MEET OUR NEWEST GRAD STUDENTS

Daniel Edward Acosta-Kane

Homero Barrocas Soares Esmeraldo

Before starting my PhD at UCSD, I did a bachelor in Computer Engineering in Brazil, and an MSc by Research in Computational Neuroscience at Oxford, UK. I use computational models to study how the brain implements learning, memory, decision making and inference. Reinforcement learning, synaptic plasticity and neuronal dynamics are the topics I mostly deal with when studying these cognitive phenomena.

Dillan Elise Cellier

Tyler Akira Chang

I am a Cognitive Science PhD student interested in computational linguistics, natural language processing, and discourse processes. I finished my undergrad at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, studying math and cognitive science. In my free time, I enjoy playing piano, being outside, and trying new things.
Aiden C. Iveris is a first-year Ph.D student in the Cognitive Science department at UCSD. His primary research interests are in the areas of auditory cognition, perception, and development. Specific topics include language acquisition, music cognition, and the role of sound information in early childhood development. Prior to his graduate studies, Aiden completed dual undergraduate degrees in Brain and Cognitive Science at the University of Rochester, and Applied Music (Viola) at the Eastman School of Music. In his spare time, Aiden enjoys hiking, sewing, and spending time with his husband, Warner. If Aiden could be any animal, he would be a goat.
I am a 1st-year cognitive science graduate student at UCSD. My research interests include studying individual differences in learning and collaboration among children, self-regulation, embodied cognition, design of constructionist learning environments, and human-robot interaction. I have an undergraduate degree in control and instrumentation engineering and later earned a master's degree in robotics and automation at Amrita University in India. My past research traverses various domains such as robotics and haptics, human motor skills training, maker education, design of makerspaces, and women empowerment.

Akshay Nagarajan

I'm a 1st-year cognitive science graduate student at UCSD. My research interests include studying individual differences in learning and collaboration among children, self-regulation, embodied cognition, design of constructionist learning environments, and human-robot interaction. I have an undergraduate degree in control and instrumentation engineering and later earned a master's degree in robotics and automation at Amrita University in India. My past research traverses various domains such as robotics and haptics, human motor skills training, maker education, design of makerspaces, and women empowerment.

Eena Lee Kosik

I am a first year PhD student in the Voytek Lab. I'm interested in using electrophysiology and autonomies to measure the complex biological dynamics that contribute to aging. In my previous research experience, I have studied the neural components of prediction using electroencephalography and electrocorticography in Dr. Robert Knight’s lab at UC Berkeley and assisted in research studying the psychophysiological aberrations in patients with neurodegenerative disease in Dr. Virginia Sturm's lab at UCSF.

Davis Lee

I am a graduate student in the department of Cognitive Science at the University of California, San Diego. Previously, I completed my undergraduate degree in Cognitive Science w/Spec in Neuroscience at UCSD before working as a research associate in the Brain Aging and Rejuvenation field at Stanford University. My research interests lie broadly in the neurophysiology of cognition with the hopes of integrating previous experiences in my future research.

Quirine van Engen

I've obtained my B.Sc. Psychobiology and M.Sc. Brain and Cognitive Sciences (with a specialization in Cognitive science) at the University of Amsterdam. During my masters, I did a 6-month internship at the Voytek lab here at UCSD and had the privilege to present it at SfN. In short, I researched brain oscillations during a WM task. Throughout this time I fell in love with the place and the lab, so I set my heart on coming back for a PhD. Also, I love cats.

Harshada Vijay Yadav

Harshada is a first-year in the Cognitive Science graduate program. She is fascinated with languages and is interested in studying concepts and analogical thinking in her time here. She holds an MSc from the London School of Economics and has spent a few years doing development and public policy work.