

# From apparent chaos to structured mental representations

*Wednesday, September 25, 2024 4:00 PM (1 hour)*

In our daily lives, we are constantly bombarded by a vast amount of information that often appears chaotic. Philosophers and cognitive scientists have long questioned how this apparently chaotic input is transformed into knowledge or mental representations, enabling us to process, store, and manipulate information about the world itself. In my talk, I will first propose that the information we encounter is often not truly chaotic but inherently structured. By quantifying this structure at the input level, I will highlight striking similarities with how the human mind organizes knowledge. Furthermore, I will examine the role of different experiential priors (i.e., linguistic and perceptual) in shaping and structuring this knowledge, shedding light on the cognitive processes that enable us to navigate and make sense of the complex world we live in.

**If you're submitting a poster, would you be interested in giving a blitz talk?**

**If you're submitting a symposium talk, what's the symposium title?**

**If you're submitting a symposium, or a talk that is part of a symposium, is this a junior symposium?**

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**Session Classification:** Keynote talk, Luca Rinaldi