

Where androids dream of electric sheep

Onboard AI for Nanosat Clusters



Company Overview _



Kiev

Tallinn

St. Petersburg

Tel Aviv

Neuromation is a leading AI platform company based in San Francisco with offices around the world

Platform-as-a-Service

Research and Development in DL/ML

Synthetic data



Recognized by as a leading tech pioneer by WIRED and

Company Overview



- Neuromation's vision is to democratize AI, making it more accessible, cost-effective, and easy-to-develop and deploy.
- The company has breadth of experience in applied AI across industries and is a pioneer in the use of synthetic data and deep learning for computer vision applications.
- The Neuromation Platform provides a single point of entry for computational resources, synthetic data generation, and AI talent. It is a suite of core horizontal technologies to democratize AI, making it more accessible, cost-effective, and easy-to-use.



Last Year: Our Proposal

Last year we proposed to conduct several research projects to perform scene understanding on satellite images. Many potential applications:



Agriculture



Earth Studies



Ecology and Urbanistics





Land Cover Classification

Land Cover Classification With Superpixels and Jaccard Index Post-Optimization,

A. Davydow, S.I. Nikolenko, Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops, (CVPR 2018 Workshops), 2018, pp. 280–284

Read the publication







Building Detection

Building Detection from Satellite Imagery Using

a Composite Loss Function, S. Golovanov, R. Kurbanov, A. Artamonov, A. Davydow, S.I. Nikolenko, Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops, (CVPR 2018 Workshops), 2018, pp. 229–232

Read the publication







Land Cover Classification

Land Cover Classification from Satellite Imagery With U-Net and Lovász-Softmax

Loss, A. Rakhlin, A. Davydow, S.I. Nikolenko, Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops, (CVPR 2018 Workshops), 2018, pp. 262–266

Read the publication









Our New Proposal: Plan

Onboard AI for Nanosat Cluster to reduce power and bandwidth requirements, combined with a blockchain-enabled registry for imagery to enable distributed access and cooperative analysis by global teams

- Improved hardware efficiency makes way for extra satellite payload.
- Allows distributed teams to conduct Earth Observation more efficiently.
- Reduce latency in real-time observation applications.
- Facilitate programmatic imagery analysis for multiple variables.



Our New Proposal: Plan



- Dedicated AI chip/neural processing unit analyze images . onboard satellite
- Dramatically reduces data transfer and power requirements

Hybrid blockchain to store results of all analyzed data

- Private chain hashes for each image created by dedicated onboard hardware
 - Regular posting of associated hashes to public blockchain

-Let's dive into the details...

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Edge Inference Being Widely Adopted



- Latest generation of smartphones include dedicated AI processors:
 - Apple: A11 Bionic chip, Huawei Kirin 970, Qualcomm Snapdragon 845
 - ARM Trillium AI Project (includes dedicated object detection hardware)
- Drones
 - Skydio R1 Drone with auto-follow uses Nvidia Jetson TX2 AI computing device
 - DJI drones process images using the Myriad 2 VPU from Intel with dedicated Neural Compute Engine.
- Self-driving cars all have onboard neural networks.
 - Tesla's planned Hardware 3 chipset will analyze 2,000 frames per second with full redundancy and failover a 10x improvement over previous Nvidia tech.



Benefits of Edge Inference



Improved power usage

Once trained, complete tasks with greater efficiency, far less power drain Reduced latency

Neural networks previously cloud or data center-resident leading to latency Improved security

Alleviate data privacy concerns. data not sent to cloud



Benefits of Satellite onboard Al





Dramatically reduce data transfer requirements: reduce size of communications hardware



Less mass and volume dedicated to power supply and communications creates other opportunities for hardware payload, such as improved optics



Faster reaction time to events



Reduced energy usage





DLT for Decentralized Registry of Satellite Imagery



Single registry of imagery and image analysis



Allow for cooperation in research and analysis by distributed global community



Blockchain Technical Solution



- Onboard hardware chip for creating cryptographic hashes (fingerprint of the system state) enabling trustless data security and a shared single source of truth.
- Private Blockchain with +10000Tps such as Exonum (Bitfury Group) for storage of detailed records and analysis
- Bulk hashes posted to Public blockchain, such as Ethereum, to account for limited transaction rate and scalability issues.

PRIVATE + PUBLIC = HYBRID BLOCKCHAIN



Exonum Framework

Exonum is an open source framework for private blockchains.

Exonum gives you a beneficial opportunity to build decentralized, secure and reliable applications. It is designed to allow you, your company or your government to build a tailor-cut private or permissioned Blockchain that solves your challenges and enjoys the unmatched security of the Bitcoin Blockchain.





Exonum Framework







Exonum Framework

Anchoring to Ethereum Blockchain.

Anchoring is the process of saving a fingerprint (a hash) of a system state to a public source. Anchoring removes the need to trust the administrator(s) of an Exonum Blockchain unconditionally; at the same time, it keeps sensitive data private. Exonum has built-in anchoring on the Ethereum Blockchain, making costs of an attack on any Exonum Blockchain comparable to that of the entire Ethereum network.









Benefits of DLT Technology for EO Applications

- Facilitate cooperation by distributed teams
- Create a trusted imagery registry
- Enable low cost distributed public alert systems and programmatic analysis of imagery
- Enable data access by educational, government or business users





Powerful Combination of Edge AI and DLT for EO

- This powerful combination has only recently been enabled by latest-gen commercial hardware
- Potential to dramatically improve efficiency and access
- Applications for government agencies as well as education and private sector



Market Opportunities



- Create open marketplace for private nanosat operators
- Stimulate commercial nanosat manufacturing and launch systems
- Lower bar for entry for business users of data
- Allow for coordinated activity between organizations to solve global problems wildlife protection, marine litter prevention and tracking, monitoring of illegal fishing activities, economic forecasting and many more.
- Opportunities for DL/ML development teams
 Rewards model based on algorithm competition (similar to Kaggle)

We look forward to working with interested parties.







Knowledge mining—a new era of distributed computing



neuromation.io

Our Team





Yashar Behzadi CEO



Andreas Wiese Chief Marketing Officer



Evan Katz Chief Revenue Officer



Sergey Nikolenko Chief Research Officer



Artyom Astafurov CTO



Maxym Prasolov Founder



Yuri Kundin COO

NEUROMATION



Evgeniya Zaslavskaya PR & Business Development (Russia & CIS)



Arthur McCallum VP Digital Economy



Fedor Savchenko VP of Research & Development



David Orban Adviser



Andrew Rabinovich Adviser