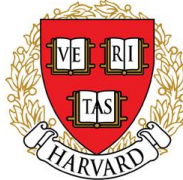


Continual learning  
without forgetting what  
we already know



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Brains  
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# Apreniendo cosas nuevas sin olvidar lo que ya sabemos

Gabriel Kreiman  
[klab.tch.harvard.edu](http://klab.tch.harvard.edu)

Trabajo en conjunto con:



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papers+data+code

Mengmi  
Zhang



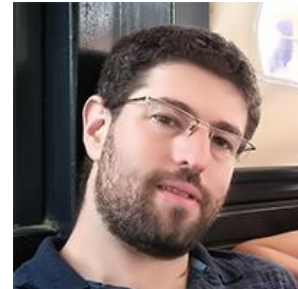
Shashi  
Gupta



Morgan  
Talbot



Nimrod  
Shaham



Haim  
Sompolinsky



# Progreso en inteligencia artificial (AI)



X47B

Beating world champions at chess



AlphaGo

IBM's Watson



Self-driving



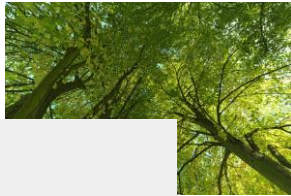
# Definiciones y desiderata



$W$

Arbol

Mesa



Perro



Perro



$$\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{W \times H \times 3}$$

$$i = \{1, \dots, N\}$$

$$(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \quad y_i \in 1, \dots, C$$

Tumores:  $C=2$

Imagenet:  $C=1000$

# Definiciones y desiderata



Perro

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

# Desiderata

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

1. Queremos aprender  $f$  a partir de ejemplos

# Desiderata

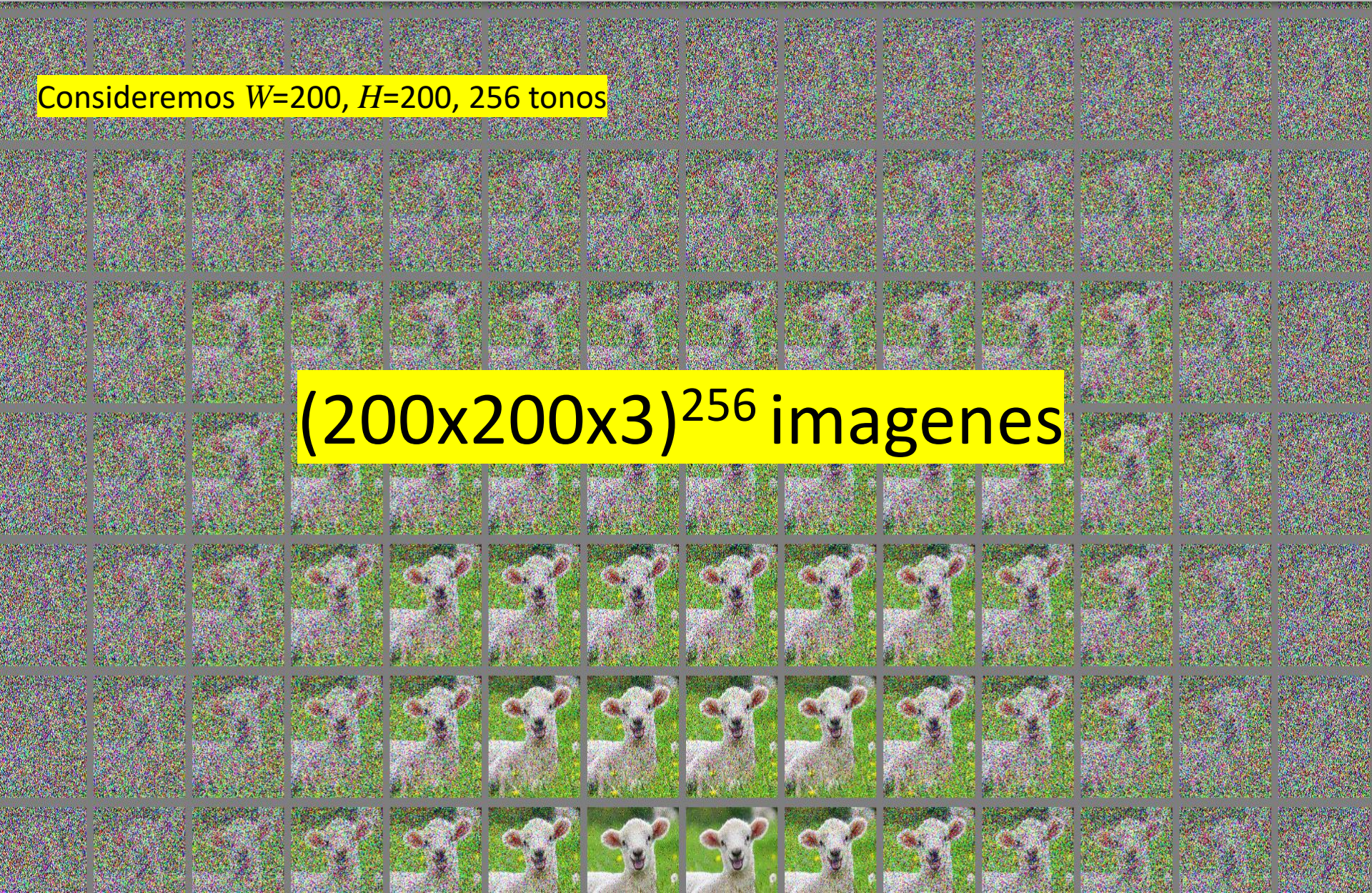
$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

