Marie-Genevieve Guiraud Post-doctoral fellow

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Introduction

Simple models might be useful for the study of cognition. Hence, a wonderful model to uncover mechanisms of behavioural repertoire is the bee brain (honey bee and bumble bee predominantly). Bees possess a mini-brain with fewer than a million neurons, and yet exhibit impressive capabilities in learning and memory (in various sensory modalities: vision, olfaction and gustation). Unravelling the mysteries behind bee cognition by exploring the underlying neural mechanisms represents a very exciting challenge. I am broadly interested in cognitive neuroscience, ecology, learning and memory. During my PhD, I was particularly interested about 'how' bees solve complex cognitive tasks (example: conceptual learning tasks). I 3D tracked bees' trajectories engaged in a variety of visual puzzle to understand how stereotypical of the bee body movements (active vision) in front of a pattern helped the bee recognise a rewarding pattern from an unrewarding one. My first postdoc created a bridge between the behavioural performances of bees and their visual anatomy, their ecology. Now aided by Prof. Barron, I am combining previously learnt techniques, modelling and new collaborations in an effort to understand how visual resolution, neural encoding and ecology shapes the bee's visual field while performing complex object recognition.



Technical skills

IT: Pack Office, Statistics and modelling (R, Statistica, Sigma Plot, MATLAB, SPSS, Python basics), AMIRA, Image J, illustration, anatomical drawings, 3D printer and related software, Arduinos.

Scientific: Behavioural tests, pharmacological tools, Nanodrop, Immunohistochemistry, immunohistofluorescence, DNA / RNA extraction and purification, qPCR, 2D/3D visual analysis, micro-CT, anatomical and physiological measures (respirometer, morphometrics, hemolymph extraction, glucose concentration), isotropic fractionator and more.

Professional: Science communication, webpage design, problem-solving skills, rigor and autonomy, collaboration, initiative, adaptability, responsiveness, teamwork, pedagogy.

Diploma

PhD in Biological sciences

Department of Experimental Psychology, University Queen Mary of London, United Kingdom 2015 – 2019

Master 2 Neurosciences and Signalling University Paris 11, France 2013 - 2014

Master 1 Neurosciences, Behaviour and Cognition

University Toulouse III Paul Sabatier, France 2012 - 2013

Magistere of Neurosciences (semester 1)

University Valparaiso, Chile 2011 - 2012

Licence (Bachelor) in Biology of Organisms,

Populations and Ecosystems University Toulouse III Paul Sabatier, France 2008-2011

Academic Employment

Post-doctoral fellow Macquarie University, Biology department, Prof. Barron's laboratory 2022 (Nov) - Now

Neuroscience (isotropic fractionator), free-flying experiments (bees & birds: hummingbirds), modelling, video analysis.

Post-doctoral fellow Stockholm University, Sweden, Zoology department, INSECT laboratory

2019 (Oct) - 2021 (Nov) Neuro-ecological techniques, morphometrics, anatomy, micro CT-technique, AMIRA 3D reconstruction of eyes and brains, tunnel and sensory experiments, PhD supervision, teaching (psychophysics).

PhD student

University Queen Mary of London, United Kingdom, Bee Sensory and Behavioural Ecology Laboratory 2015 (Sept) – 2019 (Sept)

Behavioural tests (bees and humans – eye-tracking), software programming, 2D/3D tracking, data analysis, statistics.

Languages

French (mother tongue), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent).

Grants & Prizes

Macquarie Minds and Intelligence initiative (2023) equipment grant (5000\$AU) Marie Curie M.S.C.A. (2020) - Seal of excellence (2021) 93%

Diamond Light Source (2019 and 2020) - 2 grants awarded for projects (appx 45 000 €)

QMUL grants equipment (2019) (5000 \in) **A.S.A.B.** Travel grant conference 2018 (500£) **QMUL PhD Scholarship** (2015) (67 000£)

Edition and review

Apidologie - Reviewer (2023-now) eLife - Reviewer (2023now) Insects - Reviewer (2022now) Frontiers in Behavioural Neuroscience - Guest editor (2022) Neuroscience Journal of Experimental Biology - Reviewer (2018now) Frontiers - Reviewer (2018-now)

C.N.R.S. Research engineer Research Center on Animal Cognition, University Toulouse III Paul Sabatier, France 2014

Micro-injections, brain dissections and extractions, Nanodrop use, qPCR, behavioural tests, statistical analysis.

C.N.R.S. Research internships

Research Center on Animal Cognition, University Toulouse III Paul Sabatier, France Instituto de Fisiología, Biología Molecular y Neurociencias -Universidad de Buenos Aires.

2012-2014

Behavioral tests: olfactory and gustatory, abdominal injections of insulin & RNAi, brain injection of aminergic blokers beekeeping, physiological measurements, Nanodrop use, qPCR, optical imaging, data analysis.

Laboratory technician

Centro Interdisciplinario de Neurociencias de Valparaiso – University of Valparaiso, Chili 2011-2012 Bibliography, protocol design, technics in molecular and cellular biology, microscopy, image and results processing, statistics.

Teaching, supervision, seminars & outreach

Post-doctoral fellow

Macquarie University, Biology department, Prof. Barron's laboratory 2022 (Nov) - Now **Supervision:** Undergraduate students (1), Master student (1), PhD student (2). **Conferences organisation:** Types of minds

(03/23), Macquarie Minds and Intelligence Initiative (2023-2024) <u>https://www.mq.edu.au/research/research-centres-groups-and-facilities/groups/macquarie-minds-and-intelligences-initiative</u>

Biology teacher

Collège Victor Hugo, Lavelanet, France 2022 (March - July)

Teaching: Biology, Geology and more for 11-15 y/o. Creation of course materials, games (Immunity-based Role Play game, Prisonner's dilemma), creative projects, Q&A sessions. Microscope observations & dissections.

