Didi Ramsaran Chin

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

SCIENTIFIC

- Designing and assessing computational models of cognitive phenomena (especially memory, language and intelligence) against empirical data.
- Developing bio-inspired Machine Learning models and exploring applications to study cognitive phenomena.
- Exploring computational topology applications in modelling cognitive functions and brain activity.

SOCIAL | Trans and queer support in science, Science communication, Teaching and Mentoring.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA ANDRÉS BELLO, CARACAS, VENEZUELA

B.Sc. in Psychology   Expected 2025

Advisor: Dr. Luisa Angelucci.

Thesis: "Instagram study on the influence of motives of use, Instagram use, perceived social support, sex and age on social and personal identity" [translated from Spanish].

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA ANDRÉS BELLO, CARACAS, VENEZUELA   Mar 2022 – Jul 2024

School of Psychology

Thesis advisor: Dr. Luisa Angelucci.

Co-author: Andrés Muskus.

- Optimised the adequacy of instruments, by translating and adapting a social and personal identity scale to Venezuelan Spanish, and 3 other scales, consulting expert judges, and computing metrics of fiability (MacDonald's Omega) and validity (PCA, EFA, CFA).
- Implemented statistical modelling by recollecting more than 300 subjects, preprocessing data, evaluating assumptions and reporting descriptive, psychometric and path analysis modelling.
- Extended the study of social and personal identity in social media (Instagram) by proposing an explanatory model, detailing the direct and indirect effects of socio-demographic, motivational and social variables.

UNIVERSIDAD FRANCISCO DE VITORIA, MADRID, SPAIN   Sep 2021 – Jul 2024

Remote Research and Innovation in Psychology Program (INICIA)

Advisors: Belén Obispo and Jennifer Moreno

- Led a group of two Spaniards and 1 Venezuelan to execute a values-based phenomenological analysis on the experience of consuming sexually explicit content among couples.
- Modelled social, cognitive and emotional determinants of menstrual pain in women and supported the exploration of their subjective experience in a mixed-methods study executed by Venezuelan, Spaniard and Colombian undergraduate researchers.

Neuromatch Academy Computational Neuroscience Course, VIRTUAL   Jul 2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Development & Instructor of Record
Courses designed and/or taught.

FHYE: BASIC MACHINE LEARNING   (Submitted, expected Su 2025)

Faculty of Humanities and Education, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello

- Developed a hands-on introductory course that sets foundational notions of Machine Learning for undergraduate students from the Humanities and Education Faculty.
- Content ranges from AI history, foundational math and Python, to supervised Machine Learning algorithms with applications to humanities through interactive Jupyter notebooks.

Teaching Support
Designed problem sets and exam simulations, taught course topics, coordinated practical activities, and compiled additional resources and references.

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello

School of Psychology

PSIC 00082: Cognitive neuroscience and neuropsychology   Oct 2024 – present

- Promote student engagement in theoretical and applied research and applications by sharing and discussing papers, videos and online resources.
- Support in instructing EEG electrode setting and visualizing ERPs concerning cognitive phenomena.

INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello

School of Psychology

PSIC 00064: Statistics I   Fa 2020

- Assisted in grading, and clearing doubts through additional Zoom meetings, forums and exercises.
- Recorded videos for additional consultation on descriptive statistics (e.g. categorisation, central tendency measurements, graphics).
- Highly evaluated by students (5.25/6), with students highlighting clear communication, content organisation, use of technology, perceived respect and usefulness of resources and references.

Research Department, School of Mass Communication

COMU 00335: Statistics   Feb – Aug 2020

- Recruited 3 other volunteers on behalf of the Research Department to provide support to students as TAs.
- Provided face-to-face and Zoom meetings to solve doubts, managed forums, curated online resources and designed questions for descriptive statistics and probability distributions.
- Obtained recommendation letters for showing distinction in duties and service at the beginning of the quarantine.

PUBLICATIONS

- Ramsaran, D., Zambrano, J., Berenguer, M., Salgueiro, L., & Obispo, B. (2023). Exposure to explicit sexual content in the couple relationship: A values-based analysis. Analogías Del Comportamiento, (22).
  https://revistasenlinea.saber.ucab.edu.ve/index.php/analogias/article/view/5952

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION
- Muskus, A. **Ramsaran-Chin, D.**, & Angelucci, L. (In Preparation). Instagram study on the influence of motives of use, Instagram use, perceived social support, sex and age on social and personal identity [Translated from Spanish]. Universidad Católica Andrés Bello.
- Zambrano-Gómez, J., Paquín-Tapia, M., Linero-Ebratt, I., Rondeau-Cadarso, M., Silva-Tapias, P., **Ramsaran-Chin, D**., & Vega, M. (In Preparation). Menstrual pain perception and its determinants: a mixed-methods study in Comlombian, Spaniard and Venezuelan women [Translated from Spanish]. Faculty of Education and Psychology, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria.
- Barandica, J., Díaz, L., Martínez, L., Matos, A. & **Ramsaran-Chin, D**. (In Preparation). Correlations and effects of emotional regulation, self-esteem, personality traits, and gender role attitudes on the prosocial behaviour of Spaniard and Venezuelan university students [Translated from Spanish]. Faculty of Education and Psychology, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria.

