



Memory devices for neuromorphic computing

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Trad: Toutes les questions que je me suis posé sur le neuromorphique sans jamais (oser) les poser

Introduction: Why ANNet

Increase of Fault
(nanoscale
engineering)

Saturation of clock frequency
+
Energy consumption

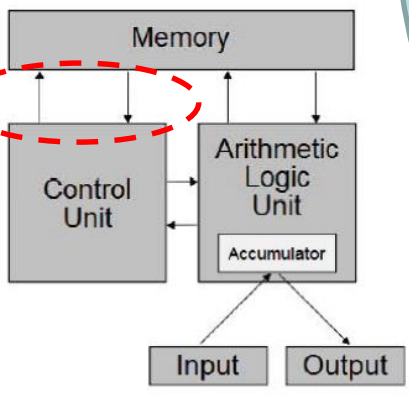
New needs for
computing
Recognition, Mining,
Synthesis (Intel)

SEMICONDUCTOR
TECHNOLOGY
CHALLENGES

Von Neumann bottleneck

Shift toward a new paradigm for computation

BIO-INSPIRED COMPUTING to match
the brain performances (low power
consumption, fault tolerant, performances
for RMS)

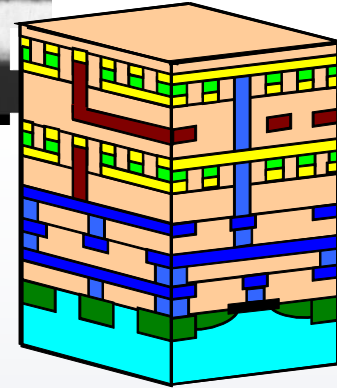
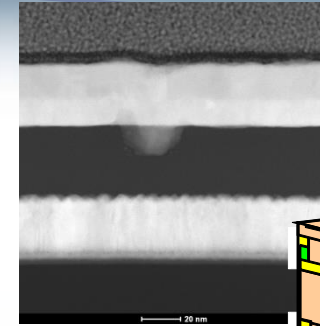


NNET directions

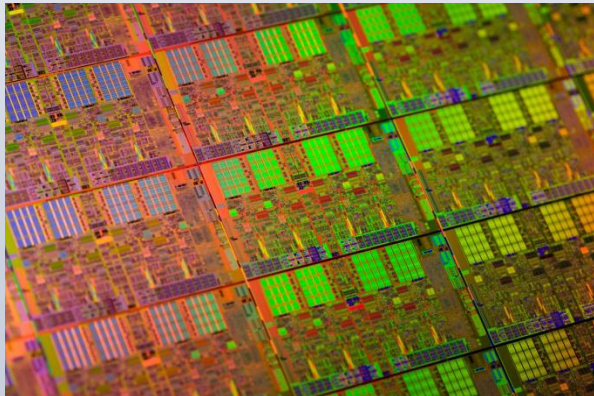
Supercomputer resources
Purely digital



10^{11} neurons
 10^{15} synapses



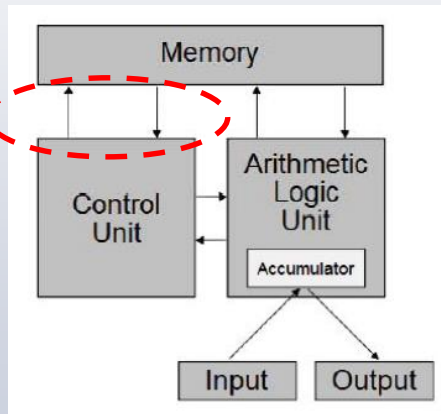
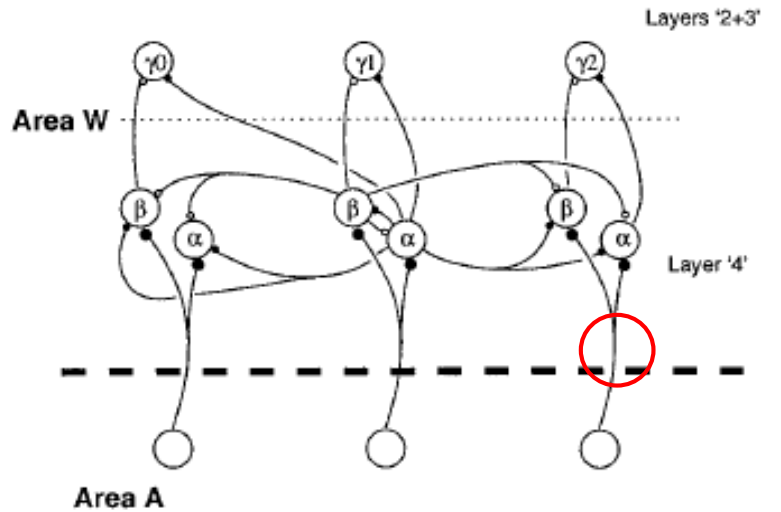
Emerging nanotechnologies
New architecture concepts
and integration strategies



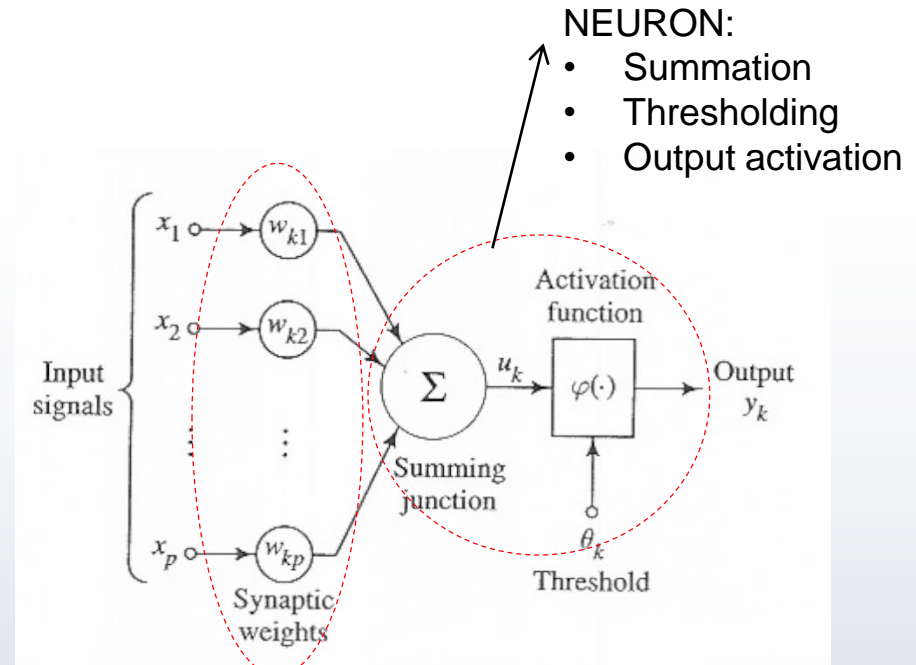
Custom IC, Mix analog/digital
Multichip approach,...
i.e. with conventional technologies

BNNs vs ANNs

Biological neural network



Artificial neural network



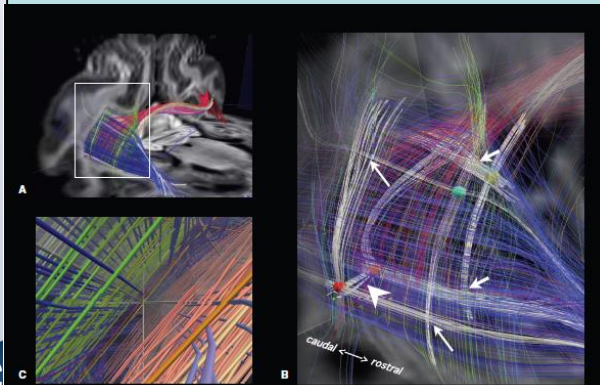
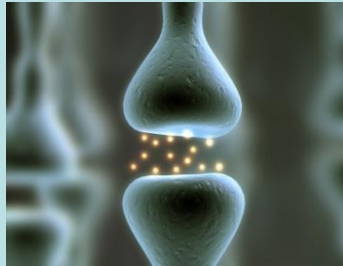
SYNAPSES:

- Input weighting
- Weight adaptation

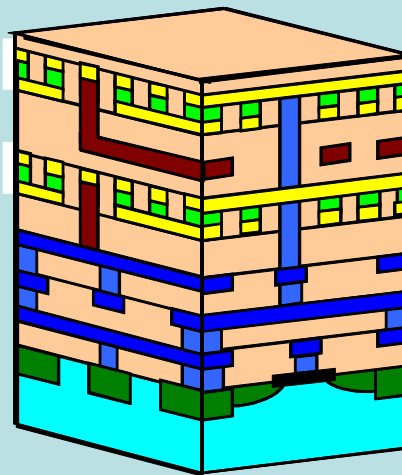
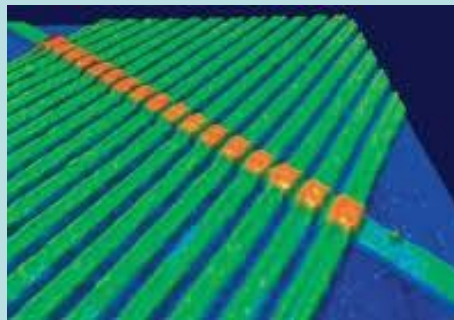
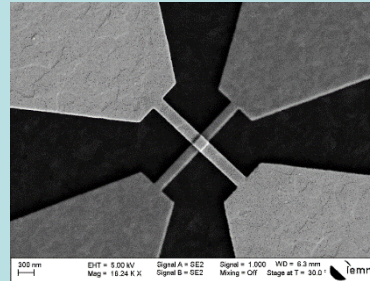
The memory is in the processing unit
(Direct solution to Von Neumann bottleneck!)

Neuromorphic in between

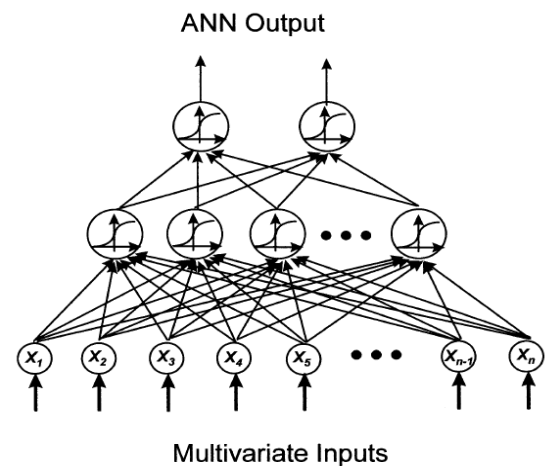
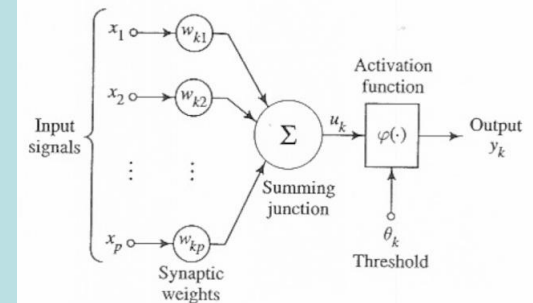
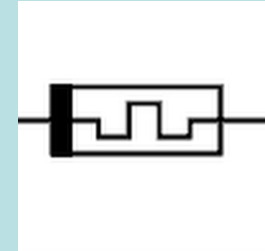
BNNs



Neuromorphic Eng.



ANNs

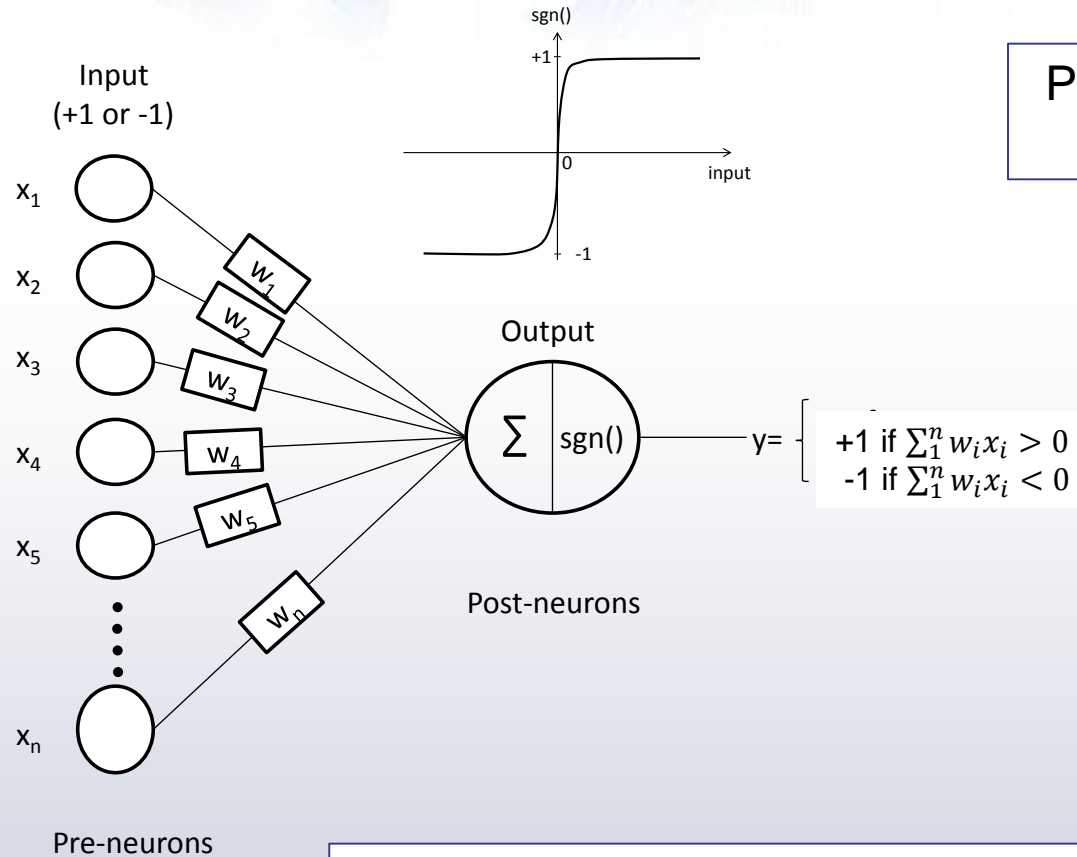


- Intro to Artificial Neural Network (ANNs)
- Intro to biological Neural Network (BNNs)
- Nanodevices for ANNs
- Nanodevices for BNNs
- STDP: somewhere in between

