

# NeuroAI: How to harness Artificial Intelligence Research for understanding the brain

GERGŐ ORBÁN

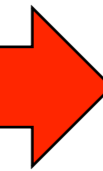
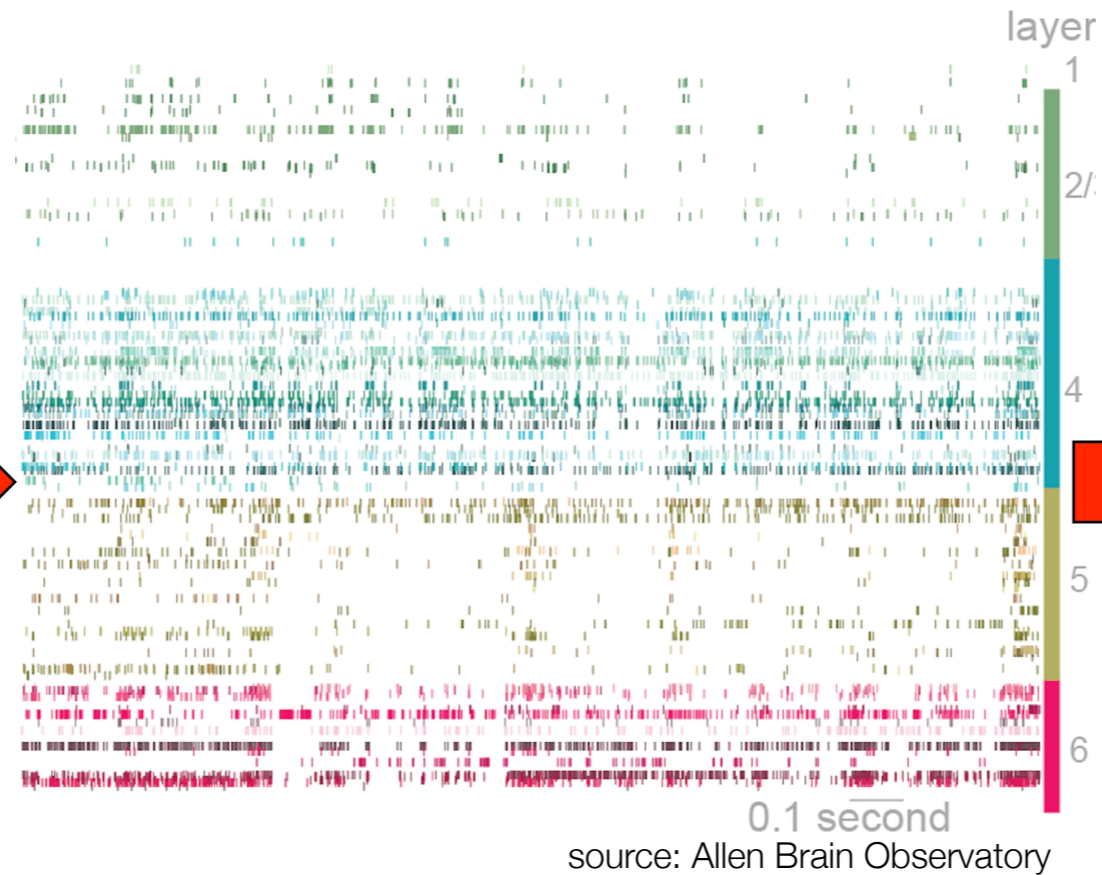
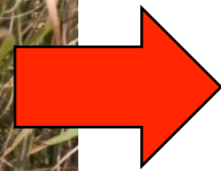
computational systems neuroscience lab

Dept Computational Sciences

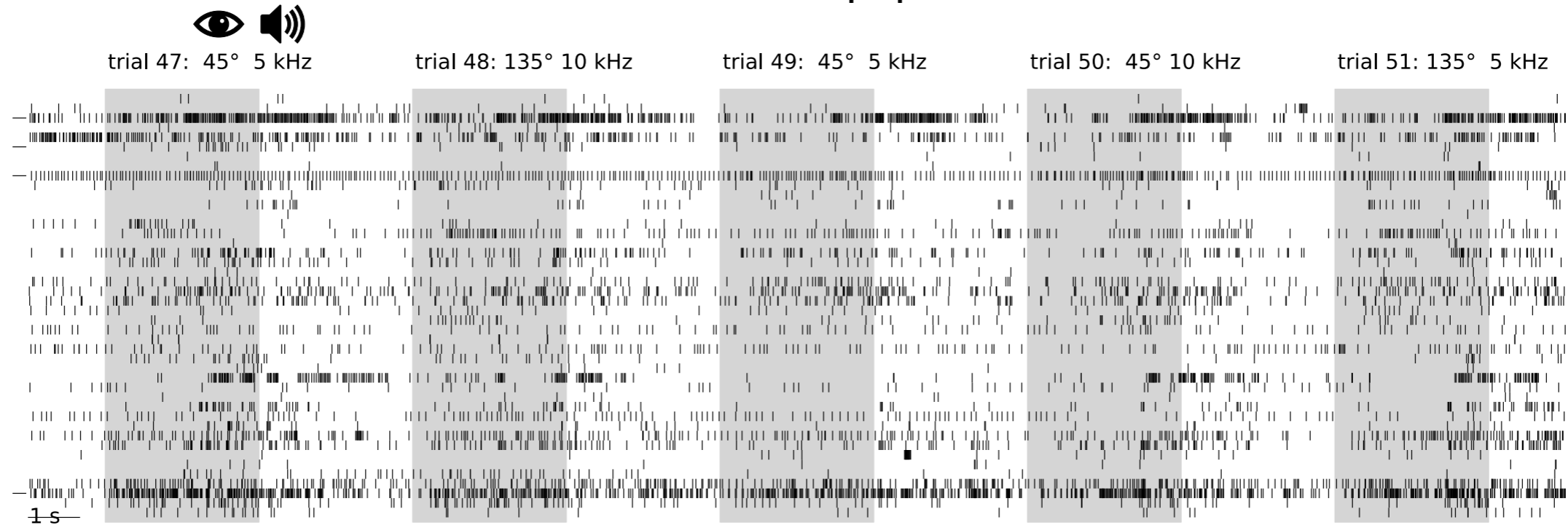
Wigner Research Center for Physics



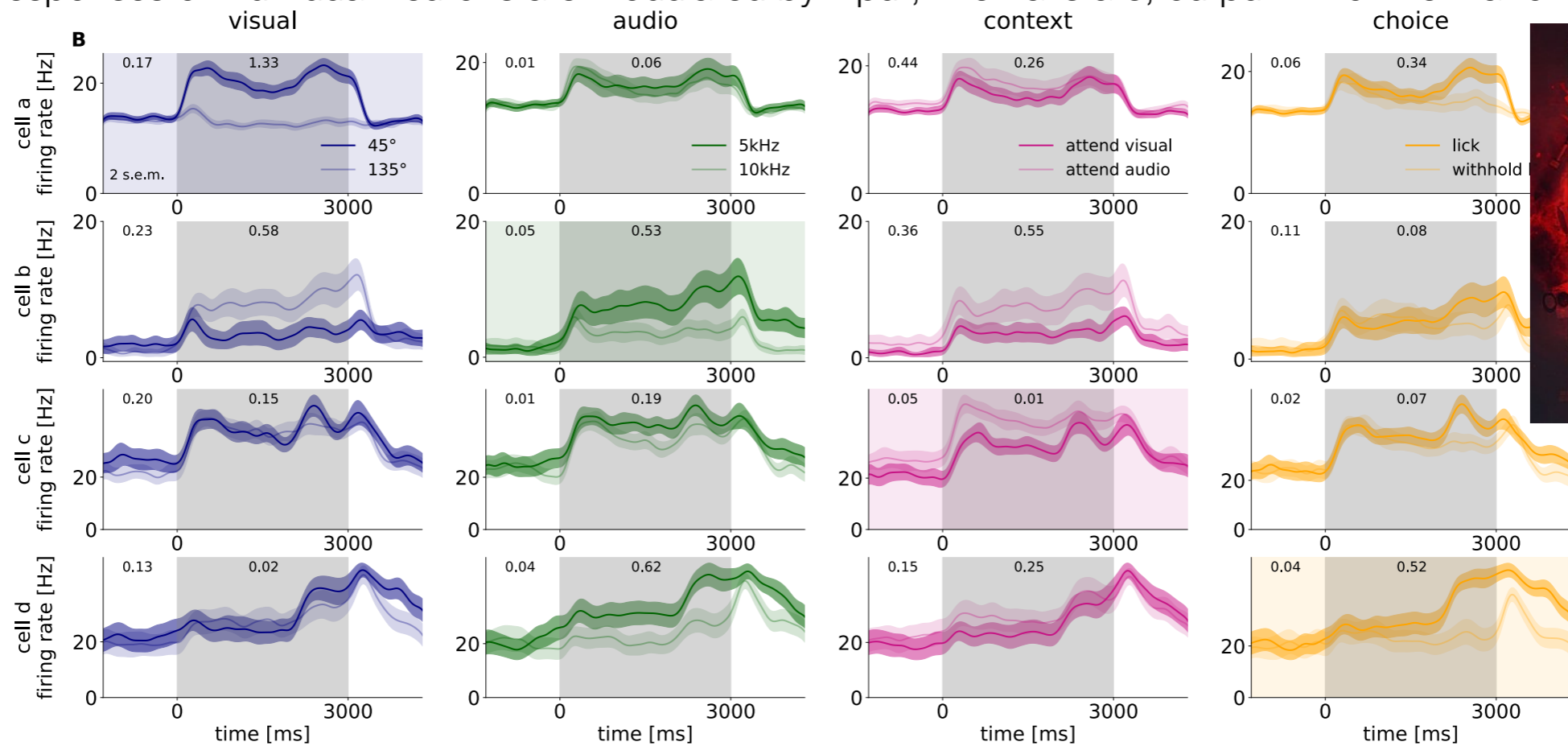
# Reading the neural code



# Data-driven approaches

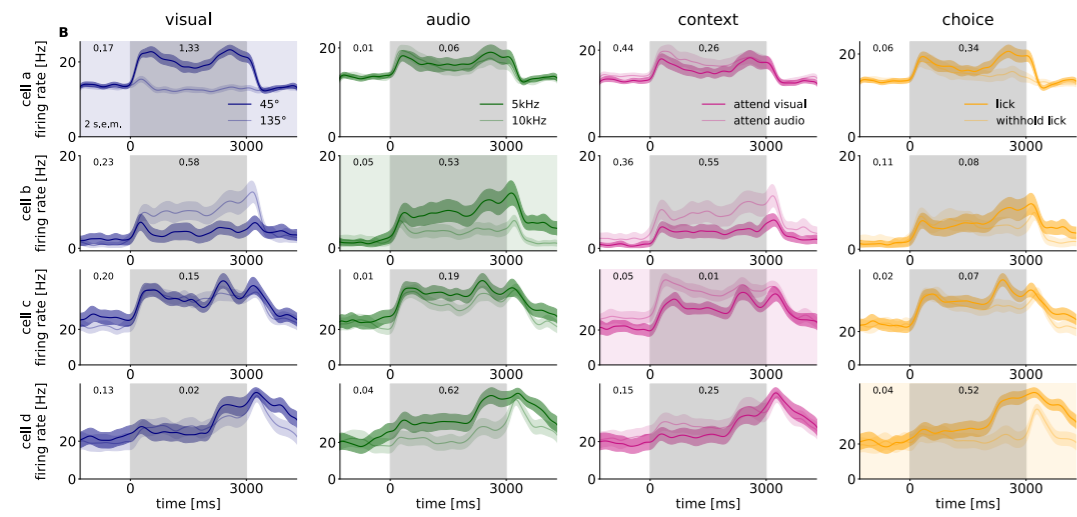


Responses of individual neurons are modulated by input, internal state, output. All of them at once.



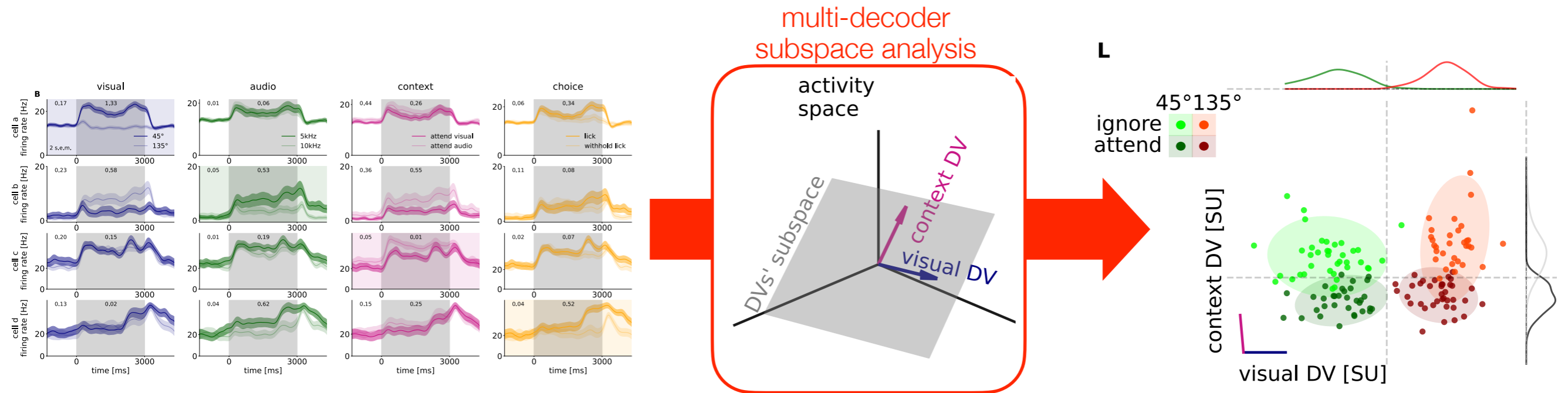
Hajnal et al (2023) Nature Communications

# Data-driven approaches

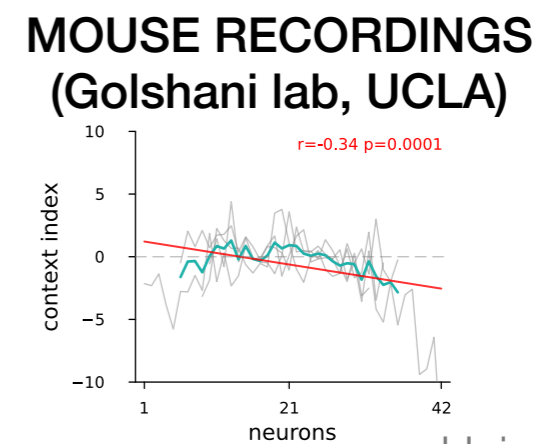
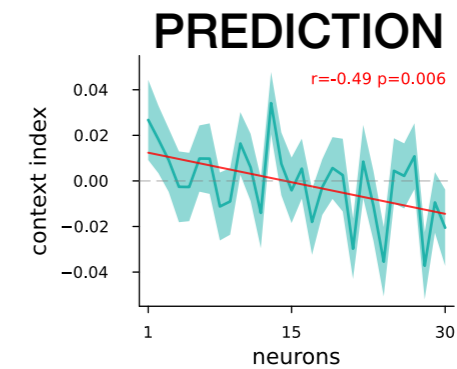
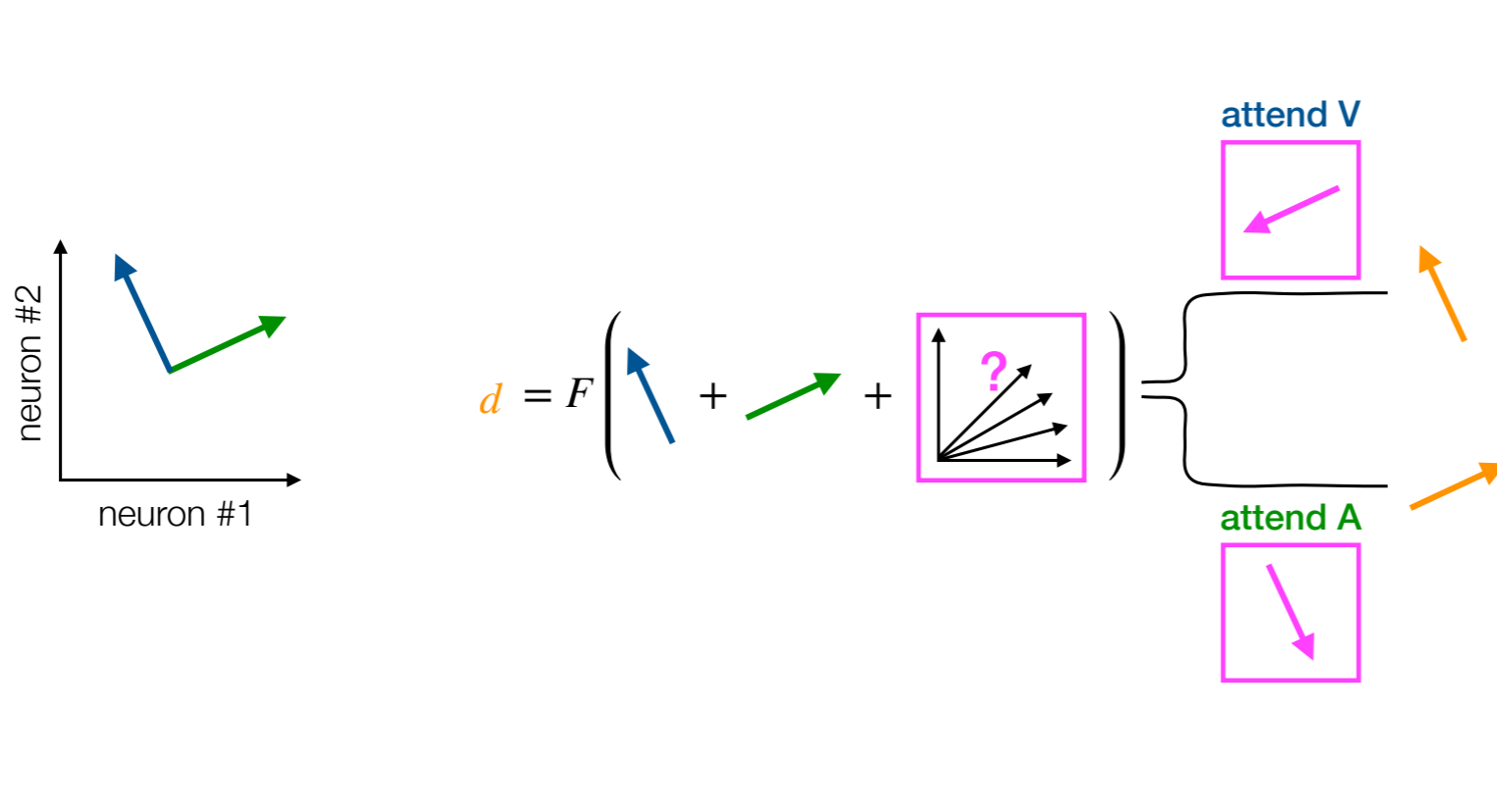
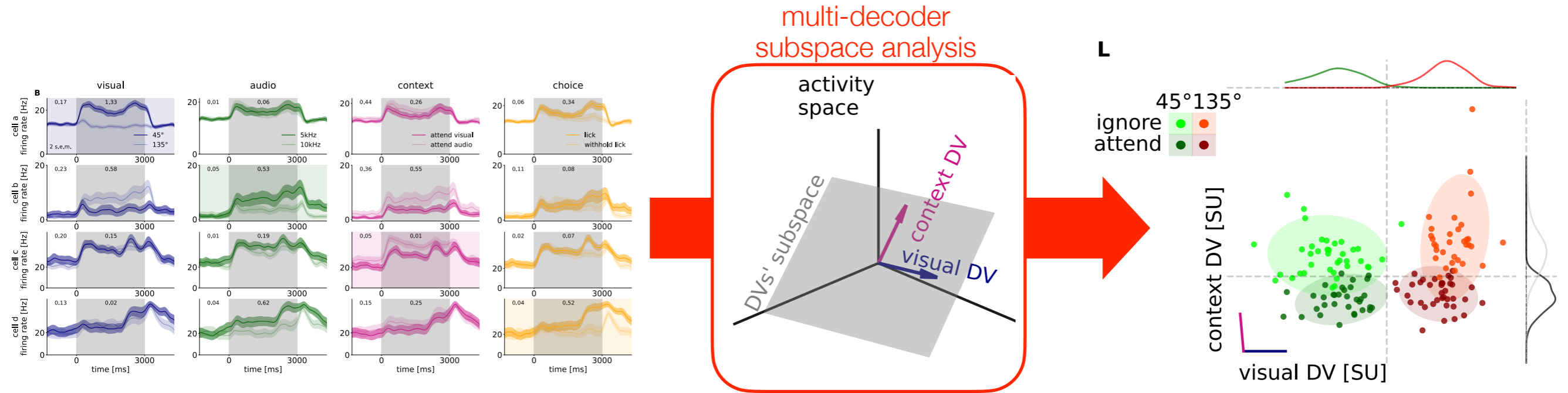




