

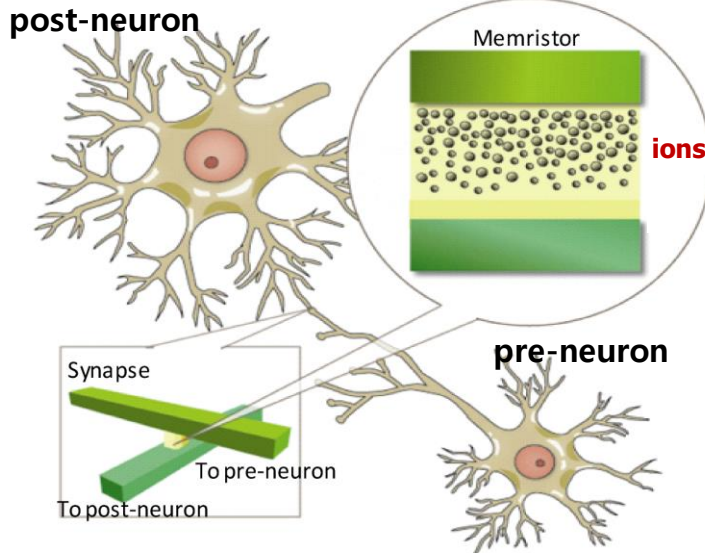
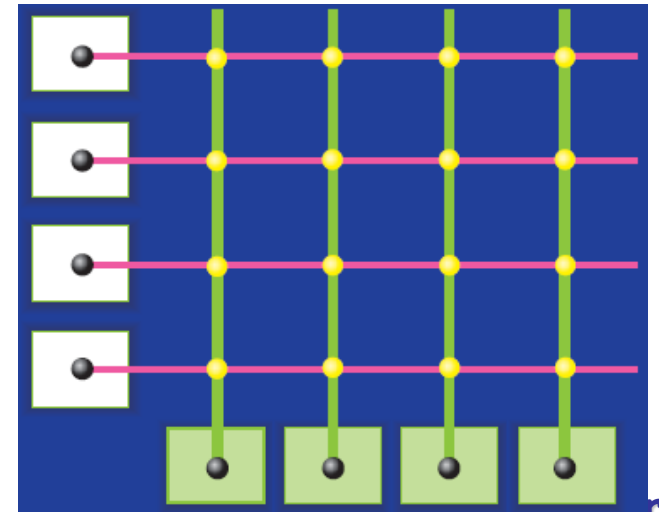
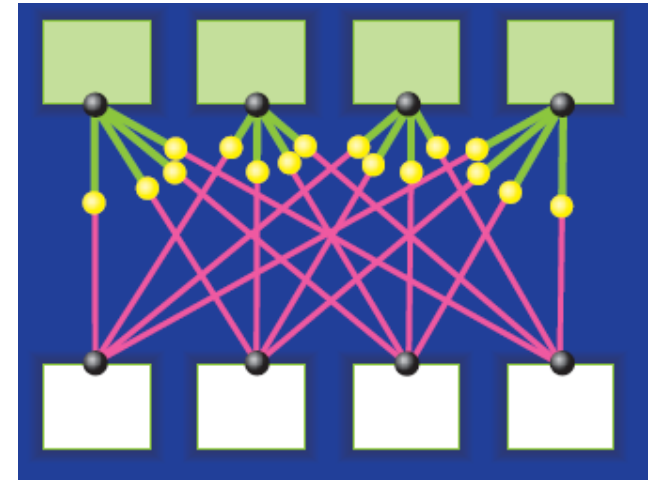
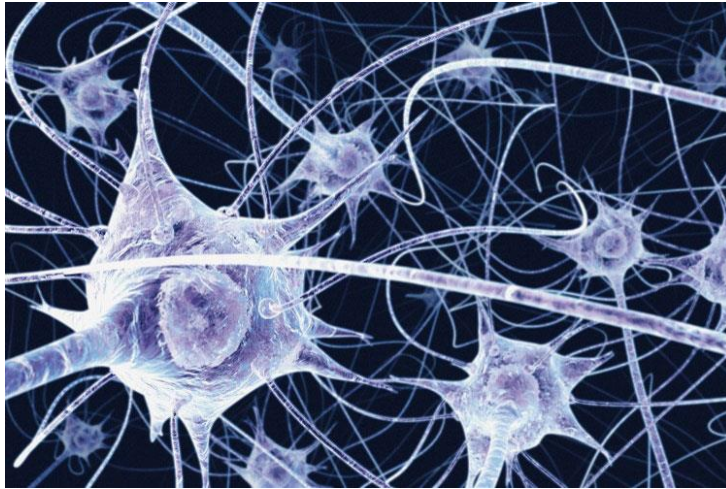
# **Feature Extraction and Image analysis using memristor networks**

