

# Intelligent Artificiality

and an Economics of Mental Behavior

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# What I Am Not (A Partial List, Part I)

- I am not an economist (though I work alongside a few);
- I am not a neuroscientist, of either wet or dry kinds (though I will work with many of both, soon);
- I am not a psychologist (though I used to work with one, and even tried to impersonate one for 18 months);
- I am not ‘an AI guy (or, gal)’ (though my post docs/RA’s come from a computer science and artificial intelligence lab);

# What I Am Not (A Partial List, Part II)

- I am not a neuro-economist (I do not understand what that means);
- I am not a neuropsychologist (they don't understand what that means);
- I am not an empiricist (but, who is, really?);
- I am not a theorist (see 'I am not an empiricist');
- I am not an epistemologist or 'impartial observer of scientific practice' (an incoherent concept).

# A Gap(ing Hole) in the Core of ‘Rational Choice’ Models

- Choice-theoretic conditions on ‘rational choice’ (antisymmetry, acyclicity, completeness, identity) ‘guarantee’ existence of objective function economic agents are said to maximize *in virtue of* choosing.
- How are we to interpret **maximization (optimization)**? As a real process whose temporal dynamics *refer* to something?
  - If, so, what is it ‘running on’?
    - Brains?
    - Researchers’ desktops? Laptops? iPads?
    - ‘Turing Machines’? (i.e. an imaginary process running on an imaginary device?)

# “The Predictive Apparatus Is Faulty”

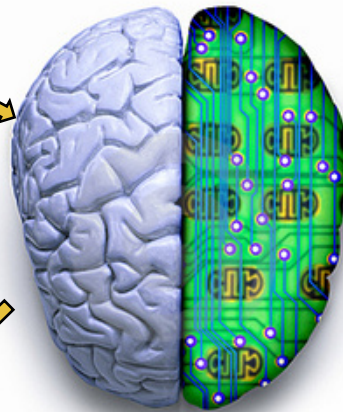
Predict how this Creature will choose from among  $N$  options:

**INPUTS:**

Past choices among similar options

Revealed preference model

Rationality conditions



**OUTPUTS:**

Prediction of choice/behavior

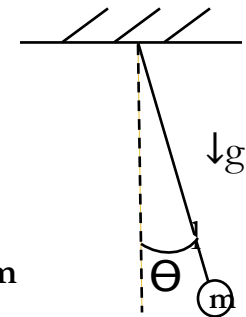
Predict behavior of this device:

**INPUTS:**

Newton' Laws

$$Fg = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d^2}$$

Measured values of  $g, l, \Theta, m$



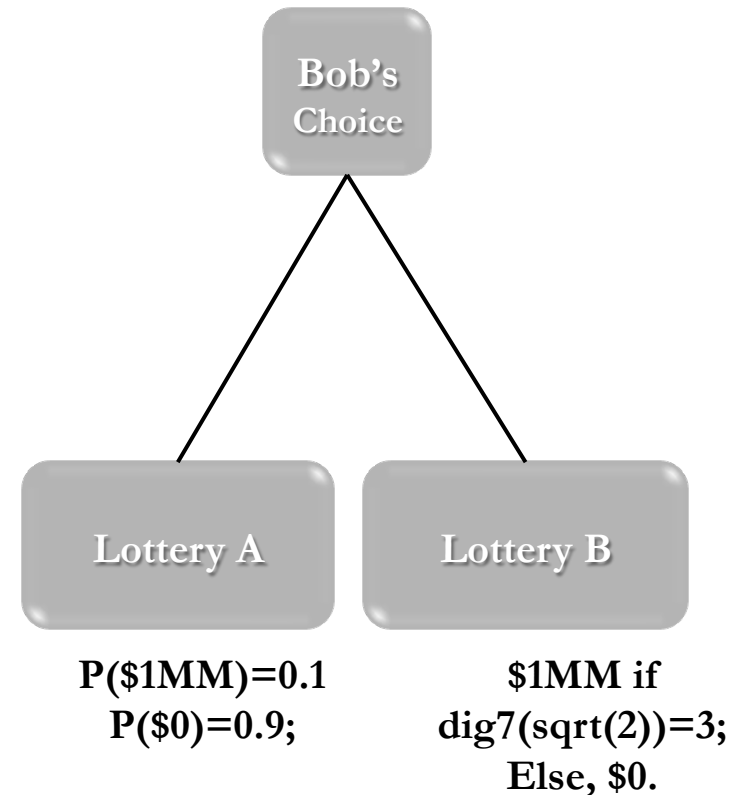
**OUTPUTS:**

Prediction of movement trajectory, transient and static

# (Not) A Trick Question

(Illuminative of the question: ‘How does optimization happen?’)

- Suppose Bob must choose between two lotteries:
  - Lottery A pays \$1MM with probability 0.1 and \$0 with probability 0.9.
  - Lottery B pays \$1MM if the 7<sup>th</sup> digit in the decimal expansion of  $\sqrt{2}$  is an 3 and \$0 otherwise.
- **No calculator, SmartPhone or computer;**
- **Needs to choose in 2 min.**



# What If We Know Bob Knows **This...**?

- Depends on whether or not Bob sees the problem as one solvable by the algorithm;
- Depends on whether or not Bob can **correctly** perform required operations **quickly enough** to generate answer in under **2 minutes**.
- Depends on whether or not **Bob thinks** he can correctly perform the operations quickly enough to generate the answer in under 2 minutes.

**Problem:** Given  $x$  such that  $x^2 = 2$ , find  $x$   
[NEWTON'S METHOD]

➤ Step 1: Form  $f(x) = x^2 - 2$

➤ Step 2: Compute  $f'(x) = 2x$

➤ Step 3: Make first guess at  $x$ :  $x_0 = 1$

➤ Step 4: (Repeat as necessary)  $X_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$

$$\text{e.g. } x_1 = 1 - \frac{(1-2)}{2} = 1.5$$

$$x_2 = 1.416667$$

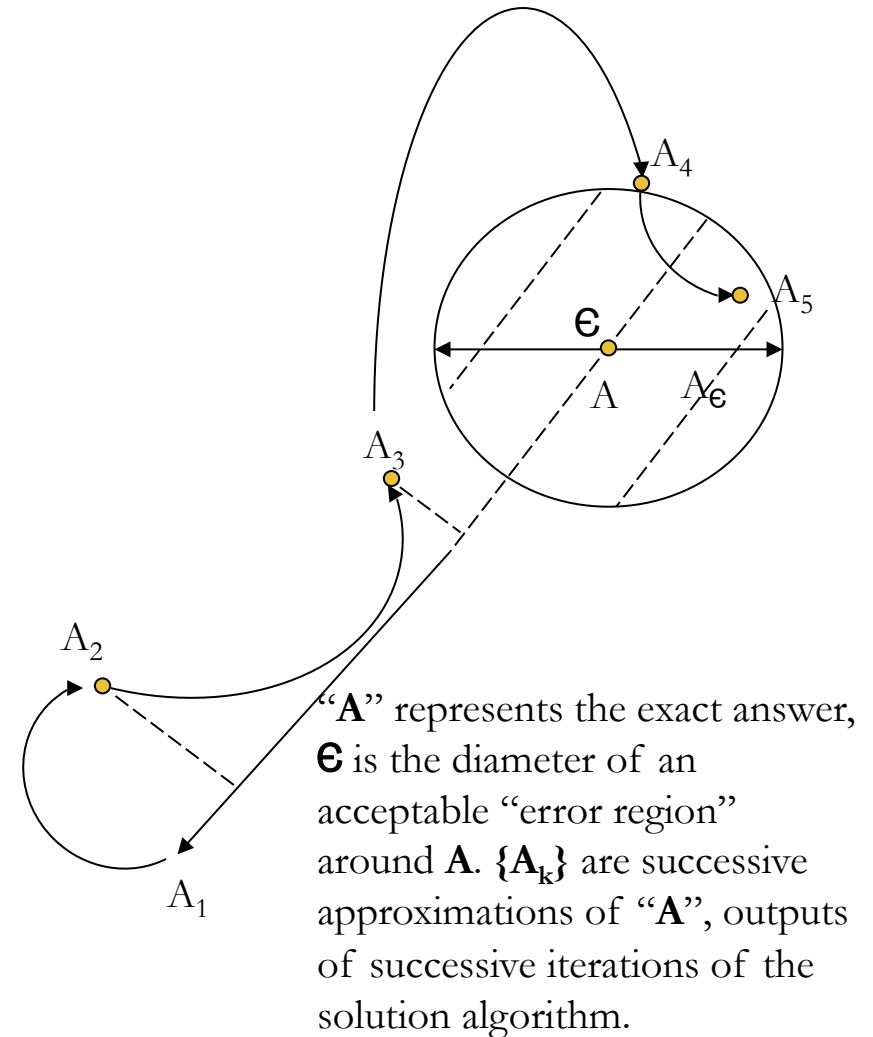
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Calculator says  $x = 1.4142135$ . (requires 5 steps)

# The Computational Process Model Matters to Whether We Ascribe ‘Rationality’ to Bob

- Each calculation generates new information (2 bits)...
- ... that reduces Bob’s uncertainty regarding the true value of the answer...
- ...on account of the fact that it actually reduces the instantaneous search space of the problem he is trying to solve.