# Data-driven approaches



# Data-driven approaches

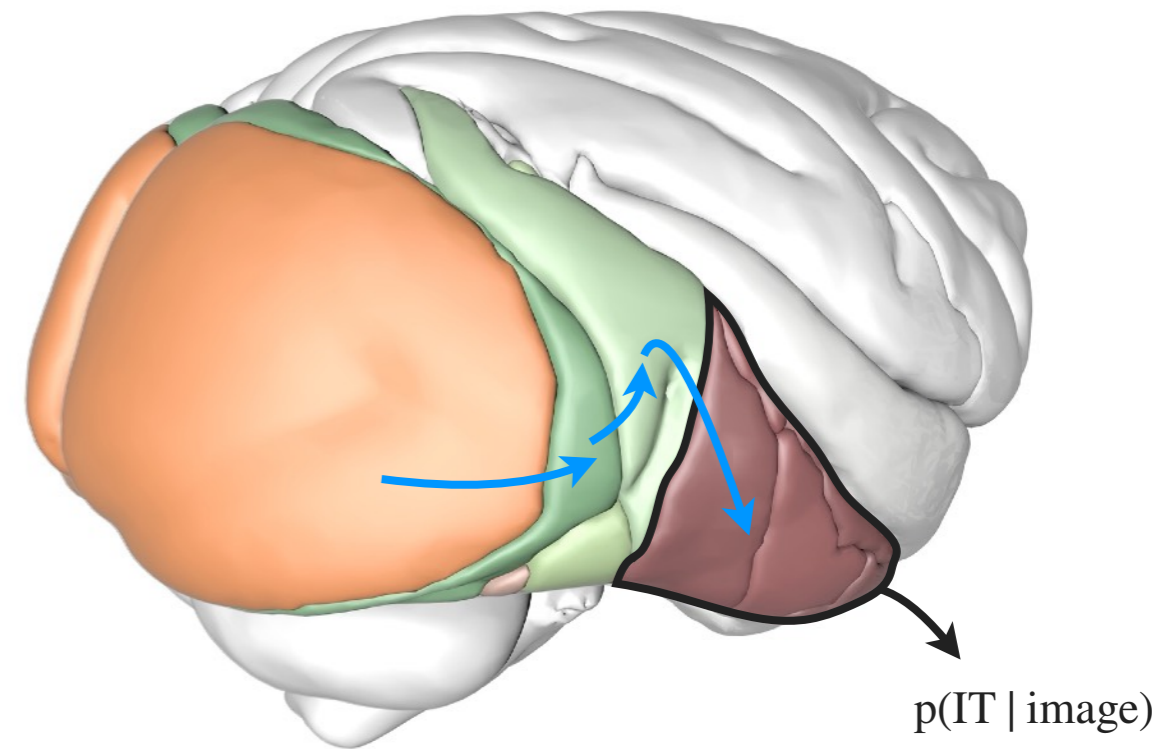
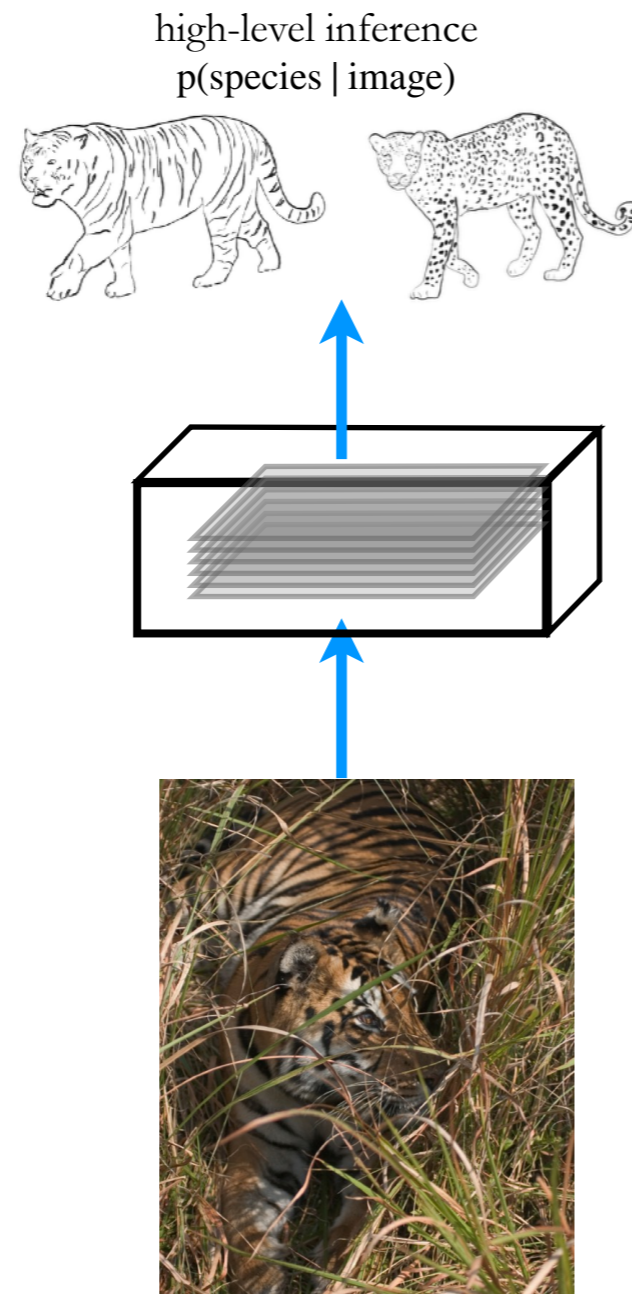


Hajnal et al, in prep

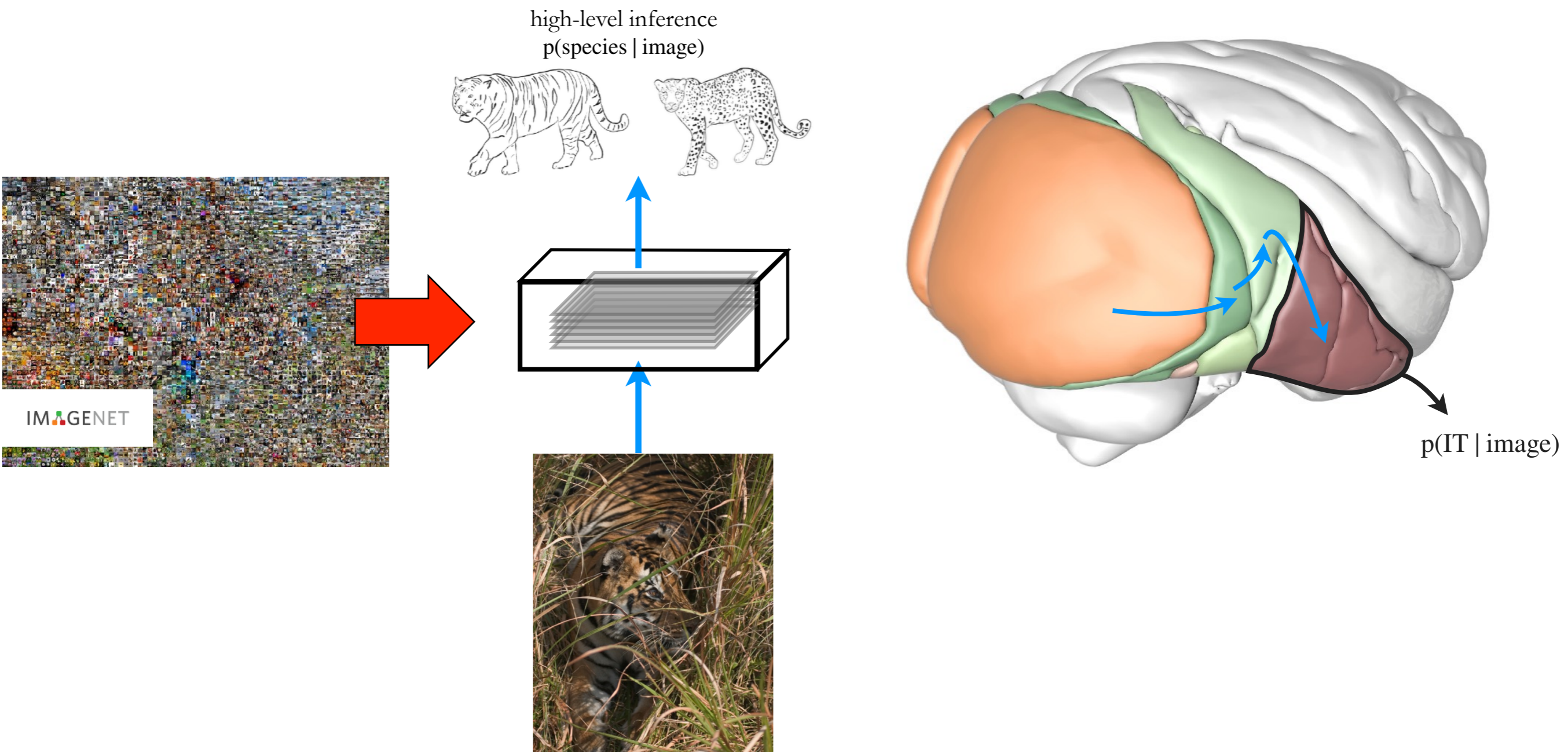
Hajnal et al (2023) Nature Communications

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# Adaptation-based approaches deep **discriminative** models

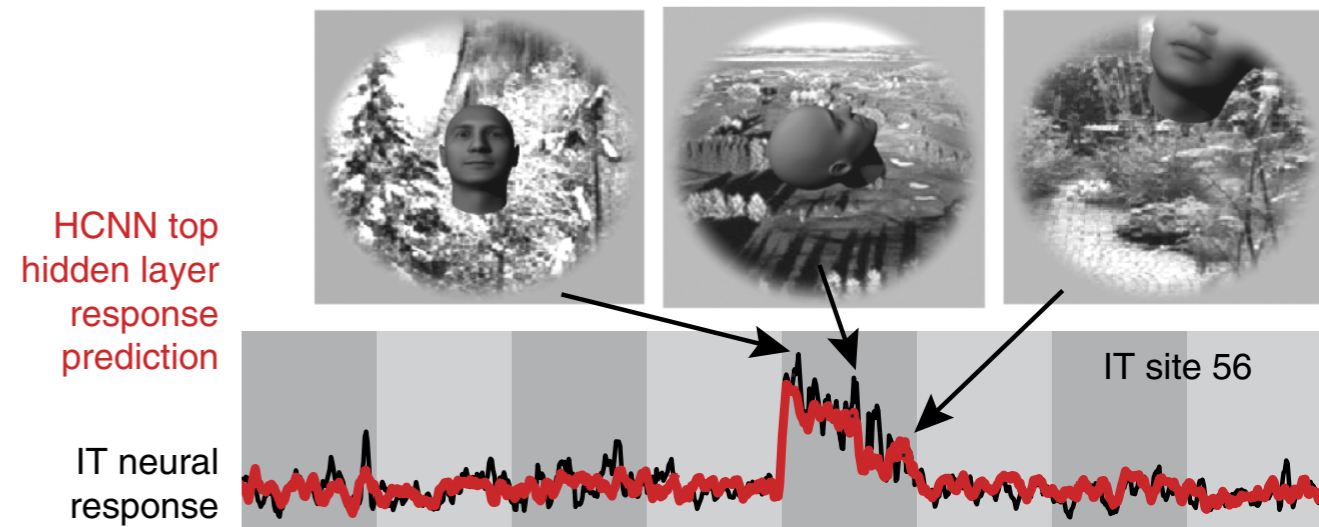
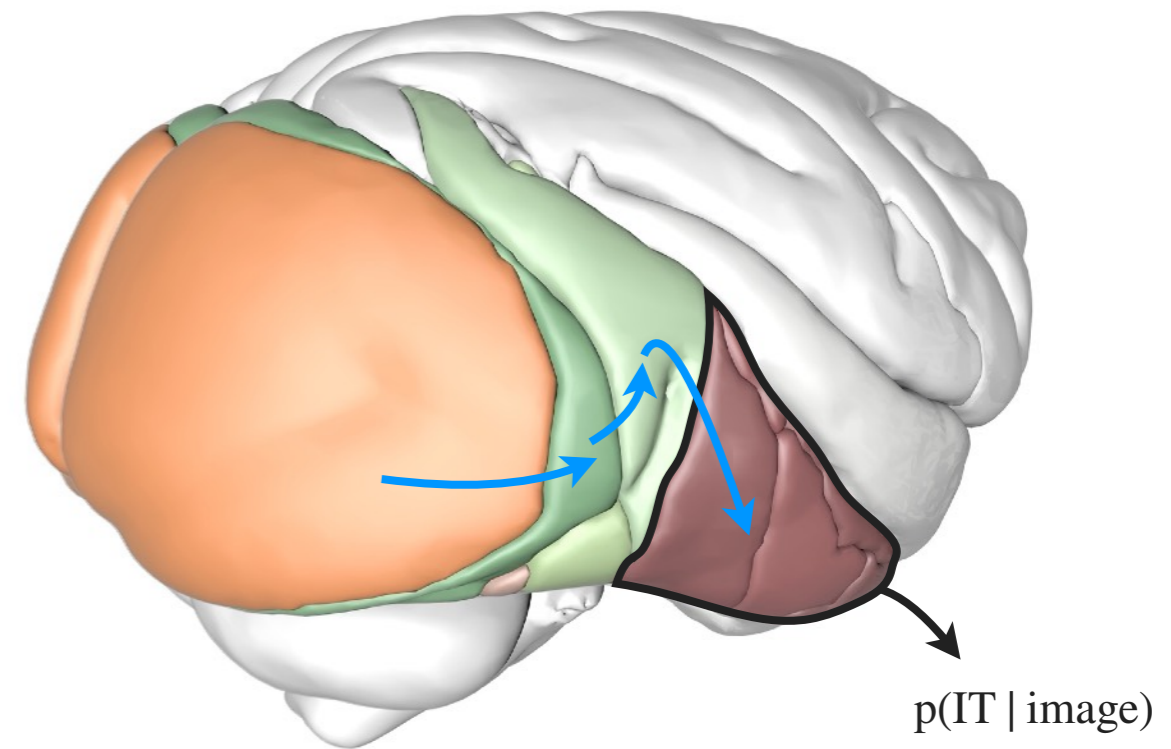
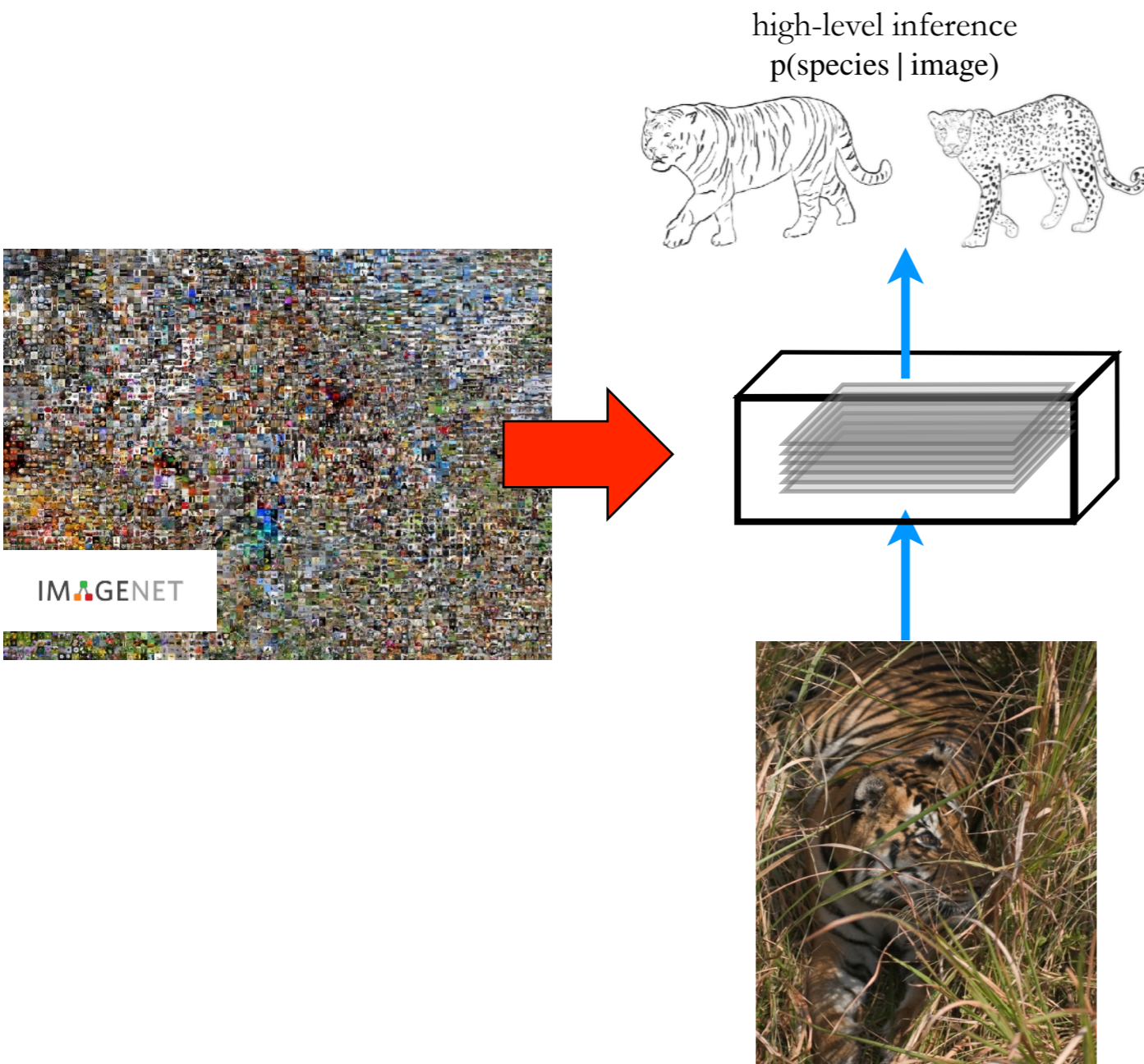


