



人
工
The
Shanghai
智
能
上
海
AI
Lectures
授
课



The ShanghAI Lectures

An experiment in global teaching

Fabio Bonsignorio

The BioRobotics Institute, SSSA and Heron Robots

Today from the BioRobotics Institute, Pontedera (PI)

欢迎您参与
“来自上海的人工智能系列讲座”

Lecture 5

**Evolution: Cognition from Scratch,
Cognition from Interaction**

24 November 2016

skype: PhD.Biorobotics

(only for lecture sites connected by streaming)



The need for an embodied perspective

- “failures” of classical AI
- fundamental problems of classical approach
- Wolpert’s quote: Why do plants not have a brain? (but check Barbara Mazzolai’s lecture at the ShanghAI Lectures 2014)
- Interaction with environment: always mediated by body



“English Room” thought experiment

- “this is Spanish for me” (in Austria to say a speech is impossible to understand) - (funny for me, for an Italian Spanish is quite easy :-))



Successes and failures of the classical approach

successes

**applications (e.g.
Google)**

chess

manufacturing

**(“controlled”artificial
worlds)**

failures

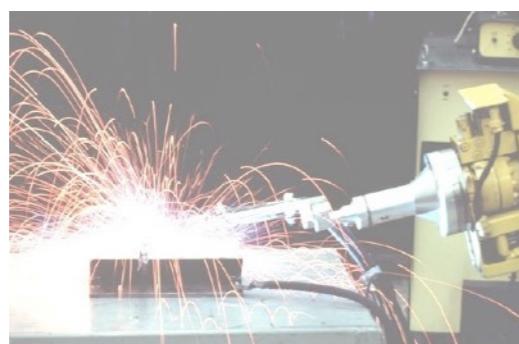
**foundations of
behavior**

**natural forms of
intelligence**

**interaction with real
world**



Industrial robots vs. natural systems



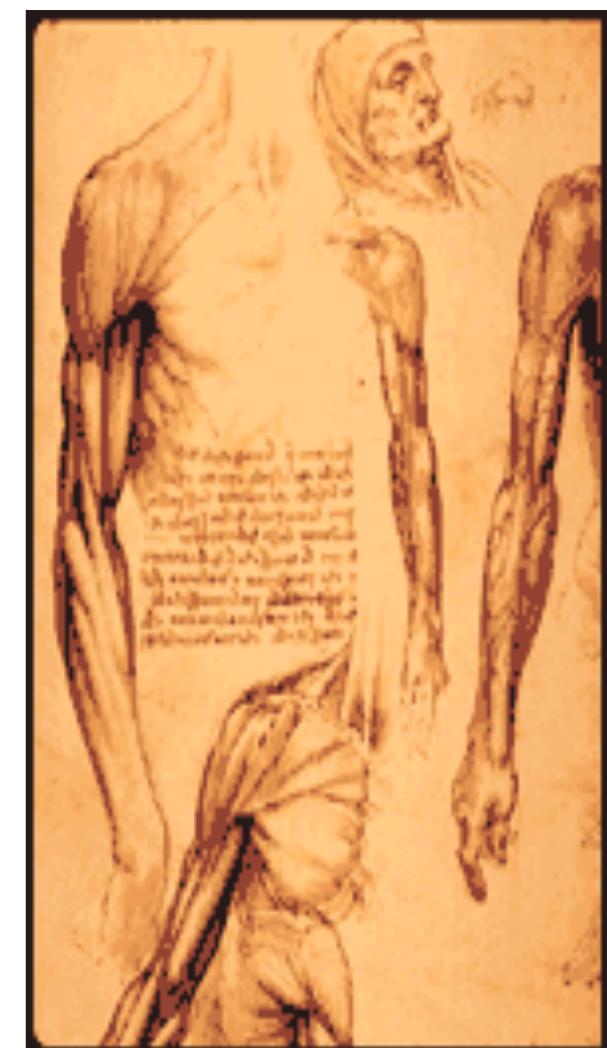
robots



no direct transfer of methods

principles:
- low precision
- compliant
- reactive
- coping with uncertainty

humans



Complete agents

— Masano Toda's
Fungus Eaters

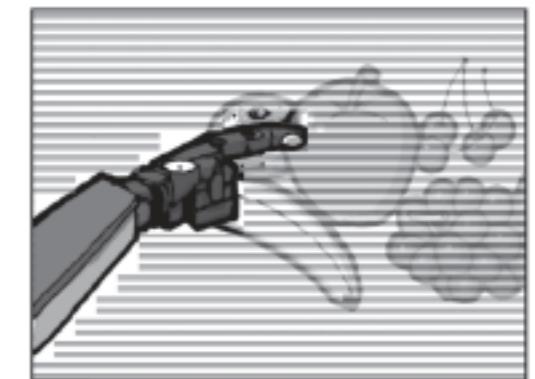
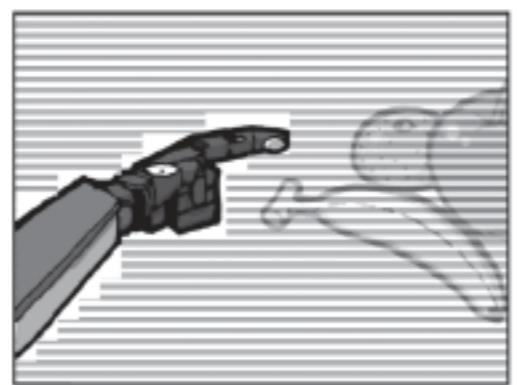
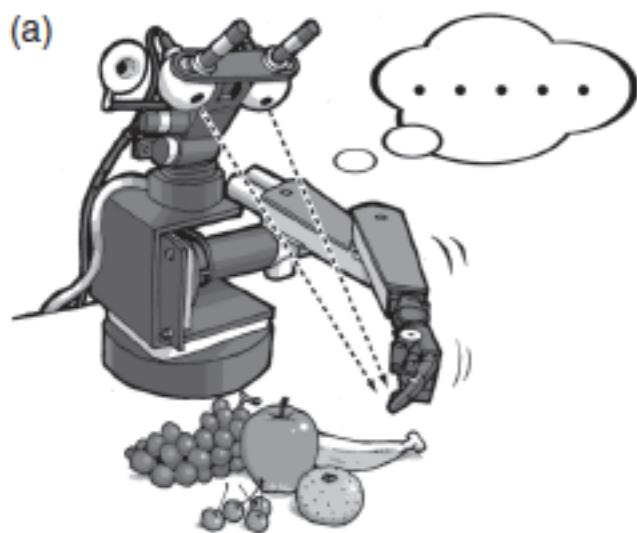


Properties of embodied agents

- **subject to the laws of physics**
- **generation of sensory stimulation through interaction with real world**
- **affect environment through behavior**
- **complex dynamical systems**
- **perform morphological computation**

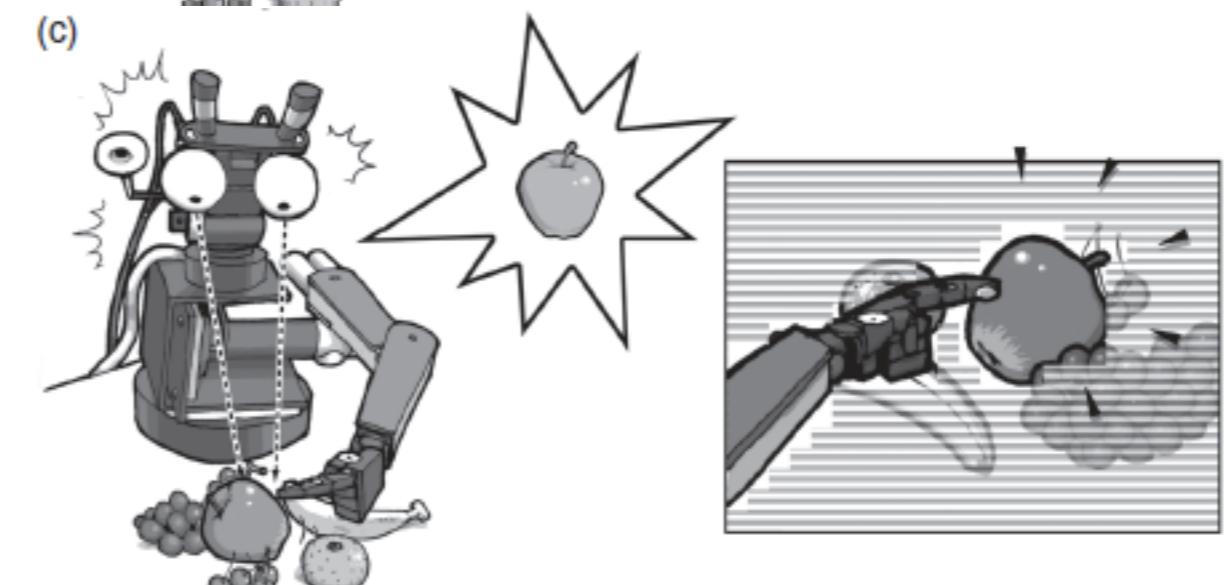


Recognizing an object in a cluttered environment



**manipulation of
environment can
facilitate perception**

Experiments: Giorgio Metta
and Paul Fitzpatrick



Illustrations by Shun Iwasawa

Today's topics

- short recap
- characteristics of complete agents
- illustration of design principles
- parallel, loosely coupled processes: the “**subsumption architecture**”
- case studies: “Puppy”, biped walking
- “cheap design” and redundancy



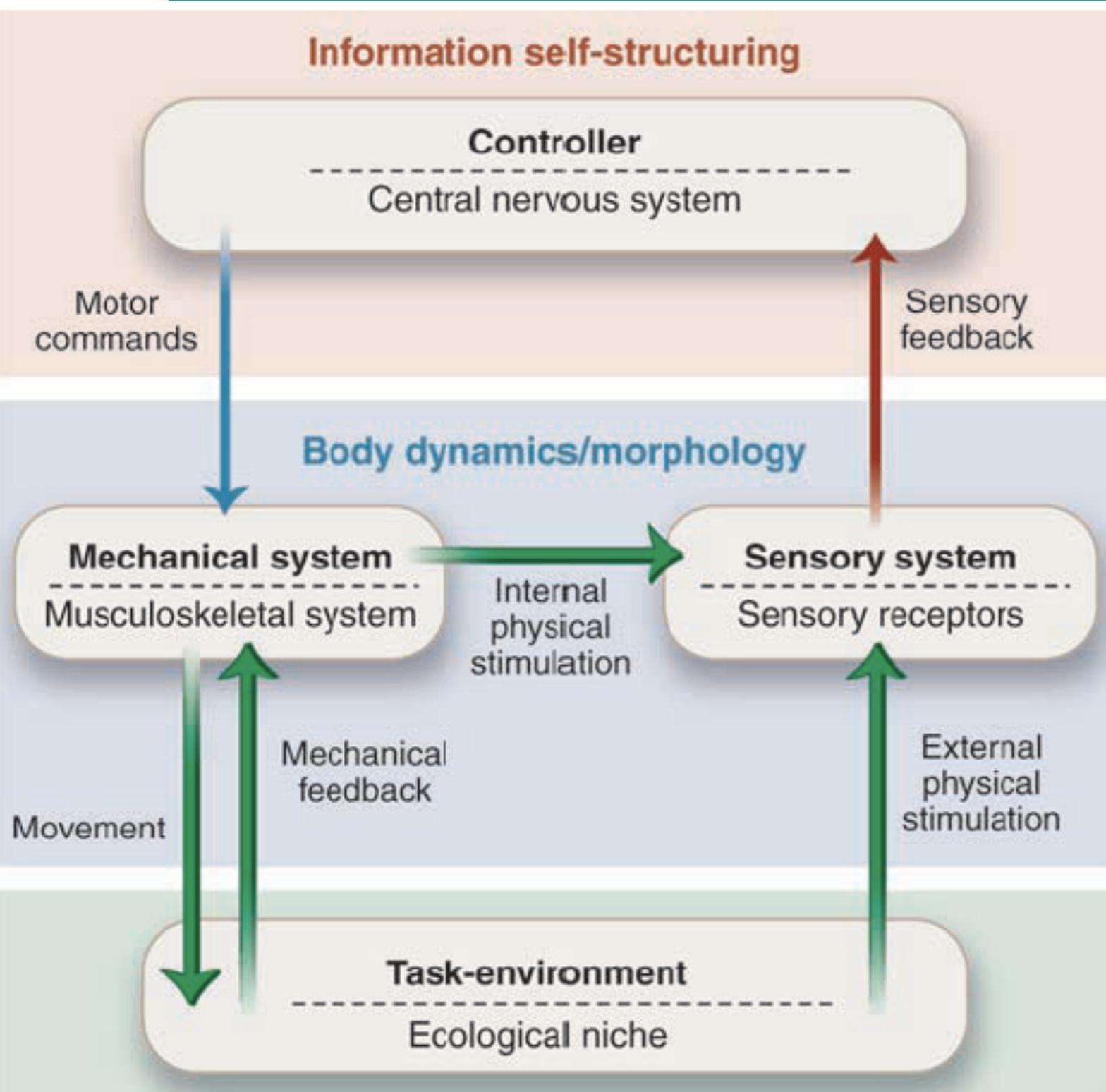
Parallel, loosely coupled processes

intelligent behavior:

- emergent from system-environment interaction
- based on large number of parallel, loosely coupled processes
- asynchronous
- coupled through agent's sensory-motor system and environment



Implications of embodiment

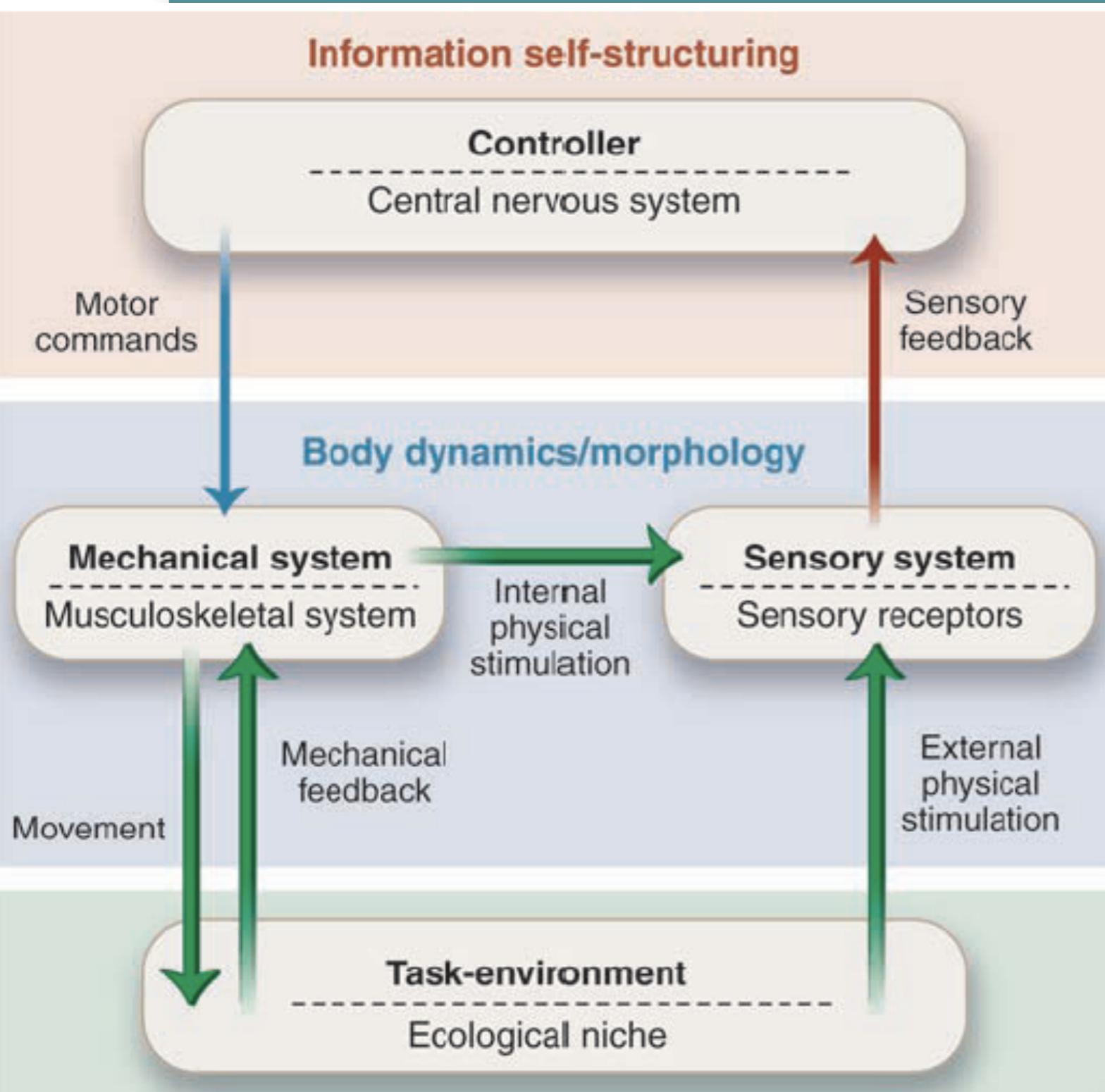


“Puppy”

Pfeifer et al., Science,
16 Nov. 2007



Implications of embodiment



“Puppy”
which part of
diagram is
relevant?



Pfeifer et al., Science,
16 Nov. 2007



How to quantify?

