

[The Bergelson Lab at Duke](#), an NIH and NEH funded lab in Duke's Psychology & Neuroscience department, is seeking a lab technician with excellent programming skills for a summer start date.

The Bergelson Lab studies language acquisition, with a focus on early word learning. Research projects in the lab investigate both the relation between word learning and other aspects of linguistic representation (phonetics, syntax, prosody) and the interface between word learning and socio-cognitive development writ large.

Research in the lab centers around **corpus** methods, used to analyze the [SEEDLingS Corpus](#) (a rich longitudinal audio/video/comprehension/production corpus), and **behavioral** methods (e.g. eye-tracking, discrimination, and production studies) to query infant language development.

The lab technician will also have the opportunity to be part of an international collaborative project, [ACLEW](#), involving speech-technology, computational modeling, and naturalistic recordings.

The lab technician will work alongside a full-time lab manager, PhD students, postdocs, undergrads, and the PI to maintain our codebase ([Bergelson Lab GitHub repo](#), [SEEDLingS GitHub repo](#)), create and document new scripts and workflows, help manage our [website](#), and provide support for working with experimental and naturalistic data in the lab. There are often 1-2 undergraduate RAs directly supervised by the lab technician in this role.

Our lab staff typically go on to excellent research positions and/or PhDs (n=5) at top institutions and have taken advantage of opportunities to co-author research publications and presentations in their own areas of interest and in ongoing projects in the lab.

Desiderata include:

- * strong programming background (python and R along with some combination of ruby, bash, matlab, html, Go, C++, java, and latex)
- * experience with Python's scientific libraries (Pandas, NumPy, SciPy, IPython Notebooks)
- * experience with R's tidyverse library; experience with RStudio's Shiny application framework is a plus.
- * high skill level and comfort with Git
- * experience with Linux is a plus
- * experience with backend server development in Go is a plus
- * familiarity with relevant software (e.g. Praat, Audacity, Datavyu, FFmpeg)
- * coursework and research experience in algorithms and data structures, data science, machine learning, human research design and implementation (cognition and/or developmental psych, cogsci, linguistics, and related fields)

Duke Psychology and Neuroscience has a strong community of researchers (see primary faculty [here](#)). Colleagues with highly relevant research in the department notably include Drs. Michael Tomasello, Rita Svetlova, and Makeba Wilbourne. We are part of [Duke CHILD Studies](#).

To apply, please send an email to gladys.baudet@duke.edu with the subject line "Bergelson Lab Technician Position" and the following items:

- a) current CV (including contact details of 3 references)
 - b) GitHub page, with highlights on particular projects with code (and/or its resulting products) that you've written from scratch
 - c) letter of interest highlighting how your background complements the labs' needs and interests.
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