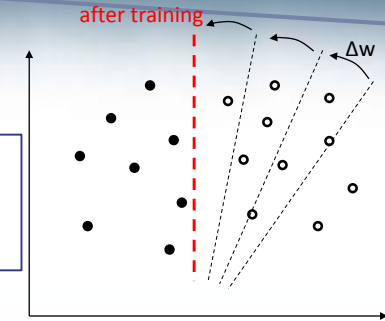
ANNs: basics

Rosenblatt, 1957

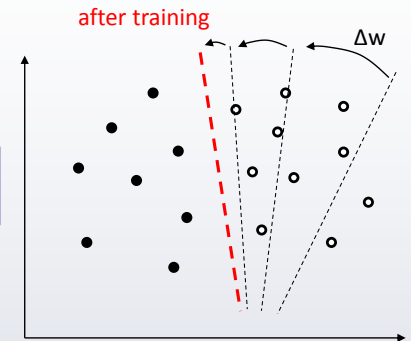
Classification of vectors (datas)



Perceptron rule



Delta rule



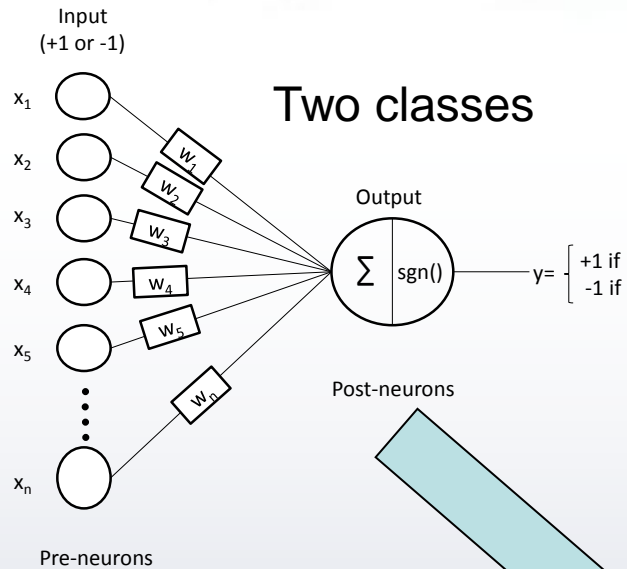
Backpropagation

Training/learning: find the optimal weight

- No analytical solution
- Learning algorithms: iterative correction based on known data

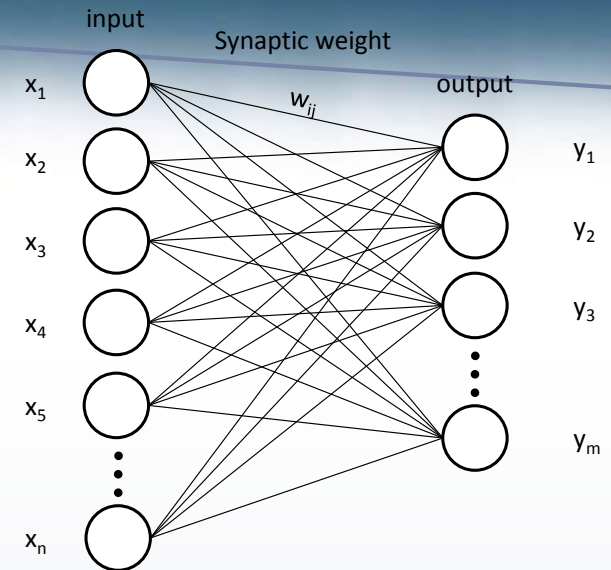
ANNs: basics

Practically, we can do: Pattern classification, Clustering, Prediction...



Non linearly separable ensembles

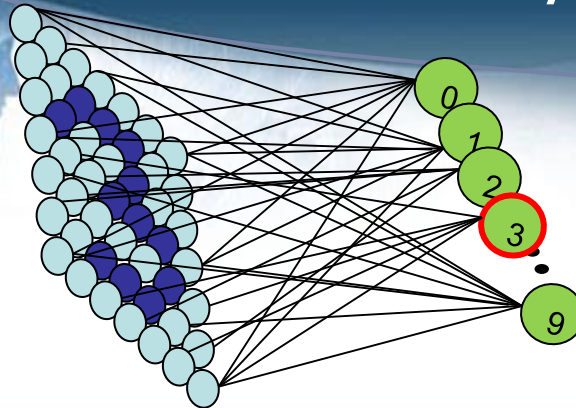
Multiple classes



Structure	Description of decision regions	Exclusive-OR problem	Classes with meshed regions	General region shapes
Single layer	Half plane bounded by hyperplane			
Two layer	Arbitrary (complexity limited by number of hidden units)			
Three layer	Arbitrary (complexity limited by number of hidden units)			

Figure 8. A geometric interpretation of the role of hidden unit in a two-dimensional input space.

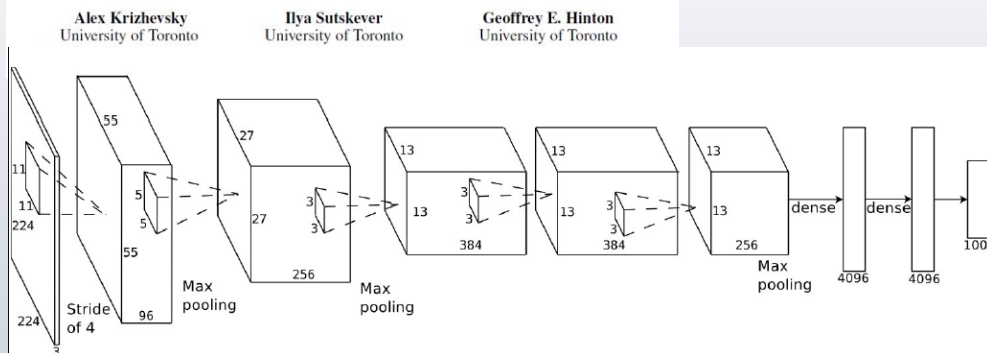
ANNs: applications



- 28x28 pixel array
- 10 classes
- 7840 synapses

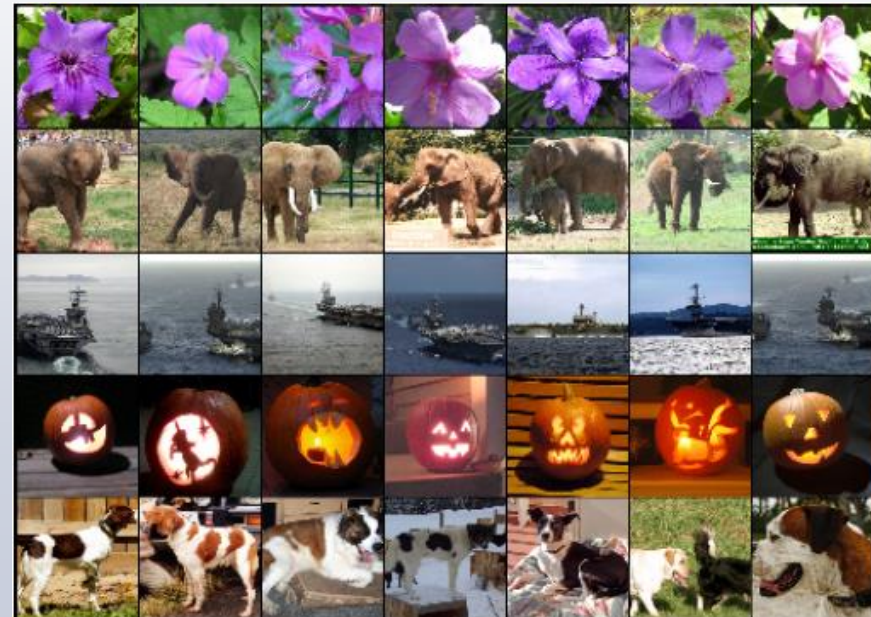
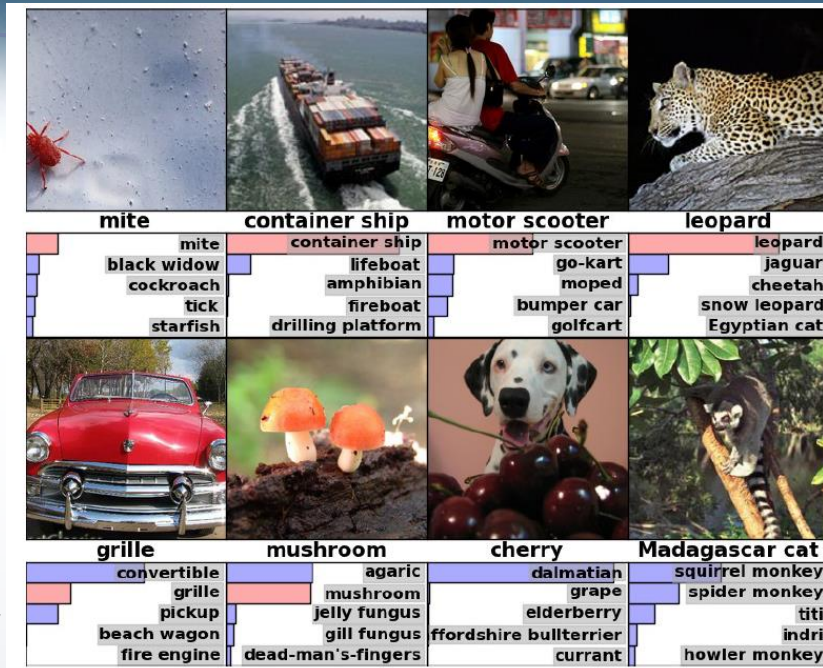
ImageNet Classification with Deep Convolutional Neural Networks

- 256x256 pixel array
- 1000 classes



- Trained with stochastic gradient descent on two NVIDIA GPUs for about a week
- 650,000 neurons
- 60,000,000 parameters
- 630,000,000 connections

synapses

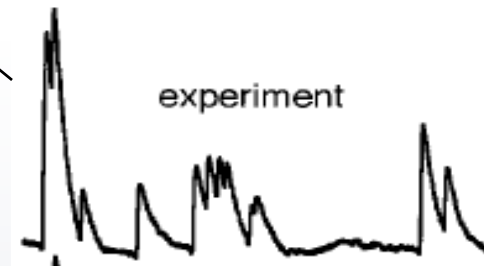
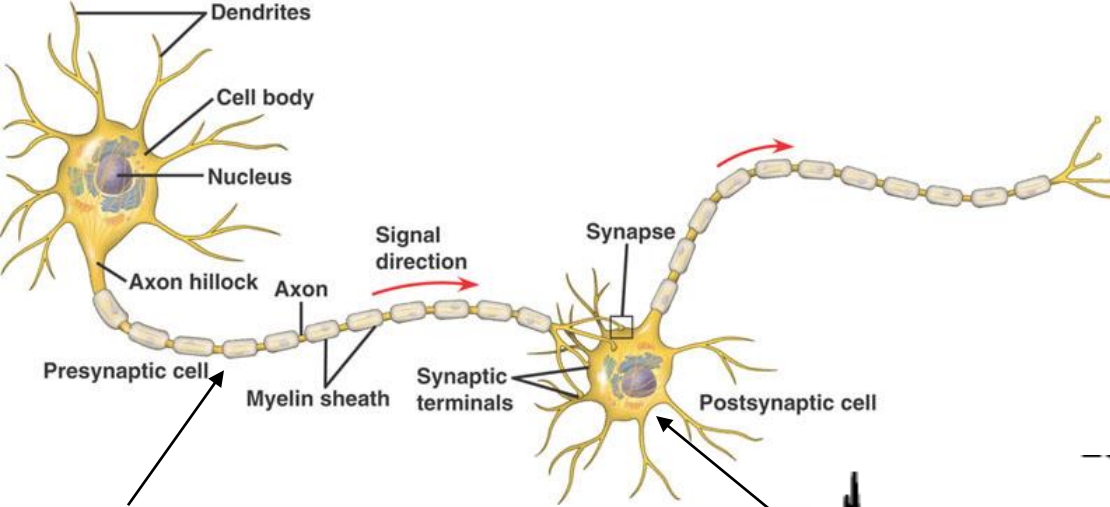


ANNs:

- Practical application will required ultra high density of nanodevices
- Main challenge: GPU or FPGA are serious challengers

