

# CS375 / Psych 249: Large-Scale Neural Network Models for Neuroscience

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## Lecture 7: Recurrence and Feedback in the Visual System

2025.02.01

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Stanford University



# Four Principles of Goal-Driven Modeling

1.

**A** = *architecture class*

2.

**T** = *task/objective*

3.

**D** = *dataset*

4.

**L** = *learning rule*

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Best proxies thus far for ventral stream:

**A** = *ConvNets of reasonable depth*

**T** = *multi-way object categorization*

**D** = *ImageNet images*

**L** = *evolutionary architecture search + filter learning through gradient descent*

# Four Principles of Goal-Driven Modeling

1.

**A** = architecture class **= circuit neuro-anatomy**

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**T** = task/objective **= ecological niche**

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**D** = dataset **= environment**

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**L** = learning rule **= natural selection + synaptic plasticity**

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# Four Principles of Goal-Driven Modeling

1.

**A** = architecture class **= circuit neuro-anatomy**

*solving*

2.

**T** = task/objective **= ecological niche**

*situated in*

3.

**D** = dataset **= environment**

*updating according to*

4.

**L** = learning rule **= natural selection + synaptic plasticity**

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# Big Problems in Each Area

\***bad** = obviously deeply wrong as model of the brain or behavior

## 1. ~~X~~**bad**

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e.g. **CNNs**

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e.g. **Object Categorization**

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e.g. **ImageNet**

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e.g. **Arch. Srch. + Grad. Desc.**

## PROBLEM

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**RECURRENT and FEEDBACK!!?**

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**TOO MUCH LABELLED DATA REQUIRED!!?**

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**REAL NOISY VIDEO DATASTREAMS vs STEREOTYPED CLEAN STILL IMAGES**

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## PROBLEM

RECURRENCE and FEEDBACK!!?

TOO MUCH LABELLED DATA REQUIRED!!?

REAL NOISY VIDEO DATASTREAMS vs STEREOTYPED CLEAN STILL IMAGES

BACKPROP AND ITS DISCONTENTS

# From Last Time . . .

\***✓ok** = we've really nailed it

\***✓ok-ish** = harder to reject out of hand

**\*bad** = obviously deeply wrong

## 1. **✗bad**

**A** = architecture class

**ConvRNNs**

## 2. **✓ok**

**T** = task/objective

e.g. **Object Categorization**

## 3. **\*✓ok-ish**

**D** = dataset

e.g. **ImageNet**

## 4. **✗bad**

**L** = learning rule

e.g. **Arch. Srch. + Grad. Desc.**

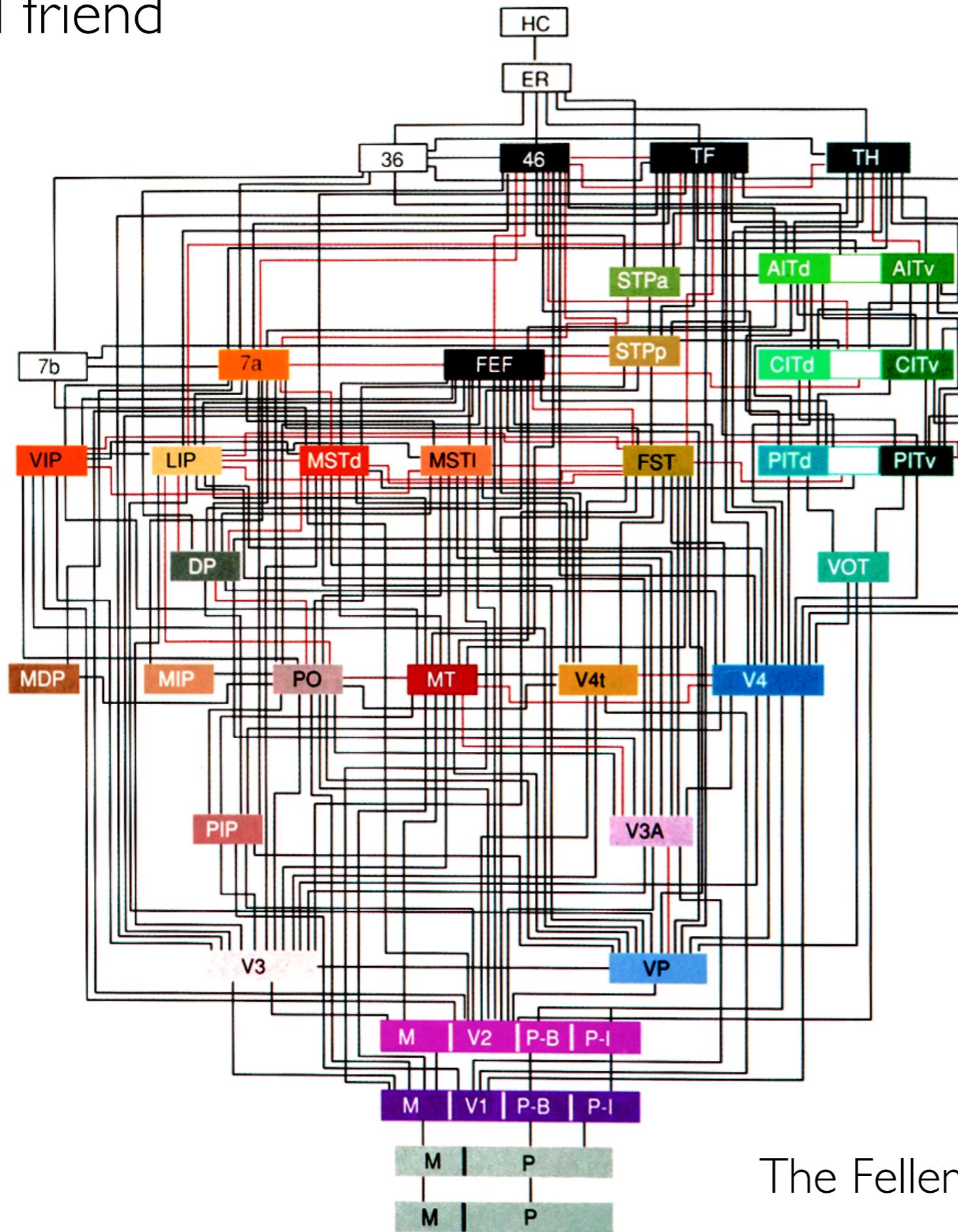
## **SOLUTION**

**RECURRENCE and FEEDBACK**

**SELF-SUPERVISION WORKS GREAT!**

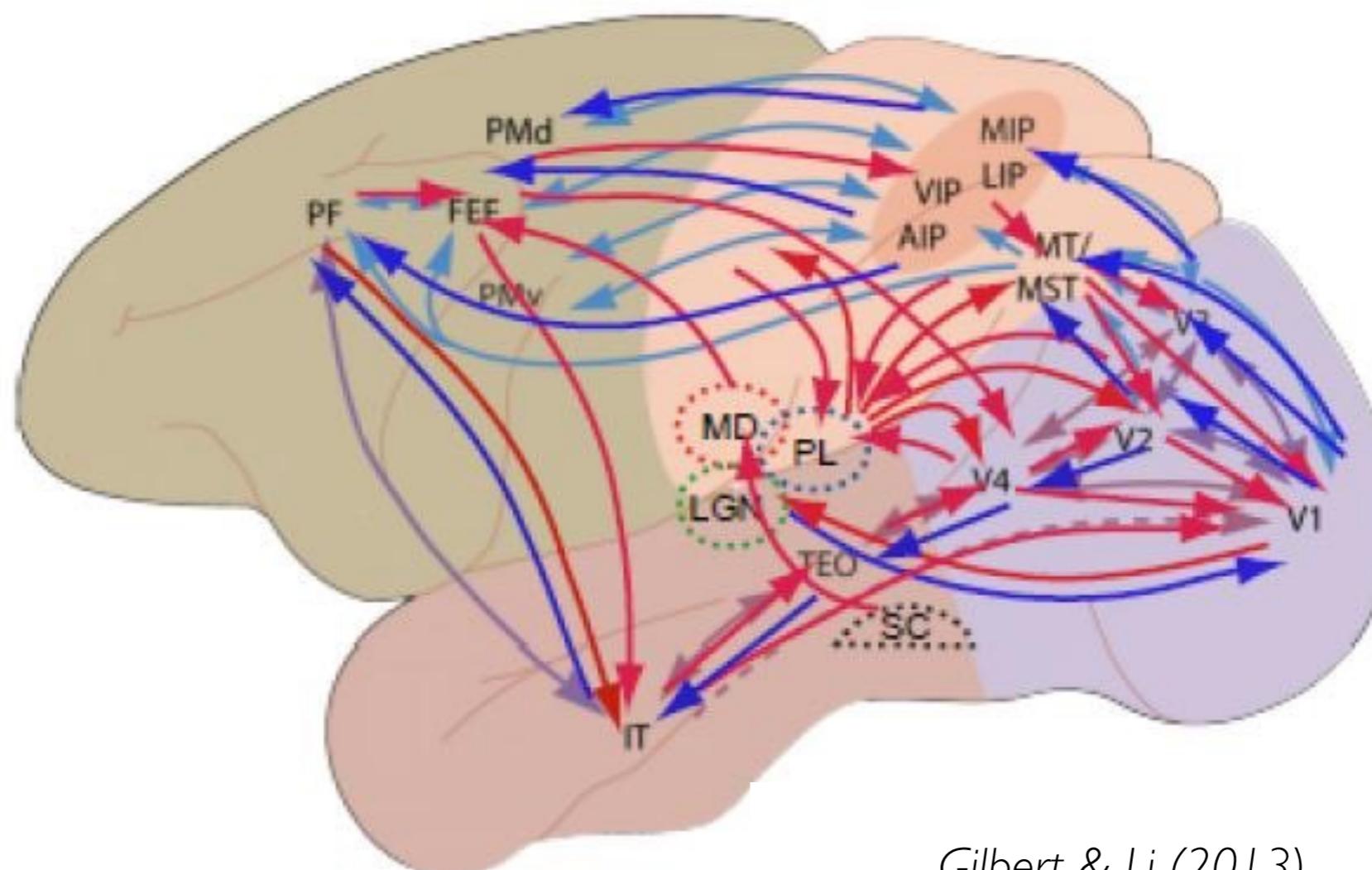
**CAN HANDLE REAL VIDEOSTREAMS  
TO \*SOME\* EXTENT**

# Our old friend



The Felleman-vanEssen Diagram

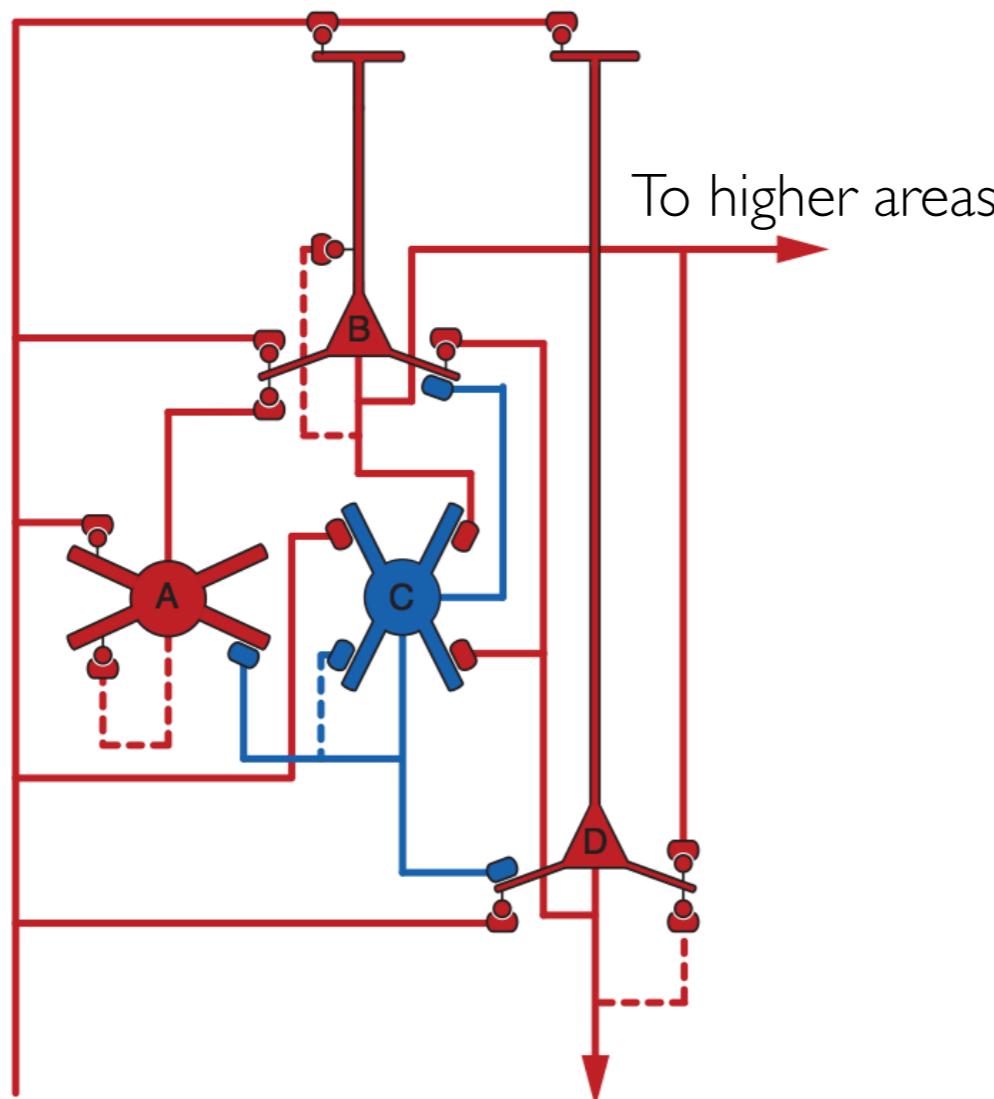
# Feedbacks everywhere



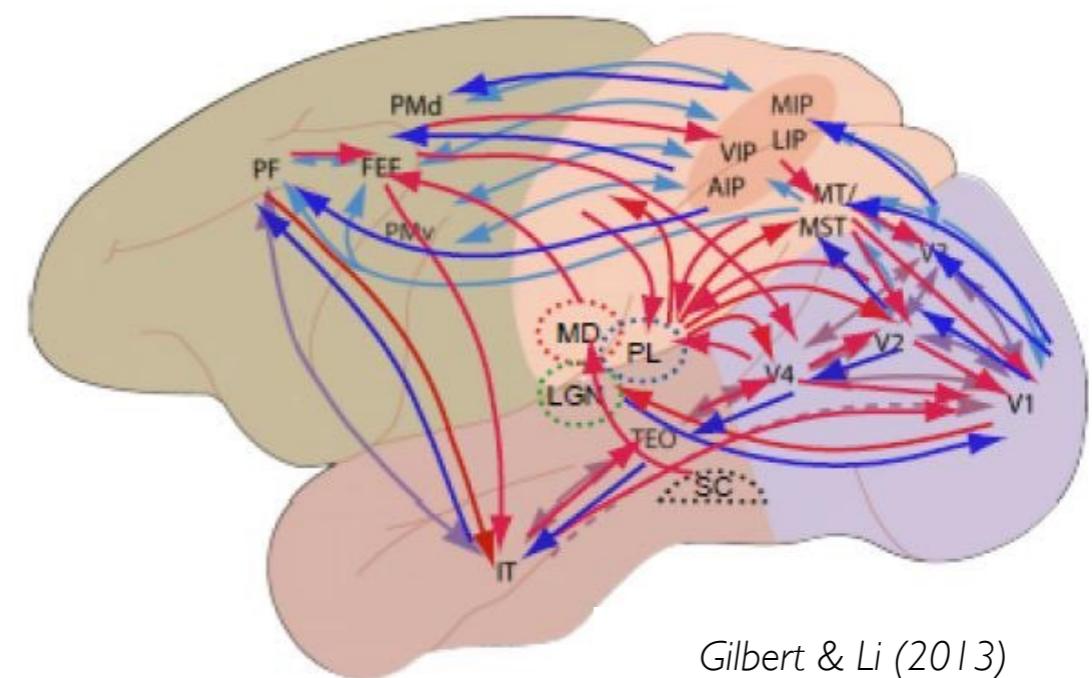
Gilbert & Li (2013)

# “Real” neural networks are full of feedback

## Local recurrence



## Long-range connections

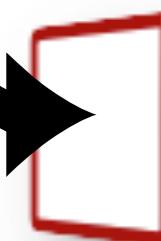


Gilbert & Li (2013)

From lower areas

Douglas & Martin (2010)

Of course we soft-pedaled them earlier ....



pixel



RGC



LGN



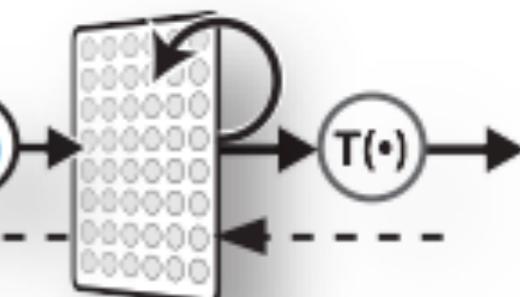
V1



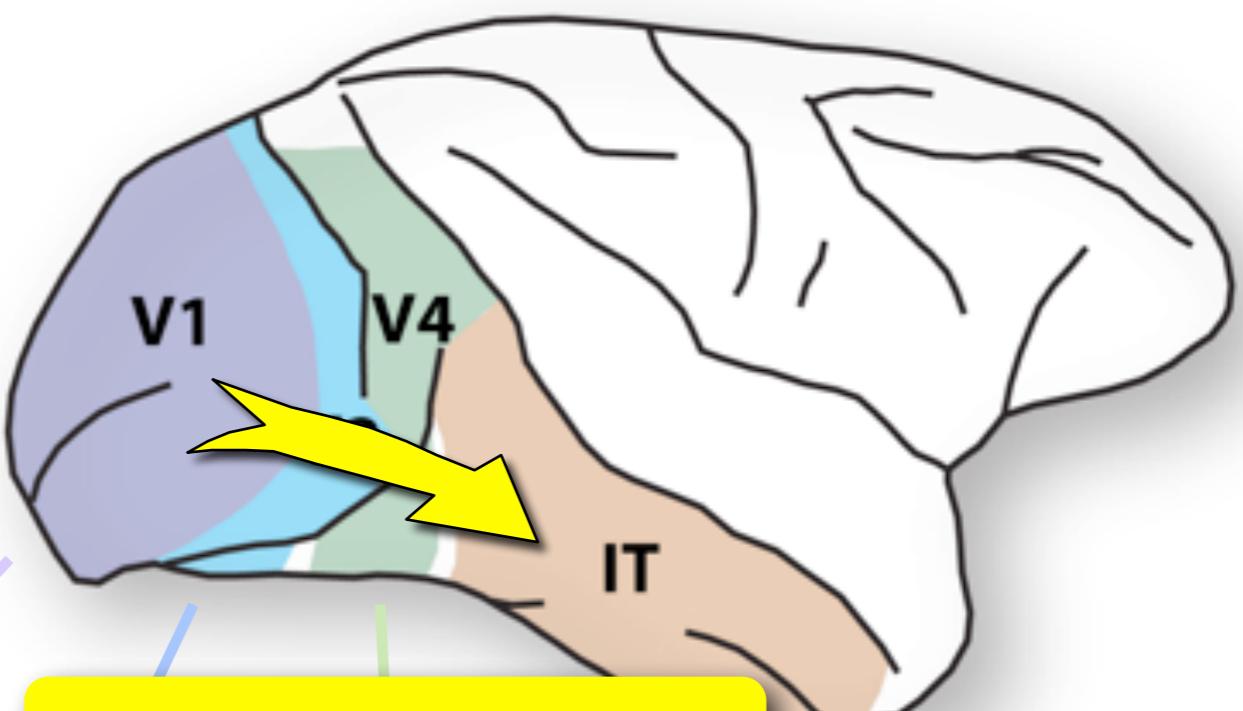
V2



V4

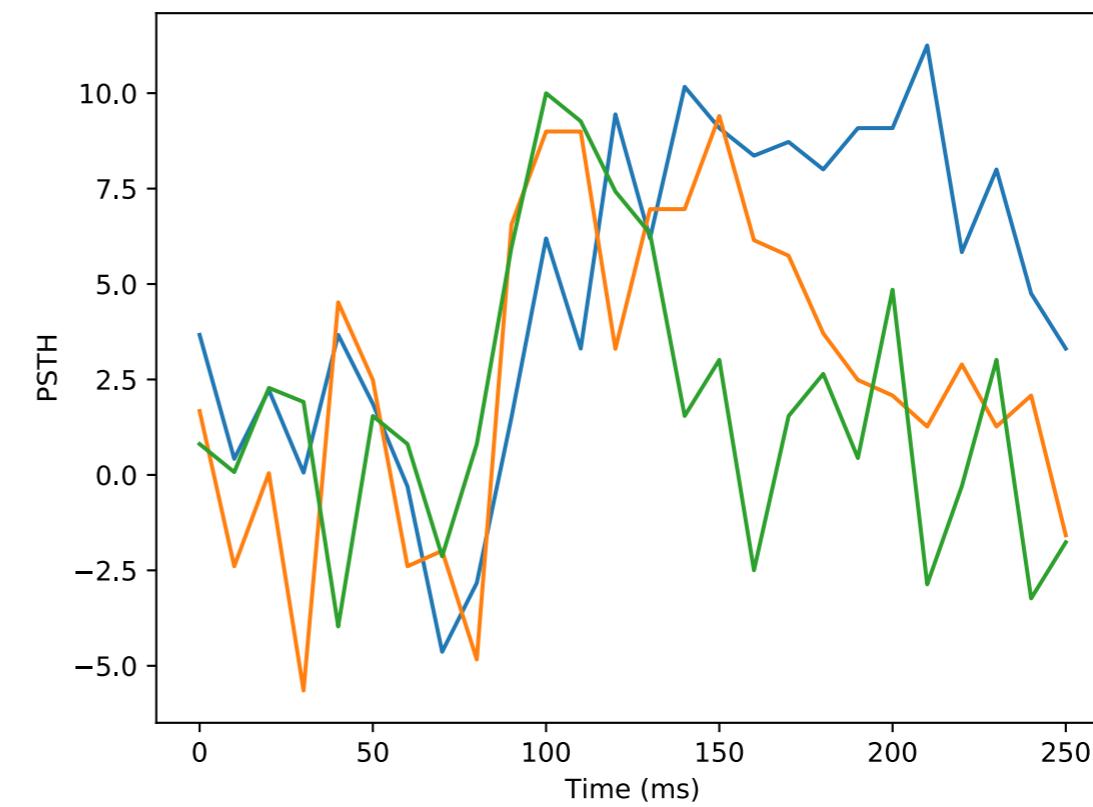
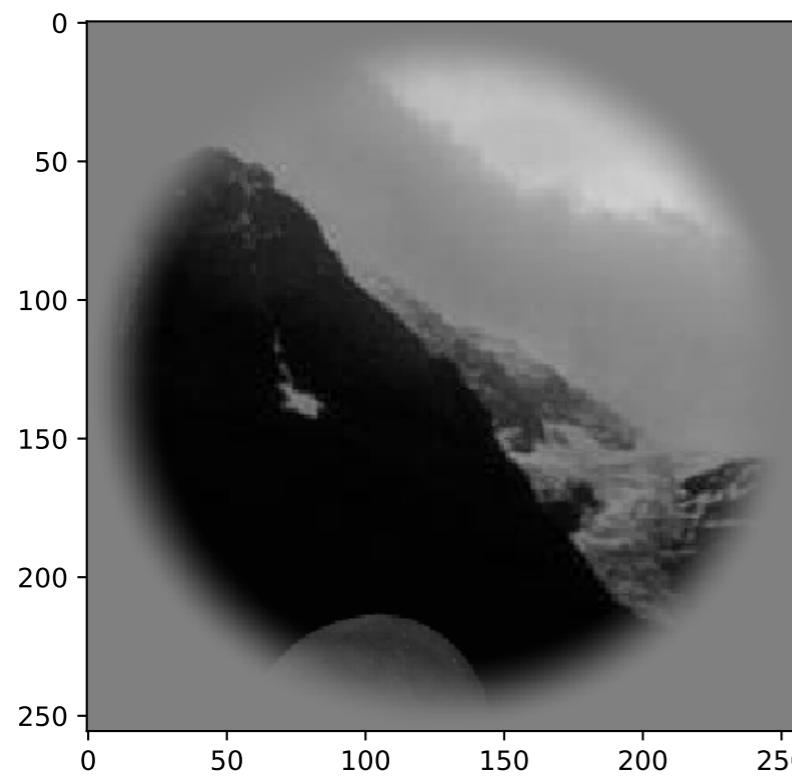
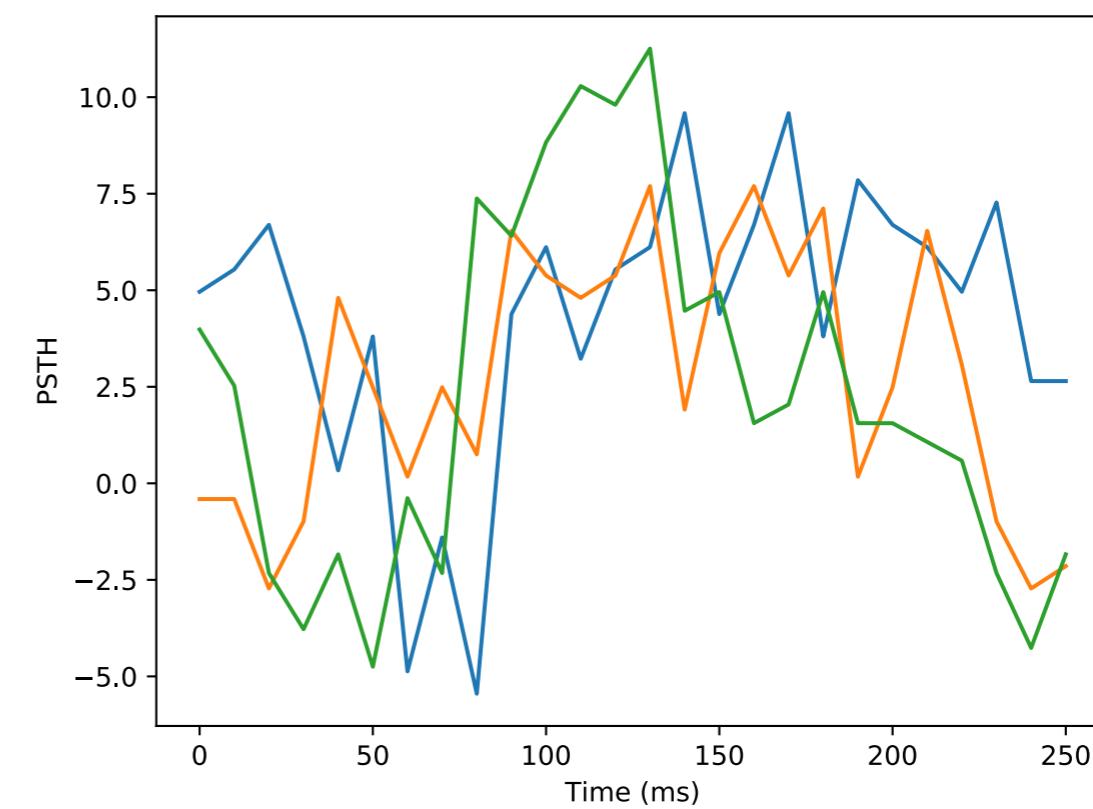
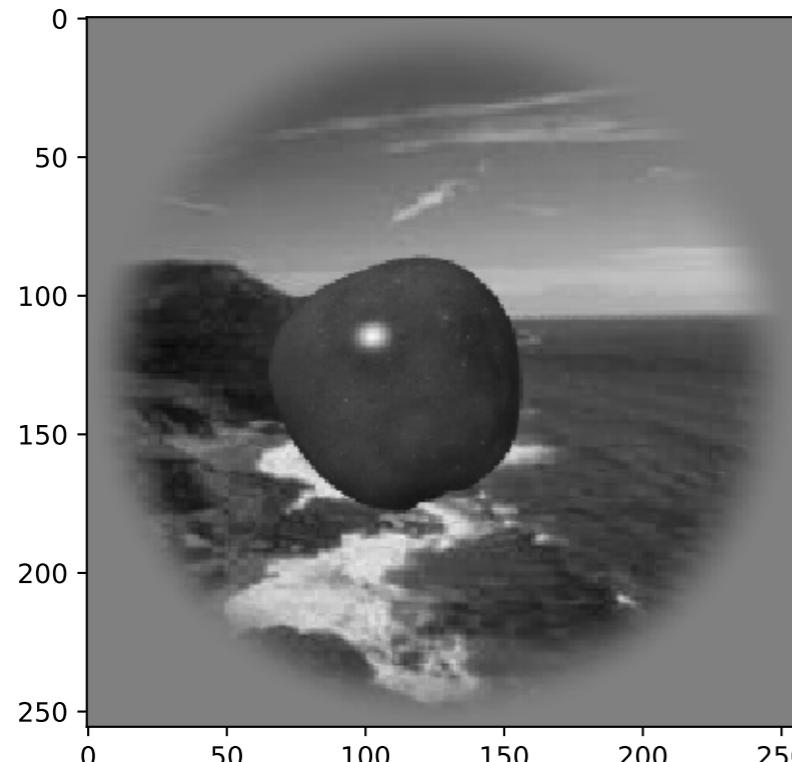


IT



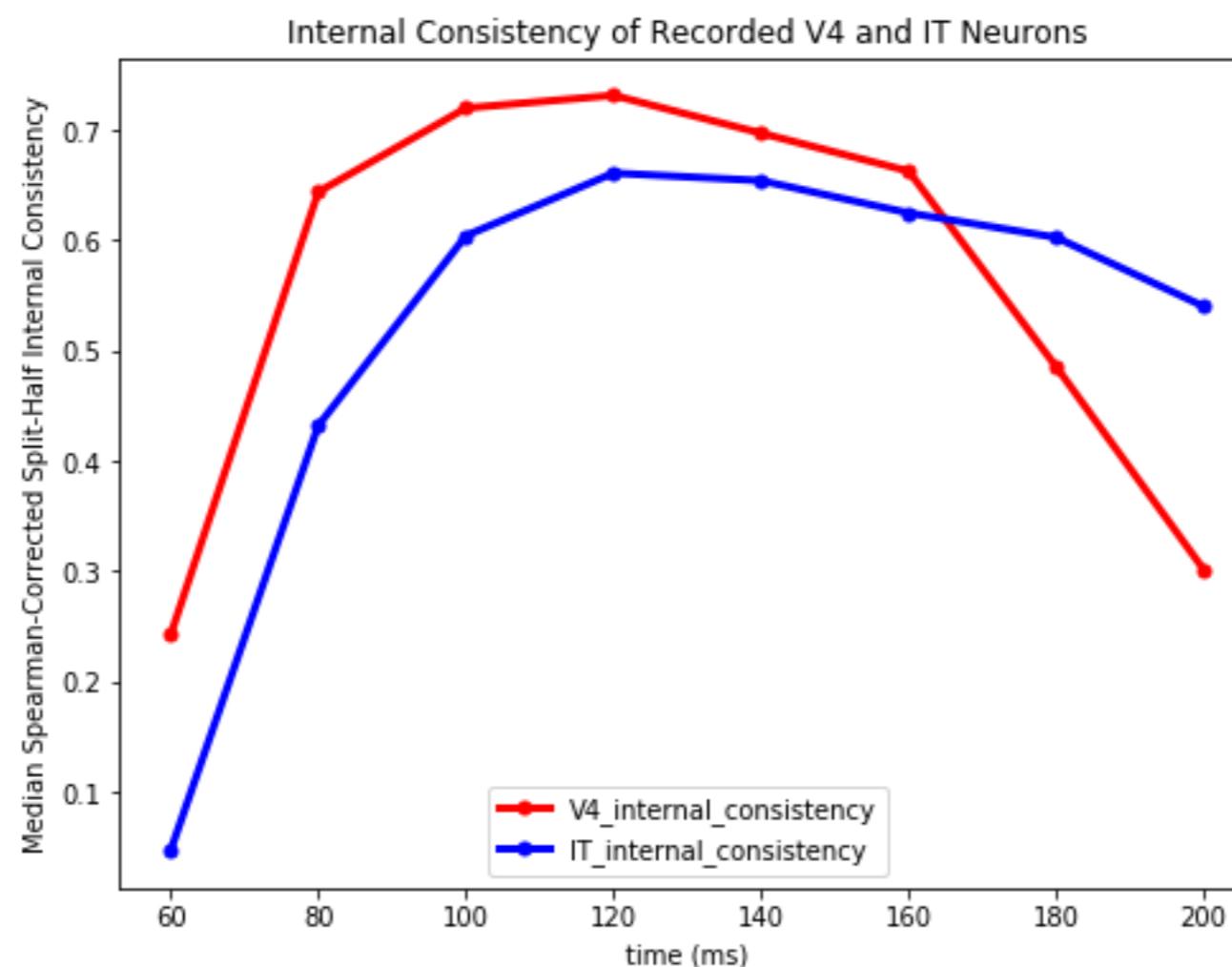
Ventral visual stream

# Neural data has dynamics

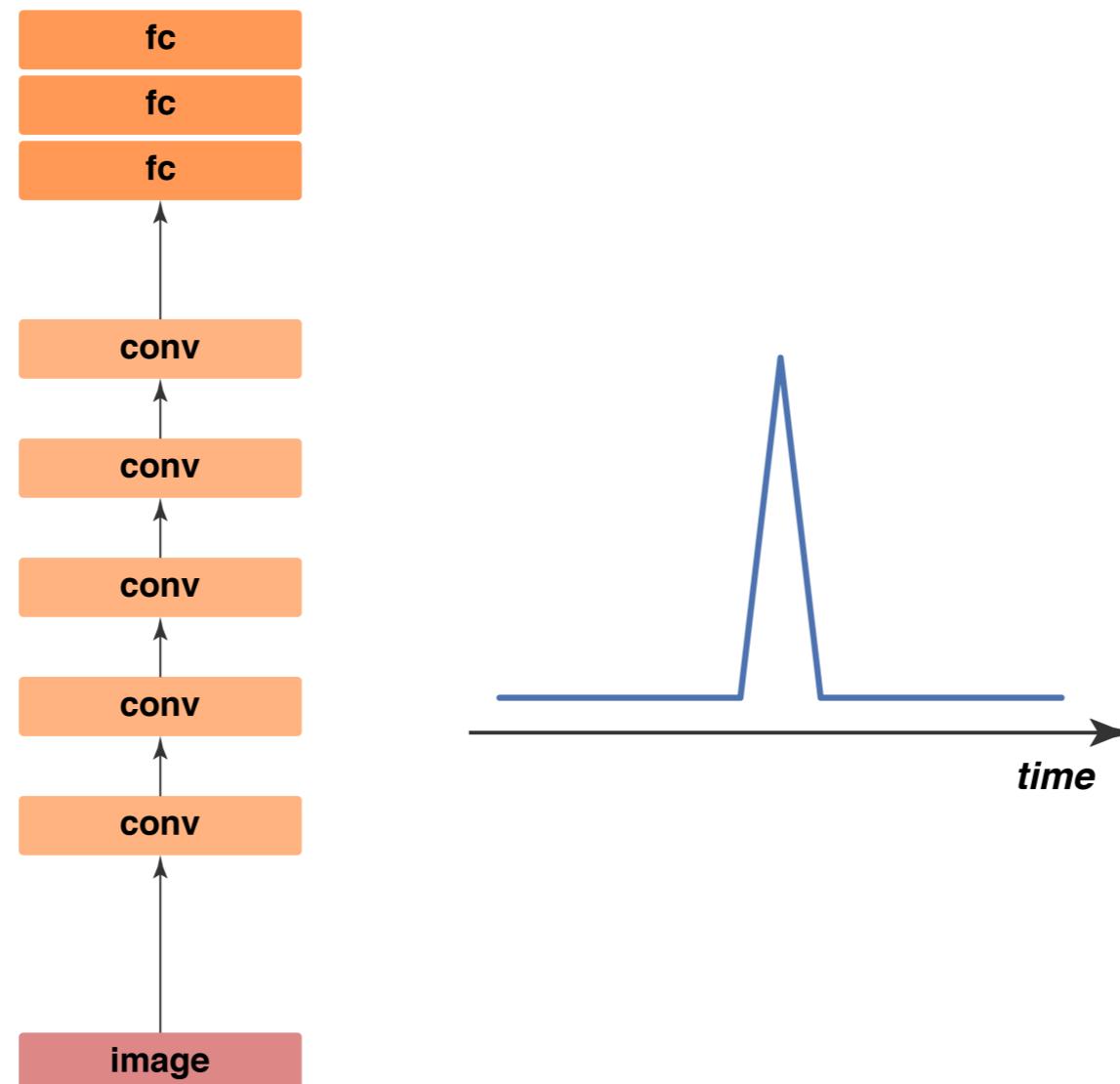


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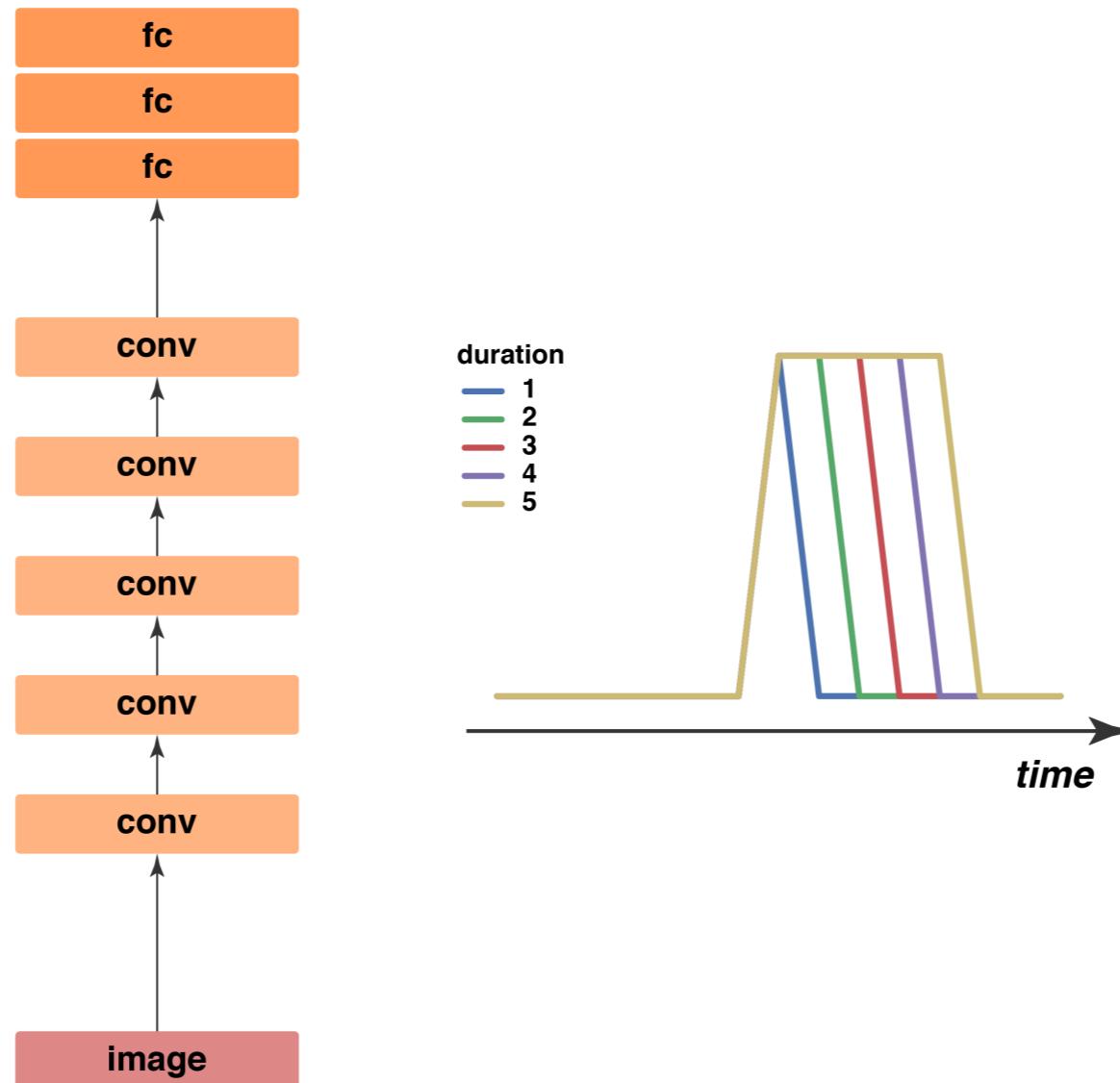
Hierarchical structure can be seen in the dynamics



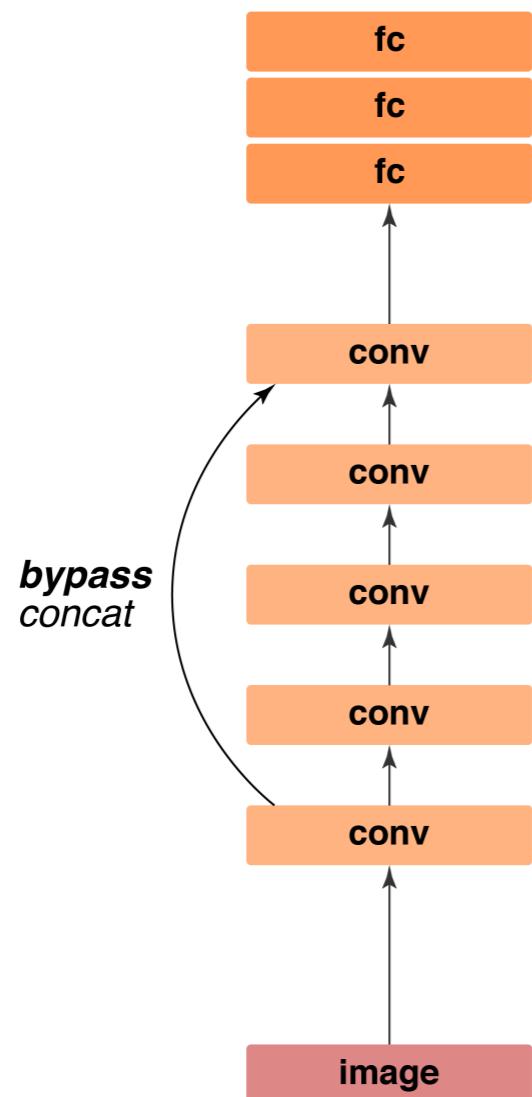
# Limitations of Feedforward Structures



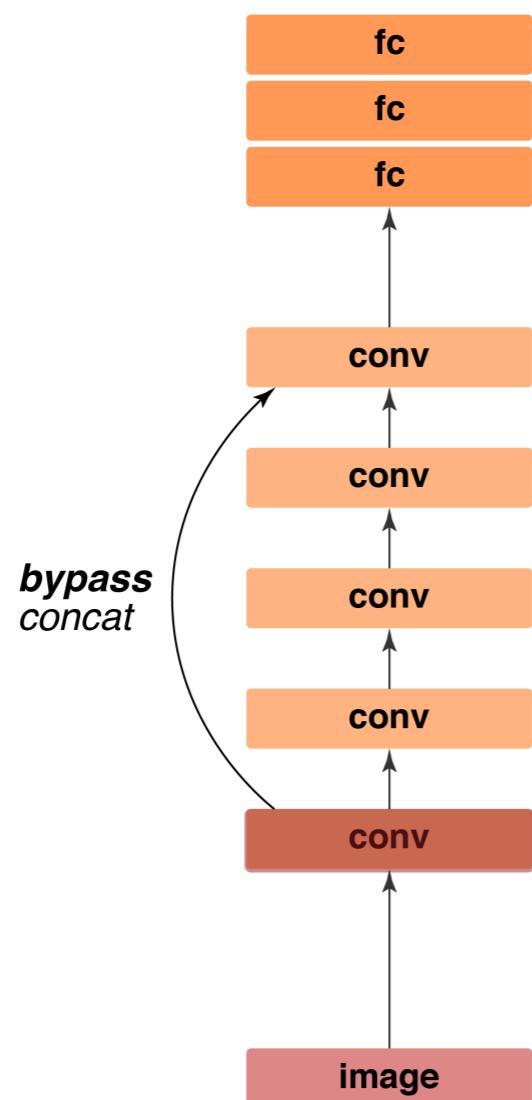
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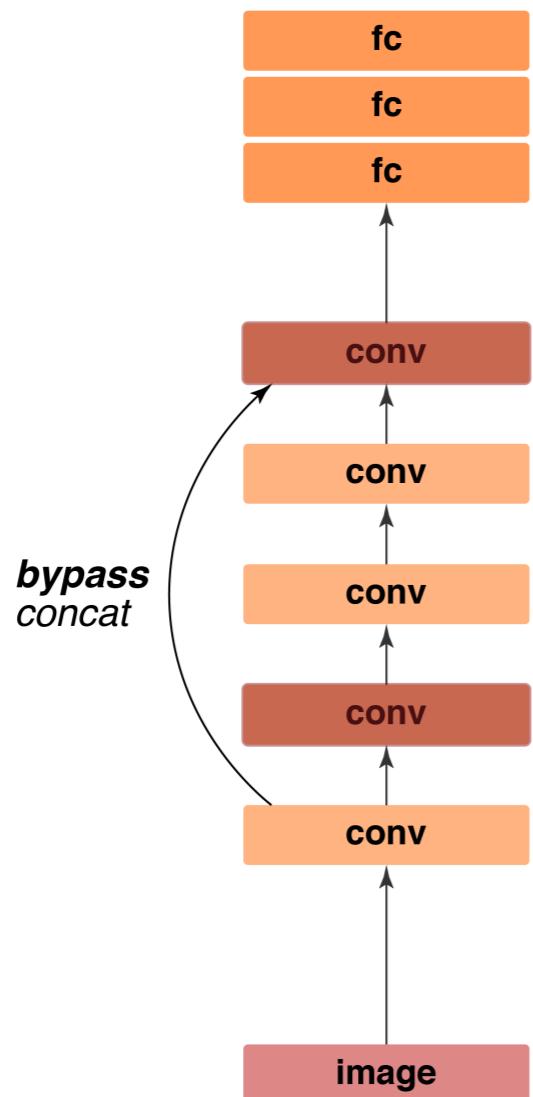
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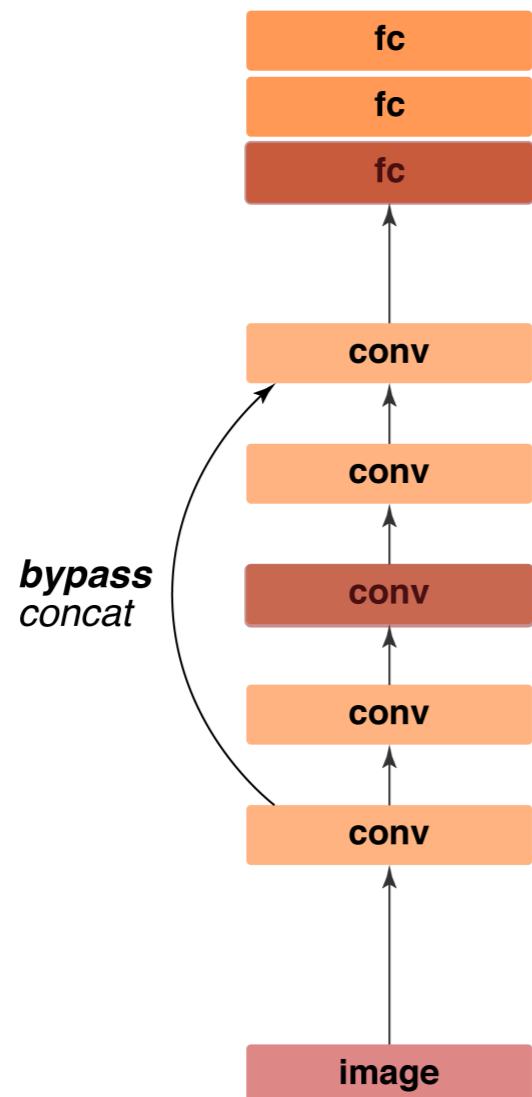
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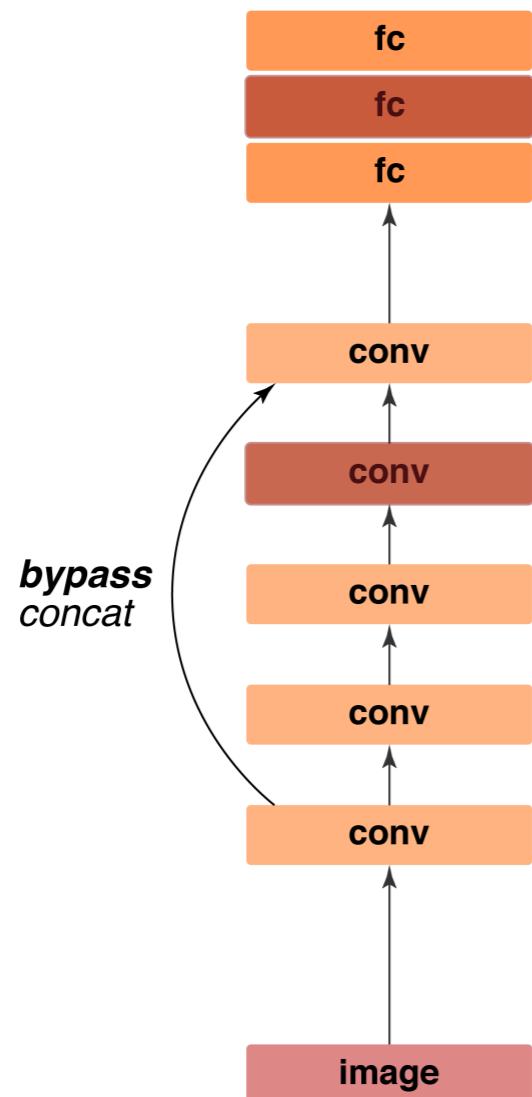
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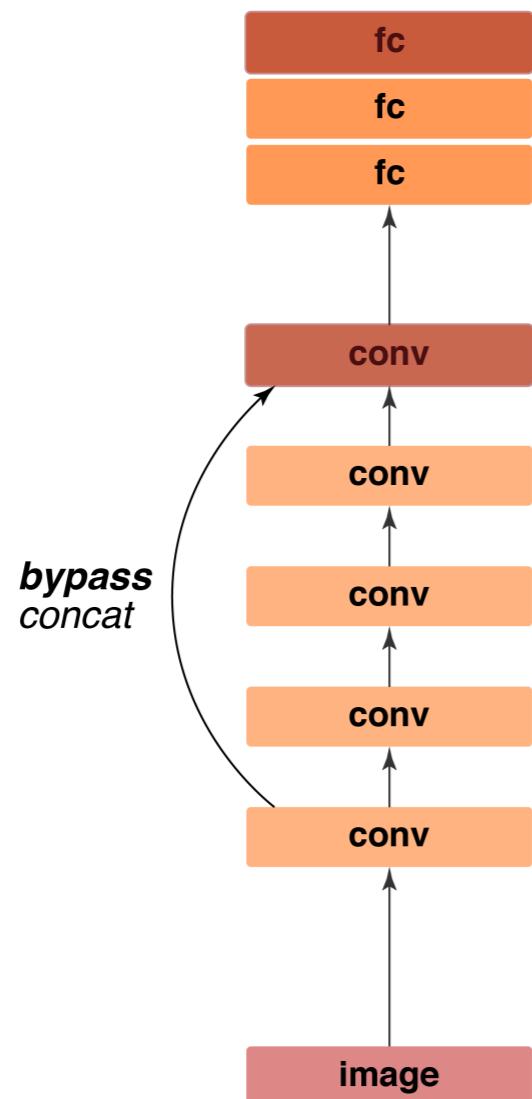
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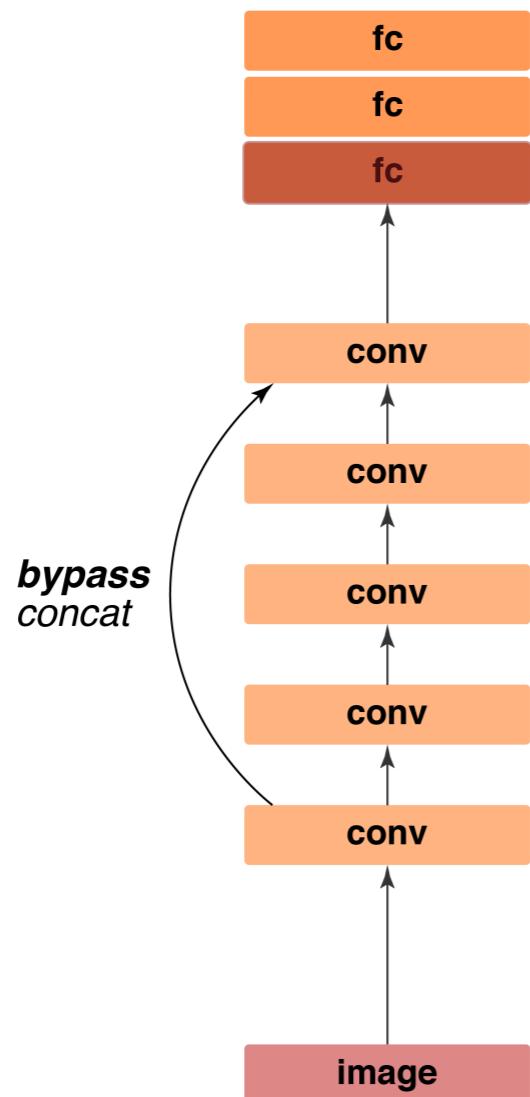
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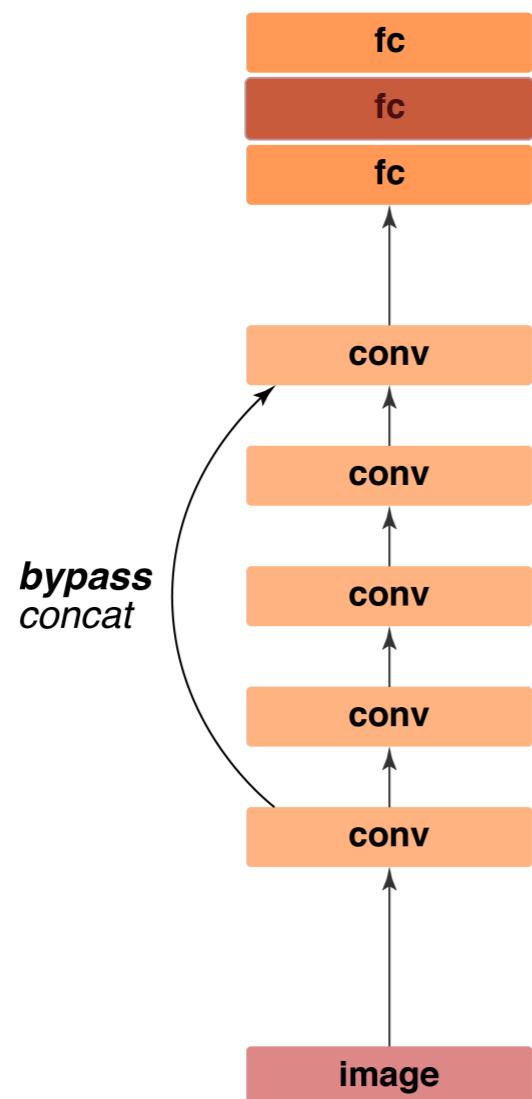
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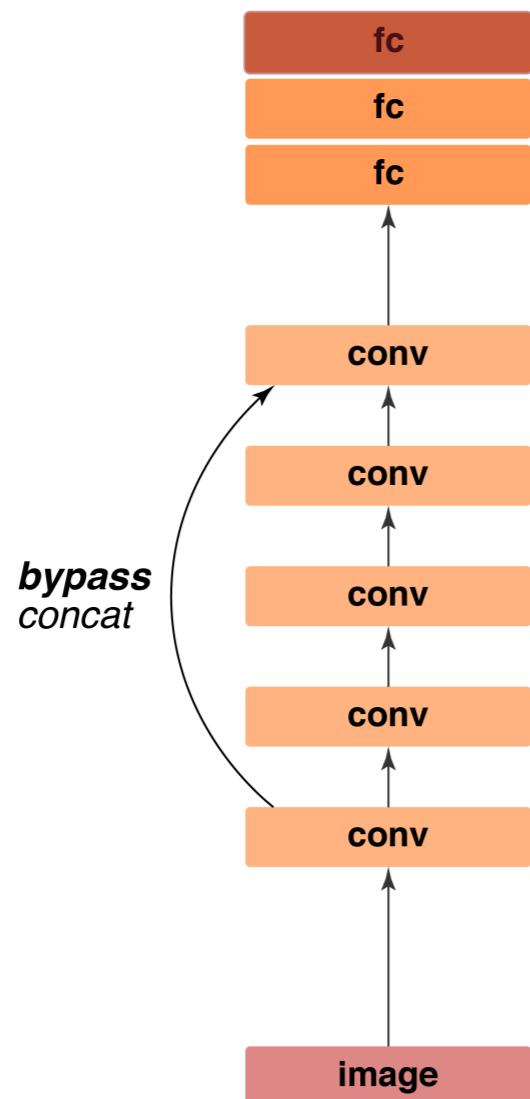
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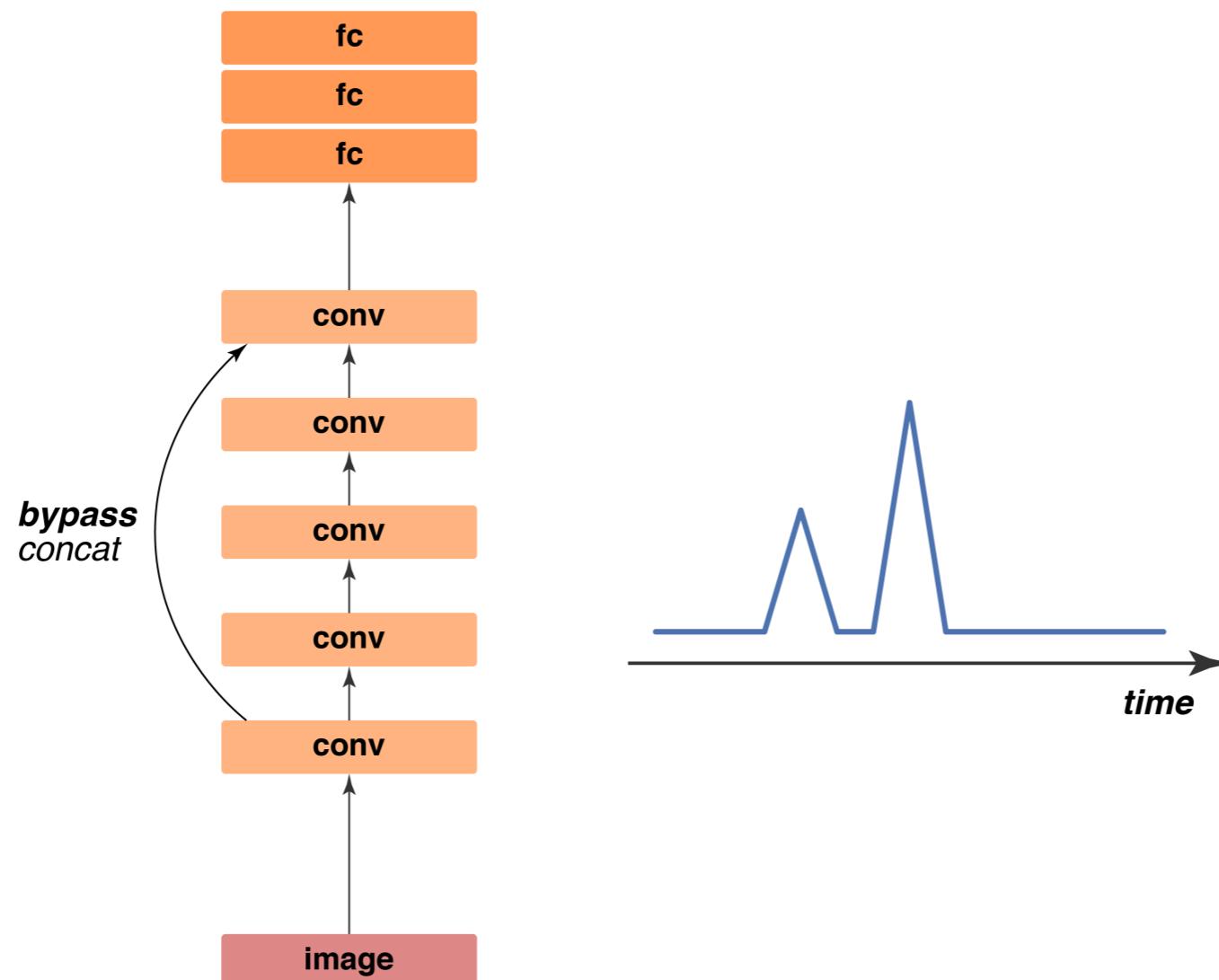
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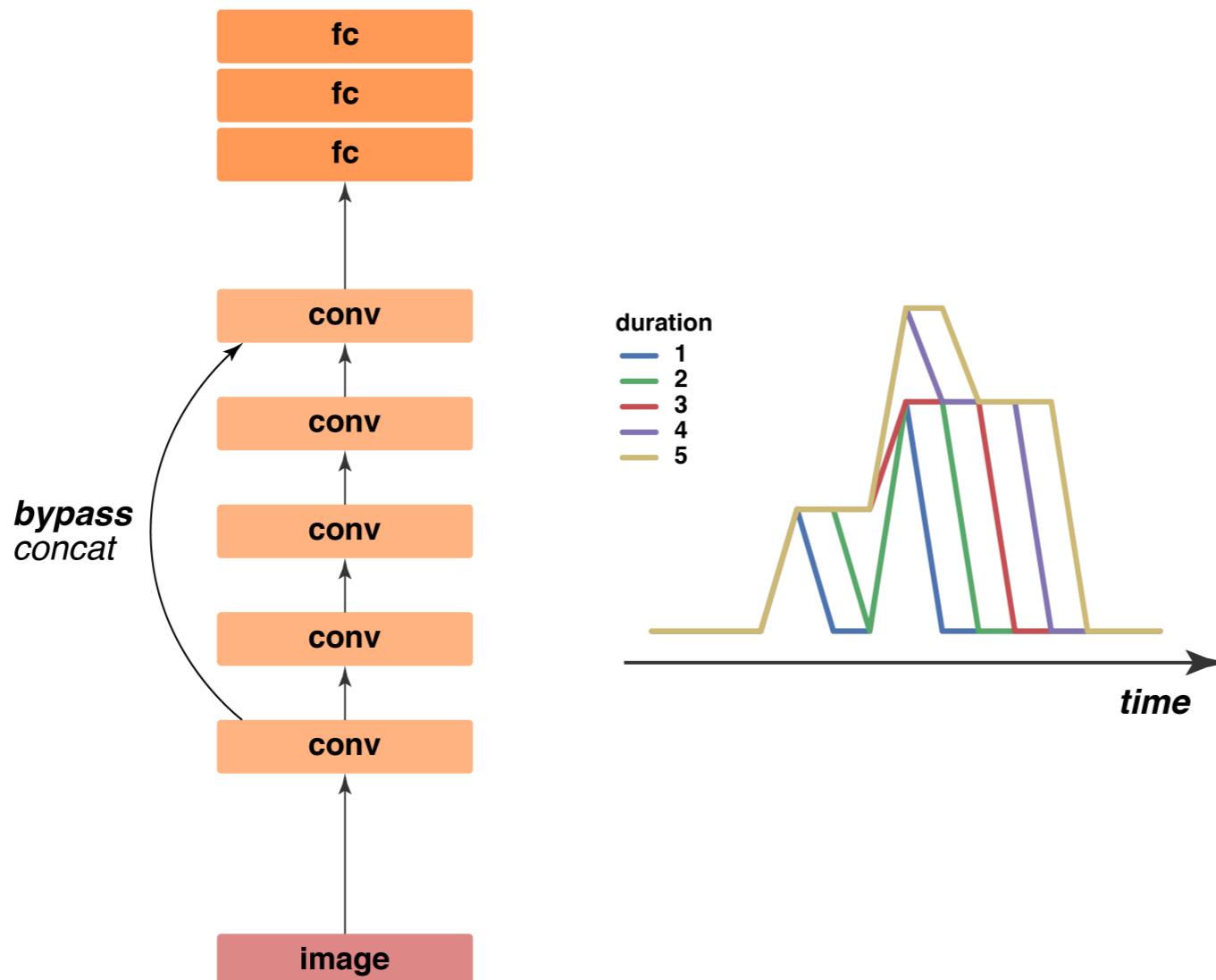
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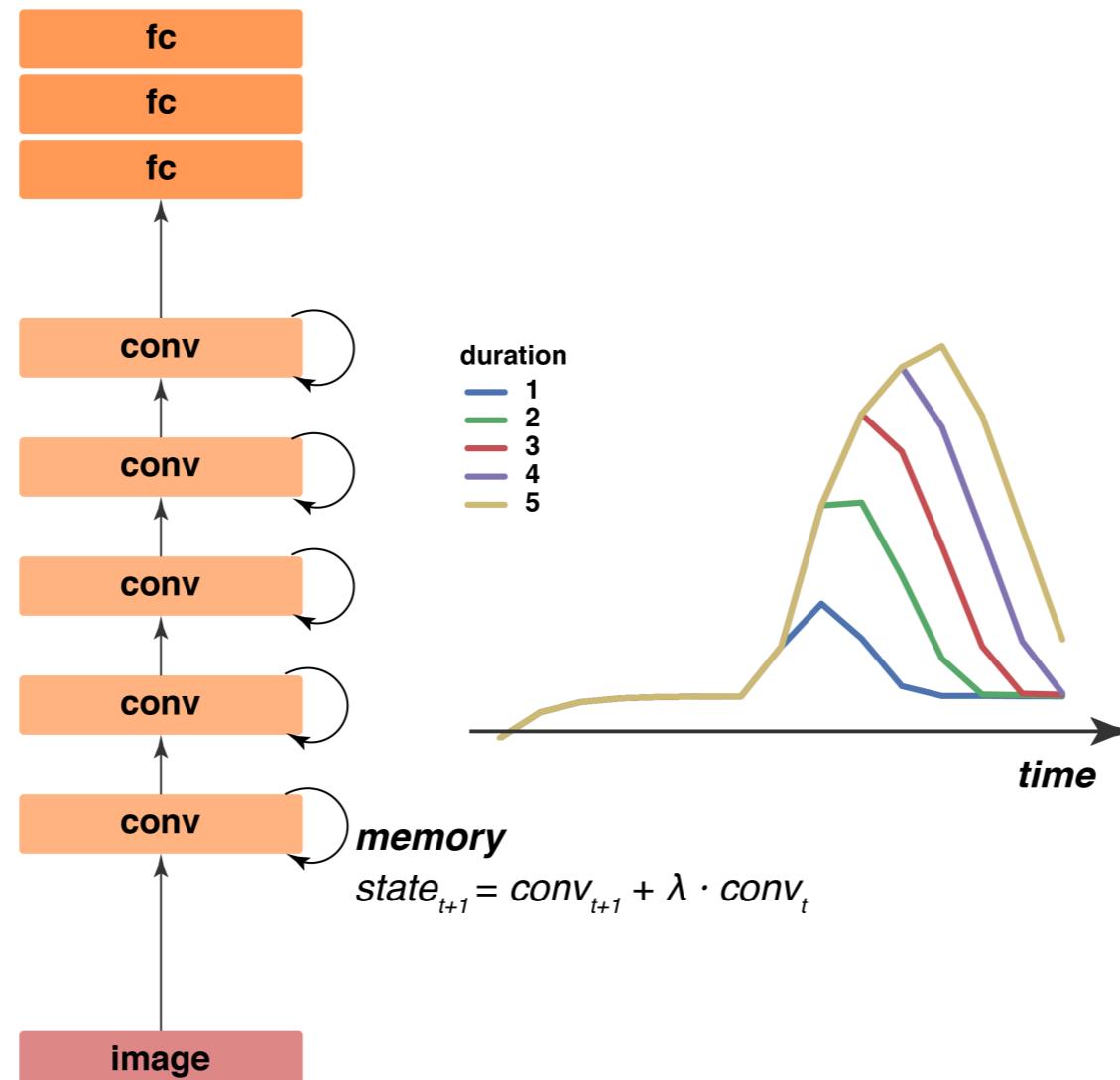
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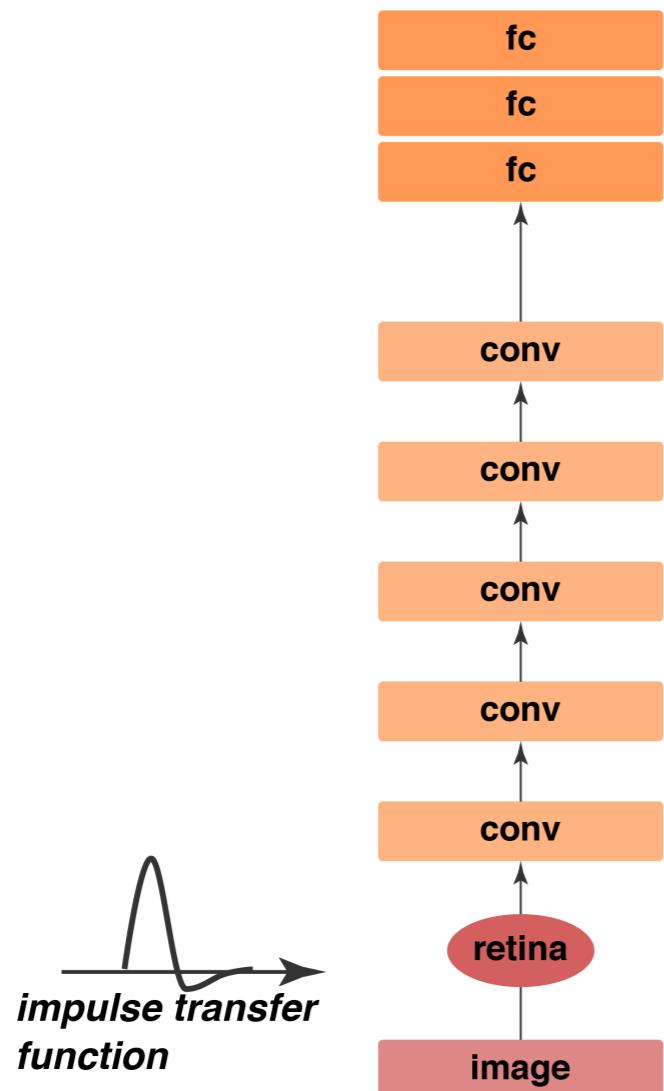
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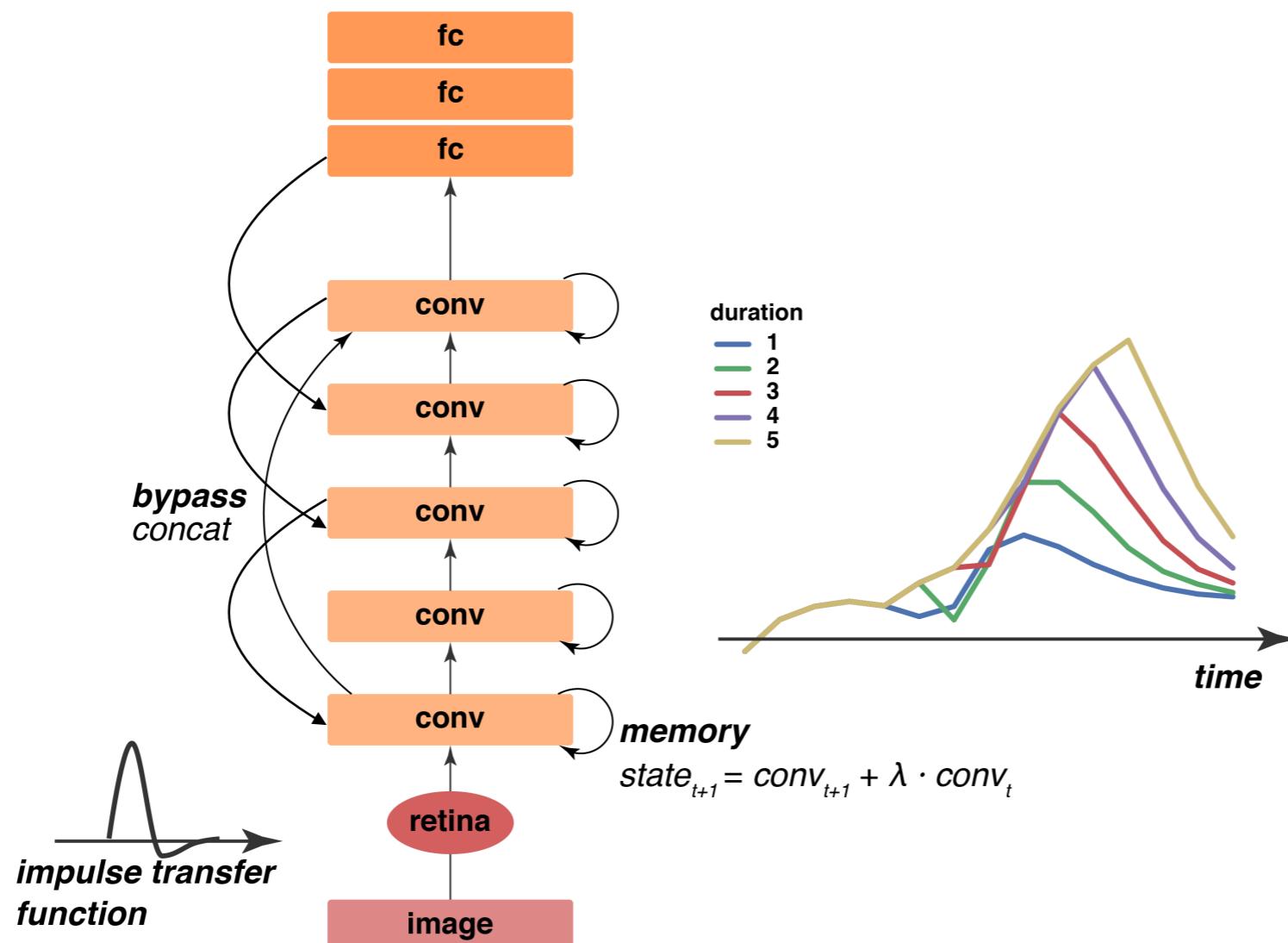
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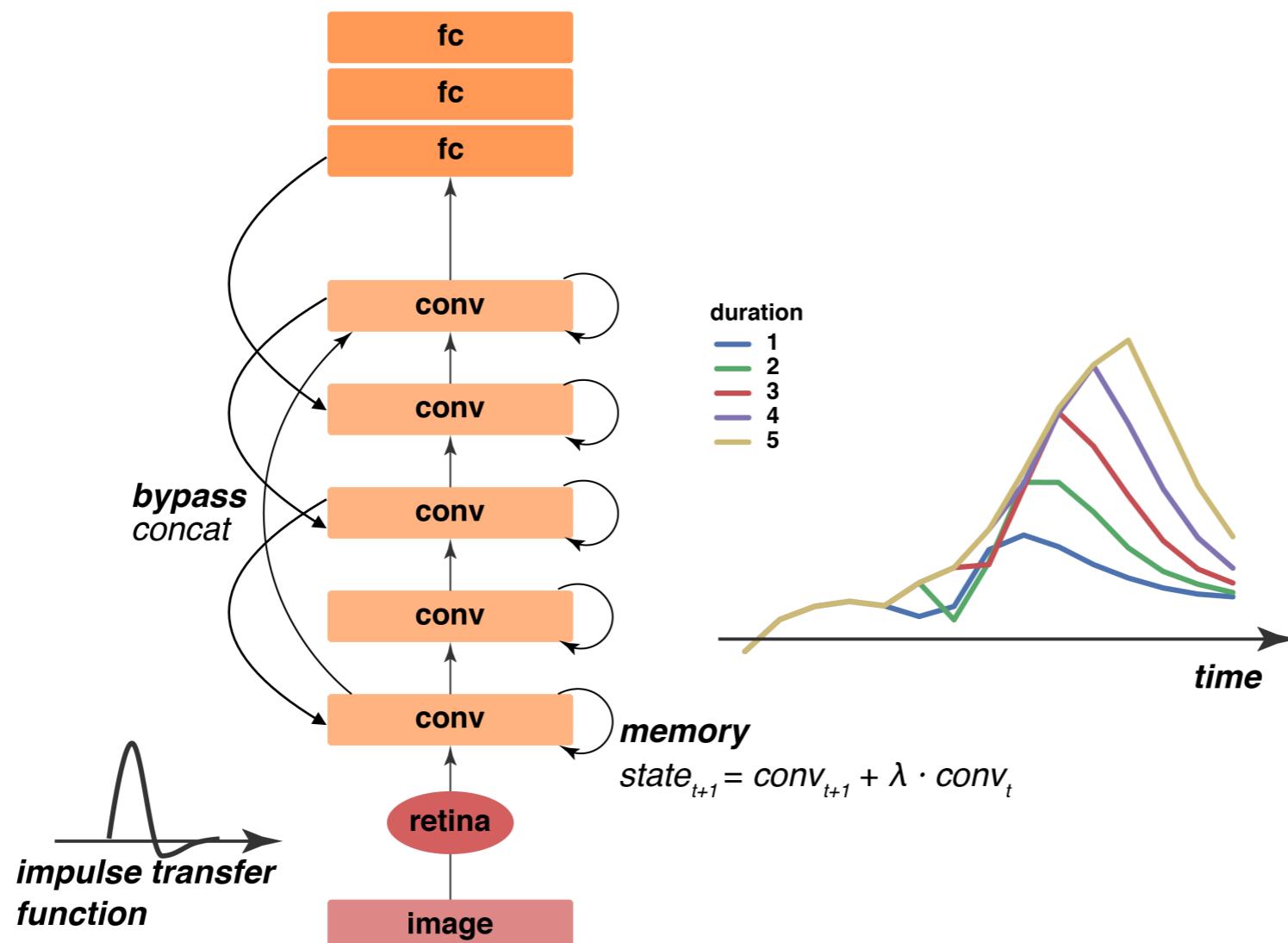
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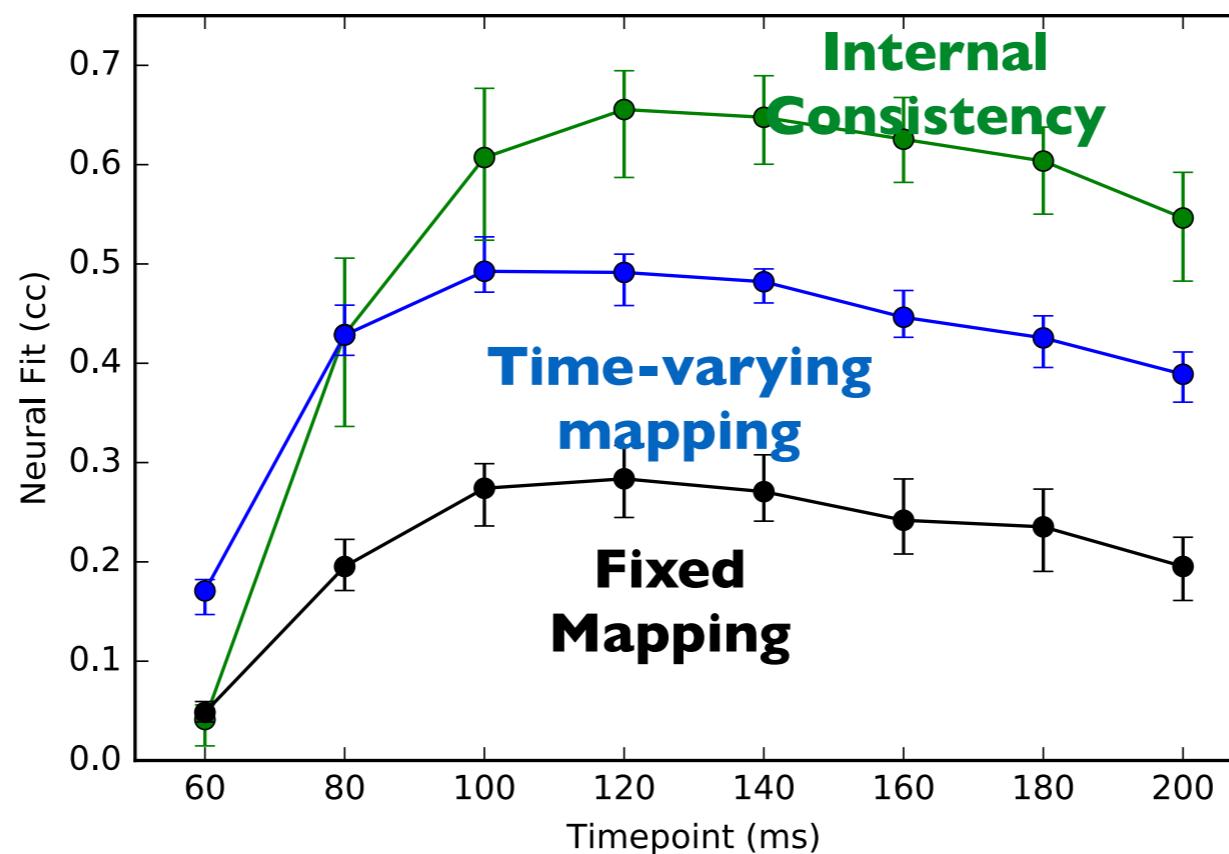


