

# A circuit model of brain-machine interface learning, **fast** and **slow**

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Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit & CoMPLEX  
University College London

*Junior Scientist Workshop on Theoretical Neuroscience*  
Janelia Research Campus  
Oct. 31st, 2019

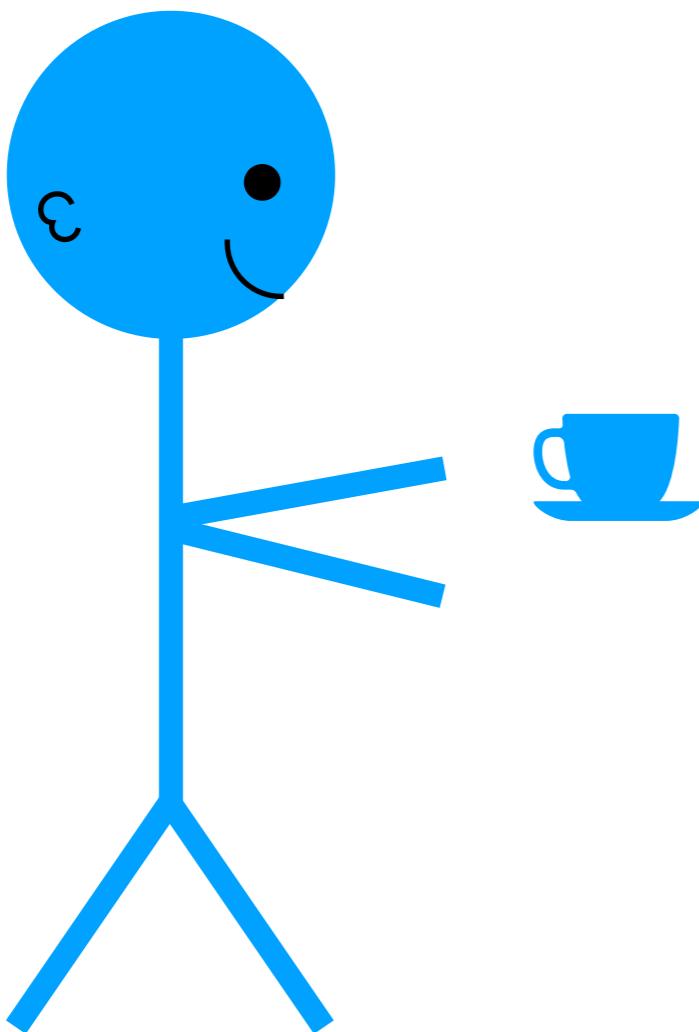
**motor  
learning**

# motor learning

*How do brains learn  
to produce goal-directed  
movements?*

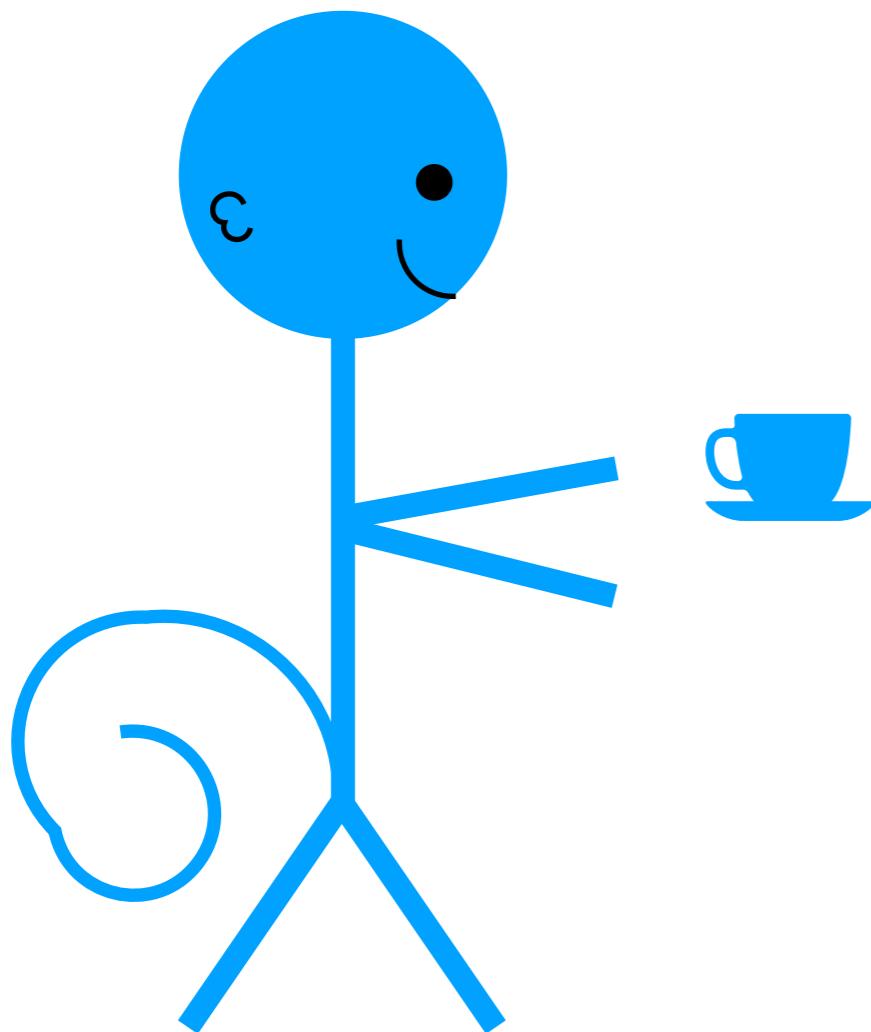
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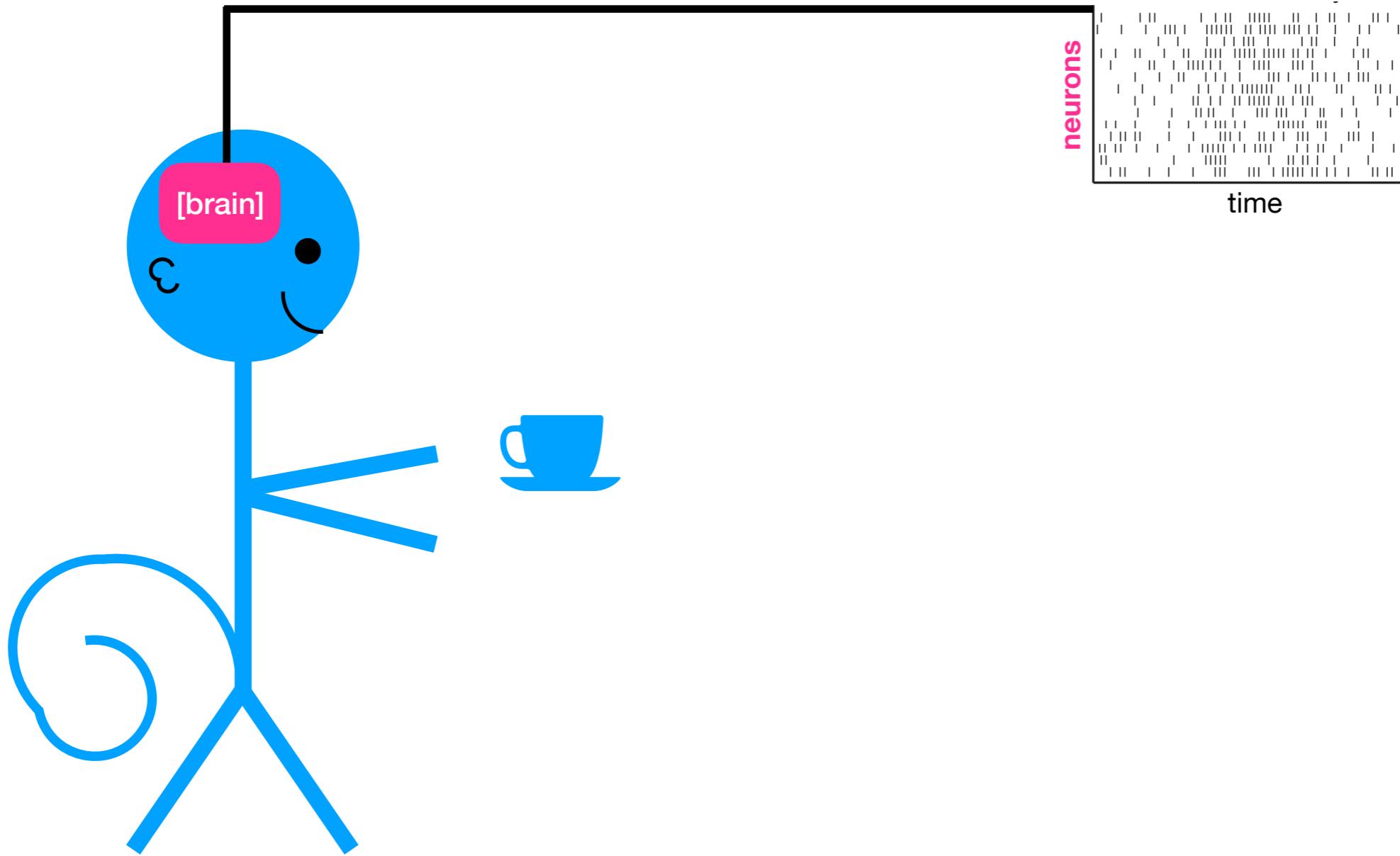
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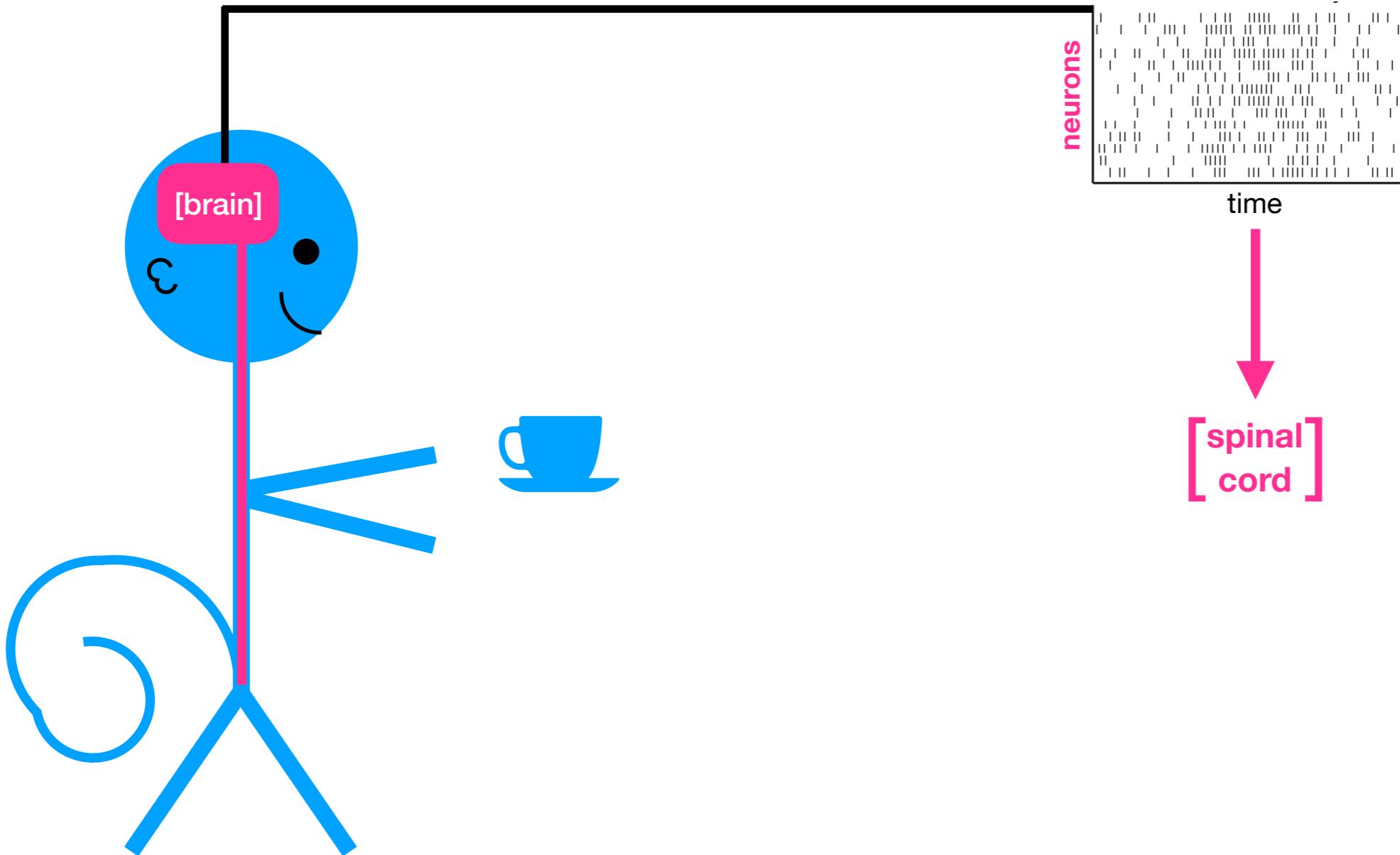
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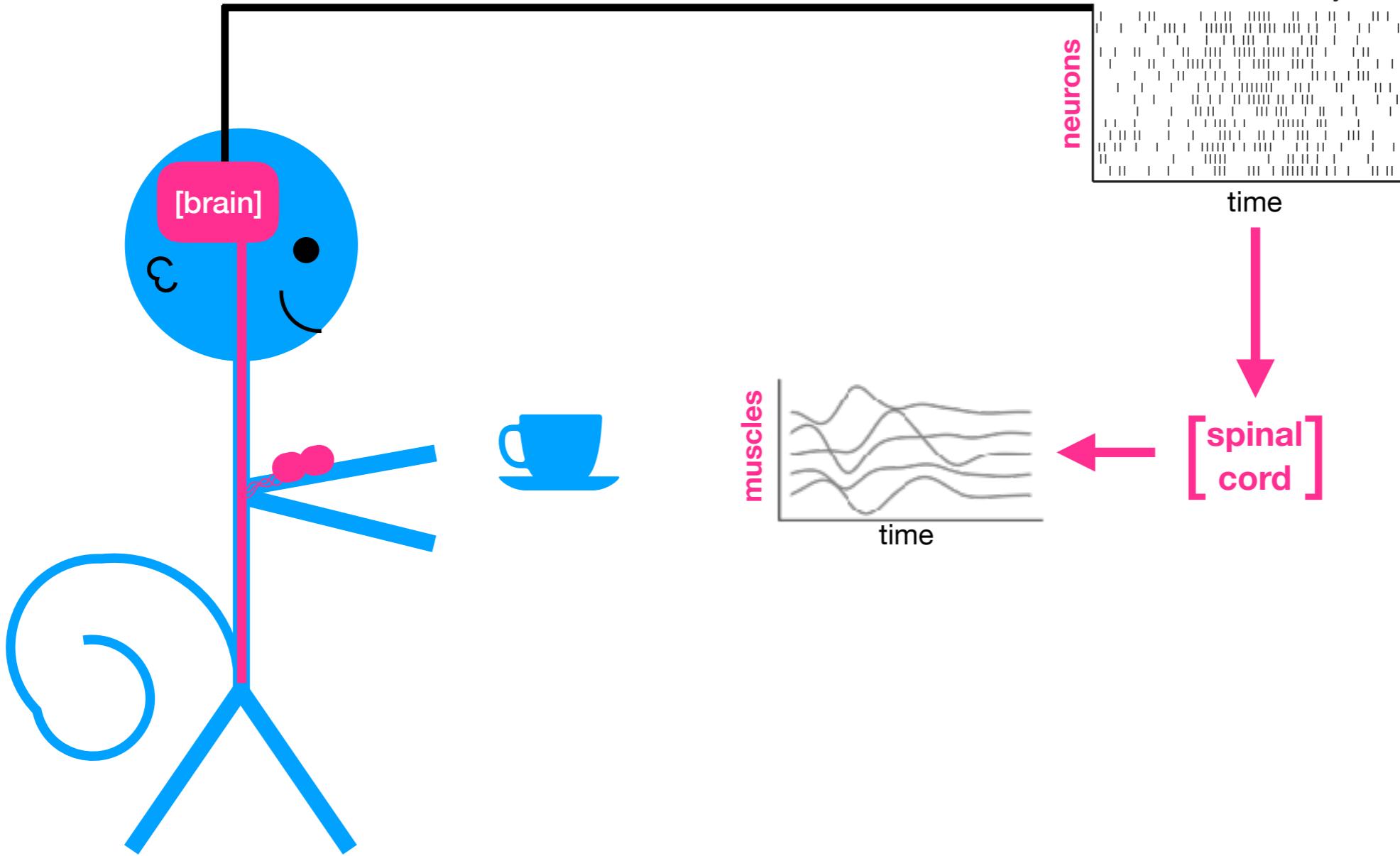
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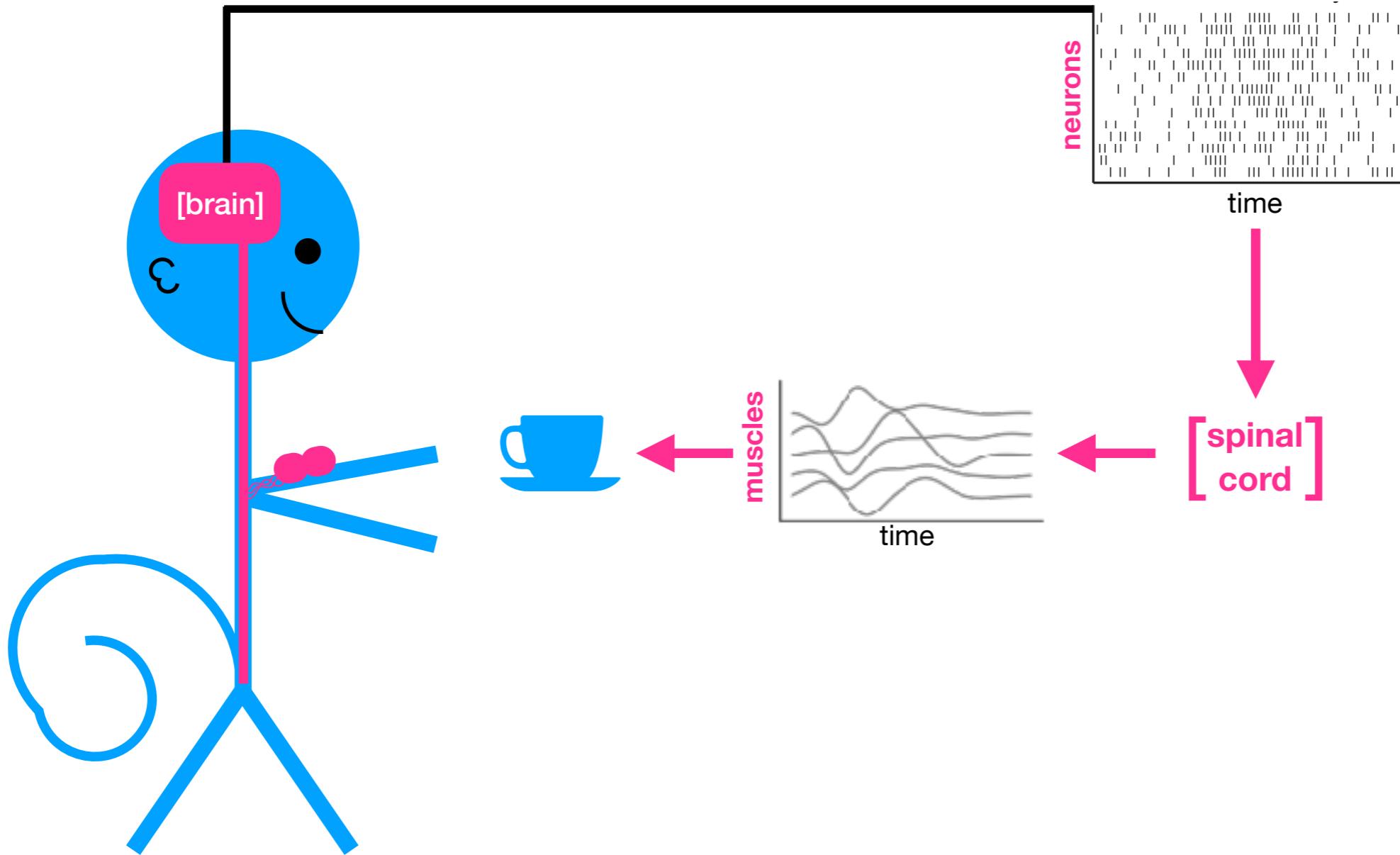
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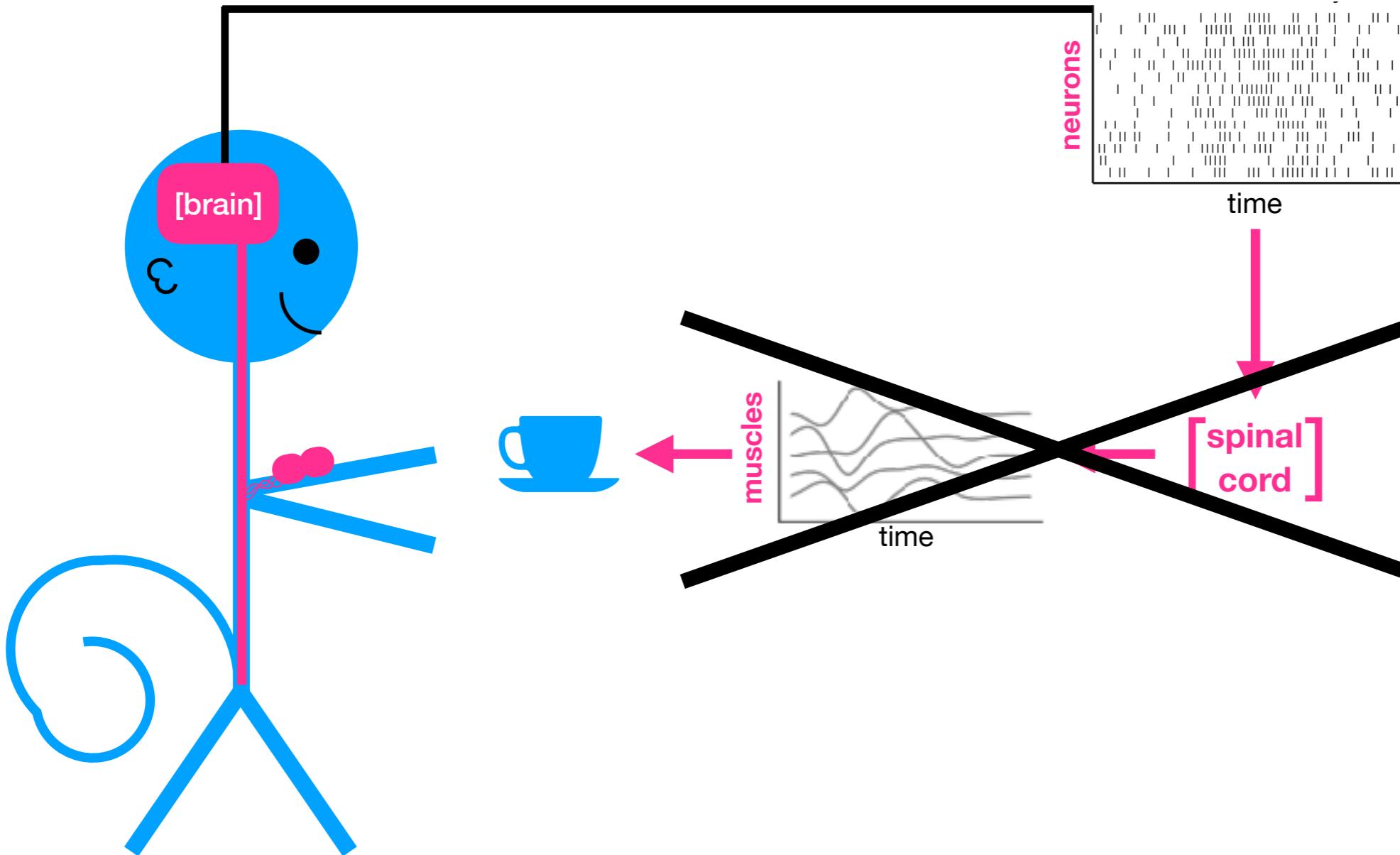
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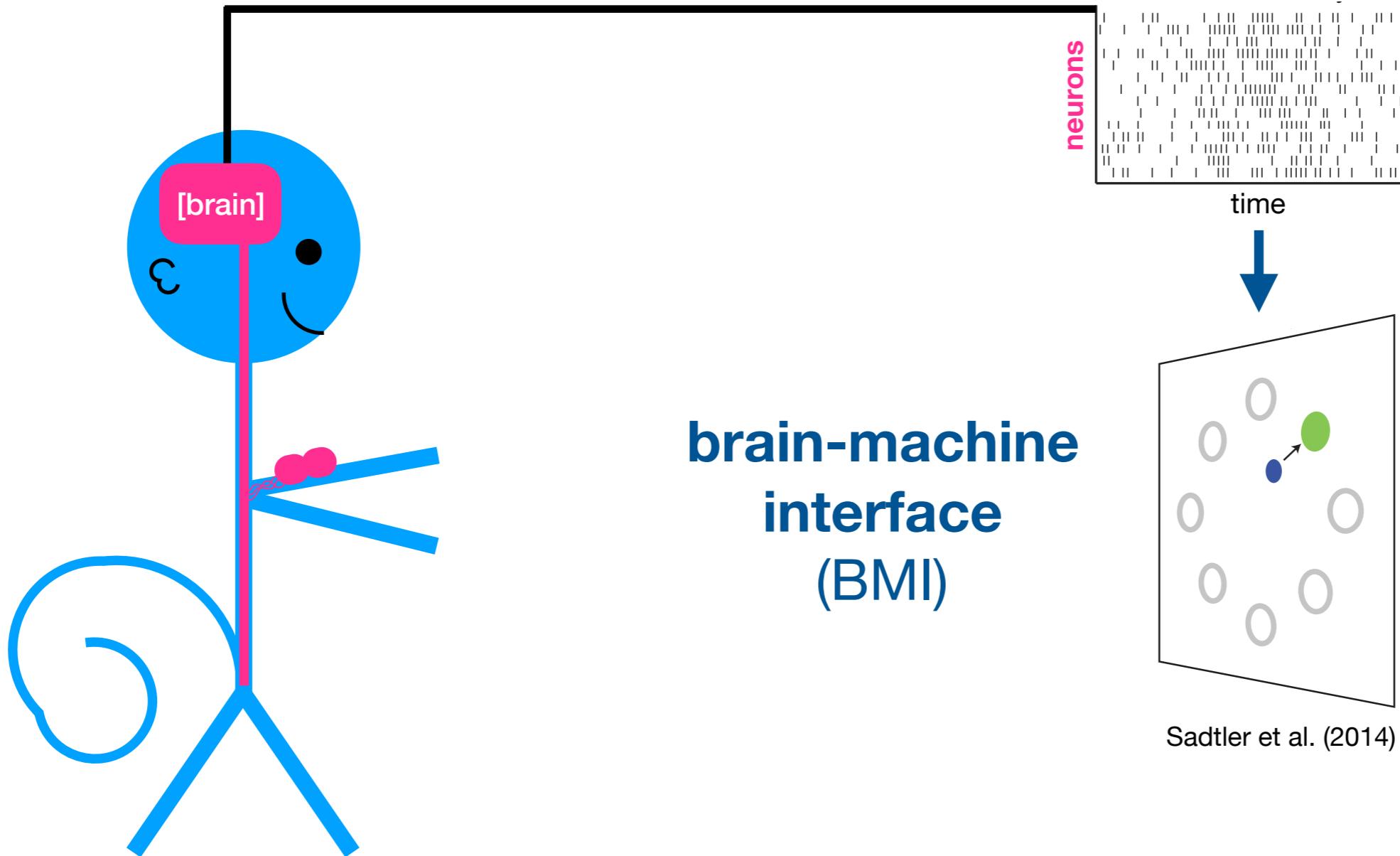
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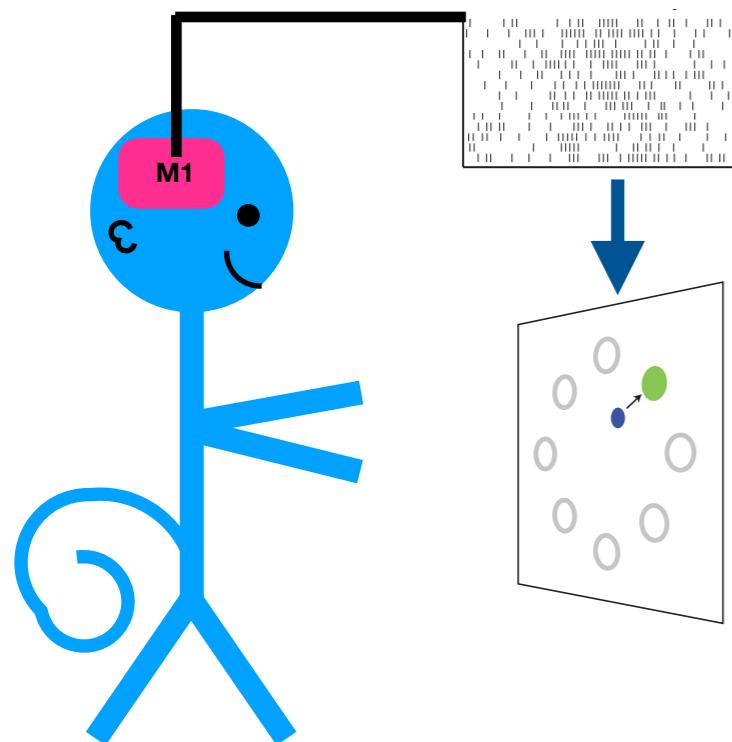


