Curriculum Vitae

Abhranil Das · abhranil.net · abhranil@abhranil.net vision science · computational neuroscience · psychedelic science

now · PhD student, Physics · Geisler lab · Center for Theoretical & Computational Neuroscience · The University of Texas at Austin 2008-2013 · Bachelor & Master of Science in Physics · Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata

Research and publications · Google Scholar

Understanding camouflage detection · Abhranil Das & Wilson Geisler (ongoing)

2020 · Vision Sciences Society (VSS) conference

2018 · VSS conference (talk)

2018 · Computational and Systems Neuroscience (COSYNE) conference

A method to integrate and classify normal distributions · Abhranil Das & Wilson Geisler

2021 · Journal of Vision (cover article) · arXiv

2019 · Vision Sciences Society (VSS) annual conference

Systematic errors in connectivity inferred from activity in strongly recurrent networks · Abhranil Das & Ila Fiete

2020 · Nature Neuroscience · bioRxiv

2017 · Austin Conference on Learning and Memory

2016 · Gordon Research Conference: Neural circuits for perception, memory, thought and consciousness

2016 · Natural Environments, Tasks and Intelligence conference

2016 · COSYNE conference

2017 · Visual texture classification and synthesis using a variational autoencoder · talk and python workshop at the Junior Scientist Workshop on Machine Learning and Computer Vision at Janelia Research Campus

Transient dynamics in the thermal ratchets transport model · Abhranil Das & Soumitro Banerjee, IISER Kolkata

2015 · arXiv

2013. The thermal ratchets model for transport of diffusive particles (Masters thesis)

2011 · Process time comparison between GPU and CPU · Abhranil Das & Robi Banerjee, University of Hamburg

2010 Perspective: the maths of seeing (book) Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany

I wrote this book from high school through freshman year, on mathematical models of visual perspective projection, their applications in graphing projections of common 3D objects, and the mathematical theory of binocular visual projection. It is available through all major outlets like Amazon.

Programming Full developer profile Github profile Arctic code vault contributor

2021 · Center for Theoretical and Computational Neuroscience website · 😱 open source

2021 Integrate and Classify Normal Distributions · Matlab toolbox · * open source

Integrate multinormal distributions in any dimensions with any parameters in any domain, compute pdf/cdf/inverse cdf of any function of a normal vector, and measures of classification performance among two or more multinormals, such as error matrix and sensitivity index.

2021 Generalized chi-square distribution · Matlab toolbox · 🕥 open source

Compute the statistics, pdf, cdf, inverse cdf and random numbers of the generalized chi-square distribution.

2015-16 · Particle image velocimetry, comparison with numerics, and analysis · 😱 open source Matlab code

For the experimental study of internal waves in Dr Harry Swinney's fluid dynamics group at UT Austin.

Career highlights, teaching, outreach

2020-now · The Room of Lives podcast · I showcase lives and perspectives in conversations that touch on science, learning, spirituality and psychedelics · 58 episodes with 24 guests so far

2019 Taught meditation and UT-accredited math courses at Lockhart Women's prison, as part of Texas Prison Education Initiative

2018 Invited talk at Trinity University: 'Making Sense of the Brain with Physics'

- 2017-18 · Co-hosted KVRX 91.7 FM show 'They Blinded Me with Science', that showcased grad student research
- 2015-19 Organized Molotov Seminar, a weekly series of open talks by anyone, for anyone, on anything, at UT Austin · 104 talks by 89 speakers · The Daily Texan news articles 1, 2, 3
- 2015-16. As Assistant Instructor at UT, I designed and taught my own undergrad electromagnetism course. As Head Teaching Assistant of engineering physics lab, I oversaw all other graduate TA's.
- 2013 Received the **IISER Kolkata Gold Medal of Excellence from governor of state** M.K. Narayanan, for overall academics and extracurriculars during my integrated Bachelors and Masters.
- 2011-12 · Elected Deutscher Akademischer AaustauschDienst (DAAD) Young Ambassador to India by the German Academic Exchange Service in 2011, and re-elected in 2012. I promoted German education programs and fellowships in India by writing for online newspapers, organizing seminars, and guiding applicants on scholarships, programs and VISA questions.
- 2008-9 Received the C.N.R. Rao Foundation Fellowship Prize for achieving institute rank 1 in both semesters 1 and 2 at IISER-K.

Projects

- 2017 Used a variational autoencoder for unsupervised latent variable extraction from mouse head-direction cell population recordings, with Dr IIa Fiete, dept. of Neuroscience, UT Austin.
- 2012 · Analyzed data from galactic neutral hydrogen (H1) radio sources acquired by the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope, under Dr. Subhashis Roy at the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, India.
- 2012 Invited as coordinator and instructor for the NCRA-IUCAA Radio Astronomy Winter School for College and University Students in India, in which position I coordinated experiments and delivered a lecture.
- Received the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) scholarship for a summer research project on 'Process time comparison between CPU and GPU' using CUDA for parallel computing on NVIDIA GPU's, with Dr Robi Banerjee's numerical astrophysics group at the University of Hamburg, Germany.
- Radio Astronomy Winter School, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics & Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, India. Voted the best among seven teams in experiments, seminar and poster presentation.

Research and outreach talks

- 2017 · Unsupervised latent variable extraction from head-direction cells using a variational autoencoder
- 2016 · Noise correlations in neural systems
- 2015, 2013, 2012 · Telling right from left: the misleading handedness of electrodynamics
- 2012 · Web Design: HTML · CSS · Javascript
- 2012 · Diffusion-limited aggregation
- 2011 Stochastic neural network model: part 1 · part 2 · MATLAB simulation report
- 2009 DNA double helix: a mathematical approach to the physical structure
- 2008 · Cellular Automata

Technical articles

- 2017 · Depth estimation from stereo image pairs using block-matching (with MATLAB code)
- 2015 · Lyapunov exponent of the logistic map (with Mathematica code)
- 2015 · Training neural networks with genetic algorithms
- 2014 · Calculating the Lyapunov exponent of a time series (with python code)
- 2014 · R code for multivariate random-walk Metropolis sampling
- 2014 · Partners meet halfway: a simple correlation study of an undergrad lab class
- 2013 · A/B and Rh antigens in blood types: a statistical test of independence among IISER Kolkata students
- 2012 · Locating numbers inside bisected interval sequences
- 2011 · Simulating evolution and behaviour

References

- $\textbf{Dr Wilson Geisler} \cdot \textbf{PhD advisor} \cdot \textbf{Center for Theoretical \& Computational Neuroscience, UT Austin} \cdot \textbf{w.geisler@utexas.edu}$
- Dr Soumitro Banerjee · Masters thesis advisor · depts. of mathematics & physics, IISER Kolkata · soumitro@iiserkol.ac.in