



Efficient On-Device Machine Learning with a Biologically-Plausible Forward-Only Algorithm

Baichuan Huang, Amir Aminifar

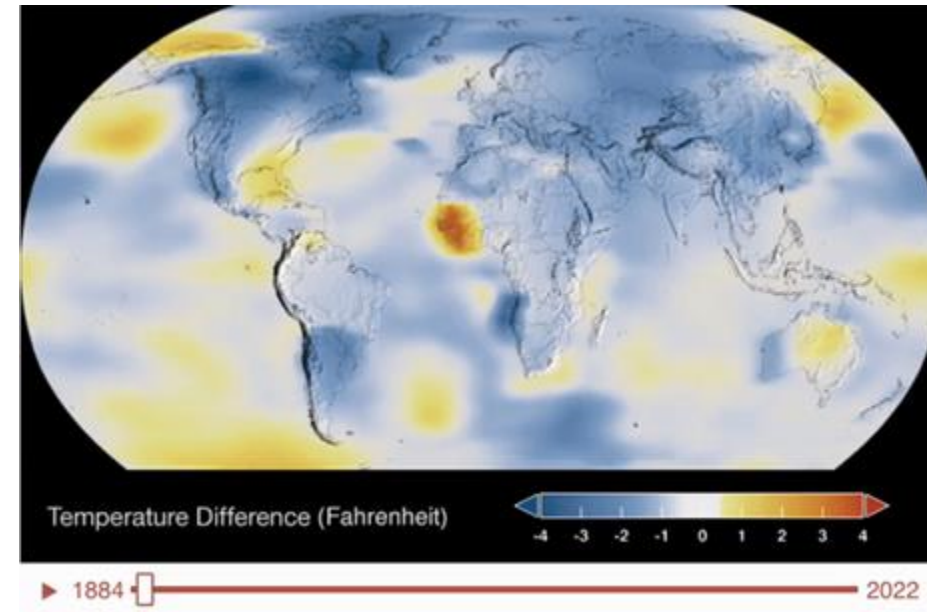
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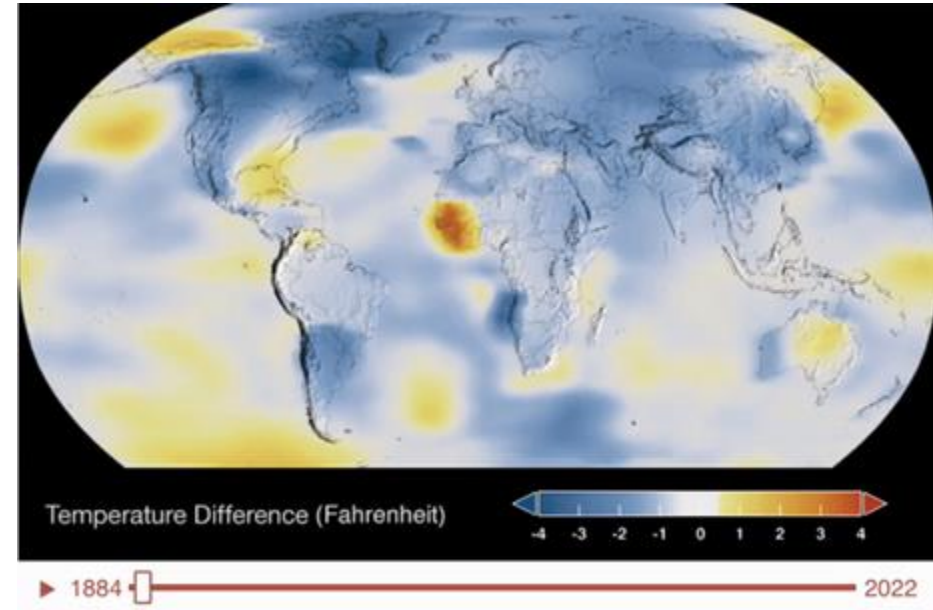


Introduction and Background

Global Warming



Global Warming



Europe: an average rise of 2.3°C compared to pre-industrial levels
 1°C **higher than** the global average.

Energy Consumption of Training LLMs



GPT-3



GPT-4

D. Patterson, et al. Carbon emissions and large neural network training, 2021.

<https://tinymml.substack.com/p/the-carbon-impact-of-large-language>

Data sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Energy Consumption of Training LLMs



GPT-3



GPT-4



1,216,950 lbs

×13

15,238,333 lbs

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Energy Consumption of Training LLMs



GPT-3



GPT-4



1,216,950 lbs

×13

15,238,333 lbs



1,287 Megawatt-Hour

× 48

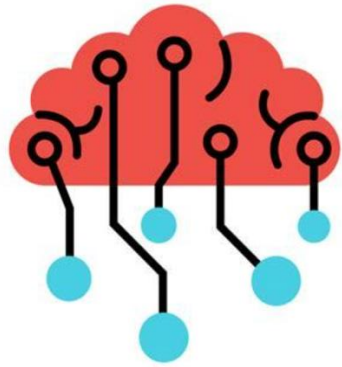
62,318 Megawatt-Hour

D. Patterson, et al. Carbon emissions and large neural network training, 2021.

<https://tinymml.substack.com/p/the-carbon-impact-of-large-language>

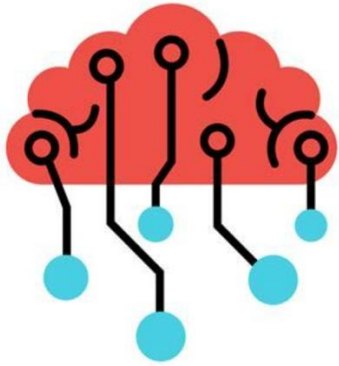
Data sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Biologically Plausible Alternatives

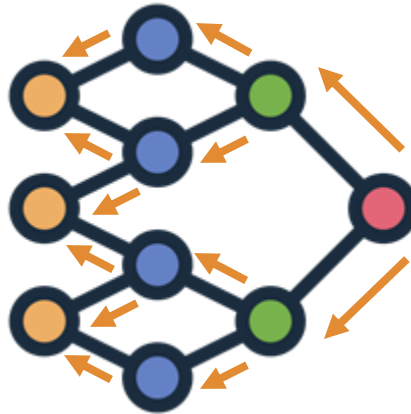


Human Brain
(~20 Watts)

Biologically Plausible Alternatives

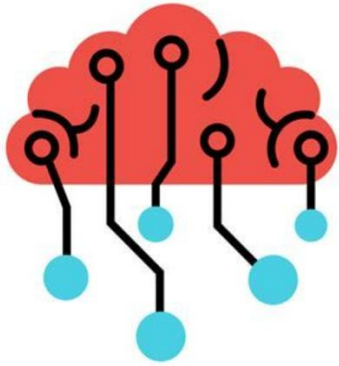


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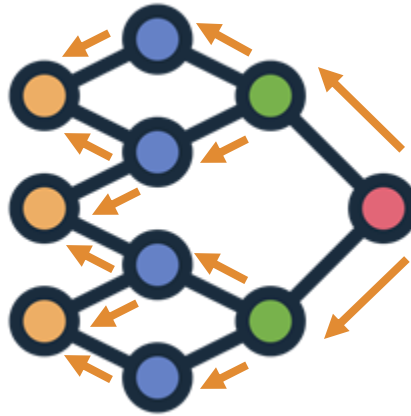


Back-Propagation
(Bio-**Implausible**)

