Ronald B. Dekker

Master's Student in Cognitive Neuroscience

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PROFILE

I am a motivated neurosciences student with a wide range of academic interests. This is reflected by my double Bachelor's, composed of a general degree in the exact and social sciences and a more focused degree in psychobiology. I am currently looking to deepen my knowledge, for which I'm doing a PhD in which I investigate learning, both in human brains and in machine learning algorithms.

Research interests: brain imaging, decision making, computational cognitive neuroscience, artificial intelligence, neurolinguistics, visual perception, methodology, memory & learning

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EDUCATION

2017 - Present — **University of Oxford**
PhD in Experimental Psychology

Subject: Learning and abstraction in categorization. Supervised by Dr. Christopher Summerfield

2015 - 2017 — **University of Amsterdam**
MSc in Brain & Cognitive Sciences (cum laude)

Electives: Brain imaging, Neural and cognitive modeling, Programming in Python & experimental design in OpenSesame, Programming in MATLAB for data analysis, Tesla minor

GPA: 9.0/10.0

2012-2015 — **University of Amsterdam**
BSc in Psychobiology (with honours)

Electives included: computational cognitive neuroscience, systems neuroscience, neuro-economics, neurolinguistics

2010-2015 — **University of Amsterdam**
BSc in Interdisciplinary Sciences (Beta-gamma track)

Electives included: cognition, philosophy, propositional and predicate logic

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EXPERIENCE

2017-2017 — **Tesla Minor**
Consultancy project for healthcare innovation company ActiveCues (6 months)

- Assessed feasibility of creating a new product for 50 psychopathological groups
- Brought together researchers, developers and clinicians to bring a scientific framework into practice
- Developed a serious game to tackle substance abuse using interactive light projections

2016-2017 **University of Oxford**
Research project on category learning in human and artificial agents (6 months)
Supervised by Christopher Summerfield

- Collected human data online using Amazon Mechanical Turk (JavaScript)
- Simulated category learning in various artificial neural network architectures using Tensorflow
- Developed a Python-based naturalistic stimulus generator toolkit

2015-2016 **Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam**
Research project on space perception and retinotopy (7 months)
Supervised by Daan van Es & Tomas Knapen

- Designed and programmed experiment from the ground up in OpenSesame
- Operated EyeLink 1000 eye-tracker
- Analyzed fMRI data using FSL and custom python toolkit

2015-2017 **Editor at ABC (Amsterdam Brain and Cognition) journal**

- Reviewed submitted articles and adapted these to a publishable format with Adobe InDesign

2015-2015 **University of Amsterdam**
Research project and thesis at UvA linguistics lab (6 months)
Supervised by Caroline Junge

- Collected data from 33 infants in a novel word learning EEG study
- Communicated research intent and design with lay people
- Processed data with BrainVision Analyzer & performed multivariate ANOVA data analysis

2010-2013 **Private tutoring in physics, chemistry and mathematics**

- Tutoring was performed at clients' homes on freelance basis

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QUALIFICATIONS

Technical skills (ordered by proficiency)	Python, MATLAB, SPSS, Excel, R, UNIX (Ubuntu), JavaScript, FSL, HTML, DOS, Wolfram Mathematica
Research techniques/skills	Artificial neural networks, EEG, (f)MRI, disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaboration, experimental design, statistics
Languages	Dutch: Fluent (native)
	English: Fluent, BLTC (British Language Training Centre) Academic English grade: 8.5 (tested 2011)