

SUSHRUT THORAT

CONTACT INFORMATION

EMAIL: sushrut.thorat94@gmail.com WEBPAGE: sushrutthorat.com
GITHUB: [novelmartis](https://github.com/novelmartis) OTHER INFO: [G-Scholar](#), [Short-CV](#)

GOAL

Building resource-constrained artificial agents that can learn and function in the wild.

ACADEMIC TRAJECTORY

Postdoc in Machine Learning *Ongoing*
Institute of Cognitive Science, Osnabrück University, Germany
Advisor: Tim Kietzmann

Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience *November, 2022*
Donders Centre for Cognition, Radboud University, The Netherlands
Thesis: Smart Search - Investigations into human visual search in structured environments
Advisors: Marius Peelen and Marcel van Gerven

M.Sc. (cum laude) in Cognitive Neuroscience *July, 2017*
Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMEC), University of Trento, Italy
Thesis: Using Convolutional Neural Networks to measure the contribution of visual features to the representation of object animacy in the brain
Advisor: Marius Peelen

B.Tech. in Engineering Physics *August, 2015*
Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay (IIT-B), India
Thesis: Quadcopter Flight Control using Modular Spiking Neural Networks
Advisor: Bipin Rajendran

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Thorat S, Quek GL, Peelen MV (2022). Statistical learning of distractor co-occurrences facilitates visual search. *Journal of Vision* 22(10):2.

Thorat S, Peelen MV (2022). Body shape as a visual feature: evidence from spatially-global attentional modulation in human visual cortex. *NeuroImage*: 119207.

Thorat S*, Aldegheri G*, Kietzmann TC (2021). Category-orthogonal object features guide information processing in recurrent neural networks trained for object categorization. *Shared Visual Representations in Human & Machine Intelligence Workshop @ NeurIPS*. *equal contribution.

Thorat S, Proklova D, Peelen MV (2019). The nature of the animacy organization in human ventral temporal cortex. *eLife* 8: e47142.

Thorat S*, Aldegheri G*, van Gerven MAJ, Peelen MV (2019). Modulation of early visual processing alleviates capacity limits in solving multiple tasks. *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*: 226-229. *equal contribution.

Thorat S, van Gerven MAJ, Peelen MV (2018). The functional role of cue-driven feature-based feedback in object recognition. *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*.

Thorat S, Choudhari V (2016). Implementing a Reverse Dictionary, based on word definitions, using a Node-Graph Architecture. *Proceedings of COLING 2016, the 26th International Conference on Computational Linguistics: Technical Papers*: 2797-2806.

Thorat S, Rajendran B (2015). Arithmetic computing via rate coding in neural circuits with spike-triggered adaptive synapses. *International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*.

ACHIEVEMENTS/ AWARDS

- Voted **best poster/short-pitch**, among **15 posters**, in the 'Perception, Action, and Control' theme at the annual Donders Poster Session (2020).
- Recipient of the **Merit Award** (2017), awarded to students who achieve remarkable results at the end of their degree, by the University of Trento, Italy.
- Recipient of the **Abstract Award**, awarded to **5 of the 57** accepted abstracts at the Rovereto Workshop on Concepts, Actions and Objects (2017).
- Ranked **721 among 450,000** students in the Joint Entrance Examination (**JEE, 2011**) conducted towards admission to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).
- Recipient of the **KVPY scholarship** (2009), awarded to **215 students across India** with talent and aptitude for research, by the Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.
- Recipient of the **NTSE scholarship** (2007), awarded to **1000 students across India** with high intellect and academic talent, by the National Centre for Educational Research and Technology, Govt. of India.

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Programming languages: Python, MATLAB, Javascript

Machine learning frameworks: TensorFlow, PyTorch, MatConvNet

Experimentation frameworks: PsychToolbox, jsPsych, Pavlovla

Neuro-imaging: fMRI (data acquisition and analysis), EEG (data analysis)

CONFERENCE TALKS/POSTERS

Category-orthogonal object features guide information processing in recurrent neural networks trained for object categorization

(Talk) *European Conference on Vision Perception (ECVP)*, Nijmegen, 2022

(Poster) *SVRHM @ NeurIPS*, Online, 2021

(Flash talk) *neuromatch 4.0*, Online, 2021

(Poster) *Champalimaud Research Symposium*, Online, 2021

Statistical learning of distractor regularities facilitates visual search

(Poster) *European Conference on Vision Perception (ECVP)*, Online, 2021

Body silhouettes as features in visual search: evidence from spatially-global attention modulation in visual cortex

(Poster) *Donders Poster Session*, Nijmegen, 2020

(Talk) *Neuromatch conference 3.0*, Online, 2020

The nature of the animacy organization in human ventral temporal cortex

(Poster) *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*, Berlin, 2019

Modulation of early visual processing alleviates capacity limits in solving multiple tasks

(Poster) *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*, Berlin, 2019

The functional role of cue-driven feature-based feedback in object recognition

(Talk) *Perception Day*, Nijmegen, 2018

(Poster) *Donders Discussions*, Nijmegen, 2018

(Poster) *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*, Philadelphia, 2018

Using convolutional neural networks to measure the contribution of visual features to the representation of object animacy in the brain

(Poster) *Donders Discussions*, Nijmegen, 2017

(Talk & Poster) *Rovereto Workshop on Concepts, Actions and Objects (CAOs)*, Rovereto, 2017

(Tweets) *Brain Twitter Conference (brainTC)*, 2017

Arithmetic computing via rate coding in neural circuits with spike-triggered adaptive synapses

(Poster) *International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, Killarney, 2015

REVIEWING WORK	NeurIPS workshops: SVRHM & Attention, Memory & Cognition, eLife, Monk Prayogshala, CCN	
WORKSHOPS ATTENDED	IBRO-SIMONS Computational Neuroscience Imbizo (ISi-CNI) Cape Town, South Africa Project: Assessing the role of feature attention in object detection with CNNs. Advisor: Timothy Lillicrap	January, 2017
	Computational Approaches to Memory and Plasticity (CAMP) Bangalore, India Project: The role of the billions of granule cells in the cerebellum.	June, 2015
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Project Mentor for a group (5 students; Deep learning track) – Co-supervisor - Master thesis (1 student) – Teaching Assistant - Advanced Academic & Professional Skills (writing/reviewing research reports; Masters course) – Guest Lecturer - Academic Skills 2 (research methods; UG course) – Teaching Assistant - Neural Networks (UG course) – Teaching Assistant - Advanced Academic & Professional Skills (writing/reviewing research reports; Masters course) – Supervisor - Research Project 3 (3 students; UG thesis project) – Co-supervisor - Research Project 3 (4 students; UG thesis project) – Guest Lecturer - Academic Skills 2 (research methods; UG course) – Teaching Assistant - Brain for AI (UG course) 	<i>Neuromatch Academy, 2022</i> <i>Radboud University, 2022</i> <i>Radboud University, 2020</i> <i>Radboud University, 2019</i> <i>Radboud University, 2019</i> <i>Radboud University, 2019</i> <i>Radboud University, 2018</i> <i>Radboud University, 2018</i> <i>Radboud University, 2018</i> <i>Radboud University, 2018</i>
OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE	General Secretary Undergraduate division - Department of Physics, IIT Bombay	2014-15
	Content Developer Avanti Fellows, Delhi	Summer 2013