

Real-Time Recognition of Dynamic Hand Postures on a Neuromorphic System

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Abstract—In order to make an effective, energy-efficient touch-less user interface, this paper proposes a real-time recognition system of dynamic hand postures on a neuromorphic platform. The hardware platform includes a front-end of a Dynamic Video Sensor (DVS) silicon retina and a real-time Spiking Neural Network (SNN) simulator, SpiNNaker, as the back-end. The neural network model is tested both on Matlab and SpiNNaker to validate the transformation from rate-based linear perceptrons to spiking Leaky integrate-and-fire (LIF) neurons. Live recognition with real-time retina input is also carried out to test both the hardware platform and the model. Moreover, different network sizes are configured to evaluate the cost and performance trade-off.

Keywords—spiking neural network (SNN), convolutional neural network (CNN), posture recognition, neuromorphic system.

I. INTRODUCTION

PATTERNS or objects in two-dimensional images can be described with four properties [1]: position, geometry (size, area and shape), colour and texture, and trajectory. Appearance-based methods are the most direct approaches to perform pattern recognition. The test image is compared with all the templates to find the best match on one particular or a combination of properties. However, the 2D projection of an object changes under various illuminations, viewing angles, relative positions and distances (sizes), so it is impossible to represent all appearances of an object in different conditions. Robust matching, such as edge matching [2], the divide-and-conquer approach [3], gradient matching [4], etc., and feature based methods [5], [6] are used to improve reliability, robustness and classification efficiency. However, to find a proper feature for a specific object still remains an open question and there is not any process as accurate, general and effective as the brain. It is not a new idea to turn to nature for inspiration. Riesenhuber and Poggio [7], e.g., presented a biologically-inspired model following the organisation of the visual cortex which has the ability to represent relative position- and scale-invariant features. Integrating a rich set of visual features became available using a feed-forward hierarchical pathway.

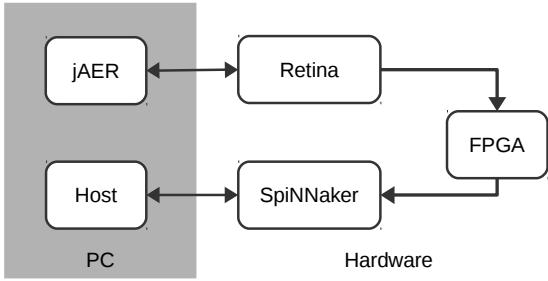
The biologically-inspired DVS silicon retina [8] with its event-driven and redundancy-reducing style of computation is a good example such an approach to low-cost visual processing. With the DVS we take a step forward towards modelling the biological vision mechanisms of dynamic hand posture recognition on a neuromorphic system. SpiNNaker [9], as the back-end of the system, provides a flexible, event-driven mechanism for real-time simulation of SNNs, and is where the posture recogniser locates. With their instinctive temporal

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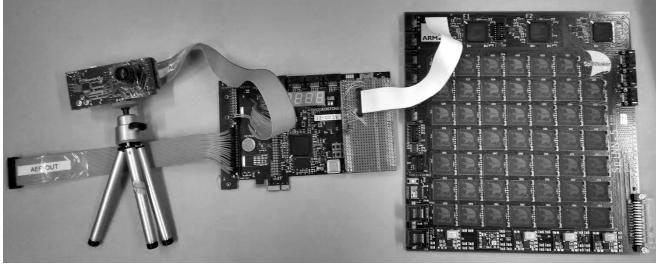
processing, SNNs have the advantage to deliver dynamic hand posture recognition.

Nowadays, more and more attention has been drawn into the investigation of SNNs for vision processing. Pattern information can be encoded in the delays between the pre- and post-synaptic spikes since the spiking neurons are capable of computing radial basis functions (RBFs) [10]. A further study [11] has stated that spatio-temporal information can be also stored in the exact firing time instead of the relative delay. Maass [12] has proved mathematically that: 1) networks of spiking neurons are computationally more powerful than the first and second generation of neural network models; 2) a concrete biologically relevant function can be computed by a single spiking neuron, replacing hundreds of hidden units in a sigmoidal neural net; 3) any function that can be computed by a small sigmoidal neural net can also be computed by a small network of spiking neurons. Applications of SNN-based vision processing have been successfully carried out. A two-layered SNN has been trained using spike time dependent plasticity (STDP) and employed for a character recognition task [13]. Lee and co-authors [14] have implemented the direction selective filters in real time using spiking neurons. The direction selective filters here are considered as a layer of convolution module in the model of so called convolution neural network [15]. Different features, such as Gabor filter features (scale, orientation and frequency) and shape can be modelled as layers of feature maps. Rank order coding, as an alternative to conventional rate-based coding, treats the first spike the most important and has well applied to an orientation detection training process [16]. Nengo [17] is a graphical and scripting based software package for simulating large-scale neural systems and has been used to build the world's largest functional brain model, Spaun [18]. An FPGA implementation of a Nengo model for digit recognition has been reported [19]. Deep Belief Networks (DBNs), the 4th generation of artificial neural network, has shown a strong ability in solving classification problems. A recent study [20] has resoundingly mapped an offline-trained DBN onto an efficient event-driven spiking neural network for a digit recognition task.

