

V1 Simple Cells Modeling

Daniela Pamplona

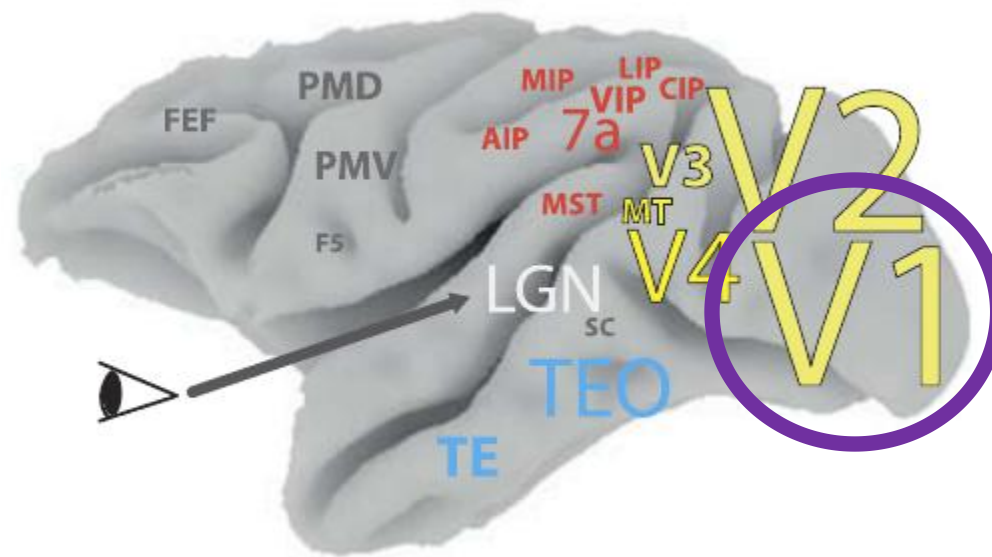
Contents

1. V1 simple cells
2. Sparse overcomplete coding
 1. Steepest gradient descent
 2. Natural images sparse overcomplete code
3. Independent Component Analysis
 1. Netwon method
 2. Natural images independent components

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Where is V1?



Simple cells and complex cells in V1

Simple Cells

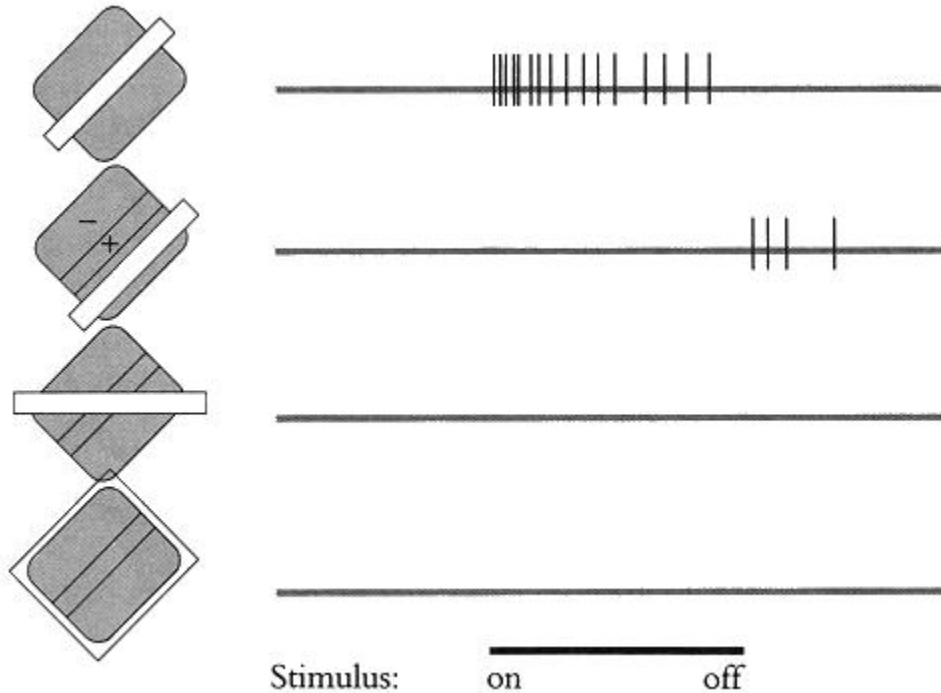
- have distinct excitatory and inhibitory regions within RF
- linearity of spatial summation within both the excitatory and inhibitory regions

