

Prateek Kumar Sahu

PhD Candidate

Department of Psychology

University of Alberta, CA

Contact

psahu@ualberta.ca

<https://prateeksahu.com>

Education

• University of Alberta

PhD, Department of Psychology

Edmonton, Canada

2022 - Now

• University of Alberta

MSc, Department of Psychology

Edmonton, Canada

2019 - 2022

• Indian Institute of Science Education and Research

BSc & MSc, Department of Biological Sciences

Kolkata, India

2013 - 2018

Research Experience

- Novel bio-acoustical techniques, open-source research hardware design, animal cognition, preferences in songbirds

Doctoral project

Dr. Christopher Sturdy

2022-now

- Methodological comparisons of classification techniques and refinement of an operant go/no-go procedure

Masters' thesis

Dr. Christopher Sturdy

2019-2022

- Neural basis of sugar elicited search behaviour of Drosophila

Research Project

Dr. Axel Brockmann

2018-2019

- Understanding reunification dynamics in ant colonies

Summer Project, Masters' thesis

Dr. Sumana Annagiri

2015, 2017-2018

- Consistency in personality traits of the shoals of climbing perch

Summer Project

Dr. V. V. Binoy

2016

Publications

9. **Sahu, P.K., Garcia, A.D., Stenstrom, K.H., Deimeke, M.J., Smeltz, S.M.L., Lank, I.J., & Sturdy, C.B.** (2025) A cost-effective Raspberry pi-based operant playback setup to evaluate auditory preferences in songbirds. *Behavioural Processes*, 232, 105276, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2025.105276>

8. **Smeltz, S.M.L., Deimeke, M.J., Montenegro, C., Sahu, P.K., Stenstrom, K.H., Camacho-Alpizar, A., & Sturdy, C.B.** (2025) Individual discrimination within, but not between, two vocalization types of the black-capped chickadee. *Ethology*, e13572. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eth.13572>

7. Smeltz, S.M.L., Deimeke, M.J., **Sahu, P.K.**, Montenegro, C., Stenstrom, K.H., Starenchak, I., Rennie, V., Ebrahim, I.M., Jones, J.A., & Sturdy, C.B. (2025) Individual vocal identity may be obscured following colony assembly in captive black-capped chickadees. *Behavioural Processes*, 225, 105151, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2025.105151>
6. **Sahu, P.K.**, Montenegro, C., Lambert, C.T., Oprea, A., Deimeke, M.J., Rennie, V., Smeltz, S.M.L., Benowicz, T.J., Patel, D., Phillmore, L.S., & Sturdy, C.B. (2022) Effect of feed-time duration on discrimination of vocalizations in a go/no-go operant paradigm. *Behavioural Processes*, 203, 10477, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2022.104777>
5. **Sahu, P.K.**, Campbell, K.A., Oprea, A., Phillmore, L.S., & Sturdy, C.B. (2022) Comparing methodologies for classification of zebra finch distance calls. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 151, 3305, <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0011401>
4. Lambert, C.T., **Sahu, P.K.**, Sturdy, C.B., & Guillette, L.M. (2022) Among-individual differences in auditory and physical cognitive abilities in zebra finches. *Learning & Behaviour*, 50(3), 389-404, <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13420-022-00520-w>
3. Montenegro, C., **Sahu, P.K.**, & Sturdy, C.B. (2021). Individual differences in female black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) fee-bee songs. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 150(4), 3038-3046, <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0006532>
2. Montenegro, C., Service, W.D., Scully, E.N., Mischler, S.K., **Sahu, P.K.**, Benowicz, T.J., Fox, K.V. R., & Sturdy, C.B. (2021). The impact of anthropogenic noise on individual identification via female song in Black-capped chickadees (*Poecile atricapillus*). *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-96504-3>
1. **Sahu, P.K.**, Kolay, S. & Annagiri, S. (2019) To reunite or not: A study of artificially fragmented *Diacamma indicum* ant colonies. *Behavioural Processes* 158, 4-10, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2018.10.017>

Teaching Experience & Service

- Teaching Assistant: Basic Psychological Processes (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022), Behaviour Modification (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025), Principle of Learning (2020), Behaviour & Genetics (2021), Neuroethology (2022), Honours Seminar: Writing course (2023), Theory in Learning and Comparative Cognition (2024), Social Influence (2024, 2025), Research Methods Cognition (2025), Human Neuropsychology (2025)
- Skype A Scientist: Talks at various schools (Indonesia, New York, Colorado, New York) (2022-2025)
- Secretary/Treasurer of the Graduate Psychology Association: (2023-2026)
- Judge for the Royce Research Conference, University of Alberta, CA: (2021, 2024, 2025)
- Volunteer for organizing the International Conference on Comparative Cognition, USA: (2023, 2025)

Awards & Scholarships

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| Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES), CA | 2025-26 |
| Graduate Student Travel Award, CA | 2024-25 |
| Comparative Cognition Society- Ron Weisman Travel Award, USA | 2025 |
| Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES), CA | 2024-25 |
| Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES), CA | 2023-24 |
| Scholarship from Department of Psychology, University of Alberta, CA | 2019-22 |
| INSPIRE Fellowship, IN | 2013-18 |
| National Means cum Merit Scholarship, IN | 2008-10 |

Conferences

- Royce Research Conference 2025
- International Conference On Comparative Cognition 2025
- The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBCCS) 2024
- International Conference On Comparative Cognition 2023
- International Conference On Comparative Cognition 2021
- Animal Behaviour Society Conference 2020
- Virtual Royce Conference 2020
- Insect Multisensory Integration Workshop 2019
- 2nd Bangalore Meeting on Asian Bees 2019
- Preparatory School on Population Genetics and Evolution 2019
- Understanding Behaviour 2019
- Workshop on Cyberspace and Cyber Security 2017
- The Ambassadors of Evolution Workshop 2017
- The 10th Year Celebration of IISER Kolkata Advances in Life Sciences 2017
- The Frontiers in Modern Biology (FIMB) symposium 2015

Manuscript Reviews

1.*Ostrich* (2022); 2,3.*PeerJ* (2022, 2023), 4.*Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* (2022), 5.*Animal Cognition* (2023), 6.*Animal Behaviour* (2023), 7.*Animal Behaviour* (2023), 8.*The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* (2023), 9.*Journal of Comparative Psychology* (2023), 10.*PLOS One* (2024), 11.*IBIS: International Journal of Avian Science* (2024), 12.*Journal of Experimental Biology* (2025), 13,14.*Behavioural Processes* (2025, 2025)

Skills

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| Bio-acoustical techniques & animal learning paradigms | University of Alberta, 2019-now |
| Handling birds & animal care | University of Alberta, 2019-now |
| Raising & handling Drosophila | National Centre for Biological Sciences, 2018-19 |
| Insect(ants, bees) research & insect biology | IISER-K,NCBS 2015-19 |
| Fish research & handling | National Institute of Advanced Studies, 2016 |
| Coding & Statistics | "R", "Python", "Matlab" |
| Graphics Designing | "Photoshop", "Illustrator" |

References

- Dr. Christopher Sturdy
Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Alberta, CA
email: csturdy@ualberta.ca
- Dr. Sumana Annagiri
Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata
email: annagiri.sumana@gmail.com
- Dr. Axel Brockmann
Associate Professor
National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, India
email: axel.ncbs@gmail.com