



Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Interpreting Deep Neural Networks

Bin Yu

Statistics and EECS, UC Berkeley

Workshop on Theory of Deep Learning: where next?

IAS, Oct. 17, 2019

ML/Stats Frontier: interpretation

EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2016) gives a “right” to explanation, and demands ML/Stats algorithms to be **human interpretable**

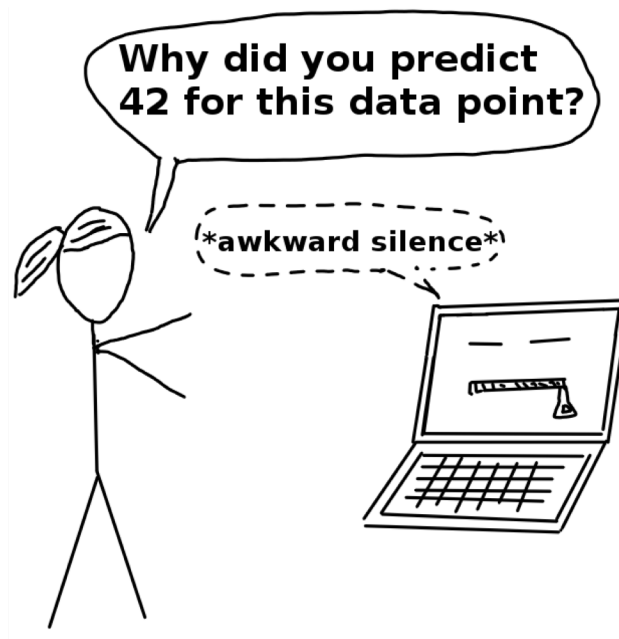
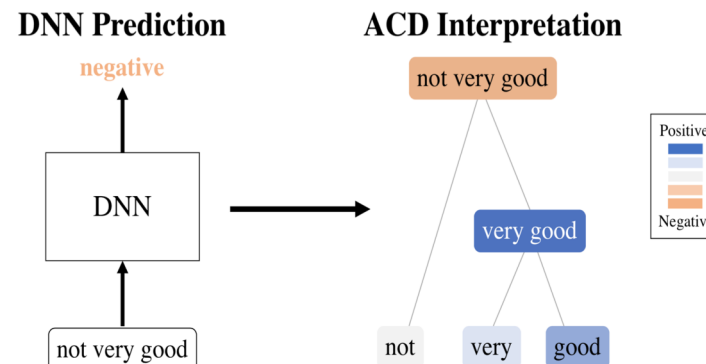
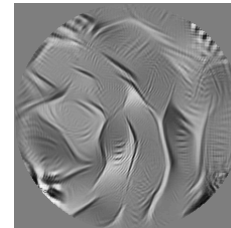
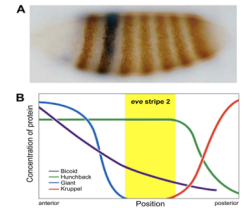
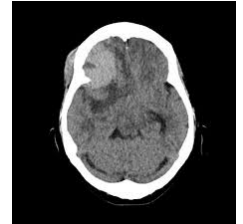


Image credit: <https://christophm.github.io/interpretable-ml-book/>

Examples of interpretation need

- FDA wants interpretation of DL algorithms for radiology
- *Interpretable gene interactions driving enhancer status for knock-out experiments
- *Stimuli to characterize a neuron
- *Phrases making a sentence negative



Interpretation is necessary in scientific ML

What is scientific ML?

- It uses machine learning for scientific research to extract, from data, discoveries, theory, and knowledge
- It builds scientific principles in machine learning algorithms
- It iterates between the above two steps
- Results are subject to scientific standards

What is interpretable ML (iML)?

(Murdoch, Singh, Kumbier, Abbasi-Asl, and Y., PNAS, 2019)

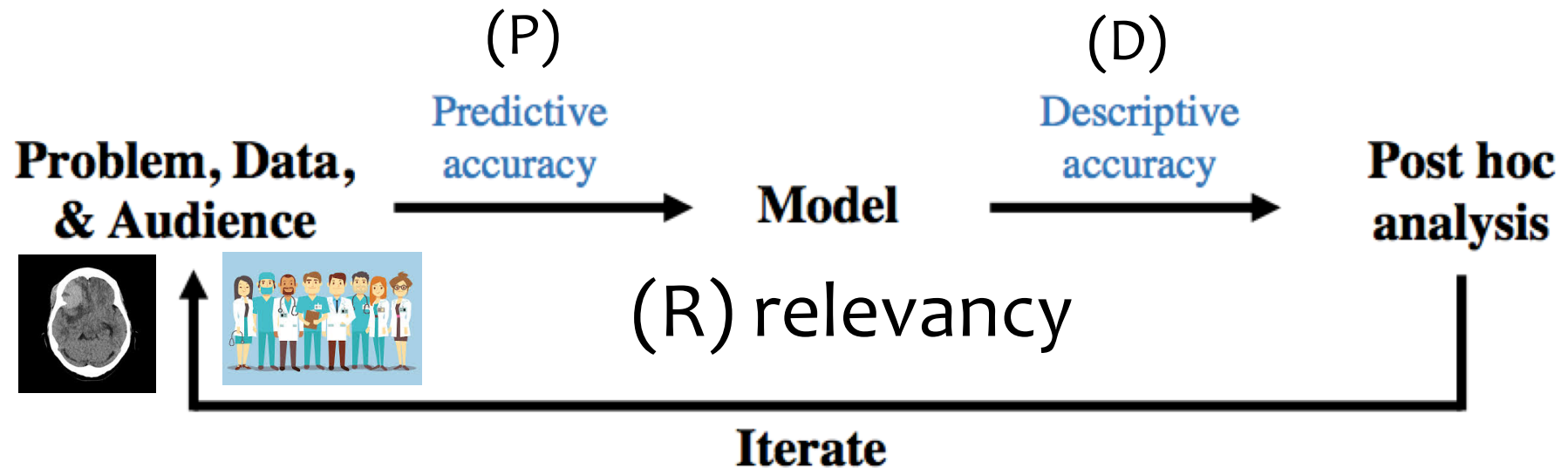
“Interpretable Machine Learning: Definitions, Methods and Applications”



<https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.04592>

“We define interpretable machine learning as the extraction of relevant knowledge from a machine-learning model concerning relationships either contained in data or learned by the model. Here, we view knowledge as being relevant if it provides insight for a particular **audience** into a **chosen problem**. These insights are often used to guide communication, actions, and discovery.”

iML-PDR in one figure



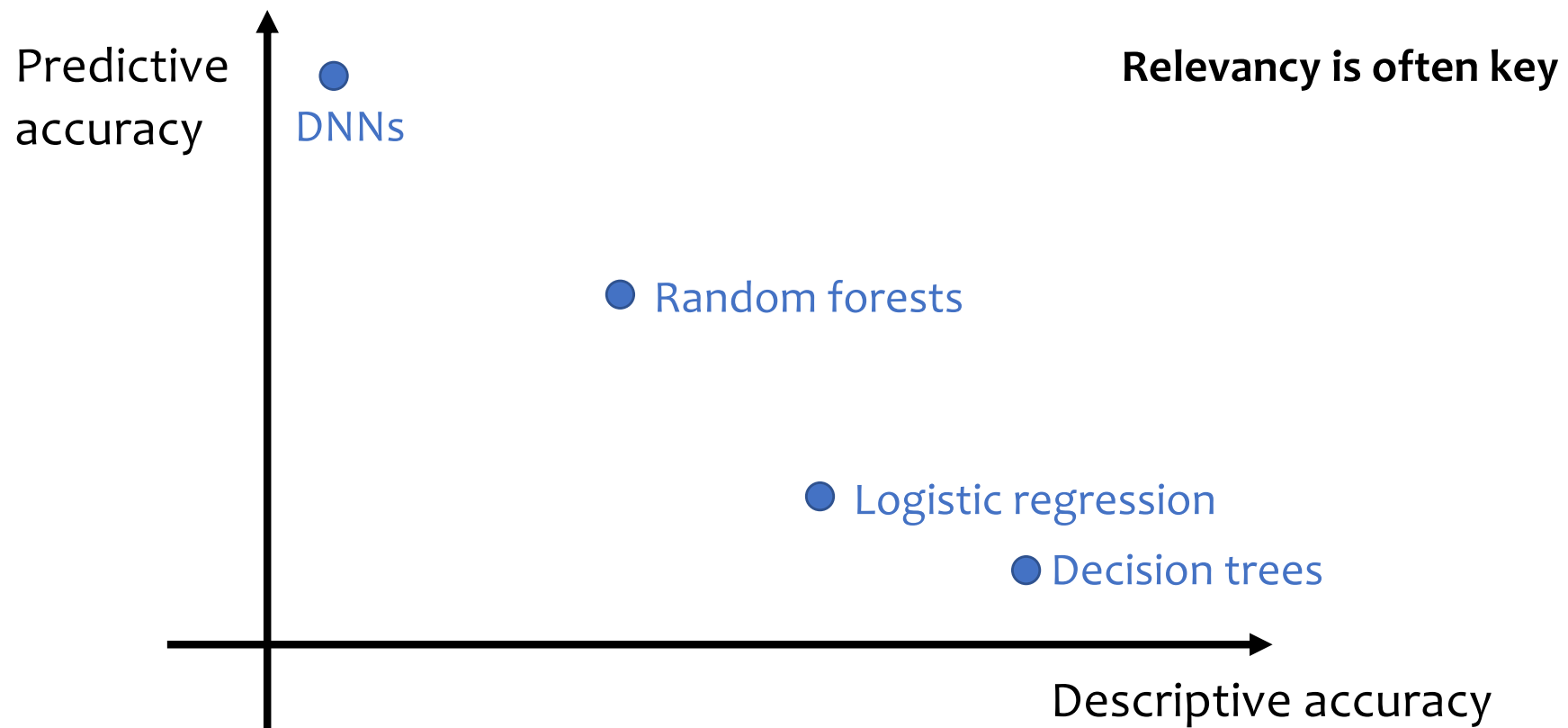
R is key in the trade-off of P and D

iML through the PDR desiderata

- P- Predictive accuracy
average (global) and point-wise (local)
- D- Descriptive accuracy: the degree to which an interpretation method objectively captures the relationships learned by machine learning models (both post-hoc and model-based methods can increase D)
- R- Relevancy: interpretation method is “relevant” if it provides insight for a particular audience into a chosen domain problem

Relevancy often plays a key role in determining the tradeoff between predictive and descriptive accuracy

D vs P for model-based interpretability



There are cases where increasing D doesn't decrease P.

Model-based interpretability

- Sparsity (e.g. sparse logistic regression for lung cancer prediction)
- Simulatability (e.g. decision tree for lung cancer prediction)
- Modularity (e.g. generalized additive models, layers in DL)
- Domain-based feature engineering (e.g. credit score)
- Model-based feature engineering (e.g. clustering and dimensionality reduction like PCA)

Post-hoc interpretability

- Data set level (global) interpretation (feature and interaction importance, statistical significance score, visualization)
- Prediction-level (local) interpretation (feature importance and alternatives)

Rest of the talk

Two post-hoc interpretation methods

- Project I: DeepTune (global) for neuroscience
- Project II: ACD (Agglomerative Contextual Decomposition) (local)
for general DNN interpretation

Project I

The DeepTune framework for modeling and characterizing neurons in visual cortex area V4

Abbasi-Asl, Chen, Bloniarz, Oliver, Willmore, Gallant, and Y. (submitted, 2018)

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2018/11/09/465534>

Culmination of 3+ years of work



Reza Abbasi-Asl

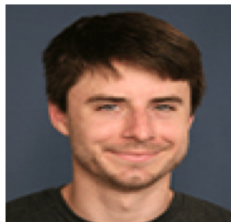


Yuansi Chen

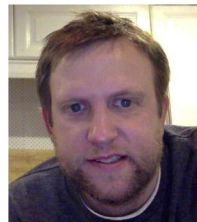


Adam Bloniarz

In collaboration with



Mike Oliver



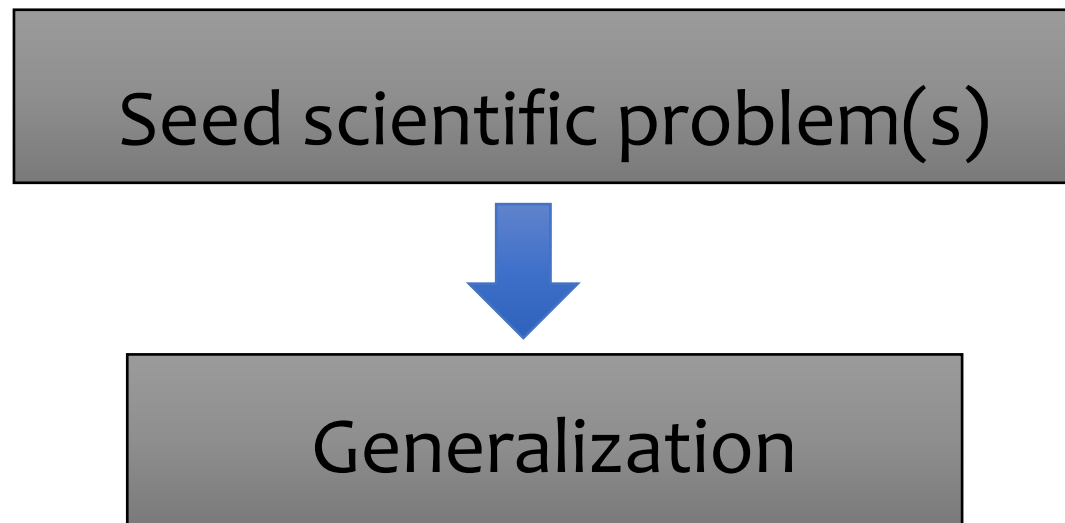
Ben Willmore



Jack Gallant

Our approach to sML

“Embedded” students/postdocs work on site,
in the wet lab

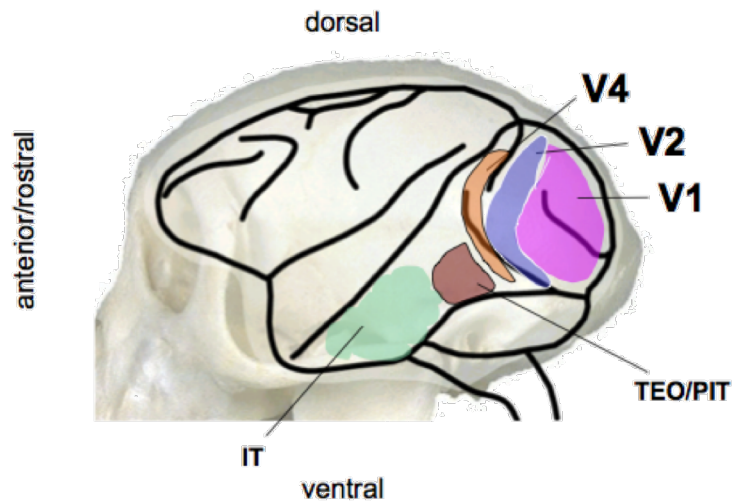


Generalization: workflow, algorithms, theory

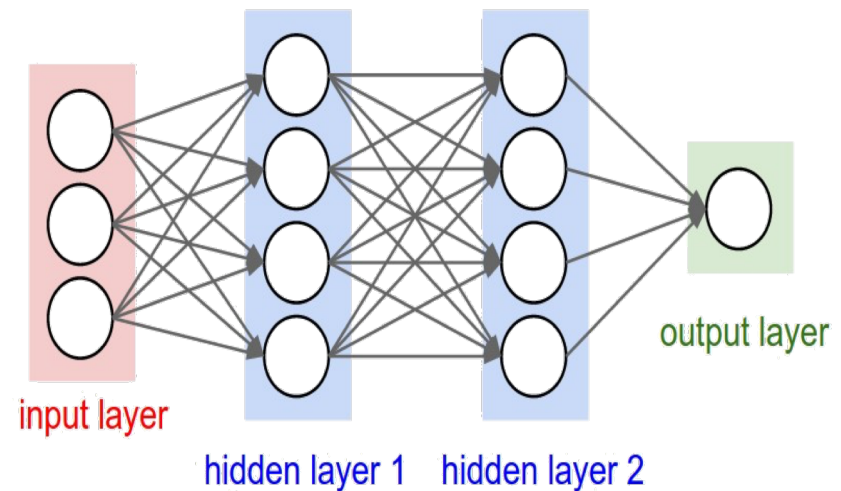
Interface between Neuroscience and Deep Learning

