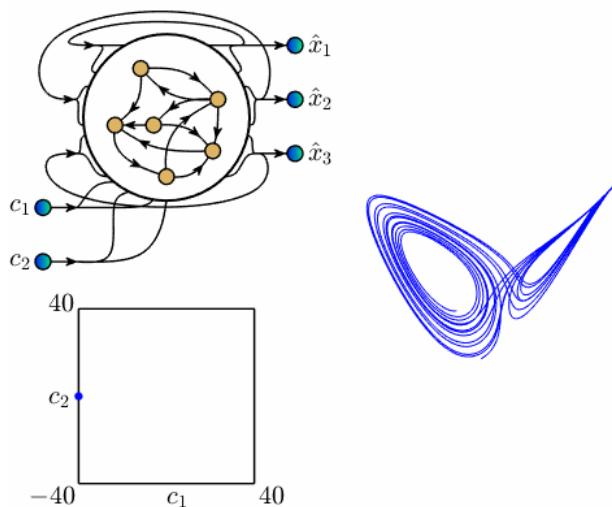


# Teaching recurrent neural networks to infer global temporal structure from local examples

Jason Z Kim, Zhixin Lu, Erfan Nozari, George J. Pappas, Danielle S. Bassett

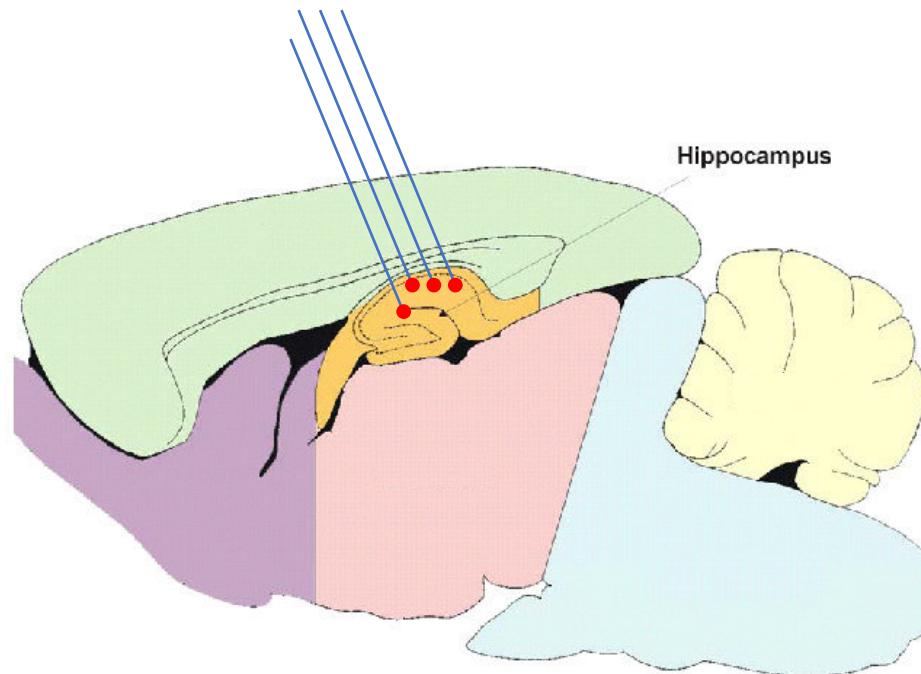


Complex  
Systems



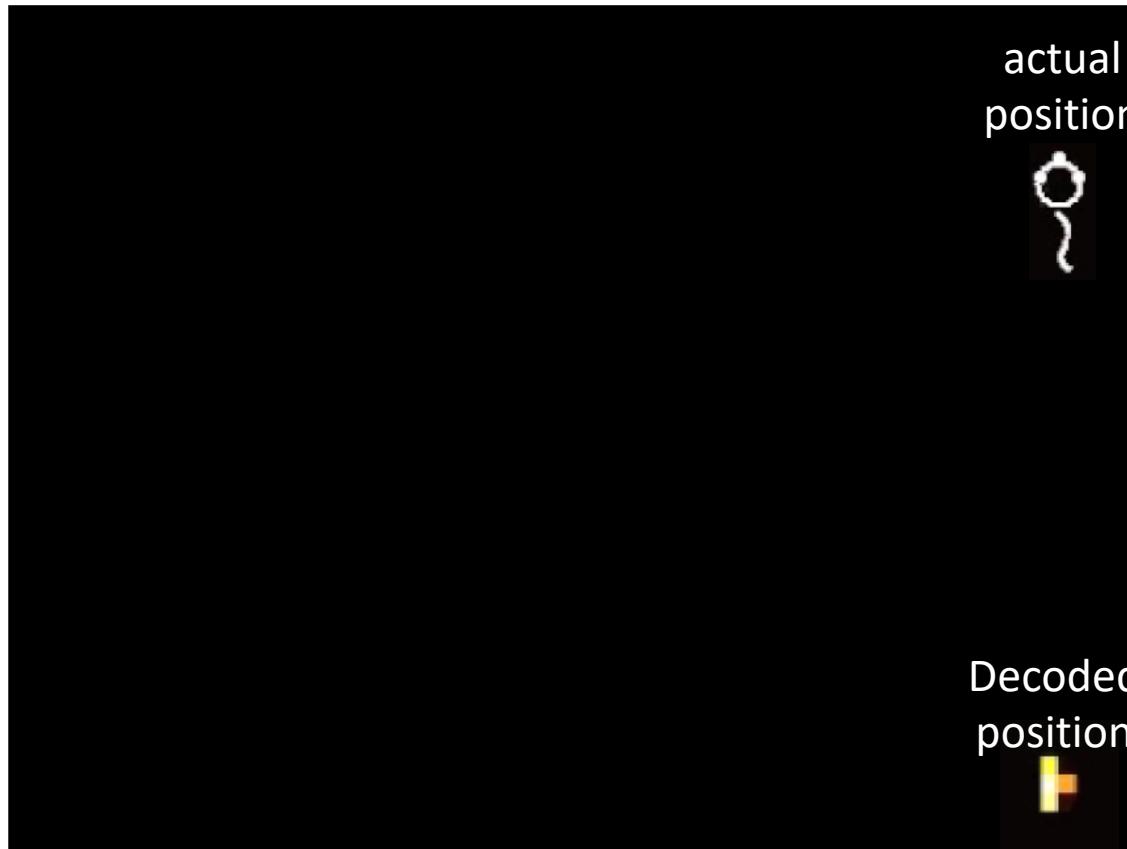
# Neural systems sustain and manipulate memories

Spatial localization and forecasting



# Neural systems sustain and manipulate memories

## Spatial localization and forecasting

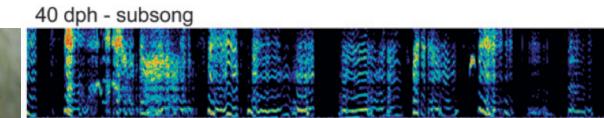
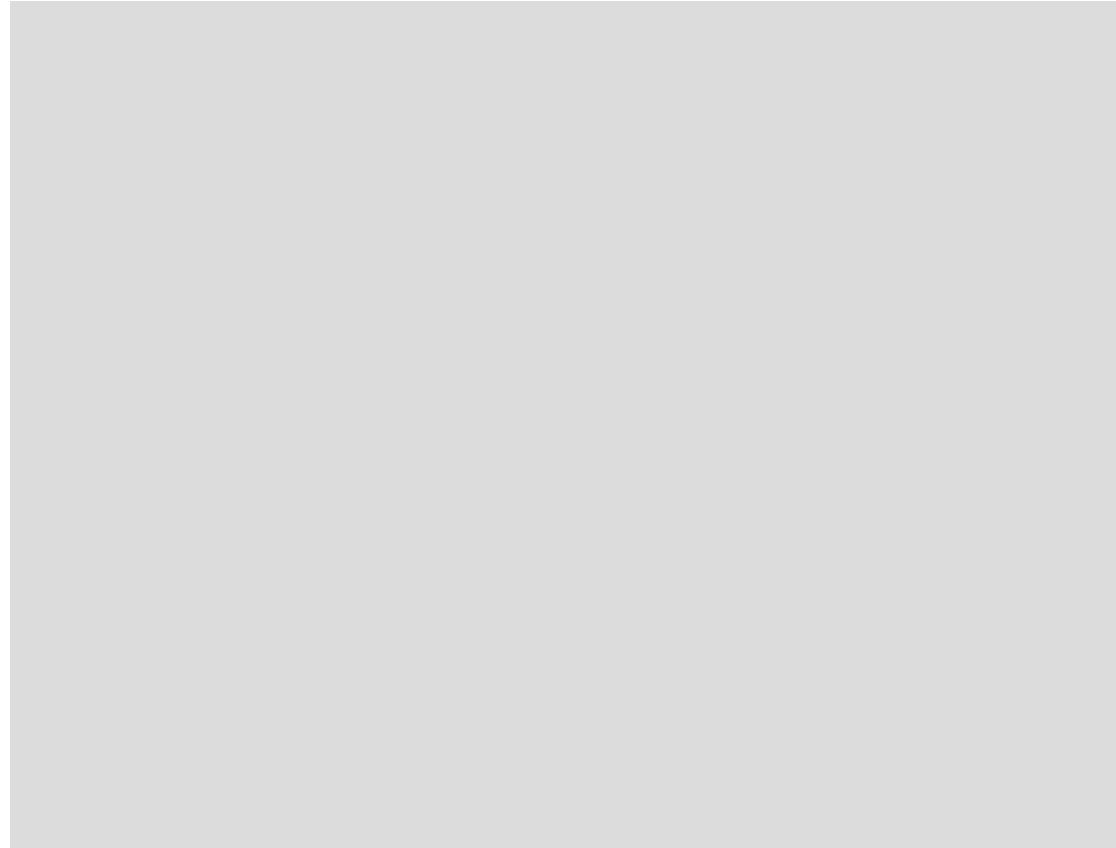


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# Neural systems sustain and manipulate memories

## Spatial localization and forecasting

Song



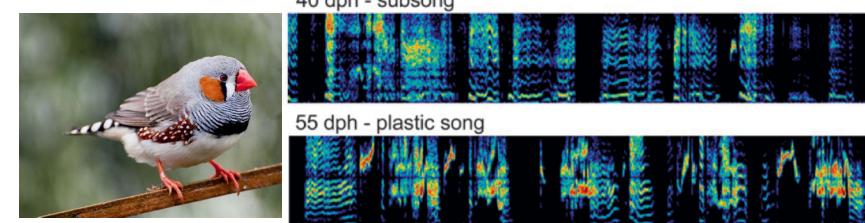
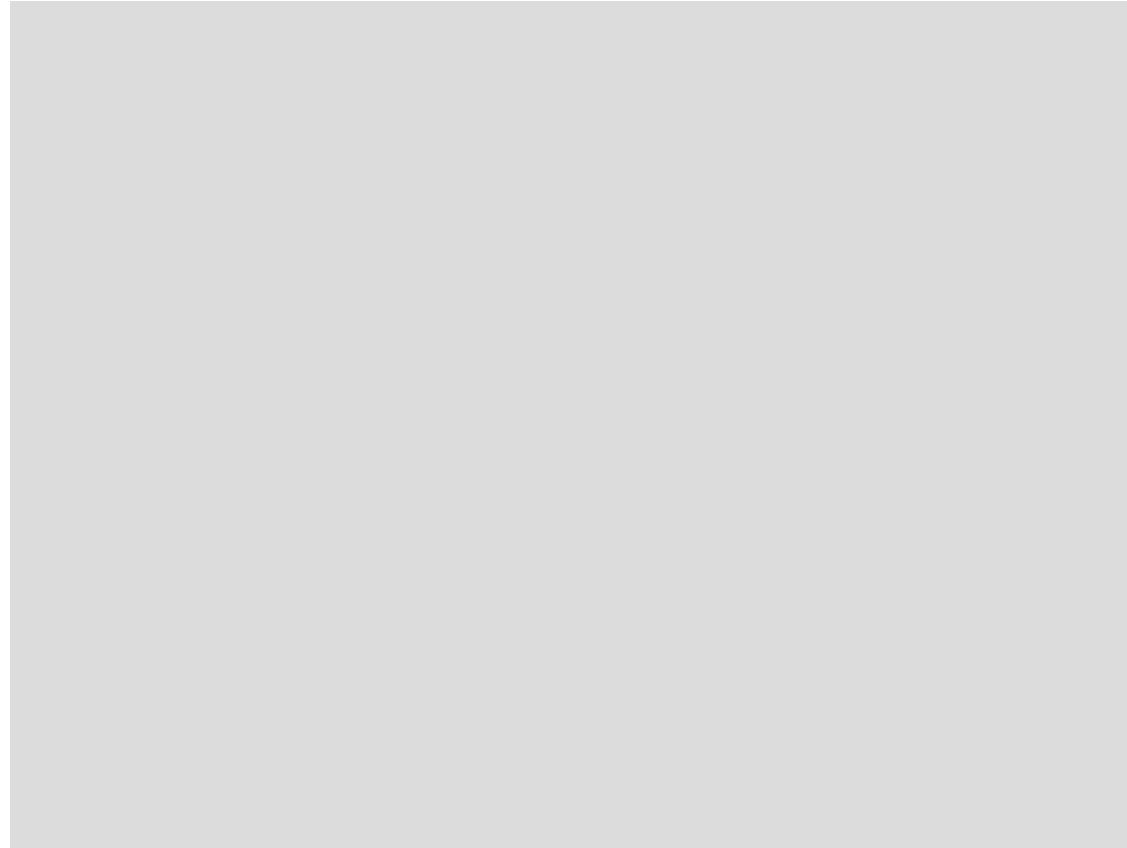
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## Spatial localization and forecasting

Song



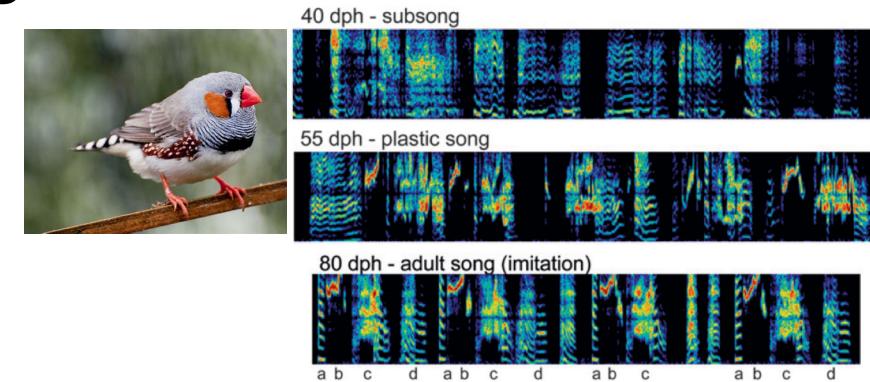
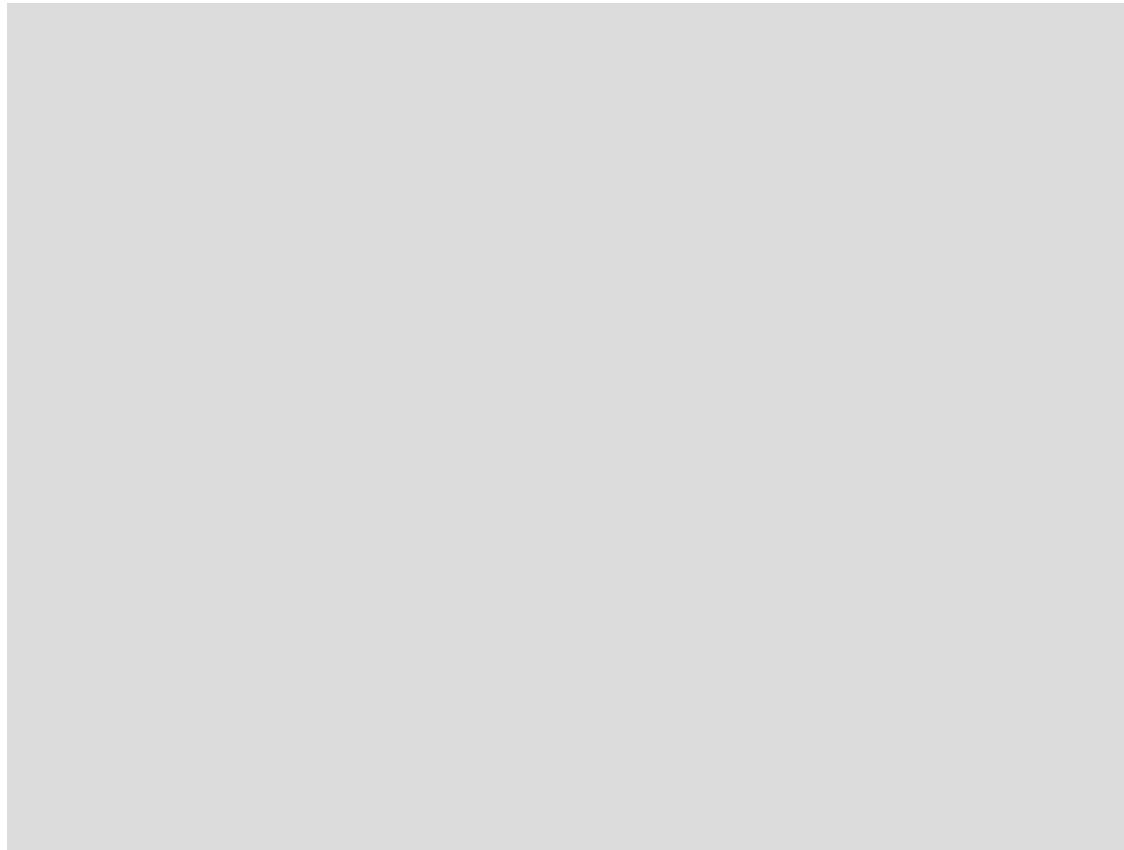
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## Spatial localization and forecasting

Song

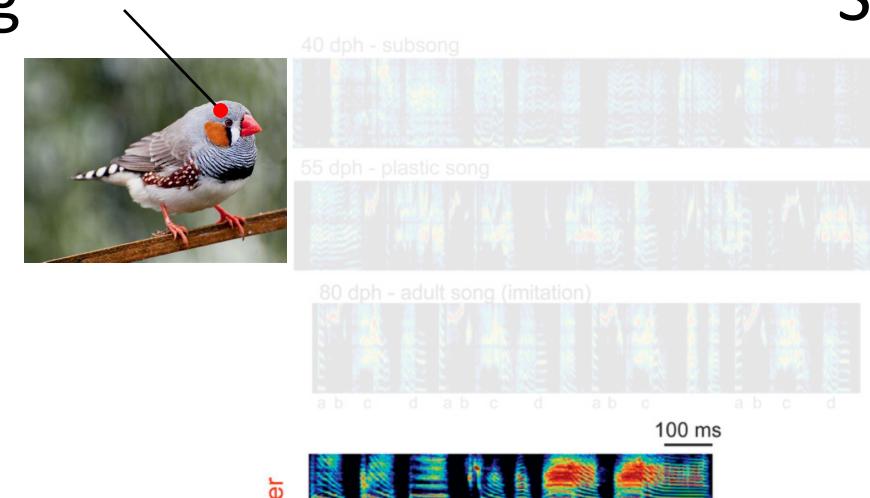
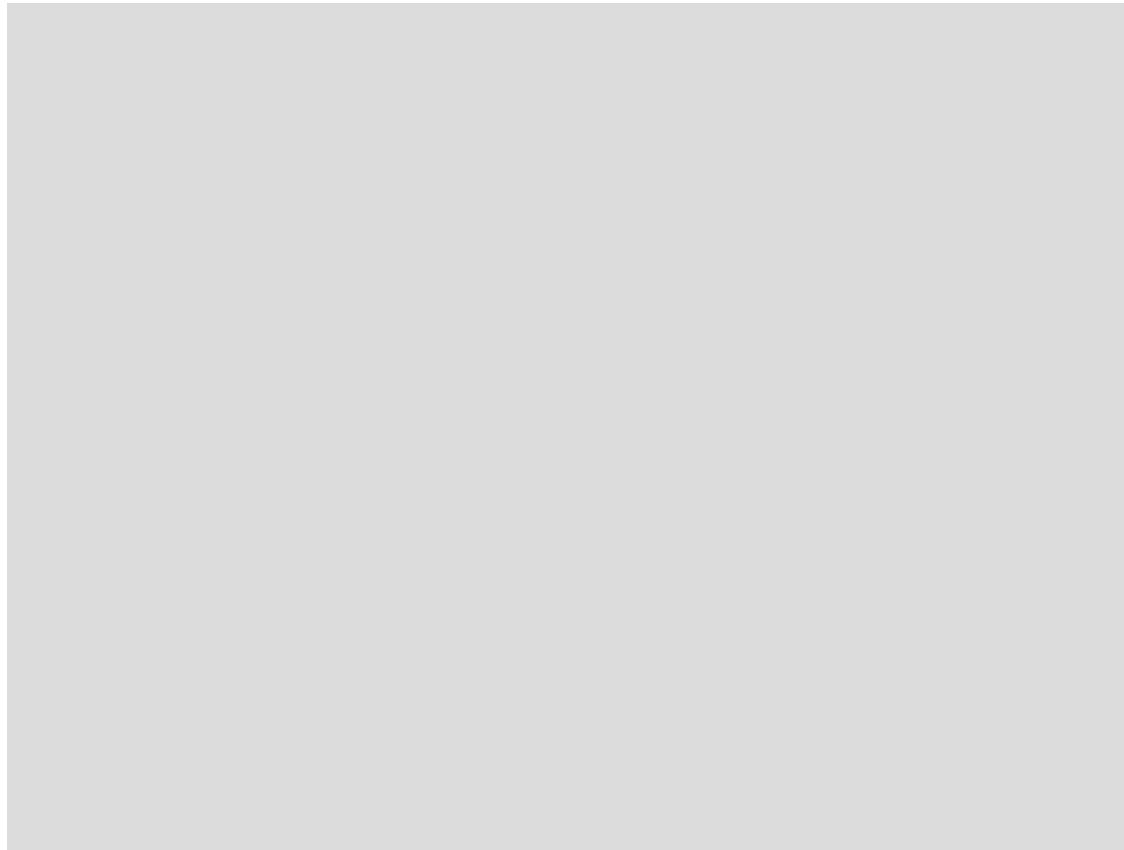


