ALISON I WEBER

Park Science Center 210, Department of Biology, Bryn Mawr College aiweber@brynmawr.edu

EDUCATION

University of Washington

Neuroscience, Ph.D.

Certificate in Neural Computation & Engineering

March 2019

University of Chicago

Biological Sciences, B.A.

Minor in Computational Neuroscience

June 2011

RESEARCH

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Bryn Mawr College
Aug 2023 - present

Research areas:

mechanosensory encoding in insect wings efficient & robust sensing strategies

interaction of neural encoding, body structure, & behavior

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University of Washington
Oct 2019 - Jul 2023

Advisors:

Tom Daniel, Dept. of Biology Bing Brunton, Dept. of Biology

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University of Washington
Sep 2012 - Mar 2019

Advisors:

Fred Rieke, Dept. of Physiology & Biophysics Eric Shea-Brown, Dept. of Applied Mathematics

University of Chicago
Jun 2009 - Dec 2011

Advisor:

Sliman Bensmaia, Dept. of Organismal Biology & Anatomy

MENTORSHIP

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Aman Mamo, master's student in Materials Science & Engineering

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Christina Wang, post-baccalaureate research assistant Mars Torres, post-baccalaureate research assistant Abby von Hagel, Washington Research Foundation Innovation Postbaccalaureate Fellow in Neuroengineering

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Lucie Wolf, summer research assistant

TEACHING

 $t \in t$, Sensory Physiology (original course)

Bryn Mawr College, Spring 2024

I $t \circ t$, Senior Seminar in Science & Society

Bryn Mawr College, Spring 2024

 $t \in t$, Computational Methods in the Sciences (original course)

Bryn Mawr College, Fall 2023

 ${\it C-I}$ t ${\it \$}$ t , Controlling the Brain: Scientific, Therapeutic, & Ethical Implications of New Neurotechnologies (original course)

University of Washington Bothell, Spring 2022

 $G\mathfrak{F}$ t $t\mathfrak{F}$, Neurobiology

University of Washington, Winter 2021

 $C - t \notin t$, Introduction to Brains & Neuroscience

University of Washington, Spring 2020

 $\textbf{\textit{I}} \quad \textbf{\textit{t}} \quad \textbf{\textit{g}} \quad \textbf{\textit{t}} \quad \text{, Readings in Neurobiology: Linking Single Neuron3-207.372Td(Instructor)Tj/F310.364Tf(,)eoBraF$

- 7. **Weber AI***, Krishnamurthy K*, & Fairhall A. (2019) Coding principles in adaptation. 5: 427-449.
- 8. Saal HP, Suresh AK, Solorzano LE, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2018) The effect of contact force on the responses of tactile nerve fibers to scanned textures. 389: 99-103.
- 9. **Weber AI** & Pillow JW. (2017) Capturing the dynamical repertoire of single neurons with generalized linear models. *a* m 29(12): 3260-3289.

 Code available: github.com/aiweber/GLM_and_Izhikevich
- 10. Lieber JD, Xia X, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2017) The neural code for tactile roughness in the somatosensory nerves. 118(6):3107-3117.
- 11. Brinkman BAW*, **Weber AI***, Rieke F^{\diamond} , & Shea-Brown E^{\diamond} . (2016) How do efficient coding strategies depend on origins of noise in neural circuits?

 12(10): e1005150.
- 12. **Weber AI***, Saal HP*, Cheng JW, Lieber JD, Manfredi LR, Dammann JF, & Bensmaia SJ. (2013) Spatial and temporal codes mediate the tactile perception of natural textures. 110(42): 17107-12.
- 13. Cheng JW, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2013) Comparing the effects of isoflurane and pentobarbital on the responses of cutaneous mechanoreceptive afferents.

 13: 10.
- 14. Yau JM, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2010) Separate mechanisms for audio-tactile pitch and loudness interactions. 1: 160.

PRESENTATIONS

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- 1. Sparse and efficient sensing in flight: Lessons from insect wings. (2023, December) Department of Mechanical Engineering, Villanova University.
- 2. Wing structure and neural encoding jointly determine sensing strategies in insect flight. (2023, September) SOAR 11, Annual Meeting of the Air Force Research Laboratory and Defence

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^{*} Equal contributions

- 3. Babaei M, **Weber AI**, Daniel TL, & Bergbreiter S. (2022, January) Nonuniform stiffness of insect wings enhances sensing performance. Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
- 4. Stanchak KE, Deora T, Aiello BR, **Weber AI**, Moalin A, Sponberg S, & Brunton BW. (2022, January) Comparing the distribution of campaniform sensilla across insect wings to understand the functional consequences of sensor placement. Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
- 5. **Weber AI**, Daniel TL, & Brunton BW. (2021, January) Neural encoding and structural properties interact to determine optimal placement of sparse, spiking sensors on an insect wing. Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (Virtual).
- 6. Mamo AH, **Weber AI**, Mohren TL, Babaei M, & Daniel TL. (2021, January) Finite element analyses of flapping wings meets inertial sensing. Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (Virtual).

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7. Saal HP, Lieber JD, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2014, February)

- 9. Saal HP, Lieber JD, Boundy-Singer ZM, **Weber AI**, & Bensmaia SJ. (2016, November) Tactile texture invariance and its peripheral neural basis. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Saal HP, Lieber JD, Boundy-Singer ZM, Weber AI, & Bensmaia SJ. (2015, November) Inferring the neural representations underlying perceptual invariance in touch. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 11. Brinkman BAW*, **Weber AI***, Rieke F[⋄], & Shea-Brown E[⋄]. (2015, March) Multiple noise sources shape optimal encoding strategies in fundamentally different ways. Computational & Systems Neuroscience (COSYNE), Salt Lake City, UT.
- 12. Brinkman BAW, **Weber AI**, Rieke F^{\diamond} , & Shea-Brown E^{\diamond} . (2014, July) Noise- and stimulus-dependence of the optimal encoding nonlinearities in a simple ON/OFF retinal circuit model. Annual Computational Neuroscience Meeting (CNS), Quebec City, Canada.
- 13. Saal HP, Lieber JD, Manfredi LR, **Weber AI**, Dammann JF, & Bensmaia SJ. (2013, November) The influence of fingerprint skin on texture perception. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- 14. Lieber JD, **Weber AI**, Saal HP, & Bensmaia SJ. (2013, November) The peripheral neural code of tactile roughness for natural textures. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- 15. Harvey MA, **Weber AI**, Best MD, & Bensmaia SJ. (2011, November) Spectro-temporal receptive field properties of neurons in primate somatosensory cortex. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & HONORS

UW Data Science Postdoctoral Fellow, eScience Institute, Univ. of Washington Washington Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow

NSF Graduate Research Fellow (GRFP), Mathematical Sciences

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Fellow

Student Marshal, Univ. of Chicago

Phi Beta Kappa

Undergraduate Fellow in Neuroscience & Neuroengineering, Univ. of Chicago Summer Program for Undergraduates in Neuroscience & Neuroengineering,

Univ. of Chicago

University Scholar (academic scholarship), Univ. of Chicago

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Mentored apprenticeship to learn inclusive, evidence-based, student-centered pedagogies

C & t & t t & E t . , Winter 2017

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Quarter-long course culminating in a public lecture at Town Hall Seattle

 $Video:\ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXXjUXKUR6w\&t=115s$

^{*} Equal contributions

t C ∤ **9**t t **9** , Summer 2014 Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA

Summer course including an individual research project, from which publication [9] arose

SERVICE