- Human visual cortex

V4 is a **difficult** and **elusive** area



- Deep convolutional neural networks



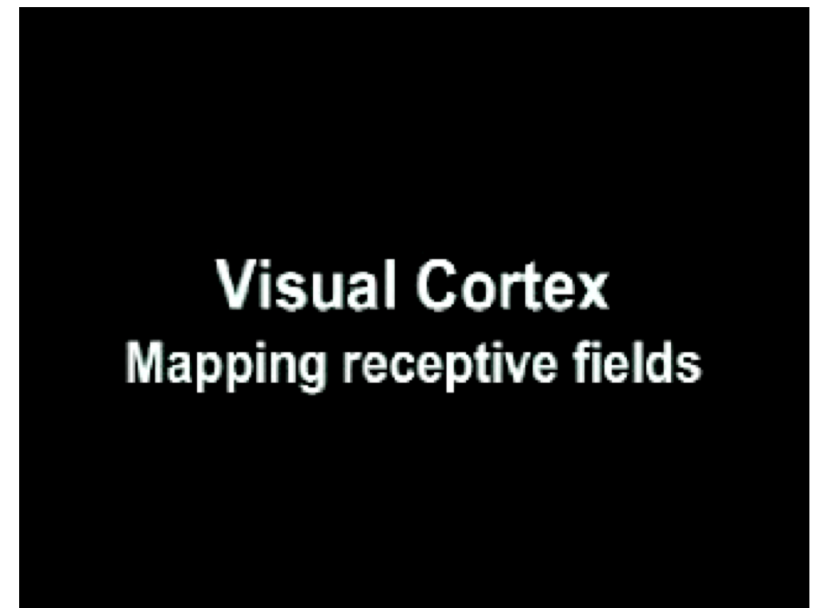
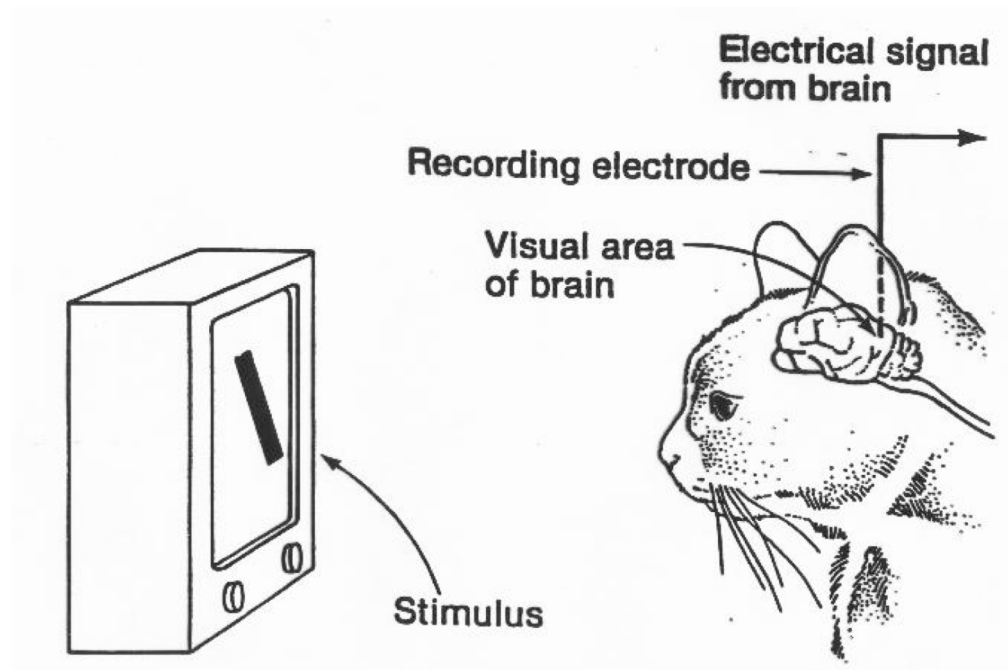
http://cs231n.github.io/assets/nn1/neural_net2.jpeg

V1 decoded by Hubel and Wiesel (1959)

V1: orientation and location selectivity, and excitatory and inhibitory regions .



Nobel Prize in 1981

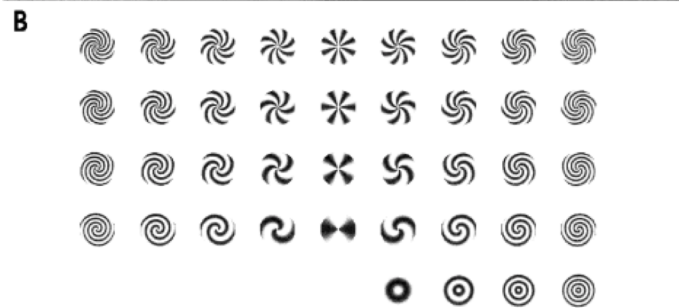


V4 has been probed by **synthetic polar and hyperbolic gratings** and **complex shape stimulus**

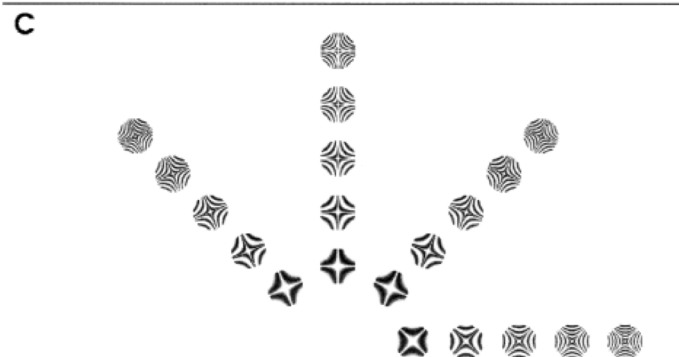
Gallant et al. 1993, 1996



Cartesian

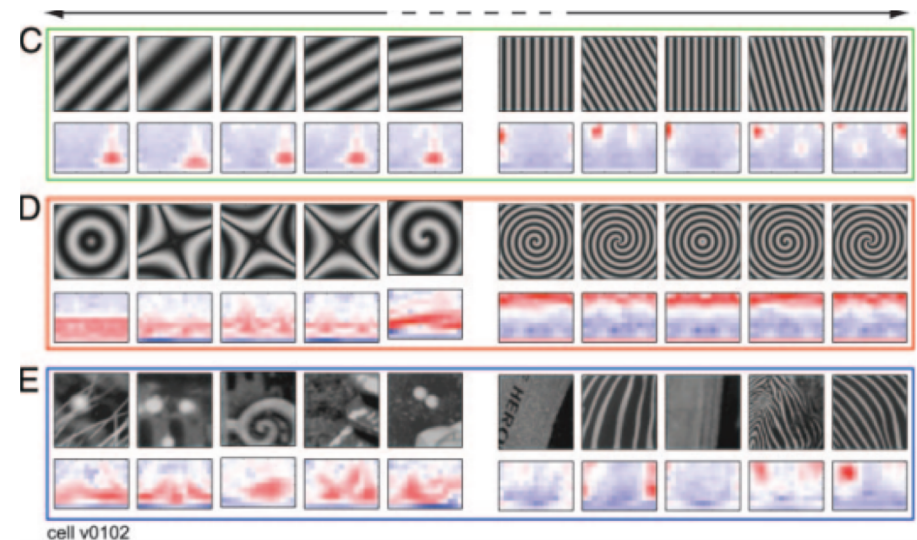


Polar

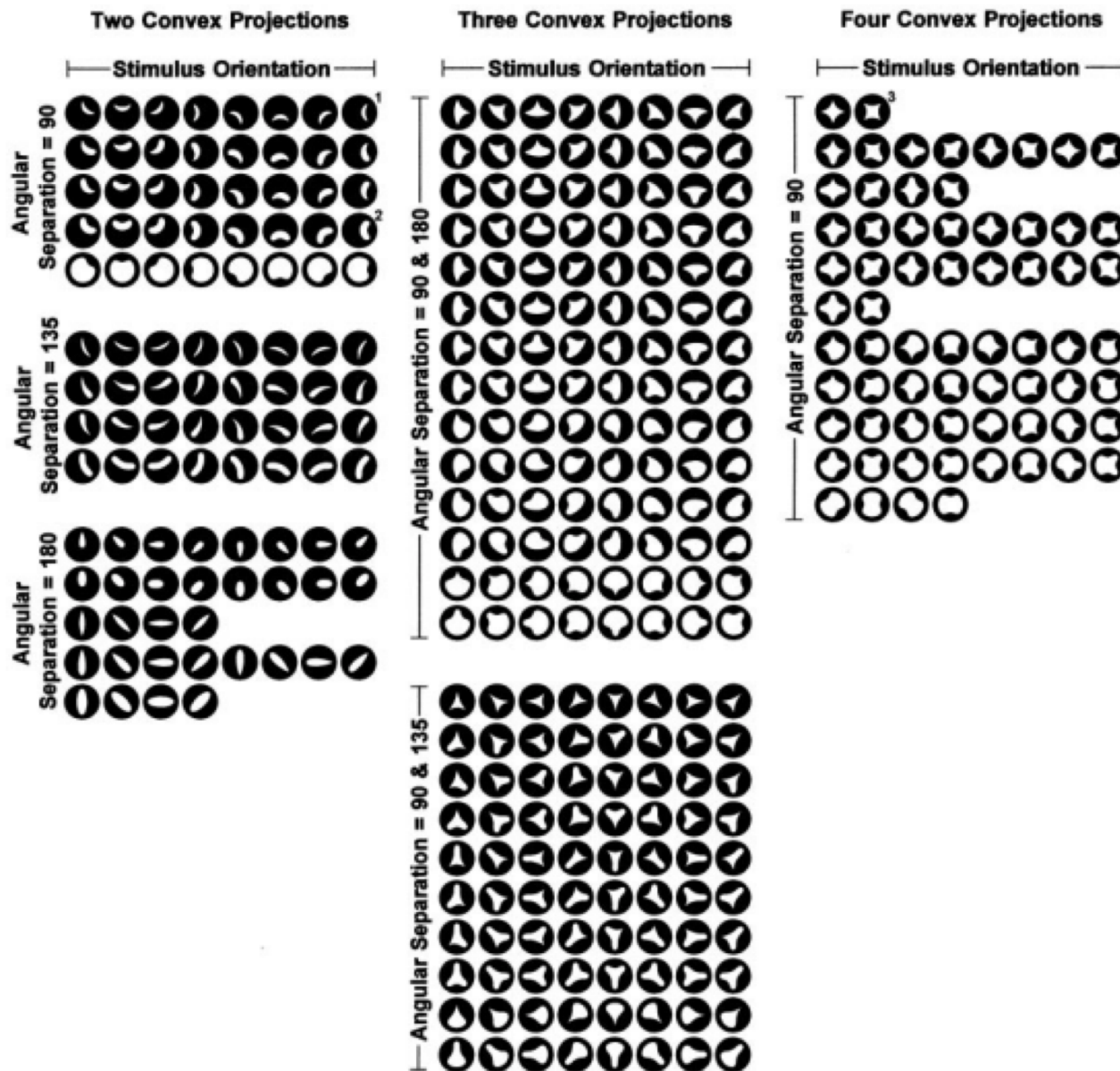


Hyperbolic

David et al (2006)



V4 has been probed by **synthetic convex and concave boundary stimuli**



Pasupathy and Connor 1999, 2002

The stimuli were created by systematically combining convex and concave boundary elements.

Our data collection: 71 V4 neurons

(from the Gallant Lab at UC Berkeley)

Well-isolated visual neurons

Neuronal behavior is probed using sequences of **natural images**



Related works

Mairal et al (2013- , in prep): earlier work from us that uses sparse coding and SIFT to construct a two-layer NN with state-of-the-art predictive performance

Parallel developments in the DiCarlo Lab at MIT :
Yamins et al (2014, 2016) and Cadieu et al (2014)
(**semi-natural** images, **predictive** modeling)



Here we replicate their predictive results and aim at **interpretation and understanding**.

Questions to answer

1. How do we characterize V4 neurons?

If we can characterize a neuron, we then know how to generate data-driven hypotheses.

2. How much do Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) resemble brain function?

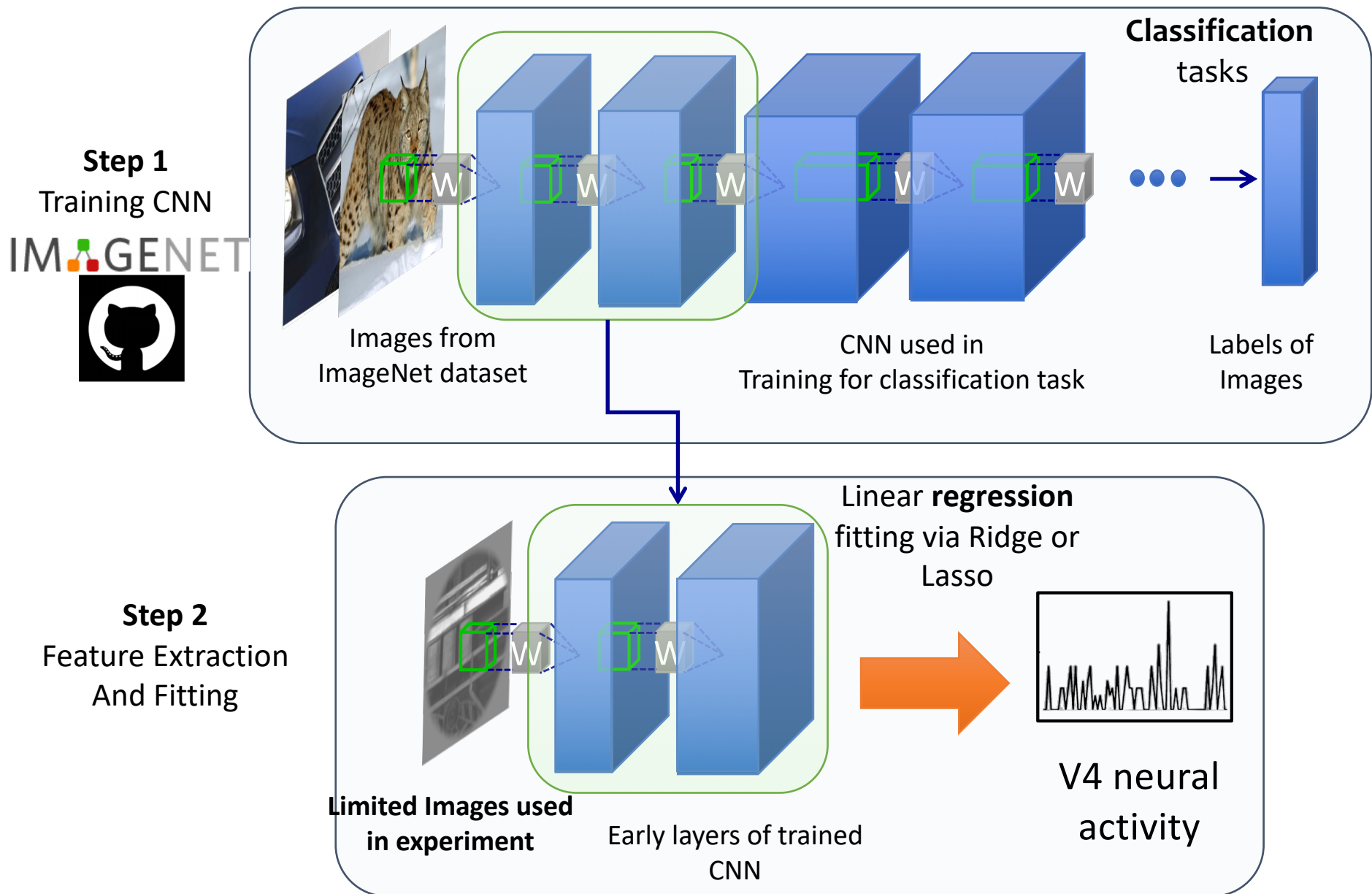
DeepTune in a nutshell

Transfer predictive learning based on DNN+reg to derive 18 **state-of-art prediction** models for our V4 neurons (prediction)

System neuroscience insights into neurons through **stable interpretation** via DeepTune images of predictive models to suggest what V4 neurons do (stability)