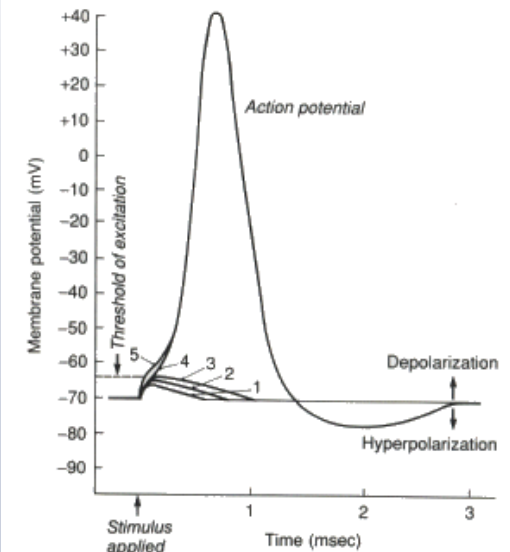
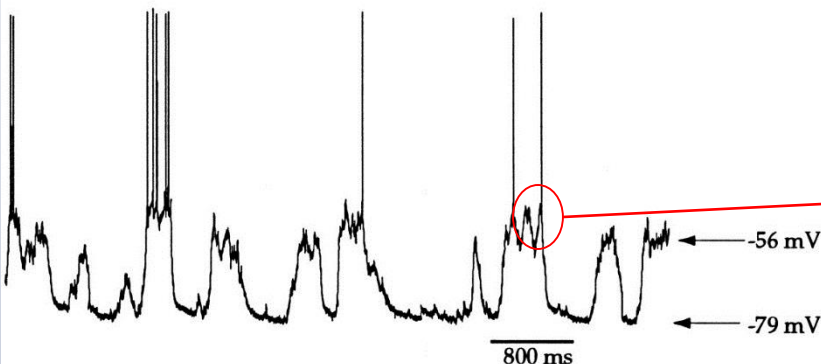
BNNs: neurons

The neuron membrane can be seen as a transmission line (RC)
When the membrane potential reach a threshold, a spike is triggered



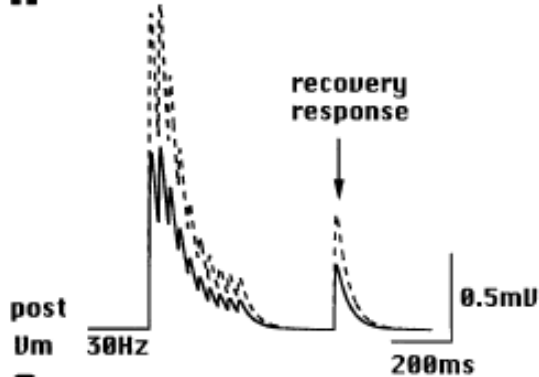
- Currents are ionic
- Low speed of propagation
- Active devices (soma and Ranvier's node)

Striatal cell

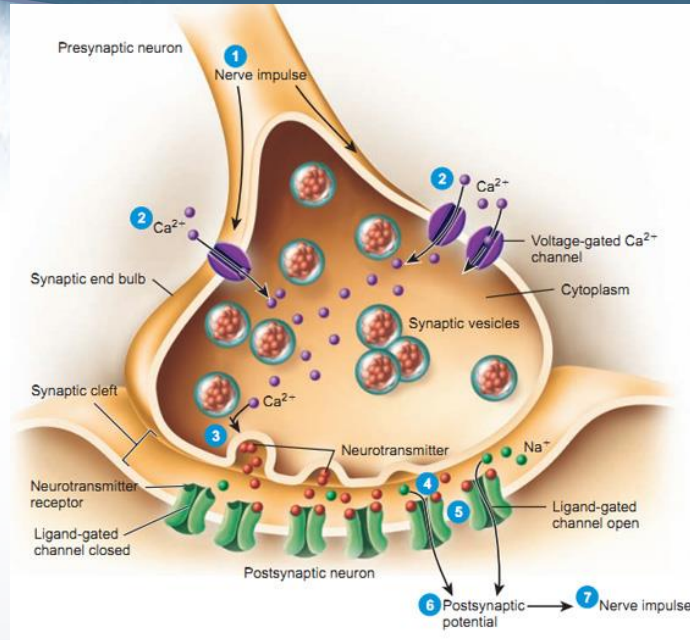
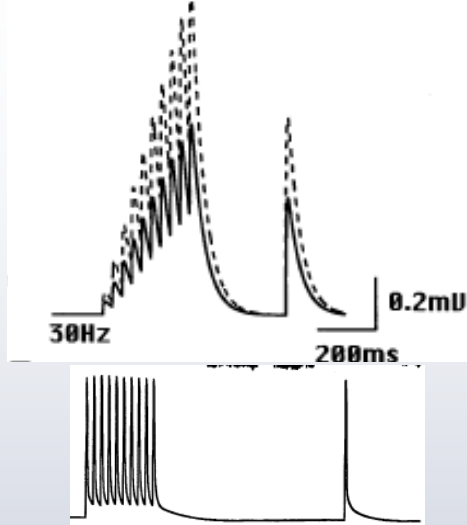


BNNs: synapses

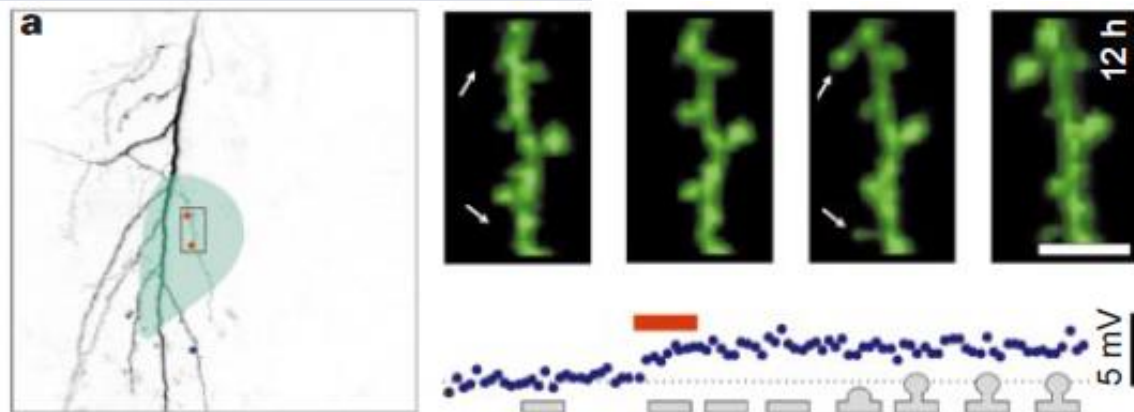
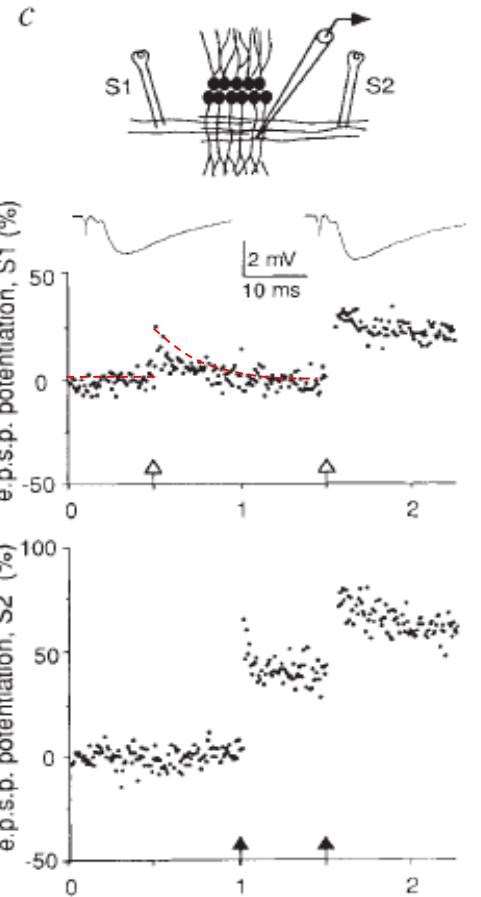
A Depressing Synapses



B Facilitating Synapses



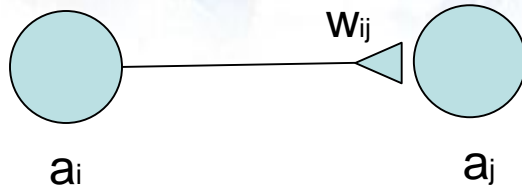
- The AP release neurotransmitters from the pre-neuron to the post neuron receptors
- Neurotransmitters open ionic channels
- Ionic concentration change the polarization of the post-neuron



- Various time scale of plasticity
- Complex dynamics with many species (ions, NT, ...)
- Unidirectional

BNNs: learning

Learning in BNNs:



Who fire together wire together, (Hebbs)

Synaptic learning

$$\frac{dw_{ij}}{dt} \propto a_i \cdot a_j$$

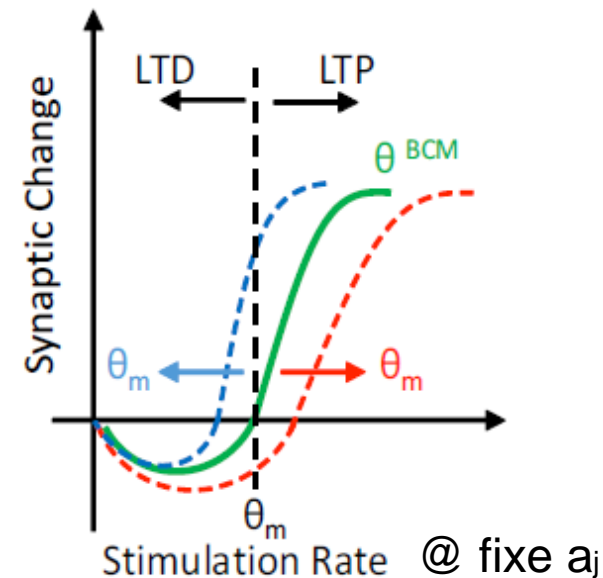
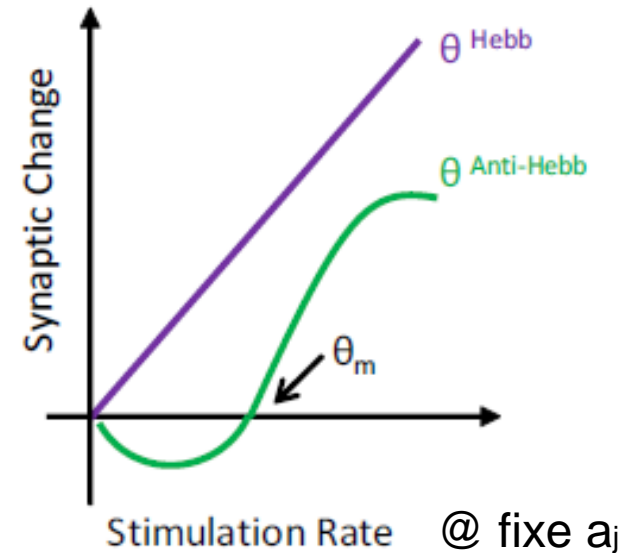
Synaptic adaptation

$$\frac{dw_{ij}}{dt} \propto a_i + a_j$$

Example, the BCM learning rule:

$$\frac{dw_{ij}}{dt} = \varphi(a_j(t)) \cdot a_i(t) - \varepsilon w_{ij}$$

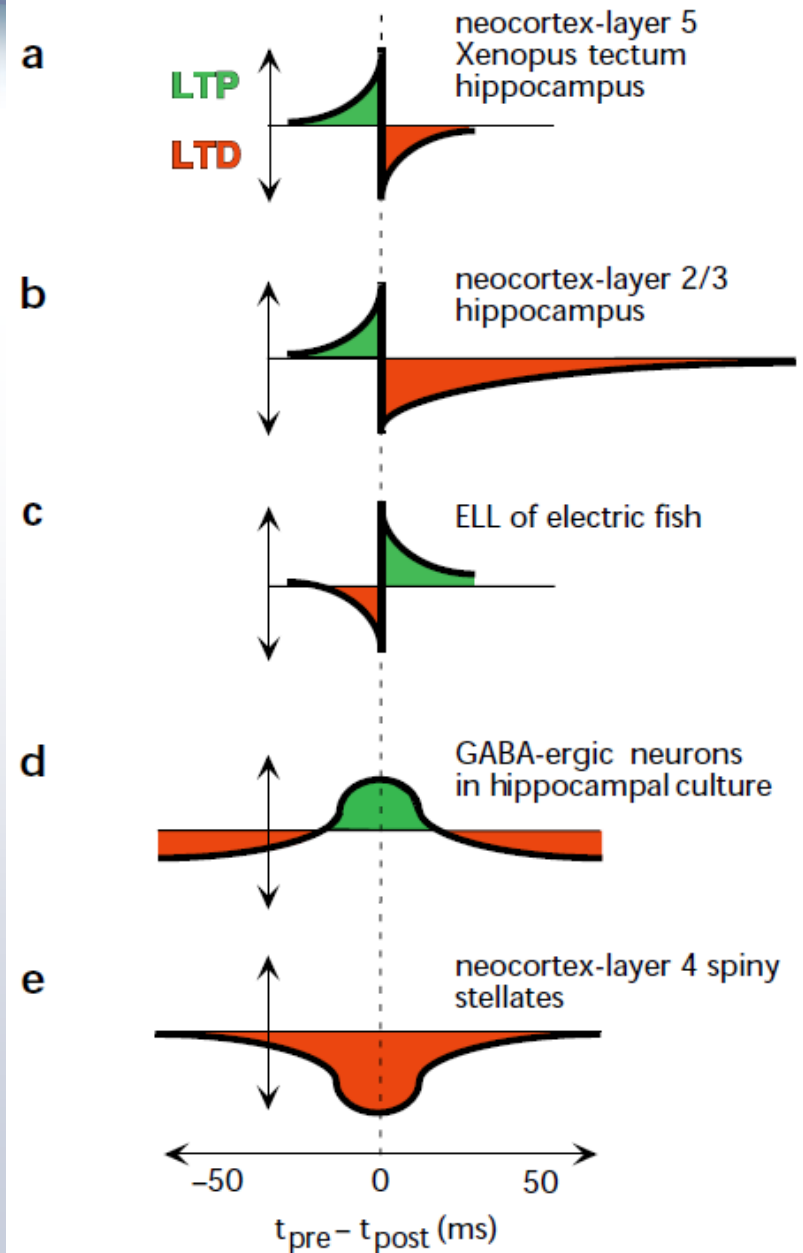
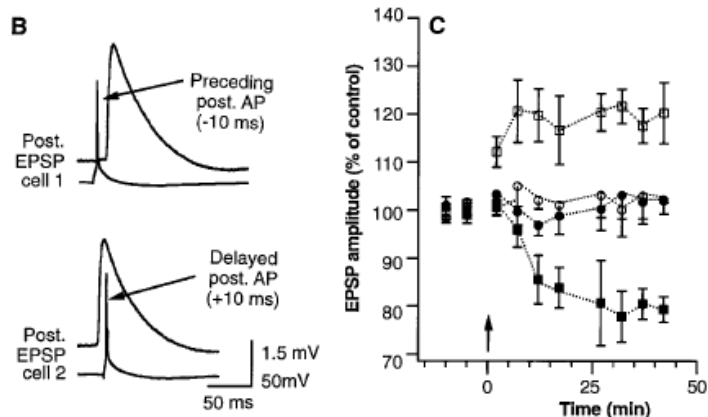
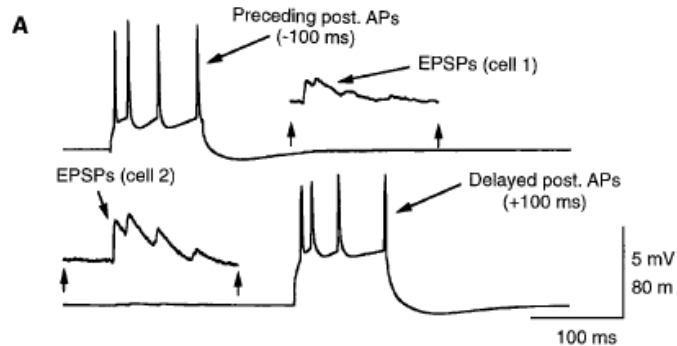
$$\varphi(a_j) < 0 \text{ for } a_j < \theta_m \quad \& \quad \varphi(a_j) > 0 \text{ for } a_j > \theta_m$$