# BMI learning

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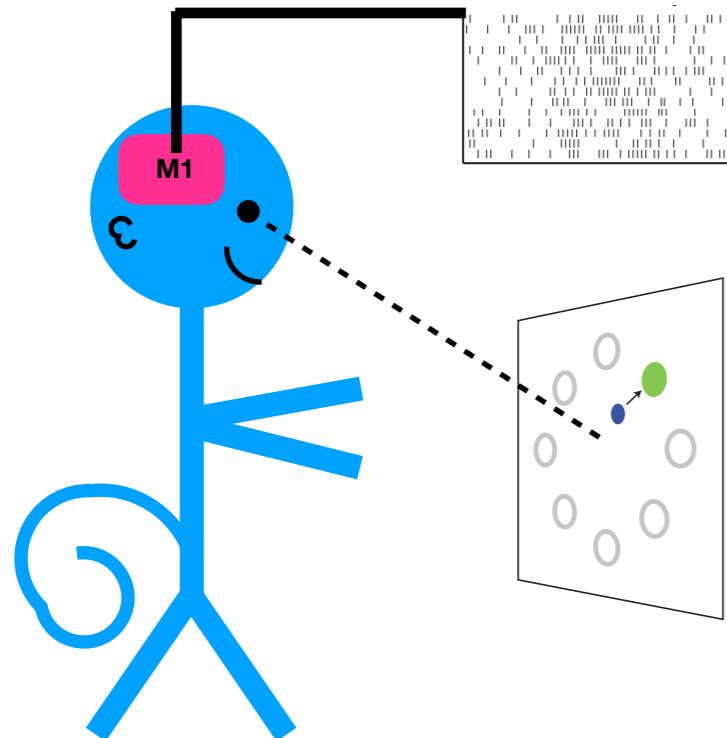
# “Neural constraints on learning”



Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
Hennig et al. (2018), Oby et al. (2019)

# “Neural constraints on learning”

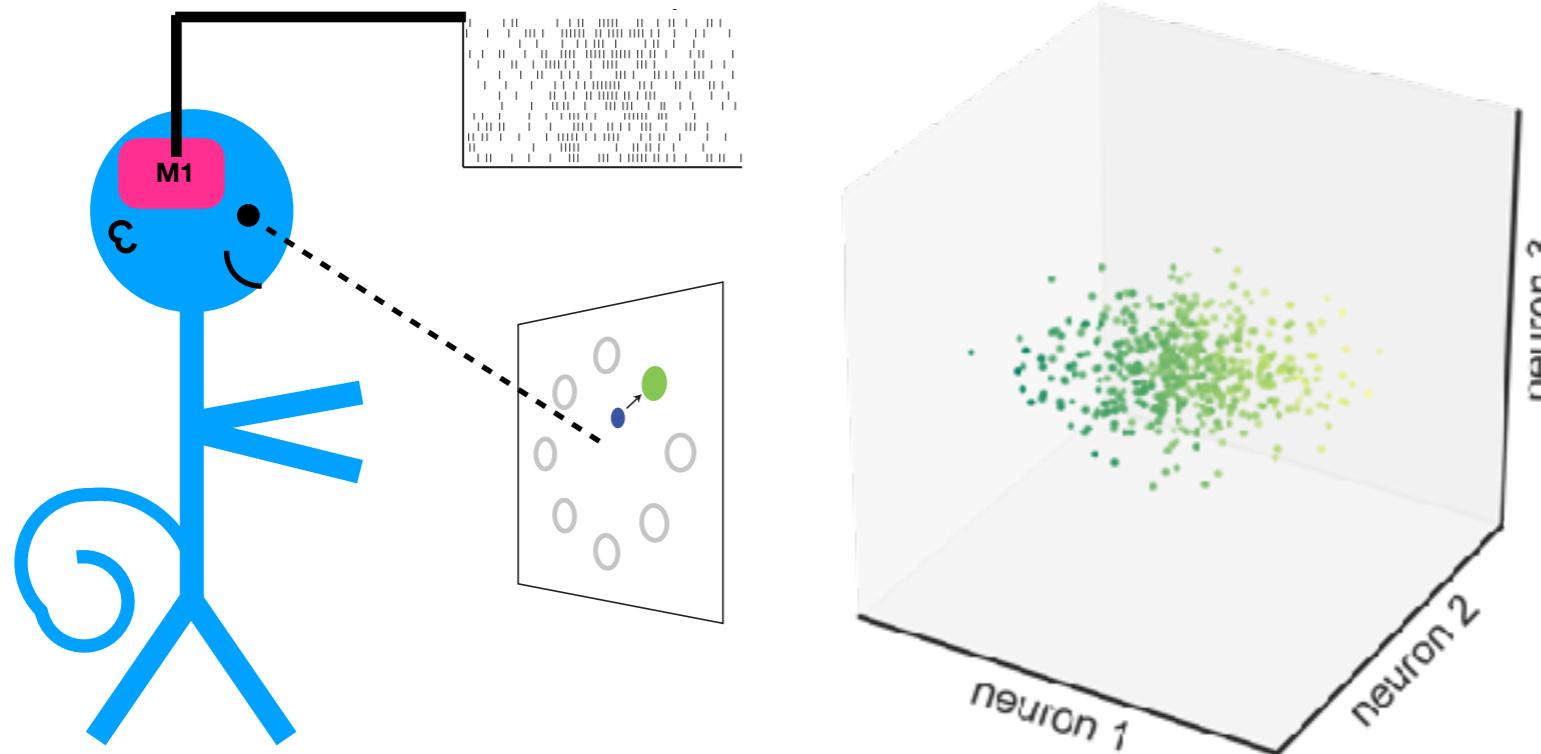
*calibration task*



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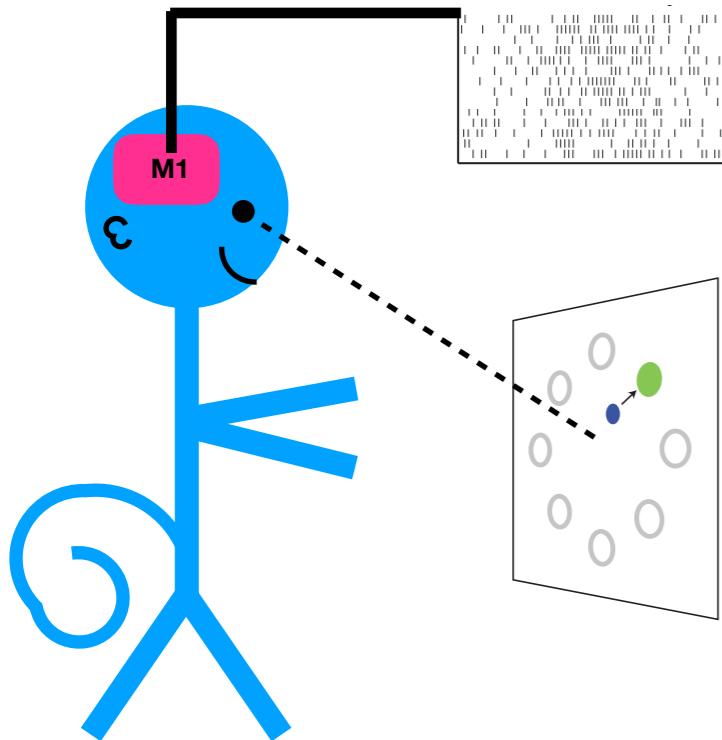
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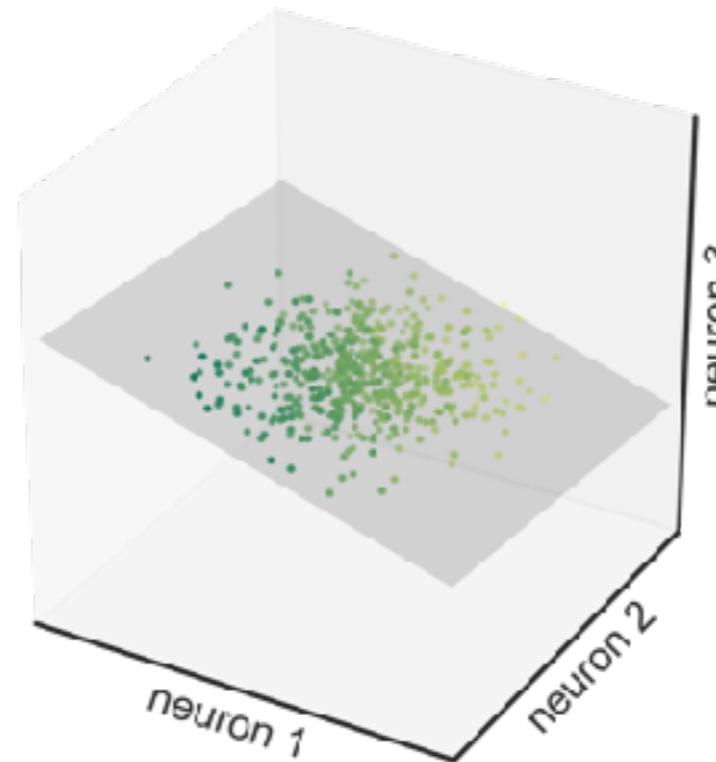
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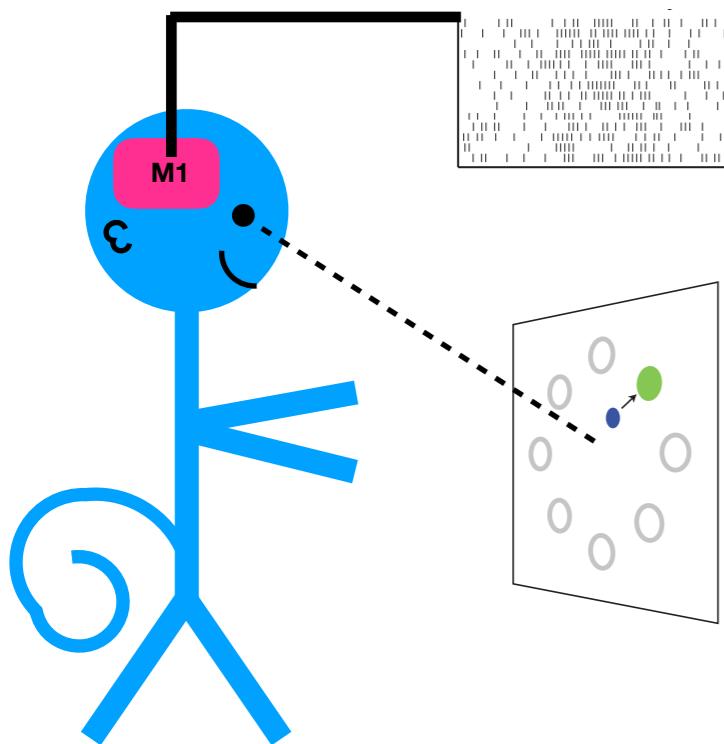
*intrinsic manifold*



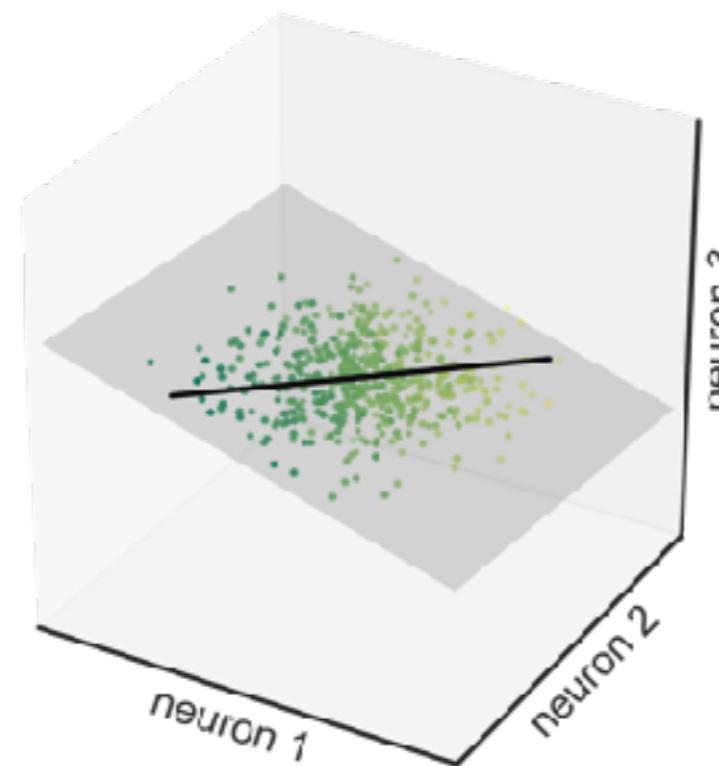
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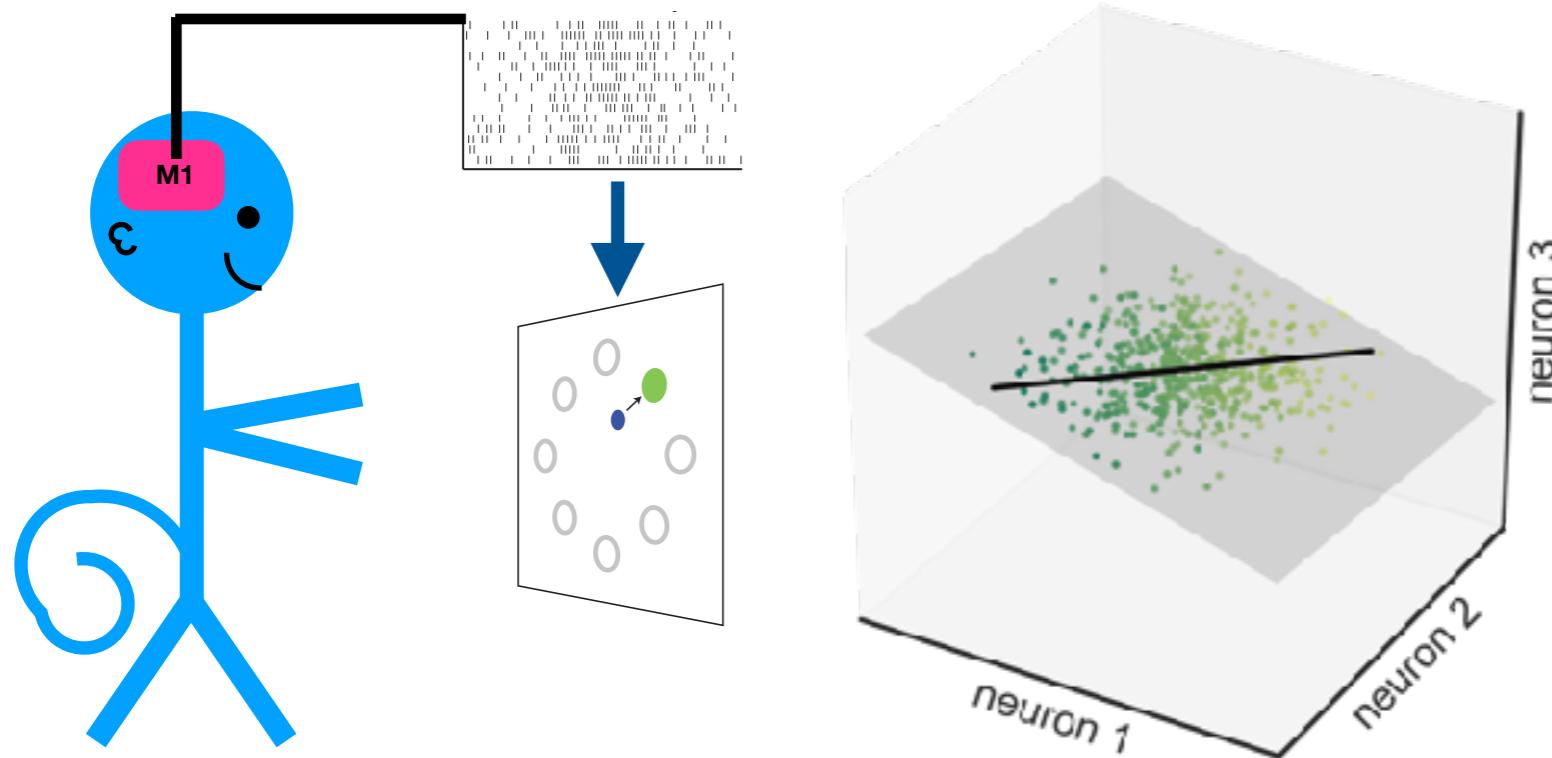


**intuitive decoder**

Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
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# “Neural constraints on learning”

*intrinsic manifold*

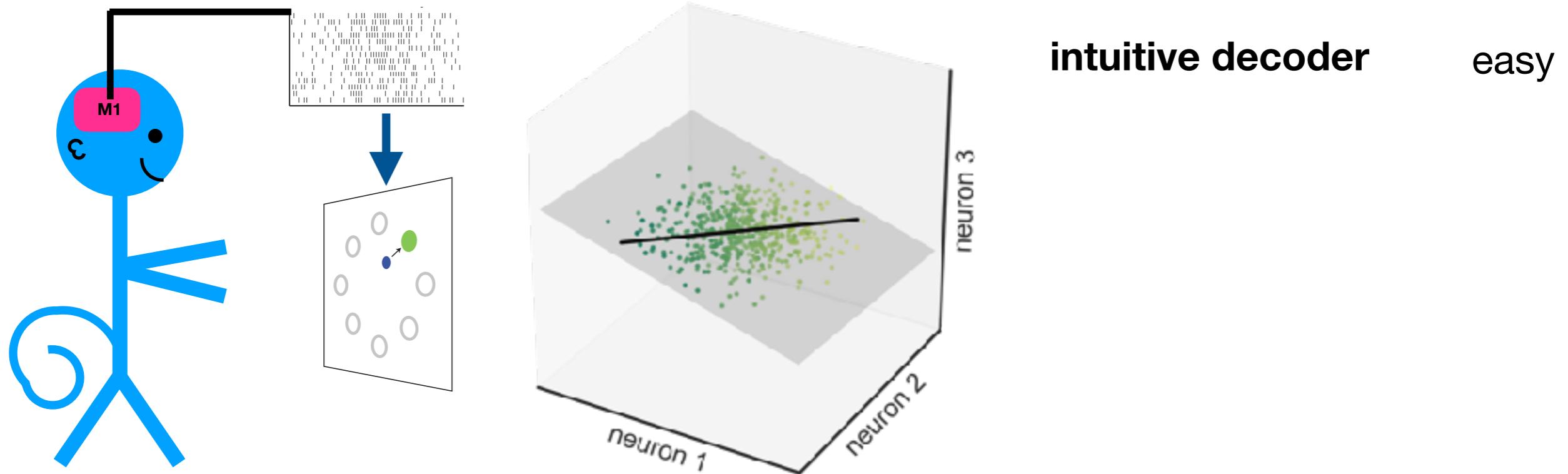


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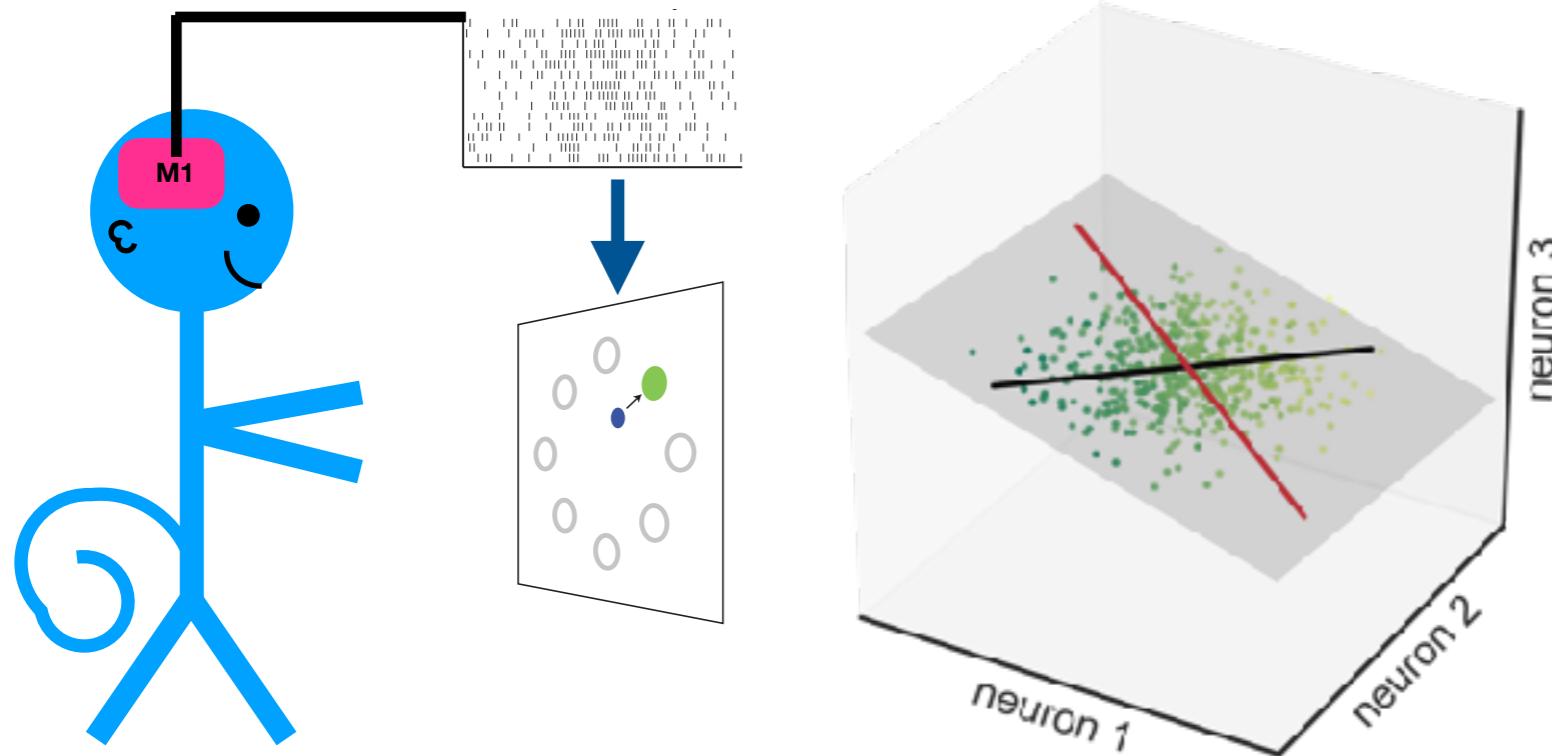
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# “Neural constraints on learning”

