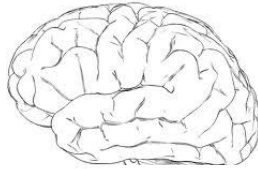


# Computing Like the Brain The Path To Machine Intelligence

Jeff Hawkins  
*GROK - Numenta*  
[jhawkins@groksolutions.com](mailto:jhawkins@groksolutions.com)

**1) Discover operating principles of neocortex**



**2) Build systems based on these principles**

# Artificial Intelligence - no neuroscience

Alan Turing



“Computers are universal machines”

1935

“Human behavior as test for machine intelligence”

1950

## Major AI Initiatives

- MIT AI Lab
- 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Computing Project
- DARPA Strategic Computing Initiative
- DARPA Grand Challenge



**Pros:** - Good solutions

## AI Projects

- ACT-R
- Asimo
- CoJACK
- Cyc
- Deep Blue
- Global Workspace Theory
- Mycin
- SHRDLU
- Soar
- Watson
- Many more -

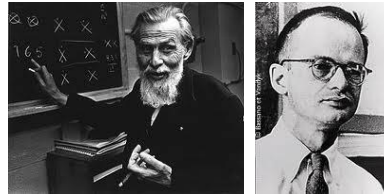


**Cons:** - Task specific  
- Limited or no learning

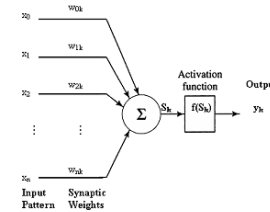
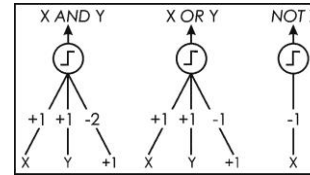


# Artificial Neural Networks – minimal neuroscience

Warren McCulloch  
Walter Pitts

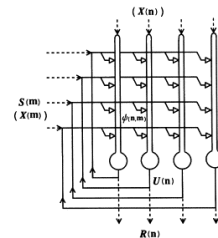
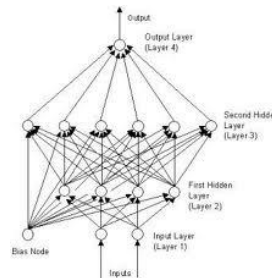


“Neurons as logic gates” 1943  
Proposed first artificial neural network



## ANN techniques

- Back propagation
- Boltzman machines
- Hopfield networks
- Kohonen networks
- Parallel Distributed Processing
  
- Machine learning
- Deep Learning



○ cell  
→ connection

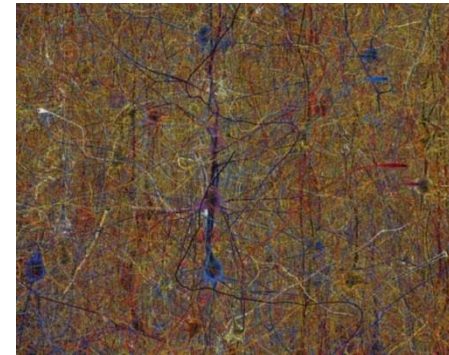
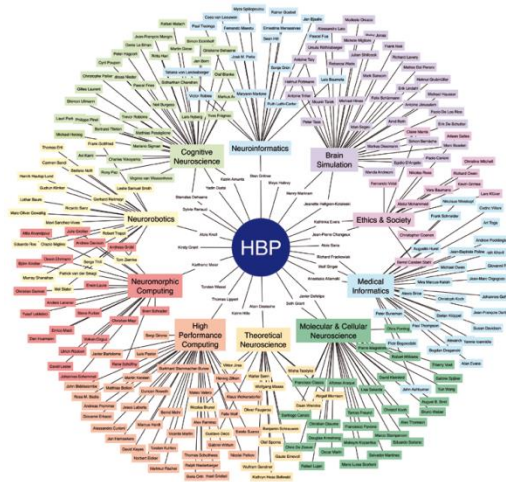
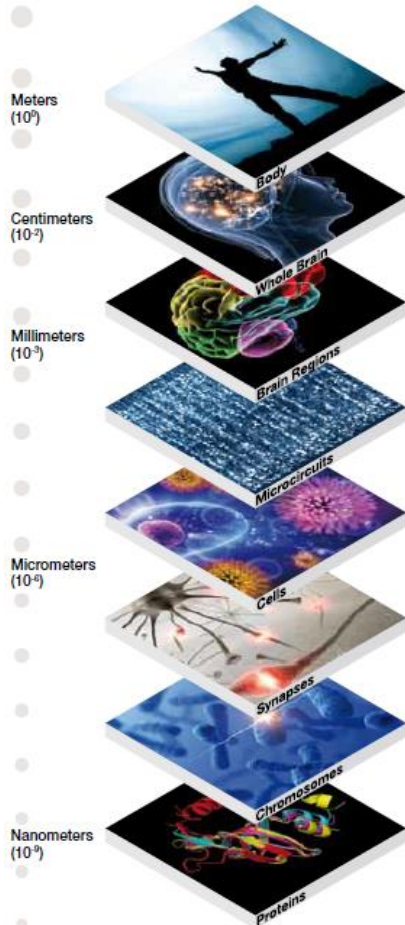
**Pros:** - Good classifiers  
- Learning systems

**Cons:** - Limited  
- Not brain like

# Whole Brain Simulator – maximal neuroscience

## The Human Brain Project

Spatial scales

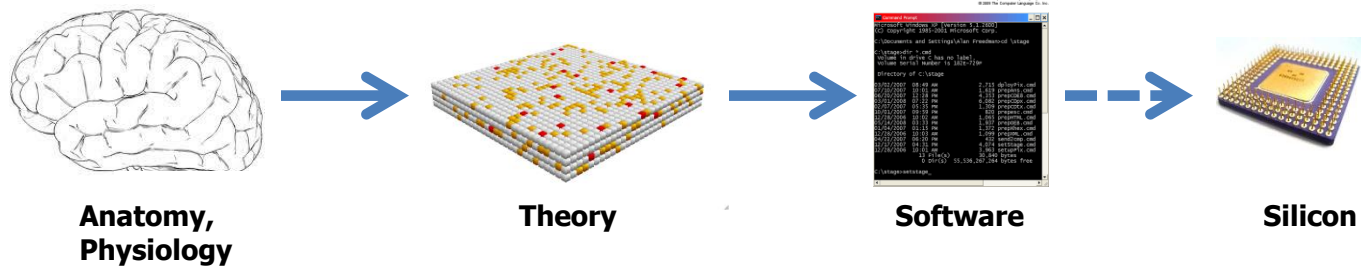


Blue Brain simulation

No theory

No attempt at Machine Intelligence

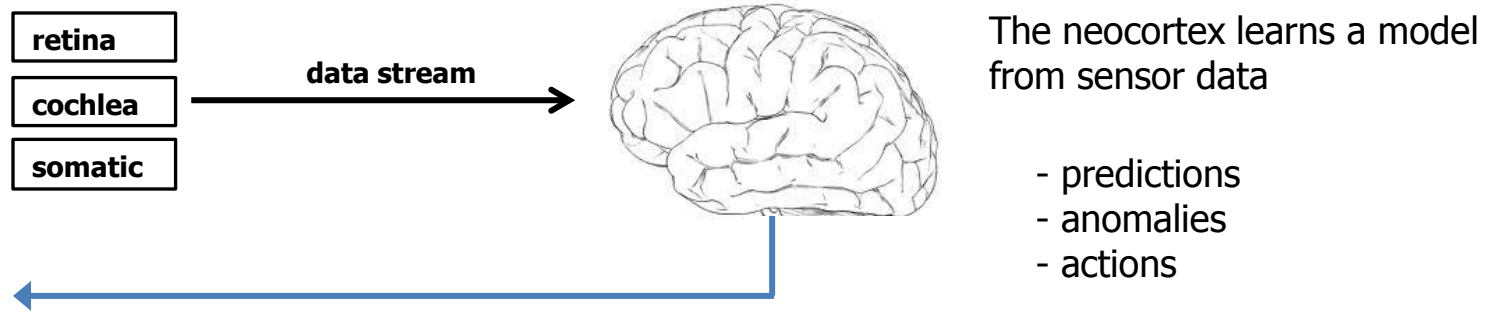
- 1) Discover operating principles of neocortex
- 2) Build systems based on these principles



**Good progress is being made**

**1940s in computing = 2010s in machine intelligence**

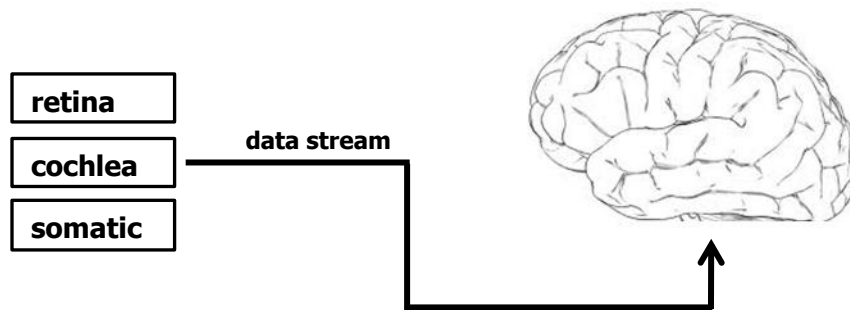
# The neocortex is a memory system.