- **Some hints in Lecture 7!**

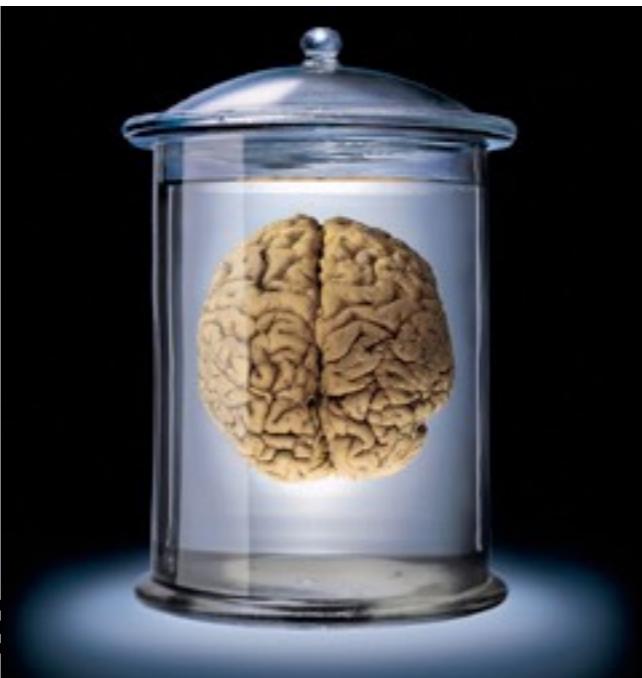


“The brain in the vat”

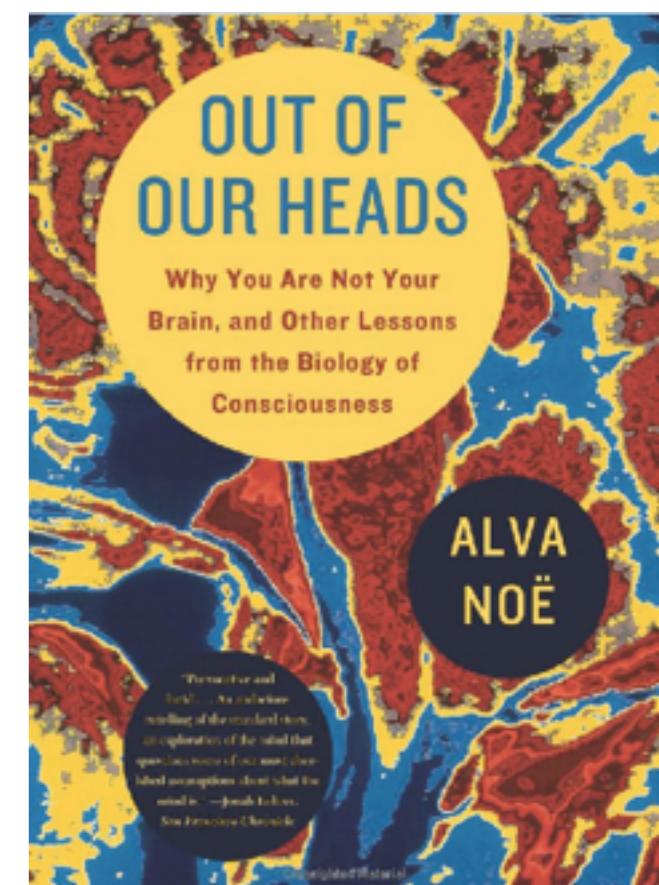


“Brain-in-a-vat”

Alva Noë, “Out of our heads - why you are not your brain”, New York, Hill and Wang, 2009



- supply energy
- flush away waste products
- complicated: providing stimulation comparable to that normally provided to a brain by its environmentally situated body



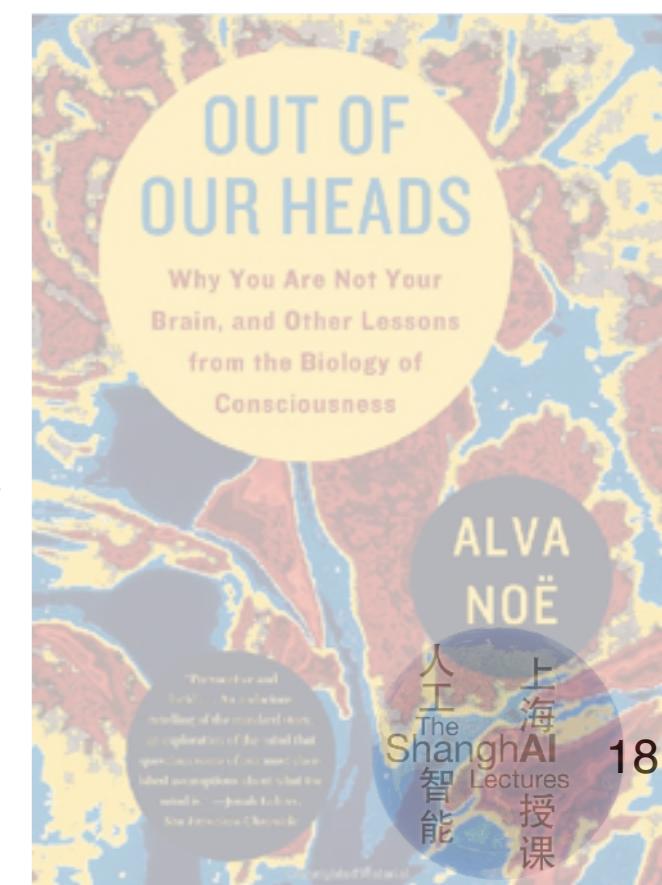
“Brain-in-a-vat”

Alva Noë, “Out of our heads - why you are not your brain”, New York, Hill and Wang, 2009



**volunteer for short presentation of
“Brain-in-a-vat”
(1 December 2016)**

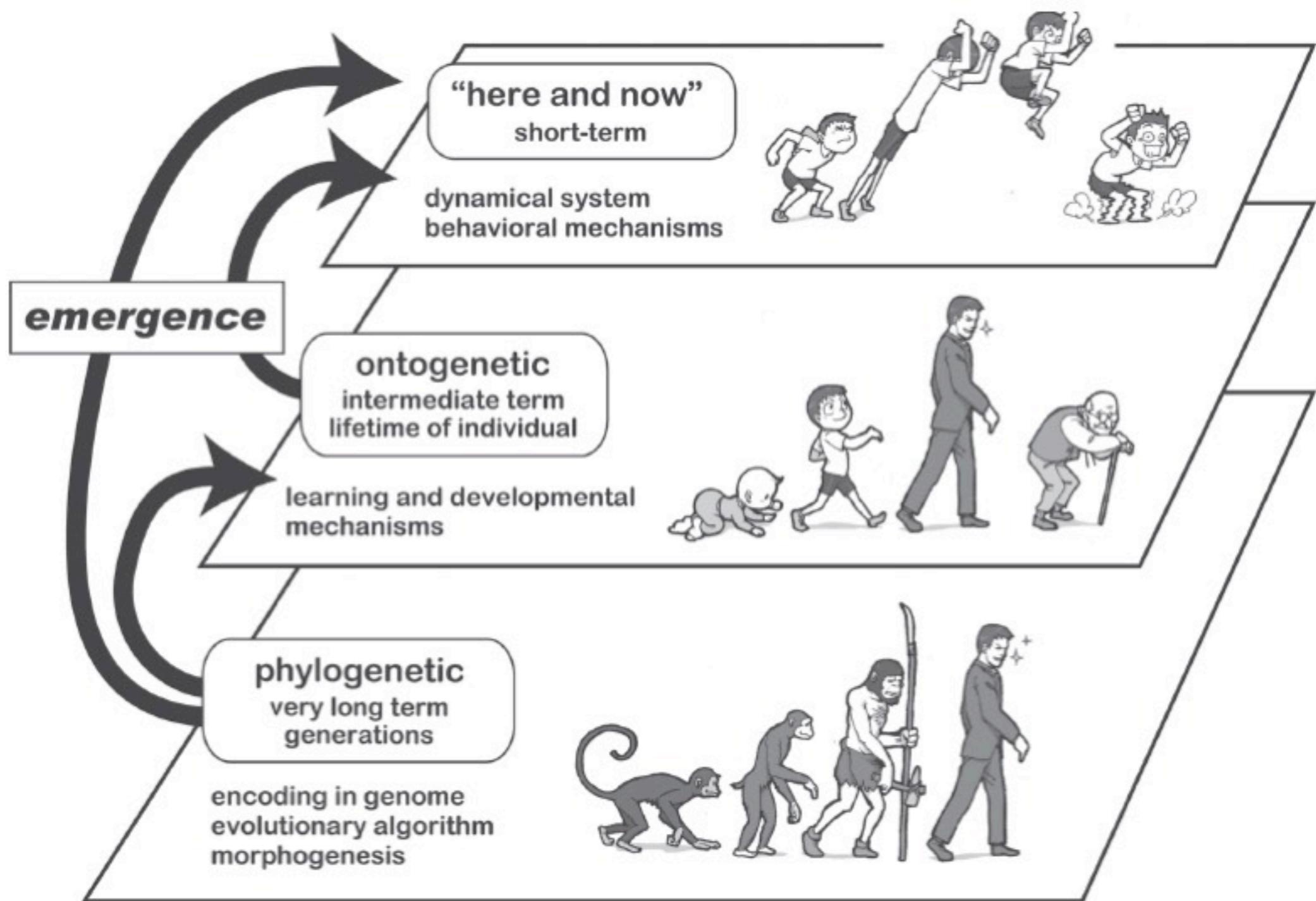
- supply energy
- flush away waste products
- complicated: providing stimulation comparable to that normally provided to a brain by its environmentally situated body



Artificial Neural Networks

many excellent books available

Time perspectives



Time perspectives in understanding and design

state-oriented
“hand design”

“here and now” perspective

learning and development
initial conditions,
learning and developmental processes

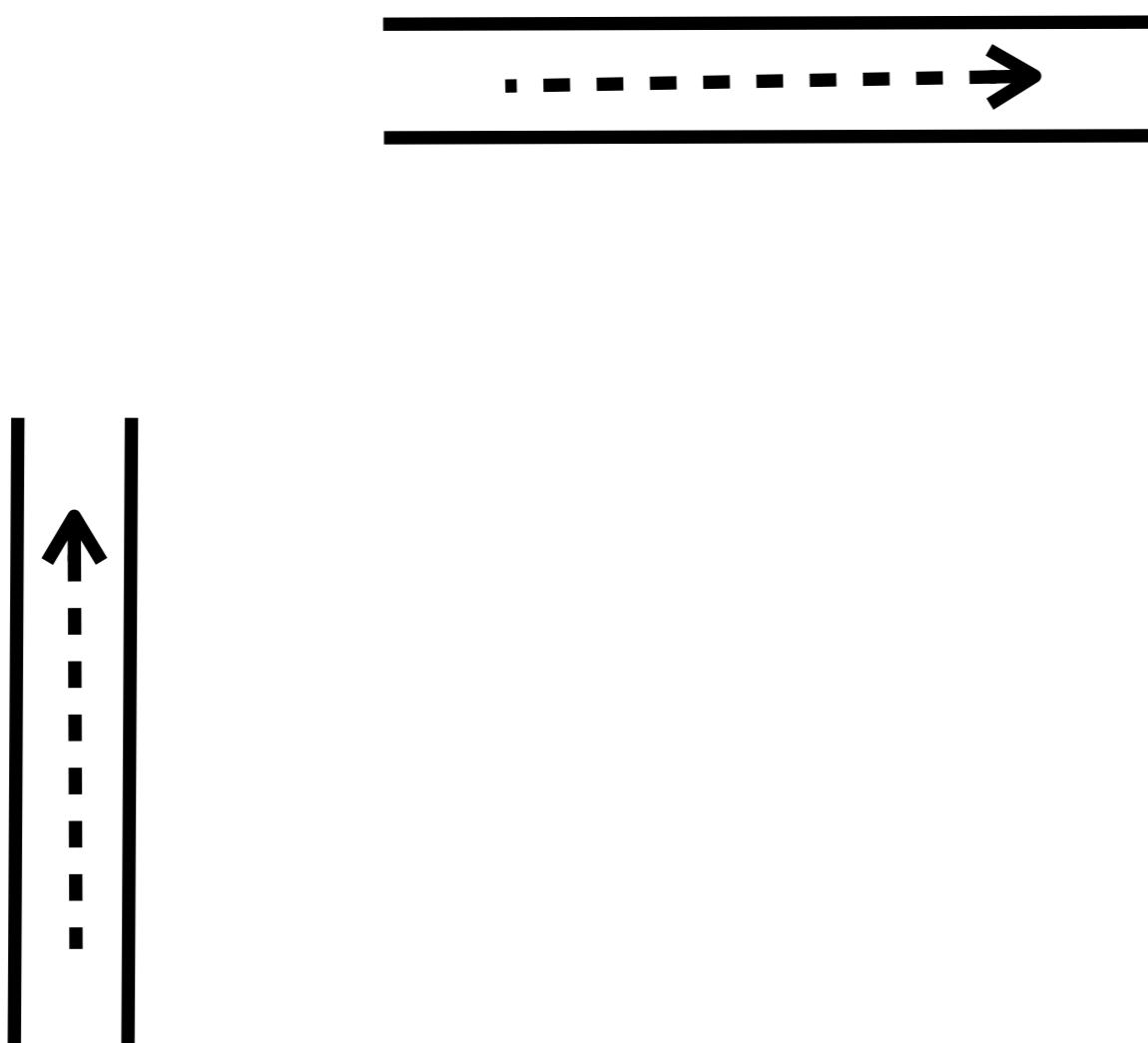
“ontogenetic” perspective

evolutionary
evolutionary

“phylogenetic” perspective

Understanding: **all three perspectives requires**
Design: **level of designer commitments, relation to autonomy**

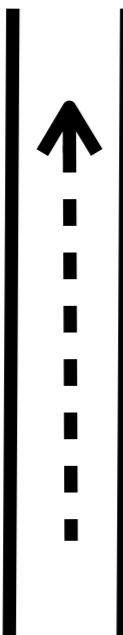
Rechenberg's “fuel pipe problem”



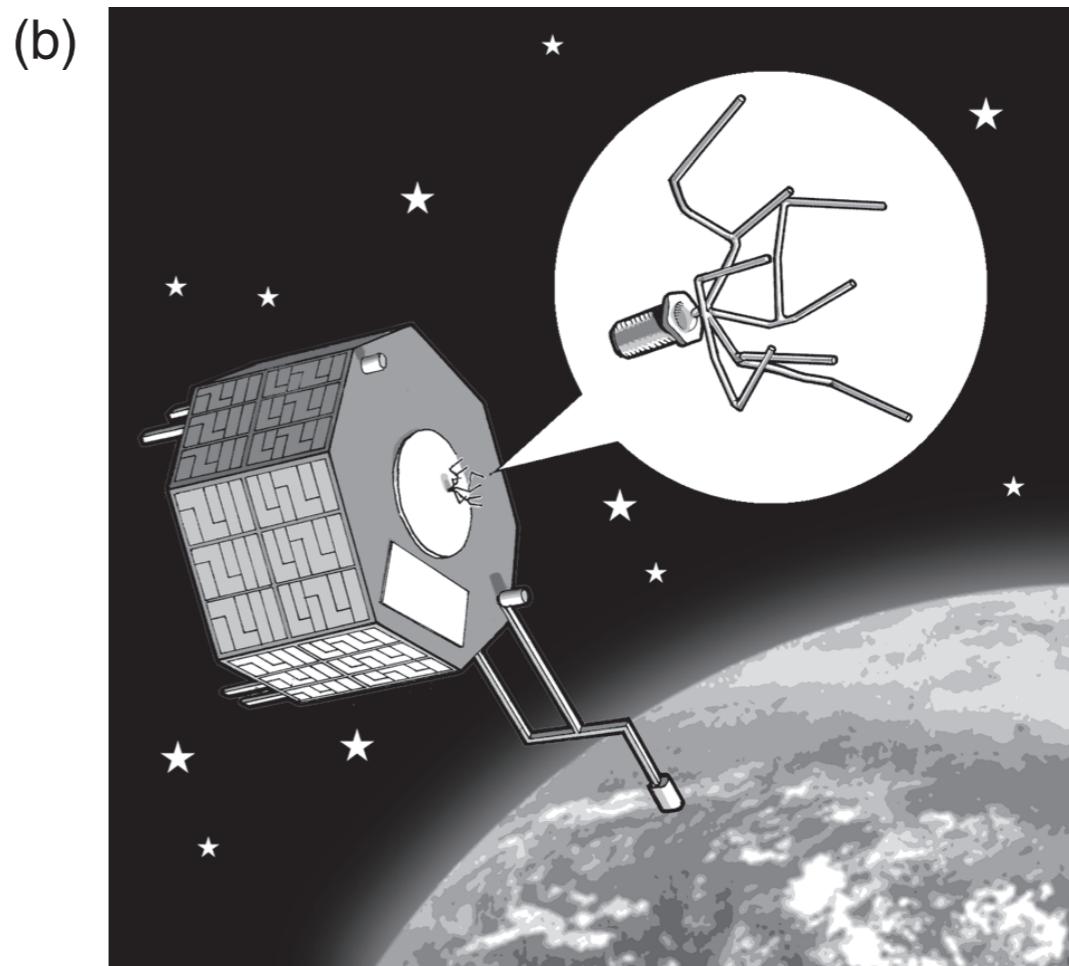
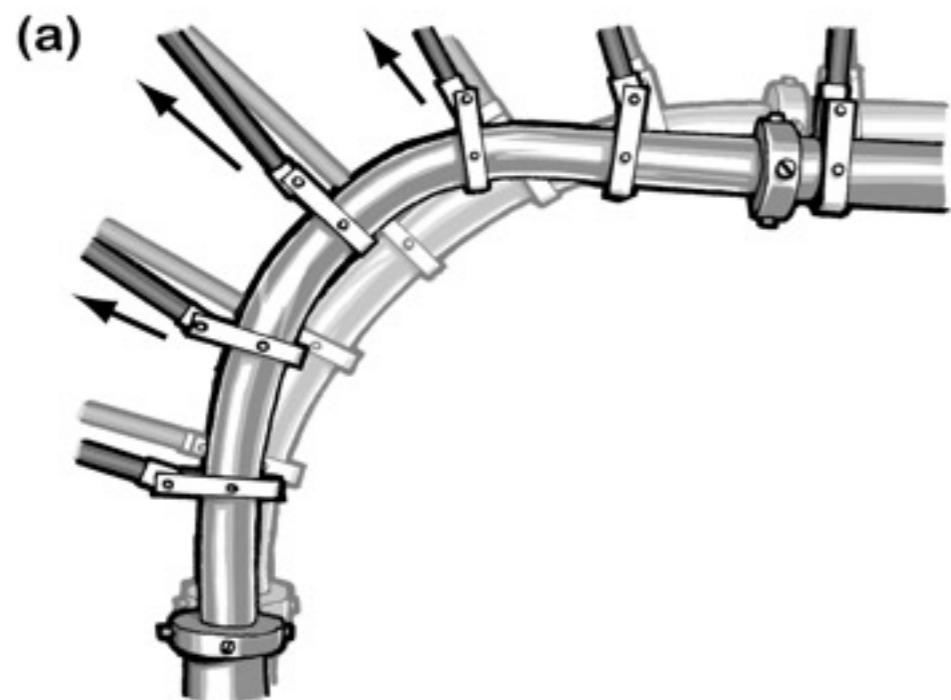
Rechenberg's “fuel pipe problem”



Creative?



