

## Curriculum Vitae

### A. PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a developmental psychologist with twelve years of research experience in the field. My research interests are situated in psychology, cognitive neuroscience and education with a broad spectrum covering multimodal communication in typically developing children and neurodevelopmental disorders (i.e. autism, Williams Syndrome, Down Syndrome). After having my master degree cum laude in Developmental Psychology, I started a one-year internship at the ISTC-CNR (supervisor Dr. Olga Capirci) gaining invaluable hands-on experience in investigating gesture and multimodal communication in typical and atypical populations. Through my Doctoral scholarship in Psychology and Education Science (DIPSCO, University of Trento) (supervisor Prof. Paola Venuti; co-supervisor Olga Capirci), I developed and used a detailed and rigorous micro-analytic system to investigate the cross-modal integration between gestures, gaze and speech in typical and autistic children within a naturalistic setting of parent-child play interaction. Some part of my doctoral studies was conveyed at the at the University of Pittsburgh in the USA (advisor, Prof. Jana Iverson) where I won a six-months travel grant to investigate communication skills in children with high-risk for developing autism, making use of a big longitudinal dataset on infants and coding child communication during in-home toy play interactions. During my Postdoc Fellow (2015 – 2017) at the Centre for Mind and Brain Sciences (CIMEC), an international research center ranked as the leading research unit in Cognitive neuroscience in Italy, I extended my skill-set in cognitive neuroscience research collecting both behavioral and eye-tracking data, forming collaborations with schools, hospitals and patient associations and creating networks with several national and international research institutions. After my postdoctoral advisor at CIMEC (Prof. Sang Ah Lee) moved to a new institution, I was selected by the Centre as the Coordinator of the Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab (2017-2018) where I undertook several responsibilities in making sure that all the ongoing research projects were completed successfully. This research path has led me to win a postdoctoral fellowship (2021-2021) at the Institute for Biomedical Research and Innovation (IRIB, CNR) where I worked on a research project lead by Dr Liliana Ruta aimed at creating experimental paradigms based on video-coding for the analysis of the dyadic parent-child relationship and developmental trajectories in response to early developmental-behavioral interventions in autism. My work at IRIB allowed me to extend my skill-set in clinical and translational research by gaining familiarity with a number of common assessments protocols for children with autism and by improving my experience with sophisticated statistical analysis on longitudinal data. In my current position as a researcher (RTDa) at the University of Trieste, I won a grant (ua d53.22) for a project entitled “Toward a Precision Medicine and Precision Education Approach in Autism: new methodological perspectives to observe individual developmental trajectories and to design early interventions”. My research is mainly focused on embodied enactive approaches to human communication and aims at unveiling the pathway from motor repertoires to gesture and language development in both typical children and neurodevelopmental disorders (i.e. autism, Williams Syndrome). Given the fact that my research relies on the use of video-coding paradigms within naturalistic contexts of observation, it has an impact in both clinical and educational domains as it aims at identifying new ecological approaches of early diagnosis and intervention.

### B. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2010: M.A. with Hons in Developmental Psychology, University of Chieti, Italy.

2010: Master research project at the Laboratory Gesture, Language and Developmental Disorders (GLADD), Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies (CNR), Rome, Italy.

2012: Visiting Doctoral Student, Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

2013: PhD in Psychology and Cognitive Sciences, University of Trento, Italy.

### C. POSITIONS AND EMPLOYMENT

March 2021 - Ongoing: Researcher at UNITS, Trieste, Italy.

2020-2021: Research Fellow at IRIB (CNR), Messina, Italy.

2018-2019: Research Fellow at the University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy.

2017-2018: BabyLab Coordinator at the Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), University of Trento, Italy.

2015-2017: Research Fellow at the Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), University of Trento, Italy.

#### D. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 - Ongoing: Winner and Principal Investigator of a grant founded by the University of Trieste (ua d53.22). The project action plan aims to investigate multimodal communication in typically developing children and neurodevelopmental disorders (i.e. autism) for the identification of new ecological paradigms of early diagnosis and intervention in clinical and educational settings.

