

ALEC GALLO

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EDUCATION

- 2022-2023 **M.Sc Cognitive Neuroscience of Language** (9.04/10 Excellent)
Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, Spain

Thesis: Thalamic nuclei development and their involvement in language development over middle childhood
Supervisors: Kepa Paz-Alonso, Amaia Carrión-Castillo
- 2021-2022 **MA in Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics** (8.95/10 Good)
University of the Basque Country (UPV), Spain

Thesis: Canavesano: acoustic description of the vowel system of Piedmontese variety
Supervisor: Gorka Elordieta Alcibar
- 2017-2020 **BA in Humanities**, University of Turin (UNITO), Italy, (102/110)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

- May 2024 - present **Research Assistant** University of Konstanz, Germany
Supervisors: Dr. Tamara Rathcke, Department of Linguistics
- Mar 2024 - present **Research Internship** University of California-San Francisco, US
Supervisor: Dr. Carly Demopoulos, Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Imaging Laboratory

- studied the association between rapid speech processing in MEG and verbal and non-verbal vocal communication in autism spectrum disorder children

- data analysis and writing the paper (to be published)
- Feb 2024 - present **Research Internship** University of Texas at Austin, US
Supervisors: Dr. Stephanie Grasso & Miguel Angel Santos, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

- MRI data pre-processing, Surface-based morphometry (SBM)
- Sep 2023 - Feb 2024 **Research Assistant** Danish Research Centre for Magnetic Resonance (DRCMR), Denmark
Supervisors: Dr. Vanessa Wiggermann, Hartwig R. Siebner, Neuroimaging in Multiple Sclerosis' Research Group (NiMS)

- MRI data pre-processing using Quantitative Susceptibility Mapping (QSM), manual segmentation of the thalamus.

- Analyzed MRI data using voxel-based morphometry (VBM) analysis to detect structural differences in the thalamic nuclei in multiple sclerosis patients.

- Collected MRI data at 7 and 3T scanners.
- Dec 2021 - May 2022 **Research Assistant** University of the Basque Country, Spain
Supervisor: Dr. Gorka Elordieta Alcibar

- Writing up the manuscript

- Collect and analyze language production data in an Italian dialect using Praat and SPSS.
- Nov 2019 - Jun 2020 **Research Assistant** University of Turin, Italy
Supervisor: Dr. Riccardo Regis

- Collected language data in the wild in Piedmontese varieties.

PUBLICATIONS

Carrion-Castillo A*, **Gallo A***, Liu M., Paz-Alonso P.M. Thalamic nuclei development and their association in language development over middle childhood (In prep).

Gallo A. & Demopoulos C. Association between rapid speech processing verbal and non-verbal vocal communication in autism spectrum disorder (In prep).

Gallo A, García-Palomino A., Elordieta Alcibar, G. An acoustic description of the Canavesano Piedmontese vowel system (In prep).

CONGRESSES & PRESENTATIONS

Alec Gallo (2024). Relationships between language development and thalamic nuclei maturation over childhood. Oral presentation at University of Konstanz (Germany)

Alec Gallo, Amaia Carrión-Castillo, Liu Mengxing, Kepa Paz-Alonso (2023). Longitudinal development of thalamic nuclei over childhood. Oral presentation at *Thalamus Anatomy and Connectomics Conference*, Max Planck Institute, Tübingen (Germany)

Alec Gallo & Gorka Elordieta Alcibar (2023). Variación sociofonética en el sistema vocálico del Canavesano, una variedad piamontesa. Oral presentation at International Conference on Experimental Phonetics, Vigo (Spain)

Alec Gallo & Gorka Elordieta Alcibar (2023). Age-dependent variation in the realization of schwa in Canavesano Piedmontese. Oral presentation at Phonetics and Phonology in Europe (PaPE), Nijmegen (Netherlands)

Alec Gallo (2022). Canavesano: acoustic description of the vowel system of a Piedmontese variety. Poster presentation at University of South Bohemia (Czech Republic)

Alec Gallo (2022). The desinence ['UMA] in two varieties of Piedmontese: geographical and social variation of a trait. Oral presentation at the 23rd Annual International Conference of the English department (AICED), University of Bucharest (Romania)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 **Lecture** at the Advanced Course in Phonetics and Phonology, University of the Basque Country (UPV)

2020-2021 **Taught English** to refugees and children at Drapet in Havet, and Charitable Roots NGOs (Lesbos, Dunkirk)

INDIVIDUAL GRANTS and AWARDS

2023 Travel Grant to attend the BrainHack workshop, Donostia-San Sebastian, Spain

2023 DRCMR Institutional Funding to cover conference fees and accommodation

2022 Grant to attend Summer School in Bellinzona Switzerland

2019 Winner of the national writing contest "Amilcare Solferini"

OTHER EDUCATION

2024 **Summer school of Linguistics**, University of South Bohemia (Czech Republic)

2022 **Summer school Centre of dialectology and historical linguistics**, Bellinzona (Switzerland)

2022 **Summer school of Linguistics**, University of South Bohemia (Czech Republic)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES & VOLUNTEERING

Ad hoc **Reviewer** for *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology*

2024 **BrainHack Nordic workshop**, Copenhagen (Denmark)

- BIDS standard in MRI, EGG, and behavioral data

2023 **BrainHack workshop**, Donostia-San Sebastian (Spain)

- Development of open-source tools to promote open science practices in the field of neuroscience

2023 **Collaborator at Association of Acquired Brain Injury of Gipuzkoa** (ATECE), San Sebastian (Spain)

- provided speech-therapy to individuals with acquired brain injuries, helping them improve communication skills and regain lost abilities.
- Designed and facilitated memory tasks to assist individuals with cognitive rehabilitation and memory improvement.

2020-2021 **Project coordinator at Offene Arme**, Chios (Greece)

- Managing volunteers, planning activities in the camp, organizing food and clothes distributions
- Collaboration with partner organizations in the island

2014-2019 **Assistant Gymnastic Artistic Trainer**, Turin (Italy)

SKILLS & CERTIFICATES

Statistical Analysis: R (Mixed effect modeling, Anovas), Jasp, SPSS

Programming and Toolboxes: Python, Bash, Matlab (QSM, ANTs), FSL, SPM (Cat12, VBM), Freesurfer, Praat, Pclbex.

Data acquisition: MRI scanner operator (3 and 7T Philips scanners); EEG

Languages: **Italian & Piedmontese**: native speaker; **English** and **Spanish**: fluent, **French**: intermediate