Complex cells

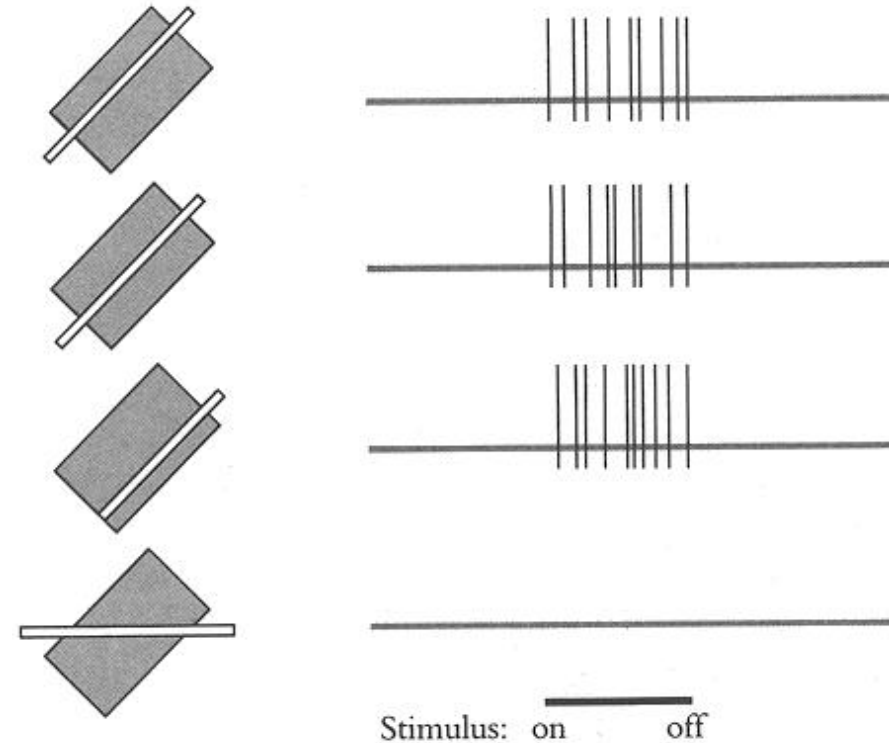
- have no clear division of excitatory and inhibitory regions inside their RFs
- a bar with width about one third of the RF width in the optimal orientation of the cell will evoke maximal response, independent of where it is placed