**Wei Lu**

**University of Michigan  
Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science**

# Memristor Based Neural Network Hardware

Synapse – reconfigurable two-terminal resistive switches



Goal:  
building  
bio-  
inspired,  
efficient  
artificial  
neural  
networks

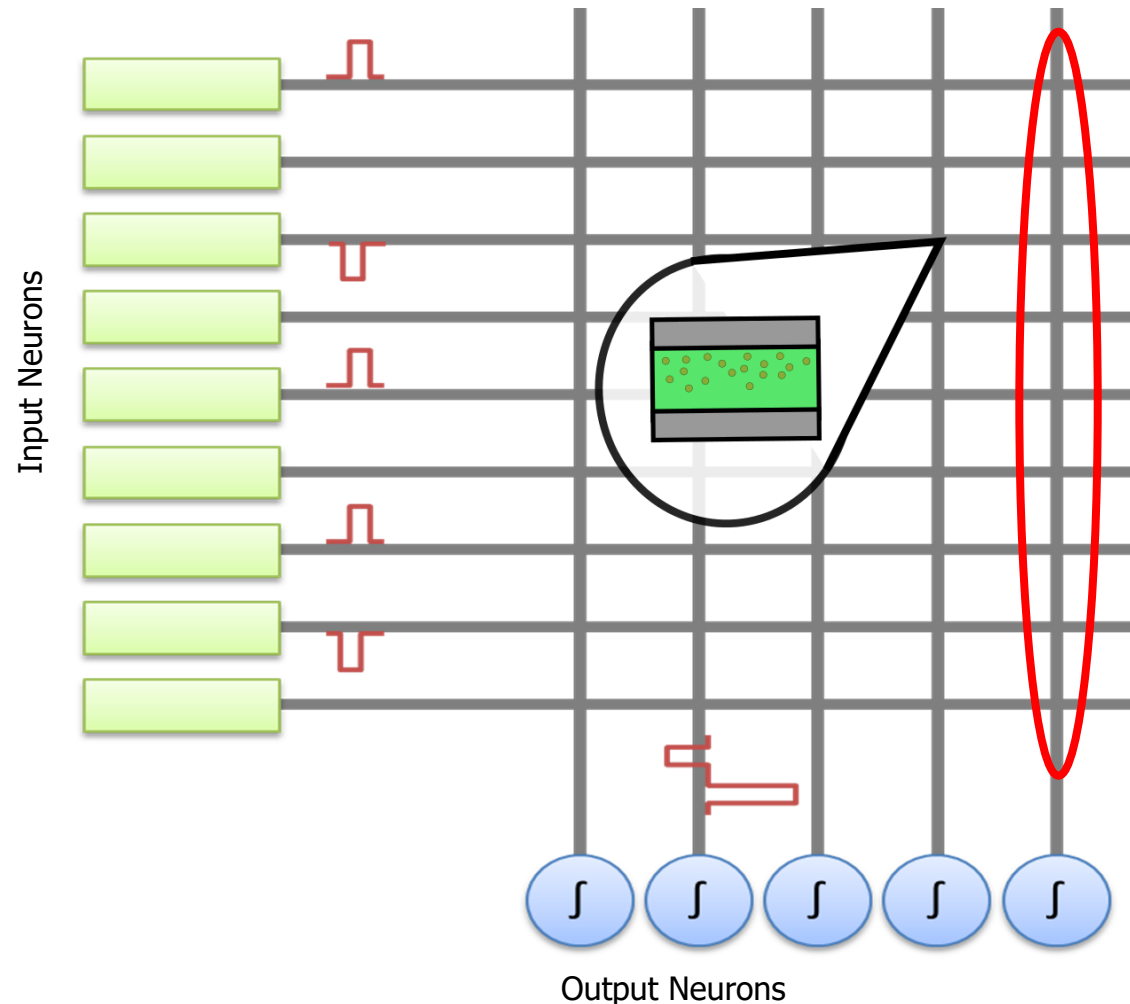
# Computing with Memristor Arrays



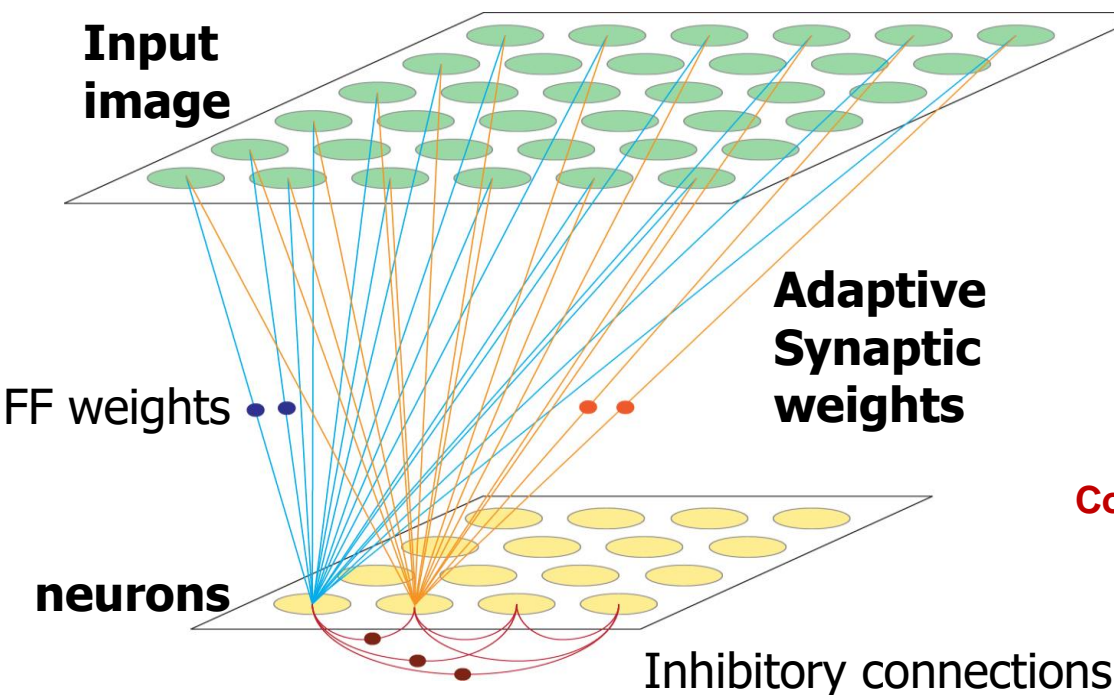
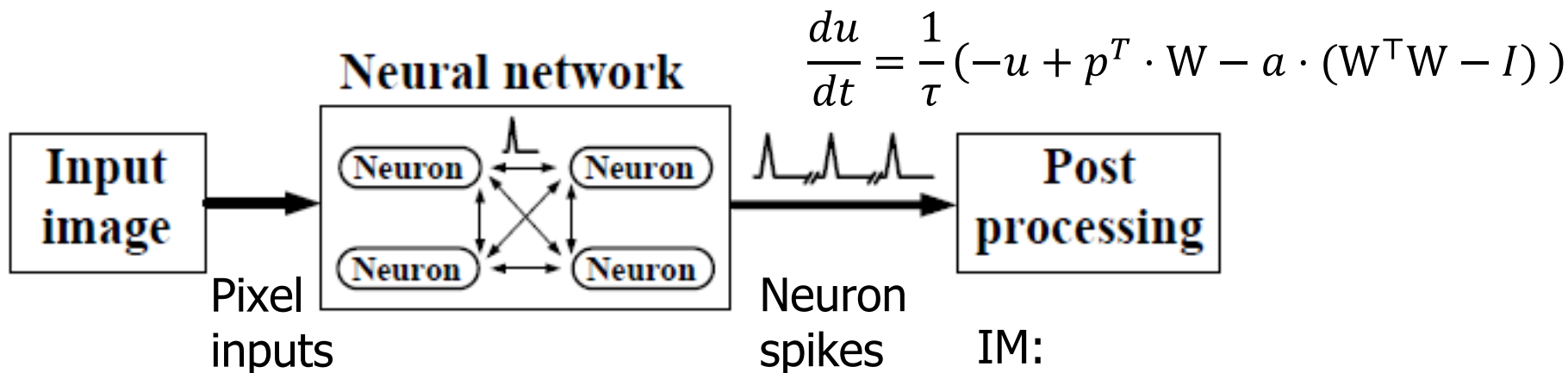
## Memristors perform learning and inference functions

- Memristor weights form dictionary elements (features)
- Image input, Pixel intensity represented by widths of pulses
- Memristor array natively performs matrix operation
$$\vec{I} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\Phi}$$
- Integrate and fire neurons
- Learning achieved by backpropagating spikes

## DARPA UPSIDE program



# Neural Network for Image Processing based on Sparse Coding



IM:

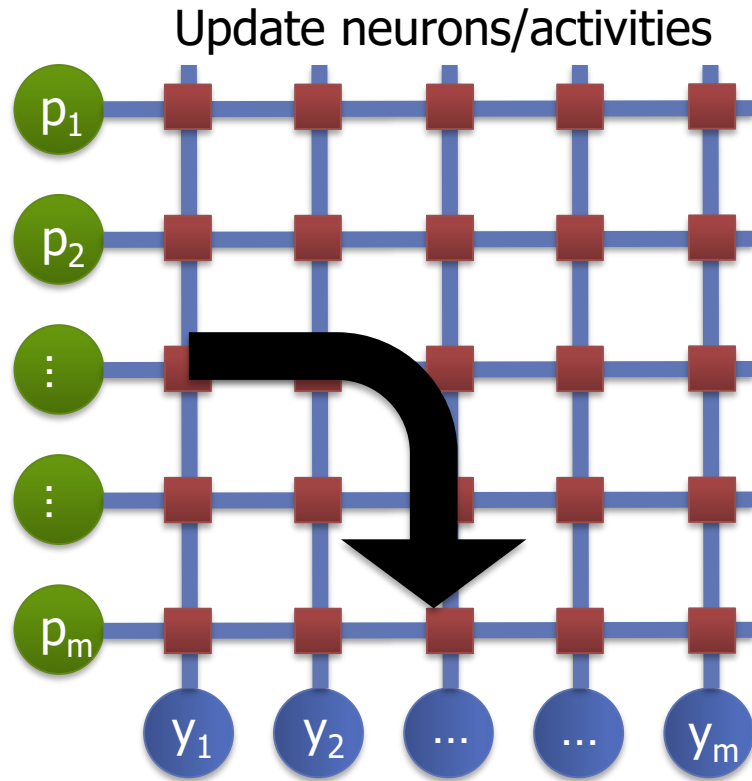
1. Network adapt during training following local plasticity rules
2. FF weights form neuron receptive fields (dictionary elements)
3. Output as neuron firing rates

**Cost Function:**

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \|s(t) - \hat{s}(t)\|^2 + \lambda \sum_m C(a_m(t)).$$

# Sparse Coding Implementation in Memristor Array

## Forward Pass

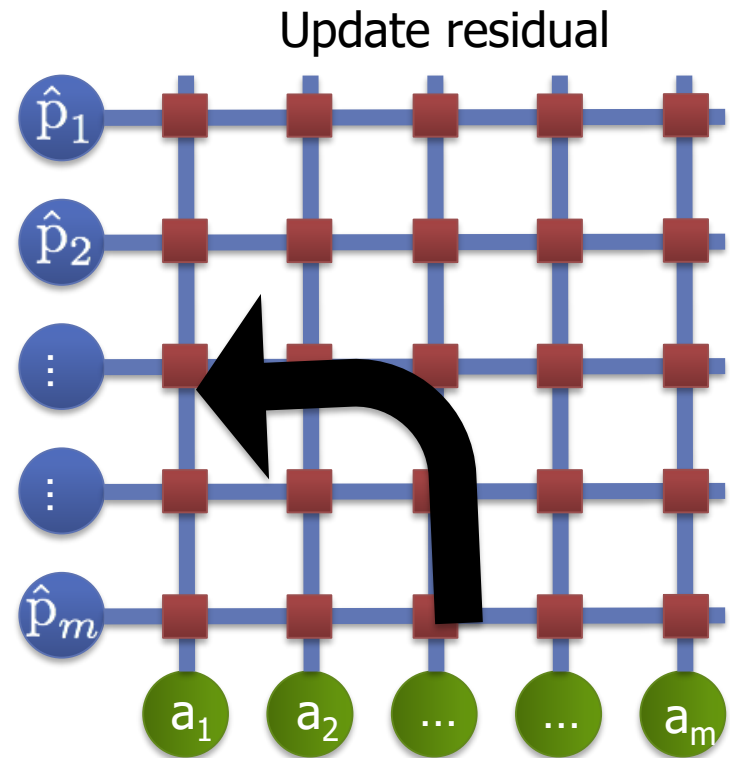


$$y = p^T W$$

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau} (-u + p^T \cdot W - a \cdot (W^T W - I))$$

