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# Modeling Cortical Maps With Feed-Backs

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ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE

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Projet Odysée

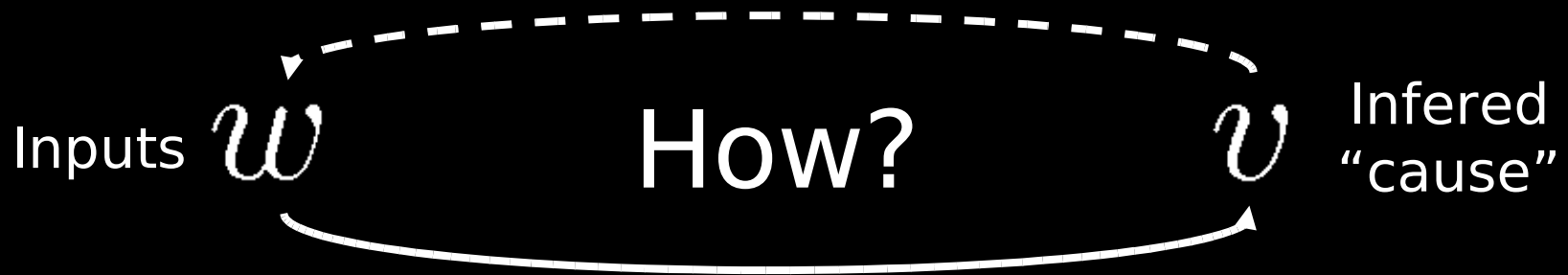


Centre d'Enseignement et de Recherche  
en Technologies de l'Information et Systèmes

# Goals

- Implement a general variational formulation as a neural network
- Relate an optimization problem to a cortical map estimation
- Consider the coupling between several cortical maps

# Variational Framework



- Minimization of an energy written in a continuous setting

$$\bar{v} = \underset{v \in H(\Omega) / c(v)=0}{\text{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v)$$

$$v \in H(\Omega)$$

# General Variational Formulation

- We propose

$$\bar{v} = \underset{v \in H / c(v)=0}{\text{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v),$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|_{\Lambda}^2 + \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_L) + \int_{\Omega} \psi(v),$$

and

$$\hat{w} = P v$$

# General Variational Formulation

Nonlinearities  $\mathcal{L}$  different terms

$$\bar{v} = \underset{v \in H}{\text{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v),$$

Control of the solution

with

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|_{\Lambda}^2 + \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_L) + \int_{\Omega} \psi(v),$$

and

$$\hat{w} = P v$$

$\Lambda =$   
Measurement information metric

Inputs from outputs  
Re-estimation

$L =$   
Regularization Metric

# General Variational Formulation

- $\Lambda$  and  $L$  are constants (now...)

$$\bar{v} = \underset{v \in H / c(v)=0}{\text{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v),$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|_{\Lambda}^2 + \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_L) + \int_{\Omega} \psi(v),$$

and

$$\hat{w} = P v$$

$\Lambda =$   
Measurement  
information metric

$L =$   
Regularization  
Metric

# Covers Several Applications



- For example, image smoothing

$$\bar{v} = \underset{v \in H / \sum_i v_i = \text{cte}}{\text{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v),$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|_{\Lambda}^2 + \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_{\mathbf{L}}),$$

and

$$\hat{w} = v$$



# Covers Several Applications

- For example, winner-take-all

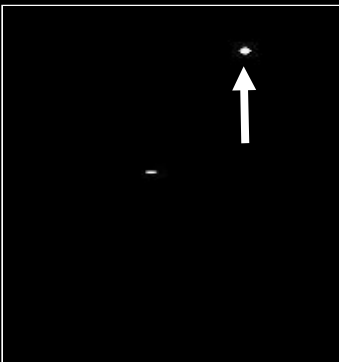
$$\bar{v} = \underset{v}{\operatorname{Argmin}} \mathcal{L}(v),$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|_{\Lambda}^2 + \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \mathbf{v}|^2 + \int \psi(v)$$

and

$$\hat{w} = v$$





# How to Go to Discrete Domain?

$$\inf_{v \in H(\Omega) / c(v)=0} \mathcal{L}(v)$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = F(v, v_x, v_{xx}, \dots)$$

$$\frac{dv_i}{dt} = G(v_i, v_j)$$

# Goal: Establish the Correspondence...

$$\inf_{v \in H(\Omega) / c(v)=0} \mathcal{L}(v)$$

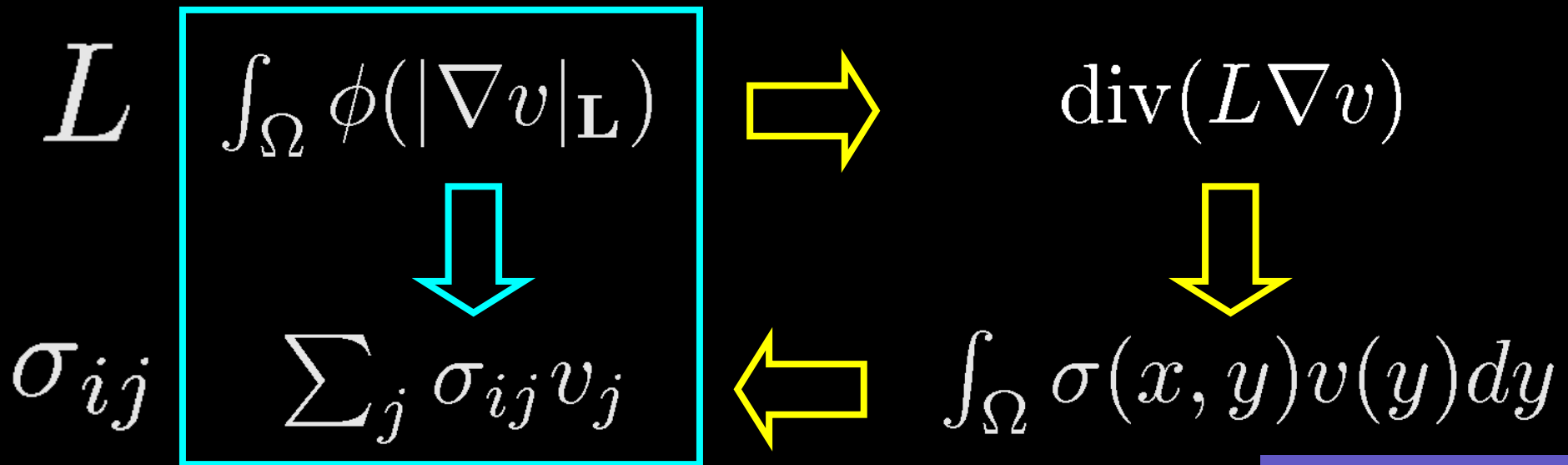
$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{w} - w|^2 + \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_L^2) + \int_{\Omega} \psi(v)$$