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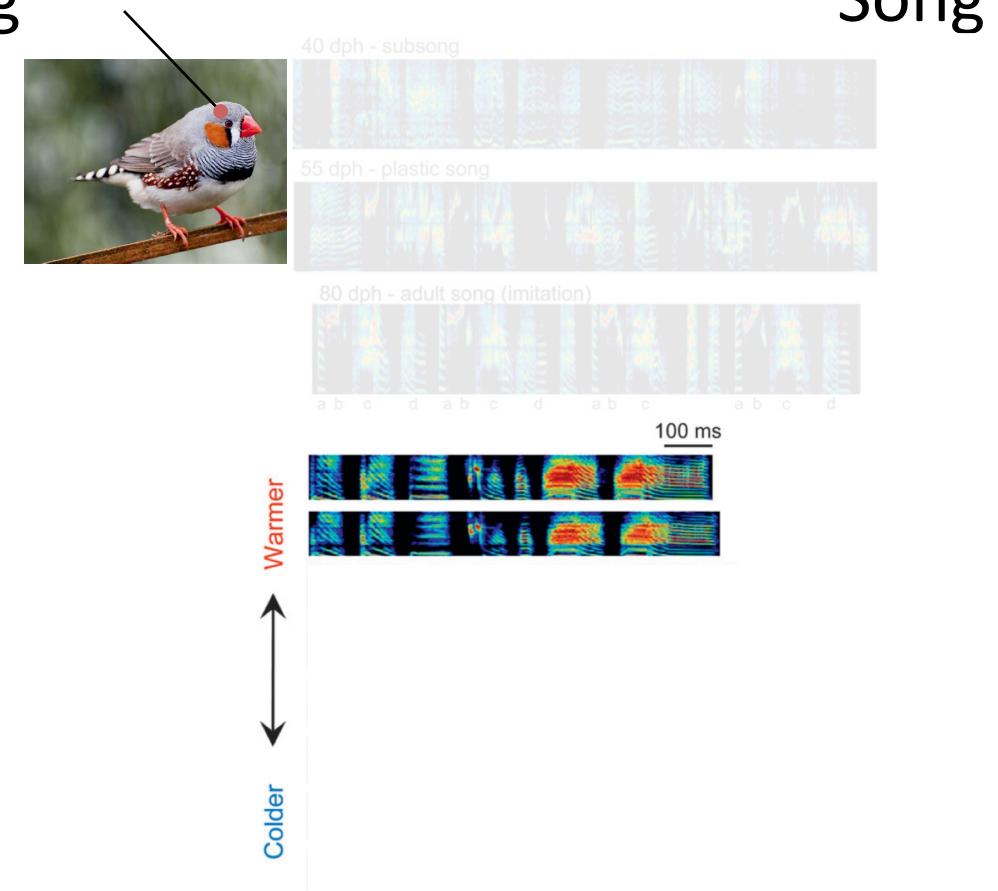
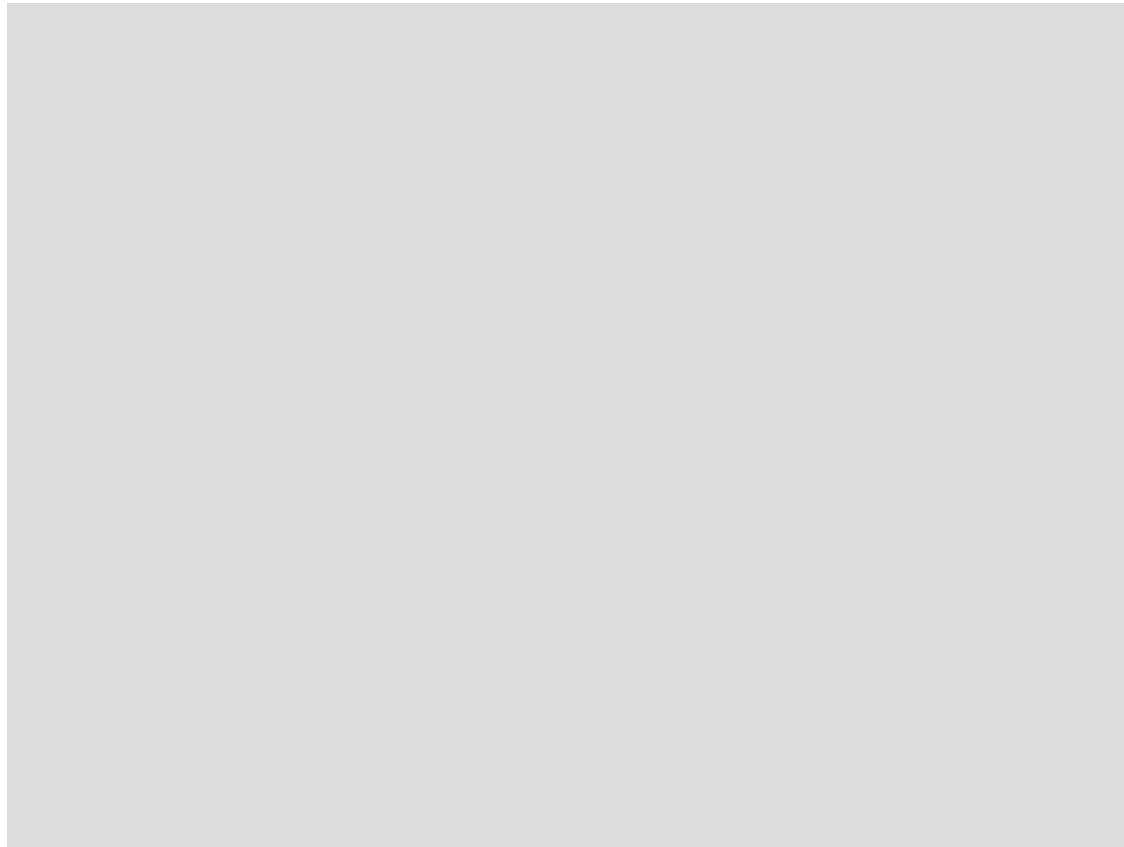


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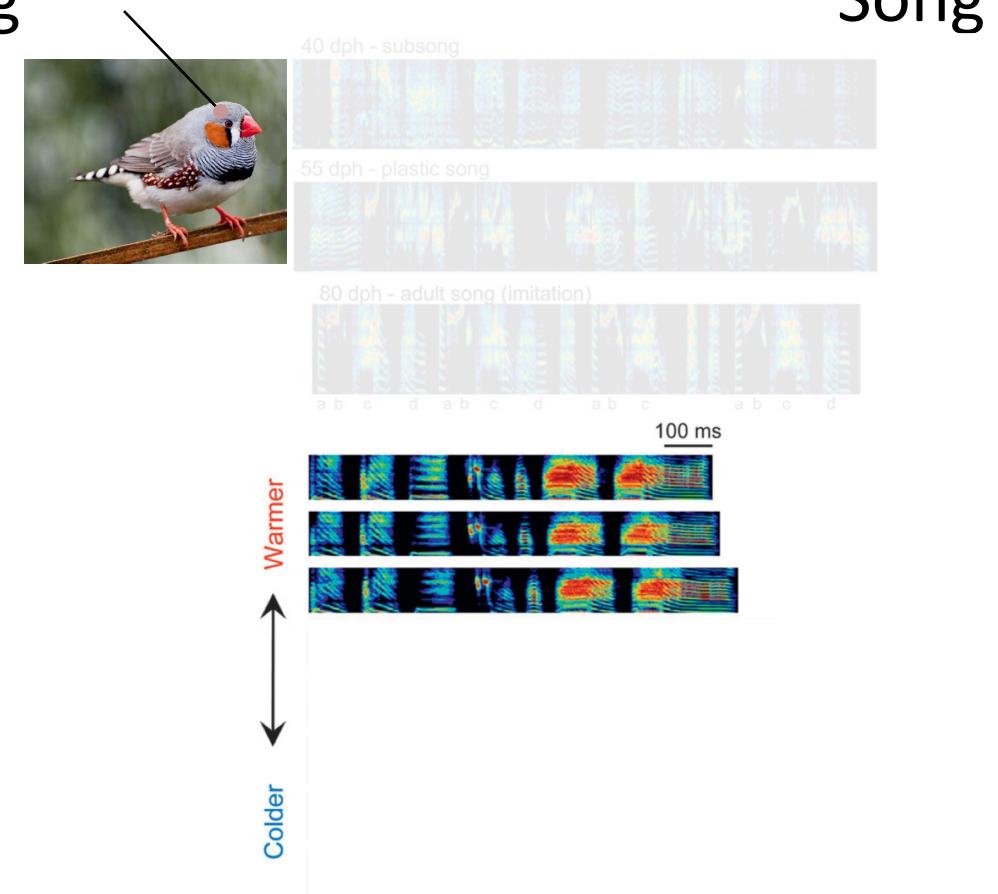
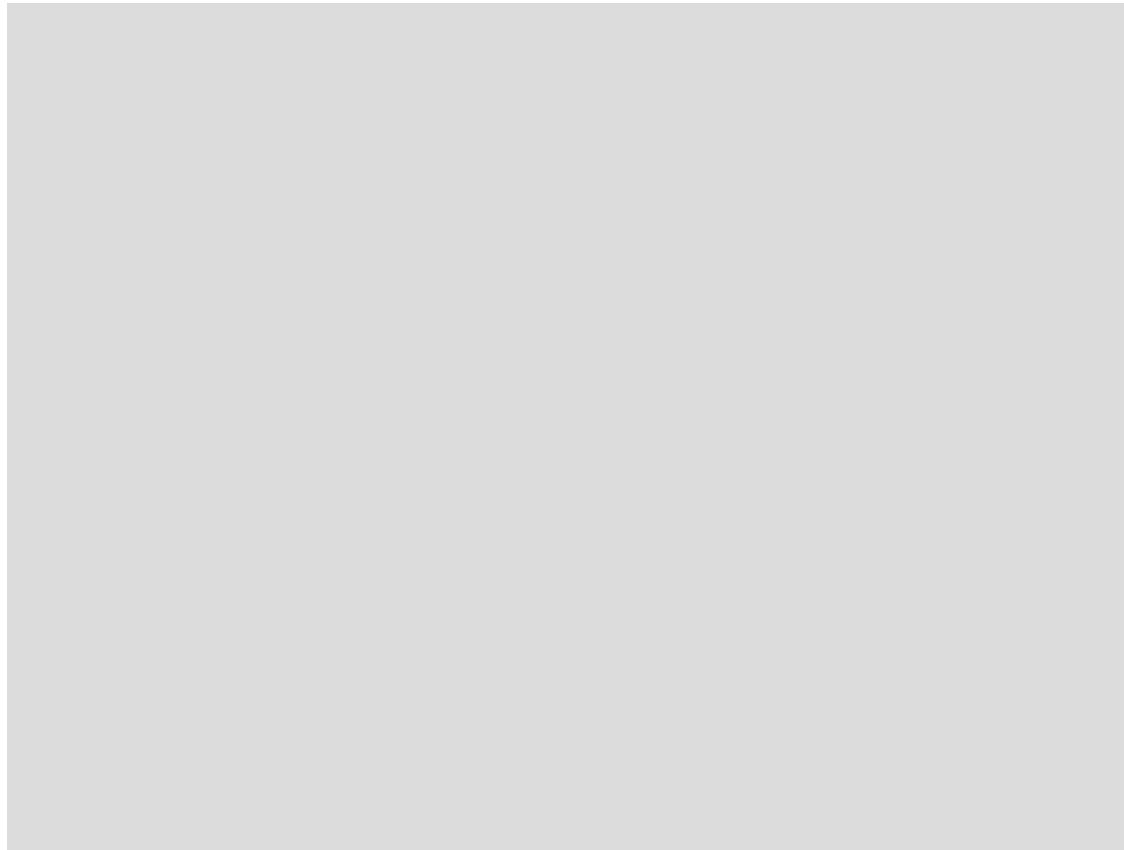


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## Spatial localization and forecasting

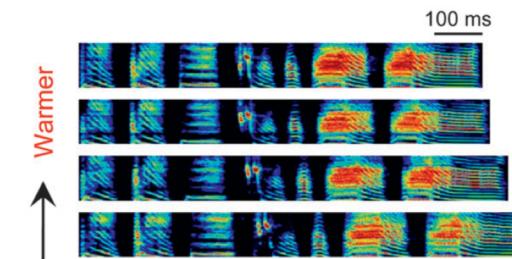
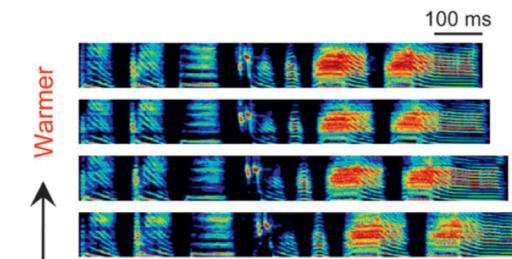
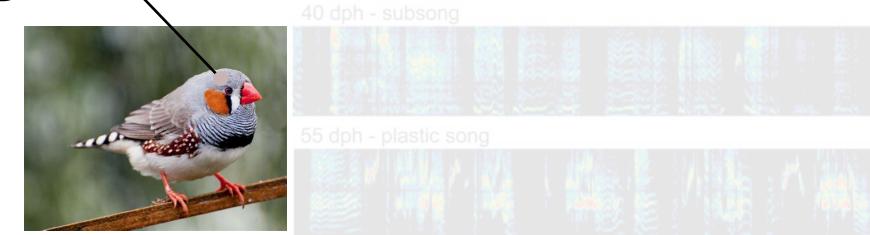
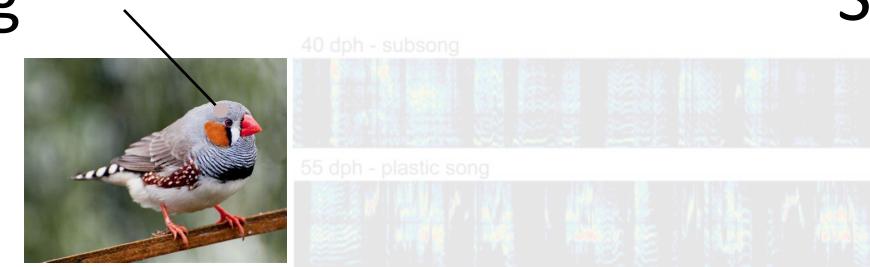
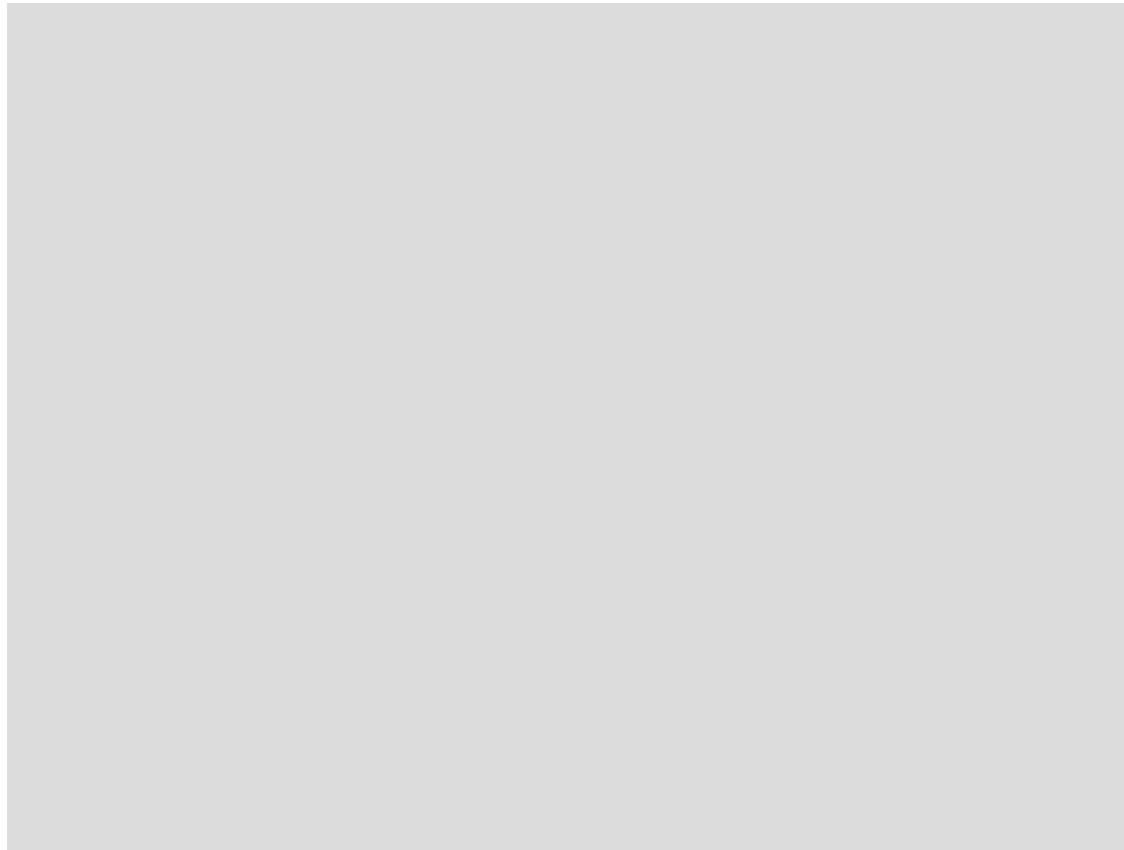


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# Neural systems sustain and manipulate memories

## Spatial localization and forecasting



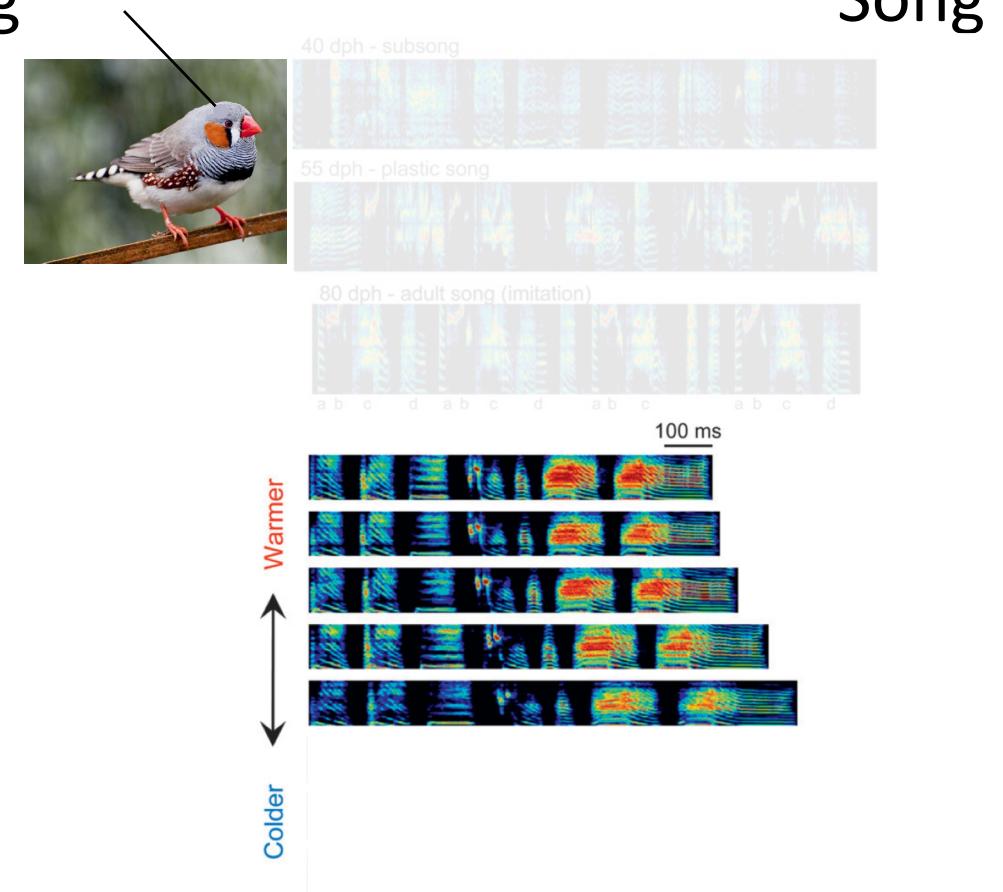
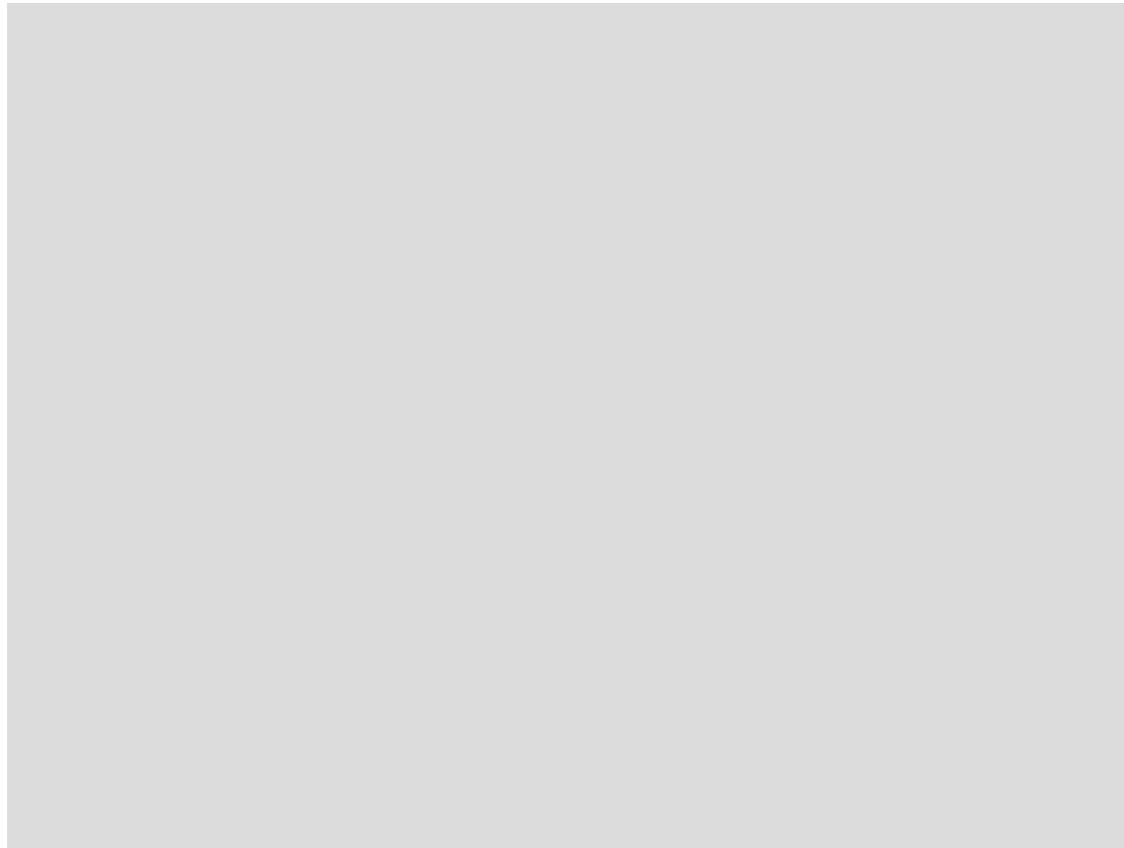
Song

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## Spatial localization and forecasting

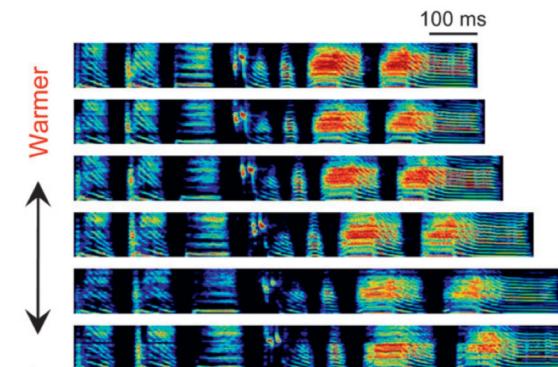
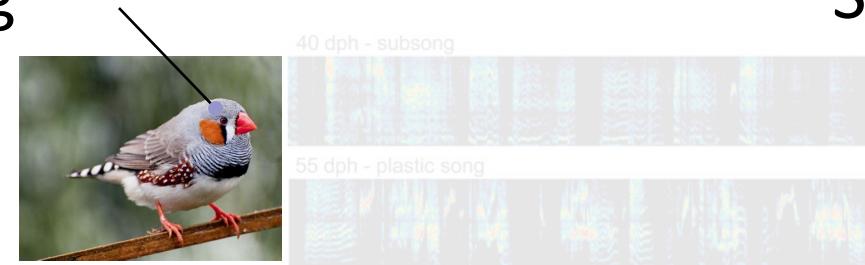
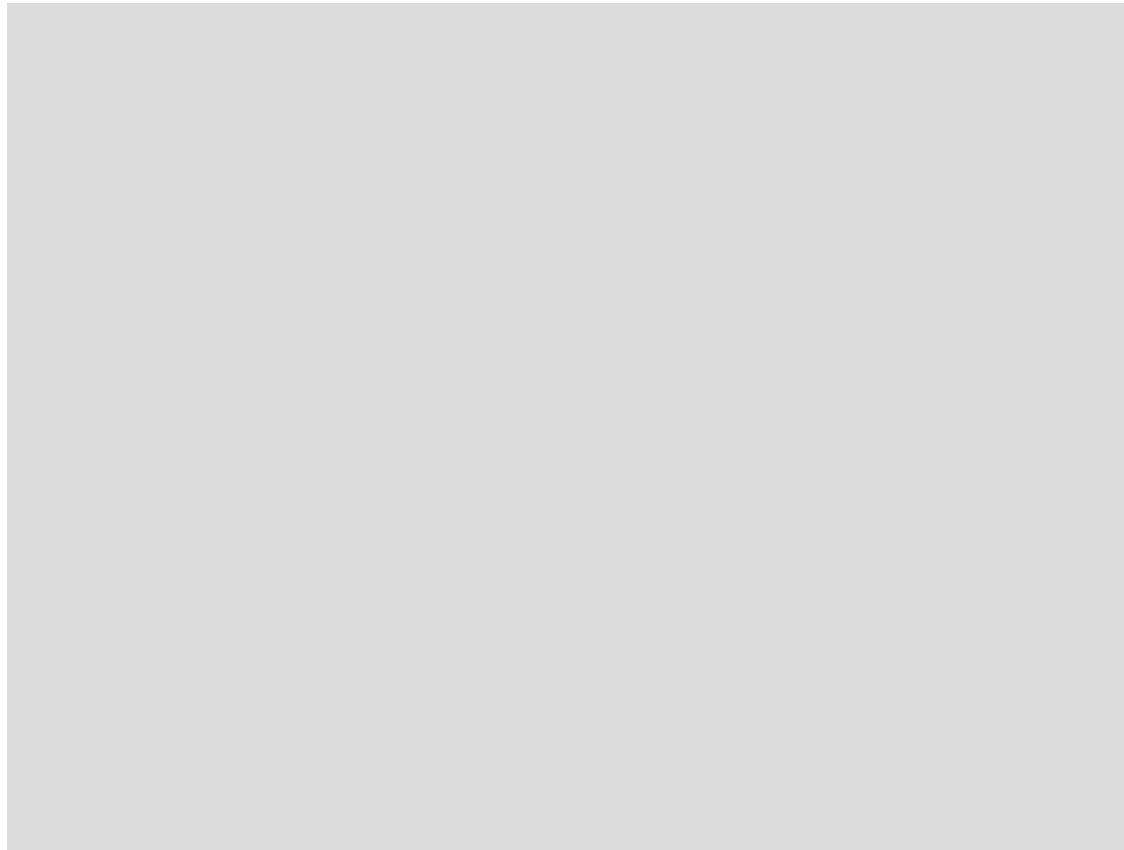


