

Junpeng Lao, PhD

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Born 1986.09.05

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Education and Professional History:

2013.9 – present Post-doc at University of Fribourg. I am supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation (n° 100014_138627 and n° 100014_156490/1)

2012.9 – 2013.9 Research assistant at University of Fribourg. I was supported by National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) Affective sciences financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation (n° 51NF40-104897).

2009.10 – 2013.9 University of Glasgow, Ph.D in Cognitive Neuroscience, Thesis title: “Tracking the temporal dynamics of cultural perceptual diversity in visual information processing”. Advisor: Prof. Roberto Caldara and Prof. Lars Muckli.

2005.9 – 2009.6 Sun Yat-Sen University, B. Sc. in Psychology. Thesis title: “Control deprivation and styles of thinking”. Advisor: Prof. Xinyue Zhou.

Software and Algorithms:

I contributed to various Open-Source Software regularly, more information could be found on Github: <https://github.com/junpenglao>

PyMC3 (<https://github.com/pymc-devs/pymc3>) – a Python package for Bayesian statistical modelling and Probabilistic Machine Learning. It implemented advanced Markov chain Monte Carlo and variational inference algorithms. I am part of the core development team pymc_devs.

iMap4 (<https://github.com/iBMLab/iMap4>) – a Matlab toolbox for statistical fixation mapping of eye movement data. It is a data-driven statistics toolbox implementing linear mixed model and non-parametric statistics based on permutation and bootstrap spatial clustering. It also has a full graphical user interface. iMap4 is one of the three finalists of the SMI Computing Competition in ECEM 2015.

JAEFA (<https://github.com/junpenglao/jaefa>) – Just Another Eye-movement Filtering Algorithm, a simple Matlab toolbox for eye movement event detection with a Convolution-based algorithm

Preprints

- Vizioli, L., Bratch, A., **Lao, J.**, Ugurbil, K., Muckli, L., & Yacoub, E. (2018). Temporal Multivariate Pattern Analysis (tMVPA): a single trial approach exploring the temporal dynamics of the BOLD signal. *bioRxiv*, 273110. doi.org/10.1101/273110
- Jones, B. C., Hahn, A. C., Fisher, C. I., Wang, H., Kandrik, M., **Lao, J.**, Han, C., ... & DeBruine, L. M. (2018). No evidence that more physically attractive women have higher estradiol or progesterone. *bioRxiv*, 136515. doi.org/10.1101/136515
- Eulerich, M., Theis, J.C., **Lao, J.**, and Ramon, M. (2017) Do Fine Feathers Make a Fine Bird? The Influence of Attractiveness on Fraud-Risk Judgments by Internal Auditors. *Available at SSRN*: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2988269>
- Lao, J.** (2016). Reproducible Research with End-to-end Machine Inference Using Deep Learning and Bayesian Statistics, *Journal of Brief Ideas*, [doi: 10.5281/zenodo.203086](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.203086)

Journal Articles:

- Ramon, M., Sokhn, N., **Lao, J.**, & Caldara, R. (2018). Decisional space determines saccadic reaction times in healthy observers and acquired prosopagnosia. *Cognitive Neuropsychology*, [doi: 10.1080/02643294.2018.1469482](https://doi.org/10.1080/02643294.2018.1469482)
- Malaspina, M., Albonico, A., **Lao, J.**, Caldara, R., & Daini, R. (2018). Mapping self-face recognition strategies in congenital prosopagnosia. *Neuropsychology*, 32(2), 123-137. [doi: 10.1037/neu0000414](https://doi.org/10.1037/neu0000414)
- Lakens, D., Adolphi, F. G., ..., **Lao, J.**, ..., Zwaan, R. A. (2018). Justify Your Alpha. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 2, 168-171. [doi:10.1038/s41562-018-0311-x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-018-0311-x)
- Turano¹, M. T., **Lao¹, J.**, Richoz, A-R., de Lissa, P., Degosciu, S. B., Viggiano, M. P., & Caldara, R. (2017). Fear boosts the early neural coding of faces. *Social cognitive and affective neuroscience*, 12(12), 1959-1971. [doi: 10.1093/scan/nsx110](https://doi.org/10.1093/scan/nsx110)
- ¹Joint first authors
- Stoll, C., Palluel-Germain, R., Caldara, R., **Lao, J.**, Dye, M. W. G., Aptel, F., & Pascalis, O. (2017). Face Recognition is Shaped by the Use of Sign Language. *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education*. [doi: 10.1093/deafed/enx034](https://doi.org/10.1093/deafed/enx034)
- Papinutto, M., **Lao, J.**, Ramon, M., Caldara, R., & Mielllet, S. (2017). The Facespan—the perceptual span for face recognition. *Journal of Vision*, 17(5):16. [doi: 10.1167/17.5.16](https://doi.org/10.1167/17.5.16)
- Garcia-Burgos, D., **Lao, J.**, Munsch, S., & Caldara, R. (2017). Visual attention to food cues is differentially modulated by gustatory-hedonic and post-ingestive attributes. *Food Research International*, 97, 199-208. [doi: 10.1016/j.foodres.2017.04.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodres.2017.04.011)
- Lao, J.**, Mielllet, S., Pernet, C., Sokhn, N., & Caldara, R. (2017). iMap4: An Open Source Toolbox for the Statistical Fixation Mapping of Eye Movement data with Linear Mixed Modeling. *Behavior Research Methods*, 49(2), 559-575. [doi: 10.3758/s13428-016-0737-X](https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-016-0737-X)