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# Adaptation-based approaches deep **discriminative** models

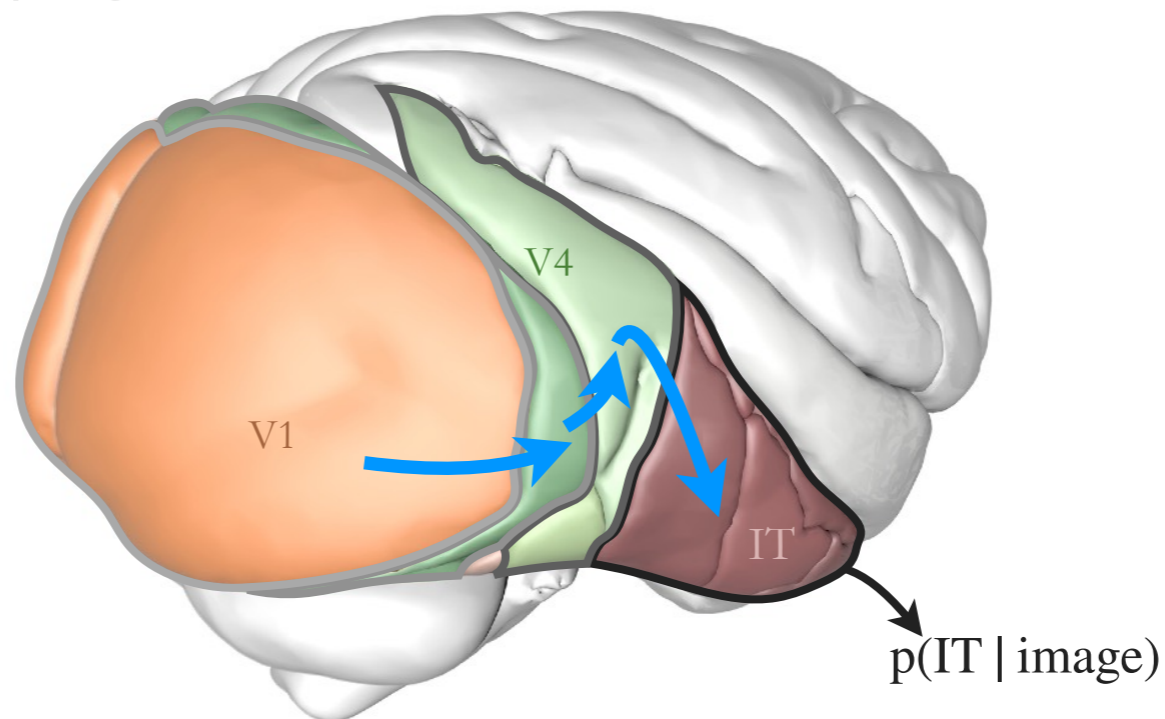


1600 unseen test image (sorted by category)

Yamins et al (2016) Nat Neurosci

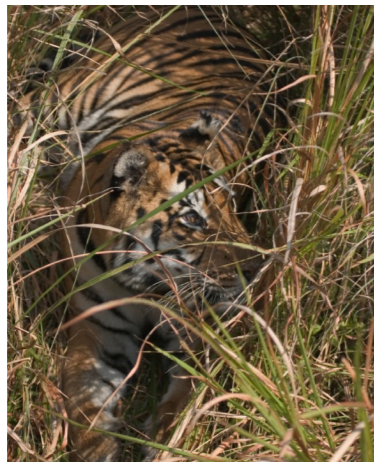
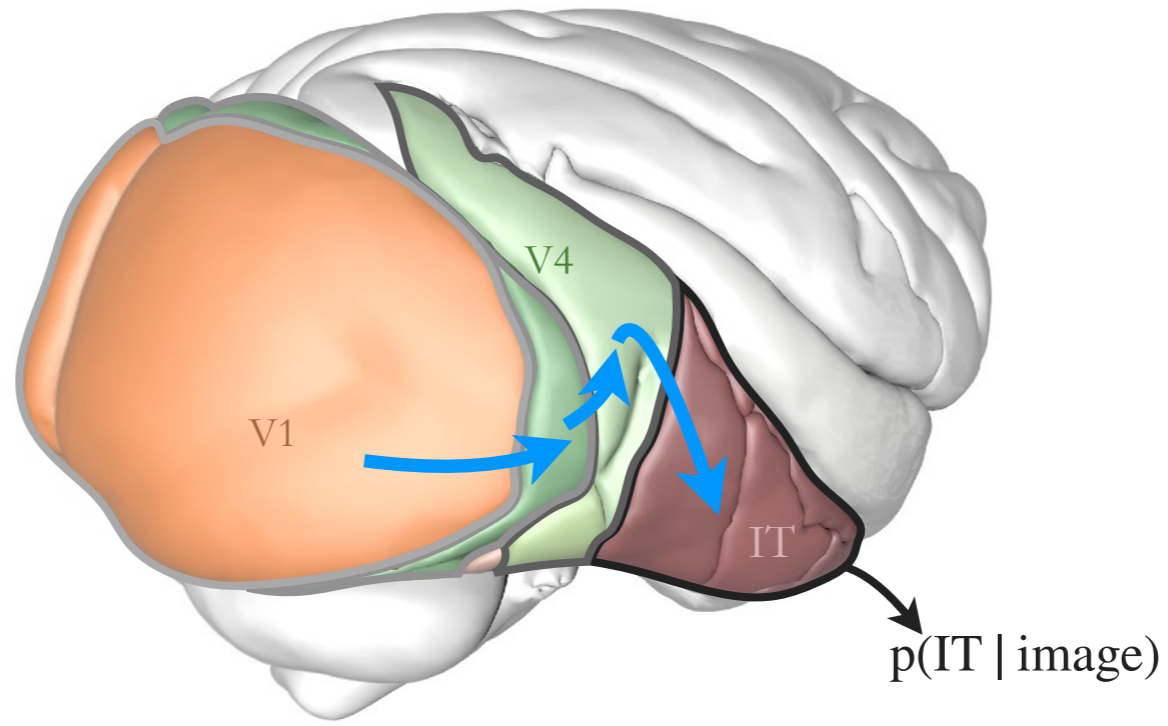
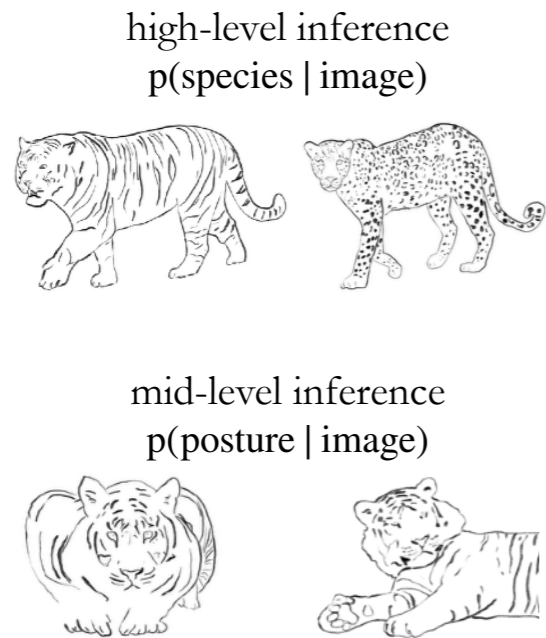
# Adaptation-based approaches deep **generative** models

high-level inference  
 $p(\text{species} \mid \text{image})$

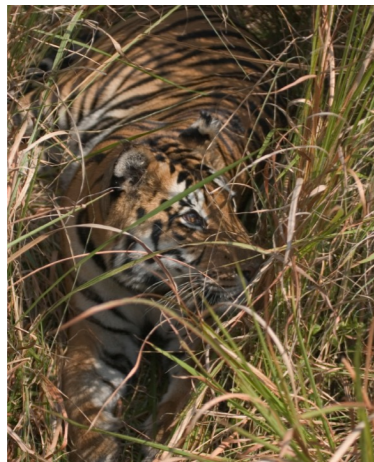
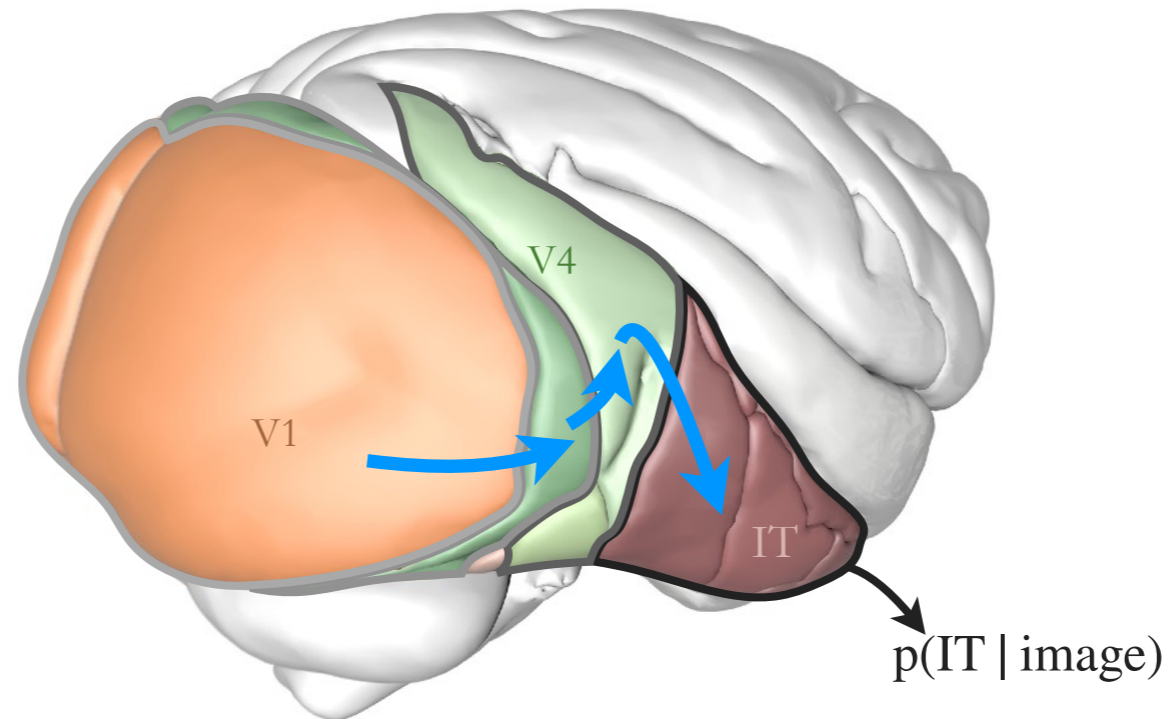
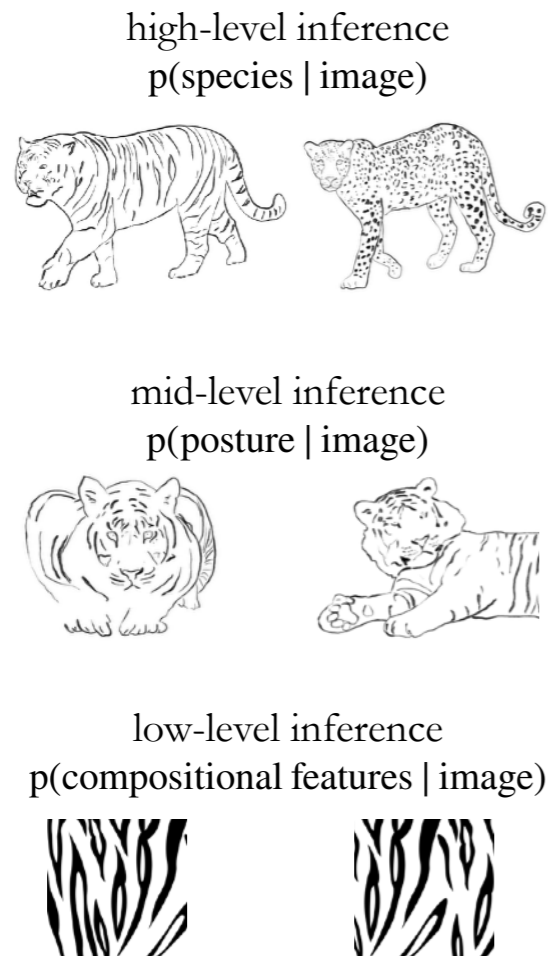




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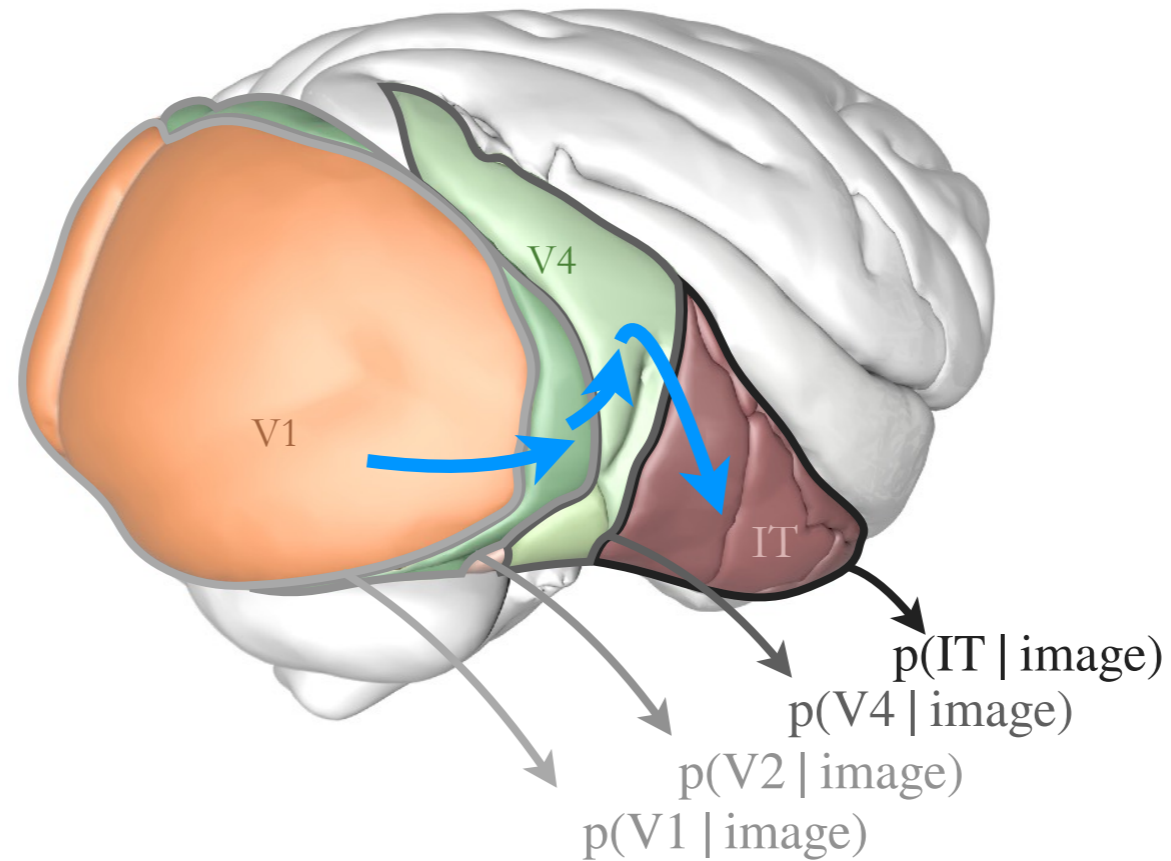
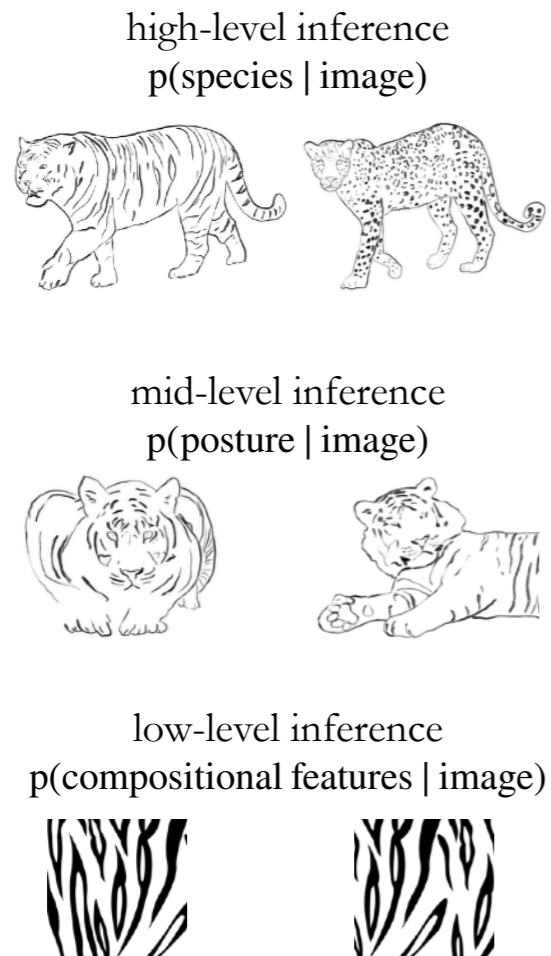


