ELVIO A. BLINI, Ph.D. [he, him]
Italian, 35 years old, born 04 December 1986
35, via B. Colleoni – 24053, Brignano Gera d'Adda (BG), Italy
(+39) 328 ******* (mobile)
elvioadalberto.blini@unifi.it / elvio.blini@gmail.com
Google Scholar account: http://goo.gl/naatmJ

EDUCATION

01/2013 – 04/2016   **Ph.D.**
Department of Psychology, University of Padua
Doctoral School of Psychology – Cognitive Sciences Program
Supervisor: Prof. Marco Zorzi

10/2006 – 07/2011   **M. Sc., 110/110 cum laude**
Department of Psychology, Bicocca University of Milan
Psychology – Clinical, Developmental and Neuro- psychology
Supervisor: Prof. Giuseppe Vallar

EMPLOYMENT

01/2023 – current   **Assistant Professor (RTDa)**
Dept. Of Neuroscience, Psychology, and child's health
University of Florence
via di San Salvi, 12, building 26 – 50135, Firenze (FI), Italy

05/2020 – 05/2022   **Senior Postdoc Fellow (type B fellowship)**
Department of General Psychology, University of Padua
via Venezia 12/2 – 35131, Padova (PD), Italy

02/2018 – 02/2020   **Marie Skłodowska Curie Research Fellow**
ImpAct Team, INSERM, CNRS, Centre de Neuroscience de Lyon, and
University Claude Bernard of Lyon
16, av. Doyen Lépine – 69500, Bron Cedex, France

06/2016 - 01/2018   **PRESTIGE, Marie Skłodowska Curie Research Fellow**
ImpAct Team, INSERM, CNRS, Centre de Neuroscience de Lyon, and
University Claude Bernard of Lyon
16, av. Doyen Lépine – 69500, Bron Cedex, France

01/2013 - 04/2016   **Ph.D. Candidate**
Department of General Psychology, University of Padua
8, via Venezia – 35131, Padova (PD), Italy
Supervisor: Prof. Marco Zorzi

02/2015 – 09/2015   **Visiting Ph.D. Student**
ImpAct Team, INSERM, CNRS, Centre de Neuroscience de Lyon
16, av. Doyen Lépine – 69500, Bron Cedex, France
Supervisor: Dr. Alessandro Farné

03/2012 – 12/2012   **Research Assistant**
Department of Psychology, Bicocca University of Milan
1, p.zza Ateneo Nuovo – 20126, Milano (MI), Italy
Supervisor: Prof. Giuseppe Vallar

7/2011 – 03/2012	**Research Assistant**
	Department of Brain Rehabilitation, IRCCS – Istituto Auxologico Italiano
	32, via Mercalli – 20122, Milano (MI), Italy
	Supervisor: Dr. Roberta Ronchi

SKILLS

Advanced   R – a Language for Statistical Computing (link); Python (link); MATLAB (link); OpenSesame (link), PsychoPy (link), E-Prime (link); Neuropsychological assessment (link); Statistical and Computational modelling (link); brain stimulation (link) (link); Eye-Tracking (link); Virtual Reality (link) (link); fMRI (link) (link); Pupillometry, heart rate recording (link);

Languages   Italian (native), English and French (fluent).

Other skills/interests   Voracious devourer of music and literature. During my spare time I occasionally write short novels or dialogues. Almost decent cook.