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# Neural systems sustain and manipulate memories

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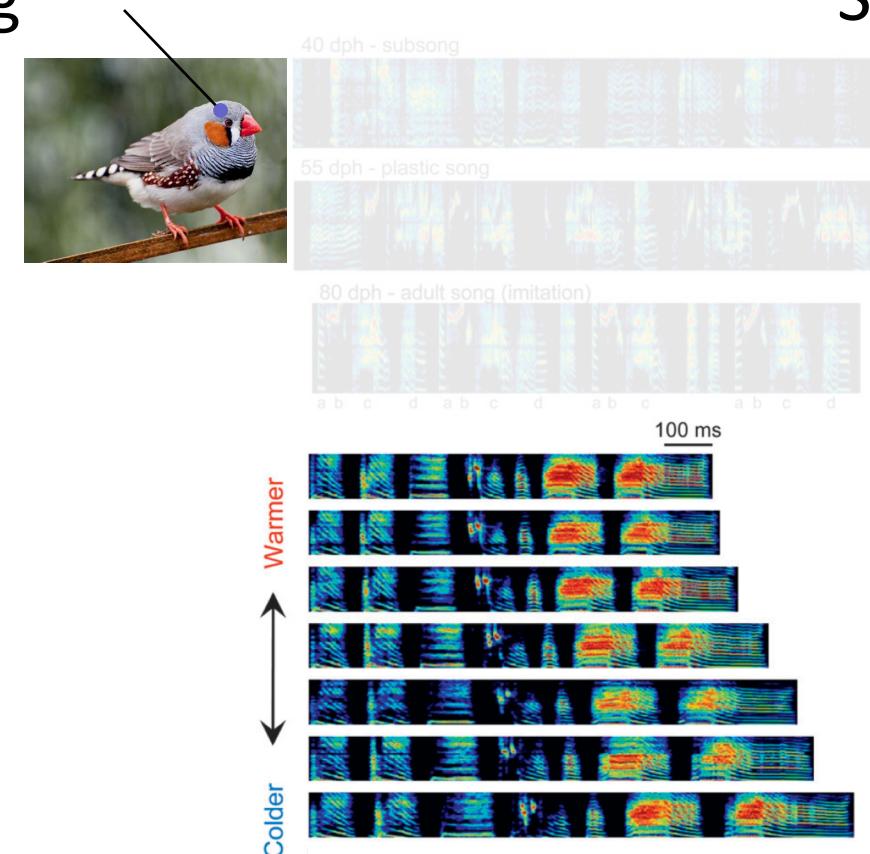
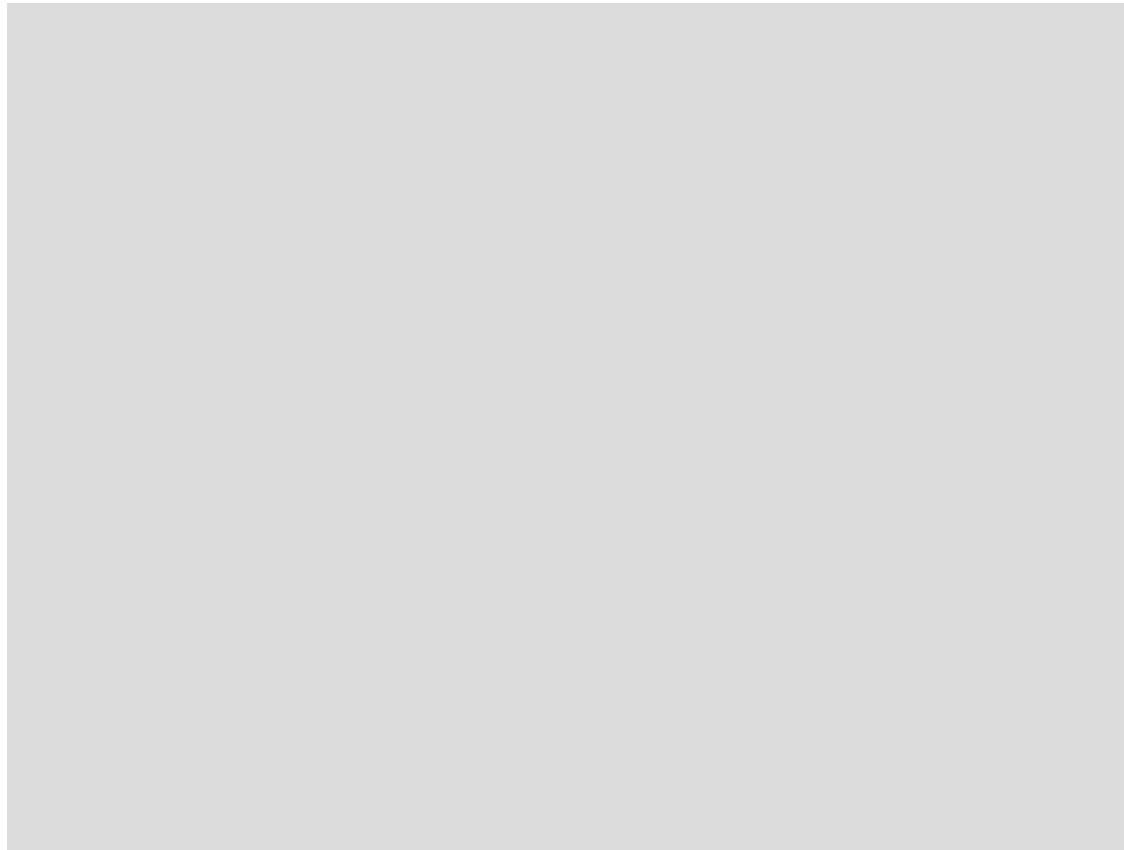


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## Spatial localization and forecasting

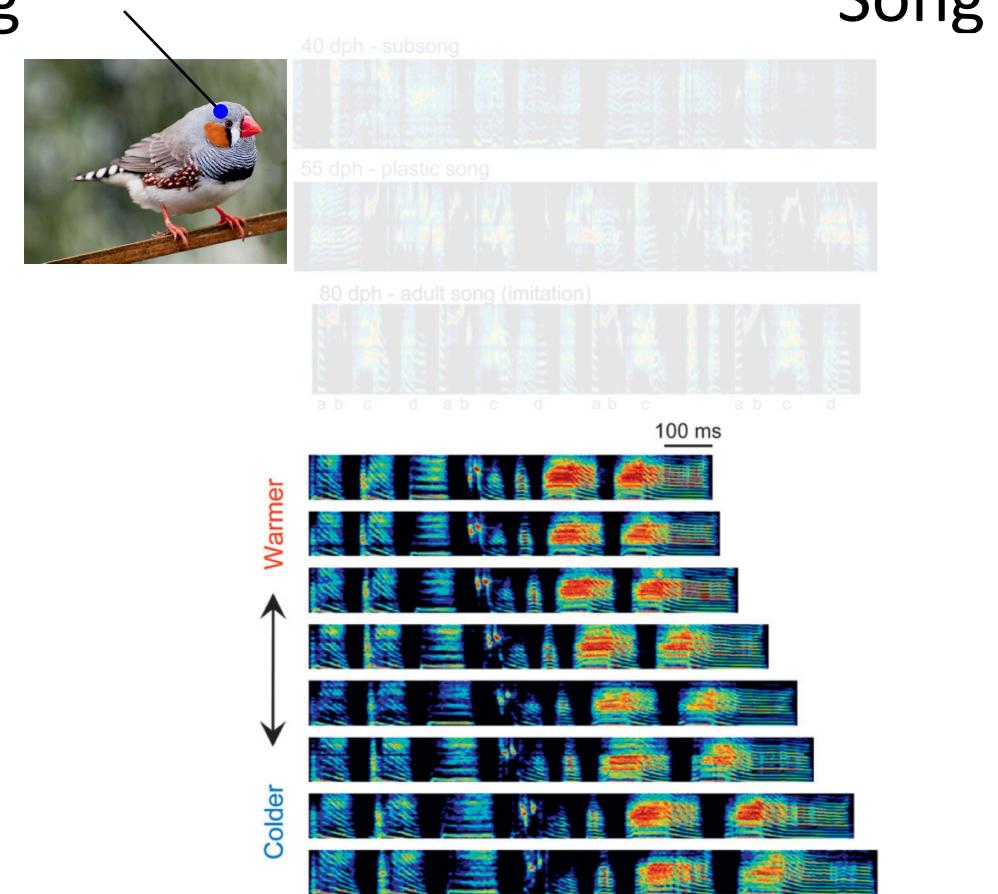
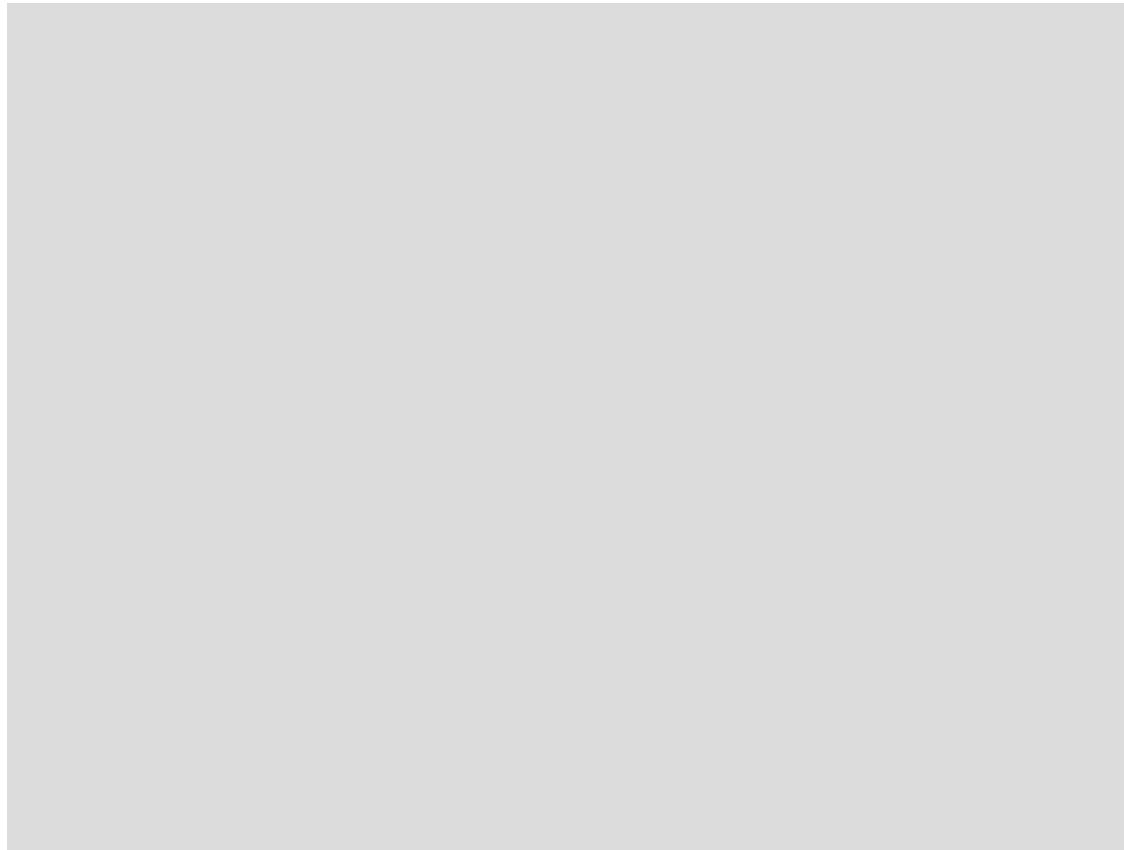


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## Spatial localization and forecasting



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# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

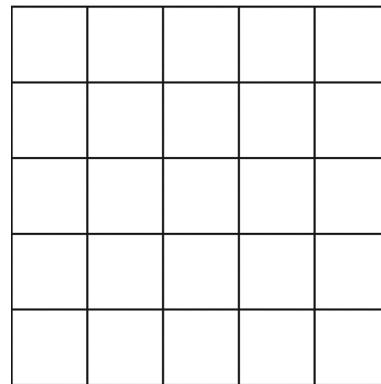
ial

solely by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

- Computers: binary memory

ial

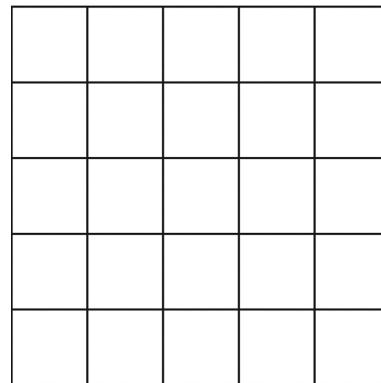


solely by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$

hal



solely by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: decimal => binary

hal

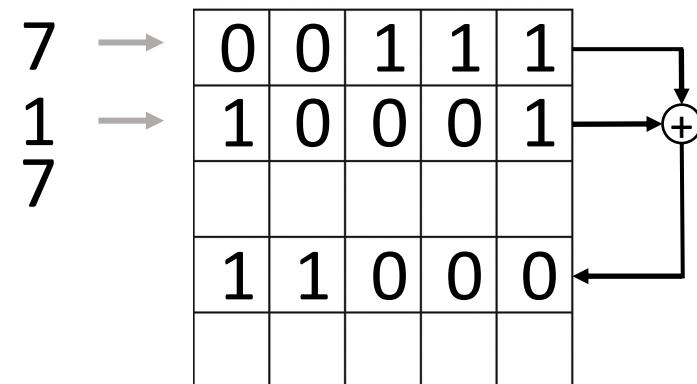
7	→	0	0	1	1	1
1	→	1	0	0	0	1
7						

solely by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: decimal  $\Rightarrow$  binary
  - Modify: operations in binary

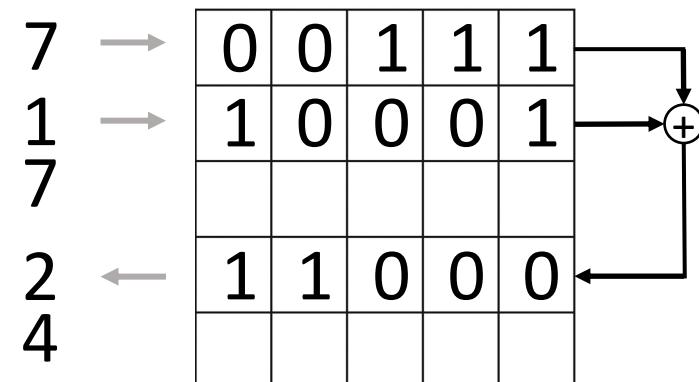
Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained



soley by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

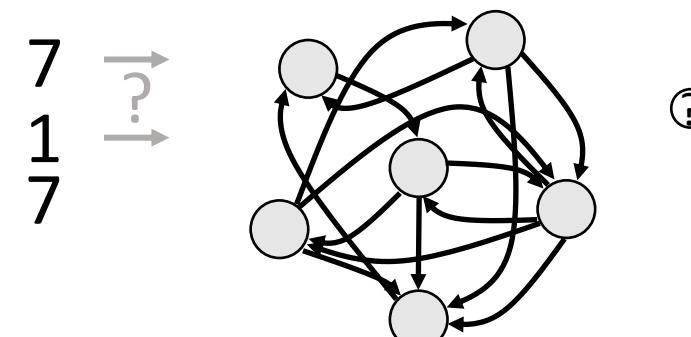
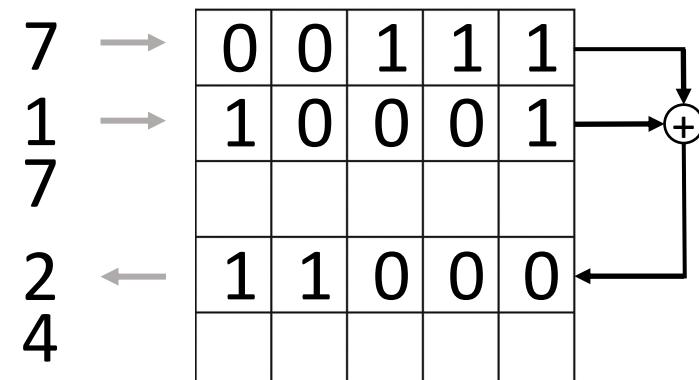
- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: decimal  $\Rightarrow$  binary
  - Modify: operations in binary
  - Decode: binary  $\Rightarrow$  decimal



solely by observing examples?

# Computers are engineered, neural systems are trained

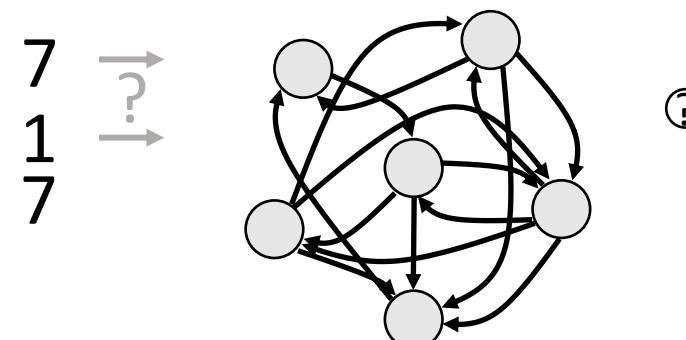
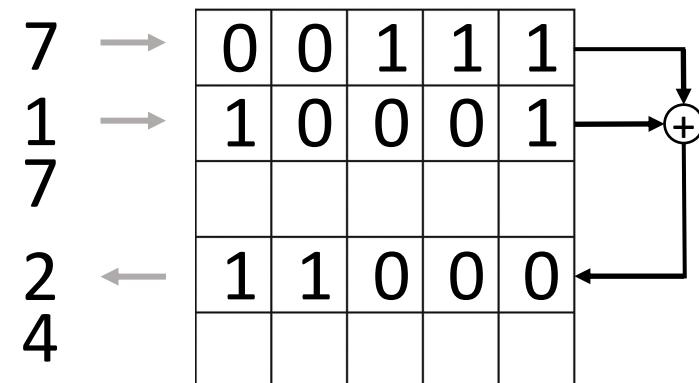
- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: decimal  $\Rightarrow$  binary
  - Modify: operations in binary
  - Decode: binary  $\Rightarrow$  decimal
- Brain: neural memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: ?
  - Modify: ?
  - Decode: ?



solely by observing examples?

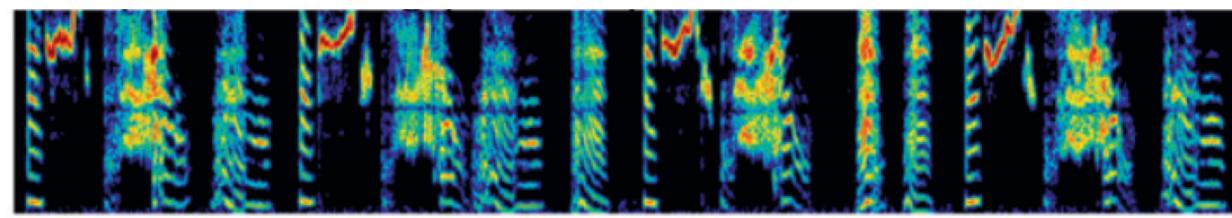
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- Computers: binary memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: decimal  $\Rightarrow$  binary
  - Modify: operations in binary
  - Decode: binary  $\Rightarrow$  decimal
- Brain: neural memory
- Task:  $7 + 17$ 
  - Encode: ?
  - Modify: ?
  - Decode: ?



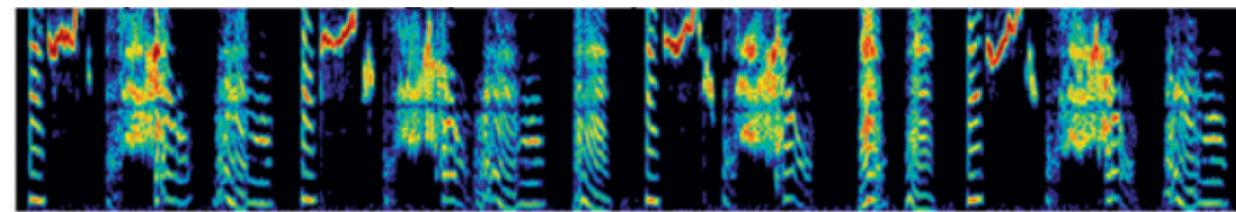
**How can neural systems learn to manipulate information solely by observing examples?**

# Model of memory



# Unpredictable yet structured data

- Temporal (changes with time)
- Structured (not completely random)
- Complex (unpredictable)

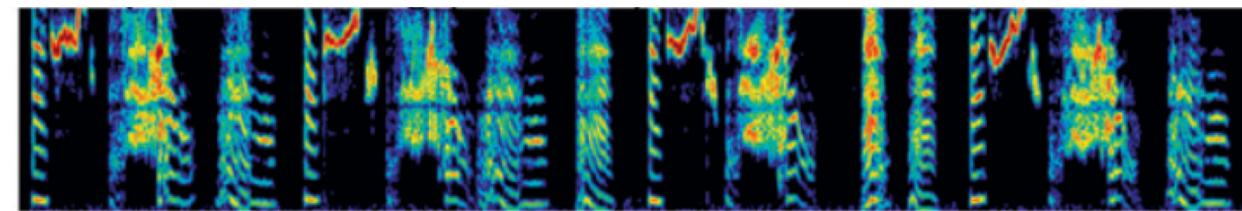


# Unpredictable yet structured data

- Temporal (changes with time)
- Structured (not completely random)
- Complex (unpredictable)

Lorenz  
Attractor

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= \sigma(x_2 - x_1) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_1(\rho - x_3) - x_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= x_1x_2 - \beta x_3, \end{aligned}$$



# Unpredictable yet structured data

- Temporal (changes with time)
- Structured (not completely random)
- Complex (unpredictable)