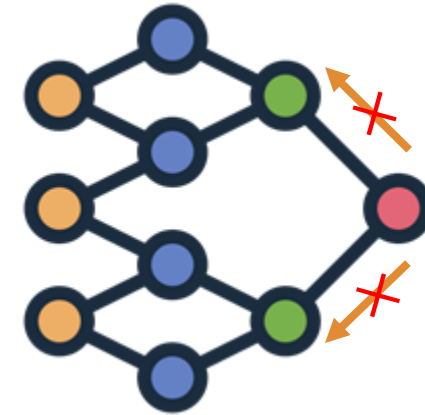
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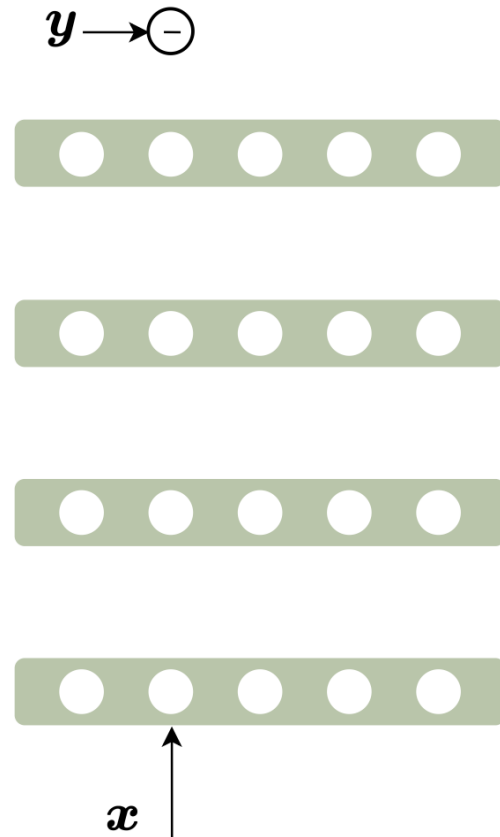


Back-Propagation
(Bio-**Implausible**)

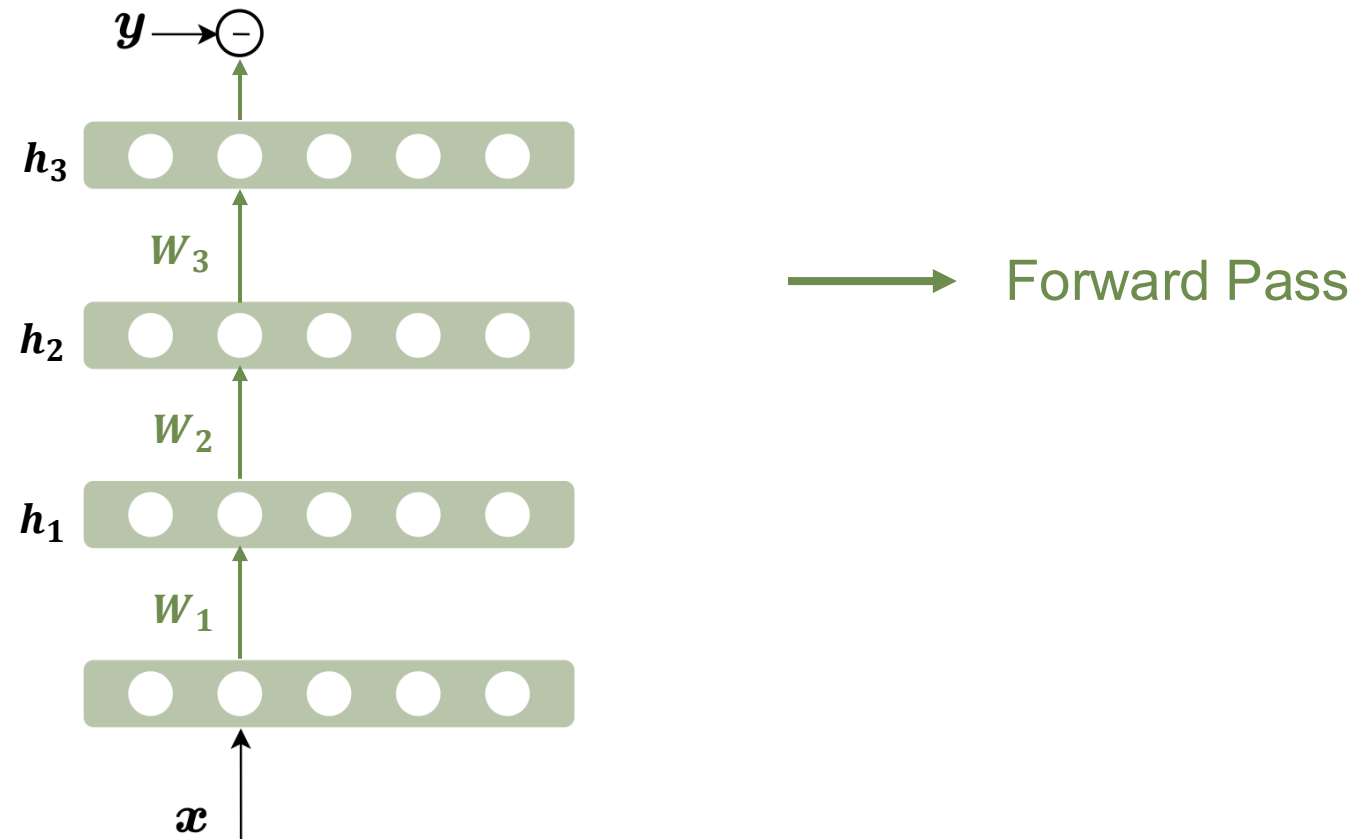


Forward-Only Algorithm
(Bio-**Plausible**)

