

Harvard University
Department of Psychology
Cambridge, MA, 02138

Academic Positions

Apr 2025 – present	Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University Vision and Perception Neuroscience Lab Advisor: Prof. Kalanit Grill-Spector
Sep 2024 – Mar 2025	Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard University Advisor: Prof. Alfonso Caramazza

Education

2018 – Sep 2024	Ph.D. in Psychology, Harvard University Cognition, Brain, and Behavior Program Advisor: Prof. Alfonso Caramazza
2016 – 2018	M.Sc. in Cognitive Psychology, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey Co-Advisors: Prof. Fuat Balci, Prof. Tilbe Goksun
2013 – 2016	B.A. in Psychology, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey magna cum laude (4-year degree, completed in 3 years)

Awards and Honors

2024	Seeing and Action Workshop Award for Best Submission , University of Coimbra
Fall 2022	Student Recognition of Teaching , Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Programs, Harvard University
2022	Woodcock Institute Award for the Advancement of Neurocognitive Research (\$15k), Texas Woman's University
2021 - 2022	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching , Harvard University
2021	Restricted Funds Large Grant Award , Harvard University (\$5k)
2020	European Workshop in Cognitive Neuropsychology Award for Best Submission
2019	Restricted Funds Travel Award , Harvard University
2018	Stimson Fund Research Grant , Harvard University
2018	Academic Excellence Award , Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Koc University, Turkey
2017 - 2018	Graduate Scholarship , Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, 2210 National Scholarship Programme for MSc Students

2016	Outstanding Student Fellowship , Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities (GSSSH), Koç University, Turkey
2016	Dean's High Honor List , Bogazici University, Turkey
2013 – 2016	Outstanding Success Scholarship , Turkish Educational Foundation

Journal Publications

*indicates authorship with supervised student

- **Karakose-Akbiyik, S.**, Schubert, T., & Caramazza, A. (2024). Preserved recognition of basic visual features despite lack of awareness of shape: evidence from a case of neglect. *Cortex*, 176. [\[link\]](#)
- **Karakose-Akbiyik, S.**, Sussman, O.*, Wurm, M. F., & Caramazza, A. (2024). The role of agentive and physical forces in the neural representation of motion events. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 44(2). [\[link\]](#)
- **Karakose-Akbiyik, S.**, Caramazza, A., & Wurm, M. F. (2023). A shared neural code for the physics of actions and object events. *Nature Communications*, 14(1), 3316. [\[link\]](#)
- Akyurek, A. F., Paik, S., Kocyigit, M. Y., **Akbiyik, S.**, Runyun, S. L., & Wijaya, D. (2022). On measuring social biases in prompt-based multi-task learning. *Findings of NAACL 2022*. [\[link\]](#)
- **Akbiyik, S.**, Goksun, T., & Balci, F. (2022). Elucidating the common basis for task-dependent differential manifestations of category advantage: a decision theoretic approach. *Cognitive Science*, 46(1), e13078. [\[link\]](#)
- Goksun, T., Ozer, D., **Akbiyik, S.** (2021). Gesture in the Aging Brain In A. Morgenstern & S. Goldin-Meadow (Eds.), *Gesture in language: Development across the lifespan* (pp. 269–293). De Gruyter Mouton; American Psychological Association.
- **Akbiyik, S.**, Göksun, T., & Balci, F. (2020). Cathodal tDCS stimulation of left anterior temporal lobe eliminates cross-category color discrimination response time advantage. *Behavioural Brain Research*, 391(112682). [\[link\]](#)
- **Akbiyik, S.**, Karaduman, A., Goksun, T., & Chatterjee, A. (2018). The relationship between gesture use and macrolinguistic discourse abilities in people with focal brain injury. *Neuropsychologia*, 117, 440-453. [\[link\]](#)
- Turkakin, E., **Akbiyik, S.**, Akyol, B., Gurdere, C., & Balci, F. (2018). Differential bilateral primary motor cortex tDCS fails to modulate choice bias and readiness in perceptual decision making. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 12(410). [\[link\]](#)

Manuscripts

- Liu, S., Outa, J., & **Karakose-Akbiyik, S.** (preprint). Naive psychology depends on naive physics. [\[preprint\]](#).
- **Karakose-Akbiyik** & Caramazza (in prep.). Spatial organization of neural responses to animate and inanimate movement is reflected in intrinsic functional connectivity.
- Liu, S., **Karakose-Akbiyik**, Buxbaum, L., Wong, A., & Caramazza, A. (in prep.). Investigation of physical reasoning abilities in apraxia.

