

Artificial Intelligence Chips: From Data Centers to Edge and IoT Computing

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AI Hardware is ... everywhere

Self-driving Car



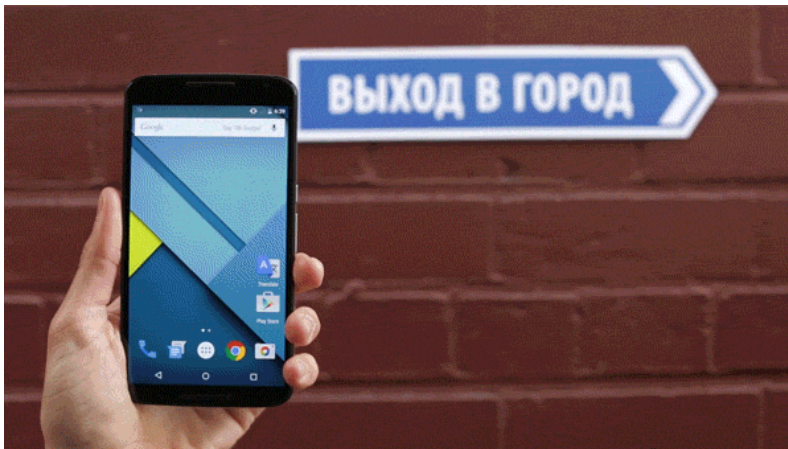
Bottom Image source: edition.cnn.com

Smart Robots



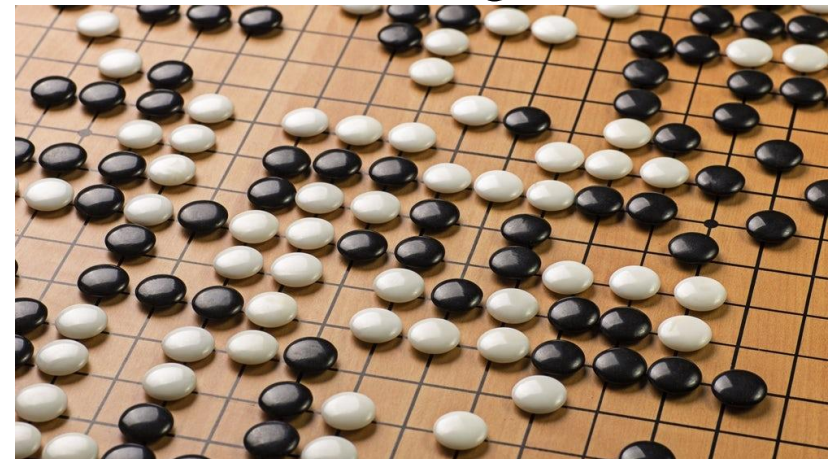
Image source: roboticsbusinessreview.com

Machine Translation



Bottom Image source: missqt.com

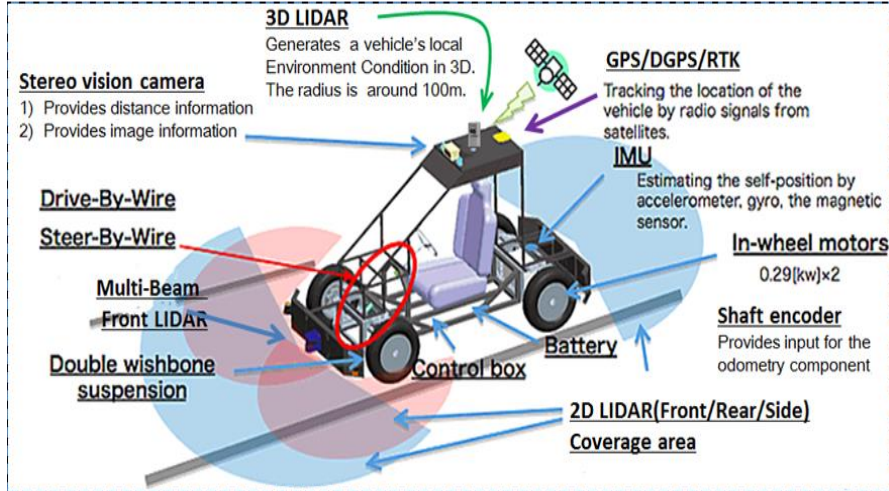
Gaming



Bottom Image Source: newatlas.com

AI Hardware is ... everywhere

Self-driving Car



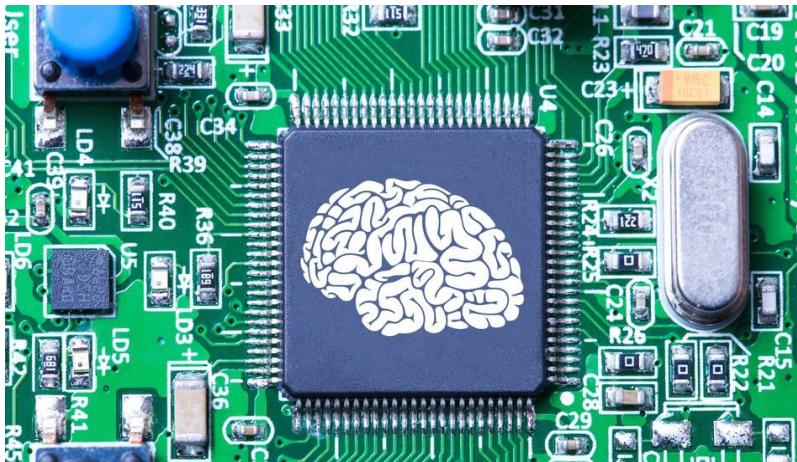
Bottom Image source: edition.cnn.com

Smart Robots



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AI Hardware is ... everywhere

Brain implant allows paralysed monkey to walk

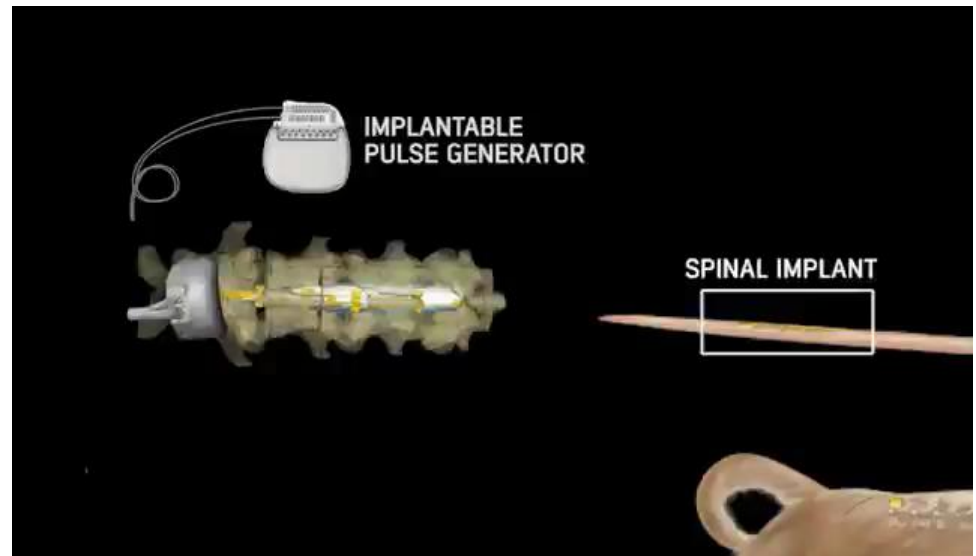
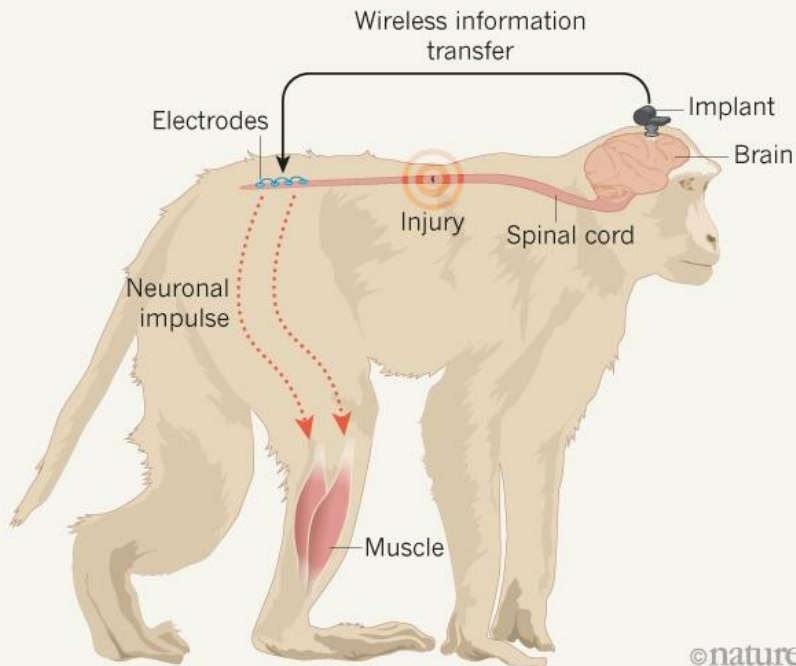
There really is a kind of intelligence inside the spinal cord. We are not just talking about reflexes that automatically activate muscles. In the spinal cord there are networks of neurons able to take their own decisions

-Grégoire Courtine-

Neuroscientist, Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne

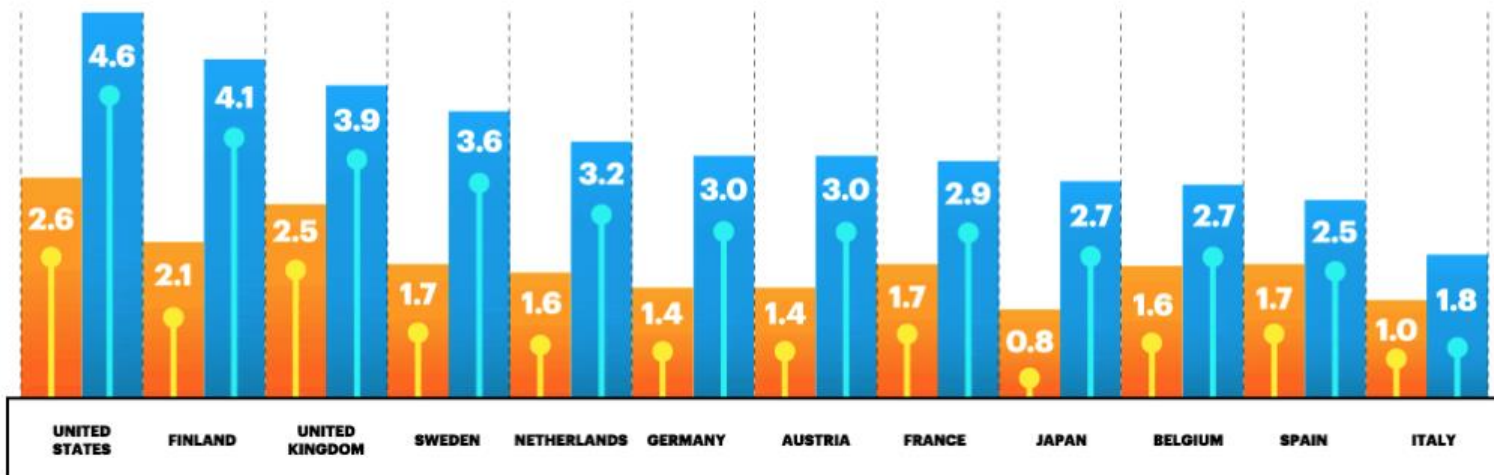
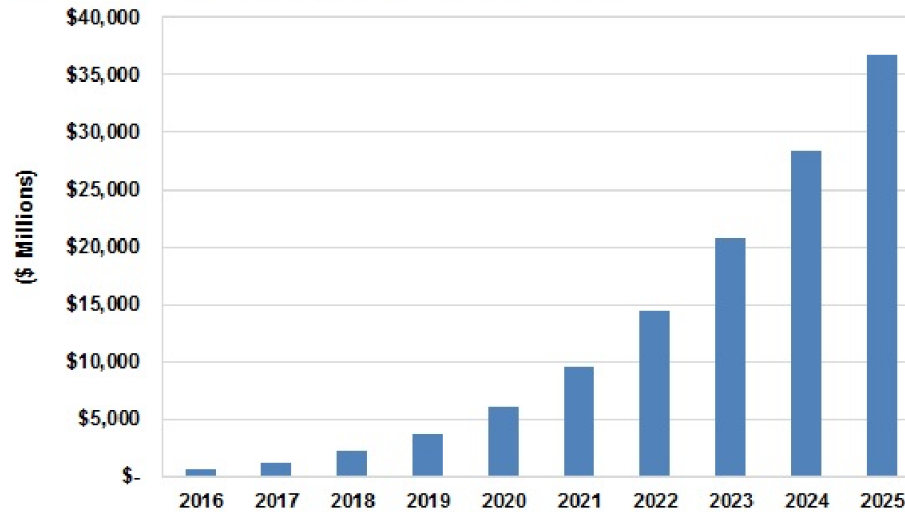
PARALYSED PRIMATES WALK

A wireless implant bypasses spinal-cord injuries in monkeys, enabling them to move their legs.



AI Revenue & GDP Growth Rate in 2035 comparing Baseline Growth to AI scenario

Artificial Intelligence Revenue, World Markets: 2016-2025



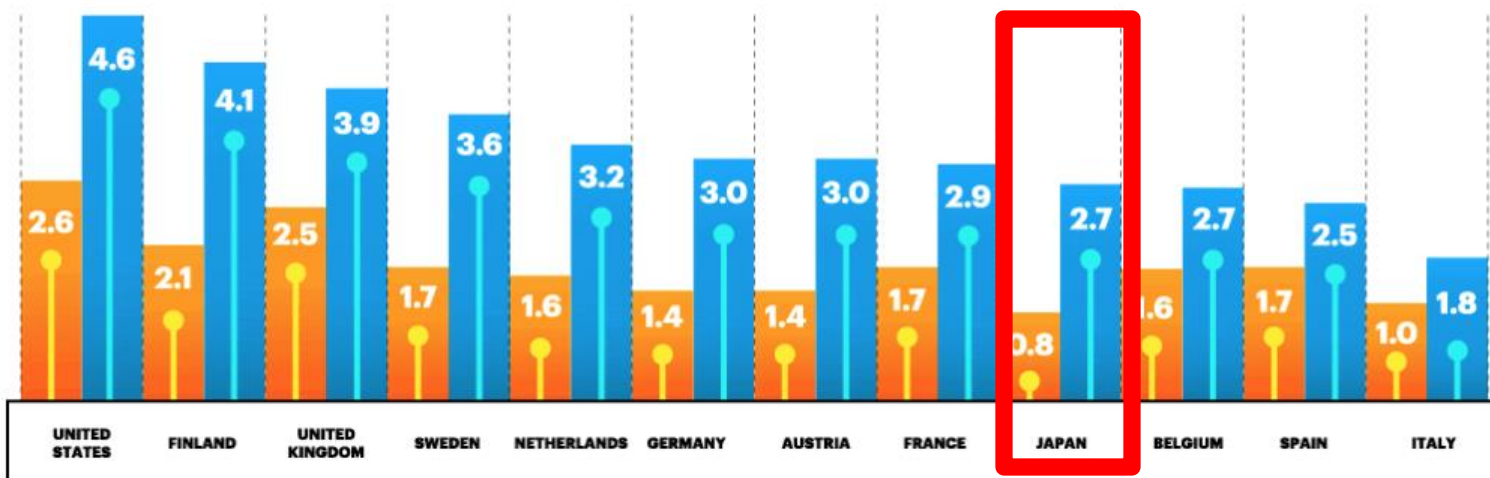
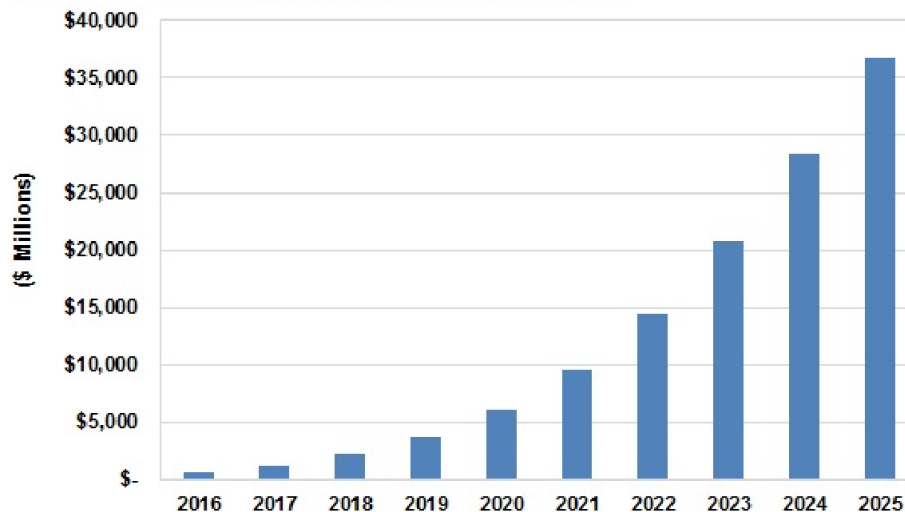
Annual growth rates in 2035 of gross value added (a close approximation of GDP), comparing baseline growth in 2035 to an artificial intelligence scenario where AI has been absorbed into the economy

Source: Accenture and Frontier Economics

■ Baseline
■ AI steady rate

AI Revenue & GDP Growth Rate in 2035 comparing Baseline Growth to AI scenario

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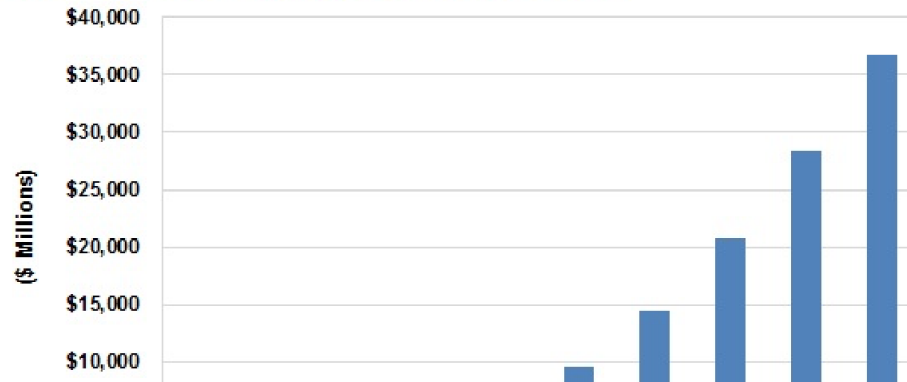
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■ Baseline
■ AI steady rate

AI Revenue &

GDP Growth Rate in 2035 comparing Baseline Growth to AI scenario

Artificial Intelligence Revenue, World Markets: 2016-2025



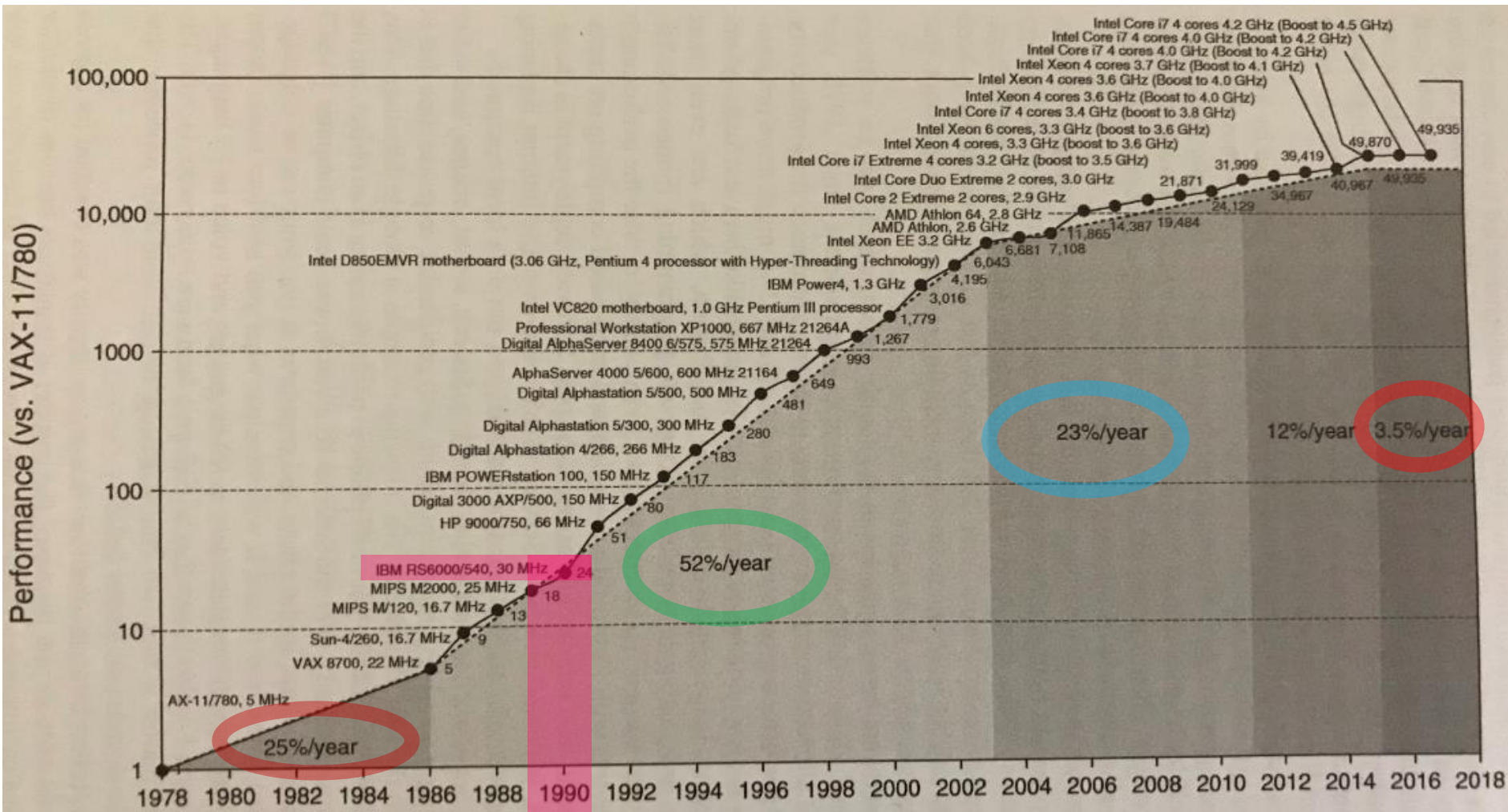
Governments are competing to establish advanced AI research, seeing AI as a way for greater economic power and influence.

