



OpenSesame

A graphical experiment builder for the social sciences

Binus University Workshop 2022

Sebastiaan Mathôt

<https://osdoc.cogsci.nl/binus2022>

Sponsored by





A round of introduction

About me

- Sebastiaan Mathôt
- Originally from Amsterdam (Netherlands)
- Lived for a while in Marseille (France)
- Now working in Groningen (Netherlands)

About you

- Menti.com → 20 94 008



Workshop schedule



Workshop schedule

Four days

13:00 - 17:00

April 1 (Today): Introduction

April 20: Online experiments

April 21: Eye tracking

April 27: Data Analysis

All days: working on your own experiment!



Workshop schedule

<https://osdoc.cogsci.nl/binus2022>

Binus University 2022 workshop

[Edit on GitHub](#)

- [Practical information](#)
- [Description](#)
- [Day 1: Introduction \(April 1\)](#)
- [Day 2: Online experiments \(April 20\)](#)
- [Day 3 : Eye-tracking experiments \(April 21\)](#)
- [Day 4: Data analysis \(April 27\)](#)
- [Suggested experiments](#)

Practical information

- Host: Binus University
- Location: online
- Dates:
 - Day 1: Friday, April 1st, 2022, 08:00-12:00 CEST, 13:00 - 17:00 Jakarta
 - Day 2: Wednesday, April 20th, 2022, 08:00-12:00 CEST, 13:00 - 17:00 Jakarta
 - Day 3: Thursday, April 21st, 2022, 08:00-12:00 CEST, 13:00 - 17:00 Jakarta
 - Day 4: Wednesday, April 27th, 2022, 08:00-12:00 CEST, 13:00 - 17:00 Jakarta
- Presenter: Sebastiaan Mathôt
- [Spreadsheet with participant overview](#)

Description

In this four-day, hands-on, online workshop, you will learn how to implement psychological experiments with the open-source software OpenSesame. You will learn:

- How to run experiments online as well as in a traditional laboratory set-up.
- The limitations and advantages of online and laboratory-based experiments.
- How to include eye tracking in laboratory-based experiments. (And a sneak-peak at eye-tracking in online experiments!)
- How to analyze data collected from online and laboratory-based experiments.

Finally, using the skills that you will learn during the workshop, you will design and implement an experiment for your own research, of course with assistance from us! For this purpose, please already think about what kind of experiment you'd like to create, and



About OpenSesame



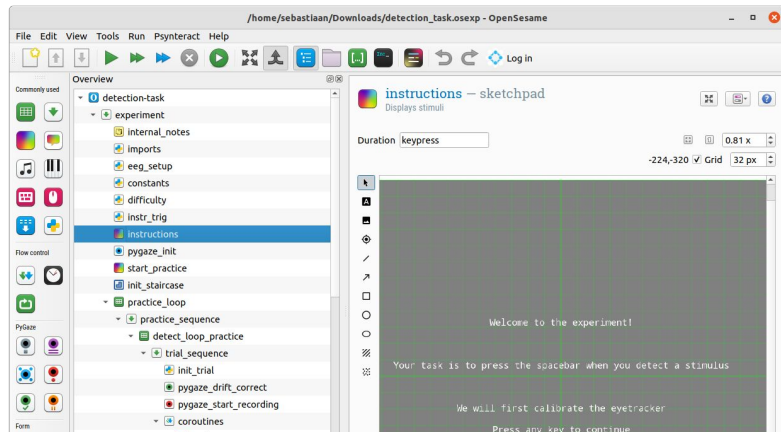
About OpenSesame

A graphical experiment builder

Drag-and-drop, point-and-click

Complement with scripting

- Python for lab experiments
- JavaScript for online experiments





About OpenSesame

Open source

Free of charge



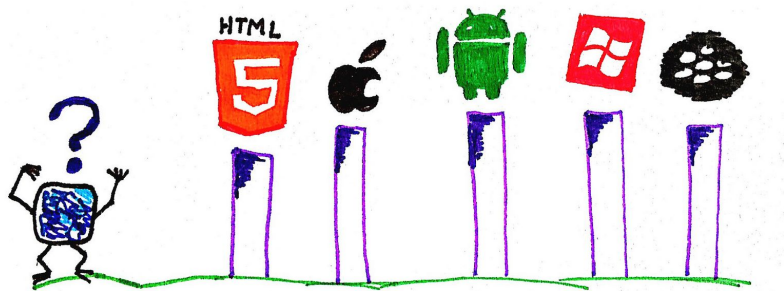
open source
initiative



About OpenSesame

Cross-platform

- Windows
- Mac OS
- Linux
- Browser (runtime only)





About OpenSesame

Fits many types of research

- Psychophysics
- Neurophysiology
- Neuroimaging
- Social psychology
- Clinical applications
- Eye tracking
- Pupillometry