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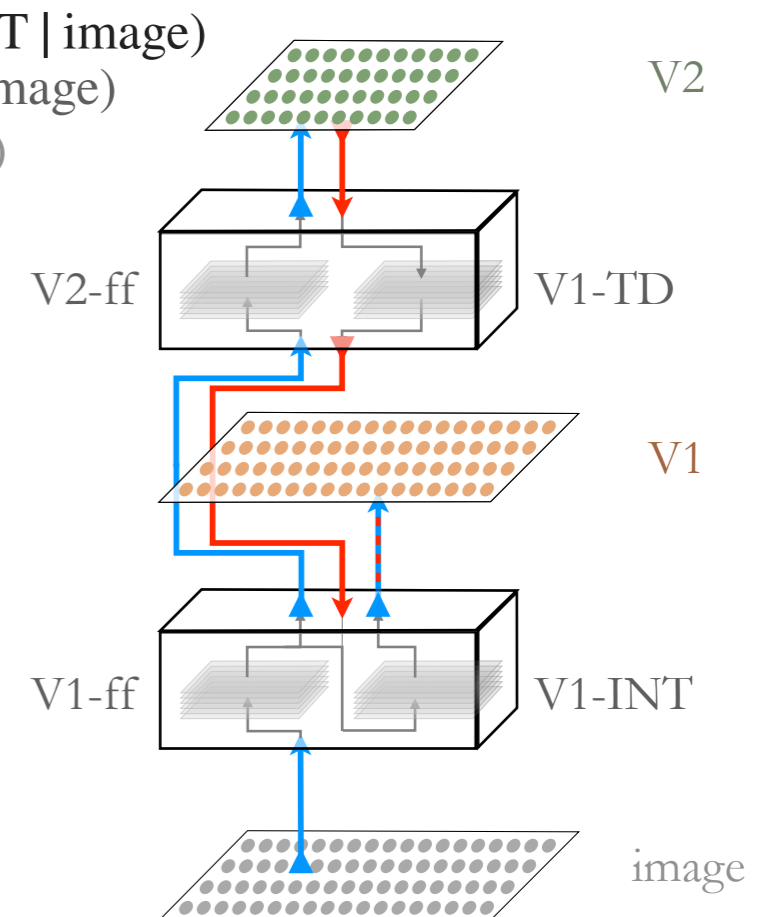
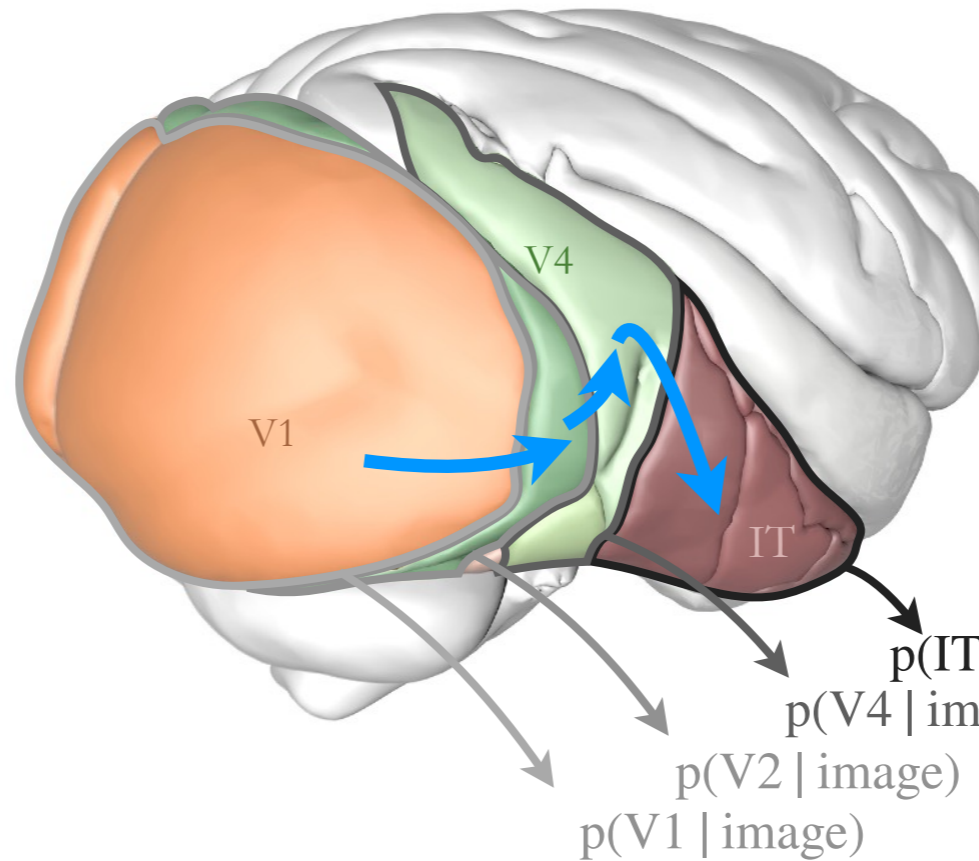
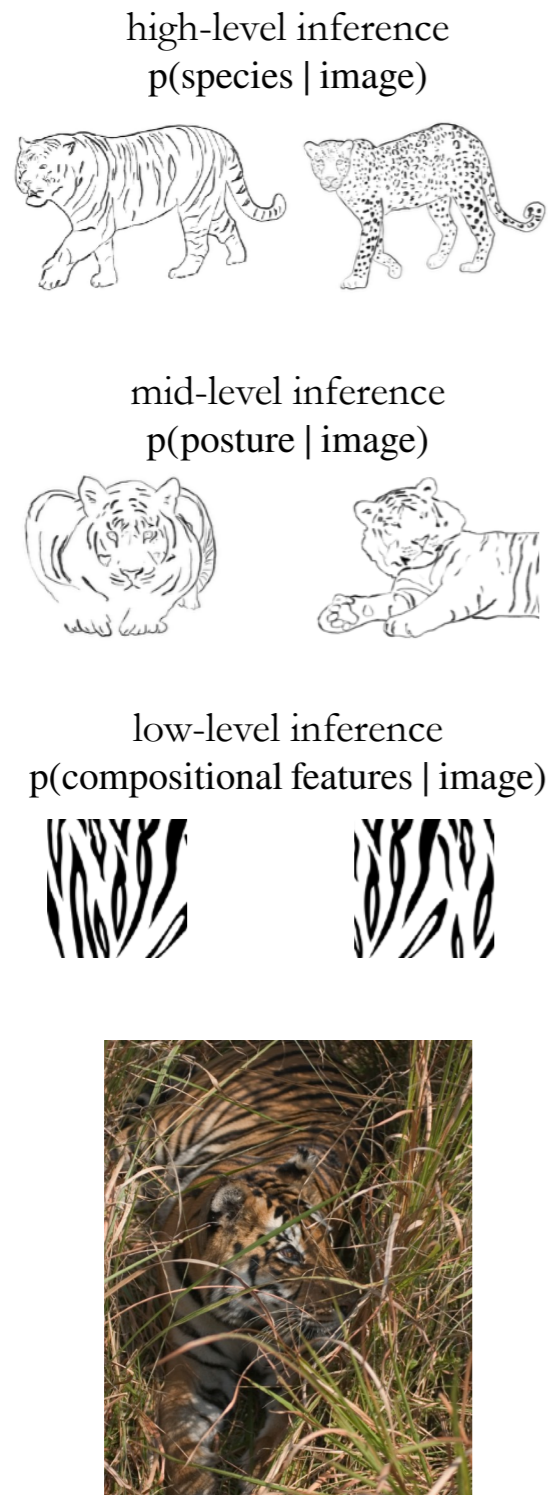




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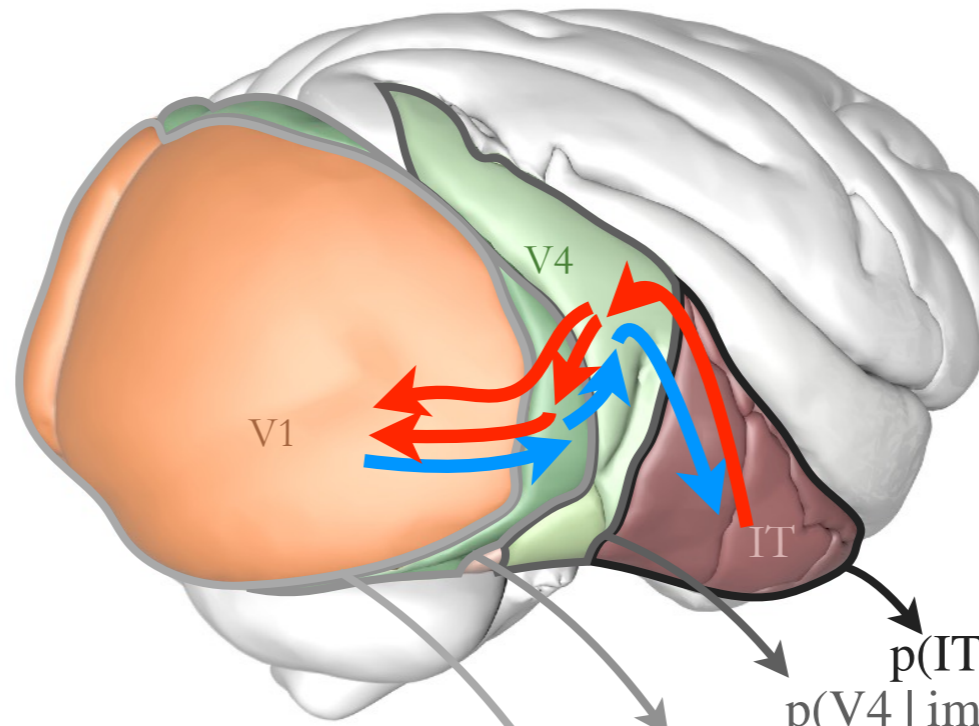
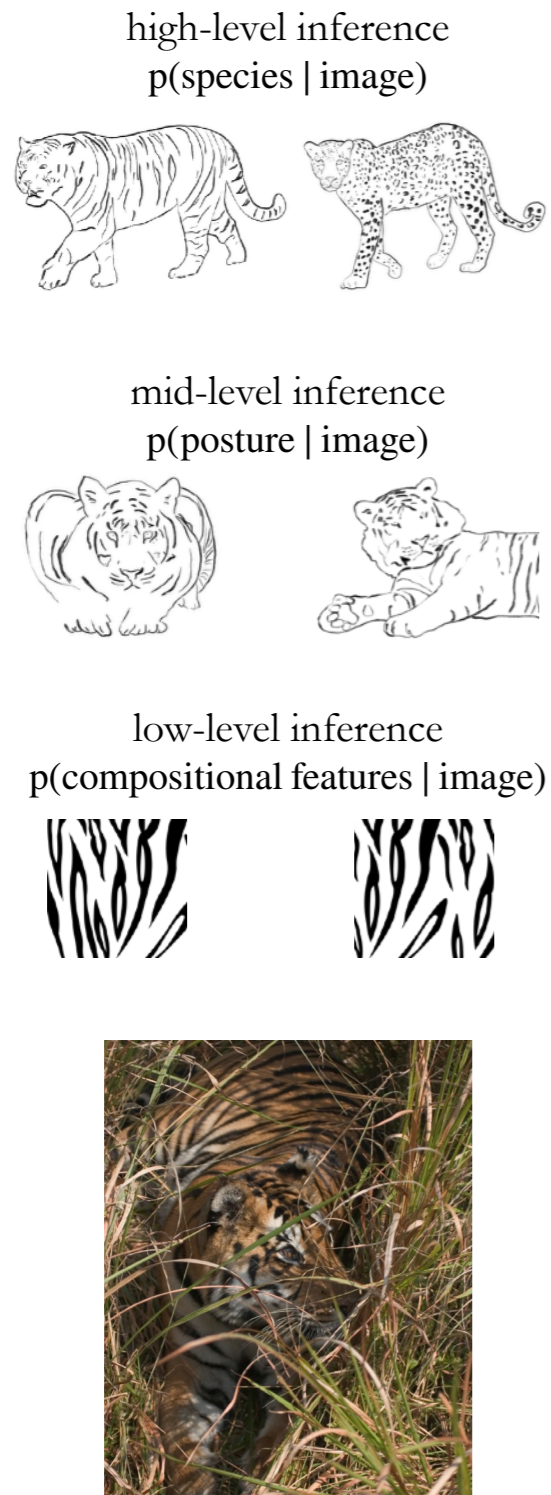


Meszéna et al (2022) NeurIPS

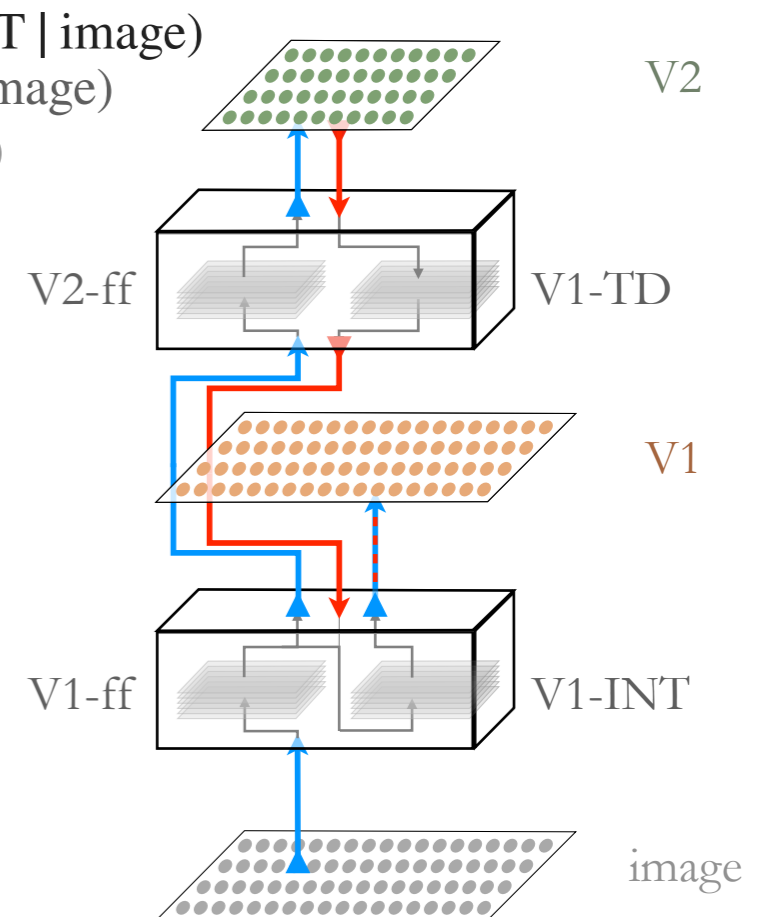
Csikor et al, in prep

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# Adaptation-based approaches deep **generative** models



$p(\text{IT} \mid \text{image})$   
 $p(\text{V4} \mid \text{image})$   
 $p(\text{V2} \mid \text{image})$   
 $p(\text{V1} \mid \text{image})$



Meszéna et al (2022) NeurIPS

Csikor et al, in prep

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# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

## Approximate inference

probability distributions need to be represented

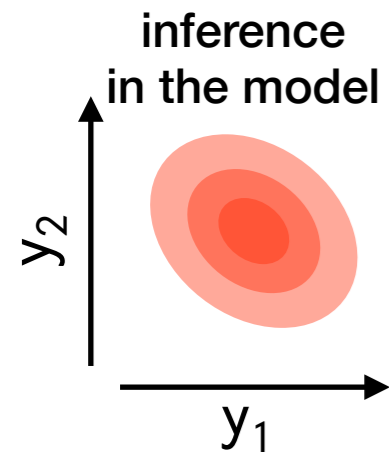




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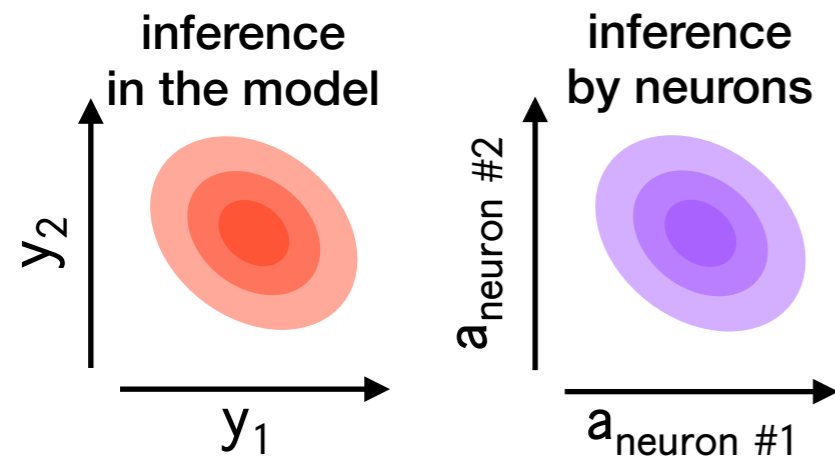
probability distributions need to be represented



