

Joey Velez-Ginorio

✉ joeyv@seas.upenn.edu

🌐 <https://www.seas.upenn.edu/~joeyv/>

Research interests

🔗 Programming languages 🧠 Neural networks 🧪 Cognitive science

Education

- 2021 – **University of Pennsylvania** — PhD / MSE, Computer and Information Science
- 2019 – 2021 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** — MS, Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- 2018 – 2019 **University of Oxford** — MSc, Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science
- 2012 – 2018 **University of Central Florida** — BS, Computer Engineering







Research Experience

- 2021 – **University of Pennsylvania** — Graduate Researcher, Programming Languages Group
- 2022 – **University of Pennsylvania** — Graduate Researcher, Neuroscience and Deep Learning Lab
- 2019 – 2021 **Harvard University** — Graduate Researcher, Programming Languages Group
- 2018 – 2019 **University of Oxford** — Graduate Researcher, Systems Verification Group
- 2017 – 2018 **Yale University** — Undergraduate Researcher, Computation and Development Lab
- 2016 – 2018 **MIT** — Undergraduate Researcher, Computational Cognitive Science Group
- 2015 – 2016 **University of Central Florida** — Undergraduate Researcher, Machine Learning Lab

Awards











- 2021 – 2023 Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship (Honorable Mention)
- 2020 MIT Presidential Fellowship
- 2018 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2018 Oxford-Frost Fellowship
- 2017 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

Theses



















- 2021 **Compositional desires as compositional programs**   
Joey Velez-Ginorio
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2019 **Learning in System F**   
Joey Velez-Ginorio
University of Oxford

Publications




- 2024 **REUs are necessary for an equitable research community**  
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Joshua Sunshine (Equal contribution)
Communications of the ACM, Volume 67, Issue 8 (2024)
- 2024 **Effects and coeffects in call-by-push-value**  
Cassia T., Emmanuel S. A., Shubh A., Joey Velez-Ginorio, Stephanie W.
Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages, OOPSLA (2024)

- 2023 **When naïve pedagogy breaks down: Adults rationally decide how to teach, but misrepresent learners' beliefs**  
Rosie Aboody, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Laurie Santos, Julian Jara-Ettinger
Cognitive Science
- 2021 **Towards neural functional program evaluation**  
Torsten Scholak, Jonathan Pilault, Joey Velez-Ginorio
AIPLANS Workshop, 35th Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems
- 2018 **When teaching breaks down: teachers rationally select what information to share, but misrepresent learners' hypothesis spaces**  
Rosie Aboody, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Laurie Santos, Julian Jara-Ettinger
Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society
- 2017 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires**  
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society
- 2016 **Temporal order-based first-take-all hashing for fast attention-deficit-hyperactive-disorder detection**  
Hao Hu, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Guo-Jun Qi
Proceedings of the 22nd SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining

Talks

- 2024 **When does X implement Y?**  
Assessing Representation — Santa Fe Institute
- 2024 **Compiling to transformers**  
NJPLS — New York University
- 2023 **When do neurons* represent True?**  
Kording lab meeting — University of Pennsylvania
Metauni festival — Online
- 2022 **Compilers as linking hypotheses**  
PLClub meeting — University of Pennsylvania
Kording lab meeting — University of Pennsylvania
- 2021 **A neural compiler**  
Midlands Graduate School in Foundations of Computing – Online
- 2020 **Finding programs in the brain**  
Fiete Lab meeting — Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2019 **Compiler synthesis**  
MFoCS Seminar — University of Oxford
- 2018 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires**  
Computation and Development Lab meeting — Yale University
- 2017 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires**  
Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

Posters

- 2021 **Towards neural functional program evaluation**  
Torsten Scholak, Jonathan Pilault, Joey Velez-Ginorio
AIPLANS Workshop, 35th Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems
- 2018 **When teaching breaks down: Teachers rationally select what information to share, but misrepresent learners' hypothesis spaces** 
Rosie Aboody, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Laurie Santos, Julian Jara-Ettinger
Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

- 2018 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence — University of Central Florida
 (Recipient of Presentation Award)
- 2017 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Center for Brains, Minds, and Machines Summer Showcase — MIT
- 2017 **Interpreting actions by attributing compositional desires** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society
- 2017 **Good teachers with poor assumptions: teachers rationally select what information to share, but misrepresent learners' hypothesis spaces** 
 Rosie Aboody, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Laurie Santos, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology
- 2016 **The language of mental states** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists
 (Recipient of Presentation Award)
- 2016 **The language of mental states** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science
 (Recipient of Presentation Award)
- 2016 **The language of mental states** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Max Siegel, Joshua B. Tenenbaum, Julian Jara-Ettinger
 Center for Brains, Minds, and Machines Summer Showcase — MIT
- 2016 **Temporal Order-based First-Take-All Hashing for Fast Attention-Deficit-Hyperactive-Disorder Detection** 
 Hao Hu, Joey Velez-Ginorio, Guo-Jun Qi
 Proceedings of the 22nd ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining
- 2016 **Joint graphical lasso and deep learning for dynamic brain connectome prediction** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Hao Hu, Guo-Jun Qi
 Florida Undergraduate Research Conference — University of Tampa
- 2016 **Joint graphical lasso and deep learning for dynamic brain connectome prediction** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Hao Hu, Guo-Jun Qi
 Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence — University of Central Florida
 (Recipient of Presentation Award)
- 2015 **Joint graphical lasso and deep learning for dynamic brain connectome prediction** 
Joey Velez-Ginorio, Hao Hu, Guo-Jun Qi
 Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science

Teaching

- 2021 **Teaching Assistant** — CIS 5000: Software Foundations, University of Pennsylvania
- 2017 – 2018 **Lecturer** — Quantitative Methods Workshop, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2017 **Lecturer** — Neuroengineering and A.I. Workshop, University of Central Florida
- 2016 **Lecturer** — ACMSIG A.I. Workshop, University of Central Florida

Academic Service

- 2021 **Organizer** — Seminar on Foundations of Programming Languages, University of Pennsylvania

- 2021 **Reviewer** — AIPLANS, 35th Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems
- 2020 **Reviewer** — 9th ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Certified Programs and Proofs
- 2020 **Organizer** — Seminar on Foundations of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- 2023 – **Director** — NSF REU Site: Research Exp. for Undergrad. in Programming Languages
- 2021 – **Member** — Doctoral Diversity Advisory Board, University of Pennsylvania (School of Engineering)
- 2019 – 2020 **Vice Chair** — Graduate Student Council Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, MIT
- 2019 **Member** — School of Science Graduate Advisory Council, MIT
- 2019 **Consultant** — Impact Labs, Oxford U.K.
- 2017 – 2018 **Vice President** — Society for Advancement of Hispanics and Native Americans in Science, UCF
- 2016 – 2017 **President** — Society for Advancement of Hispanics and Native Americans in Science, UCF
- 2016 – 2018 **Ambassador** — Academic Advancement Programs, UCF
- 2016 **Mentor** — Elevation Fellows Mentorship Program, UCF