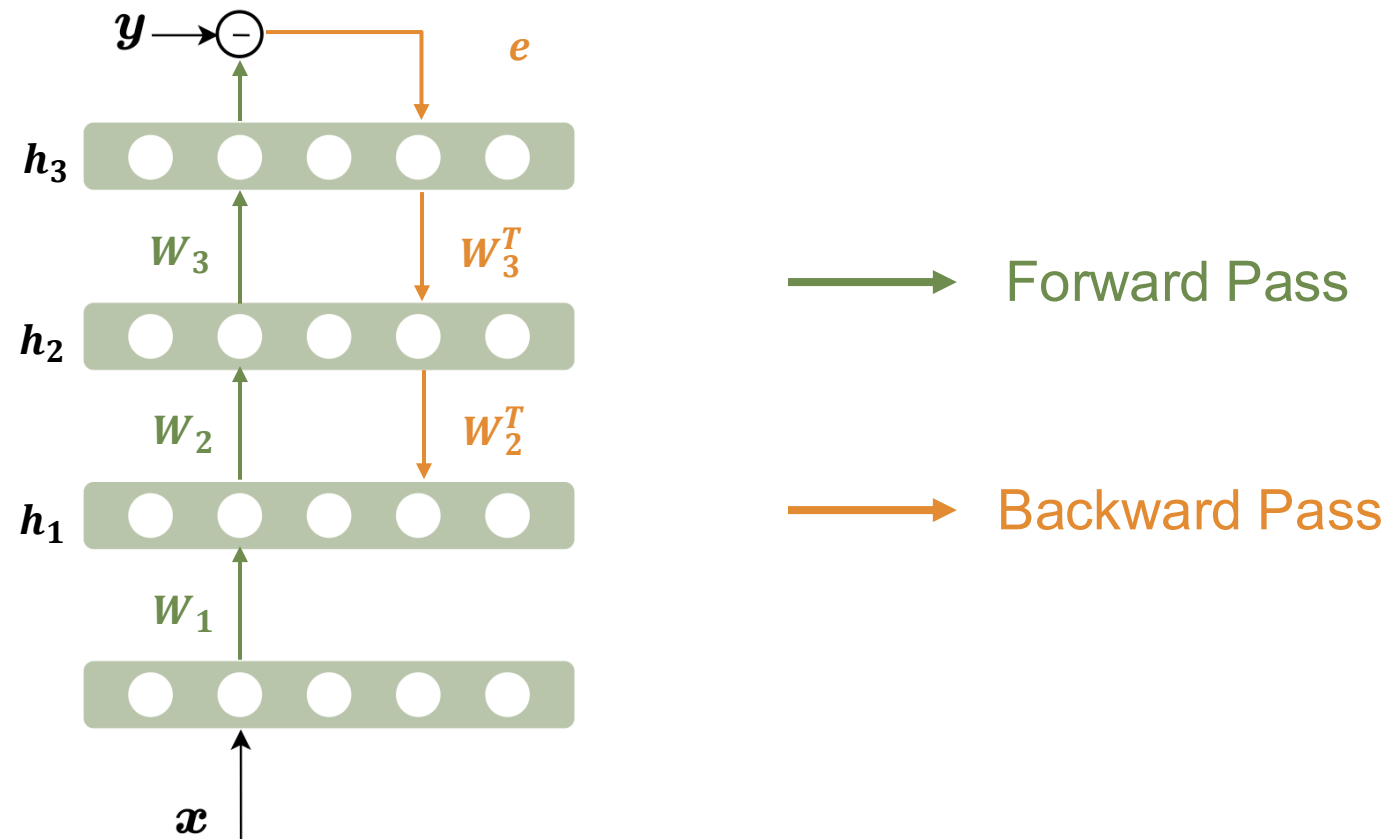
The Process of Backpropagation



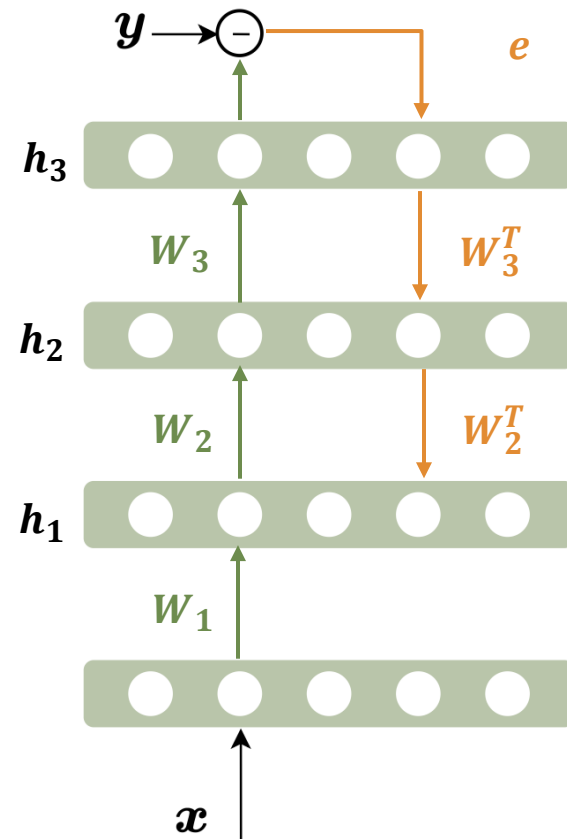
The Process of Backpropagation



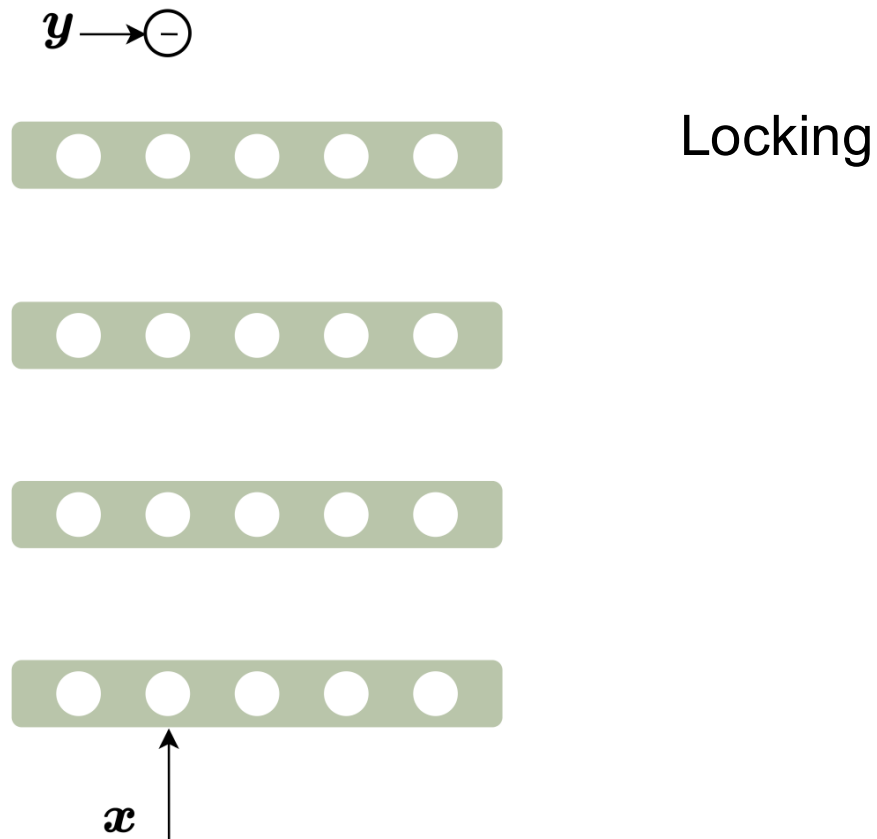
The Process of Backpropagation



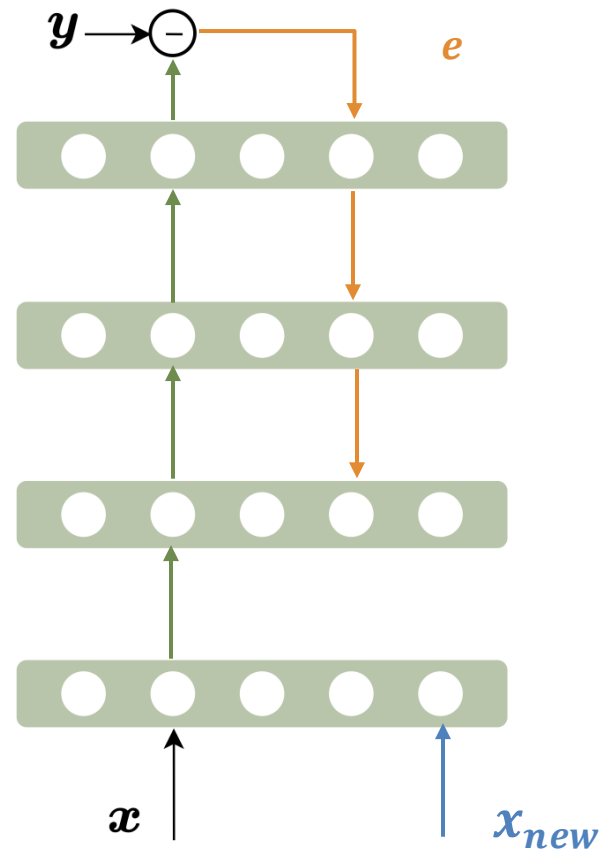
The Biological Implausibility of BP



The Biological Implausibility of BP

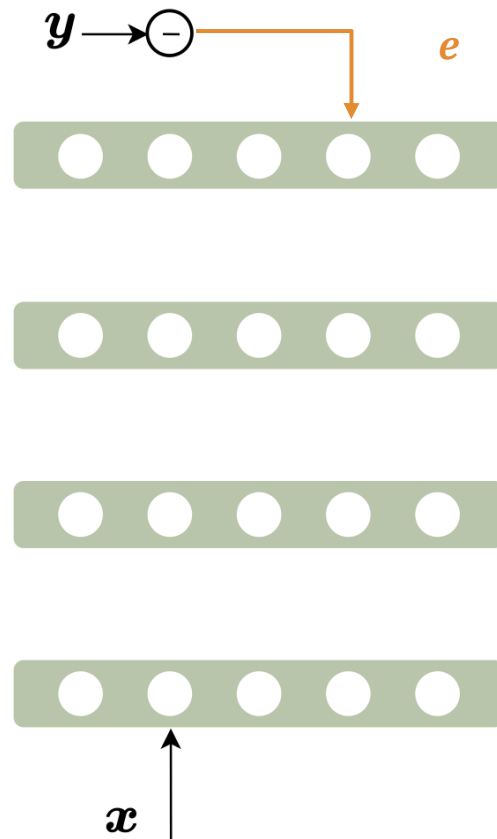


The Biological Implausibility of BP



Locking

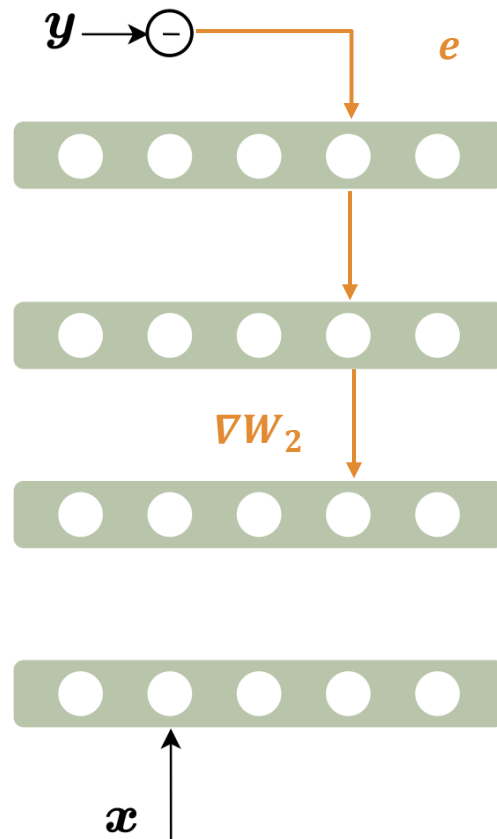
The Biological Implausibility of BP



Locking

Non-Local

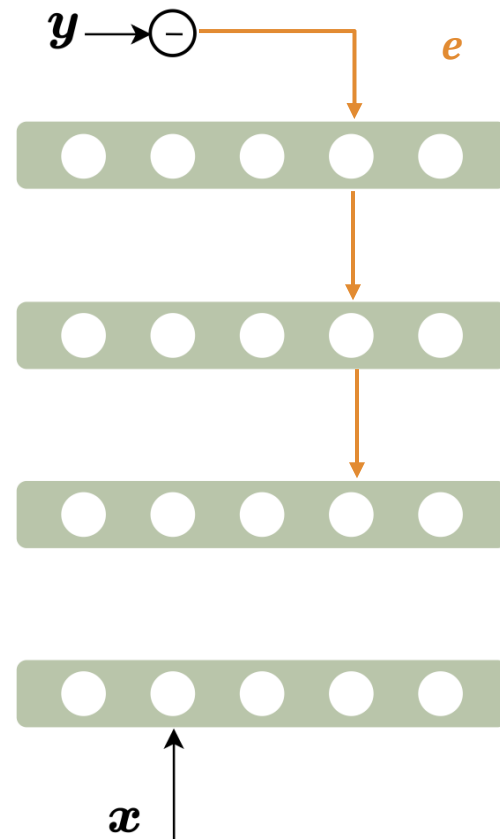