CREATIVITY, INDEPENDENCE, STRENGHTS: A NARRATIVE REVIEW

Before moving to Padua for my Ph.D. (2013), I underwent a long training as a research assistant in Milan, both in a clinical (2011-2012) and academic (2012) setting. After my M.Sc. degree (obtained the 5th July 2011), I spent several months in a clinical research institute (Italian Auxological Institute, Milan), working with patients with sustained brain damage and handling neuropsychological research. Afterwards, starting from the experience in the numerical cognition field, I proposed a novel paradigm to study spatial aspects of magnitude(s), and finalised the project under the supervision of Prof. G. Vallar (Blini et al., 2013) within the Bicocca University of Milan laboratories. Previous collaborations in the same topic and clinical population were made with researchers abroad (M. Pesenti and S. Di Luca, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium). At the very beginning of my Ph.D., supervised by Prof. M. Zorzi (2013), I was introduced to the clinical setting of the San Camillo hospital in Venice – an excellence centre well renowned for the high quality clinical research. Here, I started handling an ambitious trial involving neurological patients and a novel (proved more sensitive) diagnostic tool for spatial attention disorders (in collaboration with Dr. F. Meneghello; Blini et al., 2016). Within the same project, the acquisition of neuroimaging data (fMRI and EEG) took place, in collaboration with Prof. A. Venneri and Dr. C. Spironelli. I also acquired direct experience with fMRI acquisitions and analysis later on (2014) in the context of a functional neuroimaging study of the very same task performed by healthy individuals (University Hospital of Padua). I became interested in vestibular aspects of cognition in 2013, and soon independently approached the otology section of the City Hospital (Prof. A. Staffieri, Dr. G. Marioni), meeting keen interest from the medical community. The novel idea was to translate my expertise with attentional disorders to a different clinical population, namely patients with vestibular disorders. A further diagnostic trial, using state-of-the-art tools and sensitive tasks, was therefore established. One year after this first approach (2014), I became interested in vestibular stimulation (VS) techniques and their potential impact. Given the lack of expertise in my university, I approached Prof. P. Brugger and Dr. B. Lenggenhager from the University Hospital of Zurich (Neuropsychology Unit, Department of Neurology). I was awarded with my Ph.D. in April 2016. I am since willing to understand whether VS, that is known to activate deep-limbic regions of the brain, may also modulate reward-related aspects of cognition and interoceptive processing. For this reason I approached in 2014 Dr. A. Farné, based in the INSERM U1028 unit in Lyon (FR), with whom I envisaged, after a seven months research stay in 2015, studies with VS in both healthy and neurological patients. Besides, I further refined state-of-the-art neuroimaging techniques by taking advantage of the presence, in the same hosting institution, of Dr.s F. Hadj-Bouziane, D. Meunier, and E. Macaluso. These projects received funding by the People Programme (Marie Curie Actions) of the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) through the PRESTIGE programme

coordinated by Campus France in 2016-2017, and then by a further Marie Curie individual fellowship (H2020). Since 2020, I am a senior postdoc fellow at the Dept. of General Psychology, Padova, where I plan to pursue experimental and translational research. While the mere bibliometric indices do not reflect yet this multifaceted journey in science – in that mobility, responsibilities as a young PI, and tendency to favour quality and rigor in research came at the expenses of more quantitative aspects – the following strengths can be duly documented: i) the strong mobility track-record, which resulted in a rich network of European collaborations. ii) the range and diversity of topics covered by my research (numerical cognition, spatial neglect, peripersonal space, vestibular system, interoception, machine learning approaches for fMRI). iii) the high degree of creativity in research which, also in light of interdisciplinary and translational aspects, was awarded with several prestigious grants. iv) the rigor of open science practices, including registered reports and established pipelines to share data, materials, and computer code. v) the strong track-record of quantitative methods for research in the behavioural sciences, which encompasses state-of-the-art statistical, machine learning, and computational modelling techniques. vi) excellent coaching, mentoring, and collaborative predisposition for the aforementioned strengths (contribution acknowledged in the following papers for which authorship was not claimed: Thibault et al., 2021, *Science*; Pélisson et al., 2018, *Neuroimage*; Reynaud et al., 2019, *Neuropharmacology*).

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS
(Latest update: October 2022; Source: Google Scholar; h-index= 7, i-index= 7)