Simple cells and complex cells in V1

Simple Cells



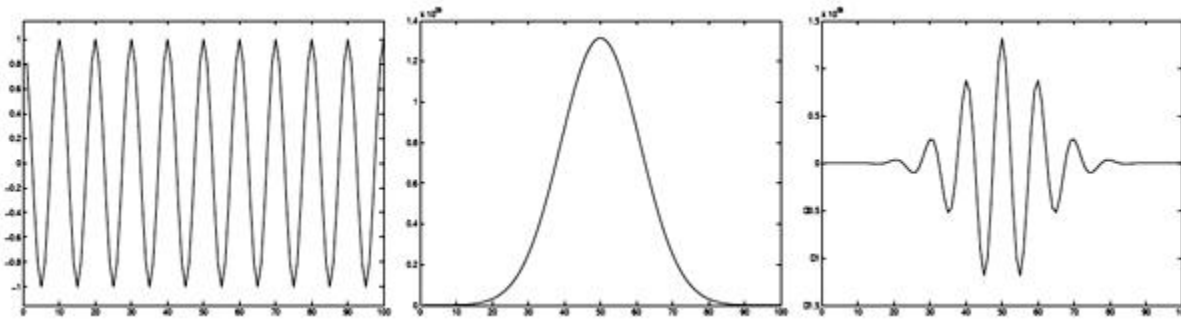
Complex cells



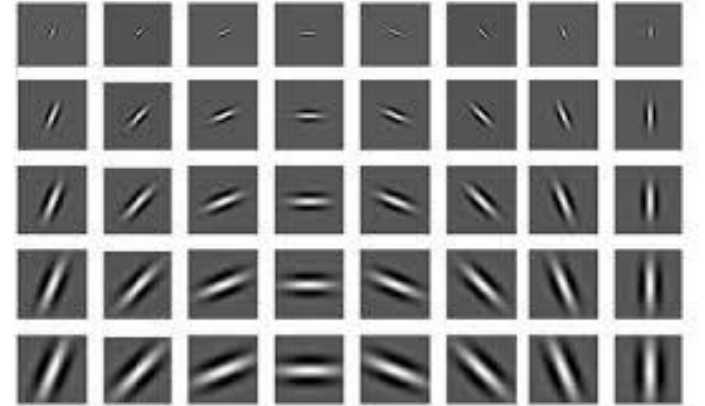
Gabor filters

sinusoidal wave multiplied by a Gaussian

1D

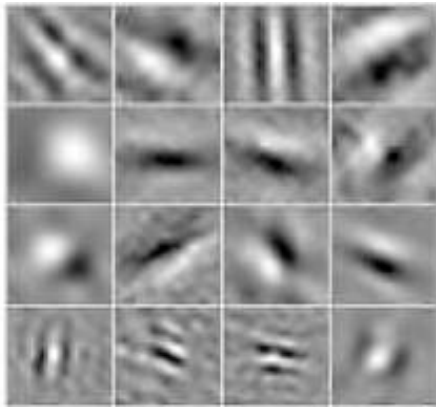


2D

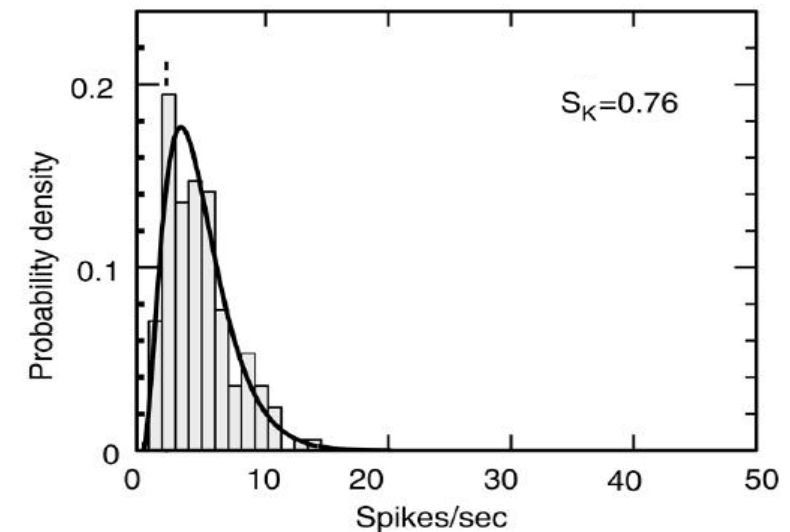


V1 simple cells' receptive fields and sparseness

- Their RF are similar to Gabors



- V1 simple cells fire sparsely



It therefore seems likely that, even in a strongly driven visual cortex, only a small fraction of neurons is working at any one time—between 1 in 25 and 1 in 63, with the latter the more probable value.

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Fixed point algorithms

Class of iterative algorithms

of shape $x_{t+1} = f(x_t) \leftarrow$ update function
that stop when $x_{t+1} = x_t$

Algorithm Fixed point algorithms

```
1: initialize  $x$  randomly
2: define  $tol$ 
3: define  $maxIter$ 
4: for  $t = 0$  to  $t = maxIter$  do
5:    $x_{t+1} = f(x_t)$ 
6:   if  $\|x_t - x_{t+1}\|^2 < tol$  then
7:     print The algorithm converged
8:     return  $x_{t+1}$ 
9:   end if
10:   $t = t + 1$ 
11: end for
12: print The algorithm did not converge
```

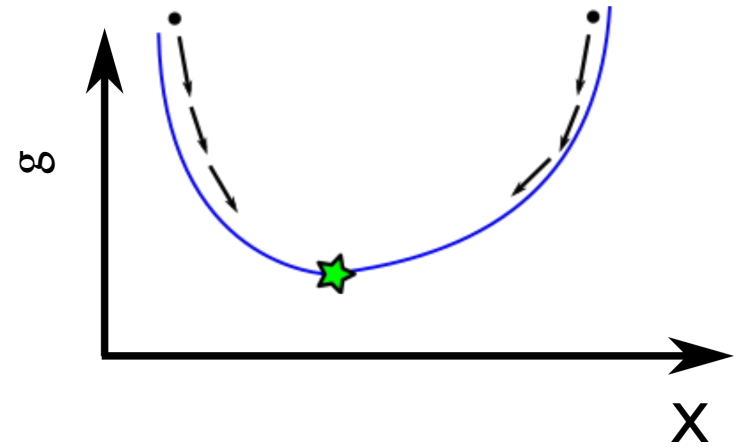
Steepest gradient descent

Goal: find minimum of g

Assumption: g is convex

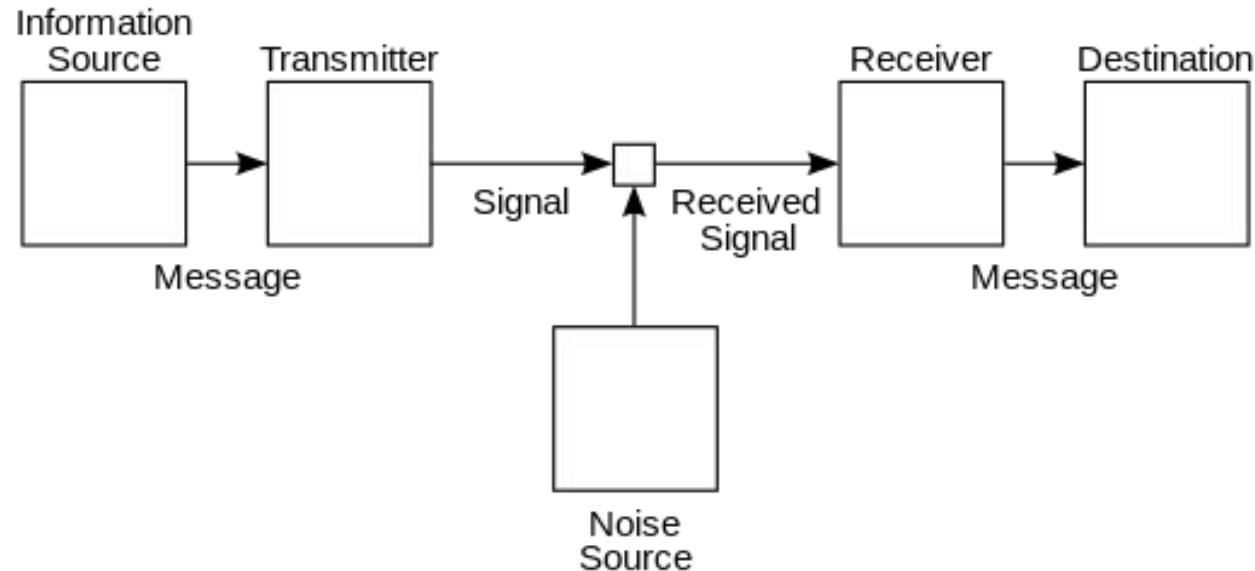
$$f(x_t) = x_t - \gamma \nabla g(x_t)$$

learning rate gradient



How does it work: if $f(x_t) = x_t$ then $\nabla g(x_t) = 0 \Rightarrow x_t$ is a minimum of g .

