

# The Science and the Engineering of Intelligence

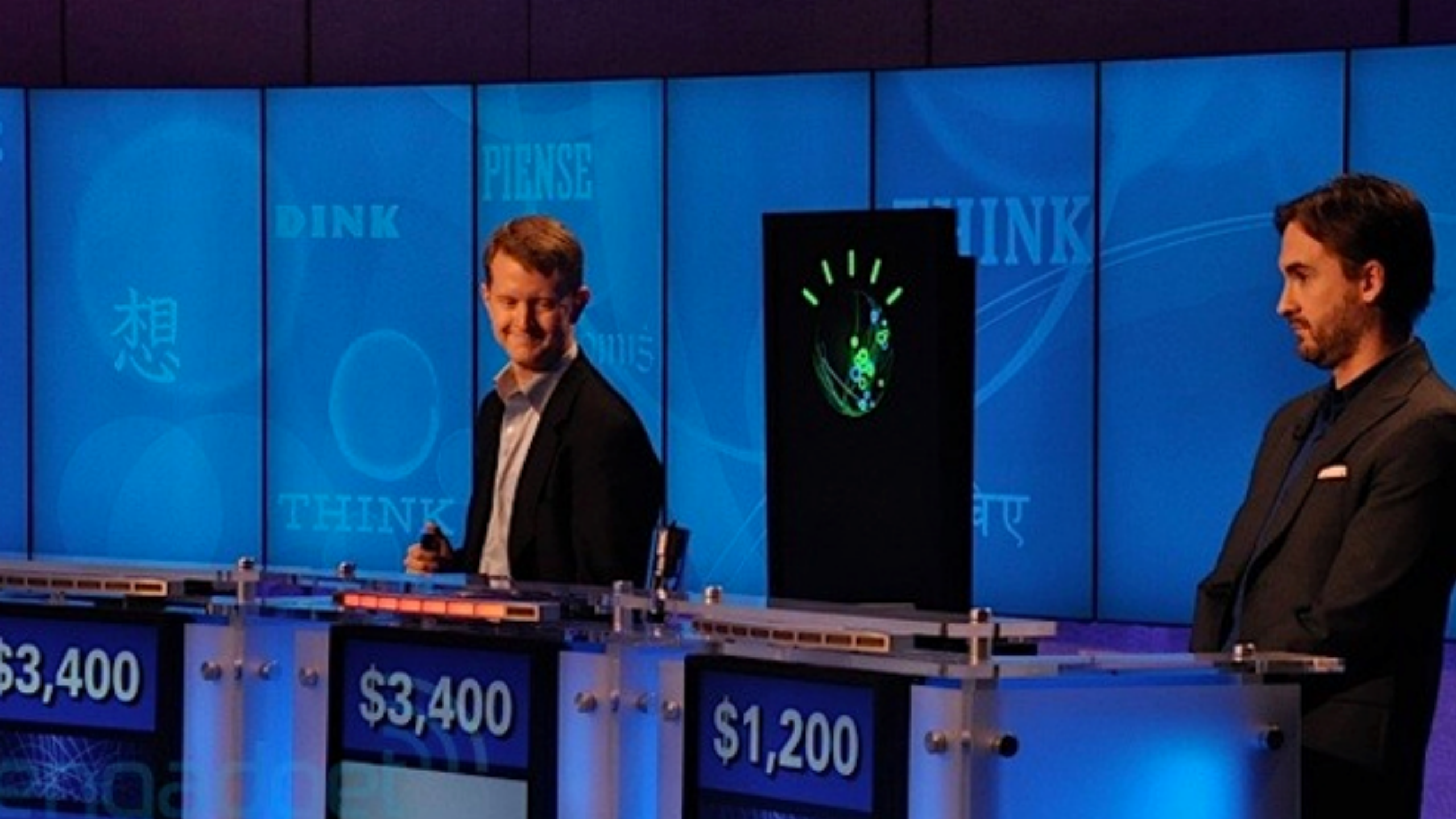
Tomaso Poggio

Center for Biological and Computational Learning  
McGovern Institute for Brain Research  
Department of Brain & Cognitive Sciences  
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



# Engineering of Intelligence: recent successes





THINK

PIENSE

THINK

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THINK

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\$3,400

\$3,400

\$1,200

# nature

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

## LEARNING CURVE



Self-taught AI software  
attains human-level  
performance in video games

Machine Learning

SHARPE BATH IN  
OUTBREAKS

Complex systems  
and network science

A GIANT IN THE  
EARLY UNIVERSE

Supermassive black holes  
and galaxy formation

TELEPORTATION  
FOR TWO

Transferring two properties  
through quantum entanglement

QUANTUM GRAVITY

Black holes  
and quantum entanglement

nature



# Science



Machine  
intelligence  
attains human-level  
performance



PERSON IN THE NEWS

### Demis Hassabis, master of the new machine age

Murad Ahmed

Show Author details Print Clip

The creator of the AI game-playing program makes all moves, writes Murad Ahmed



When it comes to crossing the ocean because of future climate trends in Tampa, Demis Hassabis analyzed three major oceanic trends. This scientist that can prove just as useful as the artificial intelligence model going into weather and climate models.

