

# SUSHRUT THORAT

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

EMAIL: [sushrut.thorat94@gmail.com](mailto:sushrut.thorat94@gmail.com)  
WEBPAGE: [sushrutthorat.com](http://sushrutthorat.com)

## CURRENT INTERESTS

The role of attention and awareness in the brain, and the nature of object-scene interactions in the visual system

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience** *Ongoing*  
Donders Centre for Cognition, Radboud University, The Netherlands  
Advisors: Marius Peelen and Marcel van Gerven

**M.Sc. in Cognitive Neuroscience** *July, 2017*  
Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMEC), University of Trento, Italy  
GPA: 110/110 (with honors)  
**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  
GPA: 7.64/10  
**Thesis:** Quadcopter Flight Control using Modular Spiking Neural Networks  
Advisor: Bipin Rajendran

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Thorat, S., van Gerven, M., and Peelen, M. (2018) The functional role of cue-driven feature-based feedback in object recognition, *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (CCN)*, Philadelphia, 2018, pp. 1-4. [\[PDF\]](#)

Thorat, S. and 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*, Osaka, 2016, pp. 2797-2806. [\[PDF\]](#)

Thorat, S. and Rajendran, B. (2015) Arithmetic computing via rate coding in neural circuits with spike-triggered adaptive synapses, *International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, Killarney, 2015, pp. 1-8. [\[PDF\]](#)

## PRE-PRINT PUBLICATIONS

Thorat, S., Proklova, D. and Peelen, M. (2019) The nature of the animacy organization in human ventral temporal cortex, *arXiv preprint*, arXiv:1904.02866. [\[PDF\]](#)

## CONFERENCE TALKS/POSTERS

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

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED	<b>IBRO-SIMONS Computational Neuroscience Imbizo (ISi-CNI)</b>		<i>January, 2017</i>
	Cape Town, South Africa <a href="#">Project</a> : Assessing the role of feature attention in object detection with CNNs. Advisor: Timothy Lillicrap		
	<b>Computational Approaches to Memory and Plasticity (CAMP)</b>		<i>June, 2015</i>
	Bangalore, India Project: The role of the billions of granule cells in the cerebellum.		
OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recipient of the <b>Merit Award</b> (2017), awarded to students who achieve remarkable results at the end of their degree, by the University of Trento, Italy.</li> <li>• Recipient of the <b>Abstract Award</b>, awarded to <b>5 of the 57</b> accepted abstracts at the Rovereto Workshop on Concepts, Actions and Objects (2017).</li> <li>• Ranked <b>721 among 450,000</b> students in the Joint Entrance Examination (<b>JEE, 2011</b>) conducted towards admission to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).</li> <li>• Recipient of the <b>KVPY scholarship</b> (2009), awarded to <b>215</b> students across India with talent and aptitude for research, by the Dept. of Science &amp; Technology, Govt. of India.</li> <li>• <b>Winner</b> at the <b>Annual All India Web-Design Contest</b> (2008) hosted by SJIT, Pune (India).</li> <li>• Recipient of the <b>NTSE scholarship</b> (2007), awarded to <b>1000</b> students across India with high intellect and academic talent, by the National Centre for Educational Research and Technology, Govt. of India.</li> </ul>		
TECHNICAL SKILLS	<b>Programming:</b> Python (TensorFlow), MATLAB (PsychToolbox, MatConvNet, SPM) <b>Neuro-Imaging:</b> fMRI (MVPA)		
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	• Guest Lecturer - Academic Skills 2 (research methods; UG course)	<i>Radboud University, 2019</i>	
	• Teaching Assistant - Neural Networks (UG course)	<i>Radboud University, 2019</i>	
	• Teaching Assistant - Advanced Academic & Professional Skills (writing/reviewing research reports; Masters course)	<i>Radboud University, 2019</i>	
	• Supervisor - Research Project 3 (3 students; UG thesis project)	<i>Radboud University, 2018</i>	
	• Co-supervisor - Research Project 3 (4 students; UG thesis project)	<i>Radboud University, 2018</i>	
	• Guest Lecturer - Academic Skills 2 (research methods; UG course)	<i>Radboud University, 2018</i>	
	• Teaching Assistant - Brain for AI (UG course)	<i>Radboud University, 2018</i>	
WORK EXPERIENCE	<b>General Secretary</b>		
	Undergraduate division - Department of Physics, IIT Bombay		<i>2014-15</i>
	<b>Content Developer</b>		
	Avanti Fellows, Delhi		<i>Summer 2013</i>
OTHER REPORTS	• The functional relevance of neuronal clustering [ <a href="#">PDF</a> ]		<i>2016</i>
	• Understanding human visual processing with deep neural networks [ <a href="#">PDF</a> ]		<i>2016</i>
	• Predisposition to towards-gravity periodic motion in chicks [ <a href="#">PDF</a> ]		<i>2015</i>
	• Gesture Lock [ <a href="#">PDF</a> ]		<i>2013</i>