# ... and 'the Logical Depth of Calculative Thinking' Matters to Strategic Payoffs...

## [Cournot-Nash Duopoly Without Logical Omniscience]

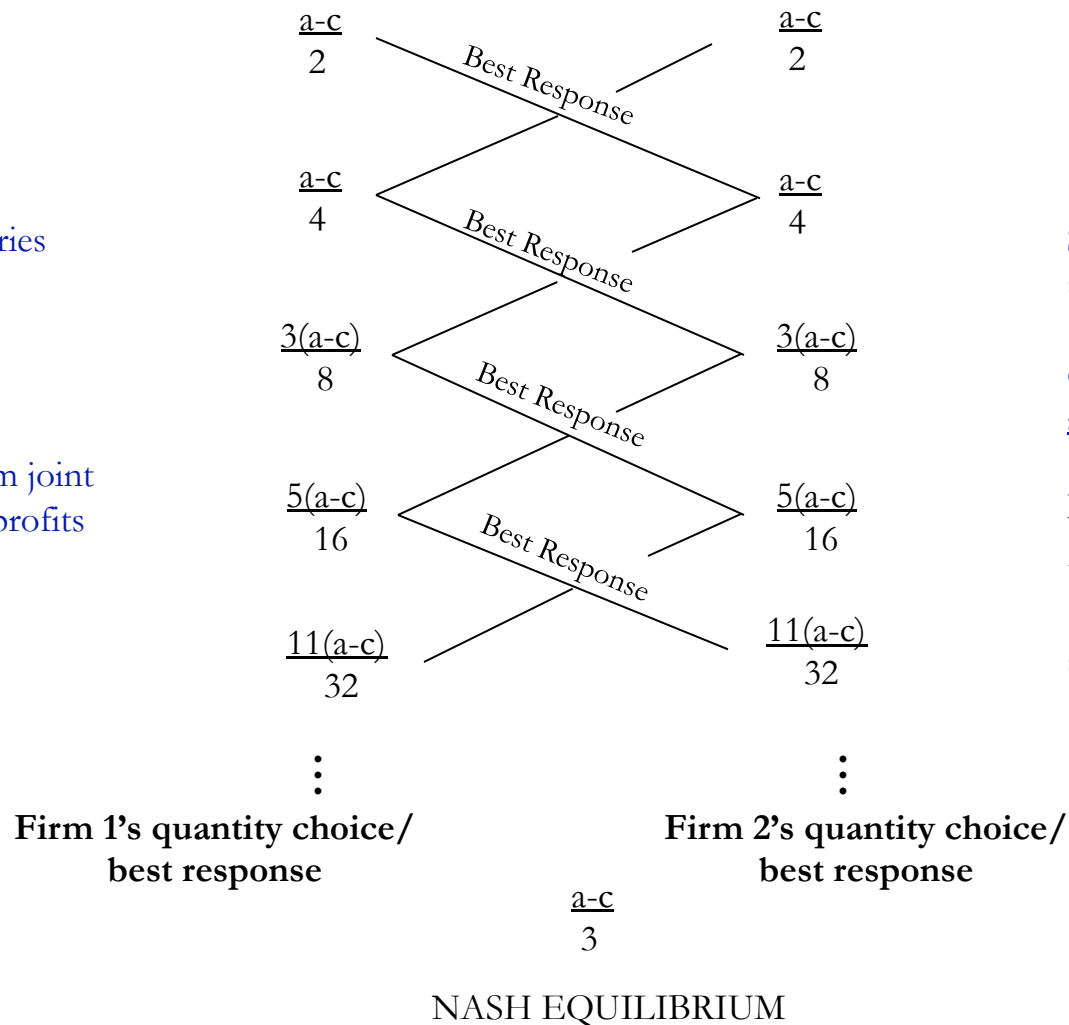
Generate using series

$$q_N = \frac{a-c}{2} - \frac{q_{N-1}}{2};$$

$$q_0 = 0$$

Which results from joint maximization of profits

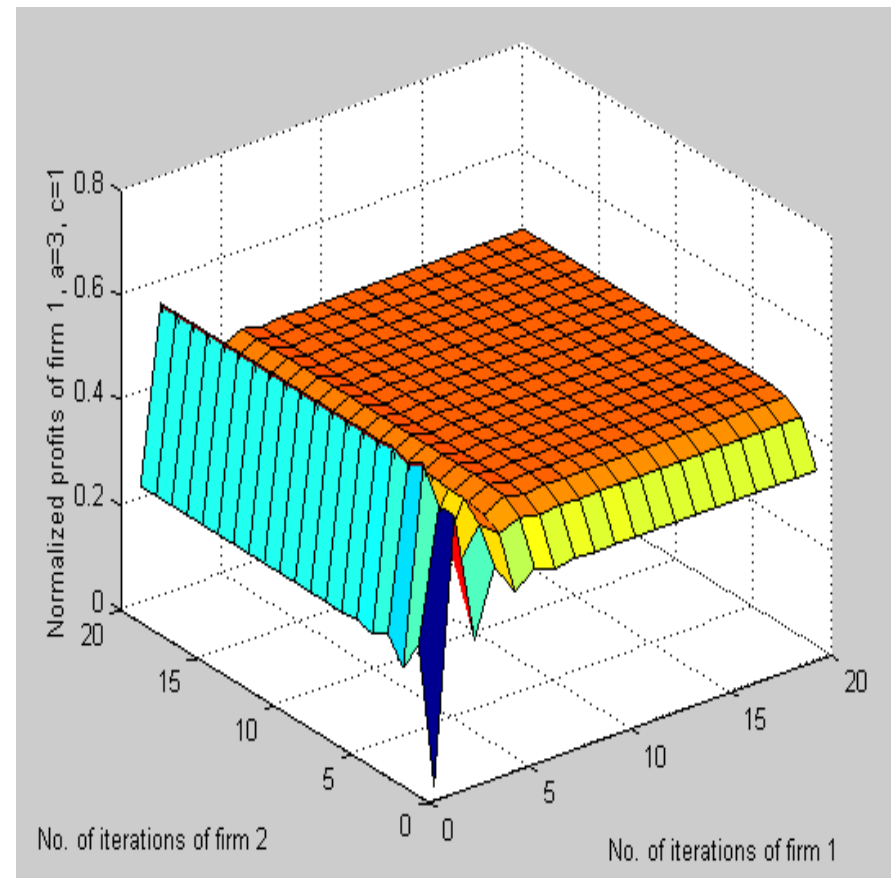
$$\Pi_i = (a-c-q_i-q_j)q_i$$



So, if firm 1 says, "I will sell  $\frac{a-c}{2}$ ", firm 2 will credibly retort, "I will sell  $\frac{a-c}{4}$ "; which would lead to losses relative to the  $\left[ \frac{a-c}{3}, \frac{a-c}{3} \right]$  solution

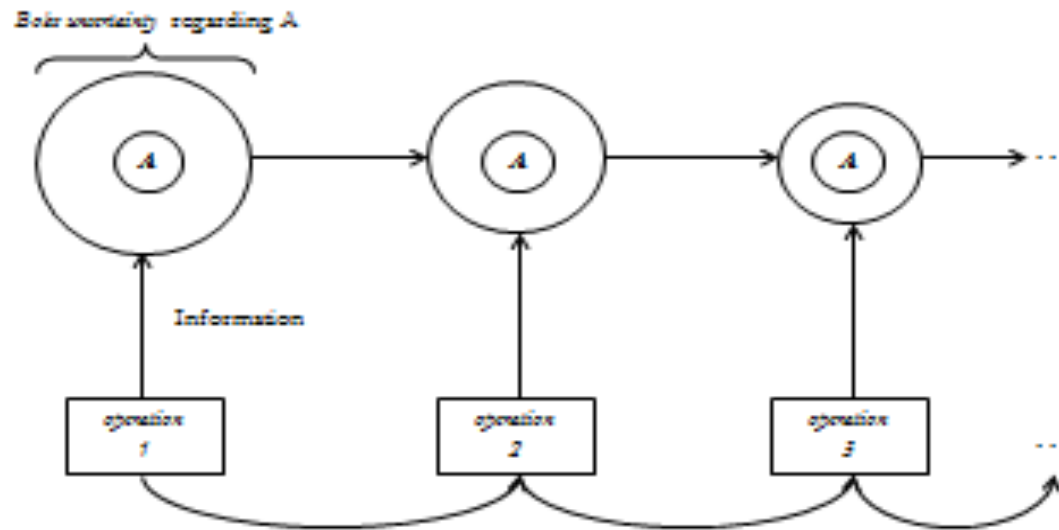
# Computational Landscapes for Interactive Problem Solving (Duopoly)

- Computational Landscape of Cournot Nash Equilibrium, 2 firms,  $a=3$ ,  $c=1$ .
- Horizontal axes represent number of iterations for each firm. Vertical axis is the profit level of firm 1. Profit levels of firm 2 are symmetrical.
- Landscape converges to Nash Equilibrium output of  $(a-c)/3$ .



# If All Problem Solving Processes Had These Dynamics, We Would Be Programming on **Brains** Right Now.

**A Model of Calculation as an Information-Producing Process: Each Individual Operation Reduces the Uncertainty (Conditional Entropy of  $\text{pdf}(\text{loc}(\text{answer}(\text{SearchSpace})))$ ) – Associated with Creature's Guess at an Answer, whose exact value is denoted by  $A$ .**



# What if Bob Had to Make a Different Choice with Procedural Implications?

- \$1MM for finding the shortest Path connecting Canada's 4663 cities in 1 day of less, OR
- One day's consulting fees guaranteed

