

- TEACHING AND SERVICE STATEMENT -

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- Annals of Biomedical Engineering
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II. TEACHING STATEMENT

i) Teaching Philosophy. Teaching is a dynamical process that involves two parts, the teacher and the student. Every time I teach a course, or give a series of lectures, I think of new ways to get the message across, always taking into account the level of and feedback from the audience. Such an adaptive and iterative process has subsequently helped me review the material of a course at several quantitative and qualitative levels. That is why I always think of teaching as a learning and dynamic process for the student and the teacher. I also believe that the out-of-class interaction of the teacher with the students is a very important element in the teaching process, and always try to make myself available either through office hours, e-mail, phone or appointment.

ii) Teaching Program. The following areas of my teaching expertise have been developed at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor, University of Florida, Gainesville, Arizona State University, Tempe, and Louisiana Tech University: i) Electrical Biophysics and Physiology of the Nervous System; ii) Biomedical Signal Processing; iii) Neural Computation; iv) Biomedical Instrumentation and Design; v) Nonlinear Dynamics; vi) Linear and Nonlinear Systems Theory and Applications; vii) Advanced Digital Signal Processing; viii) Control Theory and Biomedical Applications; Information Theory. I also have taught entry-level undergraduate courses with students from all departments of the School of Engineering.

iii) More Detailed Description of Areas of Teaching Program

- Electrical biophysics of nerve cells and tissues (laws of resting and action potential generation, propagation of AP, synaptic action and statistics, mathematical modeling of axon, active transport of ions, neuromuscular junction, cell interactions and memory, mathematics of neurons). From neuron to macroscopic electrical and magnetic activity of the nervous system (EEG, MEG).
- Biomedical instrumentation and design for recording, amplification and filtering of biological signals. Principles of biological transducers (e.g. electrodes for measurement of bioelectric and biomagnetic events, pressure, volume flow and velocity, temperature). Therapeutic and prosthetic devices (e.g. brain electric and magnetic stimulators, cardiac pacemakers, defibrillators). Medical Imaging Systems (principles of radiography, thermography, nuclear medicine, ultrasonic scanning, computer-assisted tomography)
- Physiological basis and mathematical analysis of evoked responses (VEP, BAEP, SSEP). Applying systems theory to model various functions of the sensory and cognitive pathways of the central and peripheral nervous system.
- Digital processing of *deterministic* (linear and nonlinear) and *stochastic* (stationary and nonstationary) signals and images. Subareas: system identification, information theory, orthogonal transforms, time-frequency transforms, optimal filtering, pattern recognition
- Linear & nonlinear systems theory and modeling, chaos theory, control theory.
- Stability and complexity of networks of systems or of systems of spatial extent. Crises (seizures) in networks. Bifurcation analysis of their phase transitions. Synchronization of information transfer as a means for communication of the different parts of a system. Application of these principles to intelligent machines and rehabilitation.

- Information theory and its applications to the analysis of biomedical signals and images has been a recent area of teaching interest to me. It was developed from my research collaboration with Cleveland Clinic on analysis of MRI images and MEG signals from epilepsy patients for localization of the epileptogenic focus via information flow in the brain networks.

