

# Neural Networks and Biological Modeling

Professor Wulfram Gerstner  
Laboratory of Computational Neuroscience

Assistants: Skander Mensi, Christian Pozzorini, Alex Seeholzer,  
Engin Bumbacher (firstname.lastname@epfl.ch)

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS - MINI-PROJECTS

**Project** You should choose one of the following mini-projects: Reinforcement Learning, Hopfield Networks or Neural Modeling. The detailed descriptions are given in separate PDF Files on the **moodle**.

**Teams** You are encouraged to work in teams of not more than two. However if you really prefer to work alone you are also allowed to do so.

**Final report** You should write a formal report of 4-5 pages. The report has to contain a brief introduction to the topic you are dealing with, the answers to the questions (include plots where required) and a short conclusion. If you encountered problems or found something interesting, feel free to include it in your final report. The report should be written in *your own words*.

**Final personal discussion** There will be a final personal 10-min discussion for each of you. You will have to be able to answer questions to your report and your code. If you work in teams you should nevertheless fully understand the code that you submitted. During this discussion you will be without your team partner. There will be two dates for the discussions: June 1st, 2012 and June 8th, 2012 (tentative). Please check the **moodle** a few weeks before to sign up for a time slot.

**Submission** You will have to submit your source code and your final report in a zip file via the **moodle** page, before the final discussion! The name should have the structure **yourname\_projecttitle.zip**. If you work in teams both of you should submit the *same* zip file.

**Deadline** The deadlines to submit your code and report are **May 30th, 2012, at 23:55** (if you present on June 1st) and **June 5th, 2012, at 23:55** (if you present on June 8th).