Year	Article	Citations	Open Practices
2022	**Blini, E.**, & Zorzi, M. (2022). Pupil size as a robust marker of attentional bias toward nicotine-related stimuli in smokers. <u>Psychonomic Bulletin & Review</u>, *ahead of print*.	-	
2022	Felisatti, A., Ranzini, M., **Blini, E.**, Lisi, M., & Zorzi, M. (2021). Effects of attentional shifts along the vertical axis on number processing: an eye-tracking study with optokinetic stimulation. <u>Cognition</u>, 221*, 104991.*	3	
2021	Zorzi, M., Filippo De Grazia, M. D., **Blini, E.**, & Testolin, A. (2021). Assessment of Machine Learning Pipelines for Prediction of Behavioral Deficits from Brain Disconnectomes. In <u>International Conference on Brain Informatics</u> (pp. 211-222). Springer, Cham.	2	
2021	Zanini, A., Patané, I., **Blini, E.**, Salemme, R., Koun, E., Farnè, A., & Brozzoli, C. (2021). Peripersonal and reaching space differ: evidence from their spatial extent and multisensory facilitation pattern. <u>Psychonomic Bulletin & Review</u>, 28 (6), 1894-1905.	6	
2021	Dureux*, A., **Blini*, E.**, Grandi, L.C., Bogdanova, O., Desoche, C., Farnè, A., & Hadj-Bouziane, F. (2021). Close facial emotions enhance physiological responses and facilitate perceptual discrimination. <u>Cortex</u>, 138, 40-58*.* *** Shared first authorship**	10	
2021	Reynaud, A. J., **Blini, E.**, Koun, E., Macaluso, E., Meunier, M., & Hadj-Bouziane, F. (2021). Atomoxetine modulates the contribution of high-and low-level signals during free viewing of natural images in rhesus monkeys. <u>Neuropharmacology</u>, 182, 108377.	3	
2021	**Blini, E.**, Farnè, A., Brozzoli, C., and Hadj-Bouziane, F. (2021). "Close is better: visual perception in peripersonal space". In "The World at our Fingertips: A Multidisciplinary Exploration of Peripersonal Space" eds. de Vignemont, F., et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780198851738	2	**(book chapter)**
2020	**Blini, E.**, Tilikete, C., Chelazzi, L., Farnè, A., & Hadj-Bouziane, F. (2020). The role of the vestibular system in value attribution to positive and negative reinforcers. *Cortex*, 133, 215-235.	3	

2019	Bonato, M., Romeo, Z., **Blini, E.**, Pitteri, M., Durgoni, E., Passarini, L., Meneghello, F., and Zorzi, M. (2019). Ipsilesional impairments of visual awareness after right-hemispheric stroke. *Front. Psychol.*, 10, 697.	**7**	
2019	**Blini, E.**, Pitteri, M, and Zorzi, M. (2019). Spatial grounding of symbolic arithmetic: evidence from optokinetic stimulation. *Psychological Research*, 83 (1), 64-83.	**15**	
2018	**Blini, E.**, Desoche, C., Salemme, R., Kabil, A., Hadj-Bouziane, F., and Farnè, A. (2018). Mind the depth: visual perception of shapes is better in peripersonal space. *Psychological Science*, 29 (11), 1868-1877.	**25**	
2018	**Blini, E.**, Tilikete, C., Farnè, A. & Hadj-Bouziane, F. (2018). Probing the role of the vestibular system in motivation and reward-based attention. *Cortex,* 103, 82-99.	**23**	
2016	**Blini, E.**, Romeo, Z., Spironelli, C., Pitteri, M., Meneghello, F., Bonato, M., & Zorzi, M. (2016). Multi-tasking uncovers right spatial neglect and extinction in chronic left-hemisphere stroke patients. N*europsychologia*, 92, 147-157.	**44**	
2015	Ranzini, M., Lisi, M., **Blini, E.**, Pitteri, M., Treccani, B., Priftis, K., and Zorzi, M. (2015). Larger, smaller, odd or even? Task-specific effects of optokinetic stimulation on the mental number space. *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 27(4), 459-470.	**32**	
2013	**Blini, E.**, Cattaneo, Z., Vallar, G. (2013). Different effects of numerical magnitude on visual and proprioceptive reference frames. *Front. Psychol.*, 4, 190.	**10**	

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Year	Reference	Type
2021	**Blini, E.**, De Filippo De Grazia, M., Testolin, A., and Zorzi, M. (2020). FCnet: An R package for the analysis of Functional Connectivity matrices through elastic NETs. *R package version 0.1.1.9000:* https://github.com/EBlini/FCnet	**R package**
2016	**Blini, E.** (2016). Biases in Visuo-Spatial Attention: from Assessment to Experimental Induction. University of Padova – director: Marco Zorzi	**Ph.D. thesis**
2011	**Blini, E.** (2011). La cognizione numerica nella negligenza spaziale unilaterale: effetti di ri-orientamento attentivo dati dalle informazioni di quantità numerica. Bicocca University of Milan – director: Giuseppe Vallar	**M.Sc. thesis**

