Umesh Kumar Singla

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Education

2020 - 2022 **University of California San Diego**
M.S., Computer Science (GPA: 3.96/4.0)
Thesis: Exploration in Complex Naturalistic Behavior
Advisor: Dr. Marcelo Mattar

2014 - 2018 **IIIT Hyderabad**
B.Tech., Computer Science & Engineering (GPA: 8.50/10.0)
Honors in Cognitive Science
Advisor: Dr. Raju S Bapi

Experience

2023 - Present **Princeton Neuroscience Institute (PNI),** Princeton University
Research Assistant | Advisors: Dr. Mala Murthy and Dr. Jonathan Pillow
• Develop statistical models to decode latent states governing behavior and neural activity of female *Drosophila* in a social context.

2020 - 2022 **Department of Cognitive Science,** UCSD
Graduate Student Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Marcelo Mattar
• Using reinforcement learning to study exploration, planning and decision making with animal behavior recordings in sequential and bandit tasks.

2017 - 2018 **Brain, Cognition and Computation Lab,** IIIT Hyderabad
Undergraduate Researcher | Advisors: Dr. Raju S Bapi and Dr. Vinoo Alluri
• Replicated a study on impaired resting-state functional connectivity in substance users.
• Conducted a serial reaction time experiment to study implicit learning in humans.

Publications

2024 **Umesh Singla**, Marcelo Mattar. Temporal abstraction in animal exploration in complex environment. *Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Conference (CCN) (poster).*

2024 **Umesh Singla**, Marcelo Mattar. Temporal persistence explains mice exploration in a labyrinth. *In Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. (invited talk).*

2023 Sharon Noh, **Umesh Singla**, Ilana Bennett, Aaron Bornstein. Memory precision and age differentially predict the use of decision-making strategies across the lifespan. *Scientific Reports.*

2020 Arun Garimella, **Umesh Singla***, Sourabh Rajguru*, and Vinoo Alluri. Marijuana and the hippocampus: A longitudinal study on the effects of marijuana on hippocampal subfields. *Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry.*

Conference Abstracts

2023 Shruthi Ravindranath, **Umesh Singla**, Junyu Li, Talmo Pereira, Jonathan Pillow, Mala Murthy. Multiscale Generative Modeling Framework For Mapping a Social Interaction. *Neuroethology: Behavior, Evolution and Neurobiology (GRC) (poster)*

2018 **Umesh Singla**, Pramod Kaushik, Eduardo A. Garza-Villarreal and Vinoo Alluri. Replicating impaired resting state functional connectivity in chronic cocaine users. *5th Annual Conference of Cognitive Science. IIT Guwahati, India (poster).*

2017 **Umesh Singla**, Anuj K. Shukla and Bapi S Raju. Implicit sequence learning in auditory domain. *IIIT Hyderabad Undergraduate R&D Showcase (poster).*

Invited Talks

2023 Learning and Planning in RL. *The NorthCap University, New Delhi, India.*

Industry

2018 - 2020 Software Engineer, **Joveo, Inc.**, Hyderabad, India
• Design, code, troubleshoot, and support scalable big data pipelines for the data science team. Technologies used were AWS, Spark, Airflow, and Map-Reduce.

Jun - Aug 2017 Software Intern, MacPorts, **Google Summer of Code 2017** *Remote*
• Implemented the migrate command in Tcl and C to automate the end-to-end process of reinstalling macports and packages to ensure a smooth transition after an OS upgrade.

May - Jun 2017 Research Engineering Intern, **Samsung Research** *Bangalore, India*
• Analyze time-series data from CPU usage and network logs for anomaly detection.
• Study fault localization methods to detect faulty operations in cloud systems at runtime.

Skills

Programming	Python (PyTorch, JAX, PyStan, scikit-learn, Numpy, Pyplot), MATLAB, SQL
Others	Cloud (AWS/GCP), CI/CD, Git, Docker, Linux, JavaScript, REST

Teaching Assistant

UCSD

Fall 2021	CSE 250A: Probabilistic Reasoning and Decision-Making
Spring 2022	DSC 190: Intro to Machine Learning
Winter 2021, 22	DSC 102: Systems for Scalable Analytics
Summer 2022	CSE 8A: Intro to Programming in Python
Summer 2021	CSE 141: Intro to Computer Architecture
Spring 2021	CSE 142L: Computer Architecture Lab

IIIT Hyderabad

Spring 2018	ICS 251: Computer Networks
Spring 2017	IEC 103: Basic Electronic Circuits
Fall 2016	IEC 102: Electrical Science 1

Volunteering

2022	Jacobs Undergraduate Mentoring Program graduate mentor, UCSD
2021	oSTEM Qtorship mentor, UCSD
2018, 2019	Google Summer of Code (GSoC) org admin and co-mentor for MacPorts.

Awards

2014 - 2015	Dean's List, IIIT Hyderabad
2014	INSPIRE Scholar, Department of Science and Technology, Govt of India

Relevant coursework

Princeton

Statistical Modeling and Analysis of Neural Data

UCSD

Probabilistic Reasoning and Decision-Making; Search and Optimization; Deep Generative Models
Recommender Systems; Structured Prediction for NLP

IIIT Hyderabad

Statistical Methods in AI; Intro to Neuronal Dynamics; Information Retrieval
Intro to Cognitive Science; Game Design; Language, Mind and Society
Discrete Mathematics; Linear Algebra; Probability and Statistics
Complexity and Algorithms; Theory of Computation; Software Design
Distributed Systems; Database Systems; Computer Networks

References

Dr. Marcelo G. Mattar, New York University (**marcelo.mattar@nyu.edu**)
Dr. Jonathan W. Pillow, Princeton University (**pillow@princeton.edu**)
Dr. Mala Murthy, Princeton University (**mmurthy@princeton.edu**)