

Hiroyoshi YAMASAKI

CONTACT

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cognitive science
Computational modelling
Neural time-series analysis
Conversation

HOBBIES

Playing music (guitar, singing)
Learning rare languages
Travelling
Walking my dog

REFERENCES

Available upon request

PhD Candidate in Cognitive Neuroscience

Research focus: conversation, communication, and computational approaches to naturalistic speech

RESEARCH PROFILE

PhD candidate in cognitive neuroscience with an interdisciplinary background spanning linguistics, cognitive science, computational methods, and neural time-series analysis.

My work focuses on spoken communication and naturalistic conversation, with a particular interest in the methodological and theoretical challenges of studying interactive behaviour and brain activity together.

Across my studies, a common thread has been functionalist linguistics, communication, and conversation, which I approach using tools from computational linguistics, modelling, speech analysis, and neuroscience. My ultimate ambition is to bridge linguistic theory, neural mechanisms and artificial intelligence in a unified framework.

EDUCATION

PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience

Laboratoire Parole et Langage (LPL) / Institut de Neurosciences des Systèmes (INS), Aix-en-Provence / Marseille, France, 2023-present

M.Sc. in Cognitive Science

Aix-Marseille University, Marseille, France, 2020-2022 | Grade: 16.7/20 overall; 17.0/20 in Year 2. Master's thesis: machine-learning analysis of MEG data acquired during speech production.

Studies in IT and Cognition

University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2018-2019 | Coursework in machine learning and natural language processing; non-degree study.

B.A. in Slavonic Studies

Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany, 2013-2016 | Grade: 1.1 (excellent). Focus on Russian, Ukrainian, and Czech linguistics.

Studies in Physics

ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, 2009-2010 | Coursework in mathematical analysis, linear algebra, theoretical physics, and computer science; non-degree study.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PhD Candidate

LPL / INS, Aix-en-Provence / Marseille, France, 2023-present. Conduct interdisciplinary research on spoken communication and naturalistic conversation using neural time-series methods. Integrate linguistics, neuroscience, and computational modeling (supervised by Daniele Schön and Philippe Blache)

Research Engineer

Laboratoire Parole et Langage (LPL), Aix-en-Provence, France, in collaboration with Linagora (supervised by Laurent Prévot), 2023 January-2023 November
Developed AI-based methods for automatic extraction of conversational features from speech data; contributed to corpus generation and curation; co-authored two conference papers.

Research Internship (Master's Thesis)

Laboratoire de Psychologie Cognitive, Marseille, France, 2022. Machine-learning analysis of MEG data acquired during speech production (supervised by Xavier Alario).

Research Internship

Laboratoire de Psychologie Cognitive, Marseille, France, 2021. Theoretical research on relationships between neuroscience, artificial intelligence, and psychology.

Research Assistant

Heidelberg Institute for Slavic Studies, Heidelberg, Germany, 2016-2017. Digitisation and organisation of Yiddish materials.

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

Preprints

Yamasaki, H., Blache, P., & Schön, D. (2026). Two Interacting Neural Processes Support Speech Planning during Naturalistic Conversation. bioRxiv, 2026-05.

Journal manuscript

Yamasaki, H., Blache, P., & Schön, D. *A dual EEG hyperscanning dataset of natural French face to face conversation*. Manuscript near submission. Conversational Speech-Rate Convergence Without a Shared Neural Signature

Yamasaki, H., Blache, P., & Schön, D. *Conversational Speech-Rate Convergence Without a Shared Neural Signature*. Manuscript near submission.

Conference papers

Yamasaki, H., Louradour, J., Hunter, J., & Prévot, L. (2023, December). *Transcribing and aligning conversational speech: A hybrid pipeline applied to french conversations*. In 2023 IEEE Automatic Speech Recognition and Understanding Workshop (ASRU) (pp. 1-6). IEEE.

Hunter, J., Yamasaki, H., Granier, O., Louradour, J., Bertrand, R., Thompson, K., & Prévot, L. (2024). *MEETING: A corpus of French meeting-style conversations*. In Actes de la 31ème Conférence sur le Traitement Automatique des Langues Naturelles, volume 1: articles longs et prises de position (pp. 508-529).

TEACHING

Bachelor's-level Research Methodology, AMU, (Winter semester, 2025/26). Taught research methodology to undergraduate students for one semester.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Python, R, SQL, Java, C/C++

Scientific computing and analysis: NumPy, pandas, SciPy, scikit-learn, PyTorch, matplotlib, MNE-python

Other tools: Praat, Jupyter, Git, Linux, Slurm, Latex

LANGUAGES

Japanese (native), English (C1/C2), German (C1), French (C1), Russian (C1), Czech (C1), Ukrainian (B2), Yiddish (B1, reading only)

AWARDS

Silver medal in Japanese national Physics Olympiad

Silver medal in AS Physics Competition, UK