

# Surya Ganguli

<b>Address</b>	Department of Applied Physics, Stanford University 318 Campus Drive Stanford, CA 94305-5447 sganguli@stanford.edu <a href="http://ganguli-gang.stanford.edu/~surya.html">http://ganguli-gang.stanford.edu/~surya.html</a>
<b>Biographic Data</b>	Born in Kolkata, India. Currently US citizen.
<b>Education</b>	<b>University of California Berkeley</b> Berkeley, CA Ph.D. Theoretical Physics, October 2004. Thesis: "Geometry from Algebra: The Holographic Emergence of Spacetime in String Theory" M.A. Mathematics, June 2004. M.A. Physics, December 2000. <b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> Cambridge, MA M.Eng. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, May 1998. B.S. Physics, May 1998. B.S. Mathematics, May 1998. B.S. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, May 1998. <b>University High School</b> Irvine, CA Graduated first in a class of 470 students at age 16, May 1993.
<b>Research Positions</b>	<b>Stanford University</b> Stanford, CA <i>Department of Applied Physics</i> Jan 12 to present <i>Department of Neurobiology, with courtesy</i> <i>Department of Electrical Engineering, with courtesy</i> Assistant Professor. <b>University of California, San Francisco</b> San Francisco, CA <i>Sloan-Swartz Center for Theoretical Neurobiology</i> Sept 04 to Dec 11 Postdoctoral fellow. <b>Lawrence Berkeley National Lab</b> Berkeley, CA <i>Theory Group</i> Sept 02 to Sept 04 Graduate student. Conducted string theory research; thesis advisor: Prof. Petr Horava. <b>MIT Department of Physics</b> Cambridge, MA <i>Center for Theoretical Physics</i> January 97 to June 98 Studied the Wigner-Weyl representation of quantum mechanics. Discovered new admissibility conditions satisfied by all Wigner distributions. Also formulated and implemented simulations of quantum dynamics directly in phase space. <b>Xerox Palo Alto Research Center</b> Palo Alto, CA <i>Dynamics of Computation Group</i> May 96 to August 96 Studied the application of quantum computation to NP-complete constraint satisfaction problems. Developed an understanding of the quantum interference process between computational paths required to successfully find solutions. <b>MIT Department of Physics</b> Cambridge, MA <i>Center for Space Research</i> January 96 to May 96 Implemented parallel algorithms for use in N-body simulations of dark matter evolution. Involved parallel programming on an IBM Sp2 Machine in a combination of High Performance Fortran and the Message Passing Interface. <b>Xerox Palo Alto Research Center</b> Palo Alto, CA <i>Information Systems and Technologies Laboratory</i> May 95 to August 95

Developed algorithms for unsupervised speaker segmentation of audio streams, using Hidden Markov Models automatically initialized via hierarchical clustering of speech.

**MIT Laboratory for Computer Science**

Cambridge, MA

*Information Mechanics Group*

*May 94 to August 94*

Developed and implemented algorithms for image processing and machine vision on a cellular automata machine.

**Pubs in prep.**

A. Saxe, J. McClelland, S. Ganguli, A mathematical theory of semantic development.

P. Gao, E. Trautmann, B. Yu, G. Santhanam, S. Ryu, K. Shenoy and S. Ganguli, A theory of neural dimensionality, dynamics and measurement.

K. Hardcastle, N. Maheswaranathan, S. Ganguli, L. Giocomo, Adaptive heterogeneity in the neural code for navigation in medial entorhinal cortex.

N. Maheswaranathan, S. Baccus, S. Ganguli, Inferring hidden structure in multilayered neural circuits.

M. Raghu, B. Poole, J. Kleinberg, S. Ganguli, J. Sohl-Dickstein, On the expressive power of deep neural networks, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.05336>.

**Pubs in review**

T.D. Vu, G.Q. Zhao, S. Lahiri, A. Suvrathan, H. Lee, S. Ganguli, C.J. Shatz, J.L. Raymond, Understanding both enhanced and impaired learning with enhanced plasticity: a saturation hypothesis, under review.

S. Lahiri and S. Ganguli, A universal tradeoff between energy speed and accuracy in physical communication, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.07758>, under review.

