

Yesesvi Konakanchi

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Education

PhD in Psychology, University of Sussex Sep 2023 – Sep 2026 (expected date of completion)

Supervisors – Prof. Anna Franklin, Dr. John Maule

MSci Hons Biomedical Sciences at Newcastle University 2019 – 2023

Theses

Master's year – Memory colour under varying illuminations
(Supervisor – Prof. Anya Hurlbert)

3rd Year Undergraduate - Examining the Correlation between Visuospatial Functions and the Presence of Complex Visual Hallucination in Mild Cognitive Impairment with Lewy Bodies
(Supervisor – Dr. Calum Hamilton)

Areas of Specialisation

Colour perception – Psychophysics & Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Quantitative and qualitative research methods, Visual psychophysics, MATLAB for vision science, Cognitive Science, Data analysis using R, Science communication

Employment

Research Assistant (Newcastle University – for Prof. Anya Hurlbert, June 2022 – August 2023)

Doctoral Tutor (University of Sussex, October 2023 - present)

Publications (chronological)

- Konakanchi, Y.**, Shi, Y., & Hurlbert, A. (2023). Measuring memory colour under metameric illuminations. *Journal of Vision*, 23(9), 5697-5697. <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.23.9.5697>.
- Franklin, A., **Konakanchi, Y.**, & Conway, B. (2024). Early visual experience promotes later utility of color. *Science eLetter* - <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adk9587>.
- Konakanchi Y.**, Bosten J., Franklin A., Maule J. (2025) An investigation of perceptual experience in hue-rotated Altered Reality. *Journal of Vision*, 25(9):1981. <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.25.9.1981>.
- Konakanchi Y.**, Bosten J., Franklin A., Maule J. (2025) Poster Session: Measuring the limits of long-term adaptation to hue-rotated altered reality. *Journal of Vision*, 25(5):40. <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.25.5.40>.
- Konakanchi, Y.**, Hurlbert, A. (2025) Tuning light to make fruit look natural: Memory colours, metamers and illumination modulation. *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*, 3128 012023. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1742-6596/3128/1/012023>.
- Sheldrake, K., **Konakanchi, Y.**, & Dienes, Z. Experience of Responding to Imaginative Suggestions: A Micro-phenomenological Interview Exploratory Study. *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis*. (*in press*)

7. **Konakanchi, Y.**, Srinivasan, S., Bosten, J., Franklin, A., & Maule, J. The Impact of Hue Rotation on Colour Perception in Altered Reality. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*. (*under review*)

8. **Konakanchi, Y.** Object Irrealism and the Ontology of Colour: A Conditional Analysis of a Herzogian Framework. *New Ideas in Psychology* (*under review*)

Manuscripts in preparation for publication

1. **Konakanchi, Y.**, Hurlbert, A. Metamerism. (*In prep*)

2. **Konakanchi, Y.**, Bosten, J., Franklin, A., & Maule, J. What is the best paradigm to obtain a measure of unique yellow? (*In prep*)

3. **Konakanchi, Y.**, Lovell, M., & Maule, J. How well do you know your phone? Perceived white is influenced by the display specific characteristics of personal devices. (*In prep*)

4. **Konakanchi, Y.**, Bosten, J., Franklin, A., & Maule, J. Does the visual system adapt to hue-rotation? (*In prep*)

Conference presentations

1. **Vision Science Society 2023** - Measuring memory colour under metameric illuminations

2. **Leeds Colour Conference 2023** - Naturalness of object colour under changing illumination (poster)

3. **ICVS Summer School, 2023** – The effects of dark adaptation on Rayleigh matching.

4. **University of Sussex Sensory Experiences Symposium 2023** – poster presentation of lab data from different experiments

5. **European Conference on Visual Perception (ECVP) 2024** – The effects of long-term adaptation to a hue-rotated Altered Reality on the perception of categorical colour constancy and unique hues.