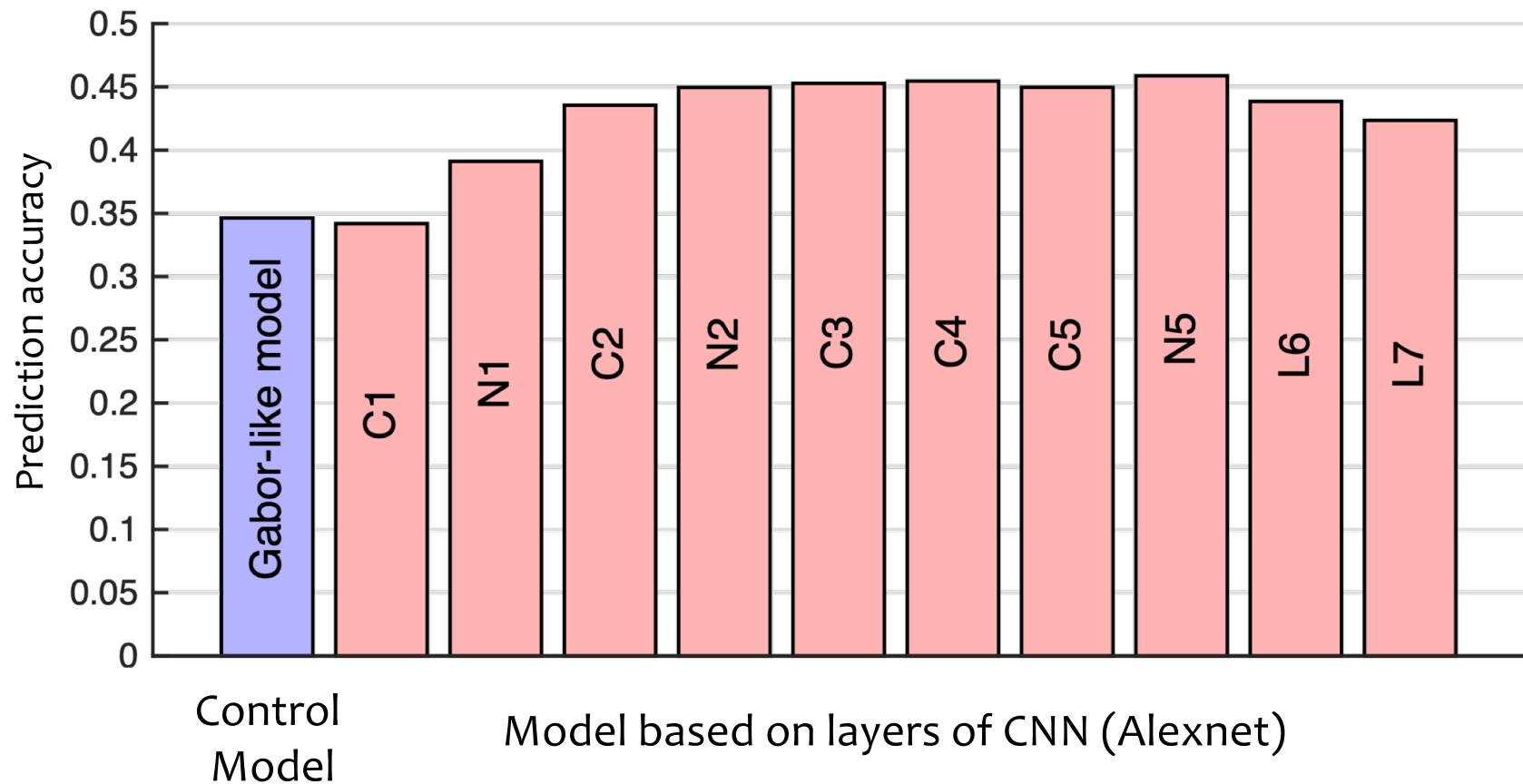
As a result, we provide some support for resemblance of CNNs to primate brain, and generate image stimuli for closed-loop experiments

Transfer learning...



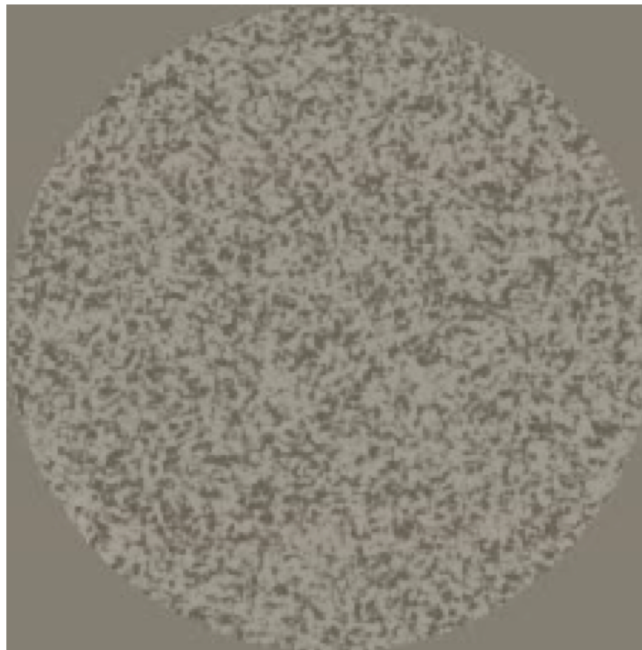
Krizhevsky, A., Sutskever, I., & Hinton, G. E. (2012). Imagenet classification with deep convolutional neural networks. In *Advances in neural information processing systems* (pp. 1097-1105).

Prediction performance across different layers of CNN(AlexNet): N2 works well for V4



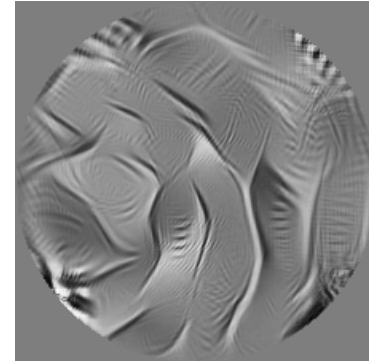
DeepTune image generation: Neuron 1

DeepTune Image(s):
Maximizing a (regularized) fitted model

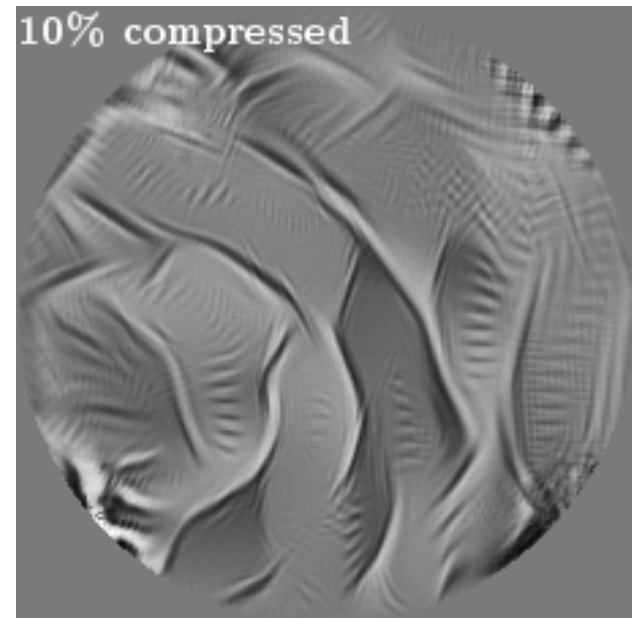


Stable curve patterns across structurally compressed models

DeeTune image from full network



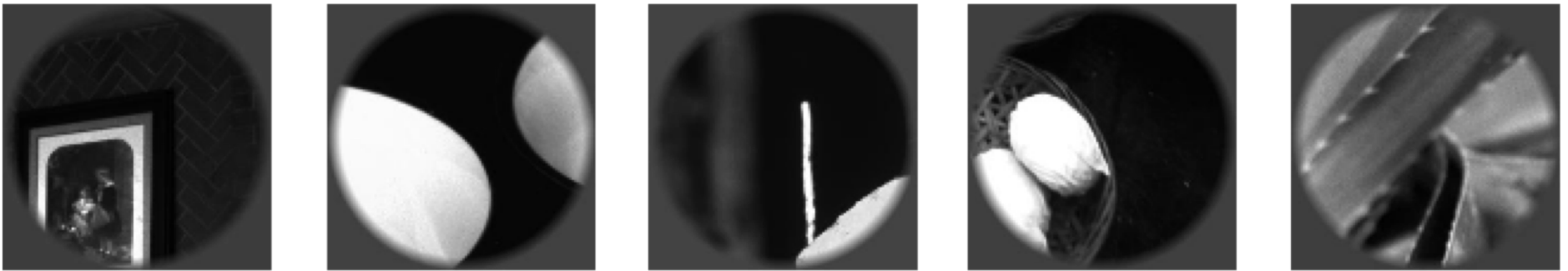
DeepTune images from compressed networks



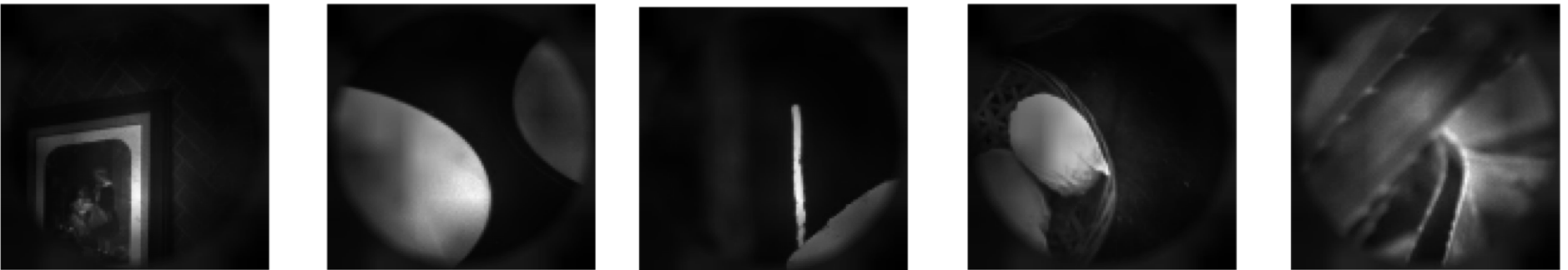
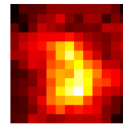
Abbasi-Als and Y. (2017)



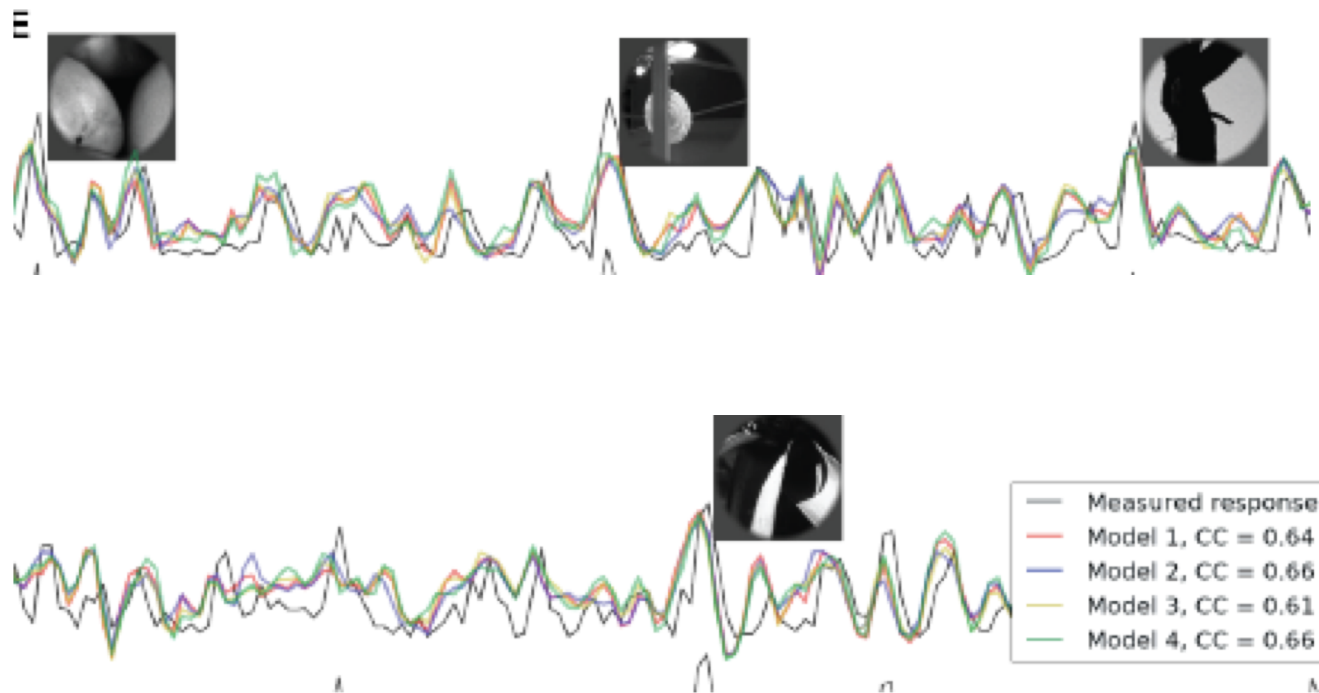
Top **curve** images from training set based on a model for neuron 1



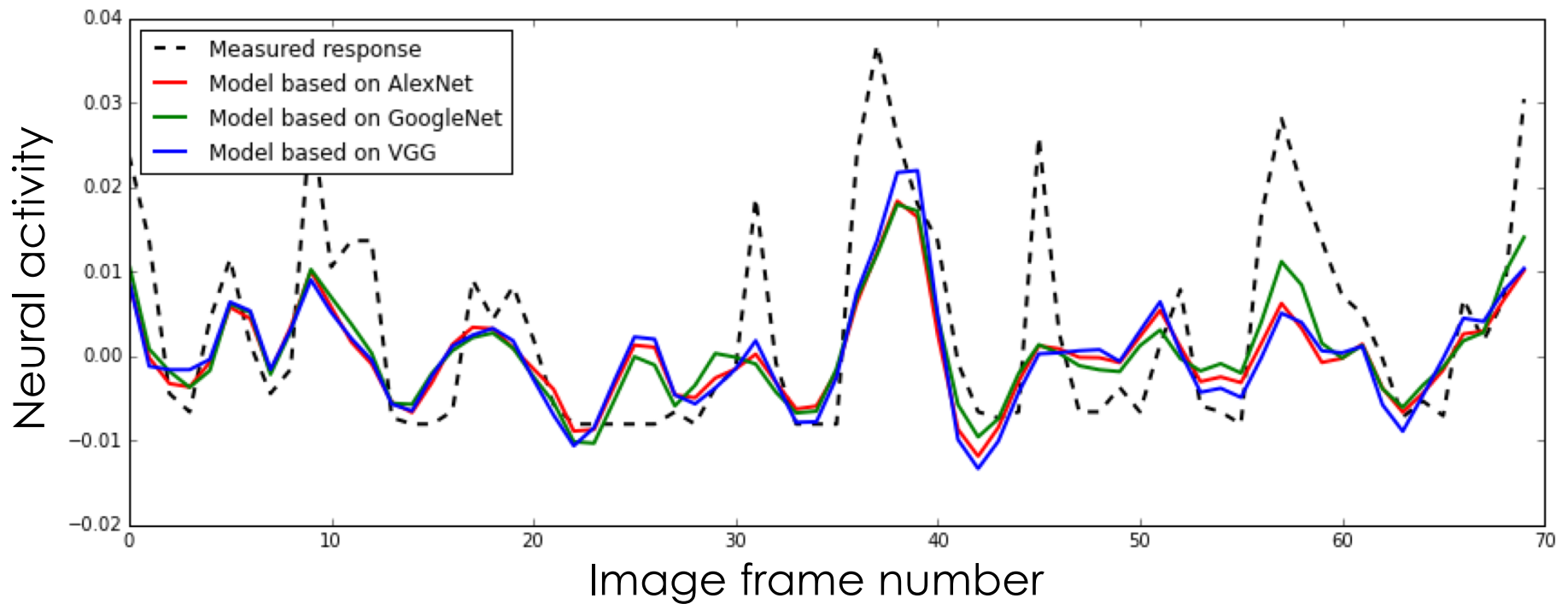
Masked



Top **curve** images from test data set **without models** for Neuron 1



Stable predicted neuron activity from three deep nets +Lasso for a particular neuron



Dealing with multiple predictive models

CNN (e.g. AlexNet) + regression gives state-of-art prediction for V4 neurons – 18 such models

Interpretation via stability of DeepTune images over 18 models and several compressed models provides testable (prescriptive) characterizations of V4 neurons

We combat “**model-hacking**” via “stability principle”

