

# Rufin VanRullen



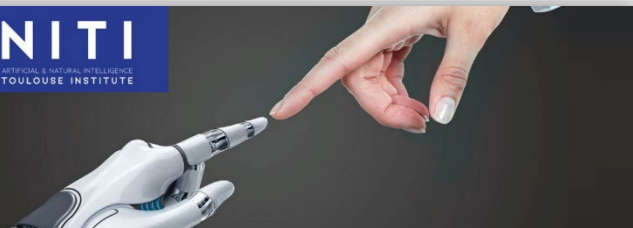
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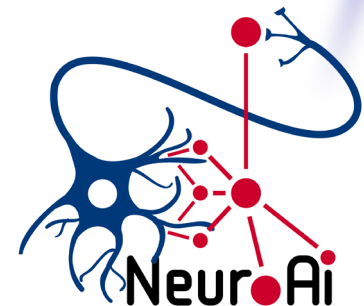
European Research Council  
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## Deep Learning & the Global Workspace Theory

**ANITI**  
ARTIFICIAL & NATURAL INTELLIGENCE  
TOULOUSE INSTITUTE



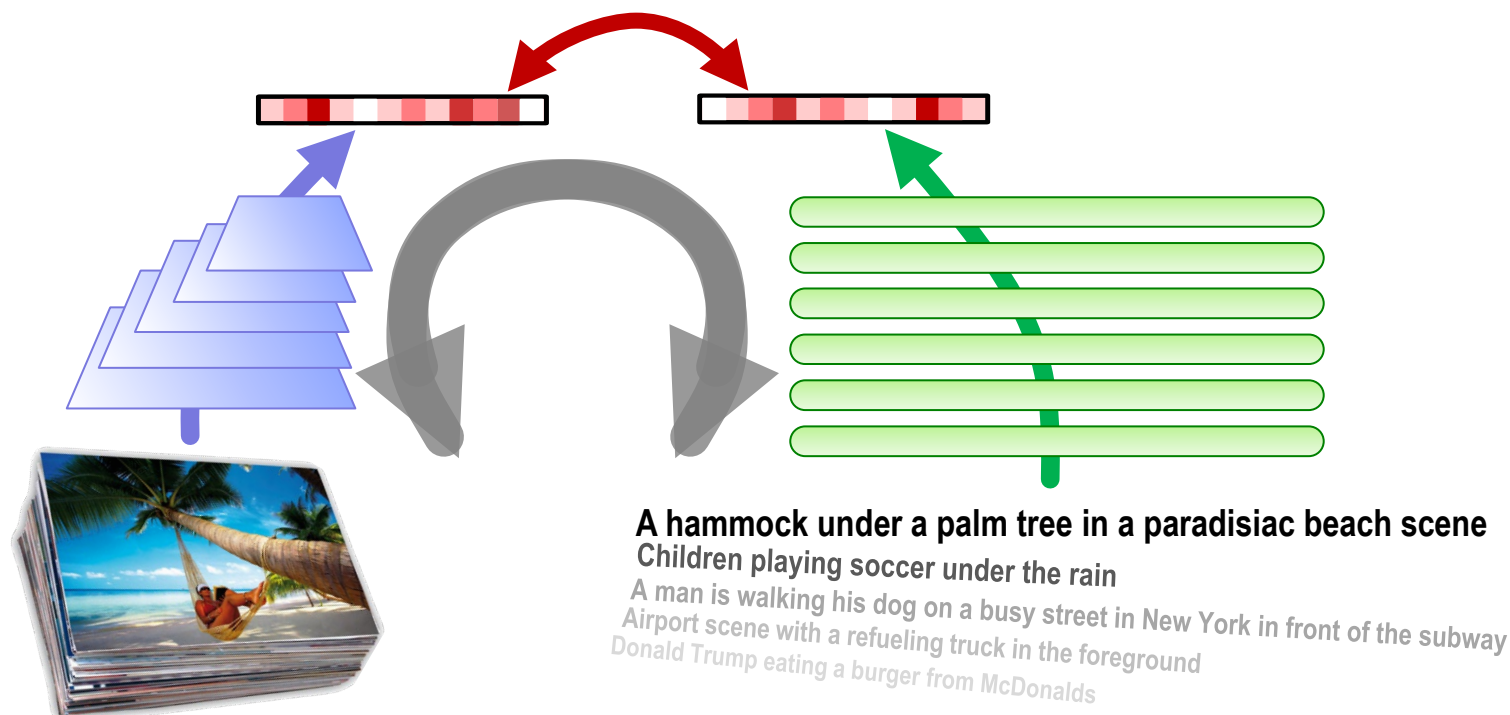
**Toulouse Interdisciplinary  
Deep Learning Group  
(TIdDLe)**