The neocortex learns a sensory-motor model of the world

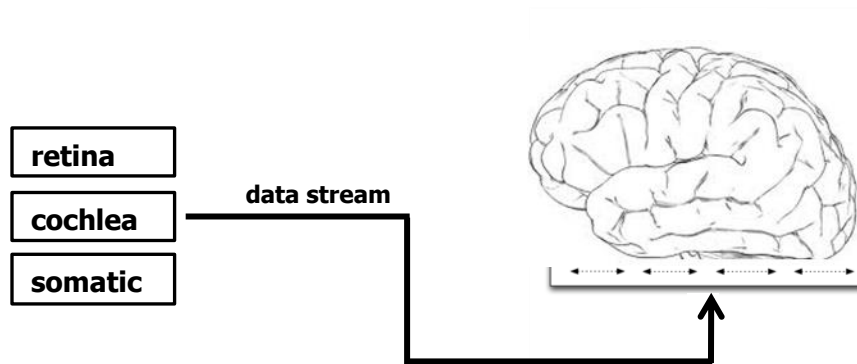
# Principles of Neocortical Function

## 1) On-line learning from streaming data





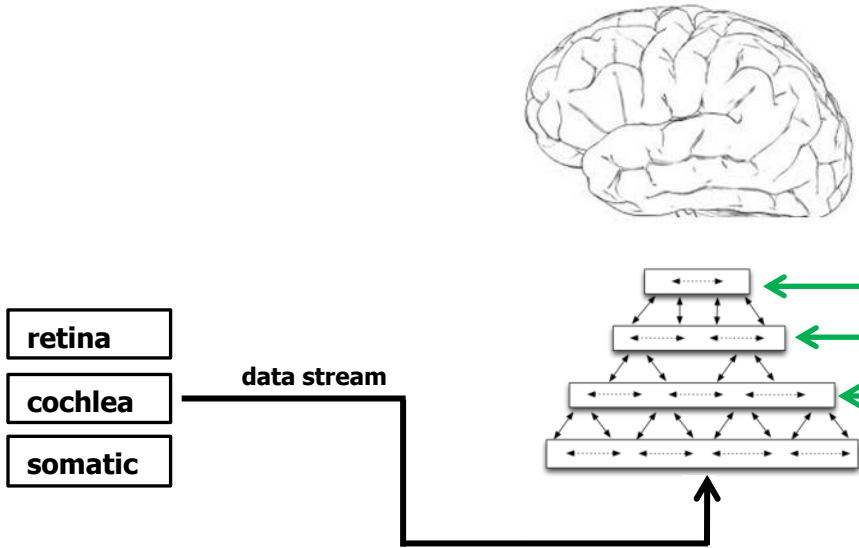
# Principles of Neocortical Function



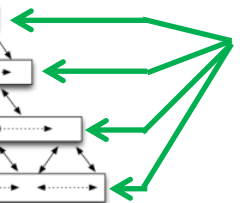
**1) On-line learning from streaming data**

**2) Hierarchy of memory regions**  
- regions are nearly identical

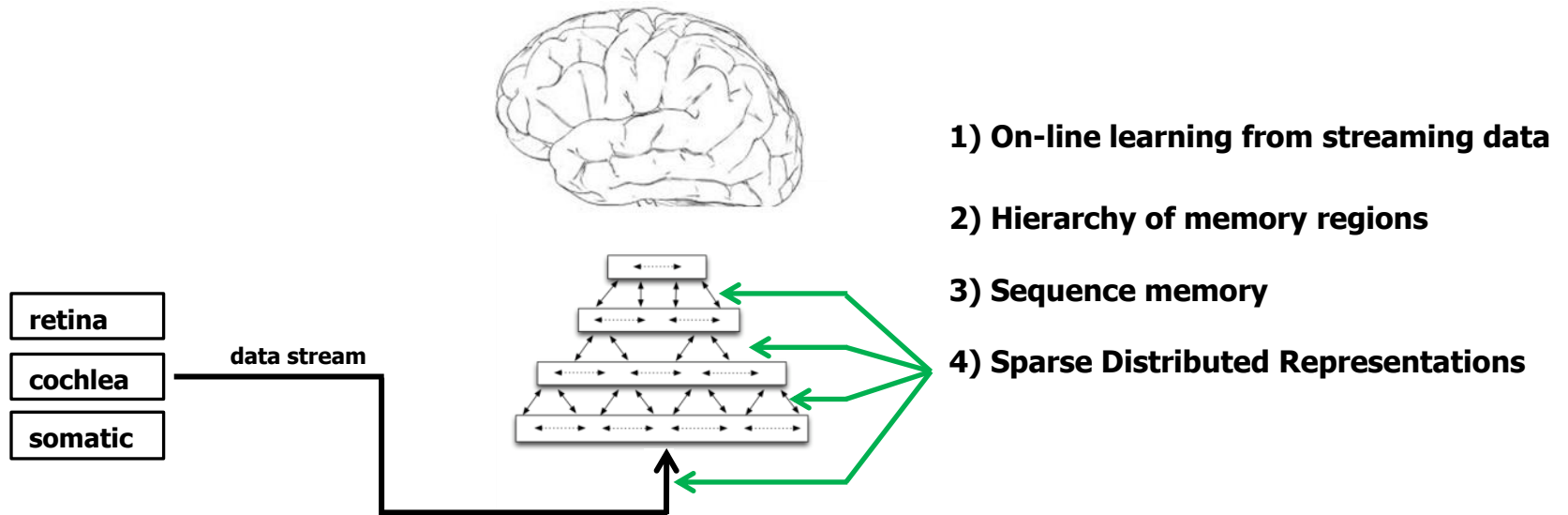
# Principles of Neocortical Function



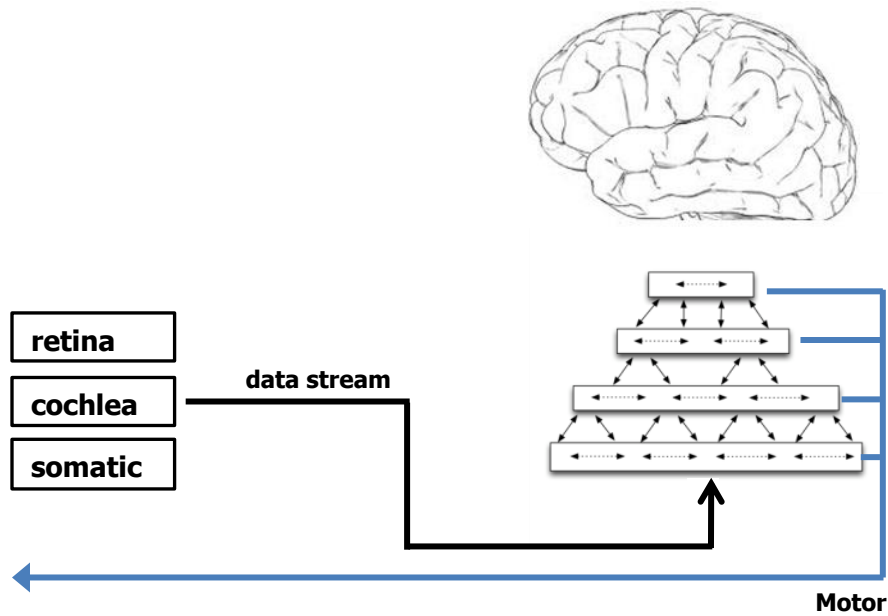
- 1) On-line learning from streaming data
- 2) Hierarchy of memory regions
- 3) Sequence memory
  - inference
  - motor



# Principles of Neocortical Function

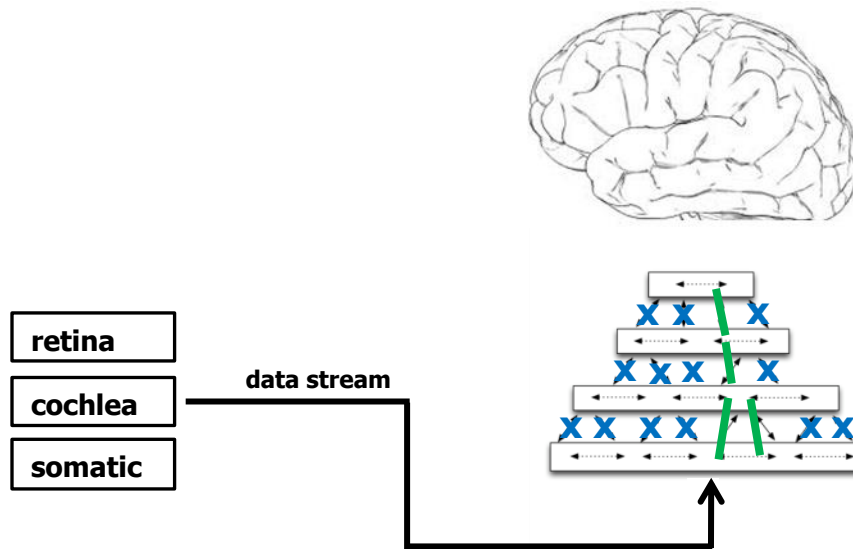


# Principles of Neocortical Function



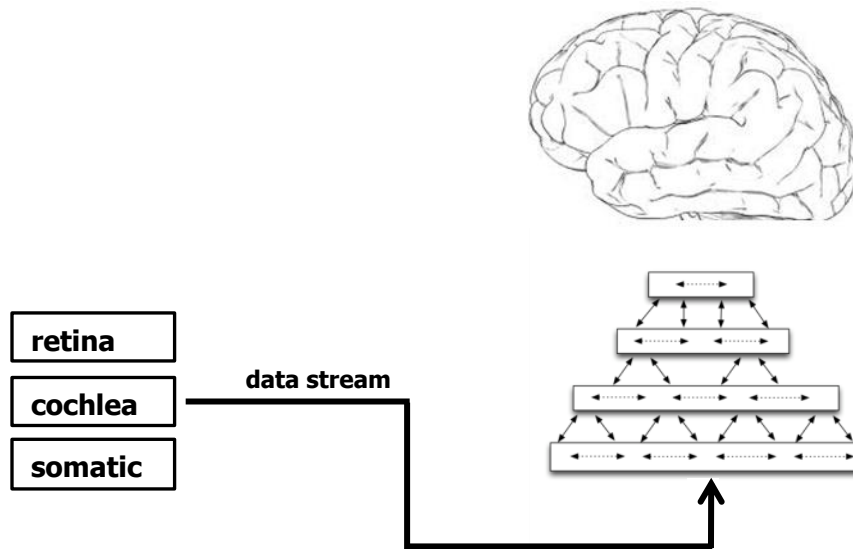
- 1) On-line learning from streaming data
- 2) Hierarchy of memory regions
- 3) Sequence memory
- 4) Sparse Distributed Representations
- 5) All regions are sensory and motor

