



# RRAM based analog synapse device for neuromorphic system

Kibong Moon, Euijun Cha, and Hyunsang Hwang

*Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), Korea*

*The 13<sup>th</sup> Korea-U.S. Forum on Nanotechnology, Sep. 26-27, Seoul, Korea*



**POSTECH**  
POHANG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**SIDP** Semiconductor Integrated  
Device & Process laboratory

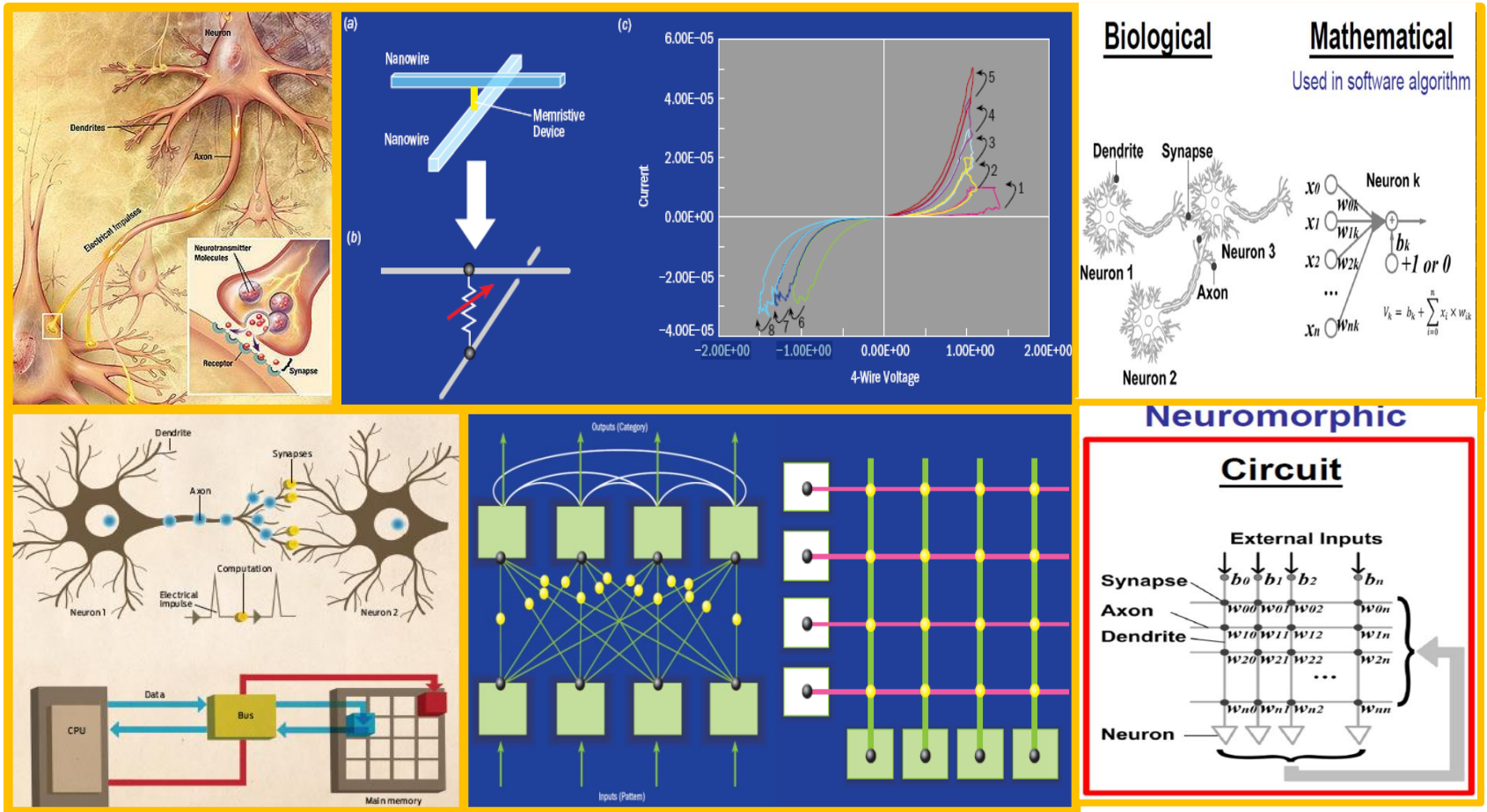
# Outline

---



- **Introduction and Motivation**
- **Mo/PCMO synapse device**
- **Pattern recalling system**
- **Summary**