BNNs: learning with STDP

Variation of Hebb's rule

- Unsupervised
-



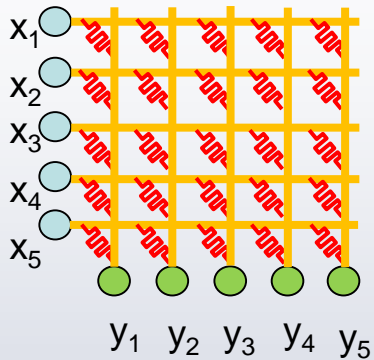
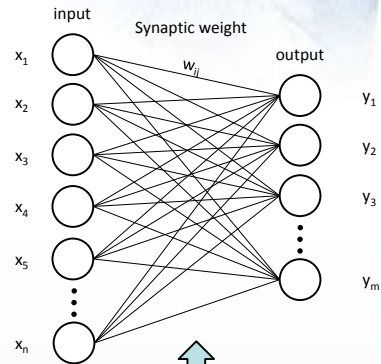


BNNs:

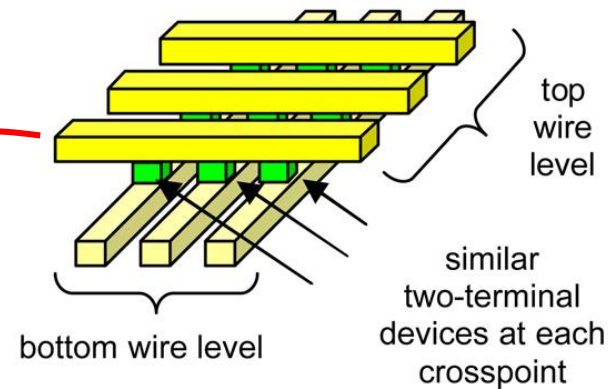
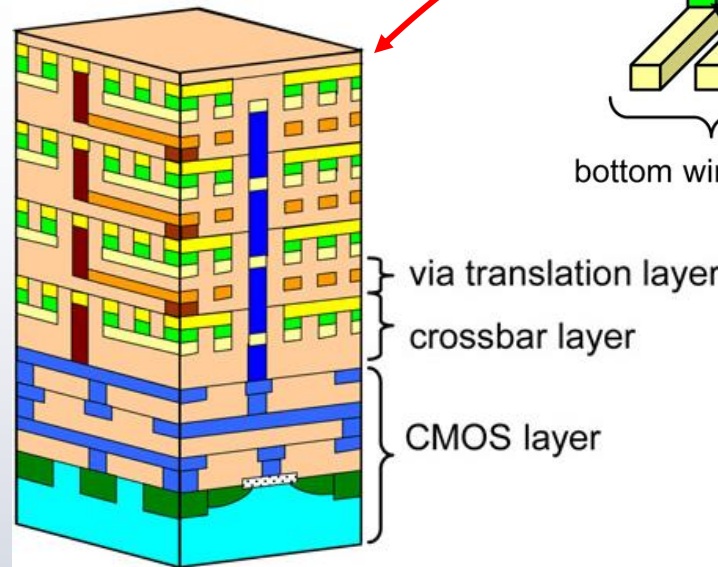
- No charges (i.e. electrons), only ions
- Slow, with rich dynamics
- Still unsolved issues
 - Basics of computing in the brain (coding,...)
 - What do we really need for computing (for practical applications)

Neuromorphic: Main stream for nanodevices

The crossbar structure is the perfect architecture for massively parallel processing



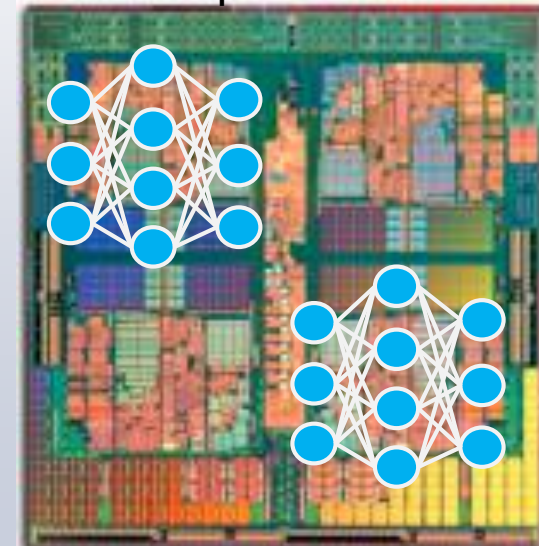
It is compatible with back end process on top of a CMOS substrate



Strukov, PNAS 2009

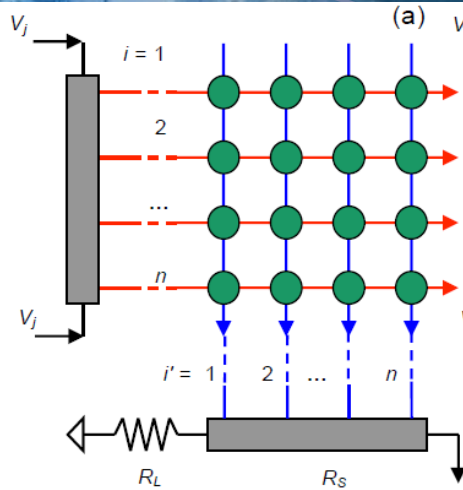
Footprint $4F^2$
 10^{12} devices/cm²

Development SoC





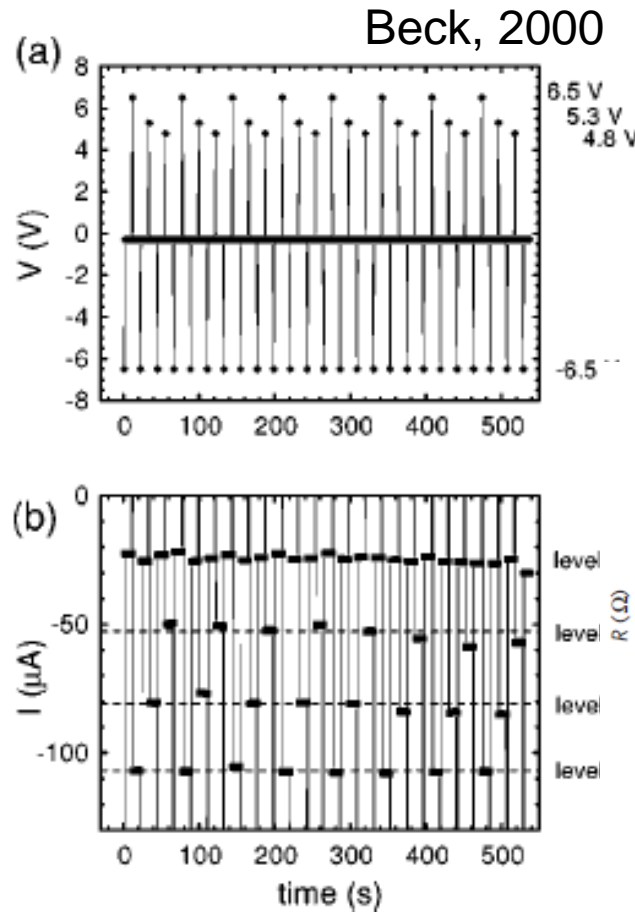
NANO FOR ANNs



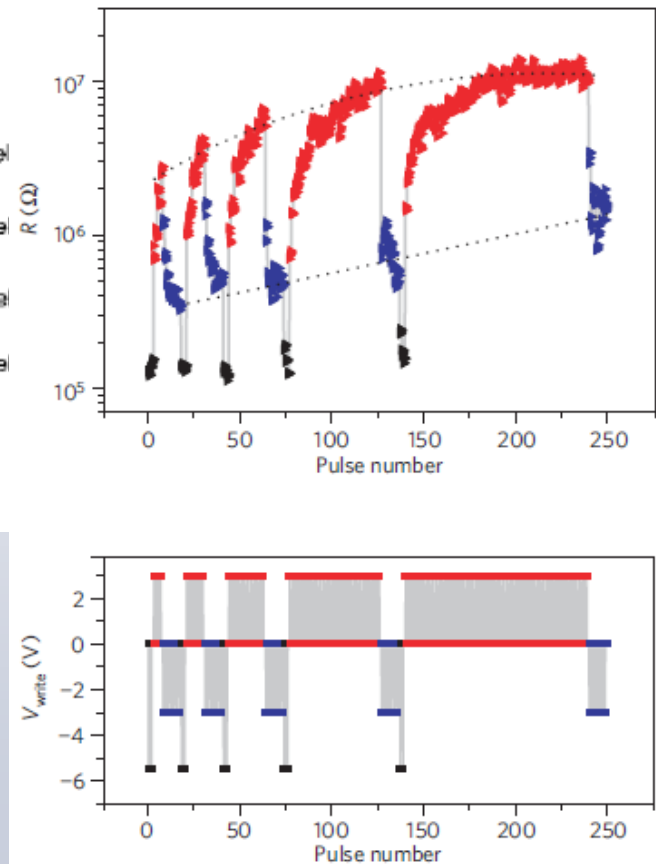
$L = 2n^2 + 1$ states

From binary...

... to multilevel...

