

William Thomas Adler

(202) 288-1429
will.adler@nyu.edu

wtadler.com
github.com/wtadler

Education

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

Honors and awards

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 co-first authors)

Adler, W.T., Ma, W.J. (under review). [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., Waye, 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 co-first authors)

Denison, R.N.*, **Adler, W.T.***, Carrasco, M., Ma, W.J. (2017, May). Accounting for attention in perceptual decisions and confidence. Talk to be 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

Head Teaching Assistant, 2015

Introduction to Neural Science (NEURL-UA 100, BIOL-UA 100)

Center for Neural Science, Department of Biology, New York University, New York, NY

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, New York, NY

Instructor: Dr. Wei Ji Ma

Volunteer experience

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

ScAAN is a New York-based group of scientists who try to maximize the scientific community's power to bring about positive social change. Our activities include:

- Partnering with [Raise the Age NY](#) to increase awareness of the age of criminal responsibility in New York State, in support of related legislation. We summarize the psychology and neuroscience literature on adolescent development and produce graphics appropriate for public communications.
- Coordinating with science advocacy groups in the New York City area, organizing science advocacy events in person and online.

Mentor, [iMentor](#), 2015 –

I am paired with a public high school student in Brooklyn. My goal is to serve as a role model who who can help him through the long and complicated college and financial aid application process. We email weekly and meet monthly.

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

I design and present 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

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