Evolution of Neural Computation

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Rolls and Treves, Neural Networks and Brain Function, Oxford UP, 1998 (*R&T*) can serve as a reference text, even if now 20 years old – the relevant chapters are indicated, together with some of the milestone papers.

Thursday Nov 9: 9:00-11:00

1a: What are we after in the course?

1b: Pyramidal cells (& EUGenIO maybe)



$$\delta = r(t) + \gamma V(t+1) - V(t)$$

Monday Nov 13, 9:00-11:00

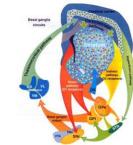
2a: Chemical computation – **neuromodulators.** K Doya (2002) Simple models of

2b: reinforcement learning, then applied to human fMRI experiments. R&T Ch 5

Tuesday Nov 14, 9:00-11:00

3a: Elements of **information theory**. *R&T App 2*

3b: Geometrical computation – **early vision** in flies, in fish and in mammals *JJ Atick, ecological theory of sensory processing, Network 3:213 (1992)*



Thursday Nov 16, 9:00-11:00

4a: virtual guest lecturer Elena Marchiori – Perceptrons and back-propagation. R&T Ch 5

4b: Creative geometry in the **basal ganglia** and in the **cerebellum**. R&T Ch 9

---- phase transition into cortical systems

$$H = -(1/2N) \sum J_{ij}S_jS_j$$

Thursday Nov 23, 9:00-11:00

5a: Cortical ingredients for models of associative learning – the **Hopfield** model. R&T Ch 1-3

5b: Simple associative nets in olfactory cortex, amygdala and orbitofrontal cortex. R&T Ch 7

Tuesday Nov 28, 9:00-11:00

6a: Competitive nets – & EUGenIO – extended to the self-organization of **cortical maps**. R&T Ch 4

6b: Lamination and arealization in sensory cortex. R&T Ch 8

Thursday Nov 30, 9:00-11:00

7a: Pure memory in the mammalian **hippocampus** – David Marr and beyond. R&T Ch 6

7b: The statistical physics of **spatial maps**, in flat and curved spaces.

The legacy of David Marr, Oxford University Press (2017)



Tuesday Dec 5, 9:00-11:00

8a: Random number generators in the **Dentate Gyrus**, and neurogenesis

8b: slides by Sophie & Karel – analyzing charts and their transitions



Thursday Dec 7, 9:00-11:00

9a: Memory from statics to dynamics, from semantics to grammar

9b: Issues at the interface to **higher cognition** – the space of vowels

Wednesday Dec 13, 9:00-11:00

10a: Self-review in the format of an assessment, with multiple choice questions

10b: Collective assessment review and discussion of some controversial issues

