

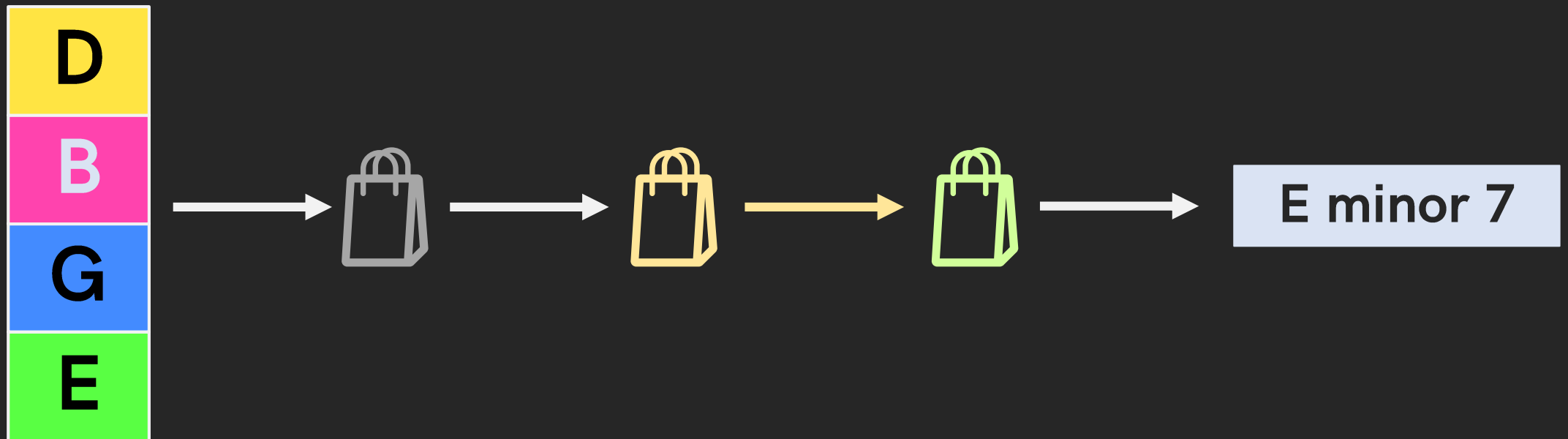
# Real-time Identification of Simple and Extended Musical Chords using Artificial Neural Networks

R3 A09

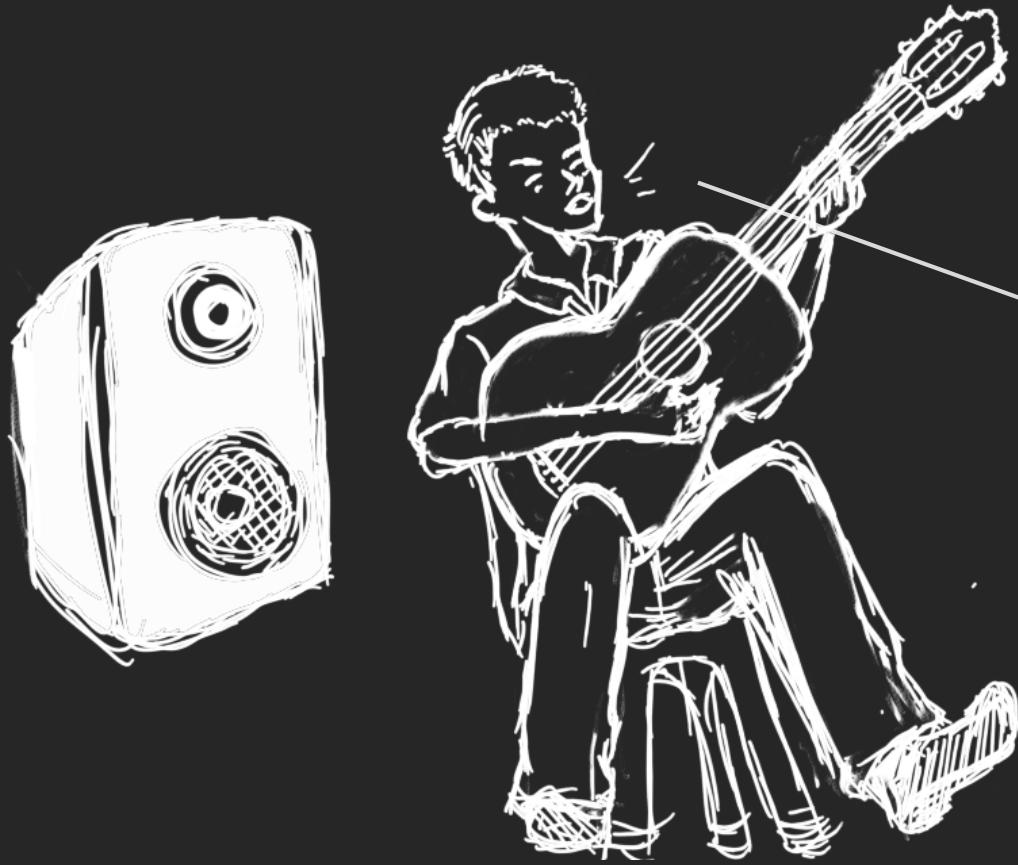
Brain Blast 2019

Navarro, Joachim Alfonso A.

Coronel, Lesli Natasha A.



# Has this ever happened to you?



What's the  
chords of this  
song?

# We do what we have to do



ULTIMATE  
GUITAR  
COM

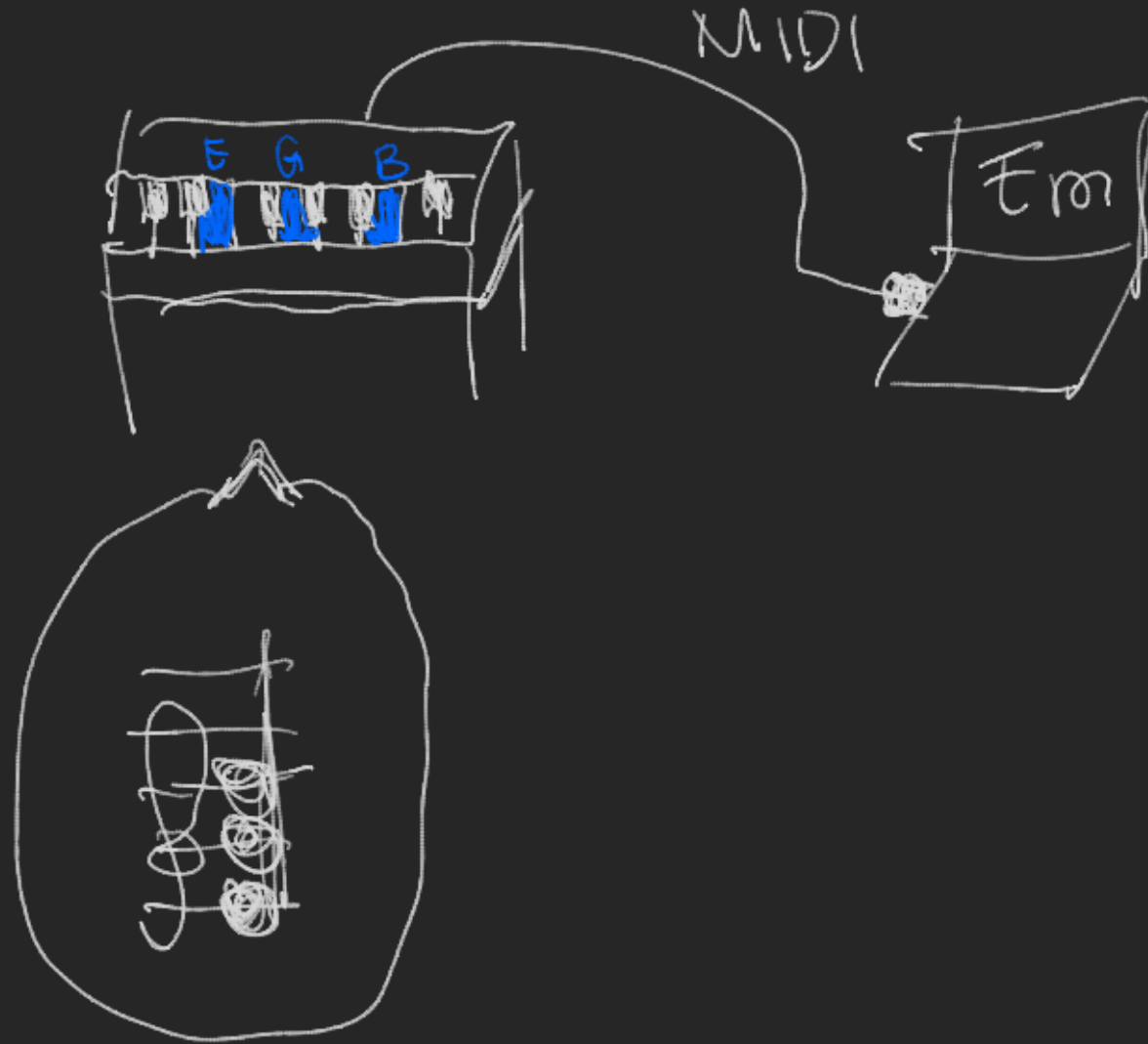
# What if the song wasn't too popular?



