Shaozhe Cheng
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Psychology
Zhejiang University
866 Yuhang Tang Road, Haina Bldg. 3   Homepage: chengshaozhe.github.io
Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China, 310058   Email: chengshaozhe@gmail.com

Positions

Postdoc   2024.8-
    PIs: Tamar Kushnir, Early Childhood Cognition Lab, Duke University
         Tao Gao, Visual Intelligence Lab, UCLA

Education

Ph.D., Psychology, Zhejiang University   2023
    Advisors: Jifan Zhou (ZJU), Mowei Shen (ZJU), Tao Gao (UCLA)
    Dissertation: *On the nature and origins of the unique human mind: Intentional commitment under conflicting desires*

B.S., Psychology, Shanghai Normal University   2016

Awards and Honors

- Excellent Doctoral Dissertation Funding (96,000 RMB)   2022
- Cognitive Science Society Diversity and Inclusion Conference Award ($1000)   2021
- National Scholarship for Postgraduates (20,000 RMB)   2017

Research Interests

I am interested in the unique minds that underlie human rationality and intelligence. I draw insights and methods from philosophy, psychology (cognitive, social, and developmental), and artificial intelligence to explore the nature and origins of human intentional action and **agency**. My current focus is on the social-cognitive mechanisms of **intention** and **commitment**.

Publications

Journal Articles

Cheng, S., Zhao, M., Tang, N., Zhao, Y., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2023). Intention beyond desire: Spontaneous intentional commitment regulates conflicting desires. *Cognition*, 238, 105513. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2023.105513

Zhai, S[#]., **Cheng, S[#].**, Moskowitz, N., Shen, M., & Gao, T. (2024). The development of commitment: Attention for intention. *Child Development*, 95(1), 7-15. https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13955

[#] Shared first authors

Cheng, S., Shi, B., Zhao, Y., Tang, N., Xu., H., Gao, T., Zhou J., & Shen, M. (2017) Rethinking attention: A reinforcement learning model of attention. *Chinese Journal of Applied Psychology.*

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

Cheng, S., Zhao, M., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2022). Intentional commitment through an internalized theory of mind: Acting in the eyes of an imagined observer. In *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Cheng, S., Zhao, M., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2022). Intentional commitment as goal perseverance in human planning [Workshop on Social Intelligence in Humans and Robots]. *The annual meeting of the Robotics: Science and Systems 2022 (RSS 2022). Virtual: Workshop RSS 2022.* https://social-intelligence-human-ai.github.io/

Zhai, S., **Cheng, S.**, Moskowitz, N., Shen, M., & Gao, T. (2022). The development of commitment: Attention for intention. In *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Cheng, S., Tang, N., An, W., Zhao, Y., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2021). Intention beyond desire: Humans Spontaneously Commit to Future Actions. In *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Under Review

Cheng, S., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (under review). Intentional commitment as a spontaneous presentation of self. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*

In Preparation

Cheng, S., Zhao, M., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (in prep). Modeling intention as an internalized theory of mind: Acting in the eyes of an imagined observer.

Cheng, S., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (in prep). Viewing others as committed agents.

Cheng, S., Zhu, J., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (in prep). Intentions as hierarchical constraints in human planning.

Conference Presentations

^Students I supervised

Cheng, S., Zhu, J^., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2024). From attention capture to social coordination: "Abrupt onset" rallies joint planning. Poster presented at *the 2024 VSS Annual Meeting. Vision Sciences Society.*

Zhu, J^., **Cheng, S.**, Gao T., Shen, M., & Zhou J. (2023). Viewing others as committed agents. Poster presented at *the 2023 SPSP Annual Convention. Society for Personality and Social Psychology.*

Zhu, J^., **Cheng, S.**, Gao T., Shen, M., & Zhou J. (2023). Intention as hierarchical constraints in human planning. Poster presented at *the 2023 VSS Annual Meeting. Vision Sciences Society.*

Zhu, J^., **Cheng, S.**, Gao T., Shui, R., Shen, M., & Zhou J. (2023). People expect others to plan with consistency to intention. Poster presented at *the 2023 APS Annual Convention. Association for Psychological Science.*

Cheng, S., Zhao, M., Zhu, J^., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2022). Intentional commitment as goal perseverance in human planning. Oral presentation at the Workshop on Social Intelligence in Humans and Robots in the *annual meeting of the Robotics: Science and Systems 2022 (RSS 2022).* https://social-intelligence-human-ai.github.io/

Zhai, S., **Cheng, S.**, Moskowitz, N., Shen, M., & Gao, T. (2022). The development of commitment: Attention for intention. Oral presentation at *the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Cheng, S., Tang, N., An, W., Zhao, Y., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2021). Intention beyond desire: Commitment in human action. Poster presented at *the 47th annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, 6/28/21 – 7/2/21, *Virtual-SPP*.

Cheng, S., Tang, N., An, W., Zhao, Y., Zhou J., Shen, M., & Gao T. (2020). Intention beyond desire: Commitment in human action. Poster presented at *the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society*, 6/19/20 – 6/24/20, *Virtual-VSS*.

Cheng, S., Xu, H., Tang, N., Zhou J., Chen, H., Liang, J., Gao T., & Shen, M. (2018). Hierarchical Constrains on the Distribution of Attention in Dynamic Displays. Poster presented at *the 30th APS Annual Convention*.

Teaching

- **Advanced Psychological Research Methods (graduate course), 2019, 2020**
  Invited Guest Lecturer, *Computational modeling in psychological research*

- **Psychology and Artificial Intelligence (undergraduate course), 2018, 2019**
  Teaching Assistant

- **Seminar on Evolutionary Psychology (for undergraduates), 2017, 2018**
  Invited Guest Lecturer