

# Photonics for AI

Dr. Yichen Shen  
Presentation @ MIT  
Apr 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018

# Nanophotonics

Optical structures (dielectrics) with nanometer-scale features

wavelength of visible light



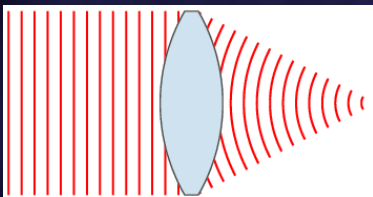
Macroscopic structures  
(Feature size  $\gg$  Wavelength)

Nanophotonic structures  
(Feature size  $\lesssim$  Wavelength)

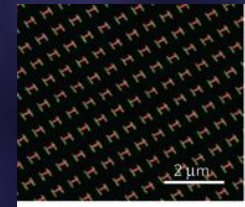
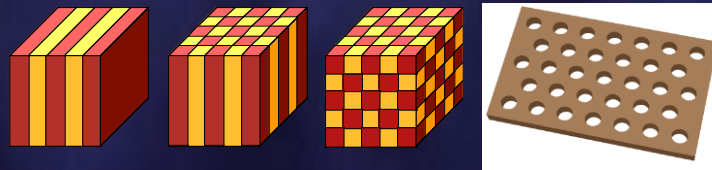
Photonic crystals

Metamaterials

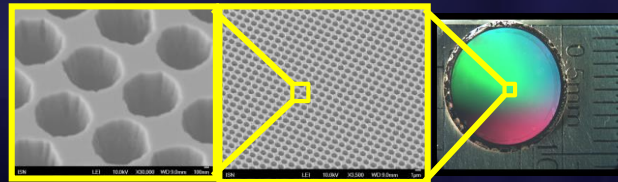
Ray optics



Limited ways to  
manipulate light



500 nm  
↔



Integrated Photonics

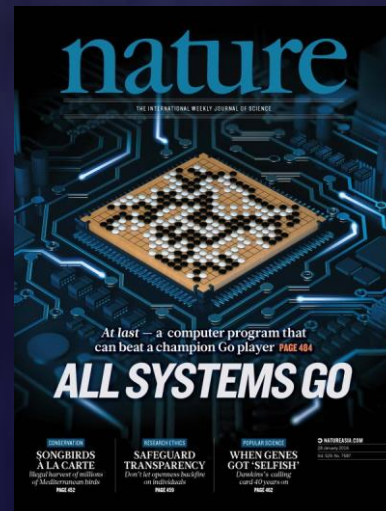


Thanks to improved computation power & fabrication techniques

# Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)

## Breakthroughs in deep learning:

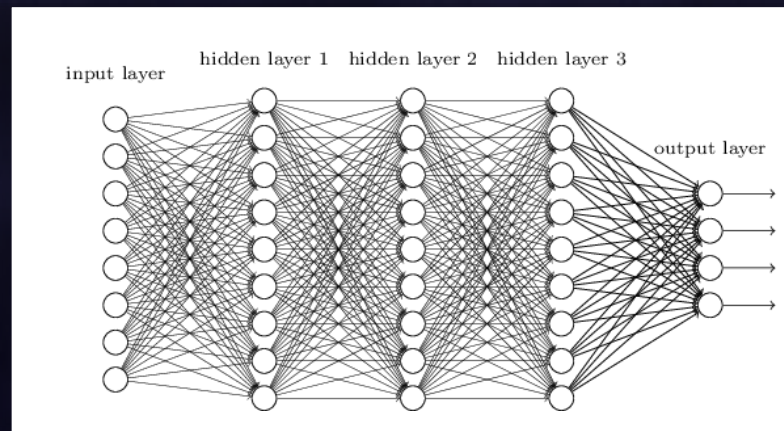
- Natural Language Processing (NLP)
- Game Playing (Go, Atari)
- Autonomous Vehicles
- Control
- Ad Placement
- Researches (drug discovery, material study)
- Etc.



