

# Martina G. Vilas

🌐 martinagvilas.github.io

@ martinagonzalezvilas@gmail.com

🐙 github.com/martinagvilas

🐦 @martinagvilas

## EDUCATION

### Doctoral degree in Computer Science | *Goethe University*

Thesis topic in the field of mechanistic interpretability of AI models. Co-supervised by Prof. Gemma Roig and Prof. David Poeppel.

- Passed qualifying exam in the topics of *Theoretical Computer Science, Software Engineering* and *Hardware*.

ongoing  
Germany

### Licenciatura in Psychology, focusing in Cognitive Neuroscience | *Favaloro University*

5.5-year study plan, equivalent to Bachelor + Master's degree

- Grade: 9.48/10. First class with Honours Degree.

- Thesis grade: 10/10

2012 – 2017  
Argentina

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Researcher | *Ernst Strüngmann Institute for Neuroscience (in cooperation with Max-Planck Soc.)*

Working with artificial and biological neural networks to understand how humans and machines abstract semantic knowledge when presented with multimodal sources of information.

2021 – present  
Germany

### Researcher | *Max-Planck-Institute AE*

Studied the temporal dynamics and format of neural representations underlying schema-retrieval, episodic-memory, and predictive processing mechanisms, using machine learning methods and similarity analysis.

2018 – 2021  
Germany

### Researcher | *COCUCO Lab, Physics Department, University of Buenos Aires*

Quantified brain states of reduced consciousness (e.g. anesthesia, sleep) with machine learning methods.

2017 – 2018  
Argentina

### Intern | *LPEN, Institute of Cognitive and Translational Neuroscience (INCyT)*

Investigated the neural dynamics of bilingualism with time-frequency analysis.

2014 – 2016  
Argentina

### Intern | *Institute of Cognitive Neurology (INECO)*

Analyzed the role of emotion in face recognition in Alzheimer's disease using physiological data.

2014  
Argentina

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

(\* denotes equal contribution)

**M.G. Vilas**, T. Schaumlöffel and G. Roig (2023). Analyzing vision transformers for image classification in class embedding space. *37th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2023)*.

A.T. Gifford, B. Lahner, S. Saba-Sadiya, **M.G. Vilas**, A. Lascelles, A. Oliva, K. Kay, G. Roig and R.M. Cichy (2023). The algonauts project 2023 challenge: How the human brain makes sense of natural scenes. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2301.03198*.

T. Schaumlöffel, **M.G. Vilas** and G. Roig (2023). Peacs: Prefix encoding for auditory caption synthesis. *DCASE2023 Challenge*.

D. Bersch, K. Dwivedi, **M. Vilas**, R. M. Cichy, and G. Roig (2022). Net2Brain: A Toolbox to compare artificial vi-

sion models with human brain responses. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2208.09677*. Accepted at CCN 2022.

**M.G. Vilas**, R. Auksztulewicz, L. Melloni (2021). Active Inference as a Computational Framework for Consciousness. *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 1-20.

**M.G. Vilas**, L. Melloni (2020). A challenge for predictive coding: Representational or experiential diversity? *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 43.

M. Dottori, E. Hesse, M. Santilli, **M.G. Vilas**, M.M. Caro, D. Fraiman, L. Sedeño, A. Ibáñez, A.M. García (2020). Task-specific signatures in the expert brain: Differential correlates of translation and reading in professional interpreters. *NeuroImage*, 209, 116519.

C. Pallavacini\*, **M.G. Vilas\***, M. Villarreal, F. Zamberlan, S. Muthukumaraswamy, D. Nutt, R. Carhart-Harris, E. Tagliazucchi (2019). Spectral signatures of serotonergic psychedelics and glutamatergic dissociatives. *NeuroImage*, 200, 281-291.

**M.G. Vilas**, M. Santilli, E. Mikulan, F. Adolphi, M. Martorell Caro, F. Manes, E. Herrera, L. Sedeño, A. Ibáñez, A. M. García (2019). Shakespearean tropes and the non-native reader: Age of L2 acquisition modulates neural responses to functional shifts. *Neuropsychologia*, 124, 79-86.

F. Cavanna\*, **M.G. Vilas\***, M. Palmucci\*, E. Tagliazucchi (2018). Dynamic functional connectivity and brain metastability during altered states of consciousness. *NeuroImage*, 180, 383-395.

M. Santilli\*, **M.G. Vilas\***, E. Mikulan, M. Martorell Caro, E. Muñoz, L. Sedeño, A. Ibáñez, A.M. García (2018). Bilingual memory, to the extreme: Lexical processing in simultaneous interpreters. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 1-18.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

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**M.G. Vilas**, L. Melloni (2019). Schema- and episodic-based predictions during visual narrative perception. *The Predictive Brain Conference*, Marseille, France.

