Jean Luo

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EDUCATION

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA *2021-2026 (expected)*
PhD student in Social Psychology; Advisor: Leor Hackel

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ *2017- 2021*
Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience with Applications of Computing certificate
Cumulative GPA: 3.87/4.00 (*Magna Cum Laude*)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

PhD Student Researcher *Aug 2021 – Present*
Advised by Leor Hackel, Social Learning and Choice Lab, University of Southern California
- Developing new experimental paradigm to test whether social comparison feedback can bias memory of performance, as well as whether encoding style mediates this effect
- Fit GEE and mixed effects regression models to analyze data
- Developing fMRI task to examine how people generalize rewarding experiences across social roles
- Starting project to examine the markers of closeness in naturalistic conversation

Thesis Student *Jan 2020 – May 2021*
Advised by Susan Fiske, Department of Psychology, Princeton University
- Investigated the role of social reward in motivating confirmation of interpersonal expectations in Senior Thesis
- Proposed and ran studies to test the role of verbal reinforcement and leading questions in behavioral confirmation
- Wrote and submitted IRB materials, created surveys in Qualtrics, recruited participants through Prolific, and analyzed data in Excel, R and Python
- Built Bayesian agent-based model to observe the conditions necessary for stereotype formation and maintenance in a population over time

Student Researcher *May 2020 – Jan 2021*
Computational Cognitive Science Lab, PI: Tom Griffiths, Department of Psychology, Princeton University
- Led project examining the effect of reward loss on cognitive effort avoidance
- Designed experimental paradigms and developed all study materials
- Set up front-end (HTML, Javascript, CSS) and back-end (Node.js, Mongo) for multiple versions of a web-based sequential-choice task
- Recruited participants on Prolific and analyzed decision and reaction time data

Research Assistant *May 2018 – Dec 2019*
Hasson Lab, PI: Uri Hasson, Princeton Neuroscience Institute, Princeton University
- Contributed to research towards mapping out representation of words in the brain
- Created and refined pre-processing pipeline to align EcoG data with audio recordings of speech
- Analyzed data using MATLAB and investigated predictability of brain waves during comprehension versus production of speech with a predictability measure called Active Information Storage (AIS)
- Implemented supervised machine learning methods in Python to examine performance of models in predicting EcoG brain waves during production versus comprehension of speech

Summer Research Intern *Jun – Aug 2019*
Couzin Lab, PI: Iain Couzin, Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior, University of Konstanz
- Investigated group dynamics of zebras in Kenya using drone footage
- Implemented image segmentation and optimization algorithm, wrote code to merge parts of image similar in texture and color, and trained a U-net model to automatically detect animal trails in landscape maps
- Shortened data processing pipeline by saving time on human annotations of landscape maps

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

University of Southern California Ph.D. Academy Scholarship and Research Fund ($500) *2022*
Max Planck Institute for Human Development Summer Institute Funding (partial travel, accommodation) *2022*
University of Southern California Graduate Student Government Professional Development Fund ($500) *2022*
University of Southern California Department of Psychology Travel Funding ($936 total) *2022*
University of Southern California Department of Psychology Valentine Endowed Fellowship *2021*
Princeton University Summer, Fall, and Spring Thesis Funding ($4360 in total) *2020-2021*
Princeton International Internship Program Summer Fellowship (housing, flight, and $2000 stipend) *2019*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Annual Convention – Feb 2023 (accepted)
In-Person Poster Presentation: "Encoding Style Shapes Self-Concept Formation and Social Comparison."

Bounded Rationality Summer Institute – Jun 2022
Poster Presentation: "The Rationality of Confirming Stereotypes"

Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Annual Convention – Feb 2022
In-Person Poster Presentation: "Positive Verbal Reinforcement Shapes Confirmation of Interpersonal Expectations"

Princeton Research Day – May 2021
Virtual Poster Presentation: "Maximizing Social Reward: Positive Verbal Reinforcement Shapes Confirmation of Interpersonal Expectations."

TEACHING/ MENTORING

Teaching Assistant for two sections of PSYC 100, Introduction to Psychology *August 2022-Present*
Peer Mentor in Mentorship Program *August 2022-Present*
Research Mentoring
- Dan Belkind: Honors Thesis Student *Jan 2022-Present*
- High school student project on body image through Polygence platform *May 2022-Present*

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES

Graduate Association for Students in Psychology Executive Board *May 2022-Present*
- Coordinate mentorship program to help first-year students transition to graduate school
- Organize social events and serve as liaison between department and student body

EqualAI Research Fellow *Jun-Aug 2021*
- Built online platform to launch program designed to prepare senior executives for responsible AI governance

- Compiled reading materials and created corresponding assessment tools

SKILLS
Programming: R, Python, HTML/CSS/Javascript (JsPsych), MATLAB
Research Tools: PsychoPy, FSL, Qualtrics, Prolific/Mturk
Languages: Mandarin Chinese (fluent), German (beginner)

REFERENCES
Leor Hackel, Ph.D. (lhackel@usc.edu)
　　　Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Southern California

Susan Fiske, Ph.D. (sfiske@princeton.edu)
　　　Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology, Princeton University