Evolutionary designs

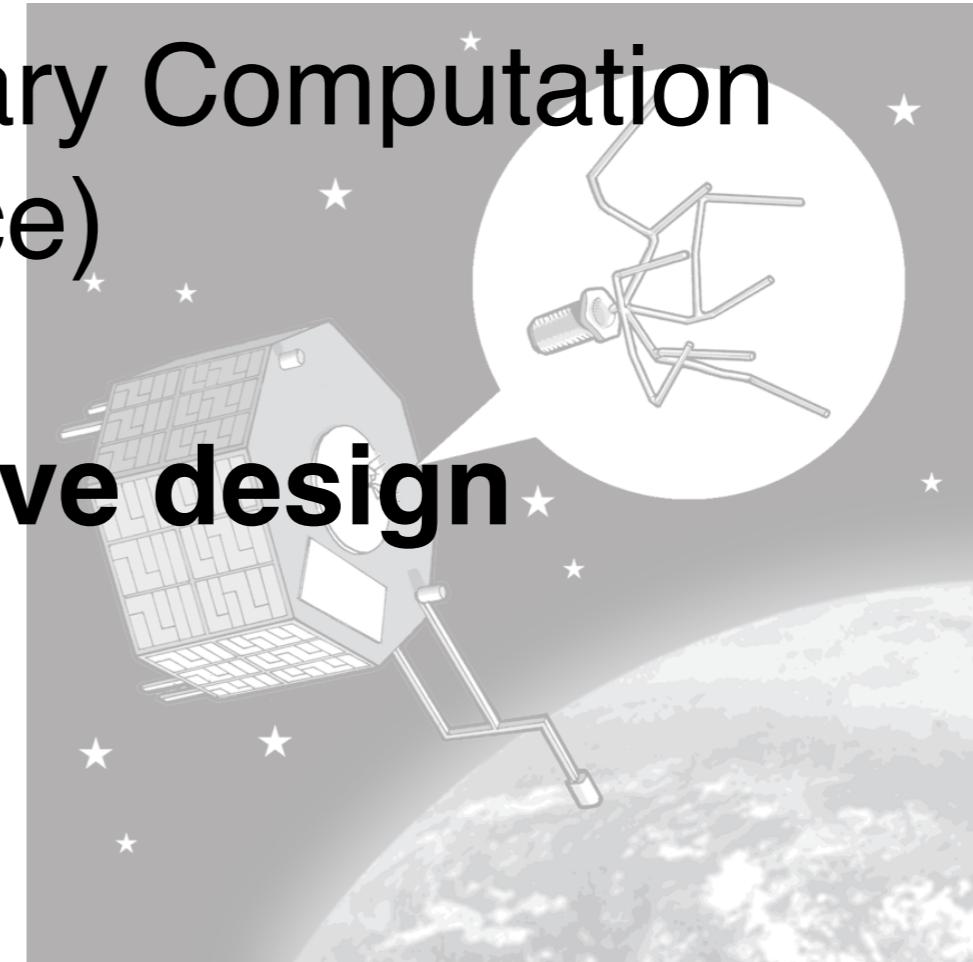


evolutionary designs: (a) Rechenberg's “fuel pipe”, (b) antenna for satellite

Evolutionary designs

GECCO

(a) (Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference)



Human-competitive design

evolutionary designs: (a) Rechenberg's “fuel pipe”, (b) antenna for satellite

Artificial evolution

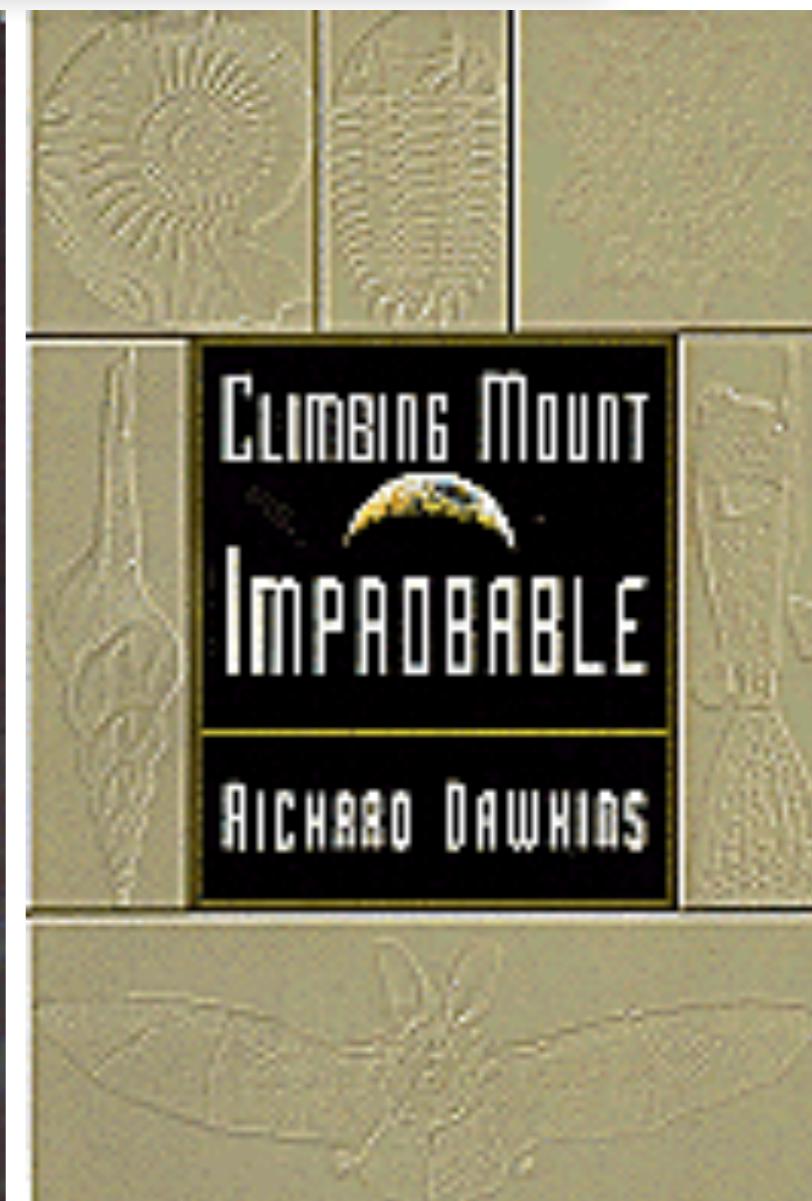
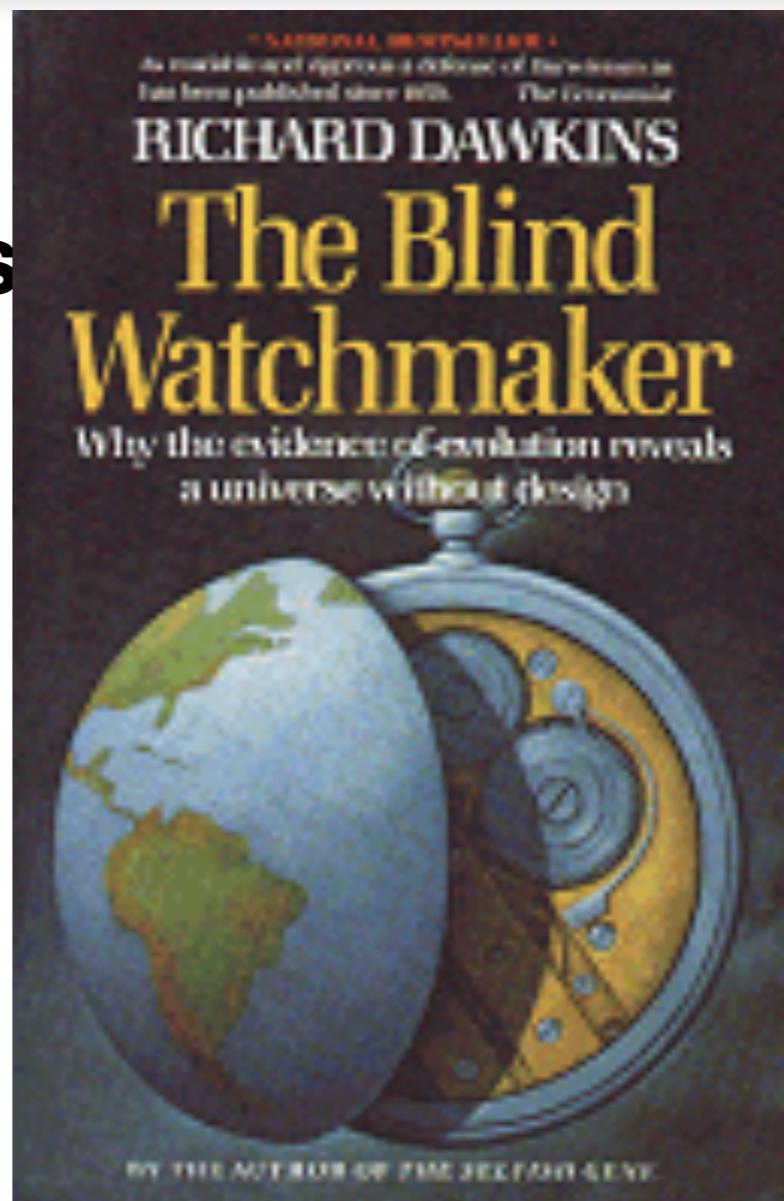
- John Holland
- Ingo Rechenberg
- John Koza

Artificial evolution

- **John Holland: Genetic Algorithm, GA**
- **Ingo Rechenberg: Evolution Strategy, ES**
- **John Koza: Genetic Programming, GP**

Cumulative selection

Richard Dawkins
(author of “The selfish gene”)



Watch out!!

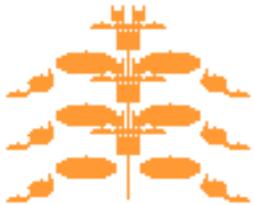
the creationists!?!!!

**Richard Dawkins:
very outspoken against creationism**

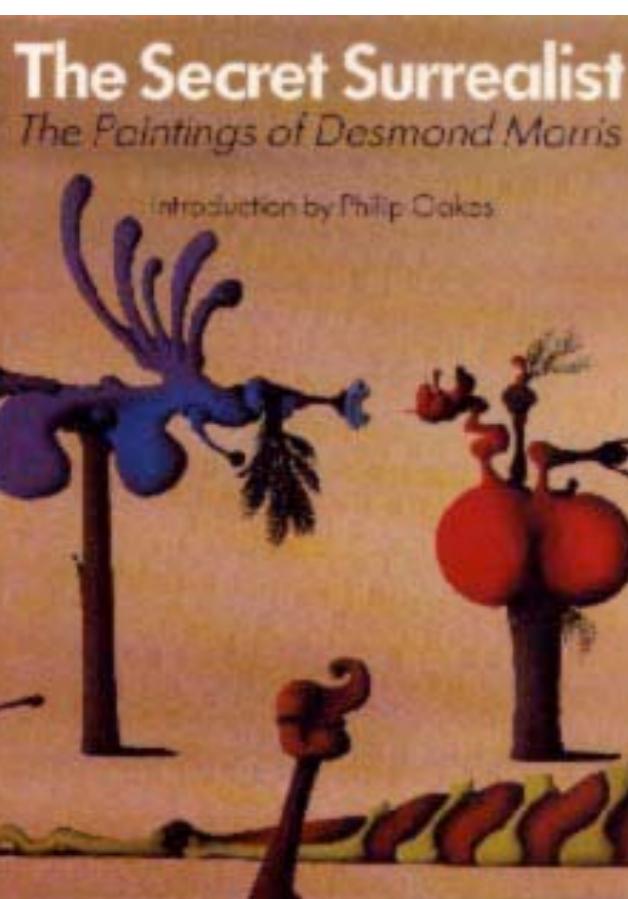


Biomorphs

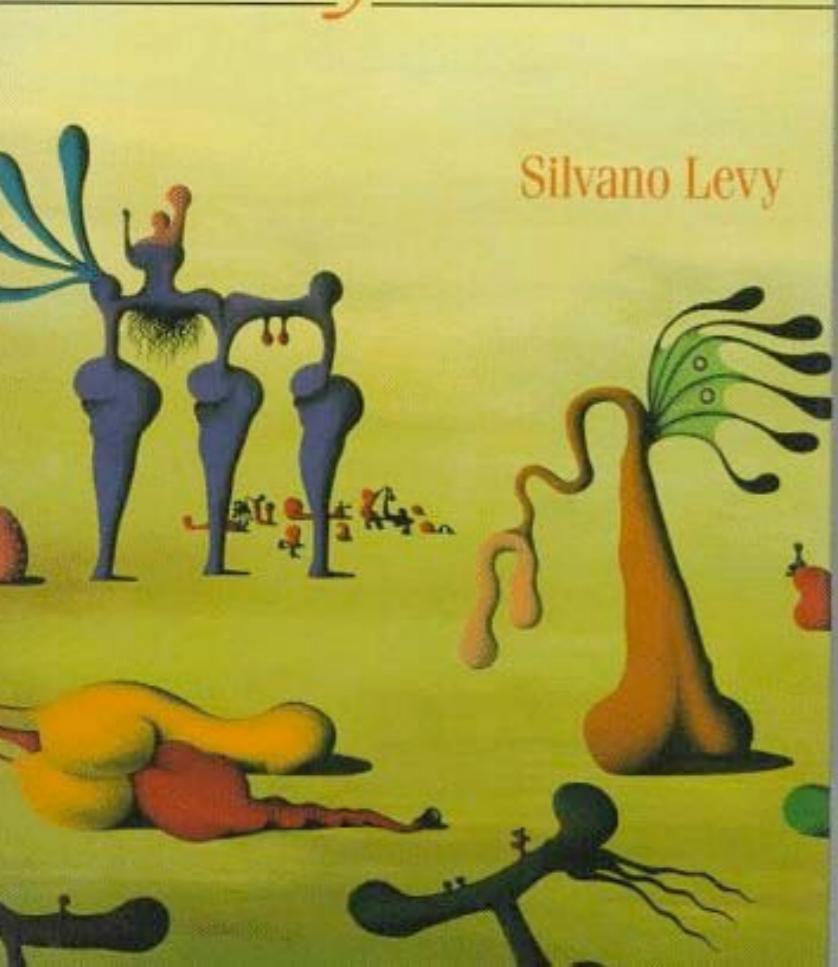
The power of esthetic

- 
- 
- 
- 
- **encoding “creature” in genome (string of numbers):**
 - **expression of “genes” (graphical appearance):**
 - **selection of individuals for “reproduction” (based on “fitness” — esthetic appeal)**

<http://suhep.phy.syr.edu/courses/mirror/biomorph/>

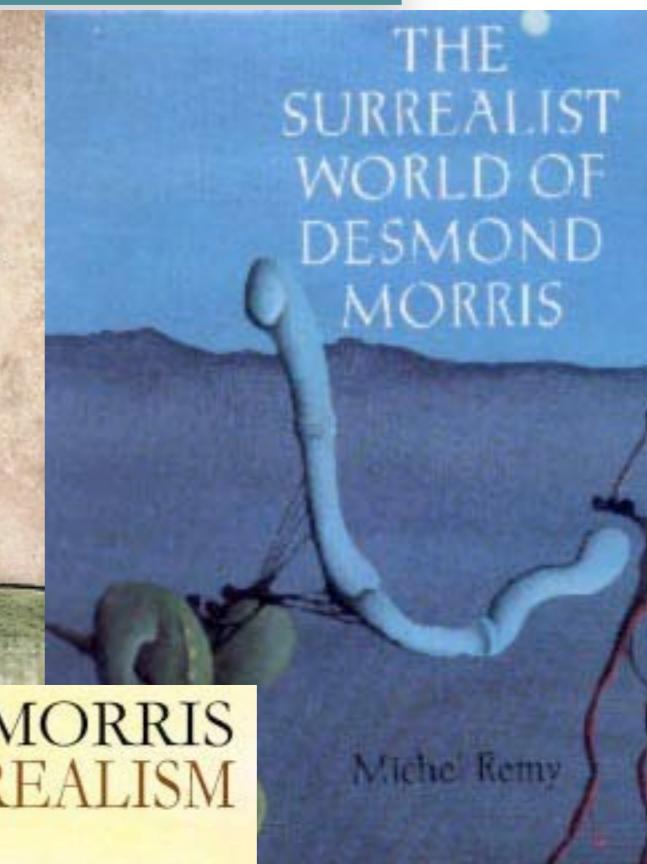
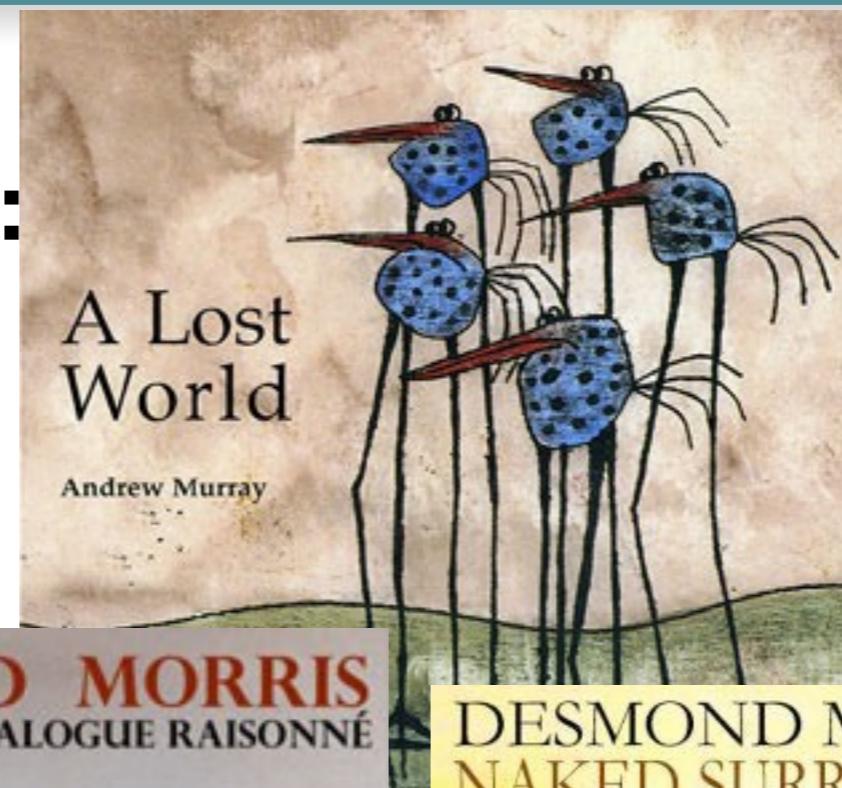