# Neuromorphic Computing



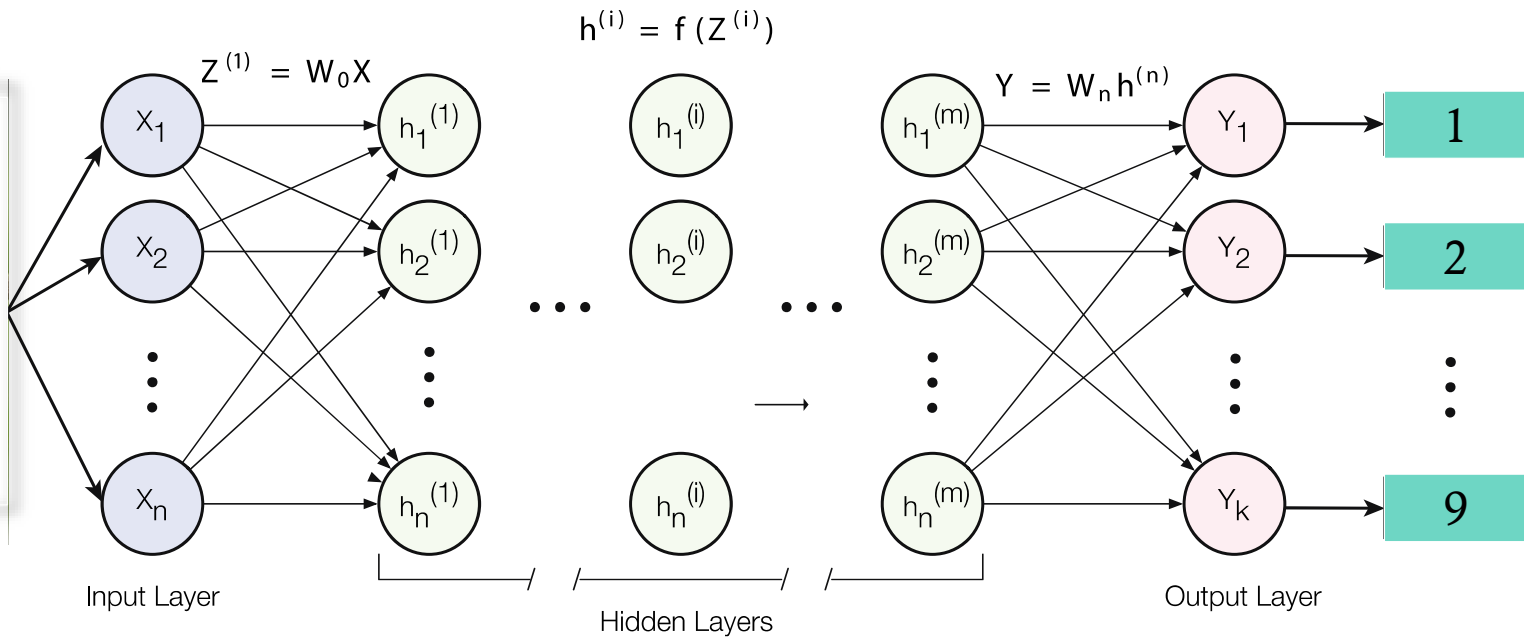
Biological Neural Networks



Artificial Neural Networks



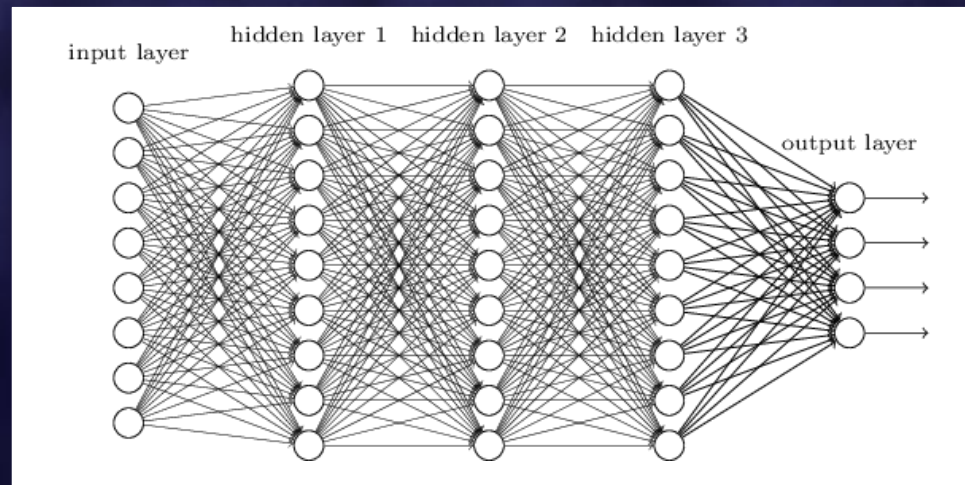
# Basic Algorithm of ANN



Matrix Multiplication: 
$$z_j^{(1)} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ji}^{(1)} x_i$$
      
$$z_j^{(k)} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ji}^{(k)} h_i^{(k)}$$

Nonlinear Activation: 
$$h_j^{(1)} = f(z_j^{(1)})$$
      
$$h_j^{(k)} = f(z_j^{(k)})$$

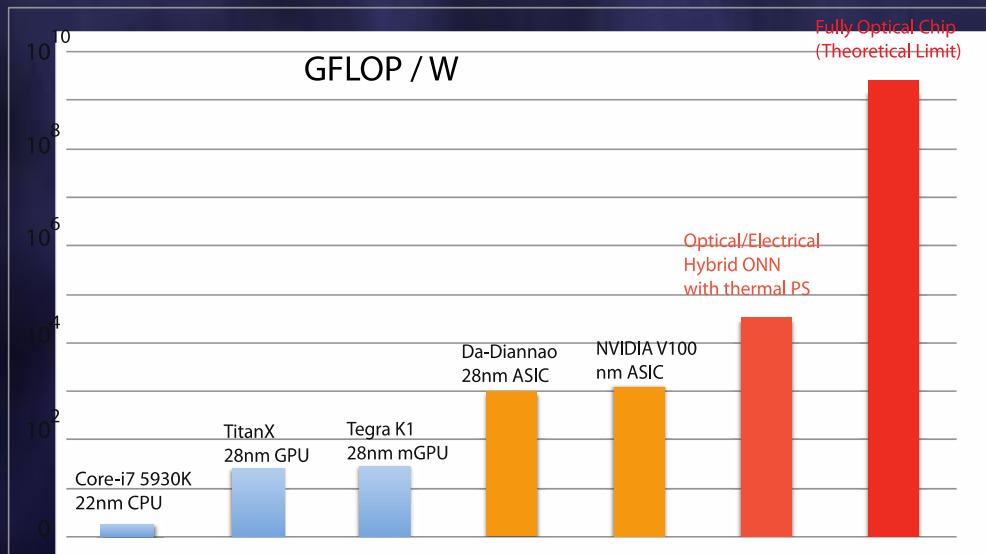
# Hardware and Data Enable Deep Learning



# The Need for Speed

More Data → Bigger Models → More need for Computation

But Moore's Law is no-longer providing more computation...



Von Neumann

ASIC/FPGA

Optical Processing

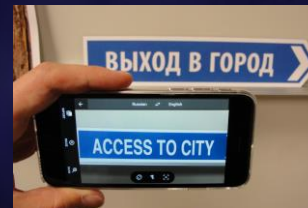
The Market:



On clouds:  
Millions of high power AI processors (\$10,000 each) in data centers by 2020

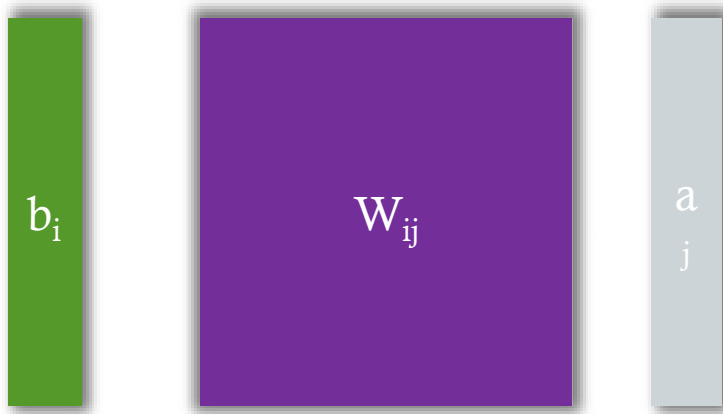
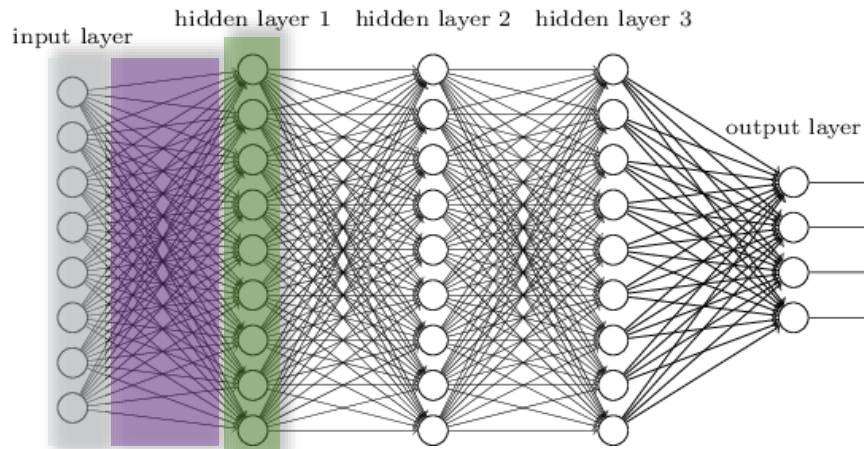


On premise:  
Billions of compact AI processors needed due to the rise of autonomous driving, AR and IoT.

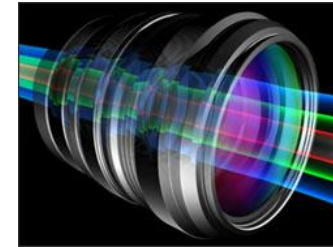




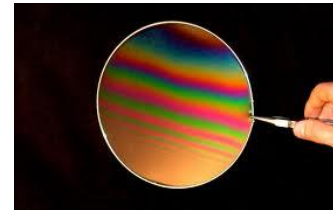
# In Deep Learning Key Operation is dense $M \times V$



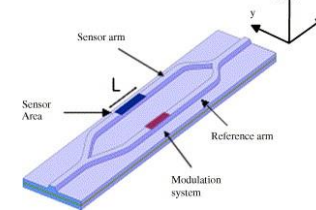
In Optics, Matrix Multiplication  
is very common & (usually)  
consumes no energy !