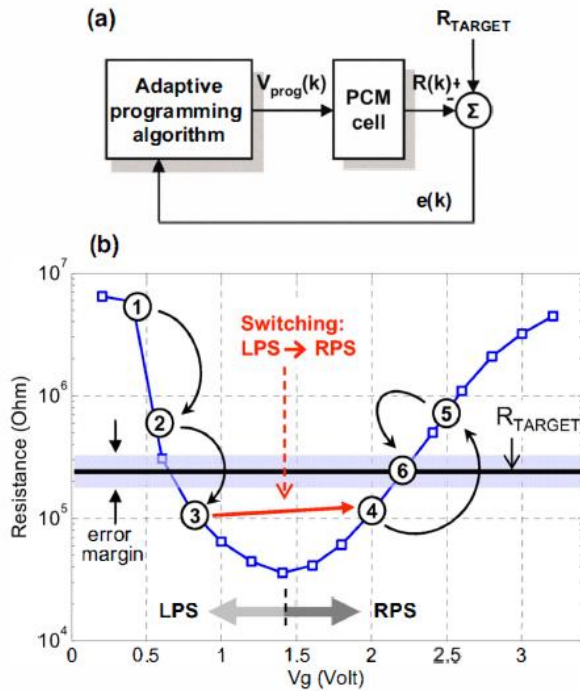


Chanthbouala, 2012

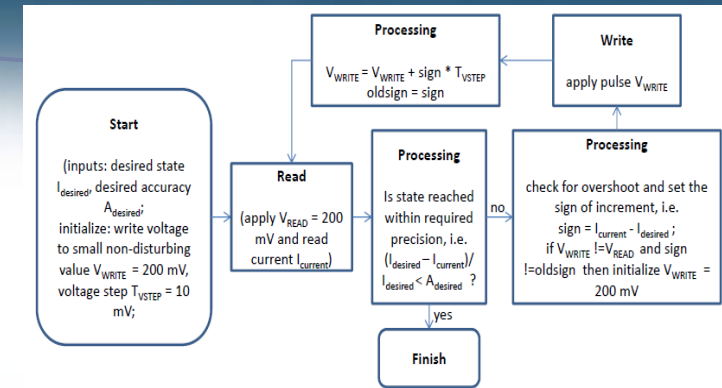
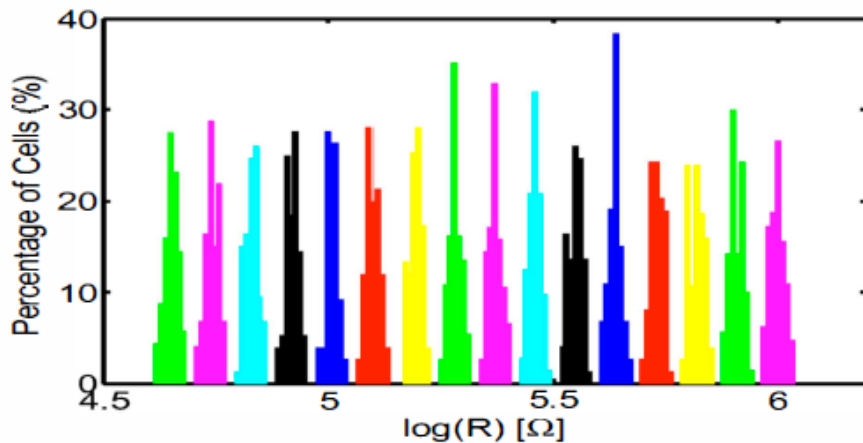


... to analog

ANNs: the analog synapse



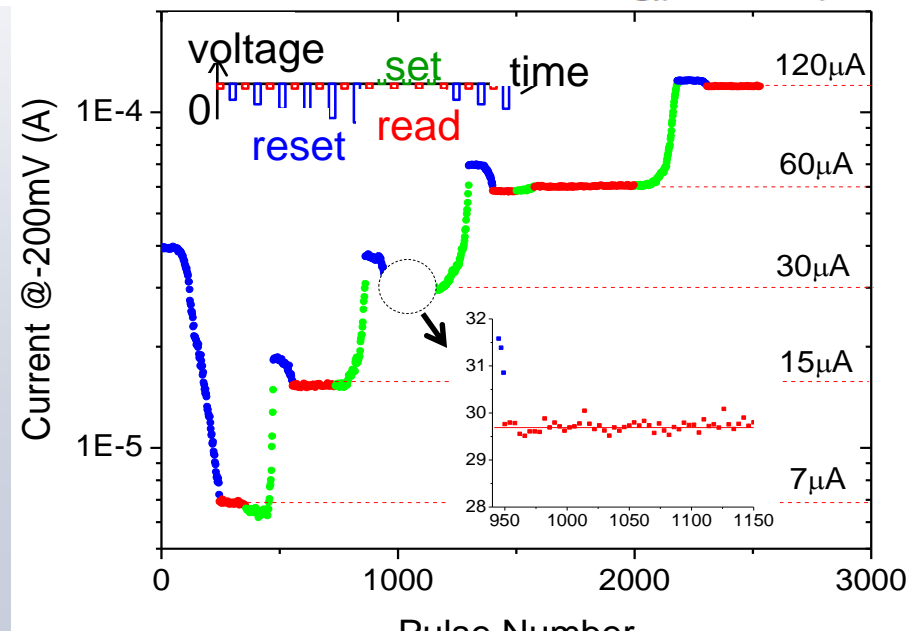
Papandreou, 2011



Implemented algorithm

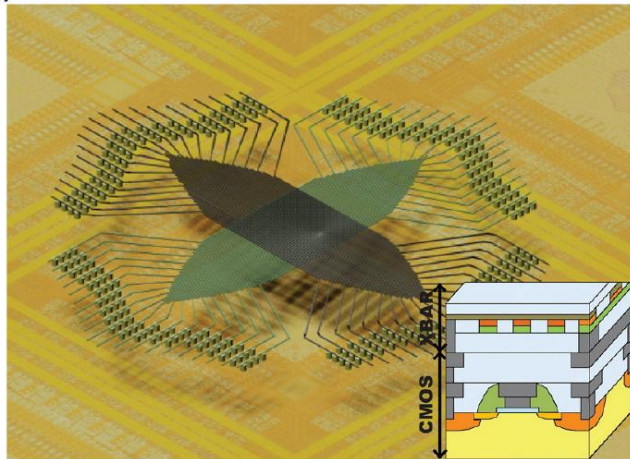


F. Alibart et al. Nanotechnology, 23 075201, 2012

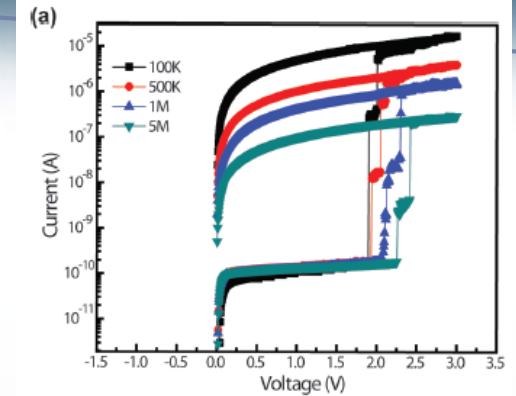
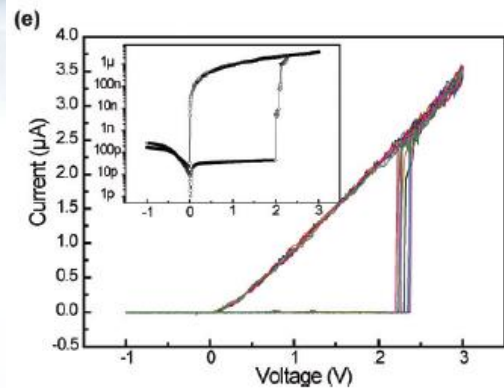
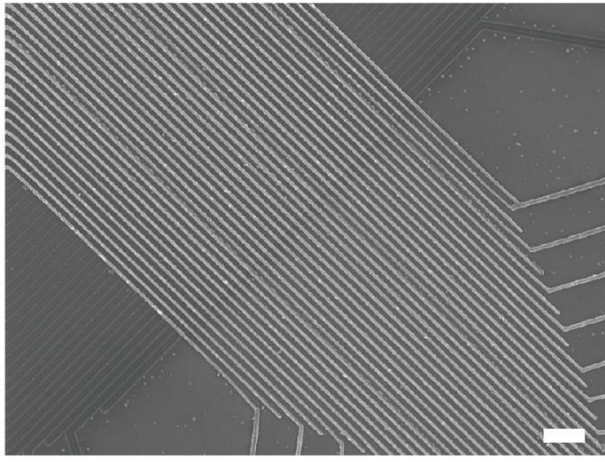


ANNs: implementations

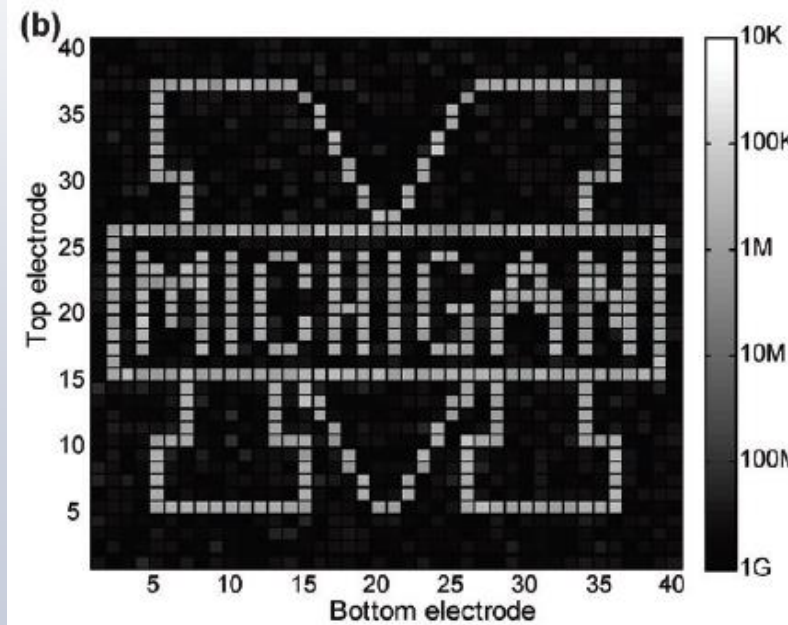
(c)



(b)

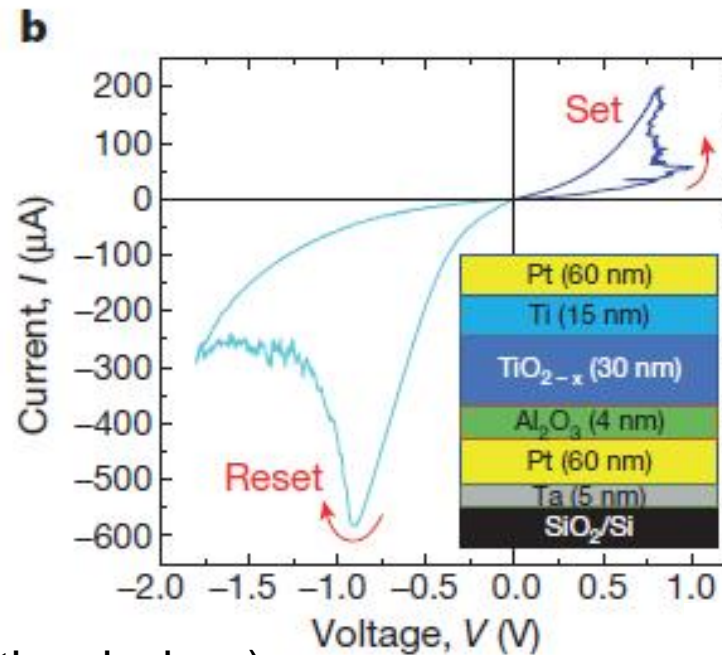
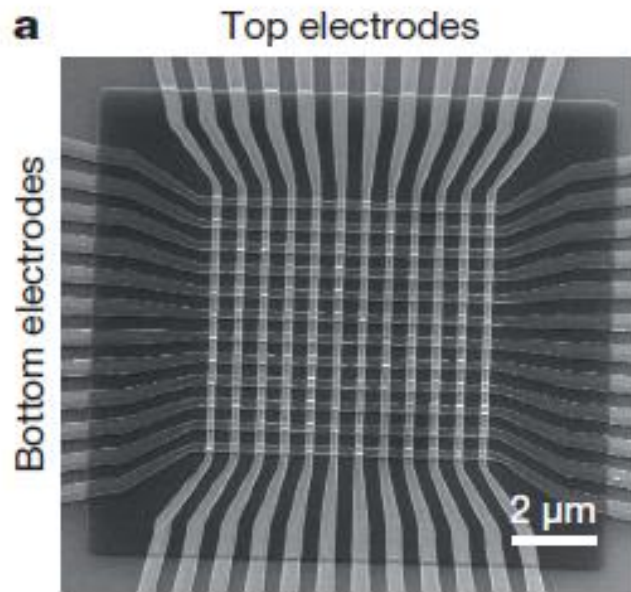


- 50x50 passive crossbar array
- Binary operation (multilevel, more or less)
- CBRAM technology



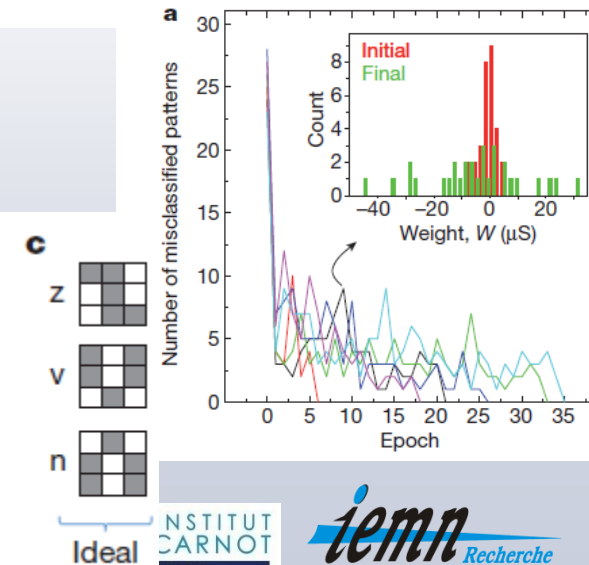
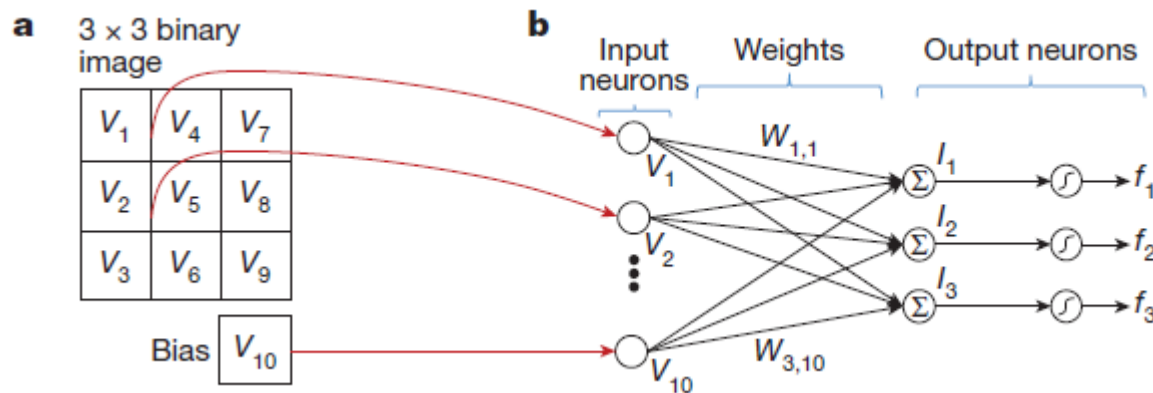
ANNs: implementations