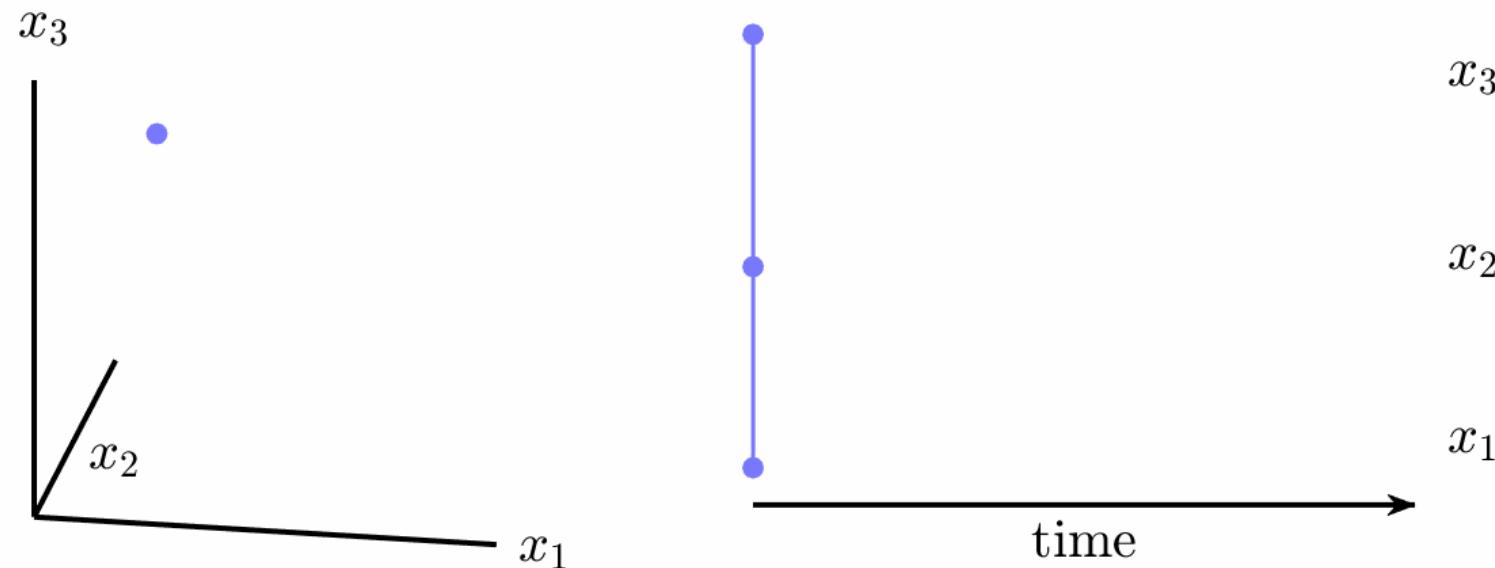
Lorenz

Attractor

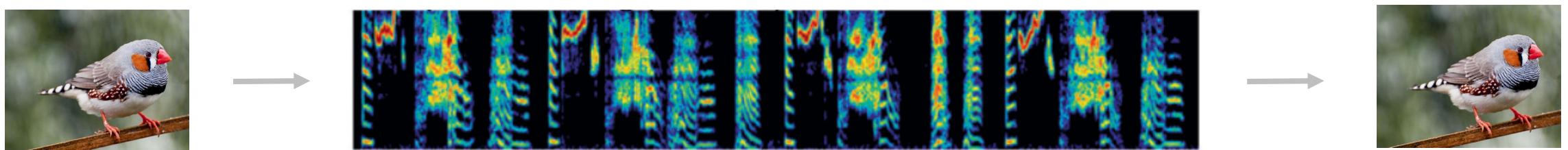
$$\dot{x}_1 = \sigma(x_2 - x_1)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = x_1(\rho - x_3) - x_2$$

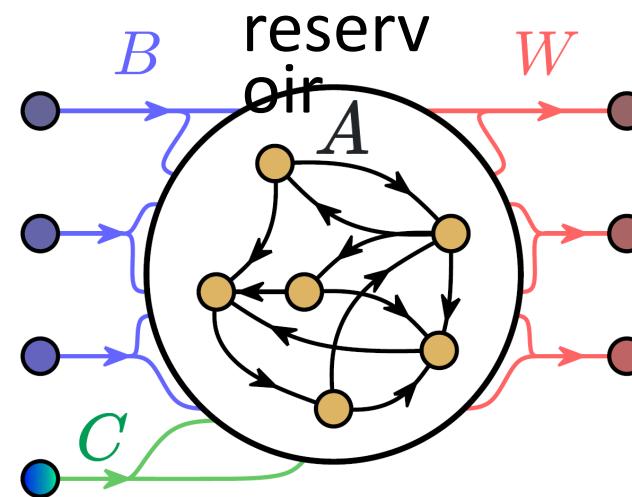
$$\dot{x}_3 = x_1x_2 - \beta x_3,$$



# Model of neural network

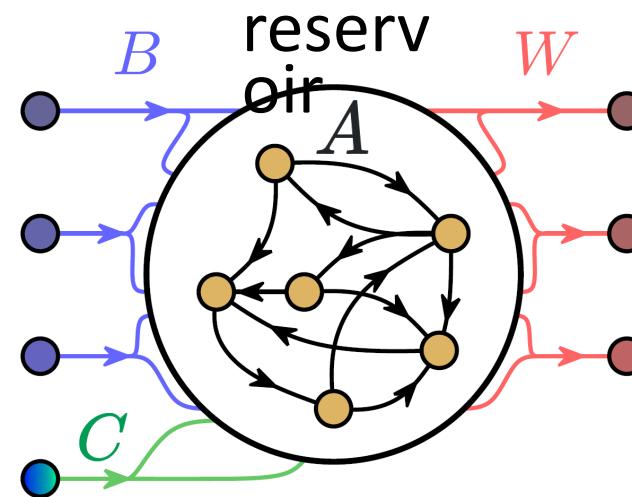


# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)



# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)

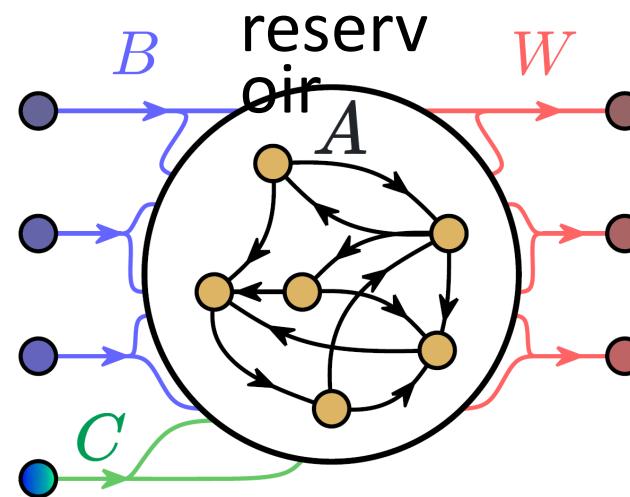
$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + C\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d})$$



# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)

reserv  
oir

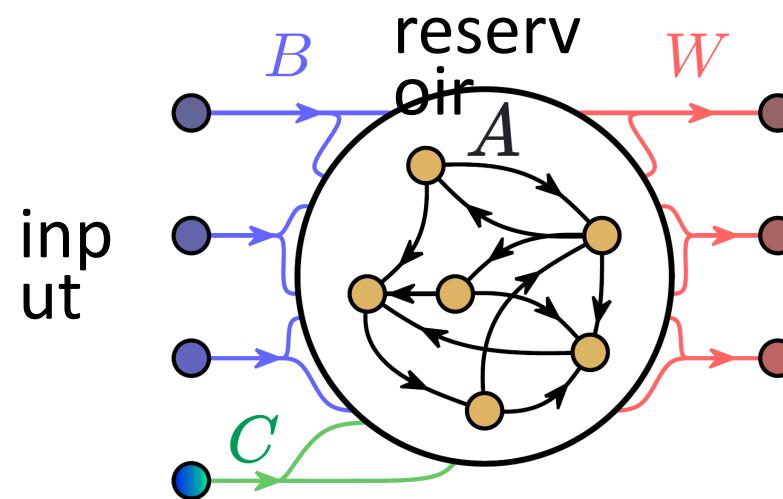
$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + C\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d})$$



# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + C\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d})$$

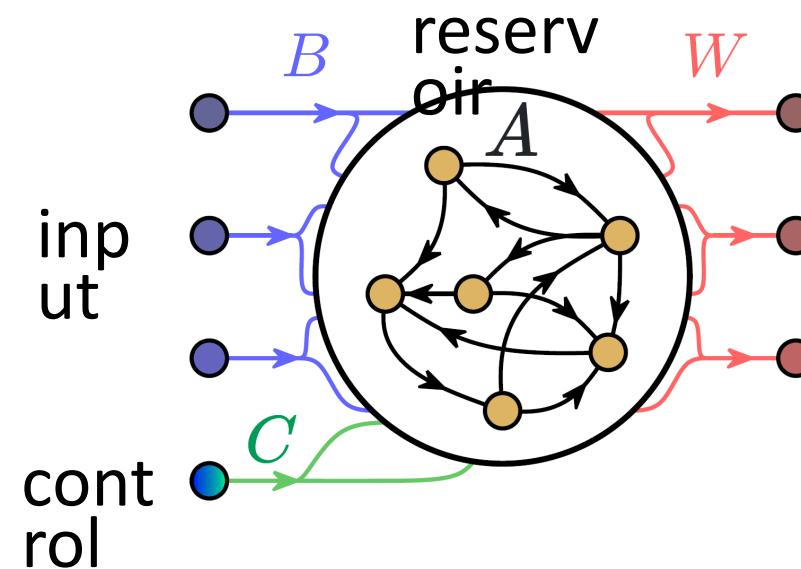
reserv  
oir      inp  
ut



# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + C\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d})$$

reserv  
dir      inp  
ut      cont  
rol



# Recurrent neural network (reservoir computer)

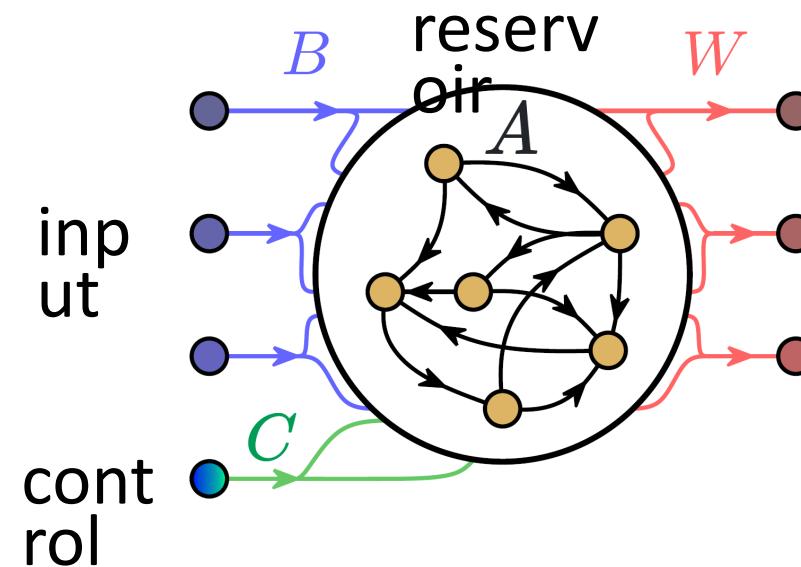
$$\dot{r} = -r + g(Ar + Bx + Cc + d)$$

reserv  
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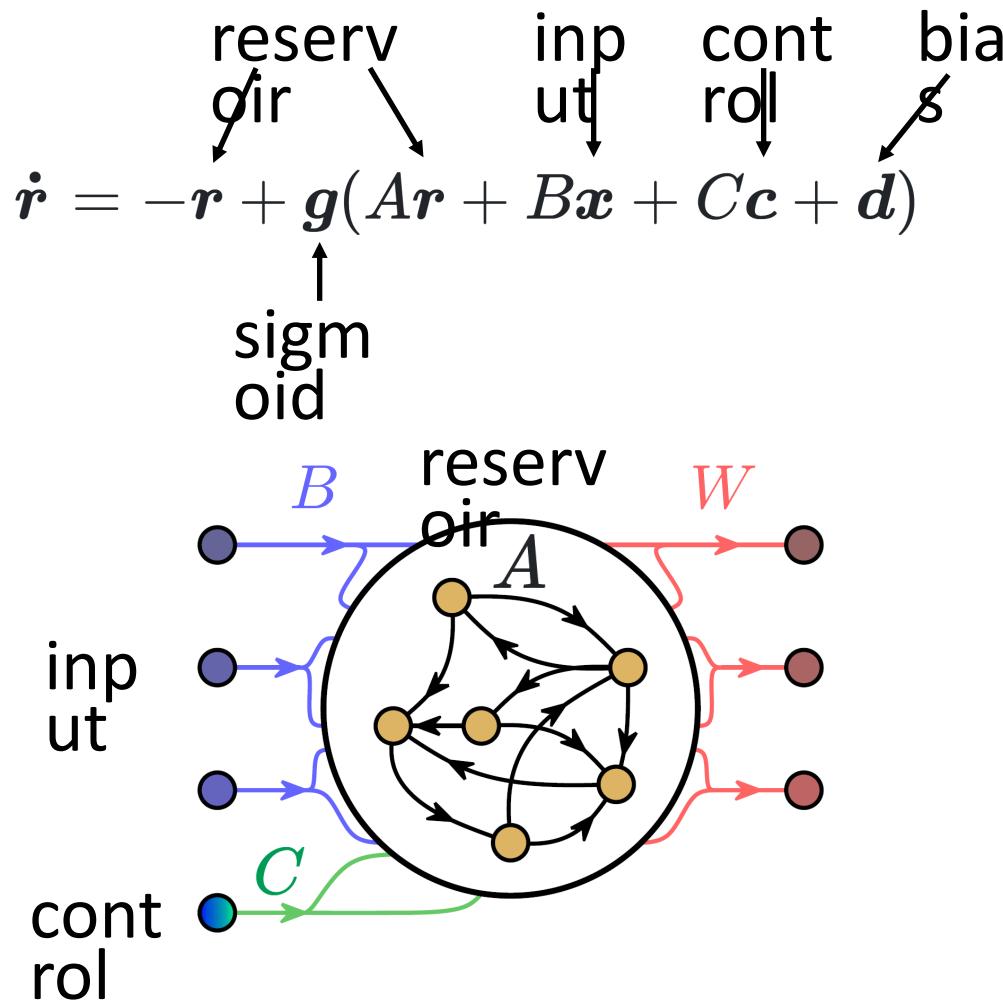
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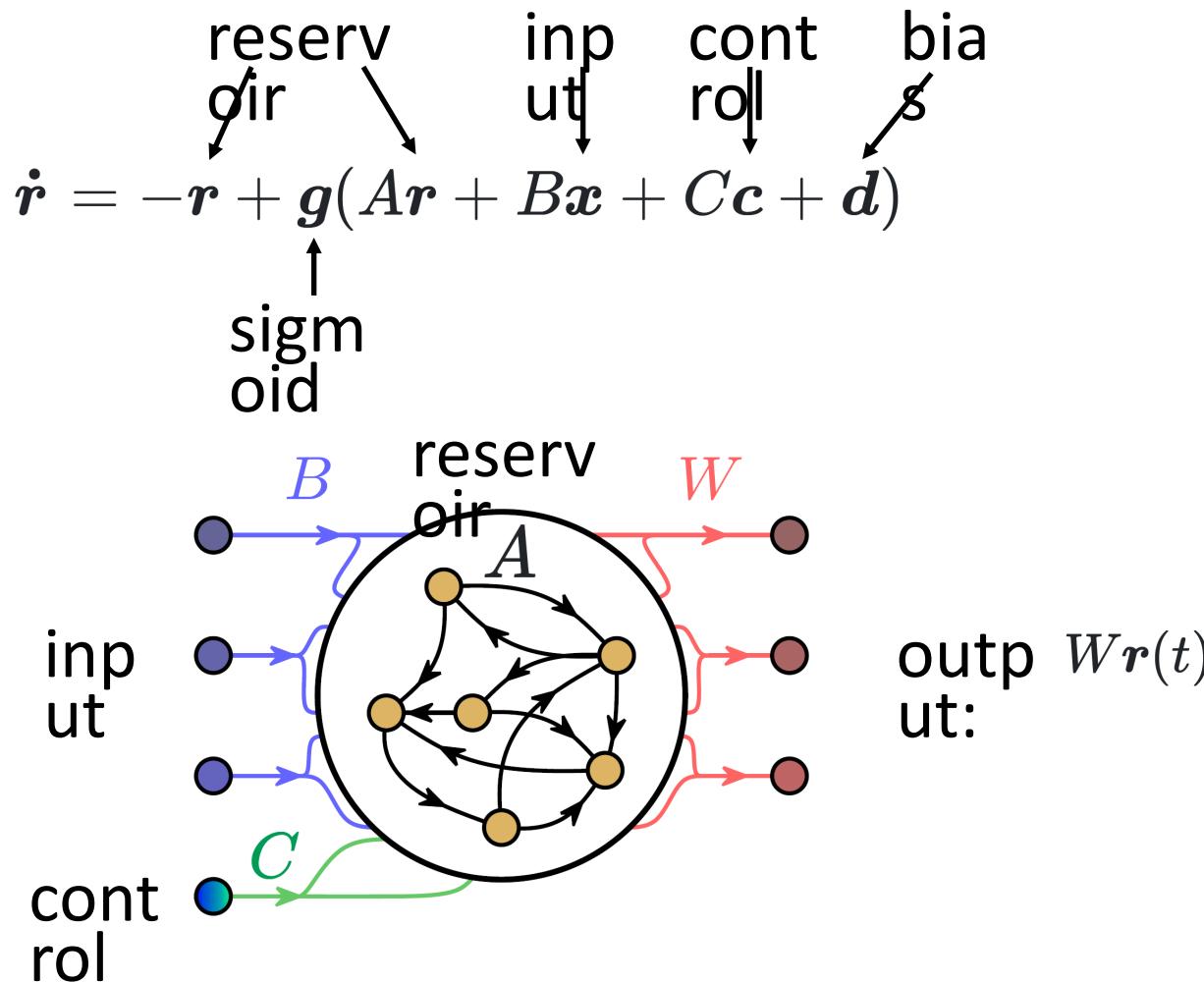
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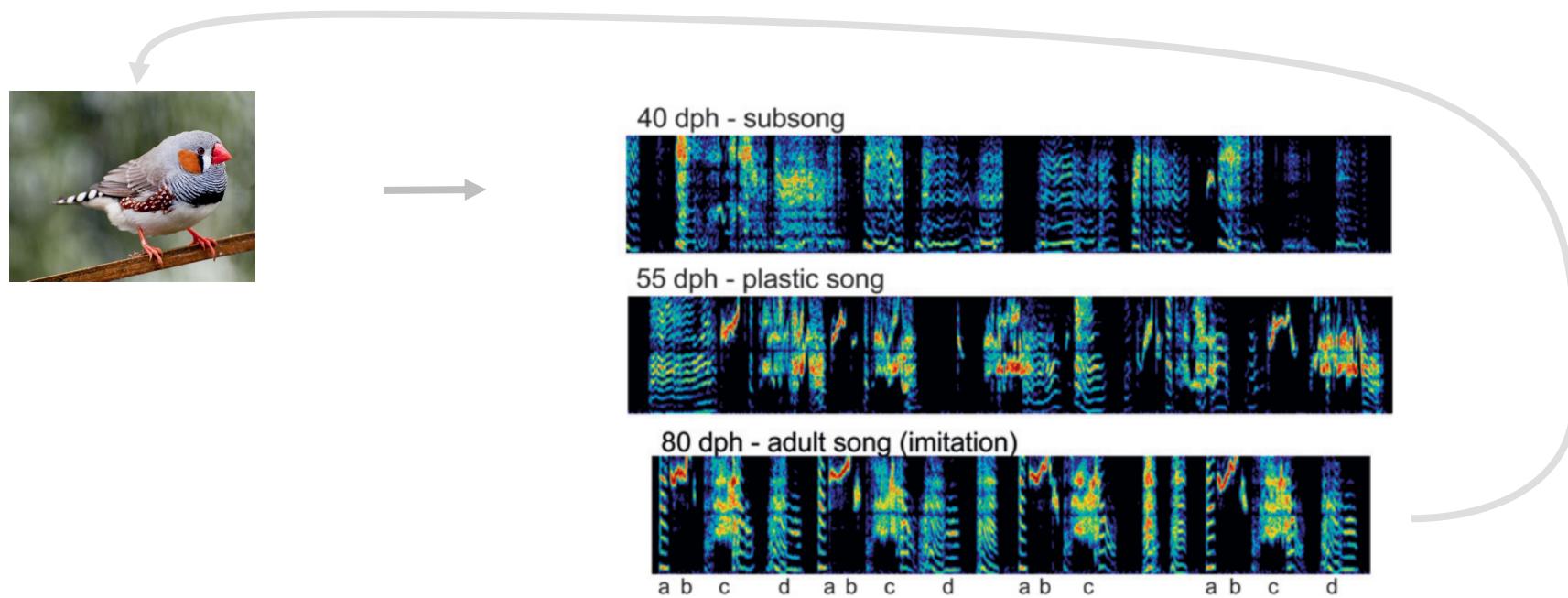
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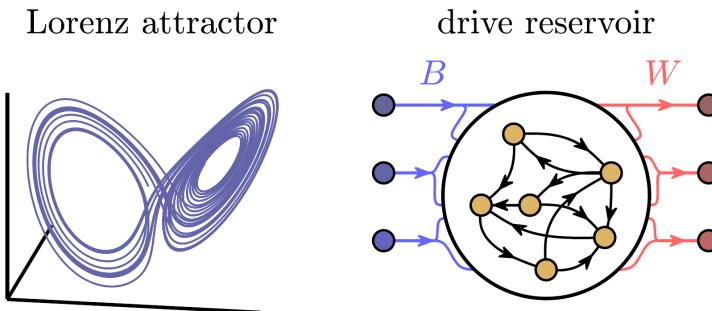


# Learning memories by imitating examples



# RNNs sustain chaotic memories by imitating examples

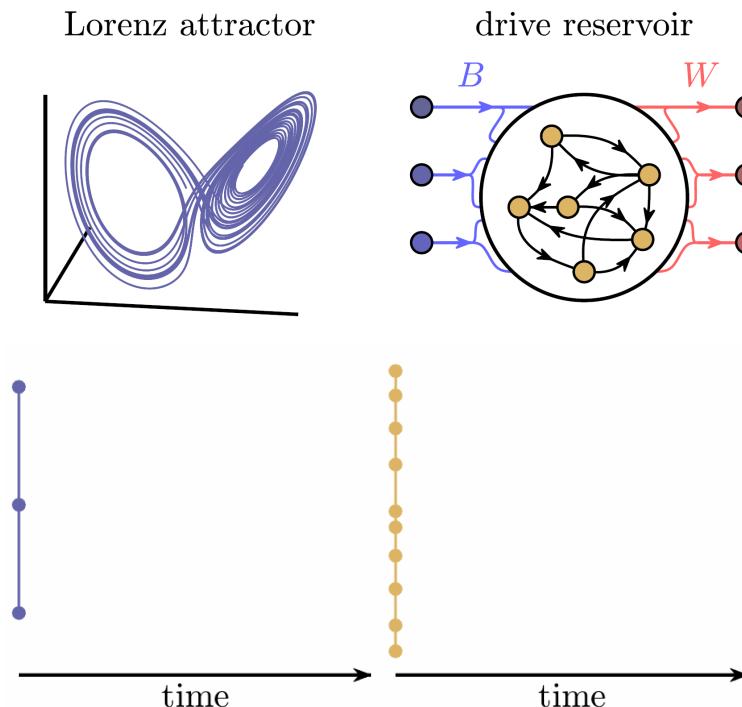
$$\text{Driving } \dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d})$$



Sussillo, D., & Abbott, L. F. (2009). Generating Coherent Patterns of Activity from Chaotic Neural Networks. *Neuron*, 63(4), 544–557.  
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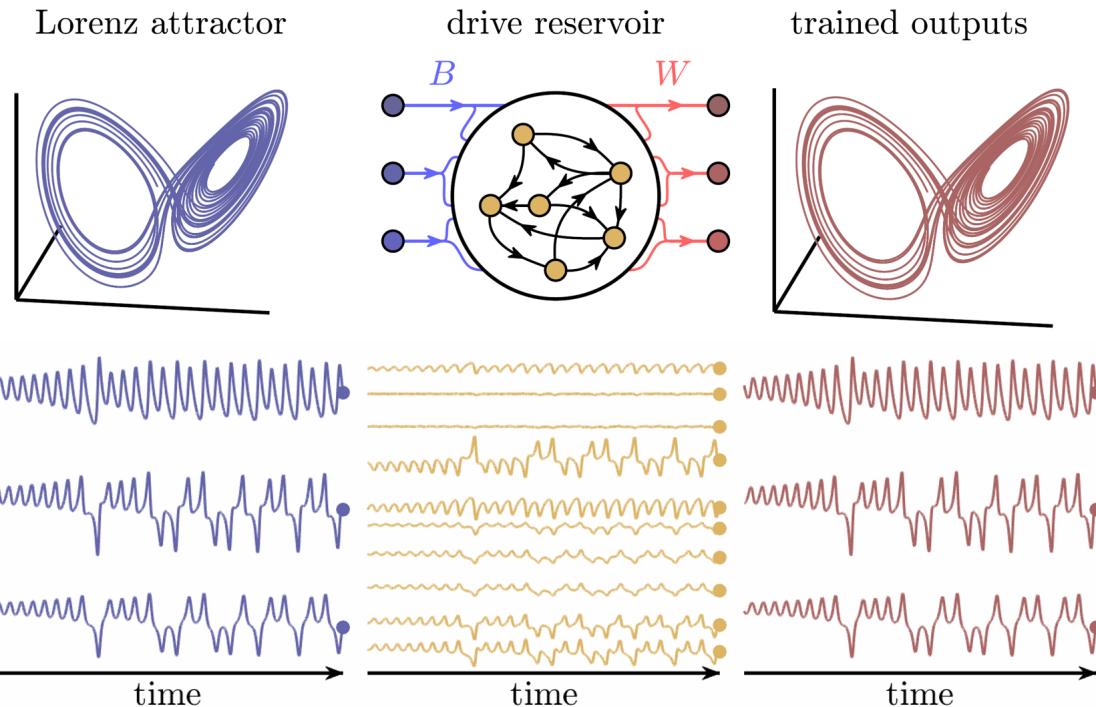
Driving  $\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g}(A\mathbf{r} + B\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d})$



