FACETS: Fast Analog Computing with Emergent Transient States

Common Goal: Study Non-classical Universal Computing Solutions

Benchmarking (Biology vs. Modelling vs. Hardware with Visual Tasks in VI)



Neurobiology: Structural and Functional Investigation of the Neocortical
Microcircuit and the Circuit Elements In-vivo and In-vitro

Contemporary IT systems

- Processor-memory based architectures with serial command execution (Turing)
- Pre-determined algorithms define capabilities and performance (software)
- Based on well defined reproducible states and well defined reversible time evolution
- Electronics implementation of Boolean operators, high power consumption
- Extremely high yield requirements, little fault tolerance
- Limited by atomic distance scale in components (nm): component limited

→ WELL UNDERSTOOD

Neural computation

- Maximally parallel, non-linear computing elements with large diversity
- Time correlations drive the dynamics
- Learning by internal self-organisation and strong interaction with environment
- Low power consumption and high fault tolerance
- Limited by degree of complexity: architecture limited
- → NOT UNDERSTOOD (listed as a major challenge for 21. century science)