S. Lahiri and S. Ganguli, Random projections of random manifolds, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.04331>, under review.

**Publications**

L. McIntosh, N. Maheswaranathan, S. Ganguli, S. Baccus, Deep learning models of the retinal response to natural scenes, Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS) 2016.

B. Poole, S. Lahiri, M. Raghu, J. Sohl-Dickstein, and S. Ganguli, Exponential expressivity in deep neural networks through transient chaos, Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS) 2016.

M. Advani and S. Ganguli, An equivalence between high dimensional Bayes optimal inference and M-estimation, Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS) 2016.

M. Advani and S. Ganguli, Statistical mechanics of optimal convex inference in high dimensions, Physical Review X, 6, 031034, 2016.

J. Leong, J. Esch, B. Poole, S. Ganguli, T. Clandinin, Direction selectivity in Drosophila emerges from preferred-direction enhancement and null-direction suppression, Journal of Neuroscience (2016) 36(31): 8078-8092.

C. Piech, J. Spencer, J. Huang, S. Ganguli, M. Sahami, L. Guibas, J. Sohl-Dickstein, Deep knowledge tracing, Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS) 2015, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1506.05908>

K. Bouchard, S. Ganguli, and M. Brainard, Role of the site of synaptic competition and the balance of learning forces for Hebbian encoding of probabilistic Markov sequences (2015), Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience.

J. Sohl-Dickstein, N. Maheswaranathan, E. Weiss, S. Ganguli, Deep unsupervised learning using non-equilibrium thermodynamics, International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2015.

P. Gao and S. Ganguli, On simplicity and complexity in the brave new world of large-scale neuroscience, Current Opinion in Neurobiology (2015) 32:148-55.

K. Hardcastle, S. Ganguli, L. Giocomo, Environmental boundaries as an error correction mechanism for grid cells, Neuron, (2015) 86(3):827-39.

- Y. Dauphin, R. Pascanu, C. Gulcehre, K. Cho, S. Ganguli, Y. Bengio, Identifying and attacking the saddle point problem in high-dimensional non-convex optimization, Neural Information Processing Systems, 2014.
- J. Sohl-Dickstein, B. Poole, and S. Ganguli, Fast large scale optimization by unifying stochastic gradient and quasi-Newton methods, International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2014.
- A. Saxe, J. McClelland, S. Ganguli, Exact solutions to the nonlinear dynamics of learning in deep neural networks, International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2014.
- N. Giret, J. Kornfeld, S. Ganguli, R. Hahnloser. Evidence for a causal inverse model in an avian cortico-basal ganglia circuit, PNAS, 2014
- B. Poole, J. Sohl-Dickstein, and S. Ganguli, Analyzing noise in auto-encoders and deep networks, Neural Information Processing Systems Workshop on Deep Learning, 2013.
- S. Lahiri, and S. Ganguli, A memory frontier for complex synapses, Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), 2014. (\*Winner of the NIPS 2014 Outstanding paper award, given to 3 papers out of 1420 submissions.)
- A. Saxe, J. McClelland, S. Ganguli, Learning hierarchical category structure in deep neural networks, In M. Knauff, M. Paulen, N. Sebanz, and I. Wachsmuth (Eds.), Proc. of the 35th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, pp. 1271-1276, 2013.
- J. Kao, P. Nuyujukian, S. Stavisky, S. Ryu, S. Ganguli, K.V. Shenoy, Investigating the role of firing-rate normalization and dimensionality reduction on brain-machine interface robustness. Proc. of the 35th Annual International Conference IEEE EMBS. Osaka, Japan: 293-298.
- A. Hanuschkin, S. Ganguli, R.H.R. Hahnloser, A Hebbian learning rule gives rise to mirror neurons and links them to control theoretic inverse models, Frontiers in Neural Circuits (2013), 7, 00106.
- M. Advani, S. Lahiri and S. Ganguli, Statistical mechanics of complex neural systems and high dimensional data, Journal of Statistical Mechanics Theory and Experiment (2013), P03014.
- R. Hahnloser and S. Ganguli, Vocal learning with inverse models, book chapter in *Principles of Neural Coding*, (2013) CRC press.
- S. Kim\*, S. Ganguli\* and L. Frank, Spatial Information Outflow from the Hippocampal Circuit: Distributed Spatial Coding and Phase Precession in the Subiculum, Journal of Neuroscience (2012) 32(34):11539-58. (\*equal author)
- S. Ganguli and H. Sompolinsky, Compressed sensing, sparsity and dimensionality in neuronal information processing and data analysis, Ann. Rev. of Neuroscience, (2012) 35:485-508
- S. Ganguli and H. Sompolinsky, Short-term memory in neuronal networks through dynamical compressed sensing, Neural Information Processing Systems (2010).
- S. Ganguli and H. Sompolinsky, Statistical Mechanics of Compressed Sensing, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2010) 104:188701.
- S. Ganguli and P. Latham, Feedforward to the past: the relation between neuronal connectivity, amplification, and short-term memory, Neuron (2009) 61:499-501. (Preview)
- S. Ganguli, B. Huh, H. Sompolinsky, Memory Traces in Dynamical Systems, PNAS (2008) 105:18970-75.
- S. Ganguli, J. Bisley, J. Roitman, M. Shadlen, M. Goldberg and K. Miller, One Dimensional Dynamics of Attention and Decision Making in LIP, Neuron (2008) 58:15-25.
- K. Lau, S. Ganguli and C. Tang, Function Constrains Network Architecture and Dynamics: A Case Study on the Yeast Cell Cycle Network, Phys. Rev. E75 (2007) 051907. (arxiv.org/abs/q-bio/0610025).

