

Daniel Filan

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Member of Technical Staff

Jan 2026 — Present

METR

Berkeley, CA

- Helping to manage METR's efforts to assess loss-of-control risk

Senior Research Manager

May 2025 — Dec 2025

MATS Research, Inc.

Berkeley, CA

- Continued with previous responsibilities
- Managed a research manager

Research Manager

May 2024 — May 2025

MATS Research, Inc.

Berkeley, CA

- Conducted a mix of personal and project management for researchers entering the fields of AI alignment, security and transparency (working with the researchers themselves and their mentors)
- Ran the process of selecting mentors for future cohorts

PODCAST

AI X-risk Research Podcast (AXRP) (axrp.net)

Dec 2020 — Present

- Host and publish a podcast featuring long-form interviews with researchers whose work focusses on analysing and/or reducing catastrophic and existential risk from artificial intelligence
- Funded by repeat grants from the [Long-Term Future Fund](#)
- Scott Aaronson [wrote](#) of my interview with him: "The end result is ... well, probably closer to my current views on this subject than anything else I've said or written!"
- Stefan Schubert [tweeted](#) that "the episodes [of AXRP about AI policy] I've listened to have been excellent and epistemically fastidious"

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

PhD (Computer Science)

Aug 2016 — May 2024

- Thesis: "Structure and Representation in Neural Networks", supervised by Stuart Russell

Australian National University

Canberra, Australia

PhB (Hons)

Feb 2012 — Dec 2015

- GPA 7.0/7.0, 1st class honours, University Medal
- Primarily studied mathematics and physics
- Honours in Computer Science
- Honours thesis: "Resource-bounded Complexity-based Priors for Agents", supervised by Marcus Hutter

PUBLICATIONS

- **Constrained belief updates explain geometric structures in transformer representations.** Mateusz Piotrowski, Paul M. Riechers, *Daniel Filan*, Adam S. Shai. ICML, 2025.
- **Graphical clusterability and local specialization in deep neural networks.** Stephen Casper, Shlomi Hod, *Daniel Filan*, Cody Wild, Andrew Critch, Stuart Russell. PAIR²Struct Workshop, ICLR, 2022.
- **Exploring hierarchy-aware inverse reinforcement learning.** Chris Cundy, *Daniel Filan*. 1st Workshop on Goal Specifications for Reinforcement Learning, FAIM, 2018.
- **Self-modification of policy and utility function in rational agents.** Tom Everitt, *Daniel Filan*, Mayank Daswani, and Marcus Hutter. AGI, 2016.
- **Loss bounds and time complexity for speed priors.** *Daniel Filan*, Jan Leike, and Marcus Hutter. AISTATS, 2016.