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intuitive decoder

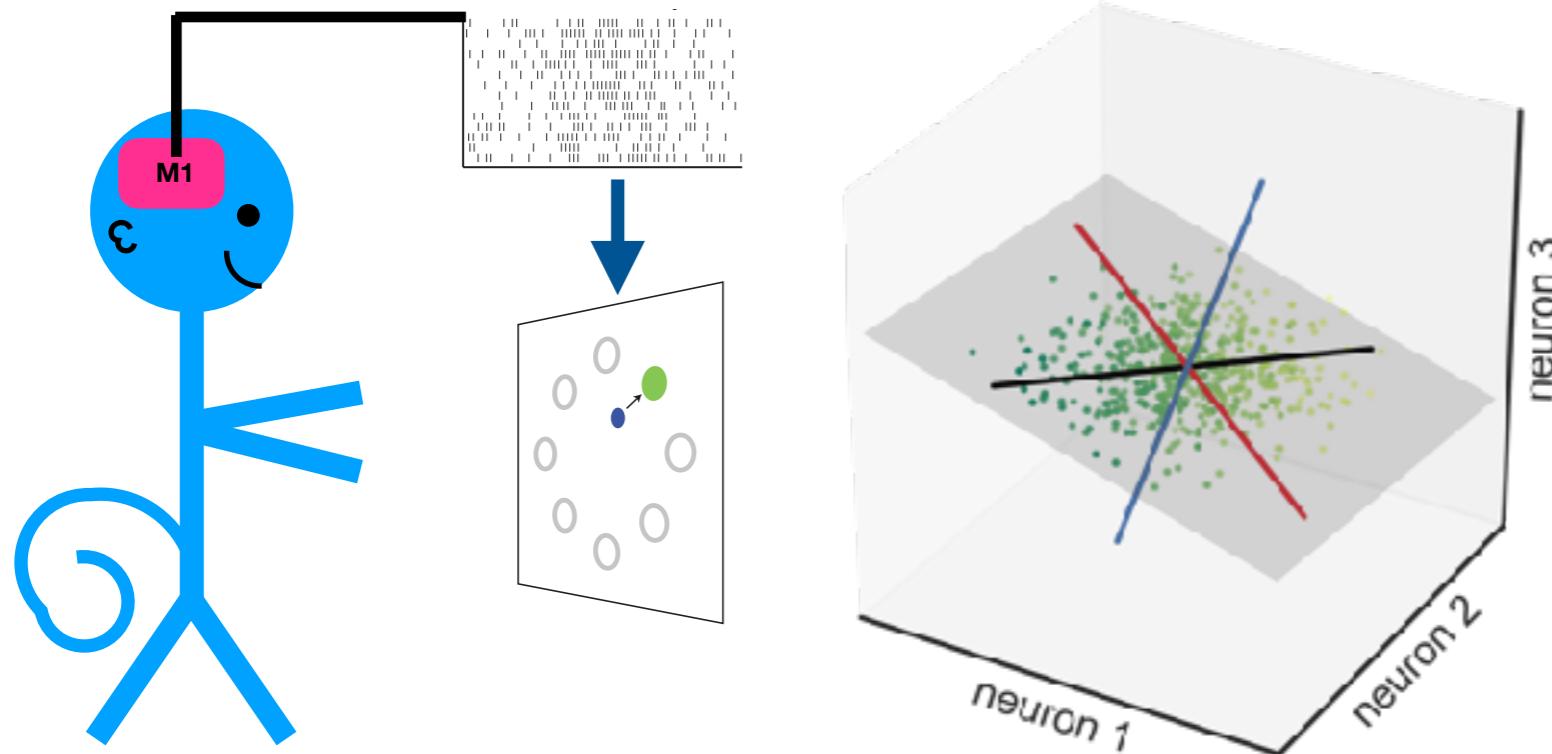
easy

inside-manifold  
perturbation

Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
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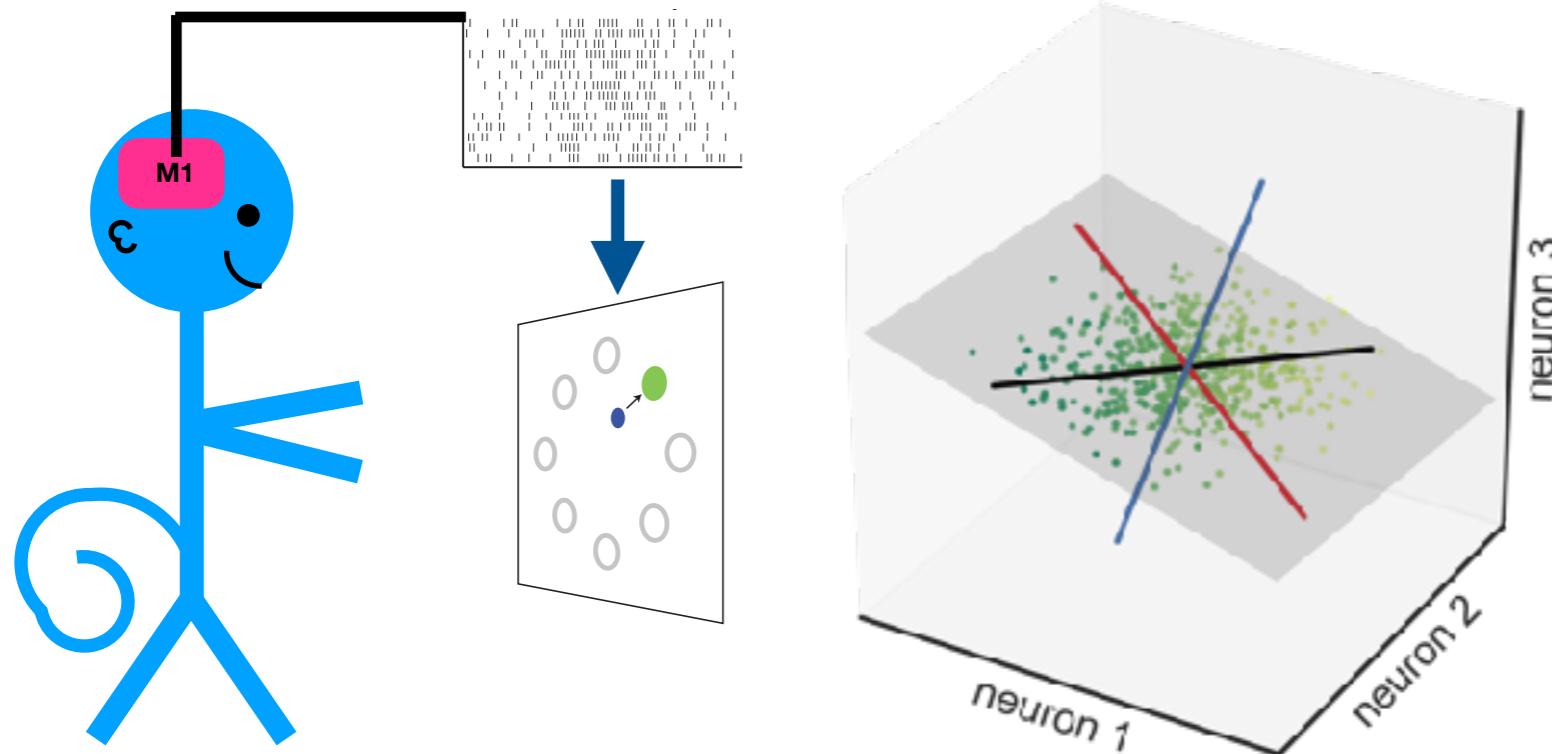
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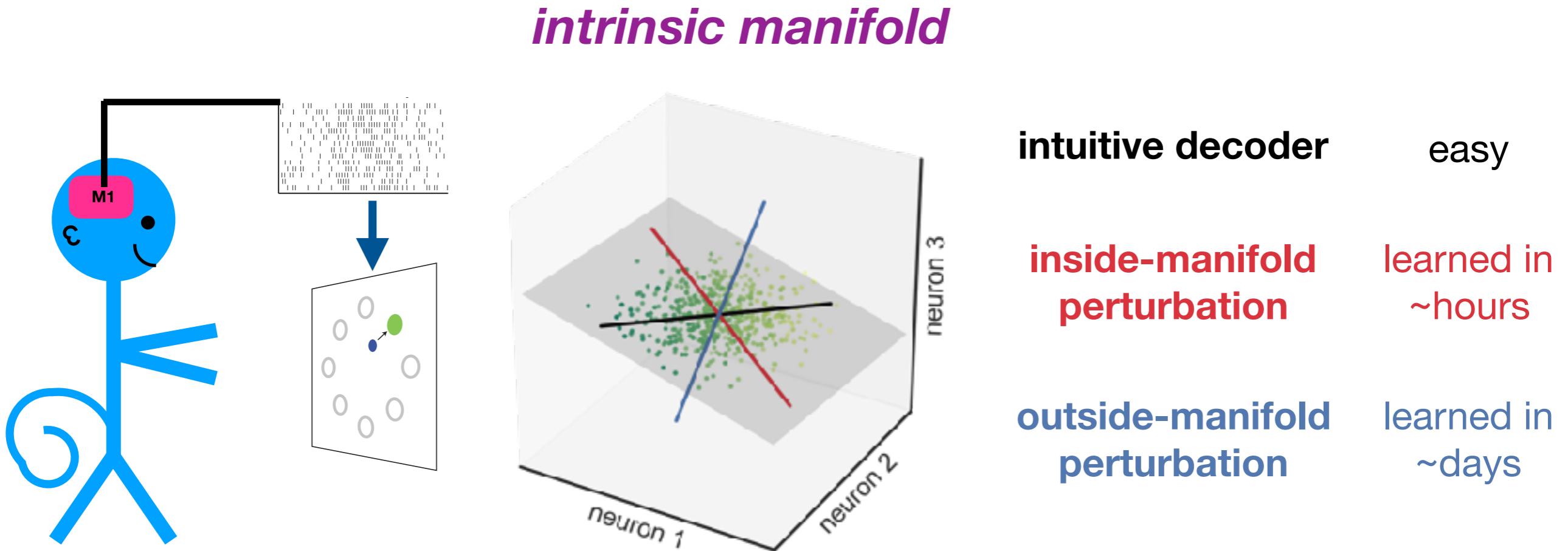
**inside-manifold  
perturbation**

learned in  
~hours

**outside-manifold  
perturbation**

Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
Hennig et al. (2018), Oby et al. (2019)

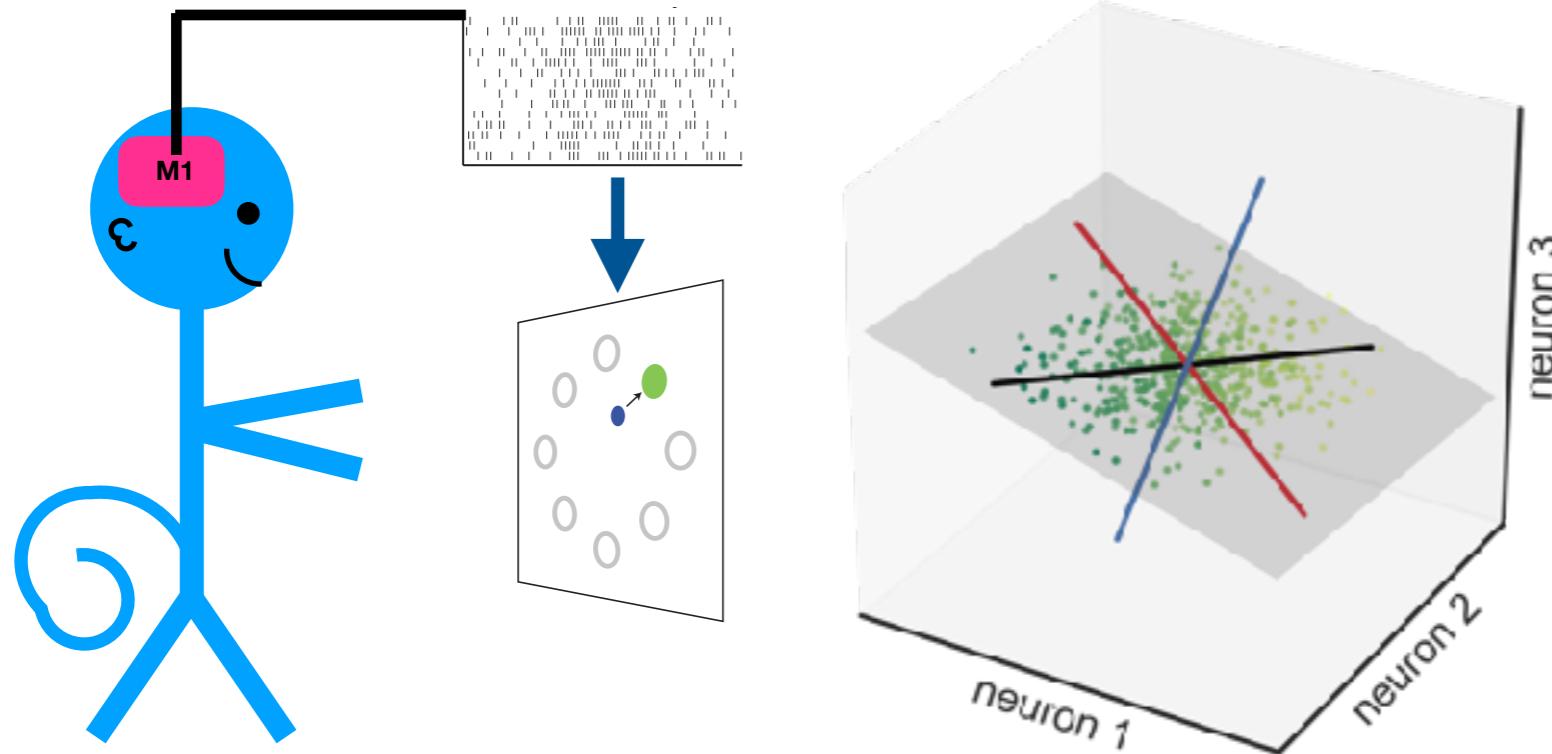
# “Neural constraints on learning”



Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
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# What's the brain doing?

*intrinsic manifold*



**intuitive decoder**

easy

**inside-manifold perturbation**

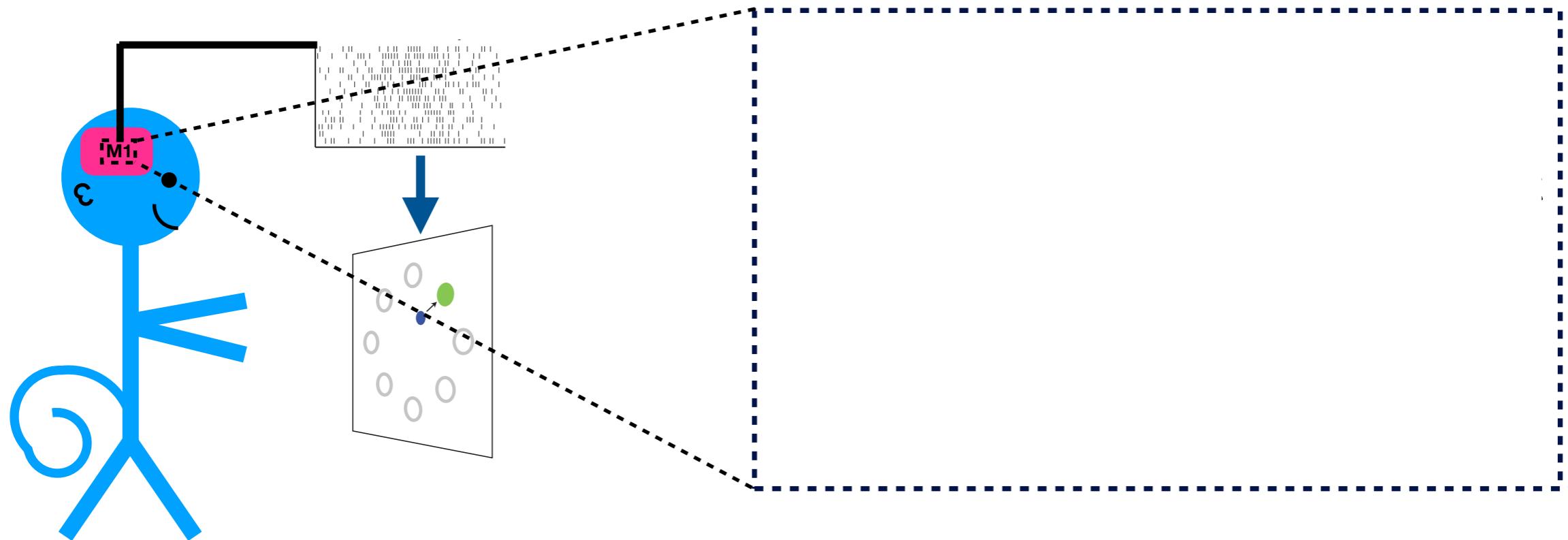
learned in  
~hours

**outside-manifold perturbation**

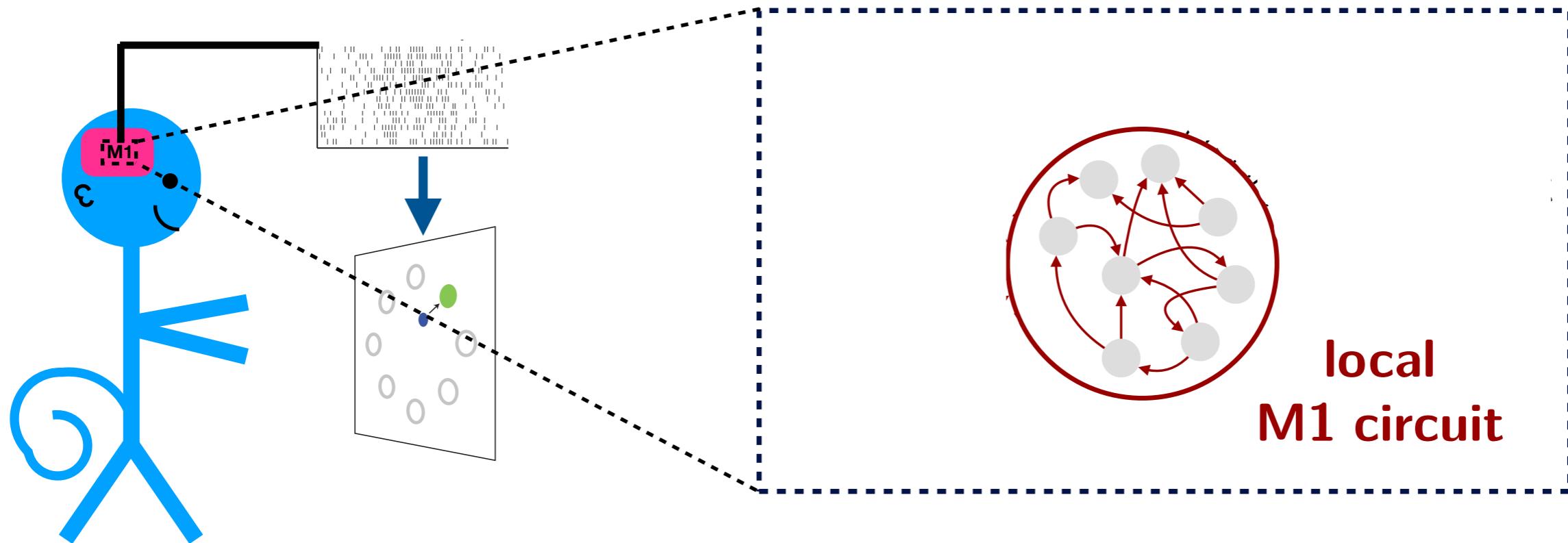
learned in  
~days

Sadtler et al. (2014), Golub et al. (2018),  
Hennig et al. (2018), Oby et al. (2019)

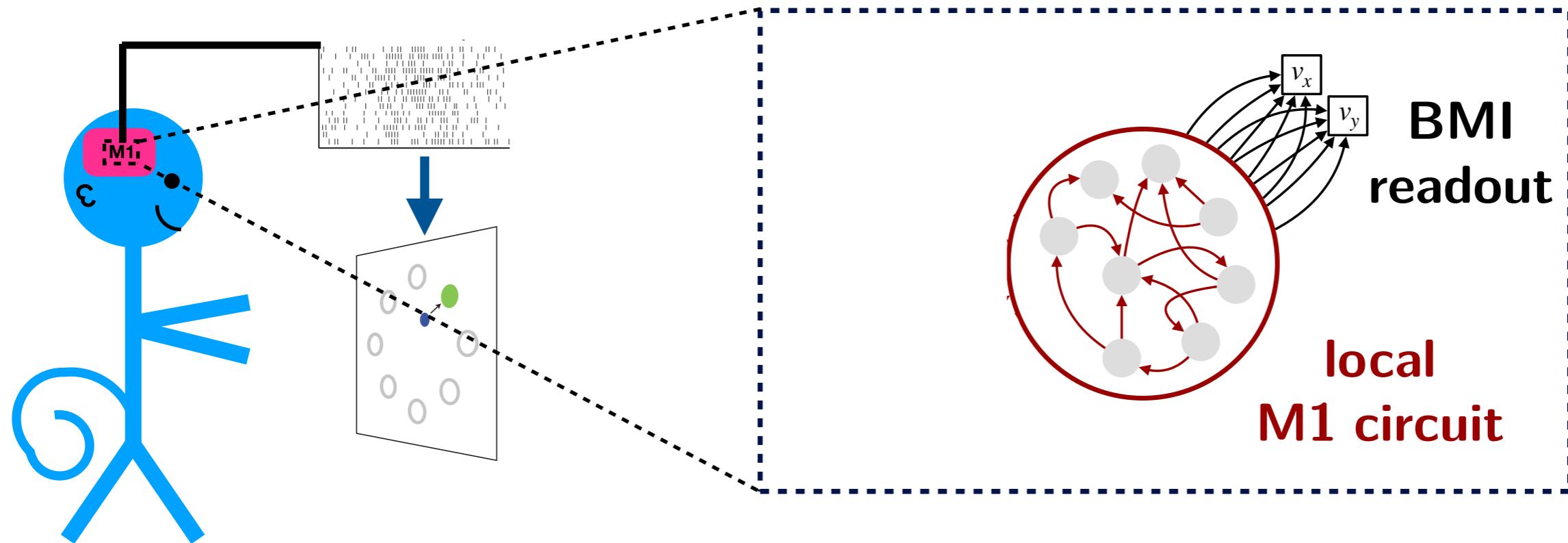
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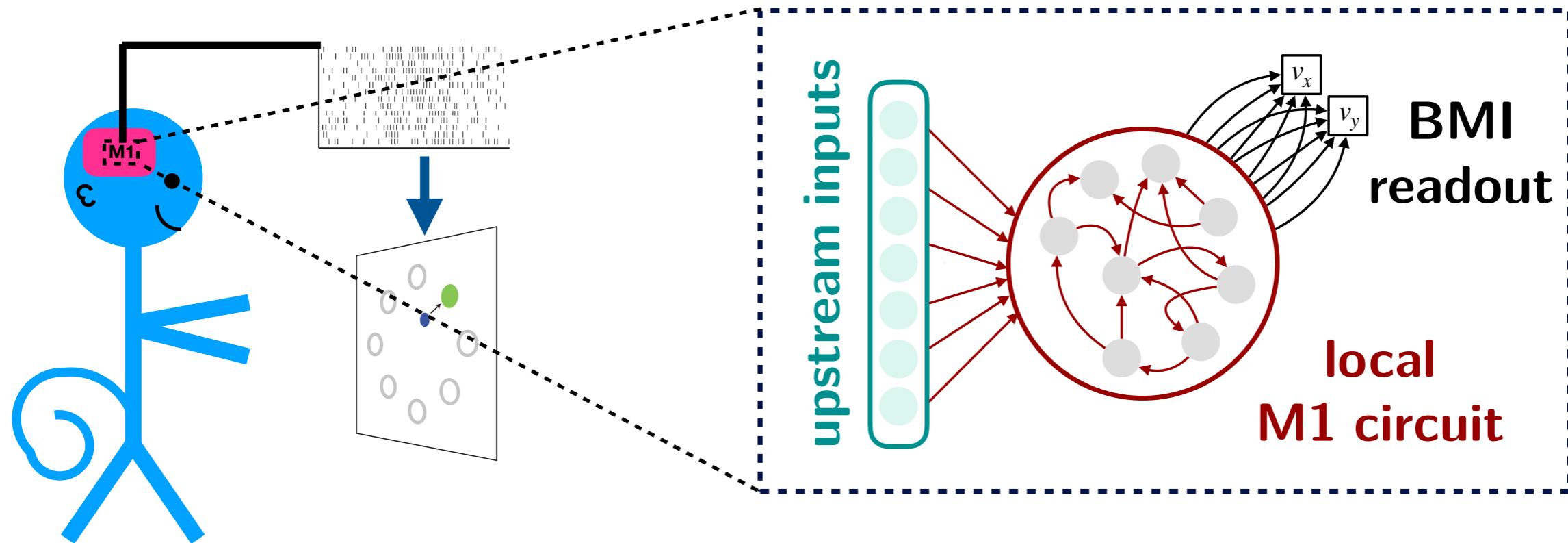
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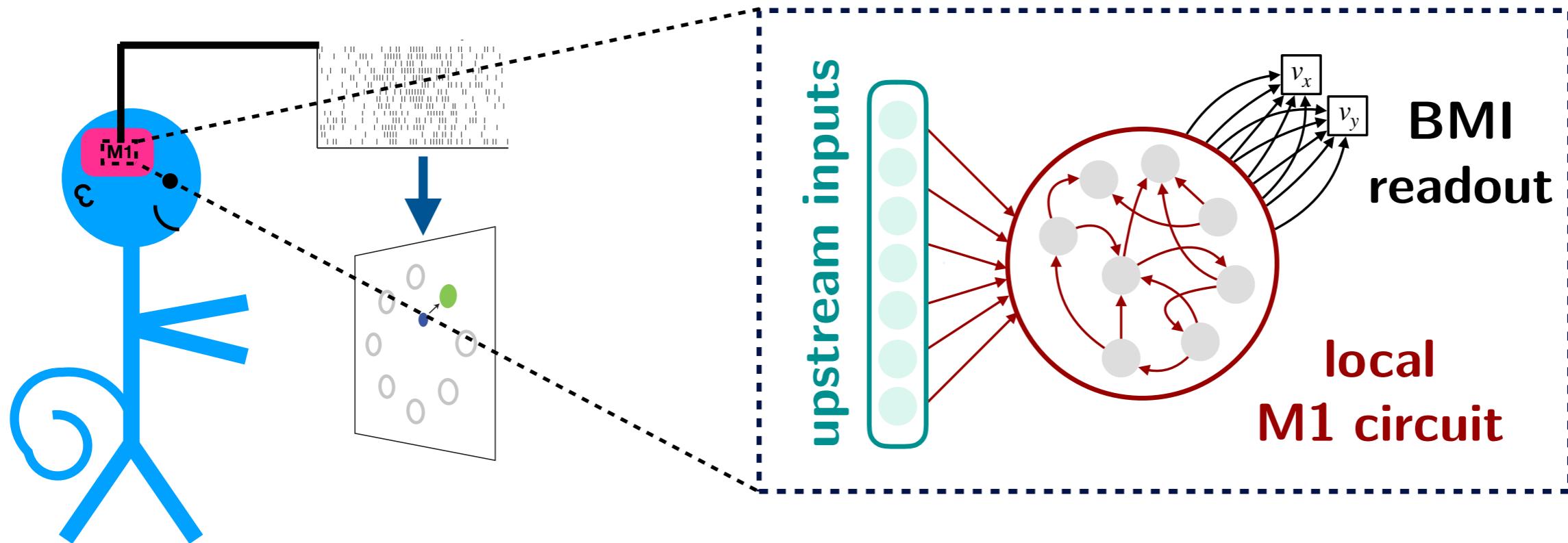
# What's the brain doing?