**Selected  
Conference  
Abstracts**

- S. Ganguli, A. Ndirango and P. Horava, Boundary Scattering in 1+1 Dimensions as an Aharanov-Bohm Effect, (arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0501233).
- J. Brown, S. Ganguli, O. Ganor, C. Helfgott, E10 Orbifolds, JHEP 06 (2005) 057, (arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0409037).
- S. Ganguli, O. Ganor and J. Gill, Twisted Six Dimensional Gauge Theories, Matrix Models and Integrable Systems, JHEP 0409 (2004) 014, (arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0311042).
- E.K. Boyda, S. Ganguli, P. Horava and U. Varadarajan, Holographic Protection of Chronology in Universes of the Godel Type, Phys. Rev. D67 (2003) 106003, (hep-th/0212087).
- Inferring hidden structure in multi-layered retinal circuits, N. Maheswaranathan, S. Baccus, and S. Ganguli, cosyne, 2016.
- A universal tradeoff between energy, speed and precision in neural communication, S. Lahiri, J. Sohl-Dickstein, and S. Ganguli, cosyne, 2016.
- Understanding principles of encoding navigationally-relevant variables in entorhinal cortex, K. Hardcastle, N. Maheswaranathan, S. Ganguli, L. Giocomo, cosyne, 2016.
- Optimal synaptic strategies for different timescales of memory, S. Lahiri and S. Ganguli, cosyne, 2016, selected for a talk.
- Deep convolutional neural network models of the retinal response to natural scenes, L. McIntosh, N. Maheswaranathan, A. Nayebi, S. Ganguli, and S. Baccus, cosyne, 2016.
- Constraining the mechanisms of direction selectivity in a fruit fly elementary motion detector, J. Leong, B. Poole, S. Ganguli, and T. Clandinin, cosyne, 2015.
- Robust non-rigid alignment of volumetric calcium imaging data, B. Poole, L. Grose, M. Broxton, K. Deisseroth, and S. Ganguli, cosyne, 2015.
- Environmental boundaries as an error correction mechanism for grid cells, K. Hardcastle, S. Ganguli, and L. Giocomo, cosyne, 2015.
- Dimensionality, coding and dynamics of single-trial neural data, P. Gao and S. Ganguli, cosyne, 2015.
- K. Hardcastle, S. Ganguli, L. Giocomo, Error accumulation and landmark-based error correction in grid cells, Society for Neuroscience, 2014.
- P. Gao, E. Trautmann, B. Yu, G. Santhanam, S. Ryu, K. Shenoy and S. Ganguli, A theory of neural dimensionality and measurement, cosyne 2014, selected for a talk.
- T.D. Nguyen-Vu, G.Q. Zhao, S. Lahiri, A. Suvrathan, H.M. Lee, S. Ganguli, C.J. Shatz, J.L. Raymond, Modeling enhanced and impaired learning with enhanced plasticity, cosyne 2014, selected for a talk, and chosen as the number one ranked abstract out of 550 submissions.
- M. Advani and S. Ganguli, Tractable, optimal high dimensional Bayesian inference, cosyne 2014.
- J. Sohl-Dickstein, N. Maheswaranathan, B. Poole, S. Ganguli, Efficient fitting of large-scale neural models, cosyne 2014.
- B. Poole, J. Sohl-Dickstein, S. Ganguli, Effects of noise injection in artificial neural networks, cosyne 2014.
- R.H.R. Hahnloser, N. Giret, J. Kornfeld, and S. Ganguli, Evidence for a causal inverse model in an avian song learning circuit, cosyne 2013, selected for a talk.
- A. Hanuschkin, S. Ganguli, R.H.R. Hahnloser, Closing the loop; inverse-model learning with a nonlinear avian syrinx and sparse auditory coding, cosyne 2013.
- K.B. Bouchard, S. Ganguli, M.S. Brainard, Hebbian mechanisms underlying the learning of Markovian sequence probabilities, cosyne 2013.