- Total number of operations required

$$K \sim 2^{4663} \sim 5 \times 10^{1403}$$

His computational prowess  $R \sim 10^{12}$  ops/second

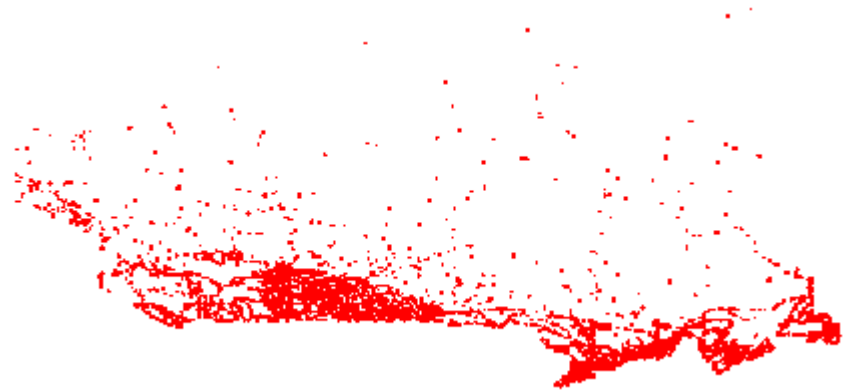
His computational budget

( $10^{12}$  ops / second) (3600 sec / H) (24h / day)

x(365 days / yr)  $\sim 3 \times 10^{20}$  ops

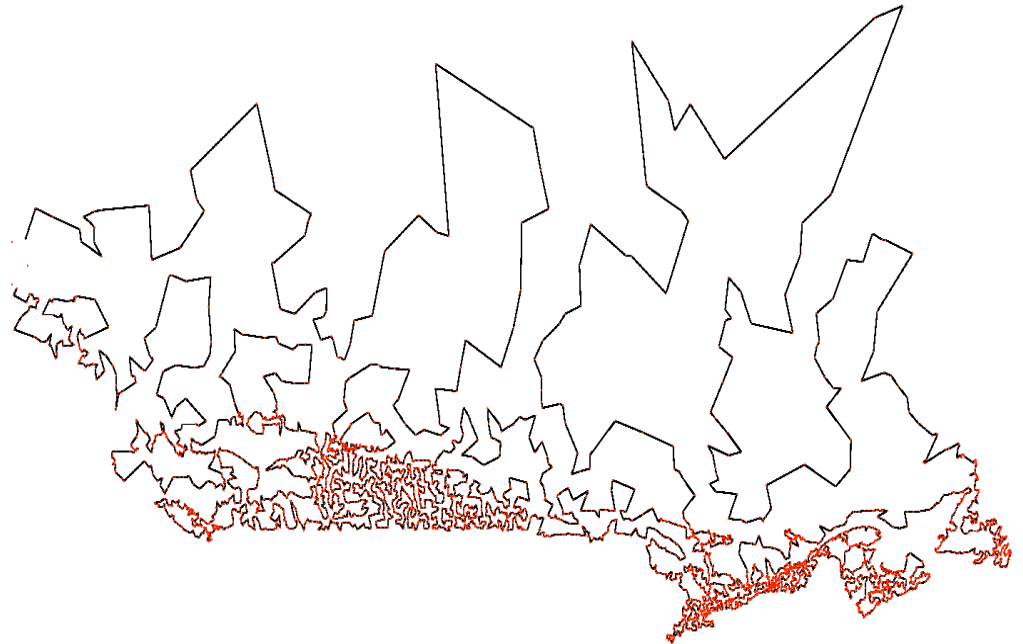
He can solve this problem in  $1.6 \times 10^{1383}$  years

→not worth it!



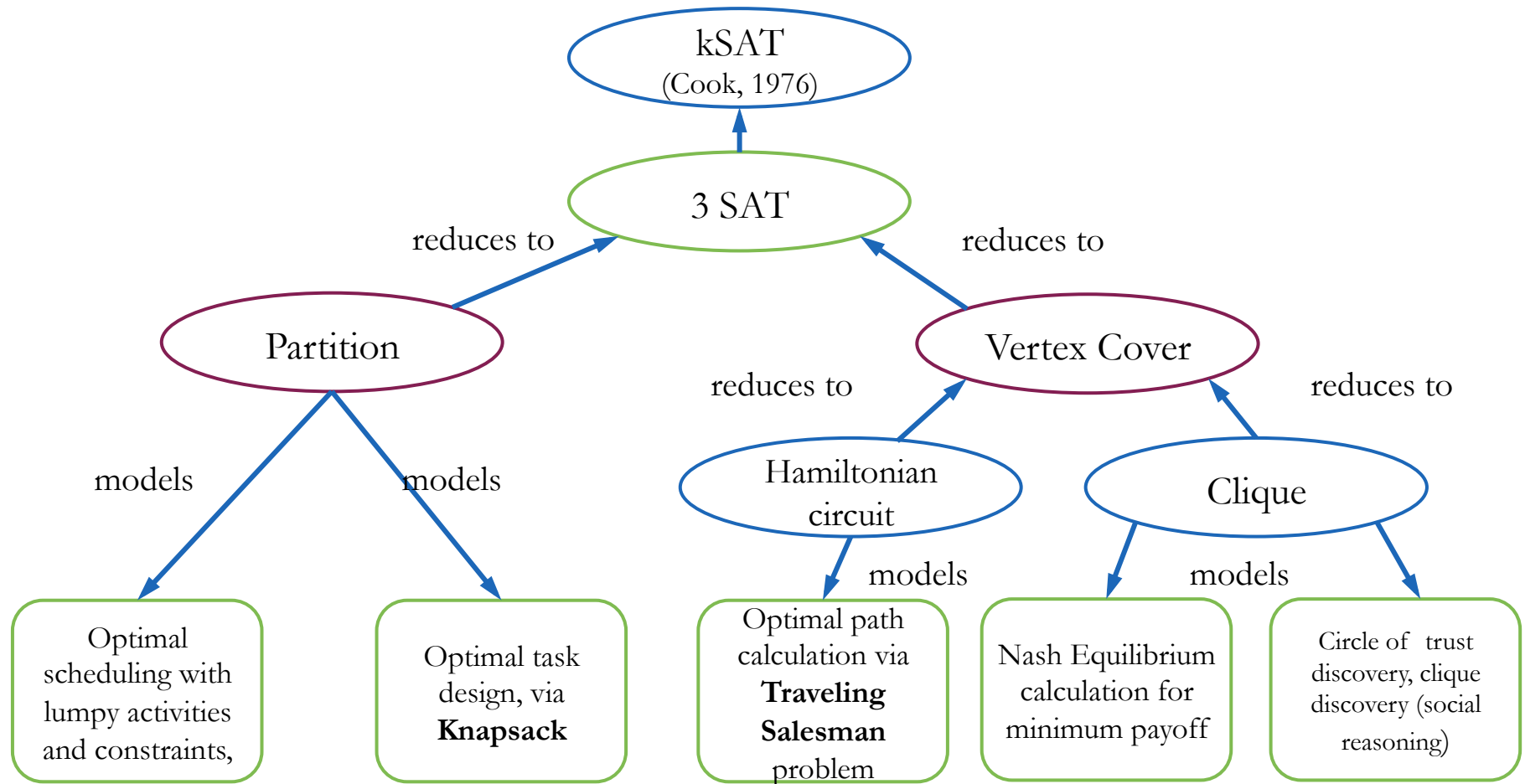
# UNLESS, Bob Had Some Kind of a Short Cut

- Non-exhaustive
- Non-deterministic
- Non-universal (will not be optimal for other NP-hard optimization problems)
- Locally exportable (to other TSP's)
- Hardware-adaptable (more/less RAM, and operations per I/O cycle);

