**RE: Application for Postdoctoral Research Associate Position**

Dear Dr Paul Bays,

I am applying for the position of postdoctoral Research Associate in your laboratory as advertised on the University of Cambridge website. I am currently a PhD candidate at the University of Sydney, supervised by Professor Alex Holcombe. My expected completion date is December this year, and I would be available to start the postdoctoral position at the beginning of 2019.

My current research has focused on examining how cognitive and perceptual factors influence visual working memory performance to reveal the underlying architecture of the visual working memory system. My research has indicated that an observer’s fluency with the stimulus is an important factor contributing to increased storage in visual working memory. In other research, I investigated the influence of learned chunking on visual working memory performance. I am currently investigating whether event-related potentials associated with attention and visual working memory storage are influenced by this learning. I am particularly interested in enhancing this research by applying computational models of visual working memory storage that can account for changes in neural function with stimulus fluency or learning.

I believe I am well suited to successfully contribute to your laboratory’s research on the influence of internal noise on visual attention and visual working memory storage. I am skilled in programming experiments with MATLAB and completing data analysis using R, and have experience designing and conducting experiments involving psychophysics, electroencephalography (EEG) and eye tracking. I was awarded an Endeavour Research Fellowship, a competitive merit-based scholarship sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training to undertake research overseas during my PhD candidature. In addition, I am an experienced teaching assistant for undergraduate psychology statistics courses.

My research agenda and skills complement the laboratory’s work on the numerical modelling of visual attention and visual working memory storage. The postdoctoral position would be a great opportunity for me to gain training in sophisticated modelling of cognitive and neural systems, and enhance the quality of my research.

Thank you for your time in considering my application, and I hope to hear from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

William Xiang Quan Ngiam