

# Cameron Robert Jones

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Department of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0515  
(+1) (858) 319-6265 ◆ [camrobjones.com](http://camrobjones.com) ◆ [cameron@ucsd.edu](mailto:cameron@ucsd.edu)

## Education

- UC San Diego** 2019 – 2024  
PhD, Cognitive Science (GPA: 4.00) *[anticipated]*  
Advisor: Benjamin K. Bergen
- University of Edinburgh** 2016 – 2017  
MSc, Evolution of Language and Cognition (Distinction)  
Dissertation Advisor: Simon Kirby  
Dissertation: The Effect of Biasing Information on a Transmission Chain of Short Texts
- University College London** 2012 – 2016  
BA, Classics (First Class)

## Research Experience

- Graduate Researcher, Language and Cognition Lab** 2019 – Present  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
PI: Benjamin K. Bergen  
Using Large Language Models to investigate the role of knowledge, embodiment, and reasoning in human language comprehension.
- Dissertation Research, Centre for Language Evolution** 2016-2017  
*Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences, University of Edinburgh*  
PI: Simon Kirby  
Design and analysis of in-person experiments investigating how induced biases influence information propagation.

## Publications

- Under Review.** Jones, C. R. & Trott, S.. Multimodal Language Models Show Evidence of Embodied Simulation
- Under Review.** Jones, C. R., Trott, S., & Bergen, B. Comparing Humans and Large Language Models on an Experimental Protocol Inventory for Theory of Mind Evaluation (EPITOME).

**Under Review.** Jones, C. R. & Bergen, B. Does word knowledge account for the effect of world knowledge on pronoun interpretation?

2023. Jones, C. R. & Bergen, B. Does GPT-4 Pass the Turing Test? [\[preprint\]](#) [\[experiment\]](#)

2023. Trott, S.\*, Jones, C. R.\*, Michaelov, J. A., Chang, T. A., & Bergen, B. Do Large Language Models know what humans know? *Cognitive Science* (Vol. 47, No. 7) [\*co-first author] [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

2022. Jones, C. R., Chang, T. A., Coulson, S., Michaelov, J. A., Trott, S., & Bergen, B. Distributional Semantics Still Can't Account for Affordances. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 44, No. 44). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

2021. Jones, C. R., & Bergen, B. The Role of Physical Inference in Pronoun Resolution. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 43, No. 43). [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

2021. Binder, F. J.\*, Jones, C. R.\*, Kaufman, R. A., Lin, N. T., Poole, C. R., & Vul, E. Cognitive cost and information gain trade-off in a large-scale number guessing game. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 43, No. 43). [\*co-first author] [\[paper\]](#) [\[code\]](#)

2018. Jones, C. & Kirby, S. The Effect of Biasing Information on a Transmission Chain of Short Texts. *2nd Conference of the Cultural Evolution Society*, Arizona, USA.

## Talks, Workshops, & Posters

2023. EPITOME: Experimental Protocol Inventory for Theory Of Mind Evaluation, *Workshop on Theory-of-Mind at ICML 2023* [\[paper\]](#)

2023. Does Matrix Multiplication Have a Theory of Mind?, *Comparative Cognition Lab, Dept of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*

2023. Language Models for Psycholinguistic Analysis, *Brain and Cognition Lab, Dept of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego* [\[notebook\]](#)

2022. Language Comprehension Requires Affordances, with Arthur Glenberg. *Workshop on Embodied, Situated and Grounded Intelligence: Implications for AI. The Santa Fe Institute* [\[recording\]](#)

2022. Distributional Semantics Still Can't Account for Affordances. *Invited Talk, Cognitive Science Society Conference*

2022. Situation Modelling in Humans and Machines, with Ronen Tamari. *Language and Vision Workshop. Cognitive Tools Lab, Dept of Psychology, UC San Diego*

2022. Can We Know Words by the Company They Keep? Guest Lecture on Distributional Methods in Computational Linguistics and their Limits. *Cognitive Science, Ilia State University, Georgia*

2022. Working with Language Models in Python. *Methods Training Assistant Workshop, Dept of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego* [[notebook](#)]

2022. Distributional Semantics Still Can't Account for Affordances. *Brain and Cognition Lab, Dept of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*

2021. The Role of Physical Inference in Pronoun Resolution. *Poster Session, Cognitive Science Society Conference*

2021. Cognitive cost and information gain trade-off in a large-scale number guessing game. *Poster Session, Cognitive Science Society Conference*

2021. World Knowledge Influences Pronoun Resolution Both Offline and Online. *Centre for Research and Language, UC San Diego*

## Employment History

**Data Engineer** 2018 – 2019

*AtomLeap, Berlin*

Full-stack web development of natural language processing tools for competitive intelligence (data extraction, search, report generation).