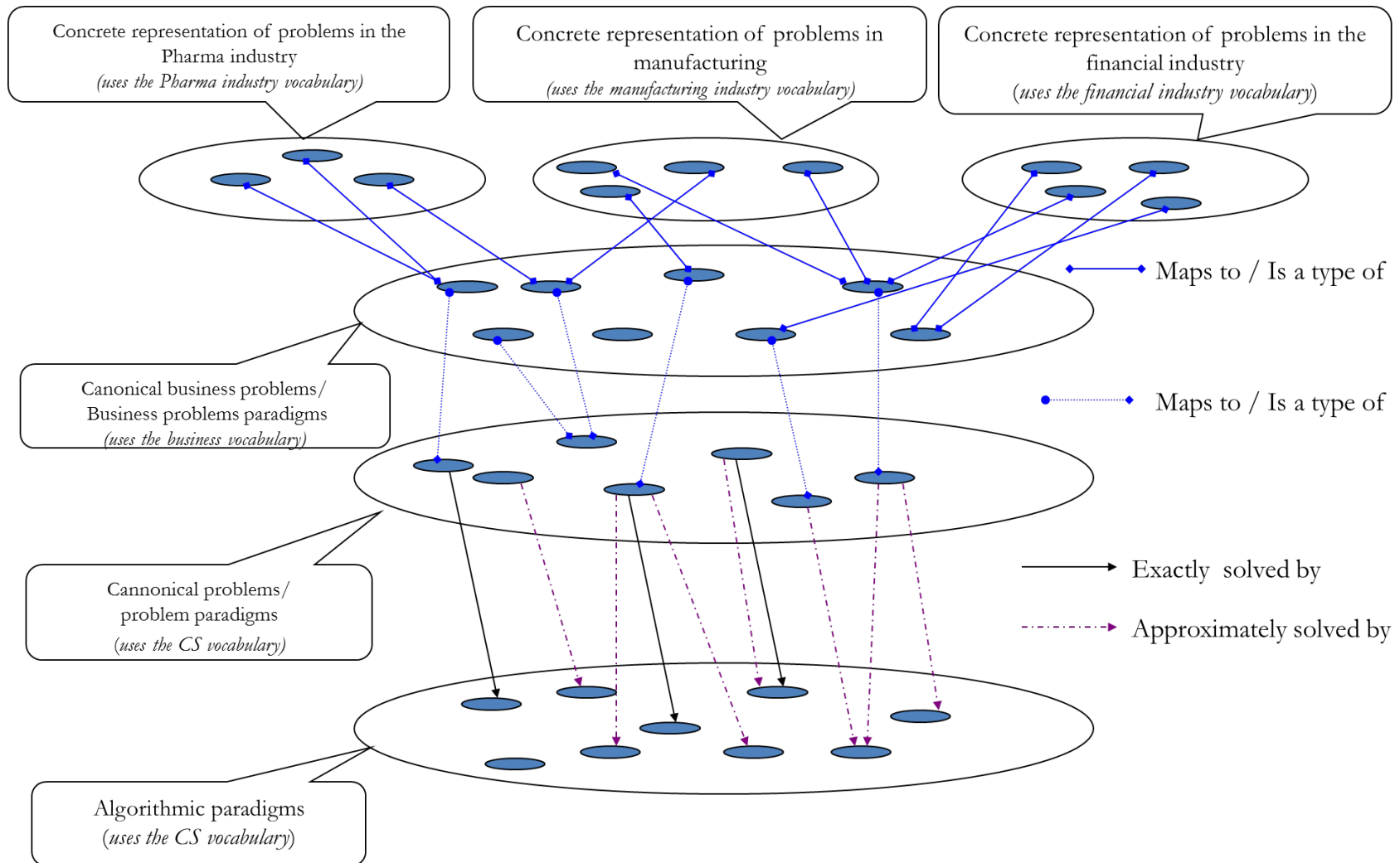


4663 city TSP, solved  
using Lin-Kernighan (meta) algorithm

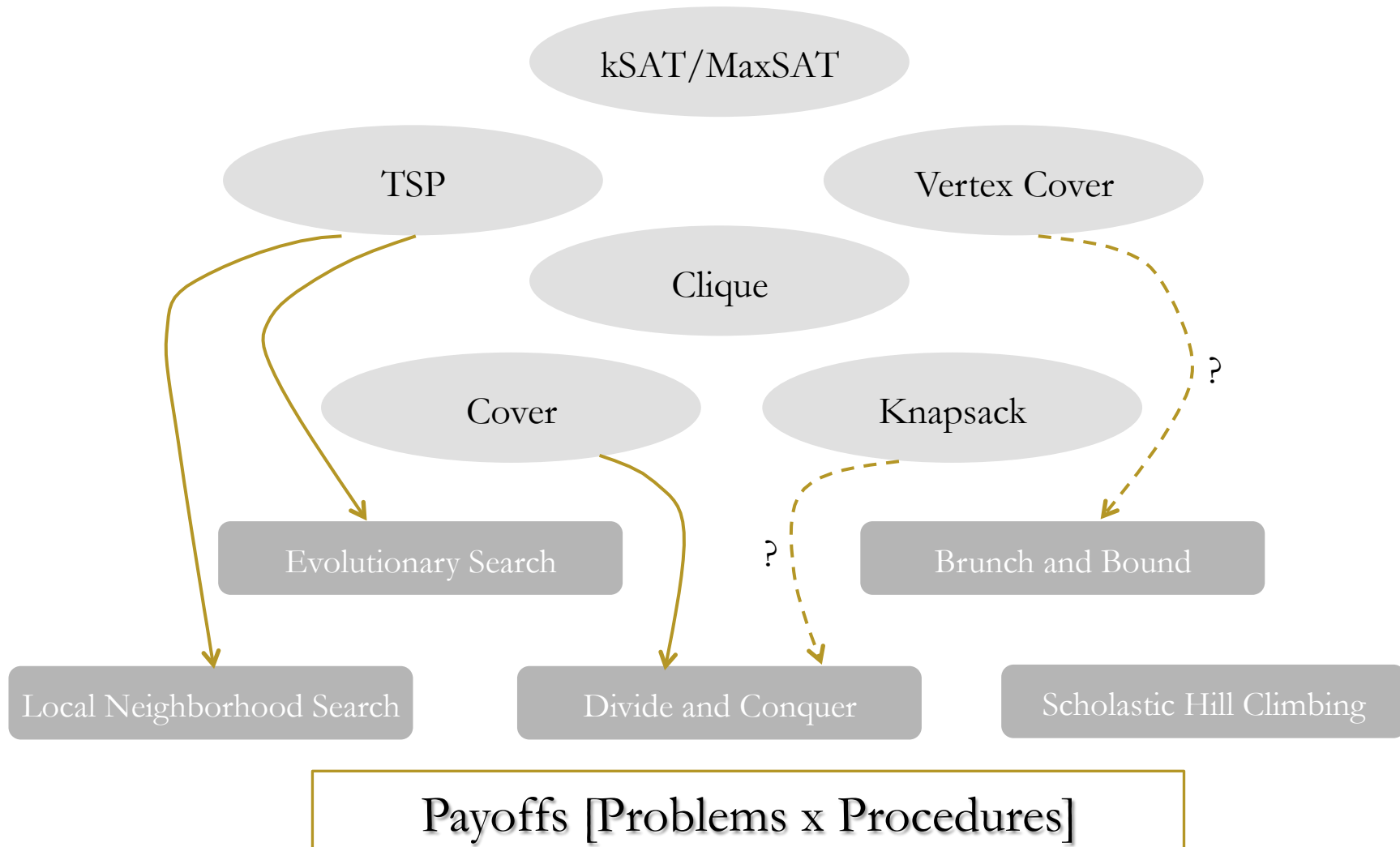
# The NP Class Reads like a Who's Who of Everyday Problems (Solved by Creatures with Brains)