13%
Other

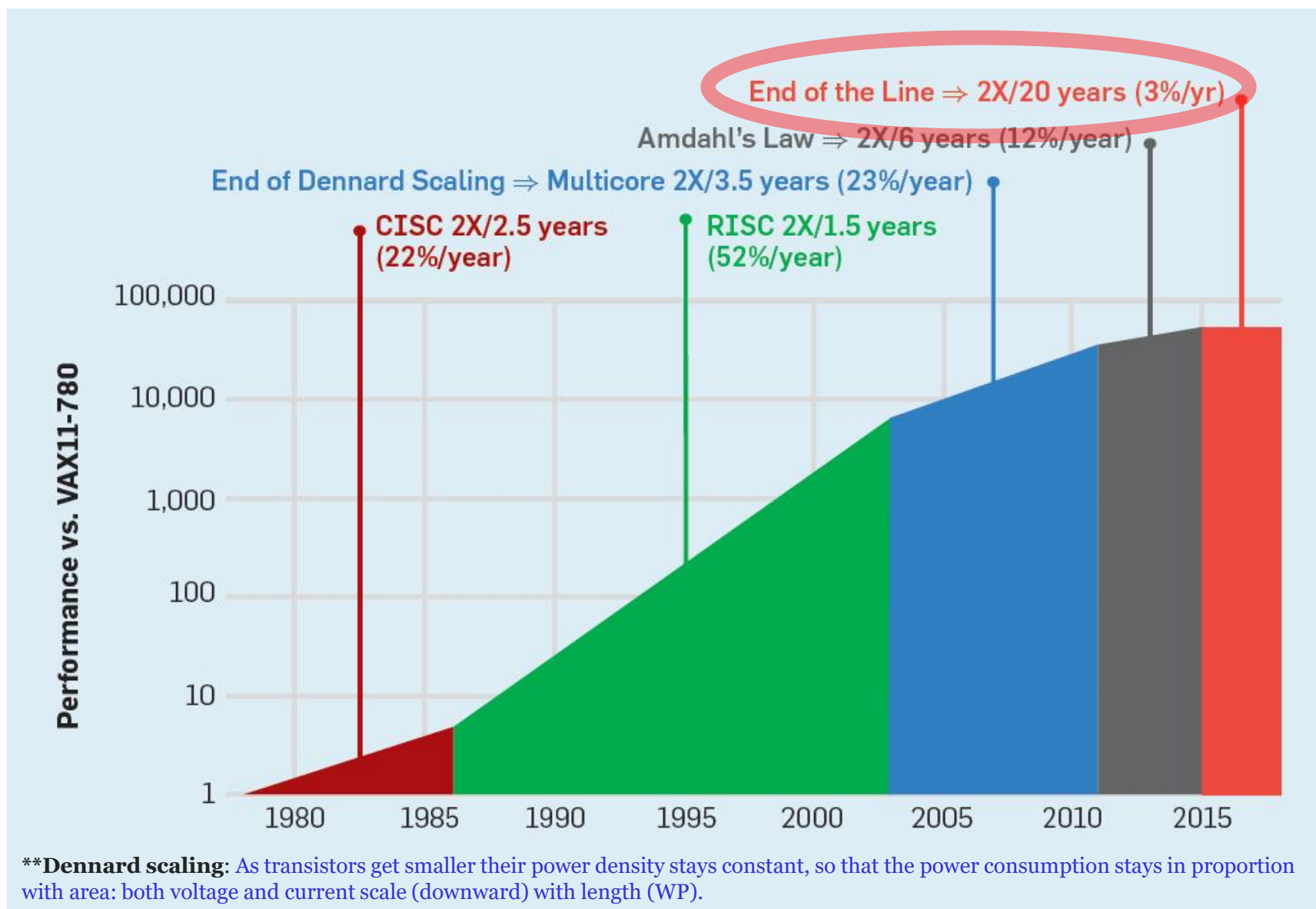
Agenda

- **Fundamental Trends**
- **AI – The 4th Industrial Revolution**
- **Survey of AI Hardware**
 - Cloud AI Hardware, Chips
 - Mobile AI Chips
 - Edge and IoT AI Chips
 - Healthcare AI Chips
- **Conclusions**

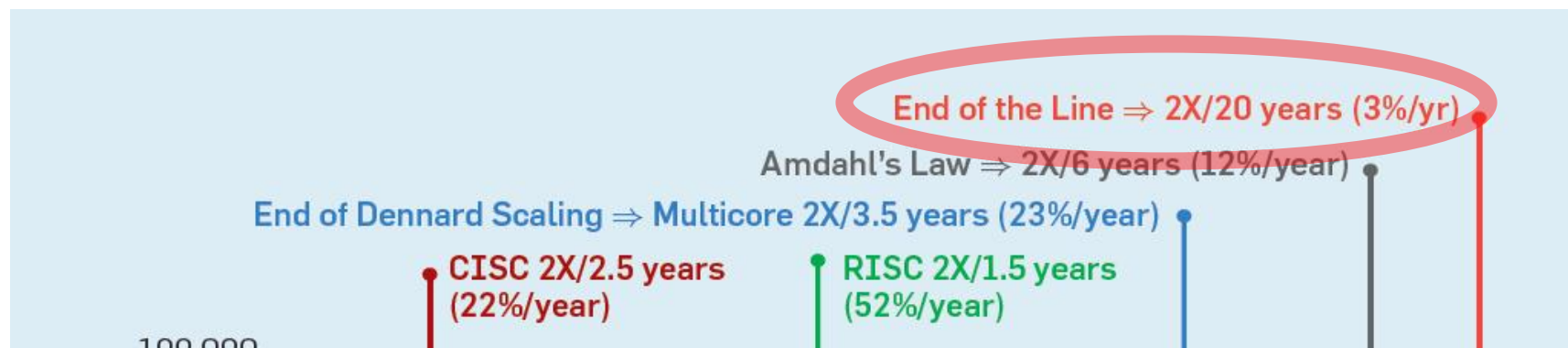
Moore's law is no longer providing more Compute



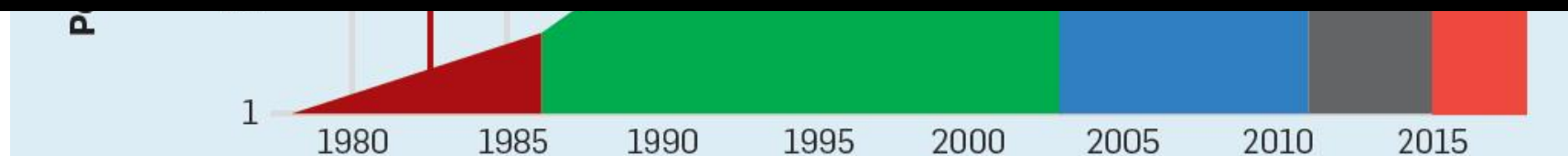
Moore's law is no longer providing more compute



Moore's law is no longer providing more compute



Major improvements in cost-energy-performance must now come from **domain-specific hardware.**

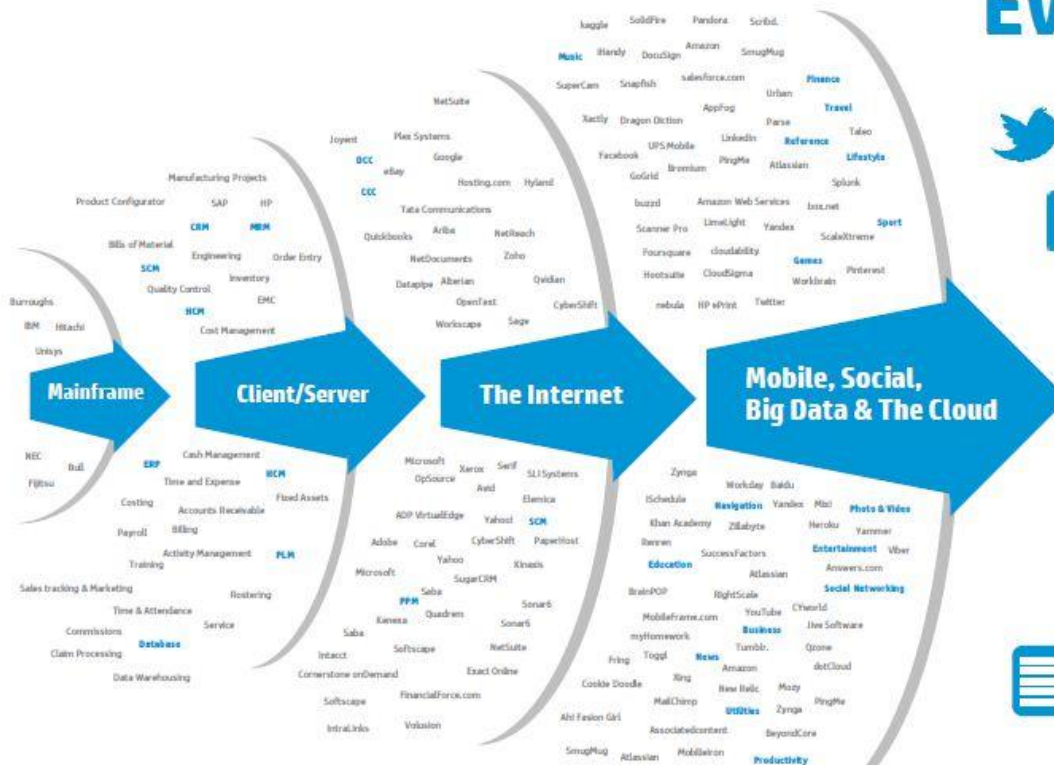


****Dennard scaling:** As transistors get smaller their power density stays constant, so that the power consumption stays in proportion with area: both voltage and current scale (downward) with length (WP).








Technology Transformation

Massive amounts of data is generated

A new style of IT emerging



Every 60 seconds

-  **98,000+** tweets
-  **695,000** status updates
-  **11 million** instant messages
-  **698,445** Google searches
-  **168 million+** emails sent
-  **1,820TB** of data created
-  **217** new mobile web users

DNN Compute Requirements is Steadily Growing

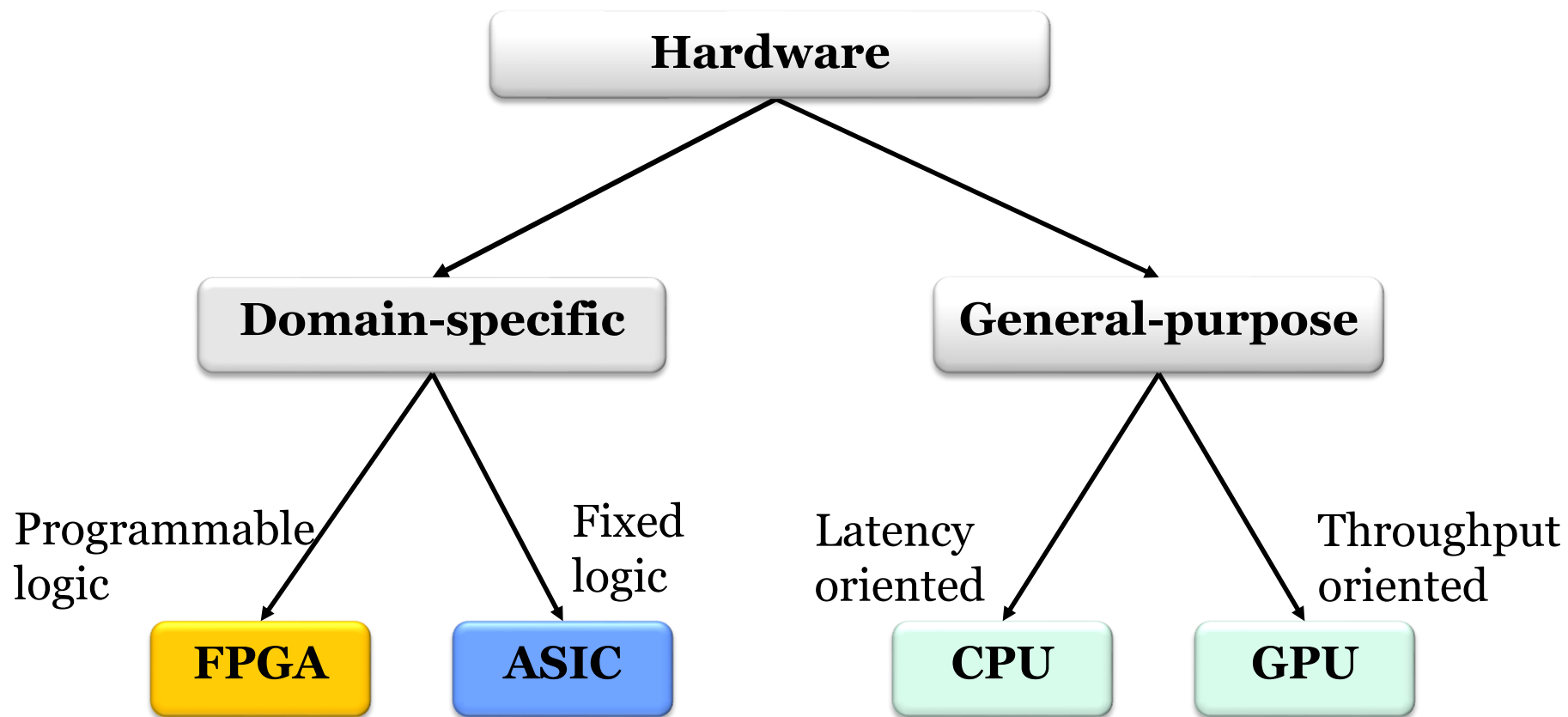
Metrics	LeNet-5	AlexNet	VGG-16	GoogLeNet (v1)	ResNet-50
Top-5 error	n/a	16.4	7.4	6.7	5.3
Input Size	28x28	227x227	224x224	224x224	224x224
# of CONV Layers	2	5	16	21 (depth)	49
Filter Sizes	5	3, 5, 11	3	1, 3, 5, 7	1, 3, 7
# of Channels	1, 6	3 - 256	3 - 512	3 - 1024	3 - 2048
# of Filters	6, 16	96 - 384	64 - 512	64 - 384	64 - 2048
Stride	1	1, 4	1	1, 2	1, 2
# of Weights	2.6k	2.3M	14.7M	6.0M	23.5M
# of MACs	283k	666M	15.3G	1.43G	3.86G
# of FC layers	2	3	3	1	1
# of Weights	58k	58.6M	124M	1M	2M
# of MACs	58k	58.6M	124M	1M	2M
Total Weights	60k	61M	138M	7M	25.5M
Total MACs	341k	724M	15.5G	1.43G	3.9G

Source: Joel Emer, ISCA Tutorial, 2017

What does it mean ?

**End of
Moore's
Law** + **Exponential
Increase in
Compute
Requirements** = **Needs New
Approach**

Current State of the Art in Neural Algorithms HW Computing

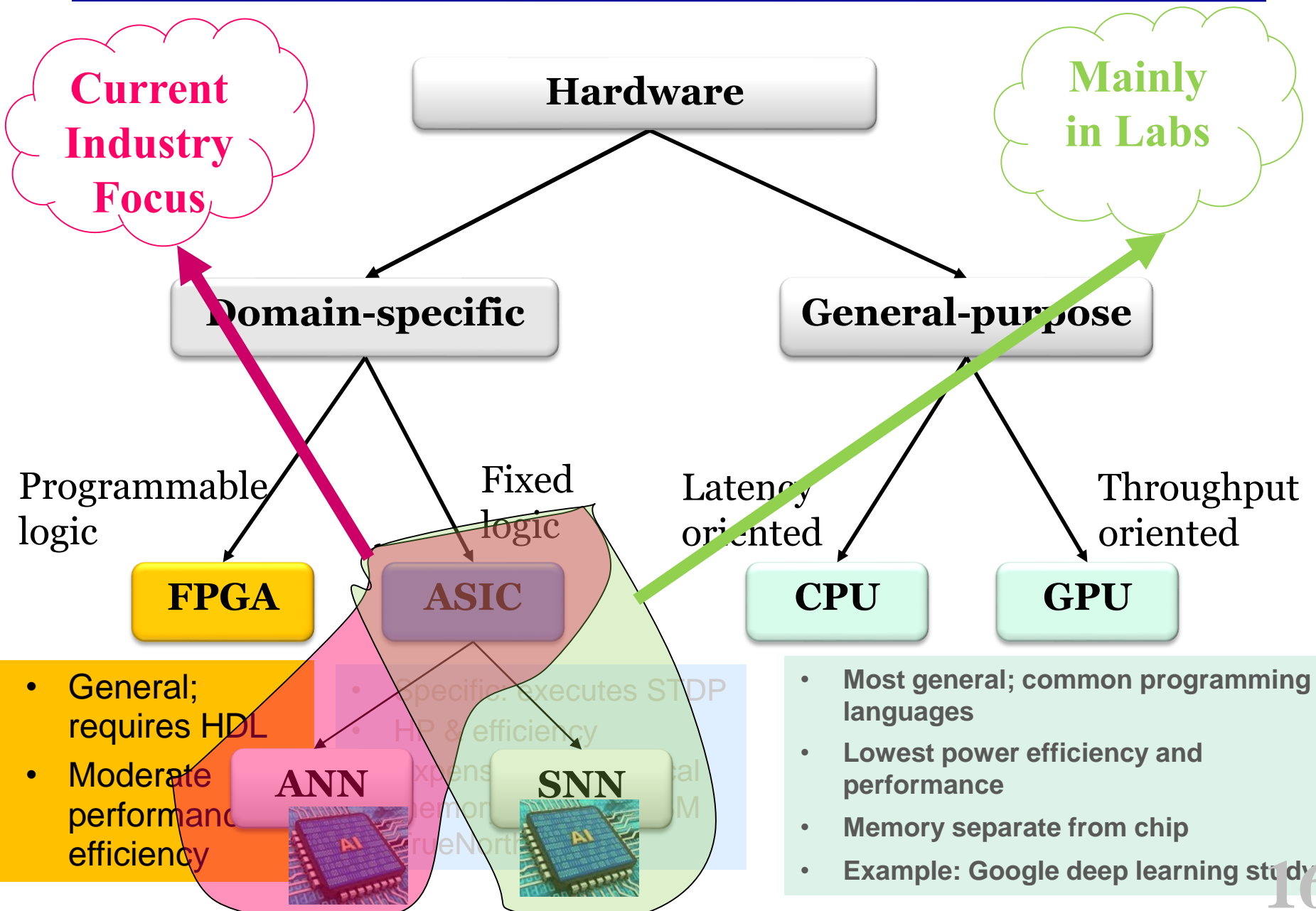


- General; requires HDL
- Moderate performance & efficiency

- Specific: executes STDP
- HP & efficiency
- Expensive, 40MB local memory Example: IBM TrueNorth

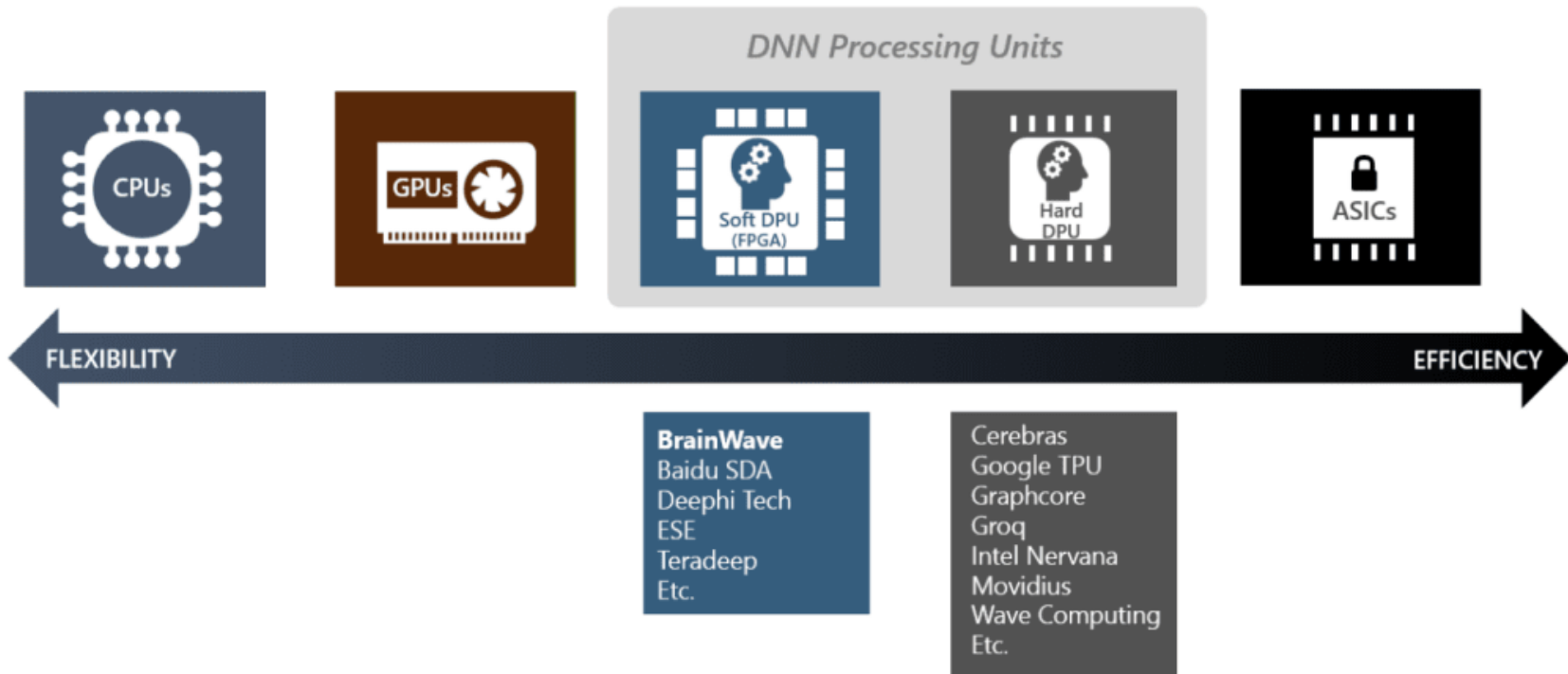
- Most general; common programming languages
- Lowest power efficiency and performance
- Memory separate from chip
- Example: Google deep learning study

Current State of the Art in Neural Algorithms HW Computing



CPUs, GPUs, FPGAs or ASICs ?

The only tricky part is getting them to do AI computation quickly and efficiently.



Hardware: Flexibility vs Efficiency

Agenda

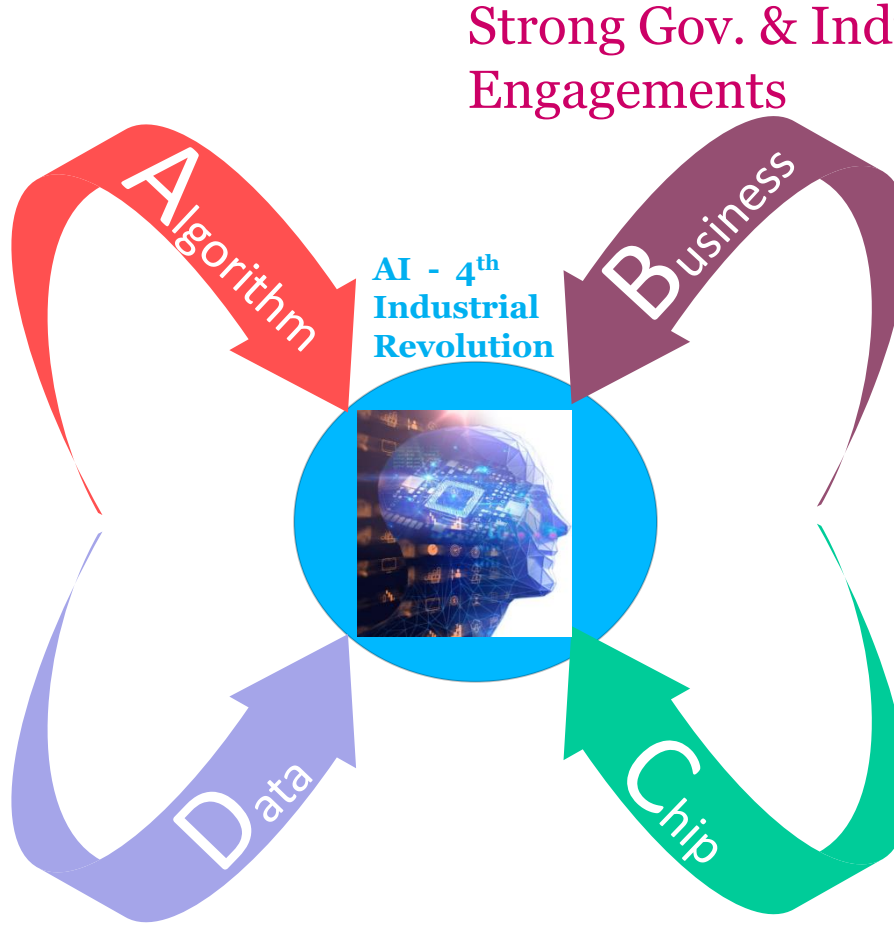
- Fundamental Trends
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 - Mobile AI Chips
 - Edge and IoT AI Chips
 - Healthcare AI Chips
- Conclusions

Four Main Factors in Promoting AI/AI HW



Image: kdnuggets.com

AI algorithms are being applied to nearly everything we do.



Strong Gov. & Industry Engagements



Image: kdnuggets.com

Growth of computational power



Image: sas.com

Larger data sets and models lead to better accuracy but also increase the computation time

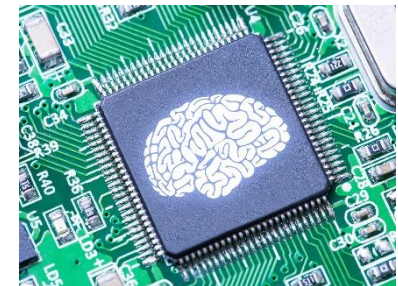


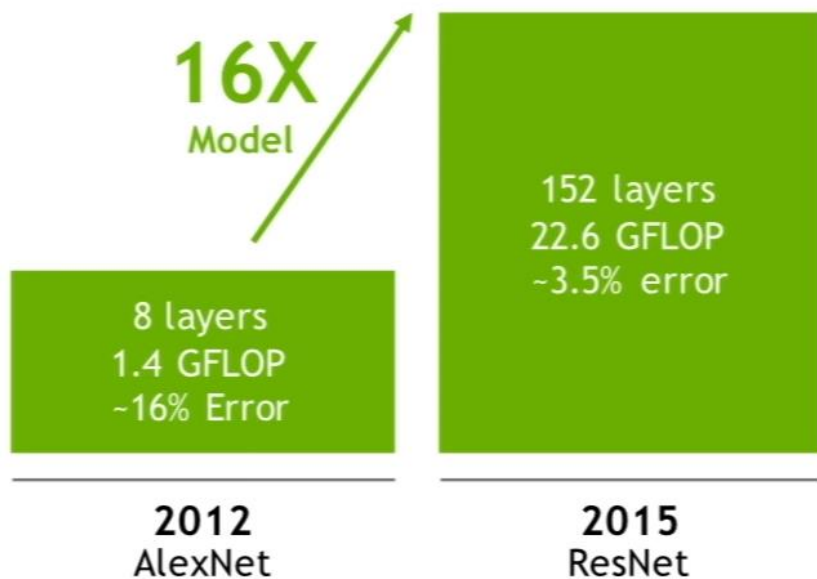
Image: spectrum.ieee.org

More compute means new solutions to previously intractable problems, i.e. G

Hardware & Data Enable DNNs

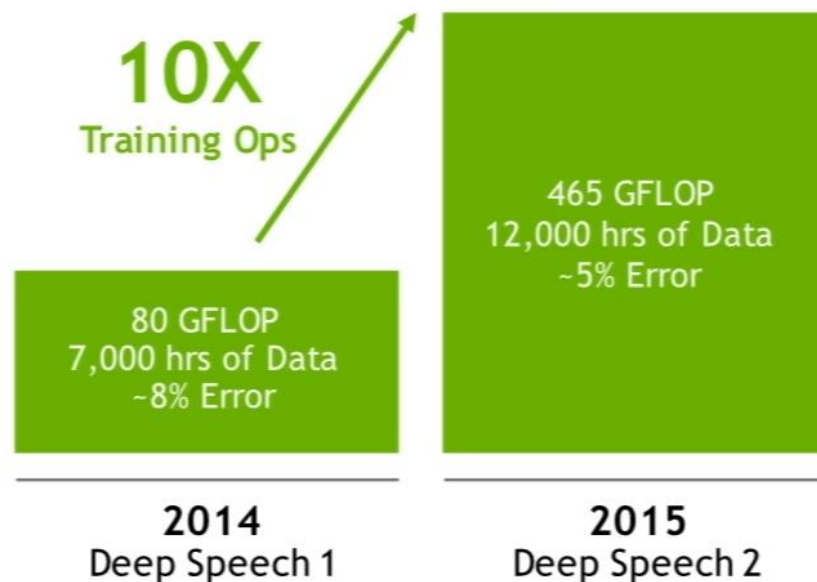
AI model performance scales with dataset size and the # of model parameters, thus necessitating more compute.