Convolution / FFT



Matrix  
Multiplication





# ANN does **NOT** require high resolution

Category	Method	Weights (# of bits)	Activations (# of bits)	Accuracy Loss vs. 32-bit float (%)
Dynamic Fixed Point	w/o fine-tuning	8	10	0.4
	w/ fine-tuning	8	8	0.6
Reduce weight	Ternary weights Networks (TWN)	2*	32	3.7
	Trained Ternary Quantization (TTQ)	2*	32	0.6
	Binary Connect (BC)	1	32	19.2
	Binary Weight Net (BWN)	1*	32	0.8
Reduce weight and activation	Binarized Neural Net (BNN)	1	1	29.8
	XNOR-Net	1*	1	11
Non-Linear	LogNet	5(conv), 4(fc)	4	3.2
	Weight Sharing	8(conv), 4(fc)	16	0

\* first and last layers are 32-bit float

# Deep Learning Inference is “Passive”

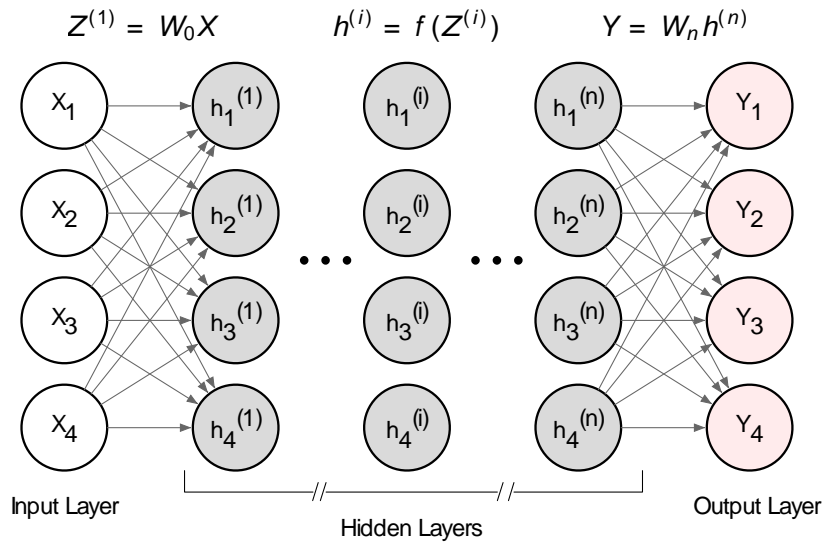
Once the Optical Neural Network is trained, no need to update the weights frequently...

# Deep Learning is very parallelizable

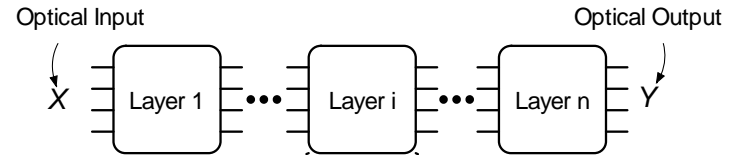
Multiple wavelengths can be used to simultaneously  
execute batch of data