Weighted Particular Methods

$$\frac{dv_i}{dt} = +\kappa_i \mathbf{w}_i + \sum_j \sigma_{ij}(v_i) v_j - \epsilon_i(v_i)$$

# Weighted Particular Methods

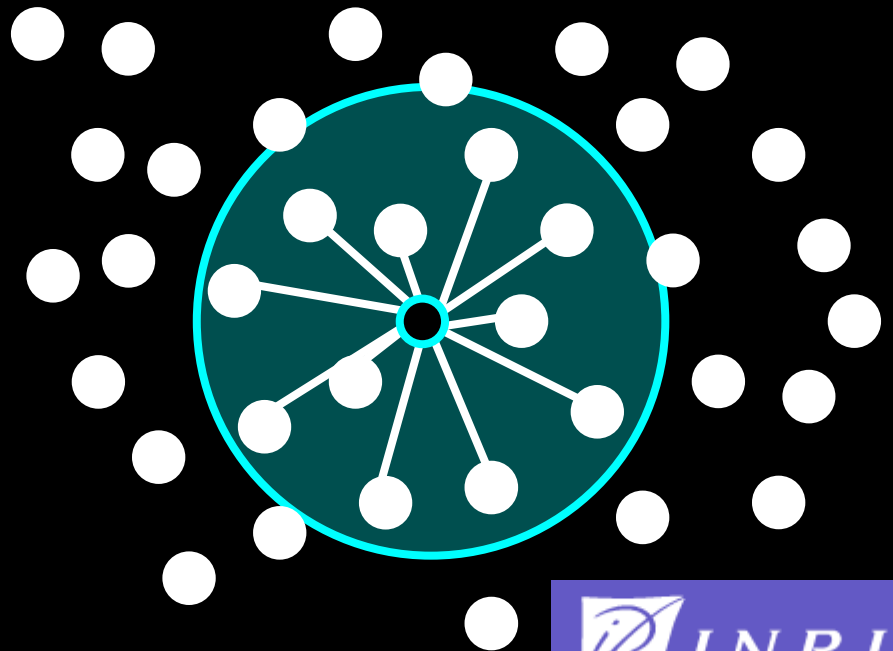
- **Litterature:** Degond and Mas-Gallic (89), Cottet and Ayyadi (98), Edwards (96)
- **General Idea**



# Weighted Particular Methods

- **Litterature:** Degond and Mas-Gallic (89), Cottet and Ayyadi (98), Edwards (96)
- **General Idea**

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L} \\ \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|_{\mathbf{L}}) \\ \Downarrow \\ \sigma_{ij} \\ \sum_j \sigma_{ij} v_j \end{array}$$



# Our Contribution

- Extend result for vectorial case
- Works with nonlinear terms
  - We linearize

$$\bar{\mathbf{L}} = \phi'(|\nabla \mathbf{v}|_{\mathbf{L}}) \mathbf{L},$$

- Linearizing, iterating and updating the smoothing term leads to the solution

# Our Contribution

- We recover some compatibility conditions

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{L}}^{kl}(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \sigma_j \bar{\mu}_j^{\mathbf{e}_k + \mathbf{e}_l}(\mathbf{x}), \\ \mathbf{div}^k(\bar{\mathbf{L}}(\mathbf{x})) &= \sum_j \sigma_j \bar{\mu}_j^{\mathbf{e}_k}(\mathbf{x}),\end{aligned}$$

$$\forall i, \quad \sum_j \sigma_{ij} \bar{\mu}_j^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad 2 < |\alpha| \leq r$$

- But also, we define an optimal solution, as close as possible to the differential operator