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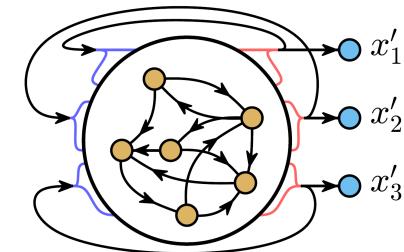
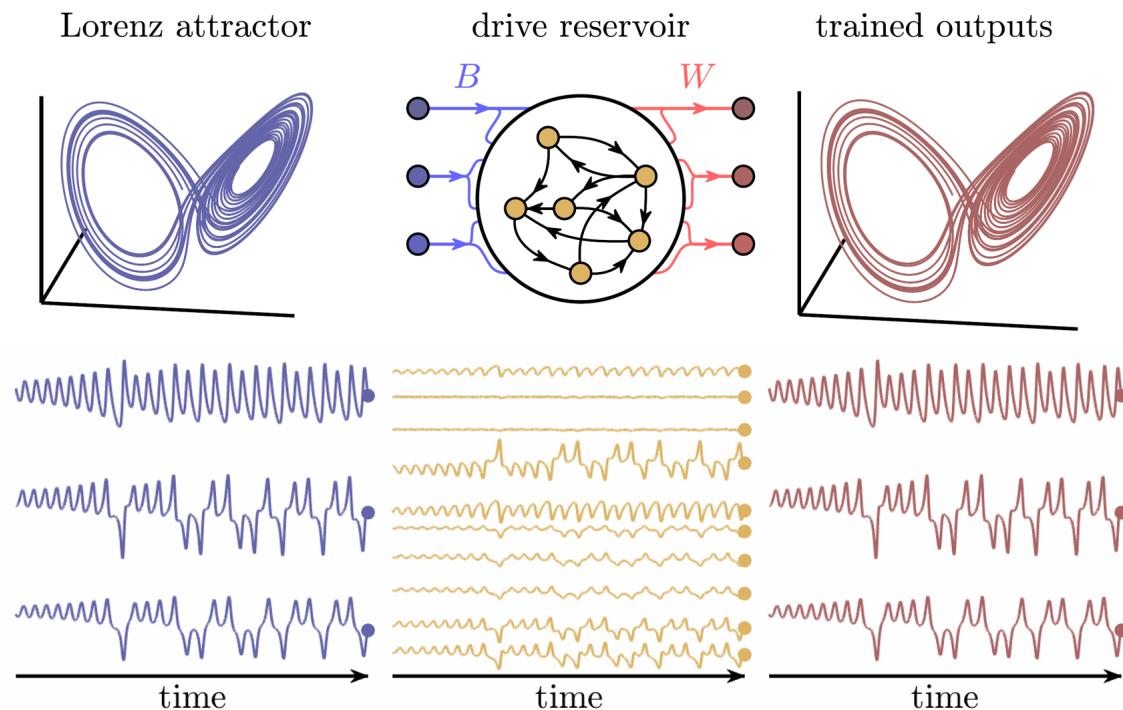
Driving  $\dot{r} = -r + g(Ar + Bx + d)$  → Trainin



Sussillo, D., & Abbott, L. F. (2009). Generating Coherent Patterns of Activity from Chaotic Neural Networks. *Neuron*, 63(4), 544–557.  
Jaeger, H. (2010). The “echo state” approach to analysing and training recurrent neural networks – with an Erratum note. *GMD Report*, 1(148), 1–47.

# RNNs sustain chaotic memories by imitating examples

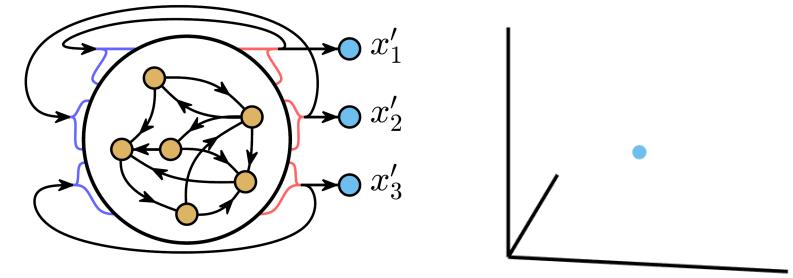
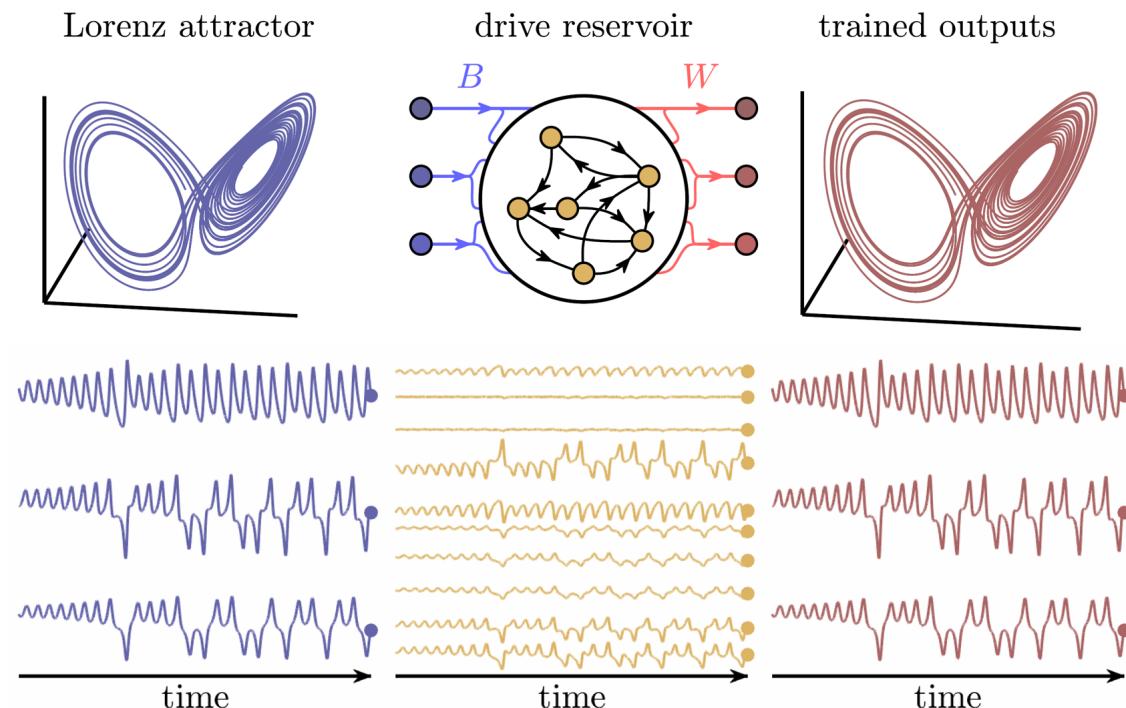
Driving  $\dot{r} = -r + g(Ar + Bx + d)$  → Training:  $W$   $\text{Pr}(\dot{r} = -r + g([A + BW]r + d))$



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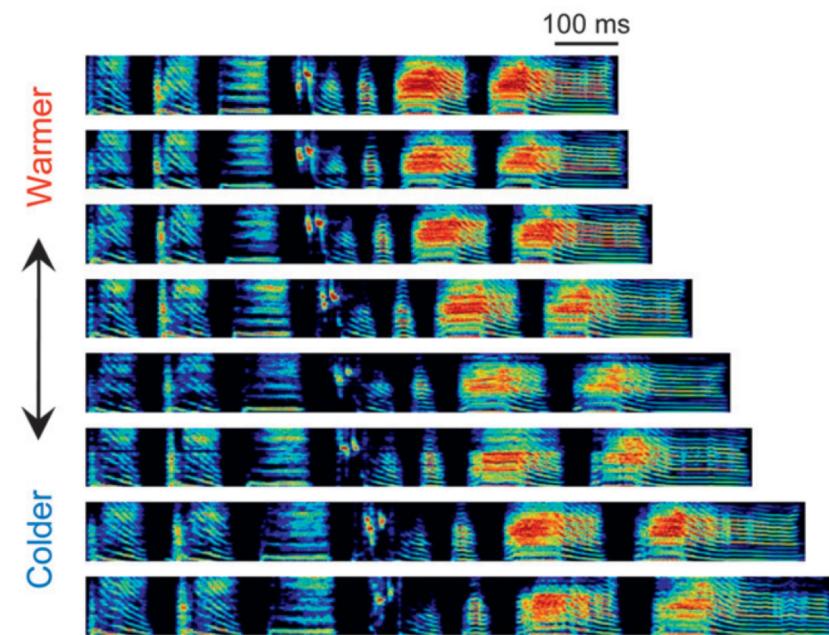
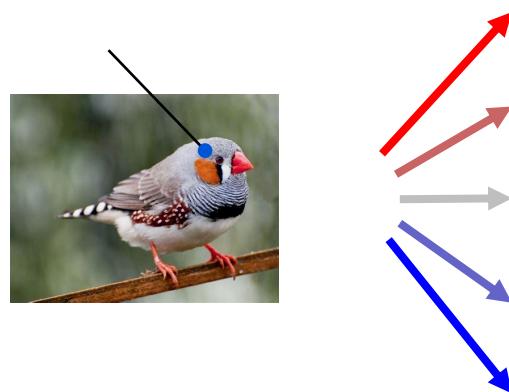
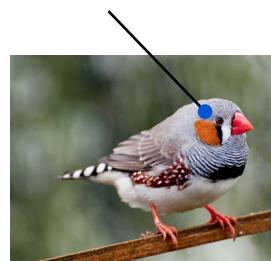
Driving  $\dot{r} = -r + g(Ar + Bx + d)$  → Training:  $W$   $P\dot{r} = -r + g([A + BW]r + d)$



No engineered encoding or decoding!

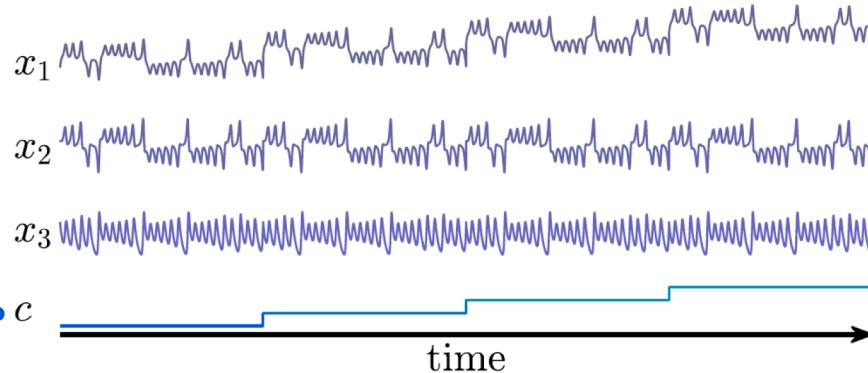
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# Learning computations by imitating examples

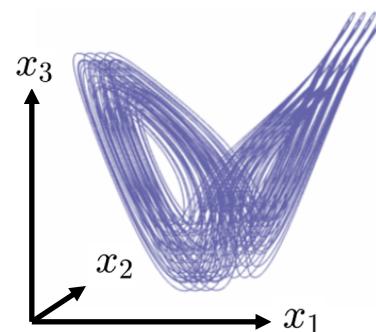
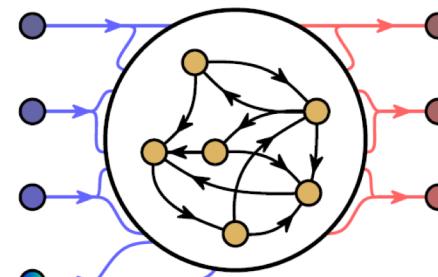


# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples

training input: shifted Lorenz time series



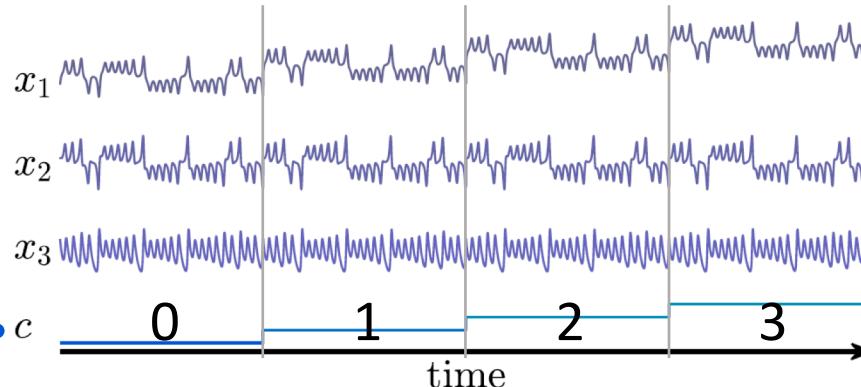
drive reservoir



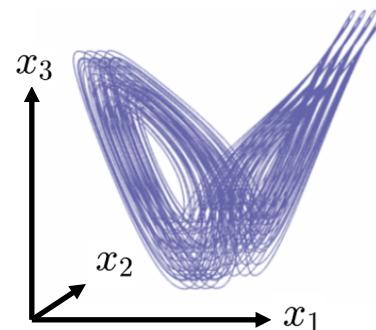
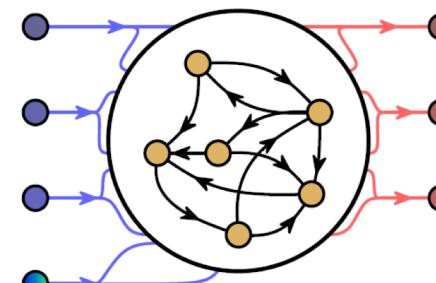
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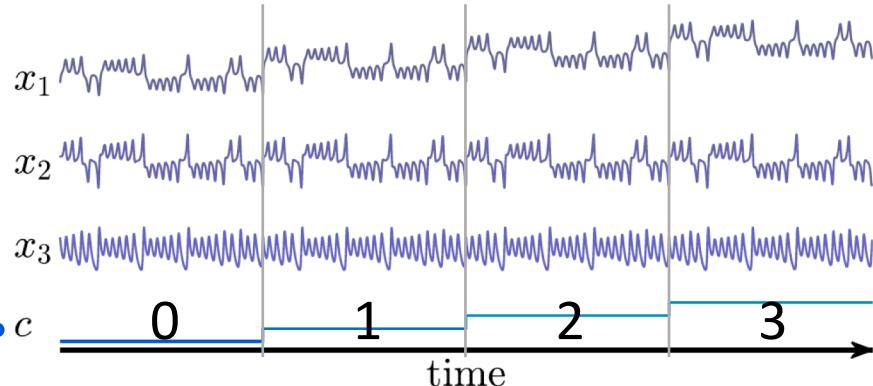
drive reservoir



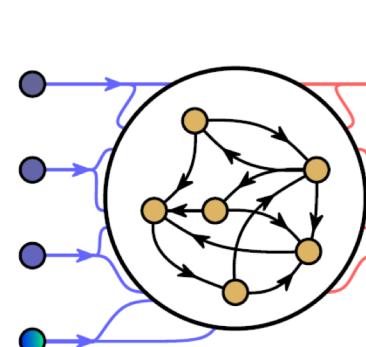
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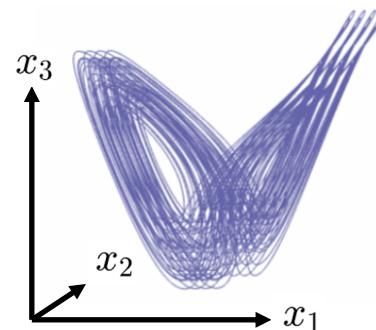
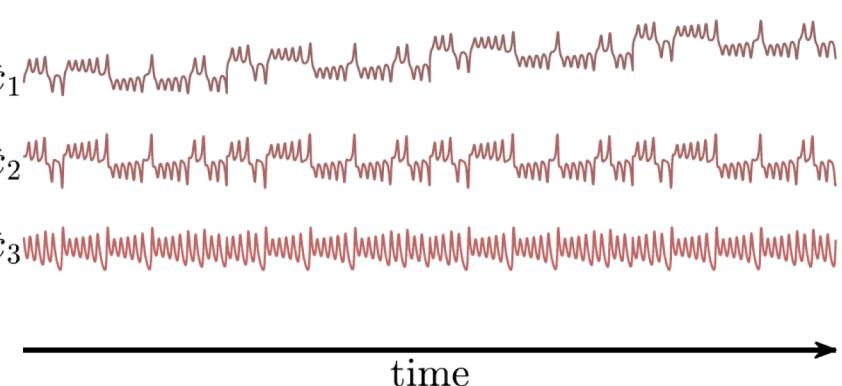
training input: shifted Lorenz time series



drive reservoir



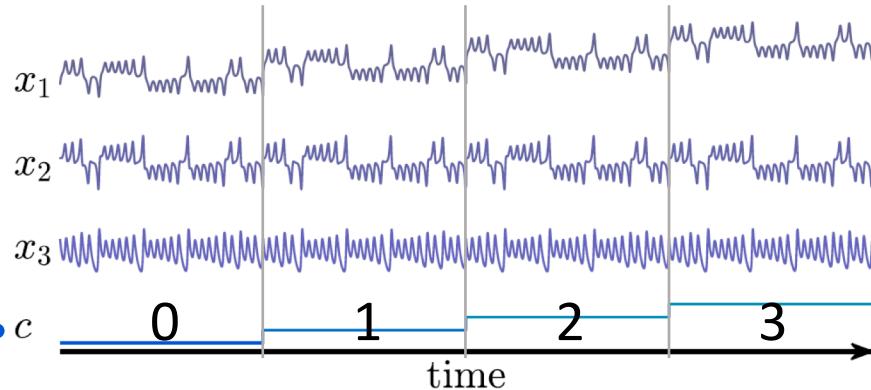
training output: shifted Lorenz time series



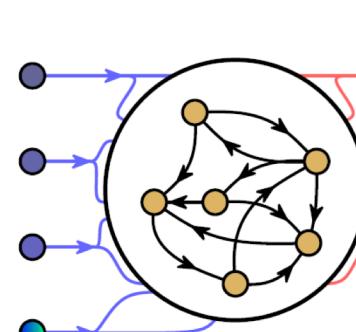
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# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples

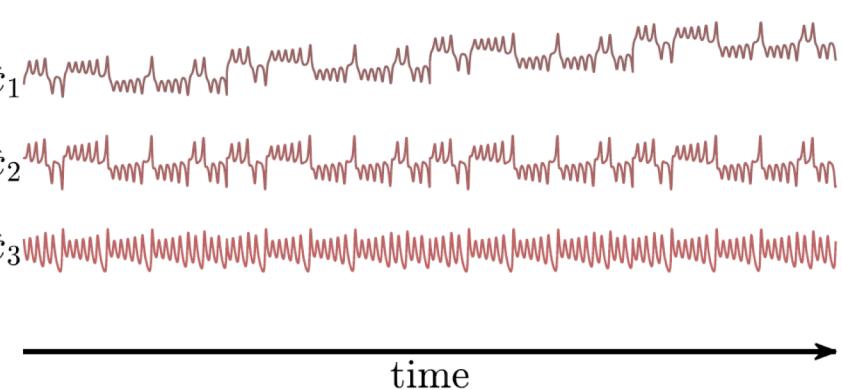
training input: shifted Lorenz time series



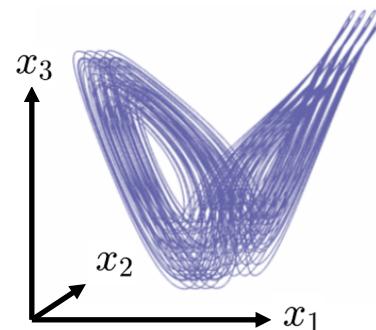
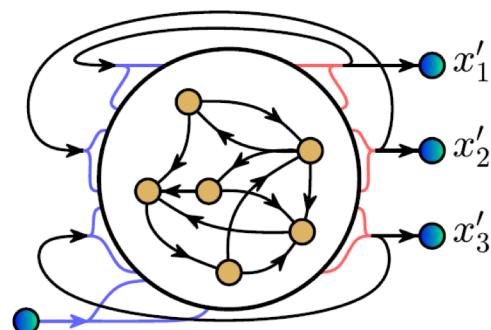
drive reservoir



training output: shifted Lorenz time series

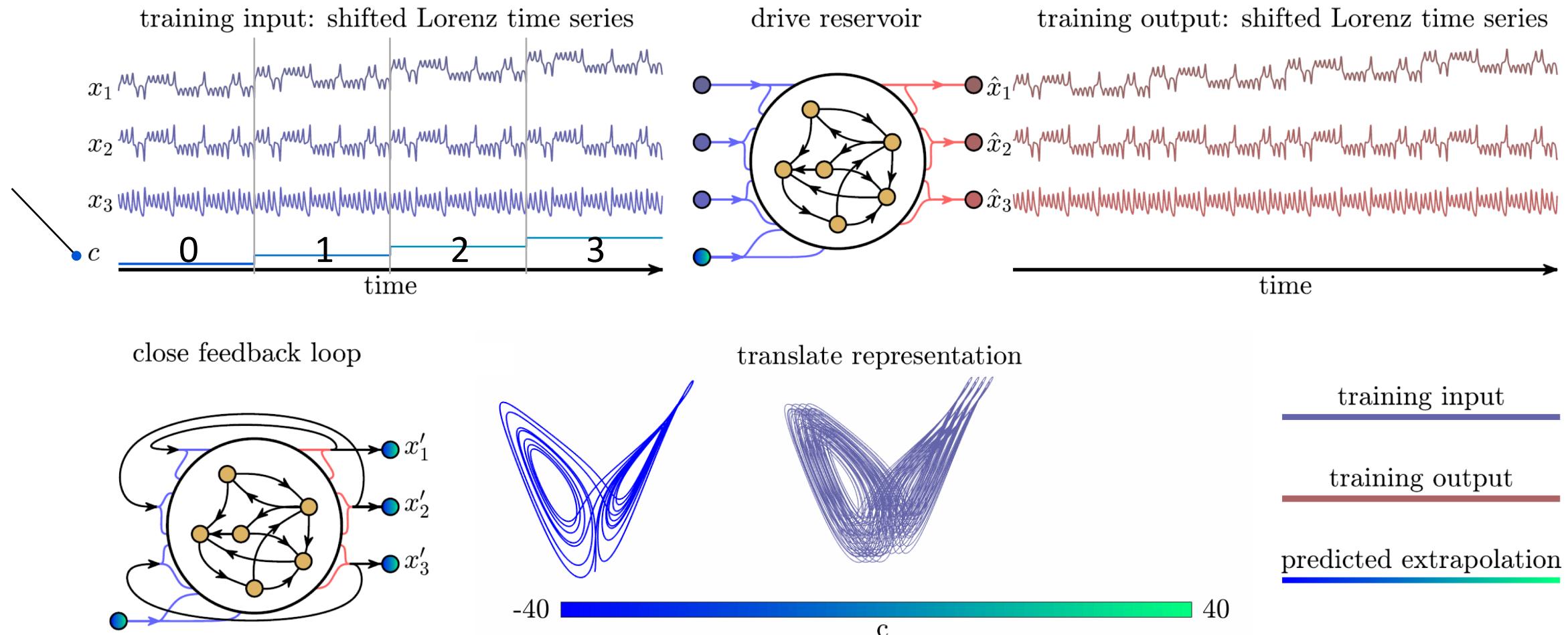


close feedback loop



Kim, J. Z., Lu, Z., Nozari, E., Pappas, G. J., & Bassett, D. S. (2020). Teaching Recurrent Neural Networks to Modify Chaotic Memories by Example. (Accepted, *Nat. Mach. Intell.*).

