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#### SELF-ORGANIZING NEURAL NETWORK ARCHITECTURES FOR ADAPTIVE PATTERN RECOGNITION AND ROBOTICS

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motor control problems. In biologically-oriented neural net-works, whose fast dynamics are governed by slowly changing variable-speed trajectory formation, sensory updating, learned out an external teacher. On the motor-control side, results on module can learn a stable categorization/recognition code withwe will quickly move through a series of network constructs. On velop along an adaptive trajectory. To exemplify these issues, external inputs, two major foci of research are (1) how to ensure network transmission weights as well as by rapidly fluctuating networks relevant to adaptive pattern recognition and sensoryeye-movements) and that help explain data on several distinct anticipatory error compensation, and length-tension factorizapallidus, cerebellum, spinal cord). but cooperative neural regions (pre-central motor cortex, globus mance domains (planned arm and speech movements, ballistic tion illustrate networks that are applicable in several perforfluctuations in input energies, and how an adaptive resonance petitive fields allow invariant pattern registration despite large the perceptual-cognitive end, we will discuss how recurrent comfication) in such a way that the system is guaranteed to deto automatically regulate learning (transmission weight modithat short-term dynamics are pattern preserving and (2) how In this chapter, we discuss some recent results in neural

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The primate nervous system has parsed the problems of perception, recognition, and sensory-motor control by distributing the computational task across a large number of specialized neural networks, many of which operate in parallel. Though the existence of a distributed solution has long been clear from the selective and partial effects of localized brain and spinal lesions, an understanding of the nature of the computations performed by distinct networks has been slower to develop. Recently, however, functionally oriented studies of simulated neural networks as analog, non-linear systems with coupled short- and long-term dynamics have begun to produce a powerful theoretical basis for making sense of the rich, but extremely ambiguous, physiological database (Grossberg, 1988a; Grossberg and Kuperstein, 1986).

## 1. AUTOMATIC GAIN CONTROL AND SENSORY FACTORIZATION OF PATTERN AND ENERGY

A paradigmatic study of short- and intermediate-term dynamics and their importance for non-distortive pattern registration and storage by a neuronal network was the paper by Grossberg (1973; reprinted in Grossberg, 1982) on feedforward and recurrent competitive fields. As shown in Figure 1A and 1B, each site in such fields recieves an excitatory input as well as inhibitory inputs branching from excitatory inputs to all other sites (in fully interconnected examples). To begin to analyze the real-time behavior of such a network, it is necessary to write differential equations for the activity  $x_i$  at each site  $v_i$ . Grossberg (1973) chose to analyze equations whose forms were closely related to the neural membrane equations of Hodgkin and Huxley (1952). A particularly useful formulation was

$$\frac{l}{t}x_i = -Ax_i + (B - x_i)I_i - x_i \sum_{k \neq i} I_k \tag{1}$$

where A is a spontaneous decay rate, B is the maximum activity level,  $\sum_{k \neq i} I_k$  is the total input to sites other than site *i*, and  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$  for a neural field with n sites.

Grossberg showed that when the fluctuating activity at each site in such a field is governed by (1), then the inhibitory connectivity affords a kind of automatic gain control, which simultaneously prevents saturation and preserves information specified by the relative sizes of activities at different sites. In particular, let

 $\Theta_i = \frac{I_i}{I}$  where  $I = \sum_n I_n$ . Then the equilibrium activity at site  $v_i$  is:

$$=\Theta_i \frac{BI}{A+I}.$$
 (2)

R



Figure 1. Schematic representations of two types of on-center, off-surround (competitive)networks. (A) A feedforward network, in which the input pathways define the on-center, off-surround interactions. For clarity, only inputs branching from channel  $I_i$ , which excites site  $v_i$  and inhibits other sites, are shown. The same, recentered, branching pattern holds for all indexes  $k \neq i$ . (B) A feedback network in which recurrent excitatory and inhibitory interactions can lead to various pattern storage and pattern transformation properties, e.g., choice of the site with the largest initial excitatory input.