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau} (-u + (p - \hat{p})^T W + a)$$

## Backward pass

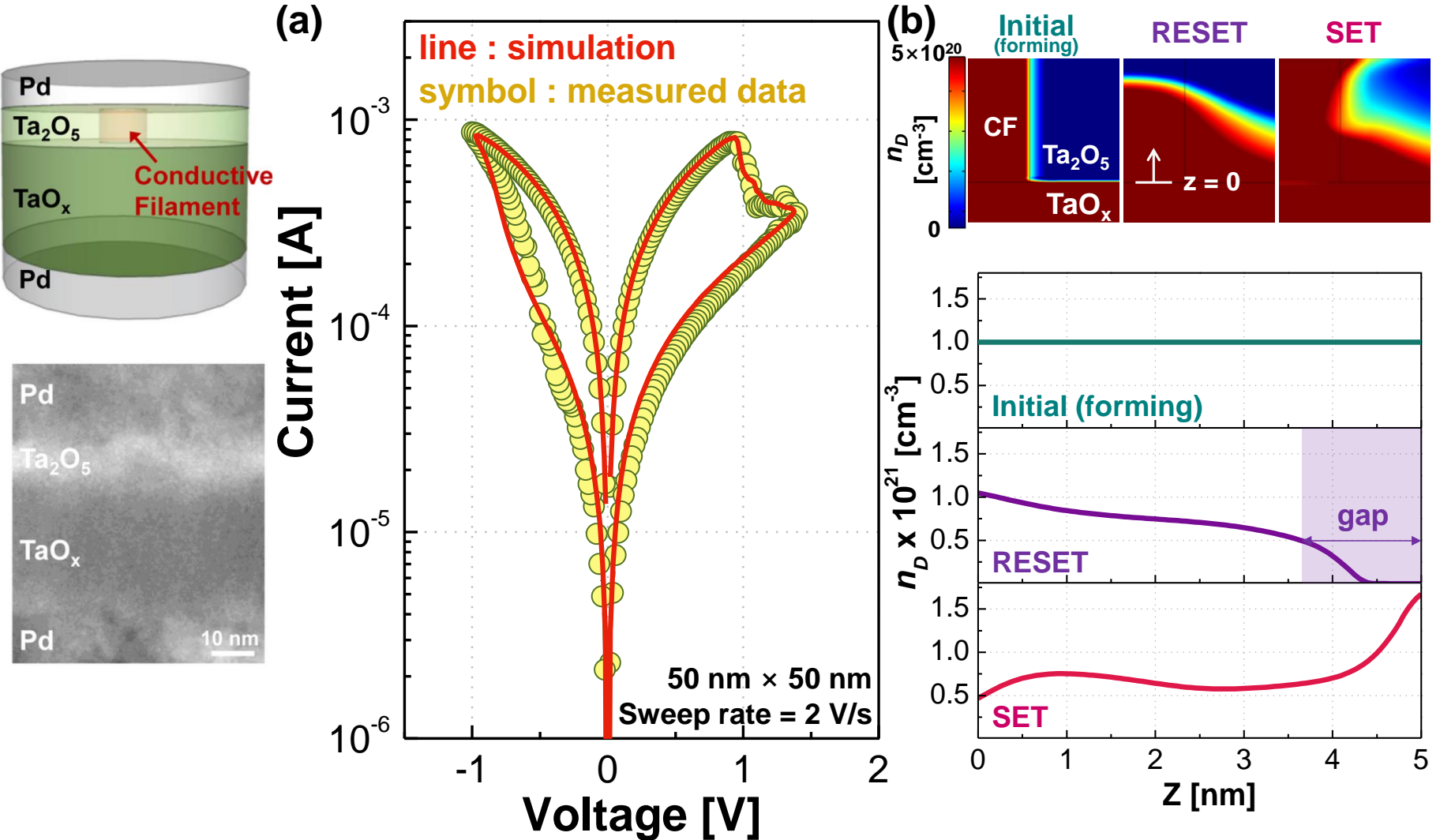


$$\hat{p} = a W^T$$

Neuron membrane potential

Sheridan et al., *Nature Nanotechnology*,  
12, 784–789 (2017)

# Analog Oxide Memristors



- Resistive switching can be precisely simulated after considering  $V_O$  diffusion, drift and thermophoresis effects

S. Kim, S. Choi, W. Lu, ACS Nano, 8, 2369–2376 (2014).

# Simulation of Switching Process

## • Dependent variables

$n_D$  Concentration of  $V_o$  [ $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ]

$T$  Temperature [K]

$\psi$  Potential [V]

## • Constants

$a$  Hopping distance, 0.1 nm

$f$  Escape-attempt frequency,  $10^{12}$  Hz

$E_a$  Diffusion barrier, 0.85 eV

## • Oxygen vacancy transport

$$\text{Eq.(1)} \quad \frac{\partial n_D}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla n_D - v n_D + D S n_D \nabla T)$$

## • Current continuity

$$\text{Eq.(2)} \quad \nabla \cdot \sigma \nabla \psi = 0$$

## • Heat (Joule heating)

$$\text{Eq.(3)} \quad -\nabla \cdot k_{th} \nabla T = J \cdot E = \gamma \cdot \sigma |\nabla \psi|^2$$

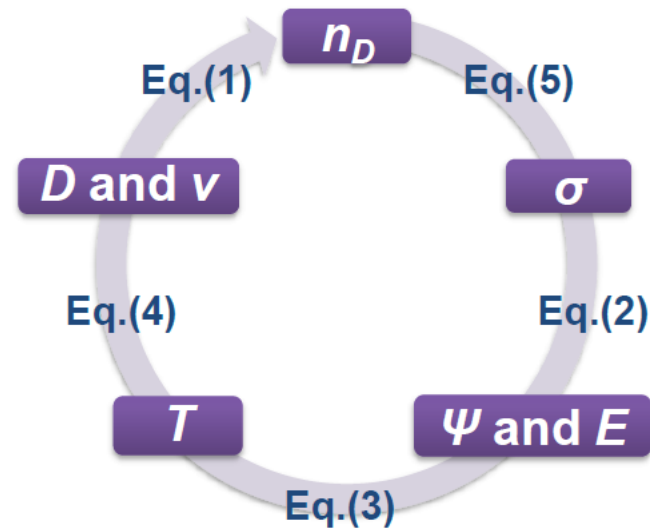
( $\gamma = 1$  for DC, and  $\gamma = 2$  for AC simulation)