IMAGE RECOGNITION



Microsoft

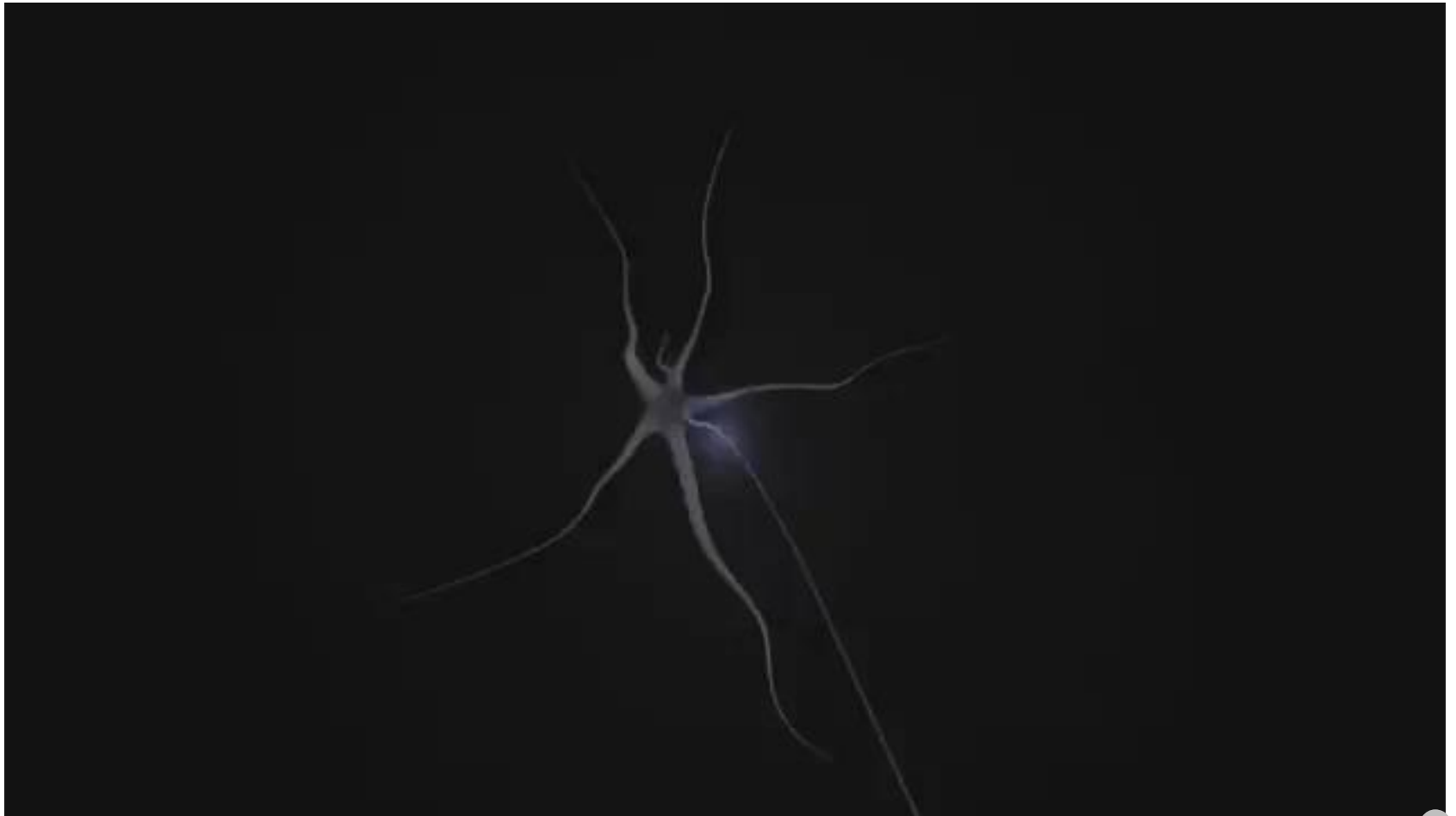
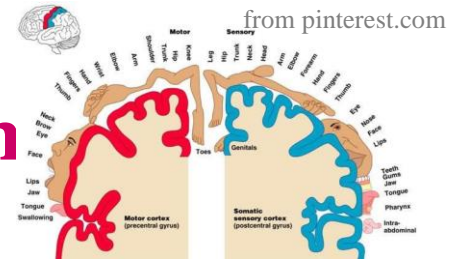
SPEECH RECOGNITION



Baidu 百度

AI HW is inspired by Nature – Biological neuron

AI Chips and systems are inspired by biology → parallel computation



AI HW is inspired by Nature – Biological neuron

AI Chips and systems are inspired by biology → parallel computation.

- ❖ # of neurons: $\sim 10^{11}$
- ❖ # of synapses: $\sim 10^{15}$
- ❖ Power consumption: ~ 20 W;
- ❖ Operating frequency: 10~100 Hz
- ❖ Works in parallel: 10^6 parallelism vs. $<10^1$ for PC (VN)
- ❖ Faster than current computers: i.e. simulation of a **5 s** brain activity takes **~ 500 s** on state-of-the-art supercomputer

Latest digital DL processors:

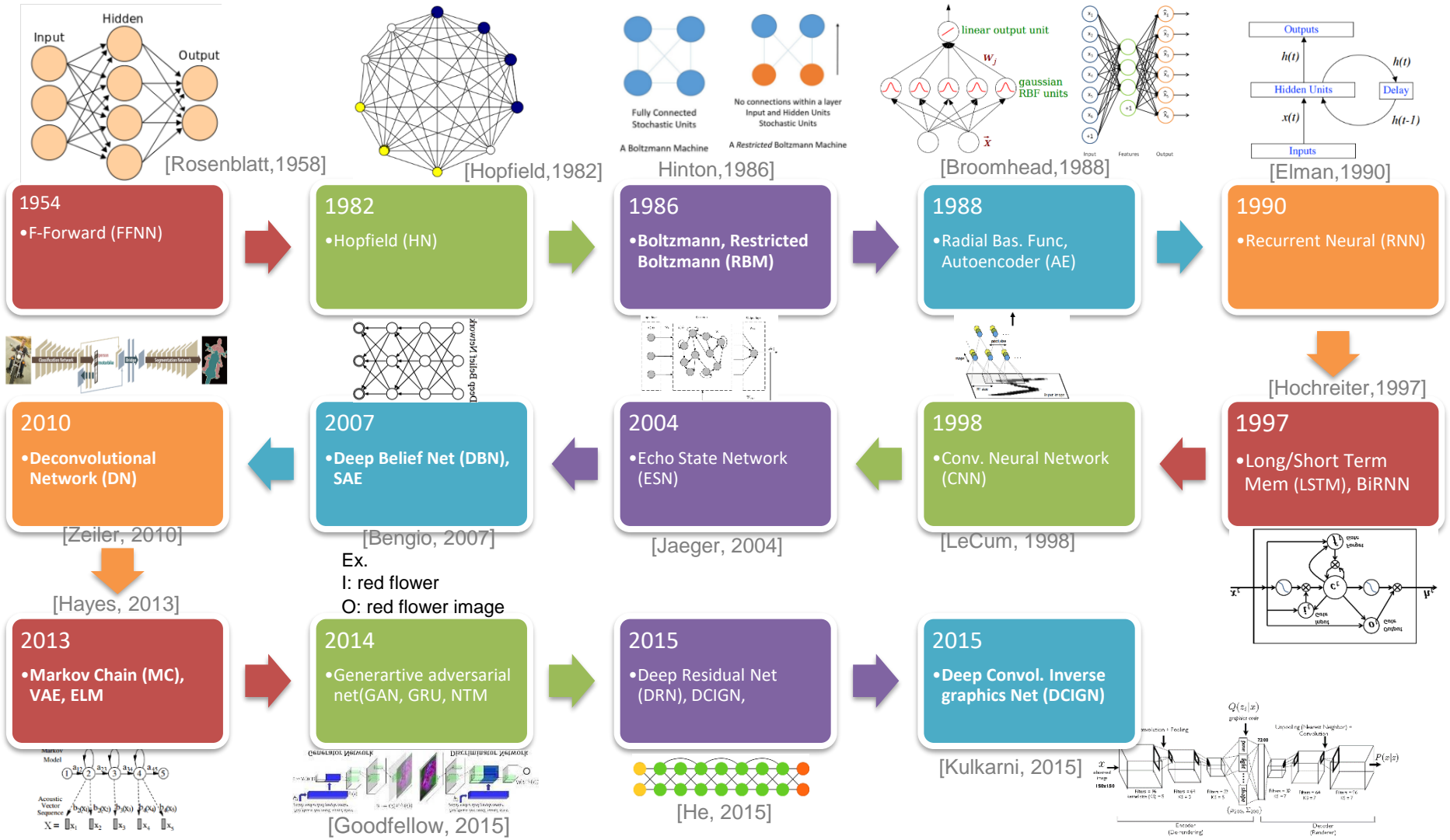
~ 10 TOPS/W

Synapse op. in brain: 0.1~1 fJ/op

1,000~10,000 TOPS/W

=1~10 POPS/W

...there are many topologies for mimicking the brain functions



Different approaches to AI Chips

Poor/Simple

Good/Complex



Neuron

Digital, Analog. LIF. . . .

Izhikevich
model

Huxley-Hodgkin
model . . .

Synapse

MAC
(weighted
.. sum)

Spiking
STDP

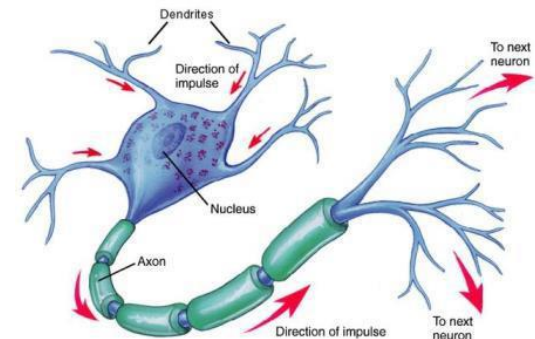
Many
nonlinear
properties

Generally Used in DL algorithms

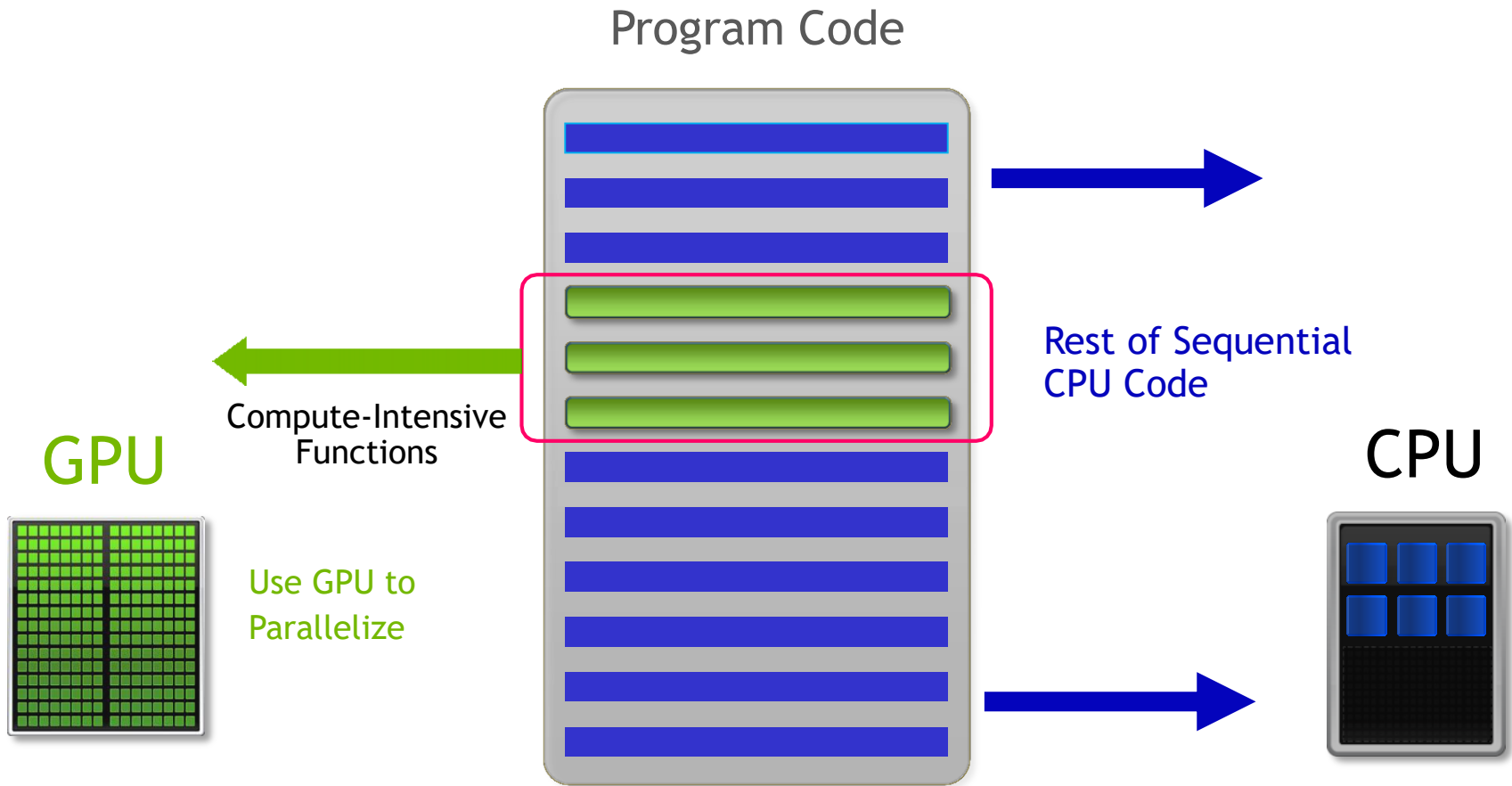


Frequency

10~100 Hz (brain)



Current AI Chip = Accelerator/Co-processor



Acceleration with GPU

Accelerator Characteristics

CPU

GPU

TPU

Memory subsystem



implicitly managed

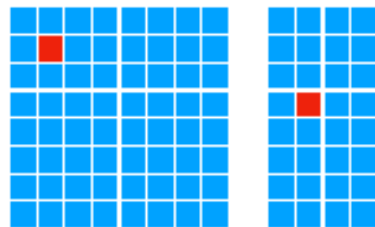


mixed



explicitly managed

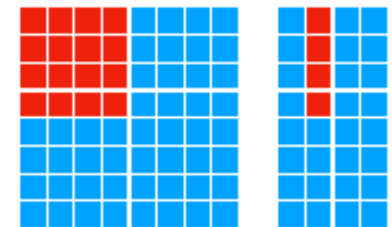
Compute primitives



scalar



vector



tensor

Data type



fp32

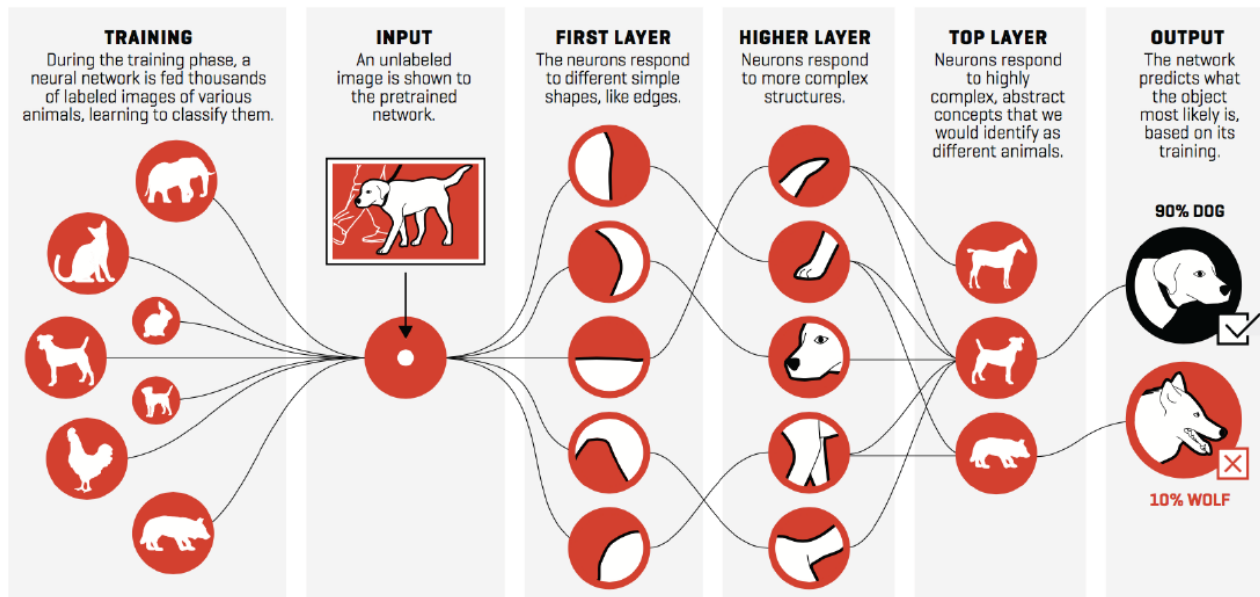
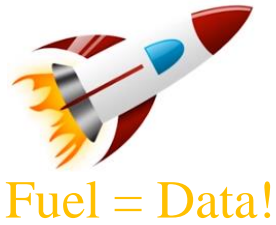


fp16



int8

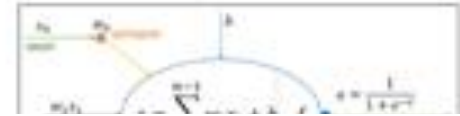
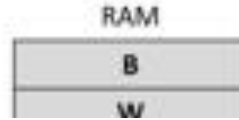
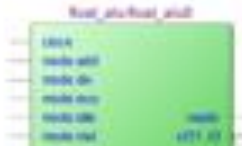
...Deep Learning is considered as a sophisticated “rocket” of Machine Learning!!



1. “Deep Learning” means using a neural network with several layers of nodes between input & output
2. the series of layers between input & output do feature identification and processing in a series of stages, just as our brains seem to.

Example1: Character Recognition on FPGA

Character Recognition with BP training



Implementation of detecting 16 patterns from 16 inputs with BP.

Device: EP2C35F672C6

Family: Cyclone2

Synthesis: Quartus2 13.1

Table 1 : ANN Performance Evaluation

ALUs	Registers	Pins	Fmax
10,989 (33%)	5,814 (18%)	432 (89%)	76.02 MHz
Memory	DSP Block	Power Consumption	
4,956 (1%)	54 (77%)	286.84 mW	

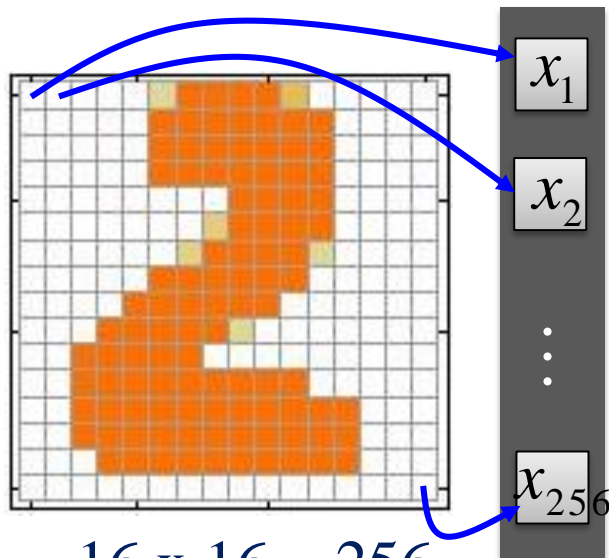
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16

'O' letter



Example2: Handwriting Digit Recognition on FPGA

Input

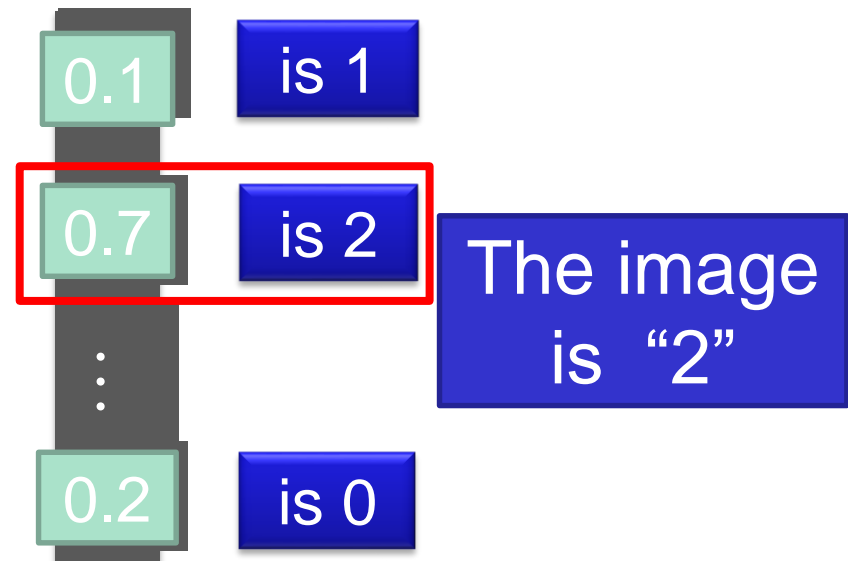


$16 \times 16 = 256$

Ink $\rightarrow 1$

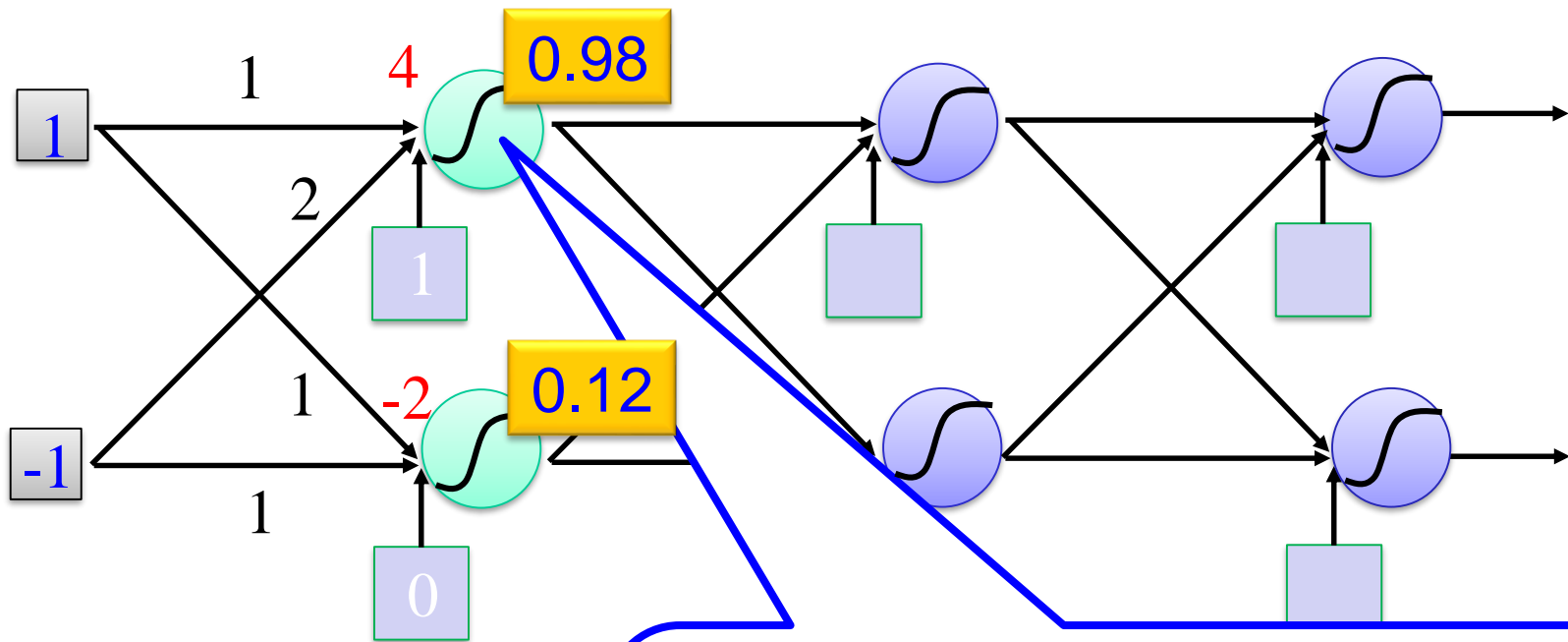
No ink $\rightarrow 0$

Output



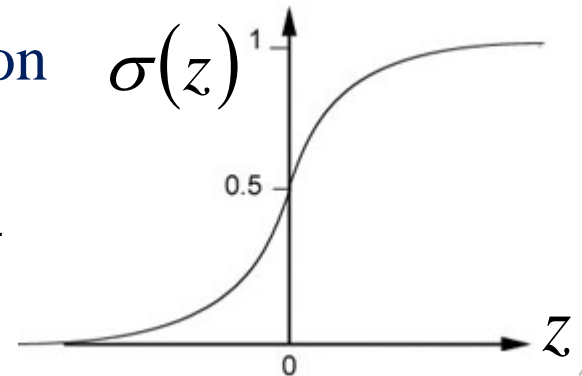
Each dimension represents the confidence of a digit.