# Multimodal architectures: State-of-the-Art

## Massively supervised learning (« brute-force »):

- ◎ Representation alignment: CLIP (OpenAI) 400M image-text pairs
- ◎ Image-to-Text (captioning): CoCa (Google) 4B
- ◎ Text-to-Image: DALL-E3 (OpenAI) >5B  
Imagen (Google)



# Multimodal architectures: Limits

## ◎ Hungry for data & computational resources

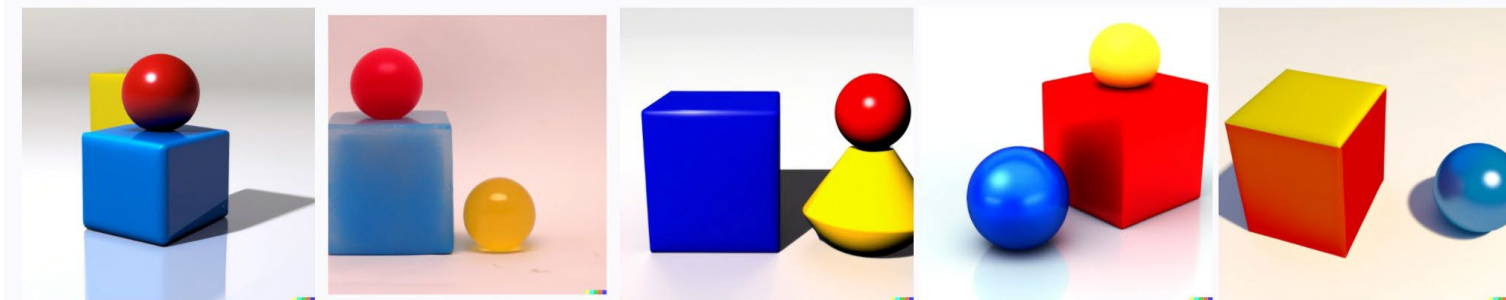
(a child probably gets  $\ll 1M$  of explicit supervision examples)

## ◎ Sub-optimal multimodal grounding

Devillers et al (CoNLL 2021): *Does language help generalization in vision models?*

## ◎ Sub-optimal compositionality

a blue cube on top of a red cube, beside a smaller yellow sphere



→ Solution A: bigger models, trained with even more data?

→ Solution B: change of paradigm?

