

## Left over from units..

- Hodgkin-Huxley model

$$I_{net} = g_{Na}m^3h(V_m - E_{Na}) + g_Kn^4(V_m - E_K) + (V_m - E_l)$$

$m, h, n$ : voltage gating variables with their own dynamics that determine when channels open and close

- Bias weight

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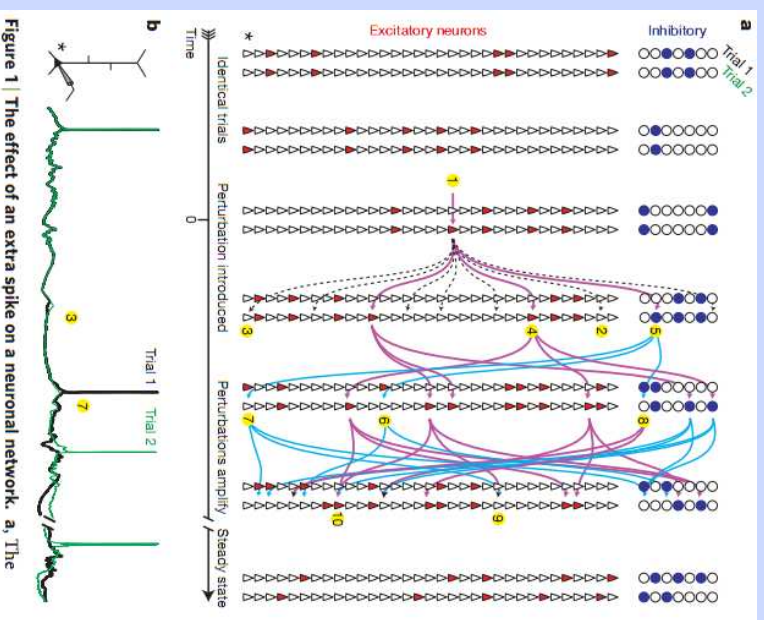
- Bias weight

General cell excitability is plastic, regardless of particular synaptic inputs (weights). See review by Mozzachido & Byrne, 2010 *TINS* on non-synaptic plasticity.

# LETTERS

## Sensitivity to perturbations *in vivo* implies high noise and suggests rate coding in cortex

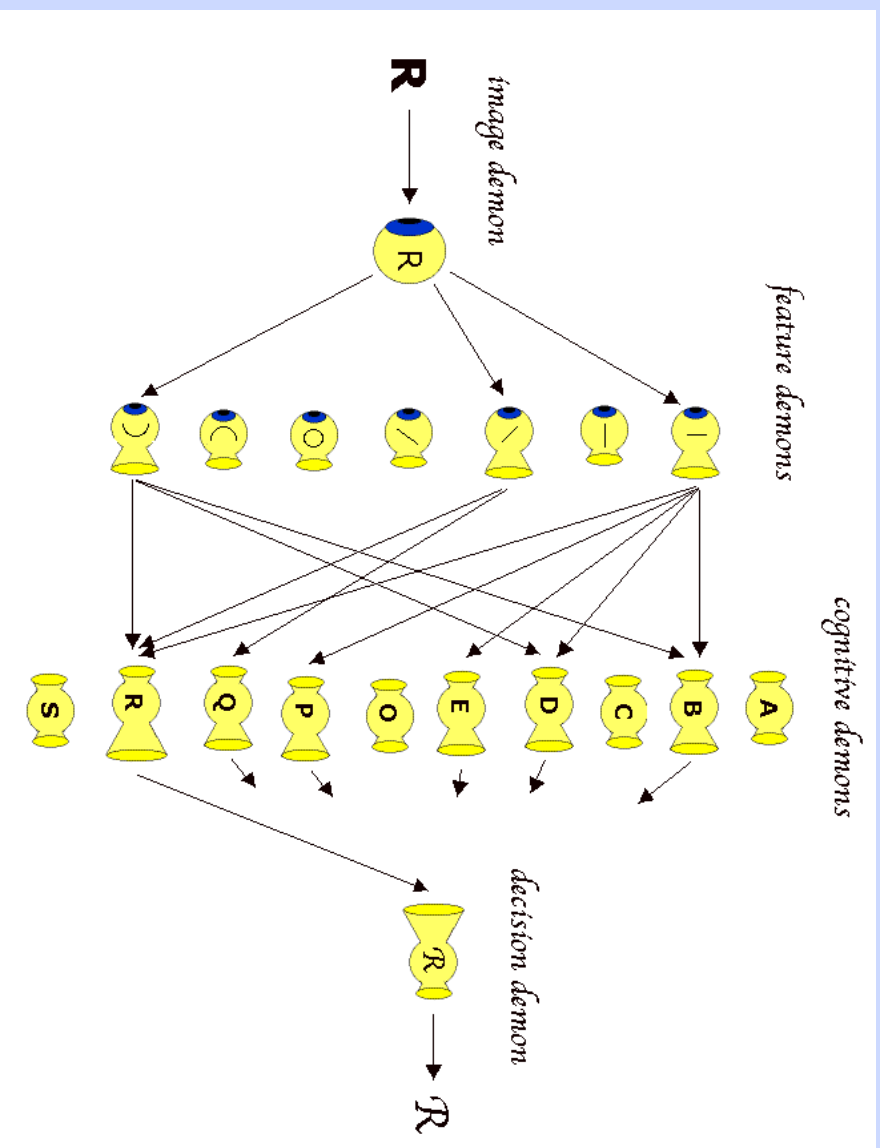
Michael London<sup>1</sup>, Arnd Roth<sup>1</sup>, Lisa Beeren<sup>1</sup>, Michael Häusser<sup>1</sup> & Peter E. Latham<sup>2</sup>



see also Shadlen & Newsome '98

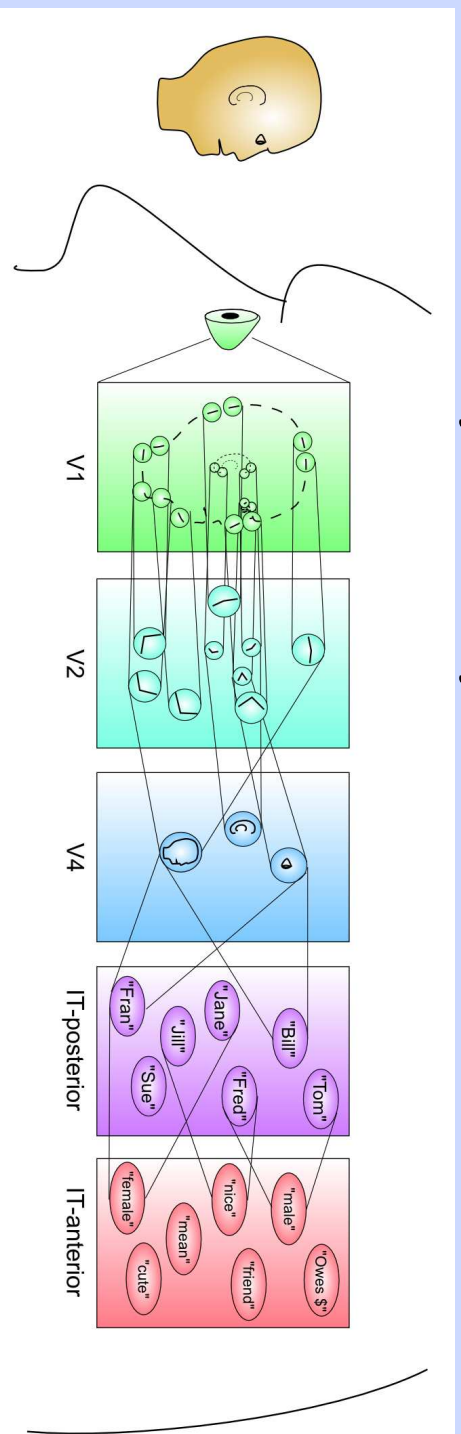
# Networks

Layers and layers of detectors...



# Networks

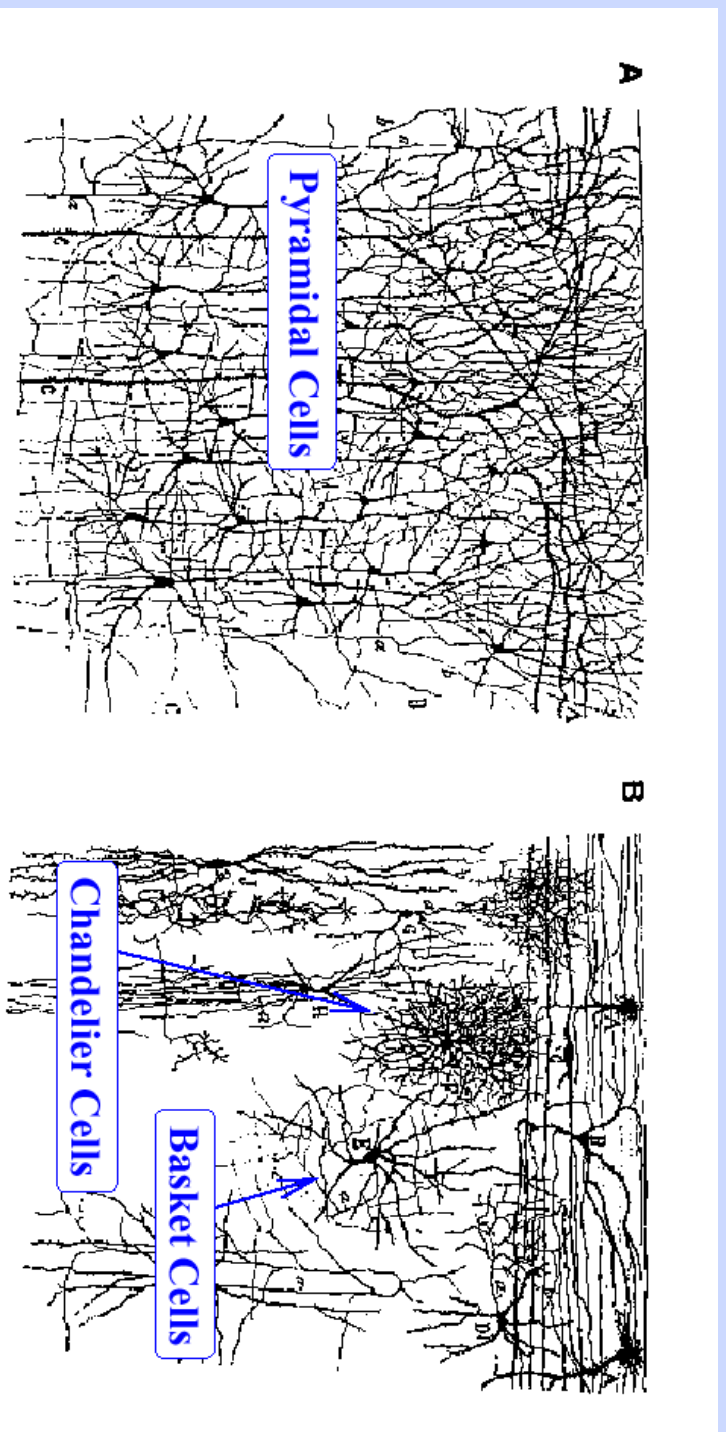
Layers and layers of detectors...



# Networks

1. Biology of networks: the cortex
2. Excitation:
  - Unidirectional (transformations)
  - Bidirectional (pattern completion, amplification)
3. Inhibition: Controlling bidirectional excitation.
4. Constraint Satisfaction: Putting it all together.

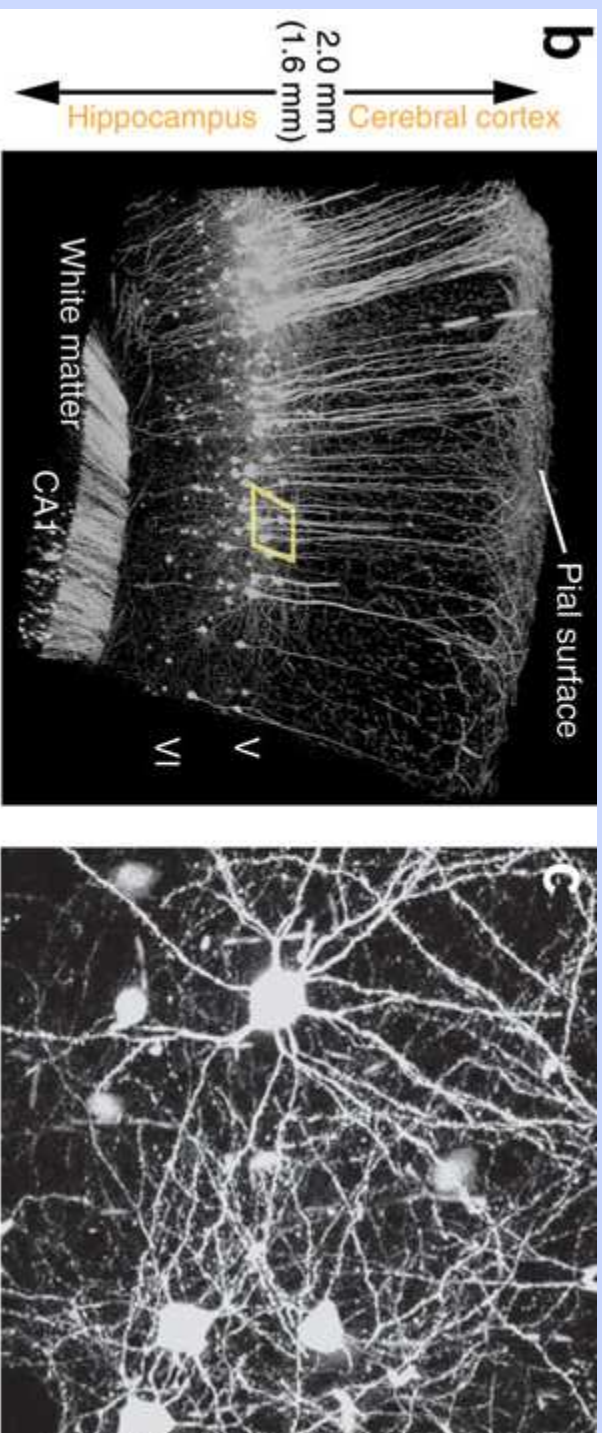
## Cortex: Neurons



Two **separate** populations:

- Excitatory (glutamate): Pyramidal, Spiny stellate.
- Inhibitory (GABA): Chandelier, Basket.

More recent images..



