


# Jimmy Hyun Jin Kim

[biophysics.princeton.edu/people/jimmy-kim](https://biophysics.princeton.edu/people/jimmy-kim)  
 [jimmy-hyun-jin-kim](#)

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## Education

- 2015–2020 **Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL.  
PhD, Physics  
CGPA: 3.928
- 2011–2015 **University of Toronto**, Toronto, ON.  
Honours BSc with High Distinction, Mathematics and Physics Specialist, Philosophy Minor  
CGPA: 3.97

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- 2017–2020 Graduate Student Researcher, *Center for the Physics of Biological Function*, Princeton, NJ.  
2017–2019 NSF Traineeship in Data-Driven Discovery (IDEAS), *Northwestern University*, Evanston, IL.

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## Experience

- Dec 7 2020– **Research Scientist**, *Meta*, New York, NY.
- Specialized in utilizing feature engineering techniques to improve machine learning model prediction quality. This covered the entire end-to-end process from setting up data pipelines for transforming raw data into features, determining useful signals to incorporate into model training, and evaluating final model performance via both offline training metrics and real-life experimentation. Features were synthesized from multimodal data including text, images, and time series.
  - Pioneered and directed large scale ML model development process involving 10+ engineers and research scientists. The resulting improvements in Instagram Shopping recommender system led to +10% weekly active visitors to Shopping Tab, +2% shopping activity on Feed, and additional \$50K daily GMV on Stories.
  - Developed a business content distribution system to optimize the value derived by businesses from C2B interactions on Instagram Stories. Estimated long-term increase in advertiser spending on the platform, which was the ultimate aim of the project, corresponded to +\$172.27M annualized revenue.
  - Utilized precision-recall analysis to develop a privacy-preserving ML model for optimizing user engagement on Instagram Stories. This led to growth in user engagement with decreased data privacy risk.
- Fall 2019 **Data Science Intern**, *Uber*, San Francisco, CA.
- Developed a document content extraction pipeline for Customer Obsession team. This involved implementing and testing various tools and techniques for computer vision tasks such as image registration, text detection, optical character recognition, and barcode decoding.
- Summer 2019 **Software Engineer Intern**, *Facebook*, New York, NY.
- Developed a cluster analysis pipeline for Marketing Intelligence team and utilized Wasserstein metric to generate natural language descriptions of the results.
  - Created tools for understanding and interpreting supervised model predictions using model distillation techniques such as LIME.
- 2015–2020 **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Northwestern University*, Evanston, IL.
- Used statistical inference techniques such as MLE in conjunction with Fisher Information to both analytically and numerically determine optimal scaling relations of model sensory and memory networks.
  - Developed an efficient implementation of the maximally informative dimensions method of neural response analysis based on variational lower bounds of mutual information.
  - Developed a platform for multi-agent reinforcement learning in game theory setting and characterized the dynamical landscape in terms of the exploration-exploitation tradeoff parameter.
  - Implemented a reinforcement learning inspired framework for active learning in language modelling.

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## Publications

- 2020 **J.H.J. Kim**, Ila Fiete, David J. Schwab. *Superlinear Precision and Memory in Simple Population Codes*, arXiv:2008.00629
- 2016 I. Kotera, N.A. Tran, D. Fu, **J.H.J. Kim**, J.B. Rodgers, W.S. Ryu. *Pan-neuronal screening in *Caenorhabditis elegans* reveals asymmetric dynamics of AWC neurons is critical for thermal avoidance behavior*, eLife **5**, e19021

## Thesis

- 2020 **H.J. Kim.** *Design and Analysis of Neural Networks Using Information.* Northwestern University.

## Posters

- 2019 C. van der Poel, **J. Kim**, D. Schwab. *Control theory for multi-agent battle arena.* 120th Topical Symposium of the APS New York State Section: Physics of Artificial Intelligence, Yorktown Heights, NY.
- 2019 **J. Kim**, D. Shams, D. Schwab. *Dynamics of Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning.* Dynamics Days 2019: International Conference on Nonlinear Dynamics, Evanston, IL.

## Presentations

- 2020 **J. Kim**, D. Schwab. *Scalable maximally informative dimensions analysis of deep neural networks.* APS March Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 2019 **H.J. Kim**, D. Shams, D. Schwab. *Dynamics of Reinforcement Learning in Game Theory.* APS March Meeting, Boston, MA.
- 2018 **J. Kim**, *Optimizing neural coding and short term memory.* ITS Informal Seminar, New York, NY.
- 2018 **H.J. Kim**, I. Fiete, D. Schwab. *Optimizing population coding with unimodal tuning curves and short-term memory in continuous attractor networks.* APS March Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2018 **J. Kim.** *Optimal neural coding and short term memory.* SIAM Bridging the Gap Seminar, Evanston, IL.
- 2017 **J. Kim.** *Too much precision can be bad.* Seven Minutes of Science Symposium, Evanston, IL.

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## Languages

- fluent* English, Korean, Python, SQL, MATLAB
- familiar* C++, Lua, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, R, Mathematica