# DFT in two dimensions or more ...

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## example: retinal pace

#### obviously two-dimensional



□ 0.4°



# example: visual feature map

#### orientation-retinal location



## example: visual feature maps

#### the neural field representation a single feature (e.g. orientation) as well as retinal location is at

least three-dimensional

cannot be mapped onto cortical surfaces without cuts ...



### mathematics of 2D fields

=> simulation

no problem ... selfstabilized peaks work just fine...



- ID spatial location (for illustration)
- ID color dimension (hue)
- visual input: 2D
- => 2D peaks



- separate fields for ID spatial location
- and ID color dimension (hue)
- => combined vs. separate representations



read-out from 2D to ID

by projection

- summing along the other dimension (marginalization)
- or taking the (soft)max



ID to 2D: ridge input that is constant along the other dimension



[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Lins, Spencer, Chapter 5 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

#### peaks at intersections of ridges: bind two dimensions



[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Lins, Spencer, Chapter 5 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

feature-binding: multiple ridges lead to binding problem: correspondence problem



#### visual search: combine ridge input with 2D input..



joint selection in 2 ID fields, that are coupled across 2D field



## synaptic association

in conventional connectionist networks associative relationships are learned by adjusting synapses between those color and space neurons that have been coactivated

color encoding neurons



# limitations of synaptic association

connections must be learned, so does not account for how "where is the red square" works from current stimulation (seen for the first time ever)

color encoding neurons



# limitations of synaptic association

- learning multiple associations poses a binding problem:
- connectionist
   associators learn
   one item at a time
   and need separate
   presentation of
   individual items!



the network may associate blue with left and read with right

# more functions for higherdimensional fields: coordinate transformations

which are analogous to the instantaneous associations between stimulus features demonstrated earlier

eye movement: visual target from retinal representation to head-centered representation for reaching



[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Chapter 7 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

- every gaze shift changes the spatial reference frame of the visual perception
- how to memorize location when the reference frame keeps shifting?
- transformation to gaze invariant reference frame



head movement: transform visual target from retinal representation to body-centered representation



hand movement: transform movement target from body-centered representation to hand-centered representation for reaching



- need mapping between different reference frame: retinocentric (moving with the eye) to body-centered (gaze-invariant)
- mapping is a variable shift, depends on current gaze direction
- as a formula x body = x retinal + x gaze
- but how to implement this in DNFs, using space code representations?

- fixed mapping: neural projection in a neural network
- flexible mapping that depends on gaze/eye position?





[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Chapter 7 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

expand into a 2D field

free output connectivity to implement any mapping







10°

(body-







 bi-directional coupling: reversing the transformations



# spatial remapping during saccades



[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Chapter 7 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]



[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Chapter 7 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

predict retinal location following gaze shift



[Schneegans, Schöner, BC 2012]

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

=> accounts for predictive updating of retinal representation

[Schneegans, Schöner, BC 2012]

# Scaling dimensionality

# multi-dimensional fields represent "bound" feature conjunctions

color

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

the 2D fields representing the combinations of features (e.g., color, orientation, etc) and locations

![](_page_35_Figure_3.jpeg)

space

# Scaling dimensionality

- example: 6-dimensional field (as needed for coordinate transformations from 3D to 3D)
- sample each dimension with 100 neurons: 10^12 neurons! problem: entire brain...

# scaling

#### many combinations of lower dimensional fields may do the job

=> binding

# feature binding along space

 peaks in different
 feature-space
 fields are
 bound by local
 excitatory
 coupling along
 space

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

[Johnson, Spencer, Schöner, NIP 2008]

Mamorization of laft itom

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Spencer, Schöner, Chapter 9 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

#### Adding third item to scene

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Spencer, Schöner, Chapter 9 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

#### Post sequential memorization of all three items

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

[Slides adapted from Sebastian Schneegans,

see Schneegans, Spencer, Schöner, Chapter 9 of Dynamic Field Theory-A Primer, OUP, 2015]

# Scaling

#### coordinate transforms as bottle-necks

# conclusion: multi-dimensional fields

- enable new cognitive functions that derive from association and cannot be realized by synaptic networks
  - instantaneous association or linkage (referral) enabling dimensional cuing
  - cued recall
  - coordinate transforms instantaneous real-time
  - representing associations, rules etc. in a manner that can be activated/deactivated

#### conclusions continued

- need to span only a limited number of dimensions (2 and 3), which are expanded by binding through space
- span by small number of neurons

#### multi-dimensional fields

help us move toward higher cognition