# Limitations of Feedforward Structures



# Neural data has dynamics

IT trajectories fit with feedforward models



# Biological views on function

## **Top-down influences on visual processing**

**Charles D. Gilbert<sup>1</sup> and Wu Li<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>The Rockefeller University, 1230 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065

<sup>2</sup>State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, China

“Vision is an active process, where higher order cognitive influences affect the operations performed by cortical neurons.”

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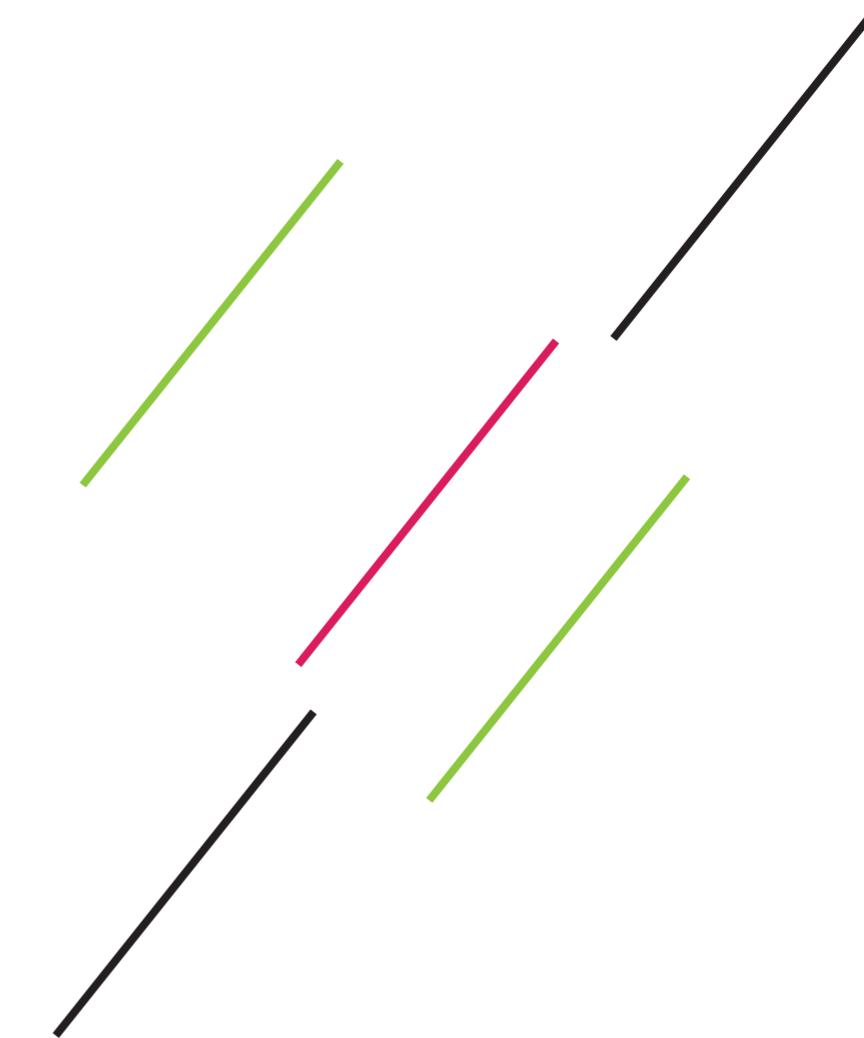
“Top-down influences include various forms of attention, including spatial, object oriented and feature oriented attention.”

“Top-down influences .... [also include] perceptual task, object expectation, scene segmentation, efference copy, working memory, and the encoding and recall of learned information.”

# Biological views on function

Task-dependent changes in neural tuning and information content in V1

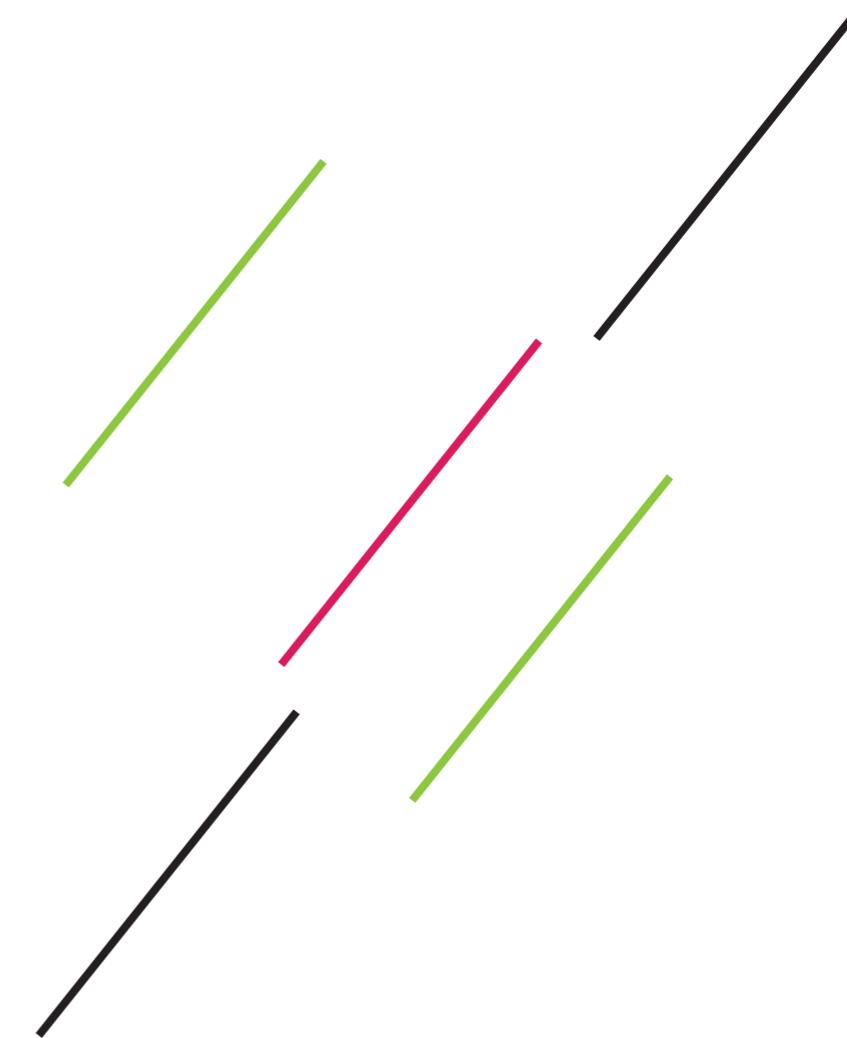
TI: "Which green line is closer to the red?"



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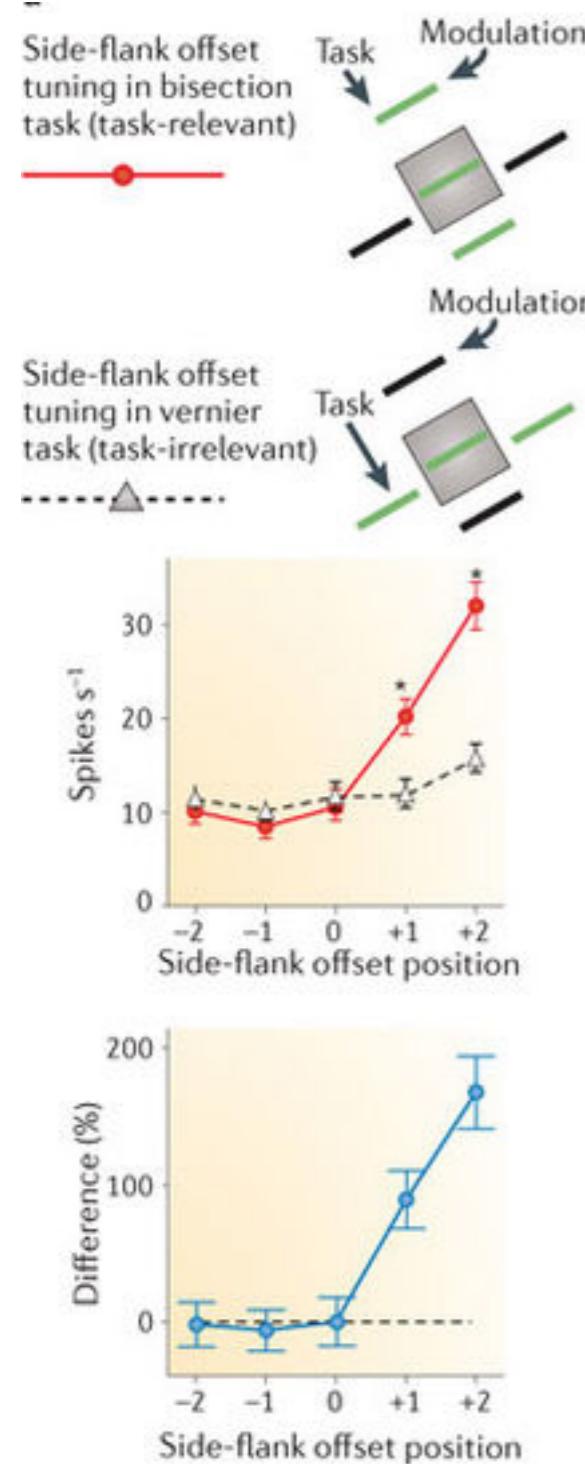
T1: "Which green line is closer to the red?"



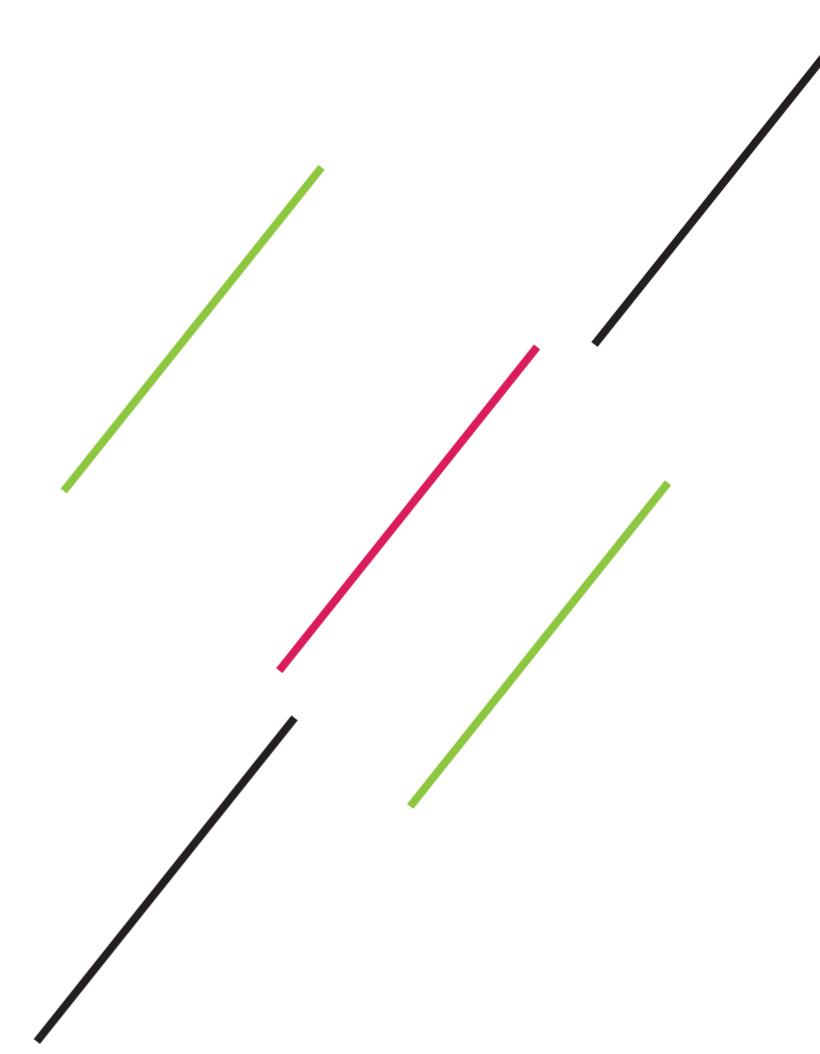
T2: "Which black line is closer to the red?"

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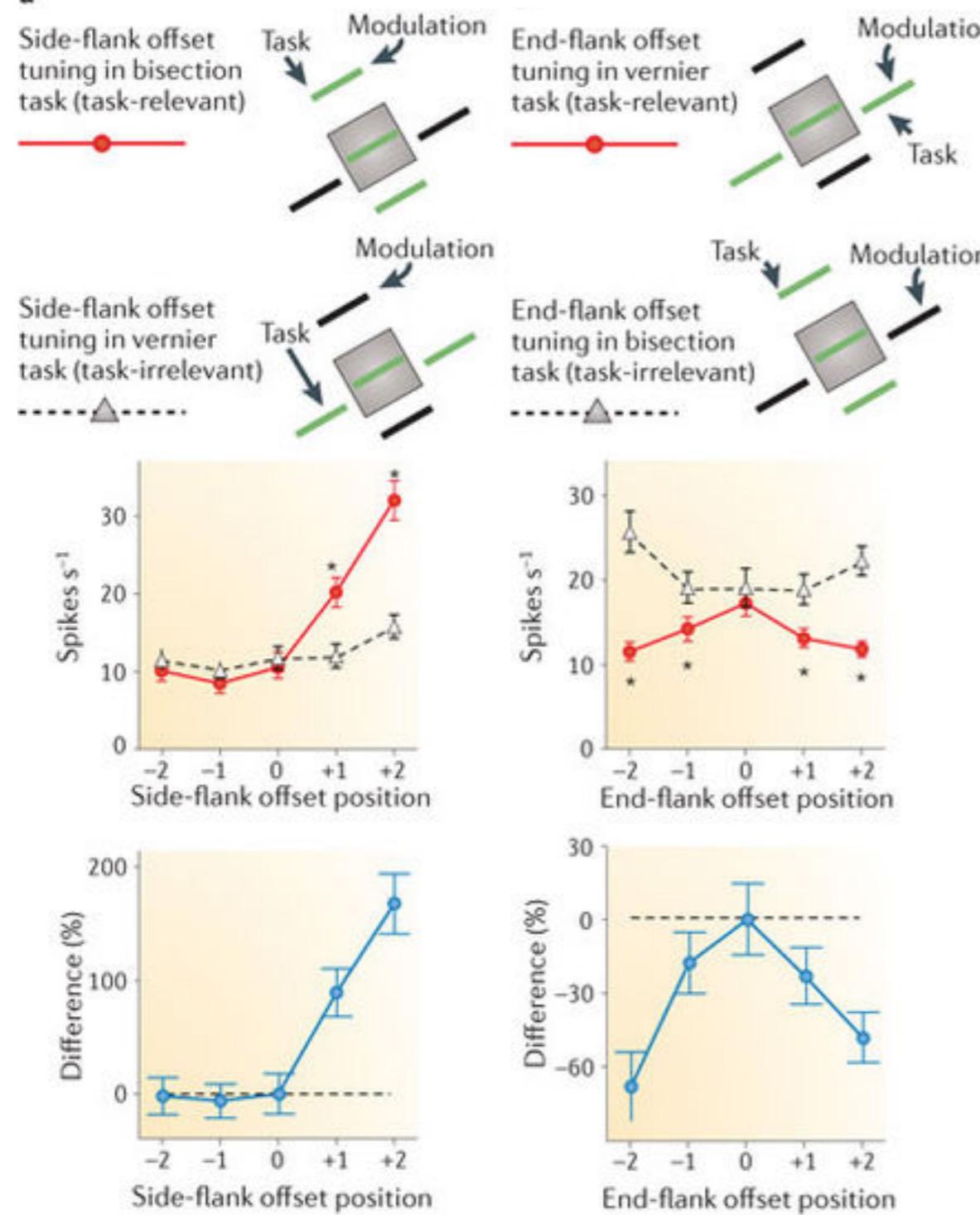


T2: "Which black line is closer to the red?"

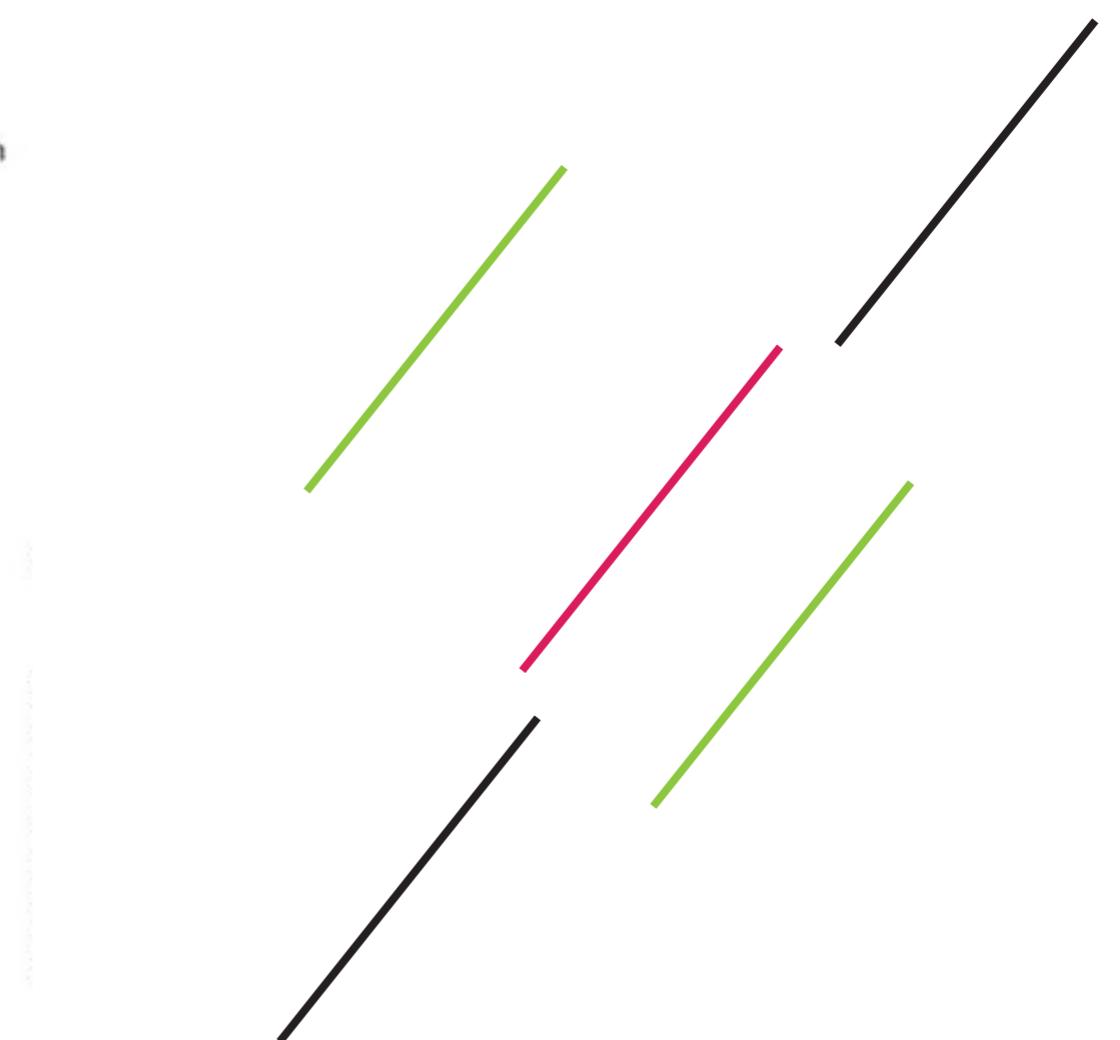


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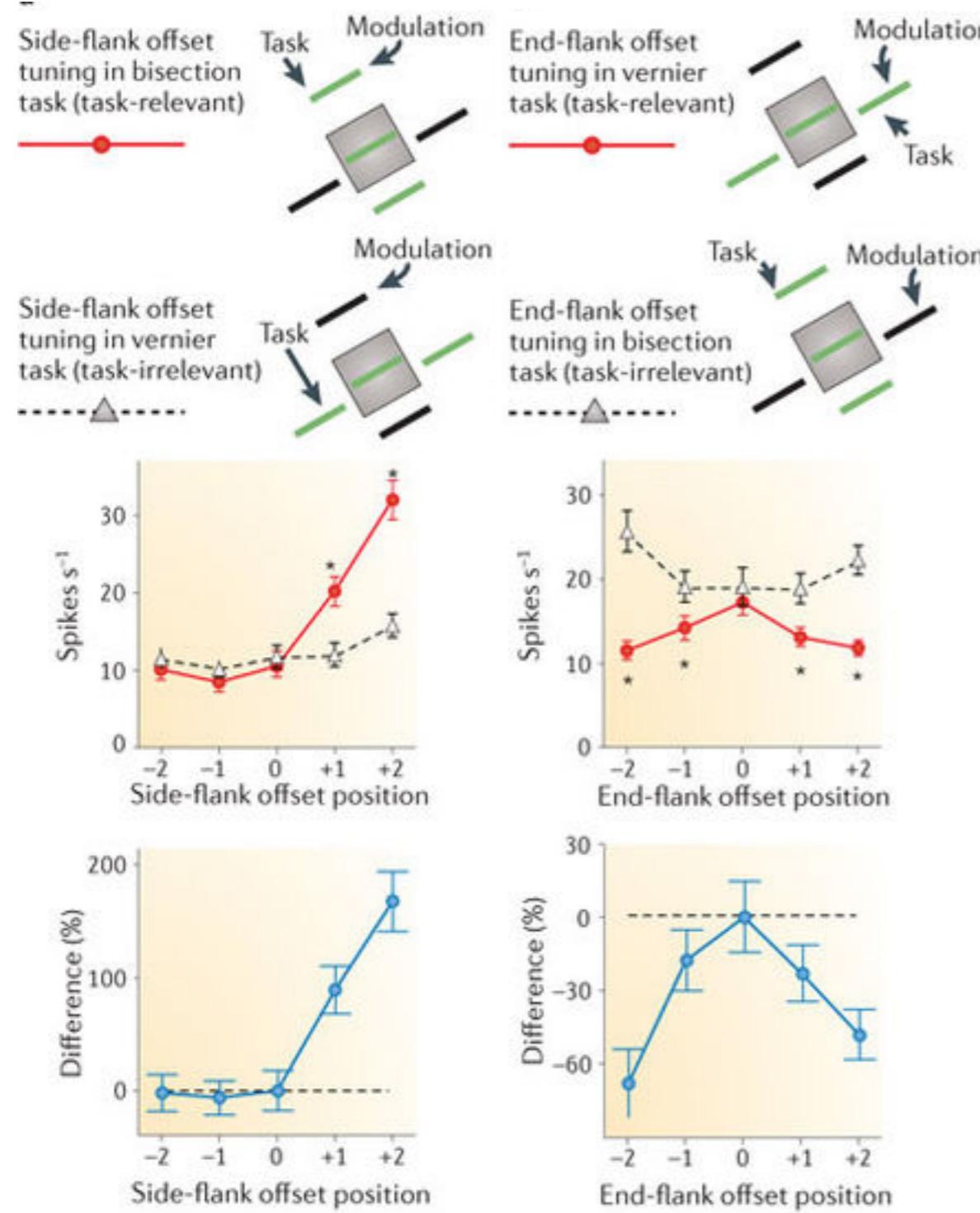
T1: "Which green line is closer to the red?"



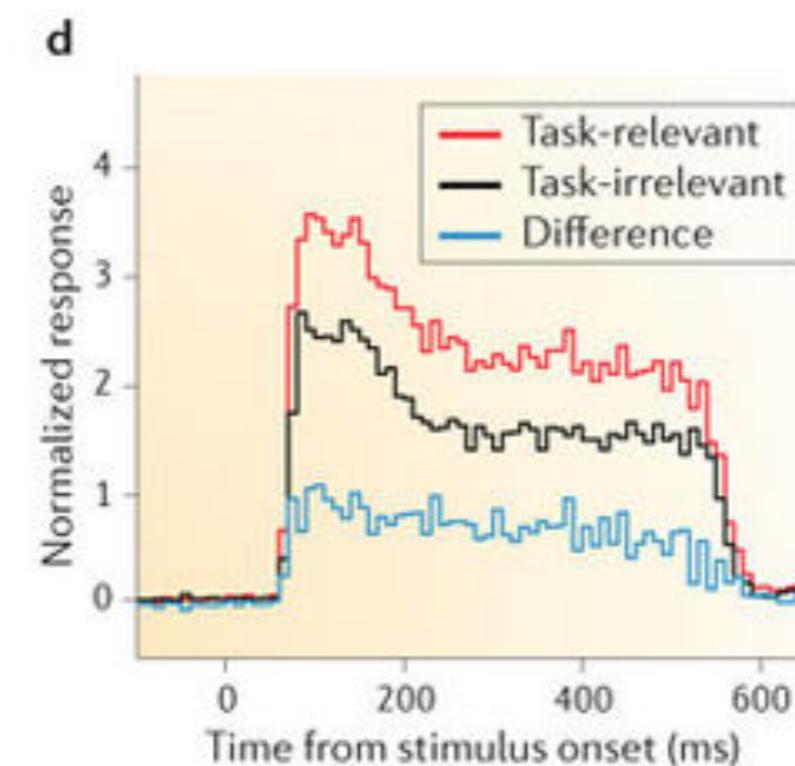
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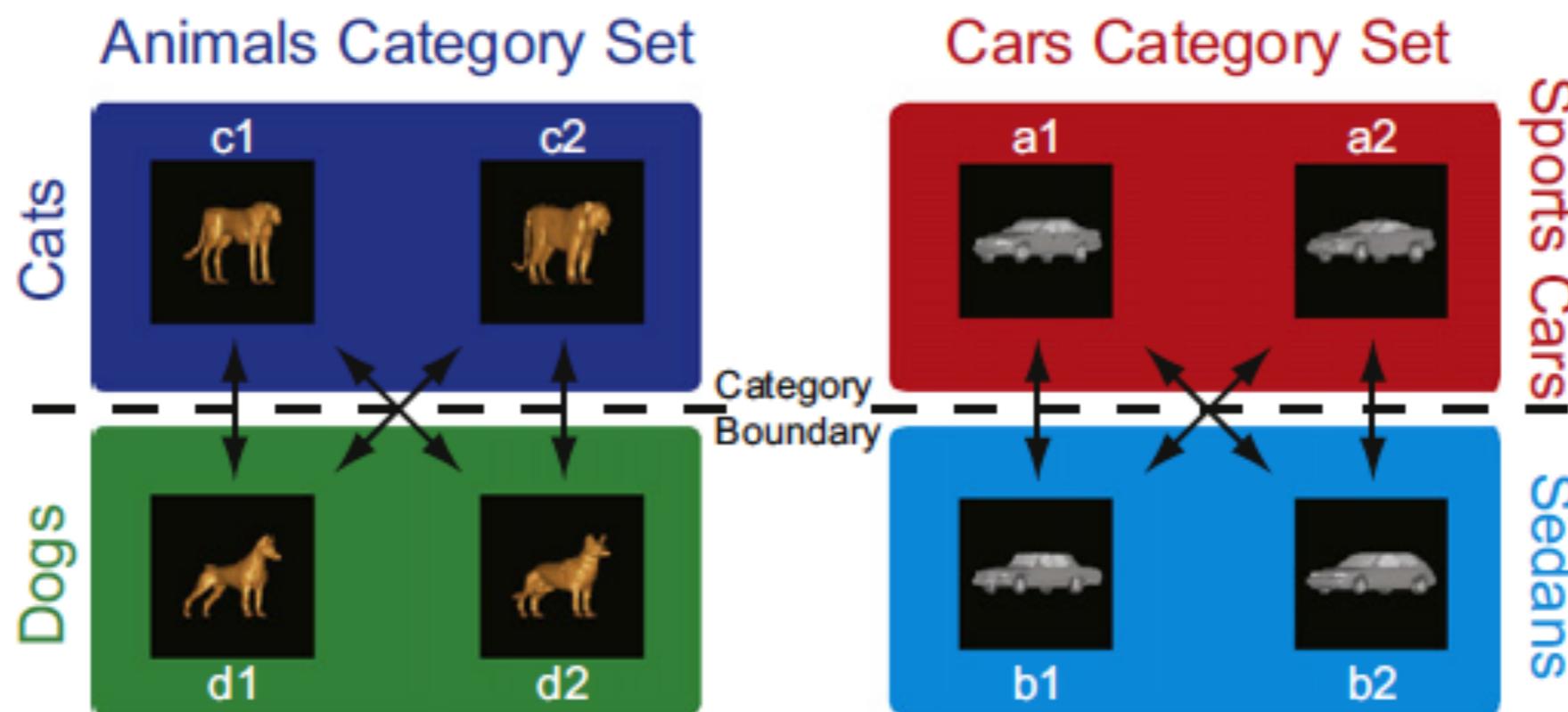
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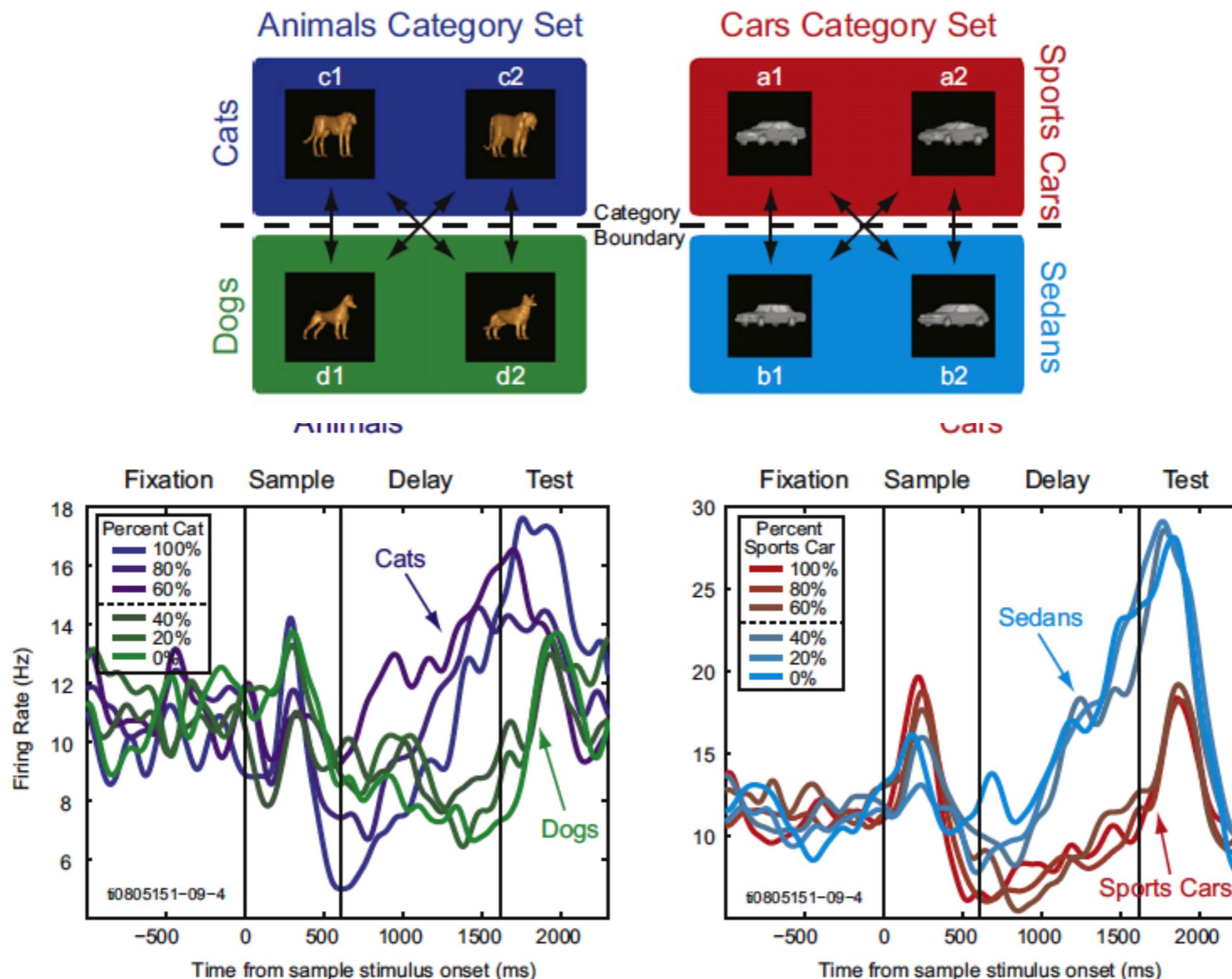
## Comparison of Primate Prefrontal and Premotor Cortex Neuronal Activity during Visual Categorization

Jason A. Cromer, Jefferson E. Roy, Timothy J. Buschman,  
and Earl K. Miller



# Biological views on function

Task-dependent changes in neural tuning and information content in IT



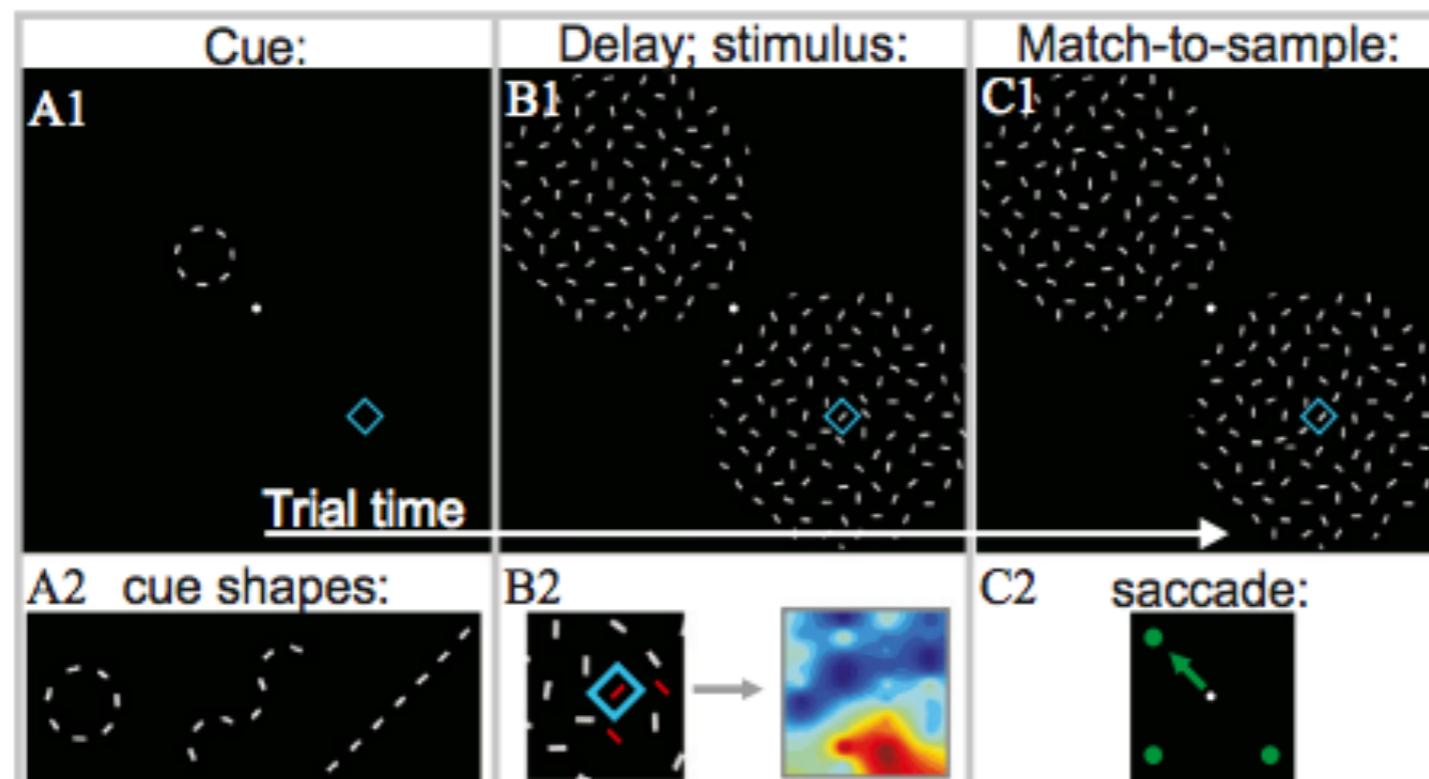
# Biological views on function

## Adaptive shape processing in primary visual cortex

Justin N. J. McManus<sup>a</sup>, Wu Li<sup>b</sup>, and Charles D. Gilbert<sup>a,1</sup>

Author Affiliations 

Contributed by Charles D. Gilbert, April 18, 2011 (sent for review March 4, 2011)



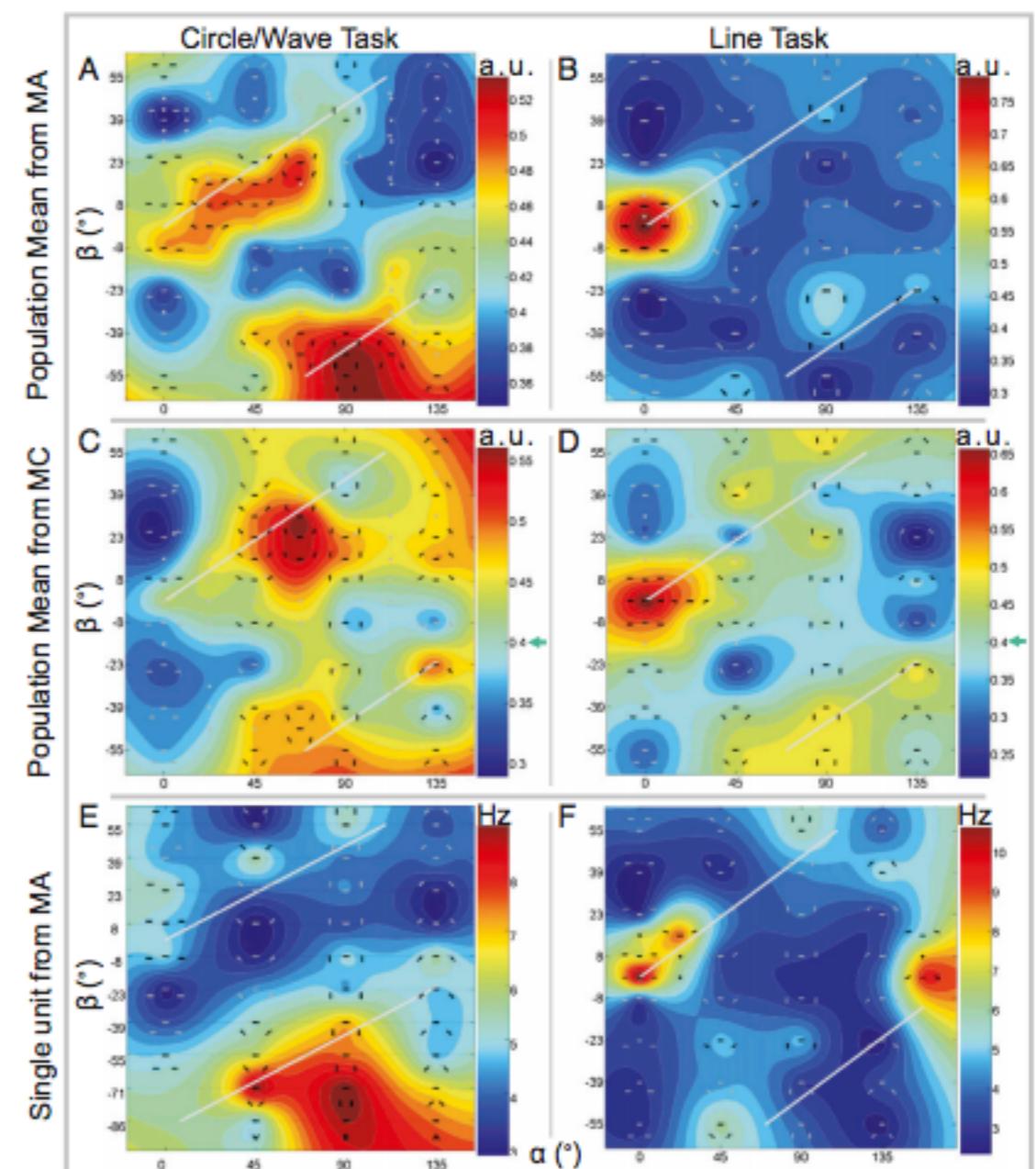
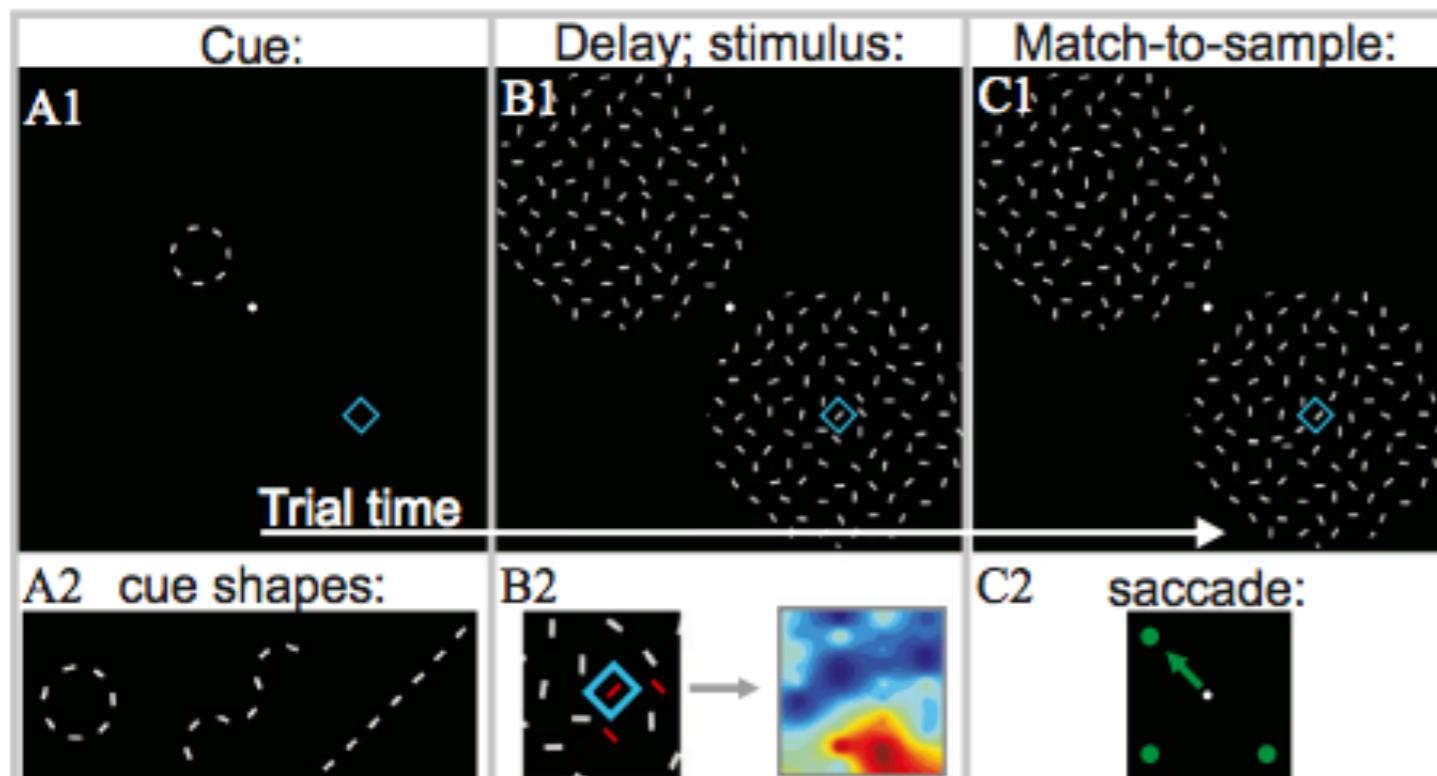
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an entirely different mode of selectivity, for circular shapes. The difference between the mean tuning surfaces under the line and circle/wave tasks was statistically significant (monkey A, total number of surfaces,  $n = 53$ ,  $P = 4 \times 10^{-5}$ ; monkey B,  $n = 63$ ,  $P = 0.007$ ; and monkey C,  $n = 62$ ,  $P = 0.003$ ).