# 'Generalized Problem Solver, Version 2.X'

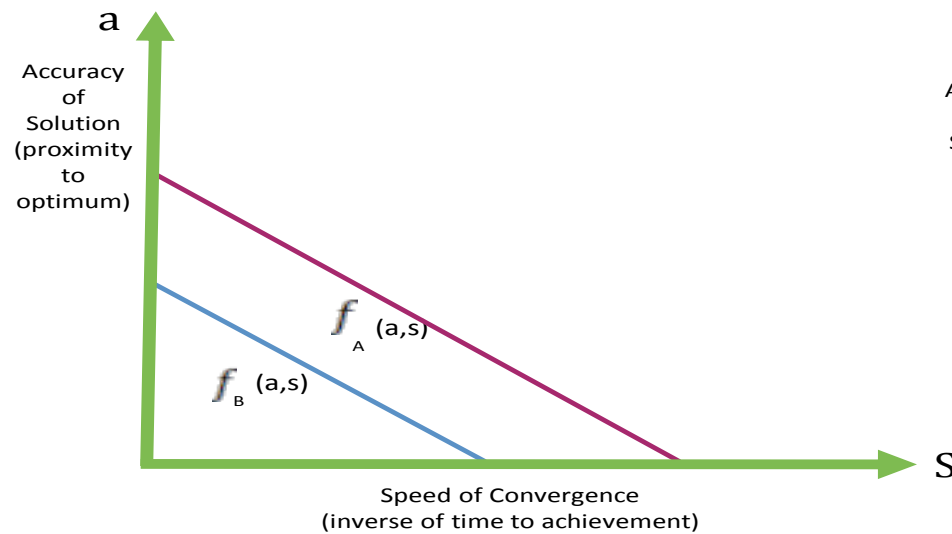


# Modeling Toolkit for Problem Solving Processes: An Associative Map

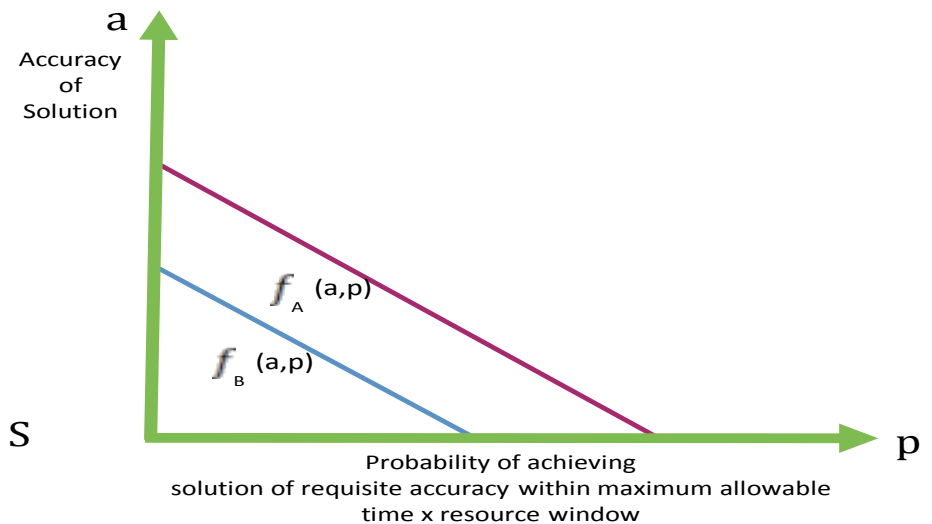




# What Could Computational Payoffs Look Like? Two Separate Payoff Structures...

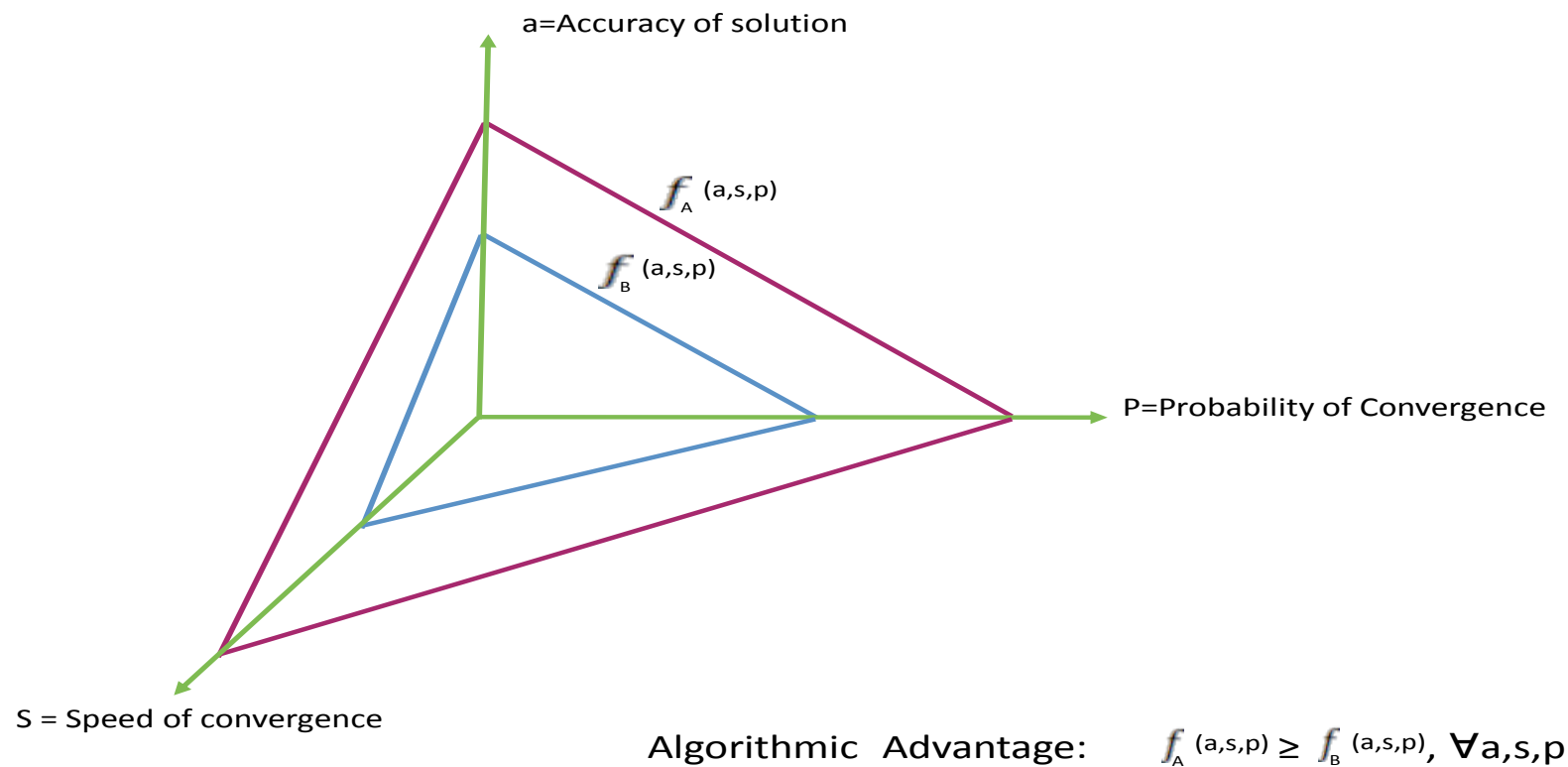


Algorithmic advantage:  $f_A(a,s) \geq f_B(a,s) \forall a, S$

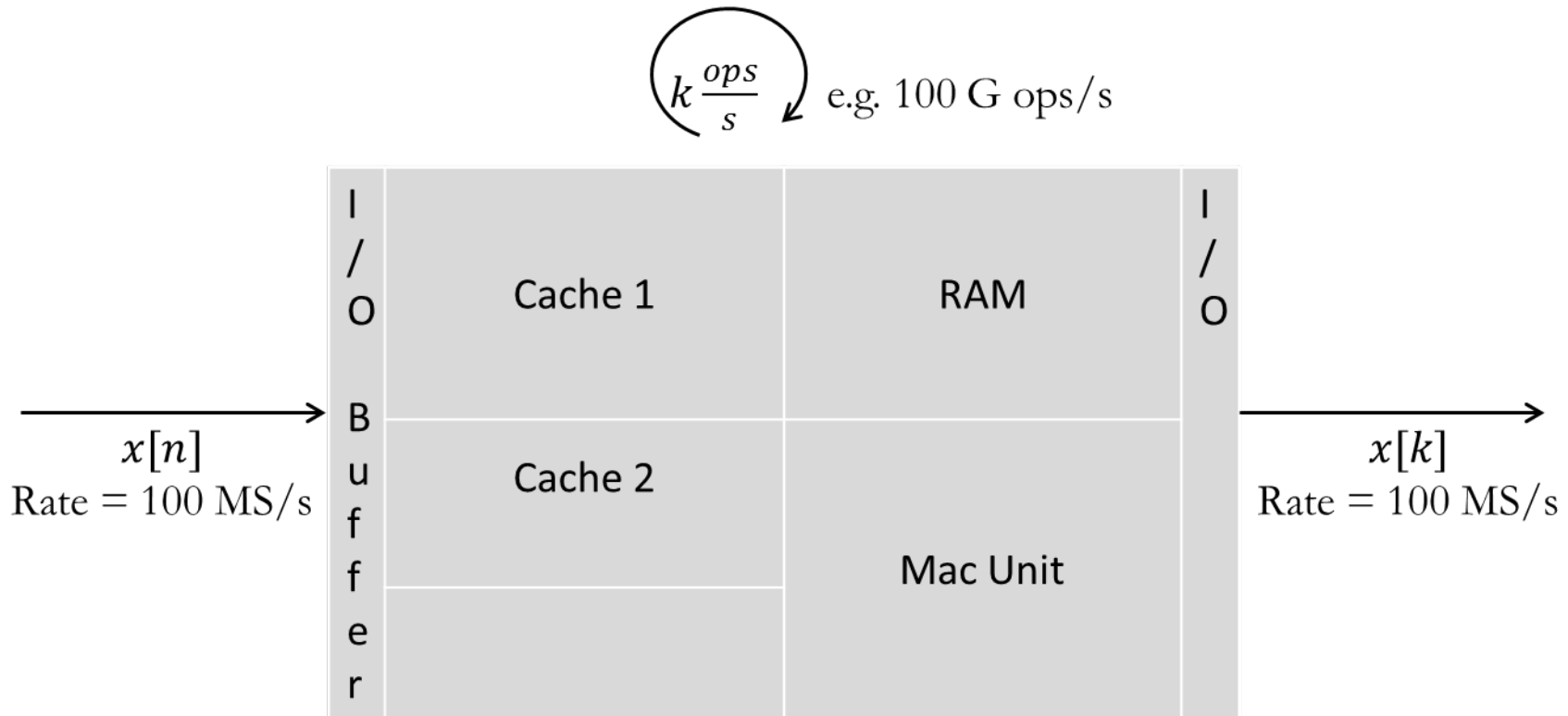


Algorithmic advantage:  $f_A(a,p) \geq f_B(a,p) \forall a, p$

# ...Combine into One 3D Measure



# Getting Closer: How Would a Chip Designer Think About Embodied Problem Solving?

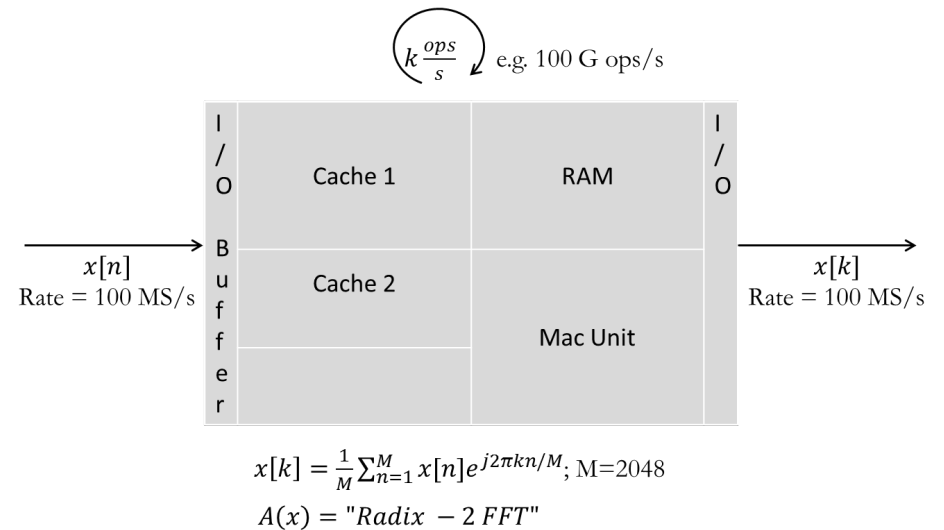


$$x[k] = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{n=1}^M x[n] e^{j2\pi kn/M}; M=2048$$

