



Christian Pfeiffer

Ph.D.

Consulting for Professors

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Citations: 1243 - H-Index: 16 - i10-Index: 24

Education

- 04/2010 - 10/2015 **PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience, EPF Lausanne**
Advisor: Prof. Olaf Blanke. Thesis nominated for EPFL PhD Award.
- 04/2003 - 03/2010 **Diploma (equivalent to Bachelor + Master) in Psychology, Free University Berlin, Germany**
Bachelor grade: 5.3/6.0; Master grade: 6.0/6.0

Work Experience

- 08/2023 - Today **Consulting for Professors, ETH Zurich**
Vice-Presidency for Personnel Development and Leadership
Advisor: Madeleine Luethy
- 01/2022 - 07/2023 **Senior Scientist (Oberassistent) at Robotics and Perception Group, UZH**
Advisor: Prof. Davide Scaramuzza
- 02/2020 - 12/2021 **Post-doc at Robotics and Perception Group, University of Zurich**
Advisor: Prof. Davide Scaramuzza
- 02/2019 - 01/2020 **Post-doc at Methods of Plasticity Research Group, University of Zurich**
Advisor: Prof. Nicolas Langer
- 01/2018 - 06/2018 **Visiting researcher at Autonomous Systems Laboratory, ETH Zurich**
Advisor: Prof. Roland Siegwart
- 06/2015 - 05/2017 **Post-doc at Laboratory of Neuroimaging Research, University Hospital Lausanne**
Advisor: Dr. Marzia De Lucia
- 04/2010 - 10/2015 **Research and teaching assistant (PhD student), EPF Lausanne**
Advisor: Prof. Olaf Blanke
- 03/2008 - 03/2010 **Research assistant at Charité Berlin, Germany**
Advisor: Prof. Gabriel Curio
- 03/2007 - 02/2008 **Research assistant at Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands**
Advisor: Prof. Harold Bekkering

Project Management Experience

- 08/2023 - present **Lead coordinator of Leadership Feedback Process at ETHZ**
Responsible for planning, monitoring, and evaluation of a Leadership Feedback Process for 300 full professors at ETH Zurich.

- 12/2021 - 06/2022 **Lead coordinator of Swiss Drone Days outreach event** (1000 visitors)
Responsible for event planning, funding acquisition, coordination of science and industry exhibition (20 companies, 10 labs, >100 persons staff), media coverage.
- 06/2021 - 09/2021 **Lead coordinator of Scientifica 2021 public event** (>1000 visitors)
Responsible for event planning, funding acquisition, coordination of exhibition partners (3 labs, 2 companies, >50 persons staff) at 2 exhibition sites (Dübendorf, Zürich), media coverage.
- 01/2020 - 06/2020 **Lead coordinator acquisition of a large-scale flight test facility**
Responsible for facility selection, fundraising, collection of competing offers for position-tracking equipment, and contract writing with UZH legal department and mobility department. Coordinating acquisition of research equipment, installation of the research facility, and coordination of staff training.
- 06/2015 - 05/2017 **Coordinator of a multi-center clinical research project**
Responsible for the acquisition of ethical approval in 3 Swiss Cantons (Vaud/Valais, Bern, Fribourg) for a research project across 4 hospital sites (Lausanne, Bern, Fribourg, Sion). Responsible for the coordination of multi-center data recordings in comatose patients (>400 patient testings).

Research Projects

Consortium member and UZH lead coordinator of the European Project AERIAL-CORE (2021-2023)

Consortium member and UZH lead coordinator of the Digitalization Initiative of the Zurich Higher Education Institutions (DIZH) project LINA "A large-scale shared infrastructure for safe testing of autonomous systems" (2022-2023)

Teaching Activities

- 2023 Volkshochschule Zürich, "Autonome Fliegende Roboter",
- 2022 University of Zurich Seniorenuniversität, "Autonome Fliegende Roboter", 20 students
- 2019 University of Zurich, "Big Data Science", Master's. 20 students
- 2016 University of Lausanne, "Introduction to Matlab", Bachelor's. >100 students
- 2012 EPF Lausanne, "Neuroscience for Engineers", Master's. >100 students
- 2011 EPF Lausanne, "Neuroscience III", Master's. >100 students
- 2010 EPF Lausanne, "EEG Physiology Laboratory Exercises", Bachelor's. 20 students