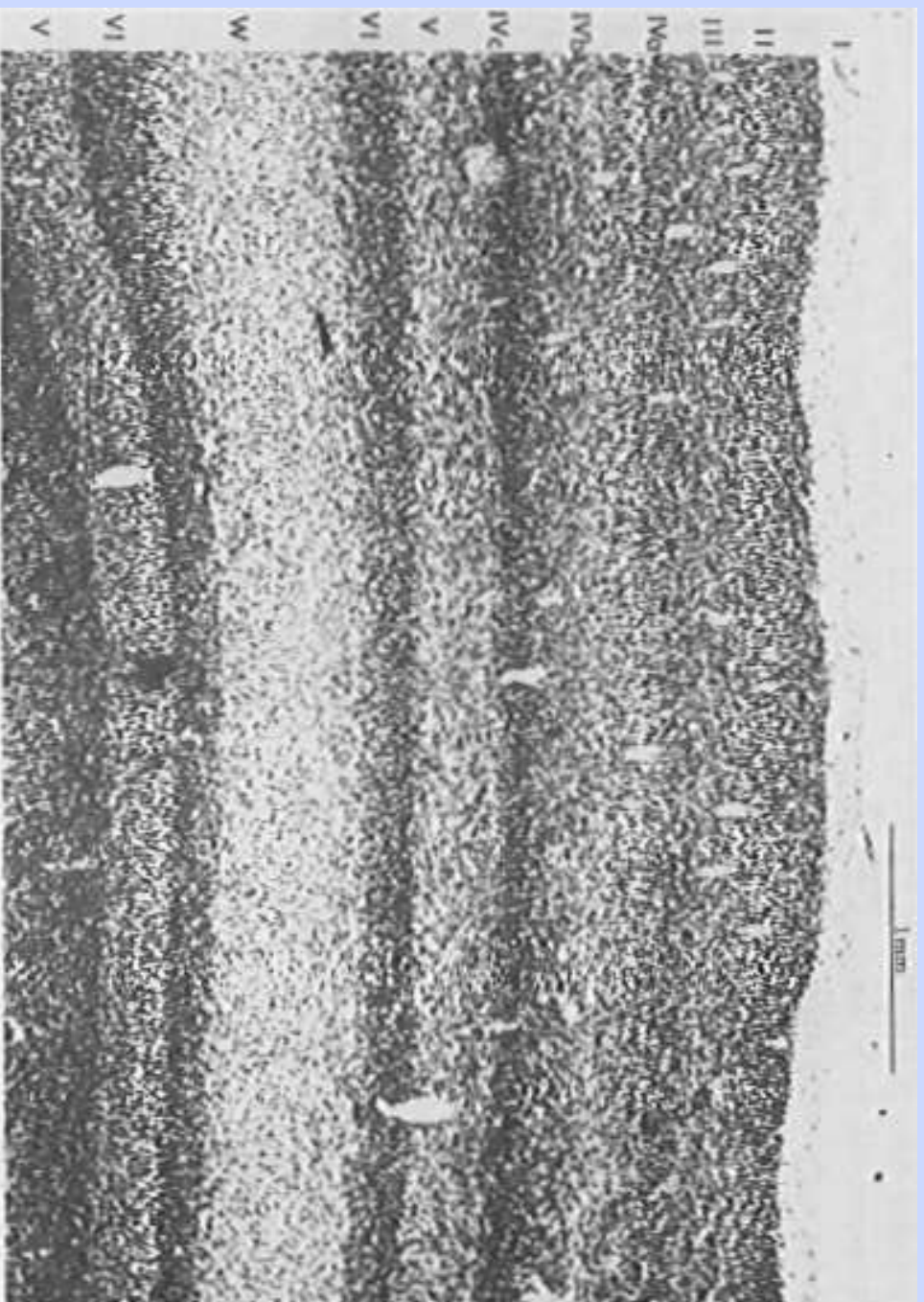
Animation: file:///Users/frankmj/teach/cogsim/ctxhippo.mpg



## Excitatory vs Inhibitory Neurons

- Excitatory neurons both project locally and make long-range projections between different cortical areas
- Inhibitory neurons primarily project within small, localized regions of cortex
- Excitatory neurons carry the information flow (long range projections)
- Inhibitory neurons are responsible for (locally) regulating the activation of excitatory neurons

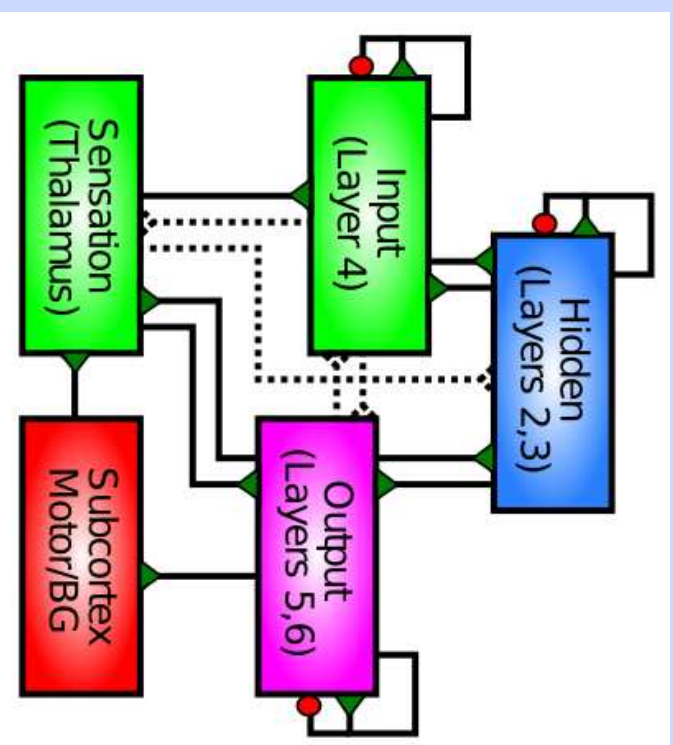
## Laminar Structure of Cortex



## Layers

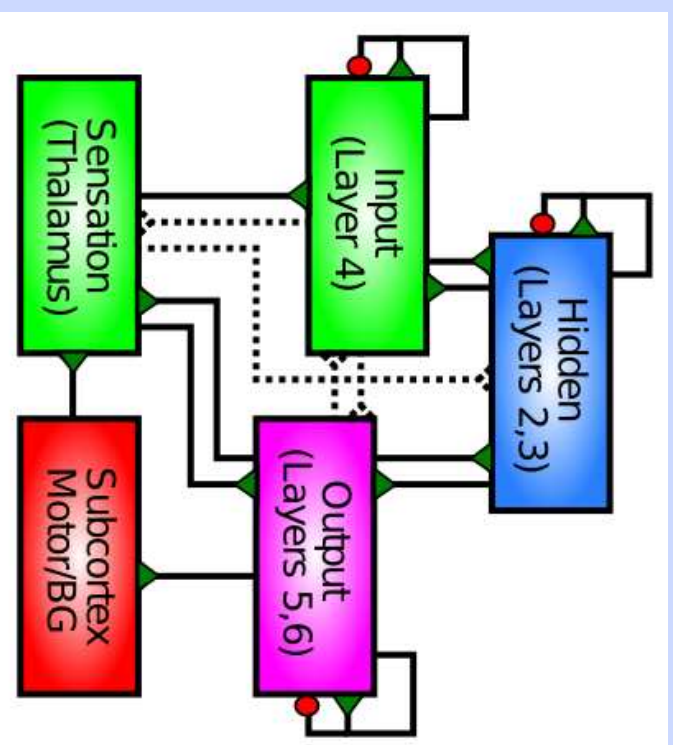
- Layer = a bunch of neurons with similar connectivity
- Localized to a particular region (physically contiguous)
- All cells within a layer receive input from approximately the same places (i.e. from a common collection of layers)
- All cells within a layer send their outputs to approximately the same places (i.e., to a common collection of layers)

# Laminar Structure of Cortex Three Functional Layers



# Laminar Structure of Cortex

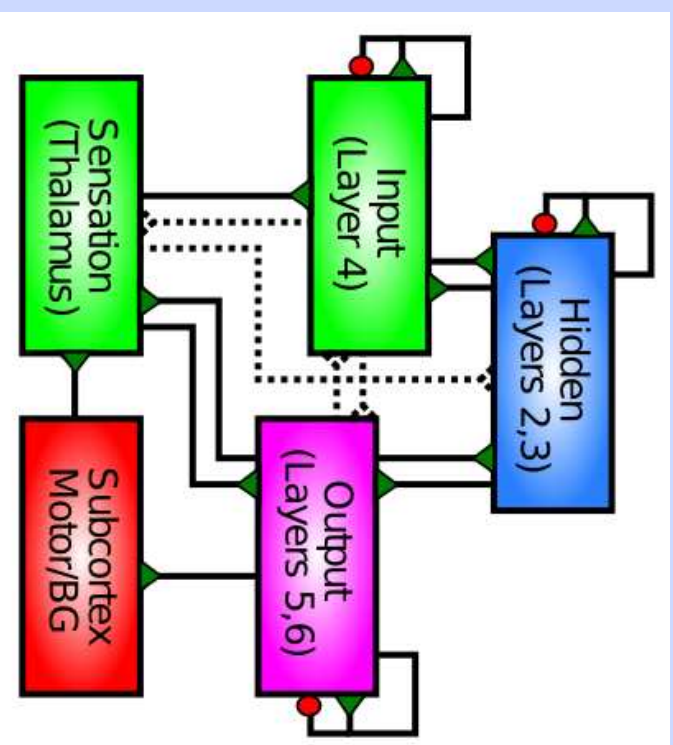
## Three Functional Layers



Hidden layer *transforms* input-output mappings

# Laminar Structure of Cortex

## Three Functional Layers

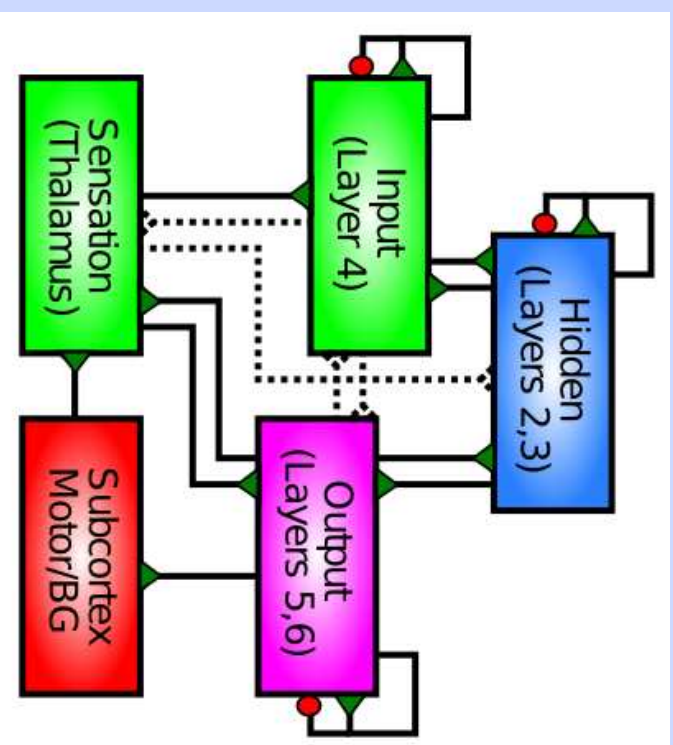


Hidden layer *transforms* input-output mappings

*More hidden layers* → *richer transformations*

# Laminar Structure of Cortex

## Three Functional Layers

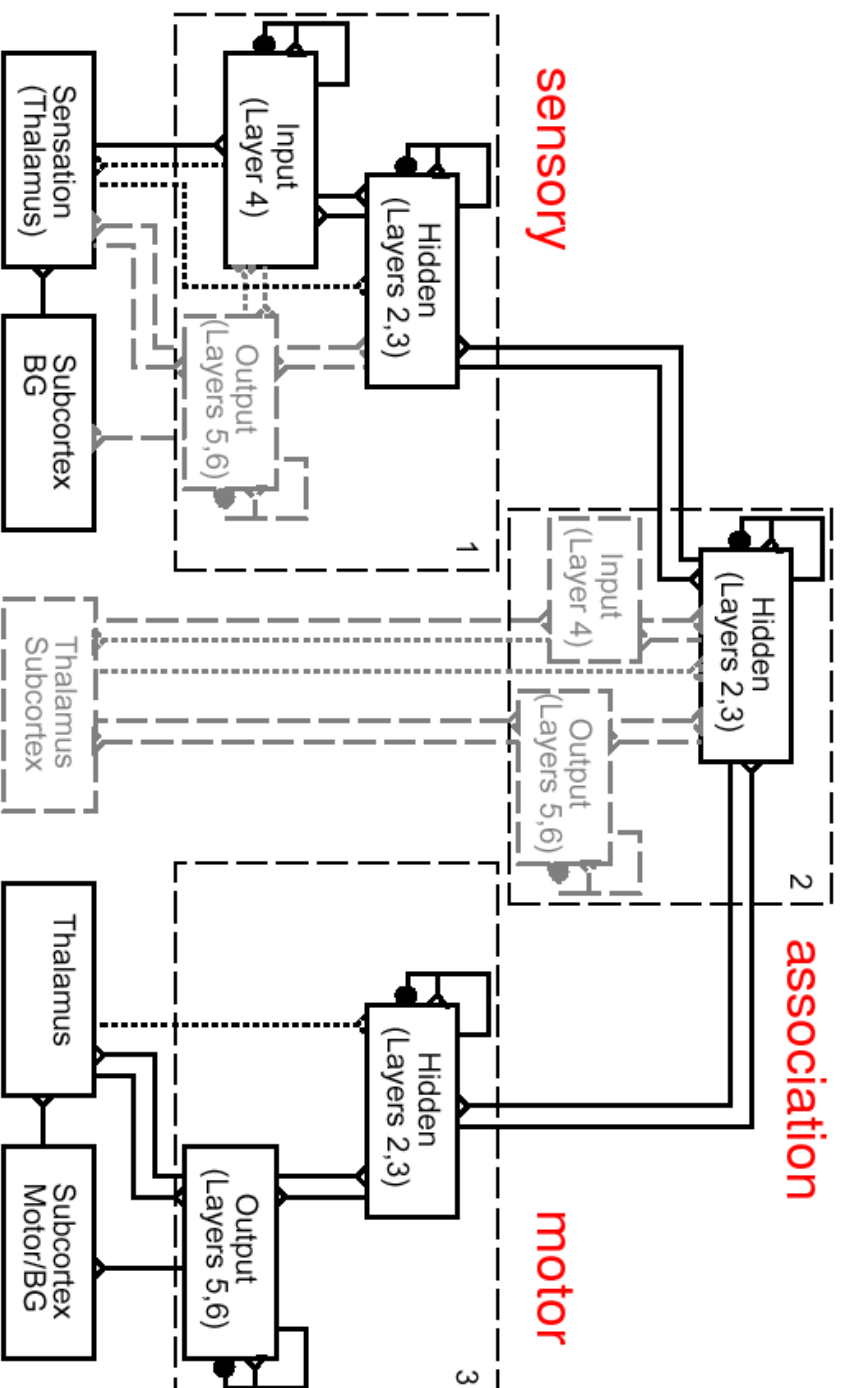


Hidden layer transforms input-output mappings

*More hidden layers → richer transformations*

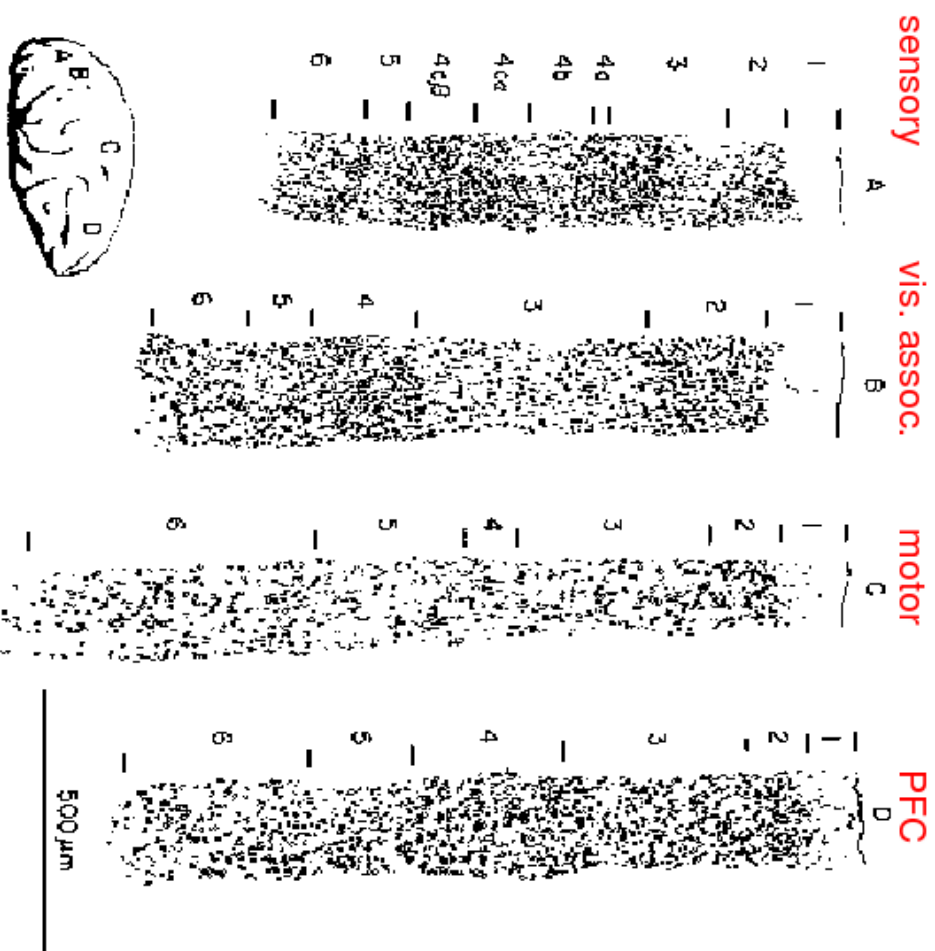
*→ less reflex-like... smarter? more "free"?*