Thus despite huge variations in I, the total input energy, the neural activity at each site remains proportional to the size of its excitatory input,  $I_i$ , relative to the excitatory inputs at all other sites. Such invariant ratio processing is a well-known operating characteristic of human perceptual systems, where it goes by the name "Weber's law". Besides explaining an important psychophysical law as a corollary of the need to factor pattern and energy, the model provides a rationale for a ubiquitous neural property, namely feedforward inhibitory connectivity within sensory and perceptual systems.

X;(0)

Further analyses concerned pattern processing in recurrent competitive fields, which, by virtue of excitatory feedback, are capable of indefinitely storing a pattern after the input is shut off. Sites in the simplest example of such a network obey equations of the form

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_{i} = -Ax_{i} + (B - x_{i})[I_{i} + f(x_{i})] - x_{i}[\sum_{k \neq i} I_{k} + \sum_{k \neq i} f(x_{k})] \quad (4)$$

where f(w) is generally a monotonic increasing function of its argument. Figure 2 (based on Grossberg, 1973) shows how the choice of this function can change the pattern-storage characteristics of the network. In particular, it shows that when the goal is to preserve initial activity ratios in a noisy environment, the best choice is a sigmoidal feedback function. Unlike a zero-threshold, linear feedback function, the sigmoid affords a tunable threshold that allows the suppression of small activities due to noise.

### 2. SELF-STABILIZING ADAPTIVE PATTERN CLASSIFICATION

A direct descendent of the work on recurrent competitive fields, and of related work on spatial pattern learning and classification (e.g. Grossberg, 1968) is the Adaptive Resonance Theory (ART) of Carpenter and Grossberg (1987a; 1987b) which itself has been under continuous development for more than a decade. This theory shows how to design a family of stable multi-layered neural networks, each member of which is capable of automatic, on-line category induction and rapid pattern classification. In particular the theory provides an autonomous solution to the stability problem inherent in all networks with coupled short- and long-term dynamics. The essential point of the solution is that the architecture responsible for the shortterm dynamics—which constitute the computations in these systems where "the architecture is the algorithm"—must be parsed



Figure 2. Influence of recurrent signal function  $f(\omega)$  on input pattern transformation and short-term memory storage in a recurrent competitive field. Note that  $g(\omega) = f(\omega)/\omega$ . Based on Grossberg (1973).

into a relatively fixed regulatory component and an adaptive pattern-encoding component, which changes more slowly than the short-term dynamics. The fixed regulatory component then guarantees that the slower adapting pattern-encoding component cannot develop along non-adaptive trajectories. By contrast with ART networks, many recent neural network models have virtually no self-regulatory component, and hence depend on benevolent input schedules for their apparent adaptive trajectories (Grossberg, 1988a).

Figure 3 is a highly schematic representation of an ART module. Its first component is an input field, F1, whose distinct sites correspond to possible object features. Thus a distinct pattern of activity across F1 represents the set of features possessed by the object currently being presented for categorization by the ART module, and objects with disparate features will activate largely non-intersecting sets of sites in F1. In the maximal compression case, the task of the network is to learn to assign a single distinct site in field F2 for every distinct *class* of patterns that may be instated at F1. Furthermore, we desire a network that



**Figure 3.** Anatomy of the attentional-orienting system: Two successive stages,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of the attentional subsystem encode patterns of activation in short term memory (STM). Bottom-up and top-down pathways between  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  contain adaptive long term memory (LTM) traces which multiply the signals in these pathways. The remainder of the circuit modulates these STM and LTM processes. Modulation by gain control enables  $F_1$  to distinguish between bottom-up input patterns and top-down priming, or template, patterns, as well as to match these bottom-up and top-down patterns. Gain control signals also enable  $F_2$  to react supraliminally to signals from  $F_1$  while an input pattern is on. The orienting subsystem generates a reset wave to  $F_2$  when mismatches between bottom-up and top-down patterns occur at  $F_1$ . This reset wave selectively and enduringly inhibits active  $F_2$  cells until the input is shut off. Reprinted with permission from Carpenter and Grossberg

can quickly stabilize its assignment, so that the same distinct site in F2 is always activated when a member of the pattern class is presented, despite large numbers of intervening presentations during which other pattern classes are learned. Finally, we want the network to induce and stabilize its categorization scheme autonomously, i.e. without an external teacher.