The Biological Implausibility of BP



Locking

Non-Locality

The Biological Implausibility of BP

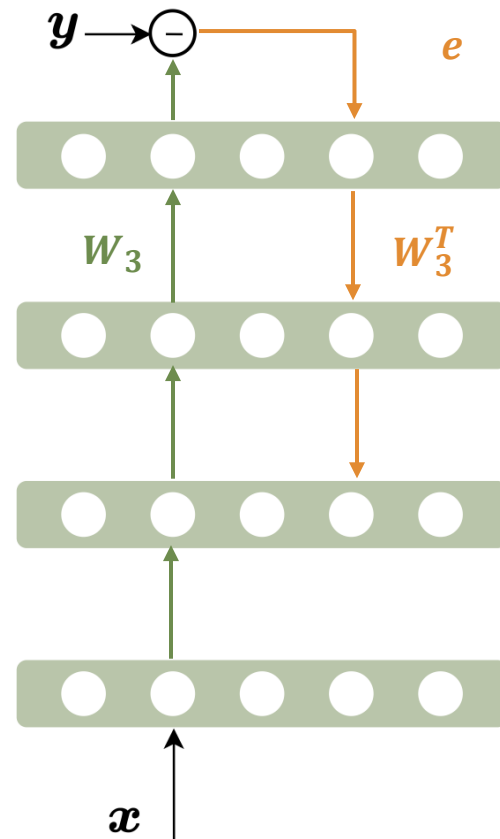


Locking

Non-Locality

Weight Transport

The Biological Implausibility of BP

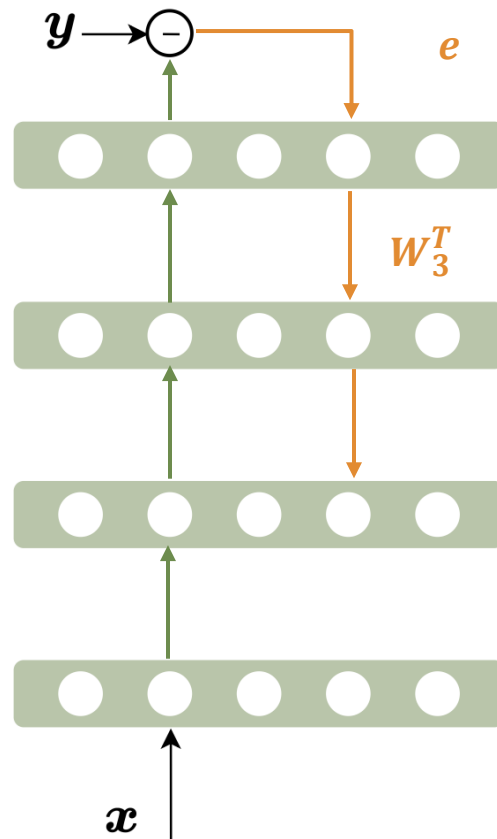


Locking

Non-Locality

Weight Transport

The Biological Implausibility of BP



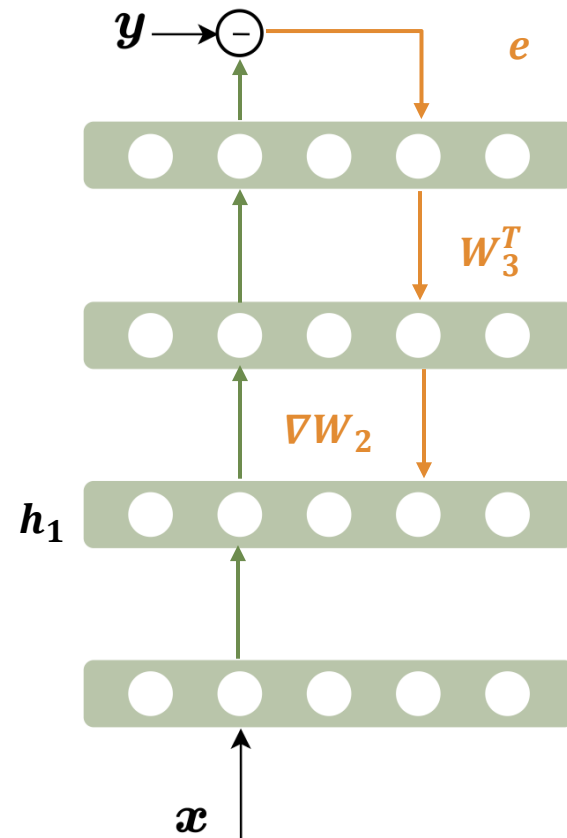
Locking

Non-Locality

Weight Transport

Frozen Activities

The Biological Implausibility of BP



Locking

Non-Locality

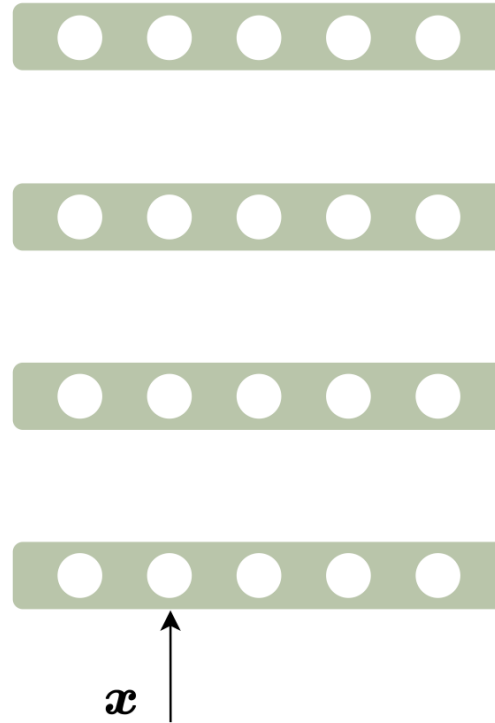
Weight Transport

Frozen Activities