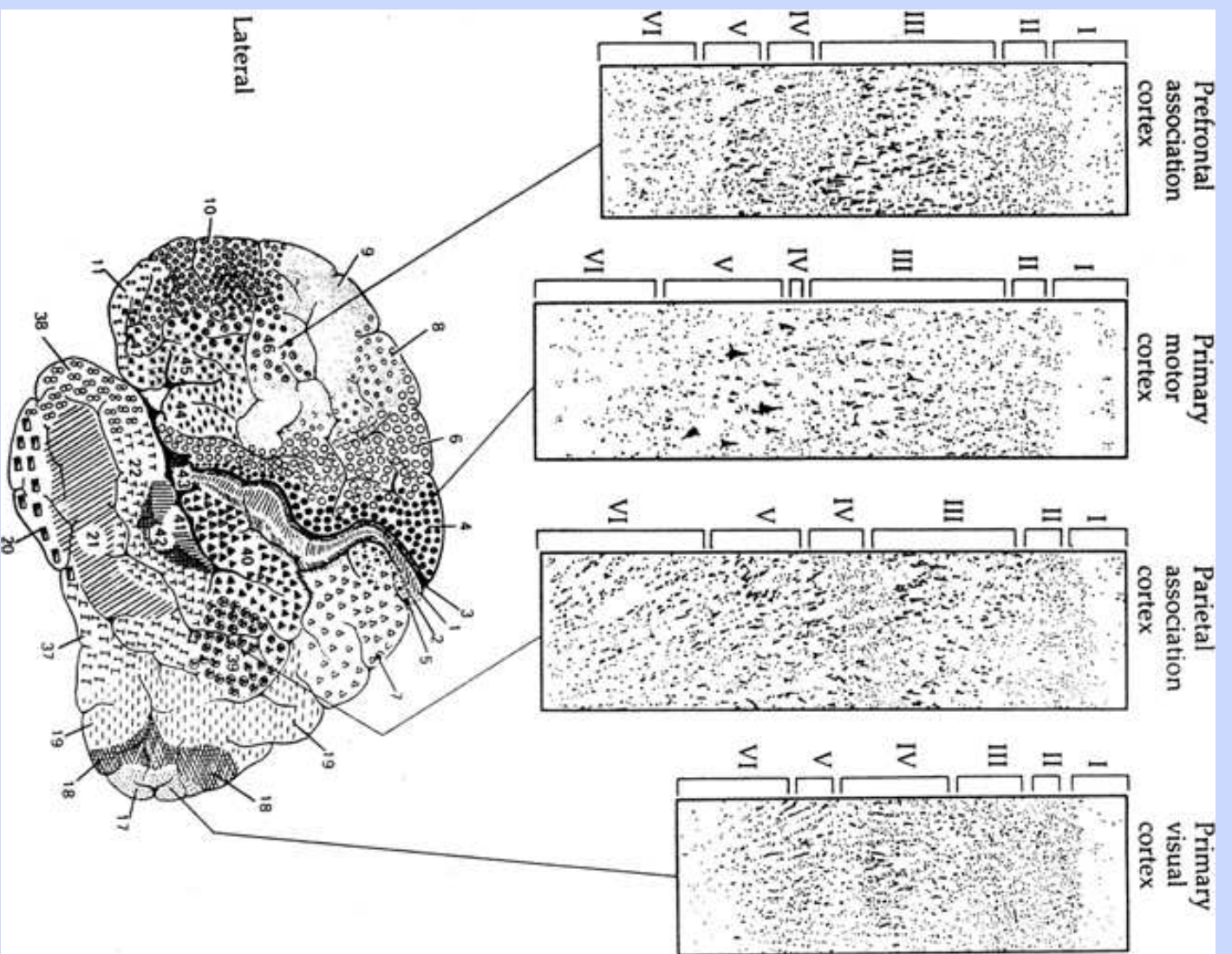
# Area Structure of Cortex





# Area Structure of Cortex

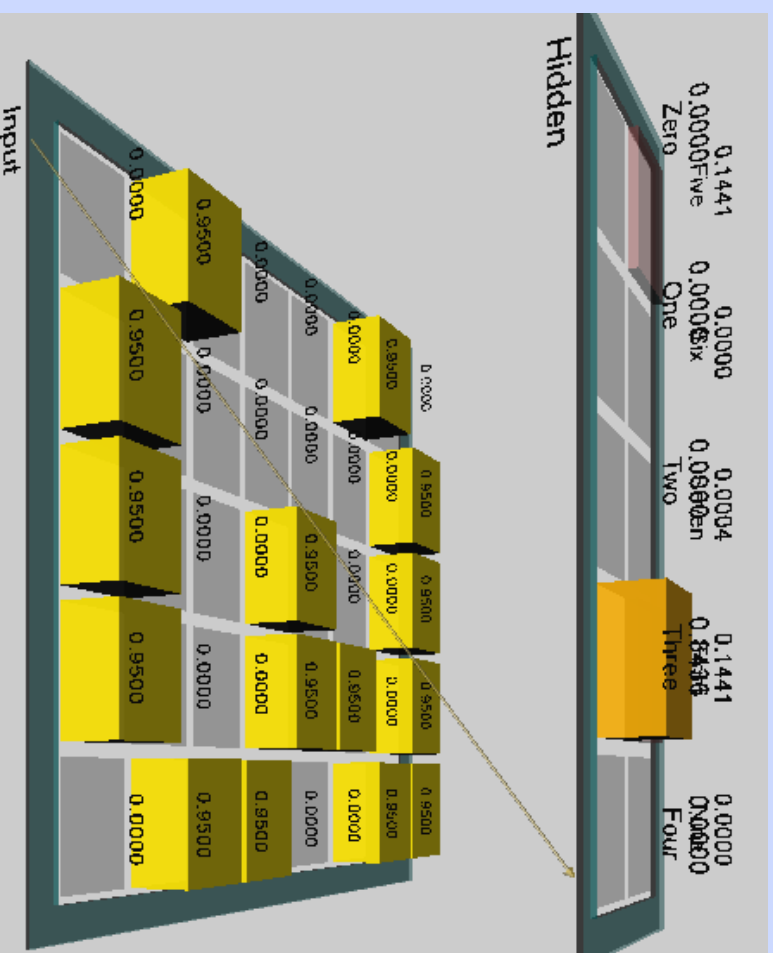




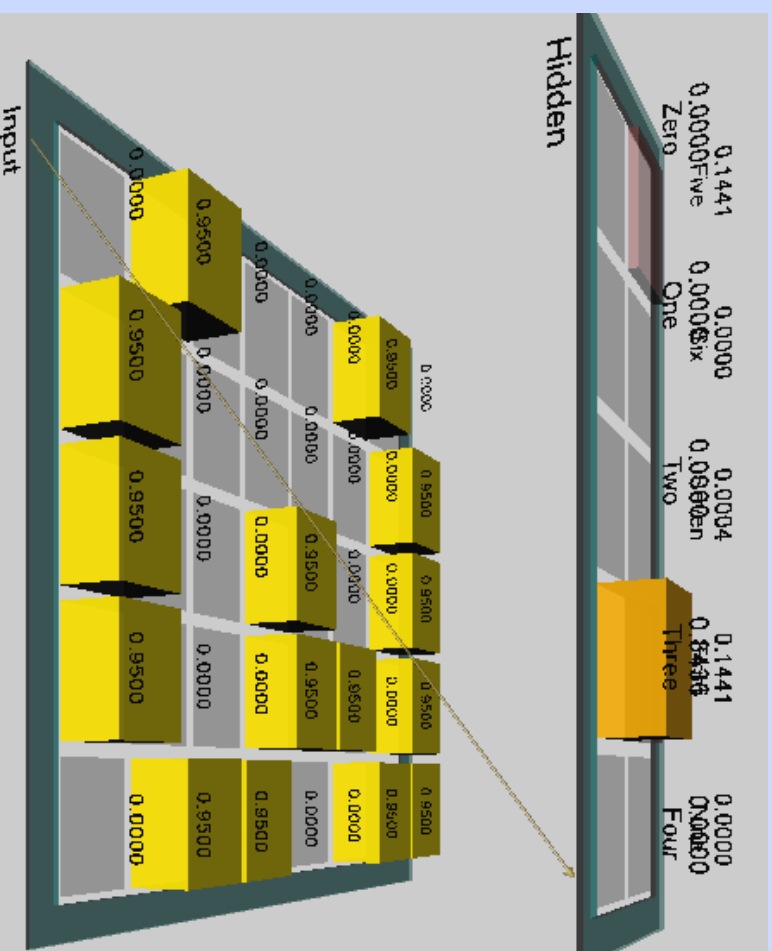
# Networks

1. Biology: Cortical layers and neurons
2. Excitation:
  - Unidirectional (transformations)
  - Bidirectional (pattern completion, amplification)
3. Inhibition: Controlling bidirectional excitation.
4. Constraint Satisfaction: Putting it all together.

# Excitation (Unidirectional): Transformations

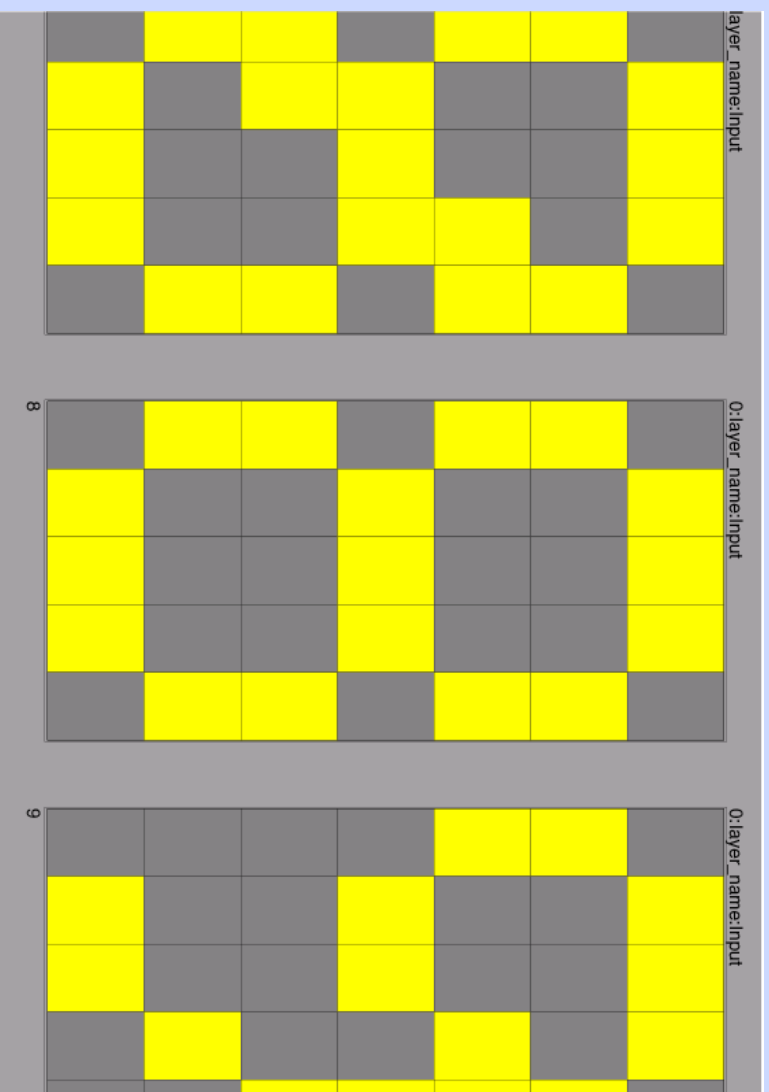


# Excitation (Unidirectional): Transformations



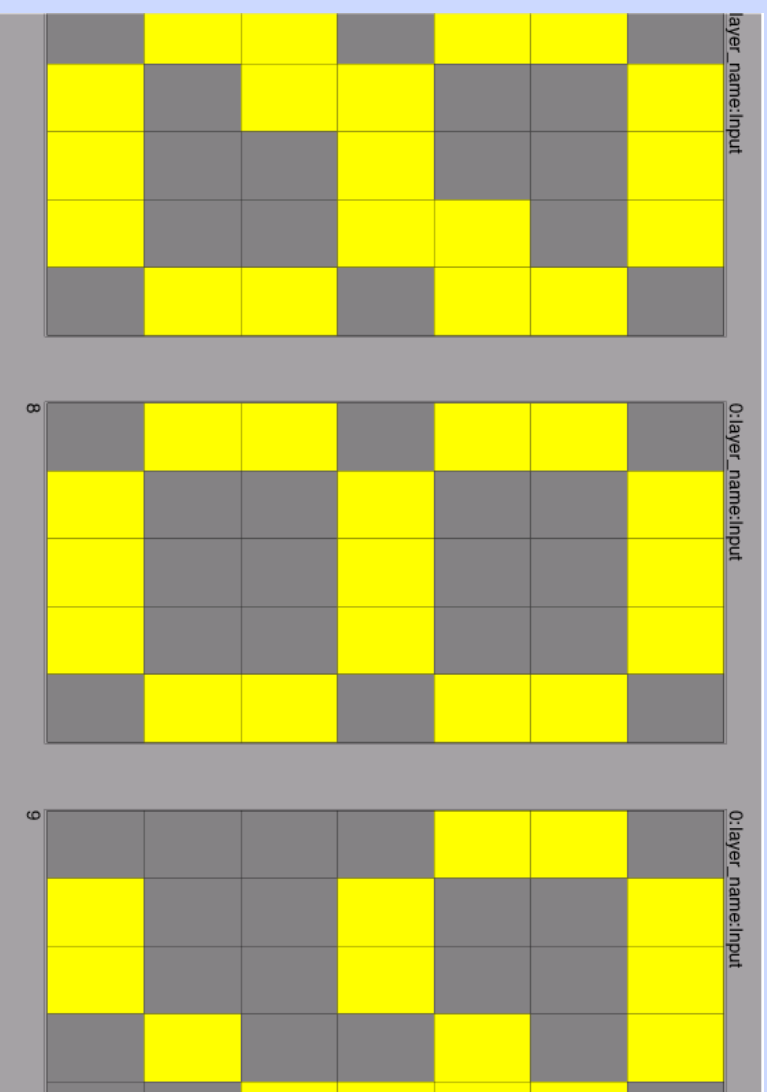
- Detectors work in parallel to *transform* input activity pattern to hidden activity pattern.

# Excitation (Unidirectional): Transformations



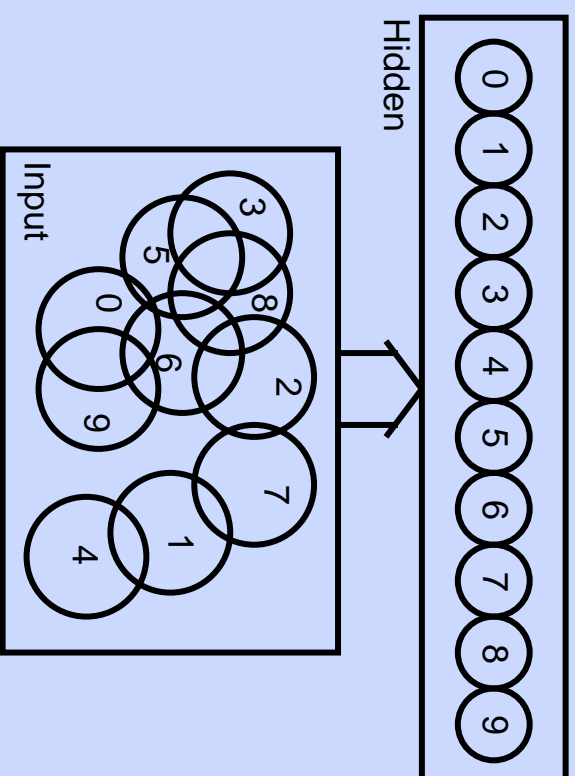
- Emphasizes some distinctions, collapses across others.

## Excitation (Unidirectional): Transformations



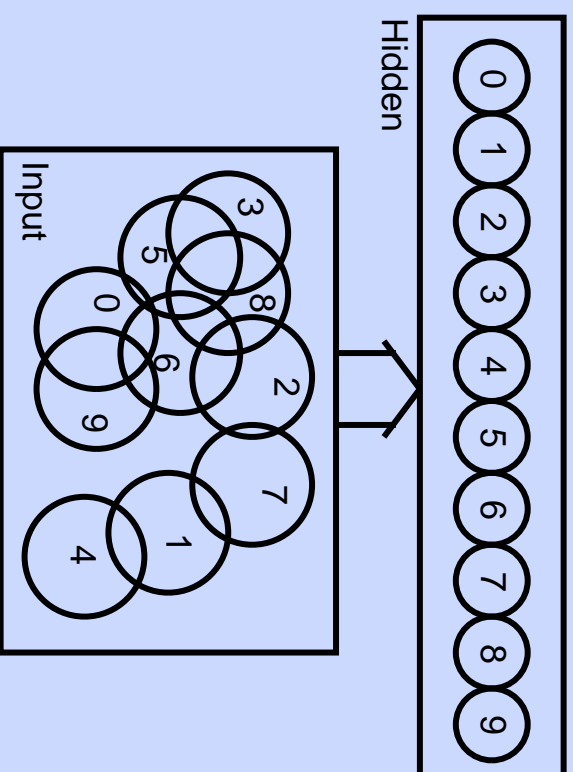
- Emphasizes some distinctions, collapses across others.
- Function of what detectors detect (and what they ignore).

# Emphasizing / Collapsing Distinctions





# Emphasizing / Collapsing Distinctions



Other (more interesting) examples?...