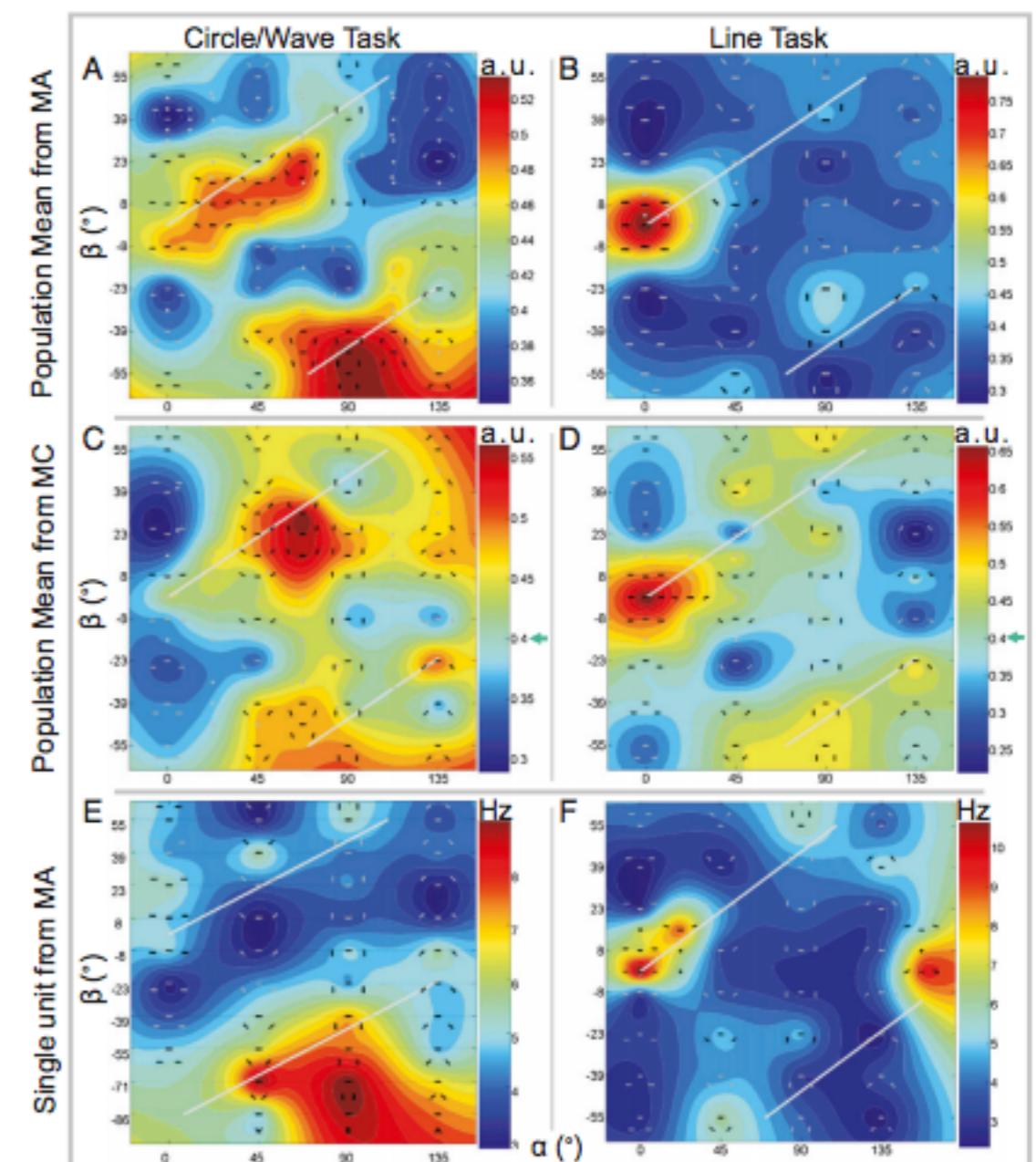
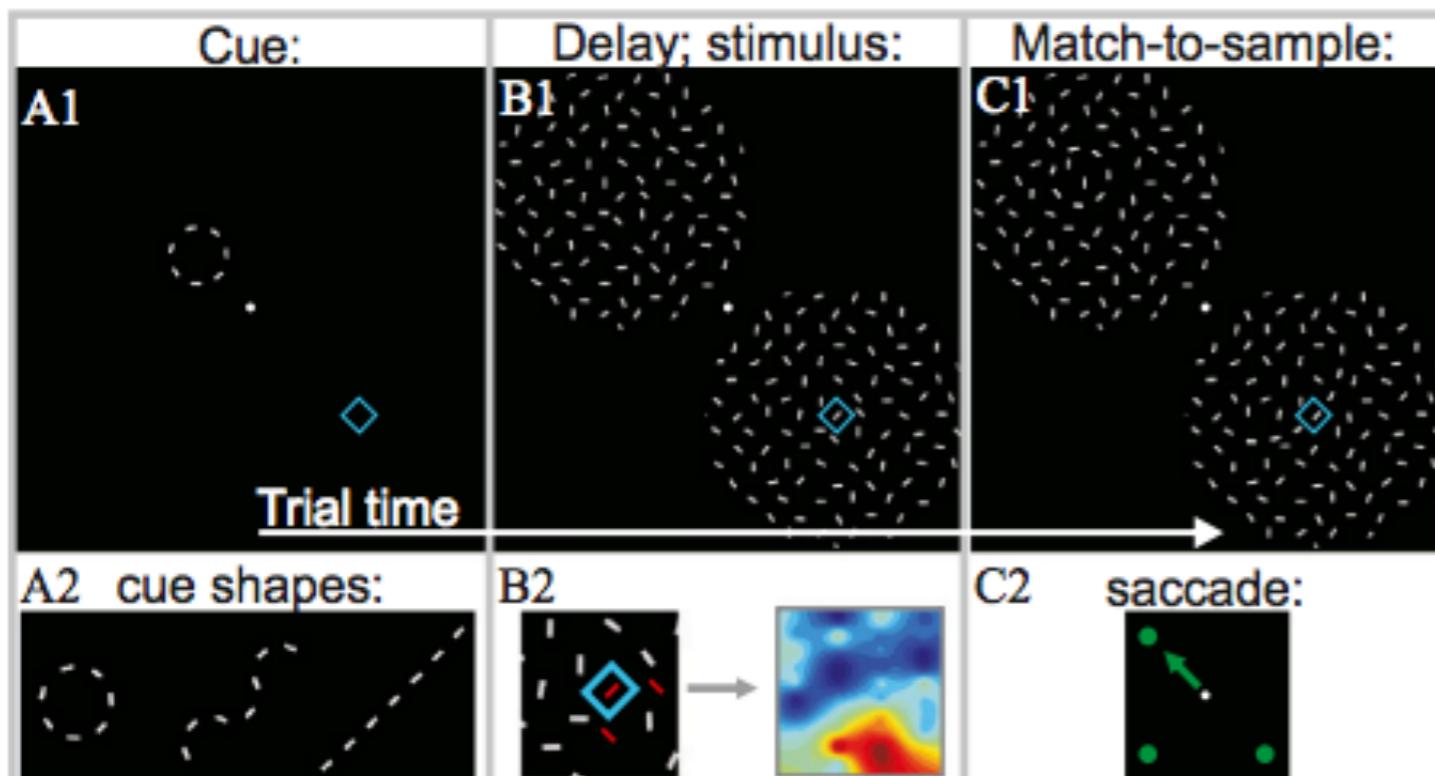
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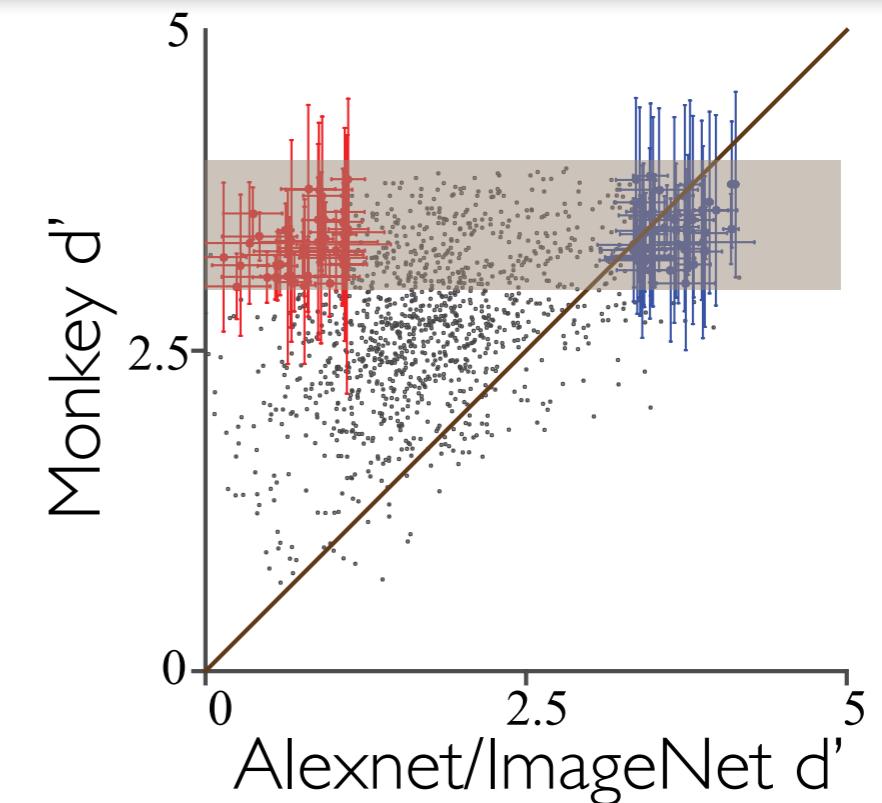
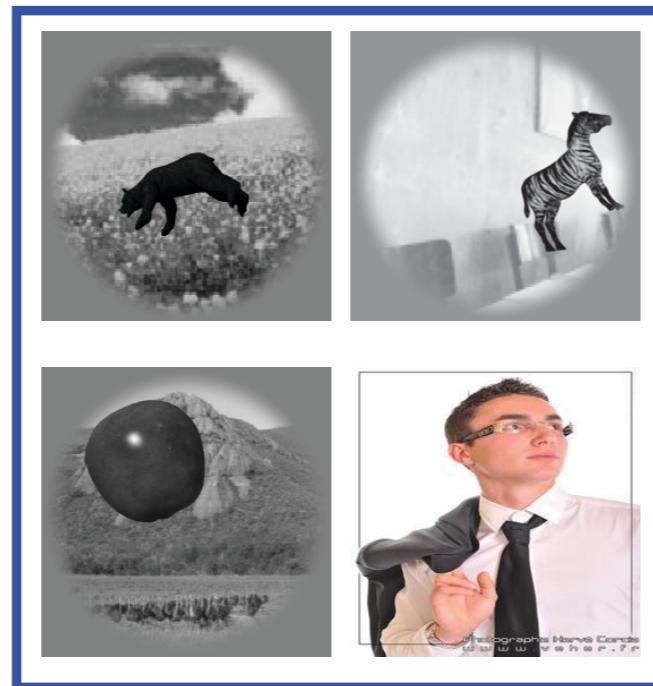
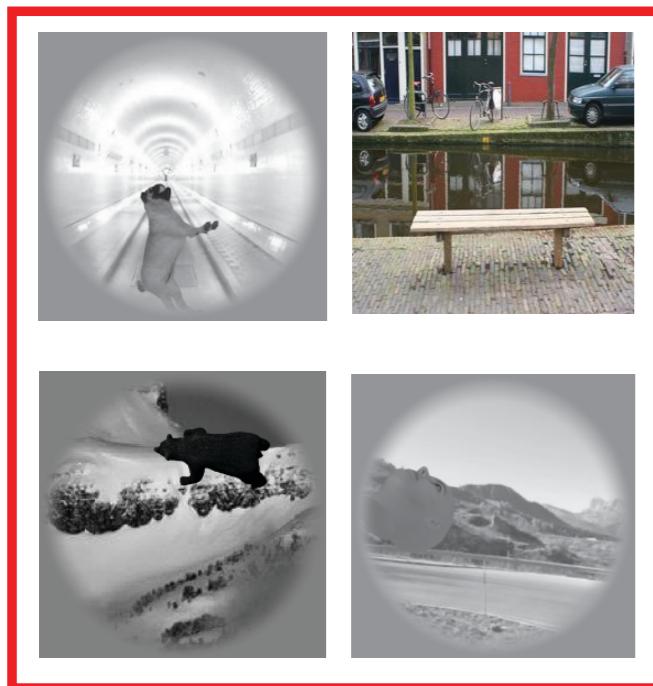
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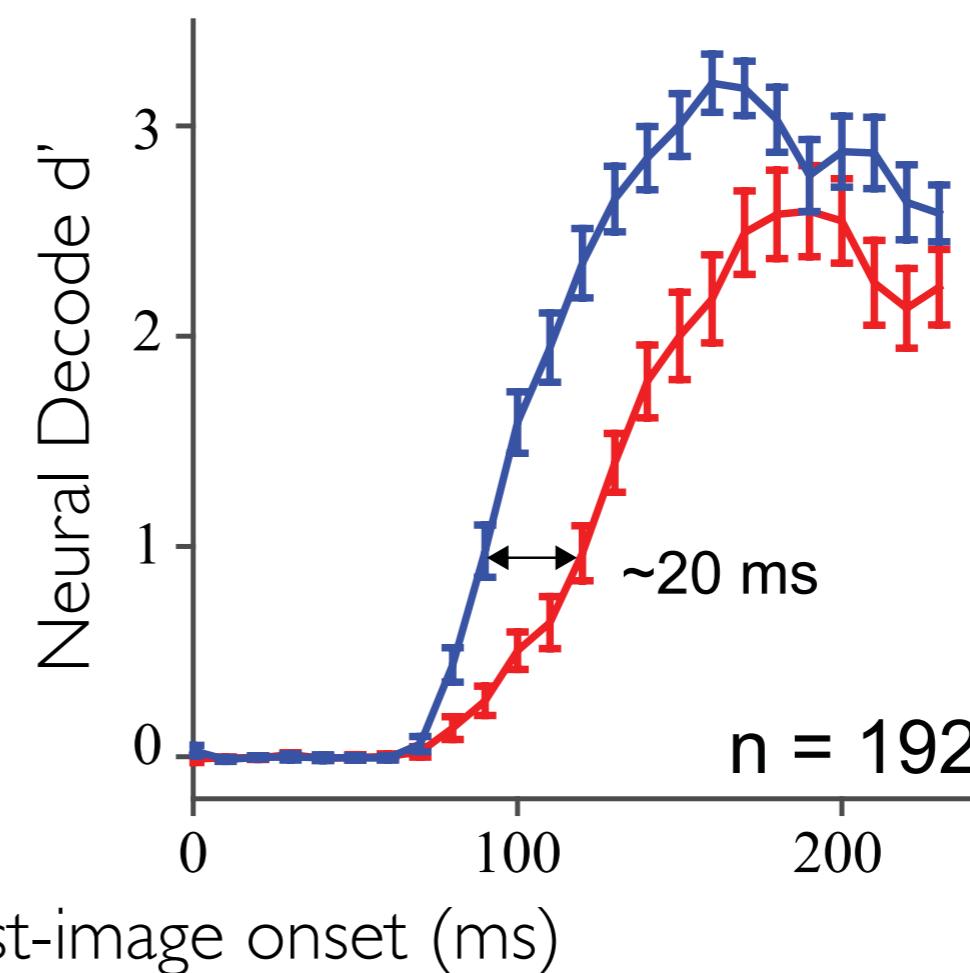
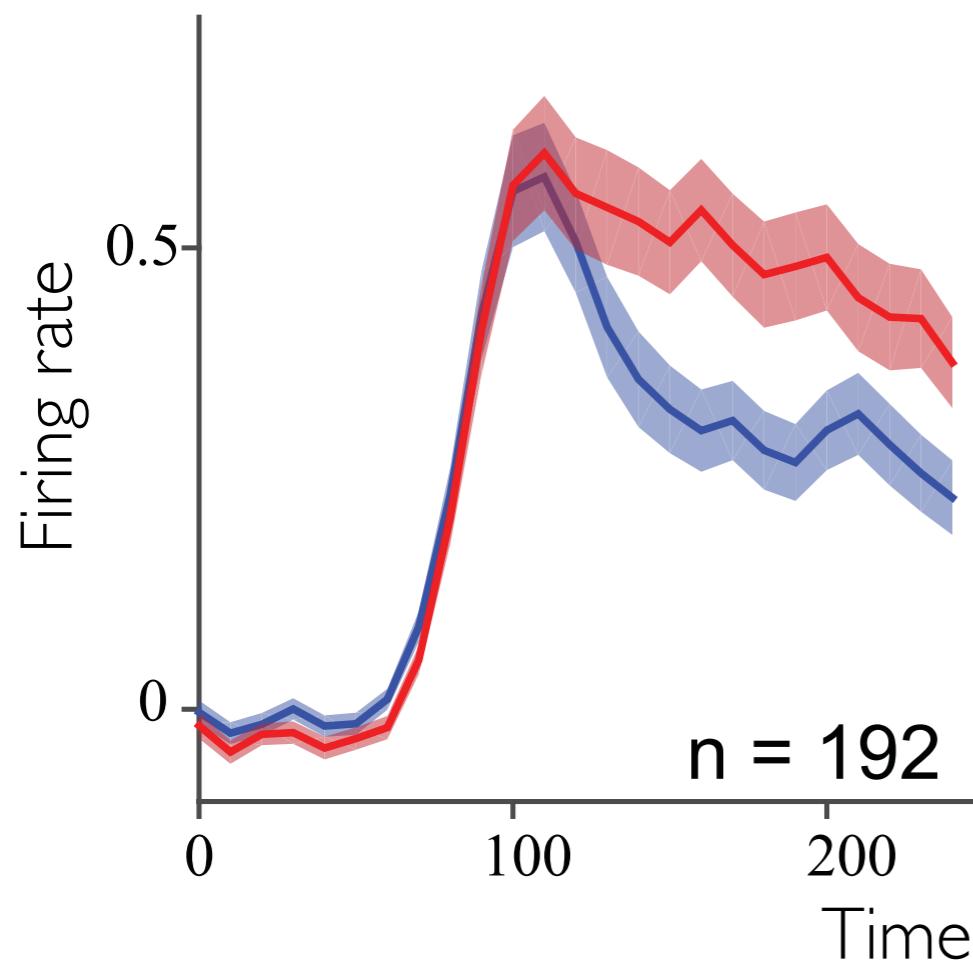
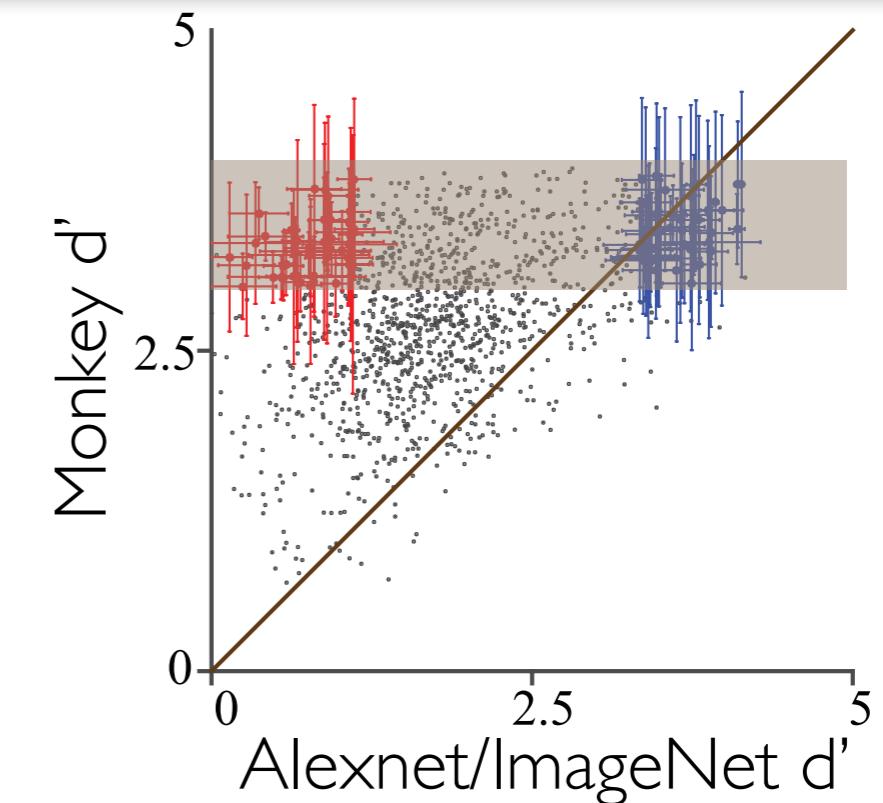
“This process suggests that expectation of an object creates a set of filters that are selective for the object’s components and thus, a role of top-down processes in object recognition. The idea is further supported by the transfer of perceptual learning between objects with shared components.”

# Biological views on function



Kar et. al. (2017)

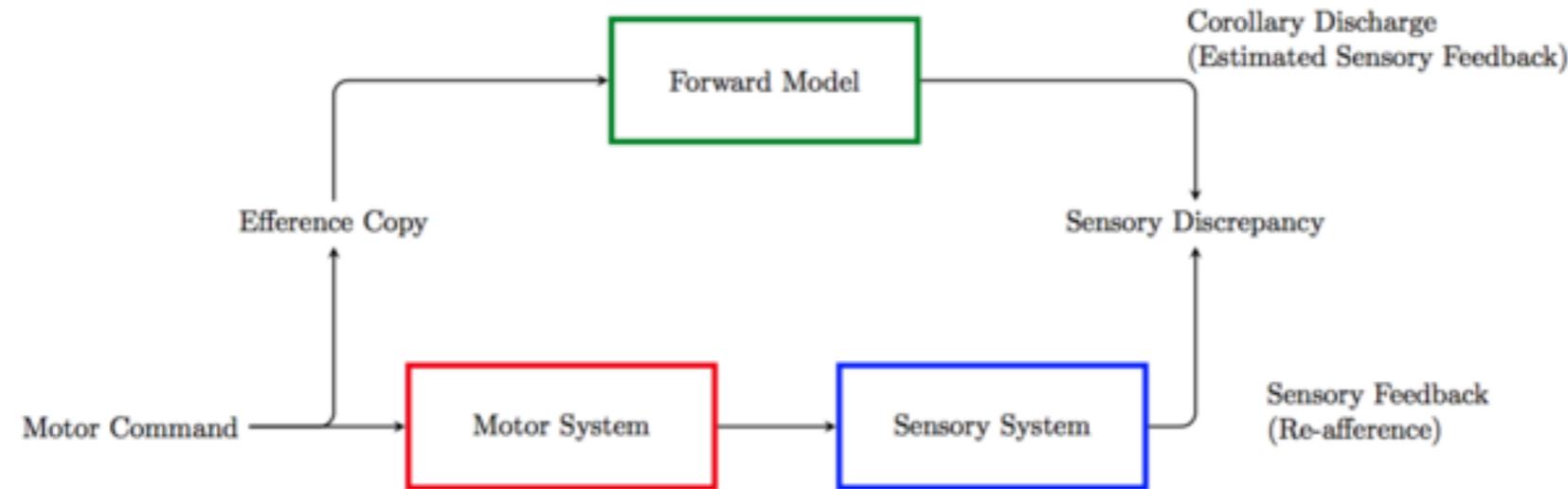
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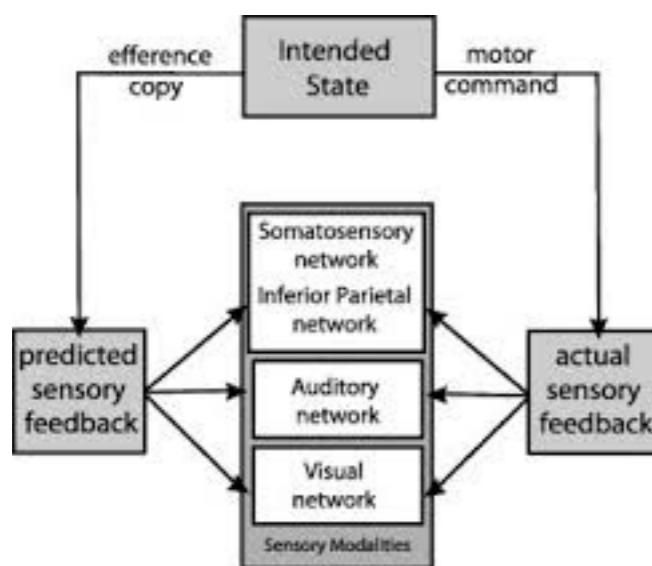
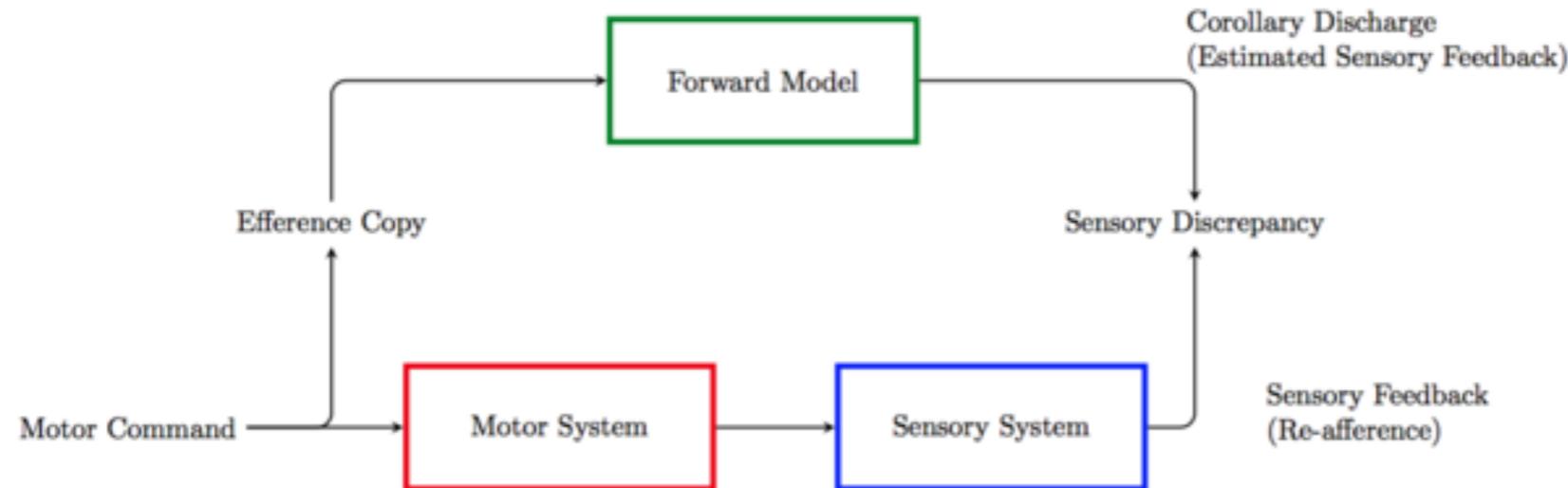
# Biological views on function

Efference copy = copy of motor instructions, for (e.g.) stability



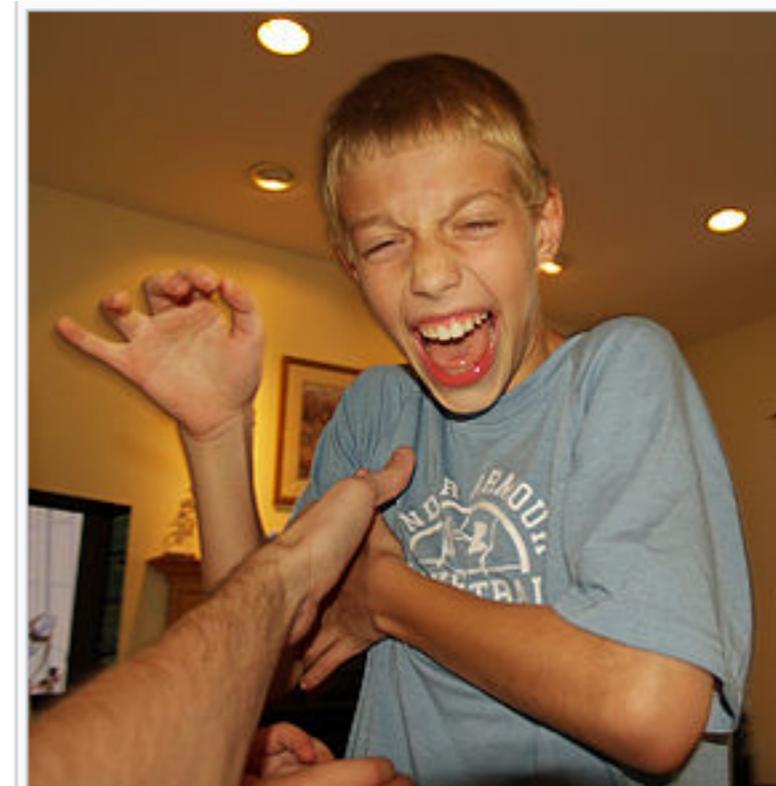
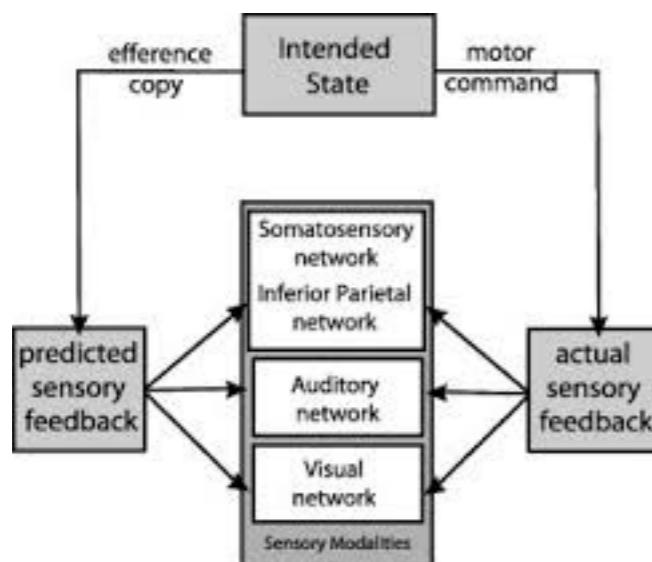
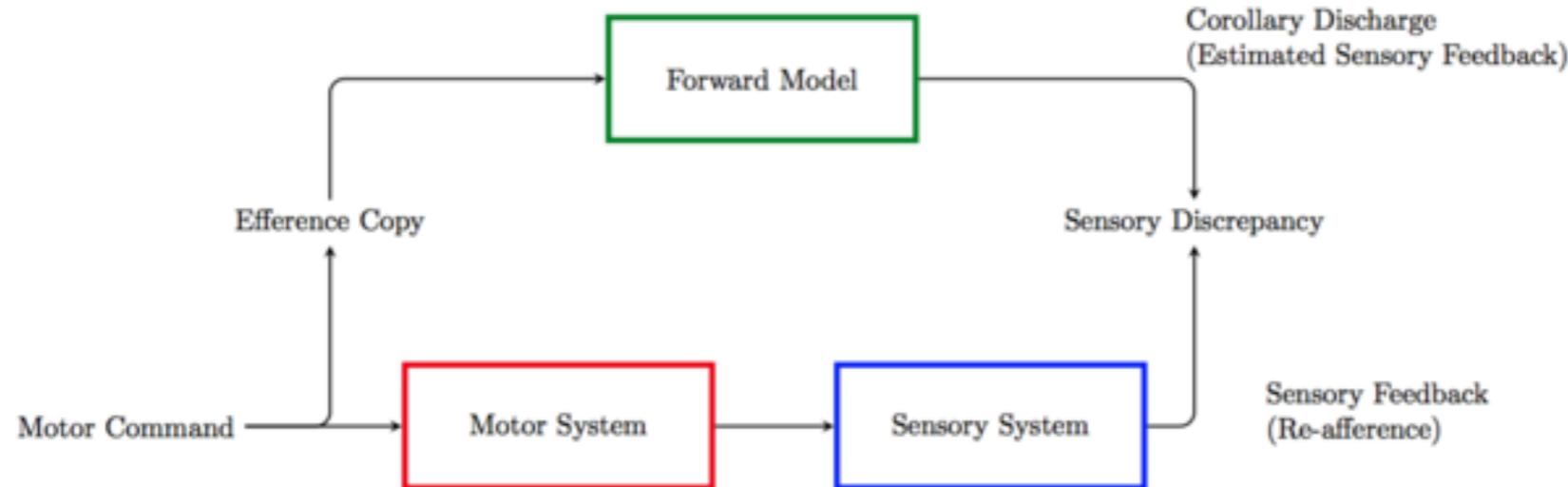
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# Biological views on function

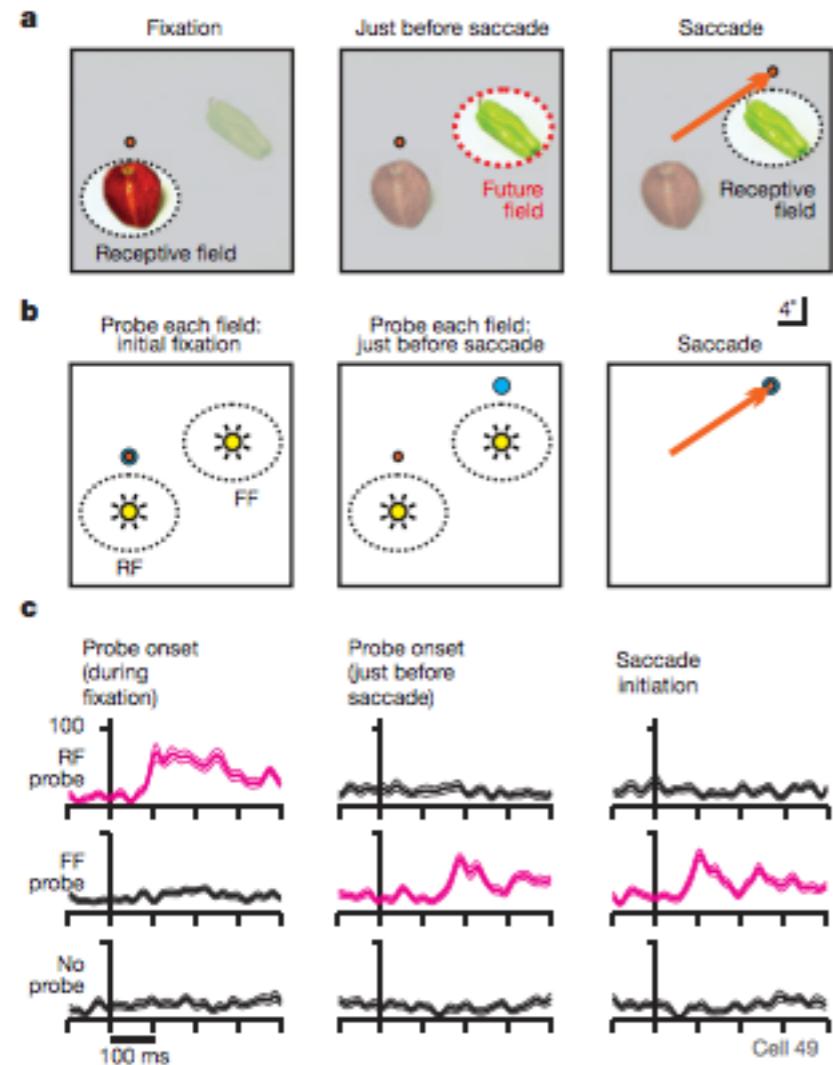
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Efference copies are created with our own movement but not those of other people. This is why other people can tickle us (no efference copies of the movements that touch us) but we cannot tickle ourselves (efference copies tell us that we are stimulating ourselves).

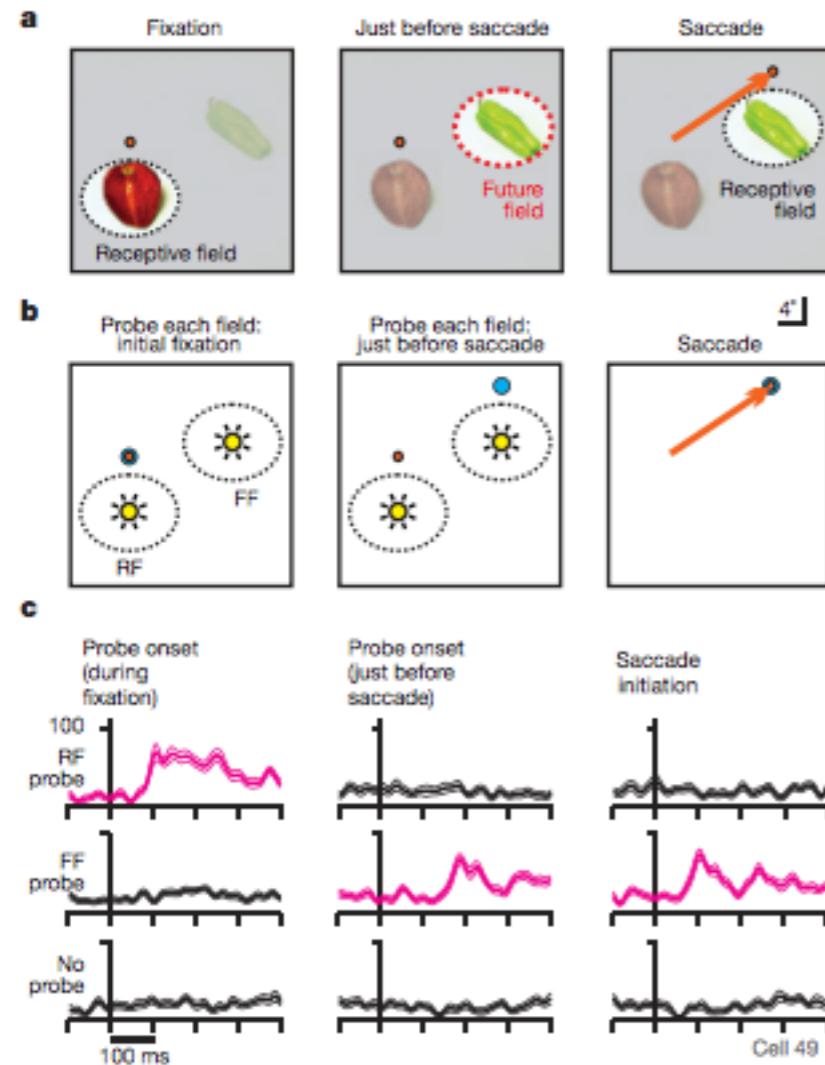
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Superior Colliculus (SC) — “issues motor commands”

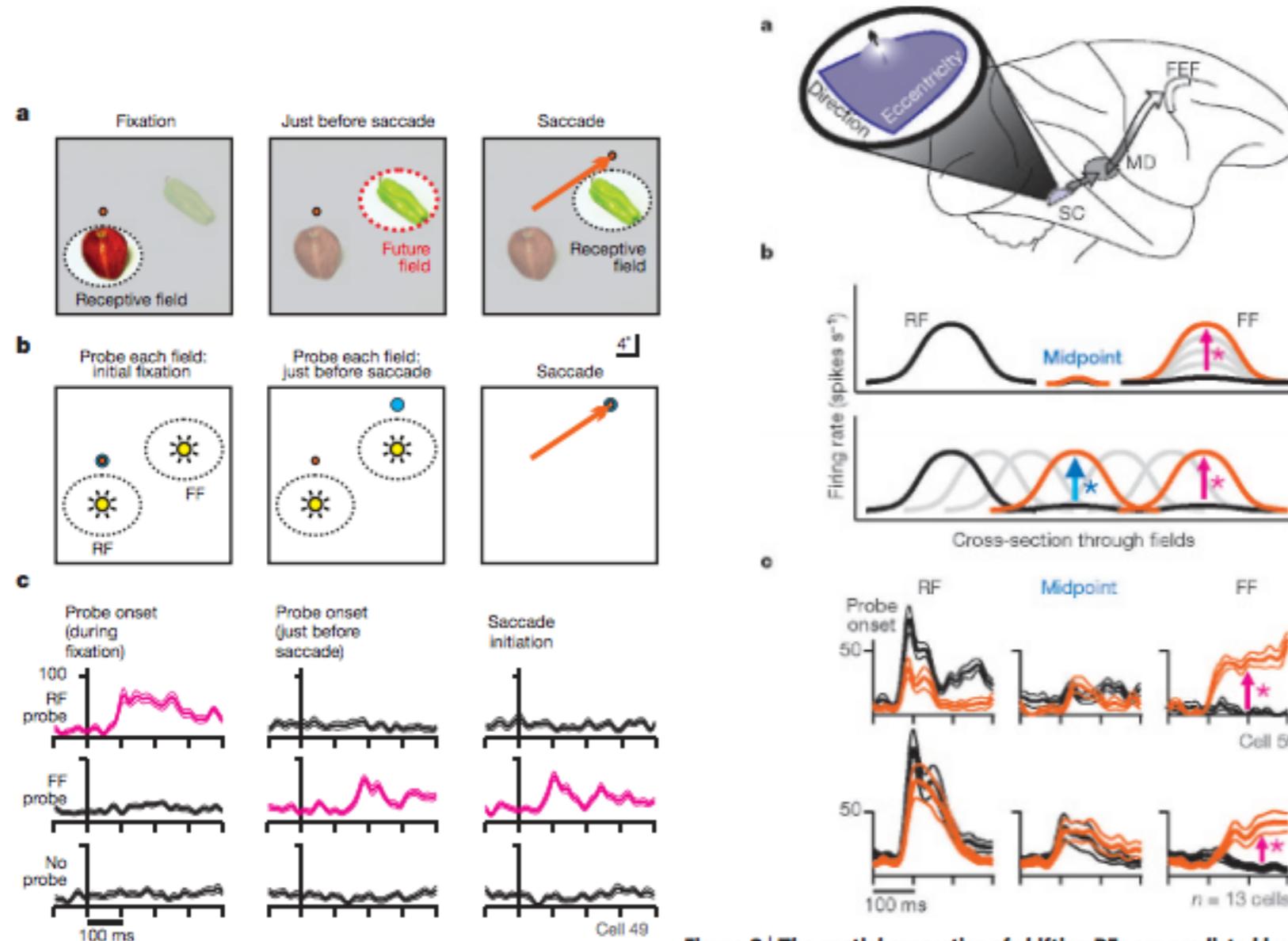
Medial Dorsal (MD) of thalamus — “routing”

Frontal Eye Field (FEF) — moves the eyes

Summer & Wurtz 2006

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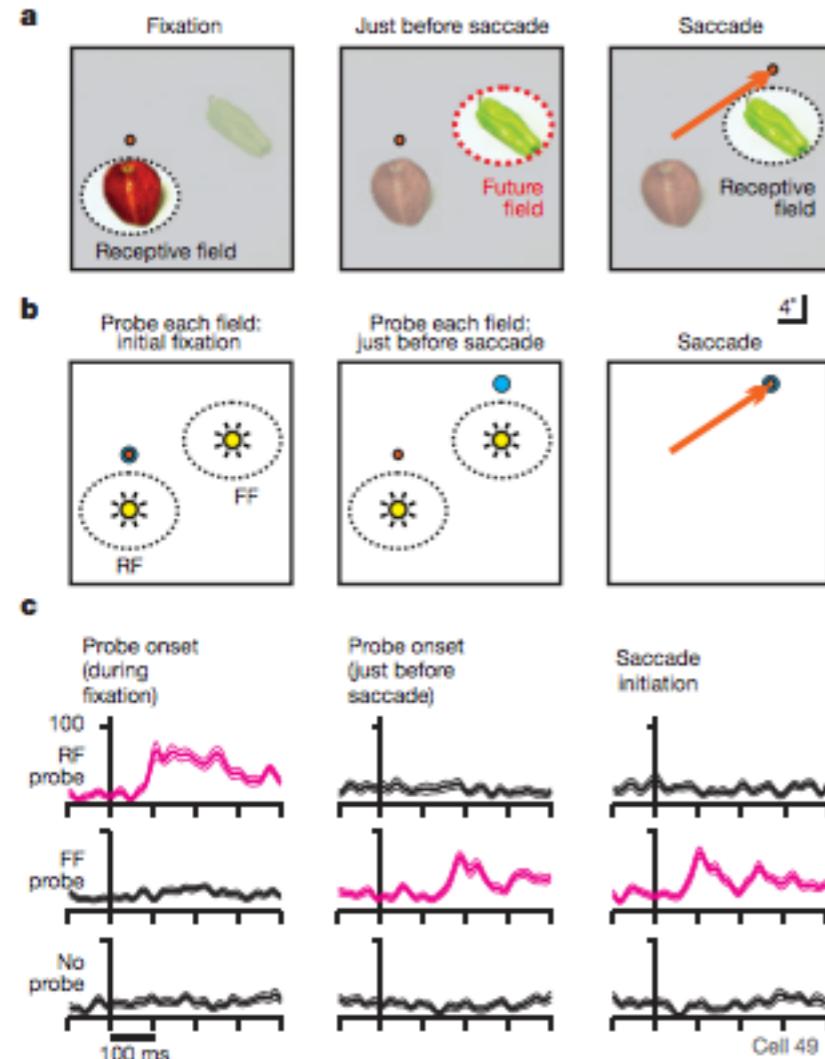
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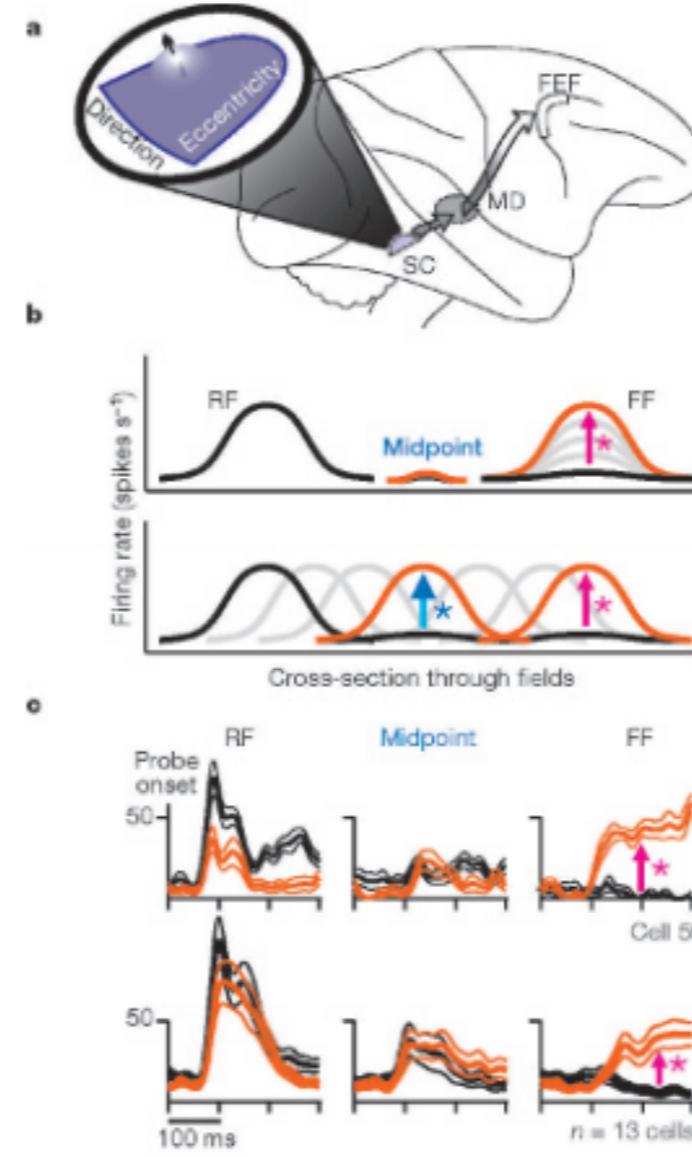
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# Biological views on function

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**Figure 2 |** The spatial properties of shifting RFs are predicted by corollary discharge from the SC-MD-FEF pathway. **a**, The corollary discharge arises



**Figure 3 |** The temporal properties of shifting RFs are predicted by corollary discharge from the SC-MD-FEF pathway. **a**, Our hypothesis

Superior Colliculus (SC) — “issues motor commands”

Medial Dorsal (MD) of thalamus — “routing”

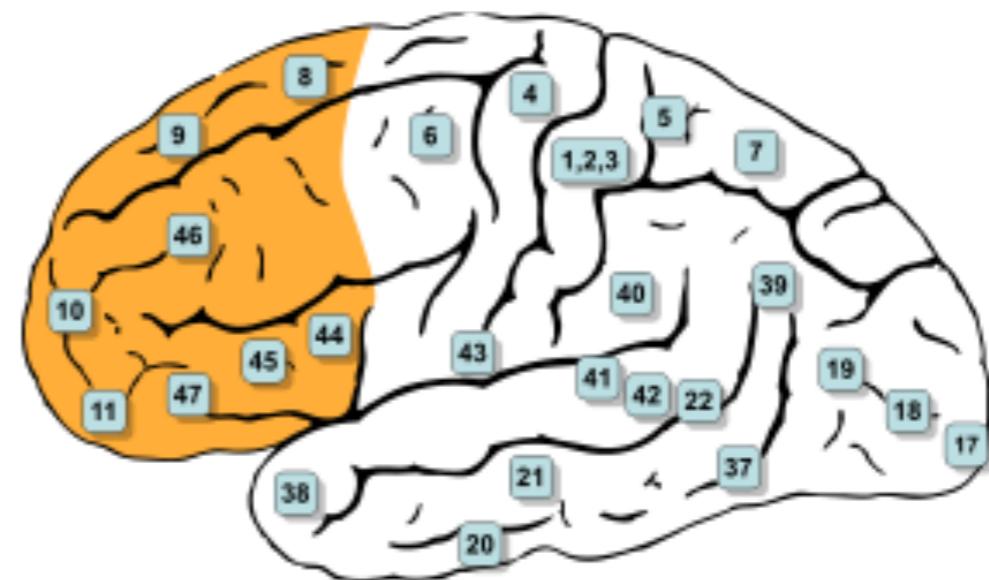
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Summer & Wurtz 2006

# Biological views on function

## Top-down signal from prefrontal cortex in executive control of memory retrieval

Hyoe Tomita\*, Machiko Ohbayashi\*, Kiyoshi Nakahara†,  
Isao Hasegawa\*† & Yasushi Miyashita\*†‡



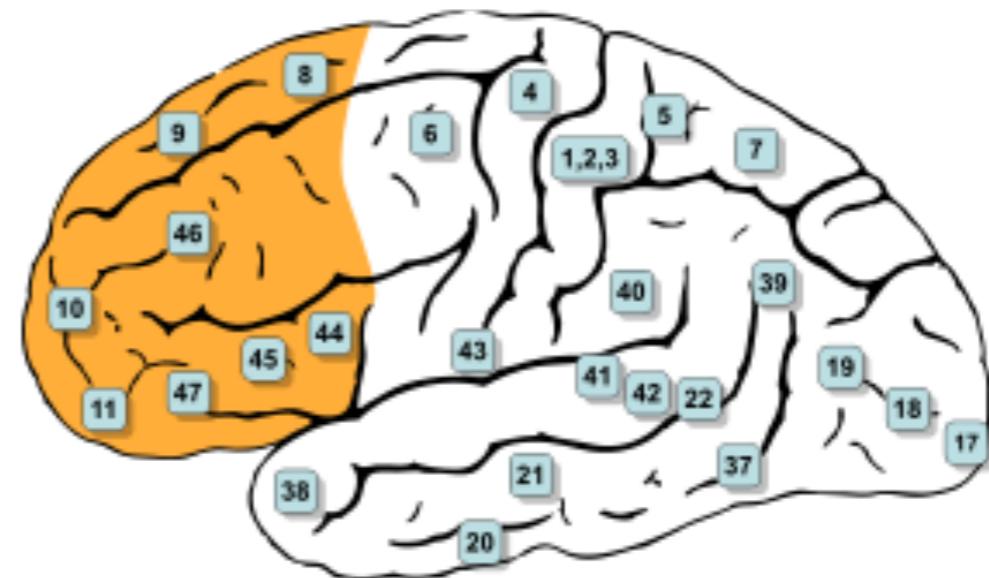
Prefrontal cortex (PFC) ~ “executive control”, long-range planning, decision making, task switching

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Mixture of memory, task (“executive control”), and prediction

“Feedback projections from prefrontal cortex to the posterior association cortex appear to serve the executive control of voluntary recall.”

# Biological views on function

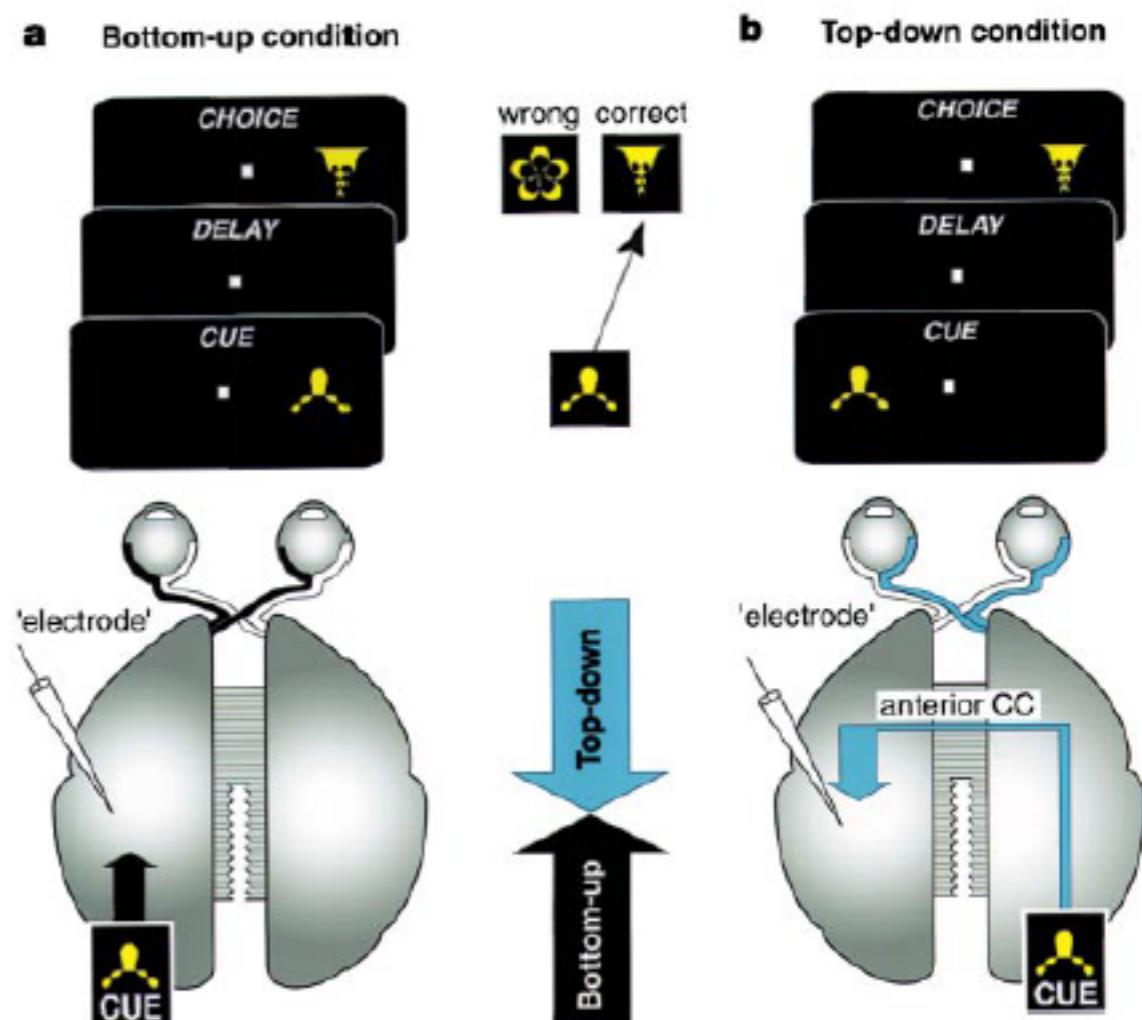
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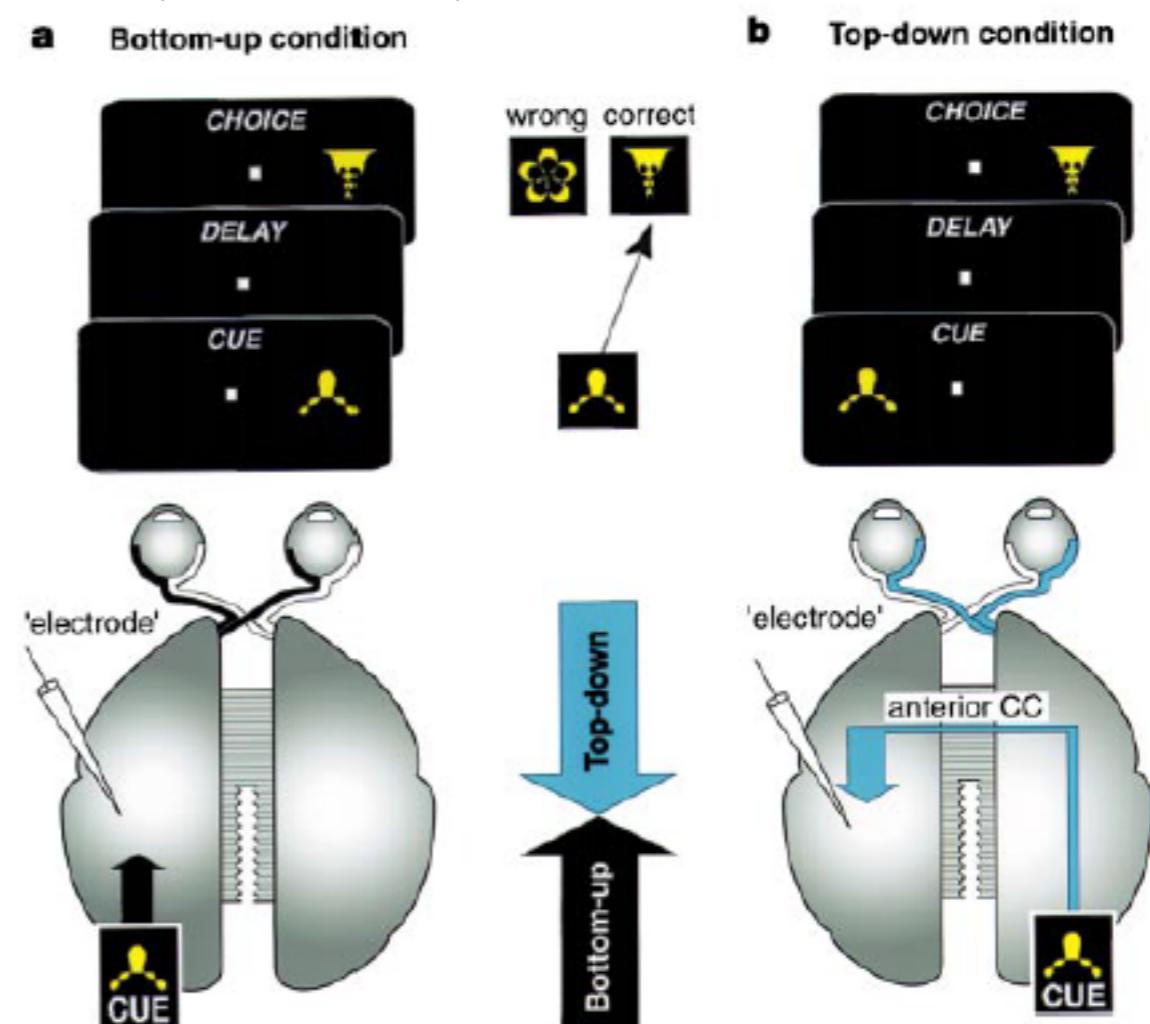
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Ipsilateral presentation \*still\* activated IT neurons, but later than contralateral.

Neuron's pattern of responses across stimuli similar regardless of ipsi/contra presentation ( $r = \sim 0.8$ )



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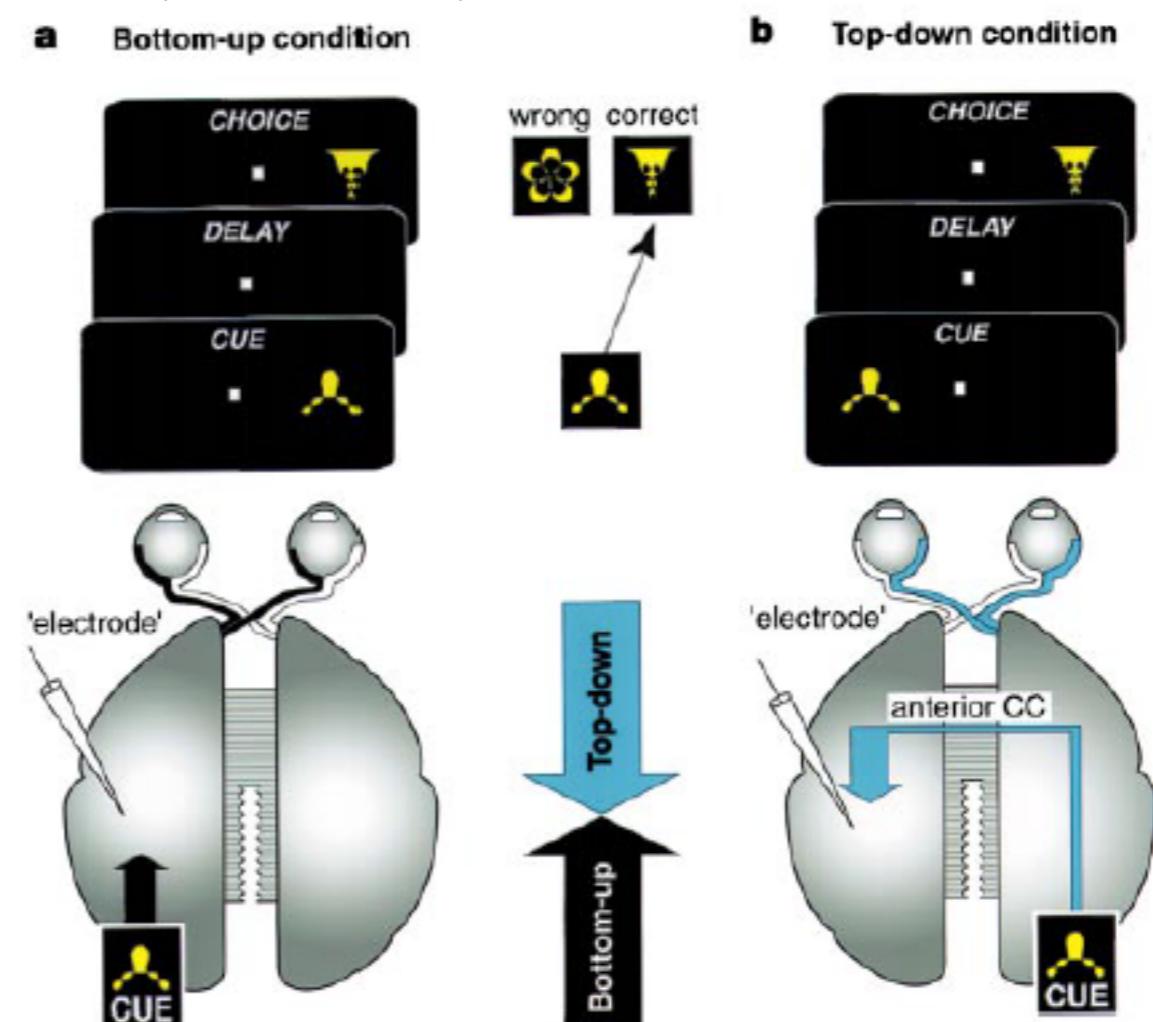
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Ipsilateral presentation \*still\* activated IT neurons, but later than contralateral.