# Our Contribution

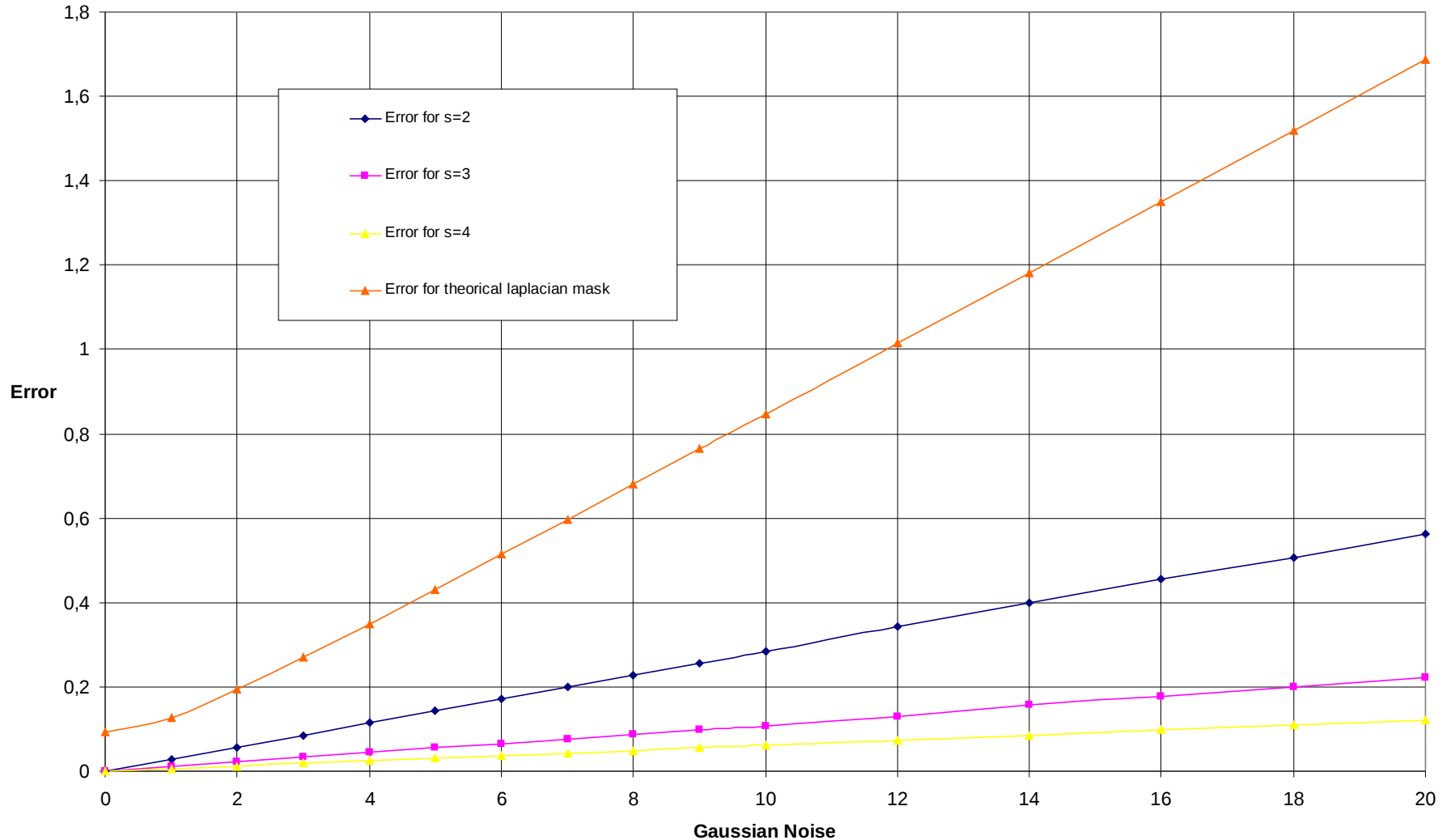
- How to prove it?

Interest of that approach: Using a weak assumption about neuronal field geometry yields an unbiased discrete form

$$\mathbf{v}_j = \int_{\mathcal{S}_j} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{y}) \mu_j(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

# Approximation Error Rates

Error between theoretical and computed laplacian mask in function of a gaussian noise for gaussian function and for an approximation order  $r=4$





# General Network Compilation Rule

- Convergence of the operator yields the convergence of solutions ( $L$  is positive but not necessarily symmetric).
- General family of solution for bounded neighbourhoods
- Definition of an optimal solution

with  $\sum_{ij} \sigma_{ij}^2$  minimal

(close to the differential operator).

# Conversely....

- Given the network dynamic

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_i}{\partial t} = -\epsilon_i(\mathbf{u}_i) + \sum_j \sigma_{ij}(\mathbf{u}_i) \mathbf{v}_j + \kappa_i \mathbf{w}_i \text{ with } \mathbf{v}_i = \text{Sig}(\mathbf{u}_i),$$

As soon as the weights verify (C2), the NN locally minimizes the criterion

$$\mathcal{L}(v) = \int_{\Omega} |\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{w}|^2 + \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \mathbf{v}|_{\mathbf{L}}^2 + \int_{\Omega} \psi(\mathbf{v}),$$

With suitable weights.