Conference Presentations

- Karakose-Akbiyik, S. & Caramazza, A. (2024).** *Spatial organization of neural responses to animate and inanimate movement is reflected in intrinsic functional connectivity.* Talk presented at the 2nd annual meeting of the Seeing and Action Workshop, University of Coimbra, Portugal.
- Karakose-Akbiyik, S., Sussman, O., Wurm, M.F. & Caramazza, A. (2023).** *The role of agentive and physical forces in the neural representation of motion events.* Talk presented at the 23rd annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society. St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Karakose-Akbiyik, S., Sussman, O., Wurm, M. & Caramazza, A. (2023).** *Neural representation of motion events: the role of agentive and physical forces.* Poster presented at Workshop on Concepts, Actions, and Objects: Functional and Neural Perspectives at Center for Mind/Brain Sciences, University of Trento, Italy.
- Akbiyik, S., Caramazza, A., & Wurm, M.F. (2021).** *Shared and distinct neural representations of animate actions and inanimate events.* Poster presented at the Annual Cognitive Neuroscience Society Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
- Akbiyik, S., Caramazza, A., & Wurm, M.F. (2021).** *Shared and distinct neural representations of human actions and object events.* Talk presented at the 39th annual meeting of the European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy.
- Akbiyik, S., Caramazza, A., & Wurm, M.F. (2021).** *Shared and distinct neural representations of animate actions and inanimate events.* Poster presented at the 21st annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society. St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Akbiyik, S., Schubert, T., & Caramazza, A. (2020).** *Preserved recognition of simple visual features in stimulus-based neglect.* Talk presented at the 20th annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society. St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Akbiyik, S., Schubert, T., & Caramazza, A. (2020).** *Preserved recognition of simple visual features in a patient with hemispatial neglect.* Poster presented at the 38th annual meeting of the European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology, Bressanone, Italy.
- Akbiyik, S., Runyun, Ş.L., Genç, E., Göksun, A., & Balci, F. (2019).** *Colored by language? The role of latent decision processes and left anterior temporal cortex in categorical color perception.* Poster presented at the Annual Cognitive Neuroscience Society Meeting, San Francisco, USA.
- Akbiyik, S., Karaduman, A., Göksun, T., & Chatterjee, A. (2017).** *The relationship between gesture use and macrolinguistic abilities in narratives.* Poster presented at Language as a Form of Action Conference, Rome, Italy.
- Akbiyik, S., Göksun, T., & Balci, F. (2017).** *Decision processes in categorical color perception.* Poster presented at the National Experimental-Cognitive Psychology Symposium, Turkey.

Invited Talks

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| 2024 | Cognition and Action Lab, Moss Rehabilitation and Research Institute.
Laboratory of Brain and Cognition, National Institute of Mental Health.
Causality in Cognition Lab, Stanford University.
Vision and Perception Neuroscience Lab, Stanford University. |
| 2023 | Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, Johns Hopkins University.
Cognitive and Neural Computation Lab, Yale University. |
| 2022 | Cognitive Psychology Seminar, Mercyhurst University.
Cognition, Brain and Behavior Research Seminar, Harvard University. |

2021	Language and Cognition (LangCog) Talk Series, Harvard University. Laboratory for Developmental Studies, Spelke Lab, Harvard University. Language and Cognition Workshop, Harvard University. Language and Cognition Lab, Koc University. Psychology Departmental Seminar, MEF University.
2020	Language and Cognition Talk Series, Harvard University.

Teaching

Spring 2023	PSY 1406: Biological and Artificial Visual Systems: How Humans and Machines Represent the Visual World Teaching Fellow Course instructors: Prof. Talia Konkle & Prof. George Alvarez
Fall 2022	PSY 1: Introduction to Psychology Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Prof. Jason Mitchell
Spring 2022	PSY 1901: Methods of Behavioral Research Head Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Dr. Leslie Rith-Najarian
Spring 2021	PSY 1900: Statistics in Psychology Head Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Dr. Thomas Rusch
Fall 2020	PSY 1900: Statistics in Psychology Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Dr. Patrick Mair
Fall 2020	PSY 1304: Cognitive Neuropsychology Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Prof. Alfonso Caramazza
Spring 2018	PSYC 445: Cognitive Development Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Prof. Tilbe Goksun
Fall 2017	PSYC 205: Learning and Cognition Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Prof. Sami Gulgoz
Spring 2017	PSYC 100: Introduction to Psychology Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Assoc. Prof. Nazli Baydar
Fall 2016	PSYC 410: Psychology of Testing and Measurement Teaching Fellow Course instructor: Dr. Ayse Altan Atalay

Research Experience

2017 – 2018	Graduate Research Assistant, Timing and Decision-Making Lab Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey Supervisor: Prof. Fuat Balci
2016 – 2018	Graduate Research Assistant, Language and Cognition Lab Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey Supervisor: Prof. Tilbe Goksun
2016 – 2018	Graduate Research Assistant, Language and Communication Development Lab Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey Project title: Influence of socioeconomic and immigration status on the cognitive origins of cultural learning PIs: Prof. Aylin Küntay and Prof. Ulf Liszkowski

