DFT and learning

Gregor Schöner

Reminder: the memory trace

- building a facilitatory trace of patterns of activation
- (that can be inhibitory if they are build in an inhibitory field)



Dynamics of the memory trace

$$\tau \dot{u}(x,t) = -u(x,t) + h + S(x,t) + u_{mem}(x,t) + \int dx' \ w(x-x') \ \sigma(u(x'))$$

$$\tau_{\text{mem}} \dot{u}_{\text{mem}}(x,t) = -u_{\text{mem}}(x,t) + \int dx' w_{\text{mem}}(x-x')\sigma(u(x',t))$$

memory trace only evolves while there is suprathreshold activation anywhere in the field

Dynamics of the memory trace

different growth and decay rates

$$\tau_l \dot{P}(x, t) = \lambda_{build} \Big(-P(x, t) + f\big(u(x, t)\big) \Big) f\big(u(x, t)\big) \\ -\lambda_{decay} P(x, t) \Big(1 - f\big(u(x, t)\big) \Big).$$

[Sandamirskaya, 2014]

=> the memory trace reflects the history of decisions



Memory trace as first-order Hebbian learning

- increase resting level at those field locations where and when supra-threshold activation is present
- the old "bias" unit in NN
- that does much more work here due to the boost-driven detection instability



Regular second-order Hebbian learning

projections among fields (or from sensory input to field) learns according to Hebb rule

> strengthen input projection where supra-threshold activation in both fields are aligned



Regular second-order Hebbian learning

$$\tau \dot{W}(x, y, t) = \epsilon(t) \Big(-W(x, y, t) + f(u_1(x, t)) \times f(u_2(y, t)) \Big)$$



[Sandamirskaya, 2014]

Regular second-order Hebbian learning

- used a lot in DFT for projections from zerodimensional nodes to one-dimensional nodes
- or generally, from lower to higher dimensional field

=> concepts



Autonomous learning

- Learning as change of neural dynamics (memory trace, Hebb) driven by ongoing activation patterns while system is "behaving"
- (rather than in a particular training regime in which parts of the architecture is "clamped" or in which error information is provided)

Example: learning to look

have "retinal" coordinates of a visual target

need motor command to move fovea onto the visual target
Snapshot 1: before looking







[Sandamirskaya, Storck: Artificial Neural Networks, Springer 2015]

process infrastructure to organize looking and learning



core element of learning: a (steerable) map from the "retina" to motor commands





during learning a transition from gaze memory in retinal to gaze memory in body/scene coordinates



(b) Motor-memory saccades ('older model').

Autonomous learning

Interpretended in the second secon

- remembering the visual representation to bridge the temporal gap and compute error signals
- remembering the motor command
- autonomously organizing the update and storage of such information ..