**Data Analytics Consultant** 2017-2018

*EY, Edinburgh*

Development of natural language processing tools to support internal audit teams; data analytics in SQL to support financial audits.

## Awards

**Summer Graduate Teaching Scholarship** 2019-2023

*UC San Diego*

\$1200

**Glushko Travel & Research Account** 2019-2023  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego* \$500 p.a.

**Highly Commended Dissertation Award** 2017  
*School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences, Edinburgh University*

## Academic Service

**Graduate Colloquium Organizer** 2023 – Present  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
Organizing departmental events and speaker series, including a debate: *Do Large Language Models understand language?*

**Ad Astra Organizer** 2022 – Present  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
Organizing a weekly graduate student meeting to share in-progress research and get constructive feedback from peers.

**Graduate Student Mentor** 2023 – Present  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
Leading a mentor pod to foster community and support less experienced graduate students.

**Graduate Student Representative** 2022 – 2023  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
Represent the interests of graduate students through managing a \$10,000 budget, organizing colloquia, and liaising with faculty.

**Methods Training Assistant** 2021 – 2022  
*Dept. of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego*  
Weekly office hours and quarterly workshops to share information about programming, experimental design, and statistical analysis.

**Webmaster** 2018 – Present  
*Cultural Evolution Society*  
Maintaining the society's website [[culturalevolutionsociety.org](http://culturalevolutionsociety.org)].  
Ex-officio non-voting executive committee member.

## Projects

**Turing Test** [[turingtest.camrobjones.com](http://turingtest.camrobjones.com)] 2023

Interactive Turing Test implemented using GPT-4.

**Paperbot** [<https://github.com/camrobjones/paperbot>] 2023

CLI tool implementing Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) to query local repositories of academic paper PDFs using LLMs.

**Hackercast** [[camrobjones.com/hackercast](https://camrobjones.com/hackercast)] 2023

Automated generation of a podcast summary of the top articles on Hacker News using GPT-4 and AWS Polly.

**Point the Compass** [[camrobjones.com/pointthecompass](https://camrobjones.com/pointthecompass)] 2021

Web application to gather norms on the political compass. Users vote on the placement of topics along two political axes. Django, Vue.js

**Spyke** [[camrobjones.com/spyke](https://camrobjones.com/spyke)] 2020

Education and research web application to help users build interactive simulations of spiking neural networks. Django, Vue.js, NEURON

**Genetic Algorithms** [[genetic-algorithms.com](https://genetic-algorithms.com)] 2018

Generate art using a population of agents that evolve according to a genetic algorithm, where fitness is based on user preferences. Django.

## Teaching Experience

### Instructor of Record

COGS 9: Introduction to Data Science *Summer 2023*

### Teaching Assistant

COGS 3: Introduction to Computing Bardolph, M. *Winter 2020*

COGS 3: Introduction to Computing Bardolph, M. *Spring 2020*

COGS 11: Minds & Brains Boyle, M. *Summer 2020*

COGS 15: Uncensored Intro. to Language Bergen, B. K. *Fall 2020*

COGS 102A: Cognitive Perspectives Johnson, C. *Winter 2021*

COGS 100: Cyborgs Now and in the Future Allen, M. *Summer 2021*

COGS 187A: Web Design and Info Architecture Kirsh, D. *Fall, 2021*

COGS 187B: Pro Practicum in Web Design Kirsh, D. *Winter, 2022*

COGS 9: Introduction to Data Science Shannon, K. *Summer, 2022*

DSGN 1: Design of Everyday Things Meyer, M. *Fall, 2022*

COGS 152: Cognitive Science of Mathematics	Nuñez, R.	<i>Winter, 2023</i>
COGS 153: Language Comprehension	Trott, S.	<i>Fall, 2023</i>