Bernoulli **19**(4), 2013, 1484–1500
DOI: 10.3150/13-BEJSP14

Stability

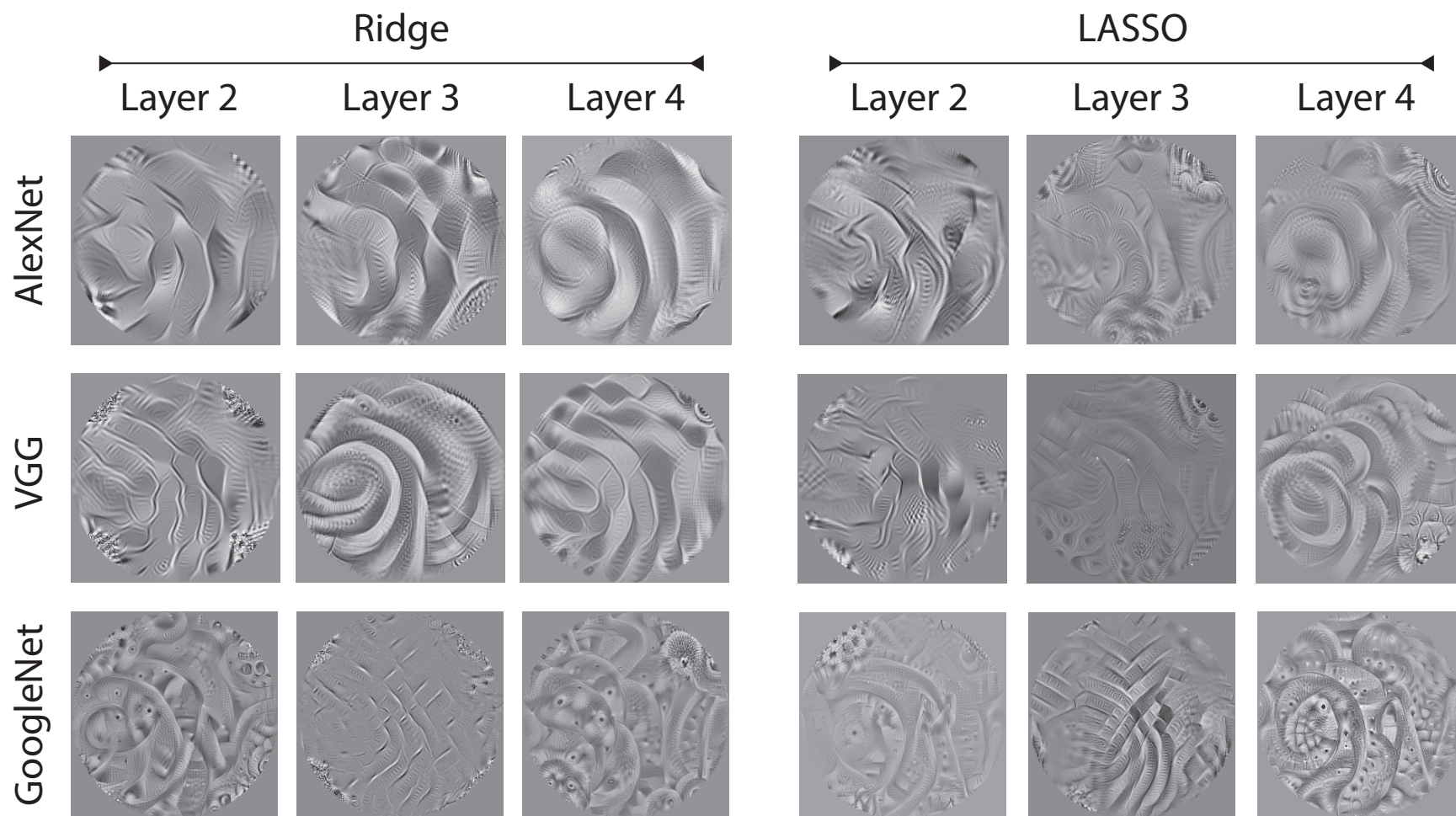
BIN YU

It builds a unified platform to seek stability over data and algorithm perturbations.

Stability (aka robustness, invariance) is a minimum requirement for **interpretability, reproducibility, and scientific hypothesis generation.**

Neuron 1 seems a curve neuron and DeepTune images provide intervention stimuli

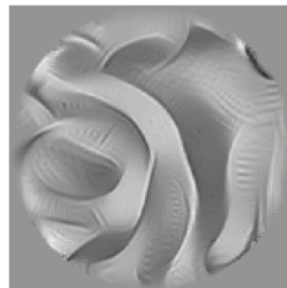
18 DeepTune images from 18 predictive models



Consensus DeepTune

- **Single model DeepTune:** Use gradient ascent to find stimuli that maximize one of the CNN+Regression model output
- **Consensus DeepTune:** The models have to agree with each other to create a DeepTune pattern. (Stability)

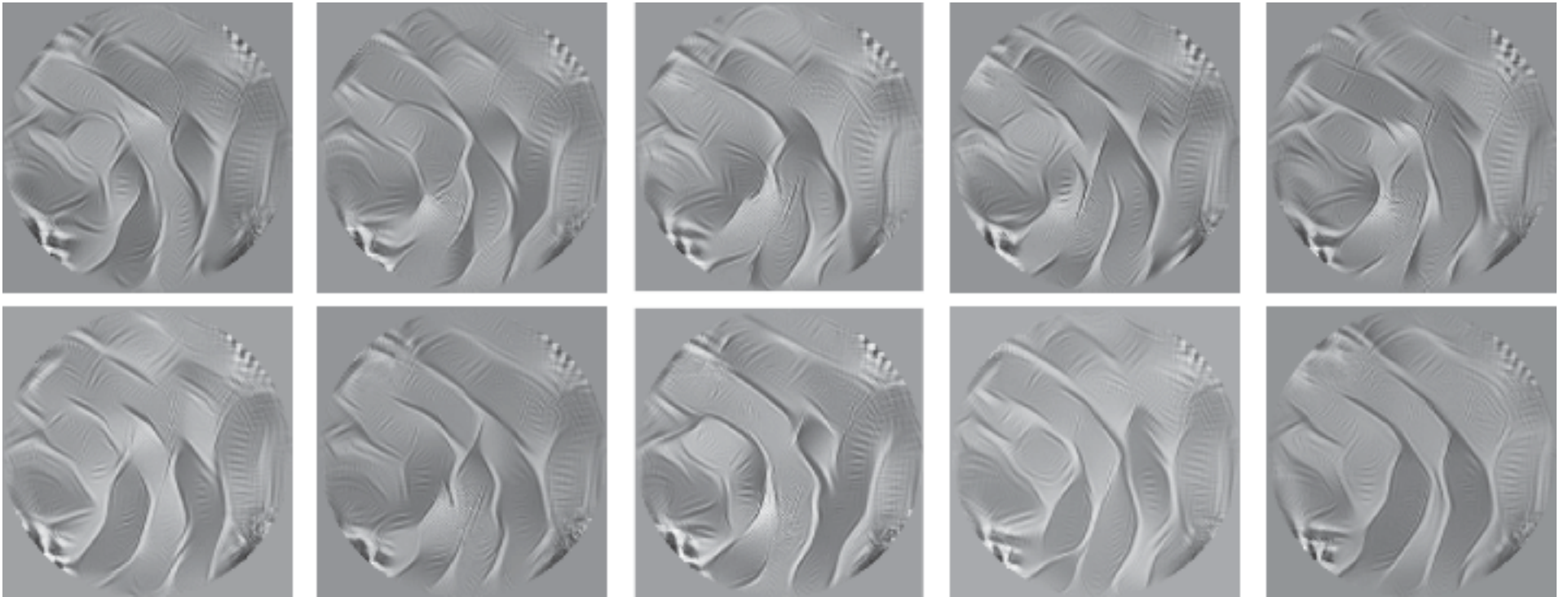
$$|\nabla f(x)| = \text{element-wise } \min_{i=1 \dots \# \text{models}} |\nabla f_i(x)|$$



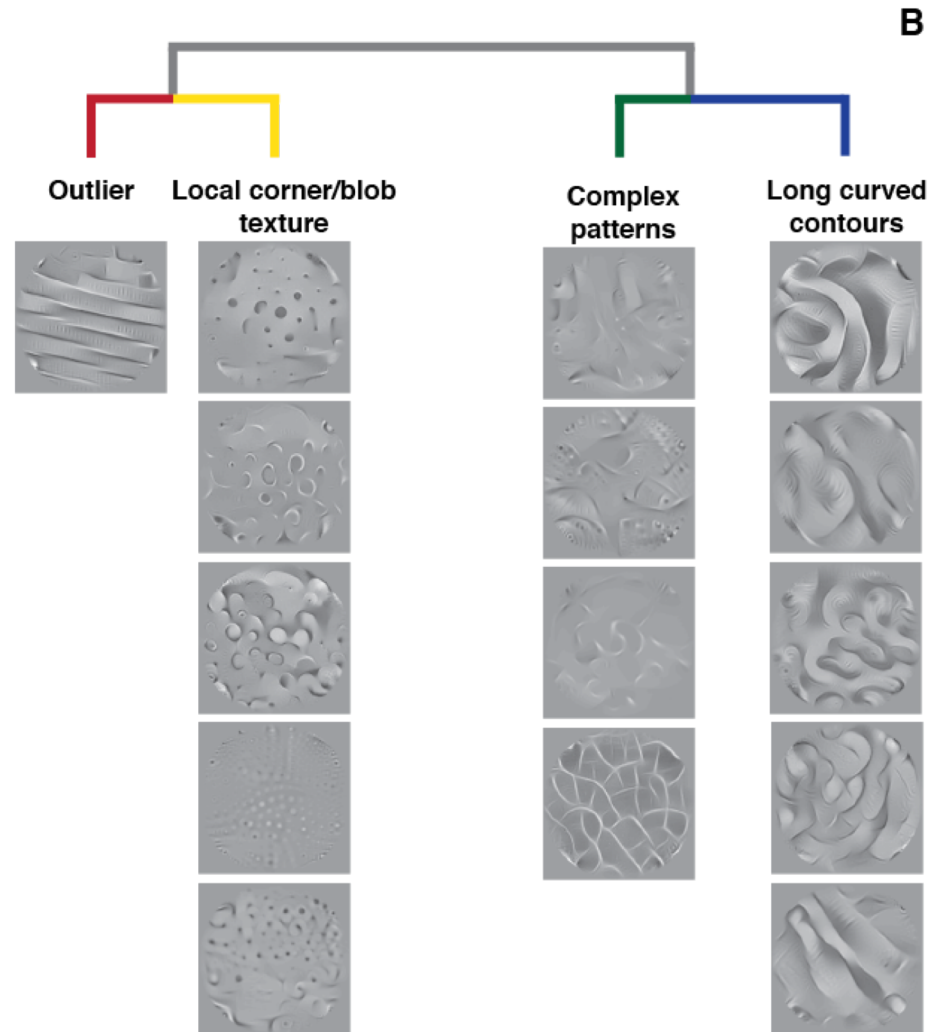
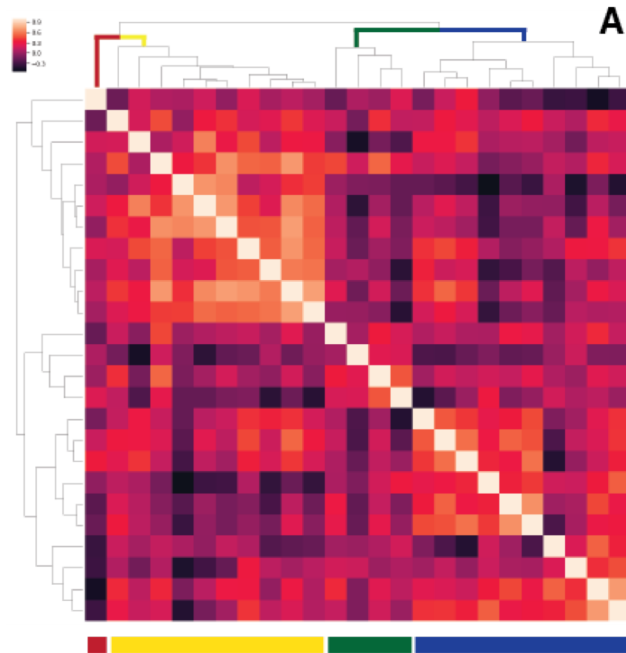
Consensus
Smooth DeepTune

Consensus DeepTune from 10 initializations

Neuron 1



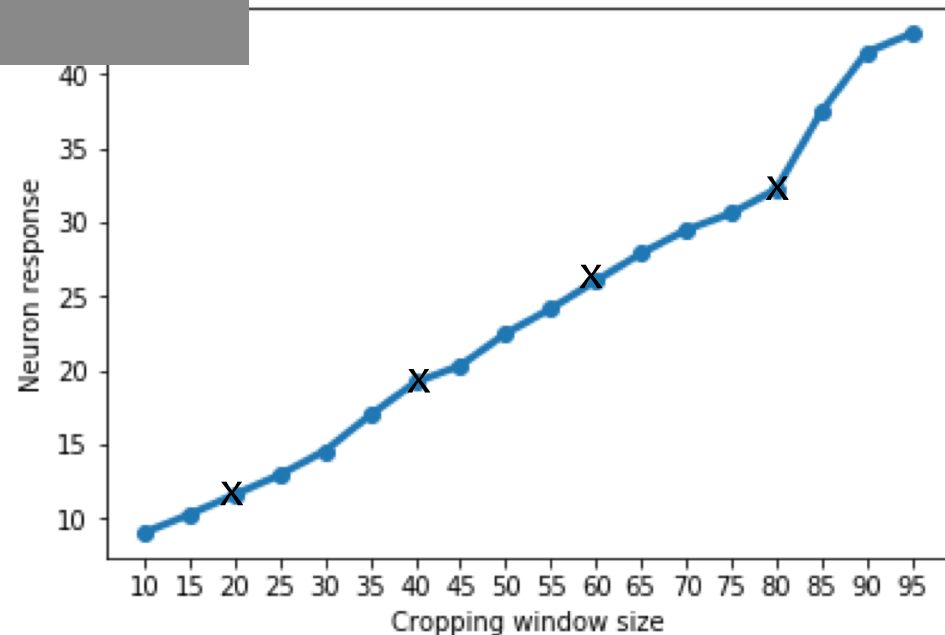
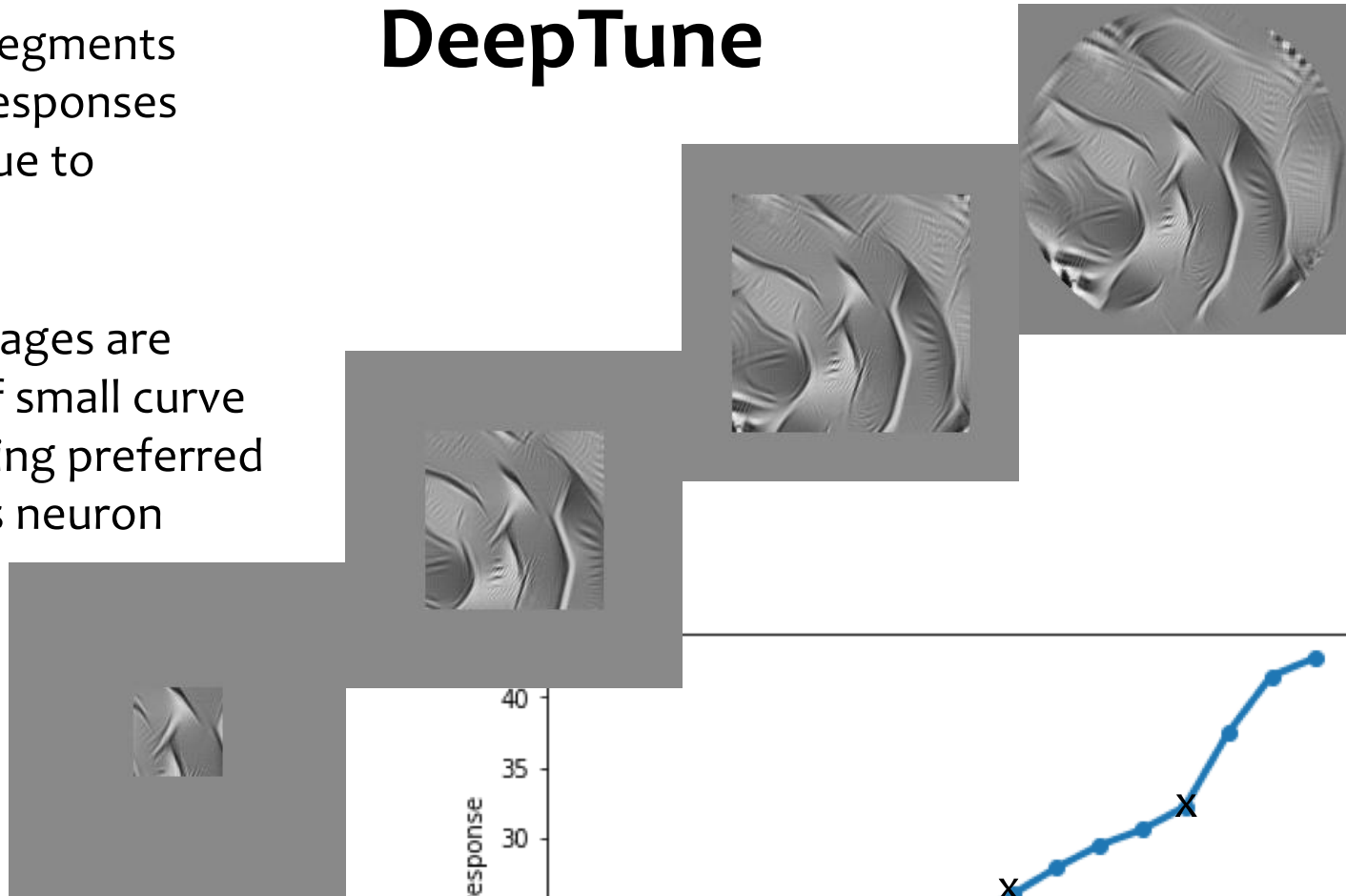
Hierarchical clustering of “good” neurons through DeepTune Images on CNN feature space



