Deep Topographic Models Predict the Behavioral Effects of Neural Perturbations in Primate Visual Cortex

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Modeling primate vision





Object recognition in the brain





Modeling the ventral visual stream





Testing models of primate vision

Rank

Brain-Score.org tests model's match-to-brain with a range of neural and behavioral data under visual tasks







Particular high-performing ANNs are decent models of primate vision



Schrimpf & Kubilius et al. 2018; Kubilius & Schrimpf et al. 2019; Schrimpf et al. 2020



But key properties of primate visual processing are still missing

- Visual cortex is organized topographically – neurons that are similar tend to cluster together
- This leads to the emergence of socalled face patches: spatial clusters of neurons that preferentially respond to faces
- Such topography might be the result of efficient wiring-cost optimization
- We tested the necessity of neuronal spatial organization to predict the behavioral effects of perturbations





Lee et al. 2020

Topographic models replicate the spatial layout of neurons in primate cortex

- Train models with spatial correlation loss
- ➤ → ~match to primate topography

Loss function

С





Running perturbation experiments on topographic model

1. Train classifier on categorization task with un-perturbed features

2. Inject at specified sites in model tissue

3. Measure behavioral effects, compare with data



Model IT



The topographic model reproduces experimental data to a first extent





The topographic model qualitatively reproduces a range of experimental data







Potential steps towards BMI: the topographic model predicts precise perceptual effects

- The model can tell us what perceptual change a given perturbation will elicit
- In the future, we are planning to use this model for guided stimulation experiments to elicit visual percepts
- With C-BRIC colleagues, there might be synergies in efficient wiring layouts