Section II presents the details of the hardware of the neuromorphic system, including the silicon retina and the SpiNNaker machine. The neural network models are proposed and tested on Matlab, and the model structures and experiments results are stated in Section III. In the following section, the rate-based models are converted to spiking neurons, and real-time live recognition as well as experiments with recorded data are carried out. The work is summarised and the future work is planned in Section V.



(a) Outline of the platform



(b) Picture of the hardware platform

Fig. 1: System overview of the dynamic hand posture recognition platform. The silicon retina connects to the SpiNNaker system through an FPGA board. Spikes from the retina are streamed to the SpiNNaker system through this Spartan-6 FPGA board. The jAER software configures the retina and displays its outgoing spikes through the USB connection. The host sets up the runtime parameters off-line and downloads the network model to the SpiNNaker system.

II. THE NEUROMORPHIC PLATFORM

The system outline of the platform is illustrated in Figure 1a, where the hardware system is configured, controlled and monitored by the PC. The jAER [21] event-based processing software running on the PC configures the retina and displays the output spikes through a USB link. The host communicates to the SpiNNaker board via Ethernet to set up its runtime parameters and to download the neural network model off-line and uses a visualiser [22] to show the spiking activities in real-time. From the picture of the hardware platform, Figure 1b, the silicon retina connects to the SpiNNaker 48-node board via a Spartan-6 FPGA board [23].

A. Silicon Retina

The visual input is captured by a DVS silicon retina, which is quite different from the conventional camera. A pixel only generates spikes to the connected neurons when its activity level reaches some threshold. Thus, instead of buffering video into frames, the activity of pixels is sent out and processed continually with time. So as the communication bandwidth is optimised by sending the activity only, which is encoded as events of address of pixels using address-event representation (AER [24]) protocol. The level of activity depends on the contrast change[4]; pixels generate spikes faster and more frequently when they are more active. The sensor is capable of capture very fast moving objects (up to 10 K rotations per second), which is equivalent to 100 K frames per second.

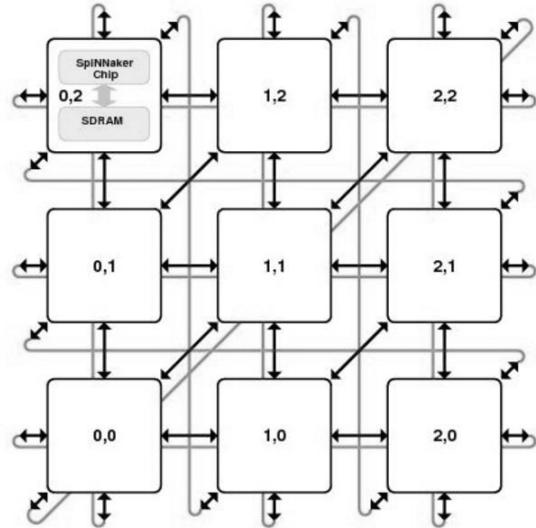


Fig. 2: System diagram. Each element represents one SpiNNaker chip with the local memory. Every chip connects to the other through the six bi-directional on-board links.

B. SpiNNaker System

The SpiNNaker project's architecture mimics the human brain's biological structure and functionality. This offers the possibility of utilizing massive parallelism and redundancy to provide resilience in an environment of unreliability and failure of individual components.

In the human brain, communication between its computing elements, or neurons, is achieved by the transmission of electrical 'spikes' along connecting axons. The biological processing of the neuron can be modelled by a digital processor and the axon connectivity can be represented by messages, or information packets, transmitted between a large number of processors which emulate the parallel operation of the billions of neurons comprising the brain.

The engineering of the SpiNNaker concept is illustrated in the Figure 2 where the hierarchy of components can be identified. Each element of the toroidal interconnection mesh is a multi-core processor known as the 'SpiNNaker Chip' comprising 18 processing cores. Each core is a complete processing sub-system with local memory and a DMA capability. It is connected to its local peers via a Network-on-Chip (NoC) which provides local high bandwidth communication and to other SpiNNaker chips via links between SpiNNaker chips. In this way the massive parallelism extending to thousands or millions of processors is possible.

The knowledge content and learning ability of the brain is embodied in its evolvable interconnection pattern; this routes a spike generated by one neuron to others which are interconnected with it by axons and these interconnections are modified and extended as a result of the learning and processes.