1. Queremos aprender  $f$  a partir de ejemplos
2.  $N$  pequeno,  $N \ll$  numero de parametros

# El numero de imagenes es astronomico

Consideremos  $W=200$ ,  $H=200$ , 256 tonos

$(200 \times 200 \times 3)^{256}$  imagenes



# Desiderata

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

1. Queremos aprender  $f$  a partir de ejemplos
2.  $N$  pequeno,  $N \ll$  numero de parametros



# Desiderata

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

1. Queremos aprender  $f$  a partir de ejemplos
2.  $N$  pequeño,  $N \ll$  numero de parametros
3. Robustez a perturbaciones



$$f(\mathbf{x} + \epsilon) = f(\mathbf{x})$$



# Desiderata

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

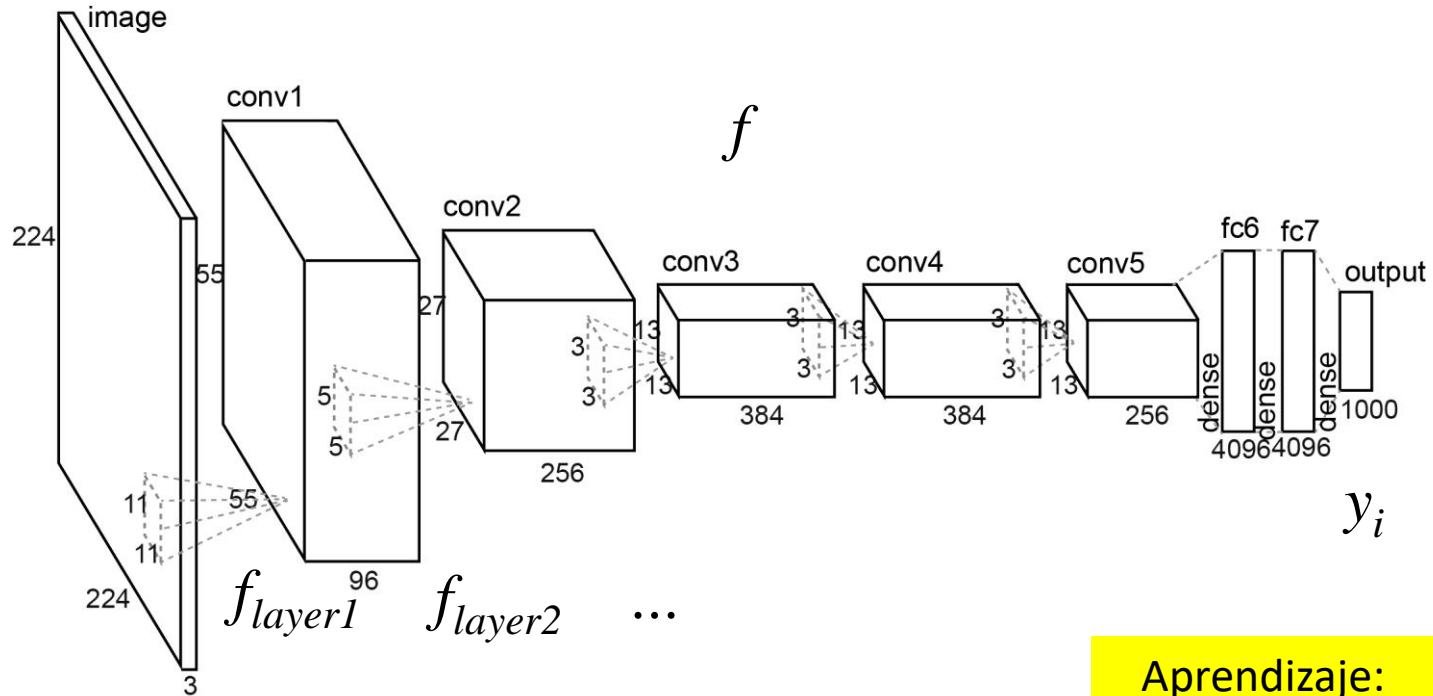
1. Queremos aprender  $f$  a partir de ejemplos
2.  $N$  pequeño,  $N \ll$  número de parámetros
3. Robustez a perturbaciones
4. Aprendizaje continuo

$$f_C(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow f_{C+1}(\mathbf{x})$$