A. Saxe, J. McClelland, S. Ganguli, A mathematical theory of semantic development, cosyne 2013.

P. Gao, E. Trautmann, B. Yu, G. Santhanam, S. Ryu, K. Shenoy, and S. Ganguli, Dimensionality, dynamics, and correlations in the motor cortical substrate for reaching, cosyne 2013.

S. Lahiri and S. Ganguli, A general theory of learning and memory with complex synapses, cosyne 2013.

## Talks

2017 Feb Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Symposium.  
2017 Feb Les-Houches School on Statistical physics, learning, inference and networks, France.  
2017 Feb Invited Speaker, Computational and Systems Neuroscience Conference, Salt Lake City.  
2017 Jan IBRO-Simons Computational Neuroscience Imbizo, Cape Town, South Africa.  
2017 Jan Statistical mechanics meeting, Berkeley.  
2017 Jan Exploring the interface of statistical mechanics and machine learning, Berkeley.  
2016 Dec Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference, NIPS Workshop, Barcelona.  
2016 Dec Workshop on Non-convex Optimization for Machine Learning, NIPS Workshop, Barcelona.  
2016 Dec Statistical Neural Data Analysis, NIPS Workshop, Barcelona.  
2016 Nov Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics, Colloquium, Stanford.  
2016 Oct Computational Neuroscience Talk, UCSD.  
2016 Oct Neuroscience Colloquium, UCSD.  
2016 Sep NSF/Kavli Meeting: Coordinating Global Brain Projects, Rockefeller, NY.  
2016 Sep Group for Neural Theory, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris.  
2016 Aug Lecturer, Methods for Computational Neuroscience, Woods Hole, MA.  
2016 Aug CIFAR Deep Learning Summer School, Montreal.  
2016 Aug Swartz Meeting in Computational Neuroscience, Caltech  
2016 Jul School on Mining and Modeling of Neuroscience Data, Berkeley.  
2016 Jun Algorithms for modern massive datasets (MMDS), workshop, Berkeley.  
2016 Jun Office of Naval Research, Computation Neuroscience Workshop, Amherst.  
2016 Jun Deep learning: theory algorithms, and applications, workshop, MIT.  
2016 May McGovern Institute Annual Symposium, MIT.  
2016 Mar Theoretical physics and networks of real neurons, March APS Meeting, Baltimore.  
2016 Mar Neuro-Inspired Computational Elements, Workshop, Berkeley.  
2016 Mar Center for Mind Brain and Computation Symposium, Stanford.  
2016 Feb Coding correlations and the dimensionality of neural activity, Cosyne workshop.  
2016 Feb Information theory and its applications, Workshop, La Jolla, CA.  
2016 Jan Physics informed machine learning, Santa Fe, NM.  
2015 Dec Neural circuits, from structure to computation, Workshop, Jerusalem.  
2015 Dec Statistical methods for understanding neural systems, NIPS Workshop, Montreal.  
2015 Dec Minds Brains and Machines, NIPS Symposium, Montreal.  
2015 Nov Physics Colloquium, Sonoma State University, CA.  
2015 Nov Machine Learning Seminar, UCI, Irvine, CA.  
2015 Oct Condensed Matter Seminar, UC Santa Cruz.  
2015 Oct Theory of Neural Computation, Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, Berkeley.  
2015 Oct Physics Colloquium, UC Berkeley.  
2015 Sep Plenary Talk, Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience, Seattle, WA.  
2015 Sep Simons Global Collaboration on the Brain Workshop, New York, NY.  
2015 Aug Lecturer, Minds Brains and Machines, Woods Hole, MA.  
2015 Aug Lecturer, Methods for Computational Neuroscience, Woods Hole, MA.  
2015 Jul Sensing, information and decision at the cellular level, ICTP Workshop, Trieste, Italy  
2015 Jul Workshop on Sensing and Analysis of High-Dimensional Data, Duke University.  
2015 May Computation and Neural Systems Seminar, Caltech.  
2015 May NSF Symposium on Physics, Mathematics and Neuroscience of Cortical Function.