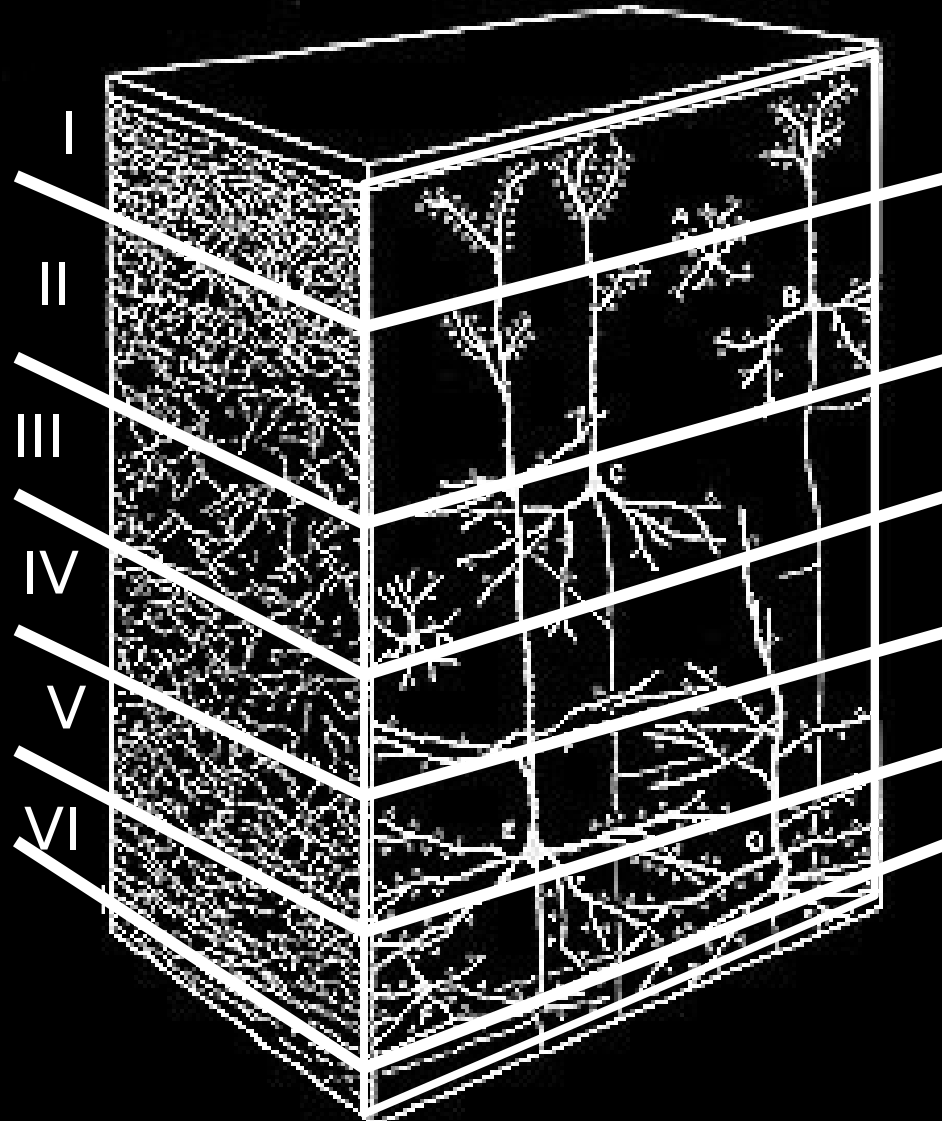
# Consequences

- This representation is well-defined for neural network connectivity with short-range excitatory connections
- Applicable to several classical NN, e.g., Hopfield, Cohen-Grossberg
- No more restriction on weight symmetry

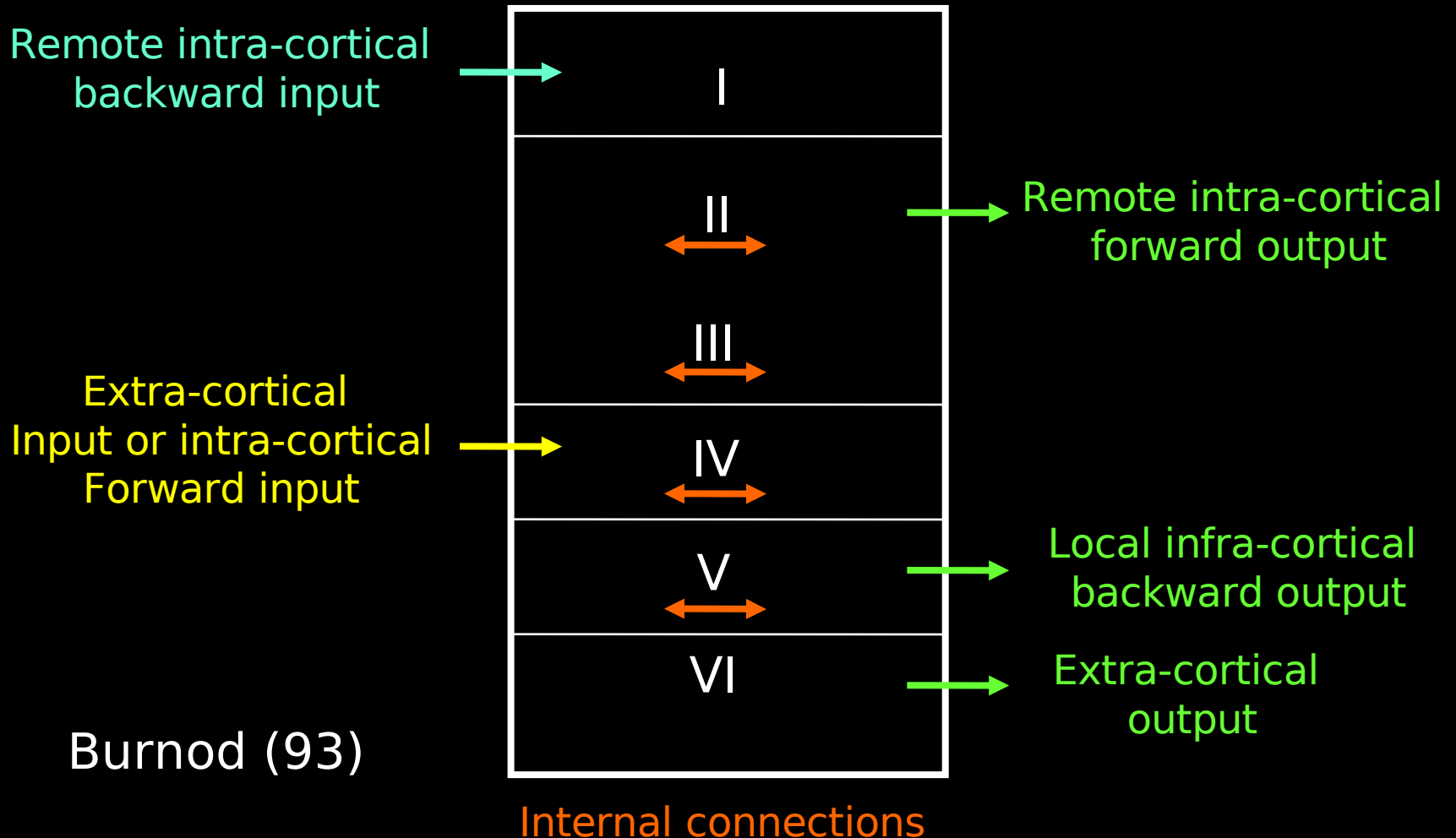
# Back to Goals

- ✓ Implement a general variational formulation as a neural network
- Relate an optimization problem to a cortical map estimation
- Consider the coupling between several cortical maps