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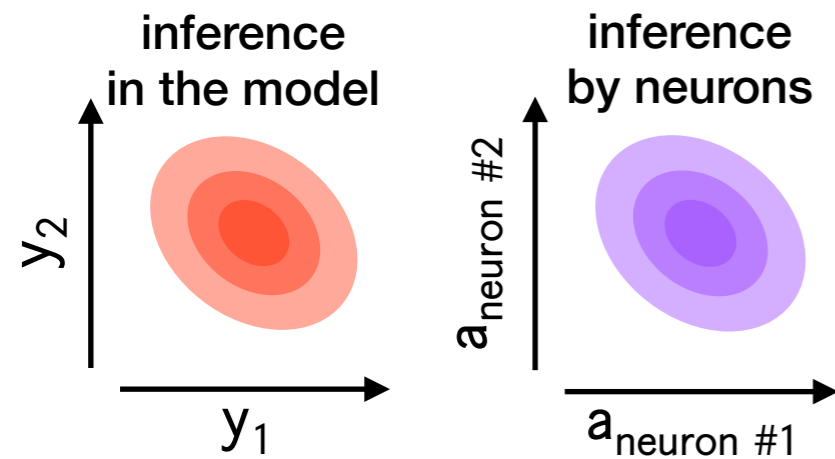
probability distributions need to be represented



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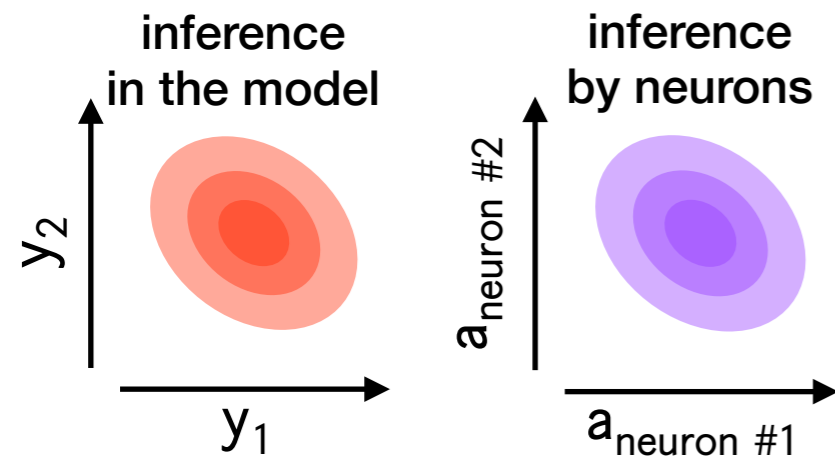


stochastic sampling  $\rightarrow$  variable membrane potential

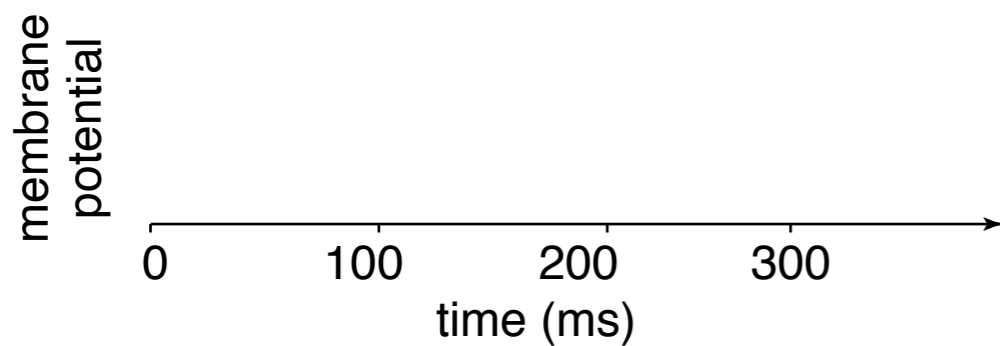
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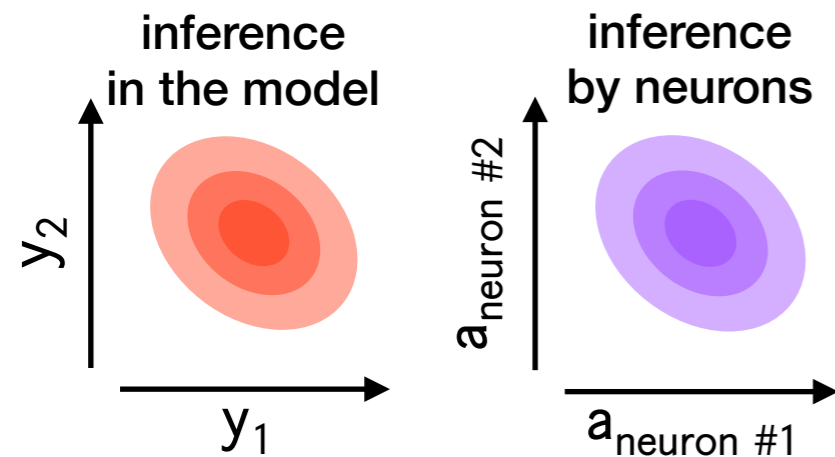




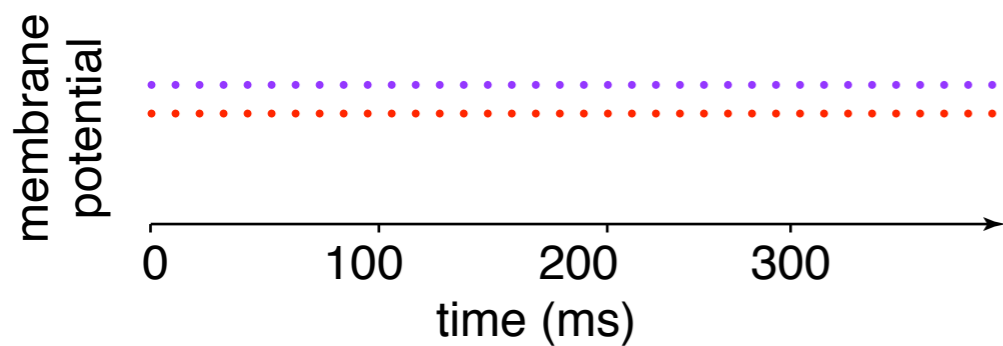
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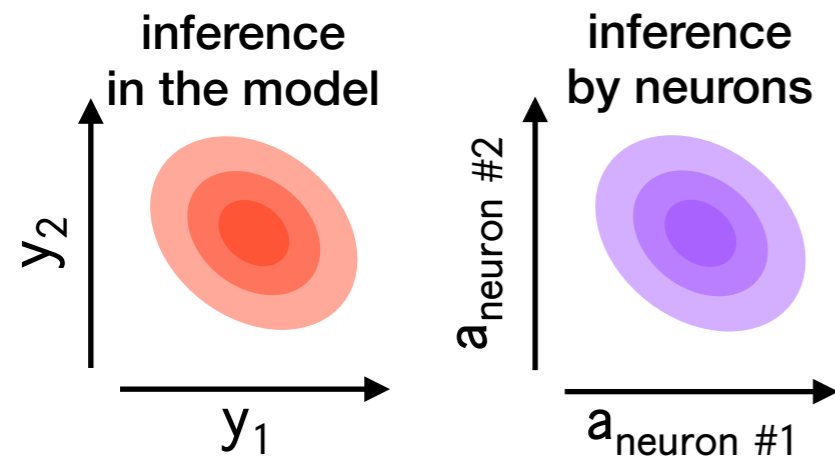
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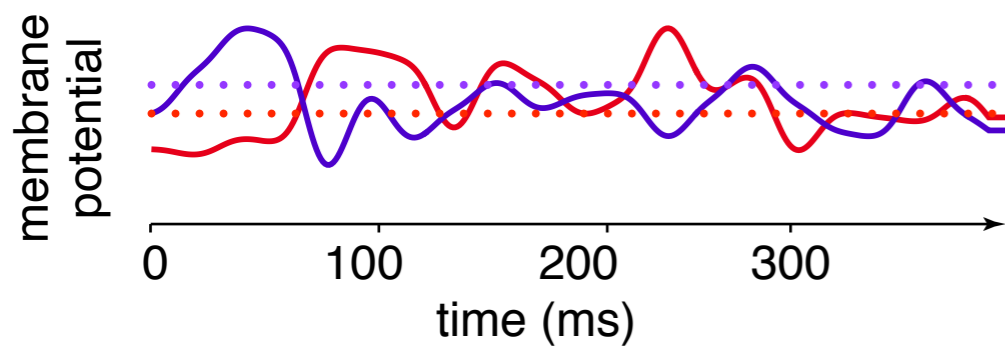
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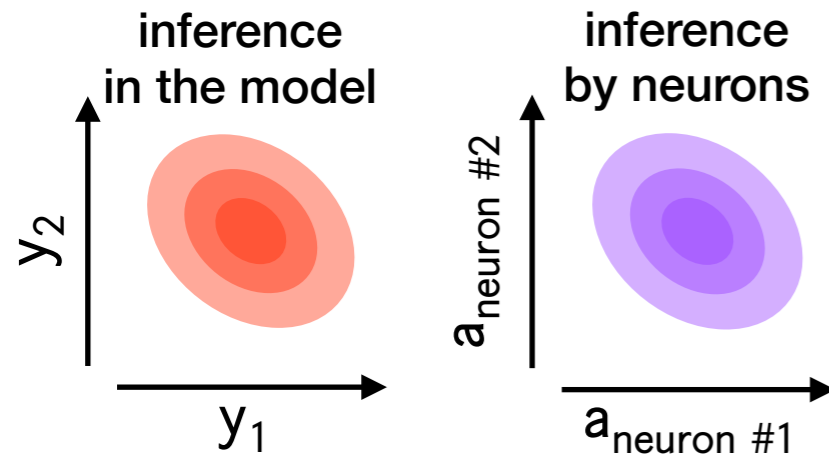
stochastic sampling  $\rightarrow$  variable membrane potential



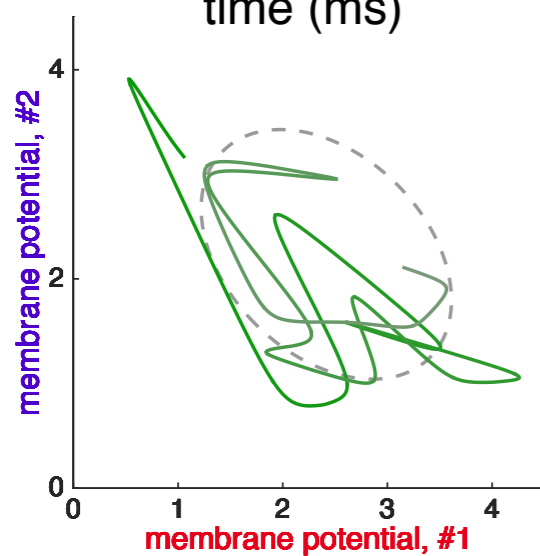
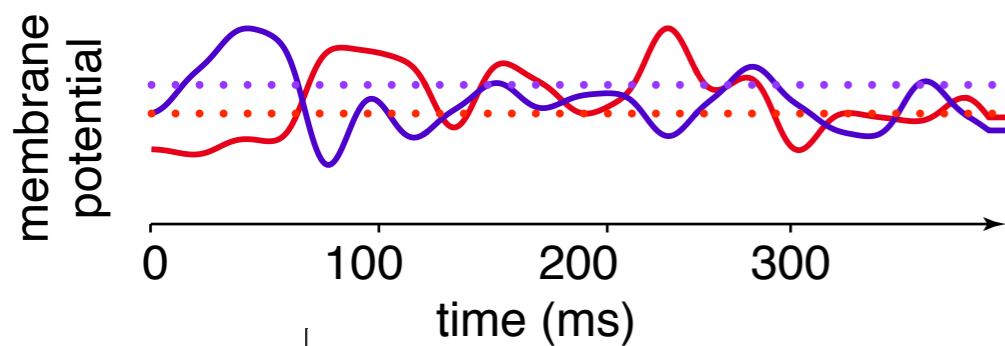
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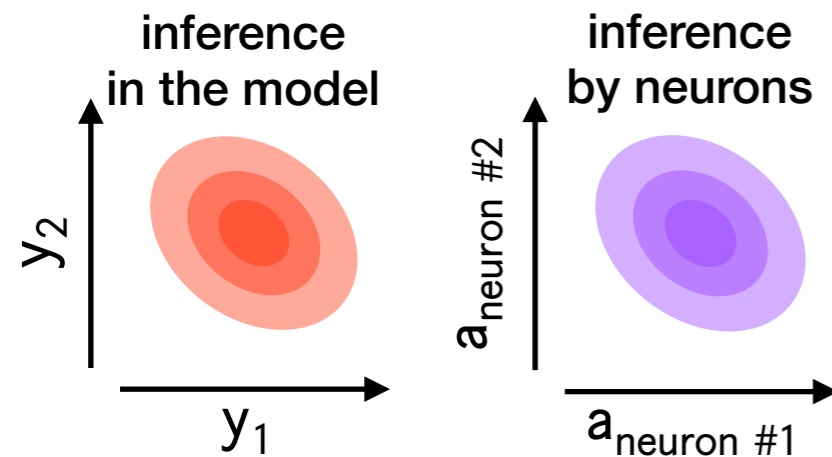
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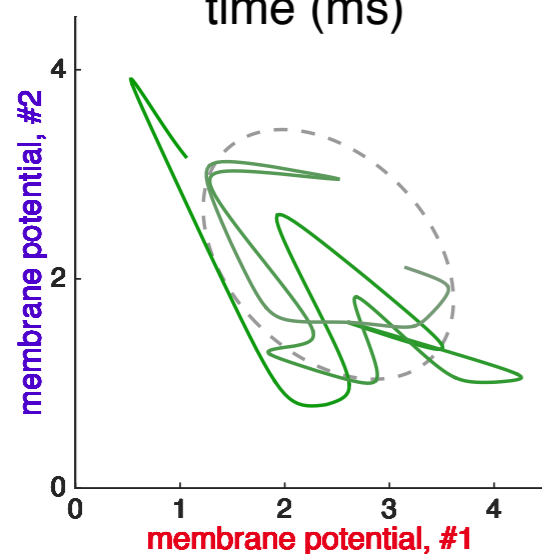
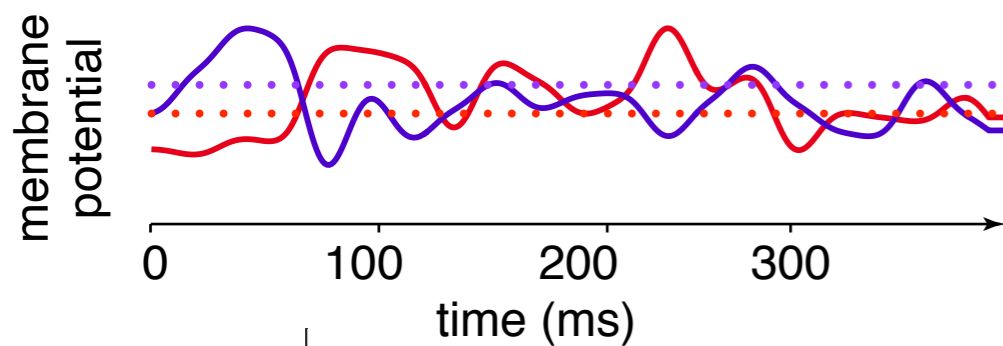
# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

## Approximate inference

probability distributions need to be represented



stochastic sampling  $\rightarrow$  variable membrane potential



response variability  $\Leftrightarrow$  subjective uncertainty

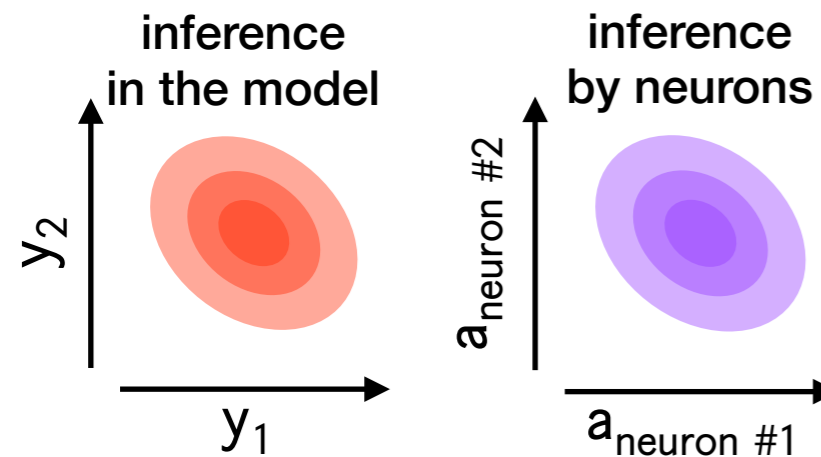
Orbán et al (2016) Neuron



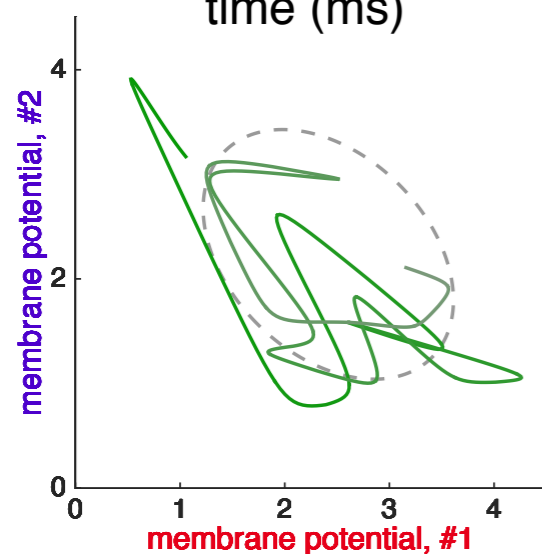
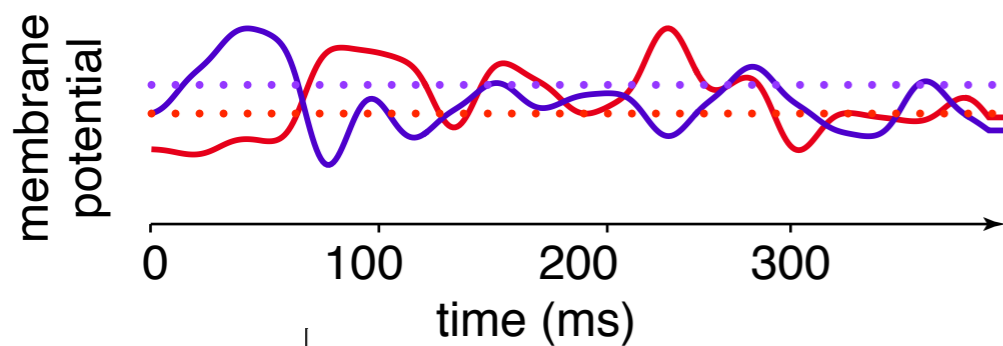
# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

