Brian H. Hu

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Education

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, October 2017

- Thesis: Grouping mechanisms for object-based vision and attention
- Advisor: Ernst Niebur, PhD

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

B.S., Bioengineering (Minor in Chemistry), summa cum laude, May 2011

GPA: 3.99/4.00

- Swanson School of Engineering Outstanding Senior Award
- Department of Bioengineering Outstanding Student of the Year Award

Research Experience

Kitware, Inc., Arlington, VA

Senior Research and Development Engineer, April 2020 - present

- Explainable AI (XAI), ethical AI, saliency algorithms
- Human-machine teaming, image and video retrieval, anomaly detection
- Small object detection, person/vehicle re-identification

Allen Institute for Brain Science, Seattle, WA

Scientist II, January 2020 - March 2020

Scientist I, December 2017 - December 2019

- Short-term synaptic plasticity and memory in neural networks
- Figure-ground representation in deep neural networks
- Convolutional neural networks with extra-classical receptive fields
- Structure and generalization properties of noise
- Generative adversarial networks for inferring cortical learning rules
- Data-driven, predictive models of neural activity

Computational Neuroscience Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Graduate Research Assistant, June 2012 - November 2017

- Biologically-plausible image segmentation and contour detection
- Head movements and visual attention in virtual reality
- Models of 3D visual saliency and eye movements
- Models of 3D surface representation

Skills

Programming: Python, MATLAB, familiar with C/C++, JAVA, LabVIEW

Other Tools: PyTorch, Tensorflow, Jupyter, scikit-learn, pandas, Git, LATEX, HTCondor, NEST, Neuron

Operating Systems: Linux, Windows, Mac OS

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Publications

* denotes equal contribution

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 1. Voina, D., Recanatesi, S., **Hu, B.**, Shea-Brown, E., and Mihalas, S. Single circuit in v1 capable of switching contexts during movement using an inhibitory population as a switch. *Neural Computation*, pages 1–54
- 2. Schneider-Mizell, C. M., Bodor, A. L., ..., **Hu, B.**, ..., Reid, R. C., and da Costa, N. M. Structure and function of axo-axonic inhibition. *eLife*, 10:e73783, 2021
- 3. **Hu, B.**, Tunison, P., Vasu, B., Menon, N., Collins, R., and Hoogs, A. XAITK: The Explainable AI Toolkit. *Applied AI Letters*, page e40. doi: https://doi.org/10.1002/ail2.40
- 4. Vasu, B., Hu, B., Dong, B., Collins, R., and Hoogs, A. Explainable, Interactive Content-Based Image Retrieval. *Applied AI Letters*, page e41. doi: https://doi.org/10.1002/ail2.41
- 5. **Hu, B.**, Garrett, M., Groblewski, P. A., Ollerenshaw, D., Shang, J., Roll, K., Manavi, S., Koch, C., Olsen, S. R., and Mihalas, S. Adaptation supports short-term memory in a visual change detection task. *PLoS computational biology*, 17(9):e1009246, 2021
- 6. Wagatsuma, N., Hu, B., von der Heydt, R., and Niebur, E. Analysis of spiking synchrony in visual cortex reveals distinct types of top-down modulation signals for spatial and object-based attention. *PLoS computational biology*, 17 (3):e1008829, 2021
- 7. Siegle, J. H., Jia, X., ..., **Hu, B.**, ..., Olsen, S. R., and Koch, C. Survey of spiking in the mouse visual system reveals functional hierarchy. *Nature*, pages 1–7, 2021
- 8. Iyer, R., Hu, B., and Mihalas, S. Contextual integration in cortical and convolutional neural networks. *Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience*, 14:31, 2020. doi: 10.3389/fncom.2020.00031
- 9. **Hu, B.**, von der Heydt, R., and Niebur, E. Figure-ground organization in natural scenes: Performance of a recurrent neural model compared with neurons of area v2. *eNeuro*, 6(3), 2019. doi: 10.1523/ENEURO.0479-18.2019
- 10. **Hu, B.** and Niebur, E. A recurrent neural model for proto-object based contour integration and figure-ground segregation. *Journal of computational neuroscience*, 43(3):227–242, 2017. doi: 10.1007/s10827-017-0659-3
- 11. **Hu, B.**, Kane-Jackson, R., and Niebur, E. A proto-object based saliency model in three-dimensional space. *Vision Research*, 119:42–49, 2016. doi: 10.1016/j.visres.2015.12.004

Conference Proceedings

- 12. **Hu, B.**, Vasu, B., and Hoogs, A. X-MIR: Explainable Medical Image Retrieval. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)*, January 2022
- 13. **Hu*, B.**, Iyer*, R., and Mihalas, S. Convolutional neural networks with extra-classical receptive fields. In *Thirty-third Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, Neuro AI Workshop, Vancouver, Canada, 2019. URL https://openreview.net/forum?id=rkxSEQtLUS
- 14. **Hu, B.**, Shang, J., Iyer, R., Siegle, J., and Mihalas, S. Does the neuronal noise in cortex help generalization? In *Thirty-third Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, Neuro AI Workshop, Vancouver, Canada, 2019. URL https://openreview.net/forum?id=S1gc4XF8Lr
- 15. **Hu, B.**, Khan, S., Niebur, E., and Tripp, B. Figure-ground representation in deep neural networks. In *IEEE CISS-2019 53rd Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems*, pages 1–6, Baltimore, MD, 2019. IEEE Information Theory Society. doi: 10.1109/CISS.2019.8693039
- 16. **Hu, B.**, Johnson-Bey, I., Sharma, M., and Niebur, E. Head movements are correlated with other measures of visual attention at smaller spatial scales. In *IEEE CISS-2018 52nd Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems*, pages 1–6, Princeton, NJ, 2018. IEEE Information Theory Society. doi: 10.1109/CISS.2018.8362264
- 17. **Hu, B.**, Johnson-Bey, I., Sharma, M., and Niebur, E. Head movements during visual exploration of natural images in virtual reality. In *IEEE CISS-2017 51st Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems*, pages 1–6, Baltimore, MD, 2017. IEEE Information Theory Society. doi: 10.1109/CISS.2017.7926138
- 18. **Hu, B.**, von der Heydt, R., and Niebur, E. A neural model for perceptual organization of 3D surfaces. In *IEEE CISS-* 2015 49th Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems, pages 1–6, Baltimore, MD, 2015. IEEE Information Theory Society. doi: 10.1109/CISS.2015.7086906

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Honors and Awards

Computational and Systems Neuroscience (Cosyne) Travel Award, 2017 OIST Computational Neuroscience Course (OCNC) Travel Award, 2014 Visual Neuroscience Training Program Fellowship, 2012-2013 Neural Engineering Training Initiative Fellowship, 2011-2012 University Honors College Full Tuition Scholarship, 2007-2011

Professional Service and Activities

Reviewer for Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, CVPR, ICCV, WACV

Member, Organization for Computational Neuroscience, 2018–2020

Member, Society for Neuroscience, 2013-2020

Last updated: March 21, 2022