These properties can be realized if the pathways that connect all sites in F1 to all sites in F2 possess modifiable transmission weights (also called LTM, or long term memory, traces) that can be stably adapted over learning trials. To begin, suppose that during learning transmission weights  $z_{ij}$  on pathways arriving at a particular F2 site  $v_j$ , which is arbitrarily chosen to code exemplars of category j, become relatively large for all pathways from F1 feature-coding sites  $v_i$  that are diagnostic of category j, but relatively small for all pathways from features not diagnostic of category j. Suppose that upon instatement of any future feature set at F1, the total signal arriving at F2 sites  $v_j$  (j =1, 2, ... n) is

$$T_j = \sum S_i z_{ij} \tag{4}$$

where, in the simplest case,  $S_i = 1$  if the input contains the feature represented by F1 site  $v_i$ , and  $S_i = 0$  if the input lacks this feature. Thus the fiber bundle projecting from F1 sites to F2sites maximally activates that F2 site whose learned diagnostic feature pattern (encoded in the path weights) best matches the feature pattern of the new exemplar presented to the network. In effect, the adaptable filter connecting F1 to F2 computes, in parallel, the dot products between the input feature pattern and the distinct diagnostic feature patterns associated with all sites in F2. The site of the maximal dot product specifies the network class into which the current input exemplar falls.

If F2 is a recurrent competitive field (e.g., if it obeys equation 3), then its feedback function can be chosen such that after a short time the F2 site with the initially maximal activity will also be the *only* active site (Figure 2). Thus the "arbitrary choice" of a distinct coding site mentioned above can be made by the network itself on the basis of random initial differences in the strength of connectivity between F1 and F2 sites. Once such a choice is made, we have a distributed pattern across F1 and a single site active in F2 with activity  $x_j$ . During this interval of coactivation, pathweights  $z_{ij}$  are adjusted in accord with a learning law of form:

$$\frac{d}{dt}z_{ij} = f(x_j)[-\epsilon z_{ij} + g(x_i)]$$
(5)

(1987a).

of site for coding the F1 input pattern, with the initial choice excluded from effective competition. This process iterates until stability. After reset, competition at F2 determines a *new* choice can be a variant of the form already described for the F1 to F2ART overcomes this problem by providing mechanisms whereby the network can compute the goodness-of-match be-tween the *current* F1 pattern and that F1 pattern *expected* on the basis of prior input patterns that led to activation of the situations readily arise in which the weight vector associated with simple feedforward scheme just described has no way of detecting committed F2 sites by disparate exemplars and guarantees code adaptive filter. Then when an F2 site is activated, this causes current F2 site. In the simplest case, such an expectation can are first established. This can be appreciated by noting that and less susceptible to activation by disparate input patterns. ments and zero otherwise, this law assures that weights on lines comparison between the bottom-up and the top-down inputs. the learned expectation to be sent as a second "input" to F1. direction of a poorly matching input vector. matched the category's diagnostic feature pattern well or poorly, whether the winning F2 site was activated by a pattern that unstable if learning continues beyond the time when categories possessing large featural commonality with the training pattern, becomes more susceptible to future activation by input patterns projecting to the active F2 site from active F1 sites grow toward resonance begins to occur between F1 and F2. This phenomenon an  $F^2$  node that has not learned a non-matching expectation is below an adjustable criterion. This reset prevents recoding of be reset whenever the degree of match between F1 inputs falls A suitably designed F1 can then perform a feature-by-feature from the chosen F2 site to all sites in F1, and the learning rule be learned as a vector of weights on pathways projecting back the winning F2 site begins to deform, in accord with (5), in the the best initial match need not be a good match. Because the tive F1 sites shrink toward zero. As a result the active F2 site positive value  $g(x_i)$  while weights on lines projecting from inac-Assuming that  $f(x_j)$  and  $g(x_i)$  are positive for positive argugives the theory its name, "adaptive resonance theory." then begin to deform in the direction of the F1 pattern, and a found. Its input weight vector and its output to F1 weight vector By virtue of the reset-on-mismatch operation, ART performs ART also provides a mechanism by which the F2 level can Grossberg (1976) noted that the scheme as so far described is motor-control.