DESMOND MORRIS
50 YEARS OF SURREALISM

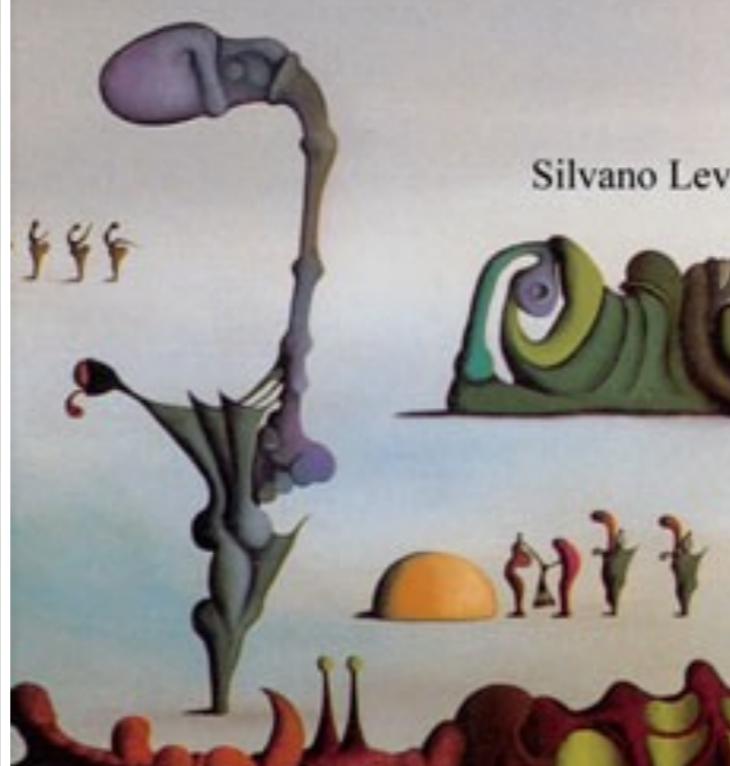


Biomorphs: by surrealist painter Desmond Morris

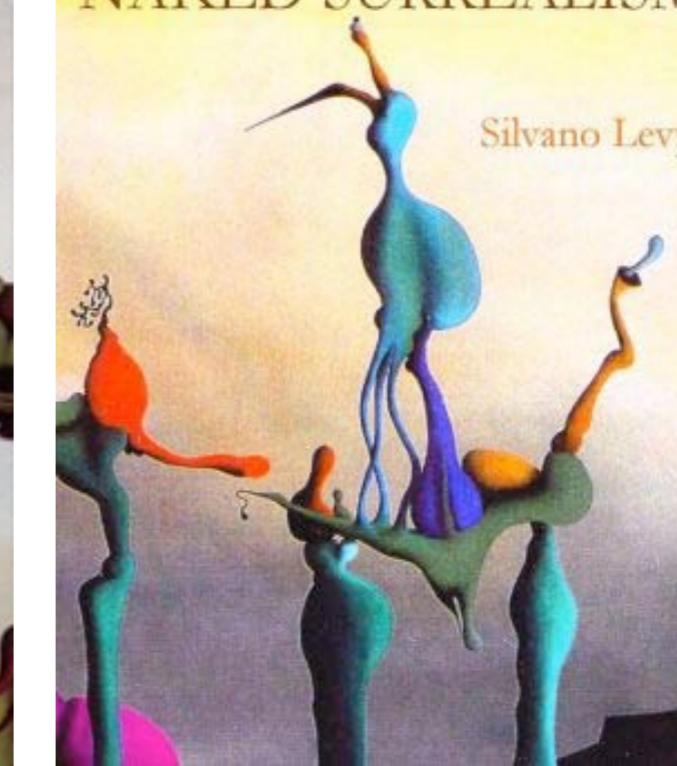
exhibitions:
1948 - 2008



DESMOND MORRIS
ANALYTICAL CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ



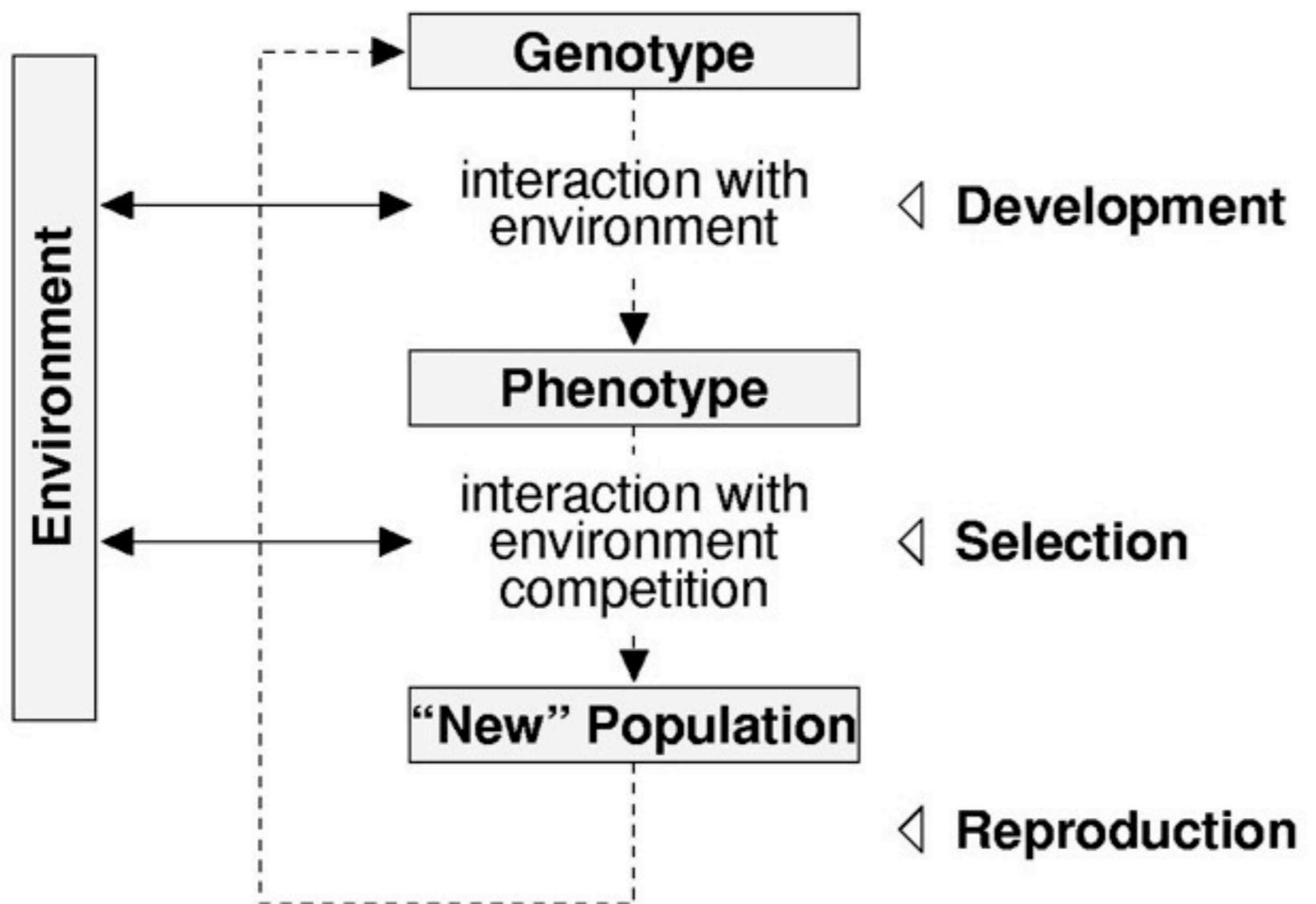
DESMOND MORRIS
NAKED SURREALISM



Biomorphs

Encoding in genome

- “genes” 1-8: control of overall shape (direction, length of attachment)
- “gene” 9: depth of recursion
- “genes” 10-12: color
- “gene” 13: number of segmentations
- “gene” 14: size of separation of segments
- “gene” 15: shape for drawing (line, oval,

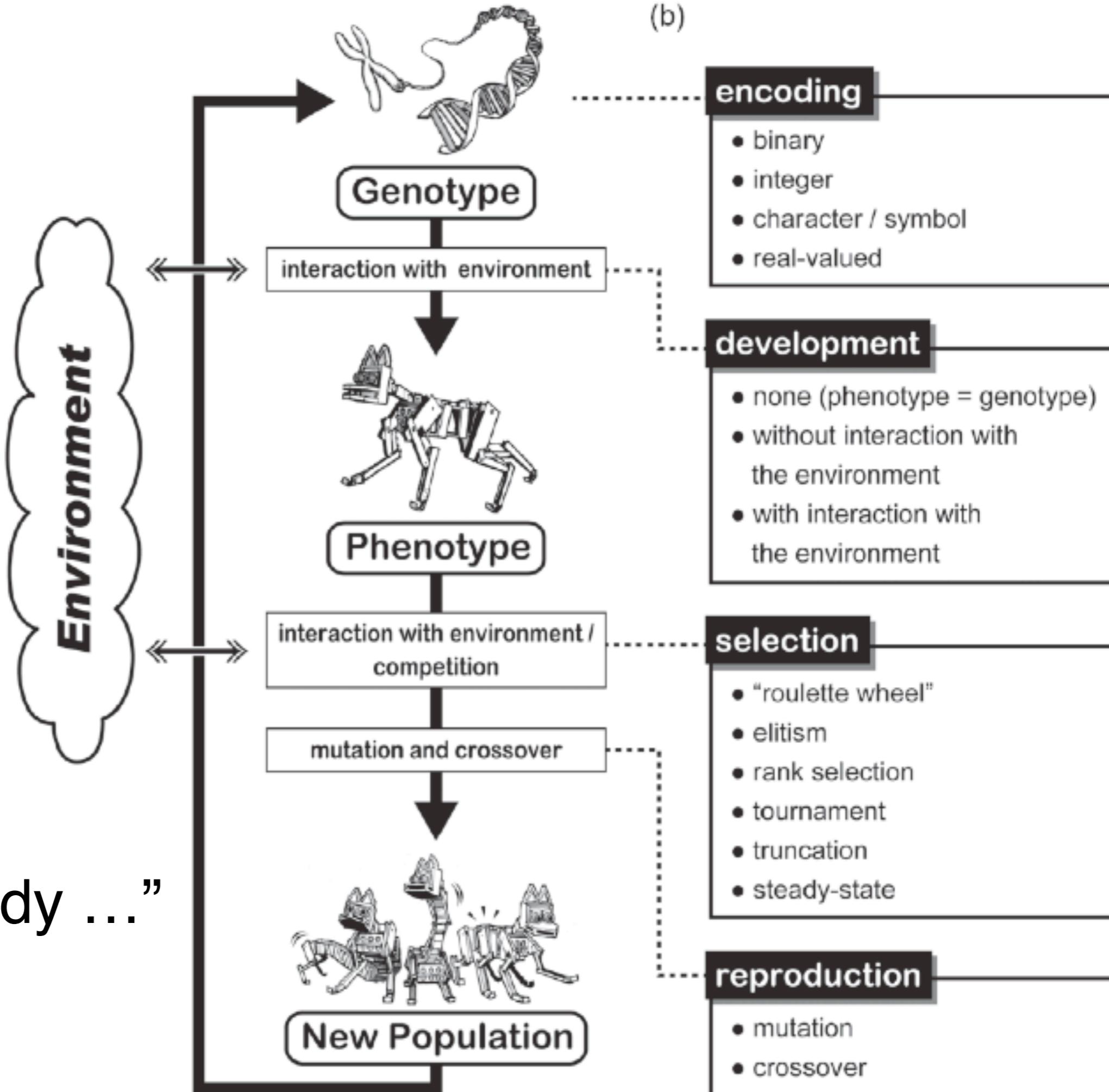


The “grand evolutionary cycle”

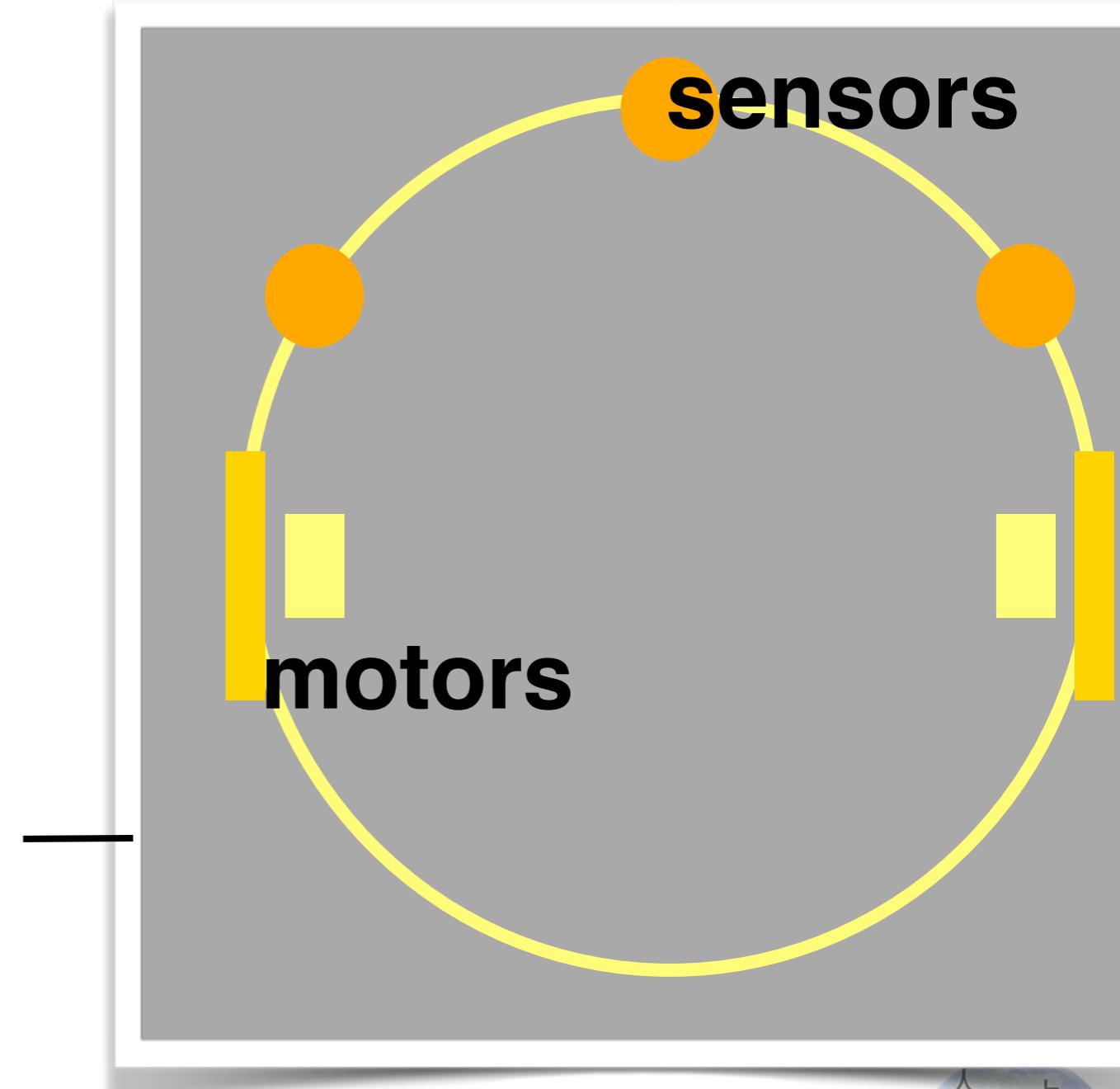
encoding	development	selection	reproduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • binary • many-character • real-valued 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no development (phenotype = genotype) • development with and without interaction with the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “roulette wheel” • elitism • rank selection • tournament • truncation • steady-state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mutation • crossover

Basic cycle for artificial evolution

from
“How the body ...”