In SpiNNaker a packet Router within each multi-core processor controls the neural interconnection. Each transmitted packet representing a spike contains information which iden-

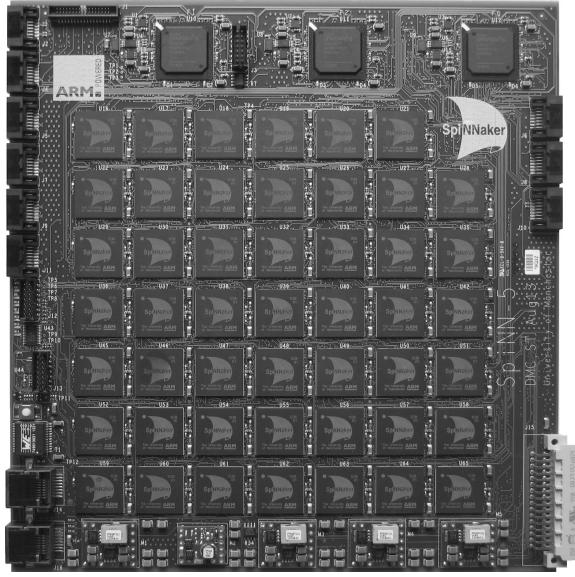


Fig. 3: 103 Machine PCB

tifies its source neuron; this is used by a multi-core processor's Router to identify whether this packet should be routed to one of its contained application processors to respond, or should be routed on to one of the six adjacent multi-core processors connected to it as part of the overall SpiNNaker network.

The 103 machine is the 48-node board, see Figure 3, and has 864 ARM processor cores, typically deployed as 768 application cores, 48 Monitor Processors and 48 spare cores. The 103 machine requires a 12V 6A supply. The control interface is two 100Mbps Ethernet connections, one for the Board Management Processor and the second for the SpiNNaker array. There are options to use the nine on-board 3.1Gbps high-speed serial interfaces (using SATA cables, but not necessarily the SATA protocol) for I/O; this will require suitable configuration of the on-board FPGAs that provide the high-speed serial interface support. 103 boards can be connected together to form larger systems using the high-speed serial interfaces.

C. Interfacing AER Sensors

Spikes from the silicon retina are injected to SpiNNaker through one of the six bi-directional on-board links by a SPARTAN-6 FPGA board that translates them into a SpiNNaker compatible AER format [25].

From the software point of view, interfacing the silicon retina can be done using pyNN. The retina is configured as a spike source population that resides on a virtual SpiNNaker chip, to which an AER sensor's spikes are directed, thus abstracting away the hardware details from the users[23]. Besides the retina, we have successfully connected an AER based silicon cochlea [26] to SpiNNaker for the a sound localisation task [27].

III. CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORKS

The convolutional neural network (CNN) is well-known as an example of a biologically-inspired model. Figure 4

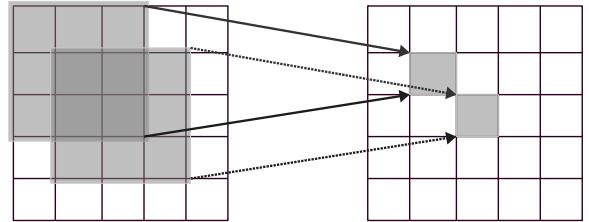


Fig. 4: Each individual neuron in the convolution layer (right matrix) connects to its receptive field using the same kernel. The value of the kernel can be seen as the synaptic weights between the connected neurons.

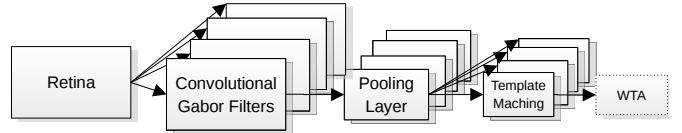


Fig. 5: Model 1. The retina input convolves with Gabor filters in the second layer, and then shrinks the sizes in the pooling layer. The templates are considered as convolution kernels in the last layer. The winner-take-all (WTA) circuit can be used as an option to show the template matching result more clearly.

shows a typical convolutional connection between two layers of neurons. The repeated convolutional kernels are overlapped in the receptive fields of the input neurons.

A. Model Description

There are two CNNs proposed to accomplish the dynamic hand posture recognition task. A straight forward method of template matching was employed at first, and then a multi-layer perceptrons (MLP) was trained to improve the recognition performance.

1) *Model 1. Template Matching:* Shown in Figure 5 the first layer is the retina input, followed by the convolutional layer, where the kernels are Gabor filters responding to four orientations. The third layer is the pooling layer where the size of the populations shrinks. This down-sampling enables robust classification due to its tolerance to variations in the precise shape of the input. The fourth layer is another convolution layer where the output from the pooling layer is convolved with the templates. The optional layer of WTA neurons enables a clearer classification result due to the inhibition between the neurons. As to the Matlab simulation, the retina input spikes are buffered with 30 ms frames, and all the neurons are simple linear perceptrons. The templates are manually selected from the output of the pooling layer, see Figure 6.