Ruffieux¹, N., Ramon¹, M., **Lao¹, J.**, Colombo, F., Stacchi, L., Borruat, FX., Accolla, E., Annoni JM., & Caldara, R. (2016). Residual Perception of Biological Motion in Cortical Blindness. *Neuropsychologia*, 93, 301-311. [doi: 10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2016.11.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2016.11.009)

¹Joint first authors

Geangu¹, E., Ichikawa¹, H., **Lao¹, J.**, Kanazawa, S., Yamaguchi, M. K., & Caldara², R., & Turati², C. (2016). Culture shapes 7-month-olds perceptual strategies in discriminating facial expressions of emotion. *Current Biology*, 26, 663–664. [doi: 10.1016/j.cub.2016.05.072](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2016.05.072)

¹Joint first authors and ²joint last authors

Bovet, J., **Lao, J.**, Bartholomée, O., Caldara, R., & Raymond, M. (2016). Mapping female bodily features of attractiveness. *Scientific Reports*, 6, 18551. [doi: 10.1038/srep18551](https://doi.org/10.1038/srep18551)

Miellet, S., **Lao, J.**, & Caldara, R. (2014). An appropriate use of iMap produces correct statistical results: a reply to McManus (2013)“iMAP and iMAP2 produce erroneous statistical maps of eye-movement differences”. *Perception*, 43, 451-457.

Lao, J., Vizioli, L., & Caldara, R. (2013). Culture modulates the temporal dynamics of global/local processing. *Culture and Brain*, 1(2-4), 158-174.

Romeo, M., Vizioli, L., Breukink, M., Aganloo, K., **Lao, J.**, Cotrufo, S., Caldara, R., & Morley, S. (2013). A Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Paradigm to Identify Distinct Cortical Areas of Facial Function: A Reliable Localizer. *Plastic and reconstructive surgery*, 131(4), 527e-533e.

Miellet, S., Zhou, X., He, L., **Lao, J.**, & Caldara, R. (2012). When East meets West: gaze-contingent Blindspots abolish cultural diversity in eye movements for faces. *Journal of Eye Movement Research*, 5, 1-12.

Zhou, X., He, L., Yang, Q., **Lao, J.**, & Baumeister, R. F. (2012). Control deprivation and styles of thinking. *Journal of personality and social psychology*, 102(3), 460.

Conference Presentations (Selected):

2017.9.4 – 5, Lao, J., Stoll, C., Dye, M., Pascalis, O., & Caldara, R. (2017). Deafness Amplifies Visual Information Sampling during Face Recognition. 15th Biannual congress of the Swiss Psychological Society. (Lausanne, Switzerland, **oral presentation**)

2017.5.19 – 24 Lao, J., Stoll, C., Dye, M., Pascalis, O., & Caldara, R. (2017). Deafness Amplifies Visual Information Sampling during Face Recognition. *Journal of Vision*, 17(10): 24 (17th annual meeting of Vision Sciences Society, **oral presentation**)

2017.4.20 Lao, J. (2017). Statistical Inferences of Eye movement data using Bayesian smoothing. Bayes@Lund2017. (Lund, Sweden, **oral presentation**)

2015.9.8 – 9 Lao, J., Miellet, S., Pernet, C., Sokhn, N., & Caldara, R. (2015). iMap4: An Open Source Toolbox for the Statistical Fixation Mapping of Eye Movement data with Linear Mixed Modeling. 14th Biannual congress of the Swiss Psychological Society. (Geneva, Switzerland, **oral presentation**)

- 2015.8.16 – 21** Lao, J., Miellet, S., Pernet, C., Sokhn, N., & Caldara, R. (2015). *Map4: An Open Source Toolbox for the Statistical Fixation Mapping of Eye Movement data with Linear Mixed Modeling*. 18th European Conference on Eye Movements. (Vienna, Austria, **oral presentation**)
- 2013.9.11 – 12** Lao, J., He, L., & Caldara, R. (2013). *Microsaccades Boost Face Identification*. 13th Biannual congress of the Swiss Psychological Society. (Basel, Switzerland, **oral presentation**)
- 2011.7.15 - 18** Lao, J., Vizioli, L., Miellet, S., & Caldara, R. (2011). *Eyes like it, brain likes it: Tracking the neural tuning of cultural diversity in eye movements for faces. i-Perception* 2(4) 356. (Asia-Pacific Conference on Vision, 2011, **oral presentation**)
- 2011.1.9 - 13** Lao, J., Vizioli, L., Miellet, S., & Caldara, R. (2011). *Eyes like it, brain likes it: Tracking the neural tuning of cultural diversity in eye movements for faces. Alpine Brain Imaging Meeting 2011*. (Champéry, Switzerland, **oral presentation**)

Teaching:

(Master course)

Cognitive Neuroscience

Statistical Analysis with MATLAB

Psychology Experiment with MATLAB and Psychtoolbox-3

(Workshop)

Bayesian Cognitive Modelling

Bayesian Mixed-effect model in Python

Bayesian Deep Learning using PyMC3

Statistical Fixation Mapping of Eye Movement data with *Map*

The Wonder of Gauss: GLM, GAM, and GP

Awards:

- 2010.12** Guarantors of Brain Travel Grant supporting the attendance of the Alpine Brain Imaging Meeting in January 2011
- 2010.5** Experimental Psychology Society Grindley Grant supporting the attendance of the Vision Science Society Annual Meeting in May 2010
- 2009.9** UK/China PhD Scholarships for Excellence programme funded by China Scholarship Council and the Scottish Government