Invited Presentations

- 08/2022 Motion Capture Days, Fraunhofer Institute, Dortmund, Germany (**keynote speaker**)
- 06/2022 Volketswil Economic Forum, Volketswil, Switzerland (**keynote speaker**)
- 05/2021 ICRA'21 workshop on "Learning to Learn for Robotics", virtual
- 05/2021 ICRA'21 workshop on "Machine Learning for Motion Planning", virtual
- 08/2020 University of Zurich, Digital Science Initiative Mobility meeting
- 02/2017 Johns Hopkins University, ARO MidWinter Meeting, Baltimore, USA (**keynote speaker**)
- 06/2016 Lionsclub Meeting, Murten, Switzerland (**keynote speaker**)
- 05/2014 Congress on movement and balance, Bussigny, Switzerland (**keynote speaker**)

- 04/2014 *International Congress on Epilepsy, Brain and Mind, Brno, Czech Republic
(keynote speaker)*
- 05/2013 *Annual Meeting of the German-Swiss-Austrian Society for Epileptology, Interlaken, Switzerland. (keynote speaker)*
- 04/2013 *Interdisciplinary Workshop on Consciousness Research, Ascona, Switzerland
(keynote speaker)*
- 04/2012 *Annual Meeting of Young Philosophers of Mind, Frankfurt, Germany*
- 01/2011 *Annual Meeting of the Feldenkrais Society, Berlin, Germany (keynote speaker)*

Master and Bachelor Student Supervision

1. 2023 - **Agnar Petursson** - Master project
2. 2023 - **Levente Földesi** - Master project
3. 2022 - **Shivam Adarsh** - Master project
4. 2022 - **Rupal Saxena** - Master project
5. 2022 - **Florian Trautweiler** - Master thesis
6. 2021 - **Cafer Akcay** - Semester project
7. 2021 - **Ulrich Steger** - Semester project
8. 2021 - **Florian Trautweiler** - Semester project
9. 2021 - **Aurora Colagiorgio** - Master thesis
10. 2021 - **Nando Kaeslin** - Semester project
11. 2021 - **Simon Wengeler** - Master thesis
12. 2021 - **Jiaxu Xing** - Semester project
13. 2019 - **Jamila Willms** - Bachelor thesis
14. 2017 - **Vincent Pidoux** - Master thesis
15. 2017 - **Flavio Barbosa** - Master thesis
16. 2016 - **Magali Chytiris** - Master thesis
17. 2015 - **Marc Briquet** - Semester project
18. 2015 - **Serena Caverzasio** - Semester project
19. 2013 - **Petr Macku** - Master thesis
20. 2012 - **Miranda Morrison** - Bachelor thesis
21. 2011 - **Valentin Schmutz** - Semester project
22. 2010 - **Soo-Hyun Kim** - Summer project

Technical Skills

<i>Neuroscience</i>	<i>Eye-Tracking, Electroencephalography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging</i>
<i>Robotics</i>	<i>Computer Vision, Planning, Control</i>
<i>Programming</i>	<i>Python, Matlab, R, ROS, C#, C++</i>
<i>Project management</i>	<i>Agile, Kanban, Project Canvas, Stakeholder analysis</i>

Additional Qualifications

- 2021 *Project Management for Postdocs, Dr. Sandra Dierig, University of Zurich*
- 2021 *Leadership Program, Prof. Kleinmann, University of Zurich*
- 2021 *Head First Python, Paul Barry, O'Reilly*
- 2020 *Flying Car and Autonomous Flight Engineer, Prof. Sebastian Thrun, Udacity*
- 2019 *Applied Data Science with Python Specialization, Prof. Christopher Brooks, Coursera*
- 2017 *Aerial Robotics and Perception, Prof. Vijay Kumar, Coursera*

Collaborations with Industry Partners

12/2021 - Today	Swiss Drone League
10/2021 - Today	Team Black Sheep
08/2020 - Today	LuGus Studios
06/2015 - 05/2017	G.tec Medical Engineering