# Principles of Neocortical Function



- 1) On-line learning from streaming data
- 2) Hierarchy of memory regions
- 3) Sequence memory
- 4) Sparse Distributed Representations
- 5) All regions are sensory and motor
- 6) Attention

# Principles of Neocortical Function



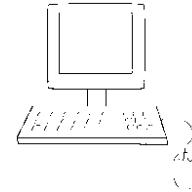
- 1) On-line learning from streaming data
- 2) Hierarchy of memory regions
- 3) Sequence memory
- 4) Sparse Distributed Representations
- 5) All regions are sensory and motor
- 6) Attention

**These six principles are necessary and sufficient for biological and machine intelligence.**

- All mammals from mouse to human have them
- We can build machines like this

## Dense Representations

- Few bits (8 to 128)
- All combinations of 1's and 0's
- Example: 8 bit ASCII  
01101101 = m
- Individual bits have no inherent meaning
- Representation is arbitrary



## Sparse Distributed Representations (SDRs)

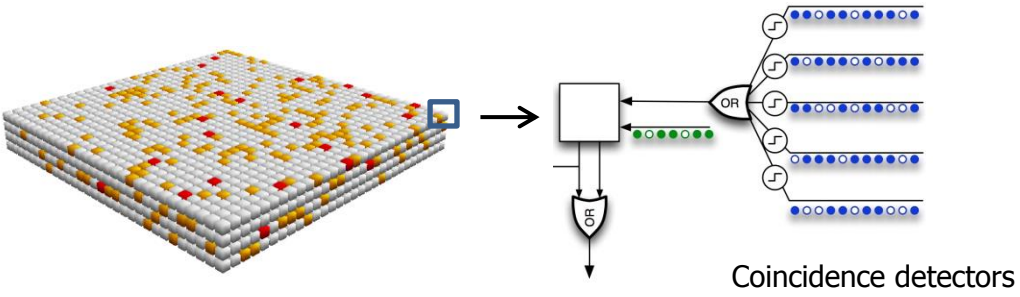
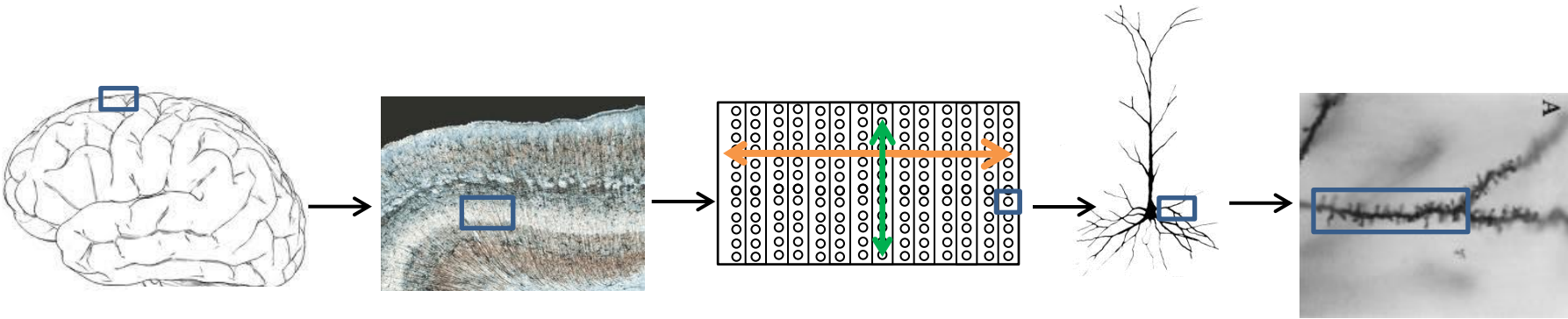
- Many bits (thousands)
- Few 1's mostly 0's
- Example: 2,000 bits, 2% active  
01000000000000000000100010000.....01000
- Each bit has semantic meaning (learned)
- Representation is semantic





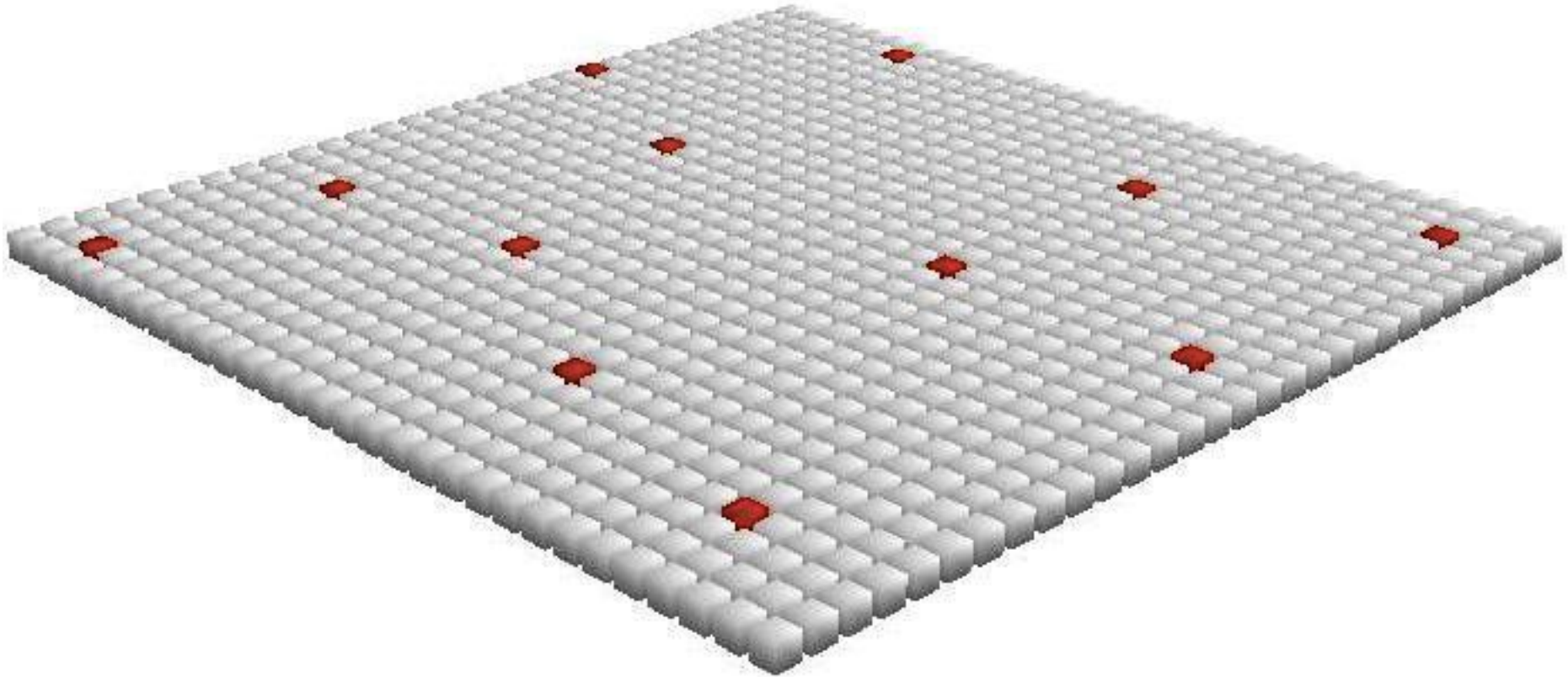


# Sequence Memory (for inference and motor)



How does a layer of neurons learn sequences?

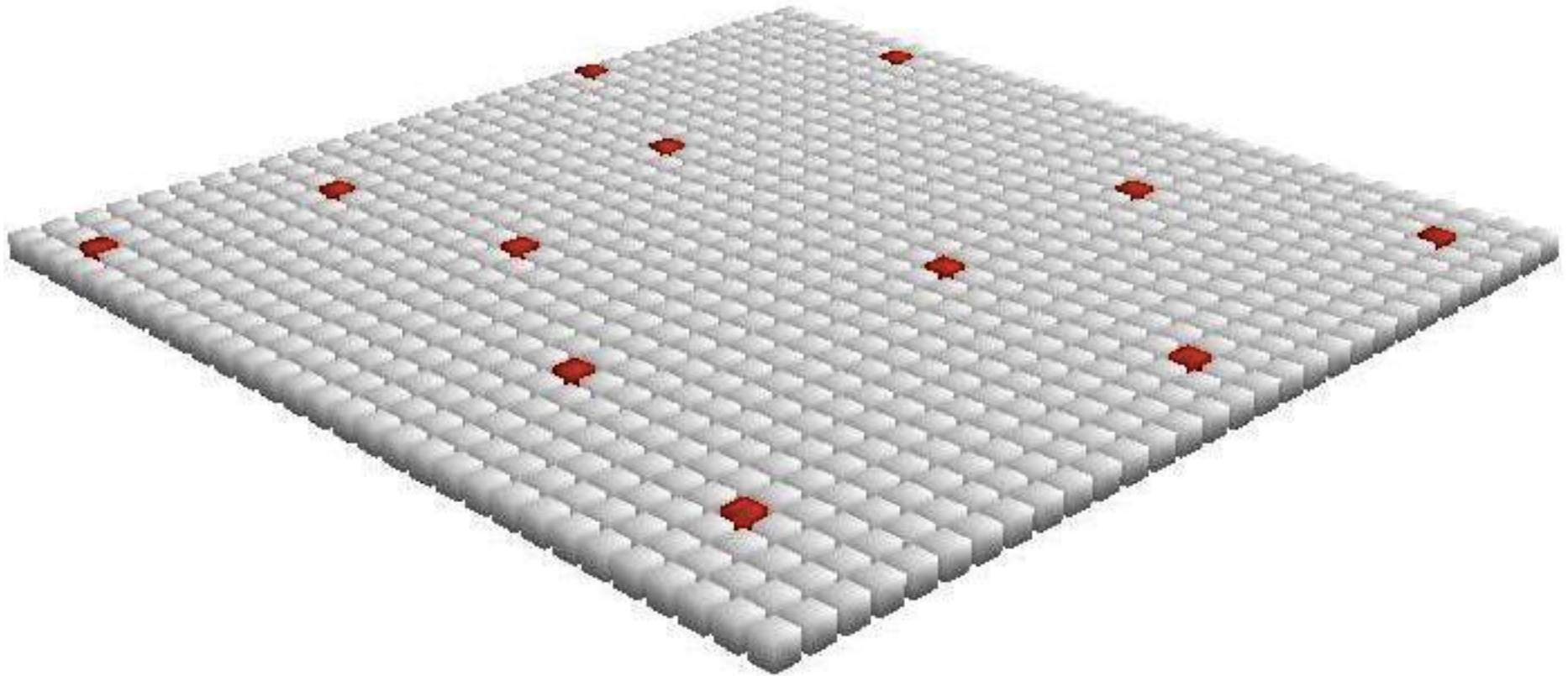
Each cell is one bit in our Sparse Distributed Representation



