Peng Zan

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering — 12/2019
University of Maryland, College Park, MD — GPA 3.6

M.Sc., Electrical and Computer Engineering — 08/2019
University of Maryland, College Park, MD — GPA 3.8

B.Sc., Electrical Engineering — 07/2014
Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an, China — GPA 90/100

Exchange, Electronic Engineering — 05/2013
Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China — GPA 3.7

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sr. Software Engineer - AI Framework — 08/2021-present
Black Sesame Technologies, San Jose — CA

Principal Scientist — 02/2021-06/2021
Origin Wireless AI, Greenbelt — MD

Principal Data Scientist — 02/2020-02/2021
Origin Wireless AI, Greenbelt — MD

DSP Research Intern — 05/2019-08/2019
Starkey Hearing Technologies, Eden Prairie — MN

Graduate Research Assistant — 08/2015-05/2019
University of Maryland, College Park — MD

Graduate Teaching Assistant — 08/2014-05/2015
University of Maryland, College Park — MD

INTEREST

Signal Processing, Machine Learning, Statistical Modeling.

PROJECTS

Neural Network Quantization — 08/2021 - present
AI Framework Research, Black Sesame Tech. — AI Framework Tool Team

- Researched and optimized post-training quantization framework.
- Identified factors affecting quantization accuracy and improved quantization accuracy by about 20%.

WiFi Sensing and Internet of Things (IoT) — 02/2020 - 06/2021
WiFi-Sensing for Home Security and Indoor Activity Monitoring — Algorithm Team, Origin Wireless AI

- Researched and developed real-time algorithm for indoor motion and breathing localization using WiFi sensing based on *statistical electromagnetic field models*.
- Designed and optimized indoor activity monitoring algorithms for HEX Home, our home security and activity monitoring system (CES 2021 Innovation Award), based on *a sequential decision model*.
- Collaborated with companies such as Verizon, Alarm.com and Belkin to turn research into commercialized products.

WiFi-Sensing Production Automation — Hardware Team, Origin Wireless AI

- Designed and automated manufacture workflow for WiFi-sensing products by Python.
- Boosted production rate from one per hour to 10-12 per hour.
- Supported Verizon Communications Inc. with quality products and visualization tools built by Python.

Real-Time Tracking with IMU Sensors on Mobile Devices — Algorithm Team, Origin Wireless AI

- Developed a real-time tracking system with sub-meter accuracy based on a *Bayesian dynamic model on graph*.
- Developed Android and iOS App for Origin Tracking product - work without WiFi.

DNN-based Speech Enhancement — 06/2019 - 08/2019
Signal Processing Research, Starkey — Internship research

- Designed and conducted subjective listening experiment to test DNN-based speech enhancement algorithms.
- Analyzed experimental data and compared DNN algorithms.

Joint Approach of Auditory Attention Decoding and Speech Enhancement [C1] — 05/2019 - 08/2019
Signal Processing Research, Starkey — Internship research

- Designed and conducted electroencephalography (EEG) experiment to simulate a cocktail party scenario.
- Collected auditory responses while subjects switch attention from one speaker to another.
- Developed an *EEG guided Beamforming model* for joint approach of attention decoding and speech enhancement.

Mutual Information Analysis of Auditory Brain Responses and Effects of Aging [J1][J2] — 01/2018 - 05/2019
Computational Sensorimotor Systems Lab, UMD — Thesis research

- Developed a novel approach based on information theory to decode phase-locked response from M/EEG recording.

- Revealed speech over-representation in the aging midbrain [J2] and cortical [J1] marker of behaviors.
- Algorithm programmed in Matlab, source-space analysis done in Python and statistics conducted in R.

Machine Learning Applications in Auditory Research [J3][J4] 06/2017 - 12/2017
Computational Sensorimotor Systems Lab, UMD Independent research

- Implemented KNN and CNN for schizophrenia detection based on auditory steady-state response features (code).
- Designed and compared neural decoders based on maximum likelihood estimation, linear regression and neural network to study adaptive efficient coding of correlated acoustic properties in auditory cortex of ferret [J3].
- Developed object and edge detection approach to extract pupillometry information from video recordings to study implicit memory for complex sounds in auditory cortex of ferret [J4].