Neuron 1: Predicted responses of cropped DeepTune

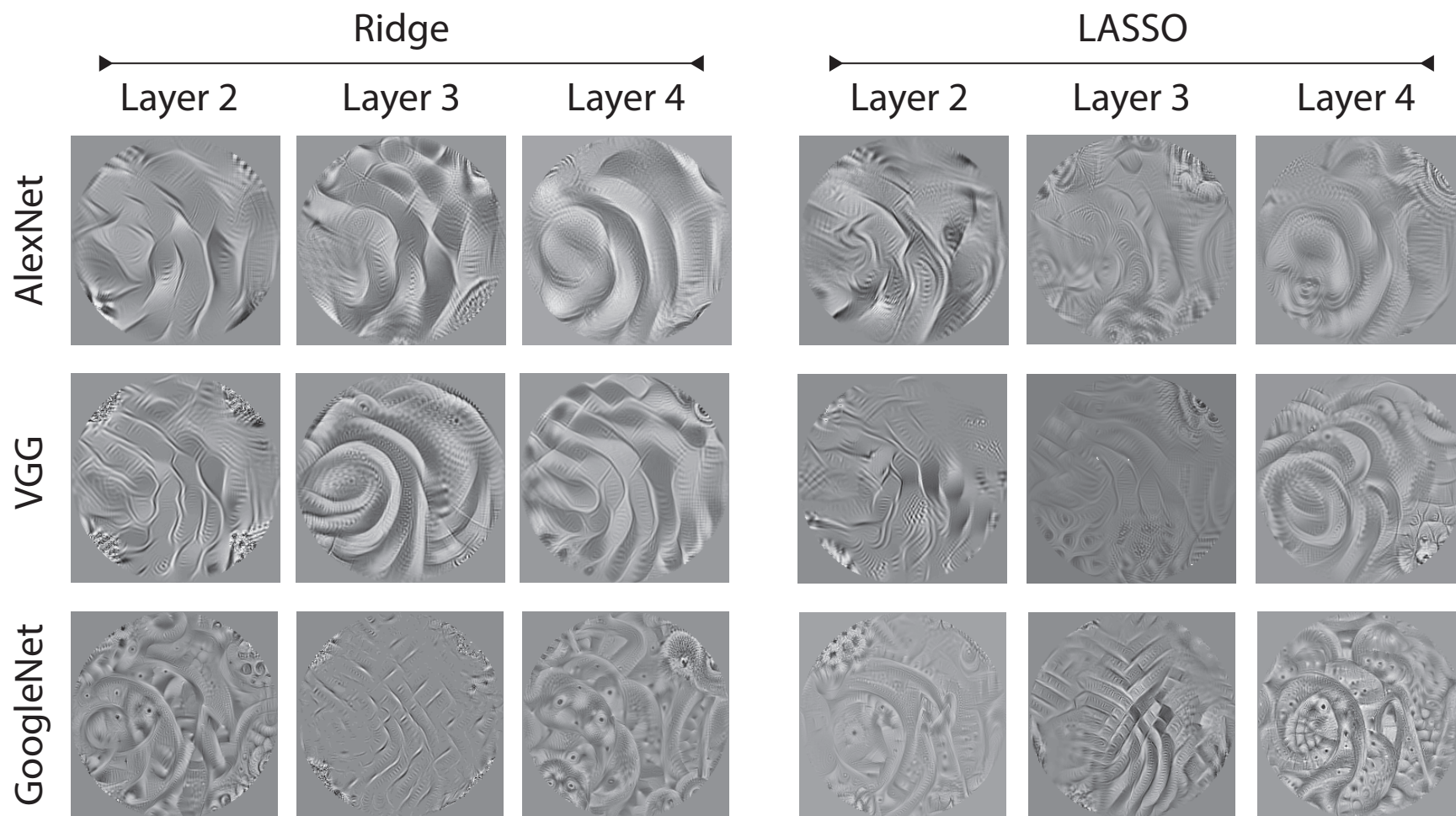
Small curve segments matter and responses compound due to convolution

DeepTune images are suggestive of small curve segments being preferred stimuli of this neuron



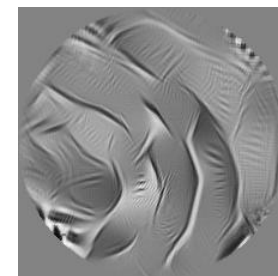
Neuron 1: regularity of spacing between curves seems an artifact of convolution filter size

18 DeepTune images from 18 predictive models



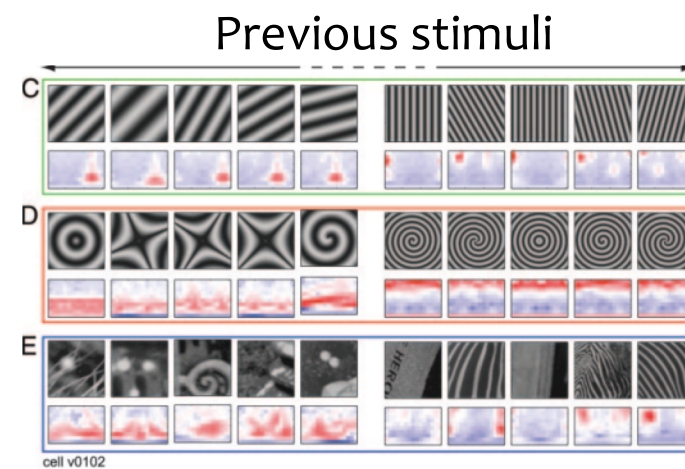
DeepTune images or parts are “verifiable” in closed-loop experiments

- cropped DeepTune images as stimulus images
- randomly cropped and combined images
- cropped images with varied sizes



Already done in

Bashivan P, Kar K, DiCarlo JJ. "Neural population control via deep image synthesis." Science. 2019



Viewing DeepTune from iML-PDR angle

- **Predictive accuracy:** state-of-the-art prediction performance on test data
- **Descriptive accuracy:** sparsity at last layer, modular, first layer Gabor – domain approved, some simulatability for DL part
- **Relevancy:** to the computational neuroscientists now (through peer review and talk feedback), neuroscientists (later), DL community (indirectly). Closed-loop experiments are very important steps forward

Computability of DeepTune

- Trained CNNs by others: stochastic gradient descent (SGD)
- Lasso/Ridge: gradient descent
- DeepTune: gradient ascent (descent)

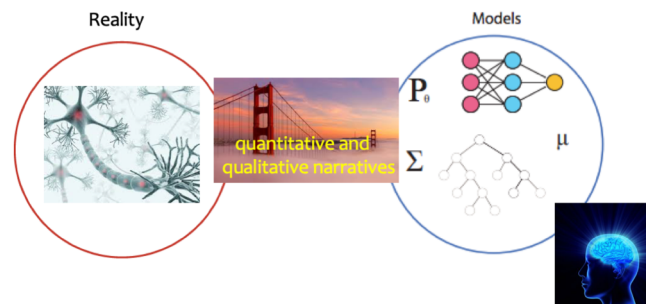
A general approach

Three principles of data science: PCS

(Y. and Kumbier, 2019) <https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.08152>



- **P**redictability for reality check
- **C**omputability
- **S**tability: for the entire data science life cycle including data cleaning and data and algorithm/model perturbations
- **Transparent PCS documentation** (narratives and codes):
“right” perturbations need to be argued for a particular goal



Examples of data perturbation

- Cross-validation partition, Bootstrap, Subsampling
- Adding small amount of noise to data
- Bootstrapping residuals in linear regression and linear time series models
- Block-bootstrap
- *Data perturbations through synthetic data such as mechanistic simulation PDE models
- *Adversarial examples in deep learning
- *Data under different environments/conditions (invariance)
- *Synthetic environments using the current data (stratification) (invariance relative to the stratification variable)
- Differential Privacy (DP)
- ...

Examples of model/algorithm perturbation

- Robust statistics models
- Semi-parametric models
- **Lasso and Ridge models**
- Different modes of a non-convex empirical minimization
- **Different versions of Deep Learning algorithms**
- Different kernel machines
- Sensitivity analysis of Bayesian modeling
- ...

Causality evidence spectrum

Mechanistic
Individual level

...

Average effect
Group level

Stable, replicable

Effect depends on the group

Stability implicit in causal
inference: e.g. SUTVA

PCS workflow is relevant to causality:

Predictability + stability (aka robustness)



interpretability and hypothesis generation

Project II:

Agglomerative Contextual Decomposition (ACD)

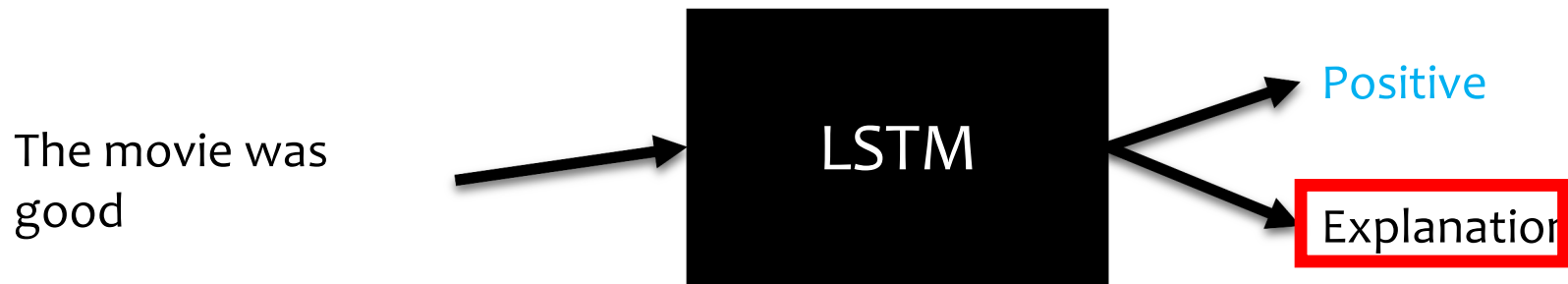
- (1) How can we get feature-interaction importance for a DNN model prediction in general? (ICLR 2018)
- (2) How can we visualize these feature-interactions in an understandable way? (ICLR, 2019)
- (3) How can we use the importance scores and prior info to debias algorithms? (submitted, 2019)

Previous work (post-hoc interpretation)

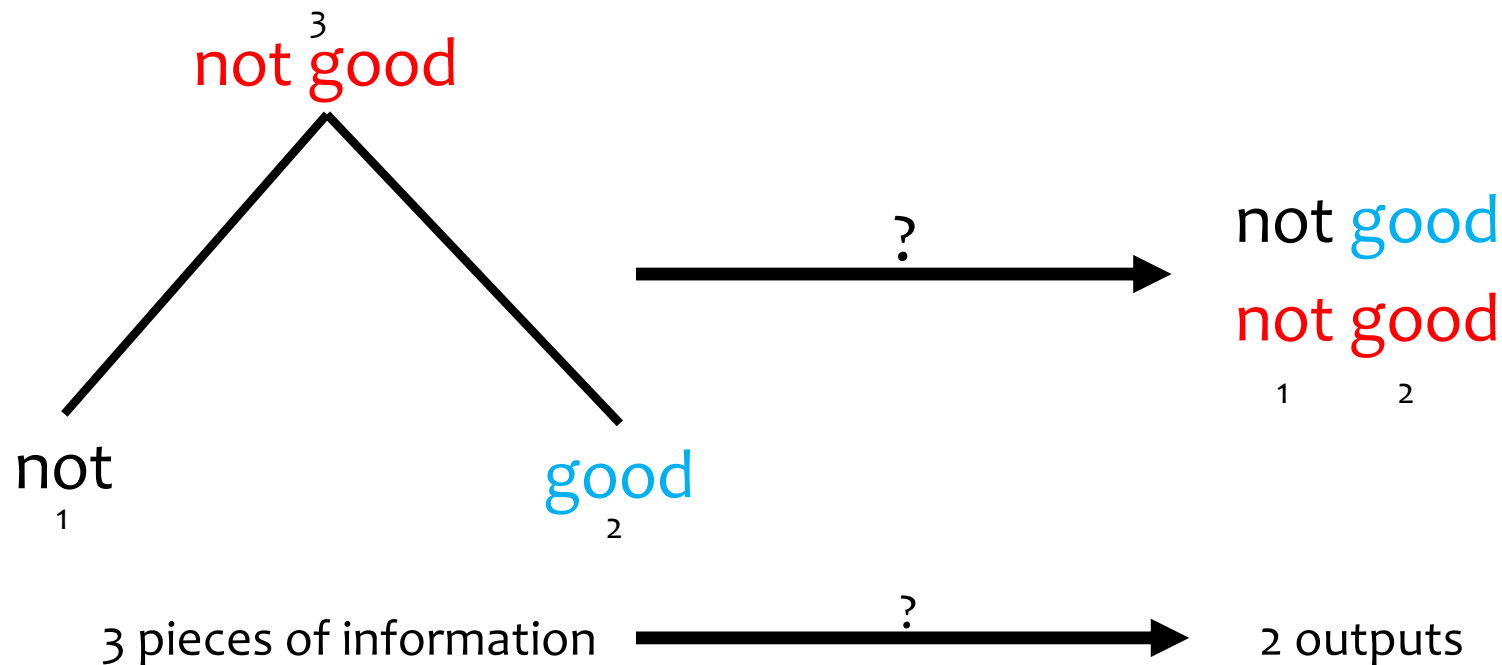
- gradient-based methods
 - LIME Ribeiro et al. (2016)
 - Integrated Gradients (IG) Sundarajan et al. (2017)
- contribution-based
 - Occlusion / saliency maps Dabkowi & Gal (2017)
 - SHAP Lundberg & Lee (2017)

An example from sentiment analysis

- Binary sentiment analysis with standard LSTM

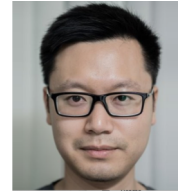


Word importance scores can't capture compositionality

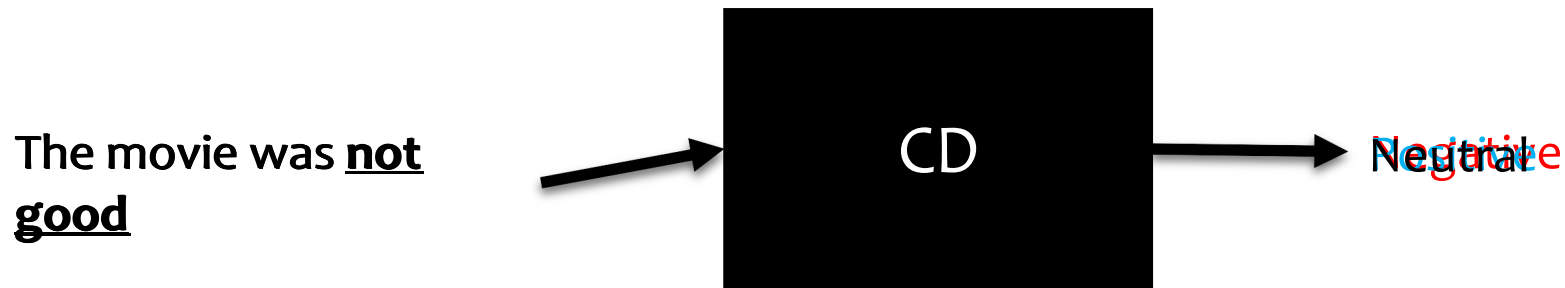


CD: Contextual Decomposition

(Murdoch, Liu and Y. (2018). ICLR)



- Given a LSTM with weights, CD gives a prediction-level score for each phrase to “explain” the prediction