## • Parameters - Eqs.(4)

$$D = 1/2 \cdot a^2 \cdot f \cdot \exp(-E_a / kT)$$

$$v = a \cdot f \cdot \exp(-E_a / kT) \cdot \sinh(qaE / kT)$$

$$S = -E_a / kT^2$$

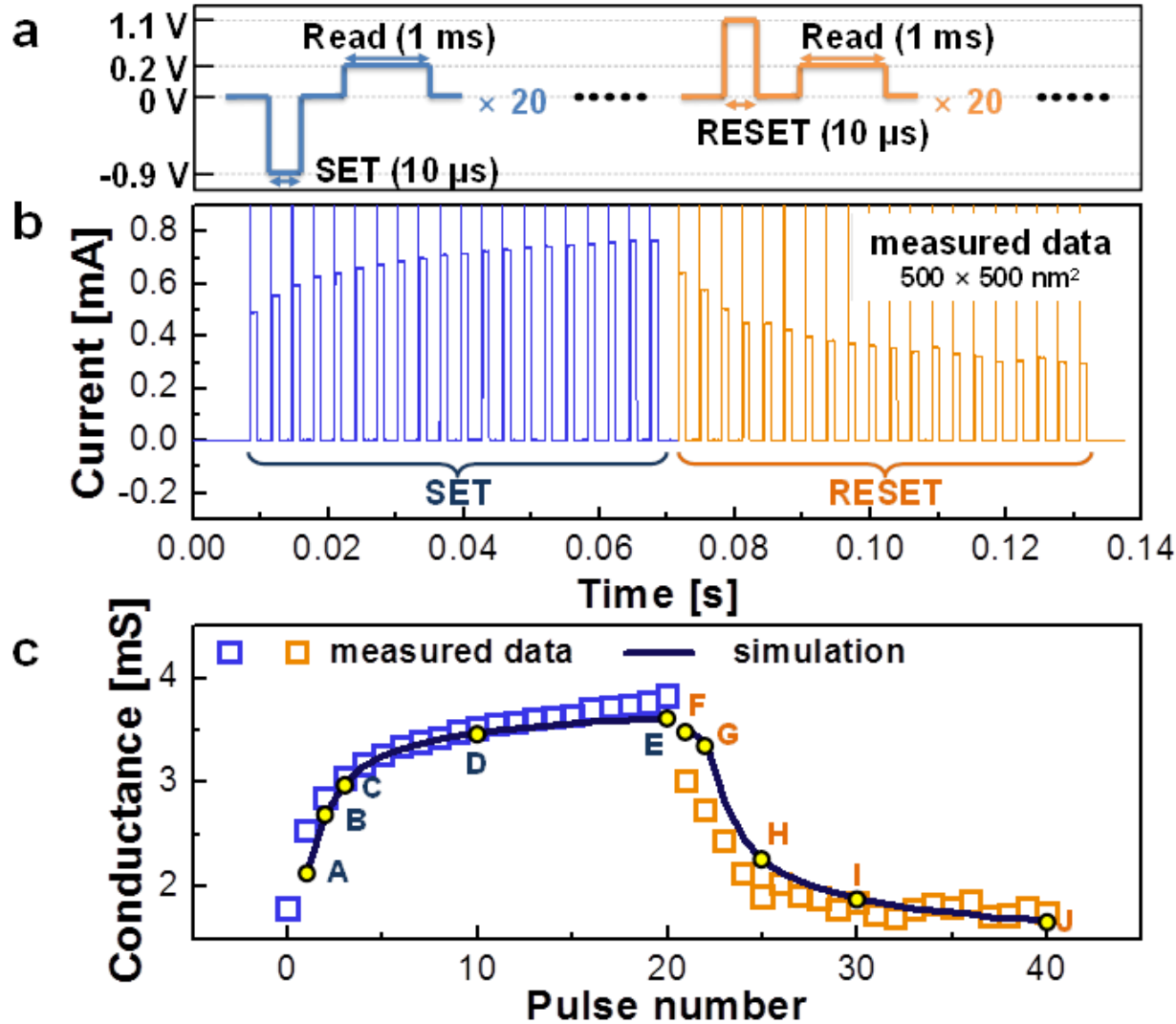


Diffusivity of  $V_o$  [ $\text{cm}^2\text{s}^{-1}$ ]

Drift velocity of  $V_o$  [cm/s]

Soret diffusion coefficient [1/K]

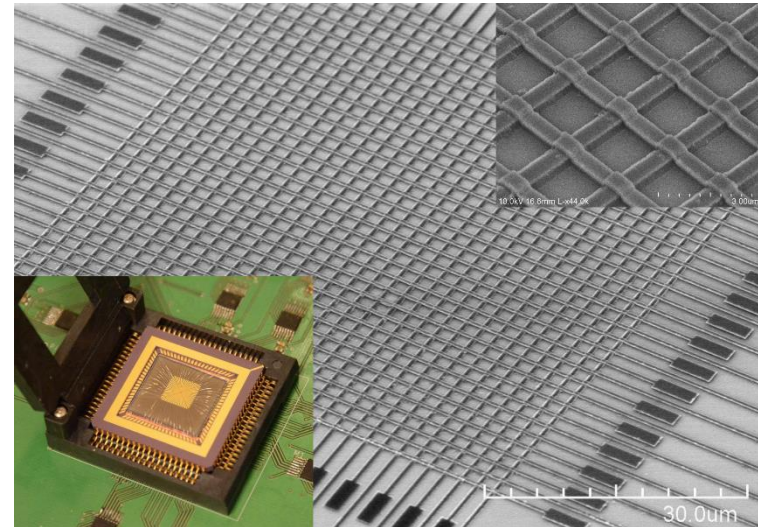
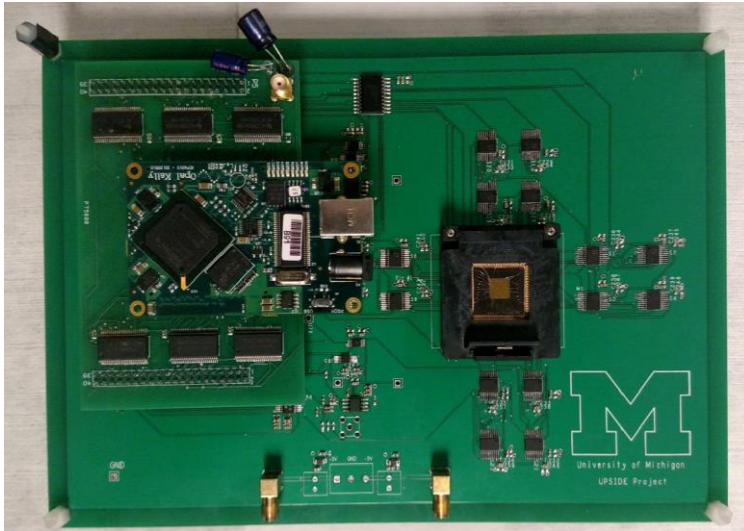
# Simulation of Filament Growth



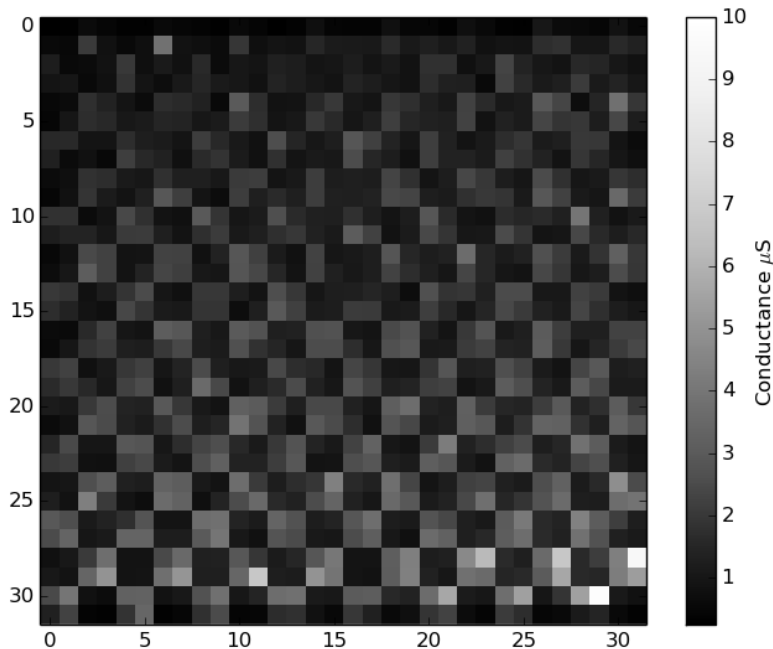
- Same set of parameters can explain both DC and pulse response  
 S. Kim, S. Choi, W. Lu, *ACS Nano*, 8, 2369–2376 (2014)



# Neuromorphic Hardware Implementation



32x32  
memristor  
array



- Checkerboard pattern
- 32 x 32 array
- Direct storage and read out
- No read-verify or re-programming

Sheridan et al., *Nature Nanotechnology*, 12, 784–789 (2017)