<https://osf.io/j3mws>

6. **Optica, Fall Vision Meeting, 2024** – Measuring the limits of long-term adaptation in hue-rotated altered reality. <https://osf.io/nqyaf>

7. **Sussex Consciousness Centre (opening event) 2024** – The effects of long-term adaptation to a hue-rotated Altered Reality on the perception of categorical colour constancy and unique hues.

8. **Vision Science Society 2025** – An investigation of perceptual experience in hue-rotated altered reality

9. **Leeds Colour Conference 2025** - How Well Do You Know Your Phone? Perceived White is Influenced by the Display-Specific Characteristics of Personal Devices

10. **London Imaging Meeting 2025** – Is perceived white influenced by the display specific characteristics of your phone?

11. **Sussex Centre for Consciousness Sciences Symposium 2025** – Is perceived white influenced by the display specific characteristics of your phone?

Manuscript Reviewer

Journal of Vision, *Journal of the Optical Society of America A*, *ICDL Proceedings*

Awards

1. Young investigator award – Fall Vision Meeting Optica 2024

2. Best poster – Sussex Centre for Consciousness Sciences opening event 2024

Invited Talks –

1. Presented the foundational ideas of colour constancy to summer school students (University of Sussex Widening Participation Summer School – 16/07/24)
 2. Perceptual experiences in hue-rotated altered reality – talk given at Northeastern University London, 22/01/25
 3. Can the visual system adapt to an augmented reality where the sky is pink and the grass is blue? – talk at Newcastle University, 14/03/25
 4. Optica's Color Data Blast for Early Career Researchers - How Well Do You Know Your Phone? Perceived White is Influenced by the Display-Specific Characteristics of Personal Devices, 29/07/25
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Teaching –

1. Cognition in Clinical Contexts C8508 – 2023 Autumn – Practical demonstrator
2. Brain and Behaviour C8518 – 2024, 2025 Spring – Seminar lead
3. Developmental Psychology 2024 Autumn – Seminar lead
4. Discovering Statistics 2025 Autumn – Practical demonstrator

Supervision experience –

1. Co-supervised Master's thesis (with Dr. John Maule) on Colour and adaptation - 2024
 2. Undergraduate student supervision – Summer 2025.
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Funding

1. Vice Chancellor's International Scholarship – Newcastle University (2019-2023) – A financial gift of 5000£ per year as a tuition fee reduction.
 2. School of Psychology PhD studentship (2023-2026) - University of Sussex – Full tuition fee waiver (22500£) and a stipend (matching UKRI standards) towards living expenses and maintenance.
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Additional Qualifications/Modules attended

1. Associate Fellow (AdvanceHE, 2024)
2. Philosophy of Mind (University of Sussex, 2025)
3. Bayesian Statistics (University of Sussex, 2025)
4. Qualitative Research Methods (University of Sussex, 2025)
5. Image Processing (University of Sussex, 2025)
6. Advanced Statistics (University of Sussex, 2024)
7. An Adventure in Statistics (University of Sussex, 2023)
8. Philosophy and Critical Thinking (edX: University of Queensland, 2023)
9. The Psychology of Emotions: An Introduction to Embodied Cognition (edX: University of Cambridge, 2023)
10. Introduction to Cognitive Psychology and Neuropsychology (edX: University of Cambridge, 2023)
11. Sensory Systems (Newcastle University, 2022)
12. The Biological Basis of Behaviour (Newcastle University, 2022)
13. Disorders of the Human Nervous System (Newcastle University, 2021)
14. Neuroscience: From Cell to Cognition (Newcastle University, 2020)
15. Science Communication (Newcastle University, 2020)
16. Quantitative Methods for Biology (edX: Harvard University, 2020)

Extra Activities

1. Sussex Colour Group journal club organiser (University of Sussex, December 2023 – April 2025)
 2. Public engagement – “When the sky turns pink” at Aberdeen Art Gallery, a public science immersive experience, presenting cutting-edge research on colour manipulated altered reality. (Aberdeen, Scotland – September 2024)
 3. PhD Buddy Scheme, Sussex 2024 – peer mentoring 2 first year PhD students.
 4. Peer mentoring – Newcastle University (2020-2023)
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