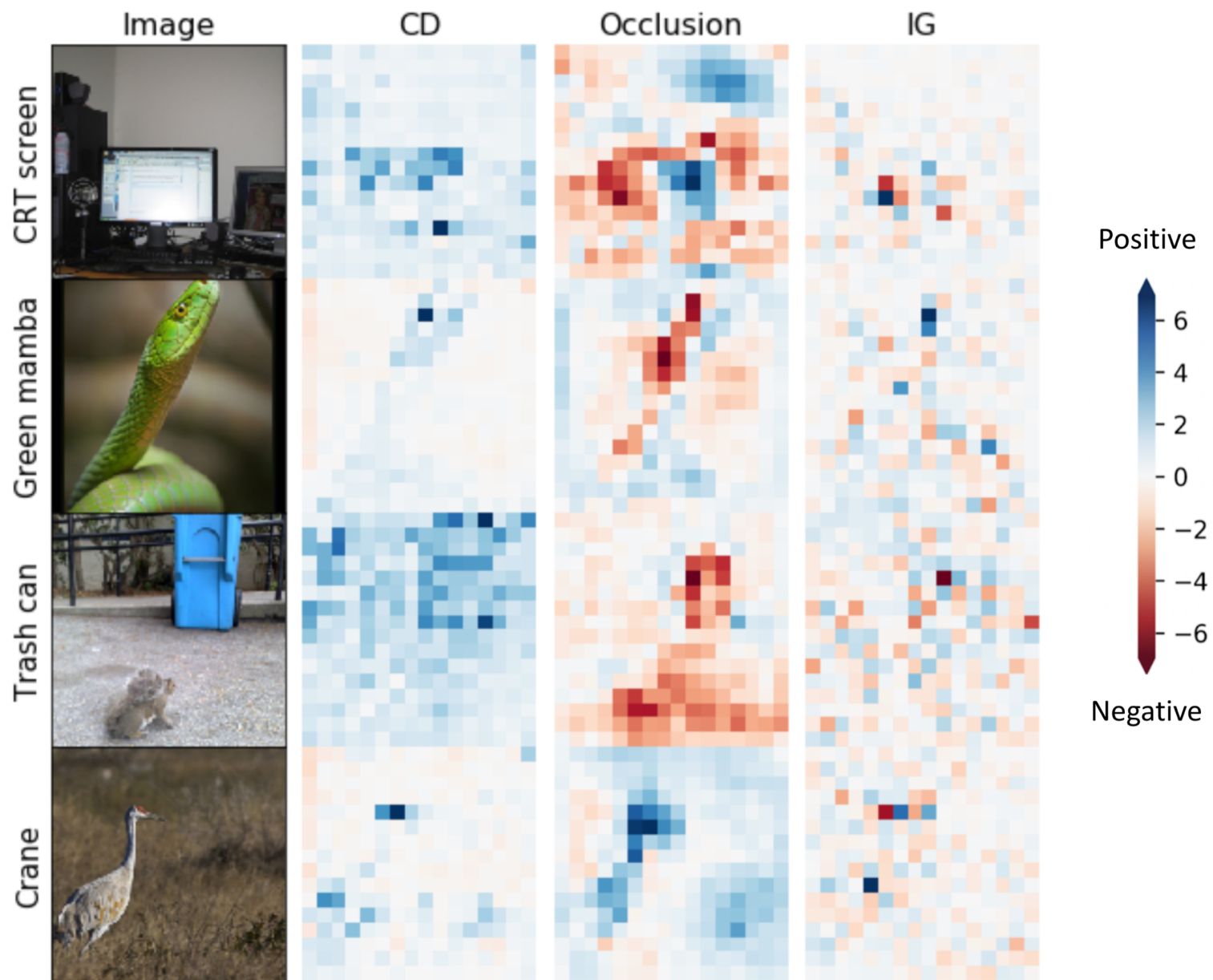
$$\text{LSTM}(w_1, \dots, w_T) = \text{SoftMax}(\gamma_T + \alpha_T)$$

- γ_T corresponds to contributions solely from the phrase, α_T other factors

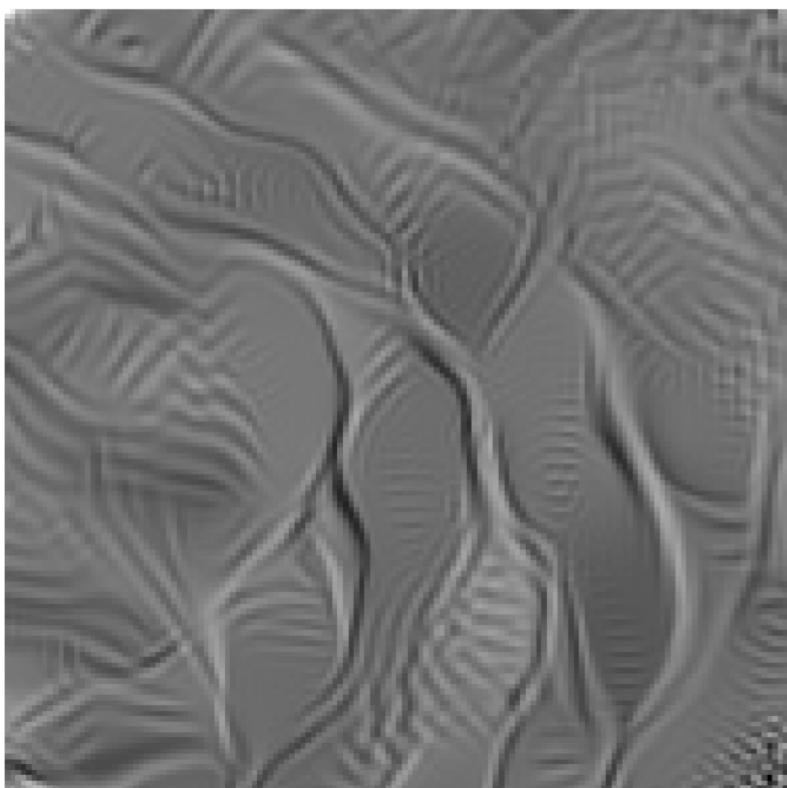
Example: Sentiment Classification

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Occlusion | <div>used</div> <div>to</div> <div>be</div> <div>my</div> <div>favorite</div> | <div>not</div> <div>worth</div> <div>the</div> <div>time</div> |
| Integrated Gradients | <div>used</div> <div>to</div> <div>be</div> <div>my</div> <div>favorite</div> | <div>not</div> <div>worth</div> <div>the</div> <div>time</div> |
| CD | <div>used</div> <div>to</div> <div>be</div> <div>my</div> <div>favorite</div> | <div>not</div> <div>worth</div> <div>the</div> <div>time</div> |
| Legend | <div>Very Negative</div> <div>Negative</div> <div>Neutral</div> <div>Positive</div> <div>Very Positive</div> | |

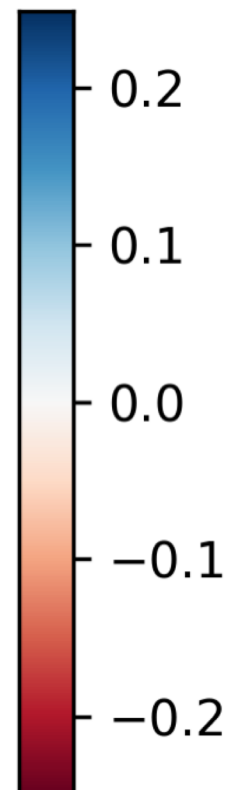
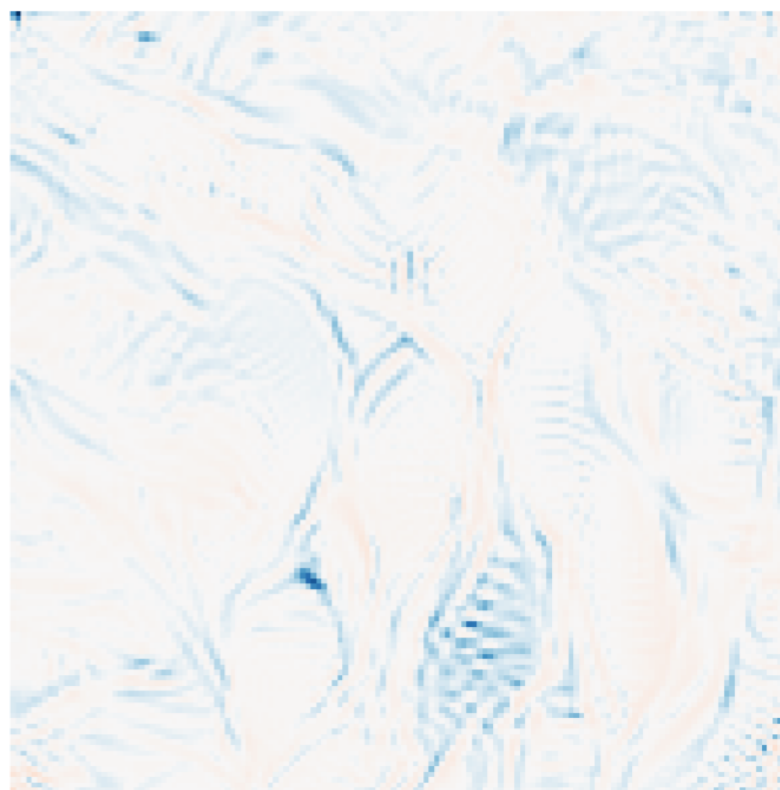
CD qualitatively
picks up the
correct regions



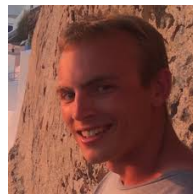
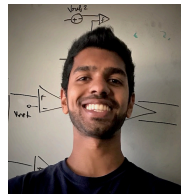
DeepTune Image



ACD Interpretation



Agglomerative Contextual Decomposition (ACD)



*Singh, *Murdoch, Y. (2019).

Hierarchical interpretations for neural network predictions

Proc. ICLR

ACD is a hierarchical clustering algorithm with visualization, where the joining metric is CD scores

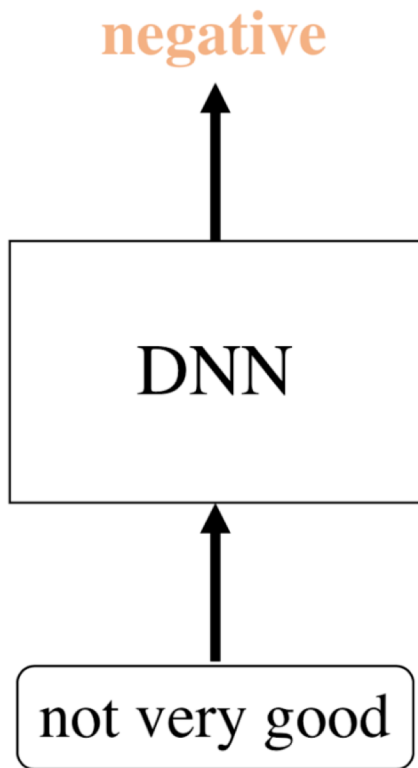
iML-PDR View of ACD

Predictive accuracy: interprets a trained model and does not change its predictive accuracy

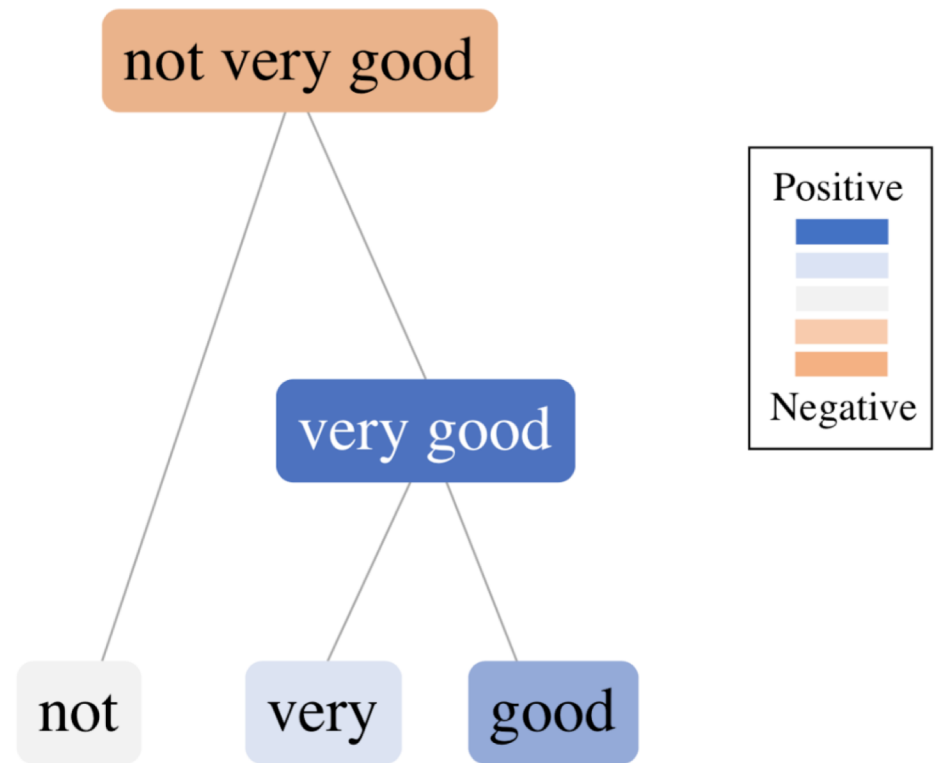
Descriptive accuracy: allows for descriptions in terms of any subset of the feature space

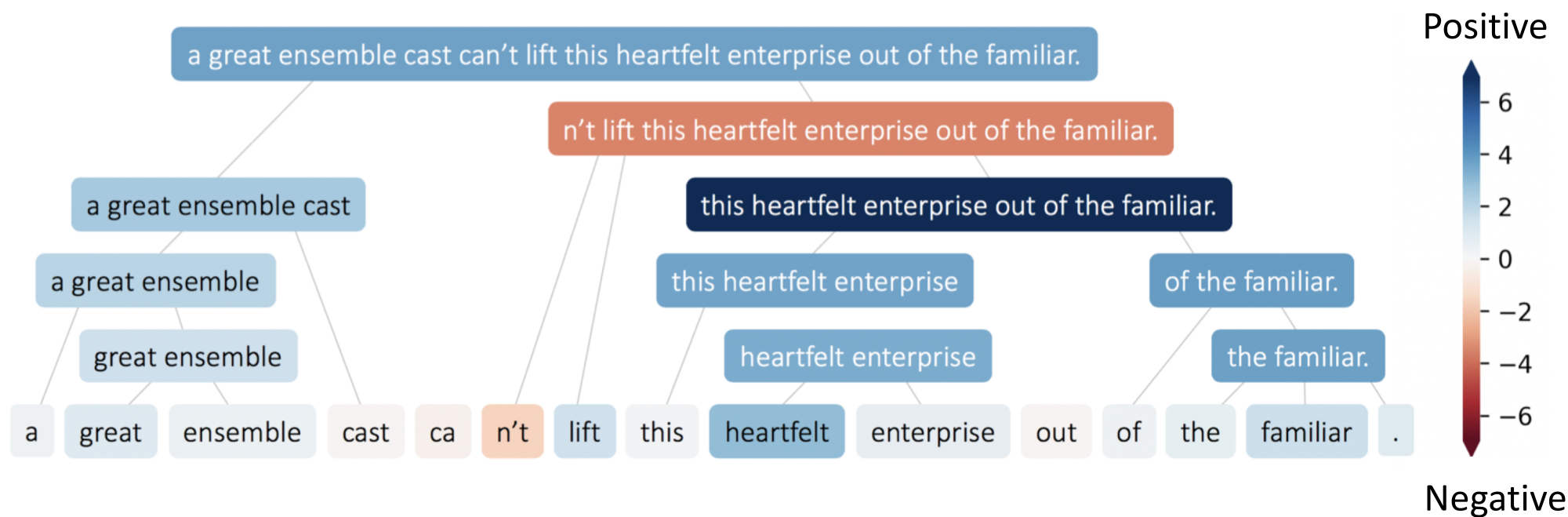
Relevancy: to machine learning developers (to identify bias, perform sanity checks, and deal with interactions) and to the end users (to build trust, make the prediction process more transparent)