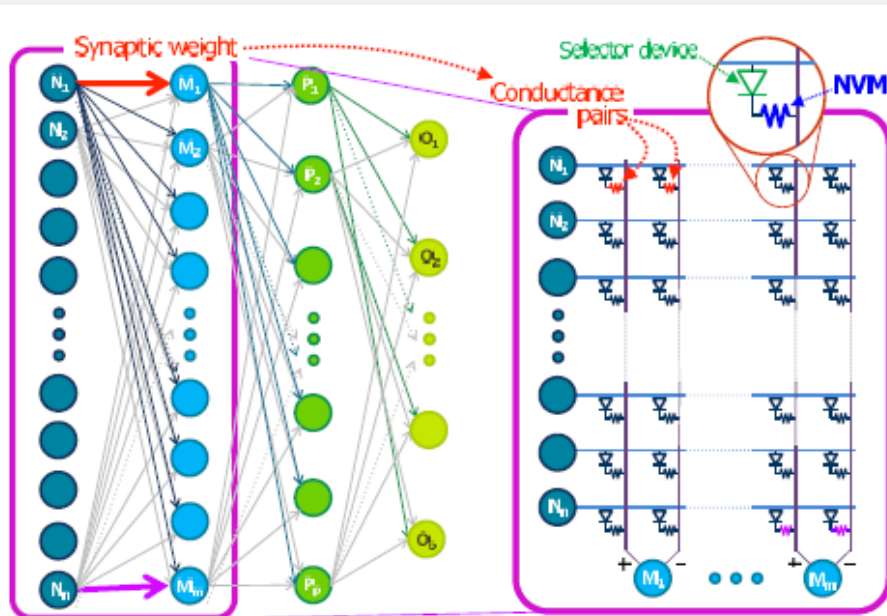
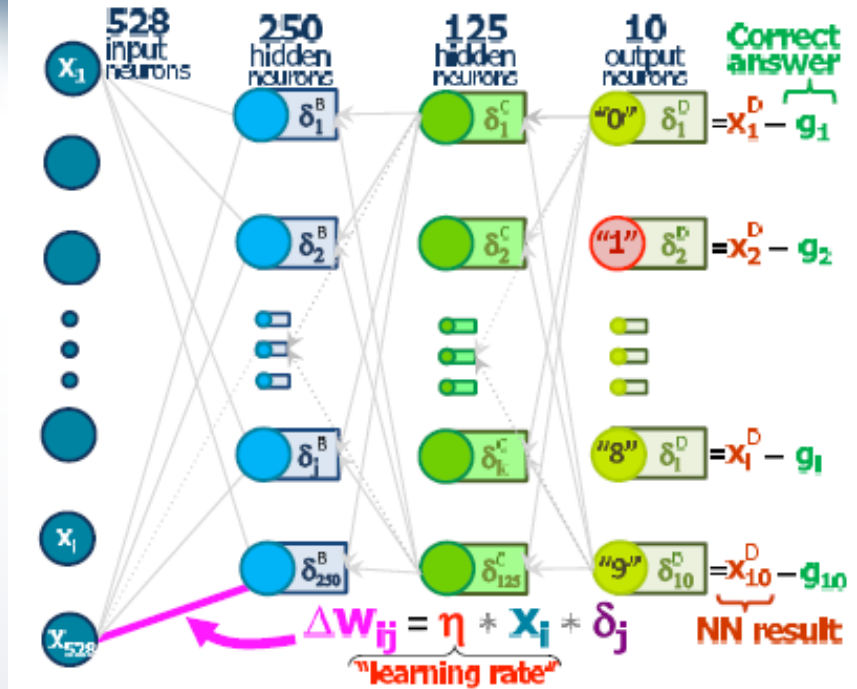
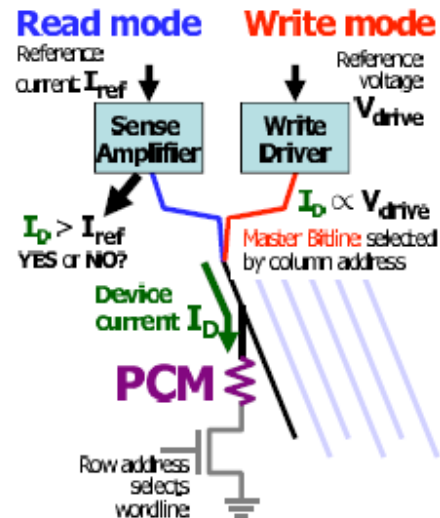
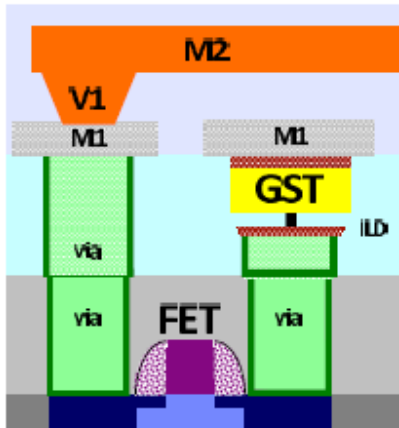
Strukov, 2015



12x12 Xbar array (TiO2 memristive devices)

- Online training (variation of delta rule)
- Three classes, 60 synapses

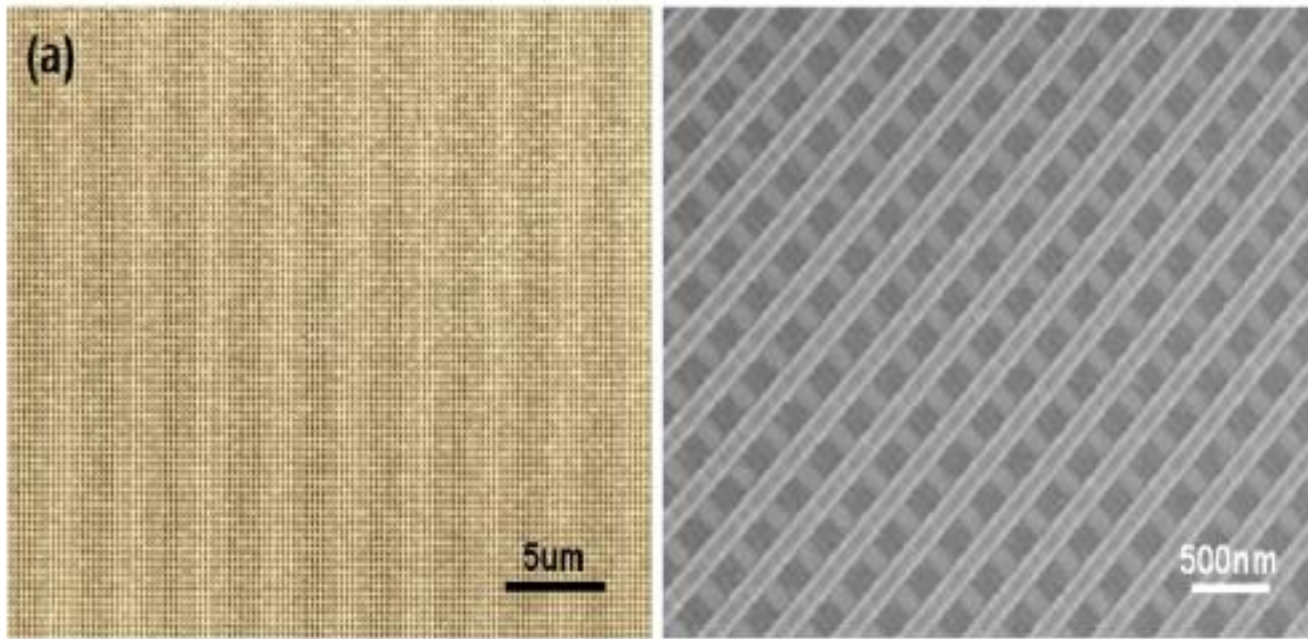




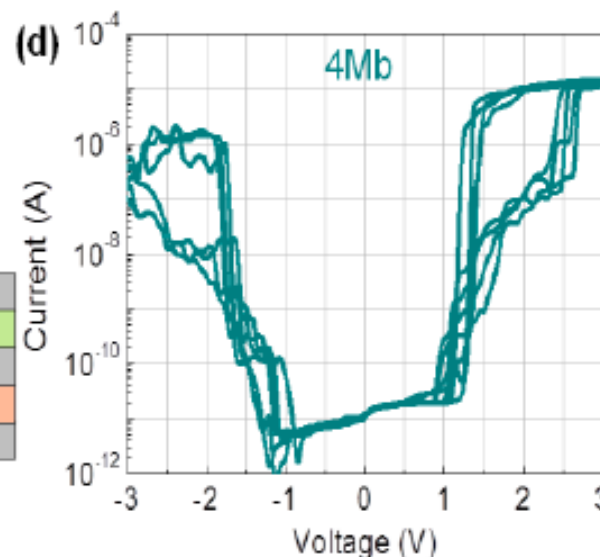
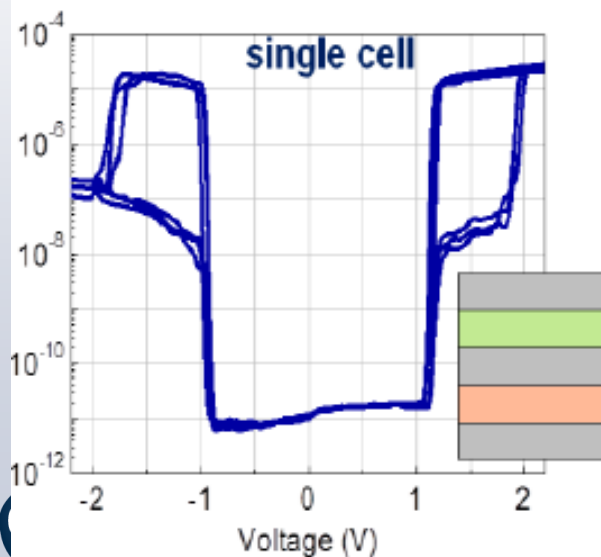
- Demo of multilayer perceptron (with backprop)
- 165000 PCM analog synapses

ANNs: implementations

Crossbar, IEDM, 2014



- Record density 4Mb
- Binary only
- 100nm half pitch
- Fully fonctionnal!



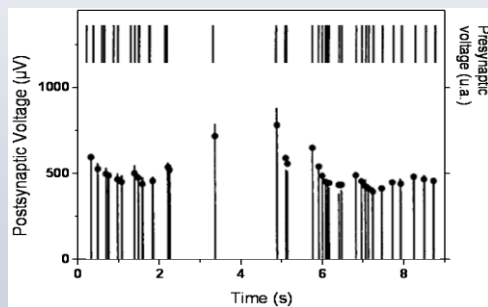
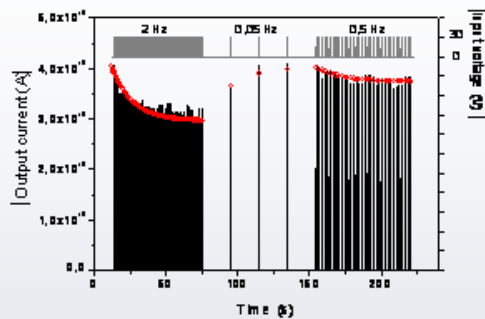
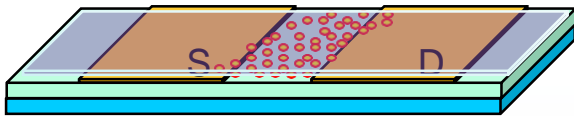
- Still a huge gap between requirements and what is available (from the memory perspectives)
- Do we need learning (i.e. smart memory) or pure memory (i.e. storage + analog)
- Co-integration still not demonstrated



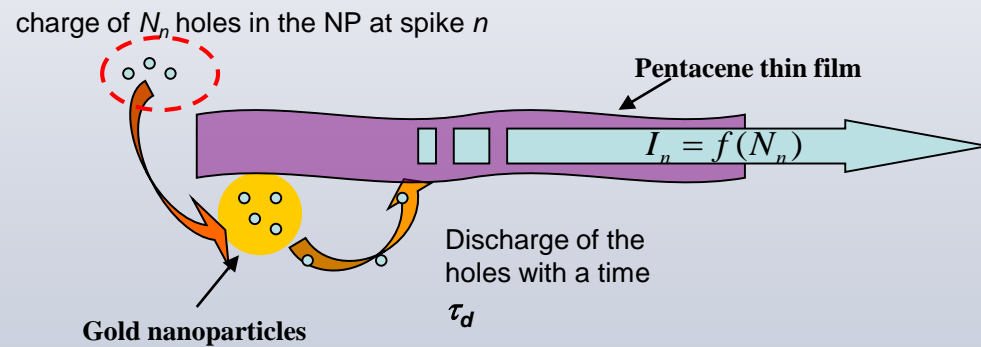
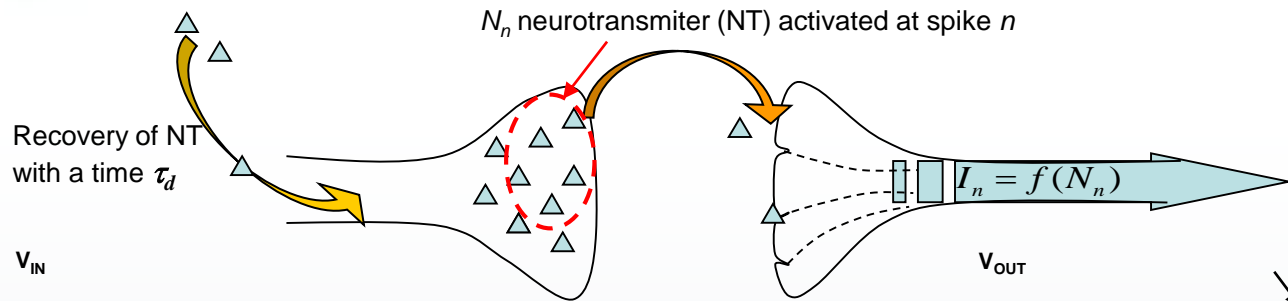
NANO FOR BNNs

