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Mathieu Lefort, Yann Boniface, Bernard Girau

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The SOMMA model: cortically inspired maps for multimodal learning



Mathieu Lefort, Yann Boniface and Bernard Girau {lefort,boniface,girau}@loria.fr



Aim:

- to learn correlations (meaning recurrent spatial patterns) from a multimodal data flow

- to generalize these correlations in order to adapt to unknown situations

Constraints:

- connectionist paradigm: computation is local, generic and decentralized - learning is continuous and unsupervized

Architecture:

Means:

1) splitting of the data flow into multiple monomodal flows 2) self-organization of monomodal correlations in low dimension topology

3) reciprocal and topological connections between monomodal maps 4) learning of multimodal correlations by constrained monomodal self-organizations



Model description:

- sensitive layer provides a tabular coding of the current stimulus - cortical layer provides information from the other monomodal perceptions

- perceptive layer (dynamic neural fields) represents, by a spatial coding, the perception of the current stimulus as a consensus between the local (monomodal) and the multimodal activities

Learning description:

afferent weights:

- BCMu learning rule: discrimination of a correlation in the feedforward flow - modulation by the perceptive activity combined with a synaptic regulation term: provides the multimodal self-organization of the discriminations

multimodal weights:

Widrow Hoff learning rule: the cortical activity converges on the perceptive one

Results:



The bidimensional localisation of each sensitive discriminated Gaussian is represented by the orientation and the color of the bar.

We can observe

1) the self-organization of the modal correlations in each modal map 2) as the same input is provided to both maps, the learning of multimodal correlations forces the modal selforganizations to be similar

a multimodal stimulus is made up of the same stimulus for each modality (here a Gaussian whose location is random)