DNN Prediction



ACD Interpretation

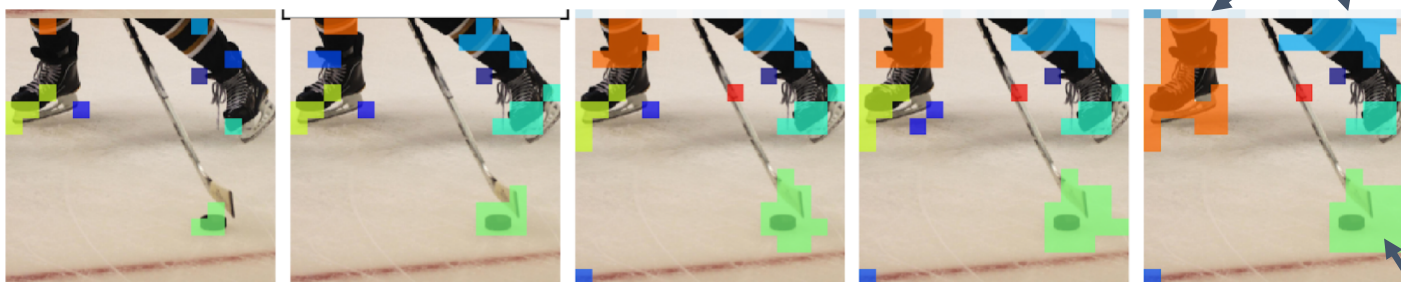




prediction: puck



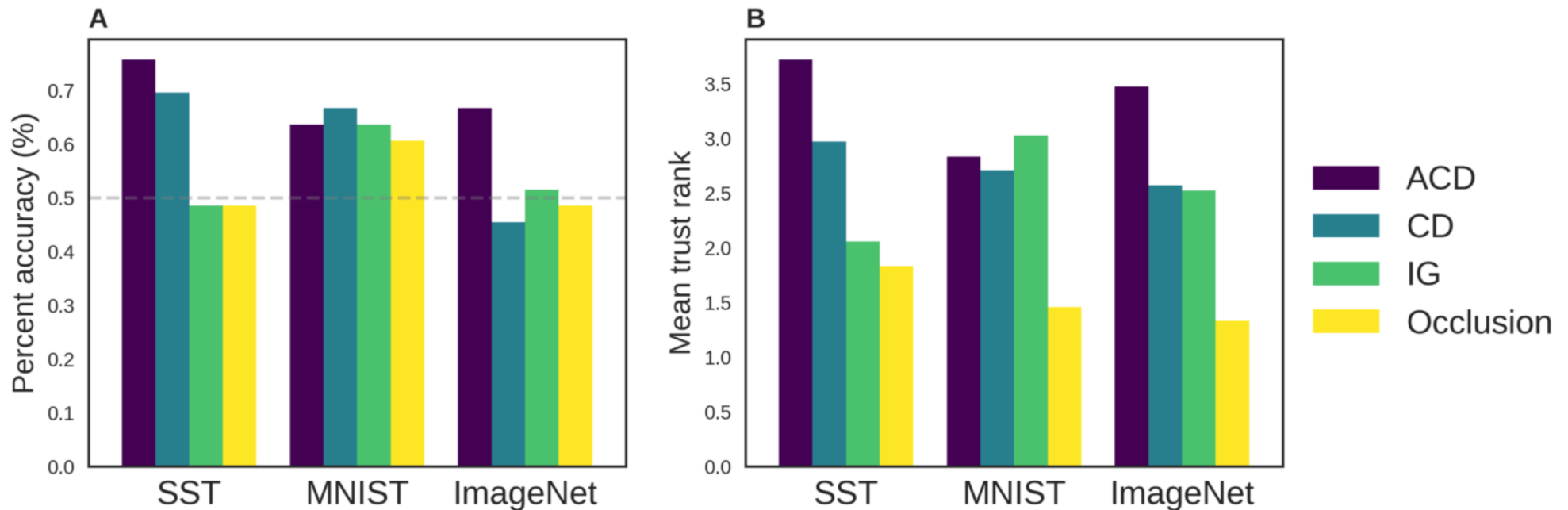
skates are
important



colors indicate different clusters

puck is
important

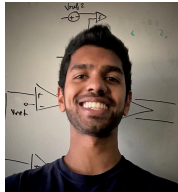
Human experiments



Telling a good model from a “bad” one using only interpretations

Whether Interpretation instills trust or not

Improving models by regularizing ACD explanations

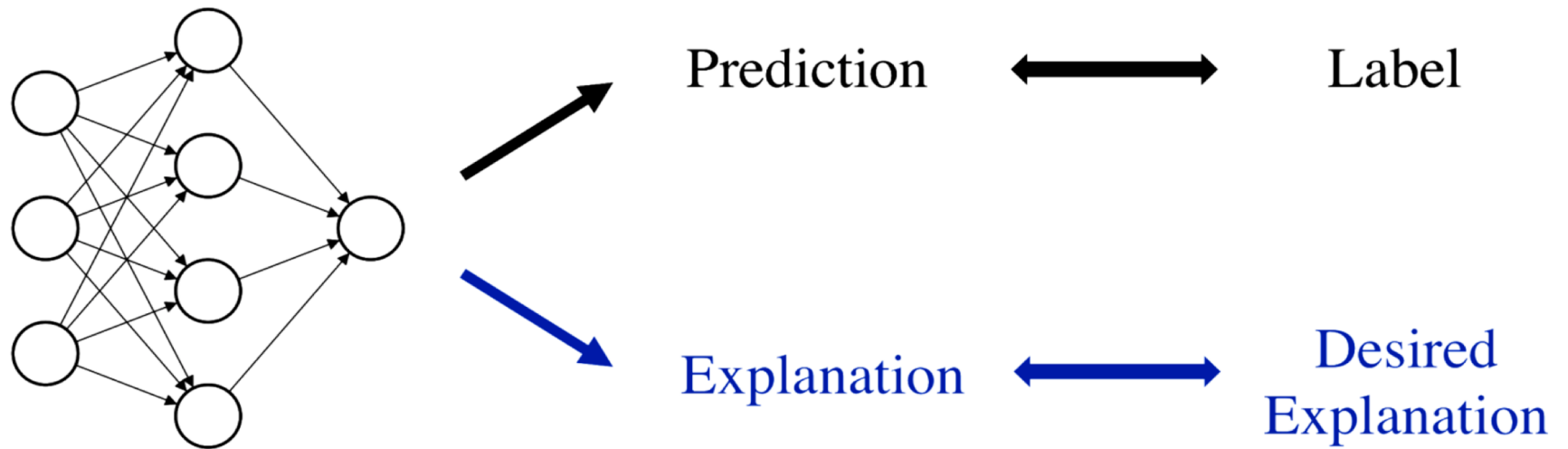


Rieger, Singh, Murdoch, Y. (2019).
**Interpretations are useful:
penalizing explanations to align
neural networks with prior
knowledge**

In submission



CD/ACD code: github.com/csinva/acd



$$\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(f_{\theta}(X), y)}_{\text{Original loss}} + \lambda \underbrace{\mathcal{L}_{\text{expl}}(\text{expl}_{\theta}(X), \text{expl}_X)}_{\text{Explanation loss}}$$

Related works

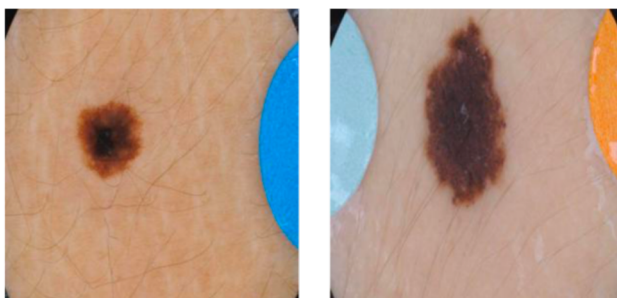
- Penalizing gradient-based methods (Ross et al. 2017, 2018, Erion et al. 2019)
- Penalizing attributions for NLP (Liu & Avci, 2019)

ISIC Data

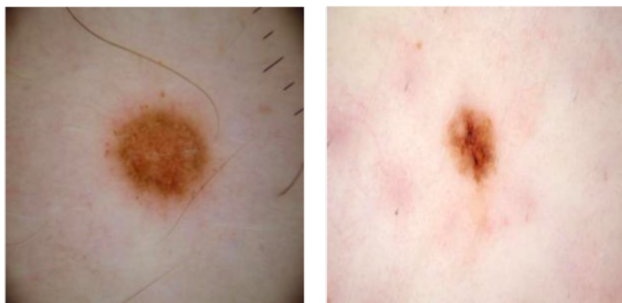
Benign
(no patch)



Benign
(with patch)



Malignant



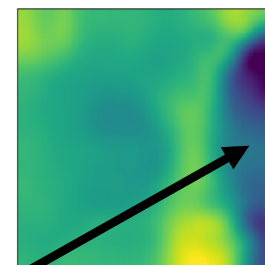
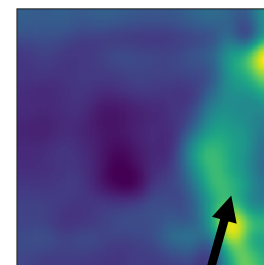
Test F1:

Unregularized

0.57

Regularized

0.62



Gradient saliency makes more sense
(brighter = more saliency)

Summary

- Interpretation is desirable for scientific machine learning and bias identification.
- It needs stability as a pre-requisite and implicitly depends also on predictability and computability – hence it needs PCS
- Our iML framework: PDR
- Two interpretation methods: DeepTune and ACD
- On-going:
 - more empirical studies in the context of domain problems



CD/ACD code: github.com/csinva/acd

Thanks to my group members and grants

Goal: quality research which is often slow



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN



National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health



**Center for
Science of Information**
NSF Science and Technology Center

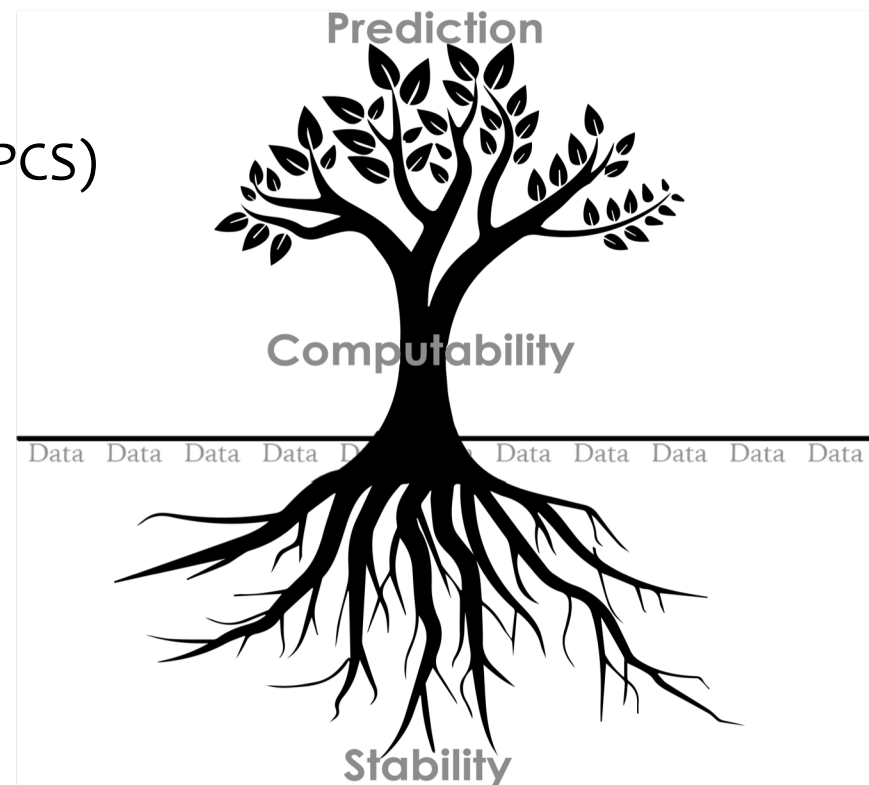


ARO and ONR

Paper links

1.* Three principles of data science: predictability, computability and stability (PCS) (Y. and K. Kumbier, 2019)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.08152>



2*. Interpretable machine learning: definitions, methods and applications

J. Murdoch, C. Singh, K. Kumber, R. Abbasi-Asl, and Y. (2019), *PNAS*

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.04592>



Thank You!

Coming (2021?) ...

Data Science in Action: A Book

Bin Yu^{1,2} and Rebecca Barter¹

¹Department of Statistics, UC Berkeley

²Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, UC Berkeley



Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

What skills do we teach?

Data Science In Action (DSIA) will teach the critical thinking, analytic, and communication skills required to effectively formulate problems and find reliable and trustworthy solutions. DSIA teaches the reader skills that are adaptable to any data-based problem. The primary skills taught are:



Critical thinking

Readers will learn to:

- Formulate answerable questions using the data available
 - Scrutinize all analytic decisions made and subsequent results
 - Document all analytic decisions
 - Appropriate common techniques to unfamiliar situations
- We teach using:
- Real, messy data examples
 - Concepts introduced intuitively from first-principles



Technical skills

Data processing skills

Data cleaning
EDA (numerical and visual summaries)

Algorithmic skills

Dimensionality reduction
Clustering
Least Squares & ML
Regularization

Stability-based inference skills

Inference
Trustworthiness Statements
Perturbation Intervals
Causal Inference



Communication

Visual communication

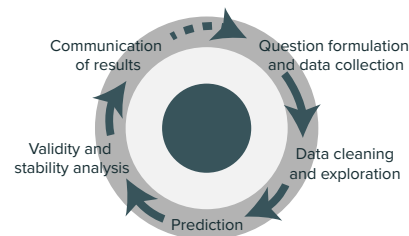
"Exploratory" versus "explanatory" visual and numeric data summaries. Exploratory summaries are for the analyst to learn about the data, and explanatory summaries are for explaining the data to an external audience

Written communication

Each chapter has an open-ended case study for which the reader is encouraged to prepare a written analytic report

Core guiding principles

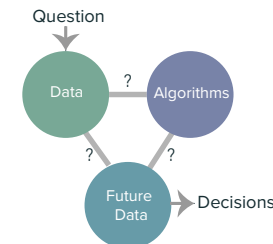
The DS Lifecycle



The Data Science Lifecycle is an iterative process that takes the analyst from problem formulation, data cleaning, exploration, algorithmic analysis, and finally to obtaining a verifiable solution that can be used for future decision-making.

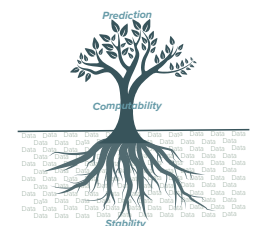
Blending together concepts from statistics, computer science and domain knowledge, the data science life cycle is an iterative process that involves human analysts learning from data and refining their project-specific questions and analytic approach as they learn.

Three realms



Readers will learn to view every data problem through the lens of connecting the three realms: (1) the question being asked and the data collected (and the reality the data represents) (2) the algorithms used to represent the data (3) future data on which these algorithms will be used to guide decision-making. Guiding the reader to connect the three realms is a means of guiding the reader through the data science lifecycle.

PCS



The PCS framework provides concrete techniques for finding evidence for the connections between the three realms.

Predictability: if the patterns found in the original data also appear in withheld or new data, they are said to be predictable. If an analysis or algorithm finds predictable patterns, then these patterns are likely to be capturing real phenomena.

Computability: algorithmic and data efficiency and scalability is essential to ensuring that the results and solutions (e.g. a predictive algorithm) can be applied to new data

Stability: minimum requirement for reproducibility. If results change in the presence of minor modifications of the data (e.g. via perturbations) or human analytic decisions, then there might not be a strong connection between the analysis/algorithms and the reality that underlies the data.

Intended Audience

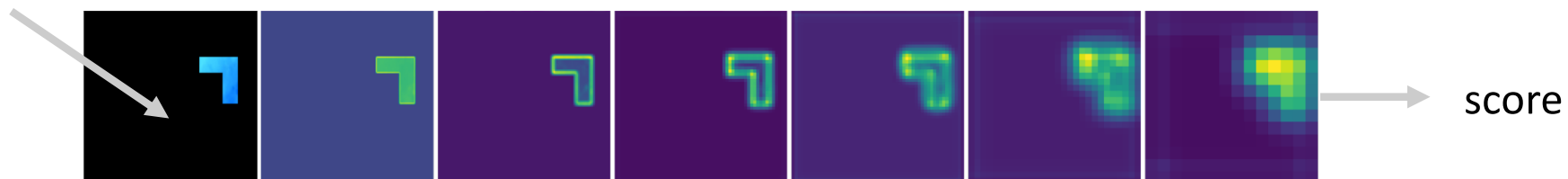
Anyone who wants to learn the intuition and critical thinking skills to become a data scientist or work with data scientists. Neither a mathematical nor a coding background is required. DSIA could form the basis of a semester- or multi-semester-long introductory data science university course, either as an upper-division undergraduate or early graduate-level course.