2015 Apr IBM Brain Inspired Computing Workshop, New York.  
 2015 Apr Austin Conference on Learning and Memory, UT Austin.  
 2015 Apr Simons Foundation Conference on Theory and Biology, New York.  
 2015 Apr Institute for Neural Computation Seminar, UCSD.  
 2015 Mar SIAM Computational Science and Engineering Conference.  
 2015 Mar Physics Colloquium, MIT.  
 2015 Feb Theoretical Neuroscience Seminar, Columbia University.  
 2015 Feb Center for Neural Science, New York University.  
 2014 Dec NIPS Workshop, Large scale optical physiology.  
 2014 Dec NIPS Workshop, Deep Learning and Representation Learning.  
 2014 Dec CIFAR, Neural Computation and Adaptive Perception Workshop, Montreal.  
 2014 Nov Learning Lunch, Baidu.  
 2014 Oct Center for Physics and Biology, Rockefeller University.  
 2014 Oct Biophysics Theory Seminar, Princeton University.  
 2014 Sep Brain Criticality and Networks Workshop, Hughes Research Lab.  
 2014 Aug Lecturer, Methods for Computational Neuroscience, Woods Hole, MA.  
 2014 Jul Workshop on Deep Learning and the Brain, Cognitive Science Society, Quebec City.  
 2014 Jul Bernstein Lecture, Center for Computational Neuroscience, Tuebingen.  
 2014 Jul Group for Neural Theory, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris.  
 2014 Jul Bernstein workshop, Population Codes: From Data Analysis to Mechanisms, Munich.  
 2014 Jun Areadne Workshop on Neural Encoding and Decoding of Ensembles, Santorini.  
 2014 Jun Neural Population Dynamics Underlying Sensorimotor Integration, Janelia Farm.  
 2014 May NII-Shonan Meeting, Deep Learning: Theory, Algorithms and Applications, Tokyo.  
 2014 May Quantitative Theories of Learning, Memory and Prediction Workshop, Arlington, VA.  
 2014 Apr Physics Colloquium, Stanford University.  
 2014 Mar Scalable Models for High Dimensional Neural Data, Cosyne Workshop.  
 2014 Feb Electrical and Computer Engineering Colloquium, Carnegie Mellon University.  
 2014 Jan Computer Science Department, University of Montreal.  
 2014 Jan Information Theory Forum, Stanford University.  
 2013 Dec NIPS Workshop: High dimensional statistical inference in the brain.  
 2013 Dec Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS) Main Meeting.  
 2013 Nov Swiss Computational Neuroscience Colloquium Series, Zurich.  
 2013 Nov Neuroscience Center Seminar, University of Geneva.  
 2013 Nov Statistics Colloquium, University of Chicago.  
 2013 Oct Computational Neuroscience Colloquium Series, University of Waterloo.  
 2013 Oct Stanford Bio-X 10th Anniversary.  
 2013 Oct Stanford Neuroscience Retreat.  
 2013 Aug Lecturer, Methods for Computational Neuroscience, Woods Hole, MA.  
 2013 Jul Brain Initiative Advisory Committee Meeting, Boston, MA.  
 2013 Jun Dynamics of cortical and cortical-subcortical circuits, Janelia Farm.  
 2013 May Temporal Dynamics of Learning, Janelia Farm.  
 2013 May Sensory Systems and Sensory Coding Workshop, Mathematical Biosciences Institute.  
 2013 Mar Networking, Communication, and DSP Seminar, Berkeley.  
 2013 Feb Interface of Brain and Machine Symposium, Biophysical Society Meeting, Philadelphia.  
 2012 Oct Challenges in Mathematical Neuroscience Workshop, MBI, Ohio.  
 2012 Sep Lecturer, Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience School, Goettingen.  
 2012 Jul Colloquium, Hughes Research Lab, Malibu, CA.  
 2012 Apr Lecturer, Random Matrix Theory for Complex Systems Course, Okinawa, Japan.  
 2012 Mar Neuroscience of Music Workshop, Ascona, Switzerland.  
 2012 Mar Neuroscience Seminar, University of Washington.  
 2012 Mar Center for Mind Brain and Computation Seminar, Stanford University.