Publications

- [1] Loued-Khenissi, L.*, **Pfeiffer, C.***, Saxena, R., Adarsh, S., & Scaramuzza, D. (2023). Microgravity induces overconfidence in perceptual decision-making. *Nature Scientific Reports*, 13, 9727. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-36775-0>. (* shared first authorship)
- [2] Tröndle, M., Popov, T., Pedroni, A., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Baranczuk-Turska, Z., & Langer, N. (2021). Decomposing age effects in EEG alpha power. *Cortex*, 161, 116-144. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cortex.2023.02.002>.
- [3] Popov, T., Tröndle, M., Barańczuk-Turska, Z., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Haufe, S. & Langer, N. (2023). *Test–retest reliability of resting-state EEG in young and older adults*. *Psychophysiology*. e14268
- [4] Pelentritou, A., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Schwartz, S., & De Lucia, M. (2022) *Cardio-audio synchronization elicits prediction in auditory sequences during human wakefulness and sleep*. *bioRxiv* 2022.03.03.482861. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.03.03.482861>.
- [5] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Wengeler, S, Loquercio, A., & Scaramuzza, D. (2021) *Visual Attention Prediction Improves Performance of Autonomous Drone Racing Agents*, *PLOS ONE* 17(3): e0264471. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0264471>.
- [6] **Pfeiffer, C.** & Scaramuzza, D. (2021) *Expertise Affects Drone Racing Performance*, arXiv, preprint arXiv:2109.07307.
- [7] **Pfeiffer, C.** & Scaramuzza, D. (2021) *Human-Piloted Drone Racing: Visual Processing and Control*, *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 6, 2, 3467-3474. doi: 10.1109/LRA.2021.3064282.
- [8] Plomecka, M. B., Barańczuk-Turska, Z., **Pfeiffer, C.** & Langer, N. (2020) *Aging Effects and Test–Retest Reliability of Inhibitory Control for Saccadic Eye Movements*, *eNeuro*, 7, 5.
- [9] Kustermann, T., Nguenjo Nguissi, N. A., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Haenggi, M., Kurmann, R., Zubler, F., Oddo, M., Rossetti, A. O. & De Lucia, M. (2020) *Brain functional connectivity during the first day of coma reflects long-term outcome*. *NeuroImage: Clinical*, 27, 102295.
- [10] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Hollenstein, N., Zhang, C. & Langer, N. (2019) *Neural dynamics of sentiment processing during naturalistic sentence reading*. *NeuroImage*, 218, 116934.
- [11] Kustermann, T., Nguenjo Nguissi, N. A., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Haenggi, M., Kurmann, R., Zubler, F., Oddo, M., Rossetti, A. O. & De Lucia, M. (2019) *Electroencephalography-based power spectra allow coma outcome prediction within 24 h of cardiac arrest*. *Resuscitation*.
- [12] Caporro, M., Rossetti, A. O., Seiler, A., Kustermann, T., Nguenjo Nguissi, N. A., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Zimmermann, R., Haenggi, M., Oddo, M., De Lucia, M. & Zubler, F. (2019) *Electromyographic reactivity measured with scalp-EEG contributes to prognostication after cardiac arrest*. *Resuscitation* 138, 146–152.
- [13] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Noel, J.-P., Serino, A. & Blanke, O. (2018) *Vestibular modulation of peripersonal space boundaries*. *European Journal of Neuroscience* 47, 800–811.
- [14] Tsetsou, S., Novy, J., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Oddo, M. & Rossetti, A. O. (2018) *Multimodal outcome prognostication after cardiac arrest and targeted temperature management: analysis at 36° C*. *Neurocritical Care* 28, 104–109.

