Experience

USC Viterbi School of Engineering

May 2015 - Present

Los Angeles, California

Computer Science Ph.D. Student

- Led a 7-person team, alongside physiologists, computer scientists, and biologists.
- Wrote a neural network learning algorithm to control a human cadaveric hand by its muscles.
- Designed partnerships with USC, Northeastern University, and Pomona College to host 22 internship fellows with funding or credit, and led teams in designing research-grade code.

Tools: Scala, Python, R Spark, EMR, HDFS, R, D3.js, Meteor.

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

April 2015 - May 2015

Zürich, Switzerland

Computer Scientist

- Taught biostatistical techniques to 5 professors and 6 students at the Department of Theoretical Computer Science.
- Presented multiple research talks in Zürich.
- Derived and implemented a highly theoretical hit-and-run algorithm in Spark.
- Published an international conference proceeding at the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society.

Tools: Scala, Java, Spark, HDFS, Python, R, Amazon EC2, and MongoDB.

Toyota Motor Sales

Ianuary 2015 - April 2015

Consultant

Torrance, California

- Single-handedly developed a crowd-sourced data validation platform that connected with tens of thousands of participants.
- Evaluated the statistical effectiveness of machine learning algorithms implemented.
- Identified significant flaws in the C360 Dealer-Concerns model, and provided exceptional proof of their existence.

Tools: Amazon Mechanical Turk, Python, R, D3.js, Scala, mllib, and HDFS.

Keck Graduate Institute

May 2014 - August 2014

Project Data Scientist

Claremont, California

- Created massively distributed in-memory machine learning frameworks to hold the 10-terabyte network and graph database from the USPTO.
- Applied a gradient boosted decision tree to predict new utility patent clusters.

Tools: AWS EC2, HDFS, R, h2o.ai, Spark, Amazon RDS.

Eli Lilly and Company Indianapolis, Indiana

September 2013 - May 2014

Consultant

- Interfaced directly with Tony Zhang, the Vice President of R&D-Asia for 9 months.
- Led a team of six people in developing proprietary software to improve patient compliance.
- Wrote a real-time machine-learning pipeline that tags tweets about issues with competing medications.

Tools: AWS, Python, scikit-learn, R and D3.js.

Peer-reviewed Publications

"Feasibility Theory reconciles and informs alternative approaches to neuromuscular control" Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience. Sep 2018 Cohn BA, SzedlÃak M, GÃďrtner B, Valero-Cuevas FJ

"Exploring the nature of muscle redundancy via subject-specific and generic musculoskeletal models" Featured Publication: Journal of Biomechanics, 2015.

Valero-Cuevas FJ, Cohn BA, Yngvason HF, Lawrence EL

"Structure of the set of feasible neural commands for complex motor tasks" 37th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, 2015 Valero-Cuevas FJ, Cohn BA, Szedlák M, Gärtner B, Fukuda K

"Retinal topography maps in R: new tools for the analysis and visualization of spatial retinal data." Journal of Vision July 2015, Vol.15, 19. 2015. https://github.com/briancohn/retina Cohn BA, Wainwright P, Collin S, Schmitz L

"Eye histology and ganglion cell topography of northern elephant seals (Mirounga angustirostris)." Accepted: The Anatomical Record, 2016.
Smodlaka H, Khamas W, Palmer L, Lui B, Borovac J, Cohn BA, Schmitz L

Patents

Cohn, BA. "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTINUOUSLY PRODUCING ANALYTICAL REPORTS" U.S. Patent Application No.: 15/645,860. 7 Jul. 2017.