For authors see our track number

For the celebratory

DeepMind: Demis Hassabis was a postdoc in my group



Mobileye: Amnon Shashua was a postdoc in my group



Mobileye



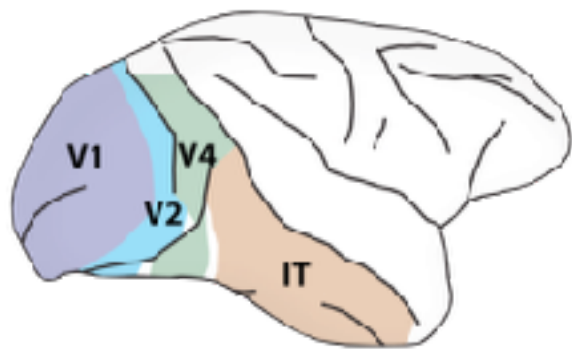
# 20 years ago: MIT and Daimler



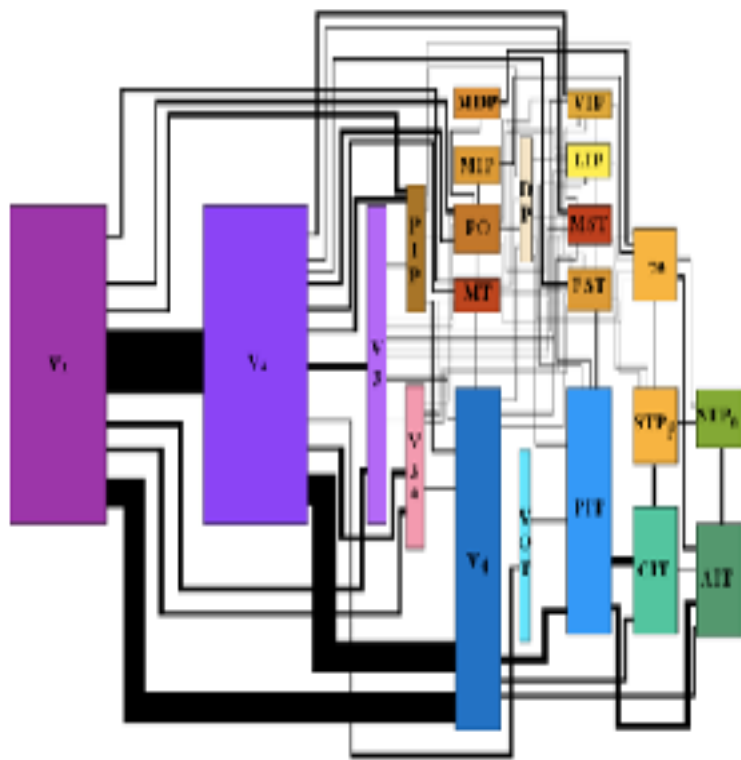
# CBMM: motivations

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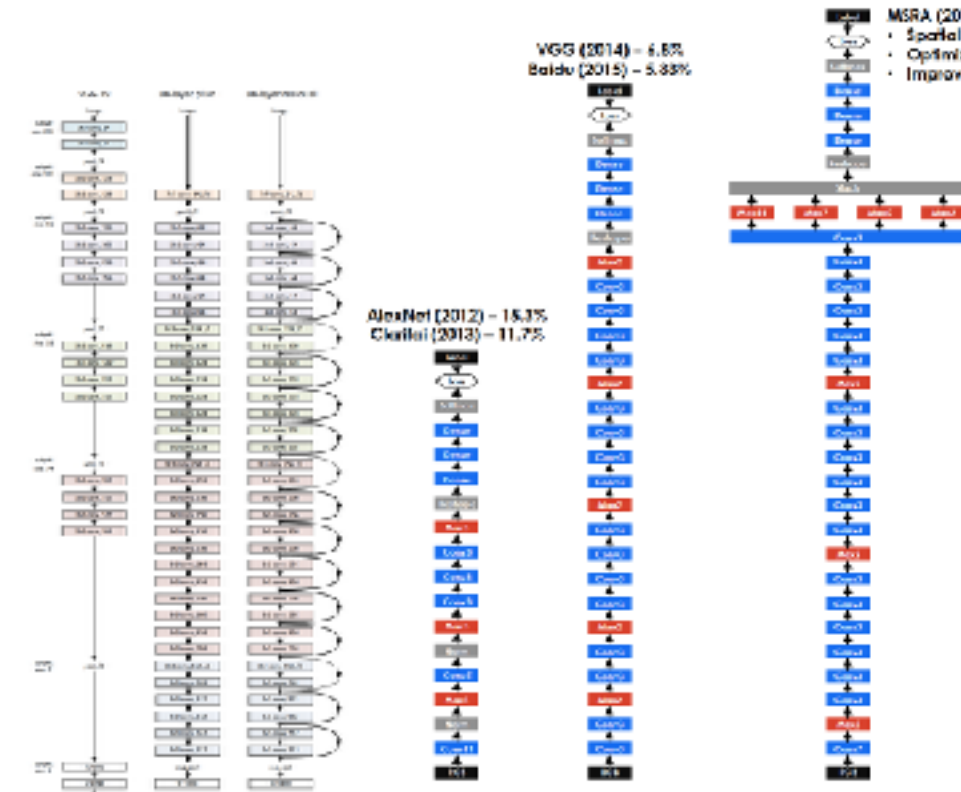
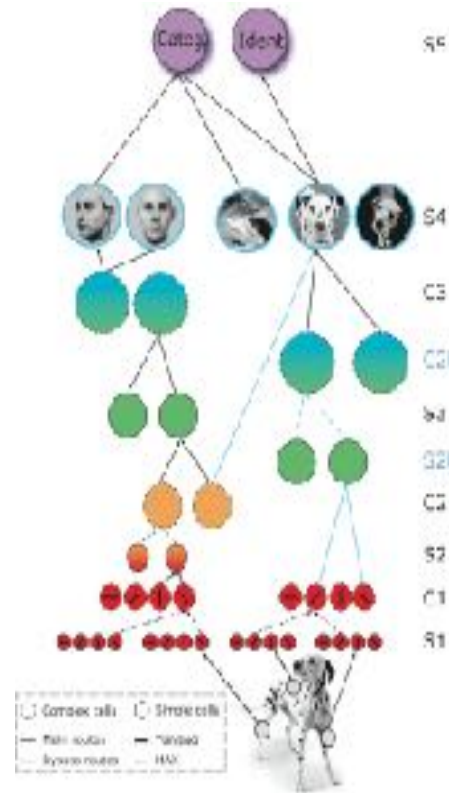
Key recent advances  
in the engineering of intelligence  
have their roots  
in basic science of the brain



# The same hierarchical architectures in the cortex, in models of vision and in Deep Learning networks



Desimone & Ungerleider 1989; vanEssen+Movshon



# The race for Intelligence

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- The *science of intelligence* was at the roots of today's *engineering* success
- ...we need to make another basic effort on it
  - for the sake of *basic science*
  - for the *engineering of tomorrow*



CENTER FOR  
Brains  
Minds+  
Machines

# Science + Engineering of Intelligence

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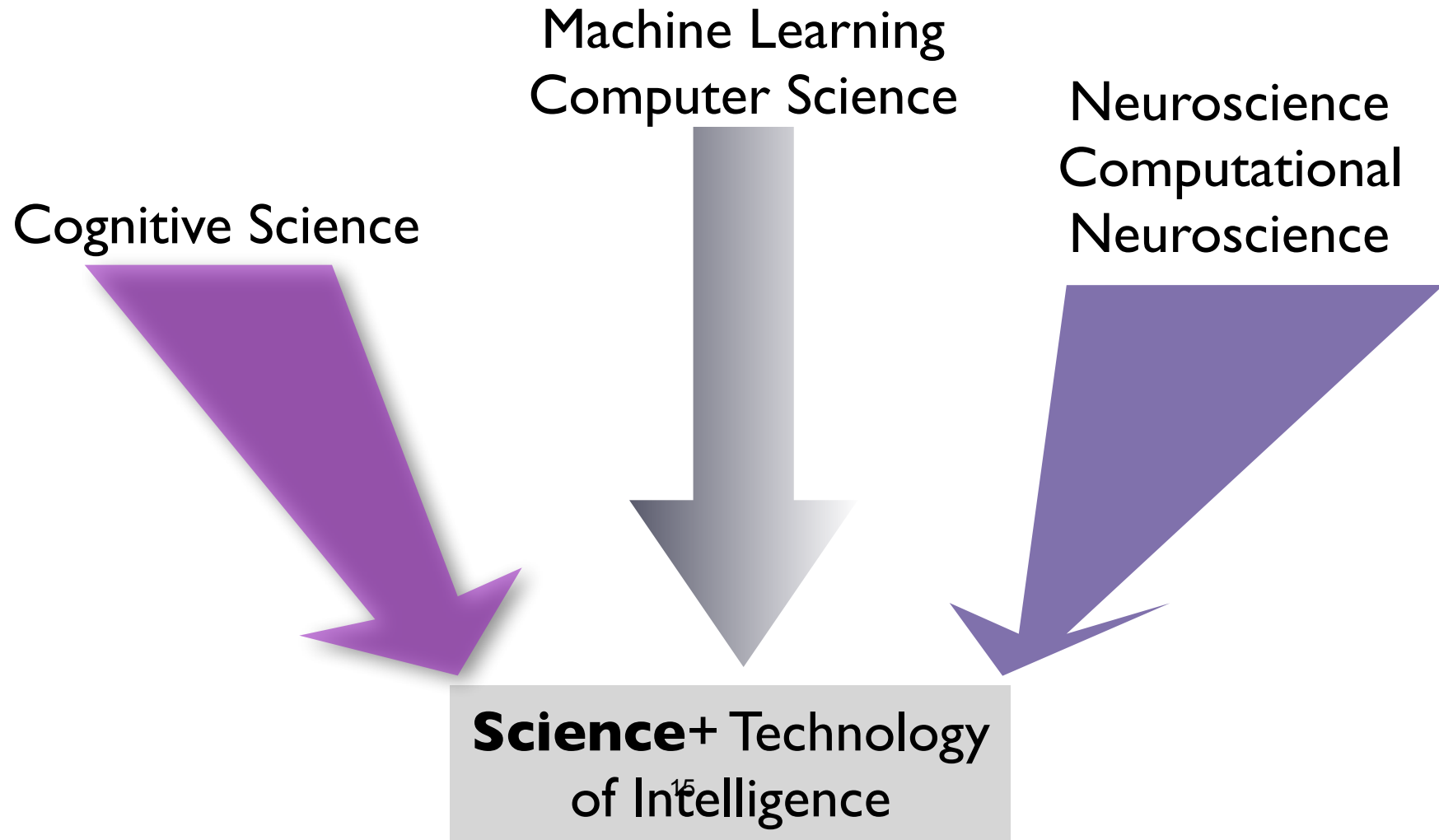
**Mission:** We aim to make progress in understanding intelligence — that is in understanding how the brain makes the mind, how the brain works and how to build intelligent machines.