# Introduction



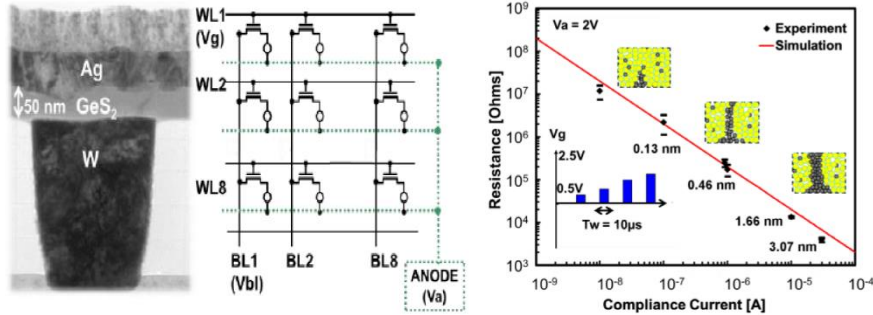
- ✓ Neuron ( $\sim 10^{11}$ ) + Synapse ( $\sim 10^{15}$ ) + Learning Rule
- ✓ Low energy ( $\sim 10\text{fJ}$ ) synapse and neuron devices

Source: HP

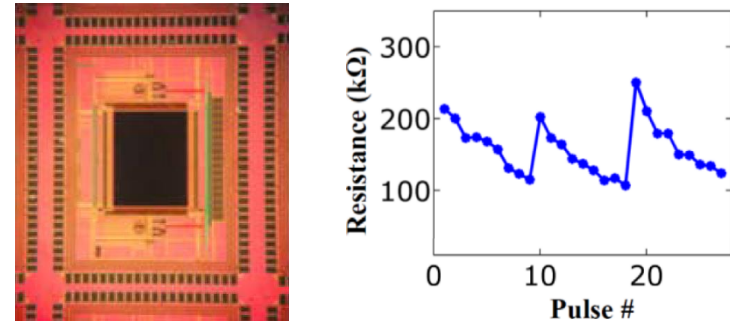
# Introduction



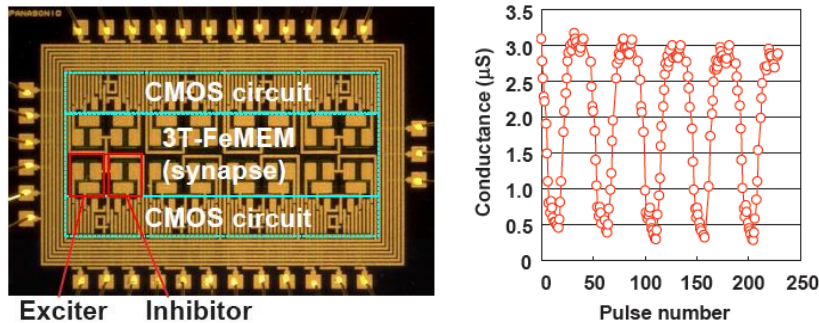
## CEA-LETI, IEDM 2012



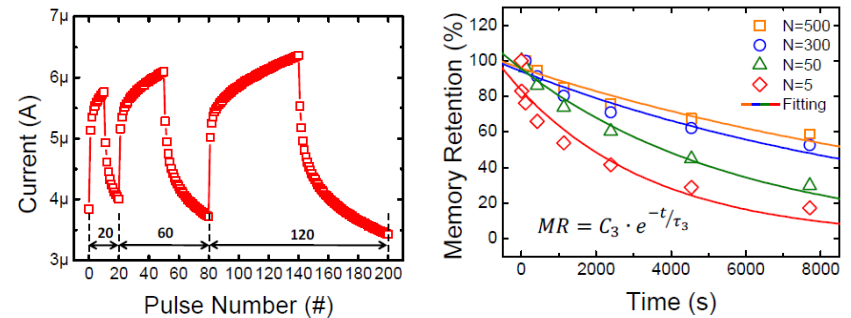
## Stanford Univ., IEDM 2013



## Panasonic, VLSI 2013



## Univ. of Nat. Chiao Tung, IEDM 2014

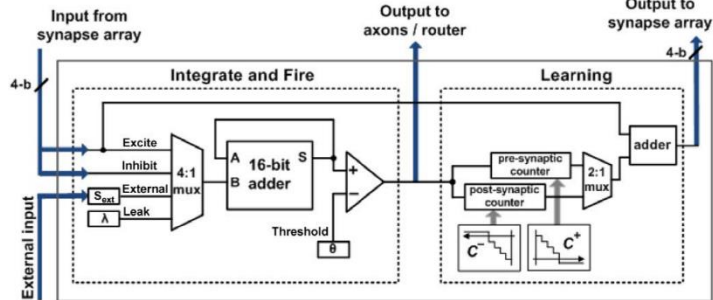