BNNs: synaptic plasticity (1)

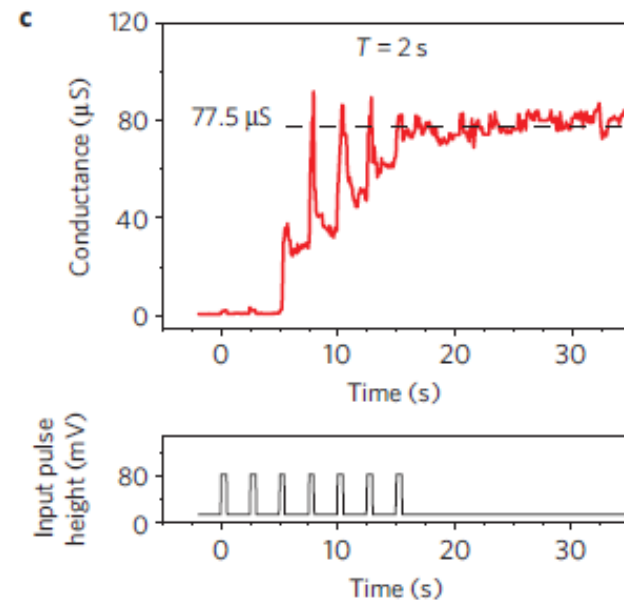
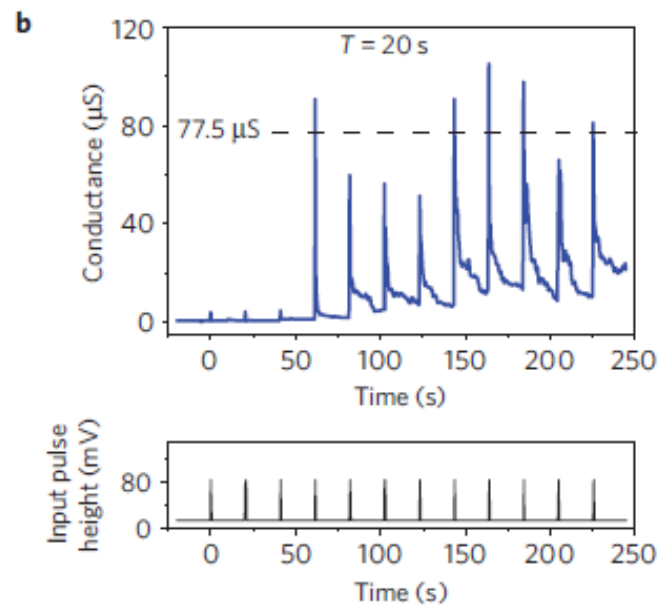
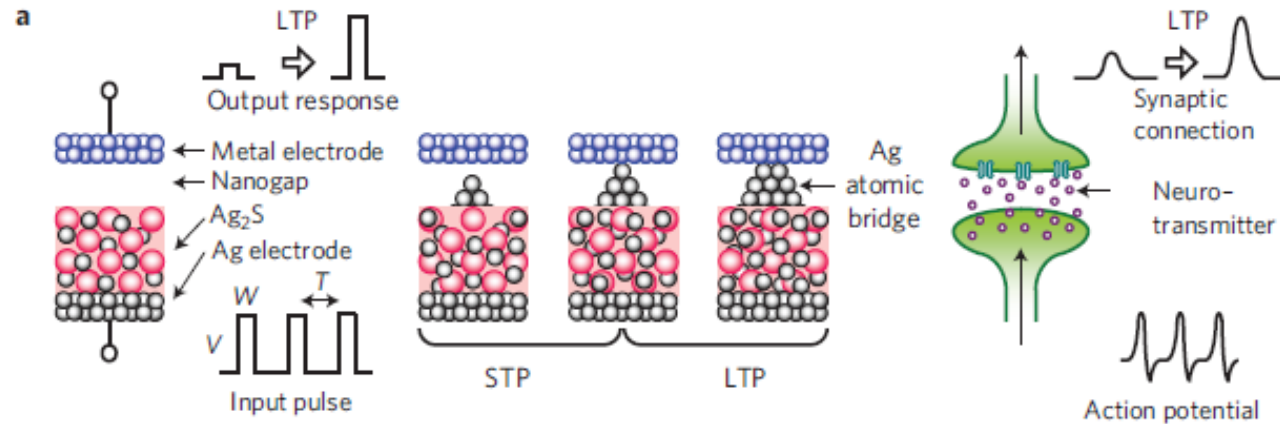
STP



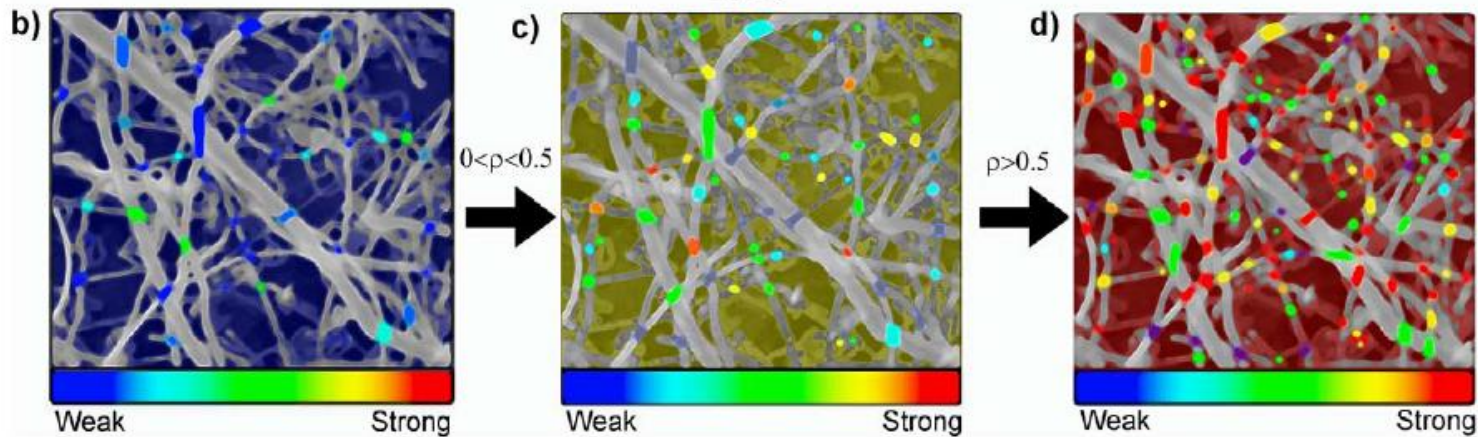
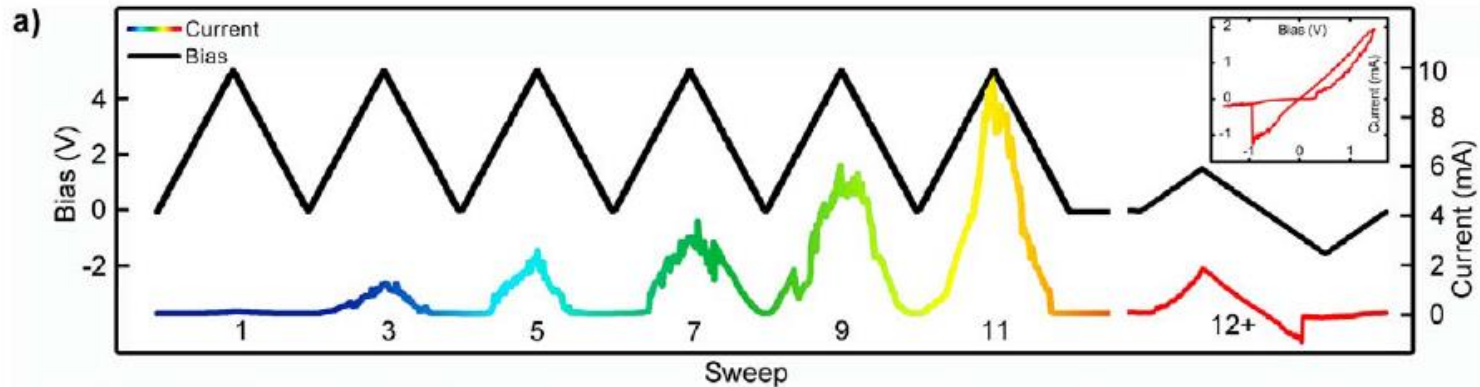
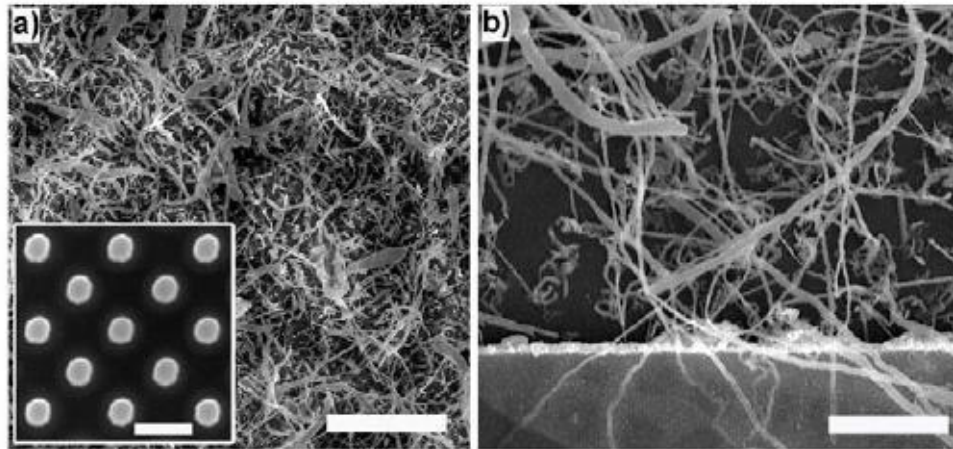
(Alibart, Adv. Funct. Mat, 2011)



BNNs: synaptic plasticity (2)



BNNs: network scale implementations

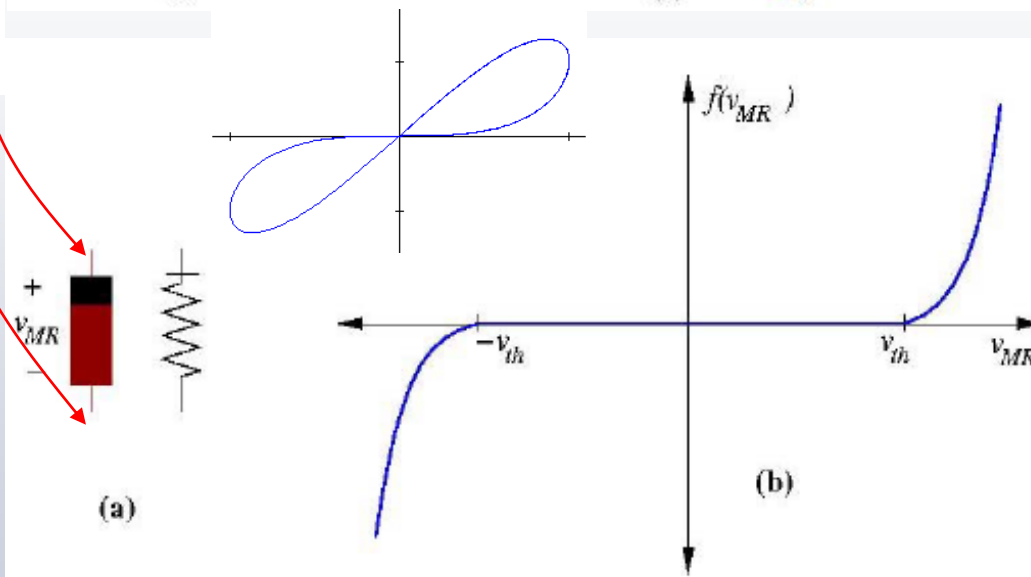
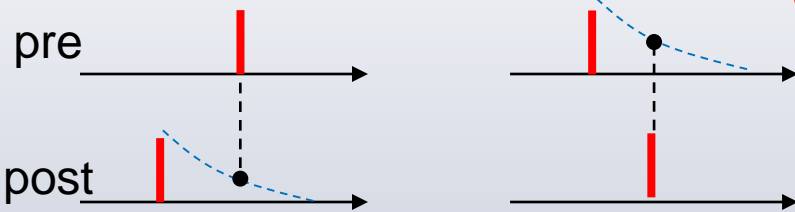
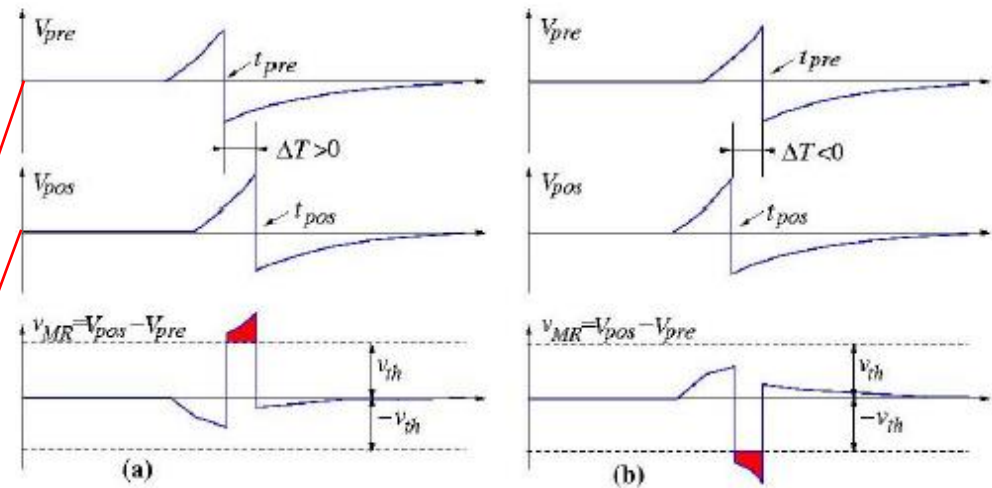
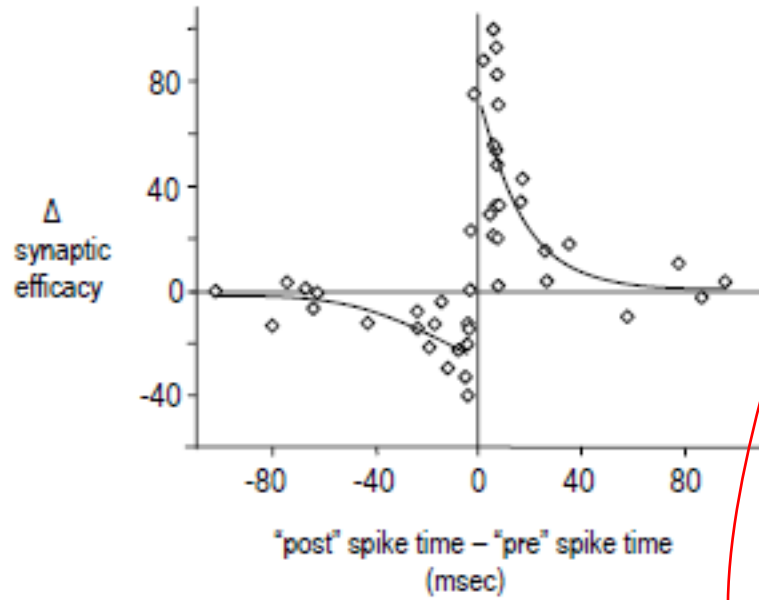