and Grossberg (1988). dates the present position command. Reprinted with permission from Bullock the present position command. (B) A GO signal gates execution of a primed and a present position command (PPC), and adds the difference vector to putes a difference vector (DV) between a target position command (TPC) Figure 4. (A) A match interface within the VITE model continuously commovement vector and regulates the rate at which the movement vector up-

solutions to familiar problems. In the second part of the chapcient trajectory as learning proceeds. This is a critical feature of learning is autonomously superceded by a shorter, more effithe trajectory through system states utilized at an early stage emplify a property we call autonomous supercession of control: a massively parallel search operation. ART systems thus exrectly addresses the correct F2 site as part of what is essentially learning, a serial search is unnecessary because the input diconfronted by a member of a novel pattern class. ter, we show that autonomous supercession of control has also ble of achieving high performance by directly instating learned to a solution when confronting novel problems, yet also capaof self-organizing systems, which must be capable of iterating been a major organizing theme in studies of neural networks for Yet after

Detailed specifications of ART systems and explorations of the operating characteristics of several variants (e.g., versions for binary and for analog features) can be found in Carpenter and Grossberg (1987a; 1987b).

matic pattern-energy factorization are key organizing principles regulated learning, automatic supercession of control, and autosystems, and provide further evidence that autonomous matchfor the theory of neural networks. tance of coupled short- and long-term dynamics in these kinds of field. In particular, these examples further illustrate the imporsearch. Though different than the ART networks, each borrows from the same tradition of thinking within the neural networks have emerged on the motor-control side of neural networks re-In the remaining sections, we will discuss four networks that

## **3. TRAJECTORY GENERATION**

array of muscle-length (and therefore joint-angle) settings which, if instated in the arm, would position the hand near the object. TPC (see Figure 4A). DV, the array of muscle-length changes needed to bring the arm from its present position to the desired position coded by the length settings responsible for the arm's present posture. Sub-tracting the PPC from the TPC yields a difference vector, or the present position command, or PPC, the array of muscle-This TPC is compared with a distributed representation called resentation called the terminal position command, or TPC, an desired object within reach can activate a distributed neural repto-point arm movements. The theory proposes that sight of a berg (1988; 1989) to explain trajectory formation in simple point-First is a network model formulated by Bullock and Gross-

updating can occur—a motor act can be centrally primed then greater than zero the circuit can compute a DV but no PPC momentary PPC updating rate (see Figure 4B). The widely-broadcast signal is called a GO-signal because until it becomes of a declining DV and a growing "GO-signal" determine the lel by a widely broadcast, time-varying signal that grows faster-than-linearly during the movement interval. Thus the product ments (e.g. Cooke, 1980). However, rather than merely adding the DV to the PPC, we propose that before being integrated by released by activation of the GO-signal. The GO-signal itself is the PPC stage, outputs of the DV stage are multiplied in paralcontext of some recent physiological discussions of arm movefairly standard in a control-theoretic context, though not in the Thus the initial assumptions, apart from the parallelism, are

> ting. Because the trajectory is formed by integrating multiplied  $DV_{s}$  until the PPC equals the TPC and the DV stage activity is thereby zeroed, we call the model the vector-integration-tomany muscles that may contribute to the movement, are: multiplied by a scalar that serves as a movement duration setfor one component, corresponding to the controller for one of endpoint, or VITE, model of trajectory formation. Equations

$$\frac{d}{dt}V_i = \alpha(-V_i + T_i - P_i) \tag{6}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}P_i = G[V_i]^+ \tag{7}$$

