SOPHIE(XING) SU

1W 6286 Cates Avenue, University City, MO
(607-379-4627) ⋄ s.sophie@wustl.edu

EDUCATION

Washington University in Saint Louis *Aug 2021 - present*
Ph.D. in Psychology GPA:4.00
Master in Psychology
Advisor: Dr.Jeff Zacks

Cornell University *July 2017 - May 2019*
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Economics GPA:3.799
cum laude in Psychology, Distinction in all subjects

China University of Political Science and Law *September 2015 - June 2017**
Majored in Applied Psychology GPA 4.03, Top 10% of the class
*Transferred to Cornell University after sophomore year

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Event perception and cognition; predictive processing in visual attention; eye-tracking methodology; computational modeling of human behavior; memory and segmentation of naturalistic activities

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Psychonomics Graduate Conference Award – $1,000 2022
- Psychological and Brain Sciences Small Grant – $950 2024
- Cornell Undergraduate Research Grant – $500 2018–2019
- Cornell Summer Experience Grant – $3,000 Summer 2018
- College Student Research Grant, Ministry of Education of China – $1,200 2017–2018
- National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of China – $500 2016

PUBLICATIONS

- Su, X., Bezdek, M., Nguyen, T., & Zacks, J. M. (in press). Predictive Looking and Predictive Looking Errors in Everyday Activities. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General.*

- Su, X., & Swallow, K. M. (2024). People can reliably detect action changes and goal changes during naturalistic perception. *Memory & Cognition*, 1–19.

- Koirala, N., Perdue, M. V., **Su, X.**, Grigorenko, E. L., & Landi, N. (2021). Neurite density and arborization is associated with reading skill and phonological processing in children. *NeuroImage*, 241, 118426.

- Koirala, N., Kleinman, D., Perdue, M. V., **Su, X.**, Villa, M., Grigorenko, E. L., & Landi, N. (2021). Widespread effects of dMRI data quality on diffusion measures in children. *Human Brain Mapping.*

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

• Su, X., & Zacks, J. M. (in preparation). *Action Enhances Memory of Descriptions but Not Memory or Segmentation of Movies.*

• Su, X., & Upadhyayula, A. (in preparation). *Semantic Information Shapes Gaze Patterns During Naturalistic Movie Viewing.*

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

• Su, X., Upadhyayula, A. (2025, May). Semantic Information Shapes Gaze Patterns During Naturalistic Movie Viewing. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society, St. Pete Beach, FL.

• Su, X., Cohn, J., Zacks, J. (2024). Action Enhances Memory of Descriptions but Not Memory or Segmentation of Movies. Poster presented at Psychonomics Conference, Boston, MA.

• Su, X., Bezdek, M., Nguyen, T., Hall, C., Zacks, J. (2024, May). Predictive Looking and Predictive Looking Errors in Everyday Activities. Talk presented at Vision Sciences Society, St. Pete Beach, FL.

• Su, X., Bezdek, M., Nguyen, T., Hall, C., Zacks, J. (2022, Dec). Predictive Looking and Predictive Looking Errors in Everyday Activities. Poster presented at Psychonomics Conference, Boston, MA.

TEACHING & MENTORING

Instructor 2024
Washington University in St. Louis

· Selected Topics in Psychology

Teaching Assistant 2022–2023
Washington University in St. Louis

· Introduction to Psychology (2023)
· Psychology of Learning (2022)
· Genes, Environment, and Behavior (2022)

Mentoring
2021–2024

· Neuromatch Academy – Led Python sessions for 12 graduate students (Jul–Aug 2021)
· Undergraduate Research Mentor: Jeremy Cohn (2023–2024)

SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

• Social Committee Member, Psychology Department, WashU (2022–Present)

• Conference Volunteer, Vision Sciences Society (2024)

• Reviewing Experience: Cognition, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review

• Student Member: Psychonomic Society, APS, Society for Neuroscience

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY

Dynamic Cognition Laboratory August 2021 - present
PhD Researcher *Principal Investigator:* **Dr.Jeff Zacks**

· Explore the relationship between event performance and event perception.

- Model prediction in visual dynamic cognition by integrating state of the art static and dynamic saliency prediction models and real people gaze patterns.
- Investigate the role of context in event perception by stimulating prediction using the extended structured event memory model in various contexts.

Haskins Laboratories August 2019 - present
Research Associate *Principal Investigator:* **Dr.Nicole Landi**

- Design the research plan; select, employ and assess various machine learning algorithms to identify anatomical features that are correlated to reading abilities
- Create and maintain a REDCap database of more than 2000 participants' behavior, genetics,and neuroimaging information using R and Bash script for the *Imaging Genetics in Specific Reading Disability (SRD): Meta- and Mega-analyses* project
- Work under Dr.Nabin Koirala to build an automated MRI imaging quality check pipeline by employing bash and Freesurfer scripts and building regression models using R
- Preprocess, clean, restructure and reformat neuroimaging data for future analysis using customized bash scripts on high performance computing linux clusters
- Reorganize, restructure and standardize behavior data of more than 2000's participants across different sites
- Organize weekly lab meeting of research ideas and progress

Attention, Memory & Perception lab at Cornell University Jan 2018- May 2019
Honors Thesis Student *Principle Investigator:* **Dr.Khena Swallow**

- Developed research question, study design, and experiment stimuli under the supervision of Dr.Khena Swallow
- Coded experiment stimuli using Matlab, administered the experiments to 120 Undergraduate students and analyzed the behavior data collected using R
- Presented this project at the 2019 Cornell Undergraduate Psychology Conference
- Coded event segmentation cues in experiment stimuli using Cowlog
- Participated in weekly lab meeting, presented research ideas and literature reviews

Child's Witness & Cognition Lab at Cornell University Jan 2018 - August 2018
Research Assistant *Principle Investigator:* **Dr.Stephen J. Ceci**

- Worked under Dr.Kayla Burd to compare different types of verdict procedures and the impact of requiring reasoned verdicts on the jury's decision making process
- Edited the mock case used in the experiment by counterbalancing various cognitive cues using Qualtrics
- Coded and analyzed mock jurors' qualitative data to determine the impact of jury verdict procedure on jurors' decision making and judgement

SNAP lab at Stanford University June 2018 - August 2018
Summer Research Assistant *Principle Investigator:* **Dr.Ian Gotlib**

- Analyzed fornix Diffusion tensor imaging data to explore the relationship of fornix development and early life stress using R
- Assisted with magnetic Resonance Imaging data acquisition, quality check and preprocessing using neuroimaging processing software such as Freesurfer and MrDiffusion
- Assisted Dr.Tiffany Ho with generating, editing fornix diffusion tensor imaging data of 200 adolescents
- Assisted Dr.Emily Dennis with identifying amygdala and hippocampus of 2-years old's magnetic Resonance Imaging structure imaging

Wang's lab at China University of Political Science and Law June 2016 - June 2017
Research Assistant *Principle Investigator:* **Dr.Guofang Wang**

· Conducted an independent study on the relationship between social media use and political polarization
· Developed the experiment using E-Prime, collected survey data from 400 participants using Qualtrics
· Analyzed the data using SPSS, co-wrote the project report

REFERENCES

Dr.Jeff Zacks, Washington University in Saint Louis

Email: jzacks@wustl.edu, 314-935-8454

Dr. Zachariah M Reagh , Washington University in Saint Louis

Email: zreagh@wustl.edu,314-935-5176

Dr. Khena Swallow, Cornell University

Email:kms424@cornell.edu,607-255-4387