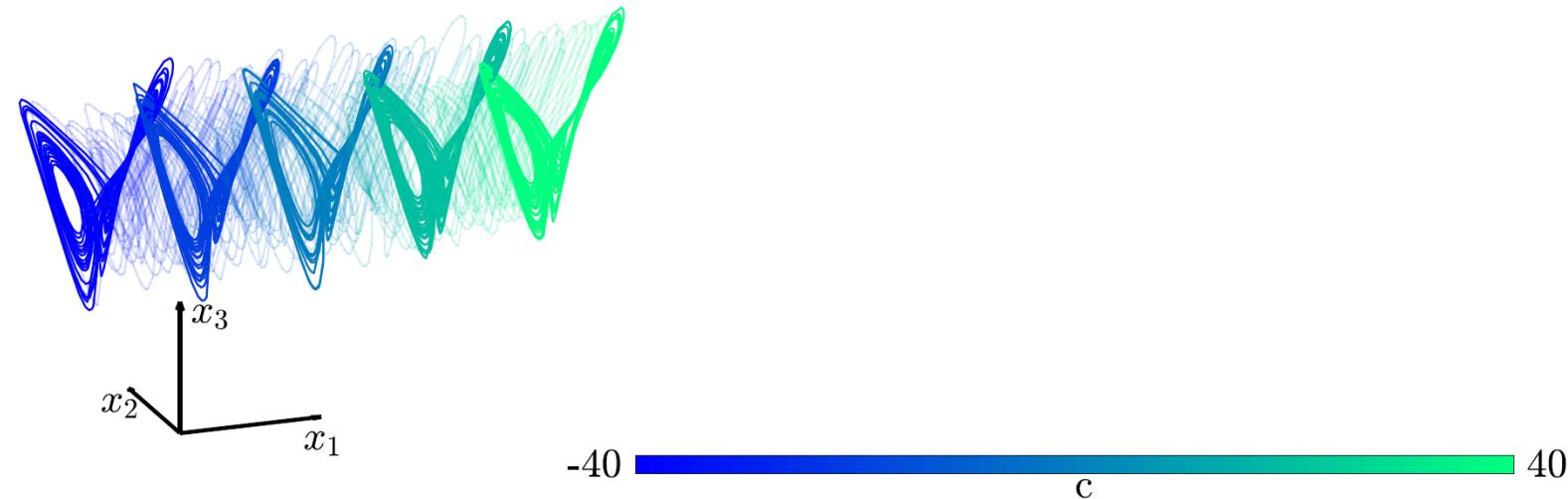
# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples



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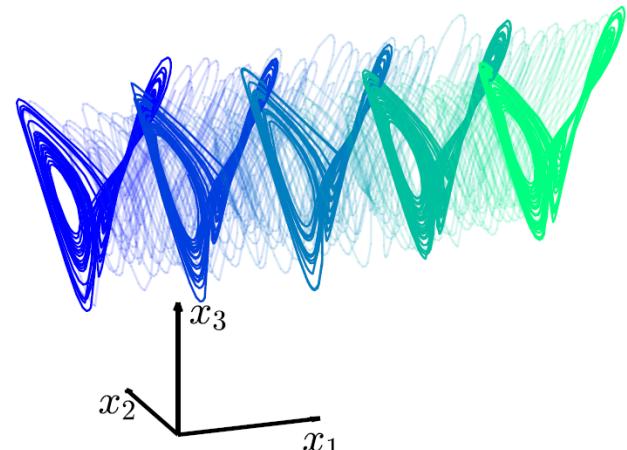
# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples

translate  $x_1$

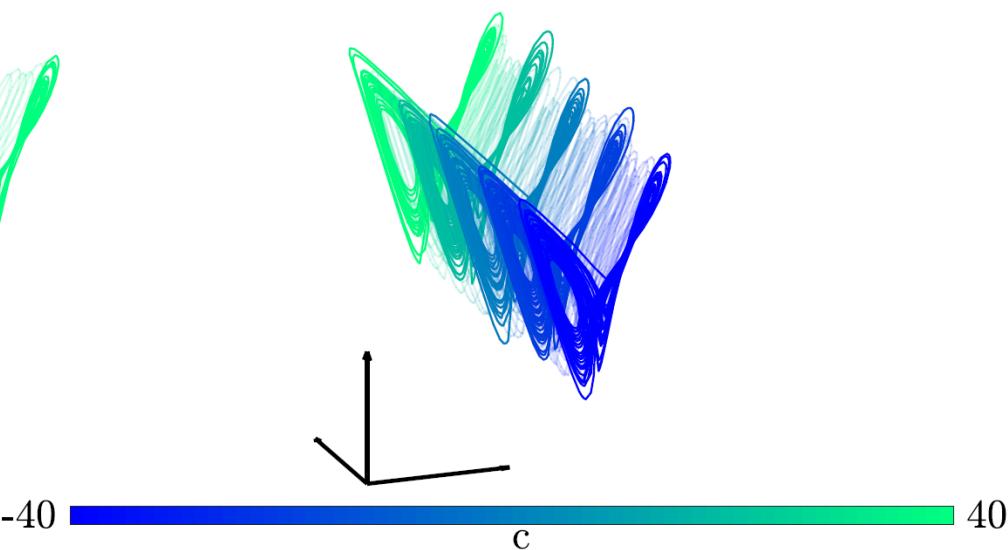


# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples

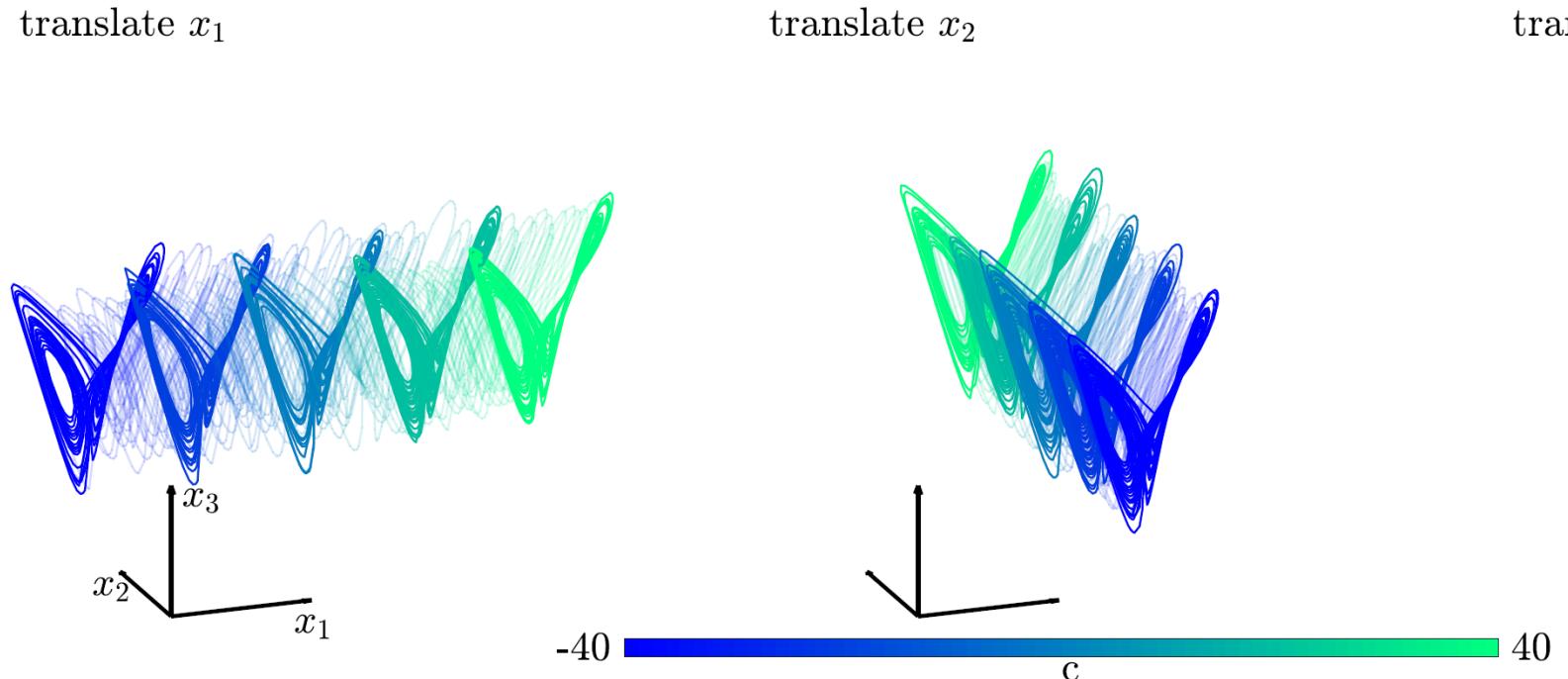
translate  $x_1$



translate  $x_2$



# RNNs translate chaotic memories by imitating examples



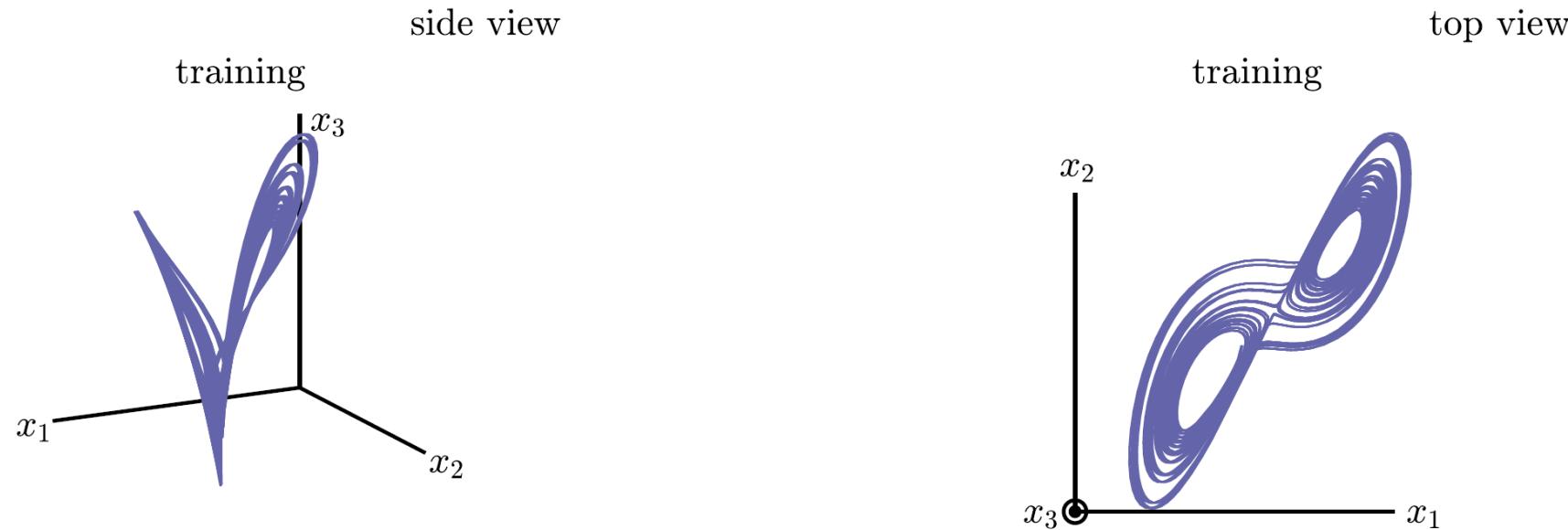
# RNNs transform chaotic memories by imitating examples

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- Can we change the actual geometry of the attractor manifold?

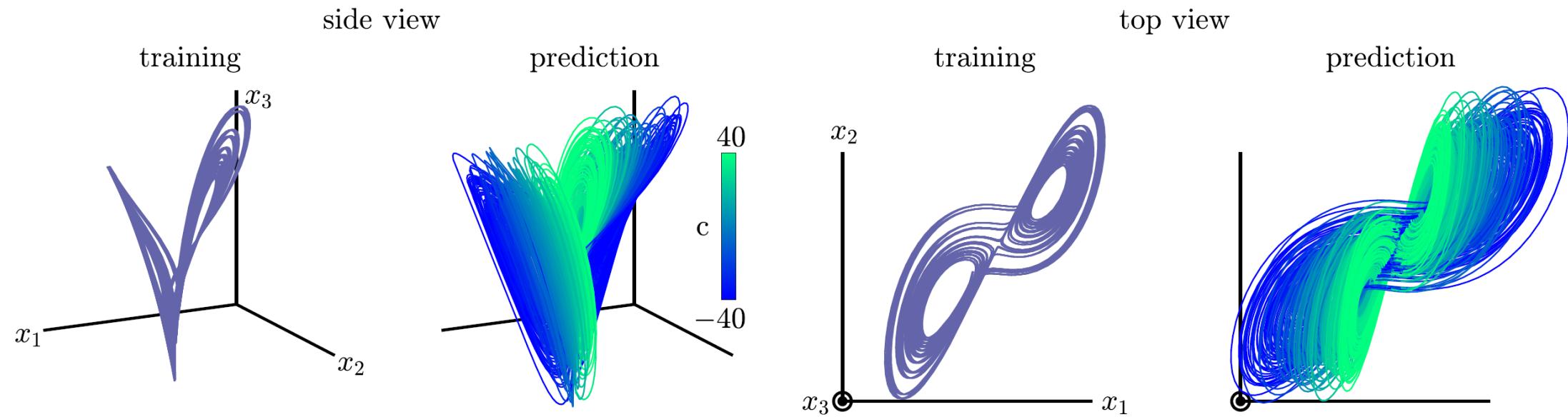
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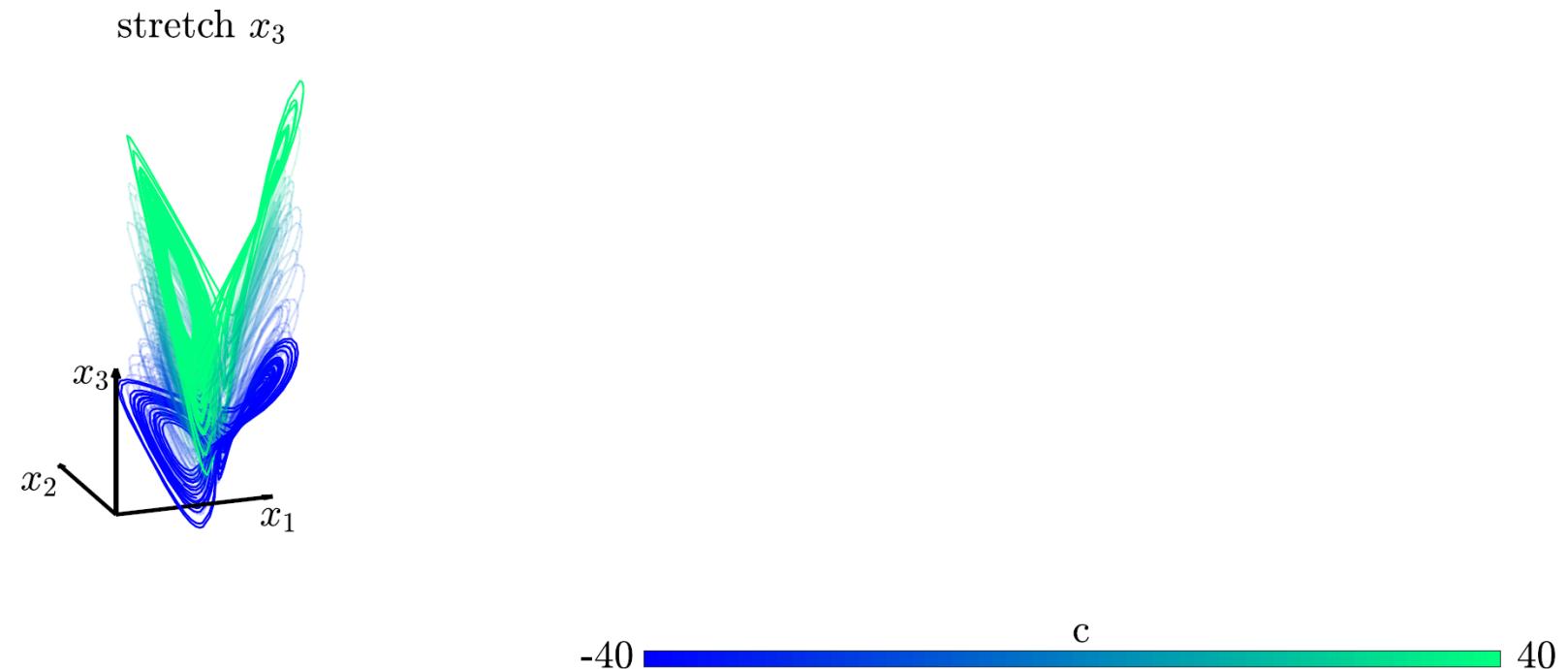


# RNNs transform chaotic memories by imitating examples

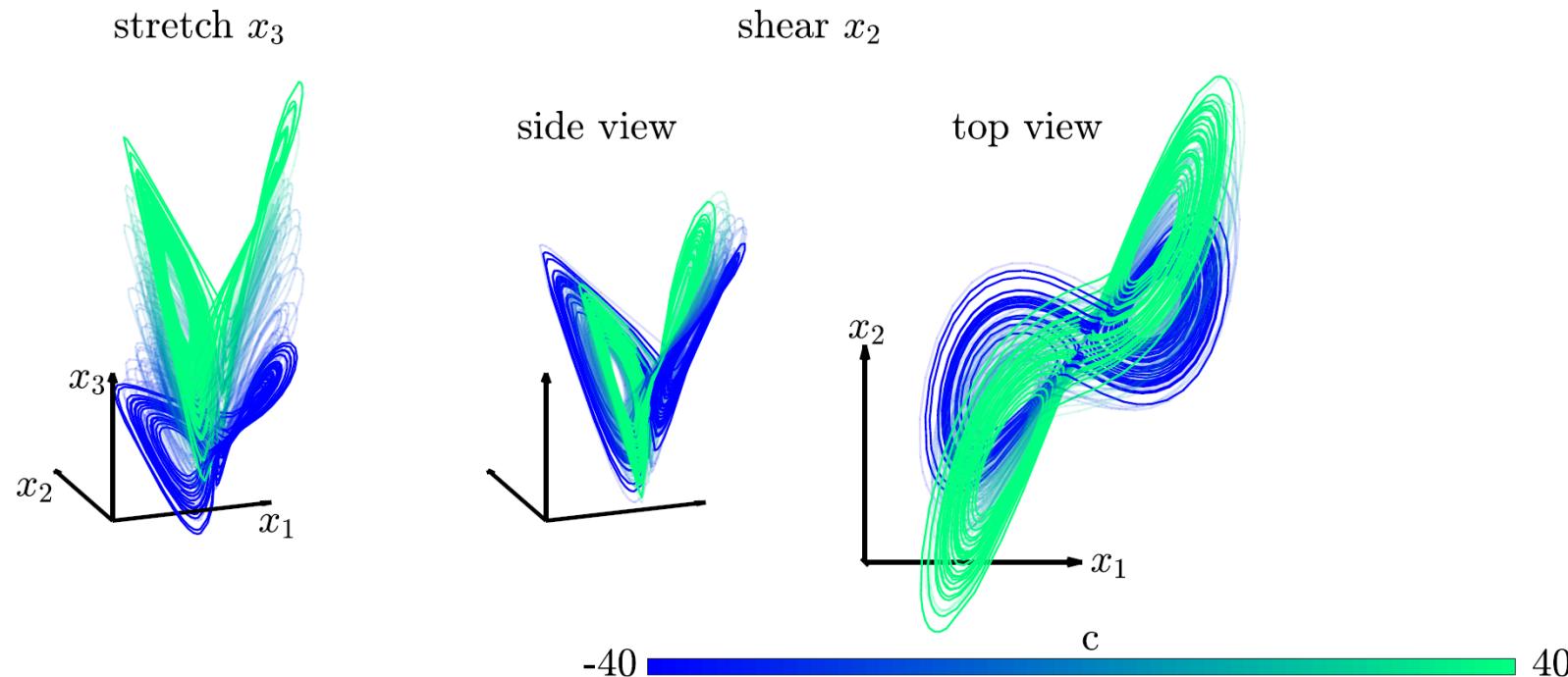
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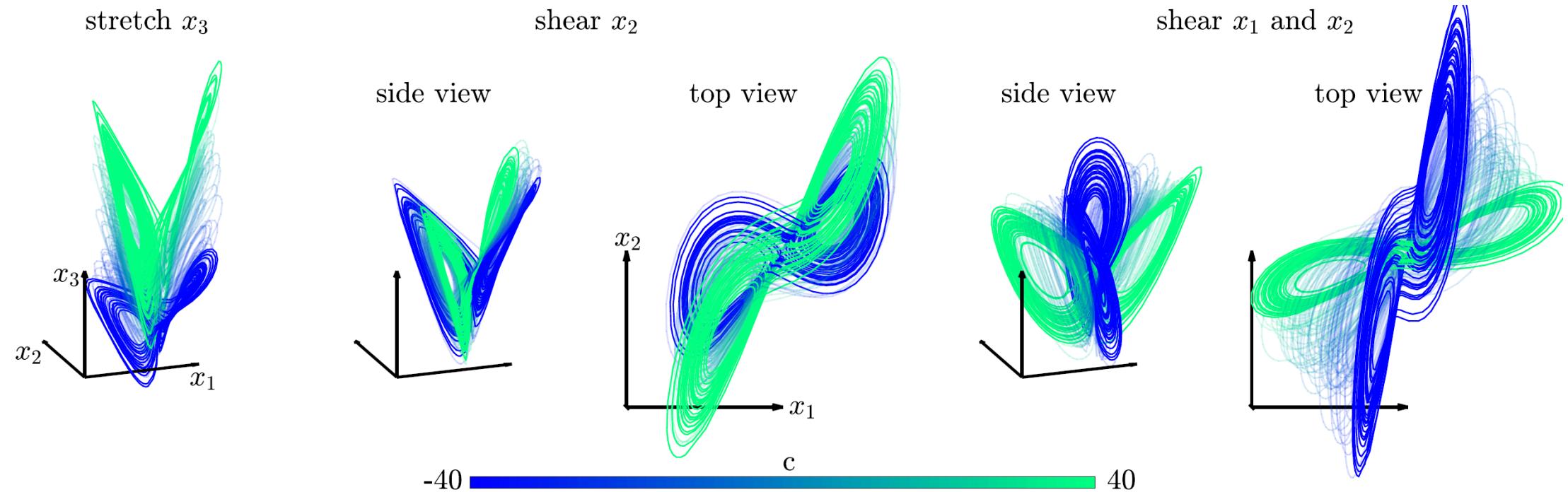
# RNNs transform chaotic memories by imitating examples



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# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

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- The Lorenz attractor undergoes a subcritical Hopf bifurcation
  - Fixed points at the wings lose stability

Lorenz  
system:

$$\dot{x}_1 = \sigma(x_2 - x_1)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = x_1(\rho - x_3) - x_2$$

$$\dot{x}_3 = x_1x_2 - \beta x_3,$$

# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

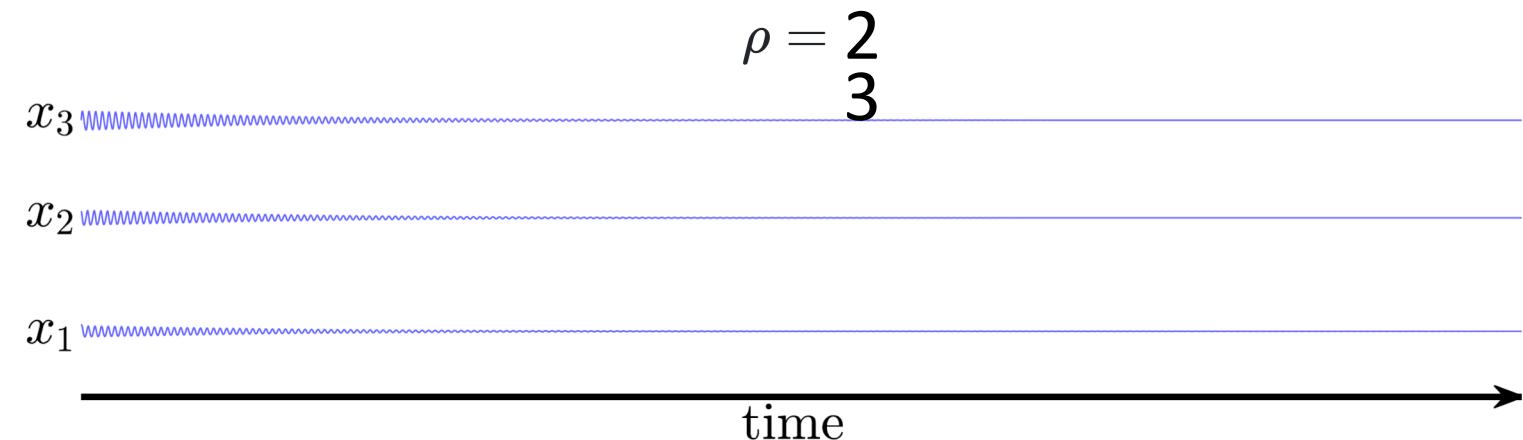
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Lorenz  
system:

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2 - \rho x_3$$

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# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

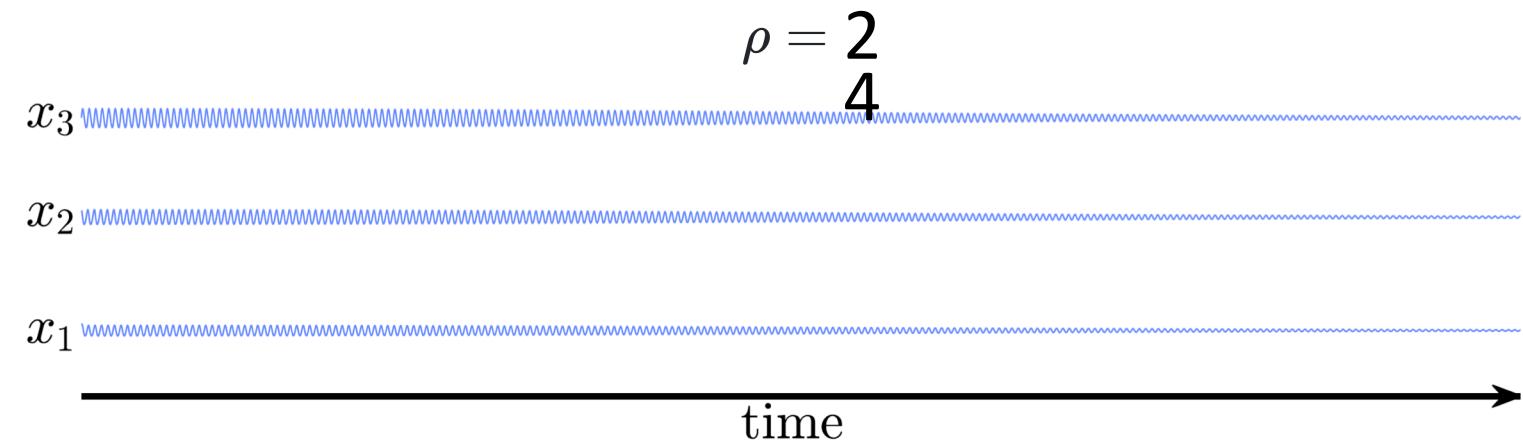
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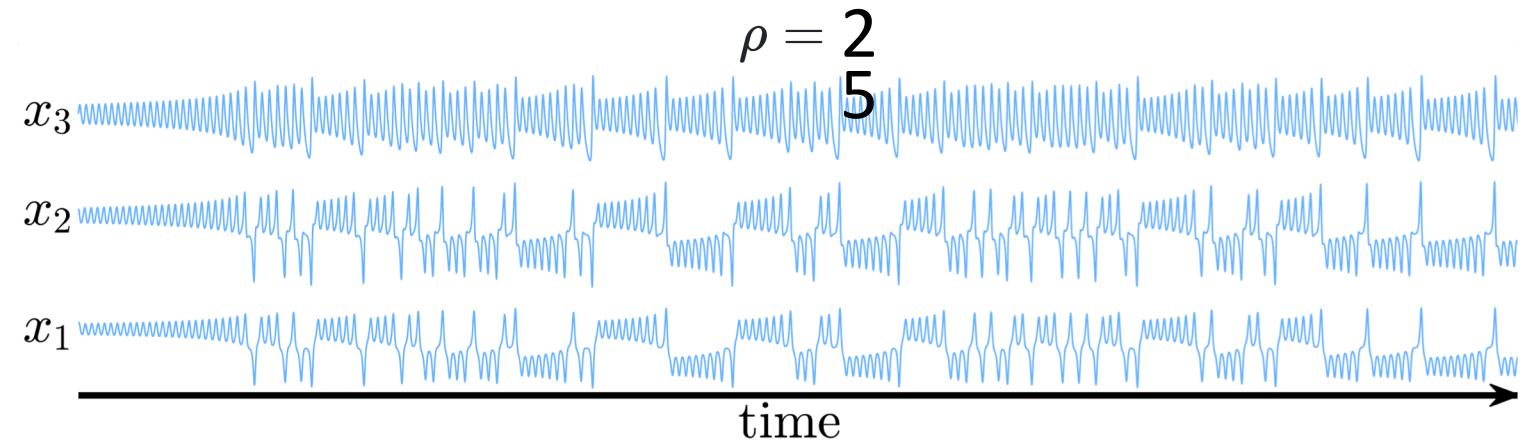
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# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

- How much of a bifurcation can an RNN infer?

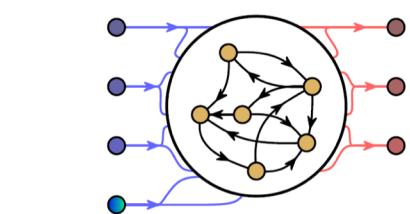
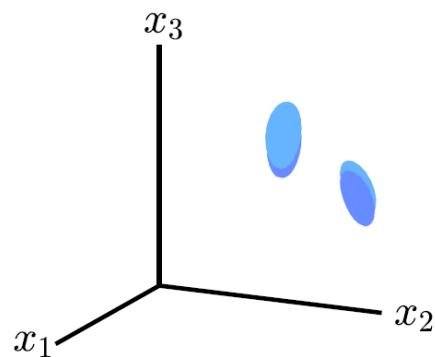
# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

- How much of a bifurcation can an RNN infer?

both fixed points with two stable examples each

training

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{---} & \rho = 23 \\ \text{---} & \rho = 24 \end{array}$$



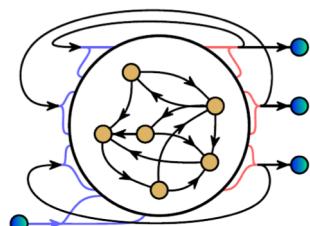
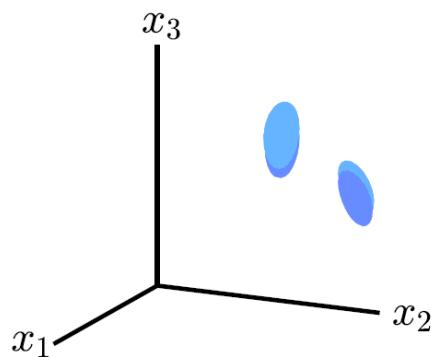
# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

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training

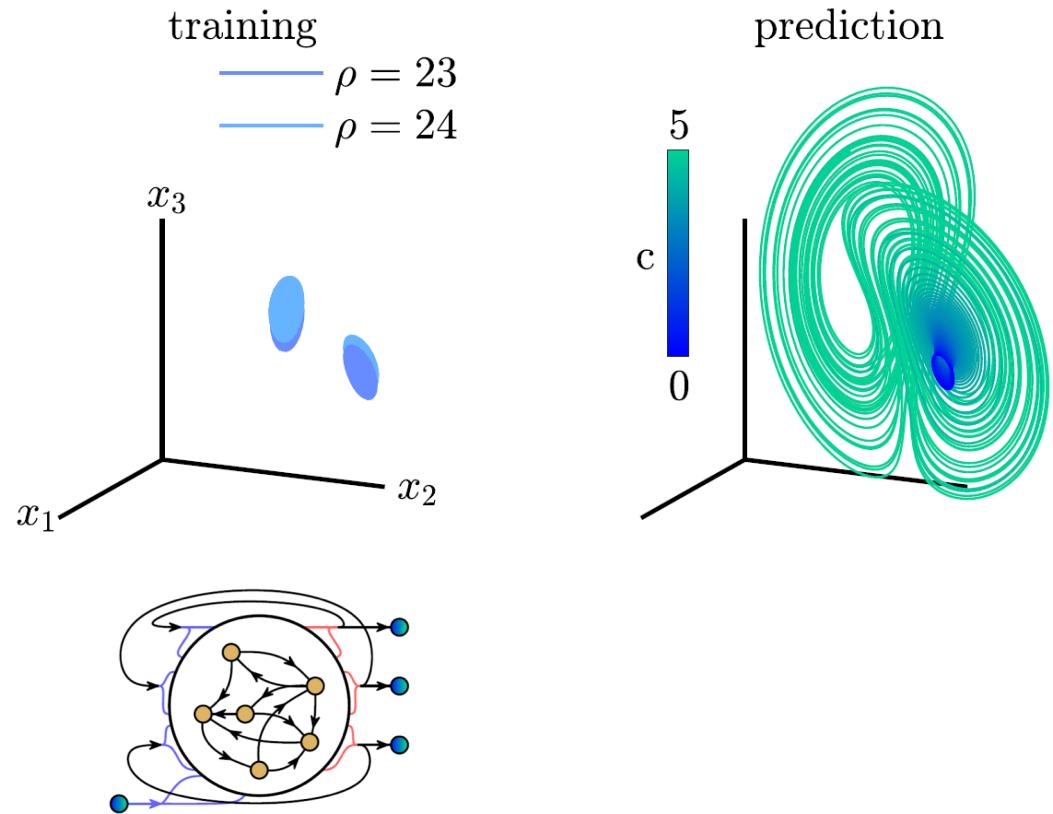
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{---} & \rho = 23 \\ \text{---} & \rho = 24 \end{array}$$



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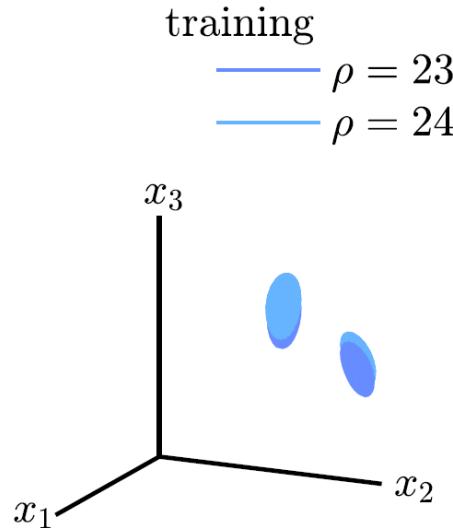
both fixed points with two stable examples each



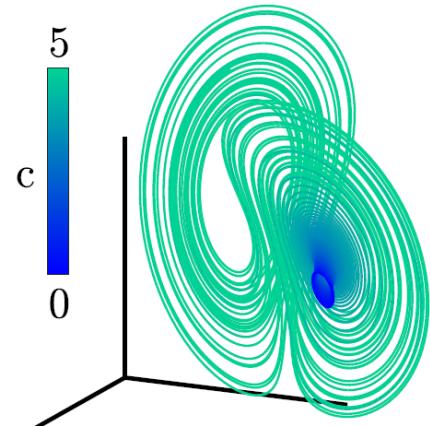
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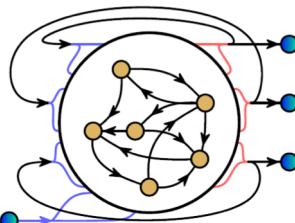
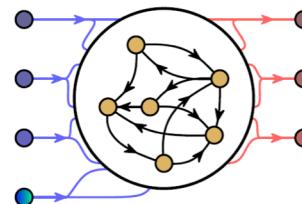
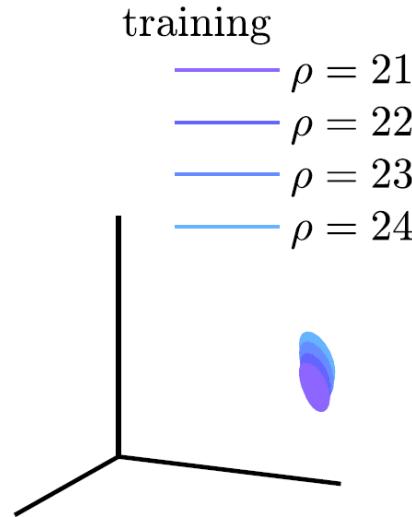
both fixed points with two stable examples each



prediction



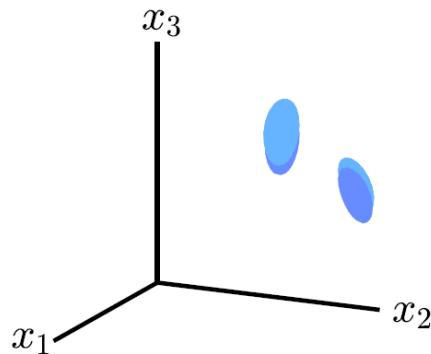
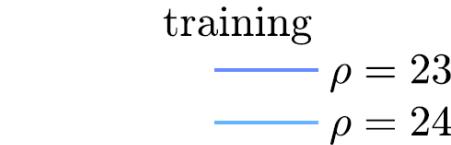
one fixed point with four stable examples



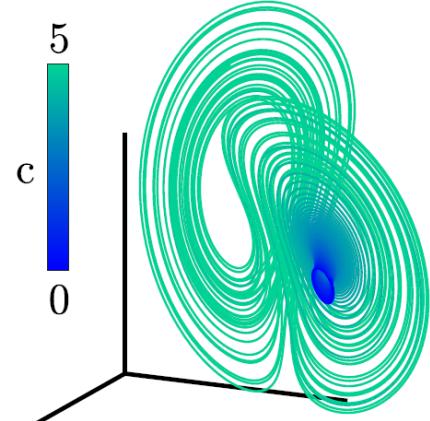
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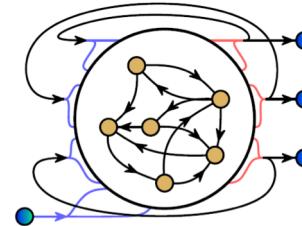
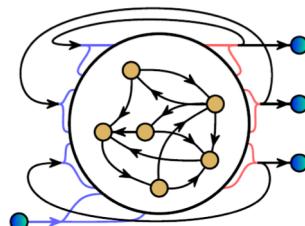
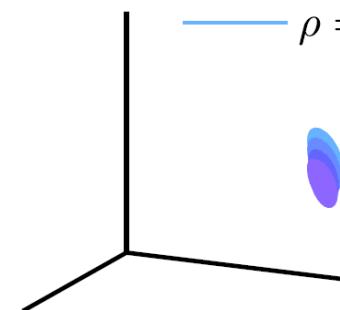
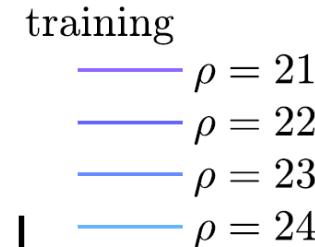
both fixed points with two stable examples each



prediction



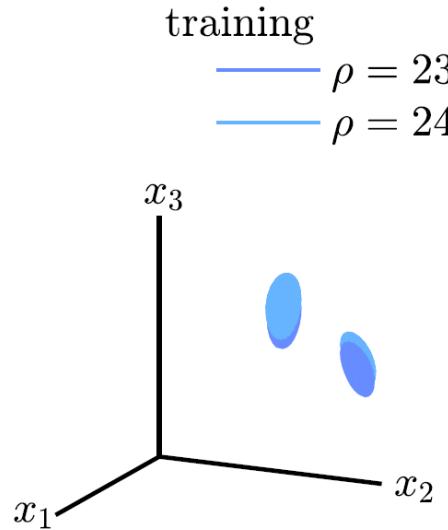
one fixed point with four stable examples



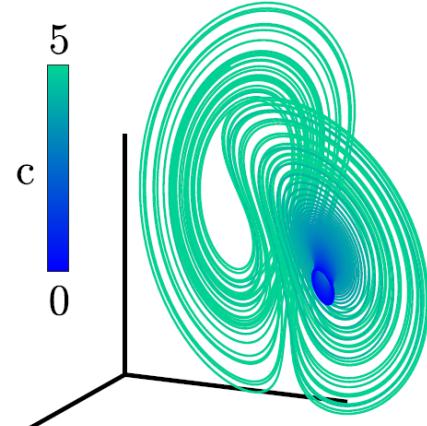
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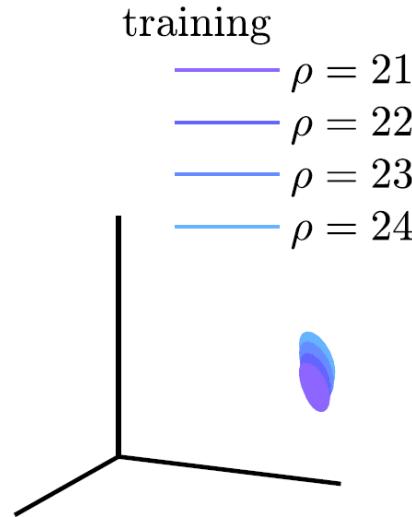
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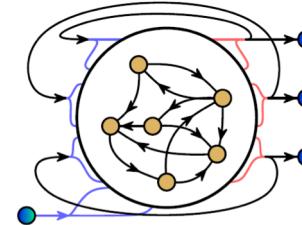
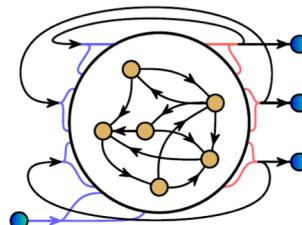
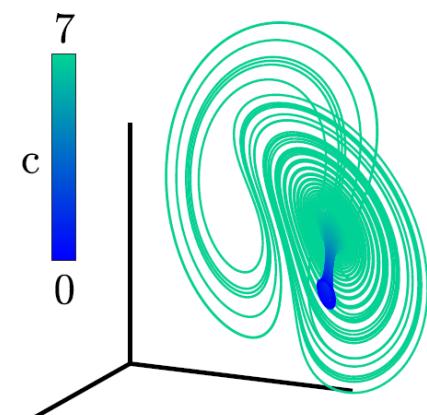
prediction



one fixed point with four stable examples

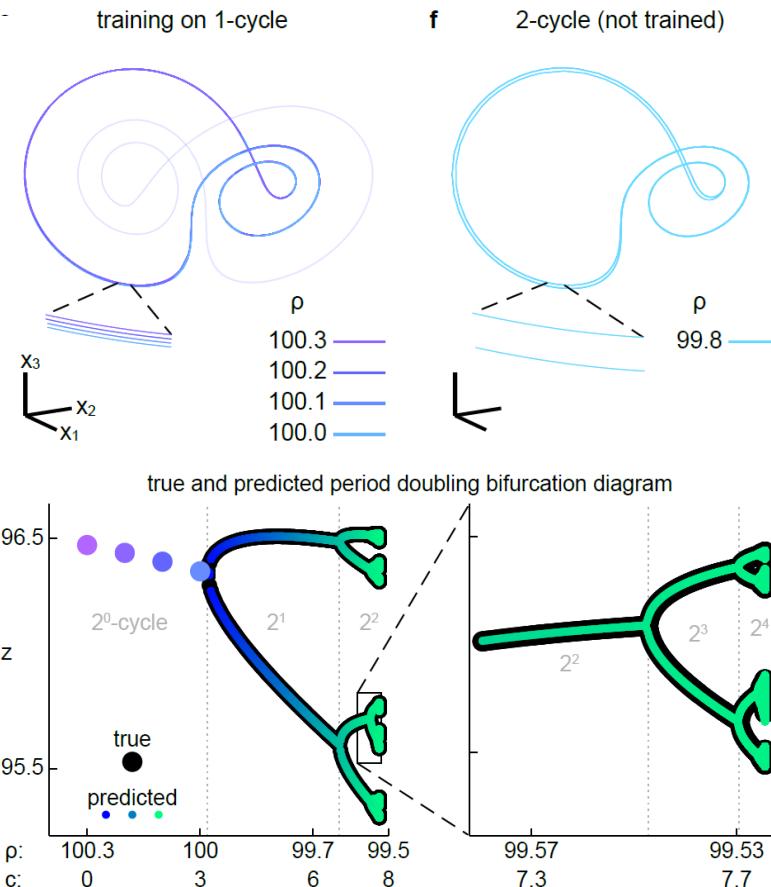


prediction



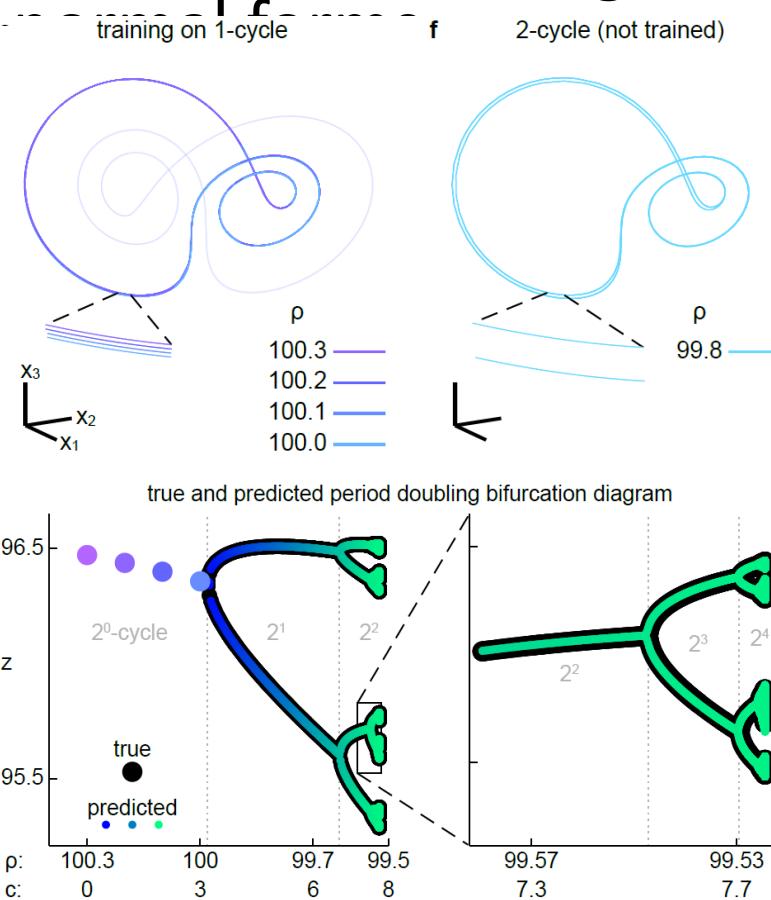
# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