SKILLS

Programming: Python (expert), C/C++, R
Software Tools: Matlab (expert), SPSS, MNE-Python, Eelbrain, Tensorflow, Pytorch, LaTeX, Git (Github), Linux/Unix
Software Engineering: Algorithms and Data Structure (Certificate), App Development, System Automation
Data Science: Statistics, Machine Learning (Certificate), Deep Learning (Certificate)
Data Engineering: Database, SQL
Research: Auditory Neuroscience Experiment Design, Electroencephalography (EEG), Magnetoencephalography (MEG)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

[J1] **Peng Zan**, Alessandro Presacco, Samira Anderson, and Jonathan Z. Simon. Exaggerated cortical representation of speech in older listeners: mutual information analysis. *Journal of Neurophysiology, 124(4):1152-1164*, Oct. 7, 2020.

[J2] **Peng Zan**, Alessandro Presacco, Samira Anderson, and Jonathan Z. Simon. Mutual information analysis of neural representations of speech in noise in the aging midbrain. *Journal of Neurophysiology Innovative Methodology, 122(6): 2372-2387*, Dec. 4, 2019.

[J3] Kai Lu, Wanyi Liu, Kelsey Dutta, **Peng Zan**, Jonathan B Fritz, and Shihab A. Shamma. Adaptive efficient coding of correlated acoustic properties. *The Journel of Neuroscience, 39(44):8664-8678*, Oct. 30, 2019.

[J4] Kai Lu, Wanyi Liu, **Peng Zan**, Stephen V. David, Jonathan B Fritz, and Shihab A. Shamma. Implicit memory for complex sounds in higher auditory cortex of the ferret. *The Journel of Neuroscience, 38(46):9955-9966*, Nov. 14, 2018.

[J5] Junmin Liu, Yongchang Hui, and **Peng Zan**. Locally linear detail injection for pansharpening. *IEEE Access, 5:9728-9738*, June 7, 2017.

[J6] Dai Wang, Xiaohong Guan, Jiang Wu, Pan Li, **Peng Zan**, and Hui Xu. Integrated energy exchange scheduling for microgrids with electric vehicles. *IEEE Transaction on Smart Grid, 7(4):17621774*, July 10, 2016.

CONFERENCE PAPERS & POSTERS

[C1] Wenqiang Pu, **Peng Zan**, Jinjun Xiao, Tao Zhang, Zhi-Quan Luo. Evaluation of joint auditory attention decoding and adaptive binaural beamforming approach for hearing devices with attention switching. *2020 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing.* 05/08/2020

[C2] Mutual information analysis of neural representations of speech in noise in the aging midbrain
ARO 2019 02/09-13/2019

[C3] Cortical over-representation of speech in older listeners correlates with a reduction in both behavioral inhibition and speech intelligibility
ARO 2019 02/09-13/2019

[C4] Mutual information analysis of neural representations of speech in noise in the aging midbrain.
Auditory SPLASH 09/08/2018

[C5] Mutual information analysis of neural representations of speech in noise in the aging midbrain.
EAR 2018 06/15/2018

PEER REVIEWS

[R1] IEEE Access 07/2019
[R2] IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing 01/2020
[R3] IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing 03/2020
[R4] Neuroscience Letters 04/2021
[R5] IEEE Signal Processing Letters 05/2021
[R6] IEEE Signal Processing Letters 06/2021
[R7] Neuroscience Letters 07/2021
[R8] IEEE Signal Processing Letters 08/2021

SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS

Starkey Recognition Award Starkey, 08/2019
COMBINE Traveling Award UMD, 12/2018
NSF-Funded COMBINE Fellowship (Computational Biological Network Program) UMD, 09/2017
Jimmy H. C. Lin Graduate Scholarship for Entrepreneurship UMD, 09/2014
ECE Ph.D. Fellowship Award UMD, 09/2014