Example of Neural Network

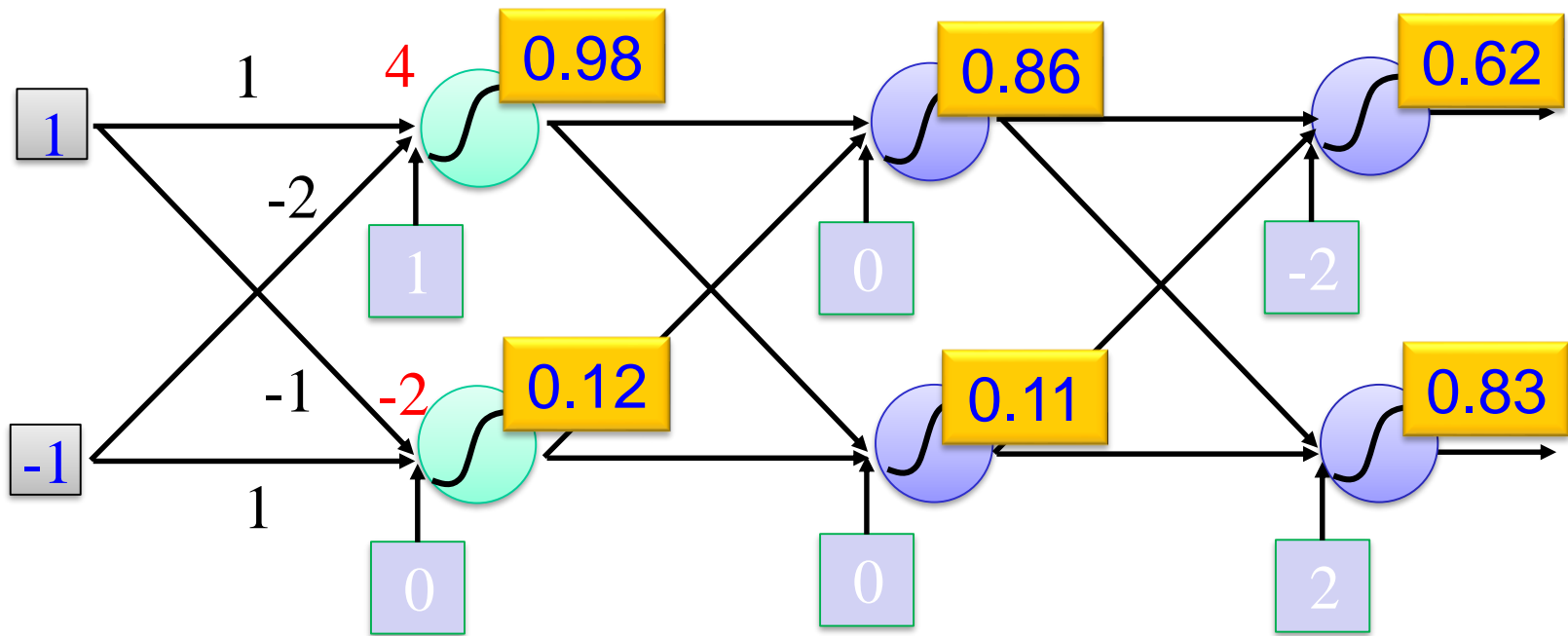


Sigmoid Function

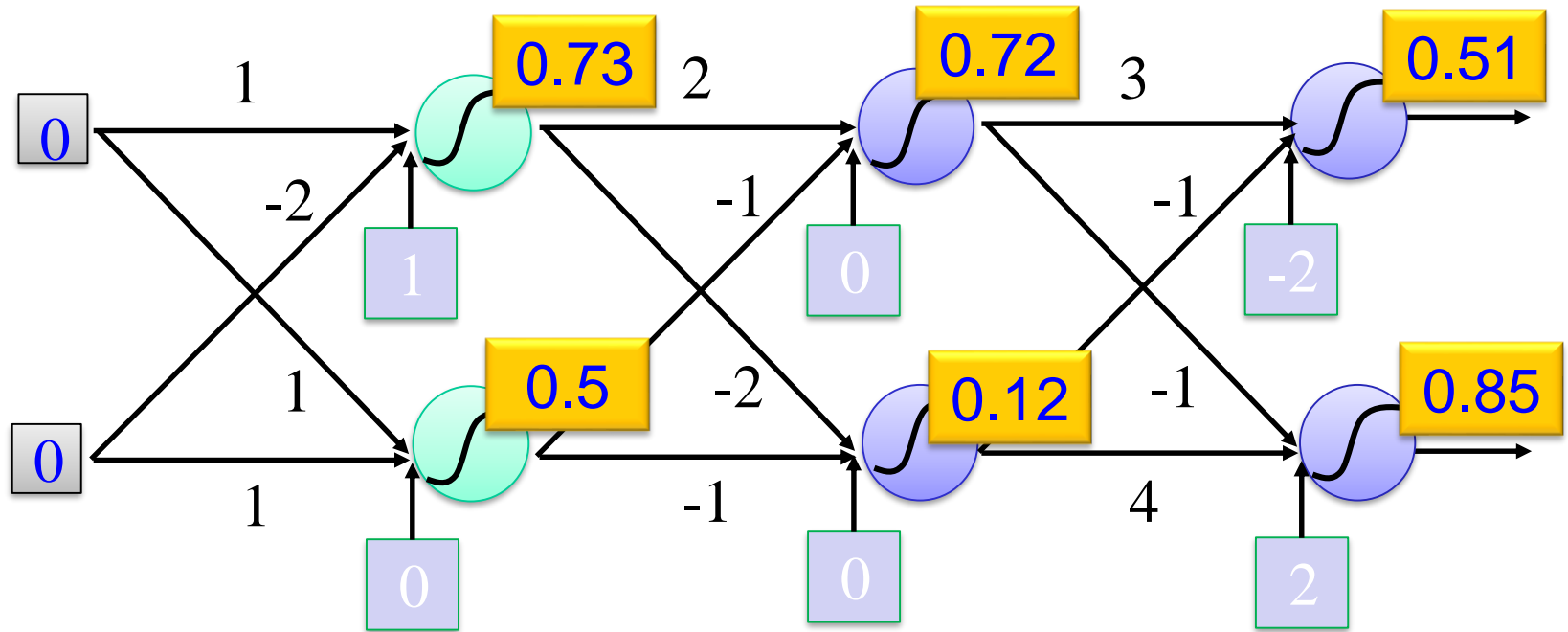
$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$



Example of Neural Network



Example of Neural Network

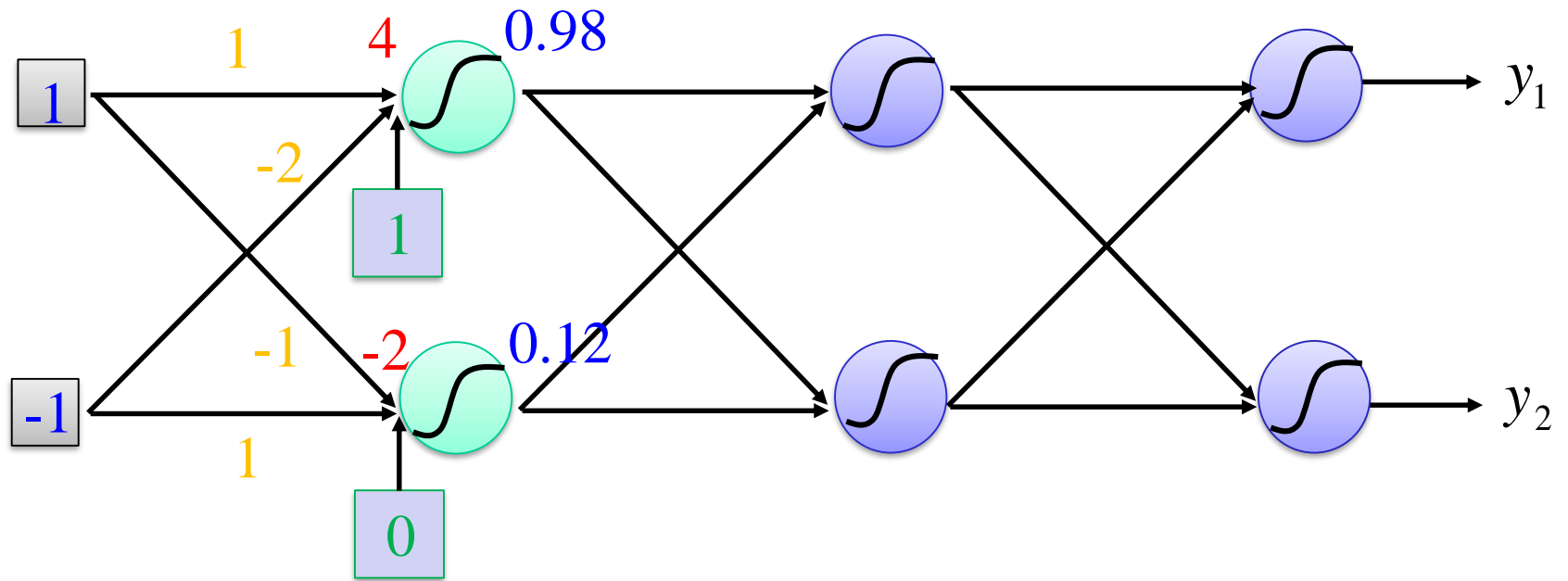


$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.62 \\ 0.83 \end{bmatrix} \quad f\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.51 \\ 0.85 \end{bmatrix}$$

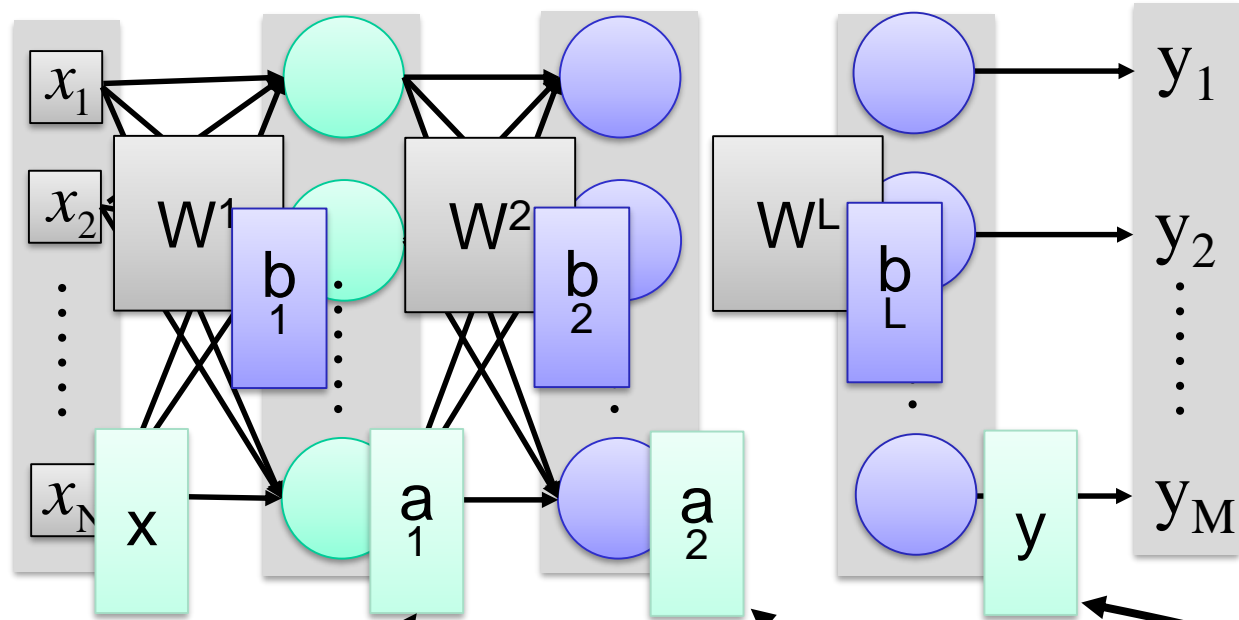
Different parameters define different function

Matrix Operation



$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} 0.98 \\ 0.12 \end{bmatrix}$$

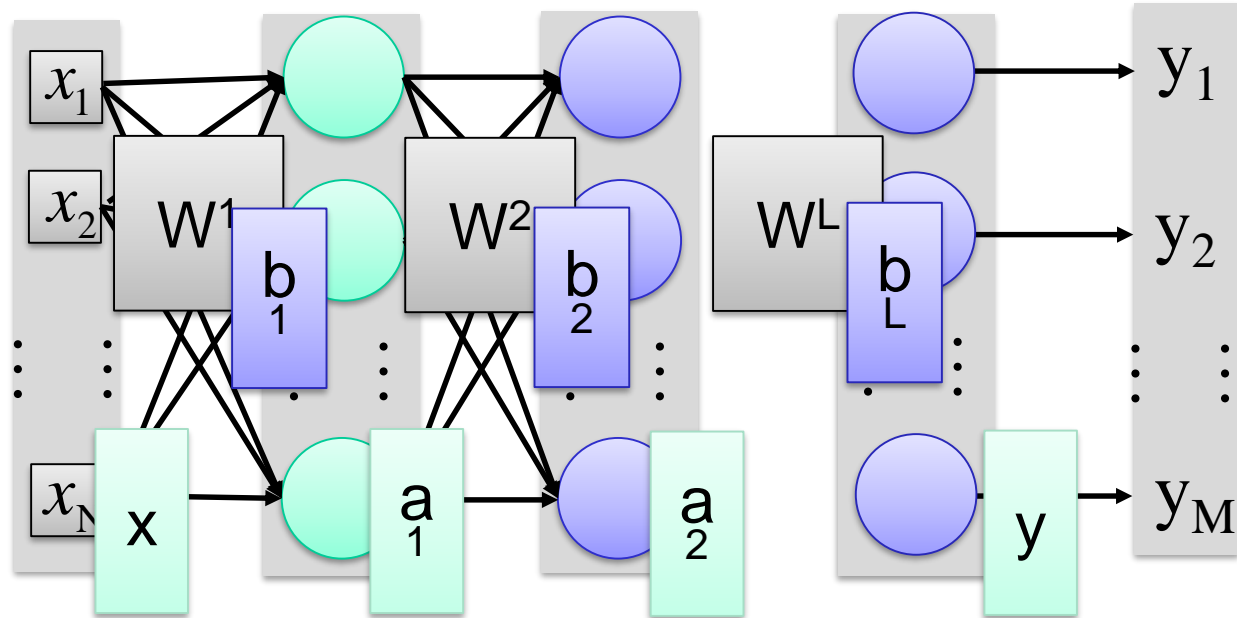
Neural Network



$$\sigma(W^1 x + b_1)$$
$$\sigma(W^2 a_1 + b_2)$$
$$\sigma(W^L a^{L-1} + b_L)$$

Arrows indicate the flow of information from the input x through the hidden layers a_1 and a_2 to the output y , corresponding to the equations above.

Neural Network



$$y = f(x)$$

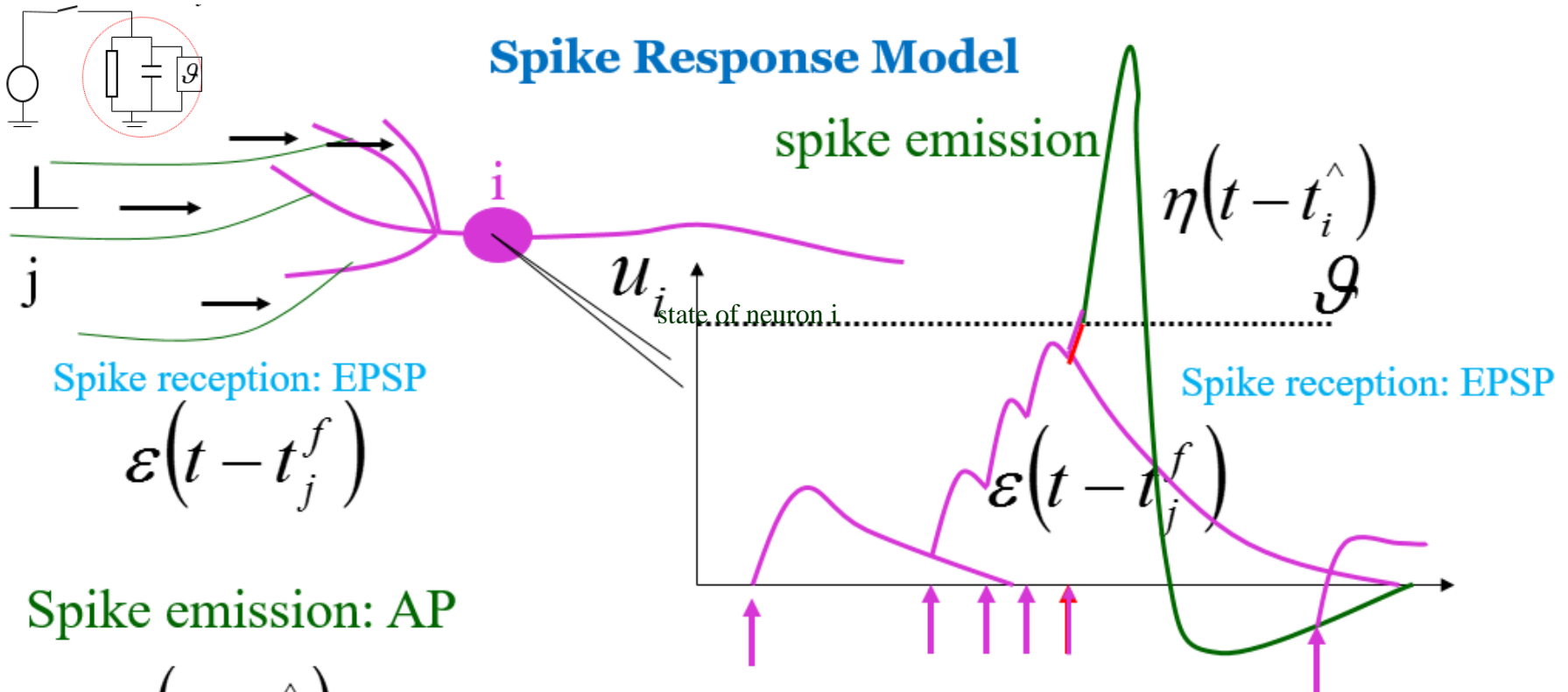
Parallel computing techniques are needed to speed up matrix operations

$$= \sigma(W^L W^2 W^1 x b_1 b_2 b_L)$$

DL is Computationally Expensive

- The two phases of NN are called *training* (or learning) and *inference* (or prediction), and they refer to development versus production.
- The Developer chooses the number of layers and the type of NN, and training determines the weights.
- Virtually all training today is in floating point.
- A step called *quantization* transforms floating-point numbers into narrow *integers—often just 8 bits—which are usually good enough for inference.*
- 8-bit integer multiplies can be 6X less energy and 6X less area than IEEE 754 16-bit FPMs, and the advantage for integer addition is 13X in energy and 38X in area [Dal16].

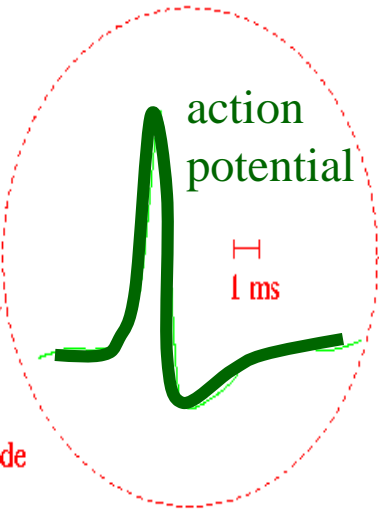
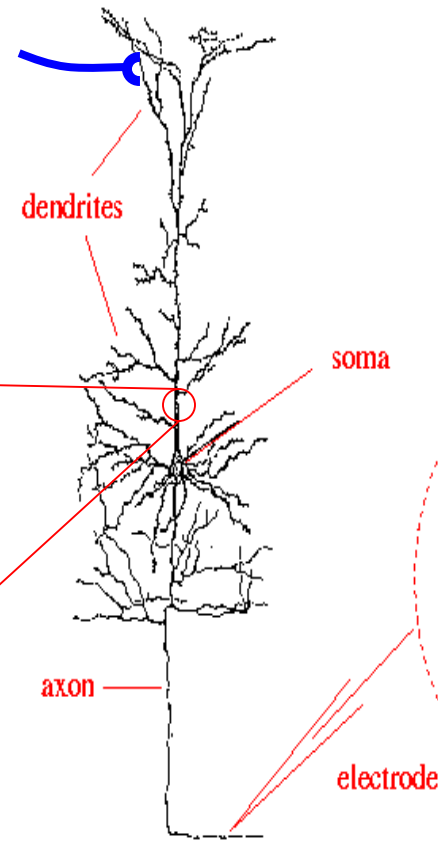
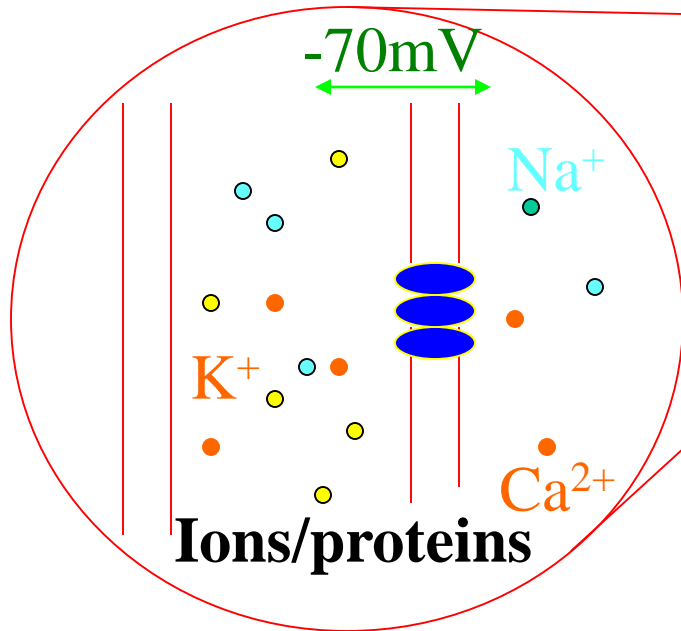
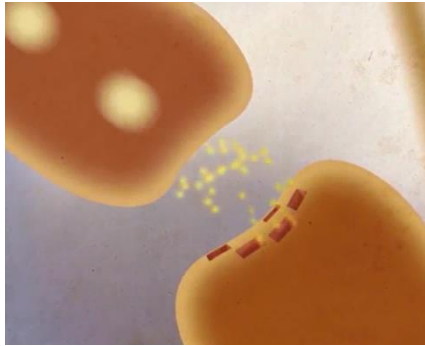
A more biological version: LIF/SRM Model