# Training

Training images



9 Training Images

128x128px

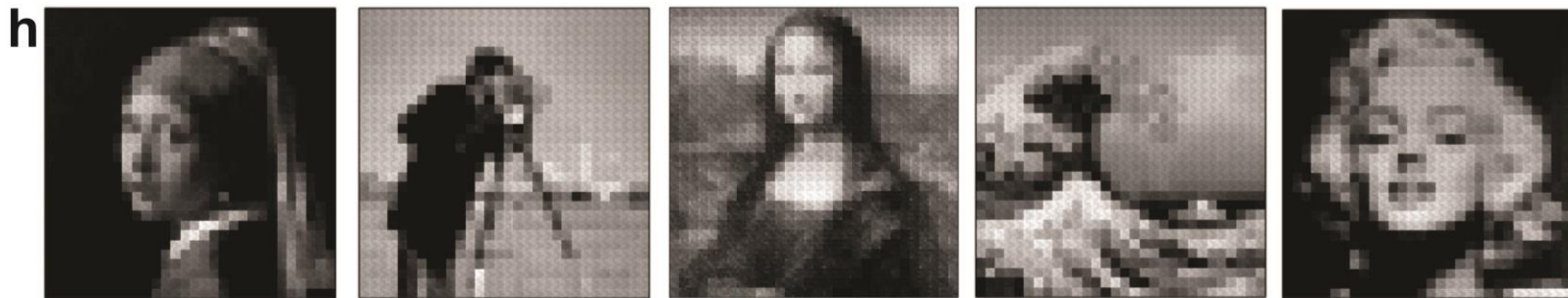
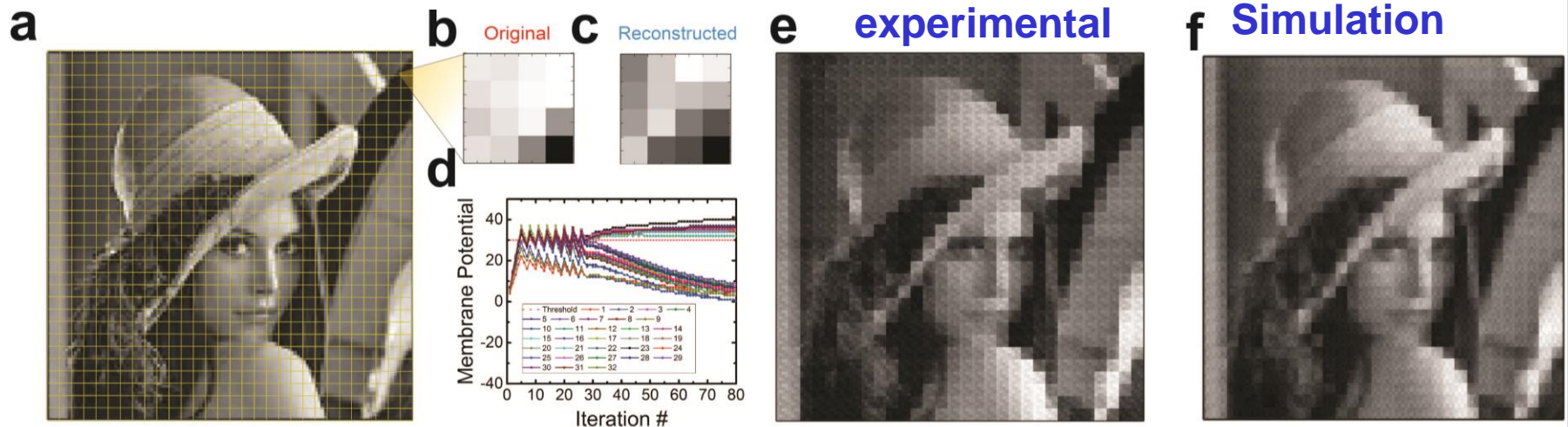
4x4 patches

127449 training patches  
(overlaps allowed)

Trained in random order

**Sheridan et al., *Nature Nanotechnology*,  
12, 784–789 (2017)**

# Image Reconstruction with Memristor Crossbar



experimental



Simulation

# PCA Analysis Using Memristor Arrays

## Wisconsin Breast Cancer Data

Sensory data from malignant or benign cells

$\left( \begin{array}{c} \textit{clump thickness} \\ \textit{uniformity of cell size} \\ \textit{uniformity of cell shape} \\ \textit{marginal adhesion} \\ \textit{single epithelial cell size} \\ \textit{bare nuclei} \\ \textit{bland chromatin} \\ \textit{normal nucleoli} \\ \textit{mitoses} \end{array} \right)$	9	10
	5	10
	8	6
	1	3
	2	3
	10	10
	8	3
	9	5
	8	3

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) for data clustering
- Unsupervised training using Sanger's rule

$$\Delta g_{ij} = \eta y_j (x_i - \sum_{k=1}^j g_{ik} y_k)$$

Training set: 100 points

Testing set: 583 points

Input voltage pulse:

Amplitude: fixed

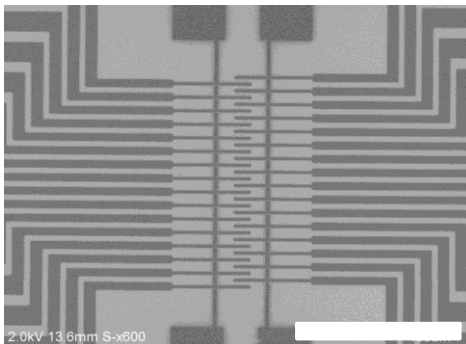
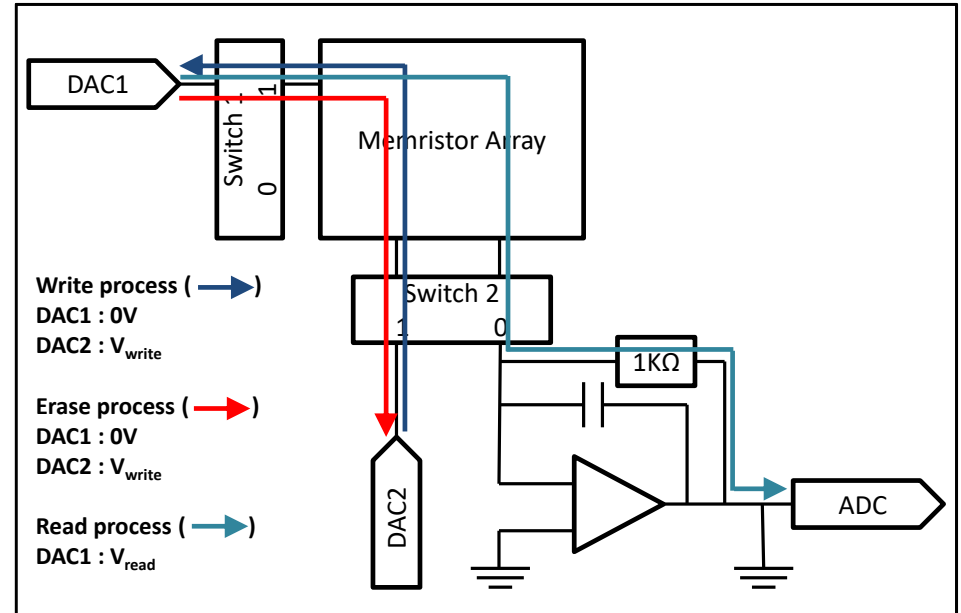
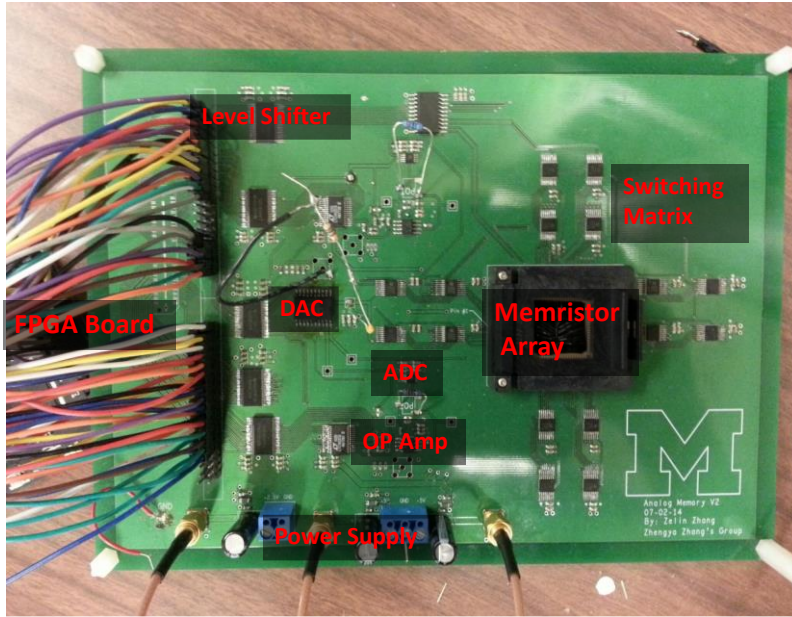
Width:  $\propto$  the values from the data

PCA network



$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Experimental Implementation