**CBMM's main goal is to *make progress in the science of intelligence which enables better engineering of intelligence.***



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Machines

# Science of Human Intelligence



**Centerness:  
collaborations across different disciplines and labs**

**MIT**

Boyden, Desimone, Kaelbling, Kanwisher,  
Katz, Poggio, Sasanfar, Saxe,  
Schulz, Tenenbaum, Ullman, Wilson,  
Rosasco, Winston

**Harvard**

Blum, Kreiman, Mahadevan,  
Nakayama, Sompolinsky,  
Spelke, Valiant

**Rockefeller**

Freiwald

**Allen Institute**

Koch

**UCLA**

Yuille

**Stanford**

Goodman

**Cornell**

Hirsh

**Hunter**

Epstein, Sakas,  
Chodorow

**Wellesley**

Hildreth, Conway,  
Wiest

**Puerto Rico**

Bykhovaskaia, Ordonez,  
Arce Nazario

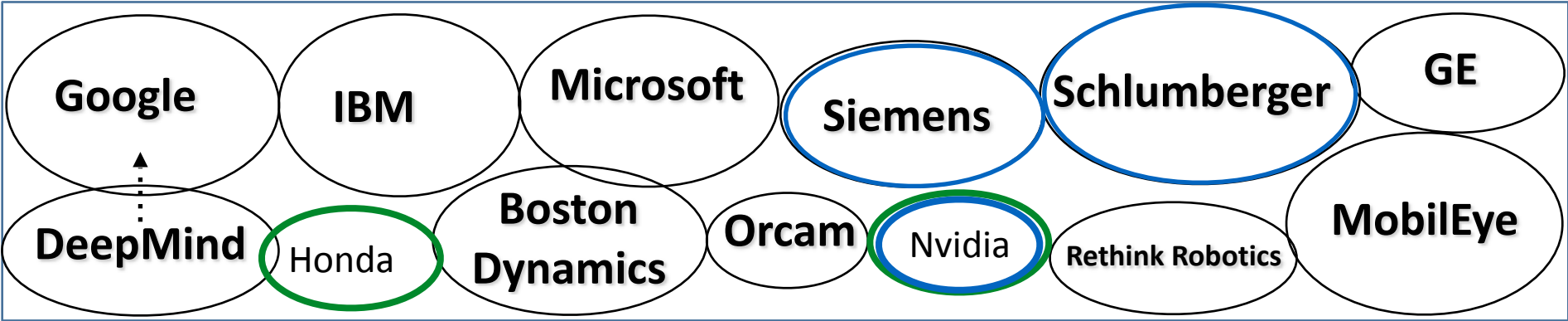
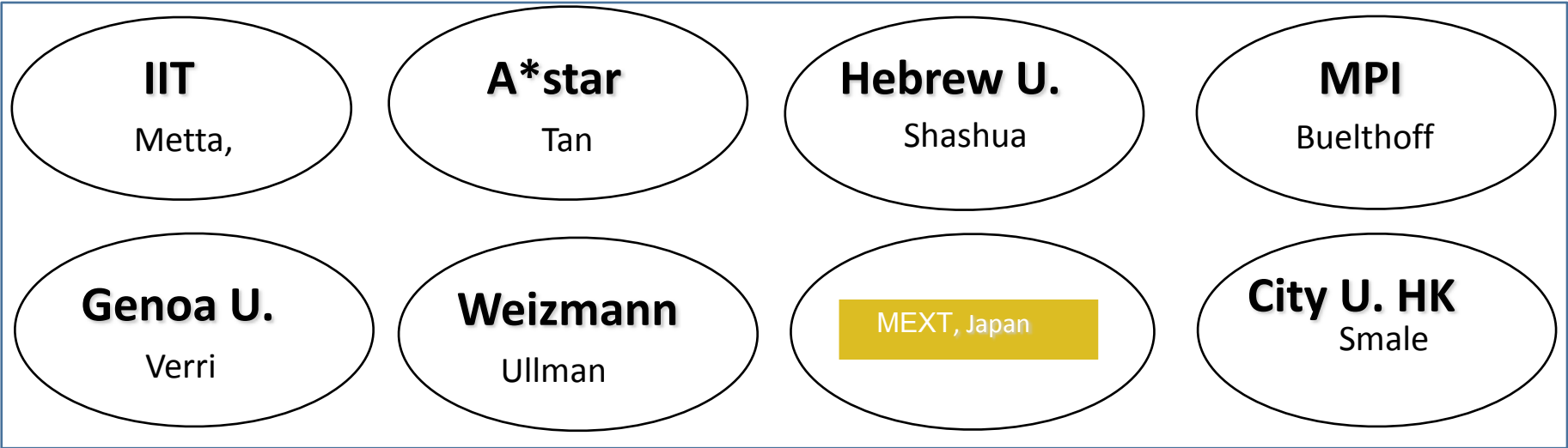
**Howard**

