LIM, JING XUAN

*A*STAR NSS (PHD) SCHOLAR*
JHU-JANELIA JOINT GRADUATE PROGRAM

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Profile

I am a graduate student in the neurosciences. My research interest is in attaining a quantitative description of the neural computations underlying information processing, encoding, storage and retrieval in the brain, and to understand the biophysical mechanisms that support them. At Johns Hopkins Neuroscience, I plan to pursue a PhD at the intersection of systems and computational neuroscience.

Skills

Calcium imaging

Whole-brain functional imaging of the zebrafish brain using light-sheet and two-photon microscopy during fictive navigation in virtual environments. Craniotomy, stereotaxic viral injection, fiber implantation and *in vivo* calcium fiber photometry in freely-moving mice.

Neural modeling

Development, simulation and analysis of multiscale models of biological neuronal networks in NEURON, using NetPyNE. Compartmental modeling of neuronal morphologies. Generalized Linear Models (GLMs) for spiking activity and animal behavior.

Electrophysiology

Rodent surgery and preparation of acute brain slices using both the vibratome and the manual tissue chopper, *in vitro* patch clamp (AxoGraph, Patchmaster) and field recordings (Intracell), and data analysis using Stimfit, Neo IO and Clampfit. Biocytin labelling and post hoc recovery of cell morphologies using Neurolucida.

Education

Johns Hopkins University, United States of America

PhD Neuroscience **2017-present**

Thesis advisor: Misha Ahrens
Scholarship: National Science Scholarship (PhD) from A*STAR, Singapore

University College London, United Kingdom

BSc Neuroscience **2012-2015**

Classification: First Class Honours
Thesis advisor: Beverley Clark
Thesis: Patch-clamp analysis of miniature synaptic currents in layer 5 cortical pyramidal cells of a Bardet-Biedl Syndrome mouse model
Scholarship: National Science Scholarship (BS) from A*STAR, Singapore

Hwa Chong Institution (College), Singapore

GCE ‘A’ Level **2008-2009**

Overall Grade: AAA/A
Scholarship: Edusave Entrance Scholarship for Independent Schools from the Ministry of Education, Singapore

Nan Hua High School, Singapore

GCE ‘O’ Level **2004-2007**

Overall Grade: 8As (nation’s top 5 percentile)

Experience

Dr Misha Ahrens :: Janelia Research Campus, HHMI

Janelia Graduate Scholar **Jun 2018-present**

Prof Shreesh Mysore :: Johns Hopkins University

Graduate Rotation Student **Jan 2018-May 2018**

Inactivation of reciprocal inhibition between Imc neurons in barn owls

Computational circuit models predict that reciprocal inhibition of inhibition between nucleus isthmi pars magnocellularis (Imc) neurons might underlie flexible categorization in stimulus selection. With the aim of experimentally testing that hypothesis, I performed extracellular multiunit recordings from Imc neurons during iontophoresis of bicuculline, which was intended to be used to remove reciprocal inhibition, to check that the drug indeed removed all forms of inhibition.

Prof Ernst Niebur :: Zanvyl Krieger Mind/Brain Institute, JHU

Graduate Rotation Student **Aug 2017-Dec 2017**

State-space models for gambling behaviour in monkeys

Co-supervisor: Dr Pierre Sacre, Institute of Computational Medicine

To better understand gambling behaviour in monkeys made to perform a multiattribute decision-making task, I constructed a generalised linear encoding model with present and past trial return and risk as covariates.

Prof Fu Yu :: National University of Singapore

Research Officer **Dec 2016-Jun 2017**

Role of ventrolateral hypothalamic SST neurons in feeding behaviors

I developed a custom data visualization and acquisition software for fiber photometry and used it to investigate the effects of sleep-wake cycle on the activity of GCaMP-expressing ventrolateral hypothalamic SST neurons, whose activity controls feeding behaviour.

Prof George Augustine :: Nanyang Technological University

Research Officer **Jun 2015-Dec 2016**

Reconstruction and simulation of the claustral network

Co-supervisor: Prof William Lytton, SUNY Downstate Medical Center

I developed an *in silico* model of the claustrum with simplified integrate-and-fire spiking neurons tuned to intrinsic electrophysiological properties of different cell types and with connectivity based on optogenetic circuit-mapping data. I then performed a multitude of simulations in exploration of the dynamical features of the network. I presented this work at Society for Claustrum Research Annual Symposium 2016 and RIKEN Brain Science Institute Summer Program 2016.

Dr Beverley Clark :: Wolfson Institute for Biomedical Research, UCL

Undergraduate Thesis Project Researcher **Sep 2014-Apr 2015**

Patch-clamp analysis of miniature postsynaptic currents in cortical pyramidal cells of a Bardet-Biedl Syndrome mouse model

Co-supervisor: Dr Christoph Schmidt-Hieber, Institut Pasteur

I performed whole-cell patch clamp on L5 cortical pyramidal neurons to investigate the functional changes in cortical wiring of the Bardet-Biedl Syndrome 5 knockout mouse, which were found to have decreased spine density. I also stained the neurons with biocytin and recovered their morphologies posthoc using Neurolucida in order to check for other structural deficits. This work culminated in the writing of a dissertation and a talk given to faculty and peers.

