

SPIKING NEURAL NETWORKS WITH EXCITATORY AND INHIBITORY CONNECTIONS AND BEYOND

Zheng Wang, Asif Islam Khan
Georgia Institute of Technology

asif.khan@ece.gatech.edu



Applications and Systems Driven Center for
Energy-Efficient Integrated Nanotechnologies



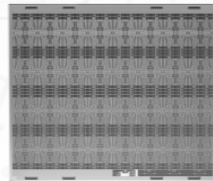
This work was supported in part by the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) and DARPA.

Technology Roadmap for SNN

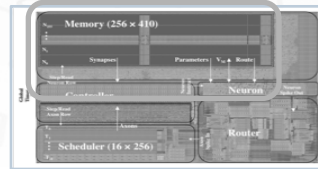
CMOS



Intel's Loihi



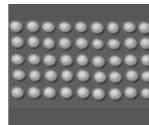
IBM's TrueNorth



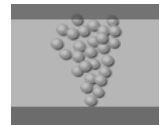
CMOS + emerging non-volatile memory



PCM



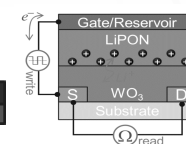
RRAM



FeFET



ECRAM



New features provided by novel devices



Always-on stochasticity

FeFET based neuron

Continuous-time dynamical system

Algorithms supporting device/circuit innovations

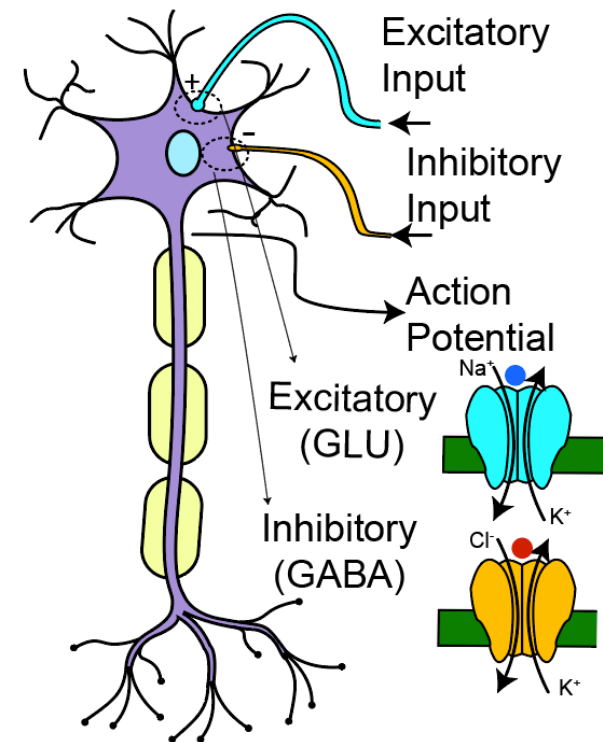
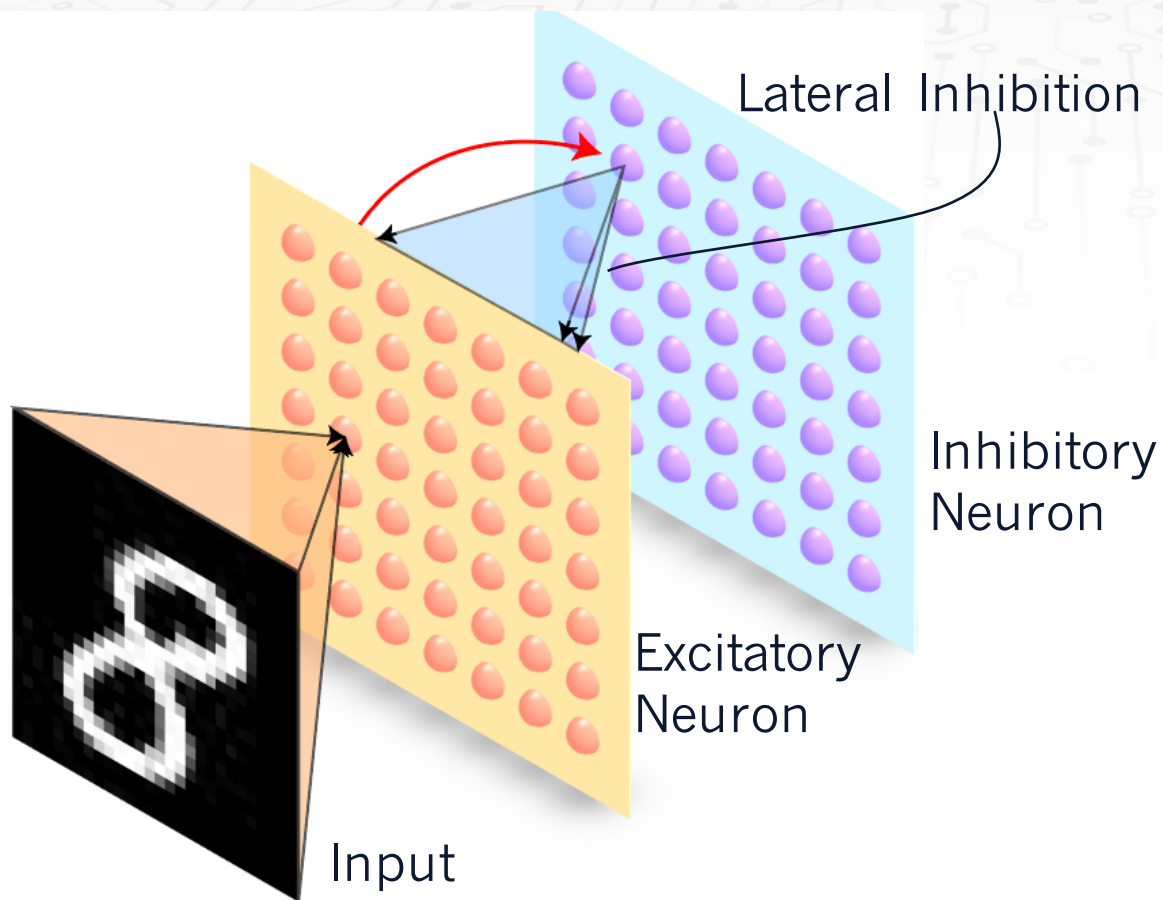