Bisbita Llanera

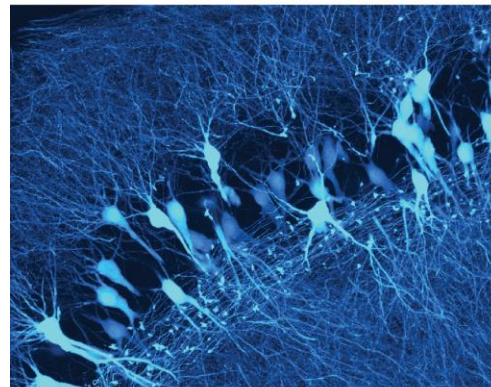


# $f$ : Redes neuronales



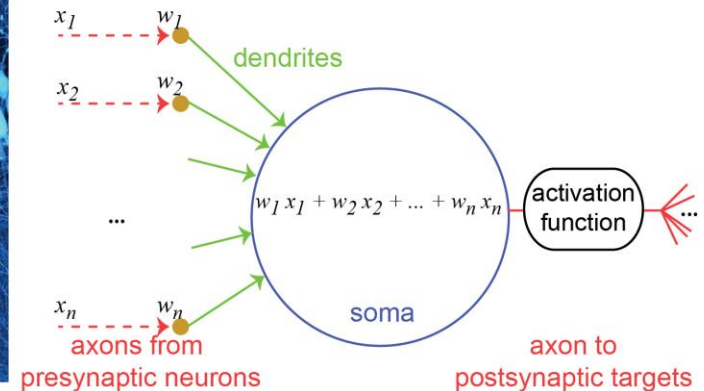
$$\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{W \times H \times 3}$$

A



**Aprendizaje:  
Ajustar  $w$**

B



# Aprendizaje continuo

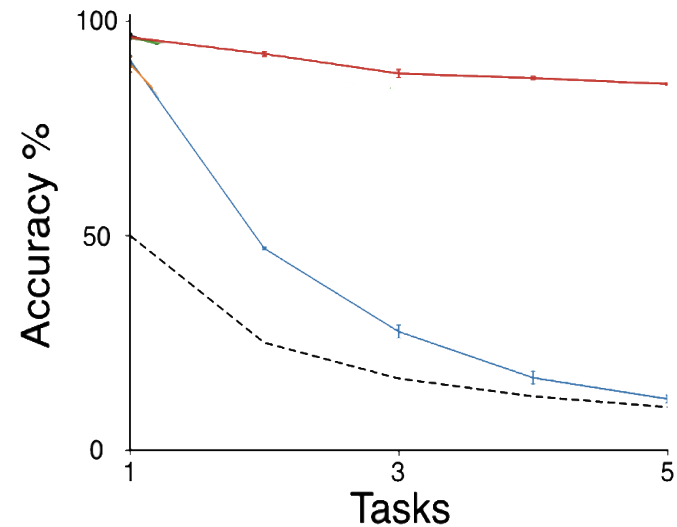
Task 1



...

$f_C$

$f_{C+2}$



Zhang, M., Badkundri, R., Talbot, M. & Kreiman, G.  
Hypothesis-driven Stream Learning with Augmented  
Memory. *arXiv* **2104.02206** (2021).

# Dos estrategias para aprendizaje continuo

1. Protección sináptica

2. Repetición [Replay]

# Proteccion sinaptica

Elastic weight consolidation

Sparse Distributed Memory + Multi-Layer Perceptron

Published as a conference paper at ICLR 2023

RESEARCH ARTICLE | APPLIED MATHEMATICS | 8



## Overcoming catastrophic forgetting in neural networks

James Kirkpatrick , Razvan Pascanu, Neil Rabinowitz, , and Raia Hadsell [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

Edited by James L. McClelland, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, and approved February 13, 2017 (received for review July 19, 2016)

March 14, 2017 | 114 (13) 3521-3526 | <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1611835114>

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 191,273 | 978



### Significance

Deep neural networks are currently the most successful machine-learning technique for solving a variety of tasks, including language translation, image classification, and image generation. One weakness of such models is that, unlike humans, they are unable to learn multiple tasks sequentially. In this work we propose a practical solution to train such models sequentially by protecting the weights important for previous tasks. This approach, inspired by synaptic consolidation in neuroscience, enables state of the art results on multiple reinforcement learning problems experienced sequentially.

