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My own research interests are essentially multi-disciplinary. Broadly speaking, I am interested in the intersection of natural and computational systems. This can take many forms, but the most interesting applications to me are in the study of speech. Speech processing methods necessitate critical understanding of the human vocal and auditory systems, as well as the high-level control mechanisms that tie these two to language. It is important to understand how articulation is related to acoustic information and how that information is, in turn, interpreted by the peripheral auditory system. Equally important is the role played by top-down systems, and how cognition can guide and enhance the bottom-up systems. All of this knowledge can then inform the design of effective computational techniques. In my own research experience, readings, and talks with established scientists, I have been continually reminded of how much interesting work remains to be done. I am so captivated by this research area because of the wealth of open questions.