Fig. 6: Templates of the five postures: 'Fist', 'Index Finger', 'Victory Sign', 'Full Hand' and 'Thumb up'.

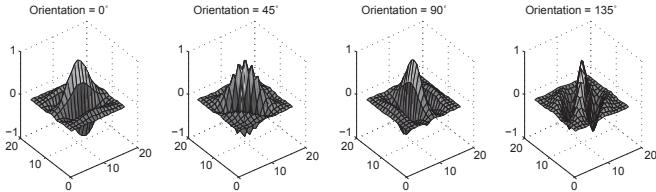


Fig. 7: Real parts of the Gabor filters orienting four directions.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RealParts} &= \exp\left(\frac{-x'^2+y'^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cos\left(2\pi\frac{x'}{\lambda}\right) \\ \text{ImaginaryParts} &= \exp\left(\frac{-x'^2+y'^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \sin\left(2\pi\frac{x'}{\lambda}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where :

$$x' = x\cos(\theta) + y\sin(\theta)$$

$$y' = -x\sin(\theta) + y\cos(\theta)$$

The Gabor filter is well-known as a linear filter for edge detection in image processing. A Gabor filter is a 2D convolution of a Gaussian kernel function and a sinusoidal plane wave; see Equation 1. θ represents the orientation of the filter, λ is the wavelength of the sine wave, and σ is the standard deviation of the Gaussian envelope. The frequency and orientation features are similar to the responses of V1 neurons in the human visual system. Only the real parts of the Gabor filters (see Figure 7) are used as the convolutional kernels to configure the weights between the input layer and the Gabor filter layer.

The output score of a convolution is determined by the matching degree between the input and the kernel. Regarding the template matching layer, one single neuron in a population responds to how closely its receptive field matches the specific template. And also, the position of moving gesture is naturally encoded in the address of template matching neuron. Thus, there are five populations of template matching neurons representing all the hand postures listed.

2) *Model 2. Trained MLP:* Inspired by the research of Lecun [28], we designed a combined network model with MLP and CNN (Figure 8). The first three layers are exactly the same with Model 1. Since the training images for the 3-layered MLP is of same size and the posture is centred in the images. Therefore, a tracking layer plays an important role to finds the most active region and forwards the centred image to the next layer.

B. Experiments Set-up

In order to evaluate the cost and performance trade-offs in optimizing the number of neural components, both the convolutional models described above were tested at different sizes. Five videos of every posture were captured from the silicon retina in AER format. All the postures are of similar size and moving clock-wise in front of the retina. The videos are cut into frames (30 ms per frame) and push forward into the convolutional networks. The configurations of the networks are

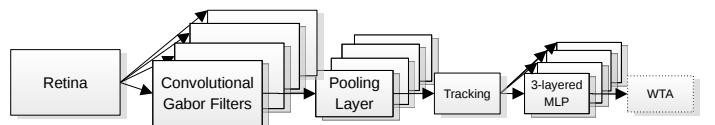


Fig. 8: Model 2. The retina input convolves with Gabor filters in the second layer, and then shrinks the sizes in the pooling layer. The following tracking layer finds the most active area of some fixed size, moves the posture to the centre and pushes the image to the trained MLP. The winner-take-all (WTA) layer can be used as an option to show the template matching result more clearly.

TABLE I: Sizes of the convolutional neural networks.

(a) Model 1: Template matching

	Full Resolution		Sub-sampled Resolution	
	Neuron Number	Connections per Neuron	Neuron Number	Connections per Neuron
Retinal Input	128 × 128	1	32 × 32	4 × 4
Gabor Filter	112×112×4	17 × 17	28×28×4	5 × 5
Pooling Layer	36×36×4	5 × 5	null	null
Integration Layer	36 × 36	4	28 × 28	4
Template Matching	16×16×5	21 × 21	14×14×5	15 × 15
Total	74320	15216512	5925	318420

(b) Model 2: Trained MLP

	Full Resolution		Sub-sampled Resolution	
	Neuron Number	Connections per Neuron	Neuron Number	Connections per Neuron
Tracked Input	21 × 21	null	15 × 15	null
Hidden Layer	10	21×21×10	10	15×15×10
Recognition Layer	5	5×10	5	5×10
Total	456	4460	240	2300

listed in Table I (Model 1: template matching; Model 2: trained MLP). The integration layer is not necessary in a convolutional network, it is used here to decrease the number of synaptic connections.