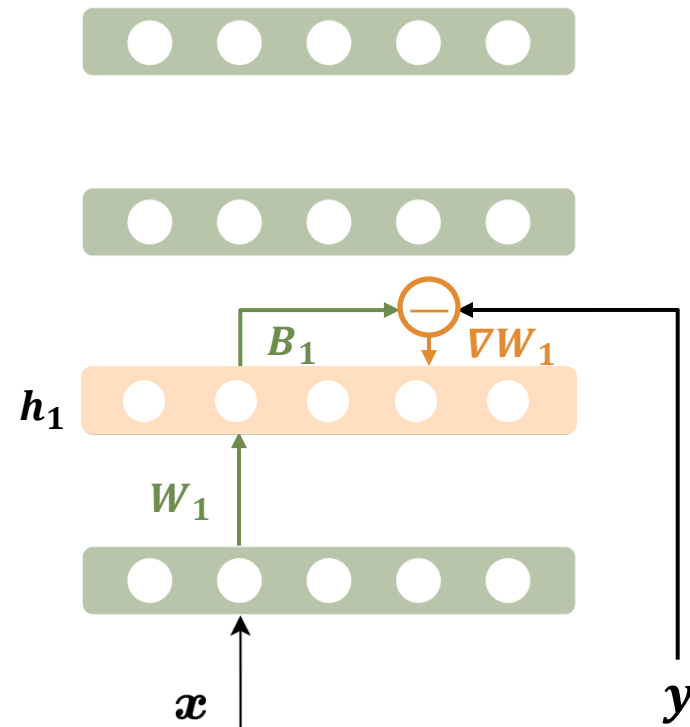


Bio-F0: a Biologically-Plausible Forward-Only Algorithm

Our Proposed Bio-F0

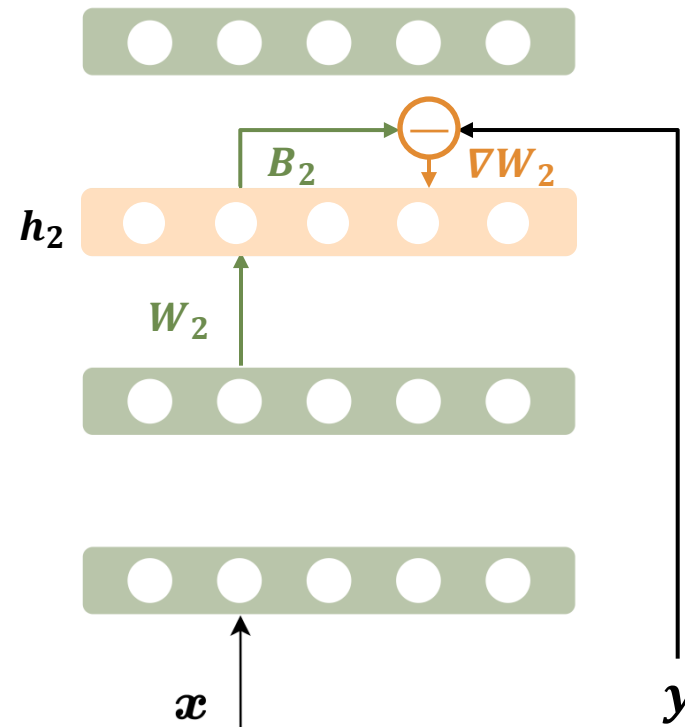


Our Proposed Bio-F0



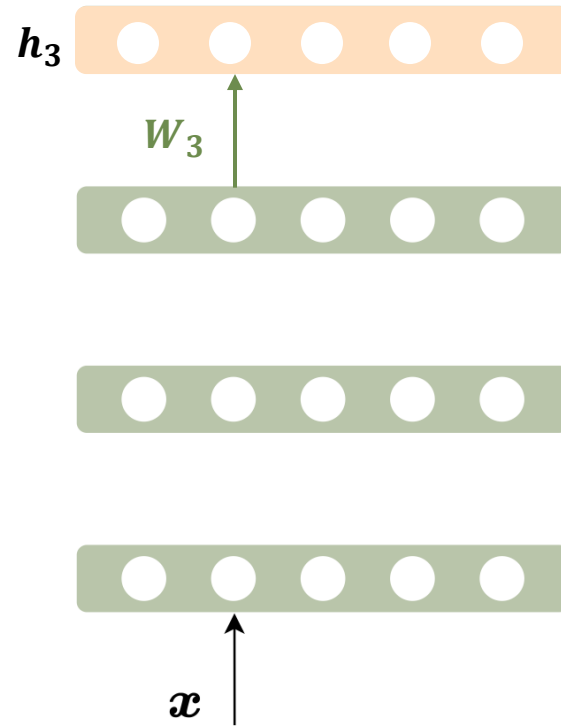
B : Fixed Random Projection

Our Proposed Bio-F0

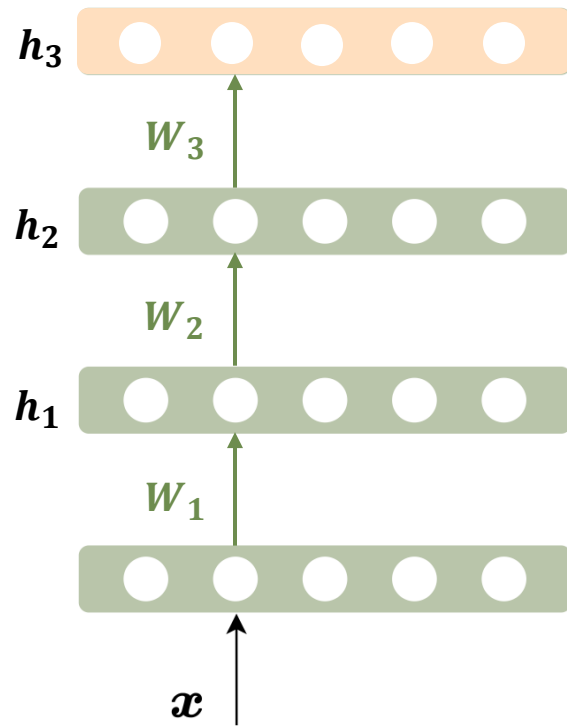


B : Fixed Random Projection

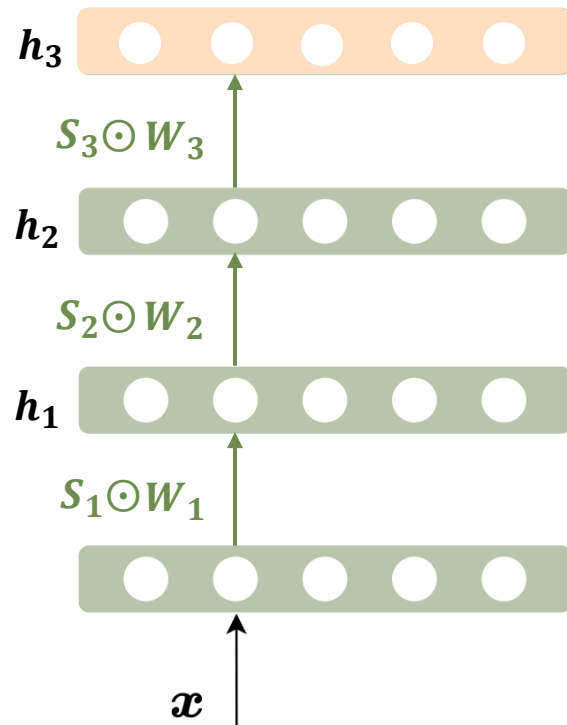
Our Proposed Bio-F0



Our Proposed Bio-F0

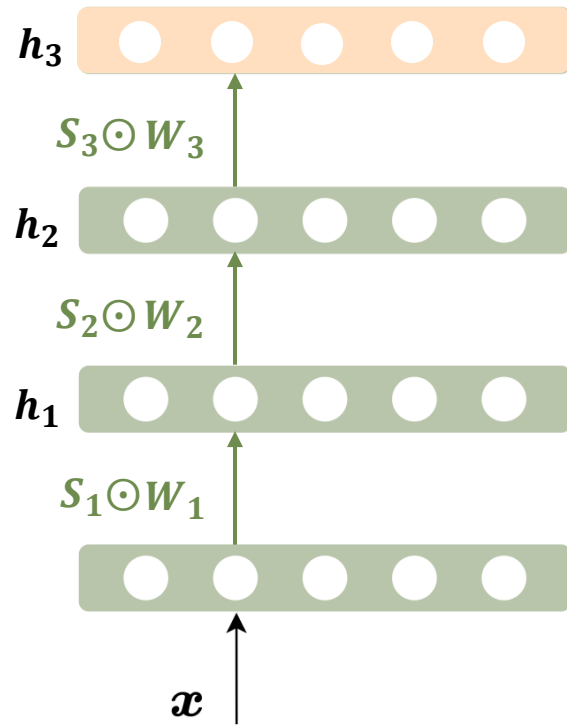


Our Proposed Bio-F0

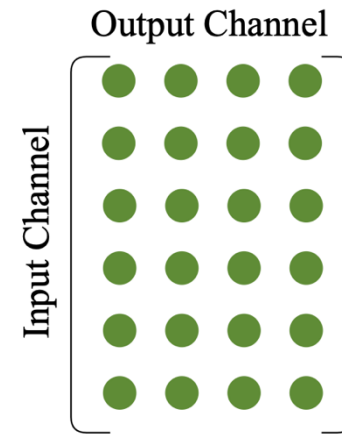


S : Sparsity Mask

Our Proposed Bio-F0

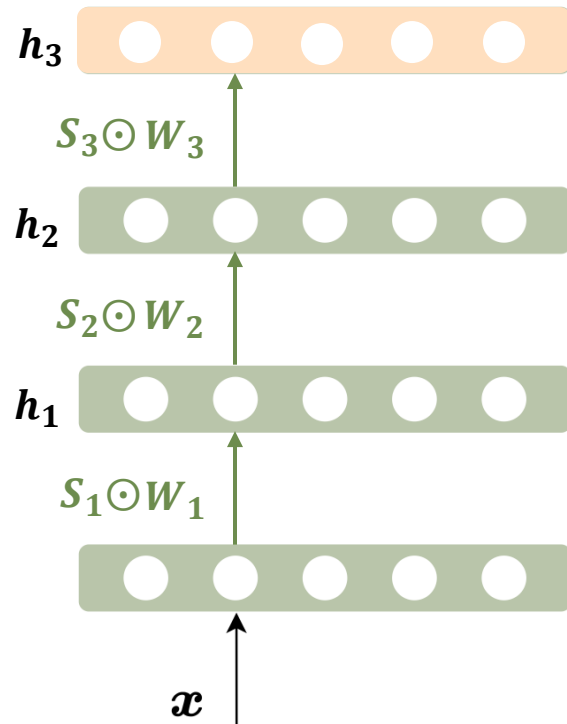