Perception

Decision-making

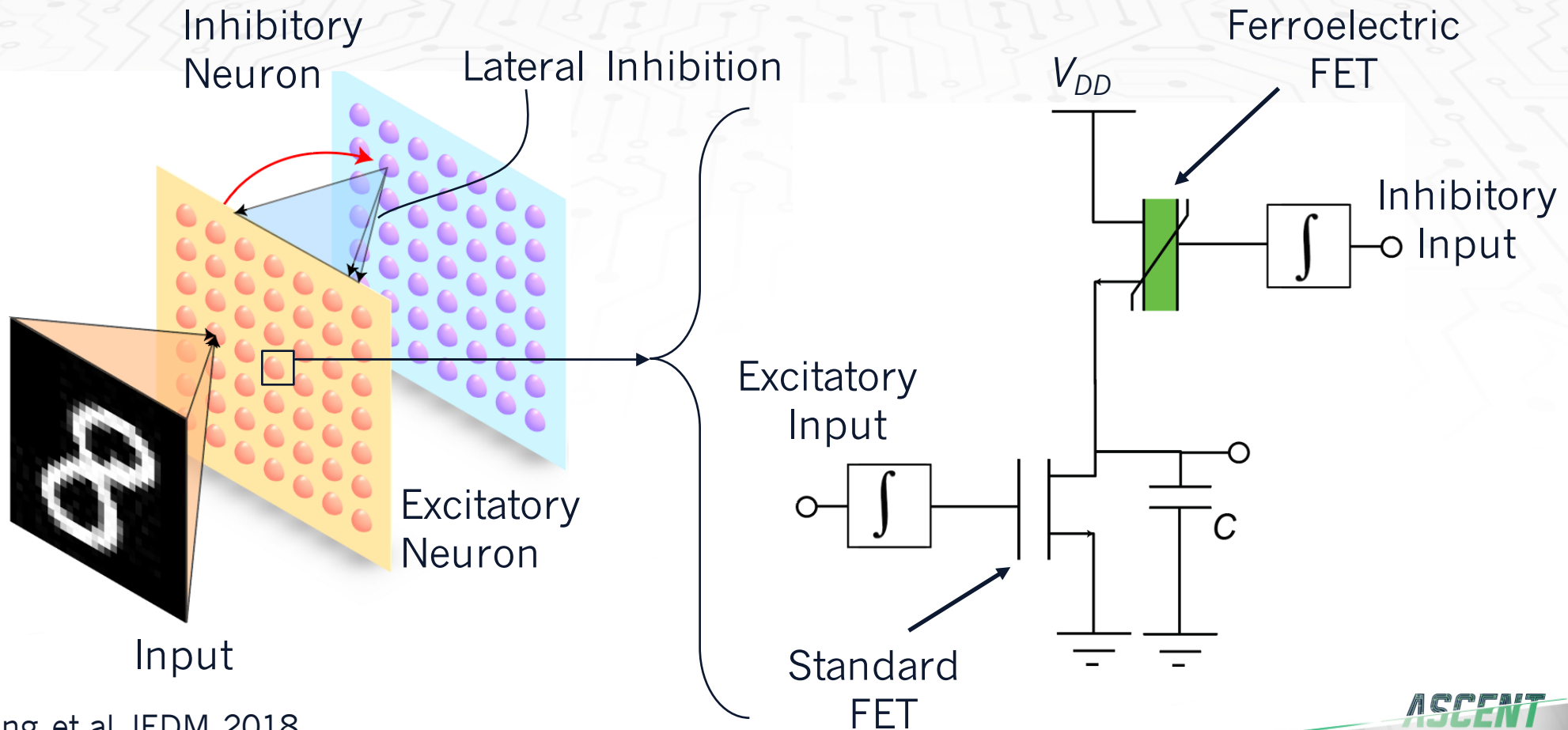
Action

Spiking Neural Network: The Role of Inhibition



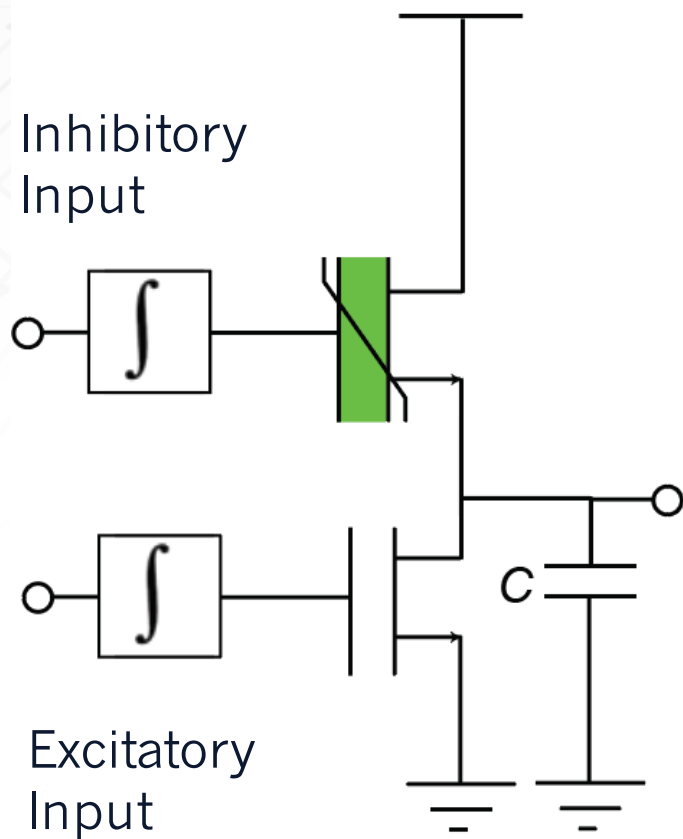
Deihl & Cook, Frontiers Comp. Neurosci. 9, 99 (2015)

Ferroelectric Neuron with excitatory and **inhibitory** connection

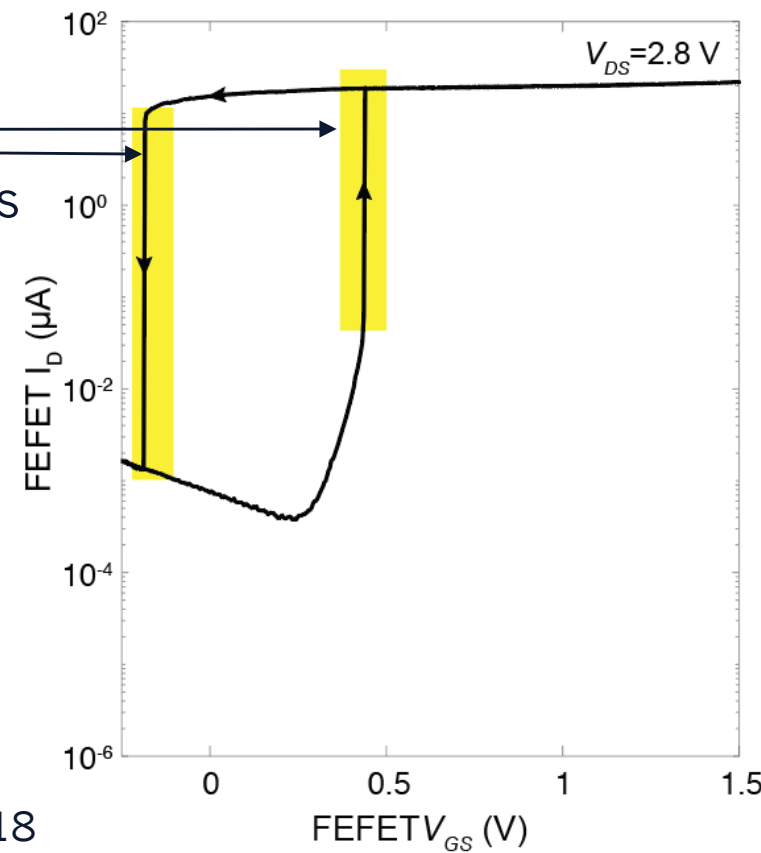


Wang et al. IEDM 2018

What Device Features enables the Neuron and Inhibition Functionality?