Manaye, Chouikha,  
Rwebargira





# Recent Stats and Activities





# EAC members

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Pietro Perona, Caltech

Charles Isbell, Jr., Georgia Tech

Joel Oppenheim, NYU



Lore McGovern, MIBR, MIT

David Siegel, Two Sigma

Christof Koch, Allen Institute



Marc Raibert, Boston Dynamics

Amnon Shashua, Mobileye

Demis Hassabis\*, DeepMind



Kobi and Judith Richter, Medinol

Dan Rockmore, Dartmouth

Susan Whitehead, MIT Corporation

Fei-Fei Li, Stanford

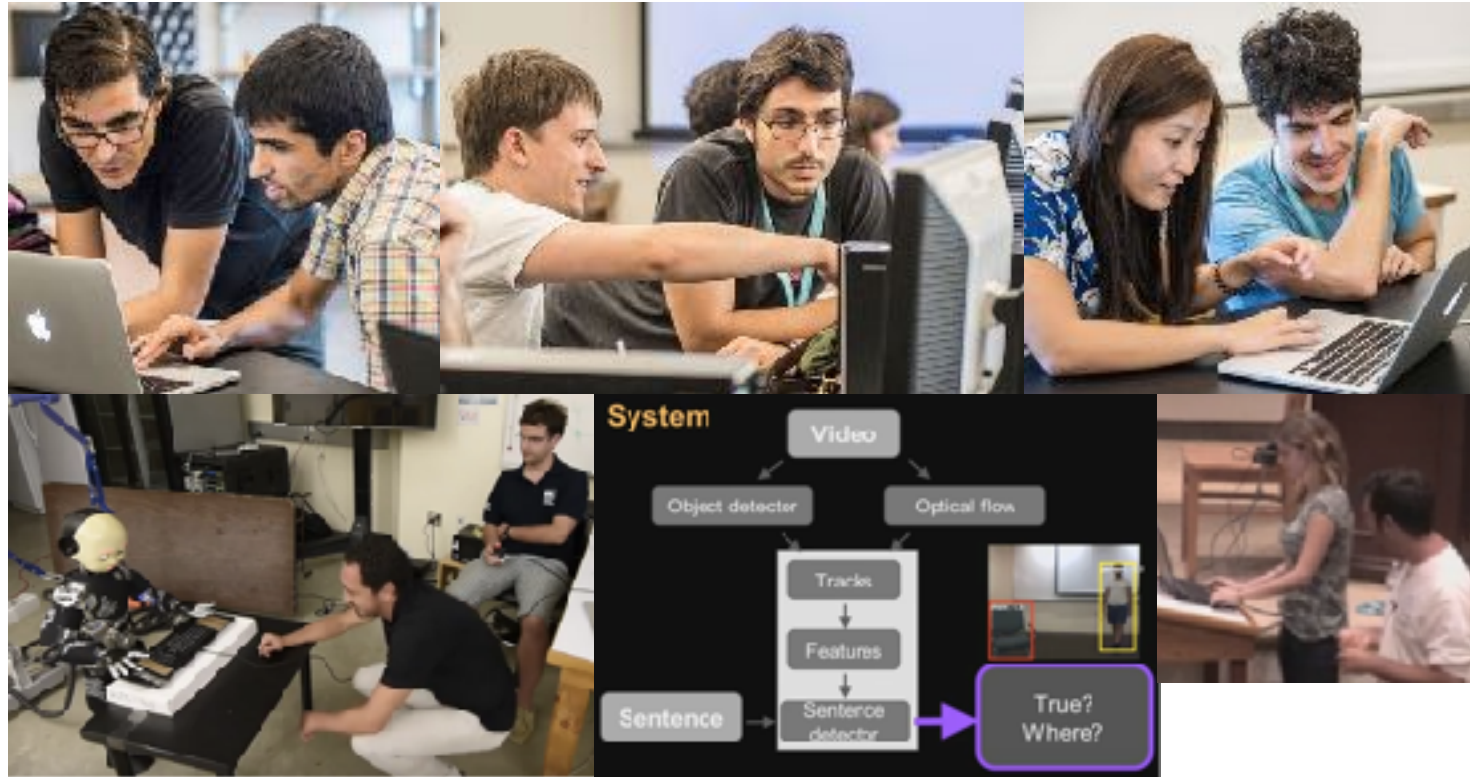
# CBMM

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Brains, Minds and Machines Summer School at Woods Hole:  
our flagship initiative



# Brains, Minds and Machines Summer School



In 2016: 302 applications for 35 slots

# Brains, Minds and Machines Summer School



Broad introduction to research on human and machine intelligence

- computation, neuroscience, cognition
- research methods and current results
- lecture videos on CBMM website
- summer 2015 course materials to be published on MIT OpenCourseWare

## List of speakers\*:

Tomaso Poggio  
Winrich Freiwald  
Elizabeth Spelke  
Ken Nakayama  
Amnon Shashua  
Dorin Comaniciu  
Demis Hassabis

Gabriel Kreiman  
Matthew Wilson  
Rebecca Saxe  
Patrick Winston  
James DiCarlo  
Tom Mitchell  
Josh McDermott

Nancy Kanwisher  
Josh Tenenbaum  
Shimon Ullman  
Lorenzo Rosasco  
Larry Abbott  
Eero Simoncelli

Boris Katz  
L Mahadevan  
Laura Schulz  
Ethan Meyers  
Aude Oliva  
Eddy Chang

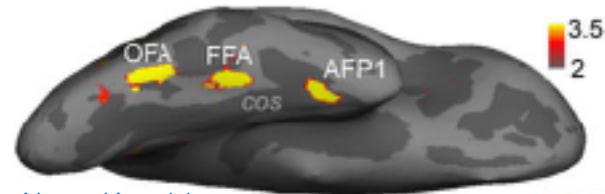
\* [CBMM faculty](#), [industrial partners](#)



Center for Brains,  
Minds & Machines

# An example project across thrusts: face recognition

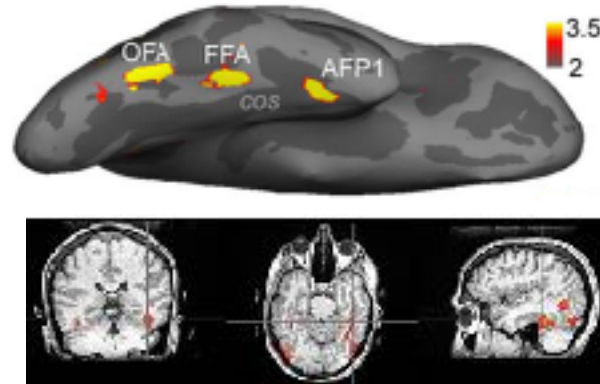
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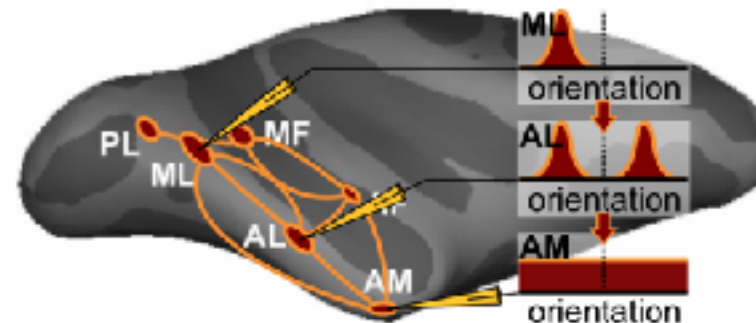
Nancy Kanwisher