**PNAS**  
Vol. 114 | No. 13

Significance

Abstract

Results

Fisher Overlap

Discussion

Materials and Methods

Random Patterns

MNIST Experiments

## SPARSE DISTRIBUTED MEMORY IS A CONTINUAL LEARNER

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**Gabriel Kreiman**

Harvard Medical School  
Programs in Biophysics and Neuroscience  
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### ABSTRACT

Continual learning is a problem for artificial neural networks that their biological counterparts are adept at solving. Building on work using Sparse Distributed Memory (SDM) to connect a core neural circuit with the powerful Transformer model, we create a modified Multi-Layered Perceptron (MLP) that is a strong continual learner. We find that every component of our MLP variant translated from biology is necessary for continual learning. Our solution is also free from any memory replay or task information, and introduces novel methods to train sparse networks that may be broadly applicable.

# Dos estrategias para aprendizaje continuo

1. Protección sináptica

**2. Repetición [Replay]**

# Repetición [Replay]

1. Que almacenar? Almacenamiento = \$\$\$
2. Cuan a menudo repetir informacion?
3. Que informacion repetir?



# Estudio analítico de aprendizaje continuo

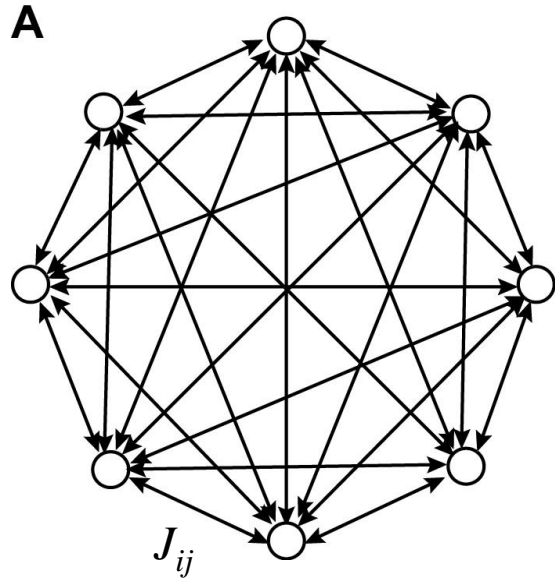
1. Recurrent neural network with attractor dynamics
2. Forgetting
3. Replay

## OPEN Stochastic consolidation of lifelong memory

Nimrod Shaham<sup>1</sup>, Jay Chandra<sup>1</sup>, Gabriel Kreiman<sup>2</sup> & Haim Sompolinsky<sup>1,3</sup>✉

Humans have the remarkable ability to continually store new memories, while maintaining old memories for a lifetime. How the brain avoids catastrophic forgetting of memories due to interference between encoded memories is an open problem in computational neuroscience. Here we present a model for continual learning in a recurrent neural network combining Hebbian learning, synaptic decay and a novel memory consolidation mechanism: memories undergo stochastic rehearsals with rates proportional to the memory's basin of attraction, causing self-amplified consolidation. This mechanism gives rise to memory lifetimes that extend much longer than the synaptic decay time, and retrieval probability of memories that gracefully decays with their age. The number of retrievable memories is proportional to a power of the number of neurons. Perturbations to the circuit model cause temporally-graded retrograde and anterograde deficits, mimicking observed memory impairments following neurological trauma.