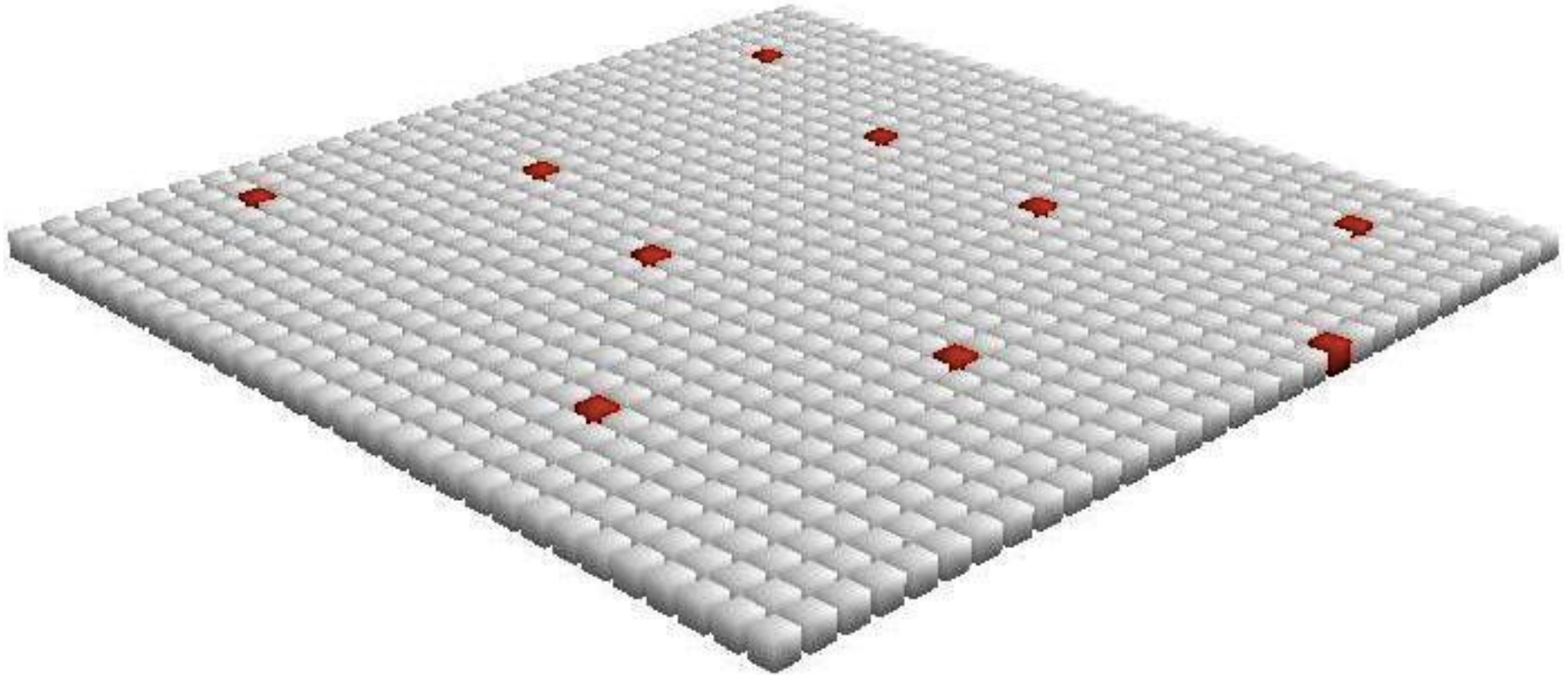
SDRs are formed via a local competition between cells.

All processes are local across large sheets of cells.

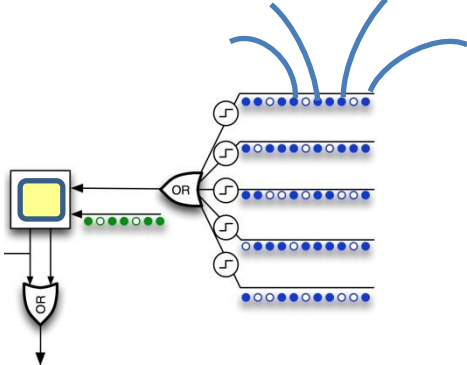
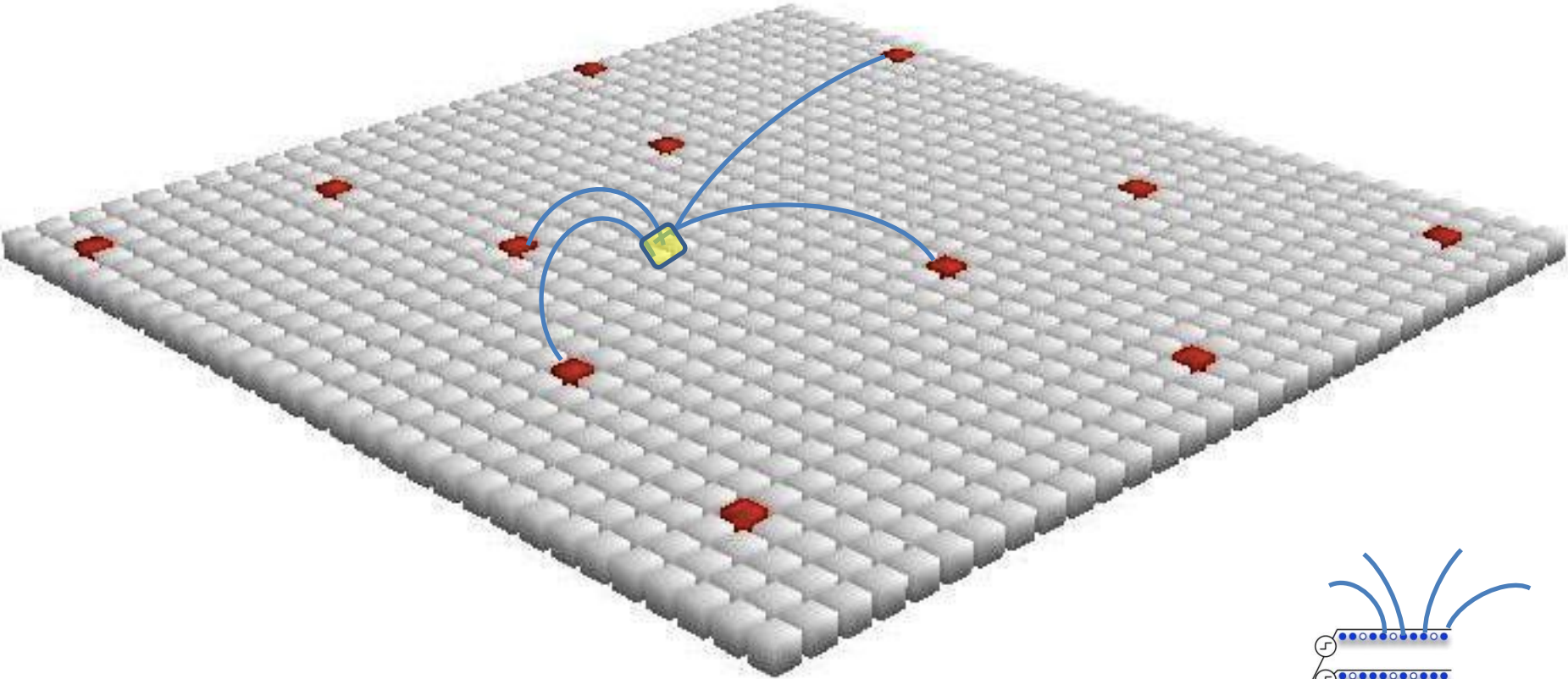
SDR (time = 1)