[transform.proj]

digit detectors:

- tested with noisy digits
- tested with letters

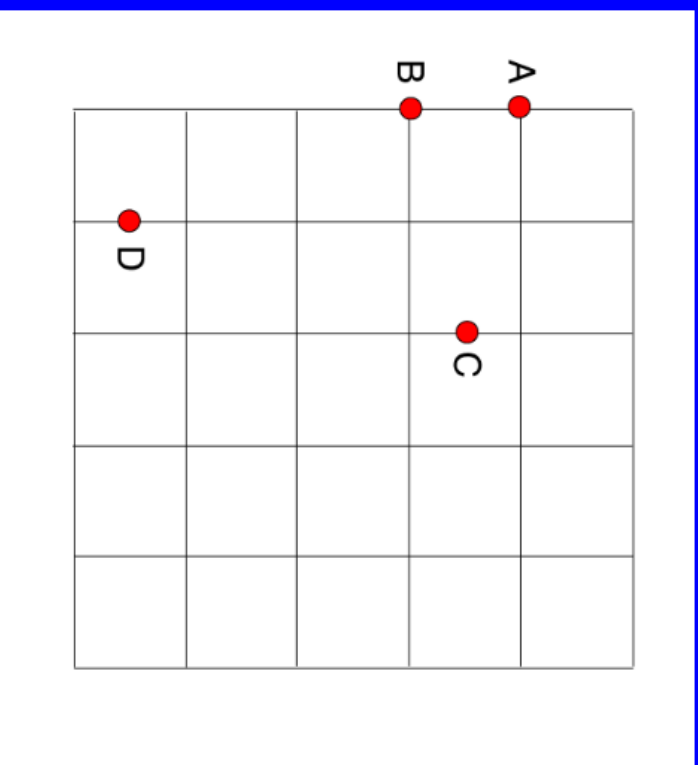
## Cluster Plots

- Cluster plots provide a means of visualizing similarity relationships between patterns of activity in a network
- Cluster plots are constructed based on the **distances** between patterns of activity
- **Euclidean distance** = sum (across all units) of the squared difference in activation

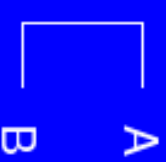
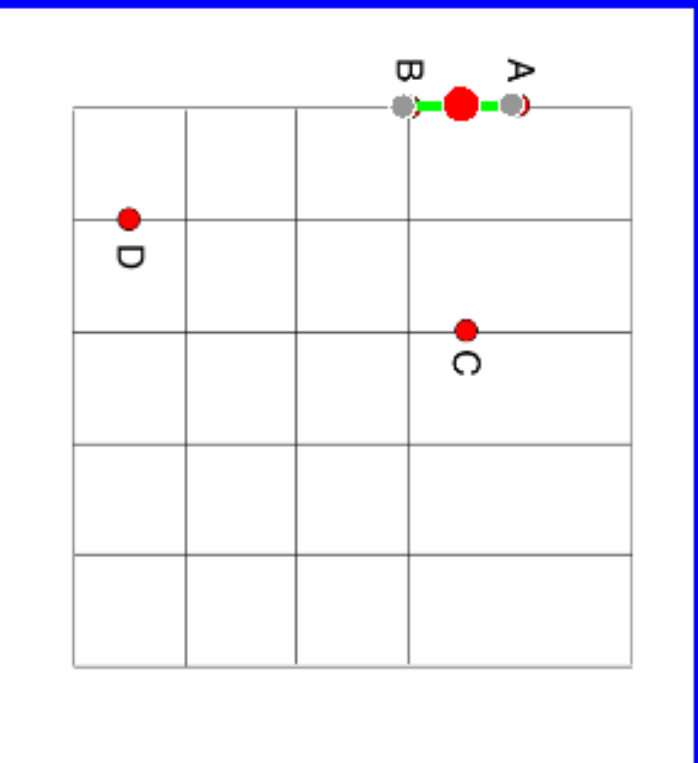
$$d = \sqrt{\sum_i (x_i - y_i)^2} \quad (1)$$

- Example...

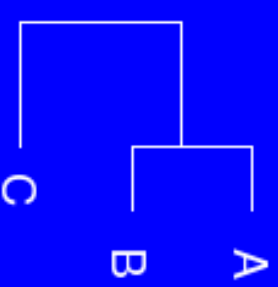
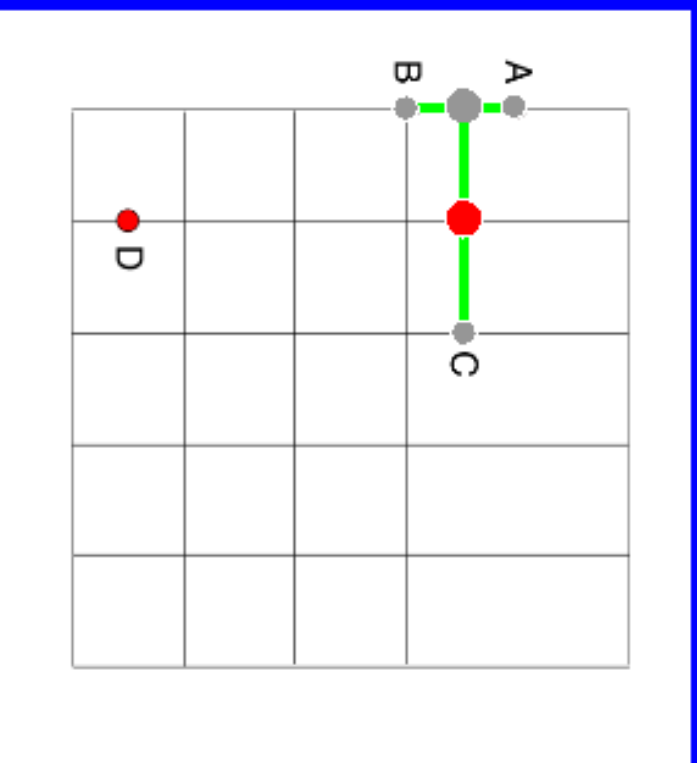
# Making Friends With Cluster Plots



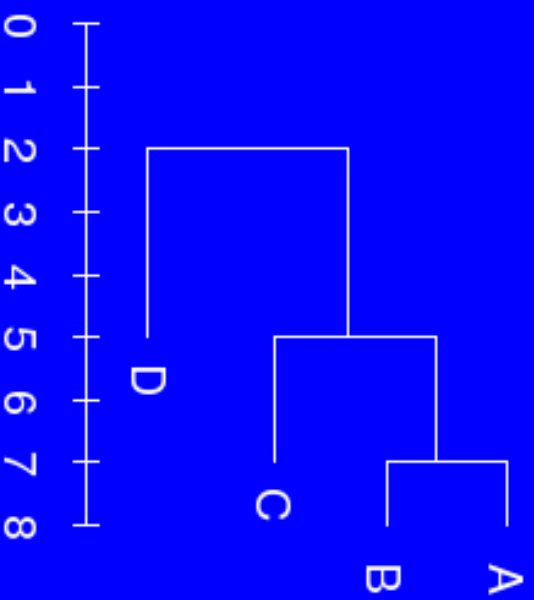
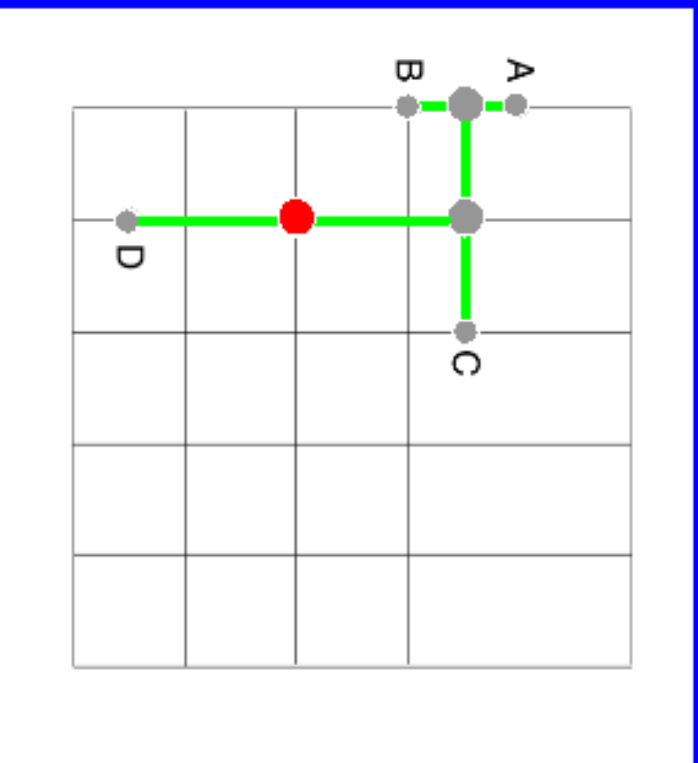
# Making Friends With Cluster Plots



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# Making Friends With Cluster Plots

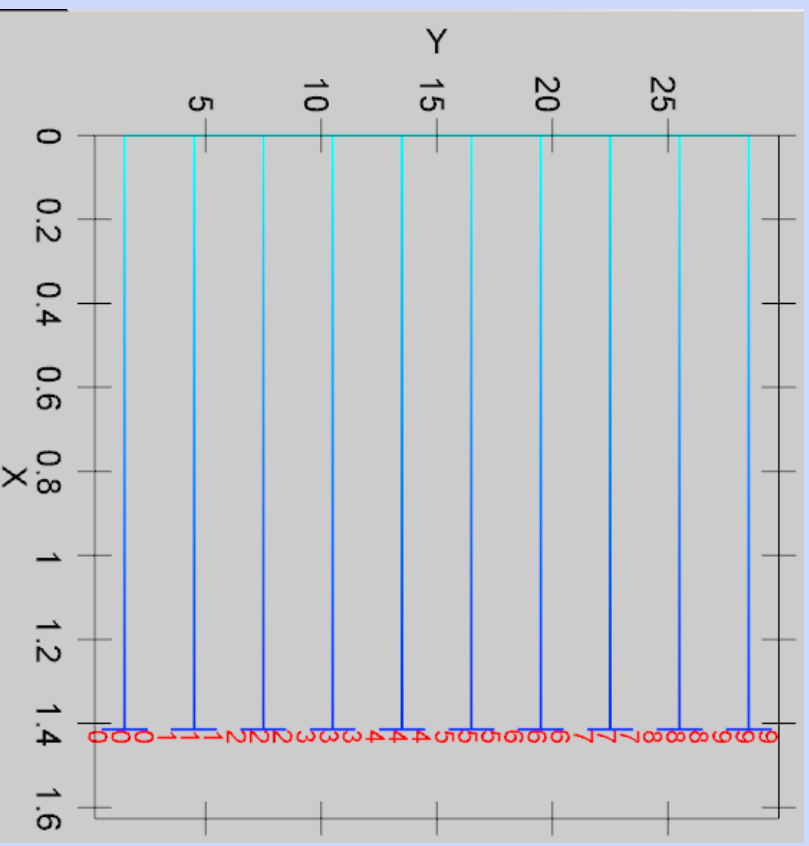
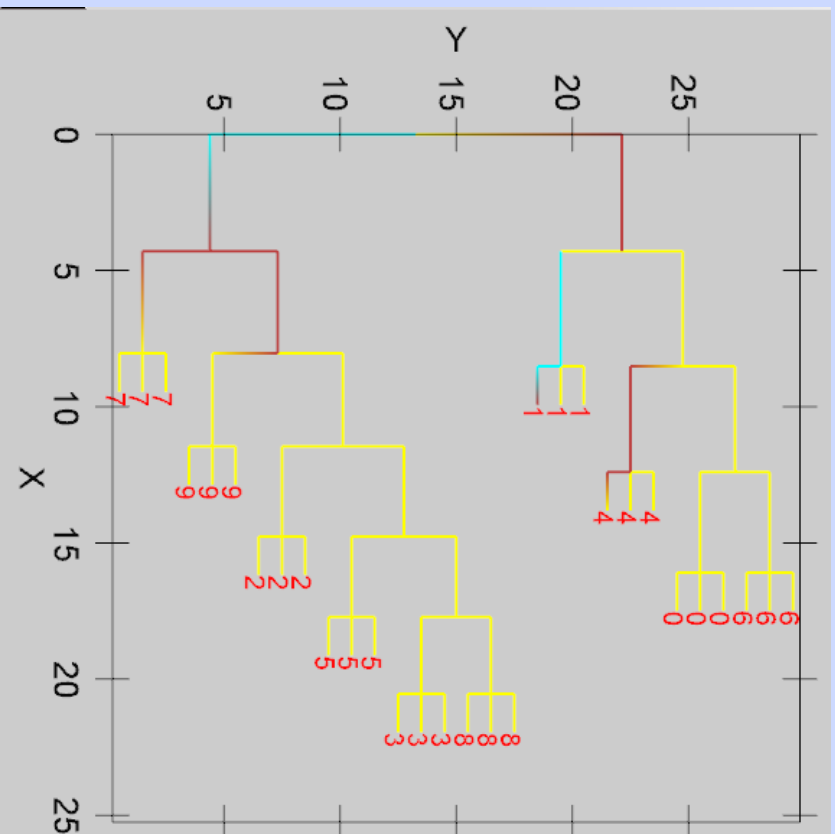


[transform.proj]

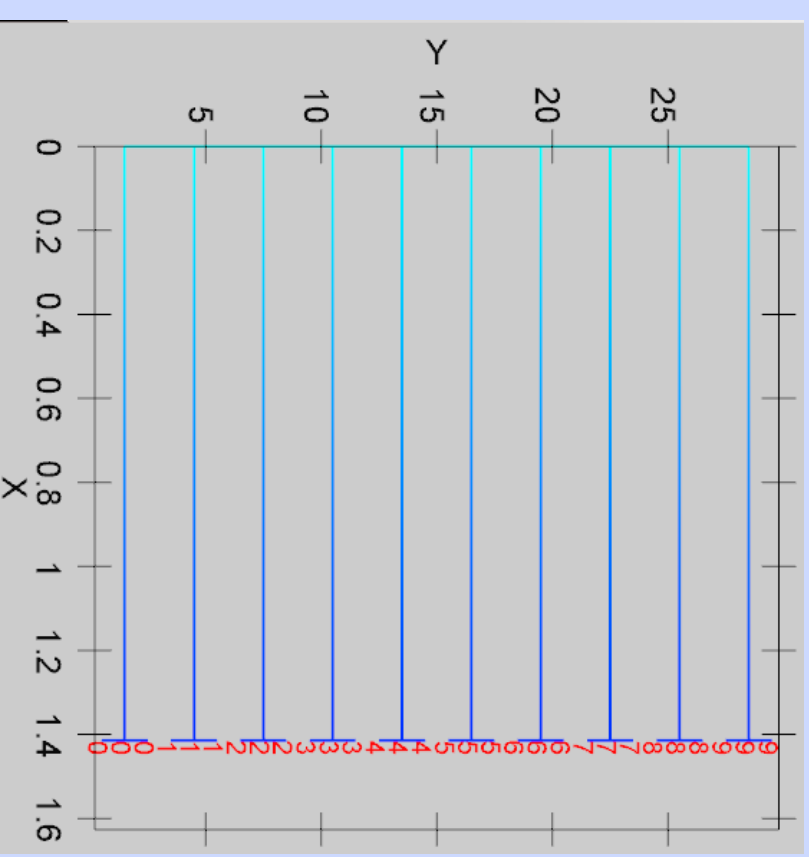
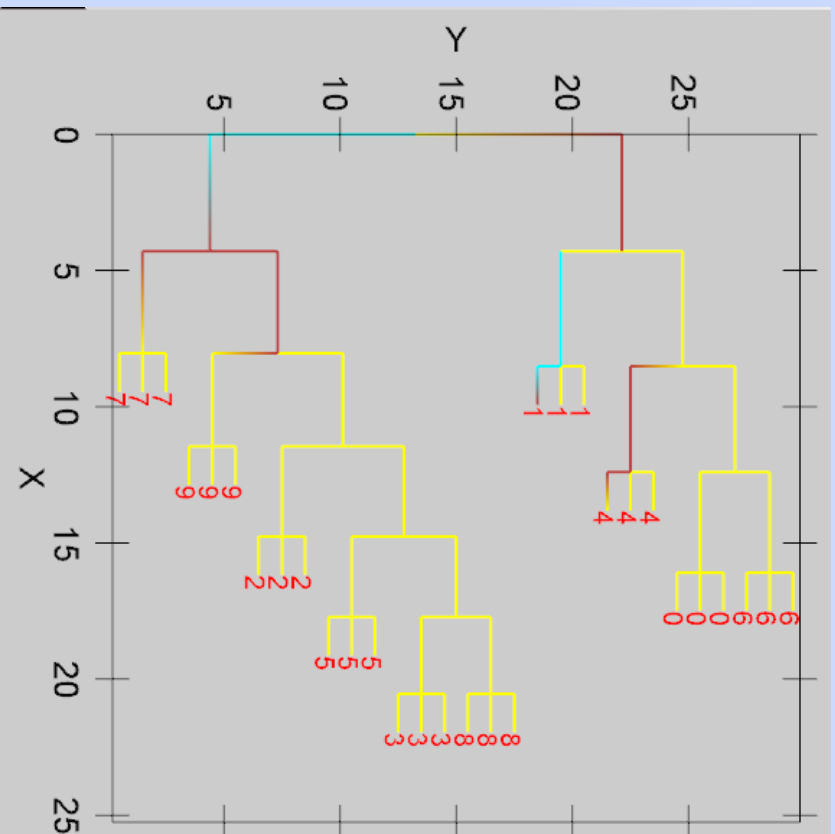
cluster plots (digits, noisy digits, hidden).



