

UNIVERSITÀ
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SEMINAR CYCLE

of the PhD in Neuroscience of Turin

7th Appointment

Prof. Patric Bach

Action Prediction Lab, School of Psychology, University of
Aberdeen (UK)

**“Perceptual simulation as basis for
understanding others”**

12th September 2024 h 2:30 PM-3:30 PM

The lecture will last 1 hour and it will be followed by discussion

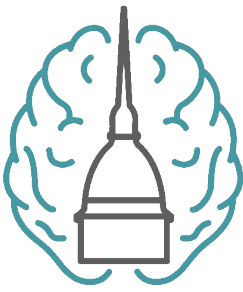
Host: Prof. Andrea Cavallo



“P” Room, Venturi Palace
Via Verdi 25, Turin

Link: <https://bit.ly/3WGKn4k>

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PROF. PATRIC BACH

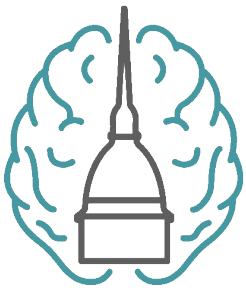
Prof. Patric Bach investigates how people plan their own actions and understand those of others.

He studied Psychology at the Ludwigs-Maximilians-University at Munich, Germany and received his PhD at the Max-Planck-Institute for Cognitive Neuroscience in Munich and Leipzig.

From 2004, he worked as a post-doc in Steve Tipper's lab at Bangor University, Wales, before took up a Lecturer position at Plymouth University in 2009. Since 2020, he is Professor for Psychology at the University of Aberdeen.

<https://www.actionprediction.org/>

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ABSTRACT

Recent proposals argue that people's understanding of other people's behaviours relies on a top-down guided process that is able to "paint" one's knowledge of the other person – their goals, beliefs, and perspective onto the environment – onto one's own perceptual system. I will report data from two experimental paradigms that support this view. These studies show, first, that people's understanding of others' behaviour is guided by perceptual anticipations of their forthcoming actions. These anticipations can be made visible as subtle distortions of a perceived action's path towards those expectations. Second, they show that perceptual expectations of another's sensory input also underlie people's ability to take others' perspective, providing a view how the world looks to them that can support own decision making. Together, these findings argue for a framework in which perceptual anticipations play a key role in social cognition and provide one with insights into others knowledge of the world and their future behaviour.

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