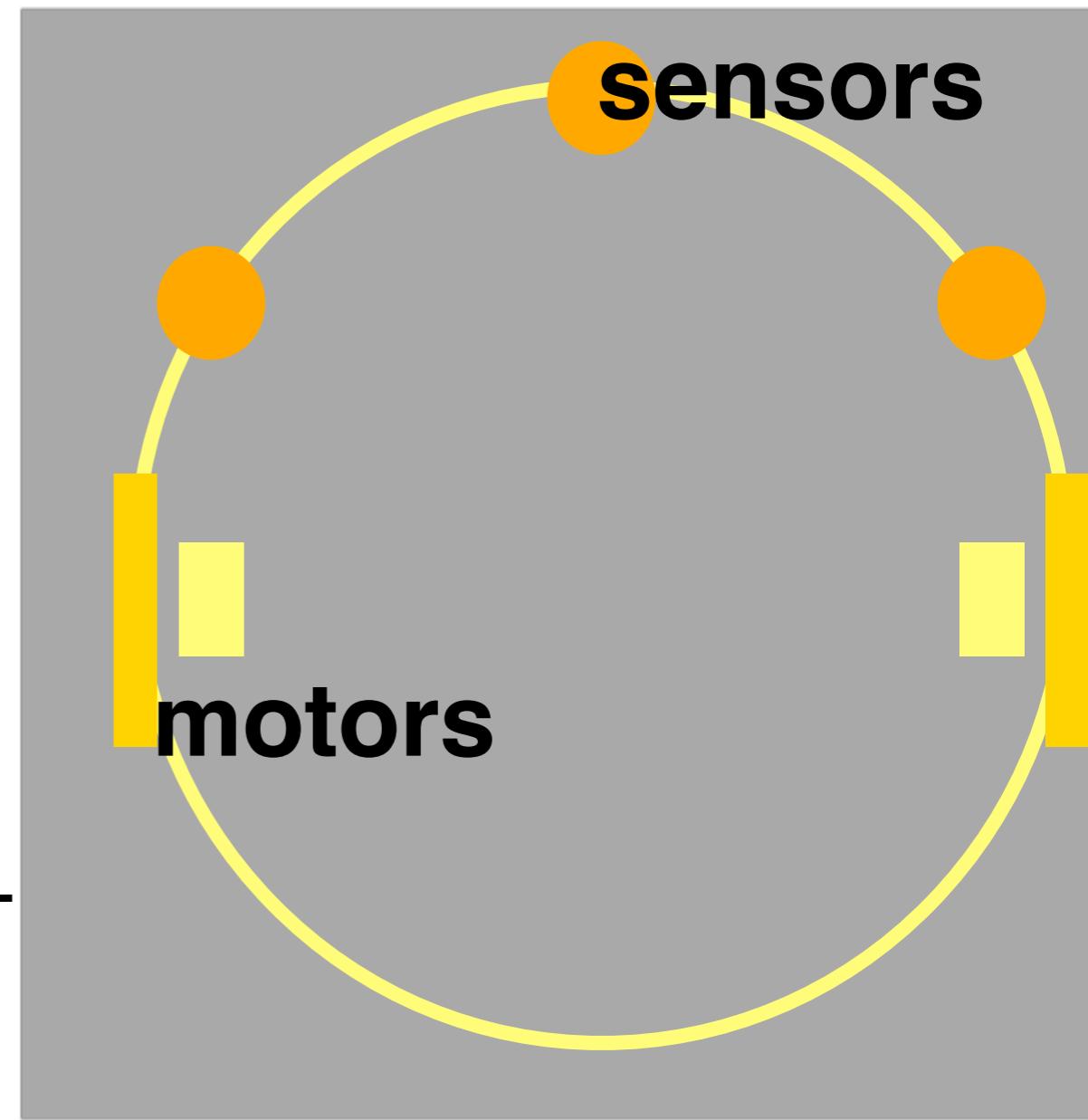
Evolving a neural controller



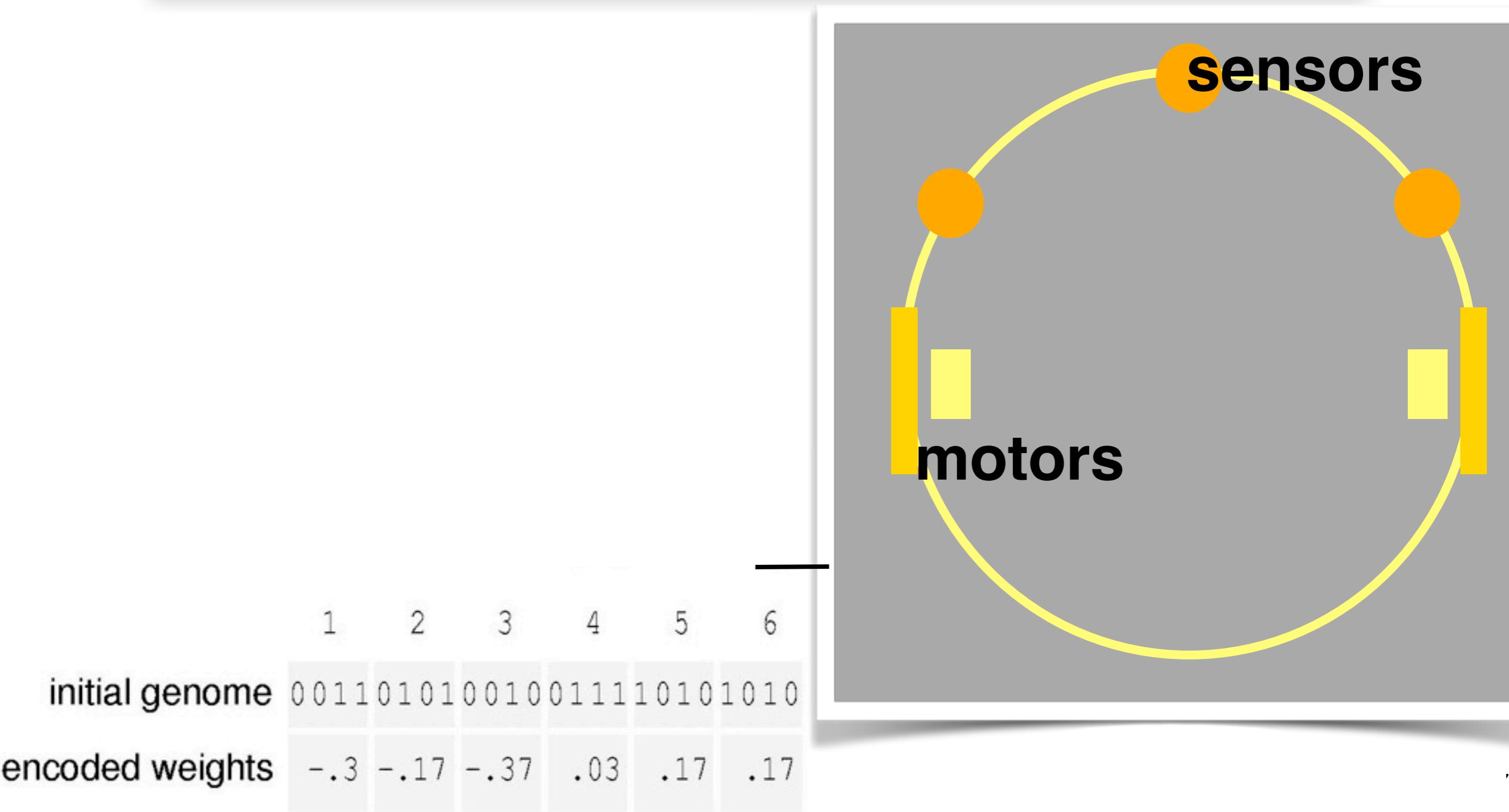
Evolving a neural controller

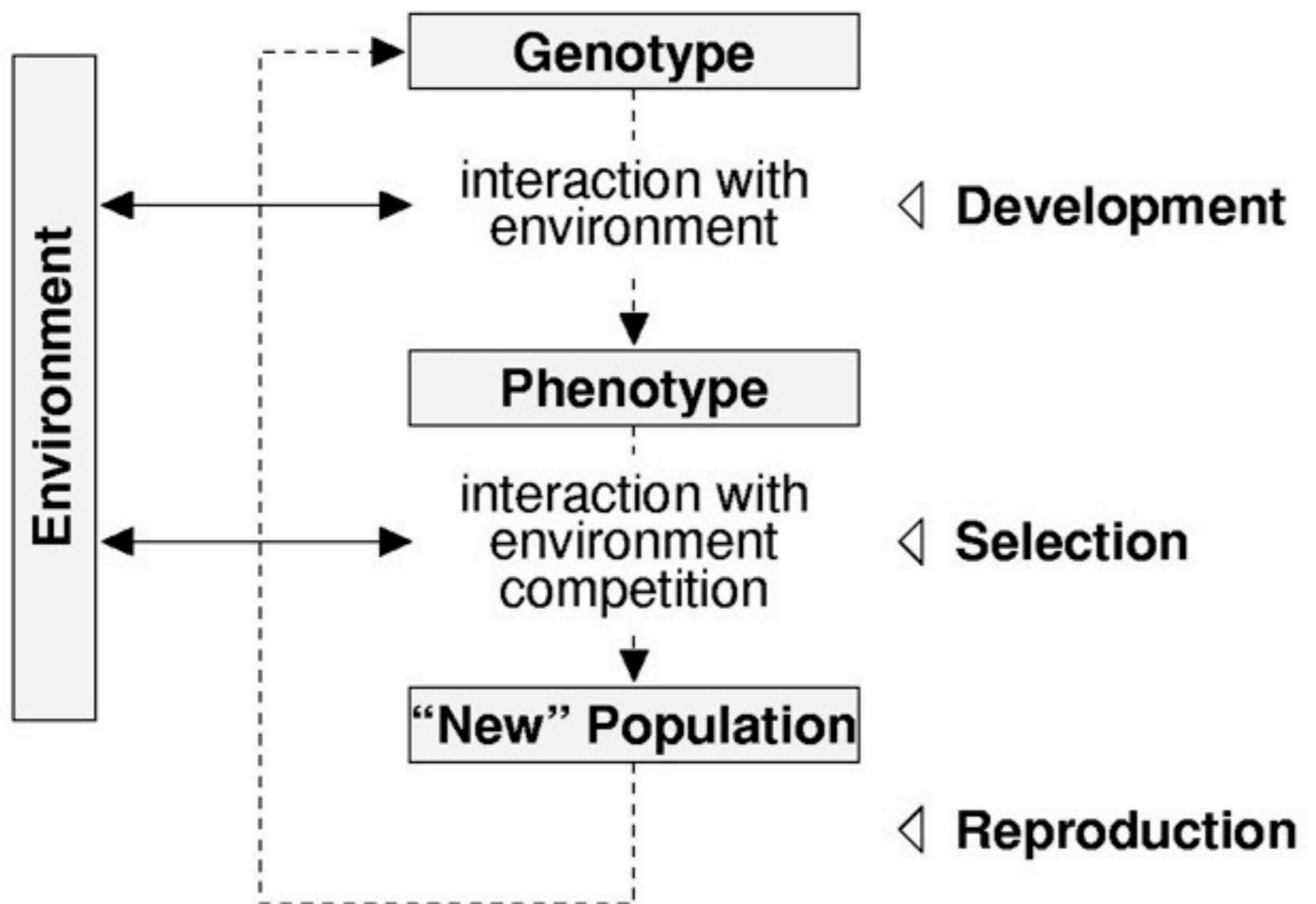
What do we need to specify?

→



Encoding in genome





The “grand evolutionary cycle”

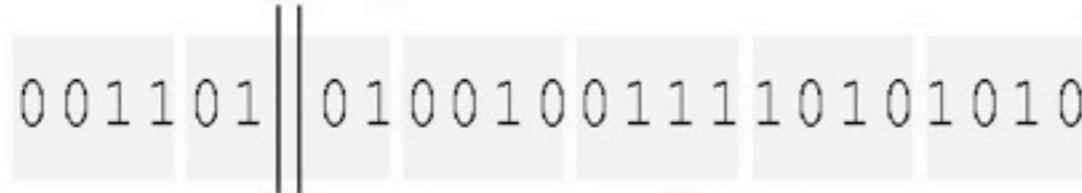
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Fitness function and selection

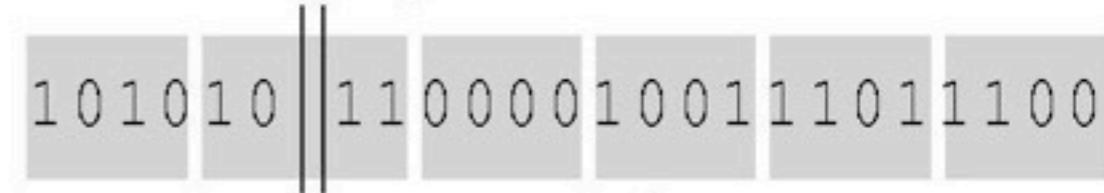
suggestions? → Chiba

encoding	development	selection	reproduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• binary• many-character• real-valued	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• no development (phenotype = genotype)• development with and without interaction with the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “roulette wheel”• elitism• rank selection• tournament• truncation• steady-state	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mutation• crossover

crossover point



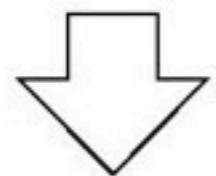
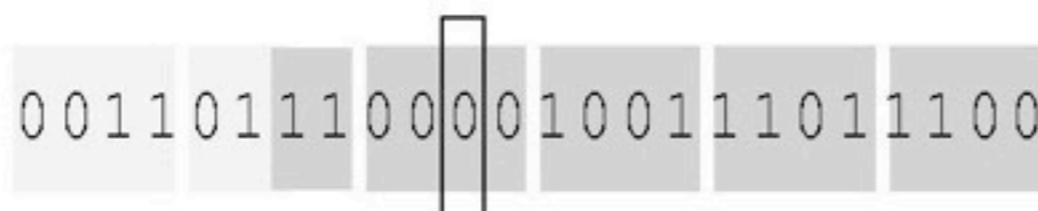
crossover point



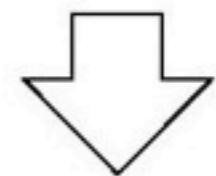
Reproduction: crossover and mutation



mutation



gene expression



crossover point

001101|010010011110101010

crossover point

101010|110000100111011100

Reproduction: crossover and mutation

001101110000100111011100

10101001001001110101010

How to choose mutation rate?

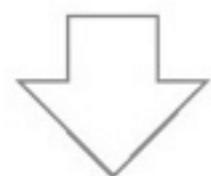
mutation

001101110000100111011100

10101001001001110101010

001101110010100111011100

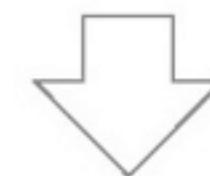
10101001001001110101010



gene expression

-.3 -.03 -.37 .1 .37 .3

.17 .1 -.37 .03 .17

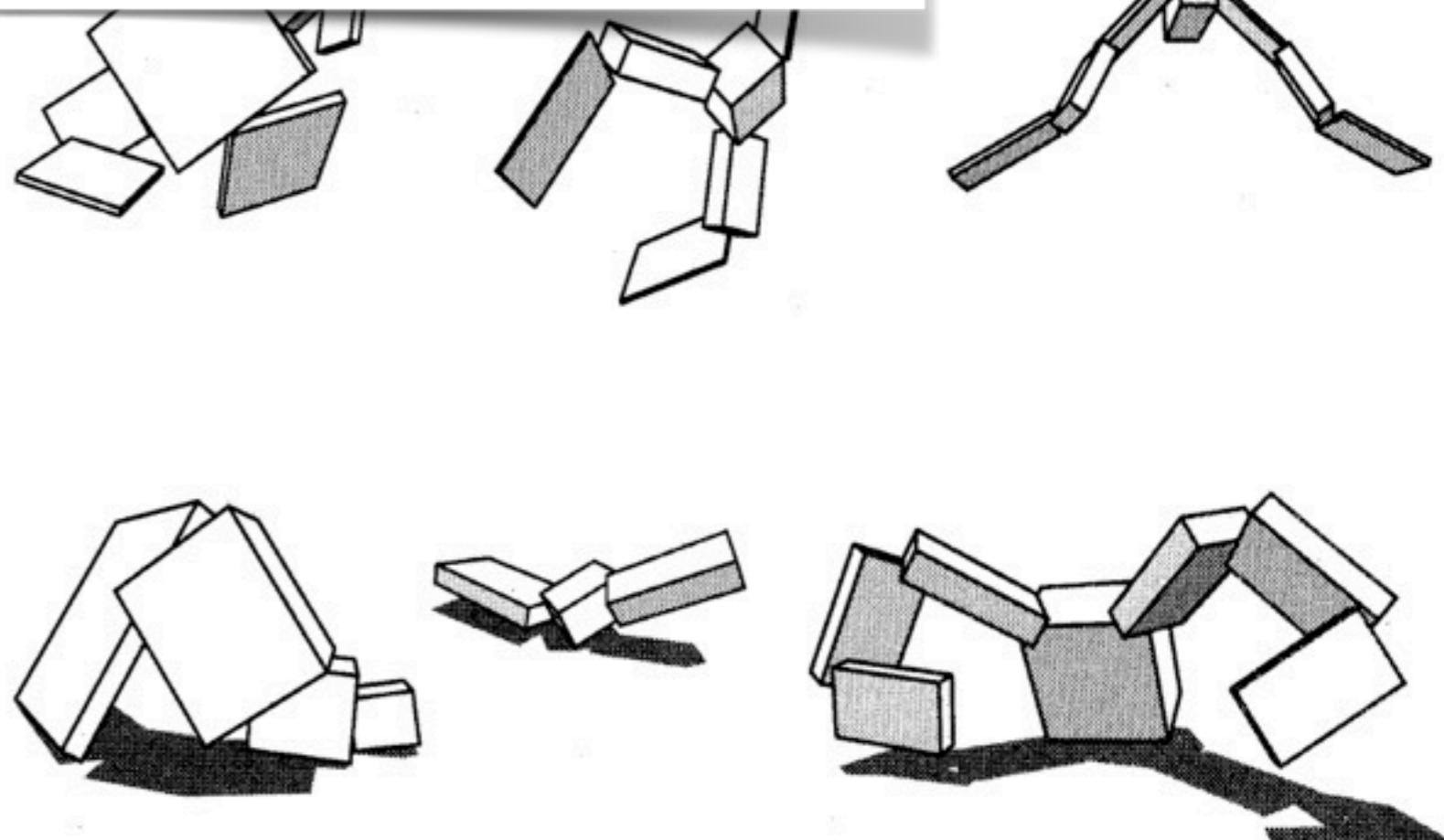


Approaches to evolutionary robotics

- given robot → evolve control
(neural network)
- embodied approach of morphology and control → co-evolution

Evolving morphology and control: Karl Sims's

Video “Karl Sims’s
evolved creatures”