2012 Mar Electrical Engineering Colloquium, Rice University.  
 2012 Feb Computational Neuroscience Seminar, Janelia Farm.  
 2012 Jan Quantitative Biology Seminar, Stanford University.  
 2011 Dec NSF Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Workshop.  
 2011 Sep Brains, Minds and Models Workshop, CUNY Institute for Graduate Studies.  
 2011 Sep Physics Colloquium, UC Merced.  
 2011 Sep Dept. of Electrical Engineering Seminar, Georgia Tech.  
 2011 Sep Physics Colloquium, Emory University.  
 2011 Jul International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics.  
 2011 Jul Telluride Neuromorphic Cognition and Engineering Workshop.  
 2011 Jun Collective Behavior in Biological Systems, Aspen Center for Theoretical Physics.  
 2011 May Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Seminar, Goettingen.  
 2011 May Department of Mathematics Seminar, Univ. of Arizona.  
 2011 Apr Salk Institute for Biological Sciences.  
 2011 Apr Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Seminar, MIT.  
 2011 Mar Swissnex Public Lecture, San Francisco.  
 2011 Mar Cosyne Workshop: The role of dimensionality and sparsity in neuronal processing.  
 2011 Feb Computational and Systems Neuroscience Conference, Main Meeting, Salt Lake City.  
 2011 Feb Department of Applied Physics Seminar, Stanford University.  
 2011 Feb Center for Brain Science Seminar, Harvard University.  
 2011 Feb Center for Mind, Brain and Computation Seminar, Stanford University.  
 2011 Jan Institute for Neuroinformatics Seminar, ETH Zurich.  
 2010 Nov Biological Modeling Seminar, Stanford University.  
 2010 Nov Statistics Seminar, Columbia University.  
 2010 Oct Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, UCSB.  
 2010 May Neurotheory and Neuroengineering Seminar, Janelia Farm.  
 2010 Apr Networks Seminar, Dept. of Mathematics, University of Houston.  
 2010 Apr Neurobiology and Anatomy Department Seminar, UT Houston.  
 2010 Mar Applied Mathematics Seminar, Harvard University.  
 2010 Mar Cosyne Workshop, Persistent activity: mechanisms and functional roles.  
 2009 Nov Interdisciplinary Center for Neural Computation Seminar, Hebrew University.  
 2009 Apr Banbury Conference: Working Memory.  
 2009 Mar Cosyne Workshop: Dimensionality reduction for multi-channel neural recordings.  
 2009 Feb Computational Neurobiology Lab, Salk Institute.  
 2009 Jan Redwood Center for Theoretical Neuroscience Seminar, UC Berkeley.  
 2008 Nov Applied Mathematics Colloquium, Columbia University.  
 2008 Sep European Conference on Complex Systems: Working Memory in Jerusalem.  
 2008 Apr Banbury Conference: Theoretical/Experimental Approaches to Attention.  
 2007 Sep Neural Coding, Computation and Dynamics, Hossegor, France.  
 2007 Jul Sloan-Swartz Conference, UCSD.  
 2007 Jun Center for Neural Science Seminar, NYU.  
 2007 Jun Department of Neurobiology, Yale University.  
 2007 Apr Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, (2 seminars).  
 2007 Mar Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, (2 seminars).  
 2007 Mar Department of Physiology, UCSF.  
 2007 Feb Cosyne Workshop, Hippocampal/entorhinal plasticity, coding and computation.  
 2007 Feb Condensed Matter Theory Seminar, Brandeis University.  
 2007 Jan Volen Center for Complex Systems, Brandeis University.  
 2007 Jul Sloan-Swartz Conference, Columbia University.  
 2007 Apr Department of Physiology, Columbia University.  
 2006 Mar Computational and Systems Neuroscience Conference, Main Meeting, Salt Lake City.