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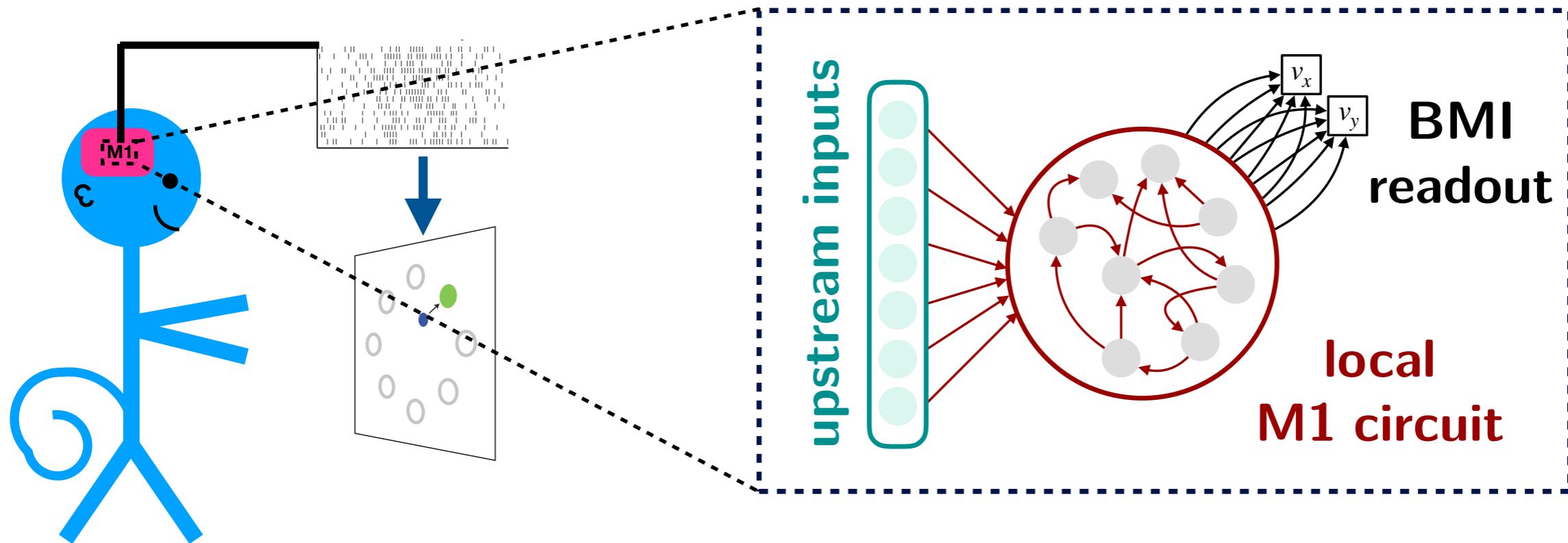


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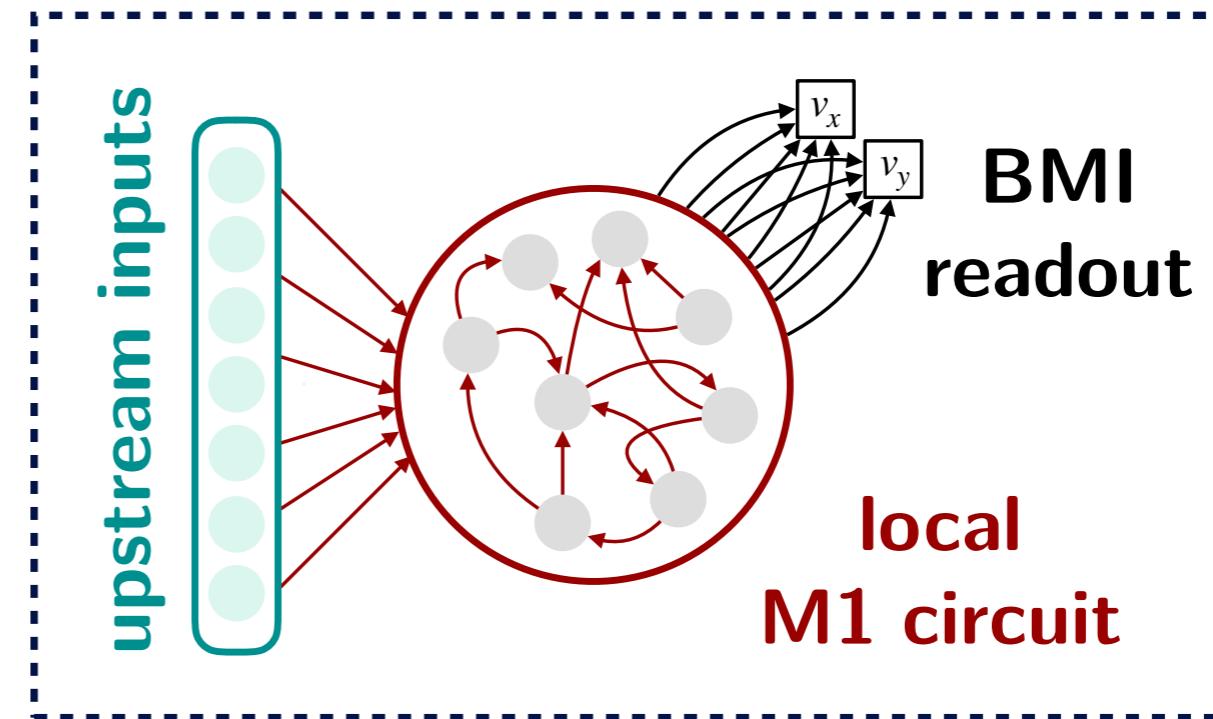
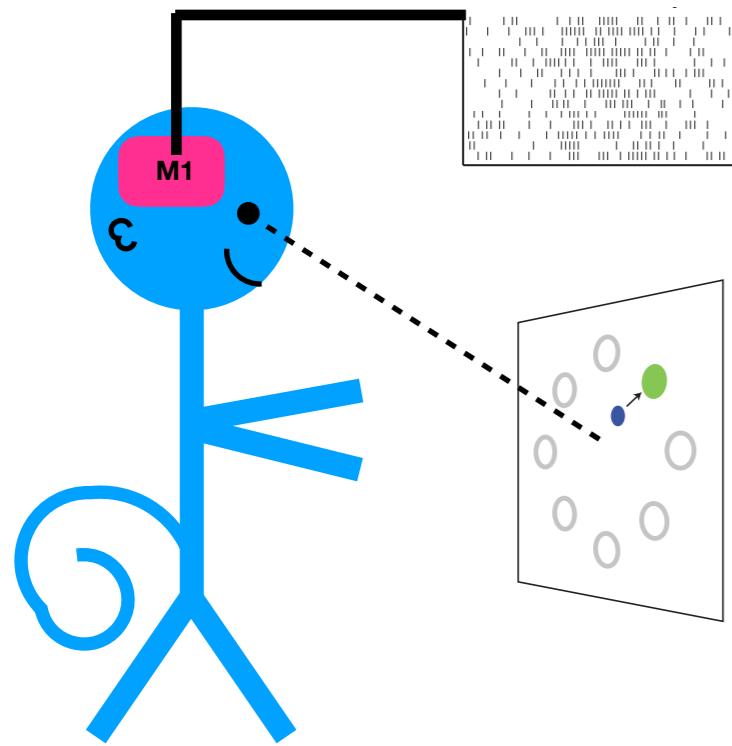
optimizing  
connectivity?

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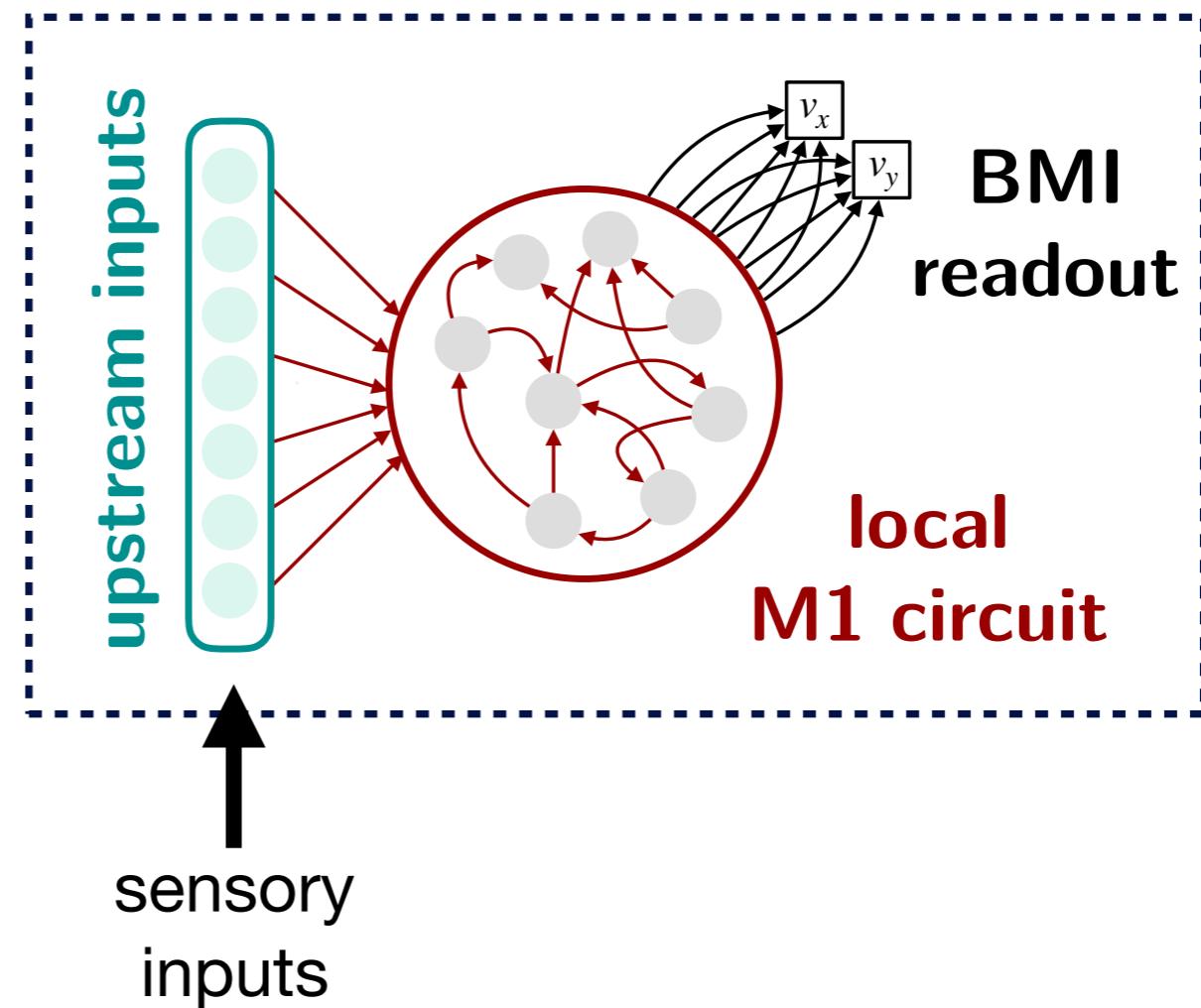
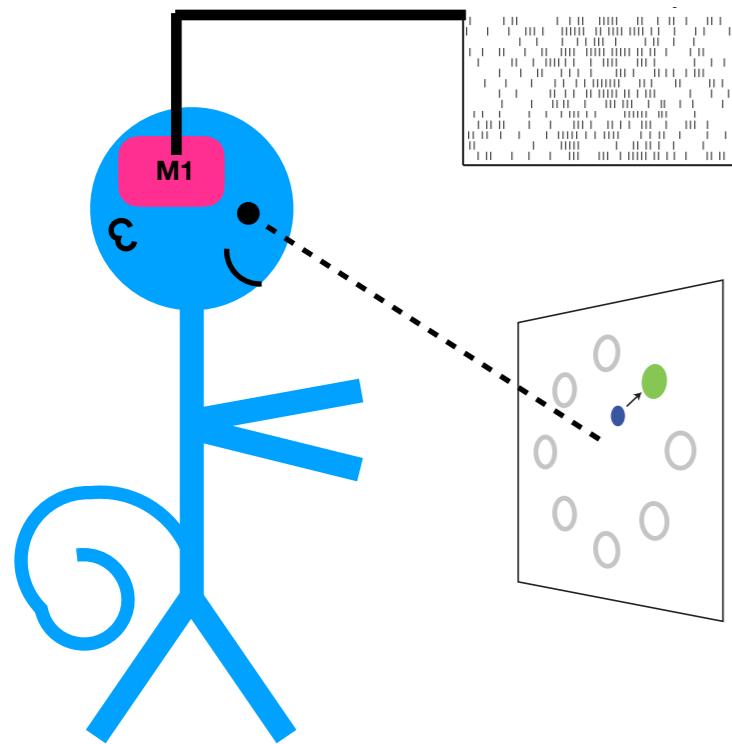
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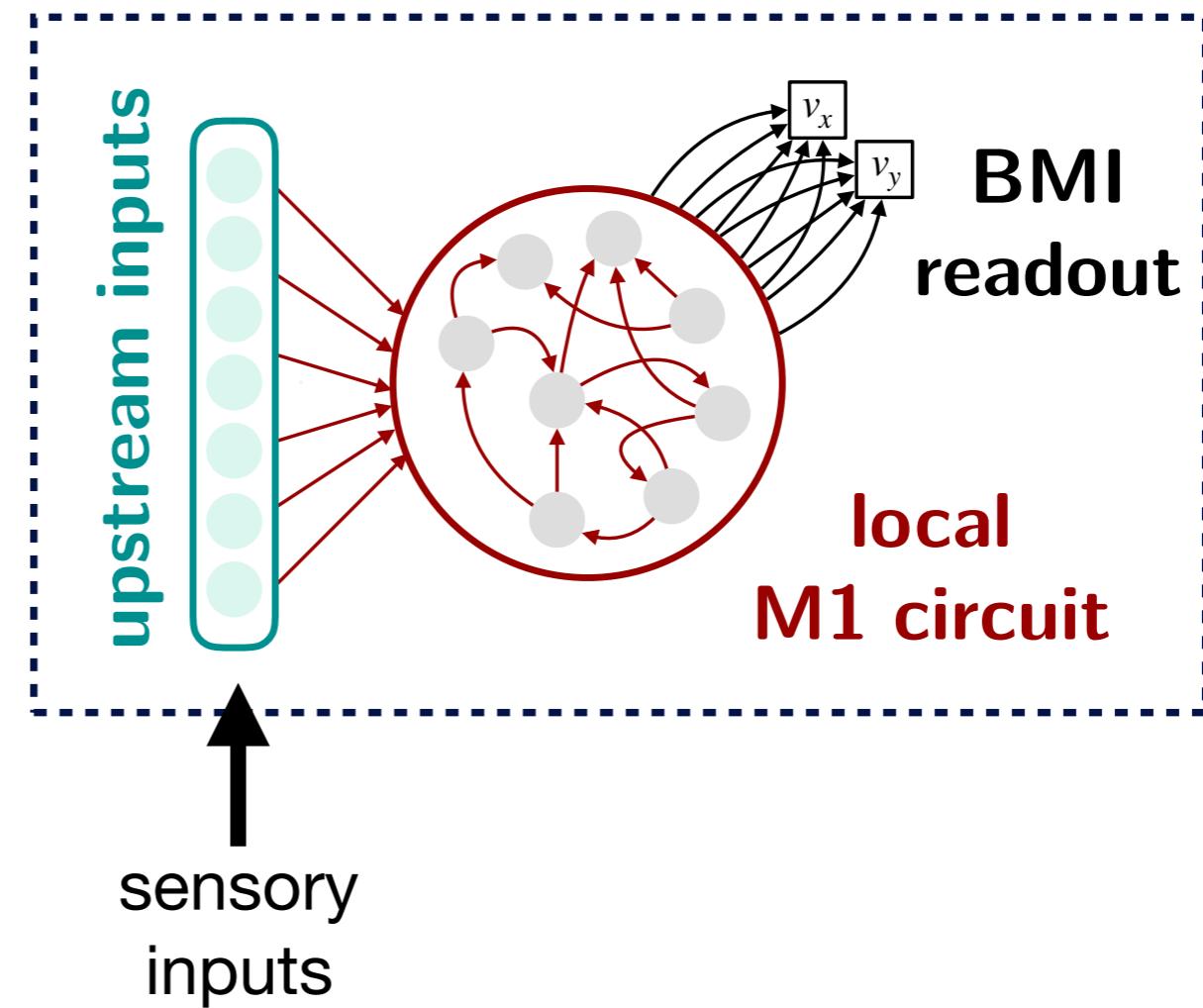
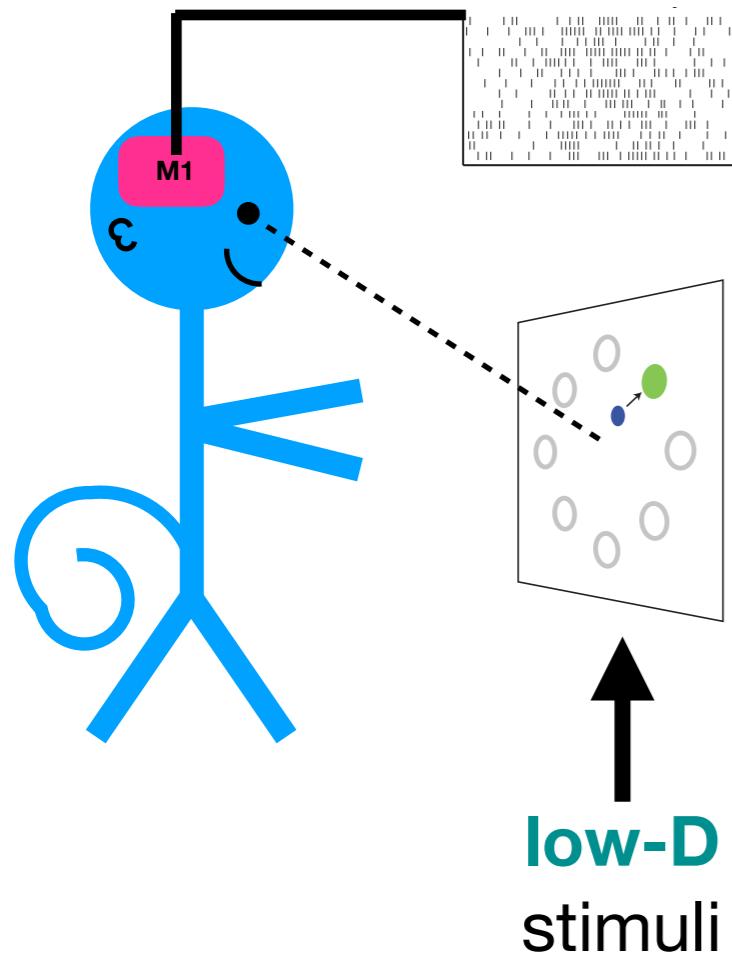
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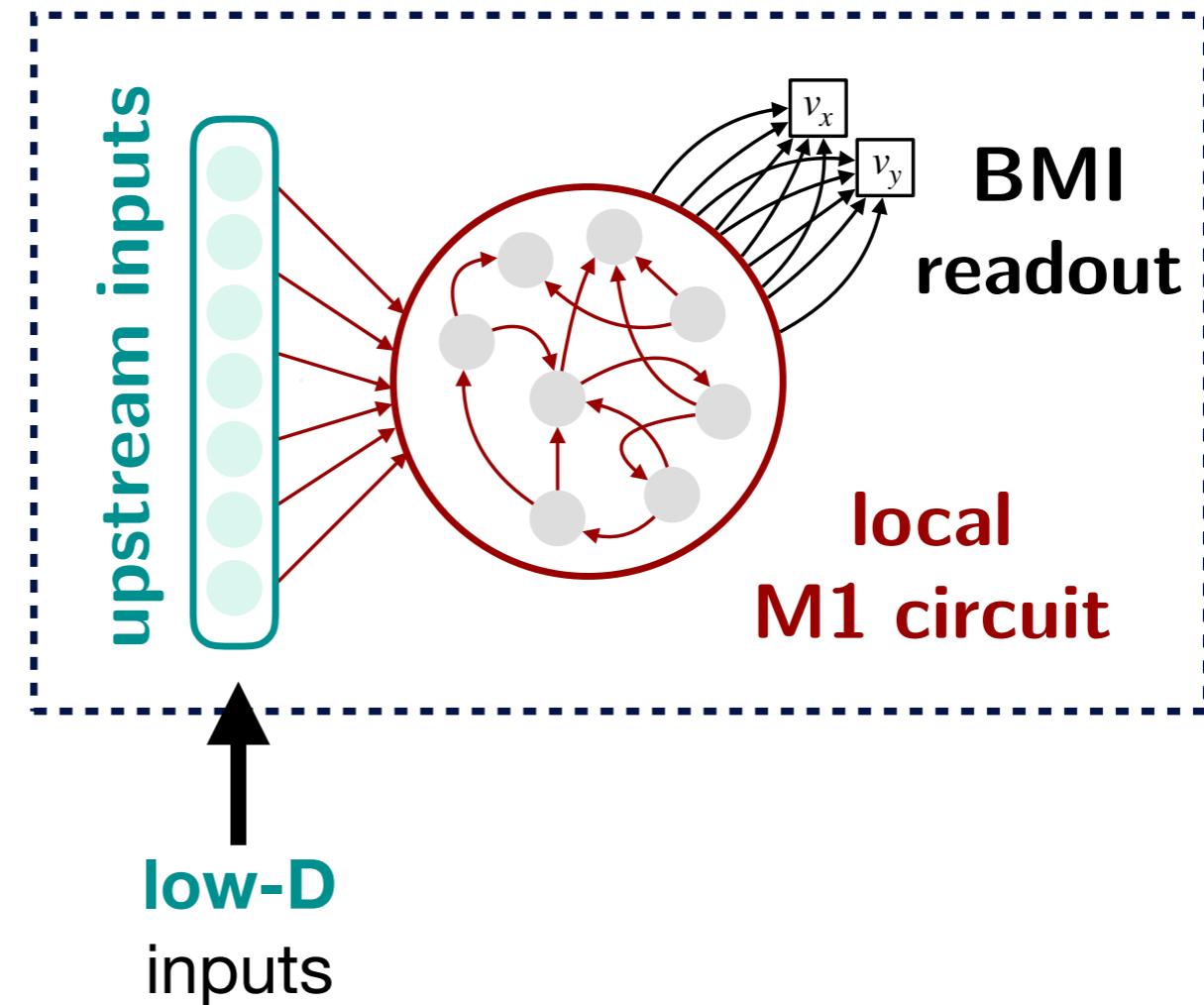
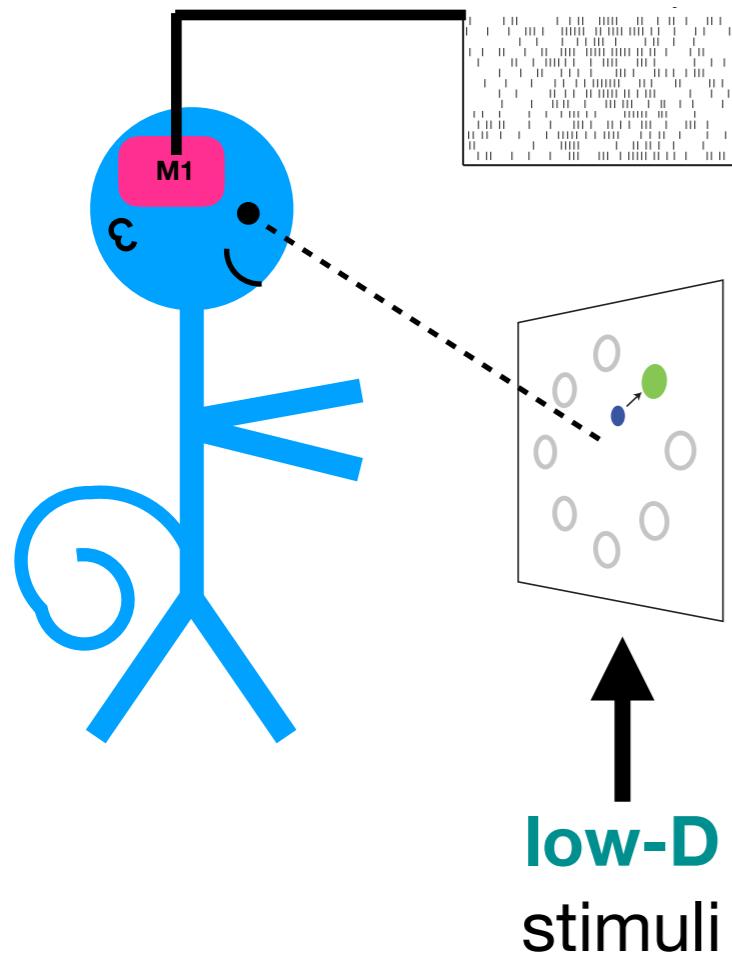
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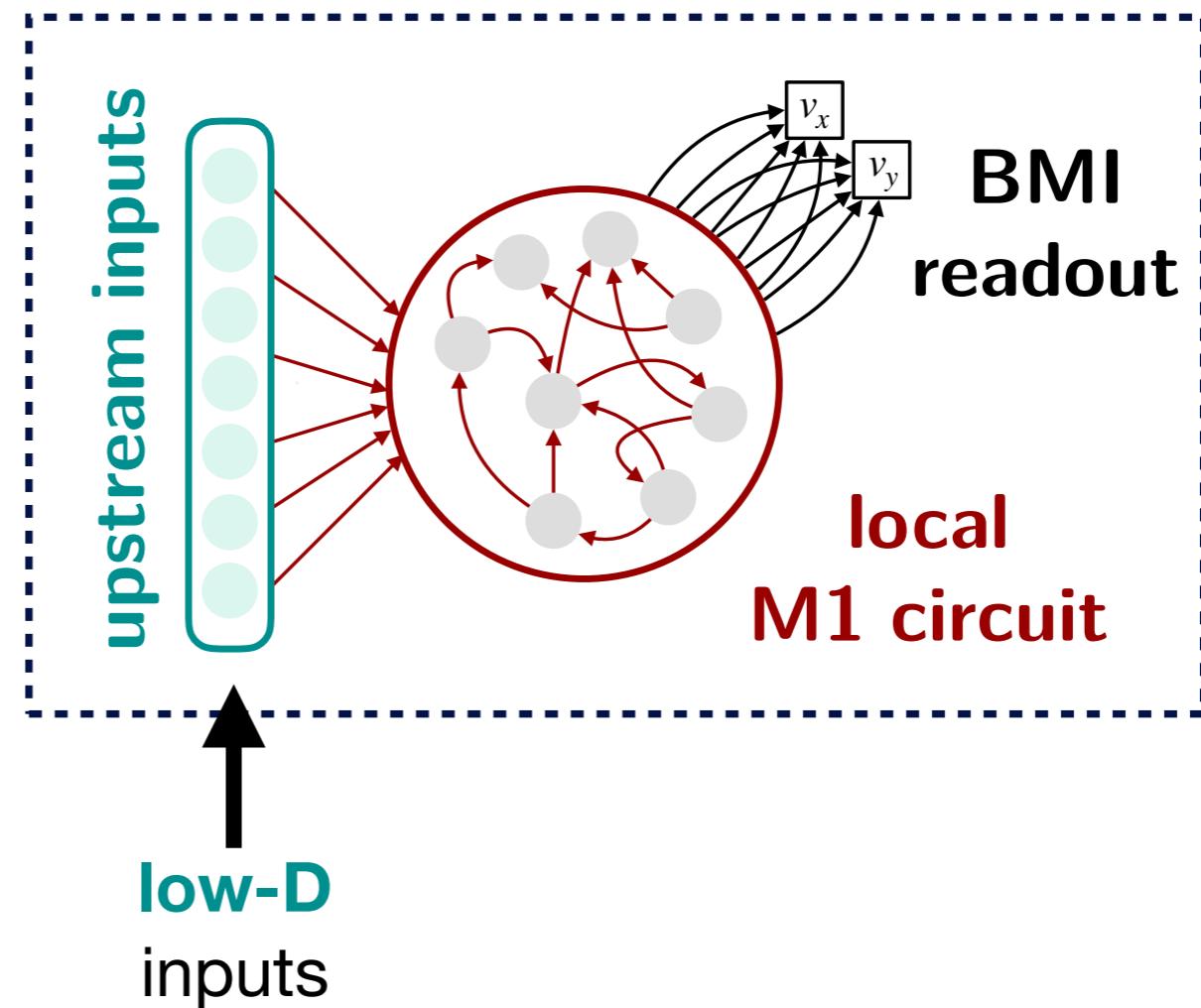
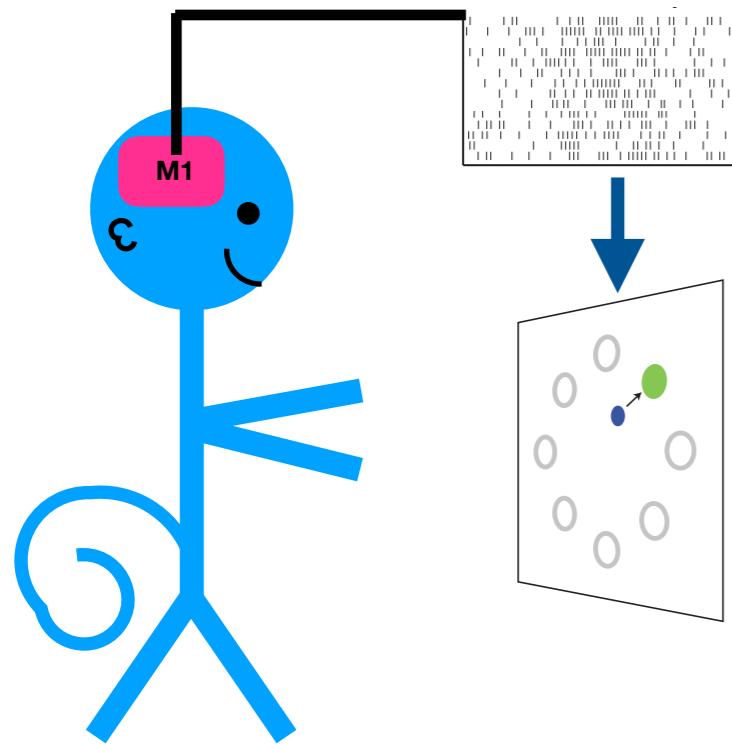
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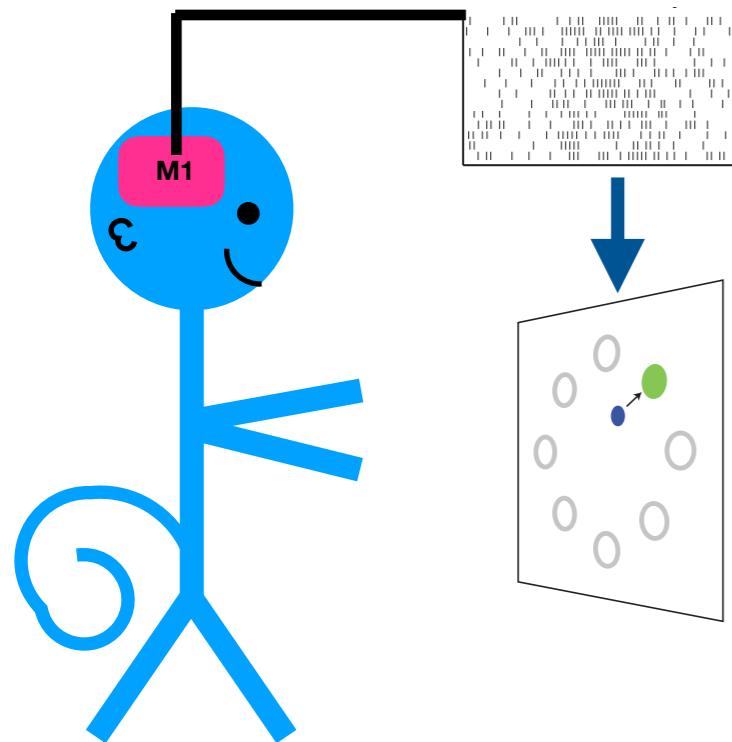
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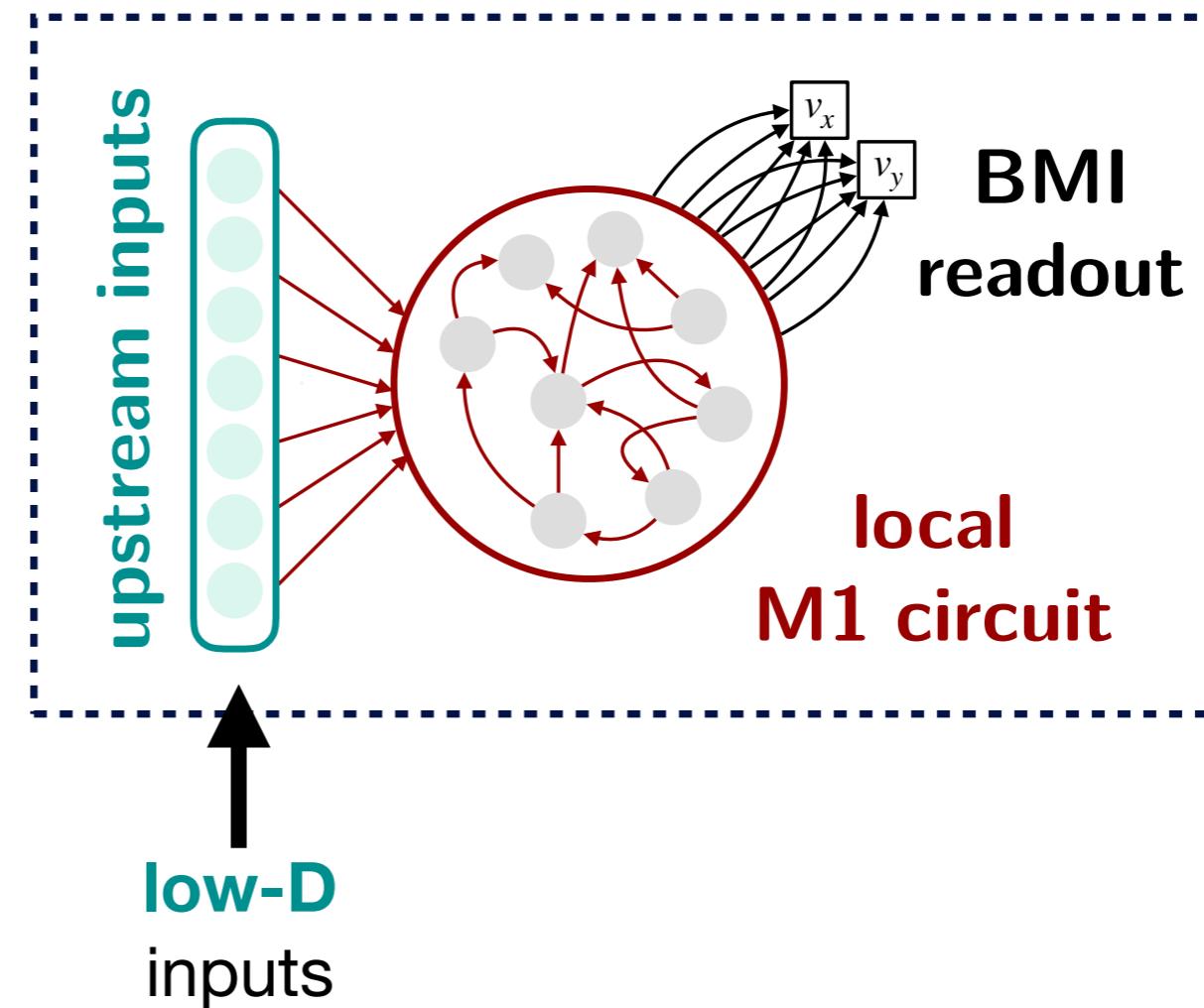