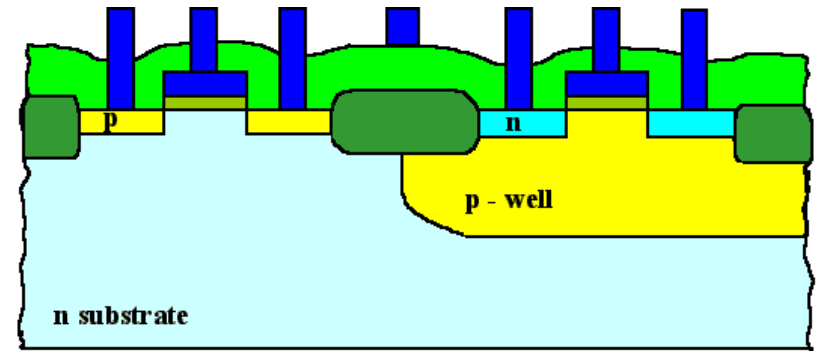
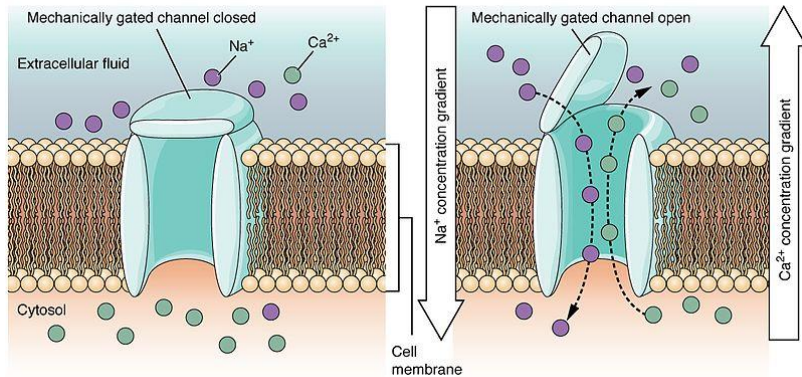
$$u_i(t) = \overset{\substack{\text{reset of the} \\ \text{membrane potential} \\ \text{(action potential)}}}{\eta(t - \hat{t}_i)} + \sum_j \sum_f w_{ij} \varepsilon(t - t_j^f)$$

$$u_i(t) = \mathcal{G} \Rightarrow \text{Firing: } \hat{t}_i = t$$

A more biological Model: Molecular Basis

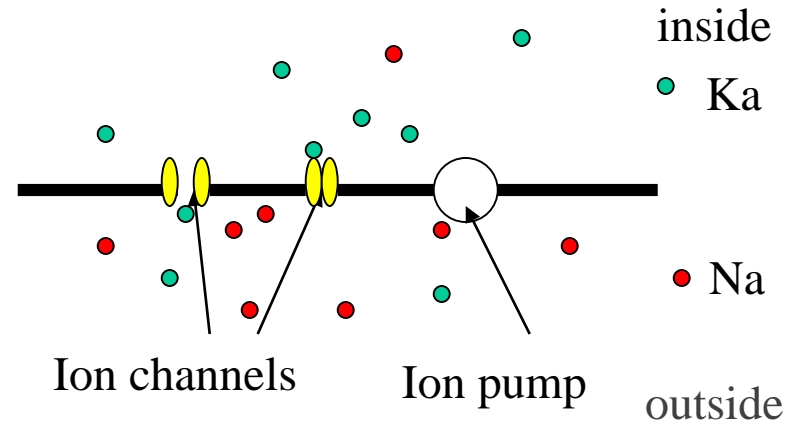
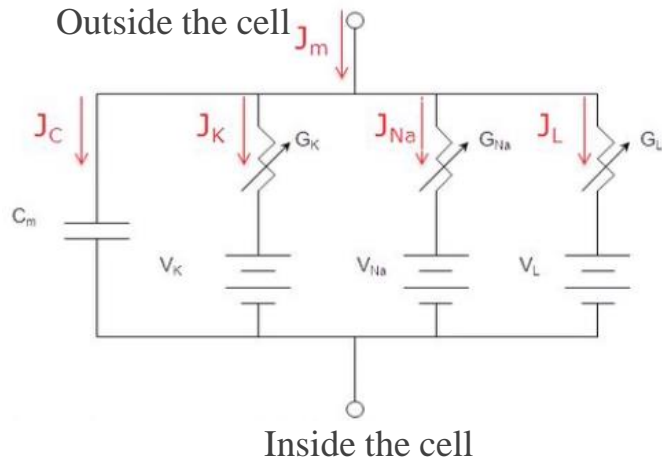


Electronic device vs chemical device



- Deliver the concentration difference of K^+ , Na^+
- Action potential ~ 70 mV
 - Extreme low voltage operation
 - Noise problem
 - Multiple signal input/ integration
- Spatial and temporal multiplexing → Active sharing of the interconnect
- Chemical computing, extremely low operation voltage (<100 mV) → Low power

Hodgkin-Huxley Model



$$J_c = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t}$$

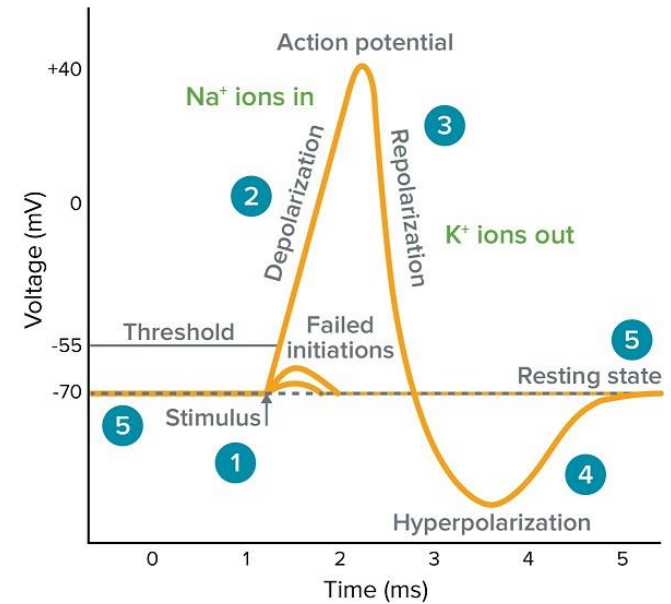
$$J_{Na^+} = G_{Na^+} (V_m - V_{Na^+})$$

$$J_{K^+} = G_{K^+} (V_m - V_{K^+})$$

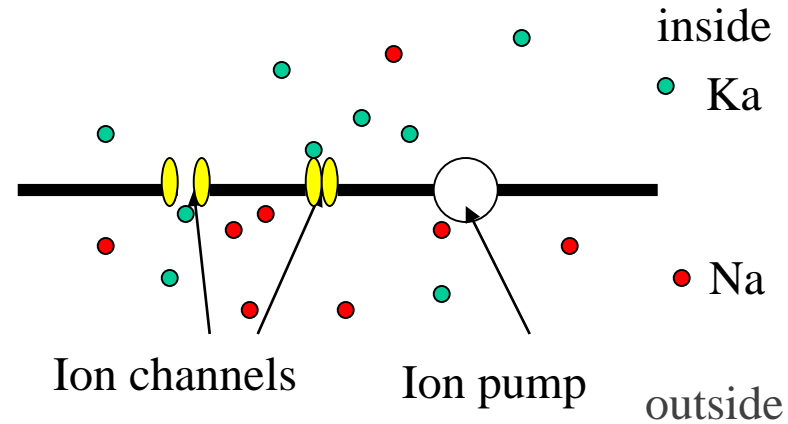
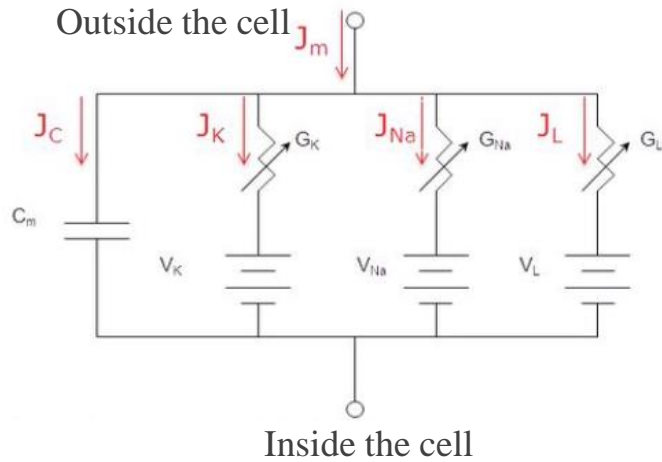
$$J_L = G_L (V_m - V_L)$$

$$J_m = J_c + J_{K^+} + J_{Na^+} + J_L$$

$$J_m = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + G_{K^+} (V_m - V_{K^+}) + G_{Na^+} (V_m - V_{Na^+}) + G_L (V_m - V_L)$$



Hodgkin-Huxley Model



$$J_c = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t}$$

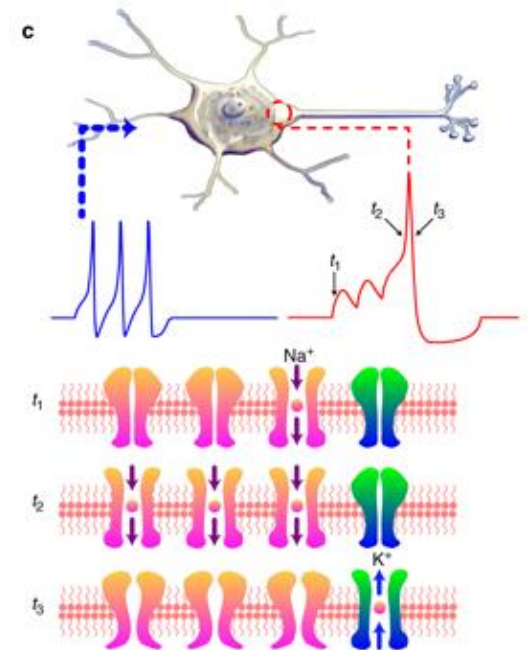
$$J_{Na^+} = G_{Na^+} (V_m - V_{Na^+})$$

$$J_{K^+} = G_{K^+} (V_m - V_{K^+})$$

$$J_L = G_L (V_m - V_L)$$

$$J_m = J_c + J_{K^+} + J_{Na^+} + J_L$$

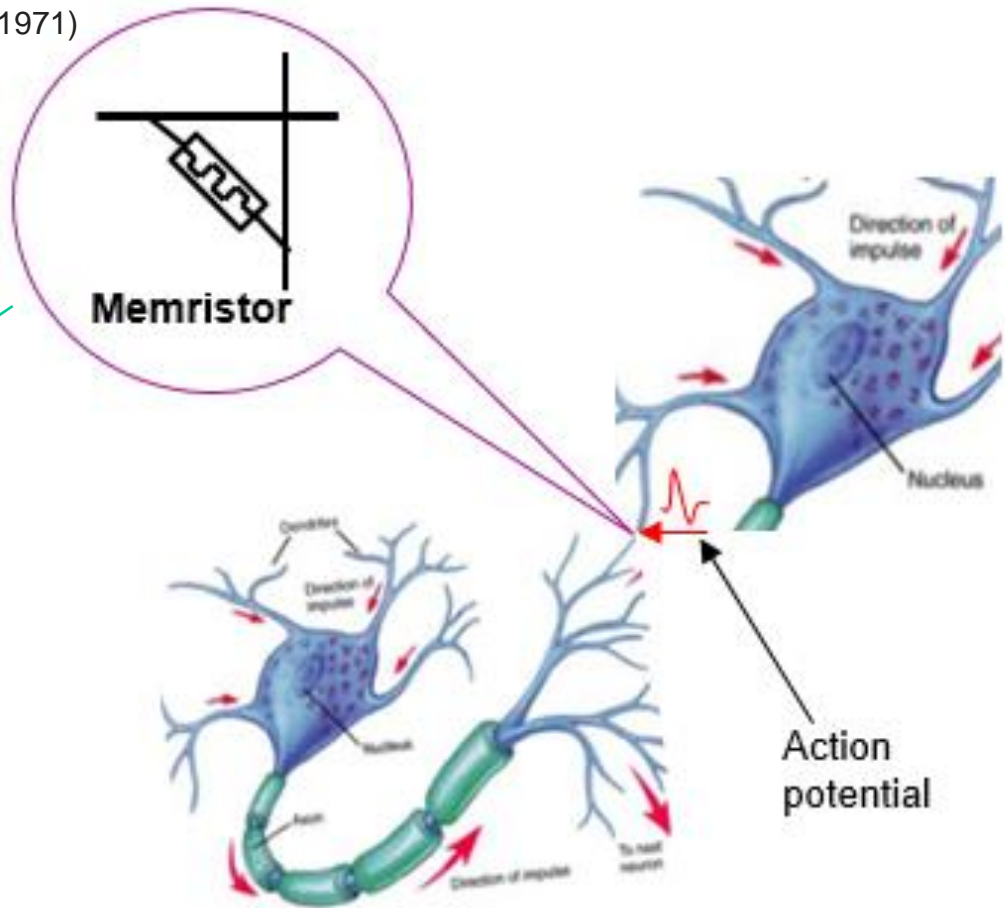
$$J_m = C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + G_{K^+} (V_m - V_{K^+}) + G_{Na^+} (V_m - V_{Na^+}) + G_L (V_m - V_L)$$



Action Potential (Synapse) Storage

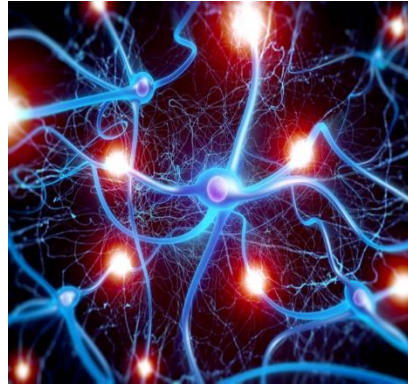
(Dr. Leon Chua, 1971)

The electrical resistor is not constant but depends on the history of current that had previously flowed through the device.

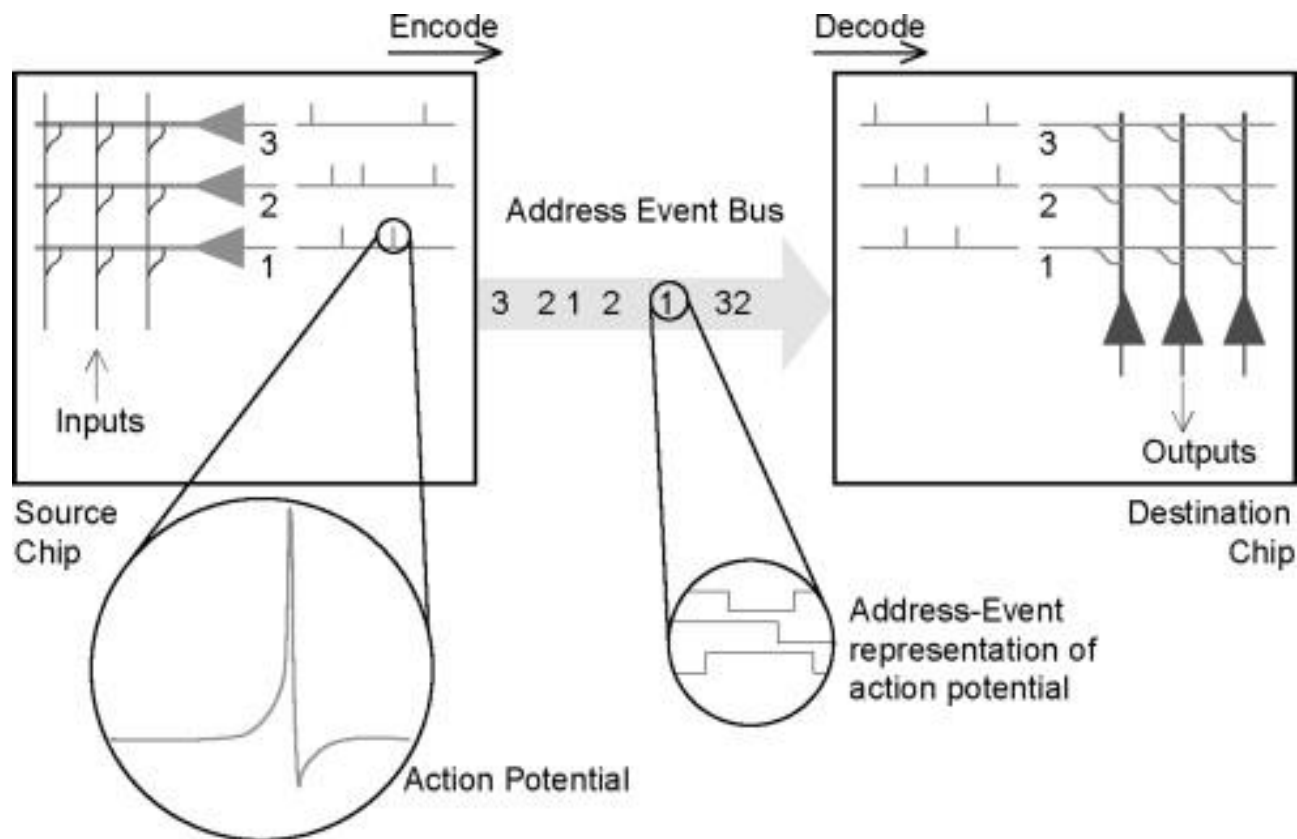


❖ Voltage **pulses** can be applied to a **memristor** to change its **resistance**, just as **spikes** can be applied to a **synapse** to change its **weight**.

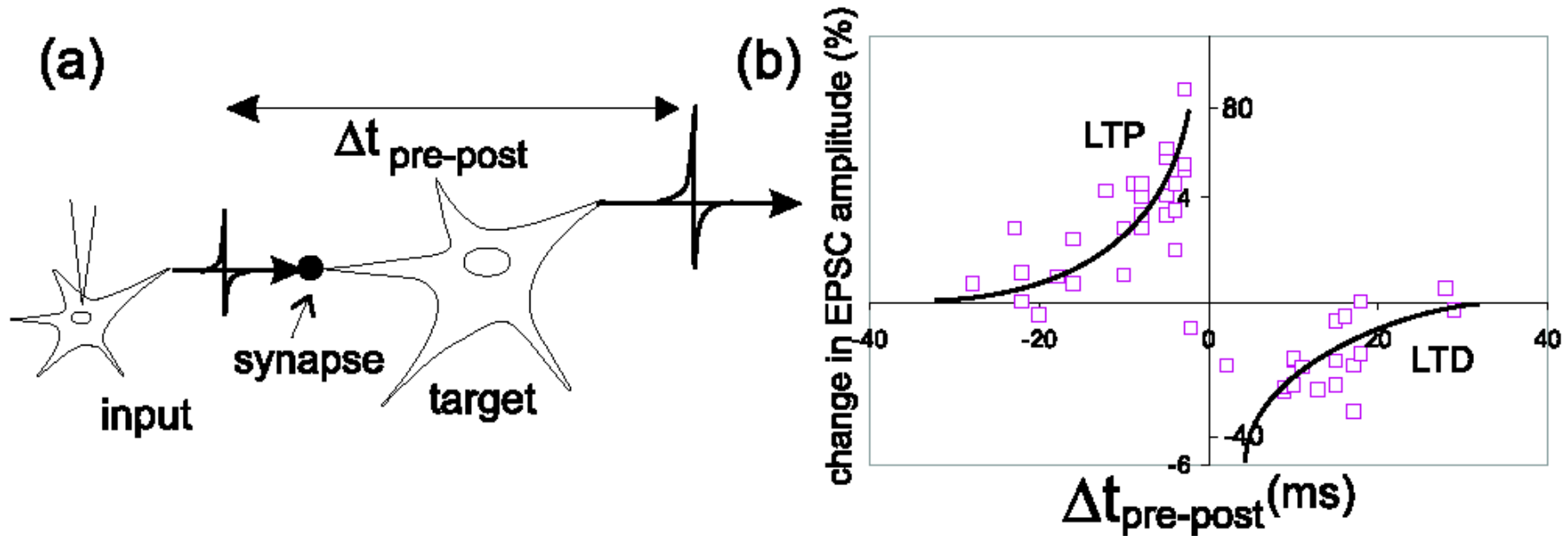
Wiring via AER – address Event Representation



(Courtesy: iStock/Henrik5000)



Spike-timing-dependent plasticity (STDP)



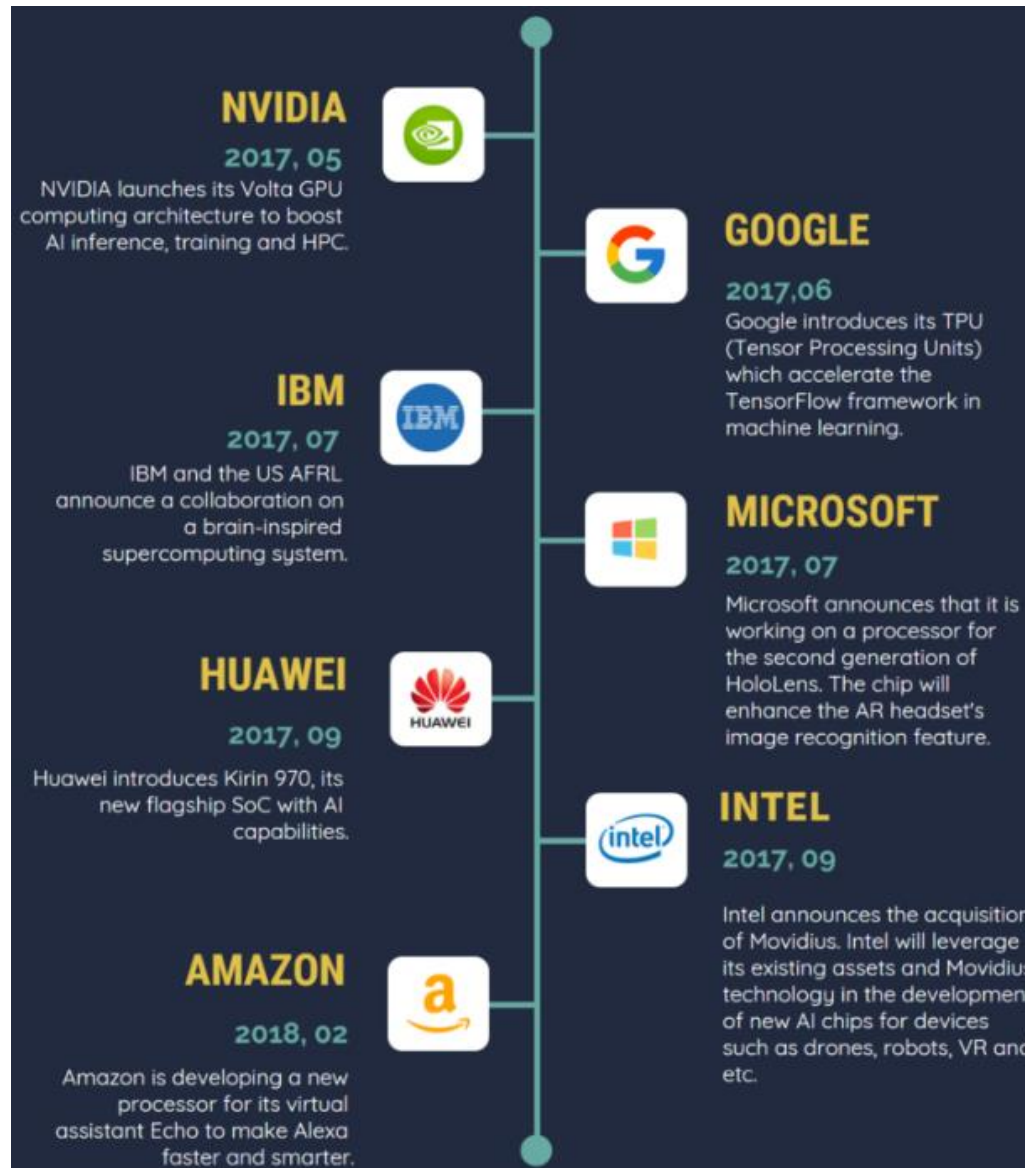
- Adjusts the strength of connections between neurons in the brain.
 - ✓ Adjusts the connection strengths based on the relative timing of a particular neuron's output and input action potentials.