Support



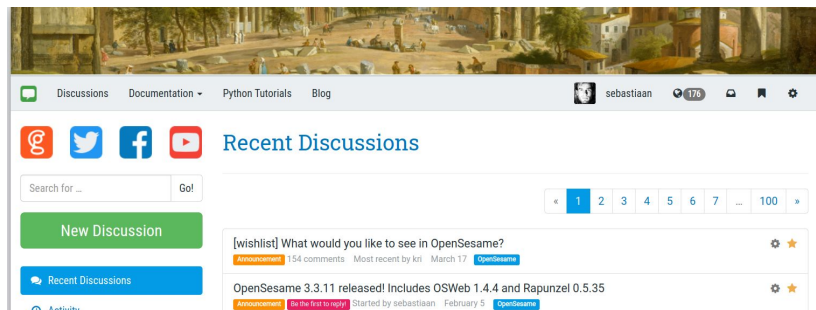
Support

Documentation

- <https://osdoc.cogsci.nl/>

Community forum

- <https://forum.cogsci.nl/>
- Shared with JASP, PyGaze, JATOS, and other free software
- 9,000+ members, daily activity





Using OpenSesame



Items

An experiment is a collection of items

Items are building blocks

One item does one thing

- `sketchpad` → visual stimuli
- `keyboard_response` → records key presses
- `logger` → logs data
- `loop` → repeats another item while varying independent variables
- `sequence` → runs a number of other items sequentially
- etc.



Items

Overview

- [-] 0 Attentional capture
 - [-] experiment
 - about_this_example
 - instructions
 - + constants
 - + functions
 - [-] practice_loop
 - [-] block_sequence
 - reset_feedback
 - [-] block_loop
 - [-] trial_sequence
 - fixdot
 - + trial_script
 - keyboard_response
 - green_fixdot
 - red_fixdot
 - logger
 - feedback
 - end_of_practice

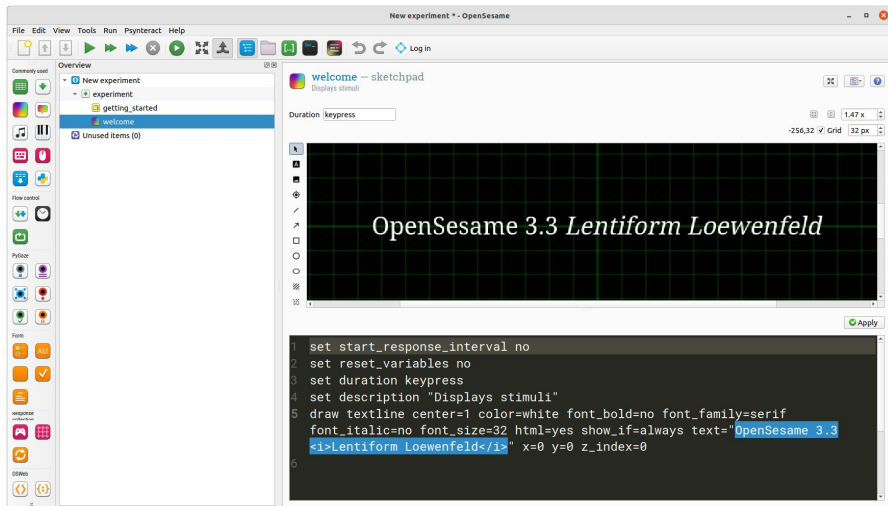


Items

Items have a graphical interface and a script

- A simple language (“OpenSesame script”)
- Not Python!

Switch between graphical interface and script





Variables

Variables can be defined

- In a `loop` item (independent variables)
- In a `keyboard_response` (response time, accuracy, etc.)

You can refer to these later

- For example in a `sketchpad` item
- Using `[variable_name]` notation

This adds considerable flexibility



Variables



block_loop – loop

A block of trials

Run Break if

Repeat ☒ Evaluate on first cycle

Order ☐ Resume after break

Source ☒ Full-factorial design

Summary: trial_sequence will be called 24 times in random order. The number of rows is 8. All rows occur 3 times.

	gaze_cue	target_letter	target_pos	congruency	correct_response	dist_pos
1	left	F	-300	congruent	z	300
2	right	F	-300	incongruent	z	300
3	left	H	-300	congruent	m	300
4	right	H	-300	incongruent	m	300
5	left	F	300	incongruent	z	-300
6	right	F	300	congruent	z	-300
7	left	H	300	incongruent	m	-300
8	right	H	300	congruent	m	-300



Variables



feedback — feedback

Provides feedback to the participant



Duration

keypress

☒ Reset feedback variables

0.91 x

0,96 ☒ Grid 32 px



End of block

Your average response time was [avg_rt] ms

Your accuracy was [acc] %

Press any key to continue














Variables

 **trial_sequence** — sequence
Runs a number of items in sequence

☒ Flush pending key presses at sequence start

Item name	Run if
▾  trial_sequence	
 fixation_dot	always
 neutral_gaze	always
 gaze_cue	always
 target	always
 keyboard_response	always
 incorrect_sound	[correct] = 0
 logger	always





Let's get to
work!