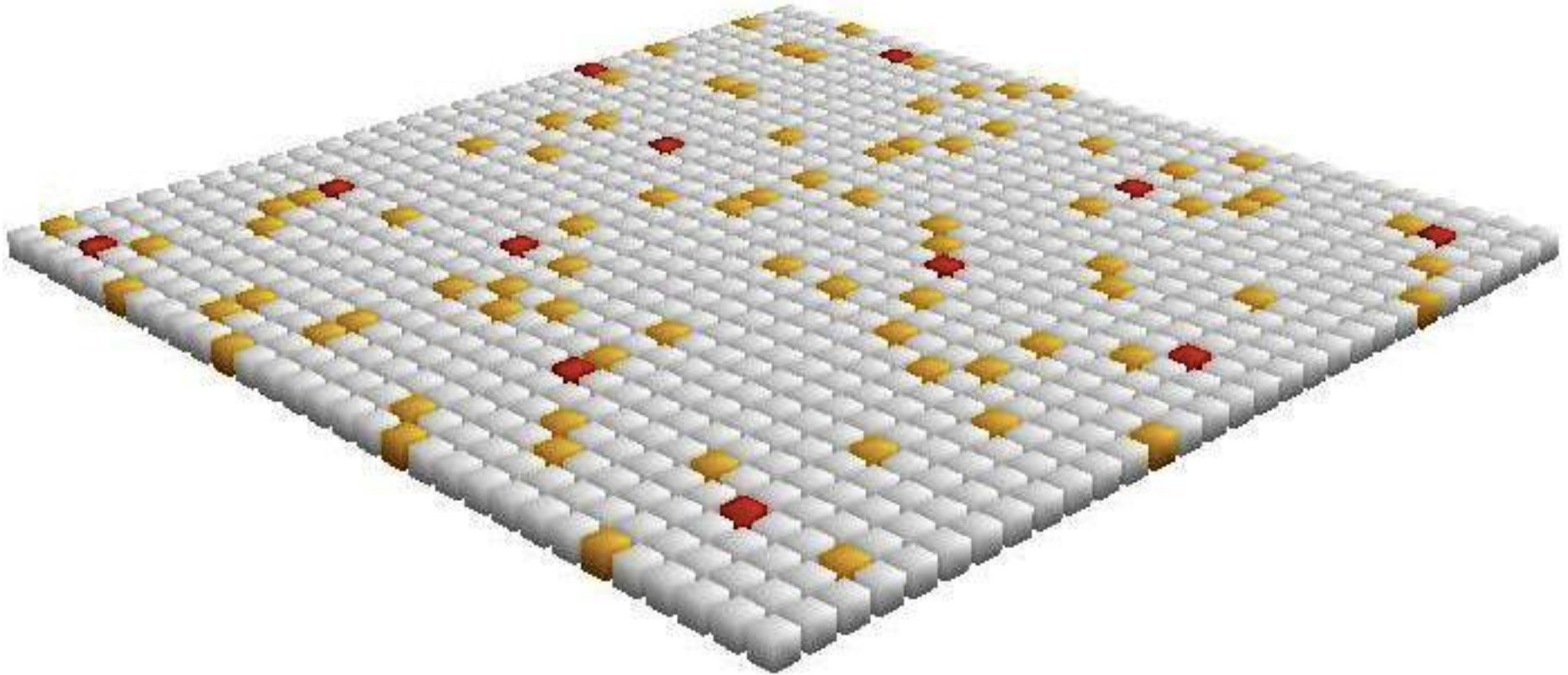
SDR (time =2)



Cells connect to sample of previously active cells to predict their own future activity.

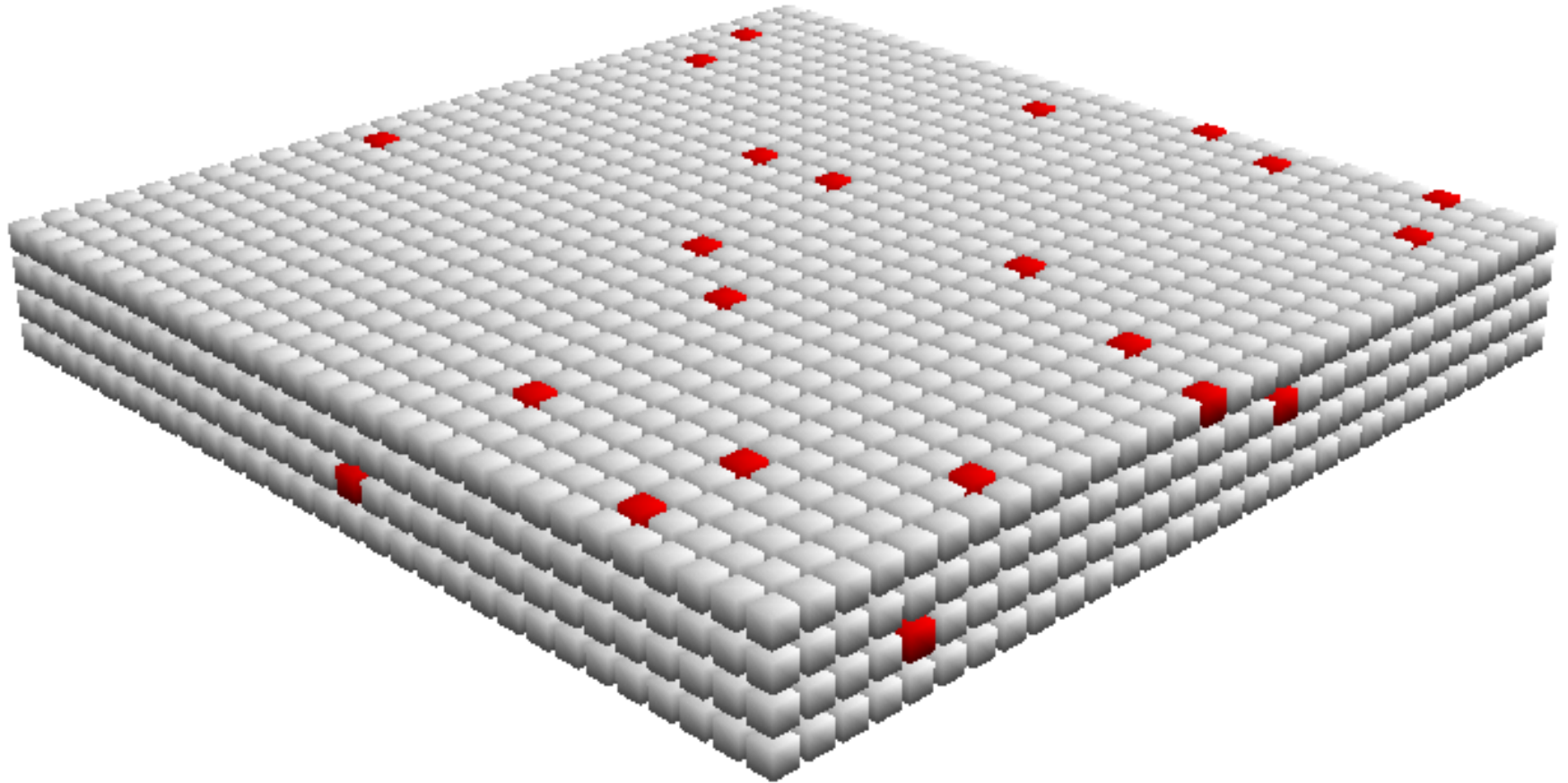


Multiple Predictions Can Occur at Once.

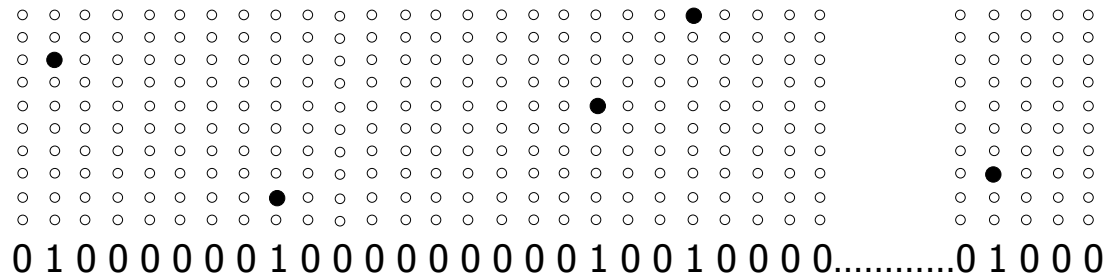
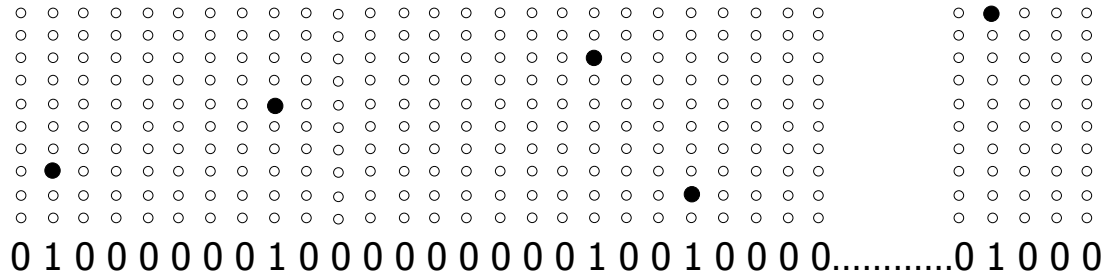


This is a 1<sup>st</sup> order memory.  
We need a high order memory.

High order sequences are enabled with multiple cells per column.