Parameterization of morphology

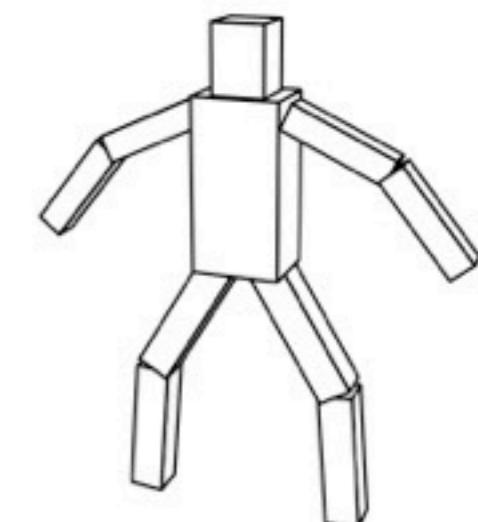
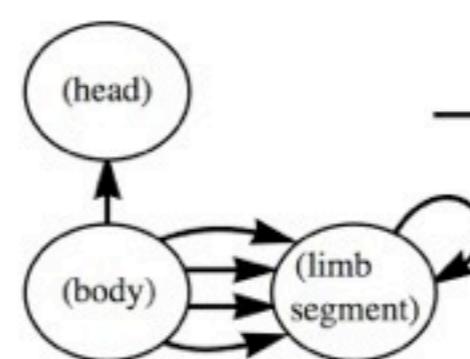
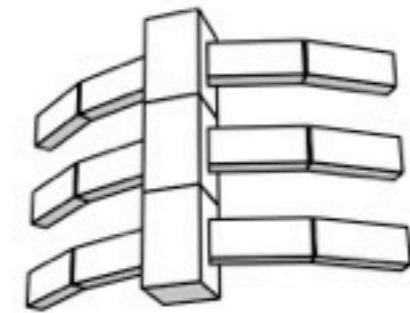
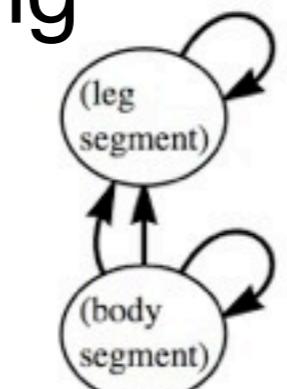
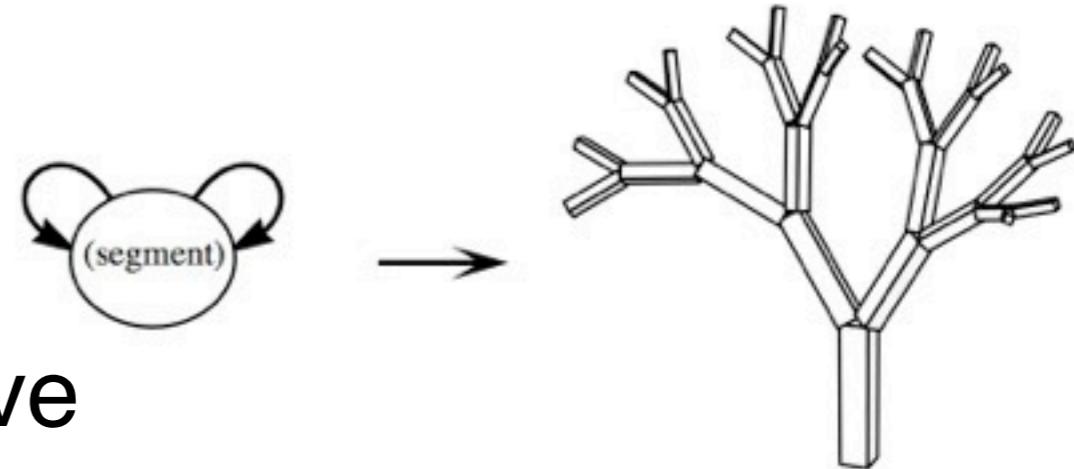
encoding in
genome
“genotype”

development



embodied
agent
“phenotype”

recursive
encoding



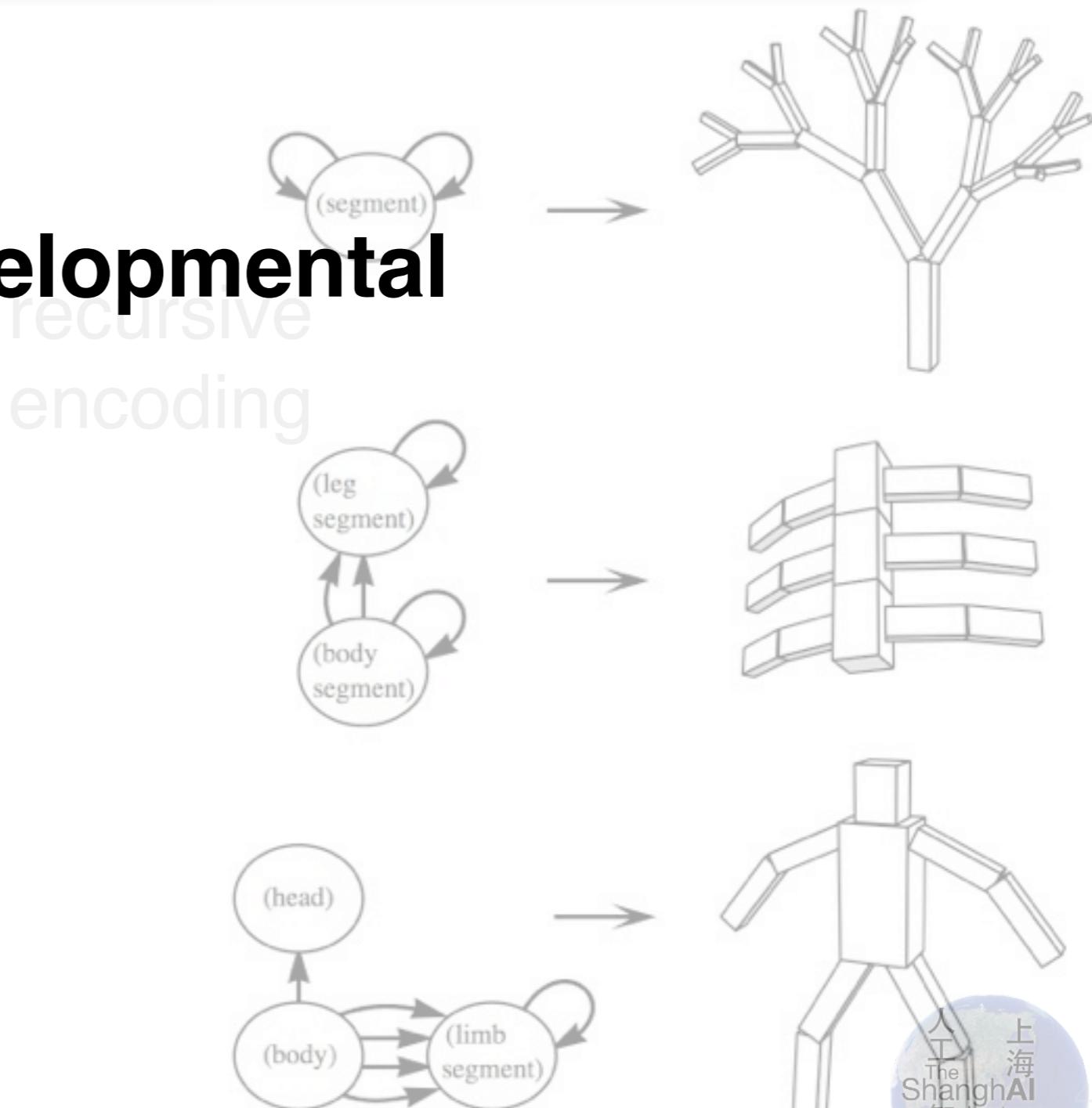
Parameterization of morphology

encoding in
genome
“genotype”

**characterizing the “developmental
process”**

development

embodied
agent
“phenotype”



New version: Golem (Lipson and Pollack)

representation of morphology in genome

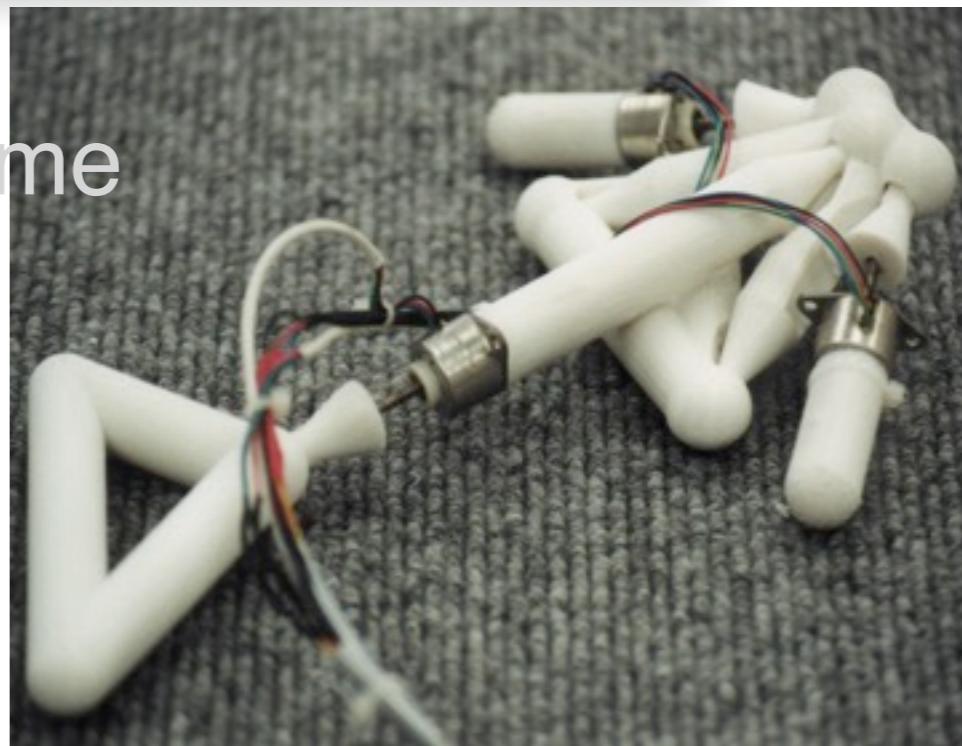
- **robot: bars, actuators, neurons**
- **bars: length, diameter, stiffness, joint type**
- **actuators: type, range**
- **neurons: thresholds, synaptic strength (recursive encoding)**



New version: Golem (Lipson and Pollack)

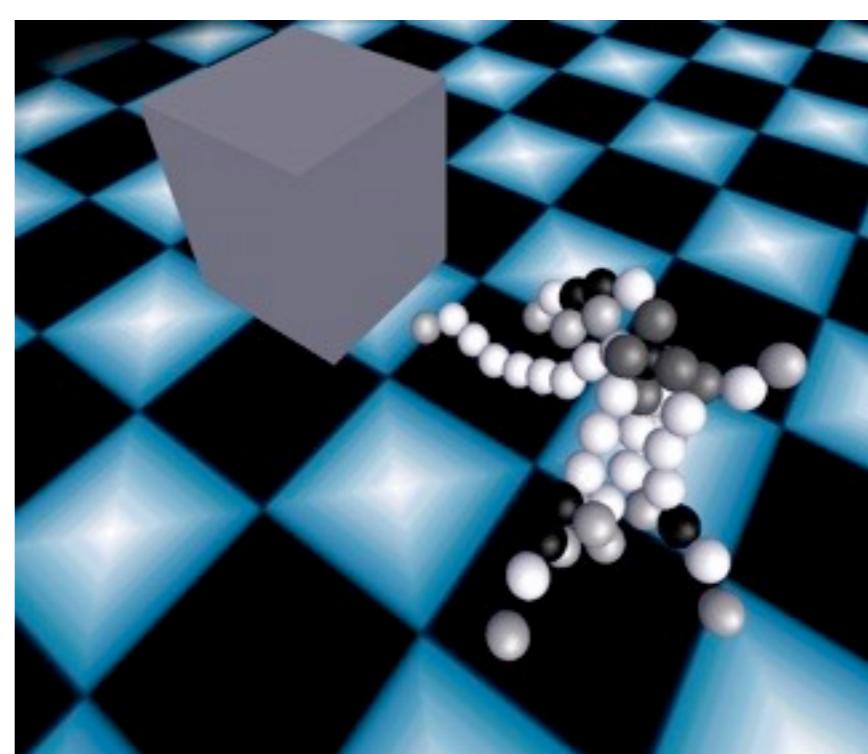
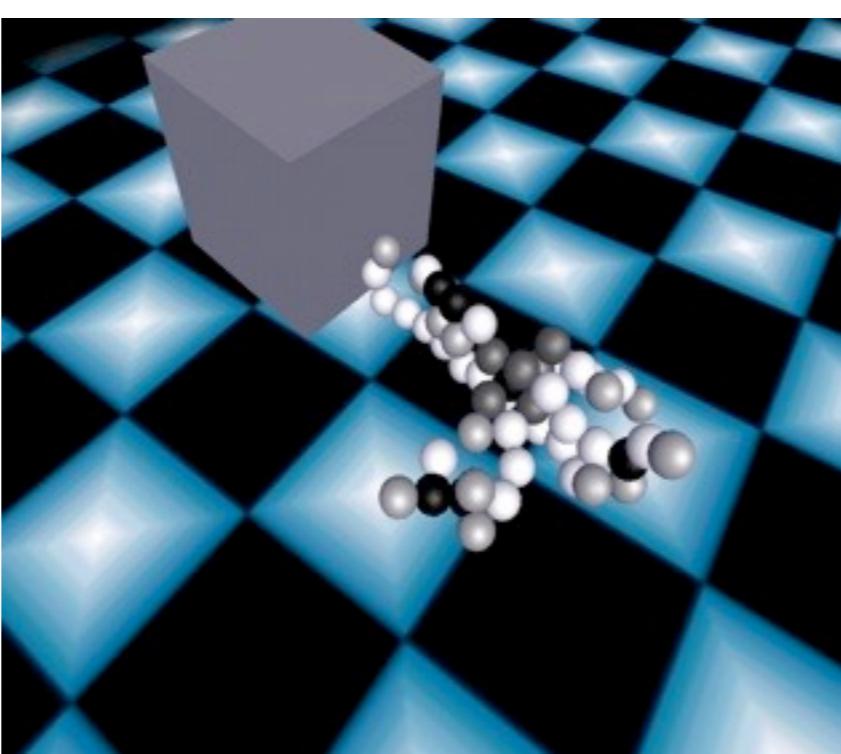
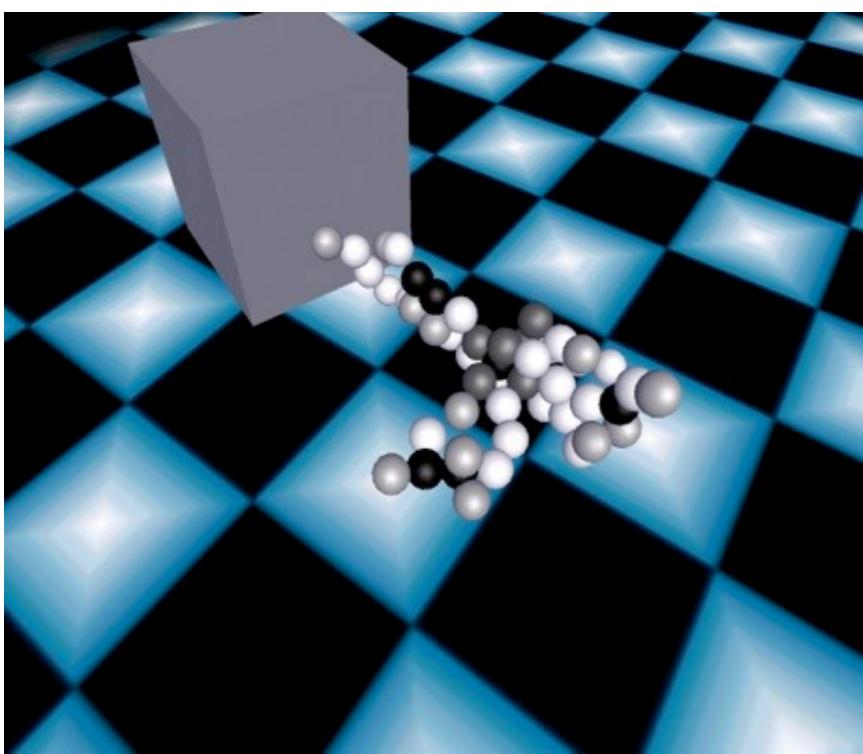
representation of morphology in genome

- robot: bars, actuators, neurons
- **Golem as the first self-evolving machine in history**
- actuators: type, range
- neurons: thresholds, synaptic strength
(recursive encoding)

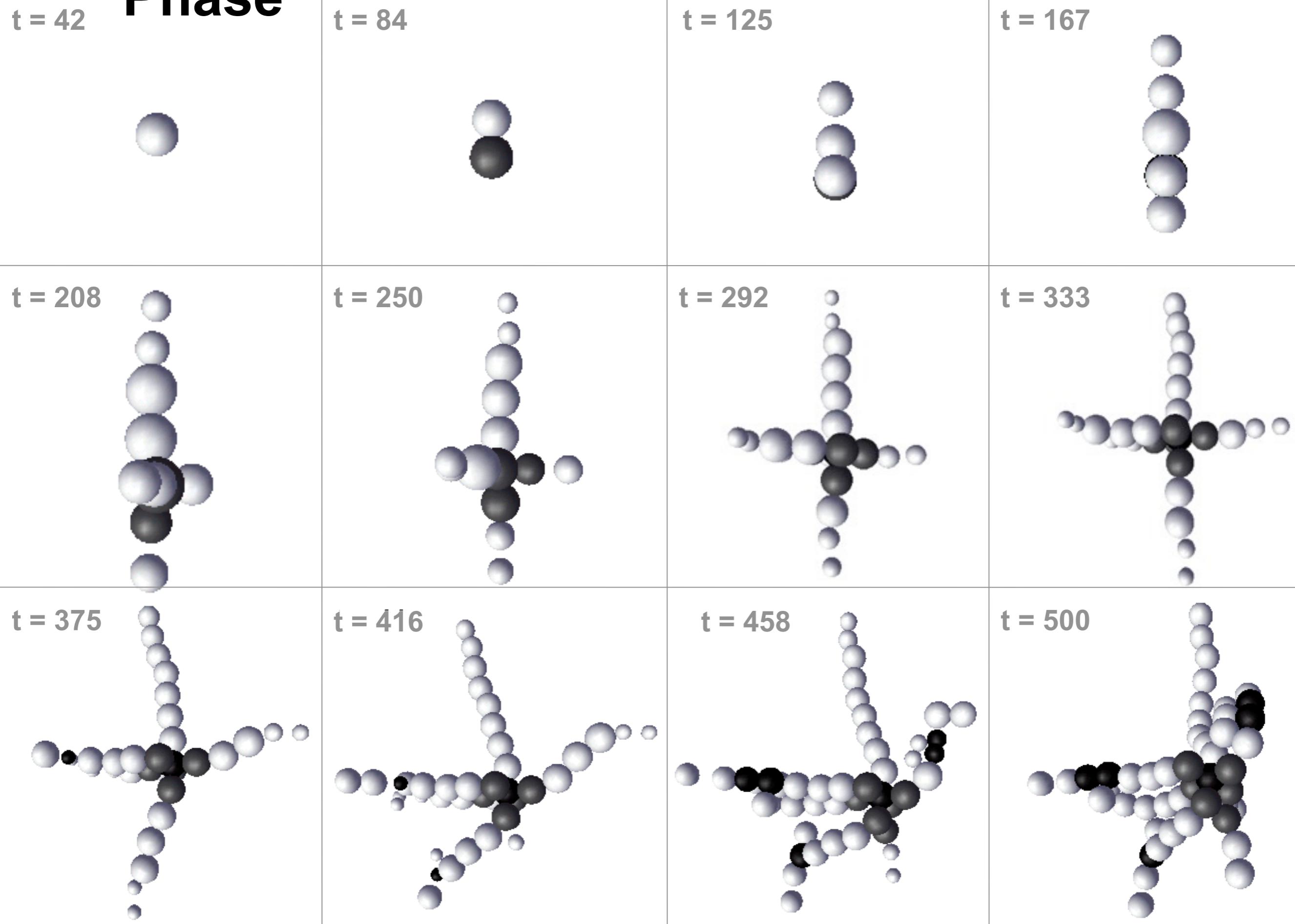


Genetic Regulatory Networks (GRNs): Bongard's “block

- development (morphogenesis) embedded into evolutionary process, based on GRNs
- testing of phenotypes in physically realistic simulation