C. Experiment Results

In Figure 9 the first two plots refer to Model 1, using template matching. Each colour represents one of the recognition populations. Each point in the plot is the highest neuronal response in the recognition population during the time of one frame (30 ms). The neuronal response, ‘the spiking rate’, is normalised to [-1, 1]. It can be seen that the higher resolution input makes the boundaries between the classes clearer. On the other hand, recognition only happens when the test image and template are similar enough. The templates are only selected from the frames where the gestures are moving towards the right, and the gestures are moving clockwise in the videos.

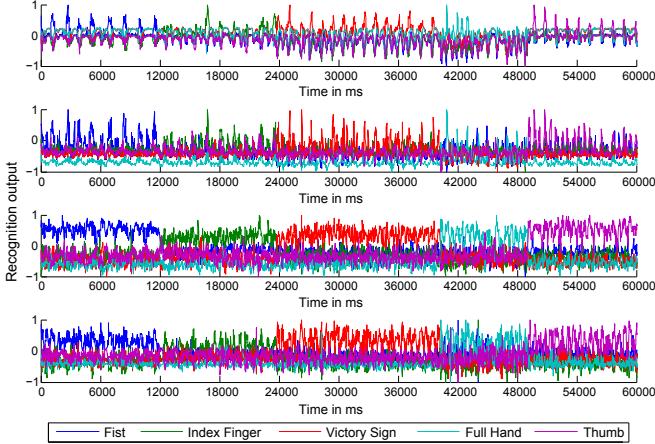


Fig. 9: Neural responses with time of four experiments to the same recorded moving postures. The recognition output is normalised to [-1, 1]. Every point represents the highest response in a specific population (different colour) for a 30 ms frame. The 1st plot refers to Model 1 with the full input resolution, and the 2nd plot Model 1 with the sub-sampled input resolution; and the 3rd and fourth plots both refer to Model 2, and with high and low input resolution respectively.

Thus, all the peaks in plot 1 signify that the direction of the gestures movement is right. It is notable that the higher resolution causes the recogniser to be more sensitive to the differences between the test data and the template, while the smaller neural network can recognize more generalized patterns. Therefore, a threshold is required to differentiate between data that is close enough and that which is not. Since the gestures are moving in four different directions during the clockwise movement, a rejection rate of 75% is to be expected.

The latter two plots refer to Model 2. The three-layer MLP network significantly improves the recognition rate and can generalize the pattern. There is no rejection rate for Model 2, since the MLP is trained with all the moving directions of the postures.

The detailed results are listed in Table II. The correct recognition rate is calculated from the non-rejected frames. The lower resolution of the 32×32 retina input is adequate for this gesture recognition task. The smaller network uses only 1/10 the number of neurons and 1/50 the number of synaptic connections compared to the full resolution network, while the recognition rate drops only around 10% with Model 1 and 15% with Model 2.

IV. REAL-TIME RECOGNITION ON SPINNAKER

A. Moving from Rate-based Artificial Neurons to Spiking Neurons

It remains a challenge to transfer a traditional artificial neural networks into the spiking ones. There are attempts [29] [30] to estimate the output firing rate of the LIF neurons (Equation 2) under certain conditions.

$$\frac{dV(t)}{dt} = -\frac{V(t) - V_{rest}}{\tau_m} + \frac{I(t)}{C_m} \quad (2)$$

TABLE II: Recognition results in %

	Model 1		Model 2	
	High Resolution	Low Resolution	High Resolution	Low Resolution
Fist (399 Frames)	Correct	99.11	99.23	96.24
	Reject	71.93	67.42	Null
Index Finger (392 Frames)	Correct	92.98	80.00	94.39
	Reject	70.92	75.77	Null
Victory Sign (551 Frames)	Correct	96.56	93.07	95.64
	Reject	73.68	81.67	Null
Full Hand (293 Frames)	Correct	95.65	72.41	93.52
	Reject	92.15	90.10	Null
Thumb up (391 Frames)	Correct	89.61	84.44	96.68
	Reject	80.31	76.98	Null
Average (391 Frames)	Correct	89.61	84.44	96.68
	Reject	80.31	76.98	Null

The membrane potential V evolves with the input current I starting from the resting membrane potential V_{rest} , where the membrane time constant $\tau_m = R_m C_m$, and R_m stands for the membrane resistance and C_m the membrane capacitance.