Brian A. Cohn

(323) 455-4184

LinkedIn

GitHub.com/bc brian.cohn@usc.edu Education University of Southern California 2015-Present Ph.D. Computer Science, Viterbi Dean's Doctoral Fellowship University of Southern California 2018 Masters Degree in Computer Science Pitzer College 2014 B.A. with Honors - Computational Biology Major Awards Mar-2017 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship | Recipient NSF Graduate Research Fellowship | Honorable Mention Mar-2016 USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience | Cancer Research Fellowship Apr-2017 May-2015 USC Viterbi Dean's Doctoral Fellowship Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Grant Apr-2013 Selected Awards \$10,000 Grand Prize, USC CBC & WITH Foundation Voice-Computing Hackathon Jul-2018 Finalist, American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Brain Storm Apr-2018 Finalist and HTC Vive Industry Pick, Creating Reality Hackathon Mar-2017 3rd Place, Oral Presentations. 6th Annual SWOB SICB Meeting Oct-2017 Top 10 Finalist, USC Stevens Innovator Showcase Oct-2017 Alternative Muscle Club Young Investigator Award, by Genera Biocells Sep-2017 Student Travel Grant, De Luca Foundation May-2017 2nd Prize, USC CancerBase Hackathon Apr-2017 Top 8 Finalist, Viterbi Innovation Maseeh Prize Competition (\$2.5k Award) Nov-2016 Top 10 Finalist, USC Stevens Innovator Showcase Oct-2016 Microsoft US Imagine Cup Winter Semi-Finalist Dec-2015 \$24,000 Rackspace Startup Credits Dec-2015 \$5,000 AWS Prize, USC Venture Incubation Program (Virtual Reality) Nov-2015 \$5,000 AWS Prize, USC Venture Incubation Program (Biomedical Compute Cloud) Nov-2015 \$10,000 Grand Prize (USC Virtual Medicine Competition) IEEE Standards Association Oct-2015 USC Health Technology Innovation Fellowship in Digital Health Aug-2015 20,000 Compute-Hour Credits, USC HPC Cluster Nov-2014 Pitzer College Student Research Award Nov-2013 Pitzer College Student Research Award Mar-2013 Talks and Posters Poster: Society for Neuroscience, San Diego Nov-2018 Talk: The Southern California Biomedical Council, Los Angeles Feb-2018 Feb-2018 Talk: Los Angeles Venture Association, Los Angeles Talk: South West Regional Meeting of Organismal Biologists SICB Oct-2017 Podium Presentation: Alternative Muscle Club 5th Annual Meeting Sep-2017 Feb-2017 Talk: MedTechWorld-West Annual Conference, Anaheim Poster: Society for Neuroscience, San Diego Nov-2016 Talk: U. of Minnesota Computational Sensory-Motor Neuroscience (CoSMo) Mar-2016 Poster: Winter Workshop on Neuromechanics, New Orleans Jan-2016 Talk: National Science Foundation - Innovation (I) Corps Fall Networking Event Nov-2015 Talk: 37th Annual International IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, Milan Italy Aug-2015 Aug-2015 Talk: USC Viterbi School of Computer Science Seminar Series Poster: 39th Annual Conference of the American Society of Biomechanics Aug-2015 Poster: 25th Annual Conference of the Society for the Neural Control of Movement Apr-2015 Talk: Masters Capstone Research Symposium, Keck Graduate Institute May-2014 Talk: Masters Project Thesis Defense, Keck Graduate Institute Apr-2014 Dec-2013 Talk: Public Masters Capstone Talk, Keck Graduate Institute Invited speaker: UC Davis FishLab Oct-2013 Talk: Regional Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, UC Riverside Oct-2013 Talk: Science Department Symposium, Keck Graduate Institute Oct-2013 Poster: Mathematical Bioscience Institute, Ohio State University Jul-2013 Talk: Howard Hughes Medical Institute Student Seminar Apr-2013

Teaching & Workshops

Invited Speaker Keck Graduate Institute, <i>IndustryTalk</i> , Claremont CA "Artificial intelligence as a competitive strategy in biotech"	Jul-2018
Panelist BioTech Connection Los Angeles, UCLA	Dec-2016
Workshop Speaker Summer School in Computational Sensory-Motor Neuroscience, Minneapolis, MN	Aug-2016
Panelist MedTech-World Conference EAST, New York City, NY "Making Sense of Big Data: Determining Actionable Data & Your Roadmap for Utilization"	Jun-2016
Panelist Annual Medical Device & Manufacturer - MedTech-World Conference WEST, Anaheim, CA "Making Sense of Big Data: Determining Actionable Data & Your Roadmap for Utilization"	Feb-2016
Invited Lecturer USC Marshall School of Business, MBA Program "Financial analytics and scalable visualizations in R"	Feb-2016
Guest Lecture for BME 504 USC Viterbi School of Engineering; Graduate School Department of Biomedical Engineering "Linear program design for tendon driven systems"	Oct-2015
Guest Lecture for Neuromuscular Systems USC Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy "Neuromechanic optimization in open source software" https://github.com/briancohn/biokinesiology	Oct-2014
PharmaPack North America Conference "Driving Pharmaceutical Product Design with Consumer Intelligence: What Are Patients Saying about the Design of Your Pharmaceutical Product?"	Jun-2014
Eli Lilly and Company Headquarters "Big Data Analytics in Post-Market Surveillance and Pharmacological Vigilance"	May-2014
Guest Lecture for Sensory Evolution W.M. Keck Science Department "Retinal Specializations in the Vertebrate Eye: Spatial Interpolations and Phylogenic Comparisons of Retinal Ganglion Cell Density Maps"	Apr-2014
National Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology "Influence of Zooplanktivory on Retinal Ganglion Cell Topography in Labrid Reef Fishes"	Jan-2014
Journal Reviewer	
Nature, Scientific Reports Elsevier, Journal of Biomechanics	Jul-2018 Sep-2017