# Coherent Optical Neural Networks (ONN)

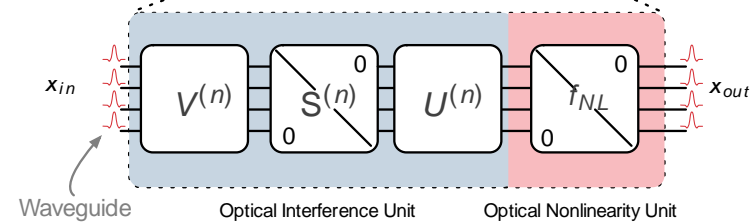
a



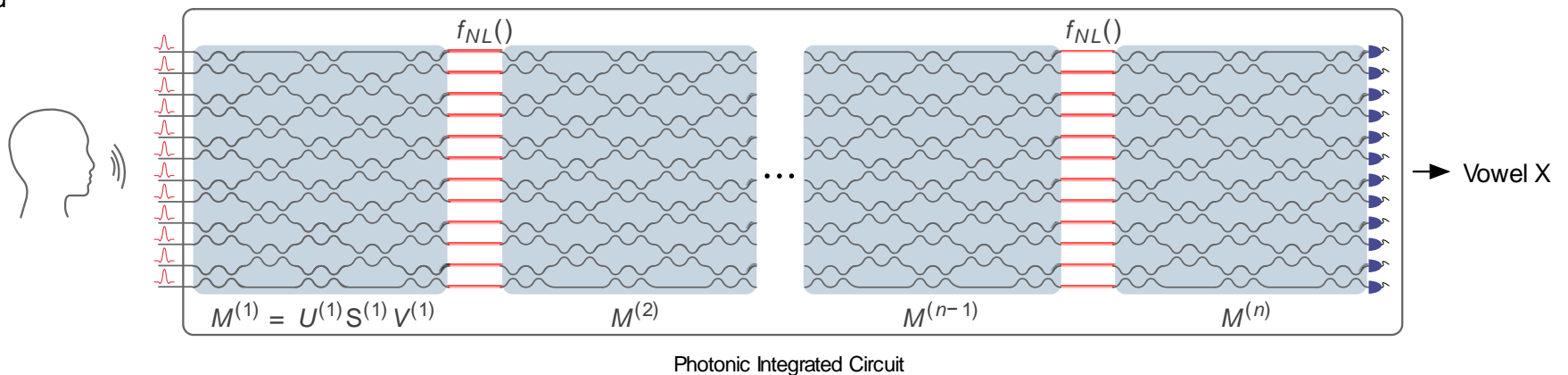
b



c

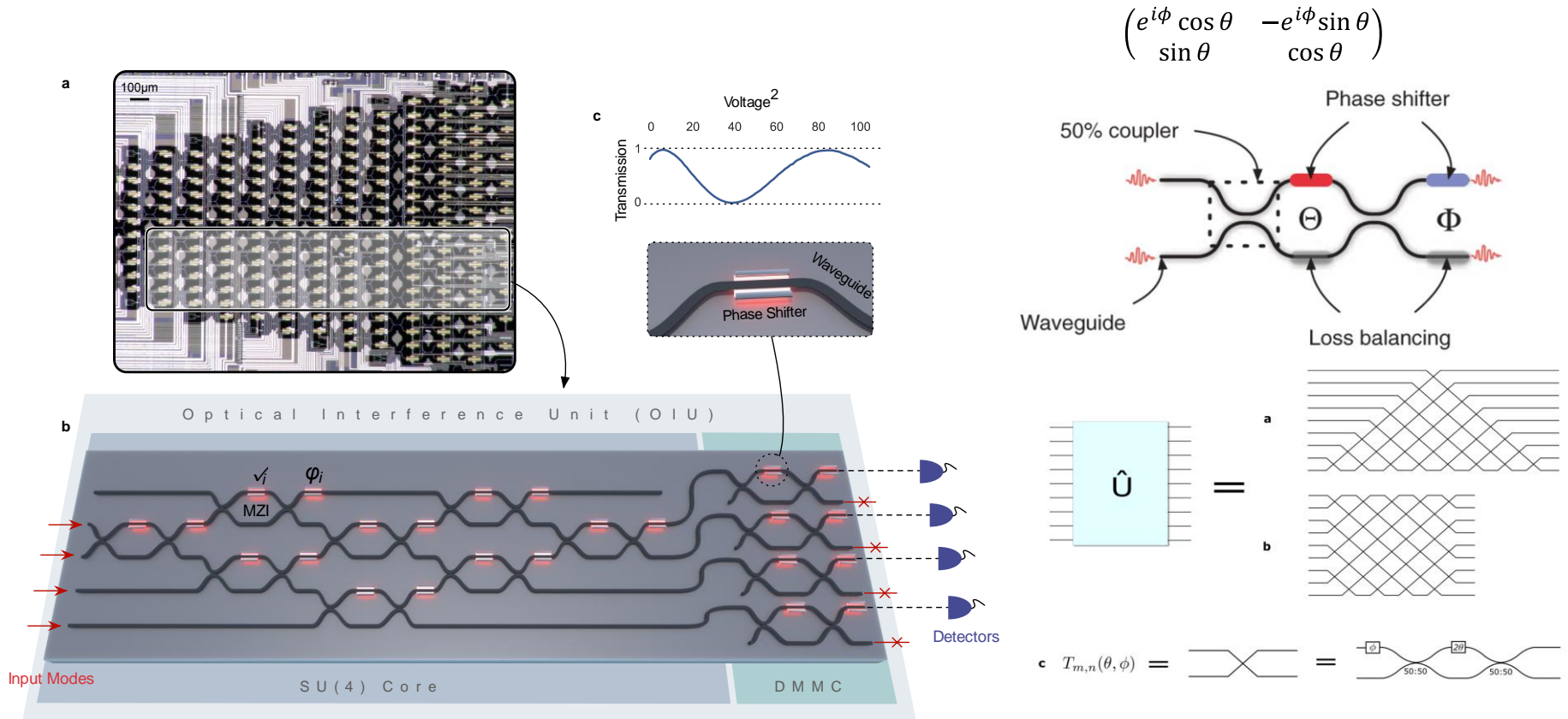


d

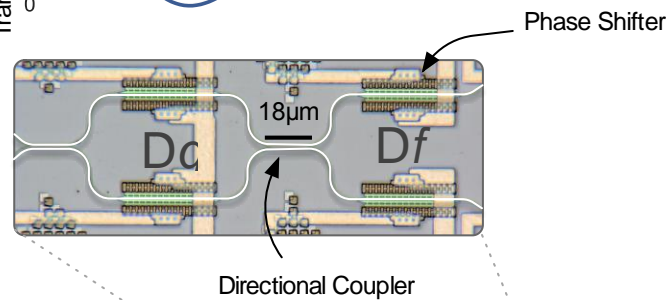
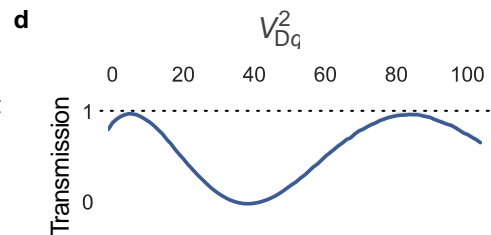
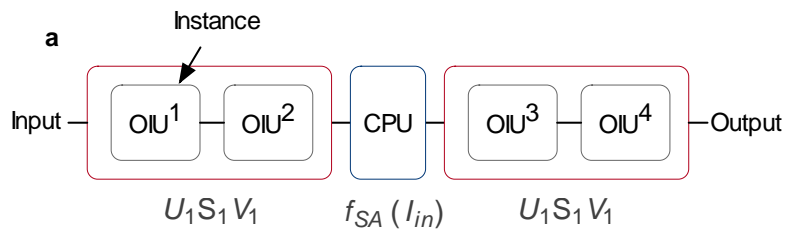




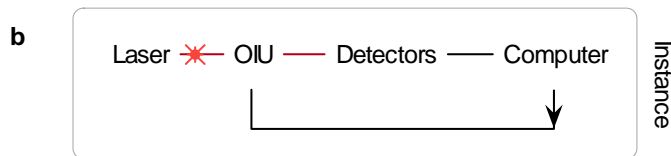
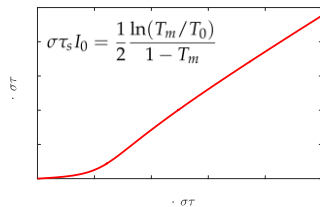
# Programmable Nanophotonic Processors



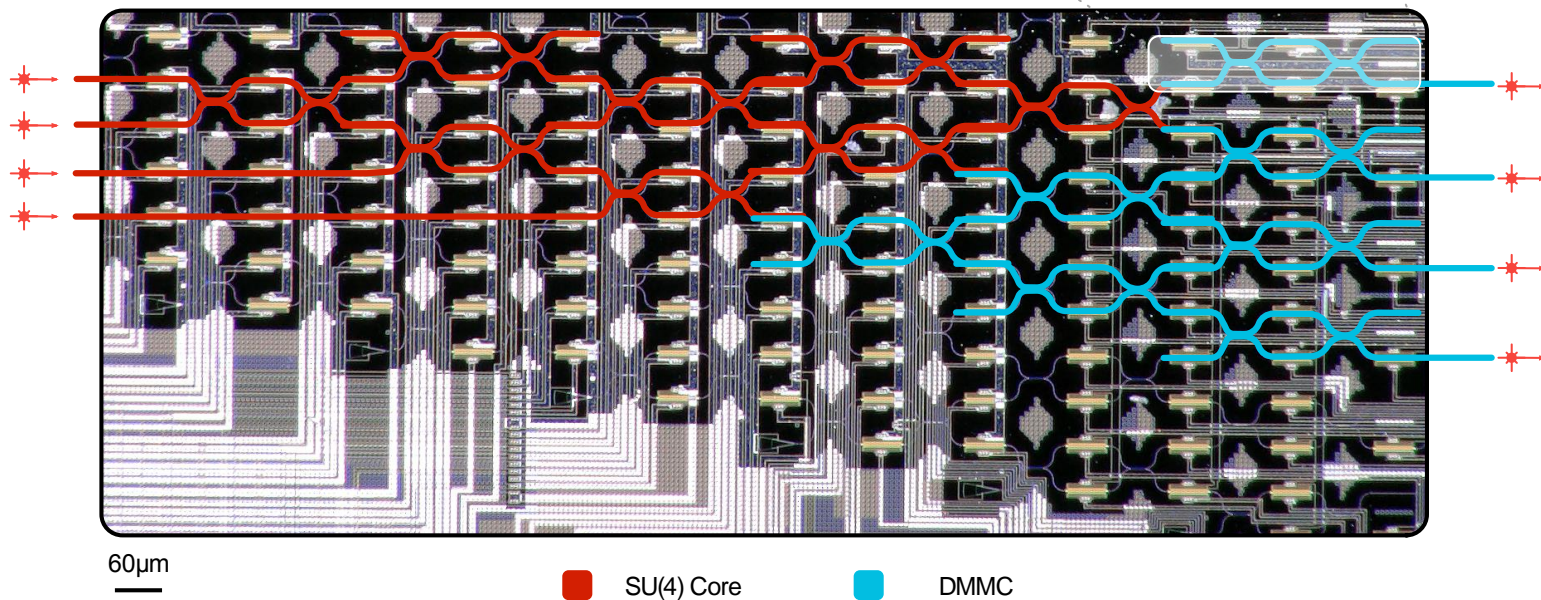
Y. Shen and N. Harris et al. "Deep Learning with Coherent Nanophotonic Circuit" *Nature Photonics* **11**, 441–446 (2017)