## Approximate inference

probability distributions need to be represented



stochastic sampling  $\rightarrow$  variable membrane potential



## Contextual prior

learning exploits regularities, regularities change from context-to context

response variability  $\Leftrightarrow$  subjective uncertainty

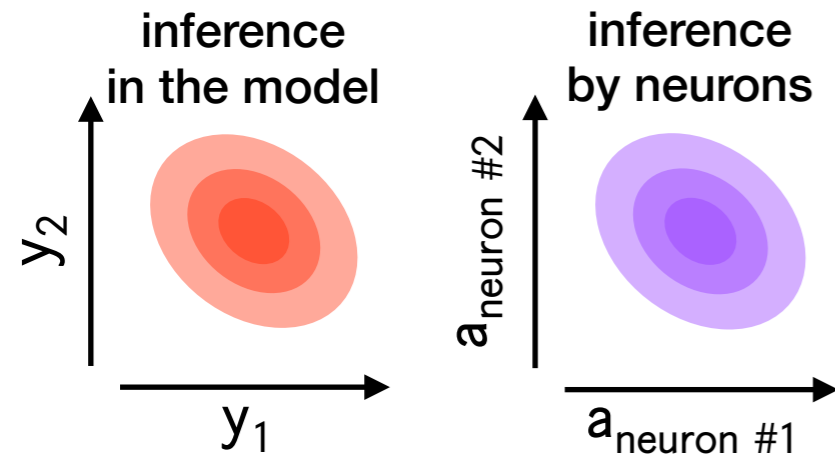
Orbán et al (2016) Neuron

Bányai et al (2019) PNAS

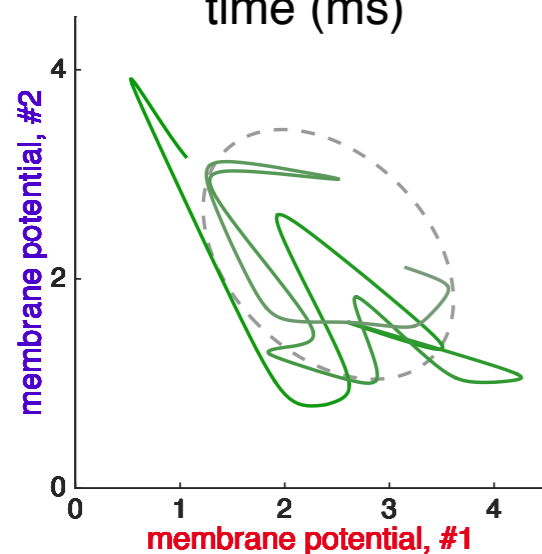
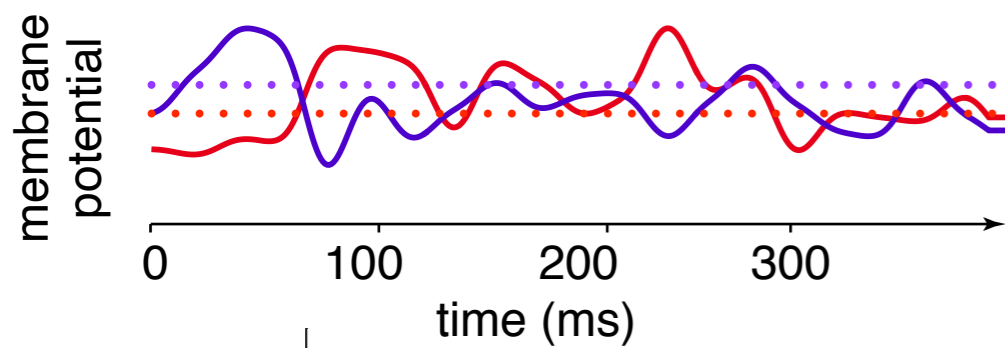
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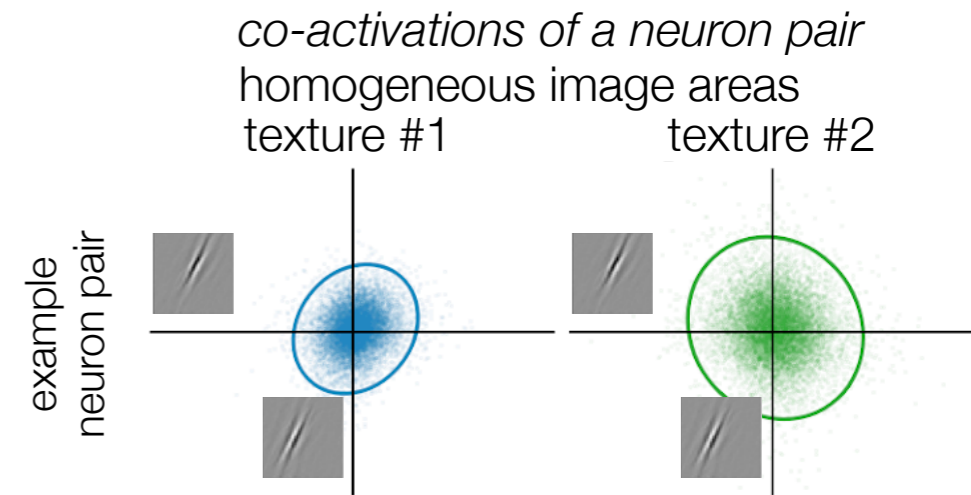
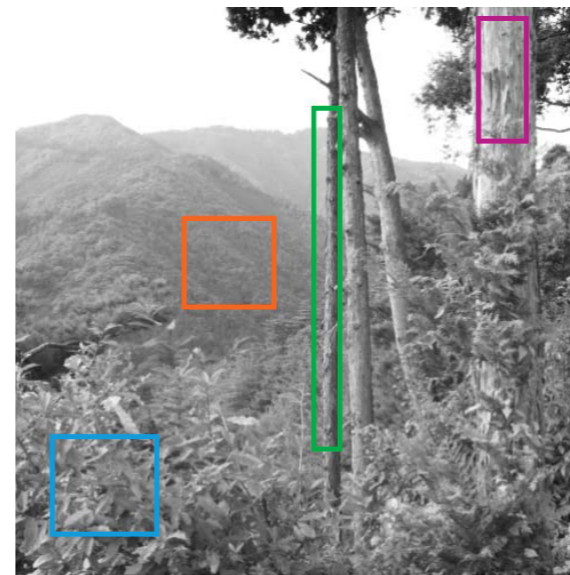


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Orbán et al (2016) Neuron

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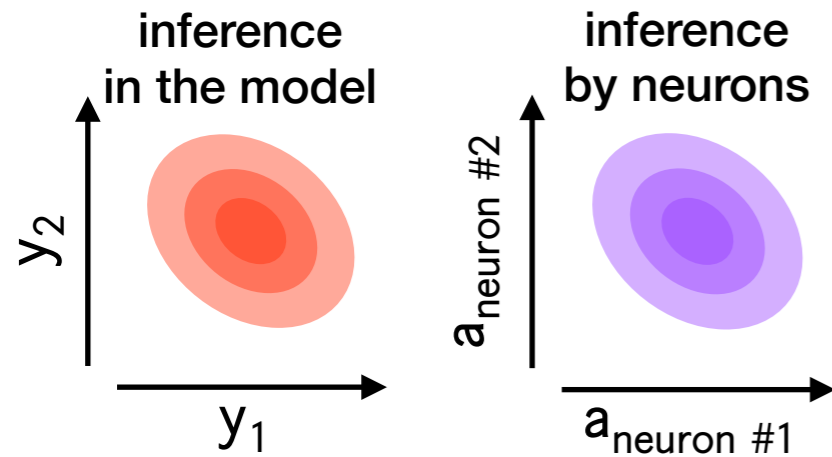


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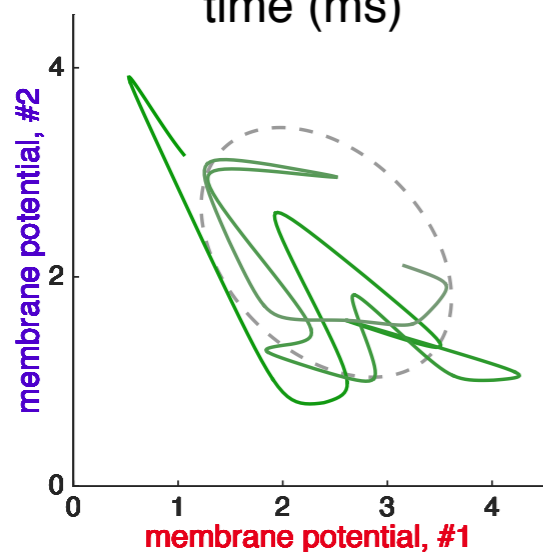
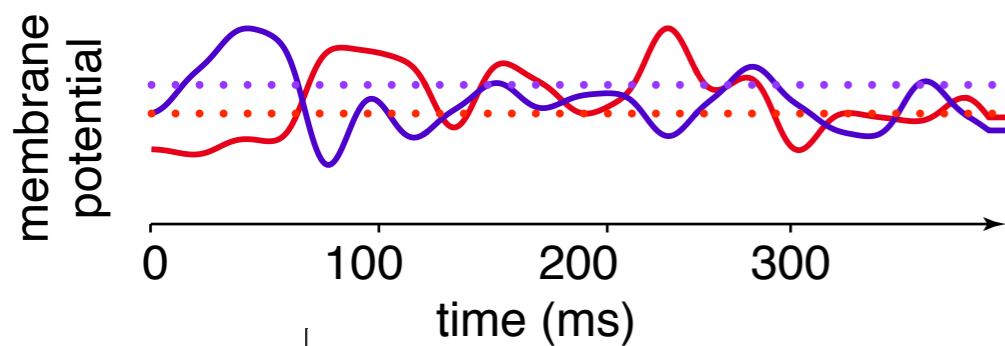
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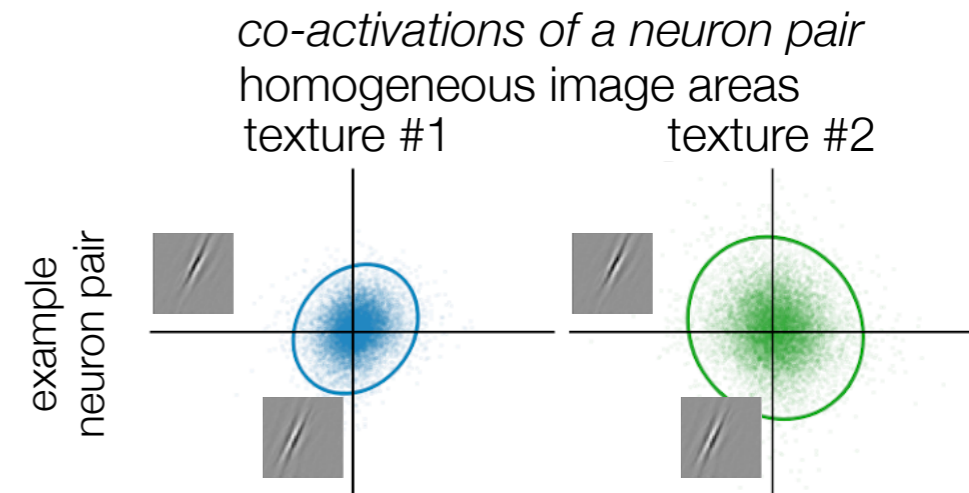
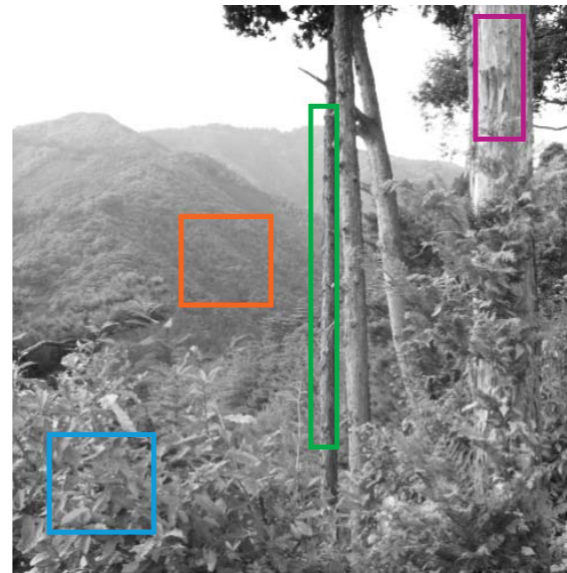


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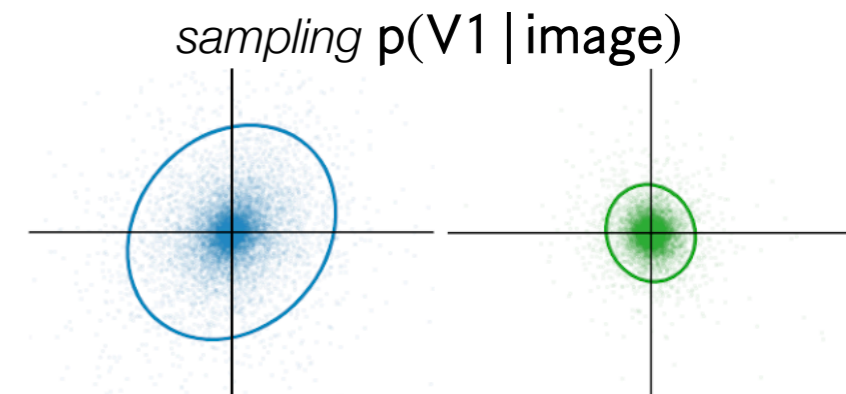
Orbán et al (2016) Neuron

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neural ensembles represent distributions  
 $\rightarrow$  context-dependent correlations in priors

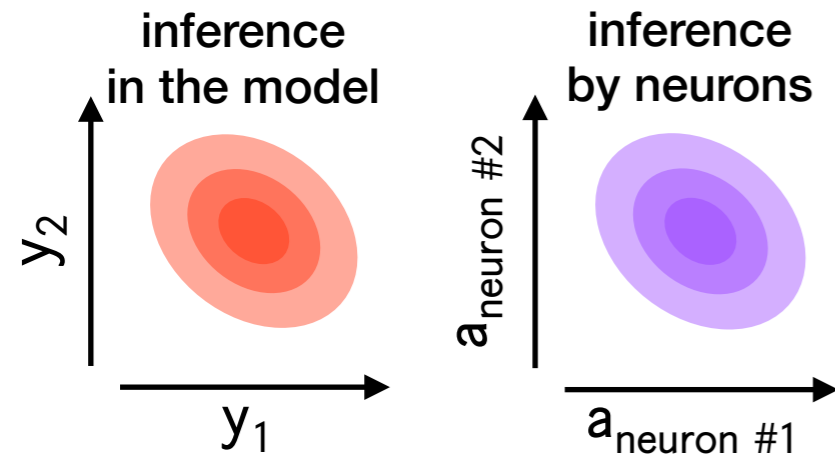


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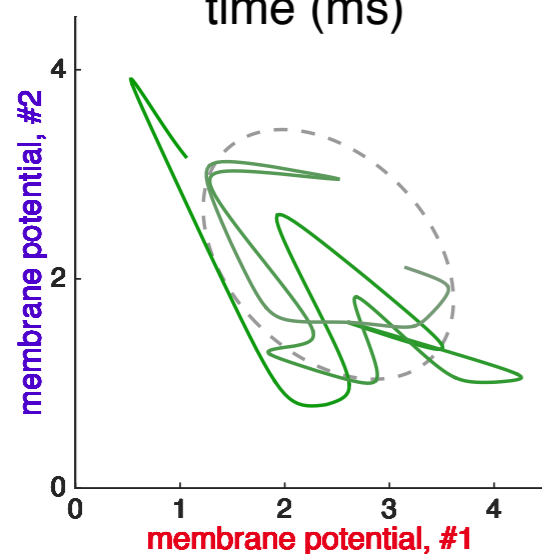
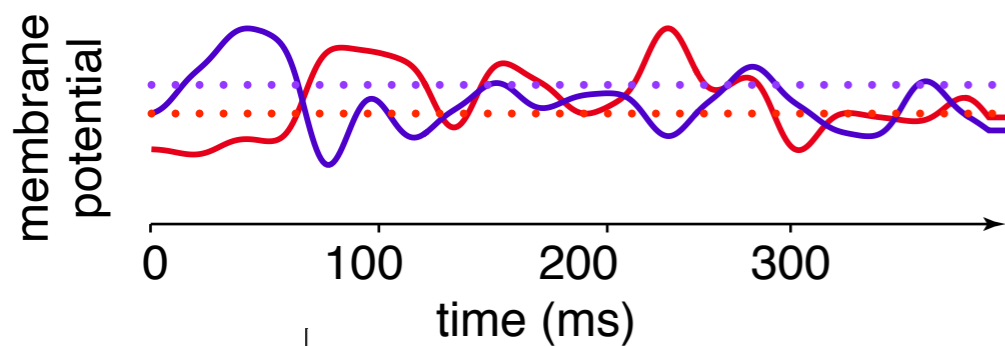
# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