# Redes neuronal recurrentes: el modelo de Hopfield



$\xi_i$  (binary) activity of unit  $i$

$J_{ij}$  synaptic strength between  $i$  and  $j$

Hopfield, PNAS 1982

Kreiman, Cambridge University Press 2021, Chapter 7

# Introduciendo olvido

$$J_{ij}(t + \Delta t) =$$

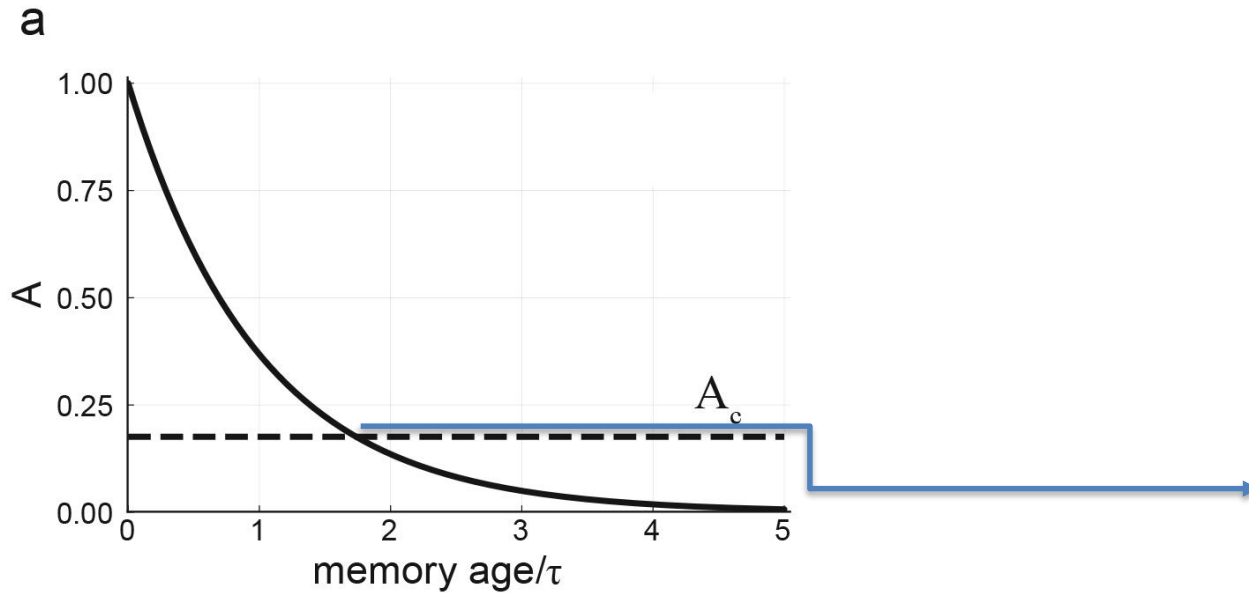
$$\sum_l \xi_i^l \xi_j^l \delta_{t,l}$$

$$J_{ij}(t) = \sum_l A_l(t) \xi_i^l \xi_j^l$$

$$\frac{dA_l}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau} A_l$$

$A_l$ : efficacy of memory  $l$  at time  $t$

# Regimen de olvido completo



Unrealistic: recent memories are retrieved perfectly, old memories are all lost

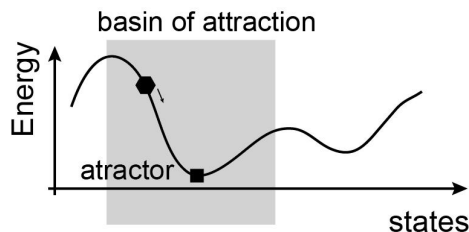
# Practicar, practicar, practicar

$$J_{ij}(t + \Delta t) = (1 - \Delta t/\tau)J_{ij}(t) + \sum_l \xi_i^l \xi_j^l \delta_{t,l}$$