Agenda

1

- Fundamental Trends
- AI – The 4th Industrial Revolution
- **Survey of AI Hardware**
 - Cloud AI Hardware, Chips
 - Mobile AI Chips
 - Edge and IoT AI Chips
 - Healthcare AI Chips
- Conclusions

Big Corps AI Chips



[source: medium.com]

The are two AI Chip Models: ANN and SNN

- The output of ANN Chip depends only on the current stimuli, the output of SNN depends on previous stimuli also
- The SNN/Neuromorphic Chip operates on biology-inspired principles to improve performance and increase energy efficiency

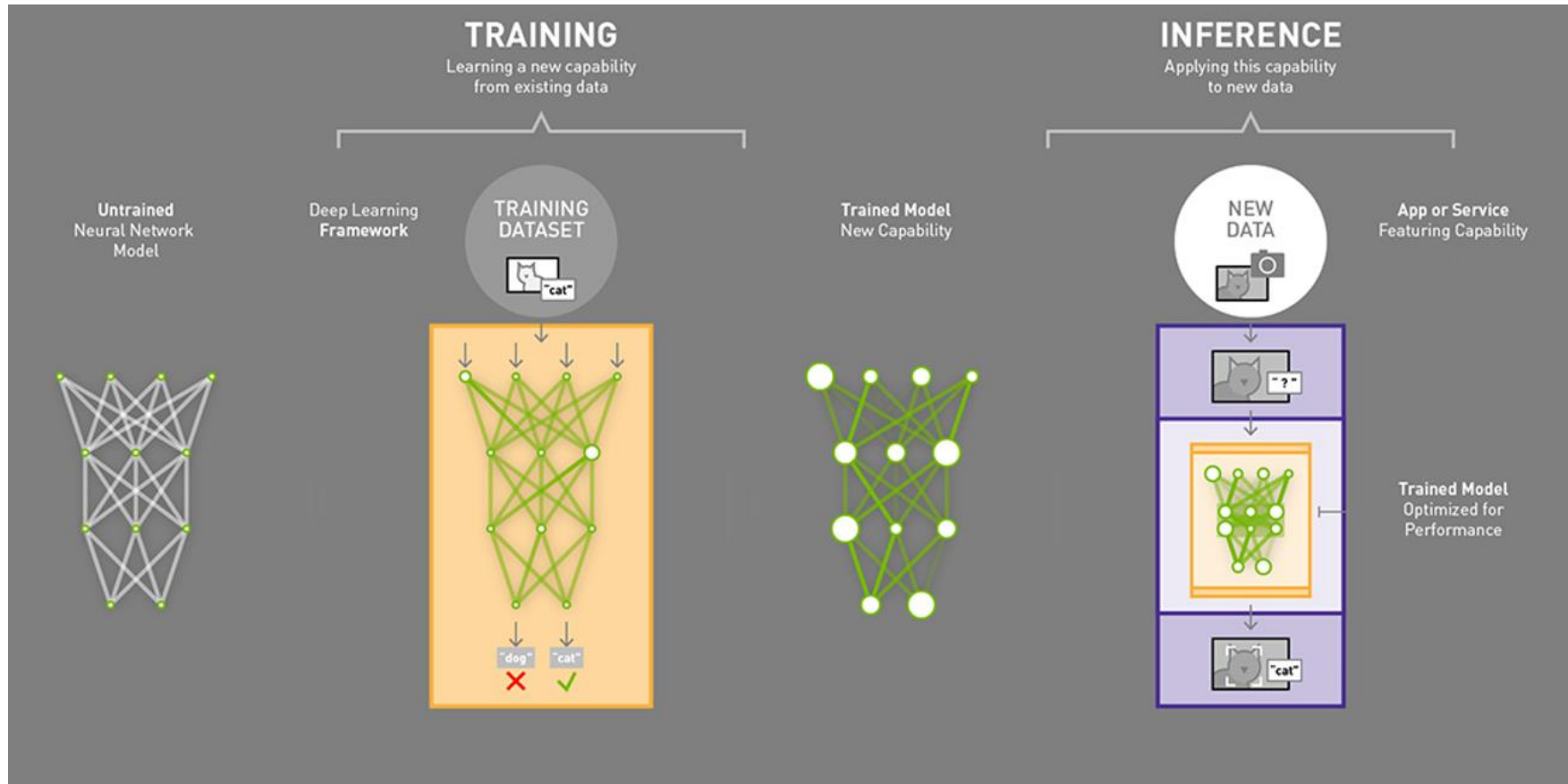
Neuron	Digital, Analog. LIF. . . .	Izhikevich model	Huxley-Hodgkin model . . .
---------------	-----------------------------	------------------	----------------------------

Synapse	MAC (weighted . . . sum)	Spiking STDP	Many nonlinear properties
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Generally Used in DL algorithms

Frequency	10~100 Hz (brain)
------------------	-------------------

Training & Inference

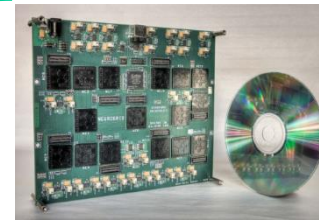


FPGA, GPU, Cloud

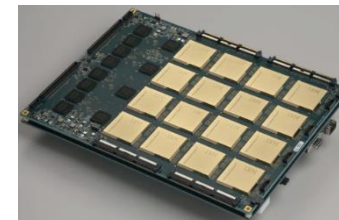
CPU, FPGA, GPU, ASIC

Neuromorphic/SNN AI-Chips

- **Neuromorphic Sensors** - electronic models of retinas and cochleas.
- **Smart sensors** — tracking chips, motion, pressure, auditory classifications and localization sensors.
- **Models of specific systems:** e.g. lamprey spinal cord for swimming, electric fish lateral line.
- **Pattern generators** — for locomotion or rhythmic behavior
- **Large-scale multi-core/chip systems** — for investigating models of neuronal computation and synaptic plasticity.



Neurogrid
(Stanford)



TrueNorth
(IBM)



Brainscales/HBP
(Heidelberg, Lausanne)

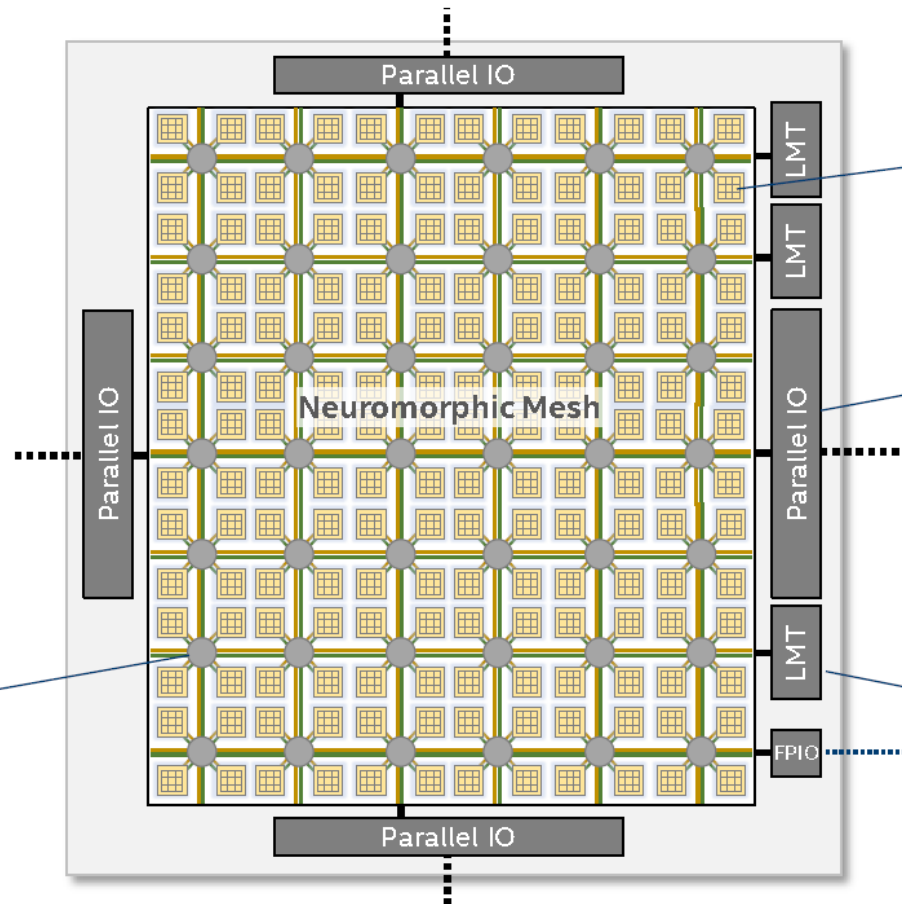


SpiNNaker
(Manchester)

Example

Loihi AI-Chip - a 60-mm² chip fabricated in Intel's 14-nm

Technology:	14nm
Die Area:	64 mm ²
Core area:	0.41 mm ²
NmC cores:	128 cores
x86 cores:	3 LMT cores
Max # neurons:	128K neurons
Max # synapses:	128M synapses
Transistors:	2.07 billion



Neuromorphic core

- LIF neuron model
- Programmable learning
- 128 KB synaptic memory
- Up to 1,024 neurons
- Asynchronous design

Parallel off-chip interfaces

- Two-phase asynchronous
- Single-ended signaling
- 100-200 MB/s BW

Embedded x86 processors

- Efficient spike-based communication with neuromorphic cores
- Data encoding/decoding
- Network configuration
- Synchronous design

Low-overhead NoC fabric

- 8x16-core 2D mesh
- Scalable to 1000's cores
- Dimension order routed
- Two physical fabrics
- 8 GB/s per hop

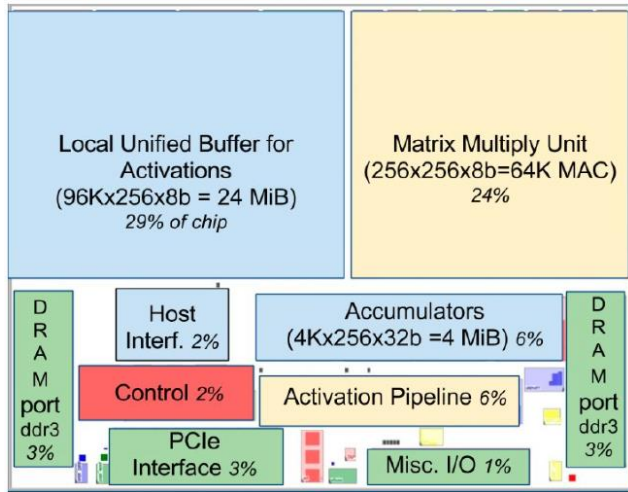
Cloud AI-Chips

Acceleration enterprise AI with DL Cloud

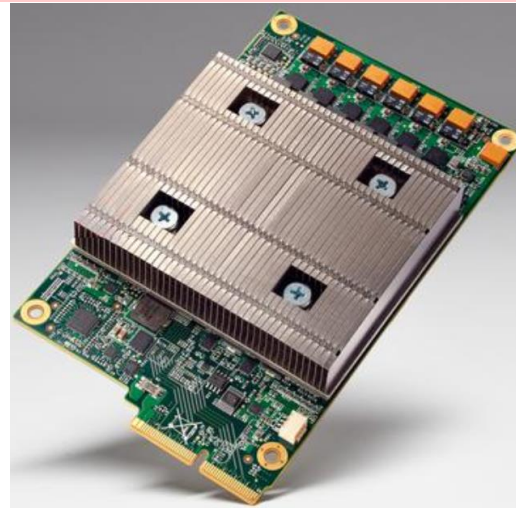


Custom ASIC: Tensor Processing Unit (TPU)

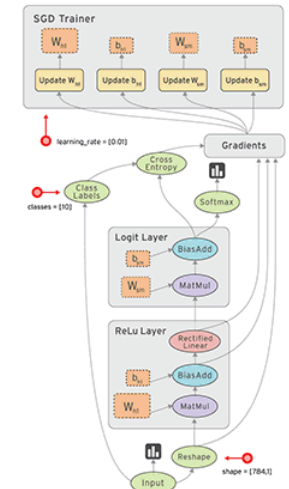
TPU is deployed in datacenters since 2015 that accelerates the **inference** phase of neural networks (NNs).



Floor Plan of TPU die



TPU Printed Circuit Board



Source: TensorFlow.org



Host Server

PCI v3 x 32



TPU chip runs at only 700 MHz

Custom ASIC: Tensor Processing Unit (TPU)

TPU is deployed in datacenters since 2015 that accelerates the **inference** phase of neural networks (NNs).



Google's first Tensor Processing Unit (TPU) on a printed circuit board (left); TPUs deployed in a Google datacenter (right)

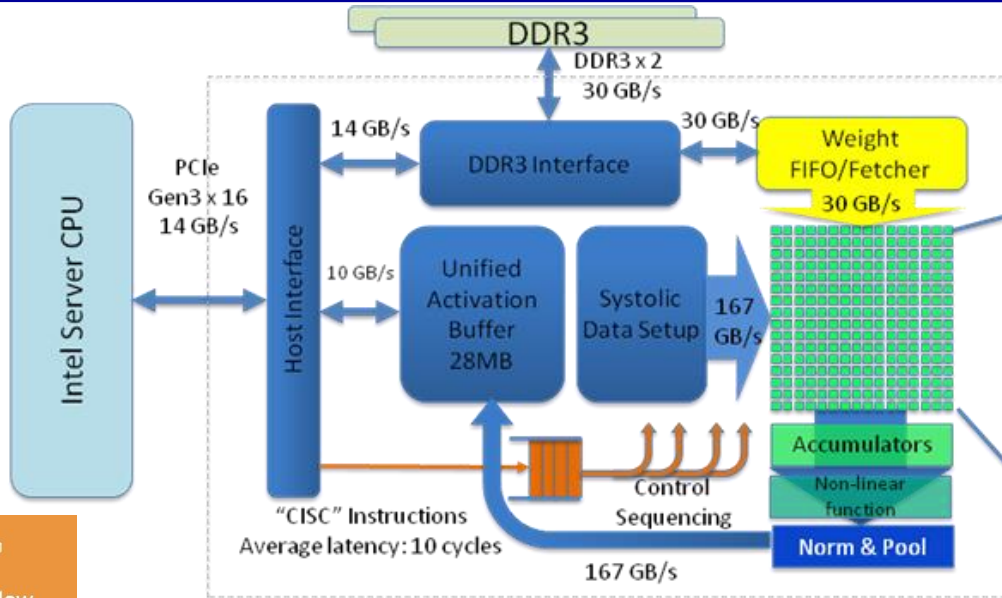
Source: cloud.google.com

- The TPU board can perform 92 TeraOps/s (TOPS). It is **15 to 30 times faster than CPUs and GPUs** tasked with the same work, with a 30- to 80-fold improvement in TOPS/W.
- The software used for comparison of systems was the **TensorFlow framework**.

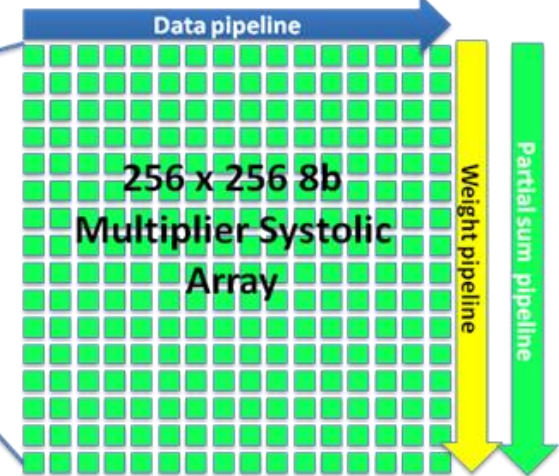
Experience Cloud TPU: <https://github.com/tensorflow/tpu>
<https://cloud.google.com/tpu/docs>

Source: *In-datacenter Performance Analysis of a Tensor Processing Unit Jouppi et al, ISCA, 6/2017*

Custom ASIC: Tensor Processing Unit (TPU)

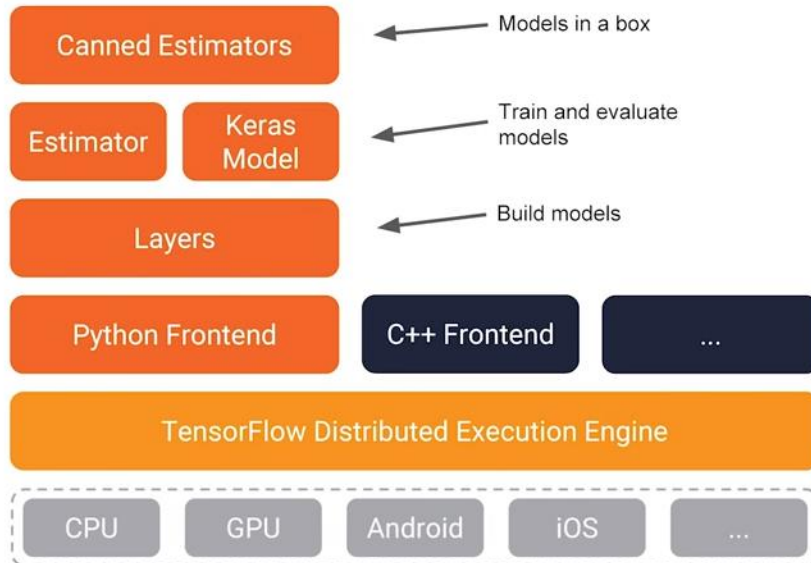


The main computation part is the **Matrix Multiply** unit (MMU).



TPU Block Diagram

Figure source: semiengineering.com

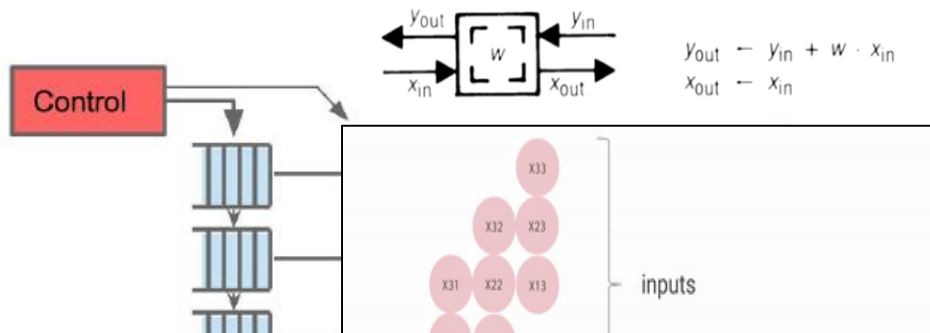


- The portion of the application run on the TPU is typically written in **TensorFlow** and is compiled into an API that can run on GPUs or TPUs.

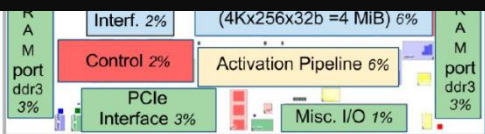
- ✓ The TPU has a CISC-like instructions set:
 - ✓ **Read_Host**
 - ✓ **Read_Weights**
 - ✓ **MatrixMultiply/Convolve**
 - ✓ **Activate**
 - ✓ **Write_Host**

TPU is based on the Systolic Array Idea

The matrix unit uses **systolic execution** to save energy by reducing reads and writes of the **Unified Buffer**.



Benefit: Maximizes computation done on a single piece of data element brought from memory.



Systolic data flow of the Matrix Multiply Unit. SW has the illusion that each 256B input is read at once, and they instantly update one location of each of 256 accumulator RAMs.

TPU is based on the Systolic Array

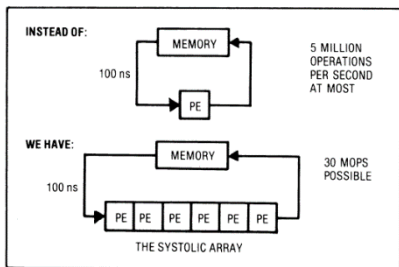
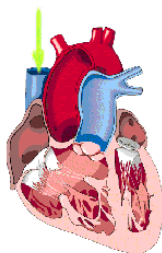


Figure 1. Basic principle of a systolic system.



- Right Atrium
- Tricuspid Valve
- Right Ventricle
- Pulmonic Valve
- Pulmonary Arteries
- Pulmonic Veins
- Left Atrium
- Mitral Valve
- Left Ventricle
- Aortic Valve
- Aorta

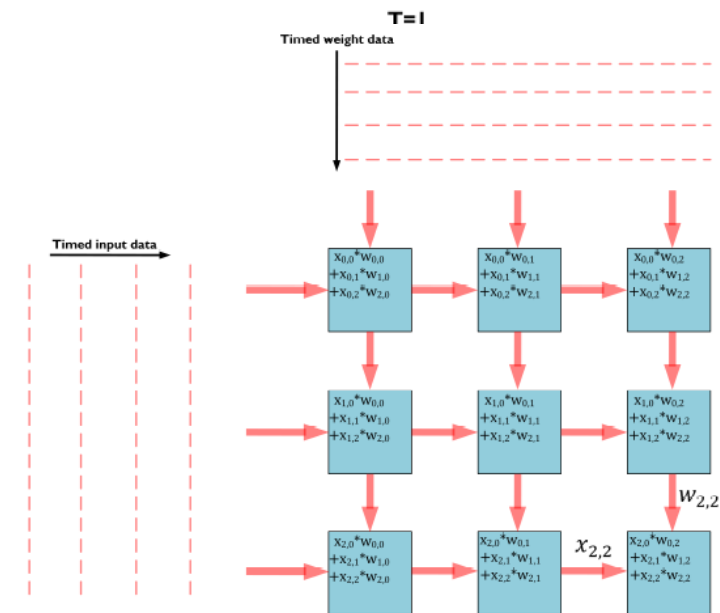
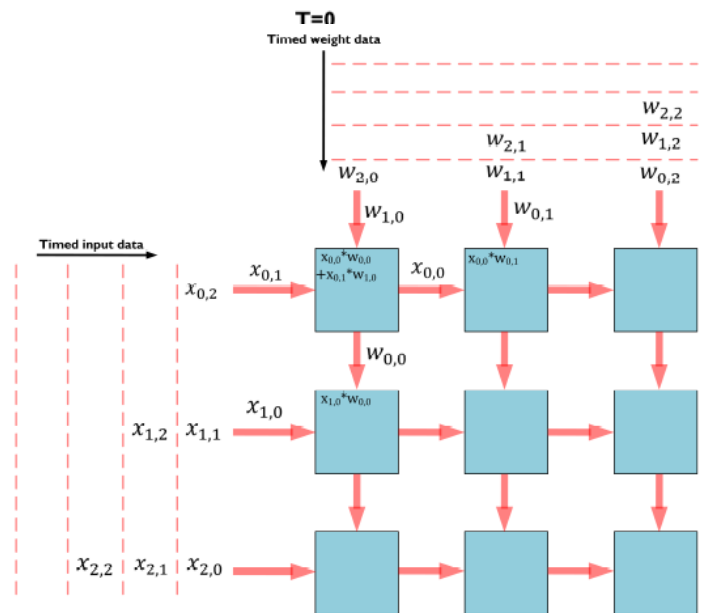
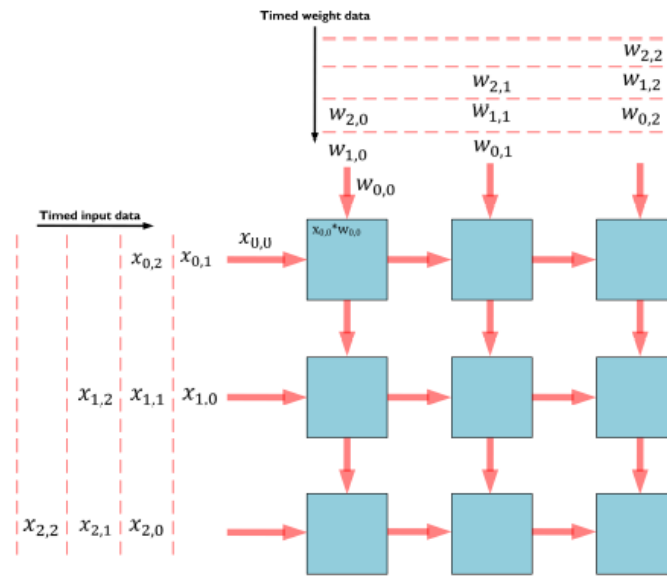
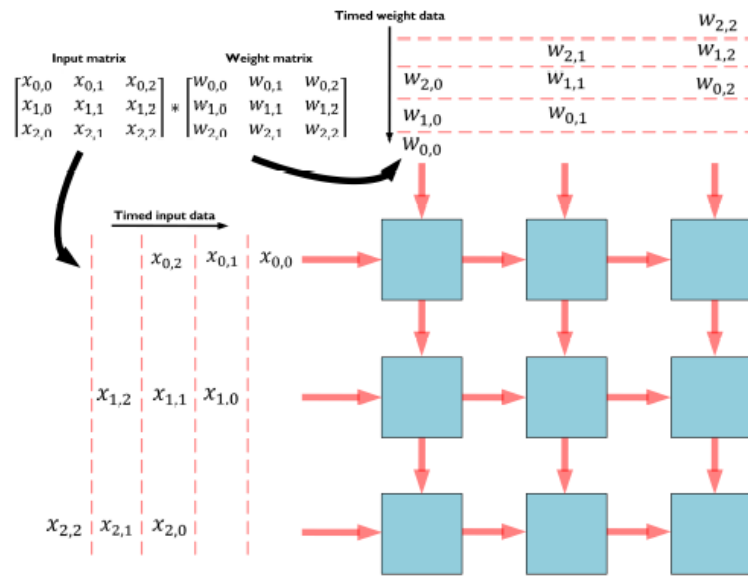
Similar to blood flow: heart -> many cells -> heart

Memory: heart

Data: blood

PEs: cells

Systolic arrays for DNN acceleration (Ex. TPU)



Ref. Azghadi2020
IEEE TRABS ON
BIOMEDICAL
CIRCUITS AND
SYSTEMS

NN Training Works with Low-precision FP

fp32: Single-precision IEEE Floating Point Format



Range: (10^{-45}) to (10^{38})

fp16: Half-precision IEEE Floating Point Format



Range: 10^{-8} to 65504

bfloat16: Brain Floating Point Format



Range: (10^{-45}) to (10^{38})

- ❖ Represent the same range of numbers of fp32 just at a much lower position.
- ❖ It turns out that we don't need all that precision for NN training, but we do actually need all the range.

NN Training Works with Low-precision FP

- One technique exploited by the new chips is using **low-precision**, often fixed-point data, **eight bits** or even fewer, especially for inference.
- One of the major open questions in all of this as far as hardware accelerators are concerned is **how far can you actually push this down** without losing classification accuracy?
- Results from **Google, Intel, and others** show that such low-precision computations can be very powerful when the data is prepared correctly, which also opens opportunities for novel electronics.