Neuron's pattern of responses across stimuli similar regardless of ipsi/contra presentation ( $r = \sim 0.8$ )

No such transfer in \*full\* split.

Pair associated test indicates prospective information from PFC sent to IT.



Attention

# Neuron



Volume 61, Issue 2, 29 January 2009, Pages 168-185

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Review

## The Normalization Model of Attention

John H. Reynolds <sup>1</sup> , David J. Heeger <sup>2</sup>

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Review

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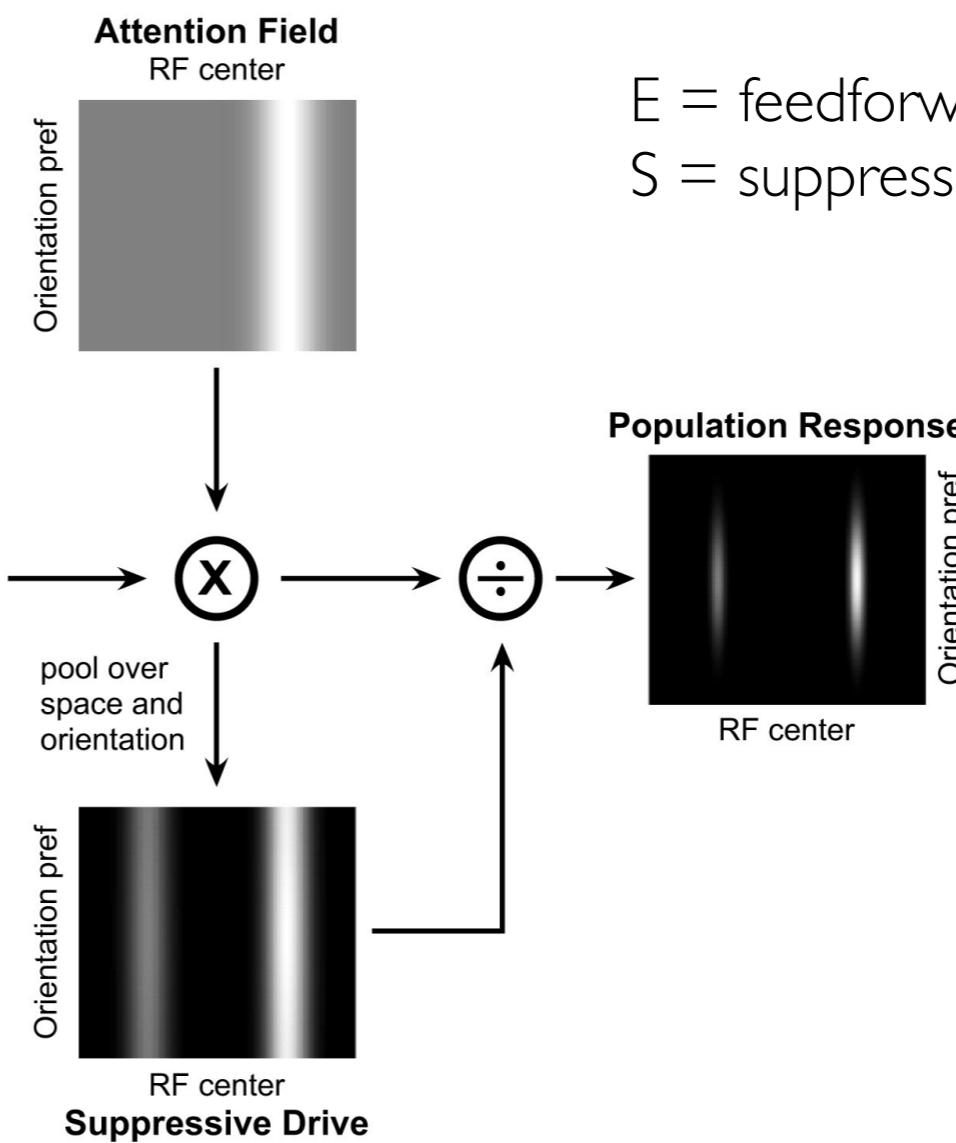
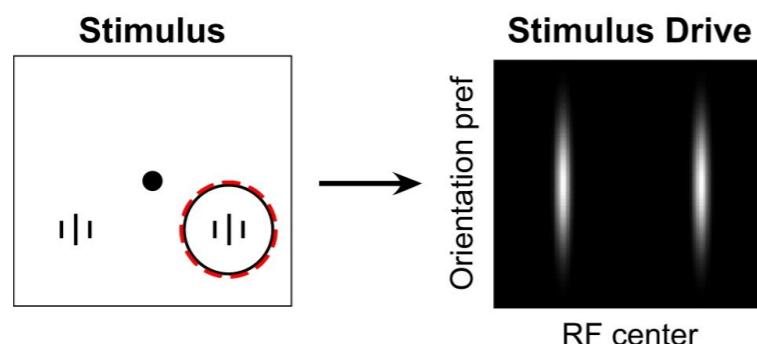
John H. Reynolds <sup>1</sup>✉, David J. Heeger <sup>2</sup>

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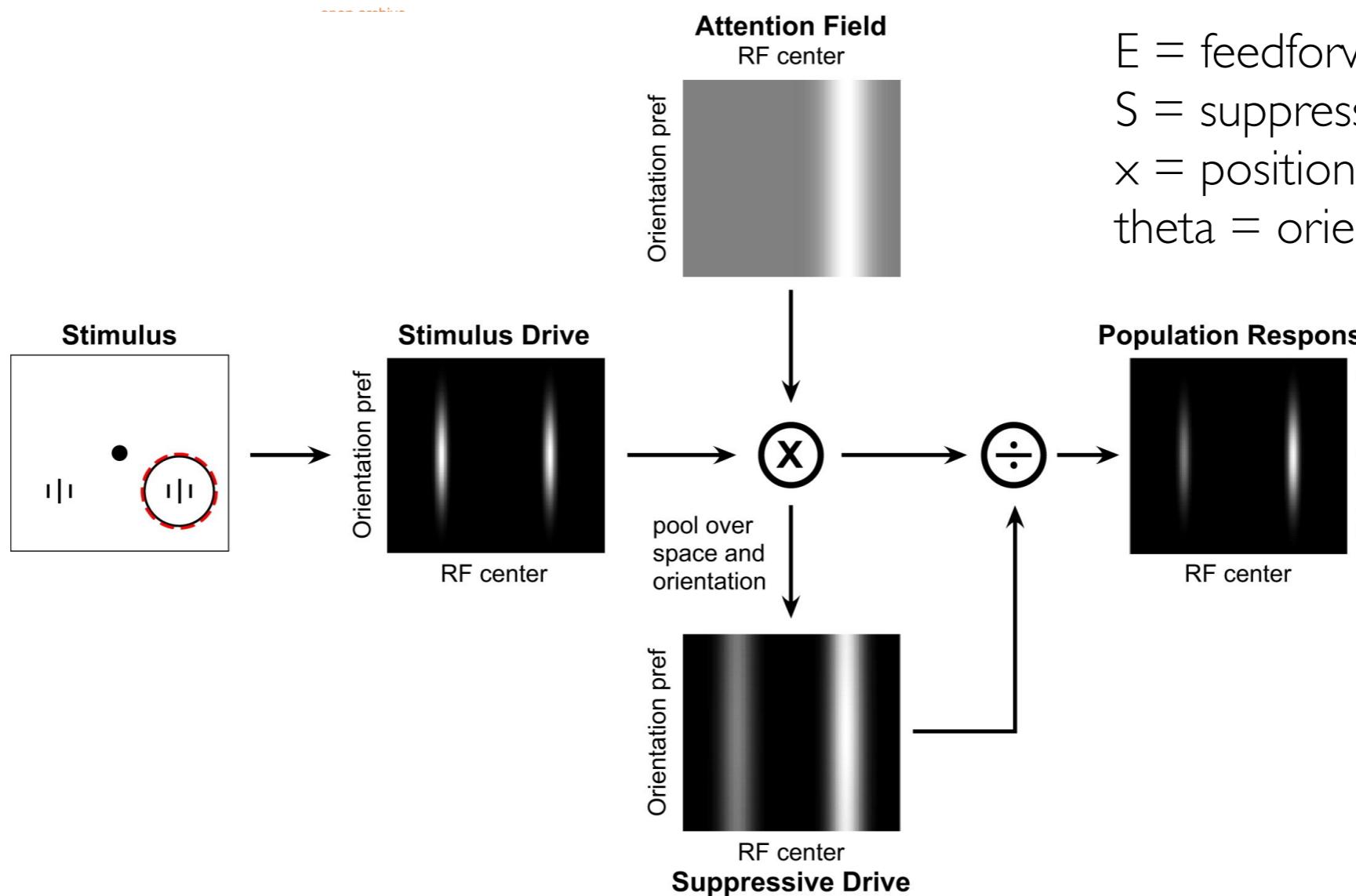
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$$R(x, \theta) = \text{ReLU}_T \left[ \frac{E(x, \theta)}{\text{Conv}_{s(x, \theta)}[E(x, \theta)] + \sigma} \right]$$



E = feedforward input  
S = suppression  
x = position  
theta = orientation

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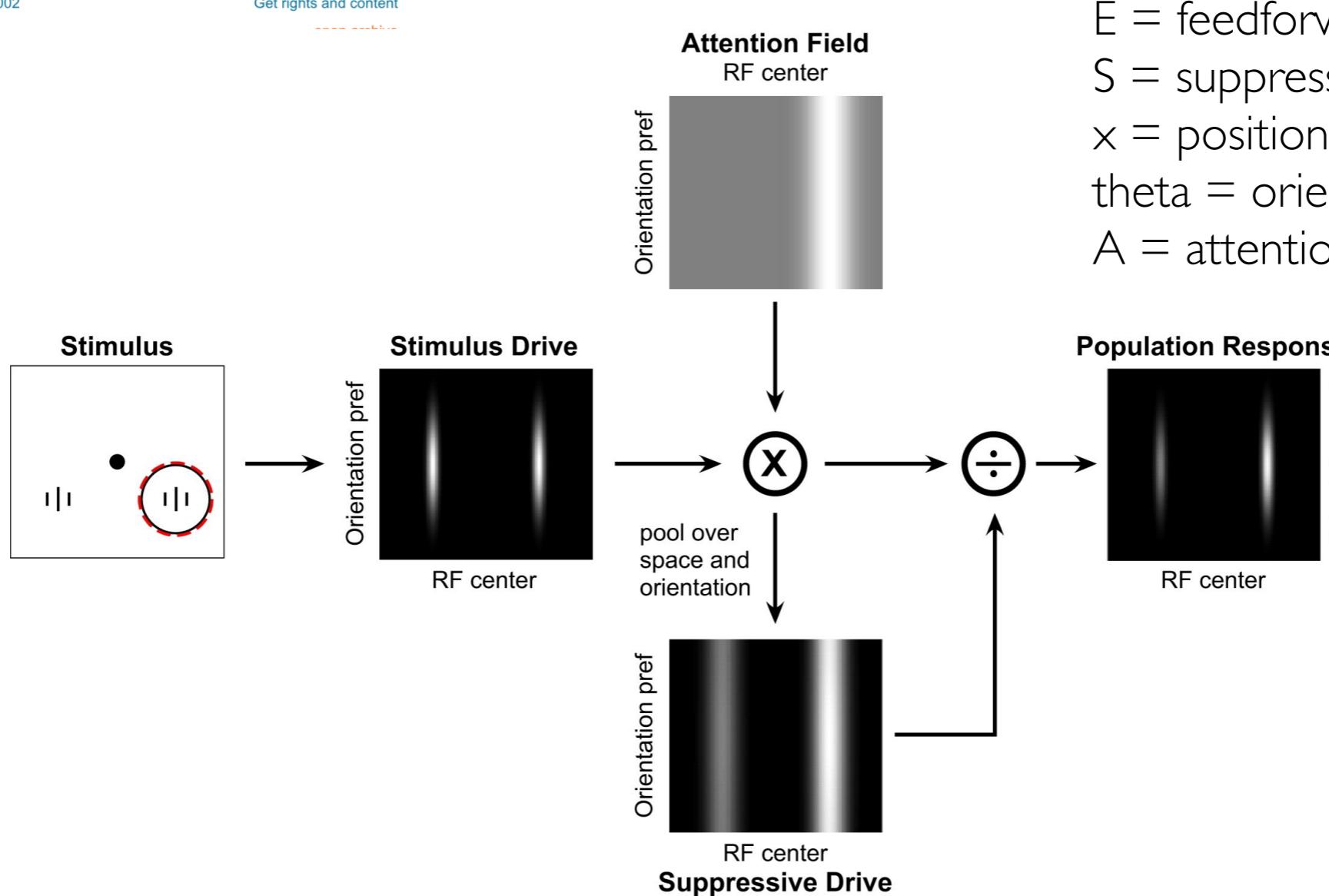
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$$R(x, \theta) = \text{ReLU}_T \left[ \frac{A(x, \theta)E(x, \theta)}{\text{Conv}_{s(x, \theta)}[A(x, \theta)E(x, \theta)] + \sigma} \right]$$



E = feedforward input  
S = suppression  
x = position  
theta = orientation  
A = attention field

—> implemented as \*equilibrium\* of simple recurrent circuit (Heeger 1993)

# Biological views on function

## Top-down influence in early visual processing

### A Bayesian perspective

$$P(S_i | E, H) = \frac{P(E | S_i, H)P(S_i | H)}{P(E | H)}$$

Tai Sing Lee

$S_i$  = scene i

Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition

E = evidence

Department of Computer Science

H = prior information

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, U.S.A.

Department of Neuroscience

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, U.S.A.

# Biological views on function

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## Bayesian interaction of two brain areas

$$P(S_i | E, H) = \frac{P(E | S_i, H)P(S_i | H)}{P(E | H)}$$

$S_i$  = scene  $i$  output of V1

$E$  = evidence finished to V1 by retina

$H$  = prior information generated by V2

# Biological views on function

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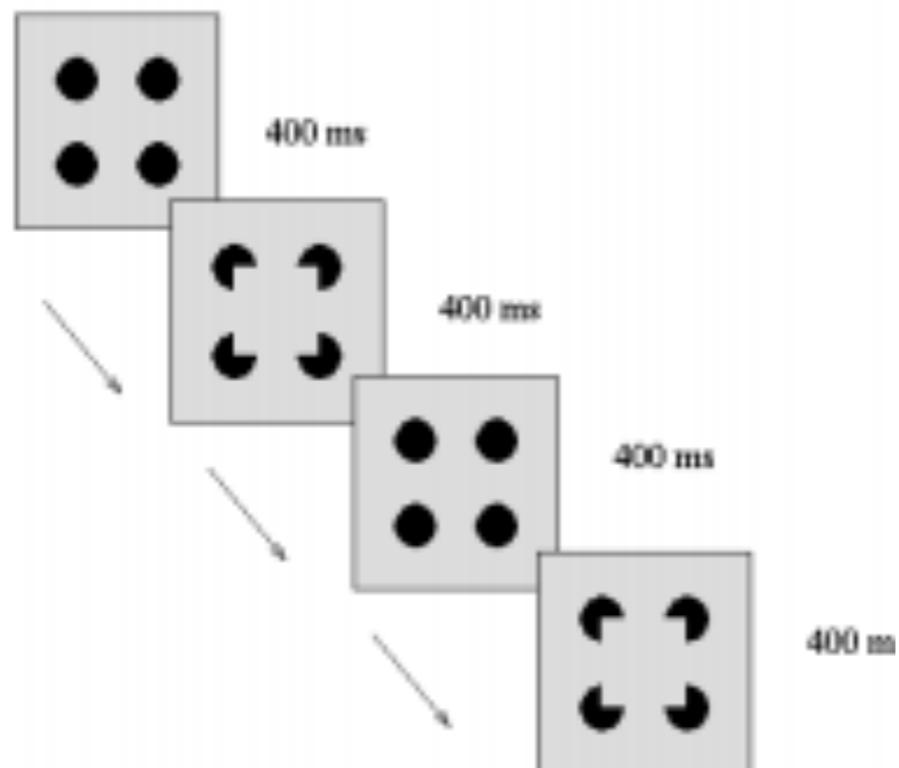
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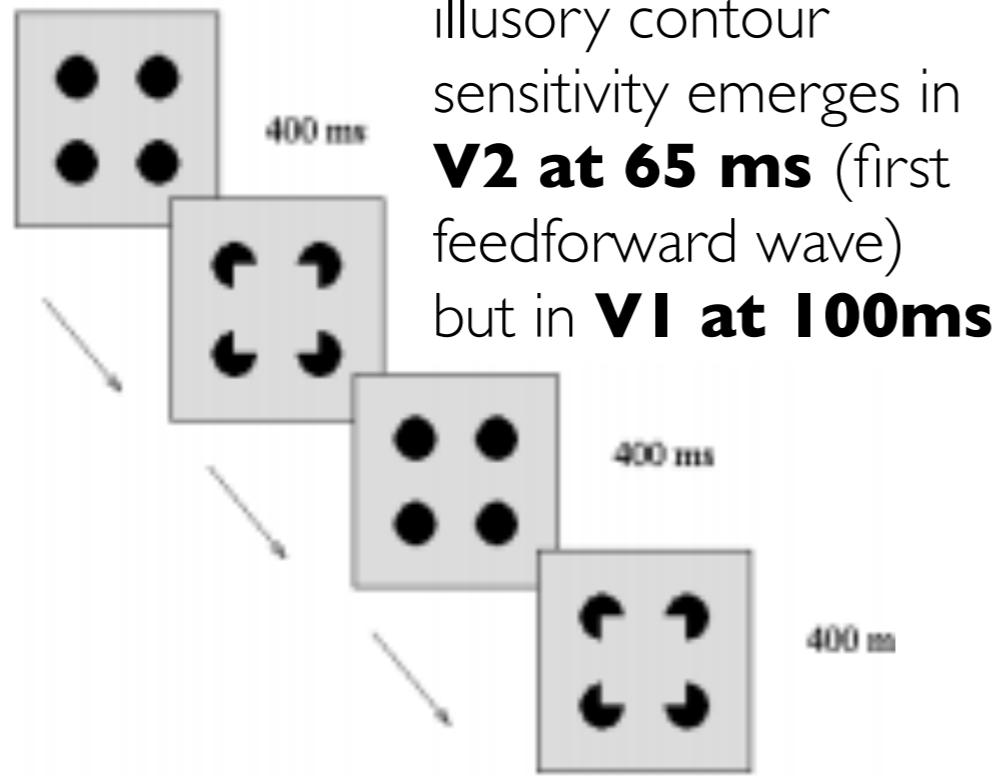
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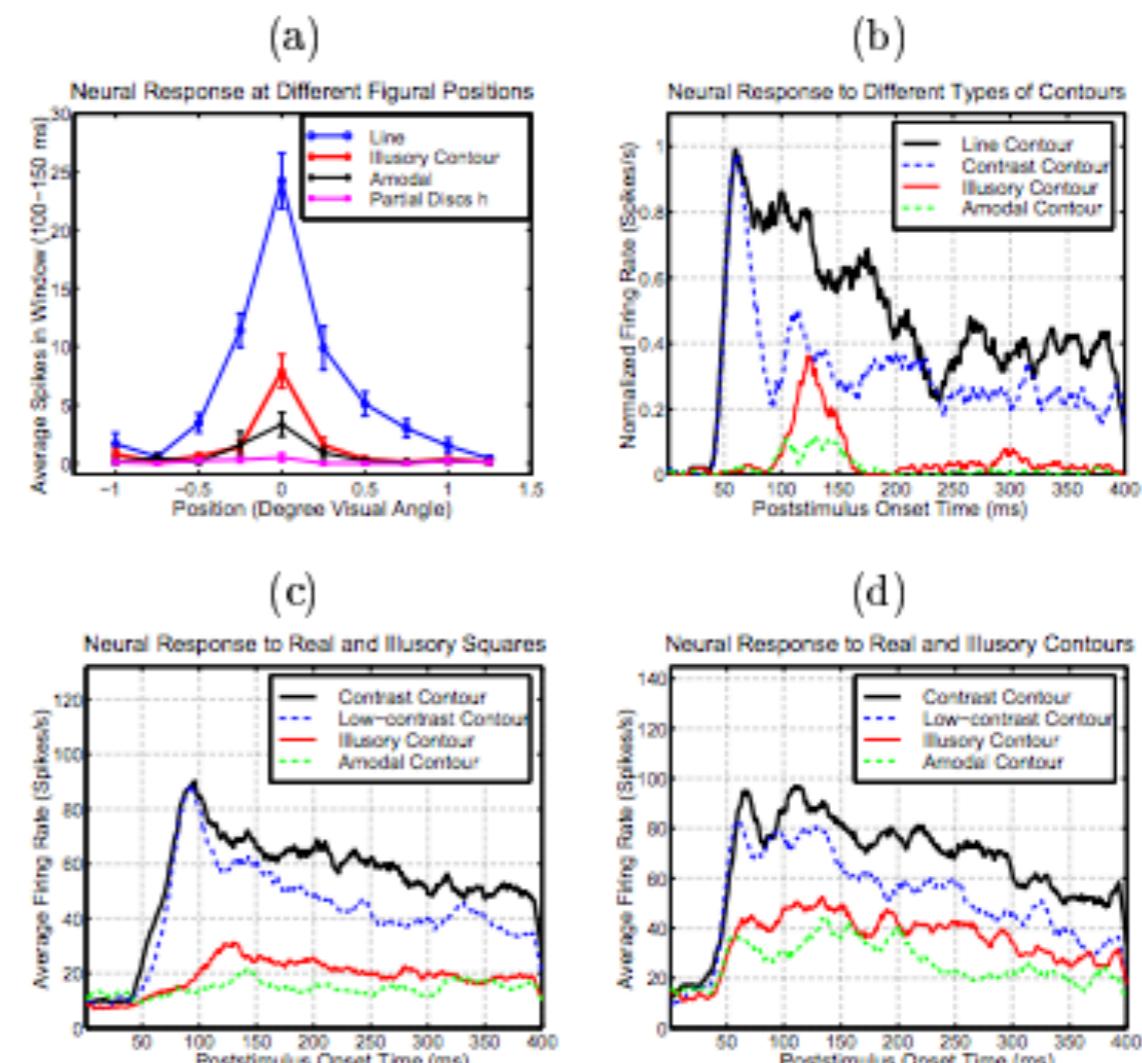
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# Biological views on function

Task Dependence

Executive control

Adaptive Shape processing

Efferent Copy

Memory

Generalized Attention

Bayesian inference

Implementing Learning

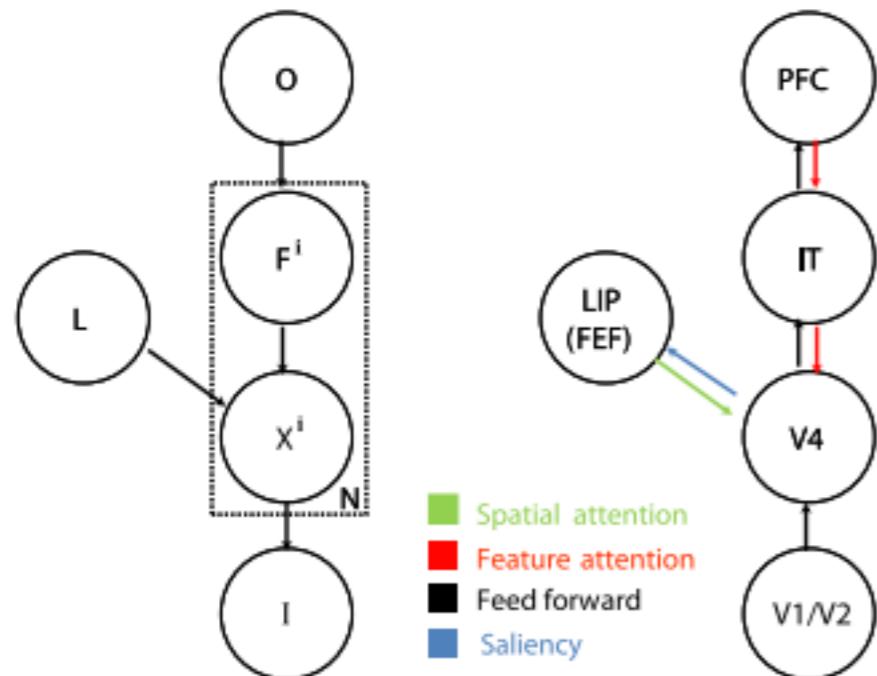
# Models

## What and where: A Bayesian inference theory of attention

Sharat Chikkerur\*, Thomas Serre, Cheston Tan, Tomaso Poggio

McGovern Institute for Brain Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, United States

$$P(O, L, X^1, \dots, X^N, I) = P(O)P(L)P(I | X^1, \dots, X^N) \prod_{i=1}^N P(X^i | L, F^i)P(F^i | O)$$



**Fig. 2.** Left: Proposed Bayesian model. Right: A model illustrating the interaction between the parietal and ventral streams mediated by feedforward and feedback connections. The main additions to the original feedforward model (Serre, Kouh, et al., 2005) (see also Supplementary Online Information) are (i) the cortical feedback within the ventral stream (providing feature-based attention); (ii) the cortical feedback from areas of the parietal cortex onto areas of the ventral stream (providing spatial attention); and (iii) feedforward connections to the parietal cortex that serve as a 'saliency map' encoding the visual relevance of image locations (Koch & Ullman, 1985).

N = number of objects

object encoding O (PFC)

feature encoding F (IT)

location encoding L (FEF)

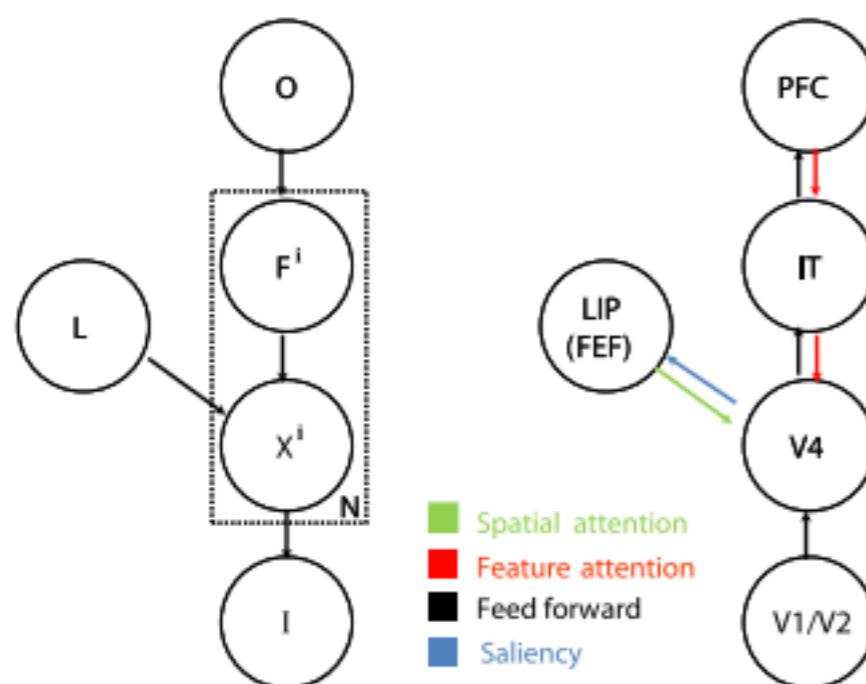
joint location/feature map X<sup>i</sup> (V4)

feedforward input (V1/V2)

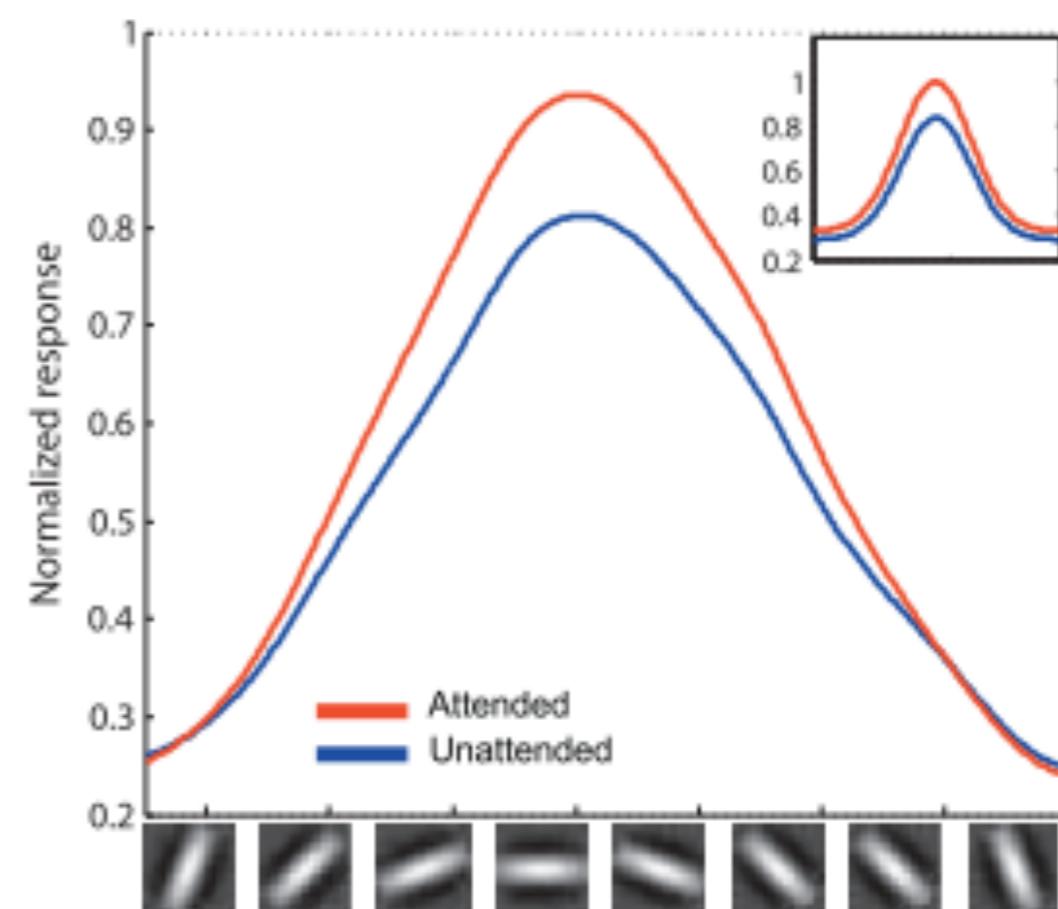
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**Fig. 4.** Effect of spatial attention on tuning response. The tuning curve shows a multiplicative modulation under attention. The inset shows the replotted data from McAdams and Maunsell (1999).

# Models

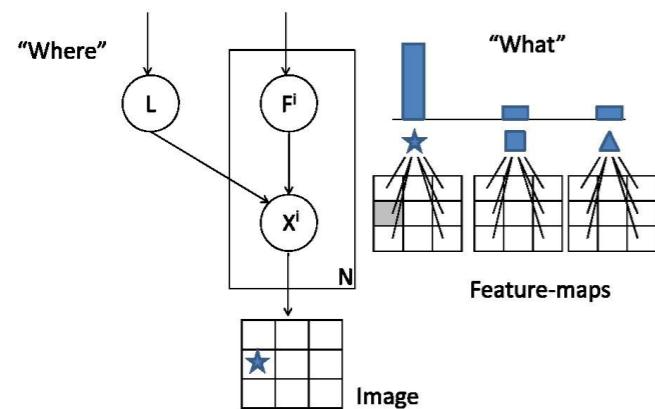
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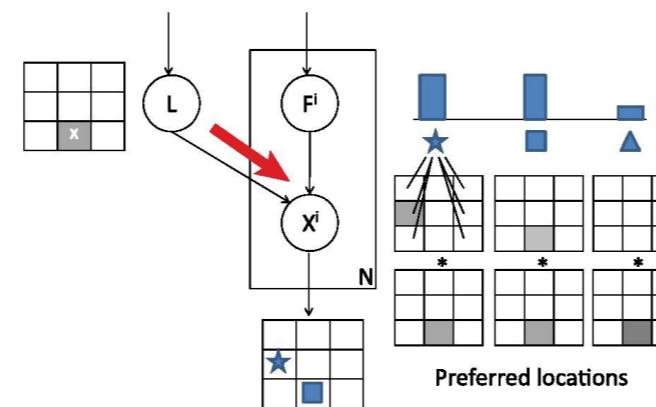
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$F^i$  = pools across locations in  $X^i$

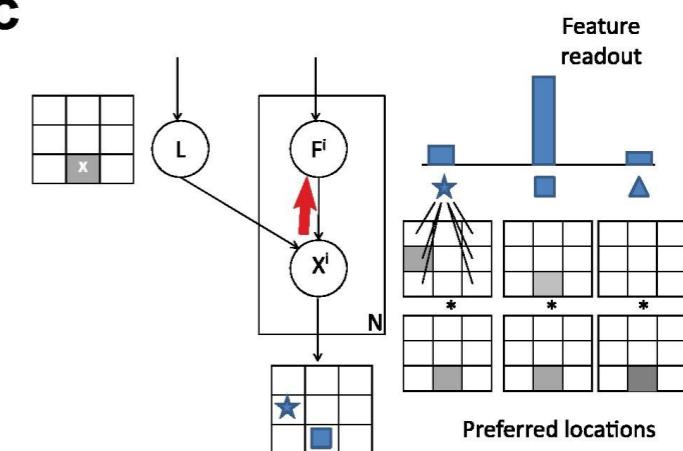
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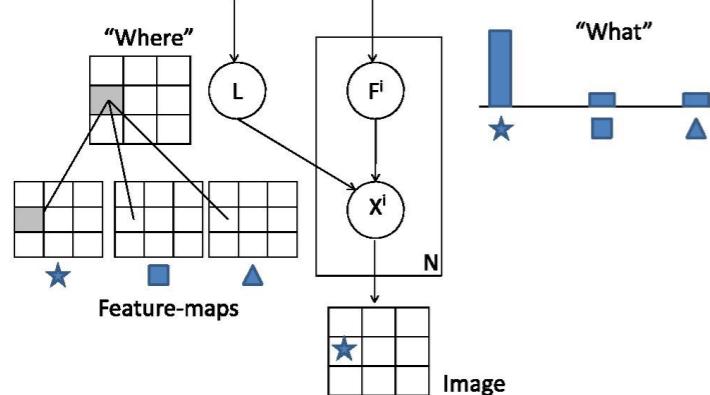
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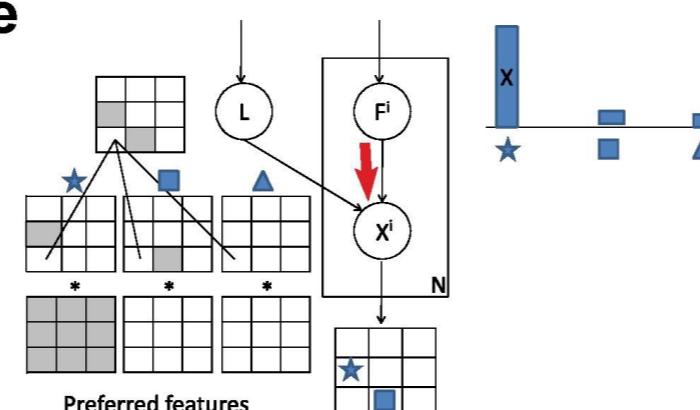
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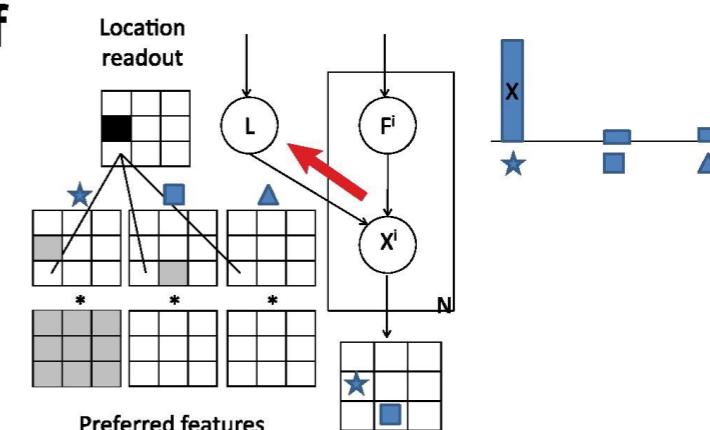
**d**



**e**



**f**



# Models

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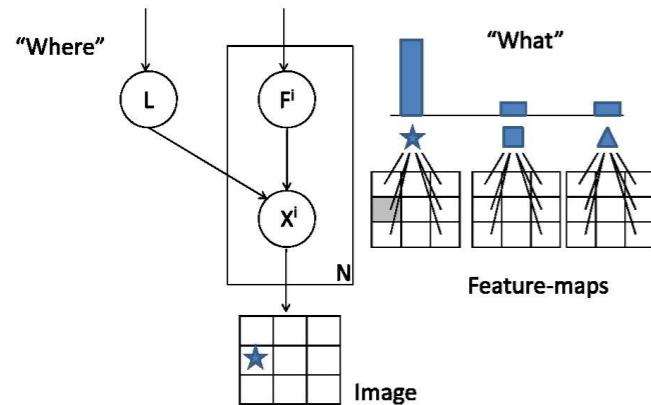
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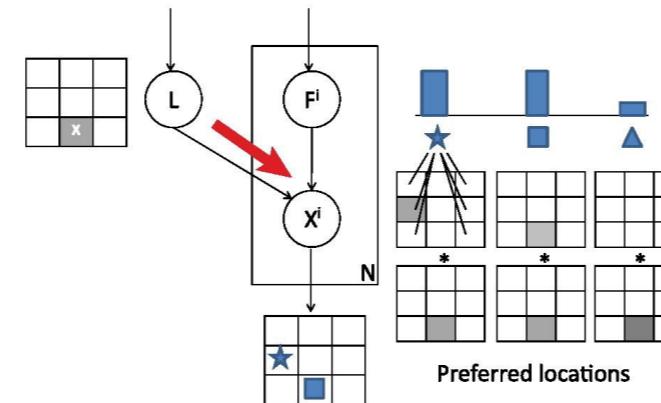
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Spatial attention spotlight  $X$

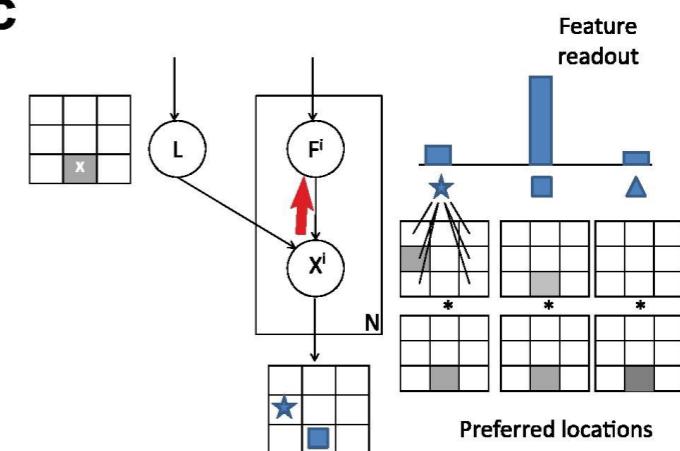
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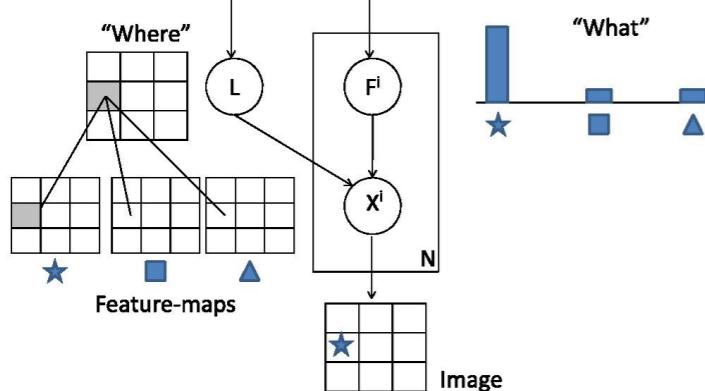
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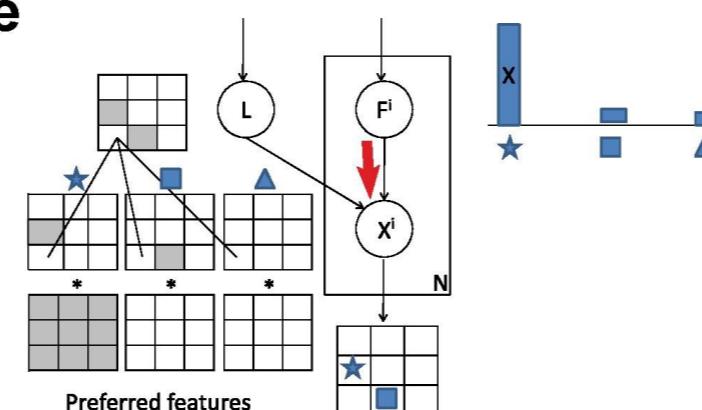
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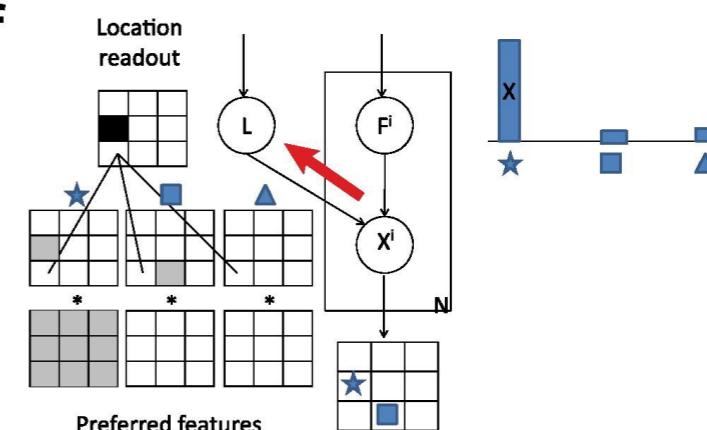
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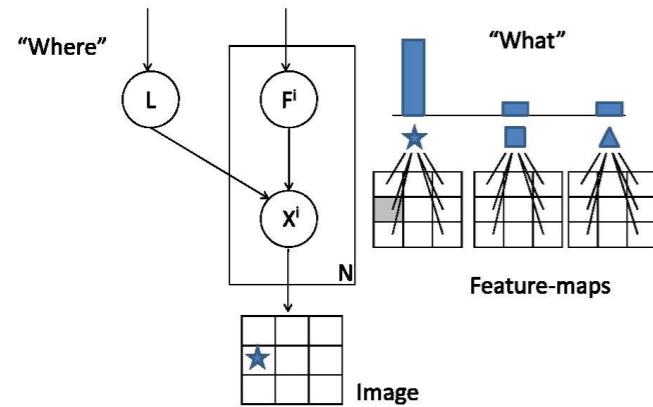
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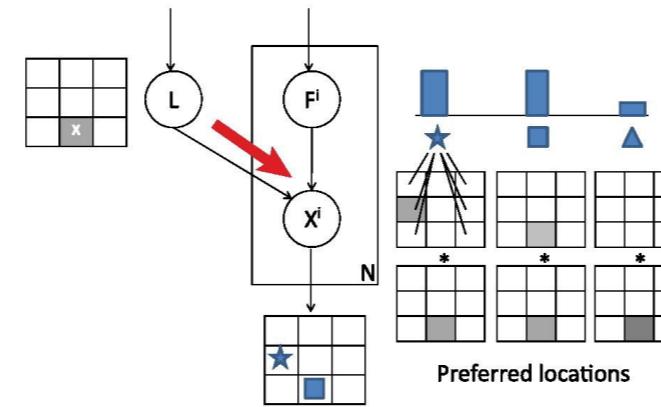
$F^i$  = pools across locations in  $X^i$

**a**



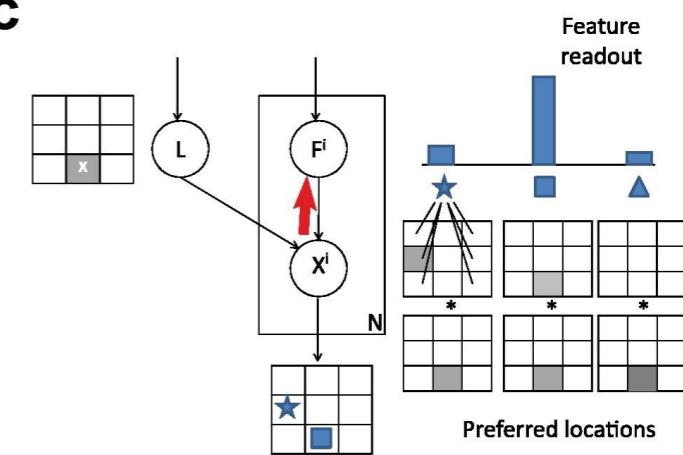
Spatial attention spotlight  $X$

**b**

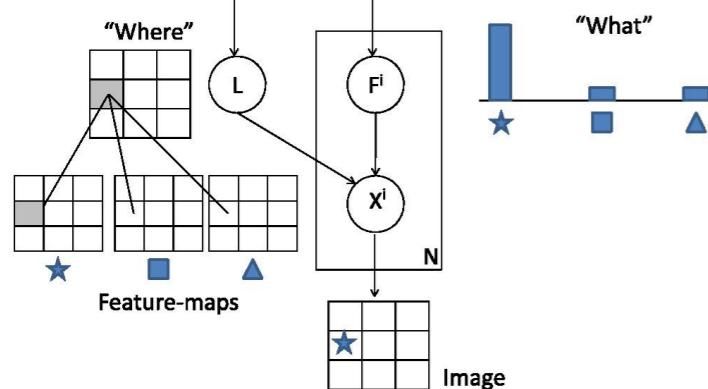


effect read out as  $P(F^i | I)$

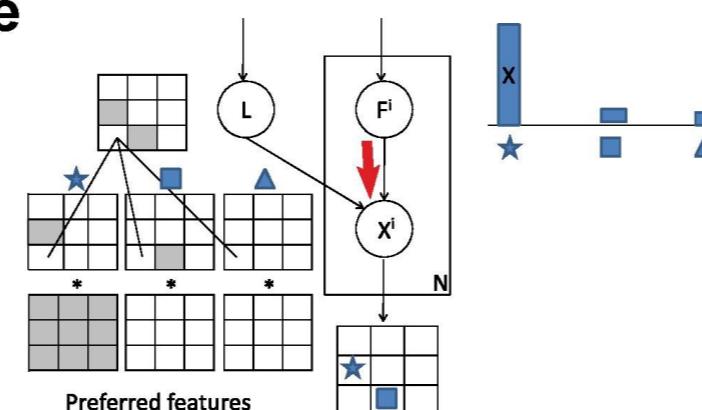
**c**



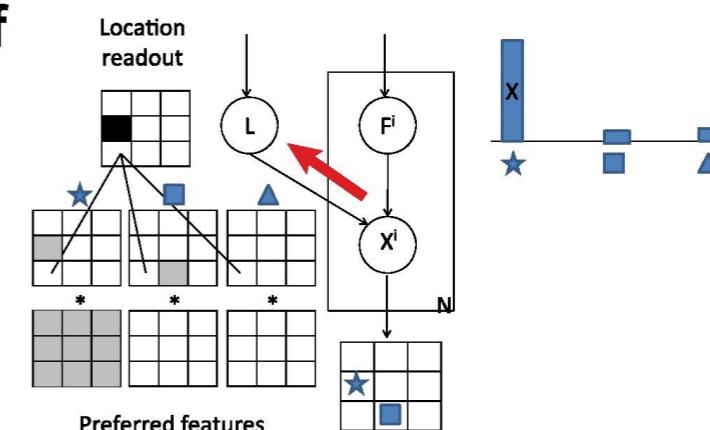
**d**



**e**



**f**



# Models

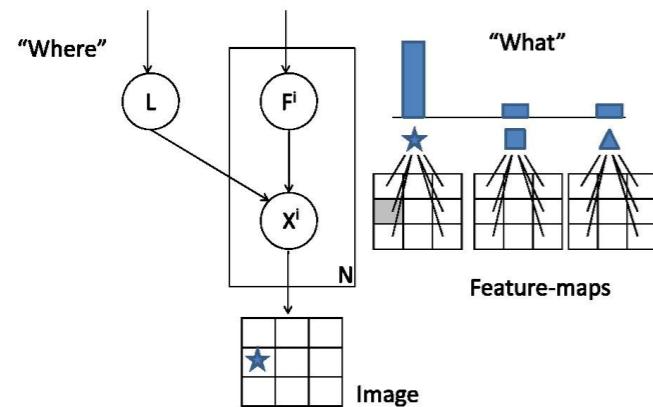
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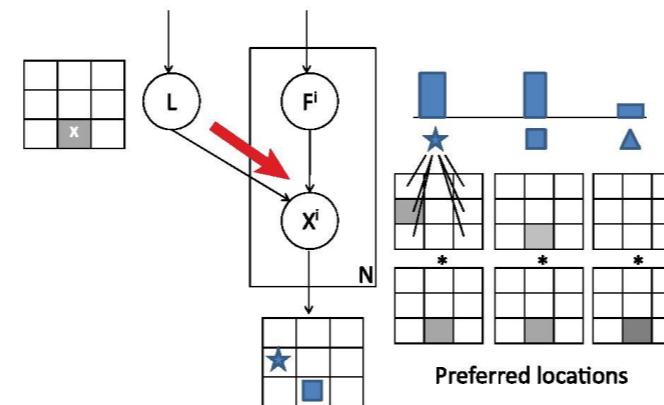
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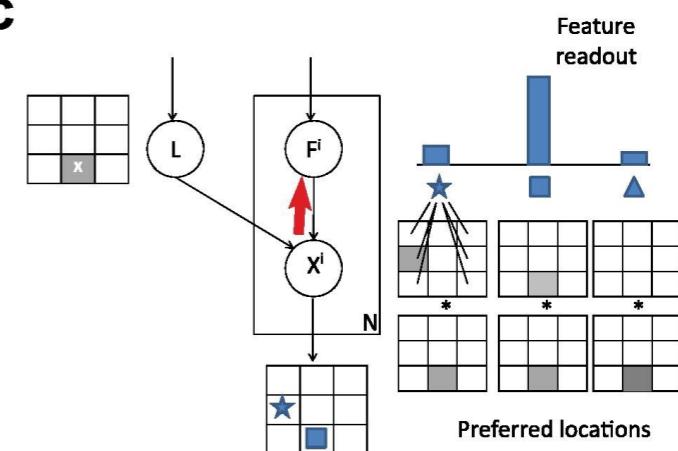
Spatial attention spotlight  $X$

**b**

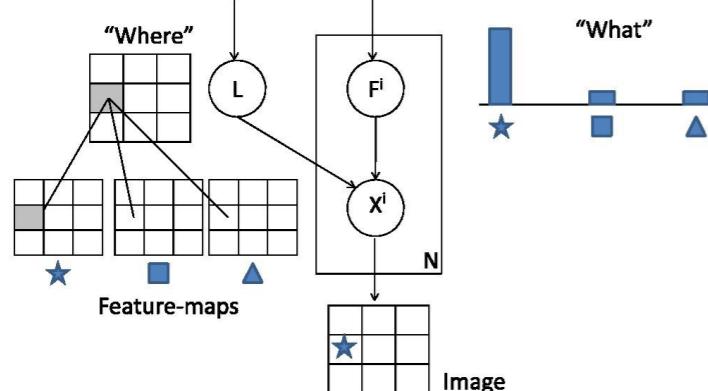


effect read out as  $P(F^i | I)$

**c**

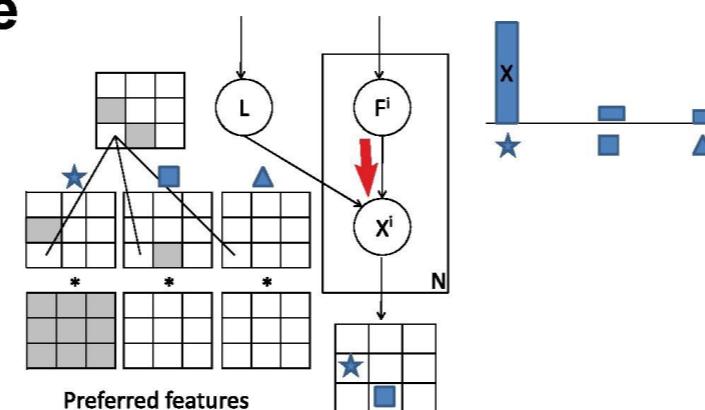


**d**



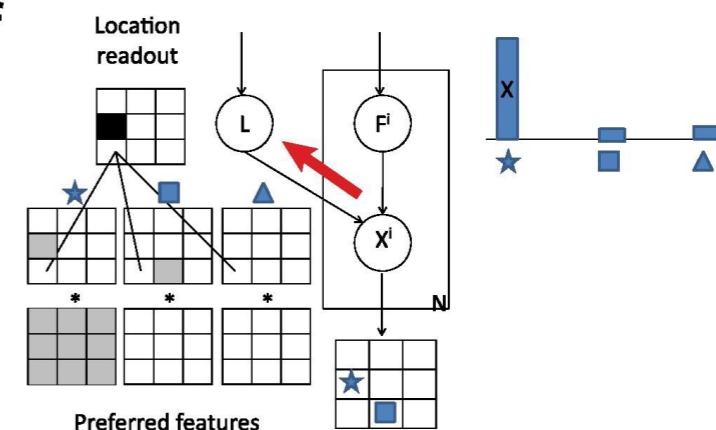
$L$  represented in FEF

**e**



Feature attention makes  $P(F^i)$  high for preferred feature

**f**



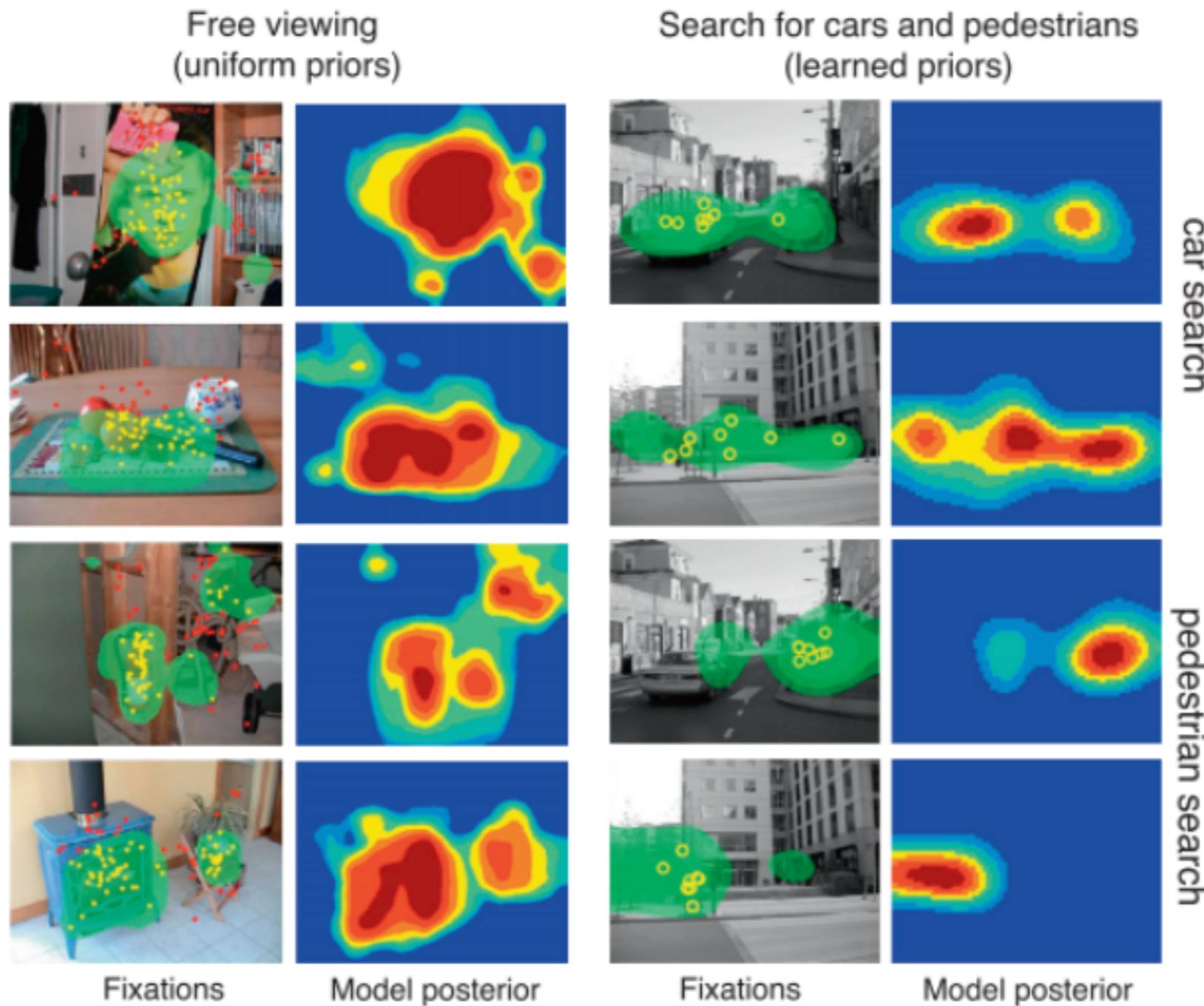
Location of preferred feature read out as  $P(L | I)$

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A mostly complete chart of  
**Neural Networks**

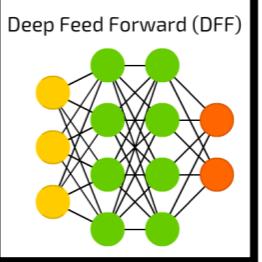
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- Backfed Input Cell
- Input Cell
- △ Noisy Input Cell
- Hidden Cell
- Probabilistic Hidden Cell
- △ Spiking Hidden Cell
- Output Cell
- Match Input Output Cell
- Recurrent Cell
- Memory Cell
- △ Different Memory Cell
- Kernel
- Convolution or Pool

Perceptron (P)

Feed Forward (FF)

Radial Basis Network (RBF)



Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

Long / Short Term Memory (LSTM)

Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)

Auto Encoder (AE)

Variational AE (VAE)

Denoising AE (DAE)

Sparse AE (SAE)

Markov Chain (MC)

Hopfield Network (HN)

Boltzmann Machine (BM)

Restricted BM (RBM)

Deep Belief Network (DBN)

Deep Convolutional Network (DCN)

Deconvolutional Network (DN)

Deep Convolutional Inverse Graphics Network (DCIGN)

Generative Adversarial Network (GAN)

Liquid State Machine (LSM)

Extreme Learning Machine (ELM)

Echo State Network (ESN)

Deep Residual Network (DRN)

Kohonen Network (KN)

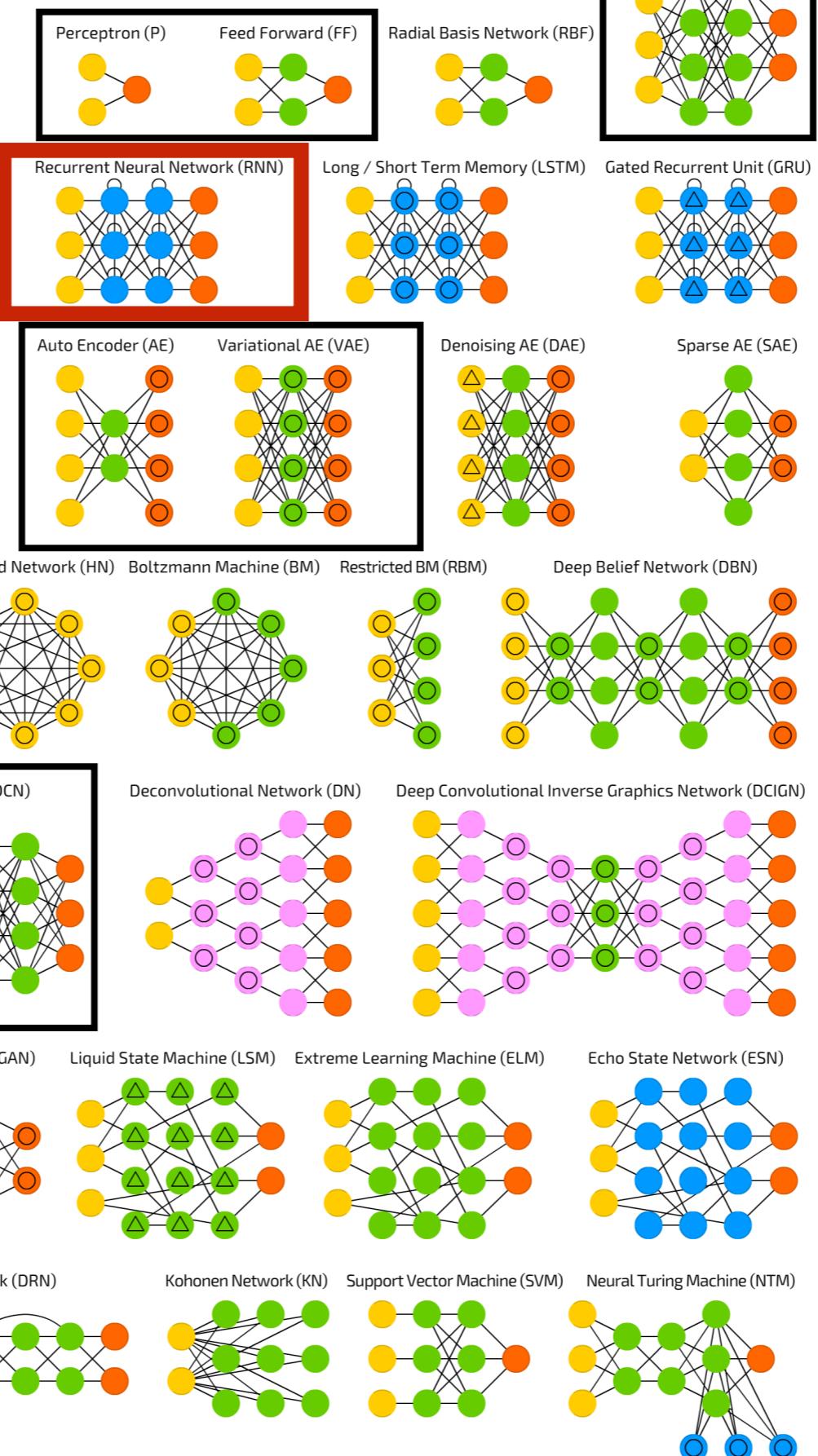
Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Neural Turing Machine (NTM)

A mostly complete chart of  
**Neural Networks**

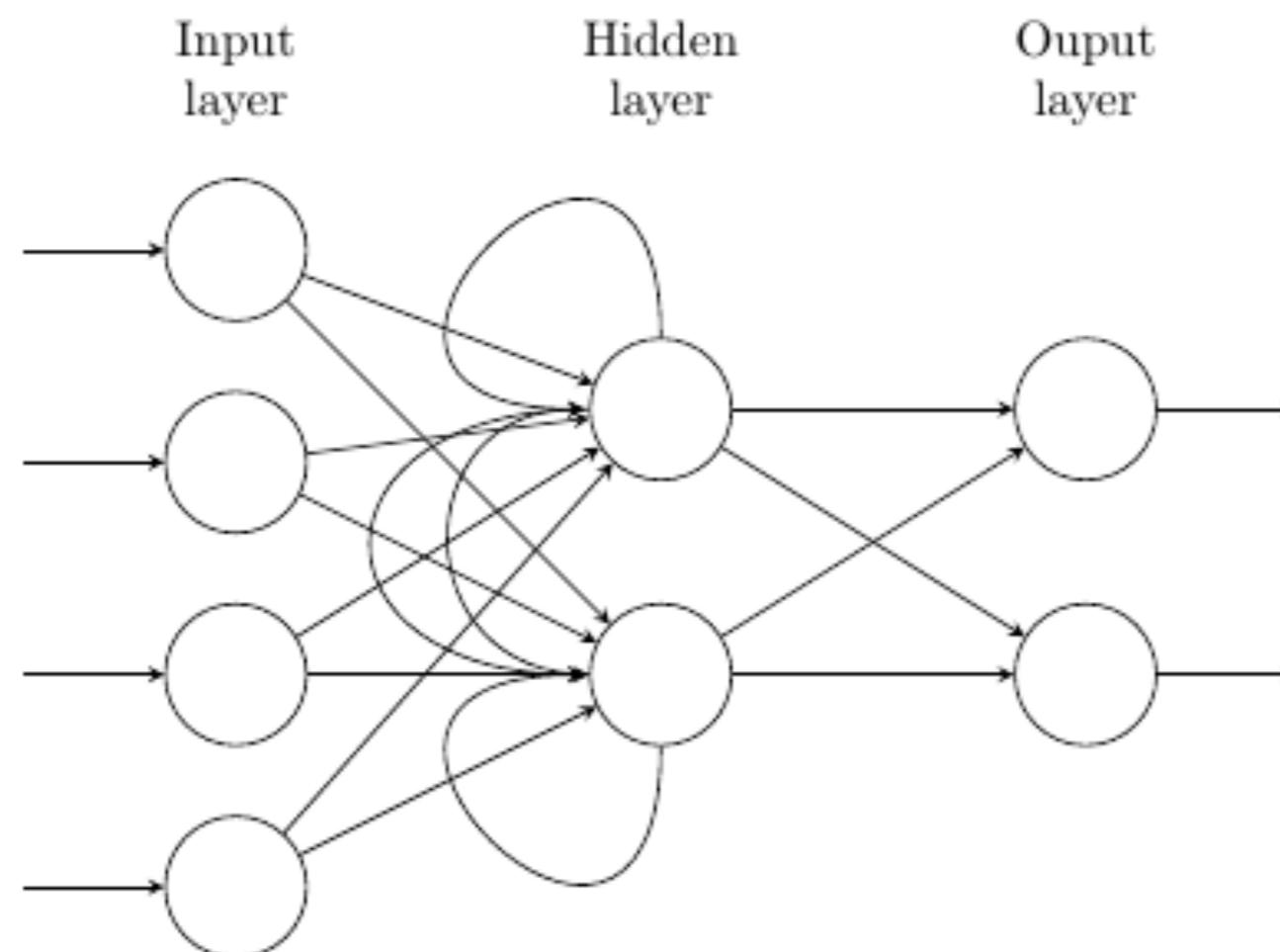
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- Backfed Input Cell
- Input Cell
- △ Noisy Input Cell
- Hidden Cell
- Probabilistic Hidden Cell
- △ Spiking Hidden Cell
- Output Cell
- Match Input Output Cell
- Recurrent Cell
- Memory Cell
- △ Different Memory Cell
- Kernel
- Convolution or Pool



# Models: RNNs

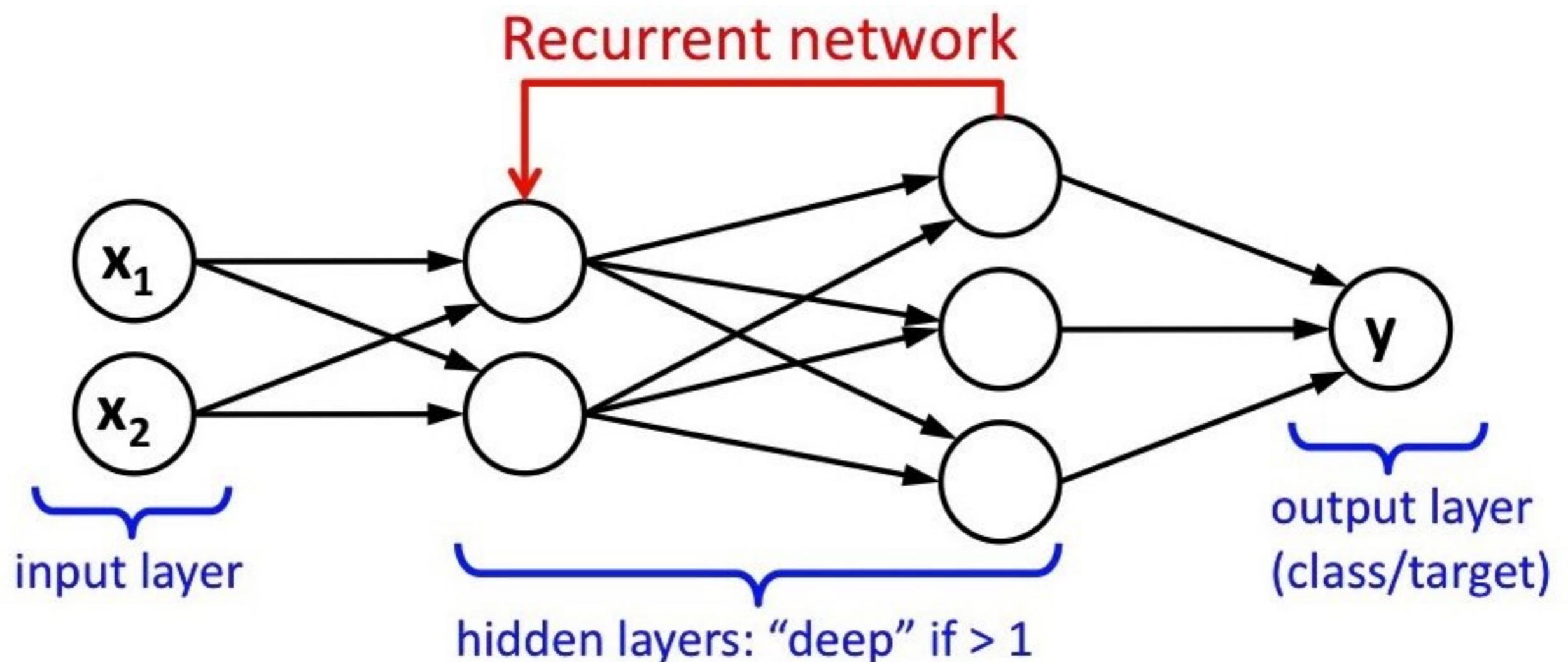
## Simple (unrestricted) RNNs



Unlike feedforward networks, recurrent networks can **store state**.

