

Positive Coupling

- Positive *sense* (sign)
- Large *strength*

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Negative Coupling

- Negative *sense* (sign)
- Large *strength*

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Weak Coupling

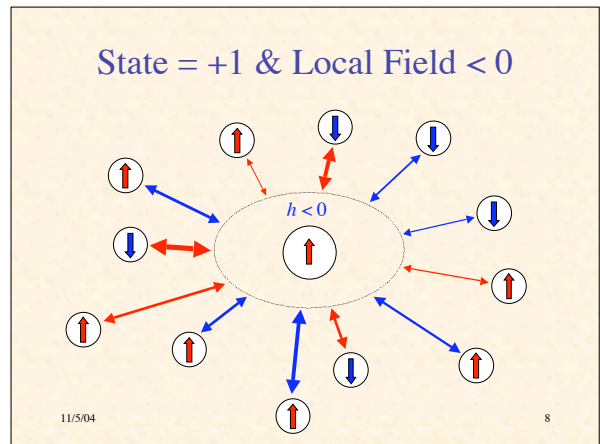
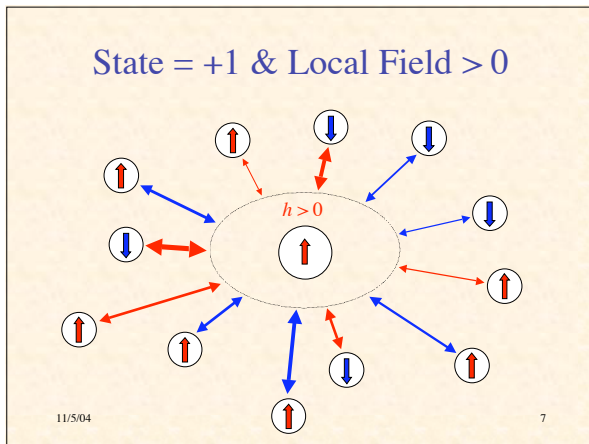
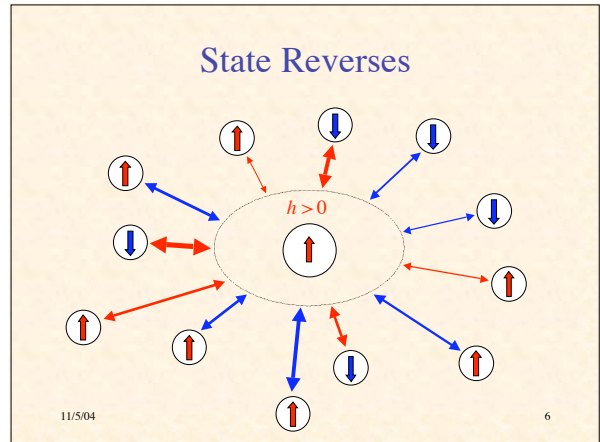
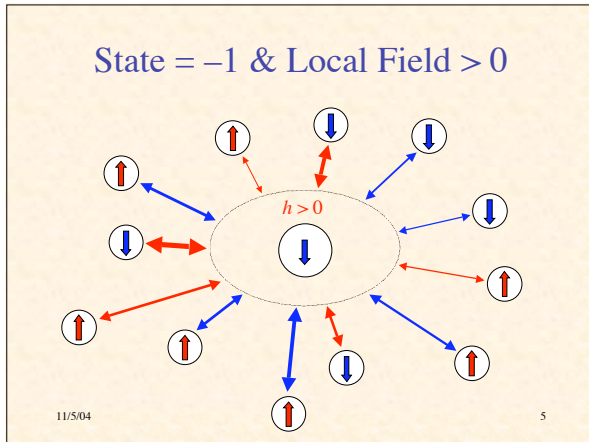
- Either *sense* (sign)
- Little *strength*

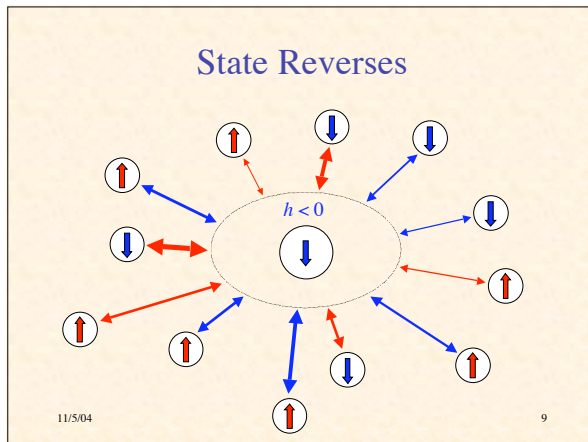
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State = -1 & Local Field < 0

$h < 0$

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Hopfield Net as Soft Constraint Satisfaction System

- States of neurons as yes/no decisions
- Weights represent *soft constraints* between decisions
 - *hard* constraints *must* be respected
 - *soft* constraints have *degrees* of importance
- Decisions change to better respect constraints
- Is there an optimal set of decisions that best respects all constraints?