# Emphasizing/Collapsing Distinctions: Categorization

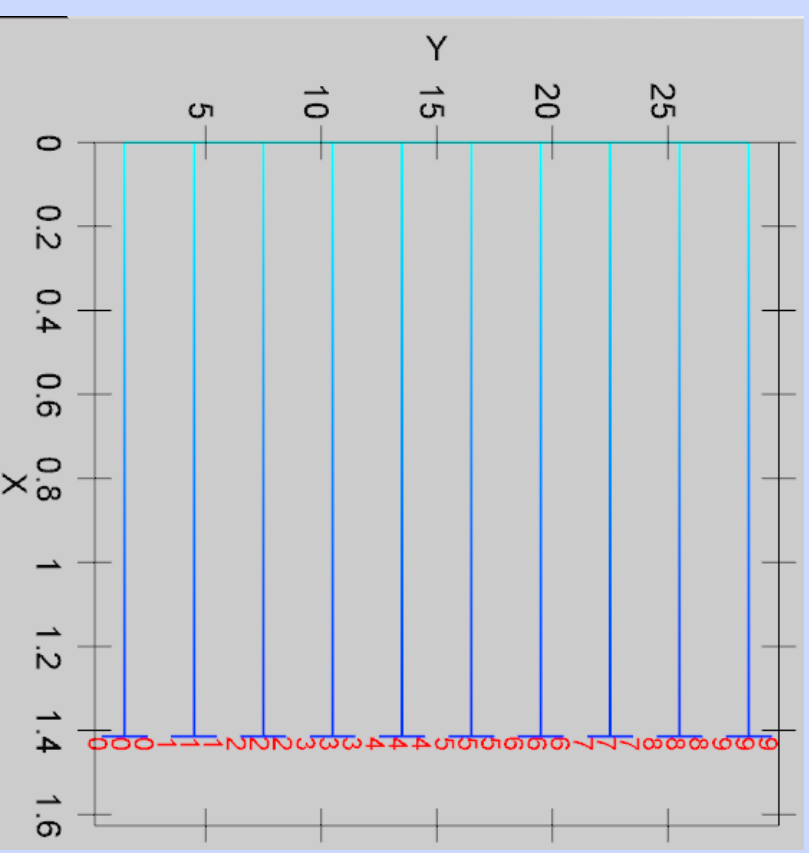
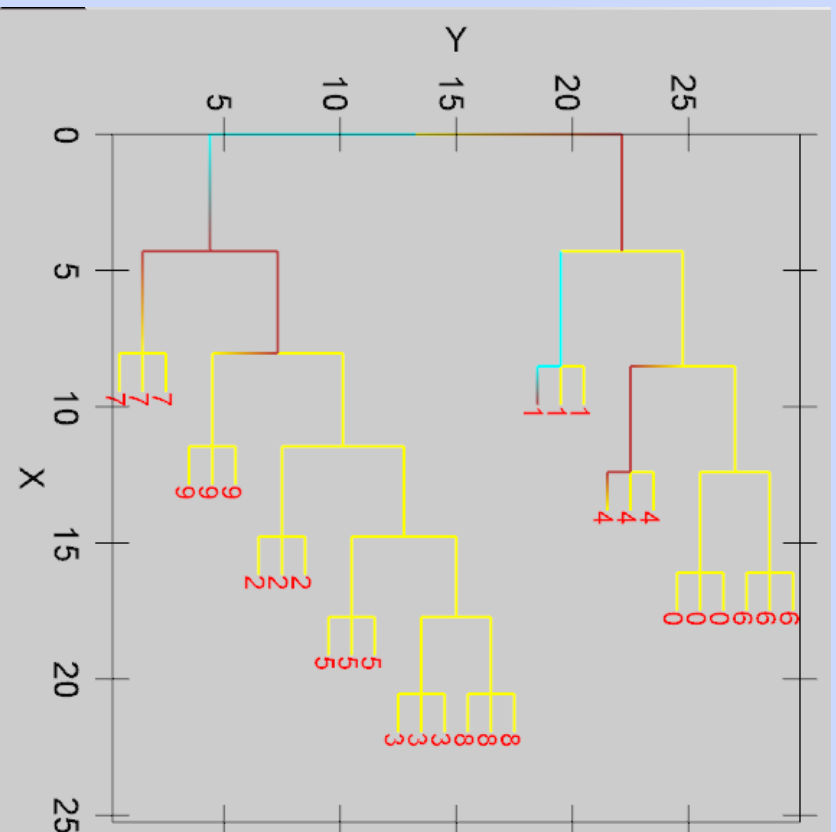


# Emphasizing/Collapsing Distinctions: Categorization



Emphasize distinctions: digits separated, even though they have perceptual overlap.

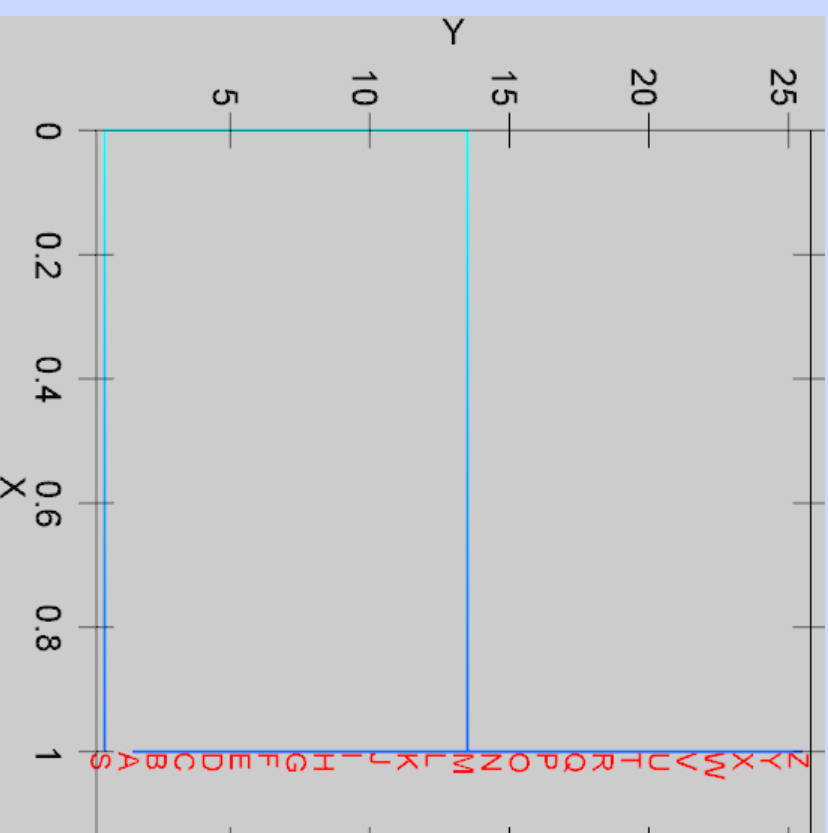
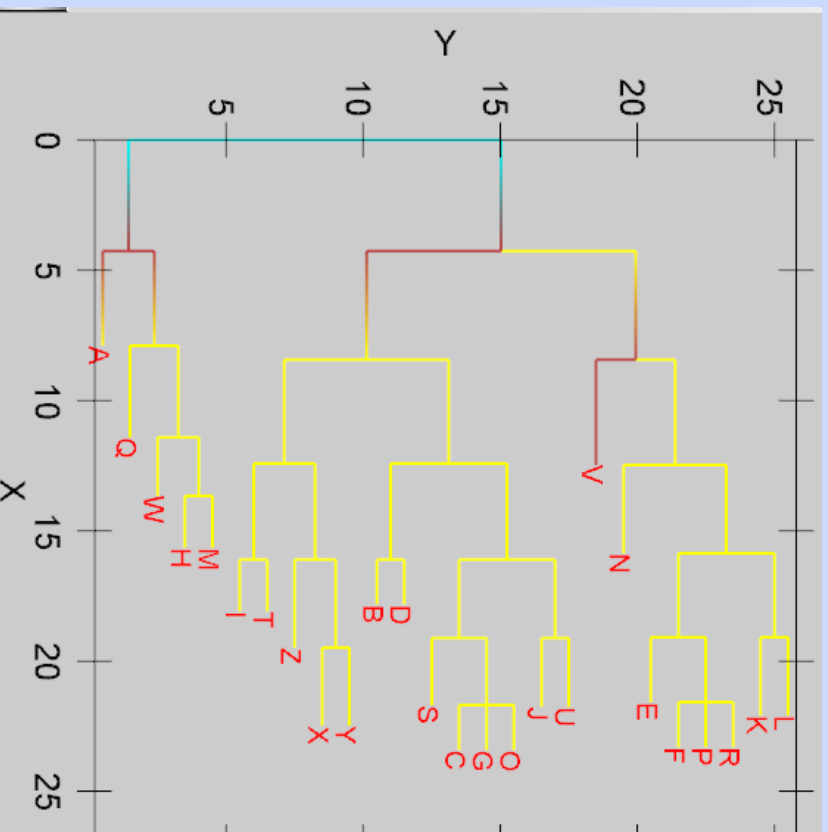
# Emphasizing/Collapsing Distinctions: Categorization



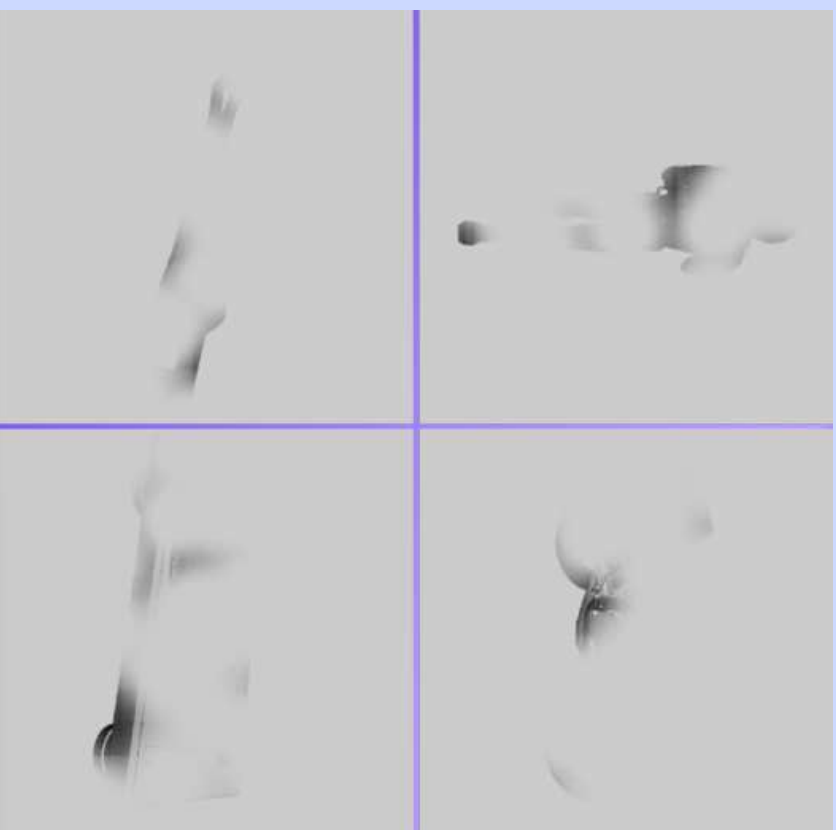
Emphasize distinctions: digits separated, even though they have perceptual overlap.

Collapse distinctions: Noisy digits categorized as same, even though they have perceptual differences.

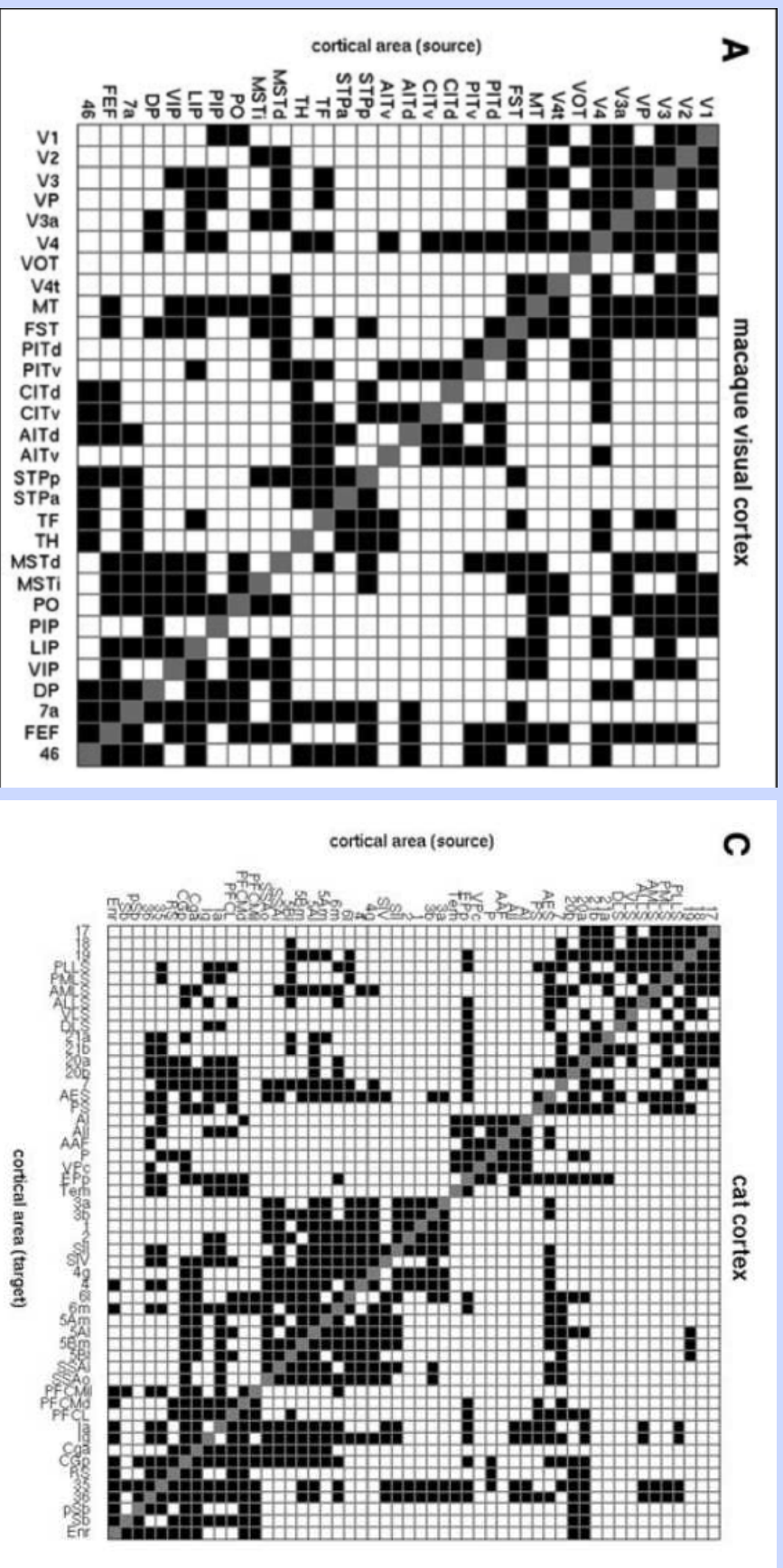
# Detectors are Dedicated, Content-Specific



What are these??

