# Daniel Rasmussen

## Employment

- 2013-present Co-founder, Applications Team Lead, Senior Research Scientist, Applied Brain Research, Inc., Waterloo, ON
  - 2014–2016 Postdoctoral Associate, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

#### Education

- 2010–2014 Ph.D., Computer Science (Theoretical Neuroscience), University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada
- 2008–2010 M.Math., Computer Science (Theoretical Neuroscience), University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada
- 2004–2008 **B.A., Computer Science and Philosophy**, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB, Canada

#### Journal Articles

- A. Voelker, D. Rasmussen, and C. Eliasmith. A spike in performance: Training hybrid-spiking neural networks with quantized activation functions. arXiv, 2002.03553(v2):1-18, 2020
- D. Rasmussen. NengoDL: Combining deep learning and neuromorphic modelling methods. *Neuroinformatics*, 17:611–628, 2019
- D. Rasmussen, A. Voelker, and C. Eliasmith. A neural model of hierarchical reinforcement learning. *PLoS ONE*, 12(7):1–39, 2017
- T. Bekolay, J. Bergstra, E. Hunsberger, T. DeWolf, T. C. Stewart, D. Rasmussen, X. Choo, A. R. Voelker, and C. Eliasmith. Nengo: a Python tool for building large-scale functional brain models. *Frontiers in Neuroinformatics*, 7(48):1–13, 2014
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. A spiking neural model applied to the study of human performance and cognitive decline on Raven's Advanced Progressive Matrices. *Intelligence*, 42:53–82, 2014
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. Modeling brain function: Current developments and future prospects. *JAMA Neurology*, 70(10):1325–1329, 2013
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. God, the devil, and details: Fleshing out the predictive processing framework (commentary on Clark). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 36:223–224, 2013

- C. Eliasmith, T. C. Stewart, X. Choo, T. Bekolay, T. DeWolf, Y. Tang, and D. Rasmussen. A large-scale model of the functioning brain. *Science*, 338(6111):1202–1205, 2012
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. A neural model of rule generation in inductive reasoning. *Topics in Cognitive Science*, 3(1):140–153, 2011

## Book Chapters

C. Eliasmith, D. Rasmussen, and T. C. Stewart. Biological cognition: Syntax. In C. Eliasmith, editor, *How to build a brain: A neural architecture for biological cognition*, chapter 4. Oxford University Press, 2013

## Conference Proceedings

- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. A neural model of hierarchical reinforcement learning. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, and B. Scassellati, editors, *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 1252–1257, Austin, 2014. Cognitive Science Society
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. A neural reinforcement learning model for tasks with unknown time delays. In M. Knauff, M. Pauen, N. Sebanz, and I. Wachsmuth, editors, *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 3257–3262, Austin, 2013. Cognitive Science Society
- D. Rasmussen and C. Eliasmith. A Neural Model of Rule Generation in Inductive Reasoning. In R. Cattrambone and S. Ohlsson, editors, *Proceedings of the 32nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 61–66, Austin, 2010. Cognitive Science Society

## Awards and Grants

- 2011–2014 Alexander Graham Bell Canadian Graduate Scholarship, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
  - 2011 Young Researchers' Computational Neuroscience Award, Bernstein Association for Computational Neuroscience
  - 2010 Best Paper Award (Computational Modelling) CogSci2010, Cognitive Science Society
- 2009–2011 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities
- 2008–2014 President's Graduate Scholarship, University of Waterloo
- 2008–2010 David R. Cheriton Graduate Scholarship, University of Waterloo
- 2008–2009 **NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship**, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
  - 2008 David Gilchrist Chalmers Memorial Prize, Mount Allison University
- 2007–2008 NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

2004–2008 Mount Allison Scholarship, Mount Allison University

2004–2008 Ruggles-Gates Scholarship, Mount Allison University

### Invited Talks

- 2015 **Reinforcement learning in Nengo**, Nengo Summer School 2015, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON
- 2015 Biological neural modelling of hierarchical reinforcement learning, 9th Barbados Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Holetown, Barbados
- 2013 Neural modelling of hierarchical reinforcement learning, Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, University College London, London, UK
- 2013 Biologically plausible neural modelling of complex reinforcement learning, Janelia Farm Research Campus, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Ashburn, VA
- 2013 Adaptive behaviour via hierarchical reinforcement learning in a biologically plausible neural architecture, CIFAR NCAP Summer School, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON
- 2013 Introduction to the NEF/Nengo, Telluride Neuromorphic Cognition Engineering Workshop, Institute of Neuromorphic Engineering, Telluride, CO
- 2013 Large-scale functional neural modelling, Large Scale Applications Using Cortical Processing Models Workshop, DARPA, Washington, DC
- 2012 Modelling the brain: From neurons to behaviour, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB
- 2011 Spiking neural modelling applied to intelligence tests and aging, Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience, Bernstein Association, Berlin, Germany

#### Theses

- Ph.D. Hierarchical reinforcement learning in a biologically plausible neural architecture Supervisor: Chris Eliasmith
- M.Math. A neural modelling approach to investigating general intelligence Supervisor: Chris Eliasmith

## Teaching Experience

2012 **Sessional Instructor**, University of Waterloo

Teaching an undergraduate introductory computer science course. Responsible for creating and delivering lectures to a class of 100 students, meeting with students during office hours, and designing assignments and exams.

- 2011–2013 Certificate in University Teaching, University of Waterloo
  Advanced certificate program in university teaching, based on in-class evaluations, workshops, and theoretical research.
- 2010–2011 **Fundamentals of University Teaching**, *University of Waterloo* Certificate program involving workshops and hands-on training.
- 2009–2011 Instructional Apprentice, University of Waterloo Running labs, tutorials, and help sessions for various Computer Science courses.
- 2007–2008 **Teaching Internship Program**, Mount Allison University
  Assisting in teaching introductory Computer Science classes, along with instructional workshops and faculty mentorship.