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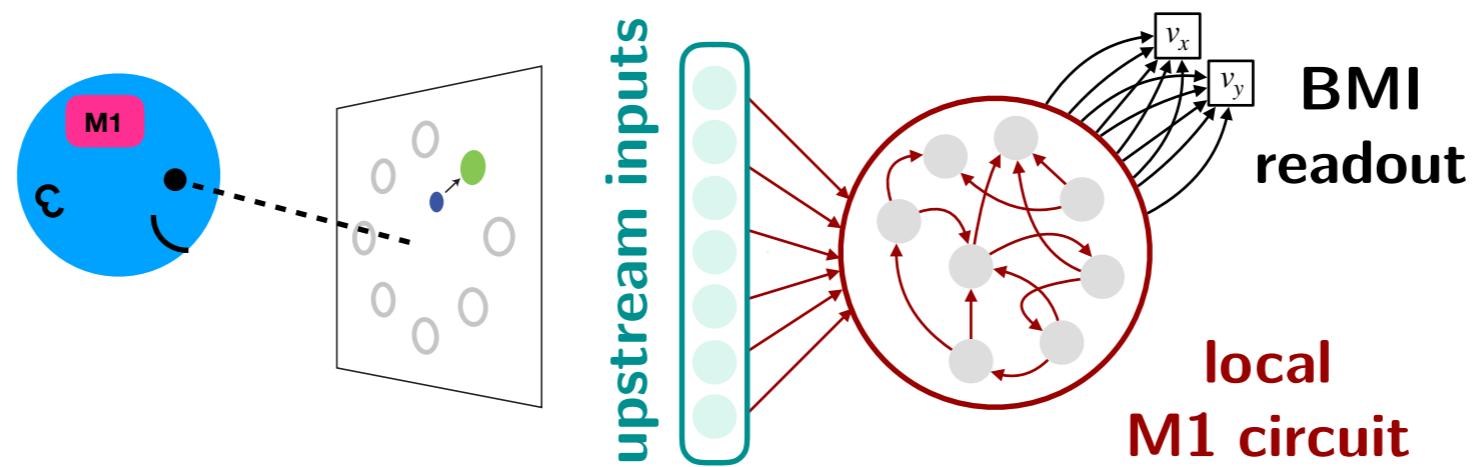
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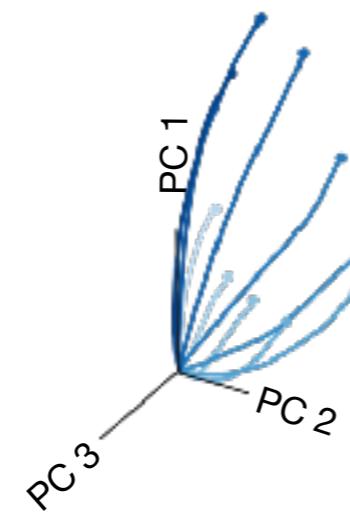
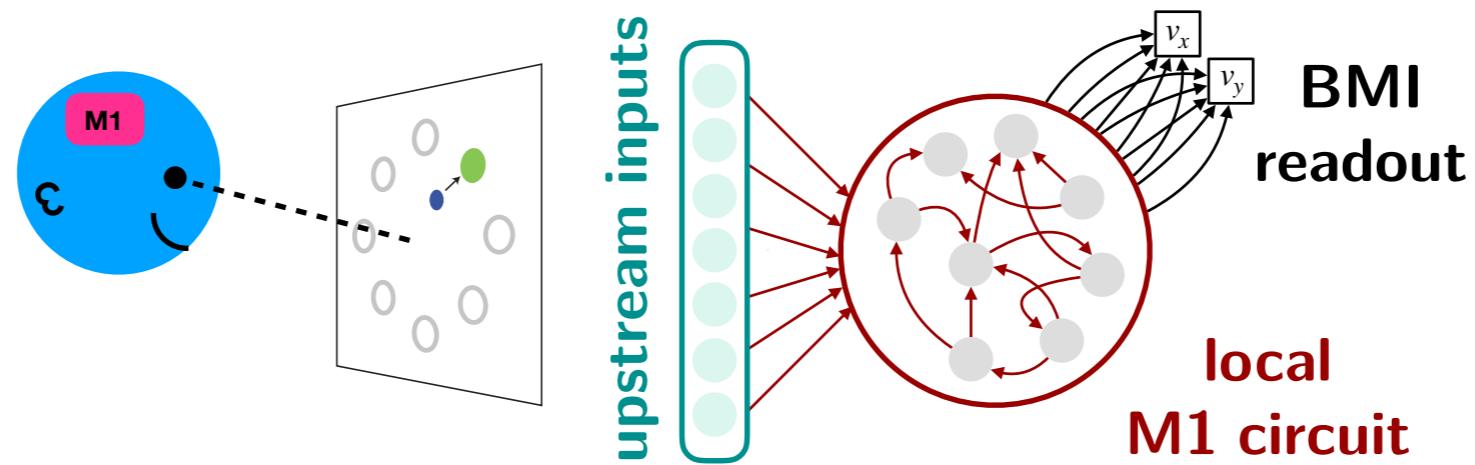
re-aiming?