ATTENDED CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

2013 – 2022	RAW 2013, Rovereto, IT, workshop; SINP 2013, Milano, IT, congress; AIP 2014, Pavia, IT, congress; RAW 2015, Rovereto, IT, workshop; SINP 2015, Padova, IT, congress; From Research to business 2018, EU webinar; Italian Open Science Society 2018, Milano, IT, founding congress; AIP 2020, online; ICSC 2021, online; EWCN 2022, Brixen, online;
Invited speaker	"Oculomotricité et perception en réalité virtuelle", Lyon, FR, 06/10/2016, hosted by ImpAct and IRBA (Institut de recherche biomédicale des armées).
Outreach	**Fête de la science 2017** (10th to 15th October), Musée de Confluences, Lyon, FR. Exhibitor with the neuro-immersion platform. Public: general. Theme: virtual reality in science and research. http://www.museedesconfluences.fr/fr/evenements/plateforme-neuro-i
	The Web Conference 2018 (23th to 27th April), Cité internationale, Lyon, FR. Exhibitor with the neuro-immersion platform. Public: general; start-up and innovators; engineers and computer scientists. Theme: new directions for the World Wide Web. https://www2018.thewebconf.org/

Press coverage:
Motivation and decision-making: a new role for the vestibular system. *CORDIS – the magazine of European Research (2020)*. Available in six different languages. [Link](#)

Twitter account: @e_blini (EN, IT, FR).

ACADEMIC FUNDING, AWARDS, AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2021-2022   **STARS@UniPD 2021 for the project HARVEST**
Scouting program of the University of Padova to retrieve ERC applicants. The project was eventually granted funding of __110 k€ for 2 years__, though at that point I had to decline it to later accept a position in Florence.

2020 – 2022   **Senior postdoc (type B) fellowship – Departments of excellence**
The public competition (based on a project as PI) was made possible thanks to a grant from MIUR (Departments of Excellence DM 11/05/2017 n. 262) to the Department of General Psychology, University of Padova. __~50k€, 2 years__

2017 – 2020   **Marie Skłodowska Curie individual fellowship (IF-746154)**
Funded under the European Union's H2020 Program to study the link between the vestibular system and motivation. Application number: IF-746154 (BRAVEST). __~175k€, 2 years__

2016 – 2017   ***PRESTIGE Incoming Mobility co-financing grant.***
Funded by the People Programme (Marie Curie Actions) of the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under REA grant agreement PCOFUND-GA-2013-609102, through the PRESTIGE program coordinated by Campus France. Application number: PRESTIGE-2016-2-0003. __~30k€, 1 year__

2013 – 2015   **L. 170 grant from the Italian Ministry of Research.**
Theme "New applications for the bio-medical industry", worth one full Ph.D. scholarship. __~50k€, 3 years__

COMMISSIONS OF TRUST

2022   **Expert evaluator for the Complutense University of Madrid (number: 2024). Evaluator for the Proyecto UNA4CAREER postdoctoral program.**

2021 - present   **Expert evaluator for the European Union Horizon Europe framework (EX2019D361005). Evaluator for the HE-MSCA-PF program (Marie Curie program) in the 2021 and 2022 editions.**

2013 – present   **Ad hoc reviewer for:** *Frontiers in (Human Neuroscience, Psychology), Cortex, Neuropsychologia, PeerJ, European Journal of Neuroscience, Experimental Brain Research, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, the PCI Registered Reports initiative.*

SUPERVISING AND MENTORING ACTIVITY

2020 – current	3 Ph.D. students (2 from Lyon, 1 from Padua), and 2 undergraduates (Padua).
2017 – 2020	1 Ph.D. student in a clinical setting (Padua), 3 Ph.D. students (2 from Lyon, 1 from Padua) and 2 undergraduates (Lyon and Padua) in an experimental setting; since 2018, 2 post docs (Lyon and Padua)
2013 – 2016	3 undergraduate trainees in a clinical setting (Padua), 5 undergraduate trainees in an experimental setting (4 from Padua, 1 from Milan)
2011 – 2013	2 undergraduate trainees in a clinical setting, 1 undergraduate trainee in an experimental setting (Milan)