OK Google, what  
are the chords of  
this song?

My apologies...  
I don't understand.

# What if a machine could do it?



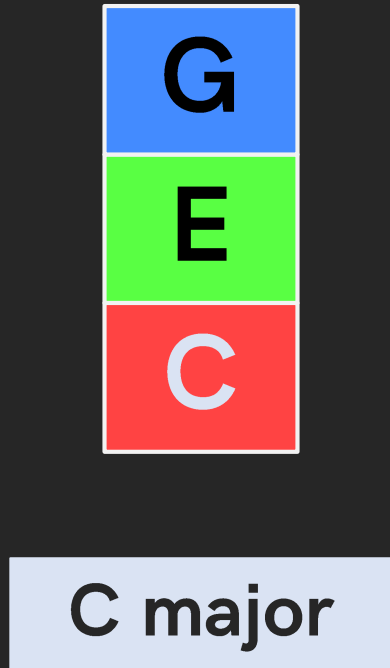
# What is a chord?



C major

Collection of  
**two or more  
notes**

# What is a chord?



Collection of

**two or more  
notes**

Usually

**played  
together**

# What is a chord?



C major

Sound like they  
**make sense**

Leino, Brattico, Tervaniemi, & Vurst, 2007



# How is a chord named?

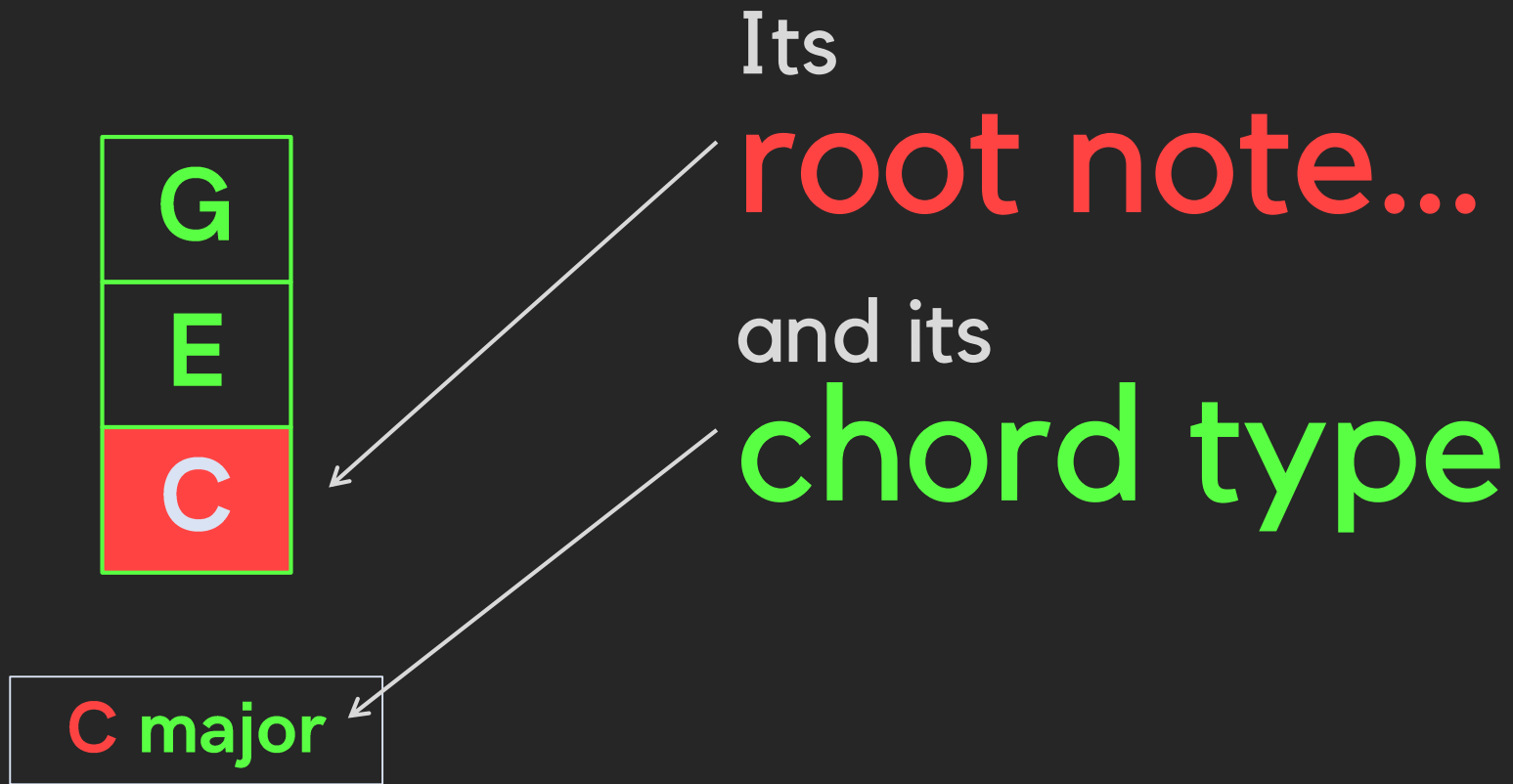


Its  
