

Can AI Think Like the Brain?

MIT reveals how neural ensembles maintain clarity during decisions.

Swipe for insights →

parallel

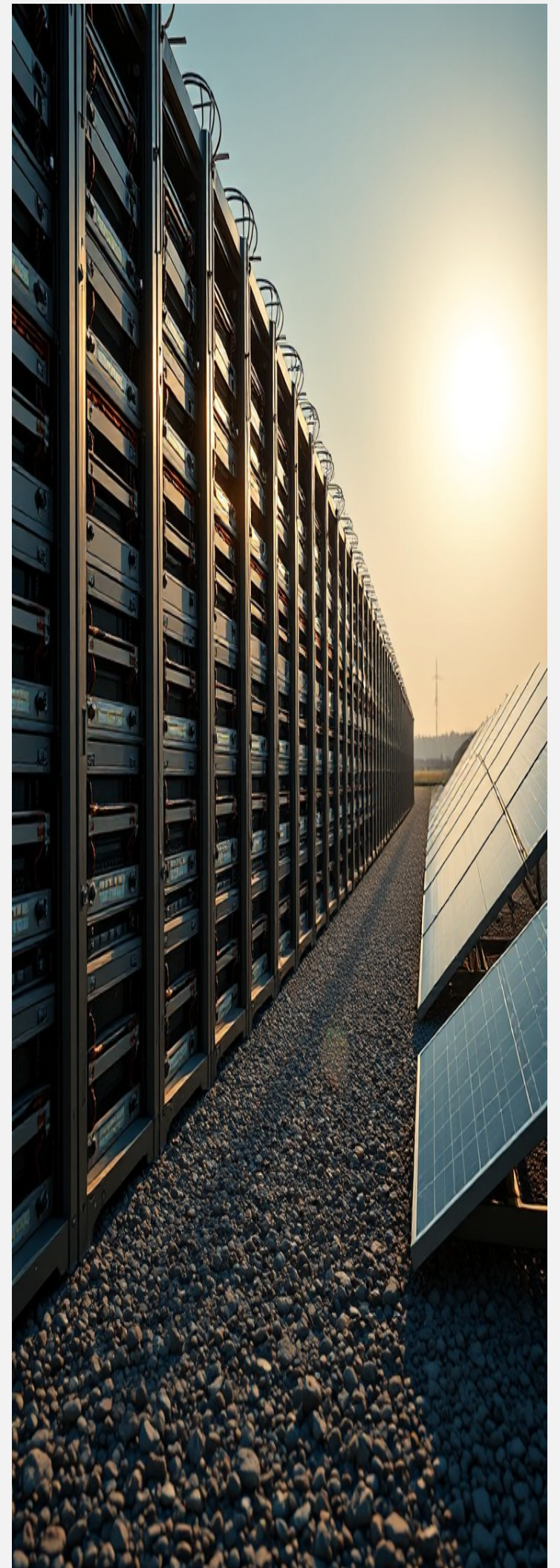
Neural Representation Alignment

Before a decision, the brain aligns neural ensembles representing options by presentation order; after choice, it reorganizes them by selection status.

This dynamic reconfiguration ensures that both chosen and unchosen options remain distinct and accessible. The brain doesn't fixate on one path—it maintains a clean, non-overlapping neural map of all possible choices throughout the process. This prevents interference and supports rapid downstream action routing.

Source: MIT News • Published September 22, 2026

<https://news.mit.edu/2026/how-brain-keeps-its-options-straight-at-decision-time-0922>



01

AI Can Mimic Neural Clarity

This could improve real-time grid optimization, where AI must juggle both current load and future demand without confusing one for another. The brain's ability to realign representations after choice offers a blueprint for AI systems that need to 'remember' unselected paths for learning and accountability.

02

Flexibility Over Fixation

For AI in energy, this implies that models should be designed for fluid reconfiguration—where individual nodes or processors can shift roles based on context. Such a system would be more resilient to changing conditions, like shifting renewable inputs or sudden demand spikes, without requiring full retraining.



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