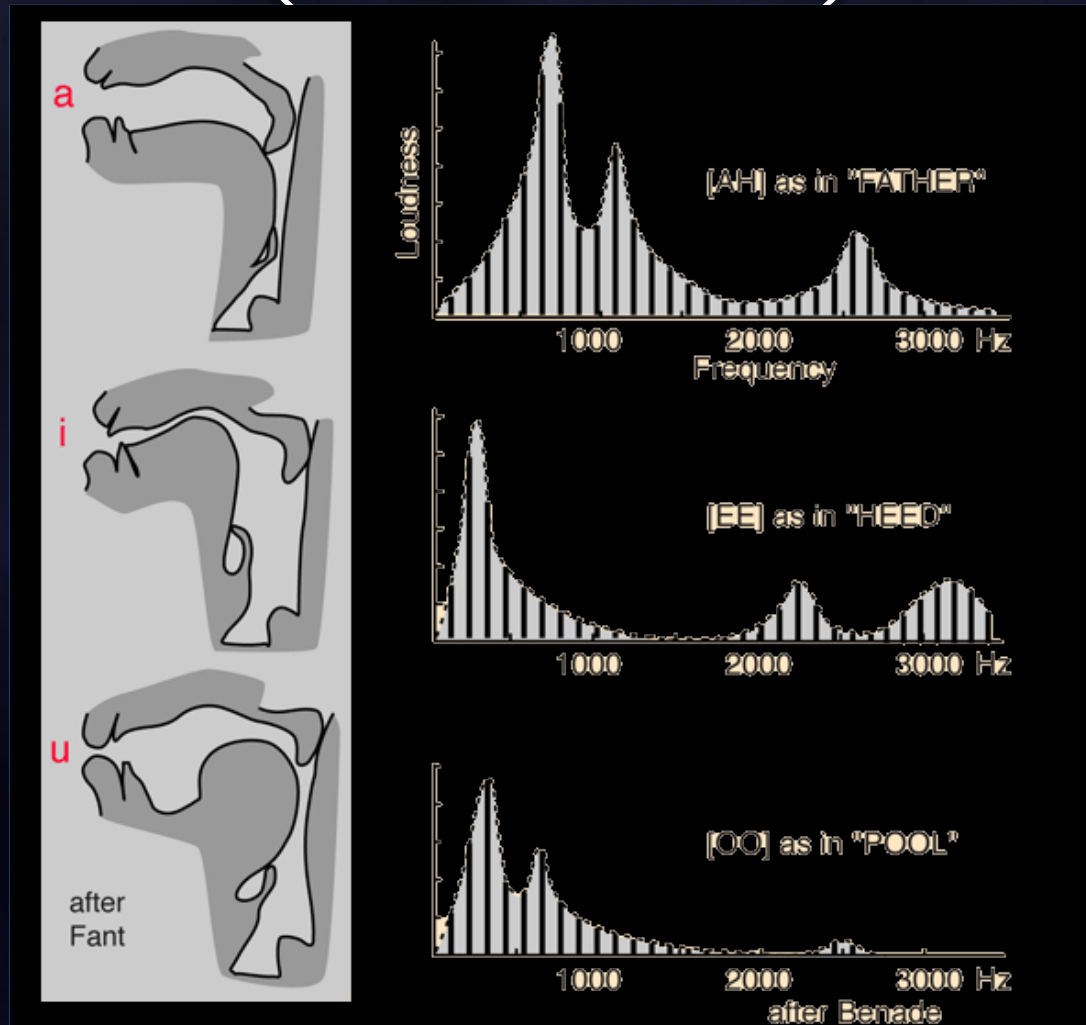
## Simulated Optical Nonlinearity



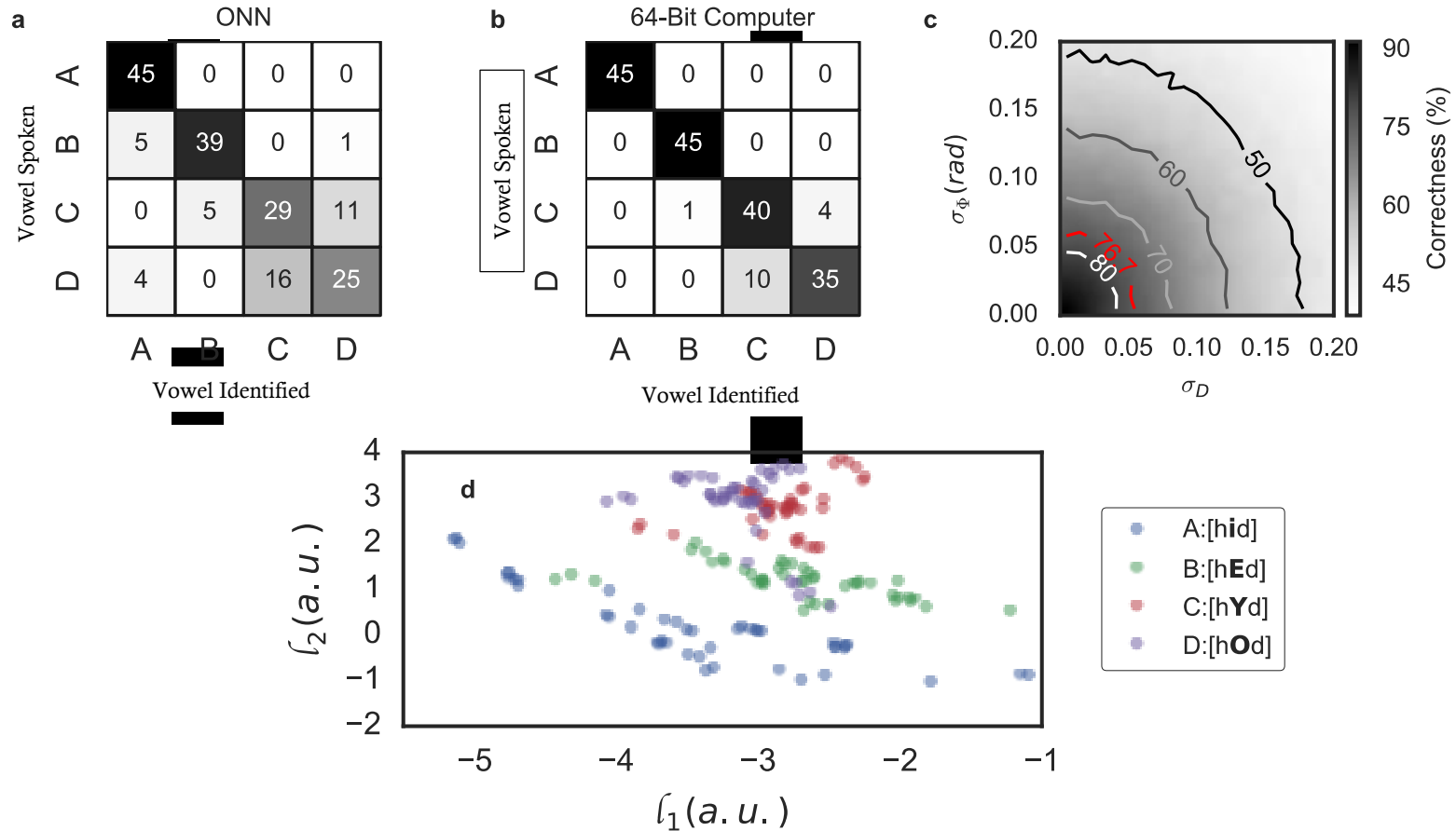
**c** Optical Interference Unit



# Optical Vowel Recognition (4d 4 classes)



# Experimental Result



Simulation Result: 165/180=91.7%

Experiment Result: 138/180=76.7%



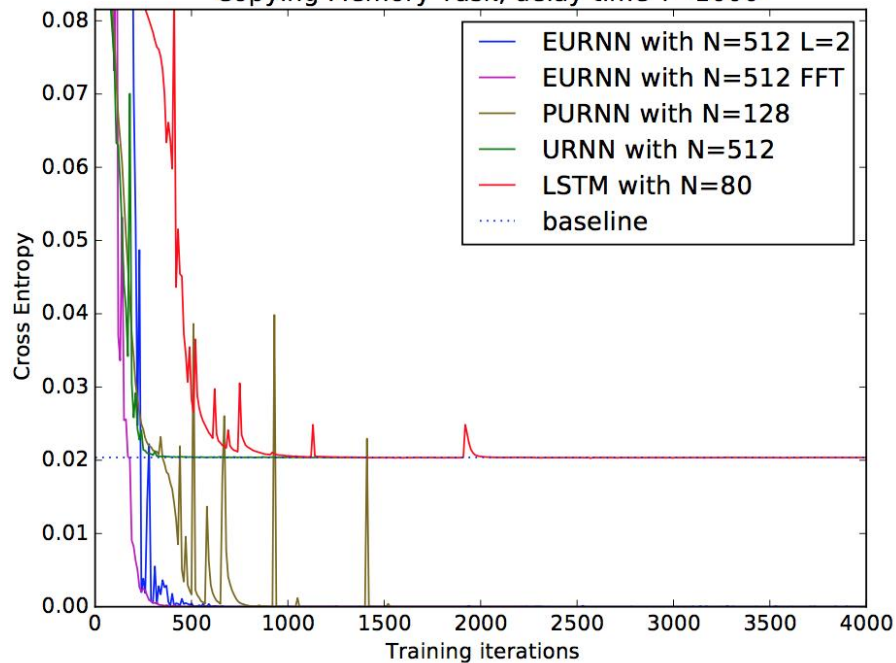
# The other side of the Story...

- ⊗ Immature photonics eco-system (low yield, high cost)