**root note...**



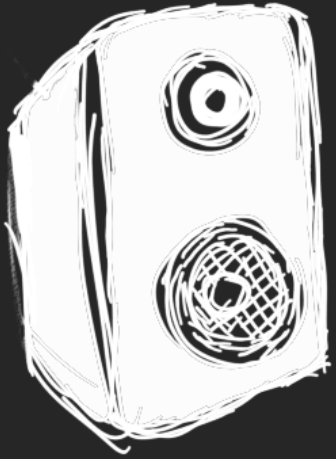
**C** major

# How is a chord named?



# Chord identification:

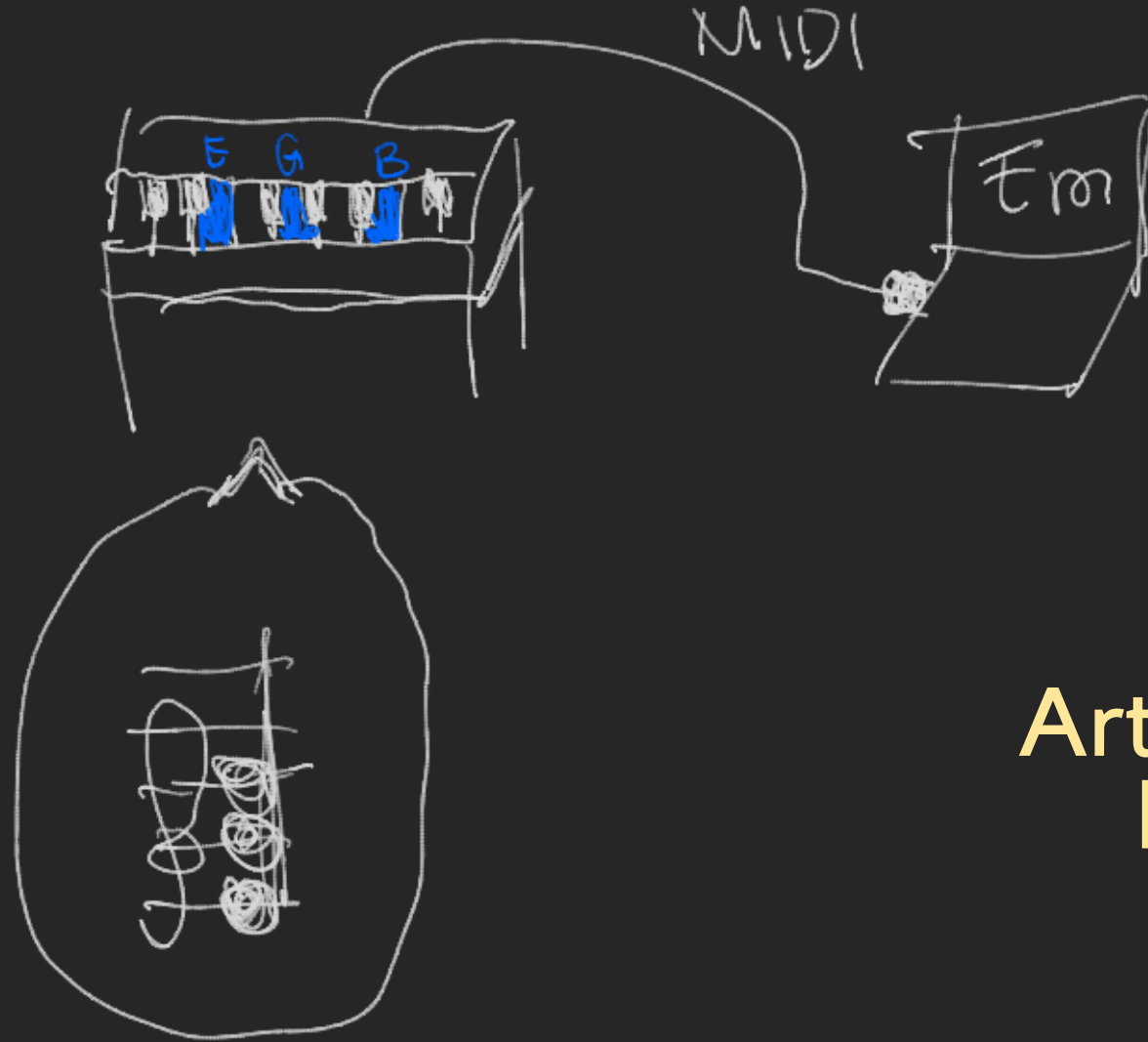
Naming chords by knowing their notes



That's an

F major 13 (#11)

...And we're expecting a computer to do that?



Artificial Neural  
Networks!

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

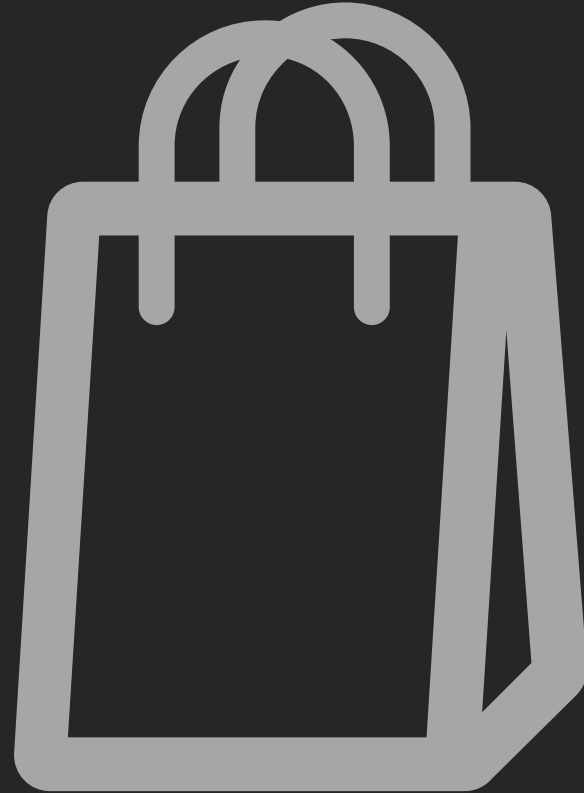


# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

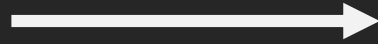
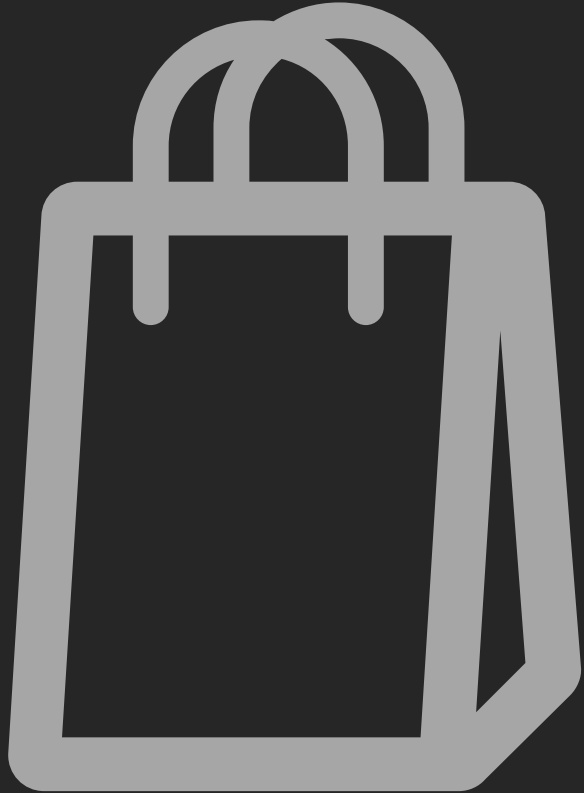


# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

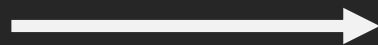
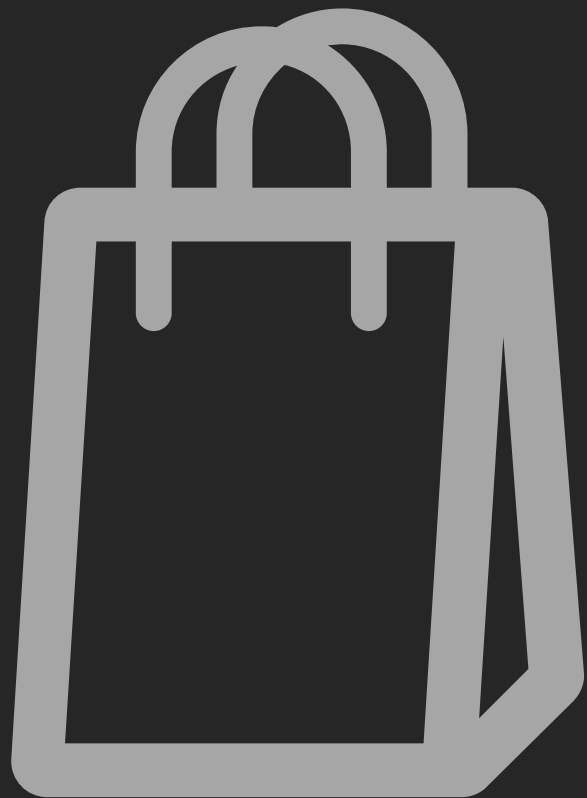


# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



Magic math bag

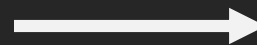
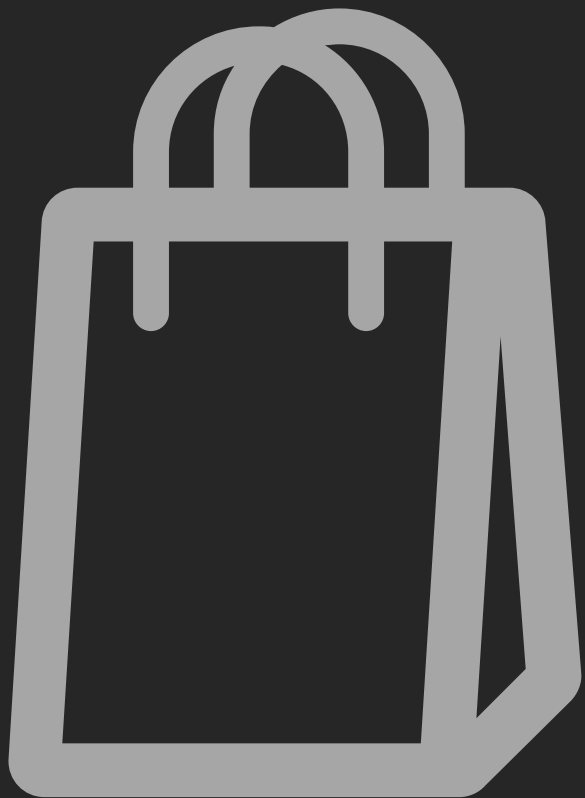


# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



Magic math bag

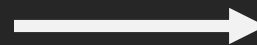
Magic math bag  
2

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



Magic math bag

Magic math bag  
2

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



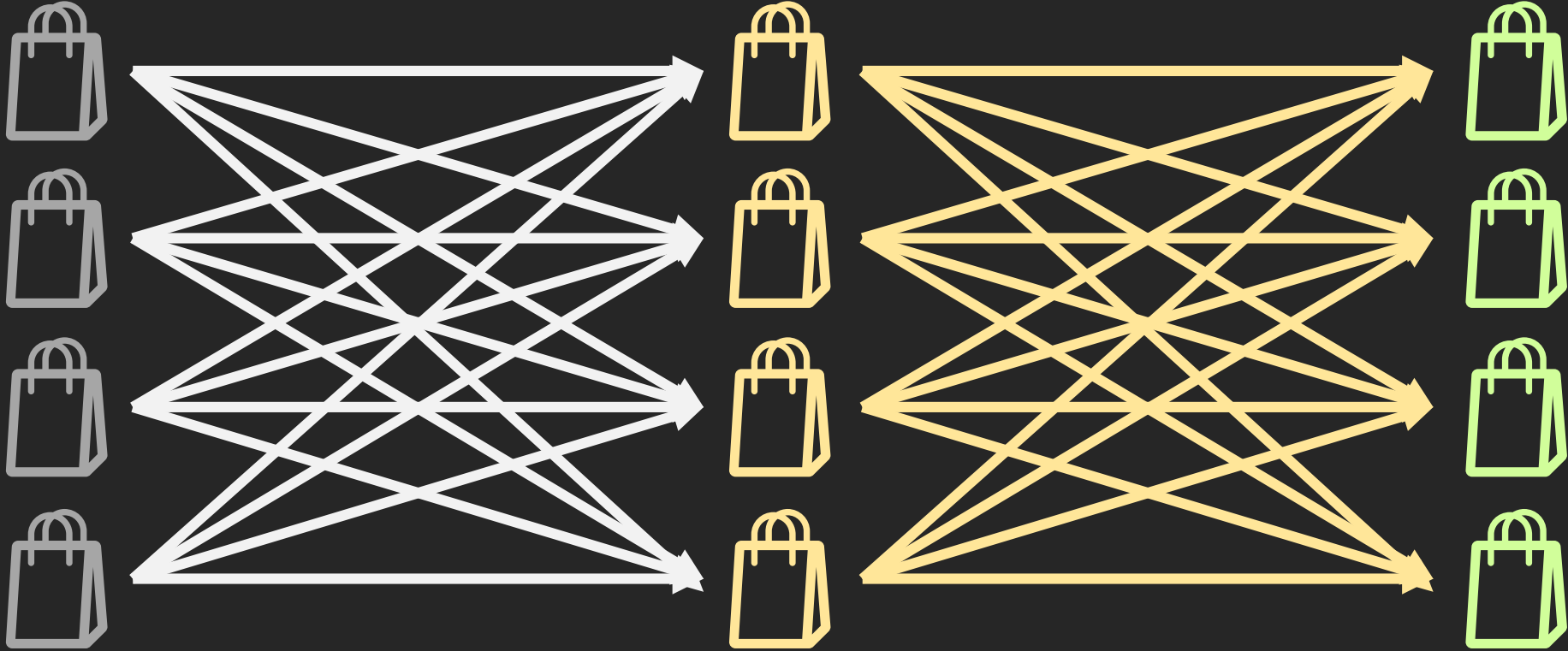
This layout is a simple **neural network**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