## Approximate inference

probability distributions need to be represented



stochastic sampling  $\rightarrow$  variable membrane potential

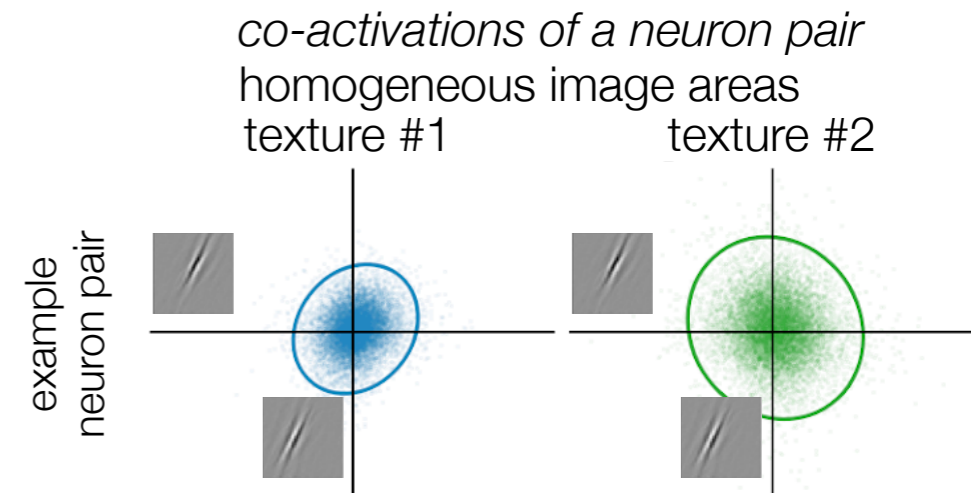
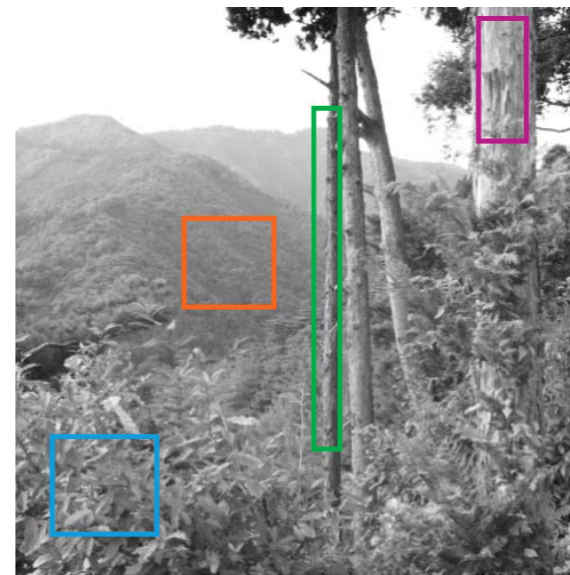


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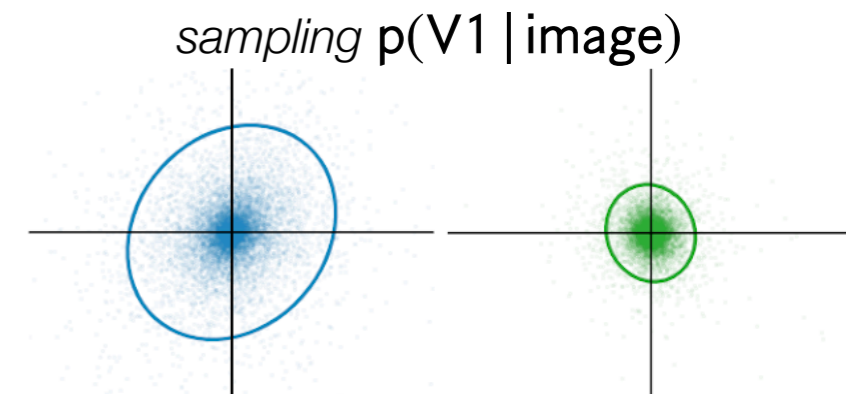
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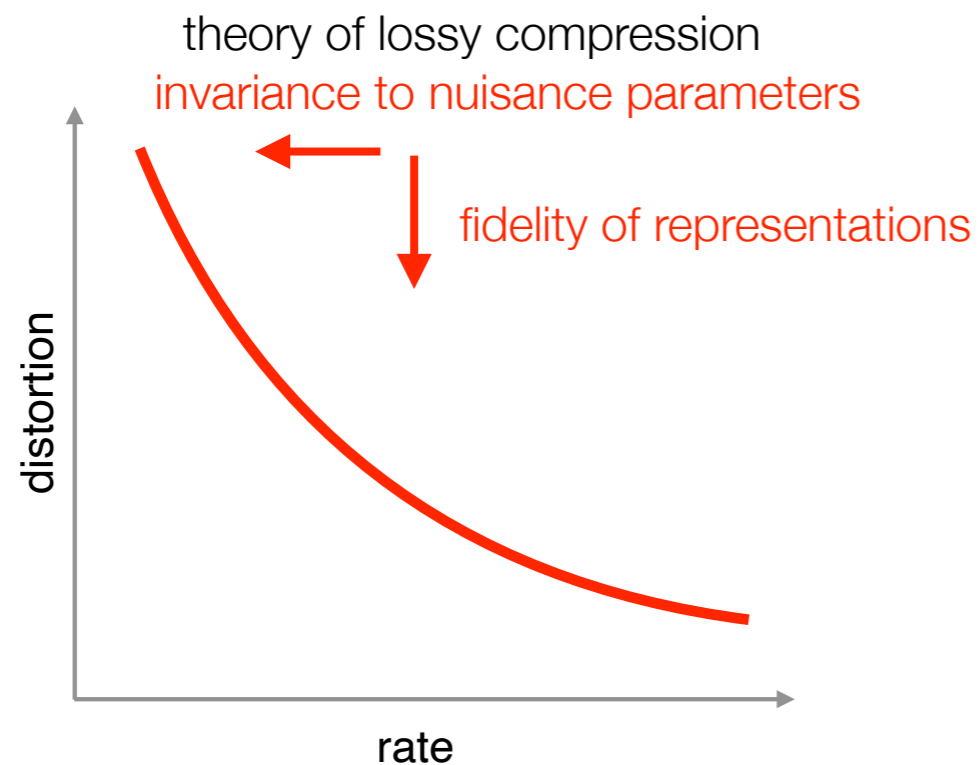
response correlations  $\Leftrightarrow$  correlations in priors



# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

## Hierarchical inference

learning captures invariances increasingly complex invariances  
→ gradual compression

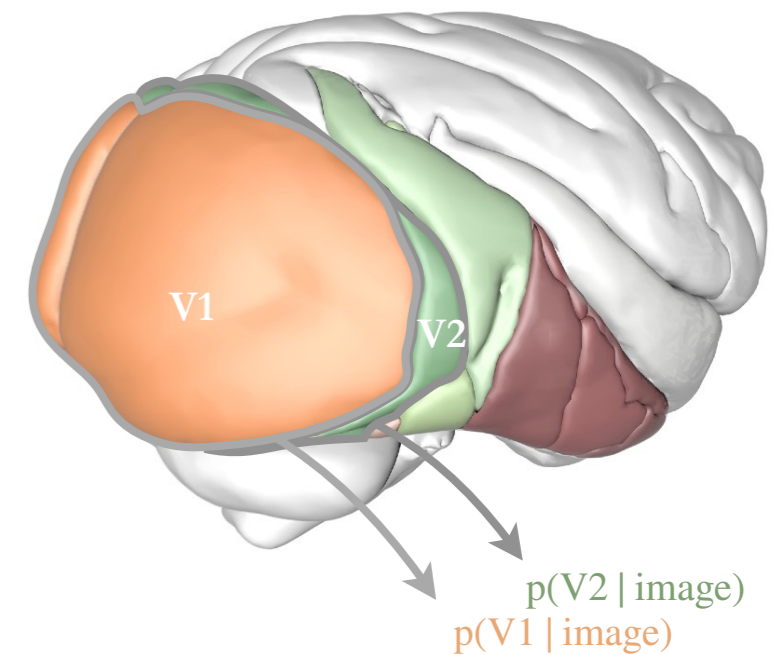
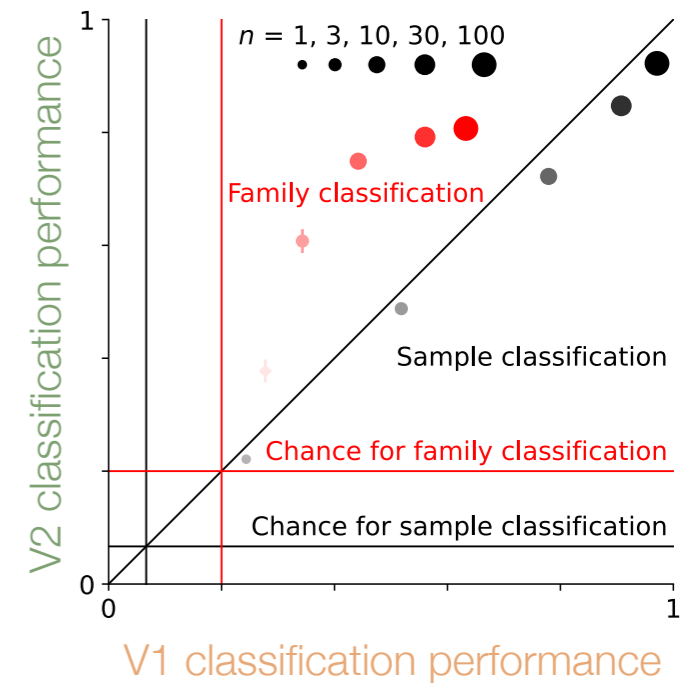
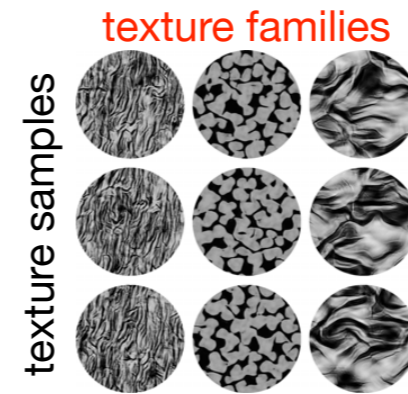
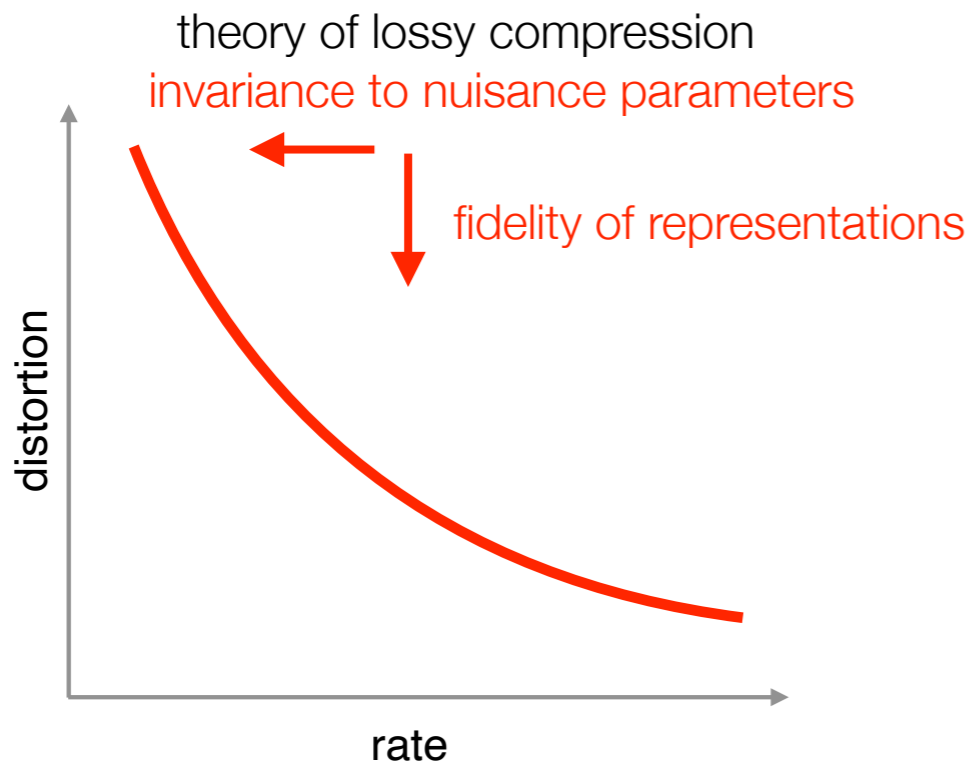


Nagy et et al (2020) PLoS CB  
Meszéna et et al (2022) NeurIPS  
Csikor et et al, in prep

# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

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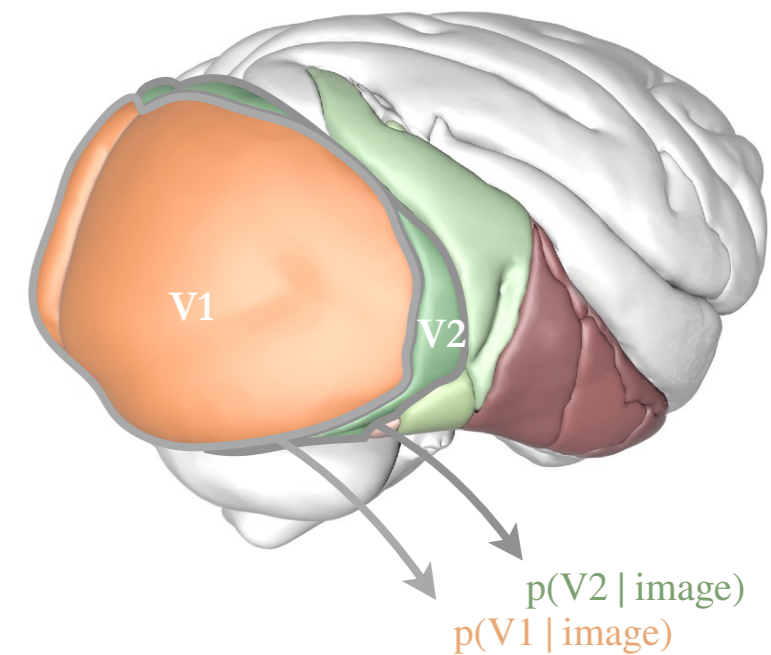
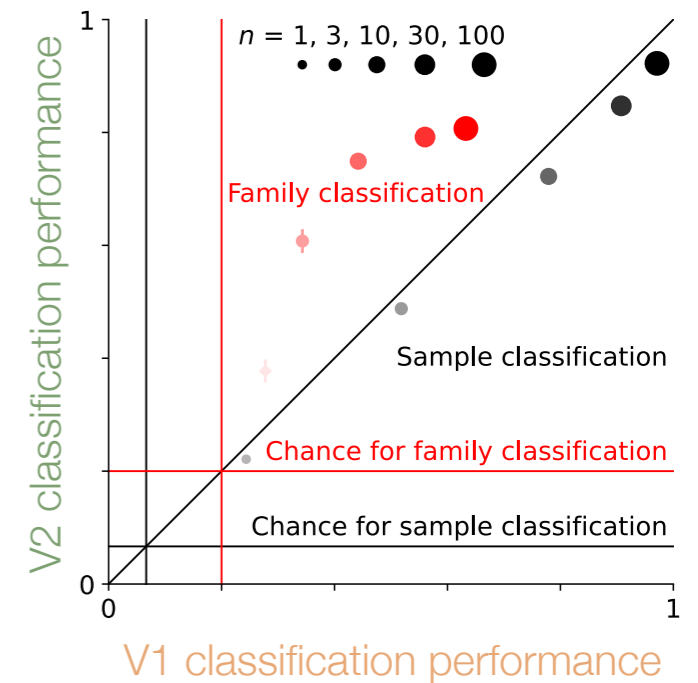
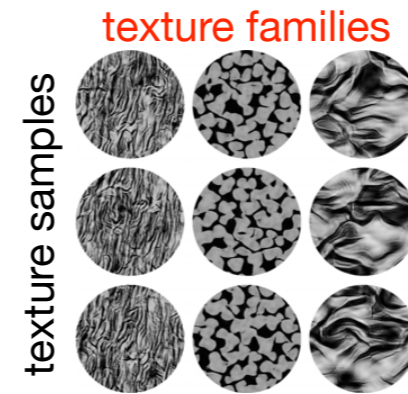
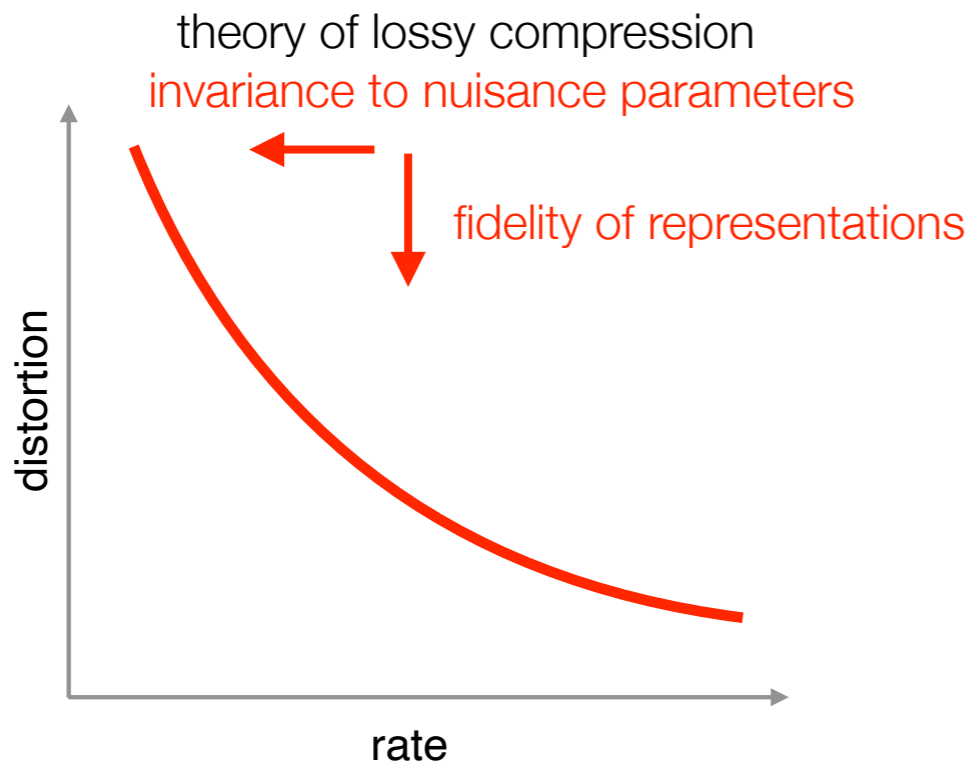