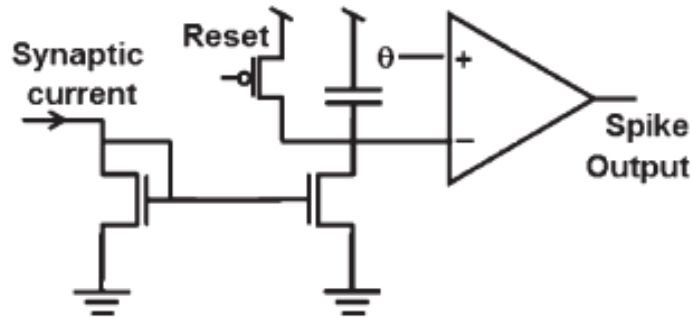


✓ Various new synapse devices were proposed (CBRAM, PCM, 3T-FeMEM, and RRAM)

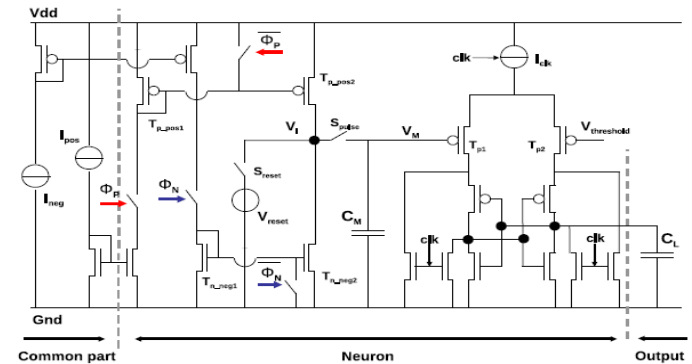
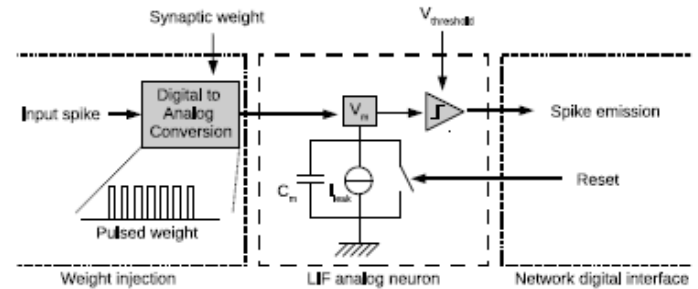
# Introduction



IBM, TED 2013



CEA-LETI, NEWCAS 2011

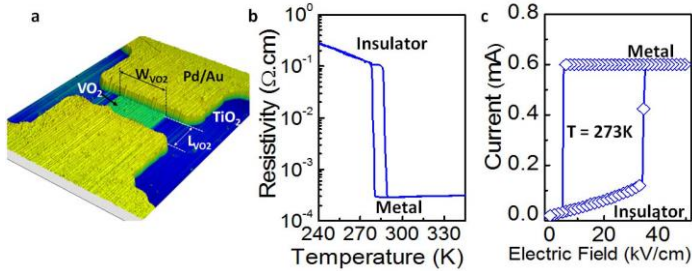


- ✓ Problems : Large device area, power consumption, circuit complexity etc..

# Introduction

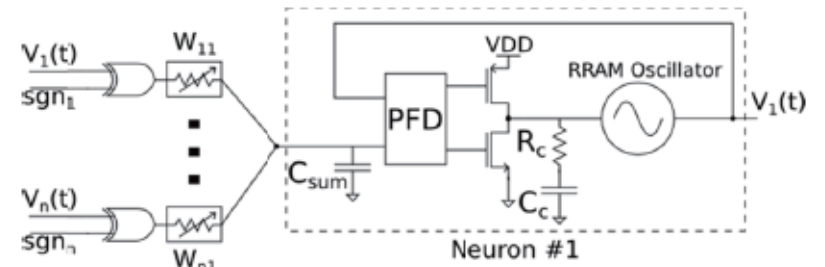
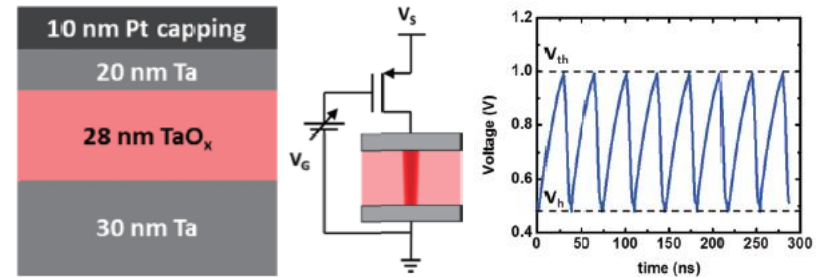


