Daniel M. Maruyama

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Education

PhD Physics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Expected July 2015

Thesis Concentration: Systems Neuroscience

BA Mathematics and Physics, University of California, Berkeley, CA

Dec 2008

Thesis Concentration: Cosmology

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher, Zochowski Lab

May 2010 - Present

Data analysis: Determined the functional connectivity between neurons in order to quantify the stability and evolution of neuronal networks.

Impact

- Discovered the first known indication of network level learning in mice via my stability measure.
- Through my techniques, network scale effect of theta oscillations were captured, suggesting the mechanism by which the brain encourages memory formation.

Method Development

- Created a new high-speed time series method for assessing functional connectivity between neurons. Highly accurate and $\sim 10^4$ times more efficient.
- Overhauled my group's clustering approach, increasing signal detection by 10x.
- Suggested and then implemented a novel, effective framework to study network dynamics.
- Devised high dimensional data visualization techniques.

Modeling: Simulated the effect of astrocytes on neuronal networks, which led to creation of the first astrocytic network model capable of matching biological firing properties.

Undergraduate Researcher, Smoot Lab October 2006-May 2008, Sept 2008-July 2009 Working under Nobel laureate George Smoot, searched for cosmic strings and dark matter. Led to the first limits on string existence using gravitational lensing.

- Simulated the detection signature for cosmic strings.
- Calculated galaxy shear to improve gravitational lensing dark matter detection.

Internships

Summer Intern, 3M, 3M Center Maplewood MN

Jun-Aug 2008

Team project in R&D aimed at developing ultra sensitive bacteria detectors utilizing surface plasmon resonance on gold nanostructures. Set up lab optics, measured intensities and spectra, analyzed performance, tested bacteria.

Summer Intern, Algae Fuel, Concord CA, Unpaid Internship Prototyped a commercial algae bioreactor.

May-July 2009

Additional Information

Personal Website: http://dannymaruyama.com

Programming experience: MATLAB, Python, R, C++, IDL, UNIX

Publications, presentations, and teaching experience: available upon request.