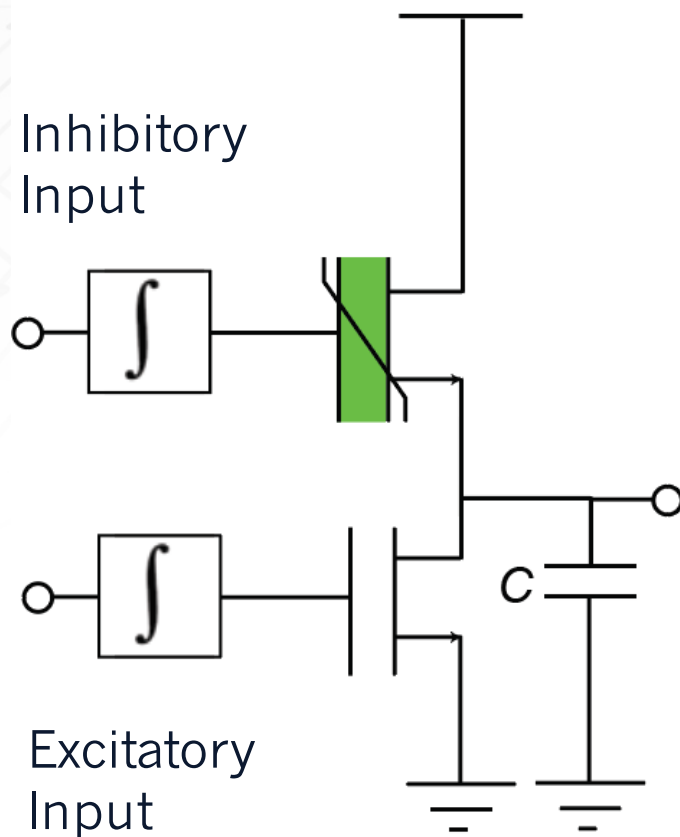


1. Abrupt Transitions,
No stable states



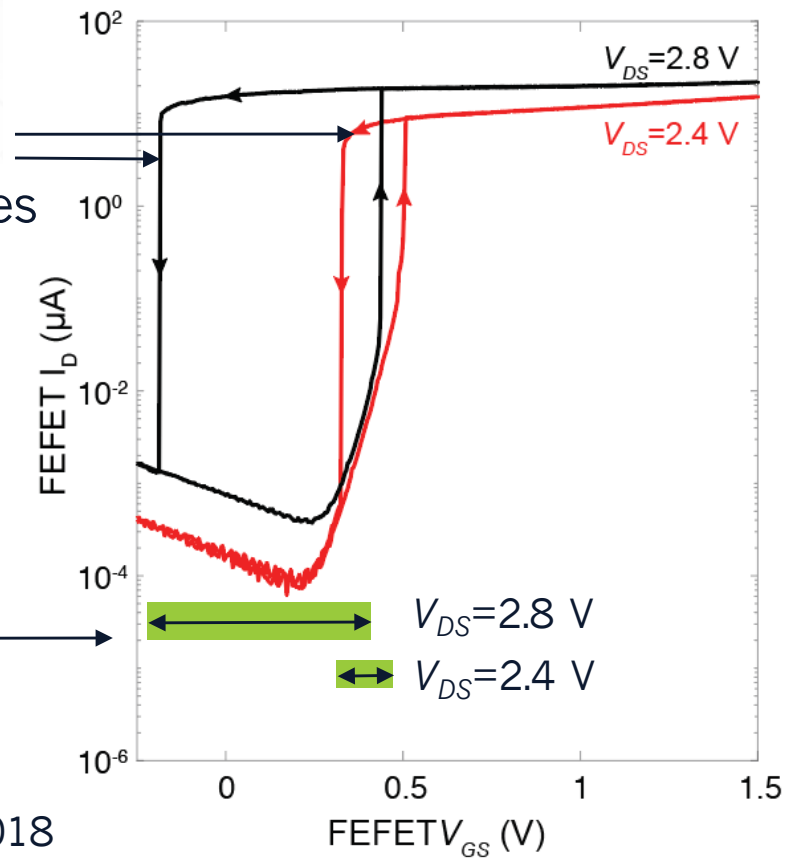
Wang et al. IEDM 2018

What Device Features enable Neuron and Inhibition Functionality?



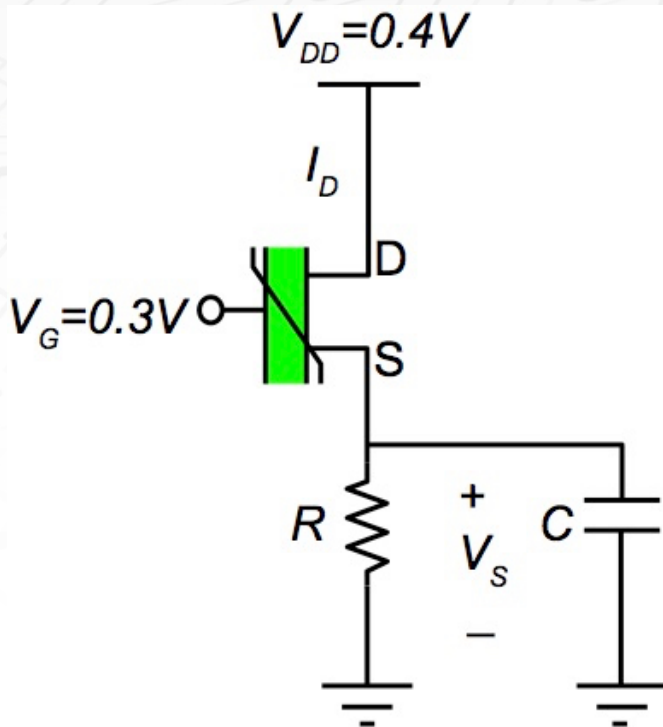
1. Abrupt Transitions,
No stable states

2. Hysteresis shift

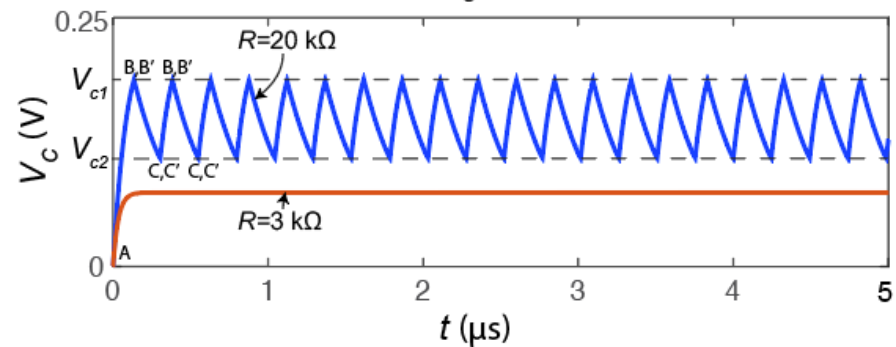
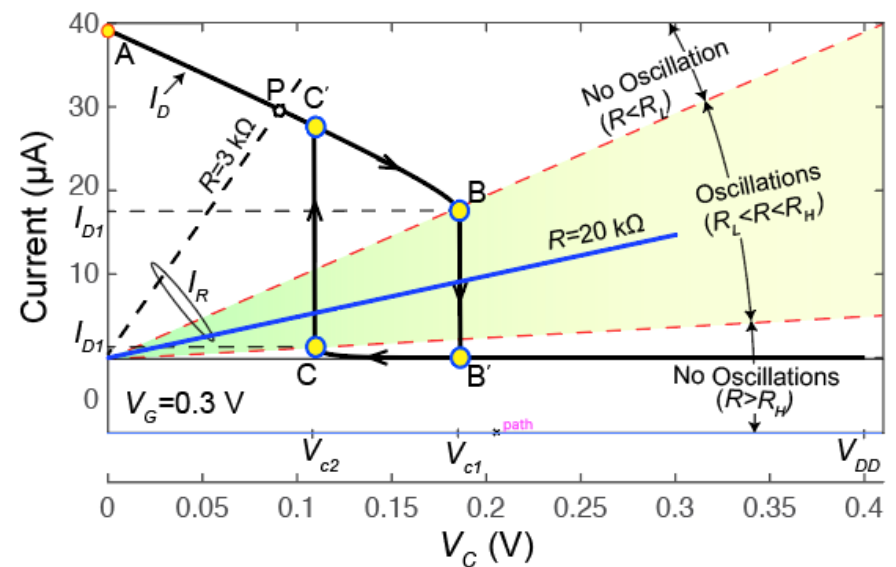


