Zach Studdiford
Undergraduate Researcher
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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison   Madison, WI

B.S, Computer Science   Expected May, 2026

B.S, Psychology

Advisors: Gary Lupyan, Timothy T. Rogers

General honors

PREPRINTS

- **Studdiford, Z**., Rogers, T. T., Suresh, S., & Mukherjee, K. (2025). Uncovering the Computational Ingredients of Human-Like Representations in LLMs. *arXiv preprint arXiv: 2510.01030.*
- **Studdiford, Z**., Rogers, T. T., Suresh, S., & Mukherjee, K. (2025). Evaluating Steering Techniques using Human Similarity Judgments. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.19333*.

PEER-REVIEWED PROCEEDINGS

- **Studdiford, Z.**, & Lupyan, G. Contextual Effects in LLM and Human Causal Reasoning. -In *ICML 2025 Workshop on Assessing World Models*.
- **Studdiford, Z.**, Liu, Q., Li, Y., Zhang, Z., & Lupyan, G. (2025). Evolution on the Lexical Workbench: Disentangling Frequency, Centrality, and Polysemy in Language Evolution. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 47).
- Chuang, Y. S., Nirunwiroj, K., **Studdiford, Z.**, Goyal, A., Frigo, V., Yang, S., ... & Rogers, T. (2024, November). Beyond Demographics: Aligning Role-playing LLM-based Agents Using Human Belief Networks. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2024* (pp. 14010-14026).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Studdiford, Z.**, & Lupyan, G. Wrong for the Right Reason? Using Success and Failures of Large Language Models to Understand Human Causal Reasoning. Poster presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.
- **Studdiford, Z.**, & Lupyan, G. Contextual Effects in LLM and Human Causal Reasoning. Poster presented at the 1st ICML Workshop on Assessing World Models.
- **Studdiford, Z.**, Liu, Q., Li, Y., Zhang, Z., & Lupyan, G. (2025). Evolution on the Lexical Workbench: Disentangling Frequency, Centrality, and Polysemy in Language Evolution. Poster presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

NSF REU Fellow   2025

Hilldale Research Fellow   2024

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewing
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Milwaukee Tool   Milwaukee, WI
Software Development Intern   May 2024 – August 2024
- Created and managed lambdas in AWS to support inventory operations
- Work with product management and UX teams to design new user inventory functionality
- Developed new customer-facing operations in .NET to improve the efficiency of tool transfers

Field Day Learning Games   Madison, WI
Data Scientist   February 2023 – September 2024
- Developed and maintain open-source pipelines for streaming and processing large-scale gameplay data
- Created statistical models to assess the efficacy of educational games for learning outcomes
- Presented research findings to external collaborators and stakeholderss

Synchrono LLC   Minneapolis, MN
Software Development Intern   May 2023 – August 2023
- Wrote SQL stored procedures to query data across customer databases
- Refactored existing VisualBasic pages in C# and VueJS
- Collaborated with product management teams to design APIs to meet new customer requirements

REFERENCES

Dr. Gary Lupyan | University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Psychology
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Madison, WI 53706-1611
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Dr. Qiawen Liu | Princeton University, Department of Psychology and
Department of Computer Science
South Drive, Princeton, NJ 08540
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