Prof Sajikumar Sreedharan :: National University of Singapore

Undergraduate Researcher **Jul 2014-Sep 2014**

Molecular events underlying hippocampal LTP

I performed field and patch-clamp recordings on organotypic slices to investigate the effects of various pharmacological agents on LTP and plasticity thresholds in CA1 pyramidal neurons. I also performed densitometric measurement of western blots using ImageJ to quantify the effects of LTP on protein

phosphorylation levels.

Dr Anne Rifkin-Graboi :: Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences

Undergraduate Researcher **Jul 2013-Sep 2013**

The relation between temperament, distractibility and heart rate in toddlers

I performed extensive analysis on Lab-TAB (Laboratory Temperament Assessment Battery, for the assessment of behaviour, emotion and attention), EEG, eye-tracking and heart rate data.

Prof Adam Claridge-Chang :: Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School

Assistant Laboratory Officer **Jan 2012-Mar 2012**

I performed laboratory technician duties such as keeping stocks, collecting virgins, setting up and scoring crosses and cooking fly food. I also learned how to perform brain dissection on the *Drosophila melanogaster* and various molecular biology techniques such as gene cloning, cDNA library building, RNA isolation, Q-PCR, miniprep and gel electrophoresis. Finally, I designed and set-up an optogenetics-enabled behavioural rig for the movement tracking of fruit flies for the investigation of anxiety circuits.

Awards

Fellowships

A*STAR National Science Scholarship (BS)	Full financial support for undergrad studies	**2012-2015**
A*STAR National Science Scholarship (PhD)	Full financial support for PhD studies	**2017-2022**

Travel Scholarships

RIKEN BSI Summer Program Travel Award	Full financial support for the summer program	**2016**

Publications

Posters

Jing Xuan Lim, Salvador Dura-Bernal, George J. Augustine, William W. Lytton (2016). **Computational models of claustrum subnetworks.** *Society for Claustrum Research Annual Symposium 2016* https://jingxlim.github.io/scr16.pdf

Jing Xuan Lim, Salvador Dura-Bernal, Rena Orman, Christoph Kayser, George J. Augustine, William W. Lytton (2016). **Reconstruction and simulation of claustral microcircuitry based on optogenetic mapping.** *RIKEN Brain Science Institute Summer Program 2016.* https://jingxlim.github.io/riken16.pdf

Theses

Jing Xuan Lim and Beverley A. Clark (2015). **Patch-clamp analysis of miniature synaptic currents in layer 5 cortical pyramidal cells of a Bardet-Biedl Syndrome mouse model.** *BSc dissertation, University College London.* https://jingxlim.github.io/ucl15.pdf

Coursework

Research programs

RIKEN BSI Summer Program	RIKEN Bran Science Institute	**2016**

Conferences

47th Annual Meeting	Society for Neuroscience	**2017**
46th Annual Meeting	Society for Neuroscience	**2016**
Deep Learning Summit Asia	RE•WORK	**2016**

Coursework

Neurobiology, Neural Systems and Behaviour	
Neuroscience and Cognition I & II	Hopkins
The Cellular Basis of Brain Function	UCL
Neural Basis of Motivation and Learning	UCL
Physiology of Sensory Transduction	Hopkins
Perception, Attention and Action	UCL
Pain	UCL
Synaptic Pharmacology	UCL
Current Issues in Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience	Hopkins
Current Topics in Neuroscience	Hopkins
Readings in Systems Neuroscience	Hopkins
Systems Neuroscience	UCL
Structure and Function of Nervous Systems	UCL
Cellular Neurophysiology	UCL
Human Neuroanatomy	UCL
Introduction to Neuroscience	UCL
Neural Computation and Neuroengineering	
Theoretical Neuroscience	Hopkins
Models of the Neuron	Hopkins
Quantitative Methods for Brain Sciences	Hopkins (audit)
Computer Science and Applied Mathematics	
Mathematical Foundations of BME	Hopkins
Linear Algebra and Differential Equations	Hopkins
Statistics for Laboratory Scientists I & II	Hopkins
Programming for Everybody	U Michigan (Coursera)
Python Data Structures	U Michigan (Coursera)
Introduction to Python for Data Science	Microsoft (edX)
Biology	
General and Systemic Pharmacology	UCL
Molecular Biology	UCL
Mammalian Physiology	UCL
Cell Physiology and Developmental Biology	UCL
Chemistry for Biology Students	UCL
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	UCL
Introduction to Genetics	UCL
Miscellaneous	
Sociology of Science	UCL
Learning How to Learn	UC San Diego (Coursera)

Language

Python	MATLAB	R
Bash	tcsh	HOC
NMDOL	Emacs Lisp	Markdown
Org Mode	HTML	CSS

Software

Linux	Git	Mercurial (hg)
GNU Emacs	Spyder	X2Go
ImageJ / Fiji	Photoshop	Lightroom
Illustrator	InDesign	

References

George Augustine
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