## Pennsylvania Univ., IEDM 2014



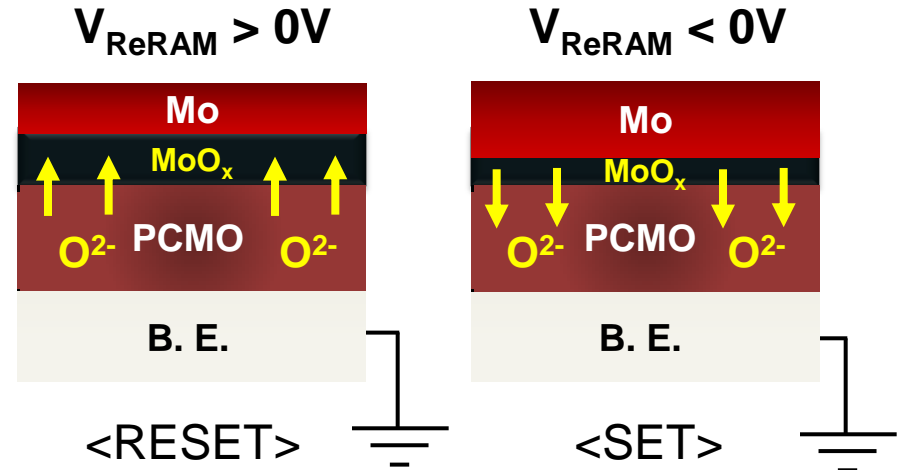
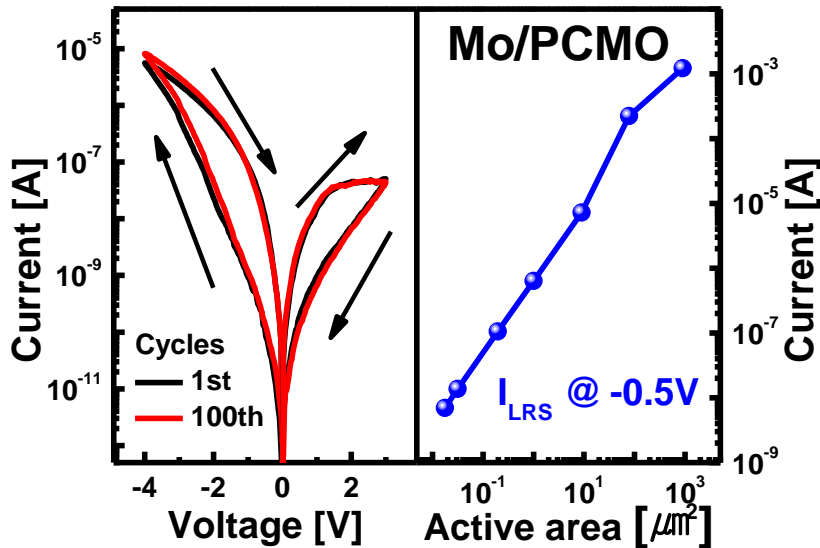
Input Image	Simple Absolute Difference Metric ( $\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)$ )	Coupled VO <sub>2</sub> Oscillators