$$J_{ij}(t) = \sum_l A_l(t) \xi_i^l \xi_j^l$$

$$\frac{dA_l}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau}A_l$$

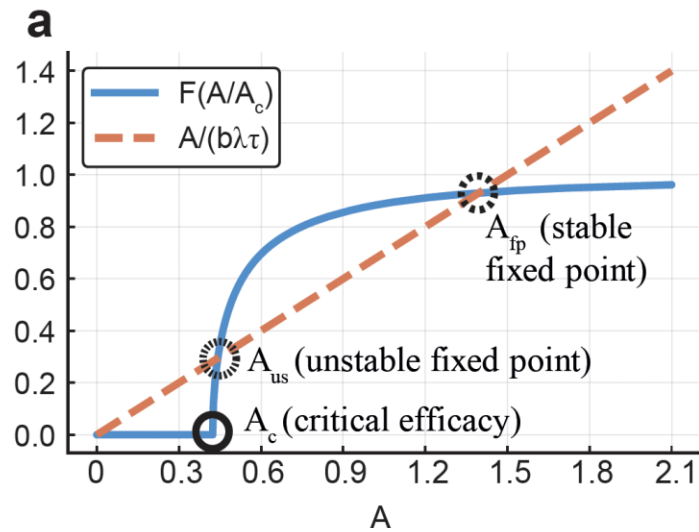
**B**



$$R_l(t) = \sum_{\{t_k\}} \delta(t - t_k)$$

$$r_l(t) = \lambda F(A_l(t)/A_c(t))$$

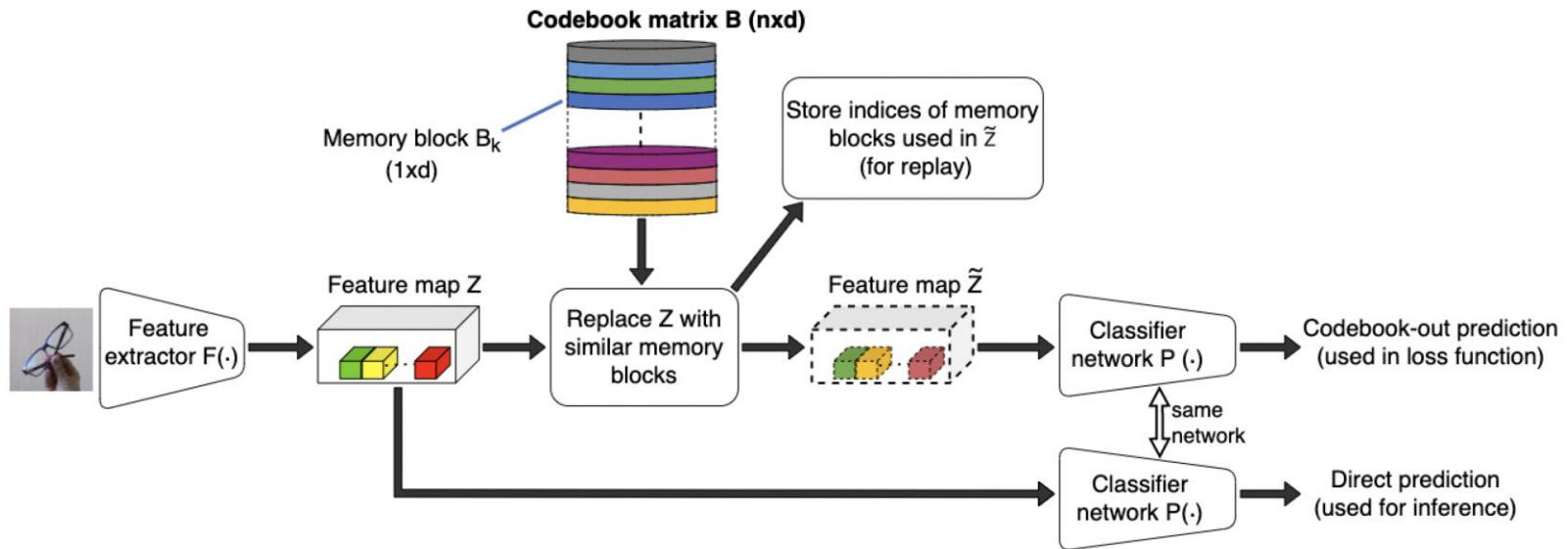
# Dinamica de practica y olvido



1. Calculo de capacidad
2. Prediccion de vida media de memorias
3. Deficiencias de memoria

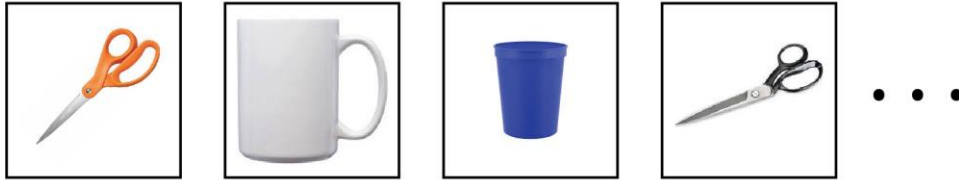
# CRUMB: Algoritmo de aprendizaje continuo en neural networks

## CRUMB: Compositional Replay Using Memory Blocks

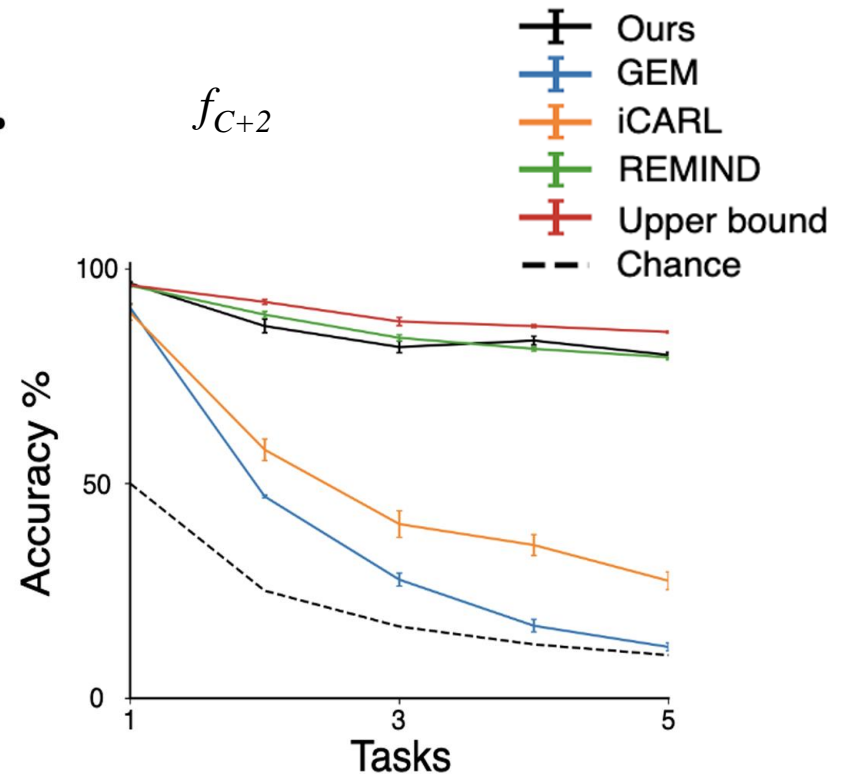
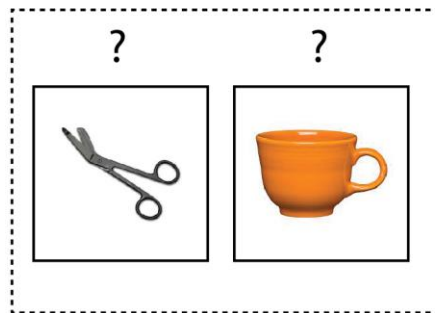