# Does re-aiming work?

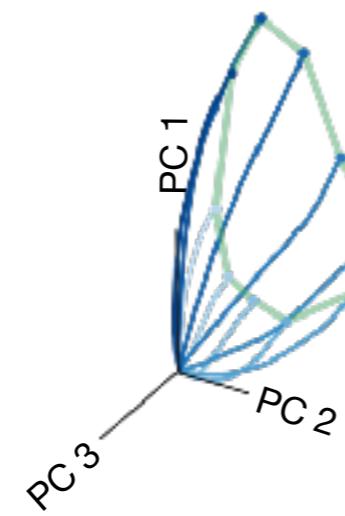
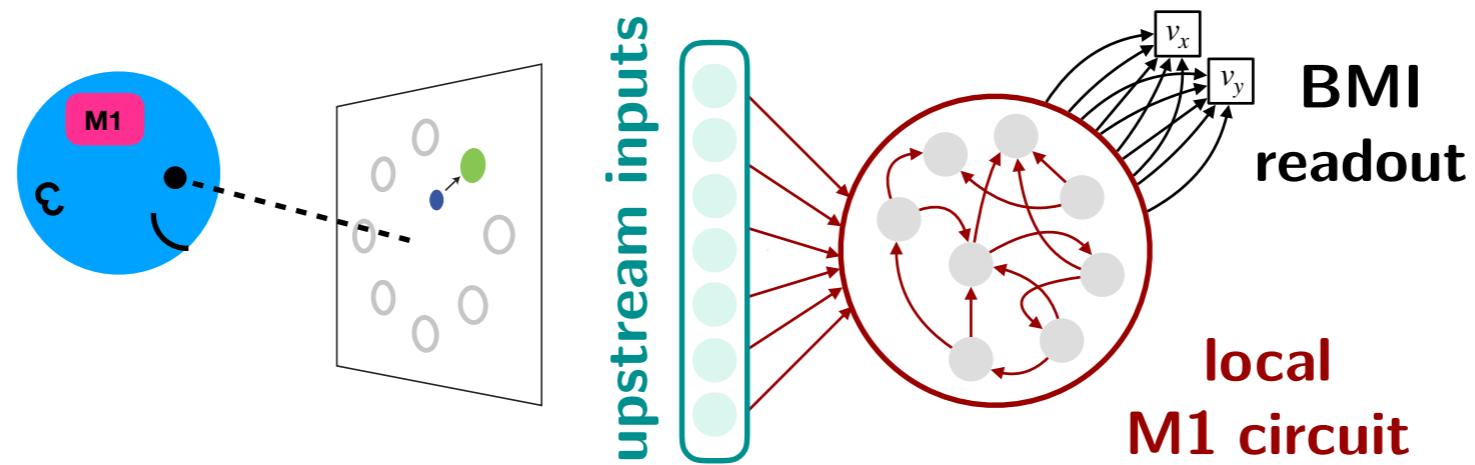
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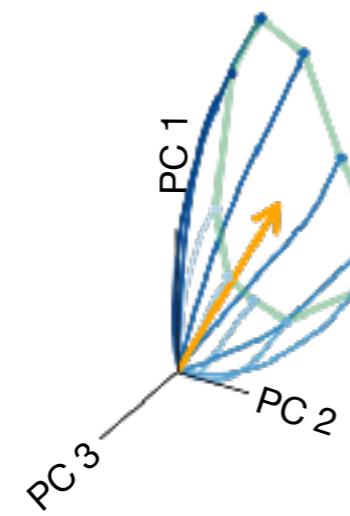
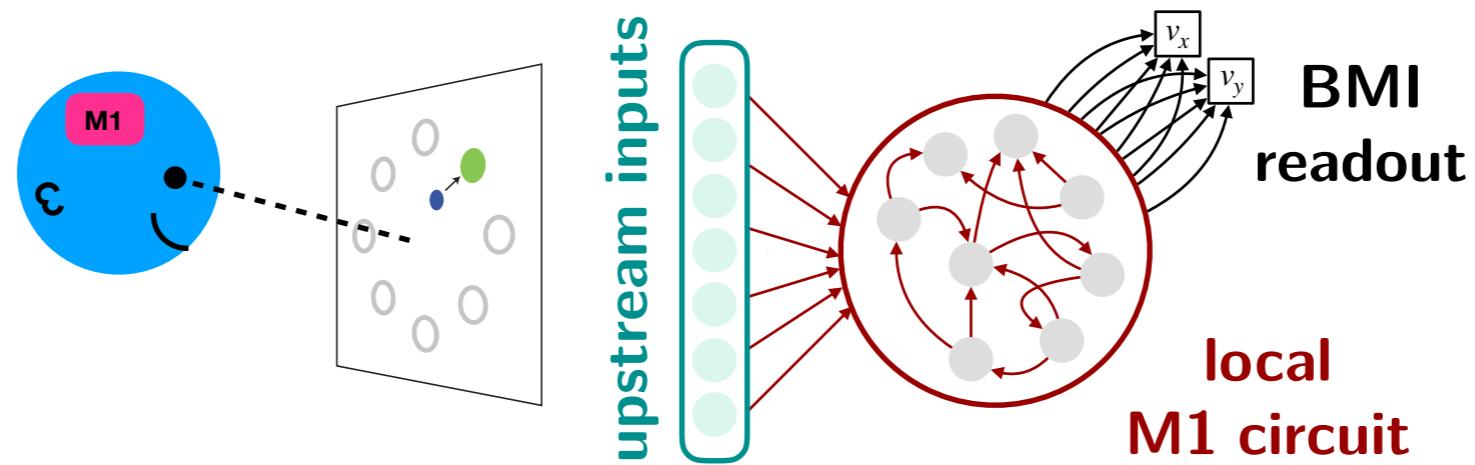
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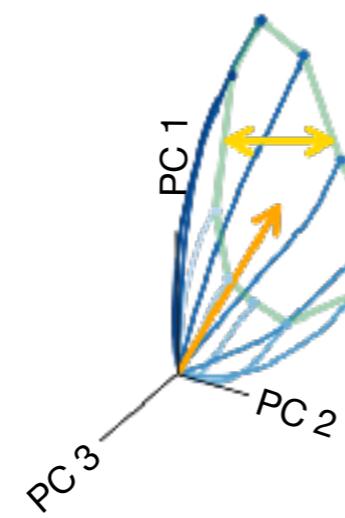
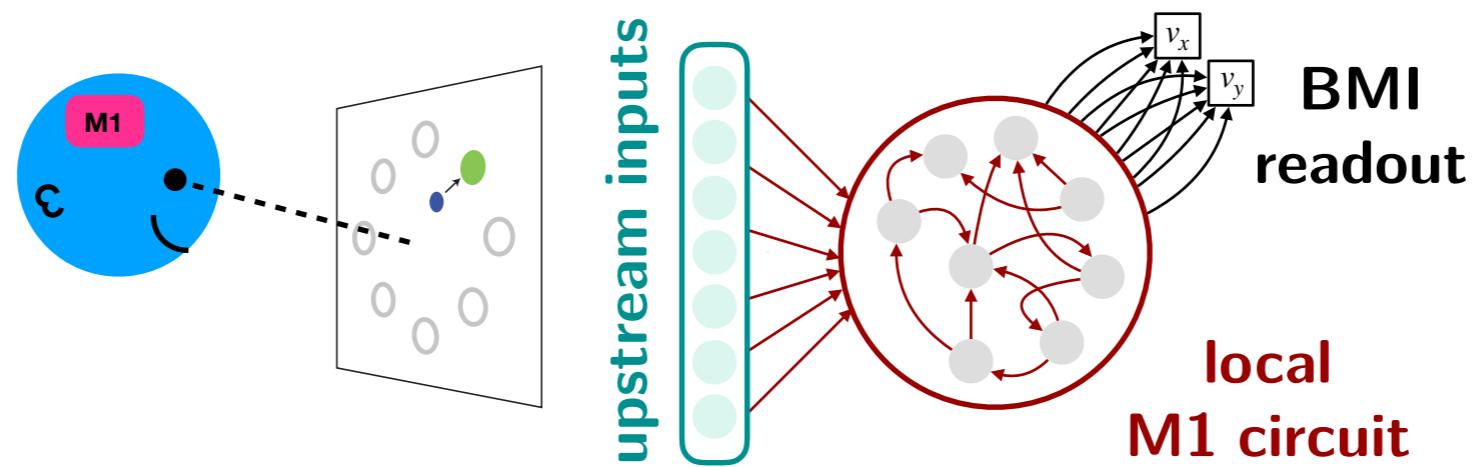
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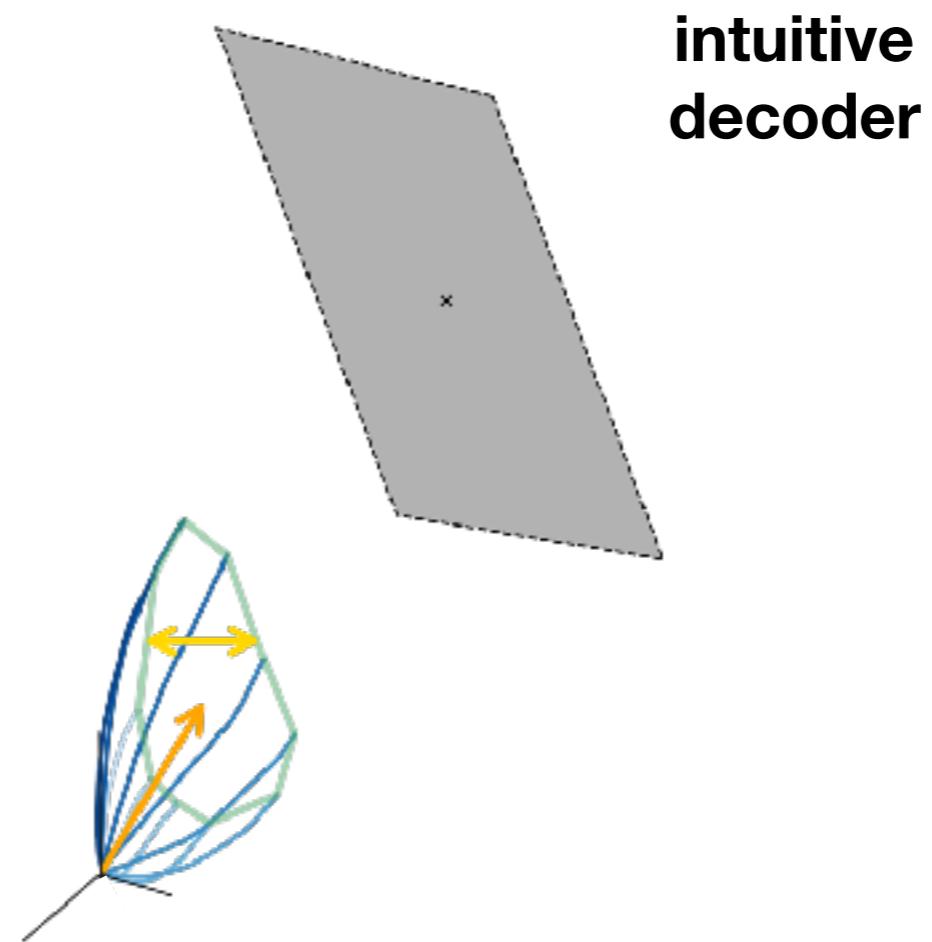
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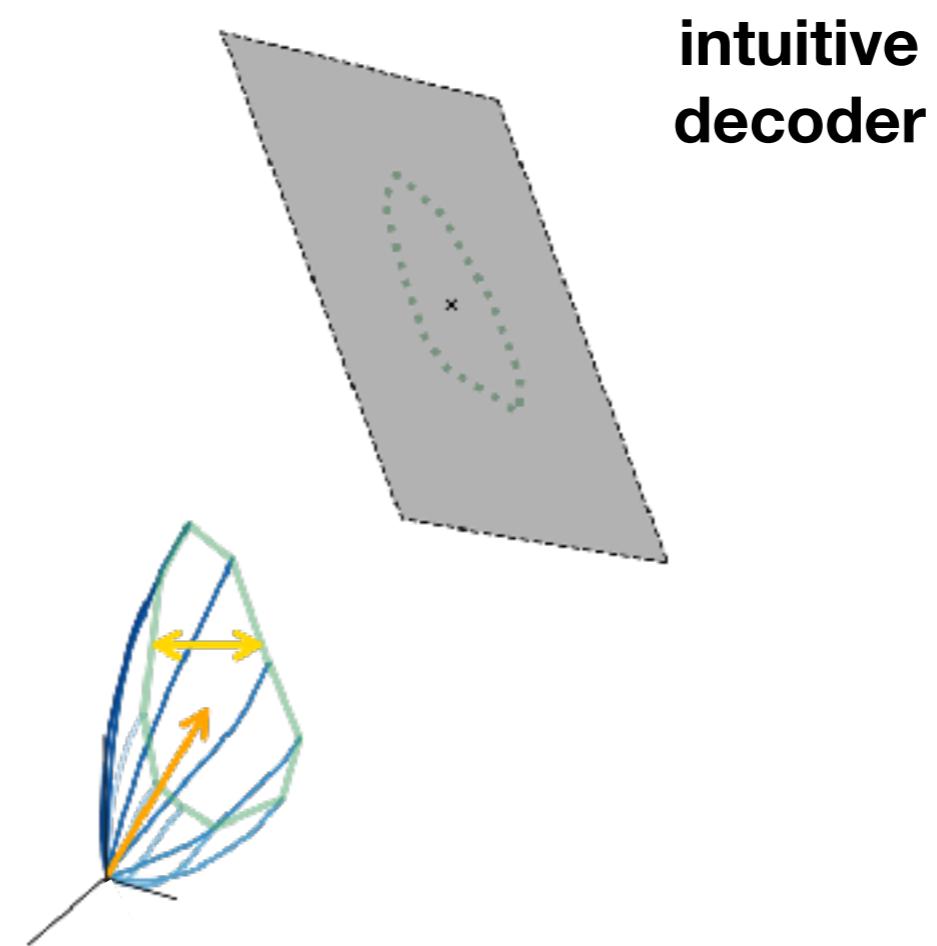
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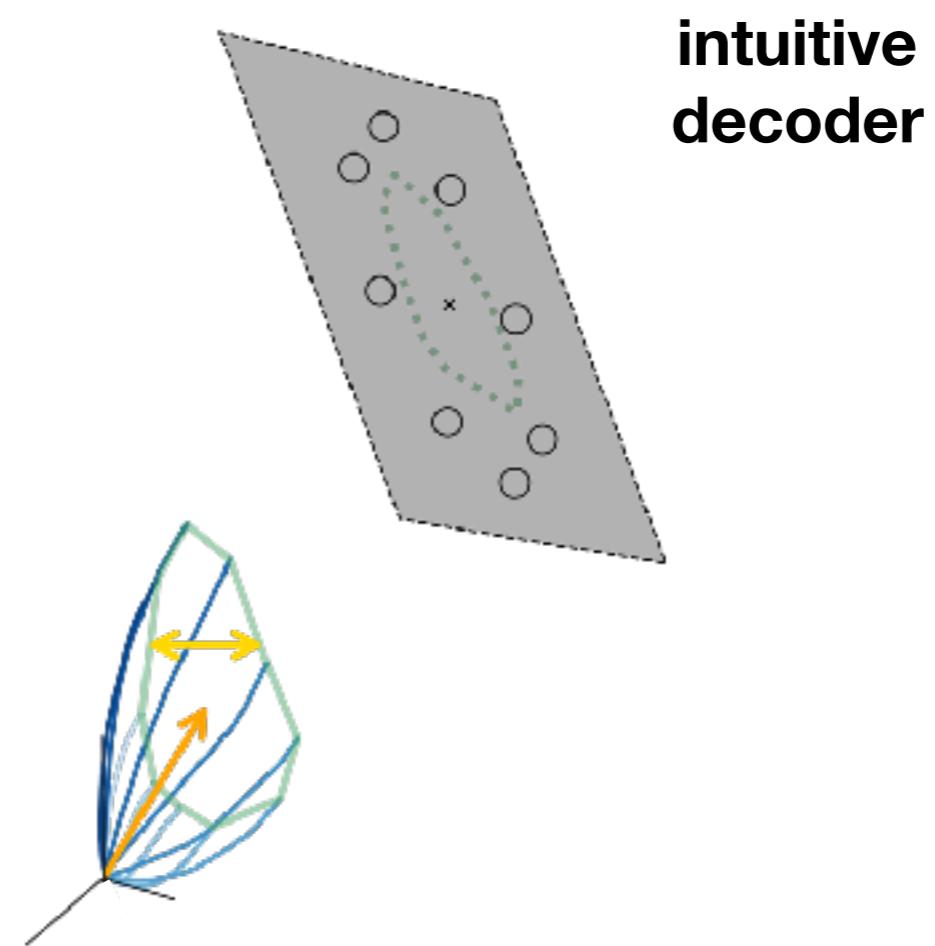
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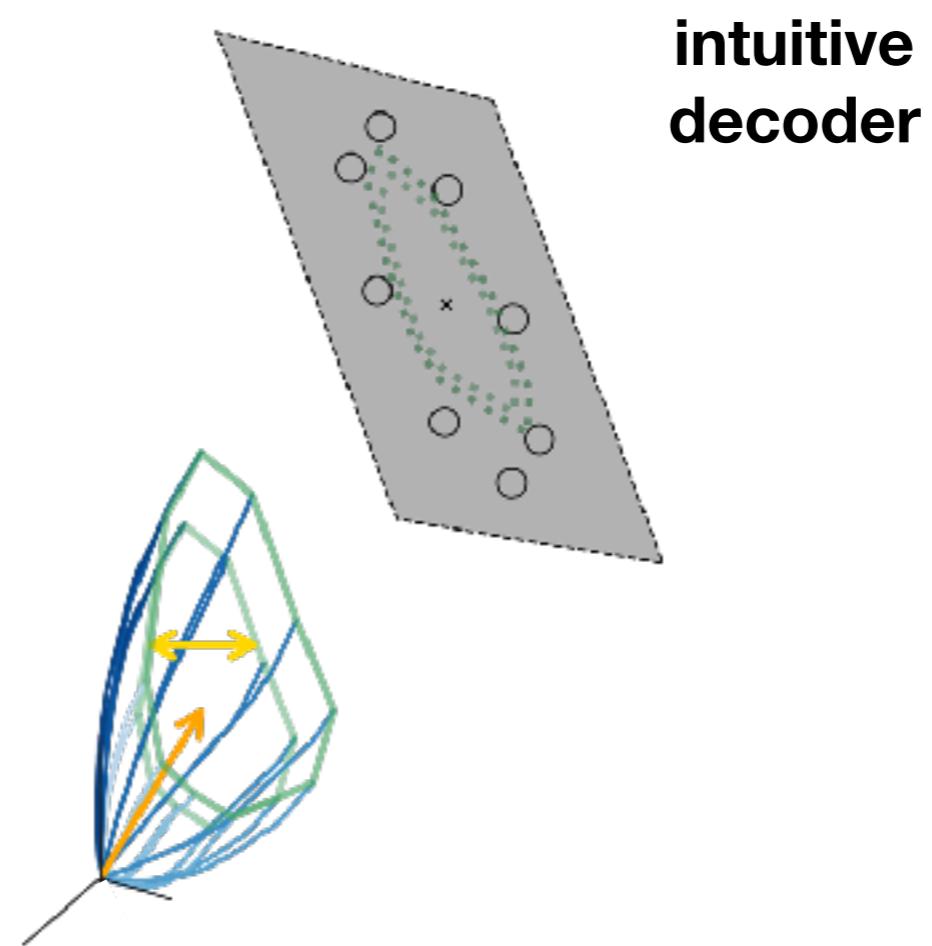
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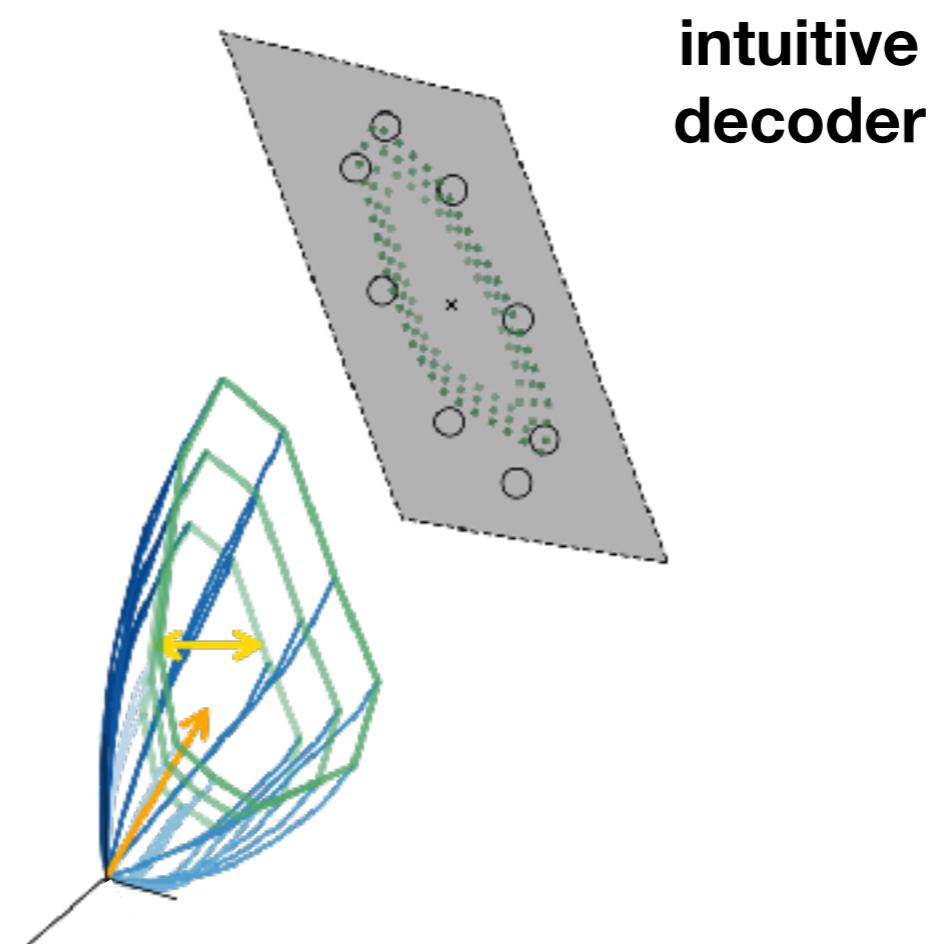
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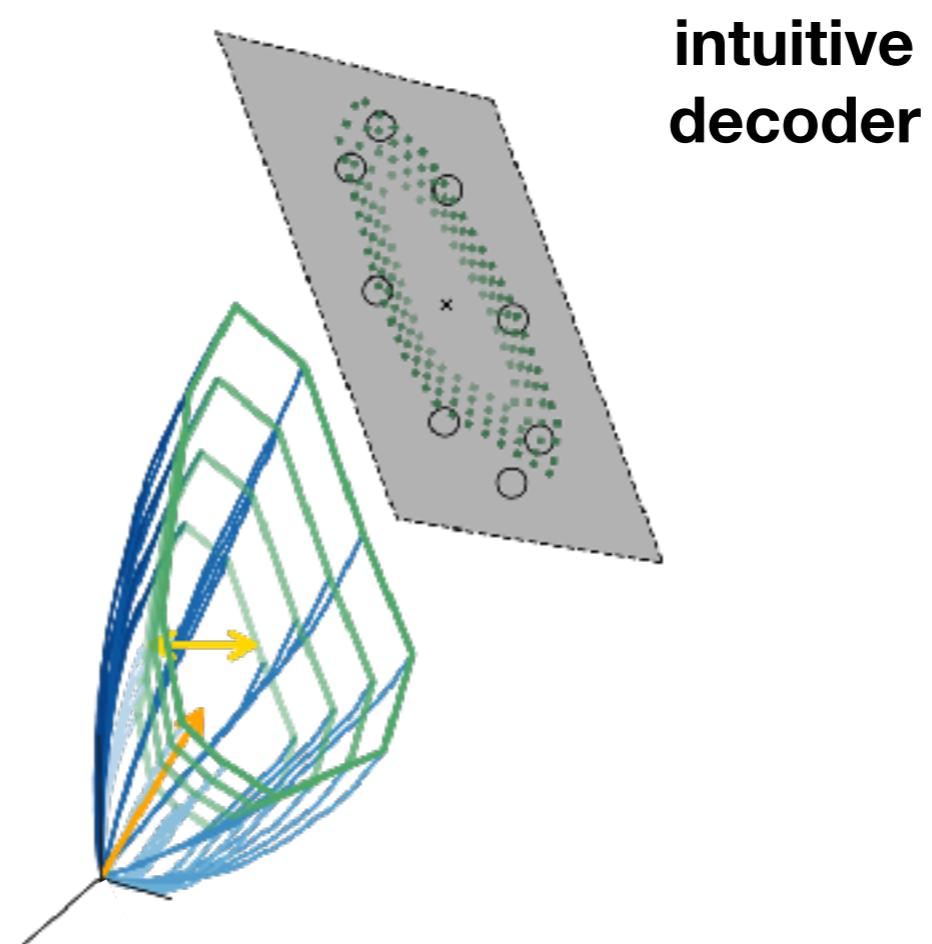
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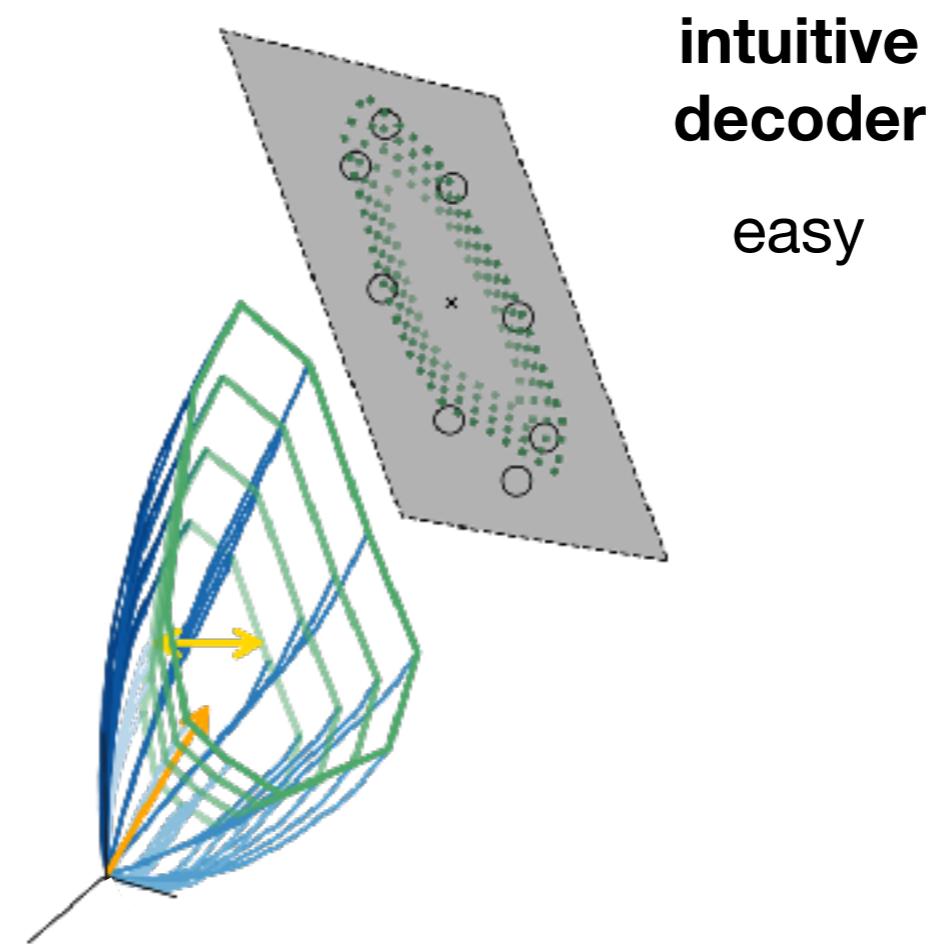
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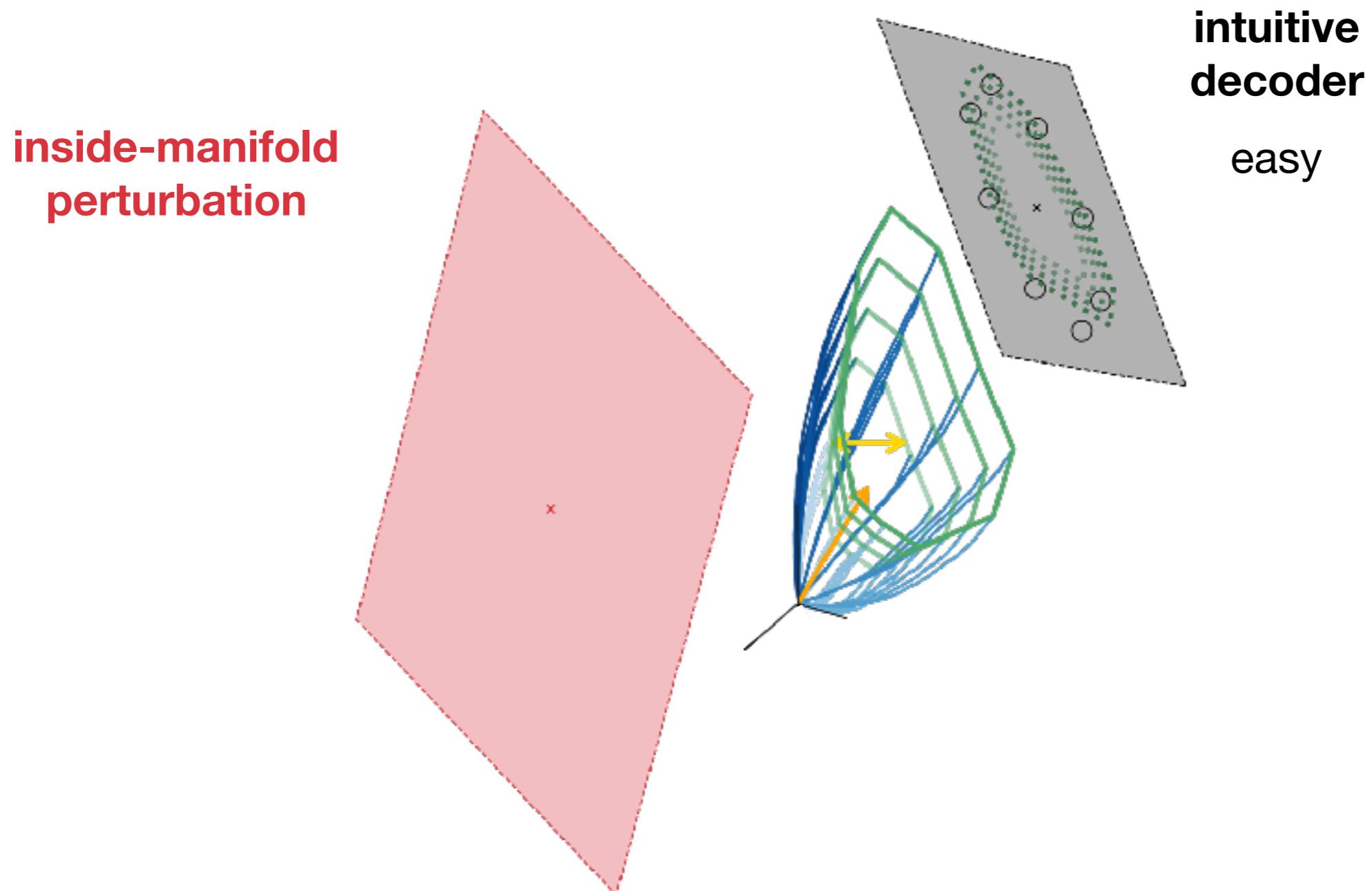
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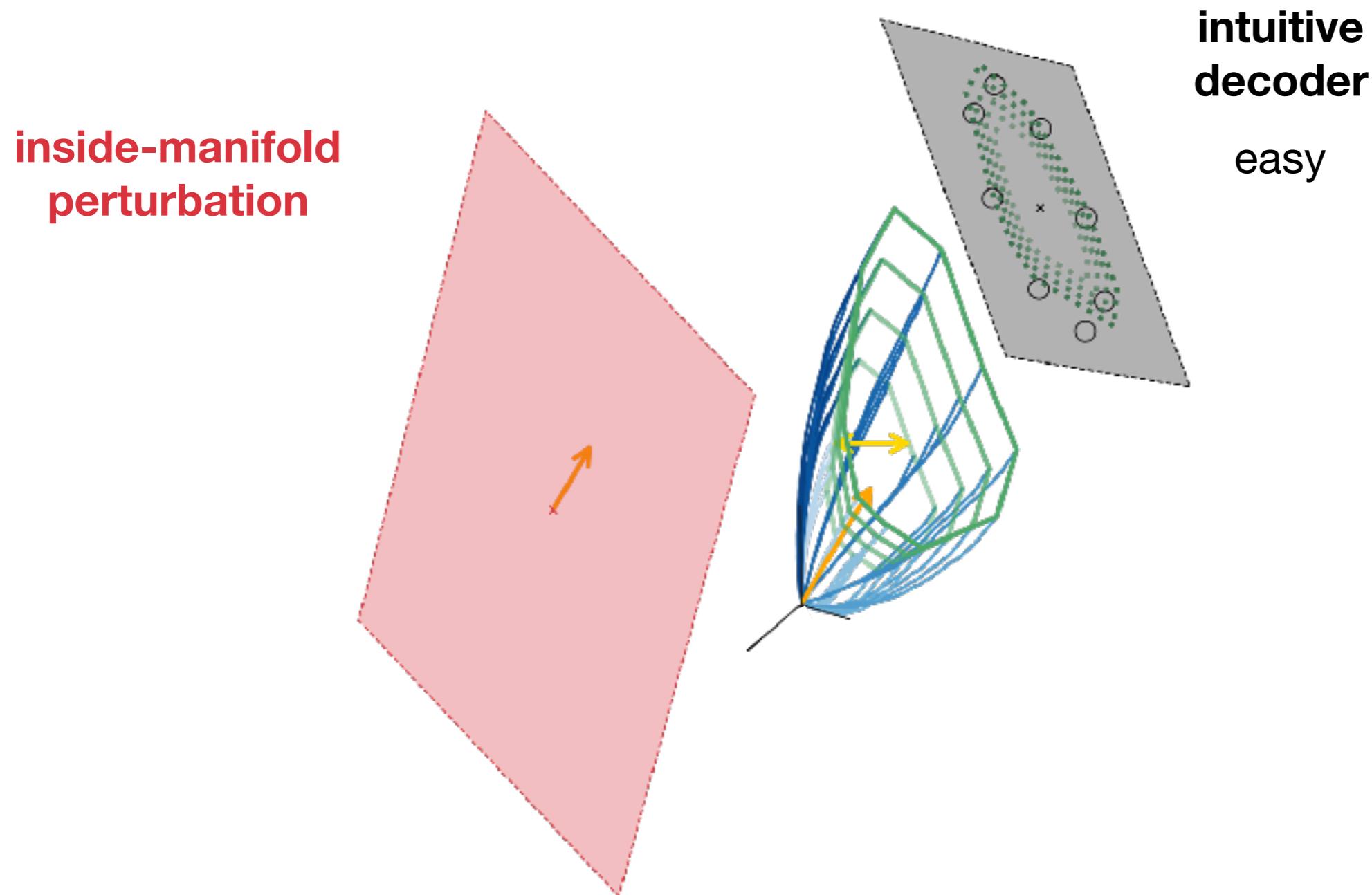
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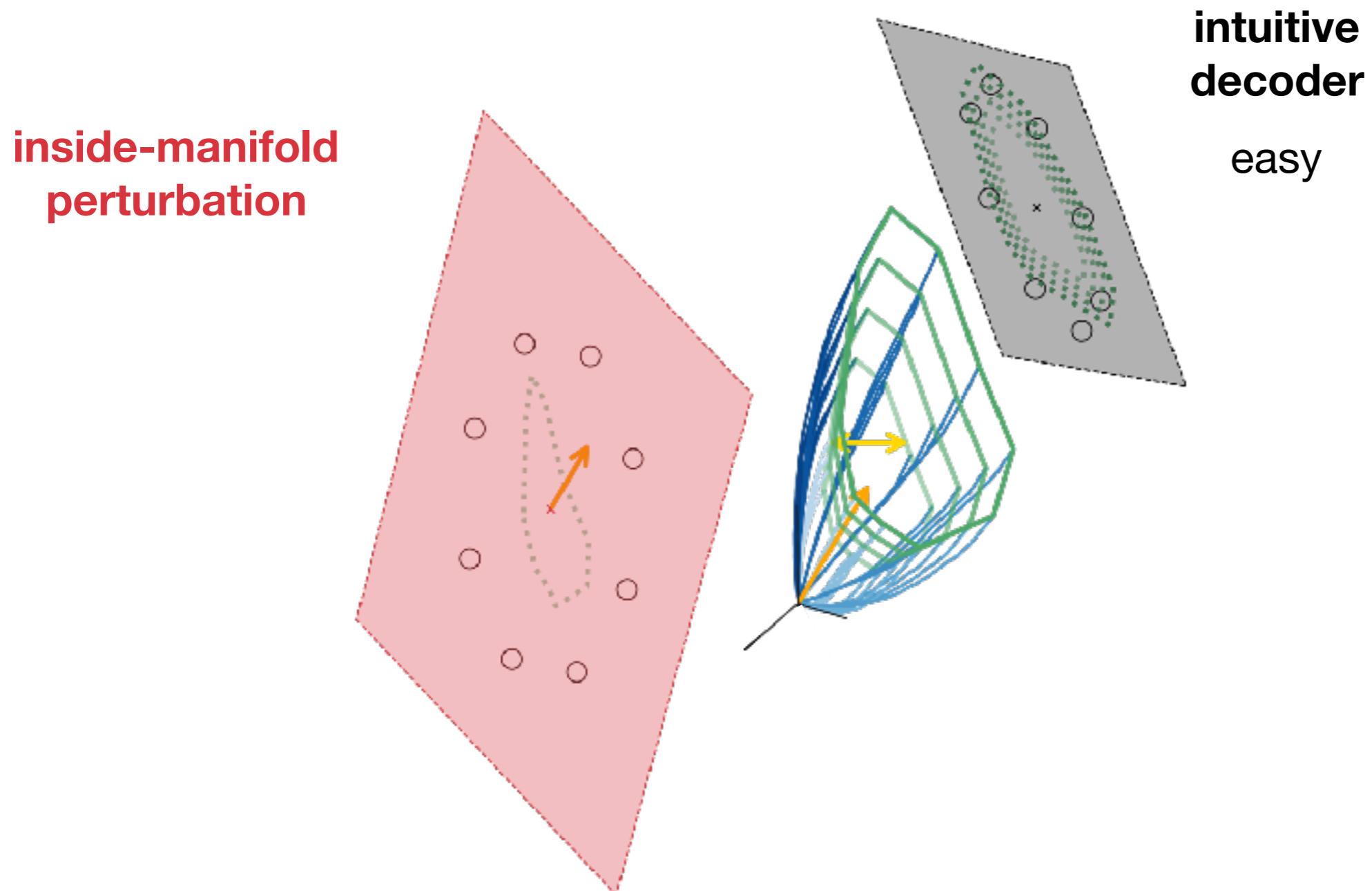
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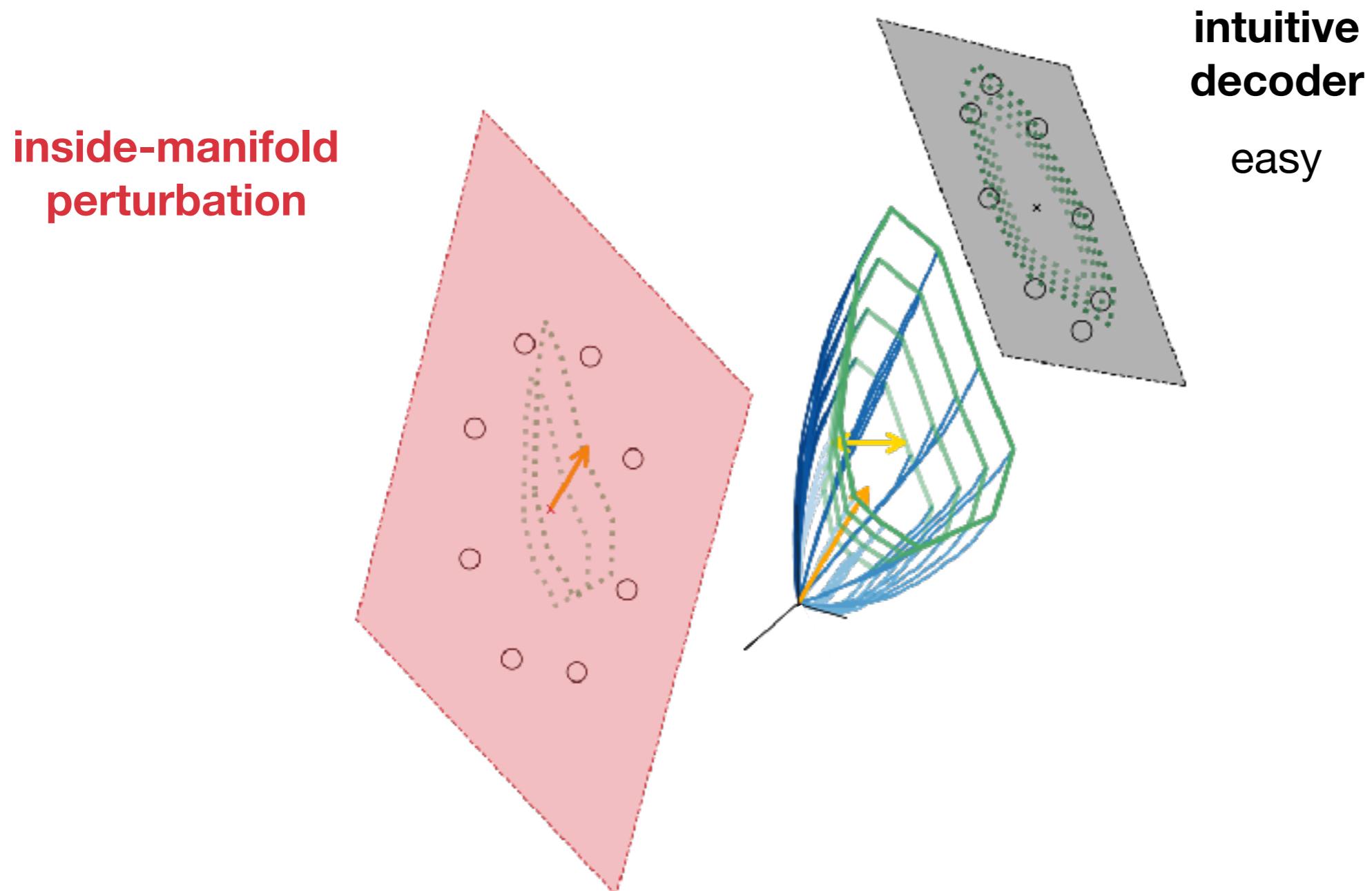
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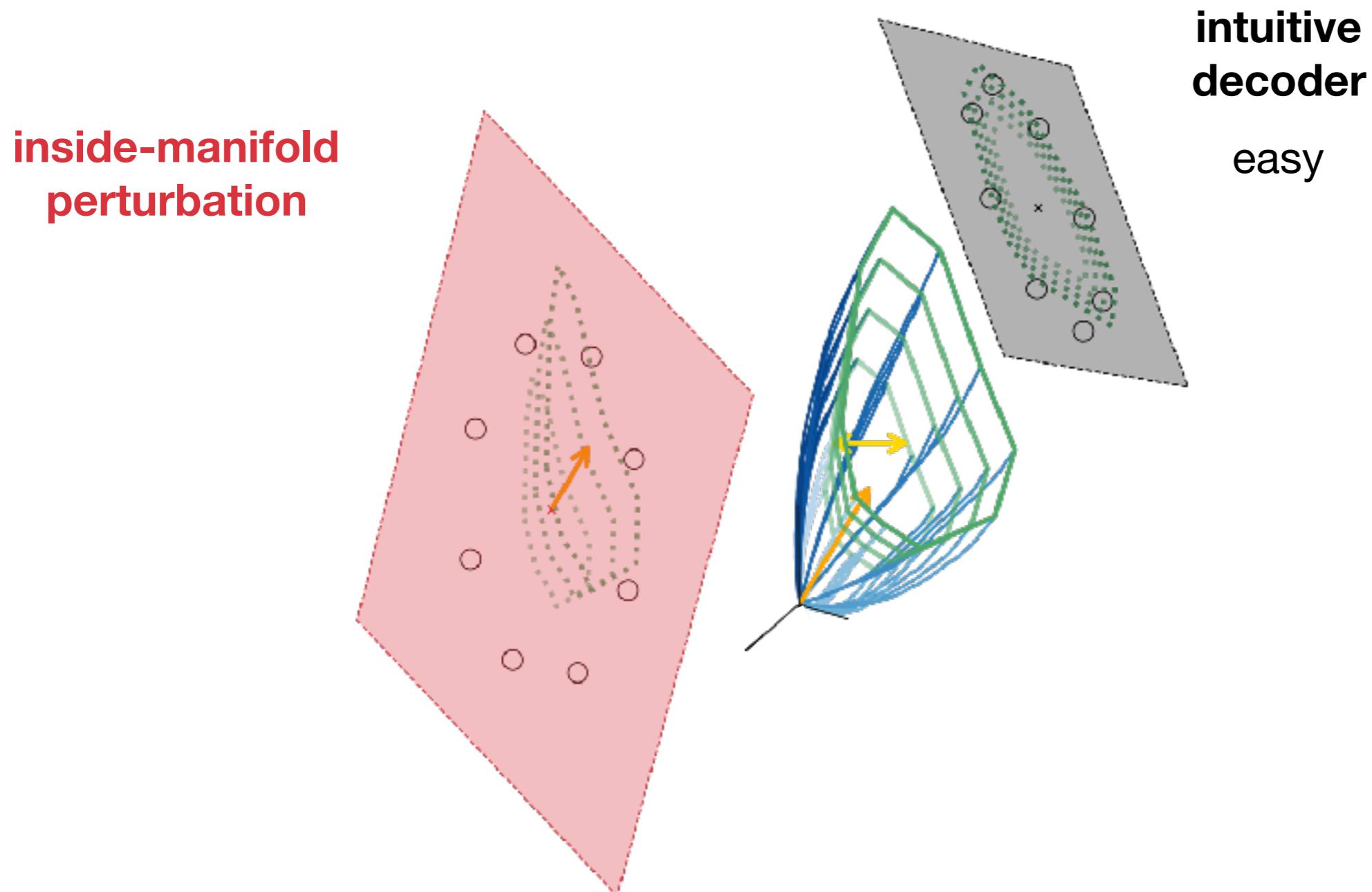
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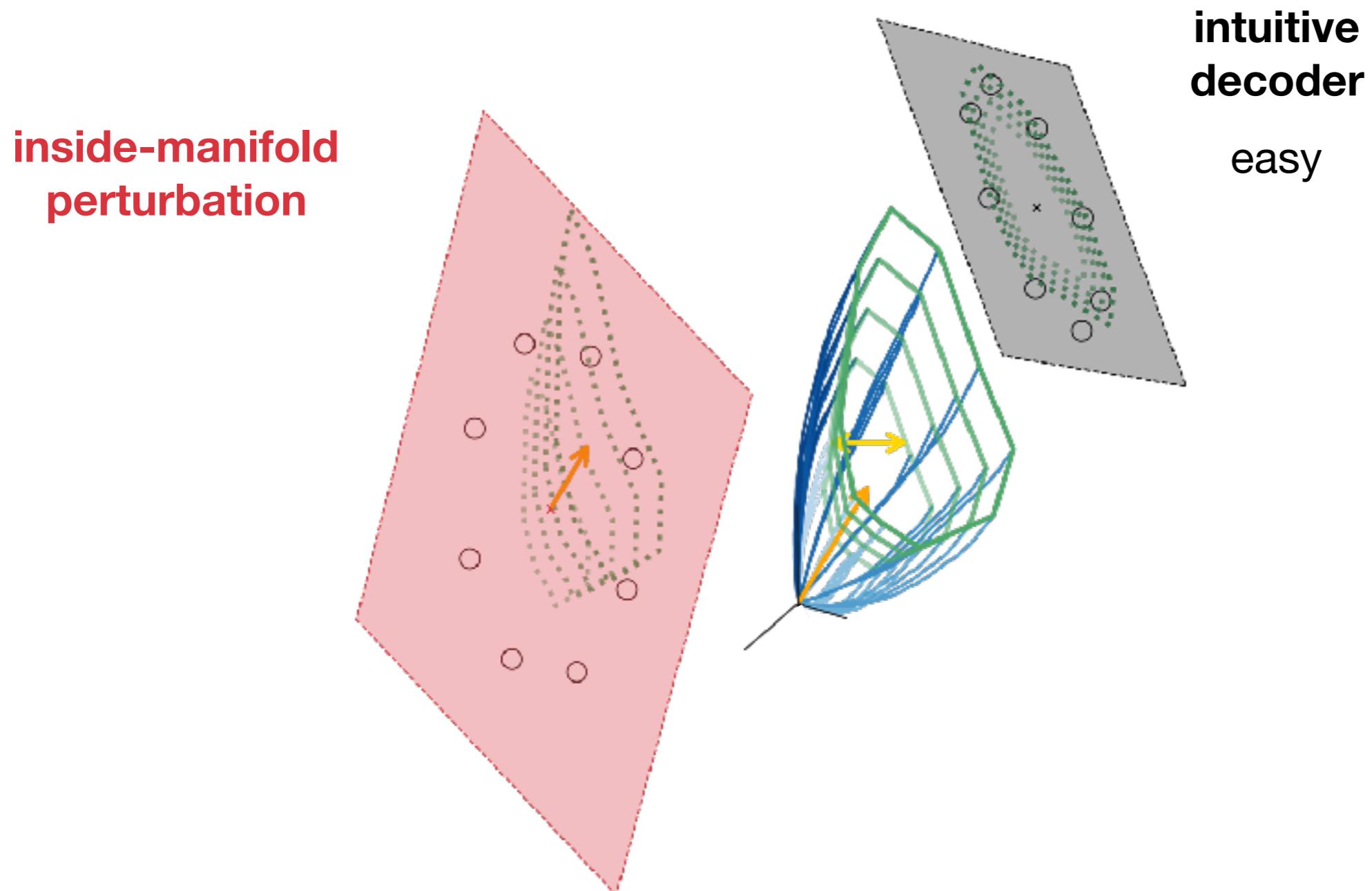
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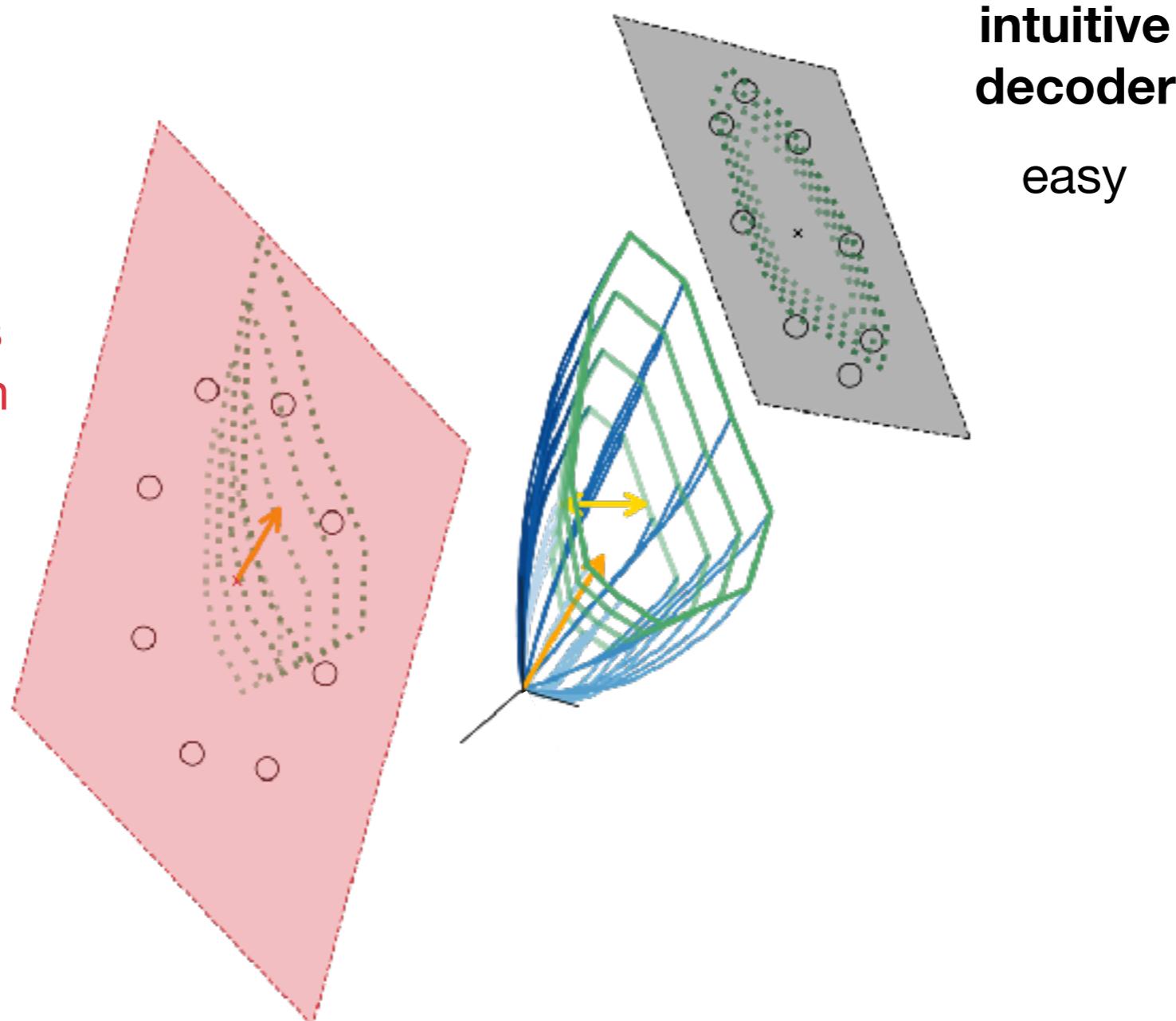
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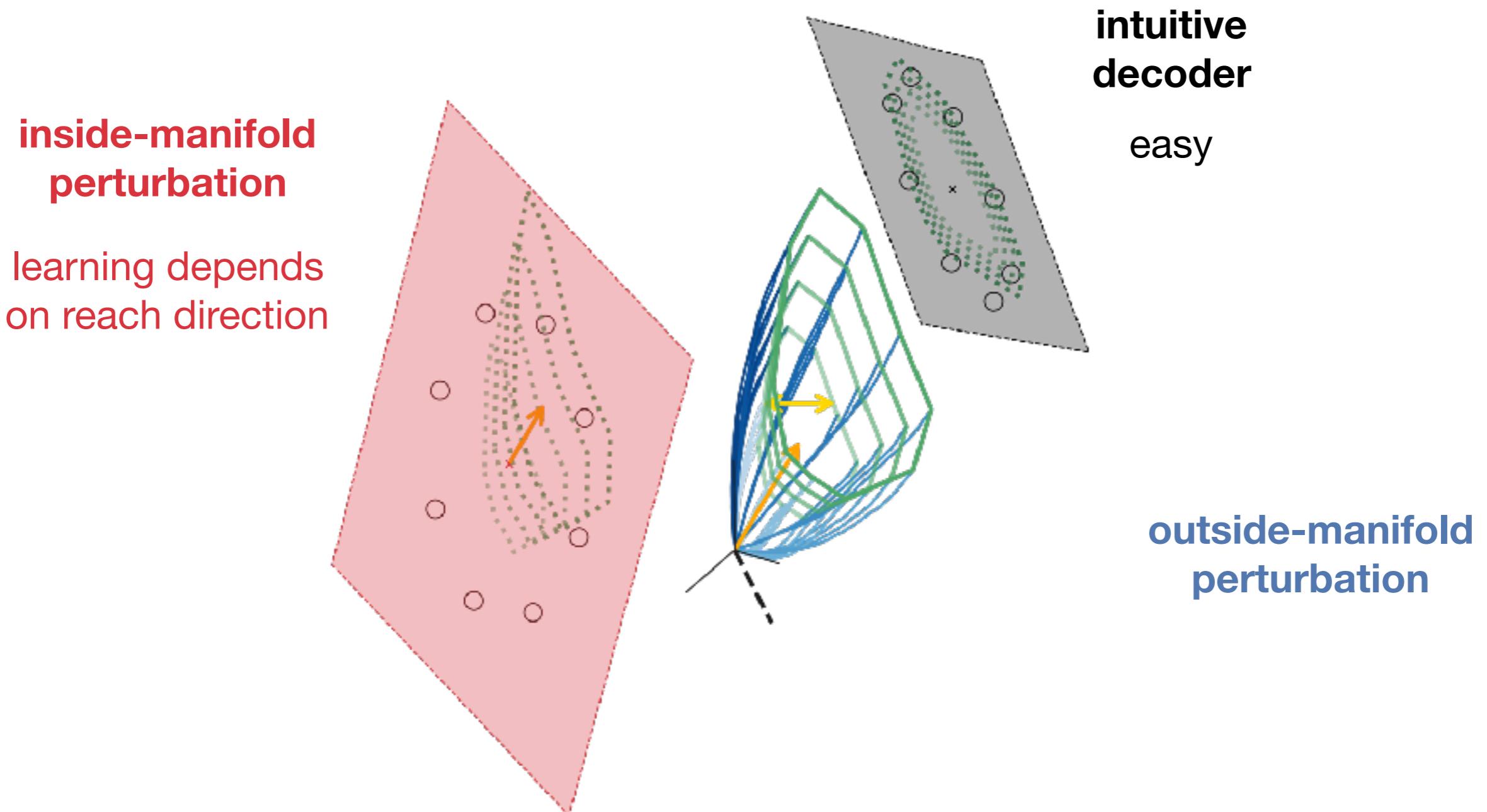
# Does re-aiming work?