## Carnegie Mellon Univ., VLSI 2015



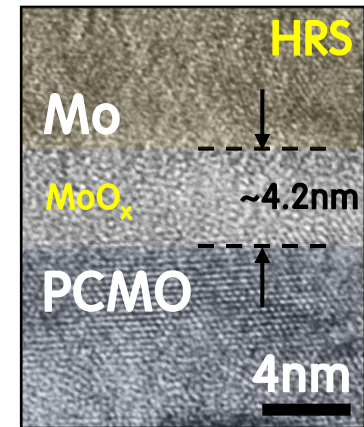
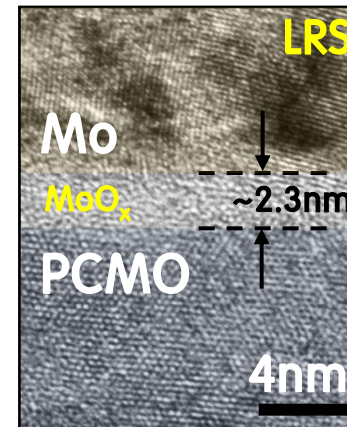
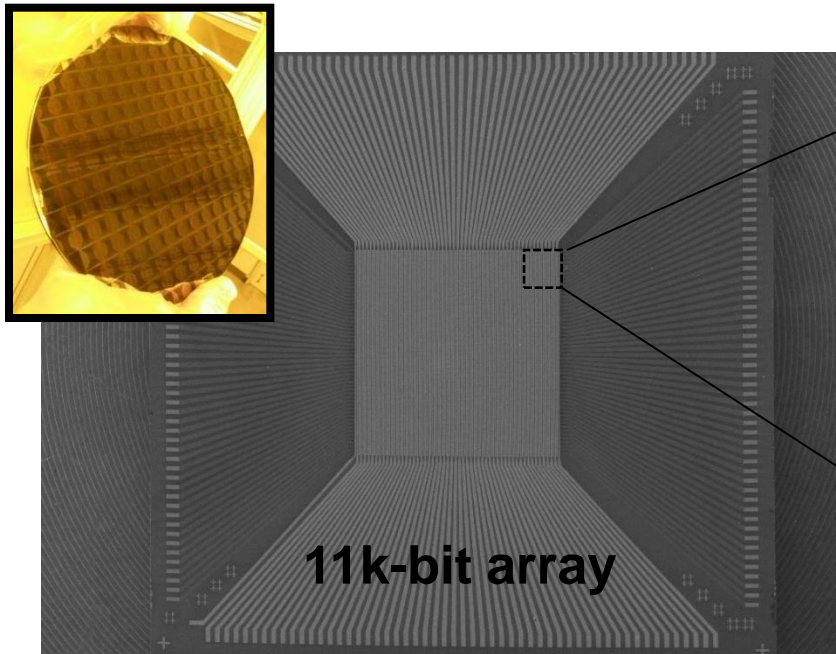
- ✓ VO<sub>2</sub> Insulator-Metal-Transition temperature ~ 67°C
- : Not practical for device application

# Mo/PCMO synapse device

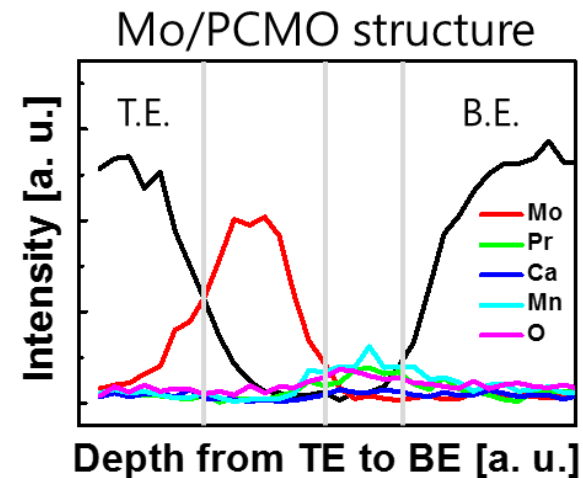


- ✓ Current level  $\propto$  Active area
- ✓ Field-induce oxygen migration & redox reaction at the interface  
: Control thickness of interface oxide and device resistivity

# Mo/PCMO synapse device



- ✓ Well fabricated without mixing (Mo/PCMO)
- ✓ Direct evidence of redox reaction at the interface

