

Alana Jaskir

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BIO Dr. Jaskir is an expert in utilizing psychological and computational frameworks for understanding adaptive learning and decision-making. In particular, she possesses deep expertise in operationalizing individual differences in learning strategies and in characterizing how various factors (e.g., context, age, clinical diagnoses) may promote some learning/decision-making strategies over others. Her work encompasses both experimental and theoretical research and offers insights into psychiatric, economic, and neuroscience phenomena.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

2026 Contracted Researcher, AI Cognitive Risks, Google DeepMind, Advisor: Sasha Brown
2024-Present Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Psychology, New York University, Advisor: Catherine Hartley

EDUCATION

2018-2024 Ph.D. Cognitive Science, Brown University, Advisor: Michael J. Frank
2013-2017 B.A.. Computer Science, Minor in Cognitive Science, Princeton University, Advisor: Yael Niv

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

2023-2024 Carney Institute for Brain Science Award in Brain Sciences, Brown University
2021-2023 Carney Interactionist Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Training Grant, Brown University
2017&2019 NSF Graduate Research Scholarship, Honorable Mention
2017 [Outstanding Computer Science Senior Thesis](#), Princeton University

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- **Jaskir, A.**, Frank, M.J. (2026). "Discovery and consolidation of analogous reward structure support generalization in humans". *psyArxiv*. doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/w6vkd_v1
- Gallo, M., A.A. Hamid, **Jaskir, A.**, T. Pan, D. Ofray, C. DeMaestri, J. Bretton, A. I. More, M.J. Frank, C.I. Moore, K.G. Bath (2025). "Behavioral Opportunism and Altered Dopamine Dynamics in Mice Exposed to Early Life Adversity". *bioRxiv*. doi.org/10.64898/2025.12.03.692237
- Hewson, J. T., **Jaskir, A.**, and Frank, M. J. (2025). "Many roads to minimizing regret: A comparison of Wang et al (2024) and OpAL* models of adaptive striatal dopamine." doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1012920
- **Jaskir, A.**, Frank, M.J. (2023). "On the normative advantages of dopamine and striatal opponency for learning and choice." *eLife*. doi.org/10.7554/eLife.85107

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

2025 "Normative advantages of dopamine and striatal opponency for learning and choice", RLDM* Conference
2023 "Expediency and generalization in human reinforcement learning", UC Berkeley
2023 "Replay as state-abstraction for reinforcement learning", Max Planck Center for Computational Psychiatry, UCL
2019 "Computational advantages of motivational dopamine states for action selection", Harvard University

SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

- **Jaskir, A.**, M.J. Frank (2026) "Discovery of analogous structure supports generalizations in humans". Computational Cognitive Neuroscience.
- **Jaskir, A.**, C. Hartley (2025) "Effects of offline consolidation on statistical learning across development". RLDM*
- **Jaskir, A.**, M.J. Frank (2024) "Discovering analogous structure supports transfer in human reinforcement learning". Computational Psychiatry Conference
- **Jaskir, A.**, M.J. Frank (2019) "Computational advantages of motivational dopaminergic states for decision making." Motivation and Cognitive Control.
- **Jaskir, A.**, Y. Niv, (2017) "Modeled learning weights predict attention and memory in a multidimensional probabilistic task." RLDM*.

AD-HOC REVIEWING

Conferences *Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM) , CCN
Journals Neuron, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature Human Behaviour, npj Science of Learning, Nature Neuroscience, Nature Communications