iv) Courses taught

1. Introduction to Probing and Analysis of Brain Signals and Function (BIEN 557/450C, Spring 2017, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
2. MS and PhD Research Writing (ENG 511, Winter 2014, 2015, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
3. Quantitative Neuronal Systems (BIEN 576, Spring 2015, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
4. BS Senior Design Projects (BIEN 400, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
5. Engineering Honors Leadership Class (Spring 2015, 2016, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
6. Biomedical Instrumentation - Graduate (BIEN 510, Winter 2013, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
7. Biomedical Instrumentation - Undergraduate (BIEN 325, Spring 2014, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
8. Biomedical Signals and Systems (BIEN 225, Fall 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
9. Applications of Information Theory to the Analysis of Biomedical Signals (BIEN 557, Spring 2013, [Louisiana Tech University](#))
10. Fundamentals of Applied Neural Control via Bioelectromagnetism (BME 524, Spring 2011, [Arizona State University](#))
11. The ASU experience (ASU101, Fall 2009, [Arizona State University](#))
12. Microcomputer Applications in Bioengineering (BME370, Spring 2009, [Arizona State University](#))
13. Computational Neuroscience (BME598, Spring 2008, Spring 2010, [Arizona State University](#))
14. Scientific Communication (BME598, Fall 2007, [Arizona State University](#))
15. Bioengineering Transport Phenomena, Fluids (BME331, Fall 2005, [Arizona State University](#))
16. Introduction to Engineering Design (BME 100, Fall 2007; [Arizona State University](#))
17. Biodynamics (BME598P, Fall 2001; Fall 2002, [Arizona State University](#))
18. Advanced Physiology for Bioengineers (BME 598E/494, Spring 2001 to 2005; 5 times), [Arizona State University](#))
19. Advanced Neural Signal Analysis and Processing (BME598A, Spring 2001, [Arizona State University](#))
20. Intro to Signals and Systems for Bioengineers (BME350; 2002-2010; 9 times, Lectures and Lab, [Arizona State University](#))
21. Intro to Bioengineering (ECE 100, Fall 2003; [Arizona State University](#))
22. Basic Neurophysiology, Modeling of Neuron, CNS ([University of Florida](#))
23. Intra-operative Monitoring of Evoked Potentials, Evoked Responses and Biomedical Instrumentation (Neurology Service, VA Medical Center, [University of Florida](#))
24. Lectures on Brain Dynamics and Signal Processing of the EEG ([University of Florida](#))
25. Biomedical Instrumentation and Design, Ad Hoc Lectures and laboratory ([University of Michigan, Ann Arbor](#))
26. Basic and Advanced Digital Signal Processing courses, Ad Hoc Lectures ([University of Michigan, Ann Arbor](#))

v) New Courses and Course Material Developed

Introduction to Probing and Analysis of Brain Signals and Function (BIEN 557/450C): New course at LA Tech, Spring 2017

This course for graduate and undergraduate students was designed to present a biomedical engineering approach to the fundamental *structural and functional* elements of brain's operation and to the employed tools for *acquisition and analysis* of brain signals and images during basic and higher brain functions. The course was organized in four modules with three mid-term exams and a cross-cutting area of technical writing that was tested throughout the course and resulted in a final paper. The four modules were: (i) Neurophysiology of the brain, (ii) Recording of brain's structure and function, (iii) Analysis of brain signals and images, (iv) Higher brain

functions. The final paper was on a topic that students chose out of a set of given topics on brain's diseases and disorders. **Course Objectives:** The students were introduced to: 1) basic elements of the anatomy (neurons, interneurons, astrocytes and their networks) and physiology (neurotransmitters, receptors, synapses, action potentials, field potentials) of the brain; 2) acquisition and mathematical analysis of brain's macroscopic signals (ERPs, EEG, MEG) and cellular and tissue images (optical, MRI, fMRI, NMR, Ca⁺⁺ dynamics) during different physiological states and cognitive functions; 3) electrochemical methods (CV, FSCV, Amperometry, Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy), electrode materials and fabrication for development of biomolecule microsensors.

Quantitative Neuronal Systems (BIEN 576): New course at LA Tech, Spring 2015

This graduate course dealt with the following topics: a) at the **MICRO level:** resting membrane potential, neuron action potential, models of neuron, axonal propagation of action potential, the learning neuron, neuron's output of train of APs as a random signal (presynaptic correlations and the firing of a neuron - simulations with Poisson processes; b) at the **MESO level:** networks of spiking neurons, applications of Information theory to spike generation and neural networks; at the **MACRO level:** Field potentials.

The following aspects of signal processing were introduced:

- i) **Deterministic signal processing** [Linear systems: *Time domain* - Convolution and other properties (e.g., time shift, windowing, Nyquist sampling), Correlation (Auto and Cross); *Frequency domain* - Fourier Transform (Power density and phase, Filtering, leakage, aliasing), Coherence, Laplace Transform – Z Transform (Stability and Controllability). Non-Linear systems: *State Space domain* - Dynamics, Steady States, Stability].
- ii) **Statistical signal processing** [Stochastic Signals and Systems: White and colored noise-corrupted deterministic signals, Wiener-Hopf equations, Wiener filter, Parametric: Autoregressive (AR) Modeling, Non-parametric: Principal Component Analysis (PCA) / KL Transform, Probability and Information theory (Entropy, Information, Conditional entropy, Joint Entropy, Mutual Information as a nonlinear extension to Cross-Correlation between signals)].
- iii) **Optimization / Classification** (Support Vector Machine (SVM) analysis).

