Esch — Numerical Typography

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June 27, 2025

1 | Symbols and Letters

2 | Strings of quantity...

3 | ... and strings thereof...

4 | ... and strings thereof

5 | Meshes

6 | Simulations

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- ▶ The family of alphabets famously include $\{A, B, ..., Z\}$, $\{0, 1\}$, and $\{A, C, T, G\}$
- ▶ A shared fact of these sets is the care with which their members have so often been drawn

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVXYZ ЯВСЭЕЗОЛЗЯСМИОРОДЯ STUVXYZ АБВГДЕЁЖЗИЙКЛМНОПРСТУФХЦЧШЦЪЫЬЭЮЯ

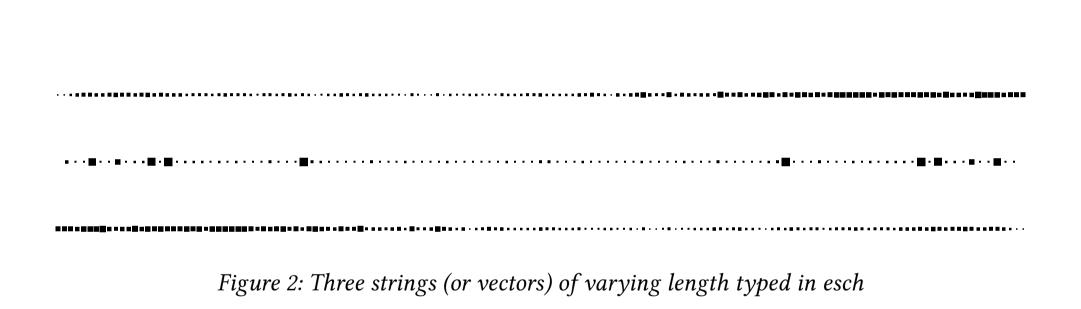
Figure 1: The Latin alphabet in double-struck (top) and Fraktur (middle), and the Cyrillics in Libertinus Serif (bottom)

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- ▶ Accordingly, negative numbers become $[\Box \Box \Box]$
- ▶ esch—using $tanh(x) = \frac{e^x e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$ to map $\mathbb{R} \to [-1, 1]$ —thus targets a continuous alphabet



3 | ... and strings thereof...

▶ Stack esch strings to represent matrices...

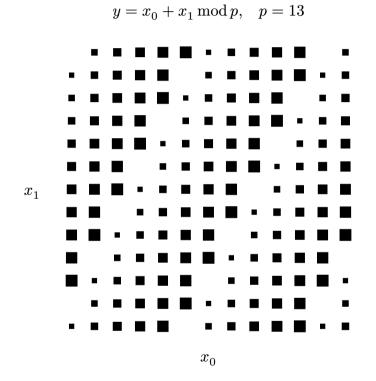


Figure 3: Target for mech. interp. task [1]

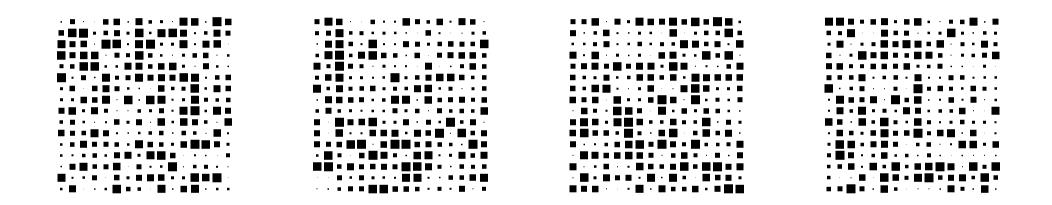
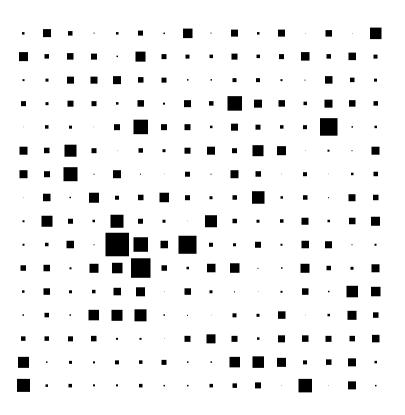


Figure 4: Four 16×16 uniformly random matrices

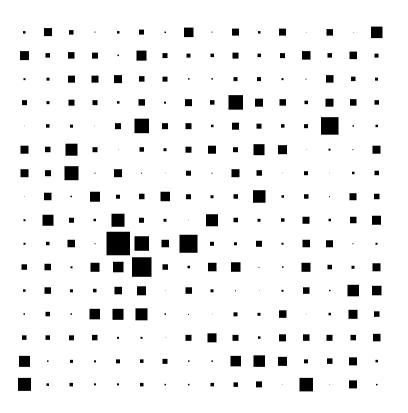
4 | ... and strings thereof



- ► Temporal interpretations of a given dimension
- ▶ Show training dynamics in deep learning...

Figure 5: $16 \times 16 \times 80$ tensor (last dim. temporal)

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- ► Temporal interpretations of a given dimension
- ► Show training dynamics in deep learning...
- ▶ ... and whatever else

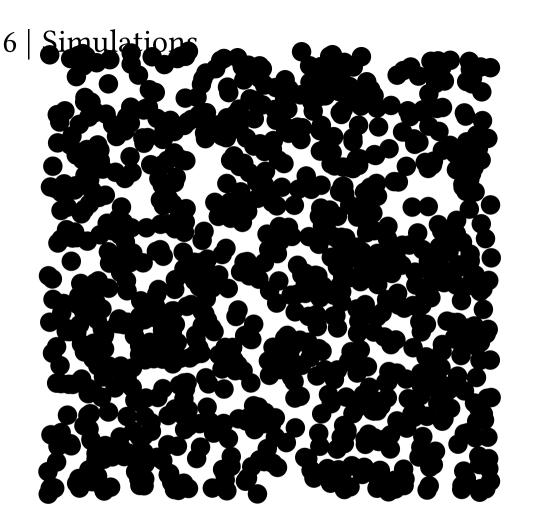
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5 | Meshes

- ► Allow for arbitrary positions of points
- ► Figure 6 shows fMRI (brain scan) data [2], [3]



Figure 6: fMRI data



► Fix sizes and animate positions

Figure 7: $\sim U(0,1) \rightarrow \sim U(0,1)$ simulated in $Parabellum~ \emph{[4]}$

References

- [1] N. Nanda, L. Chan, T. Lieberum, J. Smith, and J. Steinhardt, "Progress Measures for Grokking via Mechanistic Interpretability," no. arXiv:2301.05217. arXiv, Oct. 2023.
- [2] A. T. Gifford *et al.*, "The Algonauts Project 2023 Challenge: How the Human Brain Makes Sense of Natural Scenes," no. arXiv:2301.03198. arXiv, Jan. 2023.
- [3] E. J. Allen *et al.*, "A Massive 7T fMRI Dataset to Bridge Cognitive Neuroscience and Artificial Intelligence," *Nature Neuroscience*, vol. 25, no. 1, pp. 116–126, Jan. 2022, doi: 10.1038/s41593-021-00962-x.
- [4] T. Anne *et al.*, "Harnessing Language for Coordination: A Framework and Benchmark for LLM-Driven Multi-Agent Control," *IEEE Transactions on Games*, pp. 1–25, 2025, doi: 10.1109/TG.2025.3564042.