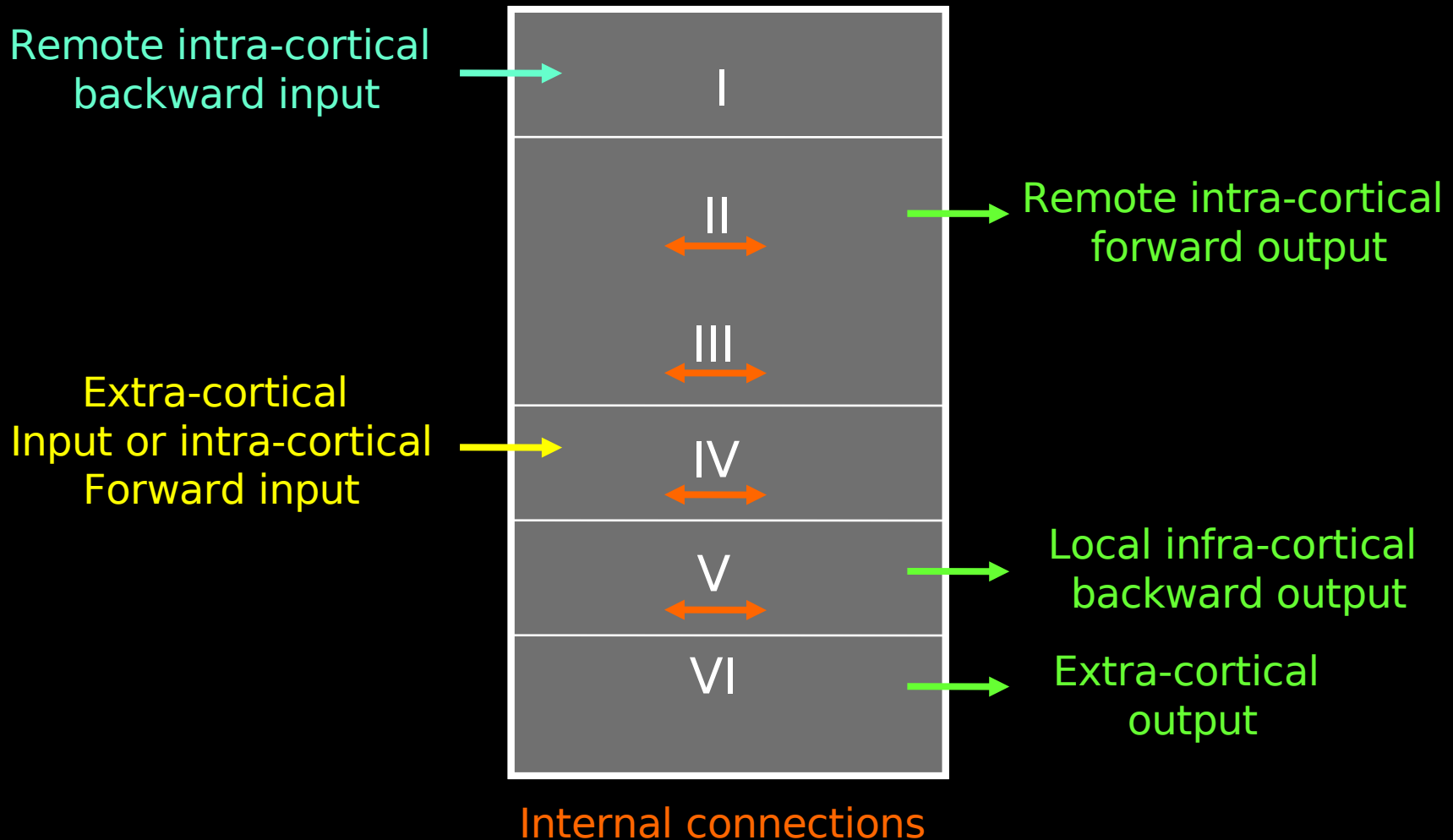
# Cortical Hypercolumns



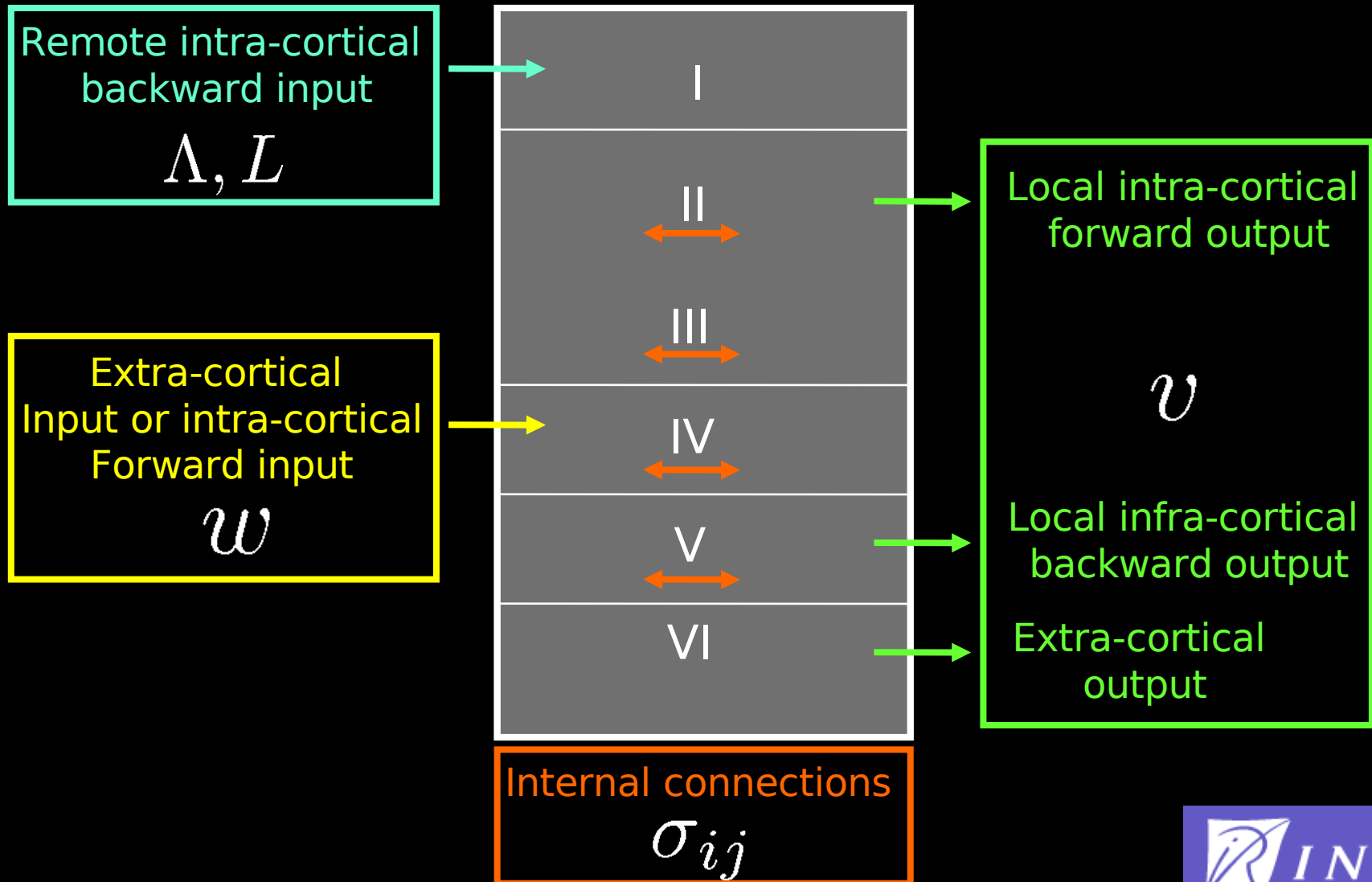
# Cortical Hypercolumns



# We Model an Averaged Hypercolumn



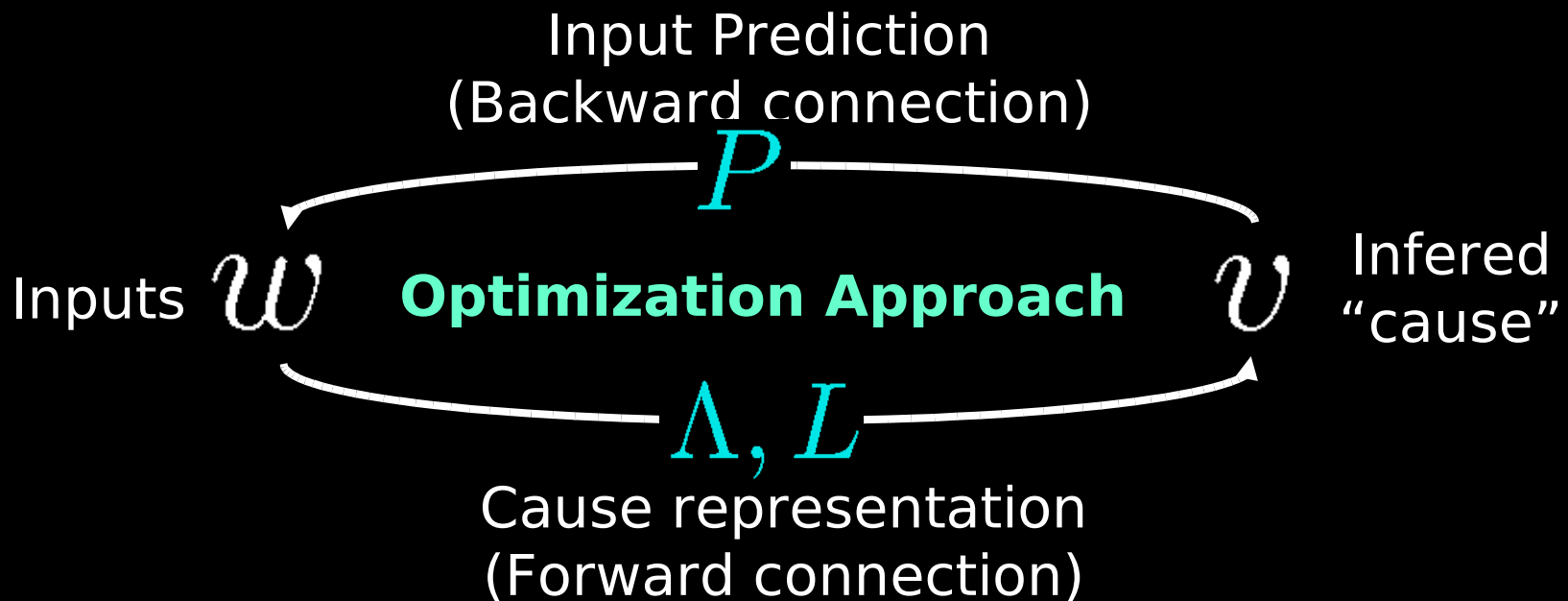
# We Model an Averaged Hypercolumn





# Finding Causes from Inputs...

- Related to Dayan and Abbott (01), Friston (02)



# Back to Goals

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# What can we say for several maps interacting together?