Wang et al. IEDM 2018

A Ferroelectric Oscillator

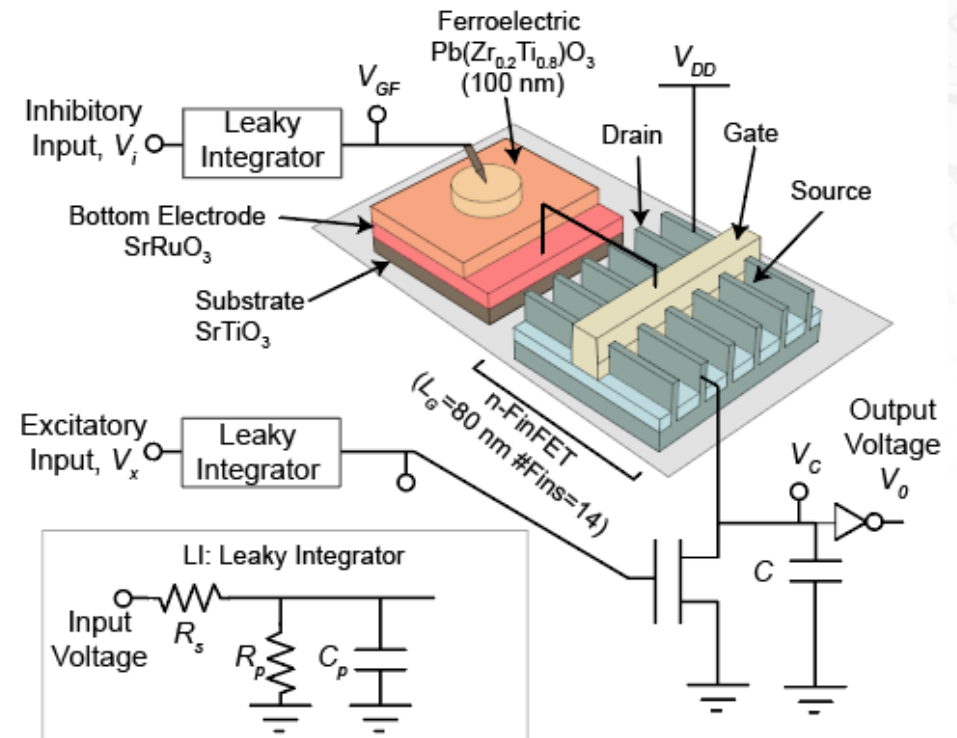
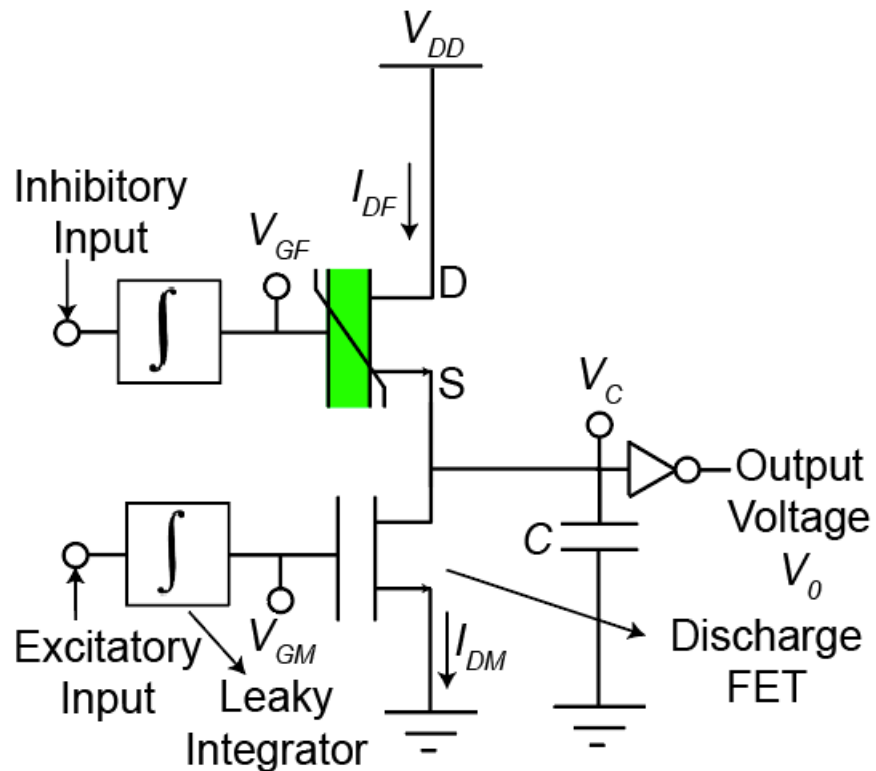


Oscillations can be controlled by the R or V_G .



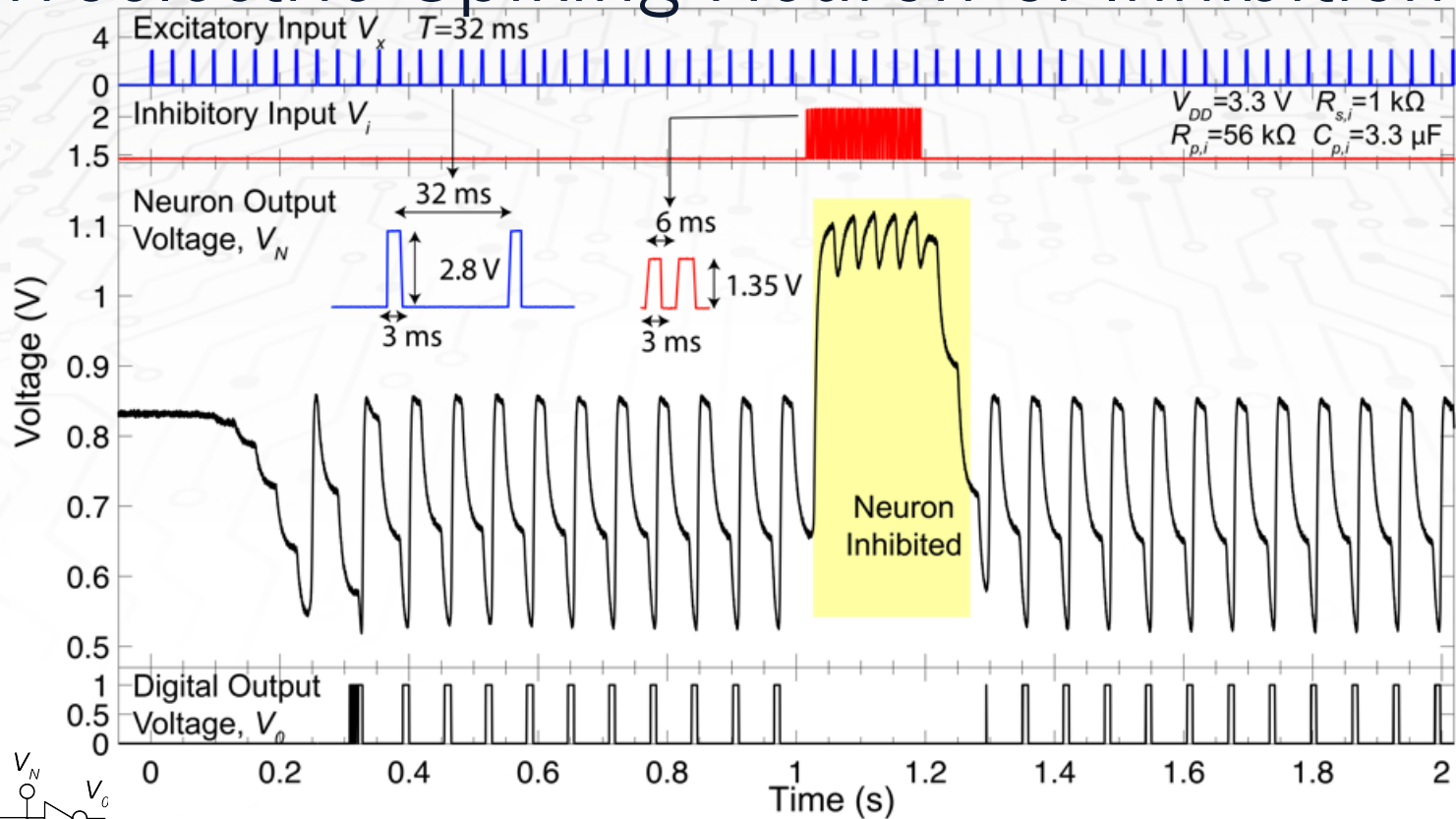
Z. Wang et al. *IEEE Electron Device Lett.* vol. 38, no. 11, pp. 1614–1617, 2017.

