Mengxin (AvA) Ran

mran@mailbox.sc.edu | (614) 906-1429

EDUCATION

The Ohio State University, OH, USA — 2021 - 2024

B.Sc. in Psychology, Minor: Game Studies, Cum GPA: 3.93/4, Dean's List

Graduation Summa Cum Laude with Research Distinction in Psychology

Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai, Guangdong, China — 2019 - 2021

Major: Psychology | *Transferred to The Ohio State University*

HONORS AND AWARDS

Advancing Diversity in NeuroImaging Research Initiative (ADNiR), OSU Center for Cognitive & Behavioral Brain Imaging ($36,000) — 2022 - 2024

BNUZ First Class Scholarship, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai ($1000) — 2021, Top 4%

BNUZ Second Class Scholarship, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai ($600) — 2020, Top 7%

BNUZ Freshman B-level Scholarship, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai ($600) — 2019, Top 10%

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

Ran, M., Lu, Z., & Golomb, J. D. (2025). The influence of a moving object's location on object identity judgments. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1037/xhp0001311

Ran, M., Heffner, J., & FeldmanHall, O. (in prep). To cooperate or to compete? How social environment and emotion shape prosocial behavior.

Ran, M., Lu, Z., & Golomb, J. D. (in prep). Object size and depth representations in human visual cortex.

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager | Lead Research Assistant, Feilong Lab. — Aug. 2025 - Present

University of South Carolina, Department of Psychology

Supervisor: Dr. Feilong Ma

Lab Manager | Lead Research Assistant, FeldmanHall Lab. — Aug. 2024 - Jun. 2025

Brown University, Department of Cognitive, and Psychological Sciences (CoPsy) .

Supervisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall

Research Assistant, OSU Vision & Cognitive Neuroscience Lab. Feb. 2022 - May 2024

(full-time, May 2022-Aug 2022 and May 2023-Aug 2023)

The Ohio State University, Department of Psychology.

Supervisor: Dr. Julie D. Golomb

PROJECTS

Evaluating functional alignment algorithms: disentangling filtering and alignment effects

University of South Carolina; Supervisor: Dr. Feilong Ma

- Analysis in Python: searchlight hyperalignment analysis using naturalistic fMRI dataset

To cooperate or to compete? How social environment shape prosocial behavior

Brown University; Supervisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall

- Designed online behavioral tasks and data collection on Qualtrics (N = 120)
- Analysis in R: mixed-effects regression and machine learning

Object size and depth representations in human visual cortex

The Ohio State University; Supervisor: Dr. Julie D. Golomb

- Analysis in Python: Representational Similarity Analysis (RSA) for both regions of interest (ROIs) and whole-brain searchlight analysis using THINGs and THINGs+ open dataset

The influence of a moving object's location on object identity judgments

The Ohio State University; Supervisor: Dr. Julie D. Golomb

- Designed and programmed behavioral tasks in MATLAB (PsychToolBox, with EyeLink eye-tracking)
- Data collection: behavioral and eye-tracking (N=32)
- Analysis in MATLAB, Python and SPSS: t-test, ANOVA, Bayes

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

Ran, M., Lu, Z., & Golomb, J. D. (2024) Object size and depth representations in human visual cortex. Presented at *Vision Science Society* 2024 Poster Session, and at OSU 2023 *Center for Cognitive & Behavioral Brain Imaging Research Day* Oral Presentation Session. Tempa, FL, USA. [Abstract, VSS 2024 Poster]

Ran, M., Lu, Z., & Golomb, J. D. (2023) The influence of a moving object's location on object identity judgments. Presented at *Vision Science Society* 2023 Poster Session. Tempa, FL, USA. [VSS 2023 Poster]

RELEVANT SKILLS

Data Collection: Eye-tracking administration, EEG administration, fMRI administration
Task Design and Data analysis: Python, R, MATLAB(PsychToolbox), PsyToolkit, Qualtrics