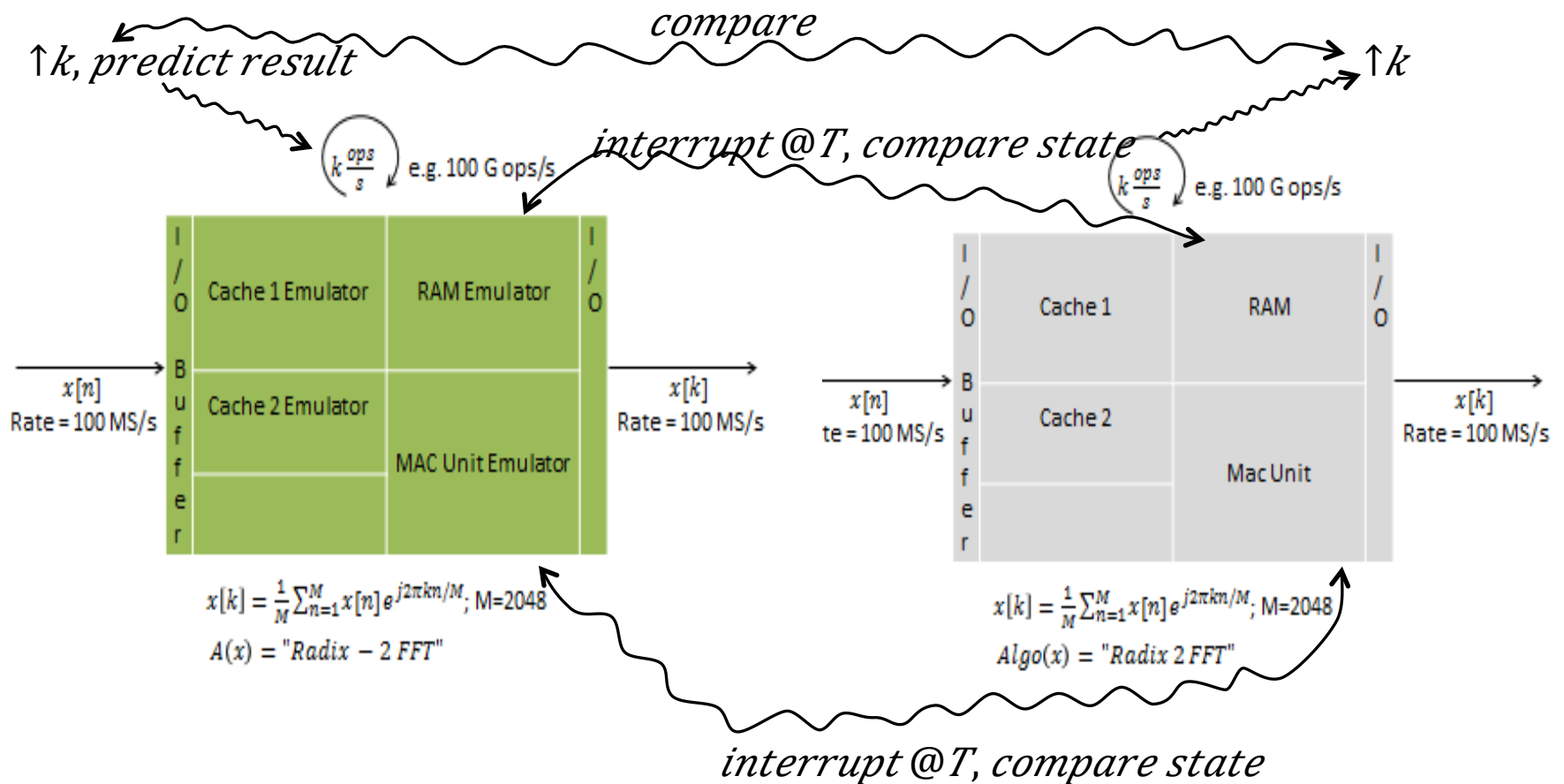
$$A(x) = \text{"Radix - 2 FFT"}$$

# Using Application-Specific Chip Design as a Paradigm for Mind-Brain Investigation

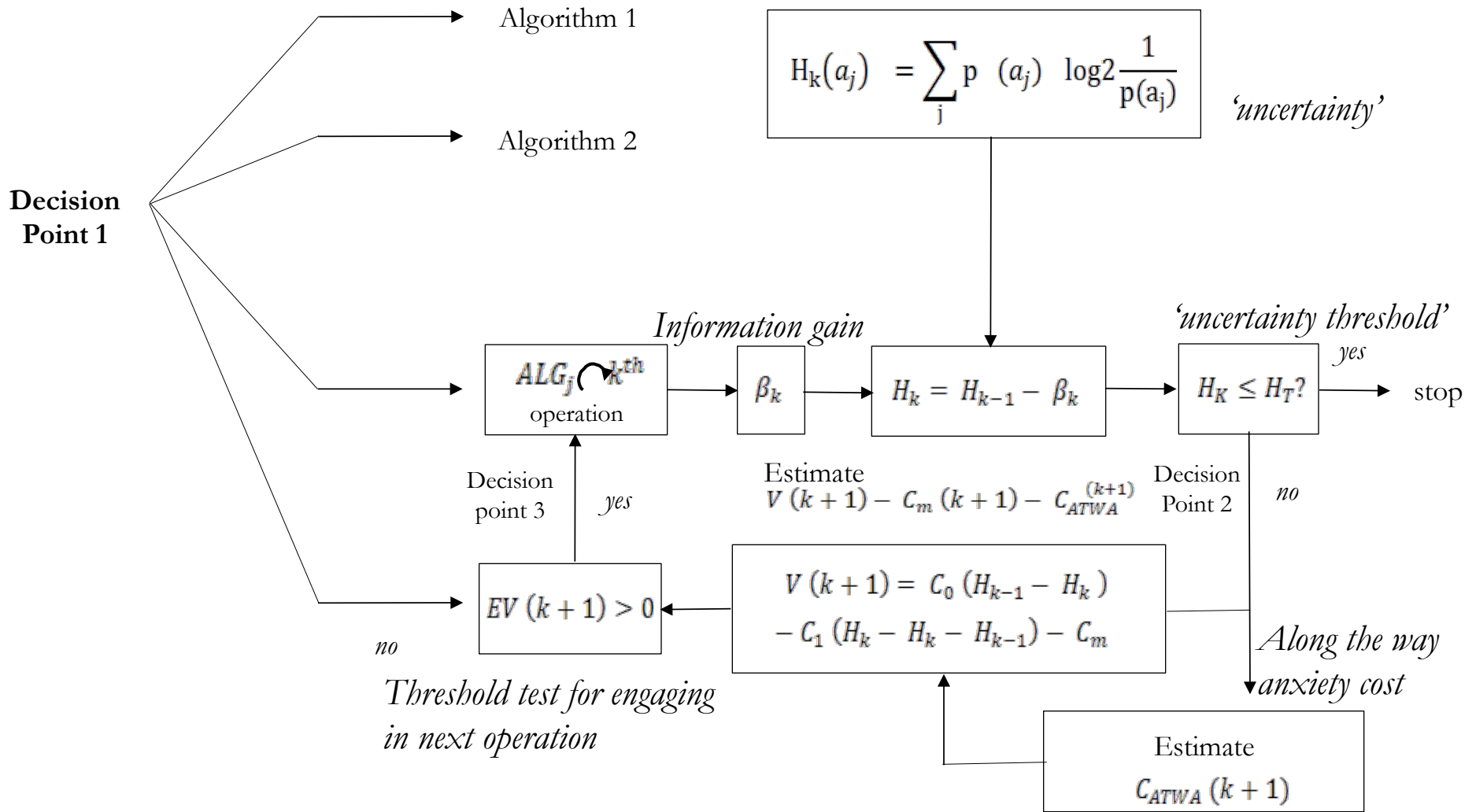
- No operation without implementation;
- No algorithmic change without architectural consequence;
- Capacity limit (Ops/sec,  $M$ ) part of every hardware decision;
- Hardware Adaptable to Algorithm/I-O requirements (more/less RAM, operations per I/O cycle, precision of internal representation of coefficients);
- Average-case performance far more important than worst case performance(e.g. dynamic range extremes of the input  $x[n]$ ).



# “Simulation” Is Not Just “Modeling”: It Has Bite, Which Is Why We Call It EMULATION



# Of Course, Humans Can Choose Whether or Not to Proceed with an Algorithmic Computation at Many Points...



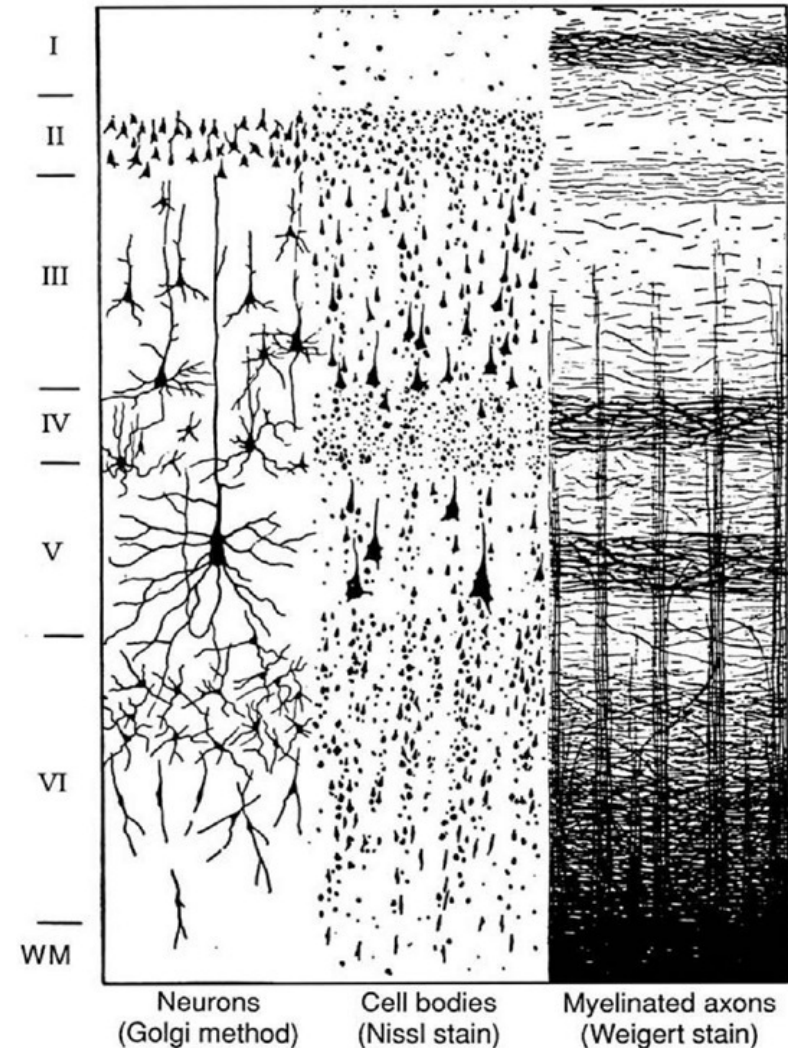
# A Goal for Intelligent Artificiality: A Brain Emulator/Co-Processor

- No ‘model’ of mental behavior without architectural and behavioral consequences;
- Brain states on which mental states supervene can be tracked, not only ‘modelled’: prediction/control supersedes ‘explanation as regulative goal.
- ‘Hardware changes’ (TMS, ECT, stimulus protocols, psycho-pharm) can be emulated, enabling point predictions about mental behavior.