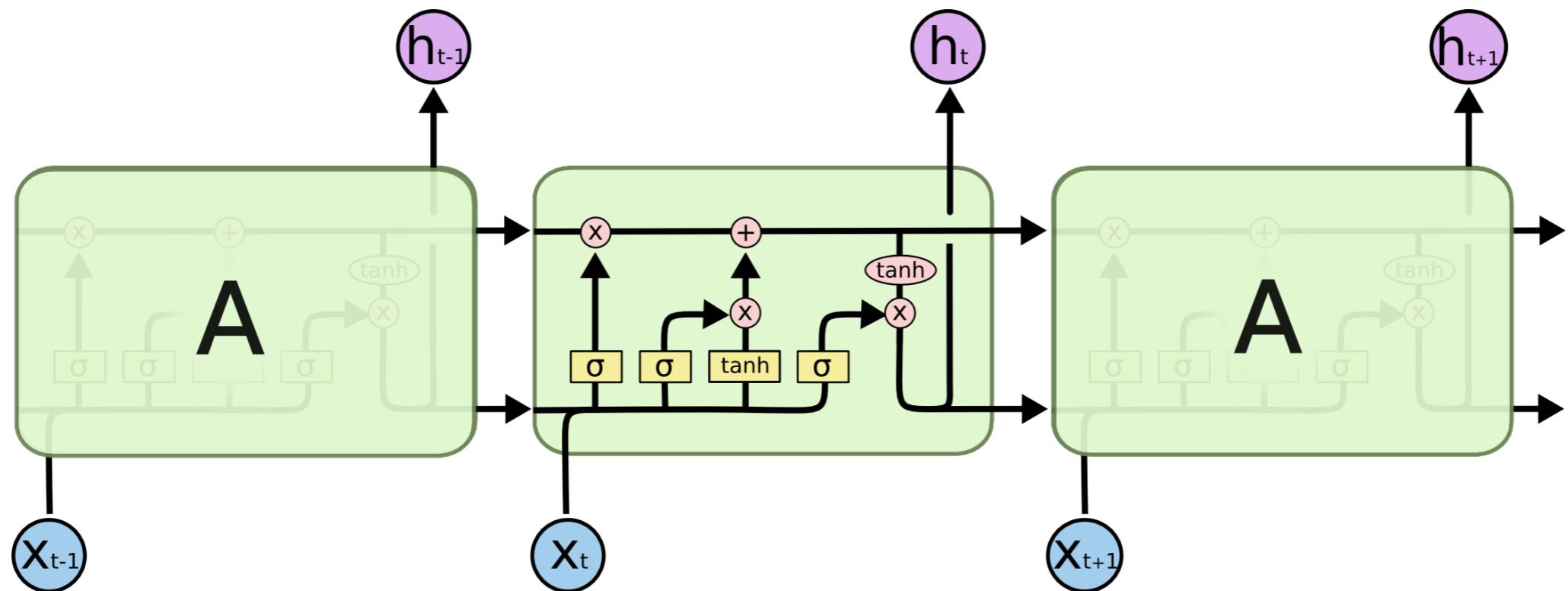
# Models: RNNs

## Simple (unrestricted) RNNs



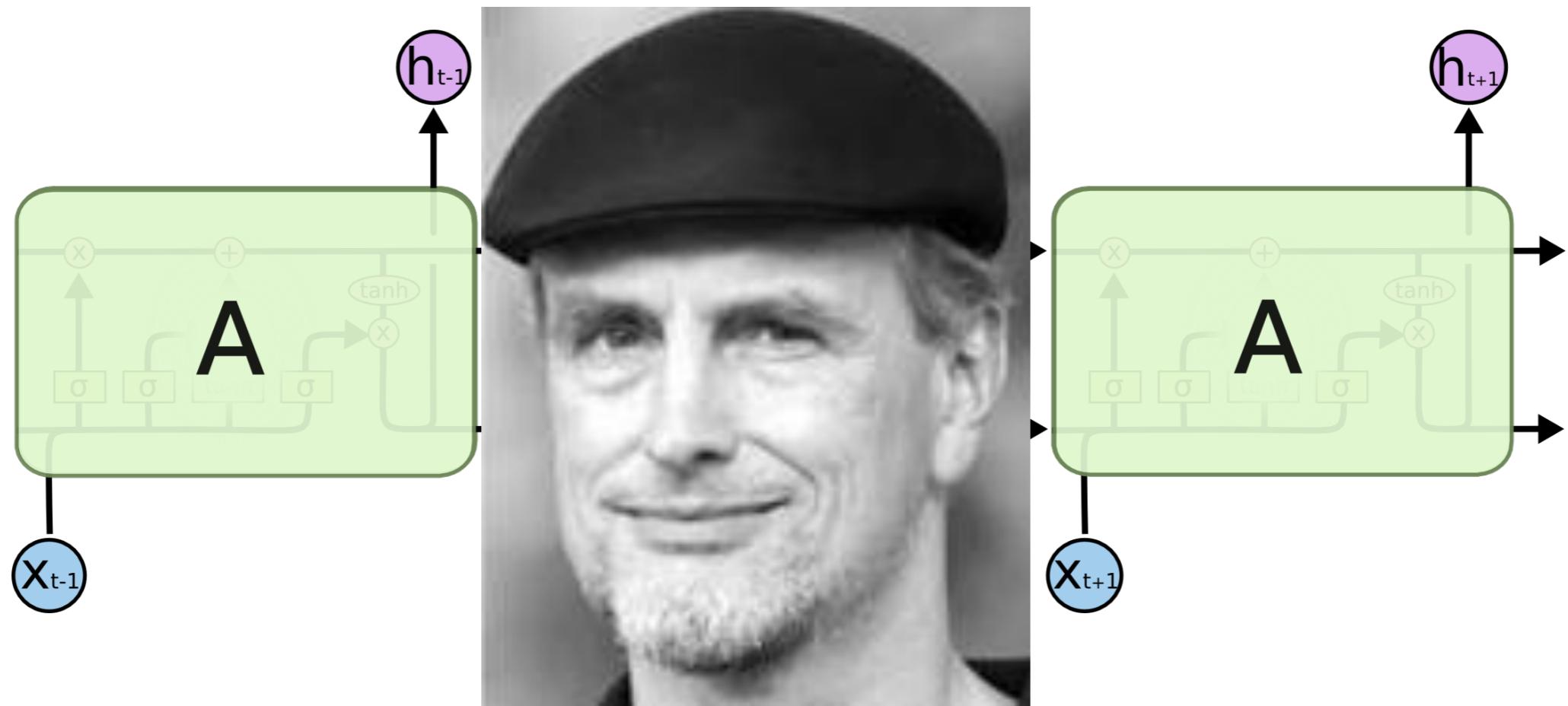
# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

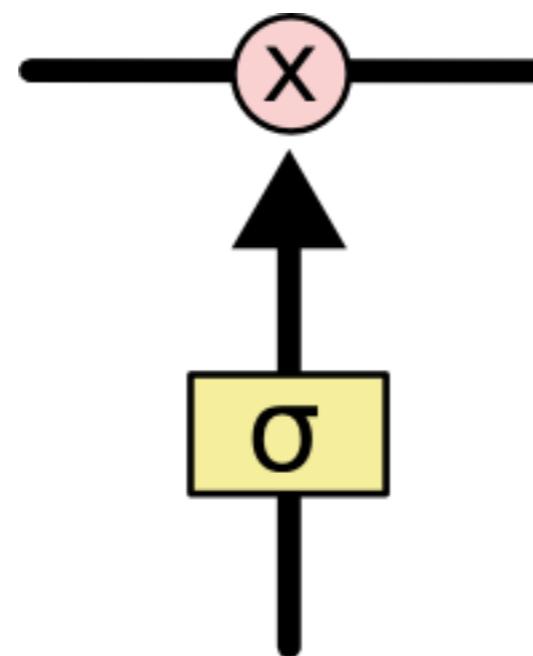


Jürgen Schmidhuber

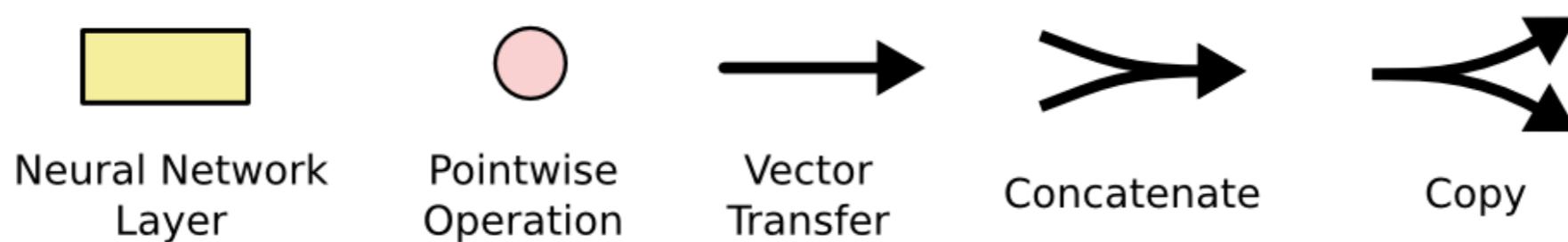
# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

Gate:

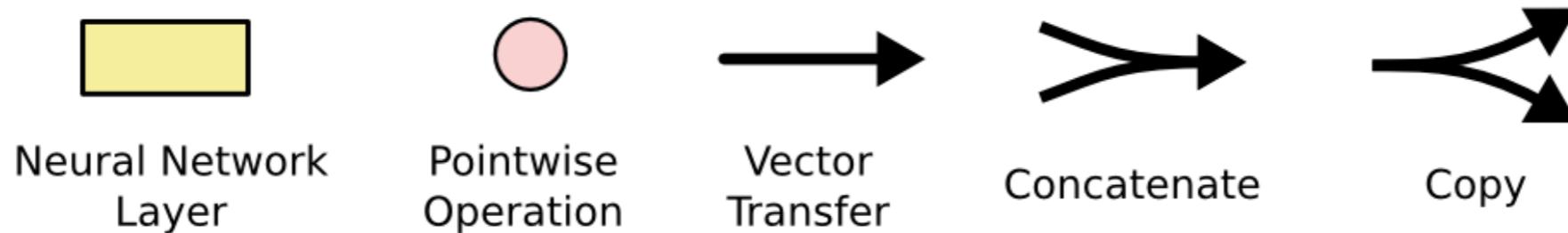
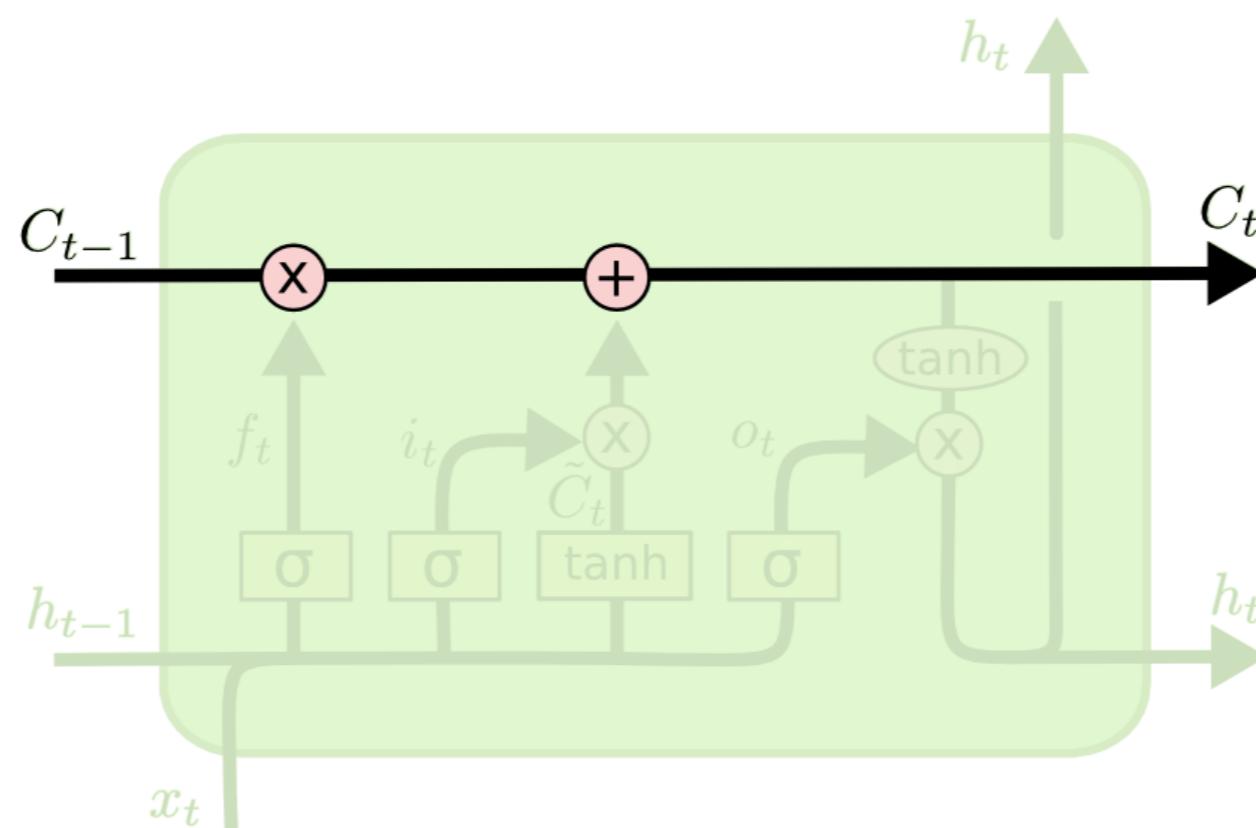


sigmoid + pointwise multiplication



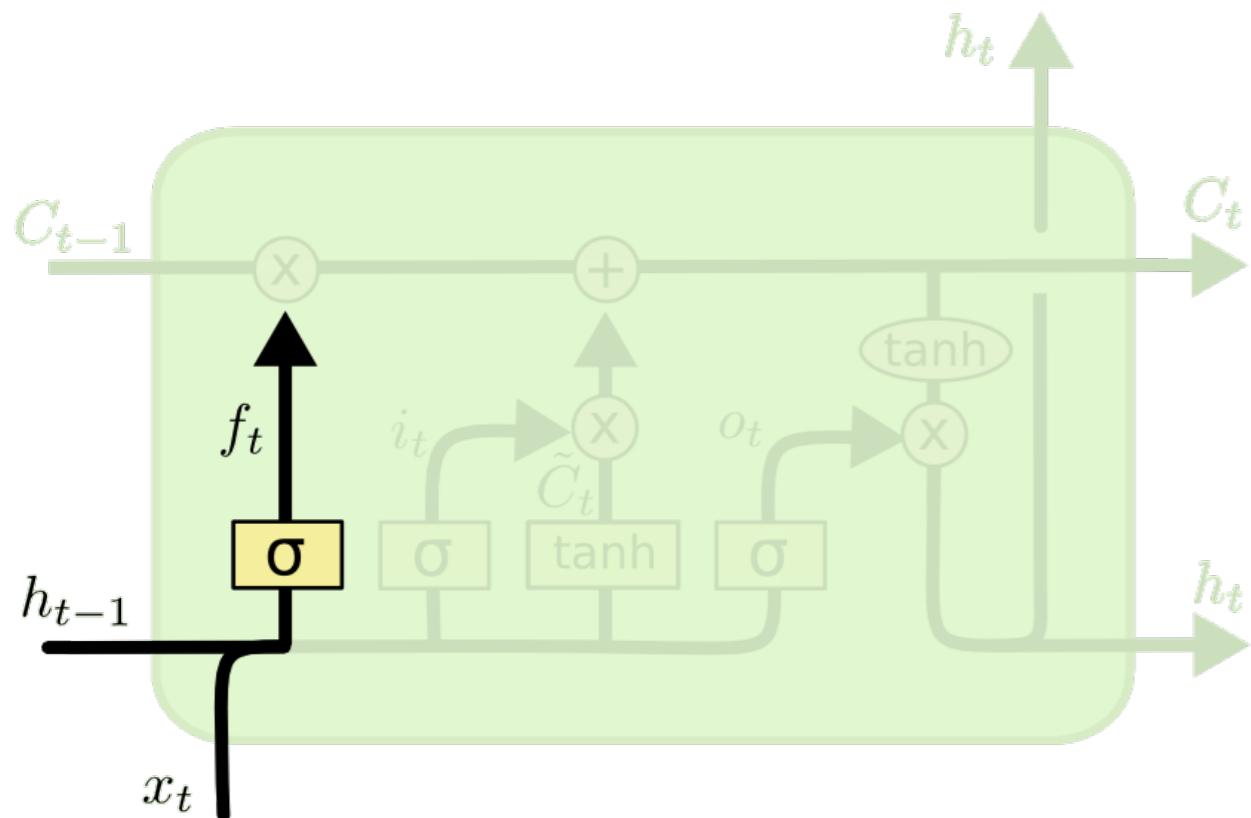
# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



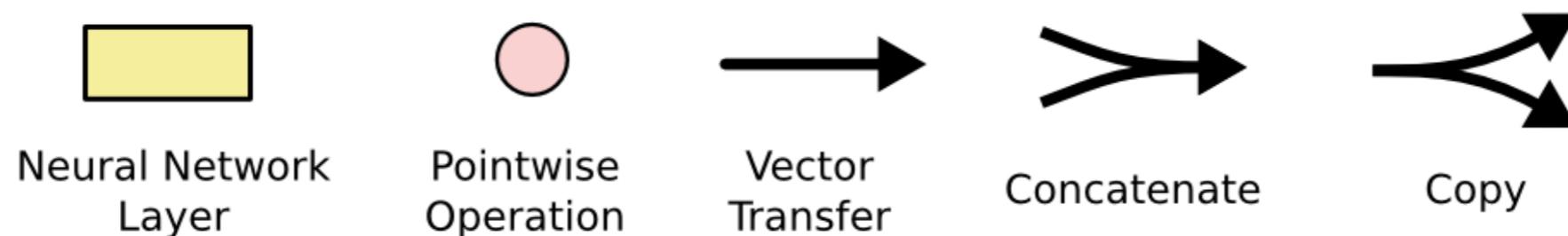
# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



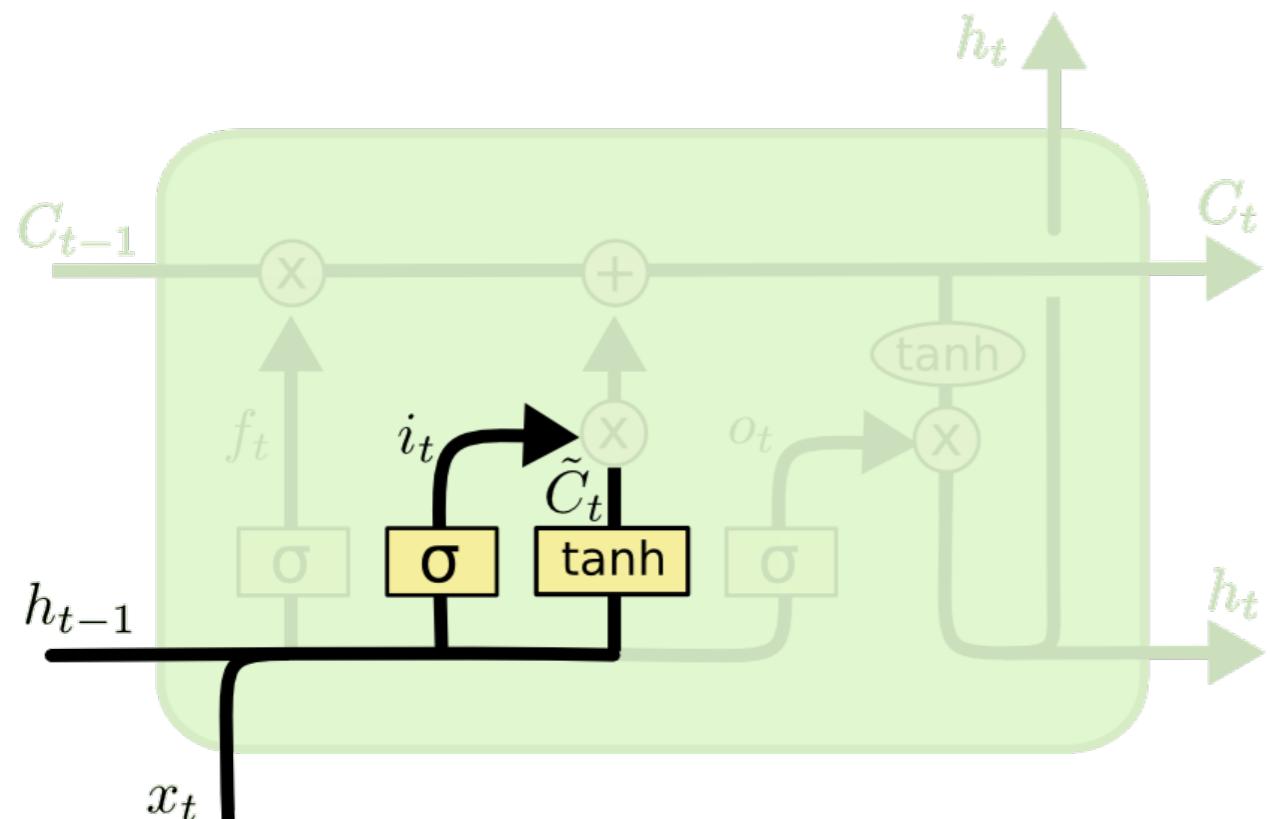
what to throw away:

$$f_t = \sigma (W_f \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_f)$$



# Models: RNNs

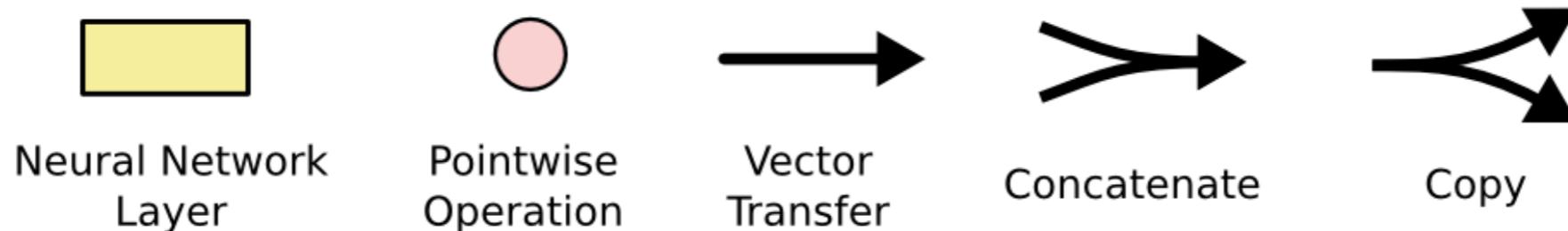
## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



what to store:

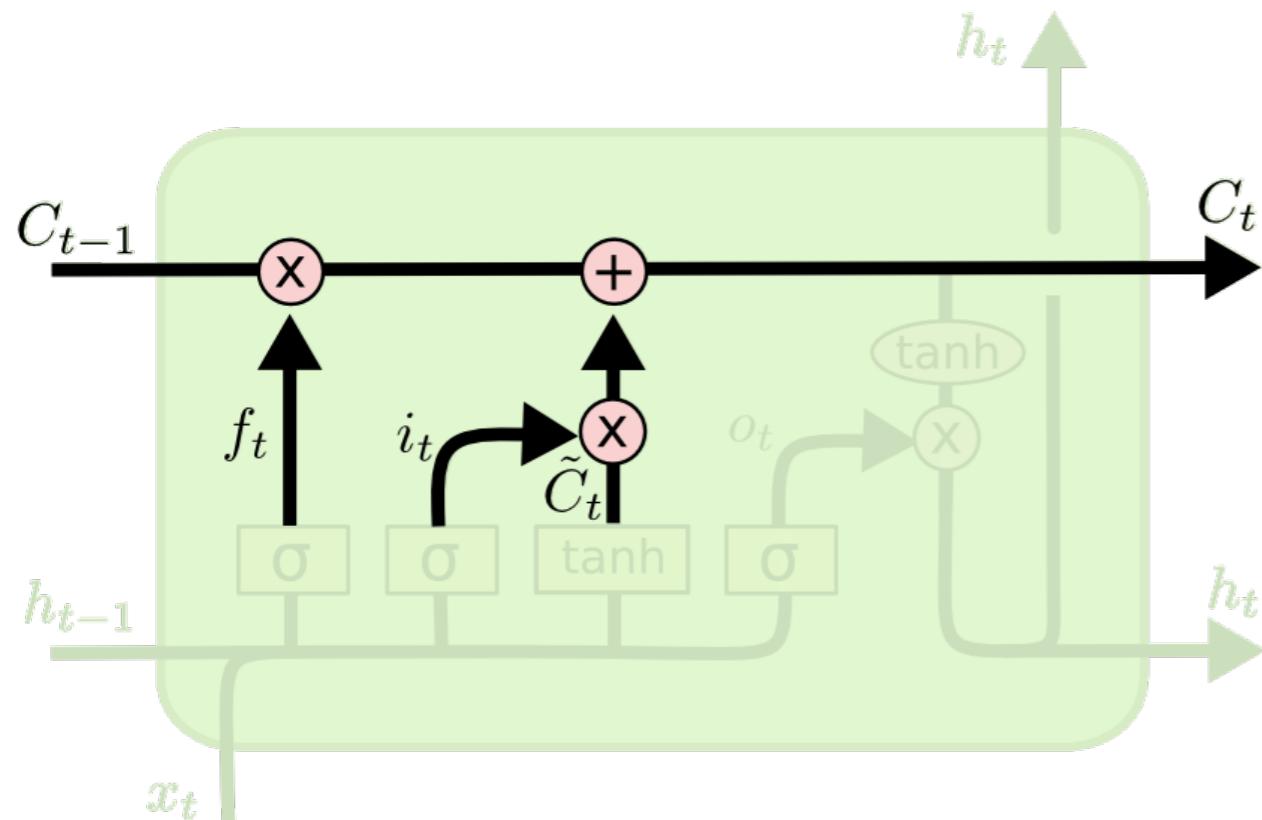
$$i_t = \sigma (W_i \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_i)$$

$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh (W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$



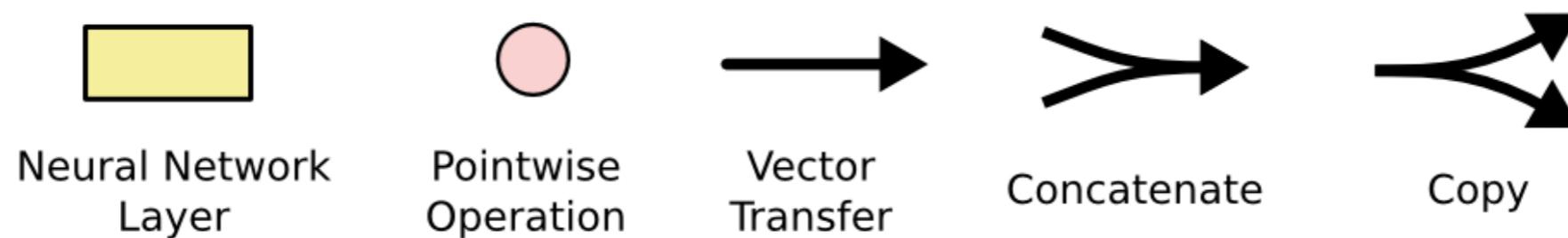
# Models: RNNs

## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



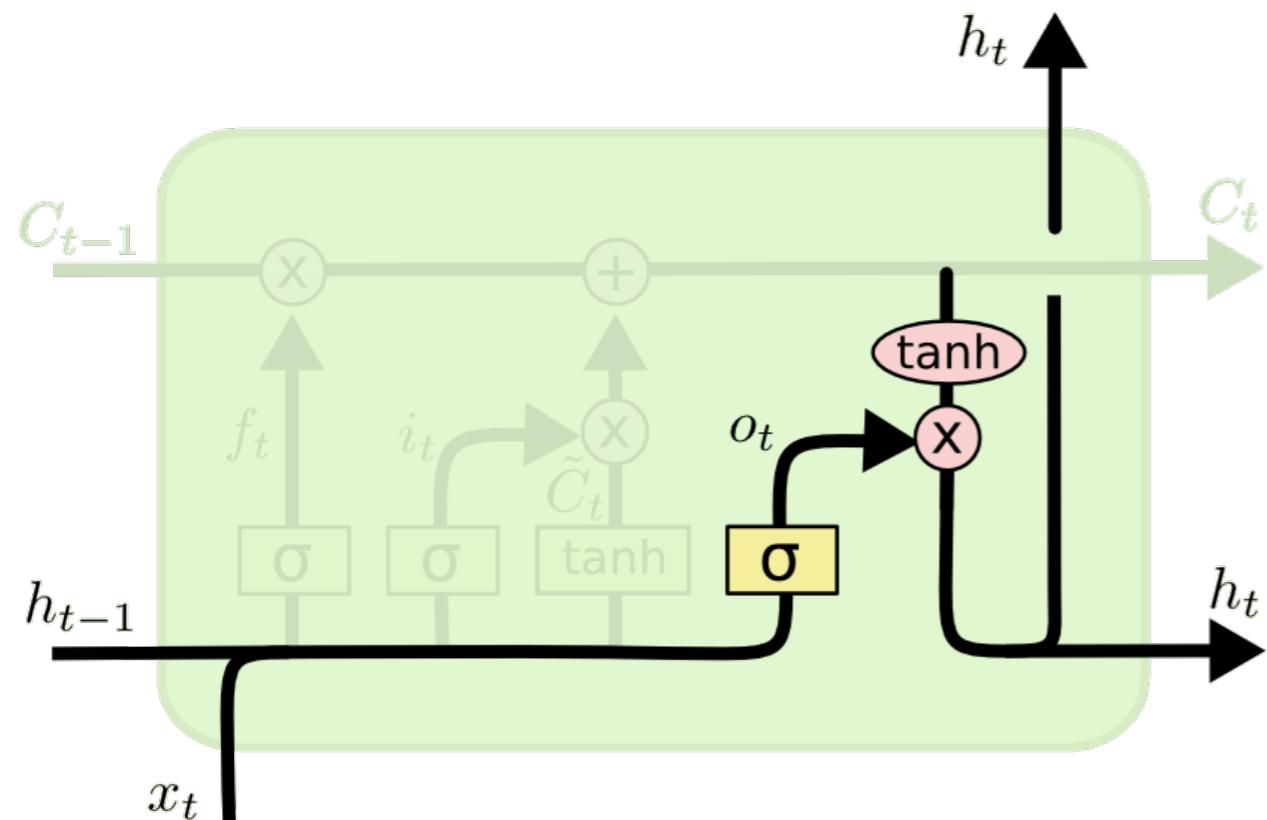
update old cell state:

$$C_t = f_t * C_{t-1} + i_t * \tilde{C}_t$$



# Models: RNNs

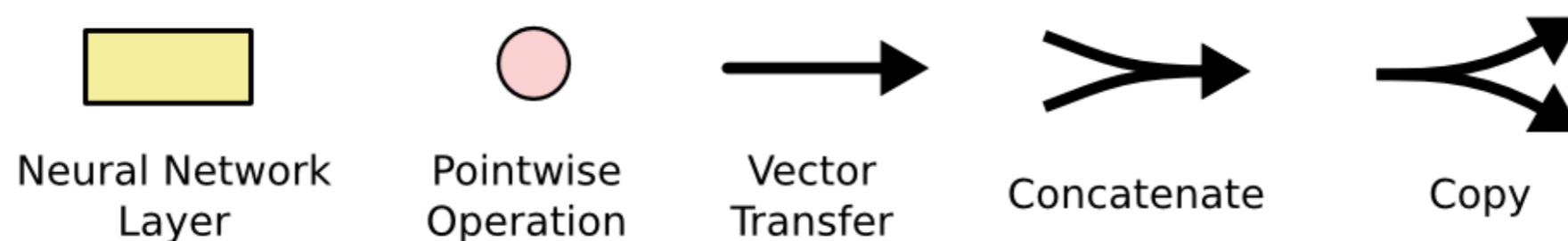
## Long-Short Term Memory (LSTMs)



what to actually output:

$$o_t = \sigma (W_o [ h_{t-1}, x_t ] + b_o)$$

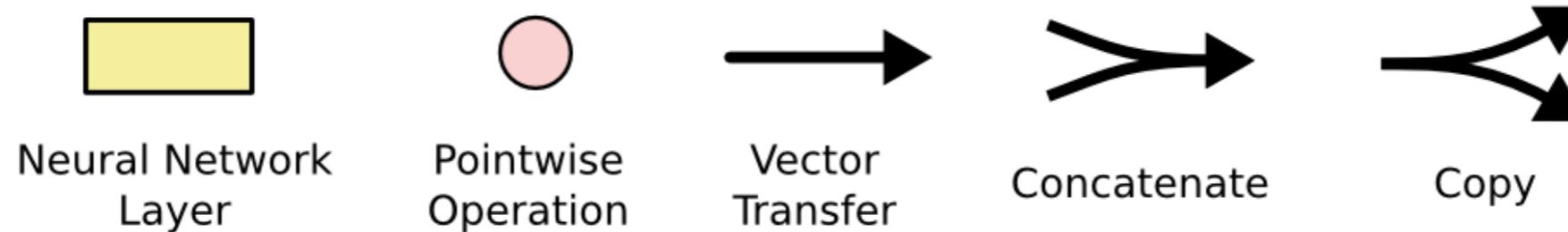
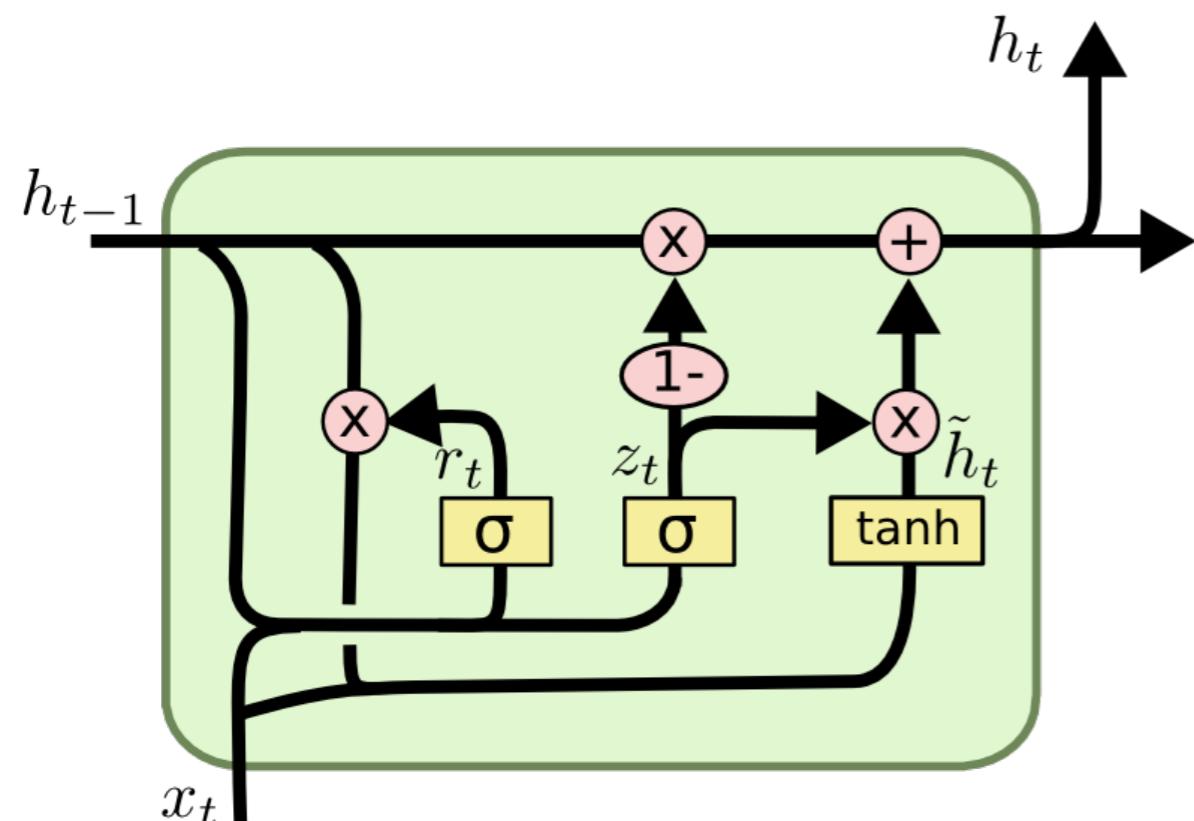
$$h_t = o_t * \tanh (C_t)$$



# Models: RNNs

## Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)

combines forget and input gate:



$$z_t = \sigma (W_z \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t])$$

$$r_t = \sigma (W_r \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t])$$

$$\tilde{h}_t = \tanh (W \cdot [r_t * h_{t-1}, x_t])$$

$$h_t = (1 - z_t) * h_{t-1} + z_t * \tilde{h}_t$$

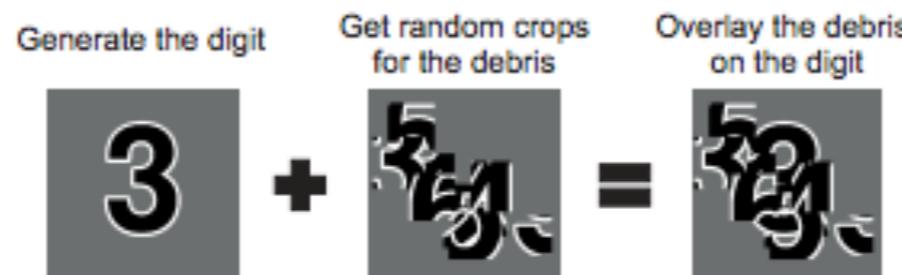
## Recurrent convolutional neural networks suppress occluders and enhance targets in occluded object recognition

Courtney J. Spoerer ([courtney.spoerer@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:courtney.spoerer@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk))

Medical Research Council Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit,  
15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge, CB2 7EF, UK

Nikolaus Kriegeskorte ([nikokriegeskorte@gmail.com](mailto:nikokriegeskorte@gmail.com))

Medical Research Council Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit,  
15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge, CB2 7EF, UK



**Figure 1:** The process for generating stimuli for digit debris. First the target digit is generated. Random crops of all possible targets are taken to create a mask of debris, which is applied to the target as an occluder.

# Models

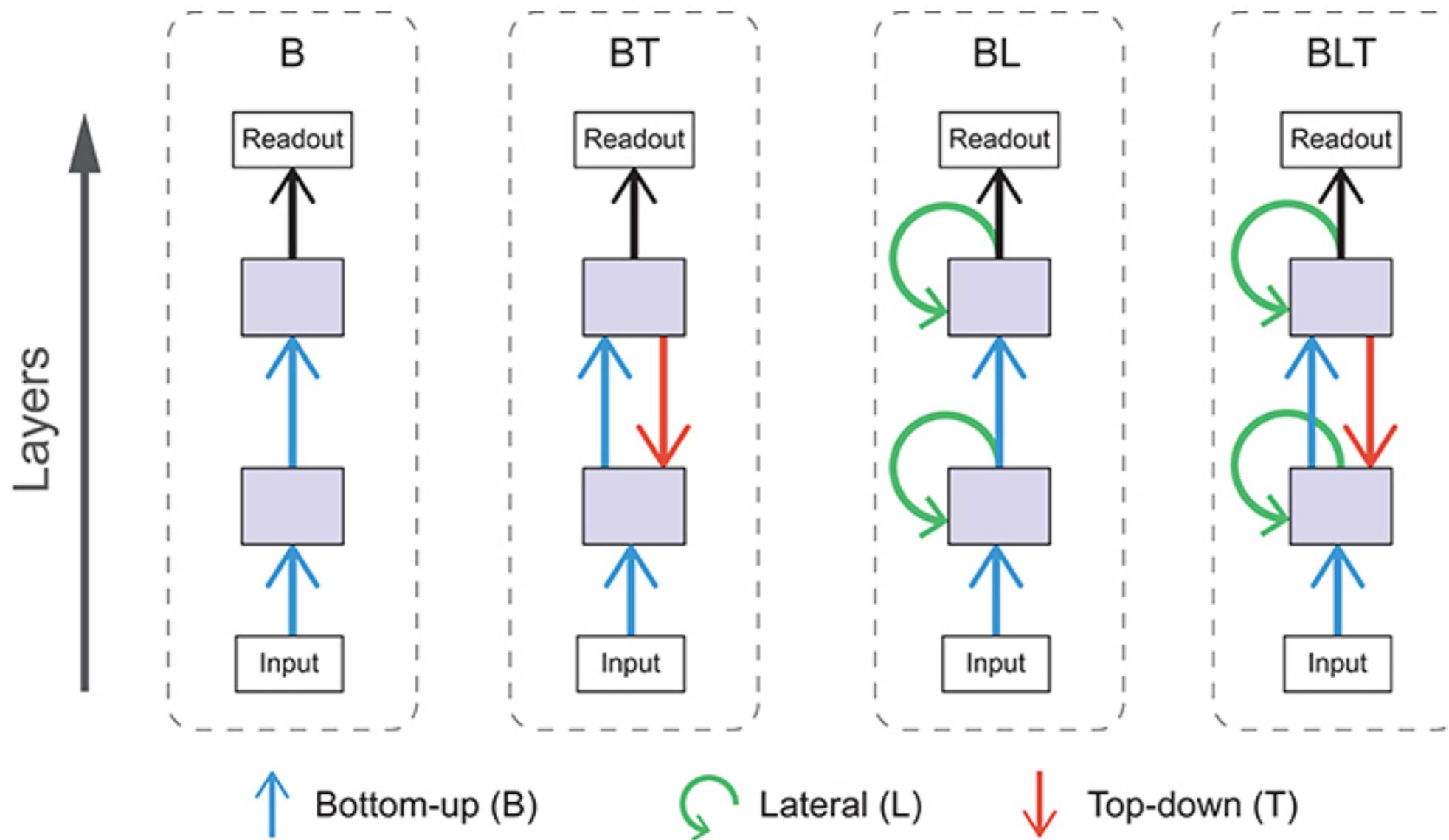
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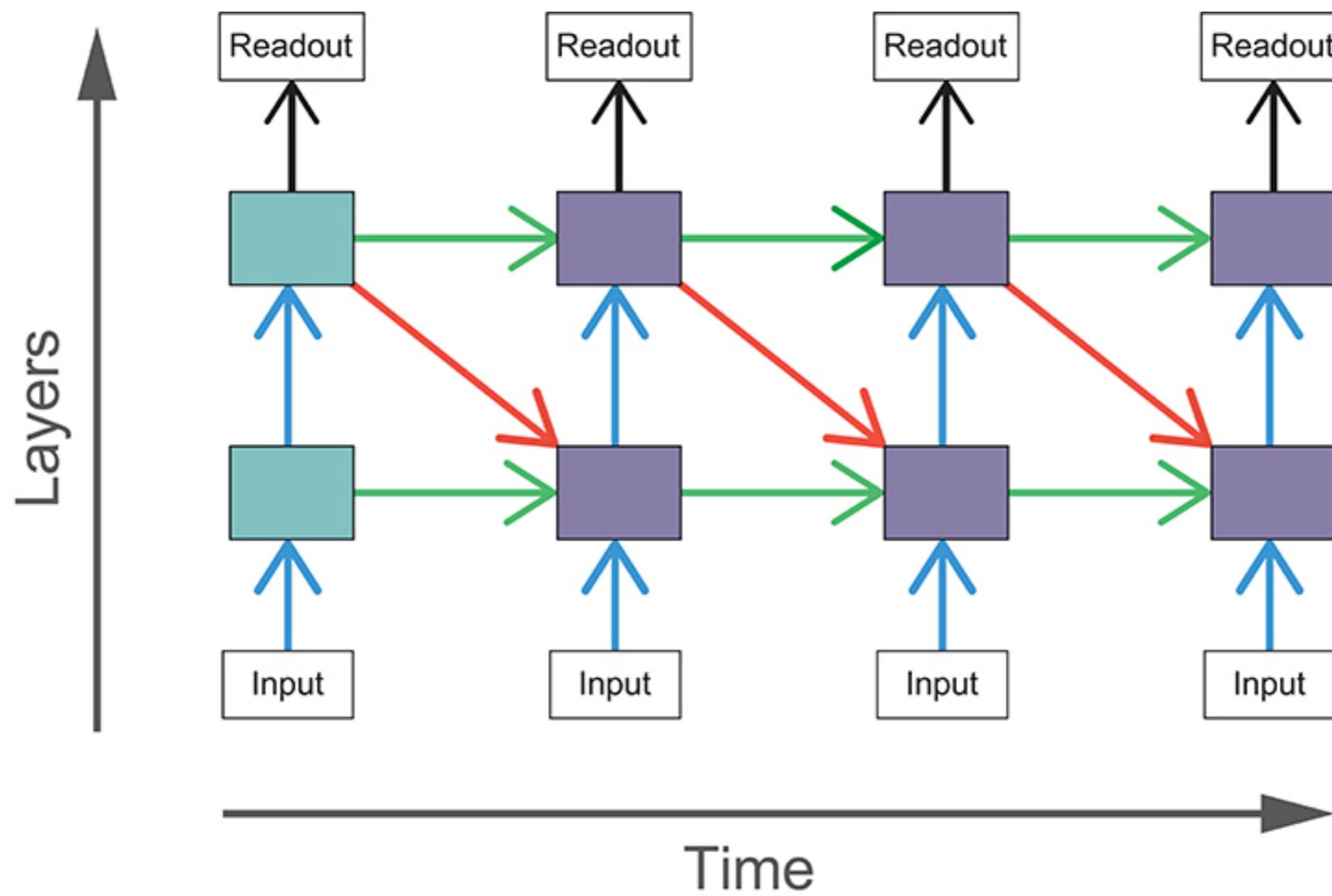
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# Models

All RNNs executed by unrolling in time



# Models

## Recurrent convolutional neural networks suppress occluders and enhance targets in occluded object recognition

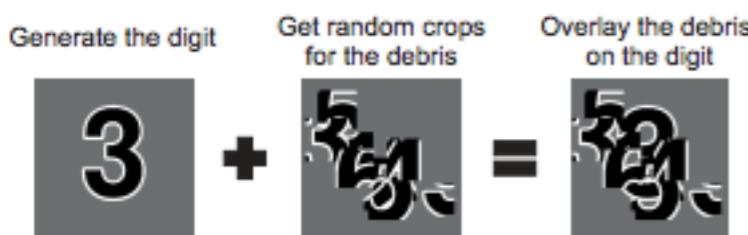
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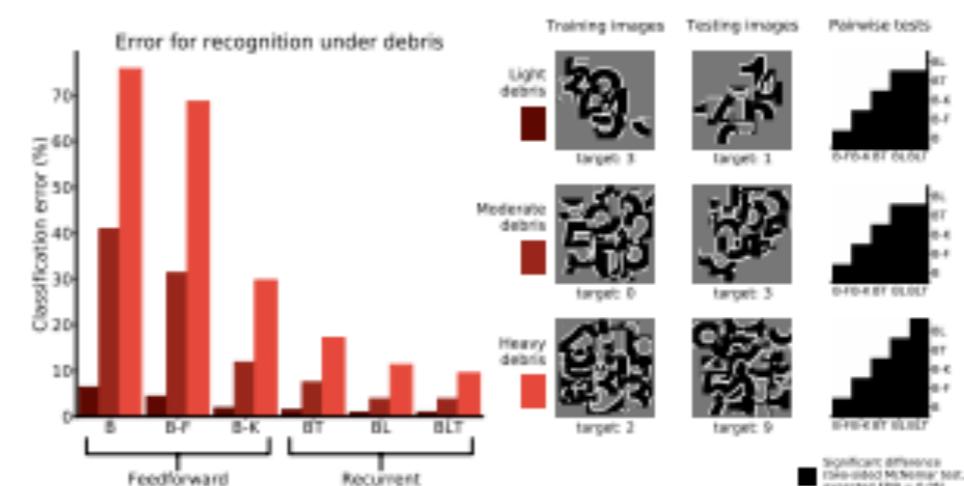
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## Results

Recurrent networks significantly out-performed feedforward networks across varying levels of occlusion. The difference in performance between feedforward and recurrent networks increased as the occlusion increased (Figure 2).



**Figure 1:** The process for generating stimuli for digit debris. First the target digit is generated. Random crops of all possible targets are taken to create a mask of debris, which is applied to the target as an occluder.



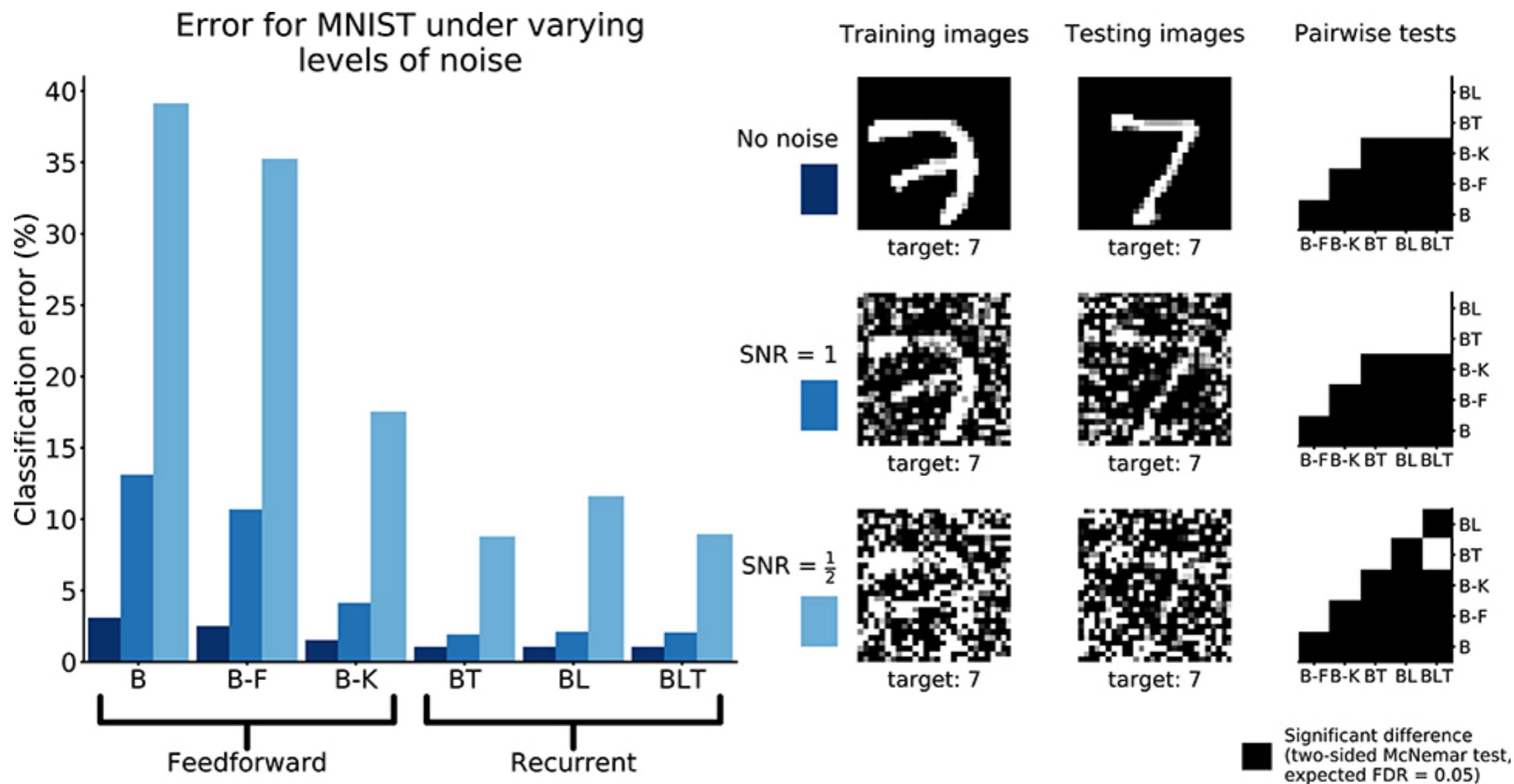
**Figure 2:** Classification error of the networks across increasing levels of debris (left). Pairwise differences across architectures for different levels of debris are indicated in matrix form (right).