EMPLOYMENT

FREELANCE PSYCHOMETRIST, CARACAS, VENEZUELA   Apr – Jun 2024
Psychometric analyst for the Citizenship Competences Scale
- Identified goals of request, developed a plan for descriptive, validity and fiability analysis of the instrument, and contrasted results by subsamples.
- Cleaned and transformed variables, analyzed and reported results in a 6-page long manuscript, concluding on instrument properties and providing methodological, interpretative and research recommendations for further scale development.

ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello
Common responsibilities across the internships:
- Delivered 11 case reports of 9 subjects and 3 group reports which included personal history, psychological evaluation, needs, intervention plan, treatment results, conclusions and further recommendations for future interventions and academic achievement.

Psychological Counseling (Community-focused)   Mar – Jun 2024
"Nuestra Señora Del Rosario" High School

Advisor: M.Sc. Flor Bernardo
- Interviewed and provided cognitive-behavioural-based academic counselling to 3 high school students, and worked with other interns to implement group-based seminars for assertive communication within high-schoolers.

Clinical Psychology (Adults)   Mar – Jun 2024
Psychology Unit "Padre Luis Azagra"

Advisor: M.Sc. Juan Romero
- Interviewed a follow-up case patient and provided 9 therapy sessions, basing interventions on clinical psychology theories and feedback from peers and supervisor.

Psychological Counseling   Sep – Jan 2023
Centre for Human Counseling and Development (CADH)

Advisor: M.Sc. Liza Guilbert
- Develop cognitive-based interventions for academic habits and a balanced academic lifestyle with an undergraduate student.
- Provided Psychological first aid to one of the individual cases, focused on successful adaptation to challenges and approval of courses in which they enrolled.

- Designed and implemented 1 group-based intervention for 7 undergrad students on positive sexual health and pleasure, covering sexual rights, prejudice based on gender, components of sexual health and sexual pleasure.

Scholar Psychology I and II (Community-focused)   Mar 2022 – Jan 2023
"Luis María Olaso" School
Advisor: Lic. Karen Lobo
- Attended 2 primary school children and 2 classrooms, gathering information through observations, interviews (parents, teachers), games and psychological instruments.
- Designed and implemented educational interventions based on cognitive-behavioural theory, assessed goal-achievement and reported to peers and supervisor.

Clinical Psychology (Child and Adolescent)   Sep 2021 – Jan 2022
Psychopedagigical School "La Paz"
Advisor: Lic. Michelle Marin
- Promoted emotional identification and management, in collaboration with another intern, in a case of emotional problems in a high-schooler with autism spectrum disorder, based on the cognitive-based ABC model.

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY SERVICE

NEUROMATCH ACADEMY
General volunteer @ Professional Development department   Mar 2024 – Present
UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA ANDRÉS BELLO, CARACAS, VENEZUELA
"Afuera de la Colmena" II community inmersive formative program   Mar 2024
Faculty of Humanities and Education Students representative   Sep 2023 – Aug 2024
Volunteer "Pazando" country-side immersive formative program   Mar 2023
Founder and coordinator of "JIPsi" research promotion program   Dec 2022 – Dec 2023
Founding member of UCABlingo (Foreign Languages and Culture Club)   Jan – Jun 2022
Facilitator of English conversational clubs   2019 – 2021

AWARDS & HONOURS

UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA ANDRÉS BELLO, CARACAS, VENEZUELA
Global Competencies in Science, Technology and Humanities Certificate   Oct 2024
Magis scholarship (for achieving the second to highest GPA)   Jul 2024
Integral Academic Excellence Award   Dec 2023
International Program School Representation Award   Dec 2023

MEMBERSHIP

INTERNATIONAL
International Neuroinformatics Coordinating Facility (INCF)
Cognitive Science Society

SKILLS & OTHERS

PROGRAMING | Python (intermediate), R (basic).

RESEARCH | Survey creation, Psychometric analysis, Statistical modelling, Project management, Report writing, Neo and Nix data management (basic).

COURSES | Differential calculus, and Artificial intelligence: Machine Learning (Faculty of Engineering, UCAB); Machine learning applications to Psychology and Neuroscience (Humai); Neural data management and sharing pre-course (ADNA-NI).

LANGUAGES | Spanish (native), English (advanced writing and conversational skills), French (A2).

INTERESTS | Cats, flowers, science and technology, nature, cooking, fashion, queer issues in academia and society.