Applications of Information Theory to the Analysis of Biomedical Signals (BIEN 557): New course at LA Tech, Spring 2013

This graduate course was designed to introduce graduate students of engineering to the fundamentals of probability and information and their employment in the analysis of stochastic signals, especially the ones encountered in complex networks and the noisy environment of multi-sensor recordings from the brain. Concepts of entropy, mutual information, information flow, channel capacity were developed and applied to real biomedical signals like EEG, MEG, ECG, as well as simulation spike data in neural networks. The students acquired a deep understanding of the concepts of a probabilistic signal and information channels, and the significance of their application to quantify the linear and nonlinear interactions between the components of complex deterministic and stochastic networks like the ones in the highly interconnected and interacting neural systems in the brain.

Fundamentals of Applied Neural Control via Bioelectromagnetism (BME524): New course at ASU, Spring 2011

This graduate course was designed to introduce graduate and senior undergraduate students in the fundamental principles of feedforward and feedback control and guide them in its application to biological systems. Topics include classical control (transfer functions, Bode plots), modern control (state-space, digital), robust control (hybrid), measures of performance of control (gain and phase margins), stability, observability, controllability, PID control circuits, design and implementation of controllers, bioelectric and biomagnetic aspects of membrane biophysics, ion channels, action potentials and impulse propagation, electrical tissue impedance theory and measurement, volume conductor theory, electrical and magnetic stimulation of excitable tissue, design of a controller for control of spiking of a neuron and neuronal networks (simulation studies), and a number of special topics as student term projects. At the conclusion of this course students are well prepared to independently analyze and appreciate problems in control, bioelectricity, biomagnetism and signal processing in neuroengineering.

Computational Neuroscience (BME598): New course at ASU, Spring 2008

This is a recently designed graduate course for the core of Neural Engineering in bioengineering. It includes topics on several established models of neurons, neuron networks, and advanced signal processing for detection and analysis of spatio-temporal information in neural networks in the brain. Linear (AR) and nonlinear (ARMAX) modeling of systems is reviewed. Concepts from information theory (e.g., Kolmogorov entropy, Kullback-Leibnitz entropy, mutual information) and advanced transforms (e.g., principal component and other orthogonal transforms, time-frequency analysis) are introduced and students have the opportunity to work with simulations and with real biological signals, typically the ones they generate in their laboratories for their MS and/or PhD.

Intro to Signals and Systems for Bioengineers (BME350; ASU)

This is an undergraduate course I modified and established as a core course for the undergraduate program in Bioengineering. It is an introductory course to signals and systems with applications to simulated and real biological signals (e.g. EEG, EMG, ECG). The students learn the basic definitions and principles of signals and systems (e.g. properties of causality, stability, convolution, time invariance), as well as their analysis via Fourier series, Fourier transforms, Laplace Transforms and their corresponding discrete counterparts DFTs, Z-transforms. The lectures were complemented with homework problems, midterm, final exams and two Lab hands-on projects in the Brain Dynamics Lab. The projects showed the effect of the sampling frequency of continuous signals (Nyquist criterion) and the application of DFT and Z to convolution and filter design.

Advanced Physiology for Engineers (BME 598E/494; ASU)

This is a graduate course. I was given the liberty to redesign the Neurophysiology part of the course (about 1/3 of the total) by including more engineering material with medical applications. Copies of transparencies and typed text with references to book chapters and papers were given out. This part was complemented with visits to Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI), where students had hands-on experience with cell recordings (e.g. using the patch clamp technique), Evoked Auditory, Visual and Somatosensory Potentials (EP) and electroencephalographic (EEG) recordings on an outpatient basis, and monitoring of neurophysiological recordings in the operating room (OR) for various kinds of neurological surgeries (e.g. brain, spinal cord) at a time. In their evaluations, students were particularly excited and gratified with these visits to BNI. Almost everyone thought had benefited from them a lot. The future plan is that recordings of EPs and EEGs be performed on site at ASU, most probably the Brain Dynamics Lab. In this case the BDL will become a teaching and a research Lab. Finally, the visits to BNI were complemented with assignment of related papers from the literature and oral presentations by the students.

Advanced Neural Signal Analysis and Processing (BME598A; ASU)

This is a graduate course. This course was developed in collaboration with Prof. Kipke. The goal was to introduce the students to a strict mathematical analysis of recorded electrical signals from the microscopic and the macroscopic level of CNS. Cell membrane nonlinear models of production of the action potential trains, axon propagation and synaptic models were discussed in the first part. The second part included the fundamentals of neural networks and the production of the EEG. In the last part, selective, advanced algorithms of signal processing (e.g. KL transforms, Wavelet Transforms, Nonlinear Stability measures) were taught for the EEG analysis. The lectures were accompanied with homework problems, midterm and final, including two projects on real EEG data (epileptic data in humans and mice).