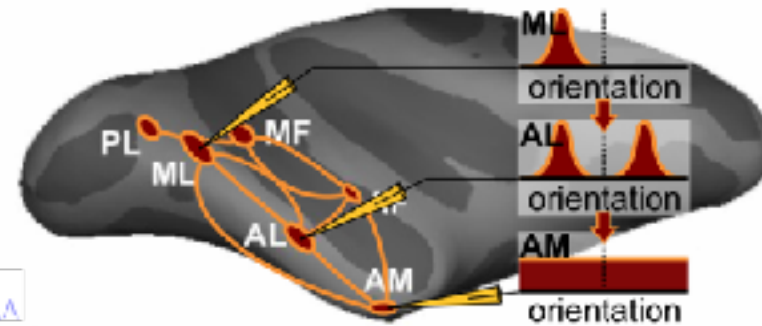
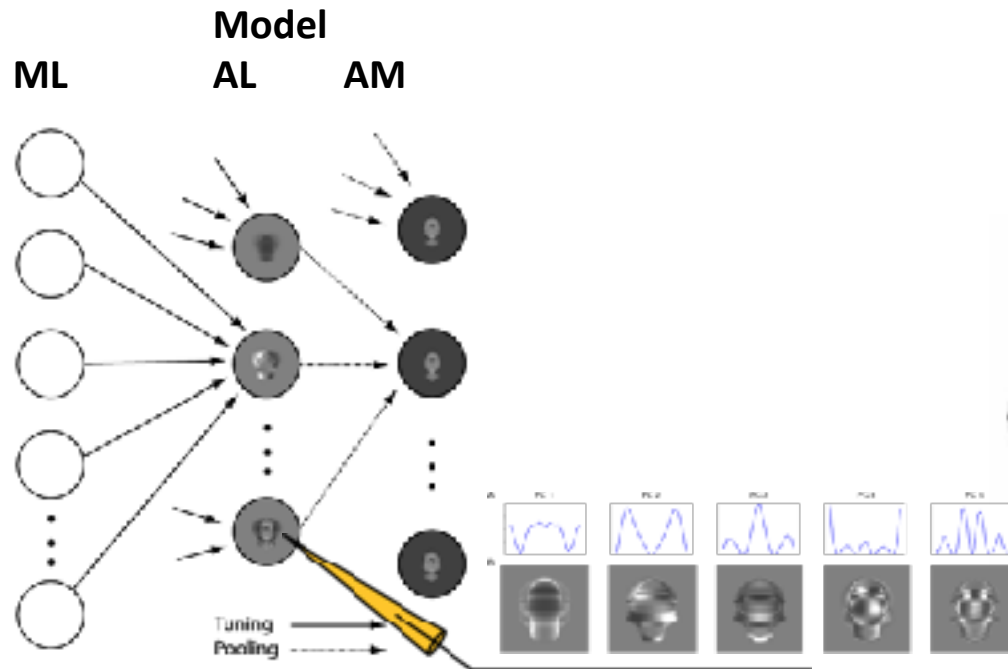
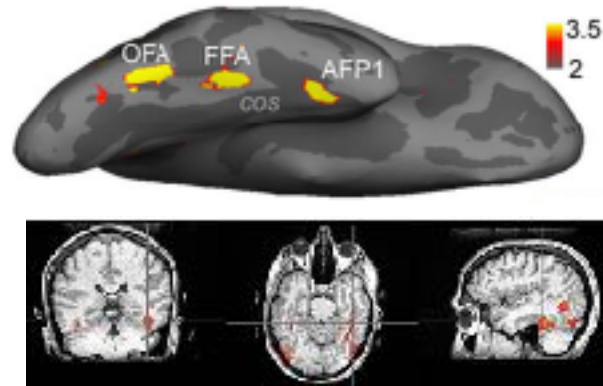
# A project across thrusts: face recognition



Winrich Freiwald and Doris Tsao

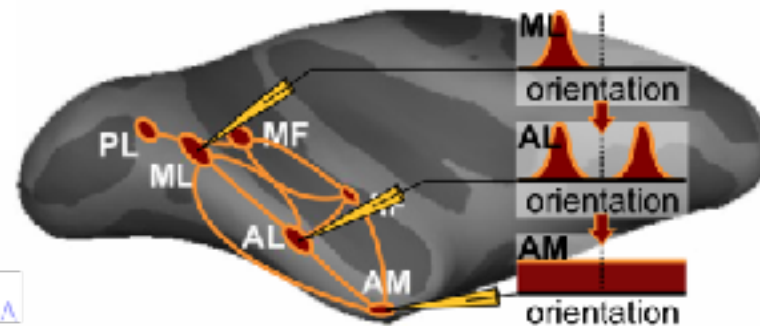
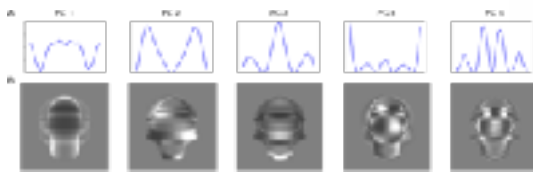
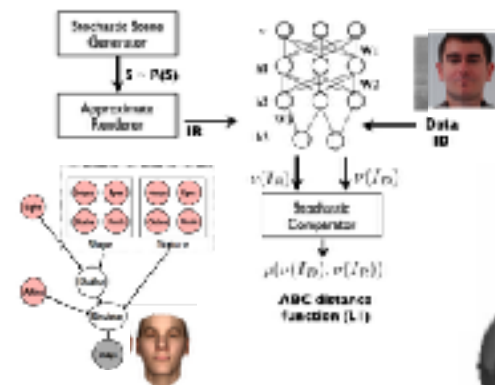
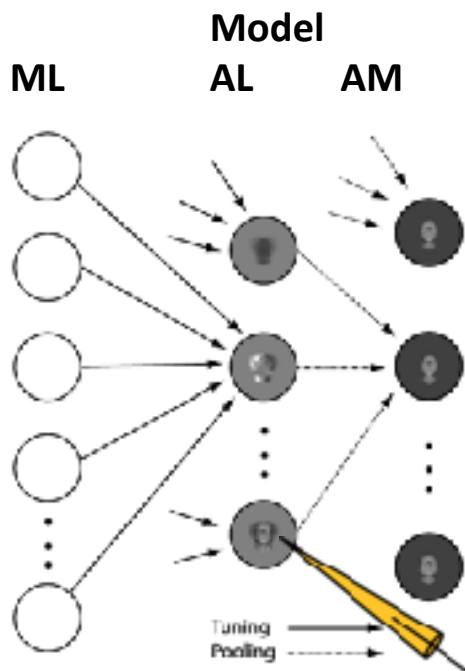
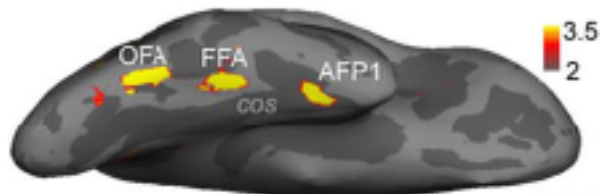