Given a fixed constant current injection I , the response function, firing rate, of the LIF neuron is

$$\lambda_{out} = \left[t_{ref} - \tau_m \ln \left(1 - \frac{V_{th} - V_{rest}}{IR_m} \right) \right]^{-1} \quad (3)$$

when $IR_m > V_{th} - V_{rest}$, otherwise the membrane potential cannot reach the threshold V_{th} and the output firing rate is zero. The absolute refractory period t_{ref} is included, for all the input during the period is invalid. In a more realistic scenario, the post-synaptic potentials (PSPs) are triggered by the spikes generated from the neuron's pre-synaptic neurons other than a constant current. Assume that the synaptic inputs are Poisson spike trains, the membrane potential of the LIF neuron is concerned as a diffusion process. Equation 2 can be modelled as a stochastic differential equation referring to Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process,

$$\tau_m \frac{dV(t)}{dt} = -[V(t) - V_{rest}] + \mu + \sigma \sqrt{2\tau_m} \xi(t) \quad (4)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \tau_m (\mathbf{w}_E \cdot \lambda_E - \mathbf{w}_I \cdot \lambda_I) \\ \sigma^2 &= \frac{\tau_m}{2} (\mathbf{w}_E^2 \cdot \lambda_E + \mathbf{w}_I^2 \cdot \lambda_I) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

are the conditional mean and variance of the membrane potential. The delta-correlated process $\xi(t)$ is a Gaussian white noise with zero mean, \mathbf{w}_E and \mathbf{w}_I stand for the weight vectors of the excitatory and the inhibitory synapses, and λ represents the vector of the input firing rate. The response function of the LIF neuron with Poisson input spike trains is given by Siegert function [31],

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{out} = & \left(\tau_{ref} + \frac{\tau_Q}{\sigma_Q} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_{V_{rest}}^{V_{th}} du \exp \left(\frac{u - \mu_Q}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_Q} \right)^2 \right. \\ & \left. \cdot \left[1 + \text{erf} \left(\frac{u - \mu_Q}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_Q} \right) \right] \right)^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where τ_Q, μ_Q, σ_Q are identified to τ_m, μ, σ in Equation 5, and erf is the error function.

Still there are some limitations on the response function. For the diffusion process, only small amplitude(weight) of the PSPs generated by a large amount of input spikes(high spiking rate) works under this circumstances; plus, the delta function is required (the synaptic time constant is considered to be zero). Thus only a rough approximation of the output spike rate has been taken out. Secondly, given the input spike rates of the pre-synaptic neurons, the parameters of the LIF neuron and the output spiking rate, how to tune the every corresponding synaptic weight remains a hard task.

B. Live Recognition

We implemented the prototype of the dynamic posture recognition system on SpiNNaker with LIF neurons. The input retina layer consists of 128×128 neurons; each Gabor filter has 112×112 valid neurons, since the kernel size is 17×17 ; each pooling layer is as big as 36×36 , convolving with five template kernels (21×21); thus, the recognition populations are 16×16 neurons each. Altogether 74320 neurons and 15216512 synapses, see Table Ia , use up to 19 chips (290 cores) on a 48-node board. Regarding the lower resolution of 32×32 retinal input, see Table Ib, the network consists of 5925 neurons and 318420 synapses taking up only two chips (31 cores) of the board.

Figure 10 shows snapshots of neural responses of some populations during real-time recognition. Figure 10a is a snapshot of the Gabor population which prefers the horizontal direction, given the input posture of a ‘Fist’; and Figure 10b shows the activity of the neurons in the integration layer, given a ‘Victory Sign’. And the active neurons in the visualiser in Figure 10c are pointing out the position of the recognised pattern ‘Index finger’. All the videos can be found on Youtube [32], [33], [34].

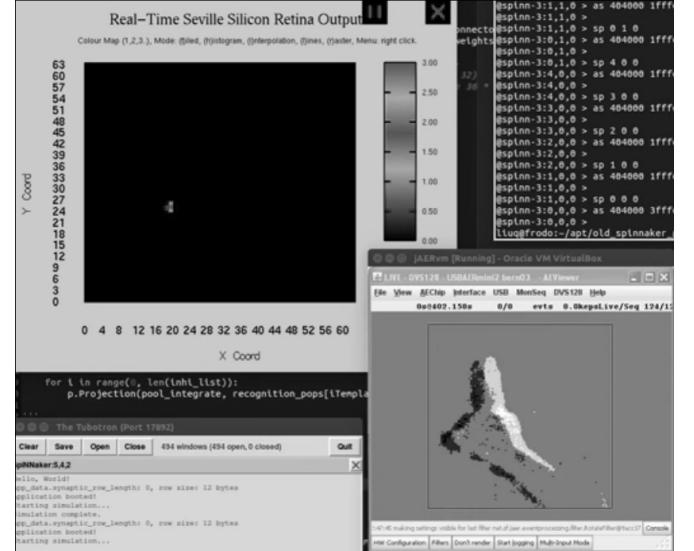
C. Recognition of Recorded Data

To compare with the results of the experiments taken out in Section III-C with Matlab, the same recorded retinal data is conducted to SpiNNaker. The recorded data is presented as Spike Source Array in the system with 128×128 input, see Figure 12a, while the data is forwarded to a sub-sampling layer of 32×32 resolution , see Figure 13a, in the system of the smaller network. The output spikes generated from the recognition populations with time are shown in Figure 12 and 13 respectively for both the full resolution and the lower systems. More spikes generated during the period when the preferred input posture is shown.

