JOHN LAZZARI Applied Math Graduate

lazzarijohn@ufl.edu 954-296-1682

EDUCATION

2019-2023 Florida State University, Applied & Computational Mathematics, GPA: 3.82

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UF

SURF REU, SAXENA LAB FOR NEURAL CONTOL,

Summer 2022

Advisor: Dr. Shreya Saxena

- > Trained an RL agent to act as a neuromechanical controller using an existing anatomically accurate mouse musculoskeletal model.
- > Partnered with NVIDIA to create a massively parallel implementation of this RL task (Omniverse/Isaac Gym, other methods).

FSU

Undergraduate Researcher, DEEP LEARNING GROUP,

2021-2023

Advisor: Dr. Xiuwen Liu

- > Evaluating and enhancing assembly embeddings using techniques from NLP such as Transformers and graph neural networks, as well as metric learning.
- > Analyzed the spectral bias of neural networks through their training dynamics, specifically in low dimensional domains where the bias becomes severe.

FSU

Undergraduate Researcher, COLLEGE OF NURSING,

2023-present

Advisors: Dr. Hongyu Miao, Dr. Chengdong Li

- > Training large language models on data relevant to Alzheimer's disease to enhance patient care.
- > Utilizing LoRA for efficient fine-tuning of pre-trained LLaMA model on two NVIDIA A4000 GPU nodes.

FSU

Math Research Assistant, FSU MATH DEPARTMENT,

2020-2021

Advisors: Dr. Alex Casella and Dr. Lorenzo Ruffoni

- > Developed software within a team of three using Unity and C# in order to visualize triangular structures in Euclidean, Hyperbolic, and Spherical geometries.
- \rightarrow Hyperbolic and Spherical structures were created using Moebius rotations in \mathbb{CP}^1 .
- > Program can be found at https://trungler.itch.io/tsv

PREPRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS

S. Biswas, T. Barao, J. Lazzari, J. McCoy, X. Liu and A. Kostandarithes, "Geometric Analysis and Metric Learning of Instruction Embeddings," 2022 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN), Padua, Italy, 2022, pp. 1-8, doi: 10.1109/IJCNN55064.2022.9892426.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Chacon, J. Lazzari, M.N. Almani, S. Saxena, "Evaluating Neural Strategies of Mouse Sensorimotor Control Using Deep Reinforcement Learning," IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, Conference on Neural Engineering (IEEE/EMBS NER 2023), 1 page abstract
- 2021 Florida Undergraduate Research Conference Presentation
- 2021 UROP Symposium Presentation
- 2022 Neuromatch 2022

Honors/Awards

2022 UF HWCOE Dean's Research Award

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