Why efficient codes?



Example: Visual System

Information Source: Environment

Transmitter: Eye

Channel: Early visual system

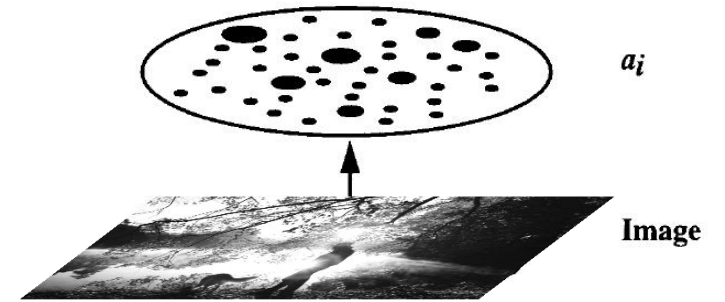
Noise: Unknown

Receiver: Higher areas (MT, TE, MIP,...)

Destination: Other brain areas (PMC,...)

Why sparse codes?

- Sparse codes are efficient, images are encoded representations that are most of the cases silent
- Firing is expensive, if each neuron fires/encodes sparsely images, then energy is saved



Energy
function

$$E = \sum_t \left\{ x - \sum_i \alpha_i(x) W \right\}^2 + \lambda \sum_i S(\alpha_i(x))$$

Sparseness
weight
↓

Sparseness
measure
→

Sparse measurements

- $S(a_i) = (\prod (1+a_i^2))^{-1}$ ($a \sim$ Cauchy distribution)
- $S(a_i) = -e^{-a_i}$ ($a \sim$ Exponential distribution)
- $S(a_i) = |a_i|$ (norm-1 of a)
- $S(a_i) = E[(a_i - E[a_i])^4 / V[a_i]^2]$ (Kurtosis of a)

Sparse overcomplete learning

Gradient descent in 2 variables: α_i and W

Algorithm Pre-process

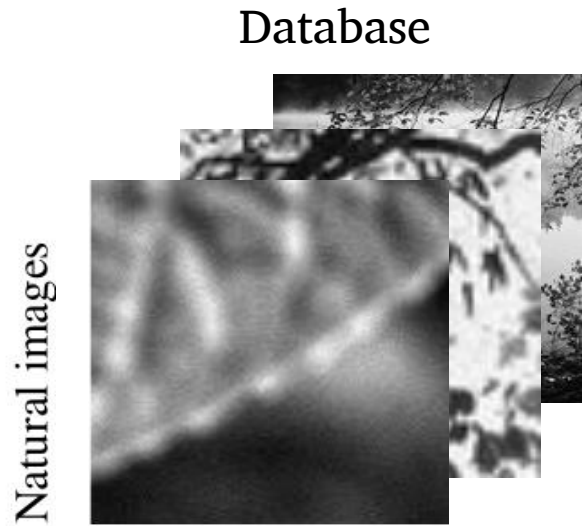
```
1: for all  $x_i \in X$  do
2:   if  $\dim(x_i) > 1$  then
3:     vectorize  $x_i$ 
4:   end if
5: end for
6: for all  $x_i \in X$  do
7:    $x_i = x_i - \mathbb{E}[x_i]$ 
8: end for
9: whiten  $X$ 
10: return  $X$ 
```

Algorithm Sparse Overcomplete Coding

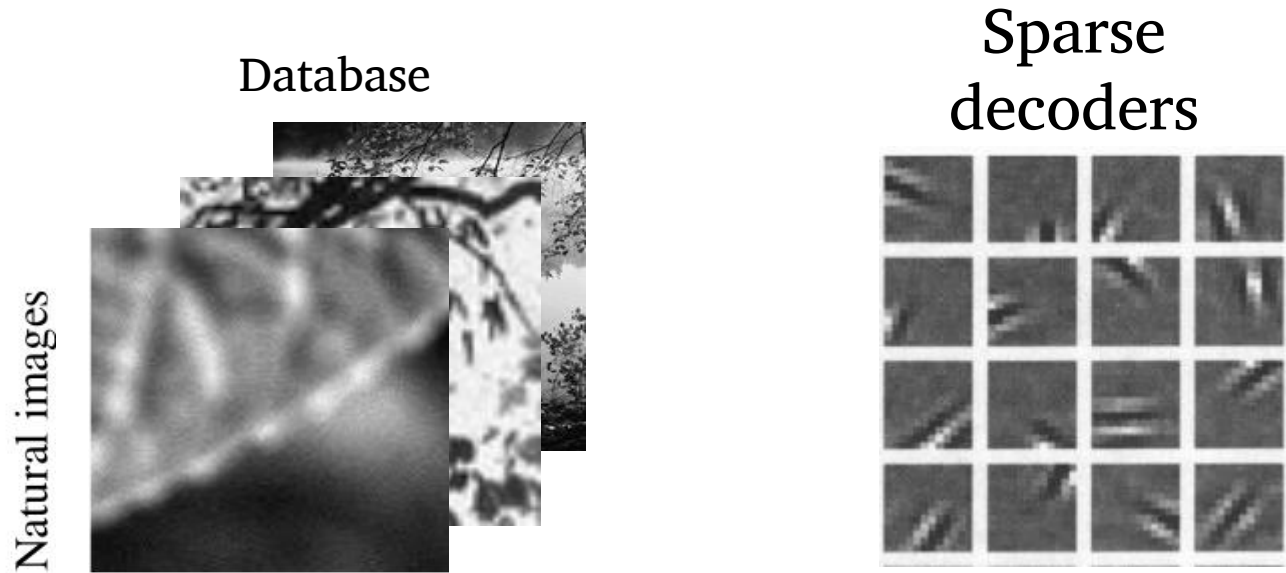
```
1: get  $X$ 
2: pre-process  $X$ 
3: define  $S$ ,  $\text{tol}$ ,  $\text{maxIter}$ 
4: initialize  $W_0$ ,  $\alpha$  randomly
5: for  $t = 0$  to  $i = \text{maxIter}$  do
6:    $\alpha = \text{argmin}_{\alpha} E$  (using gradient descent keeping  $W$  constant)
7:    $W_{t+1} = \text{argmin}_W \mathbb{E}[E]$  (using gradient descent keeping  $\alpha$  constant)
8:   if  $\|W_t - W_{t+1}\| < \text{tol}$  then
9:     print The algorithm converged
10:    return  $W_{t+1}$ 
11:   end if
12:    $t = t + 1$ 
13: end for
14: print The algorithm did not converge
```