**M.G. Vilas**, A. Feilding, R. Carhart-Harris, D. Nutt, S. Muthukumaraswamy, E. Tagliazucchi (2017). The spectral signatures of serotonergic and dissociative psychedelics in the human brain. *XXXII Congreso Anual SAN (TR: Annual Congress of the Argentinean Society of Neuroscience)*, Mar del Plata, Argentina.

**M.G. Vilas**, M. Zarepour, S. Cannas, E. Tagliazucchi, D.R. Chialvo (2016). Complexity, long-range correlations and why a few points suffice for large-scale brain dynamics. *Frontiers in Physical Sciences*, CABA, Argentina.

## TALKS & TUTORIALS (selected)

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S. Saba-Sadiya, **M.G. Vilas**, A. Gifford (2023). Algonauts & Net2Brain Hackathon. *CNN 2023*, Oxford.

**M.G. Vilas** (2023). Net2Brain: A toolbox to compare artificial deep neural networks with human brain responses. *Data Science Week 2023*, Frankfurt am Main.

**M.G. Vilas** (2021). Introduction to machine learning and data visualization with Python. *OHBM BrainHack*, presented online.

**M.G. Vilas** (2021). The Turing Way and approaches to reproducible and generalizable research. *Saxe Lab, UCL*, presented online. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5497717>

**M.G. Vilas** (2021). Good practices for reproducible and open science. *EMBL*, presented online.

**M.G. Vilas** (2021). Computational reproducibility: Best practices outlined by The Turing Way. *University of Leicester*,

presented online.

**M.G. Vilas** (2021). Evaluating the reproducibility of deep learning research in cognitive computational neuroscience. *LXAI Social at ICLR 2021*, presented online. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4740053>

**M.G. Vilas**, S. Henin, C. Ranganath, L. Melloni (2021). Schema- and episodic-based predictions during visual narrative perception. *CNS 2021*, presented online.

**M.G. Vilas**, K. Whitaker (2021). Why you need a reproducible computational environment and how Binder can help. *Boost your Research Reproducibility with Binder Workshop at 3rd SSI Research Software Camp*, presented online. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4573146>

**M.G. Vilas** (2020). Characterizing the encoding and retrieval of schema- and episodic-based representations. *Leon Deouell's Human Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory*, presented online.

**M.G. Vilas**, M. Sharan, K. Whitaker (2020). Computational reproducibility: A how-to guide based on The Turing Way. *Brainhack Donostia 2020*, presented online. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4269795>

**M.G. Vilas**, M. Sharan, K. Whitaker (2020). The Turing Way: A guide to reproducible, ethical and collaborative research practices. *LiveMEEG*, presented online. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4075439>

## HONORS & AWARDS

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Open Science SIG Fellowship   <i>Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM)</i>	2021
Travel Grant   <i>EuroScipy</i>	2019
Ph.D. Scholarship   <i>National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET)</i>	2017
Academic Excellence Scholarship   <i>Favaloro University</i>	2016
Academic Merit Award   <i>Santander Rio Bank</i>	2016, 2014 & 2013

## MENTORING

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Google Summer of Code   <i>Project Mentor</i>	2021
Outreachy   <i>Project Mentor</i>	2021
Open Life Science Program   <i>Mentor &amp; Expert</i>	2020 & 2021
Book Dash of The Turing Way   <i>Mentor / Helper</i>	2020

## TEACHING

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Teaching Assistant   <i>Introduction to Machine Learning with scikit-learn</i>   Hackathon - Organization for Human Brain Mapping	2021
Instructor   <i>Creating a Jupyter Book with The Turing Way</i>   JupyterCon 2020	2020
Teaching Assistant   <i>Experimental Psychology</i>   Favaloro University	2014

## OPEN-SCIENCE/OPEN-SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

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Open Source Contributor   <i>scikit-learn, sktime, pandas, jupyter-book</i>	2019 – pres.
Core Developer   <i>The Turing Way</i>	2020 – pres.
Project Lead   <i>Open Life Science Program</i>	2021
Co-organizer   <i>pandanistas</i>	2020

## SERVICES

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### **Academic**

Co-Chair Minisymposium on Neuroscience and Biology   <i>SciPy 2021 Conference</i>	2021
Volunteer   <i>EuroSciPy 2019 Conference</i>	2019
Reviewer   <i>EMNLP, CVPR, Nature Reviews Neuroscience, Journal of Open Source Software, Current Biology, Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, among others</i>	-

### **Community**

Code of Conduct Committee Member   <i>sktime Python Software Package</i>	2020 – 2022.
PhD representative   <i>Max Planck Institute AE</i>	2019 – 2021.