

## William Thomas Adler

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### Education

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**New York University**, New York, NY (2013 – Jan. 22, 2018 expected)  
Ph.D. Candidate, Neural Science  
Advisor: Dr. Wei Ji Ma  
**Carleton College**, Northfield, MN (2006 – 2010)  
B.A., Psychology

### Honors and awards

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Society for Neuroscience Early Career Policy Ambassador, 2017  
NYU Dean's Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award in the Sciences, 2016  
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, 2015 –  
Henry M. MacCracken Fellow, 2013 –  
*Magna cum laude*, Carleton College, 2010  
Distinction in the senior thesis and in the major, Carleton College, 2010  
National Merit Scholar, 2006 – 2009

### Publications (\* indicates equal contributions)

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Denison, R.N.\*, **Adler, W.T.\***, Carrasco, M., Ma, W.J. (submitted). [Humans flexibly incorporate attention-dependent uncertainty into perceptual decisions and confidence \[preprint on bioRxiv\]](#).

**Adler, W.T.**, Ma, W.J. (submitted). [Human confidence reports account for sensory uncertainty but in a non-Bayesian way \[preprint on bioRxiv\]](#).

Platt, M.P.\*, **Adler, W.T.\***, Mehlhorn, A.J.\*, Johnson, G.C., Wright, K.A., Choi, R.T., Tsang, W.H., Poon, M.W., Yeung, S.Y., Wayne, M.M.Y., Galaburda, A.M., Rosen, G.D. (2013). [Embryonic disruption of the candidate dyslexia susceptibility gene homolog \*Kiaa0319-like\* results in neuronal migration disorders](#). *Neuroscience*, 248, 585-593. doi:10.1016/j.neuroscience.2013.06.056

**Adler, W.T.\***, Platt, M.P.\*, Mehlhorn, A.J.\*, Haight, J.L., Currier, T.A., Etchegaray, M.A., Galaburda, A.M., Rosen, G.D. (2013). [Position of neocortical neurons transfected at different gestational ages with shRNA targeted against candidate dyslexia susceptibility genes](#). *PLoS ONE* 8(5): e65179. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0065179

### Presentations (\* indicates equal contributions)

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**Adler, W.T.**, Denison, R.N., Carrasco, M., Ma, W.J. (2017, September). [When making confidence judgments, people take into account bottom-up and top-down stimulus uncertainty \[poster\]. \[two-page abstract\]](#). Poster presented at the Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Meeting, New York, NY.

Denison, R.N.\*, **Adler, W.T.\***, Carrasco, M., Ma, W.J. (2017, May). Accounting for attention in perceptual decisions and confidence. Talk presented by Rachel Denison at the Vision Sciences Society Meeting, St. Pete Beach, FL.

Denison, R.N.\*, **Adler, W.T.\***, Carrasco, M., Ma, W.J. (2017, February). Humans flexibly incorporate attention-dependent uncertainty into perceptual decisions and confidence. Talk presented by Rachel Denison at the Computational and Systems Neuroscience Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.

**Adler, W.T.**, Ma, W.J. (2015, March). [Towards a quantitative model of confidence: Testing the Bayesian Confidence Hypothesis](#). Poster presented at the Computational and Systems Neuroscience Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.

Johnson, G.C., **Adler, W.T.**, Platt, M.P., Wright, K.A., Rosen, G.D., Galaburda, A.M. (2013, November). [Induced neocortical neuronal migration disorder affects cell number in the ventral cochlear nucleus](#). Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Meeting, San Diego, CA.

**Adler, W.T.**, Mehlhorn, A.J., Platt, M.P., Choi, R.T., Waye, M.M.Y, Galaburda, A.M., Rosen, G.D. (2012, October). [Embryonic knockdown of the candidate dyslexia susceptibility gene KIAA0319-Like results in severe disruptions of neuronal migration](#). Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Rana, N., Medvedev, A.V., **Adler, W.T.**, Kanwal, J.S. (2011, June). Neural correlates of cognitive performance in a visual *n*-back task after auditory distress. Poster presented at the Organization for Human Brain Mapping Meeting, Québec.

Rana, N., Medvedev, A.V., **Adler, W.T.**, Kanwal, J.S. (2011, May). [Brain networks for coping: Prefrontal activation precedes cognitive task performance following distress](#). Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Meeting, Washington, DC.

**Adler, W.T.**, London, J.M., Marino, S.E. (2010, November). [Auditory metrical coordination of attention on a visual \*n\*-back task](#). Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Meeting, San Diego, CA.

## **Teaching experience**

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### **Head Teaching Assistant**, 2015

*Introduction to Neural Science (NEURL-UA 100, BIOL-UA 100)*  
Center for Neural Science, Department of Biology, New York University  
Instructor: Dr. Paul W. Glimcher

### **Teaching Assistant**, 2014

*From Illusions to Inference: Adventures in Human Perception (PSYCH-UA 300.007)*  
Center for Neural Science, New York University  
Instructor: Dr. Wei Ji Ma

## **Volunteer experience**

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### **Data Scientist**, [DataKind](#), 2017

DataKind organizes short- to medium-term projects that pair volunteer data scientists with nonprofit organizations and municipalities. For 8 months, I and one other data scientist worked directly with an education startup that tracks persistence in first-generation college students. We cleaned and combined data from several disparate sources and provided the organization with novel and simple ways to access and visualize their data. Finally, we used survival analysis to build a model that could estimate the probability of student dropout using easily available variables such as high school GPA.

### **Founder**, [Scientist Action and Advocacy Network \(ScAAN\)](#), 2016 –

ScAAN is a group of scientists who partner with organizations that are creating positive social change. We have partnered with different New York-area groups like Solitary Watch and the NYC Environmental Justice Alliance, and legislative campaigns such as Raise the Age NY and the NY Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement. Our stakeholder-driven partnerships have involved data analysis and the creation of targeted literature reviews.

### **Mentor**, [iMentor](#), 2015 – 2017

I was paired with a public high school student in Brooklyn. My goal was to serve as a role model who could help him through the long and complicated college and financial aid application process. We emailed weekly and met monthly.

**Educator, [Neuroscience Outreach Group at NYU](#), 2013 – 2016**

I designed and presented fun hands-on neuroscience demonstrations. I have made nearly two dozen classroom presentations to students ranging from kindergarten to high school.

**Pre-doctoral research experience**

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**Research Assistant, 2011 – 2013**

Department of Neurology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA

- Studied changes in brain organization and neuronal migration induced by embryonic knockdown of candidate dyslexia susceptibility genes in rats
- Developed skills in immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, computer-based stereology, surgical techniques, training and supervising incoming research assistants and summer students

Advisors: Dr. Glenn D. Rosen and Dr. Albert M. Galaburda

**Senior Honors Thesis, 2009 – 2010**

Department of Psychology, Carleton College, Northfield, MN

- Designed and executed an experiment testing the effects of an auditory metrical rhythm on performance in an attentional task

Advisors: Dr. Susan E. Marino and Dr. Justin M. London

**Research Assistant, Summer 2009**

Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

- Designed and executed an experiment testing the effects of auditorily-induced stress on event-related potentials during an attentional task

Advisors: Dr. Jagmeet S. Kanwal and Dr. Andrei V. Medvedev

**Research Assistant, Summer 2008**

Department of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

- Designed techniques for eliciting and analyzing spontaneous speech patterns in brain-damaged patients

Advisors: Dr. Susan E. Marino and Dr. Serguei V.S. Pakhomov

**Biological Science Aid, Summer 2004**

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

- Tested pain response following spinal column injections of anesthetics in rats

Advisor: Dr. Michael J. Iadarola