2015 – 2016	Undergraduate Research Assistant, Psychobiology Lab Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey Supervisor: Prof. Resit Canbeyli
2015 – 2016	Undergraduate Research Assistant, Cognitive Processes Lab Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey Supervisor: Prof. Aysecan Boduroglu

Service to Profession

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024	Graduate Student Representative, Psychology-Kempner Institute Tenure Track Faculty Search , Harvard University Acted as a liaison between graduate students and the search committee for a Tenure Track position at the intersection of Artificial and Natural Intelligence, coordinated grad-student interactions with job candidates.
Spring 2022 – Fall 2023	Multi-mentor Committee Member , Harvard University Participated in efforts to establish a multi-mentor system in the Psychology Department for improved support via diverse mentorship.
Spring 2023 – Fall 2023	Mentor in Prospective PhD & RA Event in Psychology (PPREP) , Harvard University
Summer 2023	Lab Mentor for Becoming a Brain Scientist Summer Course , Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative, Harvard University
Fall 2022 – Spring 2023	Academic Mentor, Pioneering Volunteers A non-profit based in Turkey for fostering positive social change by empowering individuals with international experience.
Fall 2020 – Spring 2023	Co-President, Harvard Women in Psychology A graduate student led organization to encourage inclusion and diversity in psychology, and to provide support, resources, and community for group members.
Fall 2021	Conference Co-Chair, Trends in Psychology Summit Served as one of two primary organizers of a virtual conference highlighting the work of women and underrepresented genders in Psychology. The event, organized by trainees, attracted over 1,400 registrants from dozens of countries.
Fall 2021 – Spring 2022	Graduate Student Steering Committee, Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative , Harvard University
2021 - Present	Peer Mentor for Psychology Peer Mentorship Coalition , Harvard Psychology Department
Fall 2021	Mentor for Graduate Applicants , Harvard Women in Psychology Mentorship Program
Fall 2020	Panelist in Ph.D. Orientation Event , Harvard Psychology Department
Spring 2021, Fall 2021	Mentor in Prospective PhD & RA Event in Psychology (PPREP) , Harvard University

Spring 2020	Panelist in Navigating Grad School Admissions , Department of Psychology, Koc University
2019 – 2020	Newsletter Coordinator , Harvard Women in Psychology

Professional Experience

Fall 2022 – Present	Resident Tutor in Dunster House , Harvard University Serving as a full-time residential academic advisor for undergraduates in Dunster House, assisting in course selection, fellowship applications, and career decisions.
Fall 2014 – Summer 2017	Freelance Proofreader and Translator , Kure Press, Istanbul, TR Published works: Revonsuo, A. (2016). <i>Consciousness: the science of subjectivity</i> (S. Degirmenci, Trans., S. Akbiyik proofreader). Istanbul: Kure Press. Heil, J. (2013). <i>Philosophy of mind: a contemporary introduction</i> (S. Akbiyik , Trans.). Istanbul: Kure Press. Blackmore, S. J. (2009). <i>Conversations on consciousness</i> (S. Akbiyik , Trans.). Istanbul: Kure Press.

Mentoring

Residential academic mentor for undergraduates in Dunster House, Harvard University (2022 - present)
Megan Joel (Undergraduate research assistant, Harvard University, Fall 2023)
Janice Chen (High school summer research assistant, Harvard University, Summer 2023)
Feyzanur Atakul (Izmir Katip Celebi University graduate mentee, Fall 2022- Spring 2023)
Mervener Ayyildiz (Bogazici University graduate mentee, Fall 2022- Spring 2023)
Oliver Sussman (Harvard undergraduate and senior thesis student, Spring 2021 – Spring 2022)
Tomas Guerrero-Jaramillo (Undergraduate research assistant, Harvard University, Fall 2019)
Andy Chen (Summer research assistant, Harvard University, Summer 2019)
Ertugrul Akkaya (Summer research assistant, Koc University, Summer 2018)
Ezgi Oztelcan (Summer research assistant, Koc University, Summer 2017)

Ad Hoc Reviewing

Journal of Experimental Psychology, Human Brain Mapping, Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Journal of Neuroscience, Cerebral Cortex, Nature Human Behaviour, PNAS, Cambridge Elements, Imaging Neuroscience.

Skills

Programming languages: Python, MATLAB, R, Bash

Neuroimaging software: FSL, Freesurfer, Connectome Workbench, BrainVoyager, SPM

Neuromodulation: transcranial magnetic stimulation, transcranial direct current stimulation

Languages: Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), German (Advanced; DSD II/ B2-C1)