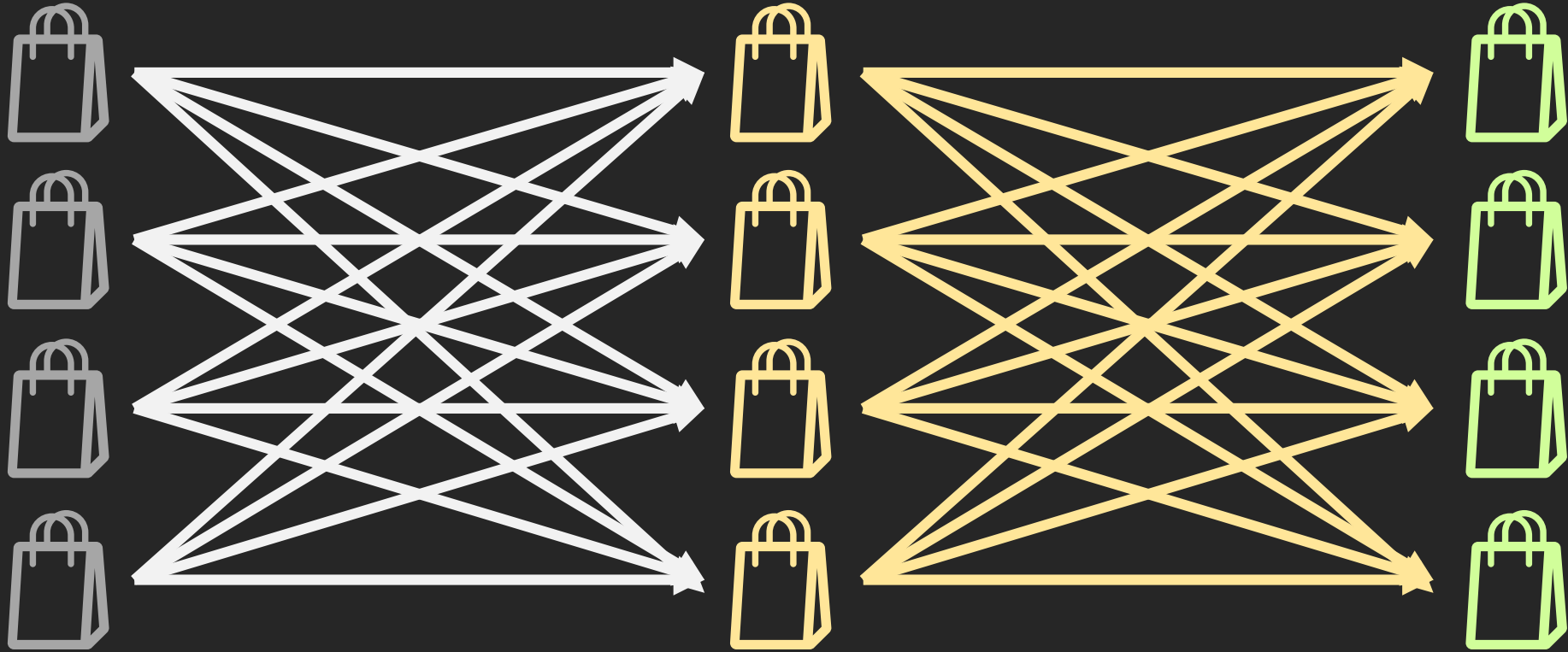
But real ones look more like **this**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



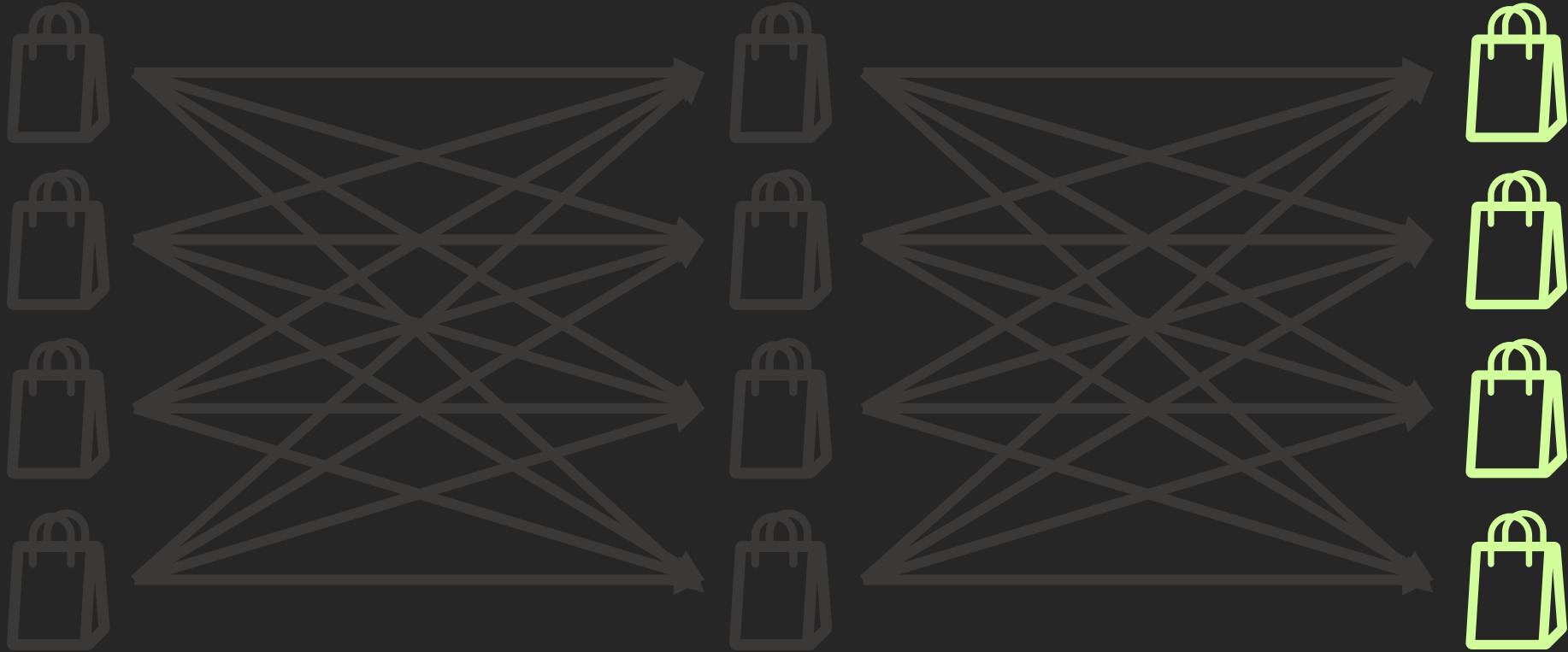
This neural network can be **trained...**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



to output certain **numbers...**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

First bag

Input



Correct output



1

0.7

0.9

0.3

0.8

0.6

...

...

using a training dataset

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

Second  
bag

Input



1

0.9

0.8

...

Correct output



0.2

0.4

0.1

...

which contains **answers** for all “bags”.



# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

QUIZ!  
First bag

Input



1

0.9

0.8

...

Correct output



...

The network is then **tested**  
using a **validation dataset**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017

QUIZ!  
First bag

33%  
accuracy

Input



1

0.9

0.8

...

Correct output



0.4

0.7

0.3

...

The network **tries to answer**  
and may get **wrong answers.**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



QUIZ 1



QUIZ 2



QUIZ 3



QUIZ 4



QUIZ  $n$

So it trains **again and again...**

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



QUIZ 1



QUIZ 2



QUIZ 3



QUIZ 4



QUIZ  $n$

until its score is high enough.

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)

Sanderson, 2017

Nielsen, 2015

Colina, Perez, & Paraan, 2017



EPOCH 1



EPOCH 2



EPOCH 3



EPOCH 4



EPOCH  $n$

1 train-test cycle = 1 epoch

# Why use ANNs for chord identification?

Osmalskyj, Embrechts, Piérard, & Van Droogenbroeck, 2012

Perera & Kodithuwakku, 2005

Zhou & Lerch, 2015

only used

Major

Minor

Successfully implemented their  
chord-identifying ANNs

# Can an ANN handle these 37 chord types?

Major	Major 7	Major 9	Major 11	mM7	M6
Minor	Minor 7	Minor 9	Minor 11	mM9	m6
Dom 7	Dom 9	Dom 11	M11sus2	M9sus2	M9sus4
sus2	sus4	7sus2	7sus4	M7sus2	M7sus4
aug	aug7	aug9	aug11	M6(9)	m6(9)
dim	dim7	ø7	dim9	11sus2	9sus2
					9sus4

# Esp. when songs can use many chord types?

"Slide"

