

Qingqing Yang

PhD student in Cognitive Neuroscience | The Ohio State University

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Education

The Ohio State University, OSU

Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience, 4.0/4.0

Advisors: Dr. Hsin-Hung Li & Dr. Julie Golomb

08/2024 – Present

Columbus, OH

New York University, NYU

M.A. in Psychology, 3.97/4.0

Advisor: Dr. Clayton E. Curtis

09/2021 – 05/2023

New York, N.Y.

Zhejiang University, ZJU

B.Sc. in Psychology, 3.92/4.0, Rank 5%

Advisor: Dr. Hui Chen

09/2017 – 06/2021

Zhejiang, China

Selected Publications

* denotes equal contribution

Yang Q, Li HH (2025).

Efficient Allocation of Working Memory Resource for Utility Maximization in Humans and Recurrent Neural Networks.

Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS). [html](#)

Goldway N, Harhen N, Yang Q, et al (2025).

Correspondence between reinforcement learning phenotypes and transdiagnostic clinical symptomatology across development.

Conference on Computational Cognitive Neuroscience (CCN Extended abstracts). [html](#)

Han H W*, Dhar R*, Yang Q* et al. (2024).

Investigating the role of modality and training objective on representational alignment between transformers and the brain.

NeurIPS Unireps Workshop. PMLR 285:40-54. [html](#)

Xu Y, Yang Q (2024).

Attention redistribution during event segmentation in Large Language Model.

NeurIPS Behavioral ML Workshop (Extended abstracts). [html](#)

Zhu P*, Yang Q* et al. (2023).

Working-Memory-Guided Attention Competes with Exogenous Attention but Not with Endogenous Attention.

Behavioral Sciences, 13(5), 426. <https://doi.org/10.3390/bs13050426>

Selected Conference Presentations

Yang Q, Li HH (2025).

Reward Shapes Resource Allocation in Working Memory.

Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society (VSS). [html](#)

Yang Q, Li M, & Curtis C (2022).

Modeling Effects of Interrupting Parietal Cortex Neural Activity on Working Memory Limit.

Talk presented at the 5th Neuromatch Conference. [poster](#)

Research Experience

Assistant Research Scientist, NYU

08/2021 – 04/2024

PI: Dr. Clayton E Curtis

M.A. Thesis: Modeling Working Memory Limit and Parietal Cortex Involvement

- Developed a MATLAB package for multi-item eye-tracking data analysis ([iEye](#));
- Fitted Variable Precision, Mixture, and Slots models for working memory fidelity;
- Collected and analyzed fMRI data for visual population receptive field maps;
- Applied TMS to intraparietal sulcus (IPS) for causal inference.

Assistant Research Scientist, NYU

09/2022 – 04/2024

PI: Dr. Catherine Hartley & Supervisor: Dr. Noam Goldway

Computational Phenotyping of Decision Making in Adolescent Psychopathology

- Implementing online decision-making tasks in JavaScript;
- Adapted Reinforcement Learning Models in Python to qualify decision making phenotypes and their test-retest reliability, with Bayesian modeling;
- Collected and analyzed fMRI data, relate computational phenotypes and clinical symptoms to neural connectivity;

Research Assistant, ZJU

05/2019 – 06/2021

PI: Dr. Hui Chen

Undergrad Thesis: Working-Memory-Guided Attention Competes with Exogenous Attention but Not with Endogenous Attention. [html](#)

- Conducted 2 behavioral experiments to investigate the mechanism of the attention guided by memory content.

Active Inhibition of Attended Information and its Neurocognitive Mechanism

- Designed 4 experiments and analyzed EEG data from 15 subjects, extracted N2pc, decoded information with MVPA.

Skills

Code : MATLAB, Python, R, Bash, JavaScript, Latex.

Computational : Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Bayesian Inference

Neuroscientific : Eye-tracking; TMS; MRI; EEG.

Teaching & Professional Activities

Conference Reviewer, NeurIPS Unireps workshop

2024-2025

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Psychological Statistics at NYU

2022