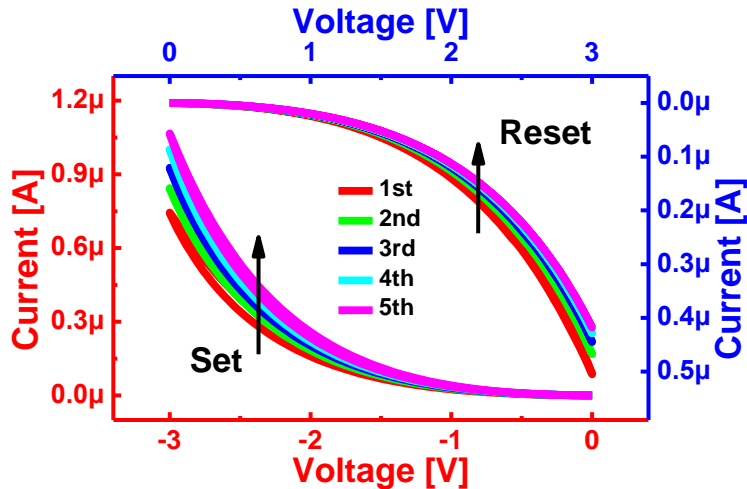




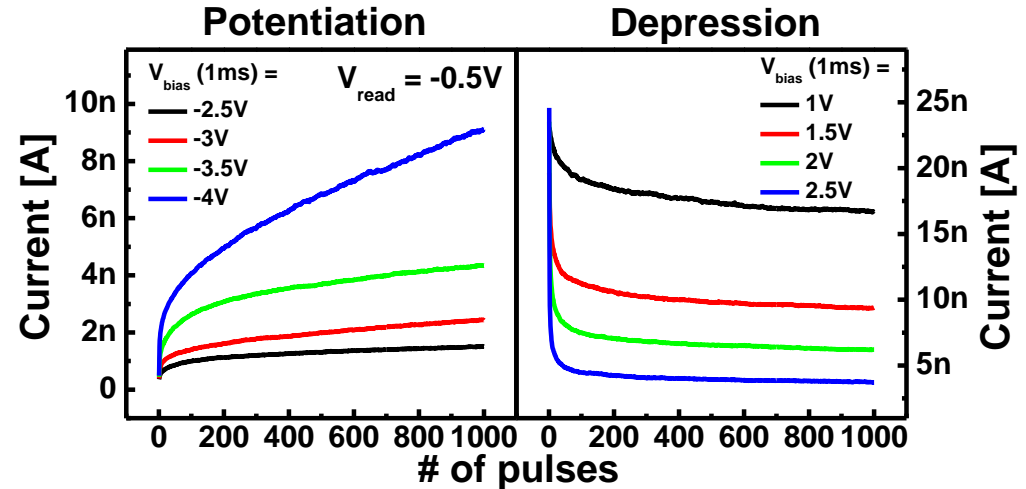
# Mo/PCMO synapse device



## ✓ DC property



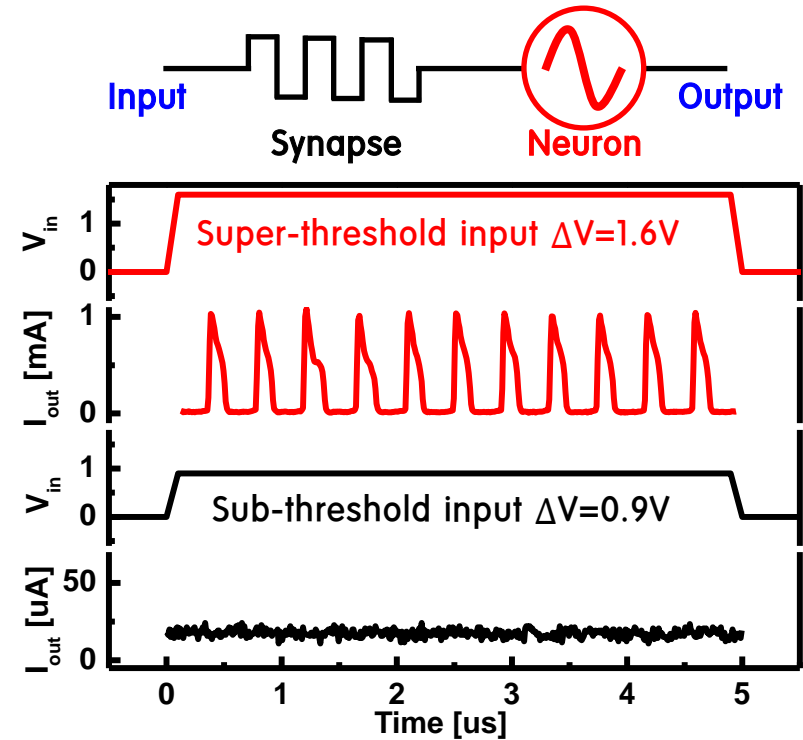
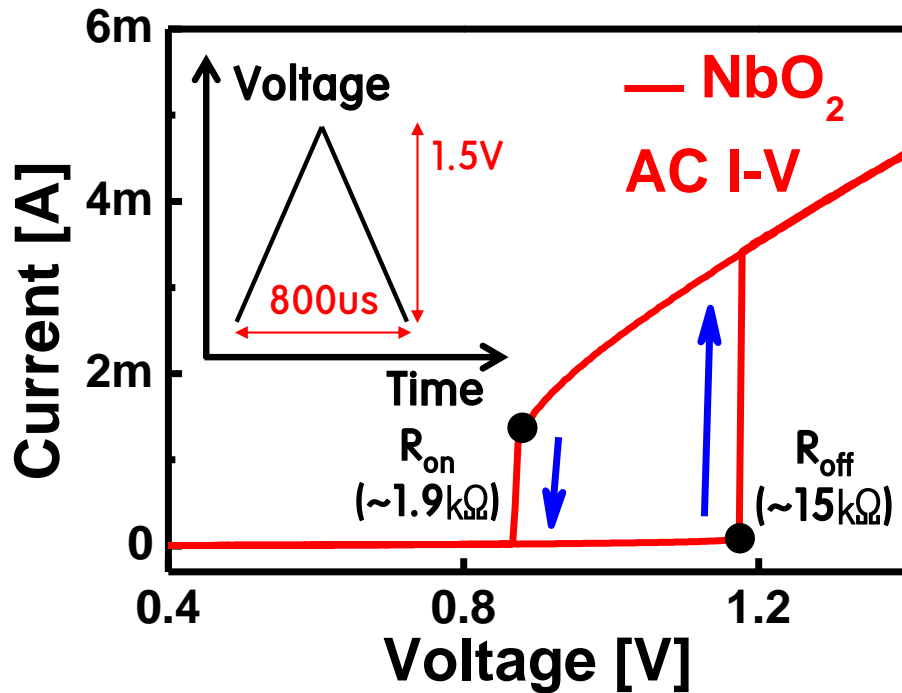
## ✓ AC property