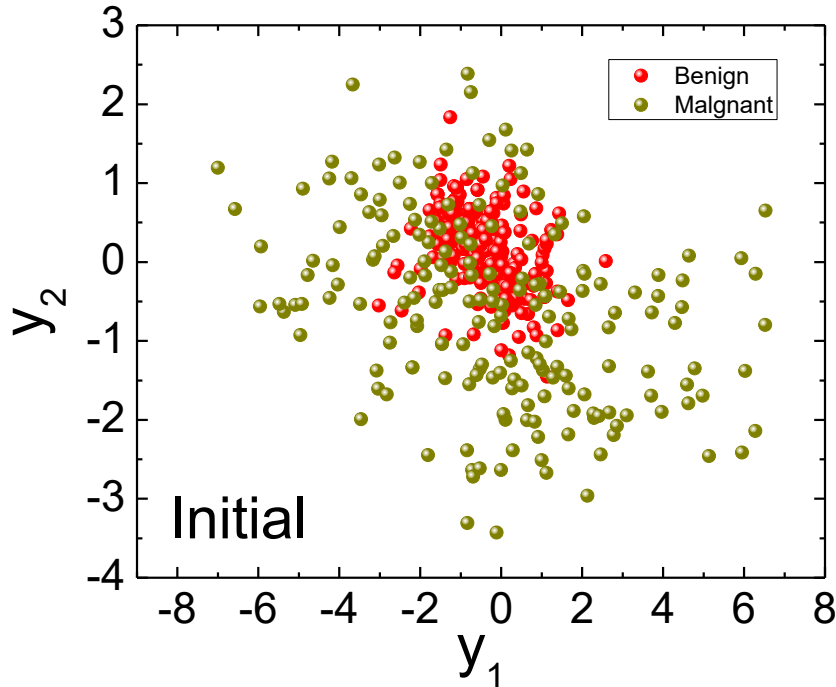
- **9x2 memristor array**
- **Unsupervised learning using Sanger's rule**

$$\Delta g_{ij} = \eta y_j (x_i - \sum_{k=1}^j g_{ik} y_k)$$

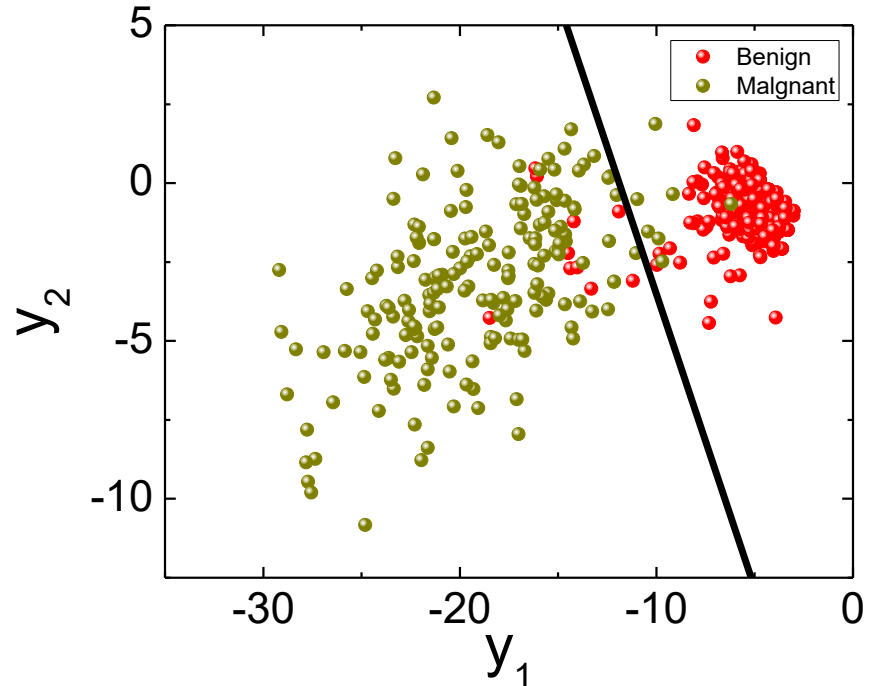
# Experimental Implementation

## Wisconsin Breast Cancer Data

Before training

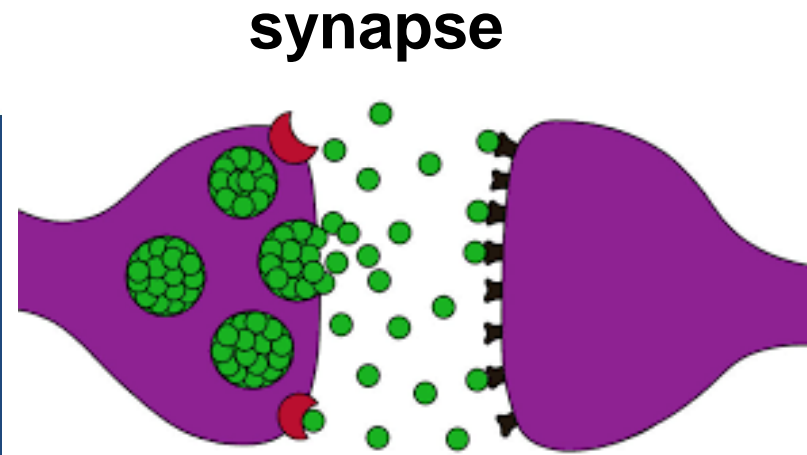
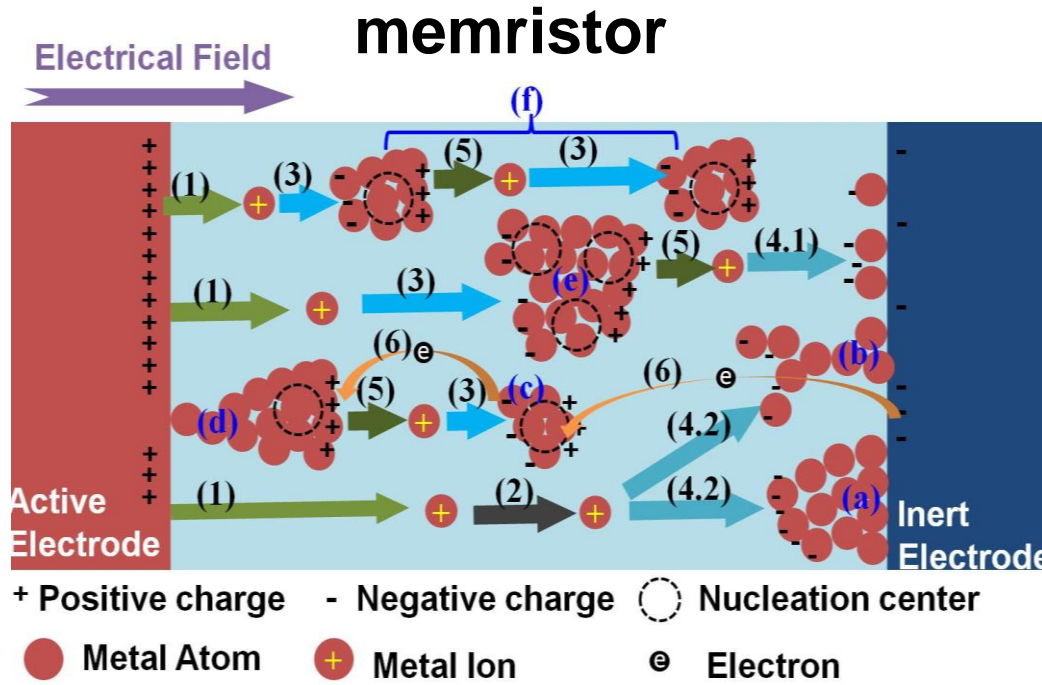


After 100 cycles of training, experimental results



- Successful clustering obtained after unsupervised learning (without knowledge of the labels)
- Decision boundary drawn in a 2<sup>nd</sup>-step, supervised training process
- Classification accuracy ~ 97%, same as ideal software simulation

