Hani Awni

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Education

University of Illinois: Urbana-Champaign

May 2015-May 2017 Last 2 Years GPA: 3.77/4.0

Electrical Engineering BS

University of Illinois: Urbana-Champaign

May 2013

GPA: 3.2/4.0

Brain-Machine Interfacing Custom BS, Computer Science Department in College of Engineering

 Major Description: Expanded computer science major with deep and wide background in cognitive science, neuroscience, and signal processing. Third ever custom degree awarded by Engineering College.

Relevant Coursework: Control Theory, State Space Control, Embedded Systems, Machine Learning, Neural Network Modeling, Cognitive Psychology, EEG Design, Integrative Neuroscience, Biomedical Imaging, Neuroethology

Publications

Hani Awni, J. Norton, S. Umunna, K. Federmeier, and T. Bretl. Towards A Brain Computer Interface Based on the N2PC Event Related Potential. IEEE EMBS NER 2013 in San Diego, CA, 978-1-4673-1969-0/1021-1024.

Experience

Self-Employed San Francisco, CA

Independent Neuroengineer & House Captain

April 2014 - May 2015

- Worked on myriad neuroengineering projects, including Moodband, a wearable for EEG-based emotional state visualization; ley*, a MFQ-scheduler-inspired to-do system; Respectable, a social-graph analysis tool; an Abalone AI competition; and NOS, a generalized BCI in collaboration with Randal Koene.
- Taking online courses in chaos and complexity theory, medical neuroscience, robotics, and linear algebra.
- Researched possible BCIs, especially in the contexts of both potential game designs and mental health.
- Helped direct the setup and growth of a 25-person, intentional community in San Francisco.
- Resolved or mediated inter-resident conflicts with an eye toward the overarching goal of the community.

Palantir Palo Alto, CA

Software Developer

June - December 2013

- Expanded and maintained web interface in Typescript, Coffeescript, and Java.
- Designed, developed, and implemented additional feature to core product in Java Swing.

Dr. Federmeier's Neurolinguistics Lab, Dr. Hummel's Cognitive Modeling Lab

Urbana, IL

Lab Technician, Analyst, & Assistant

January 2010 – May 2013

- Designed & implemented experiment interfaces to best test working theories.
- Assisted graduate students both with writing experiment code and with data mining of ERP results despite abundance of noise and artifacts.
- Aided in setup and running of subjects in EEG experiments, enabling high subject throughput.
- Ensured a comfortable atmosphere for test subjects despite otherwise abnormal circumstances.
- Taught new research assistants and graduate students efficient procedures in use of lab equipment.
- Coded data analysis and results interpretation in light of relevant theories.

Baxter Credit Union Vernon Hills, IL

Database Architect Intern

June 2008 – *August* 2011

- Designed, coordinated, and implemented expansions to database processing capability.
- Collaborated with non-technical employees throughout the company to clarify the aims of various projects and subsequently implemented projects according to their specifications.
- Trained and led new interns in T-SQL programming on several database-improvement projects.

Leadership Positions, Group Membership, Special Interests & Skills

- Founding Chair of SIGNeuro, 2015. Member of ACM, BMES, IEEE, NESA
- Modeling of intelligence and relational reasoning, particularly using neural networks.
- Programming Languages: Java, Python, C++, SQL Variants(POSTGRESQL, T-SQL), OCAML
- Other: Unity Engine, NetLogo, LATEX