## Models

## Recurrent convolutional neural networks suppress occluders and enhance targets in occluded object recognition

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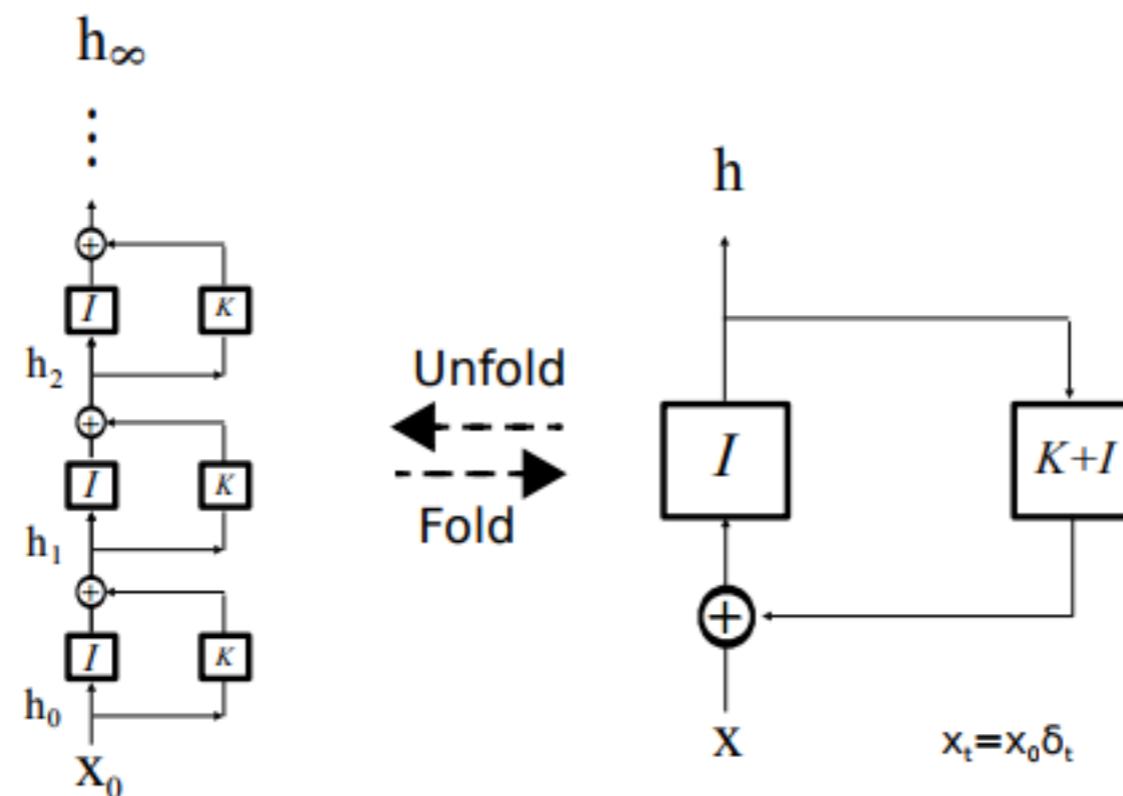


## Bridging the Gaps Between Residual Learning, Recurrent Neural Networks and Visual Cortex

by

**Qianli Liao and Tomaso Poggio**

Center for Brains, Minds and Machines, McGovern Institute, MIT



(A) ResNet with shared weights

(B) ResNet in recurrent form

# Models

## Bridging the Gaps Between Residual Learning, Recurrent Neural Networks and Visual Cortex

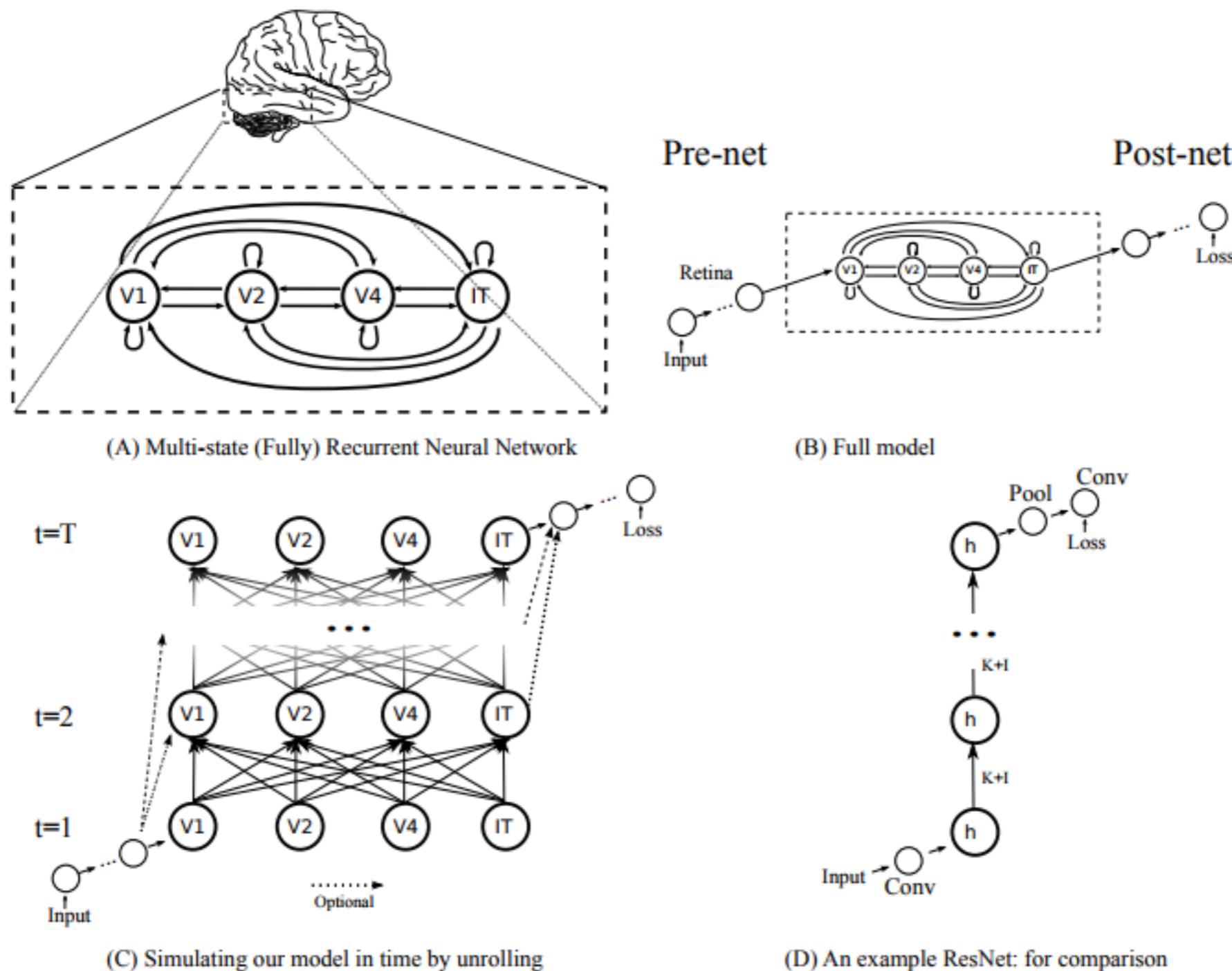


Figure 2: Modeling the ventral stream of visual cortex using a multi-state fully recurrent neural network

# Models

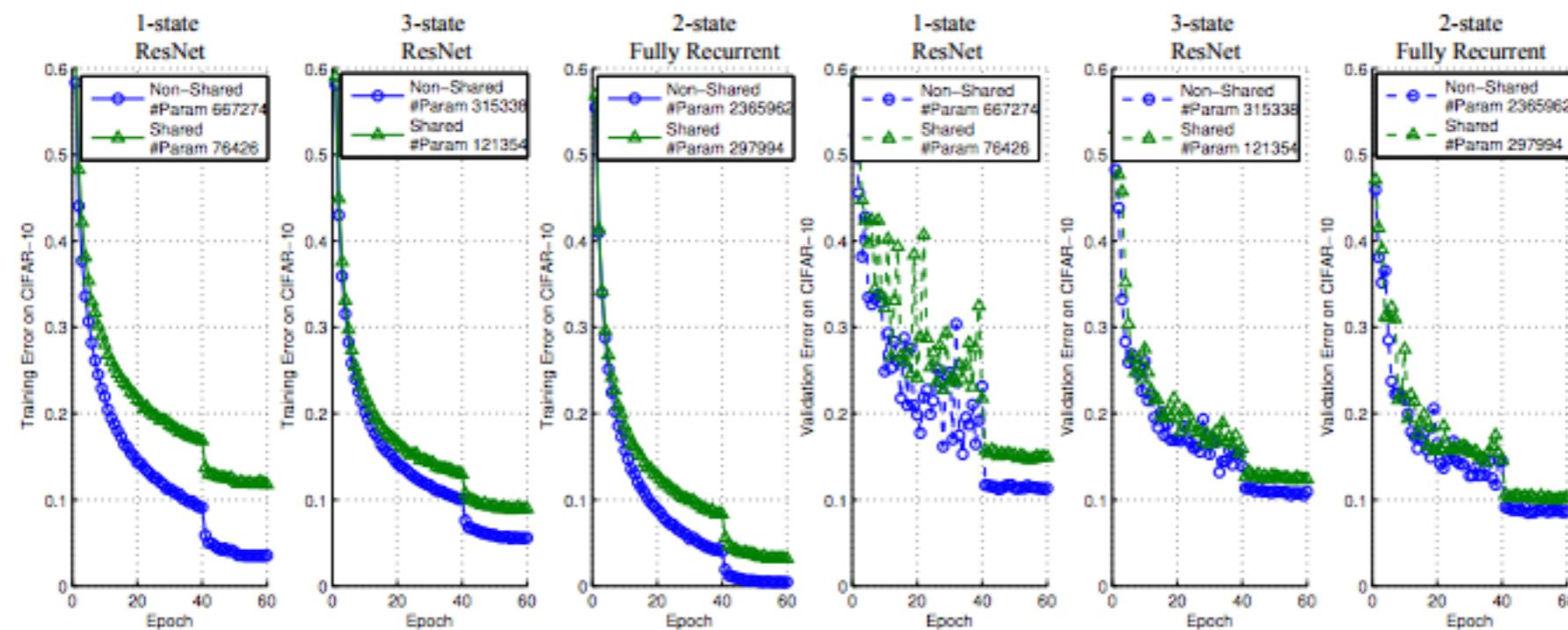
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### CIFAR-10 Error



## Feedback Networks

Amir R. Zamir<sup>1,3\*</sup> Te-Lin Wu<sup>1\*</sup> Lin Sun<sup>1,2</sup> William B. Shen<sup>1</sup> Bertram E. Shi<sup>2</sup>  
Jitendra Malik<sup>3</sup> Silvio Savarese<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Stanford University <sup>2</sup> HKUST <sup>3</sup> University of California, Berkeley

<http://feedbacknet.stanford.edu/>

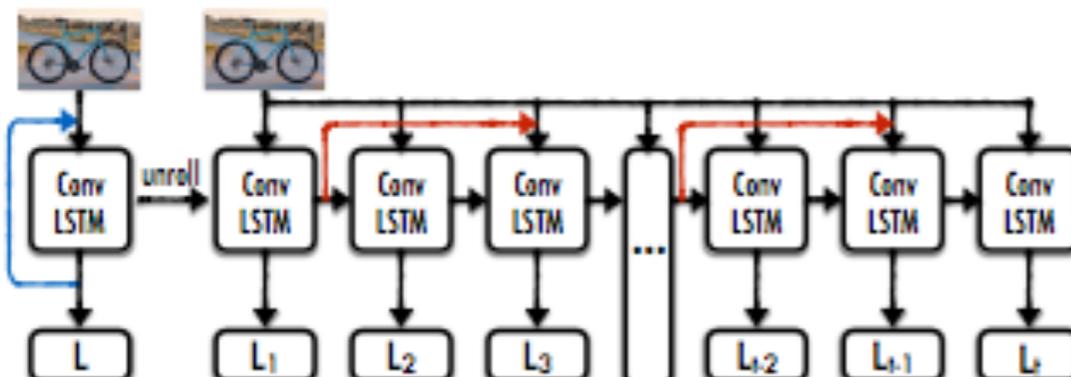


Figure 2. Illustration of our core feedback model and skip connections (shown in red) when unrolled in time. 'ConvLSTM' and 'L' boxes represent convolutional operations and iteration losses, respectively.

$$L = \sum_{t=1}^T \gamma^t L_t, \text{ where } L_t = -\log \frac{e^{\mathbf{H}_t^D[C]}}{\sum_j e^{\mathbf{H}_t^D[j]}}.$$

# Models

## Feedback Networks

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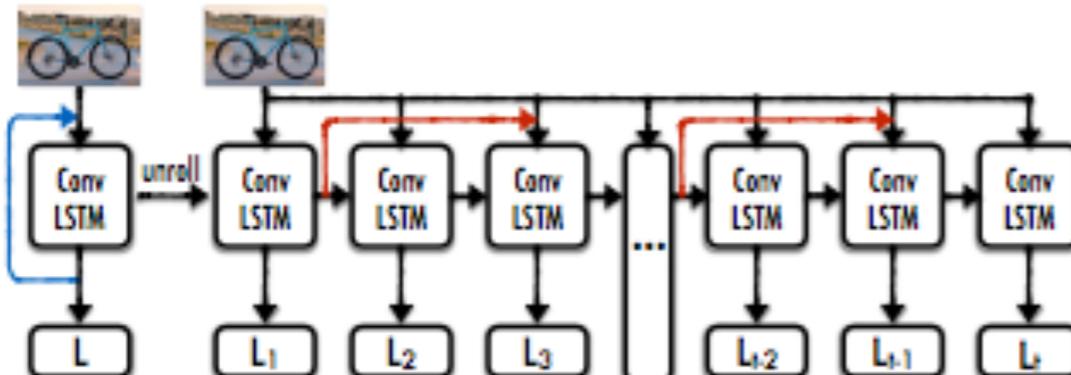


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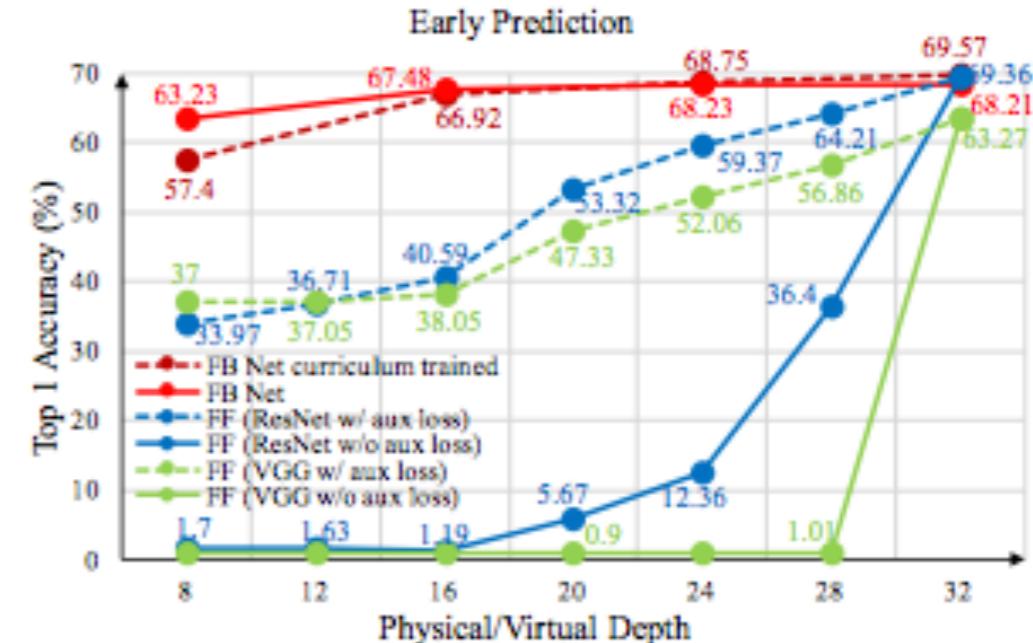


Figure 5. Evaluation of early predictions. Comparison of accuracy of feedback (FB) model and feedforward (FF) baselines (ResNet & VGG, with or without auxiliary loss layers)

## Feedback Networks

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Model	Physical Depth	Virtual Depth	Top1 (%)	Top5 (%)
<b>Feedback Net</b> 	12	48	<b>71.12</b>	<b>91.51</b>
	8	32	69.57	91.01
	4	16	67.83	90.12
Feedforward (ResNet[19]) 	48	-	70.04	90.96
	32	-	69.36	91.07
	12	-	66.35	90.02
	8	-	64.23	88.95
	128*	-	70.92	91.28
	110*	-	72.06	92.12
	64*	-	71.01	91.48
	48*	-	70.56	91.60
	32*	-	69.58	91.55
Feedforward (VGG[48]) 	48	-	55.08	82.1
	32	-	63.56	88.41
	12	-	64.65	89.26
	8	-	63.91	88.90
Highway [53]	19	-	67.76	-
ResNet v2[20]	1001	-	77.29	-
Stochastic Depth [24]	110	-	75.02	-
SwapOut [49]	32 fat	-	77.28	-
RCNN [37]	4 fat	16	68.25	-

Table 6. Endpoint performance comparison on CIFAR-100. Baselines denoted with \* are the architecture used in the original ResNet paper.

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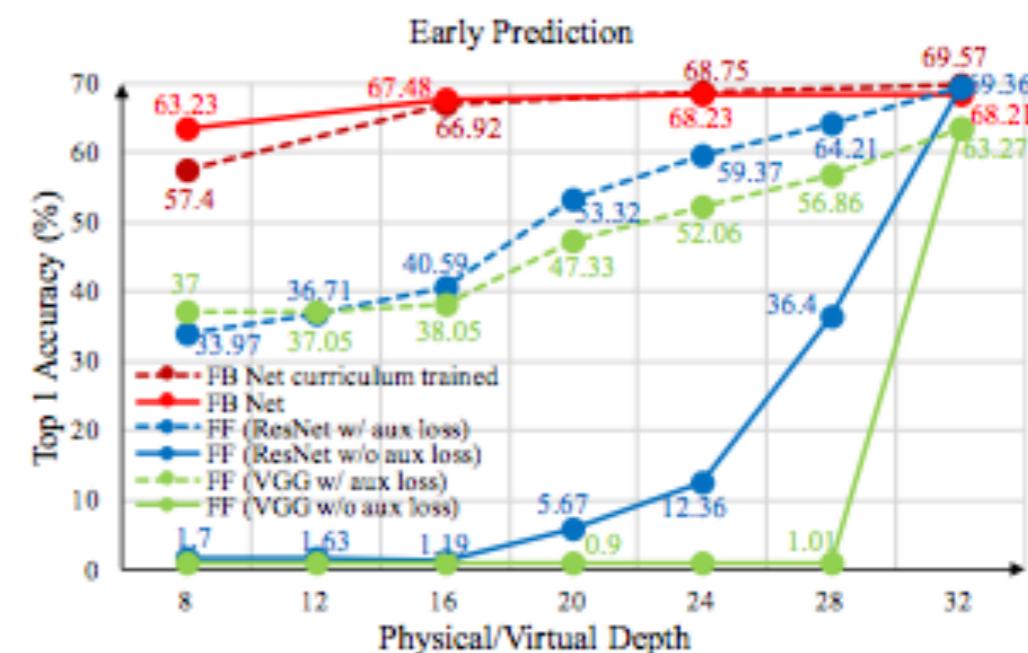


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# Models

## Feedback Networks

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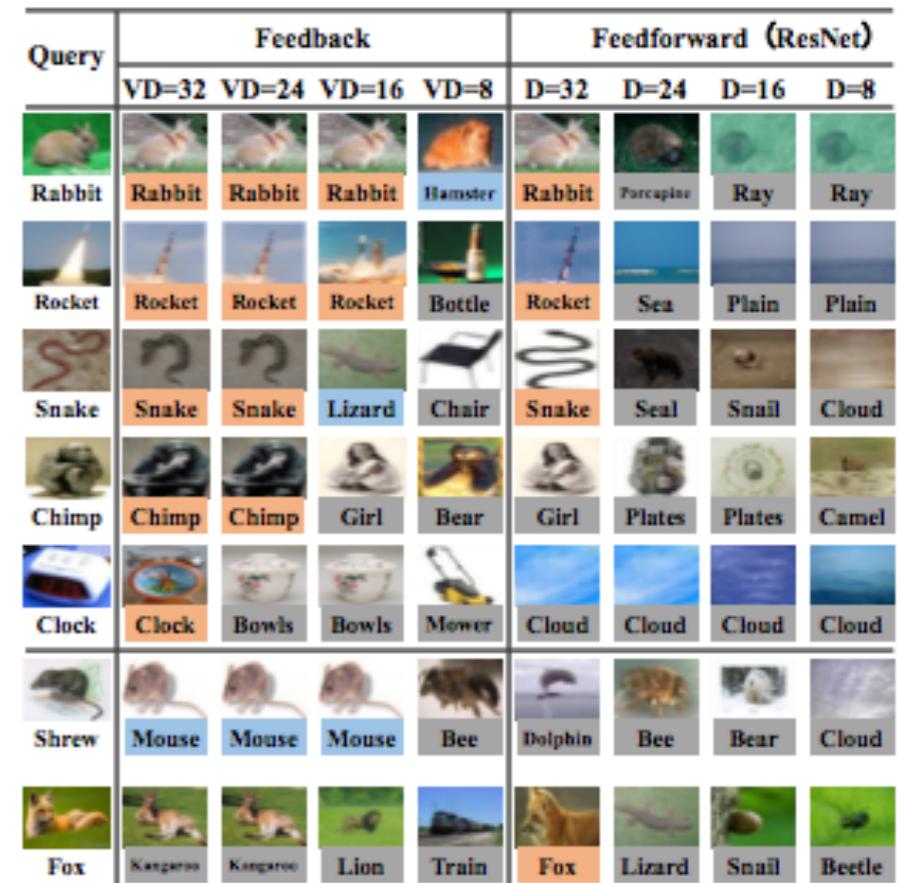
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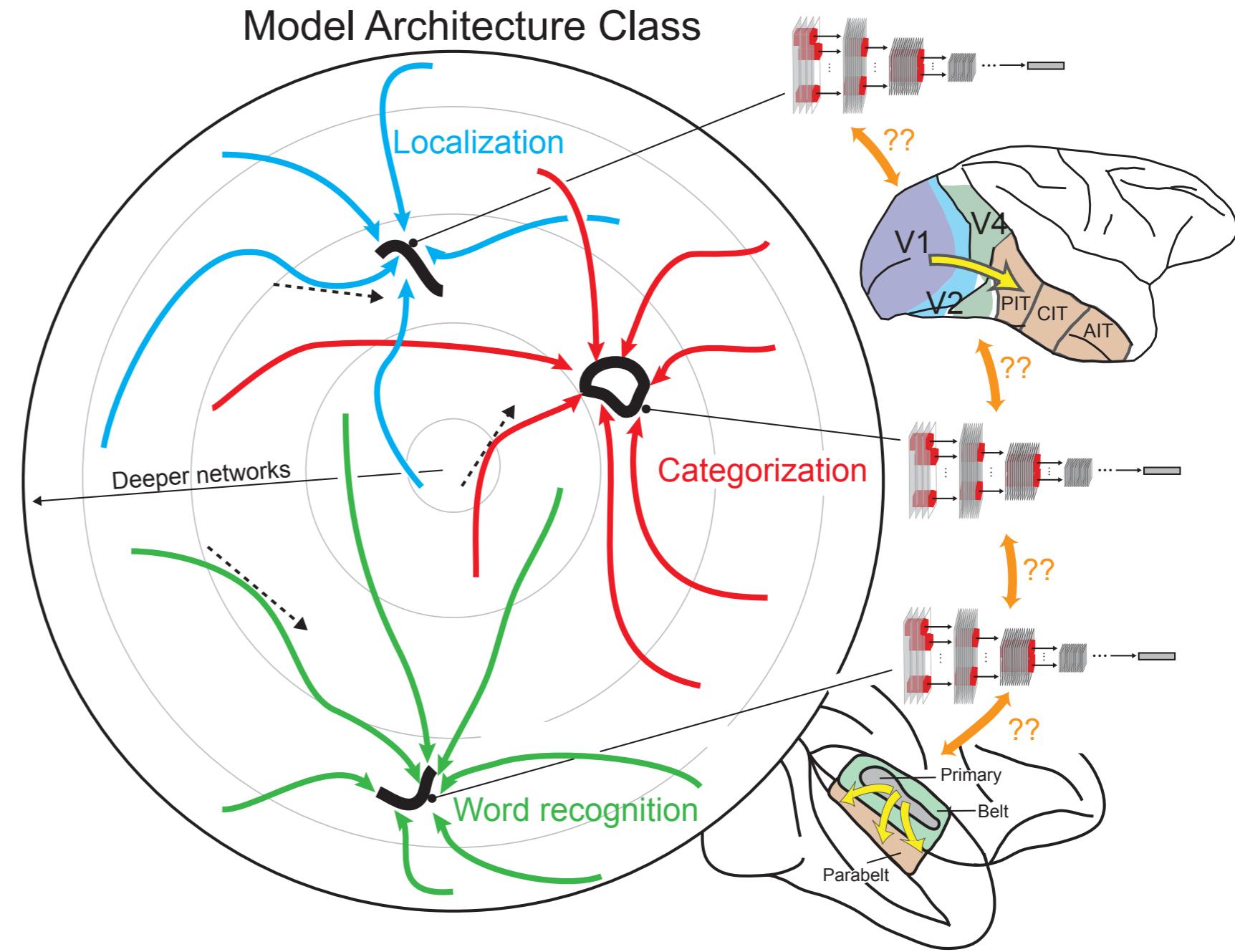
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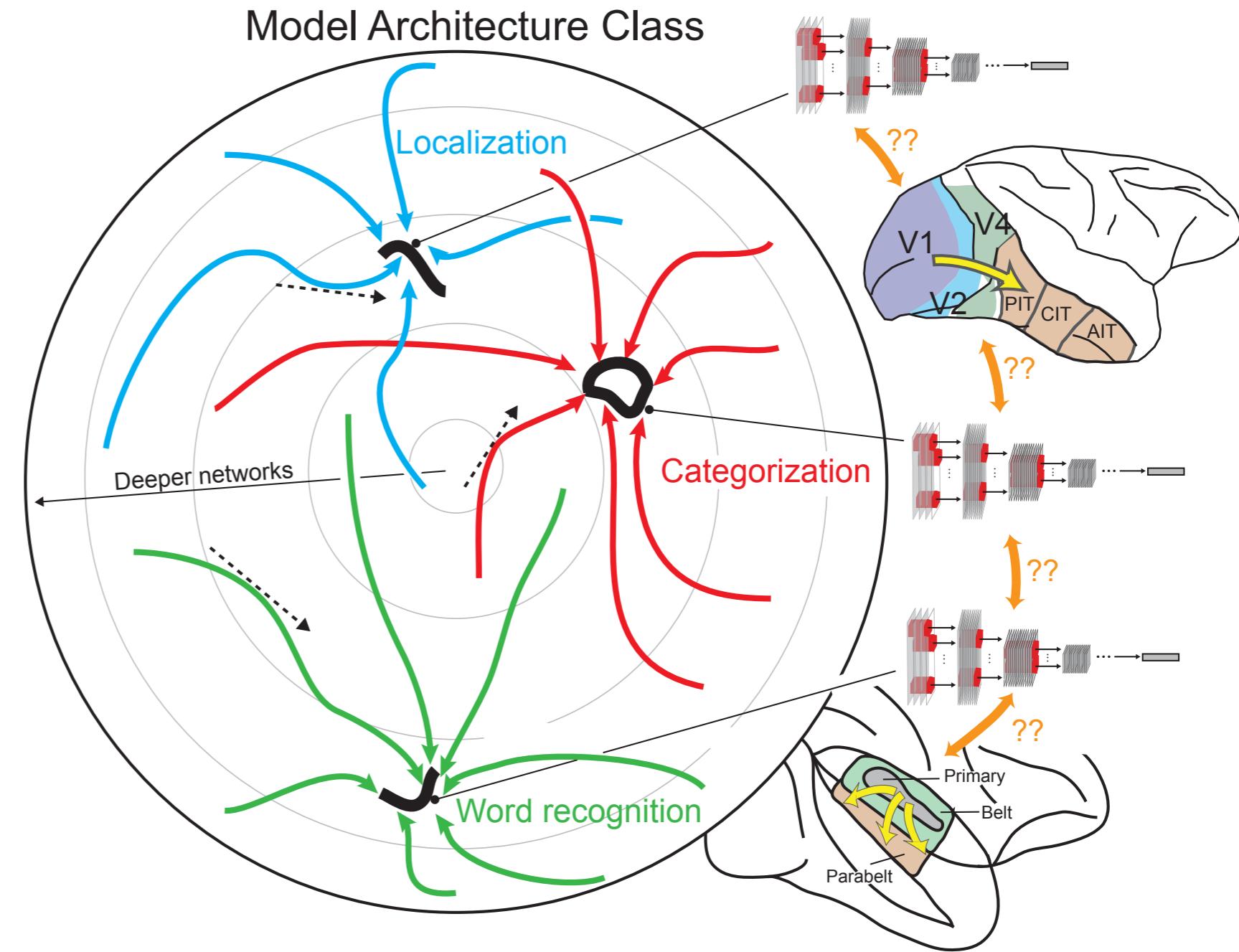
- > Formulate comprehensive model class (**CNNs**)
- > Choose challenging, ethologically-valid tasks (**categorization**)
- > Implement generic learning rules (**gradient descent**)
- > Map to brain data. (**temporal averages in ventral stream**)



> Formulate comprehensive model class  
**(ConvRNNs)**

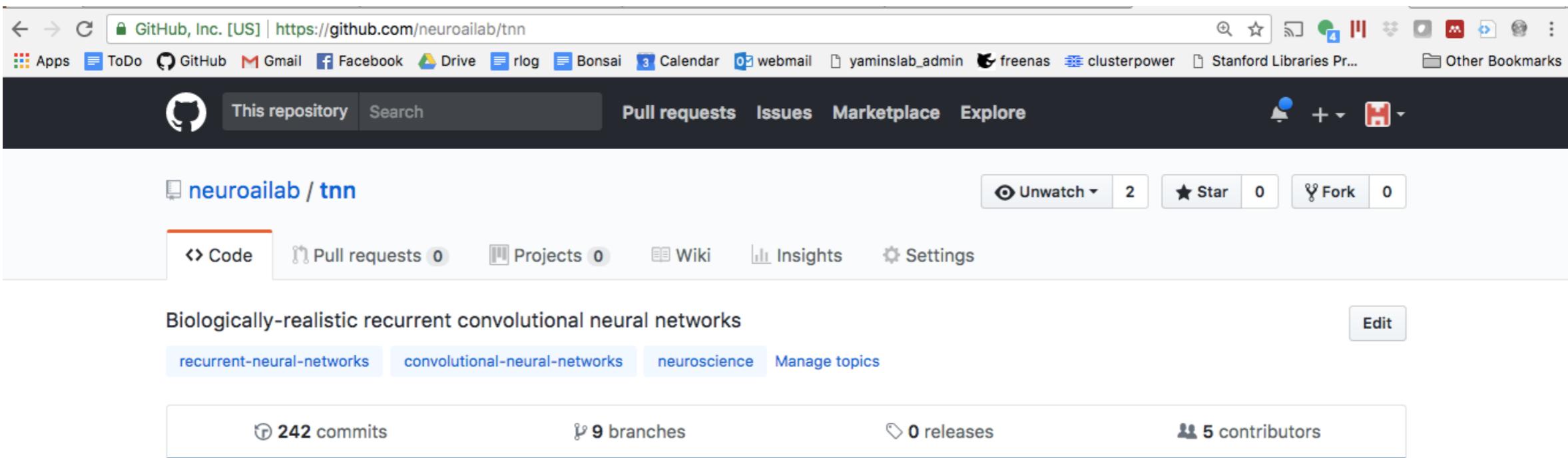
> Choose challenging, ethologically-valid tasks  
**(??)**

> Map to brain data.  
**(ventral stream dynamics)**



# Temporal Neural Networks (TNN) Library

<http://github.com/neuroailab/tnn>



GitHub, Inc. [US] | <https://github.com/neuroailab/tnn>

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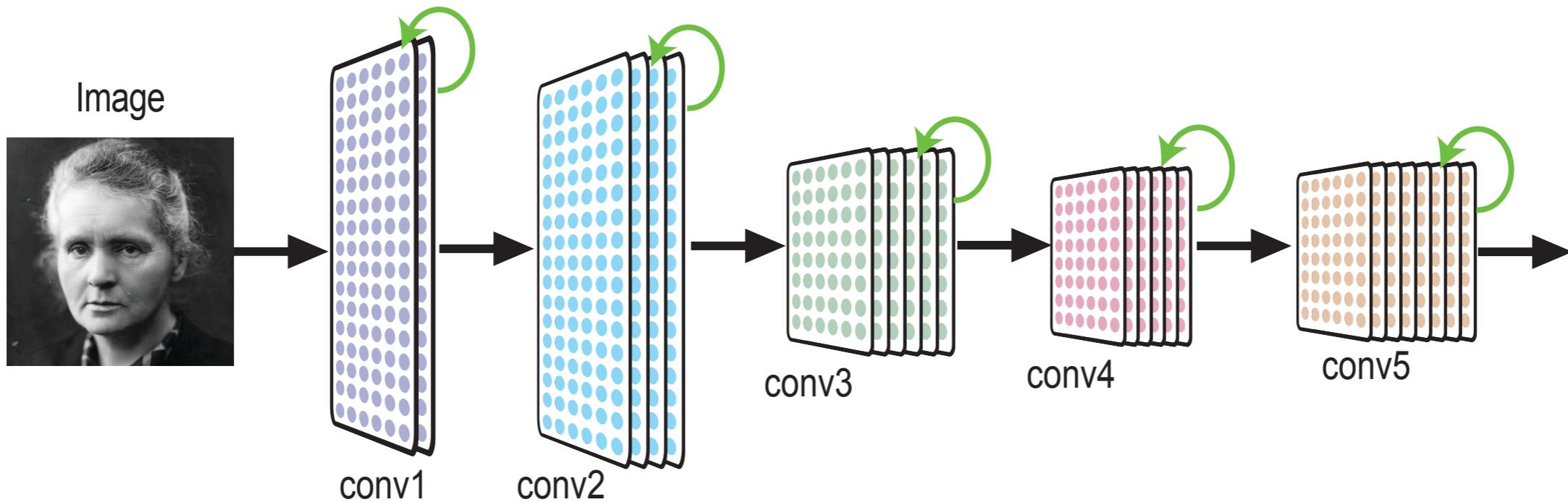
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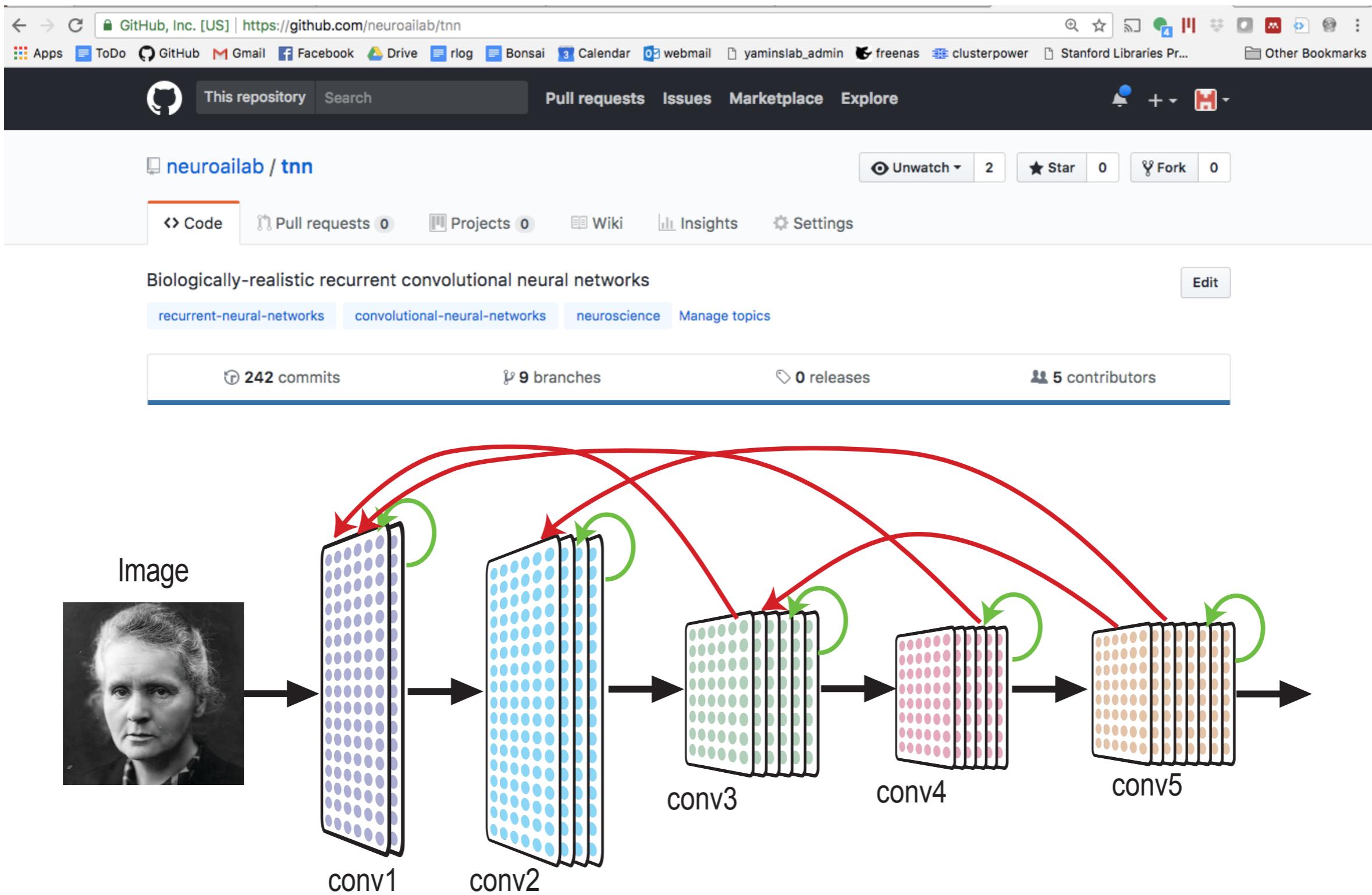
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242 commits 9 branches 0 releases 5 contributors



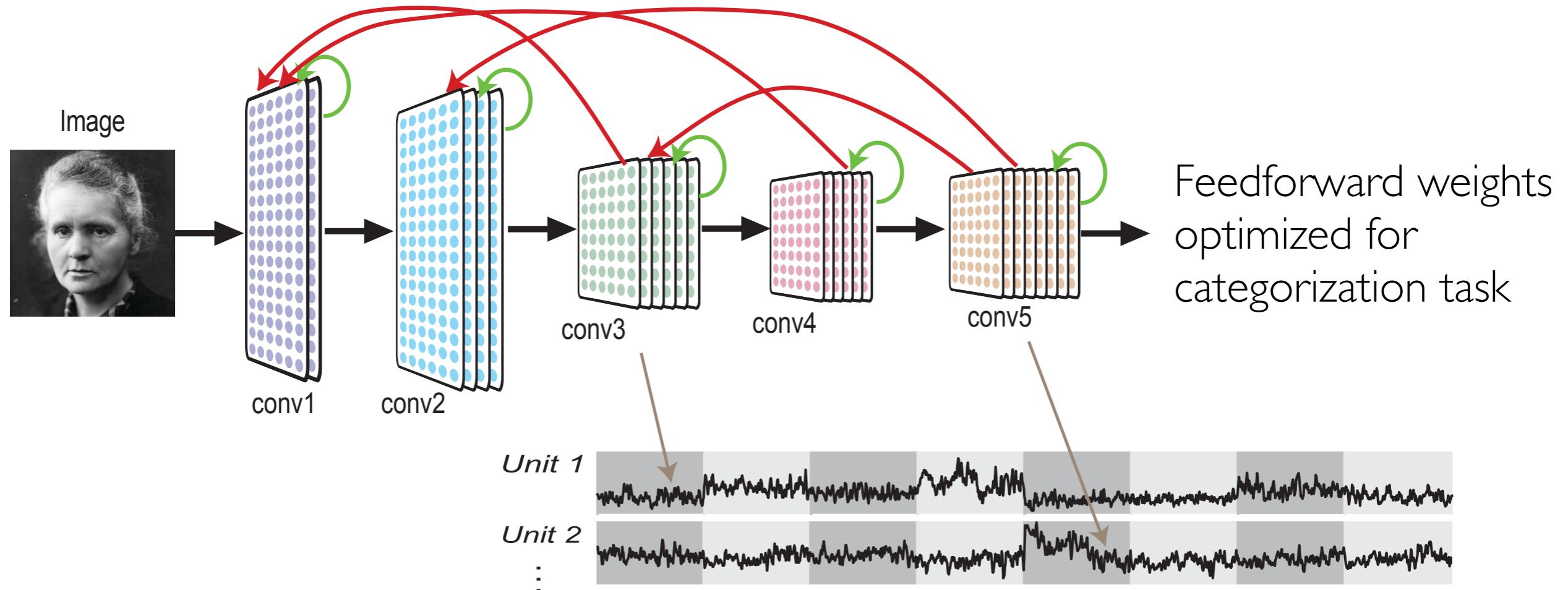
# Temporal Neural Networks (TNN) Library

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# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

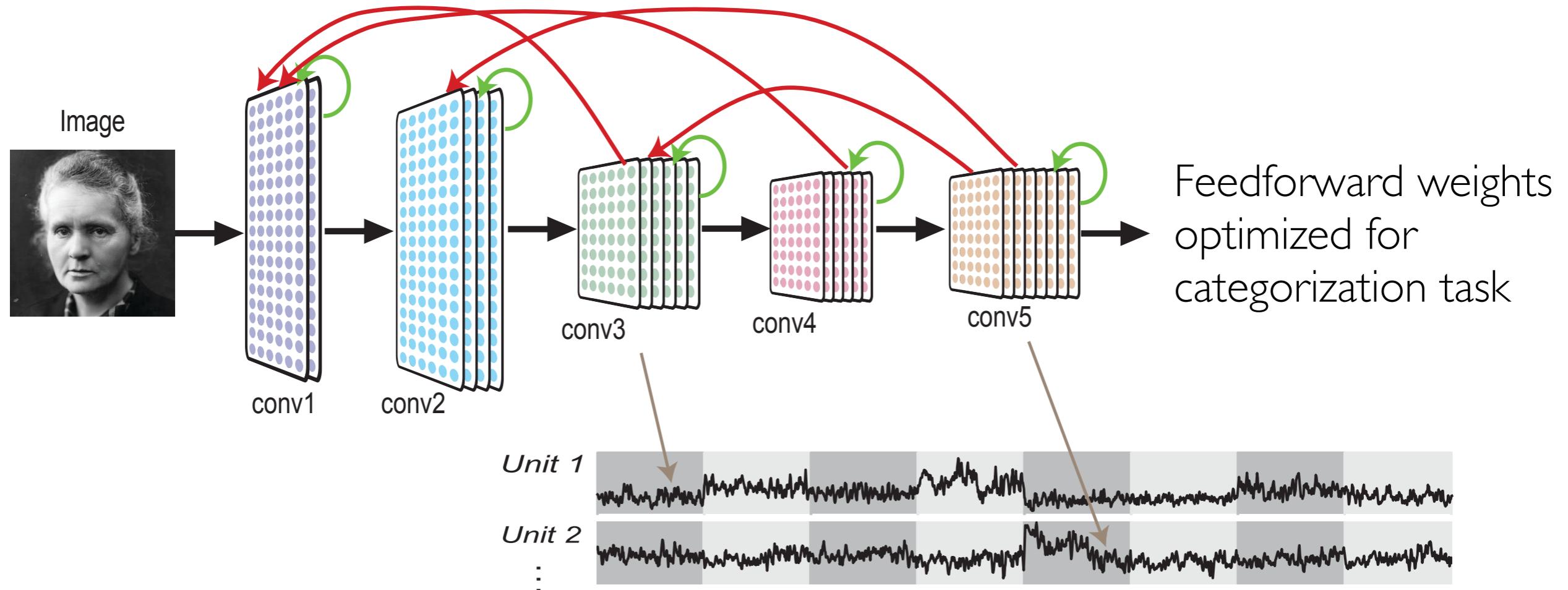
Convolutional RNNs (convRNNs) with **local** and **long-range** feedback:



Recurrent weights optimized to match neural dynamics in V4 and IT

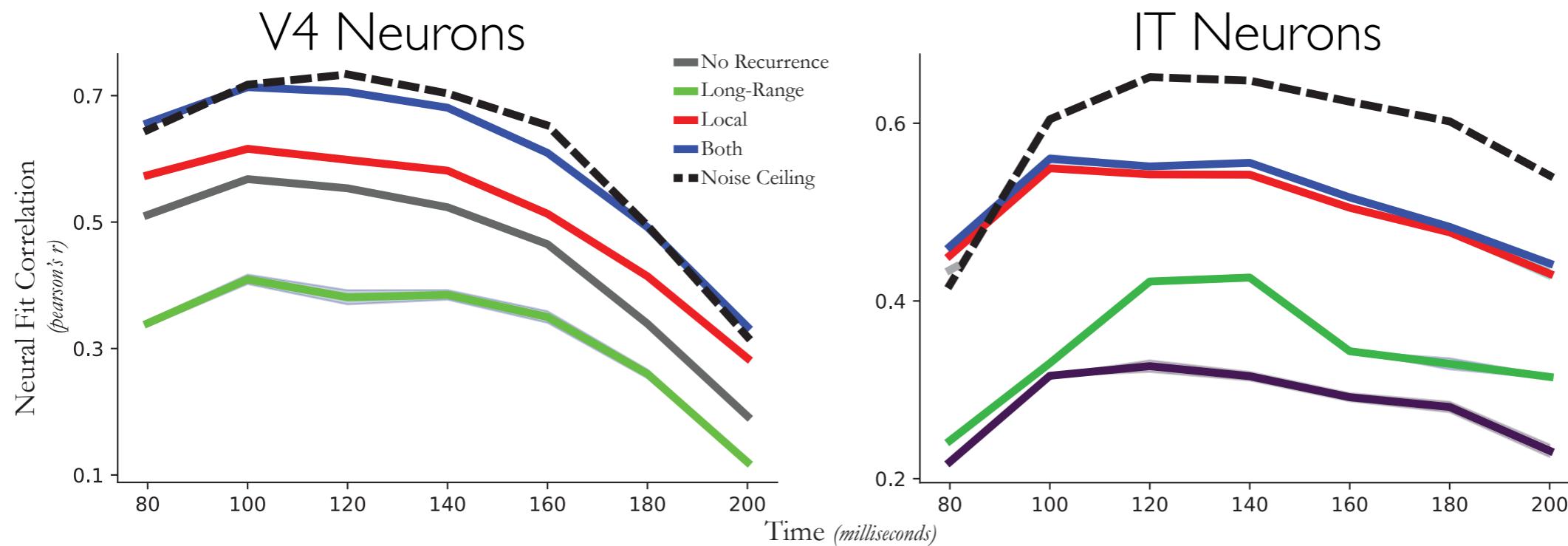
# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

Convolutional RNNs (convRNNs) with **local** and **long-range** feedback:



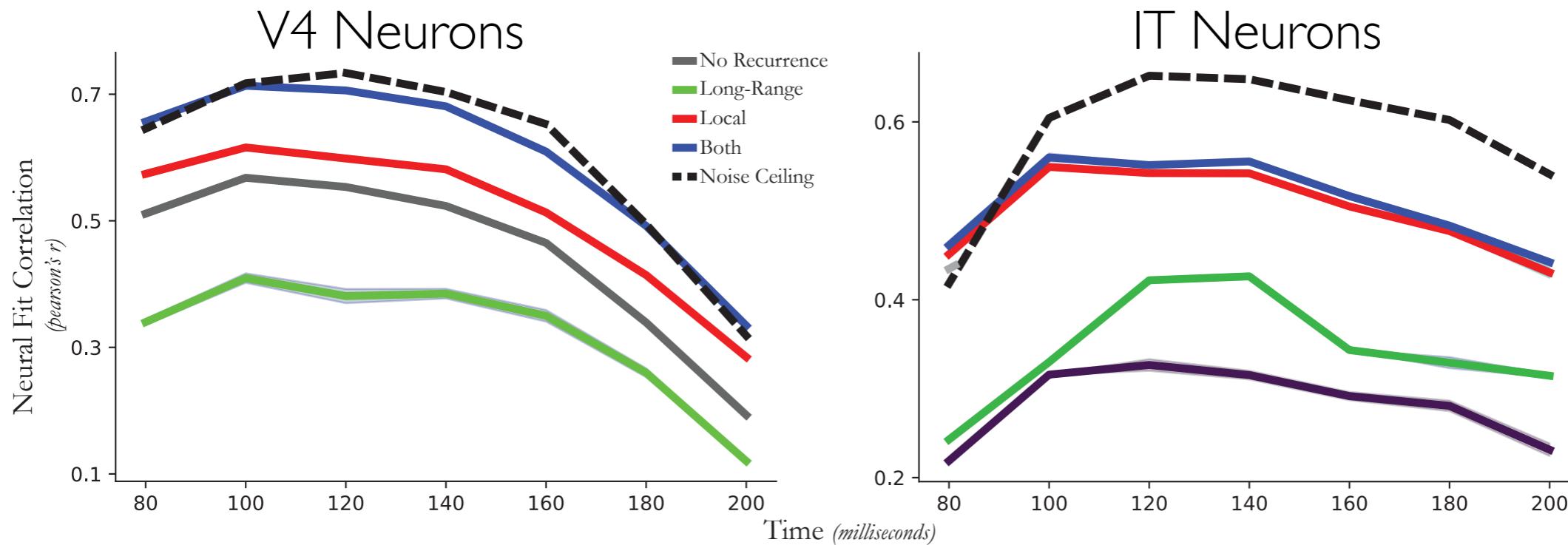
**Loss: L2 averaged over 10ms timebins up to 250ms**

# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly



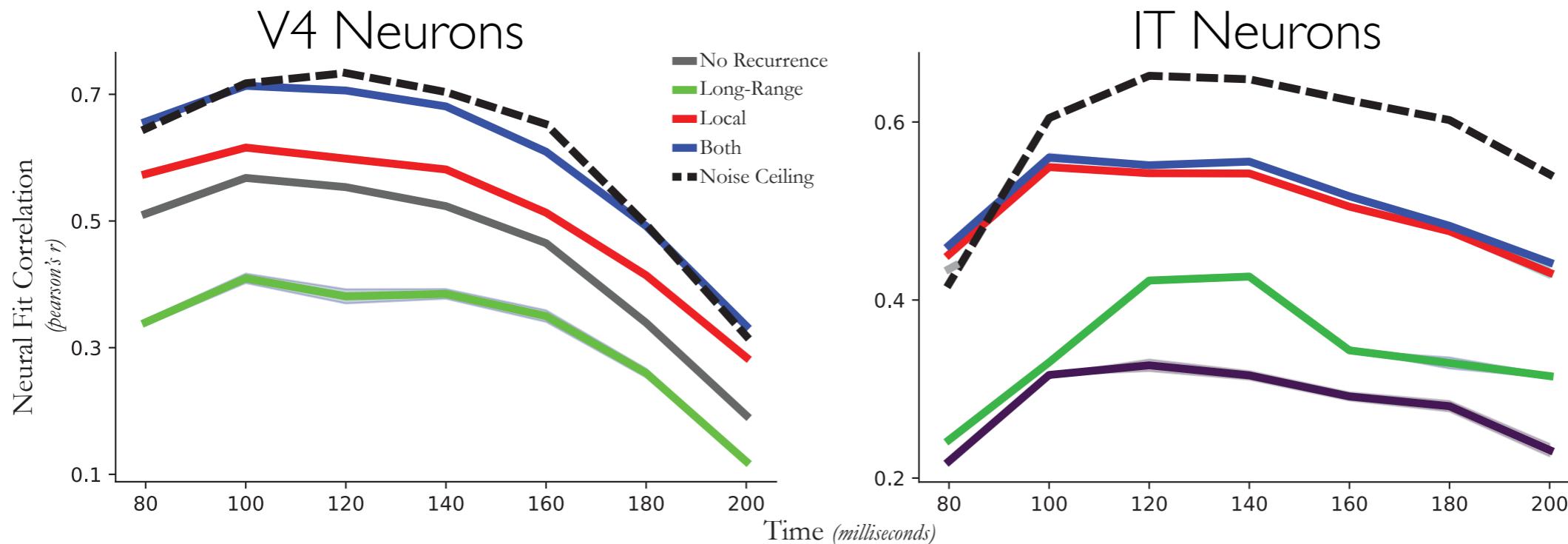
- Local recurrent circuits substantially improves predictions of IT dynamics

# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

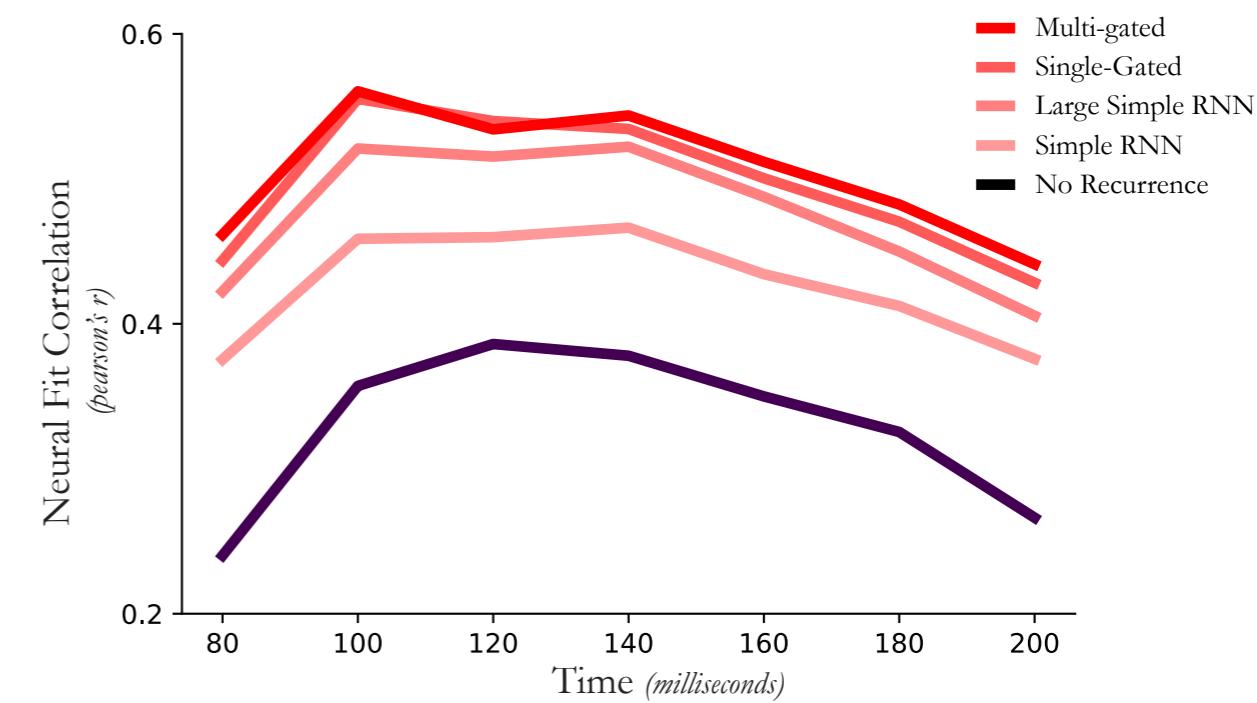


- Local recurrent circuits substantially improves predictions of IT dynamics
- Long-range feedback improves V4 predictions nearly to 100% of noise ceiling.

# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

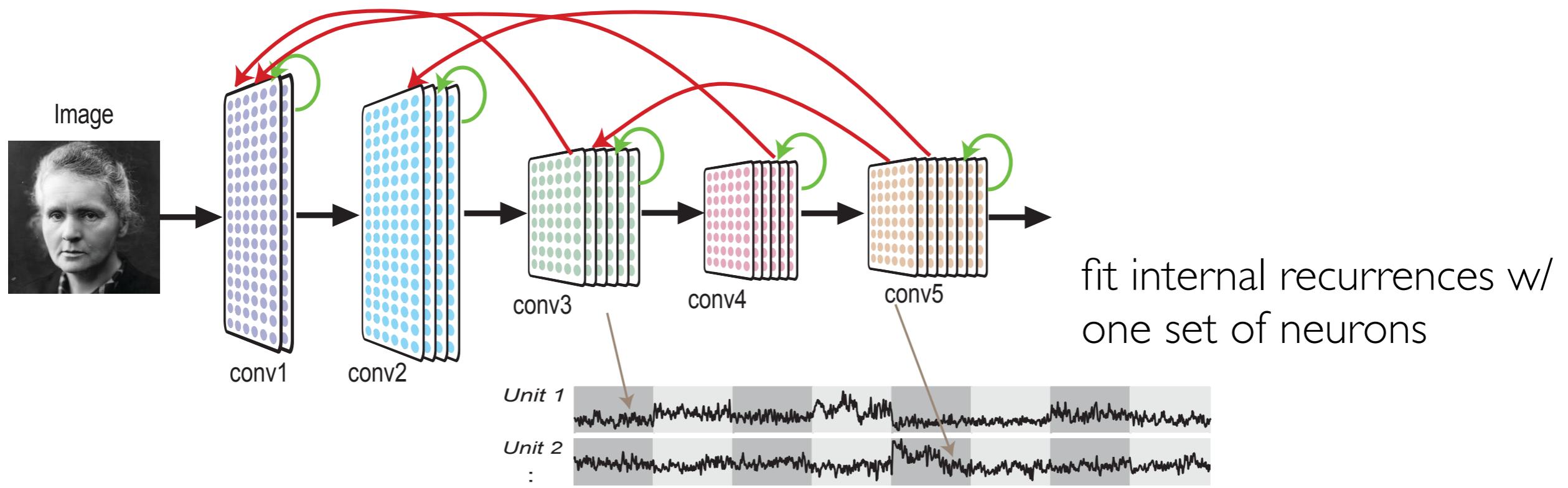


- Local recurrent circuits substantially improves predictions of IT dynamics
- Long-range feedback improves V4 predictions nearly to 100% of noise ceiling.
- Gating important for improved neural fit.