A Ferroelectric Spiking Neuron: Experimental setup



Wang et al. IEDM 2018

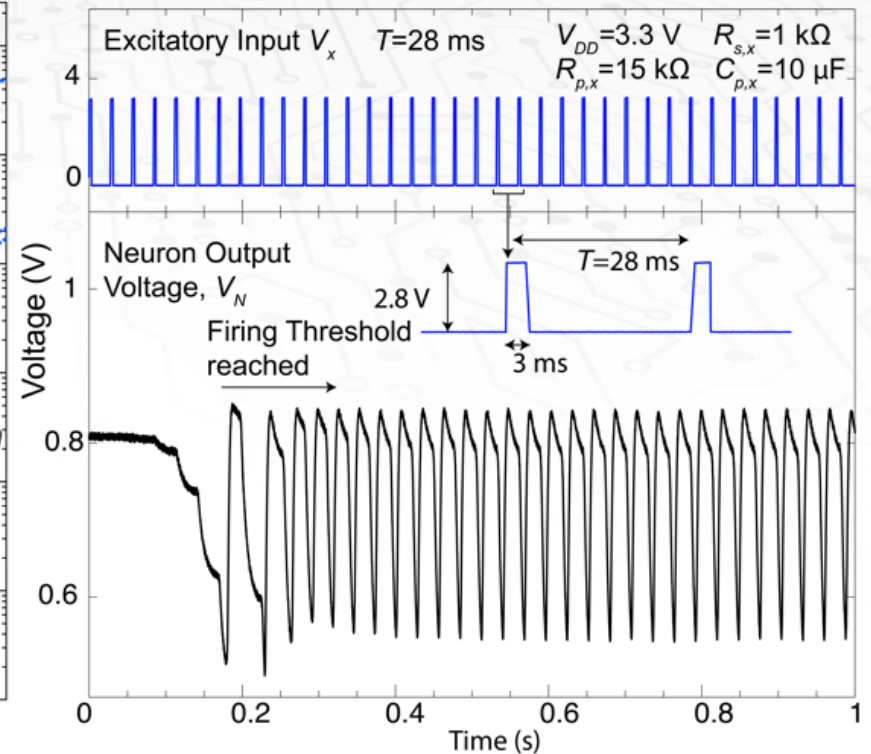
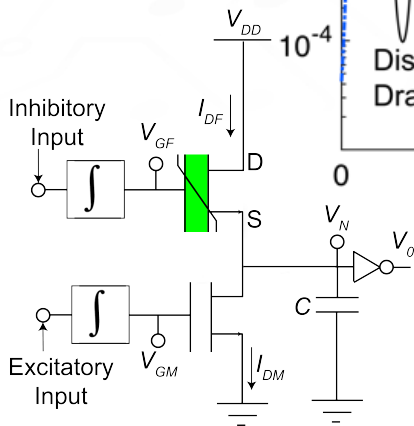
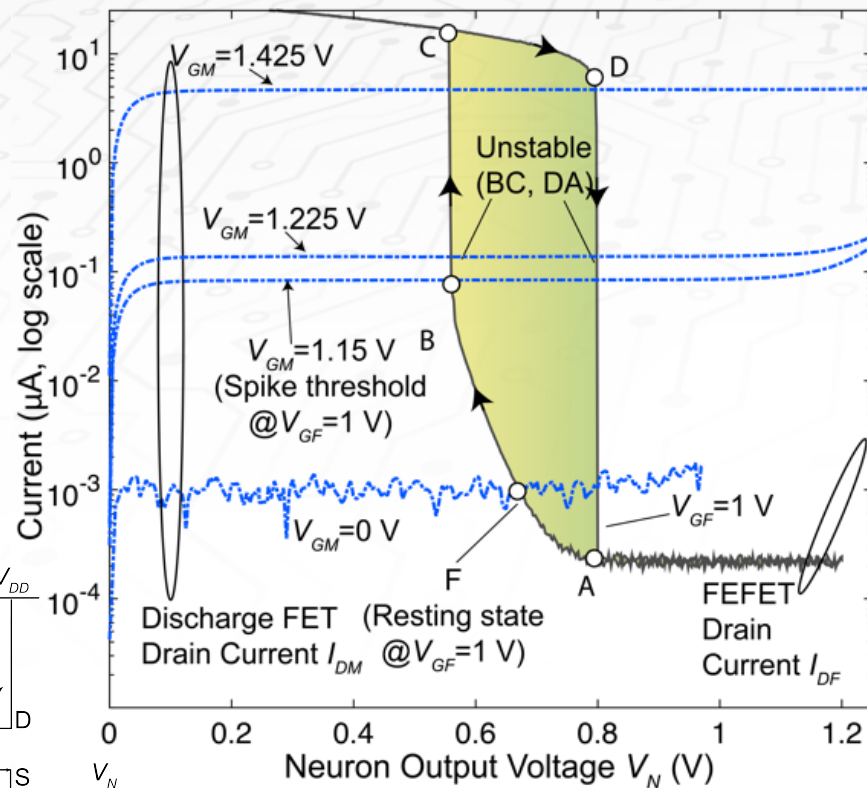
Ferroelectric Spiking Neuron of Inhibition



The neuron is inhibited when inhibitory pulses arrive.
(This is experimental data.)