ŝ.  $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ 

stage from antagonist muscle channels are omitted for clarity stage activity, and  $P_i$  is the PPC stage activity, for the component indexed by i. G(t) is the current value of the GO-signal and where  $\alpha$  is constant,  $V_i$  is the DV stage activity,  $T_i$  is the TPC (see Bullock and Grossberg, 1988, 1989)  $[V_i]^+ = \max(V_i, 0)$ . Competitive (inhibitory) inputs to the PPC

and quantitatively correct predictions regarding a wide range of behavioral and neurophysiological data. On the physiologi-cal side, the key data are those of Georgopoulos, Schwartz and those of Horak and Anderson (1984) on the globus pallidus (GO-signal pathway). Among the well-documented kinematic propto zero the DV. In particular, the multiplicative interaction of DV and G(t) assures that PPC updating ceases whenever DV reaches zero, regardless of the size of G(t). This is another examlocity, and a logarithmic speed-accuracy tradeoff (Bullock and Grossberg, 1988, 1989). Regarding the latter, note that ener-gizing the movement by increasing the GO-signal scalar has rel-atively little effect on movement form (direction and distance) erties explained by the model, several are common to both arm and speech-articulator movements, e.g., rate-dependent velocityple of a network design that ensures pattern-energy factorization because of the way the GO-signal feeds into the loop that works profile asymmetry, invariant ratio of maximum to average ve-Kettner (1986) on precentral motor cortical cells (DV stage), and Despite its simplicity, the VITE model makes qualitatively

used to stagger action at different joints without sacrificing the brief selective inhibition of some DV output components could be mon faster-than-linear GO-signal will reach their terminal values the different PPC command components influenced by a comtime variability in DV component readout. This means that (muscle-length settings) synchronously despite significant onset-Figure 5 illustrates that the circuit tends to guarantee that



**Figure 5.** Simulation results showing automatic VITE circuit compensation for contraction-onset-time staggering across three components of a synergy. Each block (I, II, III, IV) of simulations shows results for a different value (10, 20, 40, and 80, respectively) of the GO signal scalar. The different lengths of bars within each block show that less time is needed to update those components whose onset times are most delayed. Offset synchrony begins to break down when earlier components have executed more than 50 percent of their trajectories before later components begin to move. Reprinted with permission from Bullock and Grossberg (1988).

> desirable property of synchronous termination of muscle contractions. Hollerbach, Moore, and Atkeson (1986) have noted that such staggering could be used to linearize the Cartesian space hand-paths produced by linear-interpolative joint-space trajectory generators, of which the VITE circuit is one example, and have produced evidence that human arm movements do exhibit joint-space planning.

arm's trajectory more quickly by virtue of the larger GO-signal saccade or after a target position change, by direct instatement a better estimate of object location after performing a saccade (ballistic eye movement) to foveate the object. The latter situaposition of the object to be reached may change, or a subject iments by Georgopoulos, Kalaska, and Massey (1981), Goodale, Pellisson and Prablanc (1986), and Gracco and Abbs (1985). of humans and perhaps many other mammals comes from expervalue. Strong evidence that this operating characteristic is true via an eye-hand map; the TPC-PPC computation then updates that may be unfolding in parallel. In a properly designed system incorporating the VITE module, the TPC is updated, after the because saccades take much less time than the arm movements reaching for an object initially in the visual periphery may make frequently change during movement. For example, the projected growth during movement emerges when we consider that TPCs the evolving DV, and this late-arriving information affects the tion arises at least as frequently as the former (moving object), A closely related consequence of faster-than-linear GO-signal

## 4. SENSORY UPDATING

A clearly delineated circuit like the VITE model provides clues to the brain's factoring strategy because it can only work well in connection with several complementary circuits. Of primary importance is a self-organizing associative map for eyehand coordination, such as that developed by Kuperstein (1987). Such a map explains how seeing an object can directly instate a TPC.