**inside-manifold  
perturbation**

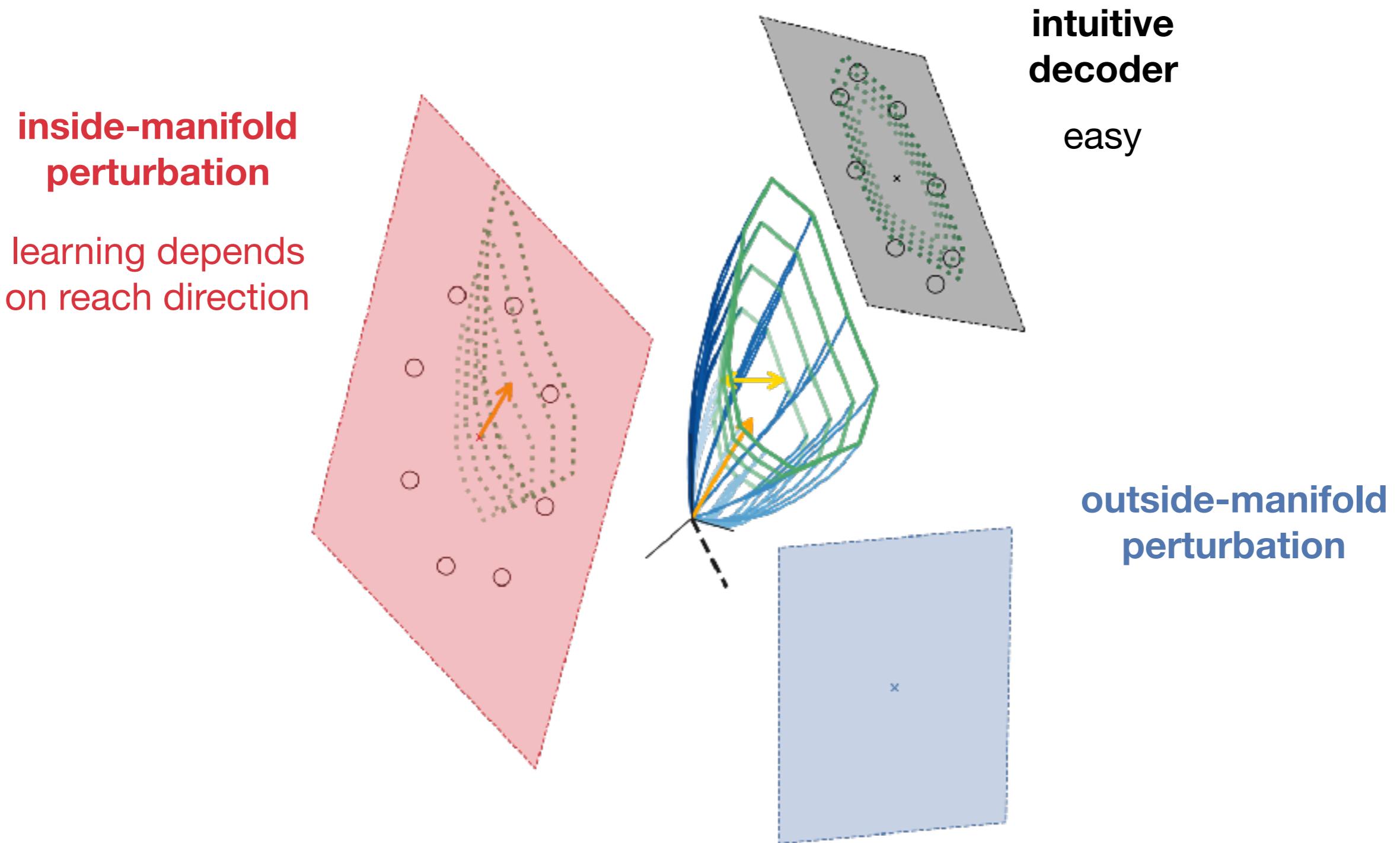
learning depends  
on reach direction



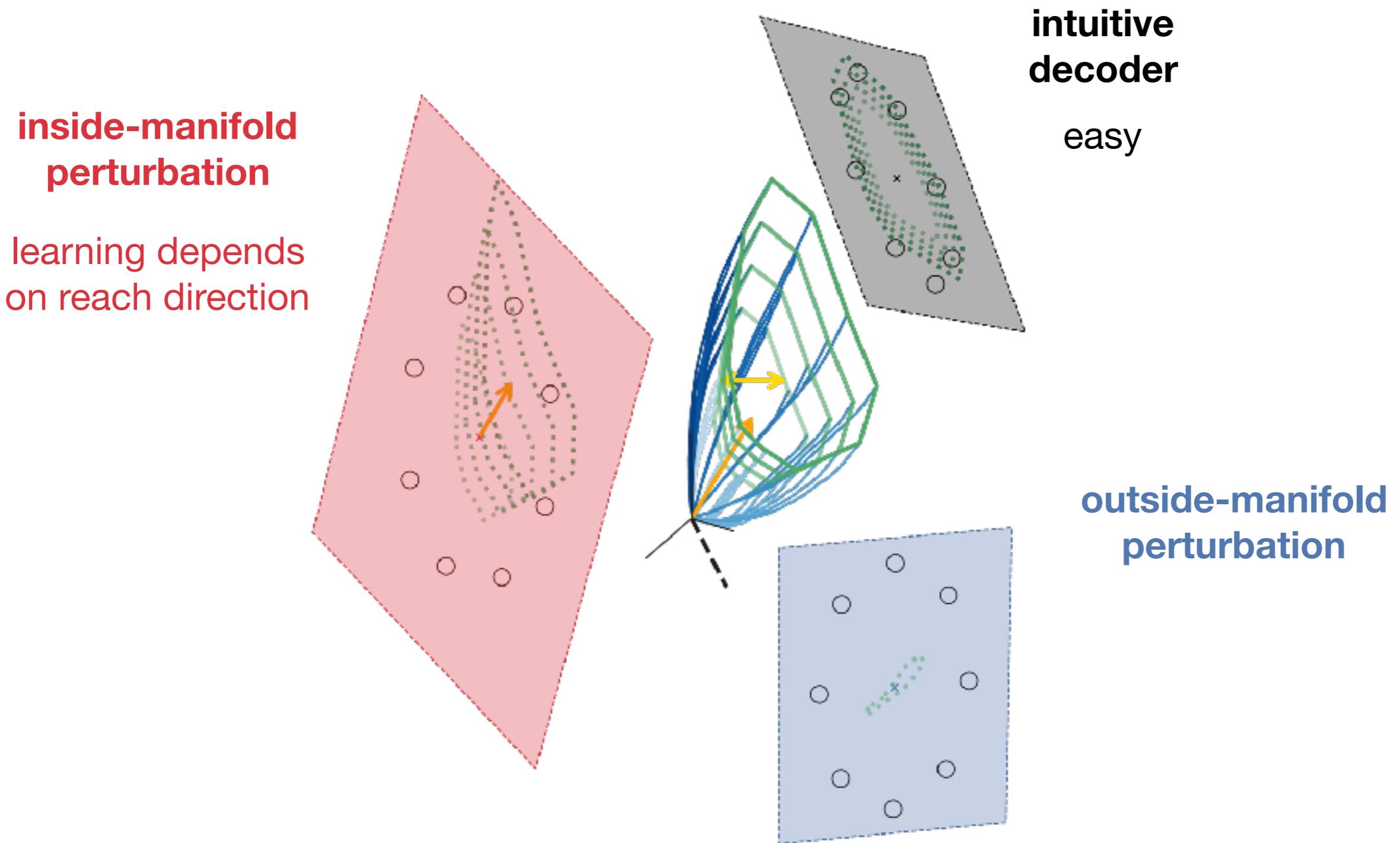
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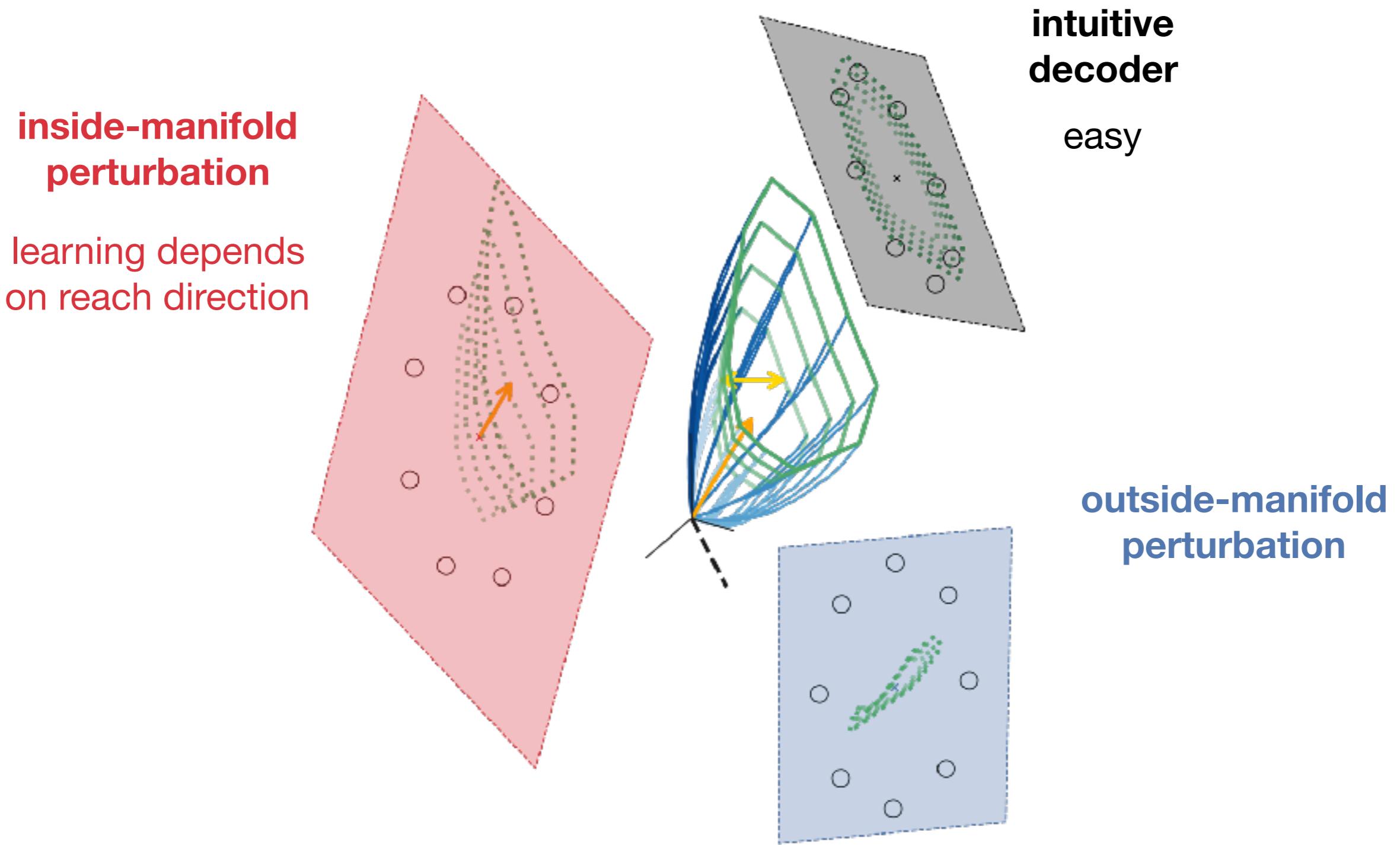
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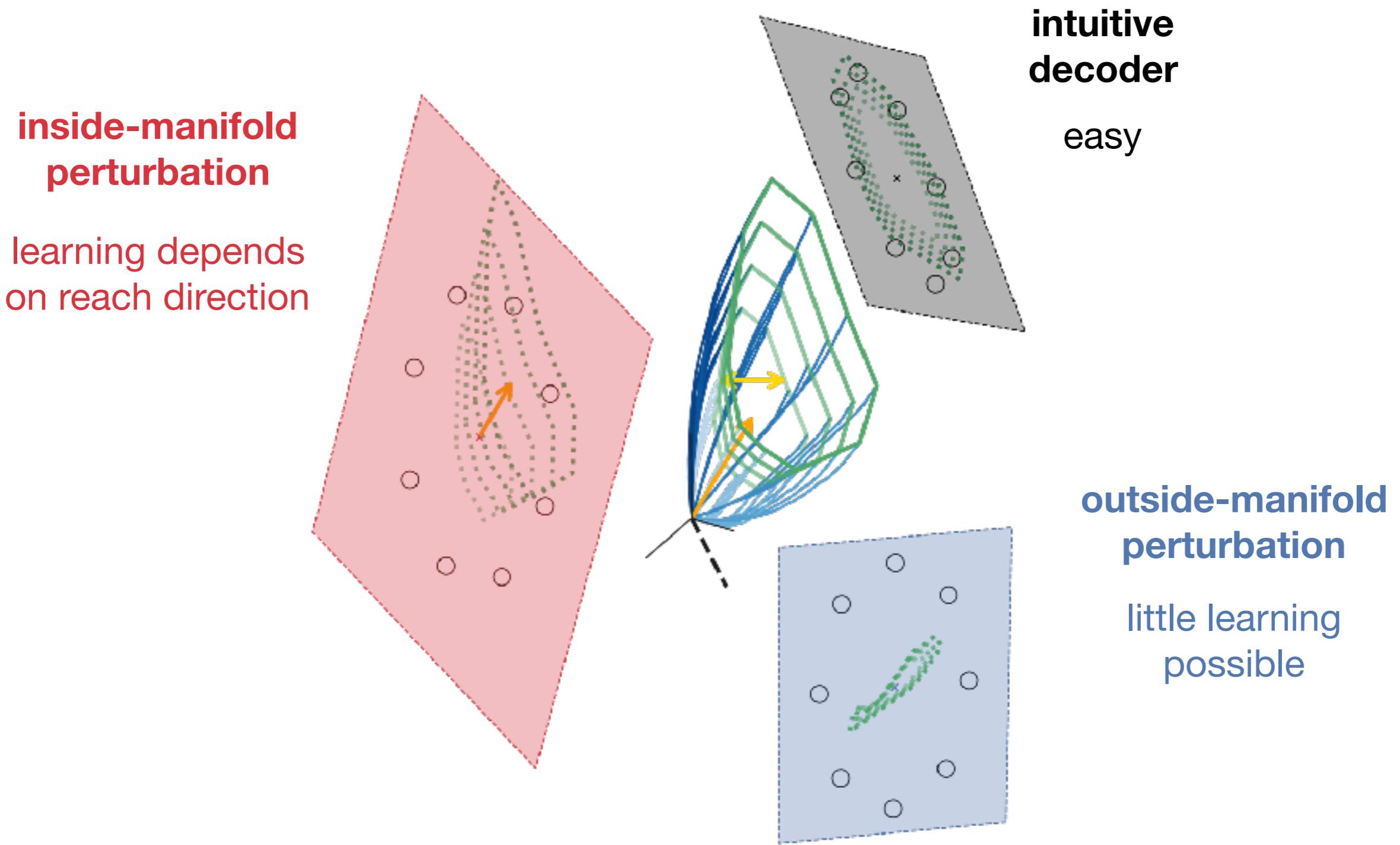
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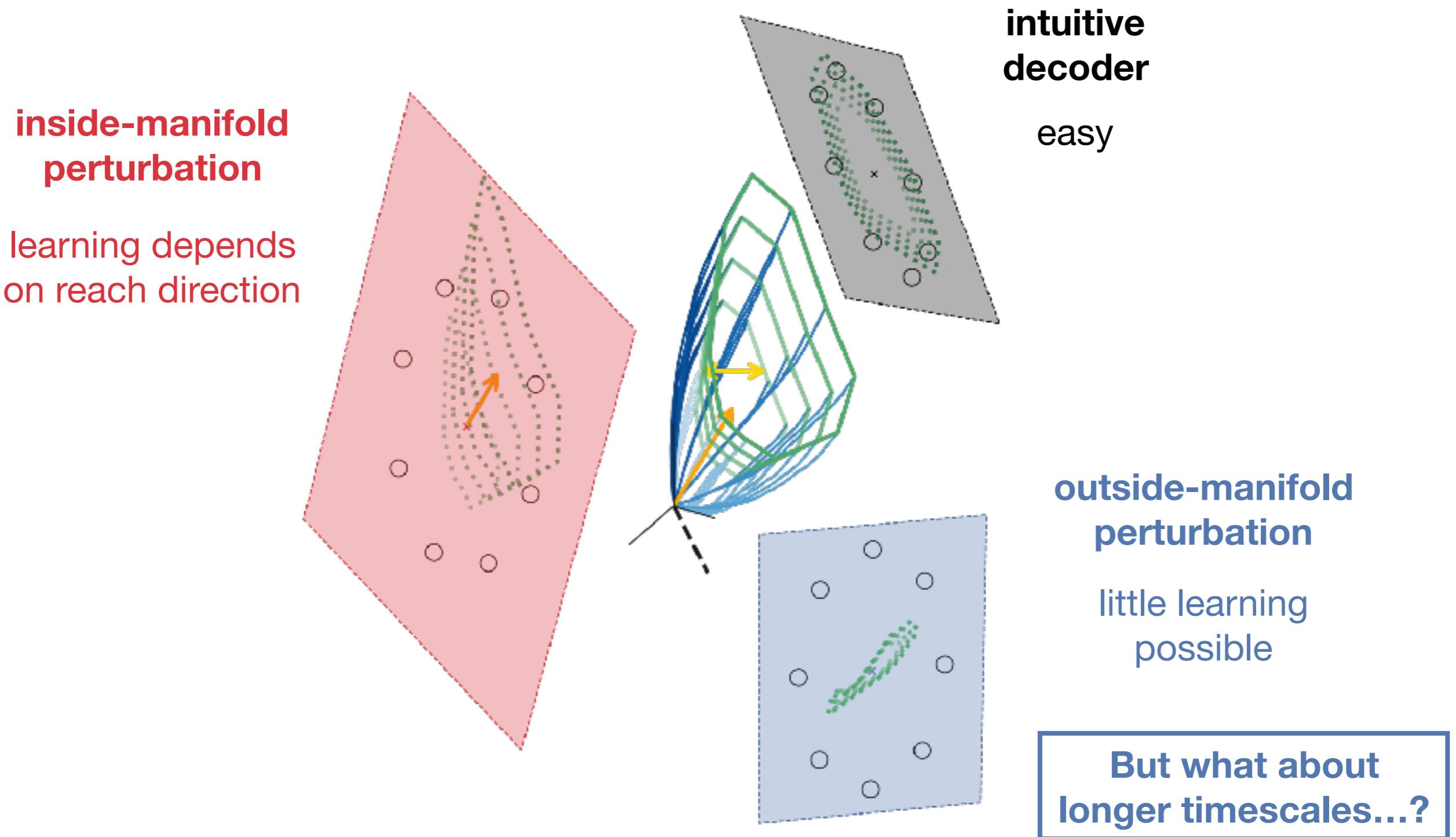
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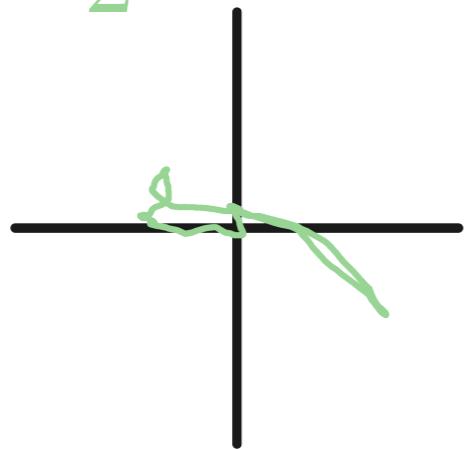