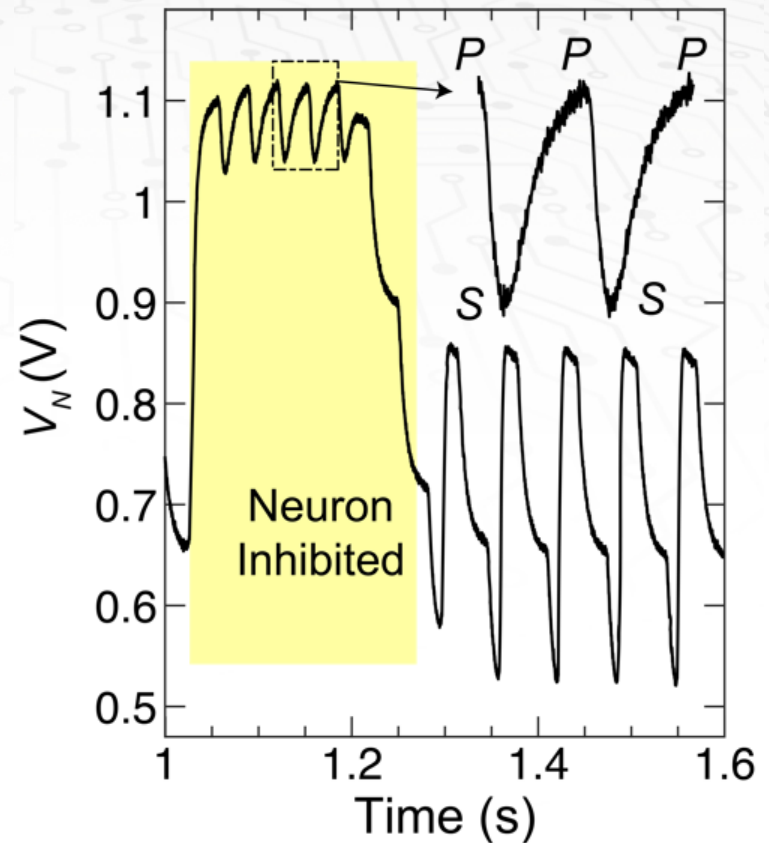
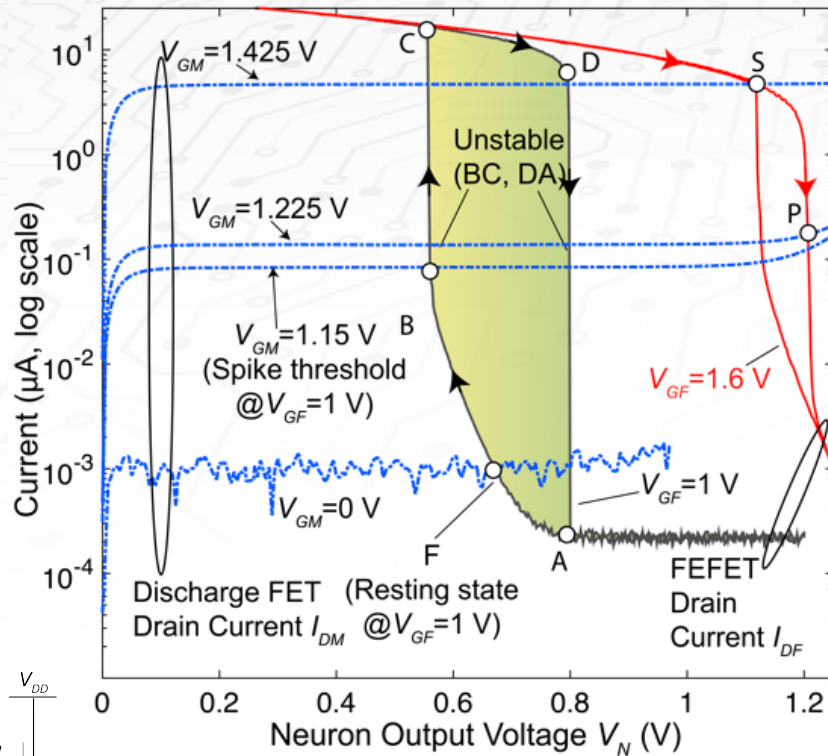
Wang et al. IEDM 2018

Demonstration of A Ferroelectric Spiking Neuron



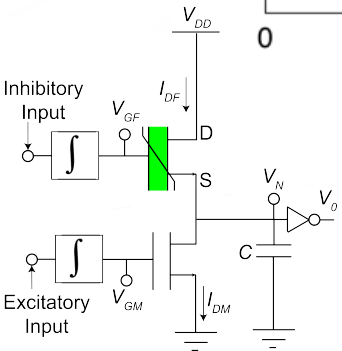
Oscillations observed with excitatory input pulse train.

Demonstration of Inhibition

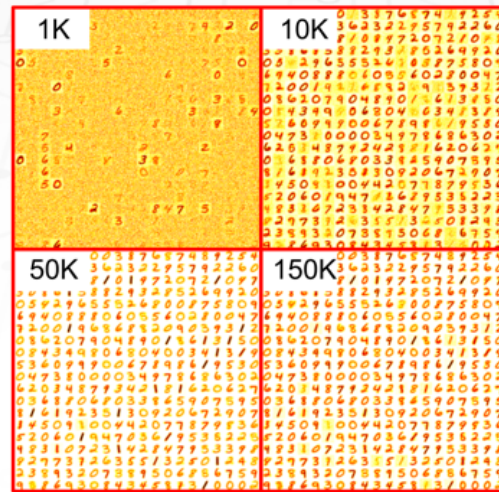
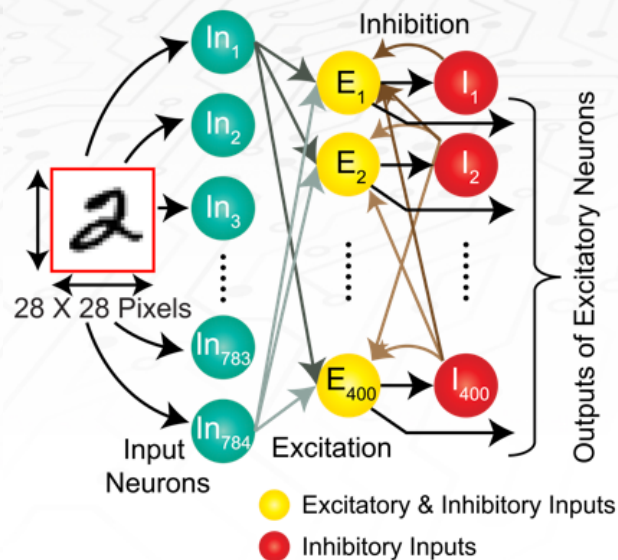


The transient curve is consistent with DC analysis.

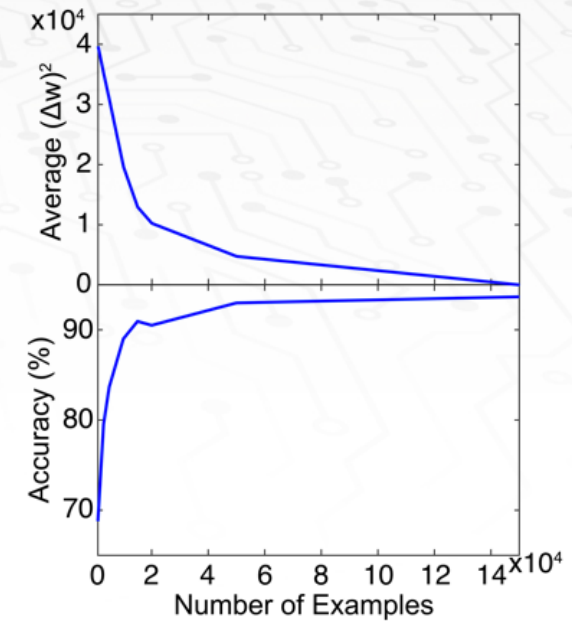
Wang et al. IEDM 2018



Ferroelectric SNN for Unsupervised Clustering



Unsupervised clustering of handwritten digits over training epochs



STDP for weight updates
 Classification accuracy of 93% on MNIST dataset

Wang et al. IEDM 2018

Benchmarking

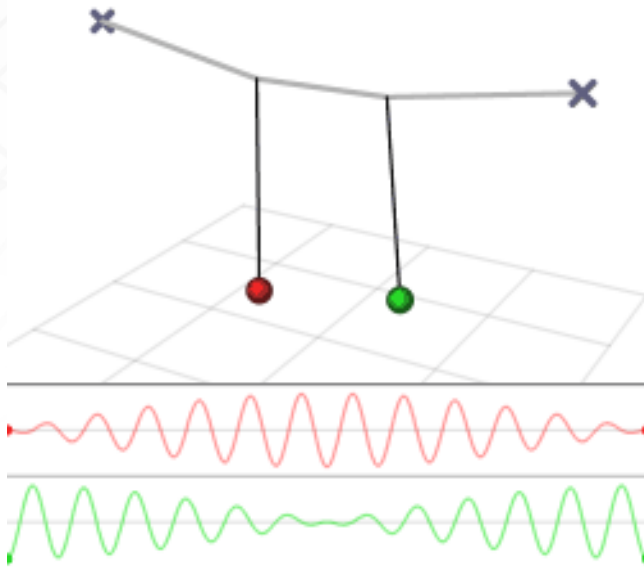
	[5]	[6]	[7]	Current work
Technology	CMOS Analog, Mixed Signal		Emerging Technology	
Neuron Type	LIF	Multiply-Accumulate	LIF	LIF
Network Type	Spiking	Non-spiking	Spiking	Spiking
Data Encoding Architecture	Spike Timing	Multi-level perceptron	Spiking Rate	Spike Timing
Input Type	Excitatory	Excitatory	Excitatory	Excit. & Inhib.
Device Count	15 T	64 T	1T - 1 VO ₂	1T - 1 FEFET
Synapse Weight	Pos. & Neg.	Pos. & Neg.	Pos. & Neg.	Pos.
Training & Classification	Unsupervised	Reinforcement	Supervised	Unsupervised
Power	10 nW	125 nW	Not reported	3.6 nW