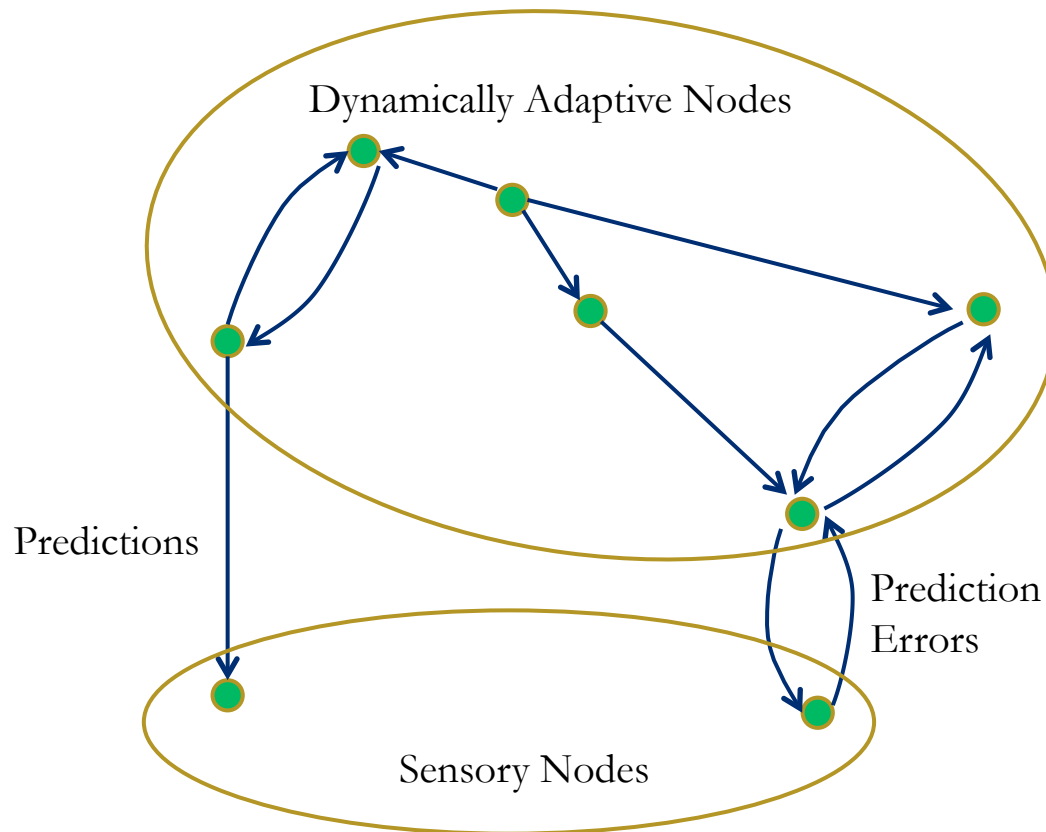
# We Need an Anatomically Informed Model of 'Brainware'...

- Layered connectivity for the associative cortices;
- Cross-layer forward and backward connections (sparser), intra-layer connections (denser);
- Some (parametrizable) asymmetry between forward and backward connections;
- Architectural levers include strength of synaptic connections, 'plastic' formation of new circuits.

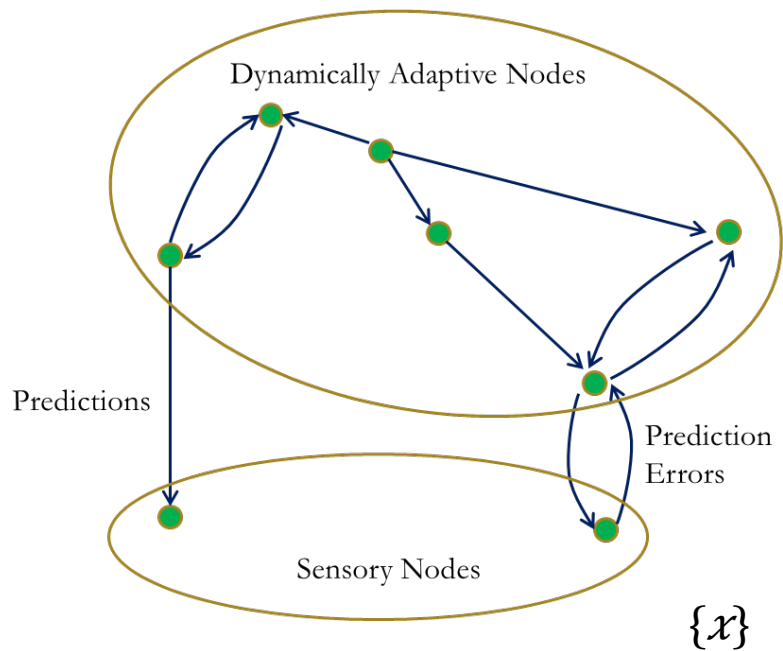




# ... That Is 'Emulable' via a Well Understood Structure (Recurrent Neural Network)



# ... Which Extremizes an Objective Function Familiar to Self-Organizing (Entropy-Increase-Defying) Systems...



$$\min_{\tau\{\alpha, s\}} F(x, s/\alpha) = - \langle \ln p(x, \theta/\alpha) \rangle_{\downarrow q} + \langle \ln q(\theta, s) \rangle_{\downarrow q}$$

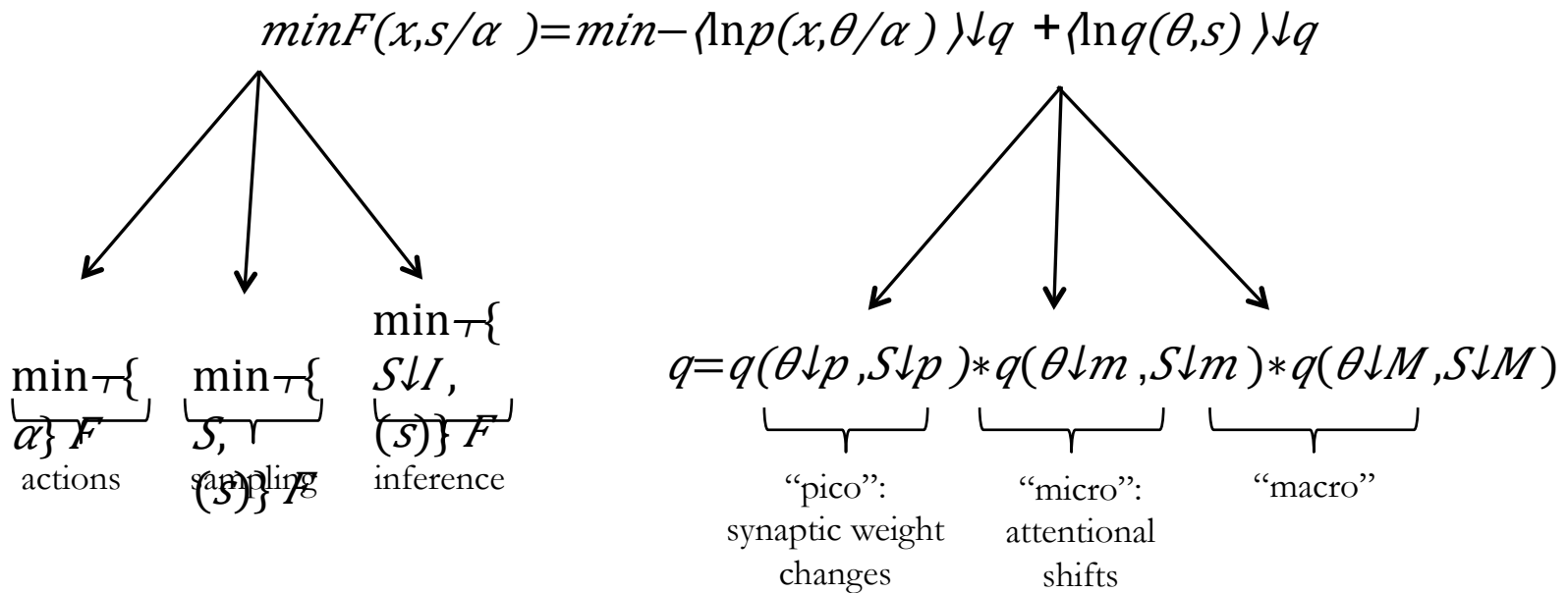
Kullback-Leibler divergence of  $p, q$       "Spread of  $q$ " (ENTROPY)

internal states      actions      causes      Recognition problems (inputs, causes)

Sensory states

The diagram shows the equation with arrows indicating the flow of information. An arrow labeled "internal states" points to the parameter  $\theta$  in the probability distribution  $p(x, \theta/\alpha)$ . An arrow labeled "actions" points to the parameter  $s$  in the distribution  $q(\theta, s)$ . An arrow labeled "causes" points to the distribution  $p(x, \theta/\alpha)$ . An arrow labeled "Recognition problems (inputs, causes)" points to the distribution  $q(\theta, s)$ . Brackets above the equation identify the two terms as "Kullback-Leibler divergence of  $p, q$ " and "Spread of  $q$  (ENTROPY)".

... to Provide an Extremisand That ‘Works’ at Different Space-Time Scales and in Different Domains of Being.



# Now, If We Could Only Explain Away 'Complexity Mismatches' – Which We Can!

Encoding  $(p,q)$  via Kolm  $(p,g)$ :

$$Kolm \downarrow M(x) = \text{length}(A \downarrow M, \min(x))$$

"Efficient coding":