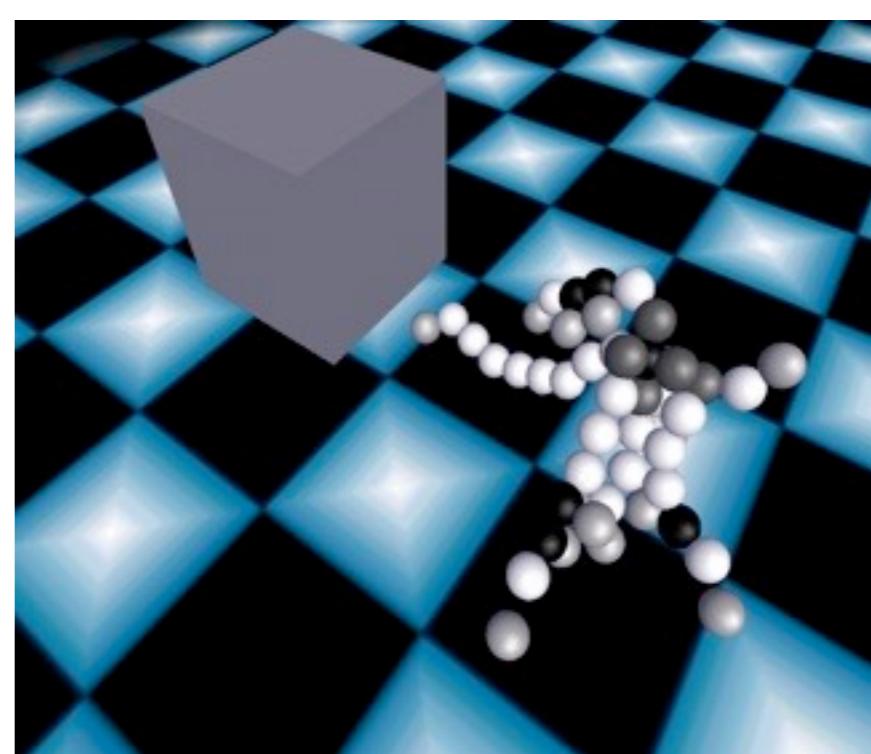
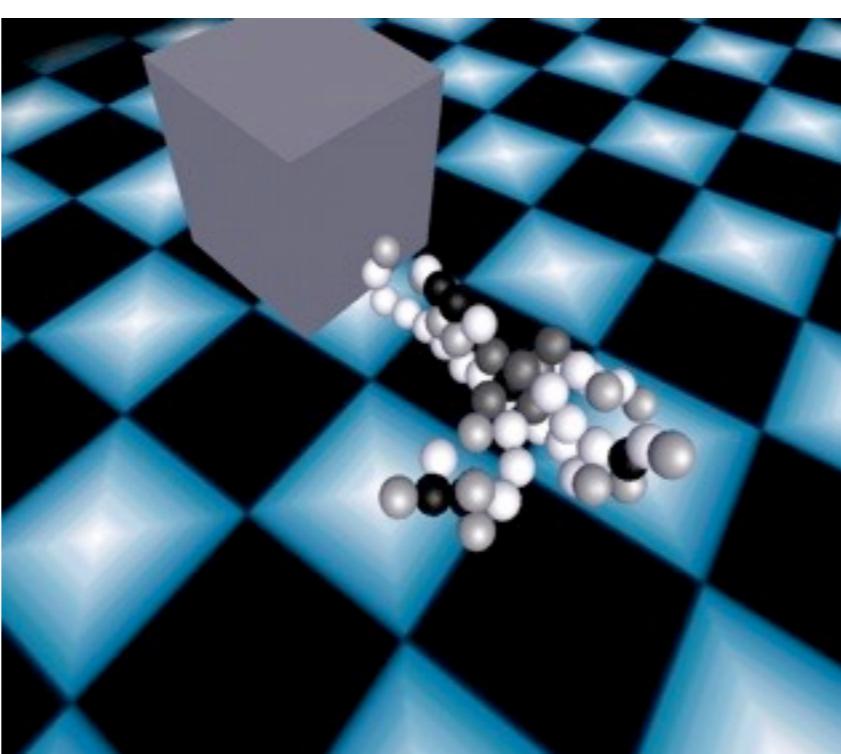
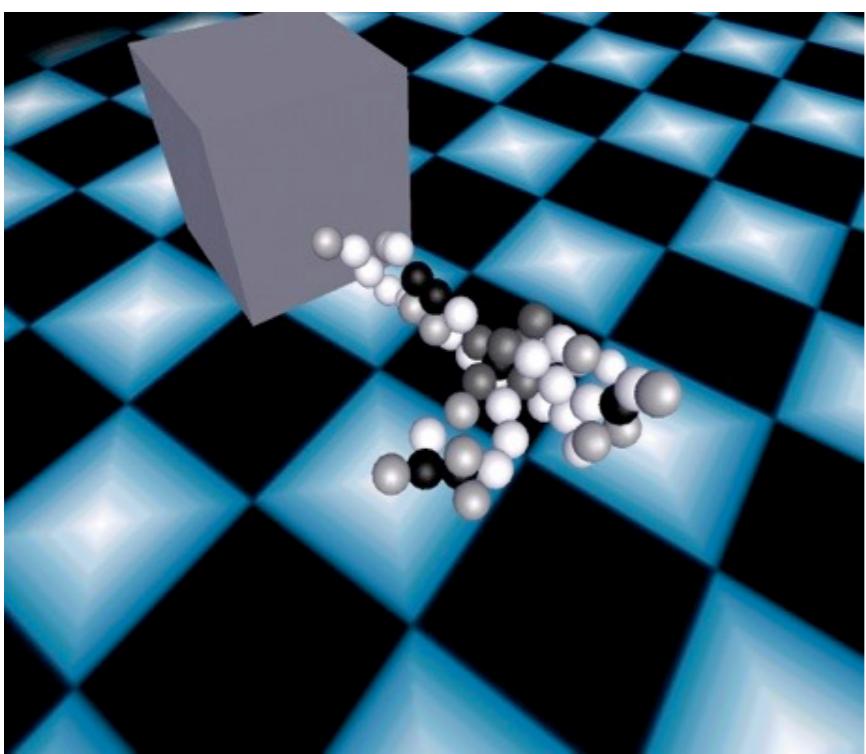


The Growth Phase



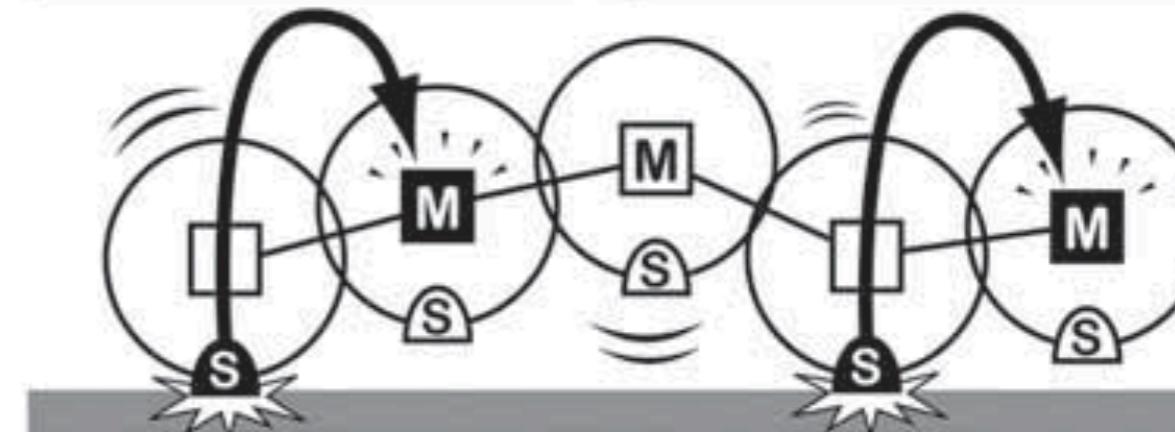
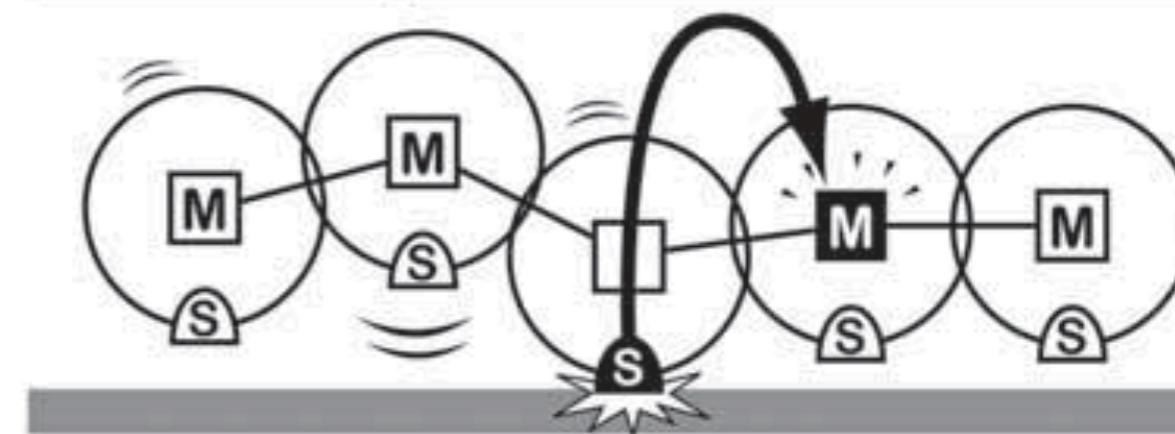
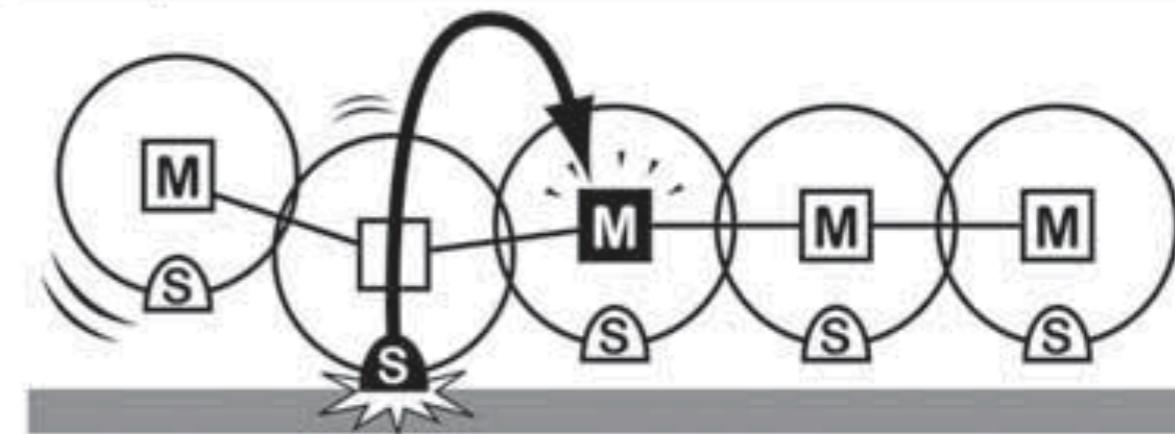
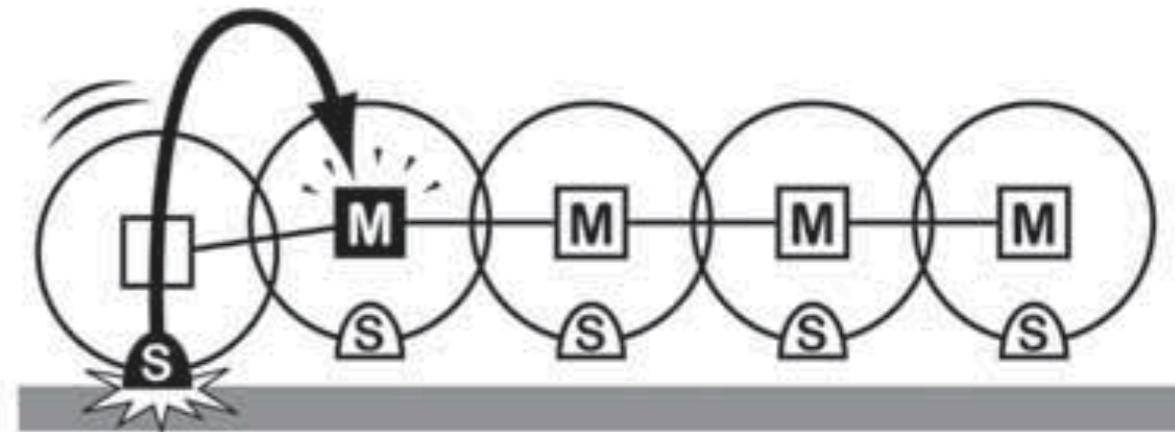
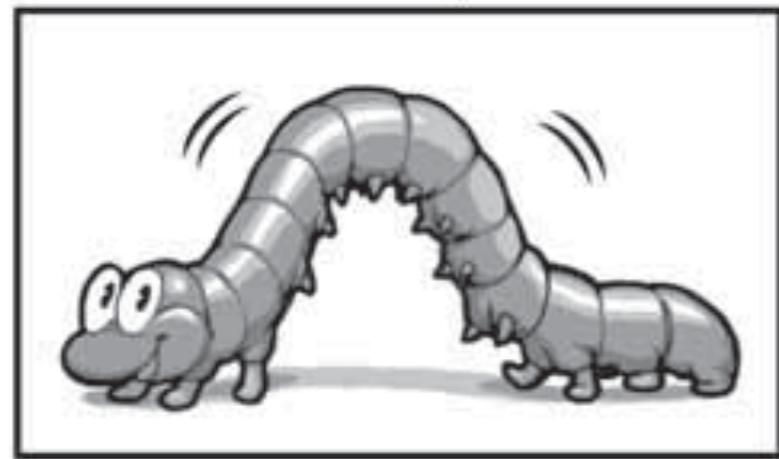
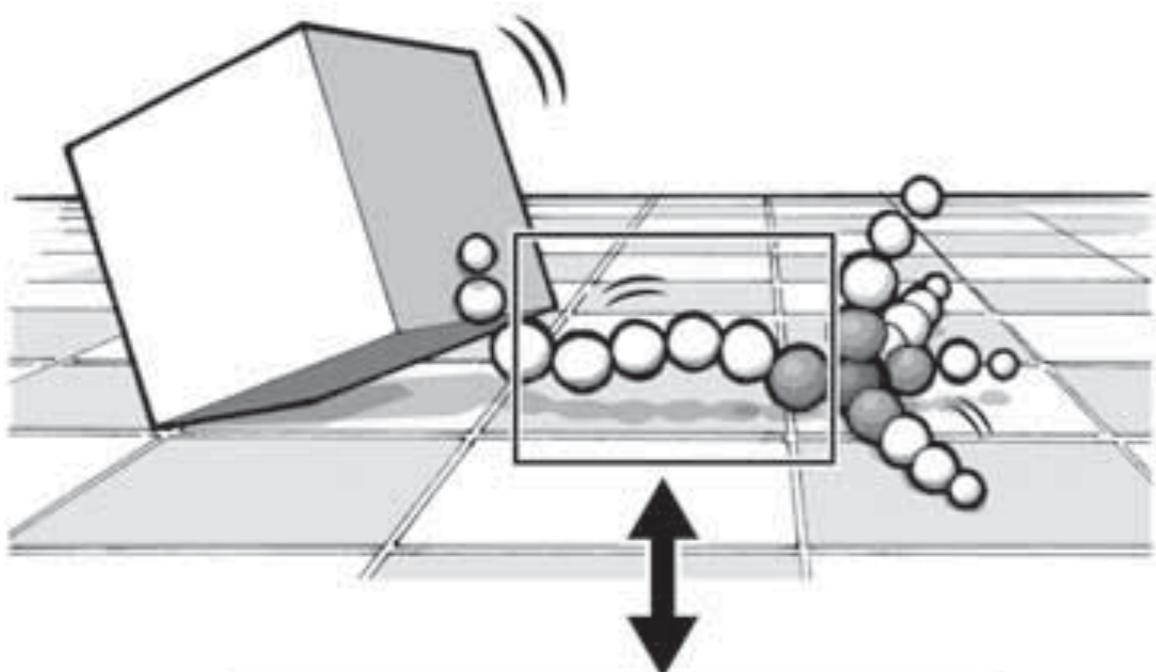
Evolution of a “block pusher” (“Artificial Ontogeny”)

- ~~development (morphogenesis) embedded~~
- Video “Evolution of block pushers”