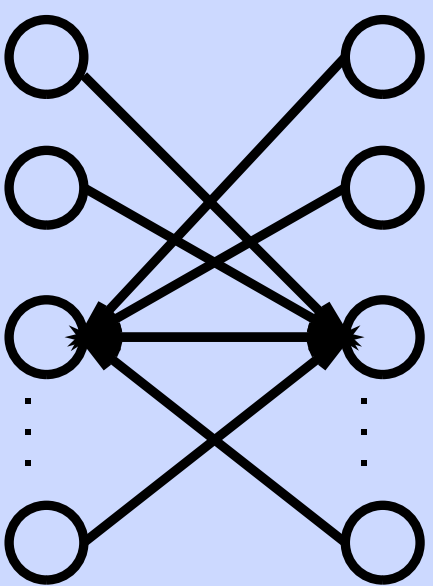


# Networks: Bidirectional Connectivity

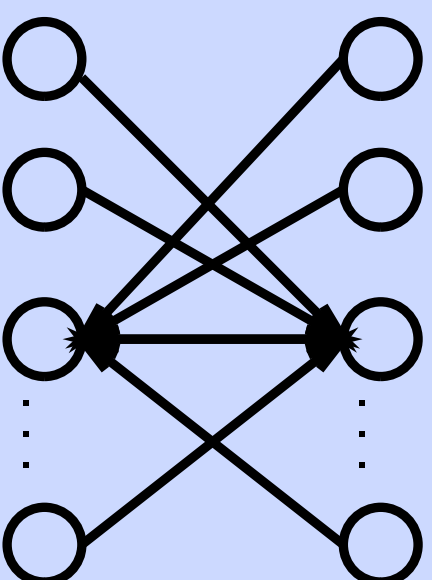


connectivity matrices

## Networks: Bidirectional Excitation



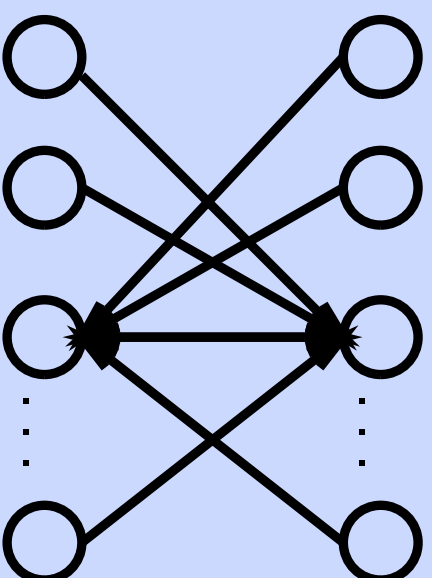
## Networks: Bidirectional Excitation



1. Top-down expectations about low-level features.

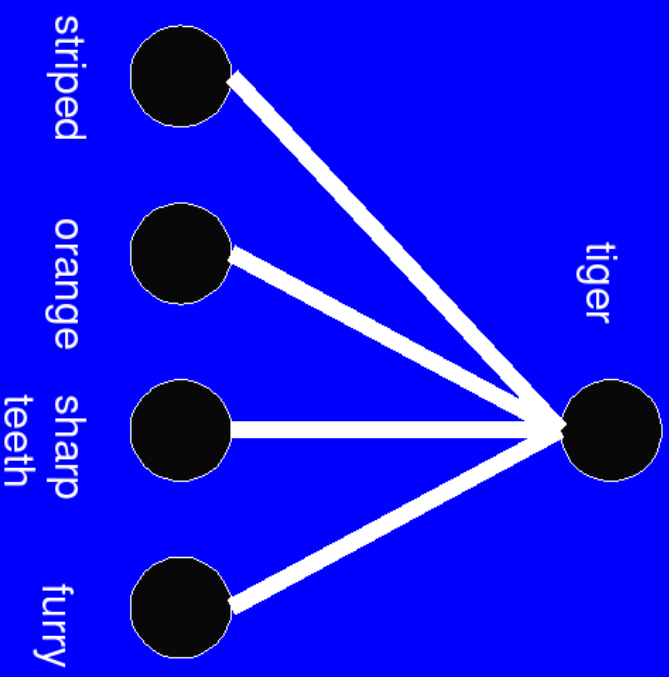


## Networks: Bidirectional Excitation

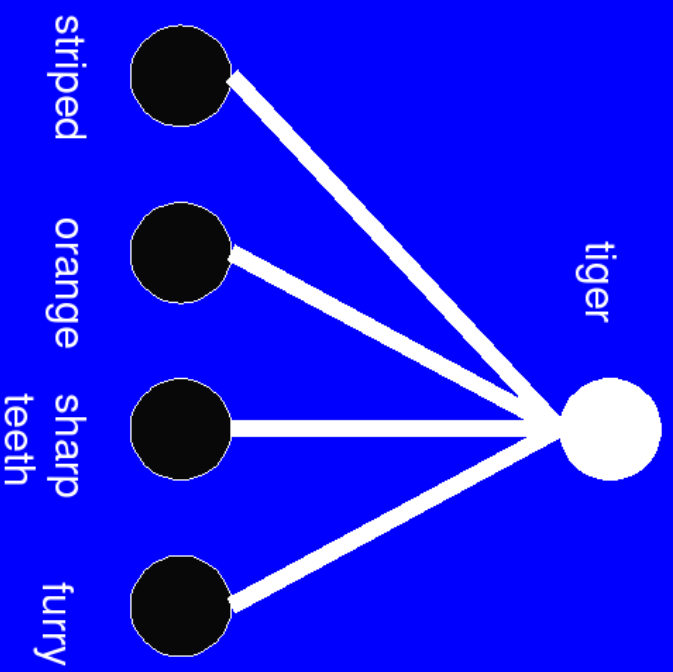


1. Top-down expectations about low-level features.
2. Pattern completion.

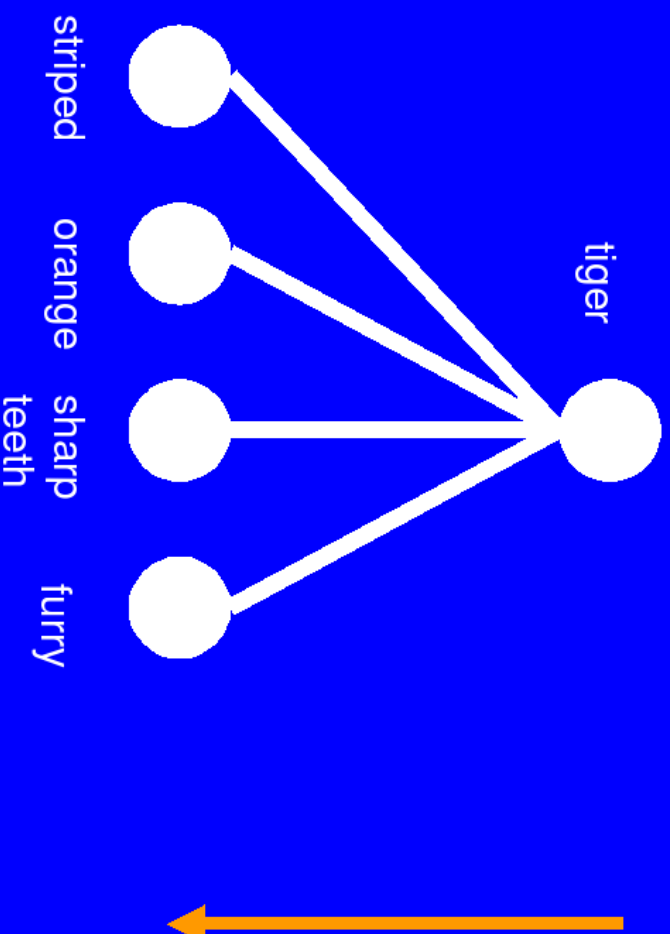
# Top-Down Processing (Imagery)



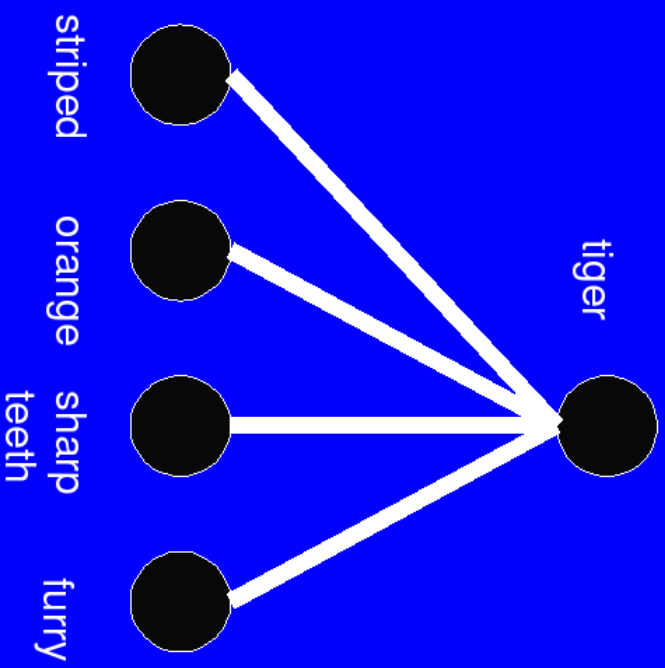
# Top-Down Processing (Imagery)



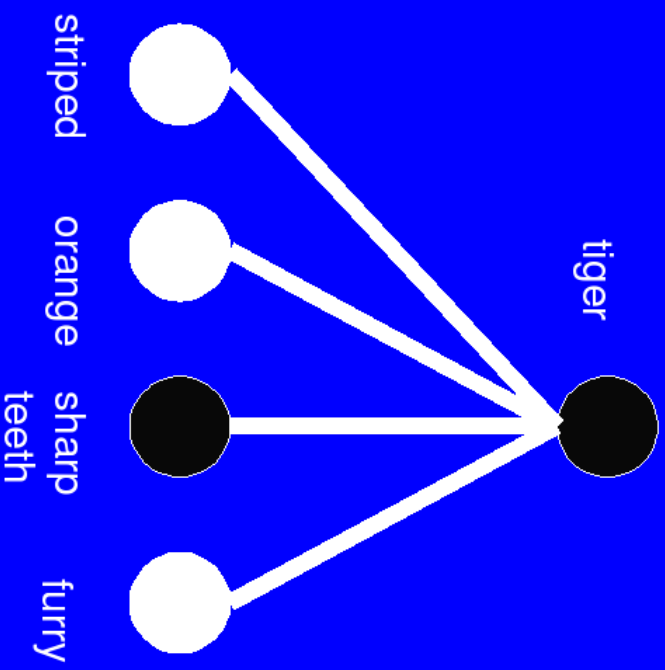
# Top-Down Processing (Imagery)



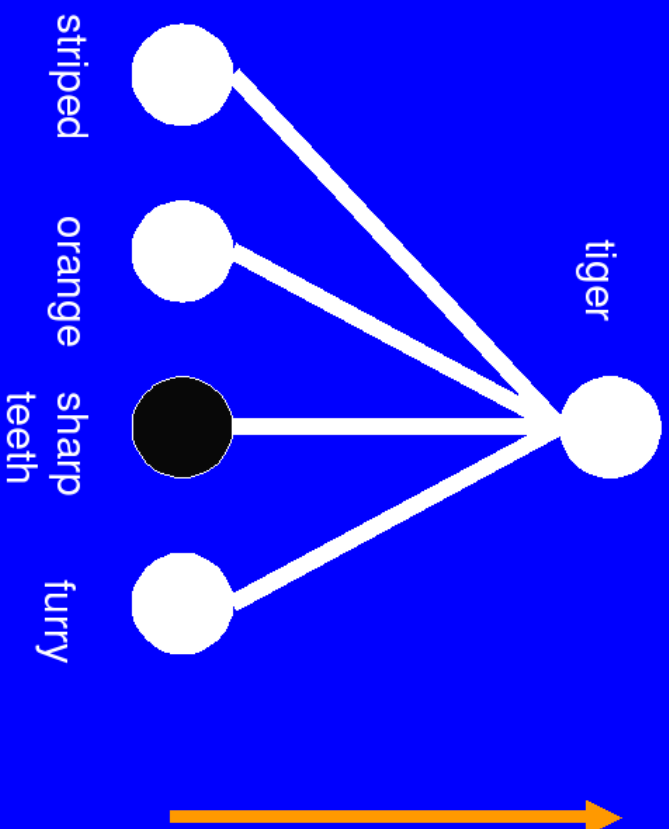
# Pattern Completion



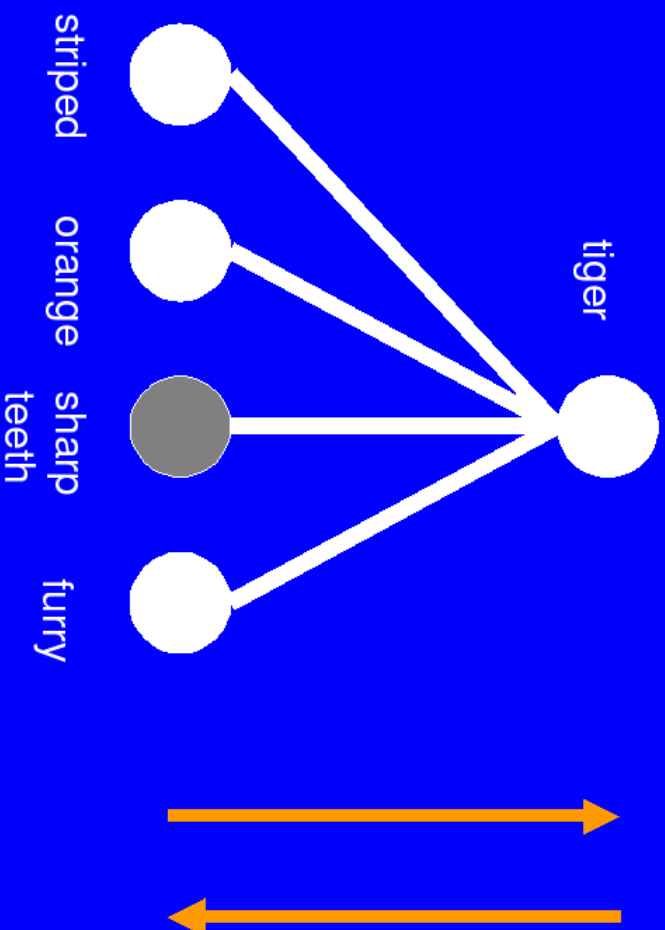
# Pattern Completion



# Pattern Completion



# Pattern Completion





[face\_categ.proj]

# Word Superiority Effect: Top-Down Amplification

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Identify second letter in:

NEST (faster)

DEST (slower)

## Word Superiority Effect: Top-Down Amplification

Identify second letter in:

NEST (faster)

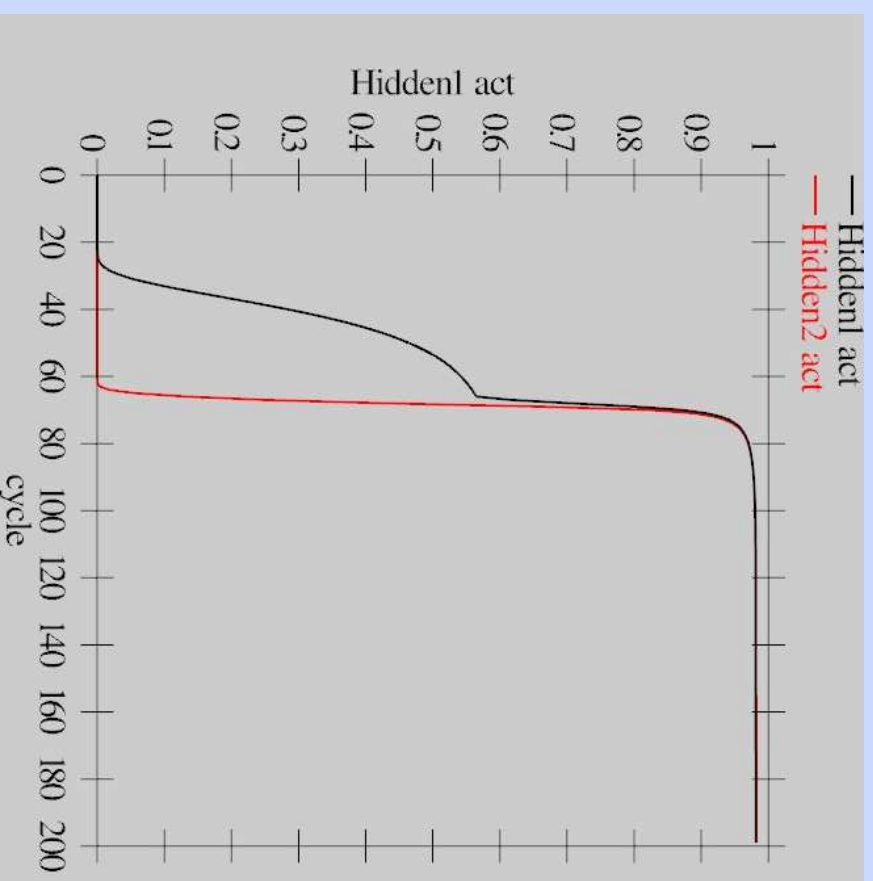
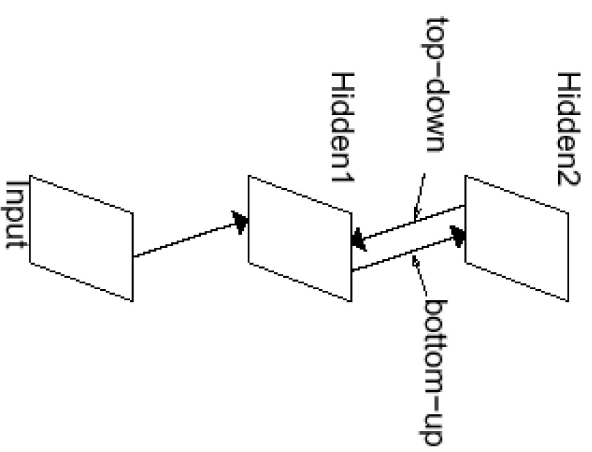
DEST (slower)

Weird! You have to recognize the letter before you can recognize the word, so how can the word help letter recognition?