$$E = \sum_t \left\{ x - \sum_i \alpha_i(x) W \right\}^2 + \lambda \sum_i S(\alpha_i(x))$$

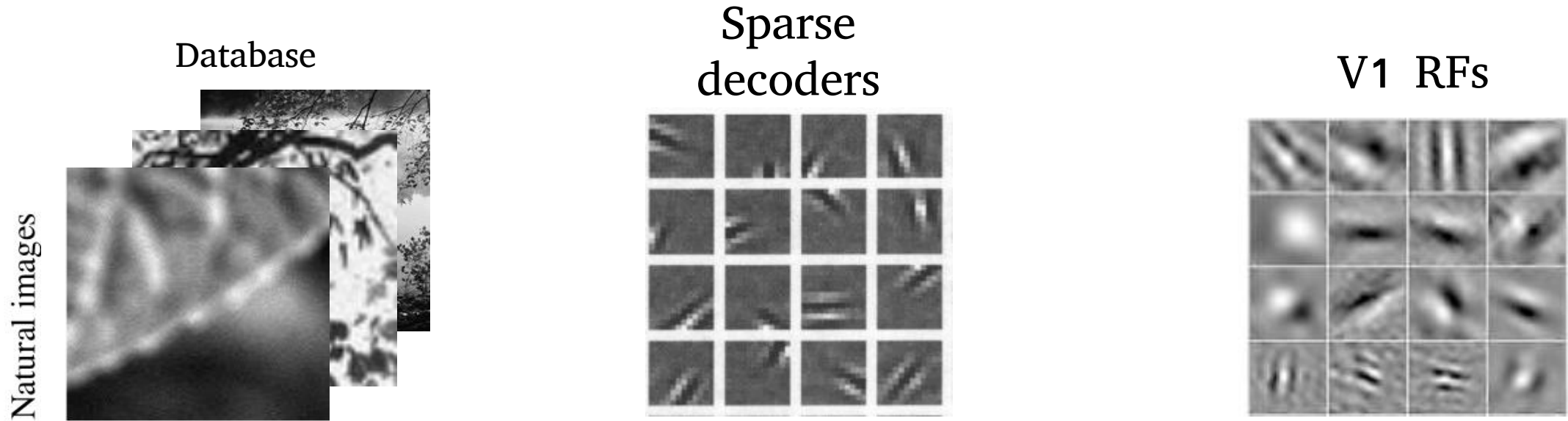
Sparse overcomplete code of natural images



Sparse overcomplete code of natural images



Sparse overcomplete code of natural images



The receptive fields of V1 simple cells have such shape that they represent efficiently the natural images!

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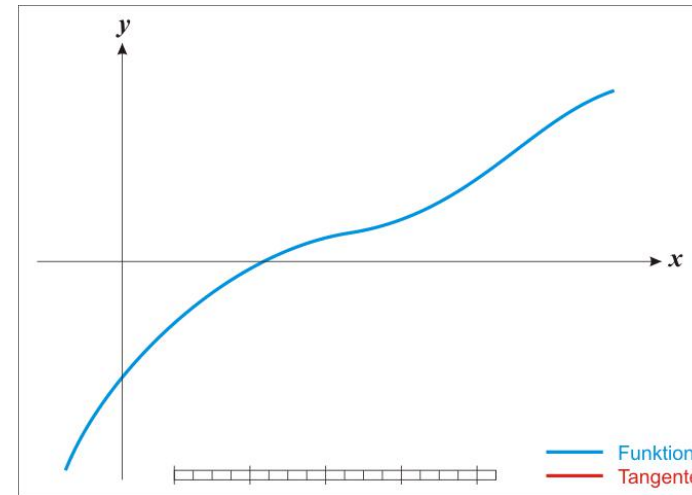
Newton method

Goal: find zero of g

Assumption: g' is non zero

$$f(x_t) = x_t - \frac{g(x_t)}{\nabla g(x_t)}$$

↑
gradient



How does it work: if $f(x_t) = x_t$ then $g(x_t) = 0 \Rightarrow x_t$ is a zero of g .