# Internal Dynamics at Different Time Scales

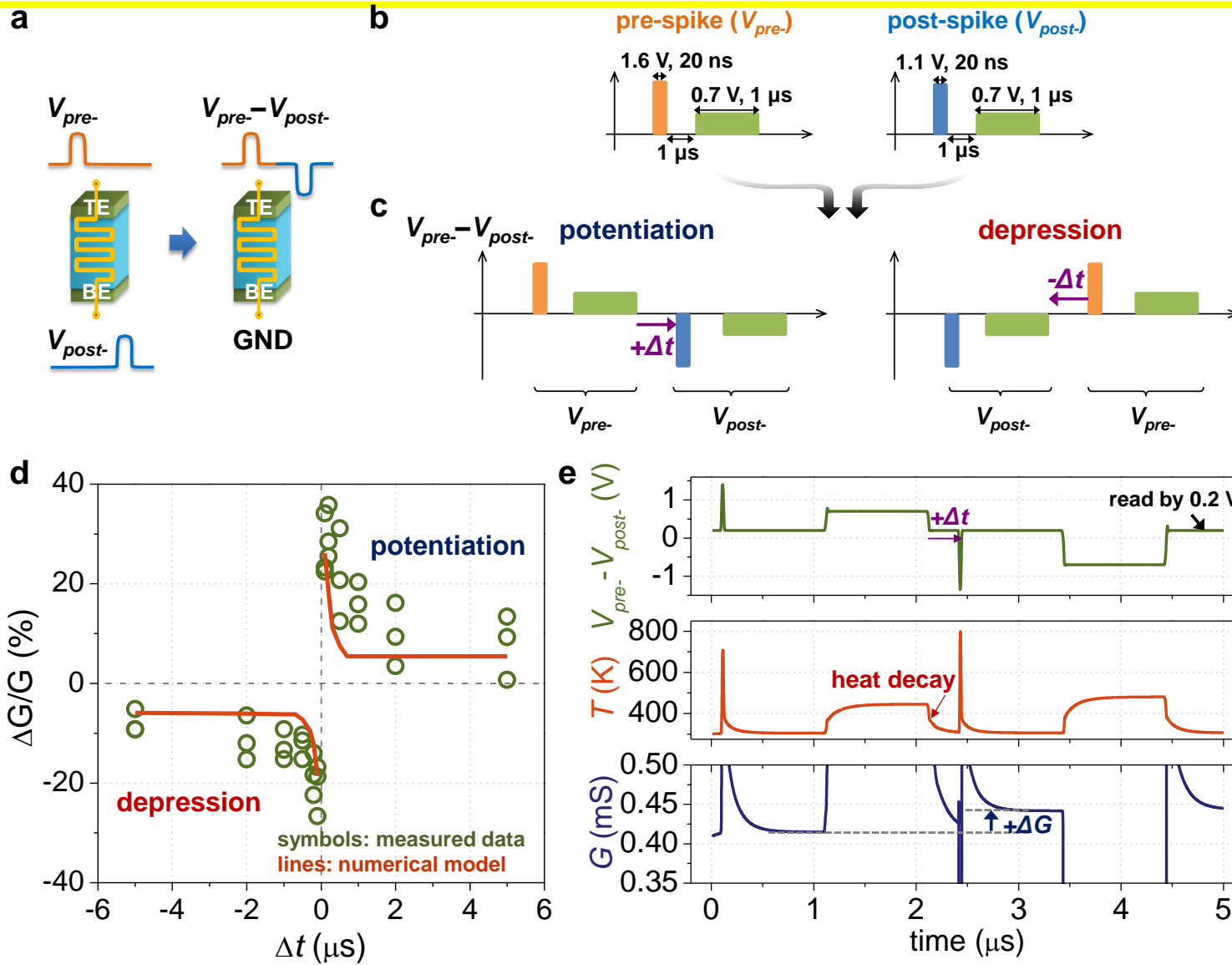


- Memristor offers interesting internal dynamics at different time scales, and can emulate synapse realistically

## Microscopic physical processes during SET

- (1) Ionization of metal atoms in AE (anodic dissolution)
- (2) Metal ions hopping in dielectrics
- (3) Metal ions attachment to existing clusters
- (4) Nucleation of metal ions captured by (4.1) IE and (4.2)
- (5) Metal atoms in nuclei are activated to ions
- (6) Electron hopping from IE to Neutralize positive charge from metal ions

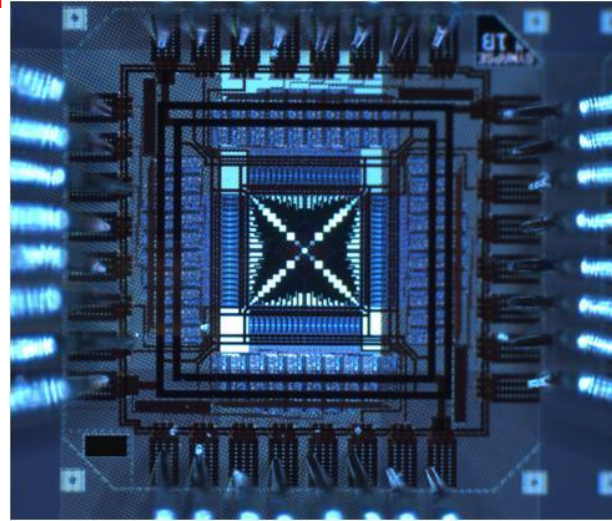
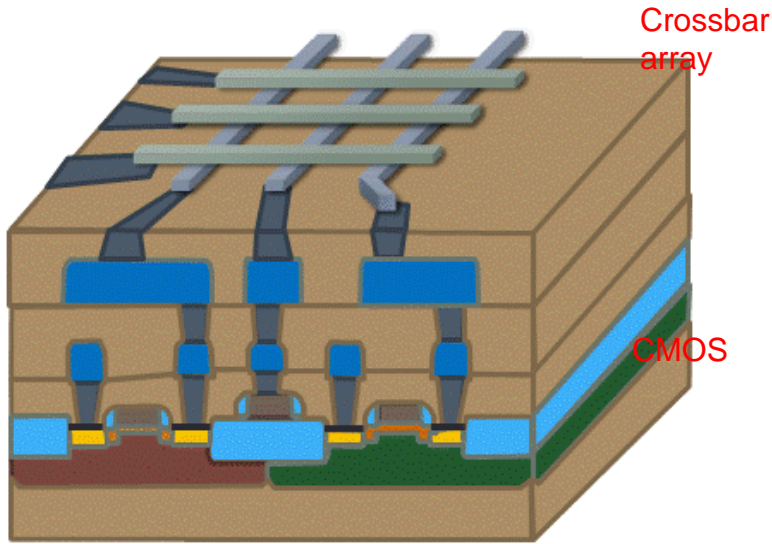
# Implementing STDP (and Spiking Rate Dependent Plasticity) Naturally



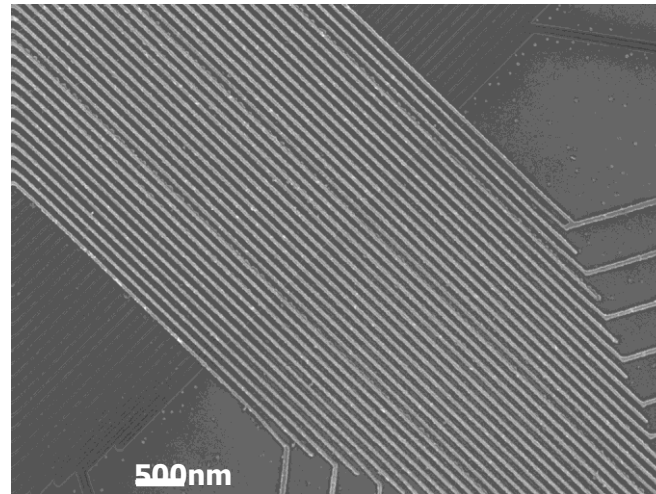
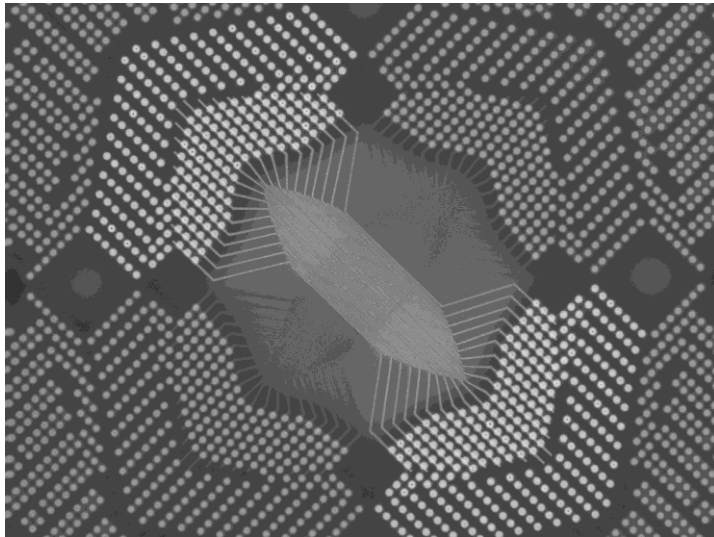
S. Kim, C. Du, P. Sheridan, W. Ma, S. Choi, W.D. Lu, *Nano Lett*, 15, 2203 (2015).