$$p(x) = 2^{\uparrow - Kolm \downarrow M(x)}$$

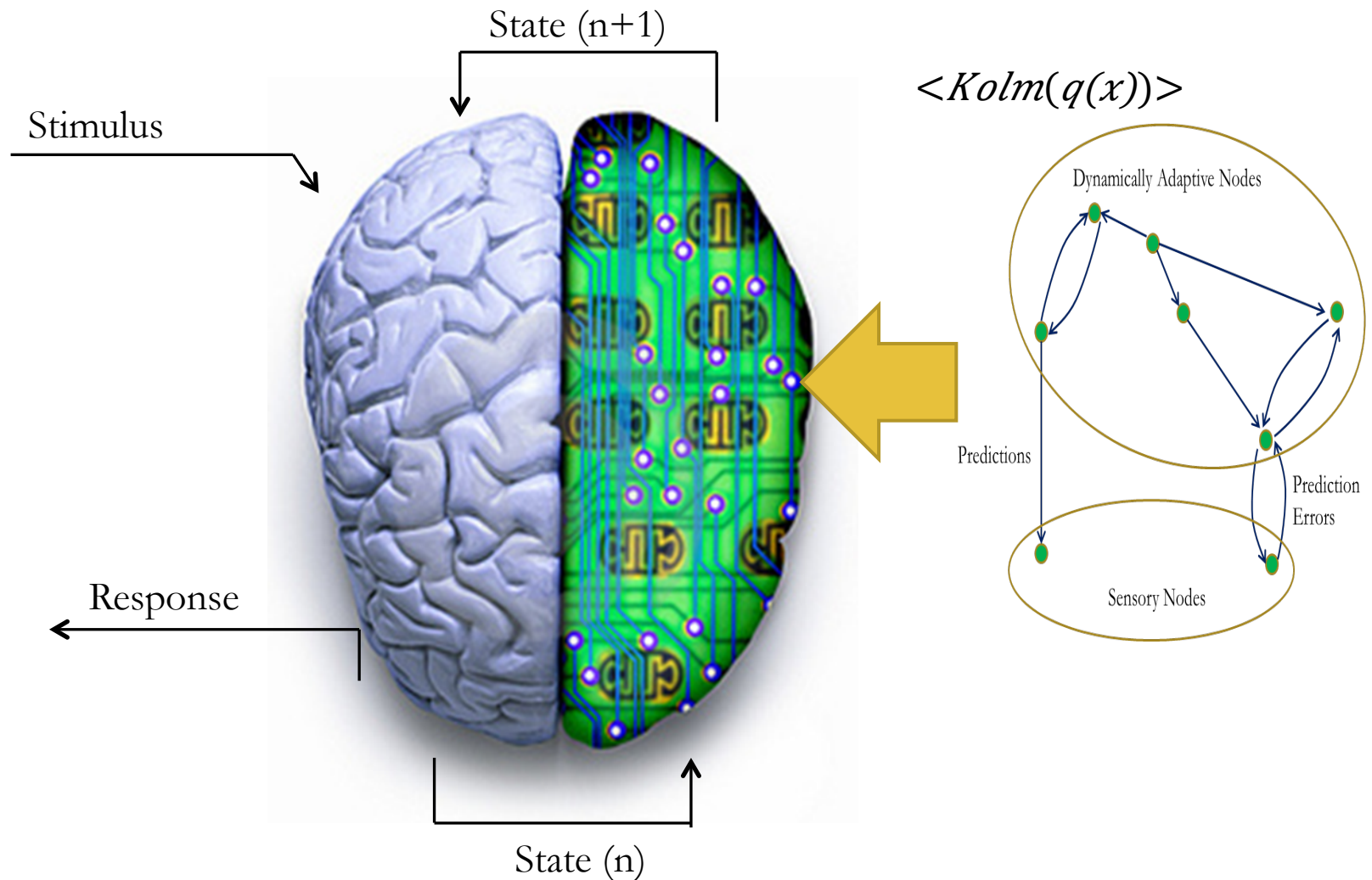
[Kraft–McMillan coding]

Information content of  $p(x)$ :

$$-\sum K \uparrow \# p(x) \log \downarrow 2 p(x) = \sum \uparrow \# 2^{\uparrow - Kolm(x)} Kolm \downarrow M(x) = \langle Kolm \downarrow M(x) \rangle \downarrow p$$

$$\text{Let } M = CORT \rightarrow K \downarrow M(\cdot) = K \downarrow CORT(\cdot)$$

# We Can Rebuild a ‘Theory of Computation’ Using ‘Brainware’ as the Computational Substrate



## ... and Fill in the Gaps of Both Symbolic Representation and 'Rational Choice' Approaches

**not**  $\max_{\tau, x, y, z, \dots} U(x, y, z, \dots) \text{ s.t. } B(x, y, z, \dots; t) \leq B^*$  :

PROCEDURALLY OPAQUE;

ARCHITECTURALLY INDETERMINATE;

PHYSICALLY UNREALIZABLE IN MANY CASES OF INTEREST

**not**  $\max_{\tau, \{P\}, \{A\}} V(P \downarrow 1, P \downarrow 2, \dots, P \downarrow m \mid A \downarrow 11, A \downarrow 12, \dots, A \downarrow mn) \text{ s.t. } \text{Comp}(A \downarrow jk / P \downarrow k) \leq \text{Con}$

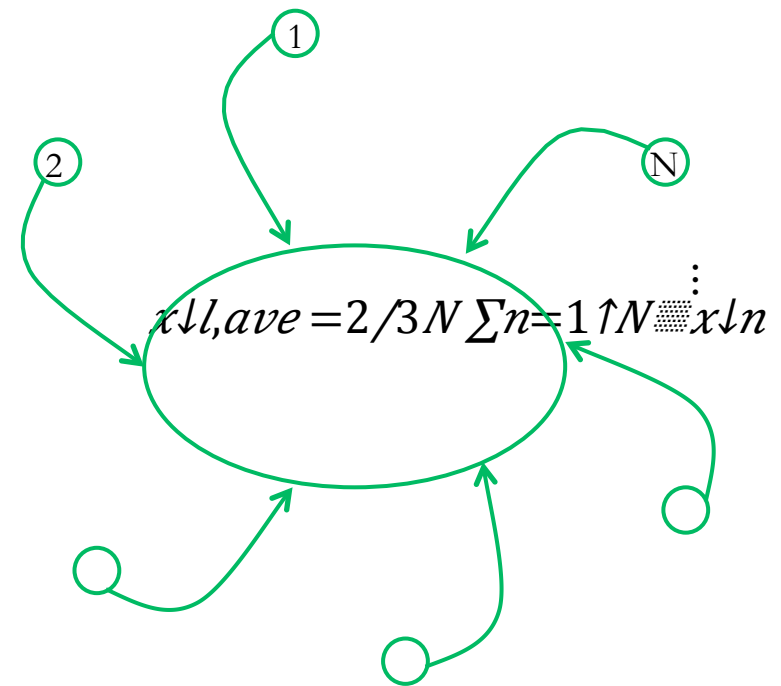
PROCEDURALLY UNREALISTIC;

ARCHITECTURALLY INAPPLICABLE;

WORST CASE EMPHASIS UNREASONABLE IN MOST CASES OF INTEREST

# Circumventing Logically Deep Equilibrium Calculations: Beauty Contest Example

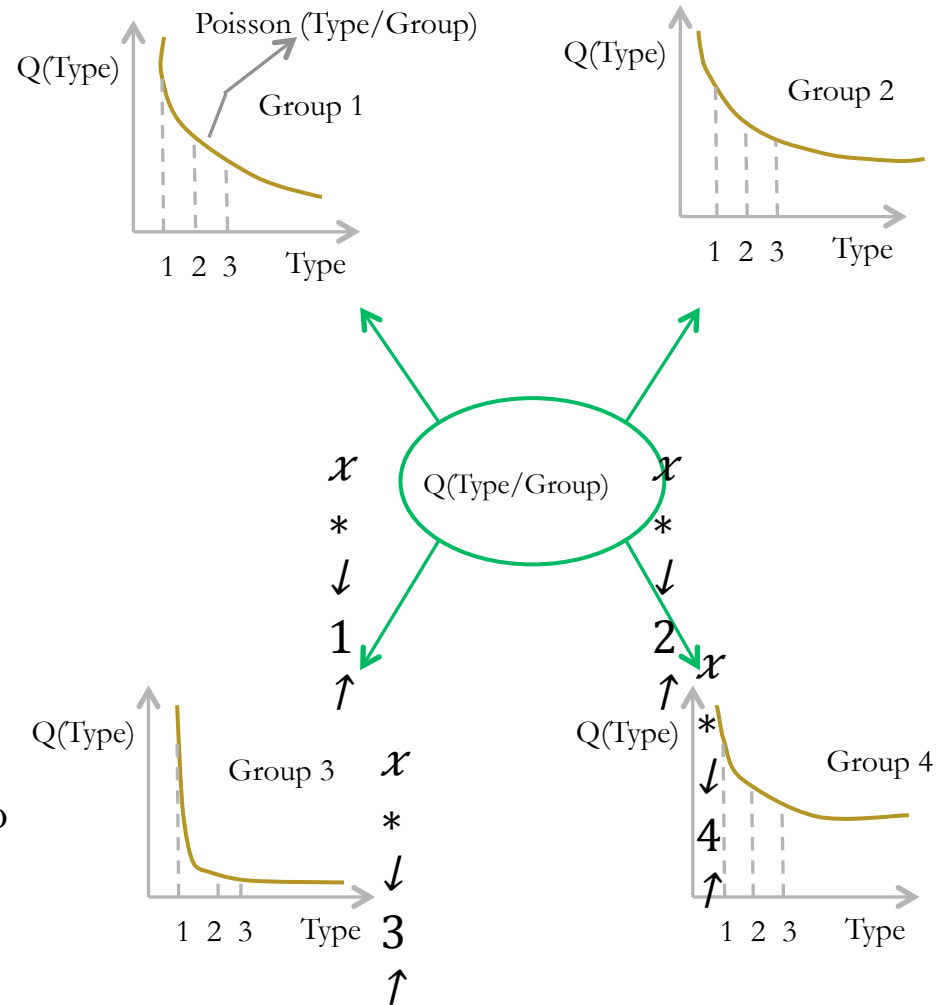
- $N$  players, 1 period game;
- Each player submits number from 0 to  $N$  to a(n honest) clearing house.
- Winner (gets  $\$N \times \$1000$ ) of the game is the player that submits the number that is closest to  $2/3$  of the average of all the other numbers.
- Iterated dominance reasoning:  
*if I submit  $x$  and others submit  $(y, z, w, \dots)$   
then winner would have **had to have submitted  $z$** , so **I should have submitted  $y$** .*
- Equilibrium submission (“strategy”) is  
**0:  $(2/3)(0)=0$**



e.g.  $N=100, x_{ln} \sim [0,100]$   
 $x_{l, ave} = 50, x_{l+1, ave} = 33.33\dots$   
 $x_{l+1, ave} = \frac{2}{3} x_{l, ave} \rightarrow x_{l+1}^* = 0$

# Circumventing Logically Deep Equilibrium Calculations: Beauty Contest Example

- Encode *others* via Types (Ho, 2004)
- **Type 0** players do not think of what others think;
- **Type 1** players think only of what others think;
- **Type 2** players think of what **Type 0** and Type 1 players think only;
- **Type  $k$**  players think of what **Type ( $k-1, k-2, \dots$ )** players think only.
- Define  $Q(\text{this group type set})$  as estimate of density of **Type  $k$**  players in **this group**.
- Refine  $Q(\text{types})$  (*mode, spread*) according to cues.





# Intelligent Artificiality

A Foundation for Mind-Brain Design,  
Diagnostics and Development