

Ata B. Karagoz, B.S.

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis
832-738-8196 | a.b.karagoz@wustl.edu

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

Sep. 2020 – Present

PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Aug. 2014 – May 2018

Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests include studying the formation of conceptual cognitive maps and hierarchical structures in the brain to accurately represent the relationships between items. I am also interested in event memory, reinforcement learning, naturalistic stimuli, and neuroimaging.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION/SUBMITTED

Karagoz, A.B., Reagh, Z.M., Kool, W. (In Preparation) Construction and use of cognitive maps in model-based control.

Roome, H.E., Sherrill, K.R., Coughlin, C.A., **Karagoz, A.B.**, Preston, A.R. (In Preparation) The development of spatial navigation: Importance of cue integration.

Sherrill, K.R., Molitor, R.J., **Karagoz, A.B.**, Atiyam, M., Mack, M.L., Preston, A.R. (Submitted)

Hippocampal and medial prefrontal cognitive maps formed through spatial navigation influence processing in non-spatial contexts.

CONFERENCE/POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Delarazan, A.D.*, **Karagoz, A.B.***, Montchal, M.E., Yassa, M.A., Ranganath, C., Reagh, Z.M. (2021)

Hippocampal and entorhinal contributions to naturalistic event context reinstatement. Virtual Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Conference

Karagoz, A.B.*, Reagh, Z.M., Kool, W. (2021) The construction and use of cognitive maps in model-based control. Virtual Poster presented at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting

Karagoz, A.B.*, Reagh, Z.M. (2021) Decoding perceptual and semantic relatedness among characters in naturalistic events. Virtual Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Conference

Sherrill, K.*, Molitor, R., **Karagoz, A.**, Atiyam, M., Mack, M., Preston, A. (2019) Hippocampal and medial prefrontal cognitive maps formed through spatial navigation influence processing in non-spatial contexts. Talk presented at the Context and Episodic Memory Symposium

Pederson, A.M.*, **Karagoz, A.B.***, Dean, D., Dembny, K.E., Dodla, M., Duncan, L., Fahmy, R., Kuo, A., Haimes, D.B., Golding, N.L. (2017). Role of Kv1 channels in regulating the excitability and firing patterns of neurons in the medial geniculate body. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Conference

* denotes presenter

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AD-HOC REVIEWING

- Cerebral Cortex
- Neuron
- Nature Communications
- eLife

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

How does the brain navigate semantic topics? Developing a new task to track subjects' "navigation" through semantic space in free recall.

How does the brain construct and manipulate representations of social networks? Using representational similarity to analyze neural coding of different characters in an open fMRI dataset where participants watched a socially dynamic movie.

How does reward and cognitive control bias memory specificity? Using a reward learning task to understand how people's exertion of cognitive control changes their memory for different aspects of their environment.

CERTIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS

The University of Texas Biomedical Imaging Center, Level 1 and 2 Siemens fMRI Operator

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Preston Lab, The University of Texas at Austin

Jan. 2018 – Aug. 2020

Supervisor: Alison Preston, Ph.D.

Lab Manager

- Assisted in data collection and analysis for various memory integration and navigational projects.
- Scheduled and built a participant pool for behavioral and scanning projects.
- Managed IRB approval for lab studies for amendments and continuing reviews.
- Assisted in developing a streamlined process for data archival.
- Managed cash advances and lab administration.

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Complex Memory Lab, Washington University in St. Louis

Aug. 2020 – Present

Supervisor: Zachariah Reagh, Ph.D.

Graduate Research Assistant

- Designing research and data collection.
- Analyzing open fMRI datasets.
- Developing computational models of behavior.

The Preston Lab, The University of Texas at Austin

Nov. 2015 – Jan. 2018

Supervisor: Alison Preston, Ph.D.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Assisted in fMRI scanning studies.
- Wrote analysis scripts in MATLAB for ongoing projects.
- Designed a study and developed presentation code in MATLAB.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant to Instructor, Washington University in St. Louis

Sep. 2021 – Present

Course: Human Learning and Memory

- Wrote and graded quizzes
- Hosted exam review sessions

Mentoring Undergraduate Research Assistants

June 2018 – Present

Complex Memory Lab

- Holly Graziano (**Washington University in St. Louis**)
- Ron Fishman (**Washington University in St. Louis**)

Preston lab

- Connor McKee (**UT Austin**)
- Doru Gucer (**UT Austin**)
- Katherine Vasquez (**UT Austin**)

Psychology Outreach with Elementary Schoolers

Sep. 2020 – Dec. 2020

- Zoom lectures involving introductory psychology topics
- Taught students about perception using zoom relevant lessons

GitHub Clinic, *Complex Memory Lab*

Sep. 2020

- Taught version control tools
- Taught best practices involving git

GitHub Clinic, *Preston Lab*

May 2019

- Taught version control tools
- Taught best practices involving git

Peer Learning Assistant, The University of Texas at Austin

Aug. 2015 – Dec. 2015

Course: Neural Systems 1

- Led weekly discussion sessions for peers in class
- Attended weekly meetings with professor to target specific topics

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SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Python (fluent), MATLAB (fluent), R (beginner), bash scripting (intermediate), JavaScript (beginner)
- Reproducible Science Workflows: Docker/Singularity (beginner), Jupyter Notebooks (intermediate), GitHub (intermediate)
- Management of Open Science Protocols and Data
- Deep Learning Framework: pytorch (beginner)
- High Performance Computing Cluster: Texas Advanced Computing Center, Washington University Center for High Performance Computing
- fMRI data preprocessing: ANTS, FEAT, FSL
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Languages: English (native), Turkish (native), German (beginner)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Society for Neuroscience, student member
- Cognitive Neuroscience Society, student member
- Psychonomic Society, student member