

Zhuojun Yu

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Education

Case Western Reserve University (CWRU)

Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics

Supervisor: Peter J. Thomas

Thesis: Closed-Loop Control of Rhythmic Motor Behaviors

Cleveland, OH, US

Aug. 2020–June 2024

The Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics (ICERM)

Brown University

Semester program in “Math + Neuroscience: Strengthening the Interplay Between Theory and Mathematics”

Providence, RI, US

Sep. 2023–Dec. 2023

Beijing Normal University (BNU)

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature

Beijing, China

Sep. 2016–July 2020

Rutgers University -- New Brunswick

Semester Program in Mathematics

Piscataway, NJ, US

Sep. 2018–Dec. 2018

Professional Experience

Carnegie Mellon University

Postdoctoral Research Associate: Psychology & Neuroscience

Supervisors: Timothy Verstynen & Jonathan Rubin

Pittsburgh, PA, US

July 2024–Present

Bibliography

Publications

1. Yu, Z., Rubin, J. E., & Thomas, P. J. (2023). Sensitivity to control signals in triphasic rhythmic neural systems: a comparative mechanistic analysis via infinitesimal local timing response curves. *Neural Computation*, 35(6), 1028-1085.
2. Yu, Z., & Thomas, P. J. (2022). A homeostasis criterion for limit cycle systems based on infinitesimal shape response curves. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 84(4), 1-23.
3. Riddle, S., Nourse, W. R., Yu, Z., Thomas, P. J., & Quinn, R. D. (2022). A Synthetic nervous system with coupled oscillators controls peristaltic locomotion. In *Conference on Biomimetic and Biohybrid Systems* (pp. 249-261). Springer, Cham.
4. Yu, Z., & Thomas, P. J. (2021). Dynamical consequences of sensory feedback in a half-center oscillator coupled to a simple motor system. *Biological Cybernetics*, 115(2), 135-160.

In submission:

5. **Yu, Z.**, & Thomas, P. J. (2024). Variational analysis of sensory feedback mechanisms in powerstroke-recovery systems, **accepted** by *Biological Cybernetics*.
6. **Yu, Z.**, Wang, Y., Thomas, P. J., & Chiel, H. J., Tradeoffs in the energetic value of neuromodulation in a closed-loop neuromechanical system, **under review**.

In preparation:

7. Golabek, J., **Yu, Z.**, Thomas, P. J., Makowski, N., & Crago, P. E., Effects of functional electrical stimulation in a simple neuromuscular model.

Conference Talks

1. Mathematical Challenges in Neuronal Network Dynamics, ICERM Workshop at Brown University, Sep. 18 – 22, 2023.
2. 2023 American Mathematical Society Central Sectional Meeting, Session on “Mathematical Modeling in Biosciences”, Apr. 15 – 16, 2023.
3. 2021 International Conference on Mathematical Neuroscience (ICMNS), Mini-symposium on “Phase-amplitude reduction: Koopman and control”, June 28 – July 1, 2021.
4. 2021 Society for Mathematical Biology (SMB) Conference, Mini-symposium on “Biological Rhythms and Motor Control”, June 13 – 17, 2021.
5. 2020 Virtual Workshop on Motor Control, Oct. 26 – 29, 2020.

Awards & Honors

- Nominated for CWRU 2023 Richard A. Zdanis Research Fellowship Award for outstanding Ph.D. candidates *May 2023*
- Meritorious Winner (global top 8% out of 14,108 teams), 2019 Mathematical Contest in Modeling *Jan. 2019*
- BNU Merit-Based Scholarship (top 5%) *2017, 2018, 2019*

Additional Engagements

- **Peer review:** White, A. J. (2022). Sensory feedback expands dynamic complexity and aids in robustness against noise. *Biological Cybernetics*, 116(3), 267-269.
- **Invited talk:** Neurophysics seminar, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, Dec. 6, 2020 (remote).
- **Organizations:** American Mathematical Society, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, CWRU Association for Women in Mathematics.