Fixed point algorithms

steepest gradient descent

- linear convergence
- g must be convex
- more robust to errors

Newton method

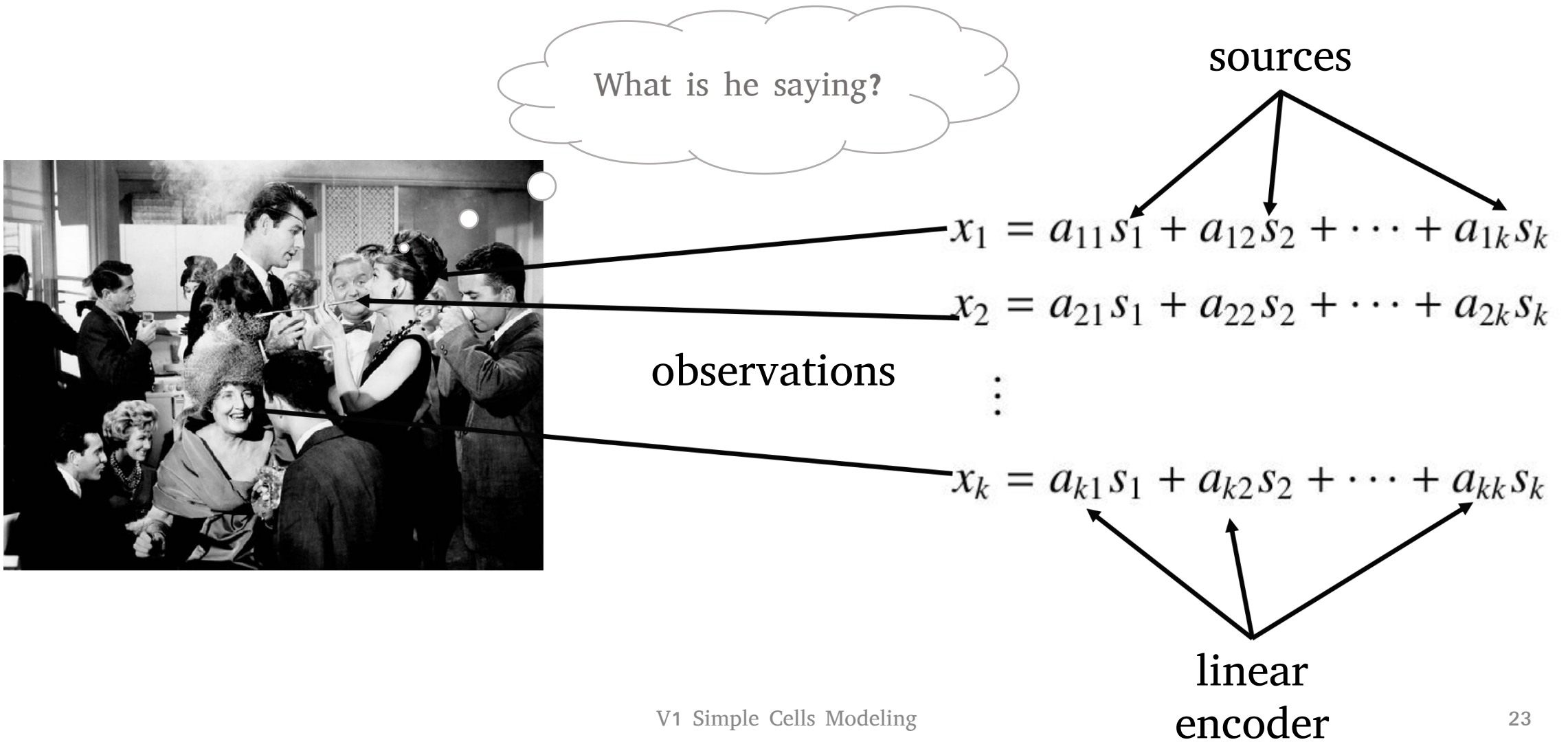
- possible quadratic convergence
- more calculations
- g' must be non-zero
- sensitive to errors

Cocktail party problem

What is he saying?



Cocktail party problem



Cocktail party problem



What is he saying?

observations

sources



$$\leftarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s}$$



linear
encoder

Cocktail party problem



What is he saying?