Biodynamics (BME598P): New Course at ASU, Fall 2001

This is a graduate course. The dynamical aspects of signals and systems were investigated. Transition and steady states and the measures that characterize their stability (e.g. Lyapunov exponents) and complexity (e.g. correlation dimension, Kolmogorov entropy) were investigated. Homework problems with computer applications on simulation and real (e.g. EEG, EKG) data were performed. Control of steady states (fixed points, limit cycles, quasiperiodic, chaotic) was shown. Term papers with presentations were required.

vi) Teaching Evaluation

My teaching at LaTech has received high marks by the students. The evaluation of instruction over the 2 classes I taught so far is 3.8 out of a maximum of 4.0.

My teaching at ASU has received high marks by the students. The evaluation of instruction over the 22 classes I taught so far is 4.6 out of a maximum of 5.0. In addition, I felt very honored with my nomination by the student body for the "2003 University's Last Lecture" award (see CV).

vii) Mentorship

Over the years I have provided mentorship and supported financially 11 post-doctoral fellows (2 at LA Tech, 6 at ASU, 3 at UF), 45 graduate students (9 at LA Tech, 17 at ASU, 19 at UF) and 27 undergraduate students (14 at LA Tech, 10 at ASU, 3 at UF). I have chaired or co-chaired 11 Ph.D. dissertations, been a member in 17 additional Ph.D. committees, chaired 14 M.S. theses and been a member in 8 additional M.S. committees, chaired 29 undergraduate Senior Design projects and 7 Honors Theses. (See the corresponding portions of the CV for details and student placement information.)

III. SERVICE STATEMENT

My service to our academic community spans a broad spectrum of activities.

At the international level, I am currently an Associate Editor of the [Annals of Bioengineering](#) and member of the editorial board of [Epilepsy Research](#), and I have been an Associate Editor of [IEEE TBME](#), member of the editorial board of [Epilepsia](#), Associate Editor of the [Int. J. Neural systems](#), co-Editor of 2 books, Guest Editor of 5 special journal issues, and ad hoc reviewer for 37 journals.

At the national and international level, I am a member of the *Neuroengineering and Physiological Engineering Committee* for nominations of Fellows to the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineers (AIMBE) College of Fellows, have been the chair of the Awards subcommittee of the IEEE Technical Committee on Biomedical Signal Processing, chair of conferences and member of the organizational / advisory committees for 17 conferences / workshops, chaired or co-chaired 13 conference sessions of professional societies and organizations, and have been a reviewer of research proposals and books for 14 organizations: NIH, NSF, Epilepsy Foundation of America, CURE (Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy), US Civilian Research and Development Foundation, Center for Integration of Medicine and Innovative Technology (CIMIT), Austrian Science Fund, Czech Science Foundation (GACR), Medical Research Council (MRC - United Kingdom), the National Medical Research Council (Singapore), U Texas System – Brain Seed Grants, LSU Biomedical Collaborative Research Program (2015), Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and the Oxford University Press. My national and international activities were recognized by the College of Engineering and Science of the Louisiana Tech University with recognition awards for “*Leadership in international recognition of the College of Engineering and Science*” (September, 2016) and for the “*Leadership role in national recognition of the College of Engineering and Science*” (September, 2014).

At the University level, I direct Louisiana Tech University’s Center for Biomedical Engineering and Rehabilitation Science (2014-present). Over the years, I have participated in 9 college committees and 5 university committees at Louisiana Tech University and Arizona State University. As a member of the “Task Force for the “Arizona’s Bioscience Roadmap to Success”, I assisted Battelle Memorial Institute and the Flinn Foundation with the development of a roadmap for research in Biosciences in Arizona. As a member of the “Research Growth Team” of the Senior VP of Research and Development at Louisiana Tech University, I advised for the research growth of the University. As a member of the Committee for Intellectual Property and Commercialization at Louisiana Tech University, I advised the Director of IP on which inventions to pursue and assisted with patent licensing and commercialization plans at the University level.

At the departmental level, I have chaired and served on multiple departmental committees, including the P&T and Faculty Search Committee and the Biomedical Engineering Graduate Committee.

I have given 56 invited talks in conferences and meetings, including NSF and NIH workshops, the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing, and the American Society for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and participated in the ASU President’s “Community Enrichment Outreach Program” in 2002 and 2005. My research has frequently been cited at the national and local press, including the Discover magazine and the New York Times. I am currently a member of 6 professional societies. Please refer to my Curriculum Vitae for more details on my academic service.