# A project across thrusts: face recognition





# A project across thrusts: face recognition

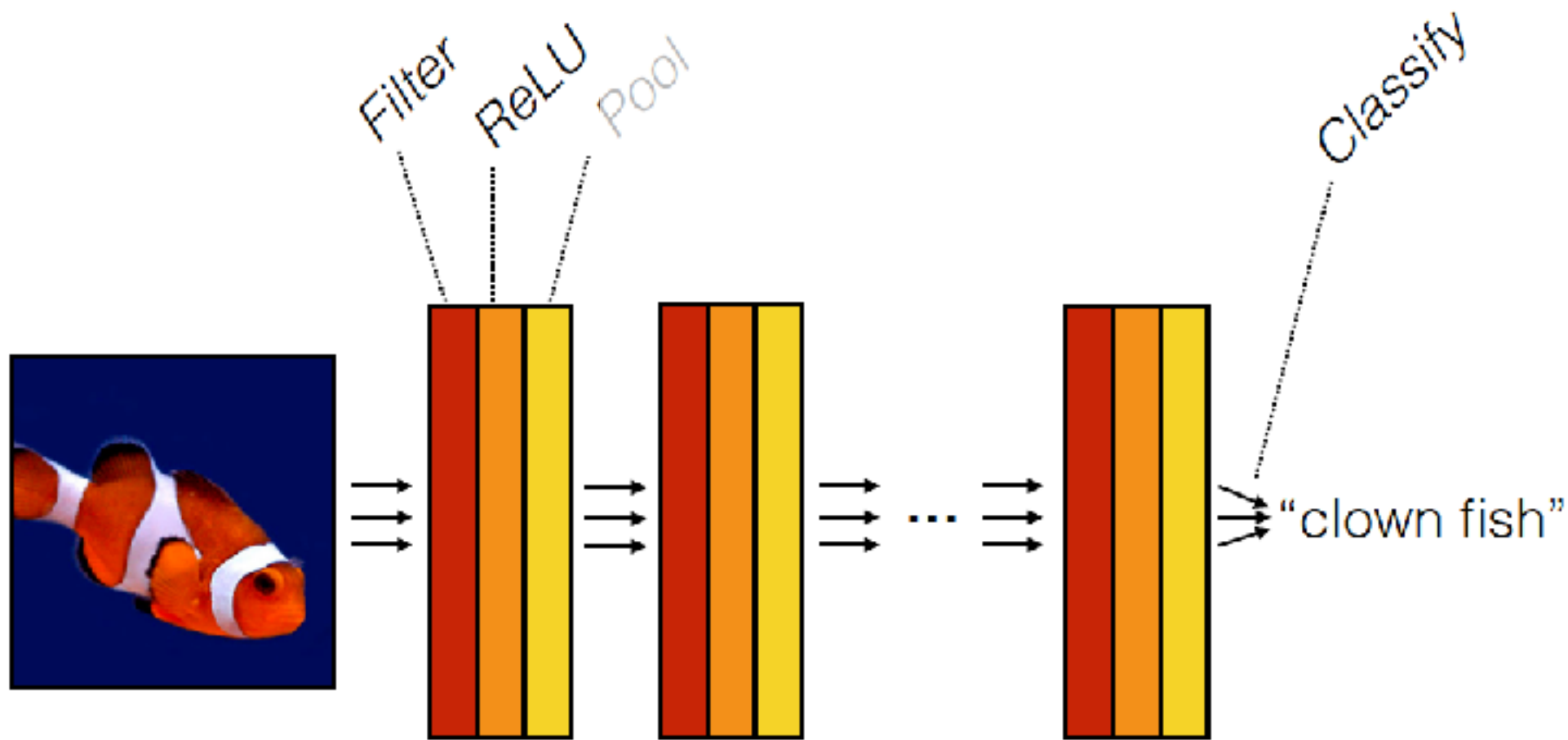


# Another scientific problem between engineering and neuroscience

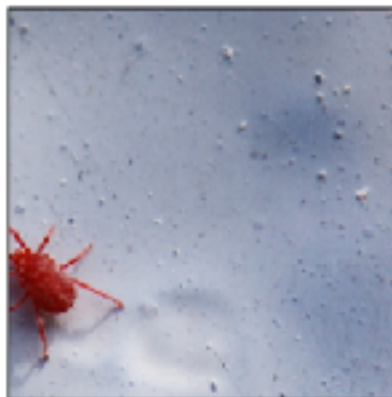
When and why are deep networks better than shallow networks?

Why similar hierarchy in cortex, similar to deep networks?

# Computation in a neural net



$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f_L(\dots f_2(f_1(\mathbf{x})))$$



**mite**

**container ship**

**motor scooter**

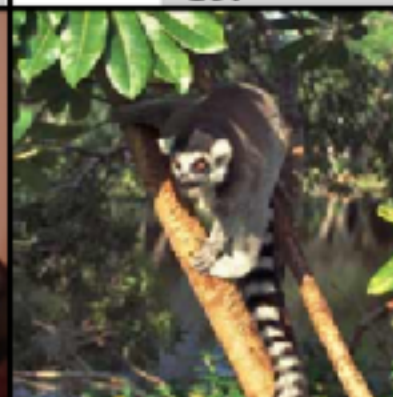
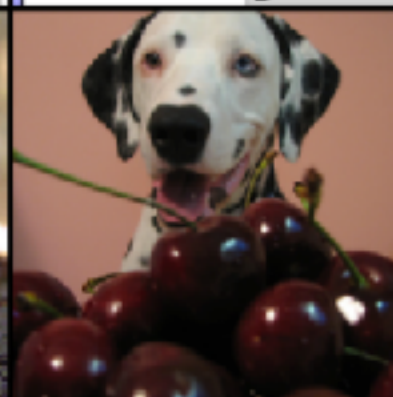
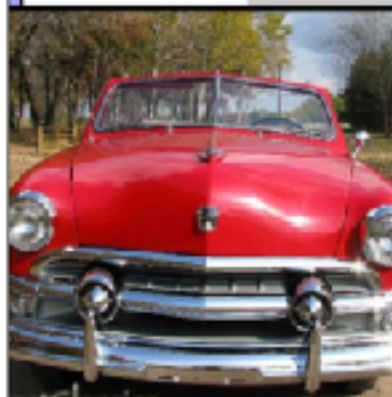
**leopard**

