#### CSE 40171: Artificial Intelligence



The Brain: Perception

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# Course Roadmap



**Perception:** the organization, identification, and interpretation of sensory information in order to represent and understand the presented information, or the environment.

## The Visual System



# The Auditory System



Anatomy of the human ear CBY 2.5 Chittka L, Brockmann

# The Somatosensory System



Activation and response in the sensory nervous system 🕲 BY 4.0 OpenStax

# The Olfactory System



# The Gustatory System





0102 Brain Motor&Sensory (flipped) 😇 BY 3.0 BruceBlaus

# How fast is the brain processing sensory information?

# Visual Object Recognition

- With Behavior:
  - ~250 ms in monkeys (Fabre-Thorpe et al. Neuroreport 1998)
  - ~350 ms in humans (Rousselet et al. Nature Neuroscience 2002)
- Direct Neural Surface Recording:
  - ► ~150 ms (Thorpe et al. Nature1996)



# Latency of Auditory Cortex in Monkeys



## Odor discrimination

- Behavioral studies in vertebrates
  - ► ~500 ms or less (Junek et al. Neuron 2010)

#### Is learning involved?

# What happens when an animal is raised in the dark?



# Visual Object Recognition



Red Delicious @BY-SA 2.0 tanya4keba





Orange Whole Split 😇 BY-SA 3.0 Evan-Amos



#### Categorical vs. Perceptual Learning

**Category Learning:** the process of learning internal rules and decision functions that map incoming stimuli onto category labels

- Likely occurring too rapidly to entail any significant remodeling of underlying perceptual representations
- Underlying perceptual machinery already possesses adequate signal-to-noise ratios to represent stimulus distinctions

#### Categorical vs. Perceptual Learning

**Perceptual Learning:** the setting where underlying perceptual representations are not *a priori* adequate to solve the task at hand.

 Characterized by longer training times, sometimes with intervening sleep being required to achieve learning at high levels

# Categorical vs. Perceptual Learning: Experiments



range for "categorical/cognitive" regime

# How do we measure perceptual thresholds?

# Visual Psychophysics

Probe psychological and perceptual thresholds through controlled manipulation of stimuli.

Careful management of stimulus construction, ordering and presentation allows for precise determination of perceptual thresholds.

Canonical Early Example<sup>\*</sup>: minimum threshold for stimulation of an individual photoreceptor.



Slide Credit: S. Anthony

Bruce & Young 1986

## **Behavioral Task**

#### 3 Alternative Forced Choice





Scheirer et al. T-PAMI 2014



\* normalized so chance is zero



# **Optical Illusions**







An optical illusion similar to Rotating Snakes BY-SA 3.0 Cmglee

## Surround Suppression



Surround Suppression Example Figure @ BY-SA 3.0 Michaelhyphenpaul

# Flashlag Effect



http://visionlab.harvard.edu/Members/Alumni/David/flash-lag.htm

# Perception & AI: Marr



#### Levels of Analysis

- 1. Computational Level: what does the system do?
- 2. Algorithmic / Representational Level: how does the system do what it does?
- 3. Implementation / Physical Level: how is the system physically realized?

# Stages of Vision



Image credit: S. Lehar (http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas02fl/MSC101/Vision/Marr.html)



Marr, Vision, MIT Press 1982

### **Computer Vision: Perception**

#### Trustworthiness





McCurie et al., IEEE FG, 2017