2021 - Ongoing: Professor at the Department of Humanities, University of Trieste. Lead of the following courses: Laboratory of Pedagogy for children with neurodevelopmental disorders (curriculum in Educational Sciences, BA, 20 hrs, 3 credits); Technologies and methodologies for inclusion (curriculum in Educational Sciences, MA, 30 hrs, 6 credits); Special education for people with intellectual disabilities and autism (Training course, 30 hrs); Hospital and home teaching for people with intellectual disabilities and autism (Training course, 5 hrs).

2021. Adjunct Professor at the Department of Educational Science, University of Pola, Croatia. Course in Psychology for children with developmental disabilities, teaching hrs: 15.

2020. Adjunct Professor at the Department of Educational Science, University of Pola, Croatia. Course in Psychology for children with developmental disabilities, teaching hrs: 60

2019. Adjunct Professor at the Department of Humanities, University of Trieste, Lead of 2 courses: Laboratory of developmental psychology, and Laboratory of Pedagogy for children with developmental disabilities (curriculum in Educational Sciences, BA, 20 hrs -3 credits-per course).

2019. Adjunct Professor at the Department of Educational Science, University of Pola, Croatia. Course in Pedagogy for children with developmental disabilities, teaching hours: 30.

2015. Adjunct Professor at the Department of Educational Science, University of Ferrara Course in Developmental psychology and observation techniques, teaching hrs: 48, 6 credits.

2014 Adjunct Professor at the Department of Educational Science, University of Ferrara Course in Developmental psychology and observation techniques, teaching hrs: 48, 6 credits.

#### E. AWARDS

2013 – 2017: Winner and Principal Investigator of a grant founded by the University of Trieste (ua d53.22) on multimodal communication in typically developing children and neurodevelopmental disorders (i.e. autism).

2015. Postdoc Mobility Travel Grant at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) for the Research Opportunities Week (ROW): selection of the best 50 young scientists from all over the world.

2014. Excellence Award, Best Paper Italian Association of Cognitive Sciences (AISC) 2014, Deictic Gestures in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: a quantitative and qualitative analysis during mother-child interactions.

## F. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2022: Member of the SIPED

## G. LANGUAGES

Italian: Native speaker

English: Proficiency in speaking, reading, writing: Advanced

## H. COMPUTER AND STATISTICAL SKILLS

MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Powerpoint, OneNote, Access, etc.)

Google Drive (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, etc.)

Spreadsheets (Excel, Google Sheets, OpenOffice Calc, etc.)

Presentations/Slideshows (Powerpoint, Google Slides, Keynote, etc.)

Statistical softwares and environment (SPSS, R Statistical programming, GraphPad etc.)

## I. SELECTED PAPER: REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Mastrogiuseppe M., Cuva S. (2022). L'intervento educativo precoce per il bambino con autismo. Una metodologia osservativa basata sull'intersoggettività. *BAMBINI*, p. 20-25, ISSN: 0393-4209
2. Mastrogiuseppe M., Span S., Bortolotti E. (2021). Improving accessibility to cultural heritage for people with Intellectual Disabilities: A tool for observing the obstacles and facilitators for the access to knowledge. *ALTER*, vol. 15/2021, p. 113-123, ISSN: 1875-0672, doi: 10.1016/j.alter.2020.06.016; Class A journal 11-D2 area; Cit. 5
3. Mastrogiuseppe M, Span S (2020). Accessibilità al patrimonio culturale: un progetto di Inclusive Research per le Disabilità Intellettive. *ITALIAN JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR INCLUSION*, vol. 8, p. 301-313, ISSN: 2282-6041; Class A journal 11-D2 area.
4. Elena Bortolotti, MASTROGIUSEPPE, MARILINA (2019). Accessibilità ai siti culturali per la disabilità intellettiva: metodologie, tecnologie e processi di adattamento. *NUOVA SECONDARIA*, vol. 37(2019), p. 158-170, ISSN: 1828-4582; Class A journal 11-D2 area; Cit.3
5. Mastrogiuseppe M, Bertelsen N, Bedeschi MF, Lee SA (2019). The spatiotemporal organization of episodic memory and its disruption in a neurodevelopmental disorder. *SCIENTIFIC REPORTS*, vol. 9, ISSN: 2045-2322, doi:10.1038/s41598-019-53823-w; IF 3.998; Cit.8
6. Mastrogiuseppe M, Lee SA (2017). What gestures reveal about cognitive deficits in Williams Syndrome. *DEVELOPMENTAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY*, ISSN: 8756-5641, doi: 10.1080/87565641.2017.1393685; IF 1.344; Cit.5
7. Mastrogiuseppe M., Capirci O., Cuva S., Venuti P. (2016). Deictic gestures in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: A detailed analysis of gestural communication during naturalistic mother-child interactions. *SISTEMI INTELLIGENTI*, vol. 28, p. 11-31, ISSN: 1120-9550, doi: 10.1422/83833