Outreach projects: Science club, botanics, Psychology 101 classes on consent, non-violent communication and personal growth.

Scientific communication

Space & Numbers in Animal Minds, Canberra, Au Sept 2023, Talk Sydney's bee day, University of Sydney, Au July 2023, Talk **Types of Minds**, Macquarie University, Au March 2023, Talk Twitch, Nature'N Clic -May 2022, Talk **Tovetorp field station**, Sweden October 2019, Talk **Royal Holloway College**, Egham, UK - 10th **Conference on Animal** Navigation April 2019, Talk University of Plymouth, UK - A.S.A.B. conference April 2018, 1st prize best talk **Beekeeper Central** Association, UK February 2018, Talk **SBCS, UK** 2015-2018, 1st year talk, 2nd year poster, 3rd year talk **QMUL**, UK - Vision **Association Conference** December 2016, Talk **French Research Network** in Ethology, Tours, Fr October 2014, Poster I.U.S.S.I., Cairns, Au July 2014, Poster **15th French Conference** invertebrate on Neurobiology, Toulouse, Fr July 2014, 1st prize for best poster presentation (F1000).

Hobbies

Macro-photography, painting, video games, writing SF's novels.

Post-doctoral fellow

Stockholm University, Sweden, Zoology department, INSECT laboratory 2019-2021

Teaching: psychophysics

Supervision: Master students (4), PhD students (2).

Citizen science project: from design to development Pollinators Of Sweden (P.O.S) https://www.invismo-project.com/outreach

PhD student

Queen Mary University of London, UK 2015-2019

Teaching: 300+ hours in: experimental psychology, research methods, neuro-psychology, statistics, project management, molecular and cellular biology, evolution, practical biology, ecology, behavioural ecology, neurosciences, animal behaviour (and more).

Participation in life science experiments: several in the department of Experimental Psychology including: heart rate control through respiration, E.E.G. experiments on language understanding and music valorisation (non-musicians/musicians), reflex experiments, psychological tests (dark triad, expectations experiments, tests in positive psychology about meaningful conversations) and more during practicals with students.

Supervision: PhD students (2), Master students (3), 3rd year students (3), Nuffield placements students (5)

Citizen science project: Save London's bees https://www.savelondonbees.co.uk

Seminar organising: School of Biological and Chemical Science

Outreach: Middle school conferences (Olympe de Gouges, Montauban)

Scientific and cultural guide

Museum of Natural History of Toulouse, France 2010-2011

Teaching, science popularization, live demonstrations, scientific and game workshops, exhibition visits, peer training.

Private teacher

Toulouse, France

2009-2010

Teaching mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry, english, spanish, french for students between 11-17 y/o.

Scientific output

12. Guiraud M.G., Maboudi H., Barron A. Chittka L. (2023). 2 articles in prep.

11. Maboudi H., Roper M., **Guiraud M.G.**, Chittka L., Marschall J. A.R. (2023). A neuromorphic model of active vision shows spatio-temporal encoding in lobula neurons can aid pattern recognition in bees *Bombus terrestris*. bioRxiv. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.06.04.543620

10. Gérard M., Guiraud M., Cariou B., Henrion M, and Baird E. (2023). Elevated developmental temperatures impact the size and allometry of morphological traits of the bumblebee *Bombus terrestris*. Journal of Experimental Biology. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.245728

9. Guiraud M.*, Roper M.*, Wolf S., Woodgate J. L. and Chittka L. (2022) Discrimination of edge orientation by bumblebees PLOS ONE. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0263198

8. Perl C.D., Johansen Z.B., Moradinour Z., Guiraud M., Restrepo C.E., Jie V.W., Miettinen A., Baird E. (2022) Heatwave-like events during development are sufficient to impair bumblebee worker responses sensory stimuli. Frontiers. DOI: to https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2021.776830

7. Perl C.D., Johansen Z.B., Jie V.W., Moradinour Z., Guiraud M., Restrepo C.E., Miettinen A., Baird E. (2022) Substantial variability in morphological scaling among bumblebee colonies. Royal Society Open Science. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.211436

6. Guiraud M.*, Cariou B.*, Henrion M.*, Baird E., Gerard M. (2021) Higher developmental temperature increases queen production and decreases worker body size in the bumblebee Bombus terrestris. Journal of Hymenoptera Research. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3897/jhr.88.73532

5. Maboudi H., Roper M., Guiraud M., Marschall J. A. R., Chittka L. (2021) Automated video tracking and flight analysis show how bumblebees solve pattern discrimination task using active vision. BioRxiv.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.03.09.434580

4. Baird E., Tichit P.*, Guiraud M.*. The neuro-ecology of bee flight behaviours. (2020) Current opinion in insect science. DOI: 10.1016/j.cois.2020.07.005

3. Guiraud M.*, Roper M.* & Chittka L. (2018) High-Speed Videography Reveals How Honeybees Can Turn a Spatial Concept Learning Task Into a Simple Discrimination Task by Stereotyped Flight Movements and Sequential Inspection of Pattern Elements. Frontiers in Psychology, 9:1347. DOI:10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01347.

2. Guiraud M., Hotier L., Giurfa M. & de Brito Sanchez M.G. (2018) Aversive gustatory learning and perception in honey bees. Scientific Reports. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-018-19715-1

1. Mengoni Goñalons C.*, Guiraud M.*, de Brito Sanchez M.G., Farina W.M. (2017) Insulin effects on honeybee appetitive behaviour. Journal of Experimental Biology. DOI: 10.1242/jeb.143511