

CURRICULUM VITAE

Punya Shamsunder Aragula

punya.sa@apu.edu.in * 91-7892574836

#5,9th Cross,Nanjappa Layout, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bengaluru 560097
INDIA

CAREER OBJECTIVE

An academic research career in Cognitive Psychology, and Neuropsychology with emphasis on AI based models of experimentation.

EDUCATION

Gujarat Forensic Sciences University
MSc. Neuropsychology

Gujarat, India
May 2020

Azim Premji University
BSc Biology (Hons.)
Minors in Distributed Credits

Bengaluru, India
May 2018

RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Indian Institute of Technology(in collaboration with Gujarat Forensic Sciences University)

Gandhinagar, India

Dissertation Project

Dec 2019-May 2020

- Studying the effect of curiosity on memory using neurophysiological techniques.
- Mainly focused on the effect of curiosity on incidentally presented stimuli.

Madurai Kamaraj University
Summer Research Fellowship

Madurai, India
Summer 2019

- As part of the funded Fellowship awarded by the Indian Academy of Sciences.
- Worked on the Identification of genes responsible for gustation in micro and megabats.

Azim Premji University

Bengaluru, India

Honours Project

Jan 2017-Apr 2018

- Conducted a study to understand the effect that premenstrual syndrome has on cognitive, emotional, and social functioning in young adults.
- As part of the project, a thesis was submitted after the completion of the project following a presentation in the Biology Seminar conducted by Azim Premji University.

Azim Premji University

Bengaluru, India

Psychology Project

Nov 2017

- As part of the Psychology elective project, we designed a survey to understand the issue of stress eating and body image in youth.
- Two main aims were to understand if stress eating is gendered and if sugary and fatty foods are mostly consumed while stress-eating.

Azim Premji University

Bengaluru, India

Understanding Plants Project

Sept 2017-Nov 2017

- As part of the Understanding Plants course, this project was carried out to study the effect of different frequencies of music on plant growth.
- Pea plants were used for the study. Three treatments were present- Plants exposed to Low-Frequency Music(T1), High-Frequency Music(T2), and Control.

National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences(NIMHANS)

Bengaluru, India

Summer Research Intern

May 2016-June 2016

- Interned at the Center for Addiction Medicine in NIMHANS.
- Wrote a paper on the need for increased awareness of the co-morbidity of tobacco and alcohol use amongst Indian Youth.

Azim Premji University

Bengaluru, India

Semester Project

Feb 2016-Apr 2016

- Designed and conducted experiments to understand how light influences the movement of C. elegans.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Azim Premji University

Bengaluru, India

Course Project

Oct 2016

- As part of the Human Development and Teaching and Learning Process course, conducted Piaget tests on children.
- For a child aged 8 to 12 years (concrete operational thought), the experiment testing hypothetical-deductive reasoning was conducted in a school. Methods and results were recorded to write a brief report.

Azim Premji University
Winter Internship/Practicum
2016

Bengaluru, India
Dec

- As part of the Perspective in Education-Knowledge, Skills, and Disposition course the internship was conducted to develop a deeper insight into the functioning of the school and as an educational thinker.
- A week was spent in the allotted school. Observations, interactions with students and teachers on the content of education, and the methods of teaching were captured in detailed notes.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Aragula, S.P, Bhattacharya, A. Premenstrual Syndrome and its effect on Cognitive, Emotional, and Social Well Being in Young Adults, 2018. Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP ATTENDED

- CogniTalks organized by Center for Cognitive Science, IIT Gandhinagar, India, February 2020
- International Conference on Emerging Trends in Cognitive Neurosciences- Forensic and Clinical Applications organized by Cognitive Neuroscience Society India in January 2020. Was a volunteer at the conference along with arranging travel for the visiting speakers.
- Indian Academy of Neuroscience 37th Annual Meeting, India- November 2019
- Workshop on QEEG conducted by Stress and Cognitive Electro Imaging Lab, AIIMS, New Delhi, India- November 2019
- APOGEE- A Cybernetic Vision, BITS, Pilani, India, February 2018. Participated in paper presentation contest.
- One Day Workshop: “Minds and Machines: Debates on the nature of intelligence and experience” organized by NIAS Consciousness Studies Programme, NIAS, India, December 2017

SOFTWARE SKILLS

- Proficient in Microsoft Office
- Excellent use of Zotero
- Good knowledge of RSTUDIO
- Basic knowledge of SPSS
- Good knowledge of E-prime
- Good knowledge of Superlab
- Working knowledge of Brain Vision Analyzer for EEG data recording and analyzing
- EEG data acquisition on Net Station

PRACTICAL SKILLS

- Physiological recording- EEG Recording
- Qualitative Analysis- Questionnaire development, interviewing, administration of questionnaires and assessments
- Wet-Lab techniques- Gel Electrophoresis, Polymerase Chain Reaction(PCR), RT-PCR

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Fluent in English, Kannada, Tamil, and Hindi.
- Basic skills in Gujarati, Marathi, and Telugu

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Theatre- Have attended workshops and taken one formal course in theatre and put up a play- GreyScale which dealt with women empowerment and the subtleties of sexual harassment in a relationship and workplace that women face.
- Tailoring
- Badminton
- Table Tennis

