

# Thomas ‘Orlando’ Da Costa

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French | 23 years old

[Personal Academic Website](#)

[Github page](#)

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## Research Interests

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Dynamic Macroeconomics - Biodiversity, Natural Resources and Growth - Inequalities - Uncertainty and Non-Linearities in modeling - Behavioral Economics - Public policies.

## Education

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- 2020 – 2025 **École Normale Supérieure de la rue d’Ulm**  
*École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL)*  
French highest "Grande École". Minor in Environmental Sciences, public policy-oriented cursus (economics, political sciences, sociology). Dual degree with AgroParisTech.
- 2024 – 2025 **External Auditor in Macroeconomics courses**  
*Paris School of Economics (PSE) & Sorbonne Paris Nord (Paris XIII)*  
3 courses from the Analysis and Policy in Economics M2 program (APE - PSE),  
2 courses from the EPOG one (Economic Policies for the Global transition - Paris XIII).
- 2023 – 2025 **M.Sc. in Environmental Economics, Spe. Prospective Modeling**  
*AgroParisTech - Paris-Saclay University (Paris XI)*  
M1: [Thesis](#) ; [Slides](#).
- 2021 – 2023 **M.Sc. in Cognitive sciences**  
*Cognitive Sciences department - ENS-PSL*  
Magna cum laude (15.23/20).  
M2: [Thesis \(in French\)](#).
- 2020 – 2021 **Introductory year**  
*Physics department - ENS-PSL*
- 2017 – 2020 **B.Sc. in Physics**  
*Sorbonne University (Paris VI)*  
Summa cum laude (16.31/20).
- 2017 – 2020 **B.Sc. in Mechanics**  
*Sorbonne University (Paris VI)*  
Summa cum laude (16.40/20).
- 2017 **Baccalauréat - Engineering Sciences, Spe. Physics**  
*Lycée Martin Luther King*  
Highest honors (18.63/20), latin and music options.

A list of all the courses I have taken can be found [here](#).

## Research Experience

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06/2024 – **Paris School of Economics**

09/2024 *with Marc Fleurbaey*

CLIMATE IMPACTS HAVE BEEN UNDERESTIMATED: A NEW CLIMATE DAMAGE FUNCTION FOR AN OPTIMAL CLIMATE POLICY.

Modifying an Integrated Assessment Model (the NICE model, a derivative of Nordhaus' RICE) to incorporate a damage function with a “growth effect” and assessing its effect on the optimal carbon price trajectory and on inequalities.

Macroeconomics, Environmental Economics, Welfare Economics, Modeling.

04/2023 – **Georgetown Environmental Justice Program & INRAE**

09/2023 *with Pauline Smith & Corinne Robert*

NATURE CONNECTEDNESS, RISK PERCEPTION AND RISK ATTITUDES: THREE BEHAVIORAL FACTORS FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PESTICIDE USE.

Behavioral Economics, Environmental Psychology and Data Analysis applied to a national public policy (Plan Écophyto).

09/2021 – **Paris Brain Institute**

05/2022 *with Liane Schmidt*

UNREALISTIC OPTIMISM BIAS IN BELIEF UPDATING: EFFECTS OF CONFINEMENT DURING COVID-19 AND EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN.

Studying the suppression of belief updating bias in a stressful environment.

Experimental Psychology, Data Analysis.

06/2019 – **Plasma Physics Lab (UMR 7648)**

07/2019 *with Matthieu Berthomier*

Modeling the time-of-flight chamber of a mass spectrometer.

Simulating the trajectory of particles subjected to an electromagnetic field.

Building an experimental protocol to transfer a graphene sheet (thickness: 30  $\mu\text{g}$ ).

## Research Papers

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### Publications (Work in progress)

2024 **Effects of experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic on optimistically biased belief updating**

*with Iraj Khalid, Orphée Morlaàs, Hugo Bottemanne, Lisa Thonon, Philippe Fossati, Liane Schmidt*

In revision, preprint [here](#).

2024 **What carbon price for a net-zero transition by 2050? Insights from the NICE model under different policy regimes at national and international levels** (Provisional title)

*with Marc Fleurbaey, Fabrice Murtin*

In progress.

2024      **Farming practices and behavioral factors: a case study in eastern France** (Provisional title)  
*with Elliot Meunier, Corinne Robert*  
In progress.

## Reports and Notes

2023      **How to Design an Effective Composting Program at Ecole Normale Supérieure: An Intervention Proposal**  
*with Tristin Blatt, Sofya Goldina, Lena Pasalskaya*  
[Report](#).

## Unpublished Manuscripts

2022      **MDMA-assisted psychotherapy in the treatment of PTSD: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis**  
*with Jérémie Beucler, Evangelia Petropoulou, Lakshwin Shreesha*  
[Manuscript](#).

2020      **Elastocaloric effect applied to cooling systems: theoretical and experimental considerations**  
*with Jessy Flaharty, Nicolas De Pinho Dias, Gaspard Douin, Marin Bacry*  
[Manuscript](#) (in French).

## Other Activities

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11/2023 –      **Member of the AgroParisTech Board of Directors — Student Representative**  
11/2025      *AgroParisTech*  
“Commission Permanente” and Ethics Unit member, involved in curriculum reform on themes related to ecological transitions.

01/2023 –      **Energy Sobriety Project Assistant**  
04/2023      *Heritage department - ENS-PSL*  
Measurements to optimize heating plant management for future energy audits.

01/2022 –      **Presidency and management of marching bands**  
12/2022      *Ernestophone / Zizany Brass Band*  
Administrative and human management: organisation of two international summer tours, participation in film shoots, festivals and other events, online communication, etc. Turnovers of 20,873.89€ (Ernestophone) and 12,000.48€ (Zizany Brass Band), for respectively ~100 and 12 members.

## Miscellaneous

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**Languages:** French (native), English (C1), Spanish (B1), Portuguese (notions).

**Computer Literacy:** R, Julia, Python, Fortran, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, QGIS, Adobe Suite (InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro), Microsoft Suite.

**Various Interests:** Music (Clarinet, Piano, Ukulele, Singing), Sports (Climbing, Hiking, Biking), Hitchhiking.

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References available upon request.