Table of Contents

List of Tables xii

List of Figures xiv

List of Symbols xix

Chapter 1: Introduction 1

Marr's Program in Visual Neuroscience 1

Situating Similarity and Object Recognition 2

Restrictions on the Problem Space 3

An Overview of the Methods 4

Operations and Architectures For Cooperative Neural Computation: an Overview 5

Organization of the Thesis 9

Chapter 2: Similarity and Object Recognition 12

Perspectives From Psychology 12

Similarity and Metric Spaces 13

Measuring Similarity Experimentally 14

Levels Of Categorization and Object Recognition 14

Perspectives From Computer Vision 19

Classical Pattern Recognition in the Image Domain 19

Classical Methods and Dilemmas 20

Some Geometric Methods for Shape Description 22

Comparison of Computational Methods and Psychological Responses 25

Summary: Situating the Soca Approach in Computer Vision 26

Perspectives From Theoretical Computer Science 27

Dynamical Recognizers and Computational Mechanics 27

Summary: Situating the Soca Approach in Computer Science 29

Chapter 3: Topics in Neuroscience 30

Basics of Neural Organization 30

The Neuron 32

Experimental Neuroscience Methods 33

Classical, Non-Classical, and Dynamic Receptive Fields 34

The Problem of Neural Coding 38

Candidate Neural Codes 39

Neurons in Cell Assemblies 42

The Controversial Role of Recurrence in Coding and Computation 43

Temporal vs. Rate Coding Stimulus Prediction From Populations in Primary Visual Cortex 44

Synchronization and Correlations: Phenomena and Analysis Methods 45

Periodic and Aperiodic Oscillations at Small and Medium Scales 48

Periodic Stimulus Linked Oscillations in Visual Cortex 49

Modulation of Coherence Between Regions 50

Spatiotemporal Oscillation Patterns in Populations 51

Large Scale Dynamics: EEG and MEG Measures and Theory 53

Inferotemporal Cortex and Object Recognition 55

Architecture of the Ventral Visual Pathway 55

Temporal Codes, Multiplex Filter Hypothesis, and Cross-Correlation 58

Arguments Against Temporal Encoding 60

Combination Codes in IT Columns 60

Invariance vs. Broad Tuning to Specific Object Views 61

Activity During Delay Period in Matching Tasks 62

Stimulus Inference From Ensemble Responses 63

Slow Oscillations Correlated With Stimulus 63

Mechanisms And Algorithms: A Survey Of The Neural Modeling Terrain 63
Neural Networks: An Overview 65
Activation Functions and Topologies 65
Weights and Couplings 66
Learning Strategies 66
Representation and Coding 66
Functional Classifications and Putative Biological Roles 67
Dynamical Networks: Oscillations, Chaos And Exotic Attractors 68
Summary 70
Chapter 4: Dynamics of Spatially Extended Nonlinear Systems 72
One Dimensional Nonlinear Maps: Definitions and Terminology 72
Spaces, Dimensions, Mappings 78
Higher Dimensional Systems: Spatiotemporal Chaos 79
Coupled Map Lattices 81
Synchronization in Coupled Map Lattices 85
Clustering Phenomena in Globally Coupled Chaotic Maps 86
The Soca Desynchronization-Synchronization Cycle: A Time-Varying CML 87
Macrostate Variables and Medium Scale Network Models 90
Synchronization Phenomena at Multiple Scales 92
Biologically Plausible Coupling Values 95
Review Of Analytic Results on Synchronization and Ensemble Densities of Maps 95
The Time Course of Evolving Distributions in Ensembles 96
Spatially Extended Dynamics, Transients, and Synchronization: Notes on the Literature 97
Conceptual Ties with Cellular Automata Literature 97
Pattern Processing in Coupled Maps 98