- Still very emerging
- No clear idea of applications but a very complex (and exciting!) field
- Can we map BNNs (ionic systems) with electronic devices (instead of ionic)

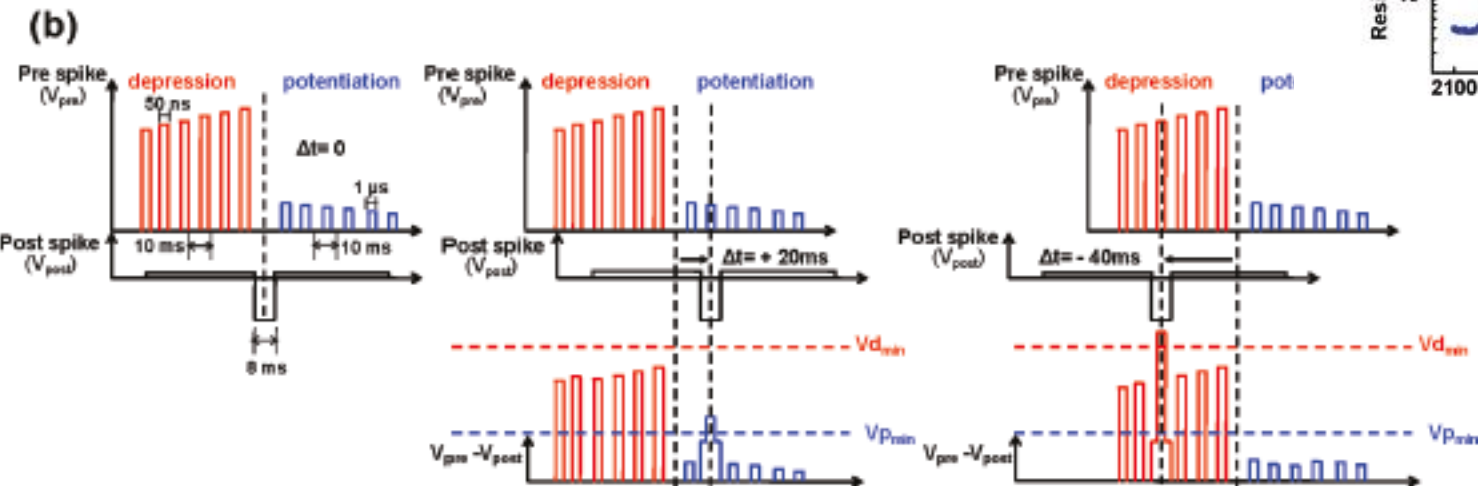
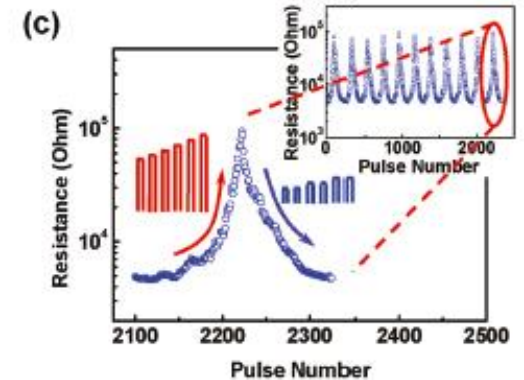
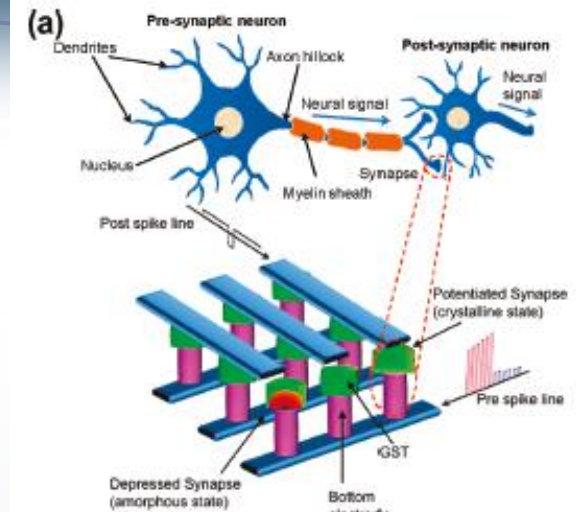
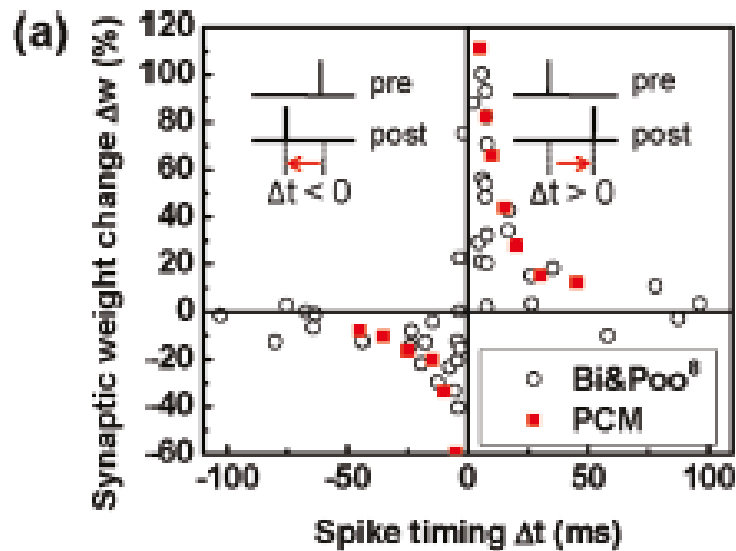


NANO IN BETWEEN: STDP

STDP with memristors

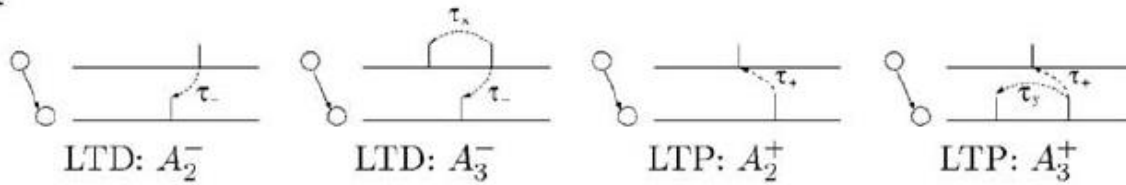


STDP: practical implementations



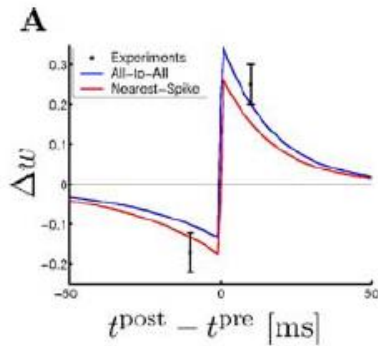
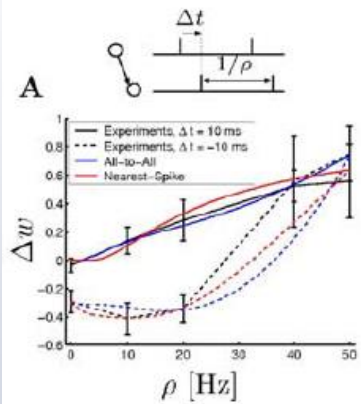
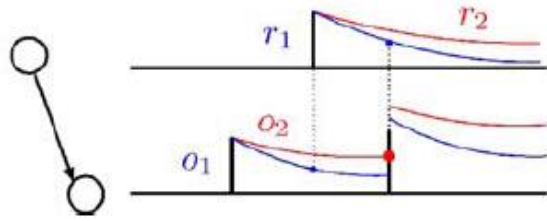
STDP: triplet rule

A

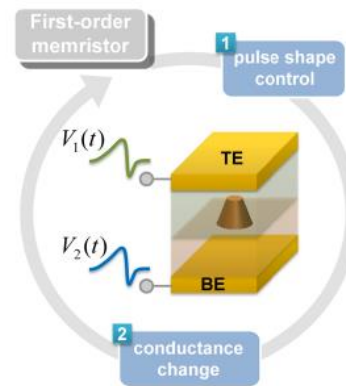


B

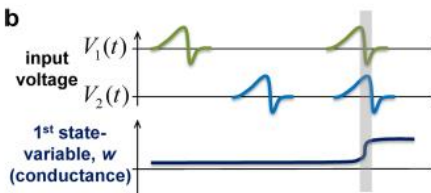
All-to-All



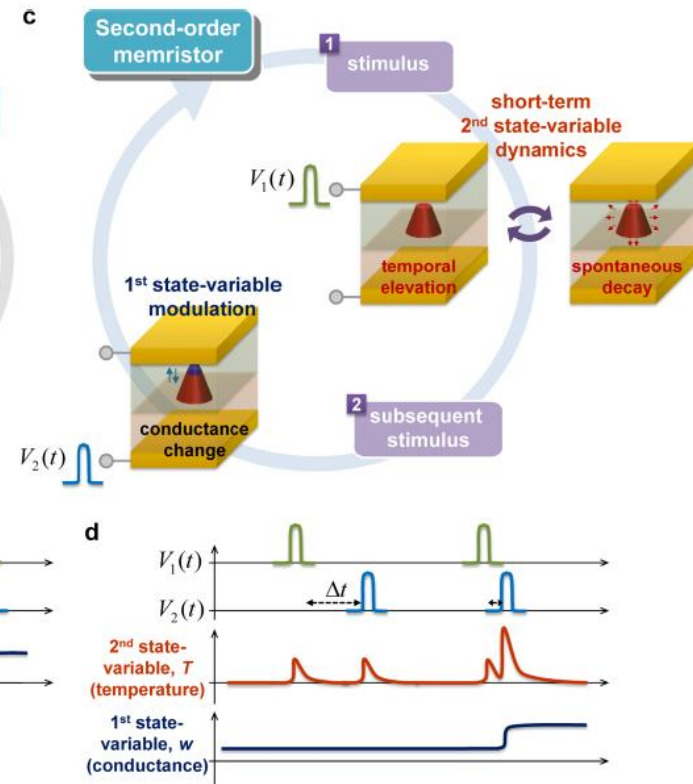
a



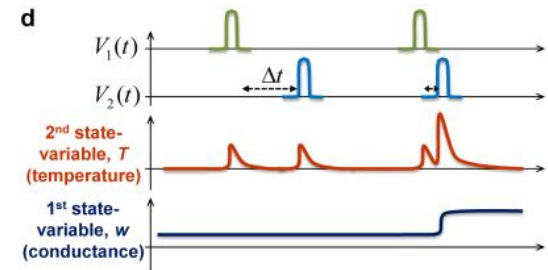
b



c



d



- No hardware demo at the network level
- One layer OK, what about multi-layers?
- STDP but what else?

Concluding remarks

- Neuromorphic in between BNNs and ANNs. Maybe an issue for visibility (what is our community?)
- Neuromorphic as a bridge between ANNs and BNNs?
- Doing more than identifying neuromorphic in nano, it is time to built it!



Thank you!

(One final tip: The hippocampus is not an animal)