S : Sparsity Mask

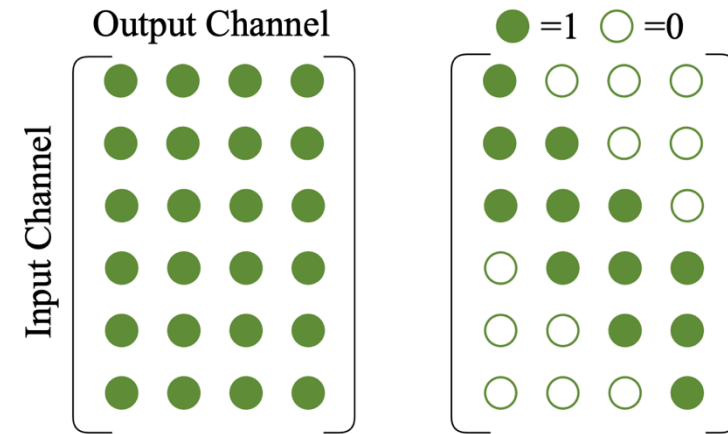


Fully Connected

Our Proposed Bio-F0



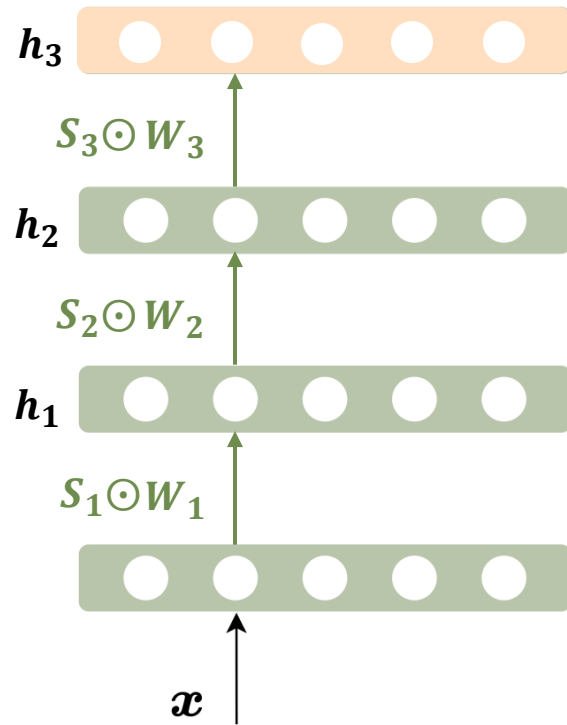
S : Sparsity Mask



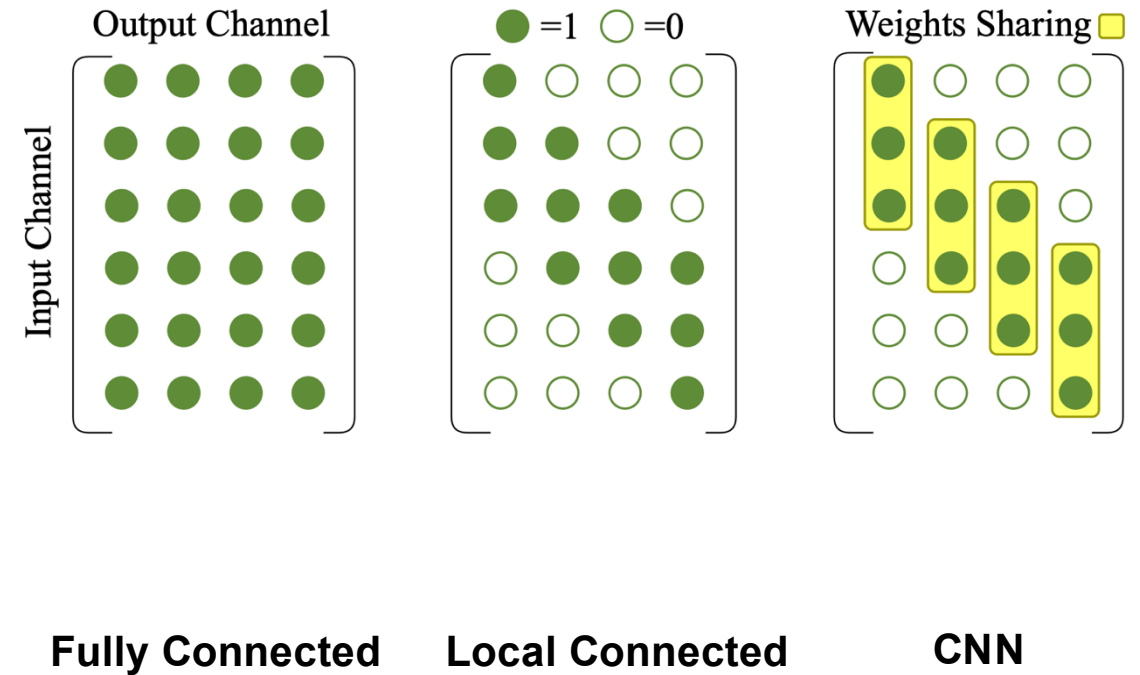
Fully Connected

Local Connected

Our Proposed Bio-F0



S : Sparsity Mask





Evaluation and Results

Dataset and Application



MNIST
Grayscale
Image



CIFAR-10(100)
RGB
Images



Mini-ImageNet
Subset of
ImageNet

Dataset and Application



MNIST
Grayscale
Image



CIFAR-10(100)
RGB
Images



Mini-ImageNet
Subset of
ImageNet



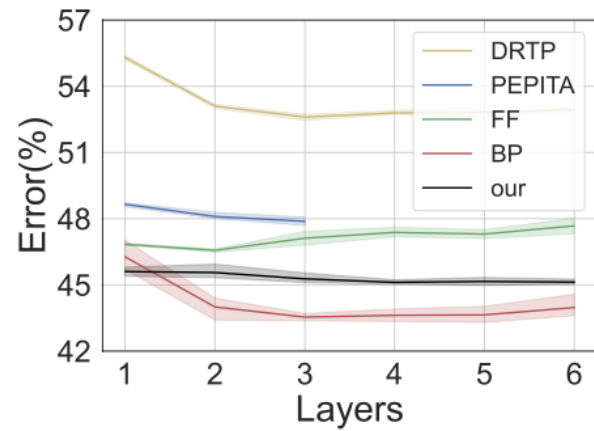