[5] G. Indiveri. Proc. ISCAS 2003, 4, IV-IV. [6] A. Amravati et al. Proc. ISSCC 2018. [7] M. Jerry et al. Proc. 2017 Symp. on VLSI Tech., pp. T186-T187

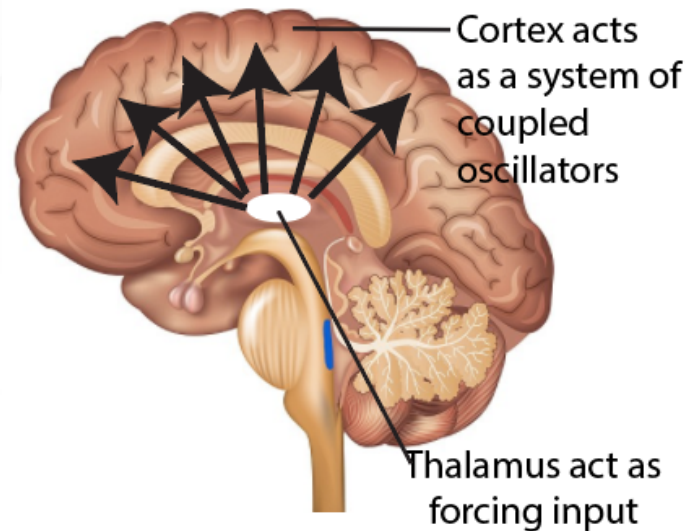
Wang et al. IEDM 2018

Beyond SNNs: Continuous Time Dynamical Systems-Coupled Oscillators

A Physics Example:
Coupled Pendulums



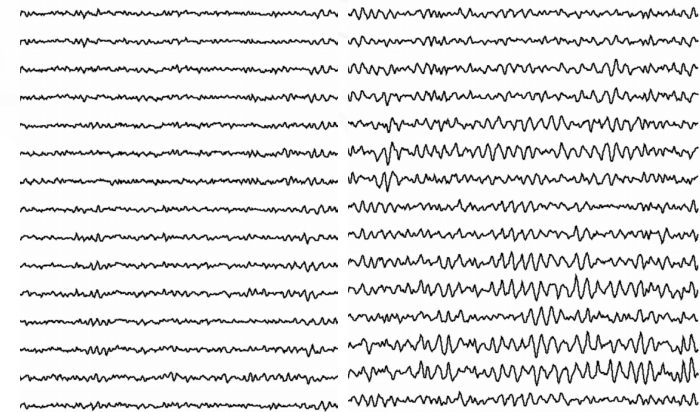
A Biological Example: Primary Visual Cortex



Collective Spatio-temporal oscillations

Eyes open

Eyes closed

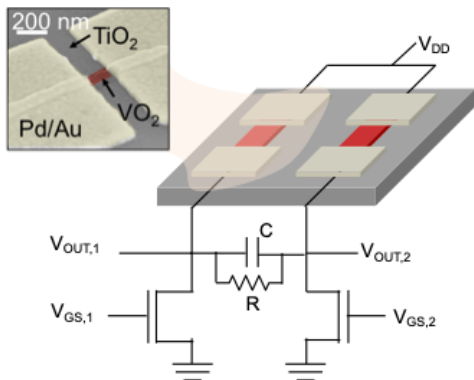


https://www.uni-potsdam.de/cosmos-itn/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Aberdeen_Lectures_Montbrio1.pdf

(More to come Arijit Raychowdhury')

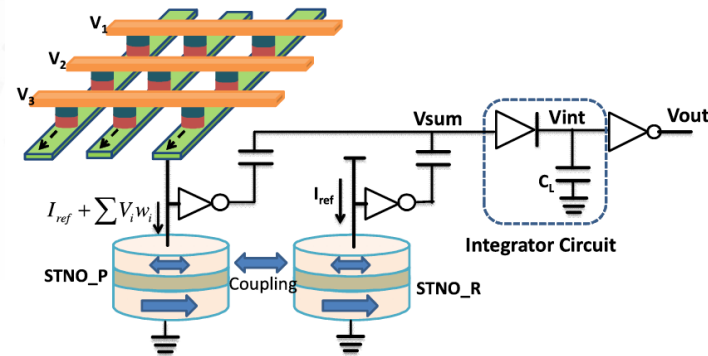
Continuous Time Dynamical Systems With Emerging Devices

Metal→Insulator Transition Material based Oscillators



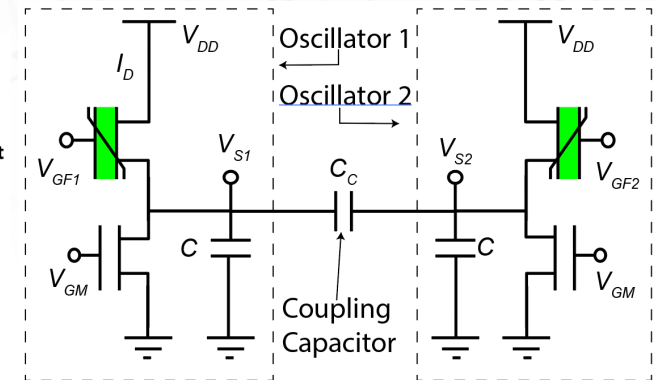
Shukla et al. Sci. Rep. 2014. IEDM 2014
Chen et al. APL 2018

Spintronic Oscillators



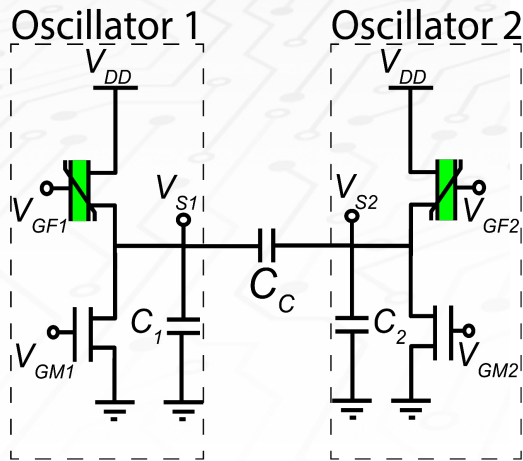
Yogendra et al. IEEE Trans. Magnetics, 2015
Nikonov et al. JXCDC 2015.