$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{P_m} & \\ w_m & & v_m \\ & \xleftarrow{\Lambda_m, L_m} & \end{array}$$

$$\inf_{\mathbf{v}_m \in H_m = 0} \mathcal{L}_m(\mathbf{v}_m)$$

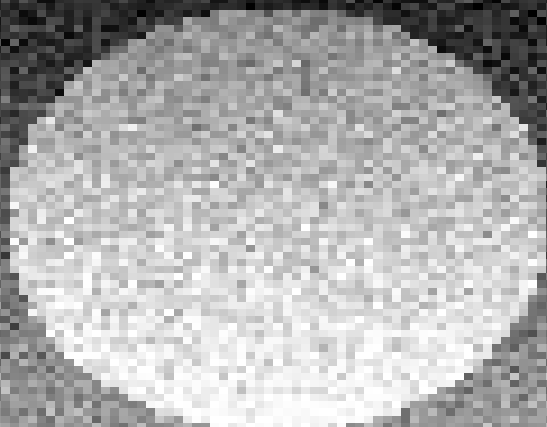
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{P_k} & \\ w_k & & v_k \\ & \xleftarrow{\Lambda_k, L_k} & \end{array}$$

$$\inf_{\mathbf{v}_k \in H_k = 0} \mathcal{L}_k(\mathbf{v}_k)$$



# What can we say for several maps interacting together?

Initial image



Edge map used for restoration

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \operatorname{div} (D \nabla v)$$

$$D = c(|\nabla v|)$$

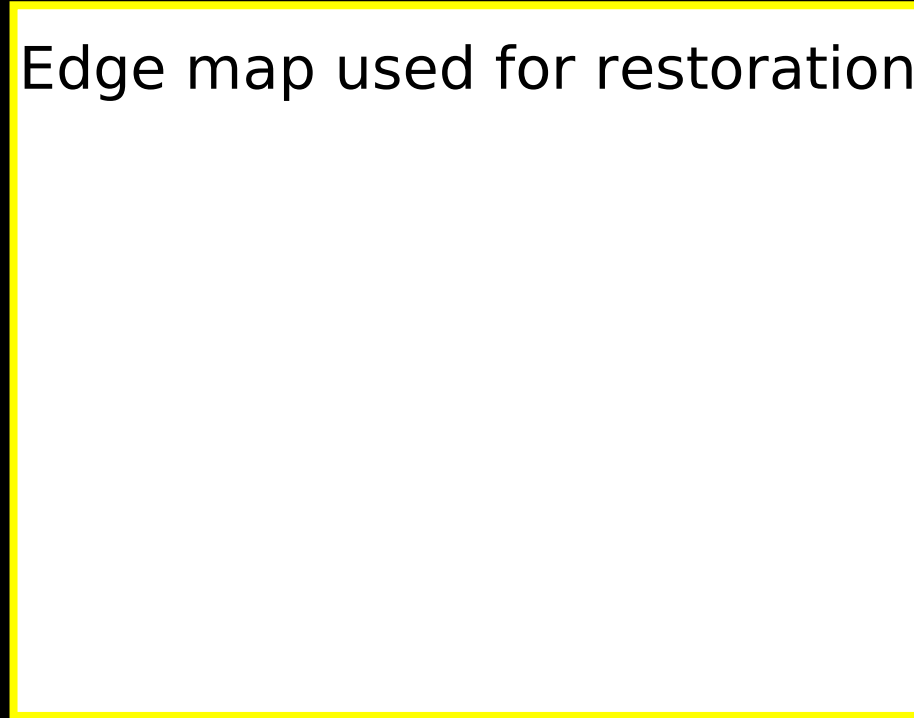
# What can we say for several maps interacting together?



Restored image



Edge map used for restoration



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# What can we say for several maps interacting together?

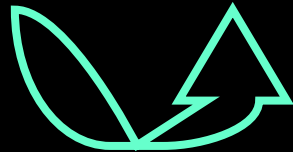
Restored image



Edge map used for restoration



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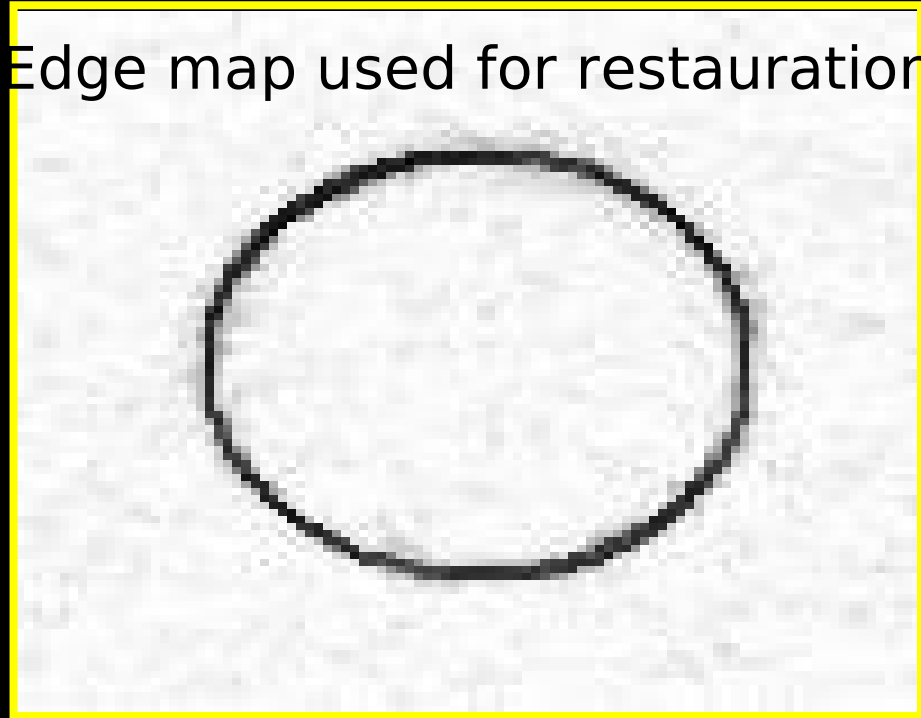
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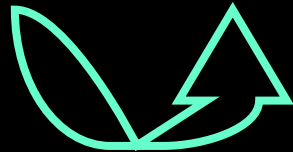
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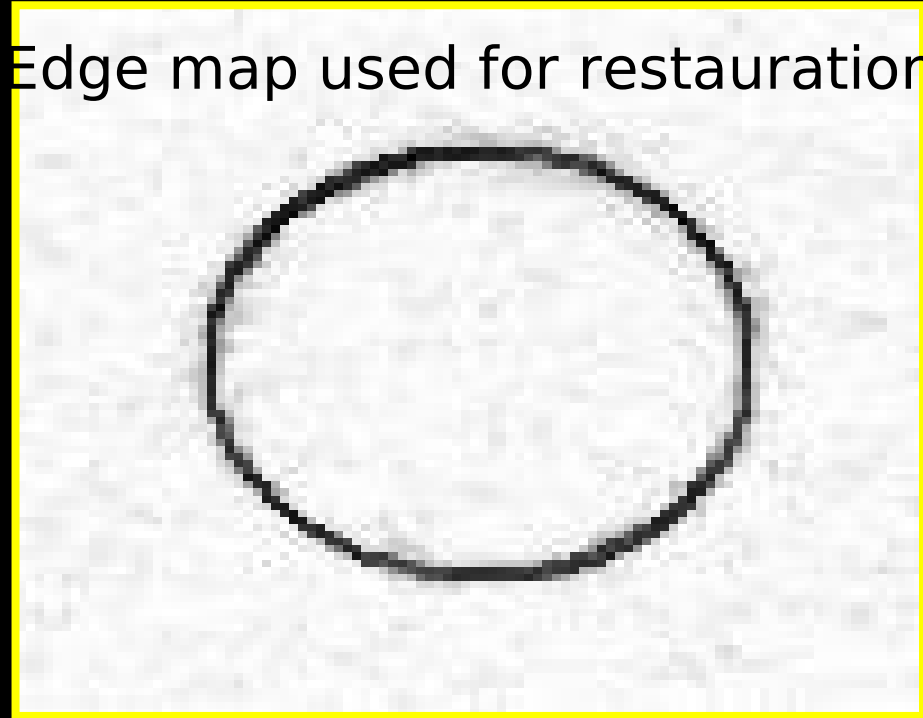


