Machine Learning and Artificial Neurons

- Checkers (Arthur Samuel, IBM, 1950s)
  - First successful machine learning program
  - Learned to play checkers better than Samuel himself
  - Beat 4<sup>th</sup> ranked player in the nation in 1961





- Zip code recognizer (Yann LeCun, AT&T Bell Labs, 1980s)
  - Used a neural network
  - Trained on handwritten zip codes from U.S. mail
  - Achieved the state of the art in digit recognition
  - Classification accuracy > 95%

10119134857268032-6414186 6359720299299722510046701 3084111591010615406103631 1064111030475262009979966 8412056708557131427935460 1019750187112995089970984 0109707597331972015519055 1075518255182814318010143 1787521655460354603546055 18235108303047520439401

80322-4129 80206 40004 4 37878 CE ,5502 75×16 35460 A

- **TD-Gammon** (Gerry Tesauro, IBM, 1990s)
  - Learned by playing over 1.5 million games against itself
  - Discovered novel board evaluation strategies
  - Used reinforcement learning and neural networks
  - Achieved parity with the top 5-10 players in the world
  - By far the best computer backgammon program



- ALVINN (Dean Pomerleau, CMU, 1990s)
  - Autonomous vehicle controlled by a neural network
  - Input: image of road, Output: steering wheel position
  - Neural network learns by "observing" a human driver
  - In 1995, steered a car semi-autonomously from coast to coast (all but 50 of 2,850 miles)





# **Neurons and Brains**



- Your brain has ~ 100 billion neurons
- Each neuron has ~ 10,000 synaptic connections to other neurons
- Hundreds of trillions of connections
- Learning induces changes in the connection strengths between neurons



### Hodgkin-Huxley Neuron Model



#### **Artificial Neurons: Binary Version**



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#### **Artificial Neurons: Binary Version**

 $1 \times 2.51 + 1 \times 0.13 + 0 \times -1.27 + ... + 1 \times 0.09 = 2.73$ 