# High Order Sequence Memory



40 active columns, 10 cells per column

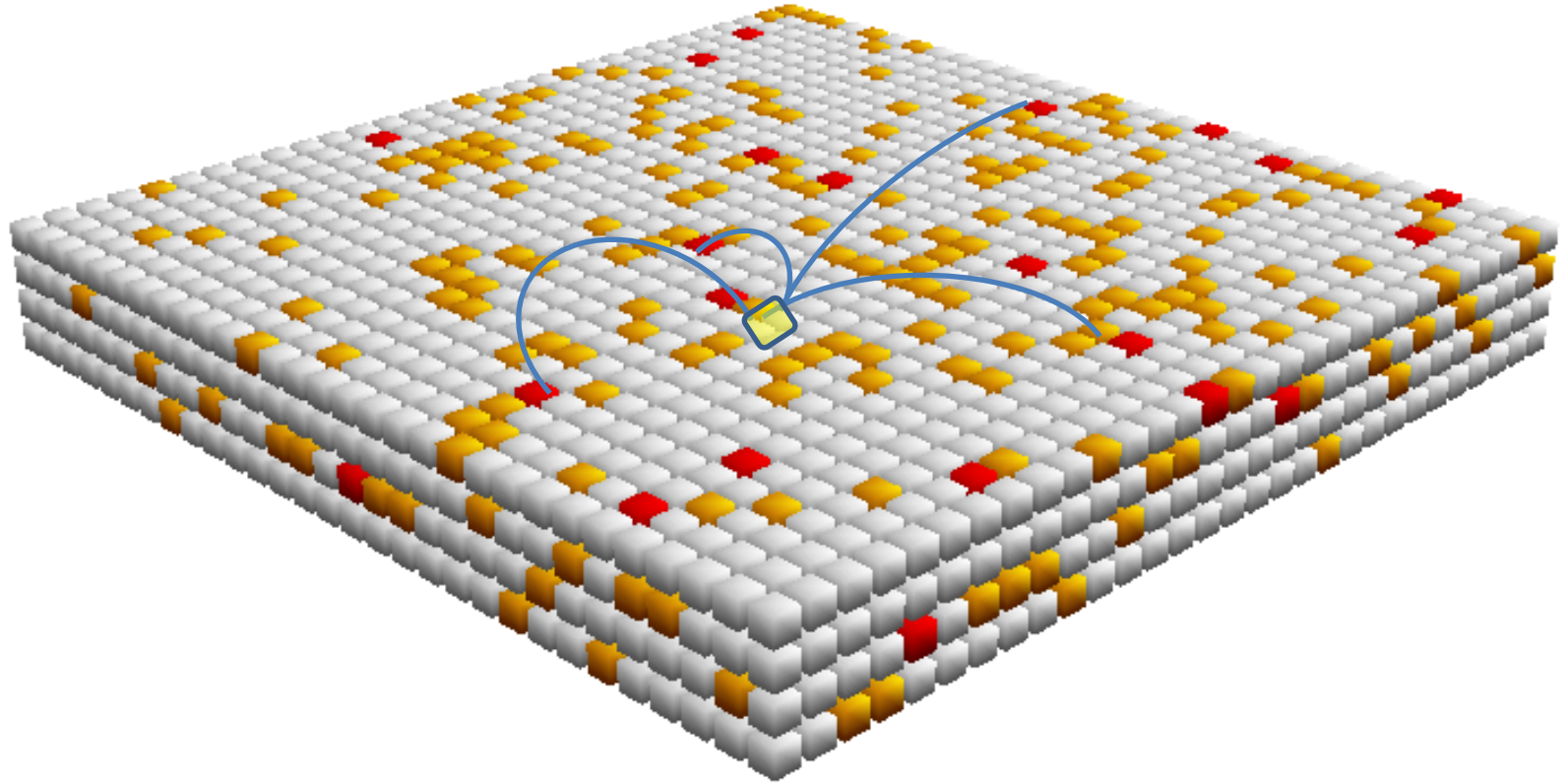
=  $10^{40}$  ways to represent the same input in different contexts

A-B-C-D-E

X-B'-C'-D'-Y



# High Order Sequence Memory



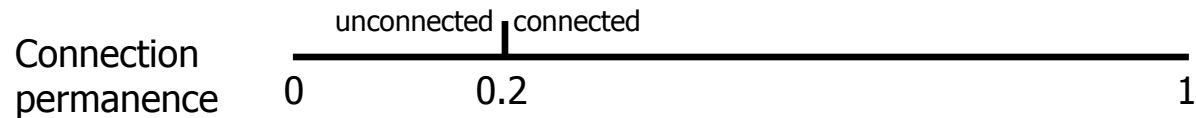
Distributed sequence memory  
High order, high capacity  
Noise and fault tolerant  
Multiple simultaneous predictions  
Semantic generalization

# Online learning

- Learn continuously, no batch processing
- If pattern repeats, reinforce, otherwise forget it



Learning is the growth of new synapses.

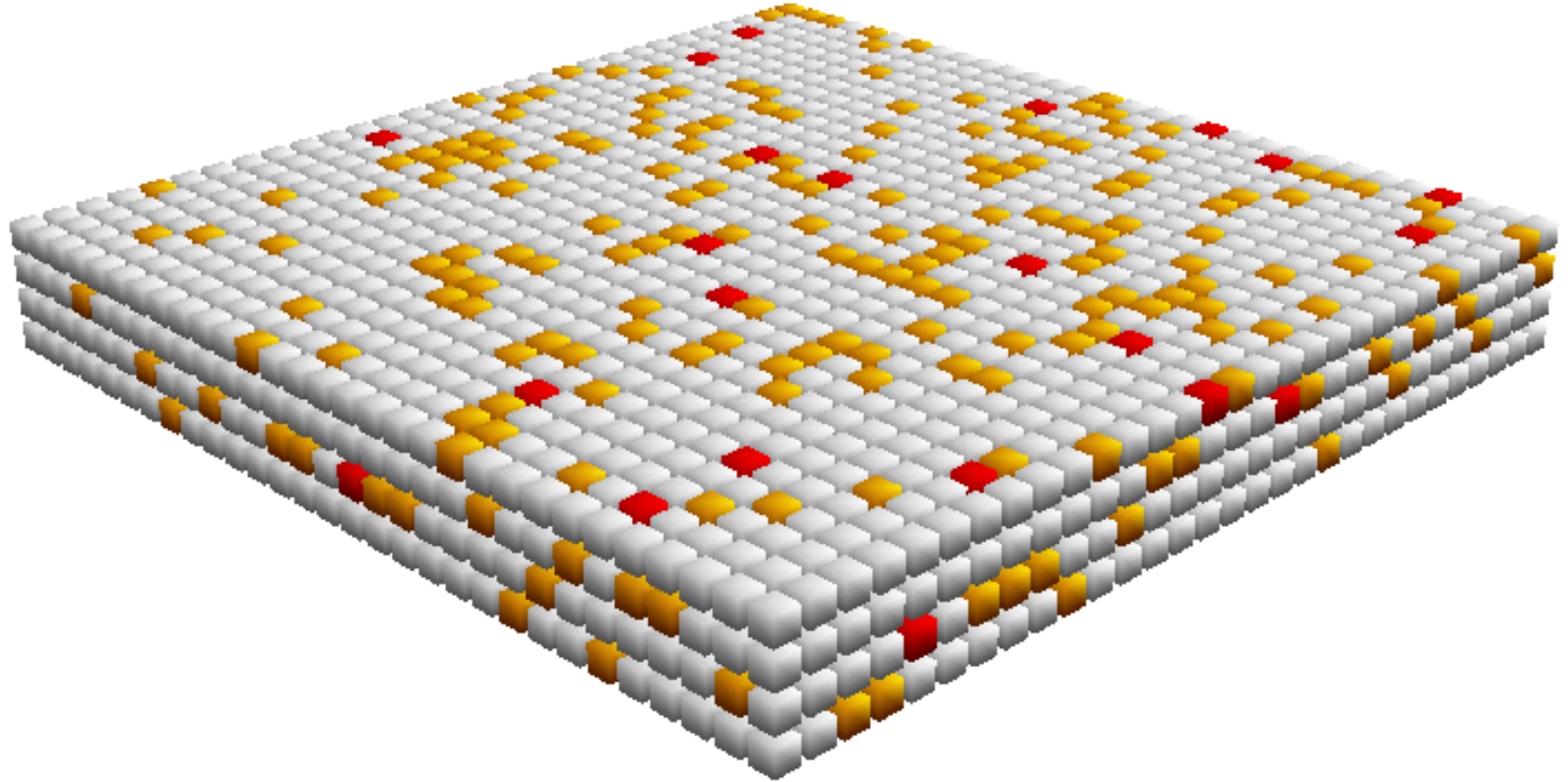


Connection strength is binary

Connection permanence is a scalar

Training changes permanence

# “Cortical Learning Algorithm” (CLA)

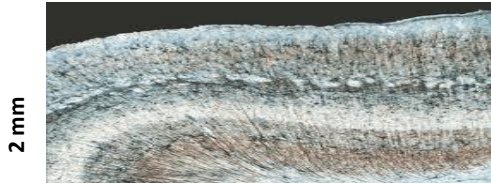


**Not your typical computer memory!**

**A building block for**

- neocortex
- machine intelligence

# Cortical Region



Evidence suggests each layer is implementing a CLA variant

# What Is Next? Three Current Directions

## 1) Commercialization

- GROK: Predictive analytics using CLA
- Commercial value accelerates interest and investment