	mite
	black widow
	cockroach
	tick
	starfish

	container ship
	lifeboat
	amphibian
	fireboat
	drilling platform

	motor scooter
	go-kart
	moped
	bumper car
	golfcart

	leopard
	jaguar
	cheetah
	snow leopard
	Egyptian cat



**grille**

**mushroom**

**cherry**

**Madagascar cat**

	convertible
	grille
	pickup
	beach wagon
	fire engine

	agaric
	mushroom
	jelly fungus
	gill fungus
	dead-man's-fingers

	dalmatian
	grape
	elderberry
	ffordshire bullterrier
	currant

	squirrel monkey
	spider monkey
	titi
	indri
	howler monkey

## DLNNs: two main scientific questions

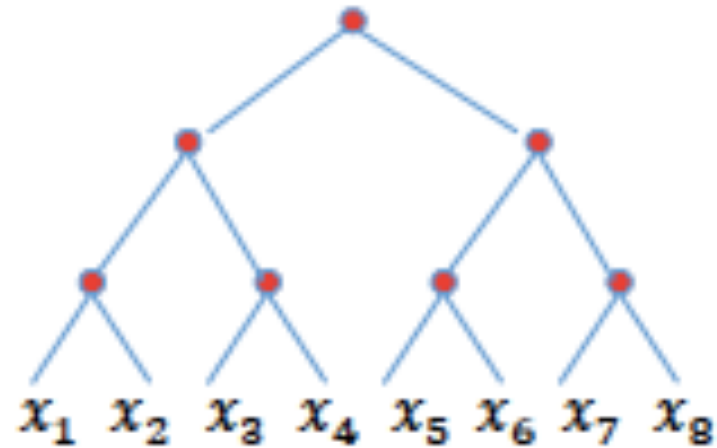
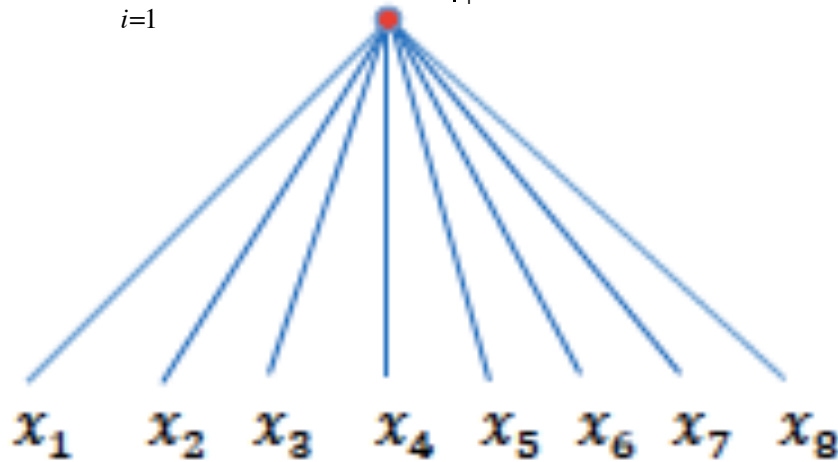
When and why are deep networks better than shallow networks?

Why does SGD work so well for deep networks? Supervised learning on that scale is not biologically plausible because of labels: could unsupervised learning work as well?

# Deep and shallow networks: universality

**Theorem Shallow, one-hidden layer networks with a nonlinear  $\phi(x)$  which is not a polynomial are universal. Arbitrarily deep networks with a nonlinear  $\phi(x)$  (including polynomials) are universal.**

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i |\langle w_i, x \rangle + b_i|_+$$

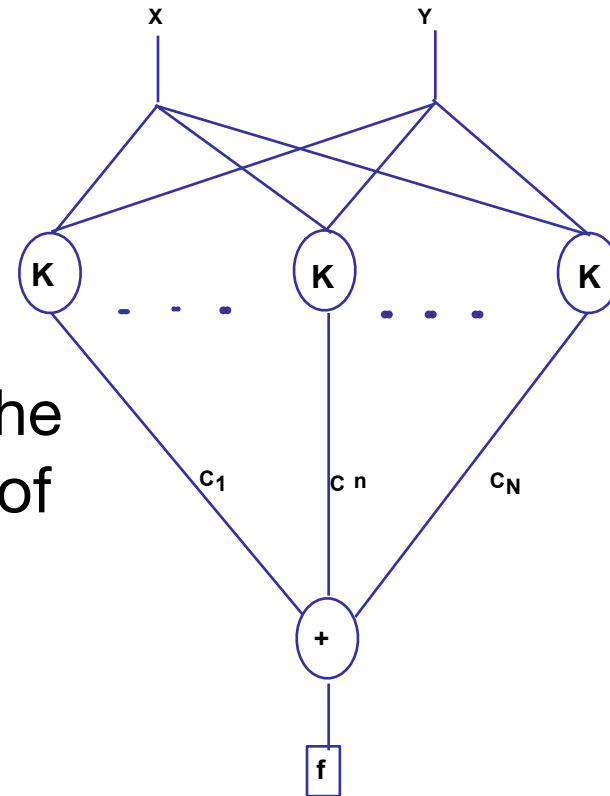


# Classical kernel machines are equivalent to shallow networks

Kernel machines...

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^l c_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) + b$$

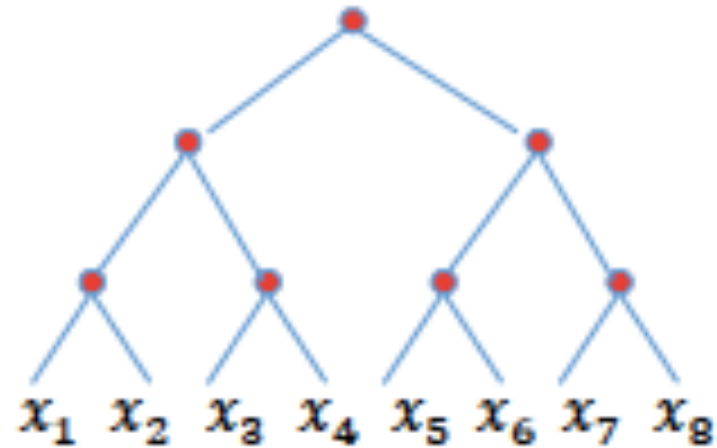
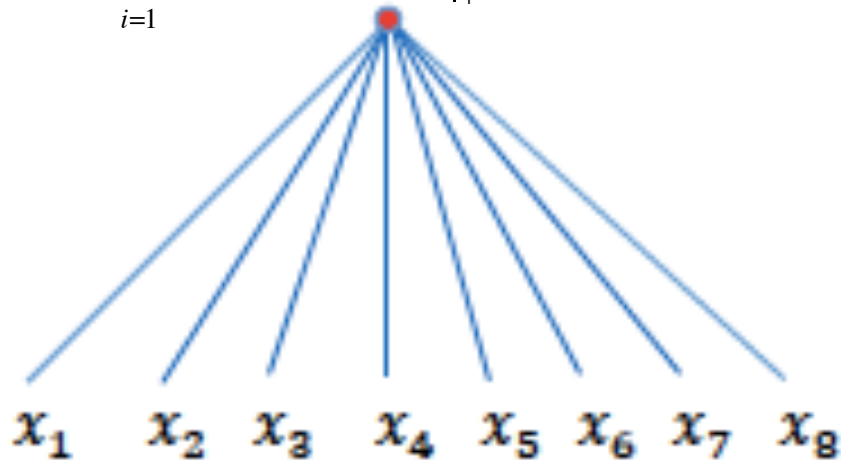
can be “written” as shallow networks: the value of  $K$  corresponds to the “activity” of the “unit” for the input and the correspond to “weights”



# Deep and shallow networks: universality

**Theorem Shallow, one-hidden layer networks with a nonlinear  $\phi(x)$  which is not a polynomial are universal. Arbitrarily deep networks with a nonlinear  $\phi(x)$  (including polynomials) are universal.**