# Multimodal architectures: Limits

© Hungry for

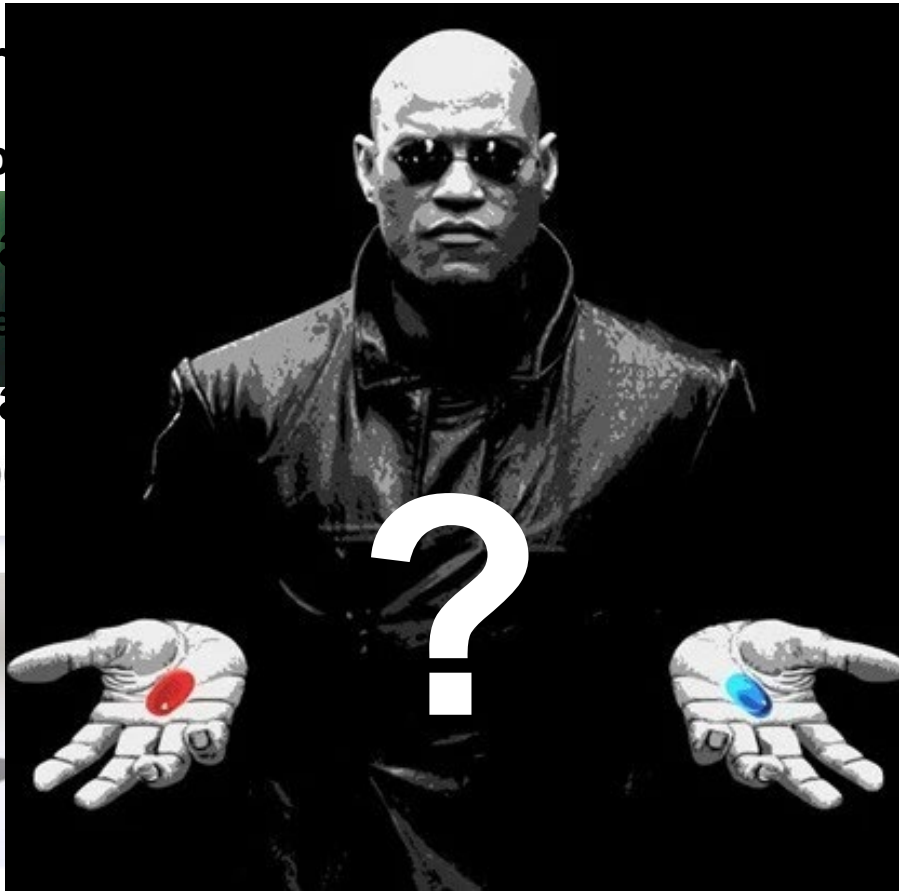
(a child p

© Sub-optima

Devillers e

© Sub-optima

a blue cub

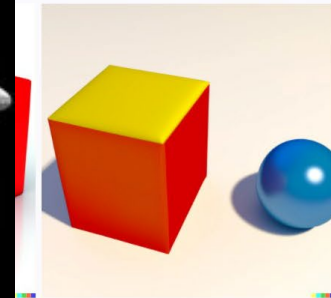
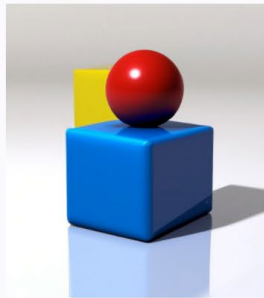


ces

on examples)

ralization in vision models?

