Jiazhen Hong

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PROFILE

- Lead, develop, implement, and publish research projects in brain & time-series signals, imaging, and machine learning.
- Build real-time brain-computer interfaces (BCI) system (e.g. Mind speller) with hardware-software synchronization.
- Execute large-scale, distributed data processing and model training/testing on CUDA-based GPU servers.
- Advanced skills in Signal Processing (Image, Bio-signal), Self-supervised Learning, Coding and GitHub collaboration.

EDUCATION

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA Ph.D. candidate

01/2020 - Present

Computer Engineering, G.P.A.: 3.9/4.0

Thesis Topic: Artificial Intelligence for Time-Series Signal Processing in Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCIs)

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA M.Sc.

09/2017 - 01/2019

Electrical Engineering, G.P.A.: 3.9/4.0

Jimei & Chung Yuan Christian University, China B.Sc. (Double Degree)

09/2012 - 06/2016

Communication Engineering, G.P.A.: 3.5/4.0

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Python (PyTorch, TensorFlow, scikit-learn, Qt5, NumPy, Pandas)
- MATLAB® (EEGLAB, Digital Signal Processing toolbox, object-oriented programming)
- Hardware (Brain Products, actiCAP, Raspberry Pi, Arduino, VEX-brain)
- Deep learning models (Mamba, Swim Transformer, TimSformer, ResNet, Encoder-Decoder, CNN, LSTM)
- Tools (Git version control, GitHub, Latex, Overleaf, VSCode, Anaconda, SSH, Django)

WORKING EXPERIENCE

EMOTIV, San Francisco, CA, USA Research Intern

10/2024 - Present

- Built an encoder-decoder Self-supervised Learning framework for electroencephalography (EEG) signal reconstruction.
- Developed a Mamba-based foundation model for long sequency time-series signals modeling.

Integrated Systems & Neuroimaging Lab, Rutgers University Teaching/Research Assistant Research

01/2020 - Present

- As principal investigator to lead ChatBCI project, an LLM-Driven mind-controlled speller system for BCI.
- Designed a fast P300 speller BCI incorporating Generative AI-based word prediction.
- Built a Transformer-based model to enhance character recognition rates in the P300 speller system.
- Developed topographic image representation for video-like EEG signals using TimeSformer.
- Responsible for Integrated Systems & Neuroimaging EEG data collection and for exploring the Time Bisection Task project.
- · Created a channel selection method to improve the speed and efficiency of BCI systems for motor imagery tasks.
- Explored a geometric approach to optimize the k-means algorithm, addressing issues with local minima.

Teaching

- · Digital Signal Processing.
- · Linear Systems and Signals.

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rutgers University Faculty Lecturer

05/2022 - 07/2022

As a faculty lecturer, responsible for teaching a class of 30-40 students in Linear Systems and Signals.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Conference Reviewer

International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)

2023 – 2024 2024

• IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI)

• IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP)

2024

University Services

• Teaching Printer Circuit Board Assembly and soldering for Rutgers ECE department

2023

Membershp

- · IEEE Young Professionals
- IEEE Singal Processing Society Membership
- IEEE Membership
- IEEE Brain Community

PUBLICATIONS

(Accepted/Published)

- J. Hong, F. Shamsi, and L. Najafizadeh, "A Deep Learning Framework Based on Dynamic Channel Selection for Early Classification of Left and Right Hand Motor Imagery Tasks," Proc. of 44th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC'22), Glasgow, Scotland, July 2022, pp. 3550-3553
- J. Hong, L. Najafizadeh, "P3T: A Transformer Model for Enhancing Character Recognition Rates in P300 Speller Systems," 58th Annual Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers
- J. Hong and L. Najafizadeh, "TopoEEG: a TimeSformer-Based Topographic Image Representation Method for Early Single-Trial Detection of P300," 22nd IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI 2025)

(Under review)

- J. Hong, G. Mackellar, S. Ghane, "EEGM2: An Efficient Mamba-2-Based Self-Supervised Framework for Long-Sequence EEG Modeling" (Conference)
- J. Hong, P. Rao, W. Wang, S. Chen, and L. Najafizadeh, "ChatBCI4ALS: A High-Performance, LLM-Driven Intent-Based BCI Communication System for Individuals with ALS" (Conference)
- J. Hong, W. Qian, Y. Chen, and Y. Zhang, "A geometric approach to k-means," submitted (Journal)
- J. Hong, W. Wang, and L. Najafizadeh, "ChatBCI: A P300 Speller BCI Leveraging Large Language Models for Improved Sentence Composition in Realistic Scenarios," in preparation (Journal)

(In Preparation)

 - J. Hong, W. Wang, S. Haghani, and L. Najafizadeh, "Subject-specific Channel Selection Based on Davies- Bouldin Index for EEG Motor Imagery Classification," in preparation (Journal)

(Posters)

- J. Hong, L. Najafizadeh, "P3T: A Transformer Model for Enhancing Character Recognition Rates in P300 Speller Systems":
 - 58th Annual Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers (2024).
- J. Hong, W. Wang and L. Najafizadeh, "ChatBCI: A Fast P300 Speller BCI Incorporating Generative Al- Based Word Prediction":
 - IEEE Brain Discovery and Neurotechnology Workshop (2024).
 - The 10th Annual Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium (2024).
 - Rutgers ECE Research Day (2024).
- J. Hong, F. Shamsi, and L. Najafizadeh, "A Deep Learning Framework Based on Dynamic Channel Selection"
 - The 8th Annual Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium (2022).
 - · Rutgers ECE Research Day (2022, 2023).

AWARDS

- Trainee Travel Award of 2024-2025 Rutgers Brain Health Institute, Cognitive and Sensory Neuroscience Focus Area
- Travel Award of 2024 IEEE Brain Discovery & Neurotechnology Workshop
- Best Teaching Assistant Award for Fall 2023, Rutgers ECE

03/2025 09/2024

05/2024