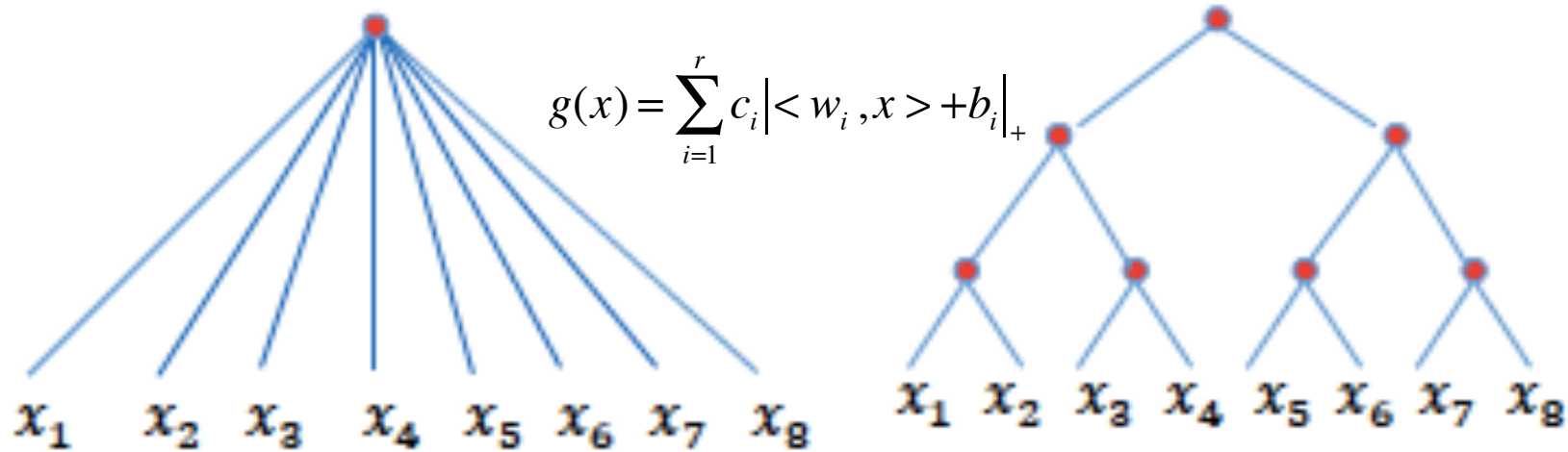
$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i |\langle w_i, x \rangle + b_i|_+$$





# Deep and shallow networks

- Thus depth is not needed to for approximation

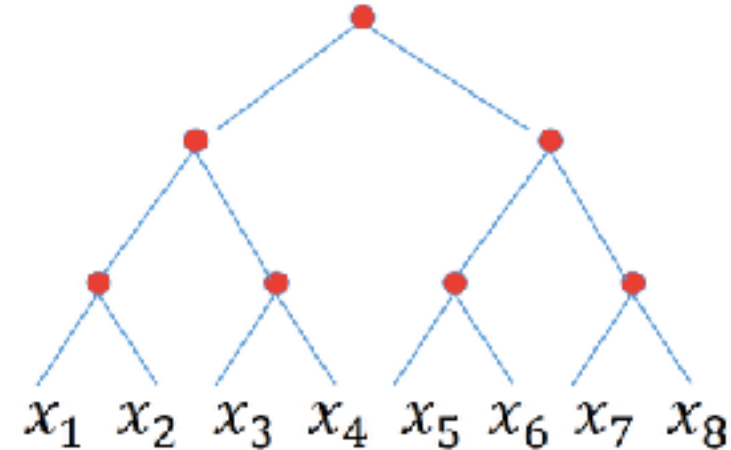
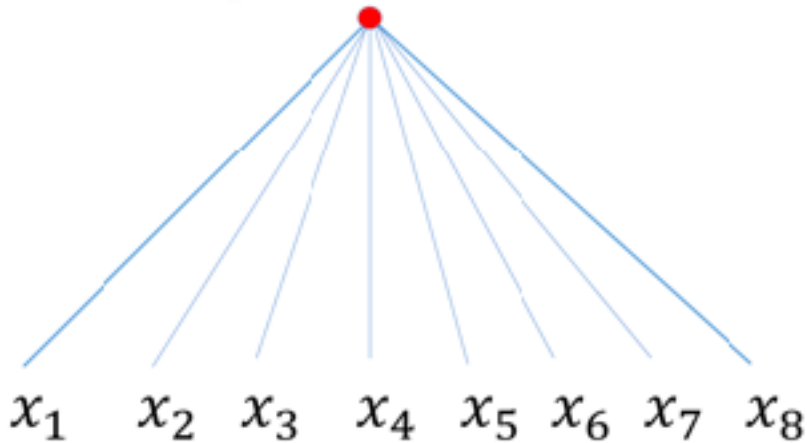


## Theorem:

why and when are deep networks better than shallow network?

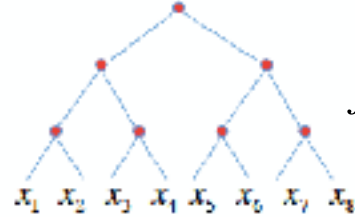
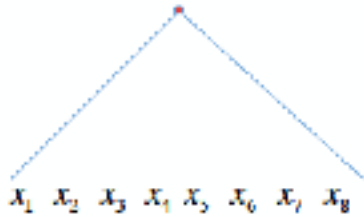
$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_8) = g_3(g_{21}(g_{11}(x_1, x_2), g_{12}(x_3, x_4))g_{22}(g_{11}(x_5, x_6), g_{12}(x_7, x_8)))$$

$$g(x) = \sum_i^r c_i | \langle w_i, x \rangle + b_i |$$

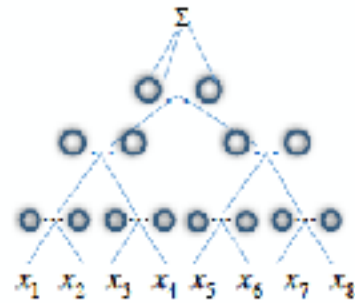
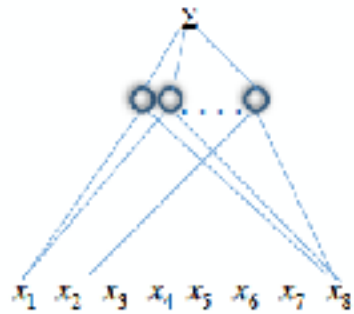


# Theorem:

why and when are deep networks better than shallow network?



$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_8) = g_3(g_{21}(g_{11}(x_1, x_2), g_{12}(x_3, x_4))g_{22}(g_{11}(x_5, x_6), g_{12}(x_7, x_8)))$$



## Theorem 2016 (informal statement)

Suppose that a function of  $d$  variables is compositional . Both shallow and deep network can approximate  $f$  equally well. The number of parameters of the shallow network depends exponentially on  $d$  as  $O(\epsilon^{-d})$  with the dimension whereas for the deep network depends linearly on  $d$  that is  $O(d\epsilon^{-2})$

# The curse of dimensionality, the blessing of compositionality

For compositional functions deep networks — but not shallow ones — can avoid the *curse of dimensionality*, that is the exponential dependence on the dimension of the network complexity and of its sample complexity.

# Summary

- Importance of Science of Intelligence in addition to Engineering of Intelligence for the sake of basic curiosity and for the engineering of tomorrow
- CBMM
- An example: understanding face recognition at the level of algorithms and of neural circuits in human brain
- Another example: theorems about when are deep hierarchical networks — of the Deep Learning and visual cortex type — better than shallow networks

# Business Message

- Importance of the science of Intelligence (CBMM > CSAIL) for the engineering of *tomorrow*
- Mathematics and neuroscience needed for further progress in deep learning: knowing when it works and when it fails
- We are in the second age of intelligent machines: not expensive programmers but cheap labelers of big data. In the next age computers will learn in the way children learn
- Prepare your company for a future where jobless people will have to share the increasing wealth of the society