# Integrated Crossbar Array/CMOS System

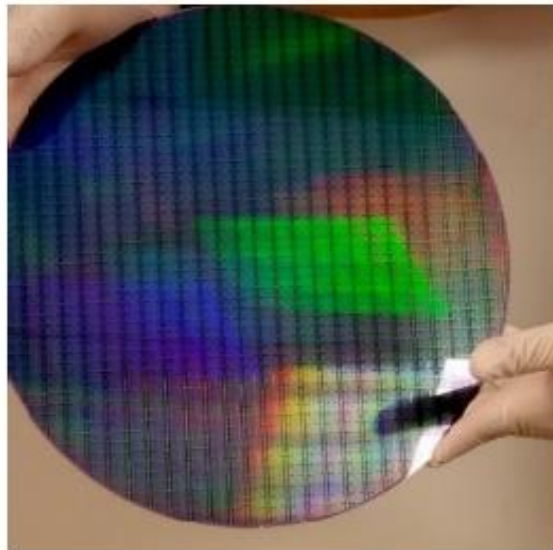


- Low-temperature process, RRAM array fabricated on top of CMOS
- CMOS provides address mux/demux
- RRAM array: 100nm pitch, 50nm linewidth with density of 10Gbits/cm<sup>2</sup>
- CMOS units – larger but fewer units needed. 2n CMOS cells control n<sup>2</sup> memory cells



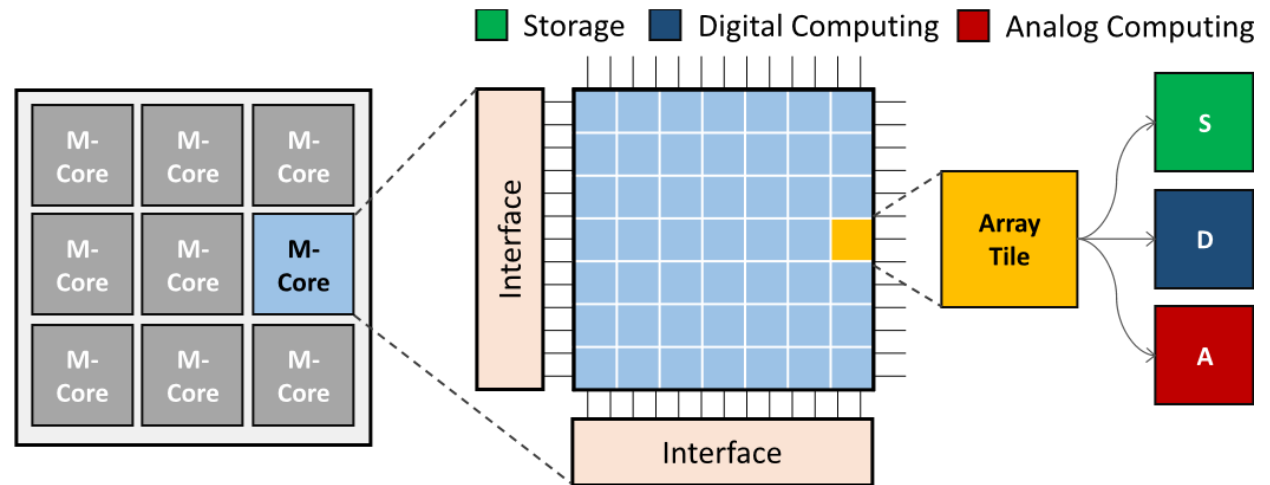
# Towards Commercialization

- **CMOS** Compatible
- **3D** Stackable, Scalable Architecture – Low thermal budget process
- **Architectures** proven include multiple Via schemes and Subtractive etching
- **Crossbar Inc** founded in 2010, \$85M VC funding to date
- **Commercial Products** offered in 2016 based on 40nm CMOS



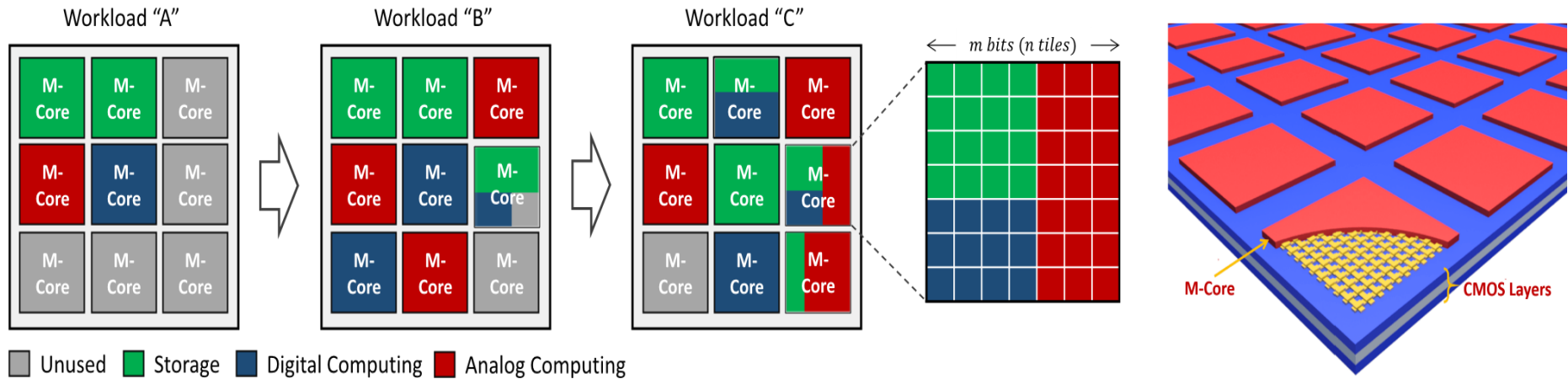
# Dynamically reconfigurable Computing Fabric

**A reconfigurable hardware system with dense local connections and modular, asynchronous global connections**



- Possibly FPGA-like modules, each module can be configured as a network with both feed-forward and feedback (recurrent) connections
- Spike based system with address-event coding
- Hierarchically structured interconnects: locally dense connection + globally asynchronous serial link
- “self-organized” computing modules at both fine-grained and coarse-grained levels
- Dynamically reconfigurable to adapt to the input data and the given problem (the “context”)

# Dynamically reconfigurable Computing Fabric



- “General” purpose by design: the same hardware supports different tasks – image, video, speech, ...
- Dense local connection, sparse global connection
- **Run-time, dynamically reconfigurable. Function defined by software.**

# Summary



- **Memristor arrays can already perform efficient image analysis and data clustering applications**
- **Taking advantage of the internal ionic dynamics at different time scales allow the device to more faithfully emulate biological system**
- **Memristor technology is already quite mature, especially for memory applications (products available)**
- **Towards dynamically reconfigurable circuits (i.e. software-defined chips) based on a common physical fabric**



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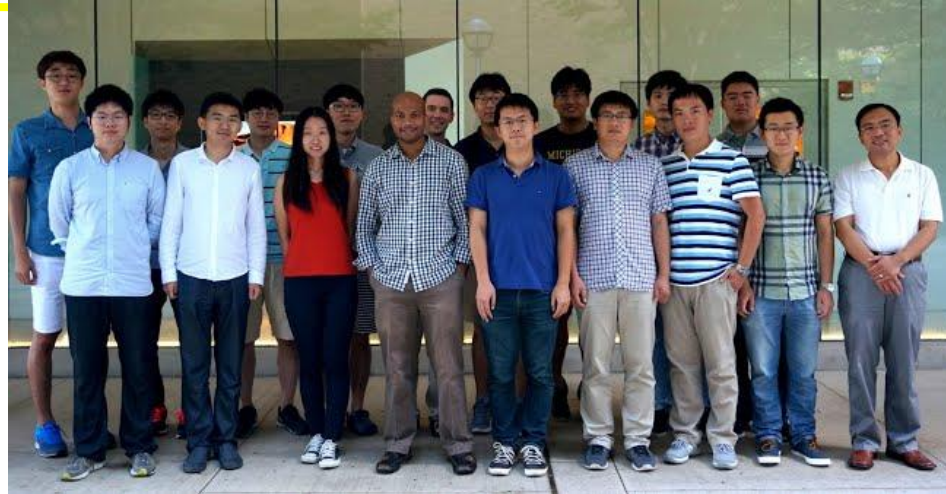
## Former students

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Chen, \*Seok-Youl Choi, \*Woo Hyung  
Lee*

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