2005 Oct Computational Biology Seminar, UC Berkeley.

## Awards and Activities

Simons Investigator Award in MMLS (awarded to 4 scientists in the nation)  
McKnight Scholar Award, 2015-2018 (awarded to 6 neuroscientists in the nation)  
James S. McDonnell Foundation Scholar Award in Human Cognition, 2014-2020  
(awarded to 8 scientists across the world)  
Cosyne 2014, Number 1 Ranked abstract, out of 550.  
NIPS 2014 Outstanding paper award (awarded to 3 papers out of 1420 submissions)  
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellowship, 2013-2015 (awarded to 20 neuroscientists in the nation)  
Terman Award, 2012-2015  
Burroughs Wellcome Career Award at the Scientific Interface, 2009-2014  
(awarded to 6 postdoctoral fellows in the nation)  
Sloan-Swartz Fellowship, 2004-2009  
Berkeley Outstanding Graduate Instructor  
Tau Beta Pi  
Phi Beta Kappa  
MIT Varsity Tennis  
MIT Treasurer of the South Asian Association of Students  
Member of MIT and Berkeley Bhangra Dance Teams  
MIT EECS Tutor  
Cambridge Elementary School Volunteer  
National Merit Scholar  
National Council of Teachers of English Award in Writing

## Teaching

Stanford Department of Applied Physics.  
AP293 *Theoretical Neuroscience*, Spring 2015, (39 students)  
AP205 *Introduction to Biophysics*, Winter 2015, (14 students)  
AP293 *Theoretical Neuroscience*, Spring 2014, (51 students)  
AP205 *Introduction to Biophysics*, Winter 2014, (19 students)  
AP293 *Theoretical Neuroscience*, Spring 2013, (24 students)  
AP205 *Introduction to Biophysics*, Winter 2013, (10 students)  
AP293 *Theoretical Neuroscience*, Spring 2012, (26 students)  
UCSF Neuroscience Graduate Program, 2010.  
Taught a section *Information Theory in Neuroscience* in Loren Frank's *Neural and Behavioral Data Analysis* course.  
Columbia Center for Theoretical Neuroscience, 2008.  
Co-taught *Advanced Theoretical Neuroscience* with Larry Abbott, Stefano Fusi, and Ken Miller.  
Berkeley Department of Physics, 1998-2002.  
Graduate student instructor for the following courses:  
*Introduction to Electricity and Magnetism* (for premedical students).  
*Analytical Mechanics*.  
*Electromagnetism and Optics*.  
*Introduction to Statistical and Thermal Physics*.  
*Special Relativity and General Relativity*.  
*Quantum Mechanics*.  
MIT Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1997-1998.  
Teaching assistant for *Probabilistic systems analysis*.

## Academic Service 2014-2015

Applied physics graduate admissions committee  
Applied physics named fellowships committee  
Neuroscience program graduate admissions committee  
Neuroscience program colloquium committee  
Theoretical neuroscience faculty search committee  
Bio-X Leadership Council



2013-2014

- Applied physics graduate admissions committee
- Applied physics faculty search committee
- Applied physics curriculum planning committee
- Neuroscience program graduate admissions committee
- Neuroscience program colloquium committee
- Bio-X Leadership Council

2012-2013

- Applied physics graduate admissions committee
- Theoretical neuroscience faculty search committee