

Exercise 1.1: Understanding Neuroscience Papers - Part 1

Upload your answers in PDF format to the Moodle by 22.09.2020
and provide your name, student ID and email address in the header.

Neuroscientific research papers can often be difficult to parse because they require background knowledge and might combine various approaches or methods. In this assignment you will read a neuroscience paper and summarize its main points to practise extracting the information that is relevant for you. The required background will be presented in the exercise session. In next week's exercise session you will discuss the papers with your class mates and answer some questions.

1. Depending on the starting letter of your family name, read one of the following papers (available in the Moodle):
 - **Letters A to J:** Bashivan, P. et al. (2019). Neural population control via deep image synthesis. Science
 - **Letters K to Z:** Freeman, J. et al. (2011). Orientation Decoding Depends on Maps, Not Columns. Journal of Neuroscience.
2. Write a short summary of the paper (400 ± 50 words) adhering to the following structure:
 - Describe the broad field of research the paper contributes to.
 - State the specific questions that the authors address.
 - Explain their scientific approach to answering these questions.
 - Outline the results of the experiments and the authors' conclusions.
 - Describe the relevance of the presented work for the field of research.

Use font size 12 and a line spacing of 1.5.

3. Submit your summary to the Moodle and bring it to the next exercise session, as we will be discussing the two papers together.