What are the differences between the three TPUs

TPU v1
(2015)



Case Study: ResNet-50 and TF 1.11

Real data: **~4100** images/sec

Final accuracy: **93%**

Training time:
(90 epochs) **7h 47m**

excluding startup overhead

Current training cost: **\$36**

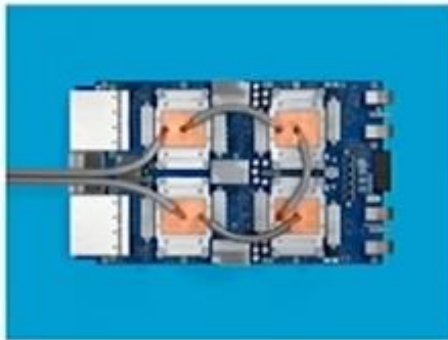
Current preemptible
training cost: **\$11**

Alpha

Cloud TPU
(v2, 2017)



Cloud TPU
(v3, 2018)



FLOPS -> OPS (Fixed-point operations per sec.)

e.g. PC(Core i7) ~500GFLOPS

Operation performance: TOPS/GOPS (Tera/Giga Operations Per Second)

Energy efficiency: TOPS/W (Tera Ops. per sec. / Joule per sec = Tera ops. / Joule)

Energy consumption per op. (1/(TOPS/W) [pJ/op] = 1 [pJ/op])

Synapse op. in **brain**: 0.1~1 fJ/op

(1fJ = 10^{-15} joules)

1,000~10,000 TOPS/W

=1~10 POPS/W

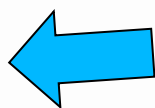
What are the differences between the three TPUs



Cloud TPU Pod (v2, 2017)



TPU v3 Pod (2018)



ResNet-50 on Cloud TPU v2 Pod

Real data: **219,000+** images/sec

Final accuracy: **93%**

Training time:
(90 epochs) **8m 45s**

excluding startup overhead

TPU Performance on three Popular NNs

- Multi-Layer Perceptrons (MLP)
- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN)
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN)

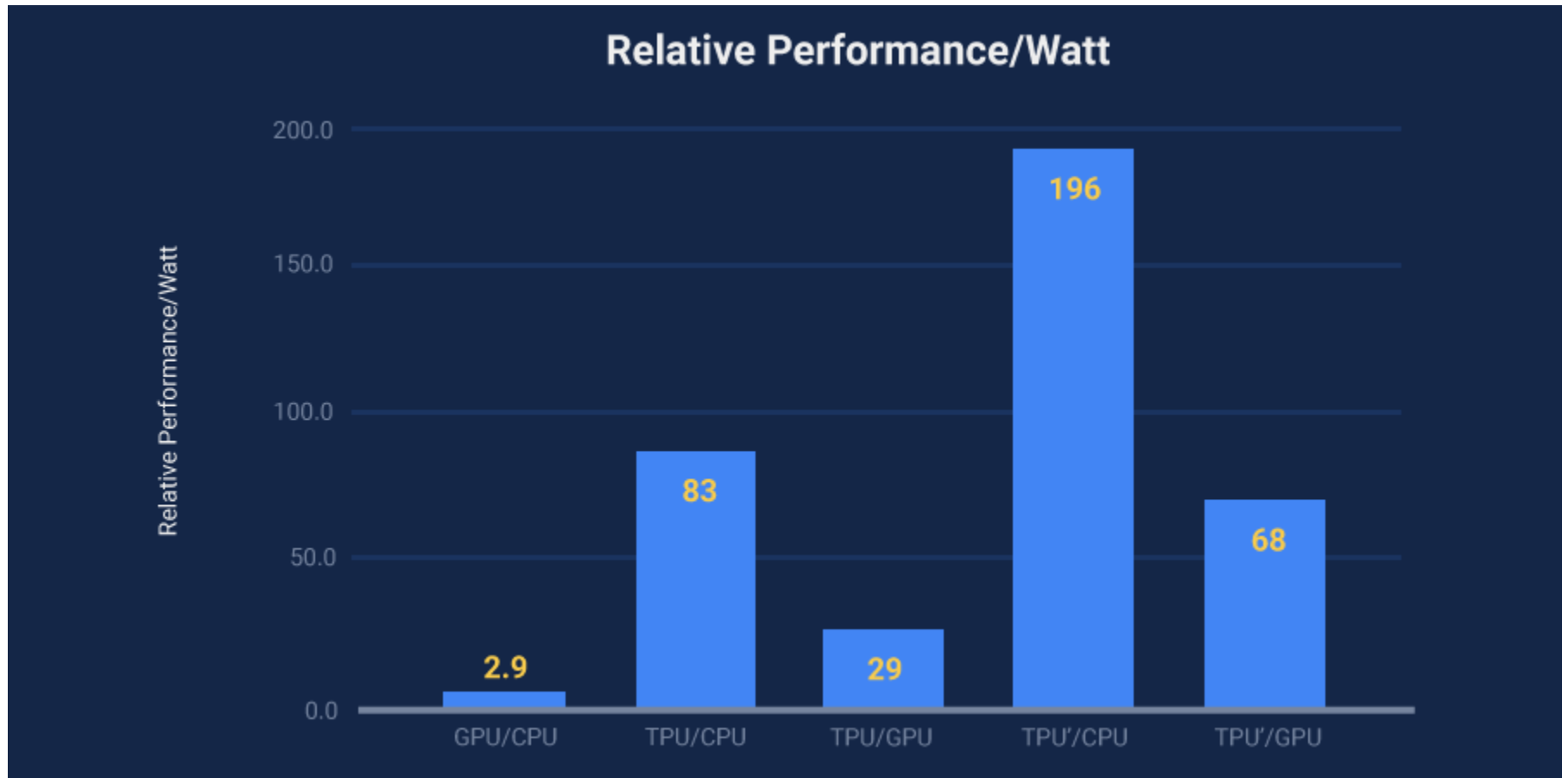
Name	LOC	Layers					Nonlinear function	Weights	TPU Ops / Weight Byte	TPU Batch Size	% of Deployed TPUs in July 2016
		FC	Conv	Vector	Pool	Total					
MLP0	100	5				5	ReLU	20M	200	200	61%
MLP1	1000	4				4	ReLU	5M	168	168	
LSTM0	1000	24		34		58	sigmoid, tanh	52M	64	64	29%
LSTM1	1500	37		19		56	sigmoid, tanh	34M	96	96	
CNN0	1000		16			16	ReLU	8M	2888	8	5%
CNN1	1000	4	72		13	89	ReLU	100M	1750	32	

Tensor Processing Unit (TPU) with MLP, CNN, RNN)

Model	Die										Benchmarked Servers				
	mm ²	nm	MHz	TDP	Measured		TOPS/s		GB/s	On-Chip Memory	Dies	DRAM Size	TDP	Measured	
					Idle	Busy	8b	FP						Idle	Busy
Haswell E5-2699 v3	662	22	2300	145W	41W	145W	2.6	1.3	51	51 MiB	2	256 GiB	504W	159W	455W
NVIDIA K80 (2 dies/card)	561	28	560	150W	25W	98W	--	2.8	160	8 MiB	8	256 GiB (host) + 12 GiB x 8	1838W	357W	991W
TPU	NA*	28	700	75W	28W	40W	92	--	34	28 MiB	4	256 GiB (host) + 8 GiB x 4	861W	290W	384W

Benchmarked servers use Haswell CPUs, K80 GPUs, and TPUs. Haswell has 18 cores, and the K80 has 13 SMX processors.

TPU Relative Performance/Watt

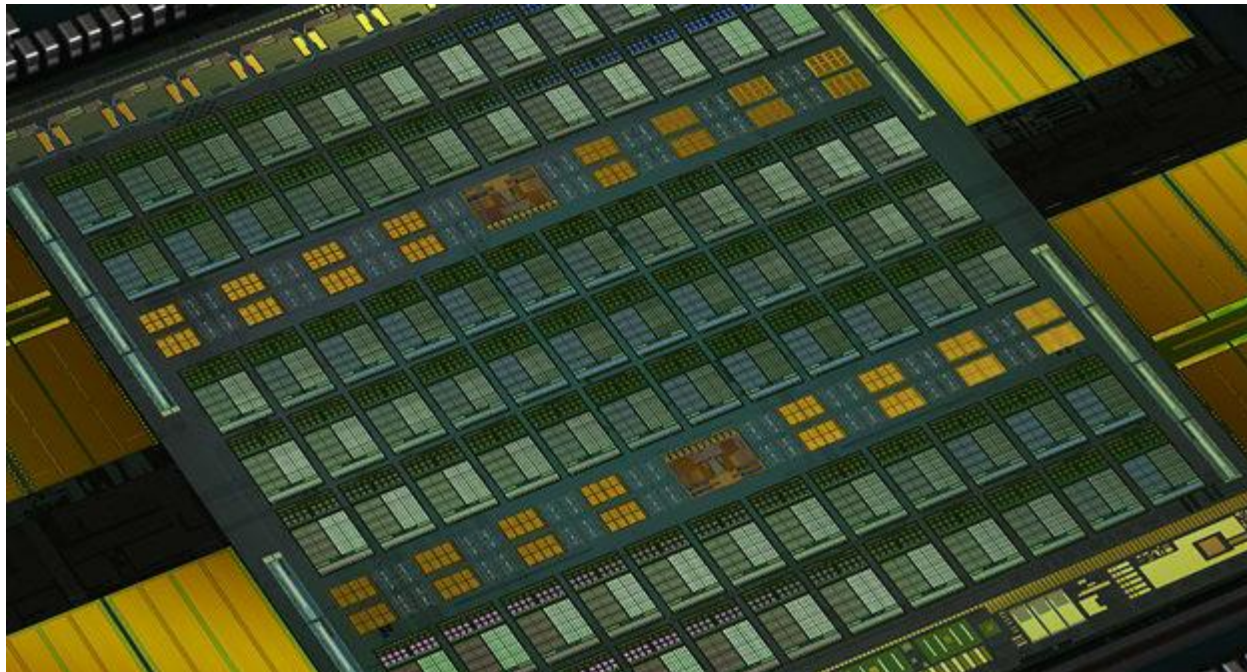


Quantifying the performance of the TPU, our first machine learning chip:

<https://cloudplatform.googleblog.com/2017/04/quantifying-the-performance-of-the-TPU-our-first-machine-learning-chip.html>

NVIDIA's Volta GPU is Specially Designed for AI

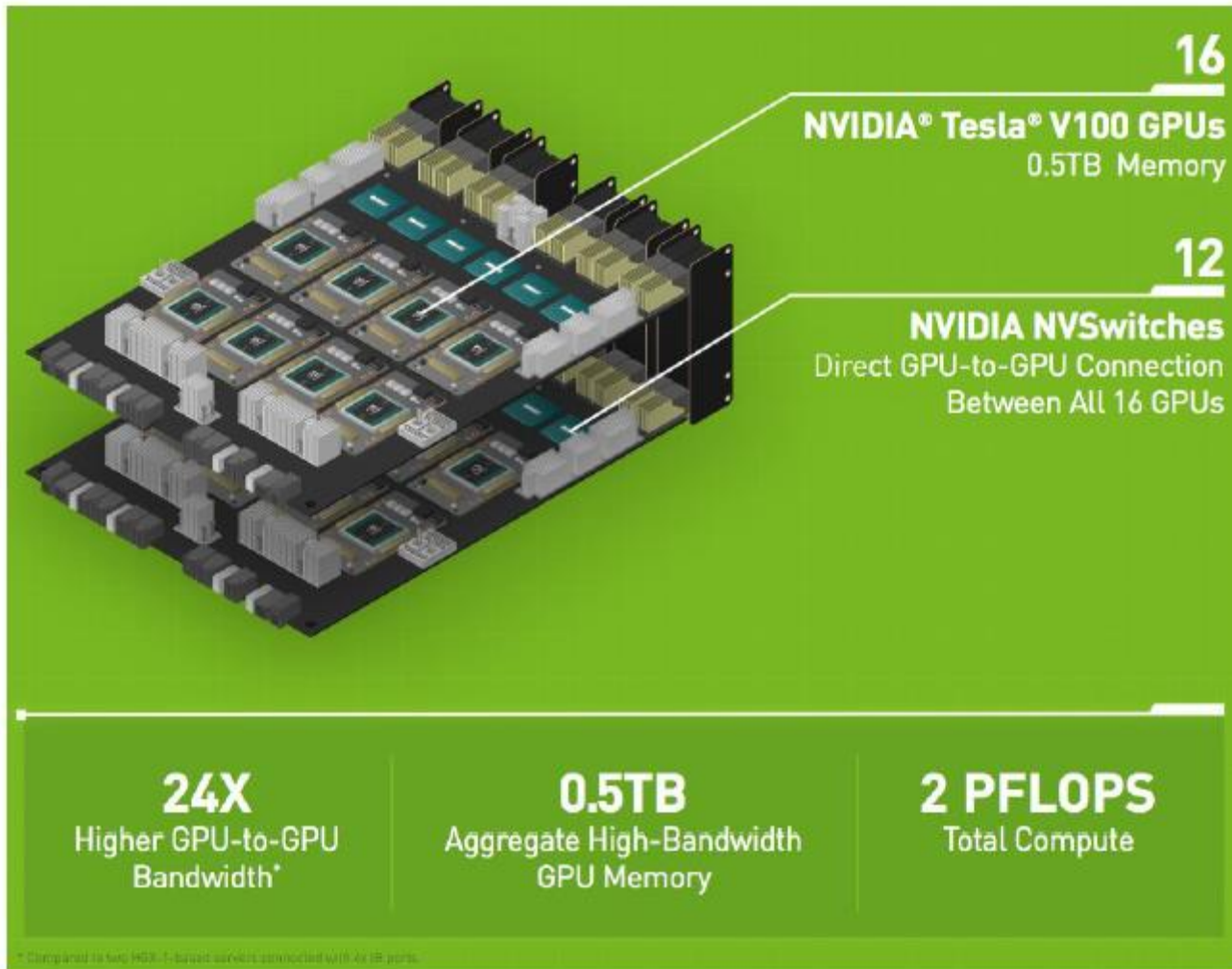
- NVIDIA's Volta GPU is specially designed for ML, and it offers 100 TFLOPS of DL performance, according to the company.
- GPUs were built for graphics workloads and *evolved* for high performance computing and AI workloads
- While GPUs are used extensively for **training**, they're not really needed for **inference**



NVIDIA's Volta GPU architecture is specially designed for AI. (Image courtesy of NVIDIA.)

The HGX-2, announced at NVIDIA GTC May 2018

Multi-precision computing platform for scientific computing (high precision) and AI workloads (low precision).



16
NVIDIA® Tesla® V100 GPUs
0.5TB Memory

12
NVIDIA NVSwitches
Direct GPU-to-GPU Connection
Between All 16 GPUs

24X
Higher GPU-to-GPU
Bandwidth*

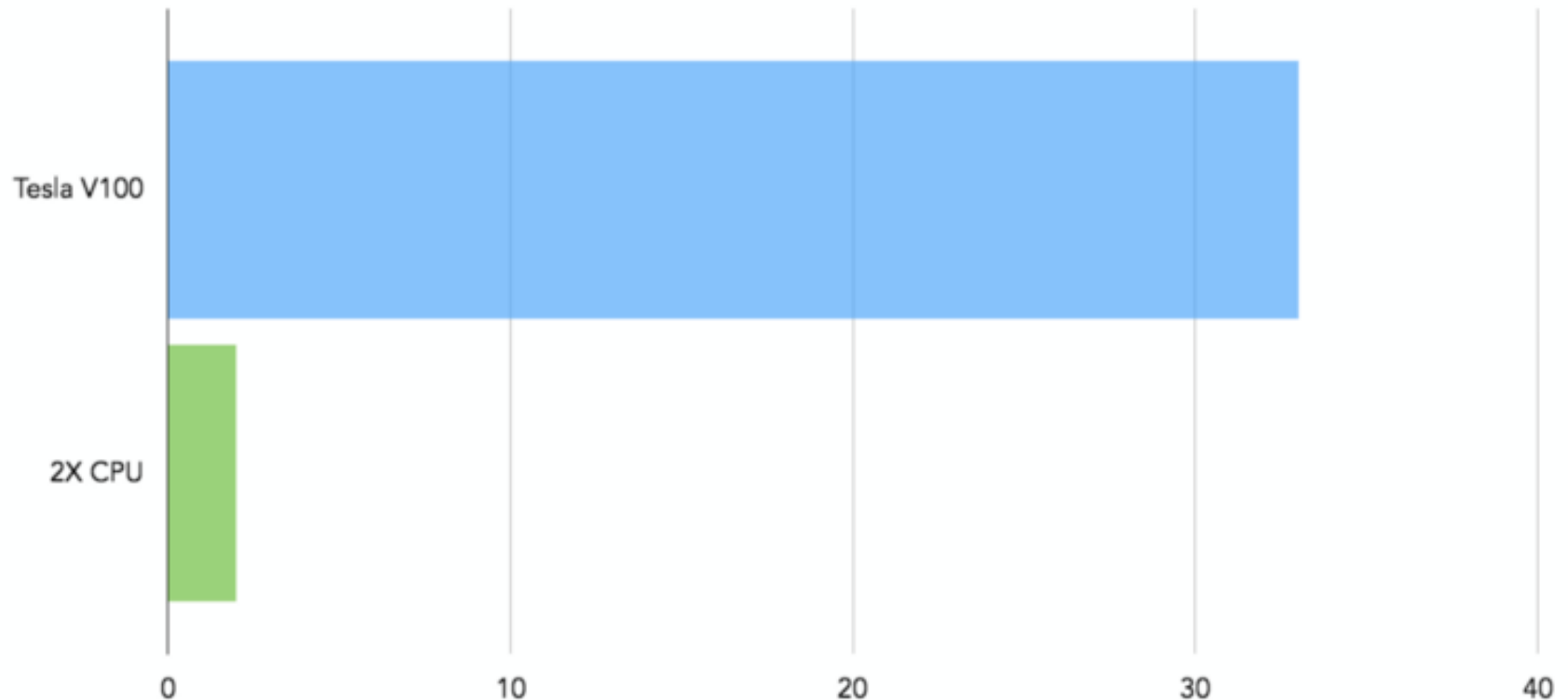
0.5TB
Aggregate High-Bandwidth
GPU Memory

2 PFLOPS
Total Compute

* Compared to two HGX-1-based servers connected with 4x 16 ports.

NVIDIA's GPU Performance

30x Higher Throughput than CPU Server on Deep Learning Inference



Source: NVIDIA

Performance Normalised to CPU

At Facebook, for example, primary use case of GPUs is offline training rather than serving real-time data to users

Offline training uses a mix of GPUs and CPUs

Service	Resource	Training Frequency	Training Duration
News Feed	Dual-Socket CPUs	Daily	Many Hours
Facer	GPUs + Single-Socket CPUs	Every N Photos	Few Seconds
Lumos	GPUs	Multi-Monthly	Many Hours
Search	Vertical Dependent	Hourly	Few Hours
Language Translation	GPUs	Weekly	Days
Sigma	Dual-Socket CPUs	Sub-Daily	Few Hours
Speech Recognition	GPUs	Weekly	Many Hours

TABLE II

FREQUENCY, DURATION, AND RESOURCES USED BY OFFLINE TRAINING FOR VARIOUS WORKLOADS

However, online training is CPU-heavy

Services	Relative Capacity	Compute	Memory
News Feed	100X	Dual-Socket CPU	High
Facer	10X	Single-Socket CPU	Low
Lumos	10X	Single-Socket CPU	Low
Search	10X	Dual-Socket CPU	High
Language Translation	1X	Dual-Socket CPU	High
Sigma	1X	Dual-Socket CPU	High
Speech Recognition	1X	Dual-Socket CPU	High

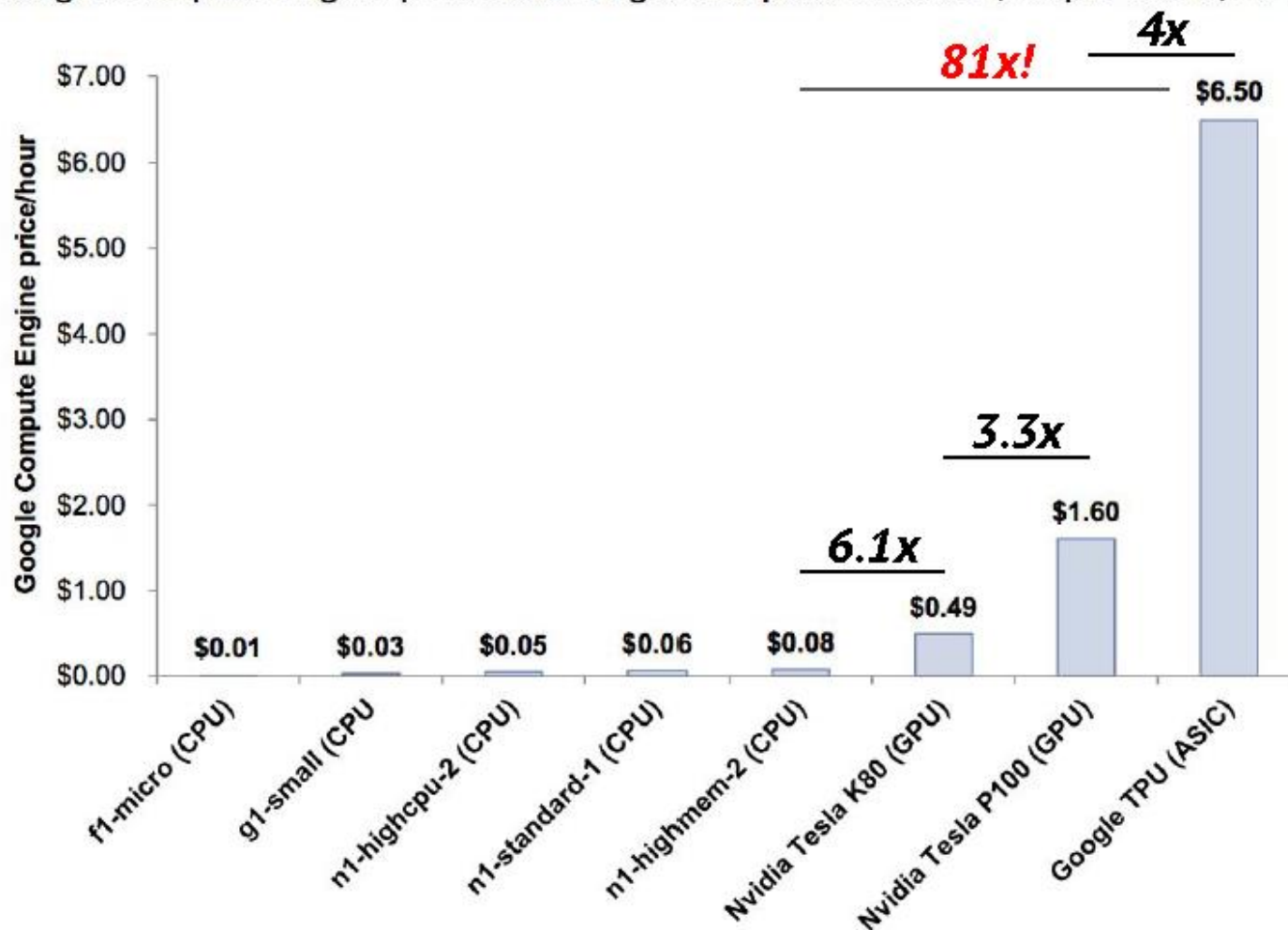
TABLE III

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS OF ONLINE INFERENCE WORKLOADS.

GPUs & ASICs Renting Cost Per Hour

Exhibit 11: Offerings for AI command significantly higher prices

Google Compute Engine price/hour/single compute instance (i.e. per 1CPU, GPU, TPU, etc)

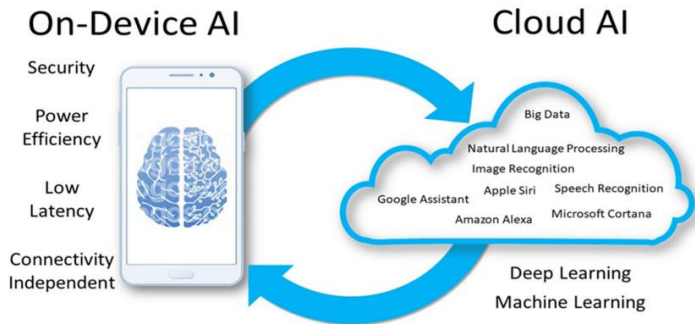


Source: Google, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research.

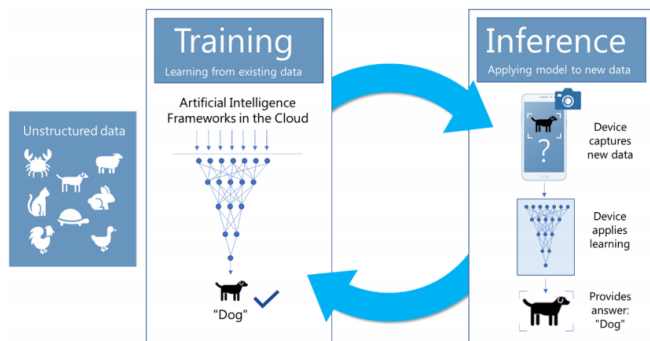
Mobile AI-Chips

Mobile AI-Chips

- Much of the data captured by the smartphone, including images, video, and sound, is unstructured.
- **Training and Inference are Two Vital Components of AI on Smartphones.**
- Unlike structured data — information with a degree of organization — unstructured data makes compilation a time- and energy-consuming task.
- Huawei's Kirin 970 chipset comes with its own **neural processing unit (NPU)**.
- Huawei has its own APIs that developers need to use to tap the power of the “neural” hardware.
- Google has its mobile AI framework - TensorFlow Lite.