Calvin Harris ft. Frank Ocean & Migos



**Amaj7**

**G#min7**

**C#min11**

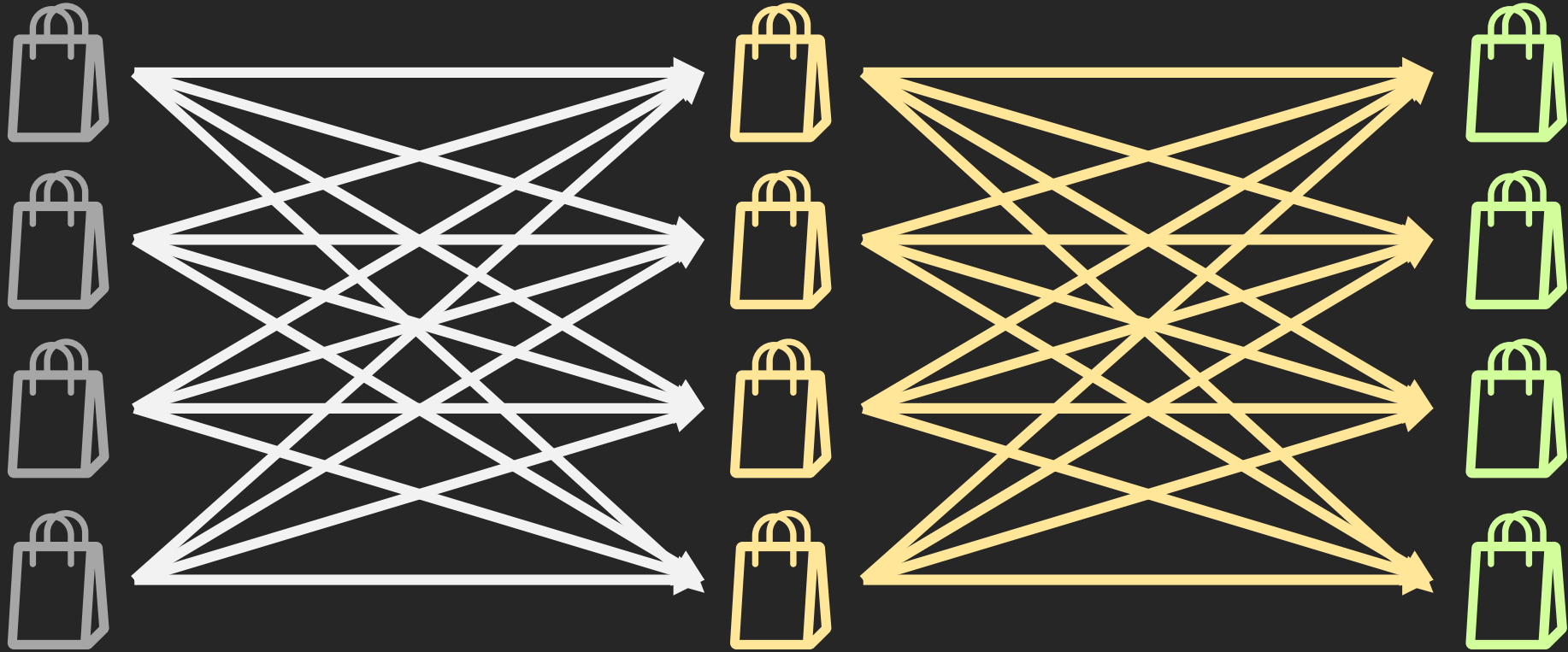
**F#min9**

**G#min7**

**Amaj9**

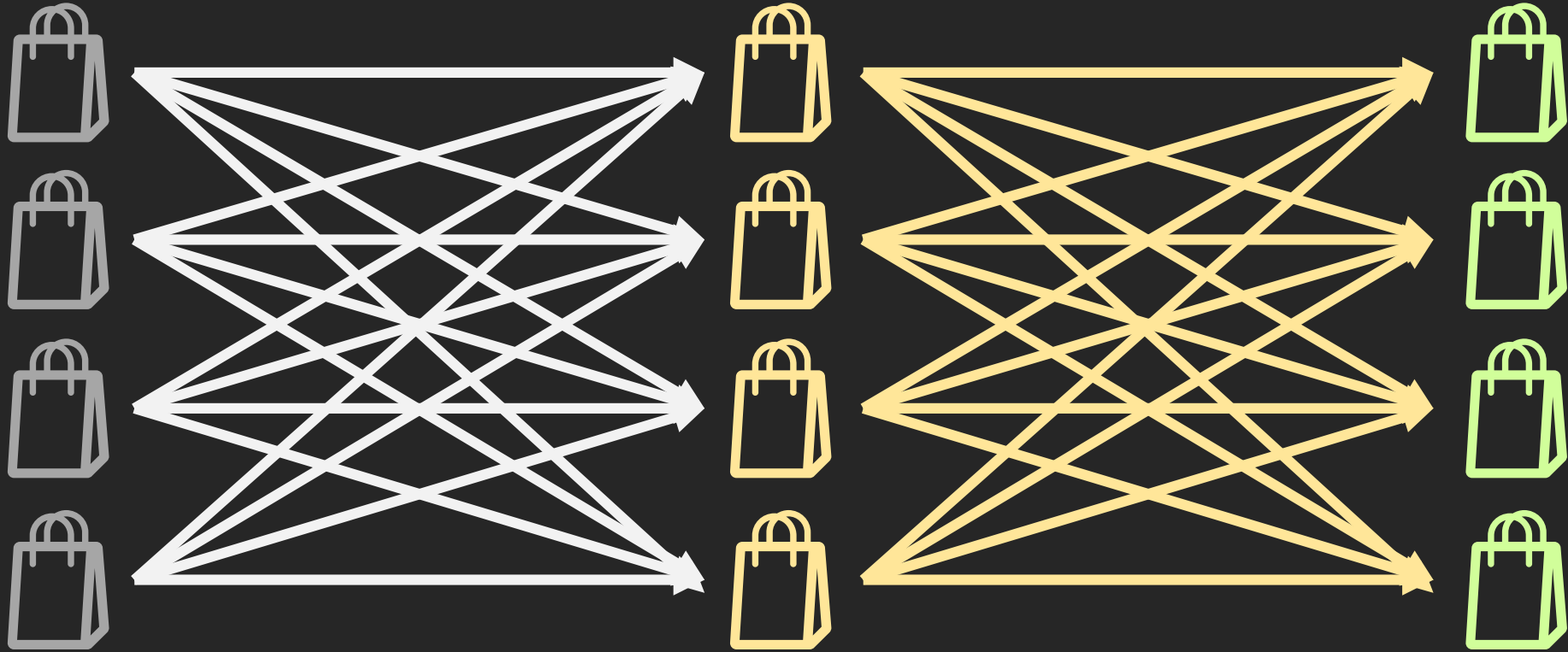


# Objectives



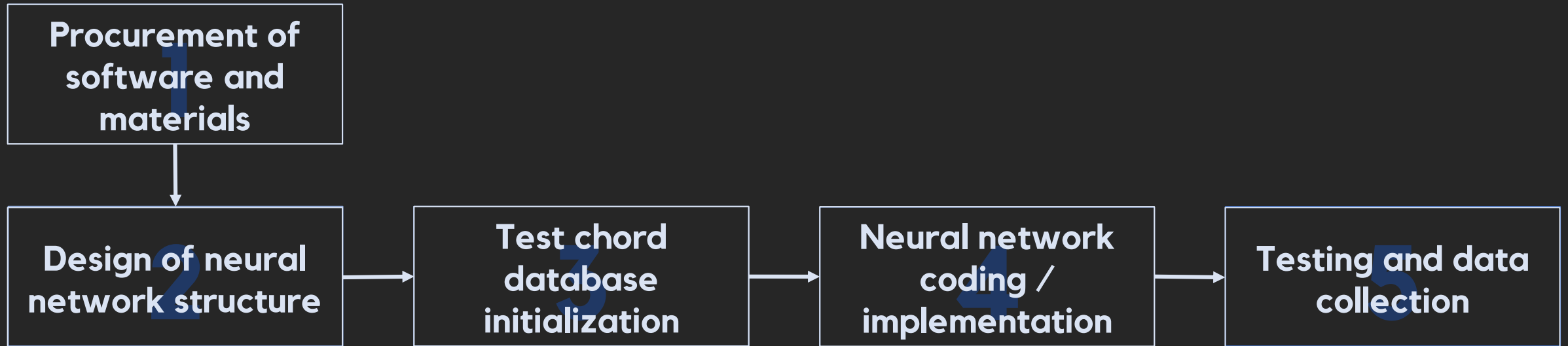
Create an **ANN** capable of identifying our 37  
chord types