Segmentation and Synchronization in Coupled Oscillator and Coupled Map Systems 100
Summary 102
Chapter 5: Representation, Learning, and Recognition 104
Coding and Representation 104
Partition Cells and Symbolic Dynamics 105
Forming Representation Spaces with Partition Cells 106
Symbolic Dynamics and Synchronization: The Road Problem and Generalizations 106
Dynamical Recognizers and Picture Languages 107
Evolutionary Design Of Synchronization Opponent Classifiers 114
Implementation and Performance Details 115
Summary of Evolutionary Learning Method 118
Recognition With an Ensemble of Dynamical Recognizers 119
Chapter 6: Computational Experiments 121
Experiment Group 1: Sampled Transients of Coupled Maps 121
Convergence Time Distribution for a Single Logistic Map 121
Synchronization Time for Two Coupled Maps 124
System of Two Coupled Discrete Maps: Basic Behavior As Bifurcation And Coupling Parameters Are Varied 126
Effect Of Coupling And Initial Condition Separation On Final State In A Two Stage Parameter Cycle 129
Sampled Transient Evolution in Lattices with Varying Parameters, Random and Structured Initial Conditions 130
Discussion 133
Experiment Group 2: Ordering of Parametric Curves 133
Data Selection and Methods 133
Experimental Results 136
Discussion 141

Experiment Group 3: Recognition of Paperclip Objects Rotated In Depth 142
Selection and Preprocessing of Data 142
Learning: Balancing Normalization and Separation 144
Nearest Neighbor Match with Training on All Views 150
Category Generalization: Training with A Subset Of Objects 156
Simulating Match / No Match Trials with Random Pairs 156
Explaining the Results 159
Comparing The Soca Classifier Approach With Other Systems 165
A Note on Recognition Performance 168

Chapter 7: Discussion and Summary 169
Learning Algorithm And Representation 169
Soca Network Classifiers as a Computer Vision Technique 170
Isolated Common First Order Statistics 170
Handling Multiple Scales 171
Ecological Realism and Learning while Behaving 171
Limited Range of Objects 171
From Isolated Objects to Scene Analysis 172
Improving Recognition Rates on Larger Object Worlds 173
Improving Search Performance with Indexing 174
Noise and Occlusion 175
Learning from Single Views 175
Soca Networks As A Biological Theory 176
Slow Wave Phenomena 178
Stimulus Related Spatial Localization of Activity in Inferotemporal Cortex 179
Transient Synchronization 181
Aperiodic Oscillations 181
Epochs of Desycnchronization and Synchronization 182

Spatio-Temporal Patterns 183
Psychophysical Approaches to Theory Resolution 183
The Encoding of Stimulus Meaning 184
Summary: Main Contributions 184
Appendix 1: Formal Language Definitions 189
Appendix 2: Discrete Markov Chains 190
Stochastic and Markov Processes 190
Markov chains 190
Appendix 3: Signal Analysis 192
Bibliography 194
Vita 214

List of Tables

Table 1. Major Rhythms in the EEG..... 53

Table 2. Receptive field sizes and characteristics of ventral stream areas..... 58

Table 3. Network Design Choices for the Soca System 90

Table 4. Mutation probabilities and ranges for each network parameter..... 135

Table 5. Evolved parameter sets for four curve families 137

Table 6. Sensitivity analysis for the ellipse ordering. 141

Table 7. Error rates for alternative weights on objective function terms..... 149

Table 8. Mutation rates used for each parameter..... 150

Table 9. Single Stage vs. Two Stage (Soca) Dynamics (Average of 10 trials) 151

Table 10. Nearest neighbor match recognition rates (20 objects, ref.-mean cross entropy)..... 153

Table 11. Nearest neighbor match recognition rates (20 objects, mean-mean cross entropy)..... 154

Table 12. Nearest neighbor match recognition rates (39 objects, ref.-mean cross entropy). 154

Table 13. Nearest neighbor match recognition rates (39 objects, mean-mean cross entropy)..... 154

Table 14. Pair match error rates (20 objects, both drawn from trained or untrained views, 500 trials)..... 157

Table 15. Pair match error rates (39 objects, both drawn from trained or untrained views, 500 trials)..... 157