

Spike-timing Based Image Processing: Can we Reproduce Biological Vision in Hardware

Daniel Mayer

University Leipzig - Master of science - Bioinformatics

Abstract. In here I present a review of research and technologies using asynchronous spike-based processing strategies as can be observed in biological vision. The research presented includes a general description of the issue [], the presentation of a silicone retina [] and a silicone cochlea []. while the common approach to immitate neural networks is simulation on conventional hardware as CPU's and GPU's this review is rather focussed on the efforts being made to reproduce the property of neural structures to work vastly parallel. in special this review will look at the fact that the biological vision system is able to compute relevant information wiith just one spike per neuron, due to the relative timing of spikes.

1 Biological Vision and why it is spike-timing-based

The speed of biological vision poses a problem for conventional views of how information is processed in the brain. As will be demonstrated, the notion of spike-frequency encoding of information contradicts the speed at which neurons at the highest level of the primate vision system can respond selectively to complex stimuli such as faces. Studies have shown that such processes can be accomplished in as much as 100ms, which combined with the fact, that cortical neurons seldomly show fire faster than every 10 ms and that there are about 10 stages of neurons involved between the photo receptors and the high level neurons, leads to the conclusion that each neuron has in average only time to fire once. It is therefore proposed, that rather than the information being encoded in firing frequencies corresponding to analog values, the relative timing of the spikes is used to encode such information. This idea shas been demonstrated experimentally using recordings from the salamander retina[1]. It is showed by simulation, that it is possible to do state of the art face recognition using an approach, where every neuron is only allowed to fire at most once. []

As an information processing unit, the biological vision aparatus is an extraordinary piece of engineering, when it comes to speed. Despite the fact that neurons spike at most 100 times per second, and that the condutcion of of spikes through the axons works at about $1ms^{-1}$, we can recognize faces after 100 ms only. considering, that in the process of grasping an image, there are about 10 stages of neurons between the photoreceptors and the end of the visual system, means that each neuron has 10 ms to reach a conclusion

Now the true power of biological brains comes from the highly interconnected gross of neurons, And engineers are stil far from constructing something equivalent on silicone basis

2 memristive devices

This is a sample file. Please use this file to correctly typeset a submission to the Seminar conference. The associated pdf file will help you to have an idea of what your paper should look like.

2.1 Page format and margins

Please avoid using DVI2PDF or PS2PDF converters: some undesired shifting/scaling may occur when using these programs. It is strongly recommended to use the DVIPS converters. Check that you have set the paper size to A4 (and NOT to letter) in your dvi2ps converter, in Adobe Acrobat if you use it, and in any printer driver that you could use. You also have to disable the 'scale to fit paper' option of your printer driver. In any case, please check carefully that the final size of the top and bottom margins is 5.2 cm and of the left and right margins is 4.4 cm.

2.2 Additional packages and functions

Update the sample file according to your text. You can add packages or declare new \LaTeX functions if and only if there is no conflict between your packages and the SeminarV2.cls style file.

2.3 Style information

2.3.1 Page numbers

Please do not add page numbers to this style; page numbers will be added by the publisher.

2.3.2 Page headings

Do not add headings to your document.

2.4 Mathematics

You may include additional packages for typesetting algorithms, mathematical formula or to define new operators and environments if and only if there is no conflict with the SeminarV2.cls file.

It is recommended to avoid the numbering of equations when not necessary. When dealing with equation arrays, it could be necessary to label several (in)equalities. You can do it using the ' \backslash stackrel' operator (see the SeminarV2.tex source file); example:

$$\begin{aligned}
c &= |d| + |e| \\
&\stackrel{\text{(a)}}{=} d + e \\
&\stackrel{\text{(b)}}{\geq} \sqrt{f} \text{ ,}
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where the equality (a) results from the fact that both d and e are positive while (b) comes from the definition of f .

2.5 Tables and figures

Figure 1 shows an example of figure and related caption. Do not use too small symbols and lettering in your figures. Warning: your paper will be printed in black and white in the proceedings. You may insert color figures, but it is your responsibility to check that they print correctly in black and white. The color version will be kept in the Seminar electronic proceedings available on the web.

Fig. 1: Any questions?

Table 1 shows an example of table.

| ID | age | weight |
|----|-----|--------|
| 1 | 15 | 65 |
| 2 | 24 | 74 |
| 3 | 18 | 69 |
| 4 | 32 | 78 |

Table 1: Age and weight of people.

3 Citation

This SeminarV2.tex file defines how to insert references, both for BiBTeX and non-BiBTeX users. Please read the instructions in this file.

References

- [1] Tim Gollisch and Markus Meister. Rapid Neural Coding in the Retina with Relative Spike Latencies. *Science*, 319(5866):1108–1111, February 2008.