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VISITING PROGRAM

# TSVP TALK

## Models of the Ventral Visual Pathway, From Neurobiology To Artificial Networks

2025  
FRI.

**Jul. 18**

**14:00–15:00**

**HYBRID** L5D23, ZOOM



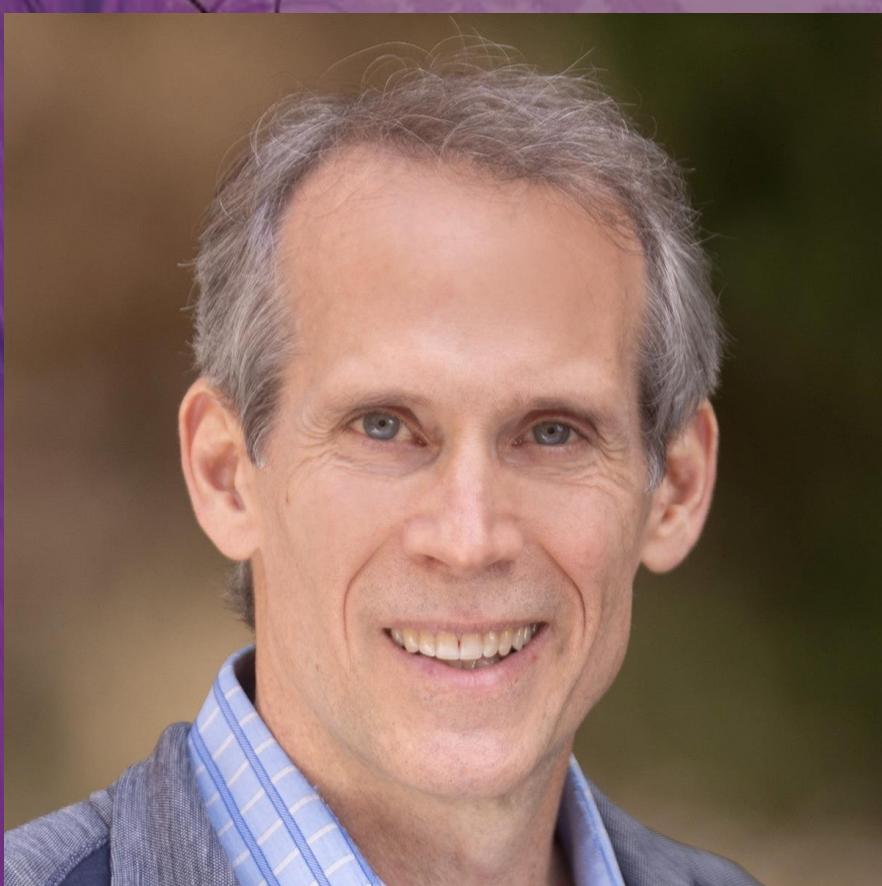
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Neuroscientists have studied the physiological properties of single neurons in the brains of highly visual organisms to understand the circuits and computations that underlie our ability to effortlessly interpret complex scenes and rapidly recognize objects in challenging visual conditions. Much progress has been made in outlining the general principles of organization in the retina and at the first stages of the visual cortex, but it has proven far more challenging to understand, and to model, the middle and higher levels of cortical visual processing. Yet, the past decade has seen a revolution in artificial visual systems arising from machine learning, and now deep artificial neural networks (ANNs) show human-level performance on many vision tasks. This offers a great challenge and a great opportunity for neuroscientists to take advantage of these ANNs to study visual representation. I will compare models created by neuroscientists to those arising from machine learning, and will demonstrate how ANNs can be leveraged by neurophysiologists to better understand the primate visual cortex. At the same time, insights from neurophysiology may be important to guide the next generation of artificial vision systems.

University of Washington

## Wyeth Bair

Wyeth Bair received a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Penn State and a PhD in Computation and Neural Systems from Caltech, focusing on visual cortex modeling, neural coding, and analog VLSI circuits. Since 2011 he is at the University of Washington, where he runs a 2- and 3-photon imaging rig for primate research. His work includes mid-level form processing and "Artiphysiology" and functional connectomic studies of the primate visual cortex (in collaboration with the Allen Institute).



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