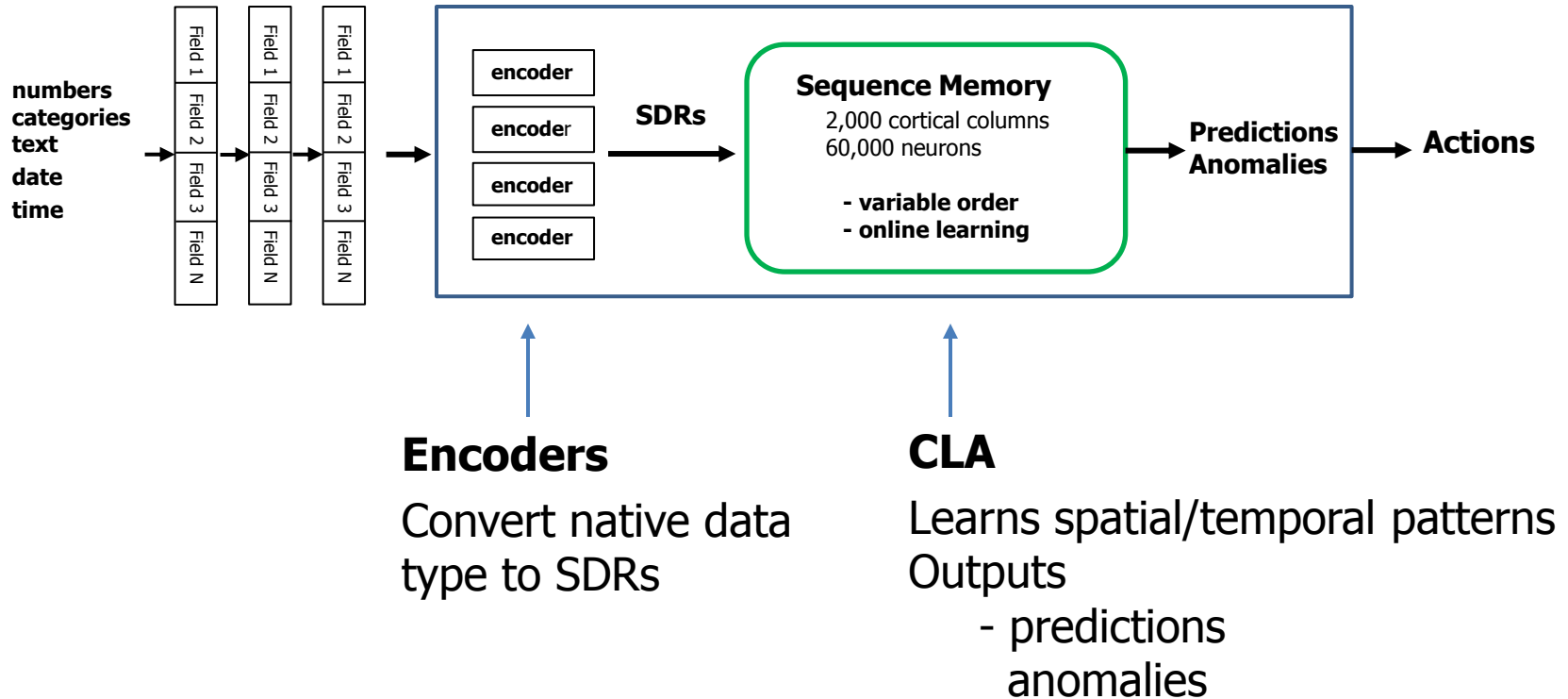
## 2) Open Source Project

- NuPIC: CLA open source software and community
- Improve algorithms, develop applications

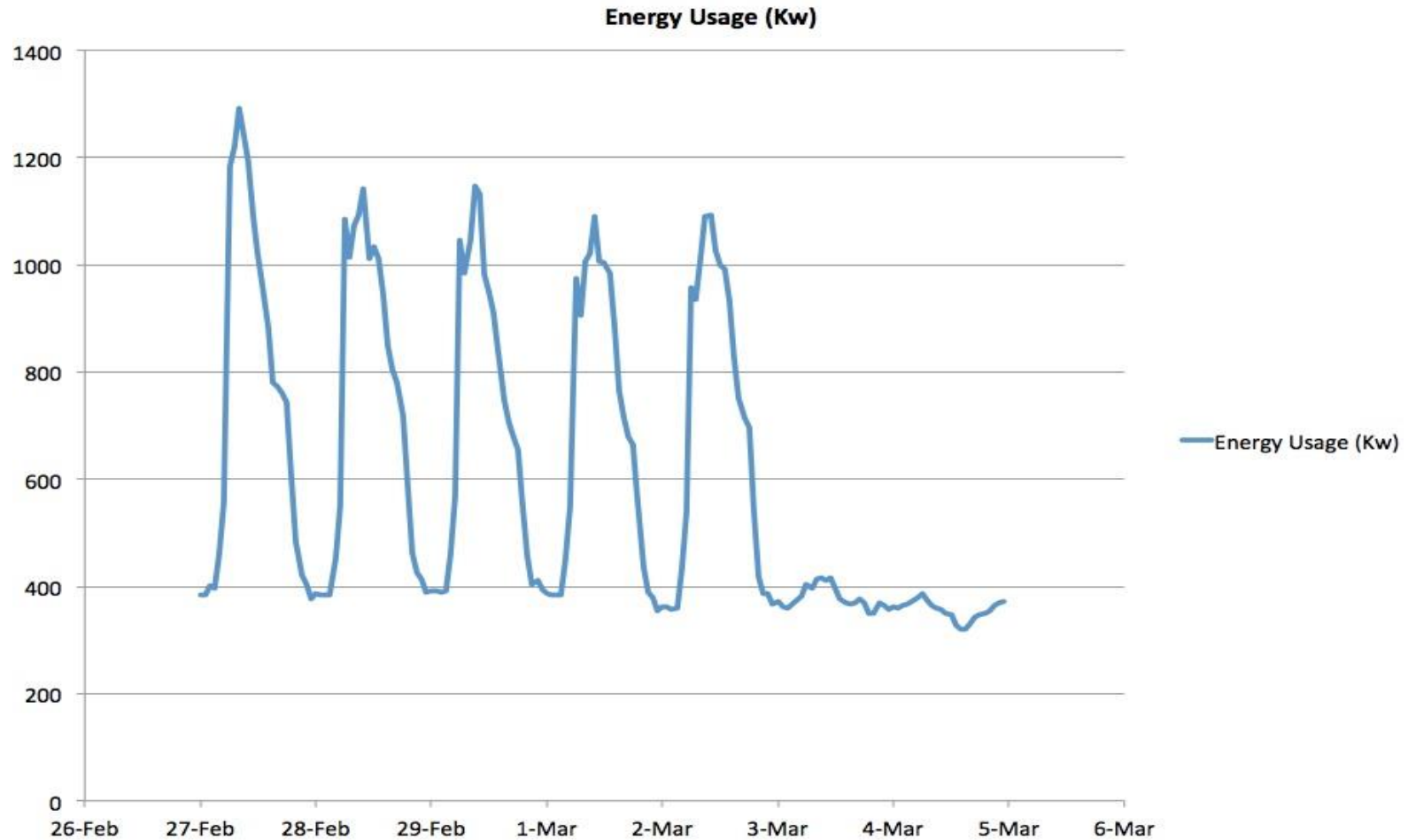
## 3) Custom CLA Hardware

- Needed for scaling research and commercial applications
- IBM, Seagate, Sandia Labs, DARPA

