Longterm Memory: Distributed Representation and Semantics

- Processing in longterm memory:
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Project for a Scientific Psychology, 1895

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## • Evidence: lexical priming studies...



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# Frequency effects: faster to say "robin" than "emu" mechanism: base level of activation is different for different nodes

robin

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chicken

- "bird" primes "robin" more than it does "chicken"

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- "bird" primes "robin" more than it does "chicken"
- mechanism:

typical members of a category *(prototypes)* are more centrally placed than others so they are more likely to get activated, and to get more activated than others...

chicken

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- explicitly specify structure and mechanisms of long term (semantic) memory
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## • Problems:

- don't specify how the structure (nodes and links) got there:
  - presumably experience and learning (we'll get to that)
  - but what about nodes for things that were never experienced?
  - Example: people respond to faster to prototypes they've never seen...

# Posner & Keele Demo

- You will see dot patterns
- Judge whether each belongs to category A or category B
- Guess at first, but will get better with feedback...



## That was Category B.






































Now, judge whether or not you have seen the following dot patterns...




























### Old or New

*10* 

## **Category A Members**



# **Category B Members**









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#### • How do we represent both individual instances and categories?

- collection of exemplars? (e.g., Atkinson & Shiffrin, 1968)
- abstraction of a prototype? (Rosch, 1983)



#### • Key features of the model:

- *Recurrent* (attractor) network

$$i_i = \sum a_i w_{ij}$$
$$net_i = i_i + e_i$$



### Model of Distributed Memory (MDM)

McClelland & Rumelhart (1985, JEP:General, 114(2), 159-188)

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 Trained using Rescorla-Wagner (delta) rule to represent input as a pattern of activity over units in network (auto-associator)

 $\Delta w_{ij} = \eta (e_i - i_i) \ a_j$ 

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- *Non-linear* (sigmoid) activation function

 $\begin{aligned} \Delta a_i &= a_i + net_i \cdot (a_{max} - a_i) \text{ if } net_i > 0\\ \Delta a_i &= a_i - net_i \cdot (a_i - a_{min}) \text{ if } net_i \le 0 \end{aligned}$ 



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- Exponential weight decay during learning (emphasizes recent experiences)

			N	ame	Pat	tern									Vi	sual	Pat	tern						
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 1	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 2	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	_	+	-	(-	) +	-	-	-	_	+	+	+	+	+	(+	-) -	-

• Training patterns made up of two parts:

	1.3		N	ame	Pat	tern			1						Vi	sual	Pat	tern						
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	_
Pattern 1	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+)	) +	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 2	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	(-	) +	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+	) –	-

- Training patterns made up of two parts:
  - name part: random vectors (e.g, dog names)

			Na	ame	Patt	ern							1	1	Vis	ual	Patt	ern							
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	
Pattern 1	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+)	) +	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	
Pattern 2	+	_	-	-	+	-	-		+	-	(-	) +	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+	) –	-	
Wea	kl	V	י <b>כ</b> נ	or	re	le	at	<b>e</b> (																	

#### • Training patterns made up of two parts:

- name part: random vectors (e.g, dog names)
- visual part: variants of a prototype (e.g., different dogs) (bit flipped in each element with p = 0.2)

			Na	ame	Pat	tern									Vi	sual	Pat	tern						
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 1	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+)	)+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 2	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	_	+	-	(-	) +	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+	-) –	

**Strongly Correlated** 

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			Na	ame	Pat	tern									Vi	sual	Pat	tern						
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 1	+	-	_	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 2	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	_	+	-	(	) +	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+	-) –	-

#### - Model trained on 50 such patterns

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			N	ame	Pat	tern								V	isual	Pat	tern						
Prototype (never shown)	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+		+ +	-	_	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 1	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	(+) +	- +	-	_	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Pattern 2	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	- (	-) -			_	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+	-) -	-

#### - Model trained on 50 such patterns

- Learns to recognize the prototype even though it was never explicitly presented
  - Responds to prototype more strongly than any given exemplar
  - Doesn't retrieve individual names very well, although it can remember the most recent ones

- Can learn (and keep separate) multiple, non-orthogonal prototypes: *implicit categorization*
  - increasing similarity produces increased confusability *initially*, but resolved by further *training*

			Nar	me	Patt	ern										Vi	sual	Pat	tern						
Pattern for dog prototype	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-		+		+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Response to dog name																									
Response to dog visual pattern																									
Pattern for cat prototype	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-		+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+
Response to cat name																									
Response to cat visual pattern																									
Pattern for bagel prototype	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+		+	+		+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-
Response to bagel name																									
Response to bagel visual pattern																									

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#### - Retrieves prototype for all others