Another likely circuit is the PUP (passive update of position) circuit shown in Figure 6 (Bullock and Grossberg, 1988). It ensures that when the GO-signal is off or small, the PPC is updated by sensory DVs arising from passive movements imposed on the arm. Such DV's are computed at a motor-sensory interface ( $DV_p$  stage in Figure 6), which includes modifiable transmission weights (symbolized by the semi-circular path-ending in Figure 6) whose long-term dynamics ensure that the motor signals used in the computation are correctly calibrated to the scale



**Figure 6.** A passive update of position (PUP) circuit. An adaptive pathway  $PPC \rightarrow DV_P$  calibrates PPC-outflow signals in the same scale as inflow signals during intervals of posture. During passive movements, output from GO equals zero. Hence the passive difference vector  $DV_P$  updates the PPC until it equals the new position caused by any passive movements that may occur due to the application of external forces. Reprinted with permission from Bullock and Grossberg (1988).

used by the sensory signals. A similar circuit was previously employed by Grossberg & Kuperstein (1986) in their multi-circuit model of the primate neural system for ballistic eye-movements. Note that the GO-signal gates, or switches on and off, not only the passive updating process, which occurs on a fast time-scale, but also the calibrative learning process (transmission weight modification), which occurs on a slower time scale. The gating prevents learning during fast movement, when feedback lags create spurious mismatches at the  $DV_p$  stage, mismatches that might force the transmission weights along a non-adaptive trajectory in the absence of the regulatory gating.

Typical equations for a PUP circuit component i are: present position command,

$$\frac{l}{l_i}P_i = G[V_i]^+ + G_p[M_i]^+$$
(8)

a.I

outflow-inflow interface,

$$\frac{1}{lt}M_i = -\beta M_i + \gamma I_i - zP_i \tag{9}$$

and synaptic transmission (learning) law,

$$\frac{d}{lt}z_i = \delta G_p(-\epsilon z_i + [M_i]^+) \tag{10}$$

where  $P_i$  is the PPC stage activity,  $M_i$  (for "match interface") the  $DV_p$  stage activity,  $G_p$  the output of the node inhibited by governed by equations (8) and (9). Note that learning (change and  $\epsilon$  respectively control the overall learning rate and passive reached a given commanded posture.  $z_i$  converges on a value such that  $z_i P_i \simeq \gamma I_i$  when the arm has weight for a given component (muscle channel). With learning, positive GO signals, and  $z_i$  the value of the learned transmission forgetting rate, both of which are slow relative to the dynamics movement is well supported in the physiological literature (e.g., The active gating of sensory feedback pathways during rapid that are not due to miscalibration, e.g. during rapid movement Evarts and Fromm, 1978). between inflow and outflow measures of present position, is large in synaptic weights  $z_i$ ) proceeds faster when  $M_i$ , the discrepancy Thus learning must be prevented when large discrepancies occur Constant coefficients  $\delta$ 

# 5. ANTICIPATORY COMPENSATIONS

cur. Thus AG stage learning effectively creates new paths that relationship between PPC stage activities and muscle lengths, where the strength of the transmission weight on a supplemen-tary command-specific (position-dependent) outflow pathway is signal), a mismatch is registered at the outflow-inflow interface response to changes in the PPC's length settings. In particular, respects like springs. Figure 7 shows the overall design for a cortical and cerebellar networks in the brain, across spinal netple of autonomous supercession of control. allow direct instatement to supercede iteration—another exambe compensated by reactive systems that operate after errors ocplant via the supplementary pathway, or side loop, that passes feedforward conditioned gain signals that arrive at the muscle and errors no longer occur because they are pre-empted by the Over time, the system comes to behave as if there were a linear fails to match the commanded response (unconditional outflow whenever the measured response of the muscle (inflow signal) ticipatorily compensate for non-linearities in the muscle plant's Kuperstein (1986). Such a network autonomously learns to anmuscle linearization network (MLN) developed in Grossberg and works, and in the muscles themselves, which behave in some evolving PPC. In fact, such provisions are distributed across provisions must exist to ensure that the arm actually tracks the to zero the DV during movements rather than sensory feedback, through the AG stage. Prior to AG stage learning, errors must incremented or decremented depending on the sign of the error. (OII) and an error signal is sent to the adaptive gain stage (AG), Because the VITE circuit uses feedback from the PPC stage