Contribution based methods could be problematic

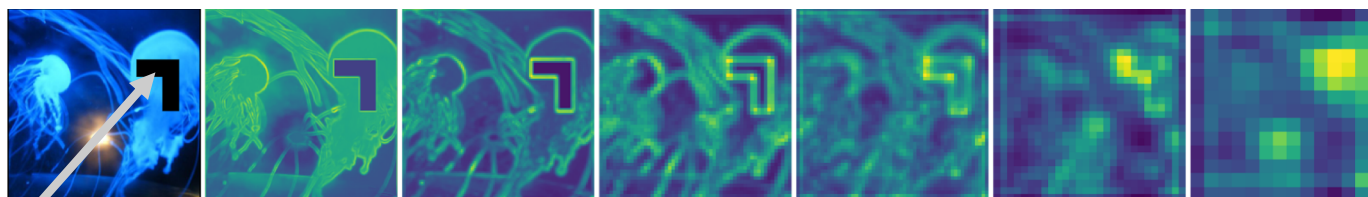


How important is this region?

Zero background



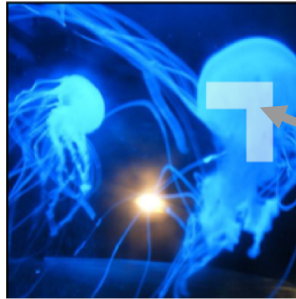
score



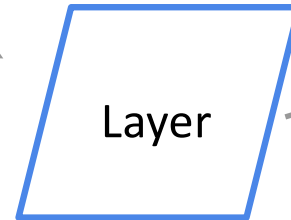
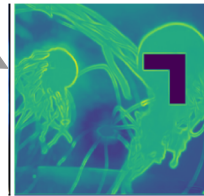
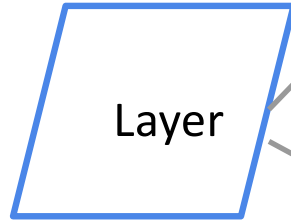
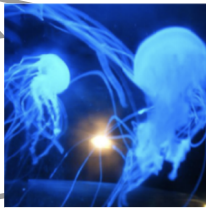
score

Zero foreground

ACD



How important is this region?



CD Score

Decompose each layer

Repeat...

How does ACD work for a given layer?

- **Linear layer:** apply the linear weight to each part, and split the bias proportionally
- **Maxpool layer:** apply the maxpool layer to the combined image (relevant + irrelevant), take the max indexes, then use them to index the relevant / irrelevant parts separately
- **ReLU** - for the relevant part, apply the relu to the relevant part, for the irrelevant part apply the relu to both then subtract the relu of the relevant part
- Quite general - works for nearly any layer

β : = relevant, γ : = irrelevant, i : = layer index

Linear/conv:

$$\beta_i = W \beta_{i-1} + \frac{|W \beta_{i-1}|}{|W \beta_{i-1}| + |W \gamma_{i-1}|} \cdot b$$
$$\gamma_i = W \gamma_{i-1} + \frac{|W \gamma_{i-1}|}{|W \beta_{i-1}| + |W \gamma_{i-1}|} \cdot b$$

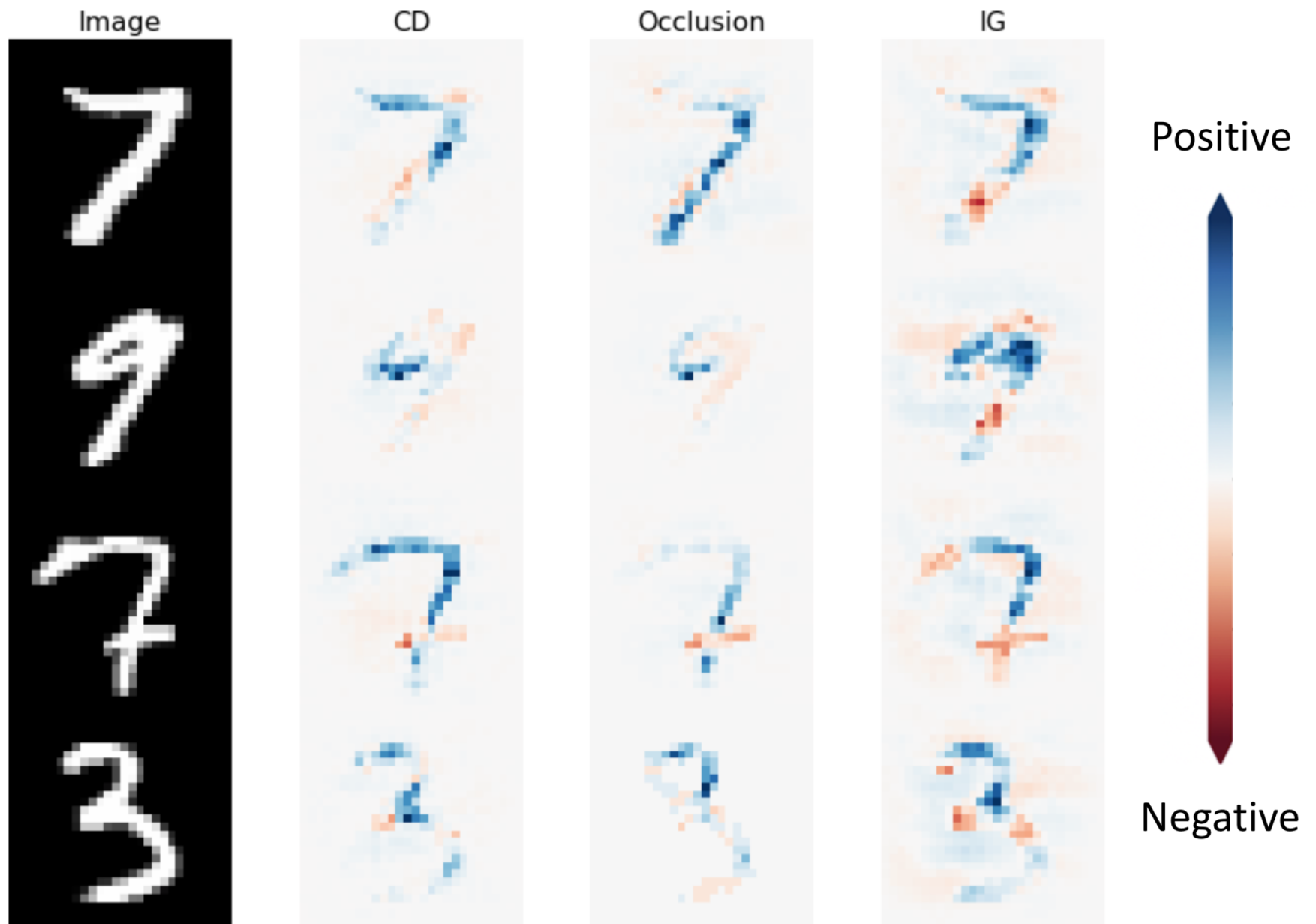
Maxpool:

$$max_idxs = \underset{idxs}{\operatorname{argmax}} [\operatorname{maxpool}(\beta_{i-1} + \gamma_{i-1}; idxs)]$$
$$\beta_i = \beta_{i-1}[max_idxs]$$
$$\gamma_i = \gamma_{i-1}[max_idxs]$$

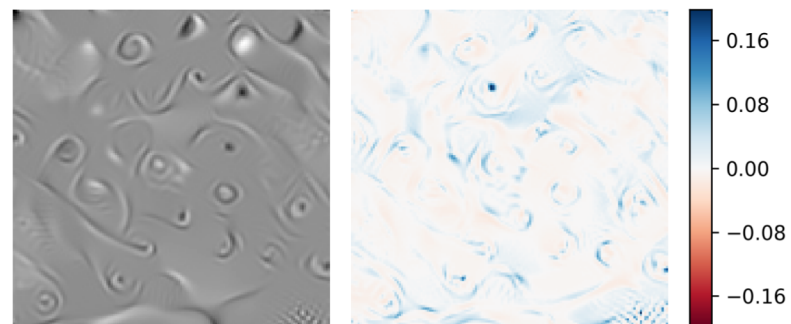
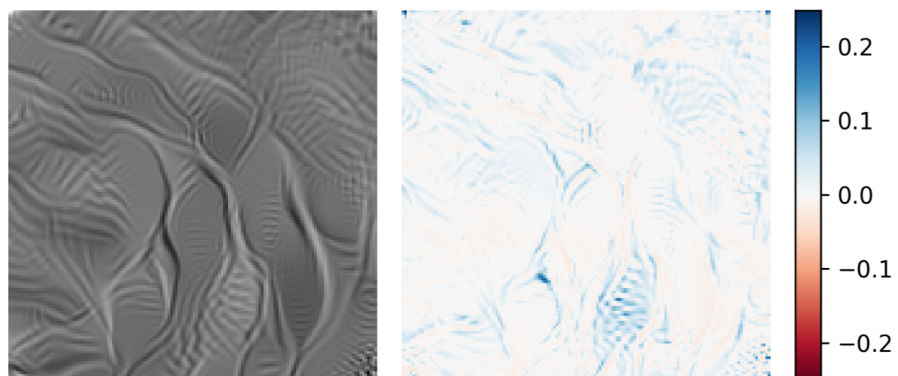
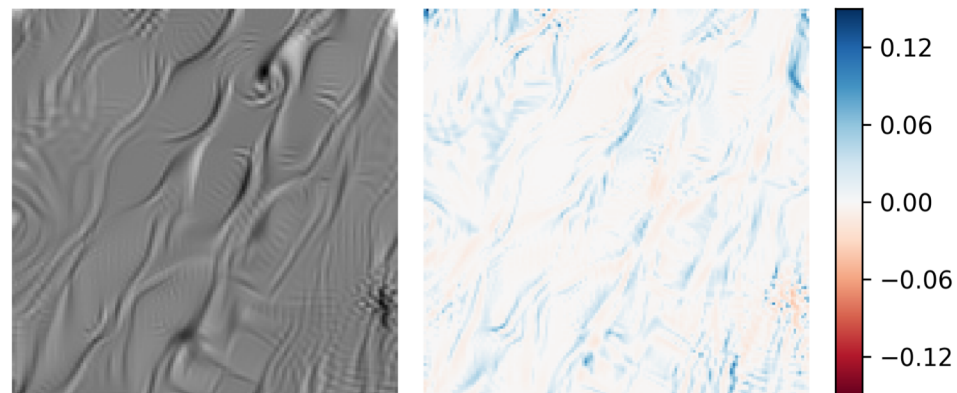
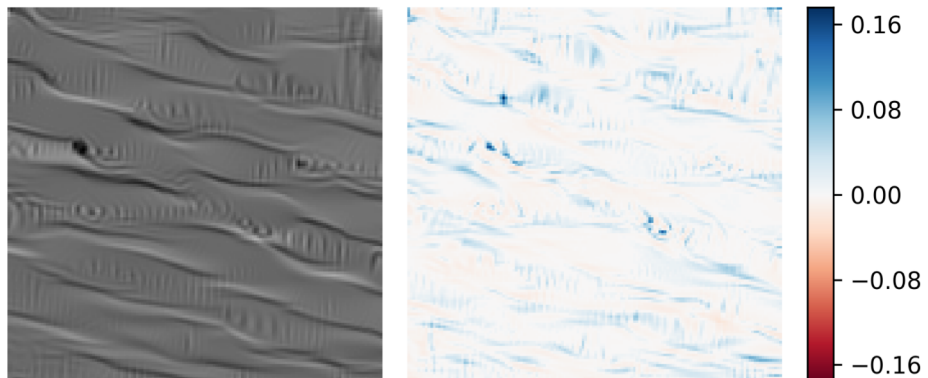
ReLU:

$$\beta_i = \operatorname{ReLU}(\beta_{i-1})$$
$$\gamma_i = \operatorname{ReLU}(\beta_{i-1} + \gamma_{i-1}) - \operatorname{ReLU}(\beta_{i-1})$$

MNIST example



More examples



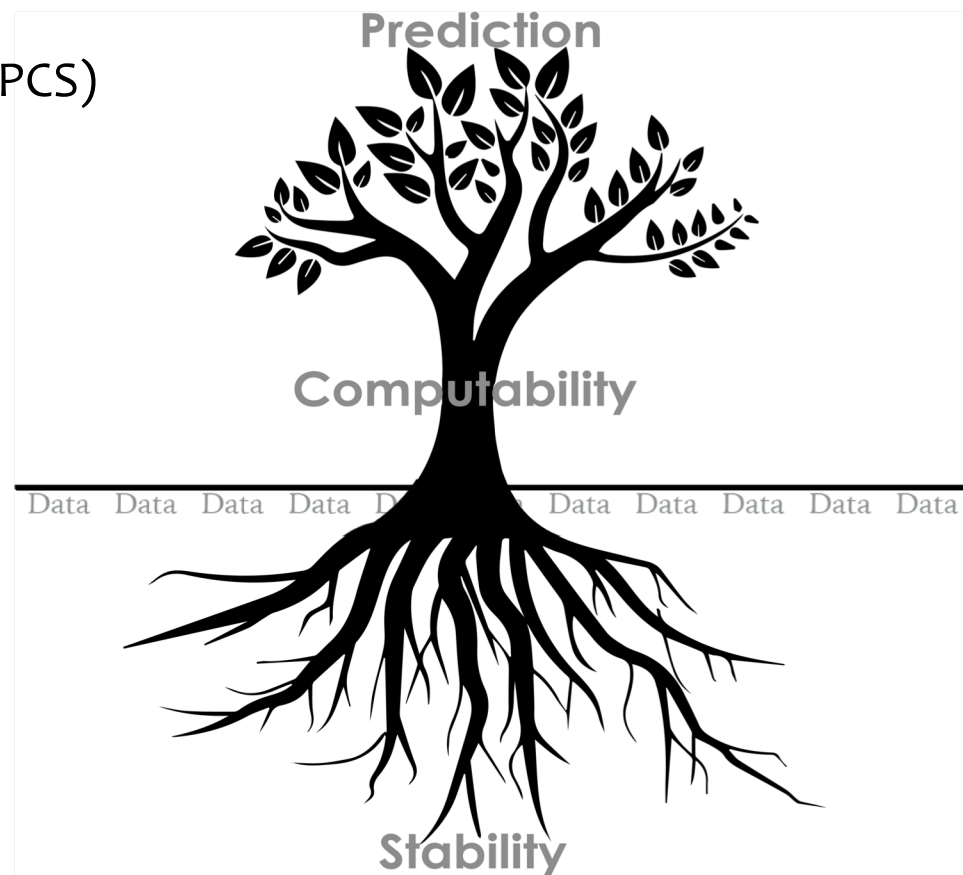
Papers and upcoming book

1.* Three principles of data science:
predictability, computability and stability (PCS)
(Y. and K. Kumbier, 2019)

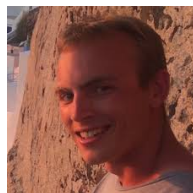
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.08152>



2. Book on data science
(Y. and R. Barter, 2019, in prep)



3*. Interpretable machine learning: definitions, methods and applications



J. Murdoch, C. Singh, K. Kumber, R. Abbasi-Asl, and Y.
(2019), PNAS (accepted)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.04592>

Spare slides

Berkeley's DS Intellectual and Organizational Vision

Summary of the 2016 Report by the Faculty Advisory Board of the Data Science Planning Initiative

Prepared: 19 August 2016
Cathryn Carson, FAB Chair

Contents

[A. Rationale for action: Why Berkeley, why now](#)

[B. Recommendations](#)

[1. Organizational form: Core and connections](#)

[2. Faculty FTE: Campus-wide surge and strategic foci](#)

[3. Fundraising pillar and revenue generation](#)

[C. Situational challenges and next steps](#)

[D. The Faculty Advisory Board](#)

Data8 Spring19 – 1500 students

[Home » Education Program](#)

Data Science Education Program



CS/Stat Faculty
co-creating and co-teaching
[data8.org](#) and [ds100.org](#)

DS Interim Dean: D. Culler

New DS Major, Fall 2018

**Div. of Data Science and
Information headed by an
Associate Provost (open search)**

Data100 Spring19: 1,100 students



Thank you!

Safe and Green DS/AI



Image credit: <https://www.ai-expo.net/drones-in-artificial-intelligence-are-they-safe/>

Next steps for sML with empirical rigor

PCS (workflow and documentation) with iML-PDR is a step forward towards sML with empirical rigor. Moving forward, we need

- Consensus on evaluating empirical rigor in sML
- Consensus on standards when data results from scientific machine learning become knowledge
- Consensus on the process:
debate among authors, peer reviews, follow-up experiments, ...

Fewer, and high quality papers would be a big help to sML and also to young researcher's intellectual development

Parting thoughts:

engage in interdisciplinary research through people

- Broad interests and curiosity prepare for opportunities to arrive
- How do I know which opportunities to take on?

If I like the people and they are good scientists, nothing could go wrong – in the worst case, I pick up some interesting science and have fun interacting...

Many interactions do not lead to papers...