

Francesco Innocenti

Brighton, UK

☎ (+44) 7447176249

✉ F.Innocenti@sussex.ac.uk

🌐 Website: [francesco-innocenti](https://francesco-innocenti.github.io)

Education

- Sept 2021 - **PhD, Machine Learning & Computational Neuroscience**, *University of Sussex*, UK.
2025
 - Working thesis: “Scaling Predictive Coding Networks in Theory and Practice”
 - Teaching Assistant on Fundamentals of Machine Learning
 - Developed [JPC](#) (★ 49), a JAX library for training neural networks with predictive coding
 - Curated repositories of papers on [Neuro-AI](#) (★ 43) and [Hessian of neural networks](#) (★ 2)
- Sept 2018 - **B.Sc. Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience**, *Goldsmiths, University of London*.
Jun 2021
 - 1st Class Honours†
 - Thesis: “Modelling the Evolution of Visual Perception with Evolutionary Algorithms”

Experience

- Oct 2023 - **Applied Scientist Intern**, *Amazon*, Barcelona.
Apr 2024
 - Helped improve and evaluate a short-term forecast of Amazon packages delivered throughout Europe, contributing to an internal conference paper and \$MM savings in operational costs.
- Oct 2018 - **Research Assistant**, *ART LAB*.
Jun 2021
 - Helped develop and validate a neuropsychological test of face recognition.
- Jun-Aug 2020 **Research Intern**, *TIMING, AWARENESS, AND SUGGESTION LAB*.
2020
 - Trained and tested machine learning classifiers to categorise the subjective experiences associated with different psychedelic drugs, based on psychometric data from 55 peer-reviewed studies.

Skills

- Coding Python (highly experienced), Git (highly experienced), AWS (basic), SQL (experienced), \LaTeX (highly experienced), Julia (conversant), MATLAB (conversant), C# (basic)
- Autodiff PyTorch (highly experienced), JAX (highly experienced), TensorFlow (basic)
- Web dev. HTML (basic), streamlit (experienced)
- Languages English (proficient), Italian (native), Spanish (fluent)

Papers

- [1] **Innocenti, F.**, Achour, E. M., and Buckley, C. L. (2025). μ PC: Scaling Predictive Coding to 100+ Layer Networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.13124*.
- [2] **Innocenti, F.**, Kinghorn, P., Yun-Farmbrough, W., Varona, M. D. L., Singh, R., Buckley, C. L. (2024). JPC: Flexible Inference for Predictive Coding Networks in JAX. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2412.03676*.
- [3] **Innocenti, F.**, Achour, E. M., Singh, R., and Buckley, C. L. (2024). Only Strict Saddles in the Energy Landscape of Predictive Coding Networks? *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 38.
- [4] ***Innocenti, F.**, Singh, R., and Buckley, C. L. (2023). Understanding Predictive Coding as a Second-Order Trust-Region Method. *ICML Workshop on Localized Learning (LLW)*.

Awards

- *Best Paper Award at the ICML 2023 Workshop on Localized Learning
- †British Psychological Society (BPS) Award for highest performance in undergraduate degree