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Convergence

- Does such a system converge to a stable state?
- Under what conditions does it converge?
- There is a sense in which each step relaxes the “tension” in the system
- But could a relaxation of one neuron lead to greater tension in other places?

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Quantifying “Tension”

- If $w_{ij} > 0$, then s_i and s_j want to have the same sign ($s_i s_j = +1$)
- If $w_{ij} < 0$, then s_i and s_j want to have opposite signs ($s_i s_j = -1$)
- If $w_{ij} = 0$, their signs are independent
- Strength of interaction varies with $|w_{ij}|$
- Define disharmony (“tension”) D_{ij} between neurons i and j :
 - $D_{ij} = -s_i w_{ij} s_j$
 - $D_{ij} < 0 \Rightarrow$ they are happy
 - $D_{ij} > 0 \Rightarrow$ they are unhappy

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Total Energy of System

The “energy” of the system is the total “tension” (disharmony) in it:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E\{\mathbf{s}\} &= \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} D_{ij} = -\sum_{\langle ij \rangle} s_i w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} s_i w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j s_i w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{s}
 \end{aligned}$$

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Review of Some Vector Notation

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = (x_1 \ \cdots \ x_n)^T \quad \text{(column vectors)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} \quad \text{(inner product)}$$

$$\mathbf{xy}^T = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 & \cdots & x_1 y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_m y_1 & \cdots & x_m y_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{(outer product)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{M} \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n x_i M_{ij} y_j \quad \text{(quadratic form)}$$

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Another View of Energy

The energy measures the number of neurons whose states are in disharmony with their local fields (i.e. of opposite sign):

$$\begin{aligned}
 E\{\mathbf{s}\} &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j s_i w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i s_i \sum_j w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i s_i h_i \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{h}
 \end{aligned}$$

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Do State Changes Decrease Energy?

- Suppose that neuron k changes state
- Change of energy:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta E &= E\{\mathbf{s}'\} - E\{\mathbf{s}\} \\
 &= -\sum_{\langle ij \rangle} s'_i w_{ij} s'_j + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} s_i w_{ij} s_j \\
 &= -\sum_{j \neq k} s'_k w_{kj} s'_j + \sum_{j \neq k} s_k w_{kj} s_j \\
 &= -(s'_k - s_k) \sum_{j \neq k} w_{kj} s_j \\
 &= -\Delta s_k h_k \\
 &< 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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Energy Does Not Increase

- In each step in which a neuron is considered for update:
 $E\{\mathbf{s}(t+1)\} - E\{\mathbf{s}(t)\} \leq 0$
- Energy cannot increase
- Energy decreases if any neuron changes
- Must it stop?

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Proof of Convergence in Finite Time

- There is a minimum possible energy:
 - The number of possible states $\mathbf{s} \in \{-1, +1\}^n$ is finite
 - Hence $E_{\min} = \min \{E(\mathbf{s}) \mid \mathbf{s} \in \{\pm 1\}^n\}$ exists
- Must show it is reached in a finite number of steps

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Steps are of a Certain Minimum Size

If $h_k > 0$, then (let $h_{\min} = \min$ of possible positive h)

$$h_k \geq \min \left\{ h \mid h = \sum_{j \neq k} w_{kj} s_j \wedge \mathbf{s} \in \{\pm 1\}^n \wedge h > 0 \right\} =_{\text{df}} h_{\min}$$

$$\Delta E = -\Delta s_k h_k = -2h_k \leq -2h_{\min}$$

If $h_k < 0$, then (let $h_{\max} = \max$ of possible negative h)

$$h_k \geq \max \left\{ h \mid h = \sum_{j \neq k} w_{kj} s_j \wedge \mathbf{s} \in \{\pm 1\}^n \wedge h < 0 \right\} =_{\text{df}} h_{\max}$$

$$\Delta E = -\Delta s_k h_k = 2h_k \leq 2h_{\max}$$

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Conclusion

- If we do asynchronous updating, the Hopfield net must reach a stable, minimum energy state in a finite number of updates
- This does not imply that it is a global minimum

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Lyapunov Functions

- A way of showing the convergence of discrete- or continuous-time dynamical systems
- For discrete-time system:
 - need a Lyapunov function E (“energy” of the state)
 - E is bounded below ($E\{s\} > E_{\min}$)
 - $\Delta E < (\Delta E)_{\max} \leq 0$ (energy decreases a certain minimum amount each step)
 - then the system will converge in finite time
- Problem: finding a suitable Lyapunov function

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Example Limit Cycle with Synchronous Updating

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The Hopfield Energy Function is Even

- A function f is **odd** if $f(-x) = -f(x)$, for all x
- A function f is **even** if $f(-x) = f(x)$, for all x
- Observe:

$$E\{-s\} = -\frac{1}{2}(-s)^T W(-s) = -\frac{1}{2}s^T Ws = E\{s\}$$

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Conceptual Picture of Descent on Energy Surface

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(fig. from Solé & Goodwin)