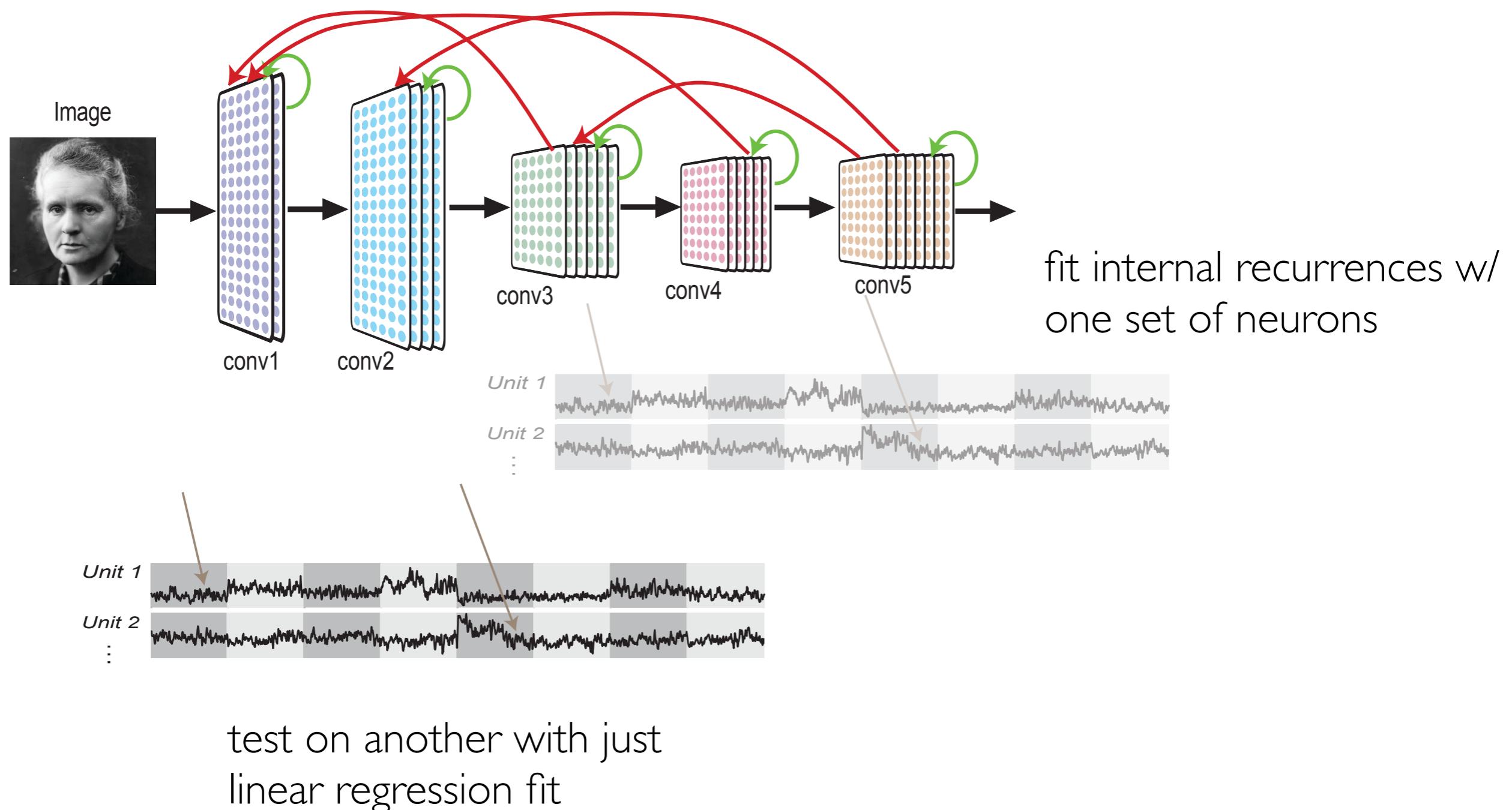
# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

Fits hold pretty well even for held-out neuron cross-validation (as well as cross-image)



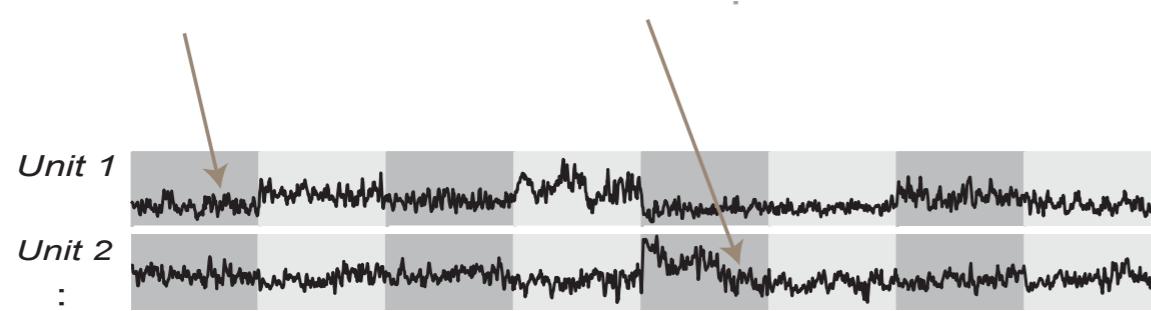
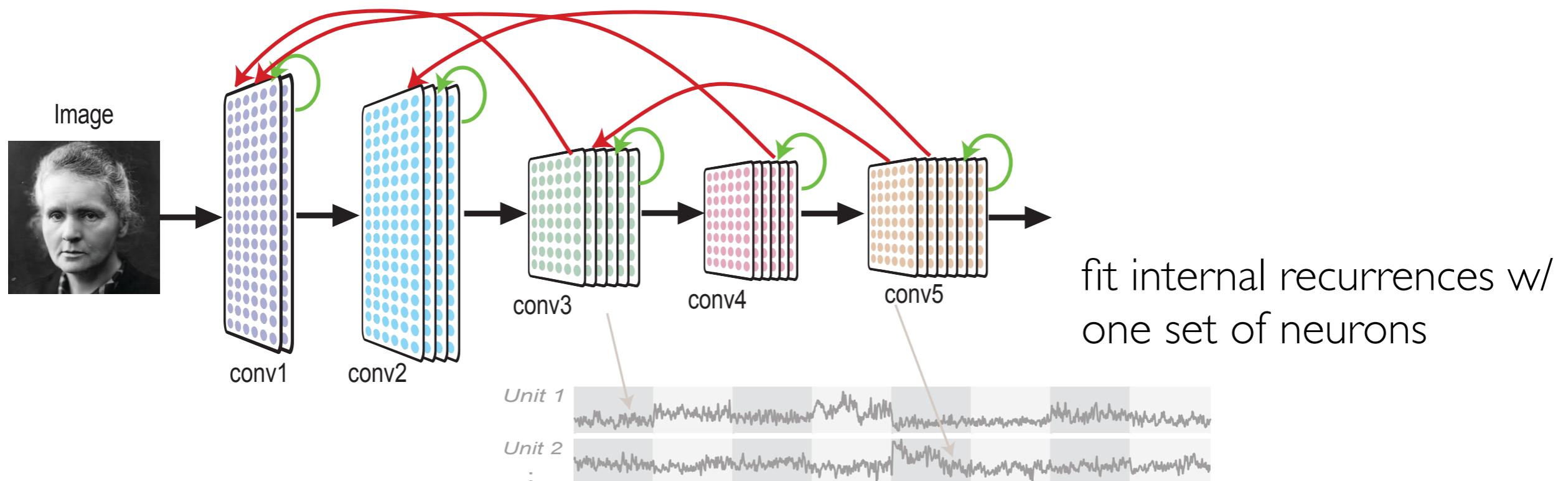
# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

Fits hold pretty well even for held-out neuron cross-validation (as well as cross-image)

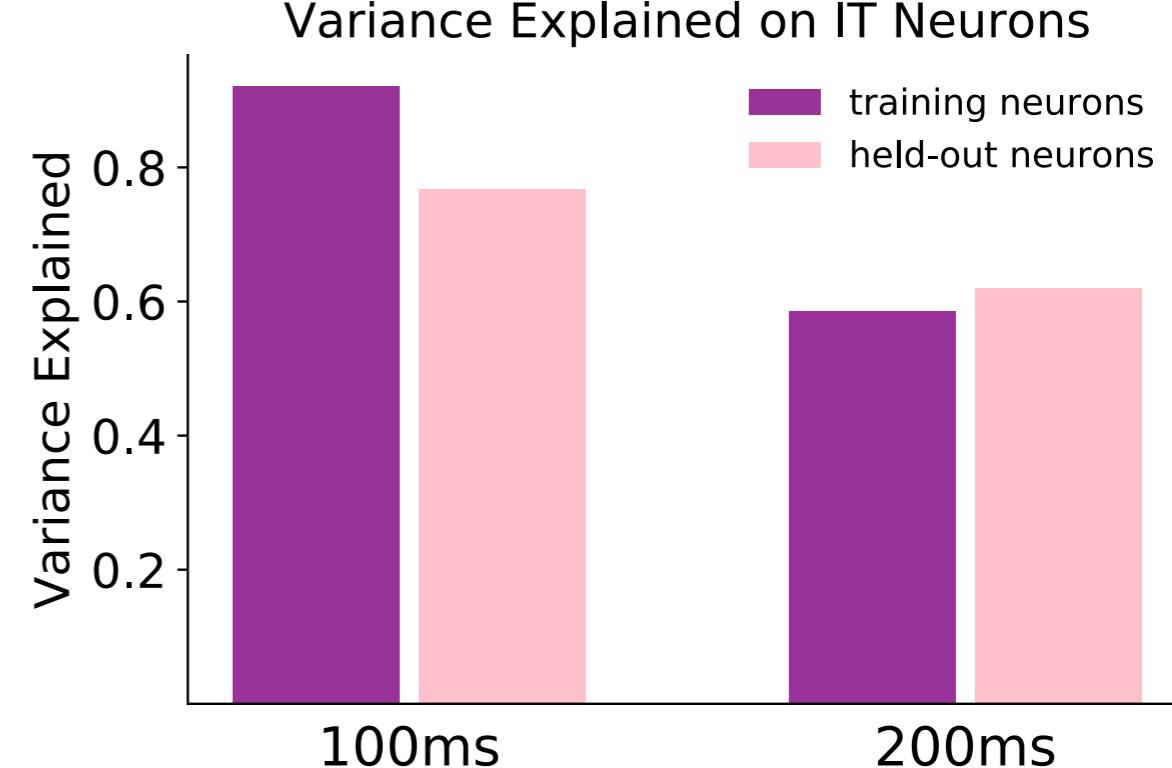


# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

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test on another with just  
linear regression fit



# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

1.

**A** = architecture class

**CNNs -> RNNs**

2.

**L** = loss function

**D** = dataset

“task”

e.g. **Object  
Categorization**

3. **Learning Rule**

$$\underset{a \in \mathcal{A}}{\operatorname{argmin}} [L(p_a^*)]$$

**architecture  
search**

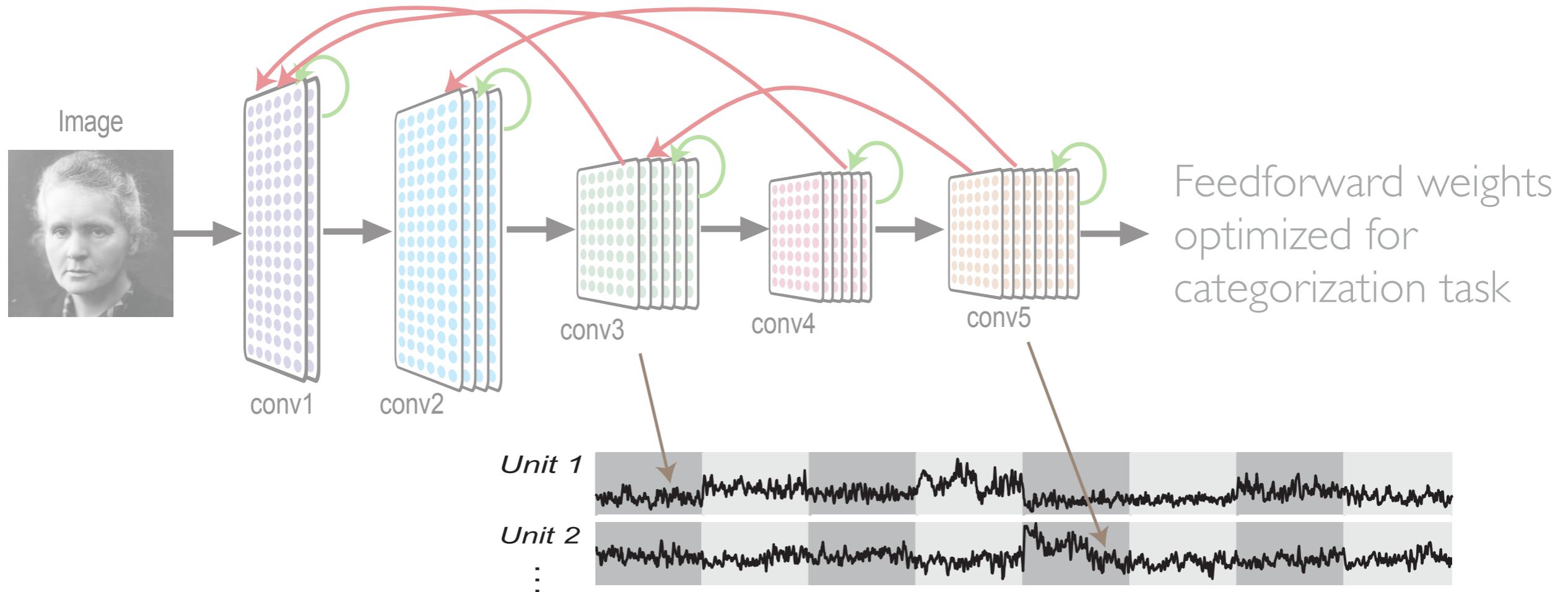
where  $p^*$  is result of

$$\frac{dp_a}{dt} = \text{backprop} = -\lambda(t) \cdot \langle \nabla_{p_a} L(x) \rangle_{x \in \mathcal{D}}$$

e.g. **Gradient Descent via Backprop**

# Fitting Recurrent Dynamics Directly

Convolutional RNNs with **local** and **long-range** feedback:



Recurrent weights optimized to match neural dynamics in V4 and IT

Not a normative theory — no task.

# Task-Driven Models?

1.

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**CNNs -> RNNs**

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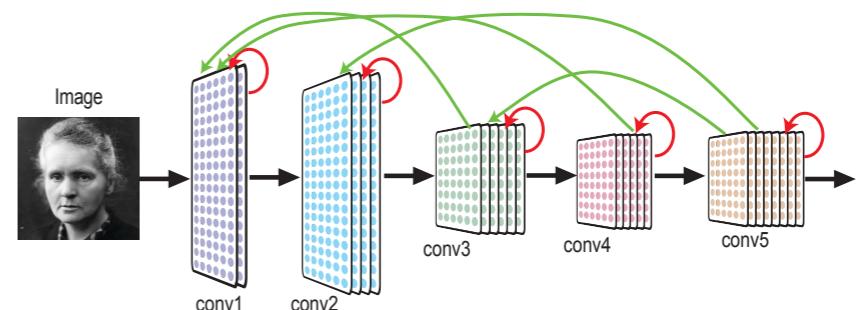
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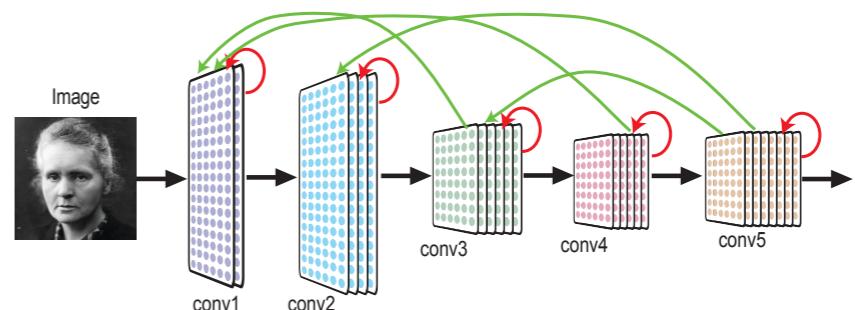
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**architecture search**

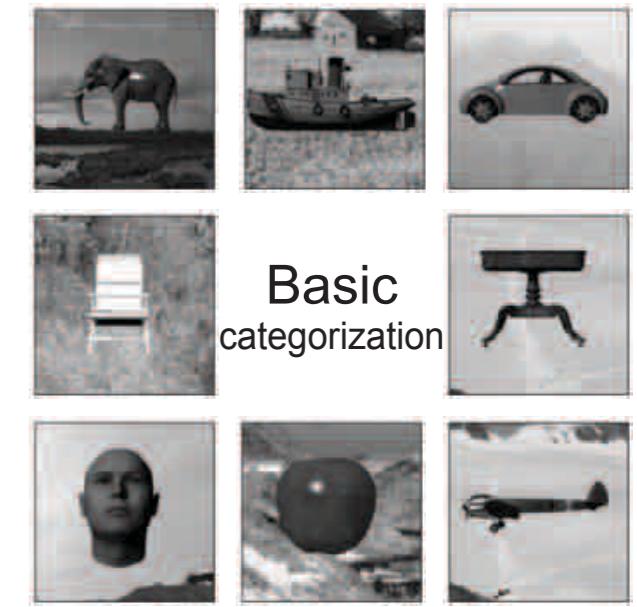
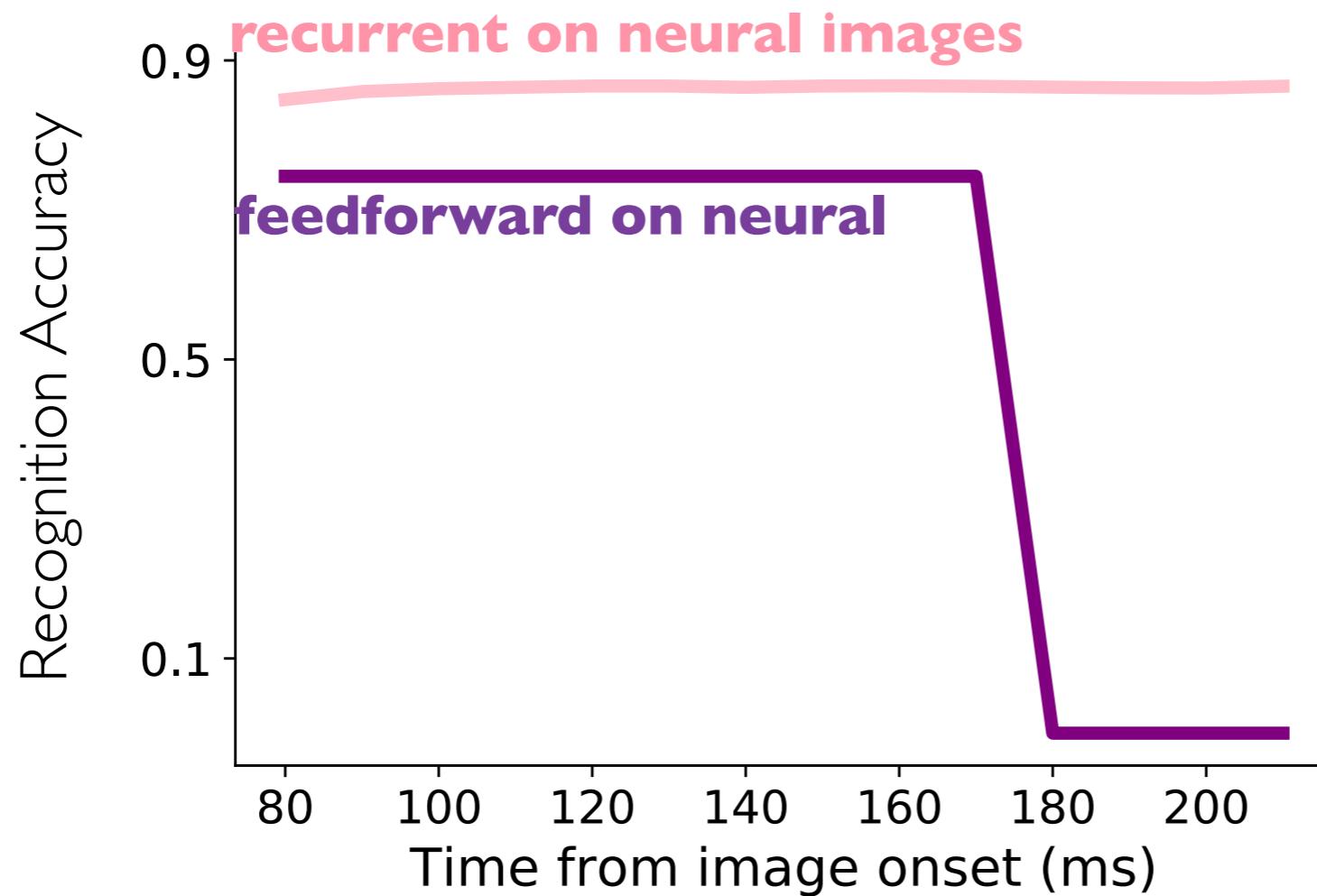
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(possibility: actually, recurrence not used on-line)  
(e.g. “just” implementing learning)

# Task-Driven Models?

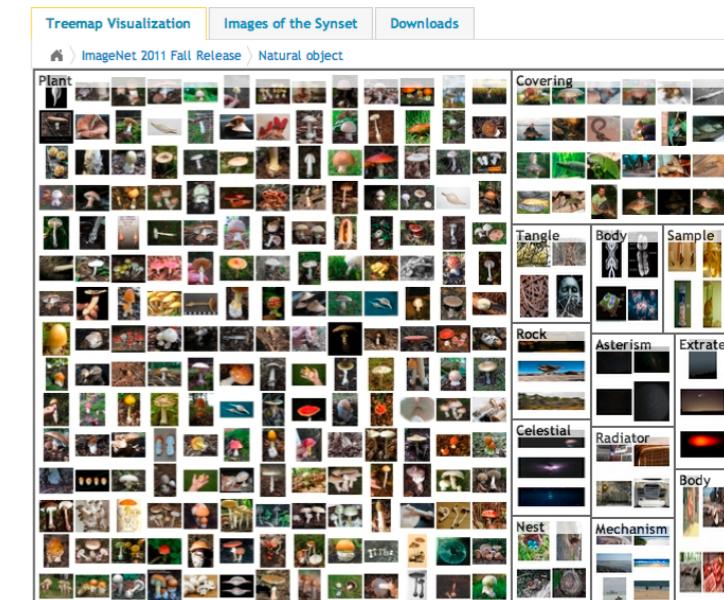
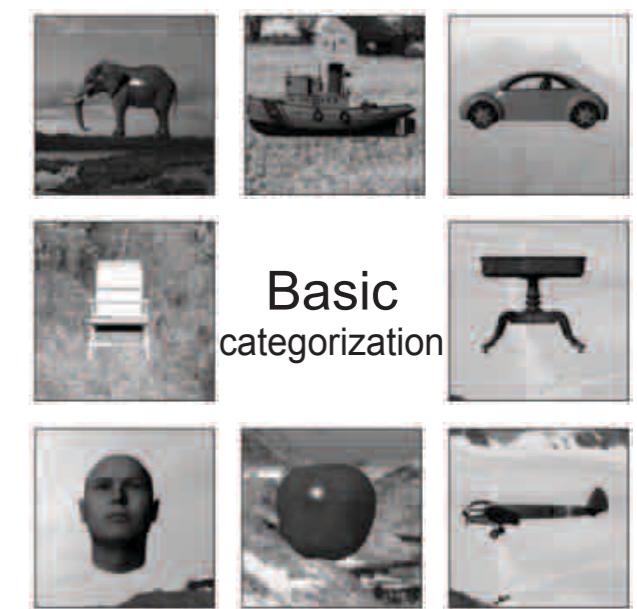
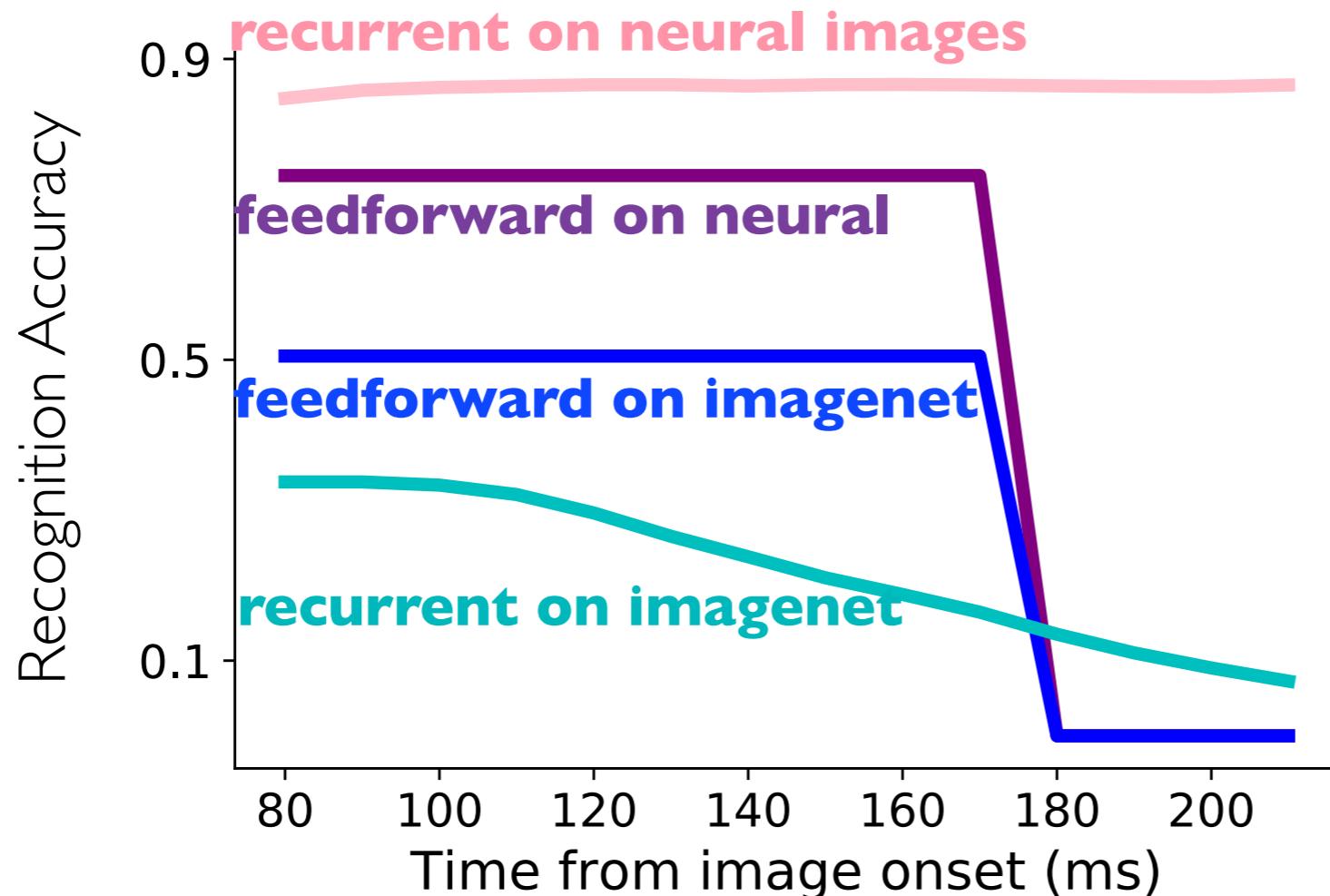
Performance on recognition task on neural images is improved 😊



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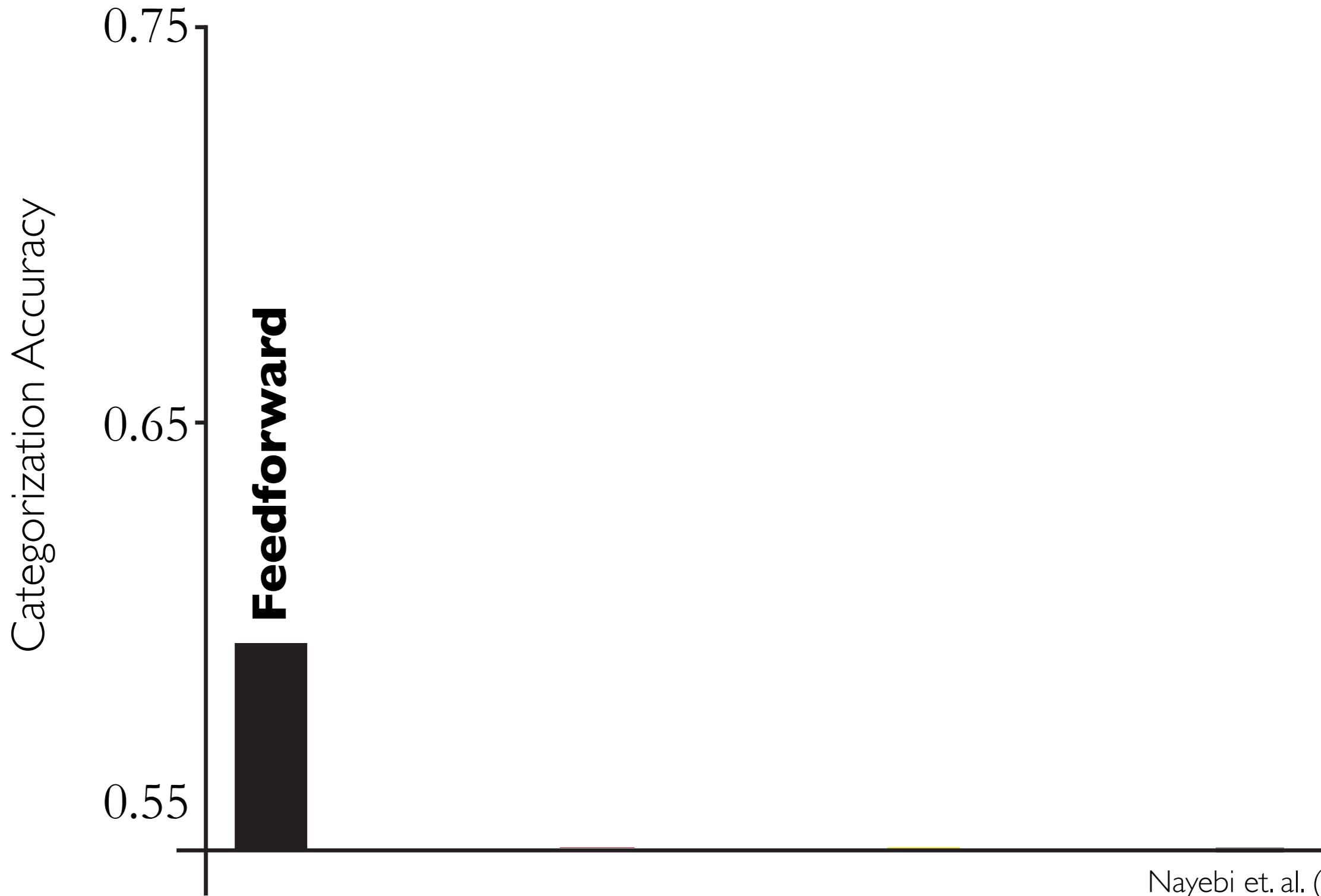
Performance on recognition task on neural images is improved 😊

...but performance on Imagenet dramatically worsens. 😞



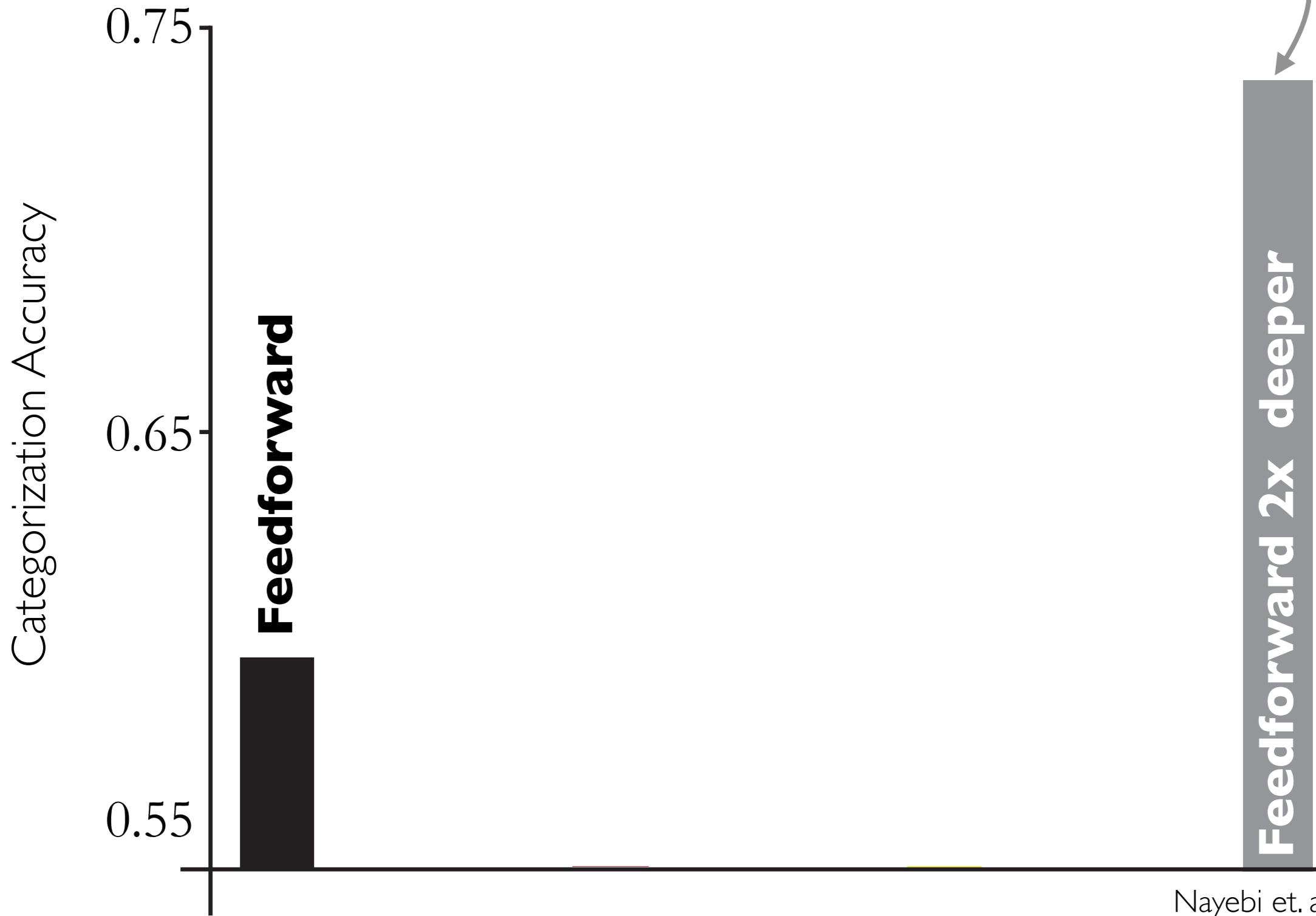
→ subtle “overfitting” to image-type or animal idiosyncrasies

# Improving ImageNet Performance with ConvRNNs



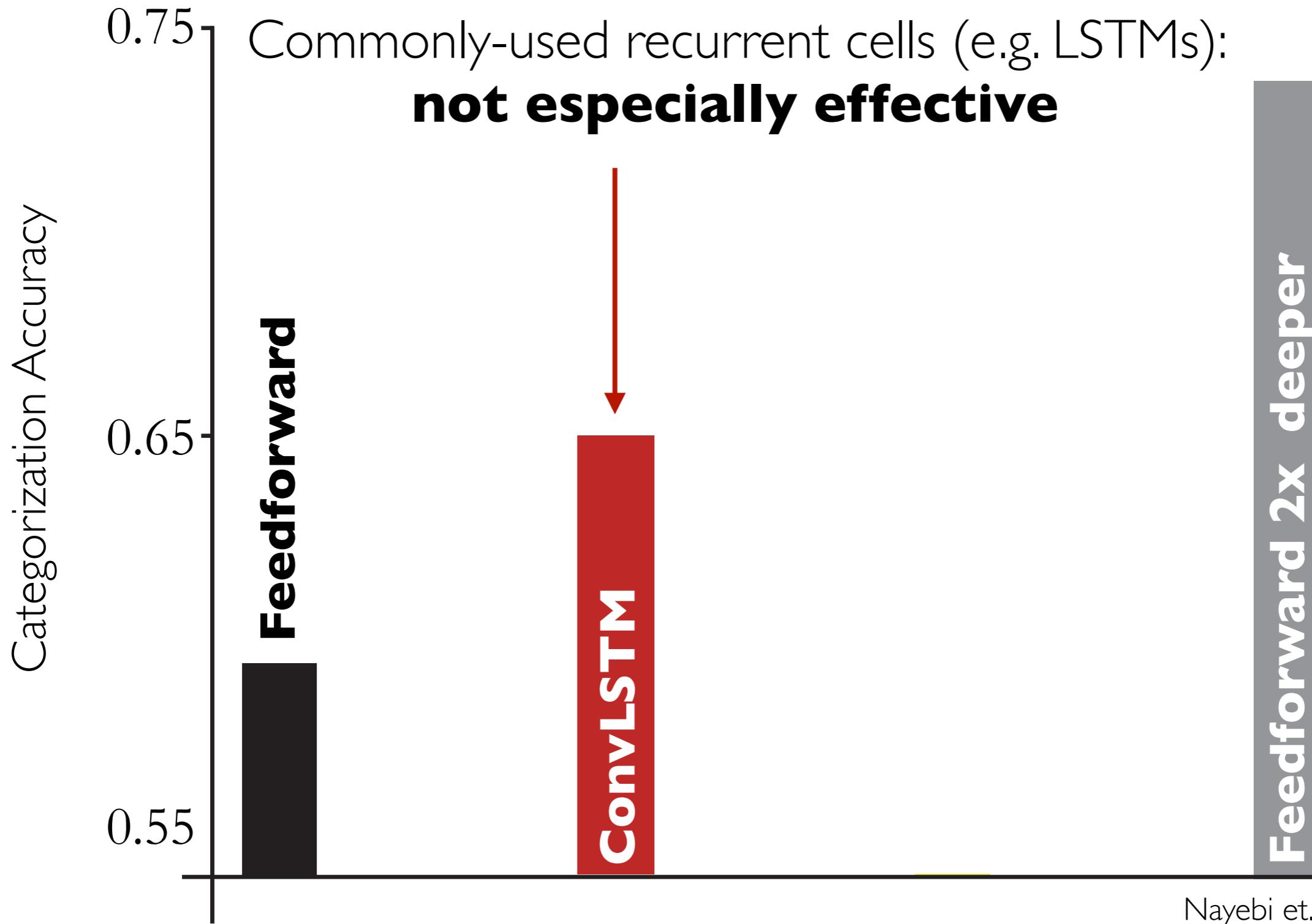
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You can get better at performance with more layers / parameters,  
but that's **not** how we think the brain does it.



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With better recurrent cells, substantial performance improvements on ImageNet

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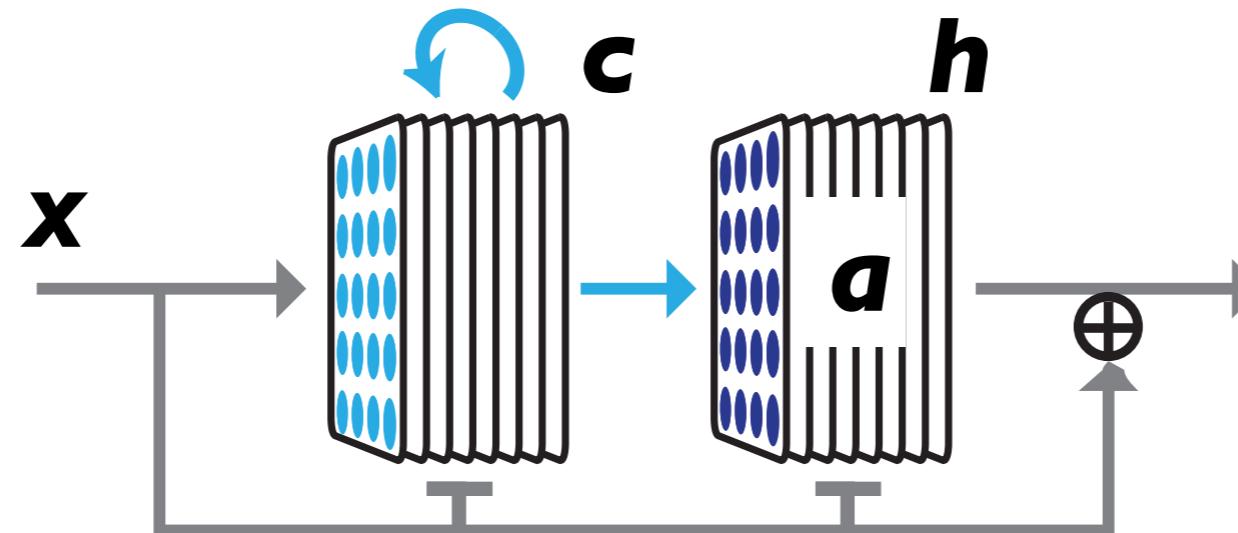
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SimpleRNN has **(2)** but not **(1)**

Standard Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) has **(1)** but not **(2)**

# Improving ImageNet Performance with ConvRNNs

“Resnet-Like” Unit



$$\mathbf{a}^{t+1} = \mathbf{x}^t + \sigma(W_{xh} \circledast \mathbf{x}^t) \mathbf{h}^t + W_{ch} \circledast \mathbf{c}^t$$

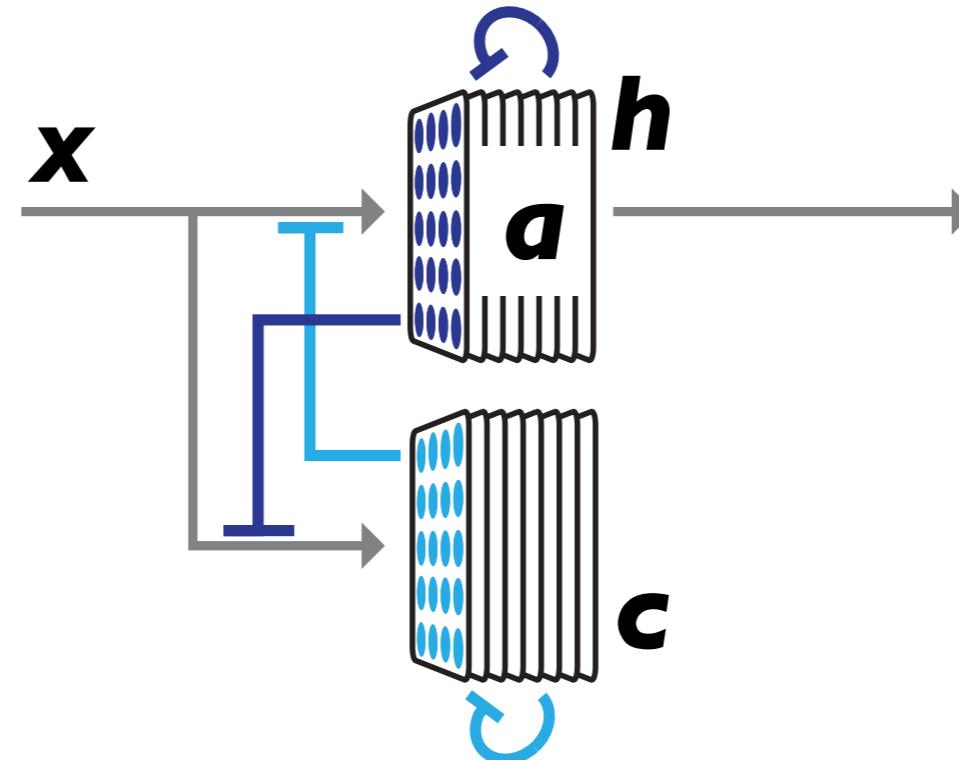
$$\mathbf{h}^t = f[\mathbf{a}^t]$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{t+1} = \sigma(W_{xc} \circledast \mathbf{x}^t) \cdot \mathbf{c}^t + W_{xc} \mathbf{x}^t + W_{cc} \circledast \mathbf{c}^T$$

$$\mathbf{c}^t = f[\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^t]$$

# Improving ImageNet Performance with ConvRNNs

“Reciprocal Gated” Unit



$$\mathbf{a}^{t+1} = (1 - \sigma(W_{ch} \circledast \mathbf{c}^t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}^t \quad \text{“gated input”}$$

$$+ (1 - \sigma(W_{hh} \circledast \mathbf{h}^t)) \cdot \mathbf{h}^t \quad \text{“gated memory”}$$

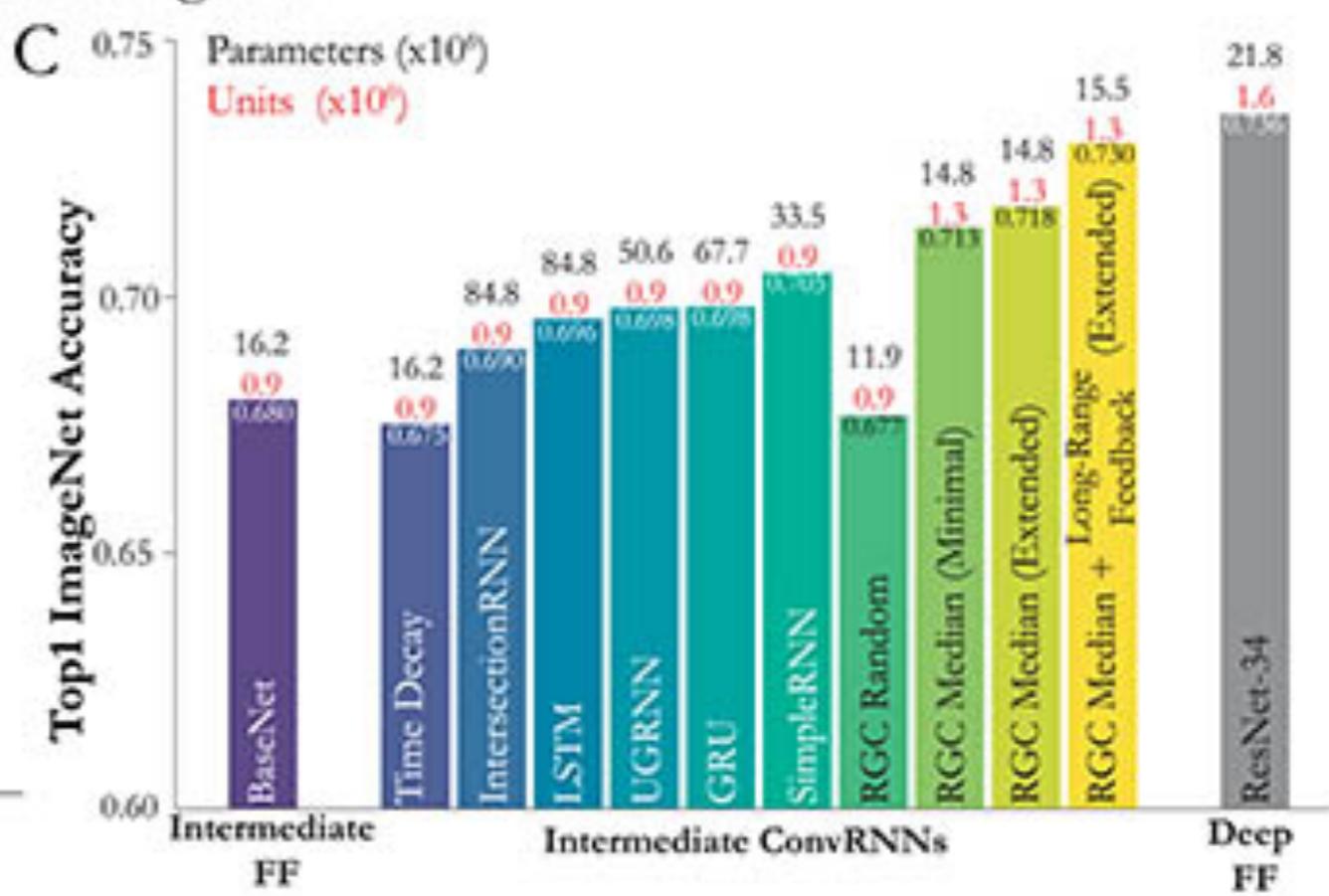
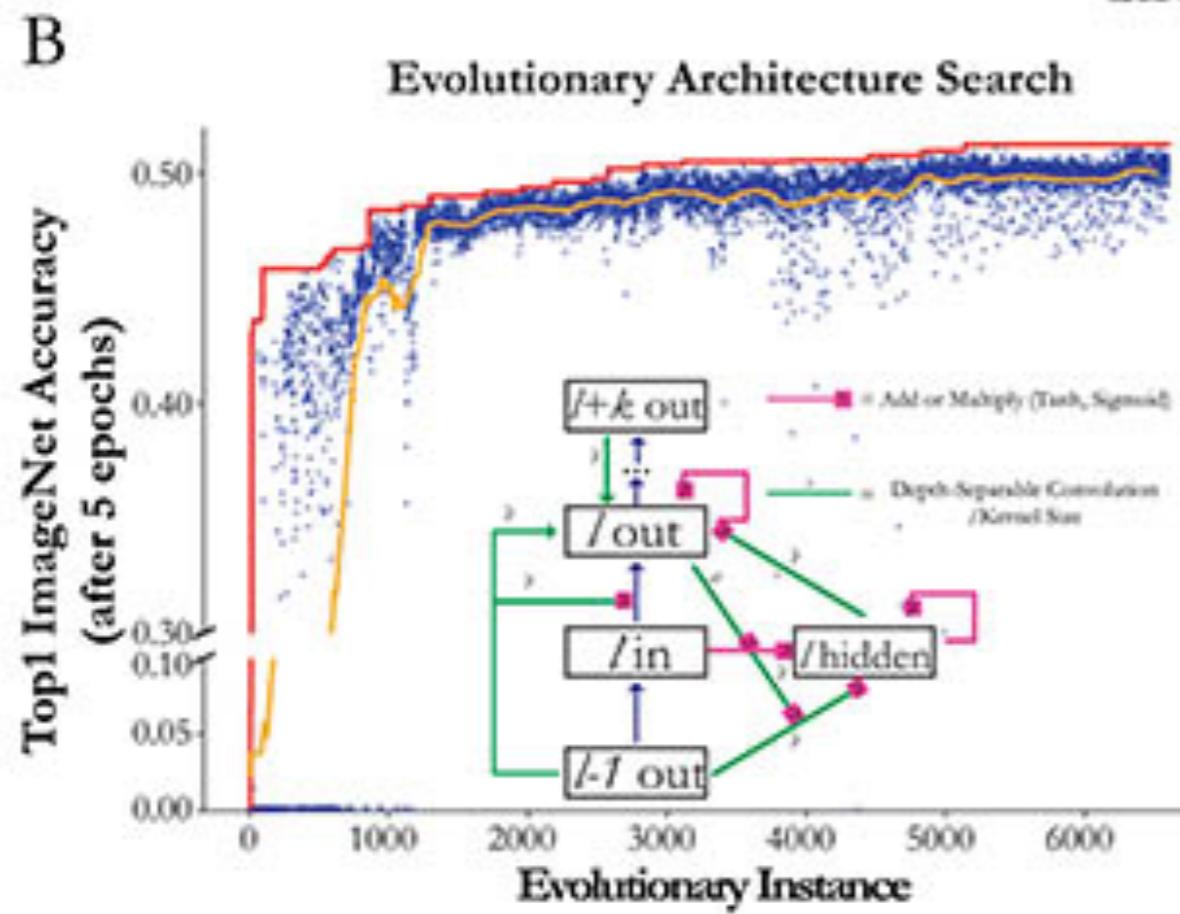
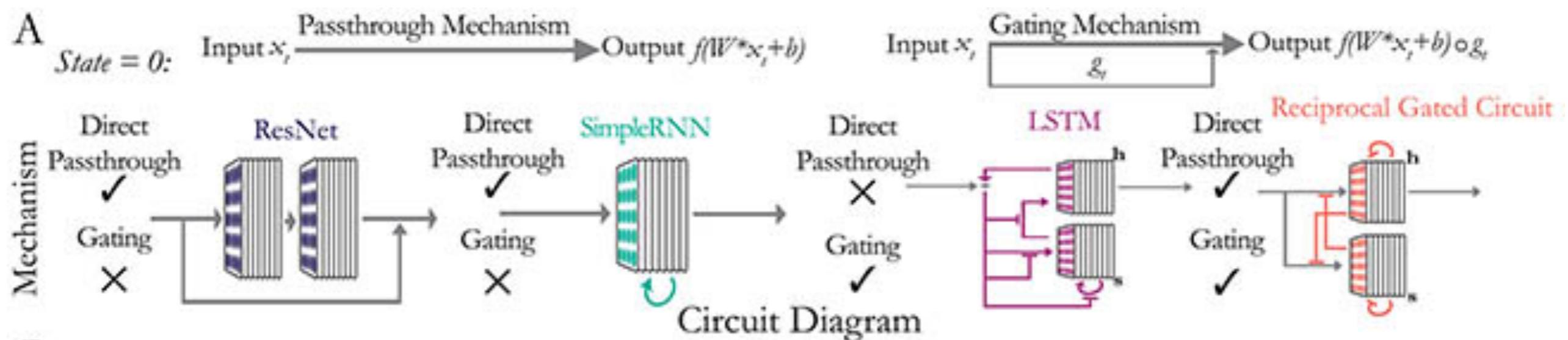
$$\mathbf{h}^t = f[\mathbf{a}^t]$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{t+1} = (1 - \sigma(W_{hc} \circledast \tilde{\mathbf{c}}^t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}^t \quad \text{reciprocal structure}$$

$$+ (1 - \sigma(W_{cc} \circledast \mathbf{c}^t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}^t$$

$$\mathbf{c}^t = f[\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^t]$$

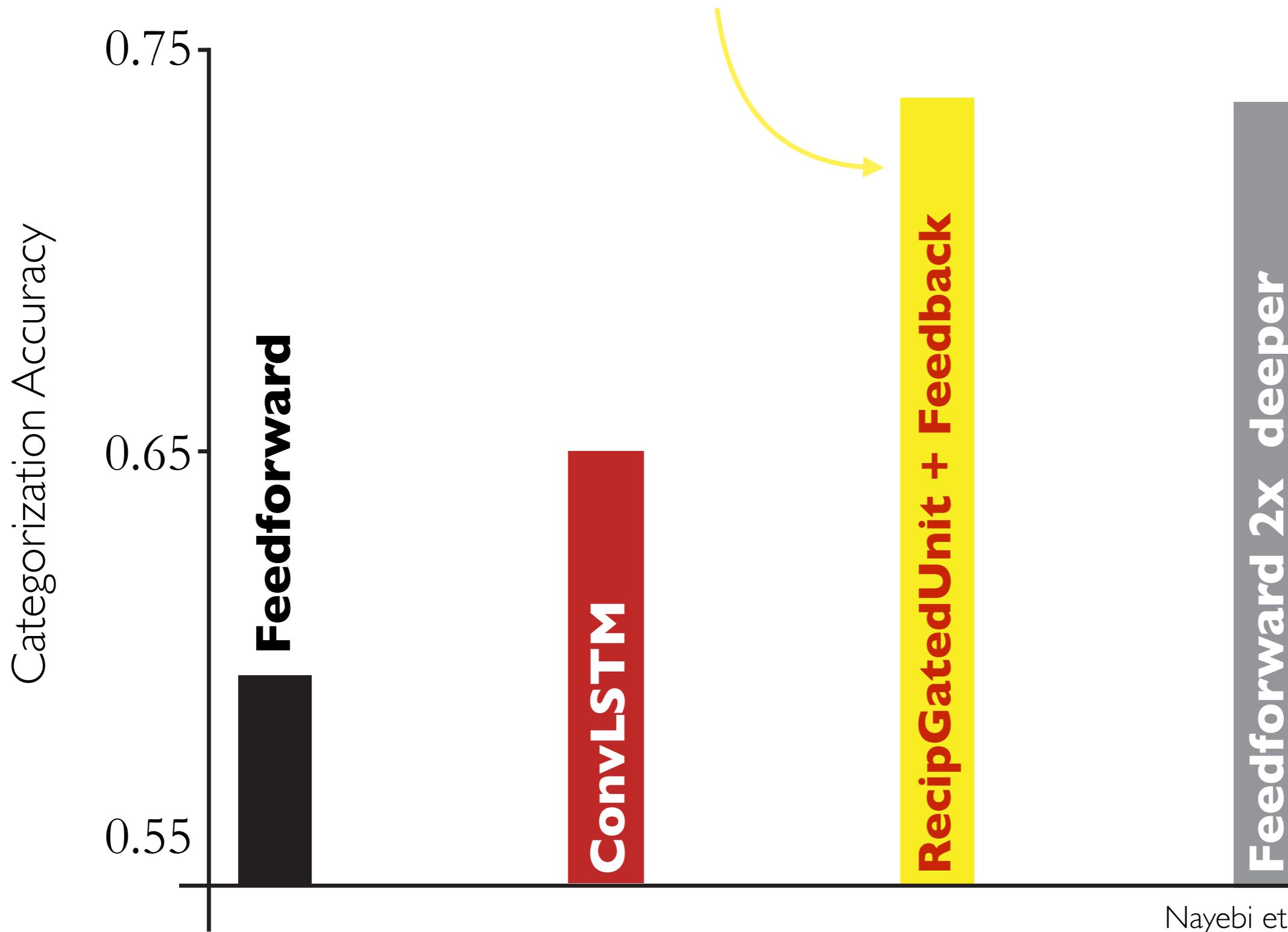
# Improving ImageNet Performance with ConvRNNs



# Improving ImageNet Performance with ConvRNNs

ConvRNNs, with correct local recurrence & long-range feedback

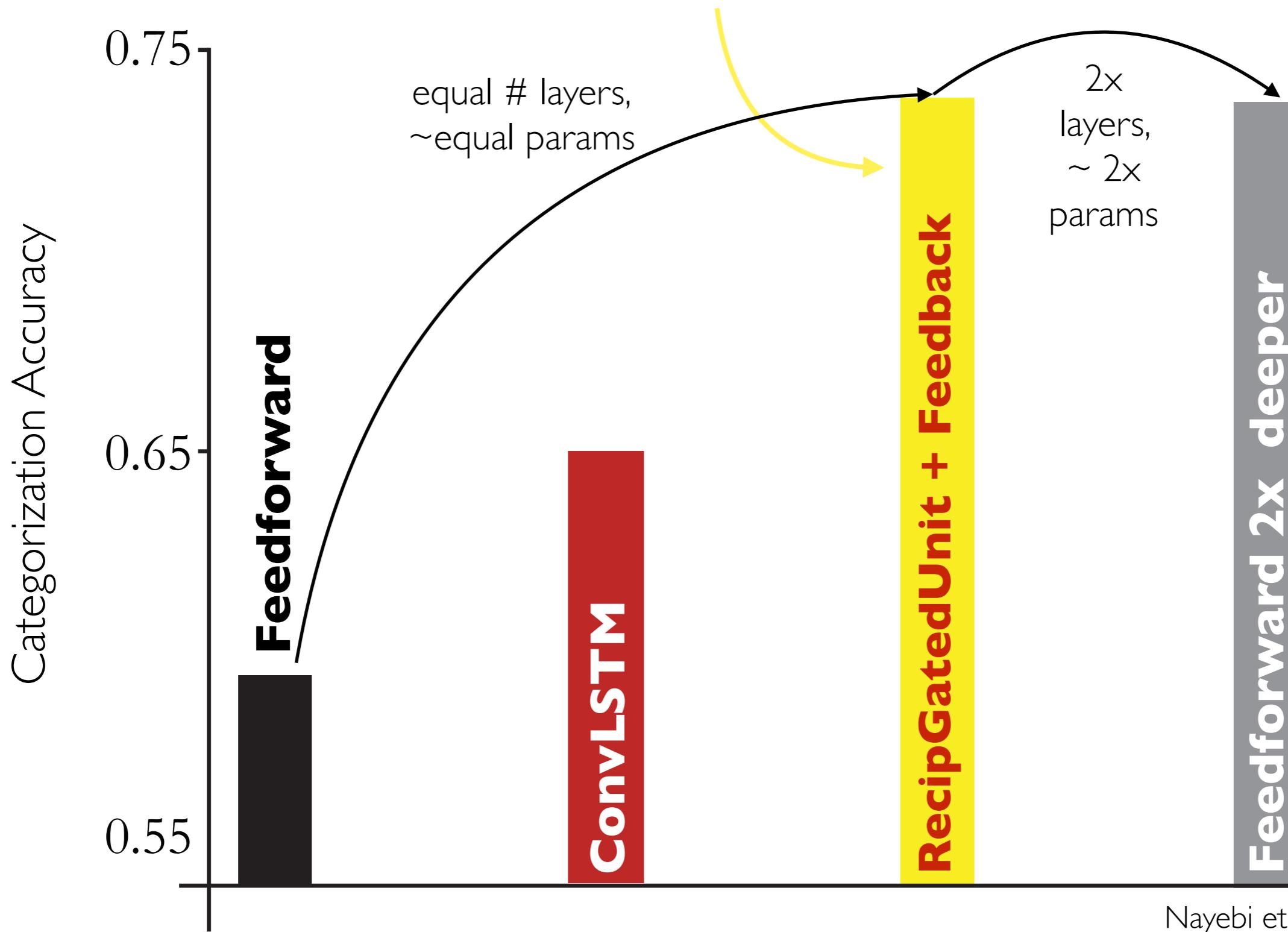
**can effectively convert “space” into “time”**



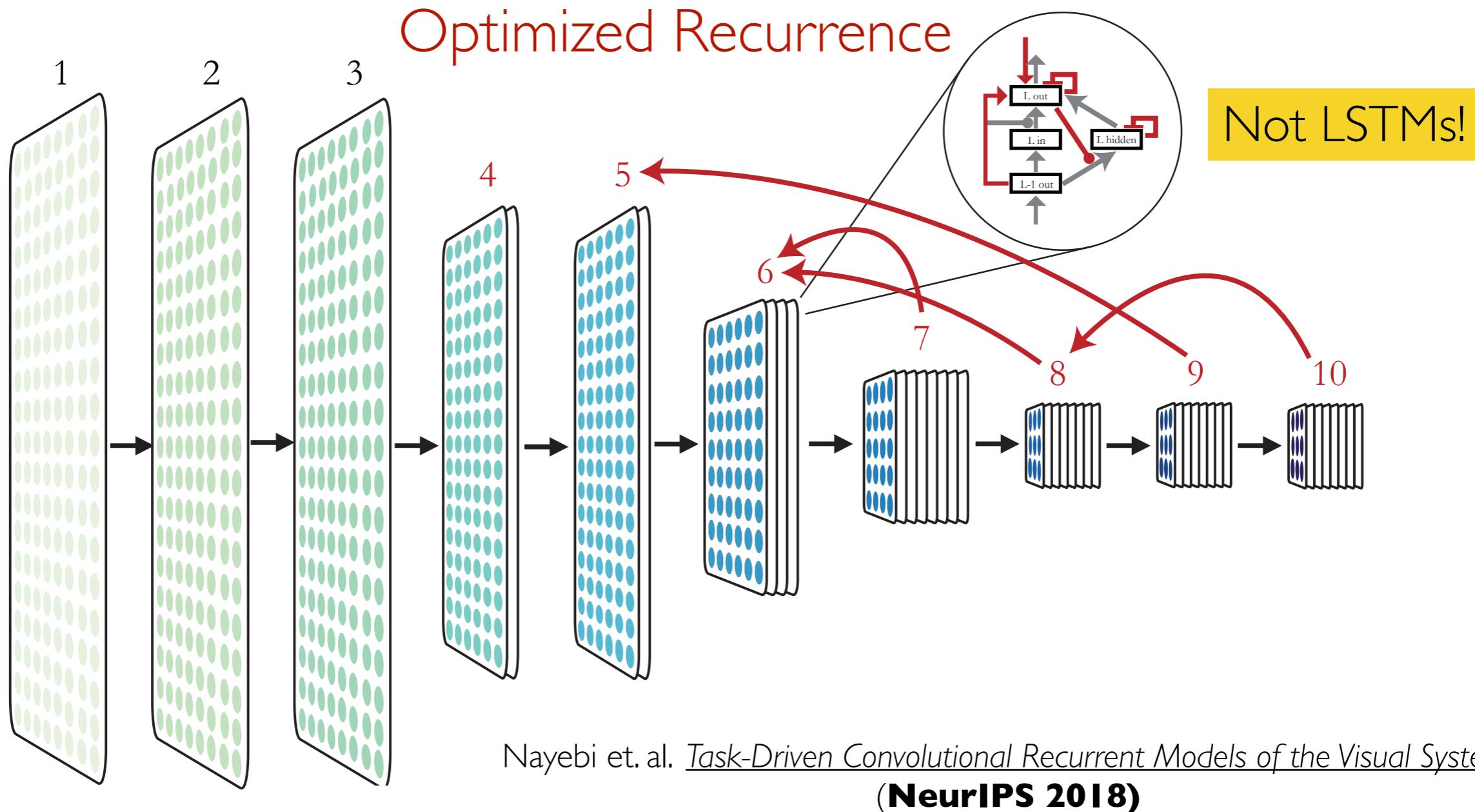
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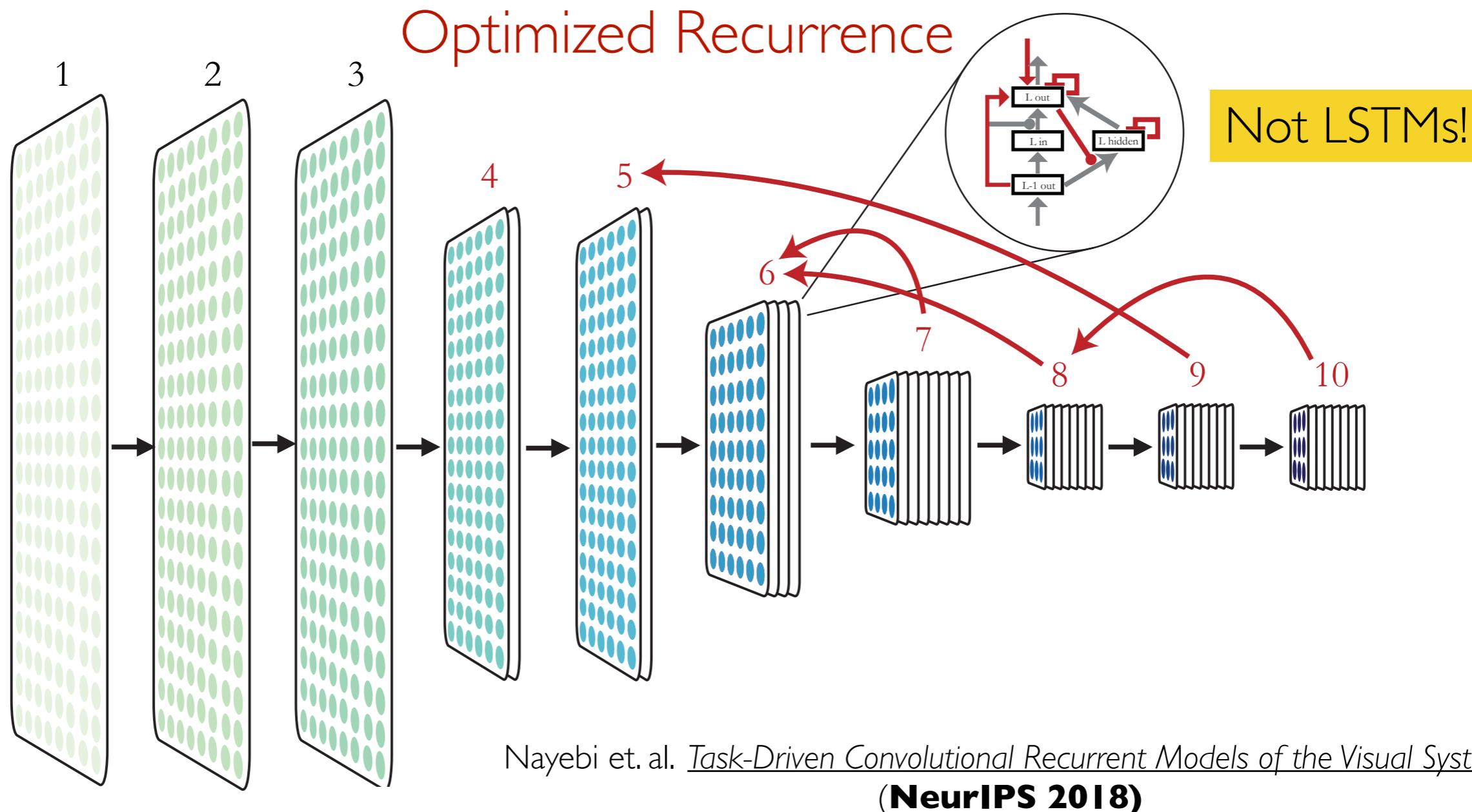


# ConvRNNs as Models of Neural Dynamics



I) improved ImageNet performance

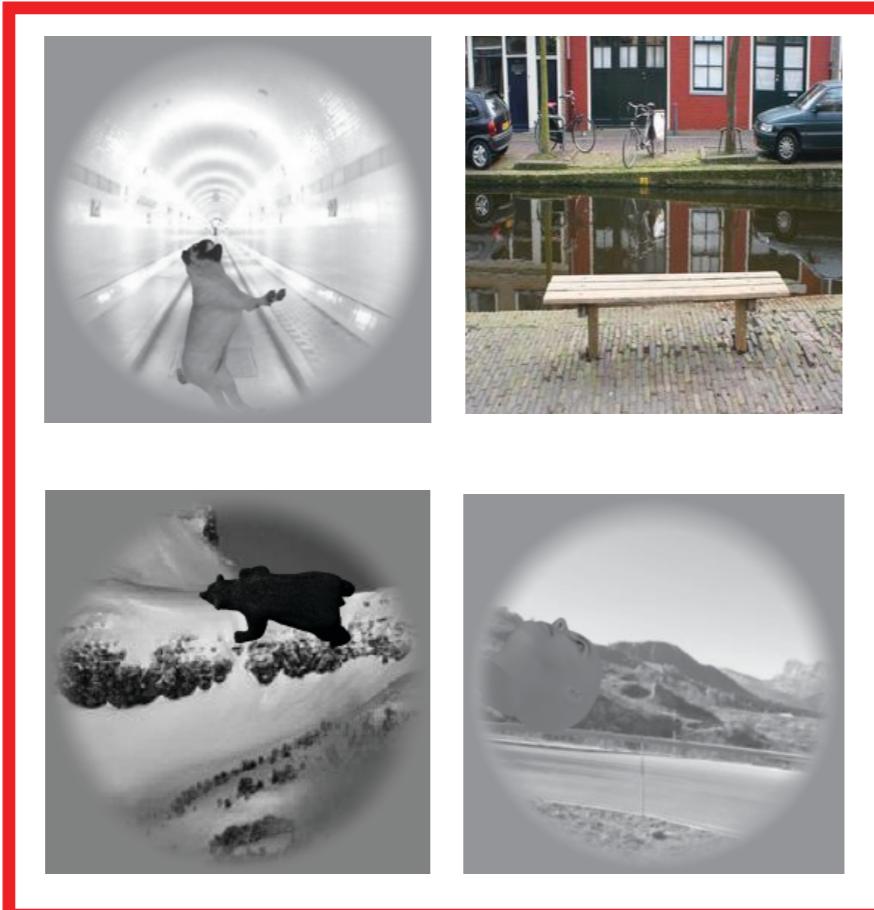
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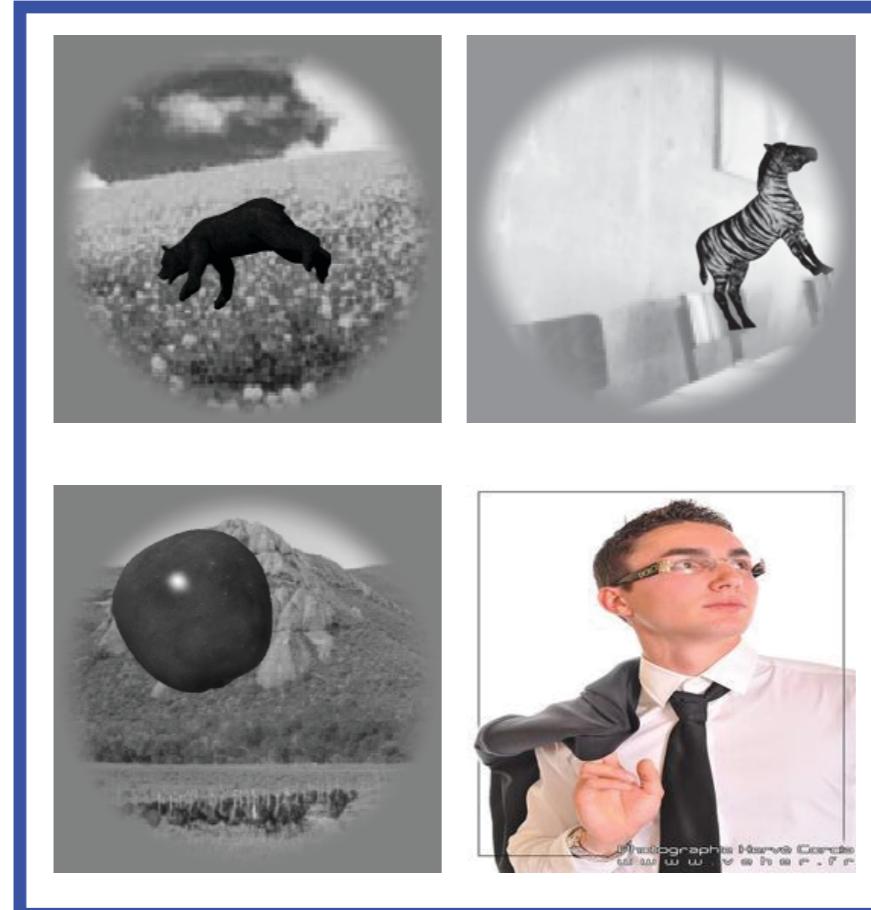
1) improved ImageNet performance

2) predictions of ***neural dynamics*** in visual system?