## Period doubling bifurcation

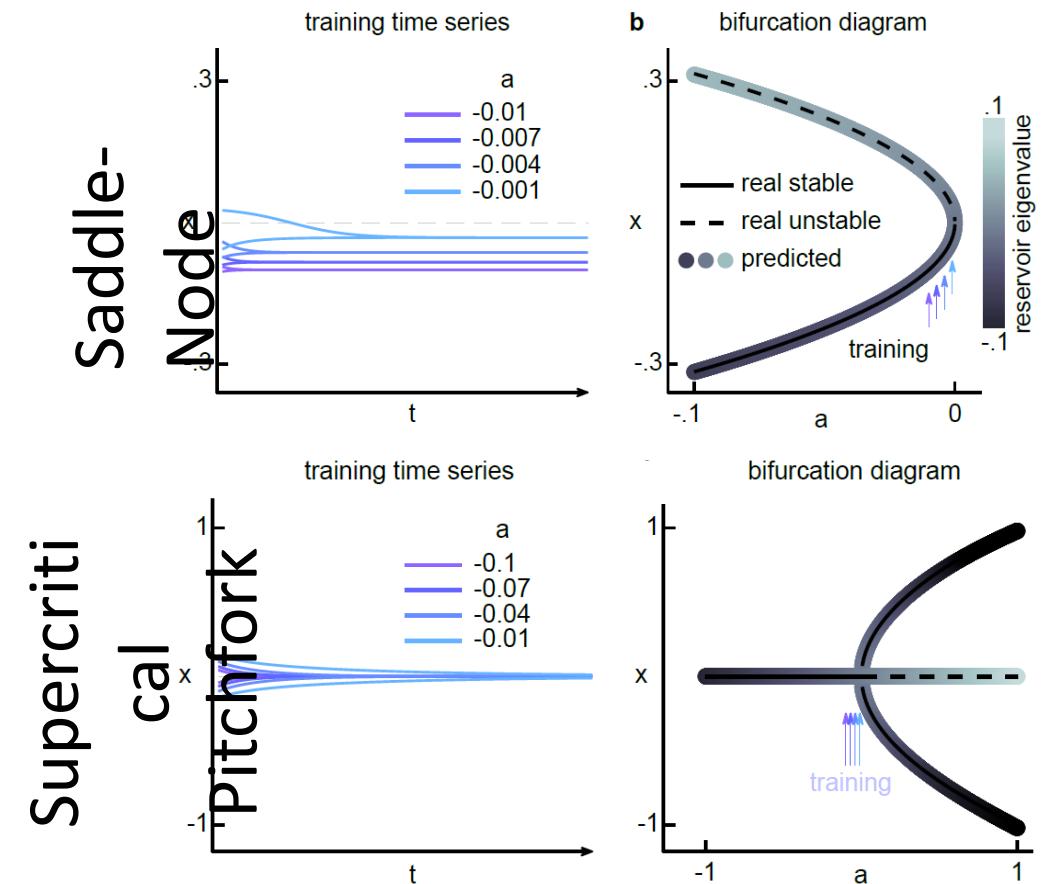


# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

## Period doubling bifurcation

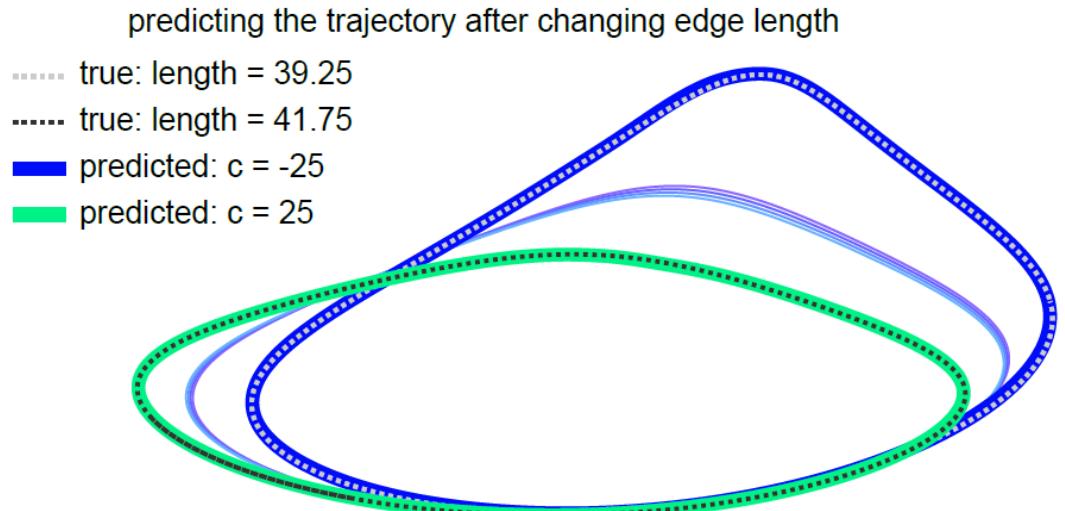
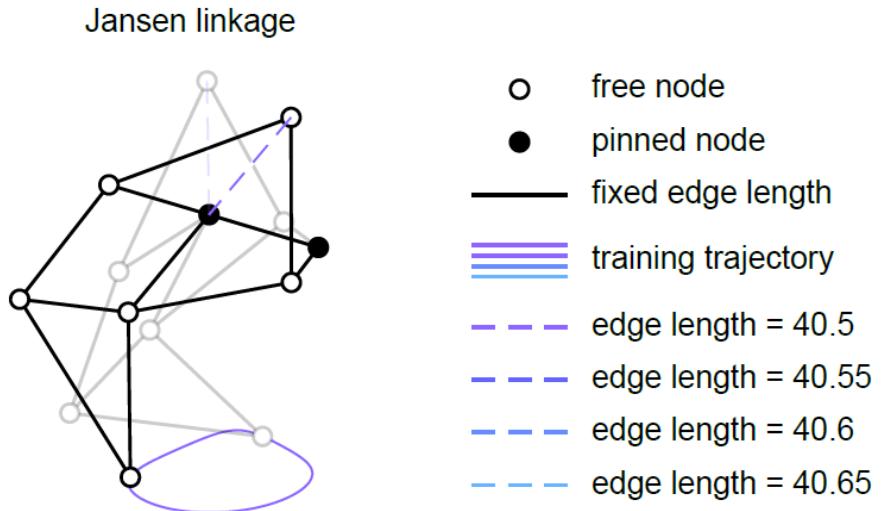


## Bifurcation



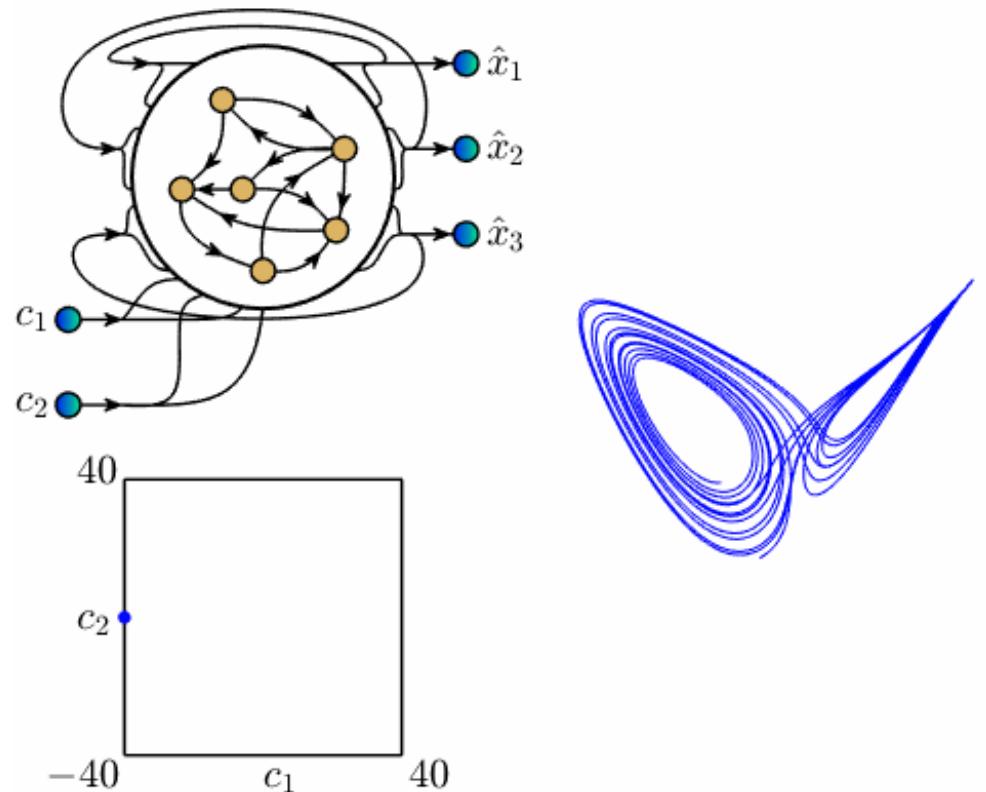
# RNNs predict highly nonlinear events by imitating examples

## Kinematic trajectories



# Flight of the Lorenz

- Translation in  $x_1$  and  $x_3$



# How do RNNs learn translations and transformations?

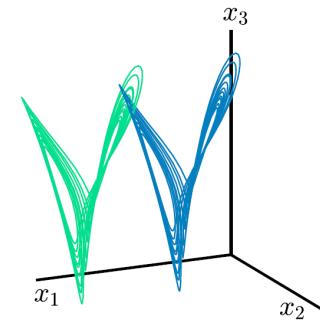
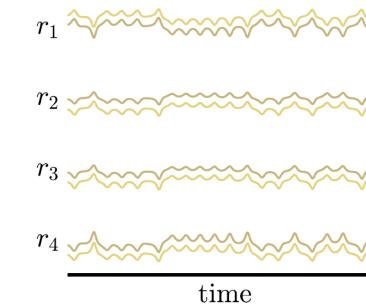
Translation: discrete

$$W\mathbf{r}_c(t) \approx \mathbf{x}(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} c$$

infinitesimal

$$Wd\mathbf{r}(t) \approx \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} dc$$

$$d\mathbf{r}(t) \approx f(\mathbf{r}(t), W)dc$$



# How do RNNs learn translations and transformations?

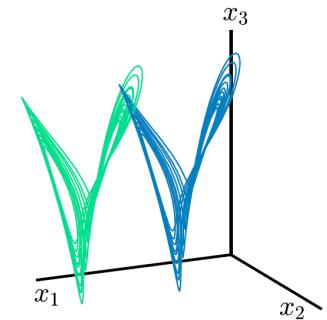
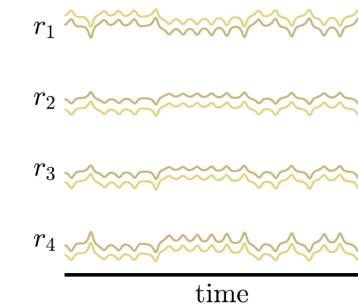
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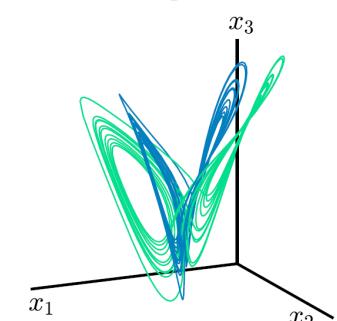
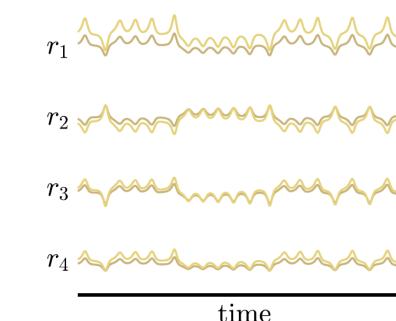
Transformation: discrete

$$W\mathbf{r}_c(t) \approx [I - Tc]\mathbf{x}(t)$$

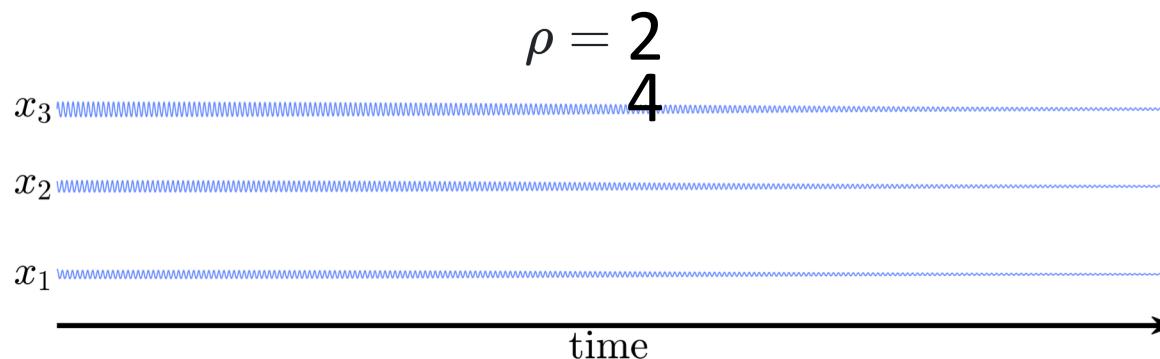
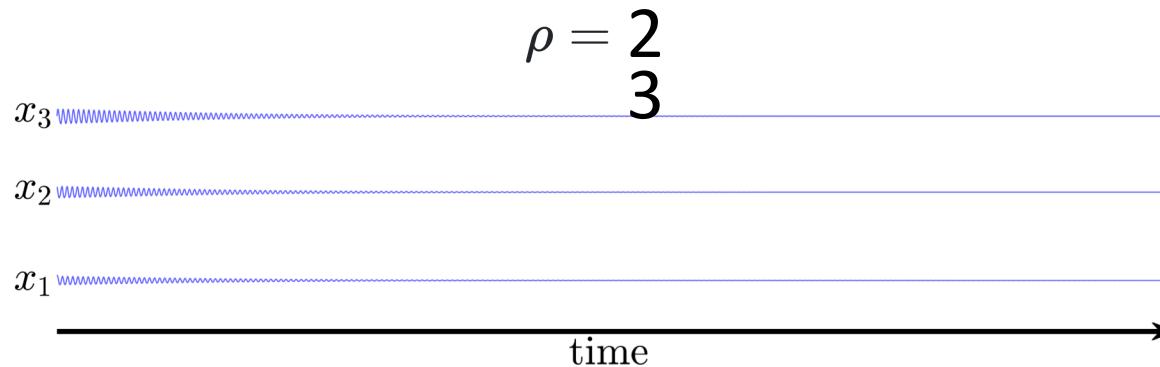
infinitesimal

$$Wd\mathbf{r}(t) \approx -T\mathbf{x}(t)dc$$

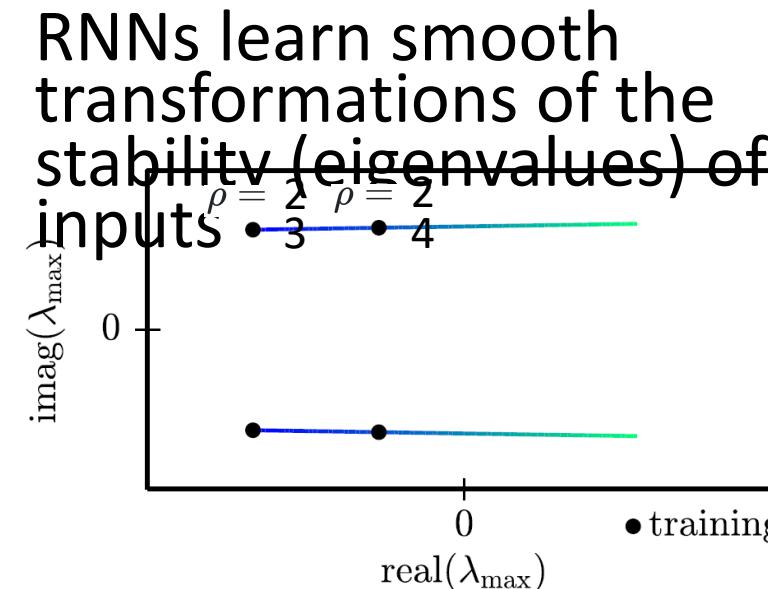
$$d\mathbf{r}(t) \approx f(\mathbf{r}(t), W)dc$$



# How do RNNs learn bifurcations?

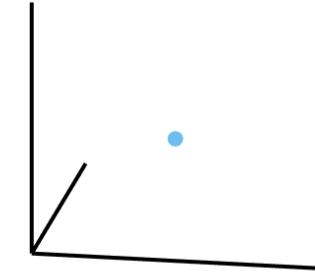


Slower rate of decay => less negative eigenvalue

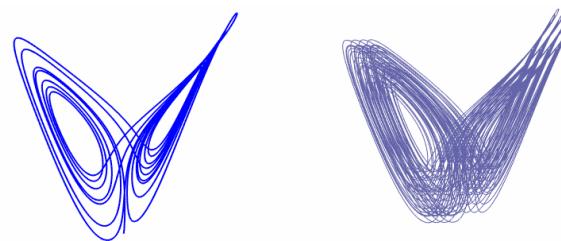


# Conclusions: simply by imitating inputs, reservoirs can

- Sustain complex temporal representations as n

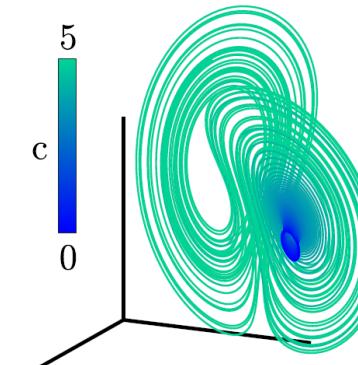
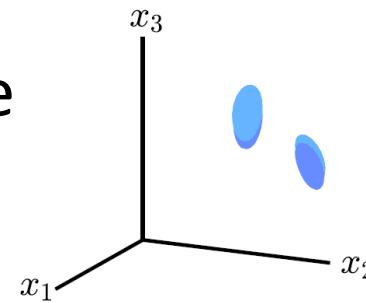


- Translate and transform memo



—  $\rho = 23$   
—  $\rho = 24$

- Infer global nonlinear structure



# Thank you!

Collaborators

Zhixin Lu



Erfan Nozari



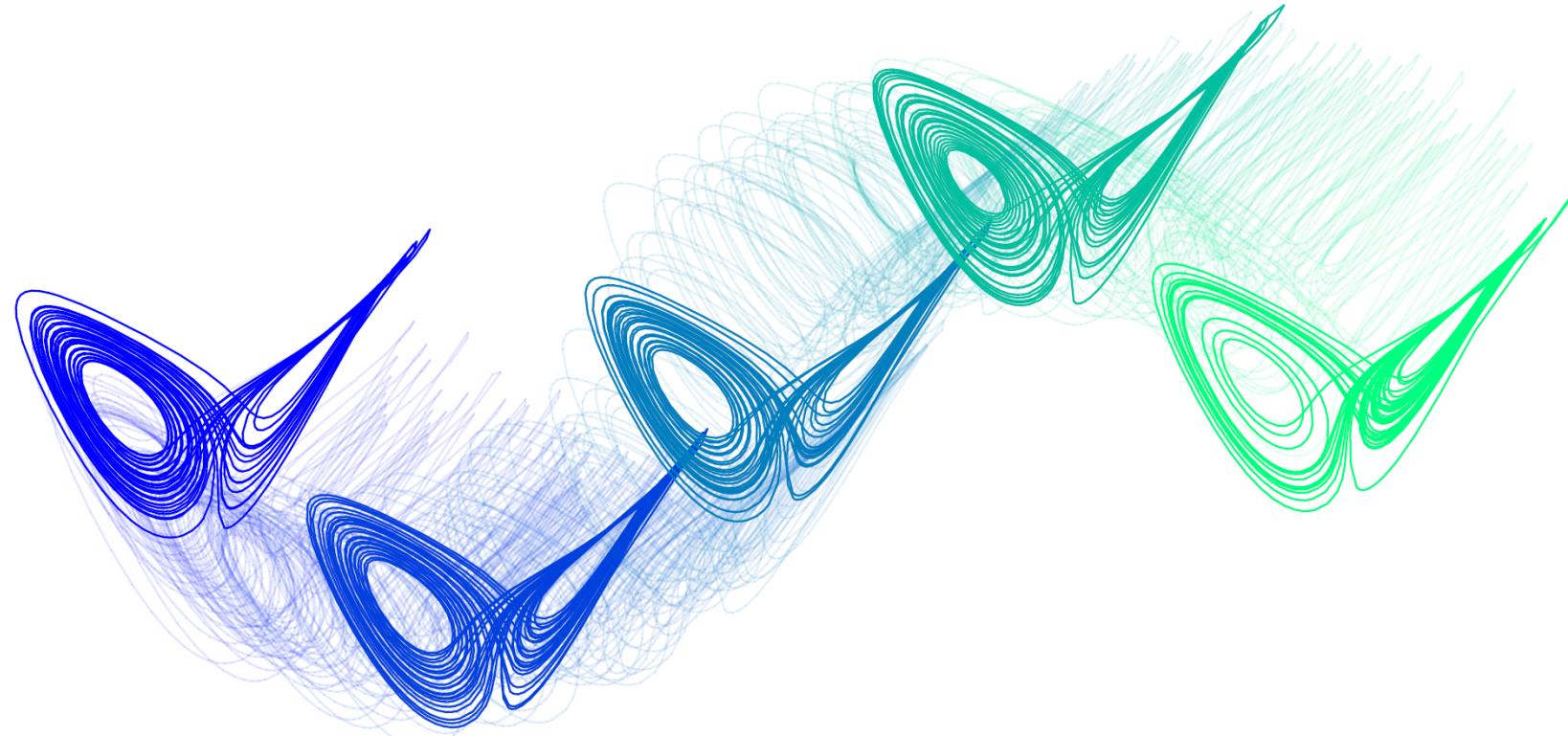
George Pappas



Danielle Bassett



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Kim, J. Z., Lu, Z., Nozari, E., Pappas, G. J., & Bassett, D. S. (2020). Teaching Recurrent Neural Networks to Infer Global Temporal Structure from Local Examples. (Accepted, *Nat. Mach. Intell.*).

# Thank you!

## Collaborators

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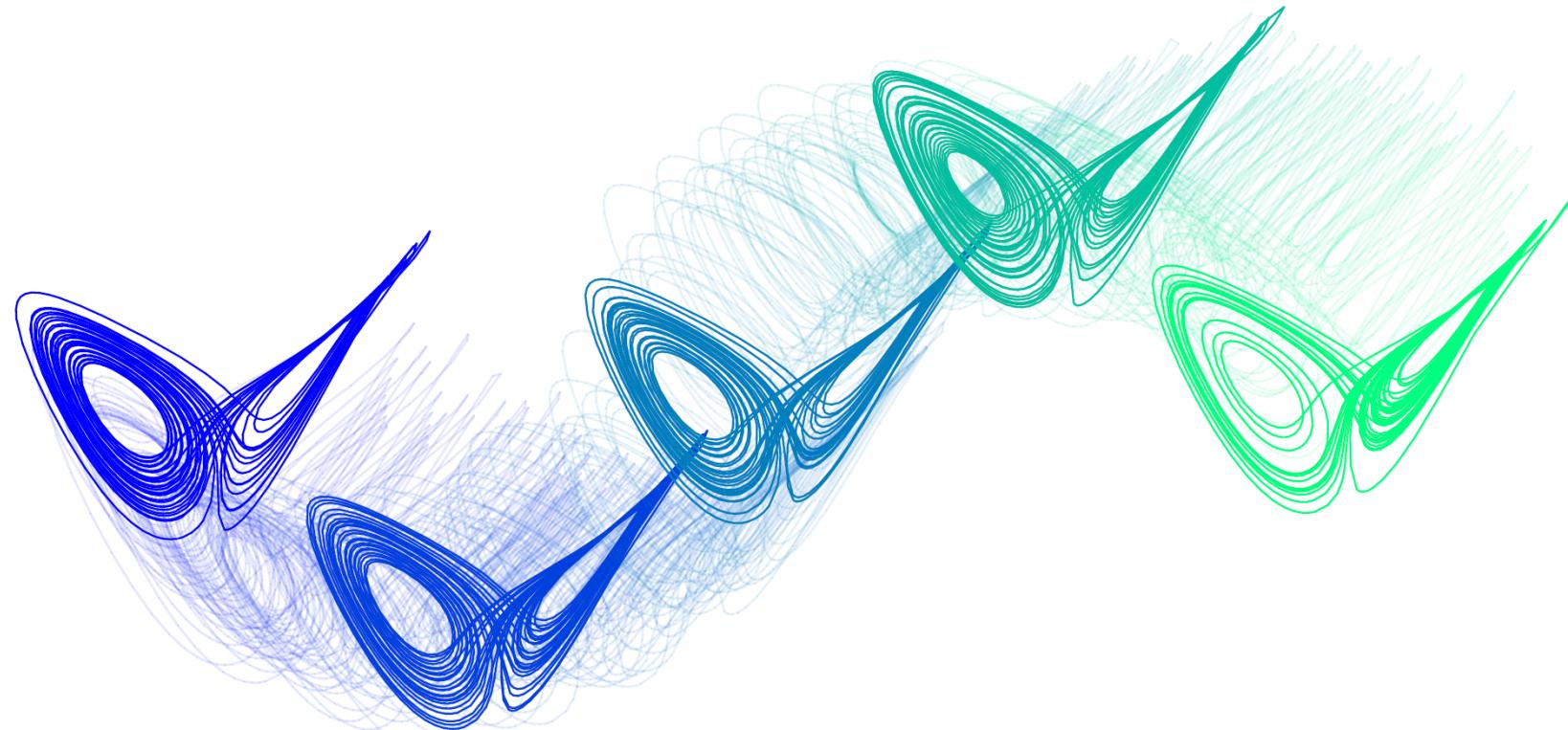
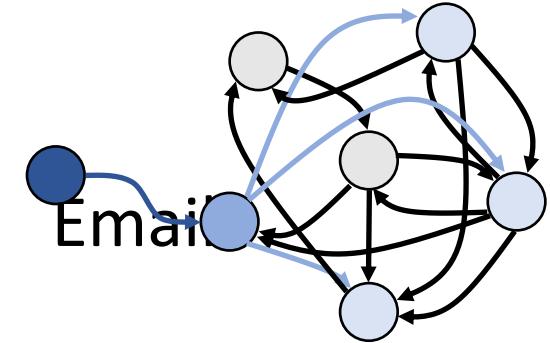
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