observations

sources



$$\leftarrow x = A s$$



linear
encoder

linear
independent
decoded



Goal: to find W such $y = W x = s$

Non-Gaussianity is independence

Goal: to find W such $y = W x = W A s = s$

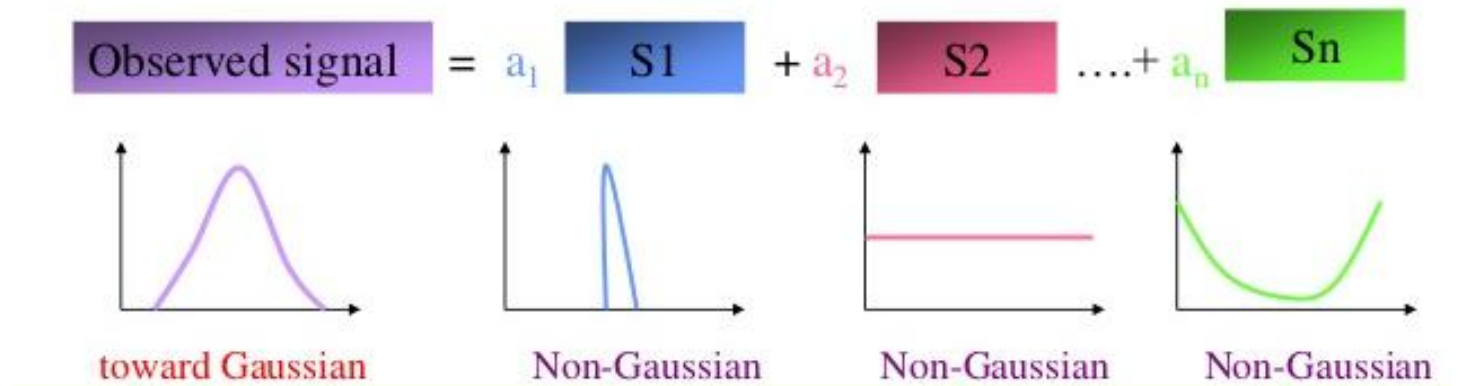
- $y = W A s$: y is a linear combination of s_i (independent variables)

Non-Gaussianity is independence

Goal: to find W such $y = W x = W A s = s$

- $y = W A s$: y is a linear combination of s_i (independent variables)
- Central Limit Theorem:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} s_i \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

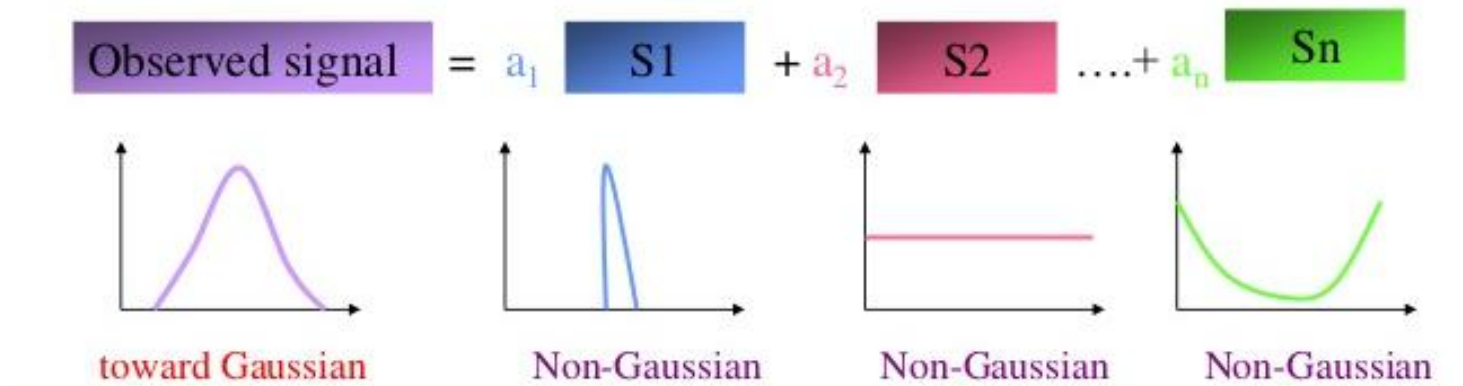


Non-Gaussianity is independence

Goal: to find W such $y = Wx = WAs = s$

- $y = WAs$: y is a linear combination of s_i (independent variables)
- Central Limit Theorem:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} s_i \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$



- y is the least Gaussian iff $y = s$

New Goal: to find W such $y = Wx$ is non Gaussian

How to measure the non-Gaussianity?

- Kurtosis

- Neg entropy $J(\mathbf{y}) = H(\mathbf{y}_{gauss}) - H(\mathbf{y})$

↑
Gaussian with the same
variance as \mathbf{y}

Non-quadratic function

Standard Gaussian

- Approximations of neg entropy $J(y_i) \approx c[E\{G(y_i)\} - E\{G(\mathbf{v})\}]^2$