Ferroelectric Oscillators



Wang et al. IEEE EDL 2017

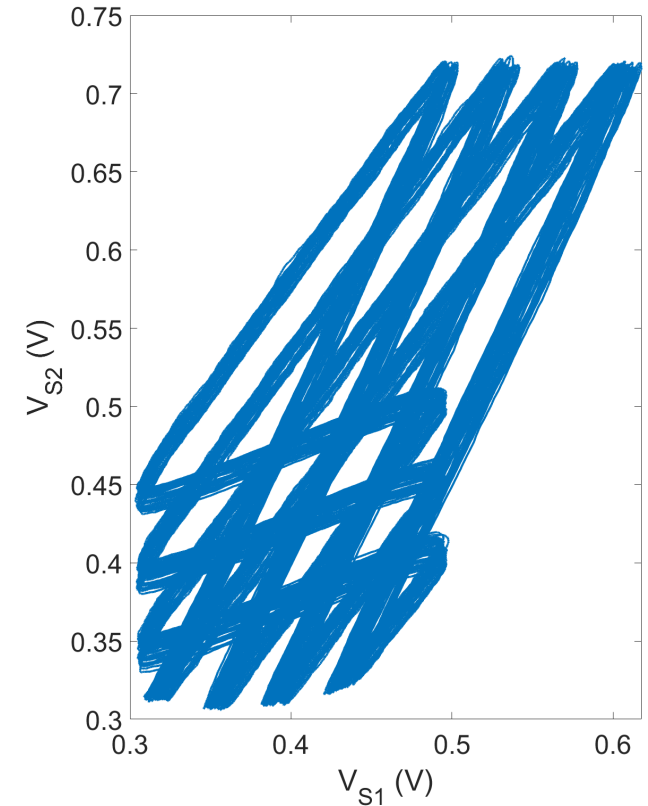
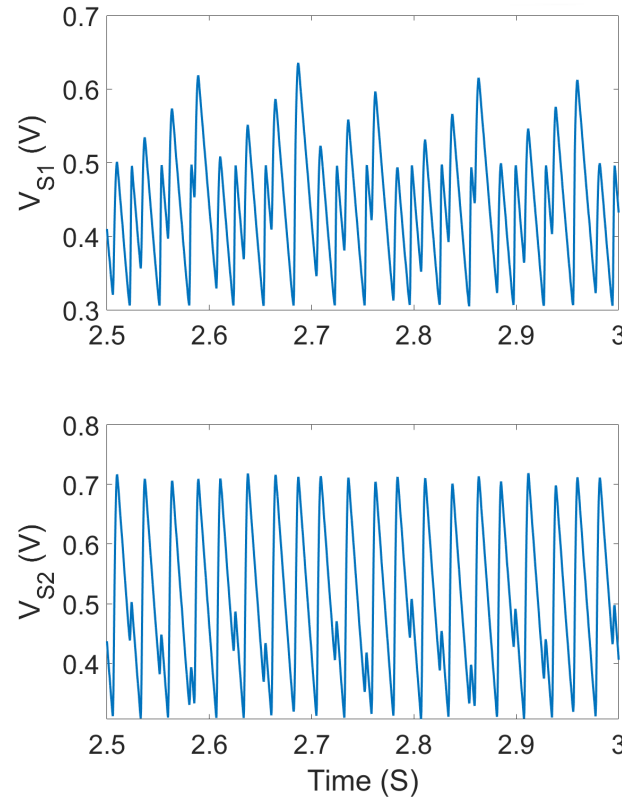
Coupled FE Oscillators: Synchronized



$$V_{GF1} = V_{GF2} = 0.6 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{GM1} = 1.55 \text{ V}$$

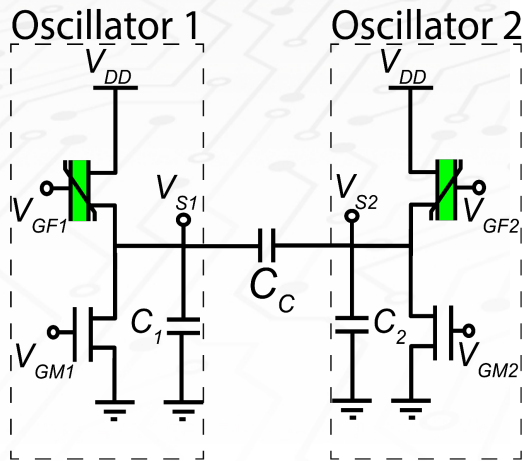
$$V_{GM2} = 1.6 \text{ V}$$



“Stable” orbits—i.e., synchronized—when V_{GM1} and V_{GM2} are close.

Wang et al. (unpublished)

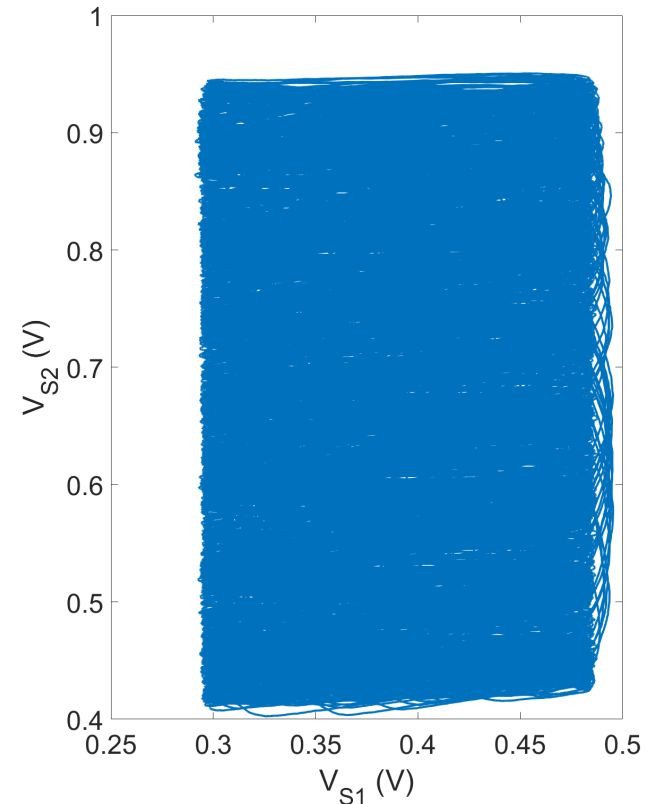
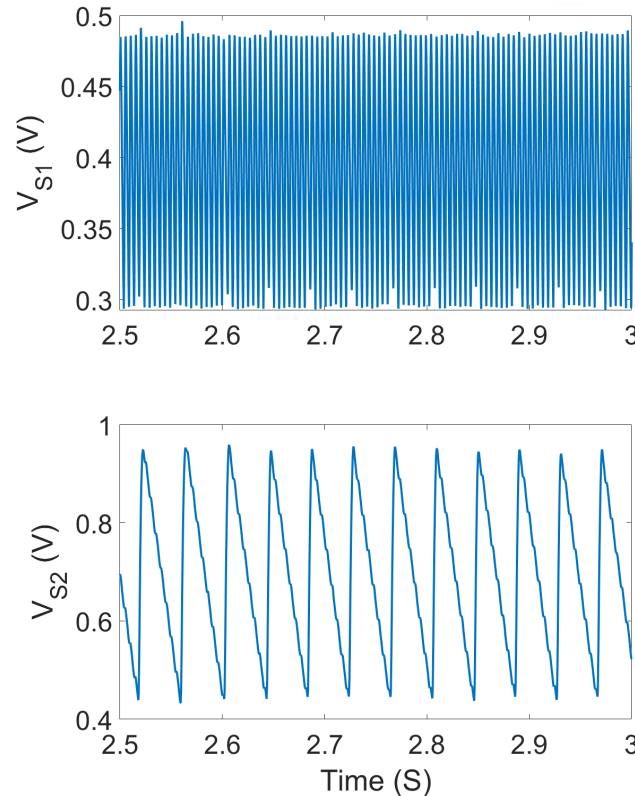
Coupled FE Oscillators: Unsynchronized



$$V_{GF1} = V_{GF2} = 0.6 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{GM1} = 1.7 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{GM2} = 1.55 \text{ V}$$



No stable orbits—i.e., unsynchronized—when V_{GM1} and V_{GM2} are far apart.

Wang et al. (unpublished)

Thanks/Questions and Comments



JUMP

Joint University Microelectronics Program

www.src.org/program/jump



Semiconductor Research Corporation

@srcJUMP