Source: IDC, Huawei, Qualcomm, 2017



Source: IDC, Huawei, Qualcomm, Nvidia, 2017



Huawei Kirin 970

Source: Huawei, 2017

8-Core CPU up to 2.4GHz	12-Core GPU Mali G72MP12
Kirin NPU 1.92T FP16 OPS	Image DSP 512bit SIMD
Hi-Silicon AI	
Global-Mode Modem 1.2Gbps@LTE Cat18	Dual Camera ISP with face & motion detection
4K Video HDR10	HiFi Audio 32bit / 384k
LPDDR 4X	UFS 2.1
i7 Sensor Processor	Security Engine inSE & TEE

Summary of Mobile AI Chips

	System-on-chip (SoC)	A11 Bionic	A12 Bionic	Kirin 970	Kirin980
Design	Supplier	Apple		Hisilicon	
	Released date	9.12.2018		8.31.2018	
	64 Bit	Yes			
	manufacturing process	10 nm TSMC	7nm TSMC	10nm TSMC	7nm TSMC
	Transistors	4.3 billion	6.9 billion	5.5 billion	6.9 billion
CPU	CPU Cores	2+4	2+4	4+4	2+2+4
	Performance CPU	Monsoon	New CPU× 2 + 15% performance	Cortex-A73 × 2	Cortex-A76 (2.6GHz) × 2 + Cortex-A76 (1.92GHz) × 2
	Efficiency CPU	Mistral × 4	New CPU× 4 + 50% efficiency	Cortex-A53 × 4	Cortex-A55 × 4
	Max Clock (GHz)	2.4	N/A	2.4	2.6
GPU	GPU	Internally-designed GPU	Internally-designed GPU	Mali-G72 MP12	Mali-G76
	GPU Cores	3	4	12	10
AI Accelerator	AI Processor	2-core Neural Engine	8-core Neural Engine	NPU	Dual NPU
	Performance	600 billion operations per second	5 trillion operations per second	2005 pictures per minute	4500 pictures per minute
Memory	Ram Interface	LPDDR4X	LPDDR4X	LPDDR4x	LPDDR4X
	Ram Frequency	N/A	N/A	1833	2133
	Max Bandwidth	N/A	N/A	29.9	34.1

Summary of Mobile AI Chips

	System-on-chip (SoC)	A11 Bionic	A12 Bionic	Kirin 970	Kirin980
Design	Supplier	Apple		Hisilicon	
	Released date	9.12.2018		8.31.2018	
	64 Bit	Yes			
	manufacturing process	10 nm TSMC	7nm TSMC	10nm TSMC	7nm TSMC
	Transistors	4.3 billion	6.9 billion	5.5 billion	6.9 billion
CPU	CPU Cores	2+4	2+4	4+4	2+2+4
	Performance CPU	Monsoon	New CPU× 2 + 15% performance	Cortex-A73 × 2	Cortex-A76 (2.6GHz) × 2 + Cortex-A76 (1.92GHz) × 2
	Efficiency CPU	Mistral × 4	New CPU× 4 + 50% efficiency	Cortex-A53 × 4	Cortex-A55 × 4
	Max Clock (GHz)	2.4	N/A	2.4	2.6
GPU	GPU	Internally-designed GPU	Internally-designed GPU	Mali-G72 MP12	Mali-G76
	CPU Cores	2	4	12	10
AI Accelerator	AI Processor	2-core Neural Engine	8-core Neural Engine	NPU	Dual NPU
	Performance	600 billion operations per second	5 trillion operations per second	2005 pictures per minute	4500 pictures per minute
Memory	Ram Interface	LPDDR4X	LPDDR4X	LPDDR4x	LPDDR4X
	Ram Frequency	N/A	N/A	1833	2133
	Max Bandwidth	N/A	N/A	29.9	34.1

Edge and IoT AI-Chips

~Processing Real-Time Data~

Edge Computing: Edge AI Chip

- The need for no latency, higher security, faster computing, and less dependence on connectivity will drive the adoption of devices that

On-device approach helps reduce latency for critical applications, lower dependence on the cloud, and better manage the massive data being generated by the IoT device.

computing
+
intelligence
where it is
needed.

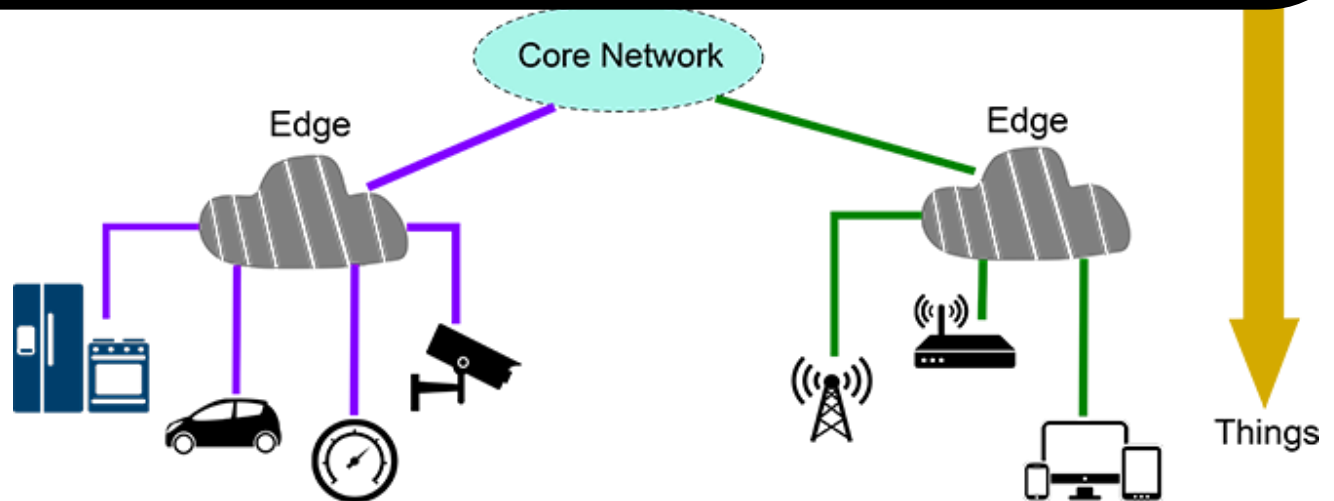


Illustration of an Edge Computing Architecture

Examples of Edge AI Applications



In-home smart cameras can recognize that a person(s) has entered an area

Eg:  IQ cameras,  DeepLens



On-device facial recognition and object recognition, where user data doesn't leave the device

Eg:  neural engine
 AI processor




On-board AI making instantaneous driving decisions

Eg:  autopilot




Vision for baby monitors, drones, robots, and other devices that can respond to situations without internet connection

Eg:  Myriad X



Cloud stores large datasets, trains algorithms, collects edge data, pushes AI model updates

Examples of Edge AI Applications

Nest Cam IQ

It doesn't just watch home.
It helps out there too.



Combining a 4K sensor with HDR and Intelligent Imaging
Uses on-device vision processing to watch for motion, distinguish family members, and send alerts only if someone is not recognized or doesn't fit pre-defined parameters.

Hey Google, turn the thermostat to 72 degrees



Turning the thermostat to 72 degrees

Hey Google, add baby wipes to shopping list



Adding baby wipes to shopping list

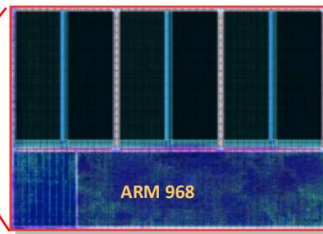
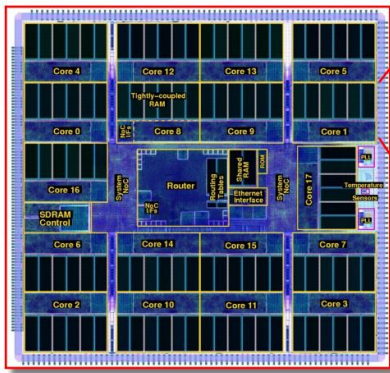
Apple, Intel, and Google Edge AI-Chips

- **Apple** released its **A11 chip** with a “neural engine” for iPhone 8 and X. Apple claims it can perform machine learning tasks at up to **600B operations per second**.
 - It powers new iPhone features like FaceID, which scans a user’s face with an invisible spray of light, without uploading or storing any user data (or their face) in the cloud.
- **Intel** released an on-device vision processing chip called **Myriad X** (initially developed by Movidius, which Intel acquired in 2016).
 - Myriad X promises to take on-device deep learning beyond smartphones to devices like baby monitors and drones
- **Google** proposed a similar concept with its “federated learning” approach, where some of the machine learning “training” can happen on your device. It’s testing out the feature in **Gboard**, the Google keyboard.

❖ **AI on the edge reduces latency. But unlike the cloud, edge has storage and processing constraints.**

Healthcare AI-Chips

Healthcare AI-Chips



SpiNNaker CPU

Applications/Research Areas

- ❖ **Neuroscience:** neuroinformatics; brain simulation
- ❖ **Medicine:** medical informatics; early diagnosis; personalized treatment
- ❖ **Future computing:** interactive supercomputing; neuromorphic computing

SpiNNaker-1 machine



Many-core system
0.5 (1.0) Million ARM cores
Real-time simulator

BrainScaleS-1 machine



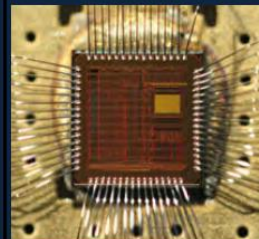
Physical model system
4M neurons, 1B plastic syn.
Accelerated emulator

SpiNNaker-2 prototype



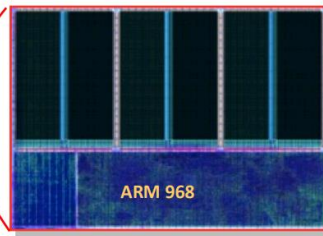
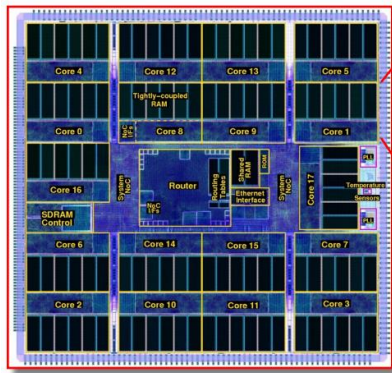
144 Cortex M4F per chip
36 GIPS/Watt per chip
x10 with constant power

BrainScaleS-2 prototype

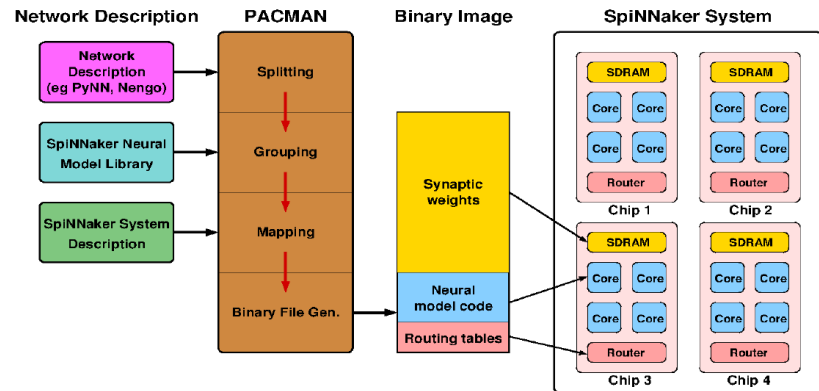


On-chip plasticity processor
Flexible hybrid plasticity
Active dendritic spatial structure

Healthcare AI-Chips



SpiNNaker CPU



SpiNNaker-1 machine



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0.5 (1.0) Million ARM cores
Real-time simulator

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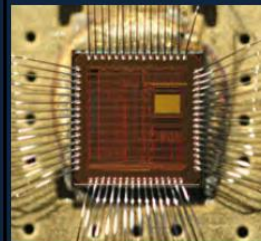
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On-chip plasticity processor
Flexible hybrid plasticity
Active dendritic spatial structure

Healthcare AI-Chips

The Human Brain Project

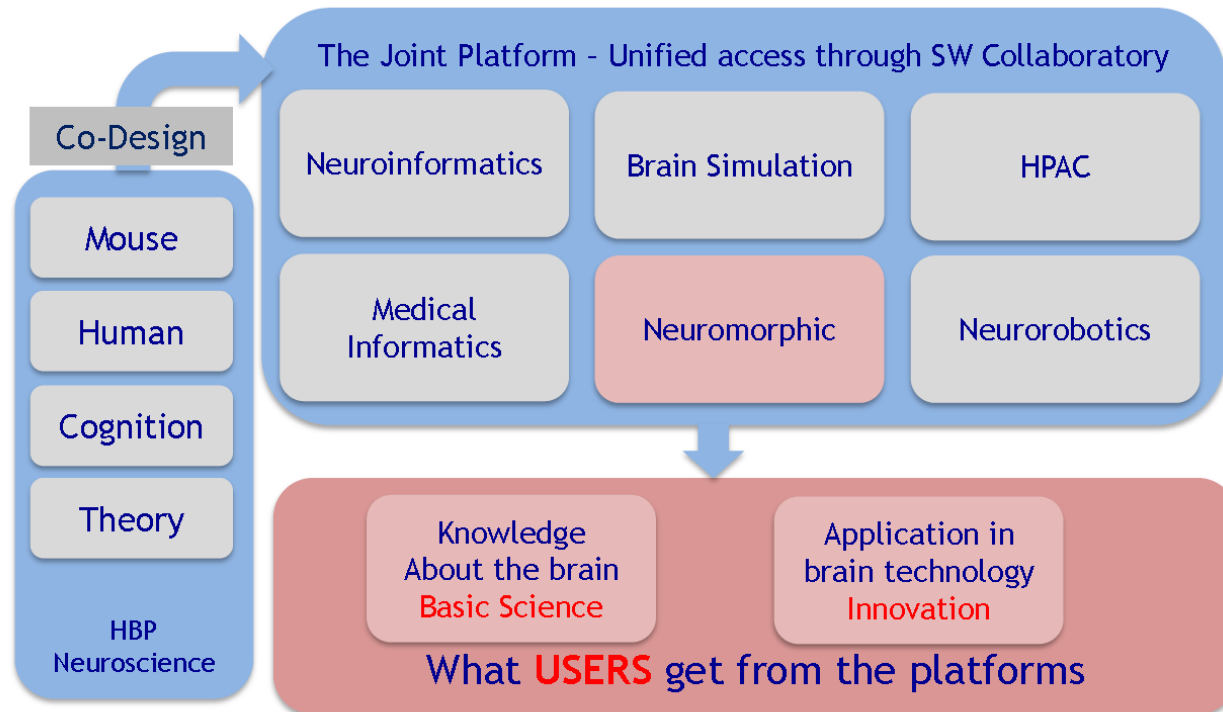
An EU ICT Flagship project (€1B budget)

80 partner institutes, led by Henry Markram, EPFL



The basic idea of the Human Brain Project

From **Science** to **Infrastructures** to **Science** and **Innovation**

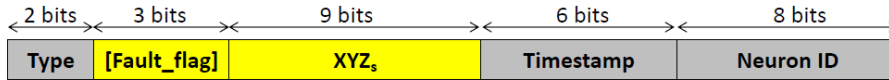


..our work - Homeostatic Neuromorphic System

*this is not the scope of this talk

Our work - Homeostatic Neuromorphic System

Architecture: Spike Packet Format



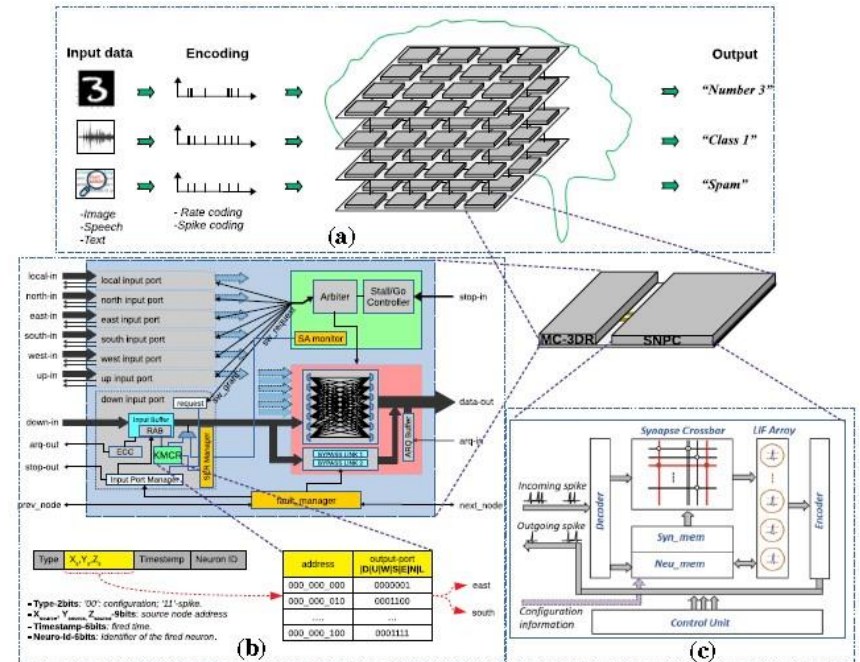
- **Type**: It is the header of the packet indicating this packet is either for configuration or spike: '00': system configuration; '11', spike packet.
- **[Fault_Flag]**: This is only used for the fault-tolerant multicast routing algorithm
- **XYZ_s**: It is the address of the source neuron tile, used for spike routing.
- **Timestamp**: In spiking neuron network, the time of the generated spike is used to encode the information.
- **Neuron ID**: this is the identifier of the pre-synaptic neuron.

Table 5: Power consumption of the KMCR and FTSP-KMCR under the benchmarks.

System	KMCR		FTSP-KMCR	
	Inv. Pen.	Wis.	Inv. Pen.	Wis.
Area (mm ²)	0.102	0.346	0.108	0.365
Power (mW)	10.13	34.20	10.64	35.92

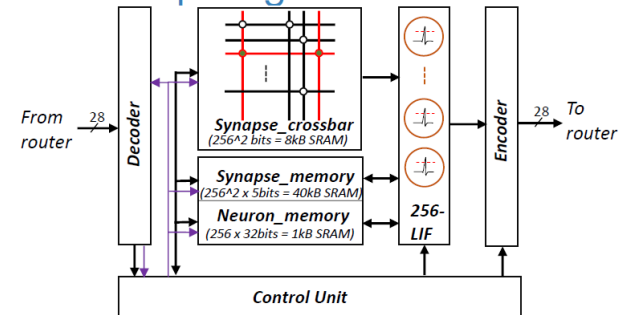
Table 6: MC-3DR Hardware Complexity Evaluation and Comparison.

System	Topology	Area (mm ²)	Power (mW)
EMBRACE router [Carrillo2012], 90nm	2D Mesh	0.056	1.72
HANA tile router [Liu2016], 90nm	2D Mesh	0.156	28.12
H-NoC cluster router [Crrillo2012HNoC], 65nm	Star-Mesh	0.022	1.19
Clos-NoC spine switch [Hojabr2017], 45nm	Custom Clos	0.076	-
Clos-NoC leaf switch [Hojabr2017], 45nm	Custom Clos	0.061	-
MC-3DR router, 45nm (this work)	3D Mesh	0.031	1.66



3DNoC-SNN system architecture high-level view.

Architecture: Spiking Neural Processing Core



5bits synapse register format

Input type [0]	Synaptic strength [1:4]
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32bits neuron register format

Membrane potential [0:7]	Threshold [8:15]	Leaky value [16:23]	Reset value [24:31]
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Figure 12: Spiking Neuron Processing Core (SNPC) architecture ¹

Our work - Homeostatic Neuromorphic System

Average spike latency over varying the injection rate

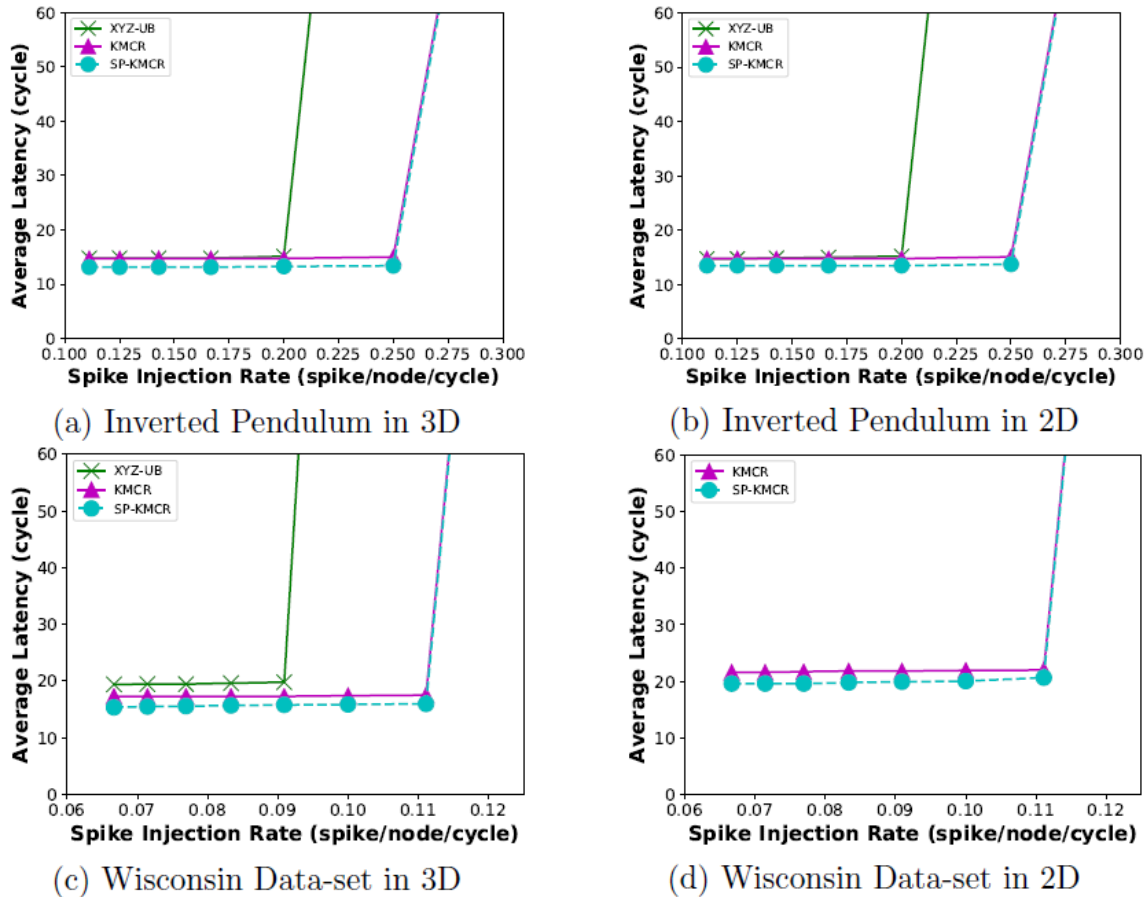


Figure 15: Average packet latency evaluation result

oThe H. Vu, Yuichi Okuyama, Abderazek Ben Abdallah, “Comprehensive Analytic Performance Assessment and K-means based Multicast Routing Algorithms and Architecture for 3D-NoC of Spiking Neurons,” *ACM Journal on Emerging Technologies in Computing Systems (JETC), Special Issue on Hardware and Algorithms for Learning On-a-chip for Energy-Constrained On-Chip Machine Learning, Vol. 15, No. 4, Article 34, October 2019. doi: 10.1145/3340963*

oThe H. Vu, Ogbodo Mark Ikechukwu, and Abderazek Ben Abdallah, “Fault-tolerant Spike Routing Algorithm and Architecture for Three Dimensional NoC-Based Neuromorphic Systems”, *IEEE Access, vol. 7, pp. 90436-90452, 2019.*

Agenda

- **Fundamental Trends**
- **AI – The 4th Industrial Revolution**
- **Survey of AI Hardware**
 - Cloud AI Hardware, Chips
 - Mobile AI Chips
 - Edge and IoT AI Chips
 - Healthcare AI Chips
- **Conclusions**

Conclusions

- DNNs are a key component in the AI revolution.
- Efficient processing of DNNs is an important area of research with many promising opportunities for innovation at various levels of hardware design, including algorithm co-design
- It's important to consider a comprehensive set of metrics when evaluating different DNN solutions: **accuracy, speed, energy, and cost**

Conclusions

Memory access in AI-Chip is the bottleneck

- **Worst case: ALL memory R/W are DRAM accesses**

Ex. AlexNet [NIPS 2012] has 724M MACs → 2896M DRAM accesses required

Possible HW/SW techniques to cope with the memory access problem:

❖ Advanced Storage Technology

- Embedded DRAM (eDRAM) → Increase on-chip storage capacity
- 3D Stacked DRAM → Increase memory bandwidth
- Use memristors as programmable weights (resistance)

❖ Reduce size of operands for storage/compute

- Floating point → Fixed point
- Bit-width reduction

❖ Reduce number of operations for storage/compute

- Network Pruning; Compact Network Architectures

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