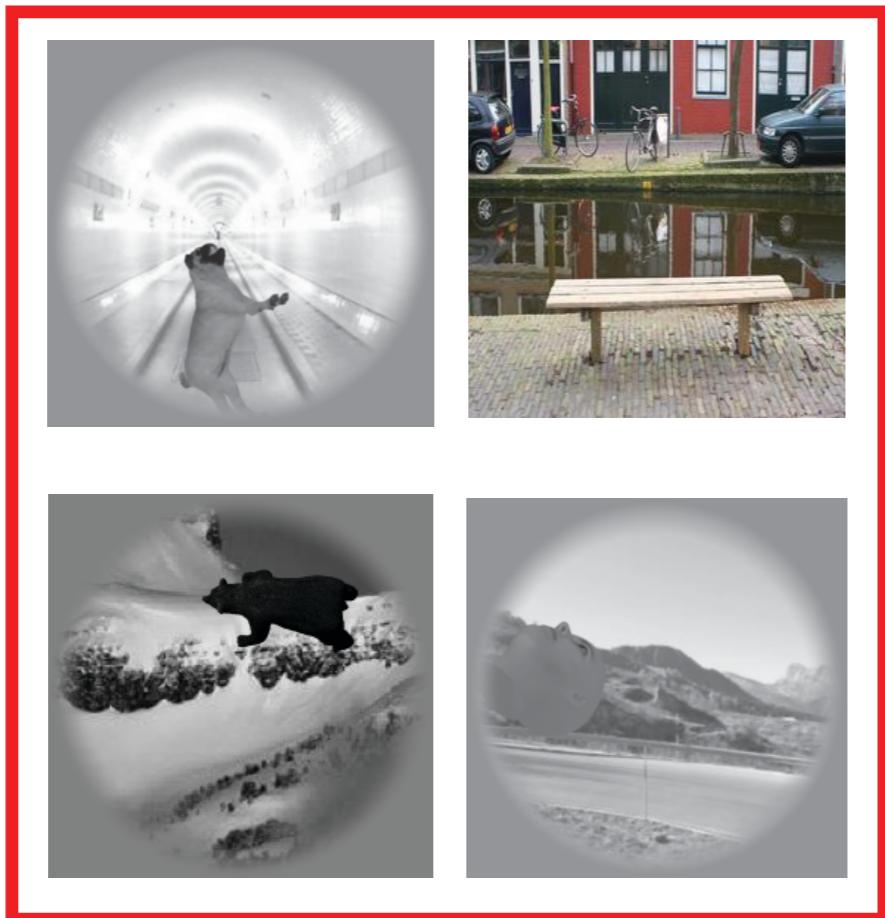
## Challenge Images



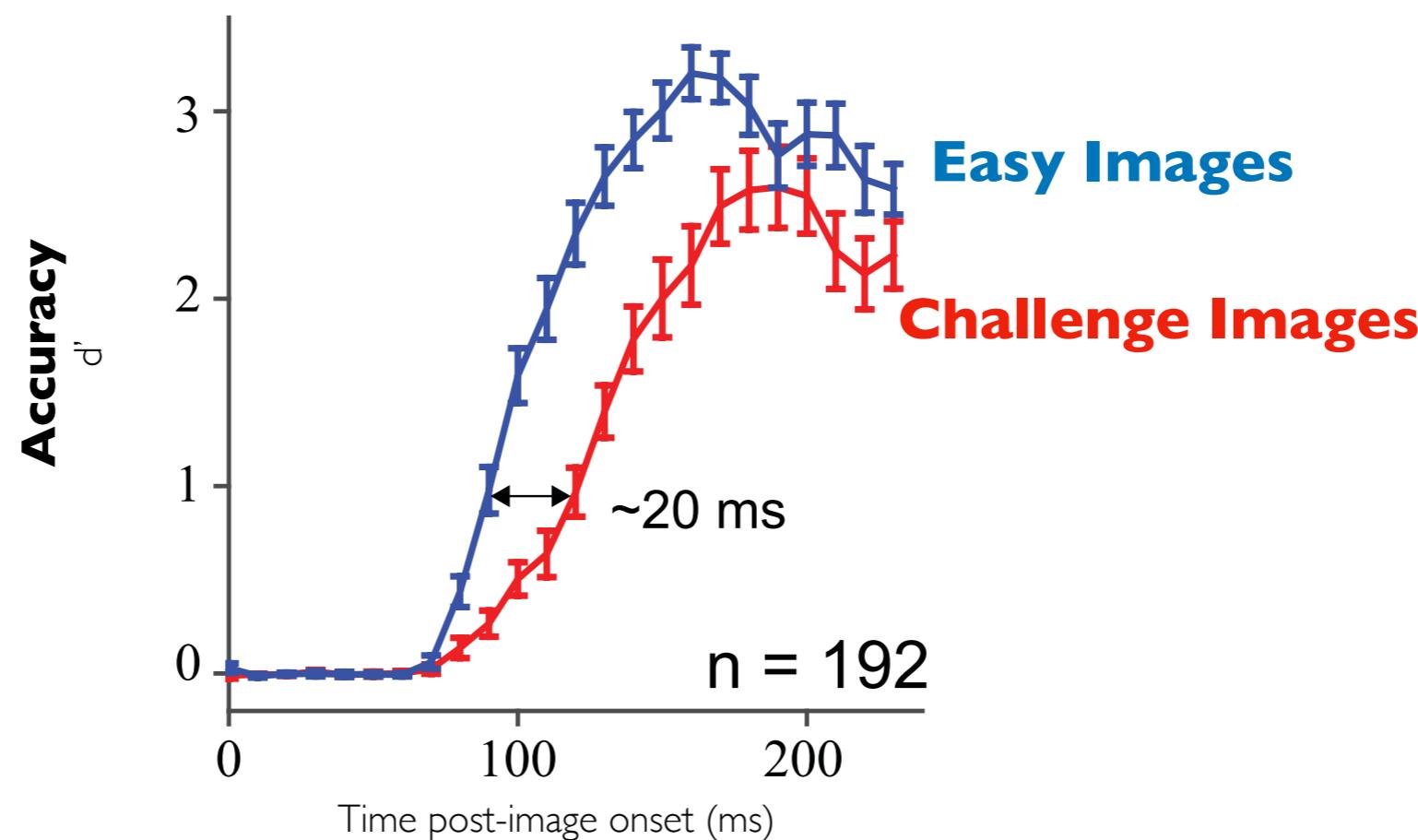
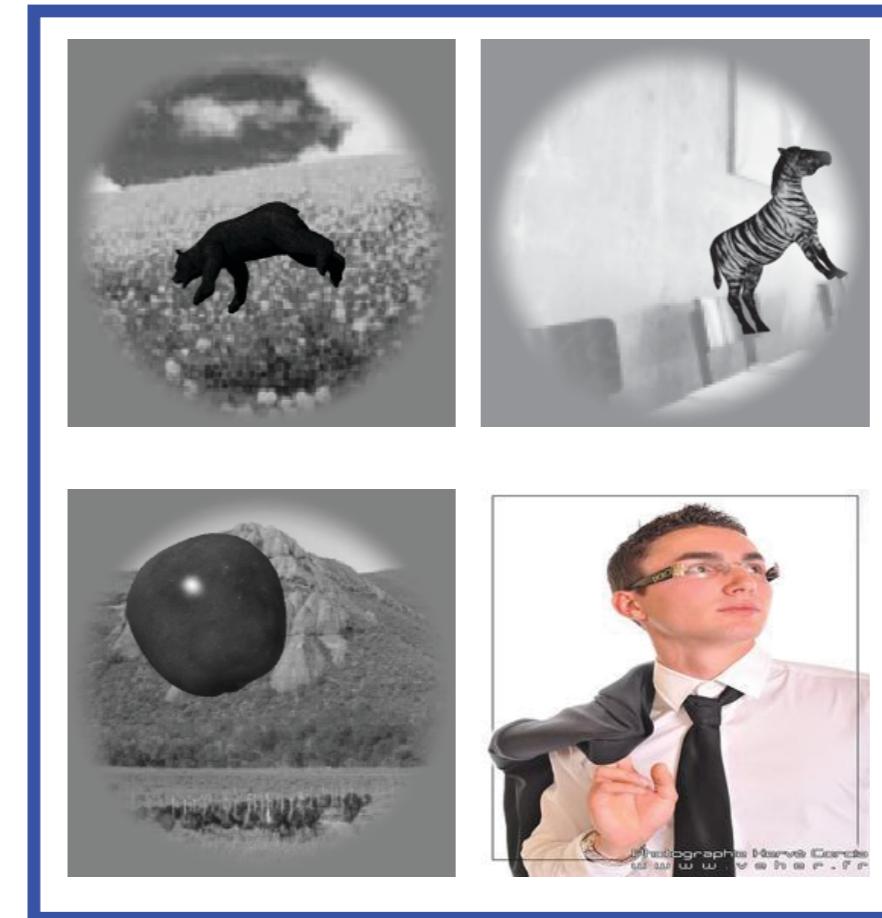
## Easy Images



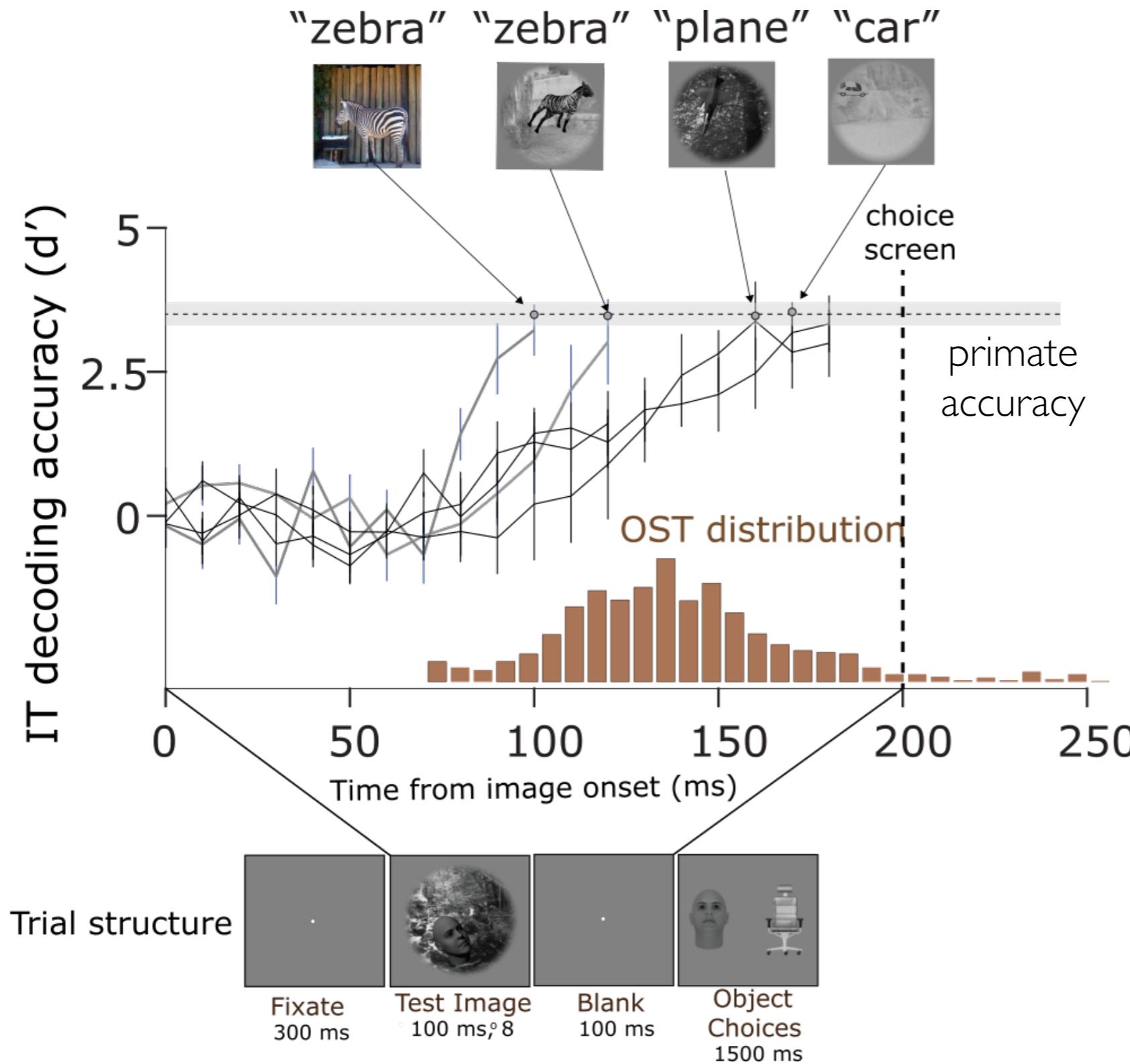
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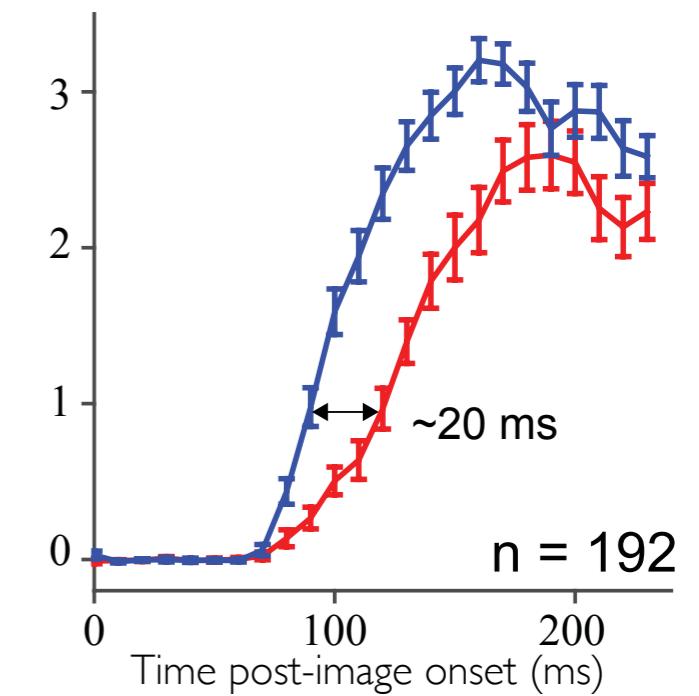
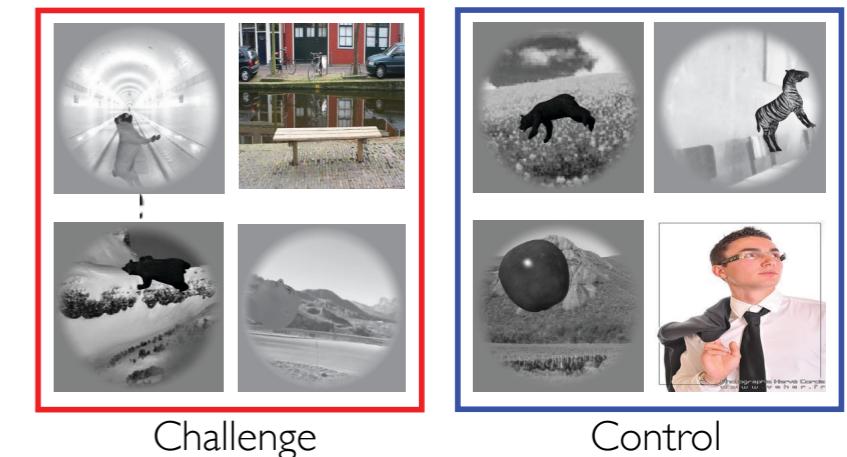
## Easy Images



# IT population dynamics reveal that each image is solved at a (slightly) different time

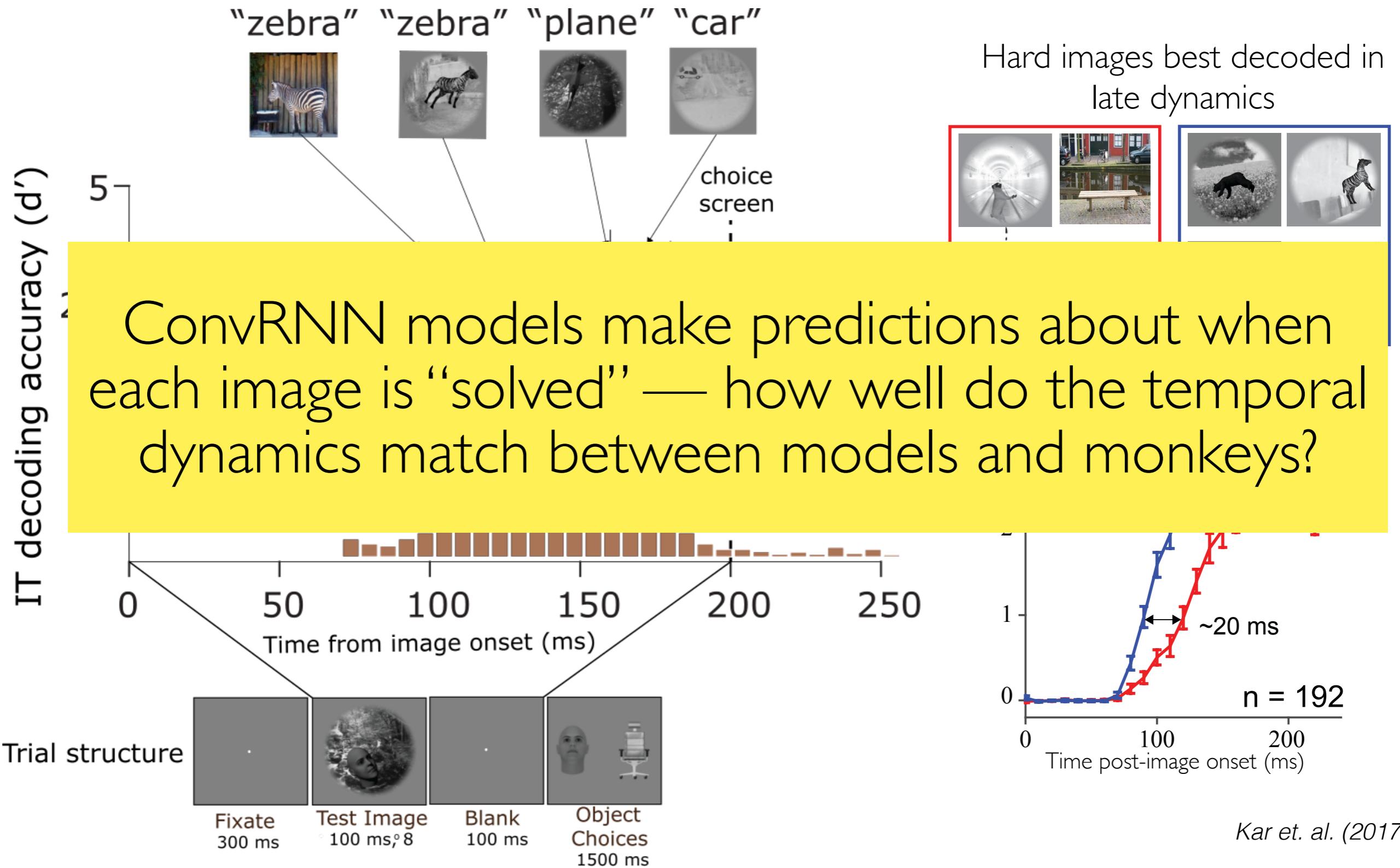


Hard images best decoded in late dynamics

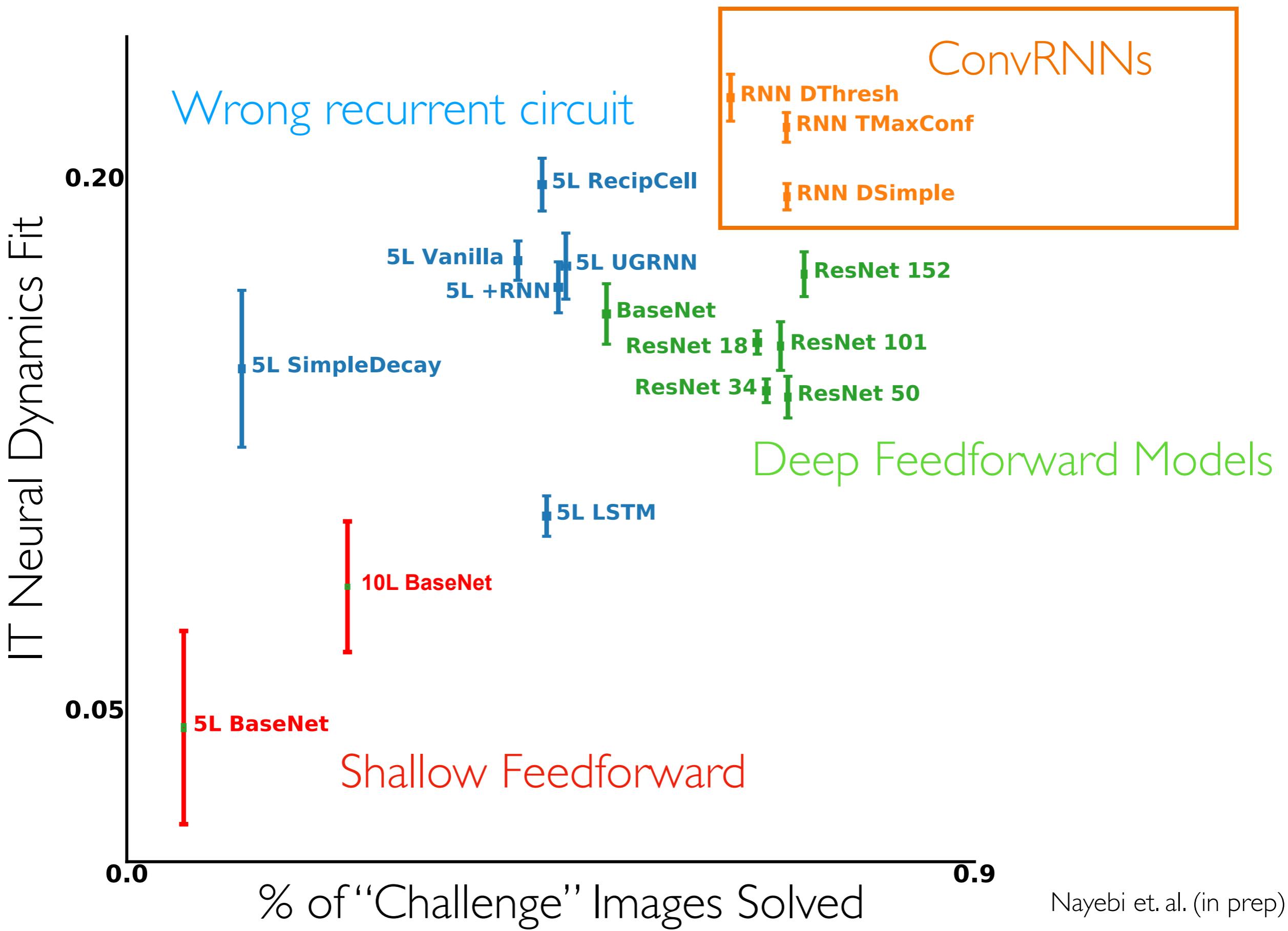


Kar et. al. (2017)

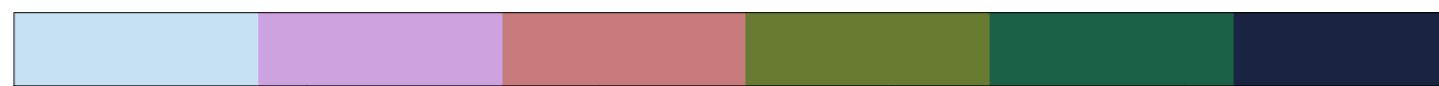
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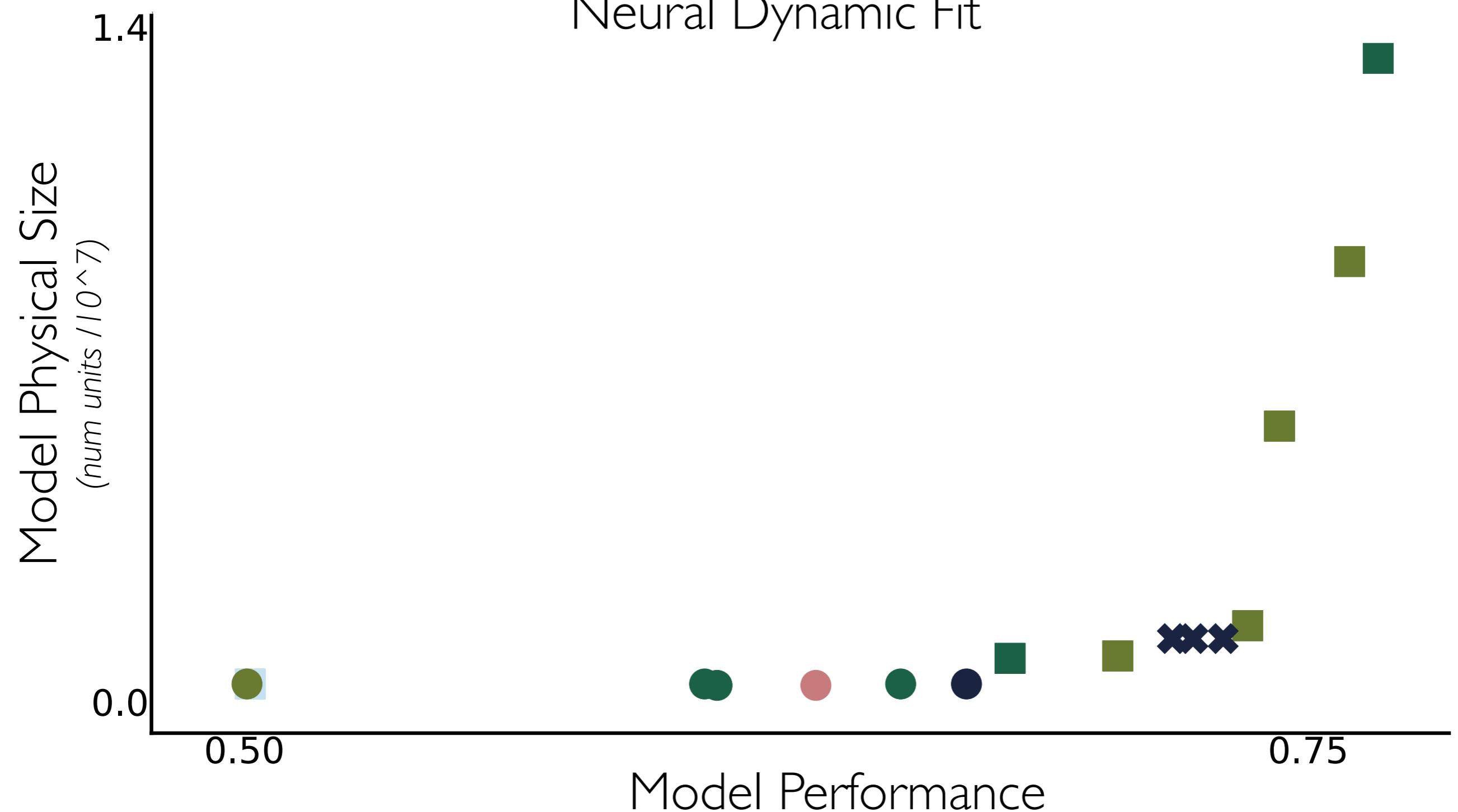
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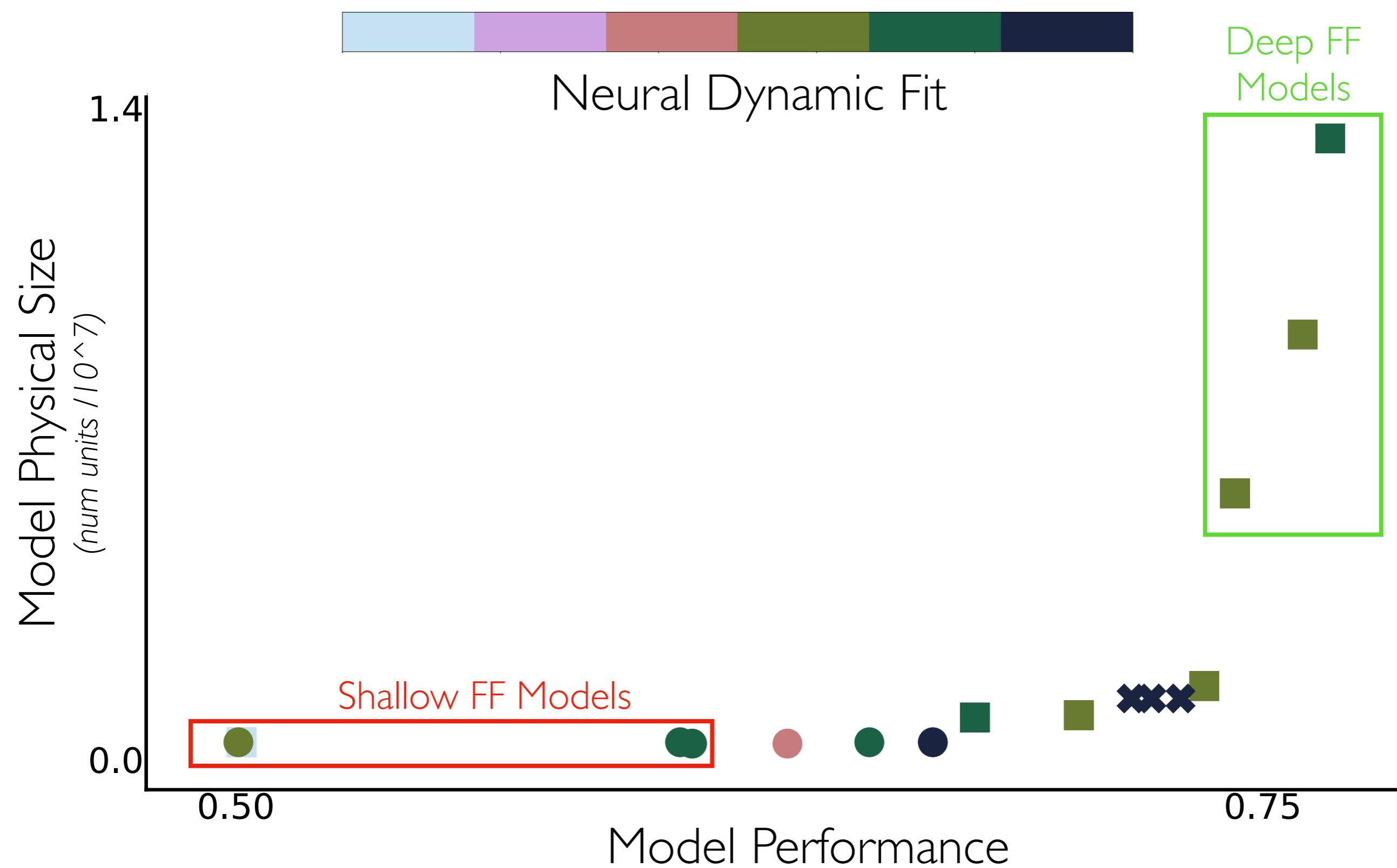
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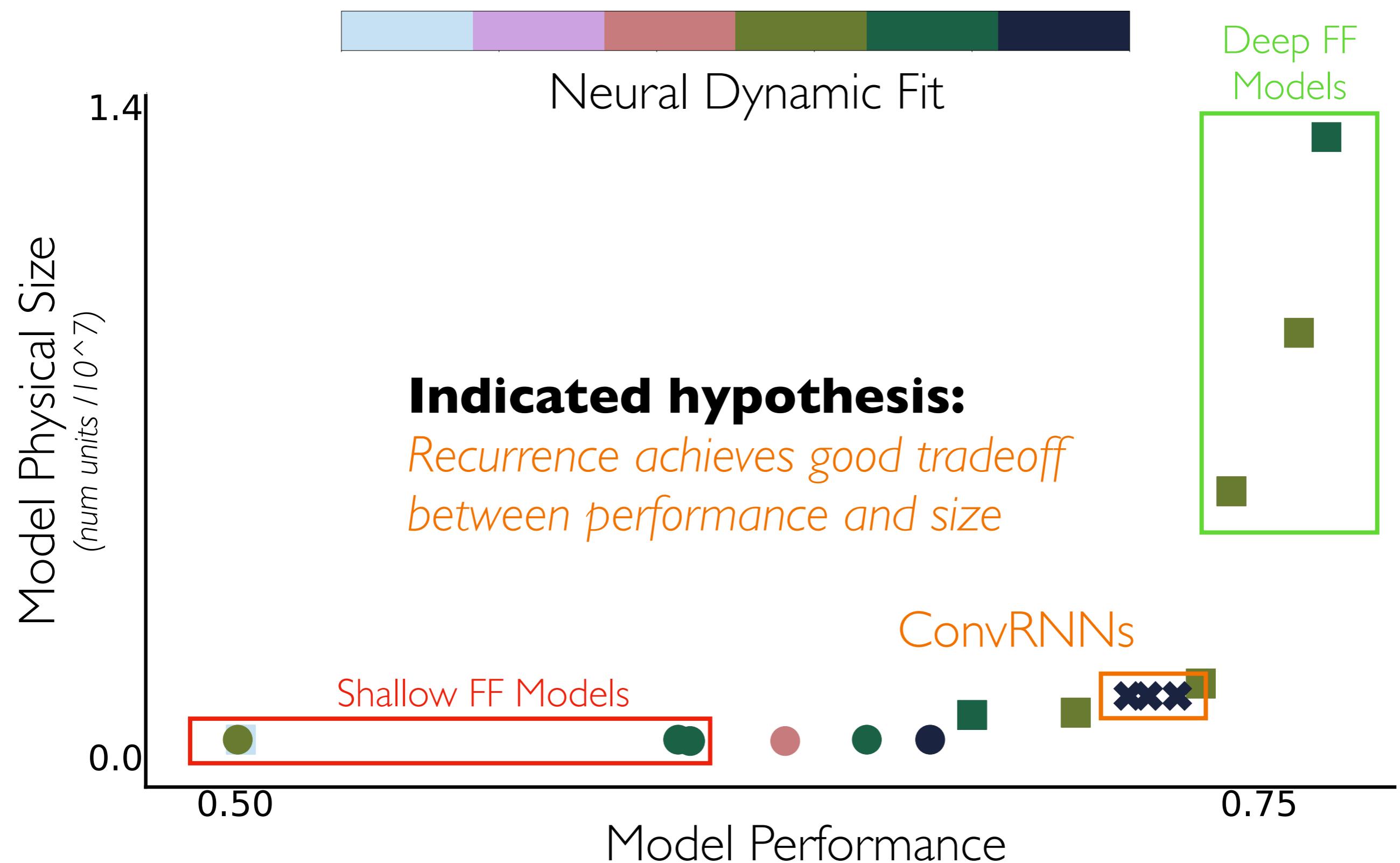
Neural Dynamic Fit



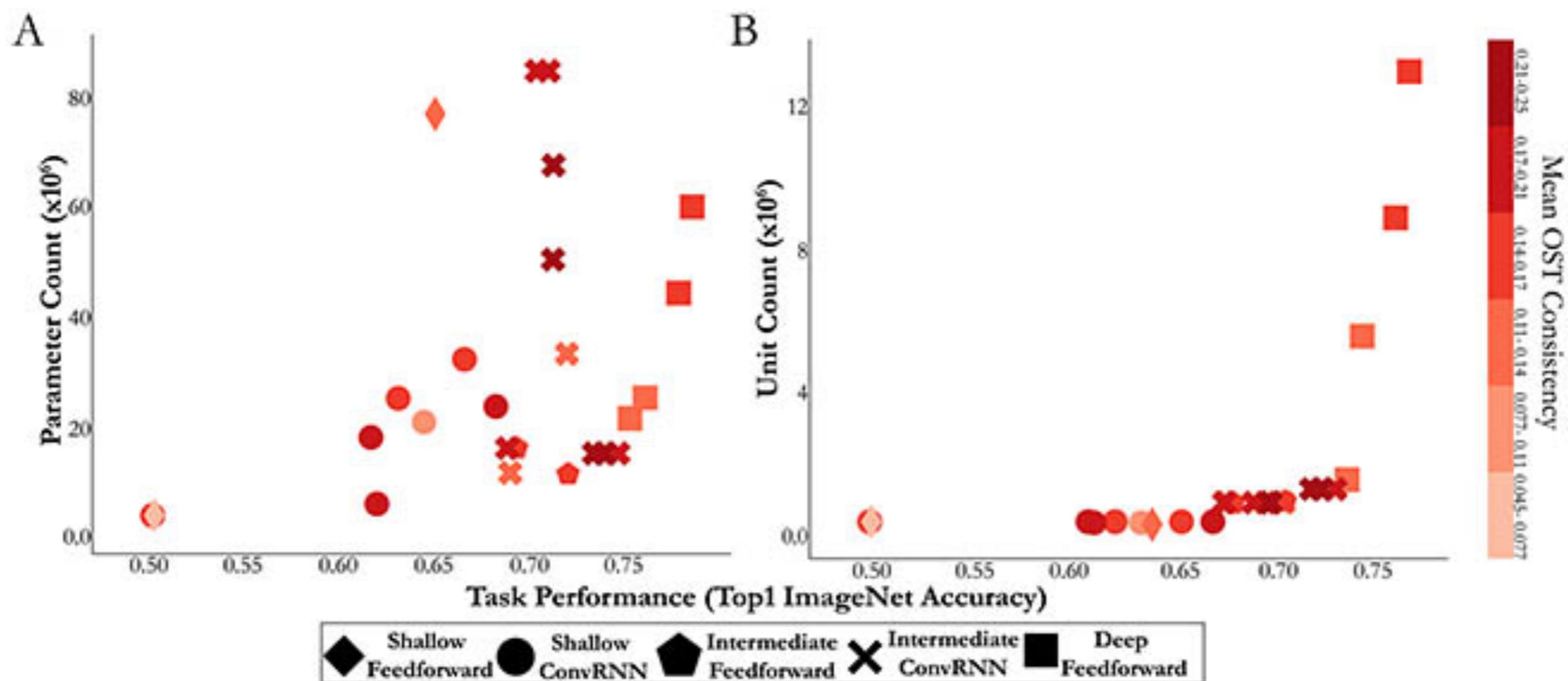
# ConvRNNs as Models of Neural Dynamics



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## ATTENTION FOR FINE-GRAINED CATEGORIZATION

Pierre Sermanet, Andrea Frome, Esteban Real  
Google, Inc.  
`{sermanet, afrome, ereal, }@google.com`

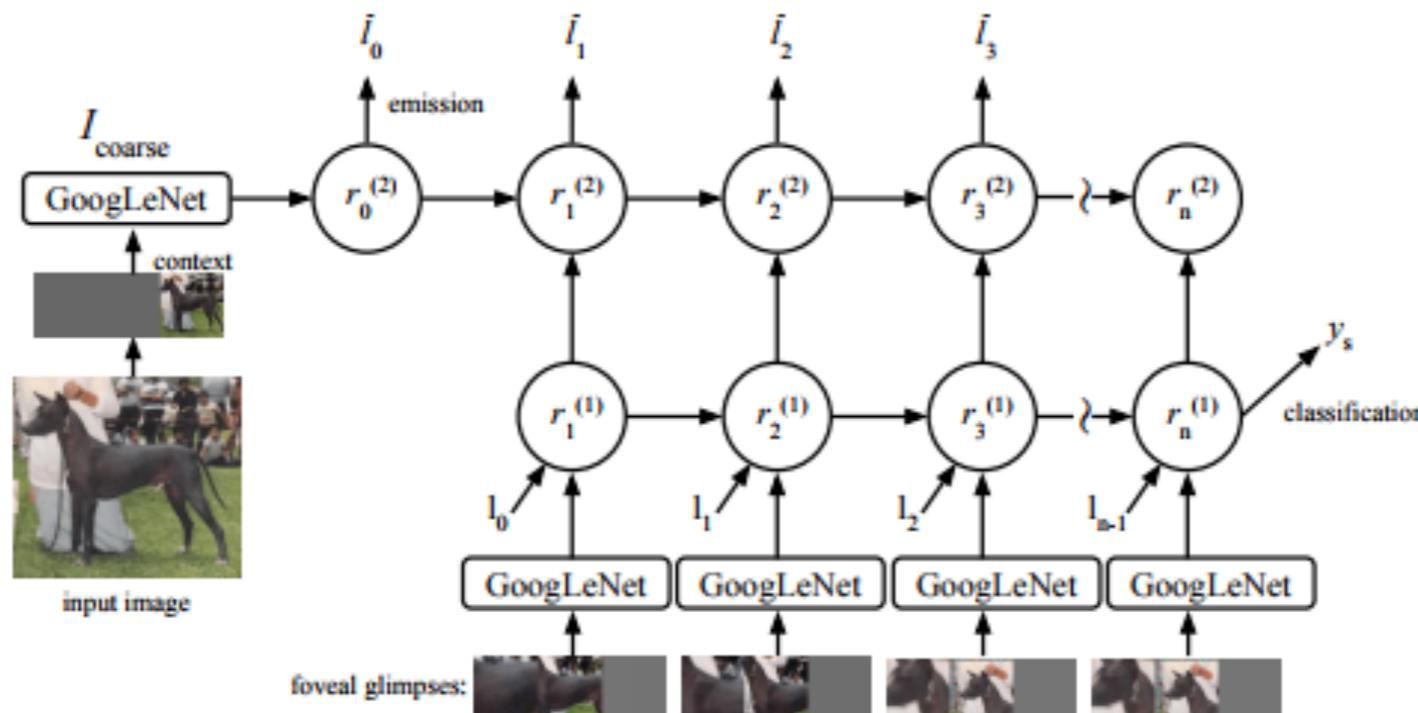


Figure 2: Diagram of the model. The grayed-out boxes denote resolutions not in use; in our experiments the context is always a low-resolution patch, while each glimpse can be any combination of the low-, medium-, and high-resolution patches.

## ATTENTION FOR FINE-GRAINED CATEGORIZATION

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{sermanet, afrome, ereal, }@google.com

Table 1: Results on Stanford Dogs for (a) our RNN model and (b) our GoogLeNet baselines and previous state-of-the-art results, measured by mean accuracy percentage (mA) as described in Chai et al. (2013). The GoogLeNet baseline models were pre-trained on the de-duped ILSVRC 2012 training set and fine-tuned with the Stanford Dogs training set. Results marked with a star indicate use of tight ground truth bounding boxes around the dogs in training and testing.

# glimpses	1	2	3		
high res only	43.5	48.3	49.6	Yang et al. (2012)*	38.0
medium res only	70.1	72.3	72.8	Chai et al. (2013)*	45.6
low res only	70.3	70.1	70.7	Gavves et al. (2013)*	50.1
high+medium res	70.7	72.6	72.7	GoogLeNet 96×96	58.8
3-resolution	76.3	76.5	<b>76.8</b>	GoogLeNet 224×224	<b>75.5</b>

(a)

(b)

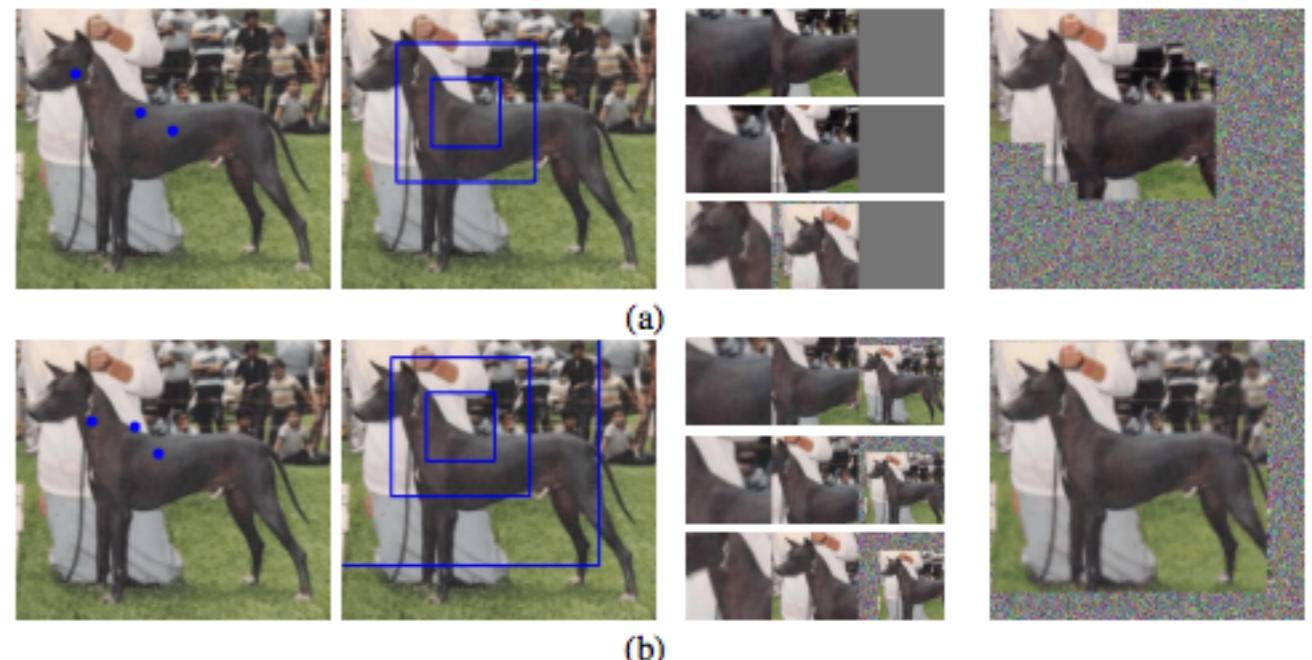


Figure 3: Visualizations of 2-resolution (a) and 3-resolution (b) glimpses on an image from our validation set, with learned fixation points. For each the glimpse images are in order, from top to bottom, and the box diagram corresponds to the second glimpse. The composite image is created from all three glimpses. The context image is not shown but is always the same resolution and size as the low-resolution glimpse patches shown in (b).

# Task-Driven Models?

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$\mathbf{A}$  = architecture class

**CNNs -> RNNs**

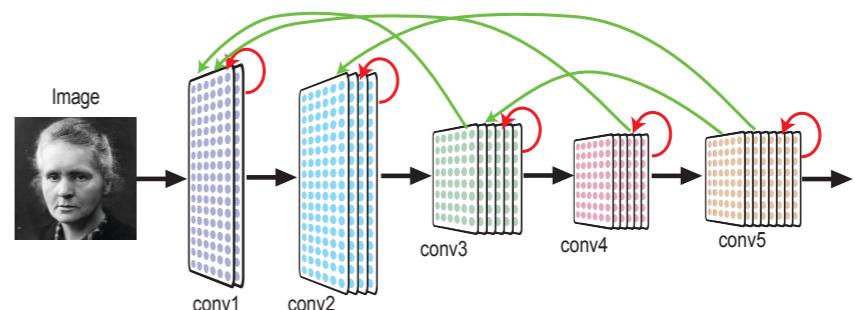
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What task(s) explain recurrences??



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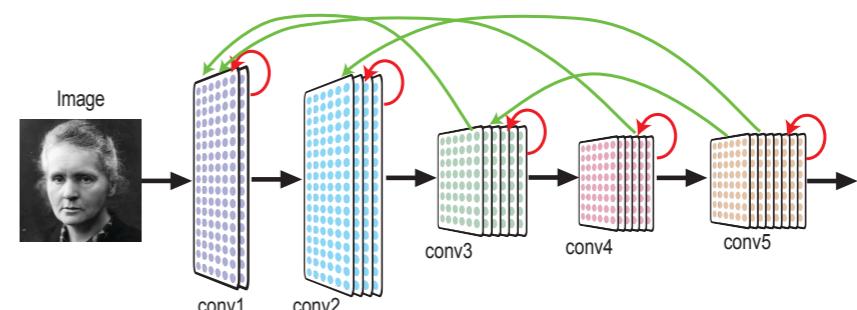
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very different possibility: actually, recurrence not used on-line,  
instead: “just” implementing learning

# Biological learning

## Implementing Learning

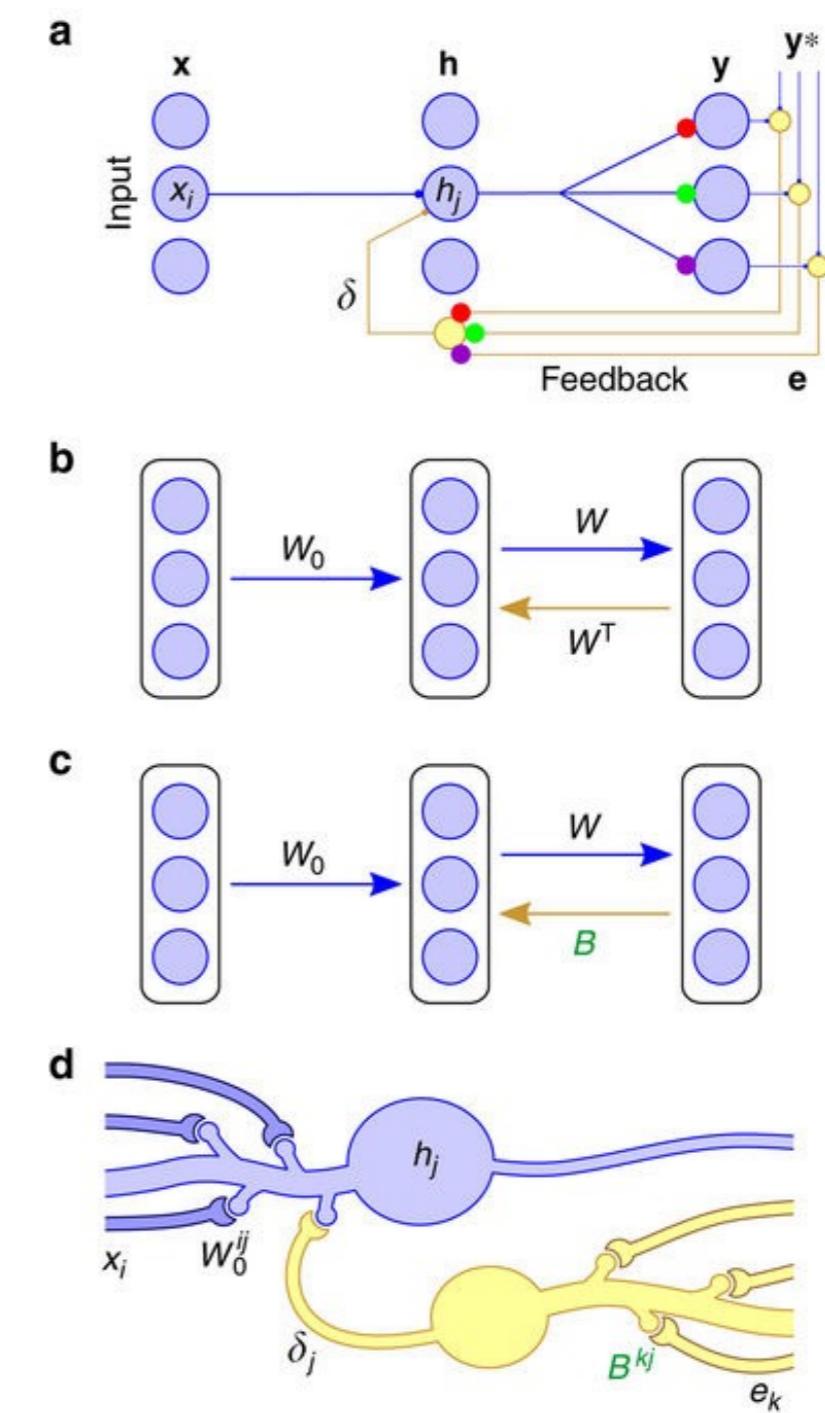
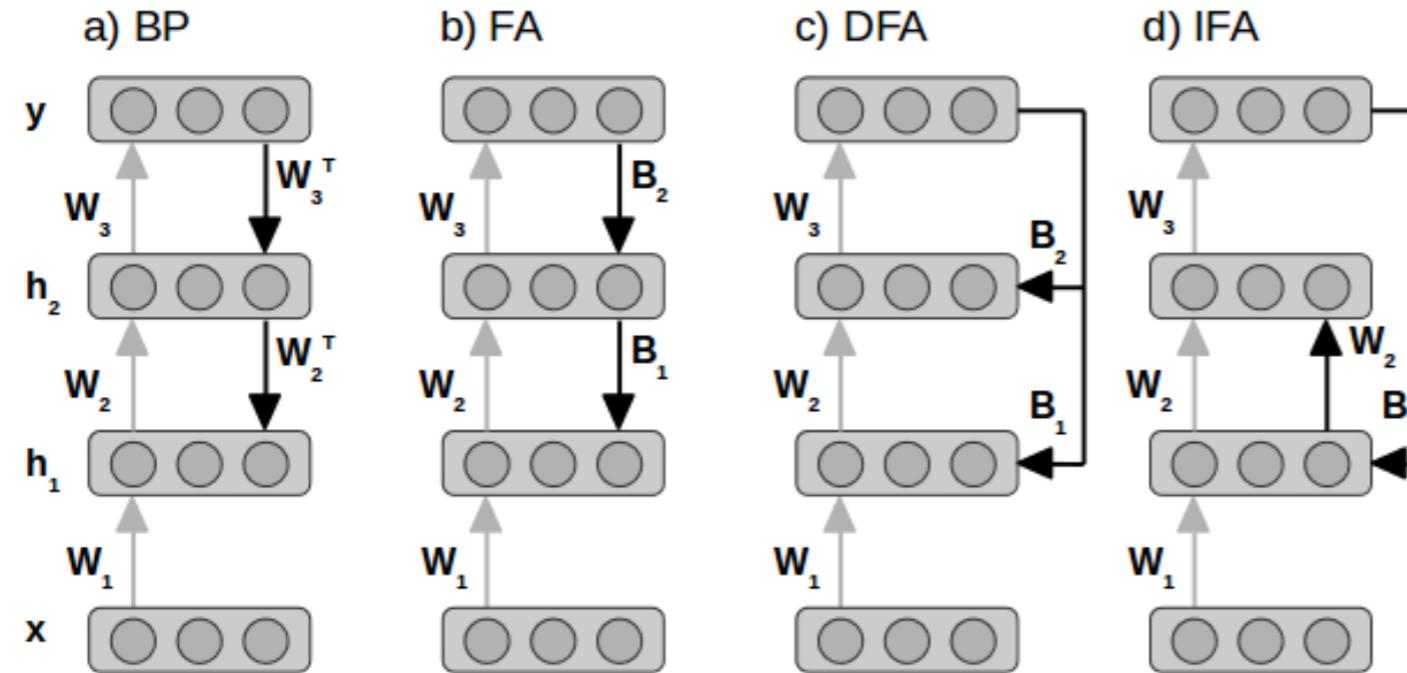
### Direct Feedback Alignment Provides Learning in Deep Neural Networks

Arild Nøkland

(Submitted on 6 Sep 2016 (v1), last revised 21 Dec 2016 (this version, v5))

Random synaptic feedback weights support error backpropagation for deep learning

Timothy P. Lillicrap , Daniel Cownden, Douglas B. Tweed & Colin J. Akerman 



# Big Problems in Each Area

\***bad** = obviously deeply wrong as model of the brain or behavior

## 1. **Xbad**

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**ConvRNNs**

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**T** = task/objective

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e.g. **ImageNet**

## 4.

**L** = learning rule

e.g. **Arch. Srch. + Grad. Desc.**

## **SOLUTION**

*RECURRENTNESS and FEEDBACK*

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~~\***ok**~~

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## SOLUTION

**RECURRENTNESS and FEEDBACK**

**SELF-SUPERVISION WORKS GREAT!**

**CAN HANDLE REAL VIDEOSTREAMS  
TO \*SOME\* EXTENT**