# CRUMB aprende en forma continua

Task 1



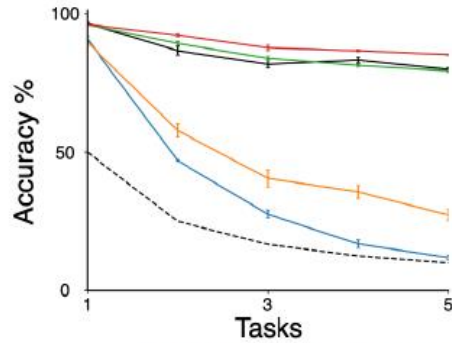
Task 2



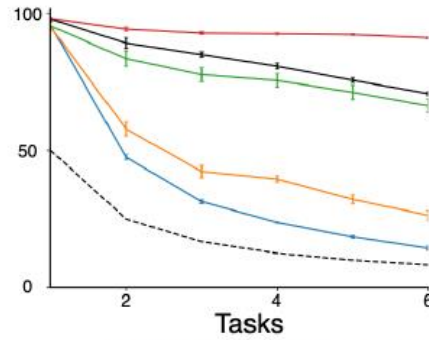
Zhang, M., Badkundi, R., Talbot, M. & Kreiman, G. Hypothesis-driven Stream Learning with Augmented Memory. *arXiv 2104.02206* (2021).



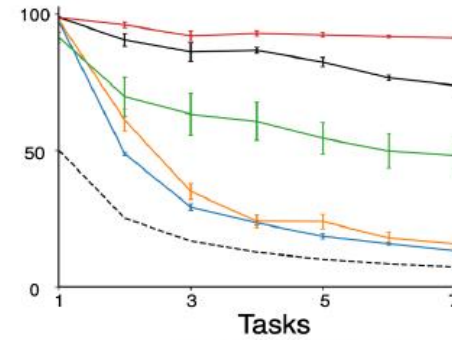
# CRUMB generaliza a otros datos y condiciones



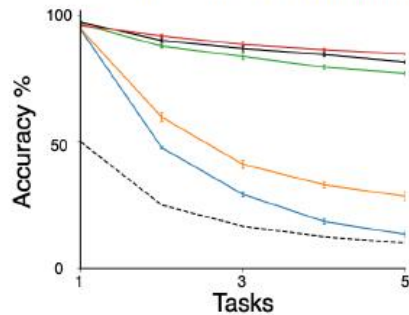
a. CoRe50 (class-instance)



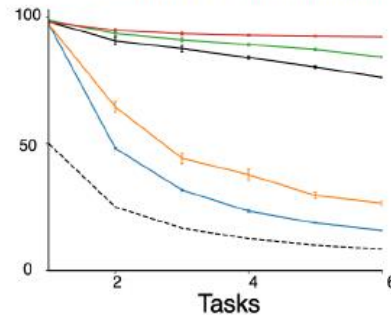
b. Toybox (class-instance)



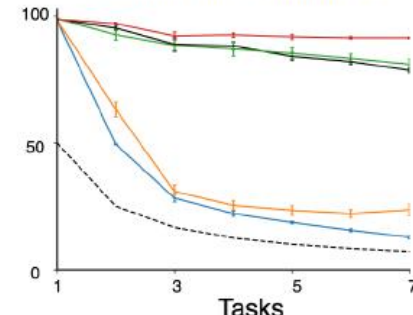
c. iLab (class-instance)



d. CoRe50 (class-iid)



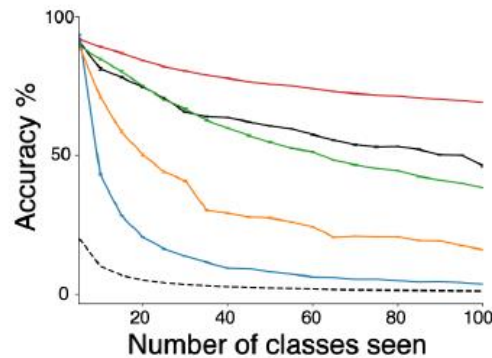
e. Toybox (class-iid)