Correspondingly, the spiking rates of each recognition population is sampled into frames (Figure 11) to make a comparison with the Matlab simulation. Each colour represents one recognition population, and the spike activity goes higher when the input posture matches the template. Firstly, the spike rates are sampled into 30 ms frames which is in accordance with the Matlab experiments. In the Matlab simulation, the templates are trained with cut frames and so as the test images are also fixed to the same length frames. Otherwise, the recogniser will not work properly because of the replications of the moving posture. On the contrast, the spiking rates can be sampled to



(a) Neural responses of the Gabor filter layer orienting to the horizontal direction [32]



(c) Snapshot of the neuron responses of the template matching layer [34]

Fig. 10: Snapshots of the real-time dynamic posture recognition system on SpiNNaker.

various lengths of frames. Thus, the other two plots in the figure illustrate the classification in a wider window, 300 ms. From Table III, the recognition rates as well as the rejection rates are quantified in percentage.

Comparing with the result of Matlab simulation in Table II, the recognition rate of 30 ms windowing is about 10% lower both in high and low resolution, but the rejection rate increases by around 10%. On the other hand with 300 ms windowing, both of recognition rate reach or exceed the Matlab simulation, meanwhile the rejection rate dropped dramatically about 20% in average. It is in accordance with the natural visual responses, which means, the longer an object shows the more accurate the recognition will be. In terms of the performance, between the two network sizes there is a smaller gap of the recognition rate as the window length grows. The correct recognitions of three postures out of five are over 90%, i.e., considering the cost and performance trade-off, with only 1/10 resources required the performance of the small network is acceptable. Regarding the latency between the retinal input and the recognition, we compared the spiking peak of the Matlab simulation and the real-time SpiNNaker test. The overall latency is about 1150 ms from a posture is shown

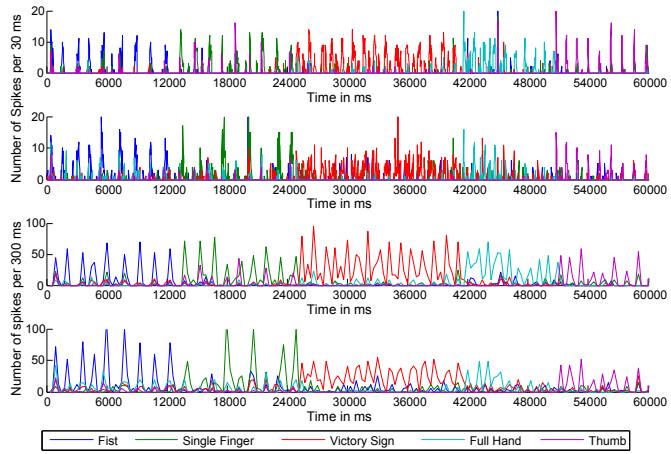


Fig. 11: Real-time neural responses of two experiments on SpiNNaker with time to the same recorded postures. These two experiments only differ on the input resolution. The result of the high input resolution test is plotted the first with a sample frame of 30 ms; while the 3rd plot shows the same result with a sample frame of 300 ms. The latter two plots refer to the smaller input resolution. Every point represents the over all number of spikes of a specific population (different colour) in a ‘frame’.

TABLE III: Real-time recognition results on SpiNNaker in %

		30 ms per frame		300 ms per frame	
		High Resolution	Low Resolution	High Resolution	Low Resolution
Fist	Correct	91.78	78.02	100	92.31
	Reject	82.78	78.54	70.73	68.29
Index Finger	Correct	78.25	78.25	88.24	72.22
	Reject	80.46	73.56	57.50	55.00
Victory Sign	Correct	96.48	86.27	95.00	92.50
	Reject	64.46	72.68	28.57	28.57
Full Hand	Correct	85.29	60.78	90.00	75.00
	Reject	67.31	83.65	35.48	61.29
Thumb up	Correct	84.09	88.10	91.67	100
	Reject	87.54	73.81	66.67	66.67

to its recognition.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this paper, we implement a dynamic hand posture recognition system completely running on a hardware neuromorphic platform. The network model is translated from linear perceptrons to LIF spiking neurons with 10% drop of accuracy in 30 ms windowing; while the performance reach and even exceed the Matlab version when the window length is set to 300 ms. Different network sizes are configured to the cost and performance trade-off. In the test of Matlab simulation, the recognition rate of the smaller network is 10% lower for the template matching model and 15% lower for the trained MLP model. For the real-time experiments, both the bigger network of 74320 LIF neurons and 15216512 synapses and the smaller (1/10 of the neurons and 1/50 of the synapses) run smoothly on SpiNNaker with a overall delay of 1150 ms.