- [15] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Nguissi, N. A. N., Chytiris, M., Bidlingmeyer, P., Haenggi, M., Kurmann, R., Zubler, F., Accolla, E., Viceic, D., Rusca, M., Oddo, M., Rossetti, A. O. & De Lucia, M. (2018) *Somatosensory and auditory deviance detection for outcome prediction during postanoxic coma*. *Annals of Clinical Translational Neurology* 5, 1016–1024.
- [16] **Pfeiffer, C.** & De Lucia, M. (2017) *Cardio-audio synchronization drives neural surprise response*. *Scientific Reports* 7.
- [17] Ronchi, R., Bernasconi, F., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Bello-Ruiz, J., Kaliuzhna, M. & Blanke, O. (2017) *Interoceptive signals impact visual processing: Cardiac modulation of visual body perception*. *Neuroimage* 158, 176–185.
- [18] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Nguissi, N. A. N., Chytiris, M., Bidlingmeyer, P., Haenggi, M., Kurmann, R., Zubler, F., Oddo, M., Rossetti, A. O. & De Lucia, M. (2017) *Auditory discrimination improvement predicts awakening of postanoxic comatose patients treated with targeted temperature management at 36° C*. *Resuscitation*, 118, 89–95.
- [19] Park, H.-D., Bernasconi, F., Bello-Ruiz, J., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Salomon, R. & Blanke, O. (2016) *Transient Modulations of Neural Responses to Heartbeats Covary with Bodily Self-Consciousness*. *Journal of Neuroscience* 36, 8453–8460.
- [20] **Pfeiffer, C.**, van Elk, M., Bernasconi, F. & Blanke, O. (2016) *Distinct vestibular effects on early and late somatosensory cortical processing in humans*. *NeuroImage* 125, 208–219.
- [21] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Grivaz, P., Herbelin, B., Serino, A. & Blanke, O. (2016) *Visual gravity contributes to subjective first-person perspective*. *Neuroscience of Consciousness* 2016, niw006.
- [22] Noel, J.-P., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Blanke, O. & Serino, A. (2015) *Peripersonal space as the space of the bodily self*. *Cognition* 144, 49–57.
- [23] **Pfeiffer, C.** (2015) *Multisensory spatial mechanisms of the bodily self and social cognition-A commentary on Vittorio Gallese and Valentina Cuccio*. *Open Mind* 14, 1–14.
- [24] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Schmutz, V. & Blanke, O. (2014) *Visuospatial viewpoint manipulation during full-body illusion modulates subjective first-person perspective*. *Experimental Brain Research* 232, 4021–4033.
- [25] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Serino, A. & Blanke, O. (2014) *The vestibular system: a spatial reference for bodily self-consciousness*. *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience* 8, 31.
- [26] Romano, D., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Maravita, A. & Blanke, O. (2014) *Illusory self-identification with an avatar reduces arousal responses to painful stimuli*. *Behavioral Brain Research* 261, 275–281.
- [27] Salomon, R., Lim, M., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Gassert, R. & Blanke, O. (2013) *Full body illusion is associated with widespread skin temperature reduction*. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience* 7, 65.
- [28] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Lopez, C., Schmutz, V., Duenas, J. A., Martuzzi, R. & Blanke, O. (2013) *Multisensory origin of the subjective first-person perspective: visual, tactile, and vestibular mechanisms*. *PLoS One* 8, e61751.
- [29] Van Elk, M., Paulus, M., **Pfeiffer, C.**, van Schie, H. T. & Bekkering, H. (2011) *Learning to use novel objects: a training study on the acquisition of novel action representations*. *Consciousness and Cognition* 20, 1304–1314.
- [30] Duenas, J., Chapuis, D., **Pfeiffer, C.**, Martuzzi, R., Ionta, S., Blanke, O. & Gassert, R. (2011) *Neuroscience robotics to investigate multisensory integration and bodily awareness*. *Conference Proceedings IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society* 2011, 8348–8352.
- [31] **Pfeiffer, C.**, Palluel, E. & Blanke, O. (2011) *Neuroscience of Bodily Self-Consciousness*. *Vereinigung der Schweizerischen Hochschuldozierenden Bulletin* 2, 25–29.
- [32] Rueschemeyer, S.-A., **Pfeiffer, C.** & Bekkering, H. (2010) *Body schematics: On the role of the body schema in embodied lexical–semantic representations*. *Neuropsychologia*, 48, 774–781.