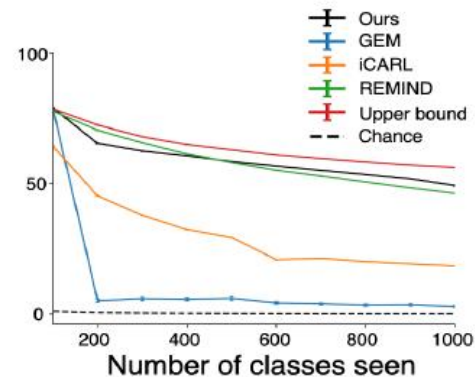
f. iLab (class-iid)



g. Sample frames/images



h. Online-CIFAR100 (class-iid)



i. Online-ImageNet (class-iid)

# CRUMB es superior a otros algoritmos

	COrRe50 [39]		Toybox [10]		iLab [11]		CIFAR100 [41]	ImageNet [40]
	class-instance	class-iid	class-instance	class-iid	class-instance	class-iid	class-iid	class-iid
Ours	<b>79.9</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>70.6</b>	76.0	<b>73.8</b>	78.6	<b>46.2</b>	<b>49.2</b>
GEM [29]	11.9	13.5	14.3	15.7	13.0	12.8	3.5	2.9
iCARL [26]	27.0	28.5	27.3	26.5	15.6	23.6	15.9	18.5
REMIND [4]	77.0	76.0	66.2	<b>84.1</b>	48.1	<b>81.0</b>	38.2	46.2
EWC [8]	12.2	12.4	14.3	15.7	13.5	13.0	3.9	0.1
MAS [47]	14.4	17.4	18.9	19.2	20.5	22.1	5.5	0.1
SI [15]	12.0	12.9	14.3	15.5	12.8	13.0	3.6	8.8
Stable SGD [45]	13.7	13.2	13.5	13.8	9.8	6.9	7.3	-
GSS [27]	15.0	15.6	14.7	15.0	13.0	12.8	3.2	-
BiC [25]	10.2	11.8	11.0	10.2	11.2	10.9	4.0	-
CoPE [44]	16.6	16.3	21.7	22.4	17.6	18.6	8.8	-
LwF [12]	12.5	12.4	21.9	20.9	10.5	11.9	4.2	-
RM [30]	12.0	12.4	9.8	20.8	18.2	9.3	4.2	-
AAN [43]	14.0	15.6	13.2	17.6	10.6	15.0	6.6	-
Lower bound	12.1	12.8	15.5	16.9	12.8	16.4	3.5	3.0
Upper bound	85.3	84.6	91.0	92.0	91.3	91.4	69.0	56.1

TABLE II  
CRUMB USES ONLY 3-4% OF REMIND'S PEAK RAM USAGE, AND ITS  
RUNTIME IS ONLY 22-25% OF REMIND'S.

Dataset	Peak RAM (GB)		Runtime (hours)	
	Ours	REMIND	Ours	REMIND
CIFAR100	<b>0.036</b>	0.87	<b>0.29</b>	1.91
Imagenet	<b>1.66</b>	44.34	<b>7.86</b>	35.64

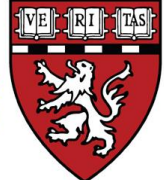
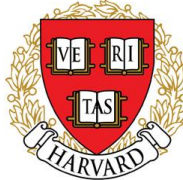
# Discussion

1. La posibilidad de aprender cosas nuevas sin olvidar lo que ya sabemos es critica en Biologia y en AI
2. El aprendizaje continuo es complicado para redes neuronales que reusan los mismos circuitos
3. Dos estrategias: proteccion de sinapsis y repeticion
4. Teoria dinamica de aprendizaje continuo en redes neuronales con atractores
5. CRUMB: una red neuronal con memoria usa repeticion eficientemente para aprender en forma continua

Continual learning  
without forgetting what  
we already know



CENTER FOR  
Brains  
Minds+  
Machines



# Apreniendo cosas nuevas sin olvidar lo que ya sabemos

Gabriel Kreiman  
klab.tch.harvard.edu

Trabajo en conjunto con:



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Mengmi  
Zhang



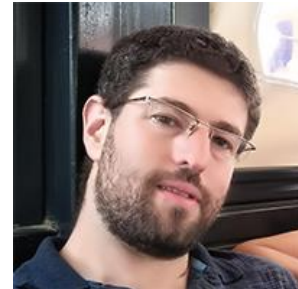
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Gupta



Morgan  
Talbot



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Shaham



Haim  
Sompolinsky