# Objectives



...and can respond within **40 ms**

# Methodology

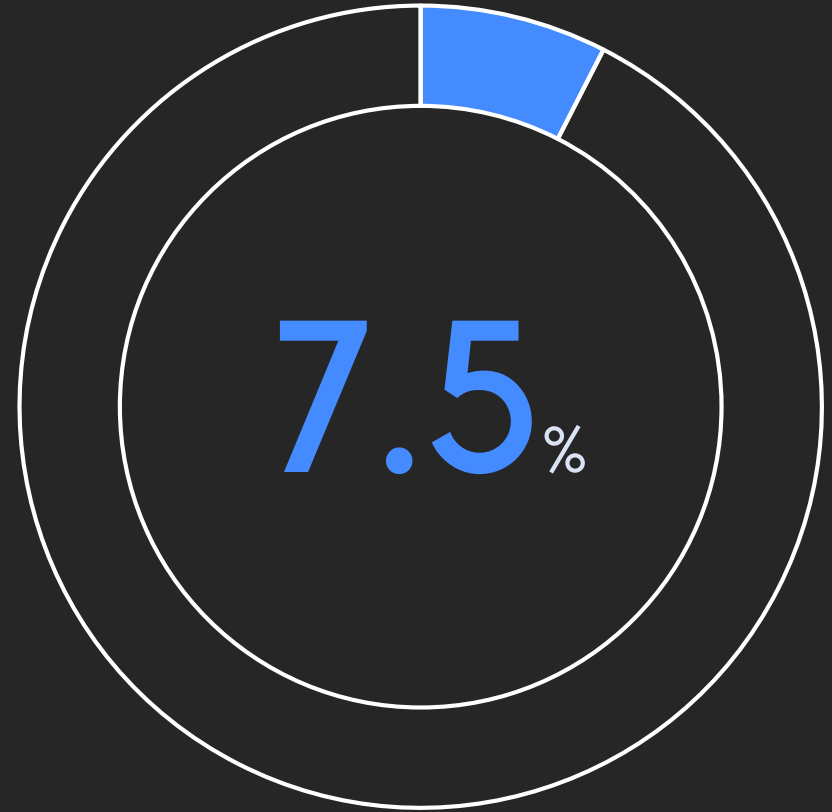


# How did our neural network do?

Accuracy on the **validation** dataset "questions"

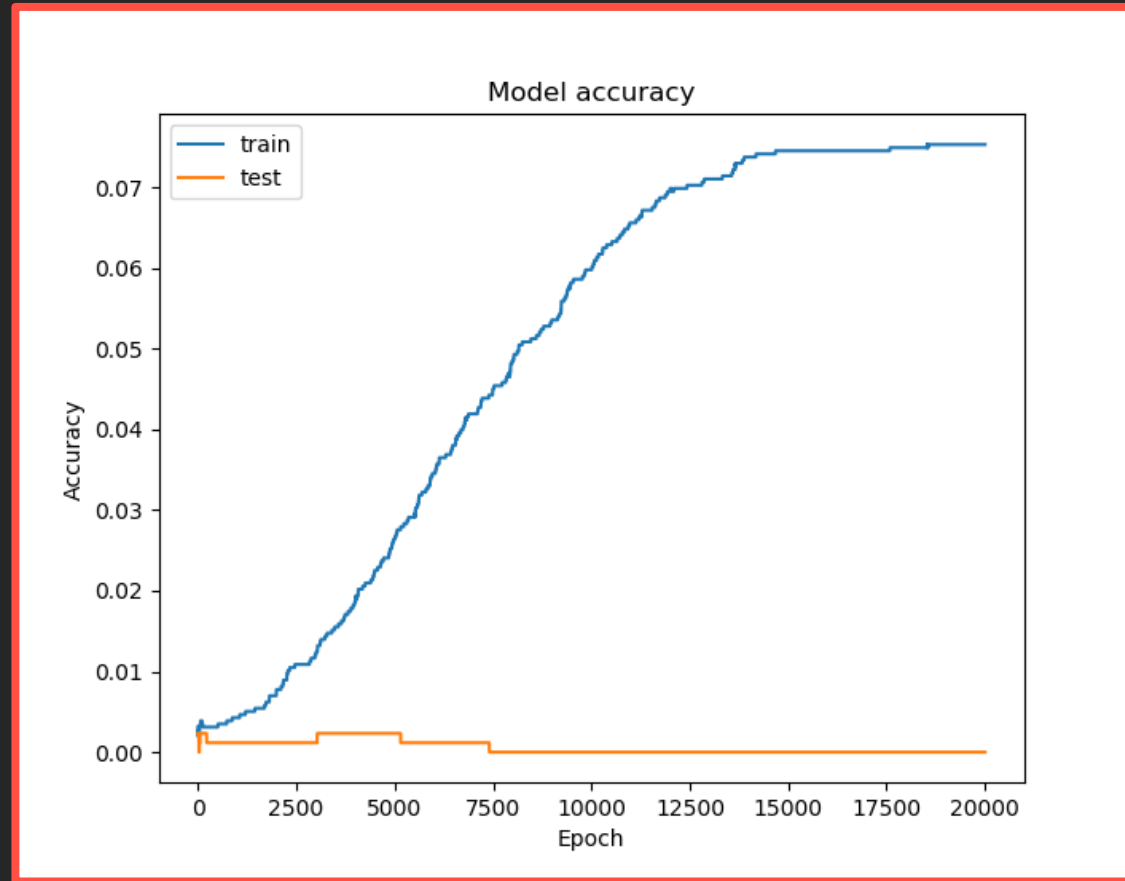
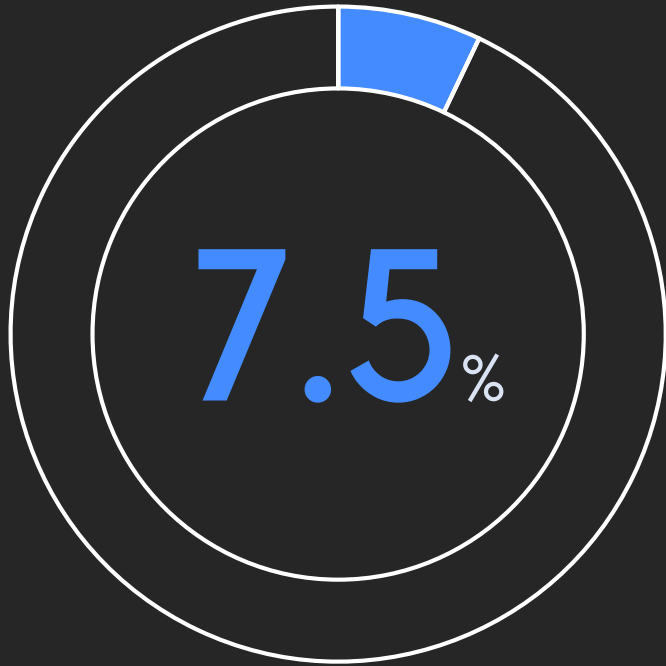