RESUI	LTS OF TESTS WITH PROTOTYPH	E AND SPECIFIC EXEMPLAR PATTERNS	
	Name Pattern	Visual Pattern	
Pattern for dog prototype	+ - + - + - + -	+ - + + + + + + +	prototypical
Response to prototype name		+4 -5 +3 +3 -4 -3 -3 -3 +3 +3 +4 +3 +4 -3 +4 -4	eyes, tail and e
Response to prototype visual pattern	+5 -4 +4 -4 +5 -4 +4 -4		
Pattern for Fido exemplar	+ +	+ - (-) + + + + + + (+)	
Response to Fido name		+4 -4 -4 +4 -4 -4 -4 -4 +4 +4 +4 +4 +4 +4 -4 -4 -4	
Response to Fido visual pattern	+5 -5 -3 -5 +4 -5 -3 -5		
Pattern for Rover exemplar	+ + + + - +	+ (+) + + + + + + +	
Response to Rover name		+4 +5 +4 +4 -4 -4 -4 -4 +4 +4 +4 +4 +4 -4 -4 -4 -4	
Response to Rover visual pattern	+4 -4 -2 +4 +4 +4 -2 +4		

 The model can extract the prototype (central tendency) from a set of patterns (series of exemplars)

 It can do this for several different prototypes using the same set of connections

• It does not depend on being presented with labels

#### Representations of specific distinguishable instances can co-exist with knowledge of the prototype



#### • Fits empirical data:

**Both!** exemplars prototype penguin bird sparrow hawl sings winas robin chicken flies
best (fastest) response to prototype







– priming effects (identity > similarity > none)



#### - interaction of priming and familiarity effects (priming greater for unfamiliar than familiar items)





#### • So far, we've focused on processing:



•	1	+		,				,	-0-	~	+
-	,	,	+	,	,	,	,	,	-0-	~	₽,
-	,	,	,	-	,	,	,	,	-0-	1	
-	,	,	,	,	-	2	,	,	-0-		
-	,	,	,	,	,		1	1	-0-	1	,
-	,	,	,	2	2	2	-	,	-0-	111	-
-	,		2	,	,		,	t	-0	ttt	<b>,</b>



#### • So far, we've focused on processing:

- dynamics of encoding and representation information (≈ weather)





#### • So far, we've focused on processing:

– dynamics of encoding and representation information (~ weather)



#### • What about learning?

- how is the landscape shaped? (~geology)
- dynamics of acquisition

### **Simple Pattern Associator**

#### • "Association":

 Network that learns associations (correlations) between input and output patterns; given an input, it can generate the output...







		+1	- 1	- 1	+1			
]	- 1	25	+.25	+.25	25			
Cat	- 1	25	+.25	+.25	25			
•a.	+1	+.25	25	25	+.25			
	+1	+.25	25	25	+.25			
	1							

Weight matrix



#### Mathemagic!

(	+1	- 1	- 1	+1		
}	-1	+1	- 1	+1	Cat	Dog
	0	0	+.5	5	-1	- 1
	5	+.5	0	0	- 1	+1
	0	0	5	+.5	+1	+1
	+.5	5	0	0	+1	- 1

	Input				Output			
ε=.25	Tail	Bark	Meow	Chirp	"Cat"	"	"Bird"	
Cat	+1	-1	+1	-1	+1	0	0	
Dog	+1	+1	-1	-1	0	+1	0	
Bird	+1	-1	-1	+1	0	0	+1	



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Bird	+1	-1	-1	+1	0	0	+1	



Input				Output			
Tail	Bark	Meow	Chirp	"Cat"	' "Dog"	"Bird"	
+1	-1	+1	-1	+1	0	0	
+1	+1	-1	-1	0	+1	0	
+1	-1	-1	+1	0	0	+1	
	Tail +1 +1 +1	Tail Bark +1 -1 +1 +1 +1 -1	Tail   Bark   Meow     +1   -1   +1     +1   +1   -1     +1   +1   -1     +1   -1   -1	Tail   Bark   Meow   Chirp     +1   -1   +1   -1     +1   +1   -1   -1     +1   +1   -1   +1     +1   -1   +1   +1	Tail   Bark   Meow   Chirp   "Cat"     +1   -1   +1   -1   +1     +1   +1   -1   -1   0     +1   -1   -1   +1   0	Tail Bark Meow Chirp "Cat" "Dog"   +1 -1 +1 -1 +1 0   +1 +1 -1 -1 0 +1   +1 -1 -1 +1 0 0	



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Dog	+1	+1	-1	-1	0	+1	0			
Bird	+1	-1	-1	+1	0	0	+1			
Fox	+1	0	0	-1	+.5	+.5	0			
	Half-way between Cat and Dog				Out	put is b	lend			



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#### • Auto-associator: pattern completion:

 Network that learns associations among parts given a partial pattern, it can complete the pattern

# "meow" cat

#### • Pattern associators are really just a special case of "auto-associators":

 have uni-directional connections from inputs and outputs some units have been labeled as "input" and some units have been labeled as "output"



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 If a test input pattern doesn't overlap with (is orthogonal to) to all trained patterns no patterns will become active (since test pattern is not similar to any of the trained patterns)

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#### • But... correlation is not causation:

 Correlations are not always sufficient to learn meaningful associations between patterns of activity