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# Interpreting the neural code: ML insights

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learning captures invariances increasingly complex invariances  
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optimally losing information during processing

Nagy et al (2020) PLoS CB  
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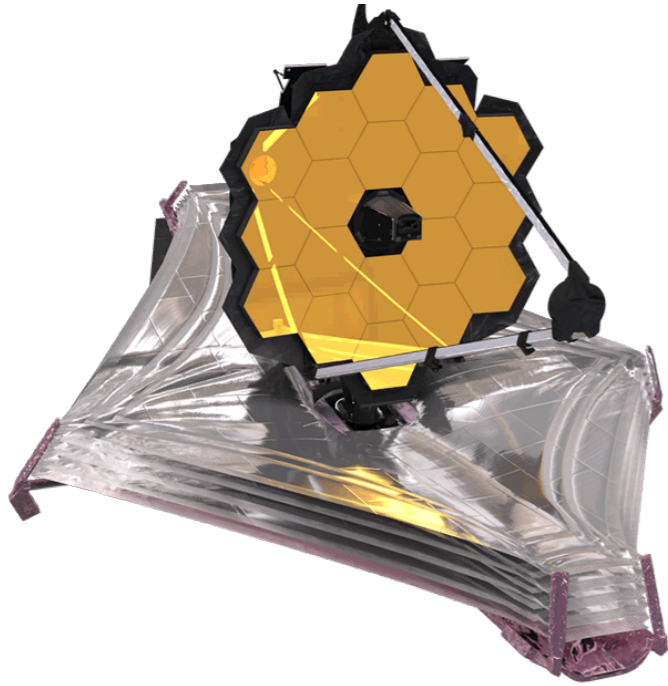
# Outlook: A testbed for theories

$$ELBO = \mathbb{E}_{q(V1 | image, V2)} [p(image | V1)] + \text{KL} [q(V2 | image) || p(V2)] + \mathbb{E}_{q(V2 | image)} [\text{KL} [q(V1 | image, V2) || p(V1 | V2)]]$$



# Outlook: A testbed for theories

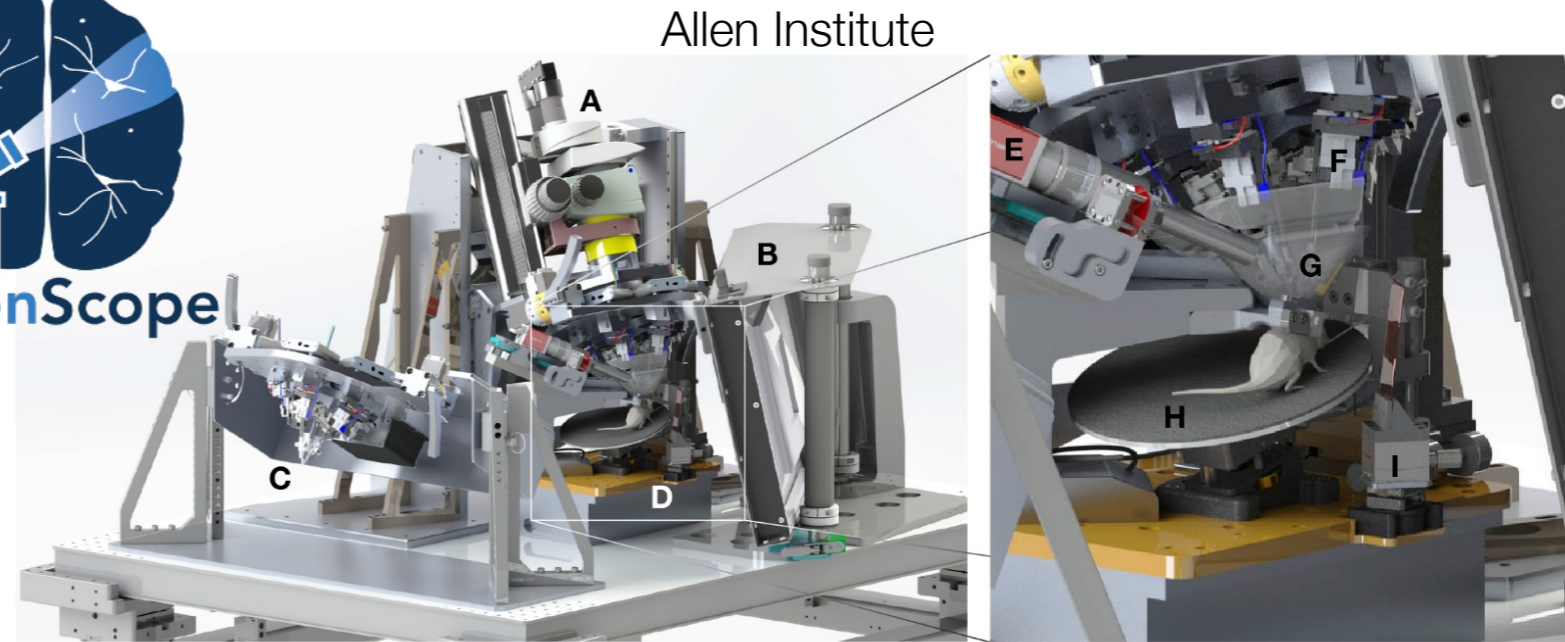
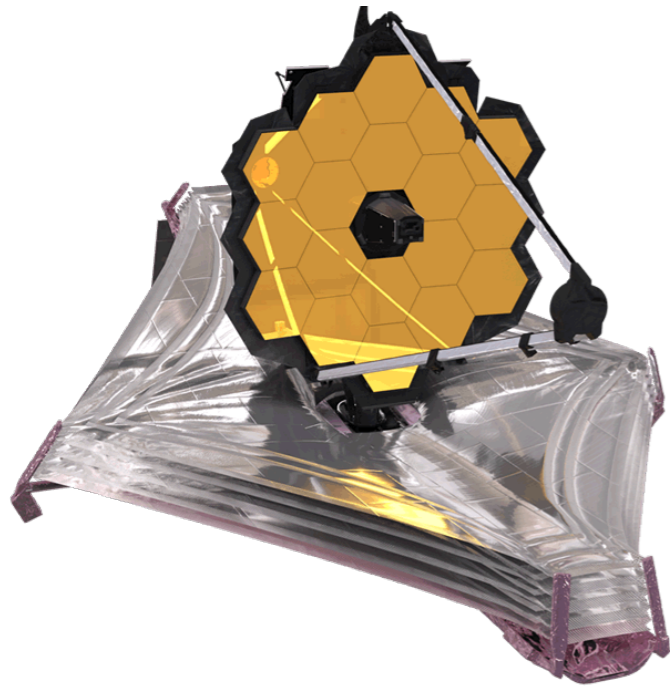
$$ELBO = \mathbb{E}_{q(V1 | \text{image}, V2)} [p(\text{image} | V1)] + \text{KL} [q(V2 | \text{image}) || p(V2)] + \mathbb{E}_{q(V2 | \text{image})} [\text{KL} [q(V1 | \text{image}, V2) || p(V1 | V2)]]$$



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# Outlook: A testbed for theories

$$ELBO = \mathbb{E}_{q(V1 | image, V2)} [p(image | V1)] + \text{KL} [q(V2 | image) || p(V2)] + \mathbb{E}_{q(V2 | image)} [\text{KL} [q(V1 | image, V2) || p(V1 | V2)]]$$

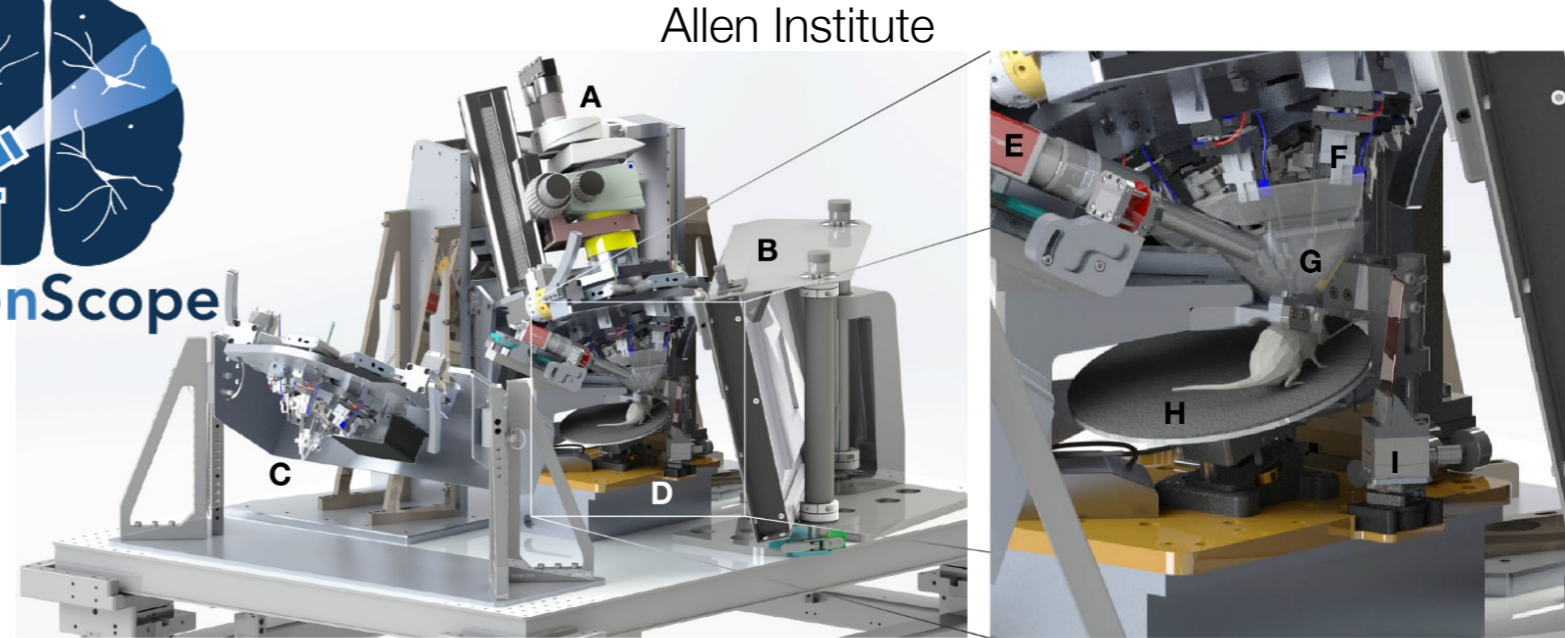
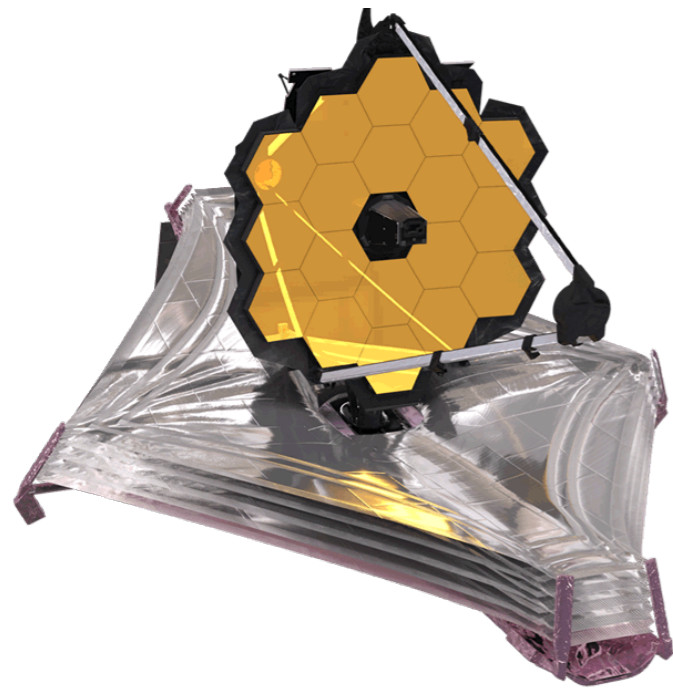


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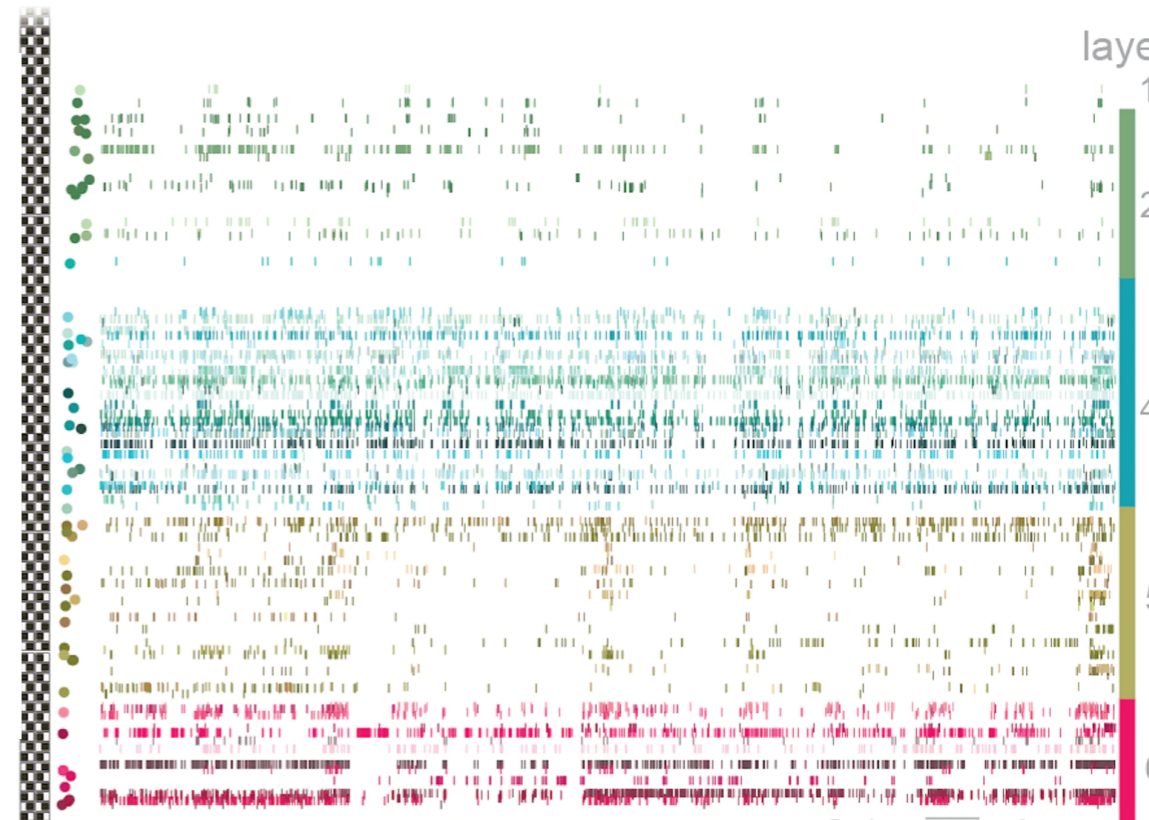
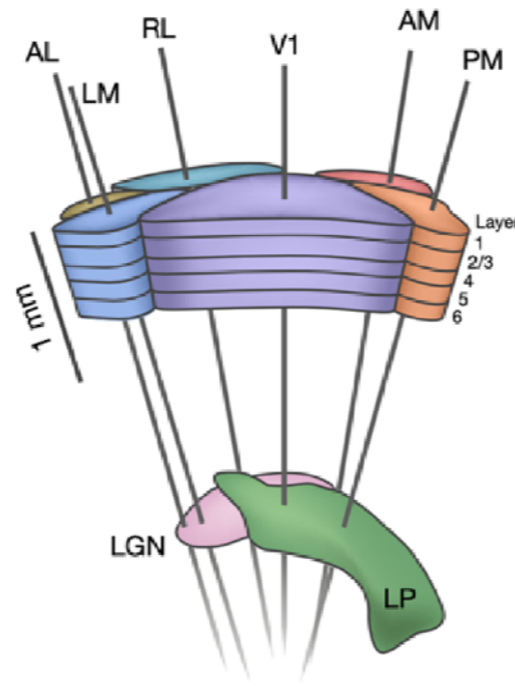


# Outlook: A testbed for theories

$$ELBO = \mathbb{E}_{q(V1 | image, V2)} [p(image | V1)] + KL [q(V2 | image) || p(V2)] + \mathbb{E}_{q(V2 | image)} [KL [q(V1 | image, V2) || p(V1 | V2)]]$$



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0.1 second  
source: Allen Brain Observatory

# Acknowledgements

- Ferenc Csikor (postdoc)
- Márton Hajnal (PhD student)
- Balázs Mészéna (postdoc)
- Anna Székely (PhD student, BME)
- Zsombor Ungvárszki (PhD student, Lyon)
- Zsombor Szabó (research associate)
- Martos Domonkos (research associate)

## Students

- Laci Freund (BME)
- Virág Horváth (ELTE)

Funding



Human Frontiers  
Science Program



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