Accuracy on the **training** dataset "questions"



# How did our neural network do?

Peak training accuracy  
after 20K epochs

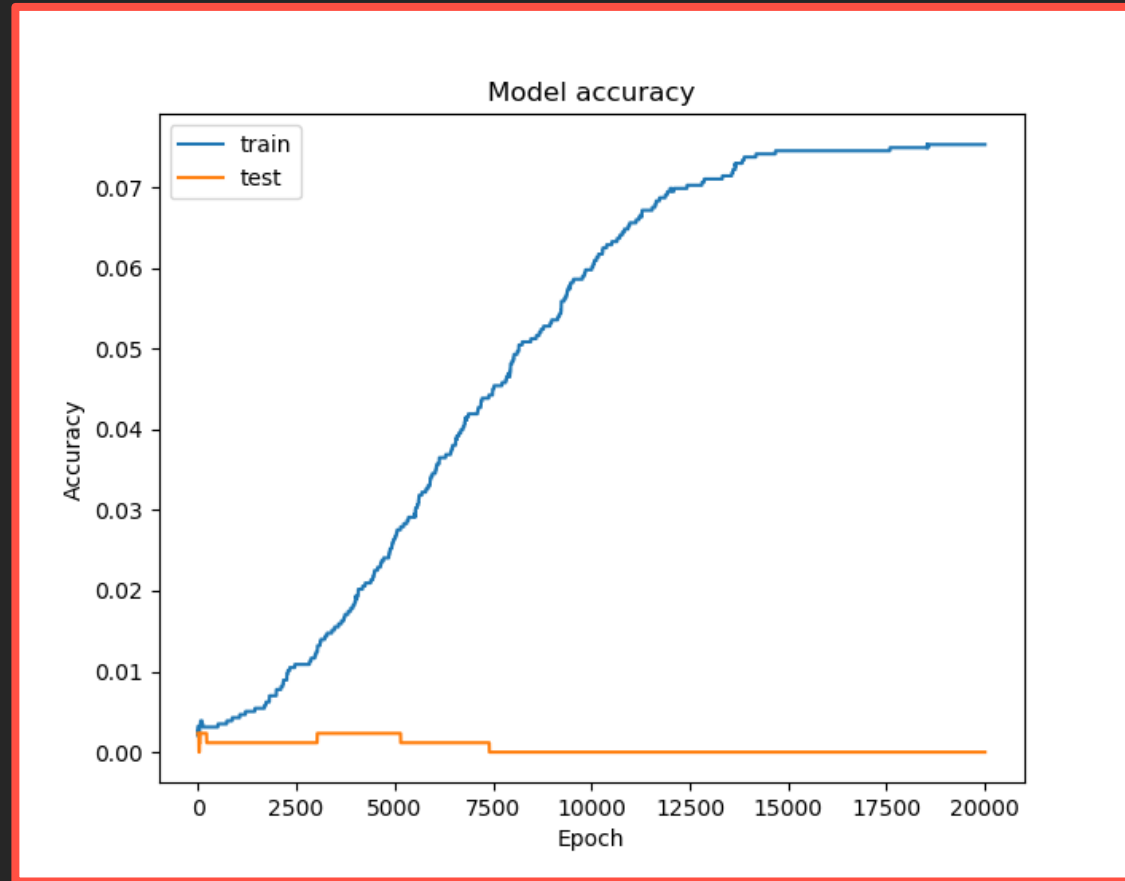


Can't  
learn  
training  
dataset  
very well

Gives up at 7.5%

# How did our neural network do?

Peak validation accuracy  
after 20K epochs

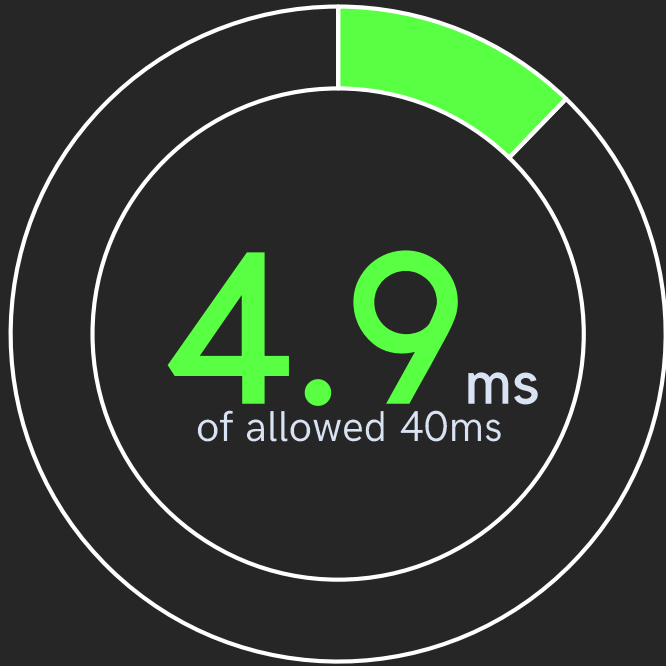


Learns  
just the  
training  
dataset

"Overfitting"

# How did our neural network do?

Mean total response time,  
30 samples



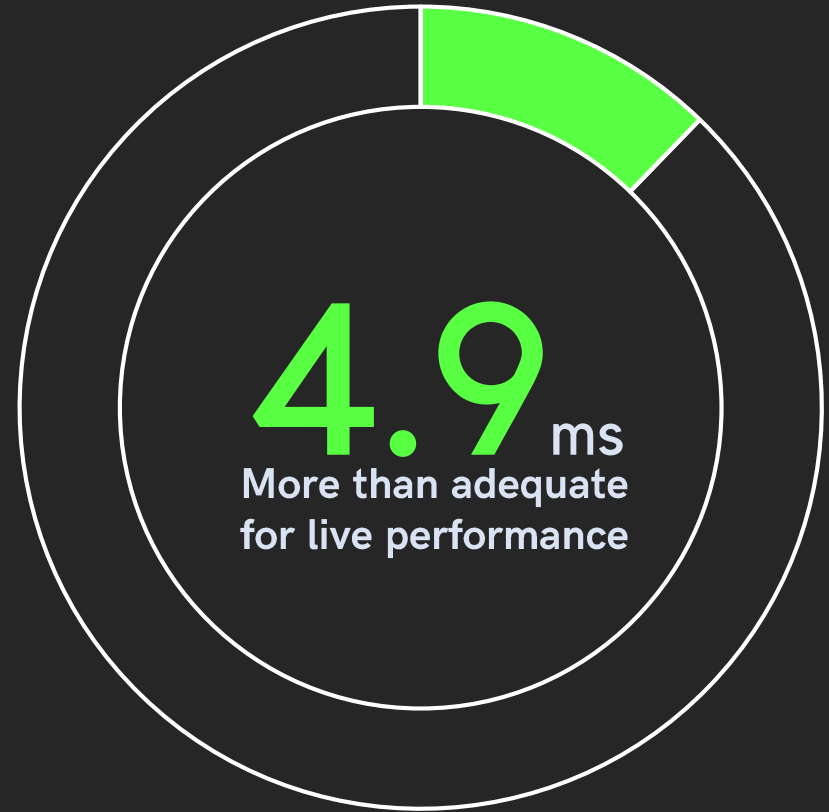
**Significantly  
better than the  
40ms standard**

# Conclusion

Our chords are too complex for ANNs...



...but they are fast enough for chord ID'n





# Recommendations

Other  
machine  
learning  
algorithms

1

Fewer and  
simpler  
chords

2

Use audio  
rather than  
MIDI as  
input

3

# References

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**Illustrations by Lesli Coronel**