- ✓ Potentiation (-V)
- : Increase conductance
- : Strengthen synaptic weight

- ✓ Depression (+V)
- : Decrease conductance
- : Weaken synaptic weight

# NbO<sub>2</sub> neuron device

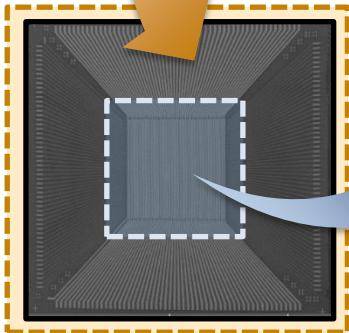
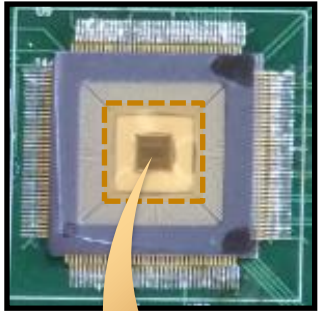


- ✓ NbO<sub>2</sub> based oscillation characteristics with synapse device
- ✓ Above critical threshold voltage → Oscillation behavior

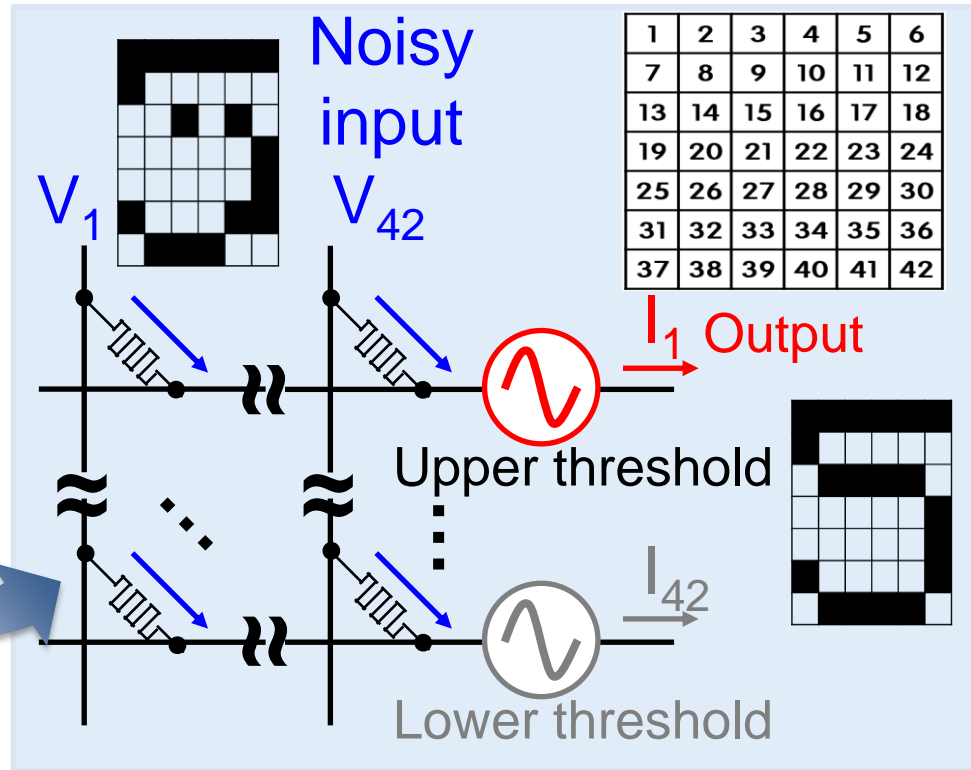
# Pattern recalling system



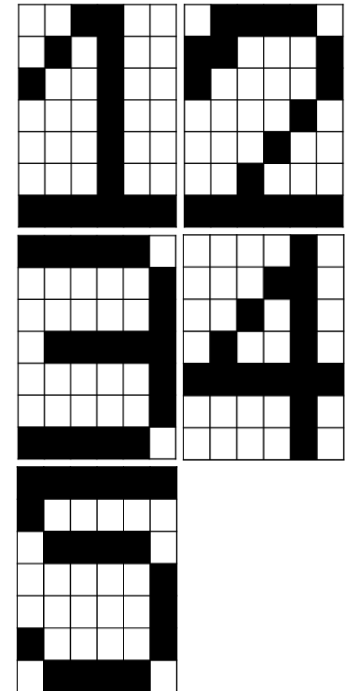
Packaging



SEM image



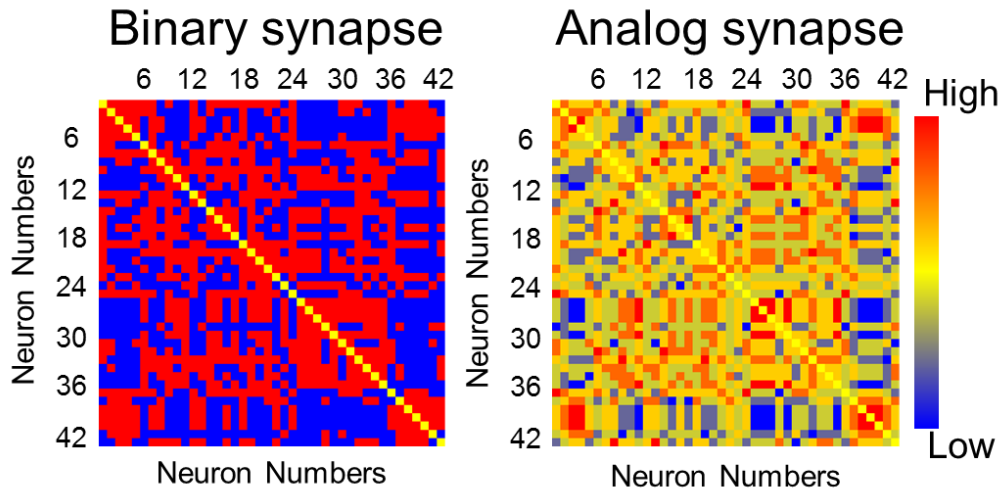
Standard Pattern



Operation of Hopfield network on 11k-bit array

- ✓ Neuromorphic application using 11k-bit array Mo/PCMO synapse device and NbO<sub>2</sub> IMT oscillator neuron devices

# Pattern recalling system



	Binary	Analog
Input		
Output	Error	

- ✓ Synapse weight mapping : **Binary and Analog synapse** based Hopfield neural network
- ✓ Analog synapse shows much better pattern recognition accuracy

# Summary



- ✓ **Mo/PCMO analog synapse device**
  - *Field-induced oxygen migration for switching of Mo/PCMO device*
  - *Fabrication of large scale synapse array device on 8-inch wafer*
  - *Evaluating synapse characteristics for an artificial synapse*
  
- ✓ **Hardware implementation of neuromorphic application**
  - *NbO<sub>2</sub> oscillator as an artificial neuron*
  - *Integrating Mo/PCMO synapse array and NbO<sub>2</sub> neuron*
  - *Improved pattern recalling accuracy using analog synapse*



---

# *Thank you for your attention...!*

*This research was supported by the Pioneer Research Center Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea funded by the Ministry of Science, ICT & Future Planning (2012-0009460)*