8. Mastrogiuseppe M., Capirci O., Cuva S., Venuti P. (2015). Gestural communication in children with autism spectrum disorders during mother-child interaction. *AUTISM*, vol. 19, p. 469-481, ISSN: 1362-3613, doi: 10.1177/1362361314528390; IF 4.609; 78
9. Cuva S, Mastrogiuseppe M (2012). Dal deficit alla risorsa: il ruolo del corpo nella comprensione dell'autismo. *PSICOMOTRICITÀ*, ISSN: 1723-3844
10. Venuti P, Mastrogiuseppe M, Cuva S (2012). Le competenze comunicative dei bambini con disturbo dello spettro autistico: dal pianto alla comunicazione gestuale. *PSICHIATRIA DELL'INFANZIA E DELL'ADOLESCENZA*, vol. 79, p. 263-277, ISSN: 0393-361X

#### L. CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. MASTROGIUSEPPE, MARILINA, E. Bortolotti, R. Gilli, M. Tortul (2019). Supporting independent life in intellectual disabilities: how technology may help. In: *ICERI 2019*. p. 6875-6879, IATED Academy, ISBN: 978-84-09-14755-7, SEVILLE (SPAIN), 11-13 NOVEMBER 2019
2. Tortul M, Gubbini L, Bortolotti E, Mastrogiuseppe M (2019). The life I wish": the right of a true existence. In: In "The project for an autonomous and independent life". Anteferma Ed.
3. Mastrogiuseppe M, Chukwuemeka Umeh V, Lee SA (2017). Spatial navigation by boundaries and landmarks in Williams Syndrome in a virtual environment. In: *Proceedings of Workshops and Posters at 13th International Conference on Spatial Information Theory (COSIT 2017)*.

#### M. CONTRIBUTION IN A BOOK (CHAPTER OR ESSAY)

1. M. Tortul, L. Gubbini, E. Bortolotti, M. Mastrogiuseppe (2019). The Life I Wish": The Right Of A True Existence - La vita che vorrei": il diritto a un' esistenza vera. In: (a cura di): Adolfo Baratta Christina Conti Valeria Tatano, *Abitare inclusivo - Il progetto per una vita autonoma e indipendente - Inclusive Living - Design for ad autonomous and independent living*. p. 212-217, Conegliano, TV: Anteferma Edizioni S.r.l., ISBN: 978-88-32050-44-8
2. Capirci O, Mastrogiuseppe M (2012). Imitazione e gesti nel trattamento dell'autismo. In: *Intervento e Riabilitazione nei disturbi dello spettro autistico*. Carocci Ed.

#### N. MONOGRAPH OR SCIENTIFIC ESSAY

1. Mastrogiuseppe M (2013). *Gestures in Autism: an investigation on gestural communication in children with ASD during spontaneous mother-child interaction* [Doctoral thesis]