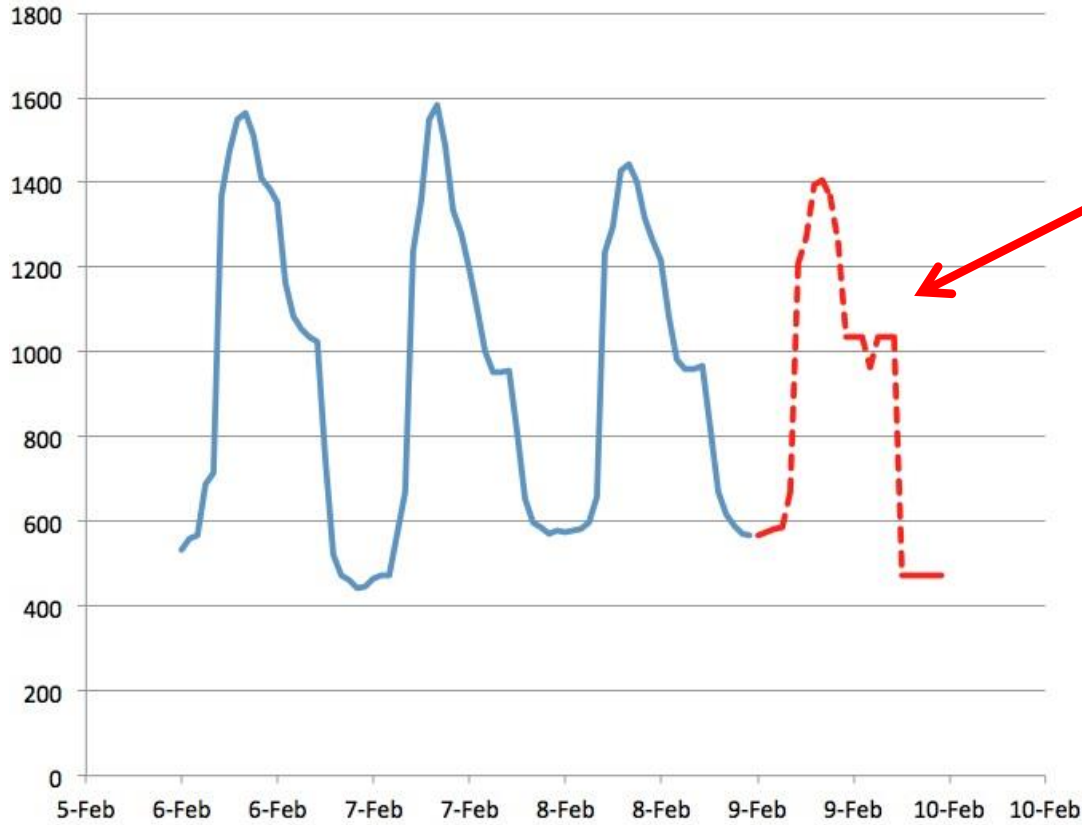
# GROK: Predictive Analytics Using CLA



# GROK example: Factory Energy Usage



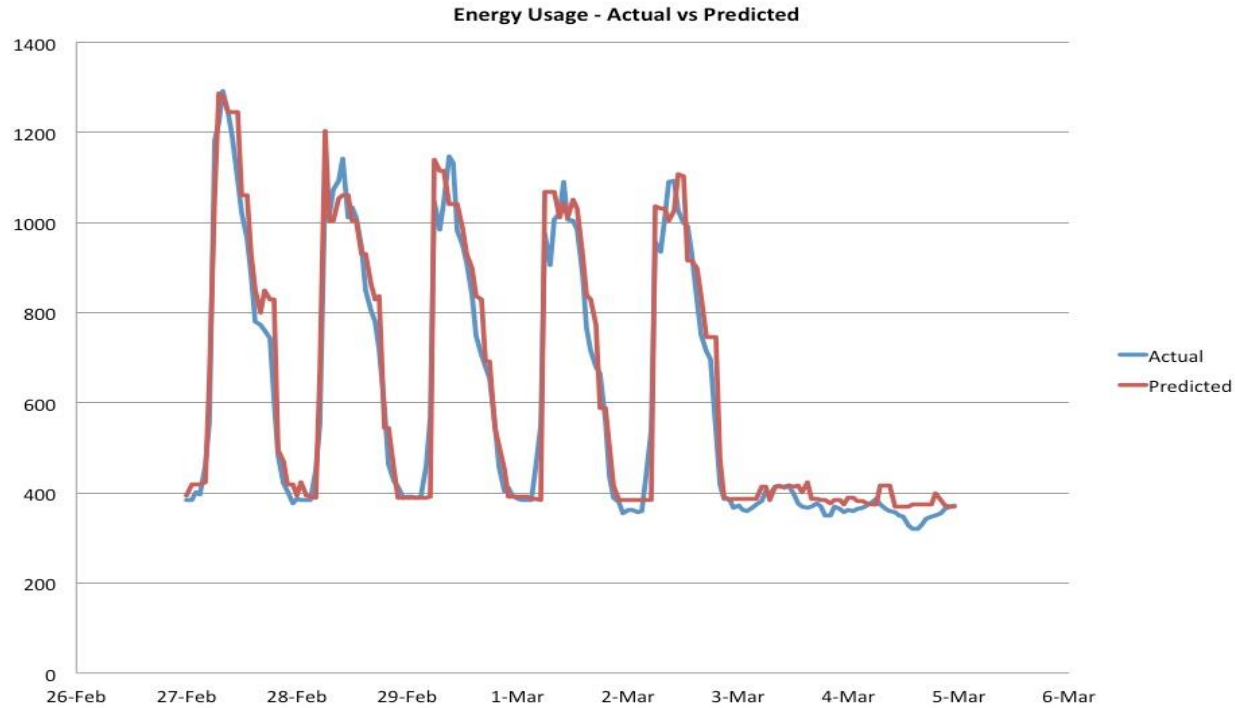
# Customer need



At midnight, make 24 hourly predictions



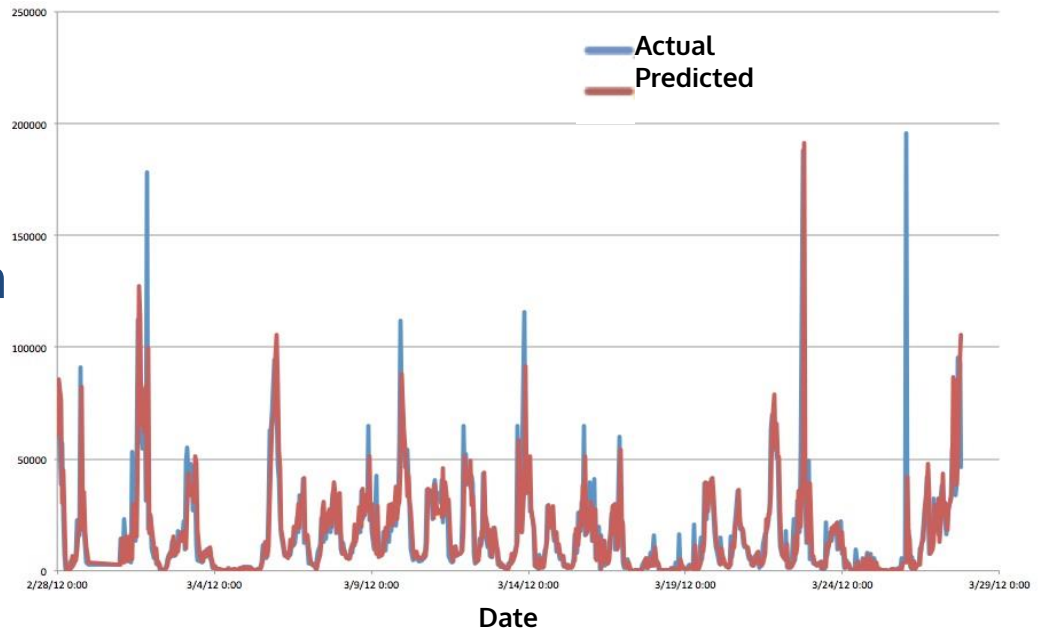
# GROK Predictions and Actuals



# GROK example: Predicting Server Demand

Grok used to predict server demand

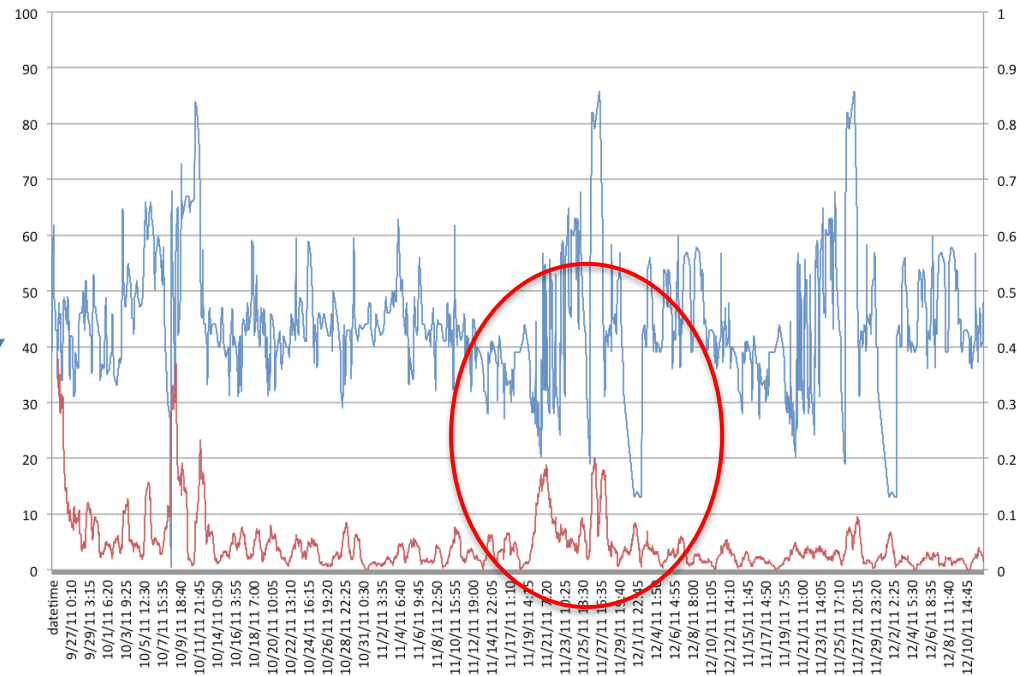
Approximately 15% reduction in AWS cost



Server demand, Actual vs. Predicted

# GROK example: Detecting Anomalous Behavior

Grok builds model of data,  
detects changes in  
predictability.



Gear bearing temperature & Grok Anomaly Score

**GROK going to market for anomaly detection in I.T. 2014**

## 2) Open Source Project

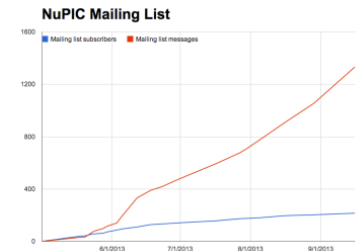
### NuPIC: [www.Numenta.org](http://www.Numenta.org)

- CLA source code (single tree), GPLv3
- Papers, videos, docs



### Community

- 200+ mail list subscribers, growing
- 20+ messages per day
- full time manager, Matt Taylor



### What you can do

- Get educated
- New applications for CLA
- Extend CLA: robotics, language, vision
- Tools, documentation



### 2nd Hackathon November 2,3 in San Francisco

- Natural language processing using SDRs
- Sensory-motor integration discussion
- 2014 hackathon Ireland?

### **3) Custom CLA Hardware**

#### **HW companies looking “Beyond von Neumann”**

- Distributed memory
- Fault tolerant
- Hierarchical

#### **New HW Architectures Needed**

- Speed (research)
- Cost, power, embedded (commercial)

#### **IBM**

- Almaden Research Labs
- Joint research agreement

#### **DARPA**

- New Program called “Cortical Processor”
- HTM (Hierarchical Temporal Memory)
- CLA is prototype primitive

#### **Seagate**

#### **Sandia Labs**

# Future of Machine Intelligence



# Future of Machine Intelligence



## Definite

- Faster, Bigger
- Super senses
- Fluid robotics
- Distributed hierarchy



## Maybe

- Humanoid robots
- Computer/Brain interfaces for all



## Not

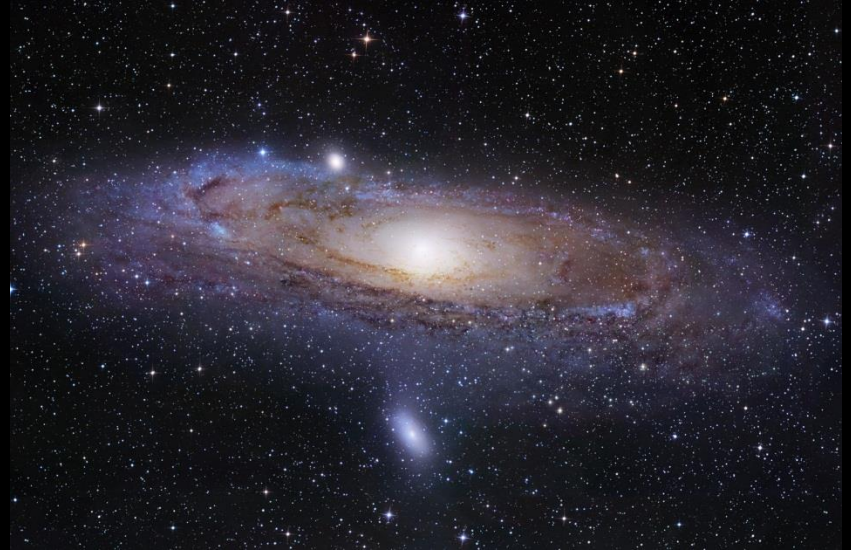
- Uploaded brains
- Evil robots



# Why Create Intelligent Machines?



**Live better**



**Learn more**

**Thank You**