- ⊗ Large device size
- ⊗ Non-ideal PDK component design (lossy, low resolution, power hungry)
- ⊗ AD/DA interface

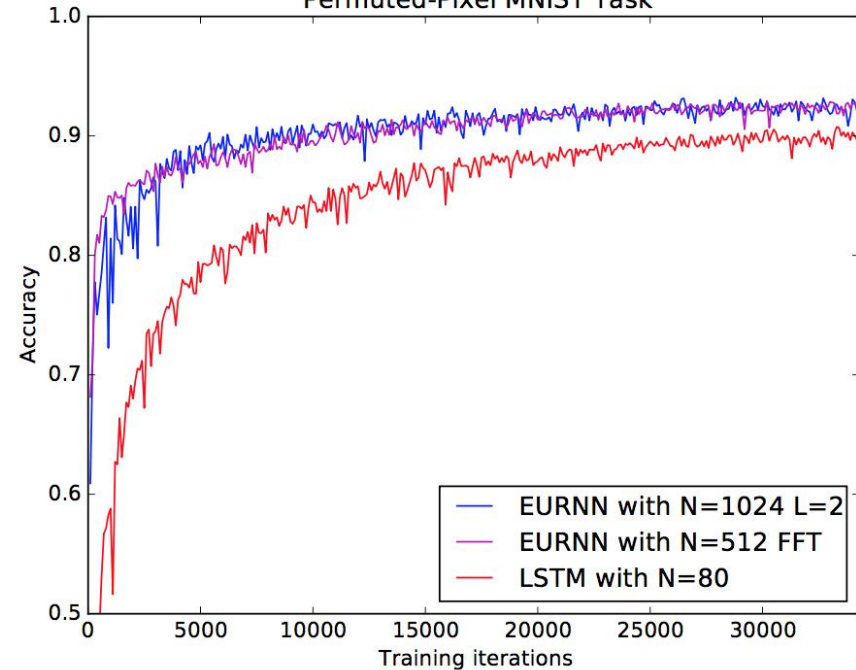
# Software & Hardware

AI algorithms DESIGNED to be run on photonics chip

Copying Memory Task, delay time  $T=1000$

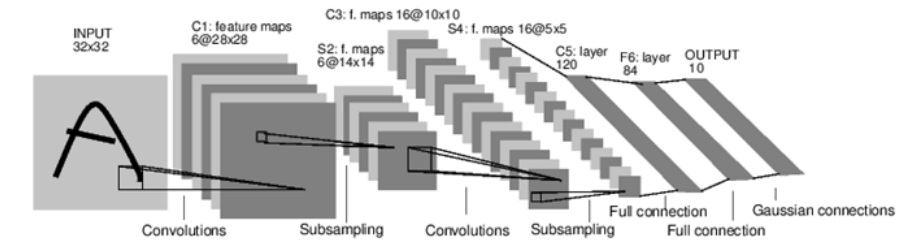
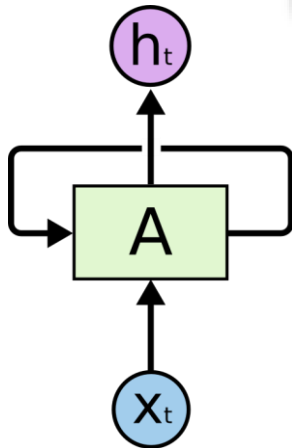
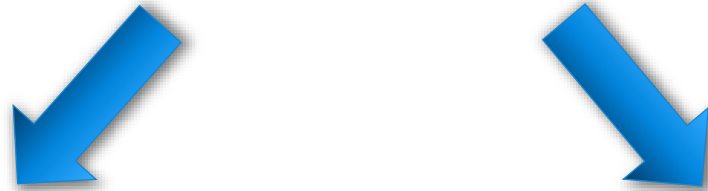
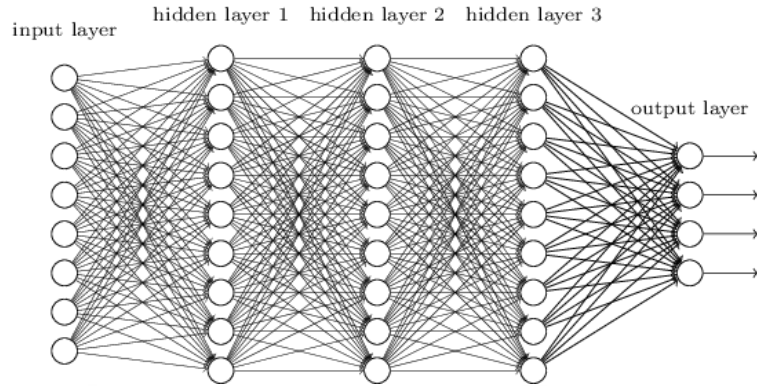