CHB-MIT
Electroencephalogram
(EEG)



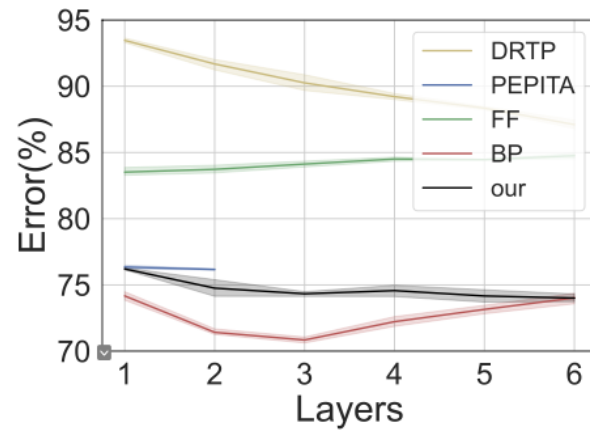
MIT-BIH
Electrocardiogram
(ECG)

**Real-world wearable applications:
Complexity overhead/energy consumption is a major constraint.**

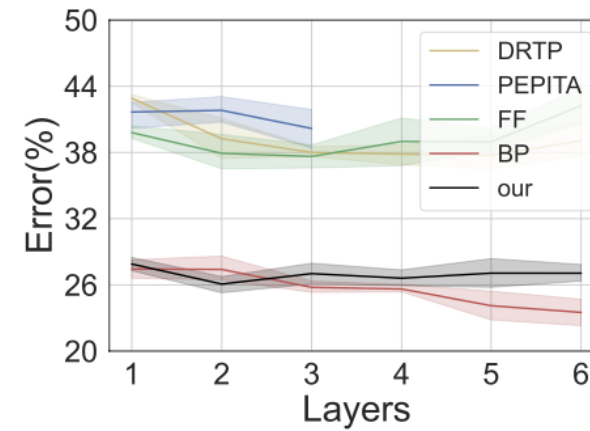
Classification Performance



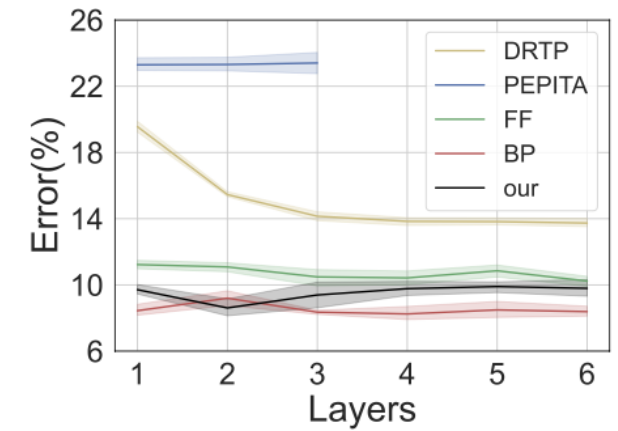
CIFAR-10



CIFAR-100



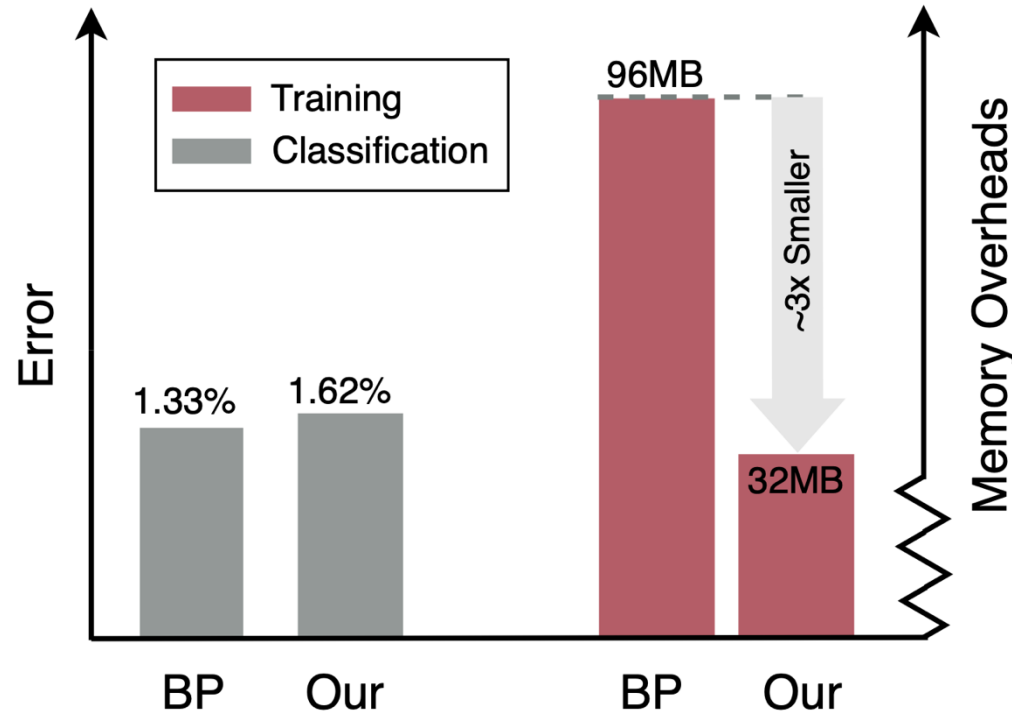
CHB-MIT



MIT-BIH

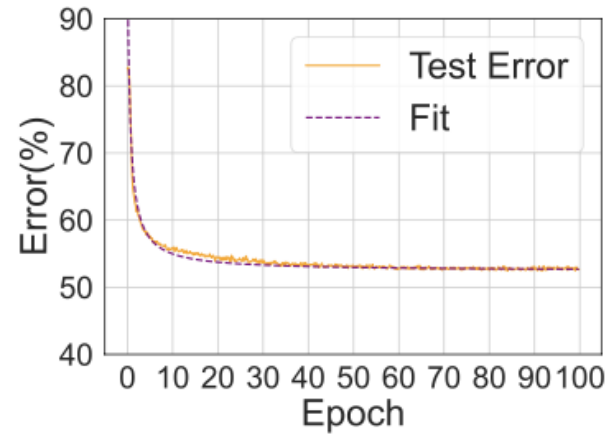
Bio-FO outperforms the state-of-the-art forward-only algorithms, with the potential to achieve **comparable performance** to BP.