The future work will include more collaboration with biology and work with neuroscientist on vision systems, especially on the orientation detection region. To equip the system

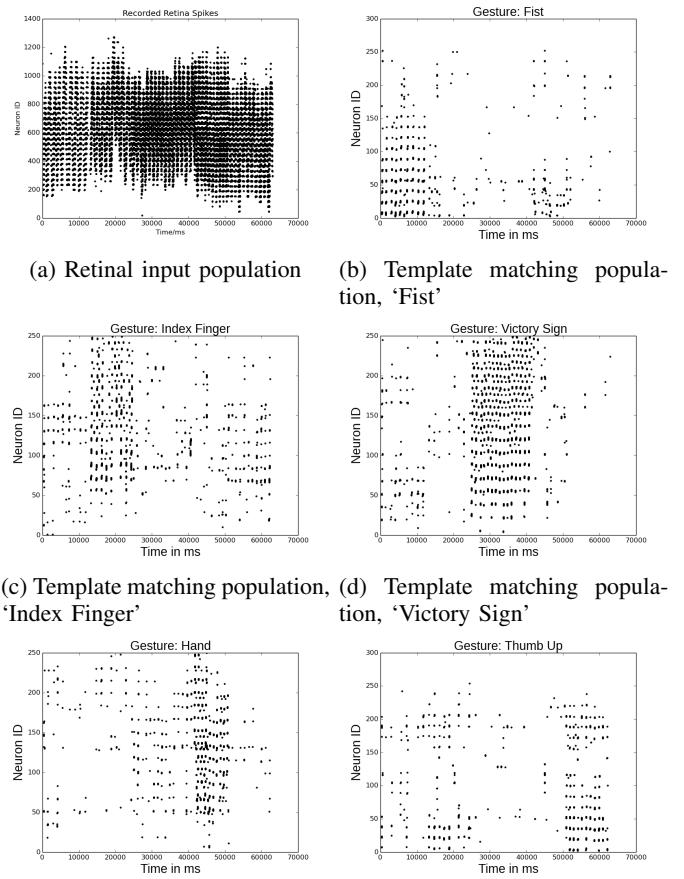


Fig. 12: Spikes captured during the live recognition of the recorded retinal input with the resolution of 128×128.

with tracking is another important job where the recognition performance will be increased and the short-term memory of a gesture route can be stored. Using the idea of HMMs [35] to spiking neural networks may be a good approach.

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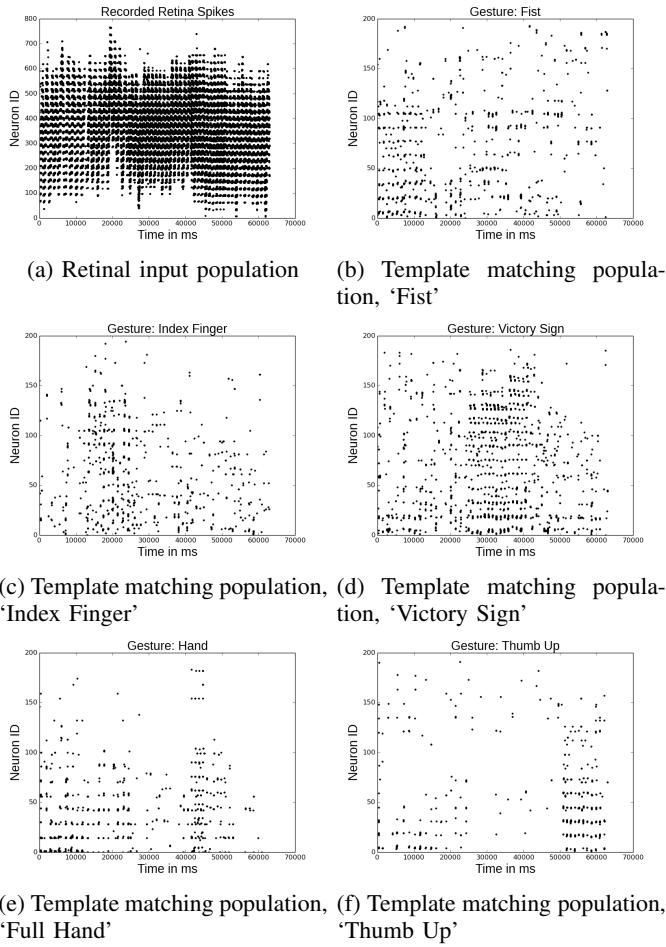
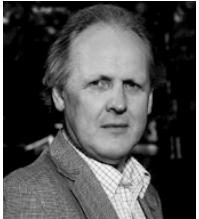


Fig. 13: Spikes captured during the live recognition of the recorded retinal input with the resolution of 32×32 .

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