Permuted-Pixel MNIST Task



L. Jing & Y. Shen et al, International Conference for Machine Learning (ICML 2017)

# Fully Connected Neural Networks



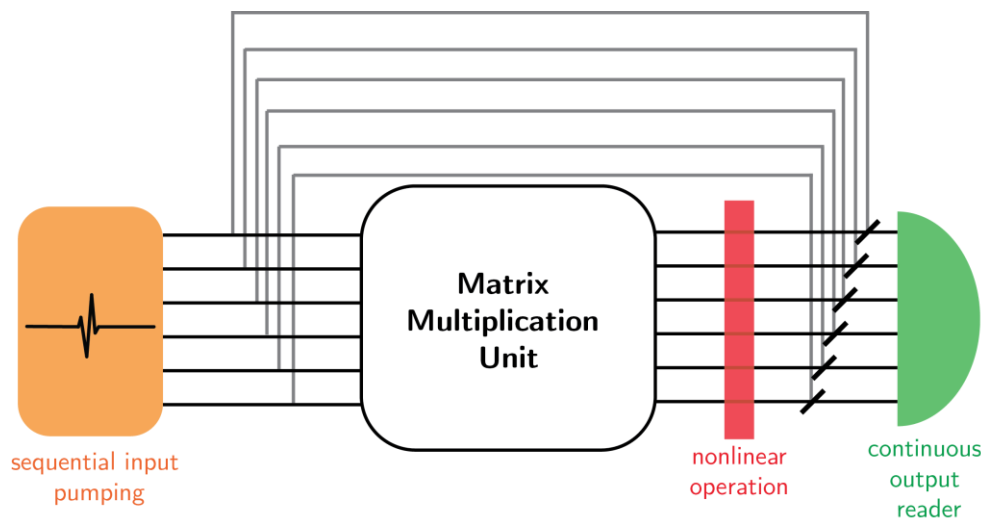
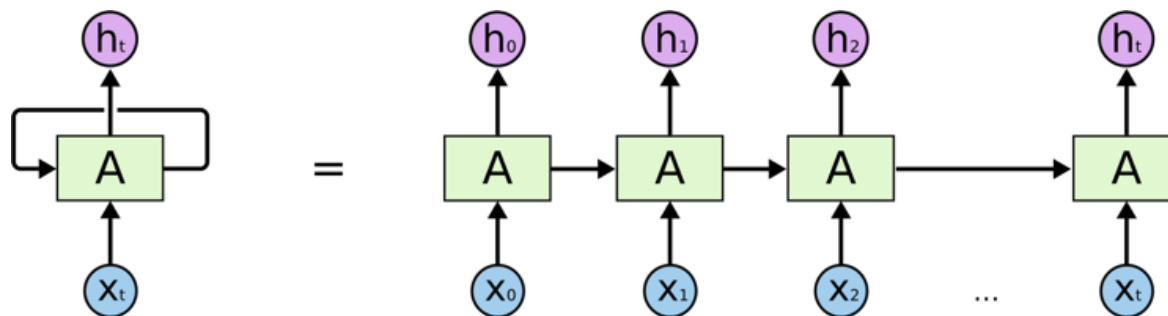
A Full Convolutional Neural Network (LeNet)

