Marko Tešić

Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence
University of Cambridge
Level 1, 16 Mill Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1SB, UK

mt961@cam.ac.uk
markotesic.org
@m_tesic

Research Experience

Research Associate at Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge — *July 2023 – Present*

- Evaluating AI capabilities with a focus on Large Language Models (LLMs) and exploring their relevance to specific job tasks. Done in collaboration with the OECD.

Royal Academy of Engineering UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London — *Mar. 2021 – Feb. 2023*

- Explored how explanations of AI predictions influence human beliefs and decision-making.

Researcher on *The Bayesian Approach to Robust Argumentation Machines* project at MCMP, LMU, Munich & Birkbeck, University of London — *Sep. 2021 – Feb. 2023*

- Automated argument generation and evaluation from Bayesian network models.

Data Study Group (DSG) Principal Investigator at the Alan Turing Institute — *Oct. 2022 – April 2023*

- Led the scoping and execution of a data science challenge with the UK Department for Transport, supervising participants and ensuring high-quality solutions and reporting.

DSG Researcher at the Alan Turing Institute and LIDA, University of Leeds — *July 5–23, 2021*

- Optimizing Morrisons supermarkets' supply chain as part of a DSG team
- Analyzed data & trained gradient boosting tree models to predict future supplies

Research Intern at BlackRock, Factor Based Strategies Group — *Oct. 2019 – Mar. 2020*

- Developed causal Bayesian models of investment factors and ESG criteria.

Member of the Translation Team UK on the project *Bayesian Argumentation via Delphi (BARD)* within IARPA at Birkbeck, University of London & UCL — *Oct. 2017 – Nov. 2018*

- Created intelligence gathering-inspired situations
- Built Bayesian network models of these situations
- Fully designed, ran, and analyzed experiments testing people's evidential, causal, and probabilistic reasoning

Member of the Research Team on the project *Scientific Reasoning and Argumentation* at the Center for Advanced Studies, LMU, Munich — *Oct. 2016 – Sep. 2017*

- Worked on explicating an inference pattern called 'Inference to the Best Explanation' (IBE) in Bayesian terms

Education

Ph.D. in Psychology — *2020*

Department of Psychological Sciences, Birkbeck, University of London, UK
Thesis: *Explanation and Argument*
Focus: causal-probabilistic reasoning, Bayesian networks, psychology of explanations
Supervisors: Ulrike Hahn and David Lagnado

M.A. in Logic and Philosophy of Science — *2016*

Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany

B.A. in Philosophy — *2014*

University of Belgrade, Serbia

Publications

• Matteo Gabriel Mecattaf*, Ben Slater*, **Marko Tešić**, Jonathan Prunty, Konstantinos Voudouris, Lucy Cheke (2024). A little less conversation, a little more action, please: Investigating the physical common-sense of LLMs in a 3D embodied environment. *Preprint*

• **Marko Tešić***, Lorenzo Pacchiardi*, Lucy Cheke, José Hernández-Orallo (2024). Leaving the barn door open for Clever Hans: Simple features predict LLM benchmark answers. *Preprint*

• Melting Pot Contest: Charting the Future of Generalized Cooperative Intelligence. *NeurIPS 2024 Track on Datasets and Benchmarks.*

• Rafael Fuchs, **Marko Tešić**, & Ulrike Hahn (2024). Testing the maximum entropy approach to awareness growth in Bayesian epistemology and decision theory. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.*

• **Marko Tešić** & Ulrike Hahn (2023). The impact of explanations as communicative acts on belief in a claim: The role of source reliability. *Cognition, 240*(105586).

• Ulrike Hahn & **Marko Tešić** (2023). Argument and Explanation. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A, 381*(2251). Theme issue on *Cognitive Artificial Intelligence.*

• **Marko Tešić** & Ulrike Hahn (2022). Can counterfactual explanations of AI systems' predictions skew lay users' causal intuitions about the world? If so, can we correct for that? *Patterns, 3*(12).

• Data Study Group team. (2022). Data Study Group Final Report: Morrisons. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6498140.

• **Marko Tešić** (2021). On the transferability of insights from the psychology of explanation to explainable AI. Human Centered AI workshop at NeurIPS 2021.

• **Marko Tešić** & Ulrike Hahn (2021). Explanation in AI systems. In S. Muggleton & N. Chater (Eds.), *Human-Like Machine Intelligence* (pp. 114–136). Oxford University Press.

• **Marko Tešić***, Alice Liefgreen*, & David Lagnado (2020). The propensity interpretation of probability and diagnostic split in explaining away. *Cognitive Psychology, 121.*

• Alice Liefgreen & **Marko Tešić** (2020). Explaining away and the propensity interpretation of probability: The case of unequal priors. In C. Dutilh Novaes, H. Jansen, J. A. van Laar, & B. Verheij (Eds.), *Reason to dissent. Proceedings of the 3rd European Conference on Argumentation, Vol. III* (pp. 385–403). College Publications.