Fast ICA algorithm

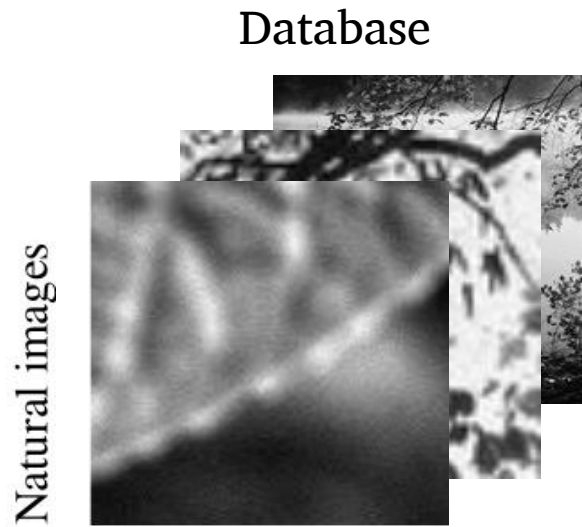
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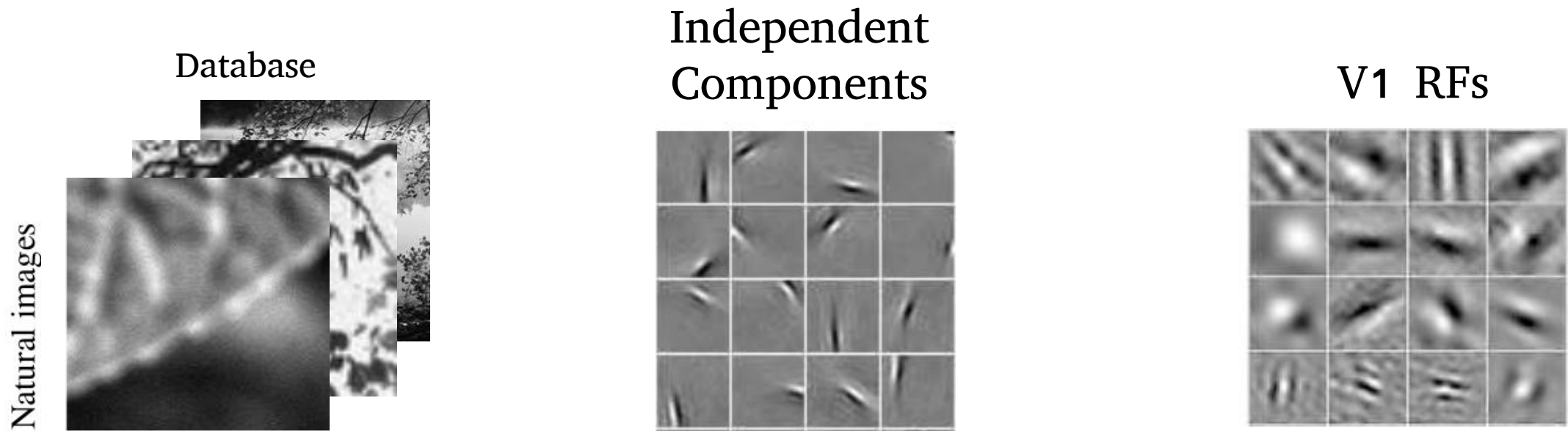
Algorithm FAST ICA

```
1: get  $X$ 
2: pre-process  $X$ 
3: define  $G$ 
4: initialize  $W$  randomly
5:  $W = \operatorname{argmax}_W J(WX)$  (using Newton method)
6: return  $W$ 
```

ICA natural images



ICA natural images



The receptive fields of V1 simple cells have such shape that they extract the independent sources of natural images!

V1-like methods

Sparse overcomplete coding

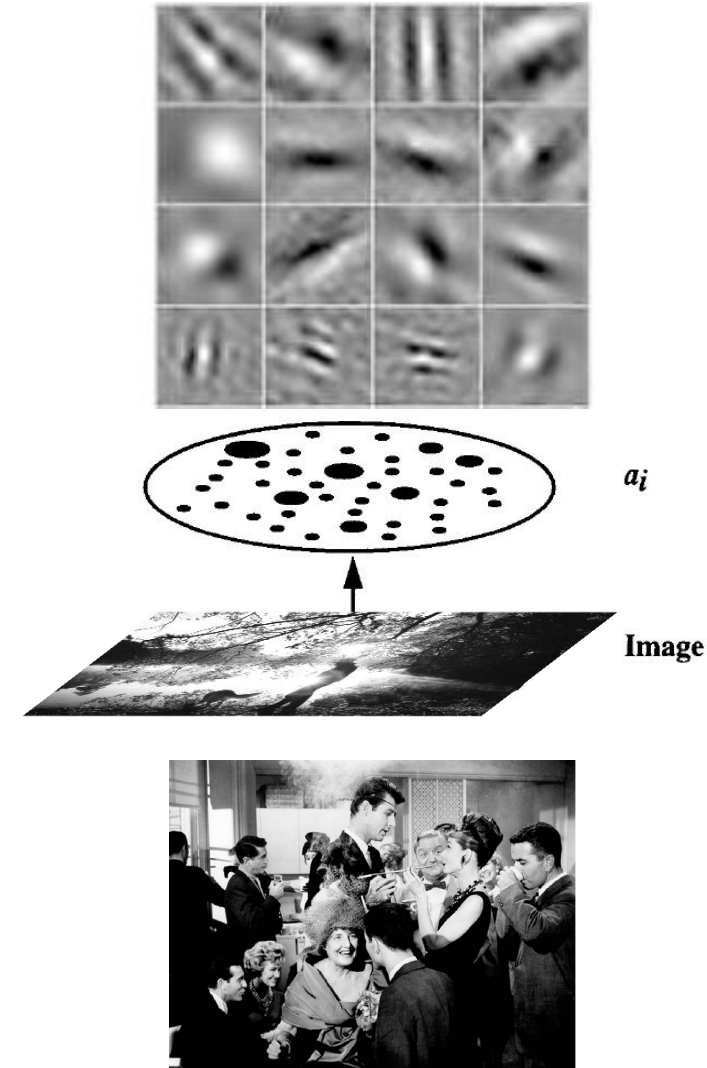
- Less simple to model
- Sparseness is specifically modeled
- Simple to implement
- No guaranty of convergence
- Encoders not on real time
- Decoders similar to RFs of V1 simple cells

Independent Components Analysis

- Simple to model
- Sparseness emerges as consequence
- Simple to implement
- Mixing on real time
- Components similar to RFs of V1 simple cells

Summary

1. V1 simple cells receptive fields
2. Sparse overcomplete code of natural images
3. ICA of natural images



Bibliography

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