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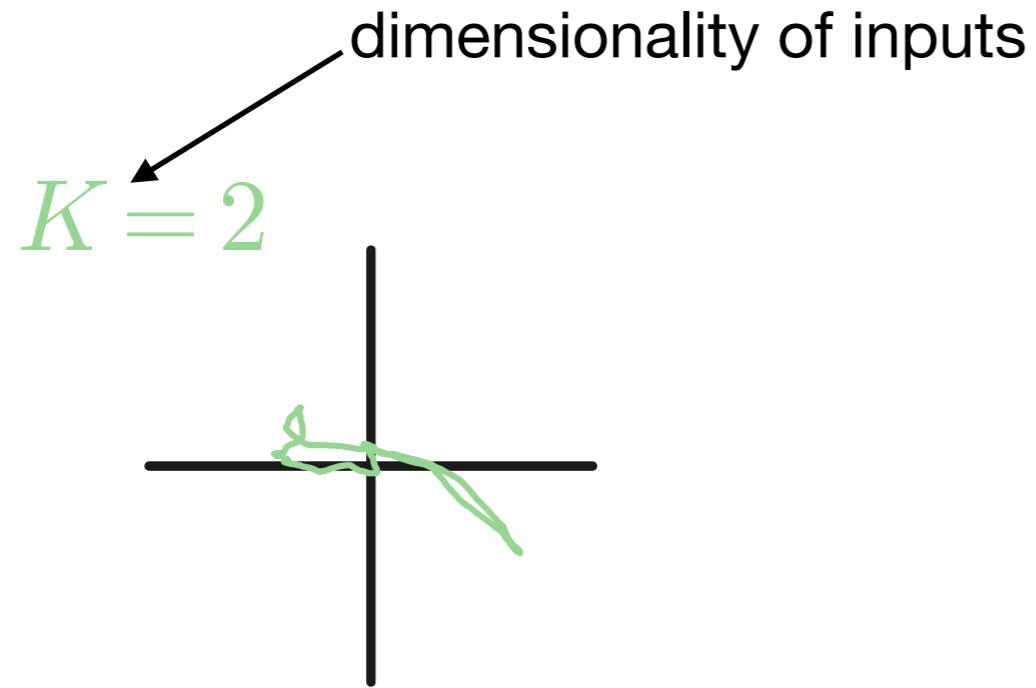
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$K = 2$



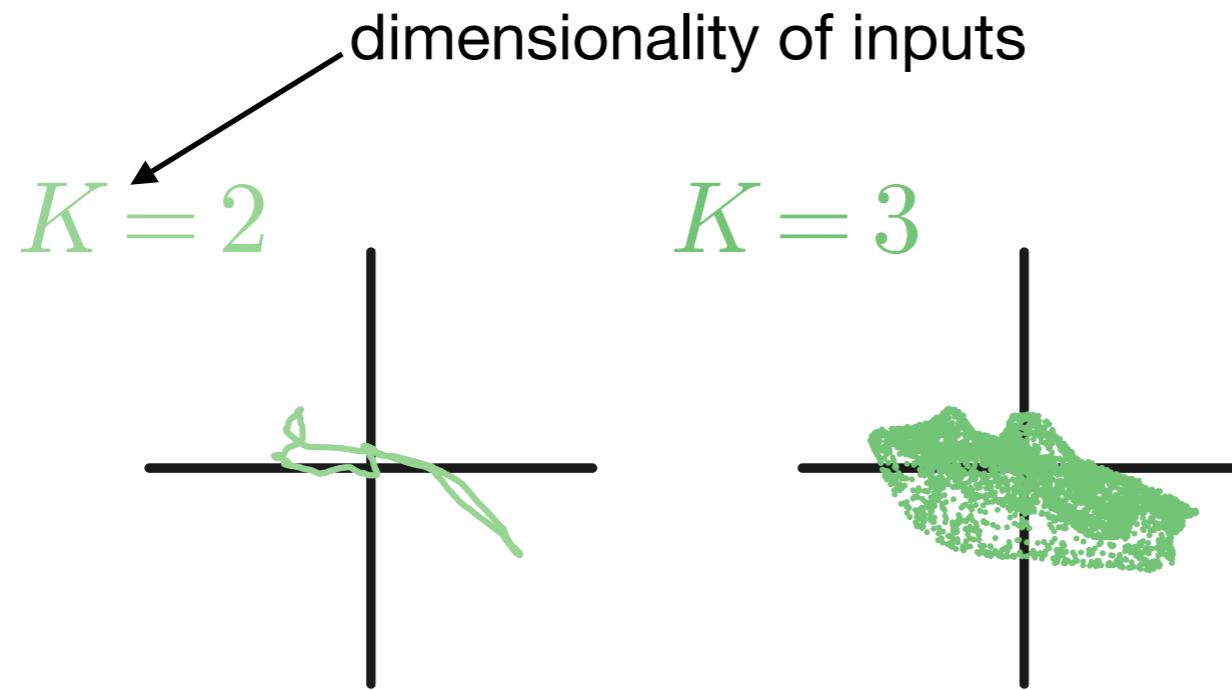
But what about  
longer timescales...?

# Does re-aiming work?



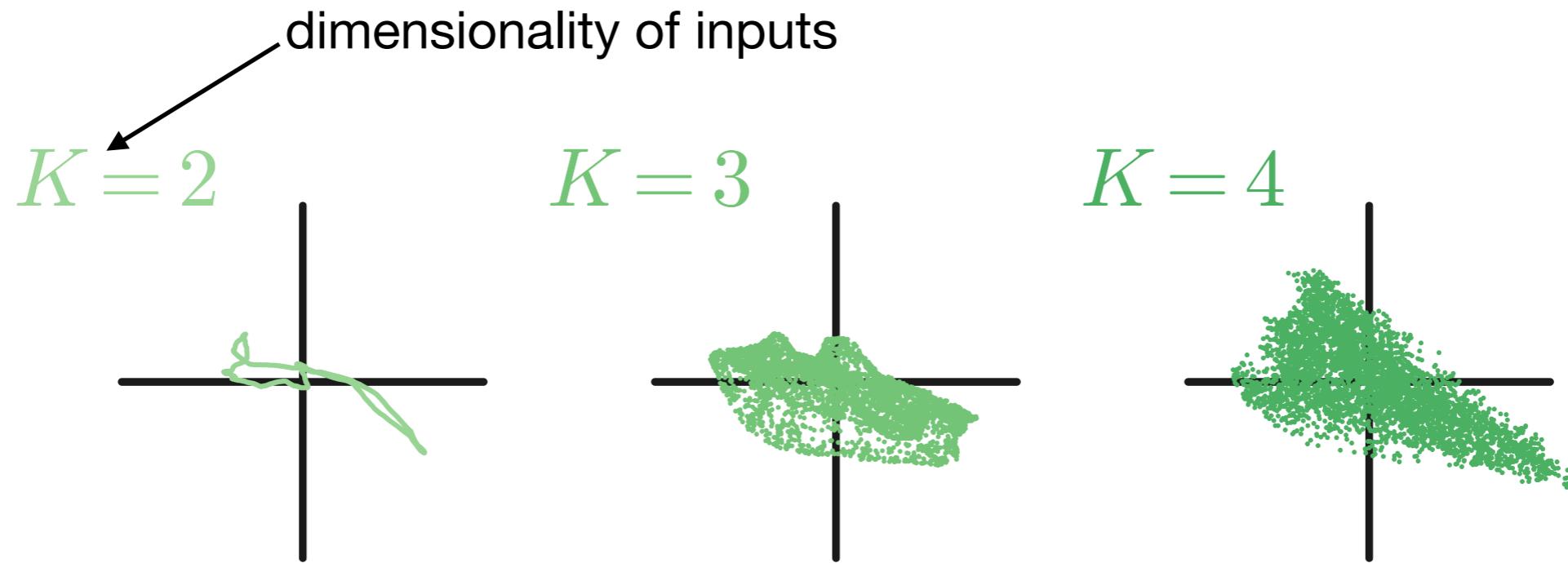
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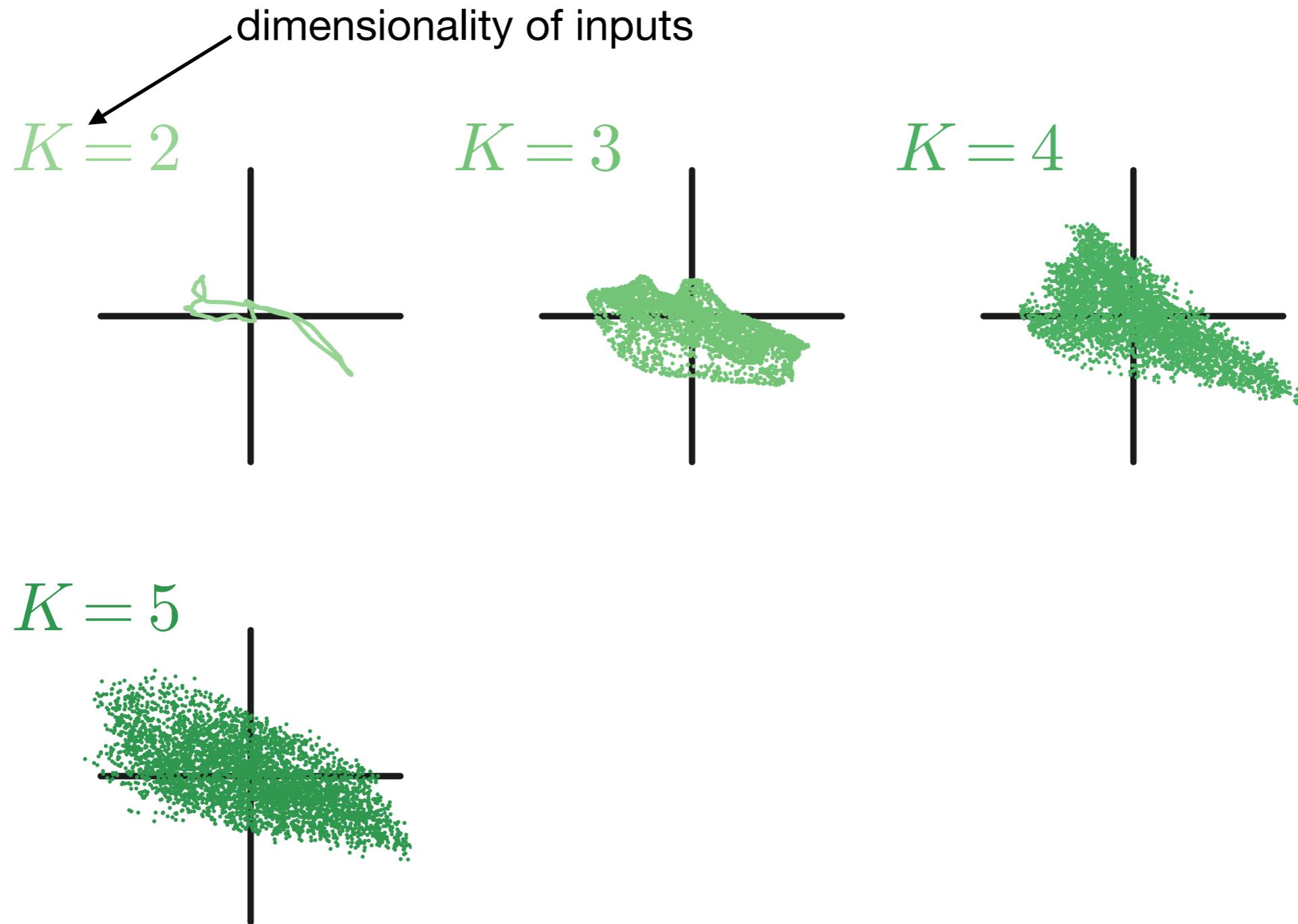
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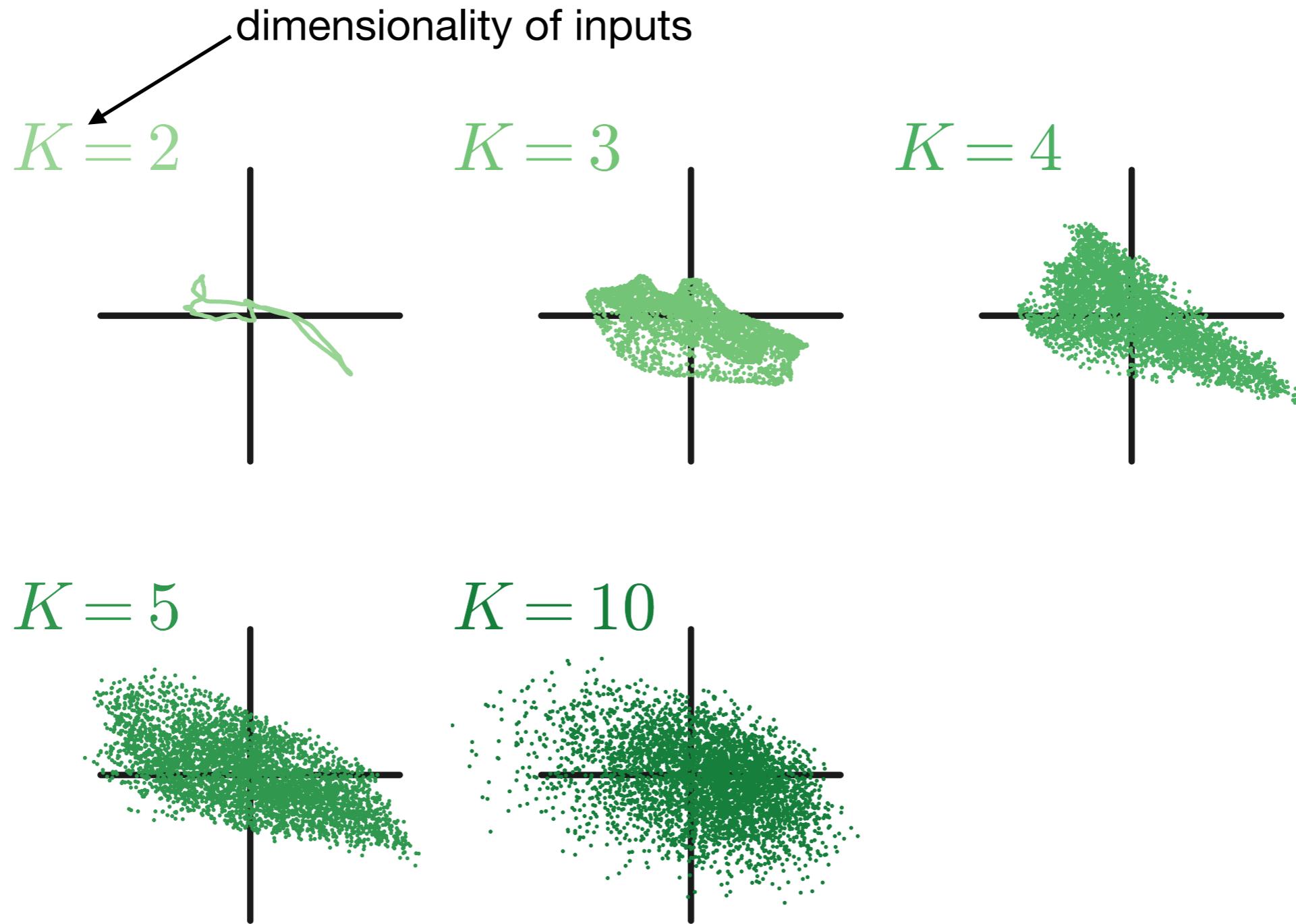
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longer timescales...?

# Does re-aiming work?



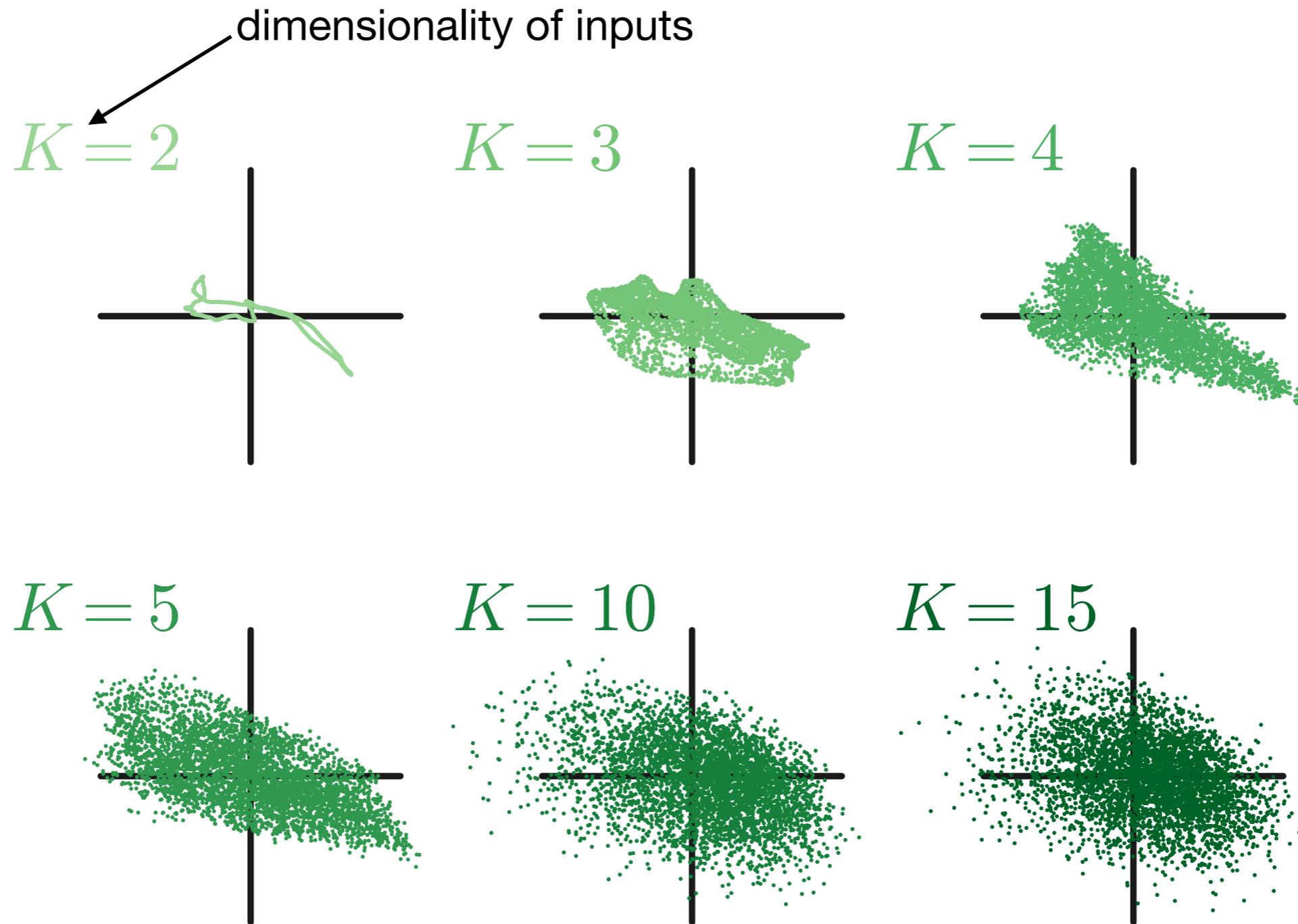
But what about  
longer timescales...?

# Does re-aiming work?



But what about  
longer timescales...?

# Does re-aiming work?



But what about  
longer timescales...?

**BMI**  
**learning**

**what have we  
learned?**

# BMI learning

# what have we learned?

- ▶ **low-dimensional re-aiming => short** timescales of learning

# BMI learning

# what have we learned?

- ▶ **low**-dimensional **re-aiming** => **short** timescales of learning
- ▶ **high**-dimensional **re-aiming** => **long** timescales of learning

# BMI learning

# what have we learned?

- ▶ **low**-dimensional **re-aiming** => **short** timescales of learning
- ▶ **high**-dimensional **re-aiming** => **long** timescales of learning
- ▶ how is **re-aiming** implemented?

# motor learning

# what have we learned?

- ▶ low-dimensional **re-aiming** => short timescales of learning
- ▶ high-dimensional **re-aiming** => long timescales of learning
- ▶ how is **re-aiming** implemented?
- ▶ what roles do these mechanisms play in **natural motor learning**?

# A circuit model of brain-machine interface learning, **fast** and **slow**

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Janelia Research Campus  
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