

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Computational Cognitive Modeling

We are looking for a postdoctoral fellow as part of an NSF-funded project entitled “The Impact of Dynamically Changing Information on Decision Processes”. Applicants will join a collaboration at Vanderbilt University between Dr. Jennifer Trueblood (Psychology) and Dr. William Holmes (Physics) with the aim of using computational models to understand how people make decisions in dynamic environments.

Project Description: When we make decisions, we are often faced with complex, changing information. Any reasonable decision-making process should be able to adjust to and integrate new information, yet little is known about how this is done. This project takes a joint experimental and computational modeling approach to examine the impact of changing information on both binary and multi-alternative decisions.

Desired Skills: Candidates should hold a Ph.D. in psychology, neuroscience, physics, computer science, mathematics, engineering, or related disciplines. The following skills are also strongly desired:

1. Background in computational modeling and / or experimental psychology
2. Ability to create quantitative models of cognitive processing
3. Solid programming skills, including MATLAB and experience with high performance computing and GPUs
4. Knowledge of Bayesian methods for model fitting and comparison
5. Demonstrated scientific expertise, with publications in refereed journals
6. Experience with eye tracking is also desired, but not necessary.

Additional Information: The appointment can start as early as Fall 2016, but we will consider candidates who can start at a later date. The appointment is for one-year. Renewal for a second year is contingent on availability of funds, satisfactory performance, acceptable progress in carrying out the assigned duties, and mutual agreement. Salary is commensurate with experience.

To Apply: Please submit a cover letter including a brief statement of career goals, curriculum vitae, one example publication / manuscript, and contact information of three references. Apply to Dr. Jennifer Trueblood, jennifer.s.trueblood@vanderbilt.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Vanderbilt University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women, minorities and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.