By virtue of the adaptive gain stage, the brain includes a powerful general purpose mechanism for learning arbitrarily conditionalized anticipatory compensations, and the broad usefulness of such a mechanism in motor skill acquisition (muscle linearization being only one of many applications) is attested by the large cranial volume displaced by the deeply convoluted cerebellum—almost certainly the site of the predictive adaptive gain stage (Grossberg and Kuperstein, 1986; Hore, 1987; Ito, 1984). Because the muscle linearization network of Figure 7 was developed as part of a neural system for moving the eye, which carries no loads and is subjected to few if any external pertubations, it can be much simpler than a functionally equivalent network, one of which is reprised in the next section, is one of the foci for our ongoing research.



**Figure 7.** Some main features of the muscle linearization network, or MLN: The outflow-inflow interface (OII) registers matches and mismatches between outflow signals and inflow signals. Mismatches generate error signals to the adaptive gain (AG) stage. These error signals change the gain of the conditioned movement signal to the motoneurons (MN). Such an MLN adaptively linearizes the responses of a nonlinear muscle plant to outflow signals. The outflow signals can therefore also be used as a source of accurate corollary discharges of present eye position. Reprinted with permission from Grossberg and Kuperstein (1986).

## 6. SEPARABLE CONTROL OF JOINT ANGLE AND JOINT STIFFNESS

system called FLETE, for factorization of length and tension. Simulations of this model show that the recurrent inhibition progeneration. along the pathway from sensory transduction to muscular force matic gain control is a fundamental design feature at all points ron recruitment (Henneman, 1985) which ensures a faster-than-linear functional relation between neural inputs and muscle-force prior results shows that pattern-energy factorization by autoduced by the size principle. This demonstration together with gain control that compensates for posture-code distortions introvided by spinal Renshaw cells enables a special kind of automatic us to propose a new quantitative model of the spinal-muscular dependent control of muscle length and muscle tension. This led vide higher motor centers with a simple method of achieving inthe size principle complicates the spinal circuitry needed to prooutputs. We also showed that the non-linearity introduced by very rigid. Thus muscles must be able to generate many levacting on a joint such that the joint is either very compliant or stiffness: at any desired angle, we can vary the muscular forces tem is the ability to hold arbitrary postures at various levels of been known empirically as the size principle of spinal motoneuproperty, at the neuro-muscular interface, which had already els of force at every possible length, and Bullock and Grossberg (1989) showed that this requirement leads to a self-similarity A remarkable property of the skeleto-muscular control sys-

#### 7. CONCLUSIONS

These examples illustrate several basic themes in the recent neural network literature. Long term adaptive changes are accomplished by modifying transmission weights on signal lines, and the relatively slow weight modification process is regulated by the outcome of fast network processes, including critical comparison processes. In the work done at the Center for Adaptive Systems (e.g., Grossberg, 1988b) in Boston, it has often turned out that perceptual learning is driven by matches, whereas motor learning is driven by mis-matches. This correlation may reflect the natural asymmetry between perception, whose goal is to describe the existing world, and action, whose goal is to change the world in the direction of our desires. The ideal imposed by our interest in modeling the real brain is to design systems that can tune and even re-organize themselves on-line without external intervention, and that are robust in the face of the in-

> herent non-linearities of neural systems, and the inherent nonstationarity of systems that grow, atrophy, and constantly create new adaptive challenges as unforseen consequences of their own activities. In this chapter, we have shown that match/mismatchregulated learning, automatic pattern-energy factorization, and autonomous supercession of control have emerged as overarching principles in our evolving theory of such systems.

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