Kevin W. Soo

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Education

University of Pittsburgh
> PhD Cognitive Psychology (expected graduation: Spring 2019)
> MS Cognitive Psychology (completed Spring 2016)

University College London
> MSc Cognitive & Decision Sciences (2011, with distinction)

HELP University, Malaysia
> BS Psychology (2009, with first-class honors)

Professional experience

Graduate Student Researcher, University of Pittsburgh (2013–present)
> Researcher on projects investigating causal cognition in humans. Designed and developed web and lab-based behavioral experiments. Extensive statistical analysis, simulation & modeling. Presented findings in 7 manuscripts.

Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh (2015–present)
> Teaching research methodology lecture sections (50-60 students), supervising undergraduate students in research projects. Designed and developed interactive web-based tutorials for teaching research methods concepts.

Lecturer, Department of Psychology, HELP University (2012–2013)
> Designed/taught courses in research methods, cognitive psychology, and judgment and decision-making. Supervised research and teaching assistants.

Research Assistant, Analysis of the Malaysian Electoral Roll (2012)
> Worked with Dr. Ong Kian Ming (PI, current Malaysian Member of Parliament) to develop analytical tools for detecting electoral fraud in the Malaysian Electoral Roll.

Peer-reviewed publications

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (in press). Causal Induction From Time Series Data. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General.*

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (in press). Switch Rates Do Not Influence Weighting of Rare Events in Decisions from Experience, but Optional Stopping Does. *Journal of Behavioral Decision Making.*

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (under review). Stop! In The Name of Rare Events: Optional Stopping in Decisions from Experience.

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (under review). Causal Learning From Trending Time Series.

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2016). Causal learning with continuous variables over time. In A. Papafrogou, D. Grodner, D. Mirman, & J.C. Trueswell (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 153-158).

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2015). Elemental causal learning from transitions. In R. Dale, C. Jennings, P. Maglio, T. Matlock, D. Noelle, A. Warlaumont, & J. Yoshimi (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2254-2259).

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2014). Learning causal direction from transitions with continuous and noisy variables. In P. Bello, M. Guarin, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1485-1490).

Conference presentations

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2015). *Causal learning from transitions and states.* Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.

Soo, K. W. & Lagnado, D. A. (2013). *Detecting and adapting to changes in causal systems.* Paper presented at the Asian Conference on Psychology & the Behavioral Sciences, Osaka, Japan.

Soo, K. W. (2012). *Crime Perception: Non-rational judgments.* Paper presented at the Malaysian Psychology Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

*Ho, A. S. P., *Tan, K. C. K., *Liew, S. J. Y., *Goh, S. M. T., *Goh, V. W. Y. & Soo, K. W. (2012). *Differences in counterfactual regret mechanisms and counterfactual distance on decision making.* Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

*Lim, M. W. C., *Chee, M. Y. F., *Mok, L. L., *Wong, T. Y. M., *Thong, J. A. & Soo, K. W. (2012). *Investigating classification learning & inference learning in category acquisition and retention.* Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

Lukman, H. & Soo, K. W. (2010). *Assessment of eating disorder symptomatology in young adult female students in urban Malaysia.* Poster presented at the World Conference on Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, Antalya, Turkey.

Lukman, H., Khor, K. L., Siew, J. L., Chua, W. L. & Soo, K. W. (2010). *Perceived body image norms in Malaysian adolescents.* Poster presented at the World Conference on Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, Antalya, Turkey.

Soo, K. W. (2009). *Source-monitoring of words and their translations in bilingual memory.* Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

* denotes undergraduate student advisee

Selected talks

Cognitive Psychology Brown Bag Series, University of Pittsburgh
    September 2017: *Does it fit? Proportionality between causes and effects*
    February 2017: *Our patterns of sampling (don't) foreshadow our decisions*
    March 2016: *Causal learning with continuous variables over time*
    March 2015: *Elemental causal learning from transitions*
    April 2014: *Causation from correlation over time*
How (ir)rational are we?
    Keynote talk. Psychology Colloquium, HELP University (April 2012)
Reasoning about causal changes
    Causality Workshop, Causal Cognition Group, University College London (August 2011)

Service

External
    Reviewer for Journal of Experimental Psychology: General (2017)
    Reviewer for PLoS ONE (2017)
Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh
    Statistics Consultant for Honors Students (2018)
    Program Student Representative (2014-2015

Teaching

University of Pittsburgh
    Research Methodology (lecture and lab sections)
HELP University
    Research Methodology, Cognitive Psychology, Thinking and Deciding, Contemporary Issues in Psychological Research (seminar), Applications of Psychology (seminar)

Honors

University of Pittsburgh

Honorable mention, Tim Post Award for Excellence in Research (2017)

Arts and Sciences Fellowship (2013–2014)

University College London

Commonwealth Scholarship (2010–2011)

HELP University

Top-ranked student at the faculty level (2009)

Merit Scholarship for academic performance (2006–2009)

Professional membership

Cognitive Science Society (2014–present)

The Psychonomic Society (2015–2016)

Skills

Programming languages, statistical and research methods

Data cleaning/visualization/analysis: R, Tidyverse, Python, Shiny web-apps, SQL, SPSS

Advanced stats: mixed-effects modeling, topic modelling, Bayesian and causal inference

Other expertise: experimental and survey design, crowdsourcing, web-scraping

Web-based development

Front-end: HTML5, CSS, Javascript, Bootstrap, d3

Back-end: Python, Django, Google Cloud

Data collection: Amazon MTurk, Qualtrics

Publishing: GitHub, Markdown, Jupyter notebooks

Miscellaneous

Microsoft Office, Sublime, Atom, Adobe Lightroom

References

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