• Nicole Cruz, Saoirse Desai, Stephen Dewitt, Ulrike Hahn, David Lagnado, Alice Liefgreen, Kirsty Phillips, Toby Pilditch & **Marko Tešić** (2020). Widening access to Bayesian problem solving. *Frontiers in Psychology, 11*, 660.

• **Marko Tešić** & Ulrike Hahn (2019). Sequential diagnostic reasoning with independent causes. In A.K. Goel, C.M. Seifert, & C. Freksa (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2947–2953). Montreal, QB: Cognitive Science Society.

• Alice Liefgreen*, **Marko Tešić***, & David Lagnado (2018). Explaining away: Significance of priors, diagnostic reasoning, and structural complexity. In T. T. Rogers, M. Rau, X. Zhu, & C. W. Kalish (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2047–2052). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

• **Marko Tešić** (2017). Confirmation and the generalized Nagel-Schaffner model of reduction: A Bayesian analysis. *Synthese, 196*(3), 1097–1129. DOI: 10.1007/s11229-017-1501-1.

* *equal contribution*

Selected Presentations and Workshops

Robust evaluation of Generative AI

- I presented a tutorial on evaluating large language models at the European Association for Data Science summer school on generative AI. *June 20, 2024*

AAAI-24 tutorial on Measurement Layouts for Capability-Oriented AI Evaluation

- I co-organized a tutorial showcasing measurement layouts (Bayesian hierarchical models) for inferring AI capabilities. I presented my work on inferring and predicting the capabilities of large language models. *February 20, 2024*

Can AI explanations skew our causal intuitions about the world? If so, can we correct for that?

- 8^{th} Intelligence Community Academic Research Symposium (ICARS), USA *September 14, 2022*
- ONI National Intelligence Community Research Symposium, Canberra, Australia *December 1, 2022*

Workshop on Human Behavioral Aspects of (X)AI

- I organized a workshop bringing together cognitive scientist and ML researchers from academia, industry and government working on and with (explainable) AI. *September 23–24, 2022*

Supervision, Teaching & Admissions Experience

Managing a Postdoctoral Research Associate and a Research Assistant working on an Accenture-supported project evaluating the core cognitive capabilities of AI relevant to workplace tasks. *January 2024 – Present*
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence
University of Cambridge

Postgraduate admissions for the MSt and MPhil courses in *AI Ethics & Society* and *Ethics of AI, Data & Algorithms* *Spring 2024*
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence
University of Cambridge

Marking dissertations for the MSt and MPhil courses in *AI Ethics & Society* and *Ethics of AI, Data & Algorithms* *Spring 2024*
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence
University of Cambridge

Research staff recruitment. Shortlisting and interviewing for Postdoctoral Research Associate and Research Assistant roles. *Winter 2023*
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence
University of Cambridge

Visiting Lecturer for the M.A. courses *Computational Approaches to Mind* and *Fundamental Debates in Cognitive Science* *Jan. 2023 – Apr. 2023*
Department of Psychological Sciences
Birkbeck, University of London
Taught: Bayesian modeling, Agent-based modeling, and Marr's levels of explanation

Visiting Lecturer for the M.A. course *Cognitive and Economic Science of Rational Choice* *Oct. 2020 – Dec. 2020*
Department of Psychology and Department of Economics
City, University of London
Taught: Rationality as logic and as probability theory, Probabilistic fallacies, and Causal reasoning and modeling

Seminar leader for the M.A. courses *Neuroscience*, *Individual Differences*, *Social Psychology*, and *Developmental Psychology* *Feb., Nov. 2020; Feb. 2021*
Department of Psychological Sciences
Birkbeck, University of London, UK

Tutor for the B.A. course *Logic and Discrete Structures* *Summer 2017*
Computer Science Department
Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany

Teaching assistant for the M.A. course *Central Topics in Philosophy of Science* *Winter 2016*
Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy
Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany

Tutor for the B.A. course *Logic 1* *Winter 2016*
Faculty of Philosophy
Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany

Honors and Awards

The Alan Turing Institute Post-Doctoral Enrichment Award *July 2022 – Jan. 2023*

The Royal Academy of Engineering UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (£200,000) *Mar. 2021 – Feb. 2023*

Ph.D. studentship from the Department of Psychological Sciences, Birkbeck, UoL *2018 – 2020*

Ph.D. studentship from the BARD project *2017 – 2018*

Dositeja scholarship for graduate studies *2017/18; 2015/16; 2014/15*

BAYHOST scholarship for graduate studies *2015/16; 2014/15*