Memory Efficiency

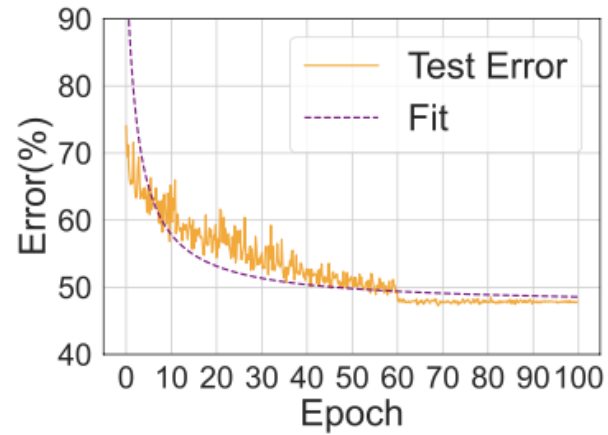


Bio-FO improves the memory efficiency and has approximately **3 times less memory overheads** when compared to BP.

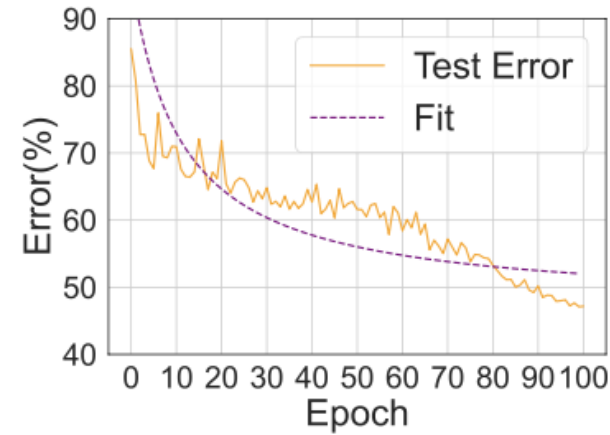
Convergence Rate (CIFAR-10)



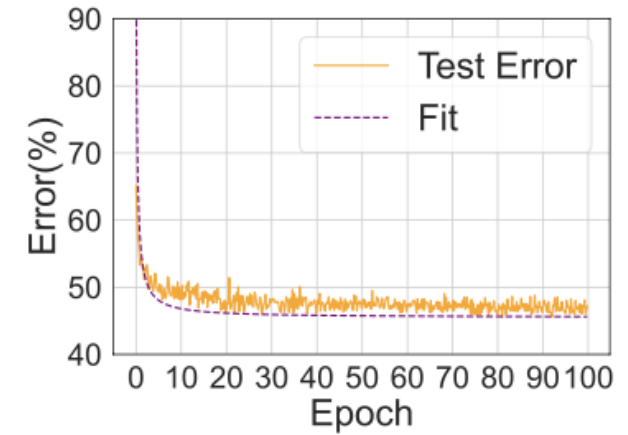
DRTP



PEPITA



FF



Our

Bio-FO enjoys **faster convergence** than PEPITA, and FF.

Algorithms	Energy Overheads (Wh)		
	CIFAR-100	CHB-MIT	MIT-BIH
DRTP	131.9	6.4	317.7
PEPITA	<u>123.9</u>	5.9	<u>191.0</u>
FF	753.5	<u>4.8</u>	221.9
Our	37.9	3.5	121.1

Bio-FO outperforms the state-of-the-art forward-only algorithms in terms of energy consumption.

Scalability (Architectures)

Datasets	Error (%)		
	Our-FC	Our-LC	Our-CNN
MNIST	1.62	<u>1.36</u>	0.57
CIFAR-10	45.12	<u>35.13</u>	26.08
CIFAR-100	74.57	<u>64.06</u>	64.06

The relevance of Bio-FO with LC and CNN shows **the importance of architectures** for improving classification performance.

Scalability (mini-ImageNet)

Datasets	Error (%)				
	DRTP	PEPITA	FF	Our	BP
mini-ImageNet	94.20 \pm 0.49	91.23 \pm 0.18	93.64 \pm 0.26	67.39 \pm 0.25	53.49 \pm 0.40

Bio-FO achieves the **closest classification performance** to BP, on relatively large-scale datasets such as mini-ImageNet.

Challenge

Bio-Implausibility

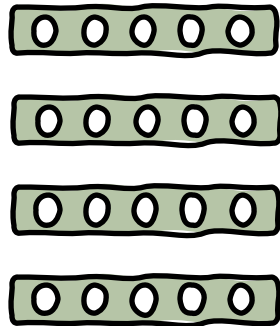
Incurs
Inefficiency



Challenge

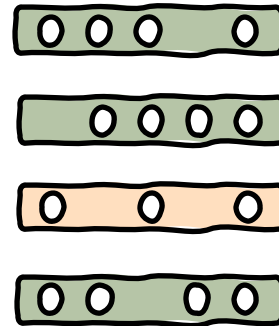
Bio-Implausibility

Incurs
Inefficiency



Approach

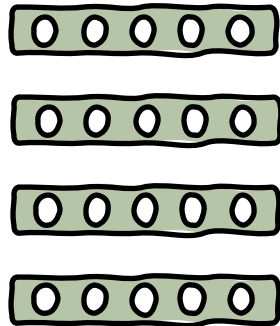
A Biologically Plausible
Forward-Only
Algorithm



Challenge

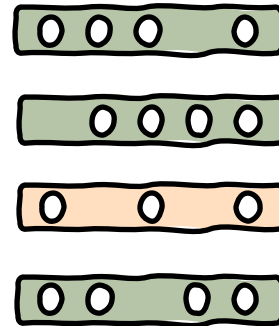
Bio-Implausibility

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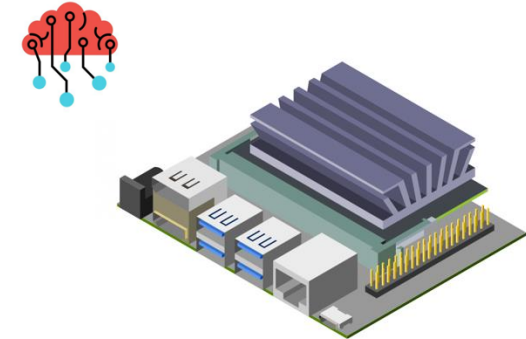
Approach

A Biologically Plausible
Forward-Only
Algorithm



Performance

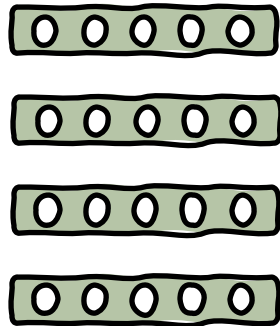
Memory & Energy
Efficiency
Maintain Performance



Challenge

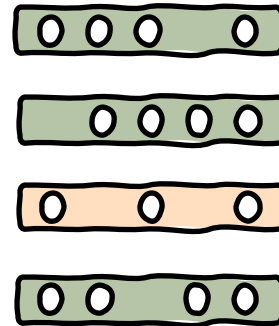
Bio-Implausibility

Incurs
Inefficiency



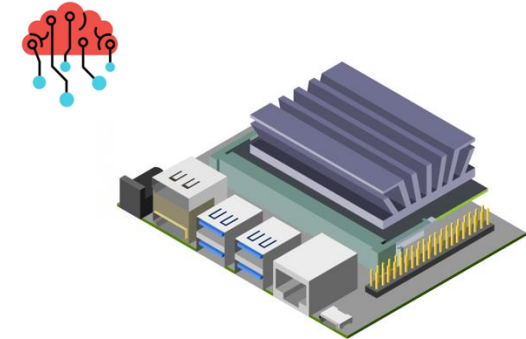
Approach

A Biologically Plausible
Forward-Only
Algorithm



Performance

Memory & Energy
Efficiency
Maintain Performance



Welcome to Our Poster Session

Thank you!