[amp\_topdown.proj]

[amp\_topdown.proj]

## Amplification



# Application to Word Superiority Effect

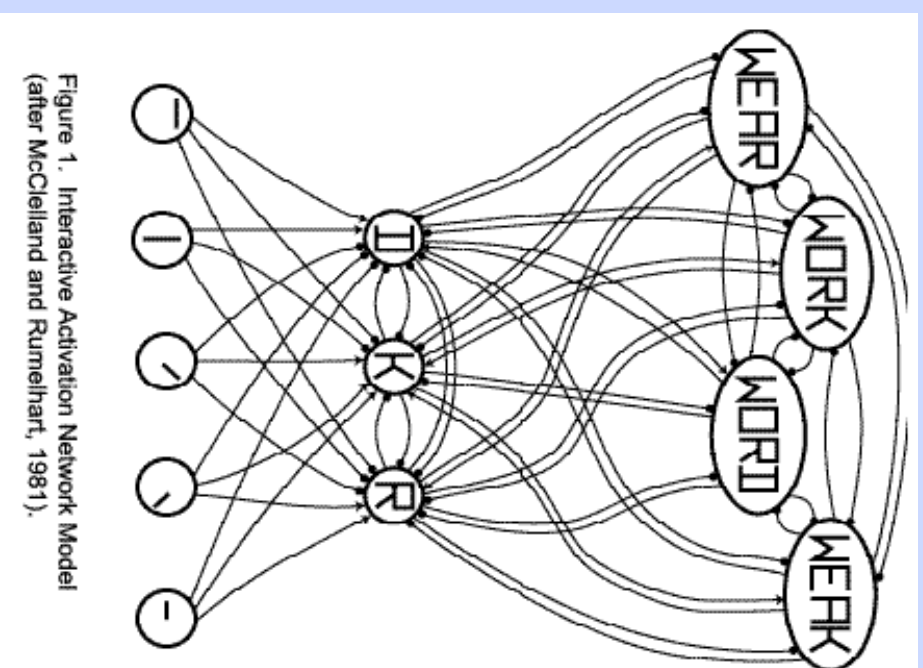
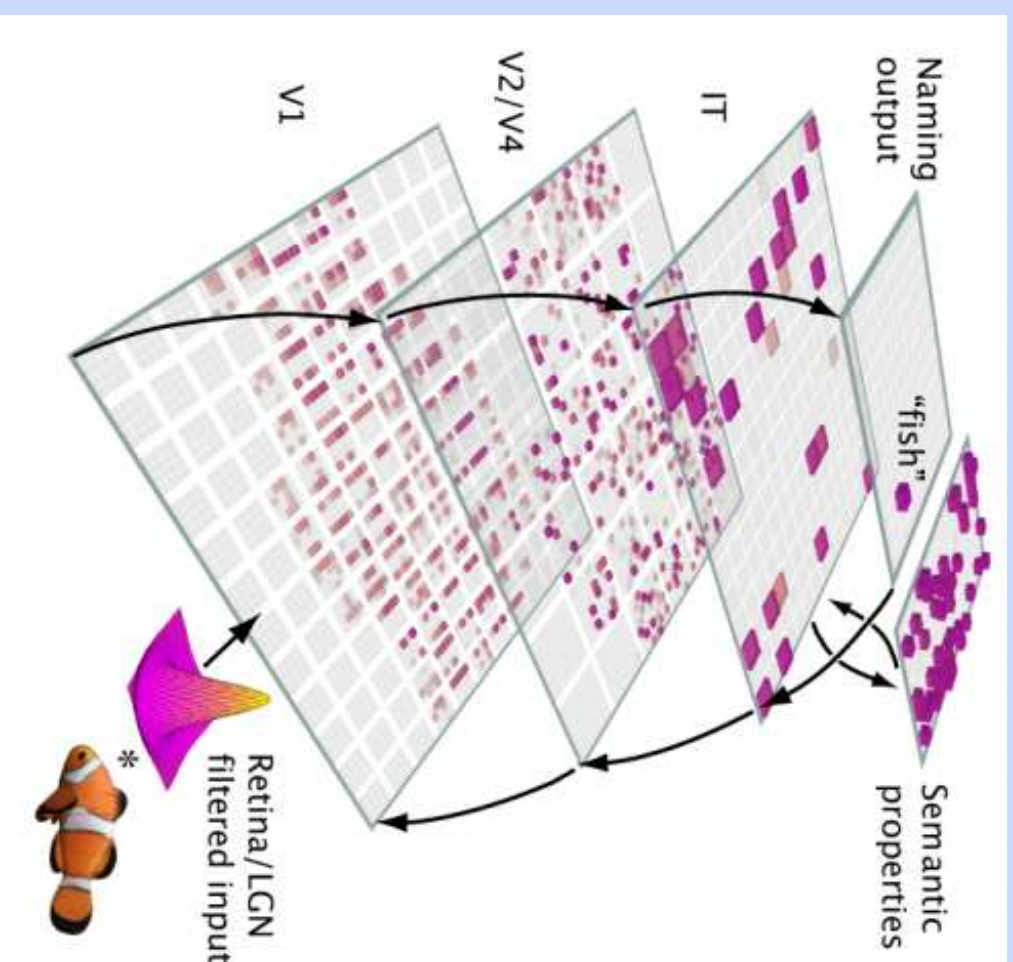


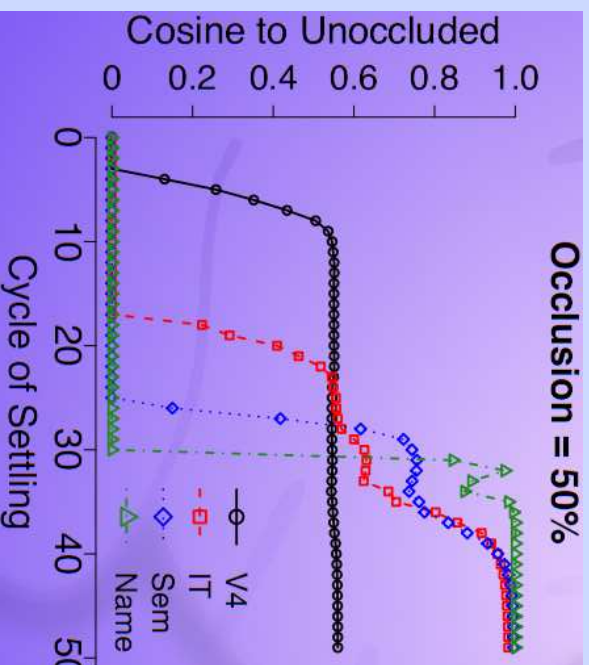
Figure 1. Interactive Activation Network Model (after McClelland and Rumelhart, 1981).

# Bigger network model (details later)

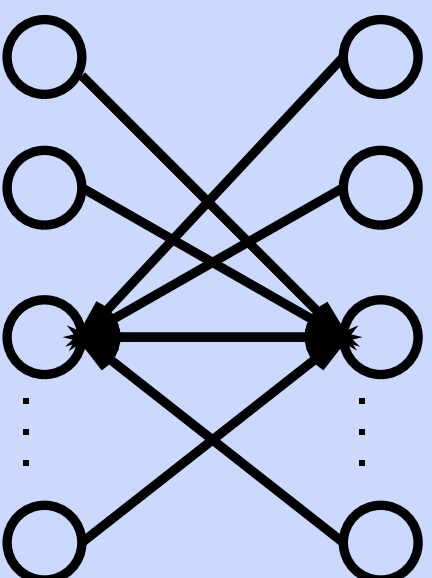




# Bidirectional Dynamics

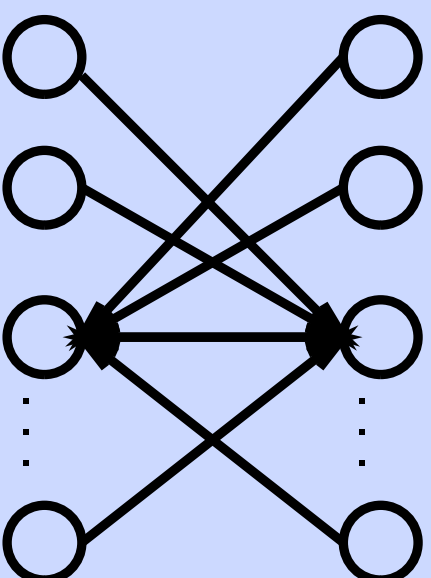


## Networks: Bidirectional Excitation



1. Top-down processing (“imagery”).
2. Pattern completion.
3. Amplification/bootstrapping.

## Networks: Bidirectional Excitation



1. Top-down processing (“imagery”).
2. Pattern completion.
3. Amplification/bootstrapping.
4. Need inhibition!

# Localist vs. Distributed Representations

## Localist vs. Distributed Representations

- Localist = 1 unit responds to 1 thing (e.g., digits, grandmother cell).

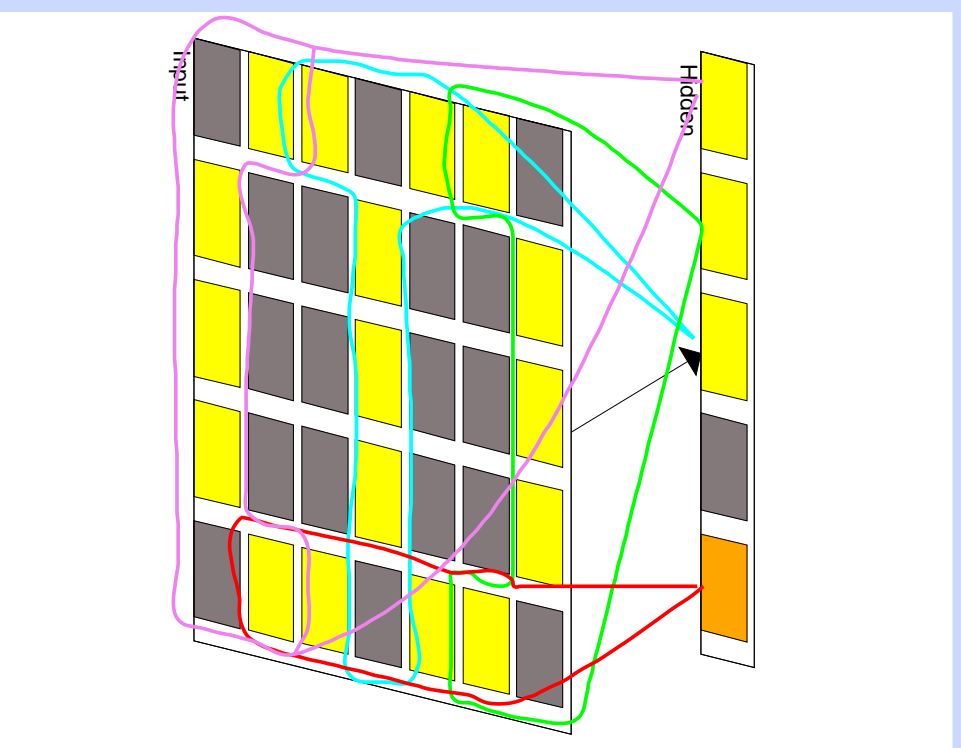
## Localist vs. Distributed Representations

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- Distributed = Many units respond to 1 thing, one unit responds to many things.

## Localist vs. Distributed Representations

- Localist = 1 unit responds to 1 thing (e.g., digits, grandmother cell).
- Distributed = Many units respond to 1 thing, one unit responds to many things.
- With distributed representations, units correspond to stimulus *features* as opposed to complete stimuli

# Digits With Distributed Representations





# Advantages of Distributed Representations

**Efficiency:** Fewer Units Required

# Advantages of Distributed Representations

## **Efficiency:** Fewer Units Required

The digits network can represent 10 digits using 5 “feature” units

Each digit is a unique combination of the 5 features, e.g.,

“0” = feature 3

“1” = features 1, 4

“2” = features 1, 2

“3” = features 1, 2, 5

“4” = features 3, 4

“5” = features 1, 2, 3

There are 32 unique ways to combine 5 features

There are > 1 million unique ways to combine 20 features

# Advantages of Distributed Representations

**Similarity** and **Generalization**:

# Advantages of Distributed Representations

## **Similarity** and **Generalization**:

If you represent stimuli in terms of their constituent features, stimuli with similar features get assigned similar representations

This allows you to generalize to novel stimuli based on their similarity to previously encountered stimuli