## Recurrent Neural Networks

## Convolutional Neural Networks

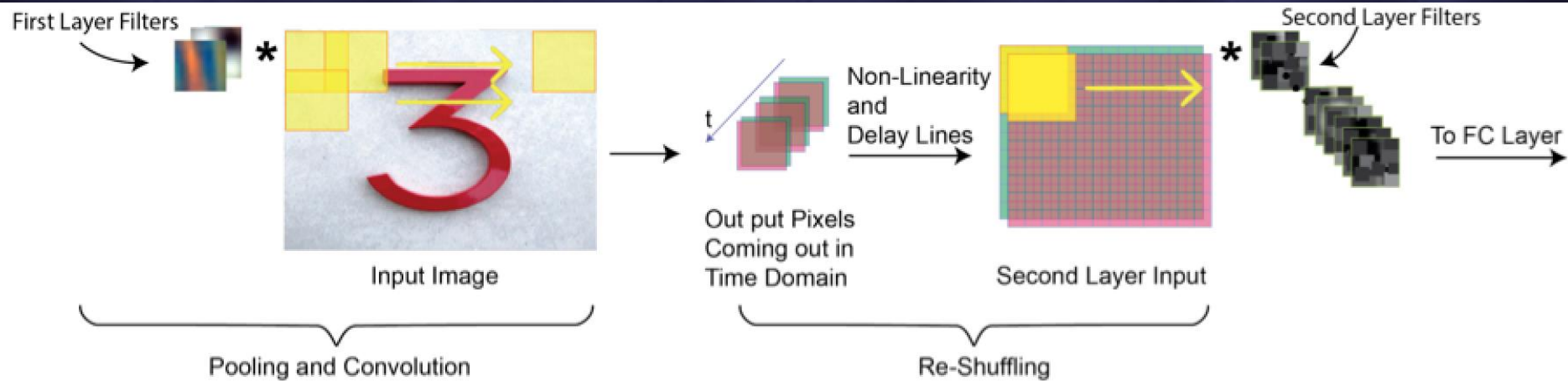
# Recurrent Neural Networks

Commonly used for Speech Recognition and Language Processing





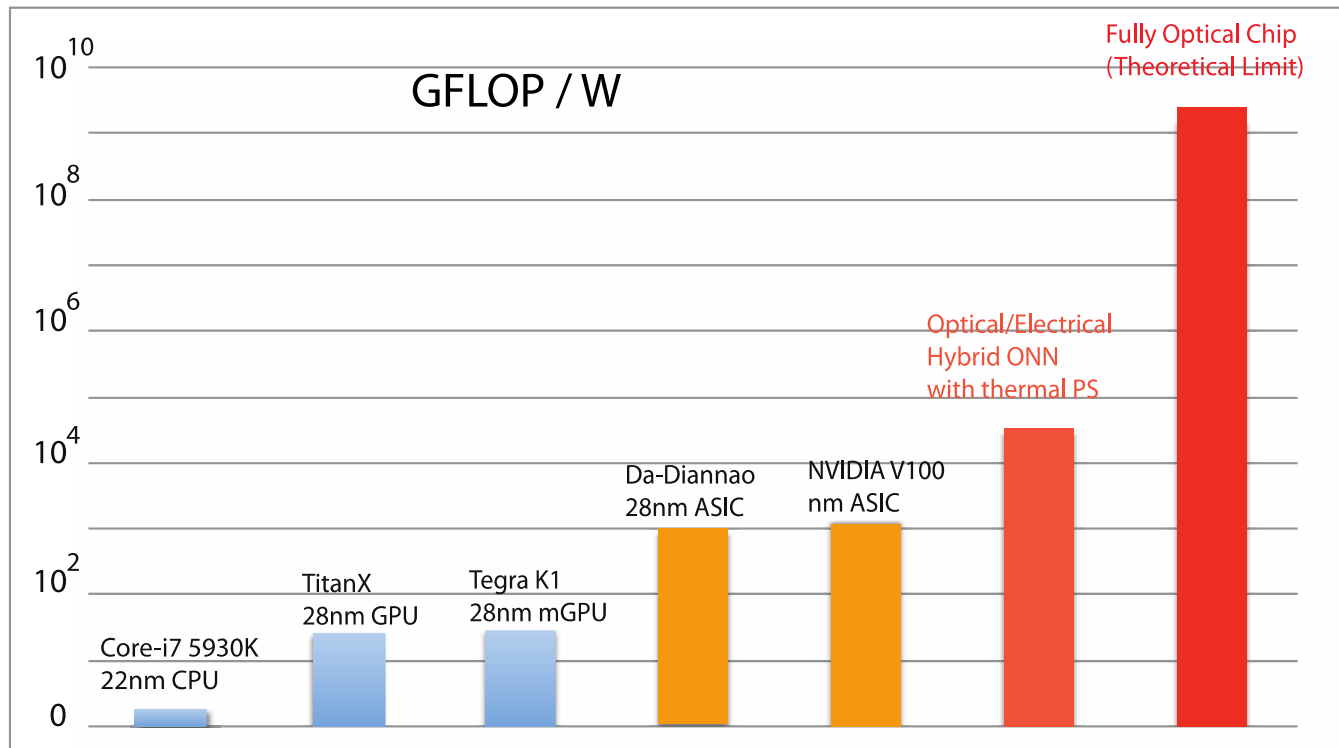
# Convolution Neural Networks



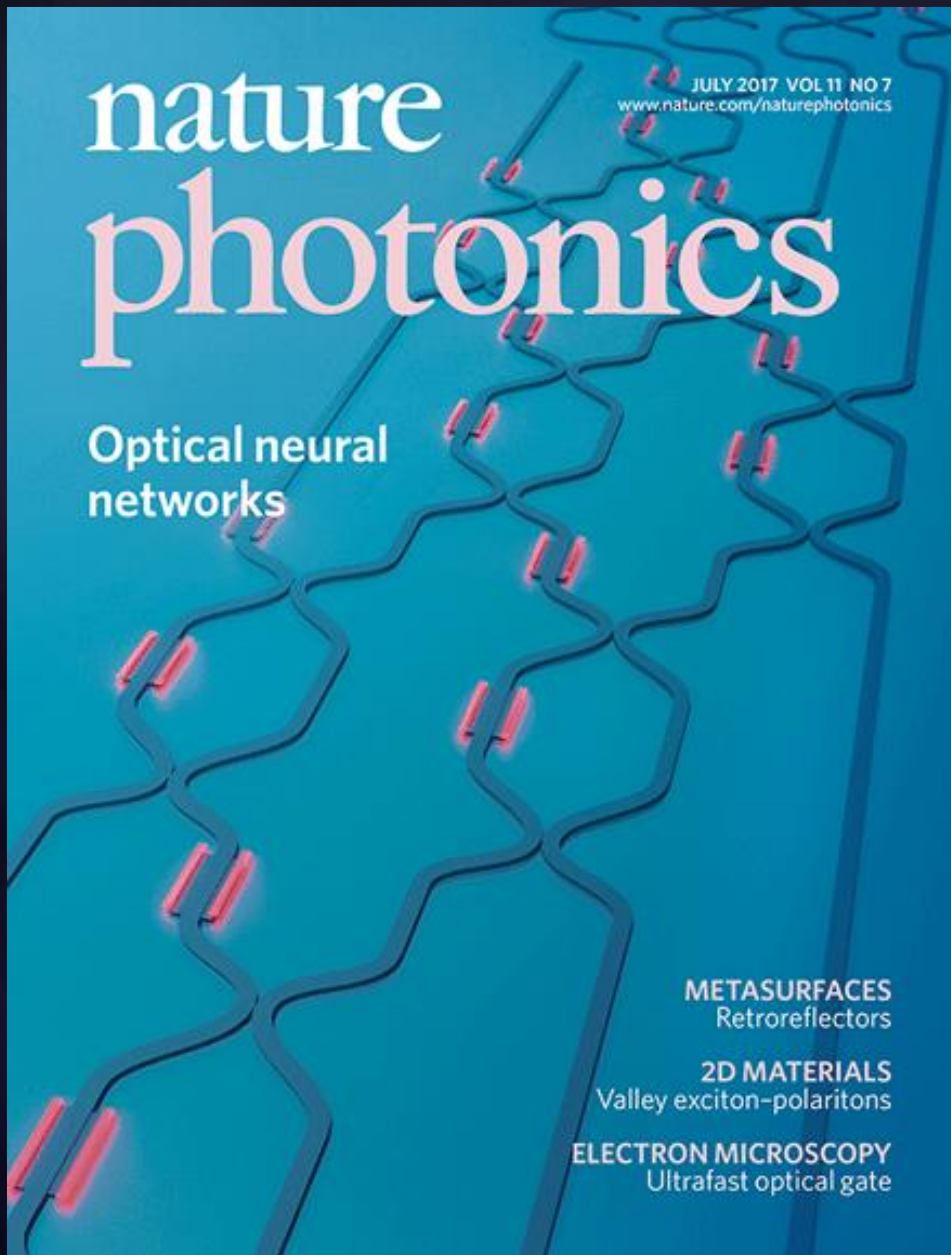
Scott Skirlo and Yichen Shen et al, Manuscript in Preparation

# Speed and Energy Efficiency Comparison with Electrical ANN

	NVIDIA TITAN X	ONN (with thermal PS)
Architecture	Von Neumann	Neuromorphic
Power Consumption	1 kW	1-2 kW
Operation Speed	10 TFLOP	10,000 TFLOP



Y. Shen and N. Harris et al, Nature Photonics 11, 441 (2017)



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COMPUTING

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Optical computers may have finally found a use—improving artificial intelligence

By Jesse Dunietz on June 30, 2017

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The New York Times

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By WILLIAM J. BROAD

Published: October 22, 1985

SINCE its start nearly half a century ago, the computer revolution has advanced by virtue of a simple physical phenomenon: that streams of speeding electrons can start or stop the flow of other streams of electrons. In short, electrons can act as a switch.

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# Some History on Optical Neural Networks

2005

*“The biggest issue with this paper is that it relies on neural networks.”*

Anonymous Reviewer

2016

## **Springtime for AI: The Rise of Deep Learning**

After decades of disappointment, artificial intelligence is finally catching up to its early promise, thanks to a powerful technique called deep learning

By Yoshua Bengio on June 1, 2016

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