

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
PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences

Sep. 2020 – Present

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience

Aug. 2014 – May 2018

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. (Submitted) Construction and use of cognitive maps in model-based control. (preprint link: <https://psyarxiv.com/ngqwa/>).

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.**, Atyam, 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

Roome, H.E.*, Sherrill, K.R., Nguyen, K.V., **Karagoz, A.B.**, Coughlin, C.A., Preston, A.R. (2022) Medial temporal lobe error signals mediate developmental differences in spatial memory precision. Nano-symposium talk at Society for Neuroscience (SfN).

Sherrill, K.R.*, Roome, H.E., **Karagoz, A.B.**, Long, J.M., Preston, A.R. (2022) Emergence of hippocampal and ventromedial prefrontal cortex context-dependent coding during virtual navigation. Nano-symposium talk at Society for Neuroscience (SfN)

Karagoz, A.B.*, Reagh, Z.M., Kool, W. (2022) Constructing and using cognitive maps for model-based control. Poster presented at Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM).

Karagoz, A.B.*, Reagh, Z.M. (2022) Representations of perceptual versus semantic relationships among characters in naturalistic events. Poster presented at the Context and Episodic Memory Symposium (CEMS).

Reagh, Z.M.*, Morse, S.J., Fishman, R., Angulo-Lopera, S., **Karagoz, A.B.** & Delarazan, A.I., (2022). Event boundaries at encoding influence mnemonic discrimination. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS).

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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 (SfN).

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.**, Atyam, 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

AD-HOC REVIEWING

- Cerebral Cortex
- Neuron
- Nature Communications
- eLife

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 – Dec. 2021

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**)
- Jacob Tartakovsky (**Washington University in St. Louis**)
- Sofia Angulo-Lopera (**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.

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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.

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