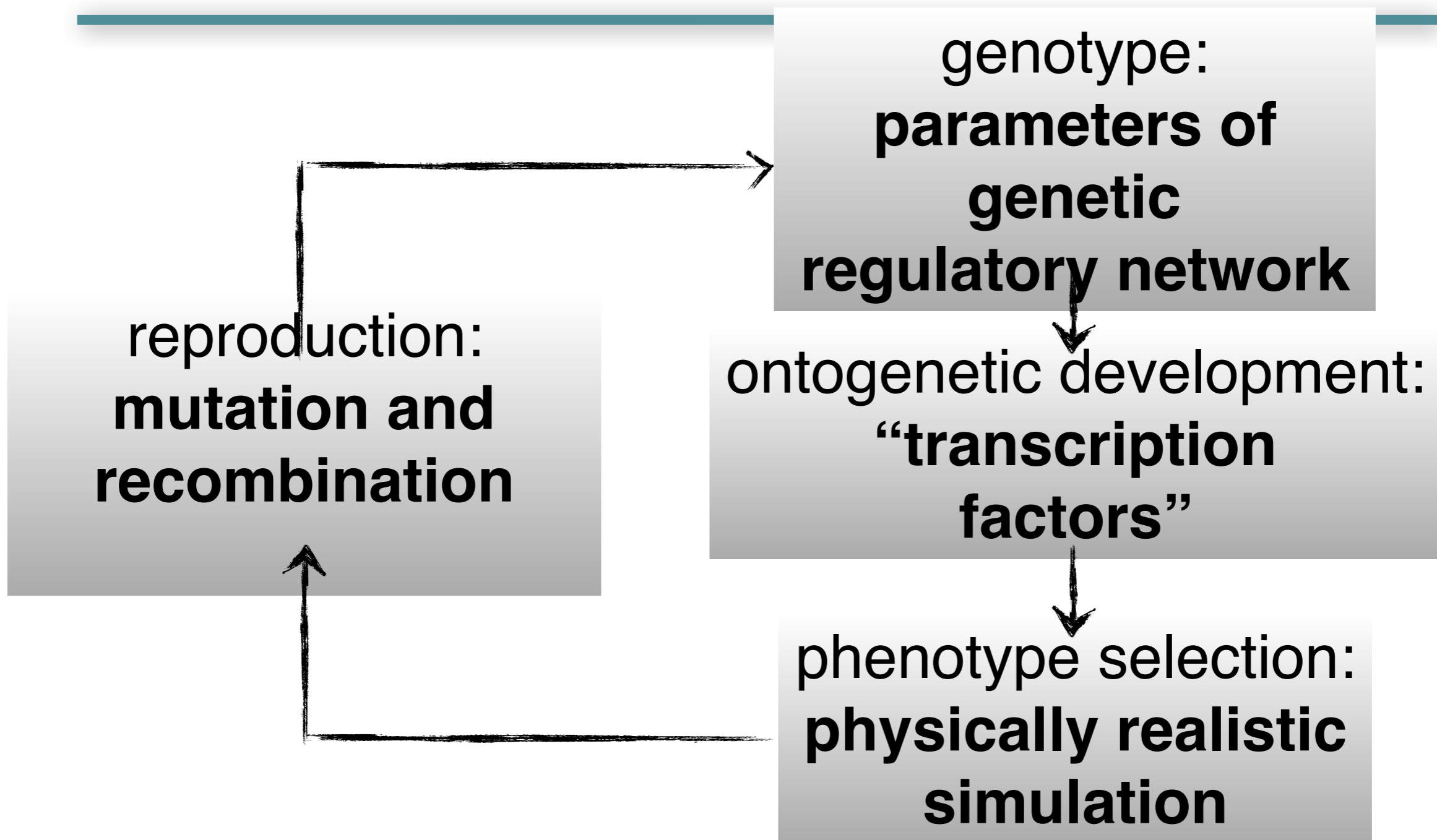


Inchword method of locomotion

S: sensor , M: motor



Bongard's evolutionary scheme



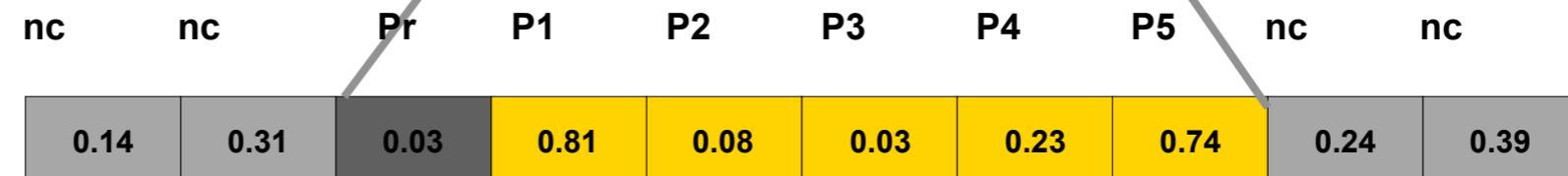
Representation of “gene”

nc: “non-coding
region”,



G1, G2, ...:
“genes” on “genome”

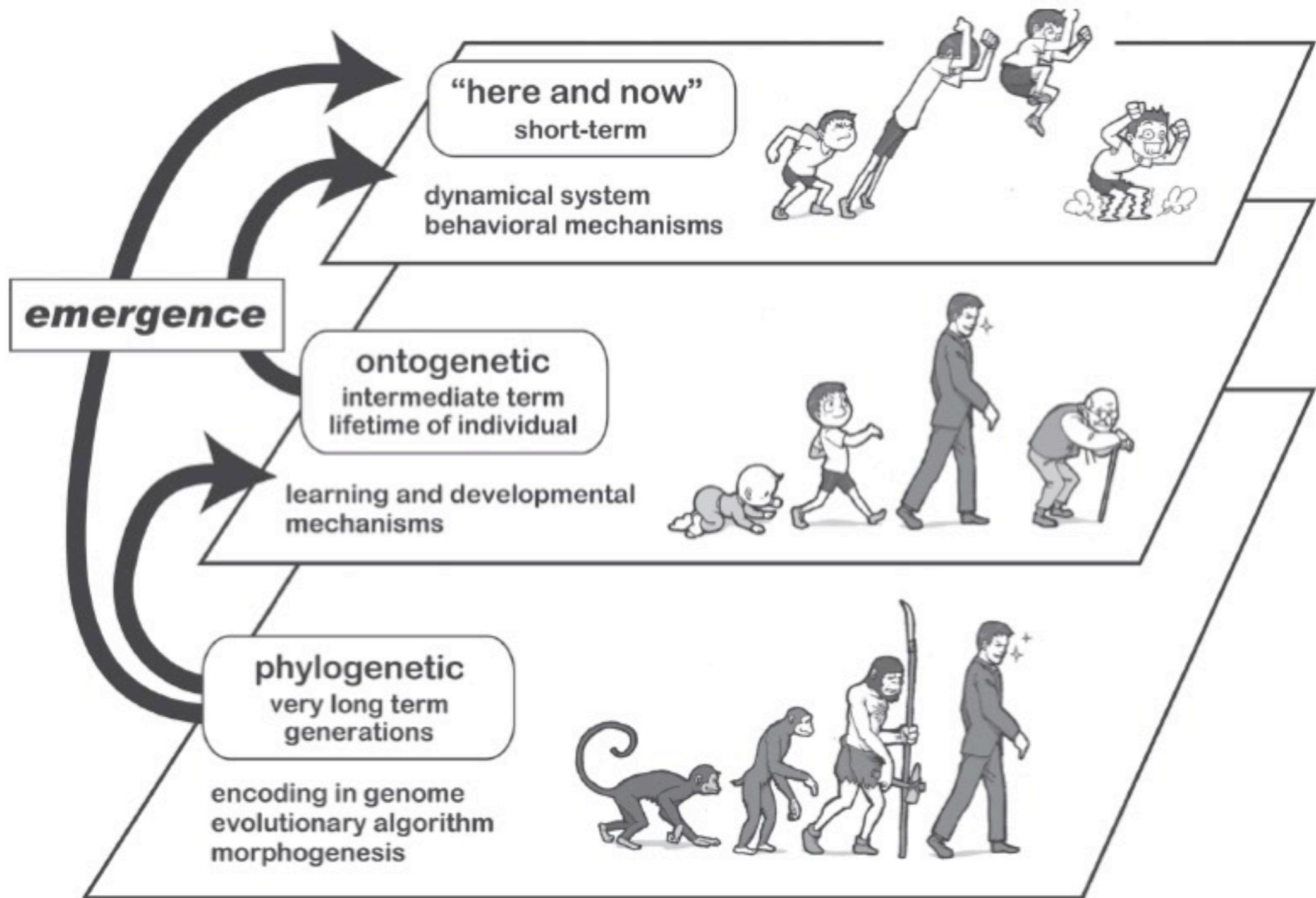
TF: “transcription
factor”



Details: see additional
slide
materials for self-study

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
TF37	TF2	0.03	0.23	0.74

Time scales tightly intertwined



Design principles for artificial evolution

Principle 1: Population

Principle 2: Cumulative selection and self-organization

Principle 3: Brain-body co-evolution

Principle 4: Scalable complexity

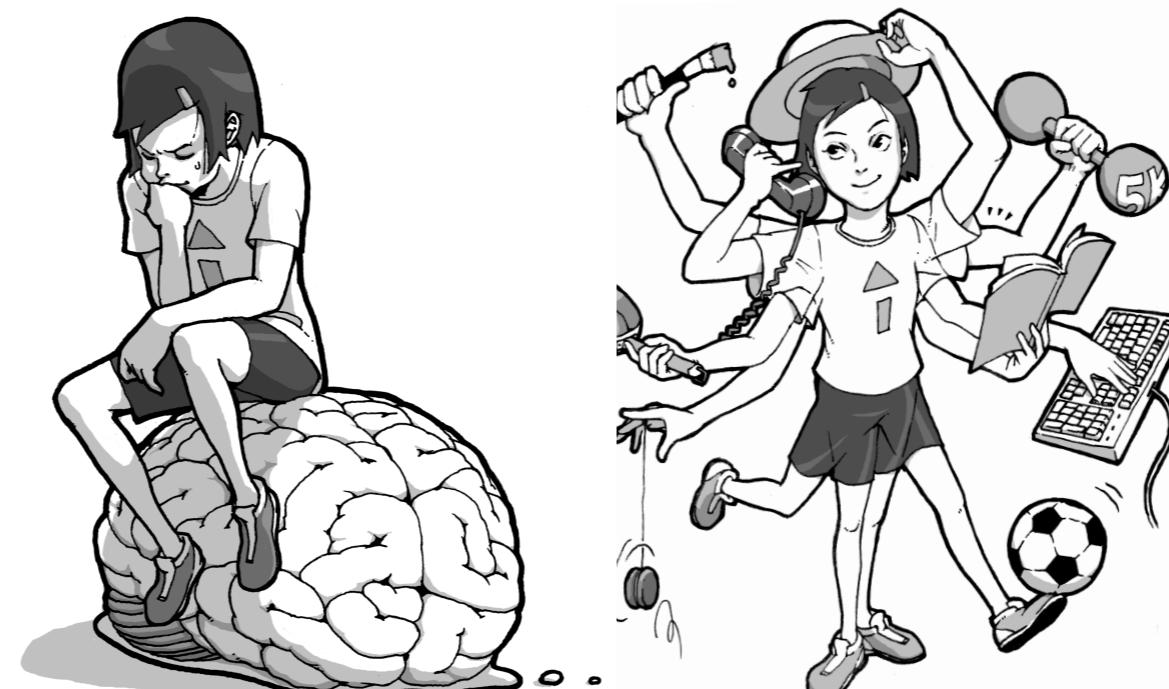
Principle 5: Evolution as a fluid process

Principle 6: Minimal designer bias

End of lecture 5

Thank you for your attention!

stay tuned for the guest lecture



Assignments for next week

- Next lecture on 1 December 2016:
“Embodied Intelligence”.
- Read chapters 8, 9 of “How the body ”
...
...
- Additional study materials (on web site)



End of lecture 5

Thank you for your attention!



**stay tuned for lecture 6 “Morphological
Computation, Self-Organization of Behaviors and
Adaptive Morphologies”**

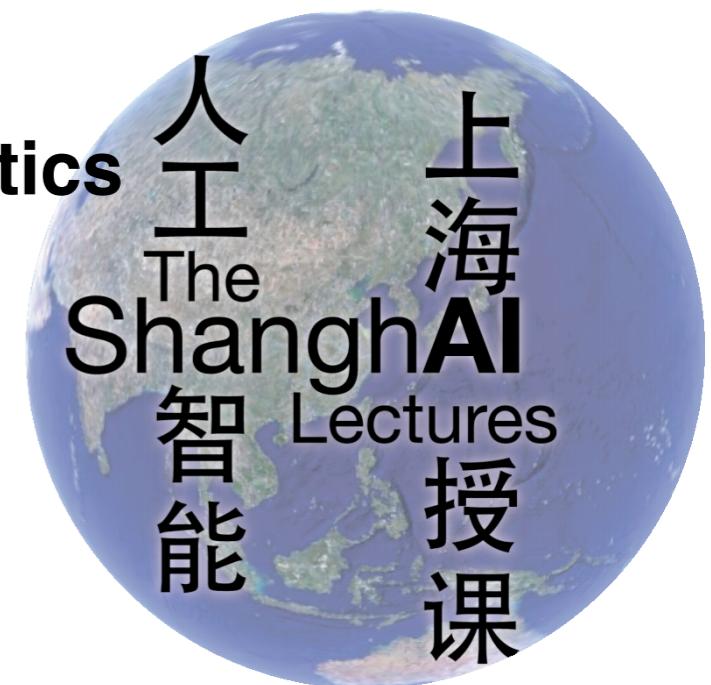


Fabio Bonsignorio
Prof, the BioRobotics Institute, SSSA
CEO and Founder Heron Robots
Santander - UC3M Chair of Excellence 2010



Research interests

- embodied intelligence, cognition/AI and robotics
- experimental methods in Robotics and AI
- Advanced approaches to Industry 4.0
- synthetic modeling of life and cognition
- novel technologically enabled approaches to higher education and lifelong learning



The ShanghAI Lectures
2013-2016



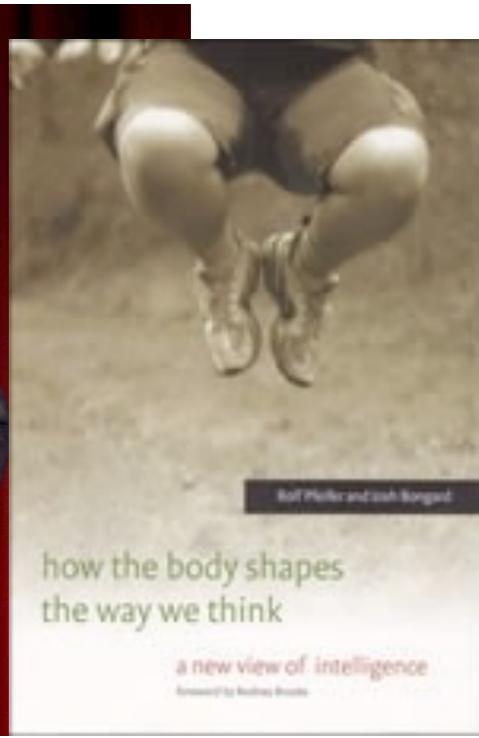
Rolf Pfeifer

Prof,

Institute for Academic Initiatives, Osaka University, Japan

Dept. of Automation, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

Prof Em., Former Director AI Lab, Univ. of Zurich

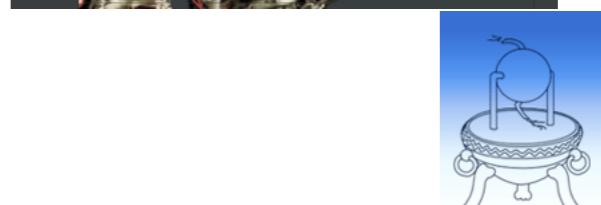
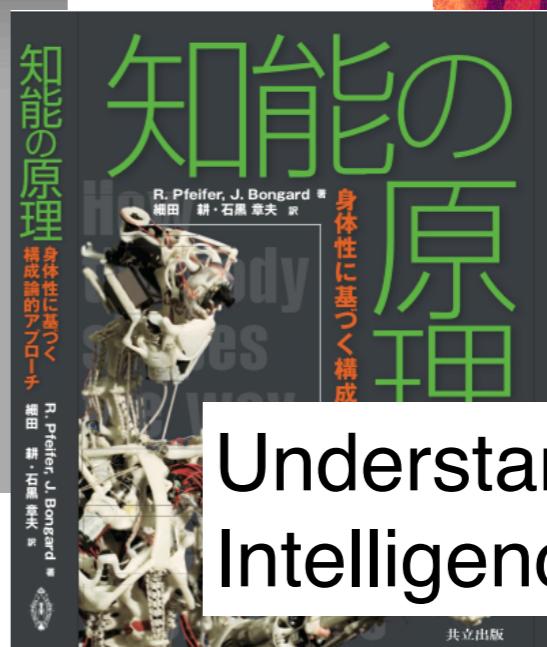
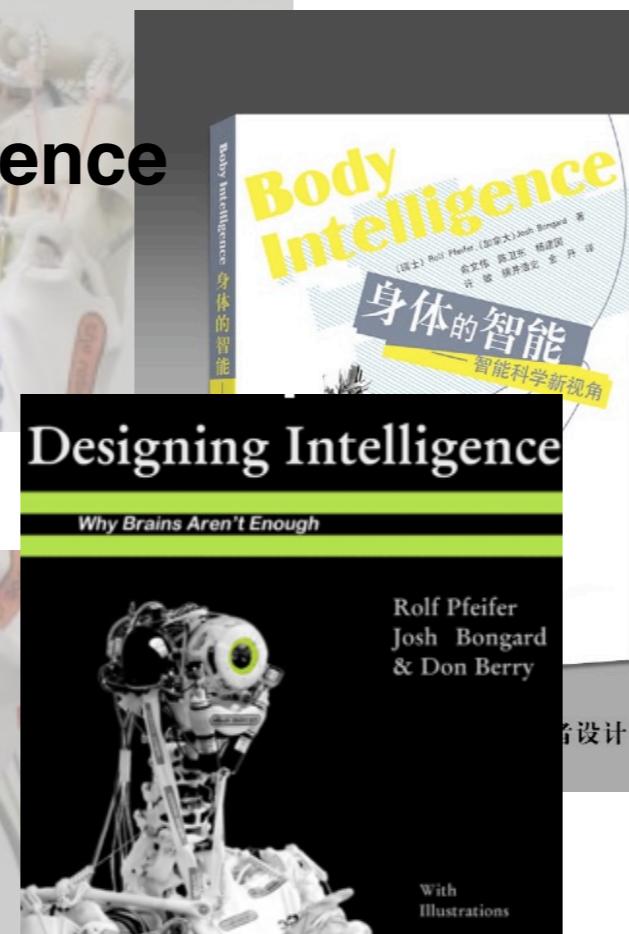


Research interests

- embodied intelligence
- bio-inspired robotics
- self-organization and emergence
- educational technologies

The ShanghAI Lectures

Participating sites 2009–2010



How the body shapes
the way we think

MIT Press