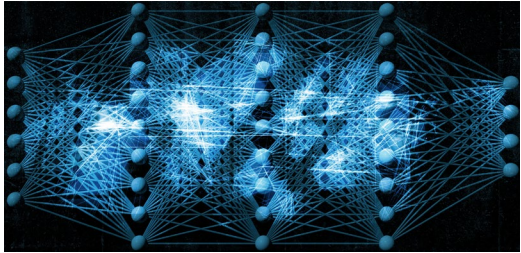
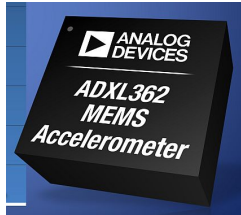
BICHNN Speech



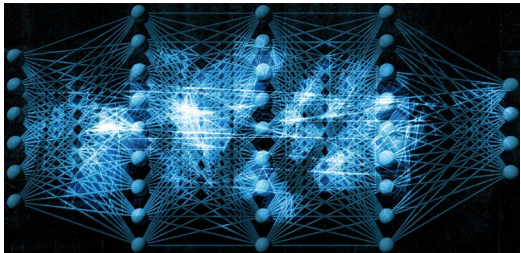
BICHNN Vision



BICHNN Sensory



BICHNN Facial Animation

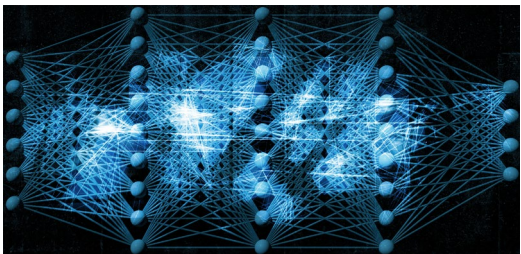


BICHNN Robot Controller

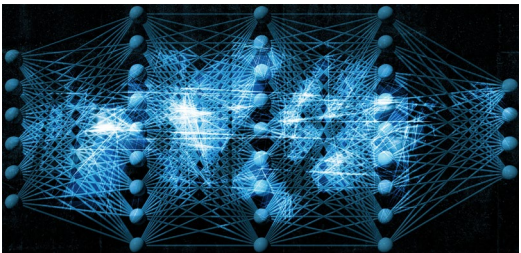
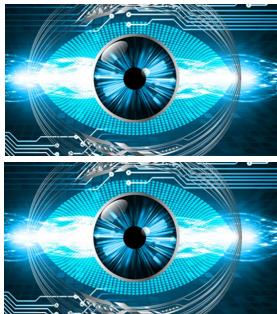




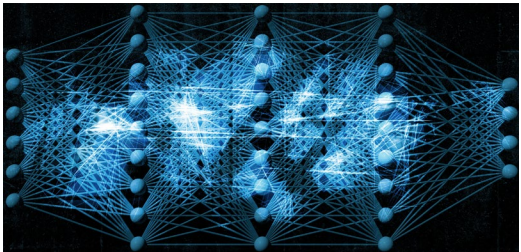
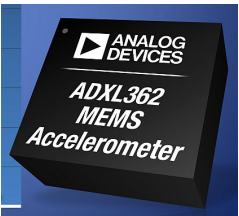
# Building an Auto (or Drone) AI with BICHNN



BICHNN Speech



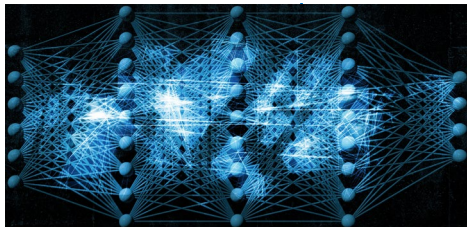
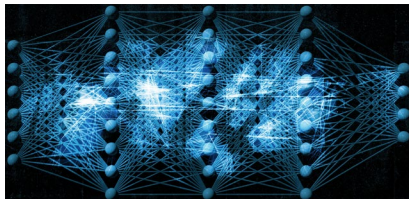
BICHNN Vision



BICHNN Sensory



BICHNN Drone  
Controller



BICHNN  
Auto-Driving  
Controller