Restored image



$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \operatorname{div} (D \nabla v)$$

Edge map used for restoration



$$D = c(|\nabla v|)$$

# What Do We Learn From Biology?

## Forward = Driving

sparse axonal bifurcation

patchy axonal terminations

topographic projections

one-to-one convergence

define a lattice

≠

→

≠

≠

## Backward =

frequent bifurcation

uniform terminations

non-topographic projections

large spatial divergence

transcend several levels

slow time-constants

more numerous

**We keep two constraints**

# What Do We Learn From Biology?

- Forward connections define an acyclic graph  $w_{m'} = \rho(v_m)$

- Feedback values are smoothed in space, before influencing other maps

$$\Lambda_m(\mathcal{S} * \rho(v_{\bullet})) \text{ and } L_m(\mathcal{S} * \rho(v_{\bullet}))$$

$v_{\bullet}$   $\rightarrow$  Rectification  $\rho$   $\rightarrow$  Smoothing kernel  $\mathcal{S}$   $\rightarrow$

# Link with Well-posedness...

- Perona and Malik and  $\inf_v \int_{\Omega} \phi(|\nabla v|)$  diffusion model (1990) is ill-posed

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \operatorname{div} (c(|\nabla v|) \nabla v)$$

- The regularization of the PM model, by Catte et al becomes well-posed!

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \operatorname{div} (c(|G_{\sigma} \star \nabla v|) \nabla v)$$

# Our Result

- Locally minimizing the criterion  $\mathcal{L}_m$  with respect to  $\mathbf{v}_m$  is equivalent to locally minimize with respect to  $\mathcal{L}_\bullet$ , in the general case:

$$\mathcal{L}_\bullet = \sum_m \lambda(|\nabla_m \mathcal{L}_m|) \mathcal{L}_m$$

writing  $\nabla_m = \partial/\partial \mathbf{v}_m$  and  $\lambda(\cdot) : \mathcal{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^+$  a positive strictly increasing profile with  $\lambda(u) \geq 0, \lambda'(u) > 0, \lambda(0) = 0$  and  $\lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \lambda'(u)/u < +\infty$ , (e.g.  $\lambda(u) = u^\alpha$  with  $\alpha > 2$ ).

# Common Objective for Different Cortical Maps

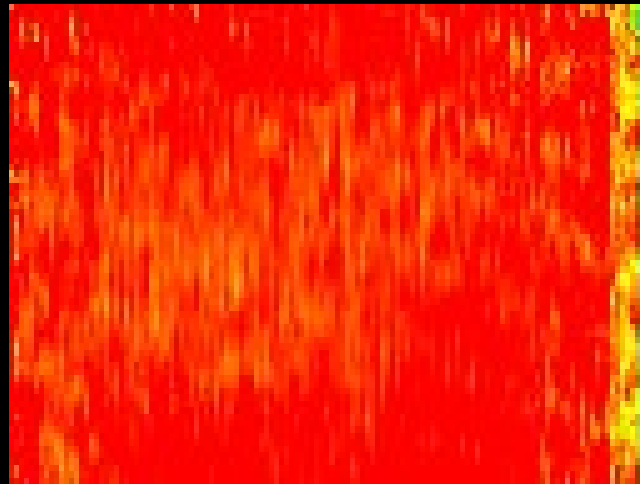
- Feedback links in our framework yields a well-defined process
- We need  $\alpha\psi$  convex in this context
- Backward connections change the processing of a cortical map
- Forward connections act as a “data propagation”

# Conclusion

- ✓ Implement a general variational formulation as a neural network
- ✓ Relate an optimization problem to a cortical map estimation
- ✓ Consider the coupling between several cortical maps

# Perspectives

- Apply this framework for visual appli (Mumford Shah)
- From an optimization approach to an **spiking** neural network
- Cf abstract ecvp!





# Thank you!

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