oriole



flies

oriole



flies

oriole



Photo by: Chan Robbins

woodpecker



Photo by: Luther Goldman

localist = no generalization

flies



oriole



woodpecker





wings

beak

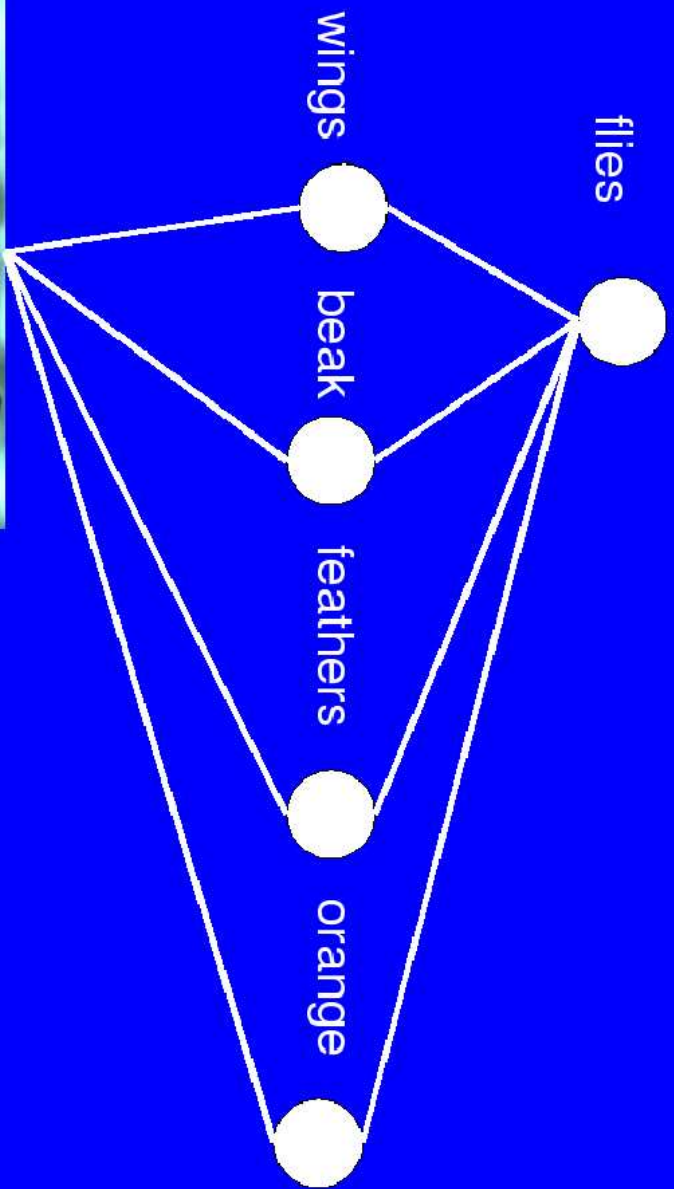
feathers

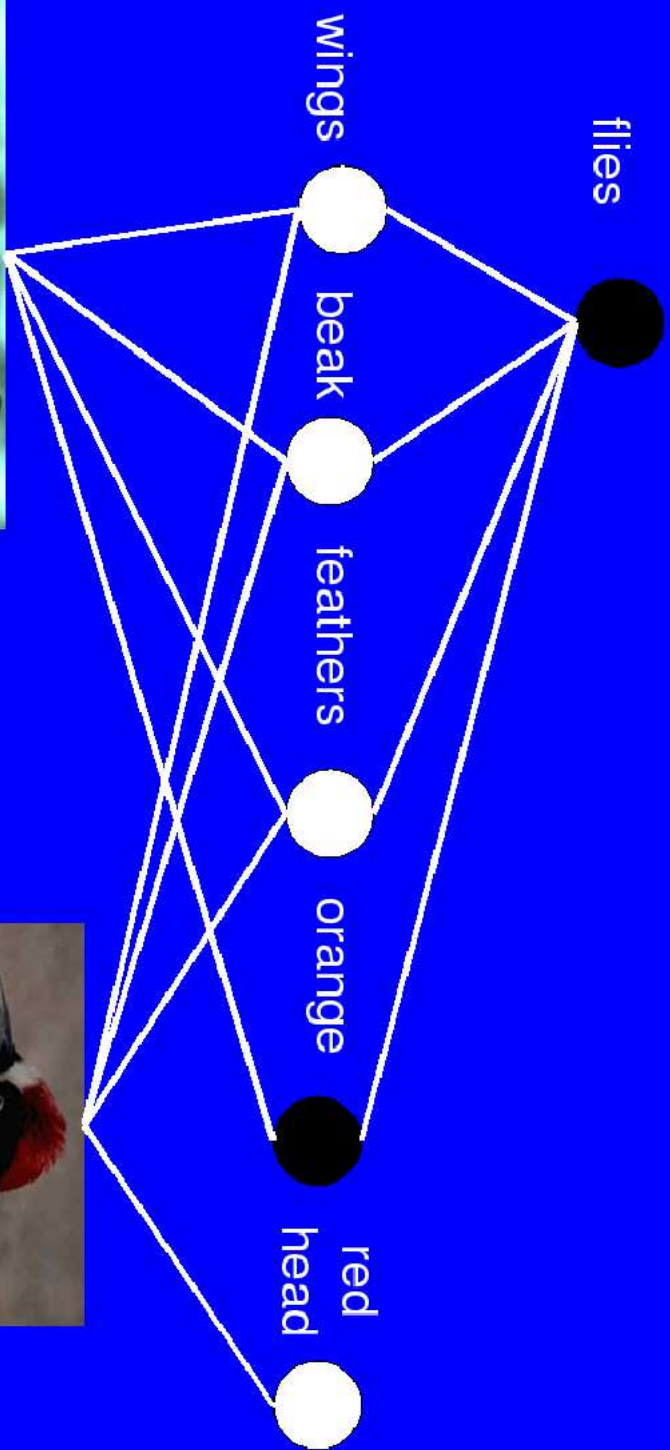
orange



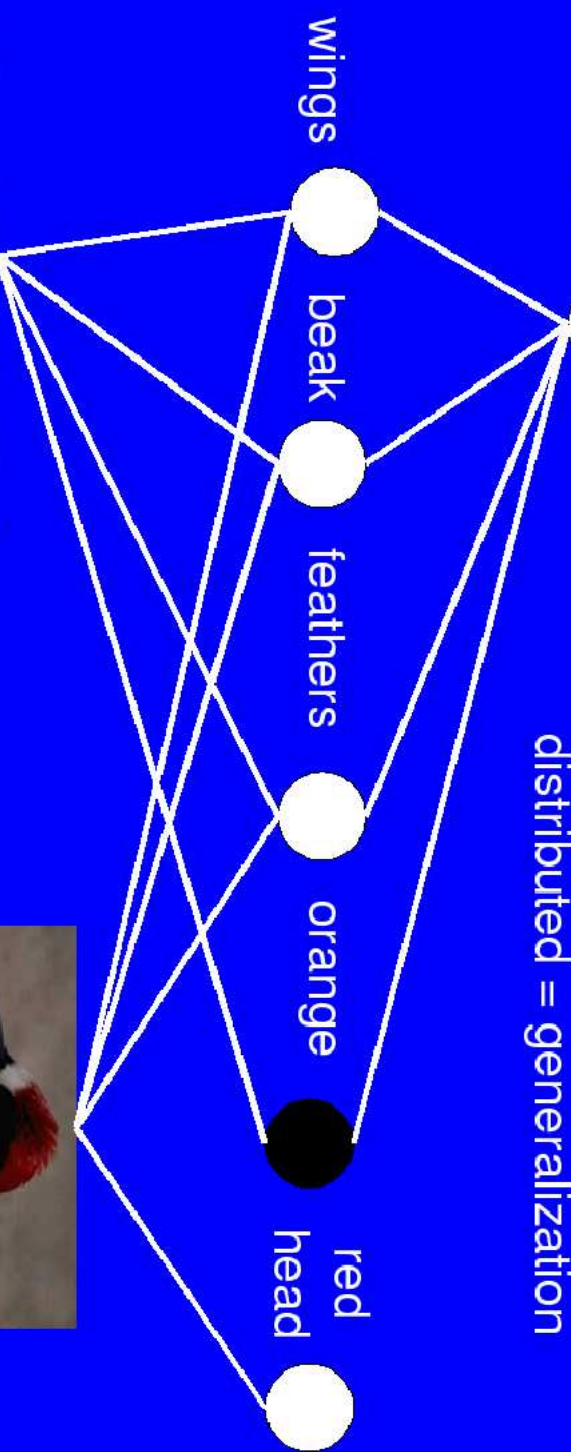


Photo by Chan Robbins





flies  
distributed = generalization



# Advantages of Distributed Representations

**Robustness (Graceful Degradation):**

## Advantages of Distributed Representations

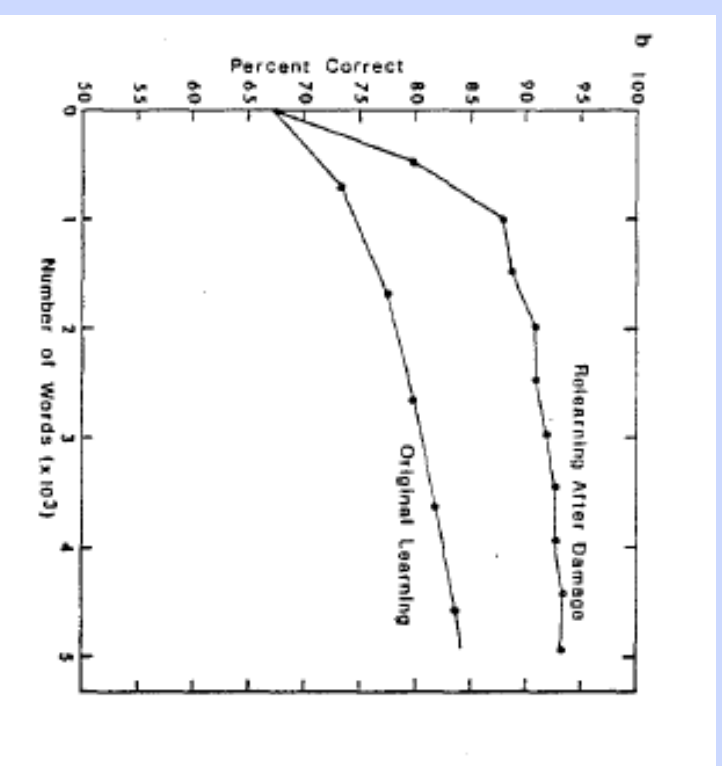
### **Robustness (Graceful Degradation):**

Damage has less of an effect on networks with distributed (vs. localist) representations

## Advantages of Distributed Representations

### Robustness (Graceful Degradation):

Damage has less of an effect on networks with distributed (vs. localist) representations



flies

oriole





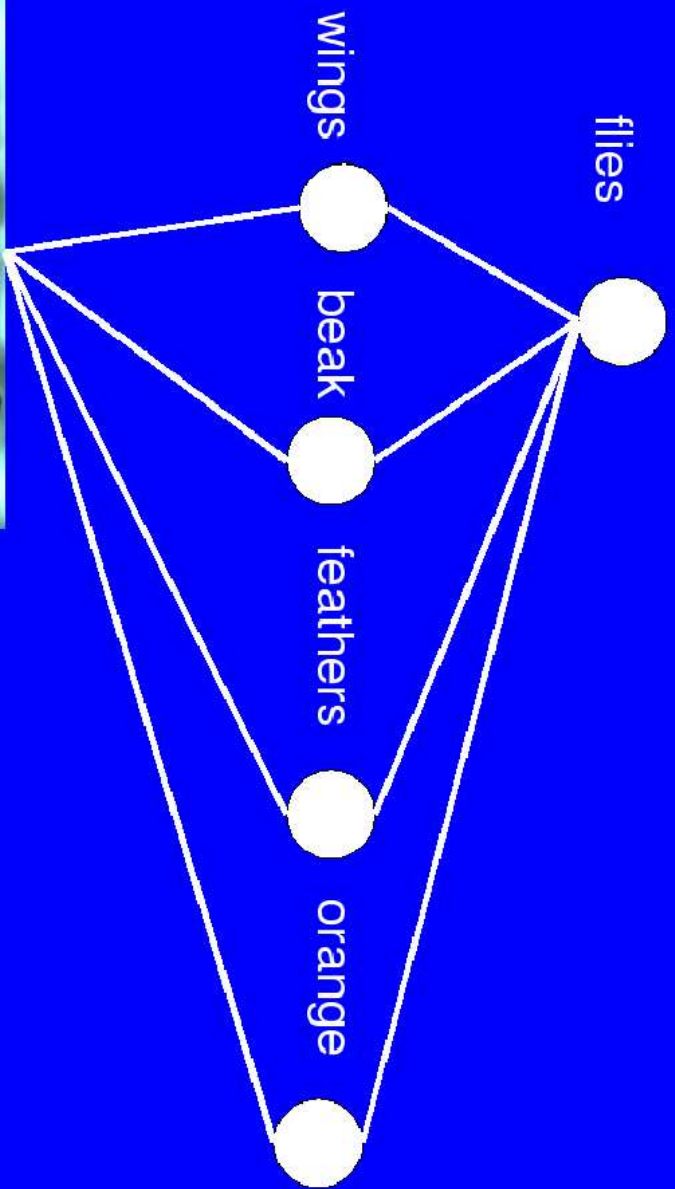
flies ●

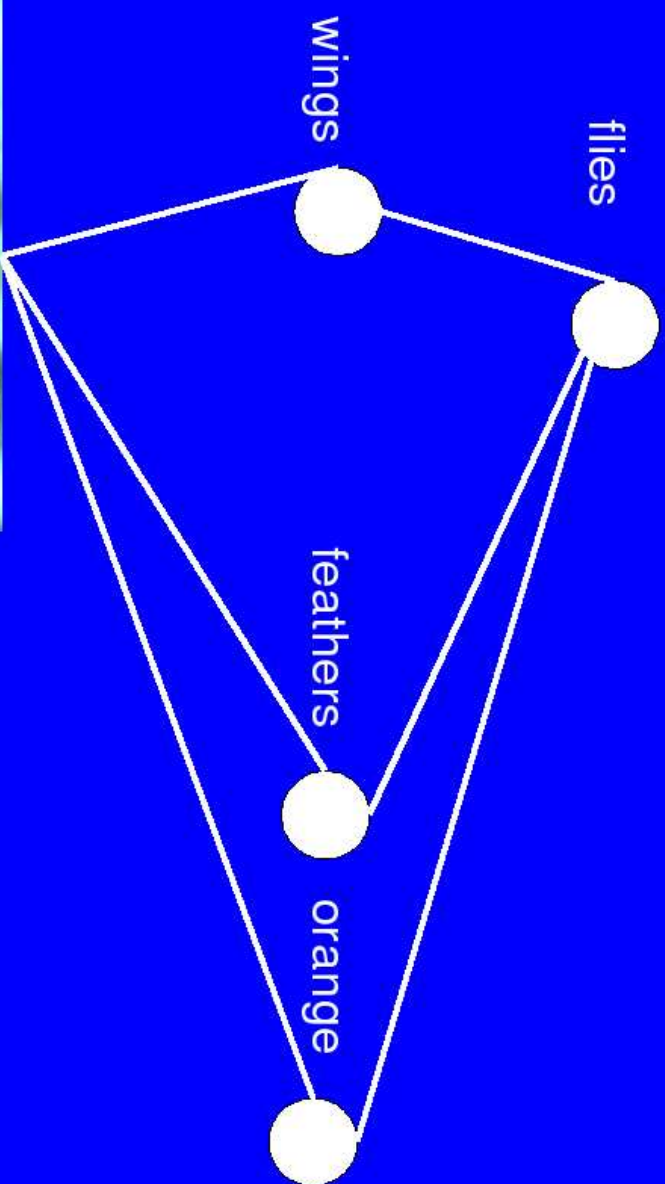
??



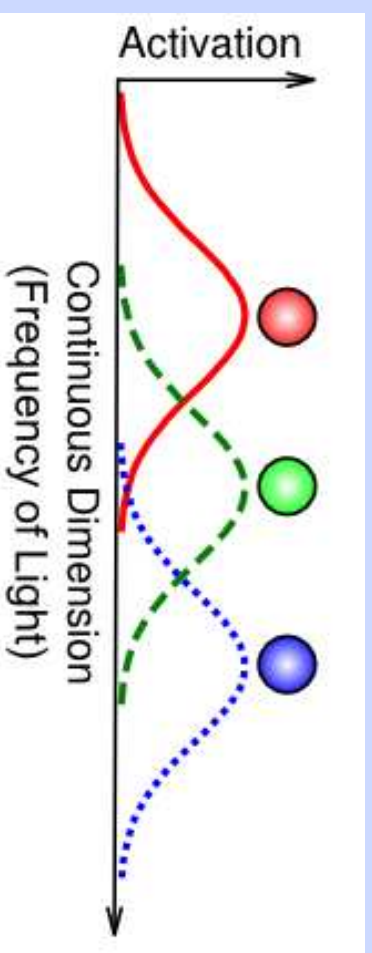


Photo by Chara Robbins



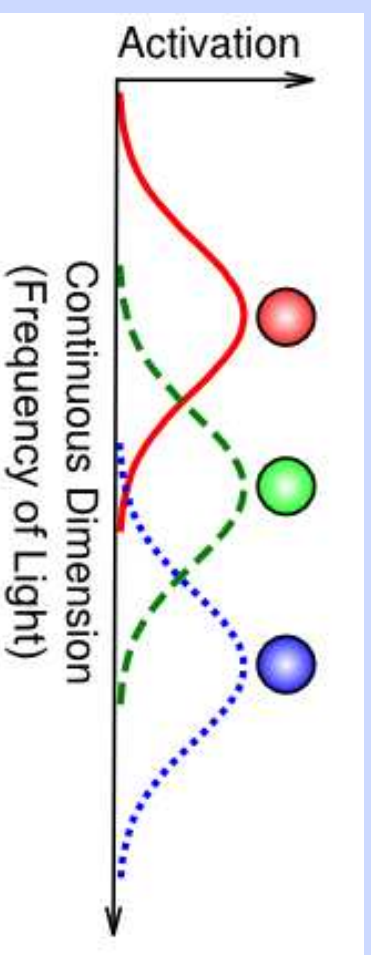


## Advantages of Distributed Representations



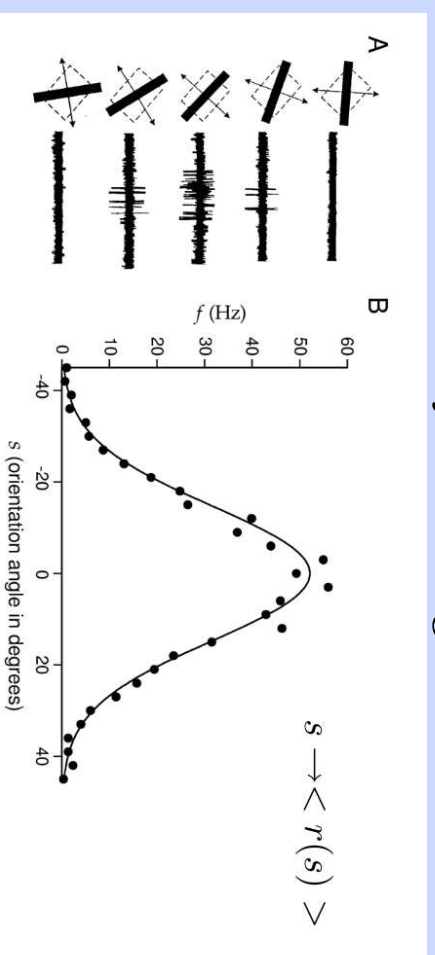
**Accuracy:** By coarse-coding. (e.g, color, position)

# Advantages of Distributed Representations



**Accuracy:** By coarse-coding. (e.g, color, position)

These tuning curves are commonly seen, e.g. in V1:



# Advantages of Distributed Representations

## Advantages of Distributed Representations

**Efficiency:** Fewer total units required.

**Similarity:** As a function of overlap.

**Generalization:** Can use novel combinations.

**Robustness:** Redundancy: damage has less of an effect

**Accuracy:** By coarse-coding.

# Networks

1. Biology: The cortex
2. Excitation:
  - Unidirectional (transformations)
  - Bidirectional (top-down processing, pattern completion, amplification)
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