sphere

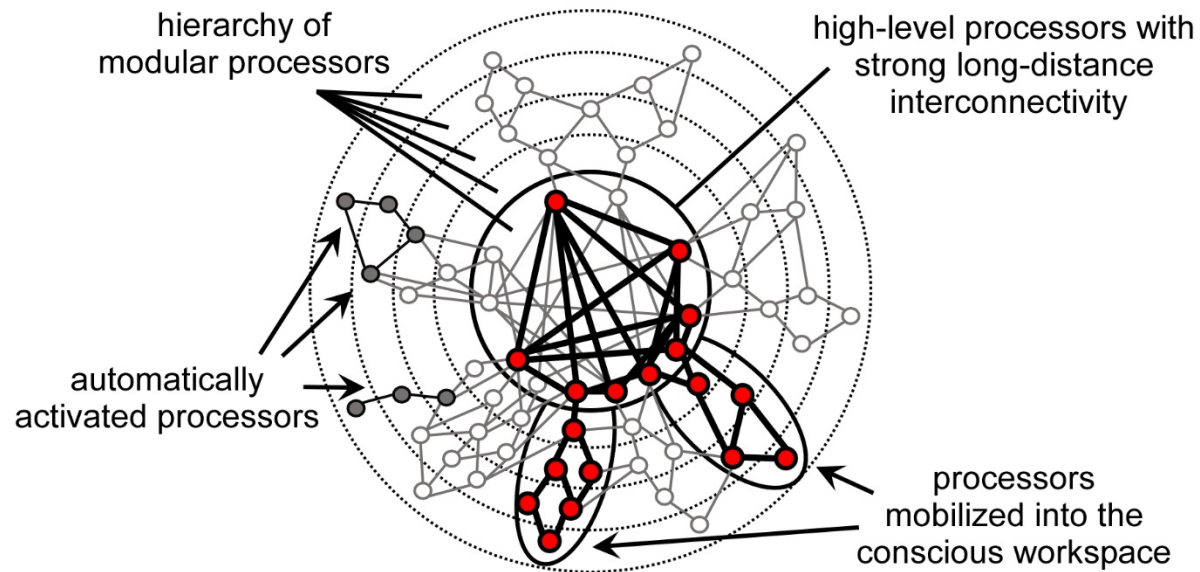


→ Solution A: bigger models, trained with even more data?

→ Solution B: change of paradigm?

# The Global Workspace Theory

Baars (1993)



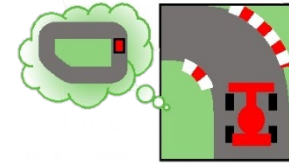
# The Global Workspace Theory

Baars (1993)

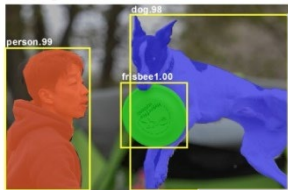
Motor outputs



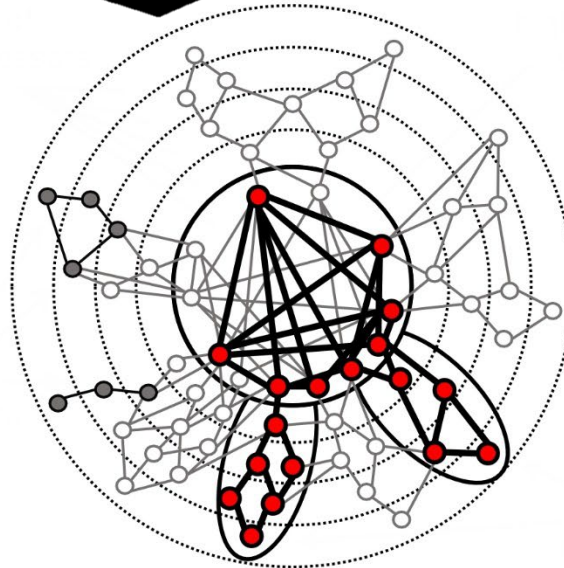
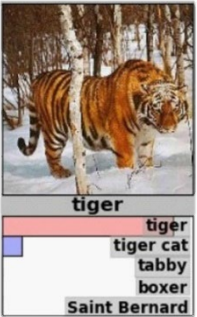
World models



Object detection



Object recognition



Planning



Speech recognition



NLP



Machine translation



# Towards implementing GWT

Motor outputs

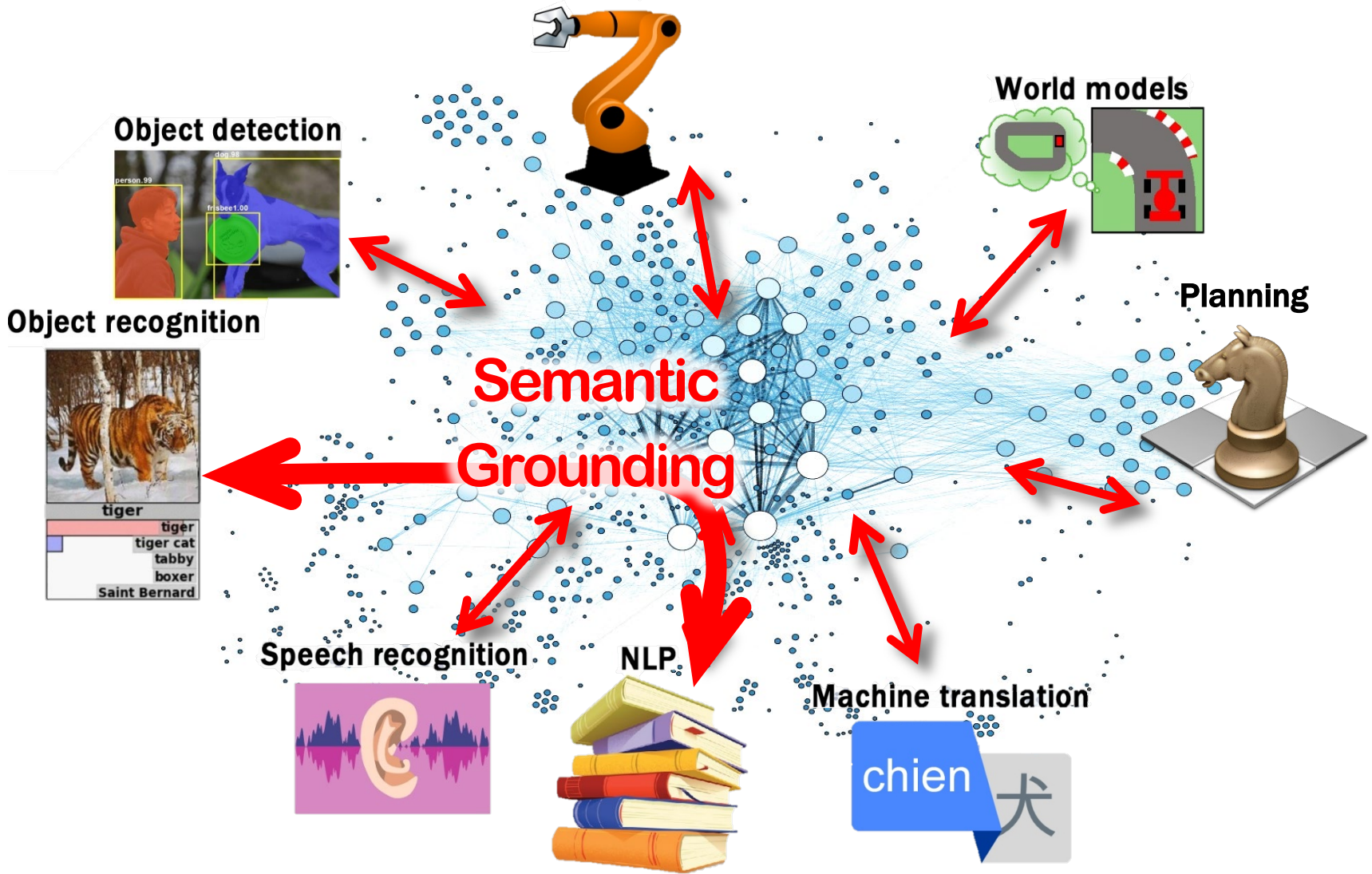
VanRullen & Kanai, Trends Neurosci (2021)



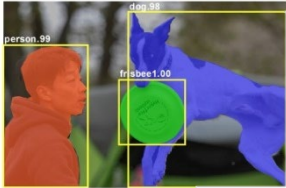
# Towards implementing GWT

Motor outputs

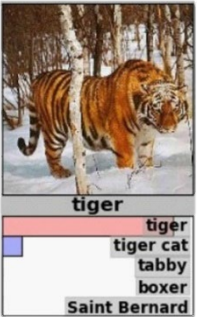
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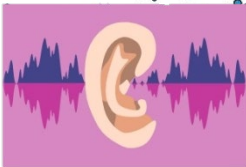
Object detection



Object recognition



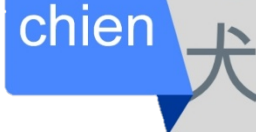
Speech recognition



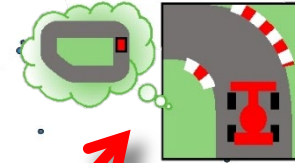
NLP



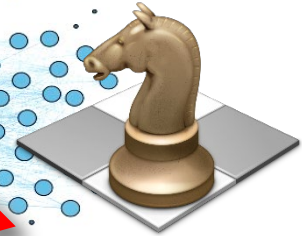
Machine translation



World models



Planning

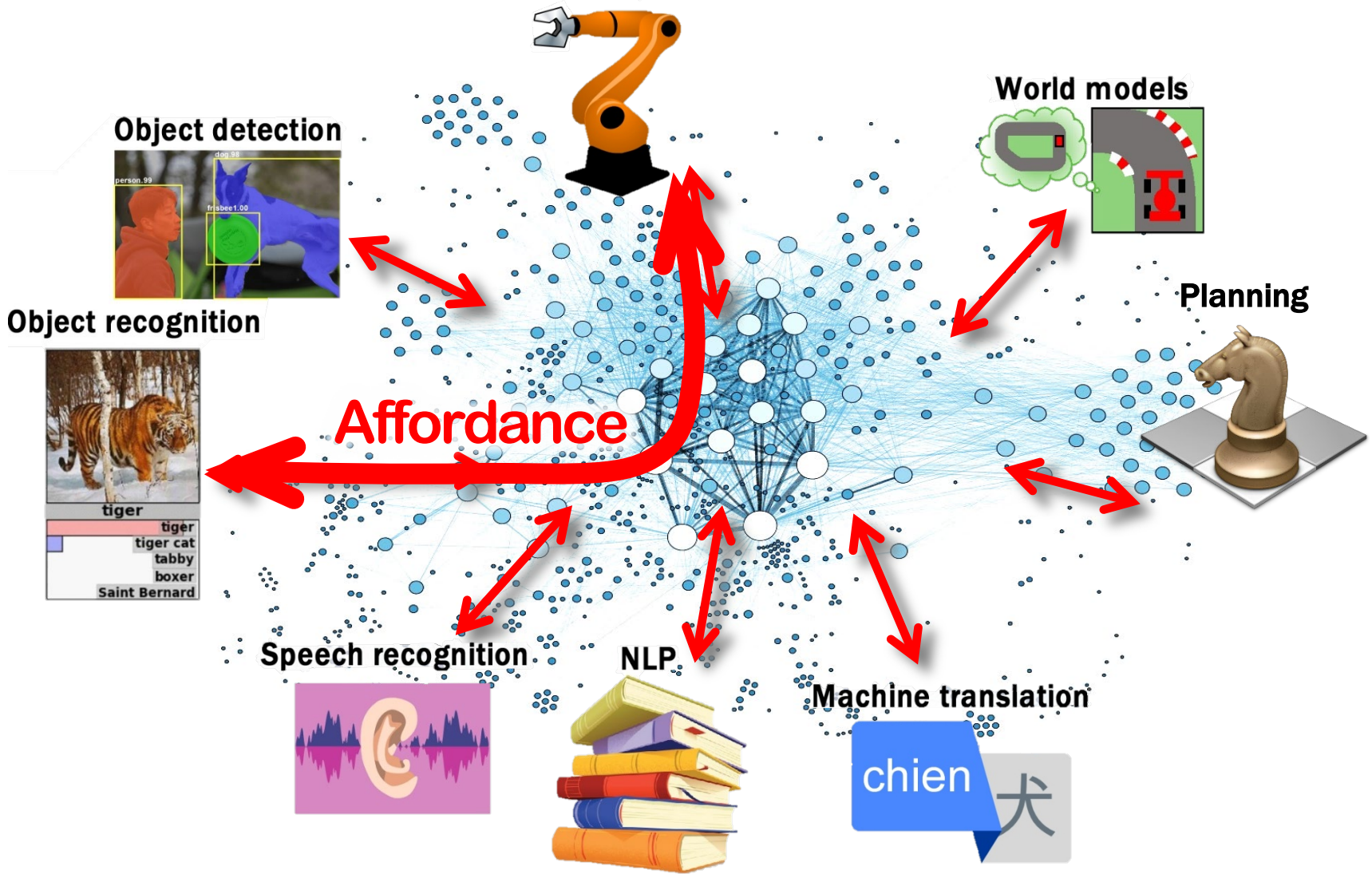




# Towards implementing GWT

Motor outputs

VanRullen & Kanai, Trends Neurosci (2021)



# GLW: main concepts

## 🎯 Modules

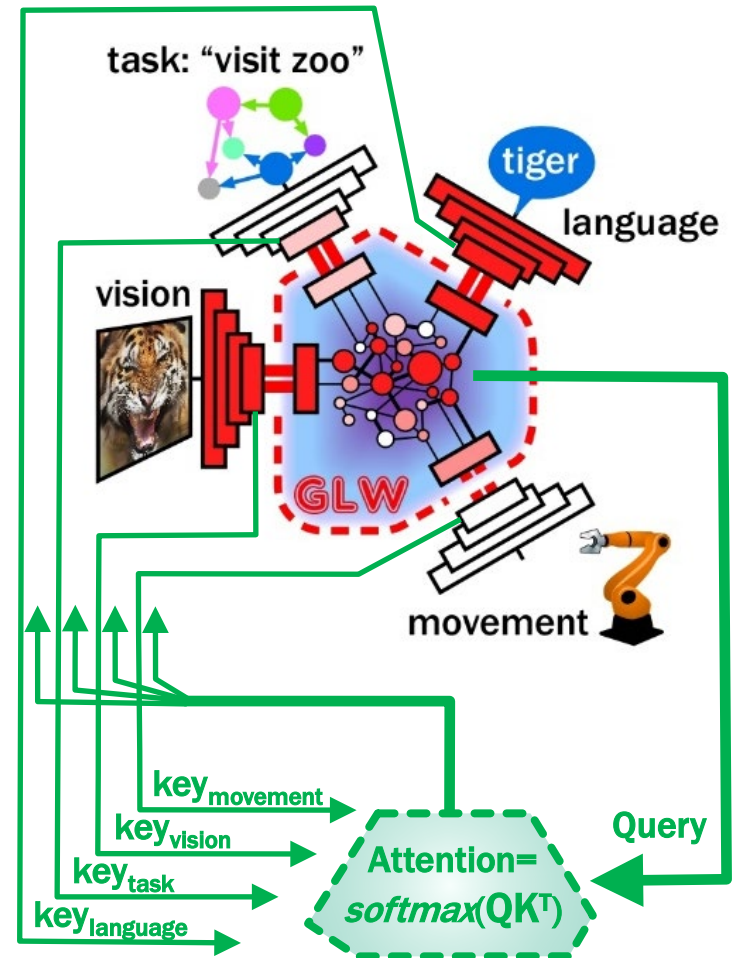
- 🎯 (N≥2) Pretrained networks  
(hundreds of available choices!)
- 🎯 Choice determines model functionality

## 🎯 Broadcast

- 🎯 Unsupervised neural translation
- 🎯 Trained via cycle-consistency objective

## 🎯 Attention

- 🎯 Transformer: key-query matching
- 🎯 Top-down & bottom-up control



# Multimodal systems with Global Workspace

## Our ecosystem...



Funded by  
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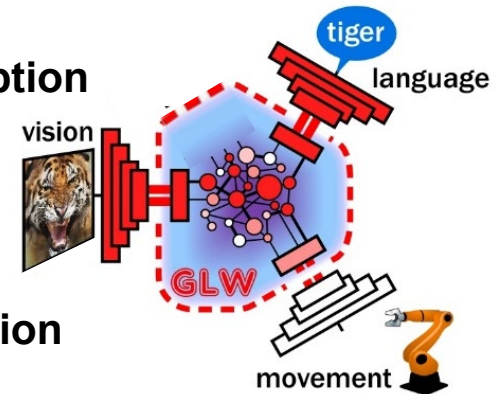
### ERC Advanced Project GLOW (2023-2028)

- Develop brain-inspired multimodal deep learning systems
- Evaluate their use and relevance for machine learning
- Advance our knowledge of the brain



### ANITI Synergy Chair C3-PO (2024-2028)

- Cobots with Conversation, Cognition & Perception
- Chairs: R. VanRullen (CerCo), N. Asher (IRIT), T